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Mark Lane Express Agricultural Journal

and

Live Stock Record.

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Seasonable Topics.

Exit June. AS we write the month of June is drawing to a close. Midsummer day is past and gone, the Royal Show is in progress at Lincoln, and the sky overhead is just as grey and leaden as it has been for weeks past. According to an old weather saw in the south, when June is unfavourable the "turn of day" brings better weather, and from the bottom of our hearts we hope it will be so, for half the summer is gone, and we have had no summer at all except a bit about Eastertide. A good many agricultural shows have been held during the past month, and it speaks well for the enthusiasm of the public to know that they have been well attended as a rule, though we could not have been surprised had this been otherwise, considering the climatic conditions in many cases. What an aggravating way some people have of discussing the weather, to be sure! We have had that old saw about "a dripping June keeping things in tune" pushed down our throats till we are sick of it, and we are afraid that things will be very much out of tune if July does not give us what the world wants most of all just now—sunshine.

Battling with the Weather. "IT'S all very well for people to tell us that we should do this, that, or the other, but it's the weather that beats us, and we have to do the best we can." It was a hill farmer, who has considerably more arable land than pasture, who spoke these words, and he went on to explain that he had drilled in swedes under conditions that went to his heart, but there was no help for it, and they would have to take their chance. We sympathise with this man, and also with hundreds of other farmers who have made their calculations, but have been thwarted in the same way by the weather. Conversation turned on to the subject of weeds, and charlock was mentioned. The man waxed wrath, and how many times he had hoed and pulled we fail to remember; but as a last resource he had that morning set the men on to end off the hateful yellow flowers which stood up above the oats. Why didn't he spray? The farmer glared at us when we put the question, and asked what weather there had been for spraying. Too true, too true, farmers have been beaten all round just lately, and they stand a poor chance in a contest with the clerk of the weather.

Nature Study Exhibits at Shows. AN interesting feature at agricultural shows which bids fair to become general, is the Nature Study section which is mostly contributed by elementary schools. Having to put his hand pretty deeply into his pocket to pay for it, the sympathies of the farmer are not altogether on the side of modern methods of education, but he forgets about the rates when he attends an agricultural show, and takes an unfeigned interest in the nature study exhibits sent from elementary schools. We have seen a good many of the latter, and it seems to us that in many cases teachers are not quite clear as to what a nature study exhibit should consist of. In a word of advice we would say—let it be the work of the children and display some definite method of teaching. Elaborate, but unclassified collections of butterflies and moths, drawings that are mere copies, and big mixed-up collections of all kinds of things that have something to do with Nature, but convey nothing definite, should all be avoided in favour of children's work, done by children themselves, and not free from the mistakes that children make. The experts who adjudicate on Nature study exhibits have difficulty very often in deciding how much of the work has been done by the teacher and how much by the children, and they naturally favour that in which the latter only is apparent.

The Milk Question. LOOMING in the distance is a question that will have to be tackled seriously before long, and it is that of milk. The man in the street, who perhaps would never think about the matter himself, is told harrowing stories of the risks he daily runs by consuming milk from diseased cows, and from beasts that are kept under filthy, unsanitary conditions. It may be all true, but the unfortunate thing is that there is little or no difference in the appearance of good and bad milk, and neither looks nor taste are affected by any disease germs it may contain. Milk is an every-day commodity, and it is essential that it should be pure, but if the public is protected the farmer must also be helped. We argue that as a class the latter are as careful as they can be (though, of course, every flock has its black sheep), but farmers have to pay rent and live through their cows, and milk has to be produced at as little expense as possible. We know that there are sheds which are unsanitary, undrained, and badly arranged. We know that in cases the liquid manure from the cowsheds finds its way into the ponds from which the cows drink, and in many other ways things are not as they should be. Who is to remedy these matters? The tenant is helpless, and would be glad enough to have sanitary sheds and everything as it should be, and it would be unfair to make him more the victim of circumstances than he is already.

Ensilage. FORTUNE having favoured farmers in the past few years with good haymaking weather we have not heard very much about ensilage, but gloomy skies have a depressing effect, fears are entertained that we are in for a wet summer, and people are already beginning to talk of ensilage as a means of disposing of fodder crops. Indeed, some people contend that even under the best weather conditions it is an open question whether hay or ensilage is the better system; but the average farmer, unless circumstances direct otherwise, is loth to give up the time-honoured method of making his grass into hay. We remember that when ensilage was first introduced some years ago the idea was looked at askance by the old-fashioned farmer folk, but the novelty of the system has gone, and the utility value of good silage is generally admitted. We are hoping still for weather to make good hay, but if ensilage has to be resorted to as an alternative, there is no difficulty nowadays in getting information about making it.

The Appearance of Potatoes. POTATOES up to a certain point this year have done well. They were a long time in many cases before they showed through the ground, but after the growth made appearance we have never seen the bine grow more quickly or luxuriantly. It is true there are exceptions, and in some fields we have noticed a good many bare patches where the tubers have not grown, or only sent up spindling shoots. Leaf-curl disease seems to be the cause of this trouble, and it is less noticeable where the seed planted was obtained from Scotland. For the production of bine the weather has been favourable up to now, and there is no need to stimulate growth by top-dressing with nitrate of soda or any other nitrogenous fertiliser, but what about the possibilities of disease? Fears are entertained in some quarters, and the question of spraying as a preventive is being discussed, but with the hope that springs eternal in the human breast we are looking for the sunshine which the potatoes now need as much as other crops.

At a meeting held in London last week to consider the question of the marking of foreign eggs and poultry imported into the British markets, a resolution was passed expressing the opinion that it is desirable in the interests of agriculture and poultry keepers in particular, as well as of the public generally, that all foreign eggs and poultry should bear a mark indicating their country of origin. It was agreed that an executive committee should be appointed to approach the Government for the purpose of obtaining their consent to the appointment of a Committee of the House to hear evidence, with a view to the introduction of a Bill for the marking of foreign eggs and poultry.

The Royal Show at Lincoln.

The annual show of the Royal Agricultural Society took place last week in the cathedral city of Lincoln, and the whole district welcomed our national society in a most spontaneous and hearty manner. Lincoln itself rose manfully to the occasion, and the welcome extended to the Royal Show was a hearty one. The city was decorated in a most pleasing and tasteful manner, and it is many years, if ever, we have seen anything better of its kind.

First Day.

Tuesday, the first day of the show, opened very dull and dispiriting, it had been raining the whole of the previous night, and the weather conditions were most dismal. The judging day, for which an admission of 5s. was charged, passed off uneventfully, and the number of visitors to the show only amounted to 1,670, which did not compare at all favourably with previous exhibitions.

Second Day.

Wednesday was the day upon which popular attention was centred, for H.M. the King had promised to specially travel down from London in order to visit the show. Things did not look by any means cheerful during the forenoon, but with the approach of the time of the King being due the weather greatly improved, and subsequent to his arrival the conditions were most pleasant in spite of a considerable amount of mud in some parts of the showyard.

His Majesty reached Lincoln just at midday, and was received with all due formality by the Mayor of Lincoln and other officials, from whom he accepted an address. His Majesty, in his reply, alluded fittingly to the agriculture of this country, as in the course of his address he said :—

"You are well aware of the interest I have always taken in agriculture, and the splendid entries for the present Royal Agricultural Show prove to me that the pre-eminence of this country in breeding stock of the highest class, although often threatened, is not seriously endangered. It is to England that the representatives of countries journey in order to renew their blood stock, whether horses, cattle, or sheep. Strains of Lincoln sheep blood are to be found in the flocks which form the staple of wealth of Australia and South America.

"Our success in breeding results not merely from the favourable climate and soil with which this land is blessed, but from the skill and patience of the breeder, who has constantly improved his stock by the application of scientific methods."

Large crowds were present in the streets to welcome His Majesty, who was received with ringing cheers. Upon arrival at the showyard the King was introduced to Lord Yarborough and others, and made a very through tour of the showyard inspecting various sections with his well known thoroughness. His Majesty took his departure in brilliant sunshine and amidst a great demonrtration of popular good-will.

The attendance of the public during the day was good, but the numbers paying for admission was hardly so large as had been anticipated, for the necessary care for the royal train confined the excursion arrangements within strict limits. The complete cessation of traffic ordered by the city authorities, during the visit of the King, also tended to considerable inconvenience. We are aware that it is necessary to take all precautions to prevent any contretemps on such occasions, but the anxiety of the authorities on this occasion somewhat overpowered their discretion.

Third Day.

Thursday was beautifully fine and sunny, and large crowds came rolling through the turnstiles at a very early hour in the morning. During the day there were various entertainments in the big ring, whilst one of the most popular features in the show was the display of flowers. Two large tents were filled with the finest specimens sent by growers from all parts of the country. It was a magnificent collection, and highly appreciated by all visitors.

The attendance during the day was very good, and means a considerable sum to the society, for at Derby the previous year there was only one half-crown day, while at Lincoln the second half-crown day was quite as successful as the first.

Concluding Days.

On Friday as early as 10 o'clock the narrow but prettily decorated streets were crowded, and it was difficult to get a ride to the West Common. Lincoln has not established a record for a first shilling day, but the figures once more attest the wisdom of the Society in having turned its back upon London and in returning to the provinces. They also acclaim the keen interest of Lincolnshire people in the welfare of the Royal. The registered attendance by payment at eleven o'clock was 22,537. The next two hours brought the total up to 44,014, and the three o'clock attendance was 50,693. Just over 1,000 passed through in the next two hours, and when the show ground closed at seven o'clock it was found that the total attendance for the day was 51,888, as compared with 46,055 at Derby last year, and 7,754 at Park Royal in 1905.

Satisfactory as was the financial record of the Derby gathering, it was surpassed on Friday afternoon, owing to the re-introducing of a second half-crown day. Therefoee, Saturday's receipts were profits, and the balance-sheet, when drawn up, will show a substantial addition to the credit of the Society. There was no fifth day at Derby or at Park Royal in 1905. Apart from numerous ticket holders, 133,006 persons paid for admission at Lincoln during the week, including 33,870 on Saturday, or nearly 10,000 more than passed through the turnstiles at the final exhibition at Park Royal. Lincoln's achievement is a new record, beating all the five days' totals for many years, with the exception of the Cardiff figures of 167,423 in 1901.

FARM PRIZES.

The re-establishment of prizes for the best cultivated farms in the district in which the Royal Show is held was a most popular feature. For years there has been a movement on foot to revive this competition, and the announcement that the society had decided to do so in Lincolnshire was a most popular one. The prizes evoked keen competition, and their announcement, which was made at the annual meeting of members, was the cause of considerable local interest. The following are the awards :—

Class 1 —Arable and grass farm in the county of Lincoln, exceeding 300 acres—1, John Evens, Burton, near Lincoln ; 2, John Todd, Kirkby Green, Lincoln. Reserve —William Searby, Spilsby Road, Horncastle. Very highly commended —Henry Bemrose Minta, Normanton Hill, Grantham ; John Robinson, Eastfield House, North Thoresby, S.O. Highly commended—John Eastland, Casswell, Laughton, Folkingham ; Leslie W. Stepenson, South Thoresby Manor, Alford. Commended — William Usher Banks, Cranwell Lodge, Sleaford.

Class 2.—Arable and grass farm in the county of Lincoln, over 50 acres and not exceeding 300 acres.—1, Edward James Turton, Horkstow, Hull; 2, William Bray, East Keal, Spilsby ; 3, Henry Neesham, Lodge Farm, Canwick. Highly commended—Edward Burkitt, Faldingworth, near Lincoln ; Edwin Glassup, The Lodge, Colsterworth, Grantham ; John Thomas Shaw, The Elms Farm, North Cotes, S.O.

Class 3.—Arable and grass farm, regularly hunted over by the Belvoir, Blankney, Brocklesby, Burton, or Southwold Hounds, exceeding 300 acres—1, William Searby, Spilsby Road, Horncastle ; 2, John Robinson, Eastfield House, North Thoresby ; 3, Henry Bemrose Minta, Normanton Hill, Grantham. Reserve—Edward Godson Allen, Metheringham, Lincoln. Highly commended—Leslie W. Stephenson, South Thoresby Manor, Alford. Commended—William Usher Banks, Cranwell Lodge, Sleaford ; Thomas Barraud, Kelby, Grantham.

Class 4.—Arable and grass farm, regularly hunted over by the Belvoir, Blankney, Brocklesby, Burton, or Southwold Hounds, over 50 acres and not exceeding 300 acres.—1, Henry Neesham, Lodge Farm, Canwick ; 2, Robert Cecil Cooper, Waltham, Melton Mowbray ; 3, Edward Burkitt, Faldingworth, near Lincoln ; 4, Leslie Philip Stevenson, South Thoresby, Alford. Reserve—C. Hinsman and Son, Fulletby Grange, Horncastle. Highly commended—Fred Fisher, Welby, Grantham.

Farm in the Blankney Hunt which did not win a prize in either the county or combined hunts' classes.—W. H. Potter, Langford Moor, Coddington, near Newark.

Farm over 300 acres in the Blankney Hunt which did not win a prize in either the county or combined hunts' classes. —E. Goodson.

Belvoir Hunt special prize for farm over 300 acres.—1, H. B. Minta ; 2, J. E. Casswell. Reserve and silver medal.—T. Barraud.

HORSES.

Hunters.

The show of Hunters was very satisfactory, the number of entries being good, and the classes containing some of the best Hunters of the year, including the Olympia and Richmond champions and several animals that have been prominent at other good shows found themselves outclassed at the Lincoln meeting. The first class was that for colts or geldings foaled in 1906, of which there were eight catalogued. Mr. Swallow's good colt Recruit by Squadron Leader was placed first, beating Mr. E. W. Robinson's Collar Stud and Messrs. Cheney's good colt by Bachelor. In the two-year-old gelding class Mr. F. B. Wilkinson's fine colt so often first, His Grace, found a more favoured opponent in Mr. R. L. Fenwick's Whisperer colt, Zealot, which proved the high quality in this instance. Of three year olds there was a very large entry, and some capital geldings, Mr. F. B. Wilkinson's Expert this time holding his own against Messrs. Cheney's Nimrod and Mr. E. Hodgson's Dignity, Irish bred, sired by Fitz-Clifden out of a mare by that best of Irish sires of the past Ascetic. The yearling filly class was exceptionally strong, and better breeding and quality need not be desired than that of Mr. F. G. Colman's first prize winner, being by Royal Mask out of that capital mare Homely Lass. Other winners were Mr. Wilkinson's bay by Worsthorn and Mr. Addey's Kipper.

Two and three-year-old fillies were not strong classes. Mr. C. Hodgson's Mab by Pax and Messrs. Cheneys' Lady Mary were the best in the former class, and Major Leslie Renton's Success, a well-known and first-class filly, and Mr. R. W. Riggall's filly by Havoc were best in the older class.

Mares with foal at foot (light weights) were very strong, and with Mr. Mullens's Glowworm and Mr. Wilkinson's Rosalinda at the finish had quite quality enough. In the heavy weights class Mr. Mullens's Everlasting was first, and also awarded the gold medal of the Hunters' Improvement Society. Mr. Oliver Quibell's Diana and Mr. Furness' Laurista were the other winners in the class. The colt and filly foals were quite as well grown as those of the heavy horses, but the entry was not large in either classes. Mr. Mullins, Mr. Hodgson, and Mr. Furness were the winners in colts in the order written, the sires being Glenrossal, Rol O'Neill, and Squadron Leader, whilst the winning fillies shown by Mr. Mullens, Mr. Robinson, and Mr. Swallow were the get of Glenrossal, Riverstorm and Squadron Leader.

Polo and Riding Ponies.

The classes in this section were not very strong numerically, though the quality was high, many of the best animals of the year being present. For stallions foaled in or before 1904, Mr. Mumford's Spanish Hero repeated his London Victory, Mr. Kelly's Mountain Ash and Vice-Admiral Bridgeman's Carnival being the other winners, the latter being in the second place. In yearlings (colt, filly, or gelding) Mr. John Barker was as usual quite invincible with his Sandiway and Bold Marco stock, which beat Mr. Tresham Gilbey's Mayleaf, and in two-year-olds Mr. Barker's Ruby by Sandiway was also at the front, the other prizes going to the Keynsham Stud Company and Mrs. A. Hayes-Sadler. Mr. Barker followed up his victories in the three-year-old class and also in the brood mare section, his Deborah by Mark For'Ard and Silver Star being first in these classes respectively. Three-year-olds were weak, and brood mares were also not by any means numerous.

Cleveland Bays.

These classes struck the writer as being quite remarkable for quality all through, but there was not a large entry, indeed there seldom is, but breeders found a good inquiry for them which should encourage them in their work. The old familiar names, both of owners and horses, were once more most prominent. Mr. John Lett, Mr. George Scoby, and Mr. Frank Bateman divided the prizes for stallions foaled in 1904 or 1905, and for fillies foaled in 1904 or 1905, Mr. H. C. Stephens' Southern stud came to the front with Cholderton Silkstone by Wellington, a very good-looking filly, well grown, bred by her owner. The other winners were Mr. George Elders and Mr. George Grandage with Aislaby Winner and Woodland Flower respectively.

Aislaby Beauty and Woodland Rose were the only competitors in the brood-mare class, and were awarded first and second prizes in the order named for Mr. J. H. Tyerman and Mr. Bateman.

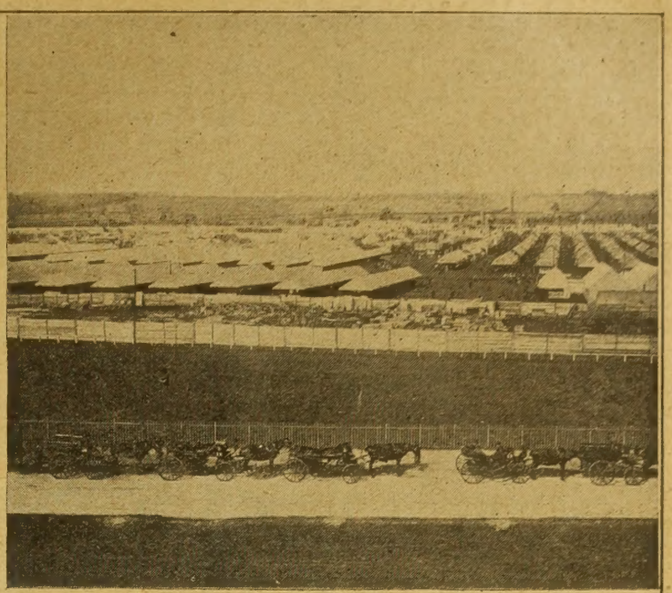
Coach Horses.

Coach horses, the next of kin to the Clevelands, were strong in stallions, but the female section was very weak. In the former, Mr. Scoby, Mr. Frank H. Stericker, and Mr. G. Grandage were the winners in the above order ; and in the filly class,

	Lincoln. 1907.	Derby, 1906.	Park Royal, 1905.	Park Royal, 1904.	Park Royal, 1903.	Carlisle, 1902.	Cardiff, 1901.	York, 1900.	Maidstone, 1899.
5s. day	1,670	2,752	—	2,011	2,685	4,693	3,155	2,390	1,233
1st 2s. 6d. day ...	22,835	25,666	7,684	9,375	12,057	7,550	23,745	11,333	8,928
2nd 2s. 6d. day ...	22,725	—	—	10,912	11,403	15,398	25,063	12,332	8,572
1st 1s day ...	51,888	46,055	7,754	14,175	20,569	46,242	69,133	52,488	35,249
2nd 1s. day ...	33,878	44,670	5,706	16,457	18,299	19,304	46,327	8,968	14,594
Total ...	133,006	119,143	23,913	52,930	65,013	93,187	167,423	87,511	68,576

Views at the Royal Show.













1. H.M. The King at the Showyard
2. Judging Shorthorn Bulls calved in 1902/1903 or 1904
3. The "Mark Lane Express" Stand.
4. A General View of the Showyard.
5. Judging the Yearling Shire Stallions.
6. The Lincolnshire Farmers' Union Stand

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foaled in 1904 or 1905, of which three only were catalogued, the honours went in the following order: first, Mr. Grandage's Woodland May; second, Mr. Scoby's Beadlam Hylda; and third, Beadlam Beauty, from the same stables. Like the Clevelands, mares and foals only mustered a couple of representatives, and these were placed first and second; Mr. Grandage's well-known and stylish mare Woodland Briar taking the first position, and Mr. Beckett's Marian second.

Hackneys.

This breed gave a better account of themselves than has been the case at the Royal for some time, and their strong, attractive action had great effect upon the many strangers present. There were, too, more horses with size about them than has sometimes been the case. Yearling stallions came out with six entries, Sir Walter Gilbey's Flash Cadet, Sir Lees Knowles' Salford Viscount, and Mr. H. V. Sheringham's Creake Connaught, the first by His Majesty and the last by Copper King, were the recipients of the prizes in the order named, and each of them smart movers.

The two-year-old stallion class was stronger, Messrs. T. and A. Hall providing the winner in King of the West, a chesnut by Garton Duke of Connaught, that went very evenly. Mr. R. P. Evans's Kingsway by Copper King and Mrs. E. Fletcher's Angram St. Thomas were the other winners. Copmanthorpe Performer was up to his usual good form, and carried off first in the three-year-olds for Mr. Arthur Hall. This colt, it will be remembered, is a son of Garton Duke of Connaught, and one of the best movers with style in the show. Mr. Evans's Gartonius and Mrs. E. Fletcher's Angram Performer also showed very well, and followed on in the prize list in the above order.

Yearling fillies had a very strong representative in Sir Walter Gilbey's Flash Clara by Royal Danegelt, she has grown and goes with force; Mr. Cliff and Mr. Pentelow were the other winners.

Another well-known and grand filly turned up at the head of the two-year old class in the shape of Sir Walter Gilbey's well-known filly Lively Beeswing by Royal Danegelt. Mrs. Fletcher's Ganymede filly and Mr. Pentelow's Mathias filly were awarded the remaining money. Three-year-olds made up a very good class, too, the winners in these being Mr. H. Clark's Skeffing Lily, Mr. W. J. Tennant's Special Beauty, and Mr. R. P. Evan's Christolia. The lower weight class of Hackney-bred mares was not especially strong in notables, Mr. W. H. Clarke's Winsetts Lily, Messrs. Cockayne's Paddock Queen, and Mr. H. V. Sherringham's Creake Sylvia were the best of them; whilst in the over 15 2 class the quality was very high, and several famous mares were in the running. Mr. R. P. Evans' District Maid was placed in the first position, though she had a very powerful opponent in Miss Dora Schintz's Knowle Belinda by His Majesty, a mare that has true carriage-horse style, with size and fine action, and Sir Walter Gilbey's Gallant Girl occupied the third place.

The best colt foals in a rather small class were Mr. W. H. Clark's by Skeffling Fireaway, Miss Dora Schintz's out of Knowle Belinda got by Mathias, and Mr. Pentelow's by Gay Lothair. The best fillies were Mr. R. Surfleet's daughter of Beckingham Squire, Mr. R. P. Evans' by Evanthius, and Sir Walter Gilbey's chestnut by Hedon Sportsman.

The Hackney pony classes were not big in numbers, but they contained several of the sensational movers of the day, included in the winners being Mr. Jones' Warburton Aneroid, Mr. Kerr's Johnnie Cope, Mr. Stock's Sir O'Horace, Messrs. Wainwright and Sons' Talke Wonder, Mr. W. Foster's Mel Valley Snorter, Mel Valley's Wonder, Mel Valley's Prince of Holland, Mr. Robinson's Brixworth Sharp Speculator, Mr. Price's Lyndhurst Firegirl and Mivvy Star, and Mr. J. Pimlott's Lady Wellford.

Shetlands.

The small entry of these immature horses created a great deal of admiration and interest as they stood in their boxes and also when on parade. The Ladies Hope and Mr. R. W. R. Mackenzie won all the prizes, the ladies taking the champion medal with the stallion Thoreau.

Riding and Driving Classes.

These clases formed rather an important section, as a great many Hunters were entered in the riding portion. Mr. Edward Hodgson's Sportsman carried off the red card in the 12 to 14 stone class, Mr. J. H. Stokes' well-known good-quality and great winners Black Pearl and Dirk Moor taking the other prizes, whilst in the class up to more than 14 stone, where there was not so much competition, the first prize went to a gelding of Mr. Drages, and second and third to Mr. J. H. Stokes' Masterpiece and Lord Crafty.

The novice class up to from 12 to 14 stones was well filled, and the prizes carried off by Mr. Drage, Mr. G. B. Foster, with an Irish-bred horse, and Captain R. F. Gooch. In the heavy-weight novice class Mr. Drage's Mercedes beat Mr. J. H. Stokes' Orion and Mr. Gale's Dan Leno. Mr. Drage and Mr. Stokes also carried off the lion's share in the remaining classes.

Harness Horses and Ponies.

In the class not exceeding 14 hands Mr. W. Foster's Mel Valley's Veronique, Mr. Howard Franks' Tissington Cock Robin, and Mr. Raynor's Gay Girl, shared the prizes in the order named, the two former being in the Olympia and Richmond honours. Novices over 15.2 hands were a good lot. Miss Dora Schintz's Morocco, Miss Ella S. Ross' Grand Vizier, and Mr. S. Lears' Coltman Squire won the prizes in the order named, and promise to be heard of again after they have lost their claim to the title of novice. Pairs of horses in harness exceeding 15.2 were well represented, the first place being filled by Mr. John Kerr's Loudwater Flourish and Loudwater Fashion, Messrs. Cockayne coming in second with Paddock Handyman and Paddock Lilian. There were several classes in this section not judged until the last days of the show, in which many of the entries consisted of animals that have already been mentioned.

Shires.

Considering the important position the county of Lincolnshire occupies in the Shire horse world, the display of horses of this breed at the Lincoln Royal could scarcely be said to be satisfactory so far as numbers were concerned, whilst on the score of quality there were several animals in each class that were not as good as one expects to see at the Royal. The reasons for this somewhat small show of the breed may be accounted for in two three ways. In the first place, shows have been so numerous during the past few weeks that most of the Shire horses that have been got up for show purposes have tried conclusions at one place or another and proved their ability to compete, and where the result has not been in their favour, it is only natural that their owners should consider the cost of exhibiting them at the Royal for a week without any probability of winning something more or less substantial. Another very probable reason may be found in the very severe weather that we have been passing through, which has caused many horses to take on chills and bad coughs, and in some cases has resulted in death. The value of a good Shire to a farmer at the present time is too great to risk for little or nothing.

The first class for Shires was that for stallions foaled in 1905, of which there was a fairly good class, Mr. James Gould's London winner Lymm Grey being, as at that show, pretty quickly placed at the front. He has grown remarkably well this summer, and stands upon a first-rate set of legs and feet; his shape, too, is as it should be. He was got by Severn Bradford out of Darling by Coleshill Carbon. Mr. Frank Farnsworth and Lord Egerton carried off the other prizes with Ratcliffe Coming King and Tatton Settler, both of which were in the money in London, the latter also being the first prize foal at last year's Royal. Sir P. A. Muntz had also a very good colt reserved in Dunsmore Professor. Two-year-old colts brought out several very good ones, Mr. F. E. Muntz's King Forest, which has been so successful at the earlier shows, being an easy winner. He is by the great sire Lockinge Forest King, and for size, weight, and correct balancing of body and limbs is quite a hard nut to crack, in the opinion of many good judges being one of the best colts out for a long time. The second colt was Lord Rothschild's Hotspur IV., that was first in his class at the Agricultural Hall, since when, though he has filled out and held his form, he has not grown so much as could be liked, otherwise he is very good at the ground and in quality. He is the get of Birdsall Menestrel, his dam being by Markeaton Royal Harold. Sir P. A. Muntz followed for the third place with Dunsmore President, a capital colt by Dunsmore Jameson.

Three-year-olds, according to after results, must be called the class of the section, insomuch that they brought out both the champion and reserve champion stallions. There were Mr. Frank Farnsworth's Ratcliffe Forest King, which has won so many prizes and championships, and a very taking and correct colt of Mr. James Gould's, called Lockinge Truffle, bred by Lady Wantage, and sired by Lockinge Forester, an own brother to Lockinge Forest King, the sire of the first-prize colt. The second colt is full of style, size, and quality, as well as a very good mover, and was a great favourite at the ring side; though the first prize two-year-old was very much liked as a candidate for the superior honour; Sir P. A. Muntz was third with Dunsmore Premier, a grand class of colt by Birdsall Calamint, that must have run both the winners very closely.

Fillies foaled in 1906 were a very nice class as respects the best of them, which were Mr. W. T. Everard's well-built Bardon Flower of the Forest by Lockinge Forest King, full of the best Shire character and quality; Sir P. A. Muntz's Dunsmore Quicklime by Dunsmore Jameson, a filly with a good deal of class about her; and Mr. Tom Bond's Ludboro Royal Lassie by Lockinge Forest King, another very good type of Shire yearling.

Two-year-old fillies were one of the best classes, Mr. W. T. Everard's Ashleigh Royal Duchess, another daughter of Lockinge Forest King, with fine shape and good style and quality, came to the front, Lord Rothschild taking second with Misty Morn, a very nicely moulded filly, though none too big. Mr. Egerton Orme's Tatton Friar filly, Combermere Abbess, first at last year's Royal, was placed third, and Mr. G. G. Atterbury's very fine filly Fuchsia II. by Dunsmore Jameson was reserved.

The three-year-old class brought out the female champion in the shape of Mr. W. T. Everard's grand filly Bardon Marion by Lockinge Forest King; the Earl Egerton was second with Tatton May Queen, another very fine filly by the same sire; and Mr. T. E. Muntz's Alderby Lady Jameson, that has been the recipient of so many prizes and medals, and is an all-round, massive, well-shaped, weighty filly with quality, was given the third prize. Mares, with foal at foot, were a large entry in catalogue, but there were several absentees which reduced the class to a very small one in point of numbers, and several of the mares that have been good nurses were, probably owing in a measure to scarcity of feed and the cold, rather low in condition. Lord Rothschild's stud came out at the top with Belle Cole by Crossmoor Carbon, a Lancashire-bred mare of the right stamp to breed from, plenty of quality about her, low set, and with good shape both of body and limbs. The Duke of Sutherland followed with Lilleshall Moss Rose, a big, well-built, and good quality mare by Markeaton Royal Harold, and Mr. Leopold Salomons could only get the third prize with his big, weighty, and correct mare, Childwick Youno, bred by the late Sir J. B. Maple, Bart., and sired by Childwick Majestic. Two or three other very useful mares were awarded reserve cards.

The foals of both sexes were mostly small and backward, quite in sympathy with the season. The colt foal class came first, and out of five entries the one selected for first honours was the Right Hon. Victor Cavendish's colt by that good coming sire Holker Menestrel II. out of Holker Minerva, a very well-shaped colt, and good in his underworks. Messrs. Cartwright and Son came second with a colt by Nailstone Cœur de Lion, dam by Sir William, and the third prize was given to Lord Rothschild's colt out of the first prize mare Belle Cole and sired by Birdsall Menestrel. Mr. J. W. Davy was reserve and he with another colt by the same sire. There was a bigger and better entry of filly foals, the first prize in this class going to Sir A. Henderson's filly out of the good mare Rickford Dorothy, and sired by Buscot Harold, a very shapely filly and growing well. Second prize was awarded to the Duke of Sutherland's filly out of the second prize mare, and got by Dunsmore Jameson, a very promising one; and third fell to the lot of Mr. Frank Farnsworth for the filly out of Ratcliffe Sunflower, sired by Ratcliffe Royal Harold. Three others were given cards.

Clydesdales.

Though the northern race of heavy mares compared very moderately with their great rivals of the south, still there was a better show of them numerically than we have seen at the Royal for some time. There was, however, a great want of uniformity of type apparent in them, and some were exceptionally light of build, whilst others were small, and, again, others leggy and wanting depth of ribs.

Stallions foaled in 1906 had for their leader a colt of Messrs. Montgomery's, of great promise, well-balanced, and full of quality, with a nice lot of bone and hair of the right kind, and put together well; he was sired by Everlasting out of a Prince Thomas mare. Two-year old stallions were a small class, the first prize and male championship being accorded to Messrs. Montgomery's Diploma, a very big, upstanding colt, got by Everlasting, which, with time, should make a real good stallion. The same exhibitors were also second with Gartly Bonus, another half-brother, and the third prize fell to Mr. A. B. Matthews' Baron Barsalloch. Three or four stallions foaled in 1904 faced the judges, three of the entries being the property of Messrs. Montgomery, these, however, were beaten for the first place by Mr. Walter S. Park's Clan Forbes, a very useful colt by Royal Chattan. The other prizes went to Messrs. Montgomery's Baron Monkton by Baron's Pride and Pride of Avon by Rathillet. There was rather a good class of two year-old fillies, the Seaham Harbour Stud coming in with Silver Pansy, a deep-ribbed beautiful filly with excellent limbs and feet by Silver Cup; this filly obtained the female championship. Messrs. Murdoch and Mr. J. E. Kerr won the other prizes.

Mr. H. B. Marshall's first-prize three-year-old Baron's Brilliant by Baron's Pride showed plenty of quality and beautiful parts and hair. The Seaham Harbour Company's second was by Silver Cup. There were only two mares with foal at foot, Mr. J. E. Kerr's Pyrene by Baron's Pride, and Mr. G. Gunter's Silver Princess by Silver Cup, which were placed as named, the first mare being full of quality and of good character. The foals of the mares also followed the placing of the

Prize-Winning Horses at the Royal Show.



1. Mr K. M. Clark's Suffolk Stallion Sudbourne Arabi, the Champion Suffolk Stallion.
2. Mr R. P. Evans Hackney Mare District Maid, and Foal, the Champion Hackney Mare or Filly.
3. Messrs. A. and W. Montgomery's Champion Clydesdale Stallion Diploma.
4. Mr. F. Farnsworth's Ratcliffe Forest King, the Champion Shire Stallion.
5. Major L Renton's Success, the First Prize Hunter Filly, foaled in 1904.
6. Mr. John Barker's Polo Pony Filly Deborah, the Champion Polo and Riding Pony Mare or Filly.

mares class; the first one was by Royal Favourite and the second by Gamecock.

Suffolks.

The show of this breed was very small, but their quality was on the whole very good, though many of them were rather light of bone. Mr. A. J. Smith was first with two year-old colts, and Mr. Kenneth M. Clark second, the colts being well grown; the former was by the famous sire S turn, the latter by Sudbourne Count. Mr. A J. Smith was third with Lord Nelson by Prince A bert; the first prize two-year-old was also second for the male championship. Mr. Kenneth M. Clarke was awarded the first prize and champion cup for his three-year-old stallion Sudbourne Arabi by Sudbourne Count.

Two-year-old fillies found the first prize winner in Mr. A. J. Smith's Rendlesham Wedgy by Saturn, and three-year-old fillies were in the hands of Mr. Kenneth M. Clarke and Sir Cuthbert Quilter, the former being first and second and the latter third.

Mares and foals were only two in number (of each), Mr. A. J. Smith's Sadie and Mr. R. Eaton White's Boulge Hebe, which were placed for honours in the above order.

CATTLE.

Shorthorns.

The very large entry of Shorthorns at Lincoln, notwithstanding that a large number of them were evidently sent for sale only, and without any pretensions to their being Royal Show cattle, were, numbers considered, the best lot that have ever been seen at any Royal Show. There was greater uniformity of character and symmetry about them, with greater evenness in the distribution of their wealth of flesh, and there was rather an increase than otherwise in their size, which is a great matter for congratulation. It would not do to establish a breed of Shorthorns of the short puggy kind, this would only tend to a preponderance of fat over lean meat and a total annihilation of milking properties.

Bulls calved in 1902, 1903, or 1904 had no less than thirty entries, and this means a great deal, for it not only means that there are a lot of first-class old bulls left in the country after the foreign invasion, but it also means that these bulls are and have proved themselves fruitful and good sires and with constitution, or they would not have lived through the heavy showyard feeding and other hardships that a showyard life necessitates.

First honour went very rightly to Mr. F. Miller's magnificent bull Linksfield Champion, the hero of so many battles, bred by Colonel Johnston, near Elgin, and sired by Scottish Prince; he is massive, fleshy, and weighty to a degree, and full of quality too. He left his Northern home in the first instance for Miss Staples' well-known herd in Ireland, from whence he made his *debut* at the Royal Dublin Societies' Spring Show last year, where he was purchased by Mr. F. Miller, his present owner, who has hired him out for service in Lord Powis' herd. The second bull, Sir R. P. Cooper's Meteor, is little less worthy; he was bred by Mr. Morgan-Richardson, and is a marvellously correct and stylish bull for his age, and a standing instance of the value of the white Shorthorn, a colour to which so many people, especially foreigners, object. Mr. Toppins' third prize bull, Moonstone, was bred in the same herd as the second prize one, and sired by Moonlight. So good is he that many good judges considered him quite likely to even stand in front of his now more highly-honoured opponents. His Majesty the King scored first honour in the two-year-old class with the heavy-fleshed son of Luxury called Royal Windsor, and Mr. Chatterton, whose name is generally associated with something good in the Shorthorn line, came second with a very good Scotch-bred bull, Avondale by Pride of Avon, Mr. J. Deane Willis only being able to secure third with his capital bull, Stonecrop, bred by Lord Brougham. In the younger class of two-year-olds Mr. John Handely, the Duke of Northumberland, and Mr. H. S. Leon were successful, the last named showing a very good bull in Ascot Wanderer, bred by Mr. Leopold Rothschild.

The two classes of yearling bulls (calfed from January to July and July to December) brought out quite an array of very promising youngsters, bulls with growth about them and full of Shorthorn character and flesh exhibited by breeders from all parts of the country.

Coming to the female classes, there was also considerable cause for satisfaction, as very few even of the aged cows showed signs of patchiness and too much fat, whilst the heifers of all ages were very even both in flesh and symmetry. There was, it must be confessed, not any too much milk, if enough in the classes not specially competing as dairy Shorthorns, the difference between the two sections is perhaps just a little wider than it should be. Of the non-dairy animals Lord Calthorpe's Sweetheart, bred by her late Majesty Queen Victoria and a well-known winner in the past, has held together remarkably well in all respects and well merited her first prize. Mr. George Harrison's Towy Princess and Mr. Robert Taylor's Donside Princess, sent all the way down from far Carnoustie, placed second and third respectively, were both very good, level, symmetrical animals. Three-year-old heifers in milk were not a very strong class, Mr. Rothwell's first (Lady Graceful) and Mr. T. Atkinson's second, (Takeley Jimny by Chewton Victor 6th) should make milk as well as beef.

The first prize two-year-old, Mr. Robert Taylor's Pitlivie Rosebud 2nd is quite a remarkable heifer and winner in a very good class, and the same must be said of Mr. F. Phillip's Roan Pansy placed second. In the yearling heifer class, too, there was a great show of first-class and most promising youngsters, H.M. the King, with Marjorie by Royal Chieftain, and Earl Manvers with Duchess of Ruddington 6th, taking first and second prizes. In the dairy classes were a great number of very good Shorthorns quite of the dual purpose type as this breed should be, and the fine animal of Mr. Adeane's Priceless Princess in the hands of her breeder is just about as good in all respects as could be desired. Lord Rothschild, Lord Calthorpe, Mr. Tyser, and several other noted breeders were also capitally represented in these classes.

Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns.

There was an all-round admirable display of this very useful dual purpose section of the great Shorthorn family, and what is most satisfactory to notice was the improved quality that characterised so many of the young stock classes, which showed very improved symmetry and with an increased aptitude for early maturity. The young stock, too, were in most cases well grown and brought out. Bulls calved previously to 1903 were first to be noticed in the catalogue, and of these there were five entries, the post of honour being filled by Mr. John Langham's Brandon Blend, a very big, massive, and well shaped bull with abundance of good muscular flesh; he was bred by his owner and sired by Brandon Lord Chancellor. Mr. Robert Chatterton's Under Porter, bred by Mr. W. Chatterton, and Mr. S. Crawley's Western Monarch 2nd, were the recipients of the other honours.

Bulls calved in 1903 or 1904 were eight in number, and this class brought out the champion bull, which was Mr. Benjamin Rowland's Scampton Exile, bred by Mr. G. E. Sandars, and the get of Keddington Ruby, his dam by King Hal; he is a very massive, wide, square set bull with masculine character and plenty of good flesh about him that should sire the right kind of stock for rent paying. Mr. W. J. Atkinson's Weston Monarch 4th by Royal Crest, and Mr. John Searby's Croft Aubourne by Calceby Marvel were the winners of the second and third prizes in the order named.

Bulls calved in 1905 were also a well-grown and generally good lot, Mr. G. E. Sandons headed these with Brandon Grenadier, bred by Mr. John Langham, and Mr. Robert Chattertons's Stenigot Violet Chief, and Messrs. Drewry and Son's Donington Baron followed in the order named.

Bulls calved in 1906 were last of the male section, and these made up a very improved lot as compared with a few years ago. Mr. Chatterton's Stenigot Duchess Beau, bred by his owner, out of Stenigot Duchess 10th, was accounted the best of them; Mr. John Evens taking the second place with one of his milky-bred youngsters, Burton Hermit 2nd by Burton Hermit out of Saltfleet Favourite; Mr. John Langham followed up with Brandon Grenadier 2nd by Brandon Majestic 2nd.

Cows in milk calved previously to or in 1903 mustered some six or seven entries, Mr. Joseph Grant Williams carrying off first honour with Nonpareil 9th, bred by Mr. E. H. Cartwright, a cow with good symmetry and quite of the twofold type; like the class generally, however, the udders were a little coarse. Mr. John Todd's Kirkby Nonpareil, bred by her owner, and Mr. George Marris's Keddington Pearl were placed second and third in the order named. Cows and calves brought out a class of seven entries. Mr. Williams was again first with Keddington Skipworth 5th, bred by Mr. E. H. Cartwright; Mr. Robert Chatterton's Cropwell Laura and Messrs. Farrow and Sons' Strubby Red Lady, all of them good cows with size and good form, were placed for the honours in the above order. Three-year-old heifers were rather a small turnout numerically last week, but their quality was very useful. Mr. George Marris's Keddington Favourite was the best of these, and Colonel C. A. Swan with Twilight, like the first prize one bred by Mr. E. H. Cartwright, was placed second. The exors. of the late Mr. T. B. Freshney taking third with Saltfleet Poppy, bred by Mr. J. W. Needham.

Heifers calved in 1905 brought into the winning list one or two fresh exhibitors. Mr. W. J. Atkinson was first with Weston Pink, Mr. Edward Abraham second with Atby Glitters 2nd, and the representatives of the late G. Laughton third. The heifers in this class, as well as in that for yearling heifers which followed, were remarkably uniform and well grown for age, with symmetry about them too as well as a great wealth of flesh. There were just upon thirty entries in the yearling class, and again a new name or two appeared, Mr. Edwin Bourne scoring first honour with Ruby Queen, Messrs. Farrow and Son second with Cardiff 3rd by Under Porter, and Mr. George Freir third with Sleeping Princess. Competition was very keen in this class. Cows in-milk calved previously to or in 1903 showing the best milking properties was a very important class, but was not too well supported. Mr. John Evens's herd has so long been bred upon milking lines, and so skilfully managed, that it was not surprising that his herd should come well to the front, and so it was, all three prizes falling to the herd. First was Burton Ruddy 5th, a deep, good cow with a well-shaped bag and good outline; she was bred by her owner; next came Burton Spot 5th, another milky-looking cow, also bred by exhibitor, and third Burton Violet, a very nice type of cow, with quality and style of breeding about her as well as milk. This cow has been a prize winner upon several previous occasions.

Heifers calved in 1904 showing the best dairy properties were all in the hands of Mr. Evens, and first, second, and third prizes were all awarded to them; all of these, too, were bred by exhibitor. These were Burton Margaret 3rd, Burton Prophetess 5th, and Burton Marjorie 3rd. All of them gave great promise of being good at the pail, and their udders were well shaped too, whilst the heifers were plain in their general appearance and breed character. Mr. J. J. Williams won the female championship with Keddington Skipworth 5th.

Herefords.

The show of Herefords was a good one, and included the majority of the winners at the previous summer shows. The top place and subsequently the male championship was given to Mr. Allen E. Hughes's Pearl King, a big, thick, level son of Commandant. In the class other places were occupied by the King's Admiral and the Earl of Coventry's Lama. Bulls, calved in 1905, were headed by Mr. Henry J. Dent's Perton, a thick, heavily-fleshed animal. Second was Rob Roy, bred by Mr. William Tudge, and exhibited by Mr. G. D. Faber, M.P. This bull is a big, heavy, deep youngster, of rare character, with the best of masculine heads. He was in front of Perton at Lord Tredegar's Show at Newport in November, and would probably have repeated that victory last week, besides making a bold bid for the male championship, had he been better furnished.

Mr. C. T. Pulley lead the way in the bull calf class with Eaton Masterpiece, the other honours being bestowed upon the exhibits of Mr. George Butters, Mr. Arthur P. Turner, and Mr. D. A. Thomas, M.P.

Cows were not strong in numbers, but quality was excellent. The previous female champion, the Earl of Coventry's Madame, was set back, being beaten in the class contest by Mr. H. R. Evans' Ma Belle. Mr. Joseph Rowlands got the third prize. The pick of the two-year-old heifers was Mr. W. B. Tudge's Princess Beatrice. The yearling heifers contained the female champion in Mr. A. E. Hughes's Lemster Plum, one of the best youngsters on the ground, and a prominent winner during May and June.

Devons.

The pretty red cattle from the West of England made an excellent display, and it is many years since the Devons were so numerous and so good at a Royal so far distant from their native haunts. The classifications and regulations at the Royal are different to what they are at other shows, and this accounted for several well-known animals particularly in the cow class, being absent. It was rather hard lines for the two-year-old bull having to compete with the more matured specimens. The Hon. E. W. B. Portman was first with that very level big bull Pound Pink Un, one of the now recognised prefitable Somerset type; second to him was placed the beautifully topped and modelled bull, Mr. J. C. Williams' Dianthus; the judge had either to do this or put it back fourth, which would certainly have been quite unfair. This bull was put reserve to the former one for the male championship of the breed. The third prize went to the big, strong bull, Rufus, exhibited by Mr. Charles L. Hancock. He is more even than Mr. Sanders Kidner's Bickley Quaker, which was reserved. Mr. Robert Breford's smart and growing young bull, which has hitherto successfully headed the two year-old class, Pound Bellringer, had to give way and be content with a highly-commended card. Mr. J. C. Williams was also highly commended with that smart young bull which was seen at the Royal Cornwall show, Macbeth. Commendations were given to the Earl of Londesborough's Warrior, Viscount Portman's Emperor and Mr. Charles Morris's Highfield Royal. The yearling bulls have dwindled down greatly from previous shows, there being only four present. His Majesty the King's Chieftain, a very pretty bull, rather light of bone, was first; the Hon. E. W. B. Portman's Hestercombe Baronet was second. This bull promises well for another sea-

Champion Cattle at the Royal Show



1. A parade of Cattle before H.M. the King. 2. Mr. F. Miller's Linksfield Champion, the Champion Shorthorn Bull. 3 Mr. A. F. Hughes' Hereford Bull, Pearl King, Champion Bull of the breed. 4. Mr. J. G. Williams' Champion Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn Cow, Keddington Skipworth 5th, and her calf.

son, the same exhibitor being reserved with Hestercombe Flip, Mr. J. C. Williams coming in third with Lupin, rather on the small side.

The Devon cows made an unexpectedly large class, Mr. E. C. Norrish's fine three-year-old heifer, which has been unbeaten as a three-year-old this year, and the dam of a very fine calf, was now selected to lead the matrons. Second was a very typical Somerset Devon cow, Mr. Charles L. Hancock's Pollie; the third going to his Majesty the King's Lucy, that has become somewhat patchy at the tail of late. The Hon. E. W. B. Portman finding his Spinach barred was content to send Telltale to be reserved. The Devon heifers made a brave show, and here the judge again brought that fine heifer of Mr. Tom Dibble's, Lady Escott 4th, which was such an excellent first out from her temporary set back, and made her again queen of her class, and she was put reserve champion to Mr. Norrish's Capton Royal Sally; second to her was placed Mr. Charles Morris's Royal Counties winner, that very fine yearling Pound Brassey 13th. The third went to Mr. Eland Clatworthy's hitherto successful Somerset type heifer, Cutsey Beauty, that is now somewhat growing out of her bloom, the same exhibitor was also commended with Cutsey Mary. The judge was rather free with his highly commendeds. His Majesty the King was so placed with Carolina, a nice heifer very light in bone, Mr. Charles Morris with Highfield Good Girl, and Viscount Portman with Bryanston Genteel. The Hon. E. W. Portman being commended with Jane and also with Lady Coot.

South Devons.

It was a pity that these gigantic bovines did not make larger classes in numbers, but the very bulky specimens on view were very typical of the breed It is seldom indeed that such a fine bull as Mr. J. Sparrow Wroth's Macbeth is seen; he is a fine fellow, of great length and big girth and yet symmetrical, and though weighing nearly 28 cwt. and six years old, walked with the ease of a youngster. Second to him was Mr. Fred W. Rowe's Odd Character, another immense scale bull, but scarcely so even, whilst third went to Mr. Wroth's Dan Leno, which was quite overshadowed by the others. The females were five in number, led by that beautiful cow, Messrs. Butland Bros.' Handsome; second to her was that nearly equally good cow Mr. Ben Luscombe's Queenie 2nd, both of these heavily fleshed cows are evidently deep milkers. The third prize went to that very growing heifer that needs but a little more filling out, Mr. W. P. Vosper's Orange Girl; the next heifer, Laura, being a year older, being calved in 1903, in the same exhibitor's herd.

Sussex.

The six classes of Sussex cattle made a fairly representative show, many of the Bath and West winners being forward, together with a fair sprinkling of new comers. The old bull class only produced three entries, and Mr. E. E. Braby won with Lord of Drungewick 5th—shown in fine condition, and which eventually was awarded the male championship; second prize went to Mr. John Aungier for Careless Duke. In the two-year-old class Mr. P. Saillard won with Bewbush Duke, eventually reserve champion from Mr. Braby's Alfred of Drungewick. The Earl of Derby was third, Mr. W. G. Fladgate r and hc, the Hon. R. P. Nevill hc, the whole of the class receiving recognition at the hands of the judges. Yearlings were another good class, the Hon. R. P. Nevill winning with Birling Prince, Mr. A. J. Hickman's Newport animal Sammy being second, and Lord Winterton's Shillinglee Bewbush 4th third, and the same owner's Guardian r and hc.

The female classes were even better filled, Lord Winterton's Sunlight 7th, the best in the cow in-milk class, won the championship, while second to her in the class was Lord Derby's Buttermaid, with Mr. W. F. Winch's Careless 90th third, and Lord Winterton again reserve. The two best of the two-year-old heifers both came from the herd of Mr. W. F. Winch in Tilsden Jessie and Tilsden Crumple, a pair of typical animals; Lord Winterton's Speculation 9th was third, Lord Derby reserve, and Mr. P. Saillard hc. The yearling class supplied the reserve female champion, this position falling to Mr. J. Aungier for Lynwich Beauty, while two other exhibits from the same herd got third and reserve. Second money went to Lord Derby for Braceline, reserve to Mr. Fladgatt, and hc, to Mr. Bannister.

Welsh.

In this section there was only a small display ten animals being entered in three classes. Messrs. Davies and Howells, from South Wales, headed the bull class, with Duke of Connaught, a very deep and lengthy bull, and Mr. R. M. Greaves and the University College of North Wales were the chief exhibitors of cows and heifers, dividing the prizes, and leaving the reserve card to a heifer shown by the Hon. F. G. Wynn.

Red Polled.

There was a very good and fairly numerous collection of this dual purpose breed of East Anglian cattle. In the bull classes the leading honours were accorded to the Right Hon. Ailwyn Fellows, Sir Walter Corbet, Bart., and the Marchioness of Graham, the chief prizes in the female section going to Sir Walter Corbet, Bart., Messrs. T. Brown and Son, and Sir R. P. Cooper, Bart.

Aberdeen-Angus.

The Polled Scotch breed made an excellent show in well-filled classes. Mr. Bainbridge's four-year-old bull Idelamere was champion, a position he also filled at the Royal Counties and Northumberland shows; and he beat Mr. Clark's handsome bull April Fool of Drumfad. Even more remarkable for quality are the ten younger bulls—those calved before December, 1905—in which class Mr. Findlay obtained the first place with Blizzard, bred at Cariston Castle, and purchased at Perth spring show last year for 200 guineas. Mr. Cridlan's Everwise, which was placed second, has greater substance than Blizzard, but is not so attractive. He was first at the Bath and West of England. The leading heifers were Mr. Kerr's Juana Erica, a four-year-old, bred by the Dowager Countess of Seafield; and Mr. Findlay's Prize, a Banffshire heifer, nearly two years younger, both with successful showyard careers.

Galloways.

These Scotch cattle make a brave show. There are only four classes of them, and the Tarbreoch herds take the palm. Mr. John Cunningham's champion bull Chancellor of Balleyboley was first at Park Royal as a two-year-old, and was champion at Derby. He is a finely set specimen, with a lovely head and outline, and a level back. The champion heifer, owned by Messrs. Biggar, of Chapelton, was bred at Tarbreech, and she was rather lucky in being placed before Netty 32nd of Tarbreoch, the Highland winner, and Doris of Kilquhanity, which obtained the medal at Derby last year.

Highland.

Four classes of Highland cattle provide an admirable representation of the breed. Mr. Ian Bullough's red bull Albannach, endowed with tremendous forequarters and fine hair, was placed before Mr. Stephens's grand old bull Loch Tay, a veteran champion, who has distinguished himself at many a Northern show. The first heifer, Shellay, bred by Mr. Stewart, has a very good horn, a nicely covered brow, and a good square frame. She was shown in excellent form, but was closely run by Mr. Sopper's handsome heifer Lunette, which was second.

Ayrshires.

Only two classes of Ayrshires were scheduled, and Mr. Howie's herd swept the board with his three bulls, which were all first in their respective classes at the Ayr Show this year. Spicy Sam, the first of the lot, is quite up to his Highland Show form, and looked as well as ever. So far he has an unbeaten record this season. Mr. Andrew Mitchell's Lady Douglas is one of the best cows seen at the Royal for some years. She was first at Castle Douglas, her first showyard appearance since calving, and as this Kirkcudbrightshire Show is particularly strong in Ayrshires, she begins the year in a promising manner.

Jerseys.

The show of Jerseys was for so far north quite satisfactory. The bull classes were well filled, so were those for cows and heifers, and the general quality was as good as at any show this year. Indeed, most of the leading animals of the season were being exhibited. Bulls calved in 1902, 1903, 1904, or 1905, were the first class. Mr. Cobb's Glorious Lad, a bull that stood out very conspicuously last year, and still in very good form, was first. Other winners were Sir E. D. Stern's Cupid, first in the yearling class, where Mrs. McIntosh's La Fosse Hero was third, the two being divided by Mr. Arthur Pocock's Sheriff, all of these bulls showed exceptional quality. Other winners in the older class were Lord Rothschild's Oxford Wrangler and Mr. A. Miller Hallett's Alfriston's Pride. Of cows Mr. Miller Hallett's Lady Viola, Lord Rosebery's Lady Rhymer, and Lord Rothschild's Oxford Snowdrop were placed for the prizes in the order named, but several others were very close up. Mr. Cobb, Lord Rothschild, and Lady de Rothschild were the winners in the three-year-old class, and two-year-olds were rather a weak class. The Tring herd was first in this class, and also in the yearling class with Frolic, one of the most promising yearlings out for some time. Mr. Pocock's Selwood May, that came second, is also very promising and full of quality and milk appearance.

Guernseys.

This breed has not been better represented at a Royal Show for a long time. Of the older bulls Mr. Fitzwalter Plumptre's Roland of Seaview was first, and is a handsome, rich bull, one of the best for a long time. Mr. F. Hargreave's Merton Signet (second) and Mr. E. A. Hambro's Itchin Royal (third) were also very good. Yearling bulls were not quite as rich. Mr. Hargreaves obtained first and third in this class, the two being divided by Lady Tichborne's Miss Raider.

The cow class was one of great richness, and with an extraordinary display of milk and quality. Mr. E. A. Hambro's fine cows, Fi-Fi and Express, were placed first and third, Mr. Hargreave's Felors being sandwiched in the second place. Winners in the heifer classes were not quite up to the same standard as those in the adult class; the best of these were Mr. Fitzwalter Plumptre's Ranunculus 5th, Mr. H. C. Stephen's Citron Blossom 25th, and Cholderton Belle. Mr. Hargreaves, Mr. H. C. Stephens, and Mr. Hambro were the other chief winners.

Longhorn.

These picturesque cattle, with their handsome horns and beautiful skins, made a fairish show. Four classes were equally divided among the sexes; for bulls of two years old and upwards Mr. W. L. Riley won with Fradby Conqueror from Mr. T. P. Levitt, third was Mr. W. Sale, while the reserve was Lord Gerard. Of yearlings there was only one, and Lord Gerard's exhibit secured the award.

Kerries and Dexters.

Three good classes of Kerry cattle and four of Dexter cattle added considerably to the interest of the show from the spectators' point of view. Among the Kerries the principal prizes went to Lady Greenall, Mr. R. T. Robertson, and Mr. Clifford Cory.

Dexters were shown by his Majesty the King, the Duchess of Devonshire, Mr. B. de Bertodhand, Mr. Godfrey Chetwynd, the Hon. Mrs. Claud Portman, and others, who divided the prizes in the various classes, the Countess of Sefton also taking a first in the junior heifer class.

SHEEP.

This year's entry will be a memorable one for years to come, particularly on account of that unequalled and record display of Lincoln Long-woolled sheep, the entry of this breed being a record one in every respect. Taken as a whole the uniform merit and quality found in the whole section could not but afford the fullest satisfaction to every flockmaster in the country. No better exhibition could well have been made, nor could a better and more striking advertisement have been given of the great variety of breeds of British sheep to the foreign, colonial, or export buyer than this.

Oxford Downs.

An average entry of marked uniformity of type and character represented this breed, in which Mr. J. T. Hobbs, with yearling rams and ewes, led the way in these two classes with animals of grand quality. The other winners in these two classes were, for rams, Messrs. J. Horlick, A. Brassey, and H. W. Stilgoe, whose entries were splendid specimens of the breed. Mr. J. Horlick was second for yearling ewes with a beautifully matched pen; third and fourth winners in this class went to Mr. George Hankins for two pens of ewes with fine colour and good fleeces. Mr. G. Adams, with a notably fine pen of ram lambs, led in that class; the second entry from this flock were r. A pen of the right sort, masculine in character and well grown, won second for Mr. H. W. Stilgoe, closely pressed by Mr. Reading's typical trio of well-grown lambs, leaving fourth honours for Mr. J. Horlick's capital pen. Mr. H. W. Stilgoe was well to the fore in the ewe lamb class, winning with a high-class pen; Mr. Reading was close behind with a pen of growthy and typical lambs, leaving third and fourth honours to Mr. G. Adams, whose lambs are not so fresh as they were in respect to touch; Mr. Horlick followed as reserve.

Shropshires.

In this section the two-shear ram class opened the schedule; this is as it should be, for in no other class can so good an exhibition of the mature sheep of the breed be given than in this class. Mr. T. S. Minton won with a ram of great scale, high merit, and typical character; next was a very choice ram owned by Mr. A. S. Berry, a typical stud ram of its breed; whilst in Sir R. Cooper's third winner was found a ram of very choice flesh, with grand fleece and type; Mr. F. Bibby was rn. A notably strong and even class of yearling rams faced the judges, whose high appreciation of its merit was indicated by the very large number of awards given. In this class the winner was not difficult to locate: it was that particularly handsome and choice ram that won for Mr. M. Williams the Mansel Memorial Challenge Cup at the Shropshire and West Midland Show—a ram of high merit and grand type. Next him came one owned by Sir Richard Cooper, a ram with excellent scale and very level fleece and beautiful skin, its flock mate taking the rn. Third honours went to Scotland to Mr. T. A. Buttar's well-known flock, a ram somewhat on the small side, but having merit and type sufficient to put him ahead of quite a number of thoroughly typical rams, amongst them those owned by Sir P. A. Muntz, Right Hon. Victor Cavendish, Messrs. A. Tanner, F. Bibby, &c.

A class of five yearling rams of any age is always one most difficult to judge, and this is particularly so in respect to the Shropshire breed, for this is one in which the uniformity of type and character is so striking a feature that it is only by most careful examination such awards can be made. The award of first prize to Sir Richard Cooper was a popular one, and one the grand exhibit fully deserved, for

the pen was of very special merit. Some difference of opinion was expressed in respect to the second award that gave Mr. T. A. Buttar precedence over Mr. T. S. Minton's pen, for the latter were of larger scale and more masculine character, combining with these merits, their supporters contended, the equal quality and typical character of the smaller and neater pen from Scotland. A pen of special merit was that which takes rn to Mr. Victor Cavendish; these were of excellent type, and come from one of the foremost flocks of the breed at the present time. Sir P. A. Muntz, Mrs. W. F. Inge, and Messrs. A. Tanner and Mr. Williams were hc, and several other pens secured the c.

The special selling class is peculiar to this breed. There was a very fine lot of rams entered, most of which were in the preceding class; first, second, fourth, and two hc's went to Mr. Buttar's choice rams, the Duke of Sutherland was third, and Mr. Victor Cavendish rn.

The yearling ewe class was of very choice quality; practically every pen was thoroughly good and typical of its breed. Sir Richard Cooper won with a pen that combined quality, type, and character to a marked degree. These were well matched in these respects by Mr. Victor Cavendish's splendid pen that took second honours, Sir P. A. Muntz's grand trio of high merit making a worthy third in this strong class, in which the rn went to Sir Richard Cooper's second entry. The latter exhibitor right well deserved the distinction he won by heading both the lamb classes with pens of outstanding merit and quality. Well-developed lambs, with good quality and plenty of substance, correctly describes these fine lambs. Second honours for ram lambs went to Mr. T. S. Minton—a fine pen, whose nearest competitor was Mr. E. Nock, who in the ewe lamb class won second honours with a beautifully matured pen that was in this class followed by Mr. Victor Cavendish's well-matched entry. Mrs. W. F. Inge was rn for ram lambs and Mr. Minton for ewe lambs.

Southdowns.

An entry that was highly creditable to the breed, and one which in some directions was above the average of recent years, represented this grand breed of mutton sheep.

The winning ram in the two-shear class was thought highly of by the judges, for they made him winner of the champion prize, the first time, we believe, Mr. W. M. Cazalet has won this honour; the ram well deserved its position. H.M. the King was second with one of fine merit, being followed by Mr. C. Adeane's well-grown and symmetrical ram that had a great wealth of flesh of very choice quality, as well as a grand fleece and skin. Sir T. V. S. Gooch's rn ram was one from Mr. E Ellis's well-known flock, now dispersed, and a hc went to the Duke of Devonshire.

The yearling class was fully an average one in respect to merit. Here the winner, a fine ram with good substance and flesh, owned by Mr. J. Colman, was selected for leading honours, and subsequently made rn for the medal for best male; next came a choice ram, owned by H.M. the King, whose closest competitor was a very fine ram with good masculine type and substance, owned by the exors. of Colonel H. McCalmont, Mr. C. Adeane's three entries being placed rn, and c for the other two, which were particularly choice rams in respect to type and merit. A class, somewhat small in number, but of very good average merit, was that for pens of three yearling rams. The exors. of Colonel H. McCalmont owned the winning trio, which were well matched; second and rn went to Mr. C. Adeane for two particularly good pens, leaving third honours to Mr. J. Colman for a pen of similar type to the winning yearling ram.

The Duke of Devonshire's lengthy and good pen of ram lambs won in their class. H.M. the King came in second with a very choice pen, followed by a neat, good-fleshed pen owned by the exors. of Colonel McCalmont, and the rn went to Mr. W. M. Cazalet. The yearling ewe class was particularly good in merit and uniform in quality. The competition was between the leading pens owned respectively by Mr. J. Colman and the Duke of Devonshire; the former pen won, for they were superior in carriage and movement when out of the pens. The medal and the rn followed these awards. The Sandringham pen followed as third, and a choice, well-brought-out pen from Sir J. Wernher was rn. In the ewe lambs, a notably good pen bred by H.M. the King beat the Duke of Northumberland's beautiful pen by the narrowest of margins for first place; the Duke of Devonshire followed, and the exors. of Colonel McCalmont was rn.

Hampshire Downs.

A grand entry, and one thoroughly typical of the breed was found in these good classes. Mr. James Flower was first and third for two-shear rams, followed by one bred by Mr. T. F. Buxton, an order that well represented the respective merits of these exhibits; Mr. D. P. Bouverie was rn. The yearling ram contest was a very close one for first place; Mr. Flower won with a grand type of its breed, its flock mate taking third place. A fine ram that moved grandly out of the pen was second for Mr. H. C. Stephens, and the rn went to a very choice and typical ram of Mr. Buxton's The ram lamb class was a strong one with evenly balanced merit, and the services of a referee had to be called in to decide the first award, which was worthily given to Mr. J. Flowers' beautifully wooled pen of rare good merit. Mr. T. F. Buxton's pen were second winners, a pen of excellent type and well grown and full of quality. The Marquis of Winchester was a good third with that fine pen of lambs, full of masculine type form, Mr. H. C. Stephens as rn. Sir W. G. Pearce's two grand pens of ewes were first and second in their class, with Sir A. Henderson as third, a very typical pen. In the ewe lambs Mr. James Flower was first with a notably fine pen which were made champion of their age, the flockmates, the leading pen of ram lambs, taking the rn for this honour. A fine good fleshed pen from Mr. T. F. Buxton was second, closely pressed by that grandly fleshed pen owned by Mr. Stephens, who were third, leaving the rn to Sir W. E. Pearce's typical pen.

Suffolks.

The small entry did not do full justice to the importance of this breed, but the merit and quality of the winners left no doubt as to the excellence of the exhibit as a whole. Mr. H. E. Smith won throughout in all the classes he competed, the exception was that for yearling ewes, in which class Mr. R. Barclay was first and second. Mr. Smith was also second for two-shear shearling and single ram lambs. Messrs. D. A. Green and S. R. Sherwood were the other two principal winners.

Dorset Horns.

The entry here was one fully typical of the breed, and it is satisfactory to note that there was increased competition. Mr. E. A. Hambro's exhibits were of superior quality, and his entries won first for yearling ram ewe lambs and yearling ewes, all grand pens of their breed, and third honours for ram lambs, a class in which a notably fine pen owned by Mr. R. Flower took premier honours, this breeder being also second for yearling rams and third for yearling ewes and ewe lambs. Mr. James Attrille who was second for yearling rams, came in for well-deserved recognition as second in the ram lamb class. Mr. F. J. Merson's entries were quite the best we have seen from his flock, particularly the yearling ewes that were third in a good class.

Ryelands.

The three classes for this breed were not largely supported, but the specimens exhibited were of notably good merit. Mr. F. E. Gough, who won in the old ram class, had in this ram a grand specimen of its kind; his yearling ram, likewise first, and his pen of ewes that came second were typical of the merits of the breed. In this latter class, a real good pen, owned by W. H. Davies, won first honours; whilst Mr. W. P. Barneby, whose entries are generally well to the fore, was represented by some real good specimens that were second and third for two shear rams and for yearling rams, as well as third for yearling ewes.

Kerry Hill.

This breed's initial entry at the Royal show is one that will make an increased reputation for this hardy breed, for those entries present at this show were of special good merit. Mr. Lawton Moore's two shears, first and third, the same owner's yearling rams, that fill the corresponding position in their class, and his second prize yearling ewes were of notably good merit, particularly when under hand. Mr. John Anwyl, who won in this latter class, had a grand pen which bore the closest examination well. Amongst the other successful exhibitors were Messrs. T. E. Kinsey, J. and R. Phillips, and W. P. and J. M. James.

Lincolns.

This exhibit was the feature of the whole show. No breed secured so unique and full representation as we witnessed in the special ring, given over entirely to this grand breed of mutton and wool producers. None will probably ever again see its equal, either in respect to number nor in respect to the number of breeders represented. It was as said an American, "an eye-opener," and one if the breeders in the United States could have seen it, that would have made them Lincoln breeders to a man.

The confines of space prohibit full justice being done to this grand entry, because the more one ponders over its immensity and value, the stronger the desire is to give fuller general details. The opening class of this great contest was for two shear rams, a grand and typical exhibit of the breed with seventeen choice selected stud rams in it. First and third honours went to a pair of rams, probably the last of the Old Nocton flock that will ever be exhibited in this country, a notable final success, and although not owned by Messrs. Wright, it must have been a source of gratification to them to have the privilege of witnessing their customer's (Mr. F. Miller) great triumph in taking, in addition to the above honours, the male championship of the show as well. Mr. H. Dudding's exhibit was another very choice stud ram, he was bred by Mr. F. Ward, a ram of whose sired the two Miller-owned rams, and a breeder whose flock provided the fourth prize ram in this grand class, a notable success that speaks highly in favour of the Quarrington flock. Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons owned a particularly fine ram in the rn winner.

Thirty-three of the picked rams of Lincolnshire competed for the six prizes offered for two yearling rams, a notable assemblage of typical Lincoln sheep; the winner here was easily found, being Mr. H. Dudding's grand ram, first at Retford Show a few weeks back, and two of its flockmates came in for fifth prize and an hc. The winning yearling after a keen fight was made rn for the champion prize. Mr. Tom Casswell was second with a very superior and typical ram, and hc for another whilst Messrs. Dean were a very good third with a fine type of a Lincoln sheep. Mr. James Cartwright was fourth, the sixth place being filled by a real good ram owned by Mr. J. Pears, and Mr. George Marris filled the rn place. A corresponding class followed, open only to those who had never exhibited Lincoln sheep at the Royal before. Here Mr. J. Cartwright's fourth winners led the way, followed by the entries owned by Messrs. T. Spink, C. Featherstone, and F. Money in the order given.

Thirty-two pens of five yearling rams made up the next entry, a notable collection of sheep, numbering as they did in the aggregate 160 head. One wonders what other breed of sheep, either in England or elsewhere, ever before had an entry of yearling rams of this number competing for prizes in a single class. To say that the assemblage was notable as well as unique, is not in the least to exaggerate its importance. To lead in such a class was the wish of all, but only one of the whole could do so, and we are sure now were it possible to have polled the contestants, a unanimous vote would have been given in favour of that honour being given to Mr. Henry Dudding, the breeder, to whom the judges gave this notable distinction. His pen was a grand one, and one well deserving of its notable success. Mr. John Pears, another of the veteran breeders, had a grand pen of five that followed, whilst yet another of those great breeders that have done so much for the present prosperity of the breed, came third—namely, Mr. Tom Casswell. Messrs. Dean, whose pluck and energy on behalf of the breed is second to none, were fourth, and the two remaining places in the award list favoured Mr. C. E. Howard, one of the younger generation of breeders, and Mr. F. Ward, whose success was referred to in a preceding class as the winners; Mr. James Cartwright was rn.

A novice class, under the same conditions as the previous one of this description, but for pens of five, followed. Here Mr. Cartwright went to the fore, followed in the order named by the typical entries owned by Messrs. W. Bayles, J. Brocklebank, C. S. Dickinson, and C. Featherstone.

The choice class of ram lambs found its winners in Mr. H. Dudding's entry, a second one from this flock taking the rn. Messrs. Dean's two pens, with none the best of bulk, had to be content with second and third, having next them in the fourth place a well-grown pen of Mr. J. Pears'. The yearling ewes in full fleece was a capital class. Mr. C. E. Howard's fine stamp of deep-fleshed ewes were winners, beating a pen of first-rate quality and merit from Mr. H. Dudding's flock, that were second. Then came two beautifully matched trios from Messrs. Dean's excellent flock as third and fourth. The ewe lamb pen had again its leaders selected from Riby, for Mr. Dudding was well represented in this class, as his second entry came in first. Messrs. Dean, as in the ram lamb class, were compelled to take second and third places, leaving the rn to a capital pen owned by Mr. J. Pears. The class for ewe tegs, with its nineteen entries, was one of remarkable merit; it was in fact and deed a striking feature of this section. To be first winner in this grand class was an honour indeed, but to secure second prize as well is remarkable, yet this was Mr. Howard's record in one of the strongest classes of this description we have ever seen. Mr. Dudding followed with another notable pen, after which the following breeders came in the order named:—Messrs. T. Casswell, W. B. Swallow, J. E. Casswell, leaving the rn to Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons, whose pen, as well as that which preceded, were of grand merit. The group prize, a special prize for the best collection of Lincoln sheep and rams from the three classes, fell to Mr. H. Dudding's lot, Mr. C. E. Howard taking two rn's.

Leicester.

The quality of this breed's entry cannot be questioned, neither can the type of most of the exhibits, but it is a matter of regret that so few of the breeders enter into the competition. Mr. G. Harrison won first, rn, and hc for yearling rams, and first and third for yearling ewes, together with second and third for ram lambs, and second for ewe lambs, Mr. E. F. Jordon second and third for yearling rams, second and hc for yearling ewes, and third for ewe lambs. Messrs. Simpson owned the winners in the with-lamb classes; these were about the best pens of the breed we

ave seen out for some time, and Mrs. Perry-Herrick, a well-known exhibitor, was rn, &c.

Cotswolds.

The small entry of this breed is much to be regretted, for there is a place in our country for sheep of this breed, and besides, it is a kind that has its value. The well-known flock of Messrs. Garne was first all through, as well as being second, &c., for yearling rams and ewe lambs. Mr. W. Houlton, who owns a capital flock, taking second honours in the two yearling sheep classes.

Border Leicesters.

For a breed so widely scattered as this one is to be so poorly represented, at what is really a North country show, indicates as an advertisement by its breeders. Mr. Robert a want of the true value of the show yard Taylor's first prize two-shear and champion ram was a grand sheep, as was also Mr. J. Kerr's entry of the same age. The breeder of the latter, Mr. D. Hume, with a beautiful ram, won first in the yearling class, its flockmate a grand ram was rn, second honours again going to Mr. J. M. Kerr for a fine typical ram. This gentleman won a well-deserved first in the yearling ewe class, followed by a very nice and typical pen owned by Mr. R. Taylor.

Kent or Romney Marsh.

This year's entry of Kent sheep was one of the best we have ever seen at the Royal Show, both in respect to number of entries and also in regard to the quality and merit of the entry as a whole. No greater monument to the value of the work accomplished by the association formed twelve years ago could be desired than the notable improvement in the greater uniformity of the breed as a whole, and the larger demand engendered by its efforts. Mr. Charles File last year led the way in the old ram class, a success repeated again this year with a notably well-grown ram of high merit. Mr. George Farmer's stud ram was deserving of its success also; then in the third place came a ram of Mr. J. E. Quested's, leaving the rn for Mr. W. Millin's entry, a ram many expected to have been placed much higher up. The yearling ram class numbered twenty-three, and here again the competition was a notably good one. Mr. C. File won first, fourth, rn, and c with a notably good entry. The winner here was the same owner's ram that was first last year, a ram greatly admired, whilst its successful flockmate came to hand well both for flesh and fleece. Second and third prizes and an hc went to Mr. J. B. Palmer for three thoroughly good rams, the two leading rams having grand merit. The ram lamb class was one of very high merit. The winners were about as good a pen of lambs seen out for a long while, and Mr. Millen, the owner, possesses in this pen three first-class lambs. Mr. J. B. Palmer's very even and well-grown pen followed, and then came a particularly taking pen, owned by Mr. A. Amos, that had grand type and good heads. Mr. E. Ascherson's nice and well grown pen were rn. In the yearling ewe class the competition was notably keen, Mr. Palmer again coming to the fore with a notably good pen of ewes, which showed plenty of strength and good character. Mr. W. Millen's pen were of grand merit, particularly the pen that were second, for the other entry from this flock secured a well deserved rn. Mr. C. File's two pens, showing fine type and scale, were third and hc, leaving fourth honours to Mr. H. Rigden's good-fleshed pen of very even type.

The ewe lamb class, like the other one of this age, had for its winners Mr. W. Millin's beautiful pen, ripe and choice in their flesh, with real good character, these are a very valuable pen indeed. Mr. J. E. Quested won second honours with another fine pen, which were followed by Mr. A. J. Hickman's well-grown and even trio, as third, whose neighbour Mr. J. B. Palmer had to be content with fourth honours in a very strong class, thus leaving to Mr. H. Rigden the rn for a neat pen.

Wensleydales.

In this section we found a real good and typical entry of the breed; few breeds were better represented in respect to quality, but here again both the number of entries and flocks represented was a matter of regret, for only two were in competition. Of these that owned by the Exors. of Mr. T. Willis went to the front, and deservedly so, in each of the three classes, Lord Henry Bentinck, the other competitor, being second and third.

Devon Longwool.

In this class Mr. F. White's success was complete, for six entries won three firsts and three second awards. It was a misfortune for him that no competitor turned up to try conclusions with him, for the high merit and quality of these exhibits were fully equal to successfully meeting with the best.

South Devons.

A thoroughly typical entry of the breed though only representative of these flocks. It is a matter of regret that Messrs. H. Fairweather, J. Stooke, and J. S. Hallett could not have induced more of their brother breeders to aid them in putting the breed more prominently before the best customers we have, all of whom were either at the show or represented there.

Dartmoors.

A small entry and hardly worthy of the known reputation of this hardy and thrifty breed of sheep, in which Mr. R. S. Luscombe and J. R. T. Kingwell shared the honours.

Exmoors.

A typical entry of a very picturesque breed of sheep, producing high quality of mutton. Messrs. H. Mardon and D. J. Tapp, both new competitors at the Royal, equally divided the honours.

Cheviots.

These fine sheep lose a great deal by the poor entry made on their behalf at the Royal Show. The merit, quality, type, and character of the breed leave no room to question the need of its being made wider known amongst the flock-owners abroad. Messrs. Jacob Robson, John Robson, and John Robson, jun., were the leading winners.

Lonk.

A breed that in its own district is much appreciated, but one that does not spread very far from its native spot. The entries made were of fine merit and most typical, and Messrs. D. Hague, John Blackburn, with Mr. E. Smith, were the principal winners.

Hardwicks.

Mr. W. J. Crossley, M.P., gives a yearly opportunity for flockmasters in different parts of the country to see this picturesque breed, which he alone exhibited this year, winning first and second awards for yearling rams and ewes.

Welsh Mountain.

This year's entry was highly gratifying in respect both to the number of competitors, and also to its very fine merit and quality. The University of North Wales owned the first rn rams, two excellent specimens of the breed, as was also Mr. J. L. Gratton's second prize-winner, a very typical ram indeed. In the yearling ewe class the winning pen, owned by Mr. R. E. Jones, was of superior merit. Quite one of the best-fleshed pens of the breeds we have seen for some years, while Mr. H. O. Ellis owned another pen much admired, and Mr. J. L. Gratton was rn.

Black-Faced Mountain.

The entry was a small one, but very typical of its breed. Messrs. J. Robson, jun., and Tom Irving were the principal winners.

PIGS.

Despite the swine fever restrictions contracting the entries from hitherto well-represented districts, this year's exhibition of pigs at Lincoln was without doubt the finest lot that has ever been brought together. Two breeds with which we were at some time rather familiar, the Small Whites and the Small Blacks, have vanished seemingly never to return, the desire of the age is rather for utility more than mere fancy in the mere pig line. However, if two breeds have gone out, at least one has recently come in, that of the Lincolnshire Curly Coated, a big pig that will have to alter its appearance somewhat before it can hope to extend its borders. It might be well in future if the classification was made more regular, as some breeds had extra classes through the energies of their breed societies put in, and this would tend to show that this breed was better backed than the others, evidently there is still room for some of the other breeds to expand themselves in this direction. The Large Whites are given pride of position, and on this occasion they did not disgrace it. On looking over these classes a general idea was formed that the excessive lengthening, which made two pens converted into one long enough for this breed, has been checked, and the slackness of the back overcome by strengthening it and deepening the sides, making a better quality animal from the bacon curer's point of view. In the old boar class Mr. Charles Spencer was placed first with Holywell Czech, a nice quality pig with plenty of, though not too much length, and he was put reserve for the breed champion gold medal; second went to a big, fine pig, Mr. W. H. and E. Wherry's Giant Goliath, a a boar that has been successfully seen out before this season; third went to Mr. R. Rathwell's Fullwood Roger, a very fleshy boar, with a lot of merit. The Earl of Ellesmere's Bottesford Worsley 2nd was put reserve; he is a good, all-round boar, but seemed a trifle heavy forward. The young boars were very variable as to size and matchiness. Mr. Dawell Daybell, without whose name the prize list for this class would not now appear to be complete, as usual again led the way with one pig, very nicely made, with finely-proportioned hams and even loins, and was third with another nearly as good. Mr. R. R. Rothwell supplied the sandwich with a very nice pig, rather lengthy. Sir Gilbert Greenall's reserve and highly-commended pigs were not of such even merit. The Lincolnshire Society's prize for best boar shown by a member of the society was taken by Messrs. Wherry with Giant Goliath, and Messrs. Duckering were reserve for the same with a very useful boar by Barkwith Eclipse.

The breeding sow class was a very large one, constituting a remarkably good lot. Mr. R. Millington Knowles was placed first with Colston Lass 13th, a very true-type sow, well let down, and popularly repeated her Bath and West success. Second prize went to Messrs. Dodd's Mollington Countess, a very level topped sow, and showing to be a good mother. Mr. Frost was third with Fullwood Carnation, a long sow, well covered with a nice coat. The reserve card went to Sir Gilbert Greenall's Walton Beauty 10th.

In the young sow class the first prize went to that beautiful sow, Sir Gilbert Greenall's Walton Lady Alice 23rd; a level even competitor to her was the same exhibitor's Walton Sunlight 12th. It is seldom that two such from the same herd is seen at the same show. Third went to the Earl of Ellesmere's Worsley Princess 28th, a nice sow, with bone neatly covered with flesh. Messrs. Wherry's Pretty Polly is far from being an insignificant competitor, though she was only reserved in her class.

The young class for three sow pigs made a large class with a lot of merit, although the difficulty of matching was apparent in many of the pens. The Earl of Ellesmere was first with the most matching lot and well grown, besides, this undoubtedly was the best exhibit from the Worsley Hall herd. Messrs. Wherry were second with three good single pigs, neither of which paired with the other. Mr. R. Rothwell came in third with a nicely-grown three, rather on the small side as compared with the others. Mr. R. Daybell had rather hard luck with his reserve pen. Though they could not be expected to lead the class they might at least have been seen higher up, and they were more matching than some of those that were placed before.

Middle Whites.

Much is said as to this breed being as popular as the Large Whites, but they did not make an entry even half as large, they in the aggregate not totalling forty, but the truthfulness of the adage small and good was exemplified here. There were but four boars, the leader being Sir Gilbert Greenall's Walton Clumber 4th, a wonderfully nice pig with grand top and walking well, the same exhibitor being third with Brockhall Clumber, the merit between this one and Mr. Chas. Spencer's second prize taker, Holywell Vicar, being very even indeed; the reserve went to Mr. Alfred Twentyman's Castlecroft Golliwog, which got the set-back from being the first at the Bath and West to that of reserve here. The class for young boars was a good one. Mr. Leopold Paget, who has fast pushed his herd to the fore, was now first and third with nicely-fleshed well-proportioned growing youngsters. The Hon. D. P. Bouverie was second with a very nice boar with a grand loin modelled by Coleshill Dandy. Mr. Paget was also reserved with another. The sow class was not over large in numbers, and here again quality reigned. There was no mistaking the merits of Sir Gilbert Greenall's Walton Rose 39th for first place, Mr. Leopold Paget being second with Holywell Barbara, and third with Warren Sweetbriar, two rare useful dams in any herd. Mr. Alfred Twentyman was reserved with that nice even sow Castlecroft Lobelia. Sir Gilbert Greenall secured the champion honours in this class with Walton Rose 39th and reserve with Walton Clumber 4th. In the young sow class Mr. Leopold Paget was again to the fore, winning with very even, forward gilts by Offley Dandy. The Earl of Sefton came second with a very lengthy pen, and Mr. Charles Spencer was third; these latter were well shown, but beaten on their merits, and ran rather close by the Hon. D. P. Bouverie's pen by Coleshill Dandy.

Tamworths.

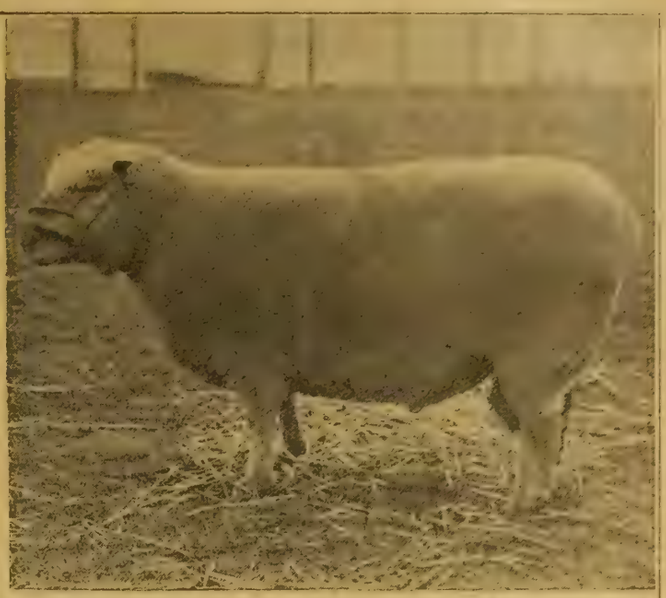
The Tamworths made an unexpectedly large show, and it was somewhat noticeable that the bright golden-coloured coats are again becoming replaced by the darker coats that prevailed in the earlier days of the breed. But, probably this was somewhat due to Mr. D. W. Philip not exhibiting, he having taken the position of judging. His meritorious animals were missed, and not made up for by the efforts of the new names in this section. However, that veteran Mr. Robert Ibbotson, was in good form, or at least his animals were. He won first with his boar Knowle Don, a step up from the Newport decision, and he came in third with Lydney Red Gauntlet, a very useful type, bred by Mr. Charles Bathurst. The second prize went to a younger and smaller boar. Mr. W. H. Mitchell's Elmdene Magnum, that made its first appearance in any showyard. Mr. Egbert Hamel's Middleton Manuel was reserved.

In the young boar class Mr. Ibbotson again had his run for first with a very straight level top and bottom line pig, and third with another, which was not in it with the first; Sir Peter C. Walker was second with Osmaston Pride, that with a little more age will be a dangerous competitor to some others; Mr. Hamel again came in reserve.

The sows made a rather small class, but they were of excellent quality. Sir Peter Walker was first with Osmaston Marigold 3rd, a sow with size and quality, and evidently a mother, and second with Osmaston Daisy, that won because there happened

Champion Sheep & Pigs at the Royal Show.













1. Mr. F. Miller's Lincoln Two-shear Ram Nocton Energy, the Champion Lincoln Ram.
2. Mr. J. Flower's pen of Hampshire Down Ewe Lambs which won the Breed Championship for Ram or Ewe Lambs.
3. Sir Gilbert Greenall's Middle White Sow Walton Rose 39th, Champion Middle White Pig.
4. Mr. W. M. Cazalet's Southdown Two-shear Ram which won the Championship for Southdown Rams.
5. Mr. R. M. Knowles's Colston Lass 13th, winner of Special for best Large White Sow and Championship for best Large White Sow or Boar.
6. Mr. G. I. Inman's Berkshire Boar Highmoor Curio, the Champion Berkshire Boar.

to be no better, she has not the class or style of the other; Mr. J. W. Pitt was third with Alleynes; and Mr. Ibbotson's Knowle Doris reserve. The young sows made a good class; Messrs. Gbibert and Co. were first with Whitacre Grace, a beautiful young sow bred by Mr. D. W. Philip, and which was second at the Royal Counties, and took the same position at the Bath and West at Newport. She had a litter which were pulling her somewhat. Mr. E. Hamel was second with Middleton Morgana; a very characteristic specimen of smaller type, though of even quality was Mr. Robert Ibbotson's Knowle Sylvia, and she had a very nice companion for the highly commended card in Knowle Golden Queen. In the young sow class there was a lot of merit, Mr. Ibbotson taking first and second with two pens of not quite matching ones that showed the same line of breeding as the same exhibitor's prize-winning young boars. Mr. John Myatt was placed third with gilts that did not show the length of the others, though they had a lot of quality. Mr. Hamel was again reserved. Owing to one of the chief prize takers being of his own breeding, Mr. Philip asked Mr. Walker James to step in and award the championship, he placed Messrs. Gibbert and Co.'s Whitacre Grace champion, and Sir Peter Walker's Osmaston Marigold reserve for the same.

Berkshires.

The Berkshires were present in large numbers, though they showed more empty pens than all the other breeds put together. Here there is evidently a tendency to lengthen some of the exhibits, and this has taken away some of the compactness. In some of the classes the competition was particularly keen. The old boar class filled well, Mr. G. T. Inman being first with his justly-famed Bath and West winner, Highmoor Curio. It is a grand boar, and looks just as well outside his pen as when in it. Mr. R. W. Hudson was second with that big boar with a lengthy middle, Danesfield Robert. Mr. G. J. B. Chetwynd came third with that very typical boar, Highmoor Santoi, which owns blood relationship to the first prize taker. Mr. Holman was reserved with Dunby Lad, of Dorsetshire breeding. There was a very considerable number of minor honours bestowed in this class. The champion gold medal for best boar went to Highmoor Curio, and the reserve for the same to Danesfield Robert.

The class for boars farrowed in 1907 was again a good one here. Mr. J. G. Chetwynd came out in grand form, he being first, second, and highly commended with three capital specimens of Don Confidence's get. It is seldom, indeed, that such a trio has been seen in any class. But some judges might have desired rather more defined marking in one of these. Mr. G. T. Inman had a hard fight for his very nice compact boar, one of Highmoor Mikado's stock. Mr. Nathaniel Benjafield was his close runner here, and got into the reserve. Here a number of well-deserved minor honours were again bestowed.

The signal for another keen fight was when the Berkshire sows came out. The Duchess of Devonshire's Polegate Dorcas 2nd, one of the nicest sows that has been seen out for some time, was put first. She has length, depth, size, and comeliness, and she has won honours before and should do so again; having taken champion honours at the Bath and West, she confirmed them here. The Middlesex Asylum's exhibit, Belle of Balham 13th, is a wealthy one, but she did not carry herself either with the ease or the grace of the previous winner, practically full of years and of honours. Lord Calthorpe's Elvetham Beauty, four years old, showed that there is show form in her yet. The reserve went to Mr. J. Jefferson's Barford Rosa, one of the darker type of Berks, but looking a likely breeder. Minor honours ran freely here also. The champion gold medal went to the Duchess of Devonshire's Polegate Dorcas 2nd, the reserve being Elvetham Beauty.

The class for sows bred in 1906 was another fine one, and here the best had been sent to win; it was, indeed, a close contest. Lord Calthorpe here took first place with that very typical well brought out Maidenhead champion, Elvetham Fancy; she can carry and move with her weight without waddling. Second to her was the Duchess of Devonshire's Polegate Duett, but she somewhat lacks the length of the other, especially so when seen out. Mr. G. T. Inman was third with that very shapely one, Highmoor Mimosa, and sent a fitting companion in Highmoor Geisha to be highly commenned. Mr. Benjafield's Motcombe's Best was not handled quite as well as usually is the case with this breeder's exhibits, and in consequence became reserve. It was evident that the various exhibitors had not exhausted their strength in this class, as they sent some very fine exhibits in the class for gilts. Mr. Chetwynd was again here first with sisters to his young boars, and were equally good. The Hon. A. Holland Hibbert was put second with a very nice pen, hardly showing the size of the others. Mr. Nathaniel Benjafield came third with a capital trio, the reserve going to the Middlesex County Asylum's exhibit. The judge was exceptionally generous with the minor honours.

Large Blacks.

There is always a spice of interest with this breed, as there are two well-defined divisions between the breeders of the East and those of the West, and nothing delights these two sections more than to meet in friendly contest; but fixtures usually clash, and therefore the champions of either section at best only meet once or twice a year. The breed has vastly improved of late both in quality and a general levelling up of merit; as to numbers, they made their record of nearly seventy entries. The judge had no respect for former decisions, and seldom, indeed, has there been seen such a series of altered placings in a single season. In the old boar class Mr. H. J. Kingwell's Brent Pride, a big pig with not much coat, and which got nothing at the Royal Cornwall, was now placed first and champion, but won at Newport; Mr W Knight was second with Wintringham Ascetic Silver, a weighty strong boar with good hams; Mr. John Warne was third with his nice wealthy boar Treveglas Chief, his other boar, Treveglas Tenemper, which was now highly commended, which latter was third at the Bath and West and the second Royal Counties, and third at the Royal Cornwall, whilst Mr. Thomas Warne's first-prize winner at the Royal Cornwall was now unnoticed—a real change about.

The young boar class filled well. Mr. John Warne was now first with his very smart, wealthy pig which was second at Newport. Mr. J. Glover's Cornwood Viscount was second; it is a nice pig, full of growth. The third prize went to Mr. Kenneth Clarke's thickset pig from Sudbourne Hall; the reserve going to Mr. Thomas Goodchild, Essex, with very nicely-grown pigs that might be improved at the ears. The sow class was a grand one. Mr. John Warne was now put first with Treveglas Hopsful 2nd, one of the most true type of the Cornish Blacks, deep in the sides, with good hams and very level on top. Mr. C. F. Marriner was second with Hasketon Long Lady, last year's cup winner at Derby, and third with Hasketon Long Bess 4th, a very nice sow indeed, which was the cup winner at Park Royal. Mr. John H. Glover's Cornwood Lass 20th, a deep sow with quality, was reserved. In the sow class for those farrowed in 1906, Mr. Kingwell came in first with a very level, good, coated pig, the first time out, Brent Pretty Fanny attracted attention; the same exhibitor was third with Brent Susie, very level and good, that now goes to New Zealand. Mr. John Warne was second with a very straight, level, deep gilt, Treveglos Lass 2nd, the reserve went to Mr. James Warren's Ashmill Susie. The young sow class filled fairly well. Mr. Thomas Goodchild had a hard tustle with his three to win; Mr. Thomas Warne was second with pigs that showed more size, but did not match, and he was also put third with another pair, young, but matchy, Mr C. F. Marriner being reserved with his trio.

Lincoln Curly Coated.

This was an entirely new breed to most visitors, and created a great deal of interest; they are long, straight pigs, and the breeders have not yet become frightened of each other, therefore the breed and breeders were alike well represented. In the matter of type, that known as show type has not become quite fixed. There is room for some little fining down, and it was noticeable that there were some spots in the skin which is rather coarser than in some of the other breeds. The first prize went to Mr. Joseph Ward with Whaplode Curly, bred by Mr. C. Skinner. This was a very lengthy, as well as weighty, pig, not quite so even on top as could be desired; a very big pig, Midville Bob, won second for Mr. Henry Caudwell, third going to Mr. Benjamin Rowland's Wainfleet Ringleader, that was rough in the coat, and not so good in the loin as the others, Messrs. Chas. E. Harris and Sons being reserved with Hale Gentleman. In the young boar class there was an entry of thirteen, but as two were absent, it was not an unlucky number. Mr. Thomas Ward was first with a very lengthy pig with a good loin and very deep; second went to Mr. Henry Caudwell's nice straight pig, the same exhibitor's third prize taker appeared to have the most quality of the two; the reserve went to Mr. George Goodson for a big useful pig of Mr. R. A. Greetham's breeding.

The sow class disclosed a very representative display. Mr. Henry Caudwell was first with Midville A1, with nice length and more fineness; second went to Mr. H. S. Scorer's East Kirkby Alexander, that had plenty of curly hairs all down her back, but had rubbed herself somewhat; third went to Mr. J. Drewery's Donington Superior, somewhat rougher and harder in the coat than the others, the reserve going to Mr. George Frier's Deeping Pride. The young gilt class came out fairly representative. Mr. Caudwell was first with a pen of very big pigs for their age by Midville Bob, Mr. Thomas Ward was second with pigs by the same sire as with the previous winners, Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons were put third, whilst Mr. Thorpe's pen was reserved. The special prize for best boar was taken by Mr. Joseph Ward's Whaplode Curly, Mr. Thomas Ward's younger boar being reserved. The special prize for the best sow was taken by Mr. Henry Caudwell's Midville A1.

PRODUCE.

The produce section, as usual, was one of the most attractive features of the show, and a good deal of interest was manifested in it.

The butter classes received a strong entry, and competition was very keen indeed. In the class for 2 lb. of fresh butter, to which a dozen prizes were allotted, the judges experienced considerable difficulty in separating the exhibits. Lord Rothschild was prominent amongst those who shared the premier prizes, and Miss F. Palmer, of Belham Farm, Retford, and Mr. J. Gretton, of Stapleford Park, Melton Mowbray, also obtained awards.

There was a fine collection of cheese, especially Cheshires and Stiltons, and for three of the latter of fine quality Mr. J. W. Miller, of The Beech Farm, Shelford, Notts, secured a first.

The cider and perry was exceptionally good, and the entries somewhat in excess of those of last year.

The show of wool, instituted some five years ago, is rapidly developing into one of the most interesting features of the exhibition. The collection in point of numbers and quality was a marked improvement of that at Derby, the Leicester, Lincoln, and Southdown fleeces being by far the best. Most of the wool, however, was well got up.

CHAMPION AND SPECIAL AWARDS.

HORSES.

Gold medal of the Hunters' Improvement Society for the best hunter filly not exceeding three years old in Classes 4, 5, and 6.—Mr. F. G. Colman's; r, Mr. E. Hodgson's Mab.

Special prize given by the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society to members for the best hunter brood mare in Classes 7 and 8.—Mr. O. Quibell's Diana; r, Mr. F. B. Wilkinson's Rosalinda.

Gold medal of the Hunters' Improvement Society for the best hunter mare four years and upwards in Classes 7 and 8 and 38 to 44.—Mr. J. A. Mullen's Everlasting; r, Mr. Mullen's Glow-worm.

Special prize given by the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society to members for the best hunter foal in Classes 9 and 10.—Mr. W. B. Swallow's Lady Diana; r, Mr. Swallow's Tulip.

Gold medal of the Polo and Riding Pony Society for the best stallion or colt in Classes 11, 12, and 13.—Mr. S. Mumford's Spanish Hero; r, Vice-Admiral Bridgeman's Carnival.

Gold medal of the Polo and Riding Pony Society for the best mare or filly in Classes 12 to 15.—Mr. J. Barker's Deborah; r, Mr. J. Barker's Miss Wembley.

Gold medal of the Hackney Horse Society for the best stallion in Classes 22 to 24.—Mr. A. Hall's Copmanthorpe Performer; r, Mr. R. P. Evans's Gartonius.

Gold medal of the Hackney Horse Society for the best mare or filly in Classes 25 to 29.—Mr. R. P. Evans's District Maid; r, Sir Walter Gilbey's Lively Beeswing.

Special prize given by the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society to members for the best Hackney brood mare in Classes 28 to 29. — Sir Walter Gilbey's Gallant Girl; r, Messrs. Cockayne Brothers' Paddock Queen.

Silver Medal of the Shetland Pony Stud Book Society, for the best pony in Classes 36 and 37. Ladies E. and D. Hope's Thoreau; r, Mr. R. W. R. Mackenzie's Strawberry.

Special prize given by the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society for members, for the best hunter gelding in Classes 38 to 44. Mr. J. H. Stokes's Black Pearl.

Gold Medal of the Hackney Horse Society for the best mare or gelding in classes 46 to 54.—Mr. J. H. Stokes's Whiskey; r, Mr. Stokes's Axiom.

Shire Horse Society's Champion Gold Medal for stallion.—Mr. F. Farnsworth's Ratcliffe Forest King; r, Mr. J. Gould's Lockinge Truffle.

Shire Horse Society's prize to breeder of champion stallion.—Mr. J. L. Harrison, Pailton Fields, Rugby.

Special prize of £10, offered by the London Lincolnshire Society, to be competed for by members of the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society only, for the best shire stallion exhibited in Classes 59, 60, and 61.—Sir P. A. Muntz's, M.P., Dunsmore Premier; r, Lord Rothschild's Hotspur 4th.

Shire Horse Society's champion gold medal for mare.—Mr. W. T. Everard's Bardon Marion; r, Lord Rothschild's Belle Colo.

Shire Horse Society's prize to breeder of champion mare.—Mr. J. W. Sanders, Gilmorton, Lutterworth.

Special prize of £10 for the best shire brood mare exhibited in Class 65 by a member of the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society.—Lord Rothschild's Belle Cole; r, Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons' Roxby Starlight.

Special Prize, offered by the London Lincolnshire Society, for the best shire colt foal exhibited in Class 66, by a member of the Lincs Agricultural Society.—Lord Rothschild's; r, Mr. J. W. Davy's.

Special Prize of £5, offered by the London Lincolnshire Society, for the best shire filly foal in Class 67, by a member of the Lincs Agricultural Society.—Mr. J. W. Griffin's.

Clydesdale Horse Society's Champion Prize for stallions.—Messrs. A. and W. Montgomery's Diploma; r, Mr. W. S. Park's Clan Forbes.

Clydesdale's Horse Society's Champion Prize for mares.—Mr. J. E. Kerr's Pyrene; r, The Seaham Harbour Stud's, Ltd., Silver Pansy.

Suffolk Horse Society's Challenge Cup, value 50 guineas, for stallions.—Mr. K. M. Clark's Sudbourne Arabi; r, Mr. A. J. Smith's Rendlesham Major Gray.

CATTLE.

Champion prize, offered by the Shorthorn Society for the best bull exhibited in Classes 84 to 88.—Mr. F. Miller's Linksfield Champion; r, H.M. the King's Royal Windsor.

Champion prize, offered by the Shorthorn Society, for the best cow or heifer exhibited in classes 90 to 96.—Lord Calthorpe's Sweetheart; r, Mr. R. Taylor's Pitlivie Rosebud 2nd.

Special prize, offered by the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society to members, for the best bull in Classes 84 to 88.—Mr. F. Miller's Linksfield Champion; r, Mr. R. Chatterton's Avondale.

Special prize, offered by the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society to members for the best cow or heifer in Classes 90 to 96.—Lord Calthorpe's Sweetheart; r, Mr. G. Harrison's Towy Princess.

Champion prize, offered by the Dairy Shorthorn Association, for the best animal exhibited in Classes 94 to 96.—Mr. G. R. W. Adeane's Priceless Princess; r, Mr. G. W. Tyser's Lady Lee 21st.

Champion prize, offered by the Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn Association, for the best bull exhibited in Classes 98 to 101.—Mr. B. R wland's Scampton Exile; r, Mr. G. E. Sandar's Brandon Grenadier.

Special prize, offered by the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society, to members, for the best bull exhibited in Classes 98 to 101.—Mr. B. Rowland's Scampton Exile; r, Mr. G. E. Sandar's Brandon Grenadier.

Champion prize, offered by the Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn Association, for the best cow or heifer exhibited in Classes 102 to 108.—Mr. J. G. Williams's Keddington Skipworth 5th; r, Mr. E. Bourne's Ruby Queen.

Special prize, offered by the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society, to members, for the best cow or heifer exhibited in Classes 102 to 108.—Mr. E. Bourne's Ruby Queen; r, Mr. G. Marris's Keddington Favourite 4th.

Champion Prize, offered by the Hereford Herd Book Society for the best Hereford bull in Classes 110 to 112.—Mr. A. E. Hughes's Pearl King; r, Mr. H. J. Dent's Porton.

Champion Prize, offered by the Hereford Herd Book Society, for the best cow or heifer in Classes 113 to 115.—Mr. A. E. Hughes's Lemster Plum; r, Mr. R. Keene's Bloom.

Champion Prize, offered by the Devon Cattle Breeders' Society, for the best bull in Classes 116 and 117.—The Hon. E. W. B. Portman's Pound Pink 'un; r, Mr. J. C. Williams's Dianthus.

Champion prize, offered by the Devon Cattle Breeders' Society for the best cow or heifer exhibited in Classes 118 and 119.—Mr. E. C. Norrish's Capton Royal Sally; r, Mr. T. Dibble's Lady Escott 4th.

Silver medal, offered by the Sussex Herd Book Society, for the best bull in classes 123 to 125.—Mr. E. E. Braby's Lord of Drungewick 5th; r, Mr. P. Saillard's Bewbush Duke.

Silver medal, offered by the Sussex Herd Book Society, for the best cow or heifer in Classes 126 to 128.—Earl of Winterton's Sunlight 7th; r, Mr. W. F. Winch's Tilsden Jessie.

Special prize, offered by the Welsh Black Cattle Society, for the best bull in Class 129.—Messrs. T. and H. Davies' Duke of Connaught.

Champion prize, offered by the Red Polled Society, for the best bull in lasses 132 to 134.—Rt. Hon. A. E. Fellowes, Blake; r, Sir R. Cooper's Ashlyns Major.

Champion prize, offered by the Red Polled Society, for the best cow or heifer in Classes 135 to 137.—Sir R. Cooper's Ashlyn's Maid; r, Sir W. Corbet's Waxlight 2nd.

Gold medal, offered by the English Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Association, for the best animal of the opposite sex to that receiving the gold medal of the Polled Cattle Society.—Mr. T. H. Bainbridge's Idelamere; r, Mr. J. R. Findlay's Blizzard.

Gold medal, offered by the Polled Cattle Society, for the best Aberdeen-Angus animal in Classes 139 to 144.—Mr. J. E. Kerr's Juana Erica; r, Mr. T. H. Bainbridge's Idelamere.

Champion prize, offered by the Galloway Cattle Society, for the best bull in Classes 145 to 146.—Mr. J. Cunningham's Chancellor of Balleyboby; r, Mr. A. Montgomery's Tarbreoch Edward.

Champion prize, offered by the Galloway Cattle Society for the best cow or heifer in Classes 147 and 148.—Messrs. T. Bigger and Son's Flora Macdonald; r, Mr. A. H. Fox-Brockbank's Jasmine of Blackcombe.

Champion prize offered by the Highland Cattle Society for the best bull in Classes 149 and 150.—Mr. Ian Bullough's Albannach; r, Mrs. Ian Bullough's An Saighdear.

Champion prize offered by the Highland Cattle Society for the best cow or heifer in Classes 151 and 152.—Mr. D. A. Stewart's Laochag Bhuidhe 4th of Ensay; r, Mr. D. A. Stewart's Shellay.

A Challenge Cup offered by the English Kerry and Dexter Cattle Society for the best Kerry animal in classes 175 to 177.—Mr. R. Tait Robertson's La Mancha Diver; r, Lady Greenall's Aicme Cold.

A Challenge Cup offered by the English Kerry and Dexter Cattle Society for the best Dexter animal in Classes 179 and 182.—The Duchess of Devonshire's Compton Daphne; r, The Hon. Mrs. Claud Portman's La Mancha Hard-to-Find.

SHEEP.

Champion gold medal offered by the Southdown Sheep Society for the best ram in Classes 197 and 198.—Mr. W. M. Cazalet; r, Mr. J. Colman.

Silver medal offered by the Southdown Sheep Society for best pen of ewes or ewe lambs in Classes 201 and 202.—Mr. J. Colman; r, The Duke of Devonshire.

Champion prize offered by the Hampshire Down Sheep Breeders' Association for the best pen of lambs in Classes 205 and 207.—Mr. J. Flower; r, Mr. J. Flower.

Special prize offered by the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society for members only for the best ram in Classes 225 and 226.—Mr. F. Miller's Nocton Energy; r, Mr. H. Dudding.

Piece of plate offered by the Lincoln Long Wool Sheep Breeders' Association for the best pen of shearling rams.—Mr. H. Dudding.

Special prize offered for members of the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society for members only for the best pen of shearling ewes, ewe lambs, or yearling ewes, exhibited in Classes 231 to 233.—Mr. C. E. Howard; r, Mr. C. E. Howard.

Champion prize offered by the Society of Border Leicester Sheep Breeders for the best ram exhibited in Classes 243 and 244.—Mr. R. Taylor's Pilivie Brilliant; r, Mr. D. Hume.

PIGS.

Champion gold medal, offered by the National Pig Breeders' Association, for the best Large White boar or sow exhibited in Classes 273 to 276.—Mr. R. M. Knowles' Colston Lass 13th; r, Mr C. Spencer's Holywell Czech 2nd.

Special prize, offered by the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society, for members only, for the best Large White boar exhibited in Classes 273 and 274.—Messrs. W. H. and E. Wherry's Giant Goliath; r, Messrs. A. Duckering and Sons.

Special prize, offered by the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society, for members only, for the best Large White sow in Classes 276 and 276.—Mr. R. M. Knowles's Colston Lass 13th; r, Sir Gilbert Greenall's Walton Beauty 10th.

Champion Gold Medal, offered by the National Pig Breeders' Association for the best Middle White boar or sow exhibited in Classes 278 to 281.—Sir Gilbert Greenall's Walton Rose 39th; r, Sir Gilbert Greenall's Walton Clumber 4th.

Champion gold medal, offered by the National Pig Breeders' Association, for the best Tamworth boar or sow exhibited in Classes 283 to 286.—Messrs. F. W. Gilbert and Co.'s Whitacre Grace; r, Sir P. C. Walker's Osmaston Marigold 3rd.

Champion Gold Medal, offered by the British Berkshire Society for the best boar.—Mr. G. J. Inman's Highman Curlo; r, Mr. R. W. Hudson's Danesfield Robert.

Champion Gold Medal, offered by the British Berkshire Society for the best sow.—The Duchess of Devonshire's Polegate Dorcas 2nd; r, Lord Calthorpe's Elvetham Fancy.

Champion Prize, offered by the Large Black Pig Society for the best boar in Classes 293 and 294.—Mr. H. J. Kingwell's Brent Pride 2nd; r, Mr. J. Warne.

Silver Challenge Cup offered by the Large Black Pig Society for the best sow in Classes 295 and 296.—Mr. J. Warnes' Treveglos Hopeful 2nd; r, Mr. H. J. Ringwell's Brent Susie.

Special Prize offered by the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society, for members only, for the best curly-coated boar in Classes 298 and 299.—Mr. J. Ward's Whaplode Curly; r, Mr. T. Ward.

Special Prize offered by the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society, for members only, for the best curly-coated sow exhibited in Class 300.—Mr. H. Caudwell's Midville A1.

JUDGES.

IMPLEMENTS.

Swath Turners and Side Delivery Rakes: Sir Francis E. Walker, Bart., Swansfield House, Alnwick; Joshua Ball, Southworth Hall, Warrington. Miscellaneous Implements entered for Silver Medals: Thomas Stirton, Rendlesham Estate Office, Woodbridge; James Younger, Burradon Farm, Annitsford, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

HORSES.

Hunters and Polo Ponies: Captain C. Fetherstonhaugh, Bracklyn, Killucan; James Hutchinson, Manthorpe Lodge, Grantham. Cleveland Bay and Coach Horse: F. Wilson-Horsfall, Potto Grange, Northallerton. Hackney Ponies and Harness Horses: C. Edward E. Cooke, Bygrave House, Baldock, Herts; Arthur Fewson, The Old Hall, Hedon, Hull. Shetland Ponies: R. Brydon, The Dene, Seaham Harbour. Shire: William Howkins, Hillmorton Grounds, Barby Road, Rugby; John Nix, Stud Farm, Alfreton. Clydesdale: James Weir, Sandilands, Lanark. Suffolk: Horace W. Packard, Over Hall, Shotley, Ipswich. Draught Horses: William Howkins, Hillmorton Grounds, Barby Road, Rugby; James Weir, Sandilands, Lanark. Asses; Colonel R. Gilchrist, Montague House, Surbiton Hill, Surrey.

CATTLE.

Shorthorn: C. M. Cameron, Balnakyle, Munlochy, Rossshire; A. S. Gibson, The Elms, Ruddington, Nottingham. Dairy Shorthorn Cows and Heifers: Benjamin Read, Church Farm, Cam, nr. Dursley, Glos. Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn: E. H. Cartwright, Keddington Grange, Louth: Peter Dunn, Pasture House, Sigglesthorne, Hull. Hereford: Thomas Morris, Weston Court, Pembridge; H. W. Taylor, Showls Court, Ledbury. Devon: Frank J. Merson, Farringdon, North Petherton, Bridgwater. South Devon: Edward Cornish, East Charleton, Kingsbridge, Devon. Sussex: David D. Crawford, Nonington, Dover. Welsh: Thomas Roberts, Aber, near Bangor. Red Polled: D. Abbott Green, Fingringhoe Hall, Colchester; Garrett Taylor, Trowse House, Norwich. Aberdeen-Angus: James Coey, Ardeen Larne, Co. Antrim; George J. Walker, Portlethen Aberdeen. Galloway: William Stroyan, Culcaigrie, Twynholm. Highland: James Campbell, Tullich, Killin, Perthshire. Ayrshire: Robert McKinlay, Hillhouse, Sandilands, Lanark. Jersey: William Adams, Woodside, Loughton, Essex; J. H. Shore, Whatley House, Frome. Guernsey: Caleb Barfoot, Lake, Bishopstoke, Hants; J. D. Toogood Parsons, Manor View, Rusthall, Tunbridge Wells. Longhorn: William Shaw, Junr., Fradley, nr. Lichfield. Kerry and Dexter: H. D. D. Betteridge, Drayton, Woodstock Road, Summertown, Oxford; John B. Ross, Estate Office, Whitney-on-Wye, Herefordshire.

SHEEP.

Oxford Down: Henry Overman, Kipton House, Weasenham St. Peter, Norfolk. Shropshire: Charles Coxon, Elford Park, Tamworth; Robert F. H. White, Aghavoe Grange, Ballacolla, Abbeyleix, Ireland. Southdown: William Brown, Challoners, Rottingdean, nr. Brighton; Allian Cooper, Norton, Bishopstone, Lewes. Hampshire Down: Henry Lambert, Babraham, nr. Cambridge; John Pain, Borough, Micheldever, Hants. Suffolk: J. C. Dawson, Nacton, nr. Ipswich. Dorset Horn: William A. Johnson, Stafford Park, Piddletown, Dorchester Ryeland: H. W. Taylor, Showle Court, Ledbury. Kerry Hill: Richard Morgan, Snowfield, Kerry, Newtown. Lincoln: Robert Fisher, Leconfield, Beverley; Robert Wright, Nocton Heath, Lincoln. Leicester: H. T. Allison, Stanghow, Boosbeck, S.O. Cotswold: Davis Brown, Marham Hall, Downham Market. Border Leicester: James K. Smith, Leaston, Upper Keith. Kent or Romney Marsh: Francis de B. Collard, Minster Abbey, Ramsgate. Wensleydale: Thomas Jackson, Netherbeck, Carnforth. Devon Long-Wool: Frank J. Merson, Farringdon, North Petherton, Bridgwater. South Devon and Dartmoor: Edward Cornish, East Charleton, Kingsbridge, Devon. Exmoor: James Yapp, Winsford, Dulverton, Somerset. Cheviot: James K. Smith, Leaston, Upper Keith. Lonk and Herdwick: J. C. Ashworth, Overtown, Cliviger, Burnley. Welsh Mountain: Thomas Roberts, Aber, nr. Bangor Black-faced Mountain: James Campbell, Tullich, Killin, Perthshire.

PIGS.

Large White: Colonel F. A. Walker-Jones, The Manor House, Burton, Westmorland. Middle White: W. T. Hall, Highclere Farm, Newbury. Tamworth: D. W. Philip, The Redlands, Whitacre, Birmingham. Berkshire: James Lawrence, Stall Pitts Farm, Shrivenham, Berks. Large Black: C. L. Hancock, The Manor House, Cothelestone, Bishops Lydeard. Lincolnshire Curly Coated: Thomas P. Horn, Elm Grange, East Heckington, Boston.

PRODUCE.

Butter: John Benson, The Buxton Dairy, Dale Road, Buxton. Cheese: John Pakeman, Chellaston, Derby. Cider and Perry: John Watkins, Foley Lodge, Foley Street, Hereford. Wool: Dr. F. H. Bowman, 4, Albert Square, Manchester; Arthur Whitehead, Bradford.

FARMS.

Classes 1 and 3: T. H. Hutchinson, Manor House, Catterick; Arthur Stretton, Manor House, Sibthorpe. Classes 2 and 4: Richard B. Burrows, Leadenham, Lincoln; Robert Fisher, Leconfield, Beverley.

THE COUNTY CLASSES.

There were many points in which unstinted praise was due to the Royal Agricultural Society's Council in connection with the Lincoln Show, but none in which we consider it was deserved than by making provision for these classes being added to its schedule.

No better opportunity could well have been given the tenant farmers of Lincolnshire, the backbone of the wealth, both of that and all other counties, to show the large numbers of visitors the superior stock kept in the county, the merit and quality of which was put to the severest test possible—namely, by being exhibited in the same ground in which it is admitted on all hands that one of the very choicest collections of live stock ever got together was to be seen.

How did these competing animals compare is, after all, the crux of the question, and we think, without room for cavil, it may be said particularly well.

Shorthorns.

In these classes there was an entry of 89, and many of them were animals of the choicest breeding, Messrs. E. H. Cartwright and W. Wright were the judges in this section, Messrs. R. Chatterton, Walter Ward, and H. Dudding were the winners for old bulls, the winner, Woodhouse Prince, a fine red bull. In the two year-olds Mr. H. Dudding with Moon King 2nd and Alastair 2nd took first and second, a very choice pair of bulls. Doubby Imperial and Imperial Wild Eyes 3rd, the winner sired by Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons' noted 1,000 guineas stud bull won third, and won for these breeders another handsome pair of bulls. Eleven yearlings made up a grand class of this age here; first and third went to Mr. H. Dudding for those typical and choice bred bulls Strowan Kaiser and Strowan Butterfly, Captain J. Sherard taking second with Knight of Kesteven, a sappy and well-grown yearling, Mr. R. Chatterton's capital roan Marquis of Ballinchin taking rn. A grand class and a large one also was that for cows, no less than twenty-one entries being made, that grand type of a dairy cow Burton Quality 3rd, winning first honours for Mr. J. Evens. Mr. E. Bourne was second with Ruby 12th, and Captain E. M. Grantham third with Keal Nancy, a fine red, Royal Lily, taking rn to Mr. Dudding's. The latter breeder was second in a class of fifteen two-year-olds with Crystal Empress, a first-class heifer, which, however, had to take second to Messrs. Dean's beautiful Starlight, who well deserved her place, two of the herd mates taking rn and hc for the same owners, Mr. Dudding's Waterloo Winnow being third. Mr. R. Chatterton headed the yearling heifer class of twenty-six entries with Staveley Daisy, a beautiful roan of very choice merit. Mr. H. Dudding's trio, Natland Gerry, Newton Jealousy 3rd, and Damory Lady being second, third, and c, a deserved distinction; whilst in the rn and hc entries Messrs. Dean had a pair of very superior and choicely-bred heifers.

The Hunter classes were a credit to the county; the merit and quality of these were excellent. Mr. W. B. Swallow was first and second for brood mares, Mr. O. Quibell first for colt foals; in the filly foals, an excellent class of nine, Messrs. C. W. Cross, W. B. Swallow, E. H. T. Pulline, and F. Ward were winners. The yearling, two-year-old, and three-year-old classes were good Messrs. W. B. Swallow, C. J. C. Hill, and William Wood were principal winners, and in the four-year-olds Mr. J. G. Elsey won.

There was a grand class of brood mares in the class for mare with foal at foot, an entry of nineteen, most of which were of high merit, grand types of the Shire breed in nearly every case. Roxby Starlight, owned by Messrs. Denn, was correctly placed at the head of the excellent class, followed by Stenton Florence, owned by Mr. Kirk, with Lockinge Parlour, Mr. Griffin's, as third, and Smiler, from Mr. J. W. Davey, as rn. Mr. Griffin's colt foal was first in its class, and Mr. Kirk's filly foal in hers. There were fourteen entries in the two-year-old class. Mr. A. E. Smith's Surfleet Gem led, and Messrs. Bond and F. W. Griffin were second and third. Two-year-old fillies numbered nine, a good class, Mr. W. P. Glasier leading. The yearling-old colt class was led by Mr. Leggatt's Dogdyke Royal Ensign, and the two-year-old class with Mr. Sutton-Nelthorpe's Redlynch Senator.

The Lincoln sheep class were good, but, of course, not up to those of the Royal schedule, for all of the best of th ecounty were in these. However, the value of these classes was great, because they showed how many excellent rams of this breed there are. Mr. Tom Casswell led in the single ram class, followed by Messrs. Dean and Dudding in the order given. The latter breeder, with a real good trio, was first in the next class, Messrs. Dean taking second, and Mr. F. Ward third. Messrs. H. Casswell and G. Marris won in the next class for breeders who have never won a prize at the Royal; and in the yearling ewe class Messrs. Tom Casswell, H. Casswell, H. Dudding were the winners, with Messrs. Dean rn.

Londonderry Show.

The show of the North West of Ireland Agricultural Society, at Londonderry, last week, was the first held in the society's new and excellent grounds, and it is satisfactory to be able to record that there was a great increase in the number of entries, and also an improvement in quality, so that the new showyard was inaugurated under most auspicious circumstances.

The Shorthorn cattle classes made an excellent show, whilst as regards the Ayrshire, though the class was not a large one, several fine specimens came under the notice of the judge. There was a l round a capital section of Hunters and cross-breds for farm work, being perhaps as good as those entered in competitions at any Irish show outside Dublin. Sheep was a numerously and, so far as quality was concerned, a capitally filled section, whilst there were fair shows of pigs, poultry, and butter.

We would remind intending exhibitors at the Yorkshire Agricultural Society's forthcoming show at Barnsley that entries finally close with double fees on Saturday next, the 6th inst.

Implements and Farming Necessities at the Royal Show.

TRIALS OF SWATH-TURNERS.

In the implement trials for swath-turners, Messrs. Blackstone and Co., Stamford, took both the £15 and silver medal and the £10 and bronze medal, both awards went to swath-turners and windrowers.

Messrs. Blackstone and Co. also took the first prize (£15 and silver medal) for side-delivery rakes, this also being a windrower as well, and an elongation of the principle of the swath-turner.

The second award (£10 and bronze medal) went to the 8ft. machine shown by Martin's Cultivator Company.

New Implements.

Forty-six new implements were entered in the competition for the society's silver medals one of which was secured by Mr. F. M. Dossor, Doncaster, for his patent seed-dresser, a new machine for cleaning clover and other small seeds by the extraction, therefrom of docks, dodder, and other weeds, light seeds, and foreign matter.

Seeds.

The stand of Messrs. Sutton and Sons, Reading, is always a prominent feature, and so it proved last week, for it comprised specimens of all the various seeds and roots for which the firm has gained such a widespread reputation and over 300 medals. As an educational exhibit the cabinets of natural grasses, grass seeds, &c., as supplied to the several agricultural colleges, museums, &c., were a great attraction.

Messrs. Edward Webb and Sons, Wordsley, Stourbridge, had the next stand, No. 23, and it was attractively arranged with choice selections of farm and garden seeds, grasses, mangolds and swedes, potatoes of many and choice varieties, and a representative display of their guaranteed manures specially manufactured for turnips, mangolds, hops, wheat, barley, oats, potatoes, grass, &c., at their manure works, Saltney, Cheshire. It is not too much to say that there is scarcely an open root competition in the country where Webbs' mangolds have not been to the front in carrying off the leading honours, and the grand specimens shown on the stand were from the same crops as those that won premier awards at the principal shows in 1906.

Another well-known seed firm occupied the next stand—viz., Messrs. James Carter and Co., 97, 237, and 238, High Holborn, London, W.C. These exhibits included not only samples and products of their agricultural and horticultural seeds and roots, but illustrations of a new method of root selection according to highest feeding values, cabinets of grasses, both seeds and dried specimens, and a cabinet of insects injurious to crops. The last-named proved particularly interesting to many visitors.

Messrs. Harrison and Sons, 33, Market Place, Leicester, were represented at Stand 16 with a nice display of choice and new potatoes, dried and fresh natural grasses and clovers, and selections of vegetables.

Messrs. Gartons, Ltd., Warrington, had an excellent display of the new and improved breeds raised by the Garton system of plant improvement at Stand No. 17. Amongst the leading features was a distinct new breed of black oat named "Bountiful," for which it is claimed that it is equally suitable for autumn or spring sowing.

Messrs. Dickson and Robinson, Cathedral Street, Manchester, had a capital show of mangolds and swedes, which, together with the specimens of natural grasses adapted for permanent and temporary pastures, &c., made up an interesting stand.

A collection of dried specimens of grasses necessary for the formation of permanent and temporary pastures, rotation cropping, and alternate husbandry, with growing specimens of natural grasses, also occupied a prominent position on the stand of Messrs. Little and Ballantyne, Carlisle, who also exhibited specimens of agricultural seeds and choice and ornamental coniferous trees and shrubs suitable for parks, &c.

Further specimens of natural grasses and clovers were to be seen at the next stand, which was taken by Messrs. Dickson, Brown, and Tait, 43 and 45, Corporation Street, Manchester.

In addition to a choice show of farm seeds, mangolds, and potatoes, Messrs. Toogood and Sons, 65, Above Bar, Southampton, displayed a number of pedigree vegetable and flower seeds.

Specimens of grasses useful in permanent and temporary pastures were contrasted with grasses objectionable in pastures at the stand of Mr. A. G. Leighton, Newcastle, Staffs, who also had on view growing specimens of inherited permanent red clover and other farm seeds, and specimens of impurities extracted by patent machinery.

Messrs. Pennell and Sons, 312, High Street, Lincoln, had an interesting stand, their exhibits including collections of their agricultural seeds, consisting of clovers, grasses, mangolds, swede and turnip seeds; natural grasses of the eastern and midland counties, dried and in growth, showing the valuable varieties used in Pennell's prescriptions for permanent pasture and roots, and vegetables grown from Pennell's seeds.

Feeding Stuffs, Veterinary Medicines, &c.

Messrs. Day and Sons, Crewe, were at Stand No. 29, and here displayed to the best advantage specimens of their well-known veterinary medicines for horses, cattle, and sheep, these including blanch drink, red drink or cow drench, ewe drench, horse powders, &c.

Messrs. Day, Son, and Hewitt, 22, Dorset Street, Baker Street, W., had Stand No. 32, which was taken up with a large display of their medicines for horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs. Amongst others may be mentioned Broncholine for husk or hoose, and tapeworm in cattle or sheep, and Salodyne, for prevention and cure of fluke, or liver-rot in sheep and lambs.

The next stand, No. 33, was taken up with samples of Burton pale ale dried grains, dried by patent machinery owned by the English Grains Co., Ltd., 30, Union Street, Burton-on-Trent, who were the exhibitors.

The exhibits of Messrs. W. Cooper and Nephew's Chemical Works, Berkhamsted, Herts, were spread over their two stands (Nos. 309 and 412). At the former they showed samples of their sheep-dipping powder and fluid, sheep-marking liquid, "Weedicide" for killing weeds, a cattle-dressing and mange cure and sheep doser, &c., whilst at Stand No. 412 they had a number of their sheep dipping baths and swim baths, which have been used with such success in all parts.

A large variety of veterinary necessities, such as dips, disinfectants, embrocations, drinks for cattle and sheep, horse powders and balls, as well as a weed killer, were shown at Stand No. 310 by Messrs. Battle, Maltby, and Bower, Victoria Chemical Works, Lincoln, who also had on view a Jervis potato planter, which seemed somewhat out of place in connection with veterinary medicines.

Messrs. Ayre Brothers, The Avenue, Hull, occupied Stand No. 354 with a varied and interesting collection of the feeding stuffs for which they are so well known. The exhibits included samples of locust meals, lamb food, calf meal, feeding linseed, and the popular dairy meal "Maxilac."

Messrs. Stephen Pettifer and Sons, Malmesbury, Wilts, exhibited amongst other things samples of their registered "Santovin," a successful medicine for sheep and cattle, and also "Santoform," an antiseptic powder for wounds, sores, and injuries.

Jeyes' Fluid needs no introduction to the stock keeper, for its uses have long been appreciated, and the samples arranged at Stand No. 356 were typical of the company's numerous manufactures of sanitary compounds.

The Waterloo Mills Cake and Warehousing Company, Ltd., Hull, made their Stand No. 355 attractive with a display of specimens of the popular Waterloo feeding cakes, linseed cakes with a guaranteed purity of over 97 per cent., and under ¾ per cent. of sand; and Waterloo pure cottonseed cakes made from Egyptian seed only. Their linseed and cotton cakes are sold on the warranty required by the Royal Agricultural Society.

The well-known Cupiss constitution balls for horses, cattle, and sheep, together with cough balls for horses, physic balls, diuretic balls, balling guns, and drenching horns and tins were to be seen at Stand No. 369, which was occupied by Messrs. F. Cupiss, Ltd., The Wilderness, Diss, Norfolk.

The Stud Company, Victoria Mills, Longsight, Manchester, had a large assortment of "stud" medicines, &c., for the stable, cowshed, lambing pen, pig stye, and kennel, whilst the poultry yard was not forgotten, so that all classes of stock breeders were provided for at the stand, which was No. 366.

A large assortment of feeding stuffs was shown by Messrs. W. S. White and Co., 313, High Street, Lincoln, their exhibits including fine wheat sharps, Rangoon rice meal, maize germ meal, German wheat flour, feeding barley, bran from English meals, and linseed and cotton cakes, whilst another part of the stand was taken up with a selection of manures.

Messrs. Thomas Pettifer and Co., Eydon, Banbury, were represented at Stand 318 by numerous samples of herbal tonic mixture, white liniment, green oils, drenches, embrocation, colic or gripe mixture, condition powders, halt, ringworm, and mange or scab dressings, physic balls, cough balls, &c., as well as stock-keepers' and horse-keepers' medicine chests.

Stand No. 323 was taken up chiefly with samples of the Anchor feeding cake, calf meal, medicated lamb food and sheep dip, shown by Messrs. Jekyll, Glasier and Co., Exchange Arcade and Carholme Road, Lincoln. Their other exhibits included wheel grease and a black varnish, a preservative against decay or rust.

Messrs. R. Silcock and Sons, Stanley Hall, Union Street, Liverpool, exhibited amongst other items samples of an excellent fattening cake containing over 11 per cent. of oil, rearing cake for young animals, dairy cakes to cause a large flow of milk, and lamb and ewe cake, also for improving the flow of milk.

The "Uveco" cooked cereal foods for horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs were exhibited at Stand No. 332 by the manufacturers—The Uveco Cereals, Ltd., Brunswick Buildings, Corn Exchange, Liverpool.

Feeding cakes, including the celebrated Yorkshire oil and treacle cake, were shown in great variety at the stand occupied by Messrs. E. E. Keighley and Co., Ltd., Yorkshire Cake Mills, Hull.

Messrs. McDougall Brothers, 68, Port Street, Manchester, had two stands, one being devoted entirely to sheep-dipping appliances, whilst the other was confined to collections of sheep dips, cattle drugs, and "fly" oil, insecticides for hop and fruit growers, and an assortment of disinfectants for farm use.

The original Lincoln lamb food, together with porridge meal for calves, linseed and cotton cakes, and locust beans and meals, were shown at stand No. 371 by Mr. E. Mackinder, of the Lamb Food Mills, Lincoln.

Messrs. Osmond and Son, of the Animal Medicine Works, Spalding, had a most comprehensive show of animal medicines at Stand No 308, chief among which were, perhaps, the samples of the "Lincolnshire" life-saving medicines of every description, viz., brown draught for colic in horses, blown in beasts, scour, and exhaustion.

The letters "B. O. and C. M." are well known to stock-breeders in all parts of the country in connection with linseed and cotton cakes, dairy cakes, calf meal, lamb food, &c., for they represent the initials of the British Oil and Cake Mills, Ltd., Cleveland Street, Hull, whose manufactures of the articles named are widely known for their high-class quality.

Stand No. 324 was in the occupation of Mr. T. Mott, Littleport, Cambs., who had a large display of his well-known horse and cattle medicines, sheep drenches, pig powders, &c., whilst his "Cambridgeshire" medicine-chests, containing a selection of medicines for stud or farm, recommended themselves.

Further on we came to a good show of linseed cakes, cotton cakes, feeding cakes, and linseed and cotton oils, these being shown by Messrs. Chambers and Fargus, Ltd., 400, Wincolmlee, Hull.

Messrs. H. E. Hope and Co., 22, Billiter Street, E.C., had on view a good display of sheep-dipping fluid, non-poisonous, as well as sulpho-arsenical sheep-dipping powder and paste, together with disinfectant powders and fluids, weed destroyers and Restorine veterinary remedies. They also showed samples of cart grease and lubricating oils.

Messrs. Tomlinson and Hayward, Ltd., Lincoln, being at home, as it were, were well represented with samples of their well-known manufactures, such as Hayward's Yellow Paste and other sheep dips, both paste and fluid; Eureka weed killer; patent ear marks, brands, marking paints, &c., and sheep-dipping apparatus, as well as swim baths and dipping tubs. The above, together with other items, were spread over two stands, Nos. 96 and 339.

Messrs. Fletcher Brothers and Co, Wellowgate, Grimsby, made a speciality of their sheep dips, which are made in paste, powder, and liquid form, and have all been approved for sheep scab.

Dairy Appliances.

At the stand of the Dairy Supply Company, Ltd., Museum Street, London, great prominence was given to the new model Alfa Laval separators, which have won such popular success. Also included on the stand were two model dairies, completely fitted with separator, butter churn and worker, and all the smaller appliances required for a complete butter-making dairy of the number of cows mentioned, whilst complete collections of appliances for farmers producing and selling milk, town dairies, milk delivery, milk testing, butter-making, &c., were shown.

Messrs. Burmeister and Wain, Ltd., 12, Coleman Street, London, E.C., and 105, Middle Abbey Street, Dublin, showed two new implements—viz., a Gloria power separator, with a capacity of 220 gallons for separating and 300 gallons for cleaning purposes, and a new pattern Perfect separator. In addition, they had a variety of Perfect separators, churns, and butter workers, and a large assortment of dairymen's sundries.

The Alexandra Separator Company, 65, 67, 69, Mount Pleasnt, Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C., had at Stand 94 a big show of their well-known Queen and Titan cream separators of various sizes worked by both hand and power.

Stand No. 95 was taken up with a collection f the Meys cream separators, with capacities anging from 17 to 66 gallons per hour. They ere manufactured at Hennef, Sieg, in Germany, y the exhibitors, Messrs. J. Mays and Co., imited, whose London branch is 19, 20, and 21, ligh Holborn, W.C.

Messrs. Thomas Bradford and Co., Crescent ron Works, Salford, and 140 to 142, High Hol- orn, London, W.C., had Stand No. 85, and here howed churns of various sizes and varieties, utter workers and boxes, assortment of milk ans; in fact, everything required in the dairy, hilst, as usual, they had also a large display f washing and wringing machines, either sepa- ate or combined, and other utensils required in he laundry.

The Wolseley Sheep Shearing Machine Co., td., Sydney Works, Alma Street, Aston Manor, Birmingham, had two stands, Nos. 83 and 84. t the first they showed the famous Wolseley heep-shearing machines, whilst at the other they ad a representative display of cream separators, ncluding one entered as a new implement. This as a Wolseley-Pederson (with a capacity of 135 allons per hour), the chief features of which are s easy running, and that it is easily cleaned, all arts being accessible.

A new implement was also shown at the stand f Messrs. R. Boby, Ltd., St. Andrew's Works, Bury St. Edmunds. It was Garbutt's patent two minute butter churn, which has been to the fore o much of late. Other butter churns, together ith cream separators, haymakers, dressing achines, &c., went to make up an attractive tand.

As was only to be expected, the L K G. milking achine, of which we recently gave an illustrated escription, came in for a great deal of attention t the stands of Vacca, Ltd. (H. W. Bartram, gent), 7, Denman Street, London, S.E. Two of he machines, which, by the way, were manu- actured by Messrs. Lawrence and Kennedy, of Glasgow, were entered in the competition for new mplements, and with what success will be seen lsewhere. An oil engine and an electric motor or driving the machine were also shown here.

A Lawrence Kennedy milking machine was also n view at Stand No. 259, occupied by Messrs. P. and R. Fleming and Co., 29, Argyle Street, nd 26, Graham Square, Glasgow, who in addition howed an oil engine for driving the machine, Waugh's patent sheep dipping apparatus, and a Fleming potato and charlock sprayer.

Poultry Appliances.

Poultry houses were the feature of Stand No. 61, hich was furnished by Messrs. J. T. Hobson and Co., New Wharf, Bedford, and the variety of houses seen received much attention from those nterested in poultry. At the same time they were able to inspect a number of coops and runs, as well as a hatching box, fattening pen, and hurdles.

The Westmeria Company, Leighton Buzzard, made a feature of incubators, close on twenty of hese invaluable appliances to the up-to-date poultry breeder being exhibited. Other poultry appliances were also shown, including foster-mothers and brooders, coops, green bone cutters, &c.

Poultry houses also figured among the exhibits of Messrs. E. C. Walton and Co., Ltd., Muskham Works, Newark. The specimens shown included the Marvel, XL-All, and the Newcastle. Poultry coops, scratching sheds, and setting boxes were also exhibited amongst other portable buildings, such as dog-kennels, cucumber frames, greenhouses, &c.

Chaff Cutters, Corn Crushers, &c.

Among other items exhibited by Messrs. Powell Brothers and Whitaker, Cambrian Iron Works, Wrexham, were about half-a-dozen chaff cutters of the latest improvements, and, these, together with the oil-cake mills, root graters and slicers, potato raisers, &c., made an attractive stand.

A very large collection of chaff cutters, corn crushers, crushing and grinding mills, cleaners and feeders and graters and pulpers were exhibited by Messrs. Harrison, McGregor, and Co., Ltd., Albion Iron Works, Leigh, Lancashire, who also naturally had a big show of the celebrated Albion harvesters, mowers, and mowers and reapers combined. The extent of their exhibits may be judged when it is stated that they numbered sixty.

Mr. Robert Maynard, Whittlesford Works, near Cambridge, was represented at Stand No. 230 with a collection of chaff cutters fitted with a patent drum safety feeder and carrier, and also with the new patent riddle compensator, which does away with the shaking of the machine when at work, an advantage which has been much appreciated.

A few stands further on we came to the exhibits of Messrs. Richmond and Chandler, Ltd., Globe Works, Manchester, who, as usual, had a very large display of chaff cutters, including one with a new patent chaff sifter, which was entered as a new implement. The Climax, which has a patent safety feeder and lift-off fly wheel cover, was shown in various sizes, whilst there were corn crushers, oat, malt, and seed bruising mills, as well as grinding mills and elevators.

Messrs. E. R. and F. Turner, Ltd., St. Peter's and Grey Friars Works, Ipswich, were also amongst the exhibitors of corn crushers, &c., whilst they had a representative show of their well-known machines used in the manufacture of flour from wheat, also some steam engines, the whole making a display worthy of the firm.

Over forty exhibits were on view at Stand No. 263, occupied by Messrs. Barford and Perkins, of Peterborough, and naturally the stand proved a most attractive one. A couple of new patent water ballast motor rollers claimed considerable attention; whilst the other rollers, together with the mills, hay presses, oil-cake breakers, &c., also came in for notice.

Fertilisers.

Messrs. J. Fison and Co., Ltd., Ipswich, had at Stand No. 14 a nice display of fertilisers for all crops, and showed sheep dips, insecticides, hop and fruit washes, and disinfectants of various kinds for the farm.

In addition to samples of Thomas' Phosphate Powder, the chemical works, late H. and E. Albert, 15, Philpot Lane, London, E.C., showed some photos demonstrating the process of steel-making which yields basic slag as a bye-product, and also photos showing effects of basic slag on various crops.

Ploughs, Drills, Harrows, Harvesting Machines, &c.

Messrs. Ransomes, Sims, and Jefferies, Ltd., the Orwell Works, Ipswich, occupied two stands, Nos. 11 and 268, and on both had many attractive exhibits. At the first they showed lawn mowers of various sizes, for which they are famous, and devoted No. 268 to steam engines and ploughs, there being about twenty varieties of the latter, whilst cultivators and horse rakes also figured at this stand.

Displays of ploughs at Stand No. 71, shown by Messrs. G. Sellar & Son, Huntley, Aberdeenshire, was a small but none the less interesting one.

The Oliver plough, manufactured by the South Bend Ironworks, Indiana, U.S.A., was a prominent feature of the exhibits of Messrs. J. Wallace and Sons, Ltd., Graham Square, Glasgow, but these did not overshadow the Champion potato diggers nor the manure distributors, which, with other items, made up an attractive stand.

Chief interest in the stand of Messrs. Alex. Jack and Sons, Ltd., Maybole, Ayrshire, was centred in the Empire swath turner (Sargeant's patent), entered for the competition, but fair attention was also given the other exhibits, which included manure distributors, ploughs, and an Empire drill plough and manure distributor combined.

A collection of Medium Nonpareil and Strong Nonpareil corn drills comprised the exhibits of Messrs. J. Smyth and Sons, Ltd., of Peasenhall, Suffolk.

Drills of various sizes for manure, corn and seed, together with horses hoes and a collection of sack barrows, comprised the exhibits of Stand No. 112, which was in the occupation of Mr. F. Walker, Tithby, Bingham, Yorks.

Messrs. W. Elder and Sons, Ltd., Tweedside Implement Works, Berwick-on-Tweed, had a most varied assortment of useful implements, their exhibits numbering over forty, and including mowers, reapers, rollers, drill grubbers, harrows, hay collectors, carts, waggons, lorries, &c. An interesting exhibit was the turnip-cutting cart, which is fitted with two cutting barrels to cut finger pieces for sheep, and hopper, so that the turnips after being cut can be delivered on to the land, or into the hopper for feeding the sheep out of troughs.

Something like sixteen different ploughs were shown by Messrs. J. and F. Howard, Britannia Iron Works, Bedford, at Stand No. 215, and as may be imagined they made a fine show, especially in connection with the other large assortment of horse rakes, cultivators, harrows, &c., which were on view at the stand.

The stand of Messrs. Stanford and Co., Colchester, was taken up with a clover huller for thrashing, drawing, and dressing up clover and other seeds in one operation, and it came in for considerable attention.

As was the case last year, Messrs. G. C. Ogle and Son, Perseverance Works, Ripley, Derby, spread their exhibits over two stands, Nos. 167 and 392, and a fine show they made, there being over forty different items, amongst them being the Ripley patent horse rake, patent steel-tooth harrows of various weights and descriptions, land rollers, and carts, drays, and lorries, whilst mention may be made of the patent pitch-forks, which took up Stand No. 392.

Messrs. Samuelson and Co., Ltd., Britannia Works, Banbury, Oxon, showed chiefly reapers and grass mowers. The Omnium reaper shown had an apparatus for controlling the rakes, and a lever for instantaneously raising or lowering the points of the fingers.

The Walter A. Wood Mowing and Reaping Machine Company, of 36, Worship Street, London, E.C., had a big show of their well-known and prize-winning machines at Stand No. 168. Their mowers were in the majority, but harvesters and binders, together with drills and harrows, were also represented.

Mr. James Coultas, Perseverance Ironworks, Grantham, exhibited chiefly drills suitable for corn, turnip, mangold, and artificial manures, a large number of these being shown; but other interesting items, such as manure distributors, binders, harrows, cultivators, and chaff and turnip cutters were also on view.

Mr. E. A. Foley, Bourne, Lincolnshire, was amongst the competitors for the new implement prizes with a Hereward straw elevator, of telescopic pattern, with a patent angle gear, for hay, corn, or straw. The Invincible straw elevator also figure at the show, as did mowers, reapers, horse rakes, &c.

Ploughs were a prominent feature at the stands of Messrs. J. Shorey and Co., Trent Iron Works, Owston Ferry, Doncaster, but perhaps more interest was taken in potato diggers and sorters and a No. 1 Clipper horse hoe, fitted with reversible points, and Gosse's patent shares for early hoeing.

At Stand No. 118 there was an interesting collection of corn and seed drills; a Monarch drill, cultivator, and broadcast seeding machine combined; and a variety of horse hoes, the exhibitors being Messrs. L. R. Knapp and Co., Thames Valley Iron Works, Clanfield, R.S.O., Oxon

The chief item on the stand of Messrs. J. D. Allan and Sons, Culthill Implement Works, Murthly, Perthshire, was a new implement in the form of a potato dresser, which can be adapted for cleaning and sizing all kinds of seeds, grain, bulbs, and gravel.

Mr. W. Cook, Yaxley Works, Peterborough, was represented by a National elevator or stacker, the Paragon elevator, specially built for thrashing machine owners, and the Farmer's Friend sack-lifter.

An elevator also figured among the exhibits of Messrs. Cornish and Lloyds, Ltd., Bury St. Edmunds, who also showed a safety feeding lever chaff cutter, the bagging elevators of which are of a new type, which prevents blocking when cutting damp or short chaff.

Messrs. T. Hunter and Sons, Alloway Road, Maybole, Ayrshire, exhibited improved double mould or drill ploughs and harrows, including a Dickson double drill turnip cleaner; improved disc delivery double row drills for turnip and mangolds; and Anderson's patent scarifier.

Messrs. Bamford and Sons, Leighton Iron Works, Uttoxeter, had, as usual, a most comprehensive display of their manufactures, the well-known Royal mowers, Lion horse rakes, and the Rapid grinding and crushing mills being shown in various sizes, whilst there was a big display of chaff cutters.

A horse hoe, fitted with simple lifting lever arrangement, for root crops either on flat or ridge, together with an elevator and malt kiln floor tiles comprised the exhibits of Mr. J. H. Cornish, North Norfolk Iron Works, Walsingham.

A clip fork elevator for stacking or lifting hay, &c., to a stack by horse or engine-power, which can be managed by a lad was a feature of the stand of Messrs. Yorath, Grieves, and Co., 17, Quay Street, Cardiff.

A couple of interesting exhibits took up the stand of Mr. Oliver Rix, Eagle Iron Works, Sculthorpe, Fakenham. They were the well-known "King" elevator or stacker, for hay and corn, and an improved iron folding hurdle.

Single and double endless bands for thrashing machines, and indiarubber bands of various sizes and lengths, together with leather belting and laces, wire bound hose, boiler cleansers, and other necessities needed by users of machinery, comprise the stand of Messrs. George Thurlow and Sons, Ltd., Stowmarket, Suffolk.

The Lincoln Steel Castings and Vacuum Brake Company, Ltd., Sibthorp Old Mansion, Lincoln, entered for the new implement competition high speed steel cast ploughshares, and these together with steel castings were exhibited at their stand, No. 43

Engines.

The exhibits of Messrs. Richard Garrett and Sons, Ltd., of Leiston, Suffolk, consisted of six and seven horse-power traction engines, a thrashing machine, a portable engine, a steam motor tractor, and a clover-seed huller.

Messrs. W. H. Willcox and Co., Ltd., 23, 32, 34, and 36, Southwark Street, London, S.E., supply practically everything required by engineers in the way of repairs, and at Stand No. 190 they had a representative display of their wares. These included the Penberthy injectors for traction and portable engines and pumps, lubricating oils, leather belting, packings, and jointings of every description, asbestos, engine and boiler fittings, pulley blocks, hoists, &c.

A steam plough for six furrows, fitted with patent axle balance gear, was a prominent feature at the stands (Nos. 200 and 202) of Messrs. J. Fowler and Co., Ltd., Steam Plough Works, Leeds, whose other exhibits included a ploughing engine, a road locomotive, road roller, traction engine, and traction waggon.

Messrs. Savage Bros., Ltd., St. Nicholas Works, King's Lynn, confined their exhibits to two items, viz., a four horse-power tractor, which hauls 10 tons up a gradient of 1 in 10, and a steam

motor wagon of 1907 design, for which it is claimed it will take a load of 10 tons on trailer and wagon up a gradient of 1 in 12 with ease.

Messrs. Davey, Paxman and Co., Ltd., Standard Iron Works, Colchester, exhibited six and seven horse-power traction engines, a four horse power steam tractor, and a compound road locomotive for hauling purposes.

The celebrated Ivel motor was shown at Stand No. 231 by the Ivel Agricultural Motors Ltd., 45, Great Marlborough Street, London, W. The specimen shown was one of 18 to 20 horse power, and was fitted with an "Ivel" patent vapouriser, so that the machine can be run on paraffin, alcohol, or petrol. A plough suitable for hauling behind the motor, and which could be used either as two or three furrow, was also shown by the company.

The Britannia Engineering Co., Ltd., Britannia Works, Colchester, had a couple of their well-known oil engines at Stand No. 233, one suitable for electric lighting purposes, and the other for pumping, this being capable of delivering 2,000 gallons of water per hour.

Messrs. H. P. Saunderson and Co., Ltd., Elstow Works, Bedford, manufacturers of the well-known universal motor, entered two new implements, one being a new type of the agricultural motor for general work and for working all kinds of farm implements, and the other a new air-cooled type of motor engine. These were shown at Stand No. 239, where, of course, the Universal Motor was much in evidence.

The Campbell Gas Engines are known in every part of the country, and those who had not seen them at work had an opportunity of doing so last week, for at Stand No. 270 the Campbell Gas Engine Co., Ltd., Kingston, Halifax, showed a 20 b.h.p. gas engine, and also a Campbell horizontal oil engine of 18 b.h.p. working load and 20 b.h.p. maximum load.

Messrs. T. G. Slipper and Co., Brundall, Norwich, were represented by a couple of petrol engines, one of two and the other of seven horse-power, the latter for agricultural purposes and the former for driving pumps, &c., whilst they also showed a portable engine designed for general farm work. All were manufactured in the United States.

The next stand was in the occupation of Tangyes, Ltd., Cornwall Works, Lincoln, who had a representative display of their gas, steam, and oil engines, together with pumps, jacks, &c.

A couple of wind engines on four-post steel tower, one 40 ft. high and the other 30 ft., were the principal exhibits of Messrs. Wakes and Lamb, Mill Gate Works, Newark-on-Trent. They also showed a grinding mill and a 4 cwt. friction hoist.

Messrs. Boulton and Paul, Ltd., Rose Lane Works, Norwich, make a speciality of windmills for pumping and driving machinery, and some of these were shown at their stand, but chief interest naturally centred in the new implement—viz., a diaphragm pump for pumping water, manure, sand, or grit. It is claimed to be unchokable and frictionless.

Fencing and Gates.

A variety of good and at the same time cheap fencing for various purposes was shown by the Economic Fencing Co., Ltd., Billiter House, Billiter Street, London, E.C., whose Peignon patent chestnut pale fencing is so well known.

Samples of combined wood and wire fencing, together with sheep fencing and wicket gates of a similar description, were displayed at Stand No. 68 by Messrs. Cardon and Cresno, 61 and 62, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

A large variety of gates and a set of improved gate hangings, which were entered for the new implement competition, were shown by Messrs. P. Patrick and Son, Wharfedale Saw Mills, Otley, Yorks.

Messrs. Hill and Smith, Brierley Hill Ironworks, Brierley Hill, had a good show of fencing hurdles and unclimbable railings, together with gates of various descriptions. These were shown at Stand No. 137, whilst at No. 302 the same firm exhibited a capital hay shed, a bicycle hut, and piggery, as well as sheets of galvanised corrugated iron.

The "Pittsburgh Perfect" electrically-welded fences, manufactured by the Pittsburgh Steel Company, Pittsburgh, U.S.A., were the feature of the stand occupied by Mr. T. Page, Bottesford, Nottingham. These fences are made of a specially-tested, heavily-galvanised steel wire, and a special advantage is that they possess no exposed rods to invite rust, and no wraps to hold moisture, whilst being electrically welded, the strength of the fence is materially increased.

Messrs. English Bros., Ltd., Wisbech and Peterborough, had a large display of creosoted wood fencing for various purposes, also creosoted field gates and posts, whilst other kinds of gates and fencing were also shown, including English oak fencing and field gates.

Miscellaneous.

Drinking troughs, including an automatic one, which was entered in the competition for new implements, comprised the exhibits of Mr. A. C. Mundt, 102, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.

Carts of various descriptions and floats for farm and dairy purposes, together with wheelbarrows help to make up an attractive stand at No. 126, the exhibitor being Mr. George Ball, North Kilworth, Rugby.

A large show of carts for various purposes was also to be seen at Stand No 147, the exhibitors being Messrs. Hayes and Sons, Scotgate Works, Stamford, and Seagrave Road Earl's Court, S.W.

Messrs. J. H. Keyworth and Co., 35, Tarleton Street, Liverpool, entered a couple of interesting new implements, one was an improved neck yoke and collar coupling, and the other a patent combination of ploughing crupper and backband, consisting of four straps and a crupper dock which parts from the crump off to both sides of the horse to above the girth and down the hip. There are meter carriers for connecting to the traces, on which are patent fittings preventing entanglement, and having buckles to regulate the size. The front carrier does entirely away with the ordinary ploughing backband, and has rein rings for the reins to pass through. There is no weight on the back when working, the cruppers acting for a double purpose, as they carry the traces in two places, thus preventing the horses getting their legs over the traces. No extra weight on the back, and the ordinary ploughing backband done away with.

The Bristol Wagon and Carriage Works Co., Ltd. Lawrence Hill, Bristol, had on show about eighteen carts, wagons, vans, &c., ranging from a pony cart, costing £17 5s., to a game van offered at £107 10s., and between these were dairy floats, market carts, and a new patent roller tip wagon.

Messrs. G. Lewis and Son, Queen Street Iron Works, Kettering, had a variety of exhibits, for they comprised horse hoes, safety starters for oil or gas engines, sack barrows, and sack lifters; whilst they had a milk lifter for coupling milk cans or churns with tank for supplying separators, &c.

One need hardly mention what comprised the exhibits of Messrs. J. Rands and Jeckell, Ipswich, for their rick cloths and stack sheets, sheep and lamb sheltering cloths, and waterproof covers of various descriptions are so well known and extensively used. Their display was evidently worthy of their reputation.

A large variety of waterproof covers also formed the major portion of the stand of Messrs. W. Singleton and Flint, Newland Works, and St. Mary Street, Lincoln, whose other exhibits included an assortment of brushes for machines such as tube, screen, &c. A farmers' scavenger and bass brooms, sacks of various descriptions, and samples of Singleton's improved waterproof for dressing and redressing covers.

Carts for distributing water and liquid manure with capacities ranging from 50 to 200 gallons, were the feature of the stand of Messrs. F. Randell, Ltd., St. Nicholas Works, North Walsham, Norfolk, but they also had on show a variety of barrows, tanks, &c.

Messrs. T. Glover and Co., Ltd., Eagle Works, Warwick, also had a representative display of carts, including milk floats, water carts, brewers' drays and floats, scavenging hand-carts, and other varieties of carts, whilst they devoted a portion of the stand to a display of the Little Eagle oil-engines, of from two to four horse-power.

Messrs. Penney and Co., City Steel and Iron Works, Lincoln, had a large display, their exhibits including patent adjustable corn screens, and other seed-cleaning machinery; and an improved potato separator, which riddles and divides the potatoes into three sizes at one operation. They also had some pumps, wheelbarrows, ladders, safes, &c.

Messrs. J. H. Peck and Co., Ltd., Tarpaulin Works, Wigan, Lancashire, had their usual comprehensive display of rick, stack, wagon and cart sheets, horse cloths, sacks and bags, &c., for which they have such a widespread reputation.

Messrs. S. M. Wilmot and Co., Albert Road, St. Philip's, Bristol, had a large collection of their specialities, these including improved lamb feeding troughs, sheep and pig troughs of various patterns, and cattle cribs and cattle troughs of all sizes and shapes; whilst cisterns, corn bins, and galvanised iron stable fittings were also included.

The Safety Water Elevator Co., 104, Leadenhall Street, London, E.C., were represented at Stand No. 281 with well gear or safety water elevators of three different sizes.

Although summer has not yet really put in its appearance, a glass of cider is none the less welcome, hence the stand of Messrs. J. Symons and Co., Ltd., Totnes, and Ratcliff, London, E., with its display of cider, perry, and the firm's Sydrina temperance beverages, was appreciated by many.

Cider and perry from an equally well-known firm—Messrs. H. Whiteway and Co., Ltd., The Orchards, Whimple, Devon, was on view in both cask and bottle at Stand No. 358.

An interesting feature of one of the two stands occupied by Messrs. Foster and Sons, Wisbech, was the display of their patent lockwing roofing tiles, which were shown on a temporary building. Their other exhibits included fencing and gates of various descriptions.

The Imperial Accident, Live Stock and General Insurance Co., Ltd., of 17, Pall Mall East, London, S.W., had Stand No. 401, and here exhibited pamphlets relating to the advantages of insuring horses, cattle, vehicles, &c., against accidents, and indemnity to employers against drivers' accidents, personal accidents; also workmen's compensation insurance and domestic servants.

LINCOLNSHIRE FARMERS AND THE GROWTH OF SUGAR BEET.

A largely attended meeting to consider the question of the beet-sugar industry in this country was held on Tuesday at the offices of the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society in the show ground. The principal speaker was Lord Denbigh, who has taken a great deal of interest in the question. The chair was taken by Mr. A. L. Jessopp, and he was supported by General Sir Mildmay Wilson, Mr. John Tomlinson, Mr. Bevis Coulson, Mr. W. Sneath, Mr. F. Godson, Mr. George Godson, Mr. S. Ellis Dean, Mr. W. H. Watson, Mr. W. S. White (chairman of the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce), Mr. Colin Campbell (chairman of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union), Mr. R. M. Earl, Mr. A. W. Wellesley Dean, Mr. Joseph Greetham jun., Mr. Edward Tomlinson, Mr. R. Pattinson, Alderman W. S. Fox, and Mr. H. L. Lawrance. Mr. Ortwin Neagele, who has been giving expert advice, was also in attendance.

The chairman, in explaining the position, said that the meeting had been unexpectedly called together. At a meeting held at Sleaford some time ago it was practically decided to start the beet-sugar industry. The industry, if started, would not only have benefited the agricultural interest and the people who put money into it, but it would also have pecuniarily helped the labouring classes during the winter months. The committee completed all the necessary arrangements for the purchase of a site at Doddington, a most convenient situation, with an excellent water supply. It was near the districts where large quantities of beet would have been grown, and direct railway communication would have been available. Satisfactory rates with the railway companies had also been arranged.

Lord Denbigh remarked that our annual bill for sugar imported into this country was eighteen millions a year. Anyone who realised this must see that there was an opening for the sugar industry in this country. Unfortunately most people were ignorant about the matter, and very few really understood the question. His lordship went on to say that he did not think there was much danger of the direct bounties being resorted to, but if the Kartels were restarted they would do as much harm. The only hope of the farmer of this country lay in taking an interest in this great agricultural question and educating the people in this direction.

It appeared to him that it was a great pity that the question had been made a political one. When the Convention was agreed to by the late Government there was a great drought on the Continent and a shortage of 1,200,000 tons. The consequence was that sugar went up from 6s. to 12s. per cwt. This rise caused great loss and inconvenience to the confectionery trade. But it was absurd to abuse the Convention simply because the price rose. As a matter of fact, prices since the passing of the Convention had been lower than they were before.

If agriculturists wanted to see this great beet industry established they must show their interest in it as the confectioners did. Their only hope was in demonstrating that they had a real grievance, and in asking the help of their members.

Mr. White said that he believed that if they persevered they would be successful. For the present, and for the present only, they might allow the matter to stand in abeyance. But the question would in all probability be brought before the public in 1909. By that time they would know exactly what the Government were going to do, and what action Germany and France would take so far as bounties were concerned. Nevertheless, it was a great disappointment to have to drop their project for twelve months or so. It was of no use bringing people back to the land unless they were given profitable employment. He saw in the beet-sugar industry a remedy for the ills of agriculture.

Mr. Colin Campbell moved a resolution regretting the action the sub-committee had been compelled to take, and requesting the committee to call the guarantors together when the position of affairs justified them doing so.

Alderman Fox seconded, and the resolution was carried.

The Local Committee of the Oxfordshire Agricultural Society have selected Wednesday and Thursday, May 21 and 22, for the annual show next year at Abingdon. These dates will doubtless be confirmed by the General Committee.

SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS.

SUSSEX COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

MEETING AT HASTINGS, AUGUST 14 & 15, 1907.

ENTRIES for OPEN and LOCAL CLASSES close as follows:—
Agricultural Horses, Milking Trials, Dairy Cattle, Shorthorns, Sussex, Aberdeen-Angus, Jersey, Guernsey and Dexter Kerry Cattle, Southdown, and Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep, Wool and Butter close July 8.
(Post Entries at double fees, July 13).
Hunters, Hackneys, &c., July 15.
(Post Entries at double fees, July 20).
Harness and Jumping Classes finally close at noon, August 12th; Implements and Machinery, July 15.
Prize Schedules and Entry Forms on application.

F. B. DYER,
Secretary.

182a, High Street, Lewes.

THE EAST BERKS HORSE SHOW SOCIETY

will hold its 11th ANNUAL SHOW at Hawthorn Hill Race Course, near Maidenhead, on THURSDAY, AUGUST 22, 1907. Entries close July 30, or, with double fees, August 6. Schedules, &c., of the Hon. Sec., C. H. W. DIXON, 4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C. Telephone: No. 5148 Gerrard.

WALTHAM CROSS & THREE COUNTIES HORSE & FOAL SOCIETY

(Essex, Herts and Middlesex). President 1907, B. S. Faudel-Phillips, Esq. (High Sheriff of Herts). The ANNUAL SHOW will be held at Hartham Mead, Hertford (by permission of the Corporation of Hertford), on MONDAY, AUGUST 5, 1907 (Bank Holiday). Prizes and Cup to the value of over £500 will be offered, including a Challenge Cup valued 100 guineas (presented by R. W. Partridge, Esq.) and other prizes for Leapers. Entries close July 5. For schedules and entry forms apply to the Secretary, Mr. J. CRAWTER, Cheshunt, Herts.

HARROGATE & DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

President: HY. WILLIAMS, Esq., J.P.

Will be held JULY 25, 1907.

Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Poultry, Pigeons, Four-in-hands, Jumping, &c.

Entries close July 18.
Schedules from the Secretary,
G. SAVELL.
Park View, Harrogate.

GAINSBOROUGH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

ANNUAL SHOW,
MONDAY, AUGUST 5 (Bank Holiday).

£225 in Prizes.

Open Classes in Hackney, Hunter and Shire Horses, Driving, Jumping, &c. Entries close July 30. Schedules from
T. J. DIXON, Hon. Sec.

WEST GLO'STER FARMERS' CLUB SHOW.

DURDHAM DOWN, BRISTOL.

AUGUST 5, 1907
(Bank Holiday).

Open Classes Cart Horses, Harness Horses, Speed and Action.
£22 Open Jumping Class.

Entries close July 6.
Post Entries (double fees), close July 13.
HENRY NICHOLS, Secretary.
Iron Acton, and
26, Nicholas Street, Bristol.

ARUNDEL & DISTRICT HORSE, AGRICULTURAL, HORTICULTURAL and POULTRY SHOW,

at ARUNDEL CASTLE PARK, AUGUST 6, 1907.—For particulars, apply to E. J. MOSTYN, Estate Office, Arundel, Secretary Horse Show; or to C. BARTLETT, General Secretary, Tulchan, Arundel.

ROYAL LANCASHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Patron: H.M. THE KING.
President: The Right Hon. THE EARL OF ELLESMERE.

1907 SHOW to be held at BOLTON on AUGUST 1, 2, 3, and 5.

£4,352 IN PRIZES.

Live Stock Entries finally close July 8.

Prize Lists, &c., from
EDWARD BOHANE,
Secretary,
Preston,
And Show Yard, Bolton.
Telegrams: "Bohane, Preston."

HIGHLAND & AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

GREAT SHOW at EDINBURGH, JULY 9, 10, 11, and 12.
T.R.H. the PRINCE and PRINCESS OF WALES will VISIT the SHOW on WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY.

ADMISSION.
Tuesday (during Judging), 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., 5s.
Wednesday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., 3s.; 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., 1s.
Thursday, 8 a.m., to 5 p.m., 2s.; 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., 1s.
Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., 1s.
Parades of Horses and Cattle.
Great Jumping Competitions.
Military Band and Pipers.

TRING AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Patron—HIS MAJESTY THE KING.
President—
THE RIGHT HON. LORD ROTHSCHILD.

SHOW DAY,
THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 1907.

£
200 SHIRES.
200 HUNTERS, HARNESS, and JUMPING.
450 SHORTHORNS, JERSEYS (one Cow can win £75), GUERNSEYS, MILK and BUTTER TESTS.
177 SHEEP, PIGS, SHEEP-DOG TRIALS.

Also Cups and Medals in every section.

ENTRIES CLOSE FRIDAY, JULY 5.

Schedules now ready. Apply to—
F. J. BROWN, Secretary,
41, High Street, Tring.

NEWBURY HORSE SHOW.

17th Annual Show.

AUGUST 21, 1907, on the Newbury Race Course.

Prizes range from £20 down and total in all about £350.
14 Classes Open to All England.
Schedules and all particulars of E. J. FORSTER, Sec., Broadway, Newbury.

WARRINGTON AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

President—Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart.
Vice-President—Colonel Legh.

18th ANNUAL SHOW
To be held in
WALTON PARK, near Warrington,
on THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 1907.
Prizes, Cups and Medals value £700.
Jumpers, Turnouts, Shires, Hunters, Cattle, &c., &c.
Prize List, &c., may now be obtained from the Secretary—
H. BERESFORD MELVILLE.
Estates Office,
Bold Street, Warrington.

ROYAL DUBLIN SOCIETY.

HORSE and SHEEP SHOW,
AUGUST 27, 28, 29, 30.
For Prize Lists and Entry Forms apply to the Agricultural Superintendent, Leinster House, Dublin.
(By Order) RICHARD J. MOSS,
Registrar.

MALTON AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW.—WEDNESDAY, JULY 24, 1907.

President: The Rt. Hon. Viscount Garnock. Entries close July 6. Special Prizes for Tenant Farmers' Hunters Brood Mare and Foal, Hackney Stallions, &c., &c. Schedules and entry forms on application to the Secretary—THOS. MITCHELL, The Mount, Malton.

MELTHAM & DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SHOW.—The 16th

Annual Show will be held on JULY 27. Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, and Produce; Leaping, Driving, and Hunters; Dogs, Poultry, Pigeons, Rabbits, and Cats. Entries close July 20. Schedules and particulars from J. BRAMLEY, Secretary, Carlile Terrace, Meltham.

DURHAM COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—President,

The Most Honourable the Marquis of Londonderry, K.G. The ANNUAL SHOW will be held on THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 1907, in the picturesque grounds of Wynyard Park, Stockton-on-Tees (generously granted by the President). Upwards of £1,000 given in prizes for Horses, Cattle, Sheep, &c. Also two pieces of Silver Plate to cost not less than £25 each (the gift of the President) to be won outright in the classes for Shorthorn Cattle. Entries close Tuesday, July 30, 1907. Prize schedules for Dogs, Poultry, Pigeons, &c., on application to the Hon. Secretary, G. H. Proctor, Esq., Flass House, Durham. Prize schedules for Horses, Cattle, Sheep, &c., on application to the Secretary,
WM. CHRYSTAL.
Houghton-le-Spring.

COLESHILL HORTICULTURAL and HORSE SHOW,

TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 1907.
Jumping, Driving, Hunters, Turnouts, &c. Nearly £170 in prizes.
Entries close July 23, 1907. For schedules, apply to—
W. H. M. BARTON, Secretary.
Coleshill, near Birmingham.

CAMBS. AND ISLE OF ELY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Forty-fourth Annual Show at Cambridge, JULY 18, 1907.
Nearly £700 offered in prizes. 94 Classes. Over 200 prizes. Classes open to all England.
Schedules and Forms of Entry sent post free on application to
R. PETERS, F.C.I.S., Secretary,
7, Downing St.,
Cambridge.

MID-KENT AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

12th SUMMER SHOW at MOTE PARK, MAIDSTONE (by kind permission of Sir Marcus Samuel, Bart.), JULY 10, 1907.

Prizes offered for Shire, Hackney, Harness Horses and Hunters, Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Poultry, &c., and Agricultural Implements Jumping Competitions—35 Classes open to the World.
List of Prizes, Entry Forms, and Terms for Ground Spaces may be had of the Hon. Secretary.
G. TYRWHITT DRAKE,
Hon. Sec.,
36, High Street, Maidstone.

NORTHUMBERLAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

TYNEMOUTH SHOW,
THURSDAY AND FRIDAY,
JULY 18 & 19, 1907.

£1,000 IN PREMIUMS.
Prize Lists on application to the Secretary—
W. J. BOLAM, Land Agent,
Berwick-on-Tweed.

GREAT YORKSHIRE SHOW AT BARNSLEY

AUGUST [illegible]
£2,000 offered in Prizes.
Late Entries [illegible]
For Prize Schedules & Forms of Entry apply to
JOHN MACKAY, Secretary,
Blazer Street, York.
Telegrams: "[illegible] York."
Telephone 617.

THE PETERBOROUGH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, 1907.

Patron: HIS MAJESTY THE KING.
President for the year:
GEO. C. W. FITZWILLIAM, Esq.

ANNUAL SHOW

Of Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Implements, Butter, &c., will take place at PETERBOROUGH on TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, and THURSDAY, JULY 9, 10, and 11.

About £1,400 in Prizes.

Schedules, Forms of entry, and particulars may be had on application to
J. E. LITTLE,
Secretary.
Offices: Queen Street, Peterborough.

GREAT CHESTERFORD COLT and FOAL SHOW,

JULY 4, 1907.

Open Classes: Horses, Hackneys, Hunters, Jumping.

Schedules: W. C. EMSON, Hon. Sec., Strethall Hall, S. Walden, Essex.

WIRRAL and BIRKENHEAD SHOW

(President: Alfred H. Read, Esq.),
At BEBINGTON, JULY 10 and 11,
Champion Prize No. 21, should read: For the best Shire Filly (Foal, Yearling, or Two-year-old), District Competition; other conditions as per schedule.—ARTHUR H. EDWARDSON,
Secretary.
6, Hamilton Square, Birkenhead.

THE CLEVELAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The 74th Annual Show will be held at Redcar on
WEDNESDAY, JULY 31.

Nearly £400 in Prize Money and Specials. Schedules from THOS. TURNER, Agent, Eston, R.S.O., Yorks.

SOUTH Durham and North Yorkshire HORSE, CATTLE AND DOG SHOW.

JULY 17TH, 1907.

Comprehensive Classification and Liberal Prizes for
Horses and Ponies, Shorthorn and Grazing Cattle, Wensleydale and Crossbred Sheep, Dairy and other Produce, Sporting and Non-sporting Dogs.

Many New Classes in all Sections of the Show.

ENTRIES CLOSE JULY 8th.

Schedules sent post free on application to the Secretaries, W. PARLOUR (Horses, &c.) and G. CLARK (Dogs), 6, Arden Street, Darlington.

WELSH NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,

President:
The Rt. Hon. the EARL OF PLYMOUTH,
Will hold its
ANNUAL SHOW OF STOCK AND IMPLEMENTS,
At ABERYSTWYTH,
On JULY 23rd and 24th, 1907.

Over £1000 in PRIZES.

N.B.—There will be an AUCTION SALE of STOCK on the second day of the Show, JULY 24th.
Schedules and further particulars from the SECRETARY, Cambrian Chambers, Aberystwyth.

AUCTION SALES.

Auctioneers will favour us by sending in their advertisements as early in the week as possible.

Charges for announcements under this heading Six Shillings an Inch.

By Messrs. IRELAND.

Norwich, Norfolk.—Ireland's Norwich Hill Auction Mart (established 50 years). Every Saturday. Fat Bullocks and Sheep, Store Sheep. Special Spring and Autumn Store Cattle Sales.

MESSRS. IRELAND solicit consignments for these important weekly sales; best market value assured.

Cattle consigned to Ireland's, Norwich, will be properly fed and carefully attended to.

All cattle weighed upon entry to the sale ring if desired. Full particulars to be sent to—

IRELAND'S, Auctioneers.

Norwich, Norfolk.

By ESCRITT & BARRELL.

LINCOLNSHIRE HORSE REPOSITORY, GRANTHAM.
G.N.R. Main Line.

ESCRITT & BARRELL will hold their SALES for the remainder of the year on the following dates:—

THURSDAYS,
July 18th. September 12th. October 10th.
November 14th, and December 12th.

PRIZES will be given at our Sales for Cart Horses, Vanners, and Harness Horses.

A SPECIAL SALE of FOALS AND UNBROKEN HORSES will be held on Thursday, September 26th. ENTRIES CLOSE 10 days prior to each Sale.

There is no better Market in England for good, sound Horses.

During 1905-6 over 3,000 Horses were sold at the above Repository.

Entry Forms and Schedules may be obtained from the Auctioneers,

ESCRITT & BARRELL,
Grantham.

National Telephone, 18.

By W. MARSH & SONS.

COUNTY OF CORK, IRELAND.
EXECUTOR'S AUCTION OF THOROUGHBRED HORSES.
The property of the late Mr. R. H. Hayes, Bayview, Carrigaline.

WILLIAM MARSH and SONS are favoured with instructions from the Executor to sell by auction at Bayview, Carrgaline (two miles from railway station and nine miles from city of Cork) on Monday July, 8th, 1907, at one o'clock. All the valuable Thoroughbred horses, including the well-known successful sire, Royal Bow, by Bend-Or, by Doncaster, dam Dartaway by Galopin. Valuable brood mares, viz., Skylarker, by Rentford, own sister to Bouchal Ogue, Vittoria by Town Moor, both stinted to Royal Bow, Colleenore by Royal Bow, stinted to Walmsgate. The horses in training include, Currigort, bay geld., 4 years, by Royal Bow, dam Skylarker; Aileenogue, ch. filly 2 years, by Royal Bow, dam Atheline. The young stock comprise many promising lots by Kentford and Royal Bow. Several ponies and cobs will also be sold, and a 5 year old hunter by Kentford, dam by Lord Hastings.

Catalogues and any further particulars can be had on application to—WILLIAM MARSH & SONS, Auctioneers, & Stock Salesman, 20, South Mall, Cork.

By A. PRESTON.

SUFFOLK PUNCH HORSES.

TWELFTH ANNUAL SALE,
ON MONDAY, JULY 29, 1907,
AT IPSWICH
(G.E. Rail, 1½ hours from London),
Under the auspices of The Suffolk Horse Society.

Further particulars may be obtained of Mr. FRED SMITH (Secretary to the Suffolk Horse Society), Woodbridge; and of ALFRED PRESTON, Auctioneer, Worlingworth, Framlingham; and the Arcade, Ipswich.

By JOHN THORNTON & CO.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

WEDNESDAY, JULY 3.—Messrs. Robertson's DEXTERS and KERRIES, at Bletchley.

THURSDAY, JULY 4.—Sir Oswald Mosley's SHORTHORNS, at Rolleston, Burton-on-Trent. Also 20 first-class Tamworth Pigs.

FRIDAY, JULY 5.—The entire herd of JERSEYS and BERKSHIRE PIGS belonging to W. C. Cooper, Esq., at Whittlebury, Towcester.

TUESDAY, JULY 9.—About forty first-class SHORTHORNS, at Edinburgh, near the Highland Society's Show Ground, from Lord Polwarth's old-established Mertoun herd.

THURSDAY, JULY 11.—Mr. Henry Dudding's SHORTHORNS and LINCOLN SHEEP, at Riby Grove, Stallingboro', Lincs.

FRIDAY, JULY 12.—About fifty SHORTHORNS and 100 LINCOLN SHEARLING RAMS and EWES, belonging to Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons, at Heath House, Nocton, Lincoln.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 17.—Dr. Watney's JERSEYS, HEIFERS and YOUNG BULLS, THREE-YEAR-OLD PONIES and CART COLTS, at Buckhold, Pangbourne, Berks.

FRIDAY, JULY 19.—Mr. Herbert Padwick's JERSEYS, at West Thorney, Emsworth, Hants

WEDNESDAY, JULY 24.—The entire SOUTHDOWN flock and BERKSHIRE PIGS belonging to C. H. Berners, Esq., at Woolverstone Hall, Ipswich.

THURSDAY, JULY 25.—The Rt. Hon. Earl Manvers' SHORTHORNS, at Holmpierrepont, Nottingham.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7.—Mr. G. J. B. Chetwynd's herd of DEXTERS, at Wyndthorpe, Doncaster.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5.—The Duchess of Devonshire's DEXTERS, at Compton Place, Eastbourne.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17.—Sale of SHORTHORNS, at Chipping Norton Junction, Oxfordshire.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18.—Mr. W. Arkell's SHORTHORNS, at Kempsford, Fairford, Glos.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20.—About fifty first-class SHORTHORNS, the property of Joseph Harris, Esq, at Brackenburgh Tower, Carlisle.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24.—Mr. R. Bruce Ward's JERSEYS, at Westwood Park, Droitwich, Worcestershire

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26.—Mr. J. A. Preece's SHORTHORNS, at Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27.—Mr. F. J. Steward's SHORTHORNS, at Whitehall Farm, Brigstock, Thrapston.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1.—Mr. G. T. Inman's BERKSHIRE PIGS, at Highmoor Farm, Henley-on-Thames.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4.—Mr. R. Stratton's SHORTHORNS, at The Duffryn, Newport, Mon.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON & Co., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

By EARL & LAWRENCE.

LINCOLN SHEEP.

SLEAFORD 18th ANNUAL BREEDING SALE.
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1907.
4,000 Registered Lincoln Theaves and Ewes.
200 Pedigree Lincoln Longwool Rams.
EARL & LAWRENCE, Auctioneers.
Sleaford, Lincolnshire.

By H. DUKE & SON.

DORCHESTER, DORSET, SHEEP FAIR.
SATURDAY, JULY 6.

MESSRS. HY. DUKE & SON will Sell by Auction, at Dorchester Fair, on SATURDAY, JULY 6, commencing at 9.45 a.m.,

10,000 DORSET DOWN DRAFT EWES & WETHER LAMBS from leading registered flocks.

Catalogues of the Auctioneers, Dorchester, who will be pleased to execute commissions.

By DICKINSON, RIGGALL & DAVY.

LINCOLNSHIRE.
PEDIGREE STOCK SALES, AUTUMN, 1907.

DICKINSON, RIGGALL & DAVY beg to announce the following Sale Fixtures of Pedigree Lincoln Red Shorthorns and Lincoln Long-wool Sheep.

JULY 11.—Ruby Grove, Grimsby. Mr. Henry Dudding's Annual Sale of World Famous Lincoln Long-wool Rams. (In conjunction with Sale of Shorthorns to be conducted by Messrs. J. Thornton & Co.)

SEPTEMBER 3.—Baumber Park, Horncastle. Absolute Dispersal Sale of Mr. W. Taylor Sharpe's entire flock of renowned Lincoln Sheep, Flock No. 4, namely:—80 Shearling Rams, 100 Ram Lambs, 150 She Lambs, 150 Shearling Ewes, 250 Two and Three Shear Ewes and 7 Stud Rams. (In conjunction with Mr. J. E. Walter.)

SEPTEMBER 4.—Kirmington House, Brocklesby. Mr. Geo. Marris' Annual Sale of Grand Fleeced Lincoln Rams. Flock No. 35.

SEPTEMBER 5 & 6.—Lincoln Great Pedigree Ewe and Ram Sale, held under the auspices of the Lincolnshire Long-wool Flock Breeders' Association.

SEPTEMBER 20.—Deeping St. Nicholas, Spalding. Sale of Highly Bred Pedigree Lincoln Red Shorthorns, the property of Mr. Geo. Frier. (In conjunction with Sale of Pedigree Lincolnshire Curly Pigs, to be conducted by Messrs. Saul) Herd Book, Vol. 3, Page 39.

SEPTEMBER 25.—Weston St. Mary, Spalding. Mr. W. J. Atkinson's Sale of Grand Pedigree C. H. B. and Lincoln Red Shorthorns. Herd Book, Vol. 3, Page 23.

SEPTEMBER 26.—The Grange, Church Lawford, Rugby. A grand selection from the Herd of Lincoln Red Shorthorns, the property of Mr. John Crawley. Well known for their deep milking qualities. Herd Book, Vol. 1, Page 36. (In conjunction with Messrs Howkins & Sons.)

OCTOBER 10.—Brandon Grange, near Grantham. Sale of 70 head of Lincoln Red Shorthorns, the property of John Langham, Esq., J.P. (with Messrs. Simons & Co.).

OCTOBER 17.—Stenigot, Louth. Sale of 80 Head of Lincoln Red Shorthorn Cattle, from the Prize Winning Herd of Mr. Robert Chatterton.

IN OCTOBER.—Belchford, near Horncastle. Absolute Dispersal Sale of the Prize Winning Herd of Lincoln Red Shorthorns, the property of the Administrator of the Estate of the late Mr. George Loughton. Herd Book, Vol. 2, Page 27.

The Auctioneers will be pleased to arrange for Gentlemen from a distance visiting the Royal Show, who are interested in the breeding of rent-paying Stock, to view any of the above Herds and Flocks during the Show week. (Communications to Louth Office)

Louth, Grimsby & Brigg. 7th June, 1907.

By CHAS. BOARDMAN.

HAVERHILL.
ANNUAL SALE of SHEEP and LAMBS.

MR. CHAS. BOARDMAN will SELL by AUCTION on MONDAY, JULY 8, 1907, at 12.30 o'clock sharp, upon the Meadow adjoining the G.E. Railway:—

6,000 Registered Suffolk Sheep and Black-faced and Half-bred Shearling and Flock Ewes, Shearling Wethers and Lambs, comprising:—
2,500 Suffolk Ewe and Wether Lambs from Registered Flocks.
2,000 Black-Faced and Half-bred Lambs.
1,500 Suffolk and Half-bred Shearling Ewes and Wethers, including 300 grand Suffolk Shearling Ewes and 150 Suffolk Shearling Wethers, from A. W. Ruggles Brise, Esq., J.P.

Further entries solicited.
Auction Offices, Haverhill, Suffolk.

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT.

BRANDON HERD of LINCOLN RED SHORTHORNS, the property of John Langham, Esq., J.P., Brandon Grange, Grantham.
A SALE OF 70 HEAD
from the above herd, including prize winners, yearlings, and two-year-old Heifers, will be held on OCTOBER 10, 1907.

AUCTION SALES.

Auctioneers will favour us by sending in their advertisements as early in the week as possible.
Charges of announcements under this heading Six Shillings an inch.

By WATERS & RAWLENCE.

FIXTURES FOR 1907.

MESSRS. WATERS AND RAWLENCE beg to give Preliminary Notice of the following IMPORTANT SALES of *REGISTERED* HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAMS, BREEDING FLOCKS, and STORE SHEEP.

SALISBURY FAIR.—*MONDAY, 15th JULY.*
Great Annual Sale of
EWES AND LAMBS,
from well-known Flockmasters. [3586

FRIDAY, 19th JULY.
WATERS PLACE FARM, WARE, HERTS.
The whole of the Grand BREEDING FLOCK of about 800 EWES, EWE LAMBS, RAM LAMBS and RAMS, the property of Mr. T. F. BUXTON, who is giving up *Ram Breeding.* [3587

THURSDAY, 25th JULY.
ALRESFORD FAIR, HANTS.
The Annual Selection of
RAM LAMBS,
from the *Registered* Flocks of Mr. J. A. K. FALCONER, *Long Sutton House*, and Mr. W. H. MYERS, *Swanmore House.* [3588

FRIDAY, 26th JULY.
WEYHILL FAIR.
Annual Sale and Letting of
RAM LAMBS AND RAMS, [3589
the property of Mr. H. C. STEPHENS, *Cholderton.*

WEYHILL FAIR.—*FRIDAY, 26th JULY.*
The Annual Sale of
RAM LAMBS,
from the highly-bred Flock of the Most Hon. the Marquis of WINCHESTER, *Amport, Hants.* [3590

WEYHILL FAIR.—*FRIDAY, 26th JULY.*
The Annual Sale of
RAM LAMBS, [3591
from the *Dunley Manor* Flock of Mr. F. A. HOLMAN.

TUESDAY, 30th JULY.
MARKET HOUSE, SALISBURY.
Sale of
RAM LAMBS, [3592
the property of Mr. B. J. WATERS, *Stratford Tony.*

WEDNESDAY, 31st JULY.
CHILTON LODGE, HUNGERFORD.
The Annual Letting and Sale of
RAM LAMBS AND RAMS,
on the Premises, the property of Sir W. G. PEARCE, Bart., *Chilton Lodge.* [3595

ILSLEY FAIR.—*THURSDAY, 1st AUGUST.*
Annual Letting and Sale of
RAM LAMBS, [3593
from the Hon. D. P. BOUVERIE'S *Coleshill* Flock.

FRIDAY, 2nd AUGUST.
MANOR FARM, WINTERBOURNE STOKE.
Annual Sale and Letting of
RAM LAMBS AND RAMS, [3594
the property of Mr. CARY COLES, on the Premises.

TUESDAY, 6th AUGUST.
MARKET HOUSE, SALISBURY.
The Annual Sale and Letting of
RAM LAMBS AND RAMS,
from Mr. DIBBEN'S *Bishopstone* Flock. [3596

WEDNESDAY, 7th AUGUST.
BUSCOT PARK, FARINGDON, BERKS.
Annual Letting and Sale of
RAM LAMBS AND RAMS,
upon the Premises, the property of Sir A. HENDERSON, Bart. [3597

FRIDAY, 9th AUGUST.
COLLINGBOURNE DUCIS, WILTS.
The extensive and highly-bred *Registered*
HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK,
the property of Mr. T. LAVINGTON, who is giving up the Farm.

MONDAY, 12th AUGUST.
BRITFORD FAIR.
One Mile from Salisbury.
The Annual Sale and Letting of
RAM LAMBS AND RAMS,
from Mr. JAMES FLOWER, *Chilmark.* [3598

BRITFORD FAIR.—*12th AUGUST.*
Annual Sale of
RAM LAMBS,
from the *Breamore* Flock of Mr. HAMILTON J. HULSE. [3599

BRITFORD FAIR.—*12th AUGUST.*
Annual Sale and Letting of
RAM LAMBS AND RAMS,
from the well-known Flock of Mr. A. F. T. DRAKE, *Dogdean.* [3600

BRITFORD FAIR.—*12th AUGUST.*
Sale of a Selection of
RAM LAMBS, [3601
from the *Homington* Flock of Mr. G. L DEAN.

BRITFORD FAIR.—*12th AUGUST.*
Great Annual Sale of
EWES AND LAMBS,
as heretofore. [3602

Catalogues of the above Sales will be issued in due course, and may, when ready, be obtained of the AUCTIONEERS, at the Registered Office of the HAMPSHIRE DOWN SHEEP BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION, Canal, Salisbury.

HEATH HOUSE, NOCTON, LINCOLN.

THE DOWSBY HALL

Shorthorn Herd and Lincoln Long-wool Flock,

THE PROPERTY OF

Messrs S. E. DEAN & SONS, Dowsby Hall,
Bourne, and Heath House, Noctor, Lincolnshire.

Important Sale of SHORTHORN CATTLE and LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP

from this celebrated Herd and Flock on

FRIDAY, JULY 12TH, 1907,

The day after the Riby Sale, by

JOHN THORNTON & CO.

(In conjunction with Messrs. SAUL),

on the premises at Heath House, Nocton, aforesaid. A choice selection of 50 Shorthorns, which comprise many fine specimens of BATES BLOOD of the famous

DUCHESS, WATERLOO, OXFORD, THORNDALE ROSE, AND WILD EYES TRIBES.

Bulls from the Herds of Mr. C. R. Lynn, the late Mr. Jonas Webb, the late Mr. W. S. Marr, and Lord Lovat have been largely used.

The Stud Bull BARON BROADHOOKS 90785 (sire of many of the calves), bred by Lord Lovat, will be on view.

The 75 Lincoln Long-wools will consist of 50 Yearling Rams and 25 Yearling Ewes, and include this year's prize-winners.

The successwhich this flock has obtained at the Royal, Lincolnshire, Smithfield, and other Shows will commend this selection to breeders at home and abroad.

The LINCOLN BREED CUP and the £50 CHAMPION PLATE at Smithfield for all Long-wool Breeds have been won by this Flock the last four years in succession, and each year the Breeder's Gold Medal.

Sale after 11.30 Luncheon.

A train will leave Stallingboro' Station after the Riby Sale, on Thursday, July 11th, for Lincoln. Messrs. S. E. Dean & Sons will be pleased to welcome their Colonial and Foreign friends on Thursday evening, at the SARACEN'S HEAD HOTEL at Lincoln.

Particulars as to train service, &c., in Catalogues, which may be had of Mr. A. W. Dean, Dowsby Hall, Bourne; Mr. J. H. Dean, Heath House, Nocton, Lincoln; of Messrs. Saul, Auctioneers, Bourne; and of JOHN THORNTON & Co, 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, W.
Telegrams—"DEAN'S NAVENBY."

FRIDAY, JULY 19, 1907.

THE

WATERS' PLACE HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK,

The Property of Mr. T. FOWELL BUXTON.

Registered in the Hampshire Down Flock Book.

NOTICE OF SALE OF THE

GRAND BREEDING FLOCK

OF ABOUT

500 EWES in ages,
150 EWE LAMBS,
70 RAM LAMBS and
20 Older RAMS,

AND WHICH

Messrs. WATERS & RAWLENCE

(in conjunction with Messrs. JACKSON & SON)

are instructed to SELL by AUCTION, at Waters' Place Farm, two miles from Ware (Hertford Branch), and three miles from Roydon (Cambridge Line) Stations, G.E.R., on FRIDAY, JULY 19, 1907.

The dispersal of the Waters' Place Flock is undoubtedly one of the chief attractions of the season in the Agricultural World; it comes at a time when the Hampshire Down Breed is very much to the front, both at home and in all mutton producing countries, as it every day becomes more apparent that no breed of sheep is so valuable for producing the finest quality of mutton, in the shortest possible time as the Hampshire Down, whilst they readily adapt themselves to all climates, and for crossing purposes are unrivalled.

Messrs. Waters and Rawlence have fixed the Sale at the earliest possible date to accommodate all foreign buyers, and as regards English Breeders it is well known what wonderful results have been attained by the introduction of Waters' Place Blood, and the Auctioneers are satisfied that they will get the most genuine support from the leading Flockmasters, whilst to those desirous of establishing a Flock of this popular Breed such a chance may rarely, if ever, occur again.

Conveyances will meet the trains at the above stations.

Sale at 12 o'clock. Luncheon will be served during the Sale.

Catalogues of Mr. J. H. HURFORD, Waters' Place Farm, Ware; of Messrs. G. JACKSON & SON, Auctioneers, Hitchin; or of WATERS & RAWLENCE, Canal, Salisbury.

Lincolnshire Notes.

THERE is only one subject of interest this week. The show of the Royal Society has been a distinct success despite the sternest threats of the weather. Fortunately the meteorological bark was worse than its bite, for after Tuesday morning, or to be correct, from the moment of the King's arrival, the sun has shone gloriously, and all has gone merry as a marriage bell. The extra half-crown day will more than compensate for the loss of attendance on the first two days, and altogether the show will be accounted a historic success.

LINCOLNSHIRE figured well in the prize lists. The special breeds of cattle and sheep were a much noticed feature of the show. The Shorthorn Society's bull championship went to Mr. B. Rowland, of Wainfleet, while a similar award for cows was won by Mr. J. G. Williams. Mr. Rowland was also the favoured competitor for the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society's special prize for red bulls.

BUT the sensation of the section was the success of Mr. J. Evens in the dairy classes. Mr. Evens practically swept the deck. He brought two novitiates into the ring, who both beat the celebrated Burton Violet in the milking competitions. His famous animals took all before them, and Mr. Evens can now claim to possess the most valuable dairy herd in the kingdom.

THE exhibition was described as the best all round that has ever been seen of the Lincoln Reds. The animals were numerous, more uniform in build, and better in quality than anything that has ever been put into the ring. This is a fact worth all the trouble of the Royal Society's show to achieve.

THE Lincoln sheep are described as not merely a satisfactory, but a most extraordinary show. In one class, that for shearling rams, there were no fewer than 150 entries, and the competition was exceedingly keen. The exhibits were a very smart lot and thoroughly representative, but heavier sheep have been received from the Lincolnshire flockmasters.

THE championship created a spendid competition, and the winner was a fine two-shear ram, which had been bred by Messrs. R. and W. Wright, of Nocton Heath. The animal was sold for exportation to Buenos Ayres, but his purchaser, Mr. F. Miller, kept him back to show him in England.

LINCOLNSHIRE Agricultural Society's special prize went to the representatives of Mr. C. E. Howard's noted flock at Nocton Rise. The shearling ram was a fine animal belonging to Mr. Henry Dudding, of Riby Grove.

THE four classes of Lincolnshire Curly-coated pigs brought out some wonderfully big animals. The best in the section was undoubtedly the splendid 70-stone boar of Mr. J. Ward, of Spalding, which came in for much admiration. But generally speaking the pigs were heavy, well bred, and full of promise to the butcher.

BUT Lincolnshire figured fairly prominently in the open classes. Mr. Robert Chatterton, of Stenigot, came a good second to his Majesty in the class for Shorthorn two-year-old bulls, and Mr. Dudding was commended in the same section, as well as in that for Shorthorn heifers. The Earl of Londesborough, from his Blankney estate, received commendation for Captain Warrior, his splendid Devon bull. Messrs. H. Dudding and R. Booth were commended in the list of Shorthorn bulls calved in 1905.

AMONGST the horses Mr. H. B. Addey, of Claythorpe, Alford, was awarded third prize in the hunter filly class, 1906, and Major Kenton, the member for Gainsborough, received first prize for hunter filly, 1904, Mr. R. W. Riggall, of Ulceby, coming second. In the mare class Mr. K. Surfleet, Beckingham, Gainsborough, was placed reserve, while in the filly foal class the same gentleman's exhibit took first place. In the colt foal class Mr. G. Cartwright and Son, Dunham-on-Trent, took second prize, and Mr. J. W. Davy, of Great Carlton, Louth, was placed in the reserve.

SO that altogether it was a brave list, and one doing credi tto the county. As to the show itself, it has been a liberal education for many an experienced agriculturist. The arrangements have been all but perfect, the show has proceeded without a hitch, and everybody is congratulating everybody else. The society have had some very appreciative things to say of local enterprise, and Lincolnshire has returned the compliment by the assurance that it will ever remember and never regret having been the centre of the Royal Show of 1907.

June 28, 1907.

Distemper in Dogs.

The President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries has appointed a committee to inquire into the nature of distemper in dogs in Great Britain and the methods of its infection, and to report whether any—and, if so, what—preventive or remedial measures, exclusive of ordinary medical treatment, can with advantage be taken with respect to it.

The committee is constituted as follows:—The Duke of Beaufort, the Lord Middleton, the Lord Leconfield, Sir John McFadyean, M.B., B.Sc., M.R.C.V.S., Mr. Edward Barclay, Mr. Stewart Stockman, M.R.C.V.S, Chief Veterinary Officer to the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, and Mr. William Musgrave Wroughton.

The chairman of the committee will be the Lord Middleton, and Mr. James Ralph Jackson, M.R.C.V.S., Veterinary Inspector, Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, 4, Whitehall Place, S.W., will be secretary.

The cost of the inquiry will be defrayed by subscription and guarantees, and no charge in respect of it will fall upon public funds.

On Tuesday Earl Carrington and Mr. John Burns discussed with representatives of various municipalities the position of local authorities with regard to the promotion of forestry. Mr. Burns assured the conference that the Local Government Board would co-operate with the Board of Agriculture in furthering any practical scheme of afforestation; and, as President of the Local Government Board, he should be pleased to consider any applications for additional borrowing powers or other facilities sought by municipalities.

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1.—The Union is formed for the purpose of watching over and defending matters affecting Farmers, and to take such action as may be thought desirable for their welfare. **All party politics** and all sectarian matters, except those bearing on Agriculture, shall be avoided.

2.—The Entrance Subscription to be at the rate of ½d. per acre on land farmed, maximum subscription £3. No one to be eligible as a member unless he is carrying on the business of a Farmer in actual practice, and farming not less than two acres of land. The minimum Subscription to be One Shilling.

The Annual Subscription after the first year to be as follows:—

10 to 50 acres 1/-
50 to 100 „ 2/-

2/- per 100 acres or portion thereof up to 1,000 acres.
Over 1,000 acres, 6d. per 100 for the excess.

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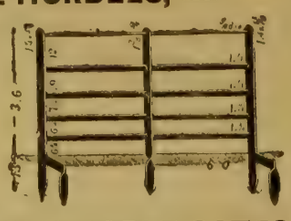
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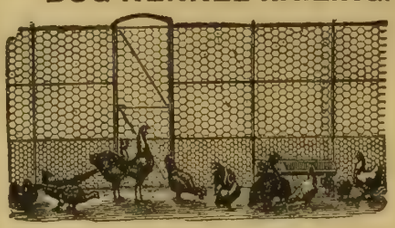
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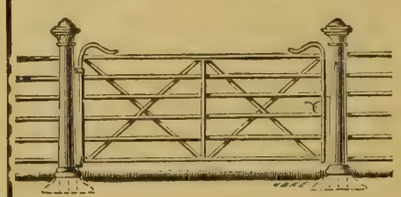
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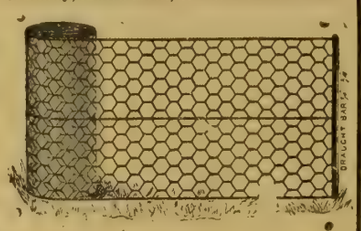
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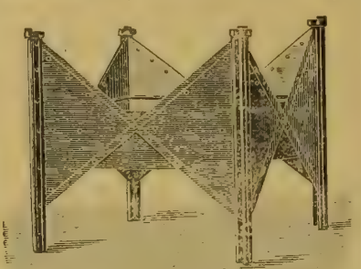
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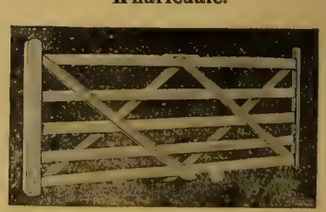
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Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs at the Lincoln Show.

With the exception of a few important exhibitors, these two branches of industry were, as on previous occasions, poorly represented at the show. It would appear that the manufacturers of these important agricultural commodities do not consider that the advantage of exhibiting would compensate them for the trouble and expense. They thus miss a unique opportunity of getting into direct touch with new buyers and of cementing friendship with old customers.

A description of the exhibits will be found in our general report of the show.

From another point of view one would have thought that it would have been worth the while of the manufacturers to take a more practical interest in the show. We often hear it said that in questions connected with the trade they do not receive from the authorities and the public the consideration due to the importance of the services rendered by them to agricultural circles, and we are inclined to agree with them in this respect.

If they would utilise such occasions as the Royal Show to bring their trades into more prominent notice and to illustrate their general importance, it might be expected that there would be less reason for them to complain of such neglect.

Appearance of Plants as Guide to Supply of Fertiliser.

Insufficiency and light colour of leaves indicate deficiency of nitrogen. Excess of foliage, on the other hand, indicates too large a proportion of the stimulator fertiliser, and may be counteracted by supplying more potash.

Sourness, softness, and lack of colour in the fruit may be corrected by the same means. It should be borne in mind that any excess of potash is not subject to loss as in the case of nitrogen, but remains in the soil until utilised by the crop.

This may also be said of phosphate of lime, but not so of nitrate of soda, which is so extremely active and soluble that it is liable to be lost if not taken up by the plant during the first season.

The manufacture of sulphate of ammonia from coke oven works is developing in a remarkable manner. Last year it reached the quantity of 43,677 tons, against 30,732 in 1905, 20,848 in 1904, 17,438 in 1903, and 15,352 in 1902.

Concentrated Foods for Dairy Cows on Pasture.

It is generally assumed, and naturally so, that there is an advantage in supplying cows on pasture during summer with a small ration of concentrated foods, especially during the later portion of the hot weather.

However, if one can judge from the result of experiments conducted by the Armstrong College, and published in Offerton Bulletin No. 2, it would appear that the cost of the extra foods is not compensated for by a corresponding improvement in the yield of milk or by the gain in weight of the animals.

The period during which the trial was conducted was twelve weeks, from June 19 to September 12, divided into two periods of six weeks. Lot I. received during the first period—

2 lb. maize meal.
2 ,, Bombay cotton cake.
2½ ,, straw chaff.
Grass.

Second period :—

4 lb. maize meal.
4 ,, Bombay cotton cake.
3 ,, straw chaff.
Grass.

Lot II. received only grass.

The concentrated food and chaff given to Lot I. were made into "crowdy" and fed to the cows twice a day, before the noon and evening milkings. The cows had access to water at all times, being out night and day except at milking times.

It was found that the milk of the cows getting only grass was as good as that of the cows receiving the concentrated foods in addition to the grass, and, taking the results all round, it is claimed that the experiment clearly shows that on pasture of average quality it is inadvisable to give much concentrated food to milking cows, having regard to the yield and quality of the milk only, and that it is doubtful whether any such food should be used at all, except a small amount perhaps towards the end of the summer.

The general conclusions of this important experiment are summarised as follow :—

1. The advantage of giving dairy cows which are out on grass during the summer months a supplementary ration of from 4 to 8 lb. of concentrated food, consisting of Bombay cake and maize meal, is exceedingly small as regards the yield of milk, provided the pasture is of average quality.

2. Any small benefit derived from concentrated food so employed is observable only towards the end of the season, when the pasture is beginning to become stale and the nights cold.

3. Having regard to actual profit, it is doubtful whether any concentrated food of this description should be used at all on grass during the summer, provided always that the pasture is of average quality, the season normal, and the cows in a healthy and thriving condition. It is certain that these experiments conclusively show that the cost of the concentrated food, when used at the rate of from 4 to 8 lb. per cow per day, is out of all proportion to the value of the increase in the milk yield, which occurred only towards the end of the season.

4. The cows receiving nothing but grass gave, relatively, a much more profitable return than those which were supplied with concentrated food, the milk costing nearly double to produce in the latter case what it did in the former.

5. To increase the concentrated food as the season advances is not to be recommended, for it does not, except temporarily, cause an increase in the milk or even check the fall in the yield which always takes place as the lactation period advances, while owing to the extra cost of the food the profit is relatively reduced.

6. As regards the quality of the milk, there does not seem to be any advantage whatever, on the average, from using concentrated food on pasture of the description employed in these experiments. The quality of milk is mainly dependent upon the character of the cows, and, provided the animals receive adequate nourishment, no increase in the ration is likely to affect the quality to any appreciable extent.

7. It is not to be assumed that concentrated food given to cows on grass necessarily causes an increase in the live-weight of the cows, and that what is not recovered in the milk is always, even partially, recovered in this form, as is undoubtedly the case when cows are indoors. Cows receiving concentrated food under these conditions may on occasions actually lose more weight than those which receive none.

8. On the principal point under discussion—viz., the effect of an extra allowance of food on the quantity and quality of milk generally—these experiments confirm those previously carried out at Offerton, and show that on the average, whether cows are indoors or on pasture, provided the cows

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR FARMERS WHEN BUYING.

Approximate Unit Cost of Fertilising Constituents.

It is necessary for guidance in the economical use of fertilisers, and especially in the purchase of Complete and Special Manures, that the relative unit cost of the principal fertilising constituents should be studied: the subjoined table affords information on the subject. By multiplying the guaranteed minimum percentages of a fertiliser by the unit costs given in the table, the buyer will get a good idea of the commercial value of any chemical manure offered to him. The unit values are subject to variations from time to time, and in this respect we shall endeavour to keep the table up to date besides which, buyers living in remote districts may have to pay a little more for heavier cost of delivery. If credit is required, this will also add to the cost.

	Peruvian Guano.			Nitrate of Soda.	Sulphate of Ammonia.	Bone Meal.	Superphosphate.	Basic Slag.	Bone Compounds.	Special Manures.	Kainit.	Sulphate of Potash.	Muriate of Potash.
	Raw or Equalised.	Phosphatic.	Dissolved (soluble).										
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d
Ammonia, organic as in Guano and Bones	17 6	12 6	15 0	—	—	12 6	—	—	15 0	15 0	—	—	—
,, in Sulphate of Ammonia ...	—	—	—	—	10 6	—	—	—	—	12 6	—	—	—
,, calculated from Nitrogen in Nitrate of Soda ...	—	—	—	13 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phosphate soluble in water	—	—	2 0	—	—	—	2 0	—	2 0	2 0	—	—	—
,, assimilable	1 6	1 2	1 3	—	—	1 2	—	—	1 3	1 3	—	—	—
,, insoluble	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 3	—	—	—	—	—
Potash (pure)	4 0	4 0	4 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 0	3 10	4 0	3 10

N.B.—The above table is based on the commercial cost of the fertilising constituents. Agricultural value is not always synonymous with the commercia cost, and every farmer must exercise his judgment, while considering the cost, which fertiliser may be expected to give the most profitable return on his soi and for his crops. This is the cheapest manure for him.

Approximate Unit Cost of the Nutritive Constituents in Feeding Cakes and Meals.

June 1906.

Cakes and other Feeding Stuffs.—In order to be able to form a correct opinion of their value, it is necessary to know the relative cost of the different nutritive constituents. The following note, by an eminent authority, supplies this information. By reference to it, a farmer can calculate out the approximate commercial value of a cake or meal, and then use his judgment as to which is most suitable for his special requirements.

	s. d.		s. d.
Albuminoids	2 8	to	3 0
Oil or fat	2 8	,,	3 0
Carbohydrates	1 1	,,	1 2

NOTE.—Most authorities in England are agreed that the value of each per cent. or unit of albuminoids and of oil is at least 2½ times that of 1 per cent. or unit carbohydrates. If, therefore, the percentages of albuminoids and oil in a feeding stuff be respectively multiplied by 2½ and added to the percentage of carbohydrates, the total feeding units contained in the article are obtained. The cost of the feeding stuff divided by this total of feeding units gives the price per unit. Example: A cotton cake contained

	Per cent.			Feeding units.
Albuminoids	22·1	×	2½	= 55·2
Oil	5·2	×	2½	= 13·0
Carbohydrates	33·2	×	1	= 33·2
Total feeding units				101·4

The price of the cake being £5 7s. 6d., the cost per feeding unit was just about 1s.

receive *enough food to keep them in a thriving condition*, there is no advantage, having regard to profit, in giving them more than this. Presumably, when cows are fed on fairly good grass in the summer, they do not require much additional artificial food, and when such is supplied it is at a loss as far as the milk is concerned. Confirmation is also given to the conclusion previously formed that no addition to the food could prevent, except temporarily, the falling off in the milk yield as the lactation period advances, and there is nothing in these results which makes it necessary to modify the suggestion that in general the most economical method of feeding cows would be to make the amount of food supplied largely dependent upon the amount of milk produced, provided that the cows are at all times adequately fed.

Clover Mildew.

Some clover plants, believed to be attacked by a fungous disease, were found by the Board of Agriculture expert to be suffering from clover mildew. Summer spores are formed throughout the season, these enabling the disease to spread with great rapidity. In the autumn, winter spores are produced on the dead leaves lying about, and these commence the disease the following season.

Ploughing before the winter spores are produced is the most certain remedy. After the spores are formed in the autumn ploughing is of no avail, as the buried spores retain their vitality for some years and are certain to come to the surface again sooner or later. The fungus is common on many leguminous weeds, and such should therefore be kept down.

Prices of Fertilisers.

The season's demand for plant foods in the shape of fertilisers is now dragging along to its close, but it is noticeable that prices, instead of showing a tendency to be lower as is usually the case when orders are few and manufacturers anxious to clear out, remain remarkably firm.

This is due to the condition of the market for the raw materials used by manufacturers of fertilisers; phosphate of lime especially is very firm in price, and it is said that important chemical-manure makers both on the Continent and in this country have entered into contracts for supplies over several years ahead at a high range of values.

Nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia, for forward delivery, are also dearer, so that we fear farmers must expect to pay more for their supplies.

The demand throughout the world is enormous, and is continuing to increase by leaps and bounds to an extent that the energies of the providers of the raw material and of the manufactured articles are taxed to the utmost to cope with it; and then labour, freights, coal, bags, all cost more money, with the results which are reflected in the high prices shown in price lists.

A Year's Importation of Fertilisers into the United States.

	1905 6. Tons.		1904-5. Tons.
Guano	19,300	...	34,400
Phosphate, raw	31,000	...	131,000
Nitrate of Soda	374,000	...	282,700
Bones	4,000	...	5,500
Potash Salts	379,000	...	240,000
Fertilisers, not classed	128,000	...	130,000
	935,300		824,300

The large increase of nitrate of soda and potash salts may be noted. The U.S. supplies of phosphate come from their own mines in Florida and Tennessee, and they have the advantage of enormous quantities of nitrogenous material from the slaughterhouses in Chicago, St. Louis, and other places.



Horse Shows are now coming on. Get at once **Mott's Condition Powders & Powder Lotion** and have your Horses fit. As used in all the leading studs in Great Britain. **Mott' Grease Cure** 4 dozen 47s., 1 dozen 12s., sample packets 1s. 3d. **Mott's Condition Powder,** 21s., 11s. per case. Sample tins, 5s., sent carriage paid.

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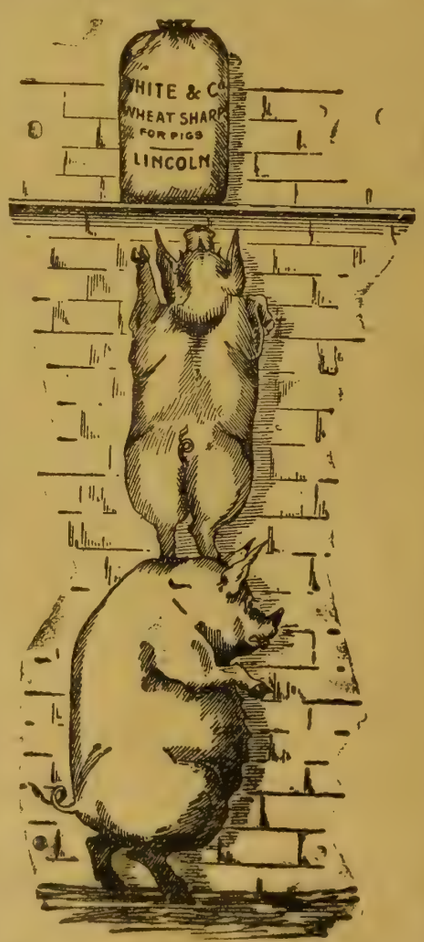
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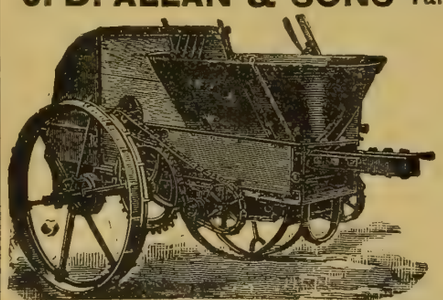
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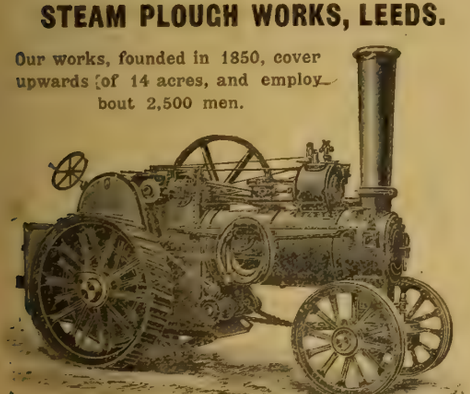
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ESTABLISHED 1832.

JULY 1, 1907.

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Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

THE LINCOLN ROYAL.

The lively anticipations of a week ago concerning the Lincoln Show of the Royal Agricultural Society have been more than realised. The interest taken in the show by the citizens of Lincoln and the farmers in the county of Lincolnshire have combined to make the 1907 show a great success. It was a foregone conclusion that the show as a show would be one of which any country might be proud, and would worthily represent "the stud farm of the world." but it was not at all sure that the show would be a success in other directions. The weather this year has been very much against all open-air fixtures, and the agricultural shows that have already taken place have suffered greatly from this cause. Fortunately the Royal experienced better weather, and although the numbers paying for admission have by no means created a record, they have been eminently satisfying, and once more prove that the future of the Royal Show lies in the provinces, not in a permanent showyard in the country or elsewhere.

The show of stock was a very comprehensive one—the various sections will be found dealt with in our critical report—but there are one or two things which specially strike the visitor from the Colonies and abroad. The institution of auction sales of live stock has become a very popular feature of the show, and led to a great amount of business being transacted in the showyard. It has its drawbacks, however, and this was to be seen more plainly, perhaps, among the Shorthorns than in any other section. An enormous entry of our premier breed was obtained, but a large proportion of them were not up to the standard of animals expected to be on view in the Royal showyard, many of them were admittedly sent for sale, and by no means properly represented the best of the British Shorthorns. The result was that the foreigner, seeing so many of what were comparatively poor specimens, did not form such a good impression of our live stock. This point is one which is worthy of serious consideration, and we shall hope to return to it on a future occasion.

The result of the Lincoln show must have delighted all those who have the interest of the society at heart, and it was a sign of the times that the annual meeting, in the words of one of the speakers, resolved itself into "a mutual admiration society."

This was in striking contrast to those held during the past few years, for in the past when the formal request was put from the chair asking for suggestions or improvements, the result was a torrent of criticism which frequently led to a certain amount of argument and wrangling.

The Royal Agricultural Society has now entered upon better times, and the successor of the second series of movable shows, which was so brilliantly commenced at Derby, has been maintained and accentuated at Lincoln.

Notes of the Week.

The Lincoln Show was indeed a Royal Show.

It seemed quite like old times, and as if the disastrous experiences at Park Royal were only a bad dream.

His Majesty brought fine weather with him on Wednesday, and everybody down to his humblest subject was pleased to see him.

It is said that no occupant of the Throne has been to Lincoln for over two hundred years.

Lincoln was *en fete* to receive the King. The decorations were exceptionally good, and the arches surmounted with the words "Lincoln's Wealth," over which a full-sized model of steam engines, a threshing machine, or a plough was peculiarly appropriate.

The show ground was very nicely laid out, but it was too big. Concentration would have been a virtue.

It was remarkable how quickly the heavy rains of the early part of the week dried away under the influence of the sun and wind.

The attendances were very good, and it will mean another nice balance on the right side of the book.

The stock was a good lot, but it was obvious that a large proportion of them were entered for sale only.

Anything really good was eagerly bought for South America, Lord Brilliant, a yearling Shorthorn, making 1,000 guineas in the sale ring.

Lincolnshire farmers visited the show in strong force, and their union was a striking object lesson of what can be done by combination.

There will be only one result with which they will be satisfied, and that will be a National Farmers' Union.

All honour to Lincolnshire for the good work they are doing.

Have you seen the flowers? was question to be heard on all sides.

Two large tents were occupied by the floral display, which was indeed magnificent.

This feature, which is only in its second year, was immensely popular—and deservedly so.

Now as to the future. Newcastle for 1908 has long been settled.

The Mayor of Gloucester was on the ground on Tuesday, and tendered an invitation for that city in 1909.

Local subscriptions have been obtained to the necessary amount, and, barring accidents, we shall be in the city on the Severn in 1909.

Manchester for 1910?

Anyway, this is the suggestion, and we hope it will materialise.

Following soon after the great show of the Royal Agricultural Society at Lincoln comes the important meeting of the Highland and Agriculture Society.

It opens at Edinburgh on July 9, and the officials of the society are looking forward to a great success.

The most important agricultural show on the Continent, that of the German National Agricultural Society, was recently held at Düsseldorf.

Considered as a nation the German people study and understand agriculture more than we do in England.

This is shown by the way in which they crowd into the shows. At Dusseldorf 235,870 people paid for admission.

Last year the show was held at a suburb of Berlin, when 326,000 visited the show.

Contrast this attendance with the result of our Royal Shows at Park Royal.

The son of the Emperor, Prince August William, opened the show amid great festivities, and spoke strongly in favour of agricultural interests.

We noted last week the mottoes of our Royal and Bath and West of England Societies.

The German Prince closed his address with a latin motto, very suitable to the occasion.

Nil melius, nil homine libero dignius quam agricultura :—

(Nothing is better, nothing more worthy to a free man than the pursuit of agriculture.)

Londoner on a Scotch mountain: "You have a fine view here, you can see a great way!" Scotch Shepherd: "Ay, ay, a ferry great way." "Ah, you can see America I presume." "Farrar than that." Farther than that? "Ye jist wait till the mists gang away and ye'll see the sun."

The weather prophets are now trying to console us with the prediction that it will be fine and sunny about the middle of August, and will be hot in September! Perhaps better late than never in the season.

A medical officer of health has protested against the butchers' practice of blowing out carcases to improve the appearance of the meat.

It is a most unpleasant idea, and involves danger to customers if the blowing is done by consumptive persons.

There is an active demand at present on the Continent for English horses, and good prices are being made.

At the sale at Chatteris the other day foreign buyers bought extensively. Some people are saying that all the best horses now go abroad.

Insect pests inflict great damage in this country, but in some parts of the world the injury they do is terrible. The Argentine Government has just appropriated two million pounds to combat the plague of locusts.

GENERAL MEETING OF R.A.S.E.

The customary meeting of governors and members of the R.A.S.E. took place at mid-day on Thursday under the presidency of Lord Yarborough, who said that was the first opportunity which he had had of speaking to a general meeting of members, and it gave him great pleasure to see such a large attendance. The weather was, unfortunately, not propitious on the opening day, but it delighted them to find such a magnificent day for the visit of his Majesty. It was quite "King's weather." He proceeded to acknowledge the whole-hearted manner in which the mayor and citizens of Lincoln had worked to promote the success of the show, as it was owing in great part to their efforts that the Lincoln Show was proving one of the finest that had been held. The attendance had been large enough to satisfy the hopes of all, and it was a matter for gratification that the attendance at that moment was larger than had been experienced at a similar hour on a half-crown day for many years. The arrangements in the showyard were such as to excite admiration, for which they were indebted to Sir Gilbert Greenall, the hon. director. Alluding to the financial position of the society, the chairman said it was much stronger than a year ago. The reserve fund amounted to £17,000, but to make their position more secure they required a greater membership. The farm prize competitions were next referred to, the chairman paying a tribute to the help given by Sir Richard Cooper, who provided the £150 prize money for the society's two classes, and defrayed the cost of judging.

Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis proposed a vote of thanks to the Mayor and Corporation of Lincoln for their cordial reception of the society, remarking that the inhabitants of the city, which was not so largely populated as some they visited, had risen nobly to the occasion, and given a reception worthy of the society. He hoped there would not be another lapse of fifty-four years before the society met in Lincoln again.

Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes seconded, and the motion was carried.

Sir Gilbert Greenall, who met with a most cordial reception, moved a vote of thanks to the Lincoln Local Committee, expressing high appreciation of the efforts of those gentlemen to make the arrangements as perfect as possible.

Mr. Percy Crutchley seconded, and the motion was carried.

The president then put the usual formula as to whether any members had any suggestions to make, and Mr. Mackenzie, Wye College, congratulated the council upon the re-introduction of the farms competition.

Mr. Tinniswood (Carlisle) also said there was no better educational feature of the show than the Farms Competition.

Mr. Watt (Carlisle) thanked the council for having secured a rebate in railway fares to members of the society, and urged the necessity of securing similar concessions to exhibitors and the attendants upon the cattle, &c., who still had to pay full fare. English railway companies might take a tip from the railways across the Border, who had souls above the making of dividends, and whose mission was to serve the community. The Scottish companies carried exhibitors and attendants to the national show at single fare for the double journey. But in England no consideration was shown to the exhibitors either as to rates or fares.

The chairman remarked that the question was a hardy annual, and was at the present time engaging the attention of the council. They would not rest satisfied until they secured some concession. The matter was discussed at a meeting between the council and the railway managers of the country in May, but nothing had as yet been heard from the Clearing House.

A special general meeting was subsequently held, at which a resolution was passed to alter the by-laws in order that any county showing an increase of membership should secure increased representation on the council during the time of a triennial election.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, JULY 2.—Council Meeting of the Central Chamber of Agriculture, 11 a.m., at the Surveyors' Institution, Great George Street, Westminster—Discussion on the Small Holdings Bill—Horse Sale at Derby—Army Contracts, Sending-in Day, Horse Guards, Whitehall—Sale of Shorthorns and Pigs at Elvetham, Hampshire—Ipswich Horse Sale—Selby Horse Show—Agricultural Fairs at Penrith, Kington, Swansea, and Thurles—Sending-in Day for March Horse Show—Leeds Horse Sale.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 3.—East Kent Agricultural Show at Folkestone, first day—Woolton Agricultural Show (near Liverpool), special classes for Cab, Car, and Hackney Horses—Agricultural Fairs at Birkenhead, Hereford, Oswestry, and Royston—Sale of Dexters and Kerries at Bletchley—Doncaster Show—Cork Horse Show—Chatteris Horse Show—Scunthorpe Agricultural Show.

THURSDAY, JULY 4.—East Kent Agricultural Show at Folkestone, second day—Alford Horse Show—Great Chesterfield Horse and Foal Show—Sale of Sir Oswald Mosley's Shorthorns at Rolleston, near Burton-on-Trent—Special Horse Sale at Carlisle—Agricultural Fairs at Montgomery, Devizes, Wakefield, and Uttoxeter.

FRIDAY, JULY 5.—Sale of the Whittlebury Pigs and of Mr. Cooper's Herd of Jersey Cattle at Whittlebury, near Towcester—Special Horse Sale at Cockermouth—Lichfield Horse Sale—Horse, Cattle, and Pig Fair at Lincoln—Agricultural Fairs at Hertford, Lancaster, Newbury, and Moy—Pocklington Horse Show.

SATURDAY, JULY 6.—Ashton-under-Lyne Agricultural Show, also Dog and Poultry Show—Duke's Great Sale of Sheep at Dorchester; 10,000 already entered, including lambs—Sale of Aylsham Steam Roller Mills at the Agricultural Hall, Norwich—Agricultural Fairs at Chesterfield, Easingwold, Dorchester, Bedale, and Gloucester—Sending-in Day for Taunton Horse Show—Sending-in Day for Malton Show

MONDAY, JULY 8.—Special Sale of Hampshire Down Sheep at Tring—Special Horse Sale at Tattersalls—Agricultural Fairs at Alnwick, Warwick, Oakham, and Stamford—Sherburn-in-Elmet Agricultural Show—Sending-in Day for Hastings Show.

TUESDAY, JULY 9.—Highland and Agricultural Show at Edinburgh, first day—Peterborough Show, first day—Millers' Convention opens at Exeter—Special Sale of Merton Herd (selection), forty first class Shorthorns, at Edinburgh—Special Sale of Pedigree Hackneys and Harness Horses at Peterborough—Sending-in Day for Salisbury Sheep Show—Sales of Store Cattle at Lynn and Ipswich—Agricultural Fairs at Denbigh, Wirksworth, Stockport, and Haverfordwest—Holland Park Horticultural Show, first day.

Railway Rates. In reply to a question in the House of Commons by Mr. Montague, M.P., who asked whether the President of the Board of Trade had undertaken his promised inquiry into the grievances suffered by British traders and farmers at the hands of British railway companies, whether the inquiry was approaching completion, and whether he could make any announcement as to the remedial action he contemplated, Mr. Kearley stated that inquiries on the subject were in progress, but the Board of Trade could not say when they would be completed, or what action it might subsequently be desirable to take.



Cattle Sales at the Royal Show.

These sales, which have now become an important feature of the show, are deserving of having proper arrangements made for them, so that all who are interested can obtain, without troubling the auctioneers, a full list of prices made. This, at any rate, so far as regards the Press, could easily be arranged, by each auctioneer's clerk having a proper book with carbon, so that as each sheet was completed one of these could be sent to and posted in the Press room, and the other retained by the auctioneer. The general interest in these sales demands that this convenience to the Press should be given, and it will also relieve the auctioneers of untold worry and trouble.

This year's sale of Shorthorns was eminently successful, and quite a number of excellent prices were realised. The top price for bulls was 1,000 guineas, as against 610 guineas last year, and for females 210 guineas as against 270 guineas. The general average of the sale was £87 5s. for 115 head, last year's corresponding average being £99 15s. for 109. The following are the details of this sale :—

		Gs.
BULLS.		
Mr E. Abbiss' Skiddaw	Mr Glover	26
Mr W J Atkinson's Waterloo Jet	Mr Glover	26
Right Hon A J Balfour's Sensation	Mr Sidey	40
Mr J Budgen's Fair Emperor	Mr Wilkinson	48
Marquis of Downshire's Missel Thrush	Mr G Taylor	40
Mr G Harrison's Pioneer	Dr Anchorina	50
Messrs Halsam's Vimrose	Dr Anchorina	50
Lord Moreton's Torton Knight	Mr Wilkinson	72
Mr J C Price's Royal Warmington Kerr	Mr Colville	170
Mr R G Wordsworth's Ideal Archer	Dr Anchorina	52
TWO-YEAR OLD BULLS.		
Captain Behren's Chiddingstone Victor	Mr Household	26
Mr J Colman's Galton Baron	Mr Glover	26
Mr J Cresswell's Hawford Boy 12th	Mr Household	23
Mr Dargue's Jabberwock	Mr Sidey	150
Mr T B Earle's Alboro' Augustus	Mr Maclennan	400
Viscount Enfield's Weston Gay Lad	Mr Maclennan	105
Mr A T Gordon's Lord of the Isle	Mr Maclennan	70
Mr C O Hall's Emperor of Oxford 15th	Mr Candy	50
Mr J Handley's Pearl Chief	Mr Sidey	100
Dr V Hurley's Lucan General	Mr Nelson	150
Messrs Halsam's Cyril The Knight	Mr Wylie	30
Mr C A Hirst's Sahara	Mr Davis	105
Mr J Kerr's Ilton Oxford 2nd	Mr Candy	50
Mr J Kerr's Lord Abbotsford	Mr Wilkinson	27
Messrs Law's Graceful Thistle	Mr Sidey	140
Mr J Lawson's Duke of Lune	Mr Nelson	50
Lord Lilford's Earl of Eglinton	Mr Candy	81
Mr F W Monckton's Warren Clipper	Mr Candy	23
Mr T S Roskrudge's Kilblair	Mr Savage	61
Mr W Snowball's Look Ahead	Mr Sidey	50
Mr J M. Strickland's Prince of Avon	Mr Nelson	150
Mr G J Wilson's Czarowitz	Mr Burton	28
Mr H Baker's Chidlow Challenger	Mr J Handley	320
Mr J Cresswell's Improver	Mr McCarthy	51
Mr J Handley's Rosedale Diamond	Mr Rogers	700
Mr S Hills' Hercules	Mr. Brownfield	23
Messrs Hobbs' Kelmscottian 24th	Mr Casaris	105
Mr J C Holford's Viscount Oxford 21st	Mr J Cooper	27
Mr W J Hosken's Hayle Yeoman	Mr Pena	100
Mr R W Hudson's Danefield General	Mr Reynolds	25
Mr F W Monckton's Warren Duke	Mr Avis	21
Mr J Swann's Dr Bates	Mr Nelson	40
Mr W H Rider's Cheddleton Beauty	Mr Dunmock	22
Exor. J Webb's Secret Wanderer	Mr McCarthy	83
Mr H Williams's Napoleon	Mr R Wright	190
Hon T Willoughby's Eccelin Arthur	Mr Wilkinson	46
YEARLING BULLS.		
Mr A D Acland's Eccelin Kirklevington 2nd	Mr J T Hobbs	31
Mr A F Bassey's Tehidy Irish Duke	Mr R Wright	23
Mr A F Busset's Tehidy Penynage	Mr R Wright	50
Mr A F Busset's Tehidy Portreath	Mr G Taylor	31
Capt C Behrens' Swinton Royal Fame	Mr Snow	23
Mr R Booth's Queen's Equerry	Mr Nelson	30
Mr J E Casswell's Laughton Rodes 5th	Dr Anchorina	40
Mr J A K Falconer's Wanderer's Charm	Lord Kesteven	30
Mr J. A K Falconer's Wanderer's Pride	Mr W H Bates	19
Mr A A Haley's Whitewall Royal George	Mr Thompson	30
Mr J Handley's Spicy Baron	Tiromé, Son, and Co	75
Dr V. Harley's Notlaw Sir	Mr. Hale	51
Mr G Harrison's Gainsford Prince Albert	Mr A Yeomans	100
Mr W J Hoskin's Hayle Viceroy	Mr R Wright	610
Messrs Midd and Moon's Shamrock 3rd	Mr Avis	27
Messrs Midd and Moon's Shylock	Mr Avis	28
Mr A F Nichol's Baron Augustus	Mr Avis	20
Mr A F Nichol's Baron Desmond	Mr Nelson	26
Mr J Preece's Duke of Barrington 9th	Tiromé, Son, and Co	155
Captain J S Reeve's Knight of Kesteven	Mr Jordan	250
Mr R R Rothwell's Lord Brilliant	Mr Rogers	1000
Mr W M Sott's Red Duke	Mr Burt	19
Mr T Stokes' Blue Blood	Dr Anchorina	105
Mr R Stratton's Roysterer	Mr Casares	80
Sir J Swinburne's Red Duke 2nd	Mr. Candy	37
Sir J Swinburne's Royal Emperor Oxford 19th	Mr Handyside	47
Mr H J S Tory's Damory Cavalier	Mr Handyside	43
Lieutenant Colonel Turner's Pinkey Marquis	Mr Appleyard	30
Hon T Willoughby's Hildersley Warrior	Mr. Candy	25
Mr T Winter's Lotherton Rosador	Mr Hall	66
Mr A C Brown's Chatley Boy	Mr Hobbs	21
Mr J A K Falconer's Silent Wanderer	Mr Garset	86
Mr G Harrison's Gainsford Speculator	Mr Rider	20
Mr J Lawson's Wesham Alto	Mr Emerson	35
Lord Middleton's Birdsall Braham	Mr McCarthy	40
Mr R R Rothwell's Misty Mantle	Mr FitzHerbert	27
Rev R Mitchinson's Barby	Mr J Thoday	24
COWS.		
Mr W J Hoskins' Lilac	Mr Cartwright	80
Mr W J Hoskins' heifer	Mr Cartwright	35
Mr J A Williams' Cluny Augusta	Mr Lee	37
TWO-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.		
Mr A A Haley's Whitewall Millicent	Mr Candy	50
Dr V Harley's Notlaw Beauty	Mr Candy	50
Mr W F Monckton's Warren Pansy	Mr Hobbs	19
Mr J A Preece's Waterloo Princess 39th	Dunstan, Fox, and Co.	51
Mr H Williams' Jessica	Dunstan, Fox, and Co.	51
Mr R Wood's Butterfly 9th	Mr Candy	95
YEARLING HEIFERS.		
Mr A F Basset's Tehidy Royal Dickson	Mr Candy	50
Mr A C Brown's Onyx	Mr Swann	20
Mr J Cresswell's Dewdrop	Mr Fitz-Herbert	41
Mr J Cresswell's Ruby	Mr Walter Ward	17
Captain Duncombe's Waresley Corona	Mr Fitz-Herbert	23
Captain Duncombe's Wild Duchess of Waresley	Mr Walter Ward	35



The three Shorthorn Yearling Heifers shown above are the property of Messrs. S. E. Dean & Sons, Dowsby Hall, Bourne, and will be included in the sale to be held on the 12th inst. These heifers, the names of which, reading from left to right, are Dowsby Sea Lady, Duchess 150th, and Dowsby Waterloo, are by the noted bull Imperial Favourite, which was sold in the Argentine Republic for £1,045.

Messrs Dyke's Duchess of Barrington 59th
Mr Villatte 210
Mr A A Haley's Whitewall Buttercup
Mr Candy 52
Mr A A Haley's Whitewall Emma 2nd
Mr Earle 110
Mr A A Haley's Whitewall Millicent 2nd
Mr Candy 120
Mr A C Hall's Rollwright Seraphina
Mr Fitz-Herbert 71
Dr V Harley's Notlaw Gold Mr Candy 51
Dr V Harley's Notlaw Sunflower 2nd
Mr Candy 25
Captain Harrison's Aldersham Kitty 4th
Mr Knowles 50
Mr W J Hoskins's Hayle Gwynne
Mr G Harrison 200
Captain J S Reeve's Tulip 6th
Mr Fitz-Herbert 25
Mr T S Roskrudge's Roan Ruth
Mr Fitz-Herbert 34
Mr R Rostern's Orphan Queen
Mr Fitz-Herbert 41
Sir A C Stepney's Lady Faithful 3rd
Mr Walter Ward 39
Mr H J S Tory's Damory Maud 3rd
Mr Walter Ward 29
Mr H Williams's Perdita Mr Candy 60
Hon T Willoughby's Lady Milona 5th
Mr FitzHerbert 39

DAIRY COW.

Mr T S Roskrudge's Carnation
Viscount Southwell 34

The demand experienced for the other breeds of cattle also sold by Messrs J Thornton and Co. was not so large as that for the Shorthorns, but it was better than in the previous year's, for there were more of the animals bid for close up to the reserve prices. Two Highland heifers Lunette, from Mr W Sopper's, and Maud of Dunmaylun from the same breeder to the Hon C B Portman, at 16 and 18 guineas respectively. The Red Polled Ashlyn's Ben, from Sir R Cooper's herd, went to Mr Raby at 28 guineas. The same buyer took the Devon Bull Emperor at 25 guineas, the Lincoln Red bull, from Mr. G Marris, Kirrington Twin at 28 guineas, to Mr C Lamb; Digbey Herald, Mr P F Brown's, to Sir J Robinson at 27 guineas; and Mr T Turner's Harpswell's Baron was sold at 25 guineas. Mr R Chatterton gave 28 guineas for Mr Todd's Kirkby Bellows 2nd. Two Kerries were sold, Mr Cory's bull Llantarnam Lackey to Mr Rabey at 13½ guineas, and the same buyer gave 9½ guineas for the Duchess of Newcastle's Hardwick Julius.

Messrs. Dean and Sons' Shorthorns and Lincoln Sheep.

On Friday, the 12th inst, a choice selection of pure bred Shorthorn cattle and Lincoln Longwoolled sheep belonging to Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons, Dowsby Hall, Bourne, and Heath House, Nocton, Lincoln, will be offered for sale by auction at Heath House, and seeing the high class quality of both herd and flock a large attendance of buyers may be anticipated.

Messrs. J. H. and A. W. Dean, who farm about 4,500 acres in South Lincolnshire, in 1887 purchased a few pure bred Shorthorns of Bates blood, including Wild Eyes J and K of the Wild Eyes tribe, at Mr. Ellis's sale, near Guildford, in Surrey. Other purchases, principally of Bates blood, followed from the Marquis of Exeter at Burghley Park, Mr. J. H. Casswell, Mr. C. R. Lynn, of Stroxton, and other breeders. A large herd of Lincolnshire Red cattle was also kept, but these were dispersed at Mere, in April, 1905.

Among the earliest sires used was Mr. C. R. Lynn's fine red bull Cambridge Duke 30th 60441 of the Red Rose tribe; he was followed by Dowsby Waterloo Duke 66918, bred by the late Mr. Jonas Webb, of Melton Ross, from whom was purchased several fine females of the Duchess and Waterloo tribes, as well as some choice animals from Mr. H. Dudding's extensive herd at Riby. Recourse was then made to the Aberdeenshire herds, from the late Mr. W. S. Marr, of Uppermill, the fine red bull Virtuoso 69763 was bought; he was by Mr. Duthie's Pride of Morning, from Princess Royal 39th by William of Orange, and left remarkably good stock, some of the cows for sale being by this sire, who was followed by Baron 82777 of the Broadhooks tribe, bred by Lord Lovat. Jack Scott, 86255 brought in the Bates and Knightley blood, and was descended from the late Mr. J. S. Bult's Berthas, a fine old Knightley tribe, which has produced several Smithfield prize winners: he and his son Dowsby Northern Light 91508 and Dowsby Royalist 91509 were also used.

In 1903, the celebrated bull Imperial Favourite 86233 was purchased at Mr. Marr's sale when a calf of eight months old for 600 guineas; he was by Mr. J. Deane Willis's Bapton Favourite from Princess Royal 36th by William of Orange. Imperial Favourite, after winning a number of prizes and leaving very fine stock (his sons now being in service), was exported to Buenos Ayres, where he was sold for a large sum, equivalent to 1,000 guineas. At the Perth sale last year Lord Lovat's Baron Broadhooks 90785 by Master Millicent from a daughter of Rose of Underley 2nd was purchased for 700 guineas; many of the cows and heifers are in calf to him or to Dowsby Imperial Duke and other sons of Imperial Favourite.

The herd has been bred with a view to milk as well as to type and flesh; the animals are in excellent condition and in a good breeding state, the large number of fine red two-year-old and yearling heifers and bulls being particularly well worthy of notice.

After the Shorthorns, about 100 shearling rams and gimmers from the celebrated flock of Lincoln Long Wools, which is bred from pure strains, and been successfully exhibited at the Royal, County, and Smithfield Shows, will be offered.



Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

HALF the year is over, and pretty nearly half the show season, for the Royal Agricultural Society's gathering may fairly be said to mark the middle of the summer show season. July and August are busy months, as the two preceding months are, but though there are a few important shows in September, they are only a few after all. So that it seems a fitting time to take a look round and see what our position is as a horse breeding nation. I think it may fairly be urged that the various horse shows of the country throw a strong light upon our progress or decline, and it is to them that I would turn for evidence on this occasion.

IN the first place, I think we may reasonably claim to have made considerable progress in Hunter breeding in recent years. Let us take any important show that has been held during the last two months and we shall find that excellent classes of brood mares and young stock have been shown, and that in the majority of instances both numbers and quality are an improvement on what was seen a very few years ago. At the Royal Show last week there were two famous classes of brood mares, and one strong class after another of high class and promising young Hunters. Now, Hunters have never made a very prominent feature of the Royal Show except when it has been held in Yorkshire or within close touch of the county, until the last two years at Derby and Lincoln and the increase of over 33 per cent. of this year's entry conveys to me the idea that we are breeding more Hunters and better Hunters.

THAT we are breeding and have been breeding better Hunters for the last three years is, I think, pretty evident from the class of horses we see in the riding classes. Slowly, but none the less surely, the standard of the show Hunter has been changed. If we take the weight carrier of say ten or fifteen years of age, by which I do not mean an odd horse or two that stood right out by themselves, but the rank and file of the 14 and 15 stone classes, and compare them with the rank and file of the 14 stone classes of to-day, we shall find that the latter are far more like carrying a man to hounds, that they show much more quality, and they gallop in a much better style. Overgrowth and clumsiness, which some theorists seemed to think were indispensable in a horse that had to carry fifteen or sixteen stone to hounds, has disappeared from the show ring. It has also disappeared to a considerable extent in the hunting field.

NOW let us see how this very desirable state of things has been brought about. Or rather, let us see first how it has not been brought about. It has not been brought about by the half-bred sire, for though we have heard a great deal of the half-bred sire and the good that he was going to accomplish for the last quarter of a century, there are too few of him to have had any distinguishable effect upon breeding, so that we may, I think, fairly claim that it is by an increased interest in breeding and by a more intelligent use of the materials to hand that the improvement has come about. Especially do I think that more attention has been devoted to the brood mares, and the improvement in the class of brood mares is one of the most encouraging signs of the day.

WHEN we come to Hackneys, however, our surroundings appear scarcely so satisfactory. At many district shows where the Hackney classes used to be well filled there is a very moderate show indeed, three or four being found in classes which a few years ago would have numbered their entries in double figures at the least. In many districts the Yorkshire farmers have said that it does not pay to breed Hackneys now, and that they have given up breeding them, and no doubt fewer Hackneys are bred now than were bred a very few years ago. Indeed, I do not think it an exaggeration to say that the falling off in Hackney breeding is quite 25 per cent.

BUT, as I pointed out, when speaking of the recent International Horse Show at Olympia, there is plenty of demand for high-class Hackneys, and probably such good prices were never realised as can now be obtained for the very best. So the motor car is not driving the Hackney off the roads as some of my Yorkshire friends would have us believe. I hold that the falling off in Hackney breeding is more apparent than real. For a very few years ago there was such a boom in Hackneys that many men mated their mares with a Hackney sire, no matter whether they were adapted for breeding Hackneys or not. They seemed to have an idea that if only they had foal by a Hackney sire they were on the high road to wealth. For this there was perhaps some little justification, for some very curiously bred ones realised handsome prices. But in every breed an occasional chance-bred horse turns out a wonder, which is no reason why indiscriminate and unscientific modes of crossing should be adopted. Many men took to breeding Hackneys who knew little of horses but thought they could judge a Hackney by his action. The consequence was that a lot of very moderate horses were bred, and when the boom came to an end, as all booms do sooner or later, there were a lot of horses for which no profitable market could be found. Those men who were careful in selecting and mating their mares had no reason to regret having undertaken Hackney breeding, as the full classes at Olympia, Richmond, and other places show. But when any industry has been overdone the reaction is inevitable.

THE same remarks apply to Cleveland Bays and Yorkshire Coach horses as to Hackneys. There was a boom, much indiscriminate breed from indifferent mares and a deplorable selling of good mares out of the country. There came a time when a moderate horse could not be sold, and half-hearted breeders, instead of improving their methods gave up in disgust. But those who kept the good old mares and bred carefully have had no reason to regret their enterprise. Such horses as Mr. John Letts' Special Light, Mr. H. C. Stephens' Cholderton Silkstone, Mr. G. Scoby's Rookbarugh, Mr. Stericker's Breaston Prince, Mr. Elder's Aislaby Warrior, and Mr. Grandage's Woodland May will always find a market at a remunerative price.

I MENTIONED above that some men were tempted to enter into Hackney breeding because though they were not horsemen in the best sense of the word, and did not know much about breeding light horses, they thought they could tell a Hackney and judge of his action. My experience tells me that there is nothing so difficult to form an accurate opinion about as the action of the Hackney. All Hackneys go—we know that, but how! Many of them move as they ought to do. It requires a trained eye to tell when a Hackney is using all his joints properly and in unison as it were. A horse may move in a very showy way, but there may be some fault in the way he puts his foot down or in the way he flexes his hocks—trivial enough it may appear to be—but that comes out in accentuated form in his stock. Opinions are very freely given as to the relative merits of the action of horses, but judges know how difficult it is to tell it.

A WORD remains to say about our heavy horses. I think no one who has watched the classes of heavy horses at the principal shows this year can come to any other conclusion than that the improvement in heavy horse breeding which has been so marked in recent years is being well maintained. Shires, Clydesdales, and Suffolks, are very different to what they were twenty, aye or even ten years ago, and the young ones this year look like keeping up the present high standard.

BUT though the situation taken all round is a satisfactory one, it by no means follows that there is not room for further improvement. There ought to be fewer second-rate horses of all breeds than there are, and our breeders must see to it that they keep progressing. Standing still in horse breeding, as in so many things, means going back.

THE LOOKER-ON.



Notes and Jottings.

THE attendance at the Sheep Breeders' Conference was a very representative one. Upwards of forty breeders were present, representing North and South America, Argentine, Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand, besides our home flocks.

SUCH gatherings as these are of interest, and, we believe, of value. They afford opportunity for an interchange of opinion that seldom occurs elsewhere, and if the suggestion made by Mr. A. Amos is found to be a practical one—namely, for future conferences to be followed by a dinner—it is more than probable the value of these meetings would be still further increased, because after what may be termed the formal business has been got over and the ice broken, the interchange of experience and ideas would come more readily and with greater freedom.

THE paper itself was of great interest. But the two most striking features were the generous admission of the great value of British stud sheep, and the firm and striking expression of opinion by the writer of the paper that the closing of the British ports to Argentine live sheep was one of the greatest benefits the Argentine estanciero and his country could have had.

THIS admission of an Argentine breeder is of immense importance to the live stock breeders of this country, because it proves that not only are they supported in their position, but that one of those countries which were to be particularly hard hit by the stoppage of this trade is stated to have been benefited to so large an extent by one of its leading live stock authorities.

THE North Americans present, both Mr. McKerrow and Mr. Wing, were emphatic in their opinion that the North American competition in our mutton market was not likely to be of serious character, the tenor of their remarks being all the other way. The interesting and valuable speech of Mr. Burbury from Tasmania was quite one of the best given during the discussion. This gentleman was particularly strong in his denunciation of the continued existence of sheep scab, and he pointed out that it was this disease, and this alone, that kept the period of quarantine at its present length in the Australian colonies. It is well that this point should be well emphasised, especially at the present time, for it proves we or those who are stud sheep breeders have good ground in asking for the stringent measures being taken at the present time to be continued until success be secured.

THE discussion on this question of sheep scab was of interest, because it showed that, whilst there was every desire on the part of the flockmasters present to do all they could to see full benefit was obtained, in some directions there was need of alteration in the present form of administration.

THIS point was alluded to by several speakers. A gentleman from Wales suggested rigorous inspection by the officials of the Board of Agriculture. Others, including several closely interested in administering the present regulations, suggested that every effort should be made to carry out the regulations, and any suggestion for improvement should be made known to the Board of Agriculture, who were, as stated by Mr. S. Kidner, only too desirous to secure all information possible, and determined to do their best to frame for future use the most complete regulation that time and experience could give.

FLOCKMASTERS are reminded it is no use to grumble and growl and do no more. What is wanted, and what should in every case be done, is for any that find the present regulation working to the detriment of their business to let those who are responsible for the framing of the regulation and who control its working to be put into full possession of the result of their practical experience and observation.

TIME after time we have been told that the export demand for sheep will not continue, but if we may judge from the emphatic language used by Mr. Burbury particularly, there does not appear much likelihood of this being the case. This breeder, as did also both M. McKerrow and Mr. Wing, distinctly indicated that the need of continued importation was paramount. It was said that, so far as regards the present, there was no indication other than that renewal of blood from the fountain head was an essential.

ONE speaker said why sheep in this country did not—as they did in other countries—tend to revert to the species from which they were originally evolved, could only be accounted for by reason of the close care and attention given them by the English flockmaster. This was a compliment to the English breeder, and one well deserved, for no one who has any connection with our live stock interests can but acknowledge the kindness and care these breeders exercise in their flock management.

THE perfected specimens of the present day, those to which full reference is made in our report of the Royal Show, are a striking example; and those amongst the older breeders who can remember away back to the previous Royal Show at Lincoln, and others, too, can realise how rapidly has this close attention of breeders borne fruit and brought to them and their successors of the present time an income far greater than many of other classes of live stock enjoy.

THE showyard report gives full details of the keen contests witnessed in all the classes of the sheep section. The Lincoln was represented by an entry unequalled at any previous show in respect to both its merit and number. It will be years, probably, before another such an entry of this breed is seen at the Royal Show. It is not often the Royal comes so close to the general run of Lincoln sheep breeders, and it is satisfactory to note full advantage was taken of the opportunity.

ROMNEY MARSH breed was also very largely represented, and made, considering its distance from home, a notable entry of great merit. The Down breeds, most of which were a considerable distance from home, were represented in good numbers and grand quality; in fact, after an experience of well over thirty years the writer can safely affirm that at few, if any, previous Royal Shows has there been an entry of so generally good merit and even character



The three Lincoln Long Wool Shearling Ewes shown above were bred by and are the property of Messrs. S. E. Dean & Sons, Dowsby Hall, Bourne, who will include them in their sale on the 12th inst. These ewes won First Prize and Championship at Otley Show last year, and First at both the Newark and Leicestershire Shows.

SHEEP SALES AT THE ROYAL SHOW.

The demand experienced for the Lincoln sheep offered was a disappointing one, but when the quality of the animals offered was looked to, the prices made were not so much to grumble at. The number sold was sixteen, all yearling rams, and the average made was to £10 12s 9d, Mr G Morris 18 guineas, the top price of the sale from Mr A A Haley's lot of three that averaged £14 10s 6d. Mr C Featherstone for the same number averaged £13 12s, top price 17 guineas to Mr W H Robinson. Three of Mr J W Letts averaged £10 13s 6d, two from Mr H Smith, junr., 10 guineas, two from Messrs Hensman £6 13s 10d, and Major General Wilson £6 11s 3d. Mr H Smith's ewes average 5½ guineas each. Messrs Mansell and Co found a very excellent demand for the Down breeds, Buyers came from a wide area, including Canada,

United States, the Continent, Chili, Uruguay, New Zealand, Tasmania, Australia, and many of the leading flocks at home, quite a number going over to the Isle of Man. The Shropshires sold at an excellent run of prices, the forty-one yearling rams making an average of £30 3s 3d, the three yearling ewes £21 14s, and the ewe lambs £9 19s 6d, giving a general average for the whole sale of £27 4s 8d for fifty head. The top average was Mr T S Minton, who sold two at 80 and 50 guineas, both kept in England. Sir Richard Cooper's seven came out with an average of £53 8s, 100 guineas the top price went to Mr C Coxom, Messrs D Fox and Co, Chili, gave 65 guineas for another, and others 43 and 41 guineas, &c The Duke of Sutherland for three averaged £40 5s, Mr Cox taking one to Canada at 70 guineas; Mr T A Buttars six averaged £37 9s, 61 guineas, the top priced ram, going to Mrs Inge; another at 50 guineas went to Mr Victor Cavendish. This breeder's average for six was £23, his best price was 60 guineas to Mr J T Cole. Sir W O Corbet's three made £21 each; Mr E Nock's three £15 1s; Mr A S Berry's five 14 guineas; Mrs Inge's two £16 10s, &c. For yearling ewes Mr Victor Cavendish made 22 guineas, the top price, to Thornton and Co. for export; Mr R Miller from Canada took the six ewe lambs, three at 10 guineas and three at 9 guineas. The Hampshires sold well, six two-shear rams making an average of £12 17s 6d.

Mr H C Stephen's made top price, 20 guineas, to Mr Cavan, of Canada, five yearling rams of this breed were sold, the top price paid was 55 guineas for one of Mr H C Stephen's, purchased by Dunstan Fox and Co for Chili. The ram lambs were not in strong demand; seven were sold at £6, Sir W G. Pearce sold six yearling ewes which averaged £15 6s 3d, Mr Cavan taking four to Canada, and Dunstan Fox and Co. two to Chili. A two shear ram of the Suffolk breed made 8 guineas, and one of the Ryeland breed 6 guineas.

WOOL FAIRS AND SALES.

Bury St. Edmunds.

At Bury St. Edmunds annual wool sale 24,000 fleeces were offered in the presence of a large company representing the principal manufacturing districts. The wool was shown in improved condition, but as compared with last year's high rates, there was a decline in value of from 1½d. to 1d. per pound in Southdown wool, and in unwashed wool the decrease was from 2d. to 1½d. The top price was 13½d. per pound for Southdown wool from Earl Cadogan's home farm at Culford. The next best figure was 13½d for hogged wool consigned by the Duke of Grafton from his home farm. Other Southdown parcels sold at from 13d. to 12¾d. Black-faced hogged wool from Earl Cadogan's Neville Farm made 12¼d., as did similar quality from the Marquis of Bristol and Lord Cranworth, other rates ranging down to 11½d. per pound. Half-bred hogget wool fetched from 12½d. to 11⅜d For unwashed wool 8½d. to 8d. was the general price, but some went up to 9¼d.

Ipswich.

At the annual wool sale at Ipswich, 45,000 fleeces were offered, and the prices, taken all round, were not quite so good as in 1906 and 1905, but better than in 1904. The best rates for washed wool came out at 13½d. for Southdown hogget, and the same figure was reached for Southdown ewe. Blackfaced hogget ranged from 8d. to 12¾d., and Blackfaced ewe from 7½d. to 12½d. Half-bred hogget made 9¾d. to 12½d., and half-bred ewe from 11½d. to 12¼d. For the unwashed wool the lowest point touched was 7½d., and the highest 12¾d.

The top price of the sale was shared by Mr. E. G. Pretyman, Sir Thos. Gooch, Bart., and Mr. J. Taylor, for Southdown hogget, and Mr. W. E. Long for Southdown ewe—namely, 13½d., which was exactly 2d. less per lb. than the best price last year.

Sleaford.

At Sleaford wool fair about 7,000 fleeces were offered. Competition was not quite so keen as last year, but prices came up to about what flockmasters expected. The top price was 1s. per lb. for clip which contained about two-thirds half-bred hogg fleeces. Other lots of Lincoln Longwool, containing about half hogg and half ewe fleeces, realised from 11½d. to 11⅜d. per lb.

Glasgow.

The first of the season's sales of Scottish wool at Glasgow took place last week with Blackfaced and sundries. Owing to the continued wet and cold weather the quantities of these classes were much under the average, and there was only a small attendance of buyers. Little actual business was done in Blackfaced wool, the general uncertainty as to the course of the English wool fairs preventing competition, and with the exception of a few inferior lots at 8¾d. to 8⅞d. per lb., no wool was sold publicly. Sundries were cleared out, but the bidding was slow.

Chepstow.

Chepstow Wool Fair was held on the 22nd ult., when only a small quantity was brought in. Southdowns made 11½d., cross-breds 11d., lambs' wool 8d., Welsh and Radnor 9d. per lb. These prices represent a drop of 3d. as compared with last year.

Leicester.

At Leicester wool fair held on Tuesday over 60,000 fleeces changed hands. The new crop was in better condition than had been anticipated, and competition ruled fairly active all round, but fine good-conditioned cross-breds and the best short wools were most in favour, and evoked spirited bidding.

The following were representative transactions: Highest price, 12⅝d., for very finely grown half-hogg and ewe Shropshire; Shropshire and half-bred hogg and ewe, 12⅜d.; half-bred hogg, 11⅝d.; unwashed half-bred hogg, 8⅜d.; black-faced hogg, 12⅛d.; good Shropshire hogg, 12¼d.; half-bred Hampshire hogg and cross-bred ewe, 11¼d.; long-wool hogg and ewe, unwashed, 11¼d.; cross-bred hogg, 12⅛d.; Scotch hogg and ewe, 8d.; cross-bred and Cheviot ewe, 10⅜d.; Masham ewe, 8½d.; unwashed cross-bred ewe, 8⅜d.; long-wool hogg and ewe, 10⅝d.; Oxford hogg and ewe, 12¼d.; very good long-wool, 11⅜d. per lb. The bulk of the wool changed hands at these rates, which are from 2d. to 2½d. per lb. less than last year. Choice clips made 28s. 6d. to 30s. per tod of 28lb., good lots 27s to 28s., medium 26s. to 26s. 6d., and unwashed 20s. to 22s.

Bury St. Edmunds Lamb Sale.

At this event held on Wednesday about 2,500 lambs and ewes, amongst which were 1,100 Suffolk ewe and wether lambs, 800 half-bred lambs, 200 Southdown lambs, and 150 ewes, from well-known breeders in the district, were offered and met a good trade. Suffolk lambs made up to 49s, this, together with 48s. 6d., being, however, exceptional prices, the general range being from 25s. to 42s. First-class lambs made from 33s. 6d. to 37s. 6d., Southdowns up to 35s. 6d., and half breds from 25s. to 36s. 6d.

Sheep Breeding in the Argentine.

The Royal Show invariably attracts sheep-breeders from all parts of the world, and the National Sheep Breeders' Association is wise in improving the occasion by holding a conference at which the world's flockmasters can compare their views. At Lincoln last week a paper was read by Mr. Herbert Gibson, of Buenos Ayres, on the position of the industry in the Argentine. In his opinion the present outlook for sheep-breeding in Argentina is more favourable than ever it was before. The present market value of wool and mutton is remunerative. Large sums of money have been expended on the improvement of the flocks. The plough has sweetened the old lands, and the sheep are returning to them. The great pastoral country to the south and to the west is being opened up. Patagonia the mysterious is becoming Patagonia the sheep country. The sheep capital of the country is once more on the increase.

A factor not yet recognised, but which is leading to the appreciation of live stock value in Argentina, is the increasing demand for local consumption. We have now an agricultural population which consumes meat and does not produce it. The Argentine people are a meat-eating people. There has of late been much comment by statisticians upon the limitation of live stock available for export in the shape of frozen or chilled meat, and they have pointed to a presumable decrease in our capital as the cause. It is not so. We are not producing less; we are consuming more. This information may convey a crumb of comfort to the home breeder.

At no time has the prospect of sheepbreeding—by which is meant the production of wool and mutton as distinct from the speculative value of a given breed enjoying popularity—been more encouraging than at present. Man has made many inventions, but though he has attained the art of manufacturing a hen's egg, and may succeed in hatching therefrom a chicken with cellulose feathers and a liver of sawdust, he has not yet discovered a substitution for sheep's wool. It is the value of the fleece that grows on the sheep's back which entitles it to claim the first place in all sections of rural industry. Through times of depression it is the fleece that has paid the rent and kept the wolf from the door, and when times have bettered, it is the fleece that has constituted the most positive part of the flockmaster's revenue.

A meeting of the directors of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture will be held at 5, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, on Wednesday next, at 10 o'clock a.m., the business being as follows: (1) Arrangements for autumn conference with President of the Board of Agriculture; (2) evasions of the Ground Game Act; (3) sheep stock valuation; (4) expenses of successful defenders in milk prosecutions; (5) Friars Courts and prices; (6) letter from Sir T. H. Elliott regarding Lord Carrington's visit to Highland Society's Show, &c.

PIGS.

PIG SALES AT THE ROYAL SHOW

For the Large White breed the demand was not good, or the reserves were higher than the buyers were prepared to pay, for none were sold.

The Middle Whites met with a good demand, twelve making an average of 11 guineas, the whole were purchased for South America, 14½ guineas was top price for yelts, and 13 guineas for boars.

Tamworths did not sell readily, the sows making an average of £3 12s.

There was a keen demand for Berkshires, twenty selling at an average of £15 2s. Boars made up to 53 guineas, paid by Mr E Stathe for South America, Lord Manvers giving 45 guineas for another, Mr J D Errecaborde 30 guineas for South America, and Mr Currie 25 guineas for Hampshire. The top-priced sow also went to South America at 23 guineas.

Sixteen Large Black pigs were sold at £11 6s 11d, the best prices were 20 guineas for boars, 11½ guineas for sows, and 12 guineas for yelts. A similar number of Lincolnshire Curly-coated pigs were sold, 52 guineas being paid by Mr Walter Ward for the first prize boar for service in his herd, another for export to Argentine; the top price for sows was 10 guineas.

Transactions in Store Stock.

(*Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.*)

At Clifton Fair, co. Galway, on Tuesday, there was a small supply, consisting almost entirely of Polled cattle. There was a good attendance of buyers, and demand brisk, especially for heifers, and a good clearance was effected at prices favouring sellers. Calves, 3rd class, £2 7s. 6d. to £3; yearlings, 2nd class, £6 5s. to £7; 3rd class, £4 10s. to £5 5s.; two-year-olds, 2nd class, £8 12s. 6d. to £9 10s; 3rd class, £6 10s. to £7 12s. 6d.; three-year-olds, 2nd class, £10 10s.; 3rd class, £8 to £10 5s.; springers, 3rd class, £7 10s. to £8 15s.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

Account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended June 22, 1907, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year (the figures for 1906 are in parentheses):—

Animals, living:—Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves (8,679) 12,713; sheep and lambs (808), 140; horses (361), 472.

Fresh meat:—Beef (111,626 cwt.), 120,396; mutton (106,184), 93,144; pork (3,918), 5,846.

Salted or preserved meat:—Bacon (85,451 cwt.), 129,431; beef (3,338), 3,383; hams (29,256), 32,752; pork (3,662), 5,361; meat (15,154), fresh, 10,781; salted, 1,205; meat, preserved (9,202), 2,820.

Dairy produce and substitutes:—Butter (104,812 cwt.), 83,459; margarine (17,484) 14,317; cheese (66,587), 60,188; milk, cream (135), 112; milk, condensed (19,624), 16,790; milk, preserved (75), 173.

Eggs (great hundreds):—(398,800), 497,012; poultry (value £2,624), £6,778; game (value £1,025), £12; rabbits, dead (not tinned) (4,680 cwt.), 1,415; lard (42,284 cwt.), 54,367.

Corn, grain, meal, and flour:—Wheat (2,803,800 cwt.), 3,220,849; wheat meal and flour (275,770), 290,085; barley (158,700), 45,600; oats (464,000) 253,904; peas (26,550), 20,530; beans (370), 1,750; maize or Indian corn (1,104,700), 673,976.

Fruit (raw):—Apples (8,825 cwt.), 17,793; cherries (32,847 cwt.), 23,109; gooseberries (5,765 cwt.), 8,177; strawberries (9,041), 8,548.

Hay (3,783 tons), 1,710; straw (1,754), 1,087; moss litter (1,268), 1,610; hops (641 cwt.), 854; locust beans (22,894), 11,737.

Vegetables (raw):—Onions (28,959 bshl.), 60,226; potatoes (458,137 cwt.), 661,165; tomatoes (7,207 cwt.), 31,834.

The Board of Agriculture consider it desirable, in view of the unsettled character of the weather, and of the consequent difficulty in securing the hay crop, to draw the attention of farmers and others to the system of ensilage as a means of conserving crops of grass and clover. Copies of Leaflet No. 9, which describes this process, may be obtained post free and free of charge upon application to the Secretary, Board of Agriculture, 4, Whitehall Place, London, S.W. Letters of application so addressed need not be stamped.

According to a note in the *Chemical Trade Journal*, the trade in fertilisers in India is continually expanding. Colombo firms are said to be stocking artificial manures—basic slag, bone meal, sulphate of ammonia, nitrate of soda, sulphate of potash, dissolved guano, muriate of potash, fish guano, kainit, nitrate of soda, &c.

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

**** The charge for Advertisements (if set in small type) under classified headings in this section is one penny per word each insertion.*

HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes also massive sound Stallions to let for the season.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Hereford. Stud Horses: Lockinge Lord of Misrule and Lockinge Bonny Lad, both by Lockinge Forester, full brother to Lockinge Forest King. Colts and Fillies for Sale.

MUNTZ, FREDERICK ERNEST, Umberslade, Hockley Heath, Warwickshire. Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, prize-winners.—Particulars from Mr. JOHN T. B. HARTLEY, Estate Office.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby. — SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners, on Sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

ROWELL, JOHN, Bury, Huntingdon. Breeder Shires and Hackneys; Stallions for sale, hire, or service at home; mares and fillies for sale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

SHETLAND PONIES.

BEALE, Mrs. A. J., Cacketts, Cudham, Kent. Prize-bred Pedigree Shetlands for sale; three grand Stallions at stud.

PONIES.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

PREECE, JOHN ADNEY, Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston, Northampton.—Herd of 250 Shorthorns, best Bates and Scotch blood; stock Bulls, Duke of Barrington 70th, Primrose Earl 89341, and Royal Baron 93192; Bulls and Heifers for sale.

ROTHWELL, R. R, Much Hoole, near Preston. Pedigree Shorthorns, chiefly Scotch blood. Stock bull Strowan Marquis 13th, winner of many prizes. Young bulls and heifers always on sale.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

TAYLOR, GEORGE, Cranford, Middlesex.—Bates' Shorthorns, deep milkers. Winners Milking Competitions, London Dairy Show, 1905-6. Bull Calves for Sale. Stock Bulls: Beau Fabreur, Drumcree, Rowbury, and Kirkcharm.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

SUSSEX.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath, Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Sussex Cattle (descended from the oldest and best strains of blood), unrivalled for their early maturity, the production of the best beef and working oxen, and ability to thrive in all weathers on the roughest fare. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for Sale.

HEREFORDS.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for Sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

PULLEY, CHARLES THORNTON, Lower Eaton, Hereford.—Noted prize-winning herd of HEREFORD CATTLE. First prize Royal winners, Protector 19660, 1900; Eaton Champion 21351, 1903; and Ashleaf 3rd, 1905. This herd is headed by Eaton Champion and Glendower 2nd 22196, also a Royal winner. Bulls and Heifers for sale. Also prize-winning Shropshire Sheep.—Apply Mr. HEDLEY JONES, Lower Eaton Estate Office, Hereford.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1960. This herd has in 1904 1905 and 1906 won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by Endale, Bago Protector, and Fusilier. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited. —Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford Herefordshire.

CATTLE—*continued.*

HEREFORDS—*continued.*

TAYLOR, HENRY, WILLIAM, Showle Court, Ledbury (Railway Station, Stoke Edith; Telegrams, Tarrington).—HEREFORD CATTLE.—Young bulls and heifers for sale. This herd has won hundreds of prizes. RYELAND SHEEP.—Kept pure for 60 years, no older flock in existence.

DEVONS.

BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton Williton, Taunton, Breeder of Pedigree Devon Cattle. A speciality for large size, with quality and robust constitutions; colour dark red. Sent to all parts of the world. Prices moderate.

SOUTH DEVONS.

ROWE, F. W., Trevego Lostwithiel, Cornwall. Breeder of pure-bred South Devon Cattle of best and purest strains of blood. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for inspection and sale.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

BRIDGES, J. H.—This old established herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle of the leading families can be seen at Langshott Home Farm, Horley, Surrey (near Horley Station, L.B. & S.C.R.), and catalogues obtained on application to Mr. Albert Pulling.

For Sale.

PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.

Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.

GEORGE HOYLES,
Skidby Manor, near Hull.

HURSLEY PARK HERD OF ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE, the property of Sir George Cooper, Bart., comprising Erica, Pride, Miss Burgess, Lady Ida, Matilda, Jemima of Morich families. Prizes won during 1906: 7 firsts, 3 seconds, 3 reserves, 1 challenge cup, 2 silver medals, 3 reserve champions. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.—Catalogues on application to V. F. Leese, Estate Office, Hursley Park, Winchester.

AYRSHIRES.

WALLACE, JAMES, J.P., Auchenbainzie, Thornhill, Dumfriesshire, Scotland. Breeder of pedigree prize-winning Ayrshire Cattle; hardy, healthy, good milkers; bred for dairy purposes, beauty and style. Bulls and Heifers for sale.

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably, from his prize-winning herd of Red Polls, Bulls, Cows, Heifers, from good milkers.—Apply C. F. STEBBING Letton, Thetford.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

CARY-ELWES, V., Billing Hall, Northampton. Breeder of Jersey cattle.

JERSEYS and pure Alderney, Guernseys, fresh calved and near calving. Prices, particulars.—WHEADON, Ilminster.

MERTON GRANGE GUERNSEYS.—Property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. This Herd contains Champion Bull Royal Counties, Portsmouth, and Champion Cow Royal Derby, 1906. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of best Breeding for Sale.—Telegrams and particulars, W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay.

STERN, Sir E. D., Fan Court, Chertsey, Surrey. Herd of pedigree Jersey Cattle. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

TICHBORNE PARK, GUERNSEY.—Yearling Bulls and Heifers for sale.—Apply, D. MICHIE, Estate Office, Tichborne, Alresford, Hants.

GALLOWAYS.

GRAHAM, ROBERT, Auchengassel, Twynholm, breeder fashionable Galloway Cattle, winners at Royal and Highland Societies Shows. Pedigree Bulls, Cows, and Heifers, also Blue-greys for feeding, for sale. Commissions carefully executed.

KERRIES & DEXTERS.

THE DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE'S PRIZE-WINNING DEXTER HERD.—During 1904 and 1905 this Herd won more prizes than any other three Dexter Herds combined, including both first and second milking prizes Royal, 1905, and first London Dairy Show, 1906. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers generally for Sale.—CHILD, Compton Place, Eastbourne.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

RATTRAY, DAVID, Gortnaskehy, Ballybunion, Co. Kerry. Pedigree Prize-winning Herd of Kerries and Dexters. 156 Prizes and Honours won by Cattle from this Herd past three years. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONG WOOL.

ANDERSON, John, Barton-on-Humber.—The old Barton Flock of Pure-bred LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP, Flock Book 106. This flock is noted for hard constitutions and fine, lustrous wool. Inspection invited. Telegrams as above.

ATKINSON, T., & SON, North Kelsey, Lincoln. Old-established flock of pure Lincoln Longwools. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Noted for great size and long lustrous wool. Have given great satisfaction at home and abroad. Inspection invited.

BROOKS, W. J., Stowe Lodge, Weedon, Northants (Registered Flock 165), has for sale Rams and Ewes of best blood.

DRAKES, Wm., Tealby, Market Rasen. Flock No. 72 of Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs of best blood for sale. Lincoln Red Shorthorns. Prices moderate.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

GEORGE HOYLES,
SKIDBY MANOR, HULL.

Breeder of Pure Lincoln Long Wool Sheep. Lustrous Fleeces. Good Constitutions.

SUITABLE FOR HOME AND ABROAD. STOCK FOR SALE.

SMITH, HENRY, jun, Cropwell Butler, Nottingham. Lincoln Longwool Flock No. 7, winner of £2,361 in prizes. Champion pen Lincolns, Smithfield Show, 1896; Association Championship, Leicester, 1897; Association Championship for pen of 3 Shearling Rams, Yorkshire, 1900; Championship, Rutland, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, and 1906. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1907.—Extraordinary records: Twin ram lambs let for 205 and 120 guineas. Ninety averaged £21 10s. Selections always for Sale.

JUDD, George, Cocum, Barton Stacey, Hants.—Pure bred, Hampshire Downs, over 1000 Ewes. Annual Sale, Ram Lambs, August 8th, 1907. Registered, Vol. 1, page 17.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. The Cholderton flock is individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded in the Hampshire Down Flock Book. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cho'derton, Salisbury.

OVEY, R. L., Hernes, Henley-on-Thames.—Pedigree HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK, Reg. Vol. IV., Prize-winners leading shows last five years.

THE CHILMARK FLOCK OF REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—Owner, JAMES FLOWER, Chilwark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records. Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, out of 11 years competing, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" won eight times, thrice second, with pens of 8 ram lambs; a marvellous record. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 13 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05-06. At the Royal at Derby, 1906, every First Prize, two Seconds, and the Champion were won; an unequalled success!! Champions Birmingham, 1905, over all breeds, Reserve in 1906. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Short-wools, Smithfield, 1904-05-06. Highest average past 13 years. Bridford Fair, Aug. 12, 100 Ram Lambs, annual sale. Selections for Sale.

WINCHESTER, the Most Hon. the Marquis of, Amport St. Mary, Andover, Hants. Pure-bred flock of Hampshire Down Sheep; high-class Rams and Ewes always on Sale.

OXFORD DOWNS.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office Cowley, near Cheltenham.

(*Continued on page 36.*

The Riby Grove
Lincoln Flock and Shorthorn Herd,

The Property of

Mr. HENRY DUDDING, Riby Grove, Great Grimsby, Lincolnshire, England.

Important Sale of
SHORTHORNS and LINCOLN RAMS

from this celebrated Herd and Flock,

On THURSDAY, JULY 11th, 1907.

Breeders of Shorthorn Cattle and Lincoln Sheep will this year have an opportunity of visiting that historic home of these breeds of Live Stock, which is famous all over the world as being a source from whence many leading animals have been procured, including the 1,450 guinea and two 1,000 guinea Champion Rams. The occasion referred to is that of the periodical Home Sales, held by Mr. Henry Dudding, at Riby Grove, Great Grimsby, Lincolnshire, England, who never exports on his own account.

Mr. Dudding has fixed this year's Sale for Thursday, July 11th next, upon which day he will be pleased to see his friends.



RIBY GROVE SALE 1907.

MOON KING 2nd (92594)—LOT 42. **STROWAN BUTTERFLY 23rd—LOT 50.**

The selection of Shorthorns will be a notable one on account of the very superior merit of the animals offered. Particular attention is called to the very large proportion of young Heifers included in the Sale. The whole of these animals combine the best old English strains of blood, topped by the now fashionable Scotch blood.

Many leading bulls have been in service. Amongst those most recently used are Prince Alastair 89647, a noted winner and sold for 1,000 guineas at the Riby Sale, 1906, to Mr. R. F. Pearson; Scottish Daisy Duke 79916, a son of Best of Archers from Scottish Daisy by Master of the Ceremonies 56162; Merry Squire 5th 85626, Stratton Squire 80062 of Lord Lovat's Broadhooks Tribe; Bapton Favourite 76080, Wanderer's Chief 80210, Royal Pearl 89959, Royal Marksman 89962.

Space will not allow of the great Show Yard successes of the Herd or Flock, but it may be stated that as year succeeds year it continues with so marked a uniformity that proves without question that high merit and typical character are fully maintained. The record Sale last July, when 51 Shorthorns and 56 rams were sold to average 125 guineas each, realising a total of just under £14,000, is a sufficent proof.



GROUP OF PRIZE RAMS.

The selection from the renowned Riby Flock will be comprised of Yearling Rams and Ewes. The strains of blood that will be represented are the same that have been so uniformly successful for one hundred and fifty years, and which have in all parts of the world gained a high and notable reputation.

Mr. Henry Dudding will welcome his Foreign and Colonial friends, at the Yarborough Hotel, Grimsby, on Wednesday evening, 10th July next, the night before the Sale.

JOHN THORNTON & CO., Princes Street, London, will give full information, and Catalogues of the Sale, or from the Owner, Mr. Hy. DUDDING, Riby Grove, Great Grimsby, Lincolnshire.



Mc DOUGALL'S
OLD ORIGINAL
LIQUID DIP
(COLD WATER QUALITY)
NON POISONOUS
APPROVED FOR SCAB-1 GALLON TO 80 GALLONS WATER

THE STRONGEST, SAFEST AND MOST ECONOMICAL LIQUID DIP.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. EVERY PACKAGE OF THE "ORIGINAL" DIP BEARS McDOUGALL'S SIGNATURE AND TRADE MARK.

50 YEARS' SPLENDID REPUTATION.

PIGS.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS

OF CHOICEST STRAINS.



BOAR, "PROUD SALOPIAN," 1419.

PRIZES WON:–

st, Royal Cornwall, 1905. 1st, Launceston; 3rd, Bath and West, 1905. 2nd, Wadebridge; Reserve, West Midland Show, Shrewsbury, 1906.

YOUNG BOARS AND SOWS FOR SALE.

PRICES MODERATE.

H. J. CLARKE,

The Slade, Roughley, Sutton Coldfield.

Sir Lees Knowles, Bart.

D.L.,

Westwood, Pendlebury,

MANCHESTER

HACKNEY STUD HORSE:

DAINTY DUKE 7417

By Garton Duke of Connaught 3009.

SHIRE STUD HORSE:

PENDLEBURY WELKIN

By Blythwood King Maker 18534.

STOCK ON SALE BY THE ABOVE NAMED AND OTHER NOTED SIRES.

FOR PARTICULARS APPLY TO

THE STUD GROOM,

Dam Head Farm, Mobberley, Cheshire, or to the Owner.

TYPICAL SPECIMENS OF

THE CAPTON FARM DEVON HERD

The Property of Mr. A. BOWERMAN, Capton Farm, Williton, Taunton.



CHAMPION DEVON COW SALLY.



BEAN PLANTER 4139.

"GLEN ROY, TARKASTAD, CAPE COLONY, April 10, 1906.—A. BOWERMAN, Esq., Capton, Williton. Dear Sir,—The Bull, 'Capton Royal Exchange' 4,926, Messrs. Tozer, Kemsley, and Fisher bought from you for me some little time back, you will be pleased to hear has taken Four First Prizes in the Colony—that is, First at King William's Town, First at East London, First at Graham's Town, and First at Port Elizabeth. He was greatly admired at the Shows, and I am very pleased with him.—I am, dear Sir, yours truly, (Signed) C. ADAMS."

THE ABOVE ANIMALS ARE STILL IN THE HERD IN USE AS BREEDERS.

The Herd consists of the most improved Devon Cattle, combining size, milk, depth of flesh, and robust constitution. Thousands of pounds have been won in prizes. Many animals sold to South Africa, Germany, Australia, Tasmania, Canada, Ireland, Greece, Argentine, and Falkland Islands. Over 100 animals for sale, all ages. Many Bulls are fit for Service, certified to pass the Tuberculin Test. Inspection invited. Suitable to all climates.

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

SHEEP—*continued.*

OXFORD DOWNS—*continued.*

ADAMS, GEORGE, Royal Prize Farm Flock, Faringdon, Berks. Pure Oxford Down Sheep, Shearling Rams, Ram Lambs, Ewes and Ewe Lambs for Sale. Special arrangements with foreign buyers. Many first prizes at R.A.S.E. and other shows during past 25 years, including 2 first, 2 second, and 4 other prizes, World's Fair, Chicago, and 7 firsts, 4 seconds and Champion at Royal Bath and West, Royal Counties, etc., this year.

SHROPSHIRES.

CORBET, Sir WALTER, Bart.—Registered flock of Shropshires of oldest and purest strains. Noted for true type, first-rate wool, and quality. Have won numerous prizes at Royal, Bath and West, Shropshire and West Midland, &c., Shows, and animals purchased from this flock have won Champions Indiana State Fair and Chicago, U.S.A. Can be seen at any time on application to REGINALD ASTLEY, Acton Reynold, Shrewsbury.

WENSLEYDALE.

UNDERLEY WENSLEYDALES (Blue-faced), from the best blood obtainable. Successfully exhibited.—Apply, G. G. ROBINSON, Bailiff, Underley Farm-Kirkby, Lonsdale.

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

CHARLES SPENCER, having taken over the Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts, herd of Large and Middle White Pigs, which won 12 prizes and reserves with 11 exhibits at Derby Royal, will price any of them.

FULWOOD HERD LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES, property R. R. Rothwell. 200 head bred from winners at leading shows.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for Sale at moderate prices.

LARGE WHITES (*continued*).

COLSTON & BORROWFIELD HERDS.

The property of R. MILLINGTON-KNOWLES, Colston Bassett Hall, Notts.

The herds contain **40** large typical breeding sows of the most fashionable strains; the best of **SIRES** are purchased to keep up the present high standard of excellence.

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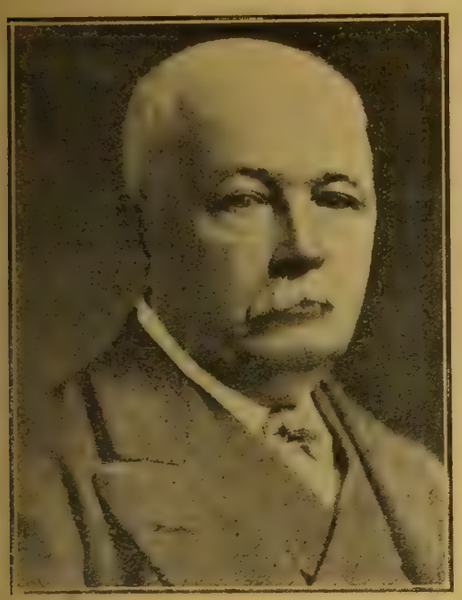
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Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Who should Bear the Financial Burden?

Several facts have been made patent during the week in connection with the Small Holdings Bill. The first is that there is a growing Parliamentary sentiment against mulcting the local rates—in other words, county councils—in the carrying out of this great national experiment. It is increasingly felt that this is very far from being a mere local matter—as a fact, Mr. Lewis Harcourt's speeches have made it indisputably clear that he does not regard it in that light, and that the financial responsibility associated with it ought to apply to the nation. I opine that it is the Ministerial comprehension



Sir James Blyth, Bart., One of the New Peers.

of this fact to which we must attribute the grant from the Treasury towards the initial expenses. This grant is, I admit, somewhat unusual in its character; but even now, it is not, I can assure Mr. Harcourt, sufficient to lull the county councils into entire acquiescence in his project. After all, there should be with the right hon. gentleman no logical excuse for refusing to associate the financial resources of the nation with his legislative anxiety. Mr. Harcourt has avowed his resolution that his scheme shall be conducted on absolutely businesslike lines—in other words, that it shall not be a compassionate purpose in which a mistaken philanthropy is to seduce the rural public into acceptance of it. If it is to be a businesslike project, and conducted with a narrow regard for financial stability, the Treasury might, without being possessed by any serious fear of loss, accept financial responsibility. This would greatly ease the mind of the county councils, and probably render unnecessary that gingering process of which Mr. Winston Churchill is so enamoured.

The County Councils and the Commissioners.

Mr. C. Masterman, M.P., is a product of the Radicalism-cum-Socialism of modern Oxford. He is an æsthete in appearance, but cultivates the burliest and reddest of political sentiments. In this matter he regards county councils with the jaundiced eye of suspicion. He looks upon them as the born enemy of the small holder. He will pen and utter—utter in a pleasant staccato voice—the most piquant of epigrams to prove his point. Mr. Chaplin half believes that co-operation between the county councils and the State officials in establishing these small holdings is an impracticable idea. Mr. Masterman is not so much concerned with its impracticability as he is with the conviction that rural county councils are possessed with a double dose of original and ineradicable sin. For my part, I am heartily glad that the Government reveals a growing affection for utilising local influence in fostering this purpose. The ejection of local influence from the scheme would mean the establishment of a bureaucracy which would be entirely indifferent to the growth of local rates. It is to local influence we must look for putting some curb—indirectly, of course—upon these Commissioners, who, in Mr. Collings' vividly-inspired opinion, are going to rove about the country seeking over-burdened ratepayers to devour. I do not believe that these county councils will prove impracticable and ruthlessly antagonistic. I rather believe that they will see that complaisance will be their best protection against that which they most fear—tyrannous demands upon them to bear financial deficits. Complaisant and sympathetic county councils will draw the claws of these Commissioners.

The Commissioners and their Character.

I rather fear me that we are too fevered in our anticipatory pictures of the Commissioners. We make these pictures too bloggy. Whether we should give them power to ascertain whether there is a demand for small holdings "either actual or prospective"—very wide, nay appalling, powers, in all sooth, will that word "prospective" bestow—is a debatable question; but, frankly, I do not believe that the one purpose of their existence will be to unsettle local conditions, which may have been satisfactory, to fancy a necessity which does not exist, to coerce authorities into the provision of holdings which are not wanted, and to place an Atlas-like burden of rates on the county councils. Mr. Chaplin's very admirable achievement in securing from Mr. Lewis Harcourt the promise that they shall be practical men who have a knowledge of agriculture is the best assurance that they will not have this character. "A practical knowledge of agriculture"—why the very phrase calls up a vision of a solid, unfervid, cool-tempered, perhaps slow-moving man who has no desire to create an earthquake and doubts his own powers to do it. I repeat that I like not altogether that word "prospective"; but the innate conservatism of the agricultural temperament—and if these Commissioners be not actual agriculturists, we may be certain that they will possess this—will be the best safeguard against extravagant designs and exaggerated conceptions. The Commissioners will be practical men. In this we have the assurance of a moderate policy that will at least impress the county councils into co-operating acquiescence. Of this I am persuaded.

Why Tenancy is still Preferred.

But what, I hear it being asked, about the great issue—that of peasant proprietorate versus tenancy? Well, there is a pretty proposal being quietly made that the Government should permit *in certain instances* of purchase after a period of tenancy—that, in a word, the process should be, under certain conditions, evolutionary in character. The Government will never accept it, and in my view it is idle to urge it. If this evolution is to be permitted at all, it must be permitted generally. Every tenant must be given the opportunity of ascending to the dignity of ownership. There can be no differentiation. That would simply mean the wrecking of the whole scheme. It would mean more than this to the Government—if it did not mean the imperilling of the Bill, it would mean the arraying against it of a mass of Radical and Socialist opinion, and the birth of an anti-Ministerial sentiment that would pertinaciously seek insidious opportunities for asserting itself. This may, of course, inspire the Government's opponents on the committee to a more vigorous espousal of the principle of purchase. It matters not. Mr. Lewis Harcourt is too astute a statesman—and a statesman he has certainly shown himself to be—to put a rope under the neck of himself and his colleagues.

At the last meeting of the Lydney and District Farmers' Club it was reported that the Whitsuntide show resulted in a profit of £21,000, which was very satisfactory considering the cold weather which prevailed on the show day. The income was £282, as against £320 last year, whilst the expenditure was £260 and £290 respectively.

The King's Birthday Honours.

We are pleased to see that agriculturists were not altogether forgotten in the selection of H.M. the King's birthday honours made known on Friday. Sir James Blyth, Bart., has been made a peer and Mr C. Judd, the well known Hampshire Down sheep breeder, has been made a knight.

Neither of these recipients of well-deserved honours need any introduction to agriculturists, but it may be mentioned that Sir James Blyth, who was born at Chelmsford in '841, belongs to a family long associated with agriculture and stock breeding, and has himself always taken a keen and practical interest in matters agricultural, as the success of his Jersey cattle, Shire horses, and Southdown sheep in our various showyards have testified.

Sir James is, perhaps, better known to the general public for the services he has rendered in the work of combating tuberculosis. Ever since the urgency of investigating the scourge became apparent, he has been prominently identified with the business of inquiry. Even before the appointment of the Royal Commission he had, first as an original member of the Council of the National Association for the Prevention of Consumption, and afterwards as treasurer of the International Congress on Tuberculosis in London in 1901, been intimately connected with the movement for checking the disease. His chief aid in that direction was rendered immediately after the appointment of the Royal Commission. Recognising that the Commission would have to carry out elaborate experiments, and that extensive land and premises would be required, he placed two of his farms and other accommodation for two or three years at the disposal of the Government for the use of the Commissioners. At a later date he informed these gentlemen that they might continue in the occupation of the holdings for such time as might be necessary for the purposes of complete investigation; and after six years farms are still in the hands of Government.

Mr. George Judd is the tenant of several thousands of acres in Hampshire where he has his



Mr George Judd, who was made a Baronet in the Birthday Honours.

famous flock of Hampshire Down sheep. Mr. Judd lives in hopes of being an M.P. one of these days for he has already fought three elections in the Liberal interest, and at the last general election was only defeated by seventy-nine votes in his contest for the Andover division.

Mr. William Wallet, auctioneer and live-stock agent, Castle Douglas, acting for a gentleman in Northamptonshire, recently executed an order for fifteen pedigreed Galloway in-calf heifers and one pedigreed Galloway bull. These, when dispatched from Castle Douglas, formed the finest lot of "blackskins" which has left the Stewartry for some time. All the best herds in the district were visited, and, where at all procurable, drafts were made from the oldest prize-winning stocks, and the best blood of the breed has therefore come to England in this consignment.

The following resolution was carried unanimously at the last meeting of the Bucks Chamber of Agriculture:—"That this Chamber of Agriculture, while it will support any measure to retain the people on the land, strongly objects to the proposals of the Small Holdings and Allotments Bill to coerce the county councils to hire land compulsorily at the cost of the rates, and with no compensation, and views with regret the refusal of the Government to encourage individual ownership."

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The Growing Crops.

Home Reports.

We hear a good deal this week about boisterous, cold winds and low temperature, and of the effects thereof in the plantations. We town-dwellers are personally aware of the abnormal character of the recent climate. Expecting that we have entered into the enjoyment of summer when June arrives, we cannot understand the necessity for occasional fires in our sitting-rooms, and we grumble accordingly. And as this has been our experience lately, we can believe that our friends in the country must have had an anxious time. They have doubtless examined their plantations with some concern as they looked for weather-marks upon the plants, which, as yet, are hardly sufficiently advanced to be indifferent to rough usage. The majority of the reports before me speak of damage done in the gardens, the retardation of growth, and certain changes from apparent health to a somewhat sickly condition. There is probably much truth in these statements as regards gardens that occupy exposed positions, but I gather from other information that it can hardly be concluded that the growth, as a whole, has been materially checked. Despite the climatic disadvantages, I am rather inclined to think that, although progress is not so rapid as we might expect at this period, it is fairly satisfac tory, and that there is thus far no cause for interference with our previous ideas concerning the probabilities of the final yield. The vermin alarm appears to be subsiding, and although washing is still in evidence, it is continued rather by way of prevention than cure. Iam by no meansdesirous to talk about heavy crops, as I believe they cannot be beneficial to our struggling planters. I would much rather see a scarcity of hops this year, but am compelled by the exigencies of my position to report impartially the facts as they present themselves. We have now commenced the two critical months of the growing season, and if the weather during July and August is normally favourable, we may reasonably expect that the plant will advance, as the strength of the bine is generally well established, and there is sufficient of it to produce a plentiful supply of fruit. Let us hope that the weather will be helpful to the quality, for after all, this is more important than quantity. The world now grows too many hops for its requirements, and English planters should aim to be at the top of the tree in the points of quality and condition, and thus be independant of their numerous foreign competitors.

The Continent.

BADEN.—The growth is slow, being hindered by the prevailing low temperature and the appearance of vermin, but the planters are generally expecting an average crop.

ALSACE.—Unseasonable weather is checking the advance of the bine, and in some places vermin has appeared, but on the whole there is not much to complain of, and the outlook is fairly satisfactory, supposing that normal climatic conditions are experienced during the next two months.

ALTDORF.—Hops are developing fairly well, although here and there the bine is attacked by vermin. Planters who are training on wire are the best satisfied, as their bine looks more healthy and grows more rapidly than in those grounds where the old pole system is used.

BAMBERG.—Despite a severe attack of ground fleas, the bine has made good progress during the past few days. It is generally healthy, but warmer weather is required, and additional manuring is recommended to stimulate the growth.

MAINBERG.—In some plantations the growth is backward, but in the majority the bine has reached three-quarters of the height of the poles. General progress is clearly perceptible, and growers are well satisfied with their prospects.

WEILDERSTADT (Wurtemberg). — The present outlook favours a good crop, as the condition and growth of the bine, which is quite free from vermin, are normal and satisfactory.

ENTRINGEN.—Fortunately the recent spell of wet, cold weather has ceased, and a more favourable condition has commenced. The bine is fairly healthy, but very backward, and a higher temperature, especially at night, is necessary for further development.

SAAZ (Bohemia). — With genial rains and warmer weather the progress of the hop plant is evident. Some plantations are in arrear, but the general condition is satisfactory and promising for a full crop. We are completely free from vermin, and with favourable weather shall be satisfied when the harvest arrives.

NUREMBERG.—The traders, who are well posted up as to crop prospects, are content with the reports that reach them from the whole of Germany. They declare that there is no general reason for complaint concerning the present condition of the plantations, and are anticipating ample supplies from the new growth.

BELGIUM.—All alarm as to the recent attack of vermin has passed away, and with the arrival of more genial weather, the crop prospects have become much brighter. The bine is now reported to be generally healthy and vigorous and to be making rapid progress.

America.

NEW YORK STATE.—Some irregularity in condition and growth is reported, the yards in certain districts having made a good start, while others are very backward. The weather at the opening was not favourable, but improvement has recently set in, and a warm wave is now exercising its influence. It seems to be generally expected that a smaller crop than last year will be harvested on this side.

PACIFIC COAST.—Contradictory reports are circulated, the "bulls" declaring the certainty of only a moderate yield this season, and the "bears" taking exactly the opposite view. An impartial examination of the evidence inclines me to think that the future prospects of the growers are not likely to be favourable with respect to prices, as the crop outlook, thus far, indicates heavy production. Unless a big foreign demand should set in the Coast planters will most probably find themselves with more hops than they can sell.

The Markets.

I need not occupy much space in my report of the trade this week. In London the position is unchanged. Some unimportant spasmodic business is done daily, but the low rates do not induce speculation, nor are traders aroused to action by the cold weather, the rumours of the continuance of blight, or the statements concerning the interference with the growth by the high winds. Both consumers and merchants are absolutely indifferent to all these assumed risks, and the market remains in the same dull condition as before. There is just about sufficient demand to keep prices steady, and that is all that can be said.

In Nuremberg the promising position of the plantations is producing its natural effect. The values of choice lots are nominally maintained, but it is not difficult for buyers to obtain concessions when they wish to operate. In the entire absence of demand for export, quotations for the lower grades have fallen considerably, and a general dullness prevails which is likely to continue.

The Belgian markets are in a similar condition. In proportion to the improved crop prospects the values of spot hops are lowered, but the speculative quotations for 1907 crop reman steady.

In America hops are being pressed for sale, and meet with very little response. The slight advance in prices previously noted has disappeared, and the markets have fallen back into a state of dullness, from which it is somewhat improbable they will soon recover.

Evidently the whole of the trade is waiting further crop developments, and as far as we can judge by present appearances, a very quiet time is in store for all concerned.

DAIRY.

Preston Cheese Fair.

There was an unusually large attendance of dealers and factors at the June Cheese Fair, held at Preston on Tuesday, when the pitch consisted of 103 lots, comprising 1,638 cheeses, and a clearance was rapidly effected. Medium quality made 55s. to 57s., fine 58s. to 60s., and a few exceptionally choice dairies realised up to 63s. 6d. per cwt. Prices were on a par with those of twelve month ago, but showed a slight reduction compared wi t those of the last fair.

Nantwich Cheese Fair.

At Nantwich Cheese Fair on Thursday ther e was a a pitch of 80 tons. Factors were well represented, and the tone of the market was good. Sales were readily effected at the undermentioned prices. Finest Cheshire from 54s to 57s 6d per cwt; medium from 50s to 53s; lower qualities from 46s per cwt.

An attractive programme has been drawn up by the Doncaster Agricultural Society for their show on Wednesday and Thursday next, and given fine weather there should be a large attendance of visitors on both days.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To Dip or not to Dip?

SIR,—To the careful and experienced reader it will be obvious that the letter from Mr. C. Wadkin, which appears under the above heading on p. 728 of the issue for June 17, refers, not to the dipping of sheep for the destruction of vermin and the prevention of scab, but to washing as a preliminary to shearing.

To wash or not to wash sheep will always be a matter of individual opinion and personal convenience dependent on the environment of the sheep, and we need not discuss it; but it may be useful to point out that the question, "To dip or not to dip?" can only be answered in the affirmative, and in the interest of the sheep master as well as the well-being of the sheep, the flock should not only be dipped, but dipped twice in the year.—Yours, &c., M R.C.V.S.

The Two Things Farmers Want Now.

SIR,—There are two things just now that we are specially hoping for. First, is for fine weather; second, that we may have the chance of selling the growing crop of wheat and oats at something like the present prices.

The realisation of these hopes would make all the difference as to whether 1907 will be reckoned amongst the good or bad years so far as agriculture is concerned.—Yours, &c.,

EAST ESSEX.

The Views of a Young Farmer.

"Men of other trades do seem
To think the farmer very green,
And criticise as to what ought to have been,
With their knowing advice which they think so keen."

SIR,—I do not know if you care to hear from young readers of your paper, as I have not seen any evidence of same; perhaps you do not, but I trust you will grant me the space for rather a long letter. Now I am writing I may as well do the thing thoroughly, or, to quote the old proverb, "I may as well be hung for a sheep as a lamb."

You may deem an introduction advisable, so perhaps I had better give you one.

I am the son of a large farmer, and, by the way, the youngest (who, as in the "days of old," is often the most romantic and enterprising), 6 ft. 2½ in. as I stand in my boots, age nineteen-twenty. I left school when I was fifteen years old and started work as a shepherd boy, and worked my way from one thing to another until I have been through the whole process; and there is not a single thing attached to a farm that I cannot do or show others how to do, anything in the correct manner, which is most important to every farmer, but a thing which I am sorry to say is often overlooked.

Now, I have given this description of myself, as I have no wish for people to think me a "kid-glove farmer," and I am proud to say I am an ordinary working man.

Having read the letters from your correspondents regarding criticism by counter-jumpers, &c., of the farming methods, and not only the farming methods, but insinuating base, sarcastic, personal remarks of the farmer, I thought I should like to give my opinion. How often when travelling the country, go where you will, one hears our fellow cousin from the town making light of the farmer and his calling. How often one hears their favourite scornful remark, "Only an old farmer chap." The majority of farmers take no notice of these words; but how strongly are they rejected by the younger generation. Personally speaking, I have often had cause to suppress some of them by main force, but then one would have a considerable undertaking to curb the whole of them in this manner, but an occasional shake-up serves to remind them that the old farmer chap is superior in strength and skill, even if his particular calling is inferior to theirs; but I maintain that it is not. I am inclined to think that the farmer's son is vastly superior to them in every way, but *n'importe*, someone has to be the farmer, or they would be in a sorry plight. Well then, if it is so, why make light of him until he is ashamed of his existence and ashamed to acknowledge his trade.

Farming in this country is a thing of the past, and the farmers that are left are about as important as the remaining Britishers in South Africa (as Lord Milner rightly terms the "Under Dog"), kind of stepping-stones for others to dance on.

I was most sorry to read the account of the "Farmer's Son" in your paper of May 27; but he might be in a much worse position than he is at present. If he makes the best use of his time it will be to his advantage rather than disadvantage in the end.

I should advise him to go to Western Australia (which is in my opinion better than Canada); he can get a reduced passage and 160 acres of free land with a climate that would be hard to equal (if not impossible).

Under no circumstances should he remain in this country (if he is not afraid of work) when such great opportunities are offered in the Colonies.

Perhaps when all the young and plucky are drained out of this country, so that only the aged and faint-hearted remain, our Government may awaken to the fact; but not until then, and then only, will things begin to improve.

It is a great pity that parents do not encourage their sons to emigrate and put them in positions there, instead of preaching about the diseases and dangers that they run. If our forefathers had practised the same doctrine, what would have been the result? Is that following in the footsteps of the Briton? No; most decidedly not.

But in spite of these danger cacklers, some of their sons do emigrate, and you will find that they generally make great men in the end. I intend going myself and chancing my luck before long. When I have had a little experience I will send you a report for the benefit of young fellows in a similar position.

Of late years a great many farmers' sons have served in the Imperial Yeomanry, which is not only a benefit and a change to themselves, but at the same time—at present—a very efficient corps; but if Mr. Haldane carries out his idea of reducing their pay, &c., what will become of this present efficient corps? Will they remain in the Yeomanry for nothing, when they could be earning three times as much on the farm at the rate of pay at present received, without reducing the pay further? If the pay is reduced the farmers' sons will bid the Yeomanry farewell. If the Government wish to ruin the Imperial Yeomanry they are most certainly going the right way to work.

I think it would be far better to copy the naval idea, and have a nucleus Yeomanry.

Now, I have written rather a long letter, but not half so long as I should like to have seen it; but this is a busy time of the year, so I cannot be a scribe and a haymaker at the same time, but I hope to write later on.—Yours, &c.,

DABROWN.

Preference.

SIR,—If your correspondent "Mid-Oxon" will compare his letter with my former one on this subject, he will find that his quotation therefrom is not correct. My letter was a reply to an argument in the form of a question contained in a previous issue of the MARK LANE EXPRESS, viz.: "What would it matter to the small holder whether that brutal competition were foreign or colonial in its character?" And in no part of my letter did I mention foreign corn, the taxing of which would not directly benefit farmers either large or small in this locality, because they buy more corn than they sell. As to his question, "What do I think would be done with surplus foreign corn if a duty was put on it?" it is not in my thoughts to care what becomes of it, so long as that which is sent to England pays a tariff to the revenue equal to that imposed by other grain importing countries. And to give our colonies preference—other than in name only—the tariffs imposed on foreign imports must be sufficiently high to enable colonial produce to undersell the foreign in the British markets, and in return our colonies should and would give British manufacturers similar facilities to compete in theirs.

If the tariffs are arranged and regulated by men of common-sense, they will be graduated so as to exclude those things that the British Empire can produce herself, and encourage the importation of those foreign goods that we really want.

For instance, I would not tax maize, but allow it to come in free to be converted into beef, mutton, pork, and the produce of the dairy and poultry run, by the British farmer, small holder, or otherwise—and these things must certainly be protected against foreign competition. Again, I would put the tax on flour much higher than on wheat, to give English millers a chance, and prevent the anomaly of bran being worth more per ton than wheat, as was the case last winter.

In fact, the whole system of importation must be placed under control, or the present system, which is equivalent to riding without reins, will land us into the ditch.—Yours, &c., A. J. R.

June 25, 1907.

Milk Fever.

SIR,—The two last weeks letters have appeared in your journal from two practical men—or at least I should take them to be so—on the subject of milk fever.

The treatment they advocate in each case is calculated to be bewildering, being just the reverse. The one advises milking the cow two or three times before calving, and the other not until twenty-four hours afterwards. For myself I should say milk beforehand, as it appears reasonable to relieve the cow's system of the superabundance of milk as much as possible, which, in my opinion, would agitate and aid the fever.

But when two such practical and experienced men disagree, the opinion of your veterinary surgeon would be much appreciated on the subject, if he will kindly favour us with same. As milk fever is such an important and dangerous malady, it is most essential that there should be no hesitation or doubt as to its prompt and proper treatment.

I think that this time of year, with the flush of grass, together with its attendant results in the *freshness* of the cow, the latter is more liable to an attack.—Yours, &c.,

June 26, 1907. GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

Butter Not Keeping Fresh.

SIR,—I shall be much obliged if any of your readers can tell me why the butter will not keep fresh this year. With 24 hours of being made from beautiful fresh cream it is rancid and unsaleable.

The same thing happens here for a few weeks each spring, and again during the fall of the leaf. I have always attributed it to the presence of some herb in the spring pastures, while in the autumn the local people put it down to the cows picking up the fallen ash leaves.

But I have never known the nuisance prolonged to such an extent as at the present time. For fully two months we have had to waste nearly all our make three times a week.

Has the cold weather and the absence of sun kept the noxious herb out longer than usual.

The subject has baffled me for some years here. Every precaution is taken with the pans and churn, while salt has been tried in different quantities and the cream scalded, but all to no purpose.

This place is situated 500 feet above the sea on the chalk downs of Surrey, and the whole place and dairy are very open and healthy.

The soil is very light loam (about five inches only) on hard chalk. The cows are Dexter Kerry and one Guernsey.—Yours, &c.,

A PUZZLED SUBSCRIBER.

June 28, 1907.

The Hop Trade.

SIR,—In cheap years total British wants exceed 700,000 cwt.; past and present years were overcheap.

Total British supplies, 868,254 cwt., in 1905-6; 433,301 cwt in first nine months, 1906-7. America cannot fill the gap, and the Continent has nothing to spare. An official survey of Germany's stocks shows their total inferior to one month's normal German consumption.

In September, 1906, brewers held heavy reserves, in 1907 sheer want will compel them to buy before September.

America is sure to pick a short crop; it got two record ones in succession, and three full yields never follow in succession. Its reports about stocks and prospects vary as they come from bulls or bears, as a fact Pacifics are dearer in Frisco than in London, and America's firm offers are being retired, which does not point to fair stocks or prospects.

Extensive grubbing was done everywhere this winter, while everywhere consumption is increasing.

In Europe spring was and summer continues adverse to the bine—little warmth and sun, much cold and wet.

The fearful losses due to this year's unjustifiable panic crippled and demoralised the trade, in normal times values would rule at over double their present level.

Yet brewers do not stock up; they imagine growers will go on ruining themselves to enrich them.—Yours, &c.,

VAN WINT AND CO.

Antwerp, June 27, 1907.

The death is announced of Mr. J. L. Winter, of Bridgetown, Totnes, who for so many years was secretary to the Devon County Agricultural Association. His connection with it began in 1858, as assistant to Mr. Oldrieve, secretary of the old South Devon Society, which was merged into the county society, and in 1875 he succeeded Mr. Oldrieve as secretary, and held that office until November, 1904, when in consequence of indifferent health he resigned, with a retiring allowance. For over thirty years he was also the hon. secretary of Totnes Union Agricultural Society, and his death will be regretted by members of both societies.

In the course of a discussion on the Small Holdings Bill, at a meeting of the Somerset Chamber of Agriculture, resolutions were passed objecting to the clause which empowered the Board of Agriculture to appoint commissioners to go behind the county council and exercise powers now entrusted to that body; against the clause in the Bill which transfers the powers and duties of the district councils to the parish councils and parish meetings, and also against allotments being increased to five acres.

Nottinghamshire Notes.

THE great event of the present week has undoubtedly been the holding of the Royal Show at Lincoln, practically everything of local interest to farmers being abandoned in its favour.

MR. ARTHUR S. GIBSON, of the Elms, Ruddington, Nottinghamshire, who for so many years was steward for the late Mr. Philo L. Mills, has received a similar appointment in South Lancashire, where he will remove shortly after his return from judging at the great Canadian Show at Winnipeg next month. He was one of the judges of Shorthorns at the Royal Show this week.

MR. WILTON ALLSEBROOK, the secretary and manager of the Midland Farmers' Co-operative Society, informs me that members continue to join the association, and that he has a large number of promises to join after harvest.

I UNDERSTAND that Colonel Vere Wright, J.P., of Shelton Hall, near Newark, has purchased the Shelton Manor farm for about £4,500. For about ten years Mr. Frederic Smith was the occupier of this farm, and had some enormous crops. He removed from there about eight years back, and went to reside at Seagrave Grange, near Barrow-on-Trent, Notts, but retired from farming two years back. Mr. Benjamin Smith now has the farm, and it is considered to be one of the cleanest in the county. The area of the farm is about 160 acres, but there is a tithe charge of about £50 per annum, which can be increased to £70 when wheat makes 45s. per quarter.

HAYMAKING is now in full swing in the county, thousands of acres of meadow grass having been reaped during the present week. At Burton Joyce two or three fairly large haystacks have already been put up, and after the fine weather of Wednesday and Thursday a good acreage will have been gathered before Sunday if the weather continues fine.

SWEDISH farmers, a number of whom have been at the Royal Show this week, will pay a visit to the agricultural college at Kingston, Notts, on Monday, for the purpose of studying the methods adopted in the dairy there, and also an inspection of the experimental plots devoted to root and corn crops.

CHARLOCK can be got rid of has long been admitted, yet we still have a number of farmers who are sceptical of the results to be obtained from the use of a solution of sulphate of copper. However, I have personally witnessed some experiments at Kegworth, where a crop of oats was being smothered by the yellow flowers. They were sprayed on June 6, and when I visited the field last evening the results then witnessed were truly surprising, and I hope that farmers will heed, mark, learn, and inwardly digest what I am writing. On ninety-nine stems of charlock out of a hundred all the flowers had dropped off, and simply the stalk remained. True, some of the flags of the oats had turned brown, but from this the crop will recover. But the fact that all the flowers have dropped is sufficient proof that the solution has done its work. Professor Hutchinson, of the Notts Agricultural Institute, remarked to me, if the same field is given a similar dressing for five or six years the unsightly "ketlocks" will have entirely disappeared. One word of warning, however, is necessary, and that is, on no account should a crop be sprayed on a damp or wet day.

BEAN crops in this district are looking remarkably, the stems being filled with flowers, many of them having set. The recent heavy rains has kept them free from flies, which only too often infest these plants with such disastrous results.

WHAT a good thing it is to reside within a few miles of a large city like Nottingham for farmers. They are enabled to make tip-top prices of their dairy and garden produce, but never before have I heard of a farmer turning rubbish into profit. Such has been the case with a man living a few miles east of Newark. He had a field of oats which was one mass of poppies, but with an eye to business he obtained a number of boys and girls after school hours to pull them. He then sent them to Nottingham and actually realised between £12 and £13 in a fortnight. The cost for labour, &c., was only £3. This method of making money, I think, is somewhat unique.

MANGOLDS in nearly every instance in Nottinghamshire have been gapped and taken on the whole they are good plants. Swedes, too, have hit well, but farmers complain that the rubbish cut up by the horse hoes continues to grow owing to the recent bad weather. Sunshine is, without doubt, badly wanted.

June 27, 1907. R. K.

The Darlington Chamber of Agriculture, after a lengthy discussion on Monday, passed a resolution to the effect that the Chamber, while in sympathy with the general idea of small holdings, entirely disapproved of the bill now before the House of Commons.

POULTRY.

Second National Poultry Conference, 1907.

The arrangements for the above conference to be held at Reading, July 8 to 12, are now complete, as indicated by the official programme, which, together with forms of application for membership, can be obtained from the hon. secretary, Mr. Edward Brown, F.L.S., 12, Hanover Square, London, W. Upwards of 150 delegates and members are already registered, and it is anticipated that this number will be considerably increased. A large number of public bodies, county councils, agricultural and poultry societies, colleges, colonial agencies, chambers of agriculture, &c., are sending representatives, and many ladies and gentlemen interested in the poultry industry have entered as members. Others who have not already done so are invited to forward their names at once, so that the necessary arrangements for their accommodation may be made.

On Monday evening, July 8, a reception to delegates and members will be given in the Town Hall, Reading, by the Mayor and Mayoress, after which the official opening will take place. The chair will be occupied by Sir Walter Palmer, Bart., chairman of the General Committee, and the address will be given by the Right Hon. the Earl Carrington, K.G., G.C.M.G., President of the Board of Agriculture. The sessions will be held on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, July 9, 10, and 11, and about thirty papers dealing with various branches of poultry-keeping will be read. Excursions have been arranged on the River Thames and to the College Poultry and Experimental Farm, Theale, and visits to places of interest.

On Wednesday and Thursday, July 10 and 11, a display of breeds of poultry will be held, representing nearly all the breeds and varieties of poultry, both British and foreign, as a large number of specimens are being sent from the Continent. In all there will be about 300 birds. This will be a unique collection. At the same time cases of eggs from many countries will be shown and also the method of candling eggs. The exhibition will close at 7 o'clock on Wednesday and 8.30 on Thursday.

Spalding June Cattle Fair was held on Tuesday, when young beasts sold from £10 to £12 about £14 10s. for two-year-olds, and £16 to £17 for strong store beasts. The best fat beasts made £22 to £23, and others £16 to £20. Some Scotch beasts sold by auction fetched £16 to £17 each.

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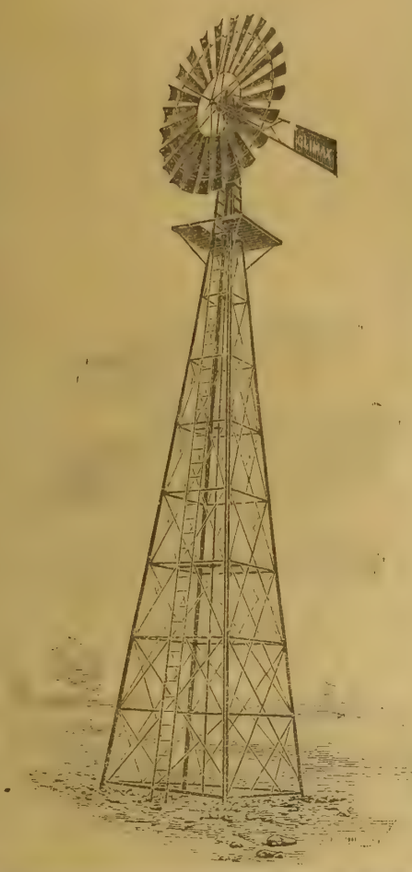
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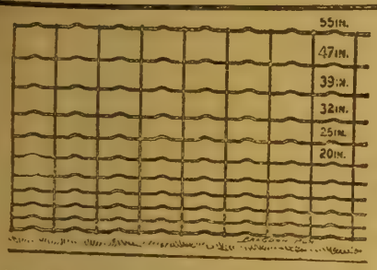
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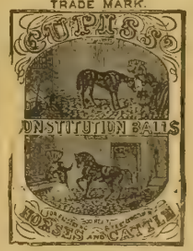
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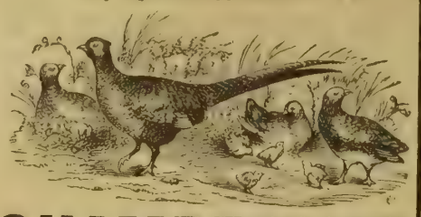
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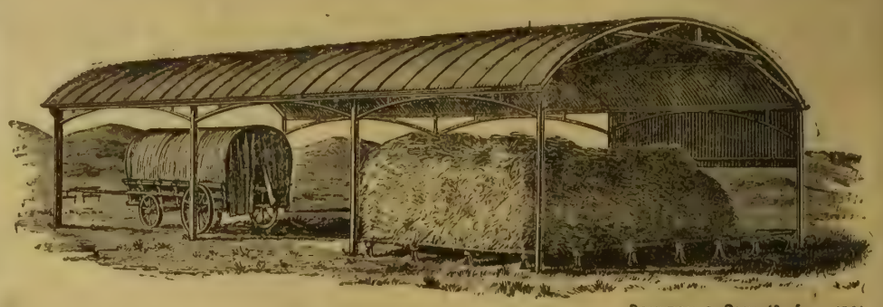
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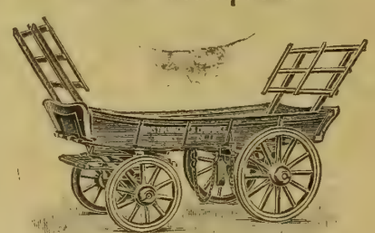
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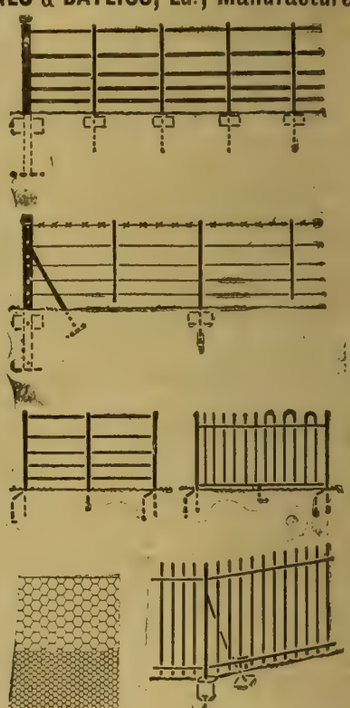
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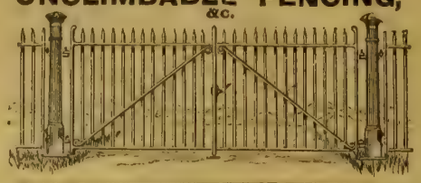
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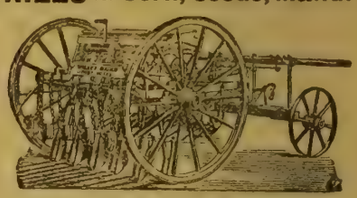


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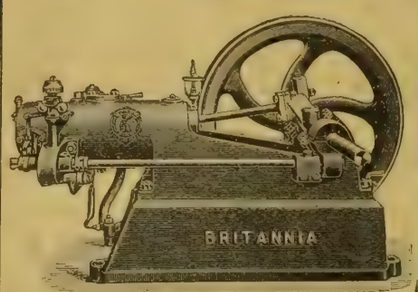
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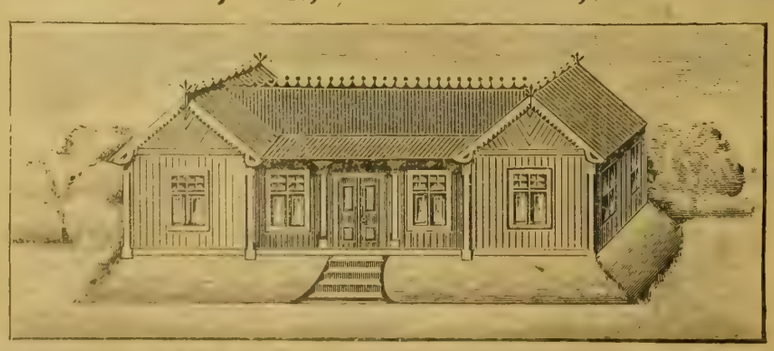
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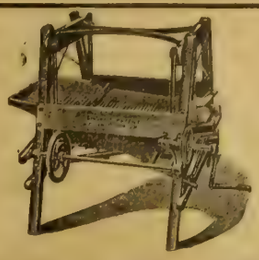
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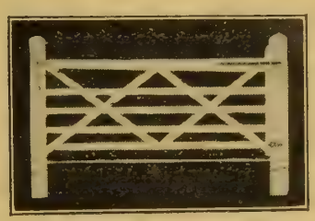
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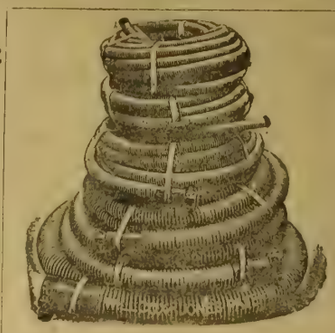
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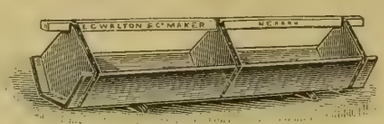
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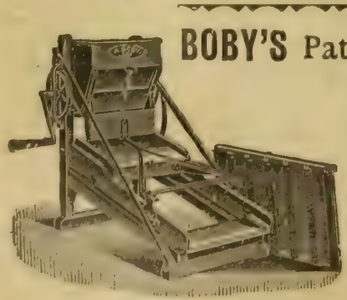


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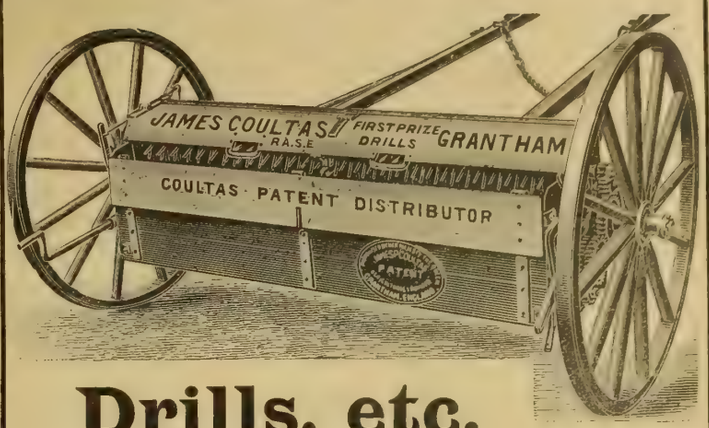
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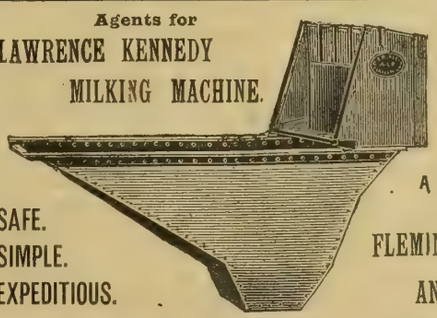


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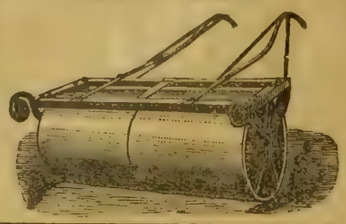
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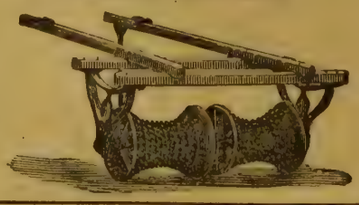
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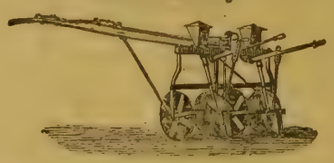
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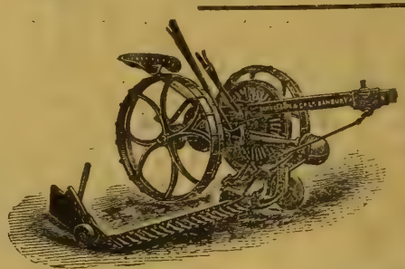


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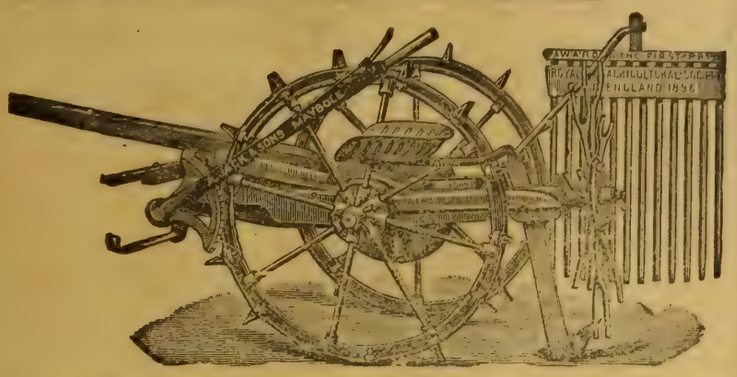
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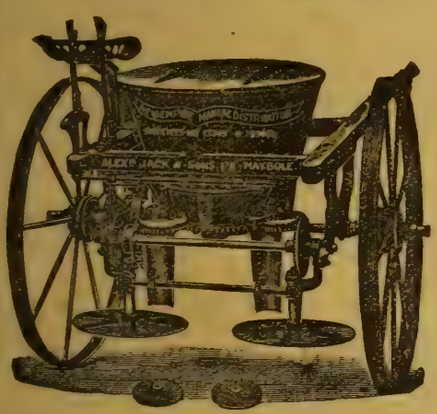
IRELAND—FIRST PRIZE, GOLD MEDAL, by the Royal Society of Ireland, Glasnevin, Dublin, 1881
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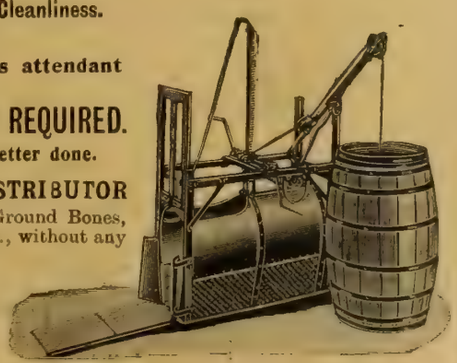
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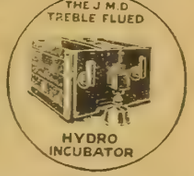
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LONDON, MONDAY, JULY 8, 1907.

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Seasonable Topics.

The Weather.

OUR only excuse for referring to this subject again is that the weather happens to be the most seasonable and generally-discussed topic just now both in agricultural and all other circles. We are now in July, the longest day is past and gone, and at the moment of writing we are still waiting for summer and sunshine. So far as crops are concerned, we have not much complaint to make, but the world wants settled weather—in fact, a taste of summer. Haymaking has commenced in earnest, because the matter could be deferred no longer, but haymaking in gloomy and catchy weather is an expensive as well as a worrying task, as most farmers know from experience. We have had no great weight of rain, but for weeks past it seems to have been a continuation of storms and showers, with gloomy skies in between and a glimpse of sunshine now and then. There is certainly some excuse for depression of spirits, but we trust that by the time these lines appear in print matters will have improved, and we shall be enjoying the summer for which we have waited long and patiently.

The Topic of the Moment.

THERE can be no doubt that the most-discussed topic in the agricultural world just now is small holdings and their possibilities for good or ill. Public meetings have been held to discuss the question, chambers of agriculture have argued about it, and every other man you meet asks your opinion on the prospects of small holdings. We are not writing this with the object of expressing any views either one way or the other, and while we believe that the promoters of the scheme have the interests of agriculture at heart, we hold the same opinion regarding the views of those who fail to see how the Small Holdings Bill can prove to be of much benefit. There is something to be said on both sides, but after every argument has been employed both for and against, the proof of the pudding will have to come in the eating, and time alone will show whether there are the benefits to be derived from small holdings which the advocates of the measure claim. That public interest is keen there can be no doubt, but curiously enough, we hear less about the matter from the people who are to be the small holders in the future than from anybody.

Some Would-be Small Holders.

IN connection with the question of small holdings we would draw attention to certain extremists to be found in most village communities who are tremendously enthusiastic when a fresh thing is introduced, and when they have got it they find out that they do not want it. We had some experience of these individuals when parish councils were inaugurated, and the cry then was for allotments. Allotments they would have at any price, and what have they done with them in many cases? We have a case before us of a man who was instrumental in getting allotments in a certain village, and he posed as one who would benefit materially by the acquirement. He took several of the plots himself, but the excitement of the thing soon wore off, and he cultivated his land so badly that it was taken away from him. Now this very individual is a strong advocate for small holdings in the parish, and if he has one its fate will doubtless be similar to that of the allotments. Largely through the action of such people allotments have turned out to be white elephants in more than one place, and it is desirable to avoid a similar experience with small holdings.



ON A KENTISH FARM.

Harvest Beer.

IS it a good thing for a farmer in his own interests and that of his workmen to supply the latter with intoxicating liquor when employed in hay harvest? Advocates of total abstinence say no, and contend that men can do more and better work without beer than with it. Ask, however, the old labourer, who has been used to harvest beer all his life, until the habit has become almost second nature, and he will tell a different story. Speaking for ourselves, we have a perfectly open mind in the matter, but we are averse to dropping the beer, as some have done, and not giving its equivalent in money. The subject is one that might well be discussed in the correspondence columns of the MARK LANE EXPRESS, and we should like to hear the views of those who have tried both ways. Hay harvesting under a broiling sun is hard work, and apart from any question of quenching the thirst, the point is whether the stimulating influences of beer are effectual in sustaining energy and vigour. We know, of course, that a line must be drawn or the beer makes the harvester useless, and the farmer who is too liberal is foolish in his own interests, neither is he acting kindly towards his men.

The Destructive Insects and Pests Bill.

IT is an ill wind that blows no one any good, and whether the Destructive Insects and Pests Bill proves beneficial to fruit-growers in the future, some credit for its introduction must be given to the American gooseberry mildew, which has created almost as much sensation of late as the famous Colorado beetle did years ago. In reply to a question asked in the House of Commons recently, Sir Edward Strachey said he hoped the Bill would receive the Royal assent shortly, and it would impose on local authorities the duty of taking the necessary steps to prevent the spread of the above disease. It has been felt in certain quarters for some time past that a Bill of the above character was needed in the interest of fruit-growers, and the gooseberry mildew has brought matters to a climax. What it is possible to do by way of legislation remains to be proved, but gooseberry mildew is only one evil, and there can be no question as to

the extent to which fruit crops suffer every season through injurious insects. It will be soon enough to say more when we see what provisions are made by the new measure.

Potato Disease.

SINCE our last batch of seasonable topics was written, we have seen several fields of potatoes attacked by the dreaded blight (Phytopthora infestans), the presence of which is due to the dull, damp weather we have experienced of late. What is to be done? If the weather improves—and we sincerely hope it will before long—the spread of the disease may be checked by climatic conditions, but, otherwise, the only remedy is spraying. We do not wish to appear pessimistic, but it is no good locking the stable door when the horse is stolen, and when disease appears, as it has done this year in June, the outlook is ominous. Not very much potato spraying has been done in the past few dry seasons, though last year, dry as it was, crops suffered a good deal through disease, but the effectiveness of Bordeaux mixture as a means of prevention has been proved over and over again. Where potato crops are affected already, prompt spraying would tend to check the spread of the disease, but the great thing is, if possible, to prevent, and spraying with Bordeaux mixture is a means to this desirable end.

More Insurance.

THE new Act is now in force, and if the ordinary maid-of-all-work, who is not famous for her carefulness as a rule, meets with an accident her employer is liable to pay compensation. The accident might happen any day, and the amount payable by the employer of the servant—say a struggling tradesman or a small farmer—would be a serious matter if it had to come out of his own pocket. One means of protection is open to him—he must insure with one of the companies that are offering favourable terms. Having done this, the employer feels that he has removed his responsibility, and the thing left to him is to pay the premiums. Taken individually the latter do not appear high, but collectively they mount up, and insurance premiums are getting to be a serious item with the employer of labour and the ordinary man of business. Still, there is the mandate of the law, and there is no alternative, so the best thing is to make proper provision. We merely refer to the matter here because there may be some of our readers who have not thought seriously of the responsibilities enforced upon them by the Act which becomes law on the first of this month.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Has the Bill been Hurried?

Frankly, I think the Central Chambers of Agriculture, in describing the Small Holdings Bill as being hurriedly forced through Parliament, has been guilty of the crime of ungenerosity. What justification is there for the assertion? First of all, the question of small holdings was deliberately before the electorate at the general election—and long before it. Next of all, men like Mr. Rider Haggard—no wild intransigeant he—have persistently kept the question before the country ever since. Then the Radicals themselves clamoured incessantly for the introduction of a Bill. The measure introduced, the House did not, in its unanimous sympathy, even divide upon the second reading, and men like Mr. Walter Long, Mr. Chaplin, and Mr. Jesse Collings had full opportunity of expressing their views. Finally, it is being considered by a committe on which every rural interest is represented, and which has practically the ability to consider not merely every section and every sub-section, but every line and every phrase, and which is assuredly devoting to the duty of examination a care, an anxiety, a knowledge, and a lucidity for which we can find no recent parallel. The discussion in this committee stage of the Bill does infinite credit to all concerned. It must be fraught with the most admirable consequences. The Bill is passing through a friendly crucible, from which it must emerge having a more practical character. Wherein, I again ask, is the evidence of the measure being hurriedly forced through Parliament? Use epithets by all means, messieurs of the Central Chambers; but see that they are deserved.

Who Should Bear the Cost?

It is becoming more and more evident that unless Ministers make the expense, cost, and possible loss entailed by the Small Holdings Bill an Imperial charge they will themselves have neglected to secure a safeguard for the success of their policy. Of course, I am not one of those who declaim against the county councils being made (with conditions) the operative authority in this matter. However, I do perceive—and there is a growing perception of the same fact in the House of Commons itself—that if the county councils have to bear the financial burden any inherent sympathy they may possess with the principle of small holdings will be dwarfed and stunted. "They would be less than human if this were not the case," said a Liberal Member, who has a great knowledge of the influences which move municipalities, to me. With the fear before the eyes of the county councillor of an electorate enraged at the growth of the rates—this was the point this politician made to me—how could he be otherwise than chary of launching out upon a possibly expensive experiment? At this moment there is a growing sentiment in Liberalism in favour of making the cost of education an Imperial charge. This is attributable—and I beseech Mr. Harcourt, the Minister in charge of the Bill, to heed this—to the conviction that the fear of the growth of the local rates is the real enemy to a practical system of education given under the best conditions. Small holdings are an Imperial matter. We are told that they are one of the influences which may stem the tide of depopulation. The expense of legislation having Imperial consequence ought to be an Imperial charge. If it be not an Imperial charge in this instance, Mr. Harcourt will have built up for his purpose a justifiable local distrust.

The Railing at the County Councils.

I wonder if my friend Mr. Masterman, M.P., and his allies are possessed by the belief that they are making the small holdings evangel easier of realisation by their eternal girdings at the county councils? What county council has Mr. Masterman experience of that he should be possessed by the belief that they are all possessed by a double dose of ineradicable sin? The Government would have been worse than foolish if it had not sought to enlist local sentiment in connection with the small holdings business by utilising the machinery of the county councils. To entrust the grave duty which will belong to the county councils to a central authority would be to establish an irksome and meddling bureaucracy. The bureaucratic official coming into a district would regard the matter with a mere mechanical, two-foot-rule eye. Having imbibed certain machine-like ideas of what ought to be done he would proceed to apply them. The arrogance begotten of his position making him indifferent to local sentiment, local anxieties, and, what is of more importance, local prejudices. The county councils should be the operative body. Those county councils will place upon any new-born, vivifying, ill-regulated enthusiasm for small holdings the judicious restraint of sagacious consideration, and of full and personal knowledge. Let the county councils be rid of the fear of being mulcted in the cost of establishing small holdings or the loss resulting from them—and, despite the assurance of Mr. Harcourt that they must not take land which they they cannot let economically there may be loss—and then the Mastermans of our Parliamentary civilisation will soon find that their suspicions are ungenerous and unfair.

A Suggestion for Lord Denbigh.

Lord Denbigh had, in his beet-sugar enthusiasm, much better beseech a bonus from the Government than seek to interrupt the withdrawal of Great Britain from the Sugar Convention. The Government must withdraw from that instrument. That the Convention would be an advantage to the growers of beet-sugar in England, I confess. Here is a fact which is, however, being pressed upon the Government by its supporters: In the sugar-year of 1901-02—before the Convention—1,701,997 tons of sugar, value £16,715,871, arrived in the United Kingdom, while in the year 1904-5 after the Convention—1,373,001 tons, valued at the much greater sum of £20,363,540, were only imported. With those supporters clamouring for Britain's withdrawal from the Convention—which they regard as the chief cause of this lowered consumption and this heightened price—the Government dare not resist. This is the plain fact. Lord Denbigh's clever philippics were therefore foredoomed to fall on barren soil. If a grant from the Treasury for small holdings, why not a grant for beet-sugar culture? There, my lord, is a suggestion 'twould be well to heed.

The Irish Board of Agriculture.

I am fain to confess that the report of the inquiry into the constitution of the Irish Board of Agriculture gratifies me personally. It is not merely a justification of the existence of this Board—it is a justification of Sir Horace Plunkett. I have never concealed my view that no department in the British official organism has done such valuable work for the subjects of its experiments as has this Irish Board; I have never concealed my view that, though undeniably necessary that it should have a spokesman in the House of Commons, the path of the Irish Board was rendered all the easier by the detachment of its chief from the vitriolic, venomous, and absorbing politics of the island. This is the view of the committee. The fact that this committee suggests that the vice-president need not of necessity occupy a seat in Parliament and deliberately advises that the position should be tenable for five years, the occupant to be then subjected to reappointment, is evidence of a wise comprehension that the progress and evolution of Irish agriculture does not depend upon the particular political and religious faith its official adviser may lisp. Crops will grow just as well under a man who sighs for a Parliament on College Green and a Catholic University, as it will under the man who regards Catholicism as abomination and desolation, and to whom College Green is *anathema maranatha*. A Board detached from the bitter maelstroms of Irish politics—this is the meaning of the report, and in particular of its appreciation of a nominated rather than an elective body. The Irish Board has been by this report rescued from a vicious menace.

The Landlord's League.

Of course, landowners have the same right to combine as have tenants or labourers. If I may paraphrase Shakespeare I would ask: "Hath not a landlord eyes? Hath not a landlord hands, organs, dimensions, senses, affections, passions? Fed with the same food, hurt with the same weapons, subject to the same diseases, healed by the same means, warmed and cooled by the same winter and summer as a farmer or a labourer has?" I am not, however, sure that the new Landowners' Association will achieve its object—that is, the welding of landlordism as a whole into an offensive and defensive league. For such a body to have success it must have the qualities of dispassion and non-partisanism? Wherein is the evidence of this in this new body? Of course, Lord Onslow and Mr. Walter Long have every right to speak for landlordism, so, too, has Mr. Chaplin, though no longer the Squire of Blankeney. But wherein do we find the alloy of their undiluted Conservatism? Surely not in the importation of Mr. Jesse Collings, a most estimable politician, a true friend of the countryside, but who by no stretch of the imagination can be described as a landlord? Surely not in the importation in a friendly *rôle*—this, I understand, is more than probable—of the Rural Labourers' League, again a most valuable body, but one scarcely free from the infirmity of partisanism? Landlordism has, I repeat, every right and justification for organising in defence of its imperilled interests; but it would be well, at least at the outset, to deprive that organisation of the appearance of being simply another rung in the Party ladder. This, at all events, is how the organisation is regarded in the House of Commons.

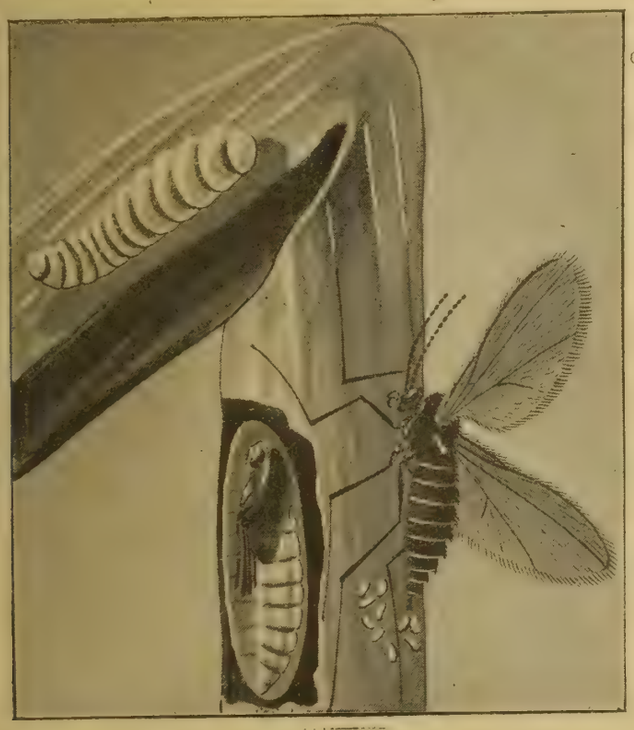
Obiter Dicta.

"Rural depopulation," quoths Col. Kenyon Slaney, "is due to the death duties." The death duties were enacted in 1894. Why did not the Colonel persuade his friends who were in power for ten years to repeal the duties? As a consequence, we should have had the land overflowing with population. "We got medals for this," says one of the Brothers' Griffiths, the acrobatic clowns, by way of comment upon one of their own performances. "Did we!" exclaimed the other in astounded surprise.

SOME CORN FLIES.

As the result of inquiries, I believe that it is necessary to warn farmers to be on their guard against the depredations of a few flies which are capable of inflicting extensive damage on growing corn if allowed to carry on their pestiferous work unchecked. The very fact that such enemies may not have been recently observed in any great numbers is likely to render many cultivators careless in regard to the possible dangers connected with them, or, indeed, have resulted in a remissness of attention amounting to a forgetfulness of the flies' existence. Hence a few hints relative to the matter may be welcome. It is the smaller foes that possess the most terrible ability to spread havoc, and which manifest themselves as exceptionally difficult of eradication unless early and determinedly handled.

It is outrageously annoying, after spending money, labour, and care on the preparation of soil, in which as a reward the corn appears to be making vigorous headway, to suddenly become aware that all is not right. Studious farmers will already be aware of the various signs and their significance; but undoubtedly many among the profession, or their employees, still need to learn the truth about what often appears to be the results of mere climatic influence or weakened constitution of the plants.



The Hessian Fly, its Maggot, and Chrysalis within its case in stem (all magnified). This fly is the cause of corn stalks bending over at joints near the soil, thus becoming helpless. The actual size of the fly is about 1-10th of an inch, and of the maggot about 1-9th of an inch.

There are three very small flies whose pernicious work exposes corn to devastation, and each attacks systematically quite a different part of the growing vegetation. In each case their work is so conspicuously revealed as to give no excuse for mistake on the farmer's part. Often barley, wheat, &c., after growing sturdily to a goodly height, will be found bent sharply down at the first or second joint from the bottom of the stalk rather near the ground, with the remainder lying helpless and inert. It is erroneously supposed by many farmers inexperienced in entomology that these effects are due solely to the power of the wind; whereas the prime cause is the notorious Hessian fly, the name of which, at any rate, must convey pictures of terrible damage to some of our readers. I will describe this pest soon.

Another phase of corn ruin which thrusts its symptoms before one's notice too strongly to fail of identification is the abnormal swelling in the vicinity of the forming ear while it still remains within its sheath. Whereas it should swell symmetrically and not unduly, in such a way that the spike shall burst forth from its covering with its well-formed contents ready to be ripened into good grain, the whole of the parts enlarge tremendously, and give rise to the "gout" so dreaded by careful growers. This is due to the work of one or more species of gout flies. Even should the ears raise themselves properly to the sunlight they are exposed to another kind of insect so far resembling the Hessian fly that a separate illustration of it is hardly needed. This lays its eggs within the flowers, and cause the familiar red-maggots, to which excessive harm is often attributable.

Dealing first with the Hessian fly, which was either unknown or unrecognised prior to 1886, this is a black creature, varying from $\frac{1}{8}$th in. to $\frac{1}{10}$th in. long, with very hairy wings and long, slender legs. Microscopically considered, it is a fairy gem, but is not so to the farmer. This issues from hibernation in May, and lays its eggs in wheat, barley, or rye during May and June, or on autumn stubble, seldom, if ever, attacking oats. Winter wheat often escapes them by the lateness of sowing. As many as 150 eggs on half a dozen plants have been observed to be laid by one female; but the average seems to approach nearer 100, which number I have squeezed out from a captive fly after death. They have no rule regarding a specific number of eggs to certain plants, some of the latter receiving only a few, others many. The eggs are orange-coloured and dotted with red, the shape being clearly enough rendered in my illustration.

The maggots hatching from these eggs, generally on the fourth day afterwards, creep down to the junctions of the sheaths with the stalk, between which they squeeze their way and commence feeding, head downwards. These maggots (one-fifth of an inch long) are legless and whitish-yellow in colour, and continue feeding for a couple of months, during which time the removal of substance continuously from one particular side of the stalk so weakens it that it eventually leans over and snaps as described. Hence, while wind may have an effect thereon, it is only one of acceleration, and not the real cause of the mischief. At the end of two months the maggot pushes itself close up against a joint of the stalk, and becomes a pupa, the skin hardening considerably and becoming a brown colour, while the flesh of the maggot actually shrinks away therefrom, leaving a kind of shell. Within its own transformed skin the maggot turns right over so that its head may be conveniently uppermost when it makes its exit as a fly. Then it becomes converted into a chrysalis, as depicted. At this period it is known to farmers as a "flax-seed" (one-sixth of an inch long or thereabouts), though truly enough there is nothing whatever in the nature of a seed about it except its appearance, though I believe that many old farmers still imagine it to be one, and that it has become enveloped during the growth of the corn and been prevented from sprouting on its own account. Still, those who know its true character hardly realise the wonderful process it undergoes during its metamorphosis.

When ready for its final change—two weeks after ceasing life as a maggot—the chrysalis wriggles out from the brown maggot-skin and works its way up the stalk, out of which it pokes itself. Very close examination near the ruptures will reveal these objects sticking out curiously from infested plants. When the fly itself hatches out the chrysalis skin remains in its position just referred to.

Of course, all these actions seriously interfere with the proper development of the grain, even in cases where neither their onslaughts nor the wind has been sufficiently strong to completely break them. Occasionally it might be thought that the grain had not suffered in any way; but it should never be used as seed, because there would certainly be some detractive weakness inherent in it, making it unsuitable and unprofitable for the purpose in the long run.

The lowness of the position of the maggots and the chrysalises in the cornstalk is such that, as I have described, when the time of harvest arrives and cutting commences the insects escape interference, and are not in any way hampered from continuing their depredations; so, if they have been detected in serious array the stubble should be *burnt* if possible. If this course is inadvisable, then the affected stubble should be quickly and deeply ploughed in, or later on farmers may repent their own oversight.

(To be continued.)

The Weather and Crops in the Midlands.

Sunshine and warmth are declared by Midland agriculturists to be necessary to prevent the present unfavourable season proving a disastrous one. On the whole the reports from various correspondents as to the effect on the crops of the unusually inclement weather this year indicate that the damage has not been so serious as might have been expected. On the heavy lands the prolonged rains and cold nights have been very injurious, but on the lighter soil the outlook for farmers is of a brighter character.

With regard to the fruit crops, the anticipations formed by market gardeners earlier in the season as to the yield have not been realised, but the damage through rain and want of sunshine has not been as extensive as many people thought. Although the farmers and market gardeners have not given up hopes of fair crops, the absolute need of warmer temperature and plenty of sun to get the moisture out of the ground and ripen the fruit is recognised on all hands to mean the difference between a ruinous year and a satisfactory return from land culture.—*Birmingham Daily Post.*

Farm Prospects in North Devon.

The *North Devon Herald* has obtained numerous reports from various districts in North Devon concerning the farming outlook, and the general conclusion is that while the continued cold and wet have retarded the progress of the crops, the prospects are on the whole good. Though it would take a long memory to recall a year in which people have been going about in overcoats and gloves after Midsummer Day, there is the consolation, says the journal named, that the average temperature of one year differs very little from that of another, so that if the summer has been long deferred we may expect a warm autumn and a back-end of genial mildness running well on towards Christmas.

Crop Prospects in the North.

In view of the prolonged spell of wet and unseasonable weather, the *Yorkshire Herald* invited a number of representative agriculturists to express their views as to the condition and prospects of the various farm crops in Yorkshire and the North, and nearly all their correspondents recognised that the season is an exceptional one on account of the long-continued rainfall, the prevalence of cold winds and intensely cold nights, and the absence of sunshine.

The reports generally indicate that notwithstanding these drawbacks the field crops, though late and backward, are healthy and fairly heavy, and may give an abundant yield if there is a speedy change in the weather, with plenty of sunshine. All classes of crops are suffering from want of the warmth of the sun's rays. Unless there is an early change in the weather the results to the farmer may prove very serious.

The Board of Agriculture consider it desirable, in view of the unsettled character of the weather, and of the consequent difficulty in securing the hay crop, to draw the attention of farmers and others to the system of ensilage as a means of conserving crops of grass and clover. Copies of Leaflet No. 9, which describes this process, may be obtained post free and free of charge upon application to the Secretary, Board of Agriculture, 4, Whitehall Place, London, S.W. Letters of application so addressed need not be stamped.

THE WEEK'S SHOWS.

DONCASTER.

The Doncaster Agricultural Society's show was held on Wednesday and Thursday last on the new lines adopted for the first time last year, and as the arrangements have proved satisfactory on both occasions they are likely to be permanent. It may be recalled that the new arrangement provides that instead of bringing up all the stock for judgment on the first day, and keeping it for a second day's public inspection, the catalogue is divided, and there are really two separate one-day shows. This is an advantage from many points of view. It obviates the necessity of putting up expensive shedding to afford a night's shelter for the animals, and it enables tenant farmers and others who can spare one day and not two for themselves, their men, and their stock, an opportunity of competing.

Unfortunately for the success of last week's show the weather was far from favourable, and the attendance did not come up to expectation on either day. As regards the entries, horses were more numerous than for several years past, being 311, against 285 twelve months ago, but cattle dropped to 57, as compared with 85 last year, and sheep were 22, against 23. Other entries were :—Poultry, 97 ; pigeons, 201 ; butter, 36 ; eggs, 17 ; flowers, 68 ; and cage birds, 60 ; whilst there were 749 dogs. The grand total was 1,618, as compared with 1,148 last year, and 995 in 1905.

Hunters made a moderately good show, but two or three classes stood out conspicuously. The brood-mare class was one of them. So good was the quality that an umpire had to be called in, and he gave the premier award to Mr. W. B. Swallow's old winner, Tugela, a roomy mare with a nice foal by Wales at her side. Tugela also secured the Hunters' Improvement Society's gold medal. Mr. Edward Harrison's Miss Melbourne was placed second in the class competition. Half a dozen Hunters in the aged class sorely puzzled the judges, who had again to resort to a referee. Mr. J. H. Stokes's Axiom, a grand weight carrying horse, with the honours of Olympia, the Royal, and Selby fresh upon him, was singled out for the leading place, whilst second prize was bestowed upon Mr. J. S. Rigg's grand weight-carrying Hunter, Sir Lancelot who was third in the weight-carrying class at Olympia. A quartet of capital four-year-olds entered the ring, and of these the best was Sportsman, Mr. Edward Hodgson's useful grey, showing some of the best qualities of his sire Wales. Mr. Stokes's Lord Crafty is a blood horse of beautiful quality, but not up to the weight of some in the class, and in placing him before Messrs. Ward's chesnut, the son of Khartoum, the judges reversed the Selby verdict. They agreed with the Selby decision in regard to the respective merits of Mr. Wilkinson's Royal winner, and Messrs. Ward's Adonis, though here both these chesnuts were superseded by Major Leslie Renton's chesnut filly Success and Mr. Swallow's Red Morne. As at Selby, Mr. Wilkinson's two-year-old gelding, His Grace, topped his class, a Wales—Tugela bay occupying second place. The Hunters' Improvement Society's silver medal for filly not exceeding three years old was awarded to Mr Wilkinson.

The Hackneys made a nice show, quality being quite up to the average. Miss Dora Schintz's Knowle Belinda, which was second at the Royal, was among the brood mares entered, but she was not on the ground, and, therefore, the issue lay between Mr. J. A. Green's Lady O'Neill and Messrs. Cockayne's Paddock Queen, a winner at Lincoln in the class under 15 hands 2 in., and reserve for the special prize of £10 offered by the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society. Lady O'Neill, a beautiful chesnut by Garton Grand Duke—Rosador, rightly got the verdict, though the Sheffield mare, which is three years older, was a good second. Foals made a useful display, and they were headed by a beautiful filly by Beckingham Squire, the property of Mr. R. Surfleet. A trio of moderate yearlings lined up before the judges. First honours went to Mr. J. H. C. Wasden's Yews, a bay by St. Thomas, while Mr. Sydney Clarkson claimed the second award with a Paddock Polonius filly. Two-year-olds were likewise short in numbers, but they formed a very meritorious quartette. Silver Star, the stylish road gelding from Mr. W. H. Wellstrop's stud at Bishop Wilton, was, as at other shows, placed at the head, second being given to Messrs. W. and J. Ferguson for Lively Titania, also a well known winner. A strong class of three-year-old included Mr. Clark's Skeffling Lily, and Mr. W. J. Tennant's Special Beauty, which at the Royal Show were placed in the order given, but at Selby on Tuesday that verdict was upset, and the judges now followed the Selby example, Special Beauty being put before the East Riding filly.

The saddle class for Hackneys between 14 and 15 hands produced Mrs Fred Holmes's noted four-year old chesnut, Dainty Kate, and Mr H Rodwell's chesnut gelding, Prince Fortunatus. They are really good animals, and moved with great freedom in the ring. Eventually the mare was assigned the premier position. Prince Fortunatus, however, turned the tables when tried in harness.

Mr. S. R. Tennant's Olympia and Royal winner, Authority, headed the saddle class, and Mr. J. W. Featherby's Astonishment was adjudged the best in the harness class held on the first day of the show.

The display of heavy horses, though it did not include many prominent show winners, was nevertheless a good one and quite up to the standard of previous years. One of the best classes was that for brood mares which was headed by Mr. Samuel Skirrow's Bonny Lass, the stylish, high-quality five-year-old that won three firsts and the Shire Horse Society's silver medal at Selby. The Selby judgment was likewise confirmed in regard to Mr. Thomas Burton's Bramhope Lilly and Mr. J. C. Jackson's Woodlands Fashion—second and third respectively. Notable also were the three-year-olds, though here the judges disagreed with the Selby verdict, and placed Mr. Burton's Sandcliffe Daisy before Mr. J. C. Jackson's Knottingley May Queen. The winner, to whom was also awarded the Shire Horse Society's silver medal, is an active mare, with capital legs supporting a thick body. In this class the aid of an umpire had to be summoned. Two year olds likewise were a creditable lot. Mr. Burton's Sandcliffe Pansy, a mare of typical Shire character, stepped up from her Selby second place to front rank, again beating Lord Middleton's Birdsall Dahlia, who had previously taken first honours at Nottingham and Otley.

With a few striking exceptions the cattle classes were not remarkable for the excellence of the quality which they disclosed. The best proof of this is forthcoming in the fact than in both Shorthorn and Channel Island sections, the chief prizes were gained by two exhibitors, Mr. George Harrison, of Gainford Hall, Darlington, in the former instance, and Mr. R. J. Streatfield, of Rossington Hall, Bawtry, in the second. The absence of Mr. Henry Dudding, of Riby Hall, Grimsby, usually a successful exhibitor at Doncaster, doubtless materially affected the results, and the fact that the well-known Lincolnshire breeder had refrained for once from contributing to the cattle classes was generally regretted. Bulls above two, and not exceeding three years, were headed by Lord Armstrong's Baron Merry Mean by Baron Hopeful, which has both size and depth, with true Shorthorn character, and has to his credit previous successes at the Royal Show and the Essex and Stroud exhibitions. Mr. George Harrison was both second and reserve. The class for bulls of two years and under, however, brought Mr. Harrison to the front with his fine roan, Gainford Ensign, by Royal Ensign, which was, however, commended at Lincoln, whilst the first prize for bull calves also fell to Mr. Harrison, and this did not by any means exhaust his successes, for he won in the old cow class with Towey Princess by Cashier, which was second at Dublin and the Royal, was first for heifers of three years and under, with Montrave Wondrous, which was second both at Dublin and at the Bath and West ; was first in the class for animals of two years and under with Gainford Fragrance and, finally, in the last class in which he was represented for heifer calves, again won with Gainford Goldie. In the last case, however, it was a nearer thing, for Messrs. Whitworth's Wath Warlight 3rd by Barbarossa, made a very strong bid, and Mr. Harrison's calf's advantage in point of age stood him in good stead at the finish.

The dairy classes were highly creditable, whilst in the Channel Island classes Mr. R. J. Streatfield was in the remarkable position of being a large contributor to the prize fund in the section and of taking all the prizes in the three classes The entries were only small, and Mr. Streatfield's representatives were easily in front of anything opposed to them.

Never a particularly strong section at Doncaster, the sheep did not present much difficulty to the judges, and the five pens sent by Messrs Dean were the outstanding features of the display. The Dowsby exhibits had matters all their own way in the two classes of which they formed a part. Both the rams and the gimmers have achieved previous successes in the show ring, and Newark, Leicester, and the Royal may be instanced as having seen several of the animals well to the fore this season.

EAST KENT.

Folkestone welcomed this society on Wednesday and Thursday last. Unfortunately the weather was unfavourable, or otherwise the attendance would probably have been as good as was the case five years back, when the show was last held in the town.

The great source of attraction in the morning was the judging of the Kent or Romney sheep classes. This was one of the keenest competitions we have seen at this show, for at none other we can call to mind was the general average of merit so high and uniform as upon the present occasion.

Messrs. W. E. Long and F. Austin Bensted were the judges in this section. The yearling rams numbered thirty-nine, and although there was, as is always the case in large classes, a tail end, the top end was of the highest merit. Mr. C. File with his Royal winner was again to the fore, first and rn for championship honours recognised its undoubted merit ; two others from the same flock were rn and hc, both very good rams ; then came two from Mr. J. B. Palmer's flock, the second being the same as at the Royal, and its mate in the third place was one overlooked there—this, like the winner, was a grand ram, excellent in flesh and good in fleece. Mr. F. Neame's fourth prize ram was particularly even in the quality of the fleece, a very choice and masculine type of its breed. The entries owned by Messrs. A. Amos and W. Millin were c, and Mr. Palmer's third entry took a similar distinction.

The two-shear ram class had the Royal winner at its head. This ram, owned by Mr. C. File, wins the champion this year, an honour for which it was rn last year at Ramsgate. A capital ram of masculine character won second for Mr. G. Farmer, and Syndall No. 11 of 1905 takes a well-deserved third for Mr. Millin. Mr. E. Hambrook, who has a typical flock, one not generally found represented at summer shows, got the rn for a fine type of its breed. The stud ram class had a pair of real good sires for its winners, both from Mr. H. Rigden's flock. These were first and rn.

The yearling ewe class was a capital one of level merit. The winners were a remarkably good lot of ewes that came from Mr. W. Millin's flock, having excellent flesh, good fleeces, with plenty of bone and good heads. Close up were that trio representing Mr. Charles File as second ; after which came a pen of the right sort from Mr. Rigden's flock, followed by a pen owned by Mr. S. Kingsnorth, in which one particularly fine ewe was noticed.

In the ram lamb and ewe lamb class Mr. W. Millin led the way. Both in respect to the ram lambs and ewe lambs there was a general agreement that these were notably fine pens. In the latter class second honours were also won. The Exors. of Mr. Elvy, with Messrs. E. Ascherson and G. C. Swindells took second, third, and rn in the order given in the ram lamb class, a well-deserved hc being also given to Mr. J. Blake, whose pen were not so good matched, but in which there was one specially good lamb ; Mr. A. Amos had third in the ewe lamb class with a very fine pen indeed, even and well grown, Sir H. E. Dering was rn, Mr. Blake hc, and S. Kingsworth c.

Mr. F. Webb judged the Southdowns, and he found in these classes a very good and typical representation of the breed. It is not often at this show to find both the Royal champion and the rn, but this was the case to-day, and the result of Mr. Webb's careful examination was that the Royal award was confirmed, Mr. W. M. Cazalet taking first and champion with his grand two-shear, and Mr. J. Colman the rn champion and first for yearling ram with that choice sheep first at the Royal entries class ; Mr. Elmer Speed was second, and Mr. F. Plumptre third, both very good sheep, leaving the rn to Mr. Colman's other exhibit. Mr. Plumptre was second for old rams with a very typical and good ram from Mr. C. H. Brewer's flock, leaving a particularly good fleeced ram from Colonel W. W. Hammond's flock rn. The pen of ram lambs from Mr. Elmer Speed that won were capital specimens of their breed, excellent in flesh and touch, a point in which they excelled that neat and well matured pen from Fairlawn, Mr. J. Colman's pen taking third, leaving the rn to Colonel Hammond's pen, which were of high merit. Mr. Elmer Speed's ewe lambs were of particularly choice quality, as were also those two pens that came second and third for Colonel W. W. Hammond ; few better pens than these have been seen, out this season. Mr. Cazalet was rn.

The pigs judged by Mr. D. D. Crawford were of high merit, but very small in number, Mr. G. P. Inman winning for the Berkshires, and Mr. G. M. Goodson for the Whites.

There was an excellent competition in the Kent

wool classes, Messrs. F. Newman, H. Rigden, and R. S. Strouts were the three winners; Messrs. H. and G. W. Finn, and E. and B. Kelsey took the second prizes. Messrs. W. Dockeray and H. FitzWalter Plumptre won for Down wool.

There were five classes of Shires, Mr. John Nix being the judge. This entry was one that indicates contined improvement in the local exhibits, whilst those from the distance were good specimens of their breed. Mr. Max Mi-Chaelis won in all the classes with very excellent horses, his foal by King of the Forest III., out of the first prize mare Wimbleton Fuchsia, was a promising one. King of Tandridge won in the stallion class, Fuchsia of Tandridge in the yearling, and Queen of Tandridge in the two-year-old class. The Marquis of Camden, the Hon. R. P. Nevill. Sir Walpole Greenwell, and Mr. F. de B. Collard were the other leading winners. The latter exhibitor was very successful in the twelve tenant farmer classes, in which also leading honours were won by Messrs. A. Amos, A. T. Miles, and J. G. Wright. These tenant farmer classes were most satisfactory in respect to quality, but deficient in number of entries.

Mr. G. Drummond had no difficulty with two particularly fine specimens of the Aberdeen-Angus breed in the class for pure bred cattle.

Redruth.

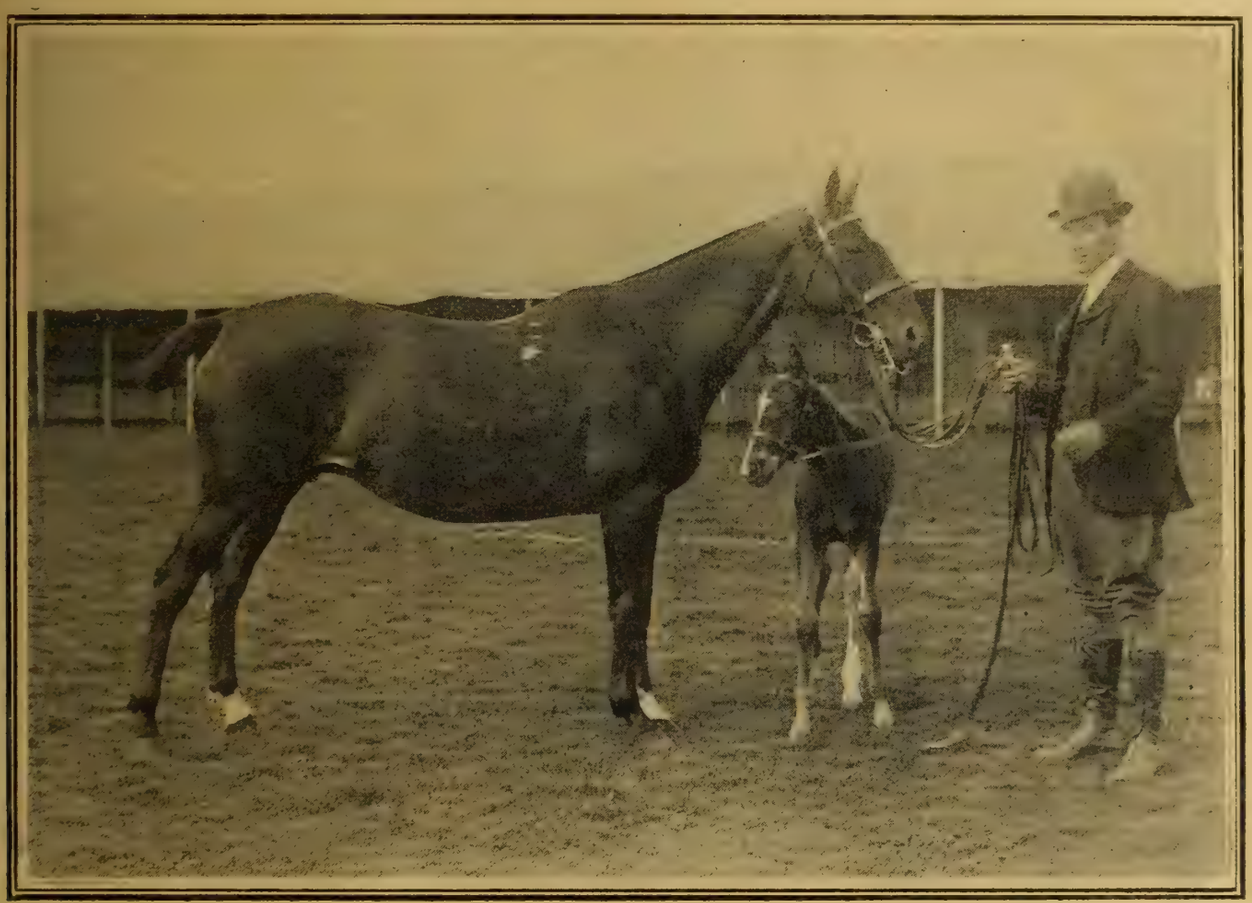
The Redruth Agricultural Society is to be congratulated on the complete success of its show held on Wednesday and Thursday last, and it added still further to its reputation as one of the best held in the West of England. To start with there was record number of entries—1,800, exclusive of horticultural exhibits—and then on the second day of the show there was a record attendance of visitors. The total for the two days, however, owing to not altogether favourable weather on the first day, fell somewhat short of the 1905 figures (last year the society amalgamated with the Royal Cornwall), but was above the average so that a financial success should also be recorded later. Horses were the feature of the show, and they were, perhaps, the best lot ever seen at Redruth. Hunters were the best, both the heavy weight and light weight classes being exceptionally good. Agricultural horses have been stronger, as have all the harness classes, but they include some

Society's silver medal went to a Menestrel filly, shown by Mr. W. J. Webster.

Selby.

The Selby Agricultural Society's tenth annual show took place on Tuesday, and was as usual confined entirely to horses, of which there were 245 entries, a total larger than the previous two years, and quality all round was high. The open classes of Hunters included some well-known stock, and the heavy-weights were as fine a quintet as one could wish to see, and it took the judges a long time to settle the order of merit. Eventually they gave the premier award to a winner at the recent International Show and at the Royal, Mr. J. H. Stokes's six year-old Axiom, a fine type of weight-carrying Hunter.

Hackneys, harness horses, and riding horses also made a capital show. The most notable fact was the reverse of the Royal verdict in the three-year-old class. Here Mr W. J. Tennant's Special Beauty was put first. She is a well-built filly, and this seemed to outweigh, in the minds of the judges, the more stylish movement of Mr W H Clarke's Skefilling Lilly, from Hull. A strong



Our illustration above is of the Polo Pony Mare, Silver Star, and her Foal, which at the Royal Agricultural Society's Show at Lincoln won First Prize for Polo and Riding Pony Mares (with foal at foot) not exceeding 14·2 hands. Silver Star was foaled in 1894, sire Knight of the Laund, dam by Acrobat, and was bred by Mr. G. Hutchings, Claremont, Paignton, Devon, but is the property of Mr. John Barker, M.P., The Grange, Bishops Stortford.

The light horse section was, as is always the case at this show a very good one, and some interesting and attractive displays were given in the ring.

The cattle section was a disappointing one in regard to number of entries. In neither of its sub-sections was the support given as large as it ought to have been.

Mr. Herbert Padwick judged the Jerseys, for which there were five classes. Sir E. Stern and Mrs. McIntosh were the leading winners for bulls, Ladies E. and D. Hope, Mrs. McIntosh, and A. Miller-Hallett in those for females. The general quality of the exhibit as a whole was very good indeed.

Mr. F. N. Webb judged the Shorthorns, in which Violet's Pride won first for Messrs. Denny in the bull class, Lord Wolverton's Irvine Scotsman taking second. Mr. J. Colman's Snow Queen won in the cow and heifer class, followed by Mr. H. J. Balston's Duchess 138th, a fine type of her breed. In the heifer class Mr. Balston was to the fore with a particularly fine heifer, Daydream, followed by Mr. Walpole Greenwell's Royal Blossom.

The small entry of Sussex cattle were meritorious in quality. The Hon. R. P. Nevill won for bulls with Lord Percy, and for yearling heifers with Birling Countess, and the Earl of Derby with Buttermaid in the cow class.

animals of the right stamp. Other features of the show were a big display of dogs, poultry, and pigeons, and numerous well-filled classes for cage birds, rabbits, cavies, whilst there was a splendid show in the horticultural section.

Market Weighton.

The thirthy-ninth annual show of the Market Weighton Agricultural Society, held on Thursday, fully upheld the reputation of the district as a famous horse-breeding centre, for, although the numbers were short in comparison with some past records, there was a really good display of young Hackney stock, together with a sprinkling of animals which have already attained distinction. The foals, as a whole, made a capital display, with the produc of Kirkburn Toreador to the fore; and Mr. F. W. Buttle's most promising colt by that sire won the foals' silver cup. The winning foal shown with its dam was a good-actioned daughter of Royal Denmark; and the most successful yearling a charming filly, with fine limbs and action, sired by Crake Noble, and shown by Mr. S. Cliff. This latter also won the Hackney Horse Society's silver medal. Hunters were comparatively few, but there was both substance and character about most of the winners, whilst agricultural horses were hardly more numerous, but made a good average show. The Shire Horse class of brood mares included the winner of the Hackney Society's silver medal, viz., Queen of Newton, shown by Mr. Henry Watson, of Newton Kyme.

In the Shire section there was another fine display, and one of the principal winners was Mr. Skirrow, of West Haddlesey, whose Bonny Lass, handsome five-year-old mare, won three prizes—one in the class for tenant farmers in the Bramham Moor country, and two in the open classes—and was also awarded the Shire Horse Society's silver medal.

Eye.

Eye Colt Show, as the result of additions to the classes, has long outgrown its title, but the name is still—and rightly so—retained, for under this designation the show is known throughout East Anglia. The twenty-first of the series was held on Monday, and proved worthy of the coming of age, the entries in the thirty-two classes being well up to the average both in quality and quantity. The Suffolks occupied the first place in the catalogue as usual, and viewing them in their entirety they were a credit to both the show and their exhibitors. The Shires and cross-breds also showed up well, especially the younger ones, whilst the Hackneys and harness classes were highly creditable. Cattle and sheep were also in-

cluded in the catalogue, but these sections were poorly represented as regards numbers, though some good quality animals were shown.

SHOW GOSSIP.

A meeting of the Bath and West and Southern Counties Society's Show Dates Committee was recently held at the Town Hall, Dorchester, in order to consider what would be the most suitable dates for the society's 1908 exhibition at Dorchester. The mayor presided, and it was unanimously resolved to recommend to the society's council that the exhibition be opened on Wednesday, June 3, and closed on Whit-Monday, June 8, a very strong opinion having been expressed by those well acquainted with the locality that these would be the most suitable dates for Dorchester that could be selected.

A deputation from the society, consisting of Lord Wynford, Colonel the Hon. C. Byng, the Hon. J. R. de C. Boscawen, Major Sherston, Colonel Parry Okeden, and Messrs. A. H. Gibbs, T. E. Studdy, G. Gibbons, A. O. Sillifant, C. L. F. Edwards, J. Rossiter, and T. F. Plowman, secretary, accompanied by the Mayor and other members of the local committee, then visited the site proposed for the exhibition, which is the same as that occupied by the society on its two last visits—viz., in 1872 and 1887. The exhibition having considerably grown in extent in recent years, it was found necessary to add eight acres of adjoining land.

A public meeting in connection with the arrangements for the show of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, to be held in Newcastle next year, took place the other day in the Town Hall, Newcastle, there being a large and influential gathering. The Lord Mayor (Mr. J. M. Oubridge), who presided, thanked those present for having come in such large numbers, and said he thought it augured well for the success of the Royal Agricultural Show in the year 1908. They hoped to make that show as great a success as, if not even greater than, the one held twenty years ago in that city. The local committee and various officers were then elected, the Duke of Northumberland being chosen as president.

In thanking the meeting for the compliment paid him, the Duke of Northumberland said he took it for granted that they all wished to give a hearty reception to the Royal Show when it came amongst them; and he thought they had special reasons for wishing that meeting a success, because, as they knew, the society had passed through some rather sharp vicissitudes lately. It gave up for a time its policy of being peripatetic. He had always considered that it was a great mistake to have done so; and he thought the proof of the pudding had been in the eating of it, for certainly their career since they became stationary had not been what its well-wishers would have hoped for.

His lordship added that he was glad that they had changed that policy, and he thought it should be their desire not merely to do, as he might say, the ornamental part, not merely to give them a hearty reception in the ordinary sense of the word, but so to direct their efforts that these movable shows should be made successful, and that the Royal Agricultural Society might have an encouragement to continue in their policy, which, if they agreed with him, he believed would be the proper one. And as in that matter pounds, shillings, and pennies were an important factor, he hoped they would remember two things—first of all that they should not encourage the Royal Agricultural Show in anything which might be called extravagance, because that would lead to disaster in the end, and on the other hand that they should liberally support the show locally, so that the fair share of the burden which ought to be borne by any locality to which the show paid the compliment of visiting it should be willingly and cheerfully borne by them.

The entries for the chief sections of the Highland and Agricultural Society's Show at Edinburgh to-morrow (Tuesday) and three following days show a considerable increase on those received for last year's show at Peebles, but they do not compare altogether favourably with the figures of the last show at Edinburgh in 1899. Cattle this year number 370, as against 253 at Peebles, but are 16 short of the 1899 total, whilst horses, when compared with the last Edinburgh exhibition, show a marked decline—460, as against 518. Sheep, too, are not so numerous, the respective figures being 351 and 477, but they are more than last year, when the total was 291. Pigs, poultry, and dairy produce all show an increase, the figures for these sections being 581, 594, and 89, as compared with 40, 138, and 72 respectively at Peebles, and 46, 551, and 44 at Edinburgh in 1899. The returns for the show are, however, above the average, and a first-class display of cattle, horses, sheep, pigs, &c., may be looked for.

Special interest attaches to the Edinburgh Show this year on account of the visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales. Their Royal Highnesses, who will visit the show on the second and third days, will be the guests of the Duke and Duchess of Buccleuch at Dalkeith House, and will drive from there to the show each day.

The financial statement for the Nottinghamshire Agricultural Society's show at Retford shows that on the first day the gate money amounted to £199 6s., and on the second day £231 19s. 7d., which, with the sale of catalogues, &c., brought the total amount to £444 10s. 6d. The receipts at Colwick last year amounted to £680, but this was the highest on record, and the society had then to pay £125 for rent of the field, whereas this year the grounds at West Retford were given free, and the local committee collected and paid over to the Notts Society £300, £84 15s. for the Bassetlaw prizes, and £60 as rent of field. It is anticipated that the Bassetlaw Farming Society will benefit to the extent of £100. Considering the wet weather at Whitsuntide this is very satisfactory.

The Berkeley Hunt Agricultural Society have still further increased their prize schedule, and this year offer the handsome sum of over £750 for competition at their sixteenth annual show to be held in a field near Berkeley Castle on August 5. With a view to obtaining even better competition than hitherto, the society has taken out all the classes for pairs in the cattle department, substituting the single animal in each class, and probably this will attract a good many new competitors. Prizes for sheep and pigs have been increased, whilst those for horses are numerous. An alteration in the height of the racing ponies has been made, an extra inch being allowed in each of the three classes. Classes for cheese of various makes, butter, poultry, cider, &c., are also included in this comprehensive schedule, and it is satisfactory to notice that extra prizes are offered for the milking contest for young labourers. Several other interesting items figure in the catalogue, and will no doubt help to make up an altogether attractive exhibition. Entry forms, prize schedules, &c., can be had of the secretary, Mr. G. Clark, Severn Lodge, Berkeley.

SHOW SECRETARIES.



Mr. G. CLARK,
Berkeley Hunt Agricultural Society.

The prize schedule for the Whalley Agricultural Association's annual show, to be held at Whalley on Saturday, the 27th inst., contains over 200 classes, which provide for horses both light and heavy cattle, sheep, pigs, butter, eggs, cheese, implements, poultry, pigeons, rabbits, and dogs. Quite a number of special awards are offered, and the total sum assigned in prizes for competition must run to a good figure. The society is a member of the Lancashire Federation, so that entries will definitely close at the times stated, which are for dogs, Monday, July 22, other exhibits, July 23, the time being 10 a.m. on both days. Prize schedules, entry forms, &c., can be had of the Secretary, Mr. J. M. Rawcliffe, Whalley, near Blackburn.

The twelfth annual show of horses, dogs, poultry, and pigeons at Upholland will take place on Wednesday, July 24, in the Abbey Lakes Pleasure Grounds. In addition to good class prizes, a large number of specials are offered for competition, and should attract a good entry. The society is affiliated with the Lancashire Federation, so that entries will definitely close at 10 a.m. on July 20, except for dogs, which close 10 a.m., July 19. The hon. secretary is Mr. G. H. Scrivener, Greenfield, Upholland, Wigan.

The Peterborough Agricultural Society's annual three-day show opens to-morrow (Tuesday) and promises to be as successful as any of its predecessors, all that is required being fine weather. An attractive programme on similar lines to last year has been drawn up, and it is safe to assert that given fine weather, there will be the usual large and distinguished attendance of visitors from all parts of the country.

The report to be presented at the annual meeting of the West of England Fat Stock and Poultry Society states that last year's exhibition resulted in a loss of £18 1s, leaving a credit balance at the Naval Bank of £30 15s. 3d. The last show was considered the best in the history of the society in every way, comparing it with the previous, although a loss of £18 1s. was sustained on the last, and the previous show a profit was made. There was at the last show £25 odd more prize money paid, £9 more for fitting up the show, a loss on gate money of £16, and £11 less in subscriptions. The thirty-seventh annual exhibition will be held at the Market, Plymouth, on Wednesday and Thursday, December 11 and 12, 1907, and it is to be hoped this will prove a financial success.

At a meeting of the local committee for the Devon Agricultural Association's show at Bideford the town clerk (Mr. W. B. Seldon) reported a balance in hand of £109 15s. 6d. The finance committee recommended that the secretary be paid £40, instead of £30 as estimated; that £50 be refunded to the town council towards the £114, the cost of laying the water main to the show; and that 15 guineas and what balance, if any, there may be after defraying the cost of advertising the balance-sheet, &c., be paid to Bideford Infirmary. —These recommendations were adopted.—The Mayor (Mr. J. M. Metherell), who was specially thanked as a moving spirit in the reception, said the County Association was more than satisfied, and would, he thought, be only too pleased to come to Bideford again. He believed their balance-sheet was also on the right side, though he had been told they expected to lose £500 by the visit.

Judges at the Royal Dublin Horse and Sheep Show.

The following have agreed to officiate as judges at the above show, viz.:—

Thoroughbred stallions and brood mares to produce weight carrying hunters.—William H. Dunn, Wallingtons, Hungerford; C. W. Tindall, Wainfleet, Lincolnshire. Thoroughbred brood mares and yearlings.—J. Simons Harrison, Hurn Lodge, Beverley; Ernest Turner, Heath Lodge, Newmarket, Cambs. Referee for thoroughbreds.—The Rt Hon. the Earl of Coventry, 1, Balfour Place, Park Lane, London. Hunters and young horses suitable for hunters.—W. Henry Barber, Culham Court, Henley-on-Thames; Gordon Cunard, Thorpe, Lubenham, Market Harborough: George Gordon, Wincombe Park, Shaftesbury; W. G. Lambarde, Bradbourne Hall. Sevenoaks; Major A. Hughes Onslow, Brannston, Oakham; The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Orkney, The Tythe House, Stewkley, near Leighton Buzzard; The Rt. Hon. Lord Southampton, Park Place, Englefield Green: Thomas Wickham-Boynton, Burton Agnes Hall, Driffield. Referee for hunters.—Owen C. Wallis, West Haddon Hall, Rugby. Riding cobs and ponies.—Sir Merick Burrell, Bart., Knepp Castle, Horsham. Harness horses —William Foster, Mel-Valley, Moseley, Worcestershire; R. G. Heaton, The Ferry, Charteris, Cambs.

Border Leicester Sheep. — James Jeffrey, Duchrie, Prestonkirk, N.B. Roscommon Sheep. —James McCullagh, Glaslough, co. Monaghan. Lincoln Sheep.—J. E. Caswell, Laughton, Folkingham, Lincs. Black-faced and Cheviot Sheep. —James Allen, Balnacoole, Shiskine, Arran, N.B. Shropshire Sheep.—Thomas A. Bulltar, Corston, Coupar Angus, N.B. Oxford, Hampshire, and Southdowns and Suffolks.—Robert W. Hobbs, Kelmscott, Lechlade.

The entries for sheep close on July 18, and for horses on July 25. Applications for entry forms, &c., should be addressed to the Agricultural Superintendent, Leinster House, Dublin.

THE ROYAL SHOW.

Prizes for Farm Servants.

A feature of the Lincolnshire county show has always been the classes set apart for farm servants and continuous farm service. This year the idea was incorporated by the authorities of the Royal, and with marked success. Mr. John Stainton, of the Grange Farm, Winterton, obtained the first prize for working agricultural foreman or bailiff. For thirty-nine years he has been with Mr. Calvert Popple and his family. The second prize-winner proved to be Mr. William Holmes, of Rothwell Vale, Caistor, who has been an equal number of years with Mr. S. McAulay and his predecessors the third prize went to Mr. Edward Holmes, of Mere Hall Farm, Lincoln, with over thirty-seven years' service with the family of Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons, and the fourth to Mr. John Thorpe, of Wilsford, Grantham, with thirty-five years' service.

Eleven shepherds of long service competed in a class of their own. The winner was Joseph Baker, of Skellingthorpe, Lincoln, with thirty-seven years' continuous service; the second, Charles Ogden, Wellingore, Lincoln, with a similar record; the third, John Rippingale, of Welton, Lincoln, with thirty-five years; and the fourth, John Thornton, of Birthorpe, Folkingham, with thirty-four years to his credit. Prizes were also offered to shepherds who had reared the greatest proportionate number of lambs from not less than 200 ewes and gimmers belonging to the same person or partners. In this class the winners were:—1, Ranyard Edward, of Anderby Grange, Huttoft, S.O. (who had reared 551 lambs); 2, William Graves, Baumber Park, Horncastle (348 lambs); and equal 3, William Beckett, Wellingore, Lincoln (292 lambs), and William Waby, Broughton Vale, Brigg (317 lambs).

There were prizes for the labourers who had brought up and placed out the greatest number of children without having received parochial relief. Premiums were also given for farm waggoners, servants with the longest continuous service, working blacksmiths or carpenters, and for female servants, all these classes proving most successful.

Milk Yields and Butter Tests.

The milk yields and butter tests resulted in a remarkable victory for the Lincoln Red Shorthorns. Burton Vic 2nd, a nine-year-old cow belonging to Mr. John Evens, Burton, Lincoln, gave 63·2 lb. of milk, containing 3·77 per cent. of butter fat, in the twenty-four hours; or, roughly, 6¼ gallons. With this she accordingly won in the Shorthorn class, and afterwards took the special prize over all the breeds, in the butter tests. She also achieved a further victory in the butter tests, where she beat all the Jerseys except one, her yield of butter in twenty-four hours (from the above milk) being 2 lb. 5¾ oz., the ratio being 26·75 lb. of milk to 1 lb of butter. The winning Jersey in the butter test was one shown by the Marquis of Winchester, which gave 2 lb. 7 oz. of butter in twenty-four hours.



COLONEL RUSTON,

Who, as Mayor of Lincoln and President of the Local Committee, did so much to ensure the success of the Royal Agricultural Society's Show at Lincoln.

Meetings of Societies.

Shorthorn Society.

The annual general meeting of the Shorthorn Society of Great Britain and Ireland was held in the showyard on the third day. The report of the council, which was adopted, stated that the society now consists of 593 life members and 1,058 annual members, making a total of 1,651 members on the register. The balance in the hands of the society's bankers was £620 19s. on the current account, and £1,500 on deposit, the society's reserve fund in the consolidated stock (valued at 85 per cent.) being £8,670 on December 31, and £850 (valued at 85 per cent.) purchased since that date. The fifty-second volume of Coates's Herd Book, issued in 1906, contained the pedigrees of 3,371 bulls and 6,054 cows. For Volume LIII. the pedigrees of 3,801 bulls and 6,846 cows had been received. The number of exportation certificates issued during the past year was 1,772, South America taking, as usual, the great majority. This number, although short of the phenomenal number issued in the previous year, showed a very healthy trade, and there was every indication that the demand for good animals for export would continue.

It was reported that the election of seven members of the council had resulted in the following gentlemen being appointed:—Mr. J. D. Fletcher, Mr. W. T. Garne, Sir Walpole Greenwell, Bart., Mr. George Harrison, Lord Polwarth, and Mr. Edmund Potter.

Mr. John Thornton suggested that at the next year's Royal Show the group class for bulls should be "bull and his offspring," instead of "bull and his male offspring."

The chairman promised that the matter should receive the consideration of the council.

Votes of thanks to Lord Moreton, the president, and to Lord Northbrook, who presided in the absence of the president, brought the meeting to a close.

SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS.

SUSSEX COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

MEETING AT HASTINGS, AUGUST 14 & 15, 1907.

ENTRIES for OPEN and LOCAL CLASSES close as follows:—

Agricultural Horses, Milking Trials Dairy Cattle, Shorthorns, Sussex, Aberdeen-Angus, Jersey, Guernsey and Dexter Kerry Cattle, Southdown, and Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep, Wool and Butter close July 8.

(Post Entries at double fees, July 13).

Hunters, Hackneys, &c., July 15.

(Post Entries at double fees, July 20).

Harness and Jumping Classes finally close at noon, August 12th; Implements and Machinery, July 15.

Prize Schedules and Entry Forms on application.

F. B. DYER, Secretary.

182a, High Street, Lewes.

HARROGATE & DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

President: HY. WILLIAMS, Esq., J.P.

Will be held JULY 25, 1907.

Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Poultry, Pigeons, Four-in-hands, Jumping, &c.

Entries close July 18.

Schedules from the Secretary,

G. SAVELLI.

Park View, Harrogate.

COLESHILL HORTICULTURAL and HORSE SHOW, TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 1907.

Jumping, Driving, Hunters, Turnouts, &c. Nearly £170 in prizes.

Entries close July 23, 1907. For schedules, apply to—

W. H. M. BARTON, Secretary.

Coleshill, near Birmingham.

WORTHING & West Sussex Horse Show and Jumping and Driving competition, in Beach House Park, Worthing, Wednesday, August 7th, 1907. Handsome Prizes. Entries close July 24th.

Schedules of Prizes and Forms of entry may be obtained of WALTER PAINE, Worthing.

HIGHLAND & AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

GREAT SHOW at EDINBURGH, JULY 9, 10, 11, and 12.

T.R.H. the PRINCE and PRINCESS OF WALES will VISIT the SHOW on WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY.

ADMISSION.

Tuesday (during Judging), 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., 5s.

Wednesday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., 3s.; 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., 1s.

Thursday, 8 a.m., to 5 p.m., 2s.; 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., 1s.

Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., 1s.

Parades of Horses and Cattle.

Great Jumping Competitions.

Military Band and Pipers.

UP-HOLLAND & DISTRICT SHOW (Lancashire Federation), Wednesday, July 24th, 1907. Judges: Cattle, Pigs, and Heavy Horses.—G. H. Dean, Esq. Light Horses and Turnouts.—G. Pimlott, Esq. Dog entries close July 19, at 10 a.m.; other Exhibits July 20, at 10 a.m. Schedules, G. H. Scrivener, Up-Holland, near Wigan.

BAKEWELL FARMERS' CLUB. President for 1907, A. S. Marsden-Smedley, Esq., Darley Dale. The 59th Annual Exhibition of Horses (Shires, Hunters, Jumpers, Hackneys, and Turnouts), Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Wool, Roots, Cheese, and Butter, also open Trotting and Galloping Races, will be held at Bakewell, on Wednesday, August 14th, 1907. Upwards of £450 in Prizes, Challenge Cups, and Medals. Live Stock and Produce entries close Monday, August 5th. Racing, August, 9th. Schedules and entry forms, may be had on application to WILLIAM J. CLARK, Secretary, Farmers' Club, Bakewell.

THE CLEVELAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The 74th Annual Show will be held at Redcar on

WEDNESDAY, JULY 31.

Nearly £400 in Prize Money and Specials. Schedules from THOS. TURNER, Agent, Eston, R.S.O., Yorks.

DURHAM COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—President, The Most Honourable the Marquis of Londonderry, K.G. The ANNUAL SHOW will be held on THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 1907, in the picturesque grounds of Wynyard Park, Stockton-on-Tees (generously granted by the President). Upwards of £1,000 given in prizes for Horses, Cattle, Sheep, &c. Also two pieces of Silver Plate to cost not less than £25 each (the gift of the President) to be won outright in the classes for Shorthorn Cattle. Entries close Tuesday, July 30, 1907. Prize schedules for Dogs, Poultry, Pigeons, &c., on application to the Hon. Secretary, G. H. Proctor, Esq., Flass House, Durham. Prize schedules for Horses, Cattle, Sheep, &c., on application to the Secretary,

WM. CHRYSTAL.

Houghton-le-Spring.

FELTON AND WARKWORTH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

FELTON SHOW, MONDAY, August 5th, 1907.

£130 in Premiums for ordinary classes.

Special Prizes for Leaping. Open Competition.

Entries close July 18th, 1907.

Price Lists on application to the Secretary.

J. BARKER, High Stanners, Morpeth.

WEST GLO'STER FARMERS' CLUB SHOW.

DURDHAM DOWN, BRISTOL.

AUGUST 5, 1907 (Bank Holiday).

Open Classes Cart Horses, Harness Horses, Speed and Action.

£22 Open Jumping Class.

Entries close July 6.

Post Entries (double fees), close July 13.

HENRY NICHOLS, Secretary.

Iron Acton, and 26, Nicholas Street, Bristol.

ARUNDEL & DISTRICT HORSE, AGRICULTURAL, HORTICULTURAL and POULTRY SHOW, at ARUNDEL CASTLE PARK, AUGUST 6, 1907.—For particulars, apply to E. J. MOSTYN, Estate Office, Arundel, Secretary Horse Show; or to C. BARTLETT, General Secretary, Tulchan, Arundel.

MALTON AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW.—WEDNESDAY, JULY 24, 1907. President: The Rt. Hon. Viscount Garnock. Entries close July 6. Special Prizes for Tenant Farmers' Hunters Brood Mare and Foal, Hackney Stallions, &c., &c. Schedules and entry forms on application to the Secretary—THOS. MITCHELL, The Mount, Malton.

GAINSBOROUGH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

ANNUAL SHOW, MONDAY, AUGUST 5 (Bank Holiday).

£225 in Prizes.

Open Classes in Hackney, Hunter and Shire Horses, Driving, Jumping, &c. Entries close July 30. Schedules from

T. J. DIXON, Hon. Sec.

KEELE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Keele Estates and North Staffs Hunt Show.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 8th, 1907. £750 Prizes.

Entries close July 29: double fees later—dogs excepted.

Open Classes. Turn outs. Horse Leaping. Sheep Dog Trials.

Schedules ready.

Silvrrdale, Staffs, W. A. BENSON.

ROYAL DUBLIN SOCIETY

HORSE and SHEEP SHOW, AUGUST 27, 28, 29, 30.

For Prize Lists and Entry Forms apply to the Agricultural Superintendent, Leinster House, Dublin.

(By Order) RICHARD J. MOSS, Registrar.

WHALLEY Agricultural Show (Est. 1810). (Lancashire Federation.) Annual Show, Saturday, July 27th. Many open classes, with valuable prizes for Hunters, Hackneys, Shires, Jumpers, Cattle, etc. Prize Lists, from J. M. RAWCLIFFE, Whalley, Blackburn. Entries close 10 a.m., July 23rd.

National Cattle Breeders' Association.

At the meeting of the National Cattle Breeders' Association, held on the second day, a suggestion from the Hereford Cattle Breeders' Association regarding the application of the tuberculin test was considered. The association urged that all animals which reacted to the test should be excluded from the Royal Show. After some discussion it was agreed to have the full debating of this important question held over until October. It was further pointed out that the existing Australian rule regarding the application of the test bore severely on exporters. In the meantime animals must be tested within ten days of shipment, but it was argued at the meeting that this did not give shippers a fair chance of filling up blanks. The Australian authorities are to be approached on the subject.

National Pig Breeders' Association.

The annual general meeting of the National Pig Breeders' Association was held in the large tent on the show ground on the first day of the show, June 25. In the absence of the president, the president-elect, Sir G. Greenall presided.

The report and balance-sheet, which had previously been sent to the members, were adopted. The report stated that the satisfactory condition of the association still continued, there being an increase in the membership of twenty-five, bringing up the number to 192; of these, thirty are life and 162 are annual members. The association is in a very satisfactory financial position, the balance in hand at the end of the year being £75 18s. 3d., with £700 invested in securities which, considering that £54 was given to the R.A.S.E. for extra classes, compares favourably with previous years. Only one subscription is in arrear for 1906.

A very great increase has taken place in the number of entries for Vol. XXIII., the total 1,660 being an increase of nearly 700 over Vol. XXII., and 270 more than the previous highest number. They come from 159 breeders and 347 owners, and are divided as follows:—Large Whites—boars 356, sows 905; total, 1,261. Middle Whites—boars 43, sows 112; total, 155. Small Whites—boars 2, sows 2; total, 4. Tamworths—boars 87, sows 153; total, 240. The greatest increase is in the Large Whites, but that in the Tamworths is very satisfactory.

The conditions of entry for Vol. XXIV. are as follow:—For a boar, that the sire and dam are registered. For a sow, that the sire and dam are registered, or that the sow proposed to be entered has four crosses of registered blood—viz., that the sire, sire of dam, sire of grand dam, and sire of great grand dam are registered boars. All sows whose sire and dam are already entered or eligible for entry must be registered. The name, age, and breeder of the dam, grand dam, and great grand dam when not registered must be given. The prefixes of the breeders only will be allowed, but owners may use their own affixes.

The scrutineers reported that they had examined the voting papers, and declared Messrs. Ashforth, Daybell, Heaton, Ibbotson, and Woollam duly elected members of the council.

On the proposition of Mr. Howard Taylor, seconded by Col. Walker-Jones, Sir G. Greenall, Bart., was elected president.

Mr. Stuart then moved the following resolution:—"That the council of the N.P.B.A. request the council of the R.A.S.E. to make three classes for boars—viz., for boars farrowed in the year of the show, for boars farrowed in the preceding year, and for boars farrowed before the preceding year—and that the association contribute something towards the extra class." A short conversational discussion ensued, and it was ultimately decided to ask the council of the R.A.S.E. to divide the boar classes into three ages.

Mr. Stuart Heaton moved that, if the three classes for boars were granted, the boars farrowed in the year of the show should be for three in a pen instead of a single animal. This, however, after discussion, was negatived by 18 to 12.

Mr. Stuart moved that, in the event of three classes being granted, the ages for boars should be the same as for sows.

Mr. Heaton moved as an amendment that the age be limited to 2½ years. The amendment was declared lost, and Mr. Stuart's resolution was carried.

Mr. Ibbotson then moved the resolutions standing in his name:—

1. "That after January 1, 1908, the charge for registering a prefix and affix be £1."

2. "That all prefixes and affixes granted and registered by the association are the property of the grantee so long as he shall remain a member of the association, but are not transferable unless authorised by the council."

3. "That in the case of an application for the transference of a prefix or affix, the council shall satisfy themselves that the whole herd of pigs as represented by such prefix or affix are *bona fide* transferred to a member of the association likely to continue the herd on similar lines as the former owner; that such application shall be made in writing and signed by the vendor, his heirs or assigns, as well as the purchaser; and that the usual fee of £1 shall be charged as for a new prefix."

4. "That any existing bye-law conflicting with these resolutions be rescinded."

The first resolution was seconded by Mr. Hughes and carried.

Coming to the second resolution, the chairman explained that by the articles of association it was laid down that the prefix and affix was the personal property of the member to whom it was granted, and could not be transferred either by his own act or by operation of law. After considerable discussion, and it being pointed out that it would be an expensive matter to alter the articles of association, the resolutions were by leave withdrawn.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the council of the R.A.S.E. for the use of the tent, and to Sir G. Greenall for presiding

A meeting of the council was then held, when it was decided to again offer medals in 1908 to societies complying with the conditions laid down by the association. Twelve new members were elected and six applications for prefixes were granted.

In response to a communication received from the secretary of the American Tamworth Record Society, it was decided to change volumes of the Herd Books with that organisation. It was arranged that the next meeting should be held, as usual, on the Tuesday in the Smithfield Show week.

Agricultural Organisation Society.

The annual meeting of the Agricultural Organisation Society was also held in the showyard, and Mr. R. A. Yerburgh, as president, moving the adoption of the report, announced that there were now 153 affiliated agricultural co-operative societies, with a membership of 9,000. He criticised the Government's proposals on small holdings, and declared that the work proposed to be delegated to the county councils was such that they could not perform. They could not call on the ratepayers to stand at the back of a trade organisation that would compete with farmers.

The report, which was adopted, stated that the directors had received the most gratifying assurances from every part of the country as to the results from the farm seeds supplied to societies through the federation. The prices of seeds had been brought down all over the country, while the directors had taken steps to develop the seeds business in the coming year by issuing a comprehensive catalogue of prices for garden and vegetable seeds available in quantities to suit the largest users and the small allotment cultivators.



THE DOSSOR PATENT SEED DRESSER.

The Dossor Patent Seed Dresser.

Mr. F. M. Dossor, of 15, Auckland Road, Doncaster, was one of the competitors in the new implement section at the Royal Show at Lincoln, and he was awarded a silver medal for his patent seed dresser, an illustration of which we give on this page.

This machine marks a new departure in the method of cleaning clovers and similar small seeds. The work is done by a series of overlapping belts combined with covers and hoppers which check and redistribute the seed to each belt. Seeds of light weight, irregular shape, rough surface, &c., are caught and thrown over the tops of the belts, and issue at the side of or into the tray of the machine. Good and heavy seed continues its passage downward, and is discharged in front of the machine.

Docks, dodder, mallow, chickweeds, carrot, parsnip, stonecrop, owlscrown, thistles, sorrel in the cosh, and many other varieties of weeds, dross and dirt, &c., are extracted in the same operation from any clovers in which they are separately or collectively present. The appearance of the seed is, by frequent contact with the belts, brightened and improved. With the Chilian Red (probably one of the most difficult seeds to clean) the machine is most successful. The work is thoroughly done at much less cost than is usual with other methods. Seeds dressed on this machine may be guaranteed free from docks.

The dressings can be reduced to contain practically nothing but weeds and dirt, and the waste of good seed is avoided. Indeed as regards dressings it is claimed that this machine can start where others leave off, for 50 per cent. of saleable seed is frequently recovered from the waste of other machines.

The capacity of the machine is from 15 cwt. to 20 cwt. per 9 hours day, the feed being regulated by the foulness of the seed to be treated, and the degree of cleanliness desired.

The machine occupies a floor space of under 4 ft. square, it is 7 ft. 9 in. in height, can be moved about if desired, and is not liable to get out of order.

It can be easily driven by one man or by small motive power. Where power is used one man can handle three or four machines.

Mr. Dossor claims that his machine is capable of more varied work, and that it will give cleaner seed with less labour and less waste than any other machine now on the market.

Farming Necessities at the Royal Show.

(*Concluded from page* 16).

The Sulphate of Ammonia Committee, of 4, Fenchurch Avenue, London, E.C., were amongst the few exhibitors of fertilisers, their stand naturally being chiefly confined to samples of sulphate of ammonia as produced at gas, coke oven, shale oil, &c., works in the British Isles. The remainder of the stand was given to specimens of agricultural produce grown by the aid of sulphate of ammonia, and they bore excellent testimony to its efficacy.

Manure distributors were the feature of the stand of Messrs. J. and R. Wallace, Castle Douglas, N.B., who also showed a milking machine which won a silver medal at the Park Royal Show of 1905, and a sheep dipper; the sheep is put into a perforated cage, which is then lowered into the dipping tank, and by its use two men can dip as many as 200 sheep in an hour.

Rats and mice are such an unmitigated nuisance that farmers are always willing to hear of something that will exterminate them; thus the stand of Messrs. Evans, Sons, Lescher, and Webb, Ltd., 56, Hanover Street, Liverpool, and 60, Bartholomew Close, London, E.C., who exhibited the Liverpool "Virus" for exterminating rats and mice received much attention. The "Virus," which is manufactured by the Incorporated Liverpool Institute of Comparative Pathology, has been used with the greatest success without danger to human beings, domestic animals, game, or poultry, and without smell—an important feature.

In our notice of the stand of Messrs. Tangyes, Ltd., the address was given incorrectly. It is, of course, Cornwall Works, Birmingham.

Messrs. Thomas and Son, 64, Broad Street, Worcester, had a fine display of windmills, together with "Climax" syphon pump, artesian pumps, and a "Climax" irrigation pump. The windmills had towers ranging from 30 ft. to 40 ft., and were especially suitable for agricultural purposes.

Mr. A. Morten, Beeley Poultry Farm, Rowsley, Derbyshire, confined his exhibits to the "Hall" patent poultry house and scratching shed, which was unsuccessfully entered in the competition for new implements. The feature of this house is its perfect ventilation, and has won for it several prizes, including first and silver medal at the London Dairy Show last year.

Messrs. P. J. Parmiter and Sons, Harrow Works, Tisbury, Wilts, made a feature of harrows, and these were shown in various sizes, both double-tined flexible, for general arable and pasture work, and the flat bow single tine. Rakes and horse hoes also figured at this firm's stand, among them being a five-row patent sectional hoe made to take from three to six rows of roots, whilst it can be used as a spring cultivator by changing tines.

Horse hoes were also a prominent feature of the stand of Messrs. J. Bentley Fenton and Sons, North Road Works, Sleaford; but equally prominent was their display of the Little Wonder and Little Gem ploughs.

Corn-dressing and seed-cleaning machinery made up the stand of Mr. W. J. Elsey, 2, Coltbridge Terrace, Murrayfield, Edinburgh, and a most attractive one it proved, the variety of the machines there were over half a dozen—adding much to the interest.

The crops on the farm of Mr. J. Evens, of Burton, the first prize winner in the farming competition at the Royal Show, were grown by the aid of chemical fertilisers supplied by Messrs. Lindsey and Kesteven Co., of Saxilby, Lincolnshire, which is a farmers' company established in 1864, of which Mr. William P. Jackson has long been the manager.

If a record had been taken of what was considered the most interesting exhibit in the various stands we think the vote would have been given to the L-K-G. milking machine, shown by Vacca, Ltd., 7, Denman Street, London, S.E. Among those who took an interest in the machine was H.M. the King, who, in the course of his inspection of the showyard noticed the exhibit, and had the manager to explain the method of operation. His Majesty expressed surprise that cows should stand quiet under the operation, and inquired particularly as to whether the animals used were trained. When he was told that they were not only not trained but were to some extent wild, the King remarked that that was an invention which should succeed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Outlook in North Westmorland and East Cumberland.

SIR,—One half of 1907 is now a matter of history so far as agriculture is concerned, and so far as weather is concerned, which is the chief promoter of prosperity or adversity in agriculture, it has been a season of extremes and upon the whole unfavourable to agriculture.

February fully sustained its proverbial uncertainty of fill dyke with either black or white, as it supplied us plentifully with both. March, though not unfavourable to out-door labour, was cold and ungenial throughout, but the latter part of it and the early part of April supplied us with a good seed-bed for spring corn, which germinated quickly and healthy; but May proved one of the coldest and wettest months the oldest inhabitant can remember, and almost suspended all operations for the cleaning of land for green crop, more especially on cold, strong land, and although June is now past, we have had little else but rain, which has rendered it impossible to properly till the ground for green crop and committing the seed to the ground.

The result is, up to the last week in June, hundreds of acres intended for potatoes and other green crop remained unsown, therefore the prospects for green crop for all but dry soils are very unfavourable indeed, and cannot but have an unfavourable effect upon the price of all store stock in the autumn.

To add to the difficulties of farmers and landlords, an edict has been issued by the Local Government Board to compel the providing of 800 ft. of air space for all dairy cows, and the said board is presided over by an absolute autocrat whose knowledge of agriculture is absolutely nil.

What about the cuckoo cry of back to the land? Why, it is neither more nor less than a mockery, a delusion, and a snare.—Yours, &c., T. B.

July 2, 1907.

Marking of Foreign Eggs and Poultry.

SIR,—With dismay for some months now I have noticed the action that is being taken by certain persons, supposed to be interested in poultry, with regard to the marking of foreign eggs and poultry. As the Poultry Conference was due so shortly, I thought there could not be a better matter or opportunity for discussion. On May 22, I approached Mr. Brown on the subject. It was referred to the committee, who said it was political and contentious, and could not well have a place in their programme, but if occasion offered perhaps I might introduce it in the course of discussion in certain papers. This would only give it a minor position instead of a prominent one, which latter I think most necessary, for if those persons succeed in obtaining what they ask for, my opinion is, and has been for a long time, that the British industry will be ruined. I am glad to see that at last there is a sign of others sharing that opinion. But I note that various societies and committee meetings have passed resolutions in favour of the marking. Have they thought at all of the natural consequences? Have not these resolutions been passed, as most resolutions are nowadays, without discussion, in the following manner: Resolution proposed, seconded, and declared unanimously carried, all in one breath (four at a meeting and all wanting to get away)? Why should the subject be made political? The fact of the Government interfering spells disaster in some form or other.

I will endeavour to point out what is most likely to happen should foreign produce be marked. The foremost reason advanced in favour is that the tradesman sells foreign productions for British. Because the tradesmen in the British Isles deal fraudulently, why should the producers suffer? Would it not be more reasonable to deal with the person who commits the fraud? Now, if it were possible to mark all this produce, as suggested, the following would be the inevitable result: The tradesman has it in his shop with the date on; therefore it must be sold immediately. He will push it all he can in preference to those that are not marked (that can wait until stale). He will do a greater trade than ever. And the foreigners will benefit, and chuckle at those fools of English, who are ever wishing to cut their neighbours' throats but only succeed in cutting their own. Does not the Danish Consul foresee this? He is perfectly willing to have the marking done.

Now take the consumers' side. They see a certain date on an article. They know exactly then its freshness, and deal accordingly. But will they have anything unmarked? No! Because it might be months old, and probably in many cases the surmise would be correct, and of course there is no guarantee (?) that the process is of a certain date.

So that both tradesman and consumer would combine to defeat the supposed end of these agitators, and, as usual, the poor down-trodden producer would suffer. Further, why should an attempt be made to debar the consumer from having what the home producer is utterly unable to supply? Let there be open markets for all the trade, and no politics be drawn into the question. Unless new-laid eggs and poultry are supplied direct from farm to consumer, there is not much chance of the English produce being fresh. The tradesman buys eggs when they are cheap and keeps them until they are dear and stale, then sells them at the enhanced price. The customer gets bad eggs and complains, the tradesman says they come from a certain farm, and then the farmer gets condemned.

I do not belong to the National Poultry Organisation, but I thoroughly believe they are going the right way to work to improve the poultry industry, and this last fad will probably upset all their good work if carried out. Let poultry breeders, therefore, first of all go for the dishonest trader, middleman or merchant, and themselves deal in an honest, straightforward manner, after the style of the National Poultry Association. If that society will only combat this present proposal of marking foreign produce, then I say join that society, and protect the industry by fair means.—Yours, &c., E. MOUL.

Hollybank, Woking.

Migratory Farmers.

SIR,—According to an old saying a rolling stone gathers no moss, but it is equally true that a sword may hang up till it rusts. It is all a question of circumstances, and whereas one man acts wisely in spending his lifetime in the place of his birth, another does better by moving away and seeking fortune elsewhere. Taking them as a whole, farmers are not a migratory class of men, and the names of certain families have been familiar in certain places for generations.

Owing to the changed conditions of agriculture, however, farmers have been compelled to move about more of recent years, and in most counties one meets with farmers who are natives of some distant shire. It must be said also that a farmer who has moved and settled in another county is not quite the same individual as he was in his home. When he moves he leaves a good deal of his native conservatism behind him, because in rubbing shoulders with the world he meets with different people and sees different ways, with the result that his ideas are broadened.

It is a very easy thing to get into a rut. One is brought up amid narrow surroundings and taught to conform to a certain set code of methods and ideas until it becomes part of one's nature. The code may be good in its way, but it does not follow that it is the only one, or that there is not a better, and when a man is brought into touch with the ways of other people he has an opportunity of judging as to whether they are superior to his own. An infusion of fresh blood is always good, and when a farmer gets into a new district he takes with him ways and ideas which may be criticised at first, but in many cases are eventually adopted by his neighbours. A farmer who leaves one county and commences business in another must necessarily become a learner to a certain extent, and perhaps this is why we generally find him with a more receptive and open mind, less prejudiced, and more ready to learn than the men who have been born and bred in the district.

The restless native spirit of Scotchmen is proverbial, but they possess a faculty of enterprise which stands them in good stead, for wherever the Scotch farmer goes he generally succeeds. As a case in point, I may mention the instance of a man of my acquaintance who was brought up in one of the potato-growing districts of Scotland. He came south, and one of the first things he did was to commence growing early potatoes for market. Such a thing had never been heard of in the district before, and his neighbours, in a kindly manner, attempted to persuade him out of adopting such a sure and certain way of losing his money. But Scotchmen can generally see the end of a job when they are at the beginning of it, and it was so in this case, for the potato growing succeeded, and has since been taken up by the critics who condemned it.

After recording this instance I hasten to add that when a farmer moves from one county to another he should go slowly at first. The methods adopted may be different from those he has been used to, and perhaps they are not in accordance with his ideas altogether. They are the ways of the locality, however, and owing to some peculiarity of circumstances, they may be the best. This is what the new-comer has to find out for himself, and in his own interests he acts wisely if, at the beginning, he falls in with the methods and customs of the district. After he has done this for a time he can prove for himself whether his own methods are qualified to answer better, and, if so, he can easily apply them. One hears occasionally of the failure of men who have gone into a new district and commenced straight away to work in opposition to set ways and customs. No greater mistake could be made, for the strong argument in favour of at first adopting native methods is that they have been tried and have answered. It does not follow from this that better ways cannot be introduced, but the thing is to prove the old before experimenting with the new.

Finally, though I am no advocate of any wholesale system of migration, I believe to a certain extent it is good, and when farmers from one county settle down in another they often succeed where natives have failed. New associations are also good at times. We can all learn from each other, unless we are absolutely stupid, and the coming of a strange farmer into a district is not infrequently beneficial to him and also the people amongst whom he settles.—Yours, &c., LUX.

Agricultural Notes from Kent.

SIR,—I was about to write that haymaking is becoming general, but this would not be quite correct. I can only say grass cutting. With the weather we have had lately it is impossible to "make hay."

Almost everywhere there is an abundance of grass, and farmers have been hoping against hope for the desired change of weather that has not come. June was cold, wet, and dismal nearly all through, and July has so far shown an inclination to carry on the depressing conditions.

The older farmers are beginning to wonder whether 1907 is to resemble 1879, when no crop could be secured in anything like fair condition, corn standing and growing in the shocks till November, and then, of course, comparatively worthless. Already the land has been drenched with a superabundance of rain, and, considering the low range of temperature and absence of sun, it is almost surprising that crops have progressed as well as they have.

Fruit has suffered no less than other crops, and now that the strawberry harvest is beginning, the constant washings they undergo must have a very prejudicial effect upon the quality, and no fruit can be good without sufficient sunshine, which alone can give the flavour that characterises the English produce.

Not only fruit, corn, and hay, but hops, potatoes, and, indeed, everything that grows is sadly needing sun and warmth. Should a favourable change occur (alas! there seems to be no immediate prospect of it), it is not even now too late to ensure a good ingathering; but the change must come soon if the year is to avoid being described in the agricultural annals as a disastrous one. We can only wait end hope on.—Yours, &c.,

SOUTH-WEST KENT.

July 4, 1907.

The Small Holdings and Allotments Bill was discussed at length at the last meeting of the Cheshire Chamber of Agriculture. Various views for and against the proposals of the measure were advanced by members, but finally a resolution was unanimously adopted declaring that the Bill "is capable of providing a practical means for enabling the rising generation to attach themselves to the land for a livelihood, and as a means of improving the standard of labourers engaged on the farm with advantage both to themselves and their employers, and with ultimate advantage to the country at large," and trusting that the Bill would soon become law.

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Reports from the Plantations.

England.

The continuance of unsettled weather is gradually influencing the tone of the reports I have received. At the beginning of the week I found that the occasional improvement had here and there shown some good results, the bine having rapidly responded to the more genial atmosphere. Many of my correspondents were able to speak of healthy progress without qualification, although it is true that others reported weakness and slowness of growth. But as we have again experienced cold nights, and boisterous winds with chilly rains, I am not surprised to receive later reports that are almost uniformly unfavourable.

From these I gather that blight is increasing, that growth is being generally checked, that the foliage is assuming a more sickly appearance, and that mould is more evident. The present aspect of the plantations therefore induces me to conclude that we have arrived at a very critical position. There is little doubt, however, that thus far there is sufficient healthy bine to produce an average crop if the climatic conditions become more seasonable. We are entirely dependent upon the weather; should we be visited by sunshine and warm air, the plant will respond, and the flowering and fruitage will be satisfactory; but should the recent unpropitious climate be continued for only a short time longer, the prospect of even an average yield may be dismissed as improbable and almost impossible. Our future is therefore resting, as the ancients would say, "in the laps of the gods," and at the moment no one can venture to prognosticate what the issue will be.

America.

My correspondents on the Pacific coast write me this week as follows:—"The hop crop in Oregon, Washington and California is in a normal condition. The weather is favourable for the growing crop, and with a continuance of good climatic conditions, the Coast should produce a crop which will estimate conservatively as under:—

Oregon	150,000 bales.
Washington	50,000 ,,
California	100,000 ,,

"The New York growth, owing to the cold, unseasonable spring, is quite backward. Some yards have suffered to such an extent from the cold weather that they cannot recover sufficiently to produce an average yield. In this State, however, they are now having warm, forcing weather, and the vines are progressing well. But we do not think New York will harvest over 50,000 bales, and possibly this estimate will not be reached."

Bavaria.

A sudden change in the temperature has been experienced, and last week the weather was cloudy, with strong wind, and much colder. Comparatively little rain has fallen, and the soil, dried by the S.W. winds, is much in need of moisture. But, despite the retardation of growth caused by the long extension of the wintry climate, the plant is generally strong and healthy, and vermin is practically absent. Growers are therefore fairly well satisfied with present conditions, and are anticipating full average crops.

Bohemia.

Growth has been recently checked by a recurrence of low temperature, and as the plantations are somewhat uneven in appearance, latest reports are not quite so favourable as formerly. In some grounds it is said that the burr is coming out, and as the plant is not yet sufficiently developed for flowering, this precocity is not looked upon as advantageous.

Belgium.

Although the weather has taken an unpropitious turn, checking growth to some extent, the general aspect of the plantations is satisfactory. The vermin attack has practically ceased, and a good average crop is generally expected. More sunshine and higher temperature are, however, earnestly desired.

The Market Barometer.

London.

During the past week the Borough has been evidently aroused from its previous attitude of complete indifference, and has become much more interested in the state of the weather, and the reports from the country resulting therefrom. It is not the policy of buyers to manifest any excitement, but I think we can see indications that their thoughts as to our future prospects are being stirred, and that they are now entertaining the idea of a possible shortage in this year's crop. It is quite evident that our factors have had more inquiries, and that sales have been effected much in excess of the possibilities of a fortnight ago. I hear in some quarters that an advance of a few shillings has been obtained for several lots, and although this is not the experience of all our traders, it is universally admitted that we can recognise a better tone in our affairs, and that the present tendency favours an early improvement in values all round. I congratulate holders upon these indications, which, although they may be but of little immediate importance, are sufficiently satisfactory to encourage the hope for better business. The stocks of available hops are very small, and it is surely incumbent upon holders to make the best of their present opportunity. Much money has been lost during the past season by all concerned in the hop trade, and I earnestly hope that the future may have some recompense in store for some of us.

Nuremberg.

The volume of business has been small during the last few days, but nevertheless the sales have exceeded the arrivals, and stocks have been therefore reduced. Values are fairly maintained, medium qualities realising 70s. to 85s., and better sorts 90s. to 95s. Some small choice parcels have been sold at 100s. to 105s.

Brussels.

Although the trade is limited as to quantity, prices are well supported. Spot hops of 1906 crop are quoted at 43 to 44 francs for Alosts, and 32½ to 34 francs for Poperinghes, contracts being made for 1907 crop at 60 and 55 francs.

America.

My friends report as follows:—"Since our last letter the markets have not undergone any material change. Farmers have held fairly firmly at the last low level reached several months ago. There are now, however, signs of a further weakening, and we believe a great many will try to get out during the next month. Speculators have given up all hope, and are endeavouring to unload. There still remains of the last crop, in growers' possession, about 50,000 bales in the United States, and besides the supplies in the hands of growers, speculators and dealers hold pretty fair stocks."

Agricultural Implements for Manchuria.

In a Consular report issued by the Washington Bureau of Manufactures, it is stated that Manchuria should, within a short time, be a very good market for nearly all kinds of modern agricultural machinery and appliances.

The northern part of the country is very fertile, and embodies exceedingly large tracts of as rich agricultural land as can be found in any part of the world. This land up to the present has only been cultivated in the old crude Chinese way, and there are many large areas which are still in a virgin condition. Settlers are flocking in from other and more densely populated parts of China; but until modern implements are introduced to the farmers' notice the old conditions will continue to prevail.

Now that the inhabitants are turning their attention to farming and other industrial pursuits with renewed zeal, it is believed that within a few years Manchuria will be the best market for agricultural machinery and farming implements in all Asia.

Lincolnshire Notes.

LINCOLNSHIRE is beginning to seriously think about making its hay. The cutting has well begun, and from all appearances the harvesters will have a flattering tale to tell. The crops are heavy and well grown, notwithstanding the too solid skies which have so obstinately declined to let the sunshine through. Indeed, I am told that the harvest will probably be the best for many years. Lincolnshire being one of the driest counties in England—yes, I am quite aware of its ancient reputation—the untoward weather has not rotted the roots as it has in some other parts of the country, and the meadows look wonderfully well.

BUT there comes in the rub. Even the driest county in England must have sunshine to realise its hay harvest. At present the farmer wears a worried look, for he sees possible disaster on the very verge of his success. And all the time the skies are threatening, the winds blow dour and chilly, and the showers keep falling. What is going to be the end of it all? Are we, after all, going to see one of the most promising seasons the farmer ever enjoyed spoiled just at the moment of its realisation? Will not anything penetrate the obduracy of the clerk of the weather. Heavens, can it really be the middle of July!

THE complaints of Mr. John Eastland, a South Lincolnshire farmer, regarding the decision of Earl Carrington to break up the Crown lands, have been considerably reduced under investigation. It seems that he did succeed in bringing his grievances to the ear of Parliament, although no newspaper appears to have deemed the matter of sufficient interest to report it. But a question was asked, and the following reply from Sir Edward Strachey to Sir Walter Long puts the alleged grievance in its true proportions:—

"The right hon. gentleman has been misinformed as to the facts of this case. Mr. Eastland has not been tenant of this farm for sixty years. He only holds it at present as executor of his mother, who was the Crown tenant, and who died in January, 1906. Mr. Eastland was joint tenant with his mother from 1893 to 1898, but his tenancy was then terminated on the ground that the farm was not well managed, and it was subsequently relet to his mother as sole tenant. On his mother's death Mr. Eastland applied to take the farm, which comprises nearly 950 acres, but he was not considered capable of managing so large a holding, and notice to quit at Michaelmas next was therefore given in September last. All this was done before the property was transferred to the management of my noble friend.

"With a view, however, to enable Mr Eastland to retain the old home, my noble friend has offered to let him the farmhouse and principal buildings with about 368 acres of land, and it is proposed to let the remainder for small holdings, for which there is a great demand in the neighbourhood, and for which the land is well suited.

"The 350 acres referred to by the right hon. gentleman consists of marsh land in a very exposed position, and it is not land which is well adapted for small holdings. For some years past the grazing has been let by auction each year in small lots, the rent receivable for the current year being £1,270."

FROM which it will be seen that whoever may be reasonably aggrieved Mr. Eastland is not. Meanwhile the work goes on merrily, and small holdings will soon have another brilliant example in the county of Lincolnshire.

"ON your present lines you have got the best and most hopeful thing that has ever been established in the interests of agriculture." The Lincolnshire Farmers' Union must have blushed under the steady volume of compliment which poured into its stand at the Royal Show at Lincoln last week. The expression I have quoted was Earl Carrington's, who made a bee line for the "red, white, and blue" on entering the show ground on Wednesday.

OTHERS not less complimentary came from Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes, a former President of the Board of Agriculture; Sir E. Strachey, representative of the Board of Agriculture in the House of Commons; Major Craigie, Assistant Secretary of the Board of Agriculture; Major Renton, the member for Gainsborough; Lord Charles Bentinck, Colonel Rolleston, Mr. H. L. Reynard, of Newark, one of the big farmers of the Argentine; Mr. A. H. Mathers, of the Central Chamber of Agriculture; Mr. C. M. S. Pilkington, agent to Lord Middleton; Mr. R. Pattinson, Mr. H. Dudding, Mr. Turton, who is a winner of one of the society's farm prizes; Lord Willoughby de Eresby, and a long list of other notable visitors. The Farmers' Union has made a great scoop. It increased its membership by well into three figures, it showed the ways of organisation to representatives from nearly every county in England, and it has in tow meetings for Peterborough, Thrapston, Oakham, Uppingham, Derby, and Doncaster.

I SHOULD like to make some appropriate comment, but it is quite unnecessary, excepting to say that the message of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union is "other counties please copy." They have but to write to the headquarters at Lincoln, and Mr. Palmer will be all activity on their behalf. We want that British Farmers' Union.

I THINK pretty well all Lincolnshire saw the show, or as much at any rate as could be seen in one day. Friday was the countryman's day, and as the returns show the attendance was far the greatest on that day. They would have been greater but for the failure of the railway companies, whose rolling stock proved quite unequal to the demand, and who left many hundreds of people disappointed on the station platforms. Lincolnshire's verdict was that it was the biggest thing in the agricultural world—the biggest and best. I hope we saw all there was to see. It is a far cry to Newcastle, and it will be a good many years before we get the Royal Show of England in the county of Lincoln again.

JULY is keeping up the record. On Tuesday it brought us a thunderstorm which pretty well devastated the fens and killed some valuable stock in South Lincolnshire. Huge hailstones fell, and the atmosphere was distinctly wintry. What next on the meteorological programme? Will it be the Lincolnshire skating championship?

MESSRS. DEAN, of Dowsby, had an easy victory at the Doncaster Show. Their five pens practically swept up the two classes in which they were exhibited. Mr. G. Marries, of Kermington, Brocklesby, however, came a fair second in the shearling rams. Amongst the Hunters Mr. W. B. Swallow, of Wooton Lawn, Ulceby, won well in the brood mare class with his famous Tugela, and Mrs. C. Wilson, of Kettleby, Brigg, came second amongst the Hunter foals, Mr. Swallow's Diana and Tulip taking the third and the reserve tickets. Mr. Swallow was also first in the yearling colt or filly class with Recruit, and second in the two-year-olds with Alpha. In the class confined to the Badsworth, Lord Fitzwilliam or Lord Galway's hunt, a good third was won by Mr. E. T. H. Pulleine, of Owston, for Perry, whilst Mr. Swallow completed his successes in the Hunters Improvement Society's gold medal for brood mares, and the reserve place for the silver medal for fillies. A notable absentee from the cattle classes was Mr. Henry Dudding, of Riby Hall, who, it was suggested, was probably concentrating his attention on his Riby sale.

July 7, 1907.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

Account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended June 29, 1907, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year (the figures for 1906 are in parentheses):—

Animals, living:—Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves (14,305) 9,514; sheep and lambs (891), 643; horses (499), 287.

Fresh meat:—Beef (108,194 cwt.), 163,581; mutton (41,103), 135,998; pork (3,590), 6,404.

Salted or preserved meat:—Bacon (105,708 cwt.), 109,698; beef (2,656), 3,473; hams (26,520), 24,080; pork (4,922), 6,780; meat (8,821), fresh, 16,445; salted, 921; meat, preserved (9,859), 5,652.

Dairy produce and substitutes:—Butter (91,657 cwt.), 86,894; margarine (17,656) 15,369; cheese (94,078), 65,858; milk, cream (115), 115; milk, condensed (17,560), 4,808; milk, preserved (26), 30.

Eggs (great hundreds):—(447,454), 336,482; poultry (value £6,956), £2,202; game (value £ —), £6; rabbits, dead (not tinned) (467 cwt.), 93; lard (44,514 cwt.), 35,876.

Corn, grain, meal, and flour:—Wheat (2,588,400 cwt.), 2,260,700; wheat meal and flour (227,200), 271,800; barley (244,600), 34,400; oats (458,300) 293,100; peas (19,840), 15,070; beans (3,040), 4,100; maize or Indian corn (927,700), 864,200.

Fruit (raw):—Apples (546 cwt.), 1,089; cherries (32,968 cwt.), 25,068; gooseberries (6,871 cwt.), 8,151; strawberries (5,083), 6,437.

Northern Notes.

WE in the North are far removed from that blissful state of Arcadian happiness we would fain enjoy. The elements are still against us, and our business. Maids this morning are lighting drawing-room fires; and it is hard to realise that we have entered on the month of July, when crowds of holiday-makers should be enjoying life by the "sad" sea waves—(why sad?)—carried thither by accelerated train services.

WE are putting on the best and pleasantest faces we can under the depressing circumstances. A meteorologist has just left me a record of rainfall for the past six months, from which I find that in May and June more rain fell than in the previous four months together. The figures are:—January, 0·827 in.; February, 1·625 in.; March, 1·300 in.; April, 1·685 in.; May, 3·360 in.; June, 2·880 in.; total, 11·677 in.

THESE two dripping months in succession have been a severe trial to the heavy-land farmer at this period of his agricultural year, and one fears there is much dirty land to be contended against for which the weather is alone responsible. It will be impossible to hoe a large number of fields this season, or to do much effective scruffling. Weeds grow as fast as they are disturbed. Hand-picking would be the only effective treatment, but this slow and expensive process is an impossibility.

TAKE the pulling of charlock, for instance. Time was when wagons laden with schoolboys were brought on to the farm from the market towns in agricultural districts to clear the fields of this plant. Where are the boys now? Kept religiously to their desks and books. Farmers are deprived of useful little labourers and parents of the 1s. a day additional income.

TURNIP sowing is not nearly completed, and a waggish farmer suggested the other day that he might finish off his unsown land with a crop of watercress. A low-land farmer reports that in his district mangolds and swedes, along with the "hands," are having a hard struggle against the weather and the rubbish. "My twenty acres," he says, "have cost me three times as much in labour as they should have done, but though the plants are getting to cover nicely the land is still a bit lively."

ON the wolds of Yorkshire the crops all round are in a healthy state, and there is a prospect of a good harvest if the much-needed sunshine comes quickly. Wheat promises well, but on heavy land, where badly farmed and where the outfalls and ditches have not been kept in order, the crop in some cases has almost perished. Oats are above the average, and the prospect is the best for years past.

BARLEY is beginning on these same wold farms to feel the effect of the bad weather, and is looking rather yellow. There will be plenty of straw, and no doubt a good yield. Turnips have been sown rather late, but where the land is in good order, roots are doing fairly well. Beans and clover are exceptionally good, and a heavy yield of hay is anticipated. Haymaking has begun.

THIS "rosy" coloured picture of the farm outlook on the best of wold land must not be accepted as an indication of the general aspect up north; far from it. We heard from the lips of a farmer who had been in business fifty years, that he never knew the barleys to be in a worse predicament than they are this season. This crop has, on some lands, suffered more than any other; the stems are yellow, and the yield must now inevitably be reduced, according to the most moderate computation, by five to six bushels per acre.

THE destructive turnip fly has done already considerable damage to swedes. Usually this pest has been considered to cause the greatest damage in hot, dry weather. This year, however, proves that even in cold, wet weather, the fly can do equal, if not greater damage. Few fields have escaped.

SOME farmers in Ryedale have sown twice, and a second time the fly has destroyed the plant. They have appeared in large numbers on the "runch," and fear is entertained for the young clover, for which the fly has a partiality. A sprinkling of quicklime has usually been effective when other preventives have failed. This is said to be the most cloudy and cold summer for over sixty years.

FOR some time now the papers have not chronicled "abatements" and "returns" of rents. These were pretty frequent in the bad

farming years, and the announcements served a good purpose. The recipients of these abatements and returns, of course, did not need to read about their good fortune in having a portion of their rents handed back; it is the outsiders, the tenants on other estates who wish to know these things, then they can judge whether in their opinion their landlords are behaving as generously as others.

LAST year in a certain locality in the North, a very destructive storm of hail swept across a tract of country, and literally threshed out hundreds of quarters of barley and other grain. Some farmers suffered more than others. The "others" were the men who had got their corn in. The farms of several landowners were affected. One owner immediately sent an assessor on to the holdings of his tenants who had suffered damage, and it is understood these farmers have had their losses made good or largely shared by their excellent landlord.

ANOTHER farmer on an adjoining estate, who suffered to the extent of £300 to £400, has not up to the present received a farthing of consideration. Generous deeds are too frequently hidden. In this particular case, if one landlord had permitted it to be known that he had recouped, or partially recouped, his tenants for the losses sustained by the storm, and for which they were not prepared by insurance, the other landlords would have followed the same generous policy. The withholding of a piece of "good news" may thus be the means of depriving others of like benefits.

A STORM incident has just been reported on the Yorkshire Wolds by a cattle dealer coming from the neighbourhood of York Dale. He says he saw two dense clouds apparently meet and then burst like a great avalanche. The roadways were flooded, also a line of railway to the depth of 3 ft., and the water moved away like a swift river. Several occupants of cottages in the valley were obliged to get up into the hills for safety, and their small possessions of live stock were drowned. The arable fields were almost entirely denuded of the soil, and laid bare to the chalk rock. Thunderstorms had been prevalent in the locality for three or four days.

July 4, 1907.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

"Davy's Devon Herd Book" has now reached its thirteenth volume, and in this details are given of bulls from Nos. 5686 to 5942, and cows from Nos. 21097 to 21790. As usual, the volume is a fairly large one, nicely got up and printed, and containing, in addition to the entries of bulls and cows, considerable information concerning pure-bred Devon cattle and the Devon Cattle Breeders' Society. A word of praise can be accorded the illustrations, which are out of the ordinary run that one sees in herd and flock books.

"Volume XVIII. of the Wensleydale Flock Book," recently issued by the Wensleydale Long Wool Sheep Breeders' Association and Flock Book Society, is on similar lines to the preceding volume, giving, as it does, particulars of flocks, a register of rams, and details of rams bred in 1905, together with other information of interest to breeders of the Wensleydale Long Wool Sheep.

The Suffolk Sheep Society has now issued volume 21 of the Suffolk Flock Book, and it gives particulars of the establishing and replenishing of flocks, with list of sires used in 1906, a register from Nos. 9320 to 9780, a record of prize winners in 1906, and other interesting details, such as the veterinary report for 1906, an article on Suffolk sheep, with their record up to 1906, and as a frontispiece a photo of the late Mr. Thomas Keeble, who held a leading position as a breeder of Suffolk sheep.

An interesting advertising novelty relating to the Norfolk coast holiday resorts has been issued by the Great Eastern Railway Company, and should do much to further the popularity of such places as Cromer, Mundesley, Sheringham, &c. The novelty consists of half a dozen oval or egg-shaped pieces of thick paper fastened together and labelled "Norfolk Nooks," and it gives some concise and illustrated details of the places mentioned.

The Great Eastern Railway Company have issued a handbook of convenient pocket size entitled "Summer Holidays," in which prominence is given to some less known districts in East Anglia, and to the country between the Cromer coast and the Norfolk Broads. Numerous facsimile water-colour and pen-and-ink illustrations are given, and form quite the feature of the work, which is altogether an interesting one.

Nottinghamshire Notes

WHETHER at the market, in the railway train, or in a farmer's house, the chief topic of conversation at the present time is the weather. We have one hour of sunshine each morning, and showers peculiar to April rather than to July for the remainder of the day. That this weird weather we are experiencing is serious for agriculturists is recognised even by residents in the towns. At the present time there are thousands of acres of meadow grass and clover lying on the ground waiting for sunshine. The crops in many districts are extremely heavy, but in the course of my travels this week I have seen a tremendous lot of grass which is practically rotten where it has been laid by the rain. Especially does this apply to spots in the meadows where feeding-troughs were placed, and under the shade of hedges where sheep have lain and so thoroughly manured the land that the grass has grown too long.

LONDON'S halfpenny Press seems to be badly edited so far as agricultural topics are concerned, for I noticed in the *Daily Mail* on Wednesday that the Lincolnshire "root crops are seeding well." A farmer in Nottingham Cattle Market asked me what was meant, but I had to admit that I was puzzled.

ALTHOUGH a good deal has been made of the serious loss to farmers, regarding the hay crop, caused by the wet weather, in the daily Press, I have noticed it stated that beekeepers are also seriously affected. Probably many of my readers are unaware of the large number of hives of bees which have died during the past six weeks. On Tuesday a farmer residing in the little village of Flintham, near Newark, showed me six straw and three box hives, and in only one of these were the bees living, while as yet he has not had a single swarm. The reason for this, he assured me was that they had been unable to get out owing to the inclemency of the weather. To-day I passed through a number of villages and made inquiries from farmers who go in for apiculture, and remarkable to relate, I elicited the fact that the complaint was general, and with the exception of one village—viz., Keyworth, several hives of bees had died. Where the workers are still alive they are being fed as though it was winter.

LOUGHBOROUGH wool sales were a trifle disappointing to farmers, who had looked forward to making 32s. to 34s. per tod. Messrs. German and German sold 8,000 fleeces, and the highest price made was only 12½d. for some very good cross-bred wool. The general run of prices was from 10½d. to 11½d. per lb., which is 2d. to 3d. less than in 1906. Unwashed wools were not wanted, and where a sale was effected only 8d. to 9d. per lb. was made.

MANY people in the country have been commenting upon the success of the Earl of Ellesmere as a pig breeder, though there are only a few who really know that the manager of the herd is no other than Mr. Richmond Daybell, a son of Mr. D. R. Daybell, of Bottesford, who has long been noted for his Large White Yorkshire breed. Last week, at the Royal Show, Mr. Daybell, of Bottesford, which is just over the border of Nottinghamshire, was again a first prize winner for his pigs. It is interesting to note that Mr. Daybell has taken first prize for young boars at nine out of the last ten Royal shows, which is truly a remarkable achievement. Two years ago Mr. Daybell's son succeeded in obtaining the first award for Earl Ellesmere's pigs.

MR. WILLIAM R. DAYBELL, of Bottesford, who is well known among farmers in Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, and Leicestershire, has been successful in his application for an annuity from the Grantham Farmers' Benevolent Institution of £25 per annum. Mr. Daybell obtained 338 votes, Mr. Moulds, of Sproxton, who came next, securing 230. The old gentleman is now sixty-nine years of age, and on reaching seventy the annuity will be increased to £30 a year.

AT Bingham Petty Sessions to-day a remarkable case came before the bench. For some time Mr. John Elliott, farmer, of Langar, has had a cow which gave a very small quantity of milk, and stated in court that he had thought of putting her out for this reason. The cow in question had hitherto been regarded as a good milker, and the cause of her falling off so quickly was a mystery to him. But early this morning Police-constable Huffer discovered the solution to the problem which had puzzled Mr. Elliott. He saw a man named Joseph Flint, of no fixed above, who is known locally as "Robinson Crusoe," milking the cow. On the constable entering the field Flint threw away an old tin can which had contained milk, and in response to a query as to what he was doing there coolly replied, "Looking for mushrooms."

SUCH a statement, in face of what the constable had witnessed, was absurd, and Joseph was thereupon arrested and searched. In his coat pocket were three fairly large bottles all filled with milk, and when brought before the bench they rewarded him for his early morning adventure by sending him to gaol for two months' hard labour, the chairman (Mr. T. B. T. Hildyard, of Flintham Hall, a large land owner) stating that "Robinson Crusoe" had lived for eighteen years by stealing eggs, milk, vegetables, &c., from farmers and others.

MANSFIELD and Worksop butchers had a "field" day on Tuesday. Headed by a brass band, they paraded the streets of Mansfield and took up collections for the local hospital and nursing fund. They afterwards amused themselves with a game of cricket, and a block test competition and tug-of-war were other items in a very successful day's programme, the charities named benefiting by a good round sum.

AT the Doncaster Agricultural Show, on Wednesday, Mr. Wilkinson, of Edwinstowe, North Nottinghamshire, was successful in obtaining second prize in the Hunter class for his filly Lady Bird by Woosthorn, which was first at the Newark and Selby Shows, and second at the Royal last week. In the same class Mr. Oliver Quibell, of Newark, took the third prize with Dawn by Red Eagle. But Mr. Wilkinson took high honours with a fine chesnut gelding, His Grace by Erskine, carrying off premier award. This animal was awarded the premier in the Hunter class at the Agricultural Hall, London, in March, and has taken first prizes at the Newark, Retford, and Selby Shows, and was second to Zealot at the Royal Show. For heifer calves above five months and not exceeding twelve months old, Mr. G. H. Elliott, of Colston Bassett, was reserve with Colston Mary. The judge for butter and eggs at the show was Miss Wyles, of Bassingfield, Nottinghamshire, who is well known in our local dairy sales.

SOME people are constantly saying that land never makes more than £100 an acre in these days, but on Tuesday evening a field of grass containing exactly three acres sold for £660, or £220 an acre, at Kimberley, a village about six miles distant from Nottingham.

July 4, 1907. R. K.

West Country Notes.

WHEN one hears the comments on the present as a wet June, one is tempted to ask what constitutes "a wet season." Clearly, if memories are not treacherous, whose owners declare they have never known so wet a time for June, there must be something more than the actual recorded rainfall which goes to the making of a wet season. We certainly seem to have had very few dry days during the month, yet the actual fall recorded is in some cases a little below, and in others scarcely above, the average. We have had in my neighbourhood only about half an inch more rain than last year, and in 1902 and 1903 this year's amount was far exceeded; 1890 and 1883 were also very wet Junes. The weather was warmer, however, and the rain fell on fewer days in 1902 and 1903.

CHILLINESS of the atmosphere counts for a great deal, as well as the fact that the rain has this year fallen in small and frequent doses. Yet vegetation at the present seems healthy. What it may become with a sudden burst of heat is another question.

DORSET agriculturists have been convened to discuss the Small Holdings question, and also sheep dipping, and they met lately at their county town to exchange ideas. They like neither the one nor the other, and have resolved upon a campaign in favour of amendments of the Bill and of trying to secure some better arrangement than at present with regard to sheep dipping. Devon men have also met on the subject.

A NOVELTY in West Country farming has been discovered, I am told, near Bath; and I shall certainly take an early opportunity of paying a visit to the establishment. Kangaroos are the live stock which give the peculiarity to the enterprise, and they are said to do exceedingly well.

STRAWBERRY croppers of the Mendips are now in full swing of picking and the crop is a heavy one, though sun is badly needed to

bring out the quality. The colour is better than one could have anticipated.

ST. NEOTS in Cornwall has just been holding its annual farm work contests. One or two of these are novel, but very useful. Rope-making is one, spear-making another. Stone-walling—in a different sense to the cricketers' use of the term—marks a very important phase of West Country agriculture. These particular contests have been going on for a third of a century.

CAMBORNE magistrates have had before them a charge of adding boracic acid to milk. The Cornwall County Council had, it was stated, upon receipt of the circular of the Local Government Board, decided to take steps to put a stop to any practice that existed of using this ingredient. In this instance a fine of 10s. and costs was imposed.

NEARLY a ton of beef was the record of one animal which visitors to Newport saw alive, and weighing then 32 cwt., at the Bath and West Show. It was slaughtered and weighed at Plymouth last week end. The owner, Mr. W. J. Crossing, of Woodford, Plympton, is probably justified in believing this was the record weight of any breed. No other South Devon is recalled of such a size, and probably no breed can excel this for bulk. One of the fore-quarters went over a quarter of a ton, and the actual total of dressed meat was 18 cwt 7 lb. The flesh was very highly praised. A hide weighing nearly two cwt. was removed from the carcase, and the loose fat weighed 19 score.

AT the meeting of one of the county small holdings committees the other day, composed mostly of ardent supporters of the present Government, several applications were under review; and there was enthusiasm over the prospect of providing deserving applicants with land. There was a practical man on the committee who began to ask a number of questions as to water supply, buildings, and accommodation for working the proposed small holding. Then the enthusiasm began to dampen a little, for the first-named was an exceedingly doubtful quantity, and all the rest would have to be provided.

COUNTING up the cost, it was found that the venture would be a risky and costly one, even under the most favourable terms for acquiring the land. When the further question of implements of cultivation came to be mentioned, it was seen that the small holding was not very likely to be flowing with milk and honey.

WITH regard to one of the applications to this county council, the local body to whom the case was mentioned were able to ascertain some interesting particulars. It came from a man who claimed that he could not get allotments—that, in fact, they had been refused him. The allotments were vacant, were advertised, and no one could be got to take them. They were offered to the man's master, and he went to the expense of cleaning and stocking. Then the man sent in his application. His large garden at the time of making it was only half planted.

ASSOCIATED with the question whether the small holding should be bought or rented is that of the larger holding. What is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander is the argument. One old lady near me has just died in the house in which she was born seventy-seven years ago. Her father held the farm for sixty years, then her husband took it, and holds it still. Her son will probably have it in turn. Yet they are still only tenants. Plenty of other cases might be found of the same sort.

A WEST country record of work which has just been noted, owing to the death of a Cornish farmer, will be extremely difficult to beat Mr. Henry David Husson, of St. Neot's, has just passed away at Liskeard at the age of 101. Till he was over the century he was able to do some gardening, and for 93 years without intermission he helped in the harvesting operations.

GLOUCESTER is very determined about its reception, if possible, of the Royal Show in 1909. The Mayor called the City Council together yesterday, to hear the result of his visit and that of the Town Clerk to Linclon. "Just to see what they could see, to take stock of what might be wanted if they did give the Royal an invitation," was the naïve way he put the object of their visit. There were few second thoughts on the subject, and in a whole hearted way the Council set to work to organise the neighbourhood, and to co-operate with any deputation the Royal Society might send down to view the suggested sites.

THE season has commenced for Cheddar cheese to be put on the market, and I had an amusing experience trying to buy some for my own consumption. I was offered as prime Cheddar some very fair new double Gloucester. To-day I noted a number of cheese merchants bustling round. A motor car helped in one case. Prices are averaging 62s. or 63s. Some are as low as 61s. The top price appears to be 65s. for the best makes of April cheese.

MUCH as I like to respect the decision of the Somerset County Council, that they would not publish the price made for the cheese at their school at Chewton Mendip, I could not help overhearing a whisper that Mr. G. Gibbons and Mr. Keel had done very well, and had only got 6d. under the very highest price known to have been paid for April cheese. The school list continues well-filled under Miss Cannon.

ONE likes to hear of a balance on the right side, even if it is only a small one. Villages are being very fairly looked after in many places by the useful nursing associations, the number of which is growing very rapidly. Lady Paget presides over one formed for the group of villages into which Sir Richard Paget's estate extends, and others in the vicinity. Their account for the first year's working wound up with 1d. in the bank, and all bills paid.

July 5, 1907.

DAIRY.

British Dairy Farmers' Association.

At the meeting of the council of the British Dairy Farmers' Association held at 12, Hanover Square, London, W., on Wednesday. Sir Edward Strachey, Bart., M.P. (vice-president), who was in the chair, entered into a detailed explanation of the provisions of the Butter Bill, in its amended form, with a view to remove the prevalent misunderstanding and misrepresentations.

Several members of the council expressed the opinion that, after considering Sir Edward's statement, it would be unwise to continue the protest against the limit of 16 per cent. of moisture being exceeded in articles other than butter which may be legally sold under the Butter Bill; and on the motion of Mr. Christopher Middleton, seconded by Mr. W. J. Grant, it was unanimously resolved:—"That the council cordially thank Sir Edward Strachey for his statement relative to the Butter Bill, and that the Government be urged to pass it into law with all possible dispatch."

The Finance and General Purposes Committee reported that in the four weeks ended June 29 there were no imports of fresh milk into the United Kingdom, compared with 3 cwt. in the corresponding weeks of last year. Of cream the quantity received from abroad amounted to 425 as against 459 cwt.; of preserved milk to 339 compared with 139 cwt.; and of condensed milk to 70,454, against 77,191 cwt.

On the motion of Mr. Alexander, seconded by Mr. Tisdale, it was resolved to request the Board of Agriculture to represent to the Customs authorities the desirability of setting forth in their returns of imports the respective proportions of full-cream and of machine-skimmed condensed milk.

The Conference Committee reported with regard to the recent dairy conference and excursions in Kent and Sussex, that the proceedings were participated in by about eighty-five members, who evinced the keenest interest in the discussions, and in the various farms, estates, and institutions they were privileged to visit. In both counties the reception accorded was of the warmest possible character; and the committee desired to record their appreciation of the hospitality extended in all directions, as well as indebtedness to those local members by whose kind co-operation the programme was rendered possible. The committee regarded the conference and excursions of 1907 as being among the best yet held in the United Kingdom. They added that it was intended to make inquiries with regard to a visit to Canada next year.

The next meeting of the council was fixed to be held on Wednesday, September 4.

Medical Officers and the Milk Supply.

On Monday Dr. A. W. Mayo Robson, F.R.C.S., DSc., presided at a meeting in London of the Incorporated Institute of Hygiene to discuss the question of the "sources, surroundings, and distribution of milk."

Dr. Thresh, Medical Officer of the county of Essex, said they wanted better inspection of the sources from which milk was supplied. At the present time a milkman was not bound to notify when disease was in his cowshed. They must insist on a better system of veterinary inspection, and if they had that, then they must be free from local influence, so that no official should be dependent on his bread and butter because he was carrying out the regulations of his council. He moved that the periodical inspection of cows should be made compulsory throughout the United Kingdom.

Dr. George Carpenter, medical officer of Beckenham, seconded the resolution. He said that it would surprise them to hear that in the children's hospitals of London and of the country at least one-third of the young people died from tuberculous disorders. What they wanted was a universal law. If London had special laws in regard to pure milk, the milk which was shut out of London would go into other places and poison other people.

The resolution was supported by Admiral Brand and carried.

The conference, which included a number of milk dealers and sanitary inspectors, then proceeded to discuss various proposed resolutions. One was that it should be compulsory upon all local authorities to make and enforce regulations which would ensure a complete inspection of all sources of milk supply.

Milk-Blended Butter.

The Manchester Wholesale Provision Association has had under consideration the Butter and Margarine Bill, and the following resolution, which was adopted, has been sent to Earl Carrington and all the members of Parliament:—

This association is strongly of opinion that milk-blended butter, under whatever names it may be called, should not contain more moisture than either butter or margarine; that the introduction of this article, containing as it does 50 per cent. additional moisture, will be harmful to the producing and distributing interests, and is really, more or less, a fraud on the public; that as Acts of Parliament already prohibit the addition of more than a certain percentage of butter fat to margarine, the wilful addition of water to butter should also be prohibited; and that, as the tests for purity of butter are not absolutely perfect, the defendant should have the right to call as a witness the person or persons who made the analysis.

Cheese Fairs.

Chester.

The monthly cheese fair at Chester was held on Wednesday, and was attended by dealers representing wholesale houses in the North and Midlands, whose requirements were met by the 70 tons of new season's cheese brought in by farmers. A clearance being effected at the following prices:—Fine Cheshire 54s. to 58s., medium qualities 48s. to 52s. 6d., and common 44s. and upwards per cwt.

Market Drayton.

The first of the recently-organised cheese fairs was held at Market Drayton on Thursday, when fully forty tons of cheese was on offer. A big company of buyers attended from the principal centres, and a highly satisfactory trade resulted, practically the whole of the produce being disposed of in little over an hour from the commencement of the sale. Since the tawn is situated in the midst of one of the finest dairy districts in the Midlands, the success of the fair was guaranteed from its inception, and no doubt the markets to follow will be equally well supplied and patronised. For the best qualities of cheese prices ranged from 54s. to 59s. per cwt., and for medium qualities the prices were from 50s. to 54s. per cwt.

Stafford.

At the monthly cheese fair at Stafford on Tuesday, nearly eleven tons were staged, this being one of the heaviest pitches since the fair was started. There was a good attendance of buyers, and prices averaged about 50s. per cwt, the highest price being 60s. per cwt.

Cheese Fair for Blackpool.

The Market Committee of the Blackpool Corporation, after much consideration, finally decided on Wednesday last that a Lancashire Cheese Fair should be held on Wednesday once a month. The first fair will be held on the 17th inst. at the existing market.

French Butter: Decrease in Exports.

The export of butter from Cherbourg, and, indeed, from other ports of that Consular district, such as St. Malo and Granville, show a decided falling off during the past few years. In 1905 the quantity exported to the United Kingdom, Brazil, and other countries amounted to 15,816 tons; but during 1906 the total quantity exported from Cherbourg only reached 9,659 tons, showing a net decrease on 1905 of 6,157 tons.

The decrease is attributable firstly to the ever-increasing competition on the British markets of Danish, Argentine, Australian, and Russian butter, and secondly to the short supply of butter in France owing to the exceedingly dry summer of 1906. French dealers were forced to import foreign butter in order to meet the demands of the Paris Market.

The scarcity is also attributable to the fact that less butter is made by peasants, who are in many parts abandoning their villages, where they say they can no longer make a living, and flocking into the towns, to the great detriment of the latter. The Australian butter recently imported into Cherbourg is packed in wooden boxes containing 56 lb. of butter each, and comes to Cherbourg from Southampton.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

Sulphate of Potash: Crude and Dark Coloured.

SIR,—I forwarded to you a sample of sulphate of potash a few days since to avail myself of your offer to analyse manures for your readers.

Allow me to congratulate you upon the wonderful improvement which has taken place in your paper during the last year or two.—Yours, &c.,

July 2, 1907. H. N.

The sample was very unusual in appearance, being dark and apparently gritty, so our correspondent thought the quality would not be up to the guaranteed analysis. We submitted the sample to our analyst, who reports:—

The sample contained percentage of potash 50·08
Equal to sulphate of potash... ... ... 92·70

"This is a crude very dark-coloured potash salt, very different in appearance to ordinary sulphate of potash, but it will be seen from the analysis that it contains the amount of potash guaranteed."

Chemical Manure Works.

The chief Government Inspector of Alkali Works, in his annual report, states that the number of works engaged in the manufacture of fertilisers, where the raw phosphatic material used is principally imported mineral phosphate, remains fairly steady from year to year. He observes that in some districts manufacturers found difficulty in covering their requirements of mineral phosphate, though it is expected that by 1908 these difficulties will be less marked. The newer sources of supply will, it is hoped, be then able to meet the demands made upon them.

The inspector is again indebted to Mr. Alexander Cross, M.P., for statistics of importation into the United Kingdom of some of the manure materials in largest use throughout the country in the manufacture of chemical manures. As explained in previous reports, a not inconsiderable proportion of the nitrate of soda imported was used in processes connected with the manufacture of sulphuric and nitric acids.

The amounts, in tons, imported in 1904, 1905, and 1906 were:—

	1906.	1905.	1904.
Guano	24,906	29,223	24,276
Mineral phosphates ...	442,970	421,026	419,221
Nitrate of soda	108,486	104,436	120,526

Science at Work.

"Science at Work" is the title of an interesting little pamphlet, written with the object of explaining the advantages of the work undertaken by the Aynsome Seed Testing Station and Laboratory.

On the Continent, the control of seed purity and germination is recognised as so important that it is undertaken by Government institutions. In this country it is left to private initiation, and the Aynsome Seed Testing Station and Laboratory was founded in 1901 to undertake this important work, as well as all other analytical work required by farmers, agricultural merchants, and manufacturers of cakes and fertilisers.

From the chapters on "Manure and Oilcake Makers" we extract the following passage:—

"Scientific tests of cattle foods are just as important to the farmer as to the manufacturer. When both farmer and maker are without means of telling what cakes are worth or what they contain, it frequently happens that extremely bad cakes find their way to the market, containing often really obnoxious seeds, like spurry or corncockle. Often in compound cakes by-products of the most inferior quality get mixed in with the rest of the materials. Cakes have even been known in which sand—surely not a very healthy or fattening diet—has made quite a large proportion of the composition. Farmers as well as makers should get their cakes tested, if only microscopically, so that they may have at least a little workable knowledge of their ingredients, and some sort of safeguard against the rascals who spoil the English market by foisting upon them useless and even harmful stuff.

Americans are the chief sinners in giving our farmers cakes, which are—sometimes—not of the slightest use to them, and taking good English money in exchange Like the English manufacturers, they want all possible oil from the seed; but while good makers retain enough oil in the cakes to make them digestible, the Americans leave practically none, and send to our country cakes that are extraordinarily hard, and consequently undesirable. A hard cake is very nearly indigestible, as experiments have amply shown.

In buying these brick-like cakes the farmers' money goes in at the animal's mouth and ends upon the dung heap, doing no manner of good on the way.

Farmers and English makers should combine to set a standard and insist on guarantees of the percentage of oil in cakes, asking, say, 11 per cent. oil in palm nut, 12 to 16 per cent. in rice meal, and 13 per cent. in good cotton cakes. They should regularly test the cakes they buy to see that they come up to this standard.

Soil Temperature and Ventilation.

This is an important soil factor. A wet soil is a cold soil, while a dry soil is a warm one. The seed bed of a well-drained, well-tilled soil will be 5 to 15 deg. warmer than of a poorly-drained, poorly-tilled one. The reason for this is found in two facts, as explained by Mr. W. Day, Lecturer of Physics at Ontario Agricultural College. It rests on the behaviour of different substances towards heat. It is more difficult to raise the temperature of 1 lb. of water by 1 deg. than 1 lb. of any other substance in the soil. Thus the same amount of heat would raise the temperature of dry sand 10 deg., dry clay 7 deg., dry loam 7 deg., dry muck or humus 5 deg., and the same weight of water only 1 deg. A half-saturated soil is in about the best condition for tillage, for germination, and for plant germination, and, from a temperature standpoint, it is essential that the soil should not be too wet. Of the more common cereals, wheat seems to have the lowest germinating temperature at about 70 deg., barley, oats, and peas, probably in the order named, at about 80 deg. Tests conducted over several years have shown that the order in which these grains should be sown is:—1st, wheat; 2nd, barley; 3rd, oats; and lastly, peas; and in testing six different dates of seeding at intervals of one week, it has been found that for wheat and barley the first sowing is the best, but for oats and peas the second.

Another factor in crop production is the proper supply of air. Whether the roots actually breathe this air as the leaves do has never been decided, but the fact remains that they can no more do without it than the leaves can. But absolute exclusion of fresh air occurs only when the soil is filled with water. Soils in a good state of cultivation permit sufficient change of air for all our crops but the legumes. This point has been tested both last year and this year, and that is the conclusion arrived at. Peas, beans, clover, cow peas, vetches, &c., would all be benefited by more air than reaches the roots under ordinary conditions. This may explain why peas do so well on sod; the soil is open in texture, and allows much interchange of air.

Soil Ventilation.

Perhaps it may be interesting to note some of the agencies that promote aëration. First, there is change of temperature of the soil. The air in the soil expands as it is heated, and thus some of it is driven into the atmosphere. If the rise in temperature amounts to 10 deg. when the temperature of the soil stands at 45 deg., then one-fiftieth of the air in the heated zone is expelled; and if it amounts to 20 deg., then one-twenty-fifth is expelled, and so on. The change of atmospheric pressure also aids. If the pressure falls half an inch, the air expands and about one-sixtieth of it escapes; if the pressure falls one inch, one-thirtieth escapes. Rain is a very potent factor. As the water sinks into the ground, an equal volume of air must be displaced. As it passes away, by drainage, by evaporation, or by absorption into the plant, the air is drawn into the soil again. Drainage aids very materially. When rain falls on undrained land, the imprisoned air must escape upward through the water as the water sinks down; the two actions thus opposing one another, the air escapes very slowly, often so slowly that large quantities of water, being unable to make their way into the soil, run off the surface and are lost. But if the soil is well drained some of this run-off may be prevented, the imprisoned air escaping downward through the drains as the weight of water above increases, fresh air following the rain into the soil. This gives us another reason for the great superiority of the drained soil over the undrained. Proper tillage increases the efficiency of all these agencies of aëration.

Composition, Nutritive, and Manurial Values of Farm Foods.

A useful table giving the above information relating to the farm foods has been distributed by the University of Leeds. The feature of the data is that it shows both the total and the digestible percentages of the constituents in the foods, although it may be well to bear in mind that the latter can only be a relative term because the percentage of a food digested by an animal depends more or less on the kind of animal, its age, condition of health, and other circumstances. The following extract gives the data for some of the principal foods:—

Food.	Total Percentage.					Digestible Percentage.			Albuminoid Ratio in Digestible Portion.	Probable Value of Manure from Consumption of One Ton of Food.
	Total Dry Matter.	Crude Albuminoid.	Oil.	Carbo-Hydrate.	Fibre.	True Albuminoid.	Oil.	Carbo-Hydrate and Fibre.		
										£ s. d.
Linseed cake	88	30	10	35	9	24	9½	33	1: 2¼	1 18 7
Rape cake	90	30	10	29	11	20	8	24	1: 2½	2 1 1
Cotton cake, decort. ..	92	43	10	24	6	36	9½	18	1: 1¼	2 16 5
Cotton cake, undecort	88	22	5½	30	25	16	5	19	1: 2	1 13 9
Maize germ meal	88	13	10	55	5	9	9½	52	1: 8½	0 16 5
Gluten meal	89	35	4	45	2	30	3½	42	1: 1¼	1 11 1
Gluten feed.....	90	26	3	52	6	21	2½	49	1: 2⅔	1 5 6
Brewers' grains, wet	24	5	1½	10	5	3½	1¼	8	1: 3	0 6 0
Brewers' grains, dry .	90	20	7	42	16	14	6	33	1: 3½	1 4 3
Barley	86	10	2	67	5	7	1½	64	1: 9⅔	0 13 9
Oats	87	11	5	57	10	8	4½	47	1: 7¼	0 15 5
Maize	80	10½	5	70	2	7	4½	68	1:11½	0 13 0
Beans	86	25	1½	48	7	19	1¼	48	1: 2⅔	1 11 8
Peas	86	22½	1½	54	6	17	1	53	1: 3¼	1 7 4
Meadow hay	86	10	2½	42	26	4	1	41	1:11	0 16 4
Clover hay	84	13	2½	37	25	5	1½	37	1: 8	1 1 9
Turnips	9½	1	1/15	6	1	¼	1/15	6	1:25	0 2 4
Swedes	11¼	1½	1/15	8	1½	¾	1/10	8	1:33	0 2 6
Mangels	12	1¼	1/15	9	1	1/10	1/15	9	1:92	0 3 1

Nitrate of Soda: Statistics and Position.

We have received from the well known nitrate of soda broker, Mr. Thomson Aikman, junr., and from the importers and merchants, Messrs. W. Montgomery and Co., their usual half-yearly reports on nitrate of soda:—

It appears that in spite of adverse circumstances, such as unfavourable weather, a serious strike in Hamburg of the stevedores, and high prices, the total deliveries have exceeded those for the corresponding period of last year by about 40,000 tons, the figures being:—

1,152,000 tons for the 6 months 1907
1,115,000 ,, ,, 1906
1,062,000 ,, ,, 1905

In the United Kingdom the sales are given as—

75,200 tons for the 6 months 1907
60,500 ,, ,, 1906
68,200 ,, ,, 1905

The sales from depots in Liverpool and London show an increase of nearly 7,000 tons, while in Scotland there has been a falling off of 2,700 tons.

Prices have remained fairly steady throughout the period, from £11 to £11 5s. per ton, and it is expected that prices will rule at about the same level next season. It is said that important forward contracts are being made on that supposition, although the market for nitrate of soda is influenced by so many circumstances that its future course is most difficult to gauge.

A feature in the position is the increasing consumption in the United States, and the development of its use in Egypt. A sale to the latter country of 10,000 tons for autumn shipment is reported.

We are willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

FERTILISER EXHIBIT (POTASH SYNDICATE) AT THE SHOW OF THE GERMAN AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.



This illustration represents the Temple of Agriculture erected by the Potash Syndicate at the agricultural show of the German National Agricultural Society. It was surrounded by a garden laid out to demonstrate the effect of the use of potash salts. Such an artistic structure naturally attracted much attention.

Nitrate of soda, sulphate of ammonia, and fertilisers generally were also represented at the show on an elaborate scale, and the respective stands were inspected by the thousands of farmers who visited the show.

Australia imported last year fertilisers to the value of £427,789, against £324,568 in the preceding twelve months.

Influence of Various Concentrated Foods on Quantity and Quality of Milk.

The results of trials with different kinds of concentrated foods on the quantity and quality of the yield of milk have recently been published in Germany, and are worth noting.

1. That equal quantities of nourishment supplied in different kinds of food exercise an unequal effect.

2. The foods supplied have, quite apart from their proportion of nourishing material, a special influence on the milk yield, and in a high degree on the percentage of fat in the milk.

3. Sesame cakes and cotton cakes are not so advantageous in use as earthnut cake, cocoanut cake, palmnut cake, and linseed cake. Rape cake proved to be a fairly satisfactory feed.

4. The percentage of fat in the milk was increased by palmnut cake, cocoanut cake, and also cottonseed meal. Then, in a lesser degree, by linseed cake, rape cake, and earthnut cake.

On the other hand, bean cakes, rice meal, and sesame cake depressed the percentage of fat in the milk.

Prices of Fertilisers.

The demand for fertilisers is now practically over, but prices remain firm all round. The demand has been bigger than usual, and the stocks of most manufacturers have been cleared.

	£	s.	d.
Nitrate of soda	11	5	0
Sulphate of ammonia	11	17	6
Peruvian guano	without change		
Superphosphate, 26 per cent.	2	10	0
,, 35 ,,	3	6	3
Pure dissolved bones	5	7	6
Bone compound, ordinary	3	8	9
Bone Meal	5	10	0
Ground hoofs, 15 per cent.	9	10	0
Fish guano, first quality, scarce & dear	6	12	6
Ditto, second quality	5	7	6
Kainit	2	7	6
Sulphate of potash	10	0	0
Muriate of potash	9	0	0
Basic slag, 30 per cent. (ex works, Midlands)	1	13	0
Ditto, 38 per cent.	2	3	0

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a nom de plume, *in the paper.*

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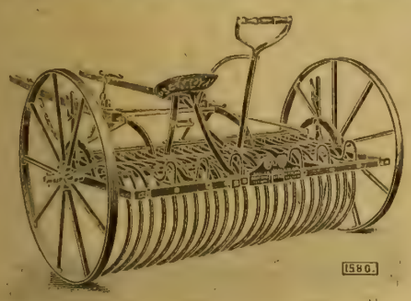
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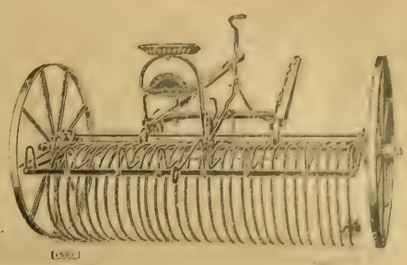
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SISTER ARTS.

For some unexplained reason it has been customary in the past to draw a hard line of distinction between the occupations of the farmer and the gardener, but there are signs which prove that this barrier is being broken down.

In some districts farmers who were compelled by force of circumstances to put their land to more profitable use than growing corn, have entered the preserves of the gardener and grow vegetables for market. This is the month when the man in the street includes green peas in his menu, and perhaps in the majority of cases they are supplied by the farmer. We have recently passed through a district where green peas are a standard farm crop, and pea-picking is quite a harvest by itself. Yet in the past all this land grew corn.

As we write we hear an unmusical voice outside crying "ripe straw'bery," and knowing the man, we also know that the fruit was grown on a farm not far away, and the farmer who made the venture with the object of getting more out of the land than he did before has had no reason to regret it. As a matter of fact, the dividing line between agriculture and horticulture gradually grows less perceptible.

If further evidence is wanted of the closer affinity between the sister arts, let us turn to the shows. We referred a short time ago to the desirability of flowers being represented at agricultural shows, and at many meetings held this season the horticultural section was more of a feature than ever.

Take the Royal, for instance. Every visitor who had time to inspect the flower show was delighted with it, and the big nursery firms, rising to the Royal occasion, sent of their best. Perhaps the finest horticultural displays of the year are to be seen at the spring and summer shows held by the Royal Horticultural Society at the Temple and Holland House, but farmers do not attend these gatherings in great numbers, and they were afforded an opportunity at Lincoln of seeing some of the results of the horticulturist's art.

With the popularity of the Royal Show once more established, and the interest in the horticultural section keen, the public is furnished with the opportunity of seeing on the one occasion the very best products of the sister arts of agriculture and horticulture.

TRESPASSING COLTS—FARMERS' LIABILITY.

A case of great importance to farmers throughout the country was decided last month in the Scarborough County Court. A Yorkshire farmer had some horses, including a three-year-old Hackney filly, 14 hands 3 in. high, running in one of his fields. In the adjoining field, occupied by a neighbour, were some other horses, including two carting colts, two years old, which had not been cut. The latter fact, however, was not then known to the owner of the mare, who consequently made only a neighbourly protest when he found the colts trespassing in his field. Some months afterwards, however, the filly was found to be in foal—a condition which could only be accounted for by her having been served by one of the trespassing colts. In due time the mare foaled, but owing to the abnormal size of the foal (which died at birth) she died the following day. The owner claimed the value of the mare from his neighbour, as damages for the trespass committed by the colts.

It was proved to the satisfaction of the judge, that the colts had, in fact, trespassed in the field containing the mare about the crucial time, and although no one had actually seen the mare covered, it was shown that there were no other entire horses at large in the parish, and the judge found no difficulty in drawing the inference that one of the horses was responsible for the mare's condition. But, upon the facts as found, an important question of law arose, viz.:—Was the loss sustained the natural and probable result of the trespass committed?—in other words, Were the damages too remote?

Now, damage is said to be too remote, when, although arising out of the cause of action, it does not so immediately and necessarily flow from it, as that the offending party can be made responsible for it. But it is not too remote, if it can be shown to be such a consequence as in the ordinary course of things would flow from the act complained of. There are many decisions upon the point, but it is difficult to draw the line by laying down a hard and fast rule, and each case must to a great extent be decided on its merits.

In one case the mare was sent to a farmer to be agisted. She was put into a part of a field which was separated from a cricket ground by a wire fence. Through the farmer's negligence the gate between the two parts of the field was left open, and consequently the mare strayed on to the cricket ground. The cricketers attempted to drive her back, but instead of going through the gateway she ran against the wire fence and was injured. It was held that the damage was the natural consequence of leaving the gate open, and that the farmer was liable. This case shows that the damage must be very remote indeed before it becomes irrecoverable.

In the Scarborough case, the question really resolved itself into this—"If a nag pony mare have her first service from a young cart horse, is the natural result the death of the mare?" One of the witnesses solved the riddle to the satisfaction of the judge by saying that if he had had the mare insured, and wanted the insurance money, he could not conceive a more likely way of getting it. Consequently the plaintiff won his case and recovered damages.

Had the mare been served by a trespassing horse of suitable weight and size, a more difficult question would have arisen. In such a case the owner of the horse would be liable for natural damages, such as deterioration of value through being in foal, but if the mare had died it might be arguable that such a loss was not a natural or reasonable consequence of the trespass.

Probably a much more frequent ground of complaint is the loss of value in cattle caused by the unwelcome attentions of a neighbour's bull; and farmers will do well to remember that they must keep their stock on their own land, and will, as a rule, be liable for any mischief which may ensue from their failure to do so.

During the past few weeks nearly 300 boars and gelts have been disposed of, either to home or foreign buyers from Mr. N. J. Hine's old established Newnham Hall herd of Yorkshire pigs. Among the principal purchasers are:—Mr. J. R. Bruce, Buenos Ayres, forty boars and gelts, many of these being suitable for show purposes. Among the home buyers are:—The Right Hon. A. E. Fellowes, Horningham Hall, Norwich (late minister for Agriculture); Mr. B. Moss, Hawley, Dartford; Mr. J. Grey, Tiller's End, Buntingford; Mr. R. B. Berens, St. Mary Cray, Kent; Mr. V. E. Castellan, Han Hall, Romford; Mr. F. S. Smith, Sudbury Hall, Orford, Suffolk; Mr. W. Cailess, Eastgate, Stafford; Mr. A. George, Pontardulais; and Mr. Tonghey, Charlton Mead, Hoddesdon.

Notes of the Week.

Hail, storms, cold rains with occasional mild earthquakes in Wales, represent an epitome of the weather during the past week.

Farmers see with dismay their prospects getting blacker and blacker, while insect blight and fungus pests flourish and abound.

A comet is said to be travelling towards this earth at the express speed of about a million miles an hour. Let us hope that it is bringing finer weather in its tail.

It is curious to come across similar complaints of disastrous summers in old agricultural publications of 100 years ago.

The writer says "the failure of the last two crops—1806 and 1807—is due to great depression of temperature and superabundance of rain."

And he thinks that "our climate has been materially affected, and is still likely to be affected by the accumulation of ice in the Arctic seas."

The terrible disaster caused by the overturning of a tramcar at Swindon, during the show of the Bath and West of England Agricultural Society is remembered by all of us.

An echo of the accident has just appeared in the papers. Mr. Townsend, a seed merchant, of Stroud, has been awarded damages, amounting to £8,000, against the Swindon Corporation for injury received by him.

Memo. for the advocates of "Small Holdings and Allotments": When Mr. Black, M.P., was speaking on the subject, a man in the audience offered him a quarter of an acre of cabbages, stating that they had plenty of allotments at Great Barford but couldn't sell the produce.

Therein lies the rock on which many a small holding will be wrecked. It is easier to grow produce than to find a profitable market for it.

The cost of carriage in England is too high, and the means of distribution too imperfect.

The peerage confirmed on Sir James Blyth may be regarded as an honour extended to Agriculture.

His special hobby is dairy farming, and the model dairy at his Essex home is well worth a visit of inspection.

It it said that he has been associated with the firm of Gilbeys—the eminent wine merchants—since he was seventeen years old, and he is now a director of the company.

Horse thieves have a rough time of it in Russia. The peasants in a village caught a band of them, and when the police arrived they found the thieves crippled and mutilated, with legs broken and hands cut off.

This wet weather is directing attention to the advantages of the system of ensilage. The Board of Agriculture leaflet on the subject should be studied.

The Chairman of the Kitchen Committee of the House of Commons declines to substitute Welsh mutton for the New Zealand article in the House of Commons dining room.

This gave rise to an amusing discussion in the House, during which the rival claims of New Zealand, Welsh, Scotch, Irish, and English mutton were advocated.

It certainly seems strange to give preferential treatment to New Zealand mutton, and we should say that most diners would prefer home bred meat.

What is the opinion of the Minister for the War Office about Chicago beef?

What is whisky is to be determined by a small Royal Commission.

What is cider is an important question which has still to be decided.

The Small Holdings Bill is coming in for a good deal of unfavourable criticism at the hands of the chambers of agriculture.

The object aimed at by the Bill is all right, but the details seem to require alteration.

One hears a great deal now of the advantages of the "simple life" and "simple diet," the latter meaning vegetarianism. Most people will still prefer to eat grass concentrated in the form of beef and mutton.

On the occasion of the Gloucestershire Agricultural Show, recently held at Stroud, the town was gaily decorated, and in common with other buildings the local police station was gay with bunting.

Much amusement was caused by the words "County Police Station—Welcome"—which were boldly conspicuous on the front of the building.

Little Emily, while out walking with her nurse, saw a blacksmith shoeing a horse, and upon returning home said: "Mamma, I saw the man who makes horses to-day."

"Are you sure you did?" asked mamma.

"Of course I am," replied Emily. "He had one nearly finished when I saw him. He was just nailing on his hind feet."

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, JULY 9.—Highland and Agricultural Show at Edinburgh, first day—Peterborough Show, first day—Millers' Convention opens at Exeter — Sale of Merton a Herd (selection, forty first-class Shorthorns) at Edinburgh—Sale of Pedigree Hackneys and Harness Horses at Peterborough—Sending-in Day for Salisbury Sheep Show—Sales of Store Cattle at Lynn and Ipswich—Agricultural Fairs at Denbigh, Worksworth, Stockport, and Haverfordwest.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10.—Edinburgh Show, second day—Peterborough Show, second day—Bishop Auckland Show—Mid Kent Show at Maidstone—South Molton Show—Wirral and Birkenhead Show, first day—Show at Escrick, Yorkshire—Bath Cheese Fair—Agricultural Fairs at Carmarthen, Marsden, Ringwood, Stowmarket, and Sudbury—Millers visit Dartmouth and Exmouth.

THURSDAY, JULY 11.—Edinburgh Show, third day—Peterborough Show, third and last day—Wirral and Birkenhead Show, second day—Withernsea Horse and Foal Show—Great Chesterfield Colt and Foal Show—Fairs at Burnley, Knighton, Macclesfield, Mansfield, and Witney—Sale of Shorthorns and of Long Wool Sheep at Grimsby—Mr. Mallett receives Millers' Convention at Exwick, 3.30 p.m.

FRIDAY, JULY 12.—Edinburgh Show, last day—Sale of Shorthorns and of Lincoln Sheep at Heath House, Nocton, Lincoln—Fairs at Leicester and Alton—Sending-in Day for Harfogate and Denbigh Shows—Millers' Convention closes at Exeter.

SATURDAY, JULY 13.—Galloway District Show at Stranraer—Selkirk and Gallashiels District Show at Gallashiels—Grantham Fruit Fair—Congleton Horse and Cattle Fair—Sale of Store Cattle at Norwich—Late Sending-in Day (double fees) for the Show at Durdham Down—Sending-in Day for Haxby, Wellington, Goole, and Burgh Shows.

MONDAY, JULY 15.—St. Swithin—Salisbury Great Sheep Fair—Ludlow, Cattle, Sheep, and Pig Fair—Sending-in Day for Spilsby, Terrington, Maltby, and Cottenham Shows—Late Sending-in Day (double fees) for the Hastings Show.

TUESDAY, JULY 16.—Shire and Hackney Horse Show at March, Cambridgeshire—Sending-in Day for Border Union, Strathbogie, Morayshire, Perry Bar, and Chepstow Shows.

NOTES AND NEWS OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

A long discussion on the new Workmen's Compensation Act took place at the last meeting of the Lancaster branch of the Lancashire Farmers' Association. The secretary (Mr. T. H. Holborn) stated that a farmer, if not insured, might be called on to deposit £1,000 by a person permanently injured whilst working on his farm. One of the worst features of the Act was that it prohibited an employer from insuring any relatives that worked on his farm and at the same time lived in his house. Seeing that most farms were worked by the farmers' sons this seemed very hard. Mr. A. L Storey said that as far as he could gather the insurance companies were now asking most unreasonable rates. He suggested that the only way out of the difficulty was for a mutual society to be established in connection with the association. It was agreed to give support to anything in the nature of a farmers' mutual insurance society.

In their report, presented at the annual meeting of the Somerset, Wilts, and Dorset Farmers' Association, the committee stated that growing interest was being taken in the work of the association. Two new branches had been formed, and members had been assisted in contesting an unusually large number of cases in the police and county courts. Mr. Wall, the London agent, had made a record sale of milk, the returns showing that £30,000 worth had been received for sale during the year. The committee are confident that this branch of the work of the association will still grow, and that eventually it will become a very powerful aid in the disposal of produce at increased prices compared with the prices obtained by individual sellers.

After a discussion lasting close on two hours the members of the Norfolk Chamber of Agriculture passed, with but one or two dissentients, the following resolution regarding the Small Holdings Bill:—"That this Chamber, while generally approving of the main principles of the Small Holdings and Allotments Bill, sees grave objections to the handing over of all powers of arbitration to the officials of the Board of Agriculture, and to the transfer of powers of buying and hiring land for allotments for the rural district councils to parish councils. The Chamber further strongly objects to the provisions of Section 3, Sub-sections 2 and 3, by which the Commissioners are empowered to take action themselves, and to involve the county in expenditure of which it has not approved, and also to Section 5, by which all the powers of the County Council are given to such Commissioners, and the expenditure by them is chargeable to the rates. The Chamber is unanimously of opinion that expenses incurred by the Board of Agriculture or by the Commissioners, should be defrayed by Imperial taxation, not out of the local rates."

The Small Holdings Bill also came in for some severe criticism at the last meeting of the Worcestershire Chamber of Agriculture, one member remarking that the Act if passed was, he thought, never likely to take effect; it was merely a sop to the working men. As the result of the discussion, the following resolutions were passed:—"(1) That any expenditure incurred by the Board of Agriculture or the Commissioners should be defrayed entirely out of moneys devoted by Parliament and under the control of Parliament." "(2) that the interests of the sitting tenant should be more carefully safeguarded in view of the extraordinary powers given to the Commissioners for the compulsory hiring or purchase of land."

Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution.

The report presented at the forty-seventh annual meeting of the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution, held recently, showed that for the twelve months ended on December 31 last the receipts had been £22,932, against £22,076 in the preceding year, but there was a slight falling off in subscriptions. The council regretted this, observing that "many persons subscribe merely to promote the success of candidates (for election to pensions), forgetful of the responsibility which subsequently devolves upon the funds of maintaining these as pensioners." There were on the books of the institution at the end of last year 204 married pensioners (102 couples), costing £4,080 per annum; 228 male pensioners, costing £5,928 per annum; and 603 female pensioners, costing £12,060 per annum. One pensioner, named Thomas Catchpole, had won his right to a pension by long annual subscription for it, and this was regarded as a very interesting comment on the subject of old age pensions generally.

At the annual meeting 166 pensioners were elected—fifteen married couples at £40 a year each, thirty male pensioners at £26 a year each, and forty-six female pensioners at £20 a year each, and, in addition, one woman of ninety who, under the rules, had to submit to the ordeal of the ballot.

The Earl of Jersey, in moving the adoption of the report, which was carried unanimously, particularly emphasised that part of it which spoke of the need for subscriptions without regard to the privilege of the vote for pensioners; there must be funds to secure the pensions to those who were elected to them.

Earl Spencer, Lord North, Mr. W. B. Parsons, Mr. R. T. Simpson, and Mr. John Gee were re-elected to the council, and the Earl of Jersey, who is a trustee, a member of the council, and chairman of the committee for Oxfordshire, was cordially thanked for presiding and for his unwearying efforts to promote the welfare and usefulness of the institution.

The Small Holdings Bill was the chief topic of discussion at the last meeting of the Warwickshire Chamber of Agriculture, and the following resolution was carried unanimously:—"That the chamber, while approving of the establishment of small holdings and allotments, protests against the county councils being overridden by the commissioners."

SHEEP.

Notes and Jottings.

THE most important exhibition of sheep, so far as regards stud sheep, for the current year is an event of the past. Flock-masters at home have every reason to be gratified at the notable exhibition they made of the combined breeds of British sheep at the Royal Show at Lincoln.

FLOCK-MASTERS and others interested in the sheep industry from the colonies and abroad, who were present at that show have, in no unmeasured terms, expressed their admiration for the many excellent specimens of the ovine breed that it was their pleasure and privilege to examine. The term used by Mr. McKerrow at the sheep conference on June 24, that "he raised his hat to the British sheep breeder," was indeed a very high compliment to the breeders of British sheep, coming as it did from one who is considered to be probably one of the leading breeders and exhibitors in the United States.

THERE is much in the discussion that gave satisfaction to the British flock-master. From the Tasmanian representative we heard that there was no likelihood of a diminishing demand from Australasia for the British mutton, in fact a careful study of the excellent speech made by Mr. Burbury shows that in his opinion there is a big future in the demand for British sheep from that side of the world.

IN Mr. Herbert Gibson's paper special mention is made of this point, and he most strongly urges that the Flock Book Societies of Great Britain should take steps to at once remedy this great defect in their registration.

IT may be looking ahead, but one cannot dispute actual facts, all of which tend to point that in the near future in many of the countries which are now importing British stud sheep it will become a condition of entry that such sheep shall not only have details of the breeding of the sire, but of the breeding of the dam also.

AN export buyer at the Royal was enquiring for a certain number of registered ewes, and he said they must be from flocks which are registered, and "I must have with every one at least particulars of their dam's sire." This condition at once limits the selection of these sheep to a very few flocks of that particular breed.

IT is not an onerous condition to make, for there is no real reason why every flockmaster in the country who is breeding pedigree sheep should not be able to at any rate give this information.

AS was said in our notes last week, it was evident from the phrases used, and also from the general trend of Mr. Gibson's paper, that he too is of the opinion that for years to come the Argentine estanciero will be a very large purchaser of British sheep of the first class. Then again, one can refer to the excellent speech made by Mr. Wing, another representative of the United States. He too was equally emphatic upon the need there was in the improvement of the quality of the mutton of that country. This means an increased demand upon the stud flocks of Great Britain, and it was a crumb of comfort, as Mr. Wing said, to know there was no real likelihood of any large supplies of mutton ever being available for shipment from the United States, because, said Mr. Wing, "we want all we can produce."

WITH reference to the question of pedigree record, it is unfortunate that so very many of the sheep societies were established without making proper provision for the record of the dam's pedigree. Apparently, from a brief review of the various rules and conditions of entry, each of the societies have made stringent provisions for the record of the sire's pedigree, and but very few have made any provision at all for the record of the dam's pedigree.

IT is as well that flockmasters who own registered flocks should realise that the increased stringency of the regulations in importing countries is certain to come, and therefore prepare themselves for those conditions with which they will have to comply in the near future.

THE sales of sheep at the Royal Show were dealt with fully in our last issue. That for the Shropshires was a remarkable one, but good as was the public sale, we understand that there was a very large number of private sales effected at prices which were considerably in excess of those recorded at the public auction. Amongst those one may mention that it was currently reported that Mr. M. Williams's first-prize yearling ram was sold for export to Chili at 250 guineas, one of the highest prices ever paid for a Shropshire yearling ram.

OTHER equally good prices were realised for Hampshire Downs and Southdowns. Mr. C. Adeane's sheep, which did not secure the favour of the judges to that extent many thought they might have done, were evidently in keen demand, for we understand that a considerable number of them were sold at high prices to leading flock-masters at home and abroad.

THE Kent or Romney Marsh breeders found a very excellent inquiry for their sheep, and from information gathered around the pens, it would appear that some very high prices were offered for the leading rams, none of which, we understand, were actually sold, but amongst the ewes several were sold at prices from 20 guineas per head.

THE Oxford Down breeders were apparently very gratified at the result of the demand experienced for their sheep. Quite a large proportion of the exhibits were sold for export.

THE importance of this country being cleared of sheep scab was clearly shown by the keenness with which the subject was brought before the conference by the Australasian representatives To these breeders the continued existence of sheep scab in England is a matter of great concern, because it is only on account of this disease being prevalent, in the country, although it is to a very much less extent each year, that the lengthened period of quarantine and its attendant expenses has to be incurred by all who import to the Australasian Colonies.

ON all hands it is generally admitted that the Board of Agriculture at the present time is making great efforts to do that which it ought to have done years ago—*i.e.*, eradicate this disease. It is satisfactory to note that there are few, if any cases on record in which the disease exists or has existed in a registered flock, in fact, it was said by several breeders at the conference that they had no knowledge of a single case of sheep scab in a registered flock.

UNFORTUNATELY the Colonial Governments insist that until the whole country is free they must, in defence of their own flocks, insist upon the present stringent conditions of quarantine, because, as was said at the conference, "of the enormous amount of money that these colonies expended to eradicate the disease from amongst their flocks."

UNFORTUNATELY there are many breeders at home who do not realise what sheep scab means to the Australasian flock-owner, and the



Photo by] [*G. H. Parsons.*

The animal illustrated above is the Shropshire Shearling Ram with which Mr. M. Williams, of Albrighton, won a First Prize and the Mansell Memorial Challenge Cup at this year's Show of the Shropshire and West Midland Agricultural Society.

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reason they do not recognise this is that at home the principal source of income from sheep is mutton, and wool is a secondary source of income; but in the Australasian colonies and New Zealand the reverse is the case, and consequently all who know what sheep scab really is will see at a glance how essentially important it is to the flockmasters of those colonies that no possible chance for the reintroduction of this disease should be allowed, for the disease meant ruin to all those who were to so large an extent dependent upon their income from the fleece of the sheep, and not from its flesh.

Mr. T. Fowell Buxton's Hampshire Downs.

The dispersal of such a famous flock of Hampshire Down sheep as Mr. T. Fowell Buxton's will be regretted by breeders of this highly-popular breed, but it will afford them an opportunity of obtaining some first-class stock which cannot fail to improve any flock. The sale will take place at Waters Place Farm, Ware, Herts, on Friday, the 19th inst., at twelve o'clock, and a large company of breeders from all parts may be expected. The flock consists of about 500 ewes in age, 150 ewe lamb, seventy ram lambs, and fifteen older rams, all of the highest quality.

The success at our various shows of animals from this flock is generally known, but the record of prizes won is worthy of mention. It is as follows:—239 first prizes, 197 second prizes, 72 third prizes, representing money value to the total of £2,683; also 47 champion and challenge cups, including the Prince of Wales' 100 guineas Challenge Cup for the best pen of sheep at Smithfield, bred and fed by the exhibitor, and the Cooper 25 guineas Challenge Cup at Birmingham.

Blandford Sheep Fair.

At this the first of a series of important Dorset sheep sales held on Thursday in stormy weather, over 10,000 were penned, principally of improved Hampshire Downs which are finding much favour with Dorset sheep breeders. Buyers were largely represented and, with sheep very scarce all over the country and more keep just now than can be profitably dealt with. There was a good demand, and a satisfactory clearance was effected at prices, generally speaking, quite up to what had been expected seeing the adverse conditions prevailing.

The best drafts of registered Hampshire ewes sold up to 58s. each, ranging down to 46s., whilst Dorset Down ewes made to 50s, ranging down to 44s.; non-registered ewes, 45s. to 49s.; Down wether lambs, 34s. to 41s.; mixed lambs, 36s., down to 32s.; Southdown ewes, 40s. to 44s.; Southdown rams, 2 guineas to 4 guineas; fat Down wether lambs, 46s. to 50s. 6d. The sheep were largely bought to go into distant districts.

Lamb Sales in East Anglia.

Quite a number of lamb sales have recently taken place in East Anglia; some were reported in our last issue, and we have now to record over half-a-dozen other fixtures. The numbers offered were not quite so large as in some previous years, but this is accounted for by the unfavourable weather. As Mr. Gaze, in opening the sale at Diss remarked, flockmasters have had a most trying time since the lambing season commenced, for there has been practically nothing but rain since lambing began in February, and no sun to brighten the sheep. In spite of that, the majority of the lambs were brought to the sales in first-class condition.

Barnham.

The number penned at the thirty-seventh annual lamb sale at Barnham was about the same as last year, 6,500, and they met a ready sale at prices ranging up to 46s. per head, which was the top price of the sale, and was given for thirty Suffolk ewe lambs belonging to the Hon. E. G. Strutt, of Timworth. Earl Cadogan sent 140 wethers, which went at an average of just on 28s. 9d. apiece, the first pen of twenty going for 33s. each, and the last pen, containing twenty-eight, going for 23s. each; whilst for 180 from the Duke of Grafton's home farm at Euston the highest price was 28s. per head for forty wethers. Half-bred lambs from the Earl of Cadogan's flock made up to 38s. 6d. each, whilst first-cross lambs from Viscount Iveagh's flock made up to 42s.

Braintree.

On Thursday there was a sale of about 2,000 lambs at Braintree, and as at other fixtures there was a good demand at higher prices than last year. The top price for lambs was 53s., at which figure two or three lots of ewe and wethers were knocked down. Other ewe and wether lambs made up to 41s. 6d., half-bred lambs made up to 37s. 6d.

Diss.

At the sale at Diss something like 17,000 lambs were offered consisting of 14,400 first-cross and half-breds, 1,500 black-faced lambs, 600 black-faced shearling, two-shear, and flock ewes, and 500 first-cross shearling, two-shear, and flock ewes, all drawn from well known flocks in the district. The attendance was far more numerous than that which has been experienced at any previous sale, and throughout the afternoon trade was exceptionally brisk, a very keen demand prevailing. For head lambs trade showed a slight improvement upon last year. For second-class sheep the competition was very spirited and sustained, with the result that prices must be quoted fully 2s. 6d. to 3s. a head dearer than this time last year. For Suffolk lambs the highest price realised was 49s. 6d. a head for a pen of ear-marked ewe lambs, sent by Mr. Alfred Johnson, of Burston. For first-cross lambs the top price of 46s. 6d was paid for some grand pens of Cotswold rams, consigned by Sir Edward Mann, of Thelveton Grange, and for another lot belonging to Mr. E. F. Wollard, Catton Hall Farm.

East Harling.

This annual lamb sale at East Harling was also held on Thursday, and it proved one of the most successful of the thirty-three sales held here. There were over 20,000 animals forward, and an excellent all-round trade was experienced, the chief features being the extraordinary demand there was for middle class lambs, which fetched rather surprising prices. Altogether better money was made of the various consignments than has already resulted at other sales in the district. 50s. 6d., the highest price of the day, as well as top figure so far of the season in the Eastern Counties, was made for a pen of twenty Suffolk ewe lambs, sent by Mr. W. M. Champion, of Riddlesworth. Another lot of twenty of his ewe lambs realised 49s. apiece, and together with 160 others averaged nearly 44s. each.

Hadleigh.

At Hadleigh on Monday the entry—nearly 3,500—was larger than last year, and the demand was keener, with the result that prices were up by about 3s. a head. A fine lot of 239 Suffolk ewe and wether lambs from the registered flock of Mr. Stephen Jackson were in great demand. Thirty ear-marked ewes fetched the top lamb price of the sale, viz, 50s.; two other similar lots went for 41s 6d. and 36s.; the best of the wethers made 43s. a head. Twelve Border Leicester wethers from Lady Alexander's; these made 25s. 6d. a head, and six ewes sent by the same lady fetched 45s. apiece. The range of the other prices for lambs was as follows:—Suffolks, 24s. to 46s. 6d.; Southdown, 26s. 6d. to 37s.; first cross, 25s. to 42s. 6d.; and half-breds, 23s. to 37s.

Ipswich.

On Tuesday Ipswich was the scene of a lamb sale, and the catalogue here comprised about 1,500 Southdown, Suffolk, and half-bred lambs and ewes. There was a large attendance of buyers, with brisk trade at the substantial advance in prices realised at the corresponding sale last year. Of the Southdowns, the consignment of 147 wethers and ewes from Sir Thomas Gooch averaged about 30s. Three hundred Southdowns from Mr. Kenneth M. Clark made, in pens of 50, from 30s. 3d. to 23s. Forty Suffolks contributed by Mr. John R. Keeble averaged 48s., and 180 of Mr. C. A. Creasey's averaged nearly 30s. Two lots of half hundred each of Suffolk ewes and wethers, from Miss Kay, Thorpe Abbots, made 39s. and 34s. 6d. respectively, and fifty wethers from Mr. A. Juby, Brandeston, 38s. 6d. Of the half-breds, the best pens of Sir T. Gooch's realised from 37s 6d. to 34s. 6d., and three pens from the Exors. of Mr. J. Lambert, Mendlesham, realised 38s., 36s. 6d., and 32s. 6d. Thirty half-bred shearling ewes and wethers, consigned by Mr. F. Smith, Mickfield, fetched 47s. 6d., and two pens (score each) of Mr. H. Frith's (Mickfield) went at 49s. 6d. and 48s.

Newmarket.

The twenty-fifth annual sale at Newmarket attracted a large entry and a big attendance of buyers, and prices proved 4s. to 5s. above last year, so that the sale was one worthy of the occasion. Suffolk ewe and wether lambs predominated, and they sold well at prices ranging from 29s. to 49s. 6d., the majority fetching between 36s. and 42s. 6d. Halfbreds made from 33s. 6d. to 40s. 6d., while eighty Suffolk woolled wether hoggets fetched 49s. and 44s. 6d.; two lots of twenty Southdown crones went at 33s. and 30s. 6d., and another lot of Suffolk crones at 30s.

Stowmarket.

On Friday a sale of lambs was held at Stowmarket, and here the upward tendency of prices was once more demonstrated, for whereas at East Harling on the previous day Blackfaced ewes went at 50s. 6d. apiece, the top figure till then for this season's sales, 62s. a head was twice given at Stowmarket. Mr. Percy A. Noble, of Stonham, and Messrs. Webb and Son, of Combs, were the consignors, whose ear-marked Suffolks realised these excellent prices, which, as already indicated, are more than 10s. ahead of anything made for lambs in East Anglia at this year's July sales. The demand for Suffolks was the feature of the sale, whilst first-cross ewes were also readily purchased, the leading price being 44s. for a pen of forty, the first of a very well bred lot of 265 belonging to Mr. E. E. Salmon, of Coddenham.

Sudbury.

There were not so many lambs as have been the case in previous years at the sale at Sudbury, the total of sheep and lambs being about 1,600. Buyers, however, were well represented, and a

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 17.—Dr. Watney's JERSEYS, HEIFERS and YOUNG BULLS, THREE-YEAR-OLD PONIES and CART COLTS, at Buckhold, Pangbourne, Berks.

FRIDAY, JULY 19.—Mr. Herbert Padwick's JERSEYS, at West Thorney, Emsworth, Hants

WEDNESDAY, JULY 24.—The entire SOUTHDOWN flock and BERKSHIRE PIGS belonging to C. H. Berners, Esq., at Woolverstone Hall, Ipswich.

THURSDAY, JULY 25.—The Rt. Hon. Earl Manvers' SHORTHORNS, at Holmpierrepont, Nottingham.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7.—Mr. G. J. B. Chetwynd's herd of DEXTERS, at Wyndthorpe, Doncaster.

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including FAT LAMBS fit for the butcher.
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Notice of Dispersal Sale of the
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70 RAM LAMBS and 20 Older RAMS,
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MESSRS. WATERS & RAWLENCE (in conjunction with Messrs. Jackson and Son) are instructed to SELL by AUCTION at Waters Place Farm, two miles from Ware (Hertford Branch), and 3 miles from Roydon (Cambridge Line) Stations, G.E.R., on FRIDAY, JULY 19, 1907.

The dispersal of the Waters' Place Flock is undoubtedly one of the chief attractions of the Season in the Agricultural world, it comes at a time when the Hampshire Down Breed is very much to the front at home and in all mutton-producing countries, as it every day becomes more apparent that no breed of sheep is so valuable for producing the finest quality of mutton in the shortest possible time as the Hampshire Down, whilst they readily adapt themselves to all climates, and for crossing purposes are unrivalled.

Messrs. Waters and Rawlence have fixed the Sale at the earliest possible date to accommodate all Foreign Buyers, and as regards English Breeders it is well known that wonderful results have been attained by the introduction of Waters Place Blood, and the Auctioneers are satisfied that they will get the most genuine support from the leading Flockmasters, whilst to those desirous of establishing a Flock of this popular Breed, such a chance may rarely, if ever, occur again.

Conveyances will meet the trains at the above Stations.

Sale at 12 o'clock.

Luncheon will be served during the Sale.

Catalogues of Mr. J. H. Hurford, Waters' Place Farm, Ware; of Messrs. G. Jackson & Son, Auctioneers, Hitchin; or of Waters and Rawlence, Canal, Salisbury.

satisfactory sale resulted. The general range of prices was as follows:—Suffolk ewe and wether lambs, 24s. 6d. to 35s. 6d.; first cross Lincoln and Suffolk lambs, wethers, 27s. 6d. to 39s., ewes 30s. to 39s. 6d.; Suffolk and Hampshire ewes and wethers, 22s. to 32s. 6d.; half-bred ewe and wether lambs, 28s. to 38s. 6d.; Suffolk shearling ewes 58s., and half-bred shearling ewes and wethers 40s. 6d. to 47s. 6d.

Wool Fairs and Sales.

Alton.

At the annual wool sale at Alton about 14,000 fleeces from many of the best flocks of the county were offered. The top price was 12½d., obtained in seven instances, the average price being about 11¾d. per lb. Unwashed wool made 7d. to 8¼d., and lamb's wool to 10½d. per lb.

Andover.

The first of the Hampshire wool sales was held at Andover on Monday, when 50,000 fleeces from the leading flockmasters were pitched. The prices obtained were not so good as last year, the decrease being about 1½ per lb. Top price for washed wool was 13d., with the average 12½d.; unwashed samples made 8d to 9d per lh.

Basingstoke.

At Basingstoke on Tuesday about 21,000 fleeces were pitched, and they met a good demand, but at prices which were 2d. less than last year. Southdowns, washed, made from 1s. to 1s. 0¾d.; Hampshire Down, washed, 11½d. to 1s. 0½d.; Long Wool, washed, 10½d.; greasy Southdowns, 8¾d. to 9½d.; greasy Hampshire Down, 7¾d. to 8¾d.; greasy lambs, 9¾d. to 10d.

Bedford.

The pitch at Bedford on Tuesday was about 1,370 tods, a little less than last year, and all met a ready sale at prices ranging chiefly from 27s. to 29s.

Birmingham.

The annual wool sales at Birmingham took place on Wednesday, when buyers were in attendance from Bradford, Halifax, Swindon, York, Huddersfield, Leicester, Kidderminster, Worcester, Stafford, Shrewsbury, Stratford, &c. The top prices were:—Shropshire, 12¾d.; Oxford, 12½d.; Cheviot, 10d.; Southdown, 12½d.; Ryelands, 12d.; Welsh, 8¾d.; lamb wool, 11½d.; unwashed, 9½d.

Chichester.

The eighteenth annual wool sale at Chichester was held on Tuesday, when about 50,000 fleeces of English wool from some of the best Southdown, Sussex, and Hampshire flocks were disposed of at prices from 1½d. to 2d. less than last year. The highest price realised was 14½d. per lb., which was given for 104 fleeces of Southdown tegs from the Duke of Richmond and Gordon's farm at Goodwood. Other chief prices were 13¾d., 13½d., 13¼d., and 13d.

Loughborough.

Over 8,000 fleeces were disposed of at the Loughborough wool sale held on Monday. The lots consisted principally of Shropshires, crossbreds, and longwools. There was a good attendance of buyers, but prices were not so high as in the previous two years, the highest price being 12½d. per lb. for a lot of crossbred hogg wool, from the Rev. J. Martin, Chorley. A number of lots fetched 12¼d., comprising Shropshire hoggs, ewes, and crossbreds. Several lots were disposed of for 1s., but the bulk went off between 11d. and 1s.

Newport, Isle of Wight.

The Isle of Wight wool fair was held at Newport on Thursday, when 40,000 fleeces were offered in the presence of a good attendance of buyers, but bidding was not so keen as usual, and prices showed a falling off from last year. Washed fleeces and lamb's wool ranged from 10d. to 13½d. per lb.

Northampton.

At the annual wool fair promoted by the Northamptonshire Agricultural Society held at Northampton, the pitch was in excess of last year's, for some 19,000 fleeces were sent in as against 16,798 in 1906. The quality of the wool was not quite as high as in some previous years, a condition of affairs attributable to the bad season, whilst in common with other fairs this year trade was not quite as brisk as last year. The top price realised was 28s. 9d. per tod, a considerable reduction on last year's highest, which was 33s. 6d. According to the official statement the highest price obtained on 121 tods 14 lb. was 28s. 9d. per tod; lowest price on 70 tods 3 lb. was 21s. per tod; average price per tod was 26s. 9d.

The Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.

In March last a Committee was appointed to inquire into and report upon the working of the Agriculture and Technical Instruction (Ireland) Act, 1899. It will be remembered that Sir Horace Plunkett was appointed the first Vice-President, and as he was then a member of Parliament he had charge of his Department while attending his duties at Westminster. Owing to the change of Government, a question arose as to his continued occupancy of the office, and before any alteration was made the Committee held its inquiry, with the result that Sir Horace resigned his appointment.

The report, which is dated the 15th of May, was issued as a Blue-book last week. It was unanimous, the dissentient member being Mr. W. L. Micks, of the Irish Local Government Board. The majority of four reported that they were not in favour of the suggestion that in place of the Department a Board should be constituted either wholly or partly elective.

"We think," said the Committee, that continuity of policy and efficiency of administration is best secured by the responsibility being vested solely in the head of the Department, the subordinate officials in their turn being responsible to the head of the Department.

In considering the point as to how far it is necessary or desirable that the vice president should have a seat in Parliament, the committee state that experience has shown that the proper place for him is in Ireland rather than Westminster. "He has to direct the policy of the department in Ireland, and this is, in our opinion, quite incompatible with due attendance in Parliament. It is essential that the office of vice-president should be as far as possible independent of party politics," and "we recommend that the office should be tenable for the period of five years, with power of reappointment."

The committee further states: "We are of opinion that as regards the constitution of the Council of Agriculture and Agricultural Board, there should be no change in the proportion of members appointed by the county and provincial councils and those appointed by the department; and we do not recommend any change in the Act of 1899 with regard to the powers and functions of Agricultural Board or the Council of Agriculture."

The main hay hirings at Kirkby Stephen were held on Monday, when the arrangement in most cases was for men to enter for a fortnight or three weeks, while in others no date was fixed. Wages for men ruled from £6 to £7 10s. per month, with victuals, and lads from £3 to £4 10s. Irishmen could be engaged at £4 to £5.

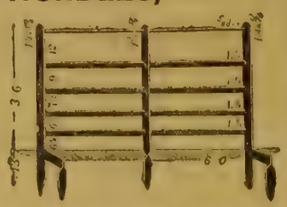
That cider is more popular to day than it has been for several years past is an undoubted fact, and it is due in a great measure to the untiring efforts of such enthusiasts as Mr. C. W. Radcliffe Cooke, whose endeavours to popularise the drink of his native county, Herefordshire, are well known and appreciated by agriculturists. Mr. Cooke's latest move to increase the number of cider and perry drinkers is the publication of an interesting and illustrated booklet entitled "Herefordshire Cider and Perry," in which he deals pretty fully with the subject, and especially with the estate of Hellens, in Herefordshire, on which he resides, and where cider and perry have been made for many generations. The booklet is one calculated to further the aim of Mr. Cooke, and given a wide circulation it should certainly result in an increase of the lovers of cider and perry.

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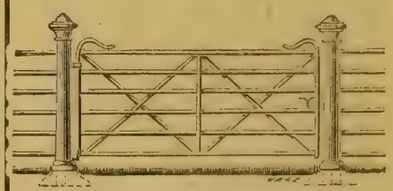
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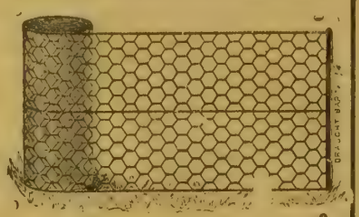
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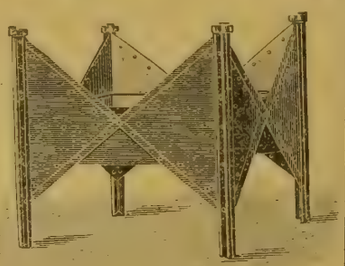
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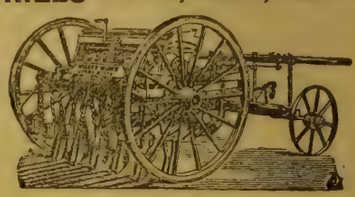


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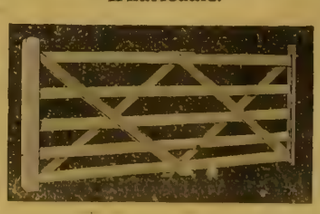
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CATTLE.

Some Retrospective Notes on the Royal Show.

THE great event of the period as regards cattle, and, indeed, all kinds of live stock, was the holding of the Royal Show at Lincoln. Right well did the cattle section fill, and in the case of most of the breeds, very successfully was the breeders' skill exemplified. The Shorthorns, which came first in the catalogue, were in great numerical force, and never, numbers taken into consideration, has the quality been so uniformly good. There were, it must be confessed, a good number that were sent for sale only, and these certainly detracted somewhat from the general excellence; but, apart from this, the breed was represented by a lot of cattle of this famous breed that are a credit to the breeders in any country, and more especially to our own, which has been shipping its best specimens in exchange for the foreigners' dollars for a long time, and right useful have the coins been to our breeders and our country.

IN the general classes the Scotch blood amalgamated with the various strains of English blood in a most satisfactory manner. No matter whether the blendings had been with the dairy Shorthorns of Gloucestershire or the perhaps equally good dual-purpose families of Westmoreland, Yorkshire, or other counties, all had gone as it should do, and those cattle which were classed as Shorthorns without regard to any special points were an exceptionally good lot of stock. Leaving these for a moment, and turning our attention to the Shorthorns which were classed as dairy Shorthorns, or where the conditions stated that dairy properties were especially to be taken into consideration, matters were even more satisfactory. What, we may ask, could be more satisfactory, more pleasing, more calculated to pay rent and expenses, than that magnificent cow of Mr. C. R. W. Adeane's which was accorded the champion prize of her section? Truly a beautiful cow, without waste in the shape of flesh reduced to the level of a milking machine, shapely—not with a narrow chest and the much-talked-of wedge shape, but with level outline, flesh in abundance, and the lacteal vessels in first-rate form.

LORD CALTHORPE'S Sweetheart, the champion of the other female section, was just as good as could be, and a wearing cow with a strong and splendid constitution, or she would not come out in such good condition time after time. The reserve to this cow for the champion honour of her section, Mr. Robert Taylor's Pitlivie Rosebud 2nd, was nothing less than a captivating heifer; but there was a sweetness and combination of the valuable properties in Mr. Adeane's Priceless Princess that could not lightly be set aside or even passed over at the expense of a strained conscience; and the reserve to her, Mr. G. W. Tyser's Lady Lee 21st, and several others, gave unmistakable evidence that it is quite possible to combine more than one property in the same animal, and that without deterioration of the special points.

WHAT about friend Mr. Miller's fine old bull, Linksfield Champion? He, too, is a marvellous example of what a Shorthorn can do; he is big, massive, wealthy of flesh, and shapely to an extent that is not often seen, and, what is far better, he fulfils the old adage that "handsome is as handsome does," for we have seen his progeny and can testify to their splendid Shorthorn character and general excellence. H.M. the King's reserve, Royal Windsor, is also quite a good one.

WE now come to another branch of the great Shorthorn tree, the Lincolnshire Reds. What a fine display they made, and what promise the young classes give! The older ones had not the benefit of the experience that breeders have brought to bear upon the production of young stock of a higher standard by the careful mating of the parents; but the junior classes have, and the conclusion we are bound to come to in respect of these is that in a few years' time, or earlier, the Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn will be much closer up to the rival branch of the family than it is to-day. Though there is always a little danger in running too sharply after quality, we should counsel a little more attention to this point, both in the cow's general appearance, and also, perhaps more especially, in respect of that very useful appendage to the dairy farmer and the man who needs money, the udder. A shapely, spacious udder without coarseness is one of the most valuable assets in most herds to-day.

HAVING glanced at the great exhibition of these famous (world famous we may add) cattle, what are we to say about the Royal Show and its means of providing for such increased numbers of cattle? There the space occupied was altogether bewildering, and tiring in the extreme to visitors who needed to spend more days than they could afford if they wished to see all; and every farmer, or at least by far the majority of farmers, needs to see all varieties of live stock (cattle, sheep, and pigs, as well as horses), and if this is to be done, the exhibition must be curtailed in some way or other. It will not be wise for one breed of cattle alone, where there are some sixteen other breeds, to be allowed to fill up little less than miles of shedding.

THE Aberdeen-Angus classes at Lincoln were very satisfactory to the Society that looks after their interests. The greatest fault that could be found as affecting the breed was the weakness of the young bull class; this class was decidedly below satisfaction, and it is a very important matter, and may be unfortunate. One likes to see promise of the young stock equalling at least, and, if possible, becoming superior to, their ancestors, but with these it scarcely seems possible that the yearling bulls can ever attain to such perfection as the aged class of the same sex displayed. Hope need not die, however, for it has often and again been seen that the plainest sires in appearance have proved the most satisfactory in their progeny, especially when they have been backed by a long pedigree!

THE Hereford breed has scarcely been up to its usual level this season at the leading shows, which is easily accounted for by the fact that the breeding grounds of the White Faces, though they have extended considerably during the last few years, are still very limited when compared with the red, white, and roan; and the enormous number that has been exported during the last twelve months must have had a marked influence upon the animals left at home for exhibition,



The Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn Heifer shown above is Ruby Queen, winner of First Prize and Reserve for the Female Championship of the breed at the Royal Show at Lincoln. She was born April 27, 1906, sire Saltfleet Bonus, dam Ruby 12th, and was bred by her owner, Mr. Edwin Bourne, 13, George Street, Louth.

especially when we take into consideration the area whence the "Royal" representatives were drawn. Nothwithstanding the above remarks, there were several animals of great merit, and it was no mean honour to Mr. A. E. Hughes's herd to furnish both the male and female champions at this great show.

SUSSEX were another breed that made a fine display, and the improvement that has taken place in this breed is perhaps more noticeable than in any other, particularly when we take our memories back to the days when oxen were so largely used for team work, and the Sussex, owing to its lightness and activity, was one of the most valuable. Oxen of this breed, when bred with a view to labour, become so active that it is said they could trot several miles an hour without apparently suffering any inconvenience or pain. To-day they are simply mountains of beef growing to great weights with a very moderate amount of feeding, and tending to early maturity. Indeed, at the Christmas shows members of this breed have upon one or two occasions recorded the greatest gain per day of any breed.

OF the many other breeds seen at Lincoln very few are more deserving of mention, so far as improvement is concerned, than the Kerries and Dexters. There was a large entry of these, and the Kerries especially displayed very much more quality and the cows considerably more milk than we have been accustomed to see. The Dexters appeared also to show distinct inclination to become more uniform, and to be more reliable in their breeding, as we noticed two or three instances at least where the best animals were English bred, and that for two or three generations. In these, too, there was a good deal of milk indication in their points and general appearance.

OF the remaining breeds, North Devons were very beautiful; South Devons improving; Galloways and Highlanders quite as good as we have latterly been accustomed to see at the Royal, and more numerous; but this is not saying very much for them, as these breeds, and also the Ayrshires, Longhorns, and Welsh, have not been very strong for some time. The Red Polls were very useful, quite inclined to make enough beef and not too much milk; and the Channel Island breeds were not better altogether than they were ten or fifteen years ago, especially as referring to the Jersey section. Guernseys have improved most, and these were great in quality and milk appearance.

Sale of Shorthorns in Hampshire.

An interesting sale of Shorthorns took place on Tuesday at Elvetham, Winchfield, Hants, the animals offered being from the first class herds of the Right Hon. Lord Calthorpe and the Right Hon. the Earl of Northbrook. Both herds are well known in all parts of the country, and all that need be said of the animals offered is that they were worthy representatives of the herds, and that they met with a ready sale at good prices, the average per head for sixty-one animals being no less than £87 15s 9d. No fewer than thirteen three-figure prices were recorded, the best being 325 guineas, which sum Mr. E. N. Casares, the well known Argentine exporter, gave for the Earl of Northbrook's cow Broadhooks Belle 7th, who comes from prize-winning stock, which has realised high prices. Details of the other chief sales are given in the following list, but mention may be made here of the fact that one of the three-figure prices was made by a calf. This was by Elvetham Monarch out of Claribel, and for the dam Lord Calthorpe also got 150 guineas, the purchaser in both cases being Mr. R. Millington Knowles. H.M. the King's representative secured two promising cows, but had to give 150 guineas each for them.

About twenty one-year-old Berkshire boars and gilts of the best blood and quality, the property of Lord Calthorpe and bred from the well known herds of Mr. R. Vincent, Mr. A. Hiscock, and the Middlesex County Asylum, were also offered for sale, but owing to the swine fever restrictions the demand was poor, and many failed to find purchasers. The average price for the twelve head sold was £12 7s. 9d., top figure being 28 guineas given by Mr. Drummond for the boar Elvetham Medallist, whilst Mr. S. Sanday gave 23 guineas for the sow Okeford Model. The other prices ranged from 4 to 13½ guineas.

The following were the principal sales of Shorthorn cattle:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

		Gs.
Vain Duchess (Lord Calthorpe's)	Mr L de Rothschild	155
Stratton Brilliant 4th (Earl of Northbrook's)	Dr Wilson	45
Her CC, by Caledon Leader	Messrs S E Dean and Son	36
Burnside Clara (Lord Calthorpe's)	Messrs Denny	90
Inspectress (Lord Calthorpe's)	Mr J Eccles	90
Her roan BC, by Sittyton Chief	Mr G L Foster Harter	32
Stratton Brilliant 6th (Earl of Northbrook's)	Messrs S E Dean and Son	42
Godiva's Goldie (Lord Calthorpe's)	Dr Wilson	40
Her roan CC, by Elvetham Monarch	Mr G Harrison	30
Ruby 4th (Lord Calthorpe's)	Captain Duncombe	205
Her red BC, by Notlaw Beau	Lord Kesteven	32
Fanny Broadhooks 3rd (Earl of Northbrook's)	Mr S Potter	65
Her roan CC, by Franciscan	Mr S Potter	32
Lady Brailes 17th (Lord Calthorpe's)	Mr W J Martin	40
Claribel (Lord Calthorpe's)	Mr R M Knowles	150
Her red roan CC, by Elvetham Monarch	Mr R M Knowles	100
Broadhooks Belle 7th (Earl of Northbrook's)	Mr E N Casares	325
Hyacinth Duchess 2nd (Lord Calthorpe's)	Dr Wilson	50
Scotch Clemency (Lord Calthorpe's)	Mr R M Knowles	180
Roan Lady 52nd (Lord Calthorpe's)	Lord Wolverton	40
Ruth 113th (Lord Calthorpe's)	Mr J C Lewis	71
Marjoram 3rd (Earl of Northbrook's)	Lord Sherborne	51
Her red roan BC, by Philospher	Mr G Jordan	32
Keir Mabel (Lord Calthorpe's)	Mr J C Lewis	70
Red Rosaline (Earl of Northbrook's)	Mr C H Jolliffe	60
Magical (Earl of Northbrook's)	Mr H Dudding	135
First Chance (Earl of Northbrook's)	Capt. Duycombe	50
Stratton Brilliant 9th (Earl of Northbrook's)	Messrs S E Dean and Son	50
Clarissa 3rd (Lord Calthorpe's)	Mr H Rowlandson	41
Regal Mary (Earl of Northbrook's)	Mr A W Hickling	200
Elvetham Augusta (Lord Calthorpe's)	Mr S Dennis	80
Stratton Brilliant 10th (Earl of Northbrook's)	Messrs S E Dean and Son	44
Fanny Broadhooks 4th (Earl of Northbrook's)	Mr R M Knowles	75
Red Rose of Stratton 23rd (Earl of Northbrook's)	Lord Moreton	40
Sienna (Earl of Northbrook's)	Mr A C Hall	40
Elvetham Nonpareil (Lord Calthorpe's)	Mr A Hiscock	250
Elvetham Ruth (Lord Calthorpe's)	Mr G Harrison	220
Lady Clipper (Lord Calthorpe's)	HM the King	150
Newton Princess 2nd (Lord Calthorpe's)	Lord Wolverton	60
Broadhooks Rose 5th (Earl of Northbrook's)	HM the King	150
Broadhooks Rose 6th (Earl of Northbrook's)	Mr L de Rothschild	91

BULLS.

Elvetham Defender 91,620 (Lord Calthorpe's)	Messrs Pocks, Brewster and Co	80
Elvetham Renown 91,623 (Lord Calthorpe's)	Mr J Riddell	57
Red Wanderer (Lord Calthorpe's)	Mr W Savage	80
Elvetham Monitor (Lord Calthorpe's)	Mr E N Casares	92
Broadhooks Beau (Earl of Northbrook's)	Dr Wilson	43
Feudal Chief (Earl of Northbrook's)	Mr P Ferguson	40
Margrave (Earl of Northbrook's)	Colonel Munro	70
Broadhooks Chief (Earl of Northbrook's)	Mr T Potter	200

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
47 Cows and Heifers ...	94 17 6	4,459 7 0
14 Bulls	63 19 6	895 13 0
61 head	87 15 9	5,355 0 0

Sale of Sir O. Mosley's Shorthorns.

A large company assembled at the Hall Farm, Rolleston, Burton-on-Trent, on Thursday, for the sale of over sixty head of Sir Oswald Mosley's Shorthorn cattle. The animals composed the bulk of the three- and two-year-old heifers and bulls, together with a number of young cows, and were brought out in the best of condition, but the prices realised did not come up to those obtained at other sales this year, owing to the fact that the animals had not been subjected to the tuberculin test. Representatives were present from all parts of the kingdom, and the purchasers included his Majesty the King, who purchased a roan in calf to King Edward, and her two-year-old daughter Rolleston Palma 2nd, at 81 guineas and 64 guineas respectively. The top figure was 100 guineas given by Mr. Holford for Rolleston Thorndale 2nd, whilst the same buyer gave 90 guineas for Rolleston Thorndale.

A list of the chief sales is appended. The total amount realised was £2,500, the cows, heifers, and calves averaging £42 per head, and the bulls £33.

COWS AND HEIFERS.

		Gs.
Complex	HM the King	81
Rolleston Thorndale	Mr Holford (Dorchester)	90
Bearstone Crocus	Duke of Portland	53
Rolleston Monogram	Mr Jackson (Hitchin)	61
Crewe Silence	Mr Sandy (Cheshire)	68
Rolleston Slavey	Mr Fraser (Liverpool)	41
Heifer calf by Rolleston Foggathorpe	Mr Sandy	20
Bearstone Benoun	Duke of Portland	31
Rolleston Thorndale 2nd	Mr Holford	100
Marden Lady	Duke of Sutherland	32
Sympathy	Mr Hipwell (Shambrook)	37
Rolleston Sylph	Colonel Foljambe	52
Her bull calf	Captain Harrison	50
Rossett Rose	Mr Ryder	35
Eastthorpe Charm	Mr H Dudding	41
Gleam	Mr Morris	57
Rolleston Celia	Mr Cross (Catthorpe)	66
Anemonet	Mr W A H Bass	52
Rolleston Palma	HM the King	64
Rolleston Princess	Mr J H Hazlehurst (Burton)	30
Rolleston Marathon	Colonel Beech	43
Rolleston Melody	Mr Hickson	50
Snowdrop	Mr Benson	33
Rolleston Countess	Mr F Miller	50
Rolleston Victorina	Mr A Ashworth	38
Silver Jewell	Mr Cross	36
Waterloo Princess	Duke of Portland	51
Rolleston Kitty	Mr Sandy	57

BULLS.

Rolleston Tzar	Mr Miller	40
Rolleston Cruiser	Mr Fraser	43
Rolleston Tzar (Walsall)	Mr Hawkins	32
Rolleston Hawthorn	Mr. Hall	26
Proud Serf	Sir P Walker, Bart	26

Sale of Kerries and Dexters at Bletchley.

The fifteenth annual sale of Kerry and Dexter cattle belonging to Messrs. Robertson and Sons, of La Mancha, Malahide, Dublin, took place at Bletchley, Bucks, on Wednesday, when twenty-eight cows and heifers and five bulls from first-class stock were offered for sale. Among them was the second-prize Dexter heifer at the Royal Show, Lincoln, La Mancha Marjorie, and she was bought for H.M. the King at 43 guineas. This was the top price of the sale, the nearest approach being 29 guineas, given by the Hon. Miss R. Hubbard for Acme. Big La Mancha Irish Nora was purchased for the King at 26 guineas, and at 25 guineas each the Duchess of Devonshire bought La Mancha Dot, Mr. Snelgrove La Mancha Mighty Atom, and Mr. de Bertodano La Mancha Shady Girl. Other prices ranged up to 22 guineas, the average price per head for the cows and heifers being £18 2s. 1d., whilst the three bulls averaged £10 3s.

A Late Harvest in Scotland.

Repofts of the harvest prospects in the various districts in Scotland, published in Friday's *Scotsman*, are for the most part of rather a gloomy character, and the sound of the reaper will be heard from three weeks to a month later than in the average of seasons.

Since Easter, adds our contemporary, there have been very few days dry, and in not a few instances rain has fallen during the greater part of the day. The temperature has often been low, particularly at night, and there has been a minimum of sunshine. Fortunately the weather at seedtime was most favourable, and the seed corn brairded quickly, and was promising for a time.

Even after the weather conditions changed for the worse it maintained a good colour, but of late the prospects of a satisfactory crop being harvested have become decidedly less favourable. In fact, since the weather became comparatively dry, the crop seems to have gone back instead of being improved, much of it having assumed a yellow tinge and been checked in its growth. The bulk of straw promises to be decidedly under an average.

Crops after turnips and potatoes are poor, and those after grass have lately fallen off in promise. The rye grass hay crop is good on many farms and indifferent on others, and meadows give promise of a bulky yield. Owing to the excessive and frequent rainfall the seeding of the turnip crop was slowly overtaken, and, indeed, on some land this was only accomplished last week. But the main crop, in good land, has come to the hoo in good time, and a large proportion of the plants have been thinned.



Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

Changing Colour.

A CURIOUS case of change of colour sometimes takes place in chesnut horses, and one came under my notice only recently. This was Sligo, who, when I first knew him some five years ago, was a red chesnut—a dark red chesnut certainly, but nothing approaching a liver-chesnut. He is now very much darker, and if his colour continues to change, he will be a very dark chesnut in two or three years. It will be interesting to watch him, for I once had a horse that changed from a red-chesnut to a very dark—almost liver-chesnut. The change was first perceptible when he was eight years old. When he was twelve he was very dark in colour. Sligo is now nine years old.

AND by the way Sligo is now known as Sir Lancelot, a change which calls up the question of naming and identifying show horses. Sligo has been a notable instance of change of name. When he was bought by Mr. Simpson Hinchcliffe his name was changed, but I forget his new name, and it is really immaterial for wiser counsels prevailed, and the old name was almost immediately adopted again. Now we have the old horse given a third name. This of course is very confusing to anyone who has not followed the horse's career very closely, but if it had been an isolated case it would not have been necessary to discuss the question of naming horses, which I shall now proceed to do.

Naming Horses.

IT is, I think, perfectly obvious that names are given in order that horses may be identified; but if one had to judge from the way in which some people name their horses, one would think they are given to prevent identification. The repetition of names is monotonous. No sooner does a horse make a name than straightway all over the country horses are named after him. For example, I wonder how many hunter fillies there are at the present day that are named after Major Leslie Renton's famous mare Success. It is of course within a man's right to name his horse what he likes, but I would point out that there are plenty of names to choose from, and that confusion can easily be avoided by taking a very little trouble. We should have no repetition of names if men would adopt the plan which Hackney and Shire breeders adopt, of putting a prefix or an affix to the name. This may be, and perhaps is a rather clumsy way of identifying horses. It leads to the multiplication of words, but, at any rate, it does away a confusion and mystification.

THERE are some men who seem to think that it is necessary to enshroud horses with mystery; that it is as well to do everything they can to prevent a horse being identified for fear that some episode in his early history should tell against him. There can be no greater mistake. It is not the general public that does the "crabbing" when any "crabbing" is to be done. It is the man who knows pretty nearly every horse of note in the country without the aid of a catalogue that can tell you "all about it." Here is an instance of straightforwardness about a horse's identity and history that came under my notice not very long ago. A horse, owned by a man I know, was rejected by the veterinary surgeons at a certain show. So far as I am aware not a single newspaper noticed the fact. The ailment, if it was there, was only a temporary one, and shortly afterwards the horse was put severely through the mill and passed all right. He was still shown in the same name, and again no notice was taken of the occurrence. His position in a prominent place in the prize list was taken just as a matter of course, and I do not remember hearing his rejection referred to more than once, when a man who knew him well said something about his exceptional soundness, and how strange it was that he did not pass a few weeks previously. But if a new name had been given to the horse, or he had been shown without a name, or any attempt had been made to disguise his identity, attention would have been drawn to an incident in his career which had evidently been forgotten by all but a very few, and what is more the incident would have been magnified.

HERE is another incident. A well-known exhibitor bought a horse at a very small figure. It looked perhaps plenty for him at the time, and certainly it may be said to have been his market value, as plenty of people knew about him. As a matter of fact he cost less than £25. He improved in a remarkable manner—horses do occasionally, and occasionally they move as rapidly in another direction—and was shown at one or two little shows, at which he was successful. He then flew at higher game, and still won, and no attempt was made to mislead anyone about him. "A cheap horse that to you" said a would-be buyer. "Will you take cost price multiplied by ten?" The offer was refused for some reason or other—it matters not what—but I would emphasise the fact that the original cost has nothing to do with present value, and that both vendor and would-be purchaser are well aware of the fact. I have heard dealers say that this plain identification of horses enables people to find out where others are to be got. I question it. The breeder naturally follows the horse he has bred, and he is not given to hiding his light under a bushel. And and unless the breeder adopts the dealer's policy and makes his horse ready in every way for the private customer, which is scarcely probable to any extent—if he does he becomes a dealer—he is not likely to take the dealer's customer away from him.

BY all means, then, let us have horses so named as to be readily identified, for there is no reason why they should not be and there is every reason why they should be. Of course, if horses are not properly described and named it makes it easier for a man to show one horse instead of another, but no man would think, say, of showing a veteran prize winner in a novice class. If he did he would be found out, and he would be lucky to escape a escape a public prosecution in these days.

False Pedigrees.

IT may interest my readers to refer briefly to a case of false pedigree which, though it took place respecting a bull, would serve as a precedent in any horse case in which false pedigree was involved. A large farmer showed a bull with a fine Shorthorn pedigree; he won several prizes, and was extensively used at a large fee. But the calves had black noses, the bull's history was traced, and then came trouble. The Agricultural Society prosecuted for obtaining money under false pretences; the farmer was convicted, and got twelve months' imprisonment. I forget whether with or without hard labour. Then those who had used the bull sued for damages, and recovered them to the amount of £1,500 or more. So it is evident that it is a dangerous thing to tamper with the pedigrees of show animals.

Judges and Judging.

I HAVE heard a good deal about judging lately, and have seen some judging which was, to put it mildly, very unsatisfactory. In fact, at many places during last month complaints have been loud and deep, not about individual decisions, for we seall always agree to differ about them, but about the general trend of the judging at certain shows. It would not do to particularise, but at some shows I have attended I think it has been pretty clear that some of the judges have not recognised—at any rate, practically—the first principles of judging. These I take to be selecting the best horses in the class for the prizes in the shortest possible time, and without regard to any circumstances but the horses themselves.

I HEARD a judge say once, that if it was a near thing he would favour his friend. I think most will agree with me that though it is easy to understand a man taking up such a position, it is one that is utterly indefensible. When men say such things there is no wonder that outsiders talk about favouritism. At the same time, I must say that I have seen a great deal of the judging of this gentleman, and I could never see any of the slight favouritism that he somewhat cynically said that he showed.

I ONCE heard an exhibitor who did not get quite so forward as he thought he ought, say to a judge, "Wait till you come before me, and I'll make you remember this." Such a man, it is obvious, should never be a judge. Neither should a man who for the mere purposes of a personal triumph endeavours to put his colleague into a false position. When two men go into the ring to judge they are expected to consult, and as far as possible pull together. And when one sees in class after class an umpire called in to decide not between two horses, but to place four or five it is pretty clear that one, at any rate, of the judges is letting his prejudice get the better of his commonsense. There is one thing one sometimes hears said against a judge which is not quite fair. "He does not remember the horses from one day to another," says Mr. Critic. A man may easily be forgiven for forgetting or for missing a horse in a very big class, but of course he ought to know the prominent show horses he has judged intimately, and if he reverses a previous decision should have some cogent reason ready for his action.

THE LOOKER-ON.

Mr. J. Howell's Hackneys.

A number of pedigree Hackneys from Mr. James Howell's celebrated Llanmanes Stud were brought under the hammer at Llanmaes Farm, St. Fagans, near Cardiff, in the presence of a large company of breeders from all parts, and met a good trade, though several animals had to be withdrawn. The highest price was obtained for a beautiful pair of four-year old bays, for which there was some keen competition, but eventually Captain Scott obtained the pair for 160 guineas. Two other pairs were knocked down to the same purchaser—one for 150 and the other for 110 guineas. Captain Scott, who was the principal buyer throughout the sale, paid 75 guineas each for a brown bay cob and a chesnut mare. Mr. Carr, of Carsluke (N.B.), also bought several lots, his highest price being 71 guineas for a chestnut mare foaled in 1902. The result of the sale was a total of close on £1,600, and appended is a list of the chief lots sold:—

Hywel's Lady Athilite and Prim Lucy	Captain Scott 160
Golden Trumps and Hywel's Bravo	Captain Scott 150
Miss Jones and a Brown Gelding	Captain Scott 110
Lady Athil	Captain Scott 75
Bay Cob Gelding	Captain Scott 75
Lady Windsor	Mr Carr 71
Cruciform	Mr E England 66
Gelatine	Captain Scott 61
Hywel's Rufus	Mr Carr 70
Hywel's Lady Hill	Dr R J Thomas 33
Hywel's Sweet Bessie	Mr Carr 34½
Hywel's Lady Iago	Mr Carr 55
Doctor Hill	Mr Carr 30
Hywel's Majesty	Mr Thomas Thoup 40
Lady Saintwell	Mr Thomas 38
Ailsa Fireaway	Mr Devereux 41
Hywel's Lady Geraldine	Mr W Cope 35
Lady Jane	Mr Osmond 37½
Hywel's Valentine	Mr Davies 43
A Brown Gelding	Mr Blake 30
Hywel's Spotless Lady	Mr Davis 57
Hywel's Lady Study	Mr Williams 33
Hywel's Rufus and Fireaway	Mr Carr 70
Hywel's Langford Lady	Mr Carr 40

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending July 2, 1907:—

Period.	Swine Fever. Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	Swine Fever. Outbreaks.	Sheep Scab. Outbreaks Reported.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Other Animals.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Dogs.	Glanders (including Farcy). Animals Attacked.	Glanders (including Farcy). Outbreaks.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Animals Attacked.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Outbreaks.	Anthrax. Animals Attacked.	Anthrax. Outbreaks.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Week ended July 22, 1907	292	70	4	...	...	40	11	...	...	19	17
Corresponding week 1906	315	26	1	...	...	39	22	...	...	23	19
Corresponding week 1905	145	32	...	...	...	33	24	...	...	17	17
Corresponding week in 1904	168	46	1	...	...	65	47	...	...	11	11
Total for 26 weeks, 1907	6,245	1,343	400	...	...	1,140	464	...	...	814	609
Corresponding period 1906	3,440	634	286	...	...	1,053	569	...	...	770	519
Corresponding period 1905	1,024	422	643	...	...	1,087	627	...	...	750	535
Corresponding period in 1904	3,863	798	1,056	...	...	1,387	769	...	...	818	527

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

**** The charge for Advertisements (if set in small type) under classified headings in this section is one penny per word each insertion.*

HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL illington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes also massive sound Stallions to let for the season.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL Catthorpe, Rugby.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Hereford. Stud Horses: Lockinge Lord of Misrule and Lockinge Bonny Lad, both by Lockinge Forester, full brother to Lockinge Forest King. Colts and Fillies for Sale.

MUNTZ, FREDERICK ERNEST, Umberslade, Hockley Heath, Warwickshire. Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, prize-winners.—Particulars from Mr. JOHN T. B. HARTLEY, Estate Office.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby. — SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners, on Sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

ROWELL, JOHN, Bury, Huntingdon. Breeder Shires and Hackneys; Stallions for sale, hire, or service at home; mares and fillies for sale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

SHETLAND PONIES.

BEALE, Mrs. A. J., Cacketts, Cudham, Kent. Prize-bred Pedigree Shetlands for sale; three grand Stallions at stud.

PONIES.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

PREECE, JOHN ADNEY, Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston, Northampton.—Herd of 250 Shorthorns: best Bates and Scotch blood; stock Bulls, Duke of Barrington 70th, Primrose Earl 89544, and Royal Baron 93192; Bulls and Heifers for sale.

ROTHWELL, R. R., Much Hoole, near Preston. Pedigree Shorthorns, chiefly Scotch blood. Stock bull Strowan Marquis 13th, winner of many prizes. Young bulls and heifers always on sale.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

TAYLOR, GEORGE, Cranford, Middlesex.—Bates' Shorthorns, deep milkers. Winners Milking Competitions, London Dairy Show, 1905-6. Bull Calves for Sale. Stock Bulls: Beau Sabreur, Drumeree, Rowbury, and Kirkcharm.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

SUSSEX.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath, Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Sussex Cattle (descended from the oldest and best strains of blood), unrivalled for their early maturity, the production of the best beef and working oxen, and ability to thrive in all weathers on the roughest fare. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for Sale.

HEREFORDS.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for Sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

PULLEY, CHARLES THORNTON, Lower Eaton, Hereford. Noted prize-winning herd of HEREFORD CATTLE. First prize Royal winner, Protector 19660, 1899; Eaton Champion 21851, 1903; and Admiral 3rd, 1905. The herd is headed by Eaton Champion and Grandflower 2nd 32409, also a Royal winner. Bulls and Heifers for sale. Also prize-winning Shropshire Sheep. Apply Mr. HEDLEY JONES, Lower Eaton Estate Office, Hereford.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Corbett, established 1900. This herd has in 1904, 1905, and 1906 won more 1st and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by Dudale, Sage Protector, and Pugilist. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited. —Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford Herefordshire.

CATTLE—*continued.*

DEVONS.

BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton Williton, Taunton, Breeder of Pedigree Devon Cattle. A speciality for large size, with quality and robust constitutions; colour dark red. Sent to all parts of the world. Prices moderate.

SKINNER, ALFRED C., Pound, Bishops-Lydeard, Somerset. Pedigree Devons, constitution, quality, size, milk; 600 prizes principal shows, many champions; exports most successful; bulls and heifers for sale. Inspection invited.

SOUTH DEVONS.

ROWE, F. W., Trevego Lostwithiel, Cornwall. Breeder of pure-bred South Devon Cattle of best and purest strains of blood. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for inspection and sale

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

BRIDGES, J. H.—This old-established herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle of the leading families can be seen at Langshott Home Farm, Horley, Surrey (near Horley Station, L.B. & S.C.R.), and catalogues obtained on application to Mr Albert Pulling.

HURSLEY PARK HERD OF ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE, the property of Sir George Cooper, Bart., comprising Erica, Pride, Miss Burgess, Lady Ida, Matilda, Jemima of Morlich families. Prizes won during 1906: 7 firsts, 3 seconds, 3 reserves, 1 challenge cup, 2 silver medals, 3 reserve champions. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.—Catalogues on application to V. F. Lease, Estate Office, Hursley Park, Winchester.

AYRSHIRES.

WALLACE, JAMES, J.P., Auchenbainzie, Thornhill, Dumfriesshire, Scotland. Breeder of pedigree prize-winning Ayrshire Cattle; hardy, healthy, good milkers; bred for dairy purposes, beauty and style. Bulls and Heifers for sale.

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably, from his prize-winning herd of Red Polls, Bulls, Cows, Heifers, from good milkers.—Apply C. F. STEBBING Letton, Thetford.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

CARY-ELWES, V., Billing Hall, Northampton. Breeder of Jersey cattle.

JERSEYS and pure Alderney, Guernseys, fresh calved and near calving. Prices, particulars.—WHEADON, Ilminster.

MERTON GRANGE GUERNSEYS.—Property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. This Herd contains Champion Bull Royal Counties, Portsmouth, and Champion Cow Royal Derby, 1906. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of best Breeding for Sale.—Telegrams and particulars, W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay.

STERN, Sir E. D., Fan Court, Chertsey, Surrey. Herd of pedigree Jersey Cattle. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

TICHBORNE PARK, GUERNSEY.—Yearling Bulls and Heifers for sale.—Apply, D. MICHIE, Estate Office, Tichborne, Alresford, Hants.

GALLOWAYS.

GRAHAM, ROBERT, Auchengassel, Twynholm, breeder fashionable Galloway Cattle, winners at Royal and Highland Societies Shows. Pedigree Bulls, Cows, and Heifers, also Blue-greys for feeding, for sale. Commissions carefully executed.

KERRIES & DEXTERS.

THE DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE'S PRIZE-WINNING DEXTER HERD.—During 1904 and 1905 this Herd won more prizes than any other three Dexter Herds combined, including both first and second milking prizes Royal, 1905, and first London Dairy Show, 1906. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers generally for Sale.—CHILD, Compton Place, Eastbourne.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

RATTRAY, DAVID, Gortnaskehy, Ballybunion, Co. Kerry. Pedigree Prize-winning Herd of Kerries and Dexters. 156 Prizes and Honours won by Cattle from this Herd past three years. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONG WOOL.

ANDERSON, John, Barton-on-Humber.—The old Barton Flock of Pure-bred LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, Flock Book 106. This flock is noted for hard constitutions and fine, lustrous wool. Inspection invited. Telegrams as above.

ATKINSON, T., & SON, North Kelsey, Lincoln. Old established flock of pure Lincoln Longwools. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Noted for great size and long lustrous wool. Have given great satisfaction at home and abroad. Inspection invited.

SHEEP—*continued.*

LINCOLN LONG WOOL—*continued.*

BROOKS, W. J., Stowe Lodge, Weedon, Northants (Registered Flock 165), has for sale Rams and Ewes of best blood.

DRAKES, Wm., Tealby, Market Rasen. Flock No. 72 of Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs of best blood for sale. Lincoln Red Shorthorns. Prices moderate.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

SMITH, HENRY, jun., Cropwell Butler, Nottingham. Lincoln Longwool Flock No. 7, winner of £2,361 in prizes. Champion pen Lincolns, Smithfield Show, 1896; Association Championship, Leicester, 1897; Association Championship for pen of 3 Shearling Rams, Yorkshire, 1900; Championship, Rutland, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, and 1906. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1907.—Extraordinary records: Twin ram lambs let for 205 and 120 guineas. Ninety averaged £21 10s. Selections always for Sale.

JUDD, George, Cocum, Barton Stacey, Hants.—Pure bred, Hampshire Downs, over 1000 Ewes. Annual Sale, Ram Lambs, August 8th, 1907. Registered, Vol. 1, page 17.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. The Cholderton flock is individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded in the Hampshire Down Flock Book. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury.

OVEY, R. L., Hernes, Henley-on-Thames.—Pedigree HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK, Reg. Vol. IV., Prize-winners leading shows last five years.

THE CHILMARK FLOCK OF REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—Owner, JAMES FLOWER, Chilwark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records. Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, out of 11 years competing, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" won eight times, thrice second, with pens of 8 ram lambs; a marvellous record. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 13 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05-06. At the Royal at Derby, 1906, every First Prize, two Seconds, and the Champion were won; an unequalled success!! Champions Birmingham, 1905, over all breeds, Reserve in 1906. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Short-wools, Smithfield, 1904-05-06. Highest average past 13 years. Bridford Fair, Aug. 12, 100 Ram Lambs, annual sale. Selections for Sale.

WINCHESTER, the Most Hon. the Marquis of, Amport St. Mary, Andover, Hants. Pure-bred flock of Hampshire Down Sheep; high-class Rams and Ewes always on Sale.

OXFORD DOWNS.

ADAMS, GEORGE, Royal Prize Farm Flock, Faringdon, Berks. Pure Oxford Down Sheep, Shearling Rams, Ram Lambs, Ewes and Ewe Lambs for Sale. Special arrangements with foreign buyers. Many first prizes at R.A.S.E. and other shows during past 25 years, including 2 first, 2 second, and 4 other prizes, World's Fair, Chicago, and 7 firsts, 4 seconds and champion at Royal Bath and West, Royal Counties, etc., this year.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office Cowley, near Cheltenham.

SUFFOLKS.

CRANWORTH, The Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably from his prize winning flock, of Suffolk Sheep, some fine Ram Lambs.—Apply C. F. STEBBING Letton, Thetford.

WENSLEYDALE.

UNDERLEY WENSLEYDALES (Blue-faced), from the best blood obtainable. Successfully exhibited.—Apply, G. G. ROBINSON, Baliff, Underley Farm Kirkby, Lonsdale. iii

(Continued on page 79.

VETERINARY.

Diseases of Farm Animals.

Wool-ball in Lambs.

Sheep of all ages are frequently found to have concretions in the rumen, the result of the felting together of wool, the fine hairs of clover, oats, and other food materials; while in the abomasum, or true digestive stomach, they often have calculous concretions called "bezoars," which are composed of a mixture of wool, earthy matter, and inspissated mucus, arranged in concentric layers around some foreign body as a nucleus.

These often exist without causing much inconvenience; but the wool-ball of the lamb is not nearly so harmless, for every year complaints are rife as to losses from this cause in lambs of various ages, particularly while still running with the ewe.

This season wool-ball seems to be particularly troublesome to the flockmaster, therefore a few notes as to its cause may be useful.

Causes.

It is a moot point, and a frequent subject of argument among farmers and shepherds, where the wool forming the balls found in the stomach of the lamb comes from.

Some say from the neighbourhood of the udder of the ewe; others from the hedge-rows, bushes, and pastures.

Little, if any, comes from the lamb's own body, from licking the skin or picking at the fleece, although a favourite way of accounting for it is that the lambs get "ticky" or lousy from association with their verminous dams, and in consequence suffer from skin irritation, for if a portion of one of the balls be teazed out it will be readily seen that the texture and staple of the material is different to the wool of the lamb.

Some of the wool is almost certainly taken in while sucking, and to reduce the risk of this careful shepherds remove the wool from the parts some time before lambing takes place. Some of them do this a little too freely, clipping the wool closely from the tail, inside the thighs, and around the udder, in a fashion that leaves the genitals and mammary gland very much exposed, which predisposes to garget. There are some flockmasters who have had considerable trouble with ewes suffering from bad udders who will not permit of this trimming, and unless the shepherd takes moderation for his guide it is certainly possible in endeavouring to avoid wool-ball in the lambs to risk garget in the ewes.

We believe that most of the material is dead wool obtained from a third source. At the season when young lambs are about, the hedges and pastures are full of "flecks" of wool torn from the fleeces by thorns and briars, or shed when the ewes are unhealthy in either skin or constitution or need shearing. Time was when this loose wool used to be gathered up, but either people are less careful than they used to be, despise the day of small things, or wool has so fallen in price as to render it not worth the time of even children to pick it up. Perhaps the march of education in the agricultural world and the school attendance officer are factors to be reckoned with.

It should, however, be gathered up as a measure of precaution, even if there is no profit in it, since lambs are very fond of picking about round hedgerows, and nothing is more likely than that a good deal of wool is taken into the stomach from this source. Lambs appear to pick at the flecks of wool in mischief, and even stray filaments picked up with grass are capable of being added to the nucleus and twine around it in movements of the stomach.

Symptoms and Prevention.

In some cases there is no doubt that mistakes are made in attributing deaths to wool-ball due to other causes, because it is so easy to argue from analogy, and for the inexpert conductor of the autopsy to assume that any obscure case resulting in death must of necessity arise from these balls of felted wool because they happen to be present when the unfortunate little animal is examined post-mortem.

This may, however, be mere coincidence, and perhaps fatalities from their presence are not so common as is popularly supposed; but authentic cases are frequent enough to render it imperative that all possible care should be taken to prevent the ingestion of wool, since there is a general agreement that not much that is useful can be done in the matter of curing any case of illness arising from the presence of such concretions.

To begin with, their existence cannot be accurately diagnosed, and almost before the animal is seen to be seriously ill, and the cause suspected, it is dead, and it is too late to do anything but lament.

There seems to be no very marked symptoms observable in the majority of cases, and the general complaint of the shepherd is that the lamb drops off suddenly and after only a few hours' illness. He may learn to suspect the cause of the ailment from experience of other cases and the finding of wool in their stomachs, but even then there is little to be done. Even if early diagnosis was possible, or after several losses in a flock the character of the case be suspected, the efficacy of treatment is more than doubtful.

A purgative would perhaps carry off the smaller balls, but it would be dangerous to give purgatives if they were large.

When wool-balls are already formed, they are generally too large to pass the pylorus, but may impact it.

M.R.C.V.S.

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

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PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

CHARLES SPENCER, having taken over the Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts, herd of Large and Middle White Pigs, which won 12 prizes and reserves with 11 exhibits at Derby Royal, will price any of them.

FULWOOD HERD LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES, property R. R. Rothwell. 200 head bred from winners at leading shows.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for Sale at moderate prices.

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station, G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices.—J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM. Herd of Large White Pigs. The oldest and largest Herd in Notts County. Over 100 Breeding Sows kept. Upwards of 600 to select from. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—Apply ARTHUR A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 100 to choose from. Correspondence invited. Grand young breeding stock always on Sale.—Apply R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts (15 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

SPALDING HERD of Pedigree Large Whites, young stock and in-pig Gilts for Sale. All bred from great winners.—ALFRED W. WHITE, "Hillegom," Spalding.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

LARGE BLACKS.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath. Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Large Black Pigs of the best strains of blood, noted for their docility and for the production of a large proportion of lean meat. Good selection of Boars, unrelated Gilts, and in-pig Sows for Sale at reasonable prices.

CATTON HERD OF PRIZE-WINNING LARGE BLACK PIGS.—Stock Boar Trevisquite Excelsior 1487, 1st Devon County, 2nd and Reserve Champion Royal Show, 1906; pigs kept in hardy natural condition; gelts and boars always on sale.—Apply, J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stations: Croxall, 2½ miles (M.R.); Alrewas, 3½ miles (L.N.W.).

HASKETON CHAMPION PRIZE HERD OF LARGE BLACK PIGS.—This herd has won the Royal championship three out of four times, and is the only herd having won the breed challenge cup. Record: 47 firsts, 37 seconds, 11 thirds, 126 prize-winning cards; the herd this year being the winners of 14 firsts, 6 seconds, 2 thirds, championship and silver cup in five shows. Gelts and Boars at moderate prices consistent with quality. Exportation a speciality.—Apply, C. F. MARRINER, Hasketon, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

HENLEY, JESSE, Seaton Ross, York, Breeder of Large Black Pigs selected from the best of strains; boars and gelts on sale at moderate prices; all pigs eligible for the Herd Book.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS.—Select Herd, bred from choice Prize Winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale, moderate prices.—H. J. CLARKE, The Slade, Roughley, Sutton Coldfield.

BERKSHIRES.

CARNARVON, the Earl of.—Prize winning Pedigree Herd. BOARS and GELTS, eligible Herd Book. Prices moderate.—Apply W. T. HALL, Highclere Farm, Newbury.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

BERKSHIRES—*continued.*

READING CORPORATION.—150 Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, leading prize-winning strains, from son of Champion Mikado 10433 and prize-winner Domino 11323; inspection invited.—Apply, Mr. T. Chettle, Manor Farm, Reading, Berks.

STALL PITTS HERD OF PEDIGREE BERKSHIRES. One of the Oldest Herds. Unsurpassed for true character, size, and quality. Choice selection of Boars and Sows on offer at moderate prices.—J. LAWRENCE, Stall Pitts, Shrivenham, Berks.

COLSTON & BORROWFIELD HERDS.

The property of R. MILLINGTON-KNOWLES, Colston Bassett Hall, Notts.

The herds contain **40** large typical breeding sows of the most fashionable strains; the best of **SIRES** are purchased to keep up the present high standard of excellence.

Numerous Championships, Medals, Firsts, and other prizes won at the Royal, Highland, Bath and West, and other principal Shows. Awarded Diploma at **ST. LOUIS, U.S.A.**, International Exposition, 1904, as breeder of the **CHAMPION** boar in all classes, and also **GRAND CHAMPION**, and breeder of boar second prize winner in all classes.

THE BORROWFIELD HERD has had a world-wide reputation for 40 years. Only home-bred pigs are sold from these herds, and no others are admitted on the premises. Large Whites only.—G. H. ELLIOT, Estate Office, Colston Bassett, Notts.

For Sale.

PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.

Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.

GEORGE HOYLES,
Skidby Manor, near Hull.

GEORGE HOYLES,
SKIDBY MANOR, HULL.

Breeder of Pure Lincoln Long Wool Sheep. Lustrous Fleeces. Good Constitutions.

SUITABLE FOR HOME AND ABROAD. STOCK FOR SALE.

SOCIETIES.

CENTRAL CHAMBER.

A meeting of the council of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture was held at the house of the Surveyors' Institution, Westminster, on Tuesday. Lord Desborough presiding.

Swine Fever.

A letter had been received from the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries on the subject of swine fever. This stated that consideration had been given to the reports submitted by the Cattle Disease Committee of the council. The communication stated that during the present year, up to and including the week ended June 8, 1,067 outbreaks had been confirmed in England, 47 in Wales, and 44 in Scotland, as compared with 480 in England, 37 in Wales, and 32 in Scotland during the corresponding period of the year 1906. "It will be seen therefore," continued the letter, "that the increase in outbreaks is practically confined to England; and it is by no means general throughout that country. There is evidence that the measures taken by the Board have had a distinctly beneficial effect in securing the control of the disease, both in the East Riding of Yorkshire and in the county of Salop, in both of which counties the position last year was particularly satisfactory, whilst more recently those measures have produced a similar result in Norfolk and Suffolk. Throughout the Northern, the North-Western, and the West Midland counties the position is still favourable, whilst, as regards the remainder of the Midland and North-Eastern counties, the only serious disease centres at present existing are in Leicestershire and West Nottingham, with a portion of Derbyshire, where the disease has, so far, been confined to a relatively small area. As regards the South Midlands, the remaining Eastern counties and the South of England the position remains unsatisfactory both in Essex and in Hants, whilst in Kent and in the contiguous counties of Worcester, Gloucester, Oxford, Berks, Bucks, Middlesex, Herts, and Bedford, the number of outbreaks of the disease has latterly been on the increase."

The board expressed their confidence that a steady persistence in the administrative measures taken to control the disease would before long result in regaining the ground which had unfortunately been lost. The enhanced expenditure entailed by reverting to the policy of slaughter could be defended only if there were good reason to believe that it would be followed by the rapid success of the operations against the disease, and a careful study of the existing position did not lead the board to believe that this would be the case at the present time. Recent investigations led to the conclusion that the extirpation of swine fever was to be looked for in the direction of the immunising of swine against the disease.

Glanders.

Colonel le Roy Lewis moved as a matter of urgency that a deputation be appointed to wait upon the Board of Agriculture to urge the views of the Chamber in regard to the payment of compensation for glanders. At present compensation to owners of slaughtered horses is limited to 25 per cent. of their value. The case was now made more serious by the inclusion of glanders in the scheduled list of diseases for which compensation is to be paid under the new Workmen's Compensation Act, so that the horse-owner is not only liable for 75 per cent. of the loss of his horse, but also saddled with liability in regard to compensation to his workmen.

The motion was agreed to.

The Small Holdings Bill.

A report of the Local Taxation Committee on the Small Holdings and Allotments Bill was received after certain verbal amendments had been effected. The report stated that the rating proposals are an invasion of the rights of representative bodies as to the determination of the rates to be levied. No exception is taken to the performance of certain duties by the commissioners defined in Sections 1 and 2. Under Section 3, Sub-sections 2 and 3, the commissioners are empowered to take action themselves, and to involve the county in expenditure which it has not approved of in pursuance of schemes which may be wholly visionary, and possibly very costly, and under Section 5 all the powers of the county council are given to such commissioners, and all expenditure by them shall be charged upon the rates. Such powers are wholly unprecedented, would be very inconvenient in practice, and not unlikely to be seriously resented by the counties affected. The committee are of opinion that it is absolutely necessary that any expenses incurred by the Board of Agriculture or by the commissioners should be defrayed entirely out of moneys voted by Parliament and under the control of Parliament, as is partly suggested for special cases in Section 14, and warmly press on the council that the Bill should not be passed without alterations to this effect being made in it.

Mr. Wood Homer, in presenting the report, explained that the committee had dealt with the Bill entirely from the financial aspect. The Bill would inflict an enormous injustice on the ratepayers of the country.

The report was seconded by Mr. T. Christian, who said the scheme would be very expensive in its working. Under it officialism would be exceedingly expensive, and the rates would be increased. He hoped the Chamber would set their foot down firmly against the bill.

Mr. Christopher Turner said they were in favour of small holdings, but they wanted them on sound and economic lines.

Sir Aubrey Fletcher declared that this was a most important question, and the committee's report should be carried unanimously.

The report was adopted.

The Small Holdings Bill was further discussed, when the following resolution was proposed by Mr. R. C. Pearce (Darlington): "This council is of opinion that the Small Holdings and Allotments Bill should not be passed unless the alterations recommended in the report of the Local Taxation Committee be incorporated in the Bill; and this council strongly protests against the hurried manner in which a measure of the importance of the Small Holdings and Allotments Bill is being forced through Parliament without an opportunity having been given to consult the agriculturists and ratepayers of the country whose interests are so vitally affected."

The motion was seconded by Mr. S. Kidner (Taunton), and a prolonged discussion followed, in the course of which several amendments were suggested.

Ultimately it was decided to adopt the first part of the resolution with the addition of the words, "and while it approves of the formation of small holdings on sound and economic lines, it protests against the hurried manner in which a measure of the importance of the Small Holdings and Allotments Bill is being forced through Parliament.

Parliamentary Committee.

In the absence of Mr. T. Courtenay T. Warner, the chairman, the adoption of the report of the Parliamentary Committee was moved by Mr. C. Middleton, and the resolution was passed without discussion. The report stated that the committee having considered the position of the Public Health Bill, referred to them by the last meeting of the council, were of opinion that the best course to pursue was to wait until it is reported by the Standing Committee, and then to move that it be re-committed to a Select Committee. This would give the council the best opportunity of putting forward their views by means of witnesses, either as to amending the Model Milk Clauses, or as to general legislation dealing with the production and distribution of milk.

The committee were of opinion that it would not be advisable to move to amend the London Council (General Powers) Bill on report by the deletion of the words inserted in the Model Milk Clauses, but the chairman promised, if possible, to make a verbal protest against this alteration being made a precedent to any further alteration in other private bills.

The committee had issued a whip with regard to the Destructive Insects and Pests Bill, asking members to urge that a clause should be inserted providing that any cost of administration should be defrayed out of the National Exchequer, but in other respects to press for the measure to be passed. This Bill has been since passed through committee stage as an opposed Bill, no alteration being possible without losing the Bill.

Scottish Chamber.

At the meeting of the directors of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture held at Edinburgh on Wednesday, it was intimated that Lord Carrington, the President of the Board of Agriculture, would attend the autumn conference of the Chamber, which it was resolved should be held in Glasgow, and a number of subjects were set down for consideration by the conference.

Mr. Speir, Newton, speaking on the subject of Fiars Courts, said in some districts measures were taken by ministers to keep up the grain prices for the sake of their stipends.

Mr. Morrison, St. Andrews, thought ministers had a very just complaint. Many stipends had been reduced from 15 to 29 per cent. on account of the fiars.

Mr. Harry Hope, Barneyhill, said he wished to dissociate himself entirely from Mr Speir's views. It would be a great pity if the allegation against the Church should pass unnoticed.

Mr. Speir said he did not mean that the Church acted illegally, but that they got the best witnesses they could.

A committee was appointed to report on the subject of the striking of prices.

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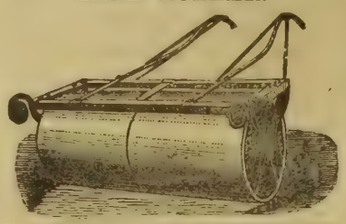
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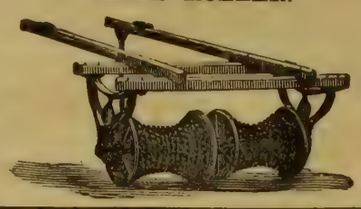
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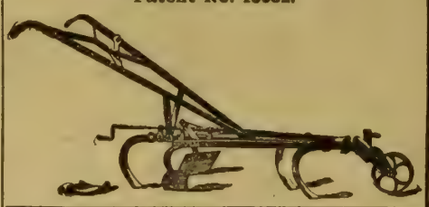
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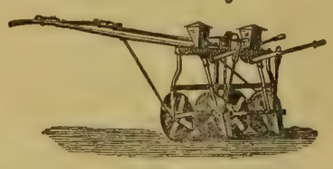
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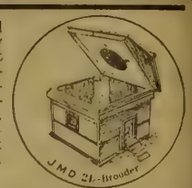
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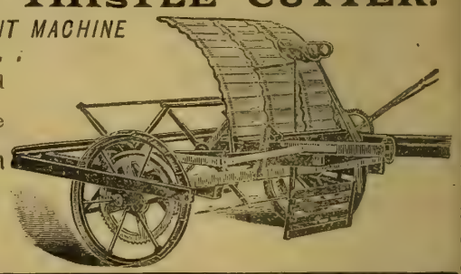
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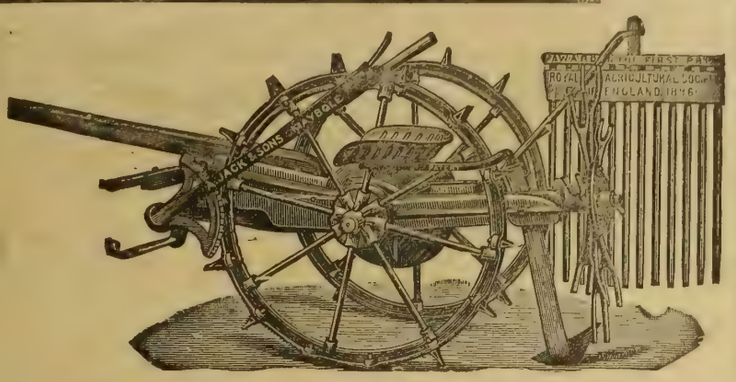
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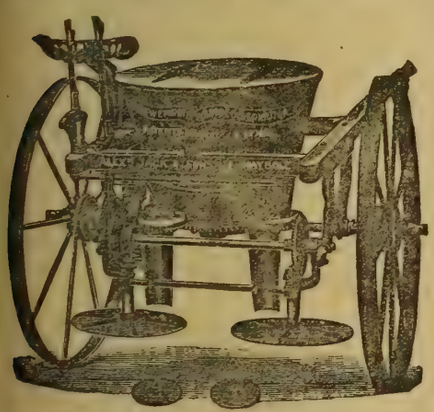
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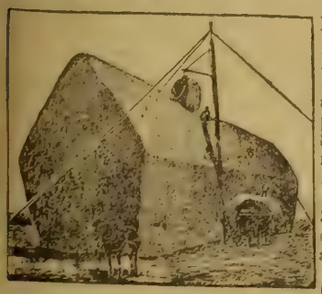
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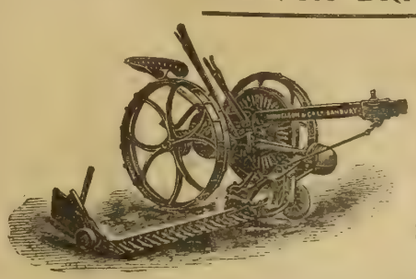
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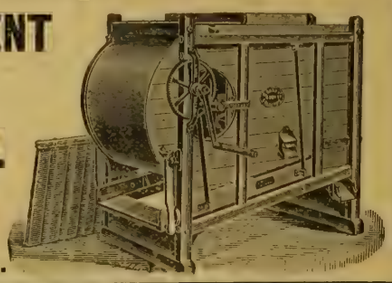
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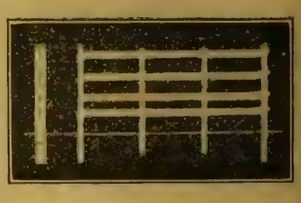
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Seasonable Topics.

Hope.

IT is true that hope deferred maketh the heart sick, and at the moment of writing farmers are weary of waiting for the summer weather that is wanted so badly and which seems so loth to come. But hope is the rock to which the farmer must cling, and without the faculty for hoping, which fortunately is well developed in the members of the agricultural fraternity, he would often cut a sorry figure. It has been our lot week after week of late to write dismally of climatic conditions, but each time it has been with the hope that ere the next issue appeared matters would improve. We cling to that hope still, just as the farmer does when he taps the barometer in the morning and finds that it has gone up a shade. In bad seasons experienced in the past we have known instances in which hope has failed with sad—and in one or two cases fatal—results, and the pity of it was that things were not really so bad as they seemed.

[Since the above was written a spell of real summer weather has fortunately spread over the country, and it will be as beneficial as it was welcome.—ED.]

The Labour Staff in Bad Weather.

WITH a faint attempt at jocularity, a farmer informed us the other day that he thought he should buy some marbles and let his men amuse themselves with them until the weather improved, because each morning when he met his staff of employees he was at his wits' end to know what to set them to do. This, by the way, is a problem which faces many employers of agricultural labour in a catchy season. A wet day, or a succession of wet days, stops operations, and the men could be dispensed with; but the change might come at any time, bringing with it work in plenty and sufficient to render the staff inadequate. Catchy seasons are necessarily expensive, because the wages bill goes on though seasonable operations are stopped, and the only redeeming feature about the whole thing is that in the farmer's anxiety to find the men something to do, certain jobs are done which, though necessary, would be passed over if good harvest weather prevailed. Just to give an illustration, thousands of thistles have been cut off lately which would probably have lived to produce seed and multiply had the weather been more favourable for haymaking.

The National Poultry Conference.

AS we write the second National Poultry Conference is in progress at Reading, and matters connected with the poultry industry are being discussed. No effort has been spared to make the conference a success, and the importance of such a gathering can hardly be over estimated when we consider the possibilities that are held out for the development of the poultry industry. At this moment, perhaps more than at any previous time, it is desirable that the prospects of poultry keeping be made clear, because if small holdings become a reality in the near future, poultry keeping will doubtless figure in the curriculum of the small holder. There can be no doubt that poultry keeping has a great fascination for a large number of people, and whenever it is taken up it is always with a view to profit. Even the householder in the suburbs who keeps a dozen fowls in a home-built pen at the bottom of his garden religiously makes out a periodical balance-sheet, and if his figures could always be relied upon, it would appear as if poultry keeping is a quick road to fortune. But there, things are not always what they seem.

Knowledge of Plant Life.

WE do not say that it is essential for every farmer to be an accomplished botanist, but it is well for every man who cultivates land to have some acquaintanceship with the plants that grow on it, be they weeds or legitimate crops. Through sheer force of circumstances we will admit that there is a sort of rough-and-ready knowledge amongst farmers regarding the wild plants of the field, but from the source whence this knowledge is obtained it cannot always be reliable. We now and then meet men engaged in farming who do take an interest in plant life, but with here and there an exception it seems to be a case of familiarity breeding contempt, for in many cases nothing, not even the common name, is known of the plants that are seen every day. There are plants beneficial and plants harmful on every farm, plants that should be encouraged and plants that should be promptly exterminated, and we are convinced that if many farmers knew the actual capacity of certain weeds to propagate themselves from seed greater efforts would be made to exterminate such unwelcome vegetation.

Combination of Nitrogenous Fertilisers.

THE two nitrogenous fertilisers chiefly used in agriculture are nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia, and though their effects are the same, opinions differ as to which is the most beneficial, and the results of experiments made to prove the point sometimes give a verdict in favour of the one and sometimes in favour of the other. Why not effect a compromise and use both fertilisers in conjunction? We know that under certain conditions the effects of nitrate of soda are better than those of sulphate of ammonia, but the opinion is held by those who have tried them that in the majority of cases better results are got by employing the two in conjunction than by using either alone. The proportions should be dependent on the character of the soil, varying from equal parts of each to three-fourths of sulphate in mediums where lime is plentiful, and the same proportion of nitrate if lime is lacking. From an economical point of view there is something to be said in favour of the combination, because in a season when all the nitrogen is exhausted from nitrate of soda some would be reserved from sulphate for the benefit of the next crop.

New Tenants and Fresh Ideas.

BY right of custom certain methods of farming have settled themselves in certain localities, and the idea of trying anything different never seems to occur to the local mind. Son follows father in growing the crops that have proved themselves to be suitable to the conditions, and in this he shows the spirit of conservatism which is characteristic of the agricultural fraternity in general. It is, however, when a tenant farmer from another part of the country comes to reside in the locality that fresh ideas are introduced, and in some cases they answer while in others they do

not. A few years ago a Scotch farmer from one of the potato-growing districts north of the Tweed took a farm in a western county of England which he fancied would suit potatoes, and he straightaway commenced growing early varieties for market. The native farmers round about thought what a pity it was that a man should come there and lose his money in potato growing; but the Scotchman knew what he was doing, and of late years his neighbours have gone in for the same crop. Naturally success does not always follow experiments of this kind, and we know a farmer now who is being closely watched by his neighbours, who are anxious to see how an attempt to grow green peas for market will turn out on an isolated farm on the Cotswold Hills.

Building Haystacks. WITH the introduction of so many Dutch barns, not so much interest is taken in building haystacks as used to be the case; but, nevertheless, we meet with men whose particular *forte* in the hay harvest is ricking, and who take a great personal pride in the stacks they put together. It is curious how in the hayfields one man excels at this operation and another at that, and they take by right of custom the task at which they are most expert. Rick building, we suppose, would be classed as unskilled labour, but it is not everybody who can put together a haystack that stands up square and well balanced without the need of props to support it. And the expert rick builder, have you never watched how he arranges the corners of his stack as he proceeds, treads in the centre, and now and again descends the ladder and makes critical examinations of his handiwork from various points of view? And when the rick is finished, has been pulled neatly along the sides and ends, and is thatched, the man is as proud of his work as any skilled architect who surveys a graceful building erected according to his plans.

Plums. IN making a survey of the fruit crops in 1907, plums stand out as the most conspicuous feature of the season. In the majority of places trees are heavily laden, and in due course this useful fruit will be very plentiful. It is a peculiarity of plums that they seem to have located themselves in certain districts, and in every locality where they are largely represented there is generally to be found a variety of local origin predominating. For instance, the yellow Pershore or egg-plum is an institution in the Evesham Valley, and in the fruit-growing districts of Kent the purple Kentish bush-plum predominates. There are other local varieties to be found growing in different parts of the country, and though of late years such fine plums as Victoria, Early Prolific, Monarch, The Czar, and others have been largely planted, still local plums have considerable influence on the market, particularly in seasons of plenty. There is every prospect of plums being sold cheap this season, and there may even be a glut, but whether the consumer will get his fruit much cheaper than usual remains to be seen. Past experience shows that the man in the street does not always reap the advantage of the low prices at which the producer has to sell in seasons of plenty.

The Influence of Presence. THE business of the farmer is of such a character that it often takes him away from home, and it is said of some members of the fraternity that they will take advantage of trifling excuses in order to get a day's outing. Be that as it may, if a farmer is in the habit of attending every market, sale, fair, or public function that takes place in his locality, you may feel sure that something is going wrong at home. There can be no doubt about the influence of presence where a farmer is concerned, and as a rule the most work is done by the staff when the master is at hand. "If you want things looking after properly you must look after them yourself." This is the view taken by a successful old farmer of our acquaintance, and there is no getting very far away from this. We do not say that a man who is in a position to pay for labour should slave and work like a navvy, because he can very often do better for himself by devoting his energies to the organising and thinking part of the business. The very fact of him being there to control in person the progress of the work is sufficient to ensure its being done properly.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Cause of Mr. Harcourt's Difficulties.

Mr. Harcourt's difficulties with the Small Holdings Bill are practically all traceable to the disinclination of Parliamentarians to afflict the coerced county councils with the cost of what is after all a national responsibility. I used the word "coerced" without any intention or desire to embitter the initiation of the new scheme. I use it simply because the word aptly epitomises the position. Whether the principle of coercion is justified or not is another matter. The main protruding fact is that a county council may be—let it be conceased that this must be as a consequence of its own dilatoriness—mulcted with the expense of an experiment which had been initiated by a bureaucratic authority in London. Let what will be said in favour of this policy—let who may contend that county councils are afflicted with a temperamental infirmity antagonistic to small holdings—this method is out of harmony with the purposes and plan of local government. It would be well if Mr. Harcourt—to whose Parliamentary genius I yield an ungrudging admiration—were to comprehend that this sentiment has its springs in other than mere partisan antipathy. It has its fount in the deep anxiety to preserve the wise freedom of the county authorities. There may be one or two county councils which regard small holdings with an unhappy feeling of detestation—I must confess I do not know of one. Even their recalcitrance, however, would be less harmful to the new purpose than would this coercive method.

An Appeal to Mr. Harcourt.

It is already apparent that one of the first results of this possible coercion of the county council by a bureaucratic official has been to create a prejudice which must operate to the disadvantage of the Ministerial ambition. County councils would be seraphic in their nature if it were not so. The Government practically says to the county councils—and that, too, in a hectoring, stand-and-deliver fashion—"Look here, we make you the executive authority in carrying out our scheme, but it don't matter to us one rap whether you act or not; we shall still establish small holdings; and we shall compel you, whether you act or our official acts, to pay the piper." This method is official superciliousness carried to a height worse than scorn. Surely some other plan is possible. I believe in the necessity for the existence of the commissioners whom the Government intends to associate with this new legislation. In an advisory, inquiring capacity, they can be of infinite value. I do not, however, like them as a kind of embodied terror to county councils; and I believe that in this capacity they may tend to unconsciously create obstacles—I mean obstacles bred of an attitude of unfriendliness—to the success which everybody desires for the new agrarian economy. I put this matter seriously to Mr. Harcourt. He has one of the most receptive brains in the House of Commons; and I ask him whether he cannot perceive that in this matter it were well he adopted a more ductile attitude. His very inflexibility is an encouragement to the peers.

Was Mr. Chaplin Unwise?

I am not, as my readers will have gathered from my preceding remarks, one of those who lack faith in the sincerity of the county councils. Was, however, Mr. Chaplin altogether ill-advised in seeking to limit the occupants of small holdings to that "labouring population resident in the county"? Without being possessed by visions of the county councils deliberately setting out to provide small holdings for the well-to-do—for, in particular, Mr. Chaplin's specially-selected friend, the butcher who has amassed an amazing pile of wealth—I can perceive that there ought to be some restraint. I happen to have a cottage in a country-side in which a beneficent rural authority has provided allotments. I recently saw one of these allotments being used as a kind of temporary builder's yard, the while the occupier was himself building three houses on the other side of the roadway. Those houses are that allotment-holder's own property. Perhaps, there is little fear of rural villadom being called into existence on these small-holdings areas; but such a precaution as Mr. Chaplin has suggested would, I repeat, have been a wise restraint. It would not have indicated suspicion of the county councils. It would have been accepted by those authorities as a judicious limitation of their powers. There are county councils and county councils. Of the county councils which are absolutely rural in character I have little fear. I have not the same confidence in county councils which are semi-urban in their character.

Mr. Jesse Collings' Persistence.

In our old friend Mr. Jesse Collings altogether well-advised in the persistence with which he seeks to make the Small Holdings Bill a means of calling into existence a peasant proprietorate? Of the sincerity of this desire there can be no question — there can be no suggestion that he is in this acting with mere partisan querulousness, for his anxiety is in complete harmony with his political past. However, he must comprehend that if the Government were to adopt his proposal—even though it only permitted the tenant-occupier of the small holding to gradually and slowly evolve into the peasant proprietor—it would build up for itself a heritage of woe, which would probably operate to its own grievous undoing. The principle of a peasant proprietorate, once so dear to the Radical heart, is out of harmony with the modern up-to-date Radical sentiment. It is antagonistic to the Radical dream of the State-domination of the soil. It would create a multiplicity of interests entirely opposed to the agrarian anxieties of the fighting left wing of the Radical party. Of course, it may be that Mr. Collings desires to accentuate, for the benefit of the rural mind, the ineradicable divergence in the purpose of the two schools of land reformers. The Conservative land reformer is all for a proprietorate; to the Radical this ambition is *anathema maranatha*. Hence it may be that behind Mr. Collings's obvious sincerity is, after all, the subtle anxiety of the politician. The land hunger—if land hunger exists—is certainly for proprietorship rather than for tenure; but the Government simply dare not concede it. I wonder, however, if Mr. Collings imagines he has stimulated the peers to insist on his anxiety being realised. It may be so.

Earl Carrington's Anticipations.

Earl Carrington evidently regards the Small Holdings Bill as in the nature of an agrarian revolution—as a kind of herald of a new agrarian heaven and a new agrarian earth. I am afraid he has permitted his native enthusiasm to run away with his imagination. Let the gingering process be what it may, let the commissioners who are to quicken the local authorities use the most drastic stimulants, the new legislation will not evolve a new social order. As a fact, there are many Liberal members of Parliament who prayerfully hope that it will be but a tepid experiment. Fears have been awakened in their sensitive bosoms that the Ministry is proceeding too far. The Scottish Land Valuation Bill has, indeed, induced them to question the absolute wisdom of the new agrarian departure. The exclusion from the rating standard of the building premises, and thus only to consider the land, is in their view an approach to the Georgian ideal beyond which it would be an economic danger to proceed. They cheered Mr. Balfour—true, *sotto voce*—when he denounced the policy of the Government "in basing rating on abstract theories regarding the unearned increment of land." The birth of this apprehensive spirit will inevitably extend to local authorities, and will not be without force even in Earl Carrington's own department. This spirit will grow, and will be an inevitable influence in modifying the operation of the English small holdings legislation. Lord Carrington will, I ween, find ten years hence that the face of agrarian England has not been greatly altered by the measure which has fevered him with such adjectival enthusiasm. It will have its value, of course; but the Bill is no Archimedian lever with which to move worlds.

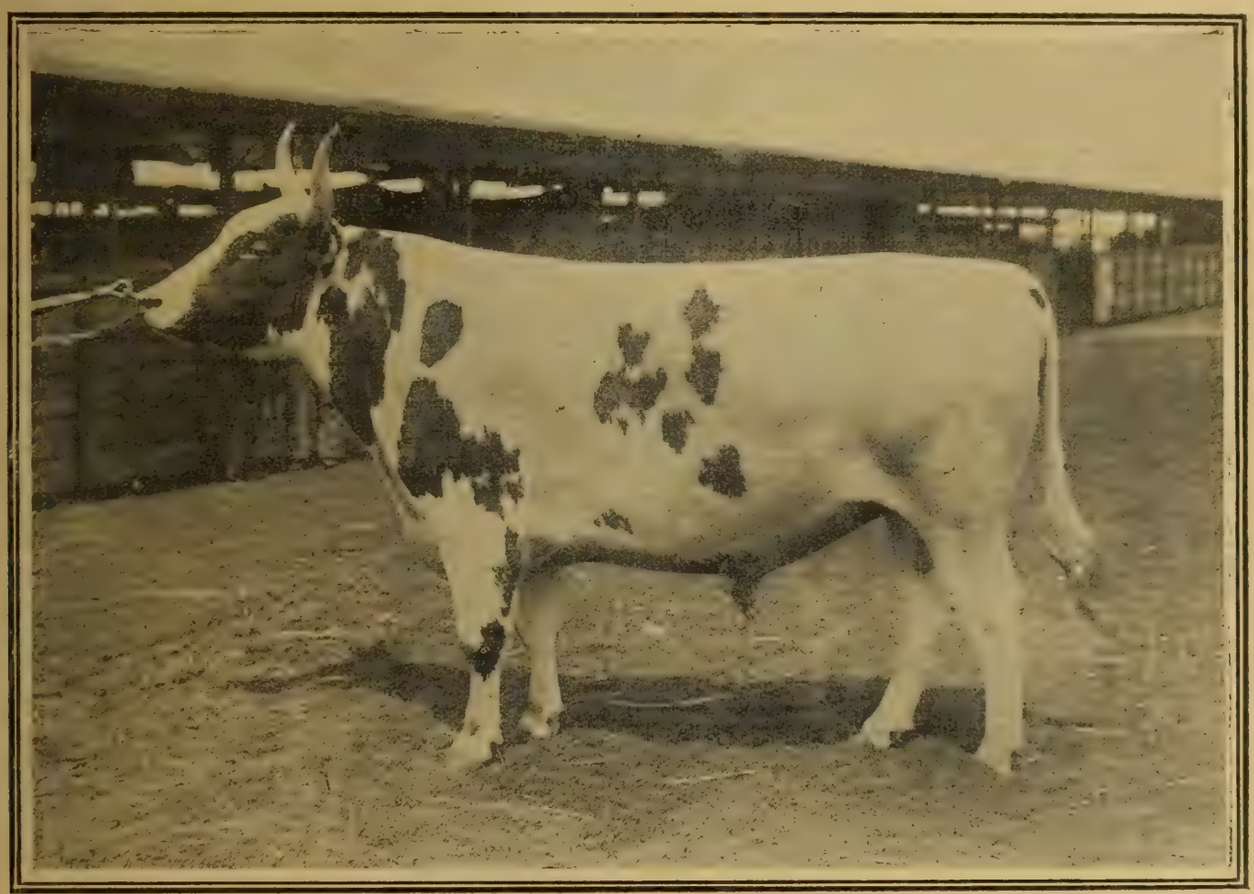
South-Eastern Agricultural College.

The Right Hon. Ailwyn Fellowes will distribute the diplomas and prizes on July 24 at the South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, Kent.

The college was awarded the silver medal (highest award) at the Royal Agricultural Society's show at Lincoln, in a competition of exhibits of importance to British forestry, for a collection of insects, &c., injurious to forest trees, which was made and set up by the vice-principal and entomologist, Mr. F. V. Theobald.

HIGHLAND SHOW.

Although the entries did not come up to the good toll received when they visited Edinburgh in 1899, the Highland and Agricultural Society had no cause to complaim of the support accorded last week's exhibition, for the entries showed a marked increase all round when compared with last year's figures, and well up to the average, whilst the quality was in some instances better than any seen at a Highland Show. By way of comparison with the last Edinburgh Show, which seems the most appropriate to select for the purpose—there were 362 cattle entered, against 386 in 1899. The Shorthorns and Highlanders, a little down this year, were counterbalanced by the increase in black cattle. The horses were a shade lighter in the entry, and the Hunters, to particularise, suffered most in this respect. Swine and poultry showed an increase, and the total of 1,935 was creditable when contrasted with 2,051 at the last Edinburgh Show. All the principal breeders of the country were represented, and represented by their best achievements in the raising of stoock whilst the King and breeders in England sent several of their cattle which figured at the Royal Show at Lincoln. Additional interest centred in the show from the visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales, and their Royal Highnesses, as may be expected, received a most loyal and hearty welcome.



The Ayrshire Bull shown above is Nether Craig Spicy Sam, winner of the Prince of Wales' Gold Medal and the Ayrshire Cattle Society's Special for the Best Ayrshire at the Highland and Agricultural Society's Show at Edinburgh last week. He was born January 20, 1904, sire Not Likely of Hillhouse, dam Hareshaw, and was bred by Mr. R. Forrest, Knockinlaw, but is the property of Mr. J. Howie, Hillhouse, Kilmarnock, who also won with Spicy Sam a First Prize at the Royal Show at Lincoln and the Championship at the Ayrshire Show this year.

CATTLE.

As usual, premier place in the catalogue was given to the Shorthorns, and they fully deserved the honour, for they made an exceptionally good show, more especially as regards quality. Aged bulls were first led into the ring, the class having an entry of ten, and the judges had little difficulty in making their awards, the Royal Show champion, Linksfield Champion, the property of Mr. F. Miller, Birkenhead, being deservedly put in the first place. This bull is as fine an animal as has been seen at the show for many years, and later on he was awarded the Prince of Wales's gold medal for the best Shorthorn shown, and the Shorthorn Society's special for the best Shorthorn bull. Mr. John C. Toppin, Musgrave Hall, Penrith, was put second in the class with Moonstone, which was third at the Royal Show, and though he is a very good quality bull, hardly showed as much substance as the champion. An exceptionally large class of two-year-old bulls paraded before the judges, and considerable time was taken to place the awards. Eventually H.M. the King's Royal Windsor, reserve champion at Lincoln, took the lead, and was later reserve for the Shorthorn Society's special), the next two prizes in the class going to Mr. G. Harrison, Gainford Hall, Darlington, the second prize being for Czar, a thick, well-fleshed red and white bull, which ran the winner very hard, and the third for Elvetham Sweetmeat, a roan, which was not placed at the Royal Show. Yearling bulls made a strong class, and here his Majesty again led the way with a roan bull, Evander, from the Royal Farms, Windsor. He is a sweet quality bull of a nice type, and was an easy winner. Mr. Harrison was placed second with a good type of roan bull, Pride of Tees, whilst Mr. A. J. Marshall, Bridgebank, came third with Dunmore Sirdar, a very promising white bull, sired by the champion bull of the section.

There was a very good class of aged cows in milk, which was headed by Lord Calthorpe's roan, Sweetheart, the champion female at the Royal Show, and she was shown in the best of form, but had to be content with the reserve ticket for the female championship. The second ticket in the class went to Mr. W. Bell, Ratcheugh, for Ratcheugh Witch, a four-year-old that has won frequently, and Mr. Harrison came third with Towy Princess, which won the second prize in her class at the Royal Show. In a splendid class of two-year-old heifers, Mr. Robert Taylor's Pitlivie Rosebud 2nd, which was also the winner at the Royal Show, was rightly selected as the winner, and was later on reserve to Linksfield Champion for the championship of the breed, where she was also made female champion. Second to her in her class came Mr. Harrison's Montrave Wondrous, a good typical red heifer, bred by Sir John Gilmour. Yearling heifers made another very good class and added yet another win to the credit of H.M. the King, his first prize winner this time being Marjorie, a roan from Windsor sired by Royal Chieftain, a prominent prize winner this year, having been first at the Royal amongst other shows. Lord Calthorpe came second with Elvetham Sweetheart, a beautiful quality heifer, but she lacked the substance and style of the first prize winner. The judges had substance in view when selecting a yearling leader, and they gave pride of place to Mr. Andrew Brooks's Dalmeny-bred Eagle, a double Erica son of the record-priced Ebbero. Mr. Kennedy had second with the great level Perth fifth prize-taker Mythologist. Mr. Wylie Hill's Biota, first at Lincoln, had to be content with third now.

Cows were considered the finest class of the section, and there was a keen contest for first position between Mr. Bainbridge's Kinochty purchase, the Ruth cow Mrs. Nelly, and Mr. James Beddie's Gammer 2nd, a sweet, straight three-year-old by Loyalist of Morlich. The Eshott cow is neater at the finish of her quarters than Mr. Beddie's, but the judges preferred the latter, and also gave her the Ballindalloch challenge cup for the best cow of any age.

Aberdeen Angus made a splendid display, and so good was the quality all round that the judges occupied a considerable time. Mr. Bainbridge, who had forward his typical specimen Idelamere, won in aged bulls as at Lincoln, and Mr. Stewart Clark once again followed with the three-year-old April Fool, of Drumfad, Mr. A. T. Reid's Eliphaez was third, whilst the King took fourth with Prestor. Two-year-olds gave a deal of trouble, and a referee was finally called in with the result that the three leading awards went to the following in the order named:—Mr. G. A. Duff's Mulbin-bred Ploughboy, a son of Khartoum, and first last year at the Aberdeen spring show; Mr. D. M. MacRae's Everlasting, of Ballindalloch, the Peebles winner; and Mr. J. R. Findlay's Blizzard, which won at Perth last year and lately at Lincoln. In the two-year-old class Mr. Bainbridge's pretty little Estrella of Eshott had the pleasure of beating her Royal Show conquerors. She had next to her Sir George Macpherson Grant's neatly-built heifer Evie, third being Mr. Jas. Whyte's winner of a year ago, Bashful Bet, Mr. Findlay's Prize, which won at the Royal, being put in the fifth position. In the yearling class Mr. D. Y. Stewart led the way with the Perth spring winner, Eident, Mr. J. Kennedy's Ellen Terry running her pretty closely; in fact, many fancied her for first place. Mr. Bainbridge's big, level second prize winner at the Royal only got the fifth prize.

Exceptional interest attached to the placing of the special prizes, and here again the referee had to be called in. Sir George Macpherson Grant's Jeshurun, the champion bull of last year, which was on that account debarred from competing for the class prizes, was shown for the Prince of Wales's medal for the best animal in the section. He was brought out in beautiful condition, and successfully carried off the championship. The President's medal, awarded to the best animal of

the opposite sex from the champion, went to Mr. R. Wylie Hill's Bartonia of Glamis, the champion female of last year, which also was debarred from competing for the class prizes. The special prize for the best bull in the three male classes went to Mr. Bainbridge's Idelamere, Mr. Duff's winning two-year-old being reserve.

The Galloway breed was strongly represented, the quality being very creditable and the numbers in excess of previous years. There were twenty-five bulls and forty-two females, with an average of eleven in the six classes. Mr. John Cunningham, Tarbreoch, Dalbeattie, easily led in a strong class of seven aged bulls with his four-year-old Chancellor, which for three years in succession was first at the Royal Show. He was shown in the best of bloom, and was subsequently awarded the Prince of Wales's gold medal for the best Galloway. The president's medal for the best cow went to Mr. W. Montgomerie Neilson, of Queenshill, Joyce of Queenshill, winner in the cow class. Although not a very big cow, she is of fine quality, and carries a beautiful coat of hair.

The display of Highland cattle was not so strong as we have seen at the Highland Show, but it was, nevertheless, a highly creditable one. The Ensay cow Loachag Bhindhe 4th, champion at Glasgow two years ago, and at the head of the cows at Peebles, was entered as extra stock, and being set against the rest she secured the Prince of Wales's gold medal for the championship of the breed. The president's medal went to Lord Southesk's aged bull, and his lordship, being the breeder, also received the silver medal.

Special interest was attached to the Ayrshire cattle section in view of the milking qualifications necessary to the competing cows. These regulations, which require a certain yield of milk from each animal, were introduced this year for the first time, and it is recognised by the breeders that the regulations have been enforced in the best interests of the breed, but the general opinion seems to be that they handicap those cows which have calved a short time previous to the show. It is satisfactory to record that, considering the Ayrshire section as a whole, the merit was high and competition keen, particularly among the milk stock. This year's milk stock all yielded the quantity necessary to enable them to qualify for their classes.

The Prince of Wales gold medal for the best Ayrshire was awarded to Mr. James Howie's (Hill House, Kilmarnock) Nether Craig Spicy Sam, the first prize bull who was looking as well as when he carried off the honours at the Royal Show at Lincoln. Spicy Sam was also awarded the special prize of £10 given by the Ayrshire Cattle Herd-Book Society, and won for Mr. Robert Forrest, of Knockinlaw, Kilmarnock, his breeder, the silver medal for breeder of the best bull. Mr. R. Osborne's Morton Mains Phyllida, the winning yearling heifer, was placed reserve to Spicy Sam, and was given the President's medal.

HORSES.

The Clydesdales naturally came first in the horse section, and though as regards number they were in advance of last years' show, they were not quite so numerous as at the previous Edinburgh show. As to quality, however, they left little to be desired. As has been the case for some time past, the produce of Messrs A. and W. Montgomery's celebrated stallion, Baron's Pride, one of the most noted stock-breeding sires of his day, carried off a large proportion of the chief prizes. Another feature of the judging in this section was the success of Mr. J. Ernest Kerr of Harviestoun Castle, who was a prominent winner in the female classes, and for the second year in succession gained the Cawdor Cup for the best female of the breed. This award he gained with his Royal Show champion, Chester Princess, a seven-year-old mare by Baron's Pride, and a typical specimen of the breed. She was also awarded the Prince of Wales's gold medal for the best female Clydesdale. The Prince of Wales's gold medal for the best male of the breed was awarded to Mr. Renwick's two year-old colt, Royal Review ; Messrs. A. and W. Montgomery's five-year-old stallion, Ruby Pride, being reserve.

Light horses are always an important feature of the show at Edinburgh, and on this occasion they formed no exception to the rule. Although the classes were not as well filled as at the last exhibition in the capital, there was no falling off in other respects. Hunters headed the section, and they numbered 111, compared with 202 here in 1899, 43 at Peebles last year, and 90 at Glasgow in 1905. The Prince of Wales's gold medal for the best Hunter was won by Biscuit, a five-year-old bay gelding of fine shape and movement, owned by Mr. J. H. Stokes, Market Harborough, whilst the president's medal was awarded to Lady Mary Kidd, Lowood, Melrose, for Rosebud, a nice aged chesnut mare. A gold medal given by the Hunters' Improvement Society for the best Hunter filly registered or entered in the Hunter Stud Book was won by Mab, owned and bred by Mr. E. Hodgson, Bridlington. She is a typical Hunter, and was winner at the London Show this year, gained the championship at Otley, and took a first ticket at Lincoln. The gold medal given by the Imperial Hunter Stud Book Company for the best Hunter mare or filly registered in Volume V. of the Stud Book was secured by Peg the Rake, a two-year-old chesnut, owned and bred by Mr. William Lee Carlyle, Ecclefechan.

Hackneys were not so numerous as one would have liked them to have been, but they certainly made up in quality what they lacked in quantity. Copmanthorpe Performer, the well-known three-year-old stallion, owned by Mr. Arthur Hall, York, won the Prince of Wales's gold medal for the best Hackney, thus following up his great record, which includes champion at this year's Royal, junior champion at the London Hackney Show, and reserve for the supreme championship there. The president's medal and the championship prize of £10 for best mare or filly, given by the Hackney Horse Society, was won by Dashing Dunham, a four-year-old brood mare by Bonny Danegelt, and owned by Mr. William M'Allister, Inverness. She is a beautiful mover, and has previously met with success in English showyards.

Various classes were provided for ponies, and these formed an interesting section of the exhibition. In the class of stallions over 12 and not exceeding 14 hands, the well known Bantam King, which was bred at Gowanbank, Darvel, was placed first. This animal, which now belongs to Mr. William S. Miller, has been prominent during recent seasons, and was now given the gold medal presented by the Prince of Wales for the best pony. The President's medal fell to Mel Vlaloy's Catch of the Season, belonging to Mr. J. R. Forsyth, Paisley. This animal led in the smaller classes for mares, fillies, or geldings.

Some typical specimens were stalled in the classes for Highland ponies. Among the stallions Mr. Ross, Crieff, took precedence with Johnnie, a yellow dun, eleven years old, bred by the late Sir John Fowler, Braemore, Inverbroom, while the Duke of Atholl came second with Atholl Laddie, a black three-year-old of his own breeding. The Duke led in the pony mare class with Lady Anne, which also secured the medal given by the Prince of Wales. The president's medal was awarded Skerryvore, the property of Mr. J. H. Munro Mackenzie, Calgary.

There was a great turnout of Shetland ponies, and with so much quality forward, the judges spent a good deal of time over the awards. The Prince of Wales' medal went to the Ladies E. and D. Hope, Sevenoaks, for Thoreau, a black four-year-old stallion, whilst the president's prize went to Topaz, the noted winning mare owned by the Pony Stud (Limited), Cudham, Kent. She is a black fourteen-year-old pony, got by Oman. In addition to that prize, she was awarded a silver extra stock medal. A piece of silver plate for best group of Shetland ponies was won by Mr. William Mungall with his winning colt, Eirik, his winning filly, Lady Steynor, and his second prize filly Sheina.

SHEEP.

The show of sheep was one of the largest of recent years, and as regards quality was fully up to the average. Blackfaces formed an excellent display, eighty-two sheep being shown in the various classes. There were sixteen entries in the aged tup class, in which the first award went to Mr. Donald M'Dougall with the animal, then the property of Messrs. Cadzow Brothers, which carried off the championship at Peebles last year, a feat he succeeded in repeating, for he was now awarded the Prince of Wales' gold medal for the best pen of Blackfaced sheep. Mr. C. Howatson secured the president's medal with his first prize aged ewe, whilst the Messrs. Cadzow gained the Sinclair Scott Challenge trophy, value 100 guineas, for a group of sheep consisting of one aged ram, one shearling ram, one ewe, and lamb.

There was an extraordinarily good show of Cheviots, both in numbers and quality. Mr. John Elliot, Hindhope, who was a conspicuous winner, gained the first and second tickets in the old sheep class with fine specimens. His first prize winner, Peebles Dandie, a tup of the true Gentleman type, stood out by himself in the class, and, as was expected, was given the Prince of Wales's gold medal for the best pen of Cheviot sheep, and the Borthwick Challenge Cup, value £25, for the best sheep in the Cheviot classes, given by the Cheviot Sheep Society, whilst with his first prize shearling ewe Mr. Elliot gained the President's medal.

Border Leicesters were equal to any display seen at recent Highland shows. Mr. Robert Taylor, Pitlivie, received the prize for extra stock with Pitlivie Brilliant, the winner of the first prize at the Highland Show at Peebles last year, and champion at the Royal Show at Lincoln this year. He is a sheep of great substance and quality, with a beautiful white head, and easily won the Prince of Wales's gold medal for the best pen of Border Leicesters. The president's medal was annexed by Messrs. James Campbell and Sons for their first prize shearling gimmer, and the prize of £10 for the best pen of Border Leicesters, drawn from the ordinary classes, eligible for registration in the Border Leicester Flock Book, given by the society of Border Leicester Sheep Breeders, was secured by Mr. David Hume, Barrellwell, with his first prize shearling tup.

There was a capital exhibition of half-bred sheep, and in this section the Prince of Wales' gold medal went to Mr. Mein's home-bred three-shear sheep which was the winner of the first prize at the Peebles Show last year, and which was shown as extra stock ; the president's medal being bestowed on Mr. Spence's first-prize gimmer.

The display of Shropshires was extremely creditable for a show in this part of the country. In the shearling class premier honours went to an exhibit of Mr. Buttar, who was a prominent winner in this section. His animal was a typical Shropshire sheep—perhaps the best bred at Corston for the last ten years, and he was third and awarded the Prince of Wales' gold medal. Sir Richard Cooper's first-prize gimmer, which was one of the first prize ewes at the Royal Show, gained the president's medal.

In the classes for Oxford Downs, the leading honours, including the Prince of Wales' gold medal and the president's medal was secured by Mr. Jas. T. Hobbs, Maisey Hampton ; and for Suffolks, Mr. Wm. Kennedy, Luce Mains, Ecclefechan, was awarded the Prince of Wales' gold medal, and Mr. John S. Clark, Dundas Castle, gained the president's medal.

PIGS, &c.

There was an unusually fine show of pigs, and competition in many of the classes was particularly keen. The Large White breed was strongly represented, and in a good class of eight boars the first prize was awarded to Broomhouse Hercules, a four-year-old owned by Mr. William Wallace, Broomhouse, Corstorphine, and winner of several prizes. The second prize winner, Madrali, was shown by Mr. G. B. Shields, Dolphinstone, whilst Sir Gilbert Greenall secured the third ticket with Walton William 2nd. There was an uncommonly good class of sows, but the judge had little difficulty in placing the first card, for Colston Lass 13th, the property of Mr. R. M. Knowles, Colston Basset Hall, Bingham, stood out so prominently by herself that she could hardly be passed over for premier honours. She was first and champion at the Royal Show at Lincoln, and she was now given the president's gold medal. She was beaten for the Prince of Wales' gold medal by Mr. Wallace's first prize boar, Broomhouse Hercules.

For Berkshire boars, Lord Calthorpe was successful in gaining the leading ticket with Elvetham Champion, the Duchess of Devonshire being second with Polegate Dreadnought, and Mr. J. Jefferson, Peel Hall, Chester, third with Peel Czar. The Duchess of Devonshire was first and third for sows, Mr. Jefferson being second, and in the juveuile classes the Earl of Calthorpe and the Duchess of Devonshire were the leading winners.

Poultry made probably the largest and best show the society has ever held. Competition was very keen in almost every class, and the judges had a hard day's work in making the awards. Fanciers were present from all parts of the kingdom, and the interest in this section is increasing year by year. Many well-known winners at English shows came under the judge's wand, but Scotland was well able to maintain her own.

The entries in the implement yard—always a great source of attraction—numbered 2,140, the largest display that has been forward since the Edinburgh Show of eight years ago. They are shown on 232 stands, being forty more than last year, and were representative of all the leading firms in Scotland and England. The motion yard had more than ordinary interest, not only for the general visiter, but for those having a practical knowledge of agricultural machinery.

JUDGES.

CATTLE.—Shorthorn : John Cran, Kirkton, Bunchrew, Inverness ; Robert Bruce, Leinster House, Dublin. Aberdeen-Angus : J. J. Cridlau, Home Farm, Maismore Park, Glos. ; John Macpherson, Mulben Mains, Mulben, R.S.O. Galloway : Andrew Montgomery, Netherhall, Castle-Douglas ; Samuel Thomson, Buxley, Duns. Highland : Hugh Macdiarmid, Island House, Tiree, Oban. Ayrshire : Adam W. Montgomerie, Lessnessnock, Ochiltree ; William Murray, Barrow Moss, Wigtown. Jersey : T. H. Wectman, Rose Hill, Atherstone, Warwickshire.

HORSES.—Clydesdales : Alexander Burr, Tulloford, Old Meldrum ; Leslie Durno, Mains of Glack, Pitcaple ; David A. Hood, Balgreddan, Kirkcudbright ; John M'Caig, Challoch, Leswalt, Stranraer ; Robert Park, Brunstane, Portobello ; John P. Sleigh, St. John's Well, Fyvie. Hunters, Polo, and Riding Ponies : T. H. Hutchinson, Manor House, Catterick ; George Dove, Whitehouse, St. Boswells. Hackneys, Ponies, and Harness Horses : R. G. Heaton, Chatteris, Cambs. Highland Ponies : James Ferguson, Glenartney, Comrie. Shetland Ponies : Walter Aitchison, Coniccleugh, Huntly ; Captain Wentworth Hope Johnstone, Polebrook, Hever, Kent.

SHEEP.—Blackfaced : James Allan, Baluracoole, Shiskine, Arran ; Duncan M'Diarmid, Camuseright, Rannoch Station ; J. J. MacMillan, Gencrosh, Moniaive. Cheviot : Robert Dickinson, Longcroft, Oxton, Berwickshire ; Andrew T. Elliot, Nowhall, Clovenfords. Border Leicester : John Mark, Sunnyside, Prestonkirk ; Matthew Templeton, Sandyknowe, Kelso. Half-bred and fat sheep : John Caverhill, Jedneuk, Jedburgh ; John Riddell, Peaston, Ormiston. Shropshire : Alfred Mansell, College Hill, Shrewsbury. Oxford Down : J. Kenny, Westleigh, Albert Road, Caversham Heights, Oxon. Suffolk : S. R. Sherwood, Playford, Ipswich.

PIGS.—George Will, Crichton Royal Institution, Dumfries.

PETERBOROUGH SHOW.

The annual summer show, under the auspices of the Peterborough Agricultural Society, was held on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of last week. The weather proved favourably fine for judging to be got through comfortably on the opening day, but the second day was very unfortunate, rain falling incessantly the whole of the morning. The society has always been one of the most energetic as regards its efforts to stimulate agriculture and stock-breeding, but as regards the latter each succeeding year appears to mark the show as more of a horse exhibition than for other stock, though there is a creditable entry of Shorthorn cattle.

HORSES.

Horses take priority in the catalogue, the Hunter section coming first, and of these there was a very large entry.

In Leicestershire and Northamptonshire it is astonishing how some of these Thoroughbred or Hunter mares wear, breeding regularly year after year, and winning prizes themselves as well as bearing offspring that are capable of doing the like. One of such is Mr. H. R. Roe's aged mare Harmony by Marmiton, which won first in the heavy-weight brood mare class with foal at foot. Mr. J. A. Mullins' Everlasting (well known) and Mr. Harrison's Miss Melbourne were also winners in this class, while the best foals in the class were by Merry Matchmaker, Squadron Leader, and Glenrossal. In the light-weight brood mare class there were ten entries, the winning mares being Mr. Wilkinson's Rosalinda, Mr. Mullens' Glowworm, and Mr. Swallow's Tugela. The best foals in this class were by Roverstown, Glenrossal, and Grudon.

Tenant farmers' classes followed, and Messrs. Cheney, Carter, and Harris were most successful, dividing the prizes and exhibiting capital stock. The gold medal of the Hunters' Improvement Society was awarded to Mr. Mullins' Glowworm, and the reserve to Mr. Harrison's Miss Melbourne.

The young Hunter classes were exceptionally well filled, yearlings totalling twenty-one entries, and the growth and quality were very satisfactory, two-year-olds were also a very strong class. Well-known youngsters came to the front in these, Mr. Swallow's Recruit, Mr. Wilkinson's Lady Bird, Mr. Fenwick's Gay Boy, and Mr. Nickisson's Ensign being the best. Three-year old geldings were pretty strong, Mr. Wilkinson, Mr. Swallow, and Messrs Cheney owning the winners. Two or three capital three-year-old fillies were also shown, these were by Tweeddale Enterprise, and the Irish sire, Red Prince II, the silver medal going to Tweeddale's daughter, Husheen, shown by Mr. E. Harrison. Such shining lights as Mr. J. H. Stokes' Axiom, Mr. Drage's Mercedes, Whisky (Stokes), Chatterbox, and others, were the successful competitors in the riding classes or made Hunters. Messrs Cheney were also winners of several prizes.

Following along the successful track, the Hunters made Hackneys were quite one of the best shows of the present summer, Mrs. Fletcher's Angram St. Thomas, Mr. Fisher's Bradney Windle Swell, and Mr. R. P. Evans' Kingway were successful in the stallion class, the first of these obtaining the Hackney Horse Society's silver medal.

In the mare class Mr. Evans' beautiful and well-known mare, District Maid was first, beating Sir Walter Gilbey's Gallant Girl and Mr. W. Morton's Granford Sunshine. The latter mare, however, proved to be the dam of the first prize foal by Hedon Comedian. Amongst the young stock in this section were such celebrities as Sir Walter Gilbey's Lively Birthday, Mrs. Fletcher's Angram Queen, &c. In the harness classes several of the best owners were entered.

Shire horses have always been quite a stronghold of this society at its annual summer exhibition, and this year numbers and quality were quite fully up to the usual standard of excellence, several of the leading studs of the country being represented, as well as practically all the local studs from this great Shire district. Two-year-old stallions were the first class to come before the judges, and in this Mr. F. E. Muntz's famous colt King Forest by Lockinge Forest King came easily to the front; in shape, weight, character, and correctness of joints and feet he is certainly one of the best Shire colts of his age ever exhibited. Mr. W. Barrs and Sir P. A. Muntz had also very good colts in the prize list by Tatton Friar and Dunsmore Jameson. Geldings were next in the catalogue, and eight entries of for the most part fine and valuable horses were catalogued. The first prize was given to Mr. F. S. Freckleton for a red roan by Horbling Harold called Kirby Muxloe Duke II., a wonderfully big, showy, and correct horse with enormous lifting powers. Mr. F. W. Horrell and Mr. R. C. Cooper were each capitally represented in the class.

Yearling entire colts were a very promising lot, the open class bringing out some particularly good colts, and the local animals, though a little backward, were of a very fine class as regards their quality and points. In the open class Sir P. A. Muntz was awarded first for a very good Jameson colt, Dunsmore Professor, Earl Egerton making a very close second with Tatton Morning Star, a capital yearling by Tatton Friar, and Mr. Farnsworth sent a rare good third in his bay by Lockinge Forest King, Of the local ones the best were Messrs. Fletcher and Andrews, by Calwich Blend, and Mr. F. W. Griffin's by Boro Statesman, both showing quality and growth.

The Yearling fillies came next, and Mr. J. G. Williams made safe of the first prize with a well-grown and good limbed filly by Lockinge Forest King, Mr. W. T. Everard and Mr. John Rowell winning the other prizes as named, the second being a very close competitor and a charming filly; all the class were noticed by the judges. In the local class Mr. Rowell's filly was first, and Mr. A. E. Smith and Mr. F. W. Griffin were second and third. Two-year-old fillies (open) were also a very good lot. Mr. E. Orme's Combermere Abbess, winner at the Royal last year as a yearling, was placed first. This fine daughter of Tatton Friar has developed a good deal of massiveness and substance with quality, and was rightly placed in front of Lord Rothschild's Misty Morn by Birdsall Menestrel, a very choice filly in build and quality, but with scarcely sufficient scope about her. Mr. G. G. Atterbury's third, Fuchsia II., is also a grand stamp of Shire filly with scope about her, as well as correctness of build and quality with weight.

Local fillies of this age were also very good, indeed better need not be desired than Mr. Richardson's Wimbledon May Queen, Mr. Griffin's Bythorn Beauty, or Mr. J. S. Reynolds's Rose. The two winners in the three-year-old class were altogether an exceptional lot, Mr. W. T. Everard's champion (several times) Bardon Marion was at the head of the class, Earl Egerton's Tatton May Queen, second; and Mr. F. E. Muntz's quite wonderful filly, Aldeby Lady Jameson, third. Local three-year-olds were a smaller class, but the quality of the winners, Mr. R. Wood's Tichmarsh Baroness, Mr. W. Richardson's Alderton Ladybird, and Messrs Fletcher and Andrew's Maori Heliotrope, were good enough.

Pairs of Shires (mares or geldings) were a very interesting class and a capital lot of horses, many of the best animals of the breed taking part. Mr. Towgood came first with the London champion mare Stolen Duchess and the many times champion at other shows, Rolleston Fuchsia, two extraordinary Shire mares. Mr. Everard came next, and Mr. Leopold Salomons third, with well-known mares of the highest calibre. The local class of pairs was also very good, Mr. J. Bradly taking first with his splendid mares Halstead Lady Harold and Halstead Duchess III, Mr. John Rowell and Mr. J. W. Griffin had also remarkably fine pairs, winning the other prizes. Of single mares or geldings, Lord Rothschild's Royal winner, Belle Cole, was the best, a mare of sweet quality and build, Mr. W. T. Everard's Bardon Marion was accounted second best, and Mr. H. W. Kearns's Knottingley Rose third, the class throughout being one of the best. Mares with foal at foot were a very strong class, Belle Cole again came first for Lord Rothschild, Mr. Leopold Salomon's Childwick Juno second, and Mr. W. T. Everard's Barden Merry Lass third. The best foals were Sir P. A. Muntz's, by Dunsmore Jameson, a big and good colt; Mr. R. W. Hudson's, by Childwick Champion; Mr. Rowell's by Barfleur; and Mr. Crawford's, by Nailstone Cœur de Lion.

The champion prize and the Shire Horse Society's gold medal were awarded to Lord Rothschild's Belle Cole, and the Subscription Challenge Cup for the best local animal to Mr. F. W. Griffin's Boro Forest Queen, a very smart yearling filly by Lockinge Forest King.

CATTLE.

Shorthorns constituted the main features of this section; indeed, we may say the whole of it, as there were no other breeds exhibited except Lincoln Reds, another family of Shorthorns. Of the Coates Shorthorns aged bulls came first, and here Mr. T. Atkinson's Pride of Sunshine was placed first, a massive, heavily-fleshed bull by Pride of Collynie. Sir R. P. Cooper's famous white Meteor came second, and Lord Armstrong's Baron Merry Beau third. Mr. H. S. Leon's Ascott Wanderer and Sir R. P. Cooper's Shenstone Albino were best in the over one year class, and in the tenant farmers' class Messrs. Dean and Son and Mr. F. J. Steward were first and second; the general quality very good. For bull calves Mr. Raphael, Mr. T. Stokes, and Mr. Preece were most successful, and the champion bull was Mr. Atkinson's Pride of Sunshine. Cows were a smaller class. Mr. Atkinson was again first with Jenny 19th, Captain Harrison's Orange Girl and Mr. Stokes' Morvenna 9th being the other winners. In the heifer classes Messrs. Dean and Sons, Sir R. P. Cooper, Mr. Steward, and H.M. the King were the chief winners; whilst for heifer calves Mr. H. S. Leon, H.M. the King, and Messrs. Dean and Sons won the prizes. The championship of this section going to Mr. Atkinson's Jenny 19th.

Lincoln Reds were not over numerous, but nevertheless made a very good show. Messrs. Drewery and Son, Mr. J. Langham, Mr. John Evens, Mr. J. G. Williams, Messrs. Fletcher and Andrews, and Mr. G. Frier were the chief exhibitors, and each of them came in for a share of the honours.

SHEEP.

This section of the show was not of very important dimensions or quality; indeed, one of the smallest exhibitions we have seen at Peterborough. Mr. F. Ward, Messrs. Dean and Sons, with Longwool rams and ewes; Mr. A. S. Bowlby, with two pens of Hampshire Downs; and Messrs. J. A. Preece, W. Carter, and W. H. Lovell, with cross-breds, were the main exhibitors.

PIGS.

This section in a great measure atoned for the shortcomings in the sheep pens, and the display both of Whites and Berkshires was very good. In the White section the Earl of Ellesmere was the chief winner, and carried off both champion and reserve cards with Worsley pigs. Other winners were Mr, T. Henson, Mr. C. J. Tong, Mr. Daybell, Messrs. Duckering and Sons, Mr. Neaverson, Messrs. W. H. and E. Wherry, and Mr. W. E. Measures. In Berkshires, which were also very good, Mr. R. W. Hudson, the Duchess of Devonshire, and Mr. J. T. Inman were the chief exhibitors, and the honours were pretty well divided.

Wembley Horse Show.

The West Middlesex Horse Show Society decided to confine their show at Wembley Park to one day this year, and the step proved a wise one, for though a capital entry, especially as regards quality, was received, the attendance of visitors was disappointing.

The judges of Hunters had a comparatively easy task, for the exhibits of Mr. John Drage were such outstanding winners. Mr. J. Drage won all the first prizes in the open competitions, including the silver medal of the Hunters' Improvement Society, with two unnamed chesnut geldings. Both are of great quality, and stretched out well in their gallops. Mr. C. S. Mason's Rocket was the second best weight carrier. Mr. E. B. Brown's Signal won the second prize in the light-weight class, but later he headed a restricted competition for Mr. W. C. N. Chapman's special prize.

The Hacks were certainly one of the features of the show, the best of the novices being Mrs. Haines's chesnut gelding, another unnamed exhibit; while in the class for covert Hacks the Olympia and Richmond winners, Miss Trix and Arthur, were the leaders, the first-named being beautifully ridden by Mrs. Chapman. The same accomplished horsewoman rode the winning park Hack, Mrs. L. Albu's Charmer, beating Mr. Walter Winans' Bugle March and the good-topped Torpedo, the property of Mr. F. G. Haines.

An important class was that for horses in double harness over fifteen hands. In this figured the frequent winners Hopwood Horace and Hopwood Spark, belonging to Mrs. Hartley Batt, Mr. Winans' Londesborough and Lonsdale (the winning pair at Olympia), and Gougelt and Grandgelt, the winners at Richmond. The last named were recently sold for 1,000 sovs. to Mr. John Kerr, of Loudwater, and in that gentleman's name they appeared on Saturday. The judges could not get away from them, and were not very long in awarding them first over Hopwood Horace and Hopwood Spark. Mr. Kerr also won the single-harness contest with Loudwater Flourish, which beat some notable ones, such as Hopwood Spark, Mrs. Leopold Albu's Queen of the Fairies, Mrs. Goad's Prince Pick-'em-up, and Mr. Winans' Londesborough. The latter gentleman, though, won in the Tandem class with Londesborough and Lonsdale, and Mrs. Hartley Batt won in the single harness open class with Heathfield Squire, the old horse never going better than now, and beating several good ones in action, style, and pace. For the special prize given for pace and style Mr. Winans won easily with Colonel Wallace.

Ashton-under-Lyne Show.

Fine but somewhat cold weather was experienced for the Ashton-under-Lyne Agricultural Society's Show held on the 6th inst, the chief feature of which was the display of horses, some well-known animals being forward, notably in the light horse classes. The heavy going, however, did not allow of the animals being shown to the best advantage. The heavy horse section was not so well patronised, but there were some good quality animals forward. Cattle were not numerous, but included some useful dairy stock, whilst there were but a couple of classes of pigs.

WIRRAL AND BIRKENHEAD SHOW.

Last week, for once in a way, the Wirral and Birkenhead Agricultural Society had favourable weather for their show at Bebington, and the result was an excellent attendance of visitors on both days, the total being a record, which, together with the good entries, made the show a successful one, and it is to be hoped it will also prove a good one financially. The entries—4,448—were not quite so numerous as last year, about 100 less; and the decrease was pretty evenly apportioned over several departments, while in certain sections, notably poultry and dogs, substantial increases were recorded, but for the past three shows there has been a gradual decrease in the number of horses entered. There was, however, no decrease in quality, the exhibition in this respect being equal to any of its predecessors.

CATTLE.

There were good entries in the cattle classes, and some excellent quality beasts were brought forward. Perhaps a higher standard in dairy cows has been reached in previous years, but what were shown included some good specimens. The most notable feature of the section was the show of Shorthorns. Many noted winners, including Linksfield Champion, Mr. F. Miller's famous bull, were entered, but as will be seen elsewhere, Linksfield Champion was sent to Edinburgh instead, and in the class in which it was entered, the principal award went to Mr. R. R. Rothwell, of Preston, whose Strowan Marquis, a massive bull, which was shown in fine condition, beat Mr. Geo. Cooke's Chester Master Butterfly. In the class for bulls calved in 1906 the exhibits included Lord Brilliant, which was sold at the Royal for 1,000 guineas, and is destined to go to South America. Lord Brilliant, good bull though he is, was, however, beaten by Mr. Miller's bull Village Purple, who scored three victories in the classes in which he paraded. Quality was the distinguishing characteristic of the classes in which heifers were exhibited, Mr. Miller again being a considerable winner. There were some deep milking dairy cows shown in the classes in which cattle of any breed competed. Mr. S. S. Raingill, of Altrincham, practically carried off all before him in the three classes, winning two firsts with a good-looking roan of the Shorthorn breed, whose show-yard name is Pet, and in the in-calf class with Ruby, a light roan, whose good qualities have before brought her owner success. Kerry and Channel Island were strongly in evidence. In the open class for Channel Island bull, any age, Mr. Jersey de Knoops' Starlight, bred by Lady de Rothschild, was a strong winner, and in the cow class his Tena was awarded honours. In the classes for Kerry cattle, Lady Greenall was the chief winner, securing first and special with a Kerry cow, first for two-year-old heifer, and second in the yearling bull class.

HORSES.

As is usually the case at this show, there was a fine display of horses and notably Shires. Here chief interest centered in the success of Mr. James Gould, who had won two £50 champion cups twice, and only wanted to win them again to possess them. This he did, winning the prize for the best stallion with Lockinge Truffle, a black with white fetlocks, that was cup winner here last year. He has bone and feather, and is of correct Shire type. Mr. Gould won the other cup outright—Mr. J. W. Kenworthy's—with Lymm Blossom, a beautiful mare, but not quite the scale and power of Lymm Bloom, who won the cup last year. In stallions, Mr. Gould's Lymm Grey had an easy win, and Mr. Lewis Dodd's Rustic Friar was likewise well ahead. In the older classes Lockinge Truffle had a comfortable win against Sir P. A. Muntz's Dunsmore Premier. Mr. Sparkes, of Altrincham, showed his famous heavy geldings, and won with Duke, but the useful Lancashire and Yorkshire working geldings, one of the famous London pairs, took a good second, and split the heavy couple from Altrincham. Mr. Albert Muntz had hard lines to be beaten in the two-year-old filly class by the Duke of Westminster's Concert. In the yearlings Dunsmore Quicklime had an easy win. There were some very good foals, and Mr. Gould had a nice win in the class for pairs of horses with his beautiful mares Darling and Holme Lacy Starlight.

Hackneys were not so strong as they have been here in point of numbers, but quality was first rate. Sir Walter Gilbey's Lively Beeswing, who has met with such success this year, had quite an easy win in the two-year-old class, but one of the best classes was that for mares or geldings foaled in or before 1904, and here Miss Schintz won with her beautiful dark chestnut, Countess Clio by Rosador. Miss Schintz also won with Knowle Belinda in the brood mare class, but Messrs. Cockayne's Paddock Green ran her close. The entire horses were not as good as usual, and the well-known winner Administrator once again held his own with comparative ease.

SHEEP.

The display of Shropshire sheep was a good one, some splendid specimens being forward. Prominent amongst the exhibitors was the Duke of Sutherland, who not only secured a number of prizes, but had the satisfaction of carrying off the honours in the chief event—viz., the Edmund Taylor Challenge Bowl, value 5 guineas, for the best exhibit of Shropshire sheep in the show. Mr. A. Tanner, Shrewsbury, was first and reserve in the yearling ram class with a wonderfully springy and fleshy ram. Sir Richard Cooper, Bart, Lichfield, being second with a well-brought out ram, and the Duke of Sutherland third. Others successful were Sir Walter Corbet, Bart., Shrewsbury, and Mr. Frank Bibby, Shrewsbury. In the any Longwooled variety classes, Mr F. Miller secured first prize and special for a shearling ram, was first and second for three ram lambs dropped in 1907, took the first prize and special with three shearling ewes, and was also first and second for three ewe lambs dropped in 1907. He thus swept the board of practically all the prizes.

PIGS.

The show of pigs, with some of the most famous breeders in the kingdom competing, was an excellent one, the large and Middle Whites here, as at the Roal Show, being a considerable feature of the exhibition. In the large white sow class Messrs. T. Dodd and Sons, of Mollington, who were successful exhibitors at the Royal Show, won with Mollington Faith. The silver medal in the large or Middle White boar was won by Mr. A. Dewhurst, Bradford, Yorkshire, and for large or Middle White sow honours went to Sir Gilbert Greenall, Messrs. T. Dodd and Son, Mollington, being reserve.

Mid-Kent.

The Mid-Kent Agricultural Association were unfortunate enough to experience weather of the most wretched description on the day of their show at Maidstone (Wednesday), and the event was completely marred. The rain commenced with a thunderstorm just after the time the show opened, and it did not cease all day long. It was all the more to be regretted from the fact that, not only had the association obtained a splendid show of cattle, sheep and horses, a show stronger numerically than last year, and stronger in quality also, but Yeomanry Sports had been arranged, and Mr. Walter Winans had promised to send a contingent of the famous American trotters which carried all before them at Olympia.

The cattle section was very strong, and as is usually found in this part of the country, Sussex cattle appeared the favourites, and a fine lot of beasts they were. Mr. Hickman secured the first prize for bulls with Sammy, one of his own breeding; Mr. W. F. Winch was the first prize winner for cows with Tilsden Jesse, while the Hon. R. P. Neville carried off the premier award for heifers with Birling Countess, a daughter of Lord Comp. The Shorthorns were far away a better lot than at the last show. For Shorthorn bulls Messrs. Denny's Violet Pride was placed first, Mr. R. J. Balston, of Bilsington Priory, being placed second with Grand Duke of Ruddington 9th. Mr. Balston was also first with Shorthorn cows, as well as with heifers, whilst Mr. Walter Fremlin was placed first with May in the Channel Island section.

The sheep section was a good one, in which, of of course, the Kent or Romney Marsh breed was the most in evidence. Mr. C. File took the first prize for two-shear rams and for shearling rams also, as well as the championship of the ram classes for two-shear rams, which gained the first prize at the Royal Show; while Mr. J. E. Quested was the winner of the first prize for three ram lambs. The first for shearling ewes was won by Mr. J. B. Palmer, and for ewe lambs by Mr. Quested. There was no Southdown class.

The Hackneys were far better than last year, and some really good horses were on view. Mr. Le Marchant was the first prize winner for stallions, but Mr. E. J. Allen, however, carried off the Hackney Horse Society's silver medal, and the reserve as well.

The agricultural horse section filled well, and here Mr. Max Michaelis was placed first with King of the Forest III. for stallions in the older class, whilst for stallions foaled in 1905 or 1906, Mr. Cornwallis was awarded the first prize for Linton Bay Thumper, Lord Hothfield's General being second. For fillies foaled in 1904, Mr. Max Michaelis was most successful, gaining the chief award with Alexandra of Tandridge, which later was given the Shire Horse Society's silver medal.

Bishop Auckland.

The Bishop Auckland Agricultural Society's show was held in the picturesque park adjoining Auckland Castle on Wednesday, and, despite rain, there was a capital attendance. As in previous years, the exhibits in all sections were of excellent quality. The total entries numbered 1,165, as compared with 1,236 last year. Some very fine animals were shown in the horse section, and some of the best dogs in the county were exhibited.

Major Vaux, the president of the society, presided at the luncheon, and in responding to the toast of his health, said an idea had struck him, that one thing which would bring more subscribers to shows would be to get as many farmers as possible who had farms from 100 to 150 acres to enter for a good substantial prize for the best farms and not for the best horses. If his idea was taken up he would be willing to put his hand deep down into his pocket for prizes. It will be interesting to see if the suggestion is carried out.

Southmolton.

For their twentieth annual exhibition held at Hele Barton on Wednesday the Southmolton Agricultural Association received a record entry, thus justifying the committee in continuing to open the show to the unions of Southmolton, Torrington, Bideford, Barnstaple, and Dulverton, a departure inaugurated two years ago. The total entry was 382, made up of 216 horses against 206 last year, 55 cattle against 28, 60 sheep against 72, 34 entries for butter and cream against 26, 7 cider against 9, and 10 honey against 16. There was plenty of competition in the horse section, where there were stronger classes than last year, and a new feature was introduced in the Polo pony bending competition. A useful lot of brood mares and foals were shown, and agricultural horses were well up to the standard, as were the Hunters.

There was a gratifying increase in entries in the cattle classes, and the quality was also a great improvement on previous shows, old bulls being particularly good. Sheep, both Long Wools and Exmoors, made a very good show, and there was more competition than usual in these classes, although most of the old exhibitors retained their positions in the prize list.

Halesworth.

The thirteenth annual show at Halesworth did not by any means prove an unlucky event, but on the contrary was a complete success. The entries, thanks to the introduction for the first time of cattle, sheep, and pigs, were the largest on record, and the quality was, generally speaking, very high, so that the show promises to develop into a first-class exhibition of agricultural stock, and add still further to the reputation it has already gained as a horse show. There were 60 entries in the Suffolk horse classes, and 97 in the Shire and half-bred horse classes, and 127 in the Hackney section, whilst the cattle, sheep, and pig classes received good support.

SHOW GOSSIP.

The financial result of the Devon County Agricultural Association's Show at Bideford this year was made known at a meeting of the council of the association held on the 5th inst., and unfortunately a loss had to be recorded. The ordinary receipts were £2,229, and the expenditure £2,456, showing a loss of £224; but on the refreshment the receipts were £493, and the expenditure £425, or a profit of £68, thus making the actual loss on the show £156. It was pointed out that the deficiency was not so great as it appeared because the subscription list had been excluded, but in previous years the whole thing had been thrown together. There was a net gain on the whole year's working of between £80 and £100. It may be mentioned that the catering at the show was for the first time undertaken by the society itself, and the successful result naturally afforded keen satisfaction to the refreshment committee, who, whilst not claiming that the arrangements were perfect, think the results were encouraging, and with the knowledge gained by experience it was felt that the experiment should be continued.

The eleventh annual show of the East Berks Horse Show Society will be held at Hawthorn Hill Racecourse on Thursday, August 22, and the prize schedule, recently issued, gives promise of an interesting event, for a large number of both open and district classes have been provided with capital prizes for competition, so that, seeing the popularity of the fixture, there should be another big entry of animals and a large attendance of visitors. In connection with the last-mentioned matter it may be mentioned that the society has reduced the price of admission to 1s. all day, whilst the Great Western Railway Company will run motor 'buses between the show ground and Maidenhead Station, so that with increased facilities and lower charges there should be a record attendance of visitors—at least we hope so. Entries for the show close on July 30, or with double fees on August 6. Entry forms, prize schedules, &c., can be had of the hon. secretary, Mr. C. H. W. Dixon, 4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, W.C.

The committee of the South Brent (Devon) Pony, Hunter, &c, Society feel it imperative to make special effort this year towards clearing off the existing debt of about £21, and thus establish the show on a proper financial footing. There is no doubt the Brent Show has during the past twelve years done a great deal in the encouragement of local breeding, whilst the superiority of its exhibits has tended to educate breeders towards aiming at the production of the best animals. The committee hope that all persons in the locality are interested in such excellent objects, and that they will come forward specially this year with some measure of help in response to this necessary appeal.

The exhibition, to be held Saturday, August 3, promises to eclipse all former ones, inasmuch as particular prizes have been kindly offered by the president of the show, Miss Carew of Marley, H. F. W. Prince, Esq., G. B. Collier, Esq., and the Polo Pony Riding Society. The classes generally should be most attractive, providing new features in Polo pony bending, Polo pony ball racing, in addition to a vegetable and wild-flower show especially for cottagers and children. This, however, means increased prize money. Subscriptions and donations will be thankfully received on behalf of the committee by the secretary, and to facilitate the business an early response is hoped for.

The Poulton-le-Fylde and District Agricultural Society are to be congratulated on their prize schedule for their show to be held on Wednesday, Aug. 14, for it is one of the best as regards get up we have seen for some time, whilst as regards the prizes and classes these are on a liberal scale, and as competition is open to the United Kingdom a large entry should be received: it is certainly deserved. Entries close Monday, Aug. 5, with the secretary, Mr. R. Bibby, Market Place, Poulton-le-Fylde, from whom prize schedules, entry forms, &c., can be obtained.

A liberal prize schedule with many open classes and a large number of special prizes has been drawn up by the Merionethshire Agricultural Society for their fortieth annual show, to be held at Dolgelly on Friday, Sept. 13, and a good entry should be secured. Horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, are all provided with classes, and in addition there are sections for butter, poultry, and dogs. Entries for stock close on Aug. 29, jumping, &c., and trotting on Sept. 8, after which dates no entries will be received. Prize schedules, entry forms, &c., can be had of the secretary, Mr. R. Roberts, Rhydgarnedd, Towyn.

The Bishop's Castle District Agricultural and Horticultural Society's show will take place on Wednesday, August 7, under the presidency of the Earl of Powis. The radius has been extended to ten miles from the town hall, so that larger entries are expected. The prizes schedule shows there will be fifty-five classes, with prizes ranging up to £5 for horses, cattle, sheep, sheep dog trials, poultry, butter, &c. Entries close July 27 with the secretary, Mr. G. Fletcher, Bishop's Castle.

SHOW SECRETARIES.



Mr. W. MOORE,
Allendale Agricultural Society.

Prizes amounting to £650, with specials of the value of £250, will be offered for competition at the show of the Mid Somerset Agricultural Society, to be held at Shepton Mallet on Tuesday, September 3, and such a generous prize schedule should attract large entries. The show has earned a widespread reputation for its display of cheese, and this department receives full attention again this year, for the class prizes range in value up to £20, whilst there are several special awards. Butter is also another big section—in fact, the feature of the exhibition is its dairy show; but cattle, horses, pigs, &c., also receive their share of attention, and the whole should form another most attractive show, and be, if not the best, one of the best of the fifty-five held by the society. Entries close August 16, or with double fees August 24, with the secretary, Mr. W. Ozzard, Field, Shepton Mallet.

Clydesdale Horse Society.

At a meeting of the council of the Clydesdale Horse Society held in the Highland show ground at Edinburgh on Wednesday, a lengthy correspondence between the secretary and the secretaries of the Canadian Clydesdale Association and the Canadian Records Office, Ottawa, was submitted. The correspondence was with reference to the new regulations passed by the Canadian Association in respect to the admission of imported animals into the Canadian Clydesdale Stud Book. The rules in that stud book, it was stated, were much more restricted than those in force at home, and have already acted adversely on the export trade.

The council agreed that as the schedules and entries for Volume XXX. of the stud book had been issued it was impossible to take action in the way of altering the rules this year, but the secretary was instructed to communicate with the authorities in Canada requesting them to postpone until January 1, 1908, their proposed alterations. Meantime it was remitted to the Editing Committee to endeavour to bring the rules here more into line with what is desired by the Canadians.

SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS.

WARWICKSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
(In conjunction with the Rugby and Dunchurch Agricultural Association).

SHOW AT RUGBY, AUGUST 28 and 29, 1907.

Prizes over £1,230.

For HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, IMPLEMENTS, DAIRY PRODUCE, EGGS, DRESSED POULTRY, STOCK JUDGING COMPETITION, &c., &c.

Prizes in Horse Department over £685. Special Driving and Jumping Classes.

Last day of Entry July 27, after which at double fees up to Eight p.m. July 30. Prize Books and Entry Forms sent on application to

FREDERICK H. MOORE,
Warwick. Secretary.

MELTHAM & DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SHOW.—The 16th Annual Show will be held on JULY 27. Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, and Produce; Leaping, Driving and Hunters; Dogs, Poultry, Pigeons, Rabbits, and Cats. Entries close July 20. Schedules and particulars from J. BRAMLEY, Secretary, Carlile Terrace, Meltham.

BAKEWELL FARMERS' CLUB. President for 1907, A. S. Marsden-Smedley, Esq., Darley Dale. The 59th, Annual Exhibition of Horses (Shires, Hunters, Jumpers, Hackneys, and Turnouts), Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Wool, Roots, Cheese, and Butter, also open Trotting and Galloping Races, will be held at Bakewell, on Wednesday, August 14th, 1907. Upwards of £450 in Prizes, Challenge Cups, and Medals. Live Stock and Produce entries close Monday, August 5th. Racing, August, 9th. Schedules and entry forms, may be had on application to WILLIAM J. CLARK, Secretary, Farmers' Club, Bakewell.

HACKNEY STUD BOOK
VOL. 25.

Entries close at Single Fee on August 1, 1907.
(Late fees to September 2.)

For Entry Forms apply
FRANK F. EUREN,
Sec. Hackney Horse Society,
12, Hanover Square, London, W.

THORNEY SHIRE FOAL SOCIETY.—Eighteenth Annual Show will be held at Thorney, July 25, 1907. HARRY HORRELL, Secretary, Eye, Peterborough.

THE EAST BERKS HORSE SHOW SOCIETY will hold its 11th ANNUAL SHOW at Hawthorn Hill Race Course, near Maidenhead, on THURSDAY, AUGUST 22, 1907. Entries close July 30, or, with double fees, August 6. Schedules, &c., of the Hon. Sec., C. H. W. DIXON, 4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C. Telephone: No. 5148 Gerrard.

HARROGATE & DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

President: HY. WILLIAMS, Esq., J.P.

Will be held JULY 25, 1907.

Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Poultry, Pigeons, Four-in-hands, Jumping, &c.

Entries close July 18.

Schedules from the Secretary,
G. SAVELL.
Park View, Harrogate.

THE SOUTH BRENT (12TH) ANNUAL SHOW,
SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, 1907.

For Dartmoor Ponies, Polo Pony Ball Race and Bending, Hunter Classes, Riding, Driving, Jumping, Butter, Cream, Honey, Cottagers' Vegetables and Childrens Flowers. Prizes to be given by the President (Miss Carew, of Marley), H. F. W. Prince, Esq., G. B. Collier, Esq., and the Polo and Riding Pony Society. Entry Forms and Schedules until July 20, from Secretary.—Mr. WYNDHAM HULL, South Brent.

COLESHILL HORTICULTURAL and HORSE SHOW,
TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 1907.

Jumping, Driving, Hunters, Turnouts, &c. Nearly £170 in prizes.

Entries close July 23, 1907. For schedules, apply to—

W. H. M. BARTON, Secretary.
Coleshill, near Birmingham.

POULTON LE FYLDE AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—Open to the United Kingdom. August 14th, 1907. To be held on the Showground, Poulton le Fylde. Nearly £600 in Prizes, Cups & Specials. Splendid Classification for Shires, Hackneys, Turnouts, Tandems, Pairs, Jumpers, Cattle, Sheep and Pigs, &c. Entries close August 5th. Schedules from Secretary, Richard Bibby, Market Place, Poulton le Fylde. Tel. 6.

UP-HOLLAND & DISTRICT SHOW (Lancashire Federation), Wednesday, July 24th, 1907. Judges: Cattle, Pigs, and Heavy Horses.—G. H. Dean, Esq. Light Horses and Turnouts.—G. Pimlott, Esq. Dog entries close July 19, at 10 a.m.; other Exhibits July 20, at 10 a.m. Schedules, G. H. Scrivener, Up-Holland, near Wigan.

FELTON AND WARKWORTH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

FELTON SHOW, MONDAY, August 5th, 1907.
£130 in Premiums for ordinary classes.
Special Prizes for Leaping. Open Competition.
Entries close July 18th, 1907.
Price Lists on application to the Secretary.
J. BARKER, High Stanners, Morpeth

KEELE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Keele Estates and North Staffs Hunt Show.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 8th, 1907.
£750 Prizes.
Entries close July 29: double fees later—dogs excepted.
Open Classes. Turn outs. Horse Leaping. Sheep Dog Trials.
Schedules ready.
Silverdale, Staffs, W. A. BENSON.

MALTON AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW.—WEDNESDAY, JULY 24, 1907. President: The Rt. Hon. Viscount Garnock. Special Prizes for Tenant Farmers' Hunters Brood Mare and Foal, Hackney Stallions, &c., &c. Schedules and entry forms on application to the Secretary — THOS. MITCHELL, The Mount, Malton.

DURHAM COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—President, The Most Honourable the Marquis of Londonderry, K.G. The ANNUAL SHOW will be held on THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 1907, in the picturesque grounds of Wynyard Park, Stockton-on-Tees (generously granted by the President). Upwards of £1,000 given in prizes for Horses, Cattle, Sheep, &c. Also two pieces of Silver Plate to cost not less than £25 each (the gift of the President) to be won outright in the classes for Shorthorn Cattle. Entries close Tuesday, July 30, 1907. Prize schedules for Dogs, Poultry, Pigeons, &c., on application to the Hon. Secretary, G. H. Proctor, Esq., Flass House, Durham. Prize schedules for Horses, Cattle, Sheep, &c., on application to the Secretary,

WM. CHRYSTAL.
Houghton-le-Spring.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Spread of the American Gooseberry Mildew in England.

SIR,—In view of an important stage having been reached in relation to the above matter, will you kindly allow me space for the following remarks?

Royal assent was given last Thursday to "The Destructive Insects and Pests Act, 1907," and the Board of Agriculture will now be able, under this new law, to issue an Order against the American gooseberry mildew.

I wish to point out how matters stand at this juncture, and especially to emphasise the necessity for growers to co-operate with the Board to stamp out this new pest.

During the past few weeks I have visited affected gooseberry plantations in Worcestershire, Gloucestershire and Norfolk, and in many cases I have seen the berries, leaves, and young shoots smothered with the white powdery masses of spores of the American gooseberry mildew. Experience in this country has already shown (as it has in other countries on the Continent) that severe pruning in the winter and frequent spraying during the spring and summer months do not eradicate the disease, and that the only certain way of dealing with this pest, if we wish to stamp it out before it spreads through the country, is to grub up and burn the affected bushes.

Already instances have occurred of considerable losses to growers caused by this new disease. In one case a grower discovered the disease in his nursery, and it was not until he had grubbed up and burnt the whole of his nursery stock, of the value of some £70, that the danger of the disease spreading to the adjacent gooseberry plantations (of a large acreage) was removed. In another case the loss was more serious still; here in a plantation of some 14 acres not only had all the gooseberry bushes to be destroyed, but, as I found the mildew had spread to red currant bushes growing intermixed with the gooseberries, it was necessary to grub up and burn these also in order to ensure the eradication of the disease and safeguard the surrounding unaffected plantations. The total loss in this case amounted to some hundreds of pounds. In a third case a nurseryman lost a considerable sum of money through the necessity of having to burn a large stock of recently imported standard gooseberries affected with the disease.

It is clear that growers are just beginning to experience the spread of a disease which, unless resolutely stamped out, will gradually invade and ruin their gooseberry plantations, just as the "Big Bud" mite has ruined black currant plantations.

The disease has been allowed seven years' start in Ireland and two or three years' start in England. Now that the Board has at length acquired the necessary legislative powers to deal with the disease, it behoves all growers and gardeners generally to co-operate heartily with the Board if they wish to see the American gooseberry mildew stamped out and their gooseberry plantations kept healthy.

Up to the present the outbreaks that have occurred in England are as follows:—Kent, on standard gooseberries only in one nursery (disease believed to be now stamped out); Worcestershire, thirty-one outbreaks in gooseberry plantations; Gloucestershire, one outbreak; Wisbech and district, two outbreaks; Warwickshire, one outbreak.—Yours, &c.,

E. S. SALMON, F.L.S.,
Mycologist to the South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, Kent.

July 8.

Harvest Beer.

SIR,—In your "Seasonable Topics" of last week's issue you invite correspondence on harvest beer.

Now in my mind the farmer who allows no beer comes in his own light in two ways.

First: What is beer, or what should beer be made from? Malt and hops—the farmer's crop. Can we as farmers expect others to use our crop, for such we must regard beer, if we farmers do not ourselves?

Then, secondly, take the present hay season, as fickle as can be, perhaps one day out of a week it's fit to lead. Give the man in the field two pints of beer (home-brewed, if you have it). The cost to the farmer will be perhaps 3d. That man will be working, while he never thinks to look if it is time to drop off. Then if the beer is what it should be, you have given him a stimulant, or a good pick-me-up, as he worked.

I think it is a very necessary thing for men in harvest and haytime to be supplied with a reasonable amount of beer, and will repay the farmer in more ways than one. He will be going to the market with the same barley after a while, and his brewery company perhaps are maltsters too; so it pulls once more.—Yours, &c.,

July 11. JUNIOR FARMER.

SIR,—In last week's issue of the MARK LANE EXPRESS you ask for discussion on the above question. It may interest some of your readers to know my experience.

Thirty years since we gave the men table beer at a cost of 6d. per gallon during haying time, with which they were quite content, besides paying 4d. an hour overtime, but I may mention that at times some of them, even at this low strength of beer, got too much. I used to be content if the hay was cut, carried, and stacked if it worked out at a gallon a wagon-load.

Some time after this I discontinued beer and allowed tea and sugar to come to the same cost in addition to overtime pay.

Again, I tried the plan of allowing each man 5s. for beer money, in addition to overtime pay. This on the part of some, caused great dissatisfaction; however, I did not give in.

At the present time I am allowing beer costing 8d. per gallon and overtime pay; the men were quite content with 6d. beer, but the brewers will not brew it now. The labourers work very willingly nine hours a day for 2s. 6d., but I generally find they get very tired of a long hay-making. After men have been at any kind of agricultural work of the same kind for some time they seem to want to have another job.—Yours, &c.,

THOMAS DAWS.
Soggs House, Ewhurst, Hawkhurst.
July 11.

Hop Prospects.

SIRS,—In 1905 and 1906 together England picked 941,626 cwt., and America 1,111,000 cwt.: total British and American crops, 2 years, 2,052,626 cwt.: England consumed in 2 years 1,400,000, and America, 775,000 cwt.: total, 2,175,000 cwt.

The Continent in 22 months sent about 160,000 cwt. to England, but it has no more to spare. July and August will absorb what England and America have left. The world closes the season with practically no stocks.

Europe no longer can grow an average crop, weather was and keeps too adverse. America is sure to get a short crop; it had two record ones in succession, and three full yields never follow each other. The world's acreage decreases, its consumption steadily increases.

Brewers and dealers should stock up, especially that cheapest, best keeping, and everyway best value of all hops, Belgians. If the whole world gets a full crop their price still is safe.

The world's stocks hardly suffice for the world's wants until next crop, which will be a late one.—Yours, &c.,

VAN WINT & Co.
Antwerp.

Treatment of Milk Fever.

SIR,—I should have liked to have known your Vet.'s opinion of the treatment of cows before calving that are suspected to be liable to milk fever. Since making this request in your issue of July 1 I have had the misfortune to lose one with this malady, although precautions were taken to prevent it which have hitherto been effective, but in this case proved futile.

She calved all right, without any difficulty, on the Saturday morning, after which she was given a drench; on the Sunday morning she was down at five o'clock. Our local vet. was promptly in attendance, and administered the new treatment, by injection into the udder, &c. From this she lingered until half-past three on the Monday morning, when she succumbed.

The vet. says he has had twenty-nine cases this season, out of which twenty-six recovered with this treatment; but to know how to prevent would be better than a cure, and would be of great benefit to some of the inexperienced of your readers.

This case was unusually quick after calving; we have generally looked for it about the third day after.—Yours, &c.,

July 9. GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

Specimen for Naming.

SIR,—I have noticed in the MARK LANE EXPRESS you state your willingness to give information respecting farm plants. I am enclosing a grass which grows on the marshes around here. You will observe it has a flower similar to the pea, and the seeds grow in a small pod. Can you inform me in your paper if it is a nutritious plant, and its name?—Yours, &c.,

July 2. SAM FARMER.

*** The Editor is always willing to assist readers by giving information respecting farm plants and other matter, but if you send any other specimens in the future, please pack them in a small box with a little damp moss round the stems to keep them moist. It is not easy to name plants when they are merely put into an envelope and arrive in a dry and withered condition. Fortunately, your specimen was not too far gone for identification, and I recognise it as the Grass Vetchling (*Lathyrus Nissolia*). The plant, of course, differs from the cultivated vetch, as the stems are more of a grass-like nature, but it nevertheless contains some nutritious properties, particularly when in a young and juicy state. When the stems are dry and wiry, like those of the specimen to hand, they are naturally not so nutritious as at an earlier stage.—RUSTICUS.

Wireworm Injuring Corn.

SIR,—Could you kindly inform me as soon as possible how to get rid of the wireworm which has come and begun to destroy my corn crop?

ANXIOUS ONE (IRELAND).

*** It is by no means an easy thing to get rid of wireworm that is injuring corn at the present stage of the growth of the crop, and I doubt whether you can at this time of the year adopt any method that will do much good. The time for preventive measures is in the spring, when corn crops on land infested with wireworm should be rolled so as to consolidate the soil round the plants and prevent the wireworms from moving amongst them. Another good thing at that time is to give a top dressing of nitrate of soda to stimulate the growth, and soot is also beneficial, as it seems to have a marked effect on the insects. With the corn fully grown, however, you will see how difficult it is to apply the above, or, in fact, any remedy. But are you quite sure that wireworm is the author of the damage? The reason I ask the question is that I have seen several fields of oats this season badly affected by the grub of the Frit fly, which any uninitiated person might mistake for wireworm. The grub referred to is a small red insect, and it may be found in the hearts of the plant near to the ground. The maggot feeding inside the main stems causes the plants to assume a sickly yellow appearance, the cause of which might readily be attributed to wireworm. Little can be done by way of a remedy at this stage of growth, but not infrequently the plants branch out again at the bottom after the central stem has been damaged. Of course, yours may be a case of wireworm, but I mention the possibility of the Frit fly because attacks of it are not uncommon this season. I may add that when rolling and stimulating with nitrate of soda cannot be done the only means of checking the ravages of wireworm on a growing crop is to trap the pests with pieces of potato, mangold, or carrot buried in the ground, and examined frequently. This is done in hop gardens, where wireworms are a great nuisance, but it is hardly practicable in a field of corn.—RUSTICUS.

"An Unrivalled Holiday Region."—Under the above heading the North-Eastern Railway Company has issued an interesting booklet giving details with illustrations of holiday resorts in Yorkshire, Durham, Northumberland, Cumberland, and Westmorland, and a perusal of the information given in the book should convince that the title chosen by the company is not an exaggerated one. The diversity and variety which distinguish the whole district of North-Eastern England is specially characteristic of that section of it known as the Yorkshire coast. Every class of holiday-maker is provided for; the weary, jaded workers, manual or mental, may find in the suggestive solitudes, where Nature may be studied in all her moods, that physical and mental rest and stimulus of which they are in need. On the other hand, man has combined with Nature to provide in the more fashionable and popular resorts—Scarborough, Filey, Whitby, Bridlington, Saltburn, and Redcar—that admixture of social life and gaiety, with great charm of natural surroundings, which are indispensable to a certain class of holiday seekers. Did space but permit much could be given concerning the other sections of "England's playground" as the North-East has been aptly termed. We would advise all who are fortunate enough to get holidays to write for a copy of the booklet mentioned before they decide where to go, and we feel sure they will choose a place in the "Unrivalled Holiday Region." We may add that the North-Eastern Railway Company make special arrangements for the convenience and enjoyment of visitors, including the issue of a series of cheap holiday contract tickets enabling holders to travel as many times as they choose over the portion of the line for which their tickets are issued, and circular tour tickets available for short periods. By this means it is possible for visitors to any one district to visit adjacent places of interest at a nominal expense, and thus add to the delights of the holiday without incurring the fatigue of unusually long walks or the heavy strain upon their resources which the payment of full fares would involve. There are also cycling and walking tour tickets and many other facilities, full details of which are given in the booklet under notice, a copy of which can be had, post free, for 1½d. from the Chief Passenger Agent, Department "A," North-Eastern Railway York.

NATIONAL POULTRY CONFERENCE.

The second National Poultry Conference was held at the University College, Reading, from the 8th to the 12th inst. inclusive, and was attended by about 240 members and delegates from different parts of the United Kingdom, the Continent, and the Colonies. The former consisted of poultry breeders and farmers representing the most advanced forms of the culture of fowls, and the latter were members of the committees of the different specialist clubs which are devoted to the developments of the interests of the breeds, in the distribution and breeding of which they were originally formed. The Poultry Club and nearly every specialist club was well represented.

The first National Poultry Conference was held in 1899, since when poultry keeping in every branch has made very marked progress, so that at the present time it has become a business seriously undertaken by those whose aim is to make a living by it; and it was therefore felt that the time had come for the meeting together of those representing the different phases of the industry to confer together as to the methods in vogue in their respective countries and districts.

The conference took the form of the contribution of papers on different subjects—which were read in several cases by their writers and in others by deputies—followed by a discussion, which necessarily had to be of limited form on account of the short time—five minutes in the majority of cases—allowed to the speakers.

Scratching Sheds and Colony Systems.

The first papers were devoted to the consideration of the two systems of housing in vogue in America, and called respectively the "Scratching Shed System" and the "Colony System," the former consisting of large ranges of houses built for the purpose of providing ample accommodation for fowls during the long American winters, when it is necessary that the stock should be housed indoors; and the colony system — as its name appropriately suggests—is made up of separate houses distributed over a considerable area of land, with the purpose of keeping the fowls separated as widely as possible. American methods have not been proved to be applicable profitably to utility poultry farming in England, speaking, of course, generally, and the expensive method of ranges of scratching shed houses was not upheld by the speakers who entered into the discussion, as their initial cost made the start altogether too heavy a matter for any poultry farmer who was desirous of making his fowls pay on utilitarian lines.

The scratching shed houses of America must not be thought of as being similar to the scratching sheds which we advocate as useful shelters to the poultry houses during the winter and for inclement weather, as they are built to provide a much larger area of space for each bird, with the object of keeping them there during the months when it is impossible to allow them free range on account of the severe climatic conditions, and to facilitate the easy feeding of a large number of birds which are, under this system, housed under one roof but divided off into compartments.

Fowls in England do better if they have access to their open run during the days throughout the winter; and it is only necessary to keep them shut in when snow is actually on the ground. Scratching shed houses, or houses with covered run or scratching shed attached, distributed on the colony system—*i.e.*, in separate runs, where the space is not unlimited—or about the farm, where there is plenty of land available—answer thoroughly well in England, and the cost is much less in proportion to the accommodation provided than the ranges of houses on the purely American plan, which necessitates the curtailment of the runs for the fowls to occupy when they can get out, as these can only be the width of the compartment of the house allotted to each pen, or, at most, the width of two where runs are built on both sides of the house, as is the case now and then.

Scratching-shed houses—as apart from the house and scratching-shed attached—consist of a good-sized house with wire netting front, and boards to the height of 2 ft. at bottom, the back of which is divided off into a roosting place, and in those on the American plan the roosting portion does not occupy the whole of the back of the house, but half of it, the roosting place being arranged in one corner divided off with wire netting principally. The birds when roosting are consequently not in a very warm place, as the whole of the front is open, with the exception of a weather-board at the top, and the three boards at the bottom, and for cold winter and spring seasons the house with lean-to roof and ventilation at the top only, provided with covered run at side with partly wire front is more conducive to winter egg production, for although the birds do not require artificial heat, they lay more eggs when the roosting quarters are comfortably warm.

Modern Methods of Incubation.

Modern methods of incubation—artificial and natural—were dealt with in two papers, and the discussions revealed that poultry breeders find hot water machines more generally suited to this climate than those on the hot-air system, and a judicious mixture of moist and dry foods better than one of all dry feeding for the growing stock. There is one point here which was not touched on but which merits the consideration of every poultry keeper who has to weigh the cost with its relative gain, and that is the moist system is less expensive, and in rearing chickens for the table considerably more weight is put on by the birds which are fed on moist foods, for it must be remembered that the flesh of fowls is largely composed of fluids when this is subjected to analysis.

Laying Competition: Some Suggestions.

The consideration of the laying competitions as conducted by the Utility Poultry Club in England and those in Australia brought clearly before those who are interested in the production of the commercial egg that, whereas the four months devoted to testing the productiveness of pens of four pullets for sixteen weeks in the winter months is useful, the twelve months' laying is the only test of the averages produced by fowls, and that a two years' competition would be altogether more useful as testing the length of time the different breeds take up for moulting and recommencing to lay during their second winter. Until this can be done by a club entirely with a view of supplying reliable data for others, the principal test is yet to be made; for while breeders of the different varieties conduct tests for their own information, these are not looked upon to supply averages as are the public competitions which are carefully carried out by rules most thoroughly enforced.

When a few subscriptions are forthcoming to help in this matter, very much will be accomplished in the interests of the small poultry keeper and farmer. Unfortunately the English poultry keeper is not assisted, as is the Colonial one, by a Government grant applied to the furtherance of tests of productiveness and usefulness, but we hope the time will come when this will be changed, for the poultry keeper is gradually making his way, and those interested in the problems of agricultural success in this country have come to consider the domestic hen as less significant than of yore.

Two or three Government experimental stations could be established for the outlay of a few hundred pounds, and poultry breeders would supply all the birds which would be required for experimental purposes, and the produce from these birds would pay the expense of feeding and the labour of a good man at each. Unless something is started ere long on these lines by the Board of Agriculture or under Government authority it will be necessary for some poultry breeders to combine to establish experimental stations for the production of eggs and market poultry only, keeping careful records of all outgoings as well as returns.

Over ten years ago we wrote to several daily papers on this subject, but at that time the interest taken was not sufficiently developed amongst those with means at their disposal to incline them to subscribe towards what would be a national benefit, as providing incontestible proof of the profits of poultry keeping, as well as acting as an educational medium. But we are hopeful now that the time is not far off when we may see this put into practice, because we are convinced of its thoroughly useful possibilities.

Some interesting papers on hybridisation and of breeding the different noted varieties, were followed by papers on "Poultry Keeping in Confinement," and women's work amongst poultry was well considered after the reading of papers by several ladies.





[Photo by] [Clarke and Hyde.

THE NATIONAL POULTRY CONFERENCE AT READING.

A Group of Eggs on show at the Conference. These comprise the eggs of South African ostrich, Irish duck, Swedish hen, turkey, and of a guinea fowl—the largest and the smallest.

An Instruction Class in Eggs. (About thirty-five thousand were exhibited.)

Milk Chickens.

The production of milk chickens (*Petit poussins* or *poulets au lait*), as in vogue in Belgium, was under consideration for some time, but having made careful inquiries for the last two years amongst those who do the best class of table poultry trade in London, we are only able to find three or four who have any demand for these, and then this demand is limited to those who have acquired the taste on the Continent, and the prices given by the handlers have not paid those English poultry breeders who have tried to cater for it.

We should be very glad to see this trade develop, as by careful feeding the chickens could be produced in England which would more than satisfy those who had acquired their taste on the Continent, and a really profitable branch of poultry raising could be turned to account. It is somewhat strange that, considering the large number of Transatlantic visitors we have each summer, that some of the large London hotels have not considered the advisability of catering for them by adding to the *menu* the broiler (as it is known in America), otherwise the milk chicken of France and Belgium (for these birds are practically of the same age, although fed differently in the two countries of production.)

Should there ever be an established demand for these young birds—as apart from the eighteen weeks' (and upwards) chickens now marketed—it will be a boon to poultry raisers who bring up

pullets for laying and find their cockerels very numerous, and on account of being of the egg-producing breeds, altogether unsuited for the English style of table fowl.

Other papers dealing with the results of experimental work in the United Kingdom, methods of instruction, and the application of State aid to poultry keeping abroad, and the possibilities of what might be done at home, were well received.

Miscellaneous.

Unfortunately, there are no authentic statistics to enable those interested to gain information as to the wonderful strides made in poultry production in England, but that this is carried on profitably in the majority of cases owing to the thorough grasp of the subject due to the dissemination of information by those who spend all their time working with fowls through such mediums as this and other papers, and by means of lectures and house-to-house visitation, can be seen by the careful observer, and is confirmed by many farmers, who are thankful to have had such a substantial addition to their income by the returns from their fowls. We have no hesitation in saying that this is only the beginning of the industry; for now that careful experiments have proved the cost of rearing birds to marketable age, and the prices for these are well maintained year by year, prospective poultry keepers are enabled to benefit by the experience which has, in many cases, cost the experimentalists money and time.

We do not believe in expensive organisations for the collection of produce, the upkeep of which lessen the producer's profits, and when there are reliable salesmen who pay really just prices for good produce, it is not necessary for poultry keepers to resort to them; but what we require to do is to show producers the necessity of economy and efficiency in feeding, and the importance of intelligent management all the year round.

We were somewhat disappointed that authentic figures of the cost of rearing as against prices obtainable were not forthcoming, but undoubtedly the result of this conference will be a great increase of interest in poultry keeping generally, and provided that those who add this to their work do it on practical rather than theoretical lines, it can only be for good, and for their own profit.

The conference brought together those representing various branches of poultry culture, and we were glad to find that the subjects treated in the papers read dealt with utility poultry keeping and breeding rather than with exhibition birds, which is in the poultry world the "professional" branch of work.

With our splendid markets—the finest in the world, agreed on by all producers—we should endeavour to get railway rates reduced for the conveyance of the produce to these centres, and this can be done by co operation. The arrangements made at the college were all for the comfort of the members, and reflected great credit on those who were responsible for the organisation of the conference, and members left Reading feeling that a new interest would be taken by many who were there, resulting in increased production throughout the country.

In our next number we shall deal with the display of English and foreign fowls and eggs which was one of the most interesting collections it has been our privilege to see.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

Account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended July 6, 1907, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year (the figures for 1906 are in parentheses):—

Animals, living:—Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves (13,011), 10,628; sheep and lambs (600), 602; horses (207), 592.

Fresh meat:—Mutton (60,876 cwt.), 94,144; pork (4,642), 3,405.

Salted or preserved meat:—Bacon (108,065 cwt.), 102,542; beef (3,218), 4,499; hams (36,603), 31,509; pork (4,131), 8,149; meat (12,232), fresh, 9,002; salted, 916; meat, preserved (9,770), 4,394.

Dairy produce and substitutes:—Butter (96,459 cwt.), 84,275; margarine (22,696), 17,775; cheese (67,877), 67,912; milk, cream (182), 140; milk, condensed (16,018), 15,675; milk, preserved (22), 39.

Eggs (great hundreds):—(418,429), 453,747; poultry (value £5,343), £2,804; game (value £23), £24; rabbits, dead (not tinned), (240 cwt.), 1,025; lard (54,634 cwt.), 42,193.

Corn, grain, meal, and flour:—Wheat (3,062,200 cwt.), 2,138,600; wheat meal and flour (284,900), 206,600; barley (236,400), 198,000; oats (467,100), 134,800; peas (32,470), 29,540; beans (3,510), 710; maize or Indian corn (1,349,000), 1,299,500.

Fruit (raw):—Apples (3,353 cwt.), 6,552; cherries (17,090), 28,385; gooseberries (12,224), 14,888; strawberries (2,132), 3,762.

Hay (4,984 tons), 2,039; straw (1,840 tons), 1,179; mosslitter (1,399 tons), 1,563; hops (3,584 cwt.), 1,822; locust beans (21,340 cwt.), —.

West Country Notes.

THE Chief Constable of Cornwall has raised a very important point with regard to inspectorships under the Board of Agriculture. The sheep-dipping measure was the one which caused "the worm to turn." The view taken by the Chief is that piling up these alien duties must be detrimental to the more important public duties and interests. The police, he says, were never intended originally to carry out those duties which the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries now sought to impose upon them. Their duty was the prevention and detection of crime and the protection of life and property. He alleged, and I think he is right in his contention, that there was a concurrence of opinion that the Board of Agriculture should be asked to have a little regard for police duties proper. There are six or seven Acts under which the police have to act as inspectors.

AT a time when licenses have to be procured for the least movement of swine, or when anything of the nature of an outbreak of infectious disease is in existence, one who is brought into contact with the police sergeants and superintendents or inspectors cannot but sympathise with the worried aspect they so often present. They have perhaps an important matter respecting life or property to investigate, but they have to devote a large share of their energies and attention to agriculture affairs. The reception they get from those whom they have to "inspect" or license is generally the reverse of pleasant, though there is also usually some little ameliorating attention in the shape of refreshment.

VERY opportunely the Board of Agriculture call attention to their leaflet on the making of ensilage, which they have reissued. When a farmer can be found to regret that his crops of grass and clover are so heavy, there is evidently some necessity for trying any method that can be devised for securing that those crops shall not be utterly wasted. When I mentioned ensilage to my friend who made the complaint, he shook his head sadly. To the farmers who send milk to town it is of little use to say "try ensilage." They may make it, but they dare not use it for their milch beasts. The contracts into which they enter absolutely forbid its use in many cases. Even if they did not there is a good chance of the milk being rejected on account of flavour.

IF for a couple of days the hum of the mowing machine tells of the hay harvest, it has so far been promptly silenced by the ominous clouds overhead gathering, and in a short time the crop is laid still further, but not by the knife or scythe.

EVEN the farmers' children are affected by the depressing weather. "Why don't the clouds stop crying!" asked one; and another tiny mite wanted to know if they could not send a man up in a balloon to turn the sun round, so that there might be some fine weather.

RECORD crops of potatoes are being reported from Cornwall, and those of "May Queen" are particularly well spoken of. Prices are low, but the supply being so good the loss is less felt than was at one time feared. Cornish croppers are pushing forward with broccoli planting, for which the season is very favourable.

REDRUTH show is a mixed one, but there is a good agricultural element amongst its record entry for the present year, 1907; there being nearly 200 horses. Horticulture plays a good part. In all respects the gathering was very successful.

AT least half a dozen agricultural shows are taking place in various parts of Devonshire the next week or two, and most of them promise well.

ONE method by which the various education authorities are trying to work into the hands of parents and farmers is by a judicious consideration of the times of holiday. The granting of holidays at the busy seasons on the farms is a great boon to both. Fruit picking is a profitable source of occupation to many of the children, as well as grown ups. Many children voluntarily undertake the work. To earn a sovereign during the holiday, as many of them can, is a great price to them. Expert pickers can do still better, and at what appears a very trifling price, piece-work, women can earn from 15s. to 25s. per week during the season of potato setting, fruit, and pea picking, haymaking, and other occupations, common in the West as elsewhere.

IT is not only at these seasons that little increments to the wages are possible. There is the milking and sundry other employments which are always in season. Consideration of these points leads one up to another very important subject.

ONE of the big, but not usually recognised, causes of the rural depopulation is the enforcement of the Education Acts. Labourers with families are particularly useful on the land, whether it be the corn farm, the fruit and vegetable farm, or the dairy land. There is a great amount of work, in season and out, that can be performed by the younger members of the household without interfering with their attendance at school. The mischief, however, is that the school is in so many instances at such a distance that the children have to spend nearly as much time getting there and back as they have to give to the lessons.

THE rate at which they travel is, of course, of the Shakespearean value. In bad weather the difficulty is increased. The parent, as a consequence, cannot be induced to take work where he is wanted worst. The village itself became in a sense almost as much overstocked with labour as the towns, but the outlying homesteads could not obtain it. By and by a move was made to where there are greater opportunities of obtaining employ, and this is to the town. A big share of the drift to the populous centre is caused in this way.

NOW, if the children could be conveyed to school from the outlying hamlets and solitary homesteads there are many parents who would be only too willing to get out to these and take up the work. This is a view of the subject which is worth consideration.

PERHAPS not with the same ideas that are above suggested, but still with the object in view of making it easier for the country children to comply with the requirements of the School Attendance Committees, the Cornish novelist, Mr. Quiller-Couch, has in his own district been agitating the matter.

IT is cruel to children to have to go two and a half miles across fields in the abominable weather we have been experiencing. And what boy, or girl either, can be reasonably expected to withstand the temptation to loiter when the fine weather does come? If it be across moors, as is so often the case in Devon and Cornwall, as well as in other counties, the distances are often longer and the circumstances worse.

BY AND BY, pressure is brought to bear on the parent. It is a pressure he cannot withstand. Even if he is outside the area of compulsion he has the natural ambition that his children shall be somewhat of scholars. Off, then, to the town, where he can be close to schools for the youngsters. No one to take his place on the farm! What then?

MR. QUILLER-COUCH argues that it is better to pay for the children to be taken to school than that they should escape attending. The grants earned will generally far more than pay the cost.

FEW people there are in England who have not heard of Widdecombe Fair, and the interesting announcement is now made that the bells of Widdecombe-in-the-Moor, where the famous fair was held, have been heard again this week after having been rehung. The bells were cast in the year 1632, and were in the tower when it was struck by lightning during service in October, 1638. Many worshippers were killed. They did not, probably, include any of those who borrowed Tom Pearce's grey mare to go to the fair. I do not think anybody who has heard the famous West Country song has for many years heard the full tale of the load the poor mare had to drag on the occasion.

I TOOK it down some years ago, as sung by an old West Countryman, who had a rhyming list, which the general version of the song has not. They were—

"Bill Brewer, Jan Stewer, Peter Gumey,
Dan'l Whiddon, Ben Beckway, Peter Davey,
Jan Waller, Harry Hawk, and Tom Paul,
And my Uncle Tom Cobbleigh and all."

There was a refrain, as he sung it, at the end of each line of "Oh! I Oh! I Oh!" in which all the company joined, and it had consequently even more life than Baring Gould's well-known version.

July 12, 1907.

The Cheshire Farmers' Club have decided to support the resolution adopted by the Staffordshire Chamber of Agriculture, urging the Central Chamber to seriously take into consideration the formation of a really independent agricultural Parliamentary party, in order to return to the House of Commons a number of members pledged to represent the interests of agriculture. As regards the Small Holdings Bill, the club urge that a parish meeting should be called and at least two-thirds of the ratepayers should be in favour of the small holdings before application was made to the County Council.

Lincolnshire Notes.

LINCOLNSHIRE is already well represented in the new Land Holders' Central Association which was formed in Lincoln last week. The inspiration of the association is Mr. Algernon Turnor, and the landowners supporting the association are—Lord Londesborough, Lord Scarborough, Lord Lindsey, Lord Kesteven, Mr. Chaplin, and Mr. C. Turnor. Messrs. A. Turnor and C. Turnor were placed upon the committee.

AS my readers are aware, Mr. Christopher Turnor is chairman of the Lincolnshire Chamber of Agriculture, and a gentleman who is doing much to direct and foster the new agricultural policy which is springing up in this county. In an interesting letter he has confided to me his views on the new association. "My hope," he says, "is that it may act as a means of stirring up increased interest in agriculture as an industry, and that it may incite existing agricultural organisations to greater activity."

AS to its policy, Mr. Turnor says:—"First of all, to my mind, we want to see the majority of farmers, landowners, and I hope labourers belonging to distinctly agricultural organisations, instead of as at present only a percentage, and often I fear only a small percentage. Then we want to see a greatly increased agricultural influence at work, an influence which will work for the welfare of agriculture as not only an industry, but as the greatest industry in the country, believing that until agriculture is in a more flourishing condition, the whole social fabric of the country cannot be in a satisfactory state. This new association, he concludes, is not formed for defence, but rather with the idea of being pioneers of the best and soundest way to secure increased facilities for agriculture, including the development of a sound scheme for small holdings, education better suited to rural districts, &c."

THIS is all good sound doctrine, which every agriculturist would like to see applied to the problems of the land. Let us hope the new association will really go a step towards effecting what Mr. Chaplin claimed for it—a consolidation of all interests in agriculture. Amalgamation there can never be.

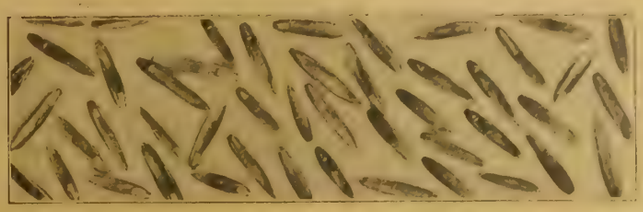
THE Small Holdings Bill is surviving criticism, thanks to the determined attitude of Mr. Harcourt. Mr. Chaplin is evidently anxious about it. He would like to see it made permissive, like many other Small Holding Acts which have proved a grotesque failure on that very account. But Mr. Harcourt will have none of it. The local authorities must do their duty. To those who are willing there will be no sort of attempt at coercion. Nor is there any proposed, even for the unwilling. There is only to be what Mr. Harcourt rightly calls alternative action. When the local authorities won't or can't carry out the Act the board above will kindly do it for them. But the main argument is that the Act has got to be carried out by somebody.

IF the proposed establishment of the sugar-beet industry in Lincolnshire depends upon an import duty its postponement for a year will have to be considerably prolonged. The debate in the House on Tuesday, the speech of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the evident temper of Parliament, bodes ill for sugar taxation in any form. The Government has already seriously strained the loyalty of its followers.

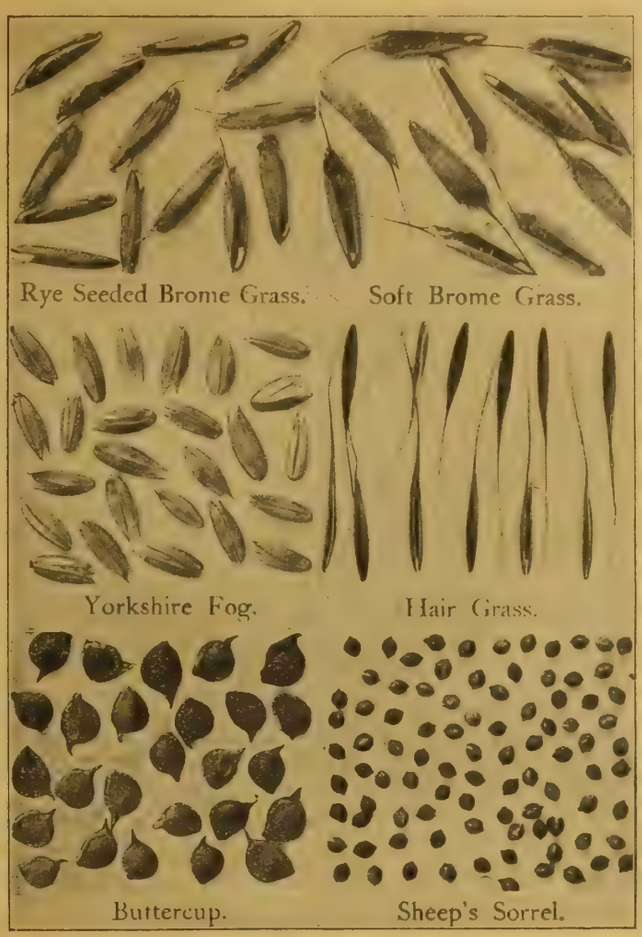
THE difficulties of the hay harvest are beginning to assume rather serious proportions. A really splendid crop is being threatened with disaster. The outlook is of the blackest, the weather has every prospect of keeping up its Novembrian character, and, altogether, those farmers who have finished leading—there are a few—are the happiest. Those who have not are beginning to think of having another look at the Board of Agriculture's circular, No. 9. Ensilage is dead and done for, a well-known farmer told me the other day, but I am not so certain that we shall not have to warm up its corpse. Even a buried crop is better than no grass. And perhaps, after all, the system has not been fairly tested.

AT any rate something will have to be decided. In a few weeks now we shall be landed amongst the corn. What will be the harvest be, I wonder? "It cannot be very much whatever the weather," an old salt of the soil said to me the other day. It is bound to be late, and I never knew a late harvest turn out a good one. But I am not at all sure. Some of the crops I have seen have a very promising look indeed. We have given up July as a bad job, but a glowing August might make our hearts rejoice in a way they have not rejoiced through many a harvest. Will not the clerk of the weather give us just a last little chance?

Perennial Rye Grass and its Impurities.



Pure Perennial Rye Grass.



The first of the above illustrations represents a sample of Pure Perennial Rye Grass, whilst underneath are shown some of the seeds of weeds to be found in imperfectly dressed samples. Unremitting attention and consummate skill, combined with perfect machinery, are requisite in ensuring the supply of the purest seeds. For our illustrations we are indebted to Messrs Dickson and Robinson, Manchester.

THE sixteenth Alford Horse and Foal Show was a distinct though not a record success. The entries exceeded last year's, their quality was quite the feature of the show, whilst the Shire foals have never been beaten in a local show-ring. Lincolnshire should one day be as famous for its Shires as for its sheep. The breed is wonderfully improving.

MR. DUDDING'S sale was held on Thursday. About sixty Shorthorns from his famous herd came under the hammer. They included several fine young cows with calves at foot from the most fashionable strains; and about thirty-three two and one-year old heifers, including the prize winners of this season. About fifty Lincolnshire long-wool yearling rams and some ewes, specially selected, and including this year's prize winners, were also in the collection.

ANOTHER classic sale took place on Friday, when Messrs. John Thornton and Co. sold by auction at Heath House, Nocton, about sixty Shorthorns from the fine herd of Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons, and about 100 shearling rams and gimmers bred for pure strains. I doubt not that the results of these important events is duly reported in the MARK LANE EXPRESS.

IT may be some consolation to turn from corn to potatoes. The first liftings seem to promise well. The tubers are small, we are told, but very numerous to the root, some sorts producing from four to five tons to the acre. Prices, too, are fairly good, averaging between £7 and £9 per ton.

ON the other hand, the fruit season is anything but a good one, whilst strawberries are fairly plentiful, though sadly lacking in sunshine to perfect them in colour and flavour. Gooseberries are very light, particularly in unsheltered gardens. Small berries promise fairly well, but the apples have been almost decimated under a combined attack of frost and caterpillars. Pears promise moderately well. Plums would be a nice crop if they could be let alone, but, as Hamlet would say, that is the question.

THE Lincolnshire breeders were again in evidence at Peterborough. Mr. W. B. Swallow, Wooton Lawn, gained the first for Hunter yearlings, the third for mares up to between 12 stone and 14 stone, and the second for three-year-old geldings. Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons, Dowsby, took the cup and first prize for bulls not exceeding three years old, property of tenant farmers; first for heifers above one year, second for heifers above two and under three years (the winner being owned by his Majesty the King), first in a tenant farmers' class for bulls of the same age, and first also in a tenants farmers' class for bulls above one and under two years. Mr. J. Evens, Burton, gained the first for cows or heifers three years old and upward, 2nd for bulls under eighteen months, and third for cows or heifers for dairy purposes. Amongst sheep, Mr. F. Ward, of Quarrington, gained first for a Longwooled shearling ram,

Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons taking the second, and Mr. Ward was first again in the tenant farmers' class for five Longwooled ewes.

THE following paragraph carries its own comment :—"A well-cultivated farm of 65 acres in Timberland, Lincolnshire, which in 1870 made upwards of £5,000, was offered by auction at Sleaford last week by Messrs. Earl and Lawrence, when £1,710 was the highest price obtainable. Another well-managed small holding of 97 acres, which made a high figure some years ago, was withdrawn at £1,170." And yet there are still people who object to sell their land for small holdings.

MR. SAMUEL LEGGATT, of Dogdyke, has sold his yearling entire colt, which was the winner in Class 19 at Lincoln, to Mr. Everard, of Bardon Hall, the owner of the famous stallion Lockinge Forest King, for £100.

MR. J. E. CASSWELL, of Laughton, is to judge the Lincoln Longwool sheep at the Dublin Horse and Sheep Show, and Mr. C. W. Tindall, Wainfleet, is to share the work of judging the Thoroughbred stallions and brood mares.

July 12, 1907.

DAIRY.

The Dairy Show of 1907.

The proposals of the Show Committee with regard to the classification and prizes for dairy stock, produce, and appliances at the Association's Dairy Show of 1907, to be held as usual at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, were recently considered by the Council of the British Dairy Farmers' Association, and the schedule was eventually passed, the following being the principal alterations from last year :—

In the milking trials the points for time since calving are reduced to a maximum of twelve instead of fourteen.

A new class is provided for Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn cows, at the instance of the Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn Association.

Last year's classes for cows and heifers "not eligible to compete in preceding classes" are omitted, and the following two classes are provided for cows to be used in the milkers' contests instead of the special class originated last year :—(*a*) Pair of cows of any breed or cross, in milk, with prizes £15, £10, £7, £5, £3 ; (*b*) Single cows, any breed or cross, in milk, with prizes £5, £4, £3, £2, £1.

In the bull classes it is notified that bulls from dams that have won the special milking prizes of the Shorthorn Society, or the prizes or certificates of the Dairy Shorthorn (Coates' Herd Book) Association, are eligible, as well as bulls whose dams have won prizes or certificates of merit in the milking trials or butter tests of the B.D.F.A. or any other society.

In the cheese section separate classes are provided for coloured and uncoloured Cheshire cheese, and a new class is made for Derby cheese, while the prizes for double Gloster are increased to the extent of £4.

Colonial butter will, for the first time, be judged according to a scale of points, a card to be placed at the top of each exhibit showing the points awarded.

In the appliance section the gold medal and the silver medal of the Association will be offered for milk strainers, or strainers and filters combined, capable of effectually dealing, other than by centrifugal force, with at least 100 gallons of milk in an hour.

In the milkers' contests the prizes are increased, those for men to the extent of £4, and those for boys and girls respectively to the extent of £6 10s. in each class. The prizes for women milkers will be £25.

The Selection Committee reported that they had held a meeting to nominate judges in the various sections of the show, and proposed to complete the list both of judges and stewards at the next sitting.

Whitchurch Cheese Fair.

There was a pitch of 74 tons of cheese at this fair on Wednesday, and trade was brisk with a decided improvement in prices. Buyers were numerous, which resulted in a quick clearance at 54s. to 60s., medium being 50s. to 53s. At the corresponding fair last year the pitch was 50 tons, and prices were 60s. to 64s. for best, with nothing lower than 50s.

Lancaster Cheese Fair.

There was a good attendance of buyers at Lancaster Cheese Fair on Tuesday, when the pitch comprised 86 dairies and 1,356 cheese, mainly good-made grass cheese with fair keeping qualities. Prices ranged from 60s. to 62s. for the best, and 56s. to 60s. per cwt. for moderate qualities.

The Yorkshire Agricultural Programme.

COLNE VALLEY CANDIDATES' OPINIONS.

The Parliamentary Committee of the Yorkshire Union of Agricultural Clubs and Chambers of Agriculture have written to the candidates in the Colne Valley election asking for their views on the various heads of the Union's Agricultural Parliamentary programme ; also inquiring whether they were prepared to pledge themselves to support "by all the means in your power, all or any (and which) of the items of the programme, and, in the event of your being returned to Parliament, to take an active part in promoting and maintaining the same in the House of Commons on every available opportunity."

Questions Put to the Candidates.

1. THE SALE OF BUTTER BILL.
   Q. Now before Parliament.
2. LOCAL TAXATION.
   Q. (*a*) That a permanent and comprehensive measure be passed, giving adequate relief from the excessive and unfair burdens at present imposed upon agriculture.
   Q. (*b*) That steps be taken to remedy the anomalies disclosed by the Reports of the Royal Commission on Local Taxation, and especially to provide one uniform assessment for all purposes both imperial and local.
3. RAILWAY RATES.
   Q. (*a*) That the granting by railway companies of preferential rates and facilities for foreign produce be absolutely prohibited, and that the Board of Trade be empowered and instructed to enforce the Law.
   Q. (*b*) That more ready means be provided for obtaining the reduction of unreasonable rates on English produce.
   Q. (*c*) The conditions of owners' risk, rates, and consignment notes be amended on the lines of the Railways (Contracts) Bill now before Parliament.
4. TUBERCULOSIS.
   Q (*a*) That pending the Report of the Royal Commission on Tuberculosis now sitting no further powers should be given to local authorities by public or local Acts to deal with tuberculous milk or meat.
   Q. (*b*) That when the report is issued the question of tuberculosis should be the subject of general legislation introduced by the Government and applicable to the whole country, and should not be dealt with by private Bills of municipal and other urban authorities.
   Q. (*c*) That in any legislation dealing with tuberculosis, due provision be made for compensation out of the Imperial exchequer in respect of tuberculous animals or carcases slaughtered or seized in the public interest.
5. BEER DUTIES AND BREWING MATERIALS.
   Q. (*a*) That the Beer Duty be readjusted by a reduction in the duty charged on beer brewed only from barley malt and hops, and that a like amount be added on beer containing any substitute for barley malt or hops.
   Q. (*b*) That brewers and publicans be compelled to declare all the ingredients used in the manufacture of their beer.
6. WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.
   Q. That there be one uniform system of agricultural weights and measures throughout the country.
7. FRAUDULENT SALE OF FOREIGN MEAT.
   Q That in the interests of both producers and consumers all retail vendors of imported dead meat be registered, and prominent notice of the fact displayed in every shop and on all vehicles held by each person registered, and that all such meat be clearly marked.
8. ADULTERATION.
   Q. (*a*) In order to prevent the adulteration of butter with margarine some innocuous substance which will reveal its presence should be introduced into margarine by manufacturers, as compelled by law in Germany, Belgium, and Austria.
   Q. (*b*) That the use of colouring matter in margarine be prohibited.
9. THE RIGID MAINTENANCE OF THE EXISTING MEASURES PROHIBITING THE IMPORTATION OF LIVE CATTLE FROM ABROAD.
10. LAW OF TRESPASS.
    Q. That the existing law of trespass, which is obsolete and ineffective, be amended, particularly in the direction of providing for the protection of products, which, though of natural growth, are of a marketable character.
11. Q. THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS ACTS.

N.B.—The order in which the above subjects are printed does not necessarily involve an expression of opinion as to their relative importance.

Mr. Wheler's Replies.

Mr. Granville C. H. Wheler has complied with the request, and, as will be seen from the appended list of his replies to the various questions, he is in general sympathy with the union's programme.

1. I am prepared to support this Bill.
2. (*a*) Yes ; (*b*) yes.
3. (*a*) Yes ; (*b*) (*c*) I have not had time to study this Bill closely, but support its principles.
4. (*a*) Yes ; (*b*) Yes ; (*c*) This is a question I have always held for insurance.
5. (*a*) Yes ; (*b*) I do not know whether this is possible at the present, but I support the principle.
6. Yes.
7. Yes.
8. (*a*) Yes ; (*b*) Yes.
9. Yes.
10. No answer.
11. Yes.

Mr. Victor Grayson's Replies.

It will be observed that Mr. Grayson has not dealt with the importation of live cattle, which is of vital importance.

1. No answer given.
2. (*a*) I am enthusiastically in favour of abolishing by public control the grossly excessive railway rates and other burdens placed upon agriculture. (*b*) In favour of uniform assessment for all purposes both Imperial and local.
3. (*a*) I am resolutely opposed to existing system of railway companies facilitating transit of foreign produce by preferential rates, and am in favour of a Board of Trade prohibition. (*b*) In favour. (*c*) In favour.
4. (*a*) Not in favour ; realise that injustices will arise owing to local and public Acts, but cannot agree to non-possumus attitude pending result of Royal Commission. (*b*) Half in favour. (*c*) In favour.
5. (*a*) In favour. (*b*) In favour.
6. In favour.
7. In favour.
8. (*a*) In favour. (*b*) In favour.
9. No answer given.
10. In favour.
11. In favour.

Northern Notes.

THE "thirst for land" grows apace. An urban council in a strictly agricultural district has been literally besieged with applications for allotments, and in a less degree for small holdings. The applicants put their request into the form of a petition, and then all signed their names. For allotments fifty applied, for small holdings over a dozen. These petitions are to be sent on to the county council. There are no Crown lands in the district referred to, and the farmers having land quite near the town are fearing their holdings may be decreased in area by the excision of a slice of the best and most convenient portions ; for land, to be set apart for allotments in a rural area, must be within easy reach of the workmen's homes.

JUST twelve years have elapsed since in this very district a fair attempt was made to obtain land for allotments. The council advertised for land, and the owners of acres were written to, with the result that only two definite offers were made, but at such rents as entirely precluded the council from embarking upon a scheme for satisfying local demands. The offers, strange to say, emanated from two ladies, neither of whom appeared to be prompted by any philanthropic motive, for one asked £36 a year for 10 acres, and the other £54 for 20 acres, 4½ of which were grass. As allotments are farmed out to subtenants in the district by a parish council at less than 30s. an acre, initial "wholesale" rents of over £3 an acre are out of the question. The "thirst" for land, one fears, under such conditions must go unsatisfied unless the law steps in, as is proposed, and compels the release of suitable land. But we do not think landowners will be unreasonable whenever they are confronted with a genuine demand. A member of the urban council mentioned in the first paragraph suggested that the list of petitioners would require riddling before the cases were dealt with individually, and it stands to reason that wherever allotment schemes are put into operation a good deal of caution and prevision will have to be exercised in regard to the tenants.

THE present is anything but a time for enthusiasm over anything pertaining to the cultivation of land. The situation is daily becoming worse. Bad weather is chronic. We are living from day to day in fear and trembling for the harvest. An old West Riding farmer and maltster, now retired, tells me that in a journey

from the Midlands to the borders of North Yorkshire he had not seen any crops looking equal to the Yorkshire cornfields. If that opinion is a correct one, then the cereals elsewhere than in Yorkshire are in a parlous state. There cannot possibly be anything like the amount of grain-yield of a normal year if the weather does not soon improve, and concerning the crops on some of the best of barley land farmers are despairing. The crops have insufficient stamina, and look less healthy than we have seen them for many years. Want of vitality has induced a sickly, yellow appearance.

ALL available hands are engaged in singling and hoeing turnips. Weeds on some of the flats are so rampant that it is hardly possible to discern the rows of roots; and weeds take an unconscionable lot of killing, being almost as tenacious of life as eels.

A TREMENDOUS crop of hay is regarded as a certainty. How it will be won is another story entirely. So far a very small portion of the yield appears to have been cut, and this is lying out in the swath day after day, with the risk of the goodness being washed out of it. All seasonable work is being retarded.

THE bad weather keeps people away from the seaside, in the crowds, at anyrate, which should now be invading the resorts, and consequently the lamb trade is sluggish, and beef has fallen in price. On the grazing farms the calves and yearlings are in an unthrifty-looking state, owing to the sodden grass lands. Store beasts are much in demand—the sort that will fetch £5 to £7 per head. Fat sheep have been a slower sale There is a capital demand for cows in milk, and for young store pigs, despite the continuance of restrictions on the movement of swine.

ON high land breeding farms the stock at this time of year have seldom looked worse; the ewes are thin and half-starving their lambs, the young cattle being in hardly more forward condition than in May. As for the lowland farmer in North Yorkshire, he is, according to one of them, in a poor way. As oats and barley approach the earing stage they get thinner every day. Wheat—the little there is—does not appear as if it would come within a quarter per acre of the yield last year. Mangolds are in some instances grubbing; swedes are backward, and wool is lowering in price.

THE Government's Small Holdings Bill ha been subjected to much criticism in the North. While recognising the fact that the passing of the measure will not affect districts where small holdings are already numerous, it will affect the farming interest generally; and it is felt that other far more practicable schemes might be inaugurated for the relief of the unemployed. Agriculturists are objecting to the Bill because, while affording no permanent relief to those whom it proposes to benefit, it would unquestionably militate against the best interests of the farmers, while it would tend to increase the burden of the rates.

ONE does not care to see the Board of Agriculture "bested" on a point of law; but, of course, the Board must act strictly within the four corners of an Act of Parliament, even if it be in a trivial matter. Everybody recognises the good work the Department is doing with but limited resources. The point of law I refer to is the decision in the High Court *re* the prosecution of a West Yorkshire farmer for having used a dip that was not "approved." He was convicted. He appealed to quarter sessions, and the conviction was upheld. Then he went to the High Court, and the judges unanimously quashed the conviction, on the ground, as stated by the Lord Chief Justice, that it was not laid down in the Act under which the orders were made that not using a dip approved by the Board of Agriculture was an offence. The question is of some importance, and it is possible the Board will endeavour to have the Act amended to bring it into line with their ideas.

July 11, 1907.

Trade Notice.—At last week's Highland Show at Edinburgh we were shown all the ingredients used in the manufacture of Nutrimol. This article is being quietly and persistently pushed, and its merits would seem to warrant the claim that it has "come to stay"; whilst the frankness of the makers (Nutrimol Feed Co., Glasgow) ensures the full confidence of their customers. In all the classes at the meeting above referred to Nutrimol-fed stock more than held their own. The company has published an attractively produced illustrated booklet, which can be had by *bonâ fide* stock owners and feeders on application to Nutrimol *Mill*, Glasgow, Scotland.

Nottinghamshire Notes.

WE are still suffering from showery weather, and many of the meadows have now been cut ten days, very few of the fields having yet been cleared. One day the sun bursts forth for a few hours accompanied by nice drying winds, and the farmer hastens every man among the hay to get it turned and "cocked" ready for leading. Alas! during the night further heavy showers fall, and instead of wagons being required for leading purposes in the morning the hay has once again to be turned, only for more rain to come and wash away the nutriment. Truly, it is one of the most disastrous seasons yet known. Still there are many agriculturists who yet have hope, and place their trust in the Biblical statement that "seed time and harvest shall never fail." One thing is certain, even if the weather takes up before these lines appear in print, that is so far as Notts is concerned, the gathering of the hay and seed crops of 1907 will be one of the most expensive ever known.

WITHOUT doubt agricultural land in this county is meeting with a much better demand just now than has been known for the past twenty years. During the present month several farms have been sold by auction within a radius of ten or fifteen miles of Nottingham, and what is more, sales have been effected. Messrs. Edward Bailey and Son, of Newark, were particularly successful with three lots of land they offered, which is situate in the parishes of Hawksworth and Thoroton, some nine or ten miles to the south of Newark. Lot one comprised farmhouse and cottage, stackyard, orchard, and several fields of pasture and arable land, having a total area of 38a. 0r. 6p. This was sold to Mr. R J. Fox, of Sibthorpe, for £1,900, or about £50 an acre. Five fields of pasture and arable land made up lot two, there being an approximate area of 28a. 1r. 3p, which was also purchased by Mr. R. J. Fox for £1,270, or, roughly speaking, £45 an acre. Mr. G. Breedon, jun., of Orston, gave £290 for a close of grassland containing 5a. 2r. 1p. in the parish of Thoroton. There was a time—and not many years ago—when some of the above land would not have made more than £30 an acre, so that without doubt the farming industry is improving, if only slowly

DURING the past week some important additions have been made to the long list of pedigree Shorthorns which we possess in our country. Some of the very best animals sold at Lord Calthorpe's sale last week we now claim as our own, for Mr. R. Millington Knowles, of Colston Bassett Hall, was a large purchaser at Elvetham. A beautiful young red cow named Claribel, possessing some of the best Scotch blood known, was knocked down by Mr. Thornton at 150 guineas to Mr. Knowles, who also gave 100 guineas for her calf, which is a charming roan. At 180 guineas the same gentleman bought Scotch Clemency; for 36 guineas he obtained Elvetham Queen, and another 20 guineas secured her roan calf. But yet another fine animal in Fanny Broadhook's 4th was purchased by Mr. Knowles for 75 guineas, so that from present indications it is safe to presume that a bold bid is to be made for the Colston Bassett herd of Shorthorns to secure for them the same honours as the famous pigs that have done so well during the 1907 show season.

OTHER animals from the Elvetham sale which have taken up their abode in Notts include Regal Mary, for which Mr. A. W. Hickling, of Adbolton gave 200 guineas, and with the services of the 900 guineas bull from the Ruddington herd, which Mr. Hickling obtained last year, it is expected that several youngsters well able to hold their own in the show ring will be the result. Mr. Tom Potter, of Daybrook, two miles to the north of Nottingham, was at the same sale, and apparently does not mean to lag behind, for he gave 200 guineas for Broadwood's Chief, a very fine Shorthorn bull, which many judges declare is improving, and already possesses many of the chief characteristics of a true sire. He also bought Fanny Broadhooks 3rd for 65 guineas and her roan calf cost him 32 guineas. What is Hampshire's loss, however, is a gain to the lace county.

MESSRS. FORSHAW, of Carlton-on-Trent, have again been casting their eyes around for the purchase of animals likely to take their place among the front rank of Shires. This time they have succeeded in inducing Mr. R. Covill, of Westfield, Ely, to part with the fine Shire horse known by the name of Westfield Thumper. He has already won several prizes in Norfolk and Cambridgeshire, and I understand that the price paid for him is £200.

LOOKING back 100 years, it is interesting to note the price of corn at the leading markets as compared to the present time. Wheat is worth anything from 31s. to 34s. per qr. in this district, but in July, 1807, it realised 70s. to 78s. per qr. in Nottingham, 70s. to 80s. at Derby, 65s. to 75s. at Lincoln, 76s. to 80s. at Warwick, 70s. to 80s. at Leicester, and 52s. to 75s. at York. The average price of wheat throughout England 100 years ago as now was 74s. per qr., while the price of the quartern loaf stood at 11½d. The following figures, taken from the *Nottingham Journal* of July, 1807, tell their own story:—

	Wheat.	Rye.	Oats.	Barley.	Beans.
Nottingham	70s to 78s	45s	28s	40s	47s
Derby	70s to 80s	47s	27s	44s	47s
Lincoln	65s to 75s	43s	26s 6d	38s	45s
Warwick	76s to 80s	--	31s	42s	49s
Leicester	70s to 80s	43s	27s	40s	46s
York	52s to 75s	38s	24s 6d	34s	42s

IN the annual report of the Markets Committee of the Nottingham City Council there are some interesting figures published which show what an enormous amount of business is done there in the course of twelve months. In all no less than 113,753 head of live stock were brought to the market, and of these 89,277 were offered by public auction, those brought for private sale totalling 24,476. Naturally sheep were the more numerous, there having passed under the auctioneer's hammer 52,407, and 11,235 were offered for private sale, making a total of 63,642. Beasts came next with 22,340 in auction sales and 10,773 private sales. The total animals offered either by auction or privately were as follows:—Beasts, 33,113; bulls, 642; yearling cattle, 1,645; sheep, 63,642; calves, 4,553; pigs, 8,032; and horses, 2,126. During the same period there had been 1,181 loads of hay or seeds sold in the cattle market.

AMONG the judges at the Peterborough Show on Tuesday were Mr. Albert Armitage, of Nottingham, for pigs; and Mr. A. W. Hickling, of Adbolton, for Hackneys. Mr. Hickling sails for Buenos Ayres, South America, in a few weeks, to act as judge at the great show out there, as previously announced in the MARK LANE EXPRESS.

SWINE fever still continues to spread in North Notts, and a very large number of pigs have been slaughtered. The outbreak has been traced, and it appears that had one farmer informed the authorities at the proper time, the loss of animals would have been narrowed down to less than twelve, whereas through his silence over 100 have already been destroyed. The Mansfield Market still remains closed.

LORD BELPER, who resides at Kingston Hall, a fine mansion on the borders of Notts, Derbyshire, and Leicestershire, has always taken a keen interest in the Midland Agricultural College at Kingston, which is situate on a portion of his estate. Professor Blackshaw, the principal at the college, informs me that his lordship has defrayed the cost out of his own pocket for the erection of a cold storage room, which will be of great benefit in hot weather for the storage of butter and cream and other small cheeses. By the way, it may interest some of my readers to known that no less than twenty-eight varieties of cheeses are made at the college.

AS a guide to farmers in various parts of England I may say that the price of farm produce in Nottingham market on Wednesday was as follows:—Fresh butter, 1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d. per lb.; eggs, 10 and 11 for 1s.; new potatoes, 2 lb. for 1½d.; peas, 1s. per peck; gooseberries, 1½d. to 2d. per lb.; red currants, 3d. per lb.; black currants, 5d. and 6d. per lb.; and strawberries, 3d. to 6d. per lb.

July 11, 1907. R. K.

The Sussex Hay Harvest.

In a special article on the haymaking season in Sussex, based on reports from leading farmers in that county, the *Southern Weekly News* says:—

There are very few south country farmers who can remember such a trying haymaking season as the present one is proving. The rainfall has been exasperating rather by reason of its frequency than of the actual quantity, and there is scarcely a load that has been carried without having been wetted at some stage of the curing process.

Mowing, turning, and carting have all alike been subject to continued interruption, and the absence of sun and heat has helped to convert what would have been a splendid crop into one of quite mediocre quality.

On the score of quantity there is no room for complaint, for the average yield is well above 30cwt. per acre—in some instances two tons. The heaviness of the crop, however, is entirely discounted by its damaged condition, and by the expense which has had to be incurred in securing it even in that state. It has already cost almost as much as it will be worth in the winter months, and large quantities of it will have to be used as litter, so useless is it for feeding purposes

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

Spraying Potatoes.

We refer to this matter again because the cold, damp weather is causing a development of potato disease which it is important to check, and as prevention is better than cure, it is best to begin operations before symptoms of the disease have become apparent.

The best results are obtained by the application of *Bordeaux mixture*, but the preparation of the mixture must be carefully attended to.

It is found that three times spraying, at intervals, gives better results than either one or two applications.

In some successful trials the spraying mixtures were applied first on July 29, second on Aug. 11, and third on Sept. 7. The yield from the (Per acre.)

	£	s.	d.
Thrice-sprayed plot was valued at	19	9	3
Twice-sprayed plot was valued at	18	13	0
Once sprayed plot was valued at ..	18	9	8
Unsprayed plot was valued at	18	1	0

Calculated at 50s. per ton for large tubers, and 20s. per ton for small and diseased.

The first dressing had apparently little effect in preserving the haulms, but the plots that received the second and third dressings kept green fully eighteen days longer than the rest of the field; this was very marked and could be seen from a considerable distance. Stress is laid on the necessity of preparing the mixture with care as follows:—

Preparation of Mixture.

3 lbs. of copper sulphate (blue vitriol) were dissolved in 12½ gallons of water in a wooden vessel—iron will not do—and 2½ lbs. of freshly burnt lime were slaked in another 12½ gallons of water. The solutions were poured both at the same time (and this is very essential) into a third receptacle made of wood. The resulting solution, after well stirring, had a steel knife blade immersed in it for one minute; if no copper was deposited on the blade during immersion, the solution was considered fit for use; if copper happened to be deposited, more lime was added until no deposit of copper formed. After straining well, and repeated stirring, the solution was applied, by means of a Knapsack Sprayer, at the rate of 40 to 80 gallons per acre, according to the size of the haulms, on a calm day.

Cutting the Hay Crop.

Apart from the question of weather—which, it may be hoped, has now taken a turn for the better—the best time to cut the hay crop is when the greatest number of the dominant plants are just in flower. If cut too soon the crop contains much water, dries slowly, and during the drying process loses part of its nourishing quality as well as considerable loss of weight.

On the other hand, the operation should not be delayed until the plants have begun to form seed, as the crop is then hard, fibrous, less aromatic, and less rich in nourishing constituents.

Eradicate Thistles.

This wet summer seems to have stimulated the growth of these troublesome weeds, so it may be opportune to remind farmers that now is the time to attack them. In another month, should sunny weather intervene, as we hope, they will be seeding and the mischief will be spread. The important point in their treatment is to prevent them seeding, and this can be effectively done at the present time by cutting them down with a scythe.

Plant Roots.

Lucerne is one of the deepest-rooting plants. It sends its roots far down into the soil, and has been known to penetrate twelve feet down. It thus utilises plant food in the lower layers of the soil which would not be available for other plants. As a soil-maker and improver no other crop is equal to lucerne. It obtains its own requirements of nitrogen from the air, and will grow in most soils if provided with phosphate of lime and potash to give it a fair start.

Grass is also a soil-maker, improver, and protector. No other crop equals it in producing a thick fibrous growth of root material in the upper soil, while the roots of some grasses penetrate sap, rendering the soil porous and bringing to the surface mineral plant foods.

Duration of Effect of Fertilisers.

A plot of land, about a fifth of an acre, was cultivated with potatoes in 1905, and was liberally dressed with basic slag, kainit, and nitrate of soda. In the following season, 1906, the plot was sown with oats and received only a small dressing of nitrate of soda. A duplicate plot, which was unmanured in 1905, was also sown with oats and dressed with nitrate of soda. The plot which had the benefit of the phosphate of lime and potash in the preceding season yielded 35 per cent. more produce.

The Most Important Part of a Plant's Life.

During the formation of the seed—the most important part of a plant's life—the mineral constituents are gradually transferred from the leaves and stems to that portion of the plant devoted to the development of the seed, in order that it may contain a supply of these vital elements to support the seedling when germination begins.

In this concentration it generally happens that phosphoric acid and potash are stored in largest amount, while lime, magnesia, chlorine, and the other ash constituents, though always present, are there in very small proportion. As a rule, the leaves and stems of a plant contain a higher proportion of these latter elements than the seeds.

This may be noted from the following analysis of the ash of the grain and straw of wheat:—

	Grain per cent.	Straw per cent.
Per cent. of ash in dry substance	2·07	4·96
,, potash in ash	31·1	11·5
,, soda ,, ...	3·5	2·9
,, lime ,, ...	3·1	6·2
,, magnesia ,, ...	12·2	2·6
,, phosphoric acid in ash	46·2	5·4
,, sulphuric acid in ash	2·4	2·9
,, silica ,,	1·7	66·3
,, chlorine ,,	—	—

A consideration of this fact shows the necessity of supplying cereals with an ample supply of phosphate of lime and potash, in addition to the nitrogen necessary to stimulate the active growth of the plant.

Potatoes and Manure.

In discussing this subject, which is attracting a good deal of attention in America at the present time, an American journal points out that experiments show the importance of balancing the various plant foods for both haulm and tuber. Potatoes are one of the best of all crops, yielding largely, and also being among the standard articles of food. So familiar are farmers with the growing of potatoes that they have been content to put them into the ground with a single manuring and good cultivation, trusting to chance of a favourable season and proficiency of the manure for a bountiful harvest. But the potato, like everything else, has its choice of foods. There is a time in its cultivation when even manure will not make a good crop of potatoes, but that is owing to the quality and condition of the manure. An application of fresh manure may injure the tubers. It must be well and thoroughly rotted, in fine condition, and carefully applied.

Manure that has been well decomposed can be used in connection with guano, potash salts, finely-ground bone, or superphosphate at time of application on the soil. Potatoes are very different in their mode of growth from corn, and are expected to keep well during the winter. It is not necessary to mention how and when potatoes should be planted, in a detailed manner, for every farmer's experience has taught him how such work should be performed; but there are certainly methods of manuring that have been in custom for years which would be changed if the farmer would consider the needs and requirements of his crop while it is expected to do what he wishes. The surest plan, then, is to experiment on small plots in several ways, and each grower will then better understand the condition of his soil. Formerly it was supposed that an application of lime would benefit the potato crop, but in recent years it has been discovered that lime favours the condition for scab, and that to avoid disease great care should be taken in procuring seed from a locality free from disease affecting the potato crop, while it is also an advantage to plant on a new locality for potatoes every year.

Nitrate of Soda Position.

According to a cablegram received during the week from Chili by the Permanent Nitrate Committee, the Syndicate] have now finally confirmed the arrangement made provisionally last May to the effect that the maximum shipments for the year from April 1 last to March 31, 1908, shall not exceed 45,000,000 quintals, equal to say 2,000,000 tons. There is, however, little expectation that the full authorised quantity will be shipped, as labour and transit difficulties will continue to interfere more or less with the manufacture and shipment of the article.

During the year ended March 31, 1907, the authorised quantity to be shipped was about 70,000 tons less, but the actual shipments were considerably less.

We are willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

Feeding with Red Clover.

Red clover, when young and green, is an extremely nourishing food, very rich in protein substance.

Before the development of the flowering stage it contains in the dry substance up to 30 per cent. crude protein, of which, however, not more than two-thirds is in the more digestible albuminoid form. Of crude fibre it contains about 20 per cent.

Up to the period of flowering, it is best given green to animals, but afterwards it is not so suitable for this purpose and should preferably be converted into hay.

The second cut, under normal conditions, is somewhat richer than the first.

Clover is considered to have a heating effect on animals. For this reason it should not be supplied to horses and sheep in quantities, but it answers admirably for young cattle.

It is not suitable for cows in calf or for cattle under six months old. If supplied to them it should not form more than half of the ration.

To foals it should not be supplied at all.

When fed green to pigs it is said to impart to the flesh a yellow tint and an unpleasant flavour.

Fertiliser Material Market.

In his half-yearly report of the fertiliser market, Mr. Aikman remarks that indications of a slackening in the industrial activity throughout Europe and America have been apparent during the six months. A protracted winter and unusually cold spring, continued till the close, have rendered the crop outlook in both continents more uncertain, but should improved weather conditions prevail during summer and autumn, nearly average results might still be attained in most districts. The acreage devoted to sugar-beet on the Continent is understood to be about the same as last year, and the value of beet-sugar is about 1s. per cwt. higher than at date last year, at 9s. 8d. to 9s. 10d. for old, and 9s. 6d. to 9s. 9d. per cwt. for new crop. Cereal values are also at a higher level.

The fertiliser trade in Europe has been on a full scale as regards volume, but prices of raw phosphates are still proportionately higher than the manufactured products. Nitrate of soda, chiefly in French ports, has shown an increase of consumption, but for Europe this six months' increase aggregates under 4 per cent., while in the United States the consumption is the same as last year. The higher level of price, the character of the season and cheaper cost of nitrogen in other sources, have interfered with a more expansive increase. The difficulties checking a greater production are calculated to maintain the high values during another season. The increased production of sulphate of ammonia has been absorbed only by a maintenance of the lower comparative price ruling. Guano imports have been on a similar scale to those during the spring of last year, and raw phosphate imports have been on a full scale at their higher range of value. The recovery of nitrogen from the atmosphere on a sufficiently important commercial scale to influence seriously other sources of supply is so far not evident in the near future.

Prices of Fertilisers.

The demand for fertilisers is now practically over, but prices remain firm all round. The demand has been bigger than usual, and the stocks of most manufacturers have been cleared.

	£	s.	d.
Nitrate of soda	11	5	0
Sulphate of ammonia	11	17	6
Peruvian guano	without change		
Superphosphate, 26 per cent.....	2	10	0
,, 35 ,, ...	3	6	3
Pure dissolved bones	5	7	6
Bone compound, ordinary	3	8	9
Bone Meal	5	10	0
Ground hoofs, 15 per cent.....	9	10	0
Fish guano, first quality, scarce & dear	6	12	6
Ditto, second quality	5	7	6
Kainit	2	7	6
Sulphate of potash	10	0	0
Muriate of potash	9	0	0
Basic slag, 30 per cent. (ex works, Midlands)	1	13	0
Ditto, 38 per cent.	2	3	0

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a nom de plume, *in the paper.*

Varieties of Oats.

There is a larger surface of the land under oat cultivation than under any other crop, excepting grass lands, in Great Britain, and it is important that farmers should select the most profitable varieties.

To obtain information on this point the West of Scotland Agricultural College have been conducting for five years a series of experiments, and Professor Wright has recently issued an interesting report of the results obtained.

The experiments were carried out on farms scattered widely over the eleven counties of the centre and south-west of Scotland and comprised soils of various geological origin and of very variable agricultural value, so that although the report may apply especially to Scotland it affords useful guidance to farmers in other parts of the kingdom.

The report is a lengthy one, giving full details of the results obtained. The most valuable crops, on the average, were obtained from the grain-producing variety, the Banner, for while the Potato oat gave 4 cwts more straw per acre, the Banner gave 9 bushels per acre more dressed grain, which would have a considerably higher value. The superiority of the Potato to the Sandy was, however, by no means so well marked, for, while it gave, on the average, 4 bushels more dressed grain, the Sandy had the advantage of 4 cwt. more straw and over 1 bushel more light grain. The Potato oat, on the average, suffered from the disadvantage of having been reduced in yield in unfavourable seasons relatively almost as much as the Banner, while in seasons favourable to abundant grain yield it was unable to reach the same high level of productiveness.

The conclusions which may be drawn from a consideration of the influence of seasons and soils on the varieties of the oat crop during the five years 1902-1906 are as follows:—

1. That the yield of all varieties of oats varies greatly according to the character of the season.

2. That the variation in the West of Scotland is less in the case of the acclimatised straw-producing varieties like the Sandy than in the case of new and imported grain-producing varieties like the Banner.

3. That seasons of low temperature, and especially late, cold, and wet spring and early summer weather, are very prejudicial to the yield of the oat crop, and that in such seasons the grain-producing varieties are liable to suffer special damage when grown on cold and unsuitable soils.

4. That, on suitable soils and in suitable districts, the grain-producing varieties of oats like the Banner, on the average of years, give larger and more profitable crops than the older Scotch varieties either of the Potato or of the Sandy type.

5 That, in favourable seasons and on suitable soils, the grain-producing varieties like the Banner will give much larger and more profitable crops than the Scotch varieties.

6. That the grain-producing varieties like the Banner are more liable to be seriously damaged or destroyed by grub than the common Scotch varieties, and that, if grown on land ploughed out of lea, special precautions should be taken to prevent a grub attack, or to assist the oat to resist it.

7. That the grain-producing varieties of oats are best adapted for cultivation either as a second corn crop or after a root crop, and that they should only be grown after lea on friable and open soils, or on land in high condition or liberally manured.

8. That the grain-producing varieties are not adapted for growth on cold or wet clays or mosses, or on poor, exposed, unproductive land, or on tough old lea land, and that on such soils, on the average of years, better crops will be got from the Sandy and similar varieties of the straw-producing type.

9. That the grain-producing varieties are best adapted for growth on good soils or on soils well drained and in high condition, and in situations not too much exposed to cold north and east winds.

Treatment of Aftermath.

After the first cutting of the hay crop, if cattle are not put on the land to utilise the new growth, it is good policy to apply a small dressing of superphosphate and potash, say 2 cwt. superphosphate and 2 cwt. kainit per acre. It gives the new growth a stimulus, and encourages the development of the finer herbage.

Loss of Weight in Hay.

It may be assumed that good hay loses from the time it is harvested to the following spring between 7 and 12 per cent. of its weight. The greater part of the loss occurs in the first weeks of storage, but naturally the drier the hay when carted the smaller will be the loss. In the first four weeks of storage good meadow hay harvested in favourable weather may be estimated to lose 10 per cent.; hay containing a large proportion of clover and clover hay will lose more, probably 12 to 15 per cent.

Other fodder plants, such as lucerne, lose considerably more, and, if stored up to spring, may be diminished in weight by more than 20 per cent.

It has, however, been observed that good grass hay, harvested and stacked in bright, sunny weather, after the first sweating has actually gained weight and maintained the increase over the winter. Hay which, through long storage, has become very dry and dusty, should be fed carefully, as the dust arising from it is apt to cause breathing difficulty in the animals. It should be moistened or mixed with fresher fodder to absorb the dust.

Correspondence dealing with Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs appears in the regular correspondence columns of the paper. We think it unnecessary to publish the table of unit values in each issue. It will be published in the first issue of each month.

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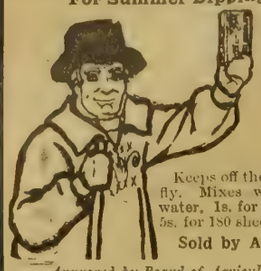
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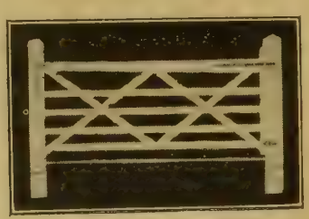
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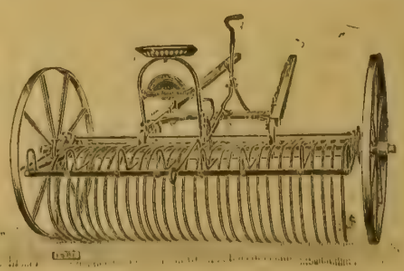
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THOUGHTS ON SHEEP SALES.

The current week will witness the commencement of a very important series of sheep sales, and in fact, except in the case of the earlier breeds such as the Dorset Horn, it may be said to be the commencement of the ram sale season.

It is not within our province here to refer in detail to the many notable sales that are to take place during the next three weeks, but full information in respect to these will be found in other parts of the paper and in our widely used advertisement columns.

One object in referring to this question is to impress upon flockmasters the importance of due care being exercised in the selection of the sire. So much depends upon this that it is impossible for any breeder to take too great care in selecting. It matters not whether the sire is to be used for the production of pure-bred animals or for those intended for ordinary commercial purposes; it is equally essential that all breeders should breed a level, uniform, and even lot of lambs.

The lamb sales, many of which have taken place recently, and those that will follow, all emphasise how necessary it is to secure uniformity in every respect. Much of this depends upon the sire, though, of course, the dam has a great deal to do with it also. The man who owns a flock will find it much to his advantage if, instead of treating that flock *en bloc*, he would individualise it, and instead of leaving so much to chance, draw the flock into convenient lots for mating, and then select the most suitable sire he can secure for those particular ewes.

This will doubtless entail somewhat more labour than the general practice of too large a proportion of our flockmasters, but it is quite certain that the extra labour involved will be more than recompensed by the greater uniformity of the lamb crop.

All who attend markets or fairs well know that no consignment or pen sells so easily or so readily as an even and uniform lot of cattle or sheep or pigs. The uniformity of them attracts attention, and although they may not be of the same average of merit as some uneven lots, yet the uniform lot in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred finds more bidders, and, generally speaking, makes a better price.

A fallacy held by many flockmasters is that this selection of sire and dam is only a matter for the ram breeder to consider, but the experience of years proves that it is equally important for every flockmaster.

POULTRY FOR THE FARMER.

The National Poultry Conference at Reading represents the first serious attempt in this country to treat poultry rearing and the egg supply as integral and veritable portions of our agricultural industry. The poultry interest for the whole Victorian period was given over to the

fancy, of which all we need say is that such monstrosities of shape and feather has it given birth to that we can only feel thankful that it has left us a domestic fowl with the ordinary allowance, neither more nor less, of wings and legs. The dawning of the Edwardian period, coincident with a new century, witnessed a general and remarkable assertion of the importance to agriculture of all the minor industries, poultry keeping being prominent among them. The idea of utility poultry gained ground with some rapidity, and the laws of breeding were increasingly studied, the very remarkable investigations of the Abbé Mendel with respect to plants proving to have a most vital bearing on the breeding of poultry and other birds. Mr. Hurst, of Leicester, brought these out very prominently on Tuesday last at Reading, and his views were endorsed by the Cambridge experts, Professor Bateson and Mr. F. Bateman. The gathering at Reading was extremely representative, and if the Minister of Agriculture failed at the last moment to keep his appointment, Sir Thomas Elliot, who spoke in his place, not improbably knew at least as much about the matter as the distinguished absentee.

Farmers are often spoken of as neglecting their poultry, and this reproach is not altogether unmerited. The unhappy agriculturist has, however, very little choice. The man sent to shepherd and retrieve a straying hen will require exactly the same daily wage as though he had been ploughing or reaping, and, speaking roughly, adult wages will be found to knock the bottom out of profitable fowl rearing.

With the question of State aid to poultry keeping we prefer not to deal. A specious case can usually be made out for the intervention of Hercules, but we do not yet admit that the cart wheel is in a hopeless rut. Far from it. The State ought to see that foreign produce is not foisted on our markets as English, but this duty applies to every sort of produce, and is in no way a specially poultry question.

The storage and saving both of eggs and of poultry occupied considerable attention at the Conference, but the organisers would do well to bear in mind that the key to success in the poultry industry is in the early maturing and quick delivery of birds. The egg is not so profitable as the chick, and the point at which the maximum of profit is obtainable is that where the bird is raised to reasonable table size in the shortest time. This early maturing question is as important in the poultry yard as it is at Smithfield. The quick delivery of the finished article at the place where buyers are to be found is the other great desideratum. It includes the whole question of distribution, and should be the subject on which the best efforts of the best organisers should be concentrated. We should not aim at storing birds, but at putting them promptly on the consumers' tables. England is, after all, a little country. A special train can take its charterer from any given spot to another within seven hours. Mr. Edge, doubtless, would undertake to do it in less. But this is the line upon which the poultry breeder should look for most improvement: on the quick and cheap distribution of "produce" from the farm of its rearing to the retail purchaser's larder.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, JULY 16.—Shire Horse Show March, Cambridgeshire—Live Stock Sale Lynn—Sale of Agricultural Properties at Ashford, Kent—Sending-in Day for Perry Bar, Border Union, and Chepstow Shows.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 17.—Oxted and Godstone (S.E. Surrey) Show at Oxted—Isle of Thanet Horse Show, first day—Staffordshire Show at Burton-on-Trent, first day—Oundle Show—Darlington Horse Show—Agricultural Show at Waterford—Haxby Show—Sending-in Day for Terrington, Cumberland, and Morayshire Agricultural Shows.

THURSDAY, JULY 18.—Isle of Thanet Horse Show, second day—Burton-on-Trent Show, second day—Bedfordshire Show at Bedford—Cambridge and Ely Show at Cambridge—Agricultural Show at Goole—Agricultural Show at Launceston—North Thoresby Show—Northumberland Show at Tynemouth, first day—West of England Horse Show at Taunton, first day—Isle of Wight Agricultural Show at Newport.

FRIDAY, JULY 19.—Northumberland Show at Tynemouth, second day—West of England Horse Show at Taunton, second day—Agricultural Show at Wem, Shropshire—Deane Agricultural Show—Sale of Hampshire Down Sheep at Watersplace Farm, near Ware—Live Stock Sale, East Dereham, Norfolk—Sending-in Day for Upholland Show.

SATURDAY, JULY 20.—Kirriemuir Agricultural Show—Maidstone Horse and Cattle Fair—Cattle and Sheep Sale, Norwich—Horse Sale, Canterbury—Lecture on Old English Rural Folk Lore by Mr. Cecil Shalp at Chichester.

MONDAY, JULY 22.—Spilsby Foal Show—Agricultural Fairs at Helston, Stamford, Ware, and St. Ives—Lord Rothschild's Hampshire Down Sheep at Tring—Fareham Fortnightly Market—Sending-in Day for Thirsk and Whalley Shows

TUESDAY, JULY 23.—Welsh National Show at Aberystwith, first day—Horse Sale at Maidstone—Sending-in Day for Castleford, Dumfries, Worthing, and Keele Shows.

Notes of the Week.

The unseasonable weather and the Small Holdings Bill have formed the chief topics of interest during the past week.

After a long absence the sun has returned. All hail to his majesty!

"Now is the winter of our discontent made glorious summer by the sun of Heaven."

The whirr of the mowing machine is heard throughout the land, and in many districts the hay harvest will still be satisfactory in quantity and quality.

The passage of the Small Holdings Bill through committee is straining the capacity of the Government.

The Government must be conciliatory, otherwise the Bill may come to grief.

The clergy seem concerned with some aspects of the measure, fearing that it will prejudice the value of glebe lands.

In Convocation the other day it gave rise to a long discussion.

The Archdeacon of Sarum gave an instance of a well-meaning person, who bought a farm of glebe land and let it out in small holdings.

The excellent people who took the holdings were not able to pay the rent, and as he was unwilling to take legal proceedings, he hardly ever got tythe from the farm.

The Archdeacon of Cirencester advocated the necessity of small holders keeping a pig; he spoke also of the greater value of farmyard manure than artificials "good enough in their way."

Where are small holders to get their farmyard manure from?

New use for potatoes! In Germany a composition made largely of compressed potatoes, is being substituted for cedar wood in the manufacture of pencils.

Billiard balls are being made from a similar preparation.

The Socialists in Italy induced the farm hands in a big agricultural district to strike for highe wages.

The labourers have now returned to their work, sadder and wiser men, but the loss caused by the strike at a critical harvest time is es imated to be about £80,000.

The housing question in villages is always with us, but it is being rendered more acute in villages round London, in consequence of many cottages being bought by Londoners for summer residence.

The number of sheep in New Z aland has increased and multiplied during the last four years by over 100 per cent.

They number now about 20,000,000. In the United Kingdom there are about 30,000,000.

Real progress in the discovery of a stronger type of wheat seems to have been made by the experts of the Cambridge University Department of Agricultural Science.

An additional variety of wheat, worth 2s. to 3s. per sack more for the flour, would be most welcome to English farmers.

The Board of Agriculture have now got power to deal promptly in cases of insect pests. What will they do with it?

The King takes such a practical interest in agriculture, that everyone is glad to hear of his successes at recent agricultural shows.

An Irishman, wishing to take a "homestead" in the Colonies, and not knowing just how to go about it, sought information from a friend.

"Mike," he said, "you've taken a homestead, an' I thought maybe ye could tell me th' law concernin' how to go about it."

"Well, Dennis, I don't remimber th' exact wordin' uv th' law, but I can give ye th' manin' uv it. Th' manin' uv it is this: Th' Governmint is willin' t' bet ye 160 acres uv land agin fourteen dollars thot ye can't live on it five years widout starvin' t' death."

It was reported at the half-yearly meeting of the Consett Co-operative Society that a profit of £55 had been made on the Bunker Hill Farm, of 200 acres, owned by the society during the year ending May 28 last. The average number of cows milked was twenty-seven, and they yielded 22,250 gallons of milk, of the total value of £1,114.

Royal Veterinary College.

The annual meeting of the governors of the Royal Veterinary College was held on Tuesday, the Duke of Connaught presiding.

The report presented stated that thirty-six students entered the college during the year, making the number at the beginning of the winter session 200, compared with 220 in the previous year. Many successes were obtained at all the examinations, and at the July examination of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons 68 per cent. of the candidates from the Royal Veterinary College proved successful, while in December 61 per cent. passed. The daily average of horses in the infirmary was thirty-seven, and of dogs fourteen, and 1,024 animals were brought to the college for advice and treatment in the course of the year. Thanks to a Government grant of £800 and donations of £927, there was a balance of £256 in hand.

Sir Nigel Kingscote said that the training afforded by the college was of great importance from a public point of view, men being especially instructed for the inspection of meat under the Contagious Diseases of Animals Act. Further developments were, however, impossible owing to lack of funds. Over 20,000 appeals had been sent to members of the Jockey Club, trainers, and, in fact, everyone who should be interested, but even the expenses had not been paid. All economy had been exercised, even to cutting down the salaries of the professors. The number of students had fallen off, but this was not surprising, new colleges having been founded in Ireland, Scotland, and Liverpool.

Mr. Brassey was elected vice-president, and four new governors were chosen—namely, the Duke of Richmond, Earl Bathurst, Colonel F. Smith, and Colonel Queripel.

The Duke of Connaught, responding to a vote of thanks, said he hoped that next year a more satisfactory result would be heard of. It was very unfortunate that Sir Nigel Kingscote had to continually harp on the lack of money, but it was an important subject. If they could get a larger number of subscribers they would be able to do more and follow on the lines they all desired.

For the annual show of the Staffordshire Agricultural Society, which takes place at Burton-on-Trent on Wednesday and Thursday next, the entries are as follow:—Horses, 288; cattle, 221; sheep, 121; pigs, 44; extra stock of dairy produce, 102; honey, 141; shoeing smiths, 52; poultry and pigeons, 520; and implement stands, 86; while 123 competitors have entered for the butter-making competitions. The dog show, which has been reinstated this year, will be opened on Wednesday only. The society's annual luncheon will take place on Wednesday, and will be presided over by the president (Lord Burton).

Two Important Lincolnshire Sales.

THE RIBY SALE.

On Thursday last, for the ninth time, Mr. Henry Dudding, in his princely manner, entertained somewhere about 600 of his fellow breeders of Shorthorn cattle and Lincoln sheep at his noted homestead, Riby Grove, Great Grimsby, to witness the annual dispersion of the surplus Shorthorn cattle and Lincoln sheep from that herd and flock, the reputation of which is known all over the world. The attendance was a general one, and included all the leading Argentine buyers or their representatives now in England, and most of the principal home breeders.

This year's sale was one of the best held at Riby, being the ninth of these notable gatherings, at which the prices realised have been remarkable for the general high average at which year after year they have been maintained. It seems but yesterday since we were present at the first of these notable sales, and few then ever anticipated that the successful sale which inaugurated these sales would in so short a space of time come to be looked upon as quite an ordinary one, for the averages then realised £30 3s. for seventy-six head of cattle, and £52 2s. 5d for thirty-one rams were considered exceptional, particularly the latter; but when compared with those realised last week can only be counted as moderate.

Messrs. Thornton and Co. sold the cattle, as they have done each year since these sales were started, and in commencing, Mr. Thornton mentioned that the merit of the stock to be offered needed no greater recommendation than the fact he found year after year the same excellent demand, and, as a rule, many of the same buyers, this showing the stock purchased gave satisfaction, and its merits were good enough to stand the test of actual use and service.

The cows and calves numbered eleven, and these, calculating in the usual manner, *i.e.*, cow and calf as one lot, gave the fine average of £71 19s. 5d. for that number. The sale opened with a slow demand, buyers appearing to be doubtful as to how the demand was, but after the sale got once in full swing all the best lots sold readily and well. Mr. Holford, one of the oldest Shorthorn breeders, gave top price, 165 guineas, for Melton Vittoria Belle, 125 guineas for the cow, and 40 guineas for the calf. Mr. Bell took Lot 3 at 50 guineas, her c c going to Mr. Candy at 30 guineas. Bright Morn went to Lord Ridley at 73 guineas, Royal Lily and her c c went to Lord Calthorpe at 79 guineas.

The two-year-old heifers were one of the best lots ever offered at Riby, and the demand for them was a very notable one indeed. The export buyer was all too successful, for quite a number of the best were taken to strengthen and increase in value those grand herds of Shorthorns that have in recent years been founded with the choicest of English strains of blood. Lot 20, Joyce, made the top price of this age, and also of the sale, 370 guineas, to Mr. O. Campo for the Argentine; his principal competitors were his fellow countrymen. Mr. C. Villatte gave 290 guineas for Jessica, the youngest one of the age, a fine specimen of her breed. Mr. Holford gave 200 guineas for Melton Duchess 9th, a very choice one; another realised this price to Lord Ridley, Beach Blossom. Mr. Candy, for the Argentine, gave 250 guineas for Waterloo Winnow, and 105 for Riby Kirklevington 3rd; a like price was paid by Mr. Sidey for Queen Esther 34th, and Mr. Candy was fortunate enough to secure that grand Heifer Crystal Empress, probably one of the best specimens of her breed seen for some long time at 290 guineas. The average for this age was £155 14s. for fourteen head.

The yearling heifers also numbered fourteen head, and here again the demand was a very keen one indeed, Mr. Villatte paying the top price for that grand Maid Nella, lot 33, namely, 155 guineas. Several wanted her, but the purchaser would not be beaten. 125 guineas for Newton Jealously 3rd to Mr. Burnyeat was next best price, a Waterloo going to Mr. Candy at 100 guineas, and Damory Lady went to Mr. Sidey at 90 guineas, the average for this age working out at £61 14s. 6d., making the general average for the 39 females, including calves, to be £98 7s.

The bulls were not in so keen request, it being very noticeable how much greater was the demand for females. Aberdeen, a stock bull, went to Mr. Sidey at 70 guineas, whilst Morning Light, that went to Dr. Anchorena, made the top price for two-year-olds, 290 guineas. Another of this age went to Mr. Sidey at 85 guineas, and the eight head sold averaged £101 11s. 9d. There were five yearling bulls sold, Mr. Brownley taking Stroan Kaiser at 50 guineas, the top price, the other four realised lower prices; average was £24 21s. 6d.

These figures give a general average for the bulls, fourteen in number, of £72 1s. 6d. and make the general average for the whole sale of cattle, fifty-three head, to work out at £91 8s. 2d., which, owing to the fact that there was no 1,000-guinea bull this year, compares most favourably with the average for 1906 - ., £99 4s. 8d. for fifty-one.

Details of the principal sales are given in the following list:—

Cows and Heifers.		Gns.
Catthorpe Sweetheart, c July, 1900	Mr W Bell	70
Her c c, c Sept. 8, 1905	Mr Candy	30
Melton Vittoria Belle, c May, 1902	Mr Holford	125
Her c c, c May 6, 1907	Mr Holford	40
Duchess of Barrington 92nd, c Sept., 1903	Mr A C Hall	60
Bright Morn 2nd, c Jan., 1901	Lord Ridley	73
Royal Lily, c Jan., 1904	Lord Calthorpe	72
Her c c, c Jan. 3, 1907	Lord Calthorpe	27
Lady Amazing, c Feb., 1901	Mr J E Casswell	58
Crystal Empress, c Jan., 1905	Mr Candy	270
Her b c, c Jan. 21, 1907	Mr Poole	24
Queen Esther 34th, c Mar., 1905	Mr Sidey	105
Peach Blossom 7th, c Apr., 1905	Lord Ridley	200
Waterloo Winnow, c April, 1905	Mr Candy	250
Joyce, c Oct., 1905	Mr O Campo	370
Riby Kirklevington 3rd, c Nov., 1905	Mr Candy	105
Melton Duchess 9th, c Nov., 1905	Mr Holford	200
Byrkley Joy 2nd, c Nov., 1905	Mr Sidey	95
Riby Jennie 8th, c Dec., 1905	Mr Sidey	40
Jessica 4th, c Dec., 1905	Mr C Villatte	290
Natl nl Gem, c Jan., 1904	Mr Williams	35



Photo by [*W. H. Parsons.*

Our illustration above is of the Shorthorn bull Lord Brilliant, sold at the Royal Show at Lincoln for 1,000 guineas to Mr. Rogers. It was exhibited by its breeder, Mr. R. R. Rothwell, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston and won the Second Prize for Bulls calved on or between January 1 and June 30, 1906. Lord Brilliant is by Lord Blanche 13th out of Wallflower's Brilliant 16th.

Damory Lady, c Jan., 1905	Mr Sidey	90
Newton Jealousy 3rd, c Feb., 1905	Mr Burnyeat	125
Empress of Waterloo 28th, c Mar., 1905	Mr Candy	100
Maid Nella, c May, 1906	Mr Villatte	155
Marksman Maggie, c May, 1906	Mr C E Gunther	45
Princess Favourite, c July, 1906	Mr C E Gunther	46
Riby Ruth, c Mar, 1906	Mr J H J Webb	42
May Mildred 6th, c Nov. 1906	Lord Ridley	43
Bulls.		
Aberdeen 87764, c Sept, 1904	Mr Sidey	70
Music Leader 92634, c Jan, 1905	Mr Candy	60
Moonking 2nd 92561, c Jan, 1905	Dr Anchorena	290
Gunsley Planet, c June, 1904	Mr F Miller	53
Royalist, c Aug, 1905	Mr Sidey	85
Severn Rover, c Dec, 1905	Mr Fraser	45
Alston Prince 90650, c Dec, 1905	Mr J L Stockburn	50
Scottish Standard, c Dec, 1905	Mr P F G Hughes	200
Strowan Kaiser, c Jan, 1906	Mr Brownley	50

The Lincoln Sheep.

Messrs. Dickinson, Riggall, and Davy, had an easy task to dispose of the yearling rams and ewes, for although there have been many notable averages and prices realised at these sales 1,450 guineas, and a 1,000 guineas twice, we do not remember any previous sale, save perhaps that of 1906, when the biddings came more freely, nor have any of the previous sales given more general satisfaction, because there is no question but

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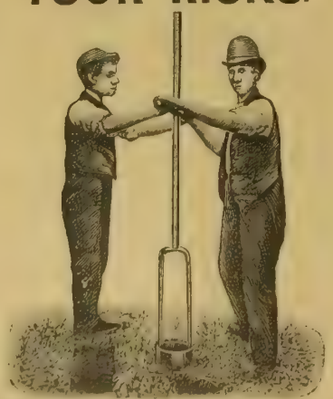


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that everyone came with the fixed idea there would be a dull trade and a much larger fall from the phenomenal average of 1906, few were disposed to put the average at any more than one-half of last year's, and yet so good and keen was the demand that it reached practically two-thirds.

The first ram was the unbeaten yearling ram first at the Royal Show, and put in at 100 guineas. By fifties and hundreds it was up to 700 guineas in a few moments; then fifty came from Mr. F. Miller, who has for years past always taken the first prize ram, but his opponents, Messrs. Dean, who it will be remembered were runners up for the first 1000 guineas ram, were not to be denied, and replied by another fifty, and so it ran until, at 900 guineas, Mr. F. Miller gave up the contest, and for the first time for many years the first prize Royal yearling Lincoln ram remains for service in a home flock, owned, it may be said, by two brothers who have the pluck to support their oft-expressed opinion—namely, that it is the breeder's duty, no matter the cost, to retain for service at home the pick of the sires of the year. Mr. R. Fisher secured the next Riby Leconfield at 200 guineas, probably one of the cheapest rams in the sale; for the next Mr. Duffleby gave 130 guineas, followed by 90 guineas by Mr. Fraser, 32 guineas by Dr. Anchorina, and then Mr. F. Miller got the fifth-prize yearling at the Royal at 110 guineas, this buyer taking no less than fifteen others mostly over the century, one at 200 guineas; the principal competitor here was Mr. R. Dixon.

Further details, however, are not necessary, for the full price list will show who the purchasers were. It is, however, of interest to note that out of the forty-eight rams sold only six remain at home—namely, the two first mentioned above, and one each to Messrs. C. E. Howard at 74 guineas, R. Dixon at 50 guineas, W. Bayles at 32 guineas, and Brown at 30 guineas.

The average of these forty-eight rams was £94 12s. 2d., and the amount realised £4,541 5s.

The ewes, twenty-one in number, sold well, £11 16s. 5d. being the average; 20 guineas per head was top price for the three third in the class at the Royal for ewe tegs in full fleece.

The grand total of the sale was £4,789 11s. 6d. for forty-eight rams and twenty-one ewes, and £4,844 14s. for fifty-three head of cattle, making an aggregate of £9,634 5s.

		Gs
Riby Royal Lincoln, 1st and r, Champion Royal Show, 1907	Messrs S E Dean and Sons	900
Riby Leconfield, 1st in pen of five, Royal Show, 1907	Mr R Fisher	125
Riby Premier, 1st in pen of five, Royal Show, 1907	Mr Duffleby	130
Riby Pirate, 1st in pen of five, Royal Show, 1907	Mr Fraser	90
Riby Barff	Dr Anchorina	32
Riby Knight 5th, single ram, Royal Show, 1907	Mr F Miller	110
Riby Leader 2nd	Dr Anchorina	52
Riby General Gordon	Mr F Miller	130
Riby Chief 2nd, 1st in pen of three, Royal Show, 1907	Mr F Miller	110
Riby Goldmine, 1st in pen of five, Royal Show, 1907	Mr F Miller	150
Riby Past Master	Dr Anchorina	46
Riby Postman	Mr C E Howard	74
Riby Newport Gordon, 1st in pen of five, Royal Show, 1907	Mr F Miller	200
Riby Chieftain 3rd, single ram, Royal Show, 1907	Mr F Miller	130
Riby Quarrington 2nd	Mr F Miller	80
Riby Gambler, 1st in pen of three, Royal Show, 1907	Mr F Miller	200
Riby Protection, 1st in pen of three, Royal Show, 1907	Mr F Miller	110
Riby Liberal	Mr F Miller	120
Riby Lad	Mr F Miller	30
Riby Professor	Dr Anchorina	56
Riby Lifeguard	Mr Sithy	50
Riby Jubilation 3rd	Mr Sidey	20
Riby Pretender	Mr England	50
Riby Pilate B	Dr Anchorina	38
Riby Quicksilver	Mr Sidey	22
Riby Marris	Mr F Miller	75
Riby Barff 2nd	Mr F Miller	80
Riby Royal Kirmington	Mr Duffleby	84
Riby Qualifier	Mr Sidey	28
Riby Balfour	Mr F Miller	100
Riby Laughton 3rd	Mr F Miller	110
Riby Priest	Dr Anchorina	60
Riby Pope	Mr F Miller	100
Riby Landmark	Mr Sidey	30
Riby Justice	Mr Fraser	70
Riby Quakor	Mr Sidey	22
Riby Lucifer	Mr Fraser	32
Riby Luck	Mr W Bayles	38
Riby Lawyer	Mr Sidey	60
Riby Napoleon, half brother to Riby Derby Champion	Mr F Miller	60
Riby Banker	Dr Anchorina	42
Riby Loiterer	Mr Sidey	22
Riby Langham	Mr Fraser	44
Riby Pink 'Un	Mr Brown	30
Riby Lansdowne	Dr Anchorina	40
Riby Quick Shot	Mr Sidey	26
Riby Kathr	Dr Anchorina	30
Riby Longfellow	Mr Fraser	15
Three Shearling Ewes, second at Royal Show, 1907, and first Nottingham Show, 1907, and first Bath and West Show	Mr F Miller	57
Three Shearling Ewes	Mr Sidey	25½
Three Ewes, third Royal Show, 1907, in full fleece	Mr Sidey	60
Two Ewes, third Royal Show, 1907, in full fleece	Mr Sidey	22
Three Ewes, third Royal Show, 1907, in full fleece	Mr Sidey	24
Three Ewes, third Royal Show, 1907, in full fleece	Mr Sidey	240
Four Ewes, third Royal Show, 1907, in full fleece	Mr Sidey	30

To H.M. The King.

Jeyes' Fluid

As used in the Royal Household, Stables and Kennels.

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That considerable damage has been done in many districts is already known by the orders which for several days past have been reaching the makers of "PHŒNIX" HAY SPICE, these being accompanied in most instances by an urgent appeal for quick despatch.

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MESSRS. DEAN'S SALE.

These well known live stock breeders held on Friday last at the Heath House Farm, near Nocton, Lincoln, the first of what one hopes may be draft sales from their grandly bred Shorthorn herd and equally good Lincoln Long Wool sheep. The day was all that could be desired, and the attendance was a large and representative one, both in respect to the home and export buyer. Amongst the attendance there were very many of the principal breeders both of Shorthorns and Lincolns. The result of the sale as given below must have been satisfactory to the vendors, who have been known for a long time as buyers of stud stock of the finest quality, and who have, no matter the price, always taken the particular sire most desirable to mate with the grandly bred females, of which some of the very choicest in the country were at Dowsby. The appreciation expressed as well as that shown by the prices paid, must have been most gratifying, for it shows that efforts like those Messrs. Dean have made, are well thought of by their fellow breeders whose attendance at this (the first of many similar sales we trust), was in so large numbers.

Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. sold the Shorthorns, and right through there could be no question but that the grand strains of blood in which this herd is so rich were wanted by both the home and the export buyer, for, as will be seen from the full price list which follows, notably high prices were readily paid for them. Right from start to finish the demand for these was of the keenest description. The leading prices for the cows and calves were 30 and 51 guineas to Mr. G. Harrison for lot 2. In lot 3 Mr. H. Webb took back to Melton Ross one of his late father's grand cows at 75 guineas, but its calf crosses the water to Mr. Eycurra at 105 guineas. Lot 9 went to the Earl of Northbrook at 81 guineas. At 10 guineas less Mr. J. E. Casswell got Red Rose 20th, a grand cow; and other equally good prices followed, so that the whole of this age — seventeen in number — their with calves realised £1,180 4s., and averaged £69 8s. 5d.

The two-year-olds were a choicely-bred lot. These numbered nine; thrice the century was exceeded for lot 18 to Mr. F. Webb, a beautiful heifer at 120 guineas; for Ladybird 17th to Mr. Sidey at 150 guineas, the top price of the age, and 120 to the same buyer for Dowsby Vittoria Queen. These were the best prices, but reference to the sale list below will disclose several others much above the general average for this age, the nine of this age making £79 4s. 4d. per head. For the yearling heifers, a notably fine lot combining merit and quality, as well as the choicest strains of blood, a great demand was experienced, and several prices much above the average for this age were realised. A July calf, Duchess, £150, went to Senor Eycurra for the Argentine, both Mr. Sidey and Senor Villatte were wanting her; this was the top price both for the age and sale. Mr. Villatte gave 300 guineas for Dowsby Waterloo and 100 guineas for the next lot, another of the same line of bood. Mr. Eycurra was in close competition for the one that made 300 guineas; another of the Waterloo strain went to Mr. Holford at 100 guineas, and this old breeder took that grand yearling Duchess 149th at 165 guineas, Mr. Villatte giving 150 guineas for Dowsby Sea Lady; here Mr. Sidey was a close competitor, the twenty-two of this age making the grand average of £84 5s. 10d., which, together with those given above, makes an average for forty-eight females, including calves, of £78 1s. 5d.

The bulls were not in so good request. The best prices for two-year-olds were 88 guineas for Dowsby Imperial Oxford to Mr. Sidey, and 70 guineas to Mr. Norris, Dowsby Imperator, the seven of this age averaging £52 7s., whilst the four yearlings made one of £34 2s. 6d., giving a general average for the bulls of £45 14s. 5d. The fifty-eight cattle sold realised £4,250 8s., or £72 0s. 9d. per head.

A list of the chief prices realised, purchasers, &c., is appended :—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

Dowsby Princess Cambridge, c Dec, 1898	Mr G Harrison	30
Her b c, Feb 28, 1907	Mr G Harrison	51
Melton Duchess Vittoria 2nd, c Oct, 1899	Mr H Webb	75
Her c c Mar, 23, 1907	Sr Eycurra	105
Oxford of Dowsby 2nd, c Apr, 1900	Mr Rouse	38
Her b c, Mar, 23, 1907	Mr T Casswell	20
Maid Marion, c Apr, 1900	Mr Jessop	30
Her b c	Mr Jessop	35
Lovely Geneva 2nd, c Jan, 1901	Mr Farnsworth	43
Lady Bird 14th, c Jan, 1901	Mr W Richardson	30
Brigstock Princess, c Mar, 1901	Mr Jessop	42
Her b c, Nov 17, 1906	Mr G Harrison	24
Dowsby Wild Eyes 2nd, c, Apr, 1901	Earl of Northbrook	81
Red Rose 20th, c Oct, 1901	Mr J E Casswell	71
Choice Juliet 2nd, c July, 1902	Mr M Thurlby	40
Clara Kilburn, c Oct, 1902	Mr E H Cartwright	60
Her c c, c Jan 1, 1907	Mr E H Cartwright	21
Dowsby Wildeyes 5th, c Mar, 1903	Mr H Dudding	45
Her c c, c Apr 3, 1907	Mr H Dudding	36
Dowsby Wildeyes 8th, c June, 1903	Mr H Dudding	58
Dowsby Kirklevington Duchess 8th, c Jan, 1904	Mr H Dudding	61
Dowsby Kirklevington Duchess 10th, c Jan, 1905	Mr H Dudding	31
Riby Jennie 27th, c May, 1905	Mr F Webb	120
Cropwell Connaught Waterloo, c May, 1905	Mr Jessop	62
Ladybird 17th, c June, 1905	Mr Sidey	150
Dowsby Wildeyes 13th, c June, 1905	Colonel Reeves	47
Oxford of Dowsby 5th, c July, 1905	Mr Sidey	40
Dowsby Autumn Rose, c Oct, 1905	Mr Sidey	65
Dowsby Vittoria Queen, c Dec, 1905	Mr Sidey	120
Royal Janette, c March, 1906	Lord Calthorpe	45
Dowsby Wildeyes 14th, c Mar, 1906	Duke of Portland	30
Duchess 149th, c Mar, 1906	Mr T Holford	165
Dowsby Waterloo, c May, 1906	Mr Villatte	300
Dowsby Waterloo 2nd, c May, 1906	Mr Villatte	100
Dowsby Waterloo 3rd, c May, 1906	Mr T Holford	100
Dowsby Pippin, c May 1906	Mr A C Hall	42
Dowsby Celia, c June, 1906	Mr Sidey	41
Oxford of Dowsby 6th, c July, 1906	Earl Manvers	71
Duchess 150th, c July, 1906	Mr Eycurra	310
Dowsby Compass, c July, 1906	Mr Sidey	87
Dowsby Sea Lady, c Aug., 1906	Mr Villatte	150
Ladybird 18th, c Aug., 1906	Mr Sidey	52
Dowsby Wildeyes 17th, c Aug., 1906	Mr Sidey	110
Dowsby Wildeyes 18th, c Nov., 1906	H.M. the King	45
Dowsby Craggs, c Nov., 1906	Mr J Heys	30

BULLS.

Dowsby Imperator, c May, 1905	Mr Norris	70
Imperial Wildeyes, c Aug, 1905	Mr Norris	50
Dowsby Imperial Oxford, c Oct., 1905	Mr Sidey	88
Dowsby Imperial Choice, c Oct., 1905	Mr H C Norris	71
Dowsby Kirklevington Imperial, c June, 1906	Mr T Atkinson	45
Dowsby Ruby Imperial, c Sept. 30, 1906	Mr Money	40

The Lincoln Sheep.

Here Messrs. Saul Bros. were the auctioneers, and a right good demand did Mr. Saul find for the first-class rams and ewes he had to offer. It is worthy of note that Messrs. Dean have been for years buyers of the best sires, and only the previous day purchased Mr. H. Dudding's top price yearling at 900 guineas, the highest priced sire any British breeder has used in England to our knowledge. It was therefore no matter of surprise to find not only a very typical lot of sheep but a good one also, and it is a matter of satisfaction to find they were so well appreciated by the large assemblage of breeders present. Mr. F. G. Battle started the sale by taking lot 1 at 70 guineas; lot 2 a particularly handsome ram of very choice breeding, went to Mr. Dudding at 100 guineas; lot 6 to Mr. G. Pears at 82 guineas.

Lot 8, one of the best of its breed, was in great request, and Mr. J. E. Casswell did not retire from the contest until 300 guineas, the second best price of the season, was given by Senor Eycurra, one of the leading Argentine breeders. Dr. Anchorina, another Argentine, gave 90 guineas for lot 11; lot 13 went to Mr. Dudding at 105 guineas, a very fine and well-grown ram; lot 25 went to Dr. Anchorina at 95 guineas, a well-grown and first-class ram; Mr. J. E. Casswell gave 62 guineas for a very fine one, that came late in the sale; Mr. James Cartwright exceeded 50 guineas twice; and the 50 head offered and sold realised the handsome average of £37 5s. 6d., with a range of prices from 300 guineas to 7 guineas.

There were twenty-five yearling ewes offered, and a grand lot these were. Senor Villatte was the principal purchaser at the prices given in the summary, from which it will be found that these typical ewes made an average of £9 4s. 9d, realising £231, bringing up the aggregate total for seventy one sheep to £2,094 15s., which, added to that realised for the cattle, makes the grand total of the sale £6,345 3s., a result which, we believe, is satisfactory to the vendors, who are deserving the highest credit for the grand lot of stock placed before the public at this, their first Shorthorn sale. The chief sales of sheep were as follows :—

RAMS.

		Gs.
Shearling Ram 581, first at Newark and of two Leicester, 1907	Mr Batte	70
Shearling Ram 582, first pen of two Leicester	Mr Poels	15
Shearling Ram 586	Mr H Dudding	100
Shearling Ram 588	Mr J Cartwright	30
Shearling Ram 587	Mr J E Casswell	25
Shearling Ram 589	Mr J Pears	82
Shearling Ram 596	Mr Eycurra	300
Shearling Ram 591	Mr Poels	20
Shearling Ram 590	Dr Anchorina	90
Shearling Ram 595	Mr H Dudding	105
Shearling Ram 597	Dr Anchorina	22
Shearling Ram 560	Mr James Cartwright	55
Shearling Ram 592	Mr C Marshall	20
Shearling Ram 557	Mr J Evens	26
Shearling Ram 594	Dr Anchorina	52
Shearling Ram 600	Dr Anchorina	95
Shearling Ram 522	Mr Villatte	20
Shearling Ram 524	Mr J Cartwright	54
Shearling Ram 525	Mr J Brocklebank	32
Shearling Ram 526	Mr Thomas	26
Shearling Ram 527	Mr J E Casswell	27
Shearling Ram 531	Mr W B Swallow	46
Shearling Ram 536	Mr J E Casswell	62
Shearling Ram 537	Mr F G Battle	28
Shearling Ram 552	Mr Bycroft	25

SHEARLING EWES.

Three Shearling Ewes	Senor Villatte	25½
Five Shearling Ewes	Senor Villatte	45
Four Shearling Ewes	Senor Villatte	34
Three Shearling Ewes	Mr Webb	18
Three Shearling Ewes, 1st and Champion Gold Medal Ottley 1907	Mr Battle	33
Three Shearling Ewes	Mr F G Battle	28½
Four Shearling Ewes	Senor Villatte	36

The July horse and cattle fair at Stockport was held on Tuesday, when there was an abundant show of cows, but trade was very slow. Milch cows were offered from £16 to £23; lying-off cows from £12 to £16; stirks, £5 to £11. There was a liberal show of horses of varied descriptions. Colts made from £12 to £23; tradesmen's horses from £10 to £30; and heavy horses, of which the supply was limited, from 50 to 60 guineas each.



Notes and Jottings on the Highland Show.

UP to the time of writing the weather has remained most unsettled and rainy, and has proved anything but auspicious to the progress of cattle in the fields. Whether these cattle have been young stock for growing on or beef cattle maturing for the shambles, it has been one and the same thing; and milkers, too, have been having hard times of it, though in their case the succulent grass has been helpful to the supply of lacteal fluid, even though it may have been at the expense of condition. The nights have been very cold, and, indeed, the days, too, for the matter of that, and this cold, combined with the heavy rains, has caused a vast number of cattle throughout the country to show signs of weakness. Such should be herded in a sheltered pasture and assisted with a little cake or other dry food.

BAD as the weather has been for cattle in the fields at home, it has been even worse in many of the showyards where exhibitions have been taking place. In the shedding at the majority of these shows the protection afforded the cattle is but a conductor of cold draughts, which makes things much harder to bear than if the stock were at liberty in the open field, and besides being draughty, much of the canvas covering has been anything but effectual in keeping out the rain, and so the poor bovine exhibits have had to lie on very wet bedding, as well as in draughty cold air. Some of the leading exhibitors provide sheets to prevent the side draught, and these would be all right were they used only at night, but when used, as they have frequently been of late, during the daytime, they form quite an impediment to the sightseer.

AMONGST the shows that were held last week, so far as cattle are concerned, that of the very old established Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland Show at Edinburgh will rank as the most important and interesting, being a very large and good show of the native North-country breeds, as well as of the red, white, and roan. A feature, too, of this show, at least in one section, was the warmer and more comfortable arrangement for the cattle. The shed being wide enough for two rows of cattle to stand with their heads towards the outside of the tent, and a wide space left for the public to walk along behind them, thus seeing them in the most comfortable manner possible; such an arrangement prevents the necessity of so many rugs and sheets being used by the exhibitor, and also keeps the visitor dry both overhead and under foot during his tour of inspection.

THE Highland Show was very interesting, inasmuch as some of the Scottish breeds that are seldom seen in any degree of perfection in the English showyards are here brought out not only in what we may call "their Sunday clothes," but are also brought out in greater numbers and of better quality. Some of the shaggy West Highlanders were very good to see; cows and calves, as well as matured bulls of this glorious breed were alike worth going many miles to see, and some of their attendants being attired in Highland costume added to the picturesqueness of the ring.

YES, this sight was calculated to and did carry one's memory back to the olden days of the great Falkirk Trysts, where these Highland cattle used to assemble in the autumn months of August, September, and October in their thousands. Their owners in some cases, and attendants in others, donning the kilt and sheltered with the "plaid." What journeys the Highlanders of those days had to undergo. Commencing their journey, perhaps, by swimming across the water from some of the Western Islands to other starting points; then the long walk by easy stages down to the Trysting ground, there to be handed over to southern purchasers for another long and tedious journey to the English park in the extreme south of the country, and other places, occupying a journey of some month to five or six weeks' duration. How all this is changed! To-day the whole of the peregrinations from their native homes to their new ones in the south is accomplished in many cases in a couple or three days.

IN another way, too, the business of buying and selling is very much altered. Whether for the better or the worse we will not venture an opinion here, but we allude to the present day system of selling by auction as compared with the last century way of doing all privately between buyer and seller. In some cases, too, there is the further innovation of selling by live weight. The latter we have no hesitation in disapproving of as regards stores, though it may be useful in some cases with fat cattle. With the raw unfinished article, the quality and breeding forms by far the most important part, and with the young and inexperienced feeder is often overlooked, such individuals being led away from quality by the heavier weight of the badly bred animal when placed on the weighing machine, and which said weight in such cases often remains very nearly stationary for weeks and months.

"TO the Highland Show again." The Ayrshire breed with their improved quality and grandly-shaped capacious udders were very attractive, and made a fine display. Few breeds of cattle have altered so completely in character during the past sorty or fifty years as this important dairy breed of Southern Scotia, and apparently whilst developing the improvement, they have not in any way apparently lost constitution, which has with some breeds been a great failing. Perhaps in the ordinary fair or market Ayrshires of the old type and colour may still be found in numbers, but in the showyard one seldom sees Ayrshires of the brindled and dark colours that so largely prevailed in many of the good lots of dairy cows that used to be seen in the markets and fairs. At Edinburgh last week there were more animals with black spots on the white ground than we have sometimes seen.

ANOTHER breed that pleased the writer immensely at this fine northern show was the Galloway. There were many eye-filling specimens of this ancient and highly valuable breed, hardy-looking to a degree, as shapely as the most fastidious could desire, and with a wealth and mellowness of flesh that not only pleases the touch but at once indicates an ability to fatten that must insure a profitable return to the feeder. It was delightful to see the old bulls of this fine old-time breed.

Sale of Shorthorns at Edinburgh.

A select portion of the Right Hon. Lord Polwarth's herd of Shorthorn cattle, removed from Mertoun, St. Boswells, was sold by auction on Tuesday last at Echo Park, adjoining the Highland Showyard at Edinburgh. The sale being held on the first day of the show attracted a good company, but no particularly high prices were realised, the best being 95 guineas paid by Mr. Wilkinson for the grand roan bull Border Butterfly, whilst 90 guineas was given by Mr. Davidson for a two-year-old red bull Great Britain. The average for the twenty-eight head sold was £35 0s. 1d. We give below a sale list of the principal lots with purchasers' names and prices:—

		Gs.
COWS AND HEIFERS.		
Cowslip Bloom	Mr A D Fordyce	47
Lady Grace	Mr A T Gordon	32
Rosedale Ringlet	Mr W Duthie	37
Opal Bracelet	Duke of Northumberland	31
Gay Sowerby	Edinburgh Lunacy Board	30
Cowslip Belle	Mr D Stewart	50
Rosebud	Mr G Campbell	37
Emerald Wave	Mr W Burnyeat	61
Alice	Mr A D Fordyce	40
BULLS.		
Border Butterfly	Mr W Wilkinson	95
Riby Commander	Mr W Wilkinson	61
Great Britain	Mr H Davidson	90

Sale of Mr. W. C. Cooper's Jersey Cattle and Berkshire Pigs.

The entire herd of pure-bred Jersey cattle belonging to Mr. W. C. Cooper, of Whittlebury, was disposed of by auction at the Church Farm on the 5th inst. In addition, Mr. Cooper's herd of pure-bred Berkshire pigs also came under the hammer. The herd of Jersey cattle has been in existence nearly seven years. It was originally started with good selections from those fine herds belonging to Lord Rothschild, Earl Cadogan, Mrs. Barron, Mr. Armitage, Mr. W. E. Budgett, Mr. J. H. Shore, and with occasional selections from good breeders in Jersey. For several years past both the Jerseys and Berkshires have been very successful at the principal shows. The pigs were bred from the well-known herds of Sir A. Henderson, Bart., Mr. Arthur Hiscock, Mr. Morant, and Mr. Woodward, and are full of the old Swanwick, Gibson, and Chick blood. There was only a fair attendance of buyers, and the Jerseys realised disappointing prices, but there was a good demand for the pigs, which sold extremely well. The highest price amongst the former was paid on behalf of his Grace the Duke of Grafton, K.G., for Golden Lady, which was knocked down at 60 guineas, whilst the Berkshire pigs made up to £12 10s.



Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

What is Quality?

"ITS indefinable characteristic 'quality,'" says someone writing about a horse; and when one comes to think of it, how many horsemen who use the word every day, and times in a day, could tell you offhand of what quality consists? Perhaps the dictionary definitions, "that which makes the thing what it is," "peculiar power," "superior character," are as nearly accurate as we can get, though to the horseman they all sound clumsy. One thing I think we may consider as thoroughly established, and that is that mere prettiness in a horses does not necessarily imply quality, and a horse can be, from the standpoint of the man in the street, plain looking, yet full of quality.

A Case in Point.

AN example of this will probably occur to the memory of most of my readers who have had much experience amongst horses, and a circumstance took place the other day which emphasised the fact very strongly to me. I was standing at the ringside with a friend when a well-known horse, about whom much has been written, came into the ring. "So that is the horse we have heard so much about," said he. "What a common brute." My friend, I should say, is given to expressing his opinion about horses somewhat emphatically, and is an adept in the noble art of "crabbing." I demurred, and we had a lengthy argument on the subject. My friend admitted at once that the horse in question was a fine mover. "He does use himself fairly," said he, "but it is the only good point he has." The conversation caused me to look over the horse more carefully than I had hitherto done, and to review the whole situation as it were. And it resolved itself into this: The horse certainly is plain about his head; you could not call it handsome; yet it was a good head when you picked it to pieces. He had a bold expressive eye, an open nostril; there was no undue heaviness about the jowl, and his ears were in the right place, and were indicative of courage and determination. Yet it was not a good-looking head; it was not the sort of head that if you had seen it looking out over a loose box door, you would have said instinctively "here is a horse to be seen." You would probably have passed him by under such circumstances, and you would have been wrong. For he is, notwithstanding his head, full of quality, and of quality of the highest order; the lay of his shoulders, his muscular back, the turn of his quarters and his bone are not only excellent, they are as nearly perfect as is possible, and he is one of the most valuable horses out at the present day. It would, of course, be unfair to name the horse, public a performer as he is, because his name could scarcely be given without indicating my friend.

A Definition.

WE come back, then, to the original question with which I commenced this article—"What is quality?" I take it that quality as applied to a horse means the possession in an exceptional manner of those characteristics which are necessary to his particular breed. In other words, it means the approach to perfection in general conformation. A clumsy definition, you say, and I admit it, but then I have set myself an almost impossible task. But what I would make clear is this, that what is quality in one breed is not necessarily quality in another. For instance, the conformation which gives the snap of the knee to the Hackney is quality in a horse of that breed, but it would not be quality in a Hunter, but quite the reverse. For a horse to have quality it is essential that he should be fitted for his peculiar work.

The Present Position of the Hackney.

IN certain quarters, and in some newspapers which only take a superficial view of the subject, it is said that Hackney breeding is on the decrease; that the breed has lost favour, and that "the good old days have gone never to return," whatever that convenient phrase may mean. I have been a great deal amongst Hackneys during the last few weeks; I have attended shows in the North, in the Midlands, and in the South, and I have had a good deal of talk with Hackney breeders. And what I have seen and heard tends to confirm me in the opinion I have previously expressed in these columns, viz, that the Hackney is holding his own. I would go even further, and say that he is more than holding his own. Recently I referred to the big prices paid for Hackneys as harness horses at Olympia. To day it is with the young Hackneys that I wish principally to deal. Now there is no mistake about one thing, and that is that there are not so many Hackneys bred and young Hackneys shown as was the case, say, fifteen years ago. But this is a sign of strength rather than weakness. One of the best-known breeders of Hackneys in Yorkshire said to me the other day that when the Yankee boom was on there were many young so-called Hackneys shown and sold for comparatively big prices that should never have been bred. This is by no means overstating the case, and to this is to be attributed the slump in prices which set in for all but the very best.

To-day's Young Hackneys.

IF the classes of Hackneys in what are called the breeding classes are smaller than was the case a few years ago the careful observer who can carry the young horses of that time in his mind has no difficulty in arriving at the conclusion that a horse which was good enough to win in those days would barely reach reserve place now. I am, of course, alluding to the rank and file, and not to horses of superlative excellence. In one respect the Hackney is a very much improved horse, and that is in action. When one stands by the ring side nowadays, one seldom sees everything sacrificed to the stamping knee action which was all the rage a few years since. Judges now want balanced action, they want a horse to put his foot well out as well as to bend his knee and they want pace, which means increased hock action. And what judges want breeders endeavour to give them, and in the case of Hackneys not without success.

In Harness.

TRAVELLING about in the districts where they breed harness horses as harness horses, without any particular prejudices about breed; where they will take a coaching cross or a Thoroughbred cross, or any other cross which they think will bring the result they require, that is a big upstanding harness horse with quality, action, and pace, I have been very much struck with the excellence of the young stock. And amongst these harness horses I have seen both Yorkshire Coach horses and Hackneys which are of the true harness type. Some Hackneys especially made a strong impression upon me. They are big upstanding horses, I should think fully 16 hands high; they have the lean bloodlike head that is seen in some of the best bred Hackneys, and it seems needless to add that they have fair action. But what I most admired in them—because I suppose it is so unusual in the Hackney—was the long level quarters and well set-on tail. And then their breeder had left their long tails on!

Make-up.

I HAVE often thought that Hackney breeders handicapped their horses considerably by the way they "make them up" for show. The short tails—some of them only a very few inches long—which have become fashionable, probably on account of the Hackney of old being "rucked," are not only ugly, but they are ridiculous, and they certainly spoil the appearance of any harness horse. I am no faddist on the subject of docking, either one way or the other. There are some horses one would not think of docking; there are others that are much improved if they are docked. If I had one of the latter I would dock him in spite of fashion, or a stupid law, or anything else. But the short tail of the Hackney, which seems to be getting shorter every year, and to be rapidly approaching vanishing point, certainly spoils the appearance of the horse. A Hackney, as a rule, looks better docked than undocked, but breeders and owners would do well to leave him a few inches more tail. With hogged manes the same general rule applies. Occasionally, very occasionally, a horse looks better with a hogged mane; but that is no justification for the indiscriminate hogging of manes we see nowadays. The Hackney men, however, are not so much to blame for hogging manes as their hunting friends. I would, however, point out that a horse in harness with a hogged mane and a tail same 4in. long is vulgar, and if Hackney breeders want to bring their breed more to the front as harness horses they must not dock them so short.

THE LOOKER-ON.



Notes and Jottings.

THE drop in the price of wool is a matter much to be regretted, because it has certainly in many instances reduced the receipts of the flockmaster to a considerable extent; but, what is worse, it has given those flockmasters who have not been careful, or who do not believe in being careful in the selection of the sire and dam, opportunity once again to urge that it does not much matter what kind of wool one grows.

HOW anyone who has a business training can make such an assertion is almost past understanding, but yet there are many who make this assertion, and, unfortunately, very many who act upon it.

IT matters much what kind of commodity one produces, for a reference to any market report shows that the best of that commodity always secures a better price than the inferior grade, and it is so in respect to wool. The better the quality of the wool produced, the more even the fleece and the more uniform the staple and character of it, all make that fleece of higher value than one of the contrary description.

GREATER discrimination should be exercised in the drafting of the flock in respect to the character and quality of the fleece of the sheep. This is applicable to every kind of sheep and to every breed, and it is quite certain to those who pay sufficient attention to note the varying qualities of the fleeces of their ewes that this means, in effect, that the flockmaster will more and more individualise his flock, and by so doing certainly produce a better, more uniform, and higher-class crop of lambs.

THE cold and ungenial weather we have experienced lately has been such that, whilst it has given a very good supply of food in most districts, has produced a food of lower nutritive value than would have been the case had we had a full supply of sunshine. The root crop, which in most districts has secured a full plant, does not thrive and grow to that extent it should do.

THESE are points worthy of consideration. They show that flockmasters must be fully ready to make use of any favourable opportunities which arise to take such steps as to them seem most desirable to make sure of securing a full and as varied as possible supply of food for both autumn and winter consumption.

FROM the statements made at the International Conference of Sheep Breeders, it appears that there have been some considerable difficulties arising out of the administration of the more rigorous sheep scab regulations. Those flock owners that have been affected thereby are somewhat sore at the stricter regulations now in force; but this only proves how very essential it is for the most drastic steps to be taken to secure the eradication of this disease, because, awkward as such regulations may certainly be, it would only be for a very short time that we should have them to trouble us.

THE Australian Government and the New Zealand Government, by determination, secured the eradication of this disease in their colonies; and, as all who come over from those colonies to this country repeat year after year, it is simply astounding that, in a country so closely settled as our own, all this great difficulty should not long ago have been done away with.

DISCUSSING this point with a New Zealand flockmaster at Folkestone Show the other day, the writer pointed out what was being done. "Ah!" said the New Zealander, "it is not what is being done, it is what should be done. We eradicate sheep scab once and for all by the Government dealing with the question in a thorough and drastic manner; but from what you say, and from what I have learned since I have been in the country, it is almost useless for the present half-kind of measures to be used, as it is practically certain that they cannot, except by almost a miracle, effect that which the drastic measures adopted by our Government did for us."

THE English flockmaster has for the past fifteen or twenty years, or even longer, put up with no end of inconvenience, loss, and bother simply because a few of their number have been careless and indifferent as to the proper cleansing of their sheep.

SHEEP scab can hardly be found in any flock of standing, and yet these flocks, which are in the majority and are well managed, have, owing to the neglect of the minority, to put up with a continual trouble and bother.

HOW long is the majority to suffer in this manner for the neglect and carelessness of the minority? This is a point that wants pressing well to the fore, and the harder it is pressed and the more vigorous the action taken by those who represent flocks free from sheep scab, the sooner will those who are responsible for its eradication be forced to take the drastic action which alone can secure its complete eradication—compulsory dipping and absolute prohibition of movement of sheep from any infected area until there is no possibility of the disease being taken with them.

Sheep Fairs and Sales.

Burgess Hill.

Close on 3,000 animals, including a few ewes, were penned at St. John's Lamb Fair, held at Burgess Hill on the 5th inst., the number being a little less than last year. The animals were from various well-known flocks and met a good demand throughout. The top price for lambs was 31s., Mrs. S. J. Hole, Twineham, selling eighty-two at that figure, whilst others sold at prices ranging from 20s. to 27s. Several re-sales at satisfactory prices up to 28s. were also reported.



The Black-faced Mountain Shearling Ram illustrated above is the animal with which Mr. John Robson, junr., Lyneger, Watten, Caithness, won a First Prize at the Royal Show at Lincoln.

Beccles.

On Tuesday close on 6,000 lambs and ewes were offered for sale by auction at Beccles, and met spirited bidding throughout. The top price of the day was 47s a head which was got for ten Suffolk ear-marked ewe lambs, from the registered flock of Sir F. E. S. Adair, Bart., Flixton Hall.

Dorchester.

At Dorchester wool fair prices were from 1½d. to 2d. below last year's figures, but a good trade was experienced. The top price was 13¾d.

Findon.

At Findon July lamb fair, held on Friday in beautiful weather, only 3,000 were penned, which is about 2,000 below the average for this fair. Nearly all the lots were sold at auction, the number of private sales getting less each year. Taken throughout, the prices were the highest realised here for some years past, quite small lambs fetching 23s. 6d. upwards. At the auction, Mr. C. Goring, of Winston, made 36s. a head for forty-seven wether lambs; Mr. Strong, of Clapham, made 34s. 6d.; mixed lambs made from

AUCTION SALES.

Auctioneers will favour us by sending in their advertisements as early in the week as possible.
Charges of announcements under this heading Six Shillings an inch.

By Messrs. IRELAND.

Norwich, Norfolk.—Ireland's Norwich Hill Auction Mart (established 50 years). Every Saturday. Fat Bullocks and Sheep, Store Sheep. Special Spring and Autumn Store Cattle Sales.

MESSRS. IRELAND solicit consignments for these important weekly sales; best market value assured.

Cattle consigned to Ireland's, Norwich, will be properly fed and carefully attended to.

All cattle weighed upon entry to the sale ring if desired. Full particulars to be sent to—

IRELAND'S, Auctioneers.
Norwich, Norfolk.

By WATERS & RAWLENCE.

FRIDAY, JULY 19, 1907.
THE WATERS PLACE HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK.
The property of T. FOWELL BUXTON.
Registered in the *Hampshire Down Flock Book.*
Notice of Dispersal Sale of the
GRAND BREEDING FLOCK
of about
500 EWES in ages.
150 EWE LAMBS.
70 RAM LAMBS and 20 Older RAMS,
and which

MESSRS. WATERS & RAWLENCE (in conjunction with Messrs. Jackson and Son) are instructed to SELL by AUCTION at Waters Place Farm, two miles from Ware (Hertford Branch), and 3 miles from Roydon (Cambridge Line) Stations, G.E.R., on FRIDAY, JULY 19, 1907.

The dispersal of the Waters' Place Flock is undoubtedly one of the chief attractions of the Season in the Agricultural world, it comes at a time when the Hampshire Down Breed is very much to the front at home and in all mutton-producing countries, as it every day becomes more apparent that no breed of sheep is so valuable for producing the finest quality of mutton in the shortest possible time as the Hampshire Down, whilst they readily adapt themselves to all climates, and for crossing purposes are unrivalled.

Messrs. Waters and Rawlence have fixed the Sale at the earliest possible date to accommodate all Foreign Buyers, and as regards English Breeders it is well known that wonderful results have been attained by the introduction of Waters Place Blood, and the Auctioneers are satisfied that they will get the most genuine support from the leading Flockmasters, whilst to those desirous of establishing a Flock of this popular Breed, such a chance may rarely, if ever, occur again.

Conveyances will meet the trains at the above Stations.

Sale at 12 o'clock.

Luncheon will be served during the Sale.

Catalogues of Mr. J. H. Hurford, Waters' Place Farm, Ware; of Messrs. G. Jackson & Son, Auctioneers, Hitchin; or of Waters and Rawlence, Canal, Salisbury.

By HOBGEN BROS.

CHICHESTER EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL SALE of PURE-BRED SOUTHDOWN SHEEP.

HOBGEN BROS. beg to announce that they will hold their Eighteenth ANNUAL SALE of PURE-BRED SOUTHDOWNS in their Auction Repository in the Chichester Cattle Market on THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 1907, when a large and choice selection of Rams, Ram Lambs and Ewes from the flocks of the Duke of Richmond, K.G., the Duke of Devonshire, K.G., Lord Northbourne, Earl Bathurst, C.M.G., Earl Cadogan, K.G., Mr. H. Cosmo-Bonsor, Mr. A. Heasman, Mr. A. G. Paul, Mr. E. Hobgen, Mr. Percy Herrington, and others will be offered. Sheep can be taken in under cover two or three days previous to the Auction, and green food will be provided free of cost.

HOBGEN BROS. will also give £10 in cash, or, if preferred, a piece of plate, to the Owner being the Breeder of the Shearling Ram which shall be sold at the highest price at such Auction

N.B.—This Sale is open to all Breeders of Southdown Sheep, and is unrestricted to numbers. Hobgen Bros. respectfully solicit early entries to the Sale, in order that the public may be notified of the same.

Sale to commence at 12 o'clock precisely.
Refreshments may be procured in the Hall.

By JOHN THORNTON & CO.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

FRIDAY, JULY 19.—Mr. Herbert Padwick's JERSEYS, at West Thorney, Emsworth, Hants

WEDNESDAY, JULY 24.—The entire SOUTHDOWN flock and BERKSHIRE PIGS belonging to C. H. Berners, Esq., at Woolverstone Hall, Ipswich.

THURSDAY, JULY 25.—The Rt. Hon. Earl Manvers' SHORTHORNS, at Holmpierrepont, Nottingham.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7.—Mr. G. J. B. Chetwynd's herd of DEXTERS, at Wyndthorpe, Doncaster.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 23.—Mr. W. P. Hampton's entire SOUTHDOWN flock, at Langdon Abbey, Dover.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON & Co., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

By A. MANSELL & CO.

On THURSDAY NEXT, JULY 18, 1907.
IMPORTANT SALE OF
PURE-BRED SHORTHORN CATTLE, the property of J. Tetley-Nickels, Esq., at
THE DAY HOUSE, SHREWSBURY.

Two miles from Shrewsbury Station, the train service from which is unrivalled, and where conveyances meet the morning trains.

ALFRED MANSELL & CO. will SELL by AUCTION, as above,
60 HEAD of PURE-BRED SHORTHORN CATTLE, of fashionable breeding, consisting of a grand lot of Cows, beautiful Heifers, and 21 Bulls.

With very few exceptions all the Cows catalogued are young and in their prime, whilst the Heifers, of various ages, and the Calves, are exceptionally good colours, with true outlines and correct Shorthorn character, and at the same time the Dairy properties of the herd are in evidence by the well-developed and capacious udders of the older Cows.

The 21 Bulls are of various ages, including some good reds and roans suitable for export, and several younger Bulls just fit for service.

On the few occasions Mr. Nickels has exhibited, the representatives of the herd have been very successful, and Bulls and Heifers have for many years been sold at high prices for export to the Argentine, Chile, Russia, and elsewhere.

Special attention is called to the fact that in 1899 the whole herd was tested for tuberculosis, and only those which successfully passed were retained. As a sequel to this, 18 Bulls were tested this spring (1907), and every animal successfully passed. All the animals catalogued (excepting 2 Cows and 3 stock Bulls) are bred by Mr. Tetley-Nickels.

The Bulls now in service comprise the finely-bred bull Holker Duke 3rd 79075, bred by His Majesty the King; Chewton Ideal 80680, by Bapton Victor's Champion 76084; and Ruddington King Edward 84669, bred by the late Mr. P. L. Mills, by Scottish Thorndale Duke.

Sale after 12 o'clock Luncheon.

Catalogues from ALFRED MANSELL & CO., Auctioneers, College Hill, Shrewsbury.

Commissions faithfully executed.

By R. BOND & SONS.

IPSWICH.

THE BEALINGS HALL HERD of PEDIGREE RED POLLS.
TUESDAY, JULY 23, at 2 p.m.

ROBERT BOND & SONS will SELL by AUCTION, at their Sale Yard, 50 excellent RED POLL COWS, HEIFERS and CALVES, comprising the entire herd the property of Mr. A. Gerald Smith, without reserve.

Catalogues forwarded on application to the AUCTIONEERS, Old Bank House, Ipswich, Suffolk.

Commissions executed.

By Messrs. CHALK.

PRELIMINARY.

THE 22nd ANNUAL SALE and LETTING of 80
PURE-BRED
HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAMS and RAM LAMBS
from Mr. H. Lambert's celebrated Flock
will take place at
CAMBRIDGE,
on
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7, 1907.

Messrs. CHALK, Auctioneers,
11, Alexandra Street, Cambridge, and Linton.

By J. HARRIS & SON.

By Order of Executors.
LONG SUTTON, HANTS,
Five miles from Hook and Winchfield Stations.
IMPORTANT SALE of the whole of the highly-bred FLOCK of 710 EWES and LAMBS,
Of the late Mr. William M. Harris, registered in Vol. 1 of the Hampshire Down Flock Book.

MESSRS. JAMES HARRIS and SON are instructed by the Exors. to SELL by AUCTION, on the premises at Long Sutton, on MONDAY, JULY 29, 1907, the whole of the above highly-bred Flock, comprising:—

150 Two-Tooth EWES,
140 Four-Tooth EWES,
130 Six-Tooth EWES,
100 Full-Mouth EWES,
140 EWE LAMBS,

Together with 50 RAM LAMBS and SHEARLINGS.

This Flock, established in the year 1864, is brought to the hammer in consequence of the recent death of the late Mr. W. M. Harris. That gentleman's well-known judgment (being a frequent judge at the Royal and other Shows) will be proved by the present Flock, which will be found of good size and colour, well-woolled, and full of quality. The Rams in service recently have been from the Flocks of Messrs. James Flower, Cary Coles, A. F. T. Drake, J. A. K. Falconer, and Sir George Judd. A good export trade to the Argentine and Germany has been done the last few years.

Luncheon will be provided at One o'clock, and the Sale will commence at Two.

Conveyances will meet the up train from Basingstoke, Eastleigh, and Salisbury, due at Hook 11.57, and the 9.30 train from Waterloo, reaching Hook 11.22, to convey passengers to the Sale at a charge of 2s. 6d. for the return journey.

Catalogues may be obtained of the Auctioneers, Winchester.

COCUM FARM,
Six miles from Micheldever Station, two from Sutton Scotney Station, and seven from Winchester.
ANNUAL SALE and LETTING of HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAM LAMBS.

MESSRS. JAMES HARRIS and SON have been favoured with instructions from Sir George Judd to LET and SELL by AUCTION, on the premises as above, on THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 1907:—

100 RAM LAMBS and
6 SHEARLING RAMS,

from his highly-bred Cocum Flock, entered in Vol. 1 of Flock Book.

The well-known excellence of the Cocum Flock will be fully upheld by the very high-class selection of Ram Lambs to be brought forward this season, which show exceptionally good breeding, and possess that remarkable depth of flesh, good wool, and beauty of form always so marked in the Lambs from this healthy flock.

The most fashionable sires have been judiciously selected by Sir George Judd, and a characteristic and popular type of Hampshire Down has been obtained, which the Auctioneers can confidently recommend to Exhibitors and Breeders, who should not fail to attend this annual sale.

Conveyances will meet the principal Trains at Sutton Scotney Station, and a Brake will leave Winchester Station at 12 o'clock and Andover at same time on day of Sale.

Luncheon will be provided at One o'clock, and Sale commence immediately after.

Sir George Judd will be pleased to show his Flock of Breeding Ewes, Ram Lambs, &c., to his friends or intending purchasers at any time previous to Sale.

Catalogues may be obtained of the Auctioneers, Winchester.

(Continued on next page.)

AUCTION SALES.

Auctioneers will favour us by sending in their advertisements as early in the week as possible.

Charges for announcements under this heading, Six Shillings an inch

By W. BROWN & CO.

HAMPSHIRE DOWN SHEEP.

The ANNUAL SALE from the Tring Park Flock, the property of the Right Honble. Lord Rothschild, comprising 70 RAM LAMBS and 70 DRAFT EWES, will be SOLD by AUCTION by

MESSRS. W. BROWN & CO., at Home Farm, Tring (L. & N.W. Railway), on MONDAY, JULY 22, 1907, at One o'clock.

The good results from the Lambs bought at previous Sales is a sufficient guarantee that the combination from the leading Flocks has established a type which meets the requirements of the Breed. The Sires in use last year were purchased regardless of expense to secure the best blood, costing upwards of £500, of which purchasers will obtain the benefit, and the satisfactory average of last year's Sale is a criterion of the esteem in which this Flock is held.

☞ Pedigrees on the Day of Sale and further particulars may be obtained of Richardson Carr, Esq., Home Farm, Tring, and of the Auctioneers, Tring.

By SUGDON & PEARCE-BROWN.

THE LECONFIELD
LINCOLN LONG-WOOL RAMS,
No. 38 in Flock Book.

MESSRS. SUGDON & PEARCE-BROWN have received instructions from Mr. Robert Fisher TO SELL BY AUCTION, on Wednesday, August 14, 1907,

80 SHEARLING RAMS

From the above Registered Flock; when Mr. Fisher will be glad to see his friends.

Sale after 12 o'clock luncheon.

Conveyances will meet the trains at Beverley and Arram Stations. Auctioneers' Office:—Market Place, Beverley.

By KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY.

A SOUND INVESTMENT.

ESSEX, near Hockley and Rochford Stations on the G E Rly. Only seven miles from Southend-on-Sea, and 36 from London.

A Valuable Freehold Agricultural and Sporting Estate known as "BECKNEY," extending to 605 acres. The property includes Three valuable Dairy Farms in excellent state of cultivation, possessing considerable prospective value, and known as "BECKNEY," "LOVEDOWNS," and part of "BRICKHOUSE" Farms, producing a rental of £417 per annum, to be offered by Auction (unless previously disposed of), first as a whole, if not sold, then in lots, by

MESSRS. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, in conjunction with Mr. T. W. Offin, Junr., at the Mart, Tokenhouse Yard, London, E.C., on Monday, September 9, 1907, at 2 o'clock precisely.

Particulars can be obtained of Messrs. DUFFIELD, BRUTY & Co., Solicitors, Broad Street Avenue, London, E.C.; or Mr. T. W. OFFIN, Junr., Land Agent, 68, High Street, Southend-on-Sea; and of the Auctioneers at their offices, 9, Conduit Street, London, W.

ARTIFICIAL MANURES

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Price ONE SHILLING. Post free, 1/2½.

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FODDER CROPS

ONE SHILLING. Post Free, 1s. 1½d.

W. A. May, "The Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, W.C.

23s. 6d. to 33s. 6d.; and ewe tegs touched 45s. 6d., and mixed tegs 35s. 6d.

Great Bentley.

At the 37th annual lamb sale held at Great Bentley on Thursday, the supply was not so large as last year, but the animals forward were of excellent quality, and met a good trade, and yet another best price of the season was recorded. The lambs catalogued totalled 4,000, and, with the exception of one lot of half-breds, were all Suffolks, some of which were bought for His Majesty the King. The middle-class lambs sold extremely well, prices being very dear, while for the best quality animals good prices were given. The highest figure this season was reached when 78s a head was bid for a pen of lambs belonging to Mr. J. Eagle, who thus made 15s. more than the best lambs yet sold at the present series of sales in East Anglia. A consignment of the Earl of Onslow's was brought to the notice of the company around the ring; the total entry of Black-faced lambs, which fell five short of 200, selling at an average of 40s. 9d. apiece. The prices ranged from 26s. 6d for a mixed lot of ewes and wethers, to 54s. for ear-marked ewes.

Haverhill.

The good prices given at the lamb sales in East Anglia reported in our last issue were maintained and beaten at the sale held at Haverhill on Monday, for the top price of the season was reached. Twenty ear-marked Suffolk ewe lambs, out of a consignment of 360 sent by Mr. Robert T. B. Payne, of Borley Hall, sold at 63s. a head, and thereby exceeded what was the highest price up to Friday, of 62s., made at Stowmarket. Sheep sold uncommonly well, the best being the 300, mostly ewes, from Mr. A. W. Ruggles-Brise. Having thick wool, and all being of a uniformly good size, they were in great demand, the biddings twice reaching £5 apiece and over.

Sutton.

Special interest centred in the lamb sale held at Sutton, near Woodbridge, on Friday, as it was the centenary of the sale, and it was fitting that it should have proved one of the best of the long series. All the lambs were in great demand, and the level character of the prices is best instanced by the circumstance that less than a dozen pens sold at under 30s. per head, whilst several sold at figures well over 50 guineas, so that the steady rise in price noticed in these East Anglian sales this season was well maintained.

Wool Fairs and Sales.

Aylesbury.

Aylesbury Wool Fair was held on Wednesday, when there was a larger attendance of buyers than usual. Twelve thousand fleeces were pitched, and prices showed an improvement on recent sales, averaging about 5 per cent. more. Washed wool made 1s. 1d. per lb., and unwashed 9½d.

Blandford.

About 100,000 fleeces were pitched at Blandford, Dorset, on Monday, and there was an average attendance of buyers, but prices ranged about 2½d. less than last year. Hampshire Down Wool, 13½d.; lambs' wool, 12d.; unwashed ewe, 8½d.; Southdown, 13½d.; ditto lambs' wool, 12½d.; Sussex tegs, 13½d.; crossbreds, 12½d; ditto lambs' wool, 11½d. per lb. One lot of horn lambs' wool made 13½d.

Devizes.

Devizes Wool Fair was held on Tuesday, when about 60,000 fleeces were offered in the presence of a good attendance of buyers. The best price made for washed wool was 13½d. per lb., about 2d. less than last year; and for unwashed 9d. was made, against 11d. last year. The general average of the sale was 12d. per lb. for washed, and 8½d. for unwashed. Lambs' wool made 10d.

Marlborough.

About 1,000 bales were offered at Marlborough on Wednesday in the presence of a good company of buyers. The highest price reached was 1s. 1½d., and the lowest, 7½d. for the tailings.

Salisbury.

At Salisbury Wool Fair there was a pitch of 112,000 fleeces of Down wool. The highest price for washed wool was 13¾d., as compared with 15½d. last year. The general quotations were as follows:—Washed wool, 12d. to 13½d.; unwashed wool, 8d to 10½d.; lamb's wool, 9d. to 11d.; and fallings and trimmings, to 9d. per lb.

The Leicester in New South Wales.

The secretary of the Leicester Sheep Society whose headquarters are at Driffield, and its members scattered over the country, but with many in the East and North Ridings, has received a piece of interesting intelligence from a far country—New South Wales—where the sheep industry is carried on upon a tremendous scale, and has an association of great influence to protect its interests.

Mr. Prince, the secretary, writing from Sydney, under date May 22 last, acknowledging the fifteenth volume of the Leicester Flock Book, says:—"A big demand has set in here for Long-wools for crossing and export sheep, and Leicesters are much in favour."

Last year's exports of Leicesters by members of the English society set up a record, and it is hoped the trade in this class of sheep will become eventually more extensive.

The Price of Wool at Northampton.

The secretary of the Northamptonshire Agricultural Society (Mr. A. E. Lovell) has kindly sent us the following table showing the average price per tod (28 lb.) of wool at the society's wool sale at Northampton in each year from 1865. It will be remembered that a report of this year's fair appeared in our last issue:—

Years.	Average price. s. d.	No. of fleeces pitched.	Years.	Average price. s. d.	No. of fleeces pitched.
1865 ..	59 8	.. 28,709	1887 ..	22 0½	.. 24,215
1866 ..	41 1½	.. 15,799	1888 ..	22 1	.. 31,190
1867 ..	41 4½	.. 20,672	1889 ..	23 3½	.. 23,705
1868 ..	38 5	.. 39,462	1890 ..	23 2½	.. 28,987
1869 ..	36 6½	.. 35,316	1891 ..	23 0	.. 26,624
1870 ..	34 5	.. 46,052	1892 ..	20 7	.. 35,471
1871 ..	44 10½	.. 82,788	1893 ..	22 3½	.. 28,824
1872 ..	56 2½	.. 33,938	1894 ..	23 2½	.. 19,631
1873 ..	48 1½	.. 44,564	1895 ..	24 0	.. 21,220
1874 ..	42 0½	.. 43,459	1896 ..	23 7½	.. 26,030
1875 ..	42 0	.. 48,044	1897 ..	21 0½	.. 25,383
1876 ..	34 0½	.. 36,703	1898 ..	19 0½	.. 23,751
1877 ..	35 7	.. 32,056	1899 ..	16 8	.. 28,000
1878 ..	34 4½	.. 35,632	1900 ..	18 5½	.. 24,342
1879 ..	34 5½	.. 40,631	1901 ..	15 0½	.. 19,110
1880 ..	31 2½	.. 45,951	1902 ..	14 3½	.. 20,568
1881 ...	25 3½	.. 31,633	1903 ..	17 5½	.. 20,403
1882 ..	21 7½	.. 27,623	1904 ..	21 10½	.. 19,180
1883 ..	21 7	.. 34,003	1905 ..	20 8½	.. 19,156
1884 ..	23 0	.. 25,276	1906 ..	22 2½	.. 16,798
1885 ..	20 10	.. 33,599	1907 ..	26 0	.. 19,139
1886 ..	21 9½	.. 22,179			

PIGS.

Lincolnshire Curly-Coated Pig Breeders' Association.

A meeting of the council was held at Boston on Wednesday. Mr. Edwin Welsh presided, and also present were Messrs. C. E. Harris, T. R. Casswell, G. Godson, H. Caudwell, W. M. Epton, and C. E. Williams, hon. secretary. Mr. A. Saul, the association's auctioneer, attended by request.

The hon. secretary produced and read an extract from the MARK LANE EXPRESS speaking highly of the Curly-coated pigs exhibited at the Royal Show. He also read an extract from the *Cape Argus* of June 12 favourably noticing Volume I. of the association's herd book for 1907. Judging from their description and appearance in photographs, the writer said the Curly-coated breed would probably do well in the colony, and remarked, "anyone interested in pig farming should obtain the book, and probably might be tempted to give the Curly coated pig a trial."

It was resolved that the preliminary sale of pigs should be held at Boston on August 28, and the chairman, with Messrs. Caudwell and Godson, were appointed a committee to arrange for the sale. The second sale will be on October 9, and both will be conducted by Mr. A. Saul.

The hon. secretary was instructed to circularise members asking how many pigs they wished to enter; and it was resolved that no more than 100 pigs be entered for each sale, the entries to close for the first sale on August 7, and that no late entry be received.

Mr. Henry Thurlby was appointed assistant secretary, official inspector, and tattooer to the association.

The following new members were elected:—Messrs. F. G. Smith, Potter Hanworth; H. A. Reynolds, Skegness; C. T. Tunnard, Red House, Godmanchester, Hunts; Samuel Barnes, Ewerby; Thomas Mayfield, Dogdyke; W. W. Barnes, Helpringham; Fred Casswell, jun., Graby; Robert Chatterton, Stenigot, Lincoln; A. F. Allis, Toynton All Saints, Spilsby; and A. M. Wilson, East Keal.

It was resolved that application be made for inclusion of three classes of boars and three classes of sows in the Royal and Lincolnshire Shows, viz., classes for boars farrowed in 1906 or 1907, in 1907, and 1908; one class for sows farrowed 1904 to 1907, one class for sows farrowed in 1907, and pen of three sows farrowed in 1908. A committee, consisting of the chairman and Messrs. Harrison, Epton, Caudwell, and Godson, was appointed to arrange for these classes.

A letter was read from Lord Willoughby de Eresby, M.P. (president of the association), offering to give a champion prize value £5 for the best curly-coated boar exhibited at the county show at Sleaford in 1908; and Major-General Sir Mildmay Wilson (vice president of the association) wrote offering a £5 champion prize for the best sow sent to the show. The hon. secretary was instructed to reply accepting these offers with thanks.

At the hirings for haytime at Kirkby Stephen last week a number of Irishmen were present, but local men could scarcely be met with. The highest prices were £6 10s. to £7 for the month, while Scotchmen obtained about £6, and Irish £4 to £5.

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

**** The charge for Advertisements (if set in small type) under classified headings in this section is one penny per word each insertion.*

HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL, Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Hereford. Stud Horses: Lockinge Lord of Misrule and Lockinge Bonny Lad, both by Lockinge Forester, full brother to Lockinge Forest King. Colts and Fillies for Sale.

MUNTZ, FREDERICK ERNEST, Umberslade, Hockley Heath, Warwickshire. Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, prize-winners.—Particulars from Mr. JOHN T B. HARTLEY, Estate Office.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby. — SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners, on Sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

ROWELL, JOHN, Bury, Huntingdon. Breeder Shires and Hackneys; Stallions for sale, hire, or service at home; mares and fillies for sale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

SHETLAND PONIES.

BEALE, Mrs. A. J., Cacketts, Cudham, Kent. Prize-bred Pedigree Shetlands for sale; three grand Stallions at stud.

PONIES.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

PREECE, JOHN ADNEY, Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston, Northampton.—Herd of 250 Shorthorns, best Bates and Scotch blood; stock Bulls, Duke of Barrington 70th, Primrose Earl 89641, and Royal Baron 93192; Bulls and Heifers for sale.

ROTHWELL, R. R., Much Hoole, near Preston. Pedigree Shorthorns, chiefly Scotch blood. Stock bull Strowan Marquis 13th, winner of many prizes. Young bulls and heifers always on sale.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

TAYLOR, GEORGE, Cranford, Middlesex.—Bates' Shorthorns, deep milkers. Winners Milking Competitions, London Dairy Show, 1905-6. Bull Calves for Sale. Stock Bulls: Beau Sabreur, Drumcree, Rowbury, and Kirkcharm.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

SUSSEX.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath, Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Sussex Cattle (descended from the oldest and best strains of blood), unrivalled for their early maturity, the production of the best beef and working oxen, and ability to thrive in all weathers on the roughest fare. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for Sale.

HEREFORDS.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for Sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

PULLEY, CHARLES THORNTON, Lower Eaton, Hereford. Noted prize-winning herd of HEREFORD CATTLE. First prize Royal winners, Protector 19660, 1900; Eaton Champion 21351, 1903; and Ashleaf 3rd, 1905. This herd is headed by Eaton Champion and Glendower 2nd 22196, also a Royal winner. Bulls and Heifers for sale. Also prize-winning Shropshire Sheep.—Apply Mr. HEDLEY JONES, Lower Eaton Estate Office, Hereford.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1906. This herd has in 1904 1905 and 1906 won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by Endale, Bage Protector, and Fusilier. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited. —Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford Herefordshire.

CATTLE—*continued.*

DEVONS.

BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton Williton, Taunton, Breeder of Pedigree Devon Cattle. A speciality for large size, with quality and robust constitutions; colour dark red. Sent to all parts of the world. Prices moderate.

SKINNER, ALFRED C., Pound, Bishops-Lydeard, Somerset. Pedigree Devons, constitution, quality, size, milk; 600 prizes principal shows, many champions; exports most successful; bulls and heifers for sale. Inspection invited.

SOUTH DEVONS.

ROWE, F. W., Trevego Lostwithiel, Cornwall. Breeder of pure-bred South Devon Cattle of best and purest strains of blood. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for inspection and sale.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

BRIDGES, J. H.—This old-established herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle of the leading families can be seen at Langshott Home Farm, Horley, Surrey (near Horley Station, L.B. & S.C.R.), and catalogues obtained on application to Mr Albert Pulling

HURSLEY PARK HERD OF ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE, the property of Sir George Cooper, Bart., comprising Erica, Pride, Miss Burgess, Lady Ida, Matilda, Jemima of Morlich families. Prizes won during 1906: 7 firsts, 3 seconds, 3 reserves, 1 challenge cup, 2 silver medals, 3 reserve champions. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.—Catalogues on application to V. F. Leese, Estate Office, Hursley Park, Winchester.

THE ROCKLIFFE PARK HERD of Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, Ericas and Prides.—Apply, R. C. SWAN, Rockliffe Park, Darlington.

AYRSHIRES.

WALLACE, JAMES, J.P., Auchenbainzie, Thornhill, Dumfriesshire, Scotland. Breeder of pedigree prize-winning Ayrshire Cattle; hardy, healthy, good milkers; bred for dairy purposes, beauty and style. Bulls and Heifers for sale.

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably, from his prize-winning herd of Red Polls, Bulls, Cows, Heifers, from good milkers.—Apply C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

CARY-ELWES, V., Billing Hall, Northampton. Breeder of Jersey cattle.

JERSEYS and pure Alderney, Guernseys, fresh calved and near calving. Prices, particulars.—WHEADON, Minster.

MERTON GRANGE GUERNSEYS.—Property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. This Herd contains Champion Bull Royal Counties, Portsmouth, and Champion Cow Royal Derby, 1906. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of best Breeding for Sale.—Telegrams and particulars, W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay.

STERN, Sir E. D., Fan Court, Chertsey, Surrey. Herd of pedigree Jersey Cattle. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

TICHBORNE PARK, GUERNSEY.—Yearling Bulls and Heifers for sale.—Apply, D. MICHIE, Estate Office, Tichborne, Alresford, Hants.

GALLOWAYS.

GRAHAM, ROBERT, Auchengassel, Twynholm, breeder fashionable Galloway Cattle, winners at Royal and Highland Societies Shows. Pedigree Bulls, Cows, and Heifers, also Blue-greys for feeding, for sale. Commissions carefully executed.

KERRIES & DEXTERS.

THE DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE'S PRIZE-WINNING DEXTER HERD.—During 1904 and 1905 this Herd won more prizes than any other three Dexter Herds combined, including both first and second milking prizes Royal, 1905, and first London Dairy Show, 1906. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers generally for Sale.—CHILD, Compton Place, Eastbourne.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

RATTRAY, DAVID, Gortnaskehy, Ballybunion, Co. Kerry. Pedigree Prize-winning Herd of Kerries and Dexters 150 Prizes and Honours won by Cattle from this Herd past three years. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONG WOOL.

ANDERSON, JOHN, Barton-on-Humber.—The old Barton Flock of Pure-bred LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, Flock Book 106. This flock is noted for hard constitutions and fine, lustrous wool. Inspection invited. Telegrams as above.

ATKINSON, T., & SON, North Kelsey, Lincoln. Old-established flock of pure Lincoln Longwools. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Noted for great size and long lustrous wool. Have given great satisfaction at home and abroad. Inspection invited

SHEEP—*continued.*

LINCOLN LONG WOOL—*continued.*

BROOKS, W. J., Stowe Lodge, Weedon, Northants (Registered Flock 165), has for sale Rams and Ewes of best blood.

BROCKLEBANK, JOHN, Bassingham, Lincoln (Flock 24). Pure-bred Lincoln Longwool Rams and Ewes. This old flock has been carefully bred for 100 years. Telegrams: Bassingham.

DRAKES, Wm., Tealby, Market Rasen. Flock No. 72 of Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs of best blood for sale. Lincoln Red Shorthorns. Prices moderate

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 8 from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

SMITH, HENRY, jun., Cropwell Butler, Nottingham. Lincoln Longwool Flock No. 7, winner of £2,361 in prizes. Champion pen Lincolns, Smithfield Show, 1896; Association Championship, Leicester, 1897; Association Championship for pen of 3 Shearling Rams, Yorkshire, 1900; Championship, Rutland, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, and 1906. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1907.—Extraordinary records: Twin ram lambs let for 205 and 120 guineas. Ninety averaged £21 10s. Selections always for Sale.

JUDD, SIR GEORGE, Cocum, Barton Stacey, Hants.—Pure bred Hampshire Downs, over 1000 Ewes. Annual Sale, Ram Lambs, August 8th, 1907. Registered Vol. I., page 17.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. The Cholderton flock is individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded in the Hampshire Down Flock Book. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury.

OVEY, R. L., Hernes, Henley-on-Thames.—Pedigree HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK, Reg. Vol. IV., Prize-winners leading shows last five years.

THE CHILMARK FLOCK OF REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—Owner, JAMES FLOWER, Chilwark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records. Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, out of 11 years competing, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" won eight times, thrice second, with pens of 8 ram lambs; a marvellous record. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 13 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05-06. At the Royal at Derby, 1906, every First Prize, two Seconds, and the Champion were won; an unequalled success!! Champions Birmingham, 1905, over all breeds, Reserve in 1906. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Short-wools, Smithfield, 1904-05-06. Highest average past 13 years. Bridford Fair, Aug. 12, 100 Ram Lambs, annual sale. Selections for Sale.

WINCHESTER, the Most Hon. the Marquis of, Amport St. Mary, Andover, Hants. Pure-bred flock of Hampshire Down Sheep; high-class Rams and Ewes always on Sale.

OXFORD DOWNS.

ADAMS, GEORGE, Royal Prize Farm Flock, Faringdon, Berks. Pure Oxford Down Sheep, Shearling Rams, Ram Lambs, Ewes and Ewe Lambs for Sale. Special arrangements with foreign buyers. Many first prizes at R.A.S.E. and other shows during past 25 years, including 2 first, 2 second, and 4 other prizes, World's Fair, Chicago, and 7 firsts, 4 seconds and champion at Royal Bath and West, Royal Counties, etc., this year.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

SUFFOLKS.

CRANWORTH, The Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably from his prize winning flock, of Suffolk Sheep, some fine Ram Lambs.—Apply C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

WENSLEYDALE.

UNDERLEY WENSLEYDALES (Blue-faced), from the best blood obtainable. Successfully exhibited.—Apply, G. G. ROBINSON Bailiff, Underley Farm, Kirkby, Lonsdale.

(Continued on page 111.)

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

CHARLES SPENCER, having taken over the Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts, herd of Large and Middle White Pigs, which won 12 prizes and reserves with 11 exhibits at Derby Royal, will price any of them.

FULWOOD HERD LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES, property R. R. Rothwell. 200 head bred from winners at leading shows.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for Sale at moderate prices

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station. G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices. —J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM. Herd of Large White Pigs. The oldest and largest Herd in Notts County. Over 100. Breeding Sows kept. Upwards of 600 to select from. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—Apply ARTHUR A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 100 to choose from. Correspondence invited. Grand young breeding stock always on Sale.—Apply R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts (15 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

SPALDING HERD of Pedigree Large Whites, young stock and in-pig Gilts for Sale. All bred from great winners.—ALFRED W. WHITE, "Hillegom," Spalding.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

LARGE BLACKS.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath. Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Large Black Pigs of the best strains of blood, noted for their docility and for the production of a large proportion of lean meat. Good selection of Boars, unrelated Gilts, and in-pig Sows for Sale at reasonable prices.

CATTON HERD OF PRIZE-WINNING LARGE BLACK PIGS.—Stock Boar Trevisquite Excelsior 1487, 1st Devon County, 2nd and Reserve Champion Royal Show 1906; pigs kept in hardy natural condition; gelts and boars always on sale.—Apply, J. E. Breeze, Edingale. Tamworth. Stations: Croxall, 2½ miles (M.R.); Alrewas, 3½ miles (L.N.W.).

HASKETON CHAMPION PRIZE HERD OF LARGE BLACK PIGS.—This herd has won the Royal championship three out of four times, and is the only herd having won the breed challenge cup. Record: 47 firsts, 37 seconds, 11 thirds, 126 prize-winning cards; the herd this year being the winners of 14 firsts, 6 seconds, 2 thirds, championship and silver cup in five shows. Gelts and Boars at moderate prices consistent with quality. Exportation a speciality.—Apply, C. F. MARRINER, Hasketon, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS.—Select Herd, bred from choice Prize Winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale, moderate prices.—H. J. CLARKE, The Slade, Roughley, Sutton Coldfield.

BERKSHIRES.

CARNARVON, the Earl of.—Prize winning Pedigree Herd. BOARS and GELTS, eligible Herd Book. Prices moderate.—Apply W. T. HALL, Highclere Farm, Newbury.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

BERKSHIRES—*continued.*

READING CORPORATION. 150 Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, bearing prize-winning strains from son of Champion Mikado, 10433 and prize-winner Duchess 11323; inspection invited. Apply, Mr. T. Chettle, Manor Farm, Reading, Berks.

STALL PITTS HERD OF PEDIGREE BERKSHIRES. One of the Oldest Herds. Unsurpassed for true character, size, and quality. Choice selection of Boars and Sows on offer at moderate prices.—J. Lawrence, Stall Pitts, Shrivenham, Berks.

COLSTON & BORROWFIELD HERDS.

The property of R. MILLINGTON-KNOWLES Colston Bassett Hall, Notts.

The herds contain **40** large typical breeding sows of the most fashionable strains; the best of **SIRES** are purchased to keep up the present high standard of excellence.

Numerous Championships, Medals, Firsts, and other prizes won at the Royal, Highland, Bath and West, and other principal Shows. Awarded Diploma at **ST. LOUIS, U.S.A.**, International Exposition, 1904, as breeder of the **CHAMPION** boar in all classes, and also **GRAND CHAMPION**, and breeder of boar second prize winner in all classes.

THE BORROWFIELD HERD has had a world-wide reputation for 40 years. Only home-bred pigs are sold from these herds, and no others are admitted on the premises. Large Whites only.—C. H. ELLIOT, Estate Office, Colston Bassett, Notts.

For Sale.

PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.

Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.

GEORGE HOYLES,
Skidby Manor, near Hull.

GEORGE HOYLES,
SKIDBY MANOR, HULL.

Breeder of Pure Lincoln Long Wool Sheep' Lustrous Fleeces. Good Constitutions.

SUITABLE FOR HOME AND ABROAD. STOCK FOR SALE.

VETERINARY.

Advice of a Veterinary character, by a M.R.C.V.S., is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Milk Fever Prevention—to Milk or Not to Milk?

On page 39 of the issue for July 1, "Gloucestershire" directs attention to the contradictory character of two communications that have appeared in our columns relative to the management of the cow with a view to the prevention of what is commonly miscalled "milk fever" (but which is not a *fever*, because the temperature is more frequently sub-normal than raised), and invites us to express an opinion on the subject. The contradictory statements are obviously those made by the writer of "Cattle Notes and Jottings" on page 679, and the criticism of these remarks by Mr. Thomas Daws in his letter under this heading on page 767 of the volume just completed, and, as "Gloucestershire" expresses it, "the treatment they advocate in each case is calculated to be bewildering, being just the reverse."

There is a temptation to embark in a general critique of the several paragraphs in which the author of "Cattle Notes and Jottings" gives so much bad advice, because the notions entertained are antiquated, erroneous, and mischievous; but perhaps we had better here stick to the point raised by "Gloucestershire"—"The one advises milking the cow two or three times before calving, and the other not until twenty-four hours afterwards"—and deal with the other heresies in the shape of an up-to-date article on "post-partum paralysis," which is a much better name for the condition under consideration than "milk fever," and that for several reasons other than stated above.

Premising that none of the correspondents seem to thoroughly appreciate the importance of the part played by predisposition to the disease by age, breed, and condition, or the fact that with some cows, or at some ages, it makes no difference how they are managed as regards their liability to "milk fever," simply because there is no predisposition to it, let us consider the question of to milk or not to milk—that is, before or about the period of parturition. The writer of "Cattle Notes and Jottings" says:—"Another admirable plan is to milk the cows a day or two before they are due, if the udder has become too full or even moderately so. Where this has been practised we do not recollect a single instance proving fatal, or even a slight attack following," which, we may add, argues a very limited experience of the disease, and which some of the other curious remarks tend to confirm.

Mr. Thomas Daws is totally opposed to the pre-parturient milking, and is so emphatic as to go in largely for italics. He says:—"We *never* milk a cow *before* calving, and I do not have the cow milked for twenty-four hours *after* calving, however much to appearance they require it. . . . We have not had a case of milk fever since we adopted this plan." "Gloucestershire" says:—"For myself I should say milk beforehand, as it appears reasonable to relieve the cow's system of the superabundance of milk as much as possible, which, in my opinion, would agitate and aid the fever."

Mr. Daws recognises that "we all have our fancies and opinions," and says "perhaps both sides are right"; but this can hardly be if all the parties to the dispute are talking about the same class of cow, and probably a better way to put it is perhaps both sides are wrong. This much is certain, *predisposed* cows go "down" under both systems of management; and while one gentleman has never seen even a slight attack occur where cows have been milked before calving, and the other has never had a case of milk fever since he adopted the plan of not milking by hand for twenty-four hours after calving, we have seen both systems fail. Indeed, we have no hesitation in affirming that there is no certain preventive of the disease in predisposed cows, and we have seen practically all systems tried, often with apparent success for a while, and seen them all break down sooner or later. But—there is always a "but"—we have seen the *best* results from the system of management so strongly advocated by Mr. Daws, and we agree with him in his conclusions, and for reasons exactly opposite to those expressed by "Gloucestershire."

The abstraction does not "relieve the cow's system of the superabundance of milk," for, as Mr. Daws says, "the more you milk away the more comes, just what you want to avoid for the first week," and every dairyman knows that hard milking and clean stripping encourages secretion. Without pretending that it is a certain preventive, our experience goes to show that the system of management which leaves the udder untouched until the "danger" period is passed, except in so far as affording the relief occasioned by the sucking of the calf, tends in the direction of prevention, especially if practised in conjunction with other measures before calving having for their object the discouragement of milk secretion about the time of parturition.

Further, and contrary, perhaps, to what might be expected, we have never known any injury to the udder from refraining from abstracting from it more than satisfies the necessities of the calf, and have not found that the practice has ultimately any serious effect on milk production. The temporary discouragement of secretion makes no difference to the yield, when feeding and milking commence in earnest after the "danger" period is passed. The treatment of "milk fever" is under modern methods attended with much greater success than formerly, when the animal was regarded as certain to die, whereas it is now confidently expected to recover; but prophylactic measures are still of great importance, if only because prevention saves the expense of treatment, nursing, &c., if the cow goes "down."

M.R.C.V.S.

At the Conference of the Federation of Grocers' Associations, at Bournemouth last week. A motion was carried deprecating legislation on milk-blended butter, and urging the adoption of the principle of invoice warrants. The Butter and Margarine Bill now before the country would punish the honest trader as much as the dishonest trader, and the only safeguard against adulterated articles was confiscation at the port of entry. It was decided to appoint a deputation to wait upon the President of the Board of Agriculture, and, failing, to hold a mass meeting in London upon the question.

A deputation representing Northern farmers interested in the sheep trade met Sir Thomas Elliot, secretary to the Board of Agriculture, in the showyard of the Highland and Agricultural Society yesterday forenoon on the question of the Agricultural Holdings Act, 1906, particularly as to the construction of sub-section 2 of section 1 of the Act, which comes into operation in 1909, the point at issue being the meaning of the words "arbitration" and "valuation." Mr. J. S. Ainsworth, M.P., presided. In the course of a lengthy reply, Sir Thomas said the Board of Agriculture realised the difficulties in the matter, but they did not believe that there was any danger of injustice or of a departure from the salient principle that a farmer should go out as he came in. He suggested that they appoint a committee to confer with the Board of Agriculture on the point under discussion, and this was unanimously agreed to.

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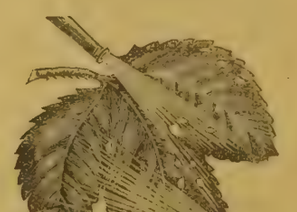
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The Home Outlook.

Warmer weather is now with us, and we are encouraged to hope that the long delayed summer has at last commenced. Judging from many reports to hand from the plantations, a higher temperature is sadly needed if we are to look for a decent crop of hops.

Many of my friends seemed to be on the verge of despair, and were inclined to predict an almost entire failure this season. The gusty winds have evidently knocked the bine about, and so far damaged the tender heads as to check the growth. Where the bine is weak, the aphides take advantage of the opportunity to feed and develop, consequently perseverance in washing is necessary. But this condition is by no means universal, and I have many reports that speak of favourable progress, and estimate the aspect of their gardens as fairly promising under the recent trying circumstances.

If the improved climate now visiting us be continued, we shall soon hear of a more hopeful tone being prevalent, fears that have been expressed of the spread of mould will probably be dispersed, and with the increasing strength of the bine, nature will be able to dispose of the blight.

The question arises whether improvement in the crop outlook is likely to be beneficial to the industry as a whole. I refer to market values, and in doing so am aware that I am venturing on debatable ground, for there are many who contend that a full crop will be our salvation, as it will close the market from the foreign competitor. I regret that I cannot share in this expectation, our experience in the past does not support such a theory, and I must confess that I am inclined to think that a moderate, or even small English crop this season is desirable, as it will the better encourage the trade and secure better recompense for our planters. Nevertheless, I am conscious that the average grower will do his best to grow hops, as each one will live in hopes that the shortage elsewhere will enable him to realise a good price for his heavier weight.

The only remedy for such uncertainty appears to be agreement between the planters as a body to regulate the whole supply to the possible demand. Could this be accomplished, the whole industry would be benefited. But I fear such a suggestion is not yet within the sphere of practical politics, and must therefore be dismissed for the moment. Nevertheless, I am always hoping for the dawn of day when the spirit of self-preservation may be sufficiently aroused to bring our people shoulder to shoulder with this excellent object in view.

Foreign Reports.

America. My correspondents say in a recent letter:—"The crop prospects in this country are improving daily. The weather in New York, California, Washington, and Oregon is ideal. We are looking for full crops, and may safely sum up our remarks by saying "all's well." From another source I learn that although some of the New York yards are rather backward, having suffered from the cold spring, recent warm weather has helped them on, and good progress is now evident. The favourable accounts of the state of affairs on the Pacific Coast is also confirmed.

The Continent.

Windsbach (Spalterland).—The gardens are generally healthy and free from insects, but are somewhat backward owing to the cool days and nights. Warm rain and sunshine are needed.

Spalt.—Up to the present the weather has been favourable to the progress of the plant. The earlies are at the top of the poles, and laterals are being rapidly developed. The later sorts show strong healthy growth, but are comparatively backward. We have had almost tropical heat, followed by thunder rains, and the present slight showers are doing much good in refreshing and invigorating the plants.

Altdorf (Hersbruckor Land).—Hops that have been attended to are doing well, but neglect of cultivation shows itself in the poor growth. The general condition of the gardens is, however, satisfactory; there is but little vermin, and the crop prospects are good.

Neustadt and Aischgrund.—Hops are growing well, the plants being strong and free from vermin. The heavy rains that have recently fallen are very advantageous, and a full crop is anticipated.

Bamberg.—The plants are developing rapidly, but we require more warm rains and sun. The present condition encourages the best hopes for a full crop.

Rottenburg (Wurtemberg).—The conditions are variable, some of the grounds are well advanced, but many of those on the left of the Neckar are rather backward, having suffered from the cold nights. Growers are applying manures to assist the plants. Moist, warm weather will be beneficial, but the general aspect of affairs is satisfactory.

Boblingen.—The plantations are making good progress, the growth having reached the height of about 20 ft. The hop area in this district is being enlarged.

Neutomischel (Prussia).—Hops are growing, the average being half way up the poles. They are vigorous and free from insects. The area is diminished to a slight extent.

Sachsenfeld (Austria).—The plantations are not improving, although the Goldings are well up the poles and developing laterals. In some cases burr is appearing. The later sorts are growing well, and are quite free from any disease.

Saaz.—The weather has not been altogether favourable, and the bine is only making slow progress; but this is not considered to be disadvantageous, as on the whole the conditions are fairly satisfactory. Better weather is required for the weaker gardens. It is now estimated that half the grounds may be reported as in good condition, the remainder being either middling or weak.

Kief (Poland).—The present position of the plantations is now satisfactory, although, in consequence of the long winter, cultivation was delayed. The spring was also cold and wet, and it was feared that the results would be bad, but all fears are now dissipated, and the prospect is favourable for a good harvest.

Volhynia (Poland).—There is no increase in the area, but cuttings have been sold in some quantity to other districts, where the demand is considerable. Crop prospects are good. A hop-growers' association has been formed under the patronage of the Government.

Belgium.—The continued cold weather has retarded the growth, but as the blight has disappeared growers are encouraged to hope for a plentiful harvest, supposing that the climate of the coming weeks is normal. Present appearances favour expectation that all will be well for development.

Market Jottings.

London.

The feeling of uncertainty as to the growing crop to which I referred last week as influencing the Borough trade has developed to a considerable extent. A marked renewal of activity is present with us, inquiries are frequent, and many sales have been made during the last few days. I am happy to be able to confirm previous indications of improving value, as prices have advanced from 5s. to 10s., and at the moment it does not appear that the arrival of the sun has interfered with the upward tendency now established.
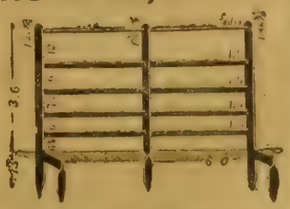
Of course when one asks a trader for his views as to the future, he looks up to the sky and reminds his questioner of the climatic influences, upon which the market mainly depends. I conclude, therefore, that the brewers are somewhat disturbed, and are endeavouring to secure such hops as are obtainable at present low rates, and we may be sure that if the demand continues values will be further advanced, as there are no important stocks in hand, and supplies will be

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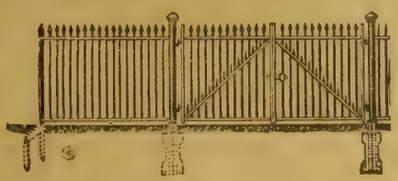




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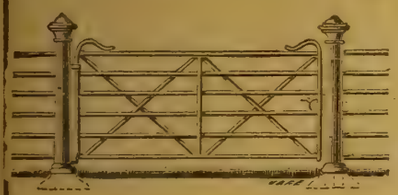




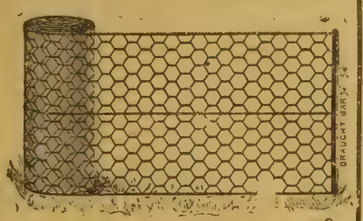
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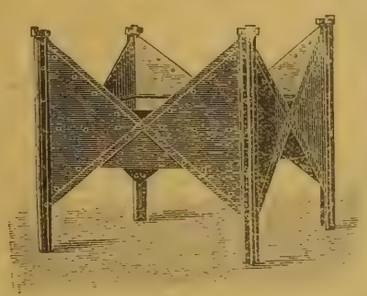






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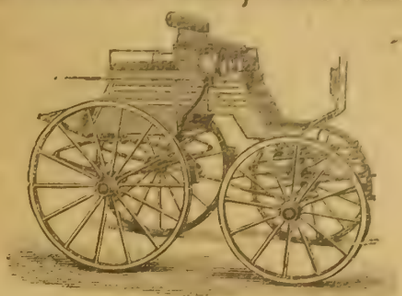
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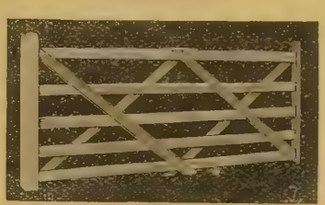
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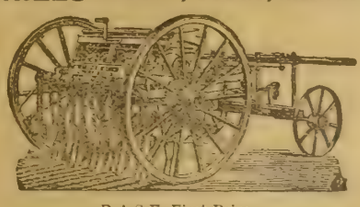
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America.

My latest information is to the effect that on account of the very favourable weather for the coming crop, the market for 1906's has a downward tendency, and the market for futures is very quiet.

Inward and Outward Movements.

In spite of the slow demand prevailing during the past month, the influx of foreign hops continues. The Board of Trade returns for June show that we have received from America 5,034 cwt., and from other countries 1,198 cwt., making a total for the month of 6 232 cwt. On the other hand, we have only shipped 306 cwt. of English and 281 cwt. of foreign hops, so that the balance against our market for June is the most important figure of 5,645 cwt., which is far too heavy a burden for us to bear with the trade in its present condition.

Nuremberg.—Absolute calm prevails in the market, sales are so small that they are hardly worth mentioning, while new supplies are coming in freely, proving that the holders are anxious to clear, in face of the favourable reports from the plantations.

Quotations are consequently reduced all round, and there is evident tendency to further ease.

Belgium.—Sellers are rather inclined to press for business by offering at lower prices, and buyers are slow to respond. Quotations, both for spot hops and for the growing crop, are therefore lower, the tendency being in a downward direction.

Looking back over the transactions of the season since September 1, 1906, we find that we have received from all foreign sources to the end of June no less than 204,299 cwt., exceeding the imports of the corresponding period of the previous season by over 30,000 cwts. Our exports for the same period were only 11,041 cwt., compared with 19,542 cwt. in the same months of 1905 06. Our market has therefore been oppressed more seriously than last year to the extent of nearly 40,000 cwt. I suppose it is useless to grumble at these important facts, but they certainly suggest the absolute necessity of attention on the part of English growers, and the desirability of united action and agitation, with the object of checking this disastrous invasion of their position.

The complete administration of the 1886 Act of Parliament would doubtless be of great service in checking excessive supplies from the Continent, but for the purpose of regulating shipments from America it is clear that we require an import duty. Whether we shall realise our earnest wishes remains to be seen, but it is quite certain that if planters do not bestir themselves and decide upon a reasonable policy they must be content to continue to suffer.

The Continental traffic of the Great Central Railway Company has this season received an additional impetus by the provision of two magnificent turbine steamers on the Grimsby-Rotterdam service. The new steamers, *Immingham* and *Marylebone*, are able to perform the journey in about eleven hours, and this fast service has and will tempt the short-term tourist to visit the numerous places of interest in Holland, such as the Hague, Scheveningen, Amsterdam, Delft, &c. Through the enterprise of the Great Central Company it is now possible to leave home on Saturday afternoon and be in any of the places mentioned early on Sunday morning, and, returning from Amsterdam on Tuesday evening, to be at home again early on Wednesday, so that practically only two days would be lost from business. True to their tradition of "rapid travel in luxury," the new turbine steamers they have provided are replete with all the little details for the comfort of passengers which modern steamship equipment affords, whilst every precaution has been taken for the safety of passengers, the vessels being divided into water-tight compartments fitted with Stones Lloyd's improved water-tight doors, which are under the control of the captain on the bridge, and can be closed by him in eight seconds. The sister ships *Immingham* and *Marylebone* have a length of 282 ft., a breadth of 41 ft., and a depth of 21 ft. They are fitted with the latest turbine engines on the Parsons principle, driving three sets of propellers, the power for which is generated in four boilers of the Scotch or marine type. A speed of 18½ knots per hour is maintained.

At the annual meeting of the Highland Cattle Society, Sir William Ogilvy Dalgleish, of Errol Park, who was appointed president for the ensuing year, intimated a prize of £10 for Highland cattle at the Royal Agricultural Show of England, and a silver cup, to be competed for at the Oban Bull Sale in February next.

LEGAL NOTICE.

FREDERICK GEMMELL, DECEASED.

PURSUANT to the Statute 22nd and 23rd Victoria, Chapter 35, intituled "An Act to further amend the Law of Property and to relieve Trustees," NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all Creditors and other persons having any debts, claims or demands against the Estate of Frederick Gemmell, late of 25, Earlsthorpe Road, Sydenham, in the County of Kent, and 110, Fenchurch Street, in the City of London, corn merchant (who died on the 25th day of April, 1907, and Letters of Administration to whose Estate were granted out of the Principal Registry of the Probate Division of His Majesty's High Court of Justice on the 15th day of May, 1907, to Florence Gemmell, Widow, the Administratrix therein named), are hereby required to send particulars in writing of their debts, claims or demands to us, the undersigned, as Solicitors to the said Administratrix, on or before the 12th day of August, 1907, after which date the said Administratrix will proceed to distribute the assets of the said deceased amongst the persons entitled thereto, having regard only to the debts, claims and demands of which she shall then have had notice, and that she will not be liable for the assets, or any part thereof, so distributed to any person or persons of whose debt, claim or demand she shall not then have had notice.

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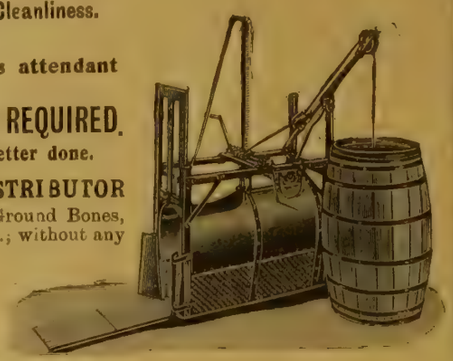
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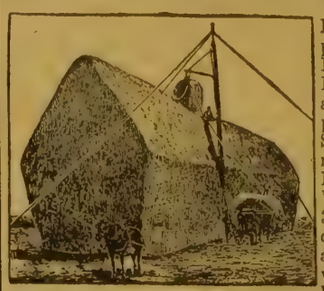
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LONDON, MONDAY, JULY 22, 1907.

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Seasonable Topics.

A Brighter Outlook. WE are writing this in the early hours of what we have looked and waited for so long—a summer's day. Half the world is as yet asleep, and the slumberers are missing the refreshing coolness of the morning air which comes through the open window and invigorates one to withstand the heat of the day. One half of the world still sleeps, but the other section—the agricultural fraternity—is awake and busy making up for time lost in past weeks of rain and gloom. Where are the pessimists who predicted that we should get no summer, and the faithless farmers who said that the hay would never be got in? We have heard little mention of ensilage during the past week, for old-fashioned hay is more to the mind of the average farmer, and a tremendous quantity has been stacked since the welcome change came and summer made its appearance. Sales are slack now, markets are making records in the way of sparse attendances, and public meetings are neglected, for farmers have but one thought—hay-making; and while the pessimists are more cheerful than they have been for some time, the optimists remind their less hopeful brethren of their contention all along—that summer would be sure to come.



IN FULL SWING. A SNAPSHOT TAKEN ON THE FARM OF ONE OF OUR NOTTINGHAMSHIRE READERS.

Weathered Hay. WHEN the hay harvest of 1907 is over, and the stacks stand side by side in the yard, it will not be difficult to note the difference between the colours of the material with which the ricks are built. In the same way there will also be a difference in the quality and feeding value of the fodder, because in most cases the hay that was cut first lay for several weeks exposed to the deteriorating influences of bad weather. Seeds and clover, which are generally the first to be cut, suffered severely in this respect, and in some cases the welcome change in the weather came too late to save the situation. It is true the harvest has been thrown back this season, but good hay is being got up now, and it will help to make up for the fodder which was cut first and got so severely weathered. When the rain was pelting down every day and summer seemed afar off, the Board of Agriculture sent out reminders about ensilage, but we trust they will not be needed now that climatic conditions have improved. Some farmers we know have this season adopted the good and old-fashioned method of sprinkling salt amongst their weathered hay in the process of stack building, with the object of making it more palatable to stock.

Long-service Prizes. NOT the least interesting item in the report of the Royal Show this season was the account of the prizes given to farm servants for long service. One glances through the report which tells of men who have served the same families between thirty and forty years, but these are records that should not be dismissed with just a mere casual reference. In these days of unrest, and, shall we say, discontentment, the matter is worth going into a little more deeply. The mere fact that a man has served one family for over thirty years is proof of two things—first, that he is a good servant, and secondly, that he has a good master. We know that men do not stay in the same situations as long as they used to do, but are more prone to move about, and this, after all, is prompted in a measure by the spirit of the age. Nevertheless, we like to read these records of long service which tell of good men leading contented lives and doing their duty in the true sense of the word. We should like to go a step further and learn what becomes of these old servants after their periods of long service. Some, we know, die in harness, and prefer to do so, but others fall on hard times in their last days, and it is for the benefit of men of the stamp referred to that we should vote for a system of old-age pensions.

The Turnip Fly. IT is in a hot, dry season that farmers expect to suffer the most through the ravages of the turnip fly, and suffer they did to a serious extent last year. But the turnip fly appears to have no respect for either persons or seasons, and this summer, which up to a short time ago was wet enough and dull enough in all conscience, turnip crops have suffered through the ravages of the hard-backed little pest which laughs at insecticides, and is so difficult to eradicate. We know men who hugged themselves that they would get a little compensation during the wet time by having no trouble with turnip fly, but they have found out since that they have still something to learn about the habits of this little pest. Various remedies have been suggested from time to time to check mate turnip fly, including the soaking of the seed in turpentine before sowing, dusting the seedlings with road dust and other material, and capturing by means of tarred boards or sheets; but there is an element of luck about turnip fly attacks, and the lucky growers are those who see their turnip pass through the seedling stage while the pest that is capable of working rapid destruction is engaged elsewhere.

Labour in the Hayfield. THE sudden change in the weather has made everybody busy, and with the hay harvest retarded and the corn harvest in view, farm operations are naturally being carried on at high pressure. While the weather continued bad the farmer was often at his wits' end to know how to find employment for his men, and now he is just as much pushed in finding hands enough to keep pace with the work. During the past few days we have heard several complaints about labour being scarce, and yet in journeying through the country one meets with men continually who, if their own story be true, cannot find employment.

When summer sun began to shine in real earnest these drones came out, from goodness knows where, and you see them now shambling along the dusty roads or more often curled up asleep under a shady tree by the roadside. Over the hedge the workers are busy amongst the hay, and the farmer would willingly set on more hands; but tired Mike never asks for a job where he thinks there is any risk of being set on, and in most cases he would get the cold shoulder if he did, for many farmers have tried the experiment and have found that the professional roadster is as useless in the hayfield as he is elsewhere. Not only is he useless, but often a nuisance and a public danger into the bargain, as may be gathered from a case which occurred the other day in which two men were brought before the magistrate for lighting a fire by the roadside, and they had selected a spot where a haystack just over the hedge provided the shelter they sought for. They appeared surprised when the police reminded them of the risk of firing the haystack.

The Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution.

NO doubt many of our readers have read with interest the report of the above institution which was presented at a recent annual meeting, and we would make further reference to the regret of the council "that many persons subscribe merely to promote the success of candidates for election, forgetful of the responsibility which subsequently devolves upon the funds of maintaining these as pensioners." Lord Jersey also made reference to this matter, and urged the necessity of subscriptions without regard to the privilege of the vote for pensioners. We quite agree with his lordship, for it is no good electing persons to pensions unless there are the necessary funds to provide them. We know what a good work the institution has done, and is doing, to make comfortable the last days of men and women whom fortune has dealt hardly with, and it is quite obvious that this work can only be continued by the liberal support of agriculturists at large. And in helping others one may perhaps be helping himself, for one never knows what is in the future, and more than one man who never thought he would have to do so has been glad of help from the institution.

Agricultural Organisation.

JUDGING from the annual report of the society which lives to promote its interests, agricultural organisation is forging ahead, and this in face of the contention made in some quarters that farmers will not co-operate. One feature about the above society which is largely responsible for its success up to now is the fact that it is vigorous and energetic. Knowing something, no doubt, of the conservative tendencies which are natural to farmers, the society does not wait for them to come in, but it goes out, even to the highways and hedges, in search of them. A record showing an affiliation of 153 co-operative societies and a membership of 9,000 is good, and the figures must be gratifying to the promoters, while they show that the spirit of co-operation is a living thing amongst farmers. We would add, however, that organisation amongst farmers should not begin and end with the purchase of requisites required in the business, for there are other ways in which farmers should co-operate for the benefit and protection of the fraternity at large.

The Little Man's Hay Harvest.

SCATTERED about in different parts of the country there are little places (which are small holdings in the correct sense of the term, as there are houses and buildings on the land which comprise them), and the tenants of these tiny farms, who may keep one or two cows, have their hay to get in. It is only a bit, just a few acres, but it is of as much importance to the occupier of the small place as the greater extent is to the large farmer. The latter has all the appliances necessary for hay harvesting, but the small man is not so well equipped in this respect, and a bit of help is a godsend to him when he is getting in his hay. In many cases the proprietor of the little place is employed by a landed proprietor or a larger farmer, and he is content to let his own bit of haymaking stand until his master has nearly or quite finished. Then the latter can help the very small farmer by sending a machine to knock off his grass, or lending a cart and horse when it is ready for carrying. We are happy to say that there is a good deal of this kind of thing done, and the individual who helps his small or neighbour in times of emergency does not lose by it.

How the poor sometimes live in a rural village has just been illustrated by a report to the Driffield District Council. A family of seven were stated to occupy the one available bedroom in a cottage in Teapot Row at Wetwang. The room has a loping roof, no window, fireplace, or chimney, and is reached by a ladder. The seven persons had only 700 cubic feet of air-space. The occupier is an agricultural labourer.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

The Distrust of the County Councils.

The distrust of the county councils gathers among the Radical Adullamites. It has become an integral part of what I may call their agrarian faith. "Local authorities are composed of local landowners, who are antipathetic towards small holdings"—this is the latest description of the county councils. Well, frankly, I think no friend of the existing authorities, and no man having experience of present-day local government, can be other than gratified at the resolute stand which Mr. Lewis Harcourt is making against this attempt to dethrone and mutilate our national system of local government. It is one of the paradoxes of the political situation this obsession of hate of the county councils on the part of the Mastermans of the House of Commons. They are the fevered Home Rulers, the professional local-governmentites, of the Parliamentary civilisation; and yet they are deliberately and pertinaciously seeking to establish a centralised bureaucracy which shall have the power of over-riding, checkmating, or thwarting the carefully-considered designs of democratically-elected local bodies. The Government has simply been asked to subordinate the designs of local and elective government to the preconceived purposes and anxieties of departmental officials, whose knowledge is born of red-tape and is instinct with sealing-wax. Mr. Masterman, the leader of these Adullamites, is a man of brains. Why does he allow foolish preconceptions against landlords and farmers—he yokes the two in the same harness—to run away with his native logic?

* * *

Mr. Harcourt's Resolute Stand.

The idea of certain of the protagonists of the small holdings principle—this has been made conspicuously evident during the committee-stage of the Small Holdings Bill—is that the agrarian county councils are ineradicably contumacious, and that they ought to be punished for this invincible sin by being mulcted with every possible loss suffered under and every cost inherent to the new legislation. If Mr. Chaplin and Mr. Jesse Collings—and to Mr. Chaplin's admirable knowledge and sagacious counsel Mr. Harcourt will, I am persuaded, be the first to bear willing tribute—are still unappeasable in their antagonism to the whip-hand to be possessed by the Central Commissioners, they should be gratified by the resolute refusal to make these personages the one, supreme and only executive authority. Mr. Harcourt could have secured a good deal of Radical applause—this has been illustrated again and again in the last few days—if he had hailed the past failure of small holdings legislation as an evidence of the invincible objection of county councils to small holdings generally and had thus decided to set them aside altogether. This he stoutly refused, and still refuses, to do. The Central Commissioners will still have upon them the duty of discovering where a demand exists for small holdings; but it is the county councils (I anticipate so sympathetic a readiness on their part that I doubt the Board of Agriculture will be called upon to act because of their default) who will draft and administer the scheme. Mr. Harcourt is, I repeat, wise in remaining firm to his original intention. He is acting with statesmanlike prevision. His policy is based upon the idea of winning the confidence and sympathy, should it not already exist, of the county councils.

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A New Suggestion to Mr. Harcourt.

Will Mr. Harcourt be induced to depart from this attitude by the further suggestions which are to be made to him? He has been wise enough to listen to the suggestion that, if there should be a loss incurred when the Commissioners act instead of the county councils, that loss should not be borne altogether by the county councils; and he has promised to make provision for such cases. The central authority will chiefly—yes, this I verily believe, in spite of the fact that the successful amendment carried against the Government has still to be ratified by the House of Commons—bear these losses. Will, however, Mr. Harcourt detract from the generosity of his own promise by accepting the suggestion that the Commissioners shall have something to say to the price at which land is bought and the rent at which it was let to small holders? The authors of this proposal actually, in their illogical suspicion of the county councils, forget their own oft-protested forebodings, that one of the chief influences in restraining the county councils from proceeding under the Act would be their horror of burdening the rates. They have depicted county councils as being possessed by anxiety over the issue "should we risk higher rates and establish county councils," and thus determining not to make the experiment. If Mr. Harcourt accept this new suggestion he will violate his own apparent anxiety to embark upon the new policy embodied in the Act in a spirit of conciliation. He has invariably insisted that the Commissioners are a necessity; but he has hither refused to regard them as an irritant, as a kind of hair-shirt to be worn by every county council next its skin as a perpetual sting-nettle.

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Why Bureaucracy should not Prevail.

The fight on the final stages of this part of the discussion of the Bill will be as to whether the Commissioners should be given greater powers than even originally proposed, or whether a certain confidence should be exhibited in the county councils. The anti-councilites are by no means rebuked. They have been severely chastised, but their wounds apparently quickly heal, and leave no discouraging memories behind. They exhibit in their misreading of the character of county councils all the enthusiasm of zealots. "Strengthen the hands of the Commissioners and the Board of Agriculture. Let the Commissioners have a voice in the fixing both of the purchase-money and the rents. Extend the clause which gives the Board power to establish small holdings experimentally, so that they may secure the necessary land for those experiments under compulsory conditions." This is the new *mot d'ordre*. I believe Mr. Harcourt is intent on what I deem the wiser plan—the admirable middle-path of establishing safeguards while revealing a conciliatory demeanour towards the local authority. Bureaucracy has been the curse of many admirable legislative impulses; bureaucracy often degenerates into mere supercilious disregard of local sentiment and local conditions. True, this is a great national policy, and in a national policy the nation should have adequate authority. If, however, this policy is to be dominated by bureaucratic officials, the State should bear the whole of the financial responsibility. This it will not do. Mr. Harcourt has shown himself to be impervious to that illogical enthusiasm which can degenerate into mere inflamed venom against a class; and I ween we can have confidence in him. He is doing more than his Radical critics to realise both his own aims and their own real anxieties.

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The Wise Policy of the Colne Valley.

I heartily congratulate the Parliamentary Committee of the Yorkshire Union of Agricultural Clubs and Chambers of Agriculture. Its intervention in the Colne Valley election was pertinent, wise, and direct. The questions it submitted to the candidates—the insistence upon one uniform assessment for all purposes, both Imperial and local; the emphatic demand that preferential rates for foreign produce should be prohibited; the request that State compensation should be made to the owners of tuberculous cattle; the assertion that foreign meat ought to be marked. The demand that the present measures prohibiting the importation of live cattle from abroad should be maintained, and the assurance that the consolidation of the Agricultural Holdings Acts is necessary—were timely, sagacious, and judiciously expressed. I am certain that if similar action were invariably taken in county contests we should witness a marked development in the Parliamentary temper towards the agricultural interests. This heckling—the heckling of the written word—is the best of all heckling. It cannot be said of the written pledge that it was given in a heated atmosphere and under passionate conditions. This is the pledge of the study—the document that demands obedience.

NORTHUMBERLAND SHOW.

The annual show of the Northumberland Agricultural Society, held at Tynemouth on Thursday and Friday last in beautiful weather, was quite up to the average as regards the quality of the stock, but suffered in numbers owing to the restricted showyard available. It was found imperative to refuse a number of entries for want of exhibition space, and even then the showyard was more congested than was desirable. Under these circumstances it is obviously impossible to institute a fair comparison with last year's show at Newcastle, when there was ample room. However, the entries showed an increase of fifty-two when compared with 1896, the last occasion on which the Northumberland was held at Tynemouth. The notable increases were in the classes for sheep, driving and leaping, and poultry, while the cattle and horses were not so numerous.

CATTLE.

Numerically the cattle section was much smaller than at the Newcastle show, and less than half the size at the last Tynemouth show, but the quality was excellent. The most successful exhibitor was Mr. George Harrison, the well-known breeder of Gainsford Hall, Darlington. In the class for Shorthorn bulls calved in 1905 Mr. Harrison took premier honours with Czar, who beat a former conqueror in Mr. Harrison's Elvetham Sweetmeat, which was placed third, the second prize going to the Duke of Northumberland's Alnwick Favourite. In the section for bulls calved on or after January, 1906, Mr. Harrison was first with Pride of Tees, a roan which was second at Darlington, and second in the black polled cattle, Aberdeen Angus, section. The bull was first at the Royal and at the Highland, and has won at shows since it was a yearling, and now it was first in its class, and also secured the silver medal of the English Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Association, and the special prize which Mr. Bainbridge had himself offered, whilst it was one of the quartette which won for Mr. Bainbridge the special prize for a group of four. In Idelamere's class Mr. Robert Clayton Swan, Darlington, was second with Protestant. Mr. Bainbridge was the only exhibitor in the two-year old class, and Gabriel of Eshott was awarded the prize. Mythologist, the property of Mr. James Kennedy, Ayr, was judged to be the best bull over one year and under two, whilst Mr. Kennedy was first with his two-year old heifer Euroto, add also with Ellen Terry, a yearling which was second at the Highland. Euroto also carried off Mr. Bainbridge's special prize for the best cow or heifer. Mistress Nellie, shown by Mr. Bainbridge, was the first prize three-year-old cow.

SHEEP.

The sheep classes, which came next in the order of the catalogue, were very well filled, and it was particularly pleasing to see the Oxford Downs looking so well at such a great distance from home. Mr. Thomas Oswald, Byers Garth, Durham; Mr. J. Knox Lyal, Peepy, Stocksfield; and Messrs. Graham, Tughall, Chathill, were the first prize-takers.

The Leicesters were somewhat of mixed quality, though very good on the whole. The champion to the King's Evander at the Highland. Mr. William Bell, Alnwick, came second with Lord Waterloo, which also took the Shorthorn Society's prize. Mr. Harrison also carried away the special prize for the best group of four animals with Czar, Pride of Tees, Towy Princess and Ursula Raglan. The two last-named animals were first and second respectively in the three-year-old class, this being a reversal of the decision of the Nottingham judges, who placed Ursula Raglan first, and Towy Princess second. Mr. Harrison's two-year-old Montrave Wondrous, which was first at Newcastle and second at the Highland, was placed first, beating the Duke of Northumberland's Belle of Alnwick (second) and Famous Rosebud (third). In the class for bulls calved in or before 1904 Lord Armstrong's Baron Merry Beau continued a long line of recent successes. He was beat by his sire, Baron Hopeful, who was placed second, the Duke of Northumberland's Baron Westwood being third.

Mr. T. H. Bainbridge, Eshott Hall, Felton, showed a fine three-year-old animal—Idelamere—prize awarded by the Border-Leicester Society went to Messrs. J and J. R. C. Smith, Galalaw, Kelso, the animal being sired by last year's champion. The special for sheep exhibited by tenant farmers of Northumberland went to Mr. Charles Charlton, Shaw House, Stocksfield. In the class for rams of any age above one shear Messrs. Smith and Mr. Thomas Clark, Cockburnspath, ran very near, the former just securing the verdict with a bulky animal. These exhibitors were similarly placed for shearlings. The special offered for tenant farmers for ewes, gimmers, or ewe lambs was awarded to Mr. Charles Scott, East Lilburn.

The Cheviot sheep were an exceptionally good lot, though not of great variety. Principal honours fell to Mr Jacob Robson, Byrness, Otterburn, who was first with shearling rams, first and third with ewes, and second with gimmers. He also won Viscount Ridley's special prize. A three-shear ram bred by Miss Greeve, of Hawick, and exhibited by Mr. J. R. C. Smith, Yetholm, was awarded premier honours in the ram class, and Mr. John Robson, Newton, Bellingham, was first and second with tup lambs, second with ewes, and first with gimmers.

Bellingham breeders were prominent with black-faced mountain sheep. Mr. John Robson took three firsts, two seconds, and a third; and Messrs. Addison and Paisley two firsts, two seconds, and two thirds. In the half-bred sheep section all the firsts went to Mr. Charles Scott, East Lilburn.

HORSES.

Northumberland is proud of its agricultural horses, and the display was certainly one to be proud of. Mr. Fenwick Wilson, of Whitley Bay, took the group prize of £10 for the four best animals shown by a tenant farmer in Northumberland, three of the horses being first-prize winners in their classes. Lord Durham carried off the brood-mare prize with Lambton Maud, a grand seven-year-old that has not been out before this season, whilst the next two prizes went to mares from the Seaham Harbour Stud, and here it may be said that horses from this stud practically swept the boards. The chief honours in the two foal classes went that way, both being the offspring of Silver Cup, whilst Kitty Everard, a grand old mare from the same stud, and which was awarded the championship at Sunderland, took first place in the class for brood mares in foal. The four year olds "suitable for dray purposes" were about the most striking in the whole section, and Mr. Fenwick Wilson took both first and second; the winner, Major, repeating his success of the Highland Show. Mr. Wilson's Colonel, second at the Highland Show, was now placed first amongst the three-year-old geldings, a similar honour for fillies going to the Seaham Harbour exhibit, Silver Fern, which narrowly missed a first at the Royal. Messrs. W. and A. Mather, of Coldstream, took first in the two-year-old gelding class, and the Seaham Harbour stud was represented by a winner in the filly class, Silver Pansy carrying off the honour easily. She was the Royal champion at Lincoln. Her half-brother by Silver Cup won in the class for twelve-month-old geldings, the corresponding honour for fillies of the same age being accorded to Mr. W. C. Bowe's roan Mona from Innerwick.

Hunters were only a small show, but quality was alright, notably in the brood mare class. The first prize here went to Mr. Edward Harrison's beautiful mare, Miss Melbourne, Mr. Marmaduke Furness, of York, being second, and Mr. Rutherford's Lady Mowbray third. The last-named animal was also the winner of the Hunter Society's medal, which was confined to the county. Tenant farmers were specially catered for by the society, in each department of horses a special prize being given to the best animals sent in by farmers, and the competition attracted considerable attention. Hunters in saddle made a capital show. Out of a strong class of light-weight carriers, the first went to an attractive, well-bred bay, shown by Messrs.



The Cheviot Ram shown above is the animal with which Mr. Jacob Robson, Byrness, Otterburn, Northumberland, won a First Prize at the Royal Show at Lincoln. It was born in April of 1905.

Ward. Mr. Kidd, of Melrose, won in the heavy-weight class with Dervische, a great winner last year, and amongst the four-year-olds Mr. J. H. Stokes' Mustard, which took second at Darlington, now went up one. The group prize for the four best animals went to Mr. Kidd.

Hackneys were also a capital lot, and in some stands competition was particularly keen. Mr. Thomas Boddy, of West Auckland, wins in the brood mare class with his Dewdrop, whilst Mr. James Jebson's Gold Ware, which was second at Darlington, now took first amongst the three-year-olds, Mr. Wilstrop, of Bishop Wilton, heading the two-year-old with Silver Star, who thus beat the Darlington winner, Angram Queen. Mr. Cecil Fletcher, of Angram, again won in the yearling filly class, and Mr. Thomas Boddy, of West Auckland, was first in the "over fifteen hands" class with Whitegate Swell. There were ten strong entries in the class for mares and geldings between fourteen and fifteen hands, but Mr. Holmes won somewhat easily with a grand specimen of the Hackney breed, Dainty Kate.

Of the three pony classes, only two provided real competition, and in these the fight was keen indeed. The winners were Messrs. Ferguson's Queen Go-Bang and Mr. C. Waud's Ferniehurst Fortuna, from Baildon.

JUDGES.

CATTLE.—Shorthorns: Mr. M. G. Angus, Priory Farm, Hodsock, Worksop, and Mr. John Handley, Green Head, Milnthorpe. Dairy Cows and Fat Cows (confined to the County of Northumberland): Mr. W. L. Walker, North Moor Farm, Silkworth, Sunderland, and Mr. W. A. Weightman, Hall Farm, Silkworth, Sunderland. Aberdeen-Angus: Mr. James Whyte, Hayston, Glamis, N.B.

SHEEP.—Border Leicesters: Mr. Joseph Lee, Cogalton, Drem, N.B., and Mr. Matthew Temperley, Sandyknowe, Kelso. Cheviot: Mr. Michael Johnstone, Alton, Moffat, and Mr. G. G. Rea, Middleton, Wooler, R.S.O. Blackfaced Mountain: Mr. Hugh Carruthers, White Hill, Gilsland, Carlisle, and Mr. Matthew G. Hamilton, Woolfords, Cobbinshaw, N.B. Half-bred: Mr. Andrew T. Elliot, Newhall, Clovenshaw, Galashiels, and Mr. Matthew Ridley, Peelwell, Haydon Bridge. Oxford Down: Mr. G. T. Hobbs, Maisey Hampton, Fairford.

HORSES.—Agricultural and Draught Purposes: Mr. Jonathan R. Angus, Cheraton Hill, Castle Eden; Mr. Wm. Clark, Netherlea, Cathcart; Mr. William Taylor, Park Mains, Renfrew; and Mr. James Kilpatrick, Mains, Kilmarnock. Hunting Classes: Mr. George Dove, Whitehouse, St. Boswells, N.B., and Mr. C. H. Scott Plummer, Sunderland Hall, Selkirk; Mr. T. H. Hutchinson, Manor House, Catterick, and Mr. Owen C. Wallis, West Haddon Hall, Rugby. Hackneys and Ponies: Mr. Henry Moore, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull, and Mr. John Wreghitt, East Thorpe, Market Weighton. Referee.—Mr. George Dove, Whitehouse, St. Boswells.

South Durham and North Yorkshire.

The South Durham and North Yorkshire Agricultural Society were fortunate enough to have a brilliantly fine day for their show at Darlington on Wednesday, and it proved most successful from all points. For the first time there was a section for pedigree Shorthorns and another for sheep, and the success which attended these new departures should ensure them being included in future years. Horses were more numerous than last year, whilst the entries of dogs constituted a record for the society, so that the fixture was an all-round success. Shorthorn cattle made a splendid show for a first attempt, Mr. George Harrison, of Gainford Hall, Darlington, showing several of his notable animals and he took most of the prizes. A fine lot of grazing cattle was shown, the championship going to a choice Aberdeen Angus steer shown by Mr. C. Emmerson, of East Layton. The exhibition of horses as a whole was generally admitted to be one of the finest seen at the show for several years, notably the hunters. The sheep and goat sections were also creditable ones, and the society is to be congratulated on the success which has attended its forward policy, and we hope the financial result will also prove satisfactory.

Exeter Show.

The horse show held at Exeter on Wednesday proved the best yet held in that town. The horses numbered about 160, several more than last year, despite the fact that some classes had been dropped, and the quality was good. For the first time in its history, a dog show was held in conjunction with the horse show, under the auspices of the Yeovil and Western Counties Canine Society, and the Horse Show Society itself organised a show of hounds for the Western Counties, being the first of its kind in this part of the country, so that altogether the extensive and varied collection of horses and dogs exhibited was one of the finest seen in the West of England for some time. The weather was gloriously fine, and there was a large attendance from all parts of the county, so that the show should prove as successful financially as it was in other respects.

The Cheshire Milk Producers' Association have decided to extend the scope of their Manchester agency to Liverpool and district, so that those who send milk to Liverpool or towns on the Cheshire side of the Mersey may have their interests looked after in the same way as those who send to Manchester and district. An appeal will be made to members of the association in due course for financial support for this new development.

STAFFORDSHIRE SHOW.

The Staffordshire Agricultural Society were fortunate in having a splendid exhibition and brilliant weather, so that all that was needed to ensure a complete success of the show at Burton-on-Trent was a large attendance of the public, and this happily they also got on both days (Wednesday and Thursday), so that their visit to the famous brewery town after an absence of ten years proved a most satisfactory one. The entries totaled 681, compared with 653 last year and 685 the year before. The principal increase was in the department for sheep, but all the more important sections were splendidly supported. There were 221 entries of cattle, 288 of horses, 121 of sheep, and 44 of pigs. There were also classes for cheese, butter, honey, poultry, dogs, &c.

CATTLE.

Shorthorns, as usual, were the feature of the cattle section, and the display fully maintained the high reputation of the show. The Shorthorn bulls numbered eight, and the best, as in several other classes, were shown by Sir Richard Cooper. His Chiddingstone Malcolm, a distinguished second winner at quite a number of this year's shows, now got premier honours, whilst Shenstone Albino, with which Sir Richard won third prize at the Nottingham and Essex Shows, was second. The yearling bulls formed a very strong section numerically, though here again Sir Richard showed far and away to best advantage, Shenstone Gipsy Lad, his first winner, and Shenley Duke, which was second, having little to divide them in point of merit. Shenstone Gipsy Lad is a roan, one year and five months old, and a winner of third at Shrewsbury and first at Hereford and Worcester, and on the present occasion he was awarded the prize of £10 offered by the Shorthorn Society of Great Britain and Ireland for the best young bull in Staffordshire. The bull calves, which were a moderate lot, were headed by Mr. C. W. Kellock's Buxom Jack, a well-conditioned youngster, whilst Mr. Smedley's King of Diamonds, a nice red and white, a couple of weeks over nine months old, was second.

The female Shorthorns also made a good show; Captain W. B. Harrison had an easy win in the class for cows in milk, taking first and second honours with Orange Girl and Bearstone Sunshine respectively. The former, a red and white of four and a-half years, has got both flesh and milk qualities, and is an all-round useful beast, while the second best beast, a roan of three years, is a little bit short in hindquarters, but is likely to finish well. Mr. W. H. Rider's Cheddleton Peri beat Sir Oswald Mosley's Duchess Craggs, in the heifer class (calved in 1905), whilst in the next class, that for heifers over one year and not exceeding two years old, Sir Richard Cooper provided the champion among the Shorthorns in Lady Shenstone Barrington 2nd. A winner at Shrewsbury and Leicester, she shows nice points of the Shorthorn, and, in spite of a little weakness in the loins, is well grown and breedy. Captain Harrison's Aldershaw Primrose 3rd, who was highly commended as a calf at the Staffordshire Show a year ago, now made a very good second in the class, whilst Sir Richard came third with Shenstone Kitty. Among the heifers under one year old, Captain Harrison's Aldershaw Primrose 4th was an easy good-class winner, and was also reserve for the championship. She is a straight young roan beast, and might have been distinguished as champion if a little better in form.

Channel Island cattle in Staffordshire make little headway. With one of his two entries in cows calved in or previous to 1904, in calf or in milk, Mr. Oswald F. Mosley, Melton Mowbray, had the first prize and Mr. A. O. Worthington the second. For heifer calved in or subsequent to 1905, Mr. A. O. Worthington took first.

Among the Aberdeen-Angus, Mrs. Macpherson, Wryley Grove, and J. J. Cridlan, of Maisemore Park, Gloucester, divided the prizes, and the silver challenge cup of £10, when J. Cridlan, having gained the greater number of points, holds for the year the cup, and also the Aberdeen-Angus Association's for the best animal—the first-prize bull—in the Aberdeen-Angus class.

HORSES.

As regards numbers, horses were not quite so good as last year, but quality was as high as ever. Several of the Hunter classes were only moderately full, but the exhibits were more handsome and of better quality than has been the case in recent years. One of the most promising animals in the show was Mr. Blockley's two-year-old chesnut filly Princess of Wales, which won several first prizes, and was also awarded the Improvement Society's silver medal for the best filly. Mr. Young's Castlerea, another prominent winner, secured the society's medal for the best mare or gelding of any age, whilst a handsome chesnut gelding, shown by Lady Walker, which was first in the class, was reserve for the medal. So keen was the competition in the class for weight-carrying hacks that the prizes were divided between Colonel Swinfen Brown's Torpedo and Mr. Shuker's Lady Wychnor.

There was a remarkably good show of agricultural horses, which included nearly all the leading winners of the season. Mr. F. E. Muntz's shapely King Forest, an animal with good bone and pretty feather, scored another victory in the two-year-old stallion class, and was reserve for the Walsall Cup. This distinguished son of Lockinge Forest King was first in London in the spring, at the Royal, and at Peterborough and other shows. The best of the yearling entries was Dunsmore Professor, a promising son of Dunsmore Jameson, shown by Sir Albert Muntz, Bart, M.P. One of the notable features of the Shire show was the success of the progeny of the famous sire Lockinge Forest King, and in the yearling class, Ratcliffe Coming King, a good colt of this strain, won the second prize for Mr. F. Farnsworth. There was a very good class for mares of four years and over, and here Lord Beauchamp's weighty grey Sussex Blue Gown won fairly easily. She has only been shown this season at the Notts Show at Retford, where she was placed second, but she won several notable victories last year, including the female championship at the Staffordshire Show and the Walsall Cup. Bardon Marion, of the Lockinge strain, belonging to Mr. W. T. Everard, scored a series of brilliant successes. She was an easy first in the three-year-old mare class, and, in addition, won the champion prize for the best female in the yard and the Walsall Challenge Cup for the best Shire in the show. The mare was champion at the Royal this year, champion at Retford, and a winner at the Leicestershire Show. Mr. Muntz's Aldeby Lady Jameson was second in the class for three-year-olds and reserve to Bardon Marion for the female championship. Mr. Everard also secured the premier award in the class for two-year-old mares with Ashleigh Royal Duchess, a Lockinge filly which has figured in several other prize lists and has been reserve to Bardon Marion for several championships. Mr. Everard's yearling filly, Bardon Flower of the Forest, had had no difficulty in winning. She has previously won at the Royal, at the Notts, Leicester, Essex, Peterborough, and Oxfordshire shows, and she promises to make a grand mare. There was a very large entry in the open brood mare class, and the judging took a considerable time. Eventually the coveted ticket was awarded to the Duke of Sutherland, who showed his handsome bay mare Lilleshall Moss Rose. The colt and filly foals were a good-looking collection.

SHEEP.

Sheep were more numerous by about thirty than last year, and the section was a very good one, competition in some of the classes being very keen. Shropshires naturally predominated, and Sir R. P. Cooper, being strongly represented, took a large number of the prizes, including first for pen of five shearling rams; first and second for shearling ewes, first for a pen of five ewe lambs, and a similar award for a pen of five ram lambs, whilst, in addition, he got second prize for rams of any age and second for a pen of five ewes, each having reared a lamb in 1907. Mr. A. S. Berry was also a prominent winner, his awards including first for rams of any age (both in the open and tenant farmers classes), and first for shearling rams (tenant farmers only), whilst amongst other prize winners were Mrs. W. F. Inge and the Duke of Sutherland.

PIGS.

We should like to have seen a larger display of pigs, but found little fault with the quality. In the classes for Whites Mr. A. C. Twentyman was a conspicuous winner, he taking the two first prizes, one second, and the silver medal; for Tamworths, both first prizes went to Mr. F. W. Gilbert, Chellaston, Derby, whilst a similar feat was accomplished in the Berkshire or other Black breed classes by Mr. J. E. Breeze, of Edingale, Tamworth.

The Thame Agricultural Association have drawn up a liberal and attractive prize schedule for their show on Thursday, September 12, at Thame, a sum of £575 being offered in prizes for Hunters, cart horses, colts, cows, stock, sheep, poultry, butter, eggs, honey, jumping and driving competitions, &c. The progress of the show has of late years been very marked, and it is hoped that this year will create a record in regard to entries. As indicating the increasing popularity of the show it may be mentioned that although the Association was founded in 1855, in 1897 the classes for the show numbered only fourteen, and were for horses, there being none for cattle, sheep, roots, &c., whereas this year the schedule contains nearly fifty classes, and the variety can be seen by reference to the prizes as mentioned above. Entries close August 1 with the secretary, Mr J. Bush, Thame.

Bedfordshire Show.

The annual show in connection with the old-tablished Bedfordshire Agricultural Society was ld in the county town last week. It was the 6th show promoted by the Society, and the tries totalled 176 more than at Luton last year.

HORSES.

The horse classes were we'l filled, Carthorses ing a most creditable display. In the classes r colts and fillies, especially worthy of mention the bay Wilden Conqueror, sire Conquering uke. This colt was also first at St. Ives, and is ell set up on sound feet and possesses good oulders. Very promising fillies were shown by r. W. White, Messrs. J. King and Sons, Mr. mes Day, and Mr. Robert Long, notably his y filly Stondon Pansy. A very fine pair of own geldings took a first and second for Mr. pencer Draper, and in a capital class of two-ar-old fillies, Mr. T. Barnard's chesnut Brick arm Flower was first. Mr. J. Day came irly well to the front again in the class for ree-year-old geldings and mares, Mr. H. G. ickering took Mr. A. W. Bla k's prize for a four-ar-old gelding, with Prince. In the same class r. T. Allen, of Goldington, and Mr. W. H. llen, Bromham House, both took prizes with a own gelding by the name of Turpin. In the ass for a pair of geldings or mares some splendid imals were shown by Mr. J. Day, Roxton, and r. T. B. Kitchener, Potton. There was a umerous entry in the classes for mares with foal. The special prizes were awarded as follows :— he champion prize of £5 for the best cart horse, e property of a Bedfordshire tenant farmer, was arded to Clement Keevil ; r, Spencer Draper. A lver medal, offered by the Shire Horse Society for e best Shire mare, filly or filly foal, registered or igible for registration in the Stud Book, was arded to Clement Keevil ; r, T Barnard. The eeders' prize of £1, by the same society, was arded to Clement Keevil ; r, T. Barnard.

The classes for Hunters were very well filled, d Mr. B. Davies Cooke was first with his bay are Rebecca and filly foal. Mr. J. White being cond with a bay mare and foal. Mr. W. White-ad was first and second with a very attractive ir, a brown colt and a bay filly in a class for oroughbred colts, geldings, or fillies. Mr. B. owkins upheld his reputation by leading in the o-year-old class with the brown colt Neptune, d Mr. Whitehead was again first in the three-ar-old class with his chesnut mare Chutnee, ich was awarded the silver medal of the nters' Improvement Society for the best Hunter y. Mr. C. Hartop's brown colt was in excellent ndition and much admired. In the class for ar year-old mares, the first prize went to Mr. J. urges's brown gelding Mainstay, which has never en beaten where shown.

There were numerous handsome hacks and rness horses, notably those shown by Mr. G. F. nsley and Mr. Walby ; the shapely black nag mmy, of Mr. J. W. Barker, Bedford ; and the y gelding Togo, of Mr. W. A. Robinson.

CATTLE.

Coming to the cattle, in the class for bulls der a year old, the premier animal was Mr. F. Wythes's Ravensden Czar, only seven months l, but a perfect multum in parvo of good ints—good masculine head, firm limbs, and level ck with a voice like the bull of Bashan. Mr. ythes was also second in the same class. essrs. Hipwell and Sons won high honours th Birdsall Hector, a bull of the right hair, lour, and shape. A very big red bull, with assive head, took the prize for Mr. W. Hazell the open class up to three years, and Mr. H. S. on was second, but was first in the class for orthorn cows up to three years old. Mr. G. mphreys showed a pair of handsome heifers, ich took first and second in their class. Cows d heifers were numerous, and of high standard roughout.

The special awards included the district prize £10, given by the Shorthorn Society for the st Shorthorn bull in the counties of Bedford, rtford, and Middlesex, calved in 1906, won by r. C. F. Raphael ; r, F. A. W. Wythes. Cham-on prize of £5 for the best animal exhibited in e stock classes, the property of a tenant farmer iding in the county, was awarded to W. L. ck ; r, Mr. B. Howkins.

SHEEP AND PIGS.

Of sheep there was a good average entry. The ampion prize of £5 went to Dr. Harley, of alton Hall, for a magnificent Oxford Down ram, ich was first in two classes, and another endid animal was second. There was a good ry in the Oxford Down class, mainly by Mr. G. reet and Mr. B. Howkins. Mr. H. H. Green's mpshire Downs were creditably represented, l secured prizes. Some useful cross-bred eaves were shown by Mr. H. Campion, Mr. C. gle, and Mr. R. M. Bodger, whose ten wether l ten ewe lambs took first prizes. Ten Oxford wn ewes, shown by Mr. B. Howkins, held the erve number for the champion prize.

Pigs were well represented, and Mr. F. Brown s first with a Berkshire in the class for boars, beating a very fine black boar shown by Mr. P. Bass, who was first with a sow and pigs of the same breed. The champion prize of £5 went to the Three Counties Asylum for Large White sows.

JUDGES

CART HORSES : Mr. J. Paisley, Moresby House, Whitehaven, and Mr. James Young, Brimhope, near Leeds.
NAGS : Captain Stapleton, Bretherton, Wheler Lodge, Husband's Bosworth, Rugby, and Mr. H. Sedgley, Church Langton, Market Harborough.
CATTLE : Mr. J. Beattie, Byrkley Lodge, Burton-on-Trent, and Mr. George Terry, Weedon Hill, Aylesbury.
SHEEP AND PIGS : Mr. J. M. Eady, Thorpe Malsor, Kettering, and Mr. C. Stanford, Bramore, Salisbury.

Cambridge Show.

After the failure of the two-day show at Ely last year the Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely Agricultural Society decided to confine the year's exhibition to one day, and the change proved a decided success, for at Cambridge on Thursday there were records of entries, splendid weather, and a large attendance of visitors, so that a complete success can be recorded. The total of entries was 453, as compared with the previous best of 418 (at Chatteris five years ago), whilst last year the total was but 289. On Thursday last horses numbered 343, cattle 40, sheep 43, butter and eggs 28, whilst there was a decided increase in the number of stands.

HORSES.

As will have been noticed, the horses were the feature of the show, and the best selection was undoubtedly that for Hackneys, many considering them better than at Peterborough. It the older stallion class Mr. R. A. de Mancha's Elevator by

SHOW SECRETARIES.



Mr. E. WALKER,
Leek and District Agricultural and Horticultural Society.

Royal Danegelt scored another success, Mr. F. T. Bailey coming second with Horningsea Squire John. In the three-year-old stallions Messrs. Hazelwood and Scrimshaw scored with the London premier winner, Refined Gold ; the executors of the late Mr. W. Flanders following closely with Witcham Lord Nelson. In the two-year-old colts Mr. R. G. Heaton secured a double win with Whitehall Wildfire and Kildare, the former, who is by Polonius, also securing the Hackney Horse Society's silver medal. Mr. Heaton was also first in the yearling class with a very pretty colt by Redskin. The mares were grand types, but Sir Walter Gilbey undoubtedly produced the best in Gallant Girl, who repeated her last year's win, showing in the best of form, and taking the Hackney Horse Society's gold medal. Mr. C. G. Cooke, Bygrave, won the red ribbon with Lilladora, for mares foaled before 1904, Mr. D. S. Carr's Londesborough May Queen being second. Mr. J. Tibbett, of Doddington, gained both first positions for two-year-old fillies in the open and tenants' classes, with Mr. Pentelow second in each instance, while among the yearlings the judges picked out the exhibit of the Exors. of the late Mr. Flanders as the best, Mr. Pentelow's filly being placed second, and Sir Walter Gilbey's Flash Clara by Danegelt, third. Mr. A. H. Maquire secured the premier position for the best mare or gelding, 15 hands and over, shown in saddle, with Morning Glory by Rosador, and Mr. Flanders' Exors. took second with Lady Tuck, and in a similar class for under 25 hands, the chief award went to Mr. R. A. De Mancha's Very Royal Empress, a daughter of Royal Danegelt.

In the harness class (over 15 h.h.), Mr. J. Kerr received both first and second prizes for Loudwater Gongelt and Loudwater Grangelt, both daughters of Royal Danegelt. Of those under 14 h.h., Mr. M. Ashworth's Sparth Fiancee was placed first, with Mr. Kerr's Loudwater Flourish second.

There was only a moderate lot of hunters, the weight carrying classes being too varied and common. The breeding mare class was also very poor, lacking in size and substance. Mr. F. R. Collinnham's (Great Baddow) Mikado was deemed the best weight-carrying animal in the lot. The best lightt weight was Mr. Douglas Crossman's Ninette, Mr. J. Duchesne's mare coming next, and for which he was also awarded the Hunters' Society Medal. The best brood mare was found in Mrs. Hooley's Gentle Ida, and the prize for the best colt fell to Mr. Reginald Hicks, of Wilbraham Temple.

In the Shire classes some well known animals were brought before the judges, and the section proved a good one all round. Colonel Duncombe's well known Duke Albert of Waresley, foaled in 1902, beat Mr. C. Morbey's Montford Knight among the stallions over five years old, and in the three-year-olds Mr. W. Richardson's Treasurer II. gained the premier honours, beating Mr. E. E. Pearson's Normoor Jameson. Mr. Richardson was also awarded the treasurer's cup for Treasurer II., having travelled in the county during the past season, and served thirty-five mares. Of the two-year-old colts, Mr. J. Rowell's Bury Shakespeare came out top, Mr. E. E. Pearson's Coleshill Forester being second. The mares made a capital show, typical of the Fens. Two famous mares, Mr. H. Towgood's Shelford Pax and Mr. T. Gee's Wrydelands Sunshine, took premier honours in their respective classes, and in both the open and tenant class, Mr. Gee's well-known Fen champion, Wrydelands Starlight —son of Bury Blood Royal—had an easy win. The fillies were an exceptionally good lot ; in the open class for foals of 1905, Mr. R. G. Heaton was called in as third judge to decide between Mr. J. Rowell's Bury Casket and Mr. Richardson's Wimbledon May Queen, when the positions at Huntingdon were now reversed, Mr. Richardson being placed first, and also awarded the prize for the Tenant Farmers' and Shire Societies' gold medal. Mr. Towgood's Shelford Fairy secured the first, and Mr. Rowell the second prize in the 1906 fillies, while Mr. Towgood also gained the societies' honour for the best Shire gelding of any age with Captain.

CATTLE.

The display of cattle was a disappointing one so far as numbers were concerned, but there were some nice quality animals forward. Mr. C. Spencer, of Holywell Manor, was awarded principal honours for Shorthorns, and Mr. Adeane, Babraham, had the best dairy cow ; Mr. W. J. Atkinson, of Weston St. Mary, Spalding, being successful in the heifer class, whilst Mr. F. Hargreaves, Gamlingay, had the best Channel Islands bull, and Mr. Towgood, St. Neots, the best cow.

SHEEP.

The sheep section comprised some nice displays of Southdowns and Suffolks, but Hampshire Downs were rather few, the principal prizes going to one exhibitor, namely, Mr. Briggs, of Babraham.

In Southdowns Colonel McCalmont's Exors.' pretty pens carried all before them, the second position going to Mr. A. C. Hall, of Carlton Grange, while Mr. W. J. Green, of Childerley Gate, the only exhibitor of long-woolled sheep, received the prizes. The best of the Suffolk classes was that for rams, the head of which was a good sheep shown by Mr. S. Trowbridge, Harleston, who also won the first prize for the best pen of ram lambs, the second prize in this class going to Mr. R. Barclay, Higham. In the ewe lambs, Mr. Barclay secured the premier honour with a pen of beautiful animals which won the champion prize for the best exhibit, Mr. Trowbridge being reserve.

There were no pigs, but a choice show of butter, cheese, and eggs, whilst the butter-making competiion proved as popular as ever.

JUDGES.

HORSES.—Shires : Messrs. John Nix, Stud Farm, Alfreton, and F. W. Griffin, Boro' Fen, Peterborough. Hackneys : Messrs. Alfred Rowell, West Rudham Hall, King's Lynn, and F. W. Buttle, Kirkburn Manor, Driffield. Hunters : Captain Beatty, Oakham House, Rugby. Turn-outs : Messrs. T. Mott, Littleport, and B. J. Chaplin, Fulbourn.
CATTLE AND SHEEP.—Mr. A. D. Druce, Elvetham Park, Winchfield. Suffolk Sheep : Mr. S. R. Sherwood, Playford.

Isle of Thanet Show.

The Isle of Thanet Horse Show, more fortunate than most similar exhibitions this season, was favoured with fine weather. Agricultural classes were notable for the exceedingly fine lot of Shires they included, and the many successes which were gained by the progeny of Betteshanger and Hothfield sires, Mr. F. de B. Collard being the owner of

most of the winners. The Hunter classes contained some splendid cattle, competition being exceedingly keen. Altogether there were four classes for Hunters, and of these two were won by Mr. E. W. Robinson, of Esher, a gentleman who, however, is well known at Kentish shows. Major Legard and Mr. L. W. Winans each took a first in these classes, and such well-known exhibitors as Mr. W. Winans, Mr. H. Ingram, and Mrs. Montefiore had to be content with seconds. Mrs. Montefiore's second prize gelding, a beautiful bay, also won the Hunters' Improvement Society's medal. Hacks and harness horses were as smart a lot of cattle as could be wished to be seen. Here Mrs. Montefiore's Prince came in for a first prize and she also won Mr. Marks's cup for the best hunter owned in Thanet. Mrs. H. Buckland's lovely brown mare, the well-known Musk, gained two first prizes in hack classes, while in the classes for harness horses the chief honours were carried off by Mrs. Hartley Batt, Mr. F. G. Joiner, Mr. Le Marchant, Mr. W. Sayer, and Mr. E. Lyne Dixson. The pace and action class was won by Mr. W. Winans' black gelding Lyric with Mr. Val Smith's bay gelding Prince, a good second; while the Hackney Society's medal fell to Mr. T. R. Higgins for his handsome bay mare Queenie. The champion cup for the best harness horse was carried off by Mrs. Hartley Batt's chesnut gelding Heathfield Squire.

The Royal Show of 1909 and Gloucester.

The Sites Committee of the Royal Agricultural Society paid a visit to Gloucester on Thursday to inspect sites and generally to talk matters over with the Mayor (Mr. S. Aitkin) concerning the proposed visit of the Royal Show in 1909. The representatives of the Royal included Sir John Thorold, Bart., Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Sir Richard P. Cooper, Bart., Messrs. R. Graves, R. Carr, F. Reynard, C. Adeane, W. Harrison, H. Dent-Brocklehurst (the Gloucestershire representative on the council of the Society), and T. McRow (secretary).

The party proceeded first along the Cheltenham Road, in the neighbourhood of which there were two excellent sites—one known as the Elmbridge Field Farm Estate, at the junction of the Cheltenham and Elmbridge Roads, an inspection of which appeared to give satisfaction, and owned by Mr. Ralph Fream, and others, with land adjoining belonging to Mr. A. Estcourt; and the other consisting of land owned by Mr. Harvey and the Churchdown Land Company respectively. At both places there is ample acreage for the purposes of the show, with many attendant advantages, including contiguity to the railway (from which special sidings could be provided), accessibility to the city, and a good main water supply.

The Sites Committee will in due course report the result of their visits to the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society. Whilst no definite announcement can at present be made, there is every reason to hope that, subject to the conclusion of certain arrangements as to the raising of a local guarantee fund, and details as to the site (including satisfactory sidings), the Royal Show may be held on the Elmbridge Field Farm Estate in 1909. Much will, of course, depend upon the reception which the general public of both county and city accord to the proposal. Fully £5,000 will have to be raised locally, and there is good reason for hoping that the public will respond loyally when the appeal is made to them. When the Royal Society was invited to visit Gloucester in 1892—which invitation was unsuccessful—promises to the amount of over £4,450 were received; and this fact should augur well for the financial success of the present movement.

SHOW GOSSIP.

Letters were read at a recent meeting of the Southampton Town Council from the Earl of Northbrook and Mr. Franklin Simmons, stating that the Royal Counties Agricultural Society would like to hold their annual show at Southampton next year, and asking the consent of the council to their so doing. Although the matter was formally referred to committee, there is little or no question as to the requisite approval being given, the proposal seeming to meet with general approval.

The takings at the recent Edinburgh show of the Highland and Agricultural Society amounted to £7,574 4s. 5d., the gate receipts being £5,738 9s, catalogues £421 4s. 4d., and grand stands £1,414 11s. 1d. The total is the best on record, with the exception of 1899, when the show was last held at Edinburgh. On that occasion the takings amounted to £10,222 11s, and then the weather was of the most favourable description, whereas this year it was much against big attendances on the first day or two; so that the society is to be congratulated on the success of their fixture, due in no small measure to the visit of T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales, although the show itself deserved such a reward.

The Cleveland Agricultural Society will offer about £400 in prizes for competition at their show on the Redcar Racecourse on Wednesday, the 31st inst. The amount is divided among classes for cattle, sheep, pigs, horses, poultry, pigeons, rabbits, ferrets, dairy produce, field produce, sheep-dog trials, &c., so that a varied and most interesting show should result. Entries close to-morrow (Tuesday) with the secretary, Mr. T. Turner, Lazenby, Eston, R.S.O., Yorks.

The entries for the annual show of the Tunbridge Wells and South-Eastern Counties Agricultural Society, which takes place on Thursday and Friday next, under the presidency of Sir Lindsay Hogg, Bart., may be pronounced satisfactory, being of about the usual extent. In all classes of stock they are numerous, the largest entry being of cattle, which total up to more than 300. Jerseys are, as usual, the most numerous, but there will be some strong classes of Sussex and Shorthorn, and in what may be called the "utility" classes there is likely to be a specially interesting competition, over 50 cows being entered for the milking trials and butter tests. Quality also will be a popular feature, a considerable number of the various breeds having taken foremost positions at the Royal and other leading shows this season.

Horses of all kinds will be well represented at the above show. Shires will provide some excellent classes, in some of which the entries are numerous, and there is a promise of good competition; the same may be said of Hunters and Hackneys, while the horses in harness give promise of making a highly interesting show. In nearly all the horse sections will be found animals that distinguished themselves at Olympia, which may be considered a guarantee of the high character of the exhibits.

Sheep also promise well, particularly the Romney Marsh breed, in which visitors may expect to find that the marked improvement in recent years is fully maintained. Southdowns, too, will be forward in good numbers, and will doubtless prove a good representation of this favourite breed. Goats will be present in about the same number as last year, and those interested in these useful animals may anticipate seeing the best specimens now living. Entries in the poultry and rabbit department have not yet closed, but considering the widespread favour in which the Tunbridge Wells Show is regarded by fanciers all over the country, there is no reason to anticipate anything but the customary successful exhibition.

SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS & SOUTH EASTERN COUNTIES AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Patron—The Most Hon. The Marquess of Abergavenny, K.G.
President for 1907—Sir Lindsay Hogg, Bart.

GREAT SHOW AT TUNBRIDGE WELLS,
On THURSDAY and FRIDAY,
July 25 and 26, 1907.
OVER £1,800 IN PRIZES.

Open Judging of Live Stock commences at 9.30 a.m. on July 25.
Jumping and Driving Classes each day, for which entries may be made at the Secretary's Office upon the ground.
GRAND PARADE of all Horses and Cattle on July 26, commencing at 10.30 a.m.
GREAT SHOW of Sheep, Goats, Swine, Wool, Butter, Poultry, Implements, etc.
Admission:—Thursday, July 25, from 9.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m., 2/6; from 1.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m., 1/-; Friday, July 26, from 9.30 a.m. to 6 p.m., 1/-.

The CEYLON BAND will attend each day.

WM. ROPER, Secretary.
Kentish Buildings,
Tunbridge Wells.

THE EAST BERKS HORSE SHOW SOCIETY will hold its 11th ANNUAL SHOW at Hawthorn Hill Race Course, near Maidenhead, on THURSDAY, AUGUST 22, 1907. Entries close July 30, or, with double fees, August 6. Schedules, &c., of the Hon. Sec., C. H. W. DIXON, 4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C. Telephone: No. 5148 Gerrard.

WARWICKSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
(In conjunction with the Rugby and Dunchurch Agricultural Association).

SHOW AT RUGBY,
AUGUST 28 and 29, 1907.

Prizes over £1,230.
For HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, IMPLEMENTS, DAIRY PRODUCE, EGGS, DRESSED POULTRY. STOCK JUDGING COMPETITION, &c., &c.
Prizes in Horse Department over £685. Special Driving and Jumping Classes.
Last day of Entry July 27, after which at double fees up to Eight p.m. July 30. Prize Books and Entry Forms sent on application to
FREDERICK H. MOORE,
Warwick. Secretary.

DURHAM COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—President, The Most Honourable the Marquis of Londonderry, K.G. The ANNUAL SHOW will be held on THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 1907, in the picturesque grounds of Wynyard Park, Stockton-on-Tees (generously granted by the President). Upwards of £1,000 given in prizes for Horses, Cattle, Sheep, &c. Also two pieces of Silver Plate to cost not less than £25 each (the gift of the President) to be won outright in the classes for Shorthorn Cattle. Entries close Tuesday, July 30, 1907. Prize schedules for Dogs, Poultry, Pigeons, &c., on application to the Hon. Secretary, G. H. Proctor, Esq., Flass House, Durham. Prize schedules for Horses, Cattle, Sheep, &c., on application to the Secretary,
WM. CHRYSTAL.
Houghton-le-Spring.

BIRMINGHAM SHORTHORN SHOW AND SALE.

THE SIXTY-SECOND EXHIBITION AND SALE will be held on SEPTEMBER 4 and 5.
£155 IN PRIZES, viz.:
£70 for Females in four classes, and £85 for Bulls in three classes.
ENTRIES CLOSE AUGUST 8.
W. H. LYTHALL, Secretary.
Bingley Hall, Birmingham.

WELBECK TENANTS' AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL SHOW
will be held at
WELBECK,
TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 1907.

1,210 ENTRIES.

ALEX. GALBRAITH,
Sec. and Treas.
Norton, Cuckney, Mansfield.

BAKEWELL FARMERS' CLUB. President for 1907, A. S Marsden-Smedley, Esq., Darley Dale. The 59th, Annual Exhibition of Horses (Shires, Hunters, Jumpers, Hackneys, and Turnouts), Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Wool, Roots, Cheese, and Butter, also open Trotting and Galloping Races, will be held at Bakewell, on Wednesday, August 14th, 1907. Upwards of £450 in Prizes, Challenge Cups, and Medals. Live Stock and Produce entries close Monday, August 5th. Racing, August, 9th. Schedules and entry forms, may be had on application to WILLIAM J. CLARK, Secretary, Farmers' Club, Bakewell.

NEWBURY HORSE SHOW SOCIETY.
President: W. J. Yorke-Scarlett, Esq., M.F.H.
17th ANNUAL SHOW on NEWBURY RACE COURSE (station on ground),
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 1907.
Shelter provided for all Exhibits.
Cash prizes value £350. 14 Open and 11 Local Classes. Show opens 10.30 a.m. Entries close Single Fees, Aug. 1; Double Fees, Aug. 8.
Schedules and all particulars from
E. J. FORSTER,
Broadway, Newbury. Secretary.

POULTON LE FYLDE AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—Open to the United Kingdom. August 14th, 1907. To be held on the Showground, Poulton le Fylde. Nearly £600 in Prizes, Cups & Specials. Splendid Classification for Shires, Hackneys, Turnouts, Tandems, Pairs, Jumpers, Cattle, Sheep and Pigs, &c. Entries close August 5th. Schedules from Secretary, Richard Bibby, Market Place, Poulton le Fylde. Tel. 6.

GAINSBOROUGH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

ANNUAL SHOW,
MONDAY, AUGUST 5 (Bank Holiday).

£225 in Prizes.

Open Classes in Hackney, Hunter and Shire Horses, Driving, Jumping, &c. Entries close July 30. Schedules from
T. J. DIXON, Hon. Sec.

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD HORSE SHOW.
AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY.
President: J. R. DRAKE, Esq.
Open Class for Cart Horses, Horse Jumping, Driving Contests, Hunters.
Entries close TUESDAY, July 23rd.
Double fees up to July 29.
J. & G. KIDMAN, Hon. Secs.

NATIONAL POULTRY CONFERENCE.

Display of English and Foreign Poultry and Eggs.

The inspiration which prompted the collection f the large number of birds of all nations and ome-produced and foreign eggs, which were hown at the University College, Reading, in con- ection with the second National Poultry Con- erence, was a particularly happy one, and formed most educative adjunct to the papers read, with he attendant discussions, and much praise is lue to the committee responsible for this collec- ion for the manner in which everything was rranged.

The fowls, ducks, turkeys, and geese were all ent in pairs, but were not exhibited together, the irds all being separately penned, which enabled isitors to see every bird at its best. The collec- ion of English breeds, with their many varieties f those which are popular, was the most omplete we have have ever seen. For it must be emembered that even at the largest poultry hows classes are only provided for those varieties hich the respective committees are convinced ill fill satisfactorily; and, as a rule, unless a ertain number of entries are received for the less opular breeds the classes for these are cancelled, r unless there are sufficient entries for the total o cover or provide the Show Committee with the mount to meet the prize money, they do not feel that it might be possible to have such an exhibition alternate years in London or within a short distance of it, to enable poultry keepers generally to see the birds, so that when mention is made of other fowls than those which they are acquainted with, they might know at least the outward appearance of each.

For many years such a fine and complete collection of samples of English fowls has not been under one roof as here, for there were Rose and Single Combed Anconas; Andalusians; Aseels; Light and Dark Brahmas; Buff Partridge, White and Black Cochins; Campines of the original type, and of present show type also; Silver Grey, Dark, Cuckoo and White Dorkings; Houdans; Crêve Cœurs and La Flèche as representing French breeds which are kept in England, together with Cocon de Malines, and Faverolles, and every variety of modern and old English Game, as well as the ever popular Indian Game.

All varieties of Hamburghs were staged, as well as modern (or exhibition) Black Langshans, Croad Langshans (Black also), and Whites and Blues in this section. All varieties of Leghorns were exhibited, and it was generally remarked that the White Leghorn cock exhibited was one of the largest ever seen



Photo by [*Clarke & Hyde.*

An Austrian White Turkey, exhibited at the National Poultry Conference.

stified in keeping the classes on. For it must e remembered that promoters of poultry hows—no matter whether they are the committee f a local or flourishing society, whose object is to crease the interest in poultry keeping, or a few entlemen who run the show in the interests of nciers forming themselves into a committee for he purpose—cannot afford to give prizes for breeds rd varieties which are not sufficiently largely ept to provide classes of a few entires only, erely to show the visitors these breeds, at a loss themselves.

The exhibition at the Reading Conference as on different lines altogether, the exhibi- rs of the different varieties of the most opular breeds and of the minor breeds having een requested by the committee to supply repre- ntative birds of their own fowls to assist in the rmation of the most interesting and complete llection possible to be brought together.

These were exhibited in two fine tents, and ours could be spent in each by those who e really interested in comparing our own eeds and their developments with those opular in other countries, and particularly ose which are bred largely by our Continental eighbours, and which are only known by name the majority who are not able to make expedi- ons for the purpose of comparisons. We could t help wishing, when we were carefully com- ring the different breeds with each other, in such a collection, and we could not help feeling sorry that the type of this most useful breed is becoming so extreme, because these large birds do not lay nearly as many eggs as the smaller birds; and we trust that breeders of black Leghorns will not follow the example of the white Leghorn breeders, as if this is done their laying powers will in time deteriorate to the degree that these big birds spread for exhibitors' culls are largely bought up, and in this way the mischief spreads without the knowledge of the utility poultry keeper.

Lakenvellers, Malays, black and white Minorcas, and rose-comb Minorcas were there, and all varieties of Orpingtons, Polish, and Rocks, with Redcaps, that northern development the rose comb Blue, with Spanish, Scotch, Dumfries, and Scotch Greys.

Silkies and Sultans and all varieties of Sussex, with Wyandottes and Yokohamas were there, making a total of 182 pens, and undoubtedly the most representative display of fowls to be seen together.

Turkeys, ducks, and geese of all varieties were shown in addition to the fowls, and after these a few pairs of fowls, notably White Orpingtons and partridge Wyandottes, exhibited for the purpose of showing well-grown cockerels and pullets of all-round utility breeds, and a few couples of cross-bred cockerels and pullets for table purposes.

In the Belgian section, which came second, there were ten distinct breeds of fowls and eight distinct breeds of waterfowl. France was represented only by two exhibits, viz., of pairs of Crève Cœurs and La Flèche, and then came Section IV. with nine breeds and eighteen varieties.

It was noticeable that our English Hamburghs and Polands and the French La Flèche appeared in these sections under Dutch names, and that the type and colouring of these birds fell far below those shown by English exhibitors.

It could not be otherwise decided, we believe, than that the English poultry-keeper has reason to be well satisfied with the general appearance of the breeds which are available for him in his own country, for, regarded only from their appearance, the English fowls were very much in advance of the foreign ones, and records of productiveness prove also that the laying qualities of English Leghorns, Minorcas, Wyandottes, and Orpingtons are generally better than those of the Continental breeds, and the table fowls produced by our English method of fattening (which has been copied in other countries) are finer than those of any other; so that the lesson to be learnt by poultry keepers is to make the most of the opportunities afforded them for the disposal of eggs and fowls by the utilisation of all available land for a stock, which, carefully managed, will pay better than any other class of stock for a similar investment of capital.

Observant members of the conference could readily see that the progress made by all English breeds is most marked and would be thankful to see that this is so. America was represented by one exhibit of White Leghorns, and the difference of type was most marked, and in this matter English utility poultry keepers must be careful, for it is the smaller Leghorns which give the best return in egg yield, and if this is sacrificed to size, it will be a disastrous thing for the egg-producer.

The display of eggs consisted of cases from all countries, and the quality and size of the contents of the cases were very varied. The Danish and French eggs were an excellent sample of high grades, but some of the Russian cases were not to be compared with any saleable eggs. Ducks' and turkeys' eggs were there, and the Irish eggs were quite equal to the best English, proving that the instruction given there in so many directions is bearing fruit.

We hope that, in course of time, a yearly exhibition on similar lines to the one at Reading will be arranged, for the information of those whose interest is being awakened in poultry keeping as the means of a substantial addition to the incomes of farmers of all classes.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

Account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended July 13, 1907, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year (the figures for 1906 are in parentheses):—

Animals, living:—Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves (9,714), 9,061; sheep and lambs (379), 1,089; horses (233), 283.

Fresh meat:—Beef (115,312 cwts.), 126,594; Mutton (135,293), 88,515; pork (4,299), 6,369.

Salted or preserved meat:—Bacon (104,770 cwt.), 98,620; beef (3,340), 1,336; hams (40,093), 21,616; pork (5,031), 6,443; meat (12,940), fresh, 8,226; salted, 789; meat, preserved (5,457), 11,164.

Dairy produce and substitutes:—Butter (93,637 cwt.), 82,932; margarine (19,546), 16,145; cheese (92,581), 79,355; milk, cream (130), 123; milk, condensed (15,778), 16,881; milk, preserved (12), 41.

Eggs (great hundreds):—(386,868), 275,485; poultry (value £2,715), £2,615; game (value £54), £24; rabbits, dead (not tinned), (3,482 cwt.), 1,290; lard (42,184 cwt.), 36,086.

Corn, grain, meal, and flour:—Wheat (2,243,000 cwt.), 2,536,600; wheat meal and flour (193,900), 227,300; barley (335,600), 216,100; oats (555,500), 290,700; peas (51,360), 17,320; beans (11,370), 440; maize or Indian corn (664,500), 1,066,900.

Fruit (raw):—Apples (12,134 cwt.), 3,536; cherries (14,494), 12,284; gooseberries (6,369), 5,679; strawberries (3,576), 2,135.

Hay (4,446 tons), 2,056; straw (1,009 tons), 1,108; moss litter (1,532 tons), 1,585; hops (894 cwt.), 4,590; locust beans (— cwt.), 6,421.

Vegetables, raw:—Onions (89,941 bush.), 104,661; potatoes (217,261 cwt.), 349,938; tomatoes (57,545); 33,124.

The following resolution, moved by Major Dent, was carried with but one dissentient at the last meeting of the Wetherby and District Chamber of Agriculture:—"That this meeting, while sympathising with the idea of trying to keep the population on the land by developing small holdings, does not believe that the Bill as drafted will bring about any great development, and may cause much friction and harm to present occupiers without giving them adequate compensation."

THE YORKSHIRE UNION.

Swine Fever Regulations.

Among those present at the meeting of the Yorkshire Union of Agricultural Clubs and Chambers of Agriculture held at York on Thursday—Dr. Wright in the chair—was Captain Spencer, General Inspector of the Board of Agriculture, and he opened the adjourned discussion on the measures being taken by the Board of Agriculture in reference to swine fever. He said that on the occasion of the last meeting members of the Union were invited to send questions to the department on any point on which they required enlightenment. Having received no communications he came to the conclusion that there were not so many grievances as he feared there were. There was a point raised at the last meeting about the difficulty of the pig trade as regarded Malton and Seamer markets. The position at present was that it had been suggested that a certain number of parishes in the East Riding should be transferred for the purpose of the disease of animals under the Swine Fever Order to the North Riding so that instead of the county boundary being the line of demarcation, it would come a little bit more to the south-east. The Buckrose Petty Sessional Division and a few other parishes were proposed to be included in the North Riding and taken away from the East Riding. That might meet the Malton and Seamer people, but how it would meet the people who lived just over the border it was hard to say, because somebody on the border was bound to feel the pinch. It was a matter the Board would leave to the two counties to settle between them.

As regards the question as to what percentage of reported cases turned out to be cases of swine fever, Captain Spencer said :—For the first quarter of the year the percentage of outbreaks to reports was :—In the North Riding, 15·8 ; in the East Riding, 2·1 ; and in the West Riding, 16·1. And as regarded the present condition of the West and East Ridings, which were bound together under the Swine Fever Regulation of Movement Order, from January 1 up to July 17, the East Riding had 15 outbreaks and the West Riding 107.

Colonel J. D. Legard, C.B., asked whether, if this division was made, any question of rating would arise? Supposing the part of the East Riding in question were excluded from its rateable area would the inhabitants consider that they would not be called upon to contribute to the rates which were levied on the rest of the area?

Captain Spencer said that no question of rates would come into this. It was simply an arrangement for the moving of pigs.

Mr. W. Humphrey thought the arrangement would be a very convenient one as far as Malton pig market was concerned.

Colonel Legard considered that the arrangement would be of undoubted advantage to the portion of the East Riding concerned, and, if there was no question of rates, he could not see that it would inflict any hardship on the rest of the area. All the pigs from that district went to either Seamer or to Malton market, and those in the other district would not suffer any disadvantage. Under the present arrangement the markets in Malton were closed to the East Riding. They could not go over the bridge.

Mr. W. Hutchinson said that the question of police supervision was the great difficulty. Were the North Riding police to have the oversight of the new district? If so, there would have to be some distribution of the charges necessarily attendant upon that supervision.

Captain Spencer explained that the idea that the North Riding police were to have the supervision of the transferred area had arisen owing to a mistake. The minute that was dictated by one of the officials of the Board was taken down wrongly by the shorthand writer.

Mr. R. T. G. Abbott said he thought the lines mapped out by Mr. Spencer were very fair. The present position at Malton was quite unheard of, and unless some such arrangement as that proposed were made the difficulties would be increased. He said there was no difficulty that could not be overcome, and, certainly, the alteration would be for the better.

Capt. Spencer said that so long as the local authorities would agree between them what they would like done, the Board of Agriculture would agree. So it really remained for the local authorities to work together.

Mr. F. H. Preston said he had placed everything before the East Riding County Council. But they hardened their hearts and would not listen. It was argued that Malton should have no alterations simply because Selby could not join with it. If the Local Government Board were willing that this proposal should be carried out, he could not understand why anyone on the county council or anyone else should have a word to say in prevention of it. It was time these grievances were at an end. They had been a long-suffering people, and the pig trade had been very much injured owing to the restrictions which had perhaps been a little more severe than was necessary. There were no cases of swine fever existing within a radius of twenty miles of the district where he came from, and it was hard that farmers should be annoyed for no practical reason. As the suggestions now made were acceptable to everybody, he hoped the county council would no longer oppose them.

Mr. W. Humphrey then moved the following resolution, which was agreed to :—

That this meeting approves the proposed transfer of certain parishes of the East Riding from the East Riding to the North Riding for the purposes of the Swine Fever Regulation and Movement Order, and strongly urge the Board of Agriculture to carry the same into effect.

Mr. T. N. Driffield called the attention of Captain Spencer to the difficulty often arising on account of the very wide area declared to be an infected place. It was thought that when any farmer had a case of swine fever, his farm alone should be dealt with as an infected area. Could anything of that kind be done?

Captain Spencer said the whole policy of the Board where swine fever was found was to tie up that pigsty firmly—as tight as they possibly could. If the infected pigs are all in that one place, nothing more could be done ; but if the pigs were scattered miles apart, all must be got into the net, so the infected area must be made wide enough to get hold of all of them. Restrictions were laid on the smallest possible areas.

Report of the Parliamentary Committee.

The following report of the Parliamentary Committee was then considered :—

The Destructive Insects and Pests Bill.

It is proposed by this Bill to give the Board of Agriculture power to make orders for preventing the introduction into Great Britain of any insect, fungus, or other pest destructive to agricultural or horticultural crops or to trees or bushes, and for preventing the spreading in Great Britain of any such insect, fungus, or other pest. Although the Bill is very comprehensive in its terms, the primary mischief aimed at is understood to be the gooseberry mildew ; and it is proposed to adapt to agricultural and horticultural pests generally the machinery designed for the reception of the Colorado beetle by the Destructive Insects Act, 1879. That Act only applies to the insect designated as *Doryphora Decemlineata* and commonly called the Colorado beetle. The present Bill extends to all insects, fungi, and pests destructive to crops, trees, or bushes.

The Orders to be made by the Board may prohibit or regulate the landing in Great Britain of potatoes or of the stalks or leaves of potatoes or other vegetable substance or other article, brought from any place out of Great Britain, the landing whereof may appear likely to introduce any such pest into Great Britain, and may direct or authorise the destruction of any such article, if landed. The Board may also make orders for preventing the spread of such pests ; and for that purpose may direct or authorise the removal or destruction of any crop or substance where the pest is found or which appears likely to spread it.

Where the Board order the removal or destruction of any crop they may direct or authorise the payment by the local authority of compensation for the crop out of the local rate, on a basis not exceeding half value if the pest is found in existence in the crop in any stage, and in every other case not exceeding three-fourths value of the crop. But the Board shall not make an order directing the payment of compensation by any local authority for the removal or destruction of any crop or any trees or bushes unless the local authority consent to make the payment.

The committee approve generally of the Bill.

The Merchandise Marks Bill.

The object of this Bill is to amend the sixteenth section of the Merchandise Marks Act, 1887, which provides that imported goods bearing English trade marks or English words tending to show that they were made in England must bear a definite indication of the country of origin—*e.g.*, "Made in Germany." The Select Committee of 1897 reported that this requirement gave a gratuitous advertisement to trade competitors and had done much harm. The Bill provides that the words "Made Abroad" shall be used instead of naming the country in which the goods were made or produced.

The committee recommend that the Bill be approved.

The Small Holdings and Allotments Bill.

The committee having carefully considered this Bill, resolved unanimously, on the proposition of Mr. W. H. Wilson (Thirsk), seconded by Mr. Jonah Bulmer (Ryedale) :—"That this committee are of opinion that the Small Holdings and Allotments Bill now before Parliament should be strenuously opposed, and they hereby request Members of Parliament connected with the Yorkshire Union to take steps to defeat it."

The committee's approval of the first two Bills mentioned were agreed to without comment, but there was a lengthy discussion on the Small Holdings Bill.

A letter was read from Major Dent, in which the writer said he did not like the resolution the committee. He should like to express sympathy with the ostensible object of the Bi but at the same time to say the Bill would not le to any real development, and would cause gre expense to the ratepayers, and friction, expens and loss to present occupiers, and the taking responsibility out of the hands of the loc authorities.

A resolution was received from the Wetherl Chamber of Agriculture stating that, whilst t Chamber sympathised with the object of the Bi they did not think that it would achieve i objects.

The Chairman moved the adoption of the com mittee's report.

Mr. Wilson, in seconding the resolution, sai that recently seventeen small holdings in t Snaith district had been given up. If larg farmers with plenty of capital could not mak farming pay, he did not see how small holding could be made to pay.

Mr. Lloyd Greame said he thought it would b desirable in some places to increase the number c small holdings.

Colonel Legard said he thought the multiplica tion of small holdings would be a very good thin if it could be done on sound commercial lines an by proper legislation, because the more peopl were interested in the cultivation of the land th stronger would be the position of agriculture i the country and in Parliament, and no doubt i would have some effect in finding employment fo people who otherwise could not get it. He thought the present Bill was a thoroughly bad Bill, and nothing could make it a good one, but i they passed the resolution as it stood, it might give an impression that they were hostile to the formation of small holdings. He moved as an amendment to add to the resolution, after the word "committee," the words "while not opposed in principle to the increase of small holdings."

Mr. Abbott seconded the amendment. He said his experience of small holdings was certainly not a successful one. "You must," he said, "have a farm of 70 or 80 acres to make it pay in this district, though there are, of course, neighbourhoods near large towns where there is a different condition of things."

Mr. Lloyd Greame said their great fear was that people would get these small holdings who did not want to be farmers, but simply wanted to amuse themselves. He would be very glad to see some of these small holdings used to enable a hind, say, whose family was growing up, to take a little farm and make his way. That was what was wanted. But the present Bill was utterly unworkable and utterly unfair.

Mr. J. Bulmer said farmers objected to the very foundations of the Bill. They were opposed to anything more being put on the backs of the ratepayers.

Mr. Byass contended that small holdings were a success in some cases, but a man with a small holding wanted some other business with it. He knew districts where they were paying, and where there was a demand for them.

The chairman pointed out the object of the Bill was not to put tradesmen on the land, but to get people on the lann to live on it.

The amendment was incorporated with the resolution, which was unanimously adopted.

Rural Education.

A discussion on the subject of secondary education in rural districts followed. Mr. W. Hutchinson, who introduced the subject, remarked that secondary education, as he understood it, meant that when the elementary scholar by mental ability or age had passed through the curriculum of the elementary school the child should have an opportunity of being instructed in the higher branches of learning. In furtherance of this very desirable object the present educational authorities were empowered to make provision by the establishment of secondary schools by arrangement with present existing grammar schools, higher educational schools, or by erecting buildings adapted for the purpose in view. The maintenance of these schools was to be provided for by fees from the students, grants from the National Exchequer, and from a special county rate to the extent of 2d. in the pound. It was to the latter source of income that the attention of the Union of Agricultural Clubs was invited.

The question they had to consider was how the rural districts were to derive any benefit from the large sums of money granted for a purpose which the Board of Education confess their inability to carry out in these areas. If they could not have beautifully-equipped schools presided over by highly-trained and competent professors, was that a reason why their only part in the affair was to pay their share of the rate which the county councils had power to levy! In the East Riding, for instance, the advantages were mainly confined to the town and neighbourhoods of Bridlington, Driffield, Beverley, and Hull, thus leaving a very

large and scattered population deriving little or no benefit from either Government grants or county council levies.

Village night schools had to the present time afforded the only opportunity for many to carry on their education after leaving the elementary school. Without any disrespect for the teachers in elementary schools, and fully recognising the valuable services they are rendering there, it was questionable whether their training and methods of imparting instruction had been adapted with best results to youths of from fourteen to seventeen or eighteen years of age.

Would it not be possible, whilst awaiting for the full solution of this difficult problem in rural districts, to provide for the employment of qualified professors, whose frequent periodical visits and university methods at centres where suitable accommodation already exists, thus to help the willing student and prevent that apathy to the pursuit of knowledge so frequently seen when the scholar is free from compulsory attendance?

Colonel Legard, who moved "That our present system of secondary education in rural districts is not entirely satisfactory," said that in a number of cases children in rural districts were not sufficiently advanced in the groundwork of education to take advantage of the higher instruction in agriculture. If they could establish higher elementary schools they would enable farmers' children to carry their education further than the elementary school, and then they would be in a better position to take advantage of the opportunities offered to them by the Leeds University. They wanted to improve elementary education, giving it a rural character, and then give further opportunities for country children to extend their education beyond the school age.

Mr. T. N. Driffield, in seconding, said education had hitherto given children a distaste for rural pursuits. In his district prizes were offered for the best kept garden plots, and he was delighted with the way these plots were cultivated. If the education of children were confined to books, they would develop an utter distaste for farming.

Mr. W. Humphrey thought the higher education went the harder it was for farmers to obtain servants.

The Chairman said book education would not make people love the country, but if they were educated in Nature studies they would get really fond of the country. Most people thought the country was dull; for his part he could find one of the dullest places the centre of London. If people were taught to study Nature and study agriculture, they would be got to stay on the land and enjoy it.

Mr. Abbott thought prizes should be given to scholars for gardening and for knowledge of seeds and agriculture generally.

Mr. G. Scoby said that this secondary education was running away from the real and pure and simple agricultural education. Where had they got a man that could stack and plough properly; where had they got men that could thatch, ditch, and fence? That was the great thing that farmers wanted. In the villages they had hardly any men that could stack properly, "and the young ones," said Mr. Scoby, "all go after these professorships."

Mr. T. N. Driffield remarked that this had little to do with the education question they were discussing. The dearth of men to do the work Mr. Scoby referred to was owing to the neglect of the agricultural societies. They had not encouraged these men to become competent workmen. If prizes had been given for hedge-cutting, thatching, and any skilled work upon the farm for a series of years, they would now have had a sufficient supply of that skilled labour.

Mr. J. Byass suggested that the county council should teach this class of work instead of having boys dabbling in carpentry.

The resolution was then put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Landlords and Small Holdings.

SIR,—On a small estate of some 1,800 acres I have established, during the last few years, five agricultural labourers and their families in small grass holdings, varying in size from 4 to 14 acres.

These men are not only making an economic success of their holdings, but they are still working for the tenant farmer, to whose farms the cottages are attached. The wife and family do most of the work in connection with the holding.

I think you will agree with me that one of the safest channels through which to establish the economically successful small holdings is through the agency of the landlords, who are in sympathy with the movement.

I flatter myself that I know with practical certainty the families living on my estate, who, under normal conditions, are likely to make an economic success of small holdings. I am more anxious than I can say, that the present movement to establish a large number of small holdings, should prove a success. I do hope, therefore, that when the Bill now before Parliament is passed into law it will give to landlords in sympathy with the movement every encouragement to settle the most competent of their agricultural labourers in "small holdings."

As you are doubtless aware, we landlords can, for the purpose of erecting new and necessary buildings on our farms, with the approval of the Board of Agriculture, obtain loans for this purpose from the Lands Improvement Company, by paying £4 16s. per cent. per annum on the loan.

This sum pays the yearly interest on the loan, and liquidates the whole loan at the expiration of forty years. The company, in order to meet all expenses, charges 5 per cent. on the loan granted, and the official appointed by the Board of Agriculture makes two, and sometimes three visits, in order to sanction the plans and to pass the buildings when completed.

All these extra expenses are added to the loan, the whole of which constitutes a first charge on the property.

Now the special point of my letter is this, that the Government, under the supervision of the Board of Agriculture, should advance money to landlords who make an application, at the lowest rate of interest, and extend the periods of repayments of the loan over fifty or sixty years.

The Government, in order to encourage landlords to establish small holdings on their property, should not charge any expenses for granting the loan, as the Lands Improvement Company now do.

The result probably would be that instead of the landlords being called upon to pay £4 16s. per cent. per annum for interest and liquidation of the loan on cottages and outbuildings suitable for small holdings they would probably only pay £3 16s. per cent. per annum.

The loans would be perfectly safe, as they would constitute, as the Lands Improvement Company loans now do, a first charge on the property.

If the Government could see their way to grant loans to sympathetic and willing landlords on these lines, and the Board of Agriculture was to send out a judicious circular to the landlords, stating the terms on which they could obtain a loan for the creation of small holdings on their estates, and that an official of the Board of Agriculture was at their disposal, to submit plans and arbitrate differences between landlord and tenant farmer for the necessary land, then I venture to prophesy that the next few years would see a considerable number more of our competent agricultural labourers established in small holdings, without resorting to the local authorities or the taxpayer.—Yours, &c., H. B. M. BUCHANAN.

Hales, Market Drayton, July 12, 1907.

The Sheep Dipping Orders.

SIR,—The sheep dipping order is making a good deal of trouble to our graziers, who complain very much about it amongst their fat lambs, and that their sheep cannot be moved back home from market or to another market without being dipped again and kept for some time. They say the Orders are unworkable, which I always predicted they would be in a grazing country.—Yours, &c.,

CENTRAL BUCKS.

The Decline of the Hop Industry.

SIR,—Allow me, as a large hop grower, to call your attention to an article on the decline of the hop industry which appeared in the *Kentish Observer* of the 4th inst.

I am a "fair trader," and I believe in Protection, and I would not for one moment substitute marking of foreign hops for a duty. I believe in putting a duty on all foreign hops as quickly as we can manage to do it, but there is no reason why we should not also "protect" ourselves against the very unfair competition we have to meet through foreign hops being both mixed and unmarked. As a "fair trader" I ask for fair trading conditions. Nothing short of the equal application of the terms of the Act of 1866 to all foreign hops (which are landed here) the same as to English hops will constitute "fair trading" conditions. I am told that the foreigner cannot comply with the terms of the Act. Then let him cease to send hops to our market. We do not want them. They are quite unnecessary here. We have nothing to do with whether they mark them or not for use in their own country.

If they keep them at home—whether they mark them or not, is nothing to us; but when the foreign hop arrives on English soil it should be just as subject to the English law as the foreigner himself is subject to it immediately he sets foot on English land.

In order that a practical result shall be obtained, I should like to see copies of the article mentioned printed and put into the hands of every English hop grower; and, with it, a form of letter to the president of the Board of Agriculture asking or demanding that no foreign hops should be allowed to land in England without first being honestly marked in accordance with all the provisions of the Act of 1866. I would ask every grower to sign and forward the letter.

We have no organisation to take this matter in hand, but surely something can be done, or are we to still remain under the reproach that we will do nothing to help ourselves? Personally, I would do my best to assist, if others are willing to take the matter in hand.—Yours, &c.,

FRANK REEVE.

Lea Farm, Peasmarsh, Sussex.
July 18, 1907.

Northern Notes.

ONE can well understand the elation of the tenant-farmer after the past weeks of really horrible weather to realise the pleasure of seeing everything bathed in what a clerical friend described this morning as "blazing heat." The past injury cannot be ignored, the hay crop having suffered material damage, and to all appearance, taking note of the few fields cleared, the aftermath and also the clovers will be less productive than in a season of normal temperatures. Sheep have been badly scoured, and losses have accrued in the best-managed of flocks. These were not surprising to the experienced flockmaster.

THE loss of a few sheep is a flea-bite compared to the sad story of damage by a thunderstorm on the Yorkshire Wolds, whereby one farmer alone estimates his losses at £500. Other of his neighbours' farms were also "visited," but not so severely. He had two fields, one of 78 acres and another of 57 acres, laid bare to the rock in a few minutes by torrential rain.

IT has since been ascertained as a curious feature of this storm that its area covered only one and a-half miles, and that the *débris* from the fields blocked a highway for a distance of 540 yards. The surveyor for the district tells me that gangs of his men have been hard at work for some time effecting a passage. The soil, which is largely mixed with flint and gravel, is being tipped on the roadside wastes, where it will remain, a puzzle to future generations as to the cause of the deposit.

POSSIBLY the fertile brain of some archæologist will attribute its presence on the roadsides to the Roman excavators, as near the spot runs one of the Roman roads. As it becomes grass-grown an air of romance will most certainly be attached to it!

I HEAR that Mr. Luke White, one of the most aggressive members in the Commons, representing an agricultural constituency, has had an interview with the secretary of the Board of Agriculture on the question of the swine fever regulations existent in Yorkshire. The hon. member for Buckrose presented a petition for a withdrawal of the orders which are so disastrous to the trade in the North; but so far the Board has not been moved to action.

MR. WHITE intends to press the claims of his constituents upon Lord Carrington in the hope that the department, when it has heard the whole case for the dealers and feeders, will be disposed to so modify their orders as to allow free movement, except from affected areas. The area represented by Mr. White has had no case of swine fever in it since August of last year. Many experts—veterinaries and others, as well as experienced farmers and agricultural journalists—have pronounced against the present attitude of the Board of Agriculture with regard to this question.

AN idea that is becoming more general is that the Board begins at the wrong end. It should endeavour to prevent outbreaks of fever by making registration of styes compulsory, and insist upon sanitary surroundings for pigs, instead of making heroic but futile attempts to "stamp out" the disease—an aim, one fears, that is utterly impossible of attainment. The opinion is also general in the north that the closing of markets against the produce of a whole district because infection may have asserted its presence in a certain prescribed area, is not a reasonable position to be assumed. At present, though the scrupulously-kept markets are closed, every inn-yard in their neighbourhood becomes a place of sale, as thither pigs both great and small are brought for sale to dealers without let or hindrance.

I HAVE read some interesting commente in a north-country newspaper about Lord Masham's reasons for parting with the Jervaulx estate, which is noted for the large number of small holdings on it, from the cottage with a garden to the cottage with sufficient land to keep a cow all the year round. Forty to fifty years ago these cottages were occupied, and the men worked at all kinds of trades—as carpenters, blacksmiths, lead miners,

farm labourers, and a good many as jobbing men, who drained the land in the season, and acted as mowers, turnip hoers, and harvest hands.

NOW these men are a good many of them gone; lead mining is reduced, draining has been given up as the produce would not pay the cost, mowing and reaping are played out by the introduction of machinery. The result is that numbers of the families have left.

WHEN a man had work outside his cottage he added the land to his holding, which was of no use to the man who could not get work; and so these cottages have become the centre of small holdings; and it was Lord Masham's fear that the prospective legislation of the present Government is hostile to the landed proprietors that caused him to part with the estate. It is some consolation that these thousands of acres have passed into the hands of so excellent a landlord as Mr. Christie, to whom we wish all good luck.

IN all the northern counties potatoes are late, and "earlies" are in many places a disappointing crop. Holders of old potatoes are realising good prices, but stocks are nearly run out. The new tubers have turned up small, and on cold wet land fears are entertained that they will hardly pay for lifting. It is apprehended that potatoes will be dear in the winter on account of a poor yield; whereas last year the abundance of the crop and low price caused farmers to feed many sound ones to stock.

July 19, 1907.

Nottinghamshire Notes.

GLORIOUS sunshine accompanied by light breezes sums up the atmospheric conditions which now reign supreme in this district. The clattering of reapers in the meadows and clover fields may be heard on every side, while the waggons have been drawn out from their sheds, the wheels greased, and once again brought into activity in assisting to bring home the heavy fodder crops. Stacks are being raised with remarkable rapidity, and though some of the hay has been considerably "washed," it is now being harvested in good condition. The "afternoon" farmer who delays everything until the last possible moment will this year score with his fodder crops. So powerful is the sun that several very heavy crops of seeds which were only reaped on Monday were actually being led to day, and have entailed very little expense in the way of labour.

WE are now within a month of harvest day—in fact winter oats will be ready for cutting in about a fortnight. As compared with last year this means that harvest day will be fully two weeks later. The wheats have flowered well, and in the majority of cases have a very good ear—both long and broad. Barley, taken all round, will be rather light so far as straw is concerned, for the heavy rains coupled with the long spell of cold weather, have had a demoralising effect on their growth especially on heavy land. Winter sown oats have not done so well as might have been expected. Where they were mauled in last back-end they are without exception poor crops, and as yet I have not heard a single farmer estimate a yield of more than six quarters to the acre. On the light land—especially to the north of Nottingham at Bestwood—the spring corn has done well, and the year promises to be above the average providing the grain does not ripen too quickly as was the case last year.

THAT the present year will be a good one for beans is now certain, for the frequent rains have proved too much for the fly, and the stalks which have grown to a great length are crowded with pods of goodly dimensions. Providing the price of beans remain at anything like their present level, those who had the good fortune to have a few acres sown with winter beans will have the satisfaction of being well repaid for their trouble.

BLUE peas are grown rather extensively in this county, and though I have traversed practically every district during the past six weeks, I have not seen a single failing crop. Bearing in mind the fact that the citizens of Nottingham are lovers of green peas, a large number of farmers make a point in getting a few acres in early, so that they may be "pulled." They have this season ample reason to be pleased with themselves, for the prices obtained are very satisfactory, and the number of pods on a plant is well up to the average. A walk through the Sneinton Wholesale Market about five or six o'clock in the morning just now provides a sight not easily to be forgotten. Carts, wagons, drays—in fact, vehicles of every description—may be seen laden with hampers of freshly-pulled peas.

ABOUT ten years back very few agriculturists ventured to embark on growing peas for pulling purposes round about here, but how things have changed since then. The Fen districts were the chief source of supply, but I venture to assert that from 3 a.m. to 5 a.m. on Saturday morning over 100 vehicles laden with fresh-pulled peas may be seen coming over Trent Bridge into the city from the Bingham, Flintham, Edwalton, and Bunny districts. Here and there a farmer prefers to sell his growing crop as it stands to a merchant, who sends out his own pullers daily. This practice to a large extent has died out, for many farmers now pull their own crops, and, what is more, sell them to the shopkeepers and householders themselves, and save the middleman's profits. At the present time they are making from 9d. to 1s. per peck, and by this means many a small tenant farmer obtains sufficient ready money to see him through the harvest, thus avoiding his threshing a sack of corn immediately he gets it into the yard.

FAT stock continues to realise high prices, especially nicely finished beasts, and moderate sized sheep. Town people as a rule cannot consume fat meat, and they prefer paying ½d. or 1d. per lb. more where there is preponderance of lean flesh. At the Newark Cattle Market on Tuesday beef made up to 7s. 9d. per stone, and mutton as much as 9½d. per lb. At Nottingham on Wednesday best beef fetched 8s. to 8s. 3d. per stone, and nice sheep were eagerly bought by butchers at prices ranging from 9½d. to 10½d. per lb.

JUDGING from present appearances, we shall have plenty of roots for the coming winter months. Mangolds are a good plant, and with a continance of the present sunshine, are sure to reach a good size. Swedes have now been "gapped," and having received a good start, are growing rapidly. Common turnips have hit well, and have passed the stage when the "fly" can devour them in twenty-four hours. Seed merchants will to some extent be the sufferers by the recent wet weather, for in very many cases have the root crops been dragged up, thus obviating the trouble and expense of extra labour and seed.

THE Marquis of Granby, the eldest son of the present Duke of Rutland, will attain his twenty-first birthday on September 21 next, and the tenants on the Duke's numerous estates throughout the Midlands are rising to the occasion, and intend making him a presentation. At a meeting held at the Peacock Hotel, Belvoir, the project was explained, and Mr. Charles Hickson, of Bottesford, on the borders of this county, has been elected as hon. secretary and treasurer. The individual subscriptions have been limited in amount to a small sum, so that every tenant may subscribe. In all there are thirty parishes on the estate, and proper collectors have been appointed for each district. There will be some celebrations at Belvoir on the date named, at which the presentation will be made. Such an occasion as a coming of age celebration of a Marquis of Granby has not taken place since 1836.

EXTRA remuneration is being applied for by the whole of the justices' clerks in the county consequent on the extra work entailed through the passing of the Dogs Act. This was expected, and the applications came before a meeting of the Nottinghamshire Standing Joint Committee on Saturday last, who ordered the clerk to make inquiries as to the action taken in other counties respecting the matter.

THE chief event in agricultural circles in this district next week will be the sale of pure-bred Shorthorns at Holme Pierrepont, and from what I can gather from those in the know, there will be a goodly sprinkling of foreign buyers present at the sale on Thursday. As most of my readers are aware, Earl Manvers takes a keen interest in the breeding of Shorthorns, and his agent (Mr. W. H. P. Norris) is an admitted authority on the breed. During the past few years some very high prices have been paid for youngsters at most of the leading sales, and it will be doubtless remembered that the Earl bought several youngsters at the Ruddington sale last year.

July 18, 1907.

A Dorset reader writes that rabbits and wood pigeons are quite a pest in his part of the country; they do no end of harm and no good whatever.

Gooseberry Mildew in Gloucestershire and Worcestershire.

Order of the Board of Agriculture.

The Board of Agriculture has not been slow to take advantage of the new Destructive Insects and Pests Act to deal with the gooseberry mildew, for in Tuesday's *London Gazette* there is an order of the Board dealing with the outbreak in Gloucestershire and Worcestershire. The Order, which comes into force to-day (Monday), applies to the administrative counties of Gloucester and Worcester, and the county boroughs of Bristol, Gloucester, and Worcester. It enforces that—

1. The occupier of any premises on which there is a bush (this includes cutting, seedling, or other plant) which is diseased or suspected of being diseased shall forthwith notify the fact to the clerk to the local authority, or to some person authorised by the local authority to receive such notices, and where practicable a specimen showing the disease or suspected disease shall accompany the notice.

2. If any person knowingly fail to give a notice required by this Order to be given by him, he shall be liable on conviction to a penalty not exceeding £10.

The measures to be adopted for the prevention of the spread of disease are set forth as follows:—

The local authority on receiving in any manner notice of the existence or supposed existence of disease shall take such steps as may be necessary to determine whether the disease exists, and the area covered by diseased bushes, or by bushes to which the disease is likely to spread, and shall cause a notice to be served on the occupier of any land within that area requiring him to adopt such measures for prevention of the spread of the disease as are authorised in this Article.

A notice under this Article shall require—

(i.) The immediate destruction by burning or other effective method of all diseased bushes, including the fruit on such bushes.

(ii.) The thorough spraying as soon as possible with a solution of copper sulphate (containing at least one pound of copper sulphate to a gallon of water) or with some other fungicide approved by or on behalf of the local authority for that purpose of the site of any bush that has been destroyed.

(iii.) The thorough spraying of all gooseberry and currant bushes on the area defined in the notice with a fungicide approved by or on behalf of the local authority for that purpose and so that the spraying shall be carried out at such time or times as an inspector of the local authority shall direct and to his satisfaction.

(iv.) That no gooseberry or currant bush or any part of any such bush shall be removed or permitted to be removed out of the area defined in the notice except with, and subject to the conditions (if any) of, a licence authorising such removal, but this restriction shall not apply to fruit of a bush that is not diseased.

Any notice may be altered or withdrawn by the local authority if and when they are satisfied that this may be done without risk of the spread of disease.

If any person fail to adopt any measure for prevention of the spread of the disease required by a notice served on him under this Article he shall be liable on conviction to a penalty not exceeding £10.

The local authority shall in a form to be provided by the Board notify the Board of any outbreak of disease, and shall as soon as may be after the expiration of each year report to the Board the proceedings taken by the local authority under this Order in the preceding year.

Any inspector or other officer appointed in that behalf by the local authority, and any inspector of the Board, may upon production, if so required, of his appointment or authority, enter any land on which he has reason to suspect that disease exists or has recently existed and examine any gooseberry or currant bush on such land, and any person who wilfully obstructs or impedes any inspector or other officer in the course of his duties under this Order shall be liable on conviction to a penalty not exceeding £10.

The local authority of each district mentioned in the schedule shall carry into effect this Order within that district, and shall appoint such inspectors or other officers for that purpose as may be necessary.

For the purposes of this Order a notice shall be deemed to be served on a person if it is delivered to him personally or left for him at his last-known place of abode or business or sent through the post in a letter addressed to him there, and a notice or other document purporting to be signed by the clerk of a local authority shall be *primâ* evidence that it was signed by him and duly authorised by the local authority.

At the last meeting of the council of the Hereford Herd Book Society, Captain E. L. A. Heygate, of Buckland, Leominster, was unanimously elected president of the society for the ensuing year, and Mr. W. Judge vice-president.

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Reports of the Growing Crops.

England.

"Summer, with his fervid, beaming eye," is now providing a genial atmosphere to which our plantations are responding gratefully and readily. With very few exceptions, the reports I have received this week refer to manifest improvement in the growth and condition. Vigour is imparted to the bine, and the crop prospects are substantially brighter. From a few gardens I hear that lost ground cannot be made up under the most favourable circumstances, but as these are exceptional, we may conclude that generally the outlook is now fairly good. With the higher temperature there is, however, a renewed attack of vermin, which in some districts is assuming rather serious proportions, and mould appears to be also running rather faster than planters like.

But I do not trace any note of alarm in the reports, although I am aware that washing is in operation in most places, and I am inclined to anticipate that if the present weather continues the attention of our people to this moderate hindrance will soon conquer it. The strength of the laterals, which are now being pushed out freely, significantly demonstrates the healthy life of the plant, and we seem to have arrived at a point when we can with comparative confidence forecast the possibilities of the yield. I neither desire nor expect a large crop, nor am I inclined to be too pessimistic.

Yet one can hardly avoid the formation of an estimate, always keeping in view the many contingencies that may arise to interfere with the most careful calculations. But, assuming that climatic conditions remain favourable, I venture to predict a harvest of somewhere about £250,000 old duty, or 500,000 cwt. There is the reduction of acreage to be taken into account, and until the official figures are published, this must remain as an unknown quantity. I hardly think, however, that the final result will be materially influenced by this item, and therefore am content for the present to leave my estimate as I have placed it.

America.

My latest information does not show any change in the crop prospects. Some fine, warm rains have fallen generally throughout Oregon and Washington, under the beneficial influence of which the plant is making very satisfactory progress, the vines in Washington being especially well-forward and healthy. The outlook in California is hardly so promising as it was a month ago, but New York State is improving on the whole.

Austria.

I have a communication from a friend, who is an extensive hop grower in Bohemia, and is also a member of the Austrian Board of Agriculture. He reports as follows:—"The outlook of the hop crop in Austria is generally a good one, and especially so in the Saaz district, where the plant is free from insects, and has been much benefited by recent rains. In Upper Austria the growth is backward, and insects are appearing. In Styria rain is wanted for development, but in Galicia, despite the very severe winter, the bine is strong and healthy, and free from blight. The Auscha and Dauba districts are in similar condition to Saaz, viz., satisfactory. It should be noted that Bohemia produces fully 75 per cent. of the Austrian crop."

Germany.

With a much higher temperature, the advantage to the growth and development of the plant in all districts is abundantly evident. Occasional storms have not hindered progress, nearly all the bines have reached the tops of the poles, and are putting out a plentiful supply of laterals, so that the foliage is now luxuriant, and rich as regards the crop prospect. Should no unforeseen hindrance intervene, it is very probable that the harvest will be early and plentiful

Belgium.

In the Poperinghe district there is very little vermin, although certain persons are disposed to magnify the danger to the crop from blight. There is but little room for doubt concerning the general condition of the plantations; they are promising for a good yield. In the Assche district of Alost, the plant is healthy, although there is a little vermin, which seems disposed to increase. But the vigour of the bine, which has attained the height of from 10 ft. to 16 ft., and is pushing out laterals freely, dismisses any alarm, and creates expectation of a satisfactory issue.

Market Indications.

England.

In these days when rhyming is the craze, I may be excused if I follow the fashion and construct a rhyme thus:—"Hops markets and the weather, they always go together." Crude as this may be, it nevertheless declares a recognised fact, and our experience this week confirms it. The encouragement we received from the prevalence of the cold and the wet has been dissipated by the outburst of sunshine in which we have basked lately. Demand has subsided, and although the recent advance in values is nominally maintained, the actual tone of the market is weaker, holders who were firm a few days ago being now much more inclined to sell, while buyers are proportionately slow to operate. The tendency of the trade barometer is therefore downward, and this is not surprising when the plantation reports are so much more favourable. The only counterweight to this tendency is the paucity of stocks, which are indeed very limited. I question whether the market was ever so empty of available hops as it is at present. But if the demand is also absent it avails but little if we have only little to sell, therefore I am reluctantly compelled to recognise that weakness is our present characteristic, and with to-day's surroundings recovery appears to be somewhat remote.

America.

The market for 1906's and 1907's remains in a depressed condition, with no prospect of early improvement.

Bohemia.

The market is dull, merchants are waiting for the further development of the crop. The bad weather has had an unfavourable influence on the consumption of beer, therefore the unsold stocks of hops are rather larger than are justified by the small demand.

Germany.

Holders of hops are desirous to realise, and are offering considerable concessions in prices, but the requirements of the brewers being limited by the reduced demand for beer, there is no disposition to buy, and consequently the tone of the market has lost all appearance of health, and the tendency is towards continued calm and further reduction.

Belgium.

Both town and country hop markets are very quiet, the quotations being rather lower, as holders are pressing to do business. Contracts for 1907 crop are also being offered at reduced rates.

The Herefordshire County Council have passed a resolution to the effect that those clauses of the Small Holdings Bill now before Parliament which enabled the Board of Agriculture or any person or persons appointed by them to overrule the opinions of county councils as to the expediency of putting in force the provisions of the Bill within their respective districts were contrary to the true principles of representative local government and ought to be opposed. Inquiries made in Herefordshire show that in 135 parishes there were 2,979 holdings of from one to fifty acres already in existence within their boundaries. In thirty-six parishes there is a demand for further land for small holdings, and in twenty-three of those there was no land available for the purpose. On the other hand, in twenty-six out of the ninety-nine parishes that did not want small holdings land was available

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

The Unceasing Drain of Phosphates.

The phrase "No phosphate no life" is rather a hackneyed one, but it expresses the vital necessity of supplies of phosphate of lime in the development of all life, both animal and vegetable. As Professor Wright has remarked, when the unceasing drain of phosphates from all descriptions of cultivated soils, year after year and century after century is taken into consideration, it is no matter for surprise that our fields and pastures should have become denuded of this constituent. We are liable to think that arable fields are more subject to loss from cropping than pasture grounds, and this erroneous idea has controlled practice even down to the present time. It should, however, be remembered that pastures are perpetually being robbed by grazing animals. In their case it has been constant depletion, for while manures of various kinds are freely applied to arable land, pastures are too often neglected, and supposed to preserve their fertility through the simple act of grazing. This view is evidently incorrect, and especially so when milk selling is practised. We are accustomed to think that two, or more than two, white straw crops in succession exhaust a field, and to forget that a cow yielding 600 gallons of milk, say from April 1 to November 1, removes 12 lb. of phosphoric acid from an acre of land, besides what she stores up in the body of her unborn calf. Such a cow removes at least 15 lb. of phosphoric acid from the land on which she grazes every year, whereas two corn crops only remove 42 lb. in four years. It is, therefore, certain that in four years a good cow will remove 50 per cent. more phosphoric acid from an acre of land, supposing she grazes an acre. Even if she requires 1½ acres of good pasture to support her, she will remove as much phosphoric acid per acre as is removed by corn-growing on the four-course system. What would be thought of a farmer who never manured his land? And yet it is quite as absurd to deplete grass land by selling milk, if the phosphoric acid is not restored by applications of superphosphate.

The consequences of this short-sighted policy are easily seen in the presence of sour, coarse grasses, which not even hunger will induce stock to eat; in the absence of clovers, and in the prevalence of buttercups, cowslips, daisies, yellow rattle, red bartsia, moons, and sorrel, instead of rich and palatable grasses. My own first experience of the effects of superphosphate on coarse grass was gained by leaving one ridge unmanured in a field that was top-dressed with superphosphate. This ridge was conspicuous during the whole of the next season from its being absolutely neglected by cattle. The stock grazed all the remainder of the field closely, but this ridge was left rank with coarse herbage, which nothing would touch.

On all pastures where cows and young stock have been grazed for many years without special means being taken to restore the loss of phosphates; on all pastures abounding in coarse grass and weeds; on damp, rushy grounds, and on clay land pastures, an application of 5 cwt. per acre will be found to produce a satisfactory result during the first and subsequent seasons. The remarkable appearance of clover which follows closely upon such an application is only to be accounted for by the stimulus which phosphatic and calcic manures give to this class of plants. White clover throws out suckers and is of a creeping nature, from which it derives its botanical name of repens. That the plants existed in a weak and sparse condition previously cannot be doubted, but a dressing of superphosphate causes an unwonted development and vigorous growth of both white clover and other leguminous plants.

International Agricultural Congress.

The International Agricultural Congress has recently held its eighth sitting at Vienna for the second time. It has been held in successive years at Paris, Vienna, Haag, Budapest, Lausann, Rome, and now again in Vienna. The importance which is attached to these conferences can be judged by the number of representatives from the different countries; for instance, representatives were present from:—

1. Germany, France, Great Britain, Italy, Russia, Belgium, Holland, Denmark, Spain, Greece, Norway, Sweden, Hungary, Roumania.
2. Persia, Japan, China.
3. Egypt.
4. America, Argentine, Chili, Mexico.

Lectures were delivered, and discussions followed on almost all important subjects connected with the cultivation of the land, and economical questions connected therewith.

Bulb Cultivation.

The great extension in the cultivation of tulips, hyacinths, narcissus in Lincolnshire and other parts of England creates growing interest in this subject. Bulb cultivation is an old Dutch industry, and as early as the 16th century had become an important one. The tulip mania is a matter of history, and the elder Dumas founded on it one of his best known romances, "The Black Tulip." The value of new and rare tulip bulbs become enormous, thus, according to an old chronicle, 20,000 marks were offered for ten tulip bulbs. The speculation reached gigantic proportons, and finally ended in a sensational crash in about 1620.

A century later the hyacinth craze set in, and in a price list of 1734 a bulb, "Bleu Passé non plus extra," was quoted at fl. 1,600 (about £133).

The development of the present Dutch industry may be said to date from about 1860, and is extending yearly in spite of competition with the cultivation of bulbs in other countries. The bulbs are exported from Holland all over the world, although the principal buyers are England, Germany, and America. The total quantity of bulbs exported annually is over 10,000 tons.

The cultivation is principally carried on over the stretch of sand hills running along the north-coast of Holland, the centres of the industry being Haarlem, Leiden, and Haag.

As the industry extends new districts are being continually planted, and as soil suitable is not plentiful, the price of land has advanced enormously, in some cases as much as £400 per acre having been paid for good land, and old country houses have been converted into bulb warehouses.

As sandy soil offers the environment in which bulbs grow best, it will easily be understood that it is necessary to apply large quantities of plant food. This is provided chiefly in the form of farmyard manure. Hyacinths are manured with cow manure, while tulips and other bulbs are not so particular, and are supplied with horse manure, pig manure, and any other that may be available.

Until recently animal manure was the only form of plant nourishment applied, but the use of artificials is now gradually becoming general, and in consequence of the increasing cost of farmyard dung, the growers will be driven more and more to rely on artificials. Potash seems to be the dominant requirement of the bulbs, and mixtures of sulphate of potash, superphosphate, and nitrate of soda, used to supplement the farmyard manure, are being employed with good results The problem of the best use of fertilisers is a difficult and important one, and requires a careful study.

Analysis of Bulbs.

	Hyacinth bulb.	Tulip bulb.	
Nitrogen	0·48	0·43	per cent.
Mineral properties	1·4	1·3	,, ,,
Phosphoric acid	0·17	0·16	,, ,,
Potash	0·44	0·50	,, ,,
Lime	0·17	0·05	,, ,,
Magnesia	0·05	0·05	,, ,,
Water	68·30	60·90	,, ,,

Manuring Strawberries.

This month's Journal of the Board of Agriculture contains an article dealing very fully with the various problems connected with the successful cultivation of strawberries on a large scale. Limiting ourselves in this place to the remarks on the subject of the best methods of applying manure to the crop, it may be noted that the suggestions confirm in a great measure the views expressed by Dr. Dyer and Mr. Shrivell as the result of their Hadley experiments.

The most important point is that the very heavy dressings of farmyard or stable manure put into the soil by many planters are not essential—indeed, do not produce such good results as a more moderate quantity. Some growers are in the habit of applying as much as 50 tons of manure per acre. The experiments have clearly demonstrated that such enormous dressings are an unnecessary expenditure. A quantity of 20 tons or 15 tons will suffice equally well, especially if supplemented by the judicious use of artificials.

The large growers are beginning to find out that the very heavy dressings of farmyard manure occasion softness of flesh and coarseness of flavour in the berry.

Phosphate and potash should form the chief part of the supplementary artificial manures, although a little nitrogen may also be used with advantage.

Fruit growers in Kent, we know, have tried all kinds of fertilisers, as a really profitable fertiliser, convenient to apply, would be a great advantage. We believe that Peruvian guano of medium strength has been found to produce generally as good results as anything else. It is, perhaps, weak in potash for strawberry cultivation, and might be improved by admixture with a little sulphate of potash, so as to make the guano contain 5 per cent puro potash.

Superphosphate is also useful. In the article in the Journal it is stated that the value of mineral superphosphate costing about £3 per ton is altogether underrated by strawberry growers. A reasonable rate of application for strong land is to allow two-thirds (28 lb.) to every ton of manure if 25 tons or over are applied. Thus, if 30 tons of manure were applied per acre, the quantity of superphosphate would be 7½ cwt exactly. At £3 per ton this would cost 22s. 6d. per acre, which can easily be saved out of the manure, for 30 tons per acre is often exceeded.

In the Hadley experiments it has been found that 12½ tons of London dung together with a good dressing of phosphates and a little nitrate of soda gave results which were most satisfactory.

A special advantage of the artificials is that it promotes early maturity. In the Hadley experiments a plot dressed only with light dung produced a large crop calculated at 4 tons 4 cwt. per acre. When the dung was supplemented by artificials the total crop was increased only to the extent of 3 cwt. per acre, but in the first few days of picking the produce from the chemically-manured plot was nearly *700 lb. more fruit* per acre, and during these first few days the market value of the strawberries per pound was at least twice that of the fruit picked during the succeeding days. To the large grower this point of earlier maturity is of vital importance.

Imports of Fertiliser and Cakes Material for Six Months ending June 30, 1907.

	Quantities. 1906. tons.	Quantities. 1907. tons.	Value. 1906. £	Value. 1907. £
Bones	20,071	23,360	92,471	105,964
Guano	13,094	15,738	66,854	78,305
Nitrate of soda	62,097	77,842	664,722	851,354
Raw phosphate	241,396	261,217	360,614	419,009
Oil-seed cakes	187,482	178,571	1,206,662	1,147,604
Oil seeds	819,654	1,070,641	1,716,278	2,201,881

For the Suppression of Fraud.

The Chamber of Deputies in France has just voted, on the application of the Minister for Agriculture, the sum of 385,000 francs (£13,500) to be employed during the year 1907 on the discovery and suppression of fraud or adulteration in such agricultural produce as butter, milk, wines, as well as in cakes, feeding stuffs, fertilisers, and other commodities required by farmers.

Twelve chief district inspectors have been appointed, whose special duty will be to thoroughly investigate cases of fraud, and to trace them back to their origin, so that the real culprits may not escape exposure. Hitherto, it has often happened that while the small retailer of adulterated goods has been punished, the real delinquent, who was the wholesale dealer or manufacturer, has been able to escape detection and punishment.

A fully-equipped central laboratory is to be erected in Paris, and it is estimated that the number of samples tested will be about 50,000 a year.

Next year the amount to be devoted to the purpose is to be increased to 566,000 francs, and it is hoped that the stringent measures adopted will suffice to purify the trades in question.

Prices of Fertilisers.

The demand for fertilisers is now practically over, but prices remain firm all round. The demand has been bigger than usual, and the stocks of most manufacturers have been cleared.

	£	s.	d.
Nitrate of soda	11	5	0
Sulphate of ammonia	11	17	6
Peruvian guano	without change		
Superphosphate, 26 per cent.	2	10	0
,, 35 ,,	3	6	3
Pure dissolved bones	5	7	6
Bone compound, ordinary	3	8	9
Bone Meal	5	10	0
Ground hoofs, 15 per cent.	9	10	0
Fish guano, first quality, scarce & dear	6	12	6
Ditto, second quality	5	7	6
Kainit	2	7	6
Sulphate of potash	10	0	0
Muriate of potash	9	0	0
Basic slag, 30 per cent. (ex works, Midlands)	1	13	0
Ditto, 38 per cent.	2	3	0

The Defect in Farmyard Manure.

There is no fertiliser that can be more profitably used on the farm than farmyard manure—the resulting by-product in feeding live stock of all classes, writes the *American Cultivator*. The solid and liquid excrements of animals, together with the litter used as bedding, constitute a source of fertiliser which is not generally appreciated as it should be. The fertilising value of the manure may be increased very considerably by feeding such concentrates as gluten meal, linseed meal, and cotton-seed meal.

It is for this reason that dairy farmers and those engaged exclusively in live stock industries have been able to maintain the fertility of their lands for indefinite periods, and often conclude that commercial fertilisers cannot be used to advantage under their conditions. This is frequently a mistake, and their land often becomes over-abundantly supplied with humus, as compared with the mineral elements of plant food, which are regarded as essential for the successful growth and development of all farm crops. As a carrier of available plant food, farmyard manure is not especially valuable, as a ton of it only contains from 9 lb. to 15 lb. of nitrogen, 4 lb. to 9 lb. of phosphorus, and 9 lb. to 15 lb. of potash.

Its Greatest Benefit

to the land is as an indirect fertiliser. It adds organic matter which provides humus, thus increasing the water-holding capacity of the soil. It benefits the texture and makes heavy soils, especially clays, more porous. It tends to make sandy soils more retentive of moisture by adding vegetable matter. Through its decomposition, it adds heat and increases the heat-absorbing powers of the land; carbonic acid is also formed, and this increases the solvent power of the water contained in the soil.

Lacks Phosphate and Potash.

That there is a lack in farmyard manure is shown by the facts presented in the foregoing paragraphs giving the numerous useful influences it has on the soil, as compared with the amount of available plant food it contains. It is evident, therefore, to all thoughtful men that phosphorus and potassium in particular should be and can be applied along with farmyard manure with the most advantageous results. For instance, six tons of farmyard manure should supply the nitrogen needed for a 40-bushel crop of corn; practically 12 tons would be required to supply the phosphorus and 5 to 6 tons of the potash. It is thus an ill-balanced food, richer in proportion in certain elements than in others, which must be supplied in a commercial form in order to balance it up properly.

What to Add.

Acid phosphate may be used with advantage on land to which manure has been applied in previous years; 25 lb. muriate of potash will not be too much to apply with each ton of farmyard manure. In other words, 50 to 150 lb. muriate of potash per acre on land heavily covered with farmyard manure will as a rule prove profitable; on crops to which chloride is objectionable, use sulphate of potash. Many farmers who have used farmyard manure exclusively as a fertiliser now complain of their inability to raise large crops of Irish potatoes and market garden crops as satisfactorily as they formerly did. This is due to the insufficient supply of phosphorous and potassium returned to the land by the manure. This is a matter of far-reaching importance, and the lack in farmyard manure, if more widely appreciated, would enable farmers to raise larger crops through supplying the necessary elements of mineral food, which are likely to be deficient in the soil.

The question of the standardisation of fertilisers sold in India is one of importance, writes the *Chemical Trade Journal*, and is to be considered by the authorities. In Southern India a large collection of samples of mixed, or "patent" fertilisers, and of ordinary fertilisers such as oil-cakes, bone meals, sulphate of potash, &c., have been obtained and are to be analysed.

Cottonseed meal is used as a fertiliser, and it is proposed to exploit this refuse in a practical manner.

The most satisfactory fungicide according to American experiments is the Bordeaux mixture, composed of sulphate of copper (blue stone, blue vitriol) and lime. Various proportions have been used, but the formula five pounds sulphate of copper and five pounds of quicklime to fifty gallons of water has been most used in late years.

Meadow Manuring Experiments.

For the fifth year in succession the following fertilisers have been applied to plots (one-eighth of an acre) of grass land, and the results are instructive, as they exemplify that the continued application of lime year after year is quite needless, and that the most profitable results are to be expected from the application of fertilisers of a complete character.

Plot. one-eighth acre.	Fertiliser applied per plot.	Yield of grass, two cuttings per plot.	Cost of manure	Profit + or loss − per plot.
		lb.		
1	No manure	1,960	—	—
2	Fine lime 2½ cwt.	2,000	2s.	−1s. 4d.
3	Lime 2½ cwt., slag ¾ cwt.	2,500	3s. 9d.	+2s. 3d.
4	Lime as above, kainit ¾ cwt. ...	2,300	3s. 9d.	+1s. 6d.
5	Lime as above, slag ¾ cwt., and kainit ¾ cwt....	3,500	5s.	9s. 3d.
6	Lime as above, slag ¾ cwt., kainit ¾ cwt., and nitrate soda 10lb.	4,000	6s.	+12s. 9d

"How to Manure at a Profit."

This series of useful articles, combining the practice and science of "How to Manure at a Profit," is now finished. As many of our readers would like to have the articles in a form convenient for reference, we intend shortly to publish them in a small pamphlet.

Due notice will be given when the pamphlet is ready for issue, and price.

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a nom de plume, in the paper.

We are willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

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EDITED BY

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On the first day of its publication we received the following telegram from Sir Alfred Jones:

"Heartiest congratulations upon completed 'Bibby's Annual.' Simply beautiful. Very proud of it as Liverpool production."

But the next morning a letter from an old friend, whom we had not seen for 30 years, admonished us for expressing opinions which did not square with the orthodox view of things.

It is, therefore, difficult to say whether the reader of this advertisement would do wisely to invest a shilling upon it or not.

He had better, we think, ask at the bookstalls to see a copy and judge for himself; or, if the Bookseller does not keep it, enclose stamps for the amount to the address below.

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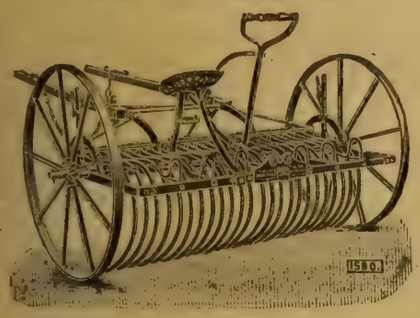
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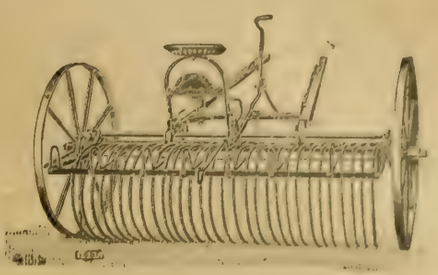
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Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

WHY DO RAM BUYERS RETURN AGAIN AND AGAIN?

Amongst many questions discussed during the Lincolnshire sales was this—"What is it that brings customers year after year to the same flocks for the purchase of rams?" The reply was that these purchasers have found out by experience that the rams purchased from the particular flock mentioned always give satisfaction.

This question and answer deserve, and are worthy of, consideration. If, as they are true in respect to one flock, why should they not be true in respect to all flocks? The reason for this is that so very many flockmasters sell rams and forget that it is not the rams they sell that decide whether or not the buyers will come again, but it is the produce of those rams that decide this all-important question.

Rams and ram lambs bred with great care, with pedigrees reaching back for many generations, are those which in the majority of cases give the desired satisfaction, but rams and ram lambs bred with short pedigrees, or which are, in other words, the resultant cross of two acknowledged strains of blood, are those which more often than not, owing to the fact that they are not endowed with the power of prepotency found in the former, will fail to transmit to the same degree as the former their good qualities to their progeny.

Probably some will remark that this dictum is strongly in favour of the older flocks, and certainly it is so, but the younger flocks can be brought to this required standard by care and close attention being exercised, and proper judgment in mating and buying, but a flockmaster who is desirous of breeding stud sheep such as will secure him year after year the continual support of ram users will never be able to do so unless he makes up his mind to his ideal type of sheep, and sticks to it.

A ram breeder who "goes all over the shop," as the term is, to purchase sires, will certainly never become a ram breeder to secure the regular patronage of the best buyers, because of this one reason—the stock he breeds will be of such an admixture of different strains of blood that there will be no reliability to be placed upon the resultant progeny.

PRICE OF STORE CATTLE.

Present prices of store cattle should act as a stimulant to a greater amount of home breeding. Good stores are making fairly long prices, and best beef quite 4s. 8d. per Smithfield stone. This price in the experience of most feeders who are also breeders in so far as to bring up their own stores for fattening will afford a fair profit for food consumed, always supposing that good well-bred stock are in hand to commence with. Below 4s. 8d. per stone the profit, even of well-bred and carefully managed lots, would be very scanty if, indeed, it could be made out as a profit at all, and there is little doubt that on many occasions the fact that very best of beef has been sold at prices below 4s. 8d. has had a good deal to do with the small number of cattle that have been weaned.

It is not only necessary that the young stock that are weaned to be brought up either as stores for selling or as stores to retain, should be well bred, but if the best is to be made of them, they must also be well fed and carefully managed. One care in respect of their management should always be provided for if at all practicable, and that is the care that there is always a sufficiency of food provided for them to keep them steadily improving.

To allow young stock to lose flesh, to any great extent at least, is often followed by attacks of disease that they have not strength enough to withstand, such as the husk in young calves, and in the spring of the year looseness or scour in the yearlings.

As a rule, they withstand any unavoidable shrinkage with much less loss or risk of life after they have passed over eighteen months of age than younger.

It is not always convenient or practicable to keep the young stock thriving when fodder or pasture is short and root crops a failure, as well as cakes at a rather high price, but wherever and whenever it can be done, it is always advisable to keep them on the move, and if the food available is sufficiently good, and the object is to get them out ripe fat, the more rapidly they are kept going the better and more profitable, always providing, nevertheless, that too much of the forcing is not done by artificial means.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

Advice of a Legal character is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Spitalfield Market Rights.

In the Chancery Division on Tuesday, Mr. Justice Warrington heard a summons in the matter of "The Attorney-General *v.* Horner" which raised a question as to tenancy rights in Spitalfield Market.

Mr. Gore Browne, K.C., for the defendant, Mr. Robert Horner, who is the lessee of Spitalfield Market, explained that the summons asked that the Corporation of London, who were the relators in the action, might be joined as co-plaintiffs with the Attorney-General, and also that they might be ordered to give fuller particulars of the allegation against the defendant that some of the tolls in the market were excessive. The defendant desired to put in a counter claim against the Corporation.

The lease of the market was originally granted by King Charles II. in 1682 to one John Balch and his heirs. Mr. Horner in 1883 was granted a lease of the market for 84 years at a rental of £5,000 per annum. Subsequently the City Corporation by statutory power became purchasers of the interest of the lessee, and it was now said that under the lease the defendant was only entitled to a two-day market, the original grant having been for two days. The Corporation further said that Mr. Horner was only entitled to the use of the market on Thursday and Saturday.

Counsel contended that the object of the action was to compel Mr. Horner to take a smaller sum for his interests than he said he was entitled to.

Mr. Danckwerts, who appeared for the Attorney-General, said that as a law officer he knew all the facts. They were willing to give the defendant the particulars he asked for after the defence was put in.

Mr. Justice Warrington said that the relief claimed against the defendants really was that he had been exceeding his franchise and had infringed public rights. He was of opinion that he could not compel the Attorney-General to add the Corporation as co-plaintiffs, and the application must be dismissed with costs.

Leave to appeal was granted.

A Case under the Agricultural Holdings Act.

Mr. Christopher Middleton, an arbitrator under the Agricultural Holdings Act, asked his honour Judge Templer, at the Darlington county court on Wednesday, to decide whether, under the Act, verbal notice by a tenant of a claim for compensation for unexhausted improvements was sufficient.

The case arose in connection with the tenancy of a small farm at Cockerton, the tenant of which, before the expiration of his tenancy, gave verbal notice to the landlord of a claim for compensation.

On behalf of the landlord it was contended that the notice should have been in writing, but his honour held that a verbal notice was sufficient, and gave judgment for the tenant with costs under Scale C.

Notes of the Week.

The festival of St. Swithin passed in glorious sunshine, so, according to the belief formerly more popular than to-day, we may look forward to six weeks of fine weather.

St. Swithin's Day, if thou dost rain,
For forty days it will remain;
St Swithin's Day, if thou be fine,
For forty days t'will rain na mair.

Earl Carrington is in a very optimistic mood as regards the operations of the Small Holdings Bill.

With a prophetic eye, he sees rural England peopled by a happy population of Little Holders.

As sparks fly upward, so is man in this world doomed to disappointment.

The "return to the land," said an eminent French statesman, referring to depopulation in rural France, is not so much a question of money as of education and the disposition in the minds of men.

Said a shopman at S——, who had failed,
Which the loss of his business entailed,
A small holding for me
Will most excellent be,
So he (fill up please).

That youth will be served, is as true of nations as of individuals.

Youthful Australia is going to spend three quarters of a million pounds, spread over ten years in bounties for the cultivation of crops.

While in Old England agriculture is neglected and the Government give a severe snub to the suggestion that new industries, such as sugar beet, should be encouraged.

The recent horse show at Olympia was such a tremendous success that the show for next year is already engaging attention.

The idea is to make the show peripatetic if the difficult of finding a suitable place can be overcome.

Our ally, the Mikado of Japan, is reported to have bought some American cows and to have paid £3,000 for one animal.

The Japs are certainly making great efforts to improve the breeds of their stock, and English breeders might pay special attention to their requirements.

We should certainly get the preference of their orders if our best animals were brought to their notice.

No sooner is fraud squashed in one direction than it appears in another place.

The coffee-house keepers of London and other large towns must be looked after.

It appears that many of them supply their customers with margarine, instead of butter, with bread.

The medical officer of health still complains of the sale of so-called milk-blended butter, composed of milk, butter, and boracic acid mixed by machinery and sold in large quantities.

It is a novelty to read of heat waves and deaths from sunstroke. With such a sudden change from cold to excessive heat it is necessary to be careful.

The horticultural exhibition at the Botanic Gardens, given under the auspices of the Women's Agricultural and Horticultural Union, proved a great success.

The cultivation and arrangement of flowers is a department in which women excel, and their exhibition afforded ample proof of their success.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, JULY 23.—Welsh National Show at Aberystwith, first day—Sale of Pedigree Red Polled Cattle at Ipswich—Live Stock Sale at Maidstone—Horse Sale at Crewe—Sending-in Day for Castleford, Dumfries, Worthing, and Keele Shows.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 24.—Thornton's Sale of Pedigree Sheep and Pigs at Woolverstone Hall, Ipswich—Wadebridge Show—Upholland Show—Paignton Show—Bodmin Horse Show—Welsh National Show at Aberystwith, second day—Royal Ulster Show at Belfast, first day—Honiton Cattle Fair—Meeting of the Finance Committee of the Bath and West of England Society—Sending-in Day for Crook Show—Wye Agricultural College Summer Term ends, Prize Distribution by the Right Hon. Ailwyn Fellowes.

THURSDAY, JULY 25.—Royal Ulster Show, second day—Framlingham Show—Grantham Horse Show—Harrogate Show—Hertfordshire County Show at Hatfield—Maltby Horse Show—Newport (Shropshire) Show—Normanby Estates Show near Doncaster—Thorney Shire Foal Show—Aberdeen Show—Tunbridge Wells Show, first day—Wisbech Horse Fair—Tregony Cattle Fair—Lutterworth, Alresford, Reading, and Ashton Agricultural Fairs.

FRIDAY, JULY 26.—Royal Ulster Show, third day—Tunbridge Wells Show, second day—Copmanthorpe (Yorkshire) Show—Wrexham Show—Hutton Cranswick and Beverley District Shows—Agricultural Fairs at Malpas, Sherborne, Barnstaple, Rutherglen, Weyhill, and Tamworth—Sale of Horses at Lynn.

SATURDAY, JULY 27.—Cumberland County Show at Carlisle—Show at Norden, near Rochdale—Lauderdale Show—Show at Whalley, near Blackburn—Show at Meltham, near Huddersfield—Horse Show at Sand Pits, near Shirley, Birmingham.

MONDAY, JULY 29.—Newtown (Monmouthshire) Sheep and Pig Fair—Alnwick Horse and Cattle Fair—Erdington (Warwickshire) Horse Show—Special Sale of Suffolk Horses at Ipswich—The Pendley Manor Farm Sale of Hampshire Down Sheep.

At Nantwich Cheese Fair on Thursday there was a pitch of 52 tons of cheese, and with a large attendance of factors a clearance was quickly effected. Finest lots made from 56s. to 61s. 6d. per cwt.; medium from 52s. to 55s.



[Reproduced by permission] [From "Punch."

Old Scotch Farmer (having spent sixpence on a raffle ticket for a pony and trap value £50, and having won it, is shown the prize. After gazing critically at it for some minutes). "But whaur's the whup?"



The pen of Hampshire Down Ram Lambs with which Mr. J. Flower, Chilmark, won the Championship at Salisbury Fair last week.

SHEEP SALES AND FAIRS.

Bury St. Edmunds.

At the lamb sale held at Bury St. Edmunds on Wednesday, about 3,500 lambs and ewes were catalogued, including 2,000 Suffolk ewe and wether lambs, 1,000 half-bred lambs, and 400 black-faced and half-bred ewes, consigned by well-known breeders. For all Suffolk lambs there was a sharp trade at fully late rates. Heavy half-bred lambs were perhaps hardly as dear as of late; but for all well-bred lambs there was sharp competition. Suffolks made up to 54s. per head, whilst half-breds ranged up to 37s. 6d.

Chichester.

A sale of upwards of 4,000 Southdown and other lambs was held at Chichester on Wednesday, and attracted a large number of buyers. Trade, however, was not particularly brisk, but a steady demand prevailed at prices generally about the same as last year, the top price being 45s. per head for a nice lot of lambs sent by Mr. T. Morris, Timberley.

Halesworth.

There was a record entry at the lamb sales at Halesworth on Thursday, and with a large attendance of buyers a lively trade was experienced, prices being about equal to recent quotations. For the Suffolk lambs there were considerable advances on last year's figures, rises to the extent of 14s. being noted.

Horsham.

The annual sheep fair at Horsham was held on Thursday, when it was hardly as well supported by either stock or buyers as in former years. The total head of sheep was 1,405, of which Lord Leconfield sent 500, and they again fetched the highest price, his lordship selling 100 lambs at 40s., 100 at 38s., 200 at 35s , and 100 tegs at 50s.

Inverness.

The annual sheep and wool fair at Inverness attracted a large gathering of flockmasters from the northern counties and the South of Scotland, and also many English buyers. The stock most in demand was Cheviot breeding ewes, which sold at last year's prices. Wedder lambs in some cases maintained last year's prices, but other lots were sold from 1s. to 2s. down, according to quality. Ewe lambs of all classes maintained last year's prices, and in some instances there was a slight rise. Mid-ewe blackfaced lambs, which were very scarce, realised in some cases a rise of 1s. Cheviot dinmonts were reported about 1s. down. Cheviot wool was selling at 2d. to 2½d. per lb. down, blackfaced wool about ½d. per lb. down. The chief depression in the sheep trade was in the disposal of the wedder stock, which are more dependent on the state of the turnip crop than any other class. The drop in prices for wedders was estimated at from 2s. to 3s., although in some top cases the fall was only 1s. A few choice clips of Cheviot white wool sold at 27s., being 3s. down from last year, or 1½d. per lb., but in other cases the drop was heavier.

Salisbury.

Beautiful weather favoured the annual sheep fair at Salisbury on Monday, when over 22,000 sheep were penned. There was a very large attendance of agriculturists and dealers, and sheep met a good trade, especially ewes. The prices for ewes were several shillings in advance of last year's figures. Lambs also realised very satisfactory prices at about last year's figures. The range of prices was as follows:—Two-teeth ewes, 48s. to 58s.; draft ewes, 36s. to 46s.; regular draft ewes, 46s. to 54s.; wether lambs, 36s. to 46s.; chilver lambs, 32s. to 42s.

The competitive classes were the feature of the fair, the show of Hampshire Down sheep being, generally, the best of the season. The entries were hardly so large as on some previous occasions, but there was no question that the exhibits fully maintained the high reputation of Salisbury Fair. The outstanding feature of the fair was the remarkable success of Mr. J. Flower, of Chilmark, who, following his victories in the chief showyards of England this season, completely swept the board, taking all four prizes and two second prizes, in addition to the 25-guinea cup, which was gained last year by Mr. Cary Coles, and has to be won two years in succession in order to become the property of the winner.

The shearling class brought out three sheep of exceptional merit, the first prize going to a deep-fleshed, compact ram, which handled well and showed the true Hampshire character. This was the shearling with which Mr. Flower won the third prize at the Royal Show, the first-prize winner having been disposed of for export to Chili. The same exhibitor also won the second prize with a ram which has not been shown before, and Mr. H. C. Stephens, of Cholderton, secured the reserve number.

The single ram lambs were a very strong class, there being sixteen pens, of which six at least contained animals of quite exceptional merit. Here Mr. Flower was again to the fore with a lamb which was in the winning pen at the Royal, the second prize winner being a flockmate. Mr. Cary Coles, of Winterbourne Stoke, secured the reserve number with a lamb showing nice character.

The competition in the class for not less than four nor more than eight ram lambs attracted a great deal of attention, as it carried with it the championship of the breed, and here again Mr. J. Flower achieved another victory. His pen of ram lambs were as good a level lot of animals as one could wish to see, and they did their breeder infinite credit. The second prize went to Mr. H. C. Stephens, whose pen was of great merit, and showed good breeding. Mr. Cary Coles secured the third prize with a pen of lambs characteristic of the Winterbourne Stoke flock.

In the ewe lamb class Mr. Flower completed his triumph by again taking the first award with a pen of great quality. They were a quite exceptional lot of animals, and the judges had no hesitation in placing them at the head of the class. The second award went to Mr. Stephens, with a bigger lot of ewes, Mr. Cary Coles being reserve.

The Judges were Mr. C. Stanford (Breamore), Mr. J. Joyce (Milverton, Somerset), and Mr. W. T. Tardell (Reading).

In the other competitive classes Mr. W. A. Hunt, of Chilhampton, was awarded the prize for the best pen of wether lambs. Mr. G. C. Waters, of Burcombe, was the winner in the class for ewes of regular draftage, Mr. H. Andrews, of Little Langford, being given the reserve number. Mr. Waters sold his sheep for 55s. a head, whilst Mr. Andrews disposed of his at 53s. apiece.

Mr. B. J. Waters, of Stratford Toney, took the chief award in the class for 100 shearling ewes, and premier honours in the class for eighty ewe lambs went to Mr. A. T. W. Gay, of East Grinstead. The special prizes of £5 each to the largest penner and the largest purchaser were won by Mr. F. Rawlins, of Alton Magna, and Messrs. Jarman and Son, Herts.

Swaffham.

The twenty-fourth annual lamb sale at Swaffham took place on Monday, and was well attended, whilst there is a large supply, over 10,000 lambs being penned, a number far in excess of last year. The average prices of recent sales in East Anglia were well maintained, the middling-class lambs being in great demand, they consequently sold extremely well. Half-bred lambs, which were in the majority, sold at prices ranging up to 45s., which was also the top price for black-faced lambs.

Suffolk Sheep Society.

One of the chief items of interest at the meeting of the council of the Suffolk Sheep Society, held on Monday, was the appointment of a secretary in succession to the late Mr. Ernest Prentice.

The report of the committee, appointed to receive the applications which had been sent in response to advertisements inserted in various papers, stated that there were twenty-seven applications, and the committee had selected six for the consideration of the council.

The meeting was occupied a long time in considering the six applications, reading the testimonials, and interviewing three of the candidates who attended before them. The majority of the council were, however, evidently strongly in favour of the appointment of Miss Prentice, daughter of the late secretary, it being urged that Miss Prentice had practically done the work for a long period in consequence of the serious illness of her father, and that it was never more efficiently done, evidence being afforded by the promptitude in which the last volume of the Herd Book was issued and brought up to date.

Eventually Miss Prentice was elected secretary by 13 votes to 5.

At the same meeting the council gave considerable time to the consideration of the rules in respect to ear-marking and registration, the matter being marked by the reading of a report of the committee who had had the matter under consideration. This statement dealt fully with the question, but it seemed that complications had arisen in consequence, in many cases, of ear-marking not being carried out at the proper time, or in other instances incorrectly by the transposition of the figures and in other ways. It was suggested in the course of the discussion that many lambs were not marked until the following year, and that the mark never stood so well as when made whilst the sheep were young, the skin of the ear being thinner.

One of the recommendations of the committee was that a return should be made by flock-owners of how many lambs had been ear-marked, how many sold, and how many retained, and that attention should be called to the special notices that had been sent out in reference to ear-marking.

After various suggestions and remarks, the chairman mentioned that a letter had been received from Mr. A. H. Cobbald, enclosing a new mark which he had in hand, but which might yet entail more journeys to London. The committee had evidently not had time to adequately deal with the whole question, and he (Mr. Pretyman) would suggest that perhaps it would be better to refer the report back to the committee, which was consented to.

Sheep Notes and Jottings.

Present Prices for Lincoln Sheep.

LINCOLN breeders have every reason to be satisfied with the eminently satisfactory result of the sales held by Messrs. Dudding and Dean, reported fully in our last issue.

PESSIMISTS had stated that the demand for Lincoln sheep was certainly not likely to be so keen and good as last year, and they said, "When we get the sales you will see what will happen." Some of them quoted the result of the sale of Lincoln sheep at the Royal Show as proof of the falling off in the prices likely to be paid for Lincoln sheep during the current year.

THOSE who knew the condition of the demand for Lincolns in connection with the Royal Show sale, stated that these prices were not in any way indicative of those that would be paid for the tip-top rams of the breed. The sales referred to above fully confirm this, for it was only after bidding up to 900 guineas that Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons were able to prevent the champion yearling ram of the current year going to the Argentine; and it is further shown by the sale record at Riby that it was only after very high prices were paid that the English breeders permitted the choicest rams of Messrs. Dudding's sale to be purchased for the Argentine.

THE same lesson is shown by the result of Messrs. Dean's sale. The top-priced ram there was 300 guineas, and the runner up for that ram was an English breeder, Mr. J. E. Casswell, who, after a stiff fight, certainly yielded to the Argentine buyer, and allowed one of the choicest selections of Messrs. Dean's offering to be taken for the Argentine.

THE lesson that these two sales convey is one that has been often referred to—*i.e.*, that for the choicest specimens of this or any other breed there is always a very ready market at fully remunerative prices. It is not the best specimens of any breed that will suffer in the reduced demand, if any exists, but those of lower grade, and these results further prove that what ram breeders must do, if they desire to keep up their reputation, as well as the reputation of their breed, is to select most carefully the rams and ram lambs offered for sale, and to remember that the smaller number of high-class rams give a far better and more profitable result to their breeder and vendor than a larger number which includes a considerable proportion of inferior or lower-grade rams.

THE feature of these two great sales, for great sales they are, has been to set in no doubtful terms the value of the best Lincoln rams this year; and the breeders of these sheep are under a debt of obligation to the vendors of the rams sold at Riby and Nocton Heath last week, in holding their annual sales at this early period of the year, so as to enable all who follow them to know in what condition the trade for the Argentine for their breed may be expected to be during the current year.

THESE sales commence a series of sales which will take place week after week, and, whatever may be the result of them, there can be no question, but that these two sales have given an excellent send off to the sale season for the current year.

Feeding Prospects.

ALLUSION has been made to the need of greater attention being given to the feeding of lambs as well as the ordinary commercial sheep, and from inspection of several flocks during the past week there is ample evidence that, owing to the cold weather experienced, where care has not been taken, the development and bloom of both the yearling rams and the ram lambs has suffered considerably.

IF we should be fortunate enough to have an alteration in the weather, it will still be necessary for all flockmasters to take care and watch closely how their flocks are doing. The information and knowledge secured during visits to flocks in many parts of the country shows that the rate of development has not been, during the current season, equal to the general average, and further there is, in many cases, evidence that the rate of progress has been very much retarded by the unfavourable climatic conditions, and consequently there is need for a continued supply of nutritious food being given, in addition to that provided by the ordinary green crops which are now being consumed upon the land.

AT the present time there is a good prospect for abundant crops in the shape of vetches, turnips, cabbage, and kale. Many excellent pieces of these have been seen during journeys throughout a greater part of England; but good as are the prospects at the present time, the flockmaster is reminded that it is equally important that he should continue to make preparation for the future. As one crop is consumed another one must be got ready for consumption, and so on right away until late in the autumn.

IT is far better to have more food than one requires than to have too little, and to have to stint the sheep at a period of the year when it is highly essential for their well being that they should have as much as they require.

Exports.

THE export buyer has been very busy amongst our flocks. Forty at least of the rams offered at Mr. Henry Dudding's sale were taken for export. A very considerable portion of those sold at Messrs. S. E. Dean and Son's sale were likewise taken for export. These two lots were selected entirely by the Argentine breeders.

WE have not received any direct information in respect to the demand experienced for the Hampshire Downs and other breeds, save that of the Kent or Romney Marsh, and during the past week information in respect to this breed has come to hand, which shows that twenty-five yearling rams, ram lambs, yearling ewes, and ewe lambs have been selected for export, about half of which are going to South America, and the remainder to New Zealand.

Hampshire Down News.

THOSE who are interested in the Hampshire Down sheep will have noticed what a very large number of sales there are advertised to take place during the next few weeks. Several of these are annual sales and lettings at home; such sales and lettings are those that can be strongly recommended as places at which breeders may select stud ram lambs with great confidence, because these sheep will be offered on the farm where they were bred and reared, and there is but little fear of any kind of infection being taken to the flock to which they go.

THE latter remark is applicable to many of the leading fairs, such as Britford, Weyhill, &c., at which many of the leading Hampshire Down flockmasters annually offer for sale selected drafts of their ram lambs, but there are strong reasons for breeders, if they have no special reason for not doing so, to select and purchase stud rams at the sale held at home.

Lewes Wool Fair.

Many of the leading buyers in the kingdom were represented at the fourth annual wool sale at Lewes, held on Monday, when the catalogue embraced over 200 lots, comprising nearly 40,000 fleeces of English wool from some of the best Southdown flocks, with a few Kent and cross-bred fleeces. Not a single lot failed to change hands. Prices, however, ranged from 1d. to 2d. below those of last year. The top price for Southdown fleeces was 14½d. per lb., which was made by the Rev. F. S. Sclater, Newick Park, for tegs; Mr. W. B. Marchant, Wannock, for ewes; Mr. J. Burder Powell, J.P., Old Place, Mayfield, for tegs; and Mr. Harry Willett, J.P., Laughton, for tegs.

Kent fleeces sold up to 13½d., Hampshire Downs to 12½d., and cross-breds to 11¼d. per lb.

Under the title of "Aids to the Choice of a Holiday Resort," the Midland Railway Company has issued an attractive booklet giving the principal services from St. Pancras to the various holiday resorts in England, Scotland, and Ireland, together with notes and illustrations of some of the chief. This aid should be appreciated by those who have not yet decided where to go for their holidays. A copy can be obtained from any of the Midland Railway Company's offices or stations.

Lord Barnard, presiding at the luncheon at the Wem Agricultural Show on Friday, said he was a member of the Royal Commission sitting to inquire into the matter of increased facilities for scientific research as applied to agriculture. He had been struck by the evidence of all classes of agriculturists who had been before them as to the intense desire there was amongst farmers to avail themselves of this scientific knowledge as applied to agriculture. He recognised that no amount of theoretical knowledge would ever make a farmer. It was the practical experience on a farm that was required.



Notes and Jottings.

SEVERAL times we have advocated in these notes the growing of a fair quantity of green cropping, or, we may say, as large a quantity as can conveniently be arranged, and it is very pleasing to see at the present time in different parts of the country many excellent crops of tares and other food. As grass is in many places superabundant, some of these green crops might with advantage be converted into ensilage. In this form they would be very useful during the coming winter or next spring; or, if ensilage is not approved of, conversion into dry fodder would be worth doing. In the latter case, however, they should be cut before the seeds are quite ripe, when very valuable fodder is obtained, especially if the weather proves fine, so that the fodder can be secured in good condition.

THERE appears to be a great increase in the area sown to lucerne as compared with a few years ago, and this is proving a most useful addition to our green crops. On good land and well managed, the quantity of feed obtained is truly astounding, and the results of using it, or, in other words, its quality and feeding properties are as surprising as is the amount of feed obtained from it. The cultivation, too, is very inexpensive, as the plant remains permanent for a considerable number of years, and with occasional top dressing remains productive during the whole time. The kind of soil it is being grown upon must naturally have a considerable effect upon the quantity of feed produced as well as upon the permanency of the plant.

WHEN better known, maize will become a most useful addition to our green crops. It is a valuable feed when grown, and when its cultivation has become more extensive, the best systems of producing it will naturally be discovered. In a dry season the seed apparently possesses one very valuable property, namely, that it will vegetate in soil that is practically dust dry. This is a great matter, as it frequently happens in a droughty period in May or June that seeds of some plants cannot obtain sufficient moisture to start them into growth. Then, maize after it has commenced to grow, continues its growth for a long time without rain or assistance in any way. It is a beautiful, profitable, and interesting forage crop, and the sooner its cultivation is extended on suitable lands the better.

Milk Fever.

I NOTICE one or two of your correspondents appear to be desirous of entering into a discussion upon the question of milk fever in cows—indeed, have already done so. One of them writing over the letters "M.R.C.V.S.," being very emphatic in his denunciation of my theory of milking before eating as being an excellent preventive measure, calling the practice or the publishing of it "mischievous." I am, however, obliged to tell you, for the benefit of that correspondent, that I have had very considerable experience with cattle of that kind and at ages most predisposed to take on milk fever, and after the what I term beforehand milking I have never known one of them to fall, and so far has this means of prevention been carried out with a few great milking cows that they have never been allowed to go dry, but been milked regularly twice every day from a little over six years old up to between eight and nine years, and I am quite sure such treatment is much more economical than are the services of a veterinary.

ANOTHER correspondent argues that the more you milk a cow the more milk she will secrete; what matter if it is drawn from her at intervals as its secretes? I have seen this practised by very experienced and successful managers of the worst possible subjects for milk fever, the herdsman milking the cow, one may say, almost continually. There are many or several preventive measures of recent introduction I am aware; but prudence would seem to dictate that the bridge that has carried one safely over the stream is the one to trust, and as in my case this bridge has been a very inexpensive structure, and upon one or two occasions when neglected has resulted in a fall, that under veterinary treatment could not be recovered, I prefer to adhere to my own practice. A great

many so-called antiquated ideas are much more valuable in the management of cattle where milk fever is likely to be concerned, than are many of the newer theories that have been brought to our notice.

NOT long ago, whilst visiting a gentleman who owned a very valuable herd of dairy cattle, it was my painful experience to see one of them that had fallen of fever and was being, and had been for some two or more weeks treated by a very skilled veterinary surgeon, and all the most modern and up-to date remedies tried to raise the poor animal, but all to no avail, the poor thing eventually succumbing to the fever. I have no doubt myself that had the herdsman of that establishment practised the fore-milking doctrine, that cow would not have fallen. Her constitution was good, and there was nothing but the excessive milk flow to deal with. There are many experienced herdsmen in this country who are quite as capable of dealing with milk fever as are the veterinary profession, and it is quite probable that the herdsman in the instance mentioned would have done better with the poor cow than was done; indeed, had the worst come to the worst, he would have killed the poor thing at hundreds per cent. less cost, even had he done it by the antiquated and mischievous practice of milking before calving.

ONE correspondent, too, I notice, adopts the plan of leaving all the milk in the cow's udder (for, I believe, twelve hours) as a means of prevention from the fall. Surely this gentleman must be speaking of the beef breeds when he talks of such treatment. It is monstrous to suppose that a deep-milking cow that has filled her udder to repletion before calving could retain another twelve hours' milk without damage, and without very excessive pain; indeed, in such instances the R.S.P.C.A. society would have every reason to interfere.

Sale of Mr. Nickels's Shorthorns.

Mr. J. T. Nickels's herd of pure-bred Shorthorns having outgrown the capabilities of the farm, the major portion—some of the older animals and a few recent purchases being retained—was sold by auction on Thursday at the Day House, near Shrewsbury. With very few exceptions all the cows catalogued were young and in their prime, whilst the heifers of various ages and the calves were exceptionally good colours, with true outlines and correct Shorthorn character. At the same time, the dairy properties of the herd were in evidence by the well-developed and capacious udders of the older cows. Some twenty-one bulls of various ages were offered, including some good reds and roans suitable for export, and some younger bulls just fit for service.

There was a large attendance of buyers, and a good sale resulted, the cows and calves averaging £29 18s. 6d. per head. Two-year-old heifers, £28 19s.; yearling heifers, £44 5s.; and bulls, £30 13s. The top figure was realised by Meole Fashion, a smart young bull by Chewton Ideal, dam Day Dream 2nd, which found a purchaser in Mr. R. Wright at 70 guineas. Meole Aristocrat, another promising young bull, was sold to Mr. Holland for 53 guineas; Mr. Morris-Eyton bought Bristol Sweetmeat for 50 guineas and the Belle of Nobold at 40 guineas; Mr. W. H. Foster paid 40 guineas for Meole Thistle, and Lady Day Dream 4th made 43 guineas, the purchaser being Mr. C. W. Kellock. Other prices ranged down to 17½ guineas.

Sale of Jersey Cattle at Buckhold, Berkshire.

The sale of about thirty head of Jerseys from Dr. Watney's well-known English-bred herd, held on Wednesday at Buckhold, near Pangbourne, resulted in an average of £23 18s. 5d. Most of the cattle for sale were descended from butter test winners, and realised fair prices. The yearling bull, Violette's Aurelius 2nd, whose dam had won eleven prizes, was sold to Mr. E. Carter at 90 guineas to go to the Isle of Wight, the same purchaser also taking Lady Maple at 30 guineas. Mr. J. Carson secured Maple's Marryatt at 28 guineas to join his herd at Theydon Bois. A number of the Buckhold ponies were also sold at prices up to 20 guineas, and some cart colts up to 38 guineas.

We give below a few of the highest priced lots of cattle, with purchasers' names and prices:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.		Gs.
Opale 3rd	Miss Vale	20
Lady of the Isle 4th	Mr J C Sabor	26
Lady Maple	Mr E Carter	30
Maple's Maryatt	Mr J Carson	28
Maple's Pride	Mr J C Sabor	21
Violin's Lavanja	Mr R Ward	23
Maple's Thorn 2nd	Mr Siemens	22
Aurelius' Sabean	Miss Vale	21
BULLS.		
Violette's Aurelius 2nd	Mr E Carter	90
Blackberry's Aurelius	Mr Clutterbuck	23
Lord Maple	Mr Siemens	30
Pansy's Aurelius	Mr E Palmer	25
Lassie's Aurelius	Mr J Carson	20
Lavanja's Aurelius	Duke of Marlborough	22
Sundew's Aurelius	Marchioness of Graham	22
Violette's Aurelius 3rd	Mrs Munsy Smith	29

English Jersey Cattle Society.

The twenty-fourth annual general meeting took place on the 8th inst., Viscount Enfield being in the chair.

The annual report for the year 1906 was taken as read and adopted.

Lord Enfield having announced that Colonel Willan had been elected by the council as president for the ensuing year, the chair was taken by Colonel Willan, who thanked the members for the honour they had conferred upon him.

The scrutineers reported that they had examined the voting papers, and found that the following gentlemen were duly elected members of council:

Mr. William Adams, Woodside, Loughton, Essex.

Mr. W. E. Budgett, Henbury, Bristol.

Mr. Richardson Carr, Tring Park, Herts.

Mr. R. H. Cobb, The Grove, Esher, Surrey.

Mr. Herbert Padwick, Manor House, West Thorney, Emsworth.

Mr. John Henry Shore, Whatley House, Frome, Somersetshire.

Mr. Thomas Harrison Westman, Mancetter, Atherstone, Warwickshire.

Messrs. James Harris, Sons, and Co. were re-elected auditors for the ensuing year.

A telegram conveying the congratulations of the council was sent to Lord Blyth.

Colonel Willan, in moving a vote of thanks to Viscount Enfield, said that his lordship had done all in his power to further the interests of the society.

Mr. Murray Smith said he had much pleasure in seconding the vote, which was carried with acclamation.

Lord Enfield having thanked the meeting, the proceedings terminated.

At a meeting of the Council prior to the annual meeting, the secretary reported that Vol. XVIII., Herd Book, was now made up, and nearly ready for printing. A complete proof of the volume was laid on the table.

The following gentlemen were appointed to represent the society on the Council of the National Cattle Breeders' Association:—The President, Colonel Willan, Mr. Ernest Mathews, Mr. Richardson Carr, and Captain Gisborne.

The next council meeting was fixed to take place on Monday, October 7, the day before the London Dairy Show.

At the last meeting of the council of the Clydesdale Horse Society it was unanimously agreed that the Cawdor Cup in 1908 should be competed for as in the past, that for the stallions at the Glasgow Stallion Show in February, and that for the mares and fillies at the Highland and Agricultural Society's Show in July.



The Shorthorn Heifer Pitlivie Rosebud II. was the Champion female Shorthorn and winner of a First Prize at the Royal Counties Agricultural Society's Show at Maidenhead this year, and also First at the Royal Show at Lincoln. She was calved April 7, 1905, sire Golden Dawn, dam Rubina, and was bred by her exhibitor, Mr. R. Taylor, Pitlivie, Carnoustie.

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9 feet long, 5 bars.
In Lots of Six, at **9/-** each, delivered.
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" 24 **8/6** "
10 feet long, 6d. per gate extra.
If Creosoted under pressure, 1/3 per gate extra.
CREOSOTED FENCING of all sizes. Gate Hangings in Malleable Iron. Catalogues free.
PETER PATRICK & SON,
The Gate Makers, **OTLEY, YORKS.**
Contractors to some of the Principal Shows of the Country.

Important Shipments of British Live Stock.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., of Shrewsbury, have been very busy of late, and report the following important shipments within the last three weeks:—

On account of Messrs. Chandler Bros., United States of America, per ss. *Marina*, from Glasgow, 317 high-class sheep, mainly Shropshires, all of which had been personally selected by Mr. Howard Chandler, and including several show specimens from the well-known Shropshire flocks of Mr. T. S. Minton (who supplied a grand lot), the Right Hon. Victor Cavendish, M.P. (show rams and ewes), Sir Walter Corbet, Bart. (prize-winning ewes), Sir R. P. Cooper, Bart. (20 field rams), Mr. E. Nock, Mrs. Inge, Mr. C. L. Coxon, Mr. R. Bach, Mr. C. Blatherwick, Mr. J. H. Walford (prize-winning ram and ewe lambs and shearling ewes), Mr. T. G. Juckes, Mr. A. S. Berry (34 rams), Mr. E. J. Frank, and Mr. R. C. Pryce. The Oxfords comprised a grand selection of shearling ewes and ram and ewe lambs from Mr. Geo. Adams' prize-winning flock, and show ewes and 1 ram from Mr. J. T. Hobbs, a Hampshire ram lamb from Mr. Jas. Flower. Accompanying these were 4 Lincolns from Mr. H. Dudding for Mr. J. T. Gibson; 7 Southdowns from H.M. the King, 2 Ryelands from Mr. Gough for Professor Kennedy, and Border Leicesters from Mr. Matthew Templeton, for Mr. Geo. Whitelaw, of Ontario. Altogether, Messrs. Chandler's lot of sheep was quite one of the best ever shipped to America.

On account of Mr. Robert Miller, Canada, per ss. *Monmouth*, from Barry Dock, 153 sheep and 7 ponies, consisting of a splendid selection of prize-winning Shropshires from the Right Hon. Victor Cavendish, M.P. (3 Royal-winning ewe lambs), Mr. F. Bibby (3 show rams), Sir W. Corbet, Bart. (4 show ewes), Mr. E. Nock (3 Royal-winning ewe lambs), Sir R. P. Cooper, Bart. (1 ram in 1st prize pen R.A.S.E.), Mr. A. S. Berry (one 2-shear ram 2nd Lincoln Royal), Mr. T. A. Buttar (12 rams and 3 show lambs), Mr. Percy Instone (8 rams), Mr. J. Corden (2 show ram lambs), Mr. Peter Everall (4 show ewes); a show contingent of Cotswolds from Mr. W. T. Garne, consisting of 28 rams, ewes, and lambs; Hampshires, including several show specimens from Lord Carnarvon, Mr. F. Buxton, Mr. E. Smith Hanbury, Sir Alexander Henderson, M.P.; Oxfords from Mr. Geo. Adams; Dorsets from Mr. Hambro, and Lincolns from Mr. Charles Featherstone.

On account of Messrs. Geo. McKerrow and Sons, United States, per ss. *Turcoman*, from Avonmouth, 137 sheep and Large Black pigs, consisting in Shropshires of 1 Royal-winning ram from Mr. T. S. Minton, the Right Hon. Victor Cavendish, M.P. (2 show rams), Sir W. Corbet, Bart. (3 show rams and 1 show ewe), Mr. A. Tanner (7 rams), Mr. R. F. H. White (11 head, consisting of shearling ewes and ram and ewe lambs), Lord Barrymore (6 ewes and 1 ram), Sir R. P. Cooper, Bart. (show ram and ewe), Mr. J. T. Cole (3 rams), Mr. J. H. Walford, Mr. J. E. Farmer (10 rams), Mr. C. Blatherwick, Mr. T. A. Buttar (15 rams and 5 ewes), Mr. Minton and Mr. C. T. Pulley; Oxfords from Mr. Horlick, Mr. H. W. Stilgoe, Mr. A. Brassey, Mr. W. A. Treweeke, Mr. J. T. Hobbs, and Mr. S. W. Jefferies; Cheviots from Mr Robson; Hampshires from Mr. T. F. Buxton; Southdowns from the Duke of Richmond and Mr. McCalmont; Ryelands from Mr. Davies; Large Black pigs from Mr. John Bastard and Mr. T. Warne, both of Cornwall.

On account of Oak Park Farm Company, Canada, per ss. *Parthenia*, from Glasgow, 100 Shropshire sheep, comprising 40 selected ewes from Mr. T. S. Minton, Mr. T. G. Juckes (4 rams and 20 ewes), Mr. R. H. Gwynne (5 rams and 6 ewes), Mr. E. J. Frank (25 ewes). A further 60 head, including all the show animals, were to be despatched on Saturday last, and amongst them are several Royal and other winners.

On account of Mr. G. Allen, per ss. *Monmouth*, from Barry Dock, 89 sheep of various breeds, including in Shropshires 7 head from T. G. Juckes; Oxfords from Mr. Horlick and Mr. J. T. Hobbs; Hampshires from Mills Bros., Hon. D P. Bouverie, Marquis of Winchester, and Mr. Carey Coles; Cotswolds from Mr. W. T. Garne, Mr. Russell (Swanwick), Mr. Houlton, Mr. C. Parton, and Mr. Thomas; Southdowns from Earl Bathurst; Dorsets from Mr. Merson, Mr. Kidner, and Mr. W. R. Flower; Cheviots from Mr. Robson.

On account of Renk Bros., United States of America, per ss. *Manxman* of the Dominion Line,

FODDER CROPS
ONE SHILLING. Post Free, 1s. 1½d.
W. A. May, "The Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, W.C.



TIPPERS
STOMACHIC CHALK ESSENCE
For DIARRHOEA, WHITE SCOUR, SKIT.
Send 2/9 for Single Tin (Post Free) - 1.5/- for ½ doz Tins
B.C.TIPPER & SON CHEMICAL WORKS BIRMINGHAM.

A SPICE THAT WILL SAVE YOUR DAMAGED HAY.

What in many parts of the country promised to be a record yield, has been endangered as to quality, if not also quantity, by the recent excessive rainfall.

That considerable damage has been done in many districts is already known by the orders which for several days past have been reaching the makers of "PHŒNIX" HAY SPICE, these being accompanied in most instances by an urgent appeal for quick despatch.

This Spice supplies the valuable aromatic flavouring principle of "prime" Hay, and when sown in the ricks imparts a much stronger fragrance, and a specially powerful, attractive, aromatic flavour. Besides this, it increases the value of all Hay, both for feeding and sale, quite 20s. per ton. It gives a pleasant aroma, and is unequalled as a condiment for damaged or inferior feeding stuff. It makes damaged Hay tempting and palatable, more digestible, and makes all animals eat it with a greater relish, and thrive faster on it. It also removes mustiness and all defects, and imparts a good tempting flavour and fragrant smell to "weathered" Hay (even when black and seemingly worthless), and makes cattle eat it as well as the best, and thrive on it admirably.

It is a really efficient Hay Spice, in which all waste is prevented, as it gives to the most inferior, coarse, or damaged Hay a fragrant, tempting smell, and an excellent and appetising taste. One cwt. will dress 20 tons of Hay at a cost of about 1s. per ton.

The "PHŒNIX" HAY SPICE is packed in bags of 112 lbs. each; the price being 20s. per cwt., carriage paid to buyer's station.

Sole Manufacturers:
THE PHŒNIX OIL MILL,
Branch of the British Oil and Cake Mills, Ltd.,
3, RUMFORD STREET, LIVERPOOL.

NOVA SCOTIA
Offers advantages to British Agriculturists with moderate capital. Improved Farms at Low Rates. Fertile Lands. Famous Fruits. Enormous mineral deposits of Coal, Gold, Silver, Iron, Copper, Lead and Tin. Climate temperate and healthy. Easily accessible to all the principal markets.—Full information supplied by the Agent-General of Nova Scotia, Mr. JOHN HOWARD, 57, Pall Mall, London, S.W.

PALATINE CAKES



Please enquire Locally for Prices and Samples.

Dealers, Millers, and others wanted to push where not represented.

Linseed, Cotton, Fattening, Dairy, Feeding Cakes and Meals.
Cleaned Cottonseed.

BREAKABLE FEEDING CAKE.

The Palatine Oil Mill, Liverpool.

AUCTION SALES.

Auctioneers will favour us by sending in their advertisements as early in the week as possible.
Charges of announcements under this heading Six Shillings an inch.

By Messrs. IRELAND.

Norwich, Norfolk.—Ireland's Norwich Hill Auction Mart (established 50 years). Every Saturday. Fat Bullocks and Sheep, Store Sheep. Special Spring and Autumn Store Cattle Sales.

MESSRS. IRELAND solicit consignments for these important weekly sales; best market value assured.

Cattle consigned to Ireland's, Norwich, will be properly fed and carefully attended to.

All cattle weighed upon entry to the sale ring if desired. Full particulars to be sent to—

IRELAND'S, Auctioneers.
Norwich, Norfolk.

By H. DUKE & SON.

WILTSHIRE.
THE ALLINGTON ESTATE,

In the Parish of ALL CANNINGS; Four Miles from Patney Station, on the G.W.R.; Five Miles from the important Market and Garrison Town of Devizes; and Seven Miles from either Marlborough or Pewsey.

A FREEHOLD LANDED PROPERTY, extending to about
878a. 0r. 23p.,
of ARABLE, MEADOW, and DOWN PASTURE LAND, with a Pleasant RESIDENCE, COTTAGES, and FARM BUILDINGS, let to responsible Tenants at the AGGREGATE RENTAL of £515 per Annum, including the SPORTING RIGHTS.

MESSRS. HY. DUKE and SON are favoured with instructions to OFFER the above ESTATE for SALE by AUCTION, in one Lot, at the "Bear" Hotel, Devizes, on THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 1907, at Three p.m.

Particulars, with Plan and Conditions of Sale, and Order to View, may be obtained of Messrs. FLADGATE & Co., Solicitors, 2, Craig's Court, Charing Cross, London; or of the AUCTIONEERS, Dorchester, Dorset.

ANNUAL SOUTH DEVON RAM SALES.

NOTICE is hereby given that the ANNUAL SALES of REGISTERED SOUTH DEVON RAMS will be held at the places mentioned below.

TOTNES, on AUGUST 1, 1907.
LISKEARD, on AUGUST 12, 1907.
TRURO, on SEPTEMBER 4, 1907.

At all of these Sales selections of Rams from the principal Flock-owners will be offered, and buyers will find these to include a grand lot of first-class Rams of high quality. Special prizes are offered for competition at the Totnes Sale. Full information and catalogues can be obtained of the Secretary, Mr. W. W. CHAPMAN, 4, Mowbray House, Norfolk Street, Strand, London, W.C.

By HOBGEN BROS.

CHICHESTER EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL SALE of PURE-BRED SOUTHDOWN SHEEP.

HOBGEN BROS. beg to announce that they will hold their Eighteenth ANNUAL SALE of PURE-BRED SOUTHDOWNS in their Auction Repository in the Chichester Cattle Market on THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 1907, when a large and choice selection of Rams, Ram Lambs and Ewes from the Flocks of the Duke of Richmond, K.G., the Duke of Devonshire, K.G., the Duke of Northumberland, K.G., Lord Northbourne, Earl Bathurst, C.M.G., Earl Cadogan, K.G., the Exors. of the late Col. H. McCalmont, Mr. J. E. Allen, Mr. A. Heasman, Mr. A. G. Paul, the Exors. of the late Mr. George Peel, Mr. E. Hobgen, Mr. Percy Herrington, Mr. A. C. Harris, and others will be offered. Sheep can be taken in under cover two or three days previous to the Auction, and green food will be provided free of cost.

HOBGEN BROS. will also give £10 in cash, or, if preferred, a piece of plate, to the Owner being the Breeder of the Shearling Ram which shall be sold at the highest price at such Auction.

N.B.—This Sale is open to all Breeders of Southdown Sheep, and is unrestricted to numbers. Hobgen Bros. respectfully solicit early entries to the Sale, in order that the public may be notified of the same.

Sale to commence at 12 o'clock precisely.
Refreshments may be procured in the Hall.

By JOHN THORNTON & CO.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

THURSDAY NEXT, JULY 25.—The Rt. Hon. Earl Manvers' SHORTHORNS, at Holmpierrepont, Nottingham.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7.—Mr. G. J. B. Chetwynd's herd of DEXTERS, at Wyndthorpe, Doncaster.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 23.—Mr. W. P. Hampton's entire SOUTHDOWN flock, at Langdon Abbey, Dover.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON & Co., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

By Messrs. STRIDE & SON.

CHICHESTER, SUSSEX.
(The recognised centre for the sale of pure-bred Southdown Sheep.)
GREAT ANNUAL SHOW and SALE OF PURE-BRED SOUTHDOWN RAMS, RAM LAMBS and EWES,
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7th NEXT.

MESSRS. STRIDE & SON beg to announce that present entries for the above Show and Sale, which takes place in the Market, Chichester, and is the largest of the season, comprise about

402
SOUTHDOWN RAMS and RAM LAMBS

from the following eminent ram breeders:—His Grace the Duke of Devonshire, His Grace the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, His Grace the Duke of Northumberland, Earl Manvers, Earl Cadogan, Lord Northbourne, the Right Hon. T. F. Halsey, the Hon. E. W. B. Portman, Sir Walpole Greenwell, Sir Thomas Gooch, Sir Julius Wernher, Lieut.-Col. Hammond, Mr. F. Elmer Speed, Mr. Edwin Henty, Mr. W. M. Cazalet, Mr. John Tompkins, Mr. Alfred Heasman, Mr. F. H. Jennings, Mr. J. Buchanan, Mr. E. R. Fisher Rowe, Mr. F. Stanford, Mr. T. W. Thorpe, Mr. F. H. Sawtell, Mr. P. Herington, Mr. Geo. Lock, Mr. E. J. Reddaway, Mr. J. B. Tribe, Mr. A. C. Harris, Mr. Thomas Dare, Mr. W. F. Monckton, Mr. Jeremiah Colman, Exors. of the late Col. H. McCalmont, Exors. of the late Mr. Geo. Peel, Messrs. Bowron Bros, Mrs. Stephenson Clarke, &c., &c.

4,131
REGISTERED SOUTHDOWN EWES,

including Shearling, Regular Draft and Draft Ewes, also several lots of four and six-teeth Ewes from the following well-known flock-owners:—His Grace the Duke of Devonshire, His Grace the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, Lord Northbourne, Sir Edmund G. Loder, Lieut.-Col. Hammond, Mr. F. Elmer Speed, Mr. W. M. Cazalet, Mr. T. W. Thorpe, Mr. A. M. Singer, Messrs. C. J. Drewitt and Son, Exors. of the late Mr. C. W. Whicher, Mr. Geo. Lock, Mr. E. J. Reddaway, Mr. J. W. Woods, Mr. J. B. Tribe, Mr. Herbert Padwick, Mr. J. H. Loveys. Mr. J. Buchanan, Mr. Thomas Dare, Mr. W. F. Monckton, Mr. N. Graburn, Mr. James Helyer, Mr. W. Allin, Mr. Jeremiah Colman, Mr. T. Peacock, Col. R. M. Helme, Messrs. H. Hipkin and Son, Mr. R. W. Brown, Mr. C. Napper, &c., together with about

60 RAMS and RAM LAMBS and
300 SHEARLING EWES,

forming the joint annual sale from the celebrated registered Southdown Flocks of Lord Northbourne, Lieut.-Col. Hammond and Mr. Francis Elmer Speed, also the whole of Mr. J. W. BAXENDALE'S excellent PURE-BRED REGISTERED SOUTHDOWN FLOCK (No. 17 in Flock Book), comprising about

157 EWES in REGULAR FLOCK AGES.

A first edition catalogue will be widely circulated on the 24th inst. CHALLENGE CUPS for the BEST FIVE SHEARLING RAMS, FIVE RAM LAMBS, and 50 REGULAR DRAFT EWES. Entry forms on application to the Auctioneers. Entries close on Saturday, August 3.

Judging for the cups at nine o'clock. Sale at 10 o'clock to the minute. The "Dolphin" and "Anchor" are comfortable, convenient hotels to stay at, and the Auctioneers will be pleased to book rooms.

COMMISSIONS CAREFULLY EXECUTED.
STRIDE & SON, Auctioneers.
Chichester, Sussex.

By Messrs. CHALK.

PRELIMINARY.

THE 22nd ANNUAL SALE and LETTING of
80
PURE-BRED
HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAMS and RAM LAMBS
from Mr. H. Lambert's celebrated Flock
will take place at
CAMBRIDGE,
on
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7, 1907.

Messrs. CHALK, Auctioneers,
11, Alexandra Street, Cambridge, and Linton.

By J. HARRIS & SON.

By Order of Executors.
LONG SUTTON, HANTS,

Five miles from Hook and Winchfield Stations.

IMPORTANT SALE of the whole of the highly-bred FLOCK of 710 EWES and LAMBS,
Of the late Mr. William M. Harris, registered in Vol. 1 of the Hampshire Down Flock Book.

MESSRS. JAMES HARRIS and SON are instructed by the Exors. to SELL by AUCTION, on the premises at Long Sutton, on MONDAY, JULY 29, 1907, the whole of the above highly-bred Flock, comprising:—

150 Two-Tooth EWES,
140 Four-Tooth EWES,
130 Six-Tooth EWES,
100 Full-Mouth EWES,
140 EWE LAMBS,

Together with 50 RAM LAMBS and SHEARLINGS.

This Flock, established in the year 1864, is brought to the hammer in consequence of the recent death of the late Mr. W. M. Harris. That gentleman's well-known judgment (being a frequent judge at the Royal and other Shows) will be proved by the present Flock, which will be found of good size and colour, well-woolled, and full of quality. The Rams in service recently have been from the Flocks of Messrs. James Flower, Cary Coles, A. F. T. Drake, J. A. K. Falconer, and Sir George Judd. A good export trade to the Argentine and Germany has been done the last few years.

Luncheon will be provided at One o'clock, and the Sale will commence at Two.

Conveyances will meet the up train from Basingstoke, Eastleigh, and Salisbury, due at Hook 11.57, and the 9.30 train from Waterloo, reaching Hook 11.22, to convey passengers to the Sale at a charge of 2s. 6d. for the return journey.

Catalogues may be obtained of the Auctioneers, Winchester.

By GAVIN LOW.

1,000 IRISH STORE CATTLE.

NEXT SALE
at Auction Mart, 50, Prussia Street, Dublin, will be held on THURSDAY, JULY 25, and will comprise the usual classes of the different breeds.

Every facility given cross-Channel buyers shipping stock.

GAVIN LOW,
Auctioneer, Live Stock Salesman, &c.

IRISH SHORTHORN BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION.

Important Inaugural Sale of Females and BULL CALVES from Leading Herds in Ireland—a home of Healthy Cattle—
at 50, Prussia Street, Dublin,
on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1907.

Catalogues may be had of T. J. HAYES, Secretary, Lynmere, Blackrock, Co. Dublin; or of GAVIN LOW, Auctioneer, 50, Prussia Street, Dublin.

By Messrs. W. & B. HOBBS.

KENT.
ANNUAL LAMB SALE,
ASHFORD.

Close to the S.E. and C.R trucking sidings, where a large supply of trucks will be on hand, and every convenience made for the quick removal of stock.

MESSRS. W. & B. HOBBS will hold the above sale in the Cattle Market Field, on FRIDAY, AUGUST 2, 1907.

10,000
EWE and WETHER, KENT and HALF-BRED SOUTHDOWN and HAMPSHIRE DOWN LAMBS from the best flocks in the district.

Sale to commence punctually at Ten o'clock. Luncheon provided. Catalogues from the Auction and Estate Offices, Ashford, Kent.

(Continued on next page.)

AUCTION SALES.

Auctioneers will favour us by sending in their advertisements as early in the week as possible.

Charges for announcements under this heading, Six Shillings an inch.

By SUGDON & PEARCE-BROWN.

THE LECONFIELD
LINCOLN LONG-WOOL RAMS,
No. 38 in Flock Book.

MESSRS. SUGDON & PEARCE-BROWN have received instructions from Mr. Robert Fisher TO SELL BY AUCTION, on Wednesday, August 14, 1907,
80 SHEARLING RAMS
From the above Registered Flock; when Mr. Fisher will be glad to see his friends.
Sale after 12 o'clock luncheon.
Conveyances will meet the trains at Beverley and Arram Stations. Auctioneers' Office:—Market Place, Beverley.

By A. F. HOBBS.

CIRENCESTER RAM FAIR.
AUGUST 6TH, 1907.
MR. JAMES T. HOBBS' MAISEY HAMPTON FLOCK.

A. F. HOBBS will SELL by AUCTION, in a Field adjoining the Cattle Market, at 12 o'clock, about 60 GRAND PURE-BRED OXFORD DOWN SHEARLING RAMS, bred by and the property of James T. Hobbs, Maisey Hampton, Fairford, Gloucestershire. This being the 47th Annual Sale.

The Rams being sold this year are of immense size, with an abundance of wool and lean meat.

First Prizes have been gained this season at the Oxford-hire, Bath and West, Royal Counties', Highland, Birmingham, and Smithfield Shows, and the Royal A.S.E.; also Breed Cups and Champions at the Oxfordshire, Highland, and Smithfield Shows.

A Brake will leave Fairford Station for Cirencester at 10.18 a.m., returning to meet the 6.35 p.m. Train. A Train will leave Paddington at 9 a.m., arriving at Cirencester at 11.33 a m.

PEA BAGS.

WRITE FOR PRICES DIRECT TO SACK FACTORY.
LARGEST SECOND-HAND MERCHANTS IN THE WEST.
Telephone 1546. Telegrams: "Acorn, Bristol."
A. T. JAMES & CO.,
Clark Street, St Paul's, BRISTOL.

ARTIFICIAL MANURES

HOW TO MAKE, BUY VALUE, AND USE.

Price ONE SHILLING. Post free, 1/2½.

W. A. MAY, "MARK LANE EXPRESS,"
3, WELLINGTON STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

from Avonmouth, 124 sheep, including 12 Shropshire rams from Mr. T. S. Minton, 6 from Mr. F. Bibby, others from Mr. C. T. Pulley, Mr. A. Tanner (16 ewes), Mr. J. H. Walford, Mr. T. Parton, Mr. T. A. Buttar, and Mr. Noah Morgan; Hampshires from Mr. Carey Coles, Mr. H. C. Stephens, Mr. J. C. Holman, and Mr. James Flower; and Cotswolds from Mr. W. T. Garne.

On account of Mrs. Lambert, Chile, per ss. *Sarmiento*, 2 blood-red Shorthorn bulls, to Valparaiso, viz.: Border Chief 94389, a well-grown, stylish bull bred by Mr. W. Elliott, Hollybush, Galashiels, N.B., by Connington Star 83158, from Blushing Heather; and Briggsflat Merryman 90992, bred by Mr. John Handley, Havera Bank, Sedburgh, sired by Merryman 75073, from Cinderella 15th by Prince of Crosby 6152.

On account of Mr. J. G. Hanmer, Canada, per ss. *Athenia*, from Glasgow, 98 Shropshire sheep selected from the well-known flock of Mr. T. A. Buttar and others.

In addition to the foregoing, Messrs. Mansell and Co. have recently purchased for shipment to South America 31 Berkshire and Middle White sows and boars of various ages, and several sporting dogs.



Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

The Importance of the Pony.

THE pony is a much more important factor in the horse breeding economy of the country than the superficial observer would believe. He is as a rule, and except by the few who studied him carefully and know his value, regarded with feelings of good-natured contempt. He has to rough it, and he does rough it, with that indifference to the "stings and arrows of outrageous fortune" which is the sign of a hardy and healthy constitution. No horse on the place does half the work the pony does; he is at every one's beck and call. He is galloped down to the post with late letters, after having been on half a score of errands during the day; then perhaps he is run down to the station to meet some one or set some one off, and if the master is going off to some informal bachelor party, he is as likely as not to say "Put the saddle and bridle on the pony."

Aristocratic Ponies.

IN all deference to authorities, I would submit that the aristocrats of the pony race are not ponies at all. By the aristocrats of the pony race I, of course, mean Polo ponies, and those handsome little Harness horses the development of which is so closely associated with the name of Mr. C. W. Wilson, of Rigmaden. Now the former is a miniature Hunter; he is bred on the lines of a miniature Hunter, and is judged mainly from the Hunter standpoint; whilst the latter is a Hackney pure and simple, and is judged by Hackney judges from a Hackney standpoint. And I need scarcely point out that these ponies, as they are called, do not do much in the way of roughing it.

The Hackney Pony.

THE Hackney pony is a wonderful animal, and as we know him now he has only existed for some thirty or forty years. Indeed, I think if we were to say that he really owes his existence to Mr. C. W. Wilson we should not be very wide of the mark. The foundation was a small pony crossed with a Hackney, with exceptionally fine action, and continual in-breeding has resulted in the production of such perfect harness ponies as Sir Horace, and many a show pony whose name will occur at once to those who follow the form of the showyard from day to day. It is a curious thing, but it is no less strange than true, that there are very few harness horses indeed, which can compare with the high-class harness pony.

The Polo Pony.

A SIMILAR remark applies in equal force to the Polo and riding pony. How many weight-carrying Hunters do we see that are so well proportioned, so well balanced, and so active as the weight-carrying Polo pony. Like the Hackney pony, his foundation has been pony blood and a similar system of in-breeding has had something to do with his development. There are, however, many thoroughbreds which have not reached the 14 hands 2 inches limit, or which have done what amounts to the same thing, passed the standard, and these of course are extensively bred from, so that in some Polo ponies pony blood does not come in at all.

What Polo Has Done.

NOW I think I am within the mark when I say that if it had not been for polo, the British pony would have been suffered to fall into neglect and decay, save perhaps where a few foresters or common right owners, or a man like Sir Thomas Dyke Acland, awake to his many good qualities struggled to keep him to the fore. But polo accentuated the fact that size is not absolutely essential in a horse, and the brilliant performances of Polo ponies in the game itself and in the many gymkhanas which came to be associated with the game called attention to the possibilities which our British breeds of ponies possessed. Then the ponies which were too big for polo were used as riding ponies, and their good qualities brought them many admirers, and I think we have to give polo the credit of the inauguration of those useful classes for hacks of the Hunter type, not exceeding 15 hands 2 in.

The Native Ponies.

THE Polo and Riding Pony Society soon began to direct their attention to the native breeds of ponies and they did a good work when they began to give prizes for Exmoors, Dartmoors, Welsh ponies, and other Forest and Hill ponies. This caused attention to be paid to them, and a great improvement soon became evident. There has been, however, and there still is, a leaning to improving these native breeds by crossing. And this has been encouraged by the lines on which classes of native ponies were judged. The nearer the approach to the Hackney type, particularly in action, the better the chance a pony had, or still has, in some places of winning a prize. This is wrong. There is proper pony action as well as proper Hackney action, and it is by no means desirable that we should have our pony breeds displaced by miniature Hackneys. I could mention one or two Welsh ponies. No doubt some will occur to my readers that are of pronounced Hackney type in shape and action, though they retain the pony head, and it is curious that they should have got such Hackney characteristics without a touch of Hackney blood.

The Fell Ponies.

I AM afraid the old-fashioned Fell pony is rapidly becoming extinct. Some years ago, when I was driving through Cumberland, I saw one of these ponies. He was a cart horse in miniature, yet he showed no resemblance to either Shire or Clydesdale. He was rather under than over 14 hands, if my memory serves me, and was as wide as a wagon horse and he could trot. He was shaggy in his coat, and a real hardy-looking little fellow. I spent some time driving about the Cumberland Fells and Dales, but I never saw anything approaching him. At the Durham County Show, when it is held in the northern division of the county, there is often a class for Dales ponies, which are somewhat similar in type to the pony I have described. The classes never fill very well, but there are some useful ponies found amongst them. I am glad to say they are generally judged by a Dalesman, and those who own them are full of enthusiasm about them, saying, what I can well believe, that there is no breed of horses which answers their purpose so well.

The Pony as a Foundation of Hunter Breeding.

SOME years ago the Earl of Harrington wrote some letters in which he drew attention to the value of the pony cross as Hunters. He pointed out that the pony is an "enduring" breed that can stay for ever, and that has the pluck of the Thoroughbred joined to his own courage. I think also Lord Harrington might have added, without fear of contradiction, that the pony is the most sagacious of the equine race, and this is no small matter in Hunter breeding. Lord Harrington instanced several horses he had known that strained back to ponies, and at least two good Hunters that I have possessed or had to do with had ponies for their dams. The former of these was a curiously bred one. Her dam was nearly if not quite thoroughbred. She was by Lucy Cropper dam by Dr. Syntax, the famous gold cup winner, and there were other thoroughbred crosses, and it is quite likely that she was descended from those Dales ponies of which I've been speaking, for she came from the Etherley district. Her sire was a light active cart horse called Short Legs. A funnier bred one for a hunter I never came across, but she knew her business, and managed to get through. Of course she was a bit of a bone setter. Equally of course she was not very fast, and did not show to advantage in a quick ten minutes. But she was the soundest mare in the world, with legs like iron. She could go the nearest way, and at her pace she could stay first, and when she died of heart failure at the age of 19—she dropped down dead as she was being ridden along the road. She was as clean on her legs as a four-year-old. THE LOOKER ON.

An interesting suggestion was made and voted upon at the meeting of the Border Leicester Sheep Breeders' Society held during the Highland Show. It was made by Mr. J. R. C. Smith, Galalaw, who said he thought that seeing the society was in such a flourishing condition they should take advantage of their surplus finances to do all in their power to forward the interests of the breed. He suggested that they should allocate a £50 silver cup to be competed for annually at the Royal Show. Foreigners coming to that show had been in the habit of seeing very small classes of Border Leicesters, and it was their duty to do all in their power to encourage breeders to bring their favourite breed into prominence. A big, thumping prize such as he had proposed would also, perhaps, attract monied men at home to give more attention to the Border Leicester class. This sheep was becoming more popular, as evidenced by the large acquisition of members to the society, and in some respects the Blackfaces could not compete with them.

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

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HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT REEVIL, Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Hereford. Stud Horses: Lockinge Lord of Misrule and Lockinge Bonny Lad, both by Lockinge Forester, full brother to Lockinge Forest King. Colts and Fillies for Sale.

MUNTZ, FREDERICK ERNEST, Umberslade, Hockley Heath, Warwickshire. Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, prize-winners.—Particulars from Mr. JOHN T. B. HARTLEY, Estate Office.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners, on Sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

ROWELL, JOHN, Bury, Huntingdon. Breeder Shires and Hackneys; Stallions for sale, hire, or service at home; mares and fillies for sale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

SHETLAND PONIES.

BEALE, Mrs. A. J., Cacketts, Cudham, Kent. Prize-bred Pedigree Shetlands for sale; three grand Stallions at stud.

PONIES.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

PREECE, JOHN ADNEY, Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston, Northampton.—Herd of 250 Shorthorns, best Bates and Scotch blood; stock Bulls, Duke of Barrington 70th, Primrose Earl 89341, and Royal Baron 93192; Bulls and Heifers for sale.

ROTHWELL, R. R., Much Hoole, near Preston. Pedigree Shorthorns, chiefly Scotch blood. Stock bull Strowan Marquis 13th, winner of many prizes. Young bulls and heifers always on sale.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

TAYLOR, GEORGE, Cranford, Middlesex.—Bates' Shorthorns, deep milkers. Winners Milking Competitions, London Dairy Show, 1905-6. Bull Calves for Sale. Stock Bulls: Beau Sabreur, Drumcree, Rowbury, and Kirkcharm.

WORDSWORTH, Dufficarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

SUSSEX.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath, Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Sussex Cattle (descended from the oldest and best strains of blood), unrivalled for their early maturity, the production of the best beef and working oxen, and ability to thrive in all weathers on the roughest fare. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for Sale.

HEREFORDS.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for Sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

PULLEY, CHARLES THORNTON, Lower Eaton, Hereford.—Noted prize-winning herd of HEREFORD CATTLE. First prize Royal winners, Protector 19660, 1900; Eaton Champion 21351, 1903; and Ashleaf 3rd, 1905. This herd is headed by Eaton Champion and Glendower 2nd 22196, also a Royal winner. Bulls and Heifers for sale. Also prize-winning Shropshire Sheep.—Apply Mr. HEDLEY JONES, Lower Eaton Estate Office, Hereford.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has in 1904-1905 and 1906 won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by Endale, Page Protector, and Fusilier. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited.—Apply, J. E. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford Herefordshire.

CATTLE—*continued.*

DEVONS.

BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton Williton, Taunton, Breeder of Pedigree Devon Cattle. A speciality for large size, with quality and robust constitutions; colour dark red. Sent to all parts of the world. Prices moderate.

SKINNER, ALFRED C., Pound, Bishops-Lydeard, Somerset. Pedigree Devons, constitution, quality, size, milk; 600 prizes principal shows, many champions; exports most successful; bulls and heifers for sale. Inspection invited.

SOUTH DEVONS.

ROWE, F. W., Trevego Lostwithiel, Cornwall. Breeder of pure-bred South Devon Cattle of best and purest strains of blood. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for inspection and sale.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

BRIDGES, J. H.—This old-established herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle of the leading families can be seen at Langshott Home Farm, Horley, Surrey (near Horley Station, L.B. & S.C.R.), and catalogues obtained on application to Mr. Albert Pulling.

HURSLEY PARK HERD OF ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE, the property of Sir George Cooper, Bart., comprising Erica, Pride, Miss Burgess, Lady Ida, Matilda, Jemima of Morlich families. Prizes won during 1906: 7 firsts, 3 seconds, 3 reserves, 1 challenge cup, 2 silver medals, 3 reserve champions. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.—Catalogues on application to V. F. Leese, Estate Office, Hursley Park, Winchester.

THE ROCKLIFFE PARK HERD of Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, Ericas and Prides.—Apply, R. C. SWAN, Rockliffe Park, Darlington.

AYRSHIRES.

WALLACE, JAMES, J.P., Auchenbainzie, Thornhill, Dumfriesshire, Scotland. Breeder of pedigree prize-winning Ayrshire Cattle; hardy, healthy good milkers; bred for dairy purposes, beauty and style. Bulls and Heifers for sale.

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably, from his prize-winning herd of Red Polls, Bulls, Cows, Heifers, from good milkers.—Apply C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

CARY-ELWES, V., Billing Hall, Northampton. Breeder of Jersey cattle.

JERSEYS and pure Alderney, Guernseys, fresh calved and near calving. Prices, particulars.—WHEADON, Ilminster.

MERTON GRANGE GUERNSEYS.—Property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. This Herd contains Champion Bull Royal Counties, Portsmouth, and Champion Cow Royal Derby, 1906. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of best Breeding for Sale.—Telegrams and particulars, W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay.

STERN, Sir E. D., Fan Court, Chertsey, Surrey. Herd of pedigree Jersey Cattle. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

TICHBORNE PARK, GUERNSEY.—Yearling Bulls and Heifers for sale.—Apply, D. MICHIE, Estate Office, Tichborne, Alresford, Hants.

GALLOWAYS.

GRAHAM, ROBERT, Auchengassel, Twynholm, breeder fashionable Galloway Cattle, winners at Royal and Highland Societies Shows. Pedigree Bulls, Cows, and Heifers, also Blue-greys for feeding, for sale. Commissions carefully executed.

KERRIES & DEXTERS.

THE DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE'S PRIZE-WINNING DEXTER HERD.—During 1904 and 1905 this Herd won more prizes than any other three Dexter Herds combined, including both first and second milking prizes Royal, 1905, and first London Dairy Show, 1906. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers generally for Sale.—CHILD, Compton Place, Eastbourne.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

RATTRAY, DAVID, Gortnaskehy, Ballybunion, Co. Kerry. Pedigree Prize-winning Herd of Kerries and Dexters. 153 Prizes and Honours won by Cattle from this Herd past three years. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONG WOOL.

ANDERSON, JOHN, Barton-on-Humber.—The old Barton Flock of Pure-bred LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP, Flock Book 106. This flock is noted for hard constitutions and fine, lustrous wool. Inspection invited. Telegrams as above.

ATKINSON, T., & SON, North Kelsey, Lincoln. Old-established flock of pure Lincoln Longwools. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Noted for great size and long lustrous wool. Have given great satisfaction at home and abroad. Inspection invited.

SHEEP—*continued.*

LINCOLN LONG WOOL—*continued.*

BROOKS, W. J., Stowe Lodge, Weedon, Northants (Registered Flock 165), has for sale Rams and Ewes of best blood.

BROCKLEBANK, JOHN, Bassingham, Lincoln (Flock 24). Pure-bred Lincoln Longwool Rams and Ewes. This old flock has been carefully bred for 100 years. Telegrams: Bassingham.

DRAKES, Wm., Tealby, Market Rasen. Flock No. 72 of Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs of best blood for sale. Lincoln Red Shorthorns. Prices moderate.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

SMITH, HENRY, jun., Cropwell Butler, Nottingham. Lincoln Longwool Flock No. 7, winner of £2,361 in prizes. Champion pen Lincolns, Smithfield Show, 1896; Association Championship, Leicester, 1897; Association Championship for pen of 3 Shearling Rams, Yorkshire, 1900; Championship, Rutland, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, and 1906. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

THE CHILMARK FLOCK OF REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—Owner, JAMES FLOWER, Chilwark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records. Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, out of 11 years competing, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" won eight times, thrice second, with pens of 8 ram lambs; a marvellous record. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 13 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05-06. At the Royal at Derby, 1906, every First Prize, two Seconds, and the Champion were won; an unequalled success!! Champions Birmingham, 1905, over all breeds, Reserve in 1906. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Short-wools, Smithfield, 1904-05-06. Highest average past 13 years. Bridford Fair, Aug. 12, 100 Ram Lambs, annual sale. Selections for Sale.

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1907.—Extraordinary records: Twin ram lambs let for 205 and 120 guineas. Ninety averaged £21 10s. Selections always for Sale.

JUDD, Sir GEORGE, Cocum, Barton Stacey, Hants.—Pure bred Hampshire Downs, over 1,000 Ewes. Annual Sale, Ram Lambs, August 8th, 1907. Registered Vol I., page 17.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. The Cholderton flock is individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded in the Hampshire Down Flock Book. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury.

OVEY, R. L., Hernes, Henley-on-Thames.—Pedigree HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK, Reg. Vol. IV., Prize winners leading shows last five years.

WINCHESTER, the Most Hon. the Marquis of, Amport St. Mary, Andover, Hants. Pure-bred flock of Hampshire Down Sheep; high-class Rams and Ewes always on Sale.

OXFORD DOWNS.

ADAMS, GEORGE, Royal Prize Farm Flock, Faringdon, Berks. Pure Oxford Down Sheep, Shearling Rams, Ram Lambs, Ewes and Ewe Lambs for Sale. Special arrangements with foreign buyers. Many first prizes at R.A.S.E. and other shows during past 25 years, including 2 first, 2 second, and 4 other prizes, World's Fair, Chicago, and 7 firsts, 4 seconds and champion at Royal Bath and West, Royal Counties, etc., this year.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

SUFFOLKS.

CRANWORTH, The Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably from his prize-winning flock, of Suffolk Sheep, some fine Ram Lambs.—Apply C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

WENSLEYDALE.

UNDERLEY WENSLEYDALES (Blue-faced), from the best blood obtainable. Successfully exhibited.—Apply, G. G. ROBINSON Bailiff, Underley Farm, Kirkby, Lonsdale.

(Continued on page 140)

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

CHARLES SPENCER, having taken over the Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts, herd of Large and Middle White Pigs, which won 12 prizes and reserves with 11 exhibits at Derby Royal, will price any of them.

FULWOOD HERD LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES, property R. R. Rothwell. 200 head bred from winners at leading shows.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for Sale at moderate prices

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station, G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices. —J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM. Herd of Large White Pigs. The oldest and largest Herd in Notts County. Over 100 Breeding Sows kept. Upwards of 600 to select from. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—Apply ARTHUR A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 100 to choose from. Correspondence invited. Grand young breeding stock always on Sale.—Apply R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts (15 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

SPALDING HERD of Pedigree Large Whites, young stock and in-pig Gilts for Sale. All bred from great winners.—ALFRED W. WHITE, "Hillegom," Spalding.

MIDDLE WHITES.

THE CATTON HERD of Prize-winning MIDDLE WHITE PIGS, property of J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stock Boar Castlecroft Mikado, 1st Park Royal, 1st Bath and West. Gelts and Boars on Sale. Prices moderate.—Apply BAILIFF, Raddle Farm, Edingale, Tamworth.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

LARGE BLACKS.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath. Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Large Black Pigs of the best strains of blood, noted for their docility and for the production of a large proportion of lean meat. Good selection of Boars, unrelated Gilts, and in-pig Sows for Sale at reasonable prices.

CATTON HERD OF PRIZE-WINNING LARGE BLACK PIGS.—Stock Boar Trevisquite Excelsior 1487, 1st Devon County, 2nd and Reserve Champion Royal Show, 1906; pigs kept in hardy natural condition; gelts and boars always on sale.—Apply, J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stations: Croxall, 2½ miles (M.R.); Alrewas, 3½ miles (L.N.W.).

HASKETON CHAMPION PRIZE HERD OF LARGE BLACK PIGS.—This herd has won the Royal championship three out of four times, and is the only herd having won the breed challenge cup. Record: 47 firsts, 37 seconds, 11 thirds, 126 prize-winning cards; the herd this year being the winners of 14 firsts, 6 seconds, 2 thirds, championship and silver cup in five shows. Gelts and Boars at moderate prices consistent with quality. Exportation a speciality.—Apply, C. F. MARRINER, Hasketon, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS.—Select Herd, bred from choice Prize Winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale, moderate prices.—H. J. CLARKE, The Slade, Roughley, Sutton Coldfield.

BERKSHIRES.

CARNARVON, the Earl of.—Prize winning Pedigree Herd. BOARS and GELTS, eligible Herd Book. Prices moderate.—Apply W. T. HALL, Highclere Farm, Newbury.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

BERKSHIRES—*continued.*

READING CORPORATION.—150 Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, leading prize-winning strains, from son of Champion Mikado 10433 and prize-winner Domino 11323; inspection invited.—Apply, Mr. T. Chettle, Manor Farm, Reading, Berks.

STALL PITTS HERD OF PEDIGREE BERKSHIRES. One of the Oldest Herds. Unsurpassed for true character, size, and quality. Choice selection of Boars and Sows on offer at moderate prices.—J. LAWRENCE, Stall Pitts, Shrivenham, Berks.

COLSTON & BORROWFIELD HERDS.

The property of R. MILLINGTON-KNOWLES Colston Bassett Hall, Notts.

The herds contain **40** large typical breeding sows of the most fashionable strains; the best of **SIRES** are purchased to keep up the present high standard of excellence.

Numerous Championships, Medals, Firsts, and other prizes won at the Royal, Highland, Bath and West, and other principal Shows. Awarded Diploma at **ST. LOUIS, U.S.A.**, International Exposition, 1904, as breeder of the **CHAMPION** boar in all classes, and also **GRAND CHAMPION**, and breeder of boar second prize winner in all classes.

THE BORROWFIELD HERD has had a world-wide reputation for 40 years. Only home-bred pigs are sold from these herds, and no others are admitted on the premises. Large Whites only.—G. H. ELLIOT, Estate Office, Colston Bassett, Notts.

For Sale.
PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.
Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.
GEORGE HOYLES,
Skidby Manor, near Hull.

GEORGE HOYLES,
SKIDBY MANOR, HULL.

Breeder of Pure Lincoln Long Wool Sheep.
Lustrous Fleeces. Good Constitutions.
SUITABLE FOR HOME AND ABROAD. STOCK FOR SALE.

Weather, Crops and Stock.

The prospects are on the whole very encouraging, now that such a favourable change in the weather has set in. Crops generally are considered quite a fortnight late owing to the want of sunshine, but should the present warm, dry, and long-hoped-for weather continue—so welcome to both man and beast—we shall find the corn crops rapidly ripen and harvest be upon us before we are aware of it, especially as so much field work as haymaking, turnip hoeing, &c., must be pushed on with all speed to fetch up for lost time during the long wet spell, otherwise much of this work will be incomplete before the harvest demands our attention.

The above is the report of a Cambridgeshire correspondent, and it sums up the situation pretty generally. Other reports have come to hand from various places, and these we have summarised below, thus giving briefly the prospects of hay, grain, roots, &c., of several counties as far apart as Lancashire and Dorset.

The Weather.

Dorset.

Up to the present this has been the coldest and most shady season I have ever known, though very little rain, and the land is comparatively dry.

Norfolk (South).

Favourable winter, and work forward up to April, weather since then very unsettled. Heavy rains in certain districts, in other parts not more than required.

Lancashire (North).

The wet weather has made havoc, especially on low-laying land. The weather has now taken a turn, and is hot.

Nottinghamshire (South).

The season is about a fortnight later than the average owing to the dull weather and low temperature of June. The popular idea is that this is the worst summer on record, but those who remember that of 1879, say differently. The rainfall here this June is under average and less than in June, 1906. A brilliant St. Swithin's and a rising glass bring strong hopes of a good time to follow.

Hay.

Bucks (Central).

Most of the clovers and a good deal of hay has been very much damaged by the showery weather. Not that we have had any great quantity of rainfall, but continually showery. Grass crops are big on the uplands, and the pastures are full of keep. We are now having a few fine days, and a good deal of good hay has been got up.

Cambridgeshire.

The clover, seed, and hay crops cut early have suffered from the incessant wet and want of sun. Those who have left grass cutting as late as possible appear to be more fortunate so far; and the grass being left to grow has thickened, and fairly good crops are the result; and if this genial weather lasts a fortnight longer some capital hay may be well and safely stacked.

Dorset.

The bulk of the hay is now taken—quite an average crop, not well made.

Hampshire.

The hay is generally carried in this district, the greater part in rather poor condition, but since the change of weather, there are some ricks carried in good condition or order.

Norfolk (South).

Hay an abundant crop, and largely secured in this district, but the cost for labour very high.

Lancashire (North).

The hay crops are taking off well on dry land, and if this heat continues until it is housed, will make the season a much better one.

Notts (South).

The frequent showers and dull weather have greatly retarded the making of the fine hay crop. Early made stacks are all "smoking," but those who have bided their time, and judiciously got their hay into cocks, will not have much cause of complaint excepting delay.

Corn.

Bucks (Central).

The corn crops on these hills are very good, but want sunshine; more rain would doubtless knock them down.

Cambridgeshire.

Crops are looking remarkably well; the barley appears to be well-headed and very heavy in straw, some of which is already laid in places, and it is feared won't all recover. Oats are also a fair average crop, although very backward.

Dorset.

Wheat is looking so far well, a lot of straw, but the yield of corn is very uncertain owing to so much frost and unseasonable weather; other corn crops are fairly promising.

Hampshire.

The corn crops are an average, barley the best, oats and wheats not so good, but improving. Harvest will be late, and some are unusually weedy, quantities of charlock and poppies in a large proportion of the corn in this neighbourhood.

Norfolk (South).

Corns on the whole looking well. Roots a good plant and forward, but not too clean, caused by showery weather.

Lancashire (North).

The grain is shooting and may be a good crop, though late.

Notts (South).

Harvest is bound to be late this year. Wheat is now in bloom, but all my crops are over average, and with average good weather to follow the prospects are excellent.

Roots.

Bucks (Central).

Roots are not good as a rule. Mangolds want more sunshine.

Cambridgeshire.

Root crops are exceptionally good in most places, and only need plenty of hoeing by horse and by hand to bring them to perfection.

Dorset.

Roots a good plant, not showing the growth they should. Harvest must be late.

Hampshire.

The roots are improving. The early sown did not come away well, owing partly to the weather, wire worm, and fly, but now I think it will be an average season.

Lancashire (North).

Turnips and roots of all kinds could not be cleaned properly, but are now looking much healthier.

Nottinghamshire (South).

Roots are doing well; turnips have come a good plant without much injury from the fly, which hindered the earler sown kohl rabi.

Live Stock.

Hampshire.

Sheep have done well, but cattle not quite so well as they do most years, owing to the unseasonable weather, the grass being so continuously wet.

Notts (South).

Stock generally is doing well, and lambs look better than a year ago, specially those on tares.

The Markets.

Bucks (Central).

The wool fairs have been very much below last year's prices, some 3s. or 4s. per tod, and not a very brisk trade.

Norfolk.

Mutton selling well, lambs making high prices, pork selling well, and stores dear.

West Country Notes.

A COMPLETE week of fine weather has enabled the prematurely cut fodder to be dried and harvested, and the cheerful tone of the farmers engaged in the operations, where there was no intention of selling, told that there was no great harm done.

"STARTED haymaking yet?" I asked one farmer. He replied, "No; I suppose I shall start to-morrow." "You will be rather late, won't you?" "No, I always wait for summer; I was looking at my last year's diary yesterday, and I find I shall be only four days later than then to start. Some of our farmers go mad to start haymaking directly they are in June. If they only had a little more patience it would be money in their pocket." Perhaps it is true. My friend had a wider experience than most men of his class.

EXCEPT where the clover was specially forward—very few cases of this kind though—or the crops laid by the roughor weather, there was, it seems, no particular reason for haste this season, and nothing is yet really over ripe that was intended for hay.

I HAVE seen, however, some of the heaviest crops being made that I have for a long while.

THE Board of Agriculture have not been long in putting in force their new powers with regard to destructive insects and pests. They have scheduled a wide tract in the Western Counties for gooseberry mildew, including the counties of Gloucestershire and Worcestershire with the county boroughs therein. From what I can gather, the Act is likely to prove very useful in clearing out some of the pests which infect fruit trees. Some famous nurseries of fruit have in the past suffered considerable loss in the fact that there was no proper control over neighbouring places where difficulties had been occurring, and careless treatment had allowed pests to get somewhat of an upper hand. These will rejoice at the protection which will be possible to their valuable stocks.

THE annual exhibition of the Devon and Exeter Horse Show Society participated in the happy results of the burst of fine weather. Coming so soon after the change, they had the full advantage of the desire of the general public to indulge in outdoor gatherings. Their experience has not always been so favourable, and they are to be heartily congratulated upon this fact, and also upon the increased entry, though the classes were fewer.

THERE was a novelty in the shape of a hound show, with most of the leading packs of the kingdom represented. The Canine Society for the district also had an exhibition, and here there was a record success. The entries exceeded a thousand.

DEVON bee-keepers, in common with others, are beginning to find out how costly the past season has been to them through the losses in their apiaries. Where artificial feeding has been resorted to, though the cost has been considerable, the evils have not altogether been avoided, though the results of the damp and cold have been minimised.

FARMERS will do well to note that the casually employed worker in the harvesting of fruit, hay, vegetables, or corn come under the new Act. There has been an idea prevalent that they are not entitled to compensation in case of accident, but as they come under the special case of employment in the farmer's business they stand on exactly the same footing as the regular man. Now every farmer knows that these men who come and go are the most troublesome. They are also the most likely to be reckless about meeting with an accident. Forewarned, if the warning be taken, is forearmed. Either these men must be fully insured, or their services must be dispensed with, unless the farmer can afford to take the risk.

THE proceedings of the Millers' Convention at Exeter, though not all applicable to the producer, gave a few hints here and there of some value to farmers. The points as to the rating of machinery are worth noting. One hopes with Mr. Marriage that the time has about come when the efforts of the Home Grown Wheat Association may be of some service to the farmer.

THE sale of the estate of Mr. Anthony Gibbs in Devonshire has seen four out of six tenant farmers on the principal farms become yeomen. Yet the prices are significant. Purchased at £50,000, and with £12,000 spent on new buildings, the sale realised £24,000, a depreciation of some 60 per cent. in a third of a century. The current rental is estimated at £1,100.

SECOND early potatoes from Cornwall are realising far more satisfactory prices than did the earlies during the time the bulk of the trade in them was being done. Preparations for the autumn crops are getting well forward. Cereals are not up to the usual standard at this date.

DEVON County Show finances seem disappointing on the year. Whilst the ordinary receipts came to £2,229, the expenditure amounted to £2,456, showing an apparent loss of £224. The profit on the refreshments, managed by the committee themselves, reduced this to £156. But this, it must be noted, appears to exclude subscriptions. Not many of the shows can expect to make a profit as such.

July 19.

Midland Notes.

THE Small Holdings Bill does not appear to be arousing much enthusiasm among country people. Nothing is heard of the old foreboding, *e.g.*, that to give the labourer a plot of his own is to deprive the larger farmer of his services. Experience with allotments has already shown the groundlessness of that fear. But our practical farmers, looking round the villages, find only a very small number of men who are ever likely to take advantage of the Bill's provisions—and a smaller number who seem to have the capacity necessary for success.

NOR can it be said that the proposal to create tenancies only, and not ownerships, wins much approval. But in this respect opinions are curiously divergent. Our Belbroughton small holders in Worcestershire, for instance, are well enough content with tenancies under a practical and sympathetic district council. Here is a district where compulsory leasing powers do seem to be regarded as exactly the necessary thing. Here, however, the small holdings have constantly tended to increase in number, and the need for additional land has often been felt.

MEANWHILE this season furnishes a painful illustratien of the vicissitudes, the small holders of the future may expect to have to put up with. A day or so ago the case of a strawberry grower was mentioned to me. Last year's profits reached £500; this year they are nothing—or perhaps a minus quantity. It is to be feared that many of the smaller people engaged in the same branch—a favourite one in Worcestershire—have suffered proportionately almost as severely.

TWO remarkable features have distinguished this distressing season—the extraordinary frequency with which smart rain has followed or accompanied a rise in the barometer, and the extremely local nature of many of the storms and showers. For my own part, in the course of somewhat extensive travels over the Midlands, I have seen more or less rain on certainly twenty-five days—possibly more—out of the last thirty.

HERE in Warwickshire we have been sadly languishing for want of sun, though now there is a sudden change for the better, and the season is worthy at last of mid-July. Some of the barley in particular is deplorably faint and weak, but only to a small extent is this a corn-growing county. Worcestershire may still provide some first-rate wheat yields, but oats are probably the corn crop of the season. The pastures have been so continuously wet that a common tendency towards scouring in live stock is not unexpected. On the whole the palm of promise may perhaps be given to mid-Stafford, a region of light and sandy soil, and one which has been pretty nearly exempt from the heavy thunderstorms that have done so much damage elsewhere.

A SEASON like this reminds us that many of our farming friends have still something to learn about ensilage. It is sad to see grass standing over-ripe and obviously deteriorating from the point of view of nutritive quality just because the owner cannot see the chance of making hay, and does not even think of any other method of saving the crop. Nor is it less pitiable to see acres cut and lying day after day in the wet. "If we cannot do anything else, we can always silage it," one is told, and it is added: "But we'll give it another day or so before trying that." During the last few days an enormous amount of hay has been dried and carried, but some of it has been lying a long time in the field.

IT seems to be supposed in many cases that expensive silos and presses are needful. The Board of Agriculture leaflet on the subject ought to dispose of that illusion. The plan adopted in 1888—a very similar year—by a Maxtoke farmer has points in its favour:—

"Having several fields of grass mown," says this gentleman, "which was practically useless for making into hay, I commenced building it into two stacks, building on each every alternate day. My reason for two stacks was to allow one to sink while building on the other. After all the grass was carried, and a few days allowed for the stacks to sink, the tops were well rounded up and about two feet of soil placed all over. In the winter the stacks were cut, and from six to nine inches of the outside was rotten and useless; all the rest was good stuff, and greatly relished by the stock, especially when cut into chaff and mixed with the mouldy hay. So well satisfied was I with my primitive method that if this season continues a bad one I shall not have the slightest hesitation in making ensilage."

THERE is still much talk of gooseberry mildew, and much uncertainty. On the one hand, there is the indubitable fact that the American form of the disease is spreading. Mr. Collinge, of Birmingham University, has found an instance in a garden at Solihull, Warwickshire, where no new bushes had been planted for four years. In this case the most badly affected bushes were put in fourteen years ago, and as the garden is isolated, the source of the infection is mysterious. Up to date over thirty outbreaks have been confirmed in Worcestershire, and one in Gloucestershire—a county which was almost certainly uninfected a year ago. On the other hand, it is the firm conviction on the part of many growers that the fungus is much less to be dreaded than report commonly affirms. Beyond doubt there is a certain amount of evidence in support of that view. One hears of infected bushes being bought, transplanted to another garden, and still bearing freely after careful cutting back. At Lenchwick, where the disease was developing very fast a little time ago, the county council expert is said to have succeeded in eradicating it entirely by means of a sodium sulphide wash.

THE proceedings at a recent meeting of the Uttoxeter branch show that the Midland Farmers' Association is amply justifying its existence. According to Lord Harrowby's statement, £65,000 of milk had been sold through the society's London agent, and the prices to the farmer had been raised from 11d. and 1s. 5d. to 1s. 3d. and 1s. 9d. The association has done so well hitherto that there is every reason to anticipate success for its ambitious new scheme—the institution of three factories, north, south, and east of Birmingham respectively, for the purpose of dealing with surplus milk. According to the plan proposed, every farmer who sends milk will contribute at the rate of 10s. per cow towards the expenses—5s. to form a share certificate bearing 4 per cent. or 5 per cent. interest, the other 5s. for working capital. And even if this project is not carried out, there is a private firm ready to take 20,000 to 30,000 gallons of skimmed milk per month, if a suitable site can be found in the association's area for a factory.

I HEAR of two new herds in the Midlands, to both of which more than merely local or personal interest attaches. One of our dairy farmers, it seems, is bringing South Devon heifers into the district, which seems to indicate that this heavy breed is gaining adherents outside its usual haunts; another owner (in Northamptonshire) is making a start with fifteen pedigree Galloway heifers and a bull.

July 11.

Balloon Ascents and the Study of the Weather.

The International Aeronautical Commission, which met at Milan last autumn, decided to obtain from as many stations as possible in the Northern Hemisphere simultaneous records of the conditions of wind, temperature, and humidity prevailing in the upper air during the last week of this month. Most of the Continental Governments are taking part in this work, and some are sending out special vessels for the purpose of obtaining records from over the sea. England is to be represented by four land stations, one near Portsmouth, one near Manchester, one in Herefordshire, and one in Scotland.

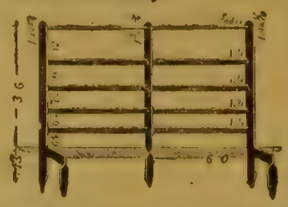
The plan is to send up balloons with very light self-recording instruments hanging from them. Often the balloons attain a hight of ten or more miles before falling to the ground. A label is attached to the instruments offering a reward and giving instructions to the finder. It is hoped that any person finding one of these instruments will communicate with the address given, and so help to carry out the object of the inquiry. Many meteorologists hope that information may be obtained which will in time lead to more certainty in the forecasting of the weather.

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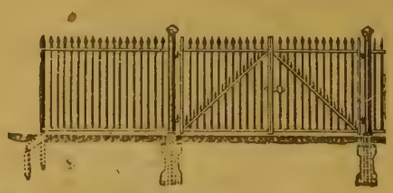




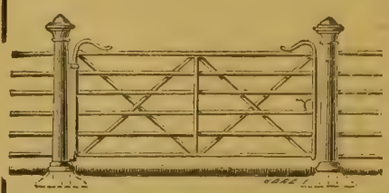
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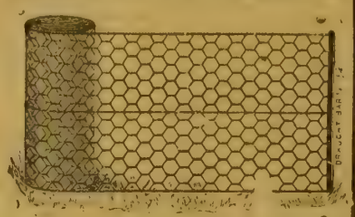
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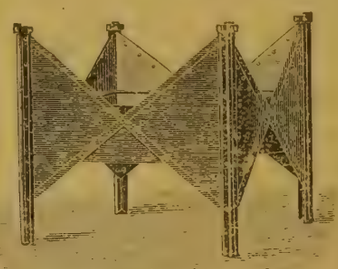
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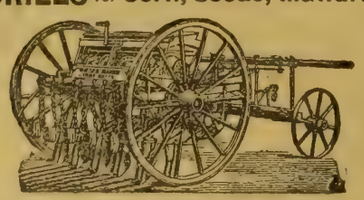
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Farm Implements and Machinery.

Judges' Report on the Field Trials at the Essex Show.

The judges' report on the field trials of implements and machinery at the Jubilee Show of the Essex Agricultural Society, held at Chelmsford on June 12 and 13, has now been issued, and affords interesting reading. Each entry in the four classes is described, and the award given mentioned. Space does not permit of our giving the full report, but we append the judges' remarks on the prize winners.

At the outset the judges (Mr. W. Dannatt and Mr. J. F. Benson) remarked that owing to the rather vague wording of the qualification in the Classes A (best new implement), and B (best improvement in any existing implement), which was not quite understood by the entrants, they were allowed to enter in both classes, with the understanding that the judges were to decide in which class they were eligible, and they suggest that this matter be made more definite another time.

In Class A a gold medal and three silver medals were awarded, and in class B one silver medal. The implements which secured these awards and the judges' remarks were as follows:—

Best New Implement.

Gold medal.—Messrs. Barford and Perkins' patent water ballast motor roller for rolling grass lands and country roads. "This exhibit is a 12 to 14 h.p. double cylinder petrol motor. The roller can be filled with water up to a ton weight. It worked very smoothly and quietly. It is also fitted with a shaft, with pulley, fixed in front, and when stationary can be used for working any machinery, such as chaff-cutting, corn-grinding, pumping, &c. It is provided with a hand-power appliance, whereby it can be adjusted to the length of the driving band to a nicety. We had it tested by driving a grinding mill, which it worked well. Bearing in mind the connection estate work (for which this entry is eminently adapted) has with agriculture, its novelty, and general usefulness, we award it the gold medal."

Silver Medal.—The Hesworth Company, for the new distributor, The Silver King (Simpson's patent), for distributing artificial manures, &c., on land, and for sand, &c., on roads in frosty weather or tarred roads. "This machine has several good points to recommend it—viz., its capacity. The machine being placed low on the wheels, makes it easy to fill and clean out; and also its low distribution is not affected so much by the wind. It will carry a large quantity of stuff, which is kept alive by vibratory hanging chains. This is fed on to a horizontal shelf, which, by its oscillating action, causes it to be spread evenly. It being made of wood, there is no iron to be corroded by acid."

Silver Medal.—Messrs. Joslins, Ltd., for The Handy Sickle Bench (Rawlinson's patent). "This is a very handy, compact bench, &c., provided with the necessary tools for quickly removing and fitting sections to reaper and mower knives. It also acts as a stand for sharpening the knife. This entry, although very simple, supplies efficiently and cheaply a useful adjunct to reaping and mowing machines."

Silver Medal.—Messrs. J. B. Pash, Ltd., for Blackstone's new patent swath turner and hay collector, with swivel wheel. "This swath turner is fitted with an expanding axle, and will follow a right or left-handed mower. It will make two rows or three rows into one, and by working both ways makes the rows handy for loading. It turned the swath perfectly, leaving it light, is also provided with a wind guard, is well balanced, and light in draught."

Best Improvement in Existing Implements.

The gold medal in Class B for the best improvement in any existing implement was given to Mr. H. Kleinfeller, for the 8 ft. cut Emerson standard mower. It is claimed for this mower that it is worked by two horses as easily as the lightest 4 ft 6 in. machine, doing twice as much work. "This machine was tested on a piece of fairly strong grass, and did very good work, two horses drawing it with great ease. The fingers are fitted with reversible finger rail or heel plate at a cost of 2d. each. A very important feature in this machine is the compensating lever, which takes the weight of the cutter bar, thereby considerably lessening the draught. If this machine could be constructed to take the different length cutter bars (easily detachable) we think its utility would be enhanced."

Best Motor.

In Class C, which was for the best motor for ploughing, hauling, and other agricultural purposes, the judges had to choose between H. P. Saunderson and Co.'s 50 h.p. universal motor (weight, 2 ton 10 cwt), and the Ivel agricultural motor (weight, 1 ton 12 cwt.), and their report is as follows:—

"The test was a non-stop run of three bouts on land about 50 rods long, each drawing a three-furrow Ransome plough, the depth to be not less than 7 in. They started simultaneously, the Saunderson outpacing its rival, but this was somewhat discounted at turning at the ends, the Saunderson, owing to its length, or other cause, having to back, and on one occasion to unhitch the plough, which was placed in work by men, while the Ivel turned and got into its work with rapidity and ease. Both motors accomplished the work, the Saunderson taking 23 minutes and the Ivel 25 minutes, the headlands being left much wider by the Saunderson. In deciding the merits of the two motors for general agricultural purposes, where so many operations are required, such as ploughing and cultivating, the working of implements and machines as reapers and mowers, where turning at corners and at sharp angles is a *sine qua non*—the capabilities of the Ivel in this respect being well known by your judges—weight of motor, farm haulage, road haulage, &c., have to be taken into consideration. The result was in favour of the Ivel, which we awarded the gold medal, awarding a silver medal to the Saunderson. The latter is a powerful petrol motor, travelling at a quick pace. It was tried at work with a three furrow Ransome plough and a disc plough, each of which it worked with ease. It was also hitched to a thrashing machine, which it hauled about with remarkable ease. It was not tested for heavy road haulage, nothing being provided for that purpose."

Chaff Cutters.

In Class D, which was for the best steam, petrol, or other power chaff-cutter on wheels, to cut at the rate of not less than 1½ tons per hour, either hay or straw, suitable for agricultural or trade purposes, there were only two entries—viz., one by Messrs. Whitlock Bros. (price, £80) and the other by Messrs Jackson and Son (price, £58). The following points were taken into consideration:—(1) Capacity for riddling and dust extracting; (2) bagging and elevating and feeding apparatus; (3) price; (4) durability and strength.

"The Whitlock cut the straw at the rate of 61¼ cwt. per hour, making an excellent sample for all purposes, and hay at the rate of 51 cwt. per hour, which it also cut satisfactorily. This machine is possessed of great riddling and dust-extracting capacity, is fitted with an elevator for carrying the cavings from the riddle to the top of the box, thus saving labour. The feed is compressed by a spiral spring, instead of a lever weight. The feeding apparatus in this machine was safe and in every way satisfactory."

"The Jackson cut the straw at the rate of 60 cwt. per hour not so marketable as the Whitlock, and hay at the rate of 52½ cwt. per hour in a satisfactory manner. Taking all the points into consideration, we awarded the gold medal to the Whitlock and a silver medal to the Jackson."

Agricultural Education in Lancashire.

The Lancashire County Council offers free education to farmers' sons and daughters and others engaged, or likely to be engaged, in agricultural pursuits who are residents of the Administrative County of Lancaster, and in addition make an allowance in aid of board and lodgings, or for travelling expenses thereto. The classes are held at the Harris Institute, Preston, and the session lasts from about the last week in September to the end of April in each year.

Education, with board and lodging, is given in butter-making and cheesemaking, milk sterilisation, breadmaking, and poultry keeping free of cost, to students attending the dairy school, at the County Council farm, Hutton, near Preston.

Instruction in butter-making and cheesemaking is given where required in the county free of cost; whilst lectures and advice are given in agriculture, horticulture, beekeeping, and poultry keeping.

An interesting *brochure* giving full details (together with illustrations) of the scheme to be carried out in the summer 1907-8 has just been issued by the Council, and those interested should obtain a copy, which can be had from the Director of Education, Education Department, County Offices, Lancaster.

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Mark Lane Express Agricultural Journal and Live Stock Record.

ESTABLISHED 1832.

PRICE 3d. PER SINGLE COPY

LONDON, MONDAY, JULY 29, 1907.

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Seasonable Topics.

Modern Haymaking. THE conditions of agriculture at the present day make it essential that devices should be adopted to reduce hand labour to the minimum, and this is done in haymaking as in other farm operations. In looking back over a spell of years we have seen many changes in methods, and probably the next generation will see more. The mowing machine has entirely taken the place of the scythe, and various improved machines have been introduced for turning grass into hay. As a rule, however, the methods of collecting up the hay for removal to the stack remain much as they were in the old days. It is true that on many farms the human pitcher has been displaced by a mechanical apparatus for loading the hay on to the waggons, and the elevator is employed for putting it on the rick. As evidence of modern changes, however, we may mention the case of a farmer we called on the other day who possesses three waggons, and in the midst of haymaking he had lent them to his neighbours. Fancy a farmer being able to do this in the old days!—but there, this man is quite up to date, and he gathers up his hay by means of a sweep-rake, puts it into cocks resembling small ricks, drags these bodily on to a trolley by horse-power, and removes them to the rick. Further, he considers the money spent on the modern apparatus for hay harvesting to be the best investment he has made of late years.

The Prospect of Corn Crops. THE welcome sunshine experienced of late has effected a change over the face of the cornfields, and in place of the dense green that was apparent a few weeks ago, one observes the first slight yellowish changes which mark the early stages towards ripening. Warmth and sunshine were what the cereal crops wanted above all things, and having been favoured with these conditions the crops have answered to the call, with the result that there is a decided improvement in the appearance of cereals generally. Pessimists who spoke dismally a short time ago about the prospects of grain crops are now growing more hopeful, and probably the harvest will not be so late as was anticipated. One may observe, as one always can in a trying season, that the outlook is the best in cases where the land is well farmed and the cultivation at the outset was the most thorough; and one thing is obvious this year, namely, that there will be high pressure throughout the harvest, for bad weather throws hay-making back, and farmers will have little breathing time between the close of haymaking and the commencement of reaping.

Police Duties and Inspectorships. IT is not surprising that the police authorities are beginning to resent the increase of the duties of the man in blue which has been brought about by the introduction of several Acts under which the police have to act as inspectors. To add another item to the list, there is the recently-introduced Fruit Pests Bill. Will the police be expected to act as inspectors under this Act as well? If compulsory measures continue to be piled on the top of each other, there will come the necessity for a special department to deal with them. We have the greatest respect for the man in blue and realise his usefulness for the prevention and detection of crime and the protection of life and property; but if a man or a department has got too much to do it means that nothing is done well. Probably this is the view taken by the Chief Constable of Cornwall, to whom reference was made in a recent issue by our West Country correspondent, and we agree that the police cannot be expected to efficiently carry out the duties for which they were intended if others of an alien nature are continually being added to them. This view of the matter does not appear to have entered into the calculations of the Board of Agriculture.

Turnip Hoeing. WAS there ever a season in which current and necessary operations have been so jumbled up and made impossible by the conditions of the weather? In that dripping time at the end of June and the first half of July while haymaking was impossible, the weeds grew rampantly amongst the root crops, and grow they had to, for there was no doing anything with them. Then the change came, and while all hands were wanted in the hayfield, the roots, all choked with weeds and in many places nearly hidden by obnoxious vegetation, asked in silent language for men to hoe them. The rush of work on all parts of the farm has been a great strain of late on the supply of labour, and we have wished that some of the inevitable unemployed were more employable. In some cases farmers can get the aid of women for turnip hoeing and singling, but in many districts complaints are becoming more general as to the difficulty of getting female labour for outdoor work of any kind. Nothing corners the farmer like unfavourable weather, and it is in a "catchy" season when the abilities of a man who can organise and scheme tell vastly in his favour.



A WELL-CARED-FOR FLOCK.

Farm Labour and Schools. IF the matter is looked at purely from an educational and perhaps economical point of view, there may be an advantage in centralising and having a less number of large and well equipped schools instead of so many small ones. Some county education authorities display tendencies in this direction, but in purely agricultural districts there is a strong local feeling against closing small schools for the sake of grouping, and the reason for the objection is a good one. In seeking employment, labouring men with large families invariably ask if there is a school handy, and if the reply is in the negative they go elsewhere for work. As a matter of fact, it is a saving to a working man in both food and shoe leather if there is a convenient school to which he can send his children; and even if arrangements are made for conveying the little ones free of cost to their parents, this does

not compensate for other drawbacks. We have heard a good many expressions on the subject, and have come to the conclusion that, even though there are small village schools which cost more to keep up than their importance seems to merit, these institutions act as a means of keeping people on the land and checking further reduction in the population of small parishes.

The Value of Knowledge.

WHILE we have always contended that for successful farming practical experience is the chief and most essential requirement, we also hold that farmers, particularly the rising generation, should get hold of as much scientific knowledge as possible which has bearing on their occupation. The man who is purely practical may succeed and do well, but he is not so well equipped as another who is equally practical and has in addition scientific knowledge to guide him. Perhaps the work-a-day farmer has not a high opinion of the scientist, and this may be because we have had certain so-called scientific teachers who were mere faddists and led farmers astray; but let us sweep away prejudices, and admit that knowledge is power. Agriculture is a many-sided industry, and no man can claim to be competent in all its branches. The scientist has the opportunities for finding out many things which the working farmer cannot possibly do, but the latter can benefit by the knowledge which the former imparts, just as he reaps the fruits of the ingenuity of the implement maker who provides him with the machinery with which he does his work.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

An Admirable Committee.

There are some impetuous Radicals who resent what they describe as the tortoise like progress in committee of the Small Holdings Bill. Well, it was the tortoise who in the fable won the race; and I do not hesitate to say that a more business-like committee than this, one more penetrated with a genuine anxiety to evoke practical and sympathic legislation, never set in the House of Commons. There have, of course, been numberless divisions, but they have been due to the rival standpoints from which politicians approach the problem rather than to any merciless anxiety to thwart or baffle the main purpose of the measure. Both Mr. Chaplin and Mr. Harcourt stand out as types of practical, conciliatory statesmanship—of that statesmanship which desires and deserves to achieve. Mr. Harcourt has been admirably wise in comprehending that landlordism has after all its rights—that it does not deserve to be needlessly penalised. I would, in particular, instance three incidents in proof of this. The first is his concession to the demand that safeguards should be provided against the unnecessary breaking-up of old pasture land. The second is his unwillingness to keep landlords on whose land either the commissioners or the county council has fastened a fascinated eye too long on the wrack of suspense—in other words, to impose a time-limit, so that neither body will be able to play fast and loose in the game of bargaining. The third is the promise to limit the power to compulsorily acquire to specific limited areas, and thus to prevent the unfair punishment of the person who may be already cultivating the special land as a farm. These concessions are a tribute to the mutual practical common-sense which seems to animate this committee. Here the rival vehemences of the platform are subordinated to a sympathetic zeal and sagacious purpose.

* * *

The Character of the Sub-Committee.

Now, why should not Lord Morpeth's amendment—which has, of course, been ratified by the committee—that the local small holdings committee shall consist of a majority of the councillors, be accepted by the Government. Of course, in making this appeal I am not addressing politicians like Mr. Masterman—politicians possessed by a double dose of ineradicable hostility to councils and councillors. I can conceive that it will be well to have on this committee men who refuse to submit themselves to the turmoil of election or to burden themselves with municipal responsibility; but all the same, with a body composed in a large degree of men whose position is due to the popular suffrage you would have a new assurance of careful expenditure, and of well-curbed enthusiasm. One thing is certain—there must be a local committee. I suppose that even the Mastermans would not place the whole control and management of the small holding in the hands of the bureaucratic pundits sitting at Whitehall. This being conceded, it is as well that there should be upon that body a majority who have ever before them the chastening thought that their conduct must come up for popular revision. I comprehend that to those to whom the council is *anathema maranatha*—who have jaundiced their vision by wild fantastic pictures of the council being manned by landlords, parsons, and farmers, to all of whom a small holding is the most malodorous design ever conceived in the brain of malignance—it is useless to appeal. Mr. Harcourt, however, does not belong to this curious clan. He has shown that he has sound confidence in the councils, and that he is by no means desirous of provoking, by imposing insulting restrictions, the unfriendliness of the men who enjoy local confidence, and must thus be a chief influence in determining the success or failure of the new economy. Lord Morpeth's suggestion invokes that local sentiment in a more eminent degree than originally proposed by the Bill. That proposal would have allowed this committee to consist "wholly or partly of members of the council"—one member would, indeed, have sufficed. And I think Lord Morpeth has been excellently inspired.

* * *

Is this a Moral for the Anti-Councilites?

Heaven forfend I be drawn into the maelstrom of partisan politics; but I ask those zealous, unflagging politicians who never cease vituperating the rural county councils over this matter of small holdings whether an Irish Parliamentary incident of this week conveys no moral to them. This Small Holdings Bill proposes to establish three commissioners, who will have a certain initiatory and administrative authority. Those men will, of course, be appointed by the Ministers of the day; and it may be assumed that they will have certain sympathies with them. In Ireland there are in existence three estate commissioners, who were appointed under similar conditions. They are supposed to form a dispassionate tribunal. Recently one of those commissioners was written to by an Irish M.P. of very decided political views, warned that he was not doing what he was expected to do when he was appointed, and told that when his nominators had again power in their hands they would visit him with the punishment of an inquiry into his department. I do not for a moment believe that the incident could be paralleled, or ever will be paralleled in English Parliamentary life; but I ask again—does it not suggest a moral to the county council baiters? No attempt will ever be made in England to make an executive administrating official—even though he were first appointed for partisan services—a mere political instrument. Still this Irish story should provide the Mastermans at least with a subject for cogitation. Would a possible bureaucratic administration of this character be better than administration by county council?

* * *

Sir Horace and his Successor.

Mr. T. W. Russell, the new Irish Vice-President of Agriculture, has given those of us who comprehend the value of the work of his predecessor Sir Horace Plunkett cause for gratitude. He has not gone to his new department in an iconoclastic mood—with the intention of uprooting all Sir Horace's beneficent designs. Nay, he avers that he has no hostility to the past work of his department. "My duty is," says he, in effect, "to extend and consolidate that work wherever I find it to be on proper lines, and to amend it wherever it is not." This assurance is couched in an admirable spirit. Perhaps it was inevitable that the Vice-President for Irish Agriculture should be a Parliamentarian; but still to those who closely watched the agrarian evolution in Ireland under the Plunkett *régime*, and who appreciated the sedulous care with which Sir Horace reared his administrative fabric, his displacement was a regrettable episode. If the temper with which he pursued his duty, if the design which animated him still prevails, it is an excellent thing for Ireland. Sir Horace opened out to the Irish farmer, big and small, the prospect of his industry being a profitable one.

* * *

Mr. C. Wing Gray.

It is an excellent omen, in all sooth, when Liberals can join with Conservatives in doing honour to so unfaltering a Conservative as Mr. Wing Gray. Yes, there can be no doubt about the political texture of Mr. Gray; but when he represented the Maldon division in the House of Commons he revealed that he knew how to be dispassionate, cautious, and something better than a relentless partisan in the interest of agriculture. It may be that Mr. Gray has no further desire for senatorial dignity; but whether this be so or not now, it is little to the credit of Conservative officialdom—with its professional claim to directly represent the interest of the farming-class—that it has not sought to secure the return of so admirably-intentioned a farmer's advocate to the House of Commons. Mr. Gray belongs to the line of the Clare Sewell-Reads and the Duckhams, and the Spearsmen, whose sympathy with agriculture was the child of their association with it, of their comprehension of its economic needs, and of their patriotic faith and pride in their own class. Mr. Gray may not have an enduring or a lurid place in our national annals; he has, however, the consolation that his sojourn in the Parliamentary meads was marked by valued achievement.

* * *

Mr. Chaplin's Place in Politics.

Even the ranks of Tuscany can scarce forbear to cheer. Even Mr. Chaplin's political rivals can scarce withhold their appreciation of the manner in which the member for Wimbledon has imposed himself upon the imagination and the intellectual appreciation of St. Stephen's. He had been thought to belong, alike in his faith, and his outlook and his oratorical methods, to another generation; but he has almost at once assumed a more authoritative position in the Conservative hierarchy than he ever held before. The Statesman whom a Balfour could leave out of his Government has now become an indisputable influence in the councils of his party and an undeniable force in shaping its policy. Mr. Chaplin may vividly recall the grand, rotund manner in his Parliamentary method and speech; but he has shown that he can easily adapt his thought to the more agile and alert intellectual play which nowadays marks the Parliamentary combat. His selection to lead the Conservative criticism of the Small Holdings Bill was, perhaps, a tribute to his political traditions rather than to his present-day eminence; it has proved to have been an act of great wisdom. Mr. Chaplin has undoubtedly been the most notable figure on the committee. If he has lacked the querulousness of one or two of his associates, he has revealed a grasp of his subject, an appreciation of his stronger strategical positions, and a personal tact and dignity that have greatly impressed the assembly and have seriously influenced the debates. Mr. Chaplin's position in the Conservative leadership is generously and wisely admitted by his colleagues.

* * *

The Apologist of Milk-Blended Butter.

The Government has done admirably well in insisting that the Butter Bill shall pass this season. Did, however, Sir Edward Strachey, as the spokesman of the Board of Agriculture, do well in invoking—by his attitude in palliation of the sale of milk-blended butter—the vitriolic, searing cynicism of Mr. Healy, the criticism of Mr. Arthur Chamberlain, and the sarcasm of Major Seely? Why should skim-milk masquerade as cream? Why should the vendors of milk-blended butter be the object of a conciliatory provision? All's well that ends well; but it is an interesting reflection that it was an urban Minister like Mr. John Burns, and not a purely rural Minister like Sir E. Strachey, who suggested the compromise—that the wrapper containing this milk-blended butter should state its ingredients and the fact that it contains 24 per cent. of moisture or water. But I ask Sir Edward — why the number 24 should be a holy standard and 25 sacrilege against the commercial morals of the British people? Why should, in Mr. Healy's phrase, the 25 per cent. man merit three months' imprisonment and the 24 per cent. man the blessings of the community? The new standard is an anomaly.

THE SHEEP SALES.

DETAILS of the different sheep sales reported in the current issue show that the keenness of the demand for the best stud sheep of both sexes continues unabated. The competition for these comes from two sources, the home stud sheep-breeder and the export buyer. Between them they have raised the value of our leading stud sheep most materially.

THE home breeder requires these sheep for service at home to continue the work of breeding stud sheep for future years; the export buyer desires these sheep to enable him to breed in his own country the best and most typical sheep of the particular breed he supports, and by this means to rear up other stud sheep to improve the quality and character of the general sheep of the country to which he takes them, with the ultimate object of sending to our mutton market the resultant produce of these sheep, and at that centre to compete with our home producers of mutton for the custom and patronage of the consumer.

THESE are facts which need no emphasis to prove how essentially important it is that our home breeders of every class of sheep must leave no stone unturned to secure the best sheep available, in order that the quality of their mutton be maintained at the highest possible point, because it is only by producing the finest quality of mutton that our home breeder can secure a market that is not interfered with, to any considerable extent, by the imported supplies from abroad, for, at any rate, it will be some years before our imported mutton can reach that quality which will enable it to rank *pari passu* with the best which is grown and produced at home.

Thoughts on Sheep Sales.

THE leaderette in the issue of July 15, headed "Thoughts on Sheep Sales," contains much that is of value to the sheep-breeder within a very small amount of space. Much might be written upon the points touched upon by the leader writer, for he has evidently brought, as it were, within a nutshell the principles that should guide all flockmasters in the selection of their stud sheep, and, in addition, he has brought out plainly how essential it is that this greater care in selection should be exercised.

SO many breeders of the present day run away with the idea that there is only one market for stud sheep, and that every one ought to fulfil the requirements of that market, *i.e.*, the export demand. It is true that this demand is lucrative, and to those who are fortunate enough to secure the patronage of the export buyer it means prices of a higher range than those generally paid by the flockmaster at home.

The Home Demand.

WHILST every effort should be made to secure this trade, our flockmasters must not overlook the fact that the home demand is of equal importance; because after all, whilst the export demand is more lucrative, and, we are pleased to say, an increasing one, it only requires a small proportion of the number of stud sheep that are bred, and consequently it is quite as necessary to encourage the home trade as that mentioned above.

THE difficulty that besets the ram breeder is to convince the home flockmaster of the need of great care being exercised in the selection of his sires, and to prove to him that it pays better to use carefully-selected sires than those of the other kind.

IT is on account of this that the great value of the leader which appeared on the date mentioned comes out so clearly. Every effort must be made to show the ordinary sheep-breeder how needful it is for his personal benefit and profit that sires of higher value should be used.

Price of Mutton.

A REFERENCE to the mutton market shows that the prices being paid at the present time for English mutton of the finest quality are thoroughly remunerative, or, as a breeder expressed it last week, "There is no fault to find with the prices we have been receiving for our mutton."

AN examination of the prices published in the market reports shows that there is a marked difference between those paid for the best qualities and those paid for the second and third grades.

THESE are facts proved over and over again by reference to any series of market reports, and to carry the lessons that they convey directly home, would require a full examination of the system of management adopted by the breeders and feeders of those sheep that realise the highest range of prices.

Good Bred Sheep make the Most Money.

WE have no knowledge that such a test has ever been systematically applied, and regret that such is the case, but from personal knowledge and experience that has been gained by close attention to the result of sales in the fat stock market, the writer is of opinion that in nearly every case the sheep that realise the highest prices are those which have been bred in the best managed and most carefully selected flocks.

THIS is most tersely put in the leader referred to, when it says: "It is a fallacy held by many flockmasters that this selection of the sire and dam is only a matter for the ram-breeder to consider, but the experience of years proves that it is equally important for every flockmaster."

THE meaning of this is very clear, for it means that breeders of sheep, if they desire to produce the best, must select both sire and dam previously to mating, with a view, by the combination of the two, to produce a sheep that has a larger proportion of the more valuable parts of the carcase than those of secondary value, and it will be found, wherever this care is taken, that the resultant produce will have a greater value in the fat stock market by reason of the merits mentioned above, and also be more attractive to the buyer by reason of its uniformity of symmetry, type, and character.

Ram Exports.

IT is interesting to note that during the past six months 2,000 sheep have been exported at an average declared value of £15 9s. 7d., an average which is the highest on record for the first six months of any year since previously to the year 1895.



HAMPSHIRE DOWN TWO-SHEAR RAM.

The Hampshire Down Ram illustrated above is the property of, and was bred by, Mr. James Flower, Chilmark, Salisbury, and was first in the Class for Hampshire Down Shearling Ram at the Royal Show, Lincoln.

THE increase in the declared value of the sheep exported during the past six months over those exported during the same period of the previous year is £3 14s. 3d., a clear indication of the higher level of merit and quality of the exported sheep.

THE WEEK'S SALES.

Mr. T. F. Buxton's Hampshire Downs.

The dispersal of the celebrated Waters Place Flock took place on the 19th inst. The sale commenced with the ram lambs, and though no sensational figures have to be recorded, the average proved highly satisfactory. No. 1 fell to the bidding of Mr. Kerr (for Mr. H. C. Stephens) at 48 guineas, who also secured No. 22 at 34 guineas, No. 30 at 20 guineas, and No. 37 at 10 guineas. Mr. J. H. Dibben secured the highest priced lamb, No. 6, at 105 guineas, Mr. A. F. T. Drake No. 8 at 92 guineas, Mr. A. C. Hall No. 5 at 68 guineas, Mr. Gosling (Chertsey) No. 2 at 30 guineas, Lord Rothschild No. 3 at 34 guineas, Mr. P. C. Tory No. 4 at 36 guineas, and four others at 20 guineas, 12 guineas, 12 guineas, and 11 guineas respectively, Mr. B. J. Waters No. 7 at 20 guineas, No. 17 at 36 guineas, and another at 15 guineas, Mr. Stevens (for Mr. G. J. Thursby) No. 12 at 25 guineas, Mr. Harding (for Sir W. G. Pearse) No. 58 at 50 guineas. The average of the fifty-eight lambs was £20 8s. The 160 two-teeth ewes in lots of five and ten each came next, Mr. A. C. Hall securing a pen of five at £8 5s. each, the average of the lot being £5 within a small fraction. The 130 four-teeth ewes excited keen competition, and averaged £5 2s.

The sale concluded with fifteen grand shearling and one three-shear rams, which provoked some of the keenest competition of the day, Mr. Flower securing No. 3 at 90 guineas, Mr. Kerr No. 2 at 62 guineas, Mr. Blackwell No. 7 at 30 guineas, Mr. Goldsmith No. 9 at 30 guineas, No. 8 at 20 guineas, and No. 12 at 15 guineas; Mr. Taylor No. 14 at 19 guineas, Mr. Treble (for Mr. E. S. Hanbury) No. 6 at 16 guineas; the other shearlings ranging down to 7 guineas; Mr. Shatford James taking the grand three-shear Royal Dean at 30 guineas, the average of the sixteen rams being £24 17s.

Sale of the Woolverstone Southdowns and Berkshire Pigs.

In beautiful weather the well-known flock of Southdown sheep belonging to Mr. C. H. Berners was disposed of by Messrs. Thornton & Co. on Wednesday last, at Woolverstone, near Ipswich. This picturesque estate on the banks of the Orwell has been the home of a Southdown flock for many years, and a representative company, including H.M. the King's shepherd, the agents to Lord Cadogan, Lord Manvers, Sir Thomas Gooch, Sir Julius Wernher, Messrs. W. M. Cazalet, Kenneth Clarke, C. G. Drewitt, and W. Wrench. All of them made considerable purchases, H.M. the King securing the highest priced yearling ewes at 21os. each and another at 140s.; a pen of four-tooth at 306s., and five full-mouth at 140s. Sir Julius Wernher obtained the highest-priced six-tooth ewes at 105s. The ewe lambs made up to 45s. (Lord Manvers), Mr. C. J. Drewitt taking the principal lots. For the two-year-old Buckland ram Lord Cadogan paid 30 guineas, and Colonel Brymer 14 guineas for a yearling ram. Ram lambs made up to 6 guineas. The shearling ewes averaged 74s., the four-tooth ewes 87s., the six-tooth 55s., the full-mouth 48s., and the seventeen rams £9 2s. 7d. each. The seventy Berkshire pigs averaged nearly £5, Colonel Hammond paying 17 guineas for a good sow, the other principal purchasers being Messrs. Lawrence Curree, J. Jefferson, J. McMonies, E. Macintosh, and Arthur Walter. A capital show van was also sold to Mr. J. Colman at 40 guineas.



Photo by [*J. T. Newman.*

A GROUP AT THE TRING HAMPSHIRE DOWN SHEEP SALE.
The group includes Mr. Bishop, Agent for Mr. J. G. Williams, and Messrs. Bimker, Dickins, Reeve, E. Grange, &c.

Lord Rothschild's Hampshire Downs.

This annual sale took place on Monday, July 22, at the Home Farm, when sixty-nine rams (including two shearlings) and sixty-eight ewes were offered for sale, and all changed hands. Sir Alexander Henderson gave 45 guineas for the loan for six weeks of a lamb by Stonehenge 146th, and Mr. Carey Coles 40 guineas for the loan for the same time of one by Fulfilment. Two lambs were not let, as the bidding did not reach the reserved price. There was a good company present, including buyers from the Northampton and Peterborough districts, as well as some from Hampshire and Wiltshire. The highest price at which a ram sold was 28 guineas. At this figure Mr. J. G. Williams, of Pendley Manor, secured a fine type of animal by Fulfilment. The total amount realised by the sale was 698 guineas, the rams averaging £11 5s. 3d. The sale was held in a covered ring, so the storm which burst before the conclusion of the sale did not seriously interfere with the comfort of the company.

Mr. Edney's Hampshire Downs.

The first annual sale of ram lambs was held at the Farm, Horndean, when there was a good attendance. A large proportion of the rams found buyers at prices varying from 10 to 3½ guineas, the principal buyers being—Mr. G. Prior (five), Mr. Bloomfield (three), Mr. G. Brown (five), Mr. Melsome (two), Mr. C. H. House (two), Mr. Strong, Mr. Miles, Mr. W. Edney (two), Mr. W. G. Edney (3), Mr. Burt (two), Colonel Stubington (one), Mr. Pearson, Mr. Toup (three), Mr. R. Westbrook (three), Mr. J. Westbrook (three), and Mr. G. Webb.

Messrs. Brown and Sons' Cotswolds.

At Marham Hall Farm, on Thursday, Messrs. Salter, Simpson, and Sons, conducted the fifty-fourth annual letting of the famous pedigree Cotswold rams owned by Messrs. T. Brown and Son. As in previous years 120 ram lambs and eighty shearlings were offered for public competition. The following average prices were realised:—Lamb rams, £7 16s. 10d.; shearlings, £9 17s. Last year's average prices were:—Lamb rams, £8 6s. 3d.; shearlings, £9 8s. 8d.

Weyhill Fair.

The first draft of ram lambs from the Amport flock of the Marquis of Winchester, which is being dispersed on August 19, was submitted by auction at Weyhill Fair on Friday, when some exceptionally good prices were realised. Forty-six lambs averaged no less than £19 7s. Mr. Flower secured No. 1 at 200 guineas, Mr. Newton (for Mr. F. Lawson) No. 3 at 100 guineas, Lord Rothschild's agent No. 10 at 95 guineas, Mr. A. F. T. Drake No. 24 at 62 guineas, Mr. Kerr No. 2 at 30 guineas, Messrs. Williamson, Nicoll, Young, Prichard, Miles (for the Hon. P. Wyndham), Snow, Allen, Dare, Goldsmith, Newland, Pothecary, and others buying at 18 guineas, 17 guineas, 15 guineas, 12 guineas, &c.

The sale of first draft of ram lambs from the well-known Cholderton flock of Mr. H. Stephens was conducted at Weyhill fair on Friday. Six lambs were first let for the season at an average of £27 2s. 6d., Mr. Casares hiring at 50 guineas and 40 guineas, Mr. H. Waters at 18 guineas and 17 guineas, Mr. W. J. K. Waters at 15 guineas, and Mr. Lambert at 15 guineas. Forty lambs were then sold at from 25 guineas downwards, the auctioneer purchasing No. 14 for a client at 25 guineas, Messrs. More and Miskin buying at 12 guineas and 16 guineas, Mr. W. C. Young at 20 guineas and 14 guineas, Mr. Date at 20 guineas and 11 guineas, Mr. A. Edwards at 19 guineas, Mr. Goosey at 17 guineas, and 11 guineas, Mr. S. W. Cave at 18 guineas, Mr. R. G. Cave at 13 guineas, Mr. Newland (for Captain Chichester) at 14 guineas, Mr. B. J. Waters at 14 guineas, Mr. Hughes (for the Earl of Darnley) at 10 guineas, &c. The average of the 46 let and sold was £13 7s.



Photo by [*J. T. Newman.*

THE TRING SALE OF HAMPSHIRE DOWN SHEEP.
The Ram Lamb in the Sale Ring was let at 45 guineas.

The average of 70 lambs let and sold by Messrs. Waters and Rawlence at Weyhill Fair on Friday from the Dunley Manor flock of Mr. F. A. Holman was £7 15s. Mr. Cary Coles hired at 50 guineas, and Mr. Williamson at 11 guineas. Mr. Goldsmith bought at 18 guineas, Lord Rothschild at 13 guineas, and Messrs, Clift, W. Allen, H. Waters, Pridger, R. G. Cave, A. Edwards, E. H. Miles, Pothecary, Stiles, and others at 12 guineas, 11 guineas, 10½ guineas, &c.

Messrs. Ellen disposed of the annual selection of ram lambs from the well-known flock of Mr. S. H. Allen, of Eastover. Eleven guineas was paid for one of the ram lambs, and the remainder realised as follows:—Two were sold at 10 guineas, two at 9½ guineas, one at 8½ guineae, one at 7½ guineas, three at 7 guineas, one at 6½ guineas, one at 6 guineas, three at 5½ guineas, nine at 5 guineas, fourteen at 4½ guineas, and fifteen at 4 guineas.

Alresford Fair.

Alresford Fair, one of the most important of the series of Hampshire sheep and lamb fairs, was held on Thursday in favourable weather. The nuber penned was 12,000, or about 2,000 below last year. Messrs. James Harris and Son, of Winchester, had consigned to them 9,300 ewes and lambs, and seventy-five ram lambs, and with the exception of one lot the whole changed hands. Two-tooth ewes varied from 60s. 6d. (obtained for ewes from the Candover flock) down to 43s. 6d; draft ewes from 56s. to 37s.; wether lambs from 39s. to 32s., one lot going for 29s. 6d.; and ewe lambs from 43s. 6d. to 36s.

THREE WEST COUNTRY BREEDS.





Messrs. Harris and Son submitted fifty ram lambs from the highly-bred registered Hampshire Down flock of Mr. Donald Nicoll, of Burntwood. These changed hands at from 4½ to 8½ guineas, with an average of about £4 15s. They also sold twenty-five Hampshire Down ram lambs from the Botleys Park flock (Chertsey), which has been recently established by Mr. H. Gosling; the prices obtained varied from 3 to 3½ guineas.

Messrs. Waters and Rawlence offered ram lambs from the Long Sutton House Hampshire Down flock of Mr. J. A. K. Falconer, and the Swanmore House flock of Mr. W. H. Myers. The ram lambs from the Long Sutton House flock showed the true character and general excellence always so pronounced in this flock, and their sires were from some of the best flocks of the day. Four lambs were let at from 7 to 26 guineas, with an average of £15 10s., and forty-one were sold at from 4 to 18 guineas. The average of letting and selling together was 7 guineas. The ram lambs from Mr. Meyers' Swanmore House flock were a very strong lot, with more bone and better filled than is often the case, and probably only requiring a show reputation to make big prices. Thirty-seven were sold at from 4 guineas to 10½ guineas, with an average of £6 4s. each.

Messrs. Hall, Pain, and Goldsmith offered the annual selection of eighty ram lambs from the old-established Blendworth flock of Mr. J. Goldsmith, and every lamb was sold. The prices obtained were from 4½ guineas to 18 guineas, and averaged rather over £7 each.

Overton Sheep Fair.

This annual sheep fair was held on Thursday, and was largely attended. There was a good supply of sheep and lambs, which met a good trade at very satisfactory prices. The highest prices were 67s. for regular draft ewes belonging to Lord Ashburton, 58s. for two-teeth ewes, 55s. 6d. for draft ewes, 54s. for six-teeth ewes, 53s. for wether lambs, 42s. 6d. for fat wether lambs, 42s. 6d. for ewe lambs, 38s. 6d. for grazing ewes, and 36s. for mixed lambs. In the competitive classes the competition was keen, though the majority of the chief prizes were won by Mr. F. A. Holman, of Dunley Manor. The judges were Messrs. W. W. Webb (Andover), W. T. Hall (Highclere), and J. Dean (Chitterne). Their awards were as follows:—

Pen of wether lambs, 1, Mr. J. A. Holman; 2, Mr. J. Pickard, Chapmansford; 3, Mr. A. Butterworth, Hatherden.



The Pen of Three Dorset Horn Ram Lambs (Flower's 161, 162, and 163) won First Prize in the Class for Pen of Three Dorset Horn Ram Lambs dropped after Nov. 1, 1903, at the Royal Show, Lincoln, and are the property of, and were bred by Mr. W. G. Flower, West Strafford, Dorchester. They were sired by Petherton Lad 1733, dam by Nynehead No. 10 1202.

The South Devon Ram, Stooke's No. 3, was First in the Class for a South Devon Ram Shearling and Upwards at the Royal Show, Lincoln. It is the property of Mr. Henry Fairweather, Malston, Sherford, Kingsbridge, but was bred by Mr. John Stooke, Sherford, Brixton, Plymouth, and it was sired by Stooke's Hero 246.

The Exmoor Ram, Ashwick Wonder, is the property of Mr. Heber Mardon, of Ashwick, Dulverton, Somerset, but was bred by Mr. F. Yeandle, Nadrid, South Molton, Devon, and won First Prize in the Class for Exmoor Ram Shearling and Upwards at the Royal Show, Lincoln.

Pen of full-mouthed ewes for breeding purposes, 1, Mr. F. A. Holman; 2, Lord Ashburton.

Pen of two-teeth ewes (open to farmers only), 1, Mr. F. A. Holman.

Pen of two-teeth ewes (open to farmers and dealers), 1, Mr. F. A. Holman.

Pen of ram lambs of any breed, bred by the exhibitor, 1, Mr. H. C. Stephens, Cholderton; 2, Mr. F. A. Holman.

Special prize given by Sir Wm. Portal for the best pen of Hampshire Down ewe lambs, bred and exhibited by tenants on the Laverstoke and Malshanger estates, 1, Mr, E. H. King, Sopley; 2, Mr. W. Follitt, Malshanger.

Messrs. J. Harris and Son's entry at the fair included 7,500 ewes and lambs and 110 Hampshire Down ram lambs. Forty-five ram lambs from the flock of Mr. E. A. Phillippi realised from 4½ to 10 guineas, whilst sixty from the flock of Sir Richard Rycroft, Bart., fetched from 4½ to 6½ guineas. Regular draft ewes made 37s. to 67s. (Lord Ashburton making the latter figure); two-teeth ewes 50s. to 58s. (Mr. J. M. Berry, Tufton); draft ewes 37s. to 50s. (Sir George Judd); grazing ewes 30s. 6d. to 38s. 6d. (Mr. J. M. Berry); ewe lambs 33s. 6d. to 42s 6d. (Mr. W. F. Clifford, Ashe Warren); wether lambs 35s. to 48s. (Mr. F. A. Holman, Dunley Manor); mixed lambs 28s. to 38s. 6d. (Mr. A. Budd, North Oakley); fresh wether lambs 42s. to 46s. (Mr. H Harris, Steventon); fat wether lambs 41s. to 53s.)Mr. J. Pickard, Chapmansford).

A Profitable Ewe.

It is not often that such a good bargain is made as in the following instance which has just come before my notice.

The purchaser of the ewe in question may be congratulated on having made an uncommonly good bargain. The ewe was bought at his nearest market town for 32s; she reared two lambs, and the trio have just been sold at a price regarded as altogether very satisfactory.

The figures shall, however, tell their own tale:—

	£	s.	d.
The ewe, 12½ stones at 6s.	3	15	0
The two lambs, 14 stones at 7s. 8d. ...	5	7	4
Total	£9	2	4

With the exception of having had a little cotton cake in the winter, this has all been done running loose on the pasture, where there are bullocks fattening at the rate of more than the proverbial "one to the acre."

Forthcoming Sheep Sales.

Mr. Cary Coles has instructed Messrs. Waters and Rawlence to let and sell at the Manor Farm, Winterbourne Stoke, Wilts, on August 2, 100 ram lambs of his highly-bred Hampshire Down flock Mr. Coles is satisfied he will place before the public a selection equal, if not surpassing, that of 1906, Conveyances will meet the trains at Salisbury. Wilton, and Wishford.

The annual lamb sale at Ashford will be held by Messrs. W. and B. Hobbs, on Friday, August 2, when 12,000 Kent and half bred sheep and lambs from the best flocks in the district will be offered for sale. The sale will commence punctually at 10 o'clock.

Messrs. Cunnah and Roberts will sell on Friday, August 2, 3,000 yearling Cheviot wethers, Black-faced Scotch wethers, and cross-bred ewes and wethers from the flocks of the late Mr. Jas. Kemp and Mr. Chas. Kemp, at Burton Point Station, near Chester. The sale will commence sharp at half-past one o'clock.

Messrs. J. Swan and Sons will hold their great annual special "Lammas" lamb sale on Thursday, August 8, in the Southern Central Auction Mart, Newtown St. Boswells, N.B., when 31,200 lambs from the best flocks in Scotland will be sold.

Kidderminster great annual sheep sale will take place on Friday, September 6, when Messrs. Nock and Joseland will sell 2,250 sheep of all breeds, including several prize-winning flocks at the Royal and other shows.

Messrs. Lythall and Walters will hold their seventy-sixth annual sale of Shropshire rams and ewes on Thursday, August 22, at Bingley Hall, Birmingham.

Messrs. A. and D. Edwards will hold special sales of ewes and rams in Hereford Market on Wednesdays, August 21, September 4, and September 18, commencing with rams at 12 o'clock and ewes at 2 p m.



SHEEP-BREEDING IN NEW ZEALAND: MUSTERING FOR DIPPING ON THE MAORI HILLS.

Front Page Illustrations.

Our front-page illustrations are of:—

1. The Lincoln shearling ram which was first in its class at the Royal Show, Lincoln. It is the property of, and was bred by, Mr. Henry Dudding, of Riby Grove, Great Grimsby. It was the first ram to be sold at the recent Riby Grove sale, and was put in at 100 guineas, but after a lively tussle with Mr. F. Miller, who for years past has taken the first prize ram, Messrs. S. E Dean and Sons, of Dowsby Hall, Bourne, secured it at 900 guineas.

2. The Shropshire shearling ram owned and bred by Mr. M. Williams, of Whiston Hall, Albrighton, who won with him first prize in the class for Shropshire shearling rams at the Bath and West Show at Newport this year.

3. Pen of three Oxford Down shearling ewes, the property of, and bred by, Mr. James T. Hobbs, of Maisey Hampton. They won first prize in their class at the Royal Show, Lincoln, this year.

4. His Majesty the King's Sandringham pen of three Southdown ewe lambs which won first prize in their class at the Royal Show, Lincoln, this year.

Great Yorkshire Show at Barnsley.

The Mark Lane Express' Stand will be No. 179, where we shall be pleased to see all our friends and readers attending the Show.

Messrs. Waters and Rawlence will sell on Tuesday, August 6, at the Market House, Salisbury, eighty ram lambs from Messrs. J. H. Dibben's old-established Hampshire Down flock. Although Mr. Dibbin does not exhibit, he still maintains his position as one of the leading breeders of Hampshire Down sheep.

Messrs. Waters and Rawlence, in connection with Messrs. Franklin and Gale, have been instructed by Sir Alexander Henderson, Bart., to sell eighty Hampshire Down ewes from his well-known flock at Buscot Park, Berks. They are of great size, most symmetrical, and of excellent type and character, many of them being exceptionally good.

The twenty-second annual sale of the Lincoln Long wool Sheep Breeders' Association will be held at Lincoln on September 5 and 6, when the catalogue will consist as usual of consignments of rams and gimmers from various members of the association.

Messrs. R. R. Leonard and Son have been instructed by Mr. G. M. Gale to sell at Atwick Hall, Hull, sixty grand Lincoln Long-wool shearling rams and 100 gimmer shearling from his celebrated flock, on Thursday, August 15.

The great sale of pure-bred Southdown sheep by Messrs. Stride & Son, at Chichester, will take place on Wednesday, August 7, when 410 sheep will be offered from the flocks of a number of eminent breeders, included in which are the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, K.G., the Duke of Northumberland, K.G., the Duke of Devonshire, K.G., Earl Cadogan, Earl Manvers, Lord Northbourne, &c. At the same time the whole of Mr. J. W. Baxendale's pure-bred Southdown flock (No. 17 in the Flock Book) will be sold.

The jubilee sale of Oxford Down shearling rams, owned and bred by Messrs. J. and S. Treadwell, will be held by Messrs. F. D. Holiday and Son, on Wednesday, August 7, at Upper Winchendon, near Aylesbury, which will begin at two sharp.

Mr. James W. Taylor will sell at Cirencester August ram fair, on August 6, thirty pure bred Oxford Down shearling rams, bred by and the property of Mr. James Horlick, of Cowley Manor, Cheltenham. The rams are strong, good coloured, well boned and plenty of flesh, and being bred on the highest points of the Cotswold Hills, are noted for their hardiness of constitution.

We have received a pamphlet entitled "A Short Guide for Emigrants to Victoria, the Garden State of Australia," and from its pages one is enabled to form an idea of the state of agriculture to be found in that district. In Victoria the position of the farm labourer and milking hand is much superior to what it is in England. Here he has little prospect of being anything else but a labourer to the end of his days. But if he goes to Victoria, there, with the financial assistance the Government can give him, he may soon be on the way to become a farmer himself, and the opportunities for the advancement of his children are not to be found in older countries. From the pamphlet we gather that experienced agricultural labourers and domestic servants can rely upon finding employment readily. The Minister of Lands, being in touch with the farmers and graziers requiring assistance, and knowing their wants, will give newcomers every facility to secure employment, as well as to obtain homes for themselves.

AUCTION SALES.

Auctioneers will favour us by sending in their advertisements as early in the week as possible.
Charges of announcements under this heading Six Shillings an inch.

By Messrs. IRELAND.

Norwich, Norfolk.—Ireland's Norwich Hill Auction Mart (established 50 years). Every Saturday. Fat Bullocks and Sheep, Store Sheep. Special Spring and Autumn Store Cattle Sales.

MESSRS. IRELAND solicit consignments for these important weekly sales; best market value assured.

Cattle consigned to Ireland's, Norwich, will be properly fed and carefully attended to.

All cattle weighed upon entry to the sale ring if desired. Full particulars to be sent to—

IRELAND'S, Auctioneers.

Norwich, Norfolk.

By Messrs. HOBGEN BROS.

CHICHESTER EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL SALE of PURE-BRED SOUTHDOWN SHEEP.

HOBGEN BROS. beg to announce that they will hold their Eighteenth ANNUAL SALE of PURE-BRED SOUTHDOWNS in their Auction Repository in the Chichester Cattle Market on THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 1907, when a large and choice selection of Rams, Ram Lambs and Ewes from the Flocks of the Duke of Richmond, K.G., the Duke of Devonshire, K.G., the Duke of Northumberland, K.G., Lord Northbourne, Earl Bathurst, C.M.G., Earl Cadogan, K.G., the Exors. of the late Col. H. McCalmont, Mr. J. E. Allen, Mr. A. Heasman, Mr. A. G. Paul, the Exors. of the late Mr. George Peel, Mr. E. Hobgen, Mr. Percy Herrington, Mr. A. C. Harris, and others will be offered. Sheep can be taken in under cover two or three days previous to the Auction, and green food will be provided free of cost.

HOBGEN BROS. will also give £10 in cash, or, if preferred, a piece of plate, to the Owner being the Breeder of the Shearling Ram which shall be sold at the highest price at such Auction.

N.B.—This Sale is open to all Breeders of Southdown Sheep, and is unrestricted to numbers. Hobgen Bros. respectfully solicit early entries to the Sale, in order that the public may be notified of the same.

Sale to commence at 12 o'clock precisely.

Refreshments may be procured in the Hall.

By Messrs. SUGDON & PEARCE-BROWN.

THE LECONFIELD
LINCOLN LONG-WOOL RAMS,
No. 38 in Flock Book.

MESSRS. SUGDON & PEARCE-BROWN have received instructions from Mr. Robert Fisher TO SELL BY AUCTION, on Wednesday, August 14, 1907,

80 SHEARLING RAMS

From the above Registered Flock; when Mr. Fisher will be glad to see his friends.

Sale after 12 o'clock luncheon.

Conveyances will meet the trains at Beverley and Arram Stations. Auctioneers' Office:—Market Place, Beverley.

By Messrs. J. SWAN & SONS.

SOUTHERN CENTRAL AUCTION MART.
NEWTOWN, ST. BOSWELLS, N.B.

31,200 LAMBS.

GREAT ANNUAL SPECIAL "LAMMAS" LAMB SALE,
on
THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 1907,
at 9 30 a.m.

Numbers sold last year, 21,500 Lambs, comprising the best selection in Scotland of Half-bred, Three-quarter bred, Cross Oxford and Cross Suffolk Lambs.

ANNUAL SPECIAL SALE of HALF-BRED EWE LAMBS,
on
SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 1907,
at 11 a.m.

Numbers sold last year, 9,700 Lambs. The Half-bred Ewe Lambs to be offered at this Sale are direct off their grazings in the Border District, and will afford purchasers a splendid selection of Ewe Lambs.

JOHN SWAN & SONS, Ltd., Salesmen.
6, Clifton Terrace,
Haymarket, Edinburgh.

By Messrs. STRIDE & SON.

CHICHESTER, SUSSEX.
(The great centre for the sale of SOUTHDOWN SHEEP.)

THE PRINCIPAL SHOW AND SALE OF THE SEASON OF PURE BRED SOUTHDOWN EWES, RAMS AND RAM LAMBS from nearly all the best flocks in the country.
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7th NEXT.

MESSRS. STRIDE AND SON
beg to announce that present entries for this IMPORTANT ANNUAL FIXTURE, which takes place in the Market, Chichester, comprise about:—
410
SOUTHDOWN RAMS and RAM LAMBS from the following eminent breeders:—Duke of Richmond and Gordon, K.G., Duke of Northumberland, K.G., Duke of Devonshire, K.G., Earl Cadogan, Earl Manvers, Lord Northbourne, Lieut.-Col. Hammond, Sir Julius Wernher, Sir Walpole Greenwell, Sir Thomas Gooch, Hon. E. W. B. Portman, Right Hon. T. F. Halsey, Mr. Francis Elmer Speed, Mr. Edwin Henty, Mr. John Tompkins, Mr. Alfred Heasman, Mr. W. M. Cazalet, Mr. Jeremiah Colman, Exors. of the late Col. H. McCalmont, Exors. of the late Mr. Geo. Peel, Mr. F. H. Jennings, Mr. E. R. Fisher Rowe, Mr. J. B. Tribe, Mr. T. W. Thorpe, Mrs. Stephenson Clarke, Mr. F. H. Sawtell, Mr. George Lock, Mr. Percy Herington, Mr. E. J. Reddaway, Mr. A. C. Harris, Mr. James Buchanan, Mr. Thomas Dare, Mr. W. F. Monckton, Messrs. Bowron Bros, Mr. J. R. West, &c., &c.
5,000
REGISTERED SOUTHDOWN EWES, from the following noted flock-owners:—Duke of Richmond and Gordon, K.G., Duke of Devonshire, K.G., Lord Northbourne, Lieut.-Col. Hammond, Mr. Francis Elmer Speed, Hon. E. W. B. Portman, Mr. W. M. Cazalet, Sir Edmund Loder, Mr. Jeremiah Colman, Exors. of the late Mr. C. W. Whicher, Mr. Geo. Lock, Mr. E. J. Reddaway, Mr. J. B. Tribe, Mr. J. W. Woods, Mr. T. W. Thorpe, Messrs. Drewitt and Son, Mr. Herbert Padwick, Mr. J. H. Loveys, Mr. James Buchanan, Mr. Thomas Dare, Mr. W. F. Monckton, Mr. A. M. Singer, Mr. N. Graburn, Mr. James Helyer, Mr. W. Allin, Mr. Thomas Peacock, Col. R. M. Helme, Messrs. Hipkin and Son, Mr. C. J. P. Cave, Mr. C. J. Fletcher, Mr. John Chase, Mr. C. Napper, Mr. R. W. Brown, Mr. R. J. Young, Mr. C. J. Lanham, and many others.

Together with the ANNUAL CONSIGNMENT OF EWES, RAMS AND RAM LAMBS, from the celebrated REGISTERED SOUTHDOWN FLOCKS of LORD NORTHBOURNE, Lieut.-Col. HAMMOND, and Mr. FRANCIS ELMER SPEED, comprising about:—
60 SHEARLING RAMS and RAM LAMBS,
300 SHEARLING EWES;
Also
The Whole of Mr. J. W. BAXENDALE'S very choice PURE-BRED SOUTHDOWN FLOCK (No. 17 in Flock Book), comprising:—
176 EWES in AGES and EWE LAMBS.

Judging at nine o'clock. Sale at ten o'clock.

COMMISSIONS CAREFULLY EXECUTED.

EVERY ASSISTANCE given to exporters with respect to keeping, shipping and certificates.

The "Dolphin" or "Anchor" are comfortable and convenient hotels to stay at, and the Auctioneers will be pleased to book rooms.

Catalogues of the AUCTIONEERS, Auction and Estate Agency Offices, 63, East Street, CHICHESTER, SUSSEX.

By Messrs. W. & B. HOBBS.

KENT.
ANNUAL LAMB SALE,
ASHFORD.

Close to the S.E. and C.R. trucking sidings, where a large supply of trucks will be on hand at a cheap rate, and every convenience made for the quick removal of stock.

MESSRS. W. & B. HOBBS will hold the above sale in the Cattle Market Field, on FRIDAY, AUGUST 2, 1907.

12,000
KENT and HALF-BRED SHEEP AND LAMBS from the best flocks in the district including
6,722 KENT EWE & WETHER LAMBS
5,100 HALF-BRED LAMBS,
178 THREE-LAMB EWES.

Sale to commence punctually at Ten o'clock. Luncheon provided.

Catalogues may be obtained of the Auction and Estate Offices, Ashford, Kent.

By Messrs. JOHN THORNTON & CO.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7.—Mr. G. J. B. Chetwynd's herd of DEXTERS, at Wyndthorpe, Doncaster.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 23.—Mr. W. P. Hampton's entire SOUTHDOWN flock, at Langdon Abbey, Dover.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5.—The Duchess of Devonshire's DEXTERS, at Compton Place, Eastbourne.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON & CO., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

By Messrs. J. HARRIS & SON.

COCUM FARM,
Six miles from Micheldever Station, two from Sutton Scotney Station, and seven from Winchester.

ANNUAL SALE and LETTING of HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAM LAMBS.

MESSRS. JAMES HARRIS and SON have been favoured with instructions from Sir George Judd to LET and SELL by AUCTION, on the premises as above, on THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 1907:—

100 RAM LAMBS and
6 SHEARLING RAMS,

from his highly-bred Cocum Flock, entered in Vol. 1 of Flock Book.

The well-known excellence of the Cocum Flock will be fully upheld by the very high-class selection of Ram Lambs to be brought forward this season, which show exceptionally good breeding, and possess that remarkable depth of flesh, good wool, and beauty of form always so marked in the Lambs from this healthy flock.

The most fashionable sires have been judiciously selected by Sir George Judd, and a characteristic and popular type of Hampshire Down has been obtained, which the Auctioneers can confidently recommend to Exhibitors and Breeders, who should not fail to attend this annual sale.

Conveyances will meet the principal Trains at Sutton Scotney Station, and a Brake will leave Winchester Station at 12 o'clock and Andover at same time on day of Sale.

Luncheon will be provided at One o'clock, and Sale commence immediately after.

Sir George Judd will be pleased to show his Flock of Breeding Ewes, Ram Lambs, &c., to his friends or intending purchasers at any time previous to Sale.

Catalogues may be obtained of the Auctioneers, Winchester.

By Mr. GAVIN LOW.

Irish Shorthorn Breeders' Association.

IMPORTANT INAUGURAL SALE of Females and Bull Calves, from Leading Herds in Ireland—a home of Healthy Cattle—at 50, PRUSSIA STREET, DUBLIN, IRELAND, on

Thursday, Sept. 19, 1907,

Catalogues may be had of T. J. HAYES, Secretary, Lynmere, Blackrock, Co. Dublin; or of
GAVIN LOW,
Auctioneer,
50, Prussia Street, Dublin, Ireland.

By Messrs. NOCK & JOSELAND.

The best ALL-ROUND SALE of BREEDING and FEEDING SHEEP in the Midlands, including entries from many prize-winning flocks at the Royal and other great Shows.

KIDDERMINSTER GREAT ANNUAL SHEEP SALE,
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1907.

250 Oxford, Hampshire, Shropshire, Ryeland, Border Leicester, and Kerry RAMS and RAM LAMBS.

5,000 Shropshire, Hampshire, Oxford, Kerry, and Clun EWES, Store WETHERS and Store LAMBS.

NOCK & JOSELAND,
Auctioneers.
Kidderminster and Wolverhampton.

(Continued on next page.)

AUCTION SALES.

Auctioneers will favour us by sending in their advertisements as early in the week as possible. Charges for announcements under this heading Six Shillings an inch.

By Messrs. CHALK.

PRELIMINARY.

THE 22nd ANNUAL SALE and LETTING of 80
PEDIGREE
HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAMS and RAM LAMBS
from Mr. H. Lambert's celebrated Flock
will take place at
CAMBRIDGE,
on
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7, 1907.

Messrs. CHALK, Auctioneers,
11, Alexandra Street, Cambridge, and Linton.

By Mr. A. F. HOBBS.

CIRENCESTER RAM FAIR.
AUGUST 6TH, 1907.
MR. JAMES T. HOBBS' MAISEY HAMPTON FLOCK.

A. F. HOBBS will SELL by AUCTION, in a Field adjoining the Cattle Market, at 12 o'clock, about 60 GRAND PURE-BRED OXFORD DOWN SHEARLING RAMS, bred by and the property of James T. Hobbs, Maisey Hampton, Fairford, Gloucestershire. This being the 47th Annual Sale.

The Rams being sold this year are of immense size, with an abundance of wool and lean meat.

First Prizes have been gained this season at the Oxfordshire, Bath and West, Royal Counties', Highland, Birmingham, and Smithfield Shows, and the Royal A.S.E.; also Breed Cups and Champions at the Oxfordshire, Highland, and Smithfield Shows.

A Brake will leave Fairford Station for Cirencester at 10.18 a.m., returning to meet the 6.35 p.m. Train. A Train will leave Paddington at 9 a.m., arriving at Cirencester at 11.33 a.m.

By Messrs. LYTHALL & WALTERS.

BINGLEY HALL, BIRMINGHAM.

THE 76th SALE of SHROPSHIRE RAMS and EWES will be held on
THURSDAY, AUGUST 22.
LYTHALL & WALTERS,
Auctioneers.

By Mr. ARTHUR SAUL.

THE LINCOLNSHIRE CURLY-COATED PIG BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION
Will hold SALES at BOSTON
On WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28, and WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1907, at 11 o'clock.
For particulars apply
ARTHUR SAUL, Bourne, Auctioneer.
C. E. WILLIAMS, Sleaford, Hon. Sec.

By Messrs. CUNNAH & ROBERTS.

On FRIDAY, August 2, 1907.
At BURTON POINT STATION, on the Liverpool and North Wales Railway (between Chester and Liverpool).

MESSRS. CUNNAH & ROBERTS are again favoured with instructions from the Exors. of the late Mr. Jas. Kemp, and from Mr. Chas. Kemp, to SELL BY AUCTION 3,000 Yearling CHEVIOT WETHERS, Black-faced SCOTCH WETHERS, and Cross-bred EWES and WETHERS, off the Dee Marshes, in pens of 25 each.

Sale at Half-past One punctually.
Sheep will be trucked free of charge.
Auction Offices: Grosvenor Buildings, Chester.

By Messrs. F. D. HOLIDAY & SON.

THE JUBILEE SALE.

UPPER WINCHENDON, near AYLESBURY, BUCKS.

The 50th ANNUAL SALE of about 60 OXFORD DOWN SHEARLING RAMS, bred by and the property of J. and S. Treadwell, will take place on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7, 1907, by F. D. HOLIDAY & SON, of Bicester, Oxon.

Sheep from this flock have sired many winners at the Royal and Christmas Fat Stock Shows.

This year's sheep are very big, bony, full of lean meat, of grand character, and colour, and have not been housed.

Conveyances will meet all trains at Aylesbury, on the North-Western, Great Central, and Great Western Lines; also at Thame on the Great Western; and Waddesdon Manor, on the Metropolitan and Great Central.

Luncheon from 12 o'clock. Sale at 2 sharp.

By Mr. JAMES W. TAYLER.

CIRENCESTER AUGUST RAM FAIR,
TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 1907.
THE COWLEY RAMS.

JAMES W. TAYLER will Sell by Auction, in this Fair, at 11.15,

30 GRAND PURE-BRED OXFORD DOWN SHEARLING RAMS, bred by and the property of JAMES HORLICK, Esq., Cowley Manor, Cheltenham.

The Rams are strong, good colour, well-boned and plenty of flesh, and being bred on the highest points of the Cotswold Hills are noted for their hardiness of constitution.

Prizes have been won, 1907, at the Oxfordshire County Show, Royal Counties, Bath and West, Gloucestershire and the Royal Show at Lincoln.

OXFORD GREAT RAM FAIR.
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14, 1907.

JAMES W. TAYLER will Sell by Auction, in this Fair,

20 GRAND OXFORD DOWN RAM LAMBS, bred by and the property of JAMES HORLICK, Esq., Cowley Manor, Cheltenham.

Further entries will oblige.
Offices: Cold Aston, Cheltenham.

By Messrs. A. & D. EDWARDS.

HEREFORD MARKET

MESSRS. A. & D. EDWARDS will hold their Special SALES of EWES AND RAMS, in Hereford Market, on WEDNESDAYS, AUGUST 21, SEPTEMBER 4, and SEPTEMBER 18. Commencing with Rams at 12 o'clock, and with Ewes at 2 p.m.

Offices: Corn Exchange, Leominster, and 67, Newmarket Street, Hereford.

By Mr. W. BAINBRIDGE.

Highly Important SALE of
PEDIGREE HACKNEYS AND PONIES, the property of Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., at WALTON HALL, WARRINGTON, on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7, 1907, comprising—12 HACKNEY BROOD MARES and their FOALS, 10 HACKNEY PONY MARES and their FOALS, Two and Three-year olds, &c., &c., and a few Harness MARES. Included will be the double London Champion Mare 13964 Rosarene, 2069 Florence (dam of three London first prize winners), 13513 Gold Foil, Champion London winner, and many other first-class animals by Goldfinder VI., Copper King, Sir Horace, &c.

On view, August 2nd and 3rd.
Catalogues and further particulars from
Mr. W. BAINBRIDGE,
Walton House, Warrington.

By Messrs. R. R. LEONARD & SON.

ATWICK FARM, HULL.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT SALE of the ATWICK LINCOLN LONGWOOL RAMS and GIMMER SHEARLINGS (Flock Book No. 64).

ROBERT R. LEONARD & SON are instructed by Mr. G. M. Gale to SELL by AUCTION, THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 1907,
60 GRAND LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEARLING RAMS and
100 GIMMER SHEARLINGS from this celebrated Flock.

Sale after 12 o'clock luncheon.
Conveyances meet trains at Hornsea Station (Hull and Hornsea line).
Auctioneers' address, Field House, Preston, Hull.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION.

LINCOLN SALES, 1907.

The Twenty-second SALE of LINCOLN LONGWOOL RAMS and GIMMERS by members of this Association will be held in LINCOLN on THURSDAY and FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5 and 6, NEXT.

WILLIAM FRANKISH, Secretary.
St. Benedict's Square, Lincoln, February 12, 1907.

By Messrs. WATERS & RAWLENCE.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 6TH, 1907.
THE MARKET HOUSE, SALISBURY.
THE BISHOPSTONE FLOCK.

MESSRS. WATERS & RAWLENCE are instructed by Mr. J. H. DIBBEN, to LET and SELL by AUCTION, at their Market House Yard, on TUESDAY, AUGUST 6TH, 1907, at 2·30 o'clock,
80 RAM LAMBS,
from his highly esteemed and old-established Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK.

Although Mr. DIBBEN does not exhibit at the leading shows, he still maintains his position as one of the leading breeders of Hampshire Downs; it is well known with what care his flock has been bred, and wherever Bishopstone blood is in service the most satisfactory results are attained.

The Auctioneers have always the greatest pleasure in recommending these ram lambs, and they do so again with increased confidence.

Catalogues of the AUCTIONEERS, Canal, Salisbury.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2, 1907.

THE MANOR FARM, WINTERBOURNE STOKE, WILTS.
Four miles from Wishford Station, six from Wilton and nine from Salisbury.

MESSRS. WATERS AND RAWLENCE are instructed by Mr. CARY COLES to LET or SELL by AUCTION, on the Premises, on FRIDAY, AUGUST 2, 1907,
100 RAM LAMBS
from his highly-bred Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK.

It will be remembered what an extraordinary grand lot of ram lambs were let and sold at Winterbourne Stoke last season and the corresponding almost record average price which resulted.

This year's Lambs are bred on similar lines, and many of the same fashionable sires were in service, with the result that Mr. Coles is satisfied he will place before the public a selection equal to, if not surpassing, that of 1906, and the Auctioneers trust they may again have the support which the Flock so richly deserves.

Luncheon at 12 30 and Sale after.
Conveyances will meet the trains until mid-day at Salisbury, Wilton and Wishford.
Catalogues of the AUCTIONEERS, Canal, Salisbury.

MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 1907.

BRITFORD FAIR.
One Mile from Salisbury.

THE CHILMARK FLOCK.

MESSRS. WATERS & RAWLENCE are instructed by Mr. JAMES FLOWER, to LET and SELL by AUCTION, in the above Fair, on MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 1907, at 10.30 o'clock,
100 RAM LAMBS,
from his renowned Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK.

In the year 1894 Mr. Flower, the popular owner of the Chilmark Flock, commenced showing, and from that time forward has stood unrivalled both in the Showyard and the Sale Ring. Year by year the competition has been more keen, and yet the exhibits from Chilmark are practically unassailable, and since the last Sale at Britford Mr. Flower has eclipsed all his former achievements; his pens of Ram and Ewe Lambs having been honoured by winning all the Champion Prizes of the year wherever shown, with animals that for perfect type, depth of flesh and general excellence are unsurpassed.

On August 12 Mr. Flower will submit to Flockmasters the best 100 Lambs that he has ever produced, and possibly the best that ever entered a Sale Ring.

Catalogues of the AUCTIONEERS, Canal, Salisbury.

FODDER CROPS.

ONE SHILLING. Post free, 1s. 1½d.

W. A. May, "The Mark Lane Express,"

3, Wellington Street, Strand, W.C.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS SHOW.

A fixture ever popular, ever interesting and attractive, and what is of equal importance, ever well supported both financially and by an entry of high-class stock. Such is a terse but emphatic way in which to describe this excellent show it was the writer's privilege to witness on Thursday and Friday last. Twenty-one shows have come and gone since the writer visited this annual fixture. Many a well-known and popular breeder and exhibitor have during that period been lost. Such, however, is life. Old friends and supporters, many of them pioneers in the formation of the association are, alas! no more, but their sons and successors are equally to the fore, for year after year the show grows in importance, and thus becomes a lasting memorial to those who are no longer with us, under the capable management of the youngsters trained under the founders' guidance. These, profiting by the experience gained in former years, can show to those who attend the fixture one of the most interesting and attractive exhibits of the kind held anywhere in the South of England.

One, however, must not digress further, for, much as the memory loves to recall the pleasant reminiscences of former successes, the present demands our attention, and many a son of the three counties—Kent, Surrey, and Sussex—which, combined, form the area of the society's work, will be looking for in far off colonies, &c., the usual full report of the show that appears in this widely-circulated journal, which has readers wherever the Britisher finds a home beyond the sea.

HORSES.

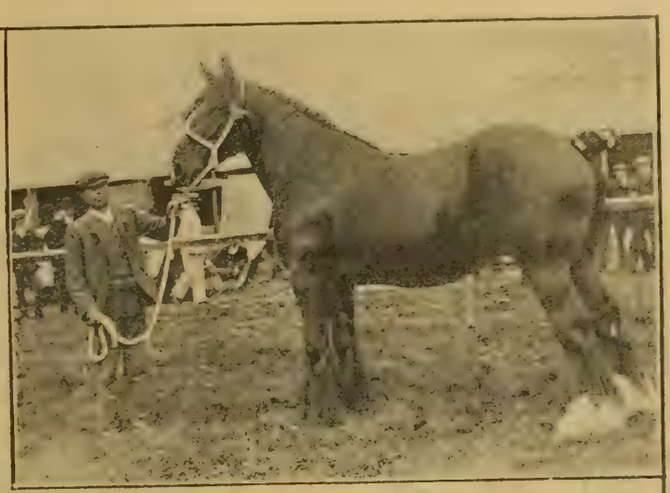
The catalogue opens with the heavy horse section, now Shires and Agricultural horses, but in former years it was Clydesdales and Agricultural horses, one of the changes brought about during the period covered by the writer's connection with the show. The Shires have displaced the Clydesdales in this district, and the fine specimens of the breed briefly alluded to below that took leading honours at this year's show, are striking specimens of this noble breed of draught horses that will, we believe, despite the competition of the motor, be wanted for many a year to come. Norbury Menestrel, Mr. Salomons, led in the stallion class, followed by Lord Hothfield's Hutton Victor Chief, both weighty and typical horses of their breed, a description fully applicable, also to Mr. W. M. Cazalet's rn. Robert Burn's King of Tandridge won in the two-year-old class for Mr. Max Michaelis, and Danesfield Ringleader took the same position for Mr. R. W. Hudson in a good class of yearlings, Lord Hothfield's General of Hothfield being second. Lord Hothfield's Bella was best brood mare, her offspring taking second honours in the foal class, in which a grand colt by Childwick Champion, out of Poole Duchess, won first for Mr. R. W. Hudson. That grand mare Childwick Young took second honours in the brood mare class for Mr. Salomons, with the Marquis of Camden as rn. A capital entry was secured in the barren mare or gelding class; Mr. Salomons led with Briscot Chloris, followed by Locking Coquette, that hailed from the Tandridge stud. Sir E. Stern's Bardon Forest Rose led in the three-year-old fillies, followed by Norbury Desdemona from Mr. Salomons', whose Norbury Juno led in the two-year-old class, followed by her stud mate Norbury Surprise. Fuschia claimed for Mr. M. Pritchard first honours in the yearling class, with Sir Walpole Greenwell's Maiden Peach in close attendance. There were five classes with a local limitation in them, and those for any agricultural breed open to tenant farmers. Messrs. E. Neve, F. Brock, A. E. Poynter, R. Veitch, and J. G. Wright were leading winners. A grand lot of hunters were found in nine classes which comprised this section, well trained and mannered. The display in the ring was both satisfactory from the expert's point of view and attractive to the general visitor. Amongst those who owned the leading winners were Messrs. F. G. Colman, E. W. Robinson, J. H. Stokes, J. H. Joyce, W. Dawtrey, S. Lee, Smith, &c. The three classes of polo ponies were of good merit. Messrs. J. Barker, M.P., S. Mumford, and O. P. Brice were leading winners. The Hackneys, Hacks, and driving classes were largely supported, and the displays given in the ring kept both the railings and the Grand Stand well tenanted all through the two days the exhibition lasted. The Shetland ponies with two classes were quite a feature of the light horse section, and from the popularity of these classes with the visitors it is evident they would form an attractive addition to many a show that does not offer them opportunity for exhibition.

CATTLE

Kent was in the seventies a county in which more than one leading herd of Shorthorns was located, and if one may judge from the excellent cattle sent forward from the Kentish herds, it is evident there are several herds of the first rank in the county at the present time. It is also satisfactory to note that the value of the competitions here is such that breeders from distant parts enter and compete. Several of these were successful this year. Mr. J. Colman's well-known herd at Reigate won the challenge bowl for the best lot of Shorthorns on the ground—a fine lot they were—his bull Millhill's Favourite taking first in the old bull class, securing preference over Mr. Leon's Ascott Wanderer which was second, and Messrs.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS WINNERS.









Judging the Hunter Mares or Geldings at the Tunbridge Wells Show on Thursday last. The nearest horse is Mr. J. H. Stokes' Little Bronze, which proved to be the winner.

Mr. T. Henson's (Peterborough) Large White Sow, Bit of Fashion, which was First in the Class for a Boar of any Pure Breed other than Berkshire farrowed in or before 1906, at the Tunbridge Wells Show.

Shire Mare, Bella, owned by Lord Hothfield, which won the Shire Horse Society's Gold Medal and First Prize in the Class for Mare with Foal at foot or which has had a foal in 1907, at the Tunbridge Wells Show.

Mr. W. Millen's Kent or Romney Marsh Ram which won the Championship for the best Kent or Romney Marsh Ram registered in the Flock Book.

lead, Mr. R. W. Hudson following with Danesfield Barrington.

Sussex.

It was a very gratifying feature to find so good an entry representing this breed. Most of the classes were well filled, and the competition excellent all through. Champion honours and other special prizes, with first in the old bull class, were well deserved by that thoroughly typical Lord of Drungewick 5th, Mr. E. E. Braby's grand three-year-old bull. Mr. C. J. Lucas with Lord Eric was second and rn champion for males. It is questionable whether or not the placing of the Rev. R. P. Nevill's yearling bull Birling Prince before Mr. Hickman's Sammy in the next class was correct; be this how it may, the latter is quite one of the best bulls of its age. The Earl Winterton's Sunlight 5th and Sunlight 7th, first in the cow and three-year-old heifer class respectively, had a keen contest for the female champion honours; the latter won. Both are real good specimens of their breed. The Hon. R. P. Nevill was second in the former class and the Earl of Derby in the latter. Bewbush Evelyn and Tilsden Jessie were first and second two-year-olds, both fine heifers of choice quality, owned by Messrs. Swillard and Mr. F. Winch. In the yearling class Mr. Aungier took all three prizes with a grand trio of specially good heifers of fine quality.

Aberdeen-Angus.

A small entry of typical animals, in which champion honours and first in its class went to Mr. G. Drummond's Eboniser, a grand bull of its breed, Mr. Bridges taking second with Rubus. Sir G. A. Cooper, with Black for Ever, of Ballindalloch, led in the younger bull class; other leading winners in the female classes were Mr. G. Drummond, Sir G. A. Cooper, and Mr. J. H. Bridges.

Jerseys.

In this section there was found a grand entry of excellent merit. The competition was very close indeed, and the contestants included many of the leading animals of the breed. For the females Mrs. C. McIntosh, Ladies Hope, Lady De Rothschild, with Messrs. A. Miller Hallett, A. Pocock, and Sir E. Stern, were leading winners. In the capital classes for bulls Mrs C. McIntosh's winning yearling, Fossa Hero, took first and champion honours; Mr. L. Currie was rn for the winning old bull Glorious Lad, Mr. A. Miller-Hallett's Alfriston's Pride taking the premier place in the two-year-old class.

Guernseys.

This year's entry was fully an average one in number, with many very choice and typical animals amongst them. Messrs. E. A. Hambro, who won for cows, yearling heifers, and bulls; Mr. H. FitzWalter Plumptree, who won for two-year-old heifers; and Messrs. Smail and Hargreaves were the principal winners.

Dexters.

There were four classes of these cattle, two for males, and two for females. Mr. B. de Bertodano and the Duchess of Devonshire divided the honours equally in the first section, and the latter won in both classes of females. The quality of the entry was satisfactory.

The dairy cattle class was a large one of eighteen entries, and the entries in the butter test classes were twenty-six in the open class and two in the Guernsey class, whilst in the milking class no less than thirty-six entries were made for the three awards offered, a striking testimony of the interest taken in milk production at the present time.

SHEEP.

Two breeds are included in the schedule, namely, the Southdown and the Kent or Romney Marsh; both were well represented, and in all the classes the competition was very close and keen. The Southdowns take first place in the catalogue, the order of which we follow, hence the reason why reference is first made to this breed. A fine lot of two shear rams were present. Mr. W. M. Cazalet's Royal Champion ram repeated its success, followed by a fine entry owned by the Duke of Devonshire. Probably no better class of yearling rams has been seen for some time at this show than was the case this year. Thirteen entries were made, and in selecting for first honours and rn championship, Mr. J. Colman's very choice ram the judge put the best ram to the fore. The Exors. of Colonel McCalmont had second with a really good ram having plenty of masculine type and character. This was followed by a particularly good ram owned by Mr. F. Elmer Speed, having grand flesh and good fleece. The Exors. of Colonel McCalmont took the rn, and several others were hc and c. With an entry of eighteen ram lambs the next class was a notably good one. Here the Duke of Devonshire's entry secured the preference—a very fine and good-fleshed ram; but the Exors. of Colonel McCalmont, who were second, had a capital ram that looks like making a very fine yearling; this was second, followed very closely by Colonel N. W. Hammond's better entry that has a grand coat and very excellent flesh, the flock mate taking an hc. Many admired the rn lamb from Mr. Speed's flock, Prince Pretty, by reason of its grand flesh. Some six or seven others were commended. The yearling ewe class was a smaller one, but its merit excellent. Here Mr. J. Colman's pen went first, followed by those owned by the Duke of Devonshire as second and rn. Colonel Hammond won first and champion for females with a specially good pen of ewe lambs—a pen which was of the highest quality both for type, character, and quality. The Exors. of Colonel McCalmont were second, Mr. Cazalet third, and Colonel Hammond rn. Messrs. Wood and Toogood Parsons shared the honours in the tenant-farmer class.

Kent or Romney Marsh.

A few years back some ten pens were all that this breed's entries mustered. Now we find an entry of sixty-five with but a very small proportion of entries other than the best.

Mr. W. Milton won, in the absence of Mr. C. Files Royal Champion two shear, with a ram of real good merit in the two shear class, followed by Mr. F. Neame's entry as second and Mr. Quested's as rn. The yearling class, with an entry of twenty-two, three of which were absent, was so good a one that it was commended as a whole. First and second honours, a well-deserved distinction, went to Mr. J. B. Palmer. For a specially good pair of rams Mr. W. Millen was a close competitor, taking third honours with one that gave good satisfaction when examined, Mr. F. Neame's entry taking a well-deserved rn.

The merit and quality of the ram lamb class was equally good, in fact, we cannot call to mind ever seeing a better lot of this age at any previous show. The whole class was highly commended, and the first two places were filled by three grand ram lambs all owned by Mr. W. Millen, a very unique distinction, but one quite deserved; here Mr. J. E. Quested's entry took the rn. Mr. W. Millen was again to the fore in a particularly good class of yearling ewes in which Mr. J. B. Palmer had to be content with the second place, two of this Royal first prize pen having gone to New Zealand, Mr. F. Neame taking the rn. In a very fine class of ewe lambs, Mr. J. E. Quested was first with a well grown pen, Mr. A. J. Hickman followed, closely pressed by Mr. W. Neilson's two notably fine pens that were third and rn.

A good entry of wool was made, Messrs. H. Burton and H. C. Wickham winning for Southdowns and Messrs. Strouts and F. Neame for Kent fleeces.

PIGS.

The entry in the pig class was not a large one. Mr. G. T. Inman and the Duchess of Devonshire were leading winners for Berkshires, and Mr. T. Henson won all through the classes for every other pure breed.

A capital entry of goats were present, and there were also a large and good entry of poultry, pigeons, rabbits, &c.

Hertfordshire Show.

The annual show of the Herts Agricultural Society took place on Thursday at Hatfield. The horse entries compared very favourably with those of previous years, and so keen was the competition in the various classes that the judges had by no means a light task. A notable success was that of Capt N. P. Jeffcock, of Harpenden, whose exhibit of a fine three-year-old chesnut, named Happy Land, secured the premier award in the class for mares or geldings most likely to make a hunter, foaled in 1904. The animal was characterised as the finest two-year-old in the show. In the same class Captain Jeffcock secured a second with Harpenden Common, a brown two-year-old. One of the most interesting classes was that for light-weights, in which there were no less than twenty exhibitors, Mr. A. Cory Wright gaining the first, as he also did in the heavy-weights.

In the Cattle section Mr. C. F. Raphael, the well-known Shenley breeder, was to the fore. Mr. W. Jackson, the Hitchin breeder, was also a prolific winner, and he carried off the President's Championship Cup, for the best Shorthorn in the show, the property of a tenant-farmer, with his beautiful Waterloo Duchess. His young Roan Madeleine was the reserve for the same honour. Lord Mount-Stephen's Challenge Cup again changed hands, Mr. C. E. Wodehouse handing the cup over to Mr. A. D. Acland, of Welwyn. The Challenge Cup, for the best Shorthorn bull, entered in Coates' Herd Book, with a registered number, was won by Mr. C. F. Raphael's Shenley Baronet, a strong animal, and was second in its class to Viscount Enfield's Salperton Keeper. Mr. Raphael also won his own trophy, for the best Shorthorn heifer, with Queen Dorothy, a grand roan heifer, and was placed reserve with Shenley Goldie. Mr. A. D. Acland's Suspense won the first prize for the best Shorthorn cow, calved before 1904, but was closely run by Mr. Raphael's Golden Pearl, a roan five-year-old. Mr. Raphael captured the premier award for the best Shorthorn cow and two of her offspring, his competitors being Golden Pearl, Shenley Goldie, and a roan bull calf.

Mr. W. B. Greenfield was first for Polled bull with Duke of Haynes, and his Darling of Haynes took the first for the other sex. Some beautiful animals were shown in the section for Channel Island breed, and Lord Rothschild was a large and successful exhibitor. He won the only trophy for this breed.

Some excellent sheep were penned, and Sir Julius Wernher captured the majority of the prizes in this class. Hampshire Downs were not so strong a class as they have been at previous exhibitions, probably owing to the fact that Mr. T. F. Buxton, the well-known breeder, of Ware, recently sold a large portion of his stock. Sir Richard Cooper's Shropshires carried all before them in the department in which they were exhibited, and his seventeen moths old ram was an easy winner in the class from which Southdowns and Hampshires were excluded. Mr. Buxton's pen of three young Hampshire rams won the prize in their department, and also captured the championship prize of the best pen.

There is nothing like pedigree—among pigs—and the prize winners of the show were representatives and offspring of blue-blooded ancestors. The sexes were pretty evenly divided, and there was keen competition. The Hon. A. Holland-Hibbert's exhibits commanded chief attention, and were penned in grand condition. In the class for Berkshire boars, farrowed this year, he captured the three prizes offered, his stock beating some good animals. The Marquis of Salisbury was also a successful exhibitor, whilst Mr. R. A. Ayre and Mr. T. J. Morton upheld their reputation as breeders of valuable stock.

Harrogate Show.

The sixth annual show of the Harrogate and District Agricultural Society was held on Thursday. Unfortunately the weather was showery, but there was a capital attendance.

Shorthorns were shown by a handful of leading North country breeders. Mr. George Harrison's two year-old bull Czar and Lord Middleton's Illustrious Count were again placed in that order, while the Gainford Hall yearling bull Pride of Tees—a Dublin winner—was once more preferred to Capt. Clive Behrens' Swinton Waterloo Chief. Mr. Harrison's bull calf Charming Victor was beaten by animals shown by Lord Middleton and Mr. Richard Booth, of Warlaby, but otherwise the Gainford Hall stock was successful all along the line, the trump cards including the Royal winner Towy Princess.

Most of the Hunter classes were strong in numbers, and the quality was in some cases so even that a considerable time was taken in adjudication. There was a stiff fight in the aged class, particularly between a trio whose respective merits have often come up for judgment, and often evoked differences of opinion. Once more Mr. J. S. Rigg's grand Irish-bred chesnut Sir Lancelot—better known as Sligo—was brought to the front, as he was at Doncaster and at Bishop Auckland, while Mr. F. Rickaby's Revel and Mr. W. A. Simpson-Hinchcliffe's Silverthorn — both old winners—were placed second and third respectively. The four-year-olds were a small class. Mr. E. Hodgson's Sportsman—who carries the colours of the Royal and many other shows—again profited by the good qualities he has inherited from that famous sire Wales, and Mr. Rickaby's Red Prince gelding, Ripper, took second place.

It was an easy win in the two-year-old class for Mr. Hodgson's Mab, whose successful career this season includes victories at the Royal and the Highland Shows, though among the three-year-olds the Bridlington breeder's chesnut gelding Dignity had to give place to Messrs. T. and H. Ward's Adonis, a winner at the Northumberland and the champion at Gainford. The Stud Book Offices offered champion silver medals. That for the best Hunter filly foaled in 1904, 1905, or 1906 was awarded to Mr. J. O. Andrews, while the medal for the best mare or gelding foaled before 1904 was secured by Messrs. L. Snowden and Son.

The open classes for Hackneys attracted eminent exhibitors from a distance. Mr. G. C. Waud's Ferniehurst Fortuna, which beat Mr. Rickaby's Royal at Malton, was absent; so Royal stepped into the front rank in the harness class for animals not exceeding 13 hands. Among those not over 14 hands the chief award went to a Peterborough winner, owned by Mr. Cecil S. Fletcher. Other leading winners in the harness classes were Mr. Henry Watson (who also figured well in the smaller classes), Mr. J. W. Featherby, and Messrs. L. Snowden and Sons, who got the Hackney Society's silver medal.

The Shire Horse Society's silver medal was won by Mr. T. Burton, of Raskelf. The judges awarded Mr. W. A. Best's silver cup for the best mare or gelding, four years old or upwards, the property of a tenant farmer, to Mr. J. Theakston.

Cumberland County Council have declared in favour of the blackheaded gull as the friend of the farmer, his staple food being insects and worms, which are harmful to the farmer.

Welsh National Show.

The annual show of the Welsh National Agricultural Society opened at Aberystwyth on Tuesday. The weather was fine and warm, and there was a fair attendance during the morning, when the judging took place. In the afternoon large crowds flocked to the show ground.

The two Hereford bulls and cows sent by the King were a great attraction. His Majesty took second prize and special reserve for the best bull three years old or over with Admiral, first honours going to Endale, the property of Mr. Peter Coats, of Sheepcote, who also took premier place in the cow class. Mr. Joseph Rowlands was second, the King taking third place. In the class for the best bull, calved in 1906, the King came second with Yeoman, premier honours going to Mr. A. P. Turner (Pembroke). The principal winners in the class for Shorthorns included Lord Powis, Mr. F. A. Miller (Birkenhead), Sir Richard Cooper, Mr. R. Stratton (Newport), Sir A. Stepney, Lord Tredegar, Captain Harrison (Lichfield), and the Aberystwyth College.

A close fight for first place in the Welsh Black cattle section resulted in the honours going to Bangor College; Mr. R. M. Greaves; Mr. Richard Jones, of Towyn; Mr. J. S. Thomas, of St. Clears, and Lord Stanley of Alderley.

In the Shire Horse classes some well-known winners appeared. Mr. F. E. Muntz's King Forest was a winner, as was also his Aldeby Lady Jameson in the three-year-old class. The Earl of Powis had several cards, including first for yearling and two-year-old fillies. Mr. Humphreys won with his famous stallion Hendre Baronet and with a yearling colt. Other leading prize winners were Mr. J. B. Brooks, Mr. H. Oakley, and Mr. E. Green.

There was a small turnout of Hunters and a very much improved entry of Hackneys Sir Walter Gilbey had three first prizes with Brave Member, Gallant Girl, and Lively Birthday.

In the open Harness class, Mr. Evans (Wrexham) took the first honours. Tom J. Mathias (Cardigan) captured the Hackney Society's silver medal, and F. V. Grange (Farndon) secured first place in the jumping class. Farmers' turnouts:—1, W. Rowlands (New Cross); 2, Evan Richards (Capel Seion). Single harness exhibit:—1, Evan Jones (Llandilo); 2, T. J. Mathias (Cardigan). Best jumper, previous winner excluded:—1, Whittingham Bros. (Burton-on-Trent); 2, Dr. Davies (Machynlleth); 3, D. Jones (Pontyberem). Tradesmen's turnouts:—P. Edwards (Aberystwyth) took all the prizes. Hackney mare or gelding in harness:—1, Mr. Evans (Wrexham); 2, T. J. Mathias (Cardigan); 3, the Hon. Mrs. Ward (Old Colwyn).

The Welsh Ponies section was the strongest of the show, the principal prize-winners, including Lord Tredegar, Mr. C. Powell (Tregaron), Mr. T. J. Mathias (Cardigan), Mr. R. Falconer (Abergwe'i), and Sir Walter Gilbey, whose exhibit, Shooting Star, won the silver medal of the Welsh Pony and Cob Society.

In the open classes for sheep other than Welsh, the principal places were assigned to exhibits from flocks of Sir Richard Cooper, Mr. Frank Bibby, and Mr. Alfred Tanner (Shrewsbury).

There were some fine specimens of the Welsh mountain sheep shown, Bangor University College securing two firsts and seconds. Mr. R. E. Jones (Corwen) beat the University in the class for yearling rams. Mr. Lawton Moore (Brampton Brian), Mr. John Venables (Kerry), and Mr. W. Bishop (Broseley) took chief prizes for Kerry Hill sheep.

The pig classes were stronger than usual. Sir Gilbert Greenall had two firsts with Whites; Mr. Jefferson taking two first prizes with Berkshires.

Lord Plymouth presided over the general meeting of subscribers. Mr. Vaughan Davies, M.P., announced amidst cheers that the Prince of Wales had consented to become patron of the society.

The report of the council, recommending Welshpool as the next meeting place was moved by Sir Richard Green Pryce, and seconded by Mr. Coltman Rogers (Knighton).

An amendment was moved by Mr. Corbet (Wellington) seconded by the town clerk of Aberystwyth, that the show should remain at Aberystwyth for another year.

This was carried by a large majority.

Belfast Show.

The annual horse and sheep show held under the auspices of the Royal Ulster Agricultural Society took place in the fine and spacious grounds at Balmoral, Belfast, last Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. It was somewhat noteworthy that even in agricultural matters the present trades' war in Belfast made unfortunate interference. Very little carting was done on the roads leading to the Balmoral grounds, the pickets being too vigilant, with the result that not a few of the shepherds had to transport their prize sheep to the pens as best they could. Difficulty was also even found in carting feeding stuffs to the grounds.

Only a limited number of the horse classes was judged on the first day. In the class for Thoroughbred brood mares Mr. Charles Dundee, Ballycarry, County Antrim, was both first and second, the gets of his exhibits also securing the foal prizes. Other winners in the brood mare classes were Mr. Patrick Turley, Castlewellan; Mr. James Milling, Comber; and Mr. Robert White, Crossgar. In the carting classes the leading prizes were secured by Mr. D. G. M'Cammon, Clough, County Down; Mr. Charles Dundee, Mr. Arthur Macan, Castle Bellingham; and Capt. R. Gr. O'Callaghan, Swords, County Dublin. In the two-year-olds the principal winners were Miss J. Allan, Stormont Castle, Belfast; Mr. James Simpson, Comber; and Mrs. Upton, Moutrav, Emyvale, County Monaghan.

The Deramore challenge cup for the best three-year-old hunter, was won by Mr. Michael Turley, Belfast with his bay gelding Ben Battle, Mr. Simpson, Comber, being reserve with his brown filly Miss Henry.

In the driving and riding classes several cross-Channel exhibitors figured prominently in the prize list. In the class for double-harness horses under 15.2 hands, Mr. John Makeague, Golborne Park, Newton-le-Willows, carried off the honours with his notable couple of bay geldings, Reflector and Luminator, which won in double and single at Glasgow, Mr. Alex. Gemmell, Ayr, making a spanking second with Prince of Ayr and Princess of Ayr, both favourites in the ring. Mr. Gemmell also won in the single harness 15.3 hands class.

The sheep made a somewhat larger muster than previous years, while the quality, especially amongst the Blackfaced mountain classes, showed considerable improvement. Among the Border Leicesters the quality was very high. In the class for rams, two-shear and upwards, Mr. T. W. Stokes, Anahilt, Hilsborough, led with a well-bred son of Midland Reward, lambed in 1905, and bred by Mr. James Dunlop. Shearling lambs were forward in larger numbers, and the red ticket again went to Mr. Stokes with a sheep of great size, sired by a grandson of Mertoun, which was bred by Lord Polwarth. The first winner, shown by Mr. Robert W. Bell, was a home-bred of great promise, having both wool and substance. The shearling ewes were not a very strong class, and Mr. Robert Bell again figured as the first prize winner.

Mr. Robert F. H. White, Aghavoe, Abbeyleix, Queen's County, led in the classes for aged shearling and ram lambs. He also secured first for shearling ewes, and was second for ewe lambs. Other prominent winners were the trustees of the late Miss Rose, Mallaghmore, Monaghan, and Captain W. L. Naper, Oldcastle, co. Meath. The Blackfaced Mountain sheep comprised one of the finest shows that has been seen in the North of Ireland for many years. In the class for aged rams Mr. St. Clair M. Dobbs, Glenariff, led with the Woolford-bred sheep purchased at Perth two years ago. The challenge cup for the best Blackfaced shearling ram was won by Mr. Barton, as was also that for the best group.

Malton Show.

A large entry was obtained for the Malton Show, which was held on Wednesday, but the fine weather for haymaking kept away a large number of farmers who are in the habit of visiting the show.

A grand mare from Mr. Watson, Tadcaster, took Sir Tatton Sykes's cup in the best mare and foal class. This is her sixth leading win this season, and the fiftieth in her career. The mare is by Champion Royal Danegelt, who did so much for Hackney blood in England.

In the two entire Hackney classes were sixteen entries, including two of Mr. Frank Buttle's best. The first prize for two-year stallion was won by John Beal, of Hull, and the second by Mr. Young, of Marton. The Rosador blood was very successful throughout. Mr. Grandage, of Yeadon, won for brood mare and foal. Mr. James Jebson, Pocklington, was first in the three-year-olds with a big, clean-limbed gelding by Storm King. Mr. Leaf, of York, was first for two-year-olds, and Mr. John Lett, Rellington, first for yearlings. Ninety hunters were shown, and the only weak classes were two-year-olds and tenants' brood mares, which came up badly. Lord Middleton won in the open brood mare class with a useful chesnut by his own horse, Gordon. Lord Garnock's prize of £20 for four year's hunting gelding drew a class of fifteen. The first prize winner was Mr. Stokes, Market Harborough, for Radiance, a Darlington and Doncaster winner, and the second Mr. William Brown, Slingsby.

Great attention is nowadays paid to Shires in the Malton district, and no one has done more to encourage the rearing of this breed than Lord Middleton. In the yearling class Mr. W. Nutt produced a big strong bay colt by Redmoor Victor, while two very nice two-year-old fillies were sent by Mr. T. Burton and Mr. W. Webster. Three-year-olds constituted a very attractive group, though Mr. Burton's brown filly, Sandcliff Daisy, by Mere Boy, was a clear winner from Lord Middleton's bay gelding Birdsall Harold.

All the cattle were Shorthorns. In the old bull class there was a keen contest between Mr. George Harrison's Czar and Lord Middleton's Illustrious Count, both of which have been the round of the shows this year, and have scored, met in the same class, with in and out results. On this occasion the judge decided in favour of Czar. In the yearling bull class eight animals competed, and again the judge had to decide between representatives of the Gunnard and Birdsall herds—Pride of Tees and Birdsall Brewer. The latter is much the bigger animal, but scarcely so shapely as Mr. Harrison's Northumberland winner, and no fault could be found with the verdict. Lord Middleton's bull won here last year as a calf.

Despite the bad season, the sheep were quite up to the Malton standard, but the competition was rather restricted. In the lamb classes Lincolns and Leicesters were grouped, and some confusion was almost bound to arise in assessing the respective merits of the two breeds.

Upholland Show.

The annual show of the Upholland and District Agricultural Society was held on Wednesday. The fine weather accounted for a record gate, and the popularity of the show from an exhibitor's point of view was reflected in the increase in the number of entries, which were 673, compared with 532 last year.

CATTLE.—Bull any age: A. Bentham, Upholland. Dairy cow, in calf or milk: E. Birchall, Rainford; M. Ashworth, Rochdale. Ditto, local class: W. Bradley, Upholland (1 and 2).

PIGS.—Boar or sow, any variety: Swales and Morris, Upholland; W. Hilton, Ince.

HORSES.—Roadster stallion: B. Edmond, West Derby. Draught stallion: R. Liptrot, Shevington. Mare or gelding, for draught or agricultural purposes: T. Kemp, Great Harwood; Exors. of R. Alty, Mawdesley, Ormskirk. Brood mare, for draught or agricultural purposes, with foal at foot: Exors. of R. Alty. Foal, foaled in 1907: Exors. of R. Alty; G. W. Bowker, Upholland. Brood mare, saddle or harness, with foal at foot: A. Smith, Crank; H. Haworth, Mawdesley. Light colt, gelding, or filly, foaled in 1906: J. Cubbin, Westhoughton; Swales and Morris, Upholland. Light filly or colt, foaled in 1907: A. Smith, H. Haworth.

Thorney Shire Show.

Interest centred in Thursday's annual show of the Thorney Shire Horse Society owing to the presence of several visitors from Germany, Major von Jagow and Major von Brauconi representing the horse-breeding department of that country, accompanied by Messrs. Van Dratten, Hubbe (Kattermark), and the Beselier (Saxony). They expressed unbounded admiration of the display made of the Fen Shires, and surprise at their great size. With the exception of the exhibits of four breeders, all the animals were shown by tenant farmers on the Duke of Bedford's estate, the entries totalling 124. The foals were a capital collection, while there were also great classes of yearling, two years, and three years old fillies and mares. The Shire Horse Society's silver medal—Mr. Topham.

SHOW GOSSIP.

Royal Lancashire Show.

The Royal Lancashire Show opens on Thursday next. The showyard is just outside Bolton proper on the Manchester Road, a very short tram ride from the station and a very short walk from Moses Gate. It occupies thirty-two acres, including the eighteen acres occupied by the show in 1894 on the land the property of the Earl of Bradford.

The following is a comparative statement of entries, showing this year's, the average for the past five years, and those at the Bolton show in 1894:—

Section.	1907. Bolton.	Average of preceding five years.	1894. Bolton.
Cattle	263	258	143
Light horses	264	301	249
Heavy horses	100	111	97
Sheep	97	93	95
Pigs	214	140	—
Cheese	69	79	45
Butter and working dairy	137	137	56
Eggs	64	34	—
Honey	56	108	56
Poultry and pigeons	1,447	1,441	712
Tenant farmers' and local classes	171	176	128
Implement stands, &c.	240	—	163
Total entries	3,142	3,135	1,764

The secretary of the Essex Agricultural Society (Mr. Fred Taylor), has been the recipient of a very handsome present from Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., president of the society, comprising a solid silver Georgian tea and coffee service with silver kettle on stand and spirit lamp. Sir Walter, in sending the present to the secretary, in his accompanying letter states:—"I feel it is only a small acknowledgement of the many acts of kindness in carrying out successfully the Essex Jubilee Show." The following inscription also appears:—"Pre-

sented to Mr. Fred Taylor by Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., president of the Essex Agricultural Society, for the Jubilee Show (50) at Chelmsford June 12 and 13, 1907, in recognition of his valuable services as secretary of the society."

The forthcoming Tring Show is a fixture which the whole countryside noted some time ago, and is always held on the Thursday in Bank Holiday week. However, from the information to hand, and from that contained in the very explicit programme that has been issued, it may be seen at a glance that the committee have planned an excellent day's arrangements for the usual large gathering of friends and visitors who will make their way to Tring on the 8th prox. Tring has well earned the title of being the best one-day show in the country and well deserves its popularity, as it is immaterial in which direction you turn, either to the agricultural section, the sheep-dog trials, the events in the large ring, the catering, or the minor details of the museum and grounds, or the music and fireworks, everything will be found complete, and will work out on the show day to the mutual satisfaction of visitors and those who had the arduous task of mapping out the various details. A programme may be obtained by sending 3d. in stamps to Mr. F. J. Brown, secretary, Tring.

At a meeting of the local executive committee of the Royal Agricultural Society held at Newcastle, a letter was read from the secretary to the Royal Agricultural Society, requesting the local committee to nominate members to serve on the General Newcastle Committee of the society, and the following representatives were accordingly elected:—The Duke of Northumberland, K.G., the Lord Mayor of Newcastle, the sheriff of Newcastle, Mr. Johnstone Wallace (Deputy Lord Mayor), Sir Joseph B. Ellis, Mr. J. J. Gillespie, Mr. Wm. Chrystal, Mr. W. J. Bolam, Mr. J. D. Walker, and the local secretary (Mr. A. M. Oliver).

The eighteenth annual show of the Warrington and District Agricultural Society will be held in Walton Park on Thursday, August 15. Prizes, cups, &c., are offered to the value of about £750. As in past years, Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., the president, gives a district champion cup value £10 and two silver cups value £5 each. Mr. F. Stapleton Bretherton gives a special prize value £5, and the vice-president, Col. Legh, a silver cup value £5, while Lady Greenall offers three special prizes of £2 each to the blacksmith for the best-shod horse which has been regularly shod at the same forge during the six months or thereabouts previous to the date of the show, in certain specified classes.

Medals are offered by the Shire Horse Society, the Hunters' Improvement Society, and the Hackney Horse Society. There are classes for Shires, Hunters, Hackneys, harness horses, jumpers, tradesmen's or tenant farmers' turnouts, cattle, pigs, cheese, and butter. Entry forms and all particulars may be obtained from Mr. H. Beresford Melville, Bold Street, Warrington. Entries close on Wednesday next, July 31. It should be noted that the society's district on the Cheshire side of Warrington now extends to sixteen miles from Market Gate, Warrington, and extends in the various directions as far as the Budworths, Kelsall, Wharton and Over, Ashton, Dunham, Thornton, Stoke, Barrow, Plinstone, Tarvin, Middlewich, Peover, Wilmslow, Cranage, Eaton, Mobberley, &c., and, of course, includes the whole of the district nearer to Warrington. Those parts of Cheshire lying east of the railway from Broadhurst to Manchester, and north of the railway from Broadheath to Stockport are excluded. The society's radius on the Lancashire side is twelve miles from Market Gate, Warrington.

The forty-third annual show of the Lancaster Agricultural Society will be held at Lancaster on Wednesday, August 21, and for it a most attractive prize schedule has been drawn up, including classes for horses, cattle, sheep, dogs, poultry, butter, cheese, honey, and roots. Good class prizes are offered as well as several specials, and the society should have another successful show. The dog and poultry sections have this year a considerably extended classification, and upwards of £250 will be offered in ninety classes for dogs and fifty-five classes for poultry. Entries close at 8 a.m. on Monday, August 12, after which time none will be accepted—there are no late entries. Forms, prize schedules, &c., can be had of the secretaries, Messrs. T. Armitstead and Son, Penney Street, Lancaster.

The schedule of prizes for the Woodstock Agricultural and Horticultural Association is now ready. The show will be held on Tuesday, September 10, in Blenheim Park, Woodstock, and the entries for the horse section will close on September 7. The schedule of prizes can be obtained from Mr. T. D. Hughes, secretary, Woodstock, Oxon., the new secretary of the association.

LINCOLNSHIRE FARMERS' UNION.

A goodly number of farmers assembled at the Gordon Arms Hotel, Market Rasen, on Tuesday, when Mr. Cook Holdershaw, J.P., chairman of local branch, presided over a meeting of this Union. He was supported by Mr. Howard (vice-chairman of the Union), the Rev. T. Hamilton, of Skellingthorpe, Mr. H. W. Palmer (the secretary of the Union), and Mr. J. H. Nettleship (hon. secretary for the branch).

Mr. Holdershaw said that if farmers would improve their position they must join the Union and stand forth as one man, and not submit to having first one imposition and then another placed upon them. Agriculture was the most important industry in the country, and were they going to submit to be dictated to and crushed and ruined by those people who, provided they got cheap bread themselves, did not care whether agriculture prospered or not. Mr. E. W. Howard followed with an interesting address, in which he touched organisation, "The Small Holdings Bill," and "The Lighting Bill" With respect to the former he said the Union were in favour of the formation of small holdings on sound economic lines, the whole cost of such to be paid out of the Imperial Exchequer; but they were opposed to the Bill in the present form. The Rev. T. Hamilton followed with a stirring speech, which was a real call to arms. He pointed out that it was only by combination that they would get their wrongs righted. In appealing for an augmented membership Mr. Palmer touched upon the question of insurances and railway rates, showing how hardly the farmers of Lincolnshire and Nottingham were handicapped in this respect compared to the farmers of Yorkshire. A vote of thanks to the chairman and speaker concluded a successful meeting.

SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS.

WARRINGTON AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

President—Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart.
Vice-President—Colonel Legh.

18th ANNUAL SHOW
To be held in
WALTON PARK, near Warrington,
On THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 1907.
Prizes, Cups and Medals value £700.
Jumpers, Turnouts, Shires, Hunters, Cattle, &c., &c.
LAST DAY OF ENTRIES,
WEDNESDAY NEXT, JULY 31st.
Prize List, &c., may be obtained from the Secretary—
H. BERESFORD MELVILLE.
Estates Office,
Bold Street, Warrington.

HEANOR AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S 35th ANNUAL SHOW will be held at Heanor, AUGUST 13, 1907. Entries close August 6, 1907. For schedules apply—Horses: J. Covel, 11, Market Street, Heanor. Poultry, Rabbits, &c.: G. H. Holmes, 22, John Street, Heanor.

THE EAST BERKS HORSE SHOW SOCIETY will hold its 11th ANNUAL SHOW at Hawthorn Hill Race Course, near Maidenhead, on THURSDAY, AUGUST 22, 1907. Entries close July 30, or, with double fees, August 6. Schedules, &c., of the Hon. Sec., C. H. W. DIXON, 4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C. Telephone: No. 5148 Gerrard.

LANCASTER AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY. President—The Right Hon. the Earl of Sefton. 43rd ANNUAL SHOW, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 1907. Upwards of £600 in Cash Prizes, in addition to valuable Specials. Jumpers, Turnouts, Shires, Hunters, Hackneys, Cattle, Sheep, Honey, Dogs, Poultry, &c. Entries finally close 8 a.m., Monday, August 12, after which hour none will be accepted, excepting Dogs which will close August 15 (positively). Schedules now ready (kind of stock for which section required). THOS. ARMITSTEAD & SON, Secretaries. Auctioneers and Valuers, Lancaster.

GREAT YORKSHIRE SHOW, Dodworth Road, Barnsley.
Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, August 8, 9, and 10, 1907.
Stock and Implements, &c., Jumping Competitions, Military Bands.
Saturday — Show of Dogs, and at 3 p.m., Military Tournament.
Admission: Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., 2/6; Thursday, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., 1/-; Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 1/-; Saturday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., 1/-.
JOHN MAUGHAN, Secretary.

ROYAL JERSEY AGRICULTURAL and HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.
Agricultural Department.
President—W. Duret Aubin, Esq.
Summer Show of Bulls, Cows, Heifers, Horses, &c., at the Society's Show Grounds, Jersey, AUGUST 21 and 22, 1907.—JOHN A. PERREE, Secretary.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD & LINSLADE FOAL SHOW SOCIETY, held on
SEPTEMBER 17 (TUESDAY).
Entries close September 3. Post entries (double fees) September 10.
WALTER C. PRUDAMES. } Hon.
W. GRAVELY W. WILLIS. } Secretaries

WELBECK TENANTS' AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL SHOW
will be held at
WELBECK,
TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 1907.

1,221 ENTRIES.

ALEX. GALBRAITH,
Sec. and Treas.
Norton, Cuckney, Mansfield.

BIRMINGHAM SHORTHORN SHOW AND SALE.

THE SIXTY-SECOND EXHIBITION AND SALE will be held on
SEPTEMBER 4 and 5.
£155 IN PRIZES, viz.:
£70 for Females in four classes, and £85 for Bulls in three classes.
ENTRIES CLOSE AUGUST 8.
W. H. LYTHALL, Secretary.
Bingley Hall, Birmingham.

BAKEWELL FARMERS' CLUB. President for 1907, A. S. Marsden-Smedley, Esq., Darley Dale. The 59th, Annual Exhibition of Horses (Shires, Hunters, Jumpers, Hackneys, and Turnouts), Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Wool, Roots, Cheese, and Butter, also open Trotting and Galloping Races, will be held at Bakewell, on Wednesday, August 14th, 1907. Upwards of £450 in Prizes, Challenge Cups, and Medals. Live Stock and Produce entries close Monday, August 5th. Racing, August, 9th. Schedules and entry forms, may be had on application to WILLIAM J. CLARK, Secretary, Farmers' Club, Bakewell.

BATH HORSE SHOW.
SEPTEMBER 4 & 5, 1907.
Nearly £700 in Prizes.
Great Jumping Competitions.
Entries close August 17.
Schedules and all particulars to be obtained of Lewis C. Mundy, Secretary, 41, Milsom Street, Bath.

MID-SOMERSET AGRICULTURAL SHOW, SHEPTON MALLET.
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1907.
£650 in Prizes, and £250 Cash Specials.
Offered for 55th Show.
Schedules of Secretary,
W. OZZARD,
Shepton Mallet

NEWBURY HORSE SHOW SOCIETY.
President: W. J. Yorke-Scarlett, Esq., M.F.H.
17th ANNUAL SHOW on NEWBURY RACECOURSE (station on ground).
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 1907.
Shelter provided for all Exhibits.
Cash prizes value £350. 14 Open and 11 Local Classes. Show opens 10.30 a.m. Entries close: Single Fees, Aug. 1; Double Fees, Aug. 8.
Schedules and all particulars from
E. J. FORSTER,
Broadway, Newbury. Secretary.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS & SOUTH-EASTERN COUNTIES AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
Shorthorn Cattle First Open Produce Stakes of 10s.
The Sussex Produce Stakes, instituted this year by the President, Sir L. Lindsay-Hogg, Bart., in connection with this Society, have proved so successful, and so far beyond all anticipations, that similar Stakes for Shorthorns have been established in compliance with the expressed wishes of Shorthorn breeders.
Full particulars and Entry Fees can be obtained of the Secretary.
WM. ROPER,
Kentish Buildings,
Tunbridge Wells.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS & SOUTH-EASTERN COUNTIES AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
Jersey Cattle First Open Produce Stakes of 10s.
The Sussex Produce Stakes, instituted this year by the President, Sir L. Lindsay-Hogg, Bart., in connection with this Society, have proved so successful and so far beyond all anticipations, that similar Stakes for Jerseys have been established in compliance with the expressed wishes of Jersey breeders.
Full particulars and Entry Fees may be obtained of the Secretary.
WM. ROPER,
Kentish Buildings,
Tunbridge Wells.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

Agricultural Experiments in the Eastern Counties.

The Education Committee of the East Suffolk County Council have been conducting, with the co-operation of the Agricultural Department of Cambridge, a series of experiments, the results of which form an instructive object lesson for the farmers of the locality, and are of sufficient interest to agriculturists throughout the country to merit a notice. It has always been regarded as a problem whether poor meadow land can be improved at a moderate expenditure; recent experiments in various parts of the country have shown that trials with basic slag have helped to solve the question in a satisfactory manner, and the experiments to which we are now referring confirm this opinion. In 1901 a meadow of two acres was divided into eight quarter plots, one of which was left unmanured, and it is now again demonstrated that on heavy clay soils the most profitable increase has been produced by a single dressing of 10 cwt. of basic slag applied to it. This single application of manure has resulted in an average increase of 27 cwt. of hay during each of the past five years, and valuing the hay at 40s. per ton, there is a gross profit of £12 after deducting the 24s paid for the manure. The second best result has been obtained where superphosphate has been used in conjunction with sulphate of ammonia. This mixture, although it produces a heavy weight of hay, does not yield hay of such good quality as the basic slag, and it is not recommended for this type of clay soil. Another interesting point brought out was that it is better to give 10 cwt. of basic slag in a single dressing than the same quantity of the same manure in two dressings of 5 cwt. each. The latter only gave an increase of 20 cwt. per acre during each of the past five years, and a gross profit of £8 16s. after deducting the cost of the manure, as compared with 27 cwt. and £12 from the large single dressing.

Poor Pasture.

The experiments also included a set of trials framed on what is, after all, the most practical basis—namely, the effect of the fertilisers on differently-treated plots in sheep feeding in the pasture. In his report on the sheep grazing test, Professor Middleton records that, on the average, the slagged portion has carried three times as many sheep as the unslagged portion, and in the second year showed a profit of 69s. per acre, this figure not taking into account the unexhausted value of the slag, the effect of which "may last from ten to fifteen years."

Rotation Experiment.

The rotation experiment is another very important feature at Saxmundham, the object being to determine the effects of nitrate of soda, superphosphate, and muriate of potash, used both alone and in combination, on each of the crops of a four-course rotation, the crops being—(1) mangolds, (2) barley, (3) clover or beans, and (4) wheat. These experiments commenced in 1900, and have shown that, on this heavy soil, the best combination for roots was nitrate of soda (2 cwts. per acre) and superphosphate (2 cwt. per acre). For barley, the same combination had the best and most marked effect, raising the crop, on the average, to 43 bushels per acre, as against 33 bushels where superphosphate was used alone, and 30 bushels on the unmanured plot. Last year the barley crop at Saxmundham was a very fine one, superphosphates being especially beneficial, 2 cwt. of this manure, costing about 5s., having produced an increase of 12 bushels per acre on two of the plots. Clover is the next crop in the rotation, but where a good stand is not obtained beans are substituted. The best results with clover have been obtained with a mixed manure, of which superphosphate was the chief ingredient, but as a rule neither nitrate of soda nor potash gave any very paying results. With beans, however, the results have been most striking. The average crop has been increased by nearly twelve bushels by the use of superphosphate; and a mixed manure (2 cwt. nitrate of soda, 2 cwt. superphosphate, and 1 cwt. muriate of potash) produced a crop of fifty nine bushels per acre in 1906. For wheat, also, the most useful manure has been superphosphate, but although this is the case, the lesson seems to be that on land like that at Saxmundham, which has been farmed well in the earlier courses of the rotation, and which follows a nitrogen gathering leguminous crop, it is not likely to require any manure for wheat.

Soil Analysis.

Another point which these experiments have brought out is the unreliable character of ordinary soil analysis as a guide to the treatment of the land with fertilisers.

The experiments were conducted on two farms, one of them, according to soil analysis, well supplied with phosphoric acid, and yet the experiments, carried on for a period of six years, have clearly shown that the one chief requirement of the soil has been available phosphoric acid. On the other farm, containing less of this constituent in the soil, its application produced little effect, showing that what little existed in the soil was in a more available condition. This indicates the desirablity that farmers in a district, cultivating the same class of soils, should carefully watch the effect of fertilisers on the soil, and should be guided by such experiments as we are reviewing, made on soils similar to the soil of their farm.

"How to Manure at a Profit."

This series of useful articles, combining the practice and science of "How to Manure at a Profit," is now finished. As many of our readers would like to have the articles in a form convenient for reference, we intend shortly to publish them in a small pamphlet.

Due notice will be given when the pamphlet is ready for issue, and price.

We are willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

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"Heartiest congratulations upon completed 'Bibby's Annual.' Simply beautiful. Very proud of it as Liverpool production."

But the next morning a letter from an old friend, whom we had not seen for 30 years, admonished us for expressing opinions which did not square with the orthodox view of things.

It is, therefore, difficult to say whether the reader of this advertisement would do wisely to invest a shilling upon it or not.

He had better, we think, ask at the bookstalls to see a copy and judge for himself; or, if the Bookseller does not keep it, enclose stamps for the amount to the address below.

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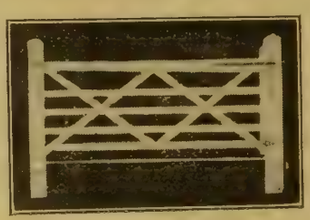
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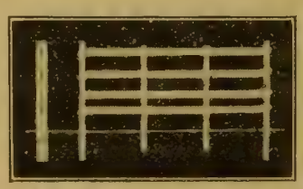
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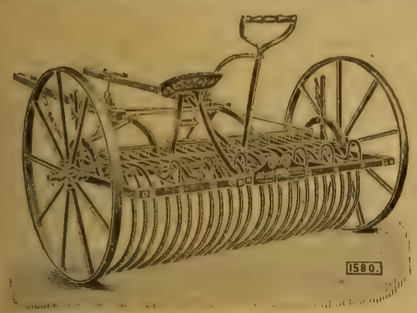
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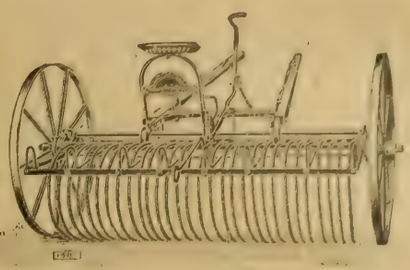
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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

August Bank Holiday.

In consequence of Monday next being a Bank Holiday, the MARK LANE EXPRESS will be published on SATURDAY MORNING, AUGUST 3.

All communications for that issue, whether for the Editor or Orders for Advertisements, should reach the Offices, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, W.C., as early in the week as possible, and in any case not later than by first post on FRIDAY MORNING.

Mark Lane Express
Agricultural Journal
and
Live Stock Record.
ESTABLISHED 1832

JULY 29, 1907.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

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THUNDERSTORMS.

A "typical" British summer has been described, somewhat sarcastically perhaps, as consisting of two or three fine days and then a thunderstorm. Perhaps this is not quite a fair description, but the fact, nevertheless, remains that if the weather takes an exceptionally warm turn we look for, and generally get, a taste of thunder which not infrequently upsets climatic conditions for the next few days.

Since the improvement came in the weather this summer, which made haymaking possible and put farmers into a better humour than they had been for some time before, the rolling of thunder, flashing of lightning with the accompanying deluge of rain, have been experienced in many places, and in some cases doing damage to life and property.

Without considering the risks which are always present when a thunderstorm is raging, these sudden deluges are always unwelcome at this time of the year, because they promptly put a temporary stop to haymaking operations, and have the effect of breaking down the grass and corn in a deplorable manner.

Under thundery conditions, too, the rain beats down with such force on to cultivated land that it pans down and cracks afterwards, and stirring with the hoe becomes a necessary operation.

BANK HOLIDAY SHOWS.

August Bank holiday is a great day throughout the land, and in many places the countryfolk spend it in their own way—by having a show, either horticultural or agricultural, or a mixture of both.

Generally speaking, it is the local agricultural societies which select Bank holiday for their annual exhibitions, and the reason is not far to seek, as this is the day when the world is playing, and a good gate may be expected.

We are brought into close contact with the agricultural societies of all kinds, and for none have we more respect than for the local institutions which hold one-day shows and are supported by local people.

The average farmer looks upon meetings like the Royal, the Bath and West, and other great shows as events to be visited if possible, but they are outside his particular circle. With the local show things are quite different, for it is his own, so to speak, as he visits it, supports it, and exhibits at it. As a matter of fact, local societies and their annual shows have an effect of a beneficial character amongst a class of work-a-day farmers that larger institutions do not reach.

A TOUCH OF HUMAN NATURE.

Side-lights often reveal characteristics which the direct rays of an illuminant cannot produce to the vision. Agricultural shows are in no sense different to other events in this respect, and a couple of little flashes upon the Bath and West Show at Newport have revealed delightful incidents, of interest to agriculturists and the general public.

The parade of veterans at the show for the inspection of the Prince of Wales has resulted in the arousing of permanent interest in the old soldiers and sailors of the place. The direct outcome of this is the proposal to found a branch of the Discharged Soldiers and Sailors' Association for the District. The movement is one which is deserving of every success.

One of the new movements of the commander of a station in the West is the training of soldiers whose time is about to expire for work on the land, so that the two things have a bearing on each other in a very interesting way.

The other limelight was turned upon the herdsmen of the show by the secretary, Mr. Plowman, who holds the opinion that "there are still some folk who do not need an Act of Parliament to induce them to follow in the steps of the Good Samaritan."

The story is, that two days previous to the opening of the Bath and West Show at Newport, a little lad, a town waif—very ragged and ill-shod—obtained admission to the showyard by concealing himself amongst a waggon-load of sheep, so escaping the notice of any gate-keepers. In the yard he made himself useful, and soon earned a character amongst the stock keepers of being "a real handy lad."

The men took rather a fancy to him, and generally cared for him in a fatherly way. At the end of the week these kind-hearted shepherds (they were mostly those looking after the Shropshire and Hampshire Downs) began to bethink themselves what else they could do for the boy, for they did not like to leave him the tattered and forlorn waif they found him.

They had a whip round amongst themselves, quite in a quiet and unostentatious way, and collected 23s. They escorted the lad to an outfitter's, and provided him with a complete rig out.

But beyond that one of the shepherds offered if nothing better were forthcoming, to take the

lad back with him into his own district, in the belief that he could find him a situation there.

One of the stewards on the Sunday morning, noticing a commotion round one of the standpipes for supplying the stock with water, went to investigate, and found the stockmen were doing their job thoroughly by giving the lad a complete grooming before putting him into his new suit. Then they took him along with them to the showyard service.

The Bishop of Llandaff, who was going to preach, was so pleased at the incident when Mr. Plowman mentioned it, that he made a direct allusion to it in his address. He said: "Since I have been on the ground this afternoon I have heard a pretty and touching story of the care and kindness you have shown to a little wanderer who has come across your path, and this act has proved you to be men of generous, kindly sympathy, and men of big and kindly hearts."

A sentiment that all will echo!

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, JULY 30.—Meeting of the Bath and West Society's Council—Horse Sale at Lynn—Horse Sale at Wrexham—Cliffe and Selby Show—Cattle Fairs at Hornby, Penrith, and Bromsgrove—Linton Sheep Fair—Newtown (Monmouthshire) Horse Fair—Entries Close for East Berks Show—Entries close for the Gainsborough Show—Entries for the Durham County Show close.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 31.—Royal Agricultural Society, Meeting at 16, Bedford Square at noon—Crook Show—Elgin Show—Tadcaster Show—Thirsk Show—Chilton Lodge Ram Sale—Sale of Southdown Lambs at Chichester—Sale of Suffolk Sheep at Ipswich—Whitchurch Show—Fairs at Abergavenny, Saintfield, Alford, Market Harborough, and Uttoxeter—Lambeth Wheat Tenders to be sent in to Mr. Thurnall, Brook Street, S.E.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 1.—Lammas—Many old-fashioned fairs, otherwise obsolete, are still held on this day—Sale of Pedigree Rams at Totnes—Royal Lancashire Show at Bolton, first day—Fairs at Bolton, East Ilsley, Partney, Broughton, Devizes, Wisbech, Chepstow, Doncaster, and Malham—Sending-in Day for the Newbury Show—Entries close for Hackney Stud Book.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2.—Lamb Sale at Ashford, Kent—Horse Sale at Ely—Royal Lancashire Show at Bolton, second day—Fairs at Stony Stratford, Billericay, Kingston, Northwich, Stockport, and Newark—Winterbourne Stoke Ram Sale—Live Stock Sale at Yeovil.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 3.—Royal Lancashire Show at Bolton, third day—Annandale Show at Lockerbie—Padiham Show—Perth Show—Fairs at Buckingham, Billericay, Bootle, and Redruth—Sending-in Day for the Chichester Lamb Sales.

MONDAY, AUGUST 5.—Public Holiday—Gainsborough Show—Hemel Hempstead Show—Wisbech Show—Royal Lancashire Show at Bolton, last day—Barnstaple Show—Kelso Show—Lydford Show—Felton Park Show—Hereford Horse Show—Sutton (Yorkshire) Show—Ludlow Show—Lutterworth Show—Tutbury Show—Hexham Show—Kingston-on-Soar (Derbyshire) Show—Hertford Horse Show—Fairs at Altrincham, Okehampton, Boston, Brigg, Northampton, Pocklington, Cheltenham, Kirkoswald, Welshpool, Aberystwith, Redditch, Crewe, Thrapston, Trowbridge, and Newcastle-under-Lyme—Horticultural Shows at Crediton, Grantham, Westerham, and Lichfield—Entries close for the Poulton-le-Fylde Show—Entries close for the Bakewell Farmers' Club Show.

Notes of the Week.

From henceforth St. Swithin must be regarded as a regular fraud. Not forty-eight hours after the bright sunny day devoted to the saint, down came the rain in a deluge.

The return of the unsettled weather was most disheartening to farmers with grass cut lying in the fields.

Considering the cold and wet season, the official report of the Board of Agriculture as to the unsatisfactory condition of the crops is only what one expected.

We may seek consolation in the fact that other countries have suffered even more severely, so that prices will most probably move upward.

The King made one of his tactful little speeches the other day at Calne.

"The interests of agriculture," said his Majesty, "have always occupied a considerable portion of my thoughts and interest, and you may be certain that I shall continue to feel the warmest solicitude for the prosperity of this most important industry."

The "all-red-route" is being pushed by Liberals as a counter policy to the movement towards preference, or protection of home industries.

A Government subsidy for quick steamers—that's the idea.

Farmers in the colonies get their land free, pay practically no rates or taxes on it, get all sorts of help and scientific advice from a solicitous Government, and, finally, are to have their produce shipped to this country in subsidised steamers.

In truth a lively prospect for our highly-rented and over-taxed farmers.

In consequence of the enormous demand for petrol for motors, its price is advancing rapidly, and there is talk of a petrol famine.

Cheap alcohol is a good substitute. Should there not be an opening for the manufacture of alcohol from potatoes in this country as in Germany?

In Germany something like 4,000,000 tons of potatoes are used every year in the preparation of alcohol and starch.

Potatoes tainted by disease or otherwise unsuitable for consumption are thus utilised.

The sensational campaign against our supplies of milk is still being waged in some of the daily papers.

If their suggestions were put in force, natural milk would be dearer and quite out of the reach of poor people.

As it is, many families can only afford cheap tinned milk. It is that poor stuff that makes babies rickety.

It is the poor who always suffer most from such unreasonable agitation.

Sir James Blyth has taken the title of Baron Blyth of Blythwood in the county of Essex. May he live long to enjoy the title!

"Gentlemen of the jury," exclaimed counsel for the defendant in a case connected with a deal in pigs, "there were thirty-six pigs, remember that fact. Exactly three times the number in the jury box."

The average under sugar beet in America last year was 399,552 acres, which produced 433,010 tons of sugar.

There are 63 factories engaged in the industry, which is in a prosperous condition, employing large capital and much well-paid labour.

In England the number of sugar-beet factories is still represented by a **O**, and is likely to remain so under the policy of the Government.

Honour to a shepherd. The Minister of Agriculture in France has made an old shepherd, employed 58 years on one farm, a Knight of the Order of Agricultural Merit. The old man will be justly proud of his bit of blue ribbon.

It is reported that by a process of cross-breeding a professor has evolved from the potash beetle another insect so large and voracious that he has to keep it chained up for fear of the depredations it might commit.

It sufficeth to say that the report comes from America!

Some way of protecting the rights of farmers against the rapacity of fern and root gatherers is highly desirable.

To this end a Bill, with the title of the Agricultural Larceny Bill, is in contemplation.

"Trespassers will be prosecuted" has no deterrent effect on a certain class of people, who break through hedges, leave gates open, and generally behave as if the land had already been nationalised for their special benefit.

The Tuberculosis Commission.

The second interim report of the Royal Commission appointed to inquire into the relations of human and animal tuberculosis was issued last week. The report, which forms Part II. of Volume I., consists of nearly 800 pages, and relates to the experiments which have been conducted at Walpole Farm and Blythwood, by Dr. A. Stanley Griffith, Dr. F. Griffith, and Dr. L. Cobbett, under the direct control and supervision of the members of the commission. The inoculation experiments showed that tubercle bacilli could be introduced into bovines, goats, pigs, chimpanzees, monkeys, lemurs, and other animals, and often with fatal results within a few weeks.

It is stated that feeding experiments with the bovine tubercle bacillus have been carried on with two objects—firstly, to ascertain the relative susceptibility of different species of animals, and, secondly, to study the anatomical distribution of tuberculosis produced by feeding. Altogether 318 animals have been fed, including fifteen distinct species. The majority of these have been fed with single doses of tubercle bacilli, either in the form of culture or contained in tuberculous milk; the rest were fed for varying periods with tuberculous milk, except in one case where culture was used.

In a general summary of the results of the feeding experiments it is stated that the method of inoculation by feeding is a less certain and a less severe method of producing tuberculosis than any of the other methods, and in general a larger dose of the infecting agent is necessary to produce a given effect. In feeding experiments, with single doses especially, many conditions may be present which may have an influence on the result. A catarrh of the mucous membrane, by causing the rapid expulsion of the intestinal contents, may result in the animal escaping infection; the period with which the bacillus is in contact with the mucous membrane is no doubt a factor of some importance; the longer bacilli remain in the alimentary canal the more likely are they eventually to become absorbed. Moreover, bacilli may be more readily absorbed from the alimentary canal of some animals than from that of others; they are very readily absorbed in pigs, and apparently less readily in guinea-pigs. Individual susceptibility no doubt exercises as important an influence on the result in feeding experiments as in other forms of inoculation.

It is obvious, therefore, says the report, that a classification of susceptibility based upon the amount of disease produced by the ingestion of a definite dose of tubercle bacilli cannot be made with the same precision as by subcutaneous inoculation, where all the bacilli inoculated remain in the tissues of the animal. The experiments, nevertheless, bring out clearly certain facts as to susceptibility which are confirmed by the subcutaneous inoculations.

The different species of animals used in the investigation can be classified into three groups.

In the first group the animals are very susceptible to the action of the tubercle bacillus, and infection, however small the dose, is almost invariably followed by general progressive tuberculosis. The animals placed in this group are the chimpanzee, baboon, rhesus monkey, lumur, rabbit, and guinea pig.

In the second group general progressive tuberculosis can be set up, but this depends on the dose of the infecting agent and on the age of the animal. This group includes the pig, the goat, the calf, the cat, and the dog. In all these species with the possible exception of the young pig, when the dose is small the tuberculosis may be limited to and arrested in the glands along the alimentary tract, and, whereas in the first group the age of the animal does not affect the result, in this group the adults are in all cases less susceptible than the young. These species exhibit varying degrees of susceptibility to tuberculosis, the young pig being the most susceptible, the adult dog the most resistant. The goat is less susceptible than the pig, and the calf apparently less susceptible than the goat. Cats are much more easily infected than dogs. General progressive tuberculosis is with difficulty set up in dogs, the adults of the species being more highly resistant than the young.

In the third group are included the rat and the fowl, which are apparently insusceptible to tuberculosis by feeding. Several rats have been fed with enormous numbers of tubercule bacilli, and nothing has been found in them beyond some minute necrotic foci in the mesenteric glands. In the few experiments performed with fowls no disease at all has been produced.

CATTLE.

Notes and Jottings.

ONE of the most important showyard events of last week was the Welsh National Exhibition at Aberystwyth, which brought together a very fine collection of cattle of three breeds—Shorthorns, Herefords, and the native Welsh Black cattle. The Shorthorn is creeping into all corners of the country, but a good number of these were from districts outside the boundaries proper of the Principality. Herefords followed, and these were one of the best lots of white faces that have been got together this season; this breed, however, were nearer to their own native county, and many very good herds of Herefords are to be found upon Welsh soil, especially in the vales where the soil is alluvial and rich. The Hereford cannot be styled a mountain breed.

COMING to the native blacks, there was a very large and good exhibition of these most useful cattle. Some of the old bulls were quite a joy to look at; their great wealth of natural lean flesh that suits all classes of consumers was very prominent, whilst size was also another conspicuous feature, and constitution undoubted. In some of the younger classes there was not too much apparent aptitude to fatten, and in the cow class and two-year-old heifers the appearance of milk was not as prominent as it should be in a dual purpose breed, the cows were specially lacking in good udders and milk appearance, and breeders may depend upon it that greater success in the future will depend much upon the adaptability to produce milk.

THE prospects for beef during the coming autumn bid fair to be very much in favour of the feeder, which, should this prove to be correct, will do much to relieve the short profits anticipated on account of the high price paid for stores to commence with. In America the markets do not appear to be at all over-supplied; indeed, rather the opposite, and even should the supply prove greater than is expected, consumption is on the increase very rapidly and very extensively, and is scarcely likely to decline again unless the various countries of the world should be overwhelmed by some severe depression in trade and manufactures.

THERE is no doubt, too, that the vastly increased consumption of milk necessitating a much greater supply of that commodity has had a great effect in reducing the quantity of beef produced. Many farmers in this country, hundreds and hundreds that forty years ago used all their resources for making beef, are now engaged in the production of milk, partly on account of its paying better, and partly from the convenience of obtaining a weekly or monthly supply of ready money. Then the imports of beef, dead and alive, do not at present more than make up the deficiency thus caused, and the quantity of extra beef consumed by the increasing population with increased purchasing power is tending to raise prices all the world over.

IT is to be feared, too, that the prices that have ruled for beef for a long time past have also had a share in reducing supplies. Many a breeder and feeder, or feeder only, has been tempted to convert his fields and folds into horse and sheep producing places as being more profitable than the bullock. Travelling recently in a district at one time famous for the number of fat cattle it turned out in the year, it was a little surprising to find every foldyard filled with horses and pigs instead of the sleek-coated bullocks of the past. All these attendant circumstances combine to shorten the beef supply, so that it is quite reasonable to look forward to a continuance of better prices for a long time to come.

THE grazing pastures in the best districts give promise of turning out a heavier weight of beef than for a long time past. Pastures are remaining succulent, and abundantly supplied with grass, and the cattle appear to have made great development of substance. A little drier and warmer weather would be of benefit for the ripening of the animals as the autumn comes on. Last season from this time forward pastures in many places were far too brown and bare for the cattle to make any great development of flesh and weight, many coming to market in quite a half-meated condition. There ought to be nothing of this in the autumn of 1907.

ANOTHER great help to the price of meat will probably be found in the excellent crops of roots that appear now to have become practically a certainty, especially that great bullock feeding root, the swede. This crop is a very level plant generally, and a large one appears to have been planted, whilst the colour of the plants and the growth they are making could not augur better for the future. With a good swede crop, half-meated cattle will not need to be forced upon the market, but may be finished off in the yards, sheds, or fields with swedes, hay, or cake. Half-meated cattle forced into the market invariably have a very depressing effect upon the price of beef even of the very best qualities.

IN the rich grazing pastures this year there appears to be a great predominance of Welsh and Hereford bullocks, and both breeds appear to have been thriving and growing at the same satisfactory rate; thus we must assume that the rich pastures and other matters are as suitable to the one breed as to the other; but in the regular way there is a good deal of difference. Breeds of cattle that suit a certain locality are frequently found totally unsuitable in another, and consequently unprofitable. Feeders in the grass country, therefore, who are new beginners will do well to follow the lines that have been drawn out by the older inhabitants and feeders in the district, whom they may take it have made themselves acquainted with the most profitable breeds to work with.

Devon Cattle Breeders' Association.

At the last meeting of the Devon Cattle Breeders' Society it was decided that the next sale of the society will be held at Taunton on Thursday, October 17.

The secretary (Mr. J. M. Risdon, jun.) read a letter from Mr. Chetwynd, of Dorchester, offering £20 for three years to encourage the formation of separate classes for Devon milkers at the Bath and West of England Show next year at Dorchester.

Mr. Norrish said Mr. Chetwynd was desirous of establishing a herd of Devons in Yorkshire, and he wanted to improve the milking qualities of them. It was a liberal offer. His (Mr. Norrish's) experience of the milking classes, as they came out at different shows, was that they were very poor. Everything was sacrificed to the milk, and the animal was a wreck.

The secretary said he had never heard so many inquiries for Devon milkers as now, and he would like to buy twenty if he could get them. The secretary explained that it was Mr. Chetwynd's idea to give two first prizes of £10, the society to provide the other prizes. Such a competition would take on with the Dorset dairy farmers next year.

The chairman said he was on the council of the Bath and West of England Society, and if he was able to ascertain that the Devon breeders took



LINCOLN RED SHORTHORN BULL, BRANDON BLEND.

The subject of illustration is the Lincoln Red Shorthorn Bull, Brandon Blend, which was First in the Class for Lincoln Red Shorthorn Bulls calved previously to 1903, at the Royal Show, Lincoln, and is owned and bred by Mr. John Langham, of Park Valley, Nottingham. Its sire was Brandon Lord Chancellor 2121, dam Bigby 319.

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A SPICE THAT WILL SAVE YOUR DAMAGED HAY.

What in many parts of the country promised to be a record yield, has been endangered as to quality, if not also quantity, by the recent excessive rainfall.

That considerable damage has been done in many districts is already known by the orders which for several days past have been reaching the makers of "PHŒNIX" HAY SPICE, these being accompanied in most instances by an urgent appeal for quick despatch.

This Spice supplies the valuable aromatic flavouring principle of "prime" Hay, and when sown in the ricks imparts a much stronger fragrance, and a specially powerful, attractive, aromatic flavour. Besides this, it increases the value of all Hay, both for feeding and sale, quite 20s. per ton. It gives a pleasant aroma, and is unequalled as a condiment for damaged or inferior feeding stuff. It makes damaged Hay tempting and palatable, more digestible, and makes all animals eat it with a greater relish, and thrive faster on it. It also removes mustiness and all defects, and imparts a good tempting flavour and fragrant smell to "weathered" Hay (even when black and seemingly worthless), and makes cattle eat it as well as the best, and thrive on it admirably.

It is a really efficient Hay Spice, in which all waste is prevented, as it gives to the most inferior, coarse, or damaged Hay a fragrant, tempting smell, and an excellent and appetising taste. One cwt. will dress 20 tons of Hay at a cost of about 1s. per ton.

The "PHŒNIX" HAY SPICE is packed in bags of 112 lbs. each; the price being 20s. per cwt., carriage paid to buyer's station.

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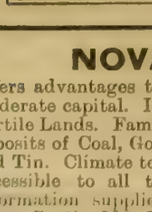
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kindly to the suggestion, he would do what he could to realise it. The matter was referred to a sub-committee, consisting of Messrs. Bond (Dorset), Tuckett (Devonshire), Digby Collins (Cornwall), and the Hon. E. Portman (Dorset).

The secretary reported that he had written the Royal Society asking for a reduction of entry fees for Devon cattle, and had received a reply that the fees for horses had been reduced, and when the society got stronger it would make further concessions.

Sale of Earl Manvers' Shorthorns.

A draft from the herd of Earl Manvers at Holme Pierrepont came under the auctioneer's hammer on Thursday. The sale proved highly satisfactory, the big prices which have been realised at many recent sales, being maintained. The total result of the sale was £4,579 1s., fifty-five head of cattle realising £83 5s. 1d. The forty-four cows made 3,423 guineas, or an average of £81 13s. 8d., and the eleven bulls sold for 938 guineas, or an average of £89 10s. 9d.

Cows and Heifers.		Gs.
Lovely 18th	Mr Miller	125
Armathwaite Butterfly	Mr Miller	130
Blanche Princess	Mr Hall	85
Lady Eden Bates	Mr Dudding	90
Her calf	Captain Harrison	70
Lady Dorothy 39th	Lord Calthorpe	250
Her calf	Mr Hobbs	90
Calf by Ruddington Snow King	Lord Sherbourne	30
Belle	Mr Hickling	75
Red Duchess	Mr Knowles	215
Redstart	Duke of Portland	91
Bonny Louise	Mr Casares	70
Riby Pippin	Mr Harrison	125
Pierrepont Lady Bates	Lady Grantley	85
Midsummer Dream	Duke of Portland	80
Bridget	Lord Morton	66
Alpine Snow	Mr Topping	50
Countess Blanche	Mr Knowles	120
Pierrepont Anemone	Mr Harrison	100
Marchioness	Lord Calthorpe	90
Bulls.		
Lavender Royal	Lord Calthorpe	300
Royal Butterfly	Mr Casares	150

Sale of Red Polls at Ipswich.

An important sale of Red Polls took place at Ipswich on Tuesday, comprising the entire Bealings Hall herd, the property of Mr. A. Gerald Smith, which had been bred and maintained entirely on milking lines.

The following were some of the best prices:—

Bulls.		Gns.
Star	Mr. T. M. Rudland	21½
Bride	Mr. W. Tothill	38
Rose	Lord Salisbury	21
Better Luck	Mr. T. Jennings	28½
Orange Pip	Mr. E. Ford	22
Heifers.		
Primula	Lord Salisbury	29

Sir Gilbert Greenall's Hackney Sale.

On Wednesday, August 7, Mr. W. Bainbridge will hold a sale of Sir Gilbert Greenall's high class pedigree Hackney and Hackney pony mares and foals, young stock, Harness mares, &c., at Walton Hall, Warrington. The sale catalogue consists mainly of a number of extraordinary good brood mares, many of them winners at London and other principal shows. All have bred valuable stock, or are from celebrated families that have done so. The progeny at foot are all well bred, and the young mares are equally valuable to breed or put to the stud. The extraordinary success of stock bred at Sir Gilbert Greenall's stud farms, or sired by stallions owned by him, has been almost phenomenal for some time past at the principal shows. At the Hackney Show, the International Show, and the Royal at Lincoln this year, in many cases every prize winner in the class was either bred at, or sired by one of the stallions from this stud. Past sales at Walton have turned out many novices which have proved very profitable to their purchasers. The stud will be on view on Friday, August 2, and Saturday, August 3, and intending purchasers are invited to see them on these days.

The twenty-fifth annual conference of the National Veterinary Association opened last week, at Yarmouth, under the presidency of Mr. William Shipley, who, in his inaugural address, said that disease after disease had been stamped out by their profession. Tuberculosis was an open book, but combined action by the medical and veterinary professions was requisite. Greater attention should be paid to human tuberculosis than an injunction not to spit, and veterinary surgeons shuddered when they saw men and women suffering from this fearful, but preventible, disease in its most contagious form, allowed to cohabit and mix with healthy children and mankind generally. The State should take as much care of tuberculous persons as they did of the insane.

VETERINARY.

Advice of a Veterinary character, by a M.R.C.V.S., is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of case should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 5, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Bezoars in Sheep.

In dealing with wool ball in lambs on page 79, reference was made to calculous concretions called bezoars, which are sometimes found in the abomasum or true digestive stomach of the sheep. A few notes on the subject of these concretions may be of interest. A strange feature is that they are commonly met with in the abomasum of sheep from August to November, but rarely at any other time. When, as frequently happens, they are found in fat sheep, people wonder what they are, and how they came there; but if the sheep chance to have died of disease, or has been "killed to save its life," the illness is often erroneously attributed to the presence of these concretions. There is no evidence, however, that they are productive of serious harm.

Bezoars vary both in shape and number, being sometimes irregular from attrition, but often of almond shape, or of the curve of the stomach itself, and range from one or two to as many as twenty in number. They are very light in weight in proportion to their size, and range in colour through shades of yellow, brown, and red. The concretions are composed of a mixture of wool, mucus, and earthy matter, arranged in concentric layers round a central nucleus of some hard substance. A peculiarity of bezoars, that is not a characteristic of concretions found in other parts of the digestive tract, is their soft velvety covering.

Bezoars can generally be cut with a knife, and are readily soluble in boiling water. Since they are never seen to be passed with the fæces, and are found in the stomach at about the seasons mentioned and not at others, they probably undergo solution in the juices of the stomach or bowels.

Their existence during life cannot be accurately determined; indeed, it is rarely suspected, while if there was any warrant for supposing them to be injurious to the health of the sheep, we should be much in the same position as we are with reference to the much more serious "wool ball" trouble in young lambs—unable to detect their presence until the animal is dead, and powerless to expel them if suspected.

Bezoars are really more interesting on account of the superstition that has always surrounded them, both as to their effects on the sheep, and the magical influence they were, indeed are, supposed to possess, than they are pathologically or clinically important.

Even now they are considered by the ignorant and superstitious to be of value as charms.

It used to be supposed that the stones were swallowed by the sheep, that the animals were very fond of them, but that the result of their ingestion was rapid wasting and death.

Youalt mentions that they were bought from butchers for the felonious purpose of throwing them before the sheep of obnoxious owners, and in France in 1790 two men were accused of having strewed calculi near some sheep. They were actually condemned to pay a fine of 1,500 livres, and in addition sent to the galleys for six years.

Their sentence was revoked on the veterinary professors at the Alfort School coming forward and declaring that the sheep would not willingly swallow the concretions, and if they were made to do so, the stones would pass into the rumen instead of into the pouch of the gastric mass—the abomasum—where they were found.

It is much easier, however, to understand their being thought destructive to sheep than to account for the faith that they possess wonderful virtues for the cure of human ailments; but in what we may call the dark ages of medicine, many curious substances were credited with medical virtues.

It is perhaps not to be wondered at that bezoars were supposed to possess a high therapeutic value when the official pharmacopœias of the College of Physicians of London of 1678, 1724, and 1742 credited such substances as human fat, dog's dung, unicorn's horn, toads, vipers, centipedes, and mummy powder with possessing valuable medicinal properties.

Bezoars were thought to possess all the powers of disenchantment against the poison of the viper and the scorpion, against vertigo, epilepsy, dysenteria, inflammation of the lungs, malignant fever, the plague, leprosy, and many other maladies.

Perhaps the next generation will consider the medical man of the last just as foolish and culpable in their treatment of consumption and other maladies as we do those of the pre-tabloid and serum age, who believed in bezoars. The name bezoar is supposed to be derived from the Persian Pâd Zahr—"Expeller of Poisons."

Other animals besides sheep have bezoaes, and

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

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HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL, Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Hereford. Stud Horses: Lockinge Lord of Misrule and Lockinge Bonny Lad, both by Lockinge Forester, full brother to Lockinge Forest King. Colts and Fillies for Sale.

MUNTZ, FREDERICK ERNEST, Umberslade, Hockley Heath, Warwickshire. Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, prize-winners.—Particulars from Mr. JOHN T. B. HARTLEY, Estate Office.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners, on Sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

ROWELL, JOHN, Bury, Huntingdon. Breeder Shires and Hackneys; Stallions for sale, hire, or service at home; mares and fillies for sale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

SHETLAND PONIES.

BEALE, Mrs. A. J., Cacketts, Cudham, Kent. Prize-bred Pedigree Shetlands for sale; three grand Stallions at stud.

PONIES.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

PREECE, JOHN ADNEY, Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston, Northampton.—Herd of 250 Shorthorns, best Bates and Scotch blood; stock Bulls, Duke of Barrington 70th, Primrose Earl 89541, and Royal Baron 93192; Bulls and Heifers for sale.

ROTHWELL, R. R., Much Hoole, near Preston. Pedigree Shorthorns, chiefly Scotch blood. Stock bull Strowan Marquis 13th, winner of many prizes. Young bulls and heifers always on sale.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

TAYLOR, GEORGE, Cranford, Middlesex.—Bates' Shorthorns, deep milkers. Winners Milking Competitions, London Dairy Show, 1905-6. Bull Calves for Sale. Stock Bulls: Beau Fabreur, Drumcree, Rowbury, and Kirkcharm.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

SUSSEX.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath, Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Sussex Cattle (descended from the oldest and best strains of blood), unrivalled for their early maturity, the production of the best beef and working oxen, and ability to thrive in all weathers on the roughest fare. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for Sale.

HEREFORDS.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for Sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

PULLEY, CHARLES THORNTON, Lower Eaton, Hereford.—Noted prize-winning herd of HEREFORD CATTLE. First prize Royal winners, Protector 19660, 1900; Eaton Champion 21351, 1903; and Ashleaf 3rd, 1905. This herd is headed by Eaton Champion and Glendower 2nd 22196, also a Royal winner. Bulls and Heifers for sale. Also prize-winning Shropshire Sheep.—Apply Mr. HEDLEY JONES, Lower Eaton Estate Office, Hereford.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has in 1904 1905 and 1906 won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by Endale, Rage Protector, and Fusilier. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited. —Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford Herefordshire.

CATTLE—*continued.*

DEVONS.

BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton Williton, Taunton, Breeder of Pedigree Devon Cattle. A speciality for large size, with quality and robust constitutions; colour dark red. Sent to all parts of the world. Prices moderate.

SKINNER, ALFRED C., Pound, Bishops' Lydeard, Somerset. Pedigree Devons, constitution, quality, size, milk; 600 prizes principal shows, many champions; exports most successful; bulls and heifers for sale. Inspection invited.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

BRIDGES, J. H.—This old-established herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle of the leading families can be seen at Langshott Home Farm, Horley, Surrey (near Horley Station, L.B. & S.C.R.), and catalogues obtained on application to Mr. Albert Pulling.

HURSLEY PARK HERD OF ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE, the property of Sir George Cooper, Bart., comprising Erica, Pride, Miss Burgess, Lady Ida, Matilda, Jemima of Morlich families. Prizes won during 1906: 7 firsts, 3 seconds, 3 reserves, 1 challenge cup, 2 silver medals, 3 reserve champions. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.—Catalogues on application to V. F. Leese, Estate Office, Hursley Park, Winchester.

THE ROCKLIFFE PARK HERD of Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, Ericas and Prides.—Apply, R. C. SWAN, Rockliffe Park, Darlington.

AYRSHIRES.

WALLACE, JAMES, J.P., Auchenbainzie, Thornhill, Dumfriesshire, Scotland. Breeder of pedigree prize-winning Ayrshire Cattle; hardy, healthy good milkers; bred for dairy purposes, beauty and style. Bulls and Heifers for sale.

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably, from his prize-winning herd of Red Polls, Bulls, Cows, Heifers, from good milkers.—Apply C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

CARY-ELWES, V., Billing Hall, Northampton. Breeder of Jersey cattle.

JERSEYS and pure Alderney, Guernseys, fresh calved and near calving. Prices, particulars.—WHEADON, Ilminster.

MERTON GRANGE GUERNSEYS.—Property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. This Herd contains Champion Bull Royal Counties, Portsmouth, and Champion Cow Royal Derby, 1906. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of best Breeding for Sale.—Telegrams and particulars, W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay.

STERN, Sir E. D., Fan Court, Chertsey, Surrey. Herd of pedigree Jersey Cattle. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

TICHBORNE PARK, GUERNSEY.—Yearling Bulls and Heifers for sale.—Apply, D. MICHIE, Estate Office, Tichborne, Alresford, Hants.

GALLOWAYS.

GRAHAM, ROBERT, Auchengassel, Twynholm, breeder fashionable Galloway Cattle, winners at Royal and Highland Societies Shows. Pedigree Bulls, Cows, and Heifers, also Blue-greys for feeding, for sale. Commissions carefully executed.

KERRIES & DEXTERS.

THE DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE'S PRIZE-WINNING DEXTER HERD.—During 1904 and 1905 this Herd won more prizes than any other three Dexter Herds combined, including both first and second milking prizes Royal, 1905, and first London Dairy Show, 1906. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers generally for Sale.—CHILD, Compton Place, Eastbourne.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

RATTRAY, DAVID, Gortnaskehy, Ballybunion, Co. Kerry. Pedigree Prize-winning Herd of Kerries and Dexters. 155 Prizes and Honours won by Cattle from this Herd past three years. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONG WOOL.

ANDERSON, JOHN, Barton-on-Humber.—The old Barton Flock of Pure-bred LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, Flock Book 106. This flock is noted for hard constitutions and fine, lustrous wool. Inspection invited. Telegrams as above.

ATKINSON, T., & SON, North Kelsey, Lincoln. Old-established flock of pure Lincoln Longwools. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Noted for great size and long lustrous wool. Have given great satisfaction at home and abroad. Inspection invited

BROOKS, W. J., Stowe Lodge, Weedon, Northants (Registered Flock 165), has for sale Rams and Ewes of best blood.

SHEEP—*continued.*

LINCOLN LONG WOOL—*continued.*

BROCKLEBANK, JOHN, Bassingham, Lincoln (Flock 24). Pure-bred Lincoln Longwool Rams and Ewes. This old flock has been carefully bred for 100 years. Telegrams: Bassingham.

DRAKES, Wm., Tealby, Market Rasen. Flock No. 72 of Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs of best blood for sale. Lincoln Red Shorthorns. Prices moderate.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

SMITH, HENRY, jun, Cropwell Butler, Nottingham. Lincoln Longwool Flock No. 7, winner of £2,361 in prizes. Champion pen Lincolns, Smithfield Show, 1896; Association Championship, Leicester, 1897; Association Championship for pen of 3 Shearling Rams, Yorkshire, 1900; Championship, Rutland, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, and 1906. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

THE CHILMARK FLOCK OF REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—Owner, JAMES FLOWER, Chilwark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records. Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, out of 11 years competing, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" won eight times, thrice second, with pens of 8 ram lambs; a marvellous record. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 13 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05-06. At the Royal at Derby, 1906, every First Prize, two Seconds, and the Champion were won; an unequalled success!! Champions Birmingham, 1905, over all breeds, Reserve in 1906. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Short-wools, Smithfield, 1904-05-06. Highest average past 13 years. Bridford Fair, Aug. 12, 100 Ram Lambs, annual sale. Selections for Sale.

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25gs. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1907.—Extraordinary records: Twin ram lambs let for 205 and 120 guineas. Ninety averaged £21 10s. Selections always for Sale.

JUDD, Sir GEORGE, Cocum, Barton Stacey, Hants.—Pure bred Hampshire Downs, over 1000 Ewes. Annual Sale, Ram Lambs, August 8th, 1907. Registered Vol. I., page 17.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. The Cholderton flock is individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded in the Hampshire Down Flock Book. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury.

OVEY, R. L., Hernes, Henley-on-Thames.—Pedigree HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK, Reg. Vol. IV., Prize-winners leading shows last five years.

WINCHESTER, the Most Hon. the Marquis of, Amport St. Mary, Andover, Hants. Pure-bred flock of Hampshire Down Sheep; high-class Rams and Ewes always on Sale.

OXFORD DOWNS.

ADAMS, GEORGE, Royal Prize Farm Flock, Faringdon, Berks. Pure Oxford Down Sheep, Shearling Rams, Ram Lambs, Ewes and Ewe Lambs for Sale. Special arrangements with foreign buyers. Many first prizes at R.A.S.E. and other shows during past 25 years, including 2 first, 2 second, and 4 other prizes, World's Fair, Chicago, and 7 firsts, 4 seconds and champion at Royal Bath and West, Royal Counties, etc., this year.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

TREADWELL, JOHN, Upper Winchendon, Aylesbury.—Oxford Down Sheep. Annual Ram Sale, first Wednesday in August. Prizes won at R.A.S.E. 24 years in succession. Ewes for Sale.

SUFFOLKS.

CRANWORTH, The Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably from his prize winning flock, of Suffolk Sheep, some fine Ram Lambs.—Apply C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

WENSLEYDALE.

UNDERLEY WENSLEYDALES (Blue-faced) from the best blood obtainable. Successfully exhibited.—Apply, G. G. ROBINSON, Bailiff, Underley Farm, Kirkby, Lonsdale.

(Continued on page 165)

WILLIAM HENRY DAVIES,

CLASTON & PIGEON HOUSE.

Ryeland Ram winner at Royal and other Leading Shows, twice Champion,
Rams of this description used continuously in the Flock.

The Oldest established Flock in the County.

Sheep from this Flock exported to every part of the world.



Pen of Shearling Ewes took FIRST PRIZE at ROYAL this year, 1907;
FIRST PRIZES, for Wool, at ROYAL, 1903-4-5.

Telegrams: "DAVIES, BARTESTREE."
Telephone: NATIONAL 9 BARTESTREE.

G.W.R. Station, STOKE EDITH.

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

CHARLES SPENCER, having taken over the Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts, herd of Large and Middle White Pigs, which won 12 prizes and reserves with 11 exhibits at Derby Royal, will price any of them.

FULWOOD HERD LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES, property R. R. Rothwell. 200 head bred from winners at leading shows.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for Sale at moderate prices

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station, G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices. —J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors. Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM. Herd of Large White Pigs. The oldest and largest Herd in Notts County. Over 100 Breeding Sows kept. Upwards of 600 to select from. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—Apply ARTHUR A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 100 to choose from. Correspondence invited. Grand young breeding stock always on Sale.—Apply R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts (15 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

SPALDING HERD of Pedigree Large Whites, young stock and in-pig Gilts for Sale. All bred from great winners.—ALFRED W. WHITE, "Hillegom," Spalding.

MIDDLE WHITES.

THE CATTON HERD of Prize-winning MIDDLE WHITE PIGS, property of J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stock Boar Castlecroft Mikado, 1st Park Royal, 1st Bath and West. Gelts and Boars on Sale. Prices moderate.—Apply BAILIFF, Raddle Farm, Edingale, Tamworth.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 86 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

LARGE BLACKS.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath. Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Large Black Pigs of the best strains of blood, noted for their docility and for the production of a large proportion of lean meat. Good selection of Boars, unrelated Gilts, and in-pig Sows for Sale at reasonable prices.

CATTON HERD OF PRIZE-WINNING LARGE BLACK PIGS.—Stock Boar Trevisquite Excelsior 1487, 1st Devon County, 2nd and Reserve Champion Royal Show, 1906; pigs kept in hardy natural condition; gelts and boars always on sale.—Apply, J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stations: Croxall, 2½ miles (M.R.); Alrewas, 3½ miles (L.N.W.).

HASKETON CHAMPION PRIZE HERD OF LARGE BLACK PIGS.—This herd has won the Royal championship three out of four times, and is the only herd having won the breed challenge cup. Record: 47 firsts, 37 seconds, 11 thirds, 126 prize-winning cards; the herd this year being the winners of 14 firsts, 6 seconds, 2 thirds, championship and silver cup in five shows. Gelts and Boars at moderate prices consistent with quality. Exportation a speciality.—Apply, C. F. MARRINER, Hasketon, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS.—Select Herd, bred from choice Prize Winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale, moderate prices.—H. J. CLARKE, The Slade, Roughley, Sutton Coldfield.

BERKSHIRES.

CARNARVON, the Earl of.—Prize winning Pedigree Herd. BOARS and GELTS, eligible Herd Book. Prices moderate.—Apply W. T. HALL, Highclere Farm, Newbury.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

BERKSHIRES—*continued.*

READING CORPORATION. 150 Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, leading prize-winning strains, from son of Champion Mikado 16433 and prize-winner Domino 11323; inspection invited.—Apply, Mr. T. CLOUTE, Manor Farm, Reading, Berks.

STALL PITTS HERD OF PEDIGREE BERKSHIRES. One of the Oldest Herds. Unsurpassed for true character, size, and quality. Choice selection of Boars and Sows on offer at moderate prices.—J. LAWRENCE, Stall Pitts, Shrivenham, Berks.

COLSTON & BORROWFIELD HERDS.

The property of F. MILLINGTON-KNOWLES Colston Bassett Hall, Notts.

The herds contain **40** large typical breeding sows of the most fashionable strains; the best of **SIRES** are purchased to keep up the present high standard of excellence.

Numerous Championships, Medals, Firsts, and other prizes won at the Royal, Highland, Bath and West, and other principal Shows. Awarded Diploma at **ST. LOUIS, U.S.A.**, International Exposition, 1904, as breeder of the **CHAMPION** boar in all classes, and also **GRAND CHAMPION**, and breeder of boar second prize winner in all classes.

THE BORROWFIELD HERD has had a world-wide reputation for 40 years. Only home-bred pigs are sold from these herds, and no others are admitted on the premises. Large Whites only.—G. H. ELLIOT, Estate Office, Colston Bassett, Notts.

For Sale.

PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.

Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.

GEORGE HOYLES, Skidby Manor, near Hull.

GEORGE HOYLES,

SKIDBY MANOR, HULL.

Breeder of Pure Lincoln Long Wool Sheep. Lustrous Fleeces. Good Constitutions.

SUITABLE FOR HOME AND ABROAD. STOCK FOR SALE.

they have been found in the deer, antelope, llama, porcupine, elephant, rhinoceros, and many other beasts.

Those most esteemed and the earliest used came from the east, and were obtained from the stomach of the Persian wild goat. When ten times their weight in gold was the market price, and bezoars were actually sold for the extravagant sum of £800, it must have been tempting to "corner" bezoars, and even better than selling mutton to-day.

It was put down to the astonishing power of a bezoar that Edward IV. was strengthened and preserved from the effects of a poisoned wound, and the same magical influence was supposed to have enabled the Emperor Charles V. to free himself from dreadful thoughts which haunted and disturbed his mind, but these things are comprehensible as compared with the superstition of the twentieth century Englishman who carries a bezoar in his waistcoat pocket "for luck."

M.R.C.V.S.

Preston Cheese Fair.

At this fair there was a pitch of about 65 tons and a good attendance of buyers. Market opened with brisk inquiry for finest lots, which sold at prices ranging from 57s. to 62s, medium 52s. to 55s., and lower grades down to 45s.

Chester Cheese Fair.

Buyers representing most of the wholesale houses of the North and Midlands attended. Farmers brought in 65 tons of good quality cheese, and there was a brisk inquiry for fine Cheshire, which realised from 57s. to 62s.; medium qualities, 52s. to 55s.; and common, 45s. and upwards per cwt.

Earl Carrington, President of the Board of Agriculture, has kindly consented to attend the annual conference of the North-Eastern Agricultural Federation, to be held at Northallerton on Friday, October 25. The arrangements for the gathering are in the hands of Mr. J. O. Trotter (president); Mr. C. Marshall, Broomhaugh, Riding Mill-on-Tyne; Mr. J. Knox Lyal, Peepy, Stocksfield; Major Hedley, Newcastle Farmers' Club; Mr. P. B. Kent, Farmers' Protection Association, Darlington; and Mr. W. Frank Hall, Stockton Chamber of Agriculture (acting hon. secretary). The subjects submitted for discussion will be Legislation affecting Dairy Farmers, Municipal Milk Depots, Tuberculosis, Small Holdings, and Taxation.

West Country Notes.

TO find a Board of Guardians willing to spend £60 to emigrate one family, the Local Government Board to sanction it, and a Colonial Government willing to accept the risks of admitting them to their territory is a combination of events worthy of comment. The circumstances were these:—The husband and father emigrated to Canada, did well there for ten years, married, and then returned to England with the little capital he had acquired, to try his luck with a small holding at home. His pluck did not meet with the return he anticipated, and he failed to make the progress here that he did in Canada; and, with his family growing, came to grief.

SOME little time since he was accidentally killed, and his wife and family came "on the parish." Her importunity resulted as indicated above, and, with comforts for herself and her ten children provided by the generosity of the good people of South Somerset, she is now on her way to seek her friends in Canada.

THERE is an old West Country saying anent the families of Horner, Popham, and Thynne, that when the monks popped out they popped in. The three families are still in possession of estates which formerly were held by the Abbots of Glastonbury; and it is not a little curious that in the week that sees a service being held in the Abbey ruins, after a lapse of nearly four centuries, all these three names should be prominent in the minds of their neighbours.

THE wedding of the daughter of the Mr. John Horner of the present day is a happy event associated with the first of these families, whose "plum" came to them by purchase. The friendship of the Home Secretary and Mrs. Herbert Gladstone recalls, by its demonstration in connection with the wedding, their own happy days; for it was on a drive to visit Mr. J. W. W. Horner, at Mells, that the charming young daughter of Sir Richard Horner Paget consented to change her name for that of Gladstone, and her politics at the same time.

THE head of the Popham family, whose tenants in Somerset and Wilts assembled in full muster at Chilton Foliat, near Hungerford, to pay a last tribute of respect to their landlord, will be greatly missed by them. The distance they travelled bore testimony to this.

THE Marquis of Bath, head of the Thynne family, in his position of colonel of the Wilts Imperial Yeomanry, was one of those to welcome the King to his week-end visit to the West, an event which brought a little grist to the mills of the farmers around Chippenham and Calne. These, though not averse to letting their waggons be used, for a consideration, as grand stands, cared a great deal more to have an opportunity of showing their loyalty.

THE King's allusion to his interest in agriculture in his thanks to the mayor and corporation of Calne, was very well timed, and much appreciated by those who gave up hay-making in a risky period to show their loyalty.

THE thunderstorm the King experienced whilst motoring on Sunday, did considerable damage to the crops of the West from the Mendips over the Cotswolds. Unhappily it was the precursor of many more rainstorms, though of less violence, so that hay-making is again checked.

Dairy breeders wanting reliably-bred heifers from good milking cows by one of the best dairy-bred bulls in England, are offered twenty nice yearlings sired by Darnley, who is descended on both sides from cows averaging 1,000 gallons of milk annually, both his dam and sire's dam giving this quantity. For further particulars apply to E. Goodwin Preece, Crosshill, near Shrewsbury.

The prospectus of the Department of Agriculture of the Leeds University for the session 1907-8 has just made its appearance. The courses of study embrace a general course designed without reference to the requirements of any examining body; a course for the National Diploma; and a course for the B.Sc. degree. The instruction has been arranged to meet the requirements of young men who intend to become farmers, land agents, valuers, and teachers of agricultural science. The complete course extends over three winters, and prepares students for the examination for the National Diploma in Agriculture. Students are also prepared for the examination of the Surveyors' Institution. A laboratory for the exclusive use of agricultural students has been added to the department, whilst practical instruction is provided at the Educational Farm at Garforth, where students will be required to attend classes also. All those taking a full course will be required to closely follow the farm work, including field operations, methods of feeding stock, and progress of experiments.

Northern Notes.

THE barometer was falling on Tuesday, but the weather held fine for haymaking, though next day a temporary interruption occurred. The hay crop is tremendous in bulk, and if in some districts the labour of winning it is great on account of the frequent turnings of the swath, the yield amply compensates for the extra efforts. Haymaking is a very prosaic business in comparison with the procedure in bygone years, when the hooded and aproned women were to be seen raking up the "sweep of the scythe," and when children, too, could help their parents in the fields. The picturesqueness of this first harvest of the year has vanished, and in place of a dozen hands in a field, we now see a boy on horseback directing the evolutions of a swath-turner. By means of machinery the harvest is vastly expedited; but old hands meet one with the assertion, "Well, we used to have well-won hay without these new-fangled things," and so we had. Then we could move more leisurely.

WE had a very pleasant interlude this week in our daily round of common tasks, by attending the coming-of-age of the only daughter and child of a popular Yorkshire landowner. Oh how delightful it was to see and to make mental notes of the happy relations existing between the squire and his tenantry, who had foregathered at the ancestral home! The charming wife and daughter, standing with the head of the house, received every tenant and their "better halves" in the hall, and extended to them and other invited guests—myself among the number—a most cordial welcome, and left nothing undone to afford pleasure to all who had assembled.

AFTER the necessarily stately and becoming formality of an introduction was carried out, the family moved freely among their numerous guests. Then at the luncheon the speeches of the oldest of the tenant-farmers who had been "bred and born on the estate," made congratulatory and eulogistic speeches that were without doubt emanations from the sincerest of hearts, and put into homely, fervent language and phraseology. Summed up, they meant they had lived and were living under one of the very best landlords in Great Britain.

SIDELIGHTS on the agricultural situation of thirty years back and at the present day were afforded at this assembly. Mr. St. Quintin came into possession of these Yorkshire estates thirty-one years ago, and began his career as a landlord towards the end of what may be called the prosperous years of agriculture. For three years there was no agricultural trouble. After that came "a dismal cycle," during which landlords as well as tenants suffered very materially, and many owners had to retrench their expenditure and shut up their country houses. The "dismal cycle" lasted long, and it is not a settled point whether its aftermath has altogether disappeared from this land.

MR. ST. QUINTIN confessed that but for the moderation and consideration of his tenantry in making known their wants to him, he also might have had to seek retirement as other landlords had done. Anybody having but a meagre acquaintance with country life can easily estimate what the meaning of an absentee landlord is to a community—the shutting up of the house, the discharge of servants and a whole retinue of dependents is a serious blow to a district, and has accounted for that depopulation of rural districts, in many instances, and which we all deplore.

THIS lengthy reference to an incident in agricultural and country life is made with the object of illustrating how cordial are the relations existing on many of our great landed estates; the men, women, and children being as one happy family, each in their own spheres, acknowledging one head, and all feeling more or less interdependent upon each other for their welfare and happiness.

EARL CARRINGTON is willing to be made much use of by societies formed in the interests of agriculture. His lordship is booked to attend the conference of the North-Eastern Agricultural Federation at Northallerton on October 25. This will be the second time that the President of the Board has appeared at the annual conference, and his acceptance is taken as an indication of the noble lord's belief in federation. It is a good plan for farmers to aim high, to get at the heads of any department of the State concerned in their vital interests. The terms on which this federation is constituted are for taxation and representation to go hand in hand, and the subscription is the modest one of a sovereign per annum for every hundred members, one member to be elected to a seat on the executive.

PAPERS on important subjects are read at the great central meetings which are never heard of again, and it is recalled that over thirty years ago a Yorkshire gentleman read a paper before the Chamber in London on the unjust incidence of local taxation, being afterwards complimented on the way in which he dealt with the subject. Now, what has been done since with this matter? Successive governments have shelved the whole question of the reform of local taxation. The Agricultural Rates Act was passed as a sort of stop-gap; it was never intended as a permanent measure. Yet where are we to-day? The incidence of local taxation presses upon the agricultural interest more severely than ever! Rate collectors are required to exercise the patience of Scriptural Job!

NORTHERNERS are of opinion that a federation which it is intended shall embrace the various agricultural associations in Northumberland, Durham, and Yorkshire, would be better as a distinct association, than a central one with London as its headquarters. The association already embraces chambers of agriculture, farmers' clubs, and farmers' associations, all having pretty much the same objects, and being divided merely by a non-essential name. The Central Chamber focusses the national sentiment, may be. On the other hand, if the country could be federated into districts of several counties each, according to their agricultural importance, and these were affiliated, or not, what instruments for good they would undoubtedly become.

July 25, 1907.

Lincolnshire Notes.

THE details are coming to hand of Earl Carrington's experiment with the Lincolnshire Crown lands. A 750 acre farm which has been voluntarily surrendered by a large farmer has been taken up by the Moulton Parish Council with a view to creating twelve small holdings and equipping them with cottages and all necessary buildings. The Moulton Parish Council is a courageous body, some people are saying. But even if it is a council of mechanics, of labourers, and small holders, I have a strong prejudice in its capacity to manage the business all right. They understand farming down South Lincs way.

THE other farm of 560 acres is being taken up by the Small Holdings Association, which, with Mr. Winfrey at its head, first showed us how to make small holdings pay. The association proposes to establish seven homesteads and holdings of various sizes, one of them being reserved as a fruit farm for the Labour Co-partnership Farms, Ltd. Whatever may be the probabilities of success of the experiment, there are no fears whatever as to whether or no the farms will let. Already there are more applications than can be satisfied.

SPILSBY horse show produced some good animals, although the entries were down. The competition was largely open, but the awards were all kept in Lincolnshire. Mr. Addey, of Caythorpe, Mr. B. S. Carnley, of Alford, Mr. H. Simpson, of East Ville, Mr. R. Dring, Hubbert's Bridge, Mr. T. Bland, Burgh, Mr. E. A. Kirk, Slewton, Mr. W. W. Soulby, and Mr. E. S. Smith were the principal winners, Mr. R. Dring obtaining the Shire Horse Society's silver medal.

THE weather has been having its black side out again, but not for long enough to destroy the farmers' hopes. A good deal of hay has been got in, but the sound of the mower has been heard over the land not a little this week end, and last year the first fruits of the corn harvest fell in the first week of August. We shall hardly expect the self-binder in the field during the next few days of 1907.

ARE you well insured? The farmer who has not protected himself against the Workmen's Compensation Act is taking rather a long risk. Until he is thoroughly indemnified, every man, woman, and boy in his employ, whether they are making his hay, churning his butter, or herding his cows by the green lanes, is a source of financial danger to him. Everything may be all right, and the harvest may be proceeding merrily, when there may be a careless, may be a wilfully careless act, a spill and a broken limb, perhaps a life lost, and the farmer will be lucky if he escapes with nothing worse than his year's profit gone.

EARL YARBOROUGH'S serious illness is regretted not merely by his lordship's tenants, but by every agriculturist in the county. Everybody knows that his ailment was aggravated, if not induced, by his exertions to make the Royal Show at Lincoln a success. He was out of sorts both before and during the show week, and in all probability had he considered his personal comfort he would have spent the week in bed. But he stuck to it to the last, and Nature is exacting the penalty for his disobedience of her commands. We all hope that the dame will have due regard to the extenuating circumstances and be merciful. May his lordship soon be completely restored.

THE Market Rasen meeting of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union will be remembered for the "chaplain's" racy and thoroughly excellent speech. Mr. Hamilton has made so many excellent speeches on the Union's behalf that we have come to expect more than ordinary things from him. But he has never disappointed us. May his ready wit and lively eloquence never falter.

CONINGHAM SHOW was revived, after a couple of years' rest, last week. It did not compare favourably with 1905, owing to the heavy mortality amongst foals which has been exacted by the inclement weather. There have been extensive losses both in Coningham and in Kexby and Springthorpe. But the stock shown comprised a sturdy, hardy lot, a fine example of the survival of the fittest. Mr. Geo. Bingley, of Wheatley Grange, took an excellent first amongst the older foals, with a colt which was awarded second at Nottingham Show, and in the younger class Mr. G. Waterhouse, of Wildsworth, won well with the magnificent Dick Whittington filly. Amongst the brood mares the competition was shared by Mr. J. Dook's Reamer II and Mr. Waterhouse's Wildsworth Pansy, two noted animals. The silver cup for cart foals bred on the Sowerby or Thonock estates went to Mr. P. Bacon, of Coningham, and Mr. Dook's Reamer II. carried off the Shire Horse Society's medal.

July 25, 1907.

Official Crop Prospects.

The crop estimators of the Board of Agriculture, reporting on the condition and prospects of the principal crops on July 15, unanimously comment on the adverse influence of the wet and cold weather which prevailed during the spring and early summer, and remark that the recent advent of fine warm weather has materially improved the outlook. The continuance of favourable conditions generally since the reports were made must be further taken into account.

Wheat is reported as generally promising an under average crop in every division of Great Britain, except in the west Midland and south-west counties and in Wales, where it appears to be about an average. Barley is below average in all divisions. The best of the cereal crops on present appearances is oats, which are reported as above average in all but the northern and north-western divisions of England and in the west of Scotland.

Potatoes are under average, while roots promise to be an average crop.

In every division of England and in Wales there has been an abundant yield of hay, well exceeding the average, but the quality is reported as indifferent, owing to excessive wet and to the bad conditions under which much of the crop has been secured. In Scotland, however, the yield appears to be somewhat below average.

As regards fruit, the crop of apples is generally short and in some districts quite a failure, owing to sharp frosts in the late spring. Plums promise a plentiful crop, but strawberries, though generally abundant, have been retarded by the absence of sun.

Hops are generally backward, but are not so badly affected with vermin as last year.

Labour is generally plentiful, but in some districts, owing to local circumstances, the supply is rather scarce.

Summarising the reports, and representing an average crop by 100, the appearance of the crops in mid-July indicates yields for Great Britain as a whole which may be represented by the following percentages:—Wheat, 99; barley, 98; oats, 100; potatoes, 97; roots, 100; hay, 106.

The council of the Suffolk Agricultural Association does not believe in letting the grass grow under their feet, for they have issued in pamphlet form a complete record of their show at Sudbury last month, the details including a full prize list, judges' reports, and a balance-sheet showing the result of the exhibition. We are glad to be able to record that there was a profit of £166, as compared with a deficit of £233 when the Association last held their show at Sudbury (in 1885). The profit is not, of course, so good as at some previous shows, notably at Ipswich, but is nevertheless most gratifying considering all circumstances, and we should think that in future the society will make the interval between their visits to the town a little less lengthy than in the past.

Midland Notes.

"THREE fine days and a thunderstorm" make up the English summer—at least in foreign estimation. Up to date the fine days have numbered about six, but then the thunderstorm has been of at least double ordinary violence. Pleasantry apart, the storm of last Sunday left some very nasty marks behind. In the torrential rains—mingled with hail in some places—fruit trees somehow got rather badly knocked about, and the losses of stock from lightning were exceptionally numerous. These mischances often do not get reported in small local newspapers, so that to guess at their total number is impossible even for one who mingles much with farming people in the cheerful gossip of market and showyard. But I hear of losses in Warwick, Worcester, Gloucester, Salop, and Leicester. At Upton St. Leonards, which lies east of Gloucester, three cows and a heifer were killed, and two ponies belonging to one owner suffered at Malvern Link. One or two rick fires attributed to the same cause have also been noted.

AT the end of last week a large area of hay had still to be cut throughout the Midlands. On an average the work is probably at least a fortnight later than in a normal year. Still, in Warwickshire and Staffordshire the bulk of the crop has now been more or less well saved, and thanks to the increased use of machinery every fine interval has been turned to profitable account.

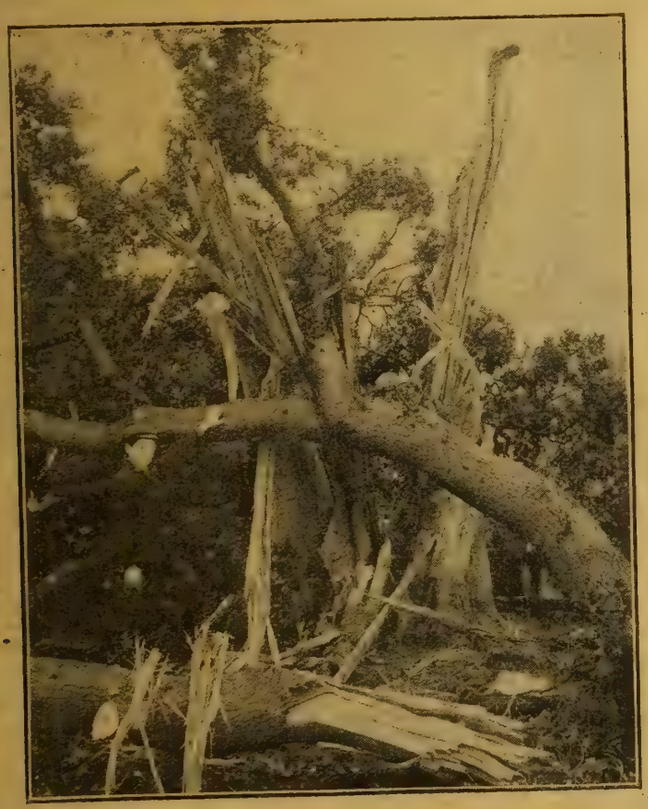
IN this catchy and difficult season the North of England system might have been—perhaps may still be—worth consideration. We, as a rule, make our hay as they do in the south; that is to say we carry it as soon as possible after tedding and drying in the sun. It is strange to a Midland farmer to see the hay in Northern counties going from the swath into small cocks, and thence to larger ones of perhaps half a ton apiece. But these larger cocks, which remain in the field perhaps a fortnight before the final stacking, do help to make good hay in a bad season. The worst of the Northern system is that it is rather costly, and demands more hand labour than is sometimes to be found.

CERTAINLY the Oxford Downs are a progressive breed. There is reason to suppose that they are being used increasingly for crossing purposes (which is not to be wondered at when the results of trials in this direction are remembered); and their flock book shows that nowadays pure-bred flocks are to be found far away from their original pastures. Furthermore, Oxford Down rams are getting a good deal of attention from the exporters, whose agents have been very busy since the show season culminated at Lincoln. As a result, Mr. George Adams alone has lately despatched forty-three lambs and ewes to Argentina and thirteen to the United States. Canada is also showing a disposition to try the Oxford Down.

WHILE on this topic, let me record the success of one of the Oxford Down rams sent last year to Mr. McKerrow, the well-known U.S.A. buyer, by Mr. Hugh Stilgoe, of Adderbury. An unbeaten record at five State fairs and the great International, alike in ordinary and championship classes, is something to be proud of. In the circumstances, Mr. McKerrow has again this season been a notable purchaser of lambs and shearlings from the Adderbury flock.

NO one will feel the relapse to rain and dull inclement days more than our hop growing friends. The hops have made marked advance during the last fortnight, but they have still a good deal of leeway to make up. In some of the older Worcestershire gardens the bine is now only just topping the strings and poles, while round Tenbury and Leominster and along the Teme Valley there are fresh instalments of blight. Washing, therefore, is compulsory, and washing in between the downpours of rain does very little good, although it costs as much as at any other time.

July 25, 1907.



Phot. by [*J. T. Newton.*

THE EXPLOSIVE FORCE OF LIGHTNING: SINGULAR EFFECT ON AN OAK TREE.

During a thunderstorm on Monday night, July 20, a massive oak tree, four feet in diameter and fifty feet in height, standing at Cold Harbour Farm, Berkhampsted, was struck by lightning, the effect being very singular. The huge trunk was rent asunder and blown up as by an explosive, hundreds of pieces being scattered around, some of which, nine feet in length and a foot in diameter, were carried 250 feet, and smaller pieces still further. The tree stood in a hedge, there being on one side a field of turnips and on the other mowing grass; on both sides the effect was the same.

No fewer than 218 varieties of wild flowers—all gathered within a week—made up the winning bouquet in a competition among the pupils of a girls' grammar school at Wigton, Cumberland.

The Treasury appeared to prosecute, in a case at Brentford on Wednesday in which Edward Nash, a grocer, was charged with having obtained 4,283 eggs and hundreds of chickens by false pretences. It was stated that Scotland Yard had received hundreds of complaints from all parts of the country. Nash had, it was alleged, obtained produce by advertisements representing that he wanted weekly supplies for a large store. He was sent for trial.

Nottinghamshire Notes.

FARMERS have had another disappointment this week so far as the weather is concerned, for further heavy falls of rain have to be recorded which have done a great deal of damage to growing crops. I noticed a field of wheat to-day at Ruddington which had been "laid" as flat as a pancake. Oats and barleys have also suffered severely, and the outlook is begininning to be serious from an agricultural standpoint.

DELVING into legal lore of the sixteenth century was necessary in a case heard in the Nottingham County Court on Tuesday. It had reference to a claim of £5 put in by Mr. J. W. Burnett, a farmer, of Woodborough, near Nottingham, against Mr. W. Dickman, a pinder, of Lambley, an adjoining village. It appears that some of Burnett's sheep had strayed. Dickman placed them in the penfold, and charged 1d. per head for thirty-five animals. At first plaintiff refused to pay the full amount, but subsequently did so. It was alleged that the penfold was not large enough for thirty-five sheep, and owing to being crowded one died. Another animal was also missing.

MR. R. A. YOUNG, a Nottingham solicitor, who appeared for plaintiff, stated that Dickman was liable to a penalty of £5 for having extorted a sum of more than 4d. for the whole of the sheep impounded. The sum of 4d. was decided by an Act passed in 1558, at the time of Mary and Philip, part of which Act was quoted and discussed. In the alternative the claim was made on the ground that defendant had no right to keep the sheep there, and that it was because he insisted upon keeping them that one had died.

EVIDENCE was given showing that plaintiff went on the first occasion with a man named Porter to get the sheep out of the penfold, but defendant refused to take Burnett's offer of 4d. A good deal of argument ensued, but the judge gave judgment for plaintiff for £4 damages and costs.

MR. ARTHUR STRETTON, of Sibthorpe, near Newark, who was judge at the Staffordshire Show at Burton-on-Trent, last week, in the dairy classes, made some pointed remarks at the show luncheon. Responding to the health of the judges, Mr. Stretton said in judging his policy was never to try to please everyone; he had always found enough to do to please himself. As a judge he always stuck to his own opinion till someone was able to convince him that he was wrong, and then he was content to sit down humble enough. I might add that Mr. Stretton at one time farmed in Staffordshire, while he will be remembered as one of the judges in the farm competitions held in connection with the recent Royal Show at Lincoln.

DEATH has this week removed from our midst one of the leading farmers in the county in the person of Mr. George Brown, of East Stoke, near Newark, at the age of sixty-two. Only as late as a week ago Mr. Brown was out of doors, though he had suffered a long time from a clot of blood in the main artery of the leg, and this appears to have touched a vital part. For a number of years prior to taking the farm at East Stoke he had a large holding at Flintham, belonging to Mr. Hildyard. He was considered a very good farmer, and held in high esteem by his fellow agriculturists. He was a good judge of live stock, and was generally a prize-winner at the Newark Christmas Fat Stock Show.

BY the side of the Trent, in the parish of Hoveringham, there is a remarkably fine crop of winter oats, which have attained the great height of over 6 ft. The heavy rains of the present week have, however, laid a good portion of the crop.

UPKEEP of main roads was the chief question discussed at a meeting of the Newark Urban District Council on Tuesday. Mr. F. Waud said that anyone who passed along the main roads would notice the great damage done to them by motor traffic, and he thought the time had arrived when the roads should become a national charge. The chairman (Mr. J. C. Kew) thought it would be an advantage if the cost of the upkeep of main roads was made a national charge, providing payment was by means of Imperial grants to the county councils. The latter bodies now possessed the necessary plant and equipment, also the experience in the repair and maintenance of main roads. It would be well to retain county council control over the roads, as they were open to pressure and representation from the different localities. Eventually a resolution to this effect was carried.

THE member for the Newark division (Mr. J. R. Starkey) has been placed on the Grand Committee which has the Small Landowners (Scotland) Bill under consideration, and he is devoting a good deal of attention to its provisions. Mr. Starkey is a thoroughly practical man, for he has a farm near Southwell, in which he takes a good deal of interest, while he is also a member of the Midland Farmers' Co-operative Association.

IT is just 100 years since the following circular was issued:—"Whereas several principal horse-dealers have suggested that it would be of great convenience to the public if a show of horses for two days previous to the annual fair held at Newark-upon-Trent on the 2nd day of August (or the day after when the second happens on a Sunday) were established in the said town. Notice is therefore hereby given that there will accordingly be a show of horses at Newark-upon-Trent for two days previous to such annual fair.—By order of the magistrates, Wm. Ed. Tallents, Town Clerk, July, 1807." Both the show of horses and fair have long since ceased to exist.

THERE was not a large attendance at the sale of Earl Manvers' Shorthorns at Holme Pierrepont this afternoon, yet the prices realised were very satisfactory. Among those present were Earl and Countess Manvers, Lady Cicely Pierrepont, Lord Middleton (who is now in residence at Wollaton Hall, near Nottingham), Lady Grantley, of Elton Manor, near Newark, the Right Hon. F. J. S. Foljambe; Mr. Henry Dudding, Riby Grove, Grimsby; Mr. Deane, Dowsby; and most of the leading breeders of Shorthorns in the Midlands.

THERE was one thing noticeable—viz., that Mr. R. Millington Knowles, of Colston Bassett, intends to have a first-class herd of Shorthorns, for he purchased three or four of the highest priced cows. The Duke of Portland is also going in for Shorthorn breeding again, and his agent purchased several good cows and heifers, as did also the Right Hon. F. J. S. Foljambe, of Osberton Hall, near Worksop. An average of £83 5s. 1d. for fifty-five animals is not bad, and Earl Manvers appeared to be well satisfied with the result of the sale, as did also Mr. Norris, his steward.

R K.

July 25, 1907.

DAIRY.

International Dairy Conference at the Hague.

We have been favoured with the full programme of the third International Dairy Congress, which will take place at the Hague from September 15 to 20. An extensive and varied programme has been mapped out, and those who are interested in dairying in Holland will have an opportunity of seeing the principal butter and cheese-making districts of the Netherlands. The first portion of the congress will consist of papers on various dairying subjects, and subsequently to this excursions into various districts of Holland will be made, while those who can afford to devote another week can also include a visit to Friesland, where, perhaps, the co-operative system is at its highest point of development.

Full details as to all excursions and the official programme (printed in English) may be obtained from the general secretary, International Dairy Congress, 83, Lange Voorhout, the Hague, Holland.

National Diploma in Dairying.

The National Agricultural Examination Board announce that the annual examination in the science and practice of dairying will be held for English students at the Midland Agricultural and Dairy College, Kingston, Derby, on September 21 and following days, and for Scottish students at the Dairy Institute, Kilmarnock, on September 30 and following days.

The last date for the receipt of applications to sit at either of these centres is August 31.

The subjects of examination are: The general management of a dairy farm, the management of a dairy, chemistry and bacteriology, practical skill in dairy work, and capacity for imparting instruction to others.

Forms of entry and copies of the regulations may be obtained of Mr. Thomas McRow, secretary, Royal Agricultural Society of England, 16, Bedford Square, London, W.C., or Mr. James Macdonald, secretary, Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, 3, George IV. Bridge, Edinburgh.

CORRESPONDENCE.

"An Injustice to Farmers and Cultivators of Land."

SIR,—The reading of an article lately in the *Spectator* brought home to my mind in a very forcible manner how unfair is the burden of local taxation on the farmer and small holder.

The *Spectator*, as my readers doubtless are aware, is one of the oldest and most respected of our weekly papers, and has a wide and extensive circulation amongst thoughtful people of all shades of political and religious thought.

I have found it a paper in a large measure free from party or religious bias, or I would not waste my time in reading it.

I could not do better than quote from the article itself:—"The injustice of our present practice can best be illustrated by watching the tour of a rate-collector in a country parish. Let us observe him calling, to begin with, at a noted factory—say a paper mill—where the owner's house adjoins the works. His first business here is to collect the rates on the owner's residence, gardens, and grounds, which he does; he then proceeds to ask for the rates on the mill buildings and warehouses, and on these buildings he takes his toll. Upon their contents, however—that is, upon the raw material which is to be converted into paper—he levies no charge.

"The tax collector then goes a hundred yards up the road, and comes to a farmhouse with buildings. He then collects the rates for the farmhouse, for the stables, cart-houses, cow-sheds, and other buildings. If he were to treat the farmer as he does the paper mill owner, his work would then be finished; but, and here is the injustice of it all, he says to the farmer, 'Now I must collect a rate upon your land, considered quite apart from your buildings that is, I must collect a rate upon your raw material, out of which you produce and market your corn, milk, cheese, beef, mutton, wool, and garden produce. On that raw material you must pay rates and taxes, calculated not upon your profit but upon the amount of raw material used in your farming business. You have, I see, 100 acres under cultivation. These 100 acres are rented at £150 a year, and therefore you must be further rated on that sum.' If the farmer asks why the chief raw material of his industry—namely, the land—should be singled out for special taxation, while the paper industry and the boot industry and the wool industry are not so treated, although their profits may be far greater than his, he is told that such is the law.

"Another illustration of the gross injustice of rural rating:

"Mr. Blank lives in a large villa in a rural district, with garden and grounds, which are rated at £100 a year. His income is £6,000 a year. Next him is a yeoman farming his own land of 250 acres. His farmhouse and farm buildings and agricultural land are rated in all at £250 a year. His income, derived from the land and the profits of farming, are a bare £300 a year. Yet he contributes to local taxation a sum nearly double that paid by the man with £6,000 a year. Can it be said that the two men are contributing in accordance with their ability—the test not only originally intended by the law but, the test of all equable taxation."

I think that these quotations I have given from the *Spectator* article put our case clearly and well. Now I would ask, Are the tenant farmers, small holders, and cultivators of land going to submit much longer to this unjust treatment? Isn't it about time that we aroused ourselves and demanded fair treatment, not only in the matter of local taxation, but also in several other matters which urgently need reformation? I hope to deal with some of those questions in another letter.—Yours, &c.,

H. B. M. BUCHANAN.

Hales, near Market Drayton, Staffordshire, July 22.

Outlook in North Lincolnshire.

SIR,—The month of July is slipping away quickly, too quickly indeed, for there is a vast area of grass and seeds yet to be won, and the turnips are suffering for want of singling. All the work comes together, that is, we dare not cut more than fifteen acres of grass at once during the wet weather, it was too risky, and so haying and turnip thining have all come together.

Turnips, I think, on the light soils are a good plant. Strong land perhaps got a little run together with the wet, but on the whole we feel assured of our winter stock food.

The grazing pastures are ankle deep with succulent meat, white and alsike clovers especially showing up thickly; indeed, I never saw them so fine before.

Still I fear for the health of the lambs. With such wet pastures they may have contracted the lung-worm (*Strongylus filaria*), which, if so, will make its dreaded appearance in the next six weeks. It behoves us to get much strength into our lambs to resist it by giving plenty of trough food, which must be of a health-giving sort, such as linseed cake and old oats.

Harvest is a far cry, so we will leave it for the present.—Yours, &c. NORTH LINDSEY.

North Riding Prospects.

SIR,—The outlook for harvest is not promising. On the best soils and on the best cultivated farms the crops are fairly good, but on poorer soils the outlook is very bad indeed. There are more poor, thin, weak, bad crops than I remember for many years past.

Mangels are fairly good, quite up to the average, but swedes are distinctly late and irregular, and, moreover, are exceedingly dirty. We have good crops of grass and clover, but at the time of writing (July 19) hay time has just well commenced, and very little has been stacked.

Pastures have borne little eating, and grazing is poor, despite the wet. We have now had a few fine, hot, sunshiny days, and seldom have they been more needed; they cannot, however, redeem the situation, and the ultimate result cannot be satisfactory.—Yours, &c., W. P.

Milk Fever.

SIR,—I would leave this question alone, as I consider it was fully answered by "M.R.C.V.S.," but when the writer of "Cattle Notes and Jottings" (who does not give his name) attacks me by stating that he believes I am liable to be prosecuted by the R.S.P.C.A. for not milking a cow after calving for twelve hours I think he put his leg before the wicket.

Overstocking is keeping the calf from the cow by muzzle or otherwise so as to distend the udder. I still uphold my theory of not milking the cow for *twenty four* hours, not twelve, after calving, but we always allow the calf to run with the cow during that time.

I should be pleased to show our shed of cows to any interested.—Yours, &c., THOMAS DAWS.

Soggs House, Ewhurst, Hawkhurst.

Disease Among Chickens.

SIR,—Can you give me any information respecting a disease which we have among some of our hens and chickens? They get warts on their legs and also eyes, which causes blindness; and it also seems to affect their throats, for they open their mouths much the same as chickens with gapes, and soon languish and die. I hope you may be able to tell me a remedy.—Yours, &c.,

W. HOOPER.

Yellam, Chagford, Devon.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

Account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended July 20, 1907, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year (the figures for 1906 are in parentheses):—

Animals, living:—Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves (9,623), 9,278; sheep and lambs (1,084), 2,269; horses (487), 316.

Fresh meat:—Beef (59,529 cwts.), 65,411; Mutton (81,261), 44,035; pork (2,997), 5,654.

Salted or preserved meat:—Bacon (94,259 cwt.), 101,593; beef (2,940), 2,119; hams (33,673), 27,658; pork (6,882), 6,477; meat (7,216), fresh, 5,925; salted, 986; meat, preserved (9,180), 7,096.

Dairy produce and substitutes:—Butter (78,903 cwt.), 89,083; margarine (19,262), 12,402; cheese (57,579), 65,728; milk, cream (76), 115; milk, condensed (17,074), 19,491; milk, preserved (23), 98.

Eggs (great hundreds):—(336,511), 321,308; poultry (value £3,711), £1,950; game (value £19); rabbits, dead (not tinned), (749 cwt.), 1,699; lard 35,831 cwt.), 43,381.

Corn, grain, meal, and flour:—Wheat (1,851,900 cwt.), 1,515,800; wheat meal and flour (219,400), 179,600; barley (29,500), 121,700; oats (271,400), 180,700; peas (28,810), 12,000; beans (28,810) 12,000; maize or Indian corn (717,900), 1,269,900.

Fruit (raw):—Apples (16,507 cwt.), 15,981; cherries (15,945), 9,995; gooseberries (977), 687; strawberries (5,665), 2,480.

Hay (5,210 tons), 2,087; straw (1,203 tons), 840; moss litter (1,281 tons), 1,001; hops (3,606 cwt.), 1,836; locust beans (4,280 cwt.), 15,020.

Vegetables, raw:—Onions (61,993 bush.), 172,329; potatoes (103,074 cwt.), 158,448; tomatoes (54,833); 44,058.

The net revenue obtained during the last twelve months it was in operation from the 1s. a quarter registration duty on imported corn was £1,876,664, of which £1,565,176 was derived from corn, &c., imported from foreign countries.

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Cropping Notes.

England.

This time last week we were rejoicing in the advent of "glorious summer." Straw hats and muslins were universally in evidence, and our anticipations of a prolonged spell of warmth were undisturbed. This week, although we cannot fully accept the declaration that *nous avons changé tout cela*, we are conscious that a marked change has taken place. The wind has been blowing from northerly quarters, the sun has been obscured, and the night air especially chilly, the temperature occasionally falling very near to freezing-point. I have therefore looked carefully and somewhat anxiously through the plantation reports that are before me, and find traces of the natural results—in check to the growth, and to the development of burr, with some indications of increase of fly and lice. But, on the whole, I do not find that any damage has been done, and am able to conclude that the situation is practically unaltered.

The only effect of the cooler weather seems to be an inclination to slightly reduce the estimates of the possible crop, but I take little notice of these varying opinions, especially as the meteorological experts detect the appearance of a fresh anticyclone in the South West, which they say is favourable to the re-establishment of fine weather for some time. Should their forecast be realised, we have very little to fear, as under such influences our plantations will flourish, the flowering will rapidly advance, and the foundations of the fruit will be safely laid.

Certain persons are emphasising the continued presence of blight, and pointing to the danger of its increase, alleging that too little time remains to get rid of it before the formation of the cones. But I have confidence in the energy and skill of our planters, and in the efficacy of their appliances, and am pretty certain that they will be able to cope with whatever risks may arise in this direction, and therefore look for improved reports next week.

America.

I received a cable message from California a few days ago, in which was an estimate of the United States of America crop from 290,000 to 310,000 bales. This is much lower than I have previously received from other sources. Other correspondents speak of the crop prospects as "brilliant," putting the possible yield at not less than 350,000 bales, and expecting that there will be at least 100,000 bales available for exportation of the 1907 crop. A letter from the Pacific Coast just to hand informs me that in consequence of the outlook the markets are all very depressed, and that one of the finest lots of Oregons has been sold lately at 6½ cents (less than 3¼d.) per lb. to the grower.

Germany.

Messrs. John Barth and Son, of Nuremberg, have favoured me with a report, dated July 17, in which they say:—"We have had lately very cold and rainy weather, nevertheless it has not yet done any damage to the plants. Everywhere in Germany the outlook is a good one. Bavaria will most likely have a fairly large yield, the early hops are already in bloom. Also in Wurtemberg, Baden, Alsace-Lorraine, and Posen the plantations promise a good crop. Bohemia expects to have a large yield too, and the Saaz district seems especially favoured. France and Russia send very favourable news." I have this information partly confirmed from other sources, one correspondent saying:—"the plantations have a remarkably beautiful aspect in the great majority of districts, and if the weather continue to be favourable and there is no blight, we may expect a harvest equal to that of 1905."

Austria.

The Austrian Board of Agriculture reports to the middle of July as follows:—"In Saaz the conditions are somewhat unequal, but generally satisfactory. Much rain has fallen recently, but warm weather is desired. The nights are cold, and as the period is critical, better weather is needful. In Auscha, Polepp, and Dauba hail has caused some damage in several places, but generally the conditions are good. The plants are free of insects. In upper Austria the growth is somewhat unequal, and insects have appeared. In Styria the long expected rain has fallen, but the development of the plant is hardly satisfactory, the weather being too cold. In Galicia the conditions are not very favourable." Altogether the position in Austria does not appear to have improved, and my correspondent says that a large crop is not now expected.

Belgium.

The Poperinghe planters are bothered with blight, and some of them are compelled to use washing machines. There is, however, much difference of opinion as to the danger of the attack, many being inclined to consider it of no importance. In the Alost districts there is no alarm from this cause; the plants are reported to be, with very few exceptions, healthy and vigorous, and are making rapid progress. But the cold weather has been very trying, and the anticipations of a heavy crop are now somewhat modified.

The World's Markets.

London.

The Borough trade is in a languid condition. A few transactions are passing, and as stocks are so limited, prices remain fairly firm. But this position has been recently affected by the more favourable news from the plantations, therefore an under-current of weakness is discernible. I have just heard from America that large consignments of hops are being shipped to England amounting altogether to nearly 5,000 bales, and my friend there says that he would not be surprised to see quite a few more consignments being sent over this month. He adds: "This consignment business will no doubt put a further damper on your markets. Unless we get rid of our hops that way there will be a heavy surplus here to drag down prices on the coming crop. With the large quantity of 1906's in existence, and the fine prospects, the situation looks quite critical from the growers' point of view. The hop industry has now reached a state where only the strongest can stand, as too many hops are being grown in the world, and good prices cannot prevail again until there is a heavy reduction in acreage." *Verb. sap.*

Nuremberg.

As was to be expected, the favourable news from the plantations is affecting the market considerably. Values are falling rapidly, and sales are decreasing, not more than 130 bales having changed hands during the past week. The prices paid varied from 55s. to 65s. for medium, and 80s. to 90s. for best qualities. Other qualities are being offered from 20s. upwards, and the tendency is towards further depression. Some samples of new Styrian hops have been already received, and are reported as being of good quality and colour; they found buyers at the fancy price of 2s per lb.

Brussels.

This market is exceptionally firm, but as quotations are entirely speculative, there is but little notice to be taken of them. At the moment the gamblers on the Bourse are trading on the varied reports received from day to day concerning the crop prospects. The weather being considered unfavourable to the development of the plant, advantage is taken of the possible reduction of the yield to "bull" the market, and prices of 1907 Alosts have been pushed up to 62½ and 65 francs. I do not suppose that these figures will be upheld, but expect that we shall hear of reductions in a short time.

The Branding of Imported Hops.

This matter, to which attention was recently called in the House of Commons by Captain Courthope, is still being anxiously debated by hop growers, the great majority of whom earnestly believe that in the complete administration of the Act of 1866 they would find some relief from the present depressed condition of the industry, tending as it does towards absolute annihilation. Our friend the editor of the *Kentish Observer* has

To H.M. The King.

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taken up the cudgels on their behalf in publishing a long article dealing with the question. He has always been a consistent supporter of our industry, and we venture to congratulate him upon the boldness and thoroughness with which he has tackled this important issue, and the care he has taken in making himself acquainted with all the bearings of the case.

He points out *inter alia* that the matter is not well understood by English growers, who for want of knowledge fail to appreciate its importance. Many planters think there is nothing more in it than the application of a stencil plate to the foreign bales, and as this is so simple they cannot see how they would be benefited. But in this simple process lies hidden the crux of the whole matter. At present foreign hops are imported free of duty and of guarantee. Mixed hops are bought and sold by foreign dealers, and are in turn dealt with by English merchants, while the consumers in this country are for the most part in ignorance of what they are buying. This license to sell without guarantee gives our opponents the opportunity of underselling us, and deprives our growers of their legitimate remuneration. If the Act of 1866 were applied, as it was evidently intended to be, to all imported hops, as well as to our own products, such unfair competition would be necessarily and immediately ended. It is, however, argued by some that the guarantee thus secured would prejudice our brewers in favour of the foreign growths, and that thus we should be further damaged.

This contention is very fallacious, inasmuch as any guarantee of quality tends to enhance value, and therefore it is clear that the result must be seen in the improvement of our general market. There is another and even more important point involved in this compulsory branding. The system under which Continental hops are grown, in small quantities by peasant farmers, makes it almost impossible that each bale shall contain any one individual growth. This fact is urged by the opponents of this movement as an insuperable obstacle. But we reply that we have nothing to do with such conditions; we look at hops as hops, wherever and however they may be produced, and if our competitors cannot comply with the regulations to which we are subjected they must be content to find some other outlet for their produce. The obvious result of such procedure would be the withdrawal of a considerable quantity of Continental hops from the London market, and the proportionate diminution of competition in prices from which our home industry has suffered too long. There is also satisfaction in the knowledge that there can be nothing detrimental to the public welfare in such moderate defence of the interests of English planters. In short, this is "fair trading" as we understand it, and in this sense it cannot be looked upon as a party question, but must commend itself to reasonable men on both sides of the House as being outside the region of debate, and therefore claiming prompt settlement.

But however attractive this proposal may appear to producers, the question arises, "What do consumers think of it? Are they desirous for the application of the 1866 Act, as is demanded by English hop growers?" Fortunately we are provided with satisfactory evidence of the feeling of brewers, which we are glad to find is in accord with our own. The *Brewers' Journal* has been at the trouble to ascertain the views of their clients. Mr. Collard (Messrs. Barclay, Perkins and Co.) thinks it would only be fair that foreign hop growers should mark their bales in exactly the same manner as their English competitors mark their pockets, with the growers' name, parish or district, county and year. He recognises the difficulty in carrying such a regulation into effect as referred to above, but considers that home growers have a real grievance; and he goes further in saying that he would like to see an import duty also, as he is satisfied that we can grow in this country all the hops we require. As far as the marking of foreign hops is concerned, Mr. W. W. Butler (Messrs. Mitchell and Butler) expresses the same opinion, strongly holding the view that it would be advantageous to our brewers to have all packages of foreign hops marked with the district in which they are grown and the year of their growth. He regards the present system as not only weak from the honest trader's point of view, but also unfair to the English planter. A similar view is held in the West Country by Mr. A. C. Terry (Messrs. Georges and Co., Bristol Brewery), who considers that the provisions of the 1866 Act should be as rigorously enforced in the case of the importer as in that of the home grower. There are some others who do not share these views exactly, but their chief objection seems to be the difficulty of making the Act applicable to imported hops. We have, however, sufficient evidence to prove that no actual hindrance would be raised by our brewers, and we therefore agree with our contemporary when it says in its concluding paragraph:—"If the hop grower demands the marking of foreign hops, and if the brewer have no objection to this procedure, by all means let the Government adopt the provisions of the Act of 1866."

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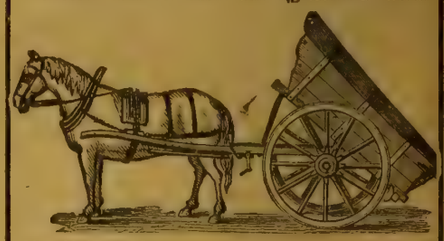
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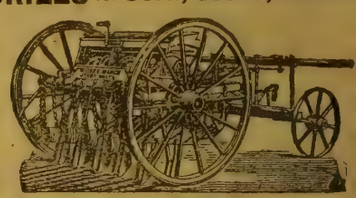


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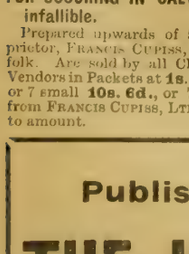
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LONDON, MONDAY, AUGUST 5, 1907.

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Seasonable Topics.

MARK LANE EXPRESS" STAND AT BARNSLEY.

The "Mark Lane Express" Stand at Great Yorkshire Show at Barnsley will be No. 179, where we shall be pleased to see all our friends and readers attending the Show.

Thatchers Wanted.

FORTUNATE is the farmer in a catchy season like this who has a Dutch barn into which he can draw his hay and know that it is safe from further harm. But there, every farm is not furnished with one of these useful structures, and there has been such a run on rick cloths this season that the demand has been quite in excess of the supply. The outcry in many districts just now is for thatchers, and they are not forthcoming. We visited a man the other day who has two stacks, but only one cloth. Having topped up his first rick, he removed the cloth to protect the second, and got straw at hand ready for thatching. But not one of his small staff of men is able to thatch, and while he was waiting for the local expert, who was engaged elsewhere, the drenching rain of a series of thunderstorms penetrated the rick and saturated the hay for some way in. There is hardly need for further comment, except to say that it is in a season like this when one wishes that more labourers understood the simple art of thatching, and there are many who apparently never take the trouble to learn. Admitting that in many ways machinery has taken the place of hand labour, there are directions in which the expert workman is indispensable, and this is one of them

Careless Workmen.

WE know that accidents will happen in the best regulated of families; but the fact, nevertheless, remains that so-called accidents on farms are often the direct result of carelessness. Here is a case in point. During the spell of fine weather we had a short time ago, when it was expedient that every effort should be made to push on with the haymaking, a careless workman ran the pole of his employer's mowing machine into a tree and broke it. There was apparently no excuse, and perhaps the accident was not what one would call grave; but it was a very serious thing for the farmer to be deprived of his mowing machine for a few days at a time when it was most expedient that he should be using it, particularly when the loss of time and expense might have been avoided had reasonable care been exercised. Bearing on the same point is the Workmen's Compensation Act, which in its way is a very good measure; but we hope that employees will not take it in the light of relieving them of personal responsibility, or we fear the possibility of an increase of those accidents which are due to carelessness. We do not wish to charge labourers as a class with being careless, but our farmer readers will agree that there are many who do not treat their master's property as if it was their own.

Borrowing Farm Implements.

WHEN recently discussing the advisability of spraying as a means of destroying charlock, we suggested, on the grounds of economy, that it might be well for a number of farmers to combine in the purchase of an apparatus, but the idea met with opposition. One farmer was particularly emphatic about it, and had convinced himself through past experience that if a man had sufficient use for any implement, the best plan was to have one of his own. Regarding the spraying machines, he argued that if it was a company affair everyone would be wanting it at the same time, and there would sure to be friction. No, if it was worth while spraying charlock he would have a machine of his own, and if looked at from this point of view, the logic of the argument will be admitted. At the same time, we did not suggest a selfish attitude. Farmers always did borrow and lend, and in their mutual interest it is well that they should be ready and willing to help each other, but in the case of implements when an operation is seasonable on one farm it is seasonable on another, and it is best for every practitioner to have his own equipment.

The Trying Summer.

DEAR, dear, how it drags on to be sure! By the world at large farmers are classed as a community of grumblers, but it must be admitted that they need all the patience that in an ordinary way is given to suffering humanity. As we write, the agricultural world is again sighing for sunshine, and memories are being racked to think of a summer that was worse than this. It is wearying work to see the spoiling hay scattered about the fields, knowing all the time that expenses are mounting up and the summer is passing away. Farmers smiled and their hearts grew light during that week—the one solitary week—of summer we had in July, but the thunder came all too soon with its disturbing influence, and gloom and showers and dulness have been our portion since. Oh, to see the last load of hay in the yard! What a weight would be lifted from the mind of many a wearied farmer who is heartily sick of haymaking, and yet is helpless to help himself. The last time we had occasion to write dismally of the weather, a bright change came before the date of publication. We heartily wish that the same thing may happen again, but at the moment farmers are not the only people who have reasons to grumble.

The Bean Crop.

ONE redeeming feature about the present season is that beans are good, and given favourable weather for harvesting, the outlook is distinctly promising. We have watched the progress of winter beans in our own district throughout the season, and though here and there the black aphis has got hold of them, for the most part heavy rains have prevented the pest from making progress. One notices the difference that cultivation makes in this respect, and with beans, as with other things, it is the plant that is pining for the want of food, or through some other cause that first falls a prey to the ravages of insect foes. Abundant moisture is largely responsible for long stalks which have padded well, and there is another thing to be said, beans are selling well now. We hope that this will be the case when the present crop is harvested.

Education and the Influence of Sport.

IT is generally agreed that when the time comes for a boy to leave the elementary school—be he town or country bred—he has by no means completed his education, and the means of further acquirement of knowledge are offered to him if he has the good sense to take advantage of them. Many do this, but the fact remains that the increasing craze for sport is one of the stumbling blocks to what is known as higher education. In rural districts in particular the winter is necessarily the season when evening classes are held, and it is also the time when the football passion is at its height. We have nothing to say against reasonable indulgence in football and other sports, but there are more serious objects in life than these, and to sacrifice the latter for the sake of the former is decidedly a wrong thing. The same argument may be carried from the village and its facilities for education and self-improvement to agricultural and other colleges that are centres of learning. Whatever may be the opinion held as to the value of agricultural colleges in training farmers, it is unfair to condemn a system or institution if a student in one of these establishments looks upon work as a means of occupying time between the hours of sport. That the college student requires sport and recreation is admitted, but it should be taken in the light of relaxation to fit him better for the serious business of his college career—work and the acquirement of knowledge.

Potato Leaf Curl. ON our correspondence page of this issue will be found an answer to an inquiry respecting that peculiar disease of the potato known as "leaf curl," and we mention the matter here for the purpose of drawing the attention of our readers to the subject. There can be no doubt that this "leaf curl" disease, whatever it and its origin may be, is greatly on the increase, and probably crops suffer more through this evil than through the blight (*Phytophthora infestans*). There are acres of potatoes this year, particularly early varieties, that will hardly be worth digging on account of the "curl" disease, which may be detected by the weakly growth and spindling stems of the plants. For the present, however, we do not wish to add anything to what is written by our correspondent on the page referred to, but we hope to receive letters from persons interested in potatoes with the object, if possible, of throwing further light on this peculiar disease.

August. WHEN June gave way to July we felt that the first month of the summer had been a failure, and, with the exception of one solitary week, we may say the same of the month that has now given place to August. And through it all time is fleeting, for the summer, such as it is, is passing away. August, at its best, can be a glorious month, and we hope it will be for the sake of the belated haymaking, the harvest of the corn, and last, but not least, to make up for the shortcomings of its predecessors. August is the month of holiday-making, the harvest-time of seaside landladies, but for farmers it will be more than usually a month of work, because, through circumstances which they could not control, they have been in a continual state of getting behindhand for months past now. We hope for the best, but if August should fail us the summer of 1907 will go down to posterity as a dismal affair.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

The Interest of Displaced Labourers.

Perhaps no more practical illustration of the sympathetic and receptive statesmanship of Mr. Harcourt in connection with the Small Holdings Bill has been provided than in the cogently-worded and unambiguous clause which he has added to that measure protecting the interest of the displaced labourers. There can be no doubt but that a good deal of fear possessed many members of the House of Commons that the new policy would operate to the hurt of that portion of the urban population whose position is below that of those qualified to be tenants of these holdings. There was in every part of the House an anxiety that the displaced labourers should not be unduly penalised—that they should, provided they could prove what I will describe as an "economic hurt," be compensated. It was appreciated that the existence of a possible danger to the resident labourers, and to the stability of their employment, would be a chief influence in deterring county councils from putting the Act into operation. How, forsooth, could they be expected to jeopardise the position of a body of labourers, their wives and families, in order to establish a few small holdings? Why, the suggestion that they should connive in such a policy would naturally appear to some of the more hesitant spirits on the county council to be an invitation to still further denude the countryside of muscle and brain. Mr. Harcourt has, with characteristic sensitiveness to the Parliamentary mind, established such a safeguard as must banish this fear. He has, in a word, facilitated his own purpose, and removed from his method an ill-omened suspicion.

* * *

The Purpose of Mr. C. D. Rose, M.P.

May I diverge for a moment to say how seriously the attacks which have been made on Mr. C. D. Rose, M.P., in connection with his experimental small holdings at Burwell are deplored on both sides of the House of Commons. Into the incidents of the unhappy and embittered business I will not enter. It is felt, however, that, if partisan sentiment is to be invoked to thwart the generous and unselfish anxieties of landowners, social reformers and philanthropists in the interest of the rural class, a new evil will be introduced into our already sufficiently afflicted country-side. In thus writing, I am reflecting the views of Conservative as well as Liberal legislators. Perhaps this Burwell experiment may have been attended with incidents we should avoid in a perfected state—I do not know whether this be so or not. Mr. Rose cannot, however, be suspected of having deliberately designed or intended them. What is appreciated at St. Stephens is that Mr. Rose sought at some sacrifice to realise an intention which would, as he believed, benefit the rural population. "Oh," it may be scoffingly retorted, "he had a political object in view. Don't you know he is the Member for the division? He wanted to get kudos." Well, if a man be generously inspired, and if he possess the wherewithal, where, in the name of common sense, should he seek to realise his inspirations but in the constituency which he represents in the House of Commons? The Burwell small holding experiment has a distinct economic value; it thus has a legislative significance. Should a legislator be barred from any legislative design affecting his own constituents? Do not, for heaven's sake, let us weaken or thwart the anxieties of the generous-minded because of party divergence. When partisanism essays this work it is a malignant growth.

* * *

The Meaning of the Defeats.

Certain of the opponents of the Government have been a good deal chortling over the defeats which the Ministry has sustained in the committee-stage of the Small Holdings Bill. Frankly, I believe that those defeats have, excepting in one instance, meant the improvement of the Bill. The removal of the minimum limit to a small holding, and thus permitting of a small holding being of any area up to 50 acres—by the way, this was a Radical proposal, though it had the strenuous support of Mr. Chaplin—certainly improves the measure and tends to simplicity in its operation. All the same, these defeats yield no real occasion for partisan gloating. As a fact, they in themselves provide a very effective evidence of the fair and dispassionate temper possessing the committee. Of course, the party-mood has occasionally exhibited itself—this must inevitably be so where men approach a principle from different standpoints; but I have never known a committee debating a grave economic departure in which the party whip has been so seldom cracked or in which it has commanded less obedience. The committee reflects in its component parts the general character of the House of Commons. If partyism and partyism only had reigned, the Government would have had a majority whenever it choose. These defeats are certainly a matter for rejoicing in this sense: They reveal that, in the careful, detailed examination of a great issue, Parliamentarians can emancipate themselves from the shibboleths and pettiness and jealousies of electoral warfare. And this is a good thing. Mr. Chaplin, I am persuaded, will regard his victories on this committee in the same sense. They have not yielded him scalps to triumphantly hang at his girdle.

* * *

Co-operation and Agriculture.

It is a thousand pities that any debate should have taken place on the committee stage of the Small Holdings Bill which could induce the belief that there is a strong body of politicians, who are opposed alike to the initiation of co-operative effort in connection with the small holdings and to the establishment of agricultural credit banks. Mr. Yerburgh and his immediate friends in the movement are, of course, too clear-eyed to permit themselves to be possessed by this mistake. Credit banks will be found to be not merely wise, but an absolute necessity of the new policy; the application of the co-operative principle to small holdings—which will chiefly mean the prevention of waste in the distribution of the produce—is one of the best assurances of success and profit. As a fact, Mr. Collings' antagonism to the clause which gives power to county councils to promote the formation of and assist co-operative societies, credit banks, and societies for the formation of small holdings was based upon objection to the principle of financing trading concerns out of the public funds. As a fact, too, Mr. Hicks-Beach's antagonism was based upon his objection to making the county councils rather than the State the financial fount. The idea that the committee is in any sense opposed to the co-operative principle in agriculture—that is, to the adoption of a mutual system of distribution and even to the mutual use of the machinery of production—or to the establishment of credit banks is thus an illusion. It is, I repeat, unfortunate that it should have been inadvertently fostered. To be antagonistic to the idea of financing trading concerns out of the public funds is a very different thing to being opposed to the association of the co-operative principle with small holdings. The incident simply illustrates the lack of flexibility in our philology.

* * *

Prime Minister and the Scottish Bill.

The Prime Minister would have been well advised had he not accused certain of the members of the committee on the Scottish Land Bill of obstructive tactics. Certainly the discussion has been rather a case of linked sweetness long drawn out. Let, however, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman reflect for a moment what the Bill means to politicians of the type of Mr. Walter Long, Colonel Kenyon-Slaney, Mr. Cochrane, and Mr. Lambton. In my view, these Parliamentarians have appalled their mind with too fearsome spectres. I do not believe that the Bill means chaos or the reign of the sans culotte or sown land nationalisation. It certainly, however, comes to them in the guise of revolution as an upsetting of the natural order designed by Providence; and it must be even admitted by men whose knees do not quake at the prospect the Bill has opened out that it is farther reaching than any previous act of agrarian legislation. To have neglected to seek to draw its fangs, to have practically acquiesced by a brevity of speech and an impersistence of method in its proposals, would have been to these politicians an act of recreancy. They were in their own view fulfilling their duty—they did not want as landlords to shoot Niagara without entering their protest against what they regard as a very predatory and unnecessary proceedings. Well, I don't think they need be possessed by aught but indignation. Their fears may be banished—at least for a while. The peers will not hesitate to use the pruning-hook.

* * *

Sir E. Strachey's Position.

It is only fair to Sir Edward Strachey that the explanation of his attitude on the milk-blended clause of the Butter Bill should be emphasised in this column. Why did Sir Edward so persistently refuse the safeguards against its unfair sale which were so vigorously demanded from all sides of the House—safeguards subsequently conceded by the President of the Local Government Board? Well, the fact is that Sir Edward is not really an executive Minister. He could not therefore depart from the specific methods accepted by the Ministry, and in particular approved by the Board of Agriculture. He is, so far as the agricultural policy of the Government is concerned, really the mouthpiece rather than the author. Hence it is that he was in the unfortunate position of being unable to immediately make the concession which was demanded of him, in perhaps a little too arrogant a tone. He had, first of all, to seek Ministerial authority. It was different with the President of the Local Government Board, an administrator who may be said to be directly responsible for the purity of the nation's food, and who in the present instance has made this the subject of a direct solicitude. Sir Edward has been the subject of a good deal of criticism in connection with his representation of the Board of Agriculture, more particularly at the hands of his Radical friends. In view of my explanation as to the peculiarity of his Parliamentary position this would appear to be somewhat lacking in generosity.

A field of rye was cut on August 1, near Chelmsford, Essex. Some winter oats on the same farm are about ready.

A meeting of Plumbley, Knutsford, and Lostock Gralam farmers resolved to send a strong protest to the Cheshire Lines Committee about the delay occasioned in sending their produce to the early Manchester markets. It was contended that though Northwich and Chester produce reached local stations much later, they were first on the Manchester market.

Royal Lancashire Show at Bolton.

THE first day of the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society's Show at Bolton added another to the already long list of successful shows held by this society. The weather was extremely favourable, and there was a large attendace, the number paying for admission amounting to 5,505, a figure which beat all past records. There was a large collection of stock of all kinds, but the quality in the strictly agricultural section was hardly up to the standard of many previous exhibitions.

The show remains open until to-day (Monday), but the early date at which we go to press prevents us dealing with anything beyond the first day.

CATTLE.

There was an excellent display of Shorthorns. The Derby Challenge Cup, value £50, for the best bull in the show, was won outright by Mr. Miller's Linksfield Champion, which was champion at the Royal. In his class he beat Mr. T. Atkinson's Pride of Sunshine, which was bred by the King, but which failed to get in the money at Lincoln. The two-year-old bull class was topped by his Majesty's Royal Windsor, which was first at the Royal, and was stood reserve for the championship. Mr. George Harrison was second with Elvetham Sweetmeat, bred by Lord Calthorpe, and out of his lordship's champion cow, Sweetheart. The yearling bulls were a capital lot, and occasioned the judge no little difficulty. The King, however, nobly assisted by his win with Evander, a roan by Royal Chatham. There was a close struggle for the second position, which was ultimately awarded to Mr. George Harrison's Pride of Tees, though many judges round the ring would have preferred Mr. P. D. Pothwell's Lord Brilliant, the roan which sold for 1,000 guineas at the Royal, where he stood second, and easily beat the two which were placed in front of him.

In the Shorthorn cow class, in calf or milk, Lord Calthorpe won with his Royal winner, Sweetheart. She was awarded the Derby Challenge Cup of £50 for the best cow or heifer in













Lady Ellesmere giving the Derby Challenge Cup for the Best Cow or Heifer in the Shorthorn Section to Lord Calthorpe's Cow, Sweetheart, at the Royal Lancashire Show at Bolton on Thursday last.

Earl Egerton of Tatton's Shire Stallion, Tatton Dray King, who won the Shire Championship and First Prize in his Class at the Royal Lancashire Show at Bolton.

The Right Hon. Victor Cavendish's Shropshire Ram Lamb, which won First Prize for a Shropshire Ram Lamb at Bolton.

Judging the Shorthorns at the Royal Lancashire Show at Bolton on Thursday last.

Mr. J. H. Stokes's Hunter Gelding, Axiom, which was the Champion Hunter and First in its Class at the Royal Lancashire Show at Bolton.

Messrs. F. and A. Hall's Hackney Stallion, King of the West, which won the Hackney Championship and First Prize in its Class at the Royal Lancashire Show at Bolton last Thursday.

the section. Second to her in the class was Mr. George Harrison's Ursula Raglan, a big, strong cow, and the third was the well known Ratcheugh Witch, belonging to Mr. W. Bell, of Alnwick. One of the surprises of the day was forthcoming in the three-year-old heifer class, in which Mr. R. R. Rothwell's Royal winner, Lady Graceful, was deposed from the leading position for the first time in her career. After a minute examination, the judges placed Mr. T. Atkinson's Jenny 19th at the top.

Mr. George Harrison led a quartet of heifers calved in 1905 with Montrave Wondrous, a Scottish-bred heifer. Mr. T. Atkinson's Lily of the Dale, a white by Chewton Victor, stood second. In the open class of yearlings his Majesty the King had an unquestionable win with Marjorie, who thus repeated her Royal victory.

Shorthorn dairy cows in milk, four years old and upwards, were judged largely on the yield of milk which was drawn in the ring. Mr. R. Cock, of Rossall Grange, was third with a cow which yielded 32½ lb., while Lord Rothschild's Fairy Queen 5th had a record of 34⅛ lb. There were only two claimants for the prizes in the younger class, Lord Rothschild being first with a roan which yielded 28¼ lb., and Mr. R. Cock second with a beast which fell short of that return by nearly 5 lb.

Of Dexter cattle, there was one of the finest shows that has ever been seen at the Lancashire Show, and it was a very strong department indeed, the judges having much difficulty in several classes in fixing the awards. Amongst the winners here were the Countess of Sefton, who was credited with a first and champion in the Dexter bull class, calved in or before 1905; the Duchess of Devonshire, Baldomero de Bertodano, Lady Greenall.

In Jerseys, Lord de Rothschild, Lady de Rothschild, and Jersey de Knoop were the principal winners.

HORSES.

Hunters are fairly numerous, and there was keen competition for the championship prizes. The Manchester Challenge Cup for brood mares or fillies was won by Mr. J. T. Wilkinson, of Edwinstowe, Newark, with Rosalinda, a Royal winner. The foal prizes went to Messrs. W. Brown (Lancaster), F. I. Grainger (Boston Spa), and R. Needham (Knutsford). Mr. J. H. Stokes, of Market Harborough, came out first in a good class of four-year-olds and upwards, to carry 15 stone, beating Mr. Wilkinson. In the novice Hunter class, however, Mr. Wilkinson reversed the order of things, Mr. Stokes's horse being placed second to his five-year-old brown horse Summertime. In the competition for four-year-olds, to carry 12 stone, Mr. Stokes won both first and second awards. The Storey Challenge Cup, for the best four-year-old Hunter in saddle, was awarded to Axiom, a beautiful brown horse, shown by Mr. Stokes, and special prizes were also awarded to Mr. E. W. Robinson, of Esher, Surrey, for his aged chesnut, Golden Leaf, and to Mr. Wilkinson for his bay filly, Lady Bird.

The Hackney classes were rather sparsely filled. The Ainscough Challenge Cup, for the best stallion in the showyard, was awarded to King of the West, a shapely chesnut, shown by Messrs. T. and A. Hall, Copmanthorpe, York. The Royds Challenge Cup for the best Hackney mare or filly was won by District Maid, an animal well known in South Country showyards, belonging to Mr. R. P. Evans, of Reigate. She was the winner of the first prize for Hackney brood mares, with foal at foot. The Hackney Society's silver medals were awarded to Messrs. T. and A. Hall and Mr. R. P. Evans. Sir Lees Knowles secured a first prize in the class for Hackney stallions foaled in 1906, and the novice prize for Hackney stallions of any age was taken by Angram Rosamede, belonging to Mrs. E. Fletcher, of Angram, York.

The riding and driving classes produced some well-known animals, premier honours going to Mr. John Kerr, Hertfordshire, with his harness pair, Loudwater Gougelt and Loudwater Grangelt. Mr. H. Le Marchant, London, was a close rival.

The Shires were the best classes in the horse section. The challenge cup for the best Shire stallion in the show was won by the Earl Egerton's well-known bay Tatton King, which also takes the place of honour in the class for Shire stallions foaled in 1904. Mr. Walter Cunningham, of Gateacre, Liverpool, is a good second in a class of five with Childwall Chanter. Earl Egerton is also successful in winning the red ribbon in the class for Shire stallions, foaled in or before 1903, with his seven-year-old Tatton Friar, though he was run closely by Mr. Dewhurst's Macclesfield Monarch. Another Cheshire horse, Rustic Friar, the property of Mr. Lewis Dodd, Tarporley, takes the first place in a class of Shire stallions foaled in 1905, beating Tatton Swell, a son of Tatton Friar, owned by Messrs. E. and J. Whinnerah, of Carnforth. In the yearling class, Mr. A. Grandage, of Bramhope, Leeds, is first with Bramhope Royal Duke. Shire brood mares, foaled in or before 1904, with foal at foot, formed one of the strongest classes in this section of the show. Lord Rothschild's Belle Cole here added another to her list of substantial victories. For the championship of the show, however, she was beaten by Bardon Marion, a finely proportioned brown, shown by Mr. W. T. Everard, of Bardon Hall, Leicester. Captain Heywood-Lonsdale, of Market Drayton, was second, and Earl Egerton took a third prize. The prizes awarded to the foals in this class were taken by Lord Rothschild, Mr. H. W. Kearns, of Accrington, and the Earl of Ellesmere, Worsley Hall. Mr. W. T. Everard's Bardon Marion was placed first in the class for Shire fillies foaled in 1904, Earl Egerton's May Queen securing the second place. Seven Shire fillies, foaled in 1905, came before the judges, who awarded the first place to Combermere Abbess, owned by Mr. Egerton Orme, of Etwall, Derby. Lord Rothschild's Misty Morn added, in this class, another second prize to those won by her at Islington, the Royal, and Peterborough shows. Shire fillies foaled in 1906 numbered sixteen, and included representatives of many well-known studs. Mr. Everard secured another victory here with Bardon Flower of the Forest.

Agricultural horses are few in number. Mr. H. W. Kearne is first in the class for barren mares with Knottingley Rose, who has to her credit victories at Islington, Newchurch, and elsewhere. In a gelding class of five, the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company secured both first and second prizes.

SHEEP.

There is a poor show in this section owing to absence of competition.

Sir Richard Cooper, Sir Walter Corbet, Mr. J. J. Brown, of Birkenhead, Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P., and Mr. Alfred Tanner, of Shrewsbury, send all the Shropshires. Sir Richard Cooper takes the special prize for the best pen with three good ewes.

The exhibitors of Oxford Downs are Mr. E. Gibson Heslop (Darlington), and Mr. Thomas Oswald (Byers Garth, Durham). Mr. Heslop has three firsts, two seconds, a third, and a special prize.

Wensleydales are a larger section, but here half a dozen flockmasters only are concerned—Lord Henry Bentinck, the Executors of the late Thomas Willis (Carperby, Yorkshire), Mr. Richard Procter (Clitheroe), Mr. J. Dacre (Lancaster), and Mr. R. H. Milner, Hest Bank. The Executors of the late Thomas Willis won the special prize for the best pen. Mr. W. J. Crossley, M.P., sends a number of Herdwicks from Ambleside, and has secured three first prizes and a special.

Mr. Edward Smith (Keighley), Mrs. Blackburn (Nelson), and Mr. D. Hague (Clitheroe) are the principal prize-winners for Lonks.

PIGS.

Berkshires were a particularly strong class, chief honours here falling to the Earl of Ellesmere, Sir Gilbert Greenall, and the Duchess of Devonshire.

The Tamworths were a comparatively small section, and but for Mr. R. Ibbotson's entries would have been very few indeed.

JUDGES.

CATTLE.—Shorthorns: Mr. G. J. Bell, Standingstone, Wigton: Mr. Robert Bruce, Dublin. Dairy: Mr. Henry William Woods, Worksop. Jersey: Mr. John T. Keddie, Blythwood, Stanstead. Dexter and Kerry: Mr. F. N. Webb, Babraham.

HORSES.—Hunters: Mr. William Heslop, Staindrop; Rev. E. A. Milne, Chilfrome, Dorchester. Leaping Competitions: First day, the Hunter judges; second day, the Hackney judges. Hackneys and Riding and Driving Competitions: Mr. T. M. Bentley, Driffield; Mr. R. G. Heaton, Chatteris. Shires: Mr. Joseph Theakstone, Little Ouseburn, York; Mr. William Richardson, Doddington.

SHEEP.—Shropshire, Mr. T. S. Minton, Montford, Shropshire; Oxford Down, Mr. J. H. Toppin, Penrith; Wensleydale, Mr. Joseph Towers, Nether Kellett; Herdwick, Mr. John Newby, Broughton-in-Furness; Lonk, Mr. W. S. Airey, Whalley.

PIGS.—White, Mr. George White, Skelton Road, York; Berkshire, Mr. Richard E. Horwood, Drayton, Tring; Tamworth, Mr. T. S. Minton, Montford; large black, Mr. William Towsend, Stroud.

Cleveland Show.

This year's annual show of the Cleveland Agricultural Society took place at Redcar on Wednesday. The total entries reached 958, these being made up of 154 cattle, sheep, and pigs, 294 horses, and 510 poultry, pigeons, rabbits, and farm produce. The display of cattle, sheep, and pigs was in point of numbers the best on record, and the quality of the stock did not suffer by comparison with that seen at recent shows held under the society's auspices. The exhibition of horses was undoubtedly seriously affected by the counter attractions at Crook and Thirsk, but the effect was mainly noticeable in the driving classes.

Horses only made a fair show in the Cleveland section. Mr. George Grandage's brood mares, Woodland Briar and Woodland May both achieved great prominence. Mr. Grandage, indeed, had things pretty much his own way. He won in the filly foal and yearling classes with nice young stock of the Cleveland breed got by Woodland Pride; another by the same sire was second to Mr. George Elders' prize-winning two-year-old filly, and he took another two-year-old second prize in the coaching section. Strength, freedom of action, and nice bone generally characterised the winners, and Mr. J. H. Tyreman's Aislaby Beauty, another Royal success, in those points ranked as a particularly good second to the younger mare, Woodland Briar.

Agricultural horses, three times as numerous, made a show well worthy of the district. The foal classes were capitally filled, in strong contrast to some for older stock. Many of the youngsters competed for prizes given by Lord Middleton, the Shire Horse Hunt Committee, and the Cleveland Cart Horse Society. Hunters were nearly as many as the last-named section, and included a good sprinkling of that strong, useful sort of animal which is needed for getting over the Cleveland country. The encouragement to breeding given by Mr. W. H. A. Wharton, M.F.H., was demonstrated in more than one class, and both the Cleveland Hunt Prize and the President's Prize (that of the Marquess of Zetland), went to Hunters of distinction, well-built, stylish, and showing fine movement—in the latter case Mr. J. S. Rigg's chesnut gelding Sir Lancelot, and in the former to Messrs. T. and H. Ward's five-year-old Craig Royston gelding.

In the cattle classes the honours of the afternoon were carried off by Mr. D. Sanderson, of Stainton Vale, Stockton, whose bull Scottish Monarch beat Mr. J. W. Harrison's Orange Boy in the Shorthorns, and also took both of the pieces of silver plate offered as special prizes. Mr. Harrison, however, was successful in taking both prizes for bull calves, and his heifer calf, Adelaide, also beat all opposition in her class. Mr. R. W. Hebron, of Stokesley, secured two winning tickets in the class for pedigree cattle, whilst Mr. C. Curry, of Norton, was equally successful in the section for grazing bullocks and heifers.

In the section for pigs two firsts were won by Mr. H. Bullock, of Marton, and Mr. G. Myers, of Guisbro, was similarly successful.

In the department for sheep Mr. J. Dawson, of Danby Castle, repeated his successes of previous years by taking first and second prizes for shearling and aged Leicester rams; Mr. R. Peirson, of Stokesley, took a first card with a pen of three breeding ewes; and also showed the three best shearling gimmers, but for gimmer lambs he was unplaced, and premier honours went to a Skelton exhibitor in the person of Mr. W. Petch, who was also able to satisfy the judges in the class for tup lambs. For cross breds Mr. A. W. Moon and Mr. R. Pierson were the only winners of firsts.

Cumberland Show.

The Cumberland Show was held at Carlisle on Saturday week, when a good entry was attracted.

The agricultural horses, though rather fewer than for two or three years back, were again a feature of the show, and the female championship in this section was again secured by Mr. W. M. Wood's Cedric Princess, which won the same distinction last year. A three-year-old gelding of Messrs. Kerr's was the male champion. Generally speaking, the female Clydesdale classes contained superior stock to the male classes.

The slight falling off in heavy horses was more than counterbalanced by a larger display of light horses, in which section the champion prize was awarded to a hunter belonging to Mr. W. L. Carlyle, which won the prize in the two-year-old filly class. The Hackneys included Mr. Ferguson's Queen Go-Bang from Macclesfield, which proved invincible, and the best Hunters were seen in the competitions for the special prizes given by the High Sheriff, Lord Leconfield, and Mr. Geoffrey Howard, M.P.

In the cattle section both Shorthorns and Galloways were representative of the type of those breeds as they are cultivated in this part of the north-west country and in the south of Scotland. The championship of the entire cattle section went to a Shorthorn—a two-year-old bull sired by Douglas Conqueror, and owned by Mr. Joseph Barnes, of Barugh. A Shorthorn, too, was his nearest rival—a heifer, the property of Mr. Joseph Harris, of Brackenburg Tower, who obtained the challenge cup for the best three Shorthorns. Lord Brougham sent a selection from his herd, and was moderately successful, winning a first and a second with Stoneytown Pride heifers, and a third with a Rosedale Fame heifer calf.

Several Galloways shown at the Highland were here, and most of them, in the absence of the keener competition of Edinburgh, went up a stage or two. The Shorthorn Society's £10 county prize for Shorthorn bulls was awarded to Mr. John Hewson, of Parton, and the corresponding prize for Shorthorn dairy cows was, as last year, won by Mr. A. Ritson, of Micklethwaite.

Border Leicesters were the best among the sheep, while there was a good show in other departments.

Whitchurch Show.

The annual show of the Whitchurch Agricultural and Horticultural Society took place on

Wednesday. The Shire Horse Society's silver medal for the best Shire mare, filly, or filly foal was won by J. Broad, Worthenbury. The silver medal given by the Hackney Horse Society for the best Hackney or pony, mare filly, or filly foal was gained by H. Rogers, Kenwick's Park. The silver challenge cup for the best bull in the show went to A. Blake, Malpas. Mr. Blake also won the silver challenge cup for the best dairy cow in the show, the property of a tenant farmer.

SHOW GOSSIP.

Yorkshire Show at Barnsley.

The show of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society opens at Barnsley on Thursday. The total number of entries is 1,088, as compared with 1,196 last year at Middlesbrough, and 1,099 the average for the last five years, or a decrease of 111 upon last year's show, and fourteen upon the previous five years' average. The entries for horses are 377, or 100 less than last year, and the cattle entries, which number 180, are forty-three lower than the Middlesbrough show. Sheep are twenty down, numbering 107, as compared with 127 a year ago; whilst pigs show an increase, the number being 115, as against ninety-seven last year. The total live stock entries are 779, last year's figures being 930, and the previous five years' average 844. Other entries are: Cheese, 43 (last year 47); hives, honey, &c., 86 (last year 85); horse shoeing, 130 (last year 107); butter making, 32 (last year 27); and bottled fruit 15, this being a new section—giving a total of 1,085.

The Entries.

The following table shows the entries for the respective sections, with the comparisons with last year, and the previous five years' average:—

	1907. Barnsley.	1906. Middbro.	Average for last 5 yrs.
HORSES:—			
Thoroughbreds and Hunters	121	159	157
Hackneys	65	54	73
Cobs and Ponies	16	19	22
Cleveland Bays	10	26	16
Yorkshire Coach Horses	41	50	57
Shire	44	48	46
Agricultural	5	6	—
Polo Ponies	21	16	—
Harness Horses	32	26	25
Jumping Competitions	21	41	42
Local Classes, &c.	—	32	8
Total for Horses	377	477	446
CATTLE:—			
Shorthorns	113	141	116
Dairy	41	44	40
Jersey	10	16	30
Aberdeen Angus	16	22	25
Total for Cattle	180	223	212
SHEEP:—			
Leicester	32	33	30
Lincoln	35	48	34
Wensleydale	24	27	28
Black-faced Scotch Mountain	15	19	16
Total for Sheep	107	127	108
PIGS:—			
Society's Classes	115	97	97*
Local Classes	—	6	—
Total for Live Stock	779	930	844
Cheese	43	47	38
Hives, Honey, &c.	86	85	60
Horse shoeing	130	107	131
Butter-making	32	27	26
Bottled Fruit, &c.	15	—	..
TOTAL ENTRIES	1085	1196	1099

* Swine fever prevalent in 1902; no entries accepted.

Prize Money.

The prize money is also rather less this year than it has been for some time. The total amount offered is £2,060, as compared with £2,400 last year, and £2,189 the average for the previous five years. The amounts apportioned to the several sections are:—Horses £1,137, cattle £430, sheep £257, pigs £112, cheese £30, hives, honey, &c., £15, horse-shoeing £42, butter-making £29 10s., bottled fruit £7 10s. The principal decreases are horses £275 10s. (there being this year no local classes, for which £104 15s. was given last year), and cattle £59. The sheep prize money is £6 more, and the amount for pigs the same as last year. The total decrease compared with 1906 is £340, and the sum is £129 less than the average of the years 1900-5.

For the exhibition of implements, &c., 5,096 feet frontage will be required at the show ground. This figure is about the same as last year, but represents over 1,000 feet decrease on the average of the previous five years. Appended is a comparative statement:—

Implement Shedding, &c.

	1907. Barnsley.	1905. Middbro.	Average for last 5 yrs.
	Feet Frontage.		
Machinery in motion, gas and oil engines, &c.	1176	1274	1344
Agricultural implements, carts, wagons, &c.	2070	2010	3040
Carriages, harness, &c.	300	450	670
Seeds, manures, feeding stuffs, and other miscellaneous exhibits	1550	1380	1480
Total	5096	5114	6534
	Square Yards.		
Open space for rustic houses, greenhouses, building material, &c.	1096	793	1160

The "Mark Lane Express" Stand at Barnsley will be No. 179, where we shall be pleased to see all our friends and readers attending the Show.

The well-known Newbury Horse Show will be held this year on the Newbury racecourse, which is specially adapted for such a show, as the railway station is adjoining the ground. The prizes are well worth competing for in all classes, as much as £20 being offered in several classes. Hunters, agricultural horses, jumpers, and driving classes are all catered for. Entries, for double fees, close on Thursday next, August 8, and entry forms, schedules, &c., should be obtained at once from the secretary, Mr. W. J. Forster, Broadway, Newbury. Shelter is provided for all exhibits.

DAIRY.

Preston Cheese Fair.

At Preston cheese fair, on Tuesday morning, there was a big pitch, consisting of 1,901 cheese, an increase of 888 cheese over the corresponding fair last year. This was attributed to less country buying by factors. Quotations were:—Medium, 52s. 6d. to 55s.; fine, 57s. 6d. to 60s. Few choice dairies, 63s. per cwt.

Whitchurch Cheese Fair.

At his fair on Wednesday 94 tons of cheese were pitched, being 10 tons in excess of the corresponding fair last year. A slight reduction in price has to be recorded, viz., best 56s. to 61s., medium 50s. to 55s. down to 46s. The trade was well represented, but buyers were extremely cautious. The prices last year were: Best 60s. to 65s, medium 55s. to 58s., down to 50s.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

Advice of a Legal character is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

A Tithe Question.

Sir,—I. How many years arrears of tithe can be claimed? 2. Does tithe lapse by reason of its not being collected for a number of years? If so, how many? 3. If land changes hands by sale or otherwise, and at the time of sale it is believed to be tithe free, can a claim for the payment of tithe on such land after a period of twenty years be enforced?—Yours, &c., A. B. C.

*** No one is personally liable to the payment of a tithe rent charge. By the Act, chapter 8, section 2 (9), tithe rent charge is recoverable under an order of the county court of the district where the lands out of which it comes are situate. This order can be executed by distress, or entry where the owner is the occupier of the lands, but if the owner is not the occupier, by the appointment of a receiver of the profits. Not more than two years' arrears can be recovered in this way. The right to tithes when in the hands of laymen is subject to the same period of limitations as the right to land. Under the act of 1874, no person shall make an entry or bring an action to recover land, but within twelve years next after the right to do so first accrued. It would, therefore, seem that if twenty years have elapsed, the Statute of Limitations (Real Property Acts) could be pleaded. I think this answers your questions, for presumably the occupation would be adverse.—Barrister-at-Law.

SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS.

BATH HORSE SHOW.
SEPTEMBER 4 & 5, 1907.
Nearly £700 in Prizes.
Great Jumping Competitions.
Entries close August 17.
Schedules and all particulars to be obtained of Lewis C. Mundy, Secretary, 41, Milsom Street, Bath.

NEWBURY HORSE SHOW SOCIETY.
President: W. J. Yorke-Scarlett, Esq., M.F.H.
17th ANNUAL SHOW on NEWBURY RACECOURSE (station on ground),
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 1907.
Shelter provided for all Exhibits.
Cash prizes value £350. 14 Open and 11 Local Classes. Show opens 10.30 a.m. Entries close: Double Fees, Aug. 8.
Schedules and all particulars from
E. J. Forster, Secretary.
Broadway, Newbury.

HEANOR AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S 35th ANNUAL SHOW will be held at Heanor, AUGUST 13, 1907. Entries close August 6, 1907. For schedules apply—Horses: J. Covel, 11, Market Street, Heanor. Poultry, Rabbits, &c.: G. H. Holmes, 22, John Street, Heanor.

CHILTERN HILLS AND SOUTHERN BUCKS AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION SHOW, at HIGH WYCOMBE, on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1907.
OPEN CLASSES for SHIRES, HACKNEYS, HUNTERS, JUMPING and DRIVING, JERSEYS, SHORTHORNS, BUTTER, and HONEY.
For Schedules and Entry Forms apply to
Joseph Bliss, Secretary,
26, High Street, High Wycombe.

GREAT YORKSHIRE SHOW, Dodworth Road, Barnsley.
Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, August 8, 9, and 10, 1907.
Stock and Implements &c., Jumping Competitions, Military Bands.
Saturday—Show of Dogs, and at 3 p.m., Military Tournament.
Admission: Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., 2/6; Thursday, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., 1/-; Saturday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., 1/-.
John Maughan, Secretary.

ROYAL JERSEY AGRICULTURAL and HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.
Agricultural Department.
President—W. Duret Aubin, Esq.
Summer Show of Bulls, Cows, Heifers, Horses, &c., at the Society's Show Grounds, Jersey, AUGUST 21 and 22, 1907.—John A. Perree, Secretary.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD & LINSLADE FOAL SHOW SOCIETY, held on
SEPTEMBER 17 (TUESDAY).
Entries close September 3. Post entries (double fees) September 10.
Walter C. Prudames, Hon. W. Gravely W. Willis, Secretaries

LANCASTER AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY. President—The Right Hon. the Earl of Sefton. 43rd ANNUAL SHOW, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 1907. Upwards of £600 in Cash Prizes, in addition to valuable Specials. Jumpers, Turnouts, Shires, Hunters, Hackneys, Cattle, Sheep, Honey, Dogs, Poultry, &c. Entries finally close 8 a.m., Monday, August 12, after which hour none will be accepted, excepting Dogs which will close August 15 (positively). Schedules now ready (kindly state for which section required). Thos. Armistead & Son, Secretaries. Auctioneers and Valuers, Lancaster.

WELBECK TENANTS' AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL SHOW
will be held at
WELBECK,
Tuesday, August 6, 1907.
1,221 ENTRIES.
Alex. Galbraith, Sec. and Treas.
Norton, Cuckney, Mansfield.

CLYDESDALE HORSE SOCIETY.
STUD BOOK VOL. XXX.
ENTRIES at ORDINARY FEES CLOSE on 31st inst. Forms and all information from—
Archd. Macneilage, Secretary,
93, Hope Street, Glasgow.

BUXTON HORSE SHOW.
SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 1907.
President:
His Grace the Duke of Rutland.
Over £300 in Prizes, including Challenge Cups and Gold and Silver Medals.
Entries close Thursday, August 15.
For Prize Lists, &c., apply to the Secretaries, Hampson Bros., 3, The Quadrant, Buxton.

HAY HORSE SHOW, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1907.
Entries close on September 5th; double fees, September 12th.
Reece Morris, Secretary,
Broad Street, Hay, Hereford.

TRING SHOW.
THURSDAY, AUGUST 8.
TRING PARK, TRING, L.& N.W.R.
£1,270 IN PRIZES, the most given at any one day's Show in England.
The FAMOUS SHEEP DOG TRIALS have a large entry, and will be a grand event.
The display of DAIRY CATTLE in the Tests will be the finest held at any Show this year.
The HARNESS CLASSES, Pairs, Tandems, and Single Harness, will include some of the best Horses in England which competed at Olympia.
JUMPING COMPETITIONS, &c.
Catering by Messrs. Lyons & Co., Ltd.
BAND of H.M. KING'S COLONIALS
Every available comfort for Visitors.
The Grounds of Tring Park and the fine Museum open to all.
Fancier's Association Show on the Ground.
Patroness—H.H. Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein.
Special and Additional Trains from nearly all Stations.
Full Programme sent, with pleasure, on receipt of 3d. in stamps.
F. J. Brown, Secretary,
Tring.

MID-SOMERSET AGRICULTURAL SHOW, SHEPTON MALLET.
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1907.
W. Ozzard, Secretary,
Shepton Mallet.

Northern Notes.

THE position with regard to the small holdings question is at present ambiguous. We hardly know where we are. The North is scattered all over with small farmers, from the Humber to the Scottish border. The prospective increase does not exactly fill us with alarm, but there is a feeling of misgiving lest many men with a very limited amount of capital may rush into small farming without counting the cost—in money and in muscle.

WE attended at a saleroom last week, when the auctioneer put up a holding of just under 80 acres, with homestead and an equipment of farm buildings. A nice portion of the land was in grass. What was the result? Two or three people beyond those identified with the property only assembled, and not a single bid was forthcoming. In the present state of hopeful anticipation, we had expected to see a crowded room of eager aspirants to the title of "landed proprietor" which the acquirement of such a desirable property would have carried.

THERE is notwithstanding a genuine demand for small holdings in the North; and applications have poured in to the clerks of certain councils from all sorts and conditions of men—tradesmen, professional men, gardeners, and allotment holders. What all the applicants would do with the holdings when they get them is a puzzle. If all turned market gardeners, the district would be choked with supplies, and prices become so reduced as to leave no margin of profit.

WE want to do our best for agriculture, and it will be absolutely necessary to exercise a degree of caution, which is not lacking in the characteristics of hard-headed northerners. There are wild ideas afloat that it is the desire of people engaged in agitating for small holdings to have the large landed estates cut up and parcelled out to small occupiers. This would be a wasteful and uneconomic policy; as is it not fairly obvious that the centralisation of effort and capital, whether it is in the person of a capitalist or a State official, is one of the great necessities for the development of any industry in modern times? Is it not equally desirable in regard to agriculture, that the person who administers an estate should be well acquainted with the district, and have a keen personal interest in the promotion of the economic efficiency of the concern.

THE present system of land tenure in England, the heir to a great estate in the North said recently, undoubtedly throws out greater attractions to the landlords to do these things than any Government system of salaries and inspectors could to an official appointed to do the work of a landlord, and anyone who chooses to study the matter will find that in future a landlord there is going to be, either in the shape of a Government official or the present owner of property. The Government now in office has no thought of establishing independent small owners. Rightly or wrongly it wishes to reduce the size of holdings, to transfer the great ownerships to the State; but the matter of tenancy is apparently to be the *status quo*. Time will show which of the two systems will endure.

IN the north-west of Lancashire the wheat harvest promises to be even better than last year, the straw being well grown, and the heads feeding rapidly. Oats are rapidly redeeming themselves. In some districts they look quite as well as ever they did, and in others, where the straw was short and yellow, the generous warmth of the sun and the amount of moisture in the ground have united to give a fillip to growth, which has been truly phenomenal.

A LARGE percentage of the potato crop of Lancashire was ruined by the severities of the earlier season, and it was feared that the rest of the crop lying in saturated ground would be rotted by the hot sun when warm weather came. This fear is not justified, the general reports of the crops indicating sound robust growth. The cropping grounds between Preston and Liverpool are perhaps unequalled in the United Kingdom for production and high farming, save and excepting the East Riding of Yorkshire, which has the reputation of being the best-farmed country in the world! In other northern counties potatoes have not looked less promising for very many years. The haulm in most cases looks small, with a curled, burnt appearance that promises badly for an average crop. Half an average is about the extent of expectations.

THE Tenant Right Valuers' Associations have been discussing the Agricultural Holdings Act of 1906, and it seems to be generally surmised that it will give lawyers and judges something to do, and increase the difficulties of valuers in their duties. Mr. W. Harrison, of Huttons Ambo, the new president of the North Riding of Yorkshire Valuers' Association, has a great reputation among his professional brethren east, north, and west; and he was one of the first farmers in Yorkshire to be honoured with a place on the Commission of the Peace. That was some years ago. Since that day the benches of magistrates have been "invaded" by many tenant-farmers or gentlemen retired from farming. County benches were formerly the preserves exclusively of squires, and of clergy in the enjoyment of rich livings. How we have moved since those days! Now the squire has to sit cheek by jowl with tradesmen in the administration of justice and the transaction of county business.

A YORKSHIRE farmer has mentioned to me that in his wheat fields and of some others, he has spoken to about the matter, the plant has flowered several times. He regards it as a phenomenal occurrence, none of his oldest acquaintances having been cognisant of such a thing. The ears are not filling well. It is in a wheat-growing district.

August 1, 1907.

Lincolnshire Notes.

THE stormy week has been very disastrous in its effect on crops, which had just begun to recover nicely from the effects of the incessant rain. Many fields of corn are beaten down, and with the prospect of more rain the harvest outlook becomes very gloomy again. "Man wants but little here below." It is surprising how little sunshine we can make shift with. But this year things are too bad altogether.

THE Board of Agriculture's forecast promises a fair average harvest. The wheat crop is reported as in a good healthy condition with abundance of straw, whilst generally the accounts from this county are good. But a few days' continuance of the rain which is steadily falling, and the cold which is exerting its influence, or of the heavy storms which made day hideous on Tuesday, will soon alter the face of smiling prospects.

THE Holland County Council is in earnest on the subject of rural education. So, at any rate, it informed the committee of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union last Friday. They believe in it thoroughly, and all that is troubling them is some anxiety as to the way how. That seems to be the case of every local and county authority. There never was such an amount of good intention running to waste. Is it not about time that somebody with a few ideas on the subject began to make them known? A conference of county councils, chambers of agriculture, and the Farmers' Union might have important results on the education policy of the county next year. Public authorities naturally don't like trying experiments in the dark, particularly educational experiments.

THE Farmers' Union has extended to Yorkshire. A branch was formed as the result of a most enthusiastic meeting at Doncaster on Saturday.

MR. WINFREY is not to become a paid commissioner under the Small Holdings Bill. He would not accept such a position if it were offered to him he told a meeting of his constituents last week. He will remain where he has done so much useful work already at Earl Carrington's elbow. Nevertheless, his advice and practical help will be wanted when the provisions of the Act begin to come into operation. I don't suppose the first adventures of the Act are going to be a picnic by any means.

SOUTH Lincolnshire is furnishing a remarkable object lesson just now in the value of fruit and potato farms. When the district began to face the problem of agricultural depression, it did so in a practical way. To-day the Spalding area is one vast garden of flowers, green peas, fruit, and potatoes. It is estimated—I quote from the local journal—that 50,000 acres of potatoes are grown annually in the district; in the area between Kirton and Wisbech, large tracts have been converted into fruit and flower gardens, and new industries galore have sprung up in connection with agriculture. In a single week, during the bloom season 80 tons of flowers were despatched from Spalding Station to the great centres; the strawberry farms are so productive that several train loads have on occasion passed through Spalding on a single night; so great has been the demand upon the rolling stock, that the railway companies have appropriated antiquated carriages for the purpose of fruit conveyance; and, now that the potato season has commenced, nobody can traverse the district around Spalding, Kirton, Surfleet, Moulton, Holbeach, Gedney, and Long Sutton, without being struck with the activities of the land and the large amount of male and female labour employed thereon." Labour is in great demand, and there are cases of woman and child earning 5s. to 6s. a day. There are fine times all round, and if the weather be favourable there are still finer ahead.

TWO important Lincolnshire estates changed hands on Tuesday. The Gate Burton and Knaith estates, which have been in the possession of the Hutton family for the last 200 years, were put up for auction. Burton Chateau, with 1,100 acres of land, was purchased by Mr. J. D. Sandars for £20,000, and the same purchaser obtained Knaith Hall, with 1,312 acres of land, for £26,500. Many other lots of land were included in the sale, which altogether realised £58,131.

IN the Fens, too, some valuable estates have changed hands. Part of the Coldham Hall estates, about four miles south of Wisbech, came under the hammer this week, 152 acres, but, with a bid of £7,900, at which figure the property was withdrawn. Subsequently, however, it was sold in nine separate lots, and realised the satisfactory sum of £9,700. The vendor was General L. V. Loyd.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

Account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended July 27, 1907, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year (the figures for 1906 are in parentheses):—

Animals, living:—Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves (13,253), 10,495; sheep and lambs (1,659), 2,114; horses (253), 460.

Fresh meat:—Beef (191,008 cwts.), 117,472; Mutton (137,012), 135,233; pork (4,756), 4,360.

Salted or preserved meat:—Bacon (101,362 cwt.), 113,113; beef (4,039), 1,609; hams (28,747), 23,036; pork (6,558), 5,751; meat (18,012), fresh, 11,153; salted, 1,172; meat, preserved (8,634), 5,236.

Dairy produce and substitutes:—Butter (95,031 cwt.), 90,038; margarine (22,637), 16,288; cheese (115,121), 64,457; milk, cream (114), 102; milk, condensed (18,323), 13,083; milk, preserved (107), 76.

Eggs (great hundreds):—(467,761), 314,422; poultry (value £3,306), £2,778; game (value £6), £25; rabbits, dead (not tinned), (423 cwt.), 15,448; lard (34,643 cwt.), 32,450.

Corn, grain, meal, and flour:—Wheat (1,927,300 cwt.), 2,522,900; wheat meal and flour (245,300), 200,300; barley (193,800), 123,300; oats (513,300), 319,500; peas (60,230), 28,720; beans (10,480) 1,160; maize or Indian corn (905,000), 1,501,000.

Fruit (raw):—Apples (2,6703 cwt.), 10,382; apricots and peaches (1,641 cwt.), 10,247; bananas (169,032 bunches), 174,227; cherries (4,254 cwt.), 10,567; currants (13,749), 14,455; gooseberries (1,827), 685; grapes (704), 364; lemons (20,628), 30,872; oranges (3,439), 11,448; pears (23,317), 5,630; plums (67,396), 21,438; strawberries (1,682), 2,803.

Hay (5,599 tons), 1,762; straw (1,666 tons), 631; moss litter (1,426 tons), 1,604; hops (5,833 cwt.), 7,579; locust beans (11,357 cwt.), 59,290.

Vegetables, raw:—Onions (187,696 bush.), 160,204; potatoes (92,850 cwt.), 87,347; tomatoes (51,149); 34,488.

Mr. and Mrs. Holliday Harrison, of Bomby, Westmorland, who are 83 and 85 respectively, have, without assistance, just secured the hay-crop from their ten acres of meadow. He forked the hay, and she did the loading and mowing.

The Manchester County Bench on Tuesday dismissed, with two guineas costs, the summons against Harry Ballingall, milk dealer, Oxford Street, Old Trafford, for selling what was alleged to be adulterated milk. At a previous hearing it was decided that a sample be sent up to the Government analyst, and Mr. W. H. Wilson, for the prosecution, said that having regard to the certificate received from Somerset House, he would like the Bench to hear Dr. Collingwood Williams. Dr. Williams said that so far as his scientific analysis was concerned, he was quite certain it was correct. It was a difficult matter to analyse crude milk. The Stipendiary said they were practically of opinion that in this case the milk did not afford evidence of added water. The Bench had no doubt that the county analyst exercised great skill in making the analysis, but they were bound by the decision of the Somerset House authorities. To his mind 4 per cent. of added water was such an infinitesimal quantity that no chemist could possibly detect it.

Midland Notes.

THE Board of Agriculture harvest forecasts this year are the cause of many smiles among Midland farming folk—but they are smiles betokening small inclination to merriment. Wheat only 1 per cent. under a full average, barley only 2 per cent. under, oats a full and perfect crop, and hay 6 per cent. over a full average. These are figures giving the impression of one of the best years on record. And 1907 will not be that.

IT comes, of course, from the official necessity to count chickens before they are hatched, and bushels of corn per acre before they are reaped. There is no doubt about the oats doing well; but careful examination of wheat fields in Oxford and Warwick leads to the conclusion that the ears are far from setting as they should; and in Warwick, Stafford, and Northants there are more poor fields of barley than good ones. Two more points have also to be noted. At present the chances seem much against the cereals ripening by the ordinary time, and a late harvest is never welcome. Also the area of corn laid by the recent heavy rain and tempestuous wind is very considerable. In short, the corn must almost infallibly disappoint official expectations unless the season mend—which it shows no signs of doing—and the ingathering in many cases must necessarily be troublesome and expensive. On the whole, it looks as though the bean fields would be more profitable than the wheat or barley.

IN North-West Staffordshire, where the by-election has been going on up to to-day, farmers have divided their attention between haymaking and Tariff Reform. Of the former there is still much to be done; and the latter seems to have ousted all other political topics from consideration.

HERE, as in Rutland recently, the Small Holdings Bill seems to have fallen quite flat. There is no doubt that in both these constituencies the average labourer wants ownership, not tenancy under a district council; and the average farmer looks with dislike upon any proposal which may end by sending up his rates. Nor have attacks of the familiar kind on landlordism in general met with much encouragement. It was interesting to see how promptly Mr. Stanley was "pulled up" at Eccleshall when he told an audience of farmers that of rating relief already granted "the landlords had taken four-fifths."

IN North-west Staffordshire the cry of "no future but the workhouse" for the labourer does not go down very well. The instances to the contrary are too numerous. Writing from Stone, a small farmer tells me that "the forefathers of some of the largest farmers in this district were labourers. . . . I know a man in this neighbourhood who was a labourer, and is now our largest farmer, holding 1,000 acres." And on £1 2s. 6d. a week, with extras, the farm hand in this part of the country is distinctly better off than some of his fellows.

BIRMINGHAM has just decided against a proposal to start municipal milk depôts. But the city has not yet finally decided against an allotment scheme which is singular enough to deserve a note. It has been proposed to create twenty-eight allotments, let at £1 a year apiece, on what is known as the Black Patch—a piece of land between two railway embankments on the Birmingham and Smethwick boundary. An official of the Estate Committee has been sampling the soil, the place having been used as a dumping-ground for ash and cinders and rubbish for many years by.

AT one spot he dug 4 ft. 2 in. deep without finding the original soil; at another he "struck bottom" 2 in. short of 5 ft. down, having passed on the way through a 12 in. layer of broken bottles. To cart this vast accumulation of rubbish bodily away being impracticable, it is suggested that the surface should be "covered 12 in. deep with well-rotted manure." And so the matter stands. The land is to be bought, though chiefly for other purposes; the question of allotments still hangs in the balance. It seems to be a pretty opportunity for Prince Krapotkin to step in and illustrate his well-known ideas of intensive culture upon "made" soils.

THE cost of Warwickshire road maintenance has often been a source of complaint by farmers in the county. It has gone up again. In 1904, the roads directly under county council control cost £27,566, in 1905 6 they cost £32,158; for the last twelve months the figure is £37,440. With a £10,000 advance in four years, can it be wondered at that the cry of extravagance is raised? The cost of road maintenance last year worked out at £579 a mile.

THE autumn sales, which will make the next two months so busy, are already beginning. Next Tuesday (August 6) we have the Oxford Down and Cotswold sale at Cirencester, and Mr. J. Hobbs's sale at Oxford; the day after, some of Sir Alexander Henderson's Hampshires come under the hammer, and so do the Oxford Downs from Messrs. Treadwell's. Friday also sees the Honeybourne lamb sale, Oxford ram fair is fixed for August 14, and eight days later the Birmingham sale of Shropshires at Bingley Hall takes place.

ALL these are sales which interest Midland flockowners, who, by-the-way, are more extensive patrons of the Hampshire Downs than is always remembered. One must look far, to be sure, to find a pure-bred flock; but the Hampshire-Oxford cross is a recognised favourite, especially upon cold, heavy land.

August 1, 1907.

LINCOLNSHIRE FARMERS' UNION.

ENTHUSIASTIC MEETING AT DONCASTER.

Formation of a Local Branch.

On Saturday, the 27th ult., the officials of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union held a propaganda meeting at Doncaster, where a large number of principal local farmers gathered.

The ex-Mayor of Doncaster (Councillor G. Smith) was to have presided, but was out of town, and Mr. T. Harrison, C.C, was voted to the chair.

Amongst the numerous company present were Messrs. Law, W. Hinchcliffe (Adwick-le-Street), Chatterton (Intake Farm, Doncaster), R. Coward (Skellow), Everatt, Ford, Farr, Otley, A. Hand (editor of the *Doncaster Gazette*), and C. Dawson.

The Chairman welcomed the officials of the Union to Doncaster, and went on to express the views that farmers in this district had been very dilatory, and that it was high time, and not only that, but absolutely necessary, that a union should be formed; moreover, the moment was opportune for them to combine to protect interests too long neglected. From the report of the Union good work was being done in Lincolnshire, and the officials were anxious to continue that good work in Yorkshire, which was a laudable object and worthy of all support. On behalf of Yorkshire tenant farmers he welcomed a movement that would bring them into touch with such matters as closely affected and would advance them.

Mr. Campbell said that that good attendance at that busy time of the year and on that busy day demonstrated that at last farmers were beginning to see that it was really necessary that they should take a leaf out of the book of every other trade and profession in the kingdom, and organise themselves. It was as the result of a wish expressed by several gentlemen at the Lincoln Show, where the Union had a stand, that they should come to Doncaster and try to open a branch. The Union commenced in Lincolnshire in a very small way, and now had branches in Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, and Rutlandshire. Their foremost object was to organise for Parliamentary purposes. They were aware of the great benefits that had accrued to other callings through organisation, and though only a small body, they approached candidates in Lincolnshire, at the last election, with certain questions, which, he was happy to say, were mostly answered in the affirmative. They were a non-political body, and embraced people of all political creeds. Up to now, neither on the central body nor in the branches, had there been any friction. They were first farmers and then politicians. They thought that Parliament should treat all the questions that affected them, not as political, but as national ones. In regard to the Small Holdings and Allotments Bill, they recognised that if it were carried out on proper lines, it would be a very good thing indeed, but they did not approve of the Bill as at present drawn up, and there would certainly have to be some alterations. One of the principal things that they felt in this connection was that as this was a national question, the expense—and he was afraid it would be great—should come out of the national exchequer. Another feature of the Parliamentary programme that interested them was the Lights Bill, to which a Lincolnshire member had brought an amendment that provided for the leading of harvest without the necessity of lights on the carts after dark. The insertion of that clause would confer a boon, and county councils in various parts would no doubt constitute bye-laws accordingly. The legal aid section of the Union work was a very good feature. The subscription was only ½d. per acre for the first year, and half that amount afterwards, and they took up all kinds of cases that interested them as farmers. Any member might find himself the victim or instigator of legal proceedings, but no matter how small the subscription, the Union would support its member, who might get back his subscriptions many times over after his first year of membership. Railway companies and others were apt to put pressure upon farmers in the way of litigation, but with the strength of a union behind them the farmers would be better able to hold their own than was the case when individuals found themselves involved. They had succeeded in one or two of the cases they had taken up. He hoped there would be another meeting at Doncaster after the harvest, and that the movement would grow into a national farmers' union.

Mr. Palmer, dealing with the organisation of the Union, said that the subscription paid upon a 250 acre farm would represent only what a miner paid to his society. There were two things that the Union was particularly fighting for. One was the matter of insurance, in which they were pretty well treated in Yorkshire, where they paid 20 per cent. less than the farmers in any other part of the country. They certainly did not want Yorkshire to be "levelled up" to the ten shillings rate, but to bring the others down to the Yorkshire rate. The other matter was that of railway charges. From Doncaster downwards to March and other places 25 per cent. more had to be paid than on the London and South-Western and North-Eastern Railways. Individually they could do nothing, but collectively they could do something. They met the railway companies once and failed, but they would stick to them and the Board of Trade until they made matters more equal. The central committee of the Union comprised the chairman and secretary of each branch, as it was formed, so that there was intercommunication always between the central committee and each branch. The two essentials of the Union were that it should be free from party politics, and that it should be purely and simply a farmers' union. If they stuck to those two, federation would be as easy as falling off a tree.

The Rev. T. Hamilton, in an interesting and eloquent speech, spiced with a pleasing element of humour, put the advantages of combination lucidly before the company. This was his first experience, he said, as a speaker to a Yorkshire audience. He had every admiration for the Yorkshire character, and he had no doubt that if the cultivators of the broad acres of Yorkshire would join the Union success would be assured. Farmers were the backbone of the nation, for agriculture was the first industry, without supplies from which the great industries of spinning, of coal and iron, could not exist, for was it not "the staff of life," the bread that the farmer produced, that enabled society to exist and the industrial system to be carried on?

Several of those present expressed their views upon the subject, and there was a general agreement with the movement.

Mr. Law said that England appeared to be sitting down, while other nations were up and trampling over her. It was time the farmers did rise, for as matters had too long stood they had no power to say anything, not to speak of taking action. It was of no use for one or two men to speak, because they were easily swamped by the overwhelming interests that could be brought against them in many matters, but as a Union, it commended itself to common sense, farmers must at once be recognised as a power, and therefore he was in favour of this Farmers' Union, and the forming of a local branch. He thought, by the aspect of that meeting, that a new enthusiasm would be created in the cause of combination. There had been many movements commenced in Yorkshire that had fallen through for want of proper enthusiasm and a sound line of combination. Recently there was a meeting at York, but on investigation he found too much of the landlord element for his taste, so he stayed away. What they wanted was something for farmers, not landlords. He wished the Union movement every success, and he hoped Yorkshire farmers would join the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union, which he intended to do.

Mr. W. Hinchcliffe (Adwick-le-Street) said this was a sound movement, and he should do what he could towards furthering it. While men like miners had the sense to combine and so be able to demand fair treatment, it was not much to the credit of farmers, he thought, that they did not organise.

Mr. Chatterton also briefly supported the movement, the good of which, he said, was so apparent that it scarcely needed any words.

Mr. R. Coward (Skellow) said that he felt in this matter what he once expressed in proposing a

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What in many parts of the country promised to be a record yield, has been endangered as to quality, if not also quantity, by the recent excessive rainfall.

That considerable damage has been done in many districts is already known by the orders which for several days past have been reaching the makers of "PHŒNIX" HAY SPICE, these being accompanied in most instances by an urgent appeal for quick despatch.

This Spice supplies the valuable aromatic flavouring principle of "prime" Hay, and when sown in the ricks imparts a much stronger fragrance, and a specially powerful, attractive, aromatic flavour. Besides this, it increases the value of all Hay, both for feeding and sale, quite 20s. per ton. It gives a pleasant aroma, and is unequalled as a condiment for damaged or inferior feeding stuff. It makes damaged Hay tempting and palatable, more digestible, and makes all animals eat it with a greater relish, and thrive faster on it. It also removes mustiness and all defects, and imparts a good tempting flavour and fragrant smell to "weathered" Hay (even when black and seemingly worthless), and makes cattle eat it as well as the best, and thrive on it admirably.

It is a really efficient Hay Spice, in which all waste is prevented, as it gives to the most inferior, coarse, or damaged Hay a fragrant, tempting smell, and an excellent and appetising taste. One cwt. will dress 20 tons of Hay at a cost of about 1s. per ton.

The "PHŒNIX" HAY SPICE is packed in bags of 112 lbs. each; the price being 20s. per cwt., carriage paid to buyer's station.

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F. WALKER, Tithby, Notts

certain toast, that farmers were the biggest fools to themselves of any class in the country. In connection with that same toast he proposed a local union with Doncaster as the centre, but there was no sort of cohesion, and the matter fell through. Forty or fifty years ago there was a farmers' club that degenerated into a brandy and water club, and they did not want a movement nowadays that was likely to become a whiskey and water club. What they wanted was a movement, organised on business lines, carried on in an independent manner, by farmers for farmers. If they did not do this thing it was as plain as the light of day that other nations would come in and swamp us. Farmers had money at stake, in insurance and other things, and they could not possibly allow themselves to be jostled out of their place in life.

Mr. Everatt said that it was evident to him, and had been for some time, that the Union would be a great benefit to them all. He should like to see a local branch in activity at once.

Mr. Ford said he made up his mind to join the Union before he went to that meeting. It was a thing that was right. Farmers' movements had in the past been carried on by landlords and land agents, and the farmer, who had a view to expound, or a grievance to ventilate, could not do so because it was not beneficial to him to open his mouth, unsupported by a body of his own class, in the presence of the landlords and their agents. With a union he could speak fearlessly, knowing the power that he had at his back. These matters had been discussed over and over again at at the old agricultural clubs, but the old agricultural clubs were not established on a proper basis.

Mr. Farr (Scawby) was indignant that farmers had so long held back. He was for immediate action, and longed to see a strong Union in operation.

Mr. Otley brought in the question of the middleman, and wondered how a union of this kind would affect him. The farmer, he pointed out, could not do without the other trades, like those of corn merchant and cattle dealer, and yet some time ago there was an interference with the latter. He did not see why there should be interference, because they were mutually bound up, and this being so, he felt that the Union would be a good thing.

Mr. Campbell said they had not touched the matter of the middleman at all. They had not taken up the trading question. They intended to keep the Union a farmers' union, made up of *bonâ fide* farmers, and the question of the affecting of the trades associated with farming did not come in. They were not against the landlord nor labourer, both of whom had many things in common with farmers, and did not want to do anybody any harm, but simply themselves a bit of good. The land agents had a society, and the labourers were likely to have one in the near future. The farmers had been approached by the land agents, and as time went on it was probable that they might establish a round table conference, where land agents', farmers', and labourers' representatives would meet to deal with matters mutually affecting them, and which could not thus be amicably and justly settled but for the existence of Unions.

Mr. Law moved, and Mr. Farr seconded, that a Doncaster and district branch of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union be formed.

This was unanimously carried, and Mr. T. Harrison was appointed first chairman, with full power to carry on organisation business with headquarters pending the appointment of full committee and secretary.

A number of farmers, representing in all about 9,000 acres, enrolled themselves as members.

OBITUARY.

Archibald Hunter.

We regret to record the death of Mr. Archibald Hunter, of the firm of Messrs. Thomas Hunter and Sons, implement makers, Maybole, which took place at his residence, Daisy Bank, Culzean Road, on Friday forenoon, July 20. Mr. Hunter was widely known, his figure being a familiar one all over England, Scotland, and Ireland, where he attended all the principal agricultural shows and stock markets. He was an active and enterprising business man, could drive a good bargain, and could crack a good joke. We are glad to know that his eldest son, now about eighteen years of age, who has been serving his apprenticeship with Ransome and Co., Ipswich, will take his father's place in the business. The firm of Thomas Hunter and Sons is well known throughout the three kingdoms, and has valuable connections in every agricultural district.

Oats in America.—A cable received in London on the 1st inst. stated that July had been most unfavourable to oats in America, and that it was now certain that the yield of that cereal would barely suffice for home consumption. New crop shipments are not offered, and the United States are even expected to be buyers from Canada.

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Plantation Reports.

The festival of St. Lubbock, commonly referred to as "Bank holiday," disturbs many persons and things, and as it sends us to press earlier than usual, the period allowed for my reports is shortened. Consequently I have had but little time for observation this week, and the position of affairs being subject to but slight alteration, my remarks are necessarily brief.

The prognostications of the weather prophets, referred to last week, have been only partially realised. We have had a larger allowance of sunshine, for which we are grateful; but the wind has remained more or less northerly, and a somewhat cool atmosphere is the result. Especially have we felt chilliness during the night hours, and at this critical time such experience is by no means desirable for the hop plant. But despite these apparent hindrances, there is a general note of progress in the reports I have received.

The increased vigour imparted by the previous higher temperature seems to have assisted the bine in resisting the subsequent slight check, and I gather that the prospects of the crop are, on the whole, brighter within the past three weeks.

The increase of blight in places, and the partial spread of mould, are the only drawbacks I can hear of. This involves continued washing, and as the laterals are getting stronger, and the burr is freely appearing on all the early sorts, the continued presence of fly assumes a somewhat serious aspect. But there is good ground for hope that Nature will provide her own remedy, and that, under normal conditions, the development of the flower and fruit will go forward to a satisfactory conclusion.

With respect to mould damage I have not much fear, being guided thereto by the limited demand for sulphur, which has much disappointed the dealers in this article this season. I ascertain also from the Borough traders that they are not so doubtful about the probable weight of the crop, as its quality. As the rays of the sun are needful for the sweetening of fruit they are equally necessary for the production of lupulin in the hop cones. It is therefore possible that our crop may be somewhat deficient in this respect, but we hope always that the finishing month will make up for all present deficiencies, and that after the anxieties we have passed through we shall be, in the end, rewarded.

Germany.

My correspondents in Alsace-Lorraine anticipate a full crop of hops, although the weather has been cold and rather too much rain has fallen. Consequently some of the gardens are rather backward. In the Hagenau district there is a good deal of vermin, but, on the whole, the results are expected to be satisfactory, except in the matter of prices. The reports from Baden are also very promising. Throughout Bavaria the crop prospects improve daily, although the weather is not ideal. Coldish nights and only moderate warmth during the day have been general, but these conditions have not interfered with the growth and development, which progress steadily and indicate good results.

Belgium.

The Poperinghe planters profess to be alarmed by the renewed attack of vermin, which, despite their efforts in washing, stubbornly stick to the bine. But there is no apparent interference with the growth, which is vigorous and promising. Some of the districts in Alost are also bothered with a similar visitation, while other districts are quite free. The general outlook is, however, in favour of a full normal crop.

America.

There is no practical change in the favourable conditions of the growing crop, as previously reported. The prospects of a full and plentiful yield remain undisturbed.

Market Conditions.

These may be disposed of in a few sentences. The Borough traders have little or nothing to do, and the small amount of business transacted shows that values are rather in favour of buyers. The knowledge of the scarcity of good hops, and the limited stocks of all descriptions does not induce consumers to operate. They are evidently content to wait till the new crop comes forward, and are apparently satisfied that they are running no risks by such reticence.

The large consignments from America to which I referred last week have not affected our trade, as these hops were almost entirely shipped in fulfilment of earlier contracts, and have therefore passed direct into the possession of consumers. Many of our people are taking advantage of the stagnant state of affairs, to have a few days recreation, or to make journeys of observation through the hop growing districts.

The Nuremberg market is [illegible] situated. The favourable reports from the country cause holders to be anxious to clear their stocks, and as brewers are buying so sparingly, prices are gradually but steadily falling. The sales during the past week have not exceeded 120 bales, and as arrivals have equalled this quantity, stocks are not reduced. The tendency of business is toward further reduction. Some small lots of new hops continue to arrive, a few hundredweights having been sold at 100s. per 50 kilos.

The Belgian markets, supported by speculation, were again firm at the beginning of last week, but a reaction set in when the efforts of the "bulls" were exhausted. I do not think the trade will recover its firmness in the face of the improved weather and the consequent advancement in the prospects of the growing crop.

In America there is very little being done except in the execution of early contracts. Prices for new business remain very low, and are likely to fall still further.

Tunbridge Wells Agricultural Show.

Amongst the numerous exhibits of implements, the stand of Messrs. Drake and Fletcher, of Maidstone, was very prominent. It occupied a space of 90ft. in length, and included all kinds of machines useful to farmers, and especially to hop growers. Their enterprise was recognised by the award of a gold medal. The chief novelty that attracted the attention of hop growers was Joyce's new patent automatic pure hot-air plant for hop drying. This was closely examined, and its merits were acknowledged by the judges who awarded to it a silver medal. I understand that the makers of this apparatus have received sufficient orders from planters in the southern and midland districts to keep them fully occupied until the harvest of the new crop commences.

POULTRY.

The Utility Poultry Club's Twelve Months' Laying Competition.

The Utility Poultry Club have now completed their arrangements for holding a twelve months' laying competition, beginning on October 1 next.

Mr. E. W. Ricardson, the hon. secretary of the club, who for some years was lecturer on poultry for the county of Bedford, and subsequently for that of Cheshire, will manage the competition on his farm at Rayne, near Braintree, in Essex.

The competition will be run on somewhat different lines from that of the four months. A pen will consist of six pullets instead of four, and the prizes will be given for value of eggs produced rather than numbers. For the purpose of obtaining a fair value, the average price each week of three leading egg markets will be taken for the basis of calculation.

From January 1 to April 30 the pens may be mated up, and competitors will be allowed to purchase the eggs laid by their own birds upon payment of the average market price and a fixed charge for packing and despatching them to the required destinations. This arrangement will obviate the loss of a valuable breeding season, while in the case of pens doing well the eggs should fetch considerable prices and so recoup the competitor.

Prizes and medals to the value of £10 will be given, and additional silver and bronze medals will be awarded for such pens as the committee of the club shall deem of sufficient merit, the new method of adjudication preventing any standard of excellence being settled before the competition begins.

The entry fee is £6, which may appear excessive; the expenses of the committee are, however, very heavy, and the club, even with this fee, estimate to lose over £50 on the competition. The competition is open to all, and entries close on August 17. Full particulars and forms can be obtained on application (with stamped addressed envelope) to the hon. secretary—C. Dunkley, Wednesfield, Wolverhampton.

"Uveco" Lamb Food.—We have received from "Uveco" Cereals Ltd. a sample of their "Uveco" lamb food, which is composed of "Uveco," linseed cake, split peas, and locust beans, proportions of which are guaranteed, forming an excellent combination. A great point claimed for this food is that, being practically free from dust, the waste in the feeding troughs usually associated with lamb foods is almost entirely avoided. A large quantity of this food is being used in Shropshire and Lincolnshire with unqualified success.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

Relation of Potash to Potato Blight.

The requirement of the potato crop for a liberal supply of available potash is well known, and is acted upon by the most successful growers. When large quantities of farmyard manure are given, it is not usually necessary to apply chemical potash, but it is generally now recognised that the more profitable method of cultivation is to use more moderate quantities of farmyard manure and to supplement it with artificials; in such cases a liberal proportion of potash should be included.

Another advantage of potash is now being drawn attention to. It enables the tuber to resist the attacks of blight. In the report of the Massachusetts agricultural experiment station, there is a record of some observations on this point.

The potatoes in the experimental field were carefully sprayed with Bordeaux mixture, the dates of the successive applications being June 27, July 7, August 2, and August 10.

Early in August it was noticed that the leaves of all the no-potash plants were beginning to be blighted, while the foliage on all the plots to which potash had been applied still appeared to be practically unaffected. The blight made rapid progress on each of the five no-potash plots, while the foliage of the vines upon all the other plots for the most part ripened normally. Practically all the leaves on the no potash plots were dead by the end of August, at which date there was still considerable living foliage on the other plots. There was no decay of the tubers, however, in any of the plots, but the marked inferiority in yield of the no-potash plots was, no doubt, in considerable measure due to the relatively early death of the foliage.

No explanation, continues the report, can be offered at this time for the observed phenomena. Earlier observers, among them Dr. Goessmann and Professor Maynard, have held that a liberal supply of potash exercised a marked influence in enabling the foliage of fruits to resist fungous diseases. Some European investigators have attributed a similar effect to potash in connection with potato diseases. This matter should evidently receive further and most careful study, for if potato blight can be in a measure controlled through more liberal use of potash salts, this will afford a comparatively easy method of reducing the amount of the injury done to the fungi attacking the foliage of this important crop.

Calcium Cyanamide against Wild Mustard.

Experiments indicate that this new fertiliser may be used with advantage as a means of checking that troublesome weed, wild mustard. It is reported, as the result of trials, that the material broadcasted at the rate of ¾ cwt. per acre destroys the weed, and that even smaller quantities hold it in check. It was found that the calcium cyanamide had the effect of hindering the growth of the weed to such an extent that the crop of oats was able to get the better of it. The oats also suffered and caused anxiety, but directly rain came recovered quickly, and now surpass the crop growing on land not treated.

The question remains, What would have been the result if rain had not fallen?

It would be interesting to know whether any of our readers who have been trying calcium cyanamide this season have noticed similar results from its use.

Why Does Farmyard Manure make the Soil Fertile?

During the International Agricultural Congress Professor Stoklosa read an interesting paper on the above subject. He gave a brief sketch of the views hitherto held, and reported the results of a large number of experiments made by him with the special object of ascertaining the important part played by bacteria in farmyard manure. He considered that the application of 40 tons manure, calculated as dry substance, was equivalent to inoculating the soil with about half a ton of bacteria. According to his investigation the respiration of bacteria was greatly increased by the farmyard manure, and, as a consequence, the temperature of the soil raised correspondingly.

Experiments have also clearly demonstrated that the conversion of insoluble with soluble or available phosphoric acid proceeds with much greater energy in a soil dressed with farmyard manure, but if the manure has been first sterilised this action does not take place, thus proving that it is caused by the bacterial activity in the manure.

With regard to the actual plant nourishment furnished by farmyard manure, Professor Stoklosa confirmed the views of other authorities that the requirements of cultivated crops are not covered by farmyard manure, as its contents do not correspond to the latest investigations of plant physiology, and, moreover, there are not sufficient quantities of it to satisfy the needs of the crops. According to the opinions of the best authorities, such as Stutzer, Pfeiffer, and, it may be added, of Dr. Voelcker, Dr. Dyer, and others, it is not advisable to apply at one time very large dressings of farmyard manure, but it is better to give smaller dressings at shorter intervals. By application of small quantities, the soil is equally well inoculated with the bacteria, and the micro-organisms present in the soil are stimulated to greater activity.

He cited several instances in which the best results on various crops—beetroot, wheat, potatoes, and rye—were obtained from quite small dressings of farmyard manure, 10 tons per hectare (4 tons per acre), supplemented with concentrated fertilisers in the well-known forms offered to farmers. and he closed his very interesting lecture with the remark that the problem before us is not how much crop increase may be due to farmyard manure or to chemical fertilisers, but how to wisely make use of both, because it is certain that the best and most profitable system is the use of the two judiciously combined.

Chemical fertilisers supplement the natural manure, and both exercise a special but distinct influence, not only in the chemical and physical condition of the soil, but also in the development of the plant. The words of the French investigator, Jean Dumas, spoken 50 years ago, are as true as ever:—"One of the first duties of agriculture lies in the production of good farmyard manure and its judicious use." This is, and will always remain, the basis of successful farming.

Effect of Lime on Turnips.

It is the common practice with farmers in Aberdeenshire and some other districts to apply a small dressing of ground lime at the same time as other artificial manures—that is, with the seed. In order to test how far this practice is a good one, some experiments were made by the Aberdeen and North of Scotland College of Agriculture. The result showed that the effect of the lime applied at that time was to diminish the crop on all the farms except one. Thus the best average results were obtained from a dressing of—

1½ cwt. nitrate of soda.
1½ ,, superphosphate.
¾ ,, sulphate of potash.

producing an average crop of 12 tons 10½ cwt. per acre, an increase over the no-manure crop of 8 tons 9½ cwt., showing a profit due to the manures of 49s. 5d. per acre. When the same fertilisers plus 10 cwt. ground lime were applied, the average crop was 7 cwt. per acre less, the profit being reduced from 49s. 5d. to 39s. 8d.

The application of the lime *at the wrong time* was the direct cause of this loss. As the report explains, lime in order to benefit the turnip crop should be applied at least some months before the land is drilled, and should be worked thoroughly into the land during its cultivation. It is a mistake to apply it at the same time as the other manures.

The lime so applied will probably do good in subsequent years, but, except in cases such as on one farm, where lime was urgently wanted, the probability is that little good will be done to the turnip crop, and the use of lime may, as has been the case in four of these experiments, be followed by an actual diminution of the crop. It is to be remembered that the action of lime is not like the action of nitrogenous, phosphatic, and potassic manures. These are needed mainly for the direct nourishment of the plant. Lime has much more complicated functions to fulfil. Its main use is not to directly feed the plant. It is more largely needed to keep the soil in proper condition, and to enable it to render up its stores of nitrogen in condition fit for the use of crops. So long as the lime present in the soil is sufficient for the proper performance of these indirect services to the crop, there will be abundance present for its direct consumption. The main action of lime on the crop is slow and long drawn out, and in order to benefit any crop, the lime should be applied, if possible, before the seed and worked into the land. In the case of these experiments, they were arranged so late that it was impossible to apply the lime at what we considered the proper time. We therefore decided that the next best thing would be to apply the lime at what we considered an improper time, but the time at which it is applied by many farmers. This we have done, and the result has been precisely what was to be expected.

The reason why bone meal acts well in soils rich in organic matter is not only on account of the solvent action of the humus, but also because of the greater activity of the acid-producing bacteria in those soils.

The Intelligent Use of Fertilisers.

In a discussion on this subject, the Hon. Alva Algee, at a Farmers' Institute in New York, said:—"A large sum of money is expended annually for fertilisers, and much of it is not invested intelligently. The growing plant requires ten different elements in the soil. Six or seven of these elements are present in cultivated land in abundance. The only elements lacking in available form are nitrogen, phosphoric acid, potash, and sometimes lime. Nitrogen is a costly element, and should be got chiefly from stable manure, clover, beans, &c. Every pound of it as a commercial fertiliser costs from 15 to 18 cents.

"But if the field is to be planted, and it is not able to procure a heavy growth of stock and leaf, there must be nitrogen in the fertiliser used, because it is nitrogen that makes the rank growth of wood, stock, and leaf. If nitrogen is needed, do not buy a fertiliser containing only 1 per cent. of it. That is folly. Buy a fertiliser containing several per cent. of nitrogen, if this element is needed. Don't waste money on this element if none is needed.

"Potash usually is needed on muck and sandy lands. It can be had in muriate and sulphate of potash or in ashes. Clay soils are naturally rich in potash, and can supply all the crops needed if organic matter is rotted in them. If the land is badly deficient in vegetable matter, there probably should be potash in the purchased fertiliser, but the rational thing to do with clay and clay loam soils is to supply organic matter and enable this land to free its own potash.

"The element of the phosphoric acid is usually not abundant in soils. It should be the controlling element in the purchased fertiliser for all land. If nitrogen is obtained from manure and clover, and if potash is freed from the land by the use of organic matter, then phosphoric acid becomes a 'complete fertiliser' for land thus tested. It is obtained in animal bone, in superphosphate, and in raw phosphate rock. Steamed bone is a choice carrier of phosphoric acid, but it is unduly costly. Superphosphate—phosphate treated with sulphuric acid to make it available—is the common source of phosphoric acid. Its use is all right when the land is kept full of humus-making material and is not deficient in lime. Superphosphate, either alone or in so-called complete fertilisers, does harm when no rotting clover sod and manure are used to keep the physical condition right.

"Lime may be needed. Where clover does less well than formerly, or where acid fertilisers have been the sole dependence, lime is often needed—1,000 lb. to the acre. Then seed to clover, and let the land have the benefit of the clover by feeding the hay and returning the manure."

Water constitutes about two-thirds of the weight of an animal's body, entering into the composition of all its tissues and fluids. As it does not form nearly so large a proportion of the ordinary ration fed to stock, it is easy to understand why water as a drink should form a separate part of the animal's supply of food.

The objects of feeding may be summarised as follows:—

1. To maintain bodily heat.
2. To repair waste of tissue.
3. To reproduce young.
4. To form new tissues or organs.
5. To perform muscular labour.
6. To secrete various products.
7. To lay up reserve stores.

It is estimated that the production of phosphate rock for the manufacture of superphosphate in America was at least 2,000,000 tons during 1906.

Two of the greatest friends that man possesses are the dog and the cow. A man may fall so low that friends and relatives will desert him, but his dog will stand by him, and has been known to starve himself when protecting the dead body of his master. The cow in the same way, no matter how poorly she is fed or how roughly she is treated, will still yield milk and cream. She is the only animal that works night and day. During the day she gathers food and is continually converting it into articles of diet and usefulness for mankind.

G. L. McKay.

"How to Manure at a Profit."

This series of useful articles, combining the practice and science of "How to Manure at a Profit," is now finished. As many of our readers would like to have the articles in a form convenient for reference, we intend shortly to publish them in a small pamphlet.

Due notice will be given when the pamphlet is ready for issue, and price.

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR FARMERS WHEN BUYING.

Approximate Unit Cost of Fertilising Constituents.

It is necessary for guidance in the economical use of fertilisers, and especially in the purchase of Complete and Special Manures, that the relative cost of the principal fertilising constituents should be studied: the subjoined table affords information on the subject. By multiplying the guaranteed minimum percentages of a fertiliser by the unit costs given in the table, the buyer will get a good idea of the commercial value of any chemical manure offered to him. The unit values are subject to variations from time to time, and in this respect we shall endeavour to keep the table up to date besides which, buyers living in remote districts may have to pay a little more for heavier cost of delivery. If credit is required, this will also add to the cost.

	Peruvian Guano.			Nitrate of Soda.	Sulphate of Ammonia.	Bone Meal.	Superphosphate.	Basic Slag.	Bone Compounds.	Special Manures.	Kainit.	Sulphate of Potash.	Muriate of Potash.
	Raw or Equalised.	Phosphatic.	Dissolved (soluble).										
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ammonia, organic as in Guano and Bones	17 6	12 6	15 0	—	—	12 6	—	—	15 0	15 0	—	—	—
,, in Sulphate of Ammonia ...	—	—	—	—	10 6	—	—	—	—	12 6	—	—	—
,, calculated from Nitrogen in Nitrate of Soda ...	—	—	—	13 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phosphate soluble in water	—	—	2 0	—	—	—	2 0	—	2 0	2 0	—	—	—
,, assimilable...	1 6	1 2	1 3	—	—	1 2	—	—	1 3	1 3	—	—	—
,, insoluble	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 3	—	—	—	—	—
Potash (pure)	4 0	4 0	4 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 0	3 10	4 0	3 10

N.B.—The above table is based on the commercial cost of the fertilising constituents. Agricultural value is not always synonymous with the commercial cost, and every farmer must exercise his judgment, while considering the cost, which fertiliser may be expected to give the most profitable return on his soil and for his crops. This is the cheapest manure for him.

Approximate Unit Cost of the Nutritive Constituents in Feeding Cakes and Meals.

June 1906.

Cakes and other Feeding Stuffs.—In order to be able to form a correct opinion of their value, it is necessary to know the relative cost of the different nutritive constituents. The following note, by an eminent authority, supplies this information. By reference to it, a farmer can calculate out the approximate commercial value of a cake or meal, and then use his judgment as to which is most suitable for his special requirements.

	s. d.		s. d.
Albuminoids	2 8	to	3 0
Oil or fat	2 8	,,	3 0
Carbohydrates	1 1	,,	1 2

NOTE.—Most authorities in England are agreed that the value of each per cent. or unit of albuminoids and of oil is at least 2½ times that of 1 per cent. or unit carbohydrates. If, therefore, the percentages of albuminoids and oil in a feeding stuff be respectively multiplied by 2½ and added to the percentage of carbohydrates, the total feeding units contained in the article are obtained. The cost of the feeding stuff divided by this total of feeding units gives the price per unit. Example: A cotton cake contained

	Per cent.			=	Feeding units.
Albuminoids	22·1	×	2½	=	55·2
Oil	5·2	×	2½	=	13·0
Carbohydrates	33·2	×	1	=	33·2
Total feeding units					101·4

The price of the cake being £5 7s. 6d., the cost per feeding unit was just about 1s.

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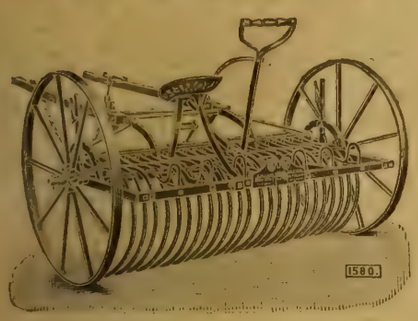
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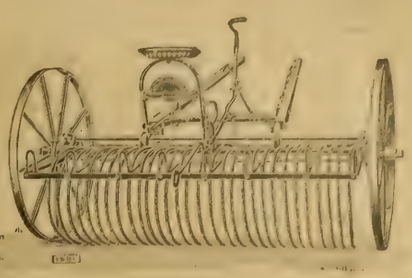
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THE COMING SHORTAGE IN WHEAT.

There are few observers indeed who expect that the British wheat crop of 1907 will equal that of last year, but for the purpose of this article we shall not need to assume any home change.

With respect to France things are almost precisely as they are with us; that is to say, the crop estimators do not anticipate as good a yield as in 1906, but are as yet by no means agreed as to the extent of the falling off. We shall therefore assume of France, as of Great Britain, that the figures of 1906 will stand.

When, however, we come to the German Empire we have full and specific news, both official and agricultural, that the wheat yield is about 4,000,000 qr. less than last season.

In Austria-Hungary the yield is 6,000,000 less than last year, not that any great deficiency is manifest, but that 1906 was the best year on record in Austria-Hungary, and bumper crops hardly ever repeat themselves in the following season.

Roumania, which is a great speculator in wheat growing for exportation, has just completed this year's wheat harvest. Owing to peasants' dissatisfaction with the land laws—there was an abortive rising in May—the Roumanian Government is said to be mimimising the crop deficiency so as to obviate disturbances. If this be so the situation is bad, for the Government put the yield at only 8,500,000 qr. against 13,600,000 qr. last year. This is a difference of over 5,000,000 qr. The great shipping lists put it at more than 6,000,000, but we may as well stick to the official figures.

Spain has a full average crop, but will need to import about 2,000,000 qr. of wheat, that being the extent to which population has now outrun production. The great yield of 1906 made Spain self-supporting for the first time since 1902. The Italian wheat harvest now completed is not a bad one, but is still 2,000,000 qr. smaller than last year, which was, generally speaking, a decidedly prolific one, and has caused exaggerated expectations for the present season.

Finally, we have Servia, Bulgaria, and European Turkey, where the export surplus of wheat is put by the most favourable accounts at 2,000,000 qr., against 3,000,000 last year actually exported.

These figures will be seen to disclose how, without any arresting disaster in any one particular country, the wheat needs of Europe, without including Great Britain, will, for the cereal year beginning September 1, and now quite close upon us, be fully 20,000,000 qr. more than for the previous campaign.

This is a formidable shortage in itself, but it becomes still more important when we look round for sources whence it is to be met and find that our chief wheat-producing countries, the United States and Russia, have each of them admittedly smaller crops from last year. That Canada will be able to supplement the shipments of the United States to the same extent as during the past twelvemonth is decidedly unlikely. Even the optimism of Lord Strathcona has stopped short this summer of crediting the Dominion with an unprecedented crop. The Canadians, like ourselves and the French, will evidently be very relieved if they get home—harvest home—with as much corn as in 1906.

The situation, therefore, is one of much concern for intending wheat buyers, and it is to be hoped that the British farmer will remember that 1907 wheat is already at a premium as compared with the prices at which 1906 wheat opened. Let him thresh as little wheat as possible between September and November. Good prices by Christmas are assured, if only a very reasonable reserve in new deliveries is shown.

SWINE FEVER: PREVENTION AND CURE.

In a recent issue a correspondent made a suggestion which throws interesting light on this disturbing and very serious matter. In going about the country we do not fail to hear the complaints of people who suffer, perhaps necessarily, in the interests of the community but unfortunately for themselves, through the swine fever regulations as at present carried out, and it is a moot point whether the Board of Agriculture in its efforts to stamp out the disease is not attempting the impossible.

Our correspondent pleads for attempts at prevention by the registration of pigstyes and the keeping of animals under more sanitary conditions, and this line of argument has our sympathy. Prevention is better than cure all the world over, and it is impossible to obliterate an evil without ascertaining the cause, treating it at the root, and striking the evil there. Doubtless the Board of Agriculture is doing its best, but if, as our correspondent suggests, it begins at the wrong end, an obviously wise course would be to turn round.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGES.

Cirencester.

The summer term of this college closed on Wednesday. The Principal, the Rev. J. B. McClellan, M.A., referring to the term's work, alluded to the valuable lecture on Forestry by Mr. H. J. Elwes, F.R.S., President of the British Arboricultural Society. Among external successes he mentioned important appointments gained by old students, and said Mr. M. G. Godlonton, a former student, had contributed a prize essay on "The Rotation and Manuring of Crops" to the *Agricultural Journal of the Cape of Good Hope* for April. Nine recent diploma students had been successful in the examination of the Surveyors' Institution, five obtaining the professional associateship. In the present diploma examinations the two highest students had done so well and so equally that each had been awarded a gold medal, and two students from Egypt had done creditably in obtaining the certificate of associateship. The chief awards of the class list follow:—

Honour Diploma of Membership (maximum marks, 2,100; qualifying marks, 1,400).—Wathen Arthur Waller, Leek Wooton, Warwick, 1,892; Robert Henry Price, Cloudesdale Road, Balham, 1,828.

Gold medals (qualifying marks, 1,750).—W. A. Waller, 1,892; R. H. Price, 1,828.

Certificate of Associateship.—Gaston Piah, Cairo, Egypt, 1,319; Mohammed Soubhy, Cairo, Egypt, 1,244.

Scholarships (open to the whole College; maximum marks, 3,600; qualifying marks, 3,000).—First scholarship, £25, William Girvan Wright, Dunard, Row, N.B., 3,506. Second scholarship, £10, Harnam Singh, B.A., Amritsar, Punjab; India, 3,443. Third scholarship, £10, Randle William Carr, Stancombe, Dursley, Glos., 3,404. Honourable mention for scholarships (in order of merit), Lal, H., Campo, Cassey, A., Peek, Gopal. Honourable mention on the term's work other than for scholarships (in order of merit), Lal, P., Sowerby, Datta, Prashad, Holmes.

Cheshire.

The Cheshire County Agricultural and Horticultural College, Holmes College, celebrated their prize day on the 24th ult. Mr. G. Baker Wilbraham, chairman of the committee, who presided at a meeting during the afternoon, said there was a natural spirit of conservatism among agriculturists, but farmers were now taking advantage of the teachings of science, and were getting into

touch with the new spirit of scientific inquiry from which they had hoped to see the best results.

Professor A. D. Hall, director of the Rothamstead Experiment Station, who distributed the prizes, spoke of the valuable work which colleges of that description were doing in the country. The Cheshire College was doing exceptionally good work, because it was a college primarily created for the advantage of Cheshire farmers.

South-Eastern.

There was a large gathering at the South Eastern Agricultural College, at Wye, for the annual distribution of prizes.

Mr. M. J. R. Dunstan, Principal of the College, who presided, said they had every reason to be satisfied with the progress which was being made in every department of the college.

The distribution of prizes and diplomas was carried out by the Right Hon. Ailwyn E. Fellowes, who afterwards made an interesting speech. He remarked that he had taken the opportunity of going round the buildings to see what was being done, and he could say, without fear of contradiction, that the college was doing a very good and most useful work for agriculture in this country. The county councils of Kent and Surrey were to be heartily congratulated on the interest they had taken in the college, sparing no expense in its maintenance and equipment.

Lord Ashcombe, in moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Fellowes, said he considered agriculture a science which required to be studied more than any other.

Sir William Hart Dyke seconded. He alluded to his own thirty years' farming experience, and spoke highly in favour of the colleges like Wye, which gave the men an opportunity of learning something about the business they were about to undertake.

Mr. Laurence Hardy, M.P., in supporting the motion, referred to the successful way in which Mr. E. S. Salmon, one of the college staff, had succeeded in getting Parliament to pass a measure dealing with a pest in fruit culture, and enabling county authorities and the Board of Agriculture to deal promptly with such things in future. He also expressed pleasure at the college's success in forestry, and hoped they would continue their work in this direction, and soon be in a position to give them some information for the better treatment of their woods in Kent.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 6.—Mr. Humphries addresses the British Association at Leicester on the Causes of Strength in Wheat—Welbeck Agricultural Show—Sale of the Bishopstone Flock at Salisbury—Cirencester Ram Sale—Sale of the Londesborough Stud at Market Weighton—Agricultural Shows at Winslow, Coleshill, Chepstow, and Durdham Down—Fairs at Altrincham, Chertsey, Bicester, Dorchester, Thurles, Cowbridge, Trowbridge, Cirencester, and Derby.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7.—Chichester Sheep Fair and Sales, first day—Jubilee Sale of Rams at Upper Winchendon, Bucks—Sir Gilbert Greenall's Horse Sale at Walton Hall, Warrington—Shows at Newport Pagnell, Pembroke, and Worthing—Sale of Mr. Chetwynd's Dexters at Doncaster—Sale of the Buscot Park Flock of Hampshire Downs—Sale of Hampshire Down Rams and Lambs at Cambridge—Great Annual Lamb Sale at Honeybourne, near Evesham.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 8.—Tring Agricultural Show and Sheep-Dog Trials—Great Yorkshire Show at Barnsley, first day—Chichester Sheep Fair and Sales, second day—Shows at Bognor, Kirby, Keele, Madresfield, and Market Bosworth—Fairs at Burgh, Blandford, and Bungay—Cocum Farm Sale, Winchester—Sale of Devon Longwools at Brendon Hill—Sending-in Day for the Birmingham Shorthorn Show and Sale.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9.—Great Yorkshire Show at Barnsley, second day—Show at Barnard Castle—Loughborough Cattle Fair—Yeovil Horse Sale.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10.—Great Yorkshire Show at Barnsley, third day—Show at Whitworth—Talgarth Agricultural Fair—Sending-in Day for Oxford Ram Fair.

MONDAY, AUGUST 12.—Britford Agricultural Fair—Sale of the Chilmark Flock of Hampshire Downs—Fairs at West Malling, Oakham, Lisburn, Castle Douglas, Warwick, Bridgnorth, Carmarthen, Evesham, Hailsham, Ludlow, and Stowmarket—Horncastle Horse Fair, first day—Hastings Horticultural Show—Grouse-Shooting Begins—Sending-in Day for Lancaster Show.

Notes of the Week.

The Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society's meeting is invariably an exhibition worthy of the name.

That of this year at Moses Gate, Bolton, goes one better, and certainly is not lacking in importance.

In my opinion the best-managed show in the country!

Compact and exceedingly well laid out, no waste room anywhere in this year's yard.

By sheer contrast, one reflected on the unnecessary tramp, tramp, tramp that had to be endured at Newport, and especially at Lincoln.

And what is more to the point, an entire absence of the "get off the earth" type of officialdom one meets with at certain shows which shall be nameless.

One, of course, did not look for a *picturesque* ground in a place like Bolton.

We were sheltered on one side by the towering walls of the "Bee Hive" spinning mill.

Immediately under its shadow we had appropriately enough, a bee-keeper's supply store bearing the legend honey.

And the busy bees bustling about the yard, the pretty frocks of the Lancashire lassies, all fanned with a health-giving breeze, made a very animated scene.

The society again saw to its own catering arrangements, which in effect left little to be desired.

Here again they take a lead which many might follow, to the material advantage of all concerned.

The band of the Royal Marines, it would seem, was absent obeying a Royal command.

And on Thursday the excellent musicians occupying the bandstand I understood to be the "Black Dykes," hailing from Queensbury, between Halifax and Bradford.

Judging from the number of visitors up to 6 p.m. on the first 2s. 6d. day, Bolton bids fair to make a record.

5,196 had then paid for admission, as compared with the average of 3,389 for the past five years.

Brought about doubtless by the excellent travelling arrangements, the railways and tramways vieing with each other to provide good services.

Those of the electric tramways showed in striking form how sadly behind the times are dwellers in the south!

At a point adjacent to the show ground arrived through cars not only of the Bolton, but also of the Bury Corporation and of the South Lancashire Tramways from the other direction, which in turn connected up with the Manchester and Salford Corporation Tramways.

Hearty congratulations to the genial and indefatigable secretary, Mr. Edward Bohane, who thoroughly deserves all the success that should crown tireless energy and tactful organisation.

And may the society not allow so many years to roll by before again visiting this week's venue.

"Back to the land."—An old farmer, reputed very rich, died. It was found, however, after his death that he died penniless. His will was brief. "There is only one thing I leave: I leave the earth. My relatives always wanted that; they can have it."

Press a button and electricity will do the rest. Experiments in forcing plants by electricity have begun at the Royal Botanic Society's Garden in Regent's Park.

The electric current is to provide an ample supply of different-coloured rays of light, a fertilising agent, plentiful moisture, and high temperature.

That sounds like a big order, and natural conditions will be relegated to a back seat; but Nature, one may be sure, will reassert itself.

Signs of the times.—Picking up at random some provincial papers, we come across such paragraphs as "Lady Secretary to Sheep Society," "Lady's Fruit Bottling Experiment," "Successful Lady Farmer," "Small Holdings for Women," &c.

The Coggeshall Seed Farms.

The county of Essex has been long and deservedly famed for its seeds for many years past, in fact, long previous to the present generation seed corn from Essex was held in high repute. Travellers on the Great Eastern Railway have brought before their eyes in the district that lies between Chelmsford and Colchester any number of farms which are practically devoted to the raising of farm and flower seeds. As one sits in the train it is the horticultural side of the business that makes itself most evident, and perhaps there is no finer sight than to see a field of several acres a mass of nasturtium bloom, although many other flowers also produce a magnificent show.

We will leave, however, the horticultural side of seed growing in abler hands than ours, while we look at what is more distinctly our province—the raising and improving of wheat, barley, oats, mangels, swedes, and other crops which are purely of an agricultural nature. Last week, in response to the invitation conveyed to us by Messrs. John K. King and Sons, of Coggeshall, we had an opportunity of inspecting the half-a-dozen farms which Messrs. King and Sons use in testing and producing their seed stocks. These farms, it may be explained, do not adjoin, and this for a good reason, as a little consideration will show that while different species of plants may be grown on the same farm, varieties of the same species should not be grown in close proximity.

The weather last week was so broken in character that such a close examination of Messrs. King and Sons' specialities was not possible, as is often the case, but in all cases the crops looked remarkably promising, and although the harvest will not commence for another ten or fourteen days, the yield should be an excellent one, while the length and strength of the straw was most remarkable.

The seed trials carried out by Messrs. J. K. King and Sons are conceived and executed on a very extensive scale. No doubt the testing of all the varieties of seeds sold by the first-class seedsmen is an expensive matter, but it has the great advantage from the customer's point of view that the grower is getting seed of a genuine character and one that will grow true to type. There was a very fine crop of their Emperor wheat, which produces an extremely large ear and is naturally a big cropper. Another white wheat was Rent Payer, which is not only a good yielder, but an excellent millers' wheat. Cereals grown on the stiff, heavy soil of Essex are found to be a splendid change of seed. The Royal Jubilee white wheat is most popular among their customers, and while the straw is bright and clear, a good heavy berry is obtained, giving a yield of seven to eight quarters per acre. Of red wheats there were many good crops, among the kinds represented at Coggeshall being Champion, Squarehead, Long-eared Essex, Rough Chaff, and Essex Conqueror, while a fine pedigree selection Squarehead Master showed good results, and was remarkably true to type.

Barleys from Messrs. John K. King and Sons have long been held in high esteem, their prize Chevalier holds a prominent place amongst those which are pre-eminently suitable for malting purposes. The Chevalier barley, we may add, was originated in East Anglia, or to be more precise, was first grown in the county of Suffolk. We understood from Mr. Herbert King, who was good enough last week to show us many of the interesting features of the firm's farms near Coggeshall, that the Rev. J. Chevalier who introduced the barley which bears his name is a maternal grandfather to Lord Kitchener, and if the present brilliant soldier has left his name on the page of history, in the annals of agriculture, at all events, he will be surpassed in fame by the man who introduced the world-renowned Chevalier type of barley. A large number of varieties of oats are also grown; Scottish Chieftain was perhaps the favourite, while Black Tartarians were also largely represented.

Of mangel seeds there seem to be no end, acre after acre was devoted to the raising of this particular root. As far as one can judge, there seemed to be a promise of an excellent crop, but as in all farming matters, a great deal depends upon the weather of this and next month. All root seeds, it may be mentioned in passing, are greatly improved by growing near the sea, and Messrs. King and Sons take advantage of this fact by raising large quantities on the Essex coast.

A visit to a seed farm on the scale maintained by Messrs. John King and Sons at Coggeshall is full of interest, and could farmers only see what care is bestowed by a first-class house to keep their reputation unspotted and untarnished, he could safely sleep at nights when he had planted the seed without any disturbing fears as to whether the crop would come up true to type and of first-class character.

HORSES.

Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

Comparisons.

I WAS at a show the other day when I heard a man who has been a large exhibitor for upwards of thirty years, and who still shows a good horse occasionally, say that there are not so many good horses nowadays as there were a quarter of a century ago. And he pointed to a class of four-year-old Hunters that were in the ring and compared them with a class in days gone by. The class he had before him was certainly a good one, but the one with which he compared it was certainly a better one. In the first place, it was more than twice as big, and I think it would be pretty generally admitted that the winners on that occasion would have done more than hold their own with the horses that were shown a few days ago.

Another Standpoint.

I WAS at another show on the following day, and as we were watching the Hunters a gentleman remarked how very few really good horses there were. I replied that I thought there were as many good horses as ever, for when one comes to think of it really high-class horses have never been quite as plentiful as berries on a bush. My friend said he supposed that it was the cash, and that it was the great demand for horses amongst the wealthy classes that made the seeming scarcity. In other words, the demand for a certain class of horses still exceeded the supply.

A Pessimistic Wave.

I MUST admit at once that this pessimism struck me very forcibly. One man, at any rate, I knew to be a man with not the slightest leaning to pessimism—a man who takes life easily—a hard-working man, but one who never worries and who takes life cheerily. And the question of once presented itself to me, Why does this man take such a gloomy view of our position as a horse-breeding country? For it means that we have fallen from our high estate, and that, even if we are still the stud-farm of the world, we have not much to boast about. I have considered the question seriously, because the gentlemen I have mentioned pointed to weak classes where there was wont to be strong ones, and showed, where a few short years ago there were plenty of young horses of merit to be bought, there are comparatively few now.

A Different View.

YET, much as I respect and value the opinion of my two friends, I cannot for the life of me support their theories or endorse their statements. I have been amongst horses for more than forty years, having during the whole of that time had practical dealings with them, and for thirty-four years been an owner of horses, whilst for many years I bred a few. And my opinion is that leaving out a few brilliant exceptions—those exceptions which only come two or three times in a century—the class of horses that comes into the ring at shows to-day is very much higher than it has ever been. Ten or a dozen years ago we were told there would never be such another show Hunter as Gendarme. Where would Gendarme be should I sell a horse I like?" he asked very pertinently. Another man hummed and hawed, and at last said, "Well, I want so and so for him, naming a sum which was a hundred pounds more than his value. I informed him of the fact, and he told me politely that he was aware of that, but that he wanted a horse to do his work, and he would not sell this one unless he could sell him for the price he had named. And sooner or later he will get it, though it would mean ruination to a dealer to give anything approaching the sum asked and then have to wait for a customer.

The Reason of It.

NOW, I can remember when horses of the type I am writing about—horses, say, from 14 hands 3 in. to 15 hands 1 in., up to weight, with action and manners, and capable of jumping a fence or two if called on and of enabling a man to see a good deal of fun in a provincial country, could have been found in any dealer's yard. And they were not very much pampered, they had a good deal of hard work to do, and the demand for them was limited. For in those days retired tradesmen and merchants did not find their way into the hunting field in any numbers. In my younger days you could count on the fingers of a hand the men who hunted regularly and who had no connection with the land. But a large proportion of the modern hunting field is made up of business men, very few of whom have any pretensions to "witch the world with noble horsemanship." They don't want the high-mettled "handful" of a horse whose many little peculiarities are thought little of by the hard-riding sportsman who means to be "there," provided he can gallop and jump and stay

Changes in the Horse Trade.

ANOTHER important factor in bringing about the scarcity of dealers' horses, of which dealers are always complaining, is the different



COACHING STALLION.

The Coaching Stallion illustrated above was First in the Class for a Coaching Stallion foaled in 1904 or 1905 at the Royal Show, Lincoln. He is the property of Mr. George Scoby, of Beadlam Grange, Nawton, York, but was bred by Mr. W. Rooke, Rookborough, Kirkby Moorside, and his sire was Ingleby Lord, dam Queen of the Valley.

Shires.

NOT very long ago a gentleman was talking to me of one of the foremost Shire horse men of the day, a man who has had some of the best horses through his hands, and whose name, were I to mention it, which I am not justified in doing, would claim unrivalled respect as that of a man who knows his business. And to my intense surprise he told me that our mutual friend had expressed the opinion that our heavy horses are much deteriorated, and that the good agricultural and lorry horses that used to be so plentiful are getting scarcer and worse to find every day, and that the substance of horses was deteriorating.

with Whisky to-day? Then, again, amongst Hackneys, would Reality compare, say, with Rosador? And similarly amongst our Shire horses, how would the horses of the 'eighties compare with Birdsall Menestrel?

An Instance of the Scarcity.

SOME days ago a friend wrote me asking if I knew of a saddle horse of a certain type. I happened to know of several, but my friend is without a horse yet, unless since I saw him he has bought one I told him about. The first man I asked would not sell at any price. He was a large farmer, and does a big trade in horses. "Why

way in which trade is done from what it was a few years ago. Then the breeder who had horses to sell took them to a fair where the big dealers bought them. Now many a horse gets to the man who uses him, and probably wears him out, without the dealer ever touching him, and this, of course, makes horses scarce from the dealer's standpoint. I say without the dealer's intervention, but not without that of a middleman. I am of opinion that the middleman is more to the fore in horse transactions than ever he was. Then, again, the multiplication of auction marts and the increase in the number of sales are all circumstances which tend to make the market in which the dealer buys a contracted one.

The Shire Horse Again.

THERE may be something in the contention that there is a falling off in the quality of those Shire horses which come into the market where dealers buy, but I am convinced that, take him for all in all, the Shire horse of to-day is superior to the Shire horse of twenty-three or four years ago. Somewhere about that time I was judging agricultural horses at a very important show, and there was a class of twelve brood mares, 50 per cent. of which had sidebones. I was at a show at the same place a short time ago, and there was not a sidebone to be found. Again, look at the number of horses there were rejected by the veterinary surgeons during the early years of the Shire Horse Society's Show, and compare it with the few rejections of recent years. Then, again, not so very many years ago greasy legs were prevalent amongst horses that were upwards of nine or ten years old, and now they are comparatively few. I think if, as my friend complains, there are fewer good Shires in the market, it is because many men who were formerly buyers are now breeding their own; and I am of opinion, though it is a question one cannot generalise upon with any degree of confidence, that the farmers of England are better horsed than they were a quarter of a century ago.

Summing-up.

SO that if there is this difficulty in finding good horses—and it is just possible that the difficulty is not so great as is made out, for men are sometimes apt to be pessimistic when their plans are not running smoothly—it is due rather to economic changes than to any comparative shortage in the real article itself.

THE LOOKER-ON.

Suffolk Horse Society's Annual Sale.

The twelth annual sale of Suffolk horses took place on Monday at Ipswich. There were twenty-two foals, twenty-three mares and fillies, besides a number of entire colts and geldings.

The Suffolk Horse Society has called attention to the fact that of late years the foreigner has been making heavy demands on the breeding mares left in this country. In order to retain this class of stock, the society inaugurated a scheme whereby they were not only prepared to assist small farmers to purchase Suffolk mares, but guarantee to give them a remunerative price for the foals. This annual sale was promoted by the Suffolk Horse Society with the object of selling the society's foals, the produce of free nominations to the leading sires of the year, distributed amongst small farmers having Suffolk mares practically sound. It had been found that many farmers had during the agricultural depression been compelled to dispose of their best mares. Therefore, a further object for inaugurating an autumn sale was to bring a class of mares before the public that, if purchased by tenant farmers of 300 acres and under, would be eligible for a free nomination another year, subject to the usual conditions.

The sale was a successful one. Mr. William Pipe's prize foal was started at a good figure, and other foals, though they did not come into the ring with quite the same high credentials, made remarkably good prices:—

NOMINATION FOALS.

The property of the Suffolk Horse Society.

		Gs.
Filly foal (2nd prize (Mr John Cordle's)	Mr Heatley	24
Horse foal (hc) (Mr William Kindred's)	Mr Bolton	14½
Horse foal (1st prize) (Mr W S Pipe's)	Mr Bolton	46
Filly foal (Mr C B Cowles's)	Mr Cowles	17
Horse foal (Mr W Durrant's)	Mr A T Pratt	17½
Filly foal (Mr S Runnacles')	Mr R H Wrinch	17½
Mr S Runnacles' Wild Queen	Sir Thos Gooch, Bart	46
Mr H S R Stanford's filly foal	Mr W R Hustler	32
Mr A G Smith's horse foal	Mr Alfred Smith	45
Mr S F Stanford's filly foal	Mr E G Pretyman	27
Horse foal	Mr Peter Hay	23
Mr W G Munnings' filly foal	Mr W L N Champion	27½
Mr John Oldrin's filly foal	Mr Alfred Smith	35
Mr A Creighton's filly foal	Mr W R Hustler	30

MARES AND FOALS.

Mr W Cross's Recluse	Freston Brothers, Ipswich	25½

MARES.

Bentley Gipsy (Mr Henry Pipe)	Mr Miller	70
Bawdsey Merry Duchess (Mr C H Berners)	Mr Garnham	25
From Mr H S R Stanford.		
Halesworth Star	Mr W S Pipe	63
From Mr A Carlyle Smith.		
Kyla	Mr G E Rose	50
Beryl	Lord Howe	50
From Mr A J Smith.		
Rendlesham Diamond	Mr A G Hay	47
Princess	Lord Howe	65
From Mr A J Burgess.		
Brantham Darby	Mr Cordy S Wolton	56
From Mr W Woodgate.		
Connie	Mr E R Holland	60
From Mr Robt Edgar.		
Matchett	Mr A G Hay	51
Newbourne Kate (Mr Horace Wolton)	Mr A G Hay	46

GELDINGS.

From Sir Cuthbert Quilter.		
Nelson	Mr Kenneth M Clark	44
Captain	Mr A G Hay	80
From Mr W Cross.		
Bowler	Mr A G Hay	68
From Mr S F Stanford.		
Alan	Sir Thos Gooch	43
From Mr N Everett.		
Duke	Mr W Cross	53
From Mr John E Cooper.		
Clip	Mr W Cross	50

STALLIONS.

From Sir Cuthbert Quilter, Bart.		
Bawdsey Abbot	Mr Carlyle Smith	40
From Mr. Kenneth M Clark.		
Sudbourne Sport	Mr Enoch	45
Sudbourne Mint	Mr A T Pratt	45

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending July 30, 1907 :—

Period.	Swine Fever. Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	Swine Fever. Outbreaks.	Sheep Scab. Outbreaks Reported.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Other Animals.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Dogs.	Glanders (including Farcy). Animals Attacked.	Glanders (including Farcy). Outbreaks.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Animals Attacked.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Outbreaks.	Anthrax. Animals Attacked.	Anthrax. Outbreaks.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Week ended July 27, 1907	304	61	...	...	...	18	15	...	...	29	23
Corresponding week in 1906	76	11	1	...	...	24	13	...	...	7	6
Corresponding week in 1905	127	23	2	...	...	48	34	...	...	17	12
Corresponding week in 1904	41	20	2	...	...	55	46	...	...	31	16
Total for 30 weeks, 1907	7,230	1,559	406	...	...	1,274	535	...	...	889	673
Corresponding period in 1906	3,939	712	292	...	...	1,248	662	...	...	833	557
Corresponding period in 1905	2,405	515	648	...	...	1,258	725	...	...	823	590
Corresponding period in 1904	4,238	895	1,060	...	...	1,633	908	...	...	907	591

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

A milk dealer named Frederick Pedley was fined 20s. at Hexthorpe on Monday for selling adulterated milk. It was stated that the sample taken by the authorities contained 28 grains of crystallised boric acid to the gallon, which was put in as a preservative.

The directors of the London and County Bank, in submitting to the shareholders the balance sheet for the half-year ending June 30 last, report that, after paying interest to customers and all charges, making provision for bad and doubtful debts, and allowing £28,052 15s. 3d. for rebate on bills not due, the net profits amount to £303,225 16s. 2d. From this sum has been deducted £100,000, transferred to an Investments Depreciation Fund, leaving £203,225 16s. 2d., which, with £97,371 4s. 8d., balance brought forward from last account, leaves available the sum of £300,597 0s. 10d. The directors have declared a dividend for the half-year of 10 per cent., which will require £200,000, leaving the sum of £100,597 0s. 10d. to be carried to the Profit and Loss New Account. The dividend will be payable on or after Monday, August 12.



Notes and Jottings.

IT is a generally admitted fact that the competition of the present day in all business matters is very keen and close. To realise a profit necessitates, or should necessitate, every possible care and attention being given to see that one's business is carried on in the most profitable manner and no stone left unturned to secure the greatest profit that can be earned.

DO our flockmasters thoroughly realise this? They oftimes say it is difficult to make things pay, but latterly, owing to the current demand for the home-grown mutton, they have worn brighter faces, and few if any have been able legitimately to complain of the result of the returns received from their flocks.

ARE these returns as good as they should be? One is inclined to say No, because there is one source of income from the flock that, in the opinion of very many well qualified to judge, is neither developed to its full extent, nor is it properly looked after. This source of income is the wool produced by sheep.

THE writer's attention was particularly called to the fact by a remark of the judge of the wool classes at Tunbridge Wells. He mentioned that a very considerable proportion of the entries of these classes was put up and sent to the show in such a manner as did not show it to full advantage. The inference is that those competitors to whom this remark applies are equally careless and indifferent as to the manner in which they prepare and pack their wool for market, and if such is the case they certainly do not do all they can or all they ought, to secure the highest possible price for this product, which of itself forms a very considerable portion of the income derived from sheep.

THE wool exhibition at Tunbridge Wells has been mentioned because it was there that this important question, the preparation of wool for the market, was so vividly brought to the notice of the writer.

LOOKING back through the shows of the current year and of previous years also, it is unfortunately only too true that the remark quoted above is found so applicable to many another breeder.

GREAT prominence was given to this important question by the paper read twelve months ago (at the International Conference of sheep-breeders held at Derby) by Mr. Hollings, who, perhaps in somewhat strong language, brought out most distinctly and clearly that there was need and room for a great improvement in the manner in which the British farmer prepared his wool for the market.

CAREFULLY considering all the different points raised by the experience gained in looking back over our notes made in connection with the wool competition, &c., it appears to the writer that the agricultural societies would be conferring a very great favour upon the wool growers of this country if, in addition to the prizes offered for the best fleeces of wool, they would also institute a series of classes offering prizes for the wool best prepared for the market. If such competitions could be brought into effect and entries secured, with the awards being made by a practical wool buyer fully acquainted with the requirements of the market, there is no doubt but that the result would be an increased income for the wool grower derived from this source.

THE subject is a most important one, and there are so many aspects of it that one desires to place before sheep breeders, that it is almost impossible to summarise it sufficiently not to occupy more space than it should; but if for one week only our notes and jottings are given over to this important subject, we are convinced that by directing attention to it the interests of sheep breeders are receiving good service.

"WHY is it," a wool grower said in Lincoln the other day, "that greater notice is not given to this important produce of the flock; even at the Royal Agricultural Society's Show hardly any notice at all was found in the agricul-

tural papers of the wool classes, many of which were well supported?" The reply is difficult, for a reference to the whole of the agricultural press shows that not only at the Royal Show at Lincoln and previous Royal Shows, but at every other show at which one finds classes for wool, the report of the critic is confined, generally speaking, to a brief acknowledgment that such classes were included in the schedule, and possibly a few words giving the names of the leading winners.

THIS want of greater publicity doubtless arises from the indifference that is known to exist amongst flockmasters as to how they prepare their wool for the market, or as to what quality they grow. The latter arises most distinctly from the fact that as a rule in many districts of the country there is one general price fixed for the wool grown in it, and consequently the careful breeder and grower of wool reaps no benefit by the enhanced price his better quality wool should realise.

HOW can this position be altered? There is only one way, and that is to evolve some means whereby the growers of wool shall be able to sell their produce at its actual worth on the market.

WOOL auctions are unquestionably very excellent institutions, and if it were possible for them to be so arranged as to cover the whole country, it is the writer's opinion, and the opinion of many others fully acquainted with the details of the trade, that a very great step in the right direction would be attained.

A REFERENCE to the reports of the Colonial wool sales in London and to such few reports of the wool auctions held in different parts of the country, most clearly and emphatically shows that the buyers at these sales differentiate between the different qualities of wool on offer. If, then, at an auction sale in which wool from the same locality is offered, the different lots give a varying result at the price per lb., it needs no further proof to show how utterly wrong is the system that prevails in so many districts of one buyer buying up the whole of the wool produced in that district at the same price.

THESE remarks, to which many others might be added, will, it is hoped, lead to woolgrowers ventilating their opinions upon this important matter in the columns of such papers as should in the interests of flockmasters do their level best to end a condition of affairs that is unsound and unprofitable to the grower, and institute a fresh condition whereby the growers of every class of wool should be assured of being able to receive at sale time its proper proportionate value, considering the quality, &c., of the product.

Sheep Sales and Fairs.

Sir W. G. Pearce's Hampshires.

The annual letting and sale of ram lambs from the Chilton flock of Sir William G. Pearce, Bart, took place this year for the first time at Little Hidden Farm, on the estate near Hungerford. Seventy excellent lambs, which reflected the greatest credit on the manager, Mr. J. B. Harding, were submitted by Messrs. Waters and Rawlence. A good company was present, and four lambs were let at an average of £20 10s., Mr. Irons (for the Hon. D. P. Bouverie) hiring No. 5 at 42 guineas, Mr. Welch No. 3 at 16 guineas, and Mr. Cary Coles Nos. 1 and 6 at 10 guineas each. Of the sale lambs Mr. Flower bought at 20 guineas, Mr. Darling at 20 guineas, Mr. Dibben at 16 guineas, and Mr. Welch at 11 guineas and 8½ guineas, Mr. J. Matthews (for Mr. Hutchings) at 9 guineas (twice) and 8½ guineas, and Mr. Eady (for Lady Wantage) at 10½ guineas, 7½ guineas, &c. Messrs. J. Brown, S. Brown, W. Brown, Hughes, Hellard, Gore, Lea, Rawlings, W. Rawlings, Willis, and others also bought at from 8 guineas to 5 guineas. The average of 66 let and sold are £8 5s.

The Late Mr. Wm. Harris' Hampshires.

Messrs. J. Harris and Son, of Winchester, on Monday offered for sale the whole of the widely esteemed flock of the late Mr. W. M. Harris. The flock was established in 1864, and was dispersed on Monday owing to the owner's death. Sires from the most celebrated flocks have recently been used, and the whole of the sheep were of good size and colour, and full of quality. The fifty ram lambs averaged £5 11s. 6d., Mr. E. Clift purchasing at 11 guineas, and Mr. F. Gowlett (for the Rev. C. H. Brocklebank) at 10 guineas. The other purchasers of ram lambs at from 7½ to 5½ guineas included Messrs. W. Candy, W. Bowden, J. Nicoll, A. Doris (for Sir G. Cooper) E. A. Mason, J. Stockdale, A. Parsons, J. Westbrook, C. Tubb, W. Follett. Two shearling rams were sold to Mr. H. Waters at 8 guineas and 7 guineas respectively. The two-teeth ewes, numbering 140, averaged 77s. 9d. apiece, Mr. J. Flower giving 125s. per head for one lot, and Mr. K. Heaton (for Mr. H. Hutton) 91s. each for another lot. The four-teeth ewes averaged 70s apiece, the six-teeth ewes 61s. 10d, the full mouthed ewes 56s. 3d., and the ewe lambs 49s. 2d.

Wooler.

The second special sale of lambs took place at the Wooler Mart last week, when the entry comprised close on 3,000 top three-parts cross Oxford and half-bred lambs. Although the lambs were good for the season, they did not compare favourably with those presented at a similar sale last year, which was an exceptional one, yet prices were firm, and in most instances last year's figures were exceeded. Three-parts made up to 40s. 3d. from New Etal, and half-breds brought 33s. 3d. There would be an average rise of from 6d. to 1s. a head.



SOMERSET AND DORSET HORN SHEARLING RAM.

The Somerset and Dorset Horn Shearling Ram illustrated above is the property of, and was bred by, Mr. E. A. Hambro, of Milton Abbey, Blandford, Dorset, and won First Prize in the Class for a Somerset and Dorset Horn Shearling Ram at the Bath and West Show at Newport.

Suffolk Sheep at Ipswich.

The special sale of Suffolk sheep from registered flocks took place at Ipswich last week, when a large number of choice ewes were disposed of. There was a record average, but not a record price. The latter was witnessed in 1899, the figure then reached being 280s. for ewes. The top figure this year was 200s., the highest figure for many years. The highest last year was 120s.; in 1905 it was 100s., and in 1904 115s. There was a rise this year of 10s. to 15s. per head.

Wool Fairs and Sales.

Dublin.

An extensive catalogue, comprising 400 lots (about 500,000 lbs.), was submitted for competition at Messrs. Ganly's second auction sale of wool for the season. There was a full attendance of buyers, including representatives from English and Scotch centres, in addition to the home merchants and manufacturers. The condition of the trade was reflected in the biddings, which were of a quiet and subdued character, and prices all round mark a considerable reduction on the quotations ruling at the June sale. About one-fourth of the quantity offered had to be withdrawn owing to reserve prices being too high; the remainder was disposed of at the following rates:—

	Washed.	Greasy.
Shrops and Downs	12d. to 12½d.	10d. to 10½d.
Super and Pick Hogs	12d. to 12½d.	10d. to 10½d.
Deep Hogs	11½d. to 11¾d.	9½d. to 9¾d.
Super and Pick Wethers ..	11½d. to 11⅝d.	9¾d. to 9¾d.
Deep Wethers	10d. to 11d.	8½d. to 9d.
Mountain, Seaside, and Cheviot	8½d. to 10d.	——
Blackface and Scotch	8½d. to 9½d.	6½d. to 8d.

Ipswich.

At the second Ipswich wool sale 4,000 fleeces were offered. Comparing the prices of washed wool with the first sale, prices showed a drop of 1d. to 1½d. per lb.; unwashed wool about maintained the prices realised at the previous sale. The top price was 11⅝d.

Alnwick.

The first clips of the season in the Alnwick district were sold on Monday. The attendance of farmers and buyers were most numerous, and many clips were sold. Prices throughout bore a significant reduction from last year's full quotations, notably in half-bred hogg and ewe clips, which met a fall of 4s. per stone. Quotations: Half-bred hoggs, 24s.; half-bred ewes, 22s.; Cheviots, 20s. per stone.

The Polled Cattle Society.

The twenty-eighth annual general meeting of the members of the Polled Cattle Society was held in the showyard at Aberdeen. Mr. George G. Walker, Portlethen, was called to the chair.

The Chairman moved the adoption of the report, stating that the membership of the society now amounted to 527. He referred briefly to those members who had died during the year, particularly the Hon. Charles Carnegie, of Aldroughty, Elgin, who had been a member of the society since its inception; and Colonel Wolrige-Gordon, of Hallhead and Esslemont, who had been a valued member.

Mr. Robert Walker, Elgin, seconded, and the report was then declared carried.

On the motion of Mr. Black, Cortachy, Colonel M'Inroy, C.B., of The Burn, Edzell, was unanimously appointed president of the society. Colonel M'Inroy returned thanks.

Colonel George Smith Grant, Auchorachan, Glenlivet, was re-elected a vice-president of the society, and Mr. J. J. Cridlan, Maisemore, Gloucestershire, was elected vice-president.

After a scrutiny, Messrs. John H. Bridges, Surrey; George Cran, Morlich, Glenkindie; and J. Ernest Kerr, of Harviestoun Castle, Dollar, were unanimously elected members of the Council.

At the last meeting of the council of the Devon County Agricultural Association, the Parliamentary Committee reported that whilst being desirous of promoting the increase of small holdings on sound economic principles, they believed the Small Holdings Bill now before Parliament would be attended by the danger of placing on the soil men who, from lack of practical knowledge of agriculture, could not succeed. The committee was also of opinion that the proposal to appoint commissioners to override the decision of popularly-elected county and borough councils was unjust to those bodies, and contrary to the principles of democratic government; and since the compulsory clauses could only result in the eviction of the present occupier, they considered that great caution should be exercised in the use of these powers; and in any case where land was taken compulsorily compensation should be paid. The committee was further of opinion that, seeing the artificial creation of small holdings as proposed by the Bill was purely a national question, all expenses incurred by the experiment should be defrayed from the National Exchequer, and not from local rates. This report was adopted without debate, and it was decided to send copies of the report to the Prime Minister, the Minister in charge of the Bill, and the members of Parliament for Devonshire.

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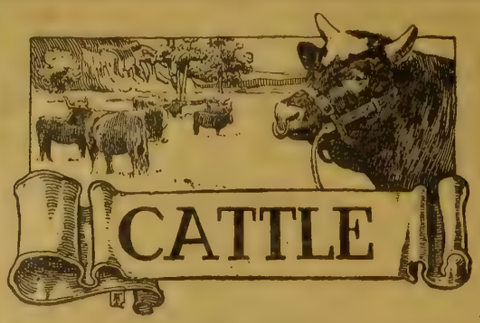
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ROYAL SHOW
LINCOLN, 1907

EVERY SHEEP
in the following Classes, *viz.*

BLACKFACED MOUNTAIN
BORDER LEICESTER
CHEVIOT
COTSWOLD
DARTMOOR
DEVON
EXMOOR
HAMPSHIRE DOWN
HERDWICK
KERRY HILL
LONK
OXFORD DOWN
RYELAND
SHROPSHIRE
SOMERSET & DORSET
SOUTH DOWN
SUFFOLK
SOUTH DEVON
WELSH MOUNTAIN
WENSLEYDALE

WAS DIPPED IN
COOPER'S DIP



Notes and Jottings.

TRAVELLING in Sussex recently it was a very satisfactory matter to see some of the herds of this beautiful dark-red breed of cattle looking in such fine condition and displaying the most perfect symmetry that any breed could be expected to display. There is no doubt the breed has wonderfully improved during the past ten or fifteen years, but much more so during the last fifty years, the time that has elapsed since the foundation of the Herd Book of these South-Eastern rubies. Breeders will very shortly be able to reap greater benefit from this improvement than they are able to do at present, as the breed requires to be better known at a distance from its own home. The cattle were bred in their earliest days very largely for working purposes.

SINCE horses have been more generally used, or may be said to have entirely superseded oxen, breeders have directed their attention almost exclusively to the production of beef, and to the shape and beauty of the animals, with the result that at the present day herds of Sussex steers may be purchased that present the most uniform appearance and high quality. Some such lots have found their way into the great grazing districts of the Midlands, where their importation will be a great help, and where the richness of the pastures will give size and condition that is certain to commend them to the notice of feeders generally. The herds seen in the Midlands have done remarkably well, and look like leaving quite a fair record behind them in the way of profit.

DUTCH cattle appear to be gaining very rapidly in favour if the sales announced from herds are correct. The great cry for milk must be accounted as the reason for this, but the question is how will the crossing of so many herds of other good breeds affect matters that do not altogether affect milk, such as the calves that are not females, and therefore will either have to be converted into steers or sold at once for killing at such price as can be obtained for them, which is usually but very little. It is true that in the Ayrshire districts of Scotland bull calves have been of but little value in their pure state as a rule, therefore little will be lost, and it is quite possible that the Dutch blood will mix so well with the Ayrshire that the female produce will pass muster as purely-bred ones.

QUITE a large number of very interesting sales of Aberdeen Angus cattle are to take place during the coming autumn, Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co. having quite a long list of these events already published, and which include drafts from several of the most prominent herds of the breed as well as the entire dispersion in other cases. The demand for these should be better than for several years past, the better prices and demand ruling for beef being one item likely to induce better bids. Then there is the fact that the rival beef-breed, the white-faces of Herefordshire and its borders are selling so well and rapidly that many would-be buyers of that breed are quite likely to find themselves unable to obtain their requirements of a satisfactory class.

WITH so many foreign buyers of our British breeds of live stock, it will soon become a question if the teaching of other languages ought not to be looked after in our board schools. It is very necessary now that herdsmen, grooms and shepherds who are connected with high-class farming and pedigree stock should be able to explain to the German, the Spaniard, or the Frenchman when he makes inquiries either in the showyards or at the homesteads of breeders, what strains of blood are being shown, the treatment the animals have been receiving, and any other matters that very much affect stock breeding, and are likely to be asked concerning them. The general labour question is also affected very much now by this, such people as hotel servants often being perplexed by questions asked them in in languages other than their own.

DEVON cattle-breeders are a little perplexed, it appears, by an offer of £20 a year for three years for prizes for milking Devons at the Bath and West Show. As there are now two distinct breeds of Devons—the North and South, the former a magnificent beef breed, the latter a dual purpose breed with a large milk yield—it would seem a great pity to induce breeders of the very old type of North Devons to alter their points or their aims in breeding. Surely there are milk breeds galore to suit all conditions of soil and climate. Why spoil a first-class beef-breed in order to make another such? One member of the society instanced the miserable appearance of the wrecks of animals of other breeds competing in the milking trials at our shows as being calculated to prejudice breeders against the acceptance of prizes to induce the spoiling of a good breed of beefers to make milk, and we cordially agree.

NOTWITHSTANDING the above note, we have always advocated, and still do so, the paying of greater attention to the milking properties of the beef breeds to such an extent as to insure each cow being able to bring up her own offspring, and to do so from a neat and shapely udder, well up to the body, so as not to interfere with the butcher value of the dam, should she abort, and so that she may give not only a sufficiency of milk for her calf, but a sufficiency to grow it well and rapidly. There is a great difference between breeding to such a standard as is here indicated, and breeding wrecks for competition in milking-machine classes only.

RATHER a novel experiment appears to have been tried recently in the way of growing calves. Two lots of youngsters—two similar lots of eight and nine—were selected and treated exactly alike in all respects, save that the one lot were kept continually in the shed, and the other kept in the shed at night and turned out into the open yard during the day, fresh air being the only different treatment the one lot experienced from the other. At the end of five weeks both lots were weighed, with the result that the lot that had been subjected to the open-air treatment during the day had made a gain of 58 lb., whilst the closely-confined ones had made but 39 lb. increase.

AMERICAN and some other papers, or papers from other countries from which representatives had visited the Royal Show at Lincoln, give in very high terms their opinion of the old Longhorn breed of cattle which was there exhibited in not especially strong fighting form, but sufficiently to give pause to those pessimists who but a few years ago spoke of the race being either totally extinct or past reviving. It was a great point that a Longhorn cow at that show should have stood very nearly at the top in the way of butter, having produced over two pounds of that product per day without forced feeding. The cattle also attracted strangers by their great size and their heavy flesh as well as by their picturesque general appearance, which has always been a means of attracting attention.

FOR crossing purposes we have several times mentioned the Longhorn as being quite one of the most valuable, if not entirely the most valuable, of all breeds; the last line we add because the Longhorn, when crossed upon almost every other known breed of cattle, gives you females possessing very high dairy properties and dual purposes, as well as males that will hold their own for beef against all comers, whether they be purebreds or crosses. There are now some twenty herds of this old breed doing good work in England, and so popular has the Longhorn cross become that bull calves are all sold in advance for the purpose, and at prices that pay their breeders well. These cattle are being used now with great advantage to cross upon West Highland, Sussex, Galloway, Devon, Angus, and Shorthorn, as well as other breeds.

IN the above Longhorn note we mention the word butter. Surely there is no bovine product in this or any other country so foully murdered in its management as butter. What legislation will be enacted to assist in improving its general quality is hard to say, but there is one thing that may be said truthfully, and that is that in the case of foods of any kind, whenever laws have been passed to protect the article, they have been so grossly neglected as to be practically worthless, and it is to be feared that it will be so in the case of butter. This note is called for from the fact that having had to purchase some butter recently for keeping up a supply, it has been utterly impossible to obtain samples fit to fill high-class orders.

WHAT is very strange, too, and disappointing is that trials have been made from creameries supposed to be well managed, as well as from individual farmers, and practically all with the same result, that the butter is not sufficiently or carefully worked, the samples varying, however, somewhat considerably in this respect.

AUCTION SALES.

Auctioneers will favour us by sending in their advertisements as early in the week as possible. Charges for announcements under this heading Six Shillings an inch.

By Messrs. IRELAND.

Norwich, Norfolk.—Ireland's Norwich Hill Auction Mart (established 50 years). Every Saturday. Fat Bullocks and Sheep, Store Sheep. Special Spring and Autumn Store Cattle Sales.

MESSRS. IRELAND solicit consignments for these important weekly sales; best market value assured.

Cattle consigned to Ireland's, Norwich, will be properly fed and carefully attended to.

All cattle weighed upon entry to the sale ring if desired. Full particulars to be sent to—

IRELAND'S, Auctioneers.
Norwich, Norfolk.

By Messrs. HOBGEN BROS.

CHICHESTER EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL SALE of PURE-BRED SOUTHDOWN SHEEP.

HOBGEN BROS. beg to announce that they will hold their Eighteenth ANNUAL SALE of PURE-BRED SOUTHDOWNS in their Auction Repository in the Chichester Cattle Market on THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 1907, when a large and choice selection of Rams, Ram Lambs and Ewes from the Flocks of the Duke of Richmond, K.G., the Duke of Devonshire, K.G., the Duke of Northumberland, K.G., Lord Northbourne, Earl Bathurst, C.M.G., Earl Cadogan, K.G., the Exors. of the late Col. H. McCalmont, Mr. J. E. Allen, Mr. A. Heasman, Mr. A. G. Paul, the Exors. of the late Mr. George Peel, Mr. E. Hobgen, Mr. Percy Herrington, Mr. A. C. Harris, and others will be offered. Sheep can be taken in under cover two or three days previous to the Auction, and green food will be provided free of cost.

HOBGEN BROS. will also give £10 in cash, or, if preferred, a piece of plate, to the Owner being the Breeder of the Shearling Ram which shall be sold at the highest price at such Auction

N.B.—This Sale is open to all Breeders of Southdown Sheep, and is unrestricted to numbers. Hobgen Bros. respectfully solicit early entries to the Sale, in order that the public may be notified of the same.

Sale to commence at 12 o'clock precisely.

Refreshments may be procured in the Hall.

By Messrs. WATERS & RAWLENCE.

MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 1907.

BRITFORD FAIR.

One Mile from Salisbury.

THE CHILMARK FLOCK.

MESSRS. WATERS & RAWLENCE are instructed by Mr. JAMES FLOWER, to LET and SELL by AUCTION, in the above Fair, on MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 1907, at 10.30 o'clock,

100 RAM LAMBS,

from his renowned Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK.

In the year 1894 Mr. Flower, the popular owner of the Chilmark Flock, commenced showing, and from that time forward has stood unrivalled both in the Showyard and the Sale Ring. Year by year the competition has been more keen, and yet the exhibits from Chilmark are practically unassailable, and since the last Sale at Britford Mr. Flower has eclipsed all his former achievements; his pens of Ram and Ewe Lambs having been honoured by winning all the Champion Prizes of the year wherever shown, with animals that for perfect type, depth of flesh and general excellence are unsurpassed.

On August 12 Mr. Flower will submit to Flockmasters the best 100 Lambs that he has ever produced, and possibly the best that ever entered a Sale Ring.

Catalogues of the AUCTIONEERS, Canal, Salisbury.

By Mr. ARTHUR SAUL.

THE LINCOLNSHIRE CURLY-COATED PIG BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION

Will hold SALES at BOSTON

On WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28, and WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1907, at 11 o'clock.

For particulars apply

ARTHUR SAUL, Bourne, Auctioneer.
C. E. WILLIAMS, Sleaford, Hon. Sec.

By Messrs. STRIDE & SON.

CHICHESTER, SUSSEX.

(The great centre for the sale of SOUTHDOWN SHEEP.)

THE PRINCIPAL SHOW AND SALE OF THE SEASON OF PURE-BRED SOUTHDOWN EWES, RAMS AND RAM LAMBS from nearly all the best flocks in the country.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7th NEXT.

MESSRS. STRIDE AND SON

beg to announce that present entries for this IMPORTANT ANNUAL FIXTURE, which takes place in the Market, Chichester, comprise about:—

412

SOUTHDOWN RAMS and RAM LAMBS from the following eminent breeders:—Duke of Richmond and Gordon, K.G., Duke of Northumberland, K.G., Duke of Devonshire, K.G., Earl Cadogan, Earl Manvers, Lord Northbourne, Lieut.-Col. Hammond, Sir Julius Wernher, Sir Walpole Greenwell, Sir Thomas Gooch, Hon. E. W. B. Portman, Right Hon. T. F. Halsey, Mr. Francis Elmer Speed, Mr. Edwin Henty, Mr. John Tompkins, Mr. Alfred Heasman, Mr. W. M. Cazalet, Mr. Jeremiah Colman, Exors. of the late Col. H. McCalmont, Exors. or the late Mr. Geo. Peel, Mr. F. H. Jennings, Mr. E. R. Fisher Rowe, Mr. J. B. Tribe, Mr. T. W. Thorpe, Mrs. Stephenson Clarke, Mr. F. H. Sawtell, Mr. George Lock, Mr. Percy Herington, Mr. E. J. Reddaway, Mr. A. C. Harris, Mr. James Buchanan, Mr. Thomas Dare, Mr. W. F. Monckton, Messrs. Bowron Bros., Mr. J. R. West, &c., &c.

5,000

REGISTERED SOUTHDOWN EWES, from the following noted flock-owners:—Duke of Richmond and Gordon, K.G., Duke of Devonshire, K.G., Lord Northbourne, Lieut.-Col. Hammond, Mr. Francis Elmer Speed, Hon. E. W. B. Portman, Mr. W. M. Cazalet, Sir Edmund Loder, Mr. Jeremiah Colman, Exors. of the late Mr. C. W. Whicher, Mr. Geo. Lock, Mr. E. J. Reddaway, Mr. J. B. Tribe, Mr. J. W. Woods, Mr. T. W. Thorpe, Messrs. Drewitt and Son, Mr. Herbert Padwick, Mr. J. H. Loveys, Mr. James Buchanan, Mr. Thomas Dare, Mr. W. F. Monckton, Mr. A. M. Singer, Mr. N. Graburn, Mr. James Helyer, Mr. W. Allin, Mr. Thomas Peacock, Col. R. M. Helme, Messrs. Hipkin and Son, Mr. C. J. P. Cave, Mr. C. J. Fletcher, Mr. John Chase, Mr. C. Napper, Mr. R. W. Brown, Mr. R. J. Young, Mr. C. J. Lanham, Mr. J. T. Strong, Mr. W. Tait, Mr. Eli Stay, and many others.

Together with the ANNUAL CONSIGNMENT OF EWES, RAMS AND RAM LAMBS, from the celebrated REGISTERED SOUTHDOWN FLOCKS of LORD NORTHBOURNE, Lieut.-Col. HAMMOND, and Mr. FRANCIS ELMER SPEED, comprising about:—

60 SHEARLING RAMS and RAM LAMBS,
300 SHEARLING EWES;

Also

The Whole of Mr. J. W. BAXENDALE'S very choice PURE-BRED SOUTHDOWN FLOCK (No. 17 in Flock Book), comprising:—

176 EWES in AGES and EWE LAMBS.

Judging at nine o'clock. Sale at ten o'clock.

COMMISSIONS CAREFULLY EXECUTED. EVERY ASSISTANCE given to exporters with respect to keeping, shipping and certificates.

The "Dolphin" or "Anchor" are comfortable and convenient hotels to stay at, and the Auctioneers will be pleased to book rooms.

Catalogues of the AUCTIONEERS, Auction and Estate Agency Offices, 63, East Street, CHICHESTER, SUSSEX.

By Mr. W. BAINBRIDGE.

Highly Important SALE of

PEDIGREE HACKNEYS AND PONIES, the property of Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., at WALTON HALL, WARRINGTON, on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7, 1907, comprising—12 HACKNEY BROOD MARES and their FOALS, 10 HACKNEY PONY MARES and their FOALS, Two and Three-year olds, &c., &c., and a few Harness MARES. Included will be the double London Champion Mare 13964 Rosarene, 2069 Florence (dam of three London first prize winners), 13513 Gold Foil, Champion London winner, and many other first-class animals by Goldfinder VI., Copper King, Sir Horace, &c.

On view, August 2nd and 3rd.

Catalogues and further particulars from

Mr. W. BAINBRIDGE,
Walton House, Warrington.

By Messrs. JOHN THORNTON & CO.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

WEDNESDAY NEXT, AUGUST 7.—Mr. G. J. B. Chetwynd's herd of DEXTERS, at Wyndthorpe, Doncaster.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 23.—Mr. W. P. Hampton's entire SOUTHDOWN flock, at Langdon Abbey, Dover.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5.—The Duchess of Devonshire's DEXTERS, at Compton Place, Eastbourne.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON & Co., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

By Messrs. SUGDON & PEARCE-BROWN.

THE LECONFIELD
LINCOLN LONG-WOOL RAMS,
No. 38 in Flock Book.

MESSRS. SUGDON & PEARCE-BROWN have received instructions from Mr. Robert Fisher TO SELL BY AUCTION, on Wednesday, August 14, 1907,

80 SHEARLING RAMS

From the above Registered Flock; when Mr. Fisher will be glad to see his friends.

Sale after 12 o'clock luncheon.

Conveyances will meet the trains at Beverley and Arram Stations. Auctioneers' Office:—Market Place, Beverley.

By H. DUKE & SON.

WILTSHIRE.

THE ALLINGTON ESTATE,

In the Parish of ALL CANNINGS; Four Miles from Patney Station, on the G.W.R.; Five Miles from the important Market and Garrison Town of Devizes; and Seven Miles from either Marlborough or Pewsey.

A FREEHOLD LANDED PROPERTY, extending to about

878a 0r. 23p.,

of ARABLE, MEADOW, and DOWN PASTURE LAND, with a Pleasant RESIDENCE, COTTAGES, and FARM BUILDINGS, let to responsible Tenants at the AGGREGATE RENTAL of £515 per Annum, including the SPORTING RIGHTS

MESSRS. HY. DUKE and SON are favoured with instructions to OFFER the above ESTATE for SALE by AUCTION, in one Lot, at the "Bear" Hotel, Devizes, on THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 1907, at Three p.m.

Particulars, with Plan and Conditions of Sale, and Order to View, may be obtained of Messrs. FLADGATE & Co., Solicitors, 2, Craig's Court, Charing Cross, London; or of the AUCTIONEERS, Dorchester, Dorset.

On TUESDAY next, AUGUST 6, 1907.

DORCHESTER, DORSET, AUGUST SHEEP FAIR.

MESSRS. HY. DUKE & SON will SELL BY AUCTION, at the above Fair,

5,500 DRAFT DORSET DOWN EWES and LAMBS,

Also Dorset Horn Ewes and Crossbred Sheep of all classes, together with

150 RAMS and RAM LAMBS

from leading Registered Dorset Down Flocks.

Catalogues of the Auctioneers, Dorchester, who will be pleased to execute commissions.

By Messrs. W. & B. HOBBS.

KENT.

ANNUAL LAMB SALE.

"ROYAL OAK," NEWINGREEN.

MESSRS. W. & B. HOBBS will hold the above Sale at the "Royal Oak," Newingreen, close to Westenhanger Station, S.E. and C. Ry., on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14, 1907.

8,000

EWE and WETHER, KENT and HALF-BRED LAMBS.

Sale to commence punctually at 10 o'clock.

Luncheon provided

Terms: Cash or Banker's reference required.

Catalogues may be obtained at the Auction and Estate Offices, Ashford, Kent.

(Continued on next page.)

AUCTION SALES.

Auctioneers will favour us by sending in their advertisements as early in the week as possible.

Charges for announcements under this heading, Six Shillings an inch.

By Messrs. FRANKLIN & GALE.

OXFORD GREAT RAM FAIR,
August 14, 1907.

Important Annual Sale of
HAMPSHIRE DOWN SHEEP.

FRANKLIN AND GALE will SELL BY AUCTION, in Messrs. Morrell's Close, at the above Fair, on Wednesday, August 14, 1907,
300 RAMS and RAM LAMBS
From the well known and Registered Flocks of
Sir A. HENDERSON, Bart., Buscot Park, Berks
Sir W. G. PEARCE, Bart., Chilton Lodge, Berks
The Hon. D. P. BOUVERIE, Coleshill, Berks
JOHN THOMSON, Esq., Woodperry, Oxon.
BASIL HANBURY, Esq., Kineton, Warwick.
A. C. HALL, Esq., Great Rollright, Oxon
R. L. OVEY, Esq., Hernes, Oxon
A. DORE, Esq., Shilton, Oxon.
S. DARLING, Esq., Beckhampton, Wilts.
ALSO
520 CHOICE STOCK EWES
AND
370 FRESH STORE LAMBS
From Registered and well-known Flocks.

Catalogues may be had of the Auctioneers, Wallingford, Oxford and Reading.

By Messrs. CHALK.

THE 22nd ANNUAL SALE and LETTING of
80
PEDIGREE
HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAMS and RAM LAMBS
from Mr. H. Lambert's celebrated Flock
will take place in a Field adjoining the Cattle Market at
CAMBRIDGE,
on
WEDNESDAY next, AUGUST 7, 1907,
at Two o'clock.

The Lambs are quite equal to those sold in former years, and are of great size, with plenty of substance and colour.

Messrs. CHALK, Auctioneers,
11, Alexandra Street, Cambridge, and Linton, of whom catalogues may be obtained.

SOCIETIES.

Royal Agricultural Society.

The last monthly meeting of the council of this society before the autumn recess was held on Wednesday, at 16, Bedford Square, W.C. In the unavoidable absence, through ill-health, of the president, the Earl of Yarborough, Sir John H. Thorold, Bart. (trustee), was called to the chair. Amongst those present were H.R.H. Prince Christian, K.G., Earl Egerton of Tatton, the Earl of Northbrook, Lord Middleton, Lord Moreton, Right Hon. Victor C. W. Cavendish, M.P., Right Hon. Ailwyn E. Fellowes, Sir Richard Cooper, Bart., Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Mr. Charles R. W. Adeane, Mr. Thomas L. Aveling, Mr. S. N. Bankart, Mr. J. Bowen-Jones, Mr. Henry Dent Brocklehurst, Mr. Percy Crutchley, Mr. R. M. Greaves, Mr. Joseph Harris, Mr. William Harrison, Mr. Robert W. Hobbs, Mr. John Howard Howard, Mr. Walter F. Ingram, Mr. Ernest Mathews, Mr. T. Horrocks Miller, Mr. Claude M. S. Pilkington, Mr. Frederick Reynard, Mr. Ernest W. Shackle, Mr. Henry Herbert Smith, Mr. Richard Stratton, Mr. George Taylor, Mr. John Thornton, and Mr. Thomas McRow (secretary).

The following members of the Newcastle local committee were also present:—The Lord Mayor of Newcastle-upon-Tyne (the Right Hon. J. W. Oubridge), the Sheriff of Newcastle (Mr. John Fitzgerald), the Deputy Lord Mayor (Mr. Johnstone Wallace), Mr. William Chrystal, Mr. J. D. Walker, and Mr. A. M. Oliver (local secretary).

Seven governors and 109 new members have been elected.

Gloucester in 1909.

A large and influential deputation was received from the city and county of Gloucester in support of an invitation which had been tendered to the society to hold its show of 1909 at Gloucester. The deputation, which was introduced by Mr. Brocklehurst, the Gloucestershire representative on the council, consisted of the Mayor of Gloucester (Mr. Samuel Aitken), Viscount St. Aldwyn (Lord High Steward of the City), Sir John Dorington, Bart. (chairman of the Gloucestershire County Council), Sir Nigel Kingscote, G.C.V.O., K.C.B., Councillor Braine, the Mayor of Cheltenham (Mr. W. N. Skillicorne), Mr. Russell Rea, M.P. (City Member), Mr. F. A. Hyett (deputy chairman of the Gloucestershire County Council), Colonel Curtis-Hayward, Mr. H. W. Bruton, Mr. William Priday, Mr. J. W. Lister, Mr. E. T. Norrish, Mr. R. Adcock, Mr. W. Newton (Midland Railway), Mr. G. H. Roberts (Great Western Railway), and the Town Clerk of Gloucester (Mr. G. S. Blakeway).

The Mayor of Gloucester stated that he had been deputed to offer a very hearty welcome to the Society to hold its show of 1909 in their city. The invitation, cordially supported as it was by the whole of the county, would, he hoped, appeal to the council and secure for Gloucestershire the presence of the Royal Show two years hence. Gloucester was situated in an essentially agricultural district, and the facilities which the Great Western and the Midland Railway Companies could offer were of an exceptional character. He ventured to say that if the society could see its way to accept the invitation it would have a most cordial welcome and a reception that he sincerely believed would be in every way satisfactory.

The invitation having been supported by Viscount St. Aldwyn, Sir John Dorington, Sir Nigel Kingscote, and the Mayor of Cheltenham, the deputation withdrew; and on the motion of Sir Gilbert Greenall, honorary director, seconded by Mr. Henry Dent Brocklehurst, it was unanimously decided to accept the invitation tendered by the Mayor of Gloucester on behalf of the city and county to hold the society's show at Gloucester in 1909, subject to the usual conditions of the society being complied with.

Dates of the Newcastle Show.

Sir John Thorold reported that the General Newcastle Committee at their meeting held that morning, at which the Lord Mayor of Newcastle and other local representatives had been present, the date of the Newcastle Show had been fixed for Tuesday, June 30, till Saturday, July 4, 1908.

Financial Result of Lincoln.

Mr. Adeane, in presenting the report of the finance committee, said that the committee were not in a position to give the actual figures with regard to the Lincoln Show, because they felt it would be unbusinesslike to do so until the figures had been checked. He could say, however, that the result of the Lincoln Show was far beyond their expectations, and was greatly in excess of the profits made at the Derby Show. The committee were glad to be in a position to recommend an increase to £5,000 in the grant for the prize-sheet for the Newcastle Show. It would be understood, however, that it was not intended to increase the amount of the prize-sheet, but to keep it at the level of the Lincoln prize-sheet. He hoped that it would not be taken that the society was in such a flourishing state as not to require assistance, and he trusted that the Breed Societies especially—whose interests were identical with those of the Royal Agricultural Society—would continue to support them as generously in the future as they had done in the past.

Other Business.

The Earl of Northbrook, from the Committee of Selection, reported the resignation of Mr. Charles Whitehead, a vice-president of the society, and moved the election of the Earl of Yarborough to fill the vacancy thus caused. This motion was seconded by Mr. Crutchley, and carried unanimously.

The resignation was also reported of Mr. Alfred J. Smith, the representative on the council of the Division of Suffolk

Other business having been transacted, the council adjourned over the autumn recess until Wednesday, Nov. 6 next.

Alnwick Horse and Cattle Fair.—The annual fair was held on Monday. There was a numerous attendance of dealers and farmers and a fair amount of business was transacted. In horses, the supply was greatly in excess of last and many previous years, and several better class animals were shown as carriage horses. Draught horses of a fairly good appearance sold from £25 to £35. Inferior draughts at from £15 to £20. Cobs, a numerous show, sold from £7 10s. to £15; carriage horses from £12 to £15; ponies at prices ranging from £5 to £8 each. Cattle were not numerously shown, but business was good. One and a half year old heifers from £6 to £7 10s.; two-year-old heifers from £8 to £9 per head; cows from £8 to £10. Keeping pigs sold well at prices ranging from £18 to 21s. each.

There were 99 hours' less sunshine in the past July than in that of last year.

CORRESPONDENCE.

What is the Best Flooring for Pig Sties?

SIR,—Will you kindly advise me through your valuable paper what kind of floors you would recommend for pens for breeding pigs?

Would old railway sleepers, sawn across and laid on the ground, be suitable? Or would they be liable to get wet and cause any injury to the pigs?—Yours, &c., BEGINNER.

July 31, 1907.

The Feeding of Stock.

SIR,—A week ago I sent one shilling's worth of stamps asking if you would oblige me by sending the analysis of our common sorts of corn. Not having received it, I write thinking my letter might be mislaid. Our family having taken the MARK LANE EXPRESS for many years, I took this liberty, thinking you would be sure to have this by you. If you have the best mixtures of corn already decided for different animals that is what I want. With the analysis by one at hand one can mix their own grown corn.—Yours, &c.,

July 29, 1907. T. C.

*** I take it that what you really want is not so much the analysis of different kinds of corn for feeding purposes as much as some particulars that will guide you as to the digestible constituents which the above contains. As it would take considerable space to supply you with what you ask for, namely, the best mixtures of food for different animals, I think I can best answer your question by advising you to get Leaflets No. 74 and No. 79 issued by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, and dealing respectively with the purchase of feeding stuffs and rations for farm stock. If you apply to the Secretary, Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, 4, Whitehall Place, London, S.W., these leaflets will be sent to you free of cost, and a letter of application addressed to the above department need not be stamped. In the leaflets referred to you will find a good deal of useful information on the subject of feeding farm stock, but if you do not see what you require, please write again, and we will do our best to assist you. —RUSTICUS.

Potatoes Affected.

SIR,—I am enclosing a few specimens of potato tops which were given to me by a neighbouring farmer while looking round his garden. Although a man of long experience, he said he had never seen anything like it, and I had to confess that it was altogether new to me; but he told me of several other people who had potatoes similarly affected. It appears that when potatoes become thus affected all development is checked, and he told me that he did not believe that they would do any more good, some of the tops were quite brown. You will notice that in the angles betweeen leaves and main stem there are lumps formed, from which are suspended what look very much (especially in some instances) like root fibres. I thought at first that the lumps might be caused by some kind of parasite, but on cutting one open I could not discover anything.

I shall be glad if you can throw any light upon the matter in the correspondence column of your next issue. I ought to add that all the potatoes in the garden are not like it, part of the bed being as healthy as one need wish to see.—Yours, &c.,

PUZZLED.

*** It needs but a glance at the specimens to to hand to tell that your neighbour's potatoes are suffering from the disease *Macrosporium solani*, commonly called the "leaf curl" disease, owing to the peculiar way in which the leaves become crimped and curled at the edges. I am a little surprised to hear that you have never seen anything like it before, as the disease is wide spread over all parts of the country; and though I have been intimately acquainted with it for some years I have never known it to be so bad as this season. There can be no two opinions about the seriousness of leaf curl, and at the present moment the disease, its cause, and how to remedy it, are matters which are perplexing scientists and practical men alike. In the first place, there are doubts as to what leaf curl really is, and I believe it may be brought about by two or three causes. The general symptoms, however, are as follows:—To all appearance the sets are sound and good when planted, but they either fail to grow altogether or else they send up weak splindling stems (like those you sent), and clear indication of the presence of the disease is the curling of the leaves, and as the fungus mycelium increases in quantity in the tissues, the haulm becomes limp and collapses. Generally speaking, when affected plants are lifted the old seed tubers are found in the ground in a perfectly sound and firm state, and there is no telling how long such tubers would remain in the ground without rotting. Some people have tried cutting the tubers to facilitate decay, but if the seed potato is affected with the fungus this course is useless, and at the end of the season I

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

**** The charge for Advertisements (if set in small type) under classified headings in this section is one penny per word each insertion.*

HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL, Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Hereford. Stud Horses: Lockinge Lord of Misrule and Lockinge Bonny Lad, both by Lockinge Forester, full brother to Lockinge Forest King. Colts and Fillies for Sale.

MUNTZ, FREDERICK ERNEST, Umberslade, Hockley Heath, Warwickshire. Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, prize-winners.—Particulars from Mr. JOHN T. B. HARTLEY, Estate Office.

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SHEEP—*continued.*

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(Continued on page 194.)

PIGS.

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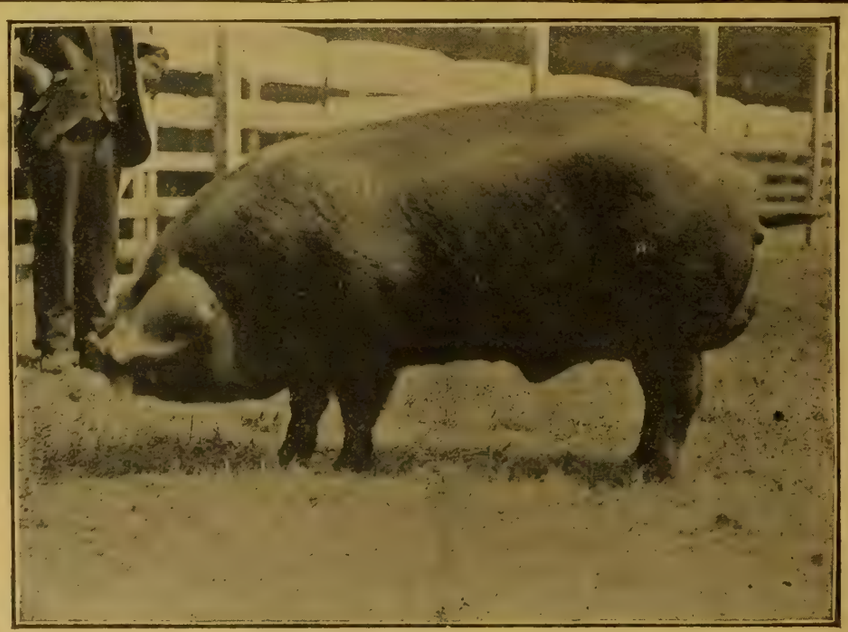
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have frequently found half sets that were cut at planting time not decayed in the least. In my experience I have found leaf-curl disease to be much more prevalent amongst early than late varieties, and as the mycelium is in the tubers when planted or the fungus pores are in the land, we must look here for the remedy. On no account would I save seed potatoes from an infected crop; and, indeed, I have had so many disappointments through leaf-curl that I question whether it is worth while saving seed potatoes at all, at any rate, not early varieties. At the present moment I have early potatoes growing, the seed of which was fresh from Scotland last year. Some of the varieties are an absolute failure through leaf curl, yet potatoes of the same variety growing by the side of them from seed obtained fresh from Scotland this year show no sign of the disease, and are cropping splendidly. I believe the best preventive measure is a radical change of seed from uninfected land. Personally I have had little trouble with leaf curl in seed potatoes obtained from Scotland, though, of course, others may have had different experience. Another course, which I merely suggest as a preventive measure, is, if seed potatoes are saved for planting the following season, to lift the tubers while the skins are soft and before they are ripe, store carefully through the winter in a cool outhouse, either boxing or spreading the tubers on a brick or earthern rather than a wooden floor, and set the potatoes up in shallow boxes some time before planting so as to get them sprouted. It is important, particularly in the case of early varieties and in view of this disease, that the central and main shoot should not be broken, but kept intact. The lumps to which you refer are merely miniature tubers forming in the axils of the leaves, which peculiarity is not uncommon in the case of perfectly healthy potatoes and much more general when crops are affecteed with "leaf curl." The reason why some of the potatoes in the garden you mention are quite healthy is due to the fact, of course, that these plants are unaffected. So far as my experience goes, spraying is of little use in the case of "leaf curl," and the remedy is in getting fresh seed from an uninfected area. I have dealt with the subject at some length, because I realise its importance and am alive to the losses that potato growers are suffering through the curl disease. I am convinced that there is a great deal more to be learnt about this peculiar disease in the potato, and with the permission of the editor, I invite other readers of the MARK LANE EXPRESS to give their views on the subject, as a discussion might lead to some useful result, particularly as the writer of the above letter is only one amongst hundreds who are puzzled by the disappointing behaviour of their potatoes.—RUSTICUS.

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LONDON & COUNTY BANKING COMPANY, LIMITED.

Registered under "The Companies Acts." Established in 1836.

Capital £8,000,000, in 100,000 shares of £80 each.

REPORT ADOPTED AT THE HALF-YEARLY ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING, 1st AUGUST, 1907.

WILLIAM EGERTON HUBBARD, Esq., in the Chair.

The Directors, in submitting to the Shareholders the Balance Sheet for the half-year ending 30th June last, have to report that, after paying interest to Customers and all charges, making provision for bad and doubtful debts, and allowing £28,052 15s. 3d. for rebate on bills not due, the net profits amount to £303,225 16s. 2d. From this sum has been deducted £100,000 transferred to an Investments Depreciation Fund, leaving £203,225 16s. 2d., which, with £97,371 4s. 8d. balance brought forward from last account, leaves available the sum of £300,597 0s. 10d.

The Directors have declared a Dividend for the half-year of 10 per cent., which will require £200,000, leaving the sum of £100,597 0s. 10d. to be carried to the Profit and Loss New Account.

The Dividend, £2 per Share, free of Income Tax, will be payable at the Head Office, or at any of the Branches, on or after Monday, 12th August.

BALANCE SHEET

Of the London and County Banking Company, Limited, 30th June, 1907.

Dr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Capital subscribed £8,000,000, Paid up		2,000,000 0 0
Reserve Fund		1,550,000 0 0
Investments Depreciation Fund		100,000 0 0
Due by the Bank on Current Deposit, and other Accounts, including provision for Contingencies		45,028,135 8 6
Liabilities on Acceptances, covered by Cash, or Securities or Bankers' Guarantees		1,892,962 16 8
Rebate on Bills not due carried to next Account		28,052 15 3
Net Profit for the Half-year, after making provision for Bad and Doubtful Debts	303,225 16 2	
Transferred to Investments Depreciation Fund	100,000 0 0	
	203,225 16 2	
Profit and Loss Balance brought from last Account	97,371 4 8	
		300,597 0 10
		£50,899,748 1 3

Cr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Cash at the Head Office and Branches, and with Bank of England	6,736,050 11 2	
Loans at Call and at Short Notice	3,661,559 18 1	
		10,397,610 9 3
Investments, viz.:—		
Consols registered and in Certificates, New 2½ per Cents., and National War Loan (£6,894,491 7s. 11d., of which £357,000 0s. 0d. Consols is lodged for Public Accounts); Canada 4 per Cent. Bonds, and Egyptian 3 per Cent. Bonds, Guaranteed by the British Government	6,651,259 11 5	
India Government Stock and India Government Guaranteed Railway Stocks and Debentures	848,160 17 8	
Metropolitan and other Corporation Stocks, Debenture Bonds, English Railway Debenture Stocks and Colonial Stocks	1,666,568 11 9	
Other Securities	19,686 17 9	
		9,185,675 18 7
Discounted Bills Current	8,223,388 8 2	
Advances to Customers at the Head Office and Branches	20,363,691 5 4	
		28,587,079 13 6
Liabilities of Customers for Drafts accepted by the Bank (as per Contra)		1,892,962 16 8
Bank Premises in London and Country, with Fixtures and Fittings		836,419 3 3
		£50,899,748 1 3

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Interest paid to Customers		267,361 12 9
Salaries and all other Expenses at Head Office and Branches, including Income Tax on Profits and Salaries, Auditors' and Directors' Remuneration		339,823 18 3
Transferred to Investments Depreciation Fund		100,000 0 0
Rebate on Bills not due, carried to New Account		28,052 15 3
Dividend 10 per cent. for the Half-Year	£200,000 0 0	
Balance carried forward	10,597 0 10	
		300,597 0 10
		£1,035,835 7 1

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Balance brought forward from last Account		97,371 4 8
Gross Profit for the Half-year, after making Provision for Bad and Doubtful Debts, and including Rebate £43,106 6s. 5d. brought from 31st December last		938,464 2 5
		£1,035,835 7 1

Examined and audited by us, (Signed) GOSCHEN, W. McKEWAN, CHAS. J. C. SCOTT, } Audit Committee of Directors.

H. R. WYATT, Head Office Manager.
W. G. GRIBBLE, Country Manager.
T. J. CARPENTER, Chief Accountant.

London and County Banking Company, Limited, 12th July, 1907.

In accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act, 1900, we certify that all our requirements as Auditors have been complied with, and we report that we have examined the Balance-Sheet and Profit and Loss Account, dated the 30th June, 1907, have verified the Cash-Balance at the Bank of England, the Stocks there registered, and the other investments of the Bank. We have also examined the several Books and Vouchers and certified Returns showing the Cash-Balances, Bills and other Amounts set forth, the whole of which are correctly stated; and in our opinion the said Balance-Sheet and Profit and Loss Account are properly drawn up, so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the Company's affairs as shown by the books of the Company.

(Signed) HY. GRANT, THOS. HORWOOD, STUART PLEYDELL-BOUVERIE, } Auditors.

London and County Banking Company, Limited, 18th July, 1907.

LONDON AND COUNTY BANKING COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a DIVIDEND on the Capital of the Company at the rate of 10 per cent. for the Half-Year ending 30th June, 1907, will be PAYABLE to the Shareholders, either at the Head Office, 21, Lombard Street, or at any of the Company's Branches, on or after Monday, the 12th instant.

By order of the Board,

21, Lombard Street, 2nd August, 1907. E. F. ROBINSON, Secretary.

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Iron and Steel Hurdles, Fences, Gates.—Excellent quality; 6 ft. hurdles, 4 rails, 35s. 6d. per doz.; 5 bars, 38s. 9d. Steel fencing wire, 11s. per cwt.; galvanised wire strand, 17s. cwt.; galvanised barbed wire, 15s. cwt., 590 yards. Challenge field gates, 9 ft. by 4 ft., 22s. each. Carriage paid on six gates. Strong sheep fencing, five steel wires and iron posts, 8½d. per yard.
Splendid Galvanised Roofing.—Perfect quality; 5 ft., 1s. 6¾d.; 6 ft., 1s. 10½d.; 7 ft., 2s. 2½d.; 8 ft., 2s. 6d.; 9 ft., 2s. 10½d.; 10 ft., 3s. 3½d. Ridging, 2½d. per ft. Best Wire Nails, 11s. cwt.
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Mark Lane Express Agricultural Journal and Live Stock Record.

ESTABLISHED 1832.

PRICE 3d. PER SINGLE COPY.

LONDON, MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 1907.

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Seasonable Topics.

Progress of Haymaking. SLOWLY and wearyingly the haymaking season drags itself along, and it appears as if it will never be brought to an end this season. The weather seems determined not to take up and be fine this summer, and if we get one good hay-day, the next is almost sure to be unfavourable. We have met with a good many farmers during the past week, but as a rule they were not in a cheerful frame of mind. The exceptions were in the cases of a few men who, not having much haymaking to do, had finished, and were relieved in consequence, but there is a lot of hay to be got in yet. In journeying about the country this week we have observed a good many fields yet to be mown, but considering that we are now well into August, we see no advantage in letting the grass stand. Earlier in the season there was a good excuse for waiting till the weather settled before getting a lot of grass down, but things are different now, and if the grass is cut there is the possibility of getting it turned into hay when fortune favours us with a fine day or two.

The State of the Corn. NATURE will not be denied, and, in spite of the dull and cheerless weather, there is a golden gleam spreading over the corn fields which tells of the grain ripening to harvest. In some places corn cutting has begun amongst the oats, and if we could only get a spell of settled weather harvesting operations would soon be general. Speaking from our own observations we see prospects of a fair harvest, but the heavy storms we had in July have played havoc in the cornfields. It is no uncommon sight to observe fields of oat and wheat where the crop is laid as flat as if it had been rolled, and difficulties will present themselves when reaping commences. In other districts which have escaped the full vigour of the storms the corn is standing better, and tall straw is crowned with good heads of grain. As to financial prospects of the corn crops there are reasons to think that the British farmer will be able to sell his wheat well, but what he is most anxious about just now is good weather for the harvest. The experience of the summer up to now has been sufficient to make him anxious.

Useful Education. THE Berkeley Hunt Agricultural Society, which held its annual show under the shadows of historic Berkeley Castle on Bank Holiday, is one of the most progressive institutions of its kind in the West of England, and we would draw attention to a new departure made this year that might be adopted elsewhere with advantage. The Berkeley Hunt Society believes in education, and knowing that the boy makes the man, it offers unique facilities for the young farmers in the district to acquire useful knowledge on matters connected with agriculture. At the recent show on Bank Holiday prizes were offered to young men under twenty-five years of age for judging a number of cattle and most correctly placing them in order of merit. A time limit was given, and the competitors had to give reasons for their decisions in writing on cards provided for the purpose. The competition created considerable interest, and there were sixteen competitors for the prizes. We consider it to be a matter of importance that the farmers of the future should be good judges of stock, and we look upon this as being an excellent means of teaching.

The Progress of the Royal. CRITICAL they may be, and perhaps not always very patient, but, nevertheless, we can answer for farmers as a community rejoicing in the hope that the Royal Agricultural Society has left its days of adversity behind it, and is now safely on its way to that position of prosperity which a premier and Royal Society show should occupy. We recall the days of Park Royal as a bad dream and an ill-fated experiment that nearly brought disaster in its trail, but there is an enthusiasm now about Royal shows that is encouraging and speaks well for the future. This year Lincoln rose nobly to the occasion, and we may safely leave the northern grit of Newcastle to do the same next. And what of 1909? It is a far cry till then, but the farming folk in the West of England are loyal, and the prospects of having another Royal Show in the ancient city of Gloucester are being discussed with favour. Nothing succeeds like success, and we feel sure that Newcastle next year and Gloucester the year following will spare themselves no pains to uphold the records of Derby and Lincoln.



The "Mark Lane Express" Stand at the Yorkshire Show at Barnsley.

Village Flower Shows. THOUGH the interests of this journal are chiefly agricultural, the sister arts of farming and gardening are so closely bound up with each other that we make no excuse for devoting one paragraph to the local flower-shows which are now held in so many of our rural villages. In our opinion, and in spite of little things that are not always fair and above-board, village flower-shows are commendable institutions. It is good to see cottagers and allotment holders taking interest in their gardens, and the produce which is staged at village shows by men who work hard in the time they have to spare in order to obtain it reflects the greatest credit on them. And many of the village societies do not confine themselves to fruit, flowers, and vegetables, for there are industrial sections for needlework, cookery, &c., as well as departments for poultry, eggs, butter, and other commodities. In fact, village shows have done great things in the past to encourage home industries, and there are reasons to think that their usefulness will increase in the future. Anything, we say, that encourages country people to take greater interest in their homes and surroundings is worthy of support and commendation.

Wasps. IT is said that when we have a good plum year we are sure to get a plague of wasps. We may get them later on, because wasps, like other things, have perhaps been thrown back by the unfavourable season, but judging from the number of queens there were about early in the season, there was every prospect of a plague. Whatever trouble we may have later on, however, it is gratifying to know that every queen wasp that was abroad early in the season did not live to have a nest, for at an agricultural show we visited the

other day we saw some thousands of these insects pinned on cards and displayed to public view. One man was responsible for the presence of nearly 2,000 queens, and was rewarded by winning first prize in the class for them. A gentleman informed us recently that he paid his workmen a penny each for all the queen wasps they presented to him, and this year he paid for over 600. If a warfare like this was carried on in every district against queen wasps it is only reasonable to say that we should have less trouble with these hungry pests when the fruit is ripe.

Contract and Day Work.

THE difficulty which many farmers are experiencing just now is to get labour at all, and for this state of affairs the climatic conditions of the season are largely responsible. Apart from this, however, there are certain operations on the farm that can only be done by day work, while others can be performed by contract. The advantage from a farmer's point of view in selling work by the piece is that he is relieved of further responsibility in the way of supervision, as the men are only paid for what they do. Just so, but then the question comes in as to whether the work will be done well, and here it is very largely a matter of men. A conscientious workman will make a good job, no matter whether he is working by the day or by contract, because his reputation stands or falls by his work. But the truth must be told that all labourers are not conscientious, and if not carefully looked after some men will scamp their work when doing it by the piece. No doubt these are the very fellows who want continual watching when working by the day, so that the whole thing reduces itself to being a matter of men.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

How will the Motor Duty be Applied?

Now there is one point which it behoves us to carefully consider. Mr. Asquith meditates increasing in his new Budget the duties on motor-cars. How is the sum thus secured to be dealt with? Is it to be utilised towards helping to supply the deficit in the national exchequer caused by the relinquishment of the sugar duties? Is there not—if I may continue in very favourite Socratic vein—a more consistent and desirable purpose to which it can be applied? "An admirable suggestion, indeed," quoths that cleared-eyed statesman Lord St. Aldwyn, "especially if the money is to be applied to the maintenance of high roads." And it must be the aim of every county and urban authority to see that this is the destination of the sum secured by the tax. The motor-traffic is something more than a social terror to village-life. Social terrors soon lose their hideousness; we become habituated to their lineaments. Motors impose a grave and an ever-increasing burden on the local rates—a burden emphasised by the fact that they are in themselves a much too-fragrant and too-odorous source of personal discomfort and a distinct enemy to roadside herbage. There is scarcely a county council which has not been taxed by them without any adequate return having been received by the local district, either in the way of concession from the national exchequer, by direct payment to the local exchequer (even the taxes imposed on the scarifying bounder who imagines the local roads to have been created for his special behoof and for the wilful mutilation of all who dare oppose his royal lightning-like progress is but as a drop in the ocean), or by an added local trade. Local rates for the maintenance of high roads have an overwhelming right to a considerable part of this meditated tax. And Lord St. Aldwyn's approval of the tax if it be utilised for this purpose is a distinct invitation to an early and persistent rural demand for this policy. If we do not accept this invitation we shall be foolishly recreant to our own interest.

* * *

The Butter Bill and its Friends.

We have at least much to be thankful for in the prospect of the Butter and Margarine Bill soon receiving the King's assent. I see that one of the anti-Ministerial journals have gloated over the fact that the Government was defeated on a division in the House of Lords in connection with this measure. The question, forsooth, over which Ministers were defeated was as to whether the inspection under the Bill should in London be limited to officers of the borough councils. A grim and dramatic achievement this to herald on a contents' bill in the portentous type usually utilised to proclaim an appalling, newspaper-selling tragedy! As a fact, no Bill of recent years has had from the two great parties in the State a more sympathetic, dispassionate, and practical consideration. Certain Irish members interested in the Irish trade and certain other Parliamentarians interested in the English grocery business have been a little restive and belligerent; but on the whole the discussion on the measure has been marked by a mutual anxiety for rescuing the English butter trade from an ungenerous, unfair, and penalising competition—for giving it its righteous position in the markets, and for putting a penalty on the nauseous or unwholesome or adulterated products which have too long masqueraded under its name and usurped its fair fame. If the final achievement belong to the Government, an achievement accomplished as a sequel to a general Parliamentary sympathy, it must not be forgotten that the basis of that achievement was laid by Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes. I do not wish to detract from the Ministerial credit; but Earl Carrington would himself be the first to admit Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes' part in the movement of which this Act will be the crown. The fact that Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes was baulked by his fellow-Ministers—or, rather, that more lurid issues usurped the Parliamentary mind—was Earl Carrington's opportunity. Well, it must at least be said of his lordship that he admirably took advantage of it.

* * *

What of the Displaced Farmers?

One fact the trend of events has made assured. That is, that the new English Small Holdings Bill will—before it emerges from the Lords; and that that body will accept it is now no longer disputable—make a fair provision for displaced labourers, and a fuller provision than is yet meditated for the farmers who may have been mulcted as a consequence of the operation of the new legislation. The Liberals generally accept the view that there should be full provision for the displaced labourer—that the new economy shall not be made an instrument for deepening his discontent with the Arcadian life and thus become an additional source of the continued denudation of the countryside. But, it is to be urged, if there is to be compensation for unintentional and accidental injury that compensation should not be confined to one class or section. Whoever is injured, whoever's means of livelihood and prospects be unhappily affected by the measure, whoever has been despoiled, be he farmer or be he labourer, there ought to be a full measure of compensation. At one time the Liberals generally loaked with askant eye at this suggestion. It seemed to the more susceptible to be opening the flood-gates to the national spoliation of the State. They in their sensitiveness saw every attempt to cut a farm into small holdings being made the excuse for arrogant demands for undeserved compensation. However, there is a gathering appreciation even in those ranks that if compensation is accepted as a principle it would be an unmitigated example of class-prejudice to differentiate either in the recipients of it or in the scale on which it is based. If the Lords insist on the farmers penalised by the new enactment being fairly treated—on the compensation offered them being somewhat more than niggard in character—they will not find the Commons anxious to try a fall with them on the issue.

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How the Scottish Bill is Lauded.

There is no doubt about the fact that the Liberals are greatly building on the belief which animates them that the Conservative attitude towards their Scottish Land Bill will greatly strengthen their position in the esteem of the Caledonian electors. They even profess to see that that attitude will banish the three Conservatives who are still sent from the northern kingdom to St. Stephen's, and that in the next Parliament the Scottish representation at St. Stephen's will be as unanimously and unbrokenly Radical as is that of Wales to-day. I have no individual means of estimating how far this prophecy is justified; but, at all events, I have heard Scottish Radicals repeat it with delighted unction. The character they give the Bill is very different from that which its Conservative antagonists give it. They declare that so far from permitting spoilation, the Bill will prevent it. Let me epitomise the contentions of its three chief exponents, the Right Hon. John Sinclair, the Lord Advocate, and the Solicitor-General for Scotland:—

a.—The tenant will under it obtain security of tenure.

b.—The tenant cannot under the Bill be rented on his own improvements.

c.—The landlord, so far from being despoiled, will have his rent made more secure.

d.—Wherein the new system will seriously differ from the old is that instead of the rent being governed by the cupidity, the caprice, the impecuniosity, or the extravagance of the landlord, it will be fixed at a fair figure by an impartial tribunal.

e.—The landlord will be so far protected that he will have every security against the dilapidation of his holding.

f.—The Bill does not propose to establish dual ownership and thus to invoke the dangers of the Irish system, for the simple reason that the holder will not be able to sell his tenant-right.

* * *

Deft Playing to the Electorate.

There may be few landlords who will accept this Radical picture of the character of the new Bill, and few who do not share the opinion of moderate Liberals like Mr. Munro-Ferguson and Sir E. Tennant that the Bill is not needed, and that it is calculated to introduce a new spirit of disquietude and unrest into Scottish agrarianism for the sake of experimenting in the field of needless Quixotry. There may be few landlords, too, who do not see in the Government's refusal—I note this only as an example—to compensate landlords or farmers for any loss they may suffer as a consequence of the action of the Land Courts or Agricultural Commissioners another illustration of the invincible antagonism possessing it towards all associated with the land above the sacro-sanct rank of labourer. They may be few landlords who do not resent what is described as the coercive temper animating the Bill towards the landlord class—a temper revealed on every page and in every clause, and who do not see in this attitude a proof that the view is that the landlord is a parah deserving neither generosity, consideration, or sympathy. All the same, this brief epitome of the measure which I have pointed will have a greater fascination for the Scotchman than will all the fears, direful prophesies, and melancholy visions of Mr. Walter Long, Sir Henry Craik, and Mr. Munro-Ferguson. Whether the Bill pass the Lords or not, it will have served its purpose. Deep unto deep will have been held to have cried. The Government will be held to have sought to redeem its plighted word to Scottish Liberalism. Mark my words, rejection by the Lords will not affect the place of Radicalism in the Scottish esteem. The Bill will be held to have been the thing.

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A Point for Sir John Rolleston.

What does Sir John Rolleston mean by this language to the British Association? "No system," he declared, "would enable occupiers in this country to place their produce on the markets of Paris or Copenhagen. All we have here is a small share in our own markets." But would Colonial preference better the position? Canada is to be invited, like Australia, to enter our markets under improved conditions. Canada's only products are agricultural. Canada could supply us with all our necessities. Canada can grow those products cheaper than we do, and offer them at a cheaper rate. There is a nut for you to crack, Sir John. Can you extract a kernel of hope?

The Right Hon. Jesse Collings, M.P., speaking on small occupying ownerships, in the Economics Section of the British Association's Conference last week, said we had the land and we had the men standing idle. To bring men and land together was the work of the State, acting through a central department and local authorities. He advocated a better system of rural education and the establishment of co-operation among the cultivators, both for purposes of buying and selling.

The Yorkshire Show at Barnsley.

THE annual show of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society was held at Barnsley on the last three days of last week, when a convenient site had been obtained. The entries of stock were not so good as on many previous occasions, partly due to the curtailment of the prize-list and also largely to the fact that the show extended over a Saturday, which is much disliked by exhibitors from a distance. The weather held up well, and the attendances on the various days will be seen from the table below. Next year's show, it has been decided, is to be held in Halifax.

	Barnsley, 1907.		Middlesboro', 1906.		Average of 5 yrs.
First day	5,995	..	3,026	..	5,308
Second day	18,356	..	28,936	..	32,066
Third day.....	22,035	..	10,960	..	12,116
Total	46,386	..	42,922	..	49,880

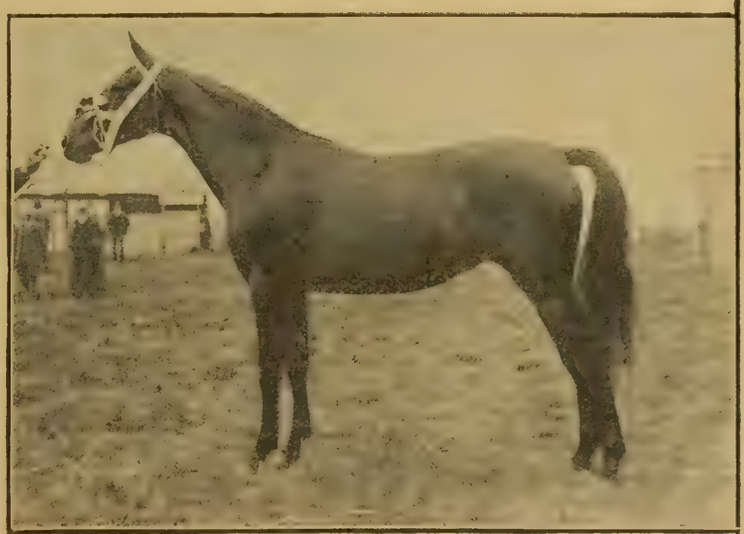
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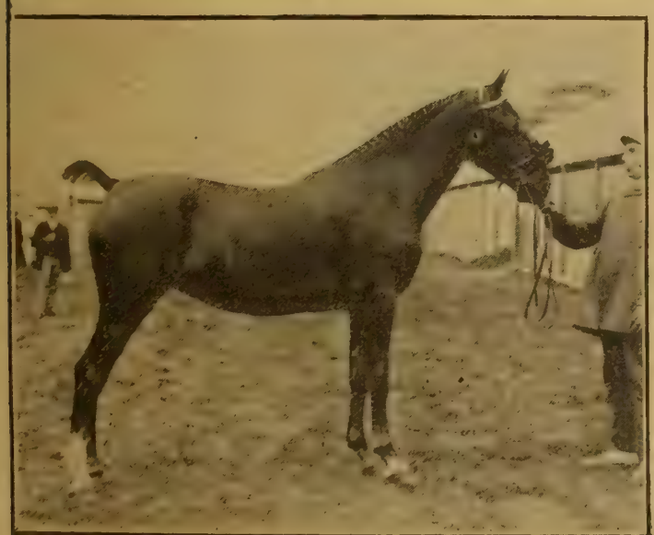
The Yorkshire Show is famous as being one of the best shows of light horses in the country, and if quality only is considered the Barnsley Show may be said to stand out as well worthy of the traditions of the show. But at the Yorkshire we have been accustomed to see large classes in every section, and at Barnsley numbers were certainly wanting. There was a decrease of 100 in the number of entries in the horse classes, and 95 per cent. of the decrease was in the light horse sec













Judging the two- and three-year-old Yorkshire Coaching Stallions.

Judging the Yorkshire Coaching Stallions, four years old and upwards.

Mr. G. Wilson's First Prize Hackney Filly, Cedar Camilla.

The Cleveland Bay Fillies before the Judges.

Mr. Sylvester Leaf's two-year-old Coaching Filly, Josephine, First Prize and Champion.

Mr. J. Jebson's Kettledrum, the First Prize three-year-old Harness Gelding.

tions. And at a place so easily reachable as Barnsley, with several railway companies running into it, one might have looked for an increase of entries rather than such a marked decrease.

Hunters.

One of the most interesting classes in the show was that for Thoroughbred stallions, and more than one man well qualified to express an opinion and with an experience of many years' Yorkshire shows, stated that it was the best class of Thoroughbred sires that had ever been seen at a Yorkshire show. There was half a dozen entries, and there was not a weed amongst them. First and second prizes went as last year to Lord Middleton's Wales and Mr. Wickham Boynton's Roe O'Neill, the latter a much improved horse that ran the winner close this time. Third prize went to Mr. Henry Cholmondeley's Foundling, an useful brown that made a good show, and Lord Middleton's Scotch Sign, a rare bred one by Ayrshire—Marken by Ocean Wave, her dam Dutch Girl by Dutch Skater, was reserve. He has only just come out of training, but he is built on the lines of a high-class Hunter sire, and we shall hear of him again.

In the weight-carrying brood mare class Mr. W. B. Swallow's fine old mare, Beatrice, was first, this being the fifth time she has won at the Yorkshire. She was once second, and her Peterborough record is three firsts and a second. Mr. J. A. Mullens' Royal winner, Everlasting, was second, and Mr. Cotton's Creole, a short-legged brown by Marmiton, that shows plenty of quality and has plenty of liberty, was third. Nothing in the class moved better than the winner.

In the light-weight brood mare class her daughter, Tugela by Anklebiter, ran Mr. F. B. Wilkinson's Rosalinda very close, and for a considerable time the issue hung in the balance. Rosalinda won, and Mr. J. A. Mullens' Glowworm, another Royal winner, was third. Mr. Swallow's Recruit had no difficulty in adding to his Royal, Doncaster, and Peterborough victories in the class for yearling colts or geldings, his only opponent being Mr. John Maclaren's Tommy, a very useful local horse, but scarcely of the class of Mr. Swallow's horse. Four out of the six entries were absent. Yearling fillies made a very good show. Mr. Wilkinson's Ladybird followed up her Bolton and Welbeck successes by winning, a good second being found in Mr. E. Hodgson's Actress, a useful bay by Red Prince II.; Mr. Sylvester Leaf's very good looking Red Poppy, who was second at Malton in a good class, was third, and the Malton winner, Lord Middleton's handsome brown Scalpay, was reserve.

The two-year-old gelding class caused a considerable amount of discussion, most of the exhibits having keen supporters, a sure sign of the quality of the class. Mr. Hodgson's much-improved Killarney, who was third at Bridlington, was the winner. He has good limbs, but needs to grow down. Mr. Wilkinson's well-known His Grace was second, and third prize went to Mr. Cholmondeley's Aeronaut, who is a very promising young horse that will probably beat the lot some day. Mr. Edward Harrison's Link Boy, the Darlington second, was reserve. Two-year-old fillies were also a good lot, Mr. E. Hodgson's Mab, which should certainly not have been put back at Bridlington, taking first honours. Lord Middleton was second with Modwena, a rangy brown by Wales, that was high up in the premium list in London. Mr. W. B. Swallow's Alpha, also a London premium filly and second at Doncaster and third at the Royal, was third.

Three-year-old geldings were a good lot, but four of the ten entries were absent. Mr. Wilkinson's Expert, the Royal and the Royal Lancashire winner, was first; Mr. W. B. Brown's David, who was second at Darlington and first at Malton, taking second honours. David is a good-looking, well-bred horse, full of quality, but he scarcely moves so well as Expert. Mr. Swallow's Red Morn, a fine horse of a different type, short-legged, and powerful and at the same time full of quality was the third. He has beaten Expert once, viz., at Doncaster, and is not unlikely to make the best Hunter in the class, for he is a rare bred one. Messrs. Ward's Adonis, looking all the better for not carrying so much condition as he did early in the season, was reserve.

Fillies of the same age made a poor show, Mr. Wilkinson's Hasheen winning very easily from Mr. Jefferson's Millie, who has won a few prizes in Yorkshire.

The four-year-old geldings made a very good show, many well-known winners being found amongst the sixteen entries. Mr. J. H. Stokes won with Mustard, a short-legged chesnut with fine quality and a good mover. He was second at Darlington, and won at the Tynemouth Show. Second prize went to Mr. John Brown's Beaula, who was third at Malton. He is a powerful horse, nicely turned, and a fine galloper, and has beautiful manners. Mr. Drage's Mr. Druce, who was third, is a useful brown, but he scarcely gallops in such good form as Mr. Brown's horse. Mr. Hodgson's Sportsman, who won at the Royal and the Highland, was reserve.

In the class for four-year-old mares, Mr. Stokes's Radiance was the winner. As she always does, she made a brilliant show, and she is undoubtedly the best mare of her year. Second to her was a stable companion in Black Pearl, who is growing to quality, and who, it will be remembered, began the year well by winning in London. Mr. Mullens's Paleface was third, a place she held at the Royal Lancashire.

Weight-carriers made a very good class, first and second prizes in which went to Mr. J. H. Stokes's Axiom and Mr. F. B. Wilkinson's Summertime, as was the case at Bolton. Mr. Simpson Hinchcliffe's Silver Thorne was third, and Mr. Stokes's Biscuit was reserve.

In light-weight class Mr. John Brown won with His Lordship, a chesnut by Court Ball that has nice quality and that gallops well. Mr. Drage's Chatterbox, who was second to Fable in London, was second, and Mr. Stokes's Greytick third, with Mr. Rickaby's good looking Malton winner Revel reserve.

Mr. Stokes's Mustard was champion, with Radiance reserve.

Hackneys.

Hackneys made a better show than they have done at the Yorkshire for some years, and though a few more entries would have been welcome, the competition in most classes was excellent. In the class for stallions four years old and upwards, Mr. Buttle's Kirkburn Toreador had no difficulty in following up his Malton victory, though the opposition was a strong one. Mr. Fewson's Hedon Duke, who was fourth at Islington, was second, and Mr. Stephen Cliff's London reserve; New Gold was third.

The class for two or three-year-old stallions was a good one, but unfortunately Mr. Hall's Copmanthorpe Performer could not be shown, though he was on the spot. Mr. Nottingham's Forest Danegelt, a greatly improved horse since he was commended at the Hackney Horse Society's show was first. He is a beautifully balanced chesnut with magnificent action, and seems to be at the outset of a very successful career. Mr. Fewson's handsome chesnut, Hedon Fashion, who has fair quality and action, and who won at Pocklington, was second, and Mr. John Beal's Silver Heels, who was second to Copmanthorpe Performer at Islington, was third.

The Brood mare class was not a big one, but it was a good one. The old rivals, Mr. Evans' District Maid and Sir Walter Gilbey's Gallant Girl, were again first and second, with Mr. Henry Watson's Queen of Newton, a good winner in Yorkshire, third and Messrs. Cockayne's handsome mare Paddock Queen, who ran her very close, reserve.

The yearling class was a weak one, only two out of the six entries being forward, Mr. Cliff's Crayke Sunshine beating Mr. H. T. Parke's Withnell Snowdrop, as was the case at the Royal Lancashire.

The two-year-old class provided something of a sensation. Mr. George Wilson's Cedar Camilla, who won at Malton, was first. She is a very neat and shapely mare, and she moves well, but perhaps she might be a little better on her shoulders with advantage. Sir Walter Gilbey's Lively Beeswing was second, this being the first time she has been beaten in her life. She was certainly unlucky, and she did not go with her usual fire and dash. The ring was a little side swung and slippery, and perhaps to this is to be attributed the show she made. Or she may need a rest. Third prize went to Mr. Ashley's Nelson Mystery.

Cleveland Bays.

The Cleveland Bay classes only filled badly. Mr. John Letts's Royal winner, Special Light, was an easy winner in the class for two or three-year-old stallions, his only opponant being Mr. Kettlewell's Skelton Special, a big horse, rather on the coarse side that made a good show. In the brood mare class first and second prizes went as at the Royal to Mr. Tyerman's Aislaby Beauty, and Mr. Bateman's Woodland Rose with Mr. Horsfall's Lady Salton, who has many Yorkshire and Royal honours to her credit was third. In the class for two or three year old fillies, Mr. Grandage's Woodland Flower, a fine mover that was shown at the Royal was first with Mr. Elders's Hawthorn Beauty, and Mr. J. W. Letts's Special Pride second and third.

Yorkshire Coach Horses.

Yorkshire coach horses made just a fair show. In the class for stallions four years old and upwards, Mr. Stericker's Breaston Prince was first. He is a big, good-looking horse, with very fine action. Mr. Burton's fine old horse Willoughby Emperor was second, and Mr. Grandage's Woodland Pride was third. The class for two or three year old stallions was only a small one, with Mr. John Letts's handsome Sunray, who made a very good show first, Mr. G. Grandage's Woodland Duke was second, and Mr. George Burton's Knight of the Garter was third.

In the three-year-old class Mr. R. P. Evans won with Medelin, who has grown into a very nice filly. She won well, as she did at the Royal Lancashire last year. Second prize went to Mr. Tennant's Special Beauty, who as usual made a good show, and who has a record of seven first and two second prizes at important shows, since she was second at the Royal. Messrs. Hall's Copmanthorpe Queen was third and Mr. Clarke's Skeffling Lily, the Royal winner, was reserve. This is the first time she has met Special Beauty since Doncaster.

Weight carrying mares or geldings made a fair class, in which the prizes went to Mr. Watson's Newton Swell, Mr. Makeague's Luminator, and Messrs. Hall's Copmanthorpe Duke, and in the lightweight class Mr. Featherby's Astonishment was first, Mrs. Fred Holmes' Dainty Kate was second and Mr. Rodmill's Prince Fortunatus was third.

Mr. J. A. Green's Kitty Loch was the winner in the class for cobs, Mr. A. D. Oates's Ryburn Bantam was first in the class for ponies not less than 12 hands 2 in. and not more than 14 hands 2 in., and Mr. W. H. Walker's Star of the East won in the class for children's ponies.

The brood mare class was a small one, with Mr. George Grandage's Woodland Briar, first at Royal and Malton, first, and Messrs. Dutton's Woodhouse Queen second.

The yearling class was a good one, with Mr. Letts' Malton winner, Rillington Delight, first, and Mr. G. Grandage's Woodland Count second. Mr. Elders's Aislaby Hero, who was second at Malton, filled third place.

In the two-year-old class Mr. Sylvester Leaf's Malton winner, Josephine, was first, with Mr. Grandage's Woodland Glade second, and Mr. Brunton's The Vicar third. The three-year-olds were very useful, and two good geldings were first and second in Mr. S. Leaf's Royal and Royalty, Mr. Grandage taking third honours with Woodland May.

Shire Horses.

Mr. Arthur Lindley's Lockinge Sunshine heads the aged class. Earl Egerton's Tatton Dray King, which was first and champion at the Royal Lancashire, leads a good class of three-year-old stallions. The second horse, Mr. Lewis Dodd's two-year-old bay, Rustic Friar. Lord Egerton's Tatton Aurora is placed first in a small class of brood mares, and probably her fine promising foal helped her to the honour, for in Mr. Kay's Wantage Witch, she beat a six-year-old bay which was regarded as Lockinge Manners' best mare. There was an important reversal of judgment in a grand class of yearling fillies, where Mr. H. H. Smith Carington's Folville Festive, a very pretty bay certainly, is placed before Mr. Everard's brown filly, Bardon Flower of the Forest. London opinion was endorsed in the class of two-year-old fillies, where Mr. Egerton Orme's Combermere Abbess still retains her pride of place.

Three-year-old Shire fillies made a splendid show. Tatton May Queen is first, and deservedly so. Mr. Everard's Bardon Marion, the second filly is, Like Lord Egerton's, a daughter of Lockinge Forest King. Two others in this class—Mr. Thomas Burton's Cambrian Lady and Mr. J. C. Jackson's Knottingley May Queen—competed for the gold medal offered by the Shire Horse Society for the best mare or filly bred in Yorkshire. The judges decided in favour of Mr. Burton's filly.

Harness Classes.

The class for three-year-old harness geldings found Mr. Jebson's Kettledrum, the Pocklington winner and second at Selby and Malton, where he was beaten by his stable companion Storm King, in the first place. Mr. Sylvester Leaf was second and third with Professor and President, two browns that make a nice match. In the class for horses in harness over 15 hands Mr. Makeague won with Luminator, the other prizes going to Mr. Featherby's Astonishment and Messrs. Cockayne's Paddock Performer.

The class not exceeding 15 hands found Mr. Rodmell's Prince Fortunatus again winning, with Mrs. Holmes's Dainty Kate second to him, and Mr. Watson's Newton Swell third.

Mr. Makeague's Luminator and Reflector were the winning pair.

CATTLE.

Shorthorns.

Only four old bulls were entered, but they included Linksfield Champion, and naturally he added to his successes. Mr. Thos. Atkinson's Pride of Sunshine was placed second, and Mr. R. Rothwell's Strowan Marquis 13th came third. Bulls between two and three years old provided another very good class. Here Violet's Pride, belonging to Messrs. Denny, of Edenbridge, Kent, took the premier award. Mr. George Harrison's Elvetham Sweetheart was the second winner, and Lord Armstrong's Baron Merry Beau came third. Of the fifteen yearling bulls entered the verdict went in favour of Mr. George Harrison's Pride of Tees. Prominence is nothing new to this son of Primrose Pride, nor is showyard fame strange to Mr. Rothwell's Lord Brilliant, the second prize-taker. Bold Prince, belonging to Mr. T. B. Earle, took the Shorthorn Society's special of £10, confined to the county for bull calved in 1906. Lord Middleton's Birdsall Braiser was at the head of the bull calves. Mr. Bell furnished the second winner in a good blocky calf, Lord Ronald, third honours falling to the Duke of Northumberland for Lucky Star, a most promising calf. The reserve and

highly commended tickets fell to Mr. Charles W. Kellock and the Messrs. Denny respectively.

Cows above three years old were headed by Lord Calthorpe's Sweetheart, Mr. Harrison's Ursula Raglan second, and Mr. Bell's Ratcheugh Witch third—repetition of the Lancashire placing. Among the two-year-old heifers, Mr. Rothwell's Lady Graceful stood out prominently. The yearlings were headed by Mr. Harrison's Gainford Fragrance, a lengthy, good, hairy heifer, a well-known winner, and just now at her best. Second came Elvetham Sweetheart. The calves were numerous. Mr. Rothwell showed the winner in Hoole Fanny, a good-backed heifer with a nice coat which stood well. Mr. Dudding came second with a very young one, which promises exceptionally well. The pedigree dairy cows, judged for milking properties, gave excellent results. In the older class, Lord Rothschild's Tulip Leaf, the winner, from which 25 lb. of milk was required, yielded 34 lb.; and 33 lb. was given by the second prize-taker, the same exhibitor's Warwickshire Hettie. The winner in the younger class—Mr. C. R. W. Adeane's Babraham Treasure—gave 20 lb. of milk, or 5 lb. more than the required quantity.

In the family class there are five entries. The winning family comes from Elvetham Park, and consists of Lord Calthorpe's celebrated and typical Sweetheart, Elvetham Monarch 88513, and Elvetham Sweetheart. Second honours go to Captain W. B. Harrison for a grand quartet—Primrose, Aldershaw Primrose 2nd, Aldershaw Primrose 3rd, and Aldershaw Primrose 4th. The third group is made up of a trio of animals which do credit to Mr. W. Bell's renowned herd, viz., Ratcheugh Witch, Ratcheugh Beauty, and Ratcheugh Lady.

Jerseys.

Few Jerseys were shown in two classes. Lord Rothschild's Fly 3rd stood first among the cows, and beat Mr. R. J. Streatfeild's (Bawtry) Sapolia, a splendid-looking dairy cow, but rather coarser than Lord Rothschild's property. Sapolia secured the silver challenge bowl, for Fly 3rd was not bred in Great Britain or Ireland, and thus was ineligible. Mr. Streatfeild was again to the fore n the heifer class. In this he showed Chasse winner, Mr. Jordan coming second, but the third winner was bred by Mr. Cranswick, Hunmanby.

The Lincoln sheep were hardly so strong as last year. The shearling ram shown by Mr. Dudding was one of a successful pen of five at Lincoln, and the two ram lamb winners sent by Messrs. Dean and Sons formed part of a pen of three which took second honours at the same show. The special prize offered by the Lincoln Long-Wool Sheep Breeders' Association for the best two-shear, shearling, and lamb ram exhibited in the classes for single rams, or selected from a pen of three, was taken by Mr. F. Miller, Birkenhead, with his two-shear winner, Mr. Henry Dudding's shearling being placed reserve.

Among Wensleydales, Lord Henry Bentinck and the Executors of the late Thomas Willis again came into competition. The two shear rams were both very fine animals, Royal Derby, the premier winner, taking similar honours at Lincoln and Bolton in the present year. Crown Prince, his companion, was similarly placed at the Lancashire Show, but at the Royal the judges preferred Lord Bentinck's King of Blues, which was awarded third place as at Bolton. The shearling ram class provided another win for the Willis exhibit. The position was reversed in the ram lamb class, where Lord Bentinck's Lancashire winner beat a beautiful blue-headed rival. The placing of the gimmer class was exactly as at the Royal and Lancashire Shows.

The show of Scotch Mountain sheep, though not large, was good. The two chief ram winners, magnificent specimens of this breed, each two years old, won well as lambs last year, and seemed to justify their selection this, though curiously their positions were reversed at the Royal Show, the second winner being, at Lincoln, placed in front of the first winner.

PIGS.

There was a capital collection of pigs, and winners from many of the other big shows were again forward. In the Large White classes the winner of the special was Mr. Spencer's well known boar, Holywell Czech 2nd. This is only the second appearance of this particularly good class boar, which took the lead at the Royal Show. Sir Gilbert Greenall's, Walton Rise 39th, was in front amongst other sows exceeding twelve months old.

The Berkshires made a good show. In the boar class above twelve months the first-prize winner was bred by Lord Alington, and is now the property of Mr. G. Talfourd Inman, of Highmoor Hall, Henley-on-Thames. In two other classes the same exhibitor comes out first with previous prize-winners. Lord Calthorpe and the Duchess of Devonshire also takes prizes in the Berkshire section. The Tamworths were numerous, the four classes being well filled for a type of pig which, except at shows, is seldom seen in the north. Mr. Frank W. Gilbert and Mr. Robert Ibbotson divide the premier awards.

SPECIAL AWARDS.

Gold medal or bronze medal and £5 for the best Hunter brod mare.—Mr. J. A. Mullens's Everlasting, Barrow Hills, Longcross, Surrey; r, Lord Middleton's Sympathy, Birdsall House, York.

Silver medal or £1 for the best Hunter filly.—Mr. F. B. Wilkinson's Hushcen, Cavendish Lodge, Edwinstone, Newark; r, Lord Middleton's Modwena, Birdsall House, York. £1 to the breeder of the winning filly.—Mr. Harrison, Colton Mill, Hovingham.

Silver medal for the best Hackney mare, filly, or filly foal.—Mr. W. J. Tennant's Special Beauty, Carleton, Pontefract.

Silver medal for the best Hackney stallion, entire colt, or colt foal.—Mr. F. W. Buttle's Toreador, Kirkburn Manor, Driffield, Kirkburn; r, Mr. F. Nottingham's Forest Danegelt, Riplingham Grange, Hull.

Challenge piece of silver plate value £25 for the best Cleveland Bay stallion or mare.—Mr. J. Lett's Special Light, Cleveland Stud Farm, Rillington, York.

Silver medal for the best Cleveland Bay stallion.—Mr. J. Letts's Special Light, Cleveland Stud Farm, Rillington, York.

Silver medal for the best Cleveland Bay mare.—Mr. J. H. Tyerman's Aislaby Beauty, Pond Farm, Hinderwell, S.O.; r, Mr. G. Grandage's Woodland Flower, MoorCroft, Yeadon, Leeds.

Champion prize of £5 for the best Yorkshire Coaching stallion or colt.—Mr. F. H. Stericker's Breaston Prince, Westgate House, Pickering; r, Mr. J. Lett's Sunray, Cleveland Stud Farm, Rillington, York.

Champion prize of £5 for the best Yorkshire Coaching mare or filly.—Mr. S. Leaf's Josephine, Glade Farm, Escrick, York; r, Mr. G. Grandage's Woodland May, Moor Croft, Yeadon, Leeds.

Gold medal, value £10, for the best Shire mare or filly bred by, or in the possession of, a resident or occupier of agricultural land in the county.—Mr. T. Burton's Cambrian Lady, Sandcliffe House, Raskelf, Easingwold; r, Mr. J. C.





SCENES AT THE YORKSHIRE SHOW AT BARNSLEY.

Judging the Shire Stallions, four years old and upwards.

The Shorthorn Bulls, over one year and not exceeding two years old, before the Judges.

Leda, a very beautiful heifer, lengthy, and full of quality.

Aberdeen-Angus.

The three classes for Scottish polled cattle brought out some good animals. The champion gold medal, offered by the Angus Society for the best animal in the showyard, goes to Mr. Bainbridge's cow, Eileen, of Abergeldie, bred by the late Queen Victoria, at Ballater. In this class of aged cows Mr. Cridlan's Mabel 8th, which was second, seems to have been prepared for Smithfield, and it was probably the extra beef that put her in front of a very pretty cow from Skidby Manor, owned by Mr. Hayles. Mr. Cridlan's two-year-old bull, Everwise, is an easy first in the male class, and he receives the silver medal of the English Society as the best animal of the opposite sex to that of the champion.

SHEEP.

Four breeds only figure in this section, but they make a fair display. Leicesters open the catalogue, and the most prominent winner was Mr. G. Harrison, of Gainsford Hall, Darlington, whose stock was successful in all classes but that for this year's ewe lambs. Mr. Harrison and Mr. Jordan were in competition in the three shearling ram class with stock that had never been previously shown in trio, the latter gentleman being sandwiched between the two Darlington pens, whilst two of his four 1907 lambs penned, captured prize money. In the class for gimmers, the placing of the first two sheep was exactly as at this year's Royal Show, where Mr. Harrison took premier honours with a last year's Royal and Yorkshire

Mr. Tong's somewhat older boar, Shand Roger, taking the reserve card. In the class for White boars over twelve months old Messrs. Wherry's well-known Giant Goliath, which took the second at the Royal Lincoln Show, failing to find a place. In the class for boars not exceeding twelve months, Mr. Spencer was again in front with his Holywell Dayboy 2nd. The class for sows above twelve months old was not particularly strong, Mr. R. Millington Knowles winning with his well-known exhibits Colston Lass 13th and 14th, easily clearing the field. The competition by sows not exceeding twelve months was moderately reduced owing to the disqualification of several animals which failed to qualify under the veterinary's test for age. Sir Gilbert Greenall's Walton Lady Alice 27th, a most promising animal, made a first successful appearance.

There were only five animals in the class for boars of Middle White breed exceeding twelve months old, and here Sir Gilbert Greenall's Walton Dainty 3rd was the winner. The fact that the animal had already carried off the gold medal of the National Pig Breeders' Association caused him to stand aside, and Walton Clumber 4th, a two-year-old from the same stud, took the medal for the best animal in the Middle White classes. Mr. Spencer's Holywell Victoria Duchess was placed reserve. For the same breed not exceeding twelve months Sir Gilbert Greenall's Southampton Prince followed up a successful first appearance at Birkenhead a few weeks ago. Another Royal Show winner of Jackson's Knottingley May Queen, The Grange, Askern, Doncaster.

Special prize of £5 to the breeder of the winner of the Shire gold medal.—Mr. W. Prytherick's, Anglesey, Bodfedden, Tycross, S.O.

Blythwood silver challenge bowl for the best Jersey cow or heifer in milk bred in Great Britain or Ireland.—Mr. R. J. Streatfeild's Sapolia, Rossington Hall, Bawtry; r, Lord Rothschild's Canopy, Tring Park, Tring, Herts.

Champion gold medal for the best Aberdeen-Angus animal.—Mr. T. H. Bainbridge's Eileen of Abergeldie, Eshott Hall, Felton, Northumberland.

Silver medal for the best Aberdeen-Angus animal of the opposite sex awarded the gold medal.—Mr. J. J. Cridlan's Gverwise, Naisemore Park, oGlucester.

Champion prize of £5 for the best Lincoln Long Wool two-shear ram, shearling ram. or ram lamb.—Mr. F. Miller's Nocton Energy, La Belen, Clifton Road Birkenhead; r, Mr. H. Dudding, Riby Grove, Great Grimsby.

Gold medal for the best Large White animal.—Mr. C. Spencer's Holywell Czech 2nd, Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts; r, Mr. G. Tong's Shard Roger, Great Towbrick Farm, Hambleton, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

Gold Medal for the best Middle White Animal.—Sir G. Greenall's Walton Clumber 4th, Walton Hall, Warrington; r, Mr. C. Spencer's Holywell Victoria Duchess, Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts.

Gold Medal for the best Tamworth Animal.—Mr. R. Ibbotson's Cholderton Jennie, The Hawthorns, Knowle, Warwickshire; r, Mr. F.W. Gilbert's Mickleover Fearless, Cattle Bridge Creamery, Swarkestone, Derby.

Piece of Plate, value £5, for the best Tamworth exhibit.—Mr. F. W. Gilbert's Mickleover Fearless, Battle Bridge Creamery, Swarkestone, Derby; r, Mr. R. Ibbotson, The Hawthorns, Knowle, Warwickshire.

JUDGES.

HORSES.—Hunters: Mr. Thomas Calder, Swinton Hill, Coldstream, N.B.; Sir Alfred E. Pease, Bart., Pinchinthorpe House, Guisborough; Mr. E. P. Rawnsley, Harrington Hall, Spilsby, Lincs.; Mr. J. E. Rogerson, Mount Oswald, Durham. Hackneys, Cobs, and Ponies: Mr. S. B. Carnley, Norbury House, Alford, Lincs.; Mr. John Wreghitt, East Thorpe, Market Weighton, S.O. Cleveland Bays and Yorkshire Coach

Horses: Mr. Samuel Baker, Wilton, Pickering; Mr. Thomas Curry, Oxford Road, Linthorpe, Middlesbrough. Shire and Agricultural Horses: Mr. John Slater, Clifton, Morpeth; Mr. Richard Slater, Sibsey, Boston, Lincs. Polo Ponies: Mr. Gerald H. Hardy, Foston Hall, Derby. Harness Horses: Messrs. Samuel Baker and Thomas Curry; Messrs. S. B. Carnley and John Wreghitt.

CATTLE.—Shorthorn: Mr. George Bell, Standingstone, Wigton, Carlisle; Mr. Henry W. Woods, Ivydene, St. Andrew's Road, St. Anne's-on-the-Sea, Lancs.; Mr. Charles Marshall, Broomhaugh, Riding Mill-on-Tyne. Dairy Cows: Mr. John Howard, Pagett Hall, Gargrave, Leeds; Mr. Richard Pratt, Skibeden, Skipton. Jersey: Mr. William Arkwright, Sutton Hall, Chesterfield. Aberdeen-Angus: The Rev. C. Boldero, Preston Bissett, Bucks.

SHEEP.—Leicester: Mr. John Dowson, Danby Castle, Grosmount, S.O.; Mr. Thomas Leefe, Fryton, Slingsby, York. Lincoln: Mr. J. R. Kirkham, Manor Farm, Garforth; Mr. Thomas Spink, Hunmanby, S.O. Wensleydale Longwool and Black-Faced Scotch Mountain: Mr. Metcalfe Spensley, Castle Bank, Leyburn, S.O.

PIGS.—Mr. Arthur Hiscock, Manor Farm, Motcombe, Dorset; Mr. T. S. Minton, Montford, Shrewsbury.

Royal Lancashire.

The Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society have every reason to be highly delighted with their visit to Bolton, for not only was a record entry received, but a record number of visitors put in an appearance, so that the show should prove as big a financial success as it was from an agricultural show point of view. A report of the first day's proceedings during which the chief sections were judged appeared in our last issue, so that here we confine our notes to the subsequent days, and first of all reference must be made to the attendances. Up till just after four on the second day the weather was beautifully fine, but at half-past four rain came down heavily, and coming as it did just when those who wished to take advantage of the reduced charge for admission of 1s. would be starting, it, of course, marred the attendance, and as a result the total for the day fell short of what it might have been. Still it was very good, the number being 11,027 as compared with 9,358 at Lancaster last year; at Liverpool it was 11,328, at Southport 12,744, at Manchester 8,980, and at Preston 29,013.

The third day opened none too well for the success of the show, for the weather was dull and depressing, whilst in places the showyard was impassable, here and there were small lakes, everywhere discomfort and mud, and near the large ring on the side opposite the grand stand, where thousands of the public should congregate, it was a sea of puddle. The main avenue, however, kept splendidly sound, thanks to the care Mr. Bohane had taken that no traffic connected with the erection of the show itself or with the exhibits should be drawn along it. At 11.30 a.m., however, on Saturday out came the sun, and the whole afternoon was hot and fine. In places the ground soon dried, in the ring a small cinder track was laid for the horses and traps, very rough and very trying, and a magnificent day's attendance finally turned the council's sadness into exuberance. At three o'clock the ten turnstiles were kept continually on the turn, and the attendance was 32,237, against an average for the five years of 15,503! In the next hour over 12,000 people entered, and at four o'clock the paying attendance was 44,245, against the average of 19,787. The average attendance on the first shilling day for the past five years is 22,370, and the "record" for the day is 22,517 at Liverpool in 1899. The largest attendance recorded at any shilling day is 42,339 at Liverpool on Bank Holiday in 1905. The total attendance at Bolton was 48,276, or nearly 6,000 more. Bolton thus holds the record. At Lancaster on the third day the number who paid for admission was 12,942, at Liverpool (1905) 21,413, Southport 27,952, Manchester 15,388, and Preston 34,277.

On the concluding day (Bank Holiday) there was another splendid attendance, with the result that the total for the four days worked out the best on record. At one o'clock the attendance was 15,117, or 3,000 over the average; at two o'clock 20,769, as against the average of 17,138; and at three o'clock 29,376, as against an average of 22,725. At seven o'clock the total attendance paying at the gate had reached nearly 33,200. On the fourth day at Preston the number was 14,191, at Manchester 26,825, at Southport 6,628, at Liverpool 42,339, and at Lancaster 19,386. Casting up the total attendances on the four days, and neglecting odd figures, it appears that this is the largest total attendance ever recorded, for the number paying at the gate was close on 100,000. At Lancaster the total was 44,000, Liverpool 78,000, Southport 51,000, Manchester 54,800, and Preston 82,300.

On the second day of the show a deputation from Manchester consulted with the society with a view to the holding of the show in that city next year, and after due consideration the society unanimously accepted the invitation, so that Manchester will be the scene of the next Lancashire show, and it may be taken for granted that the citizens of the Lancers town will do their best to this year's splendid record of Bolton.

As regards the show itself, there was plenty to interest the visitors on each of the days. On the second day the dairy cattle were judged, and these classes brought out splendid displays of milkers, mostly of the Shorthorn cross, and the judges had a difficult task in making their award. Some harness and saddle classes were also decided, and as many well-known winners were forward, some keen competition was witnessed.

Butter-making, poultry trussing, and further harness classes were the features of the third day, when also were judged the work of the herdsmen and grooms. The last day was given up to the local societies which had, in view of the Royal Lancashire Society's visit, foregone their annual shows. The classes were numerous and attracted considerable interest. A notable incident occurred in the judging of the cattle. In the female cattle classes the Edgeworth Society offered the Walter Mucklow Cup, value 25 guineas, for the best female, and here there was quite a reversal of the first day's judging. Mr. Edward Mason, of Natland, Kendal, was judge, and he placed Mr. R. R. Rothwell's Lady Graceful as cup winner, with Lord Calthorpe's Sweetheart reserve, whereas the latter was declared champion on the first day, when it beat Mr. Rothwell's Lady Graceful.

In the open show one of the chief events of the last day was the contest for the "Tong" 25 guinea champion challenge cup, presented by the Mayor of Bolton, for horses in single harness that had won first, second, or third prizes in the open classes. The cup winner receives £15 as well, and the others in order prizes from £5 down to £1. It was a splendid class, and for a long time the final contest lay between the famous gelding, Radiant, a winner on Saturday, and the champion pony, Tissington Kit Cat. Both have splendid action, but Kit Cat gets over the ground better, and popular approval gave Kit Cat as winner; but the judges gave the award to Radiant, who certainly moved well on the rough going.

Tring.

That the show of the Tring Agricultural Society, held in Lord Rothschild's picturesque park, has lost none of its attractions was proved by the satisfactory entries and attendance of visitors at the show held on Thursday. In actual numbers of entries the show suffered in comparison with that of 1906, a result partly attributable to the excision of several classes, and partly doubtless to the occurrence of the show upon the same day as that of the great Yorkshire Society, to which both Shires and cattle usually present at Tring had been sent. In spite of this, the show was well supported by the leading breeders, among them being his Majesty the King, who entered a Shire and a Shorthorn from the Royal farms.

Shire horses numbered 169 entries, as against 206 last year, but what they lacked in quantity they made up for in quality. In the open class for mares foaled previous to 1904, Mr. H. Towgood scored an easy win with his grand Rolleston Fuschia, which also took the Shire Horse Society's medal. One of the best classes was that for yearling fillies, and here Mr. Max Michaelis led with his noted prize winner Fuchsia of Tandridge, and she had as immediate followers a very big filly, shown by Sir P. A. Muntz, and Barnfields Forest Queen, shown by Mr. J. G. Williams. Sir P. A. Muntz took premier honours for yearling colts with a son of Dunsmore Jameson, whilst in a grand class of mares with foal at foot Mr. R. W. Hudson won with his famous Blythwood Laurel, to which Dorothy of Waresley and Holker Marionette, owned by Mr. J. G. Williams and Lord Winterstoke respectively, were placed second and third. Mr. Williams showed the first-prize colt foal, and Mr. F. W. Lester the first-prize filly. The challenge cup, presented by Captain J. W. Smith-Noill, was won by Beachendon Forest Flower, the property of Messrs. Flowers, to whom also the silver medal was awarded as her breeder.

The local classes for cart horses were all well filled, many of the animals being pure-bred Shires or of Shire breeding. The challenge cup for the best animal shown in these classes was won by Mr. J. Brandon's Chiltern Maid, reserve in the open class, and reserve to her was Blackland's June Rose, the property of Mr. W. G. Amos.

Hunters were principally confined to the exhibits of local breeders. First prize winners included Mr. W. F. Manning, Mr. B. G. Bishop, Mr. G. A. Elliott, Messrs. W. C. and A. J. Flowers, and Mr. T. R. Seaton, while in the two open classes Mr. J. H. Stokes and Mr. T. R. Seaton took leading honours. Mr. C. Lewis and Mr. T. Seaton won with ponies, while Miss D. Schintz and Sir Walter Gilbey divided the prizes for Hackneys.

For the first time Guernseys were included in the schedule, but Shorthorns and Jerseys still formed the bulk of the cattle section. For the former the leading prize-takers in open classes were Mr. E. S. Godsell, Mr. J. Evens, Mr. H. S. Leon, Mr. C. F. Raphael, and Mr. F. Bedford. Jerseys made a great display, and chief prizes being taken by Bishop Fisher, Mrs. McIntosh, Lady de Rothschild, Lady Smythe, Mr. A. Pocock, Mr. J. Joicey, and Mr. F. J. Brown, the champion prize going to Mr. A. Miller Hallett's Lady Viola. Mr. E. A. Hambro and Mr. F. Hargreaves divided the honours for Guernseys.

Sheep were shown in good numbers, successful exhibitors being Mr. J. G. Williams, Dr. Vaughan Harley, Sir R. P. Cooper, and Mr. R. Barclay. Mr. Williams took the special prize for lambs, and Dr. V. Harley the challenge cup.

The sheep-dog competitions, as usual, attracted a very large entry, and the operations of the shepherds were watched with great interest.

Hemel Hempstead.

The second annual exhibition of the Hemel Hempstead Horse Show and Agricultural Society was held on Bank Holiday, under the most auspicious conditions. That the inauguration of the society was a popular inception is apparent from whatever standpoint it may be viewed, and that it is increasing in popularity is evident by the growth in entries, the total this year being over 200 as against 163 last year. Further, the exhibits represent a wider radius, extending as far north as Derby, whilst the south, east, and west of the country was well represented. The judges were high in their praise of the quality of the exhibits. The Shire horse section was a capital one, an interesting feature being the large number of purely local exhibitors. This department showed a slight improvement on last year's exhibition. There was keen competition in several classes, more particularly in the one for two-year-old Shire fillies. In the Hackney and Hunter classes lay the strength of the show, both being strong sections and of remarkable quality. The jumping competitions were, as usual, the centre of much interest, and the whole show was a highly creditable one.

Waltham Cross.

The experiment of changing the venue of the Waltham Cross and Three Counties Society's Show to Hertford has resulted in an improvement, as the number of entries on Monday was 54 above the average of the previous seven years. The weather was favourable; the attendance was numerous; the quality of animals was better than it had been of late years at Waltham Cross, although not better than in the society's early years; and the show altogether was very successful.

The Shire horses made the best show, many of the winners at the Herts County Show being forward, thus adding to the interest. Hackneys and hunters were not so numerous, but the high-class quality made up for the deficiency. There were some jumping competitions, and these proved of considerable interest to the many visitors present.

The Crown Lands Act.

Under the provisions of the Crown Lands Act of last year the President of the Board of Agriculture was given the management of the principal agricultural estates of the Crown, with the idea of encouraging the establishment of small holdings wherever possible. In his first report on the work done in this new sphere, Earl Carrington quotes his instructions to the agents as showing the policy he proposes to carry out.

It is his desire, he tells them, that opportunity shall be given to parish councils and other local authorities to rent any lands within their jurisdiction which may become vacant or which can be obtained from the existing tenants by mutual agreement, and that wherever possible every cottage tenant on the Crown property shall be allotted at a fair rent a piece of land commensurate with his means, beginning with not less than twenty poles or a quarter of an acre. He wishes the labourers on the Crown estates to understand that if they prove satisfactory tenants of such allotments they will be given the opportunity to hire more land from the Crown should they desire to increase their holdings. At the same time he does not propose any wholesale interference with existing Crown tenants who are farming their land well.

As a result of a circular addressed to local authorities, the President of the Board now has applications for nearly 10,000 acres of land for small holdings, and he hopes that by Michaelmas upwards of 2,000 acres will have been let.

Nearly £700 will be given in prizes at the Bath Horse Show to be held on September 4 and 5, and as a large number of the classes are again open ones there should be a large entry from breeders in all parts of the country, thus sustaining the high reputation of the fixture. Entries close on Saturday, the 17th inst., so that early application for entry forms, prize schedules, &c., should be made to the secretary, Mr. L. C. Mundy, 41, Milsom Street, Bath.

THE WEEK'S SHOWS.

Arundel.

Fairly favourable weather was experienced for the Arundel Show on Tuesday, and visitors attended in large numbers, whilst entries were good all round, so that another successful show may be recorded. The entries in the horse classes were a little in excess of previous years, except in the driving competitions, and some splendid animals were shown, the judging of which proved a source of considerable interest to the visitors. There was a fine show of Southdown sheep, the exhibitors including the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, whilst of dairy cattle there was a highly creditable display. Other sections which helped to make up an altogether attractive show included pigeons, poultry, rabbits, vegetables, flowers, and fruit from gardens and allotments, and a needlework section, whilst the shoeing competitions were watched with considerable interest.

Barnstaple.

The Barnstaple Agricultural Association were fortunate enough to experience beautiful weather for their show on August Bank Holiday, and though the entries were not so large as in some previous years, the show was a good one, and attracted a large attendance. The total entry of horses was 176, an increase of eleven on last year, and a very fine lot of brood mares and agricultural horses were shown, whilst colts showed an undoubted improvement in quality, more particularly noticeable in the class for three-year-olds, but the classes for younger horses were not so well supported. The open pony class attracted a creditable entry, and the specials given by Mr. Soares, M.P., for Polo ponies also made a good open class. Farmers' Hunters, and the open heavy-weight and light-weight Hunter classes compared well with previous shows, some exceptionally good local horses being shown in the light-weight class. The cattle, which numbered twenty-five against thirty-two last year, were a useful lot, particularly the bulls, whilst sheep were a creditable lot.

Berkeley.

The Berkeley Hunt Agricultural Society received a record entry for their show held at Berkeley on Monday, and being favoured with fine weather it attracted a large number of visitors. The total was 699, apart from the horticultural section, in which there was also a record entry. Cattle were about the same as last year, but there was a considerable falling-off in horses, and in the cider and perry entries. But these deficiencies were more than made up by the improvement in sheep, pigs, cheese, and butter, and poultry and eggs, all of which sections showed an encouraging increase in the number of competitors, whilst quality was all round of a highly creditable standard.

Brentor.

The Brentor and Lydford Pony Society's nineteenth annual show, held on Tuesday, was favoured with a good entry—364 as against 229 last year—and a capital attendance, so was an all-round success. The ponies and hunters were naturally the feature of the show, but there was a nice display of sheep, whilst the sheep-dog trials, in which the competitors numbered fourteen, or more than double last year's total, proved very interesting to the large company present.

Border Union.

Beautiful weather favoured the show of the Border Union Agricultural Society held on Monday at Friars' Haugh, Kelso, a picturesque site adjacent to the town, and skirted on the one side by the river Tweed and on the other by the Teviot, and it proved most successful, there being a large entry and a good attendance of visitors. There was a good show of cattle and large entries of agricultural horses, and also in the hunting and driving classes, some outstanding good animals being shown. Border Leicester sheep, also half-breds and Cheviots, made a meritorious display, all the leading exhibitors being represented, and the prizes in most cases went to sheep which have distinguished themselves in the showyards this season.

Coleshill.

The fifteenth annual horse show at Coleshill took place on Tuesday, when for the first time the horticultural show was amalgamated in view of the meagre support given to the horticultural show when held separately last year. Tuesday's event was not favoured so far as weather was concerned, for rain caused a decreased gate, but the show itself was quite up to the average. The exhibits in the horticultural section were numerous and good, while the horse show was an improvement in many ways upon the exhibition of 1906. The society would, however, liked to have seen greater support given to the yearling colt or gelding class (foaled in 1906) two-year-old gelding class (foaled in 1905), and two-year-old filly class.

Felton and Warkworth.

With an excellent entry of stock the show of the Felton and Warkworth Society, held, by permission of Mr. Riddell, in Felton Park, one of the loveliest and most picturesque spots in Coquetdale, was very successful, being favoured with good weather and a large attendance. Close upon 270 entries were obtained, of which horses formed the strongest section, but there were some first-class cattle forward.

Gainsborough.

Ideal weather favoured the show of the Gainsborough Agricultural Society held on Monday, and it was as regards quality certainly one of the best, if not the best, yet held by the society, whilst the number of entries was quite up to the average. The foal classes in the heavy section were exceptionally strong, almost every animal having been a winner in district show rings, and some of them having taken honours at country shows. In the brood mare, two-year-old, and yearling classes many animals, with big reputations and with long lists of successes to their credit, were paraded. Mr. Robert Surfleet, of the Beckingham Stud, Gainsborough, established a record in the Hackney section, successively carrying off the premier awards in the brood mare, foal, yearling, and two-year-old classes with stock that has seldom known defeat. In addition, he had the satisfaction of taking the Hackney Society's medal with his yearling. There were thirty entries in the four Hunter classes, and once again the fact was demonstrated that more attention is being paid in the district to the breeding of Hunters. There were also highly creditable displays of produce and horticultural subjects.

Keele.

The North Staffordshire Hunt Show decided this year to amalgamate with the Keele Agricultural and Horticultural Society's Show, and the result was that at the latter society's annual fixture on Thursday there was an increased entry and an altogether good show. There were 52 cattle, against 25 last year; 119 horses, against 117; 38 sheep, compared with 21; 17 pigs, against 9; 44 cheese, instead of 12; and 16 butter, an increase of 4. Further, the weather was fine, though very threatening in the morning, and there was a splendid attendance, so that a complete success can be recorded. The horse section was conspicuous for its general excellence. Harness horses were not quite so numerous as has been usual at the Hunt Show, but the agricultural horse classes were remarkably well filled here. Hunters were an exceptionally level good lot. The combination of the two shows resulted in a far better exhibition of cattle. Sheep were a very fair show, and pigs above the average, whilst cheese was an excellent show, and there was a large show of dogs, including many of the best of the season.

Lytham.

The show of the Lytham Agricultural and Horticultural Society held on Thursday in Lytham Hall Park—an ideal show site—was not so large as in previous years, but quality showed no deterioration, and the weather being fine, there was a good crowd of visitors. The open classes suffered as the result of clashing with the Yorkshire Show, but there was an excellent display of locally bred and owned Shire horses, the breeding of which is one of the chief supports of the Fylde farmer. There were few cattle; the cows are busy earning the rent in providing milk for Blackpool visitors; and no sheep or pigs. Light horses were poor, but there was an excellent dog show, and a large entry for the sheep dog trials.

Nantwich.

The fourth annual show of the Crewe, Nantwich, Sandbach, and District Agricultural Society was held at Nantwich on Wednesday in fine weather, and attracted a large attendance. The outstanding feature of the exhibition was the very fine quality of both the coloured and white cheeses exhibited. The winner of the championship prize, given by the Duke of Westminster, was Mr. Vernon Smith, of Nantwich, one of the best-known makers in the county. Both the Duke and Duchess of Westminster were first prize winners in the limited classes, and the Duke also carried off championship honours. Heavy horses and hunters made a strong show. The championship in the heavy horse classes was carried off by Captain Hoywood Lonsdale's Crankwell Nora, who at the Royal Lancashire Show was beaten by Lord Rothschild's famous mare, Belle Cole.

Newcastle Estates.

The annual show of the Newcastle Estates Tenants' Agricultural Society was held at Clumber Park, Worksop, on Monday, and was, as far as quality at least was concerned, one of the best of the eight held by the society, a result due to the keen, though friendly rivalry of the tenants and the great interest taken in the show by the Duke and Duchess of Newcastle, who, as in former years, contributed liberally to the prize list. The entries totalled 502, of which no fewer than 235 were in the horse classes, and, as usual, the agricultural and half-bred horses were the chief feature, the animals being of high quality, more especially those by Clumber sires. Light horses were not so numerous, neither were they equal in merit, although there were several good Hackneys and Hunters. The cattle classes were excellent, and nowhere, perhaps, was the improvement more marked. Sheep were fairly good, though a trifle below last year in point of quality. Poultry, butter, and eggs, and a military display by the Sherwood Rangers I.Y. added interest to an altogether pleasant fixture.

Royal and Central Bucks.

An excellent entry was received for the annual show of the Royal and Central Bucks Agricultural Association, held on Tuesday in the grounds of Winslow Hall, lent for the occasion by the president, Mr. N. McCorquodale, the total being 527, as compared with 437 at the show at Aylesbury last year. All the sections were well supported, and some first-class animals were forward. Shire horses made an exceptionally fine display. The Mentmore Cup, presented by the Earl of Rosebery, for Shire colt or filly foaled last year, was won by Mr. C. Colgrove, of Swanbourne, whilst Miss Alice de Rothschild's Ferdinand de Rothschild Memorial Cup for four-year-old Shire gelding or mare was secured by Messrs. W. C. and A. J. Flowers, of Beachendon, who also took the championship prize for best Shire mare, the property of a tenant farmer. The Mayer de Rothschild Memorial Cup, offered by Lord Rosebery for yearling colt or filly likely to make a hunter, was won by Mr. C. M. Prior, of Adstock.

Mr. H. S. Leon, of Bletchley Park, took a number of prizes for Shorthorns, as well as Lord Rothschild's champion prize. For sheep the principal prizes were won by Dr. Vaughan Harley, of Bletchley Hall, and Mr. J. G. Williams, of Pendley Manor; whilst Mr. T. Henson, Peterborough; Mr. R. A. Ayre, Watford, and Mr. R. E. Horwood, Drayton Beauchamp, were the most successful in the pig classes. An interesting feature of the show was the exhibition of goats arranged at the suggestion of the Hon. Rose Hubbard, and its success should ensure its continuance in future years.

South Brent.

The twelfth annual show of ponies and Hunters held under the auspices of the South Brent Agricultural Society took place on the 3rd inst. at Brent, and was noticeable for a marked improvement in quality, thus testifying to the useful work of the society. There was a record entry of ponies, and the Dartmoor breed naturally showed to the greatest advantage. A new and gratifying feature was a class for brood mares registered in the Dartmoor section of the Polo and Riding Pony Stud Book. The prizes in this section were given by the Polo and Riding Pony Society, with the desire of encouraging the breeding of Dartmoor Polo ponies, and the section when better known should prove a most interesting one. The show also had dairy produce and horticultural sections, but owing to the very unfavourable character of the season these were not well filled, and, in fact, several classes had to be abandoned for lack of competitors.

Tutbury.

The outstanding feature of the show of the Tutbury Shire Horse and Meynell Hunt Society, held at Tutbury, near Burton-on-Trent, on Monday, was the remarkable success of Mr. Egerton Orme, The Ash, Etwall, near Derby. This famous Shire horse breeder had the good fortune to be on his own territory, and was consequently able to show in both local and open classes. Out of the eleven classes in which he competed he secured first honours in ten, and in addition secured two seconds and two thirds, whilst he swept the board of all three cups, and secured the society's gold medal, thus establishing a record hard to beat as a prize winner at any one show.

In the opinion of the judges, expressed at the luncheon, over which Mr. Gerald Hardy presided,

the Hunter classes brought together the best class of animals ever seen in the ring since the inauguration of the show. The two-year-olds stood out conspicuously in point of merit, and were very strong indeed. The total entries for the show were not so numerous as last year, but quality was quite up to the average.

Tyneside.

The Tyneside Agricultural Society's Show at Hexham on Monday was a decided success, for there was a record entry (1,871), and the attendance also exceeded that of other years. Notable as this show has always been for draught horses, last week's display surpassed anything yet seen at Hexham; in the agricultural classes alone there were no fewer than 138 entries, and competition was naturally keen. The Shorthorn cattle came next in importance, whilst the non-pedigree Shorthorns, the dairy cows, the Galloway cattle, and the grazing stock were all capital, and made the cattle worth making a long journey to see. In connection with Shorthorn classes, there was a milking competition, which provoked keen rivalry, and the judges had a difficulty in making their awards, so excellent were the performances. Sheep made a good show, whilst goats formed a new and successful feature, 30 of these animals being forwarded. The dog section, always a popular one here, was the largest and best collection seen at this show.

Welbeck Tenants.

The eighteenth annual exhibition of stock and produce held by the tenants of the Duke of Portland took place on Tuesday in the beautiful grounds of Welbeck Abbey, and once again afforded a notable illustration of what can be done when landlord and tenants work in harmony. As is well known, the Duke of Portland gives practical aid to his tenants for breeding first-class stock, and also provides the major portion of the prizes offered at the show, and how his efforts are appreciated was shown by the increase in entries, the total being 1,222 as against 1,062 last year. In several of the important sections the effects of the cold, wet season were noticeable, but otherwise the quality was well maintained, and the show was a most interesting one.

Agricultural horses once again made a very fine show. Improvement was noticeable in some of the younger stock, but as the season has been unfavourable not so many brood mares were shown, and the foals by the Duke's stallions were not quite so noteworthy. The geldings were a strong lot, and the turn-outs by tenants farming under thirty acres were so good that a fourth prize was recommended. Half-bred horses by a Thoroughbred stallion always make a good feature, and some very useful animals which have been ticketed at the Royal and county shows were entered.

Cattle made up a very good show, the quality being satisfactory all round. Although not so numerous as last year, sheep were fairly up to the standard, but owing to the cold, wet season lambs were not so well developed as usual. Swine fever regulations prohibited an entry of pigs, but the other sections proved as attractive as ever.

The Duke of Portland entertained over 600 tenants to luncheon in the riding school, and speaking in reply to the toast of his health he said that with regard to the Small Holdings Bill he questioned whether the benefits suggested by it were ever likely to be realised. Some years ago he let a farm of 480 acres at Gringley in that county to six agricultural labourers. The rent was moderate, and he provided a full complement of live and dead stock free of cost. In return they agreed to pay a small rate of interest on the capital. The scheme turned out disastrous both to them and to him, for after fifteen years the farm was given up, and in the meantime it had not improved as agricultural land. Although the men had worked hard, they were worse off at the end of the tenancy than at the commencement. He did not regret his personal loss, for it taught him the lesson not to expect the impossible, but it had made him extremely doubtful of the likelihood of small holdings bringing back to the land that prosperity the present Government predicted, and which both political parties so much desired.

West Gloucestershire.

With a record entry, fine weather, and a big attendance the show of the West Gloucester Farmers' Club held at Springfield, Westbury-on-Trym, on Tuesday, was one of the most successful of the forty-six held by the club. Horses were not quite so numerous as last year, now being 196 against 203, but the cattle showed a remarkable increase, they totalling 160 as compared with 132 last year and 80 in 1905. Sheep were about the average as were also pigs, and cheese, and butter, the respective entries totalling 26, 15 and 15.

Hunters and hacks formed the chief feature of the horse section, and though they were less numerous than at some former shows, they were, nevertheless, good, useful, and meritorious animals. Cart horses were not very numerous, but comprised a gratifying number of staunch and sturdy animals, and the competition altogether was of a healthy order. While there was reason to be grateful for a substantial increase in the entries in the cattle classes, there was no marked improvement in the quality of the animals. One of the judges asserted that the animals in Tuesday's competitions were inferior in merit to some he had met with at previous shows of the society. Nevertheless, there were some good animals in several classes. A capital lot of sheep were penned, and pigs made a creditable show, whilst a decided improvement was noticeable in the exhibits of butter and cheese.

Wisbech.

The Wisbech Horse Society's Show held on Monday was by far the best of the seven held by the society, and happily it attracted a record attendance of visitors. In addition to entries from the immediate locality, animals were sent from the South of England and the Midlands, and included quite a number of Olympia and Richmond winners, so that quality was of a high standard. Shires and Hackneys made a capital show, but the feature of the show was the harness section, the entries in these classes being exceptionally good.

Worthing.

Delightful weather was associated with the Worthing and West Sussex Horse Show held at Beach House Park, Worthing, on Wednesday, and it was largely attended, whilst the entries reached the record number of 140, so that the event was a complete success. There was a nice show of Hunters, the principal prize for which fell to Mr. E. W. Robinson, Brookleigh, Esher; Mr. J. P. Hornung, Horsham; Mr. W. G. Fladgate Slinfold; and Mr. W. Dawtrey, Petworth. Hacks and harness horses also showed to advantage, but as usual chief interest centred in the jumping competitions. In the open event Mr. Nixey Smith's Grasshopper, which secured first prize for jumping at the Arundel Show on Tuesday, was beaten by Mr. J. Coleman's well-known prize winner White Rose. Both horses gave a splendid exhibition, but in the final test Grasshopper knocked down a rail, after clearing all the other fences in good style. Having won the open class, White Rose was debarred from competing in the United Hunts jumping competition, which was won by Grasshopper, although Mr. Walter Winans' Sirdar made a very bold bid for premier honours.

Highland: Changes in Awards.

On account of animals failing to comply with the regulations as to calving and foaling, a few changes have taken place in the official prize-list of the Highland and Agricultural Society's Show at Peebles last year. These changes are as follow:—

Sir Richard Cooper's first-prize two-year-old Shorthorn heifer, Dalmeny Beauty 2nd, having died, Lord Polwarth's Bonnie Gowan, placed fourth, and Mr. William Bell's Belle of Alne having failed to produce a calf within nine months of the show, the first prize has gone to Mr. A. Robertson, Haugh of Ballechin, for Royal Lily, the second prize to Mr. W. T. Malcolm, Dunmore, for Lowland Dream, and the third prize to Mr. A. J. Balfour of Whittingehame for Lady Gordon 2nd, whilst the fourth prize is forfeited to the society.

Mr. W. Montgomerie Neilson's first-prize three-year-old Galloway heifer having failed to produce a calf within nine months of the show, the first prize has gone to Mr. Robert Graham, Auchengassel, for Gipsy Queen of Auchengassel; the second prize to Mr. A. H. Fox Brockbank, Kirksanton, for Graceful; the third prize to Mr. J. Wilson, Tundergarth, for Clara VIII.; and the fourth prize to Mr. John Cunningham, Tarbreoch, for Louisa 5th of Tarbreoch.

In the class for Clydesdale yeld mares Mr. H. B. Marshall's Pomona, which was placed second, Mr. R. Chapman's Winsome Baroness placed third; and Mr. G. Findlater's Lilah placed fourth, having failed to produce a foal within twelve months of the show; the second prize has gone to Mr. T. Riddell, Blackall, for Evelyn; the third prize to Sir John Gilmour for Montrave Dorothy; and the fourth prize is forfeited to the Society.

SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS.

BATH HORSE SHOW.
SEPTEMBER 4 & 5, 1907.
Nearly £700 in Prizes.
Great Jumping Competitions.
Entries close August 17.
Schedules and all particulars to be obtained of Lewis C. Mundy, Secretary, 41, Milsom Street, Bath.

THE EAST BERKS HORSE SHOW SOCIETY will hold its ELEVENTH ANNUAL HORSE SHOW
At Hawthorn Hill Racecourse (between Maidenhead and Bracknell), on
THURSDAY, AUGUST 22, 1907.
Entrance One Shilling all day.
Judging commences at 9 o'clock punctually.
Motor omnibuses will run from Maidenhead Station to the Show Ground, leaving Maidenhead at 12 o'clock noon, 2 p.m., and 2.30 p.m., returning at 5.15 p.m., 6 p.m., and 6.30 p.m.—C. H. W. Dixon, Hon. Sec., 4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, W.C.

CHILTERN HILLS AND SOUTH-ERN BUCKS AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION SHOW, at HIGH WYCOMBE, on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1907.
OPEN CLASSES for SUFFOLKS, HACKNEYS, HUNTERS, JUMPING and DRIVING, JERSEYS, SHORTHORNS, BUTTER, and HONEY.
Forms and Entry Forms apply to
Joseph Bliss, Secretary,
76, High Street, High Wycombe.

ROYAL JERSEY AGRICULTURAL and HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.
Agricultural Department.
President—W. Duret Aubin, Esq.
Summer Show of Bulls, Cows, Heifers, Horses, &c., at the Society's Show Grounds, Jersey, AUGUST 21 and 22, 1907.—John A. Perree, Secretary.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD & LINSLADE FOAL SHOW SOCIETY, held on
SEPTEMBER 17 (TUESDAY).
Entries close September 3. Post entries (double fees) September 10.
Walter C. Prudames. } Hon.
W. Gravely W. Willis. } Secretaries

NEWBURY HORSE SHOW, AUGUST 21, 1907.
JUMPING CLASSES.
Valuable Prizes. Extension of time for Entries.
Class 24 (Open) for best Horse or Mare over 15 hands.
1st Prize, £20; 2nd, £8; 3rd, £2.
Class 25 (Open) for best Horse or Mare not exceeding 15 hands.
1st Prize, £15; 2nd, £5; 3rd, £2.
Entries close August 16.
E. J. Forster, Secretary.
Newbury.

CLYDESDALE HORSE SOCIETY.
STUD BOOK VOL. XXX.
ENTRIES at ORDINARY FEES CLOSE on 31st inst. Forms and all information from—
Archd. Macneilage, Secretary,
93, Hope Street, Glasgow.

BUXTON HORSE SHOW.
SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 1907.
President:
His Grace the Duke of Rutland.
Over £300 in Prizes, including Challenge Cups and Gold and Silver Medals.
Entries close Thursday, August 15.
For Prize Lists, &c., apply to the Secretaries, Hampson Bros., 3, The Quadrant, Buxton.

SOUTHDOWN FLOCK BOOK.—
NOTICE is hereby given that the Southdown Flock Book will be definitely closed to unregistered flocks on December 31 next, after which date no sheep from unregistered flocks will be accepted under any conditions whatever.
Owners who have not yet registered their flocks are earnestly requested to write for full information respecting the Southdown Sheep Society to
W. J. Wickison, Secretary.
12, Hanover Square, London, W.

OKEHAMPTON AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.
The 17th ANNUAL EXHIBITION of Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Dairy and Garden Produce, Poultry, and Pigeons, will be held at Okehampton, on SEPTEMBER 12.
Prizes about £300.
OPEN PRIZES for HUNTERS and HACKS.
JUMPING, DRIVING, SHEEP, &c.
Schedules and Entry Forms of
Chas. J. Futcher, Hon. Sec.
Okehampton.
Entries close August 31. Separate Schedules for "General," "Poultry and Pigeons" Section. Please state which required.

HAY HORSE SHOW, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1907.
Entries close on September 5th; double fees, September 12th.
Reece Morris, Secretary,
Broad Street, Hay, Hereford.

WORSLEY SHOW.
(Lancashire Federation.)
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28.
Horses, Cattle, Pigs, Poultry, Pigeons, Dogs, Cats, Rabbits, Cavies.
320 Classes, £700 in Prizes, 14 Silver Cups, 175 Specials, 41 Judges.
Entries close August 21.
Schedules apply, J. W. Parkinson, Worsley.

MID-SOMERSET AGRICULTURAL SHOW, SHEPTON MALLET.
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1907.
W. Ozzard, Secretary,
Shepton Mallet.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Pig Breeding and Feeding.

SIR,—We desire to ask your valuable help in drawing attention to the almost unaccountable fact that pig rearing and feeding is on the downward grade.

The Agricultural Returns for the United Kingdom for the year ending June, 1905, showed a decrease on the previous year of 590,030. Again, for the year ending June, 1906, another decrease of 20,576; the latter figure would have been a much greater decrease but for Ireland's increasing 80,220. England's decrease for the year ending June, 1905, was 393,129, and for the year ending June, 1906, it was 99,624.

We the Birmingham and District Butchers and Pork Butchers' Trade Association, the Pork Butchers' Associations of London, Liverpool, Manchester, Sheffield, and Bristol, have been greatly concerned at this remarkable and unsatisfactory state of things.

We are very soon entering on the third year of scarce pigs. We have at certain times found the greatest difficulty in getting supplies to carry on our normal trade and that at little or no profit. We feel sure that if you will kindly interest yourself by addressing the farmers of Great Britain through your valuable articles discussing, suggesting and advising the matter of pig producing the result would be a great benefit not only to the farmer, but to the public, the trade of pork butchers and ham and bacon curers.

In our opinion we fear that the restrictions of the Board of Agriculture have greatly tended to the decrease which has also induced neglect and apathy on the part of farmers. We might mention that the recent disclosures as to Chicago methods turned the public tastes towards home products, but this great opportunity was missed for want of larger supplies. Sixteen million pounds a year is going out of the country for bacon and hams, three and a quarter millions for lard, and close on two millions for pork.

In our opinion at least ten millions of this money might go into the British farmers' pockets.

We may look in the future for some assistance from our Government in this matter; so far their action has been only one of instituting restrictions for the removal of swine in the endeavour to stamp out swine fever.

We hope example may be taken from the Governments of Canada, United States, and Denmark, who conduct experiments, give data, and send expert advice to all those interested. We earnestly hope that you may advise your writers on agricultural subjects to give the matter of pig rearing and feeding prominence in their valuable articles from the present time onward.

In conclusion, we may say that this appeal has the approval and support of the National Federation of Meat Traders of Great Britain:—

F. SWADKING, President Birmingham and District Butchers and Pork Butchers' Trade and Benevolent Association.
E. A. LEWIS, Vice-President.
C. H. PALETHORPE, Vice-President.
THOS. BRIDGEWATER, Secretary.
ROBERT H. BRECHIN, President National Federation of Butchers' Associations.
JOHN LINDSEY, President London Butchers' Association.
GEORGE ROBB, President Liverpool Pork Butchers' Association.
JOHN H. BRIDGE, President Manchester Pork Butchers' Association.
FERDINAND GEBHARDT, President Sheffield Pork Butchers' Association.
S. R. SELMAN, President Bristol Pork Butchers' Association.
J. M. MURRAY, President Glasgow United Fleshers' Society.

July 29, 1907.

Milk.

SIR,—Regarding your remarks as above on page 160:—

If the experts (?) who have been frantically endeavouring, through the medium of the daily press, to convince the public that the milk which is now sent from the country to London and other large towns is injurious to those who consume it, by reason of its being taken from cows suffering from tuberculosis, and kept amid insanitary surroundings, will explain why country children who partake largely of this same milk are robust and healthy, whilst those who get very little of it are weak and ailing, the truth of their statements will be less likely to be doubted by intelligent minds.

One daily paper boldly printed in large type the ridiculous statement that "there are 80,000 milch cows suffering from tuberculosis in this country." And the description given in the same paper of the conditions under which milk is handled at the dairy farms was as revolting as it was untrue.

The influence of milk upon the infant mortality of large towns is that town children do not get sufficient of it, and if some of the fads that these would-be reformers suggest are carried into effect, the cost of producing milk will be raised so that they will get still less.

Are farmers to be forced to submit to being told how they must carry on their business by some impertinent imbecile who never milked a cow in his life, and cannot tell whether a cow be "right in her bag" or not to save himself from hanging? I am afraid that such a one would require to have his photograph retaken after a visit to some of the farms about here, as I am sure that his features would not resemble one taken previously.—Yours, &c.,

A. J. R.

July 30, 1907.

Why Do Ram Breeders Return Again and Again?

SIR,—The above heading appeared in an article in THE MARK LANE EXPRESS on July 22, the main features of which I am, as an old breeder of rams, much interested in, and certainly agree with the opinions expressed. On reading the article it at once struck me how old blood told at the very recent sales of Mr. Dudding's and Messrs. Dean's sheep. At the former's sale the 900 guineas ram was sired by the son of a Pointon ram, purchased by Messrs. Wright, and at the latter sale the highest-priced rams were also by a ram of Mr. Tom Casswell's direct, the oldest flock in Lincolnshire. Such a marked feature in actual practice needs no better evidence than this.—Yours, &c.,

July 29, 1907. OBSERVER.

The Utility of Soil Analysis.

SIR,—In the notice of the recently published report on "Agricultural Experiments in the Eastern Counties," which appeared in your issue of the 29th ult., attention was drawn to a paragraph stating that these experiments had "brought out the unreliable character of ordinary soil analysis as a guide to the treatment of the land with fertilisers."

The grounds for such an unusual statement being based upon the experiments carried out on two farms only, it seems desirable to investigate the circumstances.

It appears that though on one of these farms the soil was well supplied with phosphoric acid according to analysis, yet the experiments carried on for a period of six years indicated that the chief requirement was available phosphoric acid; while the soil on the other farm, though shown by analysis to contain but little phosphoric acid, was nevertheless unimproved in fertility by the application of phosphates.

There is, however, a very reasonable and probable explanation of these apparently contradictory results—namely, in the first case the phosphoric acid was associated with iron compounds and therefore not readily available as plant food; whereas in the latter case the phosphoric acid, though present in comparatively small proportion, was not associated to any great extent with iron compounds, and was therefore in a comparatively much more available condition.

It is one thing to make the analysis, and quite another to correctly interpret the practical bearing of the results obtained.

As an analyst of some forty years' experience, I contend that soil analyses, when carefully performed, are capable of affording *reliable* information respecting the character of fertilisers that should be applied for the respective crops to be grown on such soils.

Further, that soil analyses should always be made in connection with field experiments in order to afford information respecting the chemical composition of the soils operated upon. Indeed, the omission to publish the analyses of the soils on experimental plots renders the results obtained, however carefully carried out, of merely local interest to farmers in the neighbourhood; because without proper information farmers at a distance cannot form any practical opinion whether similar results could reasonably be expected on their own particular soils in a different part of the country.

Naturally farmers are cautious in drawing practical conclusions as to the real value of field experiments carried out under different climatic conditions, and probably on very different quality of land to that of their own farms.—Yours, &c.,

JOHN HUGHES, F.I.C.

Agricultural Analyst, 79, Mark Lane, E.C.

Manure for Grass Land.

SIR,—A thirty acre field, formerly arable and producing good crops, has been let run to grass, bearing little even of this. This year for a wonder it has thrown a large crop of mixed grasses, a large proportion being hop clover. But it appears exhausted, and there will be very little aftermath. The tenant is naturally anxious about next year's crop, and is desirous of manuring it, if such can be done at a small expense. What artificia would be most suitable, and about what would be the cost? The soil is rather a mixed one, shading from gravel on one side to loam on the other with a chalk subsoil. Yours, &c., SOUTH BUCKS.

*** You say that the field which was formerly arable has been let run to grass. If by this you mean that the land has never been laid down and seeded, but the grass—such as it is—has grown of its own accord, it is not surprising that it has produced very little herbage. It is hardly necessary to say that if land has been allowed to get into a bad way for the want of good farming, it takes time as well as liberal manuring to get it back into a fair state of cultivation. From the description you give of the field, I feel sure that a liberal dressing of farmyard manure would do it more good than anything, but if that is out of the question artificials would doubtless improve matters. I would suggest a complete dressing, and for land such as you describe yours to be an application of 5 cwt. of superphosphate, 2 cwt. of kainit, and 1 cwt. of nitrate of soda to the acre should prove beneficial. The last-named fertiliser should be given as a top-dressing after growth has commenced in the spring, and the two former mixed together some time earlier in the year. The cost of the manure would depend on the market price at the time of purchase, but you can ascertain this by consulting our columns, as the current prices of artificial manures are given from time to time. I am inclined to the opinion that animal manure is what is wanted the most, at any rate for a start, and if the tenant can feed cattle or sheep on a portion of the land, this would help to supply the necessary requirement. The grass evidently wants feeding and building up as it were, and whether this can be done by means of artificials alone is a matter that you have to prove. —RUSTICUS.

The Farming Outlook in North Westmorland and Mid-Cumberland.

SIR,—The summer months of 1907 are now within measurable distance of an end, and therefore the forecasts of its productive powers may be approximately estimated. Upon the whole it has not been unfavourable to arable farming, though the weather, which has always the chief control over farmers' welfare, has been somewhat capricious, varying from short fits of extremely hot forcing weather, almost unbearable, to dark, showery weather, which has proved extremely favourable to grass and green crops of all kinds, especially the late sown, which is now completed and nearly all thinned and growing rapidly, but will require a highly favourable autumn to make them an average crop.

The eight or ten days of hot, forcing weather which we had in July enabled farmers to secure a large quantity of hay in prime condition, with the minimum amount of labour, the crops of seed grass being exceptionally heavy and meadows fairly good. The last few days of July and August so far have been very unfavourable for haymaking, and a large quantity is still unsecured and is suffering damage, although the rain came just in time for the oat crop, which was just bursting into ear, and has considerably increased the length of straw, and thus largely increased the quantity of winter provender for cattle. The weather is now very unsettled and rain falling daily, more or less, seriously injuring the quality of heavy crops of meadow now lying cut.—Yours, &c., T. B.

August 7, 1907.

Nantwich Cheese Fair.

There were seventy tons of cheese on offer at Nantwich cheese fair on Thursday, and though there was a slight hesitancy on the part of buyers, a good clearance was eventually effected. Best lots made from 55s. to 60s. per cwt., and lower grades from 48s. per cwt.

Shorthorns for Canada.—Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co. recently shipped to Quebec per s.s. *Parthenia* on account of Mr. Robert Miller, of Stouffville, Canada, the following high-class Shorthorn cattle:—Peer 96348, an all red two-year-old Shorthorn bull sired by Sittyton Choice 84822 from Rosetta 16th by Scottish Prince 73592. The red yearling bull Violet's Crown got by Royal Crown 84598 dam Vinella 10th by Jasper 62744. A beautiful roan two-year-old heifer Blythesome 23rd by Bapton Tyrant 85245 from Blythesome 22nd by Golden Victor 70542. Also two nice white heifers, Roan Lady 37th and 38th, both sired by Royal Crown 84598, their dams being respectively by Morning's Pride 69154 and Wanderer's Gift 80211. Accompanying these was a Clydesdale mare from Messrs. A. and W. Montgomery and a young colt from Messrs. Wilson Gale.

Northern Notes.

LORD HELMSLEY, M.P., is one of the scions of a great Yorkshire family who is making himself useful in the agricultural world, and preparing his way for the time when he will, in the course of Nature, succeed to a seat in the Upper House. It is a pleasure to record that several heirs of Yorkshire estates, who may be said to have been born in the purple, are serious-minded men, and are taking a broad view of their future responsibilities. Lord Helmsley is a good speaker, and he is quite at home among his agricultural friends. He has a happy way of dealing with current topics, and is a thorough believer in farmers' clubs and in co-operation by farmers. The advocacy of clubs and other forms of organisation by landowners and other responsible persons has done much to impress farmers on the subject, and to induce them to adopt more than a merely passive policy.

FARMERS' clubs have increased at an encouraging rate in Yorkshire, and at Helmsley in that county a co-operative dairy is about to be started. Farmers as a class are very difficult to move out of the ruts in which they are accustomed to go; but having once experienced the benefits of a new policy they will go forward. They ought to pay great attention to the Bills which are from time to time introduced into Parliament affecting agriculture, in order to see that their interests are not prejudicially affected. The member for Thirsk and Malton, speaking at the show luncheon at Thirsk, made brief reference to the question of small holdings. There was no doubt, he said, that although small holdings in some places might be very beneficent—and he believed they were—and although everything they could do to keep people on the land was a good thing, at the same time they did not want experiments made at the expense of the rates, and they did not want to injure sitting tenants by taking away their best land for small holdings without giving compensation.

ANOTHER young and gallant Yorkshireman, the heir to a big estate, said in our hearing the other day that he was invited to join an association connected with the defence of land and property. Although his father had a very considerable and direct interest in landed property, he somehow felt that to join an association of that kind would not be a very safe proceeding, for the reason that if a sharp distinction were drawn between those who had property and those who had not, the former would be found in a somewhat striking minority, and in the event of a contest between the two parties it is obvious that the larger section would prevail.

THE movement to establish the Central Land Association is but in its initial stages; yet it is a capital idea to seek to formulate the opinion of all connected with the land—the owner, the tenant, and the labourer; and to evolve out of those opinions a policy for future guidance. A great agricultural party is desirable. The difficulty in the way is the brushing aside, if possible, of "party" politics in the effort to consolidate the one class of interests; and this seems almost as impossible of accomplishment as an effective settlement of the religious difficulty—not *in* schools, but among rival bodies outside them.

A NOVEL prize was offered at Bridlington Agricultural Show, the premiums being for horses that were required to undergo an experience that would occur to them in actual hostilities. The animals and their owners had to show their fitness for military duty. The prize was given primarily with a view to demonstrating the sort of horse we want whenever another big war should require large drafts of remounts sending out. There is wanted more in the shape of practical lessons at our agricultural shows—lessons for the breeder and lessons for the public, something to cause people to think long before the time of panic. We want less of the sensational mover and more of the utility horse, an animal that will stand some harder treatment than that of getting round the showring several times. If there are points in the Hackney which do not altogether fit him for general utility purposes, then let the defects be remedied. Horse breeding has no doubt kept many a farmer on his legs; and it is said that a good horse always commands its price when it has arrived at a proper age, though we know farmers with good Hackneys who find a difficulty in realising anything like a respectable return.

THE President of the Sheffield Pork Butchers' Association informs me that the decreasing number of pigs in the kingdom is causing a great amount of anxiety among pork butchers, and he thinks they are likely to remain scarce "if the present regulations are not amended." Quite so. Everyone connected with the pig trade—breeder, feeder, and vendor, wholesale and retail—is at one on this subject; and it is grieving to think that we are spending millions of pounds in foreign bacon, lard, &c., the whole of which, or a very large portion of it, might be produced at home. Mr. President goes on: "I think the farmer should be encouraged instead of discouraged. If this state of things continues, home-cured bacon and hams and English-fed pork will soon be dainties of the past." The continuance of the existing policy in regard to swine fever restrictions seems to be utter folly, says everybody. The Board sticks tenaciously to it, and will not confess itself nonplussed. The official returns at markets last week show that at Hull, Leeds, Newcastle, and York not a single store pig was penned! The absence of this class of pigs at these important centres is eloquent testimony to the "stamping out" policy of the Board; but it is the stamping out of trade—not of disease.

FARMERS in the North have held back their wool too long, and now the market is flat. Those who have last year's clip still on hand are regretting they did not sell on the greatly improved prices of 1906. There is a drop between then and now of fully 3s. 6d. a stone. We do not appear locally to be in sight of a hardening trade. The ram sales are close at hand in Yorkshire. Foreign buyers will not be so numerous this year, though I hear they have left behind, prior to their departure for the great show at Buenos Ayres, a goodly number of commissions at set prices. I have heard already of several sheep purchased after the Royal Show privately at prices running into three figures.

SINCE the holiday the weather up North has been of a broken character. Thunderstorms and heavy rains have caused damage to the barley crops. Roots have benefited, and are growing at a prodigious rate. In Yorkshire are some splendid crops of all the three principal cereals. A farmer of medium height tells me that he cannot see over the tops of an oatfield he cultivates; and I have myself measured the straw and ears of oats 6 ft. high inclusive; barley and wheat over 5 ft. Yesterday at Nafferton, Yorkshire, Mr. Crompton began harvesting a fine crop of winter-sown barley.

August 9, 1907.

Nottinghamshire Notes.

FARMERS in overcoats to keep the cold out is surely unique for the last day in July, yet at five o'clock on July 31st I saw three well-known agriculturists walking along Nottingham's main streets thus garbed. On Wednesday week we had a very heavy thunderstorm, and between 12.25 and 12.40 p.m. the rain was the heaviest, when the fall reached the extraordinary figure of ·53 in. Thousands of acres of wheat, barley, and oats were flattened as though a steam roller had passed over the crops. With one exception the rainfall was the heaviest in the time stated that has been known in Nottinghamshire for the last twenty-seven years. To come to figures, the fall was equal to 2·32 in. per hour!

AT a meeting of the council of the Nottinghamshire Agricultural Society held on the 1st, Earl Manvers presiding, it was decided to hold the 1908 show in Colwick Park, Nottingham, on June 9 and 10 next. These dates, I might add, clash with the International Horse Show at Olympia, and though this fact was mentioned, the society decided to adhere to the dates named.

NEWARK Urban District Council have decided to issue certificates to milk sellers who comply with the requirements of the borough inspector of cowsheds and dairies. They are to be issued annually, and as Mr. Quibell remarked at the council meeting, there will be a good many people say to dairymen, "I won't buy your milk if you have not got a certificate." This surely is a step in the right direction, for of all perishable goods sold there is no question that with milk the greatest care ought to be taken with regards to purity, cleanliness, and healthy cows.

LAST week I received an interesting circular letter from the Pork Butchers' Association at Birmingham, bewailing the fact that pig rearing and feeding in the United Kingdom is declining. It says:—"We are very soon entering on the third year of scarce pigs. We have at certain times found the greatest difficulty in getting supplies to carry on our normal trade, and that at little or no profit. Sixteen million pounds a year is going out of the country for bacon and hams, three and a quarter millions for lard, and close on two millions for pork. In our opinion at least ten millions of this money might go into the British farmers' pockets." So far as our county is concerned, there are more pigs being bred at the present time than for twenty years, while we also claim to have some of the best—especially Large White Yorkshires—ever seen in a stye. Still there is ample food for reflection by farmers in the above extract.

MR. R. M. KNOWLES, of Colston Bassett Hall, Notts, who is chairman of the Diseases of Animals Committee of the Notts County Council, states that the serious outbreak of swine fever in the county arose in Worksop market. Altogether thirty-two pigs had died from the fell disease, and 117 had been slaughtered. Though the outbreak has practically been quelled, the markets in the northern portion of the county remain closed.

MR. A. W. HICKLING has been making some additions to his valuable stud at Adbolton, including Lady Shenston, a three-year-old mare by the dual champion McKinley out of that famous dam Surprise by Ritualist. She has already rendered a good account of herself in the show ring, having carried off two firsts at the London Hackney Show—as a yearling and then as a two-year-old. Another of Mr. Hickling's recent purchases is Lady Dunnaby, a mare bought at Mr. Batchelor's sale at Birmingham. She is the dam of such well-known horses in the Hackney world as Hopwood Admiral and Hopwood Leader, and at present has a smart and handsome-looking filly foal at foot. Zanzari is another mare bought for the Adbolton stud recently at Mr. Sykes's sale. This mare's progeny includes several well-known prizewinners such as Fylde Zanzara, while she has a colt foal at foot. These animals have cost a great deal of money, but given a little time they will soon repay Mr. Hickling for his outlay.

THE London champion Hackney mare, Hawkser Rosina, the property of Mr. A. W. Hickling, of Adbolton, has a fine colt foal by Adbolton St. Peter, who is full of Lord Derby blood. The foal, possessing champions as his sire and dam, should make a valuable addition to this notable Nottinghamshire stud of Hackneys.

HEARTY congratulations are this week due to Mr. Wilton Allsebrook, of Wollaton, and Mr. G. S. Laban, of Normanton Hill, Loughborough, two well-known farmers in the county, whose names have been added to the Commission of the Peace, while Mr. George Brown, of Bingham, a corn merchant, has received a similar honour. Mr. Allsebrook is the secretary and manager of the Midland Farmers' Co-operative Association, and also official valuer for the Nottingham Corporation's Stoke Bardolph Farm.

HITHERTO the Midland Agricultural College at Kingston, Notts, has lacked the name of a tenant farmer representing the county on its list of governors, but the Notts County Council, after a long discussion, have now elected Mr. J. C. Fisher to represent the tenant farming class. The annual meeting of the college was held last week, Mr. Thomas Cope (Leicester) being in the chair. The chief items in the Principal's (Mr. Blackshaw) report were relating to the need for extensions. Mr. Blackshaw says:—"The residential accommodation has been fully occupied throughout the year. Not only was it filled, but at one time as many as fourteen females were lodged at houses in the vicinity owing to no further bedrooms being available at the male students' hostel. Further provision in the shape of extension to the hostel is urgently needed, also to the chemical laboratory."

DURING the year 131 lectures on agriculture and its allied subjects were delivered in connection with the college, and thirty-six demonstrations given, the total of attendances being 4,388, or an average of twenty-six persons per meeting, which is extremely good.

THE news that the Royal Agricultural Society are to have brought before them the advisability of increasing the prize list for the show at Newcastle-on-Tyne by £5,000 will be read with interest by agriculturists in this district who contributed their share towards making both the Derby and Lincoln Shows so successful. It seems to point to the wisdom of the society in abandoning the Park Royal site for another tour in the provinces.

THE Carlton-on-Trent stud has this week been enriched by the addition of a capital colt foal by Linton Uniform, having Linton Presentab e

by Maxie as dam, which was also the dam of the late King Carlton. Mr. Forshaw purchased him from the Linton stud, Kent, and he has the making of a typical Shire.

SHOWS have been fairly numerous around here during the present week. On Monday we had the tenants' show at Clumber; on Tuesday a similar gathering at Welbeck; and on Wednesday Belper. At the latter show the entries showed a falling off, but they were of a very high class, some capital animals being exhibited.

SMALL holdings formed the theme for the Duke of Portland's after dinner speech at the Welbeck Show, and his Grace's experience has been far from successful. The Duke stated that some years ago he let a farm of 480 acres at a very low rental to six labourers. He provided them with a full complement of live and dead farming stock, for which they paid a small amount as interest on the capital thus invested. But the experiment proved disastrous both from the labourers' standpoint and also the landlord's, and after fifteen years the farms were given up as a failure. The men lost most of their savings, while the land, from an agricultural standpoint, was in a much worse condition than when it was in one holding. This shows clearly, then, that the small holdings' question requires most careful consideration on the part of our legislators before being allowed to be put to the test throughout the country.

THIS afternoon I was the only privileged Press representative present at an interesting and instructive demonstration on potato growing by Dr. Millburn, the well-known county council lecturer of the Kingston Agricultural College, Nottinghamshire. It was held on the farm of County Councillor H. Heath, J.P., at Bestwood Park, and several experimental plots of tubers were visited. These showed most conclusively that where the seed was purchased from Ireland the potatoes are much better crops than where Scottish and English seed has been planted. Another plot was visited where the potatoes were obtained from South Africa, but they looked only moderate, the climate apparently not having been conducive to their growth.

ON the same farm the party of farmers from the district, along with Dr. Millburn, visited a field where Proskowetz's original pedigree Hauna barley is being grown. It is of the Chevalier type, but much earlier and a better yielder, in addition being stiffer in the straw, while this variety rarely gets down, which is an important consideration in such seasons as the one we are now passing through. It is barley that germinates quickly, and Mr. Heath remarked that he drilled the field the same day as a neighbour put in some barley of the Chevalier species, but his could be seen in rows a fortnight before his neighbour's appeared above the ground. It ripens quickly, and is stated to be ready for cutting on an average ten days before the ordinary barleys. Malsters eagerly purchase the Hauna barley as it germinates more quickly and also more evenly. This is a cereal which farmers will do well to watch, especially those whose land is of a lightish character. I hope to refer to Hauna barley in future notes, giving the yields, price, &c., for the guidance of would-be growers.

IN a garden at Newark-on-Trent, belonging to Mr. McAslam, in Priory Road, there is a hollyhock which has reached the abnormal height of 11ft. 2in.

August 8, 1907. R. K.

West Country Notes.

GAME is often a sore point with farmers who suffer damage from the preserves in their neighbourhood; but it is rarely that an opportunity arises for them to test the opinions of a jury on the subject. A farmer living in the neighbourhood of Bristol has no reason for deploring that he took a case before a jury. He was a tenant under a very well-known lady landowner, and had been, as sub-tenant and as tenant-in-chief, paid sums annually under, it was alleged, the various heads of "rent for shooting," "game damage," "damage by birds," "damage from shooting," and "damage to crops." A couple of seasons ago the tenant objected that he did not get compensation enough for the extent of the injury to his crops, and said he would let the shooting.

WHATEVER the reason may be, he received notice to quit. He refused to accept the ordinary sum that had been paid, and increased his claim 150 per cent. The other side contended at the hearing that the claim was not increased till the farmer thought that he could let the shooting independently of the landlord, and for the amount of claim he set up. An interesting point in the case was the assertion that the pheasants had eaten fifty-six sacks of apples. It is probable that what was really meant by this statement was that they had damaged that amount.

THE result of the case was that the jury found for the farmer for the full amount of his claim. Judge Austin, however, remarked that the case showed the advantage of having a jury, as the farmer would have got nothing out of him.

WHERE there are no sporting rights reserved, it is not unusual to find a verbal letting; but it is certainly a matter for some surprise to find a person letting land adjacent to well-stocked covers without a written agreement.

THE circular of the bacon-curing firms on the decline of the English porker reached me at a time when it was a daily occurrence to see farmers loitering about waiting for the police-sergeant to return from his beat, to obtain a licence to move fat pigs off to the slaughterman's; and as he cooled his head in the shade of the porch at the locked-up office, the agriculturist might be found using forcible expletives against the tiresome regulations which took him away from his haymaking just when the best opportunity was afforded him of putting in a good turn.

WOE betide him if he sends his man! "I be come for a licence for measter to move his zow." "Where's a letter to say so?" "Ain't got one." "Then you'll have to go back again and get one, or tell your master to come himself." This was the conversation I listened to a few hours later. The man had come six or seven miles.

THE regulations are evidently drafted by office men, who have no idea of the circumstances of the country policeman, and the distance he covers on his beat. Why on earth cannot it be possible for every farmer to be supplied with forms of declaration, which he can send by post, and receive back the licence in the same way, without the great hindrance of time? Even the first would save a lot of time, for if he were able to send on overnight, the licence might be made out by the sergeant as soon as the post arrived, and it could be left with his wife or at his lodgings to be called for.

THE imposition of penalties for false declarations, or for concealment of disease, would be sufficient protection. At least, they would be equal to the present, for I note a number of cases within the last few days of persons evading the restrictions.

GENERALLY speaking, though there have been heavy local storms, the weather has been favourable for all kinds of crops. Fruit is promising and fulfilling well. One cottage gardener, at Golant, Cornwall, was reported to be spending most of the daylight picking fruit recently. Apples are very uneven. I was driving with a party through an orchard district lately, and in the midst of comments that not an apple had been seen we came across a beautiful lot.

AND thus the world wags! Replies to applications for the services of Miss E. W. Stubbs—a member of a well-known group of sisters who are to be found at many working dairies competing with success—are being sent out with an intimation that in a few days' time she will be leaving the service of the Somerset County Council, where so short a time ago she succeeded a sister as instructress of the travelling butter school. The happy man is, we understand, the gentleman who has charge of all the agricultural instruction work for the county.

A FEW days after the sale was effected of the cheese of the April make at the Somerset Cheese School the price at which it was sold was first intimated through this column. The managers had decided not to make public the information which has hitherto been given on the subject of the cheese made at the school. However, they appear to have thought better of their position, and they have now issued the customary slip confirming what was conveyed to your readers a month ago.

THERE is an old idea that the dairymaid who sings to her cows gets them in a better humour for giving the milk than others can do. Therefore there may have been some method in the madness of Henry Colson Salmon, whom the Plymouth bench have ordered away for observation because a constable found him singing to cows in a field by the roadside. As he also was indulging in wireless telephony by simply putting his fingers in his ears and shouting to Bristol they were perhaps right.

AN old West of England fixture has been revived in the Sherborne Horse Show, and with considerable success. It was at one time a most enjoyable meeting, and I am pleased to think it is likely again to take its place in the regular round, which has commenced, of local one-day shows.

POLITICS are being made the occasion of quite a large proportion of country gatherings in the West, and though it is probable that the farmer under present-day conditions has quite as much to lose as to gain by a tax on corn, most of the Unionist speakers are going for Tariff Reform.

Lincolnshire Notes.

THE profits of the Lincolnshire show are greatly in excess of the Derby exhibition. That fact we have on the assurance of Mr. Adeane, and it is the preparatory announcement to a still more satisfactory one in regard to the society's finances generally. When the final decision to abandon Park Royal was made, Lincolnshire never dreamed that it would be its happy lot to restore the Royal Show to credit again. But so it has been. Bravo, Lincolnshire!

GERMANY is coming to Lincolnshire for its horses. Last week a committee from the fatherland found its way into the country on the look-out for shires. They went, under the conductorship of Mr. J. H. B. Freshney, to the neighbourhood of Louth and the market, and, we are told, made several purchases. The commissioners are distinguished fighting men, and the object is to recruit the breeding grounds of Saxony

LORD HENEAGE is very severe in his letter to the *Times* on the subject of Earl Carrington's disposition of Crown lands of Lincolnshire. His lordship contends that the breaking up of the estate is operating very hardly upon present tenants, and that it is throwing many farmers and their labourers out of occupation. He gives several instances, and ends with a note of great alarm:—"Again I ask what will become of the tenant and his agricultural labourers if the proposal is to be carried out? I am strongly in favour of a sufficient supply of small holdings in every parish and on every estate, and I have no personal or political interest in this question beyond endeavouring to prevent the *bona fide* farmer and agricultural labourer being sacrificed to the cant and ignorance of political theorists without any knowledge of agriculture." I am afraid we always say that when we object to a political reform. But things are really not so bad. It is impossible to make readjustments in any walk in life without creating grievance somewhere. But they will restore themselves; and the firm establishment of the principle of the small holding is worth a little trouble.

THE prospects of sugar beet are improving. The price of beet sugar in England has risen since last year from 8s. 5d. to 9s. 8d. per cwt. It is still too low, we are told. There is not the slightest hope of a factory in Lincs. until a steady average on the right side of 10s. can be maintained. But hope is by no means abandoned, whilst we are waiting, impatient advocates are suggesting that we must have a change of Government to make things move. If that means another dose of sugar taxation, I am afraid it is "no go."

THE Gainsborough Agricultural Show made a great splash with its grand display of horses. In all classes the competition ran amongst animals win big reputations. And one or two flags were lowered. For instance, in the older foal class, Mr. Bowser, of Greetwell Hall, Lincoln, with his Birdsall Menestral filly, beat Mr. Glasier's Roxby Silver Bell bay filly, which had beaten the Royal winner at Normanby. The younger class was won by Sir Berkeley Sheffields's colt by Ragged Boy II., shown for the first time, which beat such a noted winner as Mr. Waterhouse's Dick Whittington filly, hitherto unbeaten.

AMONGST yearlings, Mr. Bonds, of Ludborough, Louth, was the successful competitor with a filly by Lockinge Forest King. Sir Berkley Sheffield's mare won the Shire Horse Society's medal. Quite a record was made by Mr. Robert Surfleet, of the Beckingham stud, Gainsborough. In the Hackney section he carried off the premier awards in the brood mare, foal, yearling, and two-year-old classes, besides taking the Hackney Society's gold medal. Mr. Swallow, of Royal fame, led the Hunter classes with his famous mare Tugela. But he found more than his match in the brood mare class where Mr. Gourley scored with a nice colt by Lincoln Mint.

THE luncheon was enlivened by a breezy speech from Major Renton. Having revolted from his Government and party, and quarrelled seriously with a considerable section of his constituents, the member for Gainsborough evidently feels that his lance is free from party obligations. He criticised Government Ministers freely. They are hopelessly ignorant on matters of agriculture—colossally and abysmally ignorant. He had been told of a certain Cabinet minister in charge of a most important measure dealing with land, which was now before the House of Commons, who, until the Bill went to the committee, was not aware that there was such a thing as rotation of crops. He knew another minister, who had had a lot to do, and would have a lot to do with land legislation, who had himself told him that it was as well he knew nothing about agriculture and farming, as he would thus be enabled to approach these questions of the land with an absolutely open mind. I should guess there is going to be more trouble out Gainsborough way. The great drawback to agricultural progress and reform, as it has always struck me, has been not the ignorance, but the tremendous, the overpowering, the unfathomable and unmanageable knowledge which everybody seems to have on the subject. It is all such different and such conflicting knowledge.

THERE must have been a considerable glut in the pea trade. A consignor in the Long Sutton district recently got his payment for 406 bags of peas, the cheque being £20 4s. 6d. This just paid the cost of pulling, and left nothing for carriage, commission, and the crop itself.

MR. THOMAS NEWTON, of Harrowby Hall, Grantham, one of the largest farmers in the district, died recently at his residence after a prolonged illness. Mr. Newton was a well-known exhibitor of horses.

THE prospects of beef for the autumn are said to promise very well. The markets in America are by no means over supplied, and if they were the consumption is considerably on the increase.

THE coldest July for ten years. And the harvest is put back later than ever.

I MENTIONED in this column last week the sale by auction of 152 acres, part of the Coldham Hall Estate, for £9,700, giving an average of £66 an acre. The land was owned by General Loyd, and was occupied by Mr. W. W. West, the well-known Isle of Ely J.P. Mr. West purchased several lots, varying from eleven to fourteen acres each in area, and has intimated that he intends to let them in small holdings. Already the intimation has received a practical welcome.

A FORTNIGHT ago I backed my opinion of the Moulton Parish Council, which has taken up 750 acres of Crown land for the purpose of small holdings. The little authority is taking to its work wonderfully well. It has persuaded the authorities to erect nine new houses and ten sets of new outbuildings. There will thus be fourteen holdings and on them thirteen buildings, and there are already applications for 1,000 acres.

Mr. S. Young, poultry, pigeon, and cage-bird dealer, and fanciers' appliance maker, of Misterton, Crewkerne, Somerset, has issued a revised catalogue of appliances, &c., which should prove of interest to all breeders of poultry, pigeons, and cage-birds.

The Scottish National Exhibition —The arrangements for the Scottish National Exhibition to be held in Edinburgh next year have made good progress. The plans, subject to any alterations which may be deemed advisable, have been accepted, and work on the grounds and buildings will commence either at the end of this month or the beginning of next month. In the accepted designs the industrial hall of 100,000 square feet and the machinery hall of 20,000 square feet are included in one magnificent building, and everything both in connection with the structures and the grounds has been framed with a view to charm the eye and at the same time facilitate the commercial requirements. The classification of the various sections includes fine arts, education and history, arts and crafts, mining, engineering and metallurgy, transportation and motive power, shipbuilding and waterways construction, chemistry and scientific appliances, lighting, heating and ventilation, manufactures and varied industries, agriculture, horticulture, and sylviculture, domestic, sports and pastimes, botany and zoology, artisans' work, women's section, urban and rural improvements. The charge for floor space in industrial hall and machinery section will be 3s. per square foot for spaces of 100 ft. or more in area; smaller areas, corner spaces, and special positions will be charged extra at the discretion of the Exhibition Committee. All information can be obtained on application to the manager, Mr. W. H. Knight, 45, York Place, Edinburgh.

LINCOLNSHIRE FARMERS' UNION.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

At the last meeting of the Central Committee of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union Mr. Bullen, of Newark, appeared before the committee on the question of railway rates, and in the course of an address on the inequality of rating on different railway systems said Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire were paying from 15 to 25 per cent. more on the carriage of their produce than in the district served by the North-Eastern Railway Company and the London and South-Western Railway Company.

After some discussion, a sub-committee, consisting of Messrs. Bullen, J. Todd, W. S. Fox, and J. D. Blanshard, was appointed to enter into the matter.

A letter was read from the secretary of the Education Committee at the Holland County Council stating that the communication of the Central Committee in reference to agricultural education had been under the consideration of the Education Committee, and he was instructed to reply that they were not less desirous of "increasing such instruction in all rural elementary schools as would tend to increase the inclination for agricultural pursuits from the earliest age possible" than were the Central Committee of the Farmers' Union. How this was best to be done was a matter occupying the serious study of the Education Committee, which they hoped would lead to some practical results.

The matter was not discussed.

The Canterbury Farmers' Club and the East Kent Chamber of Agriculture sent a resolution to the following effect:—"That this Chamber cordially endorses the resolution on the Small Holdings and Allotments Bill passed by the Central Chamber of Agriculture at its meeting on July 2, 1907, and further desires to express its approval generally of the recommendations embodied in the report of the Parliamentary delegates of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union.

The resolution was received with approval, and laid on the table.

MARKET RASEN BRANCH.

A public meeting under the auspices of the Market Rasen branch of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union was recently held at the Gordon Arms Hotel, Mr. Cook Holdershaw, J.P., the chairman of the branch, who presided, said that if they would improve their position they must join the Union, and stand forth as one man, and say this is our trade, our industry and our right and we will have our Union conducted as other unions are in the country. Would they submit to have one imposition after another placed upon them? Agriculture was the largest and most important industry in the country, and more people and more capital were employed in it than in any other industry. Would they submit to be dictated to, and crushed and ruined by those people who, provided they got cheap bread for themselves, did not care whether agriculture prospered or not.

At the present time the cry was for cheap food. Cheap food had no doubt been a blessing and a boon to millions of people in this country; but at the same time it had also been most disastrous to others in this country. Cheap food, or rather the low price of wheat and other agricultural produce, had impoverished the whole of the agricultural portion of this country. It had ruined thousands of farmers, and driven millions of acres of land out of cultivation. It had deprived hundreds of thousands of men of employment, and it had depopulated their rural districts. Hundreds of the starving poor in the slums of our great towns to-day would probably not have been there had they not been driven from the land. Many of them would probably have been living under comfortable conditions in the country villages from which they had been driven, but instead there was overcrowding, disease, and death.

They had every reason for thinking that this country would have been happier and more prosperous if the agricultural industry had not been destroyed. Agriculture had failed in this country because it had been both neglected and overtaxed, and because those people who were dependent upon the land for a livelihood had not combined for their own common protection. There was no doubt that agriculture paid more than a fair proportion of the rates and taxes of this country, and they did not get a corresponding return. Even the education given in their public elementary schools was devoted almost entirely to making young men clerks or artisans, and to giving them a dislike for agriculture.

They were often reminded of the prosperity of the Danish farmers, but it must be remembered that that State helped, and was always ready to help them to buy their own farms, with the result that nearly all the land was owned by those who cultivated it. That must be an ideal system, and one which the Government of this country would do well to adopt; it ought to do all it possibly can to help the small holder to buy his farm, and give him a stake and interest in the property of the country. He would very much like to see restored to the country those two classes of cultivators which used to exist, the yeoman farmer and the peasant proprietor, as to those two classes the greatness of England had been in the past due.

Mr. Howard complained that farmers were too slow; it was time they realised the position they were in and endeavoured to better their position. He deprecated farmers sitting on the fence, and urged them to come forward and join the Union, thereby strengthening the Union and help to further the interests of the farming community.

The Rev. T. Hamilton followed with an inspiriting speech, in which he urged farmers to be up and doing, to throw off their lethargy and combine for the purpose of getting their rights. He showed them that if they would organise—and that Union gave them the opportunity of so doing—they would soon make themselves heard in Parliament. It might be said that they could not hope to get more than one agricultural representative in Parliament, and that he would not be able to do much good. But the speaker pointed out that if farmers would only join together they would make their influence felt in all the agricultural constituencies, and members of Parliament, especially those who only held their seats by a few hundreds majority, would only be too pleased to attend to the needs of the farmers. Then not only would this Union help them in this direction; if they got into difficulties and a law suit was pending, and they had only themselves to depend upon, their opponents would strain every nerve to ruin them if possible. But if they had a Union like that at their back, determined by their great strength and powerful resources to support them, their opponents would show the white feather, and very likely legal proceedings would fall through altogether. He urged those of his hearers who were not members to join the Union, and put their shoulders together as one man, and when doing that they would be adding to the greatness of the Empire.

Harvest Prospects in Wilts, Hants, and Dorset.

A large number of reports from farmers in various parts of Wilts, Hants, and Dorset, concerning the harvest prospects of 1907, appeared in the *Salisbury and Winchester Journal* of the 3rd inst., and these show that the season in these counties is later than usual, and harvest is not likely to be general until well on into the present month. Of cereals, wheat promises to be equal to, or better than last year, and is likely to give a fair average yield. Barley is also a good crop, with an abundance of straw, but, as yet, it is early to speak with confidence of the quality of the grain, so much depending on the conditions under which barley ripens. Oats show a considerable improvement as compared with the last two years, the majority of our correspondents describing the yield as average or over average. A few cases of blight and rust are reported, but on the whole cereals generally are very free from disease.

There has been an abundant yield of hay, well up to or exceeding the average, but in some instances the quality is reported as indifferent owing to the bad conditions under which much of the crop was secured. This is more especially the case with the early crop, much of the later crop being got in good condition.

The reports with regard to roots are of a very promising character. Although backward during the early part of the season, the crop has made much progress during the past few weeks, and is likely to give a heavy yield. In a few instances the first sowings of mangolds were attacked by fly before they had secured a plant, and had to be resown; but, generally speaking, the crop is an excellent plant and free from disease.

Sheep and cattle are generally described as healthy and in good condition; sheep are about the average number, but in some cases correspondents reported the breed of lambs as small, owing to twins not being as numerous as usual. Prices of ewes and lambs, especially the former, are higher than those of last year, but to a large extent this is counteracted by the fall in the price of wool in the recent sales in this district.

Provided favourable weather is experienced for the ripening and ingathering of the crops, with increased prices for sheep and a prospect of plenty of keep, the farmer's outlook is, our contemporary concludes, by no means a discouraging one, and considerably better than was anticipated a few weeks ago.

The following gentlemen have recently been appointed on the staff of the Rothamsted Experimental Station:—Dr. E. J. Russell, lately of the South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, as the Goldsmiths' Company's Assistant for the Investigation of Soils, and Dr. H. B. Hutchinson, of the Midland Agricultural and Dairy College, Kingston, Derby, as bacteriologist.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

The Most Essential Constituent for Hay.

The following results were obtained in an experiment made by the Aberdeen and North of Scotland College of Agriculture with the object of showing which manurial constituent produces most effect on the hay crop:—

Plot.	Approximate Quantity of Manures Applied per Acre.	Hay per Acre. Cwts.	Cost of Manures. s. d.	Profit or Loss. s. d.
1	No Manure	41·31	—	—
2	1¼ cwt. Nitrate of Soda .. 2½ cwt. Superphosphate. 1 cwt. Sulphate of Potash.	58·77	25 6	10 7
3	1¼ cwt. Nitrate of Soda 2½ cwt. Superphosphate. No Potash	54·98	19 10	5 2
4	1¼ cwt. Nitrate of Soda .. 1 cwt. Sulphate of Potash. No Phosphate.....	53·53	18 4	5 2
5	2½ cwt. Superphosphate . 1 cwt. Sulphate of Potash. No Nitrogen	44·26	12 10	12 9

From this table it is quite clear that the complete fertiliser, containing nitrogen, phosphate, and potash, produced the largest and most profitable crop, the gain being 10s. 7d. per acre more than the cost of the manures.

The profit, according to the report, is, however, much understated by the figures, as the foggage was always greatly superior where the manures had been used, and the effects of the manures on the subsequent crops was not estimated.

Therefore, if the hay consists largely of rye grass and quantity is desired, it is obvious that the manure must contain nitrogen.

Lime May Exhaust Soil.

Applications of lime will cause exhaustion of the soil if used alone and the land cropped every year; yet it proves highly beneficial when farmyard manure, green crops, or chemical fertilisers are also applied. Lime is not strictly what is termed a fertiliser, though it is a substance found in the structure of all plants, but it serves to hasten the chemical action of other organic and inorganic materials existing in soils, and thereby prepares the plant foods for bet er assimilation by plants, thus being a useful and indispensable assistant on nearly all farms.

Inoculation.

The expectations which seem to have existed in some circles of the revolution in agricultural methods which would be brought about by the discoveries connected with nitrogen-forming bacteria have gradually come down to a more mundane level. In this country of fertile and well-cultivated fields the results have been more or less of a negative character, but in some half-barren districts of America the application of inoculation has proved of great advantage. According to a bulletin issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, nearly every legume has its own particular strain of nodule bacteria. For example, that of the clover is different from that of lucerne, and that of the cow pea from that of the soy bean. In planting a leguminous crop for the first time, it will therefore often happen that no tubercles will form on the roots, because the proper kind of bacteria is not present in the soil. These may be supplied by scattering soil from a field where the crop in question has been recently grown, or by using an artificial culture of the proper bacteria. After the field is once thoroughly inoculated there is rarely any difficulty afterwards in getting an abundant supply of root tubercles.

The same strain of bacteria will often inoculate different closely related legumes. Thus lucerne, bur clover, and sweet clover are tubercled by the same strain; a different strain inoculates most kinds of vetches, as well as the field and garden peas; still another strain is apparently used by red clover, white clover, and alsike clover in common.

There is a marked variation among different legumes, both in the extent to which they are naturally tubercled and in the ease with which different ones may be artificially inoculated. Natural inoculation presupposes the existence of the proper germ in the soil, and this is nearly always present over areas where a particular legume has been generally grown. Thus red clover is practically always naturally inoculated in the north-eastern quarter of the United States, and cow peas in the south-eastern. Lucerne is naturally tubercled as a rule in the west, while in the east artificial inoculation is usually necessary.

Artificial inoculation is usually accomplished with ease as regards cow peas, red clover, vetches, field peas, and most other legumes. Soy beans, however, frequently give negative results. Sweet clover is much more readily inoculated than lucerne, though both use the same strain of bacteria.

In some cases the tubercle germs occur in sufficient abundance on the seeds to provide inoculation. This occurs more particularly on seeds that are tramped out by oxen or which otherwise become covered with dust from the field. An interesting illustration of this occurred in 1906 in the case of guar, an East Indian legume. Neither this plant nor any closely related species had previously been grown in this country. Nevertheless, at Chillicothe, Tex., the plants were abundantly tubercled.

Stable Manure—Loss in Value.

In an experiment, conducted with scientific accuracy, at the Cornell University, 4,000 lb. of ordinary manure from the horse stables, calculated to be worth 11s. per ton for the plant food it contained, were exposed in a pile out of doors from April 25 to September 22, a period of about five months; at the end of that time the total weight had decreased to 1,730 lb., and even this reduced quantity had suffered a loss in value of 1s. 6d. per ton. In other words, the value of the whole pile of manure was lessened by nearly 50 per cent. In another experiment, manure exposed for six months lost 56 per cent. of its dry matter and 43 per cent. of its plant food value. In this case the fresh manure was worth 9s. a ton, while the rotted manure was worth 12s. a ton, but the loss in total weight and in plant food was such that for each ton originally worth 9s. there remained only 5s. worth after six months' exposure.

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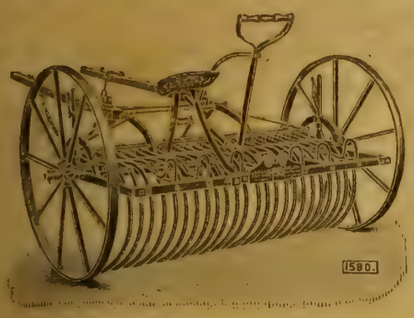
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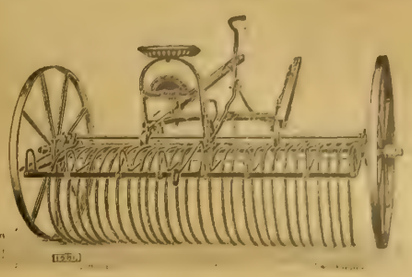
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UNION IS STRENGTH.

Lincoln has loomed large in the agricultural concerns of the country just lately, what with the Royal Show and its gratifying success, but there is another way in which the county of Lincolnshire is making a bid for fame.

Readers of this journal cannot fail to notice from the reports which appear in our pages from time to time that the spirit of unionism has got a firm hold on Lincolnshire farmers, and it is spreading. In our last issue we published a report of a meeting at Doncaster which led to the formation of a branch of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union, and farmers representing some 9,000 acres of land were enrolled as members. We have watched with interest the progress of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union, and see in it a businesslike attempt on the part of a community of agriculturists to combine for their mutual interests.

There is no need to give reasons here why farmers should combine as they are apparent to everybody, and in wishing the new branch of the Lincolnshire Union all success we venture to hope that the movement will spread, and that British farmers all over the country will see that in unity they will find their strength.

AMUSEMENTS AT AGRICULTURAL SHOWS.

Speaking generally of agricultural shows there seems to be little trouble in getting the competitive classes filled, but the difficulty societies are faced with is that of providing means of amusement for the people who attend the gatherings.

Of course, if agricultural societies could depend on farmers alone for the all-important gate there would not be the same difficulty, as they would probably find enough to interest them in the exhibits, but it is not so with the man in the street, who, not being particularly concerned with animals and implements, wants something to amuse him.

Happily, the love of horseflesh is firmly implanted in the breast of the average Briton, no matter what his calling may be, and though there is no longer any novelty about them, horse jumping and driving competitions lose none of their power of attraction.

Good music is another thing that never fails to draw, and a first-class band goes a long way with the show-going public.

On the other hand, this is a novelty-loving age, and considering the multitude of agricultural shows now held, the problem is to provide fresh items to attract the million.

Midland Agricultural and Dairy College.

The report presented by Principal Blackshaw at the annual meeting in connection with the Midland Agricultural and Dairy College, Kingston-on-Soar, stated that the year had been one of phenomenal progress, unprecedented in the annals of the college. During the greater portion of the year the classes had been packed, and the accommodation consequently taxed to its utmost. The lecturers and instructors had worked exceedingly hard and with a will to do all possible in their power. Good health, generally, had prevailed against the staff and students, and great as the previous record was, they had greatly surpassed it, both in the amount and value of the work done, and also in the extent to which the college had gained in the estimation, confidence, and appreciation of the farmers.

The aggregate of attendances at the courses greatly surpassed that of any previous year, there being 421 pupils, compared with 337 in 1905-6 and 302 in 1904-5. The college continued to be fortunate in drawing the bulk of its students from those engaged upon the land—young people bred to agriculture and who meant to stick to it. The great increase in applications for admittance which were received during the year from their own counties was most encouraging.

The accounts showed that the net result of the year's working was that the income had exceeded the expenditure by £306 2s. 5d., with the result that, for the first time since the addition of the agricultural department, the debit balance on revenue account had entirely disappeared, and there was instead a credit balance of £153 5s. 4d. The total receipts were £13,491 4s. 4d. The Leicestershire, Derbyshire, and Notts. County Councils each contributed £3,700, and the Lindsey County Council £1,000.

Mr. T. Cope, chairman of the governing body, in moving the adoption of the report, which was carried, said that it had never been his lot to bring before them a more encouraging report than the one now presented. Wherever they looked they found progress. The question of still further accommodation would before long have to be considered. They were constantly growing; they could not help themselves, and the only difficulty had been that as they grew they got a little more expensive.

Notes of the Week.

Barnsley is more renowned for its coal than for its agriculture, but it gave a splendid welcome to the Yorkshire Agricultural Society last week.

Seventy-five per cent. of Barnsley's interests lie under rather than on the ground, but its closeness to agricultural centres keeps alive a love for farming among its inhabitants.

The train service was very poor, and from Sheffield it was a long and weary journey. The length is about sixteen miles, it seemed sixty.

The show was nicely situated about 1½ miles out of Barnsley, and the ground was very suitable.

The ground was nicely laid out and kept wonderfully compact, although in this respect hardly comparable with the Royal Lancashire.

Entries at Barnesley were hardly so numerous as last year, and absentees were by far too many.

Horses were naturally the principal attraction, and they constituted a good show as regards quality.

The principal reversal of form was the putting down of Lively Beeswing, the Olympia champion, in favour of the Yorkshire Horse Cedar Camilla.

There was a great difference of opinion over this result.

The cattle classes were mostly Shorthorns, and they made a wonderfully good show and included many Yorkshire winners.

The sheep section was only sparsely filled, but pigs came from all over the county to compete for the prizes.

Barnsley began well as regards attendance. The weather was very threatening, but fortunately the rain held off.

The smoke and grime from the collieries, &c., made the sky dull, but it was nothing like Middlesbrough a year ago.

Another week of promiscuous weather has brought us nearer the appointed time for the cereal harvest, but the crops are sadly in need of a spell of real hot sunshine.

A herd of cows wearing spectacles must be a curious sight, yet it is to be seen in some parts of Russia during the long winter.

The cows become afflicted with snow blindness while foraging for the pasture under the snow, and to prevent the malady they are provided by careful owners with smoked glass spectacles.

The meeting of the British Association afforded that protagonist of three acres and a cow, Mr. Jesse Collins, an opportunity of delivering an effective address on small holdings.

The view that he advocates of the advantages of small occupying ownership rather than tenants occupying small holdings seems to be gaining ground.

The species known as "road-hogs" in motors could well be dispensed with, but according to the Butchers' Trade Association we could do with more of the ordinary pigs in the country.

According to a circular issued by the association, pigs have been getting scarcer the last few years. Pig breeding should certainly be encouraged.

The Russian export trade is increasing by leaps and bounds in two articles, aliens and eggs. Let us hope that the latter are fresher than the former.

A horticulturist in America has found a way of getting gold from cucumbers. From seven acres of cucumbers he realised £800.

He is a more practical man than the enthusiast of whom we have all heard, who formed a company to extract sunbeams from cucumbers.

Wanted, an appropriate name for milk-blended butter. During the discussion in Parliament on the Pure Butter Bill the following were proposed:—"Faked Butter," "Bastardine," "Cow Juice," "Aquatic Butter."

How would "Waterbut" sound? We shall be glad to have suggestions.

Shakspeare has some well-known lines that fit in on the subject:—

"But he that filches from me my good name
Robs me of that which not enriches him
And makes me poor indeed."

From the housetops it is proclaimed that Great Britain is and shall remain a "free-food" country.

To impose a tax on the people's food would be worse than pestilence, war and revolution combined.

And yet, according to a statement made in Parliament by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the revenue derived last financial year from taxes on food was £64,839,260.

Queer, isn't it?

Much has lately been written and spoken about education. The seeds of education sown in the virgin soil of young children's minds in rural districts bear poor fruit.

Here are some extracts from easy essays on agricultural subjects for which prizes are given by the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society.

"Sheep's legs are made into trotters, for which Bolton is famous. When there is an important football match, as when the Wanderers played Everton, the people shouted 'Play up, Trotters,' so we see the sheep is useful."

"Horses' skin is made into chewing gum, which boys like. Girls like chewing too, but it is not good for them."

"The fowl when alive is used for cock-fighting, and when dead for its beautiful feathers."

Farmers and horticulturists are engaged in an incessant struggle with plant disease and pest, and from time to time they have to contend with new species of these enemies.

It is, therefore, good news that a new and fully equipped laboratory and research station for the study of plant disease and cognate subjects have been established.

At a recent important agricultural show, awards were made to the labourers in husbandry who had brought up the greatest number of children. Husbandry seems the right word here.—*Punch.*

Earl Carrington is strongly recommending co-operation, especially among small farmers and people cultivating small holdings.

It is to be hoped that his recommendations will bear fruit. Co-operation and organisation will work wonders commercially and politically.

The County Farmers' Unions, affiliated and concentrated, will do more for agriculture in ten years than separate individual effort in a century.

The imported fox threatens to prove as great a nuisance in Australia as the imported rabbit. Lambs, poultry, and the native birds are having a bad time from the depredations of Renard.

A banana tree planted in Cornwall has borne fruit. This is striking testimony for the mild climate of the county.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

*Advice of a Legal character is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "*MARK LANE EXPRESS,*" 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.*

The Law on Fences.

SIR,—A and B are owners and occupiers of adjoining land, and according to the parish award A is the owner of the hedge and ditch. A has allowed the hedge (although it was a quick set hedge planted by the Commissioners at the time of the enclosure) to run to ruin to such an extent that there are 190 gaps in it, and refuses to repair the same in any shape or way, although the award says "fences to be made and maintained by owner of allotment." A's refusal to repair the fence causes B a loss of £10 a year, as B cannot make the best of his land. Is there any legal remedy against A for B to claim compensation, and in what court? A. says every person must fence against their own cattle; if so, the award is a dead letter.—Yours, &c., F. Y. S.

[*** Since A is under an award bound to repair the fences, I think A could be made to repair the fences, but I do not think that B has any right to proceed against A, except in respect of special damages. It is a general rule that an occupier must fence against his own cattle, but I do not think that this applies where the duty is cast upon anyone to keep their fences in repair. It only applies to cases where there is no duty.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.]

A Question of Notice.

SIR,—On November 30, 1906, I engaged a man as cowman to live in for £21, 5s. fasten penny, until November 24, 1907. The following is a copy of a notice received by post on August 7th:—"August 5, 1907.—Dear Sir,—I now give one month notice from the 6th August to the 6th September to *live* your *servace*.—From, &c., ——." Is the notice any use? Ought I not to have got it on the 6th instead of the 7th? September 6 means the beginning of harvest.—Yours, &c., FARMER.

[*** If the agreement is subject to the usual month's notice by usual custom, and a month's notice is given, I think the notice would be good. I do not appreciate your point as to the 6th instead of the 7th of September.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.]

Recovery of Tithe Rent.

SIR,—I have been charged with tithe, and have paid the same for sixteen years, which should, according to the tithe award, have been charged to five other landowners. As this was money paid in mistake, can I legally claim repayment for the sixteen years from the rectors who received the money, or from the people who should have paid the money? The mistake was made through the neglect of the rector's agent or collector not giving himself the trouble to consult the tithe award.—Yours, &c., A SUBSCRIBER.

[*** The payment by you was evidently made under a mutual mistake of fact and not of law. I am therefore of an opinion that you could recover it except for the Statute of Limitations, which, if pleaded, would restrict your claim to the recovery of the amount paid to six years only.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.]

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 13.—Agricultural Shows at Llanelly, Keith, and Pickering—Penrith Show—Heanor Combined Agricultural and Horticultural Show—Fairs at Ashford, Horncastle, and Highworth—Maidstone Horse and Live Stock Sale—Exmouth and Clay Cross Horticultural Shows—Sending-in Day for the Kelso and Banbury Shows.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14.—Agricultural Shows at Bakewell, Poulton-le-Fylde, and Hastings—Bath Cheese Fair—Oxford Great Annual Ram Fair and Sales—Fairs at Chester-le-Street, Newport, and Dunstable—Tavistock Horticultural Show—Newing Green Annual Lamb Sale—Sending-in Day for Newton St. Loe, Castle Cary, and Havant Shows.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 15.—Second Day of the Hastings Show—Durham County Show at Wynyard Park, Stockton—Agricultural Shows at Knighton, Ombersley-by, Droitwich, Penistone, Carmarthen, Llanrwst, Whitby, and Walton Park, near Warrington—Weston-super-Mare Horse Show—Ashbourne Horse and Cattle Fair.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 16.—Agricultural Show at Newby, for Scarborough District—Second Day of the Great Fair at Ashbourne—Live Stock Sale at Yeovil—Sending-in Day for Leominster Show.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 17.—Shows at Allendale, Chorlton, Holmfirth, Leyburn, and Holme-by-Burnley—Sale of Sussex Cattle at Ticehurst—Sending-in Day for the Bath Horse Show—Sending-in Day for Valley of Hope Show and for the Melton Mowbray Show.

MONDAY, AUGUST 19.—Show at Rochdale—Show for East Glamorgan at Nelson—Knighton Horse Fair—York Agricultural and Horticultural Gala Opens, and lasts three days—Sale of the Marquis of Winchester's Pedigree Rams, &c., at Amport—Sending-in Day for Airedale, Worsley, and Rhymney Shows.

At the Helmsley County Court on Thursday, Alfred Boyes, Layesthorpe, brought an action to recover £28 damages in respect of sheep alleged to have been chased and worried by dogs belonging to Mr. Russell and Robert Stockill, farmers, Sproxton. For the defence it was stated the damage was done by a stray dog which had been seen in the locality. After an hour's deliberation the jury found a verdict for plaintiff, and assessed the damages at £8.

The committee of the Newbury Horse Show has increased the prizes to be given for the open jumping classes at their show on August 21. Prizes of £20 and £15 are offered now, besides seconds and thirds. Entries for the open jumping classes can be received up to Friday next, the 16th inst., eight days later than originally fixed. Entry forms can be obtained from Mr. E. J. Forster, secretary, Newbury.

SHEEP.

THE WEEK'S SALES.

Ashford.

The first sale of the season at Ashford market attracted some 12,000 entries, and the lambs taken as a whole were a fine lot. Buyers were very strongly represented, and a capital clearance was effected at good prices, the average being from 4s. to 5s. higher than last year. The highest price for lambs made during the day was 37s., this figure being reached for some half-breds of Mr. J. Hobbs, while Kents went up to 34s. A few ewes were also included in the sale, and all the useful ones sold well.

Blandford.

The annual great August Sheep Fair at Blandford was held on Thursday, when between 4,000 and 5,000 were penned, which made, with some fine selections of ram lambs, one of the most attractive displays ever seen at Blandford. The general run of prices were registered draft Dorset Down ewes from 42s. to 45s. 6d.; other Dorset down ewes, 43s. to 47s.; registered draft Hampshire Down ewes, 40s. to 46s.; grazing ewes, 36s. to 42s.; Down wether lambs, 44s. to 51s. 6d. for best, and others 35s. 6d. to 42s. 6d.; Down chilver lambs, 35s. 6d. to 37s. 6d.; mixed lambs, 29s. to 33s. 6d. Hampshire Down ram lambs evoked keen competition at from 5 guineas to about 21 guineas for the greater portion; others of exceptional character realising still higher prices. South Down rams 4½ guineas to 5½ guineas.

Braintree.

At Braintree on Wednesday 2,000 head of sheep and lambs were offered and met a good demand, the lots being soon cleared. The top price for sheep was secured by a pen of shearling Suffolk ewes from Mr. John Ambrose, of Panfield, which made 68s. 6d. per head, whilst Mr. E. Fairhead, of Coggeshall, had the honour of taking the best price for lambs, a pen of ten making 54s. 6d. Other prices ranged up to 66s. for sheep and 50s. for lambs.

Carlisle.

The opening lamb sales of the season were held at the two Carlisle auction marts on the 3rd inst., and attracted a large number of buyers. The wet weather during Friday night had had a detrimental effect on the appearance of the lambs forward, but they nevertheless met a strong demand, and scarcely a lot passed unsold. Supplies being short of requirements, prices were very satisfactory to the vendors.

At Harrisons' Mart there were over 800 forward, and the quotations there were as follows:—Lambs: Half and three-quarter bred, 23s. 6d. to 30s.; cross Downs, 29s. 6d. to 32s. 6d; Leicester crosses, 25s. 3d.; Cheviots, 12s. to 14s. 9d. Feeding sheep: Crosses, to 32s. 9d.; Cheviots, to 27s. 3d.

Hetheringstons' Auction Company had between 200 and 300 forward, chiefly of a very good class, and the following were the prices realised:—Cheviot shearlings, 27s. 3d. to 28s. 3d.; Newbiggen cross shearlings, 27s. 3d.; black-faced hoggs, 20s. 9d.; Oxford cross lamb hoggs, 31s. 6d.; half-bred ditto, 28s.

Castle Douglas.

The first of the lamb sales at Castle Douglas this season took place on Monday, and that these fixtures are as popular as ever was proved by the large attendance of buyers. Close on 8,000 top lambs, principally half and three parts bred, were penned, and they formed a grand selection. An excellent trade was experienced from the start, and in some cases an increase of 1s. to 1s. 6d. on last year was made. Several lots, however, went at the old figures, while the average was fully 1s. down on the corresponding sale of 1905. Though the numbers were fewer, the lots were better drawn than last year, and were shown in good bloom, a total clearance being effected early in the afternoon.

Chester.

Messrs. Cunnah and Roberts, of Chester, held the annual sale of sheep which have been grazed on the Dee Marshes during the last twelve months on the 1st inst., when the catalogue comprised over 3,000 sheep, including from the executors of the late Mr. James Kemp 1,500 Cheviot wethers, 150 Black faced wethers, and 150 cross-bred wethers and gimmers; and from Mr. Charles Kemp 1,100 Cheviot wethers and 150 cross-bred wethers. The whole of the sheep were in stronger and better condition than they have ever been before. There was a splendid attendance of farmers, and the prices all round were fully equal to those made here last year, but rather more than usual of the sheep were bought locally. Mr. James Kemp's Cheviots made from 29s. 6d. to 32s. 6d., the cross-breds up to 41s. 6d., and the Black-faced up to 31s. 6d. Mr. Charles Kemp's Cheviots made from 27s. 6d. to 38s., and his cross-breds 39s. The bidding throughout was keen and spirited, and every sheep was sold.

Chichester.

The annual sale and show which took place on Wednesday last at Chichester, resulted in one of the most important shows and sales of Southdown sheep held during the present year. The number sold was over 4,000 head, and the attendance of buyers was a very large one, and we may say thoroughly representative.

Champion prizes were offered by Messrs. Stride and Son (the auctioneers), for the best ram, ram lamb, and regular draft ewes, and two of the three were carried off by the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, K.G. His Grace received the award for rams, and the Duke of Devonshire was placed reserve, Sir Julius Wernher, Bart., of Luton Hoo Park, Luton, being highly commended. The Duke of Richmond also secured the champion award for the best regular draft ewes in the sale, Mr. J. B. Tribe, of Earnley, being reserve. For ram lambs the honours went to Lieutenant-Colonel W. W. Hammond, of St. Alban's Court, Dover, with Mr. F. H. Jennings, of Cockford Hall, Bury St. Edmunds, reserve, and Sir Thomas Gooch, Bart., Benacre Hall, Wrentham, Suffolk, highly commended.

In addition to the usual consignments sent to the sale Mr. J. W. Baxendale consigned the whole of his registered flock, and the excellent prices which it realised and averages are such that would indicate the appreciation of purchasers of this centre as a source of dispersal, not only o regular draft sheep and rams, but of flocks also.

The 50 yearling ewes made from 104s. to 70 per head and averaged £4 8s. 6d., the principal buyers being Mr. Stewart at 104s., 100s. (twice); Sir J. Werner, 100s., &c. The 4 tooth ewes, 27 in number, made from 108s. (Mr. Stewart) to 78s., and averaged at £4 8s. 6d.; 14 six tooth ewes went to the Duke of Norfolk at 95s. and 80s., and averaged £4 7s. 2d; 19 full mouth ewes averaged £2 11s. 6d.; 23 draft ewes £2 10s. 6d.; and 42 ewe lambs £2 10s. 6d; the whole flock, 175 in number, averaging £3 11s. 2d.

The demand for the yearling ewes entered by the different consignors was remarkably keen and good; 100 from the Duke of Richmond averaged £4 7s., Earl Manvers paying 107s. for 10. Mr. C. J. Fletcher took 60 in pens of 5 at 100s., 93s., 84s. and 83s. twice. Lieut.-Colonel Hammond (171) averaged £2 19s. 5d., Mr. Thorpe paying 71s. and 70s. for 2 pens of 10. Mr. E. E. Speed's 50 averaged £2 16s. 4d., 58s. being the top price. Mr. J. Colman sold 20 at from 80s. to 70s., other consignments making up to 58s. The principal lots of four and six-tooth ewes were Sir E. Loder's 15, sold at 51s, Mr. W. M. Cazalet's 12, sold at 49s., and Mr. R. W. Brown's 50, sold at 47s.

The regular draft ewes sold remarkably well. The Duke of Richmond's 100, 50 of which won the challenge cup, made 65s. to the Exors. of Colonel McCalmont, and 52s.; Mr. J. B. Tribe's 100, 50 of which were reserve for the challenge cup, made 71s. to Mr. A. C. Hall, and the other 45s; Mr. A. M. Singer sold 260 at from 54s. to 32s, Mr. 50 at 54s., others making up to 48s.

One hundred and seventy-two yearling rams were disposed of for £1,667 10s, an average of £9 13s. 7d. Such a result proves without question how excellent a sale it was, the number sold being practically the whole of those entered, and it is



The Leicester Shearling Ram shown above is the animal with which Mr. George Harrison, of Gainford Hall, Darlington, won a First Prize at the Yorkshire Agricultural Society's Show at Barnsley last week.

seldom that so excellent an average has been realised for so large a number. The following were some of the chief sales:—Mr. E. Henty sold 8 for £8 18s. 6d. per head, top price 11 guineas; Sir W. Greenwell sold 8 at £7 17s. 6d., Sir E. Loder's agent paying 20 guineas, the top price; Lord Northbourne's consignment numbered 12, and averaged £6 9s. 6d.; Lieut.-Colonel W. W. Hammond's consignment of 16 averaging £6 8s. 7d.; Mr. F. E. Speed's consignment numbered 10, and averaged £13 8s. 9d., the top price ram of this lot realised 42 guineas to Earl Cadogan. Lord Northbourne's agent was the runner-up. This was the top price in the sale. The Duke of Richmond's 13 rams sold averaged £13 7s. 4d., 30 guineas, the top price, being paid by the Hon. W. F. D. Smith, Mr. J. Langmead paying 27 guineas for another, and Mr. Bailey 20 guineas for another, others realising up to 16 guineas; Mr. Tompkins realised an average of £14 0s. 6d. for 7, his top price being 25 guineas given by Mr. Stone; Mr. A. Heasman's 14 averaged £7 10s., Mr. Robertson taking two at 15 guineas and 13 guineas, whilst Sir Walpole Greenwell's agent hired one at 11½ guineas; 5 from Mr. Cazalet's averaged £15 4s. 6d., Mr. A. C. Hall paying 20 guineas, and Mr. G. Bailey 16½ guineas and 13½ guineas. Earl Cadogan sold for an average of 7, £8 5s. (top price 16½ guineas to Mr. Fi zwalter Plumptre) .

The Duke of Devonshire's 12 made the highest average of the sale, £16 0s. 3d. The top-priced ram was 25 guineas, at which the Duke of Richmond's agent hired a remarkably fine sheep. The Hon. W. F. D. Smith gave 24 guineas and the Earl of Bathurst 22 guineas, others making 17½ guineas, 16 guineas, and 14 guineas. Ten of Mr. J. Colman's averaged £13 2s. 6d., the top price being 24 guineas, paid by Colonel Hammond. Mr. Robinson gave 18 guineas, and Lord Northbourne 17 and 15 guineas for 2; the Exors. of Colonel McCalmont averaged £14 0s 10d. for 4 (17 guineas top price); Sir J. Werner's average was £13 19s. 3d. for 5, the Duke of Richmond taking the top-priced one at 15 guineas; whilst the Duke of Northumberland averaged £11 2s. 7d. for 5, Sir Walpole Greenwell and Sir A. Fletcher each paying 15 guineas.

The ram lamb sale emphatically showed the needless number of inferior rams sent to the sale. For the best the demand has never been better, but those of lower grade either sold at poor prices or were sent back home, 133 were disposed of at an average of £6 9s 7d. The top priced lot was 11 from Col. Hammond's, which averaged £15 12s. 1d, the Duke of Devonshire buying at 28 guineas, Earl Manvers at 26 guineas, the Duke of Northumberland at 20 guineas, Mr. Williams at 16½ guineas, Col. Colin Campbell at 16 guineas and at 13½ guineas.

The Duke of Devonshire's consignment averaged £11 6s. 9d. for 5, Mr. Robinson paying 17½ guineas and Mr. Locke 11 guineas. Sir T. V. S. Gooch's consignment was in great request, the 11 rams averaging £10 19s. 6d., 30 guineas to the Duke of Devonshire was the best price, Mr. Carter paying 16½ guineas, Mr. Reddaway 11½ guineas, and Mr. T. S. Monckton 10 guineas. Mr. H F. Jennings averaged £10 12s. 6d. for 8, Sir J. Werner paying 27 guineas and Mr. T. F. Halsey 13 guineas for the 2 best.

Mr. J. Tompkins averaged £10 7s. 10d. for 10, top price 15 guineas, the remainder of the consignors of ram lambs realising the following averages:—Mr. E. Henty (8), £3 12s. 10d.; Hon. E. W. B. Portman (6), £3 8s 3d.; Mr. Sawtell (7), £3 10s. 4d.; Mr. G. Locke (4), £3 10s. 10d.; Mr. J. Reddaway (5), £2 18s. 9d.; Mr. A. C. Harris (6), £3 1s. 3d.; Mr. E. R. Fisher Rowe (5), £2 16s. 1d.; Mr. T. Dare (14), £2 5s.; Mr. F. Stanford (22), £5 7s. 10d.; Mr. W. F. Monckton (7), £3 6s.; and Mr. G. Peel (4), £3 13s. 6d.

Cirencester.

Cirencester August sheep and ram fair was held on Tuesday in unfavourable weather, heavy rain somewhat interfering with the business. The several auctioneers had about their average consignments of Oxford Down and Cotswold rams and ram lambs and these sold at fairly satisfactory prices. The Oxfords met a good demand, there being several fresh breeders in the district, and some of the Cotswolds sold well, though for others there was no demand.

Mr. A. F. Hobbs submitted to auction sixty Oxford Down shearling rams from the well-known flock of Mr. J. T. Hobbs, of Maisey Hampton. The sheep were of the type and character for which the flock has long been noted, and were thought to be not only well up to the average of past years, but quite one of the best lots Mr. Hobbs has offered. The demand was good throughout, and although there was no sensational prices realised, or any purchases for export, the trade ruled consistent from start to finish, fifty-six out of the sixty were sold at the satisfactory average of £14 1s 7½d. as compared with £16 17s. 9d. last year, £13 7s. 9d in 1905, and £12 12s. 9d. in 1904. The chief prices and purchasers were 43 guineas, Mr. A. S. Elliott, Gabshells; 31 guineas, Messrs. R. W. Hobbs and Sons, Kelmscott; 30 guineas, Mr. H. Overman, Norfolk, and Mr. J. P. Case, Binham Abbey; 25 guineas, Mr. Overman; and 21 guineas, Mr. Smith, Scrubditch, and Mr. Oswald, Durham.

Mr. A. F. Hobbs also sold Oxfordshire Down rams for Mr. W. Arkell, of Kempsford, at an average of £5 12s., and also for Mr. W. T. Stevens, of Ranbury, Fairford, at a like figure. He likewise sold fifteen Oxford Down ram lambs for Viscount St. Aldwyn from the Williamstrip Home Farm, and these were readily cleared at an average of £8 11s., Mr. W. Barton, of Coln St. Aldwyns, buying at 20 guineas; Mr. Bruce Swanwick, of Coates, at 10 guineas; and others up to 9 guineas.

Mr. Taylor conducted a very successful sale of thirty Oxford Down shearling rams from Mr. James Horlick's Cowley Manor flock, which has this year added to its already rising reputation in the showyard. The sheep were of great size and substance, as well as of true Oxford Down character. One of the rams was sold to Mr. Smith, of Worcester, for South America, at 50 guineas. Another went at 27 guineas to Mr. W. T. Stevens, Banbury, one to Mr. Overman, Norfolk, at 25 guineas, whilst others realised up to 17 guineas, and the satisfactory average of £13 15s. 8d. was realised for twenty-six.

Mr. Taylor also had consignments of Cotswolds, these including some from Mr. W. Houlton, of Broadfield, who had had such a brisk private demand for his Cotswold shearling rams for export that he had only six to place under Mr. Taylor's hammer, but these were quite up to the old Broadfield standard, and averaged £16 5s. 6d. each, Mr. Russell Swanwick, R A. College Farm, Cirencester, paying 22 guineas, Mr. Wakefield, Signet Hill, 25 guineas, and others up to 9 guineas. Messrs. Maddy and Newman, of Cold Aston, brought out 10 good Cotswold shearlings, seven of these sold at an average of £9 4s. 6d., top price 17 guineas.

Diss.

At a sale of ewes, lambs, and rams held at Diss on Thursday the catalogue comprised 1,220 Black-faced and Suffolk ewes, 600 first-cross and half-bred ewes, 420 Black-faced and half-bred lambs, 73 Cotswold rams, 5 Lincoln rams, 16 Black-faced rams, 13 Oxford Down rams, and 53 first-cross rams. There was a large company present, and bidding throughout was spirited, the average for the rams being above 25s. per head higher than at the previous year's sale, while the prices for ewes maintained the high rates prevailing this season.

Dorchester.

Dorchester (Dorset) August Sheep Fair took place on Tuesday when a large number of Dorset horn and Dorset Down Sheep were brought under the hammer by the farm auctioneers. The company of buyers was very strong and trade brisk throughout, ruling fully 2s. per head beyond prices of the previous sale in July last, and even more in many instances. The following are the actual prices:—Draft Dorset horn ewes, 47s. to 57s. 6d.; Dorset horn wether sheep, 48s. to 52s. 6d.; Dorset horn ewe lambs, 32s. to 41s. 6d.; Dorset flock sheep, 63s.; Dorset wether lambs, 27s to 37s. 6d.; draft Dorset Down ewes, 42s 6d. to 51s.; wethers, 45s. to 47s.; wether lambs, 27s to 40s.; couples, 61s. to 73s. The general run of prices for rams and ram lambs was up to 10 guineas, but a shearling from Mr. H. Duke's Blandon flock made 20 guineas, and a ram lamb 13 guineas.

Ipswich

Some capital prices for rams were obtained at the sale of registered Suffolk sheep held at Ipswich on the 1st inst. The top price was 62 guineas (as against 41 guineas last year) paid by Mr. D. Abbott Green, for a ram lamb from the flock of Mr. Herbert Smith, who won the Gippeswyck Challenge Plate of 20 guineas, and a prize of £5, offered by Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons for the best group of five Suffolk ram lambs, bred by the exhibitor. The ram which sold at the price mentioned was by Grange Earl 14th, and was first prize at the Royal and Norfolk Shows, and third prize at the Suffolk Show. Another ram lamb of Mr. Herbert Smith's fetched 60 guineas. This was by Grange Persimmon, also a first prize winner at the Royal and Norfolk Shows; three others made 36 guineas, 29 guineas, and 26 guineas. Mr. S. R. Sherwood's consignment included, as usual, a choice lot, Mr. C. S. Wentworth Reeve taking one by Marksman at 51 guineas. Mr. J. W. Eagle, generally a large consignor to this sale, had thirty-nine ram lambs. One, by Walton Burton 2nd, was secured by Sir Walter Greene, Bart., at 30 guineas, and others fetched 28 guineas, 21 guineas, 19 guineas, 18 guineas, and 16 guineas. Mr. D Abbott Green had twenty-six, and they made the highest average, going at 40 guineas, and others 39 guineas, 37 guineas, 30 guineas, 27 guineas, and 26 guineas (two); the 40 guineas lot was by Grange Persimmon 9th. Amongst Mr. John R. Keeble's consignment was a ram lamb by Brantham Clarion, which fetched 31 guineas; Mr. Russell Walker, Marlesford, bought one by Bentley Standard at 25 guineas, and others went at 23 guineas and 21 guineas. Mr. Thomas Goodchild, Great Yeldham Hall, entered eleven ram lambs, one being secured for Scotland at 40 guineas, another by Fingringhoe Grange 1st made 30 guineas, and others went at 21 guineas, 18 guineas, and 16 guineas. Mr. Alfred J. Smith sent half a score untried shearling rams, and they made up to 17 guineas.

The averages and highest prices of the principal flocks were as follows:—

	Rams.	Average.	Highest Price.	Last Year's Average.
		£ s. d.	£	£ s. d.
D A. Green	21	22 7 0	40	18 8 8
H E. Smith	35	20 16 6	62	16 6 9
T. Goodchild	11	19 13 8	40	11 18 0
S. R. Sherwood	26	15 15 6	51	17 9 7
J. R. Keeble	19	14 5 0	31	10 8 10
J. W. Eagle	39	12 3 8	30	10 14 6
C. C. Smith	8	11 13 7	16	12 0 0
A. H. Stanford	9	11 0 6	19	15 17 4

Messrs. Treadwell's Oxford Downs.

Messrs. J. and S. Treadwell's fiftieth annual sale of Oxford Down rams took place at Upper Winchendon on Wednesday in the presence of a large and representative company of Oxford Down breeders. Before the sale commenced Mr. John Treadwell was presented on behalf of the Oxford Down Breeders' Association with a handsome silver rose bowl, vases, and candlesticks as a token of their appreciation of his efforts in improving and popularising the Oxford Down breed during the past fifty years. The sale was most successful, the first twenty sheep offered making an average of £38 10s. 3d. each, whilst the average for the fifty-nine offered worked out at the good figure of £22 17s., a sum which has only been exceeded on two occasions at these sales. The highest price of the day was 150 guineas paid by Mr. J. T Hobbs of Maisey Hampton, the next highest being 75 guineas given by Mr. Moore, of Bourton-on-the Water. Mr. J. C. Eady, of Irchester, also purchased a ram for 60 guineas, the representative of Mr. A. J. Balfour bought one for 40 guineas, and Mr. Sims (for Miss Alice de Rothschild) one for 41 guineas.

Mr. Cole's Hampshire Downs.

As usual the annual sale and letting of ram lambs from Mr. Cary Coles' Winterbourne Stoke flock of Hampshire Downs attracted a large company of breeders, and some good prices were recorded. Business commenced with the letting of eight lambs, at an average of £30 4s., No. 8 falling to Mr. Notley at 66 guineas, No. 1 to Mr. Philippi at 28 guineas, No. 5 to Mr. W. C. Young at 28 guineas, No. 4 to Mr. J. Goldsmith at 24 guineas, No. 2 to Mr. C. Bugg at 22 guineas, No. 7 to Lord Rothschild at 22 guineas, Sir G. Judd and Mr. T. N. Coles also hiring at 20 guineas. The selling lambs ranged from 70 guineas to 5 guineas, Mr. Irons (for the Hon. D. P. Bouverie) paying the highest figure, whilst the other chief buyers were Mr. Goldsmith at 32 guineas, Mr. E. A. Edney at 32 guineas, Mr. Hitchings at 23 guineas, Mr. Scott Murray at 20 guineas, Lord Wolverton at 21 guineas, Mr. Molyneux (for Mr. W. H. Myers) at 20 guineas and 18 guineas, Mr. Crosland (for Sir A. Henderson) at 15 guineas, Mr. Brock (for Mr. Darling) at 16 guineas, and Mr. House at 17 guineas; others made up to 15 guineas, the average of 74 lambs let and sold being £14 15s.

South Devon Flock Book Association's Show and Sale.

The fourth annual show and sale of registered lambs under the South Devon Flock Book Association took place at Totnes on the 1st inst., when the rams penned were a distinct advance upon last year as regards quality. The following special summary of the whole of the consignments offered has been prepared, and from it we find that 169 rams realised the sum of £1,881 16s., giving an average of £11 2s. 8d., as against an average of £9 14s. 11d. for 216 head at the corresponding sale in the previous year:—

Consignor.	No. sold.	Top price.	Aggregate.	Average
	—	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
J. Turpin	9	36 15 0	151 14 6	16 17 0
E. Cornish	5	25 4 0	69 6 0	13 17 2
E. Stooke	10	31 10 0	133 17 6	13 10 9
H. Sobey	5	26 15 6	67 4 0	13 8 9
P. G. Brown	2	18 17 6	26 15 6	13 7 9
F. H. Hoskin	8	21 10 6	105 0 0	13 2 6
J. Stooke	8	21 0 0	102 18 0	12 17 3
R. B Trant	9	31 0 0	112 7 0	12 9 8
E B. Luscombe	8	22 11 6	97 13 0	12 2 10
J. S. Hallett	15	17 6 6	177 9 0	11 16 7
H. Fairweather	9	17 17 0	106 1 0	11 15 8
W. F. Sobey	9	16 16 6	104 9 6	11 12 2
F. S. Walter Symons	1	10 10 0	10 10 0	10 10 0
J. H. Cornish	9	17 6 6	92 8 0	10 4 9
T. Maye	5	18 7 6	48 6 0	9 13 2
T. W. Luscombe	7	13 2 6	66 13 6	9 10 6
J. Wood	5	9 19 6	45 3 0	9 0 7
J. Hext	4	9 19 6	35 14 0	8 18 6
J. Wintle and Son	8	18 18 0	76 2 6	8 10 3
A. E. Stratton	6	12 1 6	50 8 0	8 8 0
J. H. Roome	4	9 9 0	33 1 6	8 5 4
H. Evans	4	11 11 0	32 11 0	8 2 9
W. S Edwards	5	16 5 6	89 18 0	9 19 7
J. P. Matthews & Son	5	9 9 0	38 10 6	7 14 1
John Hoare	2	8 8 0	15 4 6	7 12 0
W. H. Pain	5	6 16 6	30 19 6	6 8 10
W. H. B. Ash	2	6 15 6	11 11 0	5 15 6
	169		1,881 16 0	11 2 8

The Stratford Tony Hampshire Downs.

The first sale of ram lambs from the Stratford Tony flock, formerly that of the late Mr. J. J. C. Waters, West Harnham, took place at the Market House Yard, Salisbury, on Tuesday, when forty lambs of excellent breeding and great size were submitted, thirty-nine of which found purchasers at 5 guineas to 16 guineas, the average being £6 11s.



Notes and Jottings.

AMONGST the sale reports of sheep referred to in this issue is the result of two combination sales, one held by the South Devon Flock Book Association at Totnes, the other held by Messrs. C. Stride and Son, at Chichester, at both of which there were expressions of regret heard by some senders at the prices realised by their own sheep.

THIS is only natural, for one is very liable to consider his own sheep so much better than those of other people; but the test of the value of sheep cannot be better made than by the actual result secured at the sale.

FOR instance, if one refers to the detailed statement of the averages realised at the South Devon Flock Association's sale, there is abundant evidence to show that all the better rams were eagerly competed for.

A REFERENCE to the result of the same sale twelve months previously shows that the same result took place, and a similar remark is equally applicable to Messrs. Stride's sale, which, although held by this progressive firm of auctioneers, is to all intents and purposes of the same character as the combination sale held by the society mentioned above, because both at this sale and at Totnes sale the number of flocks represented was sufficiently large to enable those who were desirous to purchase rams to compare the consignments one with another.

IT is in this particular that breeders have so great advantage in purchasing at a combination sale as compared with sales held at home, or those held at which only a few flocks are represented. At these larger sales breeders are enabled to judge the value of the different flocks by the evenness and uniformity of the entries made by such flocks.

IT was one of the most striking features in connection with both of the sales to which reference is made to watch how keenly the purchasers discriminated between those consignments which were uniform and even in type and character and those that were not so. The true test of the value of any flock, no matter its breed, as a source from which to purchase rams for stud purposes, is that its produce should show uniform type and character.

A MATTER that deeply affects the welfare of registered flockmasters was discussed at the council meeting of the Smithfield Club. It was a resolution sent up by the National Sheep Breeders' Association asking that the club should make it a condition of entry that sheep competing for its prizes should be entered or eligible for entry in the Flock Book of the breed, the prizes for which they were competing.

THE discussion that took place was interesting, particularly because it disclosed that there were some members of the council who as yet failed to realise that the time was coming when every breed of cattle or sheep will claim that none other than those which are entered in the respective Flock and Herd Books, shall compete for prizes offered to the breeds represented by such Herd and Flock Books.

IT is all very well for the club to point out that up to the present no conditions of this kind have been made, but a reference to the records of Smithfield Club shows that since it was first instituted all manner of alterations have been made in respect to the conditions of competition, and it is further most singular that the only classes to which the club have yet placed restrictions as to breeding are those which are called cross-bred classes.

IF it be necessary and advisable, and we agree that it is advisable for the breeding of cross-bred animals to be made a condition of entry for such animals, it surely is equally necessary in the case of pure-bred animals.

IT may be an extreme view, but so far as we are advised there is at the present time no condition whatever to prevent any exhibitor, if he so desires, to enter a pen of sheep in any of the

AUCTION SALES.

Auctioneers will favour us by sending in their advertisements as early in the week as possible. | *Charges for announcements under this heading Six Shillings an inch.*

By Messrs. IRELAND.

Norwich, Norfolk.—Ireland's Norwich Hill Auction Mart (established 50 years). Every Saturday. Fat Bullocks and Sheep, Store Sheep. Special Spring and Autumn Store Cattle Sales.

MESSRS. IRELAND solicit consignments for these important weekly sales; best market value assured.

Cattle consigned to Ireland's, Norwich, will be properly fed and carefully attended to.

All cattle weighed upon entry to the sale ring if desired. Full particulars to be sent to—

IRELAND'S, Auctioneers.
Norwich, Norfolk.

By Messrs. JOHN THORNTON & CO.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

FRIDAY, AUGUST 23.—Mr. W. P. Hampton's entire SOUTHDOWN flock, at Langdon Abbey, Dover.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5.—The Duchess of Devonshire's choice selection of DEXTERS, at Compton Place, Eastbourne.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON & Co., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

By Messrs. W. & B. HOBBS.

KENT.
NEWINGREEN.
ANNUAL LAMB SALE.

MESSRS. W. &. B. HOBBS will hold the above Sale at the "Royal Oak" Hotel, Newingreen, close to Westenhanger Station, S.E. and C. Ry., where a good supply of trucks will be on hand, at a special reduced rate, on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14, 1907.

9,000
KENT and HALF-BRED SHEEP and LAMBS, including
5,680 KENT EWE and WETHER LAMBS,
3,186 HALF-BRED LAMBS,
84 EWES,
50 KENT EWE TEGS.

Sale to commence punctually at 10 o'clock.
Terms: Cash or Banker's reference required.
Luncheon provided.
Catalogues may be obtained at the Auction and Estate Offices, Ashford, Kent.

KENT.
ASHFORD.
ANNUAL LAMB SALE.

Close to the S.E. and C.R. trucking sidings, where a good supply of trucks will be on hand, and every convenience made for the quick removal of stock.

MESSRS. W. & B. HOBBS will hold the above sale in the Cattle Market Field on FRIDAY, AUGUST 16, 1907.

2,250
KENT and HALF-BRED SHEEP and LAMBS, including
400
Capital KENT EWE & WETHER LAMBS, for G. ASHLEY DODD, Esq.

Sale to commence punctually at 10.30 o'clock.
Terms: Cash or Banker's reference required.
Luncheon provided.
Catalogues from the Auction and Estate Offices, Ashford, Kent.

By Messrs. R. W. HOBBS & SONS.

OXFORD DOWNS.

SHEARLING RAMS or RAM LAMBS from the KELMSCOTT FLOCK will be SOLD by AUCTION at the undermentioned fairs:—

OXFORD, AUGUST 14.
CIRENCESTER, SEPTEMBER 2.
BURY ST. EDMUNDS, SEPTEMBER 3.
EDINBURGH, SEPTEMBER 12.
KELSO, SEPTEMBER 13.
NORTHAMPTON, SEPTEMBER 19.

YEARLING EWES FOR SALE AT HOME.

R. W. HOBBS & SONS.
Kelmscott, Lechlade.

By Mr. ARTHUR SAUL.

THE LINCOLNSHIRE CURLY COATED PIG BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION
Will hold SALES at BOSTON
On WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28, and WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1907, at 11 o'clock.
For particulars apply
ARTHUR SAUL, Bourne, Auctioneer.
C. E. WILLIAMS, Sleaford, Hon. Sec.

By Messrs. WATERS & RAWLENCE.

MONDAY, AUGUST 19, 1907.

AMPORT, HANTS.
About two and a half miles from Grateley Station and four from Andover.

MESSRS WATERS AND RAWLENCE are instructed by the Most Hon. the MARQUIS OF WINCHESTER to SELL by AUCTION, on the Premises, at Fox Farm, on MONDAY, AUGUST 19, 1907, the highly-bred Registered
HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAM BREEDING FLOCK,
entered in the Flock Book, Vols. 9 to 18, consisting of about
1,100 EWES, EWE and RAM LAMBS, viz:—

280 Two-teeth Ewes	120 Full-mouth Ewes
250 Four-teeth Ewes	250 Ewe Lambs
140 Six-teeth Ewes	50 Ram Lambs

In consequence of its having been decided at very short notice that the Amport Flock should be dispersed, the ewes will be sold in stock condition only, but it is well known that during recent years no expense has been spared in procuring the best and most highly-bred sires from the leading flocks of Hampshire Downs; this important and extensive sale should therefore command world-wide recognition.

On July 26th last, at Weyhill Fair, the Ram Lambs from Amport made the excellent average of £19 7s., one lamb making 200 gs., one 100 gs., and another 95 gs.

Luncheon at 12 30 o'clock and Sale after.

Conveyances will meet the trains at Grateley and Andover Stations to convey persons to the Sale at a charge of 2s. and 4s. respectively for the return journey.

Catalogues of Mr. W. J. ALLISON, Estate Office, Amport, Andover; of Messrs. RAWLENCE and SQUAREY, Land Agents, Salisbury; and the AUCTIONEERS, Canal, Salisbury.

By Messrs. W. DEW & SON.

NORTH WALES.

NEAR BANGOR.

PENRHYN CASTLE STABLES
AND
PENRHYN HOME FARM.

MESSRS. WM. DEW & SON have received instructions from the Right Honourable Lord Penrhyn to OFFER FOR SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION, as above, on TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, the 27th and 28th days of AUGUST, 1907, commencing each day at 11.30 a.m., a few Lots of Harness Bridles and other Horse Tackle,
HIGH-CLASS CARRIAGES,
YOUNG COLTS and FILLIES, by "King's Beadsman" and "Lord President,"
Over 30 WELSH MOUNTAIN PONIES,
The SHIRE STALLION "BURY GENERAL WHITE" (18,595),
THE ENTIRE HERD
of nearly
ONE HUNDRED SHEET-CATTLE,
consisting of
MILCH COWS and IN-CALF HEIFERS,
YOUNG HEIFERS,
HEIFER and BULL CALVES and FIVE BULLS,

all selected with great care and judgment as to evenness, fine quality, uniformity of colour, and other qualifications that go to make up a high-class Herd, and the Cattle offered for Sale are of very fine merit.

At the same time will be offered 30 Pure Bred Yearling Ewes, a few Ram Lambs, Poultry, &c.

The order of Sale will be as follows:—

On Tuesday, August 27, the Sale will commence at the Stables, and will comprise Bridles, Horse Tackle, Harness, Carriages, and Horses.

On Wednesday, August 28, the Sale will be at the Home Farm, and will comprise the Herd of Sheet-Cattle, Sheep, Poultry, &c.

Catalogues may be obtained upon application to the AUCTIONEERS, at their Offices, at Bangor and Llandudno.

classes for distinct breeds by simply saying on his entry form that this particular pen he is entering is of a particular breed.

IT is to be hoped that the National Sheep Breeders' Association will press their point with energy, because it is of the utmost importance that no sheep other than those properly bred should be shown in classes which are reserved for distinct breeds of sheep. This is particularly needed at the present time, when it is generally considered that all the principal breeds of sheep are represented by registered Flock Book Societies, and consequently any visitor, and there are many of them, from abroad and the Colonies that attend Smithfield Show should not by any chance find entered in these breed classes sheep other than those that are pure bred.

DOUBTLESS there are many who will say, "None will think of entering any other than pure bred sheep." A recent experience at Tunbridge Wells shows that sheep obviously not typical of their breed can be entered in classes such as those are at Smithfield, and it is to prevent sheep not of pure breeding being entered in classes obviously meant for pure bred sheep that the National Sheep Breeders Association have taken up this important question.

ONE cannot help referring to a remark of one member of the council, who is reported to have said: "As one exhibitor since 1870, he had found that the rules worked well, and he hoped the council would let well alone." This expression of opinion means, if it means anything, that the Smithfield Club rules of entry and competition have remained unaltered during that period and are to remain unaltered for all time—a fact that we well know cannot be, and one that the author of the quotation must know has never been, because since the date mentioned, 1870, enormous alterations have been made in connection with the conditions of entry and exhibition of sheep. New classes have been formed, old classes have been taken out, new breeds have been admitted into separate classification, and even the slaughter test classes have been added, so that it is very clearly apparent that the statement is not in accord with facts, has not been adhered to, and that his hope will not be followed, except the Club's council entirely alters its mode of procedure.

ANOTHER notice of motion was considered at this same council meeting—*i.e*, to consider whether or not the wether classes should be omitted. The decision arrived at was that the time had not yet come to adopt this resolution.

PROBABLY it would be more in accord with the present-day requirements if the wether classes were omitted, for as they are at the present day exhibited, it is evident that they are not forwarding the true object for which the Club's exhibition is supposed to be—*i.e*, to encourage the production of the cheapest and best meat for Smithfield Market. It would be a very good thing indeed if some means could be devised by which the excessive over-feeding of these wethers could be prevented, and that those of this age which were exhibited should be more typical of the class and character of meat that the real object of Smithfield Club is to encourage.

Shropshire Sheep for New York.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., of Shrewsbury, have just sold to Mr. Walter Jauncey, for Mrs. G. H. Lewis, of Geneva, New York, twenty-five beautiful Shropshire shearling ewes bred by Mr. C. H. Blatherwick, of the Beam House, Shrewsbury, served by Beam House Star 11966, by Sir Alfred 11902, dam by the 200-guinea Shropshire President 7726; Shrawardine Colonel 12459, by the Royal winner, Saturn 11242; Beam House Laddie 12259 by Sir Alfred, dam by Shropshire President; and Fiscal Policy by Sherlowe Lad 11270, dam by Montford Dreamer 7622; also a grand shearling ram bred by Mr. Alfred Tanner, of Shrawardine, by Sensational 11884, bred by Mr. W. Coxon, by Irish Guardian 11108, dam by the Royal winner Saturn 11242.

We understand Mrs. Lewis will stock up with 500 imported Shropshire ewes, and will devote the whole of her fine farm to sheep ranging, which is quite one of the most profitable branches of farming.

Mr. Jauncey is also taking out 100 head of Guernseys for Mr. Alfred G. Lewis, this being the largest shipment that has left the island, and consisting of many noted animals, including the young cow that made the largest three days' milk record of any cow in the island.

An interesting catalogue of bulbs, &c., for 1907 has just been issued by Messrs. Lillo and Ballantyne, the King's seedsmen, of Carlisle. It is freely illustrated and is well got up.

HORSES.

Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

Saturday Shows.

THE great falling-off in the entries in the light horse sections at the Yorkshire Show, which is undoubtedly due in a great measure to the fact that the show does not close till six o'clock on Saturday night, calls attention to the question of Saturday shows altogether. Big shows like the Royal, the Yorkshire, the Bath and West of England, and many others that could be mentioned, undoubtedly disarrange the traffic on the railways to a considerable extent, and when shows of this magnitude close on a Saturday it means that many of the exhibits are on the rails for hours—often, if they have a cross journey to take, not arriving at their destination until late on Sunday evening. Now the length of time passed in a horse box is very injurious to light horses especially, which are more liable to go wrong than any other class of stock owing to the artificial way in which they are treated. The expense, discomfort, and extra risk caused by holding these big shows on a Saturday combine to keep entries away, and it is very questionable whether any compensating good arises from an increased attendance on the weekly holiday. My experience is that the working population are very much people of habit, and I have known when a good race meeting would not take them out of their beaten track. Much less likely, then, is a horse show. The local show is quite another matter. That is the annual holiday, and is always looked forward to. Saturdays, I think, might well be left for these local shows, and I am quite sure that the larger societies would find themselves benefited if they kept clear of Saturdays.

The Benefit of Rest.

AN important lesson was taught at Malton and at Barnsley, but I do not suppose the lesson will be seriously laid to heart. I allude to the wonderful improvement made by Mr. Buttle's Kirkburn Toreador, who has been "laid by" for nearly two years. Though Kirkburn Toreador won prizes when he was a young horse, there were some things about him which the critics talked about. Mr. Buttle, instead of forcing him, laid him by, with the result we have seen. At Bansley on Thursday he made a magnificent show, and he looks as if he had still more improvement to make. He goes straight enough now, though when he won in Islington he threw his feet about a little. But this has gone, and there can be little doubt that if some horses that could be named had been rested in time they would have been much better horses than they are. For the course of training which a Hackney has to go through in getting ready for a great show is arduous indeed, and it is impossible always to keep a horse up to concert pitch.

Harness Horses at Shows.

IT is a curious thing that in these days of motor cars, when all the world and his wife motors or talks motoring, the harness classes at shows were never more popular. Indeed, the popularity of them increases day by day. We saw that at Olympia; we saw it every day at country shows and county shows; we saw it at the Agricultural Hall, which was literally packed on the days when the harness classes formed the principal items on the programme. Under such circumstances one would naturally think that the councils and managers of shows would be keen to avail themselves of the public taste, and that they would work the harness classes as a source of income for all they knew. That they do not do so is apparent to anyone who looks closely into prize schedules and catalogues.

Harness Classes Spectacular.

HARNESS classes are spectacular. They belong to the "attractive" side of a show programme, just as the jumping classes do. In a measure perhaps they may be regarded as breeders' classes, but primarily they are "attractions." Such being the case, one cannot but wonder that there should be age restrictions at a show like the Yorkshire, where, by the way, there are only three classes of horses in harness—viz., one for those exceeding 15 hands, one for those not exceeding 15 hands, and one for ponies. And in both the classes for single harness horses the age is restricted to six. Now, when one comes to think how few horses there are that make a great mark as show harness horses before they are six or by the time they are six, and how many good horses are kept from exhibiting by the rule I have referred to, one cannot but wonder that such a rule should be continued. Practically a class on those lines is a novice class. But though novice classes are well enough in their way, and may well be retained, yet if the harness classes are to be one of the great attractions of a show, if the most possible is to be made out of them, the fewer restrictions the better.

Trade in Harness Horses.

THAT good harness horses are good to sell and command as good prices as ever they did has been very evident from the great prices made during the summer. At Olympia £2,000 was given for a pair, and only the other day I heard a young harness horse set in price at 600 guineas, and make no doubt that he will soon bring it. And at Mr. Whitworth's sale last Wednesday the harness horses realised excellent prices. Eight of them ran into three figures, and Lady Seaton made the handsome price of 600 guineas, and was worth it, too. A black gelding, Blackberry by Polonius, was withdrawn at 190 guineas, and a young chestnut gelding by Polonius made the same price. Altogether sixteen of these harness horses were sold, and they realised a total of 1,959 guineas, or an average of a fraction over £128 10s. each.

THE fact that harness horses sell like this in spite of the fashionableness of motor cars, and that harness classes are amongst the most attractive features of a show, should cause prize-list committees to do all they can to vary their programme in the driving section.

THE LOOKER-ON.

Sale of Clydesdales and Hackneys.

The sale of pedigree Clydesdales, Hackneys, and Hackney ponies, the property of Dr. Macgill, at Newton-Stewart, attracted a large company of buyers, for the Challoch stud is known far and wide, many of the animals having achieved great success in the Scottish showyards. The stud was founded about fifteen years ago by Dr. Macgill, and both Clydesdales and Hackneys were extremely well bred, having some of the best blood of the day in their veins. The sale opened with Clydesdales, of which there were twelve catalogued. There were no sensational prices, but the sale on the whole was a good one. The top price was 200 guineas, given by Mr. John M'Cammon, Barnhills, Kirkcolm, for Dowry, a mare by Airies Prince out of Evelina. She was champion at Stranraer, Wigtown, Newton-Stewart, and a winner at Ayr and other places. For Baron Eva, a mare by Baron's Pride, and served by the Cawdor Cup champion Hiawatha Godolphin, Mr. Henry M'Fadzean, Stranraer, acting for Mr. William Hunter, Gartland Mains, Stranraer, gave 127½ guineas; Evelina, the dam of the 200-guinea mare Dowry, went for 80 guineas to Mr. M'Dowall, Wcodside, Wigtown, whilst Mr. W. Montgomery, Bank, secured the two-year-old colt Bold Baron by Baron's Pride out of Evelina at 75 guineas. The others made up to 70 guineas, and the average for the twelve Clydesdales was £73 2s.

The top price for Hackney brood mares was 78 guineas, given by Mr. Livingston, Gargavel, for Hollin Flame by Norbury Lightning, and winner of several leading honours. Mr. M'Bean, Ardmohr, paid 56 guineas for Hollin Flashlight, also by Norbury Lightning, a notable winner. The well-known Ladybird, which is 29 years old, went to Mr. H. Crawford, Castle-Douglas, for 10½ guineas. The eleven mares averaged £33 5s. 3d., and eight foals an average of £22 14s.

There was a good lot of pony brood mares and foals. Mr. H. Caldwell, Culhorn Parks, Stranraer, paid 44 guineas for a filly, Hollin Last Rose, by Hollin Cæsar, and also 31 guineas for a chesnut filly foal by Hollin Flashlight. The harness horses, colts, and fillies made better prices. Eighty guineas was given by Mr. Gemmell, Ayr, for a promising gelding by Norbury Lightning, whilst Mr. M'Bean gave 60 guineas for Hollin Orchid, a filly by Lincoln Baronet. The total of the sale was £2,422 18s. 6d.

Sale of Walton Hall Hackneys.

The sale of Sir Gilbert Greenall's pedigree Hackneys and Hackney pony mares and foals, young stock, harness mares, &c., at Walton Hall, Warrington, on Wednesday, attracted a large company of buyers and breeders who came from all parts of the country, for the extraordinary success of the show has made it well-known everywhere.

The catalogue comprised a number of especially good brood mares, many of them winners at London and other principal shows whilst many had bred valuable stock, and others were from celebrated families that have done so. The progeny at foot were all well bred, and the young

mares equally valuable to break or put to the stud. With such good animals to bid for, trade was brisk, and an average of £45 13s. per head was obtained for fifty-two animals.

The best prize realised was 195 guineas, which sum Mr. Benson, of Upper Gatton Park, Surrey, gave for Rosarene, by Rosador—Elegance, the London champion in 1901 and 1902. Golden Ethel, by Goldfinder VI.—Lady Ethel, one of the best pony brood mares in England, realised 155 guineas, the purchaser being Mr. M'Meeken, Glasgow, whilst Tissington Golden Halo was run up to 105 guineas before being knocked down to Mr. Harrop, of Oldham. A list of the chief sales is appended:—

		gs.
Hackney Brood Mares and Foals.		
Rosarene	Mr Benson	195
Dorothy Burton	Mr McMeeken	95
Terrington Wilwa	Mr Makeague	44
Terrington Starlight	Mr McMeeken	40
Filly foal	Mr Macanley	54
Pony Brood Mares and Foals.		
Golden Ethel	Mr McMeeken	155
Colt	Mr Gemmell	40
Tissington Joan Crompton	Mr John Jones	70
Tissington Gold Braid	Mr Whittaker	39
Tissington Golden Halo	Mr Harold	105
Gold, foal	Mr Le Marchant	70
Tissington Merrielees	Mr A Smith	60
Tissington Ogee	Mr Rogers	45
Harness Mares.		
Terrington Modist	Mr Salmon	68
Bold Clara	Mr Ainsworth	95
Three-Year Old Fillies.		
Lakes Kate	Mr Kennedy	43
Terrington Britannia	Mr Jones	38
Two-Year-Old Fillies.		
Tissington Gold Mint	Mr Williams	33
Tissington Halcyon	Mr Smethurst	34

Mr. Bycroft, Bingley, gave 300 guineas for the brood mare Commodity, one of the best of Ganymede's stock; Mr. Green, Bury, paid 190 guineas for a Polonious gelding, and the following list of the chief sales will show seven others sold at three-figure prices:—

		Gs.
Yearlings.		
Bay colt by Edemynag	Mr Wilson	100
Bay filly by Polonius	Mr Hopkinson	42
Chesnut filly by Garton Duke of Connaught	Dr Bowie	44
Bay filly by Polonius	Mr Wheelwright	44
Chesnut colt by Polonius	Mr R Edmund	50
Two-Year-Olds.		
Ch roan filly by Polonius	Dr Bowie	48
Ch filly by Polonius	Mr Wilson	62
Three-Year-Olds.		
Ch gelding by Polonius	Mr Beall	46
Ch filly by Polonius	Mr Green	46
Ch filly by Polonius	Mr D Carr	115
Br gelding by Polonius	Mr Harrison	57
Bay gelding by Edemynag	Mr Harrison	56
Saddle and Harness Horses.		
Ch gelding by Liberty	Mr Cullingworth	67
Bay gelding by Liberty	Mr Bridge	67
Ch gelding by Polonius	Mr Edmunds	103
Bay gelding by Polonius	Mr. Brocklebank	53
Ch gelding by Royal Denmark	Mr Edmunds	135
Ch gelding by Polonius	Mr J Scott	65
Ch gelding by Polonius	Mr Holdsworth	76
Bay mare by Aristocrat	Mr Cullingworth	64
Ch gelding, Old Beans, by Polonius	Mr F Ellis	100
Ch gelding by Langton	Mr H White	150
Ch gelding by Polonius	Mr Holdsworth	76
Ch gelding by Polonius	Mr Green	190
Br gelding by Edemynag	Mr D Carr	100
Ch gelding by Incandescent	Mr Cullingworth	70
Bay mare Lady Seaton by Edemynag	Mr D Carr	600
Stallions.		
Storekeeper	Mr Wheelwright	86
Bally Clare	Mr Holdsworth	68
Brood Mares and Foals.		
Commodity by Ganymede	Mr Rycroft	100
Harden Solace by Christoper North	Mr Henrickson	72



Notes and Jottings.

THE season still continues very showery, with more or less severely cold nights, and the days are rapidly shortening. Where there is a large head of stock to be carried forward it will be wise to make arrangements for wintering the same. There is an abundance of hay in practically every part of the country, but the quality in the majority of instances will be more than inferior. Many thousands of tons will be worse than useless if used in the ordinary way in which hay is generally used. Preparation should therefore be made for chopping this up into chaff, and for seasoning it with some cheap ingredients, such as molasses, malt combs, &c.

THERE is every prospect of an abundant supply of swedes in many parts of the country upon the arable and mixed farms, and these, provided we escape mildew in September, ought to be of good quality. Where this is the case little more is needed, as the chaffed hay mixed with the pulped swede is relished by most cattle and enables them to keep in thriving condition throughout the winter. In the Midland and Southern Counties the comparatively dry seasons through which we have been passing of late years caused the swede to lose favour with many farmers, but in years like the present, when it is well grown and succulent, there are few other things to equal it.

THE present month is always somewhat plentiful of butter tests and milking trials, and last week the results of several important tests were recorded. Amongst these was that of the Tunbridge Wells Agricultural Society, where there are butter-test prizes open to any cows of any breed or cross, the awards being allocated according to the usual scale of points. Though all the chief honours were accorded to the Jersey breed, still Shorthorns gave an excellent account of themselves, Messrs. Green Bros.' Merry Girl produced 2 lb. 6¾ oz. of butter in twenty-four hours from 53 lb. 12 oz. of milk, giving an excellent ratio.



Our illustration above is of the Shorthorn Bull, Pride of Tees, winner of First Prize for Shorthorn Bulls over one and not exceeding two years old at the Yorkshire Show at Barnsley last week. It was exhibited by Mr. G. Harrison, Gainford Hall, Darlington, but was bred by Mr. C. H. Joliffe, Newbus Grange, Darlington, its sire being Primrose Pride and its dam Lady Augusta 2nd.

Mr. R. Whitworth's Hackneys.

There was a large and representative gathering of Hackney breeders at the sale of pedigree Yorkshire Hackneys belonging to Mr. R. Whitworth, at the Londesborough Stud, Market Weighton, on Tuesday, and some good prices were realised. Mr. Whitworth's stud is well known in all parts of the country for its high standard of excellence, and thus the opportunity to obtain some of his choice animals was eagerly taken by breeders in all parts. Fifty lots were disposed of, and included many animals either sired by or in foal to the champion Polonious, whose progeny won thirty-seven honours at the recent International Show at Olympia.

There was keen competition at the sale, and the good average of over £80 10s. was obtained for the fifty lots. The highest price was 600 guineas, given by Mr. David Carr, Wembley, for the four-year-old show mare Lady Seaton by Edemquay.

At a recent meeting of the Northumberland County Council a report was adopted relative to the question of bovine tuberculosis, asking the County Councils Association to apply to the Board of Agriculture for an order for the appointment of a veterinary inspector to inspect cows suspected of the disease. The report stated that the cost entailed would probably not be great, and the inspection would not only contribute to the maintenance of the public health, but would prevent the ruination of the trade in milk supply carried on in the county.

BATTLE'S
LIQUID, POWDER & PASTE.
SHEEP DIPS
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GREASE IN HORSES.



T. MOTT'S Powder Lotion will cure Grease of all descriptions, 4 dozen 47s., 1 dozen 12s., sample pkts. 1s. 3d. Mott's Condition Powder, 21s. 11d. per case. Sample tins, 5s., sent carriage paid.

T. MOTT, Littleport, Ely, CAMBS.

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7 x 5,	£3 10 0
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Works and Stock of Timber cover six acres.

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BY APPOINTMENT TO H.M. THE KING

ANOTHER TRIUMPH
ROYAL SHOW
LINCOLN, 1907

EVERY SHEEP
In the following Classes, *viz:*

BLACKFACED MOUNTAIN
BORDER LEICESTER
CHEVIOT
COTSWOLD
DARTMOOR
DEVON
EXMOOR
HAMPSHIRE DOWN
HERDWICK
KERRY HILL
LONK
OXFORD DOWN
RYELAND
SHROPSHIRE
SOMERSET & DORSET
SOUTH DOWN
SUFFOLK
SOUTH DEVON
WELSH MOUNTAIN
WENSLEYDALE

WAS DIPPED IN
COOPER'S DIP

This, however, was well beaten by Mr. C. R. W. Adeane's Babraham Buttercup, which from a milk yield of 48 lb. 10 oz. raised 2 lb. 9¼ oz. of butter giving a ratio of 1 lb. butter to 18·86 of milk.

RECORDS of this kind go a long way towards proving the value of the Shorthorn dairy cow, and unmistakably mark this breed as the coming dairy cow. To produce milk in such quantity and of such richness is seldom known, and when we add to this the value of these cows for the purposes of making beef and reproducing themselves for either beef or milk purposes, the breed is placed out of danger from any rival. The Jerseys that won the prizes in the above test gained more points for lactation, which is an excellent theory to work upon, always provided that the animal is in breeding condition. It is to be feared these animals that have been so long in milk are often hopeless breeders, and by having nothing else to support, are able to devote all their energies to the production of milk.

I HAVE before me the records of some American Jersey tests under the auspices of the American Jersey Cattle Club; performances recorded entitle the cows to entry in the register of merit. Up to May 1, 150 fat tests for one year had been reported, and eighteen confirmed butter tests for seven days are on record. The majority of the information is given in pounds of milk and pounds of butter fat, not butter actually churned. Cows two years and under two and a half years old average 6,517 lb. of milk, average age two years three months, and days in milk 353; this is running very nearly to the full year Only twelve days short, such records can scarcely be looked upon as of an average order, the average age being two years three months, and the average days in milk only twelve short of the year. These heifers must have begun their performance at an average of some fifteen months old, this is certainly early maturity with a vengeance.

COWS two and a half and under three years gave an average of 7,138 lb. of milk, with an average of 341 days in milk; cows three years and under three and a half years gave some 400 lb. more than the previous age, the period of lactation being four days more. Between three and a-half and under four years there was a slight decrease in the quantity of milk, though the period of lactation ran to 350 days. The lower average of this age substantiates the old theory that the four-year-old age is the worst for milking purposes. As the cows increased in years the average weight of milk increased, those four and a-half years old and under five averaging 8,390 lb., with a period of 338 days in-milk, whilst five years old and over the average weight of milk was 9,228 lb., and the number of days in-milk 355, the average age of the latter cows being six years and nine months.

THE extensive milking trials and butter tests at the Tring Show have been carried out, but the results were not to hand at the time of writing. The number of animals tested appears to have been greater than ever, thus proving how widely interest in the production of milk is extending. So far as present appearances go, this increased appreciation of milk production is likely to continue in spite of the many objections that our daily papers are raising against the sanitary conditions prevailing in many of our farmsteads, as well as against the health of the cattle from which the milk is produced. It is an indisputable fact that the health of our British cattle throughout the length and breadth of the land has not been so satisfactory at any period of their history.

AN American visitor to the Highland Show this year raises a well-called-for complaint against the present standard of the Ayrshire breed of cattle. After visiting the Highland Show a note was made in these columns to the effect that the character of the Ayrshire was vastly altered from what the general stock presented after the middle of the last century. The present day

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To H.M. The King.

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PER DOZ 30/- BOTTLES COSTS SIXPENCE A DOSE



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B. C. Tipper & Son Chemical Works Birmingham

A SPICE THAT WILL SAVE YOUR DAMAGED HAY.

What in many parts of the country promised to be a record yield, has been endangered as to quality, if not also quantity, by the recent excessive rainfall.

That considerable damage has been done in many districts is already known by the orders which for several days past have been reaching the makers of "PHŒNIX" HAY SPICE, these being accompanied in most instances by an urgent appeal for quick despatch.

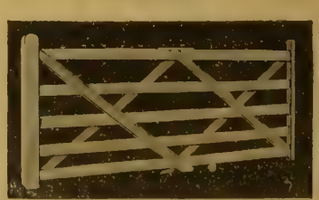
This Spice supplies the valuable aromatic flavouring principle of "prime" Hay, and when sown in the ricks imparts a much stronger fragrance, and a specially powerful, attractive, aromatic flavour. Besides this, it increases the value of all Hay, both for feeding and sale, quite 20s. per ton. It gives a pleasant aroma, and is unequalled as a condiment for damaged or inferior feeding stuff. It makes damaged Hay tempting and palatable, more digestible, and makes all animals eat it with a greater relish, and thrive faster on it. It also removes mustiness and all defects, and imparts a good tempting flavour and fragrant smell to "weathered" Hay (even when black and seemingly worthless), and makes cattle eat it as well as the best, and thrive on it admirably.

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Ayrshire shows more quality and refinement, but that there is any increase in the milk yield there is great doubt, and the shape of the udder has been cultivated at the expense of the teats, which, from being of sufficient size to enable the milking to be done comfortably as was the case forty years ago, have now become so short and tiny that a great deal of language that is not pleasant to hear often evaporates from the milker. Surely it is not wise to continue producing udders upon such lines.

Sale of Dexter Cattle at Wyndthorpe, Doncaster.

Owing to Mr. G. J. B. Chetwynd giving up exhibiting Dexter cattle from his choice herd at Wyndthorpe, the entire stock, excepting this season's calves, were sold by auction on Wednesday last. The cattle were a good even lot, many of them having won prizes at the leading shows. Captain Laycock secured six of the best animals to start a herd at Wiseton, Nottinghamshire, among them being Don Gladiola, winner of third prize at the R.A.S.E. Show, Lincoln, this year. She went at 34 guineas. Another good purchase made by him was Globba at 29 guineas, a three-year old that had not been exhibited. Mr. G. H. Davy also made a good selection to take to Skellow, and obtained Don Godoya at 31 guineas. The Hon. Miss Rose Hubbard was fortunate in getting Don Galeandra at 26 guineas, this cow having been awarded third prize in the milking trials at Lincoln, her average daily yeild being 15·35 lb. per day. Among other purchasers might be mentioned Mr. B. de Bertadano, Mr. G. H. Peake, and Mr. C. E. Rhodes, who bought Garrya, a four-year-old, at 30 guineas. The bulls met a slow trade, the highest price being 18 guineas, paid by Mr. Davy for Don Galeopsis, winner of second prize at Maidenhead this year. An all-round average of £17 8s. 1d. was obtained for the forty-two head passed through the ring, which was considered satisfactory.

Shorthorn Society.

At the last meeting of the Shorthorn Society a letter was read from Lord Polwarth intimating that the state of his health did not permit of his accepting the seat on the council to which he had been recently elected by the members. The chairman expressed his regret, which he felt the council would share, in Lord Polwarth's resignation, and it was resolved to fill up the vacancy at the next meeting.

Lord Moreton reported that the Editing Committee had examined the list of pedigree exportation certificates issued by the secretary since the last meeting of the committee—viz., for Australia, 1; Canada, 3; New Zealand, 1; South Africa, 5; South America, 419; total, 429.

The committee recommended the registration of the following names:—

Registered Name.	Owner.
Bannister.	A. A. Gatty.
Brandsby.	J. M. Strickland.

A number of new and other pedigrees, with the evidence in support of their correctness, had been considered by the committee, some of which had been accepted for entry in the Herd Book, and others referred back for further information.

The committee recommended that for the ensuing year the Editing Committee consist of the following members:—Lord Moreton, chairman; Lord Brougham and Vaux, Mr. W. T. Garne, Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote, the Earl of Northbrook, Lord Rathdonnell, Mr. E. W. Stanyforth, and Mr. C. H. G. Stirling.

This report was adopted.

In compliance with the articles of association, Lord Middleton was, on the motion of Sir Nigel Kingscote, seconded by Mr. R. Stratton, elected President of the Society for the ensuing year; and on the motion of Mr. R. Stratton, seconded by Sir Nigel Kingscote, Mr. Joseph Harris was elected Vice-President of the Society for the same period.

The suggestion made by Mr. John Thornton at the annual meeting of the society, viz:—"That at the Royal Agricultural Society's show next year the Group Class should be for a 'bull and his offspring,' instead of for 'bull and his male offspring,' as at present, with the view of increasing the interest in the competition," was referred to the General Purposes Committee for consideration when the prize scheme for 1908 is settled.

Lord Moreton gave notice that at the next meeting of the council he would call attention to the use by owners of their registered prefix and affix in the naming of animals purchased by them.

The council then adjourned over the autumn recess until November 5.

Sussex Herd Book Society.

The report of the council presented at the annual meeting of the Sussex Herd Book Society stated that a further sum had been devoted to the purchase of Consols, bringing the Society's investment in that security to a total of £184 12s. At the close of 1906 the surplus of assets over liabilities amounted to £249 17s. 2d., compared with £274 15s. 3d. at the end of the preceding year, the difference being mainly accounted for by the cost of providing dies for the society's silver medal. The society now consists of four life and 117 annual members, making a total of 121, in addition to whom several candidates awaited formal election.

The report was adopted, and thanks were accorded to Mr. W. A. Thornton for auditing the accounts, and he was re-elected as hon. auditor.

On the motion of the chairman (Lord Winterton), seconded by Sir A. P. Ashburnham-Clement, it was unanimously resolved that Sir L Lindsay-Hogg be elected president for the year 1907-8.

The report of the scrutineers of voting papers having been read, the chairman declared that the following four candidates, having received the highest number of votes were elected members of the council for the following three years: Mr. T. Bannister, Mr. J. E Budd, Mr. Gerald Warde, and Sir A. P. Ashburnham Clement, Bart.

On the motion of Earl Winterton, it was resolved "That the society's silver medal, hitherto given for the best female, be in future offered for the best female with calf or in-calf; also that all the society's medals be given for animals entered in the Herd Book."

Mr. Hulkes advocated the printing of the bull's pedigree in the Herd Book in full, instead of in the present condensed fashion. This was supported by Mr. Braby, and it was resolved to refer the question to the council.

Mr. Van Brabant, who stated his intention of offering prizes at the next year's show of the Essex Agricultural Society in a class for Sussex cattle expressed the hope that the council would favourably consider an application for a contribution to the prizes, either in the form of medals or otherwise. This question was also referred to the council.

Mr. Fladgate raised the question whether anything could be done to stamp out the practice of awarding prizes to Sussex cattle not possessing characteristic heads.

The chairman observed that there were other points to be considered by the judges.

Mr. Winch said the important thing to consider was the list of judges recommended by the society.

Mr. Crawford urged the importance of appointing only sufficiently qualified judges, which would do away with all the trouble.

Mr. Bannister said the awarding of prizes to animals of different type at different shows was a matter to be greatly regretted, and he suggested that the opinion of the meeting should be elicited with regard to white marks.

The chairman remarked that whether white should or should not be a disqualification could not be settled at the general meeting without the matter being on the agenda. He suggested that a committee should formulate a statement of what a Sussex animal ought to be.

Mr. Winch thought there should be two judges, and that they should have a free hand.

The subject then dropped.

Transactions in Store Stock.

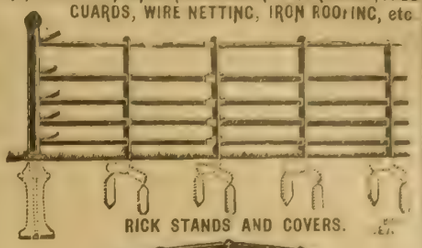
(Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

At Bandon Fair, co. Cork, held on August 7, there was a fair supply of cattle; demand good. Calves, 1st class, £4 12s 6d to £5 5s; 2nd class, £3 15s to £4 2s 6d; yearlings, 1st class, £8 5s to £9 15s; 2nd class, £6 7s 6d to £7 15s; 3rd class, £5 to £6; two-year-olds, 1st class, £10 12s 6d to £12; 2nd class, £8 5s to £10; 3rd class, £6 10s to £7 15s; springers, 1st class, £15 to £17; 2nd class, £12 to £14; 3rd class, £10 to £11. Average supply of sheep; demand fair. Lambs, 1st class, 26s to 32s; 2nd class, 22s 6d to 25s; one year-old and over, 1st class, 42s to 46s; 2nd class, 35s to 40s 6d.

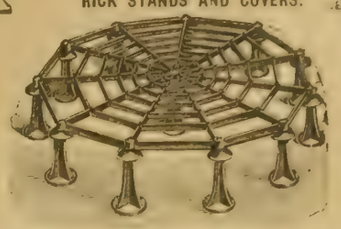
Londonderry Fair, held on August 7, was an average sized fair; good demand for all classes of young cattle, but springers not selling so well. Calves, 2nd class, £3 10s. to £4 7s. 6d; yearlings, 1st class, £9 to £10 5s.; 2nd class, £6 5s. to £7 10s.; 3rd class, £3 15s. to £4 10s.; two-year-olds, 1st class, £11 5s. to £13 5s.; 2nd class, £8 15s. to £10 10s.; 3rd class, £6 5s. to £7; springers, 1st class, £15 17s. 6d. to £17 5s.; 2nd class, £11 15s. to £13 12s. 6d.; 3rd class, £8 10s. to £9 2s. 6d. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, averaged about 16s. each.

The second interim report of the Royal Commission appointed to inquire into the relations of human and animal tuberculosis has been issued as a Parliamentary Blue Book. The report consists of 800 pages, and relates to the experiments which have been conducted at Walpole and Blythwood Farms, Stanstead, lent to the Government by Lord Blyth, of Blythwood. The inoculation experiments showed that tubercle baccilli could be introduced into bovines, goats, pigs, monkeys, lemurs, &c., with fatal results, often within a week.

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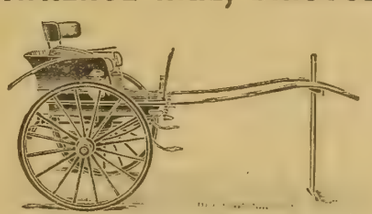


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CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Hereford. Stud Horses: Lockinge Lord of Misrule and Lockinge Bonny Lad, both by Lockinge Forester, full brother to Lockinge Forest King. Colts and Fillies for Sale.

MUNTZ, FREDERICK ERNEST, Umberslade, Hockley Heath, Warwickshire. Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, prize-winners.—Particulars from Mr. JOHN T. B. HARTLEY, Estate Office.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners, on Sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

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WHITEHEAD, Robert, Fashionably bred mares and fillies in natural condition on Sale. Stallions, Bodenham King 17177, Whitestone Prince Alfred 22930.—Apply J. M. JOHNSTONE, Hargate Hall, Buxton. Station, and telegrams, Millers Dale.

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SHETLAND PONIES.

BEALE, Mrs. A. J., Cacketts, Cudham, Kent. Prize-bred Pedigree Shetlands for sale; three grand Stallions at stud.

PONIES.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

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COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

PREECE, JOHN ADNEY, Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston, Northampton.—Herd of 250 Shorthorns, best Bates and Scotch blood; stock Bulls, Duke of Barrington 70th, Primrose Earl 89641, and Royal Baron 93192; Bulls and Heifers for sale.

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TAYLOR, GEORGE, Cranford, Middlesex.—Bates' Shorthorns, deep milkers. Winners Milking Competitions, London Dairy Show, 1905-6. Bull Calves for Sale. Stock Bulls: Beau Sabreur, Drumcree, Rowbury, and Kirkcharm.

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THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has in 1904, 1905 and 1906 won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by Endale, Eagle Protector, and Fondlier. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited.—Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford Herefordshire.

CATTLE—*continued.*

HEREFORDS—*continued.*

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BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton Williton, Taunton. Breeder of Pedigree Devon Cattle. A speciality for large size, with quality and robust constitutions; colour dark red. Sent to all parts of the world. Prices moderate.

SKINNER, ALFRED C., Pound, Bishops-Lydeard, Somerset. Pedigree Devons, constitution, quality, size, milk; 600 prizes principal shows, many champions; exports most successful; bulls and heifers for sale. Inspection invited.

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BRIDGES, J. H.—This old-established herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle of the leading families can be seen at Langshott Home Farm, Horley, Surrey (near Horley Station, L.B. & S.C.R.), and catalogues obtained on application to Mr. Albert Pulling.

HURSLEY PARK HERD OF ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE, the property of Sir George Cooper, Bart., comprising Erica, Pride, Miss Burgess, Lady Ida, Matilda, Jemima of Morlich families. Prizes won during 1906: 7 firsts, 3 seconds, 3 reserves, 1 challenge cup, 2 silver medals, 3 reserve champions. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.—Catalogues on application to V. F. Lease, Estate Office, Hursley Park, Winchester.

THE ROCKLIFFE PARK HERD of Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, Ericas and Prides.—Apply, R. C. SWAN, Rockliffe Park, Darlington.

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WALLACE, JAMES, J.P., Auchenbainzie, Thornhill, Dumfriesshire, Scotland. Breeder of pedigree prize-winning Ayrshire Cattle; hardy, healthy, good milkers; bred for dairy purposes, beauty and style. Bulls and Heifers for sale.

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ANDERSON, JOHN, Barton-on-Humber.—The old Barton Flock of Pure-bred LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, Flock Book 106. This flock is noted for hard constitutions and fine, lustrous wool. Inspection invited. Telegrams as above.

ATKINSON, T., & SON, North Kelsey, Lincoln. Old-established flock of pure Lincoln Longwools. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Noted for great size and long lustrous wool. Have given great satisfaction at home and abroad. Inspection invited.

SHEEP—*continued.*

LINCOLN LONG WOOL—*continued.*

BROOKS, W. J., Stowe Lodge, Weedon, Northants (Registered Flock 105), has for sale Rams and Ewes of best blood.

BROCKLEBANK, JOHN, Bassingham, Lincoln (Flock 24). Pure-bred Lincoln Longwool Rams and Ewes. This old flock has been carefully bred for 100 years. Telegrams: Bassingham.

DRAKES, Wm., Tealby, Market Rasen. Flock No. 72 of Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs of best blood for sale. Lincoln Red Shorthorns. Prices moderate

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

SMITH, HENRY, jun., Cropwell Butler, Nottingham. Lincoln Longwool Flock No. 7, winner of £2,361 in prizes. Champion pen Lincolns, Smithfield Show, 1896; Association Championship, Leicester, 1897; Association Championship for pen of 3 Shearling Rams, Yorkshire, 1900; Championship, Rutland, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, and 1906. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.

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THE CHILMARK FLOCK OF REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—Owner, JAMES FLOWER, Chilwark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records. Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, out of 11 years competing, 'The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" won eight times, thrice second, with pens of 8 ram lambs; a marvellous record. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 13 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05-03.. At the Royal at Derby, 1906, every First Prize, two Seconds, and the Champion were won; an unequalled success!! Champions Birmingham, 1905, over all breeds, Reserve in 1906. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Short-wools, Smithfield, 1904-05-06. Highest average past 13 years. Bridford Fair, Aug. 12, 100 Ram Lambs, annual sale. Selections for Sale.

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1907.—Extraordinary records: Twin ram lambs let for 205 and 120 guineas. Ninety averaged £21 10s. Selections always for Sale.

JUDD, SIR GEORGE, Cocum, Barton Stacey, Hants.—Pure bred Hampshire Downs, over 1000 Ewes. Annual Sale, Ram Lambs, August 8th, 1907. Registered Vol. I., page 17.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. The Cholderton flock is individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded in the Hampshire Down Flock Book. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cho'derton, Salisbury

OVEY, R. L., Hernes, Henley-on-Thames.—Pedigree HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK, Reg. Vol. IV. Prize-winners leading shows last five years.

WINCHESTER, the Most Hon. the Marquis of, Amport St. Mary, Andover, Hants. Pure-bred flock of Hampshire Down Sheep; high-class Rams and Ewes always on Sale.

OXFORD DOWNS.

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COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

TREADWELL, JOHN, Upper Winchendon, Aylesbury.—Oxford Down Sheep. Annual Ram Sale, first Wednesday in August. Prizes won at R.A.S.E. 24 years in succession. Ewes for Sale.

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CRANWORTH, The Rt Hon. Lord, offers reasonably from his prize winning flock, of Suffolk Sheep, some fine Ram Lambs.—Apply C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

WENSLEYDALE.

UNDERLEY WENSLEYDALES (Blue-faced), from the best blood obtainable. Successfully exhibited.—Apply, G. G. ROBINSON, Bailiff, Underley Farm, Kirkby, Lonsdale.

(Continued on page 221.)

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

CHARLES SPENCER, having taken over the Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts, herd of Large and Middle White Pigs, which won 12 prizes and reserves with 11 exhibits at Derby Royal, will price any of them.

FULWOOD HERD LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES, property R. R. Rothwell. 200 head bred from winners at leading shows.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for Sale at moderate prices

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station, G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices. —J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

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OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 100 to choose from. Correspondence invited. Grand young breeding stock always on Sale.—Apply R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts (15 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

SPALDING HERD of Pedigree Large Whites, young stock and in-pig Gilts for Sale. All bred from great winners.—ALFRED W. WHITE, "Hillegom," Spalding.

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THE CATTON HERD of Prize-winning MIDDLE WHITE PIGS, property of J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stock Boar Castlecroft Mikado, 1st Park Royal, 1st Bath and West. Gelts and Boars on Sale. Prices moderate.—Apply BAILIFF, Raddle Farm, Edingale, Tamworth.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

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SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

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BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath, Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Large Black Pigs of the best strains of blood, noted for their docility and for the production of a large proportion of lean meat. Good selection of Boars, unrelated Gilts, and in-pig Sows for Sale at reasonable prices.

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HASKETON CHAMPION PRIZE HERD OF LARGE BLACK PIGS.—This herd has won the Royal championship three out of four times, and is the only herd having won the breed challenge cup. Record: 47 firsts, 37 seconds, 11 thirds, 126 prize-winning cards; the herd this year being the winners of 14 firsts, 6 seconds, 2 thirds, championship and silver cup in five shows. Gelts and Boars at moderate prices consistent with quality. Exportation a speciality.—Apply, C. F. MARRINER, Hasketon, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS.—Select Herd, bred from choice Prize Winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale, moderate prices.—H. J. CLARKE, The Slade, Roughley, Sutton Coldfield.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS.—YOUNG Boars and Gilts, fit for service; also 16 weeks, old. Dams Syke Maid 4018, Seaton Princess 5676. Sire Norbury Chieftain 1603, Sutton Black Prince 1847.—J. HENLEY, Seaton Ross, York.

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CARNARVON, the Earl of.—Prize winning Pedigree Herd. BOARS and GELTS, eligible Herd Book. Prices moderate.—Apply W. T. HALL, Highclere Farm, Newbury.

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BERKSHIRES—*continued.*

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1st Nottingham; 1st Suffolk; 1st Norfolk.
1st Hereford and Worcester; Special Prize Lincoln Agricultural Society; 1st Great Yorkshire; 1st Newark.

A number of additional Firsts and other Prizes have also been gained at the above Shows.

At the St. Louis Exposition, U.S.A., in 1904, the Champion Boar, and the Grand Champion of the Exposition were bred at Colston Bassett.

The Foreign and Home trade has largely increased during 1907.—GILBERT H. ELLIOT, Estate Office, Colston Bassett, Notts.

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VETERINARY.

Advice of a Veterinary character, by a M.R.C.V.S., is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Wooden Tongue.

SIR,—I am writing to ask your advice about my beasts. I have a two-year-old bullock which froths at the mouth and is very much swollen under the jaws, from the root of the tongue. His tongue is very sore, and he cannot eat any long food, and is simply wasting away. My neighbour tells me it is what is known as "wooden tongue." Do you think so? and is it infectious? as I had a nine months old calf similarly affected last winter. I should be glad if you would suggest a remedy and advise as to treatment.—Yours, &c.,

WORRIED FARMER.

*** There is, unfortunately, very little room for doubt as to the correctness of your neighbour's diagnosis, and that you have to deal with a case of actinomycosis, or what is popularly known as "wooden tongue." Judging from the description of the symptoms we certainly think the diagnosis correct. Is it infectious? Undoubtedly. Actinomycosis is now recognised as an infectious disease of animals and man, due to a fungus growth. This may attack any structure, but is most commonly met with affecting the tongue and mouth of bovines. The affected animal should be carefully isolated while under treatment, and because it is infectious, and may affect the human subject, care should be taken in handling the animal, and attendants warned of the risk they run. As to the request that we "suggest a remedy and advise as to treatment," there is only one efficient remedy, and we advise that the treatment be carried out under the supervision of the local veterinary surgeon. At one time actinomycosis could not be treated with any prospect of success except in those cases where the fungus was at work in parts within easy reach of the knife and local dressings, but some years ago it was discovered that the persistent administration of large doses of iodide of potassium was a specific in even the worst cases, and this is now the remedy adopted. The administration of the drug is continued until the condition technically known as "iodism" is attained, and in this way the actinomyces, or ray fungus, is acted on through the circulation. This method of treatment, which is somewhat costly owing to the high price of the drug—which has to be used in large doses and for a long time—is best carried out under veterinary supervision, and this is why we do not recommend the owner to embark on the treatment for himself. The veterinary surgeon will also give specific instructions as to isolation and nursing with a view to the prevention of the extension of the disease to other cattle. In some districts, notably in Lincolnshire and the eastern counties generally, where barley is largely grown and much straw fed, the disease is very rife.—M.R.C.V.S.

OBITUARY.

The Marquis of Bristol.

With regret we have to announce the death of the Marquis of Bristol, who expired at Ickworth, near Bury St. Edmunds, at an early hour on Wednesday morning, after an illness which only became serious a week or two ago. He caught a chill last Easter, which developed into pneumonia, and, notwithstanding the best medical advice and the care and attention of his relatives, he never recovered strength, and passed away peacefully. In him there disappears a typical example of an English nobleman—stately in manner, learned himself and a patron of learning, taking an interest in everything that concerns the welfare of the community, a promoter of the most modern system of agriculture, and generous in promoting the advancement of the farmers in his neighbourhood. He was in his seventy-third year, had been Lord-Lieutenant of Suffolk for nearly a quarter of a century, and by all classes in that extensive district his loss will be sincerely mourned.

The Suffolk Sheep Society in particular have sustained an irreparable loss, for its success has been in no small measure due to the zeal shown and example set by the late Marquis, who not only permitted his name to be placed at the head of the organisation which was founded, but himself possessed a fine flock which later on came prominently to the front in many a keen conflict. Further, he gave the Bristol Champion Challenge Cup, which is a coveted trophy amongst Suffolk sheep exhibitors. When a few years ago the Marquis retired from the presidency of the Suffolk Sheep Society the members were not backward in manifesting their strong appreciation of the exceptional services of the nobleman who had the direction of affairs for so many years with so much benefit to all immediately concerned.

Mr. T. Newton.

Farmers in South Lincolnshire heard with regret on Saturday last of the death of Mr. Thomas Newton, of Harrowby Hall, near Grantham, one of the best known agriculturists in the district, who passed away at his residence the previous day. Born in the little village of Skillington, Lincs., deceased held a farm at Easton under the late Sir Hugh Cholmoley for nearly twenty years, when he removed to Harrowby Hall in 1874. For a number of years he was a prominent member of the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society, and was one of the chief movers in the establishing of the Grantham and District Agricultural Society. On the formation of the Grantham Branch of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union he was nominated for the position of chairman, but owing to declining years he refused the honour. He was also connected with the Lincolnshire Chamber of Commerce and the Grantham Farmers' Benevolent Institution. He frequently was a prize-winner for his stock at local shows, and rarely missed attending the Grantham markets. In 1858 he married Miss S. Nixon, of Great Buton, and leaves one son and three daughters to mourn his loss, his wife having predeceased him.

Mr. P. M. Browne.

The death is announced of Mr. Philip Moon Browne, of Fornham All Saints, a well-known Suffolk farmer and breeder of cattle, whilst as a judge of horses his services were in frequent request at local agricultural shows. He was a prominent supporter of the Suffolk Agricultural Association, in which he took great interest, and was a regular attendant at the annual exhibitions, where he usually appeared in some official capacity. The Ixworth and West Suffolk Farmers' Club Show also had his warm support, and he was one of the principal promoters of the annual Colt and Foal Show, held in Bury during September.

An exciting scene was witnessed at the West Gloucestershire Farmers' Club's Show last week. A young lady was driving a dog-cart, in which were three other ladies, when the horse shied at a cyclist and bolted. It dashed into a trap while passing through the gateway from the show ground, and the horse in the trap was impaled by the shaft of the dog-cart. The runaway then ran into a number of people, and a youth was badly cut about the head. Three other people sustained minor injuries.



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Our Foreign Business.

Despite the slackness of demand that has prevailed so long in the London market, the inflow of hops continues to an extent that is not only surprising but almost incredible. We are however compelled to accept the returns of the Board of Trade as being correct, and these reveal to us the following figures. During the month that has just closed we have received from the United States of America 14,621 cwt., and also 1,626 cwt. from other countries.

The heavy total of 16,247 cwt. is only discounted by our small exports, amounting to 368 cwt. of English and 113 cwt. of foreign hops, so that the balance against our market for July is 15,766 cwt. I understand that the bulk of the imports from America has been shipped in execution of previous contracts, and is not thrown upon the market for present sale. But we cannot lose sight of the fact that these hops are displacing a corresponding weight of English produce, and thus our home demand is curtailed and the value of our stocks proportionately reduced.

This consideration becomes all the more serious when we examine the returns of the past eleven months, from September 1 to July 31. We find that our imports from all sources have reached the astonishing figure of 220,546 cwt., and as our shipments to Colonial and other ports during this period only amount to 11,522 cwt., our market has been overweighted to the extent of 209,024 cwt., the whole of which we could have easily dispensed with. Our crop of last year was certainly small, but we had a heavy surplus in 1905, which would have carried consumers through without any foreign help. At all events, our imports might have been materially reduced with perfect safety if we had any means of checking them, and I think the experience of this season provides convincing argument in favour of such legislation as is necessary to accomplish this object.

Our Coming Crops.

England.

It is a current saying that we can never count on hops till they are in the pockets, therefore I may be accused of presumption when I venture to use the word "our" at the head of my remarks, as if we already had the crop in possession. But as "St. James's day has come and gone," I think we can confidently declare that "there may be hops," and that the main issue before us is the probable quantity. I have this week carefully examined about fifty reports from the plantations, and do not find a single grower speaking in other than satisfactory terms.

Of course, all are not equally optimistic in their anticipations, but the comparatively hopeless tone, which was more or less evident a few weeks ago, has now entirely disappeared, and more than half of the reports favour the harvesting of a full average, while the remainder come very near to this point. We still hear of the persistency of the aphis blight in places, but it appears to be gradually vanishing under the genial influence of the improved climate.

The fears concerning the spread of mould are also weakened, and as the bine is generally healthy and vigorous, and the laterals and the burr are rapidly developing, the crop prospects are certainly brighter, and I am inclined to abide by my estimate of July 22, which I hardly think will be materially altered when the final results are known.

In face of this personal opinion, it is somewhat difficult for me to refer calmly to a paragraph which has been published in many of the London papers to the effect that it had been ascertained, by inquiries at the Hop Exchange, that our crop will turn out a practical failure, not exceeding that of last year, and that picking will not commence before September 23, and will not last longer than three weeks. I have tried to ascertain where such a misleading statement originated, but no person in this building accepts the responsibility.

Indeed, we are all too well informed to be guilty of such an error. Of course, none of us can be absolutely certain, as unforeseen contingencies may even yet arise to upset all our anticipations, but as far as any person can judge from present appearances, it may safely be said that the majority of those whose opinions are worth acceptance are expecting a full average crop, round about the figure I have ventured to put forward. That the picking will be rather later than usual is most probable, the peculiarities of our climate this year will fully account for such delay, and it is true that a late picking is not usually a heavy one. But making all allowance for this disadvantage, I believe we shall see that the weight harvested will be sufficiently satisfactory.

America.

The latest intelligence from the other side of the Atlantic confirms earlier anticipations. The total crop of the U.S.A. is not estimated at less than 350,000 bales, or about 570,000 cwt. New York State will produce about 50,000, and Washington, Oregon and California combined about 300,000 bales. The weather on the Pacific Coast has been consistently favourable throughout the growing season, and is at present very promising for the flowering and fruiting. If these expectations are realised there will be a large surplus for export, and prices will be low.

Germany.

From all districts I have received confirmatory news of the excellent prospects of the crop. The plantations have passed through similar climatic vicissitudes to our own, but the progress of the growth has not been interfered with, and in all directions the plants are healthy and are freely putting forth flowers, with a promising outlook for fruit. There has been no practical trouble with vermin.

France.

The reports from Burgundy are not very promising, the plantations having suffered from storms and cold nights. The crop is not expected to exceed two-thirds of an average. In the North the prospects are fairly good, as recent rains have benefited the plantations, laterals and flowers being abundant.

Belgium.

Although vermin is still active in Belgium, the plantations in Alost, and increases in some places, the outlook is on the whole fairly satisfactory. The Poperinghe grounds appear to be in a similar condition, but it is not expected that the Belgian crop will be smaller than last year, and some reports predict a considerable increase.

The World's Markets.

If one asks any of our Borough traders if they are doing business, the answer is almost certain to be negative. The holidays, extended over four days, necessarily caused complete suspension of operations for this space; but since the reopening of our offices, no sign of activity is to be found. Here and there a few small transactions have taken place, but I regret to add that the recent slight advance in values has been completely lost, prices having receded to their previous low limits. This reduction does not appear to be caused by the anxiety of holders to sell. It is rather the result of the practical cessation of demand, consumers being doubtless influenced by the improved climatic conditions, and the consequent more favourable reports from the plantations, both at home and abroad. As we are now in the concluding month of the growing season, it is hardly probable that any market revival will take place, and we must be content to wait the arrival of the new crop.

The American markets are subject to similar influences, and remain in an absolutely stagnant condition. Quotations are merely nominal, with a tendency towards further reduction. Lower offers on the part of holders do not induce business, and this state of suspense is likely to continue.

The promising reports from all the German hop growing districts, combined with the reduced consumption of beer, are seriously affecting the Nuremberg market. Brewers are not buying, and holders are very anxious to clear their stocks before the arrival of the new supplies. Consequently prices are falling daily, and will probably decline further in the course of the present month. The local hop trade has sustained a serious loss in the death of Herr Johannes Barth, the head of the old established and highly respected firm of Johannes Barth and Sohn. I have a lively recollection of the kindly courtesy of this gentleman during the visit of English growers to Nuremberg four years ago, and most sincerely sympathise with his family in their sad bereavement. In Belgium the speculative market is supported in apparent firmness by exaggerated reports of the damage done to the growing crop by aphis blight and the want of rain. It is stated that should present weather conditions continue, the cones will not develop, and the weight of the crop must be diminished. Upon this possibility the market is upheld, but the basis is very insecure, and the slightest climatic improvement will speedily destroy it.

The importations of hops into Belgium during the six months ending June 30 were 16,140 cwt., of which the main bulk came from Germany, only about 240 cwt. being shipped from England. Belgian exports during this period were 7,140 cwt. Nearly one-half of this quantity was sent to France, and over 2,000 cwt. to England and Ireland.

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Director of Navy Contracts.
Contract Department,
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August, 1907.

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ESTABLISHED 1832.

PRICE 3d. PER SINGLE COPY.

LONDON, MONDAY, AUGUST 19, 1907.

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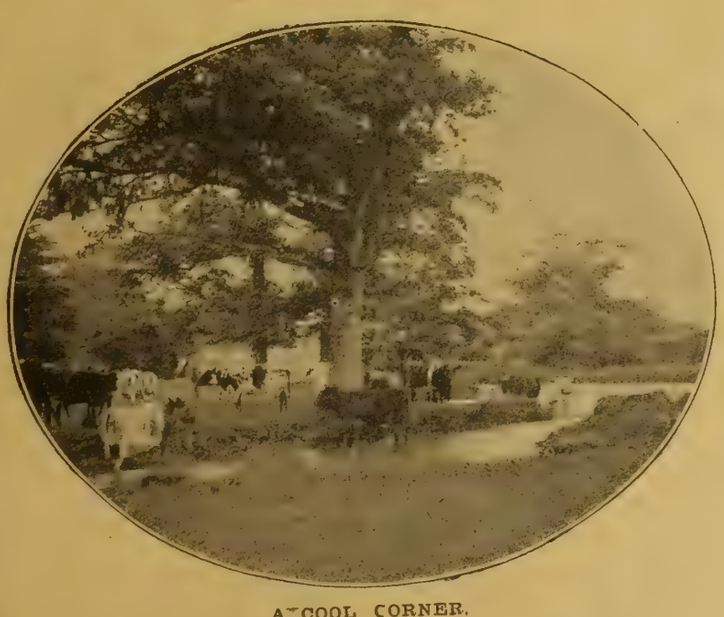
Seasonable Topics.

In View of Hopping.

IN another part of this journal our expert deals with the general prospects of the hop harvest, but the time is approaching when it will have to be gathered in, be it good, bad, or indifferent. And with the approach of hop picking the usual preparations have to be made, for the hop grower must have all his machinery in order when the first bine is cut down from the pole. In a local Kentish paper before us we see advertisements for pickers, polepullers, bookers, measurers, and dryers, and during the season people who can perform these various operations have no difficulty in securing employment. Perhaps there is no harvest that requires more organising than that of the hops, particularly on farms where the area is extensive, and it may be also said that in no harvest field can one see such a variety of human nature. But it is not the business of the hop grower to consider personalities when the golden bine is ready for picking. He must have qualified hands for the all-important work of drying and reliable persons for booking, measuring and paying, while the chief qualification for picking is a pair of nimble hands. He must, however, have all things ready, both people and appliances, when the time arrives for commencement, hence the preparations that are now going forward.

Potato Disease.

WEARILY the days drag on, and we are still waiting for sunny skies and settled summer weather. They seems loth to come, and in the meantime we can see signs of trouble ahead. Looking over the potatoes in fields and gardens, we observe those tell-tale black patches on the leaves and stalks which indicate the presence of the dreaded blight (*Phytophthora infestans*). It is gradually spreading, and each day the disfigured appearance of the maincrop potatoes grows worse. How will the tubers turn out? It is yet too soon to say, but we have our anxieties, and recollections come back to us of wet seasons in the past when the digging of potatoes was a most depressing operation, for reasons already explained. We had hopes when the first signs of the disease appeared on the leaves that a change in the weather would check its progress, but unfortunately that change has not yet come, nor are there any signs to make one optimistic.



A COOL CORNER.

This is the season, by the way, to prove the utility value of spraying, but just when the operation should have been performed it was raining persistently, and consequently many people who had the mind to do it were prevented by climatic conditions. Nevertheless, we shall look with interest later on for reports on experiments in potato spraying.

Ensilage and the Contamination of Milk.

WE have no evidence before us to show how much ensilage is being made this season, but the matter has been talked about a good deal, and we know a good many people who have grown tired of attempts at making hay and have resorted to this means of dealing with the grass. The point which remains in doubt is about the contamination of milk if ensilage is used, and considering the extent of the milk-producing industry, there can be no doubt about the importance of this matter. In the early days of ensilage complaints were general about milk being contaminated, and proprietors of dairy factories prohibited its use amongst the cows on farms supplying milk to them. By the aid of experience and experiment, however, this difficulty has been overcome, and experts who have made a study of the whole thing assure doubtful persons by the contention that if ensilage is not allowed to lie about the cowshed or any other place where milk can be contaminated, and that if milch cows are not fed with ensilage for some hours before milking, there is nothing to fear about the milk being affected.

Motors and Show Rings.

IT is a good many years now since we attended our first agricultural show, and from then till now we have visited more of these gatherings than we should like to count. With us there is a familiarity about jumping and driving competitions that almost breeds contempt, and we remember when the big brakes and gaudily painted drags were drawn up at the ring side so that people who could afford these luxuries might obtain a good view of the sport. Fortunately for agricultural societies, the jumping and driving competitions have lost little of their charm for the public, but every visitor almost who can afford a motor car views the sport not from his carriage or his drag, but from his automobile. It is quite the thing now to draw your motor car up to the side of the jumping ring, and—tell it not in Gath—even at gatherings at which agriculturists most do congregate we hear not the points of horses being discussed so much as the merits of different makes of motor cars. Dear, dear, that such things should be! But still they are, and at a show quite recently we observed a member of the old school, attired in the tall hat and cravat of his own day, lean on his stick and take critical stock of a smart motor-car drawn up at the ring side. Then he walked away, and the look of intense disgust on his wrinkled face described his feelings far better than it could be done in words.

Sheep Dog Trials.

ONE of the features of the recent agricultural show at Tring was the sheep dog trials, and to any one who loves a good dog—and what farmer does not?—we can imagine nothing more interesting and fascinating. Of course, there is as much difference between the yelping curs that one frequently sees tearing about after sheep and a properly trained animal as there is between chalk and cheese, and an inspection of a trial of sheep dogs is the best means we know of realising how indispensable a good

dog is to a shepherd in those districts where dogs are trained to be of real service. The first sheep dog trial we ever saw was in Dovedale, amid that romantic bit of scenery which is watered by the river in which old Isaak Walton loved to fish, and we can hardly imagine surroundings more naturally in keeping with an entertainment of this kind. Many years have passed since we saw our first trial of sheep dogs, but some things imprint themselves on the memory more than others, and we have distinct recollections still of the wonderful instinct—or shall we say, reasoning power?—displayed by the dogs, their patience, and obedience to sign and call. We thought then, and still think, that to be the master of such a dog must be a source of considerable pleasure to the hardy shepherd who is responsible for the training of him.

In the Cider Tent. NOT the least interesting department at the various agricultural shows held in the West of England is the tent or shed in which the cider and perry are exhibited. The average Westcountryman, by the way, knows a thing or two about cider, and what he doesn't know he probably thinks he knows, so that his education is fairly complete. We have nothing here to do with the exclusive interior of the cider tent when a policeman stands at the entrance and with warning finger uplifted tells you that the judging is going on. It is later on when you hear things complimentary and otherwise about cider, cider makers, and cider judges, because by right of custom there are privileged members of the West-country public (sometimes a good many of them) who are allowed to taste of the exhibits, and it is surprising how many more people there are interested in cider if it happens to be a scorching hot day. You can easily pick out the authority on cider who tastes in quite a professional sort of way and upholds or criticises the decision of the judges as the case may be, but there are other people who taste that know nothing about the merits of cider and care less, except that they like a good drink of it, and the look of wisdom which comes on their faces when they have had a good swig from one or two of the best casks is positively amusing. The steward in the cider tent, by the-way, has a position that is not altogether enviable, because he knows the customs and does not wish to appear ill-natured, but the difficulty he has is to detect the genuine taster from the man who is actually thirsty.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

An Unfair Description.

No politician who knows the true inwardness of the Butter Bill can resent Sir Edward Strachey's strong resentment of the description of the measure as being intended to legalise "the sale of adulterated butter." As a fact, the milk-blended butter cannot be, under the Bill, described as "butter." Certain journals have waxed themselves into a fury of wrath over the prospect of this milk-blended butter being described as "lactine" or "waterine," and they have accused this Government of insincerity in the business, and even besought the Lords to reject the Bill rather than permit the milk-blended butter to have other than the quantity of water permitted in ordinary butter. This is mere partisanism and nothing else—and callous partisanism too. These journals and their embodied Parliamentary reflections in both Houses never raised a wail when the last Government refused opportunity to Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes to pass this Bill. Mr. Balfour was assured of the Lords, he had a hundred majority in the Commons—and this long-promised Bill, like the Dogs Bill, was shunted and shunted, and finally given to the whales without even the prospect of a Jonah-like resurrection. Every one of us will ask that milk-blended butter be given no water-preference; but this is very different to accusing the measure "of legalising the sale of adulterated butter." If this accusation were true the House of Lords would be dishonest if it did not reject the Bill in its entirety.

* * *

Mr. Chaplin and His Supporters.

I am a great admirer of the sonorous manner in which Mr. Chaplin has led the Opposition-cohorts against the Government over the English Small Holdings Bill. But has the right hon. gentleman been fairly supported? On crucial issues—on issues which he himself, in his fine resounding phraseology, declared to be vital to the Bill—he was supported by from forty to fifty Conservative members of Parliament. On great issues like the threatened terrorisation of the county councils by the Commissioners, and the sum to be expended on these officials, he was left almost derelict—a statesman abandoned by the men who can be beautifully profuse in their oratory. On an even greater issue from my point of view—that is, the character and authority to be given these State-endowed officials—the right hon. gentleman was again left bereft. Sixty was about his highest vote on the day on which he sought to review the purpose and intention of the Committee. I state the fact, and permit my readers to make the deduction. All I will permit myself to say is that heroics in oratory is a poor thing when it is not backed up by heroism in action. The English Small Holdings Bill will not seriously differ from the character it had when it was presented to the House of Commons—excepting that it will be less suspicious of the county councils—on its birth-night. This is because of the friendlessness of the Opposition.

Fair Play for the Dispossessed Farmer.

Now every farmer who knows a peer ought to utilise that acquaintance. In my view the English Land Bill will not, unless there be an alert activity, make a sufficient allowance for the dispossessed farmer. The labourer who loses his employment as a result of the establishment of a small holding is to be adequately compensated, but the farmer—why will certain politicians think that the farmer is less flesh-and-blood than the labourer?—is by no means possessed of the same surety. Frankly, I believe that if the peers introduced this as a first condition of the Bill receiving their assent, they would not find the House of Commons in a belligerent mood. There has been such an admirable temper exhibited in connection with this Bill—a fact which is attributable chiefly to Mr. Harcourt and Mr. Chaplin—that the desire for fairness towards all affected by it is really the predominant sentiment. We don't all like what I am bound to describe as the rather banal antagonism exhibited towards the county councils by certain politicians; but these men have been revealed to be only a section of the House of Commons—a section to whom Mr. Harcourt has not offered a too-complaisant countenance.

* * *

The Government's Rival Land Policies.

Of course, every man who reviews the agrarian situation must be impressed by the distinctive methods adopted by the Government in connection with the Scottish and English land problems. It was the source and inspiration of Lord Rosebery's jocund and not unbarbed raillery. But is there not something to be said on the other side? Is Scotland England? Is the Scottish temperament the same as the English temperament? Does not Scotland possess in her crofter system a basis on which to rear a fabric, whilst England possesses nothing of the kind? By this I mean that the English land system is at this moment more or less of an individualistic land system — it acknowledges the landlord in a degree that the Scottish crofter system does not. I see that certain of the critics of the Government—of which body I am no defender—say that Ministers have "brought in a Bill for Scotland and a Bill for England dealing with exactly the same economic problem, but proposing the application of totally different methods." Well, is this maladroit statesmanship? In the first place, however, let us remember that "the Government has not to deal with the same economic problem"—it can never be the same with two peoples so constitutionally and temperamentally divergent as the Scottish and the English. The fact is that Scotland has a foundation for a land system in her Crofters Act. Wherein the Government has made a mistake is in giving that land policy too inelastic a character. The Lowlands are not the Highlands—in the Lowlands the land has had the double blessing of centuries of toil and centuries of capital. The landlord there deserves a greater consideration than his Highland brother. Statecraft is not so unfertile of brains that it could not have made this distinction. Still the Lowlands did not want the same Morisson's pill as England. If it were consulted it would prefer the same Morisson pill applied to the Highlands. Casteism is not more potent in India than the Scottish sentiment in Scotland.

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The Wiser Plan.

We may, of course, take it that the Scottish Land Bill is dead. It has been over-laid. No Government retaining even a semblance of self-respect could accept the Lords' amendment. The Bill has been metamorphosised. It is like the Irishman's pair of trousers—"bedad, sorr," said he, "my wife put on a new pair of legs, and it's just the same old trousers." The House of Lords has eliminated from it every pretence to the Irish system—though, for the life of me, I could not see where dual ownership came in with the holder being forbidden to sell his tenant-right. But have the Lords been altogether wise in being so thorough-going? Does the progress of the education question convey no lesson to them? Who would have thought that one of the prime purposes of Mr. Birrell's Bill would be achieved by administration? And, frankly, I fear, if the House of Lords pursues this plan of rigorous transformation, what may be accompanied by means of the Budget. Let me put a point to Lord Rosebery. Has he ever conceived the taxation of land values being accomplished by his erstwhile *fidus Achates*, Mr. Asquith, in the *rôle* of Finance Minister? Has he ever thought of a Government deliberately taxing land insufficiently cultivated, or used only for sport? Both purposes are within the ken of this Government. If this can be done, how much of the purpose of this Scottish Bill can be achieved in the same way. Frankly, I fear this legislation-by-Budget method. It is too remorselessly scientific. It has too little of the spirit of conciliation. It only reflects the anxiety of one party. The peers were wise, in all sooth, to render it unnecessary.

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Mr. Balfour's Curious Reflections.

I doubt whether Mr. Balfour, in his speech on the third-reading debate of the English Land Bill—the carrying of the third reading of so momentous a measure without a division is without parallel in modern politics—really meant to appear so distinctively a pro-urbanite as he did. If his speech reflected his intention, or if he is possessed by the conviction that "if Great Britain is to increase in population, wealth, and prosperity that increase must be urban, and not rural," then we have at once presented to us the fount of that apathy towards agricultural and agrarian reform which evoked so caustic a criticism from men like Mr. James Long on the eve of the General Election. It is easy to exaggerate the influence of this new legislation—which, we learn from the Premier is but one stone in a triple mosaic, the other two stones being the Land Tenure Act and the forthcoming Valuation Bill; it is easy to be dithyrambric in anticipation of the effect of this Small Holdings Bill and paint the Arcadian picture in impossible tones. Mr. Balfour, however, did more than rebuke Radical ecstacy and perfervour—he simply associated himself with the pro-urbanites. True, the policy of 1846 did mean that in the future the national development would be industrial rather than urban; but it did not mean that the national Legislature should not seek to quicken the urban development and to call into existence counterbalancing influences in order to arrest the inevitable burst of the Cobdenite policy. It may be that Mr. Balfour's musing—the speech was rather of the nature of a soliloquy than an oration—was simply one of his characteristic essays in philosophic speculation. Be this as it may, it can scarcely have been as balm of Gilead to all his following. What must Mr. Chaplin, for instance, have thought of it?

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What of the Lords?

And now what of the Lords? Will they insist upon making the Bill a means of establishing a peasant proprietary—will they insist on rearing the new legislation on an ownership basis? Well, if they do the measure will be wrecked. The Premier has made it clear that the Bill would be relinquished rather than so vital a point be conceded. There is no doubt whatever about this. Perhaps, with the third reading of the Bill unchallenged by its critics, the Peers will scarcely be so greatly daring.

The New Potato Crop.



The usual method of disposing of the new potato crops is for the buyer to inspect the fields and purchase the potatoes outright. The above illustration shows a buyer inspecting roots at various parts of the field, in order to determine the quality and quantity of the crop before making an offer.



Harvesting the new potato crop. The pickers follow the diggers, sorting the crop as they go, and putting them into baskets containing tubers of different sizes.



Trucking train loads of new potatoes from St. Neots (Hunts) Station.

Lincolnshire Notes.

THE swine fever interdict upon the markets of Lincoln is scarcely removed when another is issued, putting the ban upon practically the whole of Holland. It is very unwelcome news, for though there have been several cases of the disease, nobody regarded it as serious enough to necessitate the closing of the markets. The step, needless to say, is being a good deal criticised, and there are loud complaints that the pig trade and the pig-breeding industry are being seriously dislocated by these restrictions. But it is little use grumbling. The best that the pig-owners and butchers can do is to exercise every precaution, and see to it that the disease is exterminated as quickly as possible.

THE late Marquis of Exeter was a well-known Lincolnshire landowner, where he owned a good many thousand acres. He was a popular landlord and a personal acquaintance of most of his tenants. At one time he was a familiar figure in the Sleaford district, where some years ago he disposed of a quantity of land.

HARVEST has not yet commenced. Here and there a crop of winter oats has been cut, but the hum of the self-binder will not be in the air for a couple of weeks yet. All accounts promise a good and heavy harvest, in spite of everything.

HEARTIEST congratulations to Mr. Christopher Turnor on his marriage. Mr. Turnor will have the best wishes of every Lincolnshire agriculturist to start him on his matrimonial way, and he will have a great welcome back to Wragby.

THE Farmers' Union has had a very busy week. It commenced with a very enthusiastic meeting at Peterborough, where a branch has been formed, the necessary elections to take place after harvest. At Melton Mowbray, on Tuesday, the branch already formed was put into ship-shape, Mr. R. C. Cooper being elected chairman. In order that the committee shall be thoroughly representative, it was left to the village meetings to bring forward nominations. At Waltham and at Croxton useful work has been done, and the interests of the union have been consolidated at Epworth, in the "Isle."

THE Union now covers six counties. It has spread its net over a range of country stretching well beyond fifty miles of Lincoln, and its membership increases daily. As the MARK LANE expressed it last week, the movement is flourishing beyond wildest expectations.

LORD HENEAGE'S hard case of the Cambridge Crown tenant has been answered. Mr. F. Webster, chairman of Moulton Parish Council, who has undertaken responsibility in connection with the Crown lands, has taken up the cudgels against him. Mr. Webster is a Unionist, but unlike Lord Heneage, is a convert to Small Holdings. He puts another face on his lordship's grievance.

ACCORDING to his statement, the tenant has surrendered the land voluntarily under the weight of advancing years. He retains 350 acres of the best land in the middle of the farm, on which he will concentrate and employ more labour. At present 377 acres are under grass. The conversion of 120 acres of grass to tillage will provide labour equal to the regular employment of four labourers, as against part of the time of a single shepherd.

AS to the threatened dire effects of the conversion, this is Mr. Webster's view:—It is proposed to create fourteen holdings, and convert thirty acres into large allotments. These holdings will be tenanted by men who have been brought up on the land—labourers with money saved, very small holders who want somewhat larger holdings, sons of small farmers desirous of starting on their own account, &c. The net result will be eighteen or twenty men getting a living out of the land, and as most of them are doing the work of agricultural labourers on farms in the neighbourhood, there will be so many vacancies created. Twice the manual labour will be expended on the land that is done at present, many more horses will be at work upon it, and local blacksmiths, wheelwrights, and shopkeepers, as well as the market town, will benefit.

TIME was when Horncastle's great horse fair came scarcely second to that of Lincoln. But it has declined in even greater proportion than most fairs, and the business which at one time took a fortnight to transact is now practically got through in a day. It has been a good fair this week with a good supply of horses of good quality, although buyers were not quite so numerous as usual. The best trade was in cart horses, for which good prices were obtained. As to

the official quotations, hunters sold at all prices up to £100, cart horses up to £65, second class animals from £35 to £45, van horses from £40 to £45, match horses £55 to £70, harness horses £25 to £40, two-year-old colts and fillies £25 to £30, and three-year-olds up to £40, Welsh ponies from £8 to £12.

LINCOLNSHIRE FARMERS' UNION.

MEETING AT PETERBOROUGH.

There was a large company of farmers present at the meeting held at Peterborough on the 20th inst. with the object of forming a local branch of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union.

In the absence of Mr. T. H. Vergette, who was to have been the chairman, Mr. G. Moore was elected to preside. He pointed out the objects of the Union in working for the abolition of preferential railway rates in favour of foreign producers, the regulation of the sale of foreign meat, that beer should be brewed from malt and hops, to safeguard the purity of butter, &c.

Mr. John Thurlby, the chairman of the Stamford Branch of the Union, spoke upon the great increase in the membership of the Union, and hoped that a branch might be successfully started at Peterborough. He urged that the interests of agriculturists were served by union now that other interests were organised. Union was strength. He complained that farmers were not receiving the consideration they deserved in the Agricultural Rating Act, and spoke strongly against the preferential railway rates now in existence for foreign produce. Against all these difficulties, he said, farmers would fight more effectively when organised.

Mr. H. W. Palmer, secretary to the Union, also made a vigorous speech upon the objects and benefits of the Union. He urged that they would have to keep free from party politics, and keep it a Farmers' Union and a Farmers' Union only.

The Rev. T. Hamilton, of Lincoln, supported the suggestion to establish a Union at Peterborough. That Union, which had been started only a short time ago, was a little mustard seed that was growing, and it would grow into a mighty tree beneath which all farmers in the country would want to take shelter. Every trade under heaven seemed to him to be protected except agriculturists. He had lost hopes of the farmers combining until a little while ago this Union was started. No other trade deserved more to be protected, and they could understand how it would be to their advantage to have a strong central body to look after their interests, to advise them, to watch the markets, and advise them when to sell and buy, and to tell them anything they wanted to know upon the receipt of just a post card. The Union was not a combination of farmers to do any injury to landlords. He might tell them as an Irishman he did not hold any brief for the landlords, but he understood in this district landlords and tenants were on very amicable terms. They were generally well able to look after themselves, and they recognised that an empty house was better than a bad tenant. No great political party had done anything in the interest of a trade except that which the trade had by its own strength compelled them to do. The farmers must combine and do something for themselves.

Mr. Griffin (Boro' Fen) in the course of his remarks said under the proposed Small Holdings Bill labourers on such farms were to be compensated, but the tenants of the farms appropriated for small holdings were to receive no compensation at all. The Union would be bound to be political to some extent, but it would be bound to protect its own interests whichever political party happened to be in power. The education given in county elementary schools at the present time was awful rubbish. Those in authority in these matters were not practical, they were merely theorists. They had now hardly a member in Parliament representing agricultural interests, but just as the labourers and Home Rulers—and he admired the Home Rulers—had succeeded in being represented, so ought agriculture.

On the proposition of Mr. Egar, who said the Government in its Small Holdings' Bill ought to encourage occupying instead of tenancies, and maintained that labourers worthy as they were ought to be allowed membership of the Union, seconded by Mr. G. Vergette, it was decided that a branch of the Union should be formed at Peterborough.

Those present signed on, and a membership representing 70,000 acres of local land was secured.

MELTON MOWBRAY BRANCH.

A meeting of the Melton Mowbray Branch of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union was held at the White Lion Hotel on Tuesday, Mr. R. C. Cooper presiding.

Mr. W. Fowler, of Grantham, spoke on the aims and objects of the Union, which, he said, were to help each other. If they had any grievance or dispute which they did not care to fight single-handed, the Union would take the matter up for them free of any personal cost. Then if they only stuck together they would have considerable weight with any Government which might be in power, for they were entirely non-political and were not going to toady to either Liberal or Unionist, but would take what they could get from either party.

Mr. Roberts, of Croxton Kerrial (secretary of the Melton Branch), also spoke, after which Mr F. Shouler was appointed assistant secretary.

A committee was chosen, consisting of Messrs. R. C. Cooper (chairman), W. T. Kirk, J. H. Freestone, T. Carter, and Richmond.

[Reports of other meetings of the Union are unavoidably held over until our next issue.]

THE WEEK'S SHOWS.

Sussex County.

The Sussex County Agricultural Association held their twenty-first annual show at Hastings on Wednesday and Thursday last. It was a successful show in respect to attendance, and the excellent manner in which it was arranged. Compared with some of the former shows the number of entries was somewhat less, but as in the case of all migratory shows, these vary in accordance with the district wherein the show is held, and when comparison is made with the previous shows held at Hastings, the average total entries are fairly up to an average.

HORSES.

The agricultural horse section had seven classes. Mr. A. H. Clarke judged them. The winning stallion was King of Tandridge, owned by Mr. M. Michaelis, Mr. A. Luckin was second with Orfold Prince; a very fine brood mare, Rolleston Waif, won first in the class for the Marquis Camden; the Shire Horse Society's silver medal went to this mare, and her colt foal won in the foal class. Miss E. D. Coats, with Radmanthwaite Lily, was second for brood mares, and i's foal took third in the foal class. The second winner in this latter class was owned by Mr. G. Duke, the dam of which was reserve number in the brood mare class. Mr. Luckin won in the yearling class, followed by the Marquis Camden. In the two-year old class Mr. John Pearman had a pair of capital entries, his gelding by Hendre Champion was first, and his filly by Blythwood King Maker second. The three-year-olds had for their winners in the first and second places, two fine mares, Palterton Monica, owned by Mr. W. G. Fladgate, who was first, and Redlynch Saxifrage that took second for Miss Coates. The geldings secured preference in the four-year-old class, and three very fine ones, owned by Messrs. E. Duck, H. P. Ratcliff, and R. J. Howard occupied the first three places.

The Hunter brood mare class was a very good one, Victory won first and the gold medal for Sir M. R. Burrell. Mr. J. A. Joyce came second with Beatrice, leaving third honours for Black Agnes, owned by Mr. E. C. Gardner, a fine mare that took also the rn for the gold medal. Mr. J. A. Joyce had a fine colt by Wales, that won first in the foal class; Post Haste by Out Post took second honours for Mr. W. A. Thornton. Sir M. R. Burrell, with a beautiful colt, Prince of Orange, won first in the yearling class, taking also the Hayman Joyce Challenge Cup for the best yearling, Mr. Hornung taking second honours in the class with a gelding by Royal Mask, who was also made reserve number for the above challenge cup. The three winners in the two-year-old class were good ones of fine quality. The'r respective owners were Messrs. W. Dawtrey, S. H. Weston, and Sir M. R. Burrell. The three-year-olds were headed by Mr. Fladgate's Jennie and the Thoroughbred stallions by Rightful, owned by Mr. W. Wilson, whose second entry, Bramante, was reserve.

The special prizes for Hunters were awarded as follows:—Gold medal for brood mares to Sir Merrick Burrell's Victory; silver medal for fillies and the ladies' challenge cup for three-year-olds to Mr. W. Dawtrey's Petworth Lassie; and the Hayman-Joyce challenge cup for yearlings to Sir M. R. Burrell's Prince of Orange.

The driving and jumping classes and also the riding classes, together with the various competitors in the large ring, formed a very attractive feature, which was very much enjoyed by an excellent attendance.

CATTLE.

The cattle section of the show is an important one, particularly in respect to the breed most generally found in Sussex. An excellent class for milking cows opened this part of the schedule. Messrs. T. Watson and Green Bros. were first and second, and third and reserve went to Mrs. McIntosh for a couple of excellent Jerseys. In the dairy cattle class Mr. T. Watson and Green Bros. were the leading winners; Mr. G. Duck was the only competitor in the heifer class, and took first and reserve. The older bull class had for its winner Dunglass Conqueror, owned by Messrs. Green Brothers, and the Duke of Richmond with Polmaise Ivanhoe, won first in the yearling class. This was a very capital and well-bred Shorthorn bull. Bayham Armiger took third for Marquis Camden, leaving the second place for Mr. C. Duck's Lees Romancer.

The Sussex cattle made a particularly good entry, Sunlight 7th, owned by Earl Winterton, was made champion female. She won easily in her class, followed by the entries owned by the Earl of Derby and Mr. W. F. Winch. In the heifer classes the principal winners were Messrs. W. F. Winch, who won in the two-year-old class limited to the county; Mr. J. Aungier, who was first and second in that open to England; and the Earl of Winterton, who was first in a grand class of yearlings, followed by Mr. Saillard's entry. The champion bull was Mr. E. E. Braby's Lord of Drungewick 5th, first in the old bull class, Messrs. C. J. Lucas and H. Bell taking second and third. Mr. E. E. Braby with Alfred of Drungewick won in the two-year-olds, whilst in that excellent class of yearlings Mr. Saillard's Bewbush Duke was first.

The Aberdeen-Angus made a small but particularly good entry. Mr. G. Drummond won first for cows and old bulls, the latter was Eboniser to which the medal for the best animal in its section was given Black Forever of Ballindalloch, Sir G. Cooper's young bull, was first in its class and rn for the medal. First and second honours for heifers was won by Mr. J. H. Bridges.

The Jersey cattle made a notably good and fine entry. The champion prize for the best female went to Mr. A. Miller-Hallett for Goddington Pipkin, the Blythwood Bowl also going to this entry. Lord Rothschild's Palm Sunday, the winner in the two-year-old heifer class, took reserve number for these honours. Amongst the other leading winners were Mrs. McIntosh, Mr. F. Thomas, Lady de Rothschild, Admiral Brand, Mr. A. Pocock, &c. The champion prize for bulls was won by Lady de Rothschild's Gallant, first prize in the older bull class, Lord Rothschild's Oxford Wrangler, second in this class, taking the reserve number. Sir E. Stern won with Cupid, first in the young bull class, and Lady Blassey, first in the local class, with Lord Bathurst.

The Guernseys made a small but choice entry. Messrs. F. Hargreaves and E. A. Hambro were the principal winners. The Duchess of Devonshire and Mr. B. de Bertodano were the principal winners for Dexters.

SHEEP.

It is a matter of regret that the entries for the Southdown breed, particularly for the Hill flocks, showed a falling off in respect to number. In the class for flock ewes the Duke of Richmond won with a capital pen, followed by a very typical pen from Mr. A. Cooper. Third and reserve number were won by Messrs. A. M. Singer and Admiral Brand. The Duke of Richmond won the Challenge Cup for the best pen of Southdown Hill sheep; Mr. J. T. Strong, who was winner of first prize in the ewe lamb class with a very fine pen from the Hill flock, took reserve number for the cup. Messrs. Allan Cooper and A. M. Singer were the other winners in this class. Mr. J. Tompkins was first and second in the classes for Underhill ewes and ewe lambs, with specimens of the highest merit and quality. In the class for three yearling ewes, Mr. J. Colman and the Duke of Devonshire divided the honours, the former taking the Southdown Society's medal. The Duke of Richmond won first for two-shear rams, and the Duke of Devonshire r.n. In a good class of yearling rams, first honours and the champion medal for the best male Southdown went to Mr. J. Colman, the Duke of Richmond being r.n. for the latter honour with his two shear. The Exors. of Colonel McCalmont was second, third, and commended, for three particularly handsome yearling rams, and in the notably good class of ram lambs this flock won second, third, and fourth, leaving the first place for a particularly handsome lamb owned by the Duke of Devonshire, and the reserve number to one owned by Mr. J. Colman.

The Kent or Romney Marsh breed was not represented so largely as it should have been; Mr. J. B. Palmer won for yearling rams first and second, Mr. Quested for old rams, and Mr. Arthur Finn for flock ewes. The whole of the above were thoroughly typical and representative of their breed.

Warrington.

The eighteenth annual show of the Warrington and District Agricultural Society, like others held on Thursday, suffered from inclement weather, which was all the more to be regretted from the fact that the show was an excellent one in other respects, and bore eloquent testimony to the excellent work Sir Gilbert and Lady Greenall are doing for agriculture in the wide area of the society, which now embraces on the Cheshire side a distance of sixteen miles from Warrington, and on the Lancashire side twelve miles.

The Shire mares and foals made one of the best displays ever seen at this show. In the open class of Shire mares with foal at foot, Mr. James Gould's Lymm Blossom, a noted winner, beat Mr. Victor Cavendish's mare without much difficulty, and subsequently took the Shire Horse Society's gold medal. The district class of brood mares was well filled also, and the barren mare class was headed by a sturdy mare of Mr. Gould's. It was good to see well filled classes of local colt and filly foals.

In two and three-year-olds it might, perhaps, be better to separate geldings and fillies. At any rate, it is hard lines for any gelding to meet such a capital three-year-old mare as Mr. Sam Raingill's Locking Forest Blossom, by Lockinge Forester, one of the most promising young mares in England, and she had no difficulty in winning Sir Gilbert's champion cup for the best district mare or filly, and Mr. Stapleton Bretherton's special for the best Shire filly. Mr. Victor Cavendish's colt foal took Sir Gilbert's cup as the best Shire foal in the show. He is Lancashire bred, and his dam by Stalmine Premier, and he should do much to uphold the record of the Holker Stud. Sir Gilbert's cup for the best Shire shown by one of his tenants went to Mr. Alfred Broome, of Preston Brook, for a mare that was third in the barren class.

There was a capital show of Hunters, among the exhibitors being those well-known breeders Mr. J. Drage and Mr. Stokes. In heavy-weight novices Mr. Drage won with a brown, about which the catalogue vouchsafed no details, whilst a beautiful chesnut Hunter won the first prize in the open class for Mr. Drage. It was one of the best to ride on the field. The second was bred by Mr. Bulgall in Cumberland, and Mr. J. H. Stokes could only get third with Lyon's Mail. These were middle-weights. In heavy-weights Mr. Stokes's Whiskey won. The silver medal for the best filly went to Mr. Needham's first prize yearling. There has not been a better all round display of Hackneys in the breeding classes for many years. Mares were perhaps not quite so numerous, but there were more animals in the section than usual. The prizes were shared by Mr. A. Smith, St. Helen's; Messrs. Bentley and Sons, Knutsford; Sir Lees Knowles, Mr. Pimlott, Altrincham; and Mr. Enoch Sankey, Warrington.

The cattle also showed a marked improvement, thanks chiefly to the extension of the society's radius, for this allowed Mr. Raingrel to exhibit some of his well known dairy cows, and with animals which had won at Bolton and Barnsley he had things pretty much his own way, his winnings including the vice president's cup for the best cow or heifer in the tenant farmers' classes. Pigs were not particularly numerous, but of good quality, whilst cheese and butter were highly creditable.

Poulton-le-Fylde.

The sixth annual show of the Poulton-le-Fylde and District Agricultural Society since its resuscitation was held at Poulton on Wednesday in weather of the most wretched description. Rain fell in torrents throughout the day, with disastrous results to the society from a financial point of view; but, happily, the society is not likely to suffer, for at luncheon it was suggested that a subscription list should be opened to cover the probable deficit, and Mr. C. V. Haworth, of Poulton, generously offered £20 if £100 were raised. The entries numbered 1,094, a decrease compared with the 1,300 of last year, but this was accounted for by the fact that the classes for dogs were this year dropped out, and the horticultural section was considerably curtailed. The sheep dog trials, which proved a feature of the show at Blackpool last year, were also abandoned, so that the entries in the chief sections were quite equal to last year as regards numbers, whilst the quality, particularly in Shire and Hackney horses and poultry, was a big advance on previous years. The cattle classes were also very fine, while the poultry section was the best ever seen at the Poulton Show.

The August fair for cattle, sheep, and horses was held at Ashbourne on Friday, when calving cows made up to £20 for the best, secondary £10 to £18, useful heifers £15 to £16, and stirks £8 to £13. A number of bulls were shown, yearlings making £8 to £10, two-year-olds £12 to £14. Sheep were in fair supply, and met a sharp trade. Wethers 45s. to 55s., lambs 26s. to 35s. each.

Durham County.

The Durham County Agricultural Society were extremely unfortunate in having their first show in the Marquis of Londonderry's picturesque Wynyard Park spoilt by rain on Thursday last, for this marred the financial side of what otherwise proved a most successful show. In point of the number of exhibits, the entry was in excess of last year, the aggregate being 1,297, against 1,267. The increase was general in all the more important sections, particularly in cattle and sheep.

The Shorthorns are always a strong feature at the Durham Show, and when, as this year, it was held at Wynyard, the original home of the "pure Durham" breed, as the Shorthorns were formerly known, they formed the most notable section in point of merit. The promoters this year were fortunate in securing, through the good offices of the president, several exhibits from the Royal herds at the Home Farm, Windsor, and it was a matter of great satisfaction that his Majesty obtained several important prizes. Royal Windsor, a typical roan, headed the two-year-old class for bulls, and also obtained the challenge cup for the best Shorthorn breeding animal, while the King was equally successful in the class for bulls two years old, where his dark roan, Evander, was awarded the winning ticket in a strong class, which included Mr. George Harrison's Pride of Tees, and winner at other shows this season, whilst on the present occasion it won the Shorthorn Society's District prize. Mr. R. Booth, of Warlaby, won with Count Carlos in a class of fifteen novices, in which Mr. A. F. Nichol, of Belford, showed Village Monarch, which was given Lord Londonderry's special prize for bulls calved since January 1. The females were a very praiseworthy lot, Lord Londonderry heading the class for cows which have produced a calf in the last twelve months, and Mr. George Harrison taking the president's special prize with Montrave Wondrous. The King was also successful in the heifer section with a very promising roan heifer, Marjorie, of the famous Royal Chieftain strain.

The Polled Angus cattle were only a small show, and were notable for the success of Mr. T. H. Bainbridge, of Felton, who took seven out of the ten prizes, he securing the champion challenge cup, the silver medal, four firsts and one second. The dairy cattle classes hardly came up to expectations, but grazing cattle were better than usual.

The sheep were a capital lot, Border Leicesters were a creditable lot, and Black-faced sheep were better both in numbers and in excellence than has been the case in recent years. In the latter class Mr. John Robson, Newton, Bellingham, was as usual at these shows a conspicuous winner, he taking no fewer than seven awards in five classes — viz., four firsts, one second, and two thirds. The Oxford Down sheep classes obtained over 20 entries, and though shown last year at Durham for the first time, are evidently making headway in the county. The chief prize winners were Messrs. T. Oswald, J. Knox Lyal, F. Atkinson, and T. S. Clensby.

Agricultural horses made quite the feature of the show, and were the best lot seen at Durham Show for many years. In order that the terms of competition might be more even, special prizes were awarded in most of the sections for tenant farmers' entries, but it was encouraging to note that in several instances the tenant farmers took both the open award and that for farmers. Brood mares were only a small entry, but the youngsters were very numerous, and some extremely promising stock was exhibited. The Seaham Harbour Stud, Limited, again secured several of the premier awards with well-grown, upstanding juveniles, full of muscle and good flat joints, sharing with Mr. H. B. Marshall and other North Country breeders first honours in the older sections. Kitty Everard, a famous brood mare owned by the Seaham Harbour Stud, added to her former successes in the ring by winning the two championships for the best breeding animals in the heavy horse section. She is a beautifully built mare, with capital joints, feet, and quality, and thoroughly deserved her victory.

The Hunters were, for the most part, representative of the district, but some horses from the Yorkshire district tended to raise the quality, several notable horses which have won distinction in the Yorkshire rings being entered.

The best class was that for two-year-old geldings, where Mr. J. Walton's Glaisdale, a fine upstanding animal with good limbs and all the characteristics of a useful hunter, secured first place and the championship. The two-year-old fillies were only a moderate lot; three-year-olds reached a higher standard, a bay mare belonging to Mr. J. Beach worthily heading the class. Sir Lancelot, Mr. J. S. Rigg's sturdy chesnut gelding, better known as Sligo, the winner at the Cumberland and other shows this year, headed the weight carriers; while Mr. Edward Harrison added to his other honours by taking first in the light weights with a very nice bay gelding. The Hackneys were rather a mixed lot. Mr. Stephen Cliff, of Crayke, carried all before him in the brood mare, the foal and yearling class, and in the last-mentioned won with Crayke Sunshine, the filly which secured him premier awards at both the Bolton and the Yorkshire Shows. Ponies were quite an ordinary lot, and the entries for Dales ponies were poor.

Speaking as president at the luncheon held in connection with the show, the Marquis of Londonderry said he had been a lifelong advocate of the great cause of improving their breeds of farm stock. Now, more than ever before, they had to look to their live stock for their profits in farming. In these later times of rural depopulation and high-priced labour they were often told that if agriculturists would only provide good dwellings for their farm labourers and pay them good wages they would get plenty of farm labourers. At Wynyard he had model cottages for his labourers which would compare very favourably with any others; whilst in the county of Durham the rate of wages for farm labourers was about the highest in the kingdom, the average rate, including the value of the perquisites, coming out at 28s. per week. Yet, notwithstanding these cottages, he could not get a young labourer to stay on the land, for they went away to some of the great centres of the iron, steel, and coal industries, where 50s. and 60s. per week could be earned. The iron and steel trades and other great industries were booming in a wonderful way just now, and they were all glad to see it was so, for that meant a prosperous state leading to a large demand for their beef and mutton; but so long as such high wages could be realised in these industries, it was ridiculous to say they could keep labourers on the land and prevent rural depopulation by small holdings at the public expense which the Government proposed to give them.

Aspatria.

The twenty-eighth annual show of the Aspatria (Cumberland) Agricultural Society was held on the 10th inst., and though the weather was not altogether favourable, there was a record attendance of visitors, whilst seldom has the all-round excellence of the stock exhibited been exceeded. The Shorthorn cattle, which were an increase of twenty, included many promising young animals; cart horses were quite a feature of the show, there being much good Clydesdale blood in the district; whilst many of the light horses would have done well at many county shows. There was an excellent show of Border Leicester sheep, although the tup lambs were, owing to the season, somewhat backward in condition. There was a small but good show of butter.

Bakewell.

The entries at the show of the Bakewell Farmers' Club, held on Wednesday, were not quite so numerous as last year, and as regards numbers the show was somewhat disappointing, but the quality was well maintained. Shire horses were undoubtedly the feature of the show, the chief exhibitors being Mr J. W. Whitehurst, of Markheaton, Mr R Whitehead, Mr. A. Nicholson, of Leek, and Mr. S. S. Brittain, of Buxton. The silver challenge cup for the best Shire mare and foal went to Mr. Whitehurst, the Shire foal cup to Mr. Nicholson, and Mr. F. Whitehead, Ashbourne, secured the Shire Horse Society's medal. A useful lot of Hackney and harness horses were on view, and Messrs. Cockayne Bros, Sheffield, who captured the Hackney Society's medal, shared with Mr. W. E. Inman, of Huddersfield; Mr. John H. C. Marsden, of Rotherham; Messrs. W. and A. Holder, of Belper, and Mr. William Foster, of Moseley, the principal honours. Hunters were a disappointing show of only fourteen entries, among which Mr. F. B. Wilkinson, of Edwinstowe, was an outstanding winner.

There were excellent Shorthorn cattle on view, the chief successes falling to Mr. T. Atkinson, who headed a class of heavy bulls with his celebrated bull Moonlight, was first with his famous cow Jenny 19th, and also won in heifers with Lily of the Valley. There was a small show of sheep, and an interesting section was that for Derbyshire Gritstone sheep, a newly-named hill sheep of the Peak country.

The Duke of Rutland presided at the luncheon in connection with the show, and referring to the proposed changes in the system of land tenure, said that he trusted legislators would bear in mind that while it was very easy to upset a system which had existed for many centuries, it was not so easy to invent off hand a new system which would produce such good results. He felt that the Small Holdings Bill was brought in, not so much with any great desire to institute an immense number of small holdings throughout the country as to satisfy the political ambitions of certain persons who thought that by upsetting any old system they must of necessity benefit the community at large. The agitation with regard to small holdings was

very largely "faked." If they could get good small holders it would be for the advantage of everyone concerned, but he dreaded lest facilities should be given to those who knew nothing about farming or poultry rearing to take charge of thirty or forty acres of land from which it was expected that they could make a living which could only be done by a skilled agriculturist. Anything approaching a comfortable competence or other benefit that the Bill might confer on the community he would heartily welcome; but if the passing of the Bill involved the upsetting and the harming of agricultural interests it should be strenuously opposed.

Bishop's Castle.

The seventeenth annual show of the Bishop's Castle and District Agricultural and Horticultural Society was very successful, in fact, it is always an attractive event, for Bishop's Castle is situated in the centre of an important and flourishing agricultural district, and the society has done much to encourage local breeders of stock and also horticulturists. That the efforts have not been in vain was proved by the display of stock, &c. The entries numbered over 300, and comprised a good show of horses and Clun and Kerry sheep, for which the district is famous, whilst there were choice displays of cattle, poultry, eggs, and butter. The horticultural section was a highly creditable one, whilst other features of an interesting and varied show included turnouts, costume and Victoria Cross races, and sheep dog trials.

Blagdon Tenants.

Following the excellent example set in other directions, the Blagdon tenants of Lord Ridley have started an agricultural show confined to the Blagdon tenants, and that it will eventually prove as successful as other estate shows is to be sincerely hoped, for these shows are a most pleasing feature. The first show was held on Wednesday, and comprised over 200 entries, so that the start was quite an auspicious one. There were highly creditable displays of horses, cattle, and sheep, and these, with the other sections, made up an interesting show. Speaking at the luncheon, Lord Ridley said their agricultural show did not pretend to be ambitious of doing very much more than doing thoroughly what it was trying to do. He hoped it would be only the first of a long series of agricultural shows in connection with the estate. They were all aware of the advantages which such a show could produce in the way of increasing their knowledge of each other and of increasing the value of the stock upon their farms and in the way of promoting—if indeed that could be—the good fellowship that should exist between landlord and tenant.

Heanor.

The Heanor Agricultural and Horticultural Society have of late years experienced most unfavourable weather for their shows, and the natural result has been financial losses; and in view of this fact, it was deemed advisable to drop the classes for cattle, sheep, and pigs this year, so that at the show held on Tuesday the exhibits were confined to horses, poultry, pigeons, rabbits, mice, cage-birds, and the horticultural section. These afforded sufficient variety for the majority of visitors, but we should have liked to have seen sheep, cattle, and pig sections. The weather was not altogether favourable, but better than in recent years, and a more satisfactory financial result should be recorded later. As to the entries, they were up to the average of previous years. There were about the same number of draught horses, but a slight decrease in Hackneys and Shires, while Harness horses showed an increase. There was an increase in poultry, the exhibits numbering 166, and there were sixty-eight pigeons and 135 rabbits. Quality, too, was well maintained, whilst, if anything, the horses were better than usual.

Penistone.

The ill-luck of the Penistone Agricultural Society as regards weather for their show continued at last week's fixture, for frequent and heavy showers fell during the day, thus affecting the attendance, which, all things considered, was a good one.

Compared with last year, the aggregate of entries indicated a substantial drop, but the decline did not affect the leading sections, the main decrease being in the fanciers' classes. Horses numbered 140, against 130, being only six below record, and cattle made a better entry than ever before, forty-six, as against thirty, but sheep and pigs showed a slight decrease.

The agricultural horses were again the feature of the show, and in some respects the judges considered the collection, considering the size of the show, quite up to the display at the Yorkshire Show. The class for pairs of Shire horses for the president's cup brought out capital competition, though only four pairs were shown, and the best were judged to be the Duchess of Newcastle's well-known mares Carol and Clumber Buttercup, which won at the Notts County Show. The three-year-olds were a particularly strong class—the best of the section—and here Mr. Kay got premier honours with one of his pair over Clumber Buttercup, which had to go third. The light horses were rather disappointing, but some good Hackneys turned up, notably Mr. W. J. Tennant's Pontefract filly, a Royal and Yorkshire winner, which now conferred distinction on the three-year-olds, and Mr. G. C. Waud's Ferniehurst Fortuna, which again came to the front.

The cattle section, which was largely confined to local competition, was far ahead of recent years for quality, but the sheep section was not a strong one; there was, however, a good show of dogs, which proved attractive to many visitors.

Penrith.

The sixty-fourth annual show of the Penrith Agricultural Society, held on Tuesday, was one of the most successful of recent years, despite the fact that the weather was none too favourable. Entries of stock exceeded 500, the chief increase being in Shorthorns, these being principally among the younger stock. There was also a large addition to the sheep section, partly accounted for by Wensleydales being again brought in, and this proved to be one of the best features of the sheep classes. Many of the Shorthorns and horses which came together at the County Show were again in competition, and provided considerable interest to the many visitors.

Weston-super-Mare.

The tenth exhibition under the auspices of the Banwell and Weston-super-Mare Horse and Agricultural Association was held at the Recreation Ground, Weston-super-Mare. The association visit the two places in turn, and comparing the entries with those at the Weston Show in 1905, there was a satisfactory increase of forty, thus showing proof that the fixture is growing in popularity. By the public it has always been regarded with favour, and they flock to it in large numbers if the weather is fine. Fortunately this was the case last week, for although the morning opened stormy, and the earlier events had to be judged in the rain, this stopped about midday, and during the afternoon the sun shone brilliantly and attracted a large gate, exceeding that of Banwell twelve months ago.

The horse classes filled well, and in the open events there were some notable exhibits. Mr. G. F. Tilley, with a first class animal named Fashion, took the silver medal offered by the Hunters' Improvement Society for the largest hunter filly, while the silver medal offered by the Hackney Horse Society went to the celebrated Mignon, belonging to Dr. Fuller. Lord Winterstoke was well represented in the Shire section, and he won the silver medal for the best Shire mare or filly, first prizes for cart mare, Shire gelding, yearling cart filly, and sucking cart foal. Cattle made a good display for a local show; sheep were not numerous, but of good quality, whilst the cheese exhibits were on the whole satisfactory, and there was plenty of competition, but butter was only moderate.

Amongst the many sales from the famous Chilmark flock of Hampshire Downs during the season to home and foreign buyers, one of the best probably of the year, consisting of eight choice shearling and two-shear rams, has recently been shipped to Buenos Aires for Gilbert H. H. Kennedy, Esq.

Twenty Lincoln Long Wool shearling rams from Mr. George Hoyles' Skidby Manor flock were shipped on the 10th inst. on board the ss. *Voltaire* for the Argentine, and a further consignment of twenty has been selected and will follow in due course.

SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS.

WARWICKSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY (in conjunction with the Rugby and Dunchurch Agricultural Association).

THE ANNUAL EXHIBITION will be held at RUGBY on WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY, AUGUST 28 and 29 next.

Admission—1st Day, 2s. 6d.; 2nd Day, 1s.

JUDGING IN ALL DEPARTMENTS ON WEDNESDAY.

Special JUMPING CONTESTS each AFTERNOON, with DRIVING CLASSES on THURSDAY.

Band of 2nd Vol. Batt. Royal Warwickshire Regiment, Wednesday. — Rugby Steam Shed Silver Prize Band, Thursday.

The FIELD COMPETITIONS will take place on THURSDAY, on Mr. G. C. Allan's Farm, Clifton, Rugby.

POULTRY AND BEE DRIVING DEMONSTRATIONS by Warwickshire County Council's Experts.

First-class Luncheon, 2s. 6d.; Second Class, 1s.

CHEAP RAILWAY FARES, see COMPANIES' BILL.

FREDERICK H. MOORE, Secretary.

Warwick.

CHILTERN HILLS AND SOUTH-BERN BUCKS AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION SHOW, at HIGH WYCOMBE, on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1907.

OPEN CLASSES for SHIRES, HACKNEYS, HUNTERS, JUMPING and DRIVING, JERSEYS, SHORTHORNS, BUTTER, and HONEY.

For Schedule and Entry Forms apply to

JOSEPH BIRD, Secretary, 26, High Street, High Wycombe.

DAIRY SHOW, LONDON, OCT. 8, 9, 10 & 11.—Great Exhibition of DAIRY CATTLE, PRODUCE, APPLIANCES, &c. Entries close SEPT. 9.

Particulars of Wm. C. YOUNG, Secretary, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

THE EAST BERKS HORSE SHOW SOCIETY will hold its ELEVENTH ANNUAL HORSE SHOW

At Hawthorn Hill Racecourse (between Maidenhead and Bracknell), on

THURSDAY, AUGUST 22, 1907.

Entrance One Shilling all day.

Judging commences at 9 o'clock punctually.

Motor omnibuses will run from Maidenhead Station to the Show Ground, leaving Maidenhead at 12 o'clock noon, 2 p.m., and 2.30 p.m., returning at 5.15 p.m., 6 p.m., and 6.30 p.m.—C. H. W. DIXON, Hon. Sec., 4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, W.C.

SOUTHDOWN FLOCK BOOK.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Southdown Flock Book will be definitely closed to unregistered flocks on December 31 next, after which date no sheep from unregistered flocks will be accepted under any conditions whatever.

Owners who have not yet registered their flocks are earnestly requested to write for full information respecting the Southdown Sheep Society to

W. J. WICKHAM, Secretary.

12, Hanover Square, London, W.

THE ABERGAVENNY HORSE SHOW AND AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL EXHIBITION of HORSES and AGRICULTURAL STOCK, TOTAL PRIZES, £400, will be held in Bailey Park, Abergavenny, on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1907.

Entries close August 20. Double Fees Sept. 1.

Secretaries — MESSRS. JAMES STRAKER & SON, Auctioneers and Valuers, Abergavenny.

KINGTON HORSE SHOW, SEPTEMBER 19, 1907.

Competition Open to the United Kingdom. £350 in PRIZES and FOUR SILVER MEDALS.

Heavy Weight Hunter—
1st Prize, £20; 2nd, £10; 3rd, £5.
Light Weight Hunter—
1st Prize, £10; 2nd, £5.

Entries close Sept. 3, or with Double Fee, Sept. 7. Prize Schedules and Entry Forms from the Secretary, T. H. VAUGHAN MORRIS, Byford House, near Hereford.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD & LINSLADE FOAL SHOW SOCIETY, held on SEPTEMBER 17 (TUESDAY).

Entries close September 3. Post entries (double fees) September 10.

WALTER C. PRUDAMES. } Hon.
W. GRAVELY W. WILLIS } Secretaries.

OKEHAMPTON AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

The 17th ANNUAL EXHIBITION of Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Dairy and Garden Produce, Poultry, and Pigeons, will be held at Okehampton, on SEPTEMBER 12.

Prizes about £300.

OPEN PRIZES for HUNTERS and HACKS. JUMPING, DRIVING, SHEEP, &c.

Schedules and Entry Forms of CHAS. J. FUTCHER, Hon. Sec. Okehampton.

Entries close August 31. Separate Schedules for "General," "Poultry and Pigeons" Section. Please state which required.

HAY HORSE SHOW, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1907.

Entries close on September 5th; double fees, September 12th.

REECE MORRIS, Secretary, Broad Street, Hay, Hereford.

CLYDESDALE HORSE SOCIETY.

STUD BOOK VOL. XXX.

ENTRIES at ORDINARY FEES CLOSE on 31st inst. Forms and all information from—

ARCHD. MACNEILAGE, Secretary, 93, Hope Street, Glasgow.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—THE FOURTH ANNUAL SHOW will be held in the BATH GROUNDS, ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH, on WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 4, 1907. Prizes amounting to over £340 will be offered. Open classes for HUNTERS, JUMPING, FOALS by Messrs. EVERARD'S, W. BARR'S, and H. EARP'S HORSES, and for POULTRY. ENTRIES for all CLASSES (except Jumping) CLOSE on AUGUST 28th certain. By kind permission of Col. A. C. Cantrell Hubbersty and the officers of the regiment, the full MILITARY BAND of the ROBIN HOOD RIFLES will play during the day, and in the evening a GRAND DISPLAY OF FIREWORKS will be given by Messrs. Wilder, Birmingham. Particulars from the Secretary, H. GERMAN, Market Street, Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

Nottinghamshire Notes.

DISASTROUS! This one word sums up the weather we have been having in this part of the country during the past week. On Wednesday evening rain commenced to fall about eight o'clock and continued without a break until after four o'clock this morning. It was not an ordinary rainfall, but at times appeared to descend in sheets. Between one and half-past this morning nearly one-third of an inch fell, while the total fall recorded in the city of Nottingham yesterday was 880 in.

NATURALLY the crops have suffered considerably from this latest deluge, and Mr. R. Allsebrook, a large farmer residing at Prestwold, on the borders of Notts and Leicestershire, writes to me this evening, stating: "Last night's rain laid all oats and barley flat. I do not think the binder will work in it."

MOTORING from Nottingham to Newark this evening, the extent of the damage done to the rapidly ripening crops was apparent on all sides. Oats, almost without exception, are all laid; the barleys are in a similar predicament, while scarcely a single field was to be seen where more than half of the crop stood straight up.

IRISH harvesters are arriving in the district in larger numbers than last year, and farmers are engaging them as fast as they come. It is very certain that a large acreage of the corn crops will this year have to be cut by hand, as they are "raffled" in all directions. Labour, too, owing to briskness at the collieries, is scarce.

HARVEST operations have already commenced in this district, several fields of winter oats having been cut. Writing to me from Cropwell Butler, Mr. Henry Smith, jun., says: "I never remember hay and corn harvest over-lapping, but at the time of writing (August 13) I am carting hay and cutting winter oats. Spring oats are about ready, and peas will be ready next week. There may be some barley ready the following week, but wheat looks like standing till September."

THE condition of the crops in the lace county is admirably summed up in a letter I have received from Mr. G. H. Elliot, agent for Mr. R. Millington Knowles, at Colston Bassett. Mr. Elliot says: "Beans are over an average crop; wheat about an average; barley, under average; oats, average."

REFERRING to other branches, Mr. Elliot says: "Mangolds look well, thin plant in places, and they need warmth. Hay crops have been heavy, very badly weathered, and stacked in an unsatisfactory condition. There is plenty of keep in the pastures, yet the stock are not doing as well as desired. The total absence of genial weather and the low temperature have undoubtedly had a marked effect on all classes of stock. Ewes look well, but lambs are doing very badly, lung worm being very troublesome. Everything on the farms in this district would benefit by bright, warm weather."

PROFESSOR BLACKSHAW, head of the Agricultural College, Kingston, sends me a letter relating to that part of the district which comprises a portion of Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, and Leicester. Mr. Blackshaw says:—"Had the weather taken up a month ago, I should have been able to report very favourably. As it is, anything that gave promise of being a good crop has been so knocked about by the rough weather that harvesting will be exceedingly difficult, and both the quantity and quality of the yield must suffer considerably."

SPEAKING to Mr. Wilton Allsebrook, J.P., of the Apsley Hall Farm, yesterday, he informed me that he had just returned from a motoring tour through the greater part of the Midlands, and also Lincolnshire and Norfolk, and he considered that the damage done by the heavy rains of the past fortnight amounted almost to a national calamity, thousands of acres of oats in the Fens being irretrievably ruined. They had got down, many of them being rotten and grown through. The barleys, too, have suffered considerably.

MR. ARTHUR A. AVIS, the manager of the Nottingham Corporation Farm at Stoke Bardolph, was married to-day at the pretty little village church of Shelford, on the banks of the Trent. His bride was Mrs. Sutherland, widow of the late Dr. Sutherland, of Netherland, and I am sure the many friends of Mr. Avis who are readers of the MARK LANE EXPRESS will join with me in wishing him and his wife long life and happiness. Mr. Avis has not previously been married.

SMALL holdings were dealt with by the Duke of Rutland in his after dinner speech at the Bakewell Farmers' Show yesterday. He pointed out that the Small Holdings Bill was brought in by the Government with no great desire to institute an immense number of small holdings throughout the land, but to satisfy certain political ambitions. The agitation which had been got up in favour of small holdings was largely faked. Anything approaching a comfortable competence or any benefit to the community he would personally welcome most heartily. But only skilled agriculturists could produce this, and if the proposals were going to harm agricultural interests, they should be strenuously opposed.

THE Duke, who presided, evidently meant what he said, and his speech was well received. Among those present were the Marquis of Granby (who attains his twenty-first birthday next month) and Mr. Payne Gallivey (the Duke's agent). The show was a great success, so far as the exhibition of stock was concerned, but the wet afternoon militated against a large attendance of visitors. There were 320 entries, which is thirty-three less than a year ago.

MEMBERS of the Nottinghamshire Agricultural Society paid a visit to the Agricultural College at Kingston on Tuesday and inspected the dairy, piggeries, poultry-pens, experimental plots, &c., from which several of those present acknowledged they had gained valuable hints. The party was conducted round the farm by the principal of the college (Mr. J. F. Blackshaw), and just prior to the party leaving for home, Councillor H. Heath, J.P., moved a resolution, to be recorded on the minutes, expressing their satisfaction at what they had seen, and recording the opinion that the County Councils should not in any way diminish the grant to the college, but rather increase it. Mr. Harry Wyles, of Cropwell, seconded, and it was carried with unanimity.

SEVERAL farmers in the county have this week sold their wool in view of harvest time, when all available ready cash is necessary; but from what I hear they would have done better had they effected a sale as soon as the sheep had been clipped. At that time all hogg wool was making from 30s. to 32s. per tod. The prices made during the past few days appear to have been as follows: All hogg wool, 26s. to 28s. per tod of 28 lb.; half hogg and half ewe, 25s. 6d. to 27s.; and all ewe, 24s. to 26s.

R. K.

August 15, 1907.

West Country Notes.

HEAT from overhead is still being ardently—hitherto almost hopelessly—desired. From the other direction heat of a kind not desired is sometimes manifesting itself. I am not referring to the natural consequences of the farmer's desire to make hay as rapidly as possible whilst the sun shines, but to that sort of mischief which those whom the weather renders short of employment fall into.

IN this respect a curious point has arisen which shows that the effects of the new Workmen's Compensation Act are very far reaching, and cause unexpected troubles. To tackle a fire which had broken out in a rick the fire brigade from the neighbouring town were summoned by a farmer. The captain was too much of a man to let the summons go unheeded, but he was also too shrewd to incur any liability under the Act by calling upon men to aid him.

NATURALLY there was considerable feeling upon the subject, and the opinions of eminent legal gentlemen were very much in favour of the captain's position being a sound one. They admitted, however, that they could not possibly decide such a point until a case had been taken to the courts.

THE question at issue is one that affects the agricultural community far more than the dweller in the town. In the town, though the firemen run considerable risks, they have not the labour of using a manual engine, and there due insurance is fairly and properly attended to by the corporation or urban council. The policies, however, apply to town conditions.

OUT in the country, the men of the Brigade having to attend to many duties of salvage, have to rely on casual helpers for working the pump. Now, though these are casuals, for the same reason that I pointed out once before in connection with hay-makers, it is quite possible it may be held that the business of a fire brigade being to extinguish fires, any help they employ may bring them within the exceptional clause.

THE parish councils and parish meetings have a means of securing themselves against such a catastrophe as may arise from not being able to obtain the services of a brigade, by subsidising the nearest available firemen's corps, and enabling them to effect the insurance, which will do away with the difficulty.

THE National Fruit and Cider Institute has, I learn, met with a serious loss, the whole of their supply of bottled fruits having been stolen after they were packed for despatch from a recent show, where they had been exhibited. As there was no reserve of these, the samples being done on an experimental scale only at present, it follows that for practically another year the information which might have been available to the interested student of the Institute's exhibits will be impossible to impart.

THIS is a most irritating thing, and it is hoped that due punishment will be meted out to the culprits, some trace of whom has, I gather, been discovered. Apparently it was the cider exhibits which stood first in the estimation of the culprits. Our friends at Long Ashton would prefer a testimonial of a less dubious character.

STANLEY is a name great in the West, as in some other parts, and the introduction of a bearer of the cognomen to the Devon and Somerset Stag Hunt as master of the famous pack that hunts the wild red deer, was the great event of the opening meet at Cloutsham lately.

MR. E. A. V. STANLEY succeeds Mr. S. A. Sanders, after a reign of the latter of twelve years, during which the traditions of the pack were most fully maintained, and the experience of the new master should still further enhance the splendid record.

THE Cornwall and Somerset Brigade of Volunteers had an opportunity very few indeed of them have had before of witnessing an exciting and characteristic termination of a run before they left their camp at Minehead. The hunted deer took to the sea, and swam about three miles, being hunted in a boat when the pack and huntsmen could no longer follow, turned back to shore, and there received the happy despatch.

THE Yeovil Rural Council have been inquiring systematically into the demand for small holdings in their neighbourhood. They have come to the conclusion that it does not exist. In twenty-eight parishes small holdings already exist, and no more are wanted. Only in the remaining nine was there any suggestion of a demand.

August 16, 1907.

DAIRY.

Gloucestershire and Somerset Farmers and the Butter Bill.

In a reply to a copy of a resolution passed by the Gloucestershire and Somerset Dairy Farmers' Society, Sir Edward Strachey has written:—"This resolution is a misstatement like many others made about the Butter and Margarine Bill. The Government have not legalised the sale of adulterated butter by their Bill. They have provided by the Bill that no milk-blended butter shall in the future be sold or described as butter. The farmer's trade mark 'butter' will not be allowed to be infringed as the Bill provides against its illegal use in future."

Chester Cheese Fair.

At Chester Cheese Fair on Wednesday there was a pitch of 70 tons of cheese, and a good attendance of buyers. Quotations were as follows:—Best lots, 57s. to 62s. per cwt.; medium, 52s. to 55s.; lower grades, down to 48s. per cwt.

For once in a while weather favoured the August Fair on Cow Hill, Newcastle, which took place on Wednesday. There was a good average show of horses, but the number of cattle was rather lower than usual. Amongst the horses those for heavy town work were best represented, and they realised good prices. There were also a few harness horses. It was estimated that there were about 1,000 cattle on offer. Most of these were Irish feeding cattle, which realised from £13 to £18 each, there being some nice beasts amongst them. Wintering cattle were rather scarce, and there was a strong enquiry for them, which could not be satisfactorily met. They were selling at from £8 to £13. Only a few dairy cows were on offer, and no bullocks were to be seen.



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SURE KILL for MOULD AS WELL AS APHIS on HOPS.

Costs 2/6 per 100 Gallons of DILUTED WASH, Ready for Use.

IT IMPROVES THE GROWTH OF THE PLANT & IMPARTS A GOOD COLOUR TO HOP SAMPLES.

NON-POISONOUS AND FREE FROM ARSENIC.

Full particulars from the Sole Manufacturers,

E. A. WHITE, Limited,

HOP AND FRUIT GROWERS.

PADDOCK WOOD, KENT.

MERRYWEATHER'S

PATENT

STEAM SPRAYING APPARATUS



Used by a large number of Hop Growers in Kent, &c.

Ask particulars and Expert Advice.

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JOYCE'S PATENT AUTOMATIC

PURE HOT AIR

System of

HOP DRYING.

FIRST PRIZE, SPECIAL SILVER MEDAL,

AWARDED AT THE

TUNBRIDGE WELLS & S. E. COUNTIES AGRICULTURAL SHOW, JULY, 1907.

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F. WALKER, Tithby, Notts



The Proximate Harvest.

England.

Having arrived at the middle of August we should be able to forecast with comparative certainty the yield of our plantations. About a month ago the prospect then presented, founded upon the reports of that time, induced me to venture upon an estimate that appeared to be justified by the conditions then prevailing. During the interval that has elapsed I have found no reason for changing my views until this week. It is now impossible to ignore the fact that we are in a very critical position. The bine has completed its growth, and is engaged in finishing its work.

Flowering is everywhere evident, and the earlier sorts are changing the burr into hops. It is clear that the process of development is slow and dragging, and when we look for the cause we find it in the unkindly character of the weather, which is not assisting the plant as it usually does at this season. Otherwise, the reports recently to hand are quite as favourable as they were, but the absence of sunshine, with gusty cool winds, and especially the low temperature at night, is arousing anxiety and creating doubts as to the final issue.

Without warmer weather, and in some places, further genial rains, it is most probable that the cones will not grow out, and if this is the result of the climate, the condition of the fruit must be deteriorated, and the weight materially reduced.

I am, therefore, compelled to moderate my optimism, and to lower my expectation concerning the coming crop by about 20 per cent. I am not sorry to make this change, as I cannot see that any advantage can accrue to English planters from a large output. There is a better opening for remunerative prices if the crop is comparatively light, and I trust that however it may turn out, the financial results will be satisfactory to all concerned.

An examination of the various opinions expressed both by growers and traders shows that they travel round about the somewhat indefinite quantity called the "average." Being desirous to arrive at some reliable basis of calculation, I sought for information in the Government returns. I am aware that these are questioned, but as we have no other authority to appeal to we are compelled to accept them for the nonce. Taking the figures furnished for the past ten years, which include the exceptionally heavy crops of the years 1899, 1901, and 1905, the average yield per acre comes out at 9 81 cwt.

Assuming, as it seems to be generally assumed, that the climatic conditions during the next four weeks will hardly allow us to harvest a full average, we may be allowed to accept 8½ to 9 cwt. as being near to the average for this season. We are not certain of our present acreage, but if we take it at 45,000 acres, we arrive at a possible crop of 380,000 to 400,000 cwt. Putting together the various ideas that I have heard during the last week, I am inclined to think that such a figure as the above will be accepted by most people who have studied the question, therefore I will leave this debatable point and wait the real result, which we shall soon be able to settle.

America.

A correspondent in California informs me that the picking on the Horst plantations was to commence August 1, this date being fixed in consequence of the early maturing of the hops and the prospective shortage of pickers. The crop on these grounds is reported as being unusually heavy. Durst Brothers were also advertising for pickers to commence work on August 8, and were offering as wages 90 cents (3s. 9d.) per 100 lb., with a bonus of 10 cents per 100 lb. to all who stay until picking is finished.

It is estimated that the crop of California will be about one-fourth less than last year, but whatever deficiency there may be in this State will be amply made up by the heavy crops that are promised in Oregon and Washington. The reports from New York State continue to be favourable, although stormy weather has rather interfered with previous expectations. Some estimates put the Oregon crop at 175,000 bales, but I am inclined to think this is an extreme figure.

Germany.

A friend writing me from Alsace says that the present conditions in that province are satisfactory on the whole. The plantations are generally well grown, and the crop prospects are very promising. Some cold weather has been experienced in Bavaria, but being succeeded recently by genial warmth, the development of the growth is now distinctly marked. There is also a remarkable absence of vermin, and altogether the position is as satisfactory as it can be. The harvest of the early sorts commences this week, and some bales have arrived from Styria, and have been sold at 100s.

Belgium.

Recent rains have benefited the plantations in Alost Fly and lice are cleared off, and sound health is the rule. In the Asseke district there is notable improvement, the laterals are growing rapidly, and although a little blight remains, it is gradually disappearing. There are complaints from Poperinghe of the want of rain and the consequent presence of vermin. But these disadvantages do not hinder the progress of the plant, which is in full flower, and in many grounds is developing healthy cones. The general prospects are favourable for a full average crop.

Concerning the Markets.

London.

The Borough is waiting further news from the country, and many and varied are the opinions expressed as to the crop prospects. There are some whose views on this subject are limited to an average of 7 cwt. an acre, but the majority support the expectation of a yield round about 400,000 cwt. The actual tone of the market seems to confirm the optimists, as demand is non-existent, and values are consequently nominal, with a tendency towards further reduction. It is generally accepted that no recovery is possible until the arrival of the early pickings, and as the harvest is not likely to commence before the second week in September, trade will probably remain in abeyance till that date.

Nuremberg.

Business in 1906 hops is at present practically closed. A few bales have changed hands at reduced prices, holders being nervously anxious to sell, and buyers only operating to suit actual necessities. All the dealers are talking of very low rates in the early future, some of them predicting a currency of 20s. or thereabouts. This is hardly possible, although the present quotations, ranging from 20s to 60s., would appear to indicate that still lower figures will be heard of when new supplies arrive.

Brussels.

Alost 1906 hops are being pressed for sale at 43 francs, and Pops at 32 francs, equal to about 35s. 6d. and 30s. 6d. English money. But buyers cannot be interested, and trade is very dull. Speculators are offering new crop hops at 40s. to 46s.

America.

Both in the New York and the Pacific Coast markets stagnation prevails. We hear occasionally of a grower, tired of waiting, forcing a sale at some ridiculous figure. But there is no legitimate business, nor is any revival possible until the new crop is brought forward.

The King, who is patron of the Royal South Bucks Agricultural Association, has given a handsome silver cup, of the value of 20 guineas, for competition at the association's exhibition in October. The trophy is for "the tenant farmer renting not less than 50 acres of arable land, who shall show the best cultivated root crops generally." There is a ploughing match in connection with the exhibition, and his Majesty also offers a prize of 5 guineas for the best ploughman in the field.

The 1907 edition of "Bibby's Annual" has made its appearance a month or two before its time, and this will be welcomed by all who have had the pleasure of reading the previous issues. Its illustrations, in both colour and black and-white, have deservedly earned it a widespread reputation, whilst the variety of the reading matter and the subjects dealt with have made it a welcome visitor wherever it has gone; in fact, for a shilling's-worth of reading and pictures "Bibby's Annual" would be hard to equal. The present number fully maintains the high standard of the publication; it is regretted by many that it has become an annual instead of a quarterly. At one time it used to be really a big advertisement for the well-known manufactures of Messrs. Bibby and Co., Liverpool, but now, beyond advertisements on the cover—and these are in themselves artistic—the Annual has no advertisements either in picture or prose of Bibby's cakes, &c.; therefore, those who have not yet made the acquaintance of the Annual should do so, and can rest content that they are not paying a shilling for an advertisement, but for honest value. We are informed that the Annual costs more to produce than the sum charged for it, and this we can readily believe.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Sunday Harvesting in a Catchy Season.

SIR,—Sunday is the most sacredly blessed institution we have in this country, and to turn it into either a day of labour or one of exciting pleasure would be disastrous to the nation. The exacting demands of this age are responsible for a great strain on the minds and bodies of men, and without the weekly rest day when the machinery of business stands still for a spell, I question if human nature could hold out long at the pace it is going.

The influence of Sunday is felt everywhere, and happily for us it is an influence of rest and peace. Even on a farm where life is never very exciting, and where certain operations have to be performed on the Sabbath there is an air of quietude about Sunday which is absent on every other day. But the point I wish to arrive at is whether there are circumstances in which a farmer is justified in turning Sunday into a day of labour.

This is a matter that has disturbed more than one mind during the past month, and I am prompted to write this letter by an instance which recently came before my notice. It is needless to say what a trying season this has been for haymaking, and at the moment of writing there is a good deal to be got in.

Two farmers on adjoining holdings had got hay ready for carrying, and Sunday was a fine day. One of them—a thoroughly upright and conscientious man—felt justified, under the circumstances, in bringing his wagons into the field on Sunday and picking up the hay. The religious principles of the other prevented him doing the same, rain came the following day and for some days after, and when the hay could eventually be carried it was of little value. In the action he took did the first farmer violate the sacred laws of the Sabbath?

I respect the opinions of everyone in a matter of this kind, but in my opinion he did not. I would go to extreme measures in preventing Sunday ever becoming a day of unnecessary labour; but there is work of necessity that must be done on the farm on Sundays as well as weekdays, and in a season like this when things have got really serious owing to the unfavourable weather, it has been a work of real necessity to miss no opportunity of carrying hay.

In short, it has been a case of emergency, and emergencies have to be met by courses of action that would not be justified in other circumstances. We are certainly very illogical in many of our views. The public mind pretends to be shocked if a farmer, driven to distraction almost by a catchy hay season, takes his wagons into the field and pursues harvesting operations on Sunday; yet some folk play golf on Sunday, and others rush about the country on pleasure bent in motors, and the people who profess to be scandalised at the poor farmer who picks up a bit of hay on the Sabbath, look on unmoved, simply, I suppose, because they have got used to it.

Finally, we do not want Sunday to be a time of work or pleasure. It should be a day of rest, but in a season like this there are circumstances which justify a farmer from departing from the latter rule.—Yours, &c.,

LUX.

August 14, 1907.

Cost of Road Maintenance.

SIR,—I am not surprised that the figures I quoted lately with regard to the cost of Warwickshire main roads should seem incredible to some readers. An increase in the annual cost of upkeep, amounting to nearly £10,000 per annum, is assuredly remarkable. But the figures given were correctly extracted from a recent official report of the County Council.

Perhaps a note of explanation may be advisable. In the first place, the wear and tear of road surfaces in the manufacturing and mining districts is considerable, and farmers, like others, have to contribute towards making it good. In the second, the County Council of Warwickshire has taken over a good many miles of road during the last ten years. Sometimes the smaller local authorities would much prefer to keep these thoroughfares in their own hands, imagining (no doubt correctly) that they could keep them better, or more cheaply. But in the present circumstances they are not permitted to try the experiment.—Yours, &c.,

YOUR MIDLAND CORRESPONDENT.

What Shall We Eat?

SIR,—The above question is just now much under consideration, and the advocates of vegetarianism profusely ventilate their views. They seem to trace much of the evil in life to the consumption of meat. But I have not observed that any of them point out that our first parents incurred penalty for partaking of the "fruit of the garden," rather than from fancy for viand. Nor if the produce of the ground is so preferable to animal supply why the order of the former, and denial of the latter was a punishment to Nebuchadnezzar?

Rejoicing for the return of the prodigal was celebrated by "killing the fatted calf," but to what extent the hilarity would have been increased by the feast consisting of potatoes or onions is quite a matter of conjecture.

It is rumoured that should the vegetarians agitate for separate political representation that candidates of that ilk for Parliament will appear, who, though not indisposed for some attention to national affairs, will strive for legislation chiefly on greengrocery principles.—Yours, &c.,

August 14, 1907. RUN ALONE.

The Crops in Derbyshire.

SIR,—The main topic with farmers in this district is the hay harvest. There was just one week of warm weather, but since then it has been little else but wet. There is still a large quantity to be gathered in yet; in fact, many farmers have still a fair amount to cut. Those fields that were cleared in good time have a nice amount of aftermath on, but pastures generally are rather bare.

Wheat and oats seem nice crops, but badly laid, and will be late, as they were very backward at shooting. I think apples will be rather a poor crop, but there is a large amount of plums. Mangolds and swedes seem to be doing fairly well, but potatoes are poor.

Cows are milking fairly well, and new-calved ones are selling at a good price. Beef also sells well, and the same can be said of mutton.—Yours, &c.,

August 15, 1907. BELPER.

The Agricultural Outlook in Berks.

SIR,—The crops in this district, taken all round, are very bulky, favoured by a mild winter, showery spring, and one week's very hot weather in July; until lain and twisted by recent heavy rains, I had never seen better promise. Now the harvesting must be very expensive, whether cut by hand or machine; if by latter, a little patience will be required, especially should this stormy weather continue, and will prove the more costly of the two.

Wheat cutting commenced on August 12; the straw is very long, and the yield will be variable, quality inferior, quantity under the average, owing to a bad blooming time and lack of sunshine generally all the summer. Webb's Red Standard variety has stood the storms well, and should prove one of the best yielders. According to your paper of last week I notice an opinion, Should farmers thrash steady, and not glut as last year the market at starting, prices are not only likely to keep up, but to advance.

Barley, where standing up, is ripening kindly; with favourable weather, good quality and satisfactory prices may be expected. Secondary sorts will find a market owing to the high price of foreign.

Oats good. Plenty of straw, although badly lain; should think would yield above the average. The cutting of winters now in full swing.

Beans in this neighbourhood are a crop of a lifetime, both winters and spring far above the average.

Clovers, sainfoins, and grasses were all good crops, but hay good, bad, and indifferent, has been made; the greater portion will have to be fed at home to advantage. The haymaking season of 1907 will long be remembered by farmers as a vexatious time.

Roots. — Mangolds, as a plant, are good. Turnips and swedes, owing to the showery weather, are very foul, many fields not even singled out yet, and harvest commenced.

Potatoes a good crop, but disease has already shown itself on the heavy soils.

Beef continues to sell fairly well, and store cattle are enhancing in value.

Sheep.—Mutton has been very dear all the summer, and lamb maintained its price. Ewe tegs and store lambs have sold well at our Ilsley markets. No doubt the cheques from this source have again proved to the farmer that sheep are their best financial friend. It is pleasing to note the high honours obtained by a tenant farmer (Mr. G. Adams, of Faringdon) at the Royal and other shows with his Oxfordshire Downs.

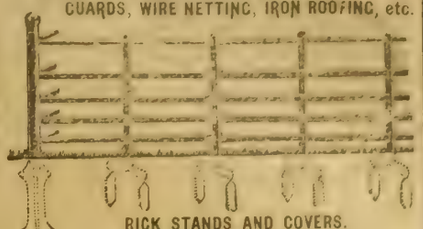
Pigs.—Bacon still commands its price owing to shortage from America. Hogs are 10s. per score. Stores sold very well until the Board of Agriculture intervened with the licence movement, now but few pigs are being marketed. It is quite time these restrictions were removed, and I am asking the chairman of the Berks County Council Executive Committee to petition the Board of Agriculture to that effect, or what waste there will be in the fields if we cannot send our pigs stubbling.—Yours, &c.,

FREDERICK A. SMITH.

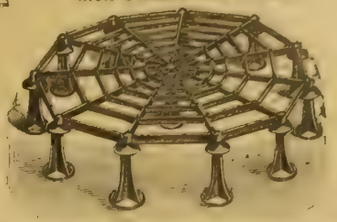
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Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

Manurial Value of Cake on Meadow Land.

The Yorkshire Council for Agricultural Education report in their recently issued pamphlet, No. 67, an interesting experiment to test the relative manurial value of dung from fattening bullocks receiving

(1) Decorticated cottonseed cake
(2) Undecorticated cotton cake,

and to also ascertain the relative advantages of the application of fresh dung against rotten dung.

There were six plots of each. Three plots were manured in January, 1900, with fresh manure at the rate of 10 tons per acre, and three in March, 1900, with rotten manure, the residue of a quantity equal to 10 tons of fresh manure per acre. In the springs of 1901, 1902, 1903, and 1904 all the plots received nitrate of soda at the rate of 1½ cwt. per acre.

	Decorticated Cotton Seed Meal. 100 tons per acre. Fresh Manure applied Jan., 1900. cwts. qr.	8 tons 1 cwt. 2 qr. per acre Rotten Manure applied March, 1900. cwt. qr.
Average of plots, 1900	45 0	37 2
Average of 3 plots per annum for 4 years 1901-1904	46 0	41 2
Balance per acre in favour of Fresh Manure, 1900	7 2	—
Balance per acre per annum, showing the greater residual value of manure applied *fresh* in 1900..	4 2	—

	Undecorticated Cotton Cake. 10 tons per acre Fresh Manure, applied Jan., 1900. cwt. qr.	7 tons 6cwt 2 qr. per acre Rotten Manure applied March, 1900. cwt. qr.
Average, 3 plots, 1900	44 0	38 0
Average of 3 plots per annum for 4 years, 1901-1904	46 2	43 3
Balance per acre in favour of fresh manure, 1900	6 0	—
Balance per acre per annum showing the greater residual value of manure applied fresh in 1900	2 3	—

Imports of Fertilisers During the Month of July.

	1906. Quantities. tons.	1907. Quantities. tons.	1906. Value. £	1907. Value. £
Bones, whether burnt or not	1,780	4,147	7,451	19,421
Guano	271	285	1,444	1,607
Nitrate of soda (cubic nitre)	5,540	9,465	76,385	102,455
Phosphate of lime, and rock phosphate	46,504	43,494	89,997	69,348

Manuring of Cabbages.

As the result of some trials made by the Cockle Park Experimental Station to ascertain the best system of applying dung and fertilisers for the cultivation of cabbages, it is shown that the best results are produced by a combination of dung and a complete fertiliser. In the composition of the complete fertiliser it would appear that nitrogen in the form of nitrate of soda is better than as sulphate of ammonia; that slag does not answer for this crop quite as well as superphosphate; that muriate of potash is better than sulphate of potash, and that when dung is used nitrogen or potash can be omitted with less advantage than phosphates.

The experiments have not been carried on long enough to yield results which can be regarded as conclusive, and they are therefore being continued this year. In the meantime, it is suggested that a good dressing per acre would consist of 10 to 12 tons of dung, supplemented by 1 cwt. sulphate of ammonia, 3 cwt. slag, 2 cwt. superphosphate (26 per cent.), and 1 cwt. muriate of potash, all applied in the drills, with the addition of 1½ cwt. nitrate of soda applied in two top-dressings. On the heavier classes of soils the muriate of potash might be omitted.

Correspondence dealing with Fertilisers and Feeding Stuff appears in the regular correspondence columns of the paper. We think it unnecessary to publish the table of unit values in each issue. It will be published in the first issue of each month.

Improvement Gained by Plant Breeding.

What can be done by a careful choice of seed and plant selection is shown clearly in the last report of the Canadian Experimental Union.

The Agricultural College of Ontario has introduced into the variety tests on its experimental farm about 2,000 varieties of field crops. This testing has been followed by the persistent improvement by seed selection of those varieties proving best, and by the yearly distribution through the Experimental Union of the latest and best improved stocks. The following table shows how these improved stocks have compared under the condition of these experiment station tests with some of the leading standard varieties used in the Province. Here no factors entered to give differences in yields save the hereditary powers of the respective varieties. The experimenter's skill introduced, discerned, and improved those which through a long series of years proved to yield the largest value per acre.

Comparative Results in Plots at Ontario Agricultural College of some New and Old Varieties.

Varieties.	Years tested.	Per Acre bushels.	Increase per cent.
Siberian oats	16	88·2	23
Black Tartarian	16	71·5	—
Mandscheuri barley	16	69·8	19
Mensury barley	16	58·7	—
Dawson Golden Chaff W.W.	10	57·3	11
Early red Clawson	10	51·6	—
Empire State potatoes	16	231 0	13
White Elephant	16	203·7	—

The practical result of these improvements is demonstrated by the average increase in bushels per acre in Ontario, calculated for periods of ten years, thus:—

The yields per acre of Ontario's entire area of winter wheat, barley, and oats for the first ten years of this work, before these varieties had been much improved, and for the second ten-year period, just closed:—

Average Yields in Bushels Per Acre for Ontario.

	10 Years 1887-1896.	10 Years 1897-1906.	Per cent. of Increase.
Winter wheat	19 2	21·7	13
Barley	24·8	30·6	24
Oats	32 2	33 3	19

It will be easily understood what this increase means in the agricultural prosperity of the country, and nothing could demonstrate more clearly the wisdom of liberal expenditure on scientific research and experimental stations.

Fertilisers from Vesuvius.

Vesuvius proves to be a fertiliser factory of a strenuous kind. Dr. Stoklasa, of Prague, calculates that in one recent eruption the crater threw out upon the surrounding ground about 50,000,000 tons of mud, sand, ashes, lava, &c., containing an average of 1 per cent. of nitrogen. This product of 50,000 tons of nitrogenous fertiliser is more than is used in the whole of England. In addition, the mountain has made enormous deposits of potassium phosphate and other fertilising salts, and the vapours constantly rising from the crater are laden with plant food.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1906.

Notice is hereby given, that the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries propose, at the expiration of forty days from the date of this notice, to make under the above-mentioned Act the following rule:—

Regulation as to the Analyst to whom Samples are to be sent.

Where under the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1906, any person desires that a sample shall be analysed by the agricultural analyst, the sample, or parts of the sample, as the case may be, shall be sent to such agricultural analyst as is hereby prescribed, that is to say:—

1. If the sample is taken in a county, or in a county borough or a burgh of which the council have appointed or concurred in appointing an agricultural analyst, then to the analyst appointed for the county or borough or burgh;

2. If the sample is taken in a county borough of which the council have not appointed or concurred in appointing an agricultural analyst, then to the analyst appointed for the county in which for the purposes of the Local Government Act, 1888, the borough is deemed to be situate; and

3. If the sample is taken in a burgh of which the council have not appointed or concurred in appointing an agricultural analyst, then to the analyst appointed for the county within which the burgh is situated or with which it has the longest common boundary.

Copies of this draft rule may be obtained, on payment of 1d. a copy, upon application to the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, 4, Whitehall Place, London, S.W.

Board of Agriculture and Fisheries,
4, Whitehall Place, S.W.

Trials of Wheat, 1905 and 1906.—Results per Acre.

These were grown, as reported in Bulletin No. 10 of the County of Northumberland Education Committee, in East Tower Hill (S) in 1905 (¼ acre plots) on light soil after potatoes; and in the middle of Tower Hill Field in 1906 on a stiff clay soil after summer fallow. The seed rate was two and a half bushels per acre in 1905 and three bushels in 1906:—

	Good grain, bushel of 63 lb.	Tail grain, stones.	Natural weight per bush.	Straw, cwt.
1. Squarehead Master—				
1905	60⅜	2½	62	49¼
1906	38¼	—	64	42¾
Average of 1905-6	50	1¼	63	46
2. Carter's Royal Prize—				
1905	45⅜	3	61	37¾
1906	25¼	2¼	65	35¼
Average of 1905-6	35¼	2⅝	63	36¾
3. Scholey's Squarehead—				
1905	56⅝	3	59½	44¼
1906	28	3	63	31½
Average of 1905-6	42½	3	61¼	38
4. Hunter's White—				
1905	48⅜	2	61	38¾
1906	21⅝	3	63	30¼
Average of 1905-6	36¼	2½	62	34½

Squarehead Master, Carter's Royal Prize, and Scholey's Squarehead are all red and short berried wheats, while Hunter's is a white wheat. Squarehead Master has given in both years the largest produce both of grain and of straw, while on the average Scholey's Squarehead comes next.

Fertilisers in Northern Spain.

A French Consular report calls attention to the demand for artificial fertilisers in the northern Spanish provinces of Galicia and Asturias. Generally speaking, the ground in Galicia is poor in phosphates; in consequence of this, other artificial manure containing the latter is much in request. As the land is also deficient in lime, the Thomas phosphates have given excellent results. The favourable action of almost any artificial fertiliser in Galicia and Asturias is increased by the frequent rain bursts, which hasten the solubility of these articles.

Prices of Fertilisers.

The demand for fertilisers is now practically over, but prices remain firm all round. The demand has been bigger than usual, and the stocks of most manufacturers have been cleared.

	£ s. d.
Nitrate of soda	11 5 0
Sulphate of ammonia	11 17 6
Peruvian guano	without change
Superphosphate, 26 per cent.	2 10 0
,, 35 ,,	3 6 3
Pure dissolved bones	5 7 6
Bone compound, ordinary	3 8 9
Bone Meal	5 10 0
Ground hoofs, 15 per cent.	9 10 0
Fish guano, first quality, scarce & dear	6 12 6
Ditto, second quality	5 7 6
Kainit	2 7 6
Sulphate of potash	10 0 0
Muriate of potash	9 0 0
Basic slag, 30 per cent. (ex works, Midlands)	1 13 0

"How to Manure at a Profit."

This series of useful articles, combining the practice and science of "How to Manure at a Profit," is now finished. As many of our readers would like to have the articles in a form convenient for reference, we intend shortly to publish them in a small pamphlet.

Due notice will be given when the pamphlet is ready for issue, and price.

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a nom de plume, *in the paper.*

Nitric Acid from the Atmosphere.

Referring again to this important subject, the *Daily Chronicle* reports that patents for the new process have now been taken out or applied for in all the chief countries of the world, and it is expected that a considerable industry will shortly be established for the production of nitric acid from the air.

Professors Kowalski and Moscicki, the inventors of the new process, have had the co-operation and advice of Sir William Crookes throughout. In England, France, Switzerland, and various other European countries, the patents have already been granted; and for Germany, the United States, Canada, the Commonwealth, of Australia, and various other foreign countries, and British colonies, they have already been applied for, and are stated by the patent agents to be assured.

For the scientific and electrical details of the system the patents must be left to speak for themselves. These patents show that the system essentially differs from the various other attempts to solve the difficulties attendant upon utilising the atmosphere for commercial purposes.

Shortly stated, the process consists of a series of electrical furnaces, into which the atmosphere is forced by electrical energy and at great speed and pressure, and from which is thence to be extracted the nitrogen to be converted by supervening process into nitric acid.

An Enormous Heat.

The air passes over a horizontal electric flame in each furnace co-extensive with the circumference of the furnace chamber, and, therefore, complete combustion and subsequent oxidation takes place. The heat is enormous and said to be about three times greater than would melt pig iron.

The electrical furnaces are comparatively small for the nitrogen in the atmosphere to become "fixed," and when fixed to nitric oxide, and, ultimately, by chemical processes, nitric acid. From this product nitrates and their by-products are also obtained.

With greater rapidity than it takes to utter the word, the oxidised atmosphere is instantly cooled, and thus prevented resolving itself back into its original constituents, thus "fixing the nitrogen" as indicated by Sir William Crookes as the prime essential to the object, in his address to the British Association in 1898. This was one of the great difficulties to be got over, namely, the lightning speed by which the cooling must necessarily take place.

As necessary adjuncts to the whole system, there are absorption, distilling, and various other chambers as part of the general installation.

The whole system is reduced to the utmost simplicity, and in working is practically automatic, all the installations requiring little more than supervision when started, and working continuously day and night throughout the year.

The great essential for success of any system intended for utilising a method of converting the atmosphere into a commercial commodity, is cheap water power for the production of the electrical energy. Wherever this is obtainable in volume and power, this system, according to the calculations of the engineers, is capable of producing very large profits. In Norway, for instance, constant water power has been obtained at a very small cost per horse-power per year. Other parts of the world offer equal or greater facilities in this respect.

Unlimited Market.

The markets for the products of the atmosphere are practically unlimited, and may be summarised as follows. Nitric acid in addition to its use for fertilising purposes is largely used in various chemical industries, for explosives such as nitroglycerine, dynamite, cordite, and various smokeless powders; also for the manufacture of celluloid and artificial ivory; for artificial indigo, and coal tar, and in photography for nitrate of silver, and electro plating, and, also as a recent development, in lace manufacture.

But by far the greatest industry is that of the manufacture and sale of nitrate of soda (Chili saltpetre) and its sub product nitrate of lime for fertilisation. These are both producible by nitric acid.

At present, and for nearly twenty-five years past, nitrate of soda, under the commercial term of "nitrate" has been imported into England and various other countries from Chili, South America. Hence the name Chili saltpetre.

But the nitrate fields of Chili, even if they were not inexhaustible, are wholly inadequate, not only to the world's requirements, but to the growing demands of Great Britain and the European Continent

As a fertiliser of almost all, if not entirely all, soils, nitrate of soda stands pre-eminent, and wherever nitric acid is producible in quantity and commercially, the production of nitrates follows as a consequence.

Nitrate of lime, though an excellent fertiliser, is of less value commercially than nitrate of soda, for nitrate of lime is not quite suitable to all soils, and is manifestly unsuitable to chalk soils containing lime already.

Nitrate of Soda for Second Crop of Grass.

Is it profitable to apply a small dressing of nitrate of soda after the first cutting of hay in order to stimulate the growth of a second crop? Here are the results of some experiments made with the view of getting information on that point:—

Plots.	Fertilisers used (rate per acre).	Yield (cwt.)	Increase (cwt.)
1	Slag meal, 400 lbs.	1,[illegible]	... —
2	Slag meal, 400 lbs.; nitrate of soda, 150 lbs.	2,500	... 1,074
3	Slag meal, 400 lbs.	1,[illegible]	..
4	Slag meal, 400 lbs.; nitrate of soda 150 lbs.	2,[illegible]	.. [illegible]
5	Slag meal, 400 lbs.	1,615	... —
6	Slag meal, 400 lbs.; nitrate of soda, 200 lbs.	2,648	... 1,027
7	Slag meal, 400 lbs.	1,[illegible]	.. ..
8	Slag meal, 400 lbs; nitrate of soda, 250 lbs.	3,614	.. 1,987

The nitrate of soda was mixed with the basic slag in order that it might be more uniformly spread, and the slag was also applied to the no-nitrate plots to equalise conditions.

It will be seen that the nitrate has given in every instance a considerable increase—more than enough to cover the cost of the nitrate applied.

Compared with similar trials made in previous seasons, it is found, as might be expected, that the result varies widely with the season. When such an application is followed by a sufficient and well-distributed rainfall, it gives a very profitable increase in the crop; but when the weather succeeding the application is dry, the nitrate is relatively non-effective. It is, of course, impossible to foresee the nature of the weather which will follow the use of nitrate. It would appear, however, that there is at least an equal chance that a moderate application will give a good margin of profit. Close observation in the field in which this experiment has been tried indicates that where, owing to succeeding relatively dry weather, the nitrate proves ineffective for the immediately succeeding crop, it will nevertheless, on fairly compact loam, be retained by the soil in sufficient quantity to favourably influence the hay crop of the following season.

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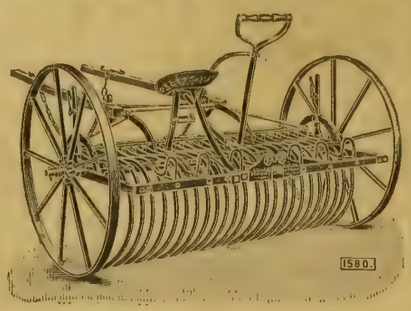
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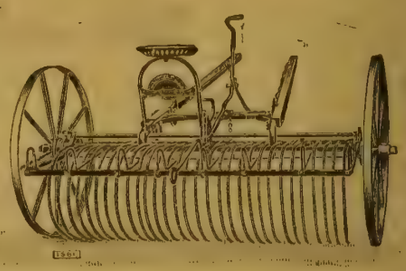
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Agricultural Journal
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IRISH CATTLE BREEDING.

We read that in Ireland in 1906 there were 829 Premium bulls used of various breeds, which should do a good deal towards the improvement of Irish cattle generally, especially when we mention that the whole of these are purely bred stock.

On the other hand it is well known that a good proportion of these are not of the very best possible descriptions of cattle, and when it is remembered that these 829 only represent some very modest proportion of the bulls used throughout the country, it will be seen that there is still room there for more bulls of a good class, whether for the getting of dairy stock or simply for the siring of general market cattle, usually for feeding purposes.

It is, however, worth mentioning that a great many of the largest farmers are using bulls much superior to many of the selected Premium ones.

In common with Great Britain and many other countries over the seas the number of shows being held in Ireland has increased to almost an incredible extent.

It would seem but practically the other day that Ireland could only count upon some half-dozen or so societies whose show fixtures drew together a respectable entry of live stock, whilst to-day such occasions are quite legion.

In quite a majority of these fixtures, particularly the smaller ones, horses appear to have greater attention paid to them than is the case with cattle. The latter, however, there is little fear, will work their way up and share in the improvement that these smaller shows stimulat so thoroughly and practically. There is nothing like them for encouraging improved stock breeding.

BUYING RAMS.

It is always pleasing to find that correspondents read and take note of what appears in our columns. The letter in last week's paper, signed "Observer," under the heading, "Why do Ram-breeders return again and again?" emphasises that valuable point which we desired to make clear—*i.e.*, that when once a breeder discovered a source from which he could purchase sires that suited his flock, it should be his object to continue to secure such sires time after time, taking, of course, full note of the breeding in order to secure when required the necessary change of blood.

It is a fashion, nowadays, to make a great deal of talk about the top-priced rams at the different sales. These rams are undoubtedly amongst the best in such sales, but those who carefully study the breeding of sheep, and know a good sheep when they see it, will ofttimes find far away down in the list of those being offered rams of the same breeding with perhaps equally good points, but younger lambs or twins. These should be carefully looked out and secured.

The writer has observed many times at sales how the old hands go through very carefully the younger sheep, particularly in the case of lambs, and many are the good sheep that are picked up by these careful selectors at very cheap prices.

A PHASE OF FOREIGN COMPETITION.

No, we are not going to open up another discussion on the question of Tariff reform, and our object in writing this paragraph is merely to point to one perhaps small, but still important, item of foreign competition. A familiar figure just now in the towns and villages adjoining the south and west coast is the individual attired in a blue jersey and round cap, who marches along with a stout staff over his shoulder from which hangs a number of strings of onions all neatly tied up ready for sale.

We all know the Breton onion seller, who comes every August as regularly as the members of the smart set go to Scotland for the grouse shooting, but with less ostentation, and when he has sold his onions he goes back to his native Brittany with English money jingling in his pocket, and we see him no more.

It is true we have only pictured one Breton onion seller, but hundreds of them cross the channel every season, and their cargoes of onions must run into hundreds of tons. We do not blame the Breton onion seller; on the other hand we admire their energy and enterprise, but is it not rather a reflection on British growers that there should be room for these foreign wares? Perhaps the Breton peasant doesn't pay much rent, probably his soil is well adapted to onion growing, but he sells his bulbs cheap, and though he does not come over as a saloon passenger nor put up at first-class hotels, his expenses must be considerable, and it is not likely that he would hawk his onions about the streets unless it paid him to do it.

Yet there is evidence in every garden to prove that English soil will grow good onions. Advocates for small holdings will please note this.

For the first time in the history of the Scorton Floral and Horticultural Society, which has been in existence now for seventeen years, agricultural classes were introduced at the show held on Wednesday, and the venture was a very good one and promises to develop very largely in the future. Out of 140 entries in the agricultural classes, 125 were horses, and all round the exhibits were very good.

Mr. Luke White, M.P., had an interview last week with Earl Carrington, the Minister of Agriculture, on the subject of swine fever restrictions, and urged upon his lordship the desirability of their removal in the interests of pig breeders and dealers. Lord Carrington, after hearing Mr. White's arguments, said he would fully consider them and give a reply shortly, but that he would have to be guided by his expert advisers.

Agriculture of Two Nations. — Earl Carrington's work as President of the Board of Agriculture has been characterised by a desire to assist, personally or officially, every movement that promises to be of service to agriculture, and recently he has again shown his readiness to collaborate with others by becoming honorary president of the Agriculture, Horticulture, Aboriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Section which is being arranged for the Franco-British Exhibition at Shepherd's Bush next year. In this there will be provided an opportunity of contrasting the work on the land of Great Britain and France in its many aspects. Every article that is produced in the farm, in the dairy, and in the garden, or that is taken from the river, will be traced from its source to its final form; and special attention will be given to the subject of afforestation, which is nowadays competing with the idea of garden cities in densely populated districts. All types of machinery will be included, and the theory of agriculture will be dealt with as completely as the practice.

Midland Notes.

TO travel any considerable distance just now is to see on every side the effects of the continued lack of sunshine and true summer weather. The writer of these notes journeyed not long ago from North Warwickshire to Portsmouth. Right down to South Oxfordshire newly-cut hay was lying in the fields, and not until the Thames Valley was reached was any corn observed which betrayed more than the least suspicion of yellow in its colour.

THE first really golden crop of wheat was found just north of Winchester. It is to be feared the blossoming period this year came in many Midland districts during the very roughest of the rough weather we have lately endured—a circumstance which cannot be without adverse effect upon the yield. Generally speaking, the Midland corn harvest may be called three weeks later than last year. In Staffordshire there will be little wheat cut before September, and many districts in Warwickshire and Worcestershire will now be equally late. The oats are sadly knocked about, but there are some wonderful crops of winter beans.

A STAFFORDSHIRE correspondent sends me a dismal account of the hay harvest in that important dairying district. From July 21 to the end of the month not one fine day for hay-making was experienced. A few heavy crops were carried in good condition before that time; but to-day hundreds of acres are lying on the land blackened and worthless. Not a few fields are to be seen which have never been cut at all this season.

THE new Department of Economic Zoology at Birmingham University, of which Mr. Walter E. Collinge is in command, is evidently getting into close touch with the farmers and fruit growers of the Midlands, and giving proof of its capacity for usefulness. The Department is now carrying forward the work in relation to insect pests which was begun by the late Miss Ormerod, and supplementing the somewhat inadequate efforts of the Board of Agriculture. Under the present arrangement every agriculturist in the seven Midland counties whose name is given to the Department receives gratis all the circulars and reports relating to the crops in which he is specially interested. It is understood that "already most of the Worcester, Warwick, and Hereford agriculturists are entered," as well as a large proportion from Shropshire, Stafford, Derby, and Leicester. It is good hearing, because it means that Midland farmers are alive to the good work the university is doing, and ready to avail themselves of it.

MR. COLLINGE'S fourth annual report, which is just to hand, describes 1906 as a year in which insects of all kinds were exceedingly abundant. Specially destructive were the apple ermine and lackey moths, the wheat midge, cabbage root fly, and the plum sawfly. The pear midge, apple sucker and mussel scale seem to be increasing in prevalence, and the stem eelworm infestation of the Midlands amounts to a serious epidemic.

ONE point in Mr. Collinge's report deserves the most serious consideration—the proved inefficiency of certain favourite spraying preparations. An emulsion of caustic soda 2 lb., paraffin one pint, soft soap ½ lb., water ten gallons, was tried, for instance, upon twigs infected by the plum aphis, and failed signally to kill the eggs. "There were sixty-one eggs on the two twigs" which were dipped in this solution, "and forty-two hatched out." When the paraffin was increased to four pints (the other ingredients remaining the same) 70 per cent. of the eggs were killed; and with five pints of paraffin 85 per cent. were destroyed. Some time and money may be saved by fruit-growers who note that the results so far obtained by the different lime and sulphur, and lime, sulphur and salt spray fluids used in the winter have been "most disappointing."

THE letter which has been addressed to the Press by the Birmingham and District Butchers' and Pork Butchers' Association, and the Pork Butchers' Associations of other great cities, has a special interest for the Midlands, since week after week Birmingham returns larger sales of pigs than any other centre. Their complaints of inadequate profits indicate that the pork butchers want to see pigs more numerous in order that they may also see them cheaper. To that extent their interests and those of the breeders are antagonistic. But can it be doubted that the butchers are right when they add that Board of Agriculture restrictions "have greatly tended to the decrease," and have "induced neglect and apathy on the part of farmers"? The Board would probably be surprised if they would realise how thoroughly their present swine fever policy is disliked in the country, and how many farmers have dropped pig-keeping almost altogether because

in present circumstances it does not seem to be worth the trouble.

THE items of good news bearing on the live-stock industry are many. The Oxford Down breeders will have a capital sale season to look back upon, especially the veteran Mr. John Treadwell, whose sale the other day was his fiftieth consecutive annual auction. His average of £22 17s. over fifty-nine head is one which he has only twice surpassed, and assuredly an excellent one for a breed which does not often command fancy prices.

THE pedigree Shropshire sales in the Midlands begin in earnest with the Whiston Hall auction on Tuesday (August 20), and go on the next day with the Dunsmore sale. The announcement that Mrs. G. H. Lewis, of Geneva, New York, intends to stock the whole of her fine farm with imported Shropshires, and that she needs 500 ewes, points to many profitable sales to be effected in the West Midlands in the near future.

THE strange sight of overcoated farmers in August has not been confined to Nottingham. It is, however, from that county (from Stoke-on-Trent) that the most remarkable temperature record of the season has reached me. At the beginning of the month the night temperature in the garden of Mr. Frederick Cresswell sank to 32 degs. Fahr., or just to freezing point. Is any other case of frost in the first week of August recorded? I cannot trace any.

August 16, 1907.

Notes of the Week.

The approach of a heat wave is prognosticated. It will be welcome if not accompanied by too many thunder storms.

In some parts of the country it has been really sultry during the last few days for this exceptional season. In Belfast people say they have been having a regular hot time; the crop developed by the heat has not been corn, but broken heads.

Mr. Armour's famous team of greys has sailed for America after a most successful tour in this country.

A pleasant journey to them, and *au revoir!*

Legislation connected with the land has been much in evidence during the past week, the English and Scotch Land Bills and the Irish Evicted Tenants Bill having occupied much time in both Houses of Parliament.

There is a good prospect that the measure relating to England will be entered on the Statute Book before Parliament takes its holiday. The fate of the other two Bills is uncertain.

It was a wise old philosopher who wrote: "When a parcel of land is deeded to you and you walk over it and call it your own, it seems as if you had come into partnership with the original proprietor of the earth."

Another memo for small holder advocates. A pea-grower at Long Sutton, in Lincolnshire, who sent a consignment of 406 bags of peas to London, has found they realised £20 4s. 6d., which just meets the cost of pulling, and leaves nothing for carriage, commission, or for the grower for his crop.

This memo is inserted to point the moral that small holdings at present will not yield a living profit, except in favoured districts.

Co-operation, reduced railway and other charges, and security in our own markets are essential to success.

"Rubbish may be shot here." Shoddy surplus manufactured goods, rotten tinned foods, poisonous Java beans—cheap free imports!

The latest example of free food imports is poisonous nuts. They come from China, where they are known as Kaloo, pronounced, it is said, something like "kill-you" nuts, a very appropriate name.

Planted far enough apart! A gentleman bought a new variety of potatoes, and told his gardener to be sure and plant them far enough apart. "Well, Sam, did you plant the potatoes far apart, as I told you?" Sam: "I did, sir. I planted some in your garden and some in mine, so they are four miles apart."

At the meeting of the British Medical Association several doctors spoke of the dangers of disease-transmission by insects both to man and beast.

Flies, especially bluebottles, gnats, fleas, and other insects are regarded as possible distributors of diseases.

The best precaution is plenty of whitewash in stables and outhouses, and no stagnant pools of water should be allowed quite near the house.

Hosts of sparrows are now leaving the towns for surrounding country districts. At this time of the year they develop healthy appetites for the farmers' ripening grain crops.

An unconscious bit of irony! One of our correspondents found inside one of his hens a growth which he could not understand, so he sent it to us for inspection in a box, on the cover of which was printed in large type "——'s powder, a complete substitute for eggs."

Will the price of cereals rise? is a question being eagerly discussed in every corn market of the country.

Experts incline to the opinion that farmers should not be in a hurry to sell.

Professor Collinge has just issued his fourth annual report on injurious insects. He has forty pests specially under observation.

Injurious insect, fly!
Your day is over.
When Collinge draweth nigh,
Get off that clover!
Depart, or you will get
A very stern nip;
Nor does he let you settle on the turnip!

A politician who was making a house-to-house canvass some years ago came to a prosperous-looking farmhouse at a cross-road when he observed a comely young woman standing at the gate. Pulling up his horse, the candidate for the people's favour gracefully lifted his hat in salute to the young woman, and politely asked, "No doubt, madam, your estimable husband is at home?"

"Yes," responded the woman.

"Might I have the pleasure of seeing him?" suavely inquired the politician.

"He's down in the pasture a-buryin' the dog," came from the individual at the gate.

"I am very sorry, indeed, to learn of the death of your dog," came in sympathising tone from the candidate. "What killed him?"

"He wore hisself out a-barking at candidates," said the woman.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 20.—Great Horse Sale, Ipswich—Sale of Mills and Meadows at Tonbridge — Ulverston Show — Live Stock Sales at Maidstone and Lynn — Sale of Shropshires at Albrighton—Fairs at Chorley, Carmarthen, Kington, Hungerford, and Lynn — Live Stock Sale at Rochester—Sending-in Day for the Moor Green, Abergavenny, and Airedale Shows.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21.—Royal Jersey Show, first day: St. Heliers Horticultural Show included — Lancaster Show — Uttoxeter Show—Newbury Horse Show, Jumping Classes — Fairs at Hereford, Malmesbury, Shipton-on-Stour, Appleby, and St. Lawrence—Sending-in Day for the Worsley, Doddington, and High Wycombe Shows.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 22.—Royal Jersey Show, second day—Castleton Show (Yorkshire) — Special Sale of Shropshires at Birmingham—East Berks Show at Hawthorn Hill, near Maidenhead (Motors from Station)—Carmarthen Horse Show — Great Sale of Southdown Flocks at Goodnestone, Dover — Fairs at Ipswich, Bracknell, Marlborough, and Fakenham — Crewe Horse Sale — Special Sale of Rams at Ipswich—Special Sale of Rams at Marlborough—Sale of the Buchar Hill Herd of Pedigree Sussex Cattle—Maidstone Lamb Sale.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 23.—Fairs at Ashford, Skipton, and Yeovil — Special Sale of Lambs at Yeovil—Sending-in Day for the Cardiff Horse Show.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24.—Buxton Horse Show (President, the Duke of Rutland) — Fairs at Alford, Wainfleet, and Witney—Cheadle Cheese Fair—Sending-in Day for the Weardale, Hawkshead, and Grayrigg Shows.

MONDAY, AUGUST 26.—Fairs at Bakewell, Bampton, Hinckley, Bingley, Carlisle, Romney, Northampton, and Preston.

SHOW GOSSIP.

A special meeting of the committee of the Waveney Valley Agricultural Association was held at Harleston on Wednesday evening to consider whether, in consequence of the lateness of the harvest, it was desirable to alter the date of the show, which had been advertised for September 12. The meeting was practically unanimous that it was desirable to postpone the show till a later date, and a resolution to that effect was passed, and the show fixed for Tuesday, September 24.

At a meeting of the local committee of the Royal Counties Agricultural Society's Show, recently held at Maidenhead, it was reported that after meeting all charges there was a balance of nearly £300. Some discussion took place as to what should be done with the money, and it was finally decided to dispose of it by making a grant of £200 to the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Fund, to contribute £20 to the Royal East Berkshire Agricultural Association, a like sum to the Maidenhead Cottage Hospital, and smaller sums to various agricultural associations in the Royal counties.

A public meeting convened by the Mayor of Southampton (Ald. R. Andrews, J.P.) to discuss the projected visit of the Royal Counties Agricultural Society to the town next year was recently held at the Guildhall, Southampton, and was largely attended. The Mayor stated that the Borough Council had unanimously passed a resolution inviting the society to hold their show in the town next year, and they now wanted this meeting to back that up. They wanted to allow the society to use a portion of the common, about thirty-five acres, for the show, and he was sure the society would do all they could to meet the convenience of the ratepayers in every possible way. He understood the society would only enclose that portion for about one week, so that the public inconvenience would be very little indeed, while the benefits that would be derived from the show would be of the greatest possible character. His Worship proposed the following resolution, which was carried unanimously:—"That this meeting approves of the invitation of the Corporation to the Royal Counties Agricultural Society to hold its annual meeting in Southampton in 1908, and, further, this meeting guarantees the sum of £400 towards the expenses of the society's meeting." The Mayor added that although they had to take that responsibility, Mr. Henry King had guaranteed that they would not be responsible in any way for the money.

Mr. Franklin Simmons, secretary of the Royal Counties Agricultural Society, in the absence of the President, Lord Northbrook, who greatly regretted his inability to be present, expressed the deepest thanks of the society to the town of Southampton for the very hearty and unanimous invitation, and said there was not the slightest doubt whatever that the council of the society would very gladly accept the invitation so gracefully made. No town gave them greater pleasure to visit than the ancient Borough of Southampton. That would make the fourth occasion on which the show had been held at Southampton since he had been connected with it (a period of over twenty-five years), and he was sure that no town gave them a more cordial reception, and at no town did they get more satisfactory results than they did at Southampton. There was a record attendance at the Southampton show in 1903, when the attendance on one day exceeded 25,000 people. He believed that was absolutely a record, and had only been exceeded at Southampton on a previous occasion. He thanked them on behalf of the council of the society very much indeed for their most kind and unanimous invitation, and he need hardly assure them that it would be received by his council with the heartiest possible acceptance. A large and influential committee was subsequently appointed to make the necessary arrangements, &c.

The council of the Royal Counties Agricultural Society met on the 7th inst., when it was unanimously decided to accept Southampton's invitation; and it was also resolved that the show should be held on June 4, 5, 6, and 8 (Whit-Monday), a strong representation having been received from the local authorities in favour of those dates.

At a meeting of the council of the Wirral and Birkenhead Agricultural Society held on Tuesday, it was unanimously resolved that the society's next show be held on Wednesday and Thursday, July 15 and 16, 1908.



What is the Best Flooring for Pig-Styes?

What kind of floors would you recommend for pens for breeding pigs?

Would old railway sleepers sawn across and laid on the ground be suitable? Or would they be liable to get wet and cause injury to the pig?

———

These are questions propounded by "Beginner" on page 192 of the issue for August 5, and they are of great interest and importance to pig-breeders and feeders.

There are various opinions as to the best manner of making the floor of the piggery, and these are, of course, influenced by cost and local convenience as to the obtaining of materials. Stone, and wood under certain circumstances, are universally condemned, along with asphalte, and opinion is mainly divided between the advantages of concrete and bricks. Our personal recommendation is brick for outside courts and a wooden platform for the sleeping place, but where expense has to be considered, concrete is preferable.

For breeding pigs an outside court is necessary, and under no circumstances should this be of wood—not even of old railway sleepers, which are, when hard, sound, and well creosoted, about the least absorbent timber obtainable for the purpose. Many people are under the impression that it is necessary to have an outside court in which to feed the pigs, and to which the latter can adjourn, but for fatting pigs courts are not necessary. For breeding pens outside courts are most desirable, and the flooring of these should be of some impervious material.

The Board of Agriculture has issued a leaflet (No. 121) on the "Construction of Pigstyes," which emphasises the waste and risk of bringing up pigs in cold, damp, and dirty surroundings, and, among points to be observed, it says:—The most important part of every sty is the floor, and every effort should be made to see that this is in all respects satisfactory, even if the rest of the building has to suffer a little. Swine can keep healthy and grow fat in a poor house if the floor is well made, but there is great danger of their pining and falling sick on a cold, damp floor, even if they have a magnificent roof over their heads.

A broken floor in which puddles of rain or urine can lie is a breeding place for sickness and parasites of all sorts; moreover, it gives the pig an opportunity of rooting, which he will generally be prompt to do, often not stopping till nearly the whole of the floor is upturned.

The floor, therefore, must be made of some hard substance which is not brittle and does not too readily break up.

The best material for this purpose is concrete or Portland cement, though a useful flooring may also be made with a mixture of tar and gravel, stamped and rammed into a solid block. Care must, however, be taken in this case not to let it be too long exposed to the sun's rays lest the tar melt and make the whole surface soft. Bricks cannot be recommended unless they are new and unbroken and are laid in cement at least 6 in. deep, and even then they are liable to chip and crack. Stone flags are bad, as the manure sinks in between the joints and makes the soil beneath impure, while wooden floors, unless moveable, are wholly to be condemned as dangerous and mischievous to the last degree. Concrete should therefore be used wherever possible.

The preparation of a concrete or cement floor is well within the means of every man who can afford to buy a pig, and it is not difficult to make. It should be laid on a gentle slope towards the front of the sty, and it is advisable to make the top of the outer court lower than the bottom of the inner court by about 2 in. There will thus be a small step between the two courts, which will enable drainage water to run away more rapidly. The object is to secure dryness under foot, for, as has already been said, this is not only more healthy for the pig, but it helps to keep the floor from splitting or breaking away. Small channels should also be made in the cement before it has hardened, and these should run diagonally, in parallel lines, and not cutting across each other in the way that is termed cross-hatching. These diagonal or sloping lines should run from right to left on the inner court, and from left to right in the outer court. The slope of the floor should not be so great as to make it slippery, lest the pigs on running out to their food should hurt themselves, and for the same reason the surface of the cement between the channels should be left slightly rough.

Concrete is undoubtedly a first-class material, and can scarcely be improved upon when well laid and properly grooved, for in such a case it is not only impervious to wet, but it conducts the drainage and affords a firm foothold for the pig, which is an objection to the ordinary smoothly laid floor. Great care must, however, be taken to ram the foundation of the pavement hard, for when this sinks in places the cement breaks up and goes into holes. The importance of diagonal lines instead of cross-hatching will be appreciated by anyone who has tried to sweep out a pavement so constructed. With reference to bricks, for which we have expressed a preference, this does not mean soft bricks, but Staffordshire paving bricks well grouted in cement. Many of the chief breeders have experienced similar preference; indeed, out of eight well known breeders canvassed by Professor Long for the purposes of his "Book of the Pig," six expressed preference for brick floors, with plenty of bedding on wooden frames or benches for the pigs to sleep on.

Asphalte is terribly slippery in a damp, greasy state. Wood is bad in any form, except for the sleeping place when there is an outer court, and then railway sleepers are useful. Rheumatism, to which pigs are terribly prone, is favoured by cold, damp floors, as well as an exposed aspect.—M R C.V.S.

The Movement of Swine in Norfolk and Somerset.

The *London Gazette* of Tuesday last contains an Order of the Board of Agriculture temporarily modifying the provisions of the Swine Fever (Infected Areas) Order of 1902 in the counties of Norfolk and Somerset. The new Order, which will cease to operate on December 5, is as follows:

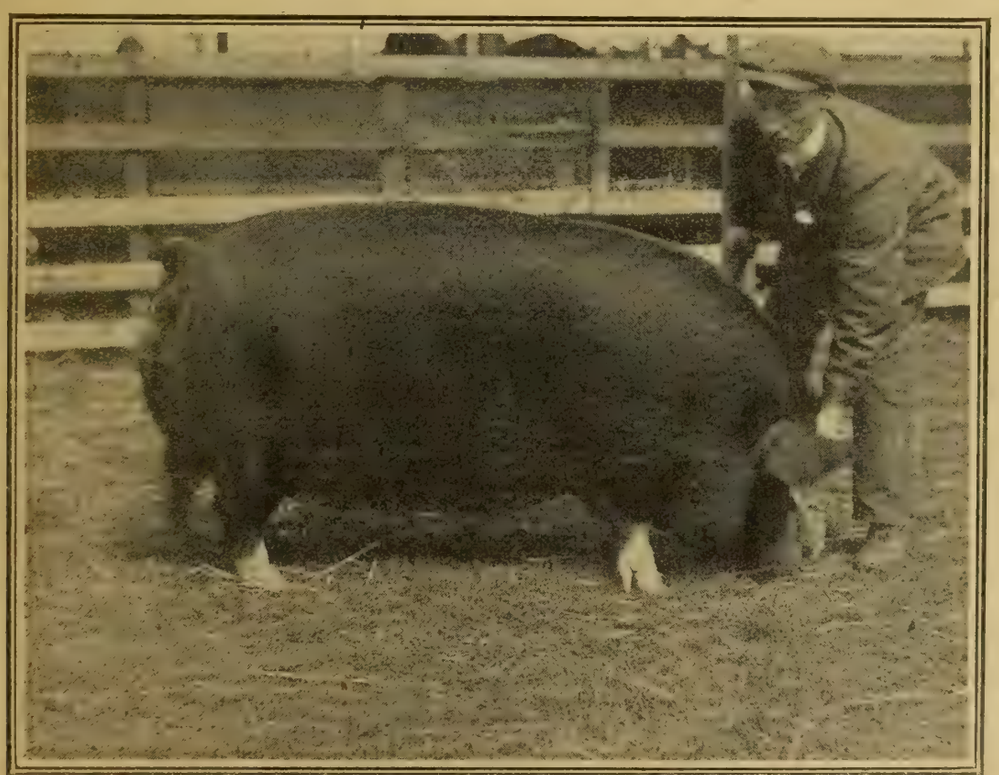
Swine may, between August 15 and November 30 next (including both those days), be moved between different parts of a farm in the same occupation for the purpose of stubbling or of feeding acorns, mast, or other like food, along, over, or across any highway or thoroughfare in the infected area in which the farm is situate, subject to the following conditions:—

1. Swine affected with or suspected of swine-fever may not be moved under this Order.

2. Swine may not be moved under this Order into or out of a swine-fever infected place, or if the movement of the swine is prohibited by notice given by an inspector of a local authority or of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries given under any Order of that Board.

3. A licence authorising movement under this Order must be obtained from the clerk of the local authority of the district, or of any committee of the local authority, or from any person appointed by the local authority to act as chief inspector for the purposes of the above-mentioned Acts, and any such licence shall state the period for which the licence is available and shall be in the form set forth in the second schedule hereto, or to the like effect, and may be determined at any time by a notice given or sent by post to such occupier by any person authorised by this Order to issue licences.

4. The swine must be moved by the nearest available route and without unnecessary delay and must be accompanied by the licence authorising the movement.



The Berkshire Sow shown above is Polegate Dorcas 2nd, with which the Duchess of Devonshire won a First Prize and Championship at the Royal Show at Lincoln this year. Polegate Dorcas 2nd was born June 18, 1905, sire Supreme's Boy, dam Compton Rosebud, and was bred by Mr. R. B. Vincent, Compton Valence, Dorchester.

The date of the next annual show of the Doncaster Agricultural Society is fixed for Wednesday and Thursday, June 24 and 25, 1908.



Notes and Jottings.

THE course of the trade for sheep all over the country at the present time is a remarkable one. Both store sheep and lambs are selling at excellent prices, and the lot of the flockowner must be a happy one.

A TRAVELLER from Scotland the other day remarked to the writer that he was astonished, considering the favourable reports of sheep sales he had been reading, and the marked difference between the top price of the British mutton as compared with that of the imported article, that there were not more sheep kept in the country. "Is it the case," said he, "that we have room for no more than at the present time?" The answer must be that there is room, and plenty of room, for many more sheep, but the reason why more sheep are not kept is difficult to find out. We know that there is profit to the keeper and to the breeder, and also to the feeder. We know that the public, despite the attractions of cheaper imported mutton, continue to show a marked preference for the English-bred and fed article, and therefore the only reason one can find to explain the want of increase in the number of breeding sheep kept in this country is that the demand for British mutton is so keen that it practically snaps up the whole of the supply that is bred.

HOWEVER, in one way there might be more sheep kept, and that is if those who do not own sheep were to be satisfied to start small flocks with the over-aged ewes.

SOME say, "What is the use of such sheep? They are drafted out because they have gone beyond their prime" Perhaps this is so in some cases, but generally speaking, these ewes are drafted out because it is the regular system of those who own standing flocks to do so. If these ewes are a bit on the wrong side in respect to age, all of them, or the large majority of them, would make good flock ewes for anyone who would give them a wee bit of attention. They would want a bit of nursing, but at the current prices of their produce, it is quite certain that this would be well repaid.

THE export demand for the past month has been fully satisfactory. It is true that the number of sheep shipped during that period, 1,183 head, is somewhat less than during the same period of the previous year. But the declared value of these sheep had been such that it works out at an average of £17 16s. 6d.

THIS declared value is the highest on record for the month of July during the past thirteen years, and it shows how keen our foreign and Colonial mutton producers are to secure the best and choicest of our stud sheep. They have no doubt—if one may judge from the prices they are paying—as to the future of the sheep industry, for if it were so we should not find such an average recorded for so large a number of sheep.

THE writer well remembers the gratification expressed by many a ram breeder when he read that during July, 1898, 600 odd sheep had been exported at £9 11s., and in 1897, when 776 had been exported at £10 per head. These were prices that were looked upon as extraordinary, and yet in ten years we find that the same source of demand had paid for practically double the number of sheep, the high average mentioned above.

NO facts stronger than this could be quoted to indicate the enormous development, and one might say the permanency of this export demand.

ON the other hand, we note that our mutton supplies during the past month have been very large indeed, 437,634 cwt. having been imported during that period; an enormous quantity when one thinks of it, and yet, despite the whole of this large importation of mutton, and also that produced by 60,074 imported sheep, the average price of British mutton stands higher to day than it did in years gone by.

THESE facts show the soundness of the flockmaster's industry, and ought to be strong enough to induce him to increase his breeding flock, and also to bring in any others who have suitable land for this purpose, because there is not much doubt but that the present demand will continue to increase in the future as it has done in the past.

IT is interesting to note that the amount expended for imported sheep and mutton during the past month was £843,960, as against £730,116 for the same month in the year 1897.

THESE figures show a steady increase in the amount expended, but it may be pointed out that the total for last month was not the highest recorded during the past thirteen years for that month; this record was made in July, 1906, when the total was £855,816.

THE WEEK'S SALES AND FAIRS.

Britford.

About 26,000 sheep were penned at Britford Fair on Monday, for which there was a good demand, especially for young store lambs, at an advance of 3s. to 4s. a head on Salisbury rates, whilst the price of ewes was quite up to Salisbury rates. Messrs. Waters and Rawlence held their usual sale of Hampshire Down ewes and lambs, the entry comprising 12,419 head, and with an exceptionally good trade every lot was quickly disposed of. Regular draft ewes made from 49s 6d. to 60s.; draft ewes, 41s. 6d. to 52s. 6d.: grazing ewes, 36s. 6d. to 45s.; two-teeth ewes, 50s. to 64s; other young ewes, 41s. 6d. to 60s.; best wether lambs, 45s. to 54s. 6d.; working ditto, 33s. to 44s.; best ewe lambs, 44s. to 50s.; smaller ditto, 34s. to 43s. 6d.; mixed lambs, 28s. 6d. to 43s. As usual, a large number of rams and ram lambs were offered for sale by auction, and particulars of these are appended:—

From Mr. James Flower's well-known Chilmark flock 100 splendid lambs were submitted, and ninety-eight of them were either let or sold at the good average of £18 7s. per head. Nine were first let at an average of £57 12s., Mr. Drake hiring at 140 guineas, Sir G. Judd at 84 guineas, Lord Rothschild at 80 guineas, Mr. Bishop (for Mr. J. G. Williams) at 44 guineas, Mr. C. Coles at 46 guineas, Mr. H. Lambert at 42 guineas, Mr. J. Joyce at 22 guineas, Mr. S. H. Allen at 20 guineas, and Mr. Falconer at 16 guineas. The sale lambs ranged from 6 guineas to 42 guineas, Mr. Lambert buying at the higher figure, Mr. Falconer at 36 guineas and 21 guineas, Mr. H. H. Green at 36, 34, and 17 guineas, Mr. Harding (for Sir W. G. Pearce) at 38 guineas and 28 guineas, Mr. Notley (for Mr. A. F. Holman) at 40 guineas, Mr. Bishop at 42 guineas, Mr. Baigent at 21 guineas and 20 guineas. Mr. Brown at 20 guineas and 16 guineas, Mr. C. Bugg at 22 guineas, Mr. Edney at 19 guineas, Mr. Joyce at 21 guineas, Mr. Lavington at 20 guineas and 12 guineas, and others at prices ranging up to 17 guineas.

The annual letting and sale of ram lambs from Mr. A. F. T. Drake's Dogdean Flock also proved satisfactory. Six lambs were first let at an average of £36 15s., Mr. J. Flower hiring at 100 guineas, Mr. C. Coles at 60 guineas and 12 guineas, Mr. J. Pain at 13 guineas, Mr. Blackwell at 15 guineas, and Mr. Harding at 10 guineas. The sale lambs made from 5 guineas to 48 guineas, Mr. Nicoll and Mr. J. B. Harding both paying 42 guineas, Mr. Woodroffe 32 guineas, Mr. G. L. Dean 22 guineas, Mr. Richards 30 guineas, Mr. C. Bugg 22 guineas, Captain Glen Kidston 44, 20, and 18 guineas, Mr. Blackwell 17 guineas, Mr. Burdass at 19 guineas, and Mr. Nicholson at 19, 17, 16, 15 guineas. Other prices ranged up to 12 guineas, the average of 88 lambs let and sold being £13 15s. each.

A selection of ram lambs from Mr. W. C. Young's Stratford-Sub Castle flock made from 4 to 14 guineas, with an average per head of £6 14s. for 31; 36 ram lambs from Mr. G. C. Waters's Burcombe flock averaged £6 10s., top price 11 guineas; 35 from Mr. B. J. Waters's Stratford Tony flock realised £4 14s. 6d. apiece, top price 6 guineas, whilst nine ram lambs from Mr. W. C. Pocock, of Gomeldon, were sold at from 3 to 4 guineas each.

Mr. Thomas Lavington, of Marlborough, offered for sale and letting a choice selection of 75 ram lambs and 100 two-teeth ewes from Mr. H. C. Stephen's registered Hampshire Down flock at Cholderton. A business-like company assembled round the ring, and 58 out of the 75 ram lambs were disposed of. Six ram lambs to be let for the season were first offered, and five changed hands, Mr. Waters hiring No. 1 at 12 guineas, Mr. W. Main No. 2 at the same figure, Captain Morrison No. 3 at 26 guineas (the highest price realised), Mr. H. Richards No. 5 at 15 guineas, and No. 6 was secured for Lady Octavia Shaw Stewart's Fonthill flock for 15 guineas. The highest price of those sold was 18 guineas, given by Mr. Main, and other figures were 15 guineas, 13 guineas (twice), 12 guineas (twice), 11 guineas, 10 guineas, 9 guineas, 8 guineas, and 7 guineas. The average of fifty-eight let and sold was just over £9 15s. After the rams had been disposed of 100 matching two-teeth ewes were offered, and all sold, Mr. Bostock buying at 80s. and 70s., Mr. Webb at 94s. (twice) and 72s. (three times), Mr. Pocock at 86s. and 80s., Mr. A. Butler at 88s., and Mr. Waters at 72s., the average being 70s.

Chichester.

At Messrs. Hobgen's annual sale (the eighteenth), held at Chichester, the demand for first-class Southdown rams was much better than we have seen it for several years past, the best rams being keenly competed for. The three from Sir J. Wherner averaged £37, Lord Northbourne buying at 40½ guineas, Colonel W. W. Hammond at 35 guineas, and Mr. E. Heuty at 30½ guineas. Four from Colonel McCalmont's flock averaged £18 7s. 6d., sold to Lord Northbourne at 21 guineas, Mr. E. Hobgen at 18 and 16 guineas, and Mr. C. H. Berners at 15 guineas. Mr. E. Hobgen's nine averaged £12 8s. 6d.; best prices, 22 guineas to Mr. C. Stride, and 20 guineas to Mr. A. Hobgen. The Duke of Richmond's four averaged £12 6s. 9d., Messrs. Seward paying 22 guineas. The Duke of Devonshire's six averaged £12 3s. 3d.; best prices were 25 guineas to Colonel W. W. Hammond, and 20 guineas to Messrs. Seward. Mr. H. Cosmo Bonsor averaged £10 3s. for six; 18½ guineas was top price. Earl Cadogan, whose four averaged quite £9 1s. 1d., sold at from 18 guineas. Earl Bathurst sold five at from 15 guineas, average £8 16s. 4d. Lord Northbourne's five, with 12½ guineas for top price, averaged £7 4s. 10d. And Mr. A. Hammond for six averaged £6 0s. 9d.; 6½ guineas was the top price. The ram lambs were not in request. Nine of these sold at an average of £4 5s. 2d. The general average of the fifty-six yearling rams was £11 1s 4d.; and the average of the whole sale of sixty-five head worked out at £10 2s. 5d.

Dispersal of Mr. Lavington's Flock.

The dispersal of this well-known and highly-bred flock attracted a large company of Hampshire Down breeders to Collingbourne. Sale commenced with 246 two-teeth ewes, which made from 112s. to 65s., the average of them being 79s.; Mr. J. Matthews bought at 112s, Mr. J. Pain at 110s., Mr. B. J. Waters at 100s., 88s., and 84s., Mr. G. C. Waters at 88s., Mr. Arnold at 82s., &c., and Mr. Cleverley at 80s., &c. 190 four-teeth ewes made from 96s to 64s, the average being 75s. 6d.; Mr. Hickman bought at 96s., 80s., &c., Mr. B. J. Waters at 90s, and Mr. G. C. Waters at 84s. 177 six-teeth ewes made from 120s. to 60s., the average being 70s.; Mr. J. Flower purchased at 120s., Mr. G. C. Waters at 86s., Mr. Matthews at 86s., Mr. Eyles at 80s., Mr. J. Stevens at 84s., and Mr. Hunt at 72s. 154 full mouthed ewes made from 76s. to 54s., the average being 60s. 6d.; Mr. J. Matthews purchased at 76s, Mr. Pickard at 70s., Mr. Hiscock at 64s., and Mr. Wilson at 64s, &c. 300 ewe lambs made from 90s. to 45s.; Mr. J. Flower bought at 90s., Mr. Kerr at 60s., and Mr. Bennett at 58s., 56s., &c. Several shearling rams made from 5½ to 12 guineas, and these concluded the sale, the average for 1,067 ewes and lambs being the good one of 66s.

Driffield.

About 500 breeding sheep—ewes and gimmer shearlings — were offered for sale by public auction at Driffield on Wednesday, and some fair prices were realised. One hundred Leicester gimmer shearlings, belonging to Mr. J. Byass, Cowlam, realised 50s. 6d. to 55s. 6d., the average price being 52s. each. Mrs. Hopper, Kellythorpe, sold eighty long-wool ewes and twenty-five long-wool gimmer shearlings at from 44s. 6d. to 53s., averaging 48s. per head; 100 long-wool ewes (pure Leicesters) were all purchased (except one pen) by Mr. T. Holtby, Dowthorpe Hall, at 46s. 6d. to 54s., averaging 50s. 6d. each; thirty-eight long-wool ewes, belonging to Mr. C. A. Goodlass, North Dalton, made 43s. to 55s., the average being 48s. 9d. each; Mr. J. Callon's fifteen averaged 60s. per head; Mr. Longbottom's (Nafferton) Lincolns realised 58s. to 64s.; and forty-nine Lincolns, consigned by Mr. R. B. Appleby, made up to 63s., or an average of 60s. 9d. each.

Hailsham.

The annual lamb and sheep fair at Hailsham was held on Monday, when there were about 3,900 lambs for sales, as against 1,460 last year, and 407 sheep as against 778 at last year's fair. Prices were fairly good, and in one instance a sum of 39s. was asked for lambs, while a pen of 100 lambs were sold at 36s. each. The lowest price was about 25s.

Horncastle.

An Horncastle August Lamb Fair on Thursday about 3,000 sheep and lambs, mainly the latter, were shown, or an increase of 1,000 on last year. Trade was good, lambs making up to 40s., and drape ewes realising 57s. each.

Liskeard.

The annual sale of registered rams, under the auspices of the South Devon Flock Book Society, took place at Liskeard on Monday, when entries totalled 101, and competition for the best animals was the keenest yet experienced, with the result that satisfactory prices were obtained by the auctioneers. Highest prices were obtained for rams belonging to Mr. E. H. Hoskin, C.C., Cartuther Barton, Liskeard—namely, 24½ guineas and 20½ guineas; Mr. W. F. Sobey, Trenant, Menheniot, 20 guineas; Mr. E. W. Body, Dobwalls, 14½ guineas. The highest average price for the sale also fell to Mr. Hoskin's fine sheep, amounting to £13 5s. each for his draft of nine rams; Mr. E W. Body came next with £12 apiece; J. P. Matthews and Sons, £11 8s. 6d.; Mr. W. F. Sobey, £11 5s.; Messrs. H. Sobey, £10 7s. 6d.; Mr. W. Maddiver, Linkinhorne, £8 13s. 3d.; Mr. Mr. P. G. Brown, £8 5s. 6d; and Mr. R. L. Hambly, Menheniot, £7 7s.

Mr. Gale's Lincoln Long-wools.

On Thursday, after an interval of about three years, Mr. G. M. Gale, Atwick, near Hornsea, held a sale at his home farm of his noted pure-bred long-wool rams and shearling gimmers. The afternoon was very wet, which affected the appearance of the sheep, and the result of the sale was somewhat disappointing. The principal buyers for shearling rams were Mr. H. Casswell, Tuddring, Lincolnshire, 20 guineas and 12 guineas; Mr. J. B. Bainton, Beverley Parks, £15 15s.; Mr. G. England, Rise, £11 11s.; and Mr. Elvidge, Lissett, £9 19s. 6d. The total price paid for the 44 rams sold was £329 14s., or an average of £7 9s. 10d. Gimmer yearlings, of which 100 were offered, ranged from 85s. to 63s, the highest price being paid by Mr. Foster, Filey, and the lowest by Mr. Broumpton, Riston Whins.

tory returns, and the average of £13 0s. 10d. was obtained. The top price was 30 guineas, paid by the Stretton Farming Company, Lutterworth, for a shearling ram by Oxo. Another by this sire made 26 guineas (Mr. G. Russell, Hatton), whilst a get of Rosefort Dreamer realised 25 guineas, Mr. Goodall, Market Drayton, being the purchaser. Mr. Sinclair bought several for the Argentine, his chief prices being 23 guineas, 20 guineas, and 16 guineas. Mr. Sidey, another buyer for the Argentine, bought no fewer than a dozen shearling rams, and he undoubtedly got several bargains, for the top price he paid was but 11 guineas.

Newingreen.

Messrs. W. and B. Hobbs' annual lamb sale at Newingreen, Kent, proved very successful. Somewhere about 9,000 sheep and lambs were entered, and practically the whole of them were cleared at prices which were very satisfactory. The highest price of the day for lambs was 33s. 6d, a splendid pen of fifty half-breds belonging to Mrs. Richardson reaching this figure, while a second pen of twenty made 28s.

Newton St. Boswells.

The annual sale of half-bred ewe lambs and gimmers held at Newton St. Boswells took place in the South Central Mart on the 10th inst., when the catalogue comprised 9,850 lambs, which was an increase on the show last year, but owing to the backward season in many cases the quality was greatly deficient, some lots not being so good by 4s. or 5s. from last year. There was a very large attendance of customers, and for the best class of lambs a good trade was experienced, but secondary sorts met a disappointing trade. The top price of the sale was obtained by the Deuchrie lot, which were about the best consignment seen at these sales in recent years, and made to 47s. Luidlawstiel were much improved in quality from sale in July, the rise on the whole being about 2s. 6d. per head.

Messrs. John Swan and Sons, Ltd presented 21,800 cross Oxford, cross Suffolk, three-quarter bred, and half-bred lambs, this number being fully 1,000 head over the total entry for the corresponding sale of last year. The top price of the day was 45s 6d. per head, which figure was paid for an exceptionally choice consignment of cross Oxfords from Wester Ulston, and a second lot from the same place sold at 39s. apice. The Purveshaugh lot, also cross Oxfords, realised 39s., while the Smailholm Mains consignment realised 39s. 3d. Half-bred lambs made up to 36s. 9d. in the case of the Thirlstane consignment. Throughout the sale was a very level one, and satisfactory prices were made.

At Messrs. Davidson's sale the highest price was 40s., obtained for a specially good lot of three-quarter breds from Friarshaw, and another lot of the same kind from Shielfield made 37s. 9d. Cross Oxfords brought up to 38s. 3d., this price being realised for the Spotsmains consignments. For half-breds the top price was 33s. 3d., made by the Greenfield consignment.

Oxford.

There was a large number of shearling and ram lambs and stock ewes of the Oxfordshire and Hampshire Down breeds penned at Oxford Ram Fair on Wednesday, and a very numerous attendance of breeders and others. The Oxford Downs formed the greater part of the animals penned, and the highest prices were realised for them, two ram lambs from flocks of Mr. George Adams, Faringdon, and Mr. Wilsdon, Woodstock, being sold for 50 guineas each. Several averages were higher than usual; the best was £16 6s. 9d. for sixteen Oxford Downs sold by Mr. H.



KENT OR ROMNEY MARSH TWO-SHEAR RAM, ELHAM NO. 70 OF 1905.

The subject of our illustration is the Kent or Romney Marsh Two-Shear Ram, Elham No. 70 of 1905, which was First in the Class for Kent or Romney Marsh Two-Shear Ram at the Royal Show, Lincoln, where it was exhibited by Mr. Charles File, Elham, Canterbury.

Mr. T. A. Buttar's Shropshires.

The annual sale of pure-bred Shropshire shearling rams from the famous flocks of Mr. Thomas A. Buttar, Corston, Coupar-Angus, took place at the homestead on Thursday in dull weather, but this did not affect the attendance of buyers, for the opportunity to obtain animals from such a popular flock was not to be missed. Mr. Buttar's catalogue for this year contained only fifty rams of characteristic Corston breed, the private demand for gimmers and rams for commercial purposes having been so great that he was unable to put more through the ring. The rams exposed were a good, useful lot, and in some instances showed grand points for exhibition purposes. Although no high figure was touched, the sale throughout brought in satisfac-

last year, and obtained a rise of about 6s. in price. Dundas Castle were also a very choice lot, and made 50s. apiece.

Newton St. Boswells.

The great annual Lammas lamb sales, which have superceded the old Lammas Fair, formerly held on the slapes of the Eldon Hills, were held at the marts of Messrs. John Swan and Sons, Ltd., and Messrs. A. Davidson and Sons, Newton St. Boswells, recently. In the aggregate there were presented 29,700 head, being considerably more than last year, and with good weather prevailing the stock was penned in good bloom. There was a very large attendance of buyers from a wide area, and trade showed a considerable improvement compared with the last St. Boswells

W. Stilgoe, whose top price was 41 guineas, given by the well-known Argentine exporter, Mr. Casares. The next best average for the same breed was got by Messrs. R. Hobbs and Sons, who obtained £13 4s. 4d. per head for thirty lambs, whilst of the Hampshire consignments, the Hon. D. P. Bouverie made an average of £6 14s. 2d. for forty, the highest price being 27 guineas, given by Mr. Jno. Thomson, who sold fifty strong lambs at an average of £6 1s., the second best average.

As usual numerous consignments were sold by the various auctioneers, and details are appended of the chief sales.

Messrs. Franklin and Gale as usual had a large entry of Hampshire Down ram lambs and rams, the consignments including nearly 300 rams from well-known flocks. Their entry of stock ewes

and store lambs was far in advance of previous years, numbering 1,450.

There was a good attendance of buyers, and trade for the best specimens of the ram lambs was brisk. The smaller ones, although not being in such good demand owing to the absence of foreign buyers, made fair prices. Details are appended:

The sales opened with 30 rams and ram lambs from the flock of R. L. Ovey, Esq., Hernes, Henley-on-Thames, the greater part of which changed hands at prices ranging up to five guineas, with an an average of £4 1s. 7d. The selection of 25 rams lambs from Mr. Basil Hanbury's flock, were nearly all sold; the top price was ten guineas, Mr. R. L. Ovey being the purchaser, while the average was £4 7s. 8d. Mr. John Thomson's selection of 50 ram lambs and three shearlings made up to 11 guineas, given by Mr. Bevan, agent for J. D. Blount, Esq., two others making 10 and 10½ guineas with the satisfactory average of £6 1s. A selection of forty ram lambs and one shearling from the flock of Sir Alexander Henderson, Buscot Park, Faringdon, were nearly all disposed of at prices ranging up to 7½ guineas, with an average of £4 11s. 9d. Thirty ram lambs from the flock of Mr. A. C. Hall, Great Rollright, created some competition, one making 12 guineas, Mr. Basil Hanbury being the purchaser, whilst Mr. Hawkins secured another at 11 guineas, and the average price was £5 19s.

Thirty-seven lambs and three rams from the flock of the Hon. D. P. Bouverie, Highworth, Wilts, were next offered, and lot one made top price of the day—viz, 27 guineas, Mr. John Thomson being the purchaser. Two others made 11 guineas each for Sir A. Henderson, and Mr. J. Allin, Brackley, whilst another was sold to Mr. H. Parsons at 10 guineas, and the top average of the sale—viz, £6 14s. 2d., was made by these lambs. Sixteen rams and ram lambs from the flock of Sir W. Pearce, Chilton, Hungerford, were all sold, several lots making 5½ and 6 guineas, the average price being £4 12s. 6d. Twenty ram lambs from the flock of Mr. A. Dore were next submitted, and the majority sold at prices ranging up to 6 guineas, with an average of 4 guineas. Twenty-five ram lambs from the flock of Mr. S. Darling, Beckhampstead, were much admired; two made 11 guineas each, at which price Mr. P. J. D. Wykeham and the Oxford Corporation became the purchasers, another was knocked down at 10 guineas, while others made up to 6½ and 7½ guineas, the average price being £6.

The sale of stock ewes and store lambs was well attended, and every lot was keenly competed for, and made very satisfactory prices. The ruling prices were:—Full-mouth ewes 44s. to 69s.; four-tooth ewes, 56s. to 60s.; two-tooth ewes, 59s. to 64s.; wether lambs, 38s. to 47s. 6d.; ewe lambs, 39s. 6d. to 43s. 6d.

Messrs. Franklin and Jones had a large consignment of Oxford Down shearlings and lambs and about 2,000 store sheep. Their best average was £12 12s., obtained for Mr. A. H. Wilsdon's lambs, one selling at 50 guineas to Mr. Moore, Bourton-on-the-Water, and another at 35 guineas to Mr. John Treadwell, Winchendon. Mr. Edward Castle, Brize Norton, made an average of £9 9s. for nineteen shearlings (highest price 15½ guineas), and £7 17s. 6d. for eighteen lambs (highest price 16 guineas), whilst Mr. Henry Akers' lot of thirty-three made an average of £9 9s., the best price being 16 guineas. Ewes and store lambs met a brisk trade, draft ewes making from 36s. to 60s., theaves up to 63s. 6d., and lambs to 46s. each.

Mr. A. F. Hobbs' consignment of Oxford Downs included thirty lambs from Messrs. Robert Hobbs and Sons, which sold at an average of £13 4s. 4d., the second best of the day. Mr. Casares gave 41 guineas, Dr. Harley 32 guineas, and Mr. H. W. Stilgoe 30 guineas. Mr. J. P. Reading's lot of twenty-six rams made up to 26 guineas (given by Mr. R. W. Hobbs), and averaged £7 18s. 9d. Mr. J. N. White's lot made £7 5s. each, whilst Lord St. Aldwyn's consignment realised similar a figure.

Messrs. Holiday and Sons sold fifty for Mr. Geo. Adams, Wadley Park, at an average of £10, the highest price being 50 guineas, which sum Mr. Samuel Whitbread, Southill Park, Beds, gave for a ram lamb, which has had a most successful career in the showyards. Mr. H. W. Stilgoe, Adderbury, sold sixteen shearlings at an average of £16 16s. 9d., the best prices being 41 guineas (Mr. Casares), 30 guineas (Mr. Horlick), and 25 guineas (Mr. James). Mr. A. Brassey's consignment of forty one sold readily at good prices, Mr. Casares buying one at 20 guineas. Messrs. J. Bryan and Son sold forty-five, at prices up to 36 guineas (given by Mr. Brassey); and Messrs. Jeffries' lot of forty made up to 30½ guineas.

The Cocum Flock.

At the annual sale and letting of lambs from the well known Cocum flock of Sir George Judd, six lambs to be let for one month did not change hands, but 92 lambs were sold at an average of £9 10s. 11d. Mr. G. W. Palmer bought at 31 guineas, 17 guineas, 16 guineas, 15 guineas, 14½ guineas, 12 guineas, 11½ guineas, and 10 guineas (twice); Mr. A. Arnold at 25 guineas and 19 guineas; Mr. J. Molden at 20 guineas, 17½ guineas, and 14 guineas; Mr. Edney at 11 guineas and 10 guineas; Mr. Todd at 12 guineas, 10½ guineas (twice), and 10 guineas (twice); Mr. Stidston at 10 guineas; and Mr. W. Drake at 10 guineas. The remaining ram lambs made up to 10 guineas.

The Leconfield Lincoln Longwools.

The annual sale at Leconfield of Mr. Robert Fisher's well-known Lincoln Longwool rams took place on Wednesday and attracted a large company of breeders. About ninety first-class rams were brought under the hammer and met a brisk trade at prices which made the average the best ever obtained by Mr. Fisher. The total amount realised by the sale was 2,258 guineas, which works out at an average of £28 3s. 3d. per ram, or £4 more than last year, and, as before stated, the best on record for this sale. No. 1, a grand shearling, whose sire, Leconfield No. 4, possesses strains of the flocks of Mr. Henry Dudding, Messrs. Clarke and Son, and Mr. Kirkham, fetched 155 guineas, that sum being given by Mr. R. Richardson, of Arnold Grange. Mr. Crook, of Liverpool, bought largely for transportation to Argentina, his purchases numbering 23, at prices varying from 41 guineas downwards. Mr. Campbell, who was also buying for Buenos Ayres, had eight knocked down to him, giving 105 guineas, 60 guineas, and 41 guineas for three of them. Amongst the higher prices obtained were 100 guineas given by Mr. T. Caswell, of Pointon; 70 guineas by Mr. Nelson, of Lincolnshire; 60 guineas by Messrs. Spink and Campion, of East Heslerton; 60 guineas by Mr. Dudding, of Riby Grove; 50 guineas by Mr. Strickland; 50 guineas and 30 guineas by Mr. Wright, of Nocton; 51 guineas by Mr. Hoyles, of Skidby; 80 guineas by Mr. Caswell, of Loughton; 35 guineas by Mr. Anderson, of Barrow.

Forthcoming Sales.

Messrs. Stride and Sons have received instructions from his Grace the Duke of Richmond and Gordon to sell at the Manor Farm, Singleton, Chichester, Sussex, on Thursday, September 5, the whole of his pure bred Southdown flocks of sheep. These pure bred Southdown Hill flocks were established by the late Duke of Richmond and Gordon. Great care and attention has been used in their breeding, and all the flocks are fully eligible for registration. The flocks may be inspected by appointment with Mr. J. Mackenzie, Manor Farm, Singleton, Chichester.

Seventy head of Lincoln Red Shorthorns from the Brandon herd, the property of Mr. J. Langham, Brandon Grange, Grantham, will be sold on October 10, including prize-winners, yearlings, and two-year-old heifers.

The Earl of Chichester has instructed Messrs. W. F. Ingram and Son to sell his pure-bred Southdown flock at Hoddern Farm, Newhaven, Sussex, on Thursday, September 19. The flock was established in 1888, and the ewes were purchased from the most prominent breeders, and only picked rams have been used. The catalogues may be obtained in due course from Messrs. Ingram and Son, 2, St. Andrew's Place, Lewes.

Messrs. Jackson and McCartney will hold their annual ewe sale on Thursday, August 29, at Craven Arms, Shropshire, when 16,000 Shropshire Down, Clun Forest, Kerry Hill, Radnor Forest, and Longmynd stock ewes will be offered for sale. The ewes are drawn from the leading flocks in Shropshire, Radnorshire, Herefordshire, and Montgomeryshire. The sale will commence at ten o'clock prompt. Catalogues may be obtained from the auctioneers, Craven Arms, Shropshire.

The Bath and West Society.

At the last meeting of the council of the above society, the president, Lord Digby, in the chair, Mr. Edwards, on behalf of the stewards, reported that they had accepted the site offered by the local committee for the 1908 exhibition. The site was the same as that occupied by the society the last time it visited Dorchester in 1887, with some additional land adjoining it, the use of which was rendered necessary owing to the increased extent of the show in recent years. The local committee had also undertaken to comply with the society's other requirements, and the usual form embodying the conditions had been signed.

On the motion of Mr. Edwards, seconded by Lord Wynford, the report was adopted.

Mr. Edwards, as chairman of the Works Committee, submitted the plan proposed for the laying out of the show ground at Dorchester, so far as concerned its main features, and moved its adoption, which was seconded by Captain W. Best and agreed to.

Mr. Edwards, on behalf of the Show Dates Committee, reported that the Committee recommended that the 1908 meeting at Dorchester be opened on Wednesday, June 3, and closed on Whit Monday, June 8, these dates being considered by the representatives of the town and district embraced by the exhibition as the most suitable that could be selected. The adoption of the report was moved by Mr. Edwards, seconded by Mr. Latham, and agreed to.

The late Captain Best.

Mr. Gibbs, on behalf of a Special Committee appointed by the council to consider a suggestion from Sir C. T. D. Acland that there should be some permanent embodiment of the society's feelings with respect to the death of Captain the Hon. J. C. Best, reported that the committee recommended that a copy of the following resolution, passed at the last meeting of the society's council, be suitably engrossed and framed, and be sent to Mrs. Best for her acceptance. The terms of the resolution, moved by the Earl of Radnor, and seconded by Mr. C. L. F. Edwards, are as follows:—"That the council of the Bath and West and Southern Counties Society, at this their first meeting held after the lamented decease of their old friend and colleague, Captain the Hon. J. C. Best, a vice president of the society, and for many years one of its stewards, desire to convey to Mrs. Best their unanimous expression of heartfelt sympathy with her and the other members of her family in the great sorrow which has overtaken them. They also desire to record their grateful sense of the invaluable services rendered to the society over a long series of years by the late Captain Best, for they believe no one could have served it in a spirit of greater devotion or with a higher regard for its best interests. His untiring energy, his mental vigour, his practical experience and his varied knowledge were ever at the society's disposal, which owed more than it is possible to express to his counsel and guidance. Whilst the members generally will long remember his unswerving attachment to the cause he had so much at heart, those who had the advantage of being more closely associated with him in the council room and the showyard will hold him in constant remembrance as the truest of friends and the most loyal of colleagues."

The adoption of the report was moved by Mr. Gibbs, seconded by Mr. Edwards, and agreed to.

Provision for Stockmen.

A letter was read from the president of the Newport branch of the Young Men's Christian Association thanking the council for their kind expressions of appreciation relative to the work carried out by the association in connection with a reading and writing tent provided for the stockmen and others engaged in the Newport showyard.

Colonel the Hon. C. Byng, as one of the stock stewards, testified to the convenience this was to those for whom it was intended. It was largely taken advantage of and thoroughly appreciated. He hoped that a similar arrangement might be made at future shows, and that the society would do what it could to further this. On the motion of Colonel Byng, seconded by Major Sherston, the matter was referred to the works committee to report upon.

Insect Pests.

A letter was read from the Board of Economic Biology, University College, Bristol, stating that the board had been organised with a view to assisting farmers and others in dealing with insect and other pests which affect agriculture, horticulture, &c. It was intended that the work of the board should comprise the whole of the counties of Somerset, Gloucester, Wilts, Devon, and Cornwall, and that the work should be upon similar lines to that which had been accomplished for the Midland Counties by a Department of Economic Zoology at Birmingham. The assistance of the Society was asked in bringing the Board into touch with those interested in the subject, and an offer was made to put farmers and others in communication with some member of the Board, who would investigate the nature of any insect or other pest and report upon it free of charge.

On the motion of the Hon. J. R. de C. Boscawen, seconded by Mr. Somerville, it was resolved to thank the Board for their communication and to afford any assistance possible.

Cider.

A letter was received from the National Fruit and Cider Institute, enclosing copy of a resolution passed at the last annual meeting of members and associates of the institute, cordially thanking the Society "for the use of its council room and for its kind assistance at all times."

A movement has been inaugurated for promoting a Bill in Parliament for granting further powers to the council of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, the governing body of the medical veterinary profession. The proposals include the imposition of an annual registration fee of one guinea upon each member, and the exemption of veterinary surgeons, as medical practitioners, from service on juries. The principal reason for seeking power to enforce the payment of a yearly registration fee is to strengthen the financial position of the council, thereby enabling that body to carry out what members look upon as great and necessary reforms. A paper on the subject, by Mr. F. W. Garnett, was last week considered by the Yorkshire Veterinary Medical Society, and the meeting unanimously declared its agreement with the objects aimed at.

AUCTION SALES.

Auctioneers will favour us by sending in their advertisements as early in the week as possible. Charges for announcements under this heading Six Shillings an inch.

By Messrs. IRELAND.

Norwich, Norfolk.—Ireland's Norwich Hill Auction Mart (established 50 years). Every Saturday. Fat Bullocks and Sheep, Store Sheep. Special Spring and Autumn Store Cattle Sales.

MESSRS. IRELAND solicit consignments for these important weekly sales; best market value assured.

Cattle consigned to Ireland's, Norwich, will be properly fed and carefully attended to.

All cattle weighed upon entry to the sale ring if desired. Full particulars to be sent to—

IRELAND'S, Auctioneers.
Norwich, Norfolk.

By Messrs. JACKSON & McCARTNEY.

THE LARGEST EWE SALE IN ENGLAND.
CRAVEN ARMS, SHROPSHIRE.

MESSRS. JACKSON & McCARTNEY will hold their 33rd ANNUAL SALE of
16,000
Shropshire Down, Clun Forest, Kerry Hill, Radnor Forest and Longmynd, Stock Ewes, &c., composed of
4,530 Pure-Bred Shropshire Down Ewes.
9,400 Clun Forest, Radnor Forest, Kerry Hill, Longmynd, and Improved Cross-bred Ewes.
2,000 Yearling Wether Lambs.
70 Shropshire Down, Oxford Down, Kerry Hill, and Longmynd Rams.
On THURSDAY, 29th AUGUST, 1907.
Commencing at 10 o'clock prompt.

These Ewes are drawn from the leading Flocks in Shropshire, Radnorshire, Herefordshire, and Montgomeryshire.

TERMS CASH.—All Cheques require a Banker's guarantee.

Catalogues on application to the AUCTIONEERS, Craven Arms, Shropshire.

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT.

BRANDON HERD OF
LINCOLN RED SHORTHORNS,
The Property of
JOHN LANGHAM, ESQ., J.P.,
BRANDON GRANGE, GRANTHAM.

A SALE OF 70 HEAD from the above herd, including prize-winners, yearlings and two-year-old heifers, will be held on OCTOBER 10, 1907.

CITY OF CORK, IRELAND.

AUCTION OF 700 IRISH STORE CATTLE
at
MARSH'S REPOSITORY, COPLEY STREET, CORK, on THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, 1907, at 12 o'clock noon.

WM. MARSH & SONS,
Cork Auctioneers.

By Mr. W. S. HALL.

WYMONDHAM, NORFOLK.
(On Main Line).

TUESDAY, AUGUST 27, AT 2 P.M.

W. S. HALL will SELL by AUCTION for Mr. T. S. Taylor (who is giving up his Stud),
22 PEDIGREE HACKNEY MARES AND GELDINGS,
including two brood mares by that noted Norfolk horse Old Confidence 158; several fine-moving Harness Mares and Geldings, &c. Also the Breaking Tackle and Harness.

Catalogues of the Auctioneer, Wymondham, or Watton, Norfolk, and of Mr. T. S. Taylor, Ivy Green, Wymondham.

By Messrs. FULLER, MOON & FULLER.

IMPORTANT SALE OF PEDIGREE AND WELL-BRED JERSEY CATTLE.

ROBT. W. FULLER, MOON & FULLER will SELL by AUCTION, at WANBOROUGH STUD, near GUILDFORD, on THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, at 2 o'clock,
19 COWS and HEIFERS, 5 BULLS,
6 YEARLINGS and CALVES.

Catalogues of the AUCTIONEERS, 83, High Street, Croydon, who will execute commissions.

By Messrs. JOHN THORNTON & CO.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

FRIDAY NEXT, AUGUST 23.—Mr. W. P. Hampton's entire flock of SOUTHDOWN SHEEP and LAMBS, at Langdon Abbey, Dover.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5.—The Duchess of Devonshire's DEXTERS, at Compton Place, Eastbourne.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13.—Sale of 100 SHORTHORNS, at Chipping Norton Junction, Oxfordshire.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18.—Mr. W. Arkell's SHORTHORNS, at Kempsford, Fairford, Glos.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18.—The Hon. Mrs. Howard's JERSEY CATTLE, BERKSHIRE PIGS, and SOUTHDOWN SHEEP, at Dutchlands, Great Missenden, Bucks.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20.—About fifty first-class SHORTHORNS, the property of Joseph Harris, Esq., at Brackenburgh Tower, Carlisle.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24.—Mr. R. Bruce Ward's JERSEYS, at Westwood Park, Droitwich, Worcestershire.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26.—Mr. J. A. Preece's SHORTHORNS, at Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27.—Mr. F. J. Steward's SHORTHORNS, at Whitehall Farm, Brigstock, Thrapston.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON & Co., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

By Messrs. STRIDE & SON.

SINGLETON, CHARLTON, EAST DEAN, DROKE AND NEW HOUSE FARMS,
ON THE GOODWOOD ESTATE,
CHICHESTER, SUSSEX.
(About ¾ mile from Singleton and 5 miles from Chichester Stations, L.B. and S.C. Railway).

HIGHLY IMPORTANT SALE OF HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND GORDON'S PURE-BRED SOUTHDOWN HILL FLOCKS.

MESSRS. STRIDE AND SON beg to announce that they are in receipt of instructions from His Grace the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, K.G. (the farms being let), to Sell by Auction, at the MANOR FARM, SINGLETON, on
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5 next,
THE WHOLE OF THE PURE-BRED SOUTHDOWN HILL FLOCKS, comprising about:
2,200 SOUTHDOWN SHEEP, in regular flock ages, as follows:—
274 SHEARLING EWES,
532 FULL-MOUTHED EWES,
474 FOUR-TEETH EWES,
89 DRAFT EWES,
365 SIX-TEETH EWES,
500 LAMBS.

These pure-bred Southdown Hill Flocks were established many years back, chiefly by drafts of ewes from the Goodwood Home Farm Flock, by the late Duke of Richmond and Gordon as the various farms—which are situated amongst the hills North of the Goodwood Racecourse—came into hand.

Of late years much care and attention has been devoted to their breeding and selection. In 1903 rams used were from the flocks of Earl Bathurst, Mr. J. Colman, Mr. E. Henty, and Goodwood. In 1904 from Earl Cadogan, Lord Northbourne, Mr. F. N. Hobgen and Messrs. Waters and Son. In 1905 and 1906 from the Duke of Devonshire, Mr. J. Colman, Mr. Allan Cooper and Mr. Edwin Ellis.

The ewes are of good size and scale, with the hardiest of constitutions, and possess the quality, type and character which distinguishes the famous flocks from which they are descended.

The capital wether lambs which have been annually sold in Chichester Market furnish the best evidence of the mutton-producing capabilities of these flocks, while last year their wool made the highest price at the Chichester Wool sale.

All the flocks are fully eligible for registration.

Purchasers may leave their sheep on the farms free of charge, at their own risk, until September 29th.

The Flocks may be inspected by appointment with Mr. James Mackenzie, Manor Farm, Singleton, Chichester.

Buyers arriving at Chichester night prior to sale will find the "Dolphin" or "Anchor" comfortable hotels to stay at.

Sale immediately after 12 o'clock luncheon.

Commissions carefully executed.

Catalogues of the AUCTIONEERS, Auction and Estate Agency Offices, 63, East Street, Chichester, Sussex.

By Mr. ARTHUR SAUL.

THE LINCOLNSHIRE CURLY-COATED PIG BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION
Will hold SALES at BOSTON
On WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28, and WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1907, at 11 o'clock.

For particulars apply
ARTHUR SAUL, Bourne, Auctioneer.
C. E. WILLIAMS, Sleaford, Hon. Sec.

By Messrs. W. F. INGRAM & SON.

HODDERN FARM, NEWHAVEN, SUSSEX.
About 2 miles from Newhaven Station and 5½ miles from Lewes.
In the Home of the Southdowns.

By instructions from the Earl of Chichester, the Farm being let.

MESSRS. W. F. INGRAM & SON will SELL by AUCTION,
On THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1907.
THE PURE-BRED SOUTHDOWN FLOCK,
Registered No. 284.
About 480 Ewes in the three ages, 170 Full-mouth Ewes, 260 Ewe and Wether Lams, 20 Rams and Ram Lambs.

The Flock was started in 1888 from Ewes purchased from the Executors of the Outgoing Tenant and from the late Duke of Richmond, the late Viscount Hampden, Viscount Gage, and others. Picked Rams from well-known Flocks have been used.

Catalogues may be obtained in due course from MESSRS. INGRAM & SON, 2, St. Andrew's Place, Lewes.

By Messrs. W. DEW & SON.

NORTH WALES.

NEAR BANGOR.

PENRHYN CASTLE STABLES
AND
PENRHYN HOME FARM.

MESSRS. WM. DEW & SON have received instructions from the Right Honourable Lord Penrhyn to OFFER FOR SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION, as above, on TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, the 27th and 28th days of AUGUST, 1907, commencing each day at 11.30 a.m., a few Lots of Harness Bridles and other Horse Tackle,
HIGH-CLASS CARRIAGES,
YOUNG COLTS and FILLIES, by "King's Beadsman" and "Lord President,"
Over 30 WELSH MOUNTAIN PONIES,
The SHIRE STALLION "BURY GENERAL WHITE" (18,595),
THE ENTIRE HERD
of nearly
ONE HUNDRED SHEET-CATTLE,
consisting of
MILCH COWS and IN-CALF HEIFERS,
YOUNG HEIFERS,
HEIFER and BULL CALVES and FIVE BULLS,
all selected with great care and judgment as to evenness, fine quality, uniformity of colour, and other qualifications that go to make up a high-class Herd, and the Cattle offered for Sale are of very fine merit.

At the same time will be offered 30 Pure Bred Yearling Ewes, a few Ram Lambs, Poultry, &c.

The order of Sale will be as follows:—

On Tuesday, August 27, the Sale will commence at the Stables, and will comprise Bridles, Horse Tackle, Harness, Carriages, and Horses.

On Wednesday, August 28, the Sale will be at the Home Farm, and will comprise the Herd of Sheet-Cattle, Sheep, Poultry, &c.

Catalogues may be obtained upon application to the AUCTIONEERS, at their Offices, at Bangor and Llandudno.

By Messrs. R. W. HOBBS & SONS.

OXFORD DOWNS.

SHEARLING RAMS or RAM LAMBS from the KELMSCOTT FLOCK will be SOLD by AUCTION at the undermentioned fairs:—
CIRENCESTER, SEPTEMBER 2.
BURY ST. EDMUNDS, SEPTEMBER 3.
EDINBURGH, SEPTEMBER 12.
KELSO, SEPTEMBER 13.
NORTHAMPTON, SEPTEMBER 19.

YEARLING EWES FOR SALE AT HOME

R. W. HOBBS & SONS.
Kelmscott, Lechlade.

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

*** *The charge for Advertisements (if set in small type) under classified headings in this section is one penny per word each insertion.*

HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL, Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL. Catthorpe, Rugby.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Hereford. Stud Horses: Lockinge Lord of Misrule and Lockinge Bonny Lad, both by Lockinge Forester, full brother to Lockinge Forest King. Colts and Fillies for Sale.

MUNTZ, FREDERICK ERNEST, Umberslade, Hockley Heath, Warwickshire. Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, prize-winners.—Particulars from Mr. JOHN T B. HARTLEY, Estate Office.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners, on Sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

ROWELL, JOHN, Bury, Huntingdon. Breeder Shires and Hacknevs; Stallions for sale, hire, or service at home; mares and fillies for sale.

WHITEHEAD, Robert, Fashionably bred mares and fillies in natural condition on Sale. Stallions, Bodenham King 17177, Whitcstone Prince Alfred 22930.—Apply J. M. JOHNSTONE, Hargate Hall, Buxton. Station, and telegrams, Millers Dale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

SHETLAND PONIES.

BEALE, Mrs. A. J., Cacketts, Cudham, Kent. Prize-bred Pedigree Shetlands for sale; three grand Stallions at stud.

PONIES.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

PREECE, JOHN ADNEY, Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston, Northampton.—Herd of 250 Shorthorns, best Bates and Scotch blood; stock Bulls, Duke of Barrington 70th, Primrose Earl 89641, and Royal Baron 93192; Bulls and Heifers for sale.

ROTHWELL, R. R., Much Hoole, near Preston. Pedigree Shorthorns, chiefly Scotch blood. Stock bull Strowan Marquis 13th, winner of many prizes. Young bulls and heifers always on sale.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

TAYLOR, GEORGE, Cranford, Middlesex.—Bates' Shorthorns, deep milkers. Winners Milking Competitions, London Dairy Show, 1905-6. Bull Calves for Sale. Stock Bulls: Beau Sabreur, Drumcree, Rowbury, and Kirkcharm.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

SUSSEX.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath, Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Sussex Cattle (descended from the oldest and best strains of blood), unrivalled for their early maturity, the production of the best beef and working oxen, and ability to thrive in all weathers on the roughest fare. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for Sale.

HEREFORDS.

PULLEY, CHARLES THORNTON, Lower Eaton, Hereford.—Noted prize-winning herd of HEREFORD CATTLE. First prize Royal winners, Protector 19660, 1899, Eaton Champion 21351, 1903; and Ashleaf 3rd, 1905. This herd is headed by Eaton Champion and Glendower 2nd 22196, also a Royal winner. Bulls and Heifers for sale. Also prize-winning Shropshire Sheep.—Apply Mr. HEDLEY JONES, Lower Eaton Estate Office, Hereford.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has in 1904 1905 and 1906 won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by Endale, Bage Protector, and Fusilier. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited. —Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford, Herefordshire.

CATTLE—*continued.*

HEREFORDS—*continued.*

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for Sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

DEVONS.

BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton Williton, Taunton, Breeder of Pedigree Devon Cattle. A speciality for large size, with quality and robust constitutions; colour dark red. Sent to all parts of the world. Prices moderate.

SKINNER, ALFRED C., Pound, Bishops-Lydeard, Somerset. Pedigree Devons, constitution, quality, size, milk; 600 prizes principal shows, many champions; exports most successful; bulls and heifers for sale. Inspection invited.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

BRIDGES, J. H.—This old-established herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle of the leading families can be seen at Langshott Home Farm, Horley, Surrey (near Horley Station, L.B. & S.C.R.), and catalogues obtained on application to Mr. Albert Pulling.

HURSLEY PARK HERD OF ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE, the property of Sir George Cooper, Bart., comprising Erica, Pride, Miss Burgess, Lady Ida, Matilda, Jemima of Morlich families. Prizes won during 1906: 7 firsts, 3 seconds, 3 reserves, 1 challenge cup, 2 silver medals, 3 reserve champions. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.—Catalogues on application to V. F. Leese, Estate Office, Hursley Park, Winchester.

THE ROCKLIFFE PARK HERD of Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, Ericas and Prides.—Apply, R. C. SWAN, Rockliffe Park, Darlington.

AYRSHIRES.

WALLACE, JAMES, J.P., Auchenbainzie, Thornhill, Dumfriesshire, Scotland. Breeder of pedigree prize-winning Ayrshire Cattle; hardy, healthy, good milkers; bred for dairy purposes, beauty and style. Bulls and Heifers for sale.

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably, from his prize-winning herd of Red Polls, Bulls, Cows, Heifers, from good milkers.—Apply C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

CARY-ELWES, V., Billing Hall, Northampton. Breeder of Jersey cattle.

JERSEYS, and Alderney Guernseys, fresh calved and near calving. Prices, particulars.—R. WHEADON, Ilminster.

MERTON GRANGE GUERNSEYS.—Property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. This Herd contains Champion Bull Royal Counties, Portsmouth, and Champion Cow Royal Derby, 1906. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of best Breeding for Sale.—Telegrams and particulars, W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay.

STERN, Sir E. D., Fan Court, Chertsey, Surrey. Herd of pedigree Jersey Cattle. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

TICHBORNE PARK, GUERNSEY.—Yearling Bulls and Heifers for sale.—Apply, D. MICHIE, Estate Office, Tichborne, Alresford, Hants.

GALLOWAYS.

GRAHAM, ROBERT, Auchengassel, Twynholm, breeder fashionable Galloway Cattle, winners at Royal and Highland Societies Shows. Pedigree Bulls, Cows, and Heifers, also Blue-greys for feeding, for sale. Commissions carefully executed.

KERRIES & DEXTERS.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

THE DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE'S PRIZE-WINNING DEXTER HERD.—During 1904 and 1905 this Herd won more prizes than any other three Dexter Herds combined, including both first and second milking prizes Royal, 1905, and first London Dairy Show, 1906. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers generally for Sale.—CHILD, Compton Place, Eastbourne.

RATTRAY, DAVID, Gortnaskehy, Ballybunion, Co. Kerry. Pedigree Prize-winning Herd of Kerries and Dexters. 153 Prizes and Honours won by Cattle from this Herd past three years. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

SHEEP.

WELSH.

WELSH EWES.—The most profitable and rent-paying Ewe for breeding fat Lambs, crossed with Southdown, Shropshire or Wiltshire Rams. For further information apply to JOHN JONES & SON, Dinarth Hall, Colwyn Bay, the largest purchasers of Welsh Sheep in Wales.

LINCOLN LONG WOOL.

ANDERSON, JOHN, Barton-on-Humbor.—The old Barton Flock of Pure-bred LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, Flock Book 106. This flock is noted for hard constitutions and fine, lustrous wool. Inspection invited. Telegrams as above.

ATKINSON, T., & SON, North Kelsey, Lincoln. Old-established flock of pure Lincoln Longwools. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Noted for great size and long lustrous wool. Have given great satisfaction at home and abroad. Inspection invited.

SHEEP—*continued.*

LINCOLN LONG WOOL—*continued.*

BROOKS, W. J., Stowe Lodge, Weedon, Northants (Registered Flock 165), has for sale Rams and Ewes of best blood.

BROCKLEBANK, JOHN, Bassingham, Lincoln. (Flock 24). Pure-bred Lincoln Longwool Rams and Ewes. This old flock has been carefully bred for 100 years. Telegrams: Basingham.

DRAKES, Wm., Tealby, Market Rasen. Flock No. 72 of Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs of best blood for sale. Lincoln Red Shorthorns. Prices moderate.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 8 from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

SMITH, HENRY, jun, Cropwell Butler, Nottingham. Lincoln Longwool Flock No. 7, winner of £2,361 in prizes. Champion pen Lincolns, Smithfield Show, 1896; Association Championship, Leicester, 1897; Association Championship for pen of 3 Shearling Rams, Yorkshire, 1900; Championship, Rutland, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, and 1906. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Station: Bingham. G.N.R.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

THE CHILMARK FLOCK OF REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—Owner, JAMES FLOWER, Chilwark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records. Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, out of 11 years competing, 'The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" won eight times, thrice second, with pens of 3 ram lambs; a marvellous record. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 13 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05-07. At the Royal at Derby, 1906, every First Prize, two Seconds, and the Champion were won; an unequalled success!! Champions Birmingham, 1905, over all breeds, Reserve in 1906. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Short-wools, Smithfield, 1904-05-06. Highest average past 13 years. Bridford Fair, Aug. 12, 100 Ram Lambs, annual sale. Selections for Sale.

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25gs. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1907.—Extraordinary records: Twin ram lambs let for 205 and 120 guineas. Ninety averaged £21 10s. Selections always for Sale.

JUDD, Sir GEORGE, Cocum, Barton Stacey, Hants.—Pure bred Hampshire Downs, over 1000 Ewes. Annual Sale, Ram Lambs, August 8th, 1907. Registered Vol. I., page 17.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. The Cholderton flock is individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded in the Hampshire Down Flock Book. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cho'derton, Salisbury.

OVEY, R. L., Hernes, Henley-on-Thames.—Pedigree HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK, Reg. Vol. IV. Prize-winners leading shows last five years.

WINCHESTER, the Most Hon. the Marquis of, Amport St. Mary, Andover, Hants. Pure-bred flock of Hampshire Down Sheep; high-class Rams and Ewes always on Sale.

OXFORD DOWNS.

ADAMS, GEORGE, Royal Prize Farm Flock, Faringdon, Berks. Pure Oxford Down Sheep, Shearling Rams, Ram Lambs, Ewes and Ewe Lambs for Sale. Special arrangements with foreign buyers. Many first prizes at R.A.S.E. and other shows during past 25 years, including 2 first, 2 second, and 4 other prizes, World's Fair, Chicago, and 7 firsts, 4 seconds and champion at Royal Bath and West, Royal Counties, etc., this year.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

TREADWELL, JOHN, Upper Winchendon, Aylesbury.—Oxford Down Sheep. Annual Ram Sale, first Wednesday in August. Prizes won at R.A.S.E. 24 years in succession. Ewes for Sale.

SUFFOLKS.

CRANWORTH, The Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably from his prize winning flock, of Suffolk Sheep, some fine Ram Lambs.—Apply C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

WENSLEYDALE.

UNDERLEY WENSLEYDALES (Blue-faced), from the best blood obtainable. Successfully exhibited.—Apply, G. G. ROBINSON Bailiff, Underley Farm, Kirkby, Lonsdale.

(Continued on page 245.)

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

CHARLES SPENCER, having taken over the Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts, herd of Large and Middle White Pigs, which won 12 prizes and reserves with 11 exhibits at Derby Royal, will price any of them.

FULWOOD HERD LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES, property R. R. Rothwell. 200 head bred from winners at leading shows.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for Sale at moderate prices

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station, G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices. —J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM. Herd of Large White Pigs. The oldest and largest Herd in Notts County. Over 100 Breeding Sows kept. Upwards of 600 to select from. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—Apply ARTHUR A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 100 to choose from. Correspondence invited. Grand young breeding stock always on Sale.—Apply R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts (15 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

SPALDING HERD of Pedigree Large Whites, young stock and in-pig Gilts for Sale. All bred from great winners.—ALFRED W. WHITE, "Hillegom," Spalding.

MIDDLE WHITES.

THE CATTON HERD of Prize-winning MIDDLE WHITE PIGS, property of J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stock Boar Castlecroft Mikado, 1st Park Royal, 1st Bath and West. Gelts and Boars on Sale. Prices moderate.—Apply BAILIFF, Raddle Farm, Edingale, Tamworth.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 86 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

LARGE BLACKS.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath. Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Large Black Pigs of the best strains of blood, noted for their docility and for the production of a large proportion of lean meat. Good selection of Boars, unrelated Gilts, and in-pig Sows for Sale at reasonable prices.

CATTON HERD OF PRIZE-WINNING LARGE BLACK PIGS.—Stock Boar Trevisquite Excelsior 1487, 1st Devon County, 2nd and Reserve Champion Royal Show, 1906; pigs kept in hardy natural condition; gelts and boars always on sale.—Apply, J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stations: Croxall, 2½ miles (M.R.); Alrewas, 3½ miles (L.N.W.).

HASKETON CHAMPION PRIZE HERD OF LARGE BLACK PIGS.—This herd has won the Royal championship three out of four times, and is the only herd having won the breed challenge cup. Record: 47 firsts, 37 seconds, 11 thirds, 126 prize-winning cards; the herd this year being the winners of 14 firsts, 6 seconds, 2 thirds, championship and silver cup in five shows. Gelts and Boars at moderate prices consistent with quality. Exportation a speciality.—Apply, C. F. MARRINER, Hasketon, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS.—Select Herd, bred from choice Prize Winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale, moderate prices.—H. J. CLARKE, The Slade, Roughley, Sutton Coldfield.

BERKSHIRES.

CARNARVON, the Earl of.—Prize winning Pedigree Herd. BOARS and GELTS, eligible Herd Book. Prices moderate.—Apply W. T. HALL, Highclere Farm, Newbury.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

BERKSHIRES—*continued.*

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge. Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

READING CORPORATION.—150 Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, leading prize-winning strains, from son of Champion Mikado 10423 and prize-winner Domino 11323; inspection invited. Apply, Mr. T. Chettle, Manor Farm, Reading, Berks.

STALL PITTS HERD OF PEDIGREE BERKSHIRES. One of the Oldest Herds. Unsurpassed for true character, size, and quality. Choice selection of Boars and Sows on offer at moderate prices.—J. LAWRENCE, Stall Pitts, Shrivenham, Berks

BORROWFIELD & COLSTON HERDS.

The property of R. MILLINGTON-KNOWLES, Colston Bassett Hall, Notts.

LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES.

The following First Prizes, Championships, and Medals have been obtained by pigs **BRED** in these Herds in 1907:

1st and Champion, Gold Medal, R.A.S.E., Lincoln.
1st & Champion, President's Medal, Highland, Edinburgh
1st Welsh National, Aberystwyth.
1st Bath and West Newport; 1st Royal Counties.
1st Nottingham; 1st Suffolk; 1st Norfolk.
1st Hereford and Worcester; Special Prize Lincoln Agricultural Society; 1st Great Yorkshire; 1st Newark.

A number of additional Firsts and other Prizes have also been gained at the above Shows.

At the St. Louis Exposition, U.S.A., in 1904, the Champion Boar, and the Grand Champion of the Exposition were bred at Colston Bassett.

The Foreign and Home trade has largely increased during 1907.—GILBERT H. ELLIOT, Estate Office, Colston Bassett, Notts.

For Sale.

PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.

Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.

GEORGE HOYLES,
Skidby Manor, near Hull.

GEORGE HOYLES,

SKIDBY MANOR, HULL.

Breeder of Pure Lincoln Long Wool Sheep. Lustrous Fleeces. Good Constitutions.

SUITABLE FOR HOME AND ABROAD. STOCK FOR SALE.

HORSES.

Clydesdales in Canada.

A special meeting of council of the Clydesdale Horse Society was recently held to consider the Canadian Clydesdale Association's regulation, and how far the council may be able to meet the Canadian requirements. Mr. J. Ernest Kerr, Harviestoun Castle, vice-president, occupied the chair, and there were present by invitation Messrs. J. Bright, Myrtle, Ontario, vice president of the Canadian Association; William Smith, Columbus, Ontario; and John A. Boag, Ravenshoe, Ontario, members of the Canadian Board, with Mr. William Graham, Claremont, Ontario.

The secretary having read the notice calling the meeting, Mr. Martin reported that the editing committee had been considering the question for about an hour, and would be prepared to make a recommendation at a later stage. Meantime he suggested that they should hear their Canadian friends, whom they were pleased to see present, and whom they could assure of a hearty welcome. Mr. Martin's proposal was agreed to. The secretary first read the salient points in the correspondence which had passed between him and Mr. Sangster, the secretary of the Canadian Association.

The council was then addressed at length by Mr. Smith, who had moved the resolution which was carried at the June meeting of the Canadian Association. He explained the difficulty with which they had to contend, and how hard it was to convince men who were only beginning the breeding of Clydesdales that everything was right when the fillies they offered for sale had no numbers. The difficulty was greater because the rival breeds which were seeking to establish a footing in Canada had numbers for all the stock offered for sale. The Clydesdale held the Canadian market with a long lead in advance of other breeds, and they asked the home society to help them to maintain that lead.

Mr. Bright followed in similar strain, and Mr. Graham and Mr. Boag, in a word, concurred.

The chairman having thanked the gentlemen for their addresses and presence, and various questions having been asked and answered; the deputation withdrew.

Mr. Martin intimated that the recommendation of the Editing Committee was that the request of the Canadian Association should be granted, provided the council were satisfied that the members of the deputation represented the views of the Canadian Association, but that the committee would much prefer not to disturb the existing arrangement of the volume, or system of registration.

A general discussion ensued, the opinion being unanimously in favour of facilitating trade, but several members of council indicated a doubt as to the competency of proceeding on a verbal representation, seeing a formal communication had been addressed by the council to the Canadian Association.

Ultimately it was agreed, on the motion of Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, to number all animals for export when issuing the export certificate, the fees for stallions and brood mares to be as at present, and to charge animals without produce at the rate of 2s. 6d. each entry to members, and 5s. each entry to non-members.

It was explained, on behalf of the editing committee, that they would not re-enter fillies without produce already entered for the first time as produce of their dams in Volume XXX., but would number such animals in the produce columns beneath their dams, indexing them alphabetically when compiling the volume, and in re-entering for a number of fillies without produce already entered in preceding volumes that the re-entry would be shortened, giving only the name, description, date of foaling, ownership, and sire and dam, with reference to the preceding entry as produce, for the extended pedigree. In this way the committee hoped to meet the requirements of the Canadians without unduly swelling the bulk of the book by needless repetition of pedigrees.

The Editing Committee further reported that they had examined and recommended for acceptance the pedigrees of the dams and granddams of Mr. Park's Marmion (11429) and Mr. Fergusson's Allandale (12418), so that these mares would now be numbered.

Next Year's International Horse Show.

The English and foreign directors of the International Horse Show recently held at Olympia have been earnestly considering the most suitable locality for their next year's exhibition, but notwithstanding pressing invitations from abroad, it has been decided to hold the second one in London during 1908. The exact place of meeting has not yet been finally fixed, as it is felt that, unless additional outside accommodation can be obtained, Olympia will be too restricted for a show of such magnitude.

The date of opening will be June 4, and the exhibition will remain in progress until June 13, thus comprising the week between Epsom and Ascot, the period corresponding with this year's *concours*. There will be performances each afternoon and evening, twice daily for nine days, in place of three times daily for six days. The building will be open each morning to enable visitors to view the exhibits, decorated stabling, transact business, &c., but the performances in the arena will not commence until 2 p.m. daily.

Many departments in which improvements can be made are now being carefully overhauled by the directors, and the schemes of floral decoration will be most elaborate and novel. Arrangements are already in hand to obtain attractive and popular exhibits, and the committee have sent representatives to Spain, Holland, Belgium, and other Continental horse-loving countries to secure the attendance of their best military riders. Negotiations have been opened with the Russian authorities for competitions of troikas and an equestrian exhibition by a troupe of Cossacks.

Thousands of visitors for whom accommodation could not be provided at Olympia last June will be glad to know that they will be able to book their boxes and seats in February next, and as the classification and arrangement will be entirely new, it is probable that a great success will be the result. Intimations have already been received that other American millionaires, pleased at the success achieved by their countrymen, are already making arrangements to send animals over from their stables. Profiting by the experience gained this year, it is proposed that there shall be spacious promenades, and the outlay on decorations, flowers, and electric light will be on a very large scale.

The 1907 Show.

We have just received a bound copy of the official catalogue of the great International Horse Show at Olympia in June last, and it is on a scale in keeping with that of the show. It is of quarto size, nicely printed in bold type, is illustrated, and is bound in a most attractive cover, the colour of which is the same as the second prize rosette, viz., Royal red, whilst the lettering is in gold. Had the prize awards been filled in on the space left at head of each class, the catalogue would have been a complete record of the most successful of horse shows. This is the only fault we have to find with the catalogue, and as a full list of the awards is given in a pamphlet supplied with the catalogue, the deficiency is, to a great extent, made good, and we now have an interesting record in a handy form of what it is hoped will be the first of a long series of successful international horse shows. The price of the catalogue is 2s.

CATTLE.

Notes and Jottings.

IT is now many years since the "three acres and a cow" theory first began to be discussed amongst politicians and the general public, agricultural and otherwise, in England, and perhaps it will not be exaggerating to say that more disappointments and losses to both landlords, tenants, and labourers have accrued where attempts have been made to commence the carrying out of that theory than have obtained from any like attempt to interfere with pre-existing arrangements in regard to the letting of land in allotments, or in any way for the benefit of the working classes. The old saying is a very true one, that it is a "hard battle where all the combatants are slain," and so there are a few instances, perhaps, to be found where good has followed a system of allotments.

THE question of small holdings is to-day exercising many minds and many men in this country and affects agriculture in a very vital form, or at least will do so should any attempt be made to pass such a Bill has has been talked of; and perhaps there is scarcely a branch of farming that would be more deeply affected by the breaking up of medium to large farms into what are generally understood as small holdings than the business of cattle breeding. We do not recollect of having yet seen definitely what is meant by a small holding—that is, to what extent of land it would refer—but if we take it in the general sense in which it is understood, it would mean anything from three up to say thirty acres, or perhaps a little more.

TO those who have had long experience of land in its varied phases of occupation and usage it is quite clear that nothing could be so disastrous to the general well-being and profit of the cattle-breeding business, which is certainly one of the most profitable branches of farming and stock breeding to-day, than would be, say, the dividing up of a good 250-acre holding of mixed land into eight to fifteen holdings not exceeding 30 acres in extent. What an odious comparison would be raised between the numbers and quality of the cattle that would have to occupy the small holdings as compared with the herd that the farmer, if a man of any means and intelligence, would possess who was farming the 250 acres of good mixed land.

THE Duke of Portland surely must have struck a note that will, or ought to, vibrate in the hearts and minds of all who are taking or likely to take any interest in the carrying out of a small holdings scheme, when he made that remarkable after-dinner speech at the Welbeck gathering the other day, when his Grace stated that some years ago he let a farm of 480 acres at a very low rental to six labourers, whom he provided with a full complement of live and dead farming stock, for which they paid a small amount as interest on the capital thus invested. But the experiment proved disastrous both from the labourers' standpoint and also the landlord's, and after fifteen years the farms were given up as a failure. The men had lost most of their savings, and the land had deteriorated in condition.

THE quantity of land in the above instance ran to an average of 80 acres for each tenant, which is considerably more than would be taken as an average of small holdings, and yet under such favourable conditions as stated the scheme proved a disastrous failure. It is perhaps a little difficult to understand why holdings of that extent, and occupied under the conditions existing, should have proved so disastrous. The most likely reason would probably be that the labourers were not of a class that took pride or interest in their work of managing their holdings, or otherwise were lacking in intelligence in the management of their cattle, which ought to be the main source of money making upon such holdings. We know to-day of many occupations of 80 or 100 acres that are doing splendid work in cattle breeding.

TO return or direct our attention, however, from holdings of the above description to those of three to thirty or forty acres, and look at these on principle from a cattle keeper's and breeder's point of view, how could they possibly be managed with advantage to anyone? There would not be scope enough to bring up young stock, or a sufficient number of cows kept to render it profitable to buy and use a good bull; there would not be milk made in sufficient quantity to pay for sending to the railway or for manipulating properly in any marketable form, whilst as regards the production of beef that would be out of the question altogether. The only profitable source, as things are to-day, likely to follow upon a small holding, would be the keeping of more pigs.

IF forming small holdings were to become to any extent fashionable for a time (it would only be a short time for a certainty), it would spell ruin to hundreds of the magnificent herds of pedigree cattle we possess in this country, and would, with this, be the means of preventing an enormous amount of money coming into this country from the land of "dollars," and would encourage a general retrogade movement in farming and stock breeding altogether. All classes of live stock except, perhaps, pigs, would suffer in proportion. It is one thing for a fairly wealthy man to farm as a pleasure farm one of these small holdings where he can afford to assist the productive powers of the farm by the purchase of an unlimited quantity of extraneous food, but it is entirely different where stern necessity demands the most economical expenditure of every penny, and a closeness of living that is not at all in accordance with the present views of the labouring classes.

THEN, assuming that the labourer on one of these small holdings has sufficient tact and industry about him to make ends meet and to hold himself together, what is his position? Can he improve his own prospects, or those of his family? Not a bit of it; day in, day out he must be toiling at it, and his family with him. He neither knows holiday nor leisure week day or Sunday, and is on the whole far worse off than his brother labourer under a good master on a large holding, where a sufficiency of labour is kept to do things decently and in order, and a comfortable wage paid.

ALL Englishmen may well hope that the Duke of Portland's experience will prove a lesson to others who may be inclined to break up their better holdings into small tenements. I may add that, in an adjoining village, this same thing was put in practice some thirty years ago, and upon that estate very similar results have obtained. Prior to the breaking up arrangements several fine herds of dairy cattle existed, as well as flocks of sheep; since the breaking up these dairy herds have given place to a few cottagers' cows, while sheep have disappeared entirely, and the question of finding tenants to succeed others that are leaving year after year has been little less than maddening to the owner, whose expenses are much heavier and income lighter than under the old dispensation.

THE cultivation of sugar beet appears to be likely to increase in England according to reports, if these are to be believed. This upon farms with a fair proportion of tillage land should add to the opportunities of milk producing. Any roots that are not good enough for the manufacture of sugar would be very useful in the mangers of the cattle, and the same may be said of the refuse generally. The cultivation of any plant that may be said to have several successful ways of being utilised profitably should, in the long run, prove a good investment. The present is quite a phenomenal season for milk, the immense amount of really succulent grass keeping up supplies and quality of milk as well as the condition of the cattle, and in very few cases is outside green food needed.

"Faking" in the Argentine.

For some time past various hints have been given of something far wrong at the Buenos Ayres Quarantine Station for purebred cattle sent from this country. "Faking" for the purpose of defeating the tuberculin test has been a source of trouble ever since prices began to take a great upward course. Its more recent developments are put in strong terms by the *Buenos Ayres Standard*. The charge is a double one.

On the one hand it is stated that tuberculous animals have been "salted" or inoculated over and over again with tuberculin in order to make them fit to pass the official test in the quarantine sheds; on the other hand, it is asserted that sound animals have been "doctored" in such a way as to make them fail to pass, the object here being to secure the insurance. The "salting" for the purpose of making animals pass the test has probably been the commoner course. In the case of the alleged frauds on insurance companies the animals tampered with must have been cheap ones on this side, which had been insured at fanciful values.

Bribery and corruption are pointedly referred to by the *Standard*. Even the sums dealt out to the resident "fakers" are noted. The discoveries made by the Argentine authorities will mean, according to the native journal, "the death-blow to the sale of British stock for years to come." That comment was no doubt made during a period of excitement. The conclusion arrived at, however, is worth noting:—

"If the Argentine market be cleaned of dishonest merchants, greater security in dealing will result ultimately to the benefit of all. The regulations on both sides are not severe enough, and the "Embarcadero" itself is not completely under Government supervision. The sheds are worked by a private firm, but the veterinary officers are appointed by the Ministry of Agriculture. When it is known in England that 15 per cent. of the cattle slaughtered here for exportation is tuberculous, the frozen meat trade of this country will be killed. Government officials at both ends have been duped by the animals being 'faked.' If a strong Preferential Tariff Government were in power in England, they would probably take strong measures against the importation of Argentine meat."

Transactions in Store Stock.

(Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

At Cavan Fair, held on August 14, there was a small fair of store cattle; good demand for nice heifers, but thin and inferior animals hard to sell. Large supply of springers, which met a dull sale. Calves, 3rd class, £2 12s 6d to £2 15s; yearlings, 1st class, £8 15s; 2nd class, £6 to £7 10s; 3rd class, £3 15s to £5 10s; two-year-olds, 1st class, £12 to £13 10s; 2nd class, £7 16s 8d to £10 10s; 3rd class, £6 10s to £7 5s; springers, 1st class, £15 15s to £19; 2nd class, £11 10s to £14; 3rd class, £8 10s to £10 10s; young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, 14s 6d to 22s 6d each.

At Drogheda Fair, co. Louth, held on August 14, there was a small supply of cattle; demand was slow, but nearly all sold. Nice young cattle were scarce and dear. Yearlings, 1st class, £8 5s. to £9; 2nd class, £6 17s. 6d. to £7 5s.; two years old, 1st class, £12 10s. to £13 10s; 2nd class, £9 to £11; three years old, 1st class, £14 5s. to £16; 2nd class, £12 to £13; springers, 1st class, £16 5s. to £17 10s.; 2nd class, £13 10s. to £14; young pigs, 8 to 10 weeks old, 18s. to 26s. each.

At Tipperary Fair, held on August 13, there was a small fair; demand good. Yearlings, 1st class, £8 5s. to £8 15s.; 2nd class, £6 to £8; two years old, 1st class, £11 10s. to £12 15s; 2nd class, £9 to £11 5s.; springers, 1st class, £16 to £19 10s.; 2nd class, £12 to £15 5s. Moderate supply of lambs, for which there was good demand. Lambs, 1st class, 32s. to 37s.; 2nd class, 25s. to 30s. Small supply of young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, which sold at from 23s. to 27s. each.

The Smithfield Club.

Matters connected with this year's show were the chief topics at the 1st meeting of the Smithfield Club. Earl Winterton reported that the Stock Prize Committee had selected judges for the forthcoming show, with reserve judges in case any of the gentlemen selected were unable to act, such list to be published when all the judges had signified their acceptance.

Mr. G. Barford reported that the Implement Committee had deferred the consideration of the regulations and application forms for the implement department at the coming show owing to the possibility of the enlargement of the Minor Hall being completed in time for occupation by the Club this year. Notices will, however, be forwarded to the implement exhibitors informing them that these forms will be issued about September 20, giving them particulars of the extra space if available for the use of the Club.

The committee reported the receipt of a letter from the Railway Clearing House intimating that the collection of goods in future from the Royal Agricultural Hall will cease on Saturdays at 2 p.m. The committee were of opinion that this curtailment of the hours in which the railway companies will collect their goods after the show will greatly inconvenience and add to the expenses of the exhibitors, and they therefore recommended that the secretary write to the Railway Clearing House calling attention to this matter.

This report was adopted.

Mr. Sanders Spencer reported the arrangements which had been made for the work of the carcase competition for the forthcoming show, which was agreed to.

The Sheep Exhibits.

A communication was read from the National Sheep Breeders' Association asking the Club to adopt the following resolution passed by that association, viz.:—

"Where a flock book is issued, all sheep competing for any prizes shall be entered or eligible for entry in the flock book belonging to that breed."

Mr. Latham failed to see how the Club could entertain this request, as in no department of the show was the entry in, or eligibility for, herd or flock books required.

Mr. S. Kidner thought that as the breeds had progressed so should the Club.

Mr. J. J. Cridlan said he had submitted a

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motion similar to this, but applying to cattle, last year, and if the principle was accepted in this case it must apply throughout the show.

Mr. R. Stratton said that as he moved the rejection of the previous resolution embodying the principle now brought forward, he begged to move—"That the request of the National Sheep Breeders' Association be not entertained." They had always refused to adopt this principle, which they all knew would curtail competition. We had quite enough of pedigree and breed influence in other shows, and whether an animal had a pedigree or not it should be judged at the Club's show absolutely on its merits. Judges were appointed to say whether the points of these animals were true or not, and the Club need not trouble itself as to pedigree, and he felt that at the shows of the Smithfield Club they should not introduce any vexatious regulations.

Mr. W. Reid, as the seconder of the previous resolution for the rejection of this principle, seconded Mr. Stratton's motion. He always understood that this club was formed to encourage the breeding of animals most useful for the food of the people.

Mr. S. Kidner moved that the question be referred to the Stock Prize Committee. The judges were placed in a difficulty if the animal had all the merits of a butcher's beast, and yet had not the points of the breed.

Lord Moreton suggested that if the principle was adopted it should be required that the flock books should have been in existence some considerable period.

Mr. Sanders Spencer seconded Mr. Kidner's amendment. He thought that they should take steps to see that the animals exhibited corresponded with the various points of the breed.

Mr. Garrett Taylor said, as an exhibitor since 1870, he had found that the rules had worked well, and he hoped the council would leave well alone.

Mr. Kidner's amendment, on being put to the meeting, was lost, and Mr. Stratton's motion was then put and carried.

Mr. S. Kidner, in pursuance of notice, moved:—"That the time has come for the council to consider the advisability of cutting out the old wether classes in all the early maturity breeds, as these classes are not in accord with the practical usages of the country."

He said that the keeping of wether sheep to the age exhibited at the Club's show was an absolute waste, and in many cases was only done for show purposes. The Club had adopted the principle in the cattle and pig sections, and it was time, he thought, that it should be considered in regard to sheep, but at the same time he did not wish to rush the matter.

Mr. R. Stratton said it was perfectly true that sheep were brought out much younger than formerly, but lambs were not sufficiently developed at Christmas to give foreigners any idea of their characteristics.

Mr. J. Bowen-Jones thought it was not quite time yet to adopt such a resolution.

No one seconding Mr. Kidner's proposition the matter dropped.

Four new members were elected, and the council then adjourned until November 6.

Messrs. Hy. Duke and Son recently offered for sale by auction, at their Dorchester Property Sale Room, the freehold landed estate comprising Thornicombe and Sparrow Bush farms, in the parish of Charlton Marshall, adjoining the high road from Dorchester to Blandford, and two miles from the latter town. The property consists of about 364 acres of healthy pasture and arable land, with a suitable farmhouse, two cottages, and outbuildings, and is let at the low rent of £120 per annum, the sporting rights being reserved. The sale brought together a representative gathering of landowners and agriculturists, especially from the Blandford district of the county, and an opening bid of £1,800 was soon obtained. This was followed by bids of £50 each up to £2,550, at which sum it was purchased by Mr. Fred John Bugg, of Tarrant Keynston.



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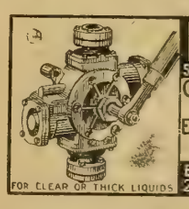
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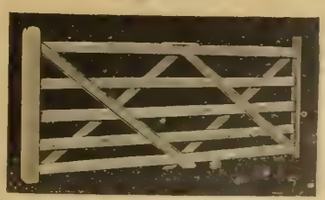
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Seasonable Topics.

A Word About Foreign Produce.

WE are frequently obliged to listen to stories of distress about the agricultural commodities that are shipped to this country duty free, and keep down the saleable price of home-raised produce. Just so; but it must be remembered that there are two sides to every story, and the choice of the purchaser has some bearing on the case. To illustrate a point, we recently bought cheese, made in the locality, from one of the shops of a provision merchant whose name is a household word. A week or two later we went to the shop for more cheese of the same sort, but were unable to get it. We could be supplied with foreign cheese in abundance, but were informed by the shopman that they had such a poor sale for the home-made article that they had given up keeping it. Perhaps this does not say much for the taste of the British public, but we are merely stating a fact, and it must be said that with various commodities besides cheese the foreigner has not only captured our markets but also the palates of the people. Speaking for ourselves, we are old-fashioned enough to prefer home-made dairy produce to anything that is imported; but probably we are prejudiced, whereas the man in the street shows his appreciation of foreign productions by his preference for them.

The Partridge Season.

OUR business is to deal with farming rather than sport, but the two are somewhat closely connected, and before our next issue appears in print the law will have lifted its protecting arm from Dame Partridge and her children, and the sound of the sportsman's gun will be heard in the fields. Last year when the first was ushered in the corn was mostly carried, and complaints were general about the scarcity of covert, but this season the boot is on the other leg and the conditions for shooting will be far from ideal when the season opens. It is doubtful, too, whether sport will be very good, for the season throughout has been unfavourable for partridges, many birds have died, and most of the coveys we have seen are small and the birds likewise. Partridge shooting is an old-time sport which always has an interest for farmers. The man who farms his own land necessarily shoots over it if he wishes to, and there are few of this class who do not welcome the advent of September. Happily, too, a good spirit of friendliness prevails between perhaps the majority of tenant farmers and their landlords, and in these cases nothing gives the farmer more pleasure than to know that there are birds on his holding, and that the gentry will be sure to find sport when they walk over the land in his occupation.



CUTTING THE GRASS.

Farmers and Gamekeepers.

REFERENCE to sport in the foregoing paragraph reminds us that the gamekeeper has often more than a little to do with the feelings of friendliness or otherwise which prevail between landlords and tenants over matters of sport. The man of velvet has to hold the balance level, so to speak, between the two parties, and while his master's interests are necessarily his first consideration, he can look after them, and at the same time act fairly towards the tenant farmer. It is all a matter of tact, which some men possess and others do not, but the gamekeeper who goes out of his way to upset the farmers on his beat is a fool in his own interests. We have known keepers who, forgetting they were servants, carried such a high hand amongst the tenants and were guilty of such acts of tyranny, that the farmers rose in a body in revolt, and a well-deserved month's notice was the result. On the other hand, when a gamekeeper is tactful and understands the law of give and take, he generally receives help and co-operation from the farmers on his beat, who have ample opportunities of being of assistance to the keeper. So far as the proprietor of the shoot is concerned, be he resident or only a tenant, it is to his interests that the relationship between himself and the farmers, through his keeper, should be of a friendly and amicable character.

The Harvest of Honey.

THOUGH beekeeping is not a leading industry in this country it is one of some importance, and beekeepers are complaining about the bad season and its effect on the harvest of honey. Back in the early part of the summer we heard agriculturists complaining that they had never had any swarms, and the grumble now is about the shortage of honey and wax. From Cornwall, which is described as the bee garden of England, we hear accounts about the poor returns obtained from the bees, and the season is said to have been the most disastrous in the memory of the oldest beekeeper in the county. There is not much likelihood of any improvement now, and those good people who depend on bees as a source of income must necessarily suffer. After all, however, this unsatisfactory state of affairs is not surprising, as the weather conditions were too depressing for even the busy bee at the time when the blossoms from which most of the nectar is obtained were open. Dear, dear, what a lot the clerk of the weather has to answer for in this season of 1907.

The Apple Crop.

IN the Western counties more than in any other part of the country fruit orchards are important adjuncts to farmsteads, and taking one season with another, it is questionable whether any other department on a West country farm pays better than the orchard. This season, however, orchards in all districts will not return a big share of profit, for apples are a thin crop. Here and there may be seen trees well laden, but there are many with little or no fruit on them, and there will be nothing like the quantity of table apples to sell and vintage fruit to make into

cider as there was last year. And the reason of it? Well, some people attribute it to the fact that 1906 was a good apple year, and we could only expect a shortage this season, but our own opinion is that insect pests have more to do with it than anything. The bloom was fairly plentiful; in fact there was quite sufficient for a good crop, but that little pest, the apple sucker, played such havoc that the fruit never developed, and to this agent may largely be attributed the scantiness of the harvest.

The Confidence of Farmers.

IT is not the easiest thing in the world to gain the confidence of farmers, particularly when anything fresh is introduced, and in the history of technical education no persons have had a more difficult task in gaining the confidence of the people they would instruct, than teachers in agriculture. Possibly the start was not made on quite the right lines, and doubtless there was a good deal to be undone before a proper beginning could be made. But are we on the right track now, and is the confidence of the farmer gained? There will probably be diverse opinions on this point, but the report of the Midland Agricultural and Dairy College, recently published, presents some encouraging details. In the first place the financial items show a credit balance in favour of the institution, which is good, and secondly the report says that the college has gained in the estimation, confidence, and appreciation of the farmers. As we said before, it is not an easy matter to get the confidence of farmers, but when once they are won over they are steadfast, and the success of agricultural collegiate establishments after all depends more on the confidence of farmers than anything.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Tacticianism in Politics.

It is tacticianism—if I may coign an ugly word—which is responsible for the present unfortunate situation in connection with the Scottish and English land legislation. This is the anxiety of the one side to have a heavy flail with which to belabour the House of Lords, and the desire on the part of the other side to frustrate this purpose and to represent the peers as the saviours of agrarian society. In the dust which these rivalries have created the original objection, the animating anxiety of the proposed legislation, is obscured, distorted, and half forgotten. It is half neglected in the wonder whether "the cup of the Lords has been filled to overflowing," or whether the assailants of the Privilege-Chamber have overreached themselves, and, instead of having wrought a new weapon of offence, have fashioned only a scourge for their own backs. For my part, I was persuaded a week since that the Scottish Land Bill would be abandoned. Still, apart from the national sentiment which prefers that Scottish legislation should be made applicable to the whole of Scotland, and that the Lowlands should not be regarded as requiring a separate and an Anglicised treatment—and I fear me that we shall never eradicate this sentiment from the Caledonian breast—there is a good deal to be said for dealing with the Lowlands on the lines of the English Land Bill. All the same, I am not certain that the policy of the titled politicians was not inspired by a subtle purpose of partisan strategy—by, in a word, the anxiety to inspire resentment in the Highland bosom at the Government's own refusal to extend the boon it had designed, the boon of absolute security of tenure, absolute freedom in the holding, and a fair rent, to be established, to use the Radical phraseology, "not by the caprice of the landlord, but by an impartial landlord."

* * *

Is Parliament Losing its Native Character?

Why do I say this? Though the outstanding incident of the later phases of the career of the abandoned Scottish measure is undoubtedly their lordships' willingness to apply the measure to the Highlands, it must not be forgotten that the measure was flagellated with something like vindictiveness when first introduced to the peers. One of the statesmen who would not apply it to the Highlands declared that the Bill was "born in ignorance, nurtured in obstinacy, and supported by class hatred and political spite." Even Lord Rosebery declared the Bill to be an "insult," and that it would apply "the poisonous bacillus of the Irish agrarian system" to Scotland. Mr. Balfour—whose advice, it must not be forgotten, the peers diligently followed—declared the Bill to possess "the unique peculiarity of offending every canon of legislation any human being may hold from the extreme of doctrinaire individualism to the extreme of revolutionary Socialism." If the measure—"this wild and infantile experiment," in another of Mr. Balfour's own phrases—possess all these sins, vices, infirmities, and weakness, why afflict the unfortunate highlanders with it? I repeat that the dominant influence in Parliamentary life nowadays is tacticianism—everything is apparently subordinated to the one supreme desire of securing a better 'vantage ground for the attack on the House of Lords, or for frustating the efforts of the men who would occupy that 'vantage ground. 'Tis rather a humiliating spectacle this to the dispassionate observer who is still unable to banish his conviction that Parliament is a machine for the evolution of the nation's weal, and that government is the science of patriotism rather than a termagant game of checkmate.

* * *

A Point for the Prime Minister.

Now let me put a point to Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman. Why should he not have consented to proceed by instalments? Even if the Lords restricted the Scottish Bill to the Highlands he would not of necessity have pledged himself to apply the English Bill to the Lowlands. It would not, of course, have been the first time that the crofter counties had been selected for distinctive treatment—as a fact, this has been rather the rule in Scottish agrarian legislation. With the example of the success of the policy in the Highlands before the Parliamentary eye, the Premier would have found it easier to subsequently apply the system to the Lowlands. Of course, it might be urged that the Lords would not have permitted the English Land Bill to pass without being assured of its application to the Lowlands. It might be so—it might be that this attitude would have lost the English Bill. Even so it could only be lost for a time; and to the Radical the Scottish measure is infinitely the more valuable of the two. For him the establishment of fair rent courts, and the removal from the landlord of the power to select tenants, or, rather, giving to the tenant absolute security in his tenure and complete freedom, have a peculiar fascination. No; 'tis tacticianism which is responsible, this subordination of everything to the Lords' campaign. The temper of the Parliamentary arena is antipodean to the spirit of compromise — it is so fierce in its rivalries that it will scarcely allow it life. Meanwhile, what of the economic evolution, what of the long-heralded reforms?

* * *

The Radicals and the Peers' Amendments.

Now it is as well that the critics of the English Land Bill, more particularly those of the titled House, should comprehend the character which the Liberal retort to their efforts is assuming. I am speaking now not so much of the attitude adopted in set speeches as of the expressions used in lobby conversation. A series of the amendments carried in the Lords are selected for the purpose of showing—I am now quoting the very phraseology of a particularly vivacious Liberal M.P.—that "the aim of the Landlord-House is that landowners shall be able to sell, at considerably more than present market prices, those portions of their property which they have no desire to keep." Of course, I need not go out of my way and say that this charge of cupidity and avarice is extravagant and unjustifiable; but the deft argument which this clever Parliamentarian used, the subtlety of his selection from the peers' amendments, will no doubt have some effect on the mind of the audiences which listen to them. The substitution of "purchase" for hiring, or, rather, the option of purchase—a substitution which, if insisted upon by the Lords may wreck the Bill, the endeavour to cut down the parish council allotments from five acres to one acre and to limit its powers, the reservation to the landlord of the sporting and fishing rights over the land taken under the measure, and the refusal to permit the arbitrator to take into consideration in assessing compensation the rent at which it was last let and the sum at which it was rated—all these amendments are heralded as indications not merely of this ineradicable vice of cupidity and selfishness, but as providing a definite assurance that the landowners are either seeking to thwart the solution of the small holding problem, or else wish to render inevitable the failure of the present legislation. Of course, it may be rejoined that the public are not so credulous as to accept these assertions. Well, we shall see. The public in the individual is suspicious of hurtling charges of this character; the public in the lump is open-mouthed and believing. At all events, 'tis well to comprehend the position of the defenders of the Bill.

* * *

Mr. Burns and our Food Supply.

Has the agricultural community shown itself sufficiently alive to the moment of Mr. John Burns' Foods Regulations Bill? Perhaps the language in which that right hon. gentleman has avowed its purpose may quicken our appreciation of its value. "The Local Government Board," quothed he, "proposes by means of the Bill to take power to make regulations for the prevention of danger to public health arising from the importation, preparation, storage, and distribution of food or drink intended for human consumption." In other words, the Bill means to devise a method for checkmating and defeating that unhallowed trade in imported putrescent foods, the revelations concerning which raised the nation's gorge twelve months since. The foreigner is to be restrained in an unholy and unhealthy competition, the first-fruits of which must be a jeopardised public health and the second fruits the unfair penalisation of the healthy home food-producing industries. The foreign competitor who is careless of our public health and is anxious only for profit is not to be allowed, by means of his tinned packages, to go on defying the law which rightly compels the home food producer to conform to the first principles of hygiene and sanitation. The Bill will, in the first place, rescue the people of the great towns where most of these cheap imported foods are sold and consumed from the menace that means a stunted, diseased body, and in the second place, put the honourable home food producer on an equality with a foreign rival not hitherto obeying the same standard of trading honour that he willingly recognises. The Bill, if it be not conceived in the specific interest of the agrarian classes, directly concerns them. It may be, indeed, more important to those classes than the Butter Act itself. And it is another illustration of the fact that Mr. Burns, once held to be the most distinctive of pro-urban politicians, is placing the rural areas under a debt of remarkable obligation. As an administrator he has been admirably sensitive to the anxieties and necessities of rural areas—he has refused to regard them as having only the character of Providentially-designed refuges for the wastreldom and scumdom of the towns. As a legislator he has revealed a practical sympathy of infinite value.

The death has occurred at Moortown, near Torrington, of Mr. Alderman Thomas Copp, a well-known and much-respected farmer throughout North Devon. Deceased, who had attained the age of eighty-three years, had been unwell since Easter last. Mr. Copp was one of the most popular farmers in the Torrington district, and in all agricultural matters he was deeply interested, especially in horses and cattle, of which he was considered an excellent judge. He took a keen interest in the Torrington Agricultural Society's show, which he attended every year since he was sixteen years old.

A thunderstorm raged in some parts of North Devon late on the 17th inst., and proved the worst experienced for some years. Besides killing cattle on several farms—the most serious loss being that of five bullocks at Burrington—the lightning is supposed to have been the cause of a fire which broke out at the Home Farm, Kingsnympton, which is occupied by Mr. H. S. Hill. The farm was practically totally destroyed, and only a little of the furniture could be saved. Fortunately none of the occupants were hurt. The storm was accompanied by torrential rain, which did considerable damage to standing corn.

SHOWS OF THE WEEK.

Lancaster.

Among the visitors to the Lancaster Agricultural Society's forty-third show on Wednesday was the Prince of Wales, who was staying with the Earl of Sefton (president of the society) for grouse shooting. The visit of His Royal Highness was on condition that there should be no public formality, and the wish was respected, but the visit naturally attracted a larger concourse of visitors than usual, so that the society was fortunate. The Prince remained at the show about an hour and a-half; he saw some of the horses judged in the large ring, and had pointed out to him other features of the exhibition, which was on a smaller scale than usual, but the quality was as good as if not better than the average. In most of the live stock sections there was a marked falling off in the entries. This is accounted for owing to the lateness of the season. Farmers have been too much concerned about the crops to pay that attention to their horses, cattle, and sheep that is necessary to bring them up to proper showing condition, consequently many names that ordinarily appear in the Lancaster show catalogue were this year missing.

Cattle were mostly of the dairy type, with a sprinkling of pedigree bulls and heifers. The feature of this section was the defeat of Mr. R. R. Rothwell's Strowan Marquis, a well-known winner this year, by Mr. W. Atkinson's big white bull Wallace, a very lengthy three-year-old. In the young class Mr. Rothwell's Lord Bullivant won easily, and in bull calves Mr. Atkinson was first with a very stylish roan. Mr. Beaumont, of Hulton, was also a successful exhibitor. There was a large class of Shorthorn cows. Save in the dairy cow class, the tenant farmers' ten mile radius class was not as well filled as it should have been. Lord Sefton's special for three tenant farmers' dairy cows went to Mr. Hall, of Morecambe.

Sheep, which came next in the catalogue, made as usual a nice display; in fact, the Lancaster Show is always distinguished for the excellence of its sheep, which include both the Lowland varities and those of the hill type.

Thanks chiefly to the excellent example set by Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P., the breeding of Shire horses has of late years made great strides in the district, and the result is an improved show nearly every succeeding year. Last week's display might have been larger, but the quality left little to be desired. One of the features of the section was the presence of four immense mares by Blythwood Kingmaker, a horse rented by Mr. Victor Cavendish from Lord Rothschild, and one of the best investments in this line ever made in this part of the country. The winning colt foal, by Holker Menestrel II.—from the Holker Hall stables—is declared by many good judges to be one of the best seen in the district for years—a sturdy colt, with plenty of size, that looks like developing into a capital sire. Fillies, too, were well grown and balanced, with plenty of flat bone.

The first prize yearling filly from Holker was Holker Kismet by Holker Menestrel II. The first prize two-year old filly, Holker Belle, was also from Holker, and was first at Poulton last week. Mr. Yerburgh, however, won in the class for three-year-olds with an excellent young mare by Lockinge Forest King; but Mr. Victor Cavendish came again to the front in brood mares with Holwell Spot, and also in the two-year-old breeding class with Holker Belle, who was awarded Colonel Foster's medal as the best two or three-year-old filly bred within twenty-five miles of Lancaster.

Hunters came next in merit, and though not particularly numerous, were a choice lot, including some first-class brood mares; whilst amongst the stallions was Mr. J. S. Rigg's well-known winner, Sir Launcelot, who had no difficulty in maintaining his good record. Mr. Brown, of the Park Hotel, Lancaster, showed his Bolton winners by Mr. Storey's horse Underbred, and several of the winning youngsters were by King's premium horses that have stood up in Cumberland and Westmorland. Many had plenty of quality, though save for the yearling classes the young entry was small. There were only ten foals in the two classes, and the best were by Beckenham, Underbred, and Palaver. Hackneys were somewhat weak both in number and quality, though there were a few animals of outstanding merit.

Other sections included a good display of dogs and a nice show of cheese and butter.

East Berks.

The eleventh annual show of the East Berks Horse Show Society was held at Hawthorn Hill Racecourse, midway between Bracknell and Maidenhead, on Thursday, and was one of the best ever held by the society. The entries numbered 342, which constituted a record, whilst the quality of the animals entered was excellent all round, and there is no doubt the show bids fair to become one of the most popular in the South of England. The only drawback is the distance of the showyard from the nearest railway station—Maidenhead—but this is practically obliterated by the enterprise of the Great Western Company, who arrange an admirable service of motor-omnibuses to convey visitors to and from the ground. On Thursday these were well patronised. The judging occupied nearly all day, and Mr. R. G. Carden expressed the opinion that he had never seen such a grand lot of Hunter brood mares and young stock, the latter being extraordinarily good. The Hackney stallions and Shires were also a very fine lot, and drew forth general admiration. The foal futurity classes instituted two years ago by this society, one of the few horse societies to do so, attracted a large number of Shire and Hunter mares with their produce. In the Hunter produce groups there was an entry of 84, whilst the Shire horse competitions closed last September with an entry only four short of that number.

The Shire classes were well filled. The two champion foals were Mr. Ernest Robinson's filly by Riverstown and Sir Alexander Henderson's brown filly by Buscot Harold; while the two classes for colts were headed by Mr. J. A. Mullens's Lincoln and Lord Rothschild's unnamed bay colt by Birdsall Menestrel.

The Hunters were undoubtedly the feature of the show. Mr. J. A. Mullens's Everlasting headed the brood mare class, whilst Mr. J. L. Nickisson's Meteor and Ensign, Mr. Ernest Robinson's Savoy, and Mr. John Stokes's Whisky and Radiance all followed up their Newbury wins in the same section. The best of the Hackneys were Mr. Richard Evans's Gartonius and Miss Dora Schintz's Knowle Belinda, whilst in hacks Mrs. O. T. Price's Adonis, a five-year-old bay gelding by Hartstown, showed to better advantage than last year's winner, Mrs. Chapman's well-known Miss Trix, and the former therefore won the premier award. Considerable interest was taken in the driving competitions, in which the well-known harness horses of Mr. John Kerr, Mrs. Edwin Goad, Mr. W. S. Cunard, and M. Gerard Jurgens were among the leaders.

The various breed societies offered specials, and they were awarded as follows:—The Hunters' Improvement Society's gold medal for the best Hunter brood mare was won by Mr. Mark Burns Lindow, of Eversley, Hants, the silver medal for the best Hunter filly being awarded to Mr. J. L. Nickisson, of Hinton Manor, Swindon. Mr. Ernest W. Robinson (Esher) secured the champion prize of a silver cup presented by Mr. J. A. Mullens for the best hunter colt or filly foal. Mrs. Hartley Batt, of London, won the silver medal offered by the Hackney Horse Society for the best mare or gelding exhibited in single harness, and Mr. R. De Mancha (St. Albans) the silver medal offered by the same society for the best hackney or pony mare, filly, or filly foal. Mr. W. S. Cunard's silver challenge cup, value 20 guineas, for single-harness horses went to M. Gerard Jurgens, of North Cray, Kent, and the challenge cup, value 30 guineas, for the best-turned-out private pair-horse carriage to General Sir Charles Brownlow, G.C.B. Mr. R. W. Hudson, Danesfield, Marlow, won the Shire Horse Society's silver medals for the best Shire stallion and Shire mare, Sir Alex. Henderson, of Buscot Park, being awarded the champion prize of a silver cup for the best Shire colt or filly foal.

Newbury.

The seventeenth annual show of the Newbury Horse Show Society was held on Wednesday, and proved successful from all points of view, a result due to the enterprise of the society. In the first place they changed their venue, the showyard this time being on Newbury Racecourse, which made a much more accessible and convenient showyard. Secondly they increased the prize schedule, with the result that there were more entries than for several years past, the total being 208, as against 153 last year, while in the jumping classes (where the value of the prizes had been chiefly enlarged), there were twenty-six animals entered as against fourteen. The weather was fortunately fine, although somewhat chilly, and there was a very large attendance.

In the Hunter classes the brood mares were of general excellence. The best in the opinion of the judges was Sister Anne, a chestnut mare, with brown filly foal, which obtained the Hunter Improvement Society's gold medal for Mr. Nickisson. The yearling class was poor, but a misfortune befell one of the exhibitors, Messrs. Doble, of Calne, who would have been first with Gladys, being disqualified owing to the filly being lame. This enabled Mr. Nickisson to win a further success. The three-year-olds were an average lot, and in this class an accident deprived Mr. Nickisson of premier honours. His gelding Crafty met with a mishap in the horsebox while travelling to the show, and had to be taken out of the ring. This left a harness horse rather than a Hunter to secure first place, it being the best left in. In the open hack class there were some splendid animals paraded, and the awarding of the prizes was a protracted affair. Eventually first and second places were allotted to the exhibits of two ladies. Mrs. Chapman's mare, which was placed first, has only been out once before, and bids fair to vie with her other good horse, which has won many honours. Mrs. Price's gelding presented the best appearance when still, but did not move so well as the winner. The light-weight open Hunter class was notable for the appearance of the property of Mr J. H. Stokes, a beautiful brown mare, which was an easy winner, as was also the same exhibitor's noted Whisky in the heavy-weight Hunter class.

Agricultural horses did not show any increase in numbers, but quality was, if anything, better than usual. The brood mares were headed by a very weighty grey from Lockinge, and a new exhibitor, at Newbury, in the person of Lord Winterstoke, was placed second, being a lengthy mare and good for breeding purposes. The two-year-old fillies made one of the best classes in the show, the quality all



SNAPSHOTS AT THE EAST BERKS HORSE SHOW.

JUDGING THE HUNTERS. SHIRES IN THE JUDGING RING.

through being even. First place was given to the bay entered by the Hon. Louis Greville, of Woodford, Salisbury, who showed here for the first time, and took the Shire Horse Society's silver medal. The mares of three years old and upwards formed a very good class, the animal placed first being a really good weighty Shire mare, being solid and well balanced, and of the right type. She afterwards made one in the winning pair. Generally speaking, the agricultural classes were better than in recent years. The jumping and driving competitions were as popular as ever with the visitors.

North-East Somerset.

Mr. H. Martin Gibbs, who is president of the North-East Somerset Agricultural Society this year, kindly placed his beautiful grounds at Barrow Court at the disposal of the society for their show on Wednesday last. The site was an extremely picturesque one, and this fact, together with the kindness of the president in opening the gardens to the visitors, made the attraction of the place still more potent. The weather, unfortunately, was rather cold and dull, and no doubt kept away a good many would-be visitors, but the attendance was a good one, as was the show itself, for the entries in every section were quite up to the average, whilst it was generally agreed that the quality all round was better than usual.

In the cattle classes were some exceptionally good animals. There was only one entry in the class for bulls above two years, but there were a number of first class yearling bulls and calves, whilst dairy cows were so even in merit that all were commended. Sheep were numerous, and some capital ones were penned. Horses were meritorious all round, some of outstanding quality being met with among the cart horses, the two-year-olds, and the suckers. The chief awards in the classes for cart horses were secured by ladies —Mrs. Amy Davies and Mrs. Ann Thatcher—who are to be congratulated on their success in such good classes. Light horses were not particularly numerous, but included some good specimens of hacks and Hunters.

Temple Sowerby.

The fortieth annual show of the Temple Sowerby Agricultural Society, held on Thursday, was not favoured as regards the weather, but the attendance of visitors was, nevertheless, a good one. The society's area includes all North Westmorland and Mid-Cumberland, and thus there are very varied classes of farms from which to draw, as both the East and West Fells contribute stock, besides the fertile inland. The entries were fully an average, and exceeded those of last year, although some classes for dogs had been taken away. There were 70 cattle and 136 horses forward, the former comparing with 45 last year. Many of these were seen out at Penrith, and some of the winners there had no difficulty in taking honours at the smaller exhibition. The Eden Valley district has long been noted for the excellence of its dairy stock, and though the entries were not particularly numerous, that made up for this with quality, the competition being unusually keen. Not being a hunting country, horse breeding is chiefly of heavy animals, useful for farm work and town purposes, most of the seasoned horses being usually bought up at or soon after the show by dealers from Lancashire and Yorkshire towns.

Uttoxeter.

The ninth annual exhibition of the Uttoxeter Agricultural Society was held on Thursday, and proved a great success, the entries being larger than in previous years, and the quality above the average. The Shire Horse Society's silver medal for the best Shire in the show was won by Mr. J. Tunnicliffe, sen., of Bramshall, with an attractive bay mare, whilst the President's cup for the best beast in the local classes was won by Mr. R. Mynors, of Cornbridge, Rocester; and Mr. J. W. Philips's cup for Shire foals went to Mr. J. H. Thorley, of Birchwood Park, Snelstone, for a fine, upstanding colt foal, which carried off the premier prize in the open and local foal classes. Thanks to the fact that the Society's area is covered by the North Stafford and Meynell Hunts, the show of Hunters was excellent. Mr. S. Walker of Tutbury, was the winner with Alsintha, a blood animal, just the right sort for breeding purposes.

As was only to be expected in the essentially farming district of Uttoxeter, there was a grand show of dairy cows, and sheep and pigs constituted numerous and capital company. The dog and puppy show broke all previous records for quantity and quality of exhibits, and included in the latter were many notable prize-winners.

North Lonsdale.

The show of the North Lonsdale Agricultural Society, held on Tuesday in Croftlands Park, Ulverston, was one of the best of the series, for the entries (614) were the best for several years as regards both number and quality; the weather was favourable, and there was a large attendance. The range of competition with cattle, sheep, and heavy horses is restricted to that part of Lonsdale which is north of the Sands; light horses may come from all over the United Kingdom; and the radius for dogs is now limited to 25 miles. The entries in the cattle (66), sheep (57), and heavy horse (63) classes were about normal, but an entry of 153 light horses was quite a record, being 50 per cent. above recent averages. The riding and driving classes of horses were probably the best the society ever had, and the same might be said of dogs, whilst the roots and vegetables, allowance being made for the season, were first-rate.

Wensleydale.

The Wensleydale Agricultural Society were fortunate enough to have favourable weather for their sixteenth annual show, held on the 17th inst. at Leyburn, and with a good entry and large attendance the show proved a success. The entries numbered 535, including the poultry and produce classes, the total being rather above the average figure of the past half-dozen years. Cattle numbered 126, sheep 102, horses 121, pigs 6, and dogs 8. Several of the cattle classes were filled with remarkably good animals. Shorthorn cows for breeding purposes made up an entry of nearly twenty of the best beasts to be found in the district, whilst the dairy stock made a highly creditable show. In a strong section for Wensleydale sheep the names of some of the best known breeders figured among the prize-takers, but farmers not so well known also came well to the fore. Heavy horses made up an excellent collection. Lord Bolton showed the best of the brood mares, and Mr. W. R. Allison, of Constable Burton, took both first and second for two-year-old agricultural geldings. Pairs shown in plough harness attracted a good deal of attention, the chief award going to Mr. F. Wion, of Middleham, for a pair of big, weighty horses, bred by the exhibitor. Foals

SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS.

WARWICKSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY (in conjunction with the Rugby and Dunchurch Agricultural Association).

THE ANNUAL EXHIBITION will be held at RUGBY on WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY, AUGUST 28 and 29 next.

Admission—1st Day, 2s. 6d.; 2nd Day, 1s.

JUDGING IN ALL DEPARTMENTS ON WEDNESDAY.

Special JUMPING CONTESTS each AFTERNOON, with DRIVING CLASSES on THURSDAY.

... of 2nd Vol. Batt. Royal Warwickshire Regiment, Wednesday. — Rugby Steam Shed Silver Prize Band, Thursday.

The FIELD COMPETITIONS will take place on THURSDAY, on Mr. G. C. Allan's Farm, Clifton, Rugby.

POULTRY AND BEE DRIVING DEMONSTRATIONS by Warwickshire County Council's Experts.

First-class Luncheon, 2s. 6d.; Second Class, 1s.

CHEAP RAILWAY FARES, see COMPANIES' BILL.

FREDERICK H. MOORE, Secretary.

Warwick.

ALTRINCHAM SHOW. WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 25. £1,850 IN PRIZES, besides Silver Cups and Medals, for Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Goats, Turn-outs, Hunters, Jumpers, Roots and Grain, Butter, Cheese, Honey, Implements, Dogs, Poultry, Pigeons, Rabbits, Cats, and Cavies. Prize list may be had from the Secretary.

J. HERBERT HALL, 2, Dunham Road, Altrincham.

Entries close.—All Classes except Implements, Space and Dogs, Saturday, September 7, with double fees up to September 11; Implements and Space, August 31; Dogs, September 13.

FROME SHOW.—WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1907.

Schedules of the Secretary,

T. C. HARDING, Auctioneer, Frome.

DAIRY SHOW, LONDON, OCT. 8, 9, 10 & 11.—Great Exhibition of DAIRY CATTLE, PRODUCE, APPLIANCES, &c. Entries close SEPT. 9.

Particulars of Wm. C. YOUNG, Secretary, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

WOLSINGHAM AND WEAR VALLEY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S 144TH ANNUAL SHOW will be held at Wolsingham, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1907 (on same site as Durham County Shows held in 1892 and 1906).

Cattle, Sheep, Horses, Ponies, 8 Classes Riding and Driving, Leaping, Pony Scamper, Goats, Dogs (K.C.L.), Honey, Dairy Produce, Field Produce, Open and Local Classes, Sheep-Dog Trials, Poultry, Pigeons, Rabbits, Cats, Cavies, Cage Birds (C.B.U.), &c.

Entries close August 31.

Schedules from—

T. C. HUME, Leazes Lodge, Wolsingham, Co. Durham.

SOUTHDOWN FLOCK BOOK.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Southdown Flock Book will be definitely closed to unregistered flocks on December 31 next, after which date no sheep from unregistered flocks will be accepted under any conditions whatever.

Owners who have not yet registered their flocks are earnestly requested to write for full information respecting the Southdown Sheep Society to

W. J. WICKHAM, Secretary.

12, Hanover Square, London, W.

CHILTERN HILLS AND SOUTHERN BUCKS AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION SHOW, at HIGH WYCOMBE, on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1907.

OPEN CLASSES for SHIRES, HACKNEYS, HUNTERS, JUMPING and DRIVING, JERSEYS, SHORTHORNS, BUTTER, and HONEY.

For Schedules and Entry Forms apply to

JOSEPH BLISS, Secretary, 20, High Street, High Wycombe.

WOODSTOCK AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

President: His Grace the Duke of Marlborough, K. C.

The Jubilee of above great Show will take place in Blenheim Park on Tuesday, Sept. 10th. 1907. Shires and Jumping. Entries close Sept. 7th. Grand Brass Band contest.

T. D. HUGHES, Sec.

KINGTON HORSE SHOW, SEPTEMBER 19, 1907.

Competition Open to the United Kingdom. £350 in PRIZES and FOUR SILVER MEDALS.

Heavy Weight Hunter—
1st Prize, £20; 2nd, £10; 3rd, £5.
Light Weight Hunter—
1st Prize, £10; 2nd, £5.

Entries close Sept. 3, or with Double Fee, Sept. 7. Prize Schedules and Entry Forms from the Secretary, T. H. VAUGHAN MORRIS, Byford House, near Hereford.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD & LINSLADE FOAL SHOW SOCIETY held on SEPTEMBER 17 (TUESDAY).

Entries close September 3. Post entries (double fees) September 10.

WALTER C. PRUDAMES. } Hon.
W. GRAVELY W. WILLIS } Secretaries.

OKEHAMPTON AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

The 17th ANNUAL EXHIBITION of Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Dairy and Garden Produce, Poultry, and Pigeons, will be held at Okehampton, on SEPTEMBER 12.

Prizes about £300.

OPEN PRIZES for HUNTERS and HACKS. JUMPING, DRIVING, SHEEP, &c.

Schedules and Entry Forms of CHAS. J. FUTCHER, Okehampton. Hon. Sec.

Entries close August 31. Separate Schedules for "General," "Poultry and Pigeons" Section Please state which required.

CLYDESDALE HORSE SOCIETY.

STUD BOOK VOL. XXX.

ENTRIES at ORDINARY FEES CLOSE on 31st inst. Forms and all information from—

ARCHD. MACNEILAGE, Secretary, 93, Hope Street, Glasgow.

HAY HORSE SHOW, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1907.

Entries close on September 5th; double fees, September 12th.

REECE MORRIS, Secretary, Broad Street, Hay, Hereford.

WARWICKSHIRE HUNT HORSE SHOW at KINETON, SEPTEMBER 20, 1907. Entries close September 3. — LORD WILLOUGHBY DE BROKE, Hon. Secretary, Kineton, Warwickshire.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—THE FOURTH ANNUAL SHOW will be held in the BATH GROUNDS, ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH, on WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 4, 1907. Prizes amounting to over £340 will be offered. Open classes for HUNTERS, JUMPING, FOALS by Messrs. EVERARD'S, W. BARR'S, and H. EARP'S HORSES, and for POULTRY. ENTRIES for all CLASSES (except Jumping) CLOSE on AUGUST 28th certain. By kind permission of Col. A. C. Cantrell Hubbersty and the officers of the regiment, the full MILITARY BAND of the ROBIN HOOD RIFLES will play during the day, and in the evening a GRAND DISPLAY OF FIREWORKS will be given by Messrs. Wilder, Birmingham. Particulars from the Secretary, H. GERMAN, Market Street, Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

THAME AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.—Show will be held on THURSDAY, SEPT. 12, 1907. Entries close as follows:—Dry Sheep, Class 8, March 5; Wet Sheep, Class 5, 6 and 7, April 16; Hedging, Classes 9 and 10, March 26; Servitude and Ploughing Classes, Aug. 31; Horses, Cattle, and Sheep, Roots, Honey, Poultry, Butter and Eggs, Aug. 31; Rick Building and Thatching, Sept. 16.—I. BUSH, Secretary.

made a smaller entry than usual, but the quality was as good as ever.

Rochdale.

The ninth annual show of the Rochdale Agricultural Society was held on the 17th inst., and was, both in number and quality of the entries, much the best the society has yet held. Light horses were an excellent lot, and formed the feature of the show. Four London winners were on view. Fylde Sabrenetta was first in her class. Morning Glory, which won at London and Bolton in saddle, only came second on Saturday in the mare or gelding class, though she won among brood mares; whilst Mr. Makeague's tandem team, the Yorkshire winners, was placed first among turnouts. The heavy horses comprised some good serviceable animals, foremost among them being Mr. Martland's mare, Bonny Lass, which won in both her classes. The cattle classes were well filled, and included some of the leading Lancashire and Yorkshire winners.

SHOW GOSSIP.

The seventeenth annual show of the Richmond (Surrey) Horse Show Society, Ltd., will be held on Friday and Saturday, June 19 and 20, 1908, at Richmond, Surrey.

The 1908 exhibition of the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society has been fixed to take place at Sleaford on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, July 15, 16, and 17.

The Gloucestershire Agricultural Society have decided to hold their 1908 show at Cirencester on May 27 and 28.

The Chiltern Hills Agricultural Association's fifty-fifth annual show takes place on Thursday next at Halton Park, under the presidency of Mr. Alfred de Rothschild, and given fine weather, should prove a most successful event, the show being a very attractive one.

The Royal Cornwall Agricultural Association have had an invitation from both Helston and St. Ives for their 1908 show, and after due consideration of the sites offered, &c., have decided to go to Helston, which town they last visited in 1839, whereas St. Ives was honoured in 1896.

His Royal Highness Prince Arthur of Connaught, K.G., has consented to accept the office of President of the Royal Counties Agricultural Society for 1908, when the annual show will be held at Southampton on June 4, 5, 6, and 8 (Whit Monday). His Royal Highness's father, the Duke of Connaught, has already held the office of President on two separate occasions, and visited the show at Maidenhead during the present year.

For the fifty-fifth show of the Mid-Somerset Agricultural Society at Shepton Mallet on Tuesday, September 3, there is a schedule which has been extended beyond previous ones, and this popular West of England fixture gives no indication of receding from its high position amongst local shows. Horse exhibitors going to neighbouring shows will find a convenient service of trains at night.

The Royal Dublin Society's annual horse and sheep show at Ball's Bridge, which opens tomorrow (Tuesday) and extends over Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, promises to be as big a success as any of its predecessors, for it has lost none of its importance as an agricultural and also social event, and with the good entries received and attractive programme that has been drawn up, the 1907 show, given favourable weather, should maintain its reputation of being one of Ireland's chief events of the year.

The twenty-seventh annual show of the Kington Horse Show Society will take place at Kington, Herefordshire, on Thursday, September 19, and prize schedules are now ready. Over forty classes have been provided, and include agricultural horses, Hunters, and Hackneys, together with jumping and driving trials. Good class prizes are offered, while there are some specials, so that a large entry should be received by the secretary, Mr. T. H. Vaughan-Morris, Byford House, Staunton-on-Wye, Hereford. Entries close on Tuesday, September 3, or with double fees on September 7.

The show of the Gransden and District Agricultural Society will be held at Great Gransden on Tuesday, September 24, when prizes amounting to nearly £200 will be offered for competition, the classes providing for horses, cattle, sheep, roots, corn, potatoes, butter, cream cheese, eggs, allotment produce, draining and labourers in husbandry, and also driving and jumping competitions. It will thus be seen that the show will be a varied and interesting one, and good entries should be received. They must be sent not later than Tuesday, September 10. The secretary is Mr. R. J. Kisby, Great Gransden, Sandy, Beds.

The annual show of the Altrincham Agricultural Society has for some years had the reputation of the largest one-day agricultural show in England and still the entries continue to increase, so that it has become a show that beats many a county fixture. For instance, last year the record number of 5,496 entries were secured as compared with but 2,808 ten years previously, and as the prize schedule for this year's event is on similar lines to that of last year we should not be surprised if another record was set up. Every conceivable branch of agriculture and horticulture are catered for and there are considerably over 600 classes, so that the magnitude and variety of the show may be easily imagined. The total sum offered in prizes for the show, to be held on Wednesday, September 5, is £1,850, exclusive of silver cups and medals which are very numerous, so that it is not to be wondered at that the show attracts so many entries. Entries this year close as follows:—Space and dogs, September 7; with double fees up to September 11; implements and space, August 31; dogs, September 13. The Secretary is Mr. J. H. Hall, F.S.I., 2, Dunham Road, Altrincham.

After an interval of twelve years, the Warwickshire Agricultural Society once again holds their show at Rugby, the days being Wednesday and Thursday of this week. The Rugby and Dun-

SHOW SECRETARIES.



Mr. T. BACKHOUSE,
City of Liverpool and District Cowkeepers' Association.

church Agricultural Association have amalgamated with the county society for this year, the town and district have given a hearty welcome to the society, as well as providing a handsome contribution to the prize-list and an excellent site, whilst there is a capital entry, so that everything augurs well for a successful show. The entries of live stock, not including jumping horses, are 725, against 524 at Nuneaton last year and 565 at Coventry in 1905, with generally increased entries in other departments of the show.

As regards other departments of the above show, there are sixty-eight exhibitors of implements, eighty-three entries in the dairy section, and sixty-five competitors in the field competitions, which take place on the second morning of the show. There will be special jumping contests each afternoon, with driving classes on Thursday; poultry and bee demonstrations by the Warwickshire County Council's experts, and numerous other attractions. The railway companies are giving facilities for conveyance of visitors at cheap fares with excursions, and if the weather be propitious a successful meeting may be anticipated.

The secretary of the Smithfield Club informs us that a very considerable enlargement of the Minor Hall is being carried out at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, which it is hoped will be completed in time for use by the club at the forthcoming show for the exhibition of implements, &c., and as this may cause a re-arrangement of stands in the other departments of the show, the implement committee have decided to postpone the issue of the form of application for space until about September 21, by which time the committee hope to be able to state definitely if the increased space will be available.

The Board of Agriculture and the Crop Prospects.

The Board of Agriculture on Friday issued their second report on the crop prospects, and they summarise them as follows:—

A spell of warm dry weather in the latter half of July had a favourable effect upon the crops, and the ungenial weather during August does not appear to have prevented some general improvement as compared with the previous report relating to mid July. The boisterous weather of the present month has knocked the crops about a good deal, and its further continuance is viewed by all the Board's crop estimators with great anxiety, particularly in upland districts, where the want of sun threatens to prevent the crops from ripening. The prospect has not been improved since the date of these reports.

All three cereals show some improvement during the month. Wheat, at the date of the reports, promised practically an average yield in Great Britain as a whole; it is most promising in the east of Scotland. Barley is not quite so good as wheat. Oats are the best of the cereals, being particularly promising in the west and south-west. Reports as to beans vary, but some localities anticipate good crops. All the corn crops have abundance of straw, and they have everywhere been more or less laid by the windy rains in August, and the harvest is in consequence likely to be tedious and troublesome. The date of the corn harvest will be generally much later than usual.

Potatoes are quite the worst crop of the year, and have further deteriorated during the month, owing to the widespread appearance of disease. The crop in Scotland appears to be healthier than in England, but the yield will be poor in both cases.

Roots have improved considerably during the month; they are better in England than in Scotland. Reports of the difficulty of cleaning the root land are numerous, but there has been comparatively little turnip-fly or finger-and-toe.

Hay, as regards bulk, is the crop of the year, but the quality is generally very poor. That which was secured during the ten days' hot spell of July is nearly all in good condition, the south-west being particularly fortunate in this respect. Reports as to quality from Scotland are mostly better than in England, but the quantity there is not so satisfactory. Much hay is still out and uncut, which is deteriorating through wet.

Apples and pears are everywhere a short crop; plums are very abundant in England; and bush fruits have generally done well.

Reports from the hop counties are variable, and the prospects seem somewhat uncertain. On the whole the south-eastern districts appear to promise little short of an average yield, and the outlook in the western districts is favourable.

The supply of labour seems, with a few exceptions, to be sufficient or plentiful.

Summarising the reports, and representing the prospect of an average yield in each case by 100, the appearance of the crops in mid-August may be represented, for Great Britain as a whole, by the following percentages:—Wheat, 100; barley, 99; oats, 103; potatoes, 96; roots, 103; hay, 107.

Lincolnshire Curly Coated Pig Breeders' Association.

A council meeting of the above association was held at Boston on Wednesday, when letters were read, acknowledging with thanks the receipt of Herd Book, Vol. I., from the Department of Agriculture, Richmond, New South Wales, Perth, Western Australia, and Adelaide, South Australia.

The report of the auction sale committee was read and confirmed. Mr. Arthur Saul reported the difficulty that had arisen with regard to the Swine Fever Order which came into operation on August 14, 1907. It was decided to hold the sale outside the infected area in Mr. Richardson's paddock, Skirbeck, Boston, at 11 a.m., on Wednesday, the 28th inst. The council approved of Mr. Saul's action in not entering pigs for the sale from the infected division of Holland.

The report of the prize committee was read and confirmed, also the correspondence with Mr. McRow, secretary of the Royal Agricultural Society, and Mr. W. Frankish, secretary of the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society. The list of judges for the Royal and Lincolnshire Shows, 1908, were prepared. The following were elected members of the Association:—Messrs. E. and T. P. Key, South Kyme, Lincoln; J. P. L. Hodgson, Wainfleet; H. Dudding, Riby Grove, Great Grimsby; Wm. Thompson, Alvingham, Louth; H. Munks, South Kyme, Lincoln; F. S. Bett, Hall Weir, Kirton, Boston; R. Horsewood, Benington Hall, Boston; A. Goodrich, Stickney, Boston; and Mr. Edmund Royds, of Caythorpe, the prospective Unionist candidate for the Sleaford Division. Mr. Royds has been interested for some time in the Kerry breed of cattle. We understand he will establish a herd of the Lincolnshire breed of pigs, and that he will use the same prefix, "Caythorpe," as used by him for his Kerry cattle.

Nottinghamshire Notes.

BEFORE these lines appear in print one of our most popular landowners in the county will have celebrated his sixty-third birthday. I refer to Lord Middleton, who is one of England's most prominent live-stock breeders at the present time. In this part of England we take more than a passing interest in his successes in the show-yard, for within three miles of Nottingham market-place is situate Wollaton Hall, one of his lordship's seats, where until a few days ago he was in residence.

LORD MIDDLETON owns estates not only near Nottingham, but also at Birdsall, Yorkshire, Middleton in Warwickshire, and Applecross in Ross-shire, it being computed that they cover nearly 100,000 acres. It is at Birdsall, near Malton, in Yorkshire, that Lord Middleton chiefly resides, and it is there that he has his noted stud of Shires, at the head of which must certainly be placed Menestrel, the sire of this year's London champion. He also keeps a stud of Thoroughbreds at Birdsall, for the noble lord is a keen rider to hounds, and his mounts are usually of the best. There is in addition a fine herd of Berkshire pigs, and also Shorthorn cattle.

ON the occasion of Earl Manvers' sale of Shorthorns at Holme Pierrepont, near Nottingham, Lord Middleton took a great interest in the animals, and spoke eulogistically of the efforts put forth by Earl Manvers in endeavouring to improve the breed. I might add that Lord Middleton is president of the Leicester Sheep Breeders' Association, and keeps a flock of this breed at Birdsall. He is also master of the Middleton Hounds, was a member of the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding, and is a past President of the Royal Agricultural Society—he held the office in 1905. I am sure that all readers of the MARK LANE EXPRESS will join with me in wishing his lordship many happy returns of the day. He was born on August 24, 1844, and is thus sixty-three years of age.

REAPERS are now busy on all sides, though they are not running very well, the ground being so soft from the recent rains allowing the wheels to sink in to such an extent that extra horseflesh is required to work them. The majority of the self-binders, where they are able to work, demand three good horses to draw them, against two necessary last year.

OATS are cutting up well, the number of stooks being enormous. During the week I have examined about twenty crops of barley in different parts of the county, and I must say I have been very much surprised at the number of the heads that have not set, and the deaf corns to be found in them. This surely will make a great difference in the yield. Not a single piece of wheat has so far been cut in this locality, though I believe one or two fields will be ready near Newark on or about the 30th inst.

THERE is a general outcry among potato growers as to the tubers already showing signs of disease, which is noticeable more particularly among the later varieties on the heavy soils. If the weather would change, turning warmer and with more sun, the crop might possibly be saved, otherwise I am afraid it is a poor outlook for the coming winter.

AS I predicted in these columns a few weeks back, there is a glut of plums, and to-day in Nottingham market I noticed several people retailing them out at 4 lb. for 2½d. Surely they can hardly pay for pulling and cartage at that price. Apples, too, are cheap, plenty being available at 1s. per stone.

FOREIGN horse buyers are constantly in this district, and Messrs. James Forshaw and Sons have just sold a fine three-year-old stallion named Thomas by Stroxton Tom, the animal that won the gold cup in London two successive years. The same breeders have disposed of the excellent three-year-old filly Prospect Gloaming by Nailstone Cœur de Lion, She has only been seen out on three occasions—London, where she was highly commended; Newark, second; and Notts County Show, first. Both animals have gone to America.

AT Newark market to-day a farmer from Flintham had the good fortune to sell a sample of wheat for 36s. per qr. He had 43 qr., and was offered 29s. 6d. for it a few weeks back, so that for once in a while it has paid him to hold the corn back.

THOUGH the Duke of Portland does not approve of the Government's Small Holdings Bill he has at the present a number of such holdings on his Notts estates. At Hucknall Torkard, I am told, there are one or two tenants on the Duke's estate who occupy about 30 acres of land, good buildings and capital houses, and yet pay less than £30 a year rent! Needless to say it is very seldom one of these farms are to let.

PREVIOUS reference has been made by me of the great height of some of the corn crops in the county this year. A Nottingham gentleman has this week been spending a few days in the country, and returned with several specimens of oats 6ft. 9in. long in the straw, and some barley actually 6ft. 6in.; while rye eclipsed all and was exactly 7ft. in length. R. K.

August 22, 1907.

Lincolnshire Notes.

HARVEST has really begun, but it is much too soon to make calculations. There is no doubt that in many places the crops are storm-broken, and in some are mildewed. For many years wheat has not been known to ripen so slowly, whilst in some places the straw is so badly laid that it might have been rolled.

THE *Tribune's* forecast promises us a harvest well above the average; but all calculations must still be a matter of the purest conjecture. We do hear of a few samples of winter oats and barley which have thrashed out only moderately well. Of one thing, however, we may be very certain. It is going to be an expensive ingathering. The storms, together with scarcity of labour, have thoroughly well assured that event.

THE late Mr. Alfred Faulding Tomlinson, of Rauceby, who died at the ripe old age of seventy-seven, was an agriculturist on a large scale, one of the best known in the district. He lived an active life, and was never too old for a ride with the Belvoir or Blankney hunts, and up to the last he was a fine cross-country rider.

LINCOLNSHIRE sheep have made another record. Mr. Robert Fisher, J.P., of Leaconfield, near Beverley, disposed of a number of rams on Wednesday. Ninety shearlings produced £2,414, which is an average of £28 3s. 3d., and a record for Leaconfield; 155 guineas was the highest price, which was paid by Mr. R. Richardson, of Arnold Grange, for a fine ram descended from Mr. Dudding's famous flock.

THERE are some interesting figures in the agricultural statistics issued by the Board of Agriculture, and giving the prices per imperial quarter of quantities of British corn returned as sold in various markets in England during 1906. Relating to Lincolnshire are the following:—

Average Prices, 1906.

Market.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Spalding	27 2	23 0	17 7
Stamford	27 1	25 4	18 0
Grantham	27 6	24 3	17 9
Sleaford	27 2	23 10	17 7
Boston	27 7	23 2	17 4
Louth	27 4	23 5	17 8
Lincoln	27 8	24 1	17 9
Gainsborough	27 11	23 5	17 10
Brigg	27 7	23 9	17 3
Wisbech	27 4	22 11	17 6

Quantities Returned.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
	Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.
Spalding	44,108	16,257	40,181
Stamford	10,558	22,394	1,939
Grantham	19,113	63,305	3,409
Sleaford	25,712	44,693	15,071
Boston	63,731	25,794	20,268
Louth	16,229	40,039	6,839
Lincoln	88,361	225,174	31,365
Gainsborough	15,950	11,230	3,450
Brigg	14,538	70,949	5,271
Wisbech	27,633	13,536	33,271

THERE is another danger of the unpropitious season which has yet to be faced. A South Lincolnshire farmer writes to a local journal:—"There will be more hay and seed stacks burnt this season than for many years back. Farmers were so anxious to get their hay and clover into the stack that they led it before it was ready, and smoke can be seen coming from some of the stacks like that from a house chimney. Wait till a bit later on and you'll see there'll be dozens of hay-stacks burned down." It need only be added that insurance companies do not pay on fires from overheating.

THE next sale of the Lincolnshire Curly Coated Pig Breeders' Association will be held on Wednesday next. Owing to the operation of the Swine Fever Order, the sale will be held outside the infected area in Mr. Richardson's paddock at Skirbeck, Boston.

Northern Notes.

IN a recent issue mention was made of the wretched conditions in which a poor agricultural labourer and his large family lived at a place called Wetwang, in Yorkshire. The cottage was in a street called Teapot Row. Lest any of your readers should have come to the conclusion that this cottage was owned by any of the great landlords of the North, I may say that the cottage belongs to a non-resident small copyholder, and that it has been vacated since the rural council served notice upon the tenants. They have removed to two cottages, a councillor tells me, "worse than the former," only that the overcrowding conditions do not prevail.

IT is astonishing that in the villages of Yorkshire there are so many small properties, cottages, and shops that are owned privately, while at the same time the whole village practically is included in some great estate. This sort of property is frequently allowed to fall into wretched repair for lack of paint and pointing and renewal of roof, and many a cottage could be bought in the villages for £50 or much less. Some are unsaleable. It is this sort of property that brings discredit upon villages and affords examples to agitators as to "how the poor live."

THE landowners are taunted for their alleged thoughtlessness, whereas they are in no way to blame for the wretched state of the hovels in which some labourers and their families are housed. The origin of these private ownerships in villages is interesting when traced. It is more than probable that quite a large number of them have been acquired by tenants living rent free for many years, through the clemency of the landed proprietor, who has claimed no quit-rent.

ONE can recall several instances of such-like cases in one's own time. A labourer I know occupies a triangular piece of land comprising grass and a good orchard, at the entrance to an agricultural town. A cottage stands upon it, and the whole is fenced with a quick-wood hedge. This has come to his hands without money and without price. Readers of this journal may possibly know other like cases.

THE Yorkshire Council for Agricultural Education are offering county major scholarships of the estimated value of £60 to £65 per annum, for agricultural study at the Leeds University, or other institution approved by the council, giving suitable higher courses of instruction. Special exhibitions are also offered to enable farmers' sons to take a winter course at the University of Leeds and the Manor House Farm, Garforth. These exhibitions provide free education at the 'Varsity and the farm, and, in addition, a contribution of 15s. per week towards the maintenance of the student. These offers are greatly to be commended to young men desirous of laying a foundation of knowledge that will at any rate make the pursuit of agriculture to them a business of more absorbing interest. There ought to be a great scramble for such privileges.

A PERSON in the agricultural world with practical as well as scientific knowledge at his fingers' end, has a much better chance in this competitive age to secure a good appointment than the man merely with technical knowledge. The motto of the Royal Agricultural Society of England—"Practice with Science"—is one that every young farmer should bear in mind. We would not say that practice without a knowledge of science has not proved a road to success. It has, indeed. For instance, we recently, quite casually, met a person farming a good-sized holding who can neither read nor write, and he has been so enriched by his own industry, and as a result of his dogged perseverance, as to be able to place several sons on farms of considerable acreage. Such men are exceptional; what might they not have accomplished if they had possessed a scientific knowledge of the principles of agriculture?

ARE the young farmers of the present day as self-reliant as were their forbears? It is to be feared they are not. Many have their path already cut out for them, and have therefore no necessity for "putting their shoulders to the wheel" as some have; and life by such is regarded as one huge holiday.

AN ex-High Sheriff recently uttered some very correct words of nicely-veiled sarcasm. He said, "The peculiarity of the modern grammar school seems to me to be that it is essentially a ladder, or stepping-stone by which a boy is enabled to leave the sphere in which he is born, and enter a totally different sphere for his life's work." This is what many people have been thinking. The boys of elementary and secondary schools are

acquiring "accomplishments" which in no sense fit them for an agricultural calling.

"YORKSHIRE hams and bacon cured on the premises." Such notices as these are rare in provision shop windows. The curing of bacon is, in fact, becoming an almost lost and unknown art. In Cumberland, which has long had a reputation for its bacon, pig breeding and pig rearing seem to be going out of fashion. Empty pigstyes on the farmsteads are all too common. The falling off in the number of pigs kept is nearly 40 per cent. Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries show that in 1887 there were 26,029 pigs in the county. Ten years later the number was 20,513, and two years it was further reduced to 16,364. Last year the low-water mark of 15,623 was reached.

THE falling off is hard to be understood, for with pork up to 7s. 9d. per stone last winter, and at present reaching 7s., and prime Cumberland bacon making 10s. a stone wholesale, pig-rearing should undoubtedly be remunerative. Any amount of hams could be disposed of at about 1s. per lb. London butchers will pay this price.

THERE is a great variety of opinion northwards as to the crop results, and every farmer has a different story. Three or four days this week the temperature has imparted a "back-end" sort of feeling; and it is weather quite the reverse of what is wanted. We are all agreed that ours is the best climate in the world; but how much better would it be if we could have a 10-degree higher temperature and an hour's more sunshine every day! That would be the acme of perfection. There is a tremendous length and weight of straw this year—barley and oats being abnormally high. Oats, we think, will be the leading crop for yield, as this cereal has corned well, and hangs very heavily. Wheat revels in sunshine; and in its absence it is feared the ears have not filled. A poor yield is spoken of generally; and as to barley, the malting samples will not be up to a high standard. Roots are making progress; mangolds are promising.

August 23, 1907.

The harvest prospects in Scotland, published by the *Dundee Courier* on Tuesdays, indicate that the cutting of crops cannot be undertaken before the middle of September, and in many cases well into October, owing to the wet weather in the spring and recent meteorological conditions. A good hay crop has been secured, but turnips are irregular and not bulbing well. Potatoes are deficient. Wheat is a good average, but barley is much laid, and along with other cereals will be difficult to harverst Pastures are in fair condition. Farmers state that harvesting generally will be tedious and expensive.

After having personally examined the farms of the flockmasters who claimed compensation from the War Office for depreciation in the value of their sheep consequent upon last year's military manœuvres, the arbitrator, Mr. George Langridge, of Tunbridge Wells, has awarded the following amounts:—Mr. J. Hodson, Kingston, £40 17s.; Mr. F. Baker, Piddinghoe, £40; Mr. E. J. Gorringe, J.P., Sleaford, £21 5s.; Mr. R. R. Verrall, Falmer, £45; Mr. J. Stacey, sen., Firle, £60 11s.; Mr. H. Stacey, Firle, £75 17s.; Mr. J. M. Moubray, Iford, £13 15s.; Mr. J. C. Robinson, Iford, £40 5s.; and Mr. J. Stacey, jun., Northease, £59 15s. All claimed 1s. per head, except Mr. Verrall, who claimed 2s. on his ewes and 1s. on the lambs. The awards are considered highly satisfactory.

CORN FLIES.

(*Concluded from p. 55.*)

The sowing of winter wheat should be delayed till the end of October, or even November, when the autumn swarm of flies will be dead.

Screenings from the mill should be either burnt or boiled. It is risky to give them uncooked to stock, or merely tread it in cattle courts.

Where attacks are feared, grow plants having stout stems, when the prevention of elbowing and consequent malnutrition of the ear may not occur.

In mild attacks artificials will stimulate the corn sufficiently to grow away from too bad an effect.



A couple of Gout Flies magnified. Common grasses, wheat, barley, oats, rye, &c, are attacked by these flies just prior to the escape of the spike from its sheath, when the ear is greatly injured. The actual size of the flies is 1-6th inch to 1-8th inch.

Farmers who would like to add to their knowledge of insect life might profitably collect as many of the "flax seeds" as possible, keep them in glass-topped boxes, and await results. Parasitic flies, sharp moving and fragile, with brilliantly coloured wings, will frequently hatch from the chrysalises instead of the true specimens, having entirely consumed their host. These are friends, and in America, where they are especially bred for service, it is computed that quite nine-tenths of the Hessian flies are destroyed by these parasites, to the ultimate good of the farmer through the prevention of further egg laying.

The flies which attack the flowers of wheat in June and July — midges they are called—are very similar in structure to the Hessian fly, though only half its length and lemon-yellow in colour. Their life forms and changes also are similar. After injuring the grain to varying degrees during three weeks, the maggots enter the soil to hibernate until the following spring. Similar remedies to that suggested on behalf of the Hessian fly should be adopted. Either burn or bury deeply chaff and screenings.

Immense harm is often occasioned to wheat and barley on account of gout-flies, of which there are more than one kind, though the attacks are mostly confined to a species called Chlorops teneopus. But "what's in a name" in these important matters? Let farmers learn about their minute enemies and not worry about what we like to christen them. These flies range in length from one-sixth to one-eighth of an inch, are yellowish in colour and prettily striped. The forms and wing-veining of all are fairly approximate to each other. The Board of Agriculture described the eyes as green, while the experienced agricultural entomologist, Mr. William Somerville, says they are black. I could cite other descriptive differences. Thus variations exist; and I have found many with red eyes mostly attacking grasses, but capable of transferring themselves to cultivated cereals if their supplies of food become limited. They are by no means active, and I have frequently picked them up easily with the fingers.

These insects lay tiny greenish-white eggs some time during May, on the blades that enwrap the young ears, and these eggs give rise to white maggots, which later on turn yellowish, about one-fifth of an inch in length when full grown. There is usually only one maggot to a stem, and this bites its way down to the first or topmost joint, making meantime a well-defined burrow or groove from 2 in. to 4 in. long, at the bottom of which the maggot becomes a pupa, or chrysalis. The ear is severely mauled at its base, and the nourishment being hindered from rising to co-operate with the atmosphere, it is often entirely prevented from emerging from the sheath. In any case severe injury is inflicted, as is evidenced by the grotesque shape and comparatively enormous size to which the ear-enclosed portion swells, earning the description of gouty. In very fair weather the ears may succeed in getting out to the sunlight, but this gives very little satisfaction and cannot be depended on.

Farmers should bear in mind that badly-drained portions of a field, especially alongside ditches and streams, afford the most relished area for the flies. This fact suggests its own remedy.

The pupa, or chrysalis, which is of the usual brown tint and rather flat, is evolved from the maggot within the injured portions, and changes after two weeks' duration into the fly, generally in July or August, when they sometimes hibernate. There may be two broods in a year; indeed, when it is thought that the flies are hibernating it is quite possible that they are increasing their families on various grasses or on winter barley. There is insufficient system in entomology for the full truth to be obtained.

This is a case where, if the flies have given evidence of their presence, early spring sowing is advisable in order that the grain may be maturing before the flies are active. It seems a strange fact that if once the spikes are completely clear of their sheaths they are rendered of no use to the flies. Just the reason for this would take too long to explain.

Stimulate growth with abundance of the useful nitrate of soda or sulphate of ammonia, the former chiefly if the season is very wet, because then the latter would be washed out of the soil.

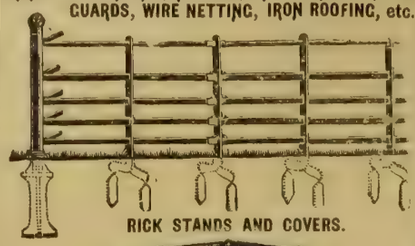
With regard to winter wheat, this should be delayed in sowing so that the second brood, if any, may be deprived of their opportunity, or else content themselves with utilising grasses. Mention of this frustration should remind readers that land ought preferably to be kept clear of such harbouring growths as couch grass and anything of the kind likely to be favoured, because although the flies might be induced to use them instead of wheat, &c., they would entirely die out if no food were securable, whereas wild grasses would only allow them to increase in preparation for some following season.

These insects, also, are subject to the attacks of useful parasites, breeding of which would help to exterminate them. They can be found by keeping the chrysalises as already suggested with the other pest. Regarding these useful parasites, I have bred from chrysalises of various gout flies several of the species pictured in the position of egg-laying, belonging to the Chalcididæ. These creatures have a body length of only 1-20th in., and are therefore scarcely visible, yet magnification discloses four hairy, veinless wings, jointed feelers (for discovering in some mysterious way whether a chrysalis is already occupied), and other well-formed organs. The chrysalis of a gout-fly, though itself quite small (about one fifth of an inch long), is nevertheless a gigantic object compared with one of these fairy parasites. One is in the act of laying an egg inside a chrysalis in the illustration. The maggot hatched therefrom feeds upon the substance of its host while the latter is alive—occasionally the gout-fly maggot is attacked—and prevents it reaching the maturity of flyhood. It should be remembered that this species is only one of many which live exclusively in this beneficial manner. J. SCOTT.

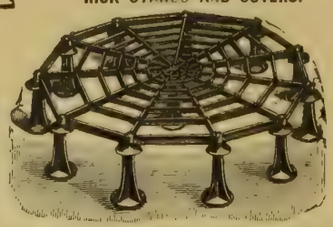


One of the smallest Parasitic Flies in existence (1-20th of an inch long), laying its eggs within the chrysalis of one of the Gout Flies, on which it feeds. The chrysalis, though itself small (1-5th inch long), is a gigantic storehouse of food for the fly's maggot. One of the Parasite's antennæ is shown magnified to a greater extent in the inset.

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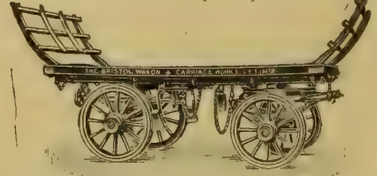


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West Country Notes.

MANY a time I have heard of and seen people racing from a swarm of bees, and the honours of the champion sprinter might have been in danger had a starter, time-keeper, and surveyor been at hand at the moment. My experiences have been added to by seeing a race for a swarm of bees at a country *fête*. A Victoria Cross race on donkeys with dummy policemen which followed was significant of Irish affairs. Who shall say that the country side is lacking in wit and humour?

THEY certainly cannot assert that country men are devoid of brain, for a lad starting from a village school on the borders of Somerset and Dorset a few years ago has climbed the scholastic ladder at such a rate that whilst scarcely out of his teens he has gained the title, with honours, of Doctor of Philosophy. The villages of Sparkford, Podymore, and Chedzoy can each claim a little interest in Dr. John Read, who won a scholarship from Sparkford elementary school, proceeded to Sexey's School, Bruton, then to Finsbury, and with a L.C.C. scholarship to Zurich.

HIS old secondary school tops the distinctions lists of the recent Oxford examinations in botany, both senior and junior, as well as in three other subjects. The West is not going to be left behind; and good old Blundell's is at the head of all in this examination.

A THING that is little understood by the townsmen is country manners. I was therefore delighted to read a little appreciation of the charming way in which strangers are received amongst the rural dwellers of the West. A writer in "Books of To-Day" says:—

"BY far the worst type of manners to be found anywhere is that displayed by a Scotch railway porter, and by far the finest courtesy in England is found in Western Somerset. The more countryfied the neighbourhood the better the manners. In Western Somerset there are no large towns, and therefore the stranger is welcomed with a courtesy and urbanity which would do credit to an ambassador."

WHEN the town dweller ventures into a country lane, and is greeted by a perspiring drover with a hasty "Hi! turn thic bullock, 'ool ye, mister," he is too often guilty of drawing himself up in disgust, and allowing the animal to go by him. He brings out from the man a volley of what cannot be regarded as a blessing, and goes on his way with an air of offended dignity.

HOW different when the request is complied with, as it would be by squire or peasant who live in the country. Then notice the pleasant "Thank ye, kindly, measter," the lifting of the hand or flourish of the cudgel in salute; probably, still the old-fashioned pulling of the forelock if the drover be an aged man. "He be a praper gen'lman, he be," is the private comment of the man, who never forgets a little service of the sort once rendered, and the doer of the kindness is remembered if met again for years to come.

THERE is a world of meaning to the initiated in the simple change of pronunciation from "mister" to "measter." There is a story of gratitude and respect; and also, be it noted, of good qualities from those in authority which has secured through generations the honour to the "measter," and the ready obedience to him, which the "mister" could never acquire.

IT is charming to those who know the West Country to feel that no matter whether he be known or a stranger he can be sure of kindly response to any request for aid, whether he go to cottage or farm. A request of a respectable wayfarer for a cup of tea is a thing which the country housewife considers as an honour conferred upon her. The homely attempts at conversation, which take the form of a question, "Where do you come from, then?" is not to be resented. It is not mere curiosity which prompts it. It is a desire to secure some sort of an introduction such as a common knowledge of places or people will give.

IF by any chance such a common ground can be hit upon, the warm-hearted earnestness of the host or hostess is a thing to be remembered with pleasure.

A WEEK or two ago I was passing an isolated group of cottages, and witnessed one of the little kindly acts which give grace to the Westerners. A motor car had broken down, and the gentlemen of the party were underneath trying to find the cause. Three ladies had to make the best they could of a grass-grown heap of soil by the roadside for a time. Their plight was witnessed from the cottages with an offer of shelter from the discomfort of their position, and from a threatened storm. The decline could scarcely be called graceful, but it did not chill the cottagers. Seats and shelter were fetched out, and with such good will manifested that it could not be refused. The motoring party spoiled the position by a tender of recompense, which I was delighted to see declined with decision, but with a courtesy that must surely have struck the motoring ladies with some amount of shame at the contrast with their own manners.

THERE has not been much of business in this week's notes so far, but the incidents with which I started out have led me on to say more than I had intended on the good qualities of my fellow dwellers in the country.

THE unusual (for the season) cry of "rain wanted" reached me from the lower portion of Dorset this week. Most parts of the West would be glad to effect an exchange on most advantageous terms to the thirsty souls who cry out for rain. The hay is almost as bad as the bedding of an animal in the morning; corn of all sorts laid and tangled by the storms; acres of grass on most farms waiting for the mowing machine; the pooks spread, to be hurriedly snatched together again before any drying has been effected, and the elevator rusting away where it has been set up. "Nearly as bad as 1879," says a walking almanack. He is about right, I should think.

"WHY is it that the number of cattle in the West has fallen off to so great an extent this year?" This is the conundrum which I was asked to solve the other day, and it was done seriously by a person I never suspected of interest in statistics. A little consideration located the real inquirer in an excise officer, preparing the annual returns of statistics for the Board of Agriculture. When I suggested that it was in milkers chiefly, this was agreed to, and then I bethought me of the harassing of the milk producer by the agitation in the London press, and the regulations which are being forced on local authorities in the country by the Local Government Board in consequence. Is the milk supply drying up at the source, as the first step to "purity"?

The Harvest in the South.

Harvest reports from farmers throughout the county of Sussex, which appeared in the *Sussex Daily News* on Friday, show that the effects of the dull sunless summer have been felt in all quarters, with the result that the harvest operations will be protracted long beyond the usual period. In some localities which have been more favoured than others, cutting of winter oats commenced early in the month, but in others so backward are the crops that a start has not been made even now.

More sun is badly needed for everything, and there has been too much wind for the binders to work well, while both hay and corn harvests have been greatly interfered with by the unsettled weather conditions. Wet, indeed, has been frequent, though the total rainfall has not been very exceptional. A good deal of the corn was laid by rain and wind, making hand labour necessary to supplement the machine reaper, but there has been no difficulty in securing labour.

As to results, they vary even in adjoining parishes; in some quarters the quality of the grain is said to be very good, while in others it is the reverse. The estimated yield per acre also varies considerably. Oats, however, are a good crop everywhere, as is always the case after a showery summer.

The effects of the wet season are seen in the unusually heavy straw crop. Some of the oat straw in West Sussex is reported to be 7ft. high. Rust has been noticed in the wheat on some farms, and a good deal of blight is reported from West Sussex generally.

The root crop should be good, but further wet may produce potato disease, traces of which have been noticed in some low-lying districts.

Whitchurch Cheese Fair.

This fair took place on Wednesday, when 84 tons were pitched, and the inquiry for best lots was keen, but a slight fall has to be recorded for medium and lower grades. Prices: 57s. to 61s. per cwt. for higher grades, 52s. to 56s. for mediums, and lowest qualities down to 48s. At the corresponding fair last year the pitch was 67 tons, and best lots made up to 66s. per cwt.

A man named George Jones, in the employ of Mr. Frank Lloyd, the well-known auctioneer, while going through the meadows at the Plassey, near Wrexham on Tuesday, was attacked by a bull, and although Mr. Victor Lloyd gallantly came to his rescue and attempted to drive the ferocious animal away, Jones was so terribly gored that he died as he was being conveyed to Wrexham Infirmary.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Saving Duke of York Potatoes for Seed.

SIR,—I should be glad if you will give me an answer to the following:—Two years ago I bought a quantity of Duke of York potatoes. They have turned out most satisfactory, and this year I have a splendid lot of potatoes. Would it be a risk to try them one more year, having such a nice lot of the seed, or would you advise a change?

A FIFTEEN YEARS' SUBSCRIBER.

*** Doubtless you read the reply given to a correspondent a few weeks ago respecting the "leaf curl" disease in potatoes, and if this trouble did not exist you would be quite right in growing the Duke of York potatoes again from your own seed. Even in spite of the prevalence of the "leaf curl" disease, it is possible that you might save your own seed, get a good crop next season, and have none of the above trouble, but by following the course you suggest you would be taking considerable risk. I have seen so many failures through the "leaf curl" disease amongst crops grown from home-saved seed, that I have come to the conclusion that the risk is hardly worth taking amongst early varieties like the Duke of York, and it is better to plant fresh Scotch seed every season. Just to give you an instance: In 1906 I obtained seed of an early potato from Scotland that strongly resembles the Duke of York. I obtained a heavy crop, and like yourself, I saved a nice lot of seed. For the purpose of experiment I planted some of the seed in the spring of this year, and the crop was a hopeless failure through "leaf curl," while the same variety fresh from Scotland cropped splendidly. Other varieties from home saved seed have done well, so it does not necessarily follow that if you planted your own seed next year you would not get a good crop, though in my experience Duke of York is a potato that is very liable to "leaf curl" disease. Apart from the possibilities of "leaf curl" it has been proved over and over again that potato crops are increased by radical changes of seed, though how long a potato may be grown profitably from the home saved seed is largely a matter of local conditions. Considering the way your potatoes have cropped this year I have no doubt that seed saved from them would give you a good return next season, but for the possibility of the disease I have referred to. This, however, is where the danger comes in, and in view of it my advice is to have a change next season and plant Scotch seed. Of course, if you care to experiment you might save some of your own seed and try it, but it would be risky to plant a large area with it.—RUSTICUS.

Barley Grass on Meadow Land.

SIR,—Being a constant reader of your paper, I write to know whether you can tell me why it is that squirrel tail or barley grass grows so freely under trees on meadow land, where sheep invariably lie for shade during the hot weather? Can you tell me what barley grass is a sign of (whether poverty of soil or otherwise), and how to eradicate it? I have a good deal of marsh land, and some of the land will grow nothing else.—Yours, &c., E. B. G.

*** There are two kinds of barley grass or squirrel tail; one (*Hordeum pratense*) which has the appearance of a small plant of the cereal barley, and the other is the wall barley grass or way bent (*Hordeum murinum*). The former is generally found growing in meadows and pastures, but not often to the extent as is apparent in your case, and the favourite habitat of the latter is on gravelly roadsides. The presence of a large quantity of barley grasses is an indication, not necessarily that the land is poor, but rather that it is starved, just as the growth of rushes and hair grass prove the need of drainage. The meadow barley grass is not a desirable plant, as its long rough awns are unpleasant, and in some cases they are said to have proved injurious to grazing animals. The fact that the grass grows more freely under the trees where the sheep lie may possibly be due to the moist and shady conditions, but in a case so bad I expect you will find eradication to be a slow and difficult process. One step in the direction desired would be to prevent increase from seeds by cutting the stalks before the seeds are ripe, and another course is to encourage the growth of more useful herbage by the aid of suitable fertilisers, remembering that whatever encourages the growth of desirable grass is detrimental to the increase of rough herbage. You do not say whether the land has been neglected in the way of manure, but the folding of sheep thickly on the field would tend to improve matters, particularly if the animals are fed with corn or cake. I do not know whether the land is of the character that responds to slag, but if so a liberal dressing of this fertiliser would tend to encourage the growth of clovers and other herbage that would probably gain ascendancy over the barley grass. In the use of artificial fertilisers one has to be guided by the nature of the soil, but so far as can be judged from the description you give the land needs feeding and getting into better heart in order to lessen the growth of the barley grass.—RUSTICUS.

Harvest Thanksgiving Collections.

SIR,—It is now twenty years since I, through the courtesy of the Press, made my first appeal to the public on behalf of the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution; and once more I beg your kind services to enable me to bring the claims of this great charity before your readers.

I must be forgiven if I repeat arguments I may have employed in former years; the circumstances of the institution vary little; its work is always conducted on the same lines, and the reasons for soliciting support from a generous public change only in that this support becomes annually more urgently necessary as the scope of the institution's labour becomes wider.

As your readers are aware, the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution provides pensions for destitute farmers, their wives, widows, and unmarried daughters. At the present time 1,152 pensioners are maintained at an annual cost of £24,368. All these pensioners are advanced in years, all are absolutely dependent upon the funds of the institution; many are decrepit, and not a few are physically helpless. Of the total number 598 are from seventy to eighty years of age and 373 are from eighty to ninety-six years of age. It is the object of the institution to rescue from want in the evening of their days those who, having depended upon the land for a livelihood, find themselves destitute through no fault of their own.

One result of the great industrial changes which have come about in our country during the last half century, is the transfer of wealth as well as population from the rural districts to the towns, and it is difficult to bring to those able and willing to help full knowledge of the depths of poverty in which the aged poor drag out their lives in agricultural England. Such poverty is increasing under the altered conditions of the farming industry; year by year it becomes harder for the agriculturist to gain a livelihood, and each year sees hundreds of men and women who have struggled bravely throughout a lifetime brought face to face with the destitution that awaits them in old age.

The harvest prospects of the present season are not hopeful, and many of those who have hitherto managed to keep their heads above water will be at a loss to make ends meet through the failure of crops. Needless to say, the consequences of the wet summer will bear most hardly upon the old, who, largely dependent upon their own labour, live continually on the borders of want.

The institution has the warm support of His Majesty the King, and the Archbishop of Canterbury last year wrote: "I have long been a warm advocate of the claims which the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution has upon the sympathy and support of all interested in rural life."

Most valuable has been the support given this institution by the Church since its aims and needs were made known. In the years 1882 to 1886 the funds received from church offertories have been a sum of £7,516 only, and during the last twenty years, from 1887 to 1906, the amount received from church offertories has been £144,590, on an average of £36,145 for each period of five years.

The same valuable results of publicity are apparent in the sums received in the shape of legacies.

During the five years 1882-86 the total bequeathed to the institution was only £2,564 18s., or an annual average of £511. During the nineteen years 1887-1905, £58,195 13s. 3d. has been received from this source, an annual average of £3,233.

I need hardly say how gratifying this great increase of support has been to the council; its value is best shown by the fact that it has thus been made possible to award pensions to over 200 deserving persons who had previously been left out in the cold for lack of money.

It is demanded, and rightly demanded, by the charitable that those who organise such endeavours as this should conduct their affairs with due regard for economy, and in this respect I venture to think the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution will bear close scrutiny. Upwards of 95 per cent. of its gross income is disbursed in pensions.

Having regard to the great amount of distress which exists among the humbler classes of our rural population, I feel that I may rely upon a hearty and generous response to this appeal on behalf of the institution which is doing so much to alleviate it.

The secretary, Mr. C. B. Shaw, will be glad to send to any clergyman who may desire to distribute them in their places of worship leaflets giving details of the work of the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution for the information of those likely to be interested therein. I may add that clergymen who devote collections to the funds are entitled to the same voting privileges as ordinary subscribers.

Every information concerning the institution and its work will be gladly furnished by Mr. C. B. Shaw on application to him at 26, Charles Street, St. James's, London, S.W. All contributions should be sent to Mr. Shaw at that address, and will be most gratefully acknowledged by him.—Yours, &c., WALTER GILBEY.

Elsenham Hall,
August 22, 1907.

Suggested Registration of Corn Samples.

SIR,—The difficulty which is always arising over the sale and purchase of corn is the question as to whether the bulk is equal in quality to the sample. It would be a wise step if agricultural associations would consider this very important matter and suggest a remedy which would be satisfactory to both buyer and seller. By no means is it suggested by the writer of this letter that either side as a rule is guilty of unfair dealing. There are careless farmers who show samples which they should know are superior to the bulk, and on the other hand cases have been known in which merchants and factors have, particularly on a falling market, thrown up a contract on the excuse that the bulk did not come up to the sample. But quite apart from these considerations, misunderstandings frequently arise. Can they be obviated?

Many farmers part only with a portion of the sample and keep the rest. But of what value would this fact be in a court of law? Who is to prove the retained half is the same? On the other hand experts can easily be brought to prove the opposite.

Then how many farmers make a legal contract at all in selling their corn? The transaction, as a rule, is childishly simple, the seller accepts a price and the purchaser enters it in his pocket-book. Some days later the corn is put on rail. In the meantime, and until the merchant has handled it, either party to the bargain can repudiate it. Surely, this is not business.

The first reform of "corn laws" should be to make universal the giving of contract notes in the corn markets.

This is a very simple procedure. Let a contract form be adopted which states price, quantity, and other necessary particulars, together with the condition that the bulk shall prove equal to the sample, and let it be signed by both parties. There would be no expense, and except in case of dispute it would not be necessary to have the contract note stamped. Generally payment is made within the fortnight, which is the time allowed for stamping. Should a dispute arise it will crop up before a fortnight; the note can then be stamped, and all will be in legal form and order.

Then as to the remedy against doubtful samples the difficulty could be entirely got over if the farmer would divide the sample in the presence of the purchaser, give one-half to the purchaser and have the other half registered and left at the Corn Exchange. For a small fee the caretaker would take charge of it. At the end of a fortnight, if no dispute arose, he would dispose of it, and there would be an end to the transaction.

These are simple and important reforms. But on his own initiative the farmer is not likely to adopt them. The compelling influence must be exerted by farmers' clubs and other powerful agricultural organisations. To business men the logic of the proposal is irresistible. It would save many an unnecessary contention, and would retain for the farmer some of the money which he is only too ready to spend in the vain and unsatisfying luxuries of the law courts.—Yours, &c.,
H. W. P.

August 22, 1907.

Potatoes.

SIR,—The time of the year is coming round when we consider the probable results of the potato crop. Alas! I fear that the report must be a poor one.

Those who have planted the Date and its numerous aliases are crying out that the leaf is attacked and the tubers also with the dreaded disease, and there must be loss. Other varieties, avoiding any names, are sounder, but the tops are turning in colour, prematurely ripe, before the full crop is formed.

Last season we had the very best crop for years of Dates, but two-thirds diseased; this season I expect the worst crop I ever knew.

I trust others will report more cheerily.—Yours, &c., NORTH LINDSEY.

August 23.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

Intensive Cultivation.

The problem of successful farming nowadays, and particularly the problem of small holdings, must depend for its solution in intensive culture, which means that the crops grown one after the other in quick succession must be sown in soil worked into a condition as perfect as possible and must be regularly nourished with ample supplies of available plant food.

If horses are put to extra hard work they are supplied with extra rations, including energy-producing grain; similarly the soil, if expected to produce a quick succession of exhausting crops, must be supplied with the nourishing material to enable it to bear with success the strain.

Farmyard manure applied in moderate quantities will maintain the soil in a good physical condition and will keep it supplied with humus.

Then phosphoric acid and potash in suitable forms must be used liberally; the fertilising elements in them are not liable to be washed away, and, therefore, any balance not utilised by one crop remains available for the next. By the growth of clover between other crops a supply of nitrogen can be stored in the ground, although it is necessary to give the crops also the advantage of more available nitrogen in the shape of guano, nitrate of soda, sulphate of ammonia or other quickly acting material. The ideal way to cultivate on an intensive system is to select two or three money-producing crops, and follow them with a nitrogen-storing crop, such as clover or lucerne. Use in the money crops a fertiliser containing large amounts of potash and phosphoric acid and a fair amount of nitrogen in soluble forms. Deep ploughing and thorough harrowing must be given before all seeding, for we must understand that one great advantage in using fertilisers is that they are so fine that they may be worked or mixed through the soil, and unless the soil itself is thoroughly fined this cannot be done.

Value of Phosphate for Wheat.

In a Government report on wheat and wheat breeding over the wide area of Victoria, Australia, it is stated that the yielding power of the soil has been considerably enhanced by the general use of superphosphate in conjunction with bare fallows, especially in the driest parts, and with rape and such fodders in conjunction with sheep in the more favoured parts. The experiments carried out fourteen years ago illustrated the effect of phosphatic fertilisers in inducing early ripening, which was more marked when experimenting with barley than with either wheat or oats. The following are some rotations that fit most northern conditions where sheep are kept to feed down the rape:—Wheat, grass, fallow with or without rape; wheat, oats, grass, fallow with or without rape; or wheat, rape on stubbles, oats or barley, fallow. Under some conditions peas may enter into the rotation, and in course of time a higher system of management will be general. Where permanent pastures are desired top-dressing with fertilisers should be carried out.

Chemical Manure will not Replace Farmyard Manure.

Some theoretical scientists talk as if crops could be successfully cultivated by the application of artificial manure alone, being apparently under the idea that all that it is necessary to do is to supply the plants with certain calculated quantities of nitrogen, phosphoric acid, and potash in concentrated forms. It would be as reasonable to feed animals on capsules containing certain quantities of oil, albuminoids, and carbohydrates. Plants must have bulk foods, they must have humus in the soil. There are, says Professor Chester Smith, two principal ways of adding humus to the soil. First, by ploughing under farmyard manure, and, second, by growing green crops and ploughing them under. It is apparent at once that if the greatest amount of humus possible is to be made from farmyard manure, it should be hauled to the fields without rotting and ploughed under, so that the rotting may take place in the soil itself. From this point of view, therefore, the manure should be hauled to the field as fast as made. It should be ploughed under, also, not to too great a depth, but far enough to ensure the continuous presence of moisture throughout the season.

Experiments and observations made at the Michigan College have shown that where the manure was hauled on the snow and spread there, the water from the snow, when the thaws came, did not carry away the plant food from the manure, except in the very smallest degree. The losses from this source were small. It was also shown that, as far as immediate effects on the next crop were concerned, the earlier in the winter the manure was applied, the better.

The importance of humus in preventing the drying out of the soils cannot be too strongly impressed. Note that in the sand little water remained after three days' exposure, while in the muck and sand mixed there remained twenty parts out of sixty-five. This indicates that where the humus is present in our clay loams, they will withstand droughts. Commercial fertilisers will supply the plant food, but they do not directly supply humus. They may be used to aid in this matter if they are applied to crops to be ploughed under. Commercial fertilisers should therefore be used with barnyard manure, not to replace it.

Life of Seeds.

The period for which the seeds of different plants maintain their vitality varies a good deal.

The seeds of some vegetables are worthless after they are two years old, while the seeds of other plants improve with age until a certain period. For instance, the seeds of artichokes are good until they are three years old; asparagus, four years; beans, two years; kidney beans, one year; beets, ten years; brocoli, four years; cabbage, four years; carrot, one year; cauliflower, four years; celery, ten years; corn, three years; cucumber, ten years; egg plant, three years; endive, four years; kale, four years; leek, two years; lettuce, three years; melon, ten years; pea, two years; okra, two years; onion, two years; pumpkin, ten years; radish, four years; salsify, two years; spinach, four years; squash, four years; tomato, two years; and turnips, four years.

Gluten Meals and Feeds.

Gluten meals and feeds are the by-products left in the manufacture of starch and glucose from Indian corn. Corn consists largely of starch. The waste product in the manufacture of starch and sugar is relatively richer in oil and protein than in corn. Most factories remove part of the corn oil from the waste, so that nearly all the gluten meals carry less oil than they did a few years ago.

Gluten feeds differ from gluten meals in that they contain considerably more of the corn bran, and hence relatively less protein, fat, and digestible carbohydrates, and more of the indigestible woody fibre.

It is unfortunate that, according to an American food inspector's report, the gluten feeds and meals are so irregular in their composition, and that different makes vary so much. The gluten meals and feeds are desirable sources of protein, and if the manufacturers placed proper guarantees upon their goods there seems to be no reason why this class of feeding stuffs should not become very popular.

Gluten meal should contain about 35 per cent albuminoids and 3 per cent. fat.

Gluten feeds should contain about 25 per cent. albuminoids and 3 per cent. fat.

Prices of Fertilisers.

The demand for fertilisers is now practically over, but prices remain firm all round. The demand has been bigger than usual, and the stocks of most manufacturers have been cleared.

	£	s.	d.
Nitrate of soda	11	5	0
Sulphate of ammonia	11	17	6
Peruvian guano	without change		
Superphosphate, 26 per cent.	2	10	0
,, 35 ,,	3	6	3
Pure dissolved bones	5	7	6
Bone compound, ordinary	3	8	9
Bone Meal	5	10	0
Ground hoofs, 15 per cent.	9	10	0
Fish guano, first quality, scarce & dear	6	12	6
Ditto, second quality	5	7	6
Kainit	2	7	6
Sulphate of potash	10	0	0
Muriate of potash	9	0	0
Basic slag, 30 per cent. (ex works, Midlands)	1	13	0

"How to Manure at a Profit."

This series of useful articles, combining the practice and science of "How to Manure at a Profit," is now finished. As many of our readers would like to have the articles in a form convenient for reference, we intend shortly to publish them in a small pamphlet.

Due notice will be given when the pamphlet is ready for issue, and price.

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 lbs. of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a nom de plume, *in the paper.*

Butter Faking.

How the 24 per Cent. Moisture Clause is Regarded in the Colonies.

The *Journal of the Department of Agriculture*, published in Melbourne, has the following note on the subject:—

"A Bill regulating the sale of butter in the United Kingdom has passed its second reading and gone into Committee in the House of Commons. Although good and calculated to regulate the trade it contains a most objectionable and dangerous clause. It provides that the water percentage in margarine and butter is not to exceed 16 per cent. of moisture, but butter imitations may have as much as 24 per cent. The adoption of the latter provision will practically mean the legalisation of milk-blended butter and other like products. The Minister for Agriculture (Hon. George Swinburne, M.L.A.) has taken a deep and active interest in this subject and has secured the co operation of all the States in the Commonwealth and New Zealand with the view of having the objectionable clause eliminated."

New Source of Lime.

Chemical manufacturers are always studying whether any of the by-products arising from their regular manufacturing process cannot be put to a good use, and the results of their efforts in this direction are sometimes attended with results of great benefit to them and to other important industries. One has only to consider that basic slag is a by-product to be aware of the great value of some of these products.

The latest instance that has come to our notice of a by-product being put to good use is in the production of alkolime and phoslime, which are said to represent a new departure in fertilising limes.

It is claimed for them that they are delivered in a very fine powder, and that "phoslime" also contains a proportion of available phosphate, so that the manuring and liming can be done at one operation.

Salt on Barley.

The effect of a dressing of salt on barley grown after roots has been tested for five years by the Agricultural Department of the Yorkshire Council for Education. In some years it has apparently produced a remarkable increase, but in others the effect has been inappreciable.

The average results are given below:—

	No Salt.	5 cwt. Salt per acre.
Average annual yield of Saleable Grain per acre	45 bushels.	50 bushels.
Average annual yield of Straw per acre	33¾ cwt.	39 cwt.

Some Popular Fallacies Concerning Plant Diseases.

In a paper on this subject read before the Australian Association for the Advancement of Science, it is pointed out that some popular fallacies still survive in spite of all evidence to the contrary, and it is hoped that the mere mention of them may lead to views more in accordance with our present state of knowledge, or at least to an examination of the facts on which they are based.

1. That the weather is responsible for the disease where fungi are concerned.

This is shown to be a fallacy, from the fact that similar plants may be grown under exactly the same conditions, from different varieties of seed obtained from various sources, and yet the one will be free from disease, while the other is destroyed by it, as in the case of flax rust already mentioned.

Further, it is well-known to orchardists that apple trees of the same variety and age in the same orchard can be treated for black spot, and the disease prevented, while trees alongside untreated will be badly affected, showing that we can control the disease, although not the weather.

2. That fungus diseases are so obscure, and so imperfectly understood, that no special training is required to diagnose them.

This is simply an apology for ignorance, since there are quite a number of diseases whose life-histories have been carefully studied, and their true nature clearly understood; but because of this belief, often no provision is made by our legislators for making this knowledge available, and any self-constituted authority is regarded as quite capable of pronouncing a disease to be "fungoid," whatever that may mean.

3. That practical work in the field is alone necessary to understand and study disease.

This is only half a truth, and we sometimes hear the other half from the pseudo scientific man, who maintains that technical knowledge and work

in the laboratory is all that is required. Let it be clearly understood that a thorough knowledge of the diseases as they occur in the field is just as necessary as that acquired by the exact methods of the laboratory, and that a combination of both is required in order to secure the best results as regards their proper treatment. The best practical knowledge available has to be supplemented by the best scientific knowledge, and this is afforded by the experiment station, where practice and science go hand-in-hand.

4. That the plant itself is only a passive agent, and its surroundings, such as soil, manure, &c., are the main factors of health or disease.

It is at last beginning to dawn on the farmer and fruit-grower that the variety he plants, whether of wheat or fruit-tree, has an important bearing on the future growth, and that some varieties are more or less susceptible to disease; even the same variety may be more liable to disease at one age or at one season than another. There is something in the nature of the plant itself which determines its behaviour under certain conditions, and this has to be investigated and understood, before we can devise methods for avoiding or controlling this liability to disease. It often involves breeding a new plant to suit the conditions, and this means an intimate knowledge of plant-life.

5. That certain diseases, such as rusts and smuts, affect plants indiscriminately.

There is a very widespread belief, based upon superficial observation, that all rusts for example, are very much alike, and that the same rust can attack all sorts and conditions of vegetation. Thus the late Dr. Schomburgh, of Adelaide, in giving evidence before a Commission on Cereal Diseases stated that "The red rust attacks generally only gramineous plants; but in the Botanic Garden it attacked also the roses." Now the rose rust is quite a distinct kind from the wheat rust, and the one is incapable of infecting the other. Farmers have often sent to me rust on the native flax, with the remark that as it could pass to the wheat, there was no hope of preventing rust in the latter; but I had to inform them that here again the rusts were quite distinct, and did not pass from one plant to the other. That the various rusts confine themselves to definite plants is strikingly shown in the wheat, oat, and barley rust. The spores from wheat will neither infect oats nor barley, nor those of oats infect wheat or barley, and the spores from barley will not infect wheat or oats as a general rule.

Old beliefs and superstitions die hard, and it is surprising how many of the old notions still persist, in spite of all that modern science has taught, and that well-planned experiments have shown to be fallacious.

How to Manure Tomatoes.

In a discussion at the Vegetable Growers' Association of Canada the question of the best system of manuring the tomato crop was debated. The land should not be too rich, but it is not so often a question of over-richness as that of less manuring. Fresh farmyard manure, applied to the land the same spring just before planting, was followed by an excessively wet season, and an excessive growth of vine was had at the expense of early maturity. A piece of heavier poor land that for years had never had any manure, this same wet season produced a profitable crop of tomatoes, while it never has done so in a dry season. An excessive use of nitrate of soda has produced vines at the expense of early maturity on sandy loam in good heart, while the heavier clay land has responded to the use of nitrate of soda in an increased crop. For the average season, sandy loam well manured with farmyard manure for a previous crop, then ploughed and worked in the spring and manured with a good superphosphate (14 per cent.) at the rate of 600 to 800 lb. to the acre, and muriate or sulphate of potash 300 lb. to the acre, will give good results. If the plants are slow in starting, giving enough nitrate of soda to start them, but not to prolong the growth, will prove beneficial.

The Beet-Sugar Industry in Sweden.

One of the latest countries to take up the beet-sugar industry was Sweden, and it has proved so successful that whereas there were only six factories producing about 7,000 in 1889, there are now twenty-four factories producing about 150,000 tons. Instead of having to import large quantities of sugar, the country will soon be in a position to enter into the foreign market. In 1900 the production was 81,300 tons; in 1901, 115,500 tons.; 1902, 127,000 tons; 1903, 73,100 tons; 1904, 107,300 tons; 1905, 84,100 tons; 1906, 122,400 tons; for 1907 it is estimated at 157,700 tons. The fluctuations are due chiefly to variations in the harvest, and are observable in the statistics of all sugar-producing countries. The land in Central and Southern Sweden is admirably adapted for the cultivation of beetroot.

Potato Products in Germany.

According to the report of the British Consul-General, the area under potato cultivation in 1906 was slightly less than in the preceding year, but the total yield was 42,936,702 tons, against 48,323,353 tons in 1905. The exports from Germany of potato starch amounted in 1906 (ten months) to 377,450 cwt., against 136,671 cwt. in 1905, and the exports of dextrine to 154,269 cwt., against 141,314 cwt. in 1905. Business in potato products is, however, considered to have been dull, and the export business is said to have been seriously hampered on account of the increased production in the Netherlands and of the difficulty experienced by German starch factories in obtaining potatoes upon favourable terms. The production of grape sugar (including the liquid variety) largely exceeded that of 1905, but business was dull throughout the year.

Fertilisers in Germany.

It is interesting to note from the same report that the production of sulphate of ammonia continues to largely increase in the German Empire, so that they import less from this country, a fact which acts in moderating the price our farmers have to pay for this valuable nitrogeneous material. The production amounted to about 200,000 tons, which was an increase of about 25 per cent. over the previous year's output, and consequently the importation both in Germany and at Hamburg fell off considerably. The imports to Hamburg amounted to 7,646 tons, against 11,602 tons in 1905. The exports of this substance from the United Kingdom to Germany amounted to 17,545 tons, against 29,009 tons in 1905.

Phosphates.—Throughout the year the prices paid for all classes of phosphates continued to improve. A brisk business was done, and contracts were made extending over a number of years. The total imports to Hamburg and the neighbouring port of Harburg rose from 195,925 tons in 1905 to 215,874 tons in 1906, of which 148,676 tons consisted of Florida rock and 40,430 tons of Algerian phosphates. The price of Florida phosphates rose 33 per cent., and of other sorts 20 to 30 per cent.

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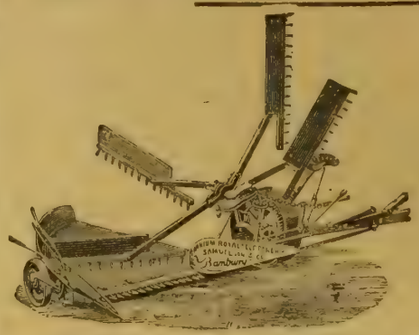
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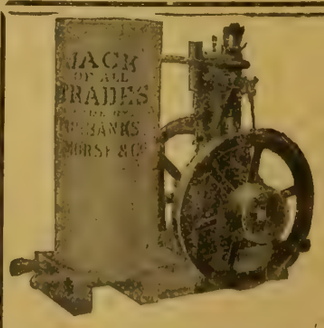
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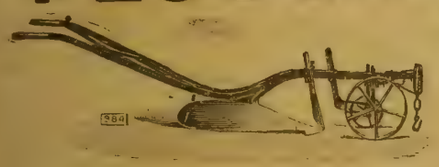
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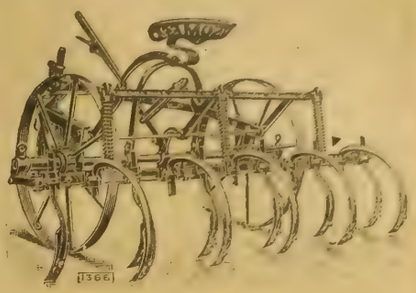
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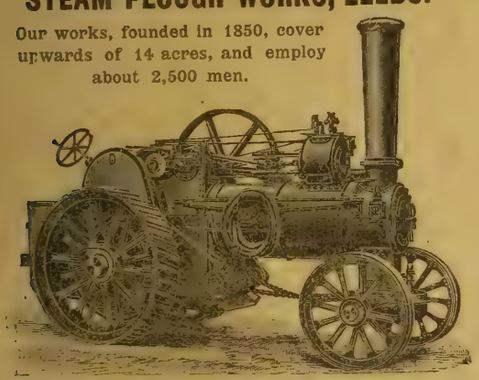
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AUGUST 26, 1907.

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WILL CORN PRICES RISE?

The interrupted harvest of 1907 is bound to be costly. All protracted harvests entail extra cost to farmers. It is bound to be marked by heavy losses in the way of shed corn. All windy Augusts produce this result. It is bound to inconvenience millers, who will hardly be able to use much of the new wheat before October. Continual showers and a low temperature entail softness in the new samples.

All these untoward circumstances, however, would have some set-off in the event of corn prices rising. Is such a rise likely, and should farmers hold their grain with a view to it? That is the question. The wheat crop will be smaller than that of last year, and therefore imports will have to be larger. But the exportable wheat surplus of the world at the beginning of a new cereal year—that is to say, on September 1 next—will almost certainly add up to a much smaller figure than was given by a like addition on September 1, 1906. Wheat, therefore, should be dearer in 1907-8 than it has been in 1806-7.

If farmers deliver large supplies of damp corn from Michaelmas to Christmas, prices at the end of 1907 may be low, but there is no compulsion laid upon the cultivator to do anything so unwise. The very astute American operators are in all cases asking substantially more money for December than for October delivery. He who runs may read.

With respect to barley the production of good malting and brewing qualities in California, Oregon, Asia Minor, and Central Europe is materially smaller than last year, and a slightly increased production in France and her North African dependencies is not a material set off. Malting barley should be selling for very good prices.

Feeding barley will probably undergo some depression in October and November, when Russia's large new crop of inferior stuff is pouring into our markets. It is costing the buyers 5s. per cental delivered at our ports, and they can sell it at 21s. to 22s. per qr. of 400 lb. weight. English growers whose barley does not come up to brewing level will, therefore, do well to hold it until the new year, by which time Russia's new supplies will have spent their force.

Oats are likely to be a large home crop, but as America has practically no export surplus of this grain, and as Russia grows very little weighing over 36 lb. to the bushel, all home-grown samples weighing 40 lb. and upwards should admit of being sold at a fairly good price. Heavy oats are bound to be worth good money as soon as we get into the winter months.

THE AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK

Comparisons, it is said, are odious, and they certainly are when applied to weather and seasons—that is to say, if we compare the summer of 1907 with the one that immediately preceded it. Long before this time last year every farmer had completed his haymaking (except, perhaps, a few dilatory individuals who will not get on with the harvest, no matter how favourable the conditions may be), while most of the corn was cut, and in some cases in the stack. Truly it was a grand summer, and we realise it now when we think of the difference. September is well in view, and still people are haymaking, and have been since the end of June, picking up, as opportunities occurred, weather-spoiled stuff which is hay only in name.

There is one direction in which, perhaps, the contrast strikes in favour of 1907, for this time last year we looked out on pastures burnt up and sunbrowned, and there were general complaints about shortage of water. To-day keep is plentiful, so plentiful, in fact, that on many farms there is not a sufficient stock to keep it down, and still the grass is growing. Of course, there are advantages in a wet season which we do not get in a dry one, but if we are to have an extreme either way commend us to the latter.

Compared to a season like last year it is inevitable that the corn harvest must be late, and though reaping is nowgeneral, there will be a good deal of corn cut in September this year. Of course, a week of unbroken sunshine would

make a lot of difference in the cereal harvest, but we have looked for this so long that we despair now of getting it; and even if we did, it would be unwise to hurry the corn from the field to the stack, because there is an abundance of straw in most cases which has been growing all summer and is sappy in consequence. To be in a hurry to stack this material would be risky, and it will have to stand long enough in the field to dry the moisture out of it.

Again, we are faced with reaping difficulties this year, for the storms experienced some weeks ago beat down the corn so flat in places where their influence was felt that it is practically impossible to do anything with the machine, and the cost of cutting will necessarily be increased. It is no good hanging back, however, for, though late, the corn harvest is here, and it must be set about in earnest. Fortunate are the farmers who have a good staff of able and willing hands to push on with the work, for the advantages of a competent labour staff are manifold in a catchy season.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 27.—Buxton and High Peak Horse Show—Cartmel Agricultural Show—Hawes Agricultural Show Agricultural Fairs at Preston, Lampeter, Spalding, Bromsgrove, and Hay—Maidstone Live Stock Sale—Preston Horse Sale—York Special Horse Sale, first day—Special Pedigree Horse Sale at Wymondham, Norfolk—Sending-in Day for the Beaufort Hunt Show.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28.—Warwickshire County Show at Rugby, first day—Derbyshire County Show at Derby, first day—Worsley Joint Agricultural and Horticultural Show—Builth Cattle Fair—Belper Horse Show—Guildford Agricultural Show—Saintfield Agricultural Fair—Shrewsbury Horse Fair—Colne Pig Fair—York Special Horse Sale, second day—Wolverhampton Horse Sale—Sending-in Day for the Peterborough Foal Show.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 29.—Warwickshire County Show at Rugby, second day—Derbyshire County Show at Derby, second day—Havant (South Hampshire) Horse Show—Castle Cary (East Somerset) Agricultural Show—Hope Valley (Sheffield District) Show—Chiltern Hills and Wendover District Agricultural Show at Halton Park—Brewood District (Staffordshire) Agricultural Show—Lsominster Agricultural Show—Melton Mowbray Horse Show—Windermere Agricultural Show.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30.—Chester Horse Fair—Strood Cattle and Sheep Fair—Watford Horse and Cattle Fair—Dorchester Great Sheep Fair, first day—Mansell's Special Sheep Sale at Shrewsbury—Price's Special Sale of 9,000 Lambs at Mold—Special Live Stock Sale at Yeovil—Sending-in Day for the Oswestry, Market Harborough, and Datchet Shows.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 31.—Weardale (West Durham) Agricultural Show at St. John's Chapel in Weardale—Settle and Ribblesdale Show at Settle—Dorchester Great Sheep Fair, second day—Special Live Stock Sale, Canterbury—Sending-in Day for the Craven and Skipton, Middleton and Teesdale, Ammanford, Otley, Ampleforth, Woodstock, Wolsingham, Thame, Templecombe, and Westmorland Shows.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2.—First London Market of a New Cereal Year; attendance usually important at Mark Lane, the Hop Exchange, &c.—Gillingham (Dorset) Agricultural Show—Dronfield Agricultural Show—Bedwelty District Show at Rhymney—Crossgates (Leeds District) Joint Agricultural and Horticultural Show—Agricultural Fairs at Tregony, Uttoxeter, Padstow, Aberystwith, Kettlewell, Welshpool, Crewe, Thurles, and Stamford—Partridge Shooting should begin this day, but (owing to scarcely any stubbles being cleared) it is likely that nearly all the chief parties will be postponed till the week beginning the 16th.

Notes of the Week.

The climate of England is usually described as "fickle." This is far too mild an epithet for this so-called summer. It has been downright bad!

Storms of wind and heavy rain beat down the ripening grain crops, and prevent the completion of the hay harvest.

The sensation of the week is the reported grave scandal connected with the import of pedigree cattle to the Argentine.

It is sought to implicate some British breeders, but before such a charge can be accepted full particulars must be awaited.

Many of the best English breeders have always been chary about the tuberculin test, and it would now appear with very good reason.

Royal assent has been given to the Butter and Margarine Act.

The housekeeper should be educated up to the fact that, when she pays 1s. per lb. for the milk-blended 24 per cent. water article, she is giving 3d. for water in it.

It has been suggested to us that milk-blended butter is like a hornless goat, because it must be a "bad butter."

The National Church of England is one of the largest landowners in the country. The Ecclesiastical Commissioners control 250,000 acres of agricultural land.

"The Commissioners will give to the English Small Holders' Bill their heartiest approval and support," said the Archbishop of Canterbury in the House of Lords' debate.

The rural depopulation problem seems to be as serious in parts of America as in England.

In the State of New York farm lands have fallen in value in the last twenty-five years 170,000,000 dols., and within the district there are 12,000 abandoned farms.

Another article for which housewives will have to pay more is honey, the present cold season being disastrous to the honey crop.

Nitrate of soda should be lower in price if it is true that thirty-two new companies have been organised in Chili for its production within the last eighteen months.

Another argument for the Peace Congress. The Hessian fly is said to have been introduced to this country and to America in the straw-bedding of Hessian troops.

The first agricultural research station was founded in Germany about fifty years ago in a small village.

To-day there are seventy agricultural stations scattered over Germany.

In America there are 678 similar institutions.

In this country we are a long way behind in such work. For one reason, English farming during the developing stages of agriculture was the best in the world, and there was thus less leaway to make up.

A little girl who had listened to a discussion of the nature fakers in literature, when asked to define the human and animal families, replied: "A brute is an imperfect beast; man is a perfect beast."—*Judge*, New York.

A striking feature of the present season has been the phenomenal growth of some of the crops. For instance, we have heard of oats growing to considerably over 6 ft., and now one of our readers informs us that he has some Hereford spring beans which have reached the extraordinary length of just over 8 ft.

Forthcoming Sheep Sales.

An important sale of Suffolk sheep will be held by Messrs. R. Bond and Sons, at Ipswich, on Friday, September 6, when 800 sheep from the most noted registered flocks will be sold. This is the last important sale of the season of this breed, and it includes a grand selection of rams suitable for pure breeding or crossing purposes. Catalogues may be obtained from the auctioneers, Old Bank House, Ipswich.

Mr. E. S. Hothersall has received instructions from Mr. R. R. Rothwell to sell at Fulwood Hall Farm, near Preston, on Friday, September 6, 70 head of choice young Large White Yorkshire pigs, the pick of this successful herd, including all the prize winners at the Royal, Bath and West, and other leading shows. Catalogues can be obtained from Mr. D. Collyer, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston, or Mr. J. Woollam, Fulwood Hall Farm, Preston, or the auctioneer, the Auction Mart, Preston.

The Birmingham Annual Shorthorn Show and Sale will take place at Bingley Hall, Birmingham, on Wednesday and Thursday, September 4 and 5, when Mr. W. H. Lythall will bring under the hammer 477 head of cattle entered by the most noted breeders. All the animals will be sold without any further reserve than entering them at not more than £21 each.

One thousand Irish store cattle will be sold by Mr. Gavin Low at 50, Prussia Street, Dublin, on Thursday next, the 29th inst., when a large number of Aberdeen-Angus crosses, Polly bullocks, Shorthorn bullocks, and heifers will be sold.

Messrs. Nock and Josland will hold their great annual sale of breeding and feeding sheep in Kidderminster Cattle Market on Friday, September 6. The entries on this occasion will surpass all previous records, and the 300 rams and ram lambs will include all the best breeds for crossing purposes, with entries from many prize-winning flocks at the Royal and other great shows. Shropshires will be sent from the old-established flocks of Messrs. Gerrard, Dee, and Berry, and also from the flock of Sir H. F. Grey. Oxfords from the noted flocks of Messrs. Jas. Horlick, W. A. Treweeke, J. Phipps Smith, and G. Corbishley will be offered. Hampshires from Messrs. A. C. Hall and A. Edwards will on this occasion be further augmented by large entries from Lord Rothschild and Mr. H. C. Stephens. Ryelands, which were introduced to this district for the first time in September last, and which have given great satisfaction amongst producers of fat lambs, will at this sale number 20 head from the noted flocks of Messrs. W. T. Barneby and W. H. Davies. A consignment of Border Leicesters from Cumberland will appear at this sale for the first time, whilst Kerry Hill rams will also be offered from Mr. M. Darlington. The 5,750 sheep and lambs will include an exceptionally fine lot of Shropshire, Oxford, Hampshire, Radnor, Kerry Hill, Clun and cross-bred ewes, and very large entries of store wethers and store lambs of the same breeds. There is an excellent train service to and from Kidderminster, and special trains will be despatched after the sale.

Lord Carrington, in a letter to the National Chamber of Trade, who had written him protesting against Clause 39 of the Small Holdings and Allotments Bill, says the Government are of opinion that the safeguards contained in the Bill are sufficient to obviate the possibility of the powers given for the encouragement of co-operative societies being used to the detriment of legitimate private enterprise. The Board of Agriculture would not fail to bear in mind the representations of the Chamber, and desired to see no injury done to the interests of private traders.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

*Advice of a Legal character is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "*Mark Lane Express,*" 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.*

Right of Seizure of Furniture.

Sir,—A is owner and farmer, B is a workman on A's farm, living in A's cottage so long as he is in A's service without paying rent; C is a furnishing company, who has let B have furniture on the hire purchase system. C, finding B behind in his payments, goes to the cottage without any order of the court, simply on the terms of the agreement that he may follow the hired goods, and threatens to take away the hired goods. A appears on the scene and requests C to immediately leave the cottage, as he says C has no right to come into any human habitation of his occupied by a person rendering him services on his farm, and from whom he receives no rent, A's point being that the law in such cases gives him the same power over the cottage as over the house A lives in, and in such case A believes C to be a trespasser, and has power to eject C until he can produce an order of the court. Is the position A has taken up a correct one as regards his rights appertaining to the cottage and C's disability in the circumstances? A, in C's presence, has advised B to pay C as soon as possible.—Yours, &c,

Yeoman Farmer.

*** I am of opinion that B is a tenant of A possibly only at will, but still a tenant, and rent is not necessarily a conducive factor, for service itself is sufficient. B therefore, having C's furniture is bound by any agreement which he has signed, so far as it is lawful. C can peacefully retake his goods from B's custody, for by the terms of the agreement a default having been made—they belong to C. I do not see the analogy between a servant in a house and a tenant in a separate habitation; it is, however, ingenious, and will probably serve A's purpose, which is to befriend B. I suppose it is not necessary to cross A's land to reach B, otherwise C could, by A's order, be turned off if found crossing the land.—

Barrister-at-Law.

HORSES.

Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

Colour.

AN old proverb is to the effect that a good horse cannot be a bad colour, and it is true, with limitations, like so many other proverbs. One scarcely hears it quoted seriously in these days—certainly not by the man who has a horse to sell to his possible customer. Yet time was when it was quite a common saying if a customer took exception to a white marking or to anything in the colour of a horse. I remember a cob a relative of mine had. He was quite one of the right sort, a fine mover, and perhaps as good a hack as ever man crossed. In colour he was black, clear of white save for a broad blaze down his face, and he had a wall eye! Otherwise he was a very good-looking, even a handsome horse. For some reason my relative wanted to sell him, and a customer came who objected to his colour. The painters were at work painting the stables, and pointing to the paint-pots my relative said: "There is plenty of choice of colour there; paint h'm green, if you like, after you have bought him!"

When the Proverb holds good.

THE proverb holds good, in my opinion, only with racehorses and Hunters, and even with them it does not invariably hold good. However, I think we may fairly assume that if a horse is fast and stout as a racehorse or a Hunter, it does not matter much what his colour is. I once declined to buy a Hunter on account of his colour, and I regretted it ever after. The horse in question was a dark iron-grey—almost black. Indeed, at a distance he looked black, and his mane and tail were silver. He galloped and he jumped so well that I bid for him, but would not give the price which his owner had consented to take. There was some £15 between us, and I left him. My argument was, "here is a conspicuous horse; if he does anything wrong or cannot live through a run, everyone will know." The horse was sold some two months after I left him for £80 more than I was asked for him. He went into Leicestershire, and within a month he was sold for £100 profit. My argument worked both ways. He was a brilliant performer, and his conspicuous colour caused his brilliant performances to be talked about. "Did you see that queer coloured one of X's jump the rails or the brook?" was a question of frequent recurrence every week. There is, however, one bad colour, and a very bad one it is, for either Hunter or racehorse, and that is a washy chesnut. I never knew one that could stand the pinch. They go freely and well for so long, and then shut up like a knife. It is true that I have known horses of this colour carry a man well, and go through a run frequently enough, but when the little extra exertion was required they were found wanting. I have also generally found horses of this colour nervous, irritable, and deficient in courage.

Taste.

IT may be said with some amount of justice that colour after all is but a matter of taste—of inclination—or of fashion. To a certain extent this is true, but I question whether it is altogether true. Our ancestors thought and said that colour had a great deal to do with temper and temperament, and though much that they had to say on the subject may and does appear pedantic, they were fine horsemen and knew a great deal about horses, as a perusal of their many books shows. Of late a considerable amount of attention has been paid to colour. The general conclusion, so far as the light-legged breeds is concerned, is that bays show the purest descent. I think it may be fairly presumed that all our light horses trace back more or less to the Arab, and it is admitted that the Arab which has the purest descent is a bay. So that some recognition of the fact may have to do with the preference which many have for bays and which at one time was even more marked than it is now.

Individual Preferences.

INDIVIDUAL preferences which some people show for a certain colour has of course no foundation in the particular virtues said to exist or not to exist in horses of a certain colour. They are, however, very interesting, and dealers like these preferences, as they tend to enhance the price of certain colours. Lord Lonsdale, it should scarcely be necessary to say, has so strong a predilection for chesnuts, that he and his hunt servants ride nothing else. The late Mr. Merthyr Guest would have nothing else but greys when he hunted the Blackmore Vale. Sir Reginald Graham, too, when he hunted the Harworth, mounted his men on greys, and rode nothing else himself. There is a considerable amount of personal fancy in the colour of harness horses also. The late Sir Joseph Pease and his father and other members of the Pease family were famous for their black browns. Lord Lonsdale, as is instanced by his late purchase of Cherry Boy and Cherry Girl, and the late Admiral Chaloner preferred white. But bay is the colour which is the most generally preferred, and though this preference is no proof, it affords strong presumptive evidence that bays are the hardest.

The Early Prevalence of Greys.

ANYONE who takes the trouble to look carefully through the early volumes of the *Racing Calendar* and "General Stud Book" cannot fail to be struck with the immense number of grey horses which appear. It is not worth while going into details—he who runs may read. But the greys have gradually been disappearing, and there are at the present time very few grey horses at the stud in England. Perhaps the reason for this is that, as Sir Walter Gilbey has pointed out in his recent book, "Horses: Breeding to Colour"—a book which will well repay perusal—experience teaches us that to produce a grey it is imperative that either sire or dam should be of that colour, and as of late years we have had no great horse of the colour, it is only to be expected that greys would decrease in number.

Colour amongst Arabs.

THE proportion of colours amongst the Anazah tribe is given by Professor Ridgway as 35 per cent., bay, 30 per cent. grey, 15 per cent. chesnut, and 20 per cent. brown or black. "Roans, pie, balds, duns, and yellows," says he, "are not found among the pure bred Arabians, though the two last are occasionally among Barbs." What strikes one as very curious is the small proportion of chesnuts. Amongst English horses, whether Thoroughbreds, Hunters, or Hackneys, chesnuts have increased to a very great extent, but I think amongst Hackneys, at any rate, the gaudily marked chesnut is not so much in evidence as he was. He is still numerous enough, but attention has been emphatically drawn to the fact that gaudily marked chesnuts are not easy to sell, and the consequence has been that breeders have been more particular about colour.



Mrs. Hartley Batt and her famous Harness Gelding, Heathfield Squire, winner of numerous prizes. The photograph from which the above illustration was reproduced was taken at the Sussex County Agricultural Society's recent Show at Hastings, where Heathfield Squire added another First Prize to its credit.

Colour Pedigree.

A SYSTEMATIC attempt to breed to colour, save with pure breeds such as the Cleveland Bay or Yorkshire Coach horse, was not possible, except, of course, with the Thoroughbred, who was not likely to be bred on the colour lines, till the publication of the Stud Books of the various Breed Societies. To this in a great measure must the fact that so many horses of bad colour have been bred be attributed. To breed to colour there should be several ancestors on each

side of the colour desired. For instance, if a bay is desired there should be seven or eight ancestors on the sire's side of that colour, and at least three or four on the dam's side. It was impossible to be certain about this when there was no stud book registration. The whole question of colour is very interesting, and I may return to it on some future occasion.

Differing from the Judges.

NOT very long ago I heard an exhibitor exclaiming rather bitterly at the treatment he had received at the hands of the judges. He thought he had been very hardly used, and having once begun to talk on the subject expressed himself rather freely. He did not know what they saw in the winner, &c , and his was the best horse, &c. When he finished an old exhibitor said quietly: "Don't blame the judges, show better horses if you want to win in such company." This provoked a challenge to examine his horse, which was at once accepted. And a really good horse he is, such as any man would be glad to give a lot of money for. He has beautiful action and fine manners, he moves well in all his paces, and has quality, substance, and pace. We looked him carefully over, and the old exhibitor was spokesman. Said he to the owner, pointing out a trifling fault in the horse's conformation, "I suppose you did not notice that when you bought him." "Yes, I did," replied the owner, "and told the man I bought him of about it too, but what of that, he is no worse for it." The same thing was said about other two or three little faults, and the same reply given. Then, said the old hand, "Here are given quite sufficient reasons for your horse occupying the position he did. You knew your horse to be a good one, the judges did not; and they were right in putting a horse back that had the faults I have pointed out. Whilst they do not interfere in the least with a horse's utility, they are to a certain extent eyesores; at any rate a high-class show horse should be without them." The owner was silenced, but perhaps not convinced. Now I wonder how many of those who grumble at the judges are in the same position as my friend!

THE LOOKER ON.

Departure of Mr. Armour's Grey Team.

After having been exhibited fifty-five times in this country and travelled something like 2,000 miles during their 124 days' stay here, Mr. Ogden Armour's famous team of dapple grey horses sailed from Tilbury on the 17th inst. on their return journey to America. With them went two grey Shire horses which Mr. Armour has bought in England to add to his stud of 2,000 heavy greys in Chicago, and the story of this purchase is interesting. Mr. Armour fancies grey horses above all others, and his stud manager, Mr. Hodgkinson, has experienced great difficulty in obtaining even two animals to his liking.

Mr. Hodgkinson told a Press representative that the purchase of Shires had not only been made in the spirit of reciprocity for the excellent reception accorded the team of percherons in England, but also because Mr. Armour desires to experiment with the true British Shire.

"I advertised widely for tip-top animals," he said, "and I received about fifty replies. Of course, I wanted more than a couple of horses. I might have taken a score if I had found as many really good ones. But after travelling hundreds of miles up and down the country, inspecting draught greys of all conditions and ages, I could only find four to please me, and two of these were not perfectly sound.

"However, I think the two I have chosen are the two most promising grey Shires of their age in this country. One of them is the Hon. W. F. D. Smith's Grey Lord, a five-year-old, which has been exhibited four times, and placed first on each occasion. I consider Grey Lord good enough to go into the lead when the team competes in Chicago next December for the international championship, and I shall place him there.

"The other horse, is, I firmly believe, the most promising four-year-old in England. I bought him from Mr. T. Simpson, at Market Drayton. He had been working on a farm, and I have christened him Hodge."

It is not generally known that the visit of the Armour greys to this country was arranged at the suggestion of Mr. Edmund Beck, the manager of the King's horses. His Majesty exhibited Shire horses at Chicago last year, and Mr. Armour's team beat the Royal animals. Mr. Beck then promised Mr. Armour a good reception for his greys if he would send them to England, and the promise was certainly fulfilled.

Mr. George Harrison, Gainford Hall, Darlington, has shipped a ram lamb to Esbjerg, Denmark, from his pure-bred Leicester flock, No. 42 in the Flock Book of the Leicester Sheep Breeders' Association. This is the third ram lamb sold to the same purchaser and destination.

SHEEP.

SALES AND FAIRS.

Carlisle.

Special sales of lambs were held at the two Carlisle auction marts on the 17th inst., Messrs. Harrison having almost 3,000 and Hetherington's Auction Company almost 1,000 forward. Buyers were numerous, and included a good many representatives from the South and Midlands. At Harrison's Mart trade showed a distinct improvement on that of the last sale, and a good clearance was early effected, while at Hetherington's Mart bidding was scarcely as brisk as at the previous sale. At Messrs. Harrison's Mart the prices ruled as follows:—Lambs: Half and three-quarter breds to 29s. 6d., Oxford crosses to 32s. 6d., Leicester crosses to 25s. 6d., Cheviots to 22s. 6d., Black-faced lambs to 15s. Sheep: Half-bred hoggs to 40s. 6d., Black-faced wethers to 26s. 3d. At Hetherington's Mart the chief prices were:—Lambs: Half-breds to 25s. 6d., Leicester crosses to 21s., Cheviots to 16s. 3d., Black-faced to 18s. 9d., cross shearlings to 40s. 9d., Cheviots to 31s., Black-faced ewes to 24s.

Ipswich.

Ipswich Lamb Fair took place on Thursday, when the entries were not so numerous as last year, but quality was well maintained, and with a large attendance of buyers trade was brisk, and some good prices were realised.

Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons had a large sale, the number penned for disposal by this firm being about 1,500. Ewes and lambs were taken first. Sir Thos. V. Gooch, Bart., Benacre Hall, and Mr. Kenneth M. Clark sent a number of Southdowns. Full mouthed ewes belonging to the former gentleman made up to 38s. 6d., while three lots of a score Southdown shearling ewes from Sudbourne Hall went at 49s, 48s., and 47s. 6d.

Mr. C. Strutt's two-shear Suffolk ewes sold freely, 30 two-shear going at 60s., 20 at 53s. 6d., and a similar number of three sheer at 57s. 6d. Mr. Chas. Wenden, Great Bromley, consigned 40 shearling ewes (maiden), and, sold in scores, made 70s. and 62s. 6d. respective'y. Sixty first-cross ewe lambs, belonging to Mr. D. Howard, West Bergholt, made 43s.; two scores of half-bred shearling ewes, sent by Mr. W. Wilson, Belstead Hall, went at 65s., whilst Mr. E. J. Lavender's 80 half-bred shearling ewes realised 62s., 61s. 6d., and 61s. These were the principal prices for lambs, the chief ram sales being as follows:—

There was a fair demand for Suffolk rams, one belonging to Mr. Arthur H. Stanford, by Dedham Premier 2nd, making 12 guineas, whilst Mr. W. F. Paul obtained 8 guineas, 7½ guineas, and 6 guineas, &c., but rams other than Suffolks formed the chief feature of the sale, especially perhaps with Lincolns. Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons, Heath House, Nocton, had a grand collection of Lincoln shearling rams. One fetched 15 guineas, another 14½ guineas, and others went at 14 guineas, 13 guineas, 12½ guineas, and 10½ guineas, and three at 11 guineas, while their ram lambs also sold briskly, one going at 13 guineas, another 12½ guineas, and others up to 11 guineas. Mr. William Wilson, Belstead Hall, had a particularly choice collection of forty first-cross lambs by Lincoln rams and Suffolk ewes, one of which made 9 guineas, three 8½ guineas, and others from 6 guineas to 8 guineas, whilst Mr. John White, Ham Court Farm, Brampton, consigned fifteen Oxford Down ram lambs, which made up to 7 guineas.

Messrs. Spurlings and Hempson penned about 1,400 ewes, lambs, and rams, for which there was a very sharp demand at good prices. The top price for ewes was 75s. for 40 black-faced shearlings, sent by Mr. Thomas Moy (Stanway); other consignors of black-faced shearling ewes obtaining up to 72s.; the Southdown shearling ewes made up to 57s.; Suffolk ewe lambs to 46s., and first-cross ewe lambs to 46s. 6d., whilst Southdown rams and ram lambs realised up to 6½ guineas.

Lockerbie.

Messrs. Harrison's second special sales of Cheviot and blackfaced wether lambs at Lockerbie took place on Thursday, when the consignments numbered 5,500. There was a large attendance of Cumberland, South of England, and Scottish buyers. A good trade resulted, and prices generally were 1s. to 2s. in advance of the first sale a fortnight ago. Most of the lots realised prices equal to last year's sale, or within 1s. The top price for Cheviots was 20s. 6d., paid by Mr. Hope Rigg, Gretna, for Corriesland tops. For Blackfaced Shorthope, Ettrick tops were the highest, the first lot being consigned to Mr. Dickson, Castle Sowerby, at 18s., while the second lot was secured by Mr. Beattie, Baurch, for 17s. 3d.

Lydford.

There was a large attendance at Lydford Sheep Fair on Thursday. There was a large number of sheep from the Moors and farms around, over 900 being offered, as against 800 last year. There was a good demand at the following prices:—Ewes from 40s to 47s, and ewe and wether lambs 25s to 35s. Mr. J. W. Spear sent in seven or eight Hampshire Down ram lambs, which made up to 3½ guineas.

Marquis of Winchester's Hampshires.

The sale of the Marquis of Winchester's registered ram breeding Hampshire Down flock took place upon the premises at Fox Farm, Amport, on Monday, a numerous company of breeders from the home and distant counties being present. After a capital luncheon business commenced with the ram lambs and one shearling, 36 of which were sold at from 4 guineas to 20 guineas, or an average of £6 10s., the principal buyers being Messrs. J. G. Kerr, Beeton, Homer, Canning (for Mr. C. Morrison), Gauntlett, Cole, Dowling, Barrett Bragg, F. May (for the Earl of Abingdon, Rawlins, &c.; these were followed by the ewes, of which 280 two-teeths made from £3 8s. to £5 10s., average £3 19s. 250 four-teeth ewes made from £3 6s. to £4 16s., average £3 10s. 6d.; and 140 six-teeth ewes made from £3 4s. to £5 6s., average £3 13s. 120 full-mouth ewes made from £2 18s. to £5, average £3 5s. 6d.; and 950 ewe lambs made from £2 9s. to £4 10s, average £2 17s. 6d.; whilst two pens of 6 fat wether lambs made 68s. and 57s. respectively, the average of 1,088 head all told being the excellent one of £3 11s. 6d.

Mr. R. Dixon's Lincoln Longwools.

Nearly eighty rams as well as twenty-four ewes were brought under the hammer at the sale of Lincoln Longwools belonging to Mr. Robert Dixon, of Brandesburton, Barff, and their high-class breeding secured for them a ready sale at good prices, the average per head for seventy-nine shearling rams being the good one of £15 6s. 5d. Top price was 45 guineas, given by Mr. Ward; whilst Mr. W. B. Sallow ran him pretty closely, he giving 42 guineas for another typical specimen. Mr. J. B. Bainton bought at 36 guineas, Mr. R. Fisher at 35 guineas, Mr. R. Aves at 30 guineas, and others at prices ranging up to 25 guineas; in fact, only four of the rams sold at less than 10 guineas. The shearling ewes made up to 5 guineas, and averaged £4 16s. 3d. for 24, the grand total of the sale being no less than £1,325 12s. 6d.

Rothbury.

Five thousand half-bred ewe lambs and 5,000 half-bred wether lambs (Leicester and Cheviot cross) were offered for sale at Rothbury on Thursday, they being consigned from some of the best stocks in the country. There was a large company of buyers from all over the county and from the south, and bidding was brisk throughout, but there was a drop in prices as compared with last year. The highest price for half-bred ewe lambs was made by a lot from Snipe House, which brought 38s.; Soppitt came second with 37s. 6d. A lot from Thorneyhaugh made 37s. The top price for half-bred wether lambs was realised by a consignment from Soppitt, which realised 35s. 6d., Brunton Packs coming next at 32s. 6d.

The Whiston Hall Shropshires.

The annual sale of Shropshire sheep belonging to Mr. Matthew Williams, of Whiston Hall, Albrighton, Shifnal, took place on Tuesday, and, as usual, attracted a large company of breeders, the animals offered being of the highest quality. Bidding was brisk, and the 35 shearling rams as well as 45 shearling ewes were disposed of at satisfactory figures. The prices and purchasers were as follows:—Shearling rams: 21 guineas, Mr. Williams, Scotland; 23 guineas, Mr. Hughes, South America; 19 guineas, Colonel Wordsley-Worswick; 20 guineas, Sir Walter O. Corbet, Bt.; 17 guineas, Duke of Grafton; 20 guineas, Stretton Farming Company; 18 guineas, Colonel Phillipson; 14 guineas, Mr. Rose; 7 guineas, Mr. Banton; 17 guineas, Mr. Mapp; 9 guineas, Colonel the Right Hon. W. S. Kenyon-Slaney, M.P.; 12 guineas, Mr. Griffiths; 9 guineas, Colonel Kenyon-Slaney; 15 guineas, Mr. Ward, Golding; 9 guineas, Lord Bradford; 8 guineas, Mr. Roberts; 9 guineas, Mr. Foster; 8 guineas, Mr. Templemore; 7 guineas, Mr. Weaver; 6 guineas, Colonel Wordsley-Worswick; 8 guineas, Mr. Thomson, Shifnal; 6 guineas, Mr. Walling; 7 guineas, Mr. Pryce; 6 guineas, Mr. Adams; 7 guineas, Mr. Taylor; 6 guineas, Mr. Chapman; 5½ guineas, Mr. Chapman; 6½ guineas, Colonel Kenyon-Slaney; 6 guineas, Mr. Stirling, Cosford; 5½ guineas, Mr. Charles Austin; 7 guineas, Mr. Walling; 5½ guineas, Mr. Walter Head; 6 guineas, Mr. Booth; 5½ guineas, Mr. Austin. Shearling ewes (in pens of five): 95s. each, Mr. Miller; 85s., Mr. Meredith; 85s., Major Sykes; 72s. 6d., Mr. E. Nock; 70s., Mr. R. H. Gwynne; 62s. 6d., Mr. Roberts; 65s.,

Major Sykes ; 60s., Mr. Minton ; 57s. 6d. Colonel Kenyon-Slaney.

Thornhill.

The Nithsdale Auction Company held a special sale of Cheviot black-faced and cross lambs at Thornhill on the 17th inst., when 9,000 were disposed of. There was a large attendance of buyers from the North of England and South of Scotland. Prices showed a decided drop compared with last year, the average decrease being 3s. 6d. to 4s. 6d. per head. Cheviot wether lambs made up to 15s. 6d., cross lambs to 32s., black-faced wether lambs to 19s. 3d., and half-bred lambs to 27s.

The Goodnestone Park Southdowns.

Messrs. Stride and Son, of Chichester, sold on behalf of Mr. H. Fitzwalter Plumptre the entire register Southdown flock which had been running upon the farms in hand, in consequence of the whole of them having been let. In addition to this prime lot of sheep there were also included in the sale the regular draft ewes, the surplus yearling ewes, and the rams and ram lambs from the Home Farm flock, making in all the large total of 1,230 head. Although there were not notably high prices realised, the sale taken as a whole was a satisfactory one, particularly so when it be remembered that there are but very few Southdown flocks kept in the district, in which we may mention, judging from the fine sheep included in the sale, it is very apparent that they thrive and do well.

Mr. Stewart, of Ardingly, took many of the best lots. Amongst the yearlings and ewes he bought in lots of fives at 90s., 84s., and 78s. Mr. Cobb, from Watford, gave 80s. and 63s. Mr. A. M. Singer, from Sussex, 80s., 71s., 63s., 62s., &c. Mr. C. J. Fletcher, Dale Park, Chichester, 73s, 67s, 60s., 78s., 70s., 68s., 64s., &c. The Wye College gave 71s. and 59s. Mr. C. Petley, 66s. and 63s. The Hon. R. P. Nevill, 58s , &c.

Amongst the four-tooth ewes there were some of grand type. Mr. Stewart got three lots of five of this description at £6 per head, Lord Northbourne one lot at 80s. Mr. Fletcher gave 60s., &c., Mr. King 60s., the Wye College 61s. For the six-tooth ewes ; Mr. C. J. Fletcher's agent gave 90s., 67s. twice, 60s., and took five other lots at from 57s. to 54s. ; the Wye College gave 58s. ; as did also Mr. A. M. Singer, who also gave 55s. The full-mouth ewes ranged from 68s. to Mr. C. J. Fletcher, 67s. to Lord Northbourne, 61s., 60s., and 58s. to Mr. Robinson, of Lewes ; Col. Hammond gave 56s., 55s. twice, and 54s., &c.

The top figure for ewe lambs, one lot of ten making this price to Mr. Cobb, and two other similar lots to Mr. C. J. Fletcher, who also took two other lots at 39s. ; the remainder ranged down to the price given in the summary. The wether lambs in lots of twenty-five made from 37s. 6d. to 30s. 6d. The yearling rams sold at satisfactory rates, Lord Portman purchasing at 19 guineas, 14 guineas, 11 guineas, 10½ guineas, 7½ guineas, and 7 guineas, Mr. Cobb at 10 guineas. For the stud rams prices ruled low, Lord Portman getting the full-mouthed ram, Woolverstone Duke 2nd, at 4½ guineas, and the others made from 5 to 7 guineas. The ram lambs were not wanted. Lieut.-Col. Hammond gave the top price, £6 6s., three others, two of them to the Hon. R. P. Nevill, making £3 3s. each, and sixteen others went to Mr. Jones, for Wales, at 2½ guineas each.

The range of prices and averages are shown in the following table :—

Description.	Number sold.	Top price. £ s. d.	Bottom price. £ s. d.	Average. £ s. d.
Shearling ewes	241	4 10 0	2 12 0	3 3 2
Four-tooth ewes....	98	6 0 0	2 11 0	3 7 0
Six-tooth ewes	129	4 10 0	2 11 0	2 16 9
Full mouth ewes ..	182	3 8 0	2 6 0	2 14 7
Ewe lambs	340	2 3 0	1 10 0	1 14 10
Stud rams	4	7 7 0	4 14 6	5 18 1
Shearling rams	22	19 19 0	5 5 0	8 14 8
Ram lambs	26	6 6 0	2 12 6	2 19 4
Total breeding sheep	1002			2 14 11
Wether lambs.....	230	1 17 6	1 10 6	1 14 5
General average....	1232			2 11 0

Sir P. A. Muntz's Shropshire.

The annual sale from the Dunsmore flock of Shropshire sheep belonging to Sir P. A. Muntz, Bart., M.P., took place on Wednesday, the catalogue comprising forty-two rams and fifty shearling ewes, all splendidly bred. Thirty-six rams were sold at an average of £11 3s. apiece. Captain Townshend paid 32 guineas for a shearling that had done well in the show ring, and about fifteen animals were knocked down to Mr. Wood for exportation to South America. The shearling ewes were a particularly nice lot, the best making up to 77s. 6d. each.

Speaking at the luncheon, Sir Albert Muntz said agriculturists would have to take care that they had an opportunity to exist in the future. There were people going about who would adopt the doctrines of small holdings and allotments which would do no good to anybody—certainly no good to the farmer or landowner, or to the person they wanted to benefit. They might rely upon it if they could not make a profit out of a farm of reasonable size, farmed on right lines, they could not make a profit out of small holdings and allotments and gardens. What would restore prosperity to agriculture was the raising of the value of the products of agriculture. By doing this they would enable the farmer to employ more labour, and to pay a higher rate of wages. A man could not pay a higher rate of wages if he was earning barely enough to keep himself. The practical way of dealing with the parrot cry, "Back to the land," would be to show the labourer it was worth his while to go back. If they could show that the products of the land would obtain a remunerative price he would go back, but not without. No number of gardens or allotments would take him back.

Marlborough.

About 17,000 sheep were penned at Marlborough sheep fair, which was held in fine weather on Thursday. The exceptionally good prospects of keep all round led to a keen demand for all classes of sheep, and there was a further advance upon the rates obtained at Britford fair. It was, in fact, one of the best selling fairs ever known, and a large amount of business was done at from 1s. to 2s. a head above the highest recent quotations. There was more competition than usual for the prizes offered by the Fair Committee. Mr. W. B. Gauntlett, of Collingbourne Kingston, secured Sir George Judd's first prize for 100 full-mouth ewes, which were sold by auction at 63s, others from the same vendor going at 59s. 6d. to 55s. ; the second prize being taken by Mr. W. S. Cleverly, of Tilshead. Mr. Thomas Lavington's prize for 100 wether lambs was taken by Mr. Sam Darling, of Beckhampton, with an exceptionally good pen, which, sold in fifties, went at 58s. to 53s. 6d. Mrs. F. E. Longheed Baskin, of Wexcombe, came second in this class.

The prize given by Mr. T. Lavington for chilver lambs was awarded to Mr. N. R. R. Young, of Winterbourne Monkton, for a very matching 100. Most of the sheep passed under the hammer, Mr. T. Lavington's catalogue comprising 12,500, for which a quick trade was experienced. Mr. Lavington also held a sale of ram lambs from the flocks of Mr. Sam Darling, of Beckhampton ; Sir George Judd, of Cocum ; and Mr. H. C. Stephens, of Cholderton ; whilst Messrs. Waters and Rawlence, of Salisbury, sold 85 ram lambs at satisfactory prices.

SHEEP NOTES AND JOTTINGS.

OBSERVATION, as one travels about the country, shows that a very considerable number of the lambs are not doing so well as could be wished. It is very evident that despite the abundance of food, in the shape of the luxuriant growth of clover, seeds, &c,, that the absence of dry weather and warm sunshine has prevented this large supply of food from being of its full value. The laxative character of the food is also detrimental to the well-doing of the sheep, particularly the young lambs, and flockmasters will be well advised in giving some additional dry food to all their lambs if they be intended for stock purposes, or to be fed on for the market.

IT is a very pleasing feature to notice how well planted nearly every field of roots is this season Everything points to a full supply on the part of the root crop so far as regards the plant and size and weight per acre, but what is wanted to bring this great crop to perfection is some warm and dryer weather.

IT is necessary for flockmasters to pay particular attention to their sheep's feet during such a season as we are experiencing. Neglect to keep the hoof well pared will lead to trouble in the near future ; therefore, all who are owners of sheep are recommended, if they have not already done so, to have their sheep's feet well pared and got into proper shape as soon as possible.

THE making up of the flock is an important work, and flockmasters will be well advised to see that none other than thoroughly sound and healthy sheep are put into the flock. Of course, in the case of ram-breeding flocks, there may be reasons which are perfectly sound that induce the owner to retain in the flock over-aged ewes, but in flocks that are kept for ordinary commercial purposes it is a sound practice not to retain the ewes any longer than the third lamb.

OF course these three-lambed ewes, as they are termed in certain parts of the country, are by no means used out ; they are fully able and capable of rearing up one if not more crops of lambs, but these should be reared in flocks where they are generally fed off with their dam.

IN selecting the ewes for mating, flockmasters are recommended to divide their flocks into separate lots for each sire, draw the ewes as uniform as possible, and then select the sire that will most nearly match them.

A PRACTICE which is much to be deprecated is that which is followed by far too many flockmasters at the present time—*i.e.*, running the whole flock together and turning therein three or four, or even more rams. It is true this system saves trouble, but it results in many ways unsatisfactorily.

THE division of a flock into certain sections, to be mated by each ram, enables the flock owner to get greater service from such rams. It enables him to breed better and more uniform lambs, and it also enables him to know and to record the sire of such lambs, both male and female.

RECENT experience in connection with the export trade convinces the writer that those who desire to participate in this trade for ewes must in the future be prepared to give the sire of such ewes at least. One or two recent orders of considerable size, for the purchase of ewes, have been received by a well-known agent from clients in South America, who have stipulated that the above-mentioned condition must be complied with, and it is evident from information received from South America that both the Argentine Government and the Uruguayan Government are taking steps to prepare for this qualification being required of all those who import sheep for stud purposes.

IN a contemporary we notice that a remark was made in reference to the exhibition of sheep, and it was therein stated that exhibited sheep were dyed to a yellow hue. The writer, evidently an amateur, refers to the practice which many flockowners have, of colouring their sheep when sent to the different shows.

THIS question has been discussed more than once by the National Sheep Breeders' Association and those who have had the opportunity of listening to the discussion and hearing the opinions expressed, inform me that nearly every speaker had some idea of his own upon the question, and that there is no chance of a uniform decision being arrived at, although all breeders agreed that an excessive use of colouring matter was to be deprecated.

UNQUESTIONABLY those who use colouring matter to excess are gradually, but surely, becoming a very small minority, for a reference to our notes made in respect to this matter for several years past discloses a marked diminution in the excessive use of colouring.

AS to any breed society making regulations that would prohibit sheep that were coloured from being exhibited. This would, we consider, be an infringement of the liberty of the subject, and one that should not be allowed ; and the reason why this decision had been arrived at is that it should be open to the breeder of every class of stock, not only sheep, but horses, cattle, pigs, &c., to exhibit such stock in that condition, &c., as will, in his opinion as a practical breeder, best show its merits and qualities to those who attend our shows.

IT is all very well for faddists to have their particular ideas, but so far as our knowledge goes, the governing bodies of the whole of our live stock societies and also of the agricultural societies are, generally speaking, practically men thoroughly conversant with their business, and consequently well able to draw up such rules and regulations as shall be able to secure the exhibition of live stock under the best and most favourable conditions.

A REFERENCE to the conditions in which sheep are exhibited reminds the writer that there is still a remnant of those conditions—which prevented the exhibitor from bringing out his sheep in that form which he as a practical breeder considered best — left in many of the prize schedules—*i.e.*, that one which refers to a fixed date upon which all sheep must be shorn bare.

THE continuance of this condition is, the writer thinks, useless, and the sooner it is done away with the better, for there can be no question but that many of those who prepare sheep for exhibition take little or no heed thereto. That this is so can readily be proved by any who have taken the trouble to examine the length of wool found upon show sheep at the early shows, and the length of wool found upon the same sheep at the later shows, and it will be a surprise to many to find how little the wool has grown during that period, and how rapidly it grew previously to the first show, if the sheep had been shorn absolutely bare after the date generally given in the prize schedule.

AUCTION SALES.

Auctioneers will favour us by sending in their advertisements as early in the week as possible. Charges for announcements under this heading Six Shillings an inch.

By Messrs. IRELAND.

Norwich, Norfolk.—Ireland's Norwich Hill Auction Mart (established 50 years). Every Saturday. Fat Bullocks and Sheep, Store Sheep. Special Spring and Autumn Store Cattle Sales.

MESSRS. IRELAND solicit consignments for these important weekly sales; best market value assured.

Cattle consigned to Ireland's, Norwich, will be properly fed and carefully attended to.

All cattle weighed upon entry to the sale ring if desired. Full particulars to be sent to—

IRELAND'S, Auctioneers.
Norwich, Norfolk.

By Messrs. JACKSON & McCARTNEY.

THE LARGEST EWE SALE IN ENGLAND.
CRAVEN ARMS, SHROPSHIRE.

MESSRS. JACKSON & McCARTNEY will hold their 33rd ANNUAL SALE of
16,000
Shropshire Down, Clun Forest, Kerry Hill, Radnor Forest and Longmynd, Stock Ewes, &c., composed of
4,530 Pure-Bred Shropshire Down Ewes.
9,400 Clun Forest, Radnor Forest, Kerry Hill, Longmynd, and Improved Cross-bred Ewes.
2,000 Yearling Wether Lambs.
70 Shropshire Down, Oxford Down, Kerry Hill, and Longmynd Rams.
On THURSDAY, 29th AUGUST, 1907.
Commencing at 10 o'clock prompt.

These Ewes are drawn from the leading Flocks in Shropshire, Radnorshire, Herefordshire, and Montgomeryshire.

TERMS CASH.—All Cheques require a Banker's guarantee.

Catalogues on application to the AUCTIONEERS, Craven Arms, Shropshire.

By Mr. W. H. LYTHALL.

BIRMINGHAM AUTUMNAL SHORTHORN SHOW AND SALE.
THE SIXTY-SECOND GREAT SHOW & SALE
Will be held at
BINGLEY HALL, BIRMINGHAM,
On WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY, SEPT. 4 & 5.

477 Head of highly-descended COWS, HEIFERS and BULLS, including many prize-winners, are entered from the most noted Breeders, and will be SOLD BY AUCTION, by

MR. W. H. LYTHALL, without any further reserve than entering them at not more than £21 each.

Judging at 8.30 o'clock on Wednesday.
Sale at 10.30 o'clock each day.
Admission 1s. Catalogues, 7d., free by post.

W. H. LYTHALL,
Secretary.

By Mr. E. S. HOTHERSALL.

FULWOOD HERD OF
LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRE PIGS.
IMPORTANT SALE!

MR. E. S. HOTHERSALL, AUCTION MART, PRESTON, has received instructions from R. R. ROTHWELL, Esq., to SELL, at FULWOOD HALL FARM, near PRESTON, on FRIDAY, SEPT. 6 (day after Sir G. Greenall, Bart.'s sale), at 1 p.m., over 70 HEAD of choice young BOARS and GILTS, the pick of this successful prize-winning herd, including all the winners at the Royal, Bath & West, and other leading Shows.

Catalogues from D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston; J. WOOLLAM, Fulwood Hall Farm, Preston, or of the AUCTIONEER.

By Messrs. R. BOND & SONS.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.
IMPORTANT SALE OF SUFFOLK SHEEP.
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, at 11 a.m.

ROBERT BOND & SONS will SELL BY AUCTION, near the Station,
300 Grand SUFFOLK RAM LAMBS and SHEARLING RAMS from the most noted Registered Flocks.
500 Superior SUFFOLK SHEARLING and older EWES from Registered Flocks.

NOTICE.—This is the last Important Sale of the season, which includes a grand selection of Rams, suitable for Pure Breeding or Crossing Purposes.

Catalogues on application to the AUCTIONEERS, Old Bank House Ipswich. Commissions executed.

By Messrs. JOHN THORNTON & CO.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5.—The Duchess of Devonshire's DEXTERS, at Compton Place, Eastbourne.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13.—About 100 SHORTHORNS, at Chipping Norton Junction, Oxfordshire.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18.—Mr. W. Arkell's SHORTHORNS, at Kempsford, Fairford, Glos.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18.—The Hon. Mrs. Howard's JERSEY CATTLE, BERKSHIRE PIGS, and SOUTHDOWN SHEEP, at Dutchlands, Great Missenden, Bucks.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20.—About fifty first-class SHORTHORNS, the property of Joseph Harris, Esq., at Brackenburgh Tower, Carlisle.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24.—Mr. R. Bruce Ward's JERSEYS, at Westwood Park, Droitwich, Worcestershire.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26.—Mr. J. A. Preece's SHORTHORNS, at Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27.—Mr. F. J. Steward's SHORTHORNS, at Whitehall Farm, Brigstock, Thrapston.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON & Co., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

By Messrs. STRIDE & SON.

SINGLETON, CHARLTON, EAST DEAN, DROKE AND NEW HOUSE FARMS,
ON THE GOODWOOD ESTATE,
CHICHESTER, SUSSEX.
(About ¾ mile from Singleton and 5 miles from Chichester Stations, L.B. and S.C. Railway).

HIGHLY IMPORTANT SALE OF HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND GORDON'S PURE-BRED SOUTHDOWN HILL FLOCKS.

MESSRS. STRIDE AND SON beg to announce that they are in receipt of instructions from His Grace the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, K.G. (the farms being let), to Sell by Auction, at the MANOR FARM, SINGLETON, on
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5 next,
THE WHOLE OF THE PURE-BRED SOUTHDOWN HILL FLOCKS, comprising about:

2,200 SOUTHDOWN SHEEP, in regular flock ages, as follows:—
274 SHEARLING EWES,
532 FULL-MOUTHED EWES,
474 FOUR-TEETH EWES,
89 DRAFT EWES,
365 SIX-TEETH EWES,
500 LAMBS.

These pure-bred Southdown Hill Flocks were established many years back, chiefly by drafts of ewes from the Goodwood Home Farm Flock, by the late Duke of Richmond and Gordon as the various farms—which are situated amongst the hills North of the Goodwood Racecourse—came into hand.

Of late years much care and attention has been devoted to their breeding and selection. In 1903 rams used were from the flocks of Earl Bathurst, Mr. J. Colman, Mr. E. Henty, and Goodwood. In 1904 from Earl Cadogan, Lord Northbourne, Mr. F. N. Hobgen and Messrs. Waters and Son. In 1905 and 1906 from the Duke of Devonshire, Mr. J. Colman, Mr. Allan Cooper and Mr. Edwin Ellis.

The ewes are of good size and scale, with the hardiest of constitutions, and possess the quality, type and character which distinguishes the famous flocks from which they are descended.

The capital wether lambs which have been annually sold in Chichester Market furnish the best evidence of the mutton-producing capabilities of these flocks, while last year their wool made the highest price at the Chichester Wool sale.

All the flocks are fully eligible for registration.

Purchasers may leave their sheep on the farms free of charge, at their own risk, until September 29th.

The Flocks may be inspected by appointment with Mr. James Mackenzie, Manor Farm, Singleton, Chichester.

Buyers arriving at Chichester night prior to sale will find the "Dolphin" or "Anchor" comfortable hotels to stay at.

Sale immediately after 12 o'clock luncheon.

Commissions carefully executed.

Catalogues of the AUCTIONEERS, Auction and Estate Agency Offices, 63, East Street, Chichester, Sussex.

By Mr. CAVIN LOW.

1,000 IRISH STORE CATTLE.
GREAT SHOW AND SALE,
at 50, PRUSSIA STREET, DUBLIN,
on THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, 1907
(Horse Show Week),

which will comprise the best Show this season in Ireland of Aberdeen Angus Crosses, Polly Bullocks, Shorthorn Bullocks and Heifers of the different ages—a large number of them suitable for short keep.

GAVIN LOW,
50, Prussia Street, Dublin.

By Messrs NOCK & JOSELAND.

The best all-round Sale of Breeding and Feeding Sheep in the Midlands, including entries from many prize-winning flocks at the Royal and other great Shows.

KIDDERMINSTER GREAT ANNUAL SHEEP SALE,
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1907.

300 grand Oxford, Hampshire, Shropshire, Ryeland, Border Leicester, and Kerry Hill Rams and Ram Lambs.

5,750 Shropshire, Hampshire, Oxford, Radnor, Clun, and Kerry Ewes, Store Wethers, and Store Lambs.

Ewes, 10.30; Rams, 1.0; Lambs, 2.30; Wethers, 3.30.

Excellent Train Service. Special Sheep Trains after the Sale.

Punctual attendance specially requested.

NOCK & JOSELAND,
Auctioneers.

By Messrs. STRIDE & SON.

CHICHESTER, SUSSEX.
SECOND GREAT ANNUAL SALE OF PURE-BRED SOUTHDOWN RAMS, RAM LAMBS, EWES AND LAMBS.
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4 NEXT.

MESSRS. STRIDE AND SON beg to announce that present entries for the above sale, which is held in the Market, comprise about:—
200 SOUTHDOWN RAMS & RAM LAMBS,
2,713 SOUTHDOWN EWES & LAMBS,
from the following flockowners: His Grace the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, K.G., Goodwood; Col. A. F. Walter, Sir Henry Aubrey-Fletcher, Bart., Mr. Alfred Heasman, Mr. Francis Elmer-Speed, Exors. of the late Mr. Geo. Peel, Mr. F. Stanford, Mr. A. M. Singer, Mr. T. W. Thorpe, Mr. J. G. B Stone, Mr. E. J. Reddaway, Mr. G. Lock, Mr. F. H. Sawtell, Mr. Percy Herington, Mr. H. Paynter, Mr. C. Napper, Mr. H. C. Formby, Mrs. Pascoe, Mr. T. Hutton, Mr. C. W. Schroeter, Exors. of the late Mr. Tait, and many others. Also

THE WHOLE OF MR. FRANCIS ELMER SPEED'S very choice PURE-BRED REGISTERED SOUTHDOWN FLOCK, removed from Knowlton Court, Dover, for convenience of sale (No. 206 in Flock Book), comprising:
350 EWES in ages and EWE LAMBS,
25 RAMS and RAM LAMBS,
sold on account of the farms in hand being let;
and

THE WHOLE OF MR. J. E. PIKE'S capital SOUTHDOWN FLOCK, removed from WHEATCROFT, EMSWORTH, for convenience of sale, comprising about
150 EWES in ages.

FIRST EDITION catalogues issued on the 28th inst.

Stock taken off rail and placed in suitable keep any time prior to sale.

Commissions carefully executed.

Sale of rams at ten o'clock, followed by ram lambs. Ewes and lambs at 11 o'clock.

STRIDE AND SON,
Auctioneers, Chichester.

By Messrs. R. W. HOBBS & SONS.

OXFORD DOWNS.

SHEARLING RAMS or RAM LAMBS from the KELMSCOTT FLOCK will be SOLD by AUCTION at the undermentioned fairs:—
CIRENCESTER, SEPTEMBER 2.
BURY ST. EDMUNDS, SEPTEMBER 3.
EDINBURGH, SEPTEMBER 12.
KELSO, SEPTEMBER 13.
NORTHAMPTON, SEPTEMBER 19.

YEARLING EWES FOR SALE AT HOME

R. W. HOBBS & SONS.
Kelmscott, Lechlade.

(Continued on next page.)

AUCTION SALES.

Auctioneers will favour us by sending in their advertisements as early in the week as possible.

Charges for announcements under this heading, Six Shillings an inch.

CITY OF CORK, IRELAND.

AUCTION OF 700 IRISH STORE CATTLE
at
MARSH'S REPOSITORY, COPLEY STREET, CORK, on THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, 1907, at 12 o'clock noon.

WM. MARSH & SONS,
Cork. Auctioneers.

IMPORTANT SALE OF
LARGE and MIDDLE WHITE PIGS
AND
REGISTERED KERRY CATTLE,
WALTON HALL, WARRINGTON,
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1907,
the property of
SIR GILBERT GREENALL, Bart.,
consisting of
ONE HUNDRED
PEDIGREE PIGS,
including many winners and descendants of winners, and THIRTEEN
KERRY COWS AND HEIFERS.

Further particulars and Catalogues of J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington; or W. BAINBRIDGE, Walton House, Warrington.



NOVA SCOTIA

Offers advantages to British Agriculturists with moderate capital. Improved Farms at Low Rates. Fertile Lands. Famous Fruits. Enormous mineral deposits of Coal, Gold, Silver, Iron, Copper, Lead and Tin. Climate temperate and healthy. Easily accessible to all the principal markets.—Full information supplied by the Agent-General of Nova Scotia, Mr. JOHN HOWARD, 57, Pall Mall, London, S.W.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

Account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended August 17, 1907, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year (the figures for 1906 are in parentheses):—

Animals, living:—Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves (13,467), 11,887; sheep and lambs (1,780), 1,587; horses (294), 415.

Fresh meat:—Beef (104,946 cwts.), 75,498; Mutton (130,842), 37,022; pork (6,505), 5,342.

Salted or preserved meat:—Bacon (135,093 cwt.), 137,243; beef (3,881), 2,364; hams (35,104), 37,097; pork (5,468), 6,250; meat (8,997), fresh, 8,237; salted (8,997), 723; meat, preserved (9,604), 5,311.

Dairy produce and substitutes: — Butter (93,672 cwt.), 78,898; margarine (22,041), 18,328; cheese (70,549), 92,432; milk, fresh in cans or drums (60), —; cream (87), 17; milk, condensed (14,411), 12,798; milk, preserved (131), 42.

Eggs (great hundreds):—(416,681), 349,311; poultry (value £2,497), £651; game (value £461), £2,091; rabbits, dead (not tinned), (34,759 cwt.), 6,112; lard (43,006 cwt.), 47,144.

Corn, grain, meal, and flour:—Wheat (2,137,000 cwt.), 2,247,600; wheat meal and flour (231,600), 264,300; barley (352,400), 207,700; oats (368,200), 339,000; peas (64,240), 134,630; beans (17,370) 12,190; maize or Indian corn (822,500), 1,514,700.

Fruit (raw):— Apples (12,757 cwt.), 9,111; gooseberries (—), 61 cwt.; pears (56,450 cwt.), 45,264; plums (67,309 cwt.), 60,039; strawberries (—), 310.

Hay (3,692 tons), 1,977; straw (1,211 tons), 1,466; moss litter (1,334 tons), 1,236; hops (1,152 cwt.), 6,644; locust beans (60 cwt.), —.

Vegetables, raw: — Onions (87,925 bush.), 163,141; potatoes (40,043 cwts), 32,063; tomatoes (32,342); 20,167.



Notes and Jottings.

THE fully tabulated statement of the results of the great milk and butter tests at the recent Tring Show have again been made public, and the general outcome reads much more satisfactorily than did the accounts of the trials at last year's show. Out of seventy-six animals tested this year, only in some two or three instances does the butter ratio appear out of order, whilst in the whole of the remaining lots the ratio is very good indeed—in some instances we should call it excessively high. The weather being cool, and the pastures and all other food being of a thoroughly nutritious character, had no doubt a great deal to do with this very satisfactory state of affairs. Very high general quality of milk.

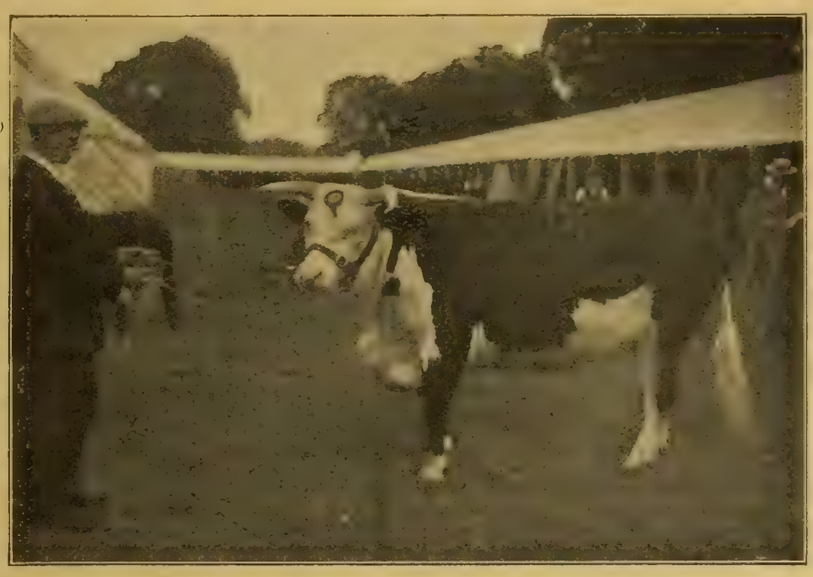
A GREAT drawback, however, to the tests appears in the fact that out of 104 cows entered only seventy-six were exhibited for the tests, which means close upon 30 per cent. absentees. Such an excessive number should be accounted for by some means or other, so that the public might know whether excessive forcing had in many instances accomplished its deadly work, or whether the owners of these absentees, after testing their entries, found them so much deficient either in quantity or quality or both that they did not consider it worth while paying expenses of exhibition. If the latter was the real reason, we congratulate the intending exhibitors in having done a very wise thing. It is a great expense to send a heavy milking cow to a show for two or three days, losing all the benefit of her milk.

NONE but really good animals should be entered in these tests, let them be of whatever breed they may. A good yield impresses strangers very favourably with a breed, and also perhaps even more favourably with a breeder's herd that is able to turn out record-breakers or great record-makers in the way of quantity and quality of milk. We have many times written to this effect in advising owners of milking cattle not to enter their animals unless they are thoroughly satisfied that quantity and quality are both so well in evidence as to pretty well ensure them either winning a prize or a certificate of merit, or otherwise making a creditable output. If more home testing were done, and done carefully, our dairy herds would show up generally to much greater advantage than is often the case.

SEVERAL of the Shorthorns were of excessive live weight: 1,477 lb. is a great live weight for a milking cow, and one or two run still higher, up to 1,550 lb. and 1,513. These, however, were altogether eclipsed by the South Devons that recorded 1,813 and 1,628 lb. each. One of these had been in milk 155 days, and was still yielding at the rate of 49 lb. 8 oz. per day. This high record, however, failed to place the cow higher than he, even though the butter ratio was up to 23·80. For cows of such calibre the quality of the milk comes out remarkably well, probably due in a measure to their high condition. We have many times heard it remarked and there is no doubt it is in a measure correct, that fat in the cow produces to a considerable extent fat in the milk.

WE notice a rather unique advertisement in the papers at the present time; we allude to the sale of 100 head of sheeted Welsh cattle, the property of Lord Penrhyn, which are to be sold by auction by Messrs. Dew and Son at Lord Penrhyn's home farm, near Bangor, North Wales. These cattle are well worthy the attention of any breeders who are desirous of cultivating milk. It would not take any great length of time to raise a herd of very deep and rich milkers of these picturesque sheeted Welsh cattle. In a well-wooded park they are a great ornament to the landscape, and, as well as making milk, they are good beef producers, quite a dual purpose breed. Why greater attention has not been paid to them as a race of our native cattle is difficult to understand.

ARGENTINE buyers are still busy in the purchase of several of our breeds of pedigree cattle. Shorthorns appear still to hold sway so far as numbers and prices are concerned, Herefords following on at long prices and in considerable numbers, whilst Angus are also looking up in a satisfactory manner, and their next of kin, the Galloways, also. It is further very gratifying to find that the dairy breeds, especially Jerseys, have created quite a keen liking for their breed over the water, and at much higher prices than prevailed but a few years ago. All this tends to inspire breeders at home with greater energy in looking after their cattle, not only in the way of breeding, but also in the way of feeding and general care taking.



The Hereford Heifer shown above is Princess Beatrice, whose winnings this year include a First Prize at the Royal, Royal Counties, and Bath and West Society's Shows. She was born January 27, 1905, sire All Fours, dam Beatrice, and is the property of her breeder, Mr. W. B. Tudge, Stepaside, Onibury, Shropshire.

PUBLICATION was given recently in a daily paper as to the discovery of some disease communicable from cattle to man and from man to cattle, discovered at some small district show. It is greatly to be hoped that this is only one of those silly scares that appear to get into print without any just cause or reason, and frequently do considerable damage to business and districts whence they emanate. As we said in a recent note, the cattle of this country have never in history been so utterly free from disease and perfectly healthy as at the present time. Breeders are in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred taking every precaution to raise none but sound young stock, and to retain none but sound parents to propagate them. It does not pay to breed an animal with impaired, or likely to be impaired, constitution.

WITH such a remarkably satisfactory bill of health at home, there is every reason to hold fast the chain that prevents the importation of live cattle from over the seas. Not only would it be most unwise to risk the possibility of introduc-

BATTLE'S
LIQUID, POWDER & PASTE.
SHEEP DIPS
APPROVED BY BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.
BATTLE, MALTBY & BOWER, LINCOLN.

MANY Prize-Winners at the Royal Show use BATTLE'S DIPS.

THE GREAT CURE FOR
GREASE IN HORSES.



T. MOTT'S Powder Lotion will cure Grease of all descriptions, 4 dozen 47s, 1 dozen 12s., sample pkts. 1s. 3d. Mott's Condition Powder, 21s. 11d. per case. Sample tins, 5s., sent carriage paid.

T. MOTT, Littleport,
Ely, CAMBS.

To H.M. The King.

Jeyes' Fluid

As used in the Royal Household, Stables and Kennels.

MAY BE OBTAINED IN THE FORM OF
FLUID, POWDER, DIP, & SOAP.

In writing to advertisers, readers will confer a favour by mentioning the "Mark Lane Express" as the source of their information.

BY APPOINTMENT TO H.M. THE KING

ANOTHER TRIUMPH
ROYAL SHOW
LINCOLN, 1907

EVERY SHEEP
in the following Classes, *viz.*:

BLACKFACED MOUNTAIN
BORDER LEICESTER
CHEVIOT
COTSWOLD
DARTMOOR
DEVON
EXMOOR
HAMPSHIRE DOWN
HERDWICK
KERRY HILL
LONK
OXFORD DOWN
RYELAND
SHROPSHIRE
SOMERSET & DORSET
SOUTH DOWN
SUFFOLK
SOUTH DEVON
WELSH MOUNTAIN
WENSLEYDALE

WAS DIPPED IN
COOPER'S DIP

ing disease, but the fact that our home cattle are so healthy and in such fit breeding condition renders it altogether unnecessary to attempt to increase our cattle census by the importation of foreign stock. Home breeding of the better class of cattle is the correct line to move upon, and, depend upon it, every farmer and breeder who adopts this policy with intelligence and energy will never regret having taken the step.

Mr. W. Ford's Sussex Cattle.

At the sale of Sussex cattle belonging to Mr. W. Ford, Singhurst Farm, Ticehurst, there was a representative gathering of breeders and a brisk trade, the animals being brought out in first-class condition. An average of over £22 per head was obtained for twenty-seven lots, which, considering the large number of young animals, was highly satisfactory. Top prices were 50 guineas and 41 guineas, which sum Mr. Campbell Newington gave for Ticehurst Twin 3rd and Stonesdown B1 respectively. Mr. Newington, who has recently started a herd, secured most of the best animals, and they should prove a profitable investment. Other chief prices were 32 guineas (which Mr. Newington gave for Melody of Ticehurst's heifer calf), 38 guineas, 29 guineas, and 23 guineas.

Dublin Store Cattle Sales.

Close on 900 store cattle were submitted at Mr. Gavin Low's sale at his auction mart, 50, Prussia Street, Dublin. The major portion of the entries were cattle of nice quality and in good condition. There was a large and representative attendance of buyers chiefly from Midland and Northern English counties and from Scotland, and trade for an August sale was fairly satisfactory, although scale rates were about 1s. per cwt. down from Mr. Low's sale in July. The general run of figures were: Shorthorn bullocks, two and a half to three years, from £8 15s. to £15; Shorthorn heifers, from £8 17s. 6d. to £13 12s. 6d.; Polly bullocks, from £10 5s. to £14 15s.; Aberdeen-Agus crosses, from £11 10s. to £13 12s. 6d.; yearlings, from £6 10s. to £9 10s.

Faking in the Argentine.

Reference was made last week to the serious charges that were being made in connection with some phases of the Shorthorn trade with the Argentine. A later edition of the Buenos Ayres *Standard*, now to hand, says that to get a tuberculous beast passed by a veterinary surgeon as being "free from tuberculosis" it is necessary that previously to the official inoculation the animal should be inoculated with tuberculin at periods of from five to six days. By this means the beast becomes "salted," and, although still suffering from the disease, does not show it by the abnormal rise of temperature general in such cases. A clean certificate is then given, and the animal is sent into the country, thus spreading the disease, which shows in all its progeny.

On May 15 last Dr. Leon Suarez, inspector of live stock in the Department of Agriculture, informed the detective section of police that for several years past grave irregularities in connection with the importation of cattle from Great Britain, especially bulls, had been noticed. Several inspectors of police got to work, and interesting revelations have now come to light. These irregularities, according to the *Standard*, were undoubtedly practised with the assistance of the *personnel* of the quarantine sheds, and about a year ago a certain James Llanso, an Argentine, employed at the inspection sheds, was dismissed. This, however, did not have any effect.

Information had come to the police that some twenty-four bulls would be inoculated on July 12, and detectives placed themselves in a position to watch the operation. As the result three men named Rodriguez, Acosta, and Cabellanas were arrested. The police secured the instruments, and found lying about a quantity of small bottles containing tuberculin. The dwellings of the prisoners were also searched, various thermometers, purging powders, &c., connected with the application of the serum being found. Several unsigned letters giving instructions about how bulls were to be injected, the dates and quantity, &c., were also discovered. The peons, on being interrogated, made a full confession.

The head of a firm of leading estancieros and live stock importers was interviewed by the *Standard*, and said:—"The affair is certainly serious, and will be taken up strongly by the authorities here. As the persons presumably implicated are Englishmen, it will mean the death-blow to the sale of British stock for years to come at any rate. Suspicion will last for some time, and severe preventive measures will be adopted to avoid a repetition of the scandal."

Messrs. Dickson and Robinson, Cathedral Street, Manchester, have issued a capital catalogue of bulbs and roses for 1907. It contains particulars of a large and choice selection of these favourite subjects, whilst the many illustrations add to the work.

Powell Bros. & Whitaker,
WREXHAM.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF ENGLAND'S
FIRST PRIZE
POTATO DIGGER.

Awarded First Prize Silver Medal at the Christiania Exhibition (Norway), June, 1907.

PALATINE
CAKES



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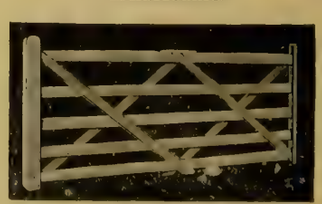
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HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL, Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Hereford. Stud Horses: Lockinge Lord of Misrule and Lockinge Bonny Lad, both by Lockinge Forester, full brother to Lockinge Forest King. Colts and Fillies for Sale.

MUNTZ, FREDERICK ERNEST, Umberslade, Hockley Heath, Warwickshire. Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, prize-winners.—Particulars from Mr. JOHN T B. HARTLEY, Estate Office.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby. — SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners, on Sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

ROWELL, JOHN, Bury, Huntingdon. Breeder Shires and Hackneys; Stallions for sale, hire, or service at home; mares and fillies for sale.

WHITEHEAD, Robert, Fashionably bred mares and fillies in natural condition on Sale. Stallions, Bodenham King 17177, Whitestone Prince Alfred 22930.—Apply J. M. JOHNSTONE, Hargate Hall, Buxton. Station, and telegrams, Millers Dale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

SHETLAND PONIES.

BEALE, Mrs. A. J., Cacketts, Cudham, Kent. Prize-bred Pedigree Shetlands for sale; three grand Stallions at stud.

PONIES.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

PREECE, JOHN ADNEY, Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston, Northampton.—Herd of 250 Shorthorns, best Bates and Scotch blood; stock Bulls, Duke of Barrington 70th, Primrose Earl 89641, and Royal Baron 93192; Bulls and Heifers for sale.

ROTHWELL, R. R., Much Hoole, near Preston. Pedigree Shorthorns, chiefly Scotch blood. Stock bull Strowan Marquis 13th, winner of many prizes. Young bulls and heifers always on sale.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

TAYLOR, GEORGE, Cranford, Middlesex.— Bates' Shorthorns, deep milkers. Winners Milking Competitions, London Dairy Show, 1905-6. Bull Calves for Sale. Stock Bulls: Beau Sabreur, Drumcree, Rowbury, and Kirkcharm.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

SUSSEX.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath, Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Sussex Cattle (descended from the oldest and best strains of blood), unrivalled for their early maturity, the production of the best beef and working oxen, and ability to thrive in all weathers on the roughest fare. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for Sale.

HEREFORDS.

PULLEY, CHARLES THORNTON, Lower Eaton, Hereford.—Noted prize-winning herd of HEREFORD CATTLE. First prize Royal winners, Protector 19660, 1900; Eaton Champion 21351, 1903; and Ashleaf 3rd, 1905. This herd is headed by Eaton Champion and Glendower 2nd 22196, also a Royal winner. Bulls and Heifers for sale. Also prize-winning Shropshire Sheep.—Apply Mr. HEDLEY JONES, Lower Eaton Estate Office, Hereford.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has in 1904 1905 and 1906 won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by Endale, Bage Protector, and Fusilier. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited. —Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford, Herefordshire.

CATTLE—*continued.*

HEREFORDS—*continued.*

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for Sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

DEVONS.

BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton Williton, Taunton, Breeder of Pedigree Devon Cattle. A speciality for large size, with quality and robust constitutions; colour dark red. Sent to all parts of the world. Prices moderate.

SKINNER, ALFRED C., Pound, Bishops-Lydeard, Somerset. Pedigree Devons, constitution, quality, size, milk; 600 prizes principal shows, many champions; exports most successful; bulls and heifers for sale. Inspection invited.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

BRIDGES, J. H.—This old-established herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle of the leading families can be seen at Langshott Home Farm, Horley, Surrey (near Horley Station, L.B. & S.C.R.), and catalogues obtained on application to Mr. Albert Pulling.

HURSLEY PARK HERD OF ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE, the property of Sir George Cooper, Bart., comprising Erica, Pride, Miss Burgess, Lady Ida, Matilda, Jemima of Morlich families. Prizes won during 1906: 7 firsts, 3 seconds, 3 reserves, 1 challenge cup, 2 silver medals, 3 reserve champions. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.—Catalogues on application to V. F. Leese, Estate Office, Hursley Park, Winchester.

THE ROCKLIFFE PARK HERD of Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, Ericas and Prides. Stock Bull, Pundit of Preston (17,156), Champion at Highland Show, 1904.—Apply, R. C. SWAN, Rockliffe Park, Darlington.

AYRSHIRES.

WALLACE, JAMES, J.P., Auchenbainzie, Thornhill, Dumfriesshire, Scotland. Breeder of pedigree prize-winning Ayrshire Cattle; hardy, healthy, good milkers; bred for dairy purposes, beauty and style. Bulls and Heifers for sale.

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably, from his prize-winning herd of Red Polls, Bulls, Cows, Heifers, from good milkers.—Apply C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

CARY-ELWES, V., Billing Hall, Northampton. Breeder of Jersey cattle.

JERSEYS, and Alderney Guernseys, fresh calved and near calving. Prices, particulars.—R. WHEADON, Ilminster.

MERTON GRANGE GUERNSEYS.—Property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. This Herd contains Champion Bull Royal Counties, Portsmouth, and Champion Cow Royal Derby, 1906. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of best Breeding for Sale.—Telegrams and particulars, W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay.

STERN, Sir E. D., Fan Court, Chertsey, Surrey. Herd of pedigree Jersey Cattle. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

TICHBORNE PARK, GUERNSEY.— Yearling Bulls and Heifers for sale —Apply, D. MICHIE, Estate Office, Tichborne, Alresford, Hants.

GALLOWAYS.

GRAHAM, ROBERT, Auchengassel, Twynholm, breeder fashionable Galloway Cattle, winners at Royal and Highland Societies Shows. Pedigree Bulls, Cows, and Heifers, also Blue-greys for feeding, for sale. Commissions carefully executed.

KERRIES & DEXTERS.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

THE DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE'S PRIZE-WINNING DEXTER HERD.—During 1904 and 1905 this Herd won more prizes than any other three Dexter Herds combined, including both first and second milking prizes Royal, 1905, and first London Dairy Show, 1906. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers generally for Sale.—CHILD, Compton Place, Eastbourne.

RATTRAY, DAVID, Gortnaskehy, Ballybunion, Co. Kerry. Pedigree Prize-wioning Herd of Kerries and Dexters. 155 Prizes and Honours won by Cattle from this Herd past three years. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

SHEEP.

WELSH.

WELSH EWES.—The most profitable and rent-paying Ewe for breeding fat Lambs, crossed with Southdown, Shropshire or Wiltshire Rams. For further information apply to JOHN JONES & SON, Dinarth Hall, Colwyn Bay, the largest purchasers of Welsh sheep in Wales.

LINCOLN LONG WOOL.

ANDERSON, JOHN, Barton-on-Humber.— The old Barton Flock of Pure-bred LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP, Flock Book 106. This flock is noted for hard constitutions and fine, lustrous wool. Inspection invited. Telegrams as above.

ATKINSON, T., & SON, North Kelsey, Lincoln. Old-established flock of pure Lincoln Longwools. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Noted for great size and long lustrous wool. Have given great satisfaction at home and abroad. Inspection invited

SHEEP—*continued.*

LINCOLN LONG WOOL—*continued.*

BROOKS, W. J., Stowe Lodge, Weedon, Northants (Registered Flock 165), has for sale Rams and Ewes of best blood.

BROCKLEBANK, JOHN, Bassingham, Lincoln. (Flock 24). Pure-bred Lincoln Longwool Rams and Ewes. This old flock has been carefully bred for 100 years. Telegrams: Basingham.

DRAKES, Wm., Tealby, Market Rasen. Flock No. 72 of Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs of best blood for sale. Lincoln Red Shorthorns. Prices moderate.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

SMITH, HENRY, jun., Cropwell Butler, Nottingham. Lincoln Longwool Flock No. 7, winner of £2,361 in prizes. Champion pen Lincolns, Smithfield Show, 1896; Association Championship, Leicester, 1897; Association Championship for pen of 3 Shearling Rams, Yorkshire, 1900; Championship, Rutland, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, and 1906. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

THE CHILMARK FLOCK OF REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—Owner, JAMES FLOWER, Chilwark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records. Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, out of 11 years competing, 'The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" won eight times, thrice second, with pens of 8 ram lambs; a marvellous record. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 13 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05-06. At the Royal at Derby, 1906, every First Prize, two Seconds, and the Champion were won; an unequalled success!! Champions Birmingham, 1905, over all breeds, Reserve in 1906. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Short-wools, Smithfield, 1904-05-06. Highest average past 13 years. Bridford Fair, Aug. 12, 100 Ram Lambs, annual sale. Selections for Sale.

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1907.—Extraordinary records: Twin ram lambs let for 205 and 120 guineas. Ninety averaged £21 10s. Selections always for Sale.

JUDD, SIR GEORGE, Cocum, Barton Stacey, Hants.—Pure bred Hampshire Downs, over 1000 Ewes. Annual Sale, Ram Lambs, August 8th, 1907. Registered Vol. I., page 17.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. The Cholderton flock is individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded in the Hampshire Down Flock Book. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cho'derton, Salisbury

OVEY, R. L., Hernes, Henley-on-Thames.— Pedigree HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK, Reg. Vol. IV. Prize-winners leading shows last five years.

WINCHESTER, the Most Hon. the Marquis of, Amport St. Mary, Andover, Hants. Pure-bred flock of Hampshire Down Sheep; high-class Rams and Ewes always on Sale.

OXFORD DOWNS.

ADAMS, GEORGE, Royal Prize Farm Flock, Faringdon, Berks. Pure Oxford Down Sheep, Shearling Rams, Ram Lambs, Ewes and Ewe Lambs for Sale. Special arrangements with foreign buyers. Many first prizes at R.A.S.E and other shows during past 25 years, including 2 first, 2 second, and 4 other prizes, World's Fair, Chicago, and 7 firsts, 4 seconds and champion at Royal Bath and West, Royal Counties, etc., this year.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

TREADWELL, JOHN, Upper Winchendon, Aylesbury. Oxford Down Sheep. Annual Ram Sale, first Wednesday in August. Prizes won at R.A.S.E. 24 years in succession. Ewes for Sale.

SUFFOLKS.

CRANWORTH, The Rt Hon. Lord, offers reasonably from his prize winning flock, of Suffolk Sheep, some fine Ram Lambs.—Apply C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

WENSLEYDALE.

UNDERLEY WENSLEYDALES (Blue-faced), from the best blood obtainable. Successfully exhibited.—Apply, G. G. ROBINSON Bailiff, Underley Farm, Kirkby, Lonsdale.

(Continued on page 270.)

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

CHARLES SPENCER, having taken over the Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts, herd of Large and Middle White Pigs, which won 12 prizes and reserves with 11 exhibits at Derby Royal, will price any of them.

FULWOOD HERD LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES, property R. R. Rothwell. 200 head bred from winners at leading shows.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for Sale at moderate prices

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station, G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices. —J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM. Herd of Large White Pigs. The oldest and largest Herd in Notts County. Over 100 Breeding Sows kept. Upwards of 600 to select from. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—Apply ARTHUR A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 100 to choose from. Correspondence invited. Grand young breeding stock always on Sale.—Apply R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts (15 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

SPALDING HERD of Pedigree Large Whites, young stock and in-pig Gilts for Sale. All bred from great winners.—ALFRED W. WHITE, "Hillegom," Spalding.

MIDDLE WHITES.

THE CATTON HERD of Prize-winning MIDDLE WHITE PIGS, property of J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stock Boar Castlecroft Mikado, 1st Park Royal, 1st Bath and West. Gelts and Boars on Sale. Prices moderate.—Apply BAILIFF, Raddle Farm, Edingale, Tamworth.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 86 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

LARGE BLACKS.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath. Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Large Black Pigs of the best strains of blood, noted for their docility and for the production of a large proportion of lean meat. Good selection of Boars, unrelated Gilts, and in-pig Sows for Sale at reasonable prices.

CATTON HERD OF PRIZE-WINNING LARGE BLACK PIGS.—Stock Boar Trevisquite Excelsior 1487, 1st Devon County, 2nd and Reserve Champion Royal Show, 1906; pigs kept in hardy natural condition; gelts and boars always on sale.—Apply, J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stations: Croxall, 2½ miles (M.R.); Alrewas, 3½ miles (L.N.W.).

HASKETON CHAMPION PRIZE HERD OF LARGE BLACK PIGS.—This herd has won the Royal championship three out of four times, and is the only herd having won the breed challenge cup. Record: 47 firsts, 37 seconds, 11 thirds, 126 prize-winning cards; the herd this year being the winners of 14 firsts, 6 seconds, 2 thirds, championship and silver cup in five shows. Gelts and Boars at moderate prices consistent with quality. Exportation a speciality.—Apply, C. F. MARRINER, Hasketon, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS.—Select Herd, bred from choice Prize Winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale, moderate prices.—H. J. CLARKE, The Slade, Roughley, Sutton Coldfield.

BERKSHIRES.

CARNARVON, the Earl of.—Prize winning Pedigree Herd. BOARS and GELTS, eligible Herd Book. Prices moderate.—Apply W. T. HALL, Highclere Farm, Newbury.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

BERKSHIRES—*continued.*

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

READING CORPORATION.—150 Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, leading prize-winning strains, from son of Champion Mikado 10433 and prize-winner Domino 11323; inspection invited.—Apply, Mr. T. Chettle, Manor Farm, Reading, Berks.

STALL PITTS HERD OF PEDIGREE BERKSHIRES. One of the Oldest Herds. Unsurpassed for true character, size, and quality. Choice selection of Boars and Sows on offer at moderate prices.—J. LAWRENCE, Stall Pitts, Shrivenham, Berks

BORROWFIELD & COLSTON HERDS.

The property of R. MILLINGTON-KNOWLES, Colston Bassett Hall, Notts.

LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES.

The following First Prizes, Championships, and Medals have been obtained by pigs **BRED** in these Herds in 1907:
1st and Champion, Gold Medal, R.A.S.E., Lincoln.
1st & Champion, President's Medal, Highland, Edinburgh
1st Welsh National, Aberystwyth.
1st Bath and West Newport; 1st Royal Counties.
1st Nottingham; 1st Suffolk; 1st Norfolk.
1st Hereford and Worcester; Special Prize Lincoln Agricultural Society; 1st Great Yorkshire; 1st Newark.

A number of additional Firsts and other Prizes have also been gained at the above Shows.

At the St. Louis Exposition, U.S.A., in 1904, the Champion Boar, and the Grand Champion of the Exposition were bred at Colston Bassett.

The Foreign and Home trade has largely increased during 1907.—GILBERT H. ELLIOT, Estate Office, Colston Bassett, Notts.

For Sale.
PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.
Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.
GEORGE HOYLES,
Skidby Manor, near Hull.

GEORGE HOYLES,
SKIDBY MANOR, HULL.
Breeder of Pure Lincoln Long Wool Sheep.
Lustrous Fleeces. Good Constitutions.
SUITABLE FOR HOME AND ABROAD. STOCK FOR SALE.

VETERINARY.

Advice of a Veterinary character, by a M.R.C.V.S., is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Milk Fever Prevention.

"Gloucestershire," who, on page 92, writes concerning the loss of a cow from this malady, "in spite of precautions taken to prevent it which have hitherto been effective," will find that, on page 111 of the issue in which his own letter appears, an attempt has been made to deal with the conflict of opinion concerning the milking of "dangerous" cows to which he had directed attention on page 39, and will perhaps have noted the following passage:—"We have no hesitation in affirming that there is no certain preventive of the disease in predisposed cows, and we have seen practically all systems tried, often with apparent success for a while, and seen them all break down sooner or later."

This has received unexpected confirmation in the recent experience of "Gloucestershire," who has lost a cow, in spite of skilfully applied up-to-date treatment, from this disease incidental to parturition, "although precautions were taken to prevent it which have hitherto been effective." As they in this case proved futile, it would have been somewhat more correct had he written which have hitherto *seemed* to be effective, the difficulty being in determining whether there would have occurred any cases of milk fever among his cows had the precautions to prevent it been neglected or omitted, or some other system of prophylaxis been adopted.

"Gloucestershire" writes: "The vet. says he has had twenty-nine cases this season, out of which twenty-six recovered with this treatment (by injection of the udder), but to know how to prevent would be better than cure, and would be of great benefit to some of the inexperienced of your readers."

On p. 111 we anticipated this by the expression of a similar opinion in the following terms:—"The treatment of 'milk fever' is under modern methods attended with much greater success than formerly, when the animal was regarded as certain to die, whereas it is now confidently expected to recover; but prophylactic measures are still of great importance, if only because prevention saves the expense of treatment, nursing, &c., if the cow goes 'down.'"

Many veterinary surgeons, and particularly Continental practitioners, are able to record even a better percentage of recoveries than the gentleman employed by "Gloucestershire," but prevention would, for the reasons stated, be better than cure even if the recoveries were as certain as some vaunt their preventive to be sure. As already indicated, we do not know of any *certain* preventive of this disease, and in the light of his recent experience, it is probable that "Gloucestershire" will agree with us in saying that we do not believe that anyone else does.

The modern theory concerning "milk fever" is that it is ptomaine poisoning with the udder as the point of origin, or that the colostrum has a toxic and deleterious action, and this is now generally accepted; but of this much only are we quite certain—the class of cow predisposed to the disease is an animal of deep-milking breed who has attained a certain age or had a certain number of calves, and who exhibits a tendency to plethora.

We cannot prevent cows growing old, and we cannot afford to sacrifice them after their second calving, or we should never have a decent milker, and we want for both milk and butter making purposes the kind of cow that is predisposed to the disease on account of her deep-milking propensities. This only leaves us the tendency to plethora as a vulnerable point of attack, and the most rational as well as the most generally practised method of management with a view of minimising the risk is to avoid over-feeding, or succulent feeding, and temporarily discourage milk secretion about the period of parturition, with which the disease is essentially associated, when the cow is plethoric, of deep-milking habit, and dangerous age.

This does not mean such short commons as will not permit the cow being equal to the demands of the fœtus, but sufficient food for her maintenance without going beyond what is necessary to keep the animal in health.

Exercise during pregnancy is most essential to the well-being of both the cow and her prospective offspring, and this should be provided for by turning out daily on a bare pasture where the amount of grass obtainable is neither sufficient to make meat nor force milk. M.R.C.V.S.

(To be continued.)

Early on Sunday morning a flock of sheep belonging to Messrs. Radford, sheep dealers, which had been placed in a paddock near the railway line at St. Ives, Hunts, were discovered to be in a state of mutilation as the result of worrying by dogs.

OBITUARY.

Mr. H. B. Manley.

It is with regret we have to record the death of Mr. Herbert B. Manley, of the well-known firm of Messrs. Manley and Sons, auctioneers, Crewe. Mr. Manley was a member of the Whitchurch Volunteers, and with his battalion had spent a week at Scarborough. After the day's manœuvres, in company with two companions, Mr. Manley left the camp soon after six o'clock to spend the evening in Scarborough. On approaching "Jacob's Ladder," a rough and steep footpath some little distance from the town, he jocularly observed to his companions, "I will show you how to go down Jacob's Ladder," and commenced to run. When half-way down, having lost control of himself, through the impetus he had acquired in the descent, he tried to catch hold of a tree, but missed and fell on his head, fracturing his skull. He was conveyed in a motor-car to Scarborough Hospital, where he died at 11.30 without having regained consciousness.

The deceased gentleman was widely known, and the large number of breeders and dealers who frequent the Crewe sales as well as others with whom he came in contact will extend their sympathy to his brothers, the surviving members of the firm.

Mr. J. Oscar Muntz's Large Blacks.

Despite most unfavourable weather, the sale of Mr. J. Oscar Muntz's well-known herd of Large Black pigs at Theepstoe, Harrabridge, South Devon, attracted a large company of breeders, who paid some good prices for the first-class animals brought under the hammer. Sows sold particularly well, Mr. T. F. Hooley going up to 37 guineas before he could get Goodameavy Punchinella, whilst he gave 32 guineas for Goodameavy Medusa. Messrs. Whitley Bros. paid 30 guineas for Goodameavy Sunshine, and 29 guineas for Goodameavy Dream, whilst other sows realised up to 16½ guineas, the best price for boars being 9½ guineas. The total for the fifty-five lots was £405 16s., or nearly £7 6s. per head.

E. H. Peddley, of King's Samborne, Stockbridge, a farmer in a large way of business, was found guilty at Romsey, on Thursday, of savagely assaulting Henry Hughes, his shepherd. The chairman of the Bench said they had carefully considered the case, and a long list of previous convictions. Accused was the victim of ungovernable temper, and, as fines had no effect, he would be sent to prison for one month's hard labour.



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Hop Growers, Rally!

I am delighted to know that the attacks made upon our industry, and the dangers to which it is thereby exposed, have induced our planters to consider their position, and to take measures in their own defence. A meeting has been held in London, under the presidency of Mr. Laurence Hardy, M.P., and attended by a goodly number of representative men, resulting in a resolution declaring the desirability of the establishment of an association, the principal object of which will be to provide funds for the defence of the whole body in case of any attack being made upon any individual member with respect to the quality or condition of his produce. The trade association meets most cases of dispute by reference to arbitration, but instances have arisen which involve an appeal to the courts, and growers have suffered when they were unable or unwilling to take upon themselves the responsibility of fighting an action. I have frequently urged that organisation is an absolute necessity; it is therefore very satisfactory to find that a movement is now started in this direction, which promises to lead to good results.

There are two features in the movement that indicate its future success. The first is the proposed unity of interest between the farmers and the Borough traders. I understand that the farmers and merchants are forming a guarantee fund, as a nucleus for any liabilities that may arise. This is as it should be. The prosperity of the planters is identical with that of the traders. They are all members of the same body, and as such it is most desirable that their views and actions should be based upon mutual grounds.

The other marked feature is found in the proposal to incorporate the new organisation. To this end, articles of association are being prepared by a firm of solicitors well versed in the Borough hop business. Such a decision denotes the determination of the promoters to put the matter on a solid and permanent foundation, and proves the serious view that is taken of the present position and future prospects of the industry. A provisional committee has been appointed, with Mr. Walter Berry as chairman. The fact that this gentleman has taken the business in hand assures me that knowledge and energy will not be wanting in the furtherance of this excellent scheme.

It is proposed that the growers' guarantee shall be limited to 10s. per acre of hops in cultivation, that an immediate call of 3d. per acre shall be made, and that no call beyond 2s. per acre shall be demanded without the consent of a full meeting of members. Such are the general outlines of the scheme, as far as I have been informed. I wish it every possible success, and trust I may soon be able to report some substantial progress.

If I may venture to suggest a motto for the new society I would take it from our classic dramatist:—"To thine own self be true." The spirit of these words is needful if organisation is to be serviceable, as it means the subordination of the individual to the interests of the whole number, and without the full recognition of this principle, all efforts for unity will be in vain.

The Outlook for Hops.

England.

Another week has passed, and uncertainty still prevails as to the probable yield of our plantations, because the weather remains in an unsettled condition. The members of the Canterbury Farmers' Club discussed the matter at their last meeting, and apparently were unable to arrive at any definite conclusion. It was said that the cold winds had checked the development, and that in many places the bine was slack, so that a prospect of more than five pockets, or say about 8 cwt. per acre, was hardly possible. But in other districts the outlook seems to be better. Again, one expert talked about the position being like that of 1879, when only 160,000 cwt. were grown. This view was not generally accepted, and the opinion of the meeting seemed to be expressed by Colonel Honeyball, who pointed out tha that the vermin having cleared off and the mould having been stopped, a moderate crop of excellent quality might reasonably be expected. He considered that a fortnight's rainy, warm weather would increase the crop considerably, and with regard to the cold nights, on which stress was laid by other speakers, his observations proved that the temperature had not been unusually low for the time of year, as during the previous three weeks the average had been over 54 deg. He attributed the slow development to high winds, deficient rainfall, and the attack of aphis blight.

When men of such experience cannot agree, it would appear presumptuous for me, who am only an outsider, to put forward my view. But having before me a large number of reports from all districts, I venture to express my humble opinion that our outlook is, on the whole, more encouraging for quantity than it was a week ago. Nearly all my correspondents speak of advancement and development, and although progress is slow it appears to be sure and safe. The cones are forming in a fairly satisfactory manner, and in many plantations observers are agreeably surprised that the hops are doing so well under the trials to which they have been subjected. Probably some of the more delicate sorts may be deficient, but the hardier descriptions will fill up the gaps, and the total average will, I believe, not be smaller than I mentioned last week.

America.

Mr. Durst, the extensive Californian grower, cables me to-day as follows:—"Harvesting is well under way. All going well. Our crop will be about 30 per cent. less than last year." From a letter just to hand from Washington State, I learn that my friends there consider that "the crops in the United States are, if anything, in better condition than when we last reported. A week of extremely hot weather has practically removed the vermin scare in Oregon and Washington, and has been beneficial in forcing the growth of the vine. Hops have armed out well in all Coast sections, promising a good average yield. The New York crop has also improved recently. To-day we estimate the United States at not less than 350,000 bales."

Germany.

Warm weather continues, and the development of the plant is advancing rapidly. Rain is required in some districts, the dryness of the soil being shown by the yellow tinge of the foliage. Unless some more moisture is supplied it is possible that the later sorts will suffer, as the cones will remain small. But the entire absence of vermin and the general health of the bine dispel all fears of the diminution of the crop as a whole, and very satisfactory results are almost universally anticipated.

Burgundy.

Hops are now looking well in every direction. The warm weather has dispersed the vermin, and all signs of mould; a full average crop is therefore expected.

Belgium.

The climate having been very unsettled the outlook for the crop has consequently varied. At present the prospect is not so good as it was a short time ago. Latest reports tell us that in Alost the plant is not generally healthy, although there are plenty of laterals, and the vermin has disappeared. But the plantations that have been severely attacked are very sickly, and can only give small crops. It is now estimated that this region will not yield more than 60 per cent. of a full weight. It is otherwise in Poperinghe, where all the gardens are in hops, and are very promising. The only exceptions are the white bines, which require rain. It is not expected that Belgium will harvest as many hops as last year.

The World's Crop.

Certain bold calculators are venturing on the speculative ground of the unknown, and are already giving us their ideas of the world's harvest for this year. The figure put forward is 1,800,000 cwt., or something like 300,000 cwt. in excess of 1906. Of course there is no reliance in such an estimate. All we can say at present is, that it appears probable that the supplies will be ample, and that consequently we can hardly forecast a range of high prices.

The Markets.

To attempt to talk about the hop trade at this juncture is almost waste of time and space, as there is nothing interesting to be said. In London a few transactions of quite a retail character are passing. Values seem to be only nominal, but can hardly be quoted lower. Business is evidently in suspense, waiting for more definite news from the country, and until this arrives we cannot expect any movement in the Borough.

The American markets are equally dull. My friends say that the situation for the remaining 1906's looks hopeless, and a further slump in values is inevitable. A few contracts for the coming crop are being written at 9 to 10 cents, but orders come in slowly, as no one has any confidence in futures.

In Nuremberg a little business has been done, the principal item being the purchase of a few bales of low Hallerdaus for exportation to England, the prices paid being 25s. to 30s.

The trade in Belgium is very sorely depressed, a heavy fall in quotations for new crop hops having taken place. There is no demand for yearlings.

EDUCATIONAL.

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Intending Students should send in their names as soon as possible to me the undersigned, from whom further particulars, including Application Forms & Syllabuses, may be obtained.
J. H. NICHOLAS, Secretary.
County Offices, Chelmsford,
August 24, 1907.

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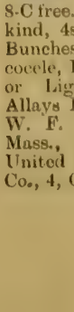
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LONDON, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1907.

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Seasonable Topics.

Heated Haystacks. IT is not altogether surprising that in a season like this we should hear frequent reports of haystacks taking fire as the result of over-heating. The weather has been so catchy and the anxiety so general to pick up hay during the short spells of sunshine enjoyed, that risks have had to be run. Only the other day we were talking with a farmer who is deploring the loss of nearly fifty tons of hay destroyed by fire. The man was perhaps more upset than he would have been because one of his men, suspecting over-heating, advised that the rick should be cut, and had his master listened to the counsel the hay would have been saved. It is easy enough to be wise after an event, but in such a season as this there is nothing like taking every precaution. It is risky to sail too close to the wind, and whereas the stack which gets so warm that fears are aroused may escape and be all right, on the other hand it may not, and fire means serious loss. It is easy to tell by the condition of the hay when it is put in the stack whether it is likely to get hot, and it is wise to avoid further risks by frequently testing the rick, and if necessary to cut it rather than run the risk of spontaneous combustion.



IN A BERKSHIRE RICKYARD.

Coolness at a Fire. THERE is no news spreads like the report of a fire, and when such a calamity happens people from all the country round rush to the spot prompted in many cases by mere curiosity, in and others by a genuine desire to help. Even a hay-rick burning has the same fascination as anything else that is on fire, and without exactly knowing it the owner of the stack may be let in for considerable expense. We have a case now before us of a fire which broke out in the stack-yard of a home farm attached to a mansion. There was any number of willing helpers, but the bailiff lost his head a bit, and a good many of those who were supposed to be rendering assistance simply got in each other's way. But the sequel came later when the news got abroad that the men who had helped to put out the fire would be paid for their services. They came in shoals, and the minute particulars each applicant could give of the time he started, the time he left off, and the amount of work done, was simply amazing. It was a case of accepting statements and paying up, but the bill for putting out that stack fire was considerable by the time all the claims were satisfied. There was the harrowing suspicion throughout that all who were paid did not work, and the moral is in the unfortunate event of a stack fire to keep cool and take careful stock of those who help to put it out.

The Plague of Sparrows. SPEAKING in a general way, farmers have quite enough worries to cope with this season without adding birds to the list; but the saucy sparrow is neither a respecter of persons nor seasons, and he has left his mark of destruction on many a cornfield during the past few weeks. We have seen several fields of otherwise good wheat sadly injured by sparrows, and at this season of the year it is not an easy matter to check their depredations. The extermination of the sparrow is out of the question, and we do not think that such a thing would be desirable, if possible, so the obvious course is to keep down the sparrow population. This is effectually done in districts where properly organised sparrow clubs exist, such as in Kent, for instance, but it is not enough for local agricultural societies to merely offer a few prizes for heads during the winter season. A good deal of this sort of thing is done, but the sparrow plague is not lessened to any appreciable extent, though when a village or a district has a properly organised club, and the members realise that they have a responsibility in the matter, things are different. As for those who suffer through an excess of sparrows in any locality, it is little use grumbling unless they take steps to lessen the evil.

The Size of Sheaves and Cornstacks. SO far as appearances go, at the moment of writing there are prospects of the corn harvest being of the same catchy nature so far as weather is concerned as that of the hay has been throughout. In view of this a little discussion on the subject of sheaves and cornstacks is by no means out of place. For the convenience of handling and quickly clearing ground we prefer a fairly large sheaf, but we must take climatic conditions into account. In cases where clover was put down with corn at seeding time the forage has grown vigorously and is half the height of the straw. It is impossible to cut the latter without getting a good bit of the clover, and if tied into large sheaves the chances of drying quickly are not improved. In fact, our opinion is that small sheaves will answer the best this season. Speaking of stacks we confess to a liking for fairly large ricks as there is less thatching needed, and not so much preparation of foundations. But it is all a question of conditions, and in a season like this the small stack is safer, and if built long and narrow all the better chance is given for the wind to dry and mature the corn.

Thatching and Thatching. THE chief object of thatching of course is to provide a covering for the hay or corn stack to keep out the wet; but, dear, dear, what different specimens of thatching one does see to be sure. By the common rough and ready style the stack may or may not be rain proof, but the appearance of the thatch gives you the impression that it was thrown on, and the palpable want of neatness and finish is enough to break the heart of any expert thatcher of the old school. Is it that thatching is becoming a lost art and that the young men of to-day do not take the trouble to make themselves proficient at the work? Perhaps; but there is another question to ask: Are the modern conditions of agriculture of such a nature that the farmer cannot afford to pay for the time such as the old thatchers spent in order to give that neat finish to the work that is so pleasing to the eye? There may be something in this, but be it as it may, the art of thatching has deteriorated, and there is a desire in some quarters to revive it, as we observe that in one or two counties requests are being made for more education money to be spent in giving instruction in this important work.

The Appearance of Milk-sellers. IT was at a watering place on the west coast where we first made the acquaintance of the female, or, shall we say, lady milk-seller. There we saw a number of smart little floats doing the rounds of the houses, and in each was a couple of bonny-looking country girls, who needed no rouge to put colour into their cheeks, nor cosmetics to prevent the sun spoiling their countenances. They were attired in spotless print frocks, white aprons, and straw hats with just enough ribbon about the latter to give the necessary finish to the simplicity. We do not profess to be experts on dress, but the costumes of the milk girls suited them to a nicety, and we were prompted to think that there is a good deal in appearance. One has no qualms about buying milk from a man or woman who presents a neat, clean, and smart appearance, just as the butcher with a clean smock and spotless apron and sleeves inspires one to have confidence in his meat. We do not write this, by the way, with any suggestion that women should replace the ordinary milkman on his round, but we mention the instance to show how any vendor of food commodities may inspire confidence or otherwise by his personal appearance.

More Fruit Legislation. WHEN legislation was first introduced a short time ago for dealing with the American gooseberry mildew, and, if possible, stamp it out, we realised that this was only the thin edge of the wedge, and powers would be extended in due course to other fruits besides gooseberries. So matters are turning out, as may be seen from the statement made by Sir Edward Strachey a short time ago in the House of Commons, that the Board of Agriculture were considering the terms of an order to prevent the importation of not only gooseberry mildew, but also of other pests injurious to horticulture. This is doubtless as it should be, for we have more pests of our own than fruitgrowers can cope with, and no further introductions are required. The sensation made about American mildew has caused such a scare in fruit growing circles that we hope the Board of Agriculture has not got wind of any other pest that might settle on our shores and increase still further the anxieties of fruit-growers. When the Board has taken all possible precautions to prevent any other pests being introduced, it would be well if some serious and combined efforts were made for dealing more effectively with those that are already established in our midst.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Parties and the New Land Act.

Well, the Small Holdings Bill is now the Small Holdings Act ; but I ween that we are not, as a consequence, very much nearer that new heaven and that new earth the prospect of which has so emotionised the Prime Minister. All the same, its successful emergence from the Houses of Parliament means the triumph of Parliamentary sagacity, of a mutual desire on the part of all sections in the State to provide bettered facilities for securing small holdings, and of courteous determination. I am not inclined to hail the Act as being the achievement of the Government alone. True, it is the result of the initiative of Ministers—true, too, its sagacious pilotage through the shoals of the Parliamentary sea was a Ministerial effort; but even Mr. Harcourt himself would deny that it had not a fair reception at the hands of his political opponents in the Commons. Even in the House of Lords suspicion of the coercion to be exercised alike upon landlords and reluctant county councils, and preference for the principle of purchase over that of hiring, were in the end wisely subordinated to the anxiety to see the measure placed upon the statute-book. I am not among those political publicists who aver that the Government would rather that the Lords had adopted the stiff-necked attitude, and by insisting upon their amendments on the three crucial points—coercion of the landlords, coercion of the county councils, and the substitution of the principle of purchase for that of tenancy—have wrecked the measure. "This," say these publicists, "would have been in harmony with the filling-up-of-the-cup tactics." I believe that Ministers were penetrated with a whole-hearted desire that the measure should pass, provided, of course, that it reflected the desires that animated them. The first of those desires was that, whilst the local representative bodies should have administrative power vested in them, a central executive body should possess the ability to supersede local authorities that were lukewarm or dilatory. The next was that prejudice against the principle of the measure on the part of a landlord should not thwart the policy. The third desire was that the measure should not, by accumulating owners, erect a new barrier to the State-ownership of the land.

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Tenant-Farmers and the Lords.

For one intervention on the part of the House of Lords the tenant-farmers of England have every reason to be greatly grateful. Now, under the original terms of the measure the tenant-farmer who had had a part of his farm taken from him for the purpose of establishing small holdings would have had his compensation fixed for him by a valuer possessing autocratic powers, against whose judgment there would be no power of appeal. It might be that the agent of the county council would be generous-minded. It is more probable that he would have the fear of a public criticism—a criticism quickened by the natural anxiety that the rates should be kept as low as possible—before his eyes. The Lords demanded for the tenant-farmer the right of arbitration in such a case. True, arbitration must naturally be the more expensive process, but it is also the more scientific one ; and, after all, even though the burden of rent might be made a little heavier for the small holder, the tenant-farmer has a right to the adequate protection of his own interest. Mr. Harcourt did not entirely yield the demand of the Peers, but he at least yielded its principle. Recourse to arbitration is now limited to the conditions specified by the Agricultural Holdings Act. Well, I am not certain that this is a bad or injudicious compromise. After all, if universal arbitration were possible the procedure might be a harassing infliction both on the councils and on the small holder. The incident, indeed, is typical of the general spirit with which fair-minded men of all shades received and considered the measure.

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The Dwelling House and the Holding.

Why did not the House of Lords insist upon their demand that there should be no dwelling-house erected at the public expense on an allotment of less than three acres? Assuredly one house to three acres is sufficient. The provision of the Act by which the limit is a plot of not less than one acre may lead to extravagance, over-building, and the imposition of a grave tax upon the local exchequer. Mr. Harcourt's desire is, of course, that every small holder should, by reason of his living on his holding, have an emphasised affection for it, and an emphasised anxiety for its success. This very same desire is really, however, an absolute justification for the anxiety of the Opposition to provide facilities for the complete purchase of the property by the small holder. If the fact that the small holding must inevitably be the home for the small holder stimulates and nerves his zeal, then the magic of ownership must assuredly deepen his hardihood and earnestness. It may be that Mr. Harcourt's resolve will operate in the direction of preventing too-small holdings. Both the county councils and the Whitehall executive would naturally hesitate to create mere patch holdings, if each petty adventure meant the erection of a dwelling-house. Perhaps Mr. Harcourt's provision will mean that only holdings will be created of an extent which offers a fair prospect of a livelihood. We may thus have a comfortable body of holders called into existence rather than an indigent body of holders.

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The Agrarian Achievements of the Session.

How far has the session affected agriculture and the agrarian areas? Well, whether or not the Small Holdings Act will achieve all its authors expect of it—one of its ebullient acclaimers declares that we may evolve out of the officialdom to be called into existence under it "some of the motive power which revolutionised Poor Law administration from the centre seventy years ago"—we must confess that the session has brought forth two other measures of the most vital moment to agriculture. Some of us would rather that the Government had adopted a more definite policy in regard to milk-blended butter, but, at all events, there is no contravening the assertion that the Butter Bill is a most valuable piece of legislation and has erected obstacles against fraud which should be hailed with enthusiasm by the whole agricultural community. The purpose behind it will not be completed until the fraudulent milk-monger is no longer able to poison the infant community by his deleterious chemical concoctions. The Foods Regulation Act is a measure which must operate to the advantage of the producers of pure and wholesome food—that is, the British farmers. The Local Government Board possesses powers under this Act that should make the foreign vendors of bags of mystery and tinned putrescences quake with fear. Honest English beef, mutton, and pork are not to be penalised in the English markets in order that the Transatlantic pig manufacturers may overgorge themselves with unhallowed profit. The foreign food products that enter into competition with English food products will be under the obligation to obey the laws of honest competition. Here, then, we have three notable achievements. If the influence of the Small Holdings Act on the economy of the country-side is more or less problematical—after all, years must pass ere its much heralded benevolence can have any serious expression—there can be no doubt whatever about the value of the Butter Act and the Foods Regulation Act. Both must confer an undeniable and immediate advantage on the general agrarian community. We can, indeed, point to no session in the last decade having for the country-side the moment of the past session. This is not the language of inflated partisanism ; it is the language of dispassion. If I desired to adduce another justification for it I would point to the fact that we are a stage nearer a bold and national system of afforestation.

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The Men of the Session.

No rural Parliamentarian has—apart from those possessing Front Bench rank—imposed himself upon the Parliamentary imagination. You can point to no representative of a rural constituency—always excepting the Front Bench men—and say, "Here is a man destined to make history and carve by his own deeds a niche in the nation's Valhalla." Mr. Harcourt, has, of course, revealed that in him we have a statesman of the finest intellectual distinction—firm in his grasp of his own design, clear and cogent in exposition, deft and resourceful in debate, and chivalrously courteous in his method. Mr. Chaplin has secured so remarkable a place in Parliamentary esteem in the last few months as to deepen the mystery of his supersession by Mr. Balfour in the formation of his last Government. Mr. Walter Long has emphasised his eminence ; but, though he did admirable work in connection with the Small Holdings Act, we now think of him as the accepted leader of Irish Unionism rather than as the land tenure and local government expert. Mr. Jesse Collings has displayed a fidelity to his earlier agrarian and land reform aspiration that has something of heroism in it. At the Local Government Board Mr. John Burns has revealed a prescient sympathy with rural and county anxieties that—though it has provoked his erstwhile associates to ribald fury—marks him out as a man of singularly receptive mind and practical methods. These are the men who, in reviewing the session through the agrarian lens, attract the eye. There are men, like Mr. Masterman on the Radical side, who have betrayed distinction, but it is the distinction of the idealist rather than the distinction of the practical mind. There are men, like Lord Turnour and Lord Helmsley on the Conservative side, who have intruded themselves pretty frequently in the debates, but this has been the intrusion rather of pertinacity than of statecraft. No ; the Front Bench men have, from the agricultural point of view, few rivals to their practical eminence.

By a fire which occurred on Tuesday upwards of £400 damage was done to a shed and three hay stacks on the Elton estate, near Stockton. There were two stacks of this year's crop and a shed owned by Mrs. D. Fletcher, Norton, and a stack of last year's crop, the property of Mr. T. Harrison, Middlesbrough.

THE ROYAL DUBLIN HORSE SHOW.

The fortieth annual show of horses and sheep, under the auspices of the Royal Dublin Society, was held in the beautiful grounds at Ball's Bridge on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday of last week, and was favoured with exceedingly fine weather for the proceedings. The flowing tide of favour that is now being lavished upon the horse was even more intense at Dublin than at the great show at Olympia in June last, and admirers in their thousands at Dublin came from all countries of the world to see the magnificent horses that from year to year make their appearance at this show. Ireland is peculiarly adapted for the production of Hunters and Thoroughbreds, the limestone and subsoil that prevails over so vast an extent of the country has much to do with the splendid growth and development that these horses make in the Emerald Isle; but there is another point that favours the breeding of these horses in Ireland that does not often enter into consideration when their merits are being discussed, and that is the softer surface obtaining practically the year round from the weeping skies of that country. When we compare the soft, genial footing that the Irish turf affords with the parched and often iron-bound surface in English pastures during the summer, it is at once seen how much more perfectly their limbs and joints will develop and become elastic with the softer treatment, as compared with the vibration that galloping about on an iron-bound surface invariably produces. The best racing blood obtainable has for many years found its way into Ireland one way or another, and the natural love of the Irish people for their horses has induced them to mate and manage the breeding of these horses with the greatest possible skill. The many leading events in the racing world that have fallen to the lot of Irish bred horses point unmistakably to the quality of stock that is produced, whilst setting practical things on one side, as a matter of beauty there is no other horse in the world that fills the eye like these magnificent Irish Hunters; their great power, quality, and style cause them to be the admiration of every foreigner that sets foot on British soil, whilst lovers of the chase at home are never so happy as when astride these great goers and jumpers. It is very satisfactory to run through the breeding of the best horses now exhibited at Dublin, to see how thoroughly certain horses of blood continue to hold their own in the keen competition of the present time. It is many years since we saw Ascetic winning first prize as the best weight-carrying Hunter sire in the Ball's Bridge grounds, and we recollect how we admired his magnificent loin quarters and general power, as well as his style and quality. There are, perhaps, not as many of the great sire's progeny left in Ireland as there ought to be, but in England one rarely comes across a good class of Hunter brood mares but what the name of Ascetic is associated with the breeding of one or other of them. Then there was another sire, Scene Shifter, that the writer very much admired, and the present catalogue of Ball's Bridge shows how his blood has made its mark and is still making. Royal Mask and his progeny, a grand sire of horses, will bear fruit for generations to come, and the successes of Hackler, Gallinule, and other notables are too prominent in every breeder's mind to need reference. With such good breeding on the part of its bones, such splendid development, and the flowing tide of favour that the gee gee is now securing from the general public, it is no wonder that the attendance at Ball's Bridge last week should be a record one all round, and that amongst its many visitors should be included the very cream of English society as well as the heads of other countries.

Thoroughbred Stallions.

The society's catalogue commences with the breeding classes, stallions eight years old and upwards, calculated to get weight-carrying Hunters, occupying the first place. The winner in these upon the present occasion was Mr. Patrick Cullinan's Flying Hackle, a ten-year-old brown, bred by the late P. J. Dunne near Trim, sired by the great horse Hackler, his dam Damoiselle by Atheling, who, if we recollect, was by Stirling.



JUDGING HUNTER GELDINGS, 13 TO 14 STONE, AT THE ROYAL DUBLIN HORSE SHOW.

Flying Hackle is a very good-looking horse, well built, and what all good judges like, has great depth of rib, and he is doing good work as a sire, so that it may be said he well deserves his great honour. The second horse was Anklebiter, also a brown and now fifteen years old; he was exhibited by Mr. J. C. Higgins from co. Tipperary, and bred by Mr. Chatterton in England; with Hampton and Gladiateur blood close up there is no wonder he has proved such an extraordinary sire, and has been very successful in winning prizes in most parts of Ireland. In addition to being put together properly, he has considerable substance which he bequeaths to his progeny in a remarkable manner, he is a good mover. The third honour went to another very good stallion, Ray's Cross, a nine-year-old bay, exhibited by the representatives of the late James Walsh, and bred by Mr. John Gubbins in co. Limerick. St. Florian was his sire, and his dam Dew Cross by Rosicrucian, so that the blood here is again good enough for anything, and Ray's Cross is a great favourite.

Class 2, for Thoroughbred stallions under eight years old calculated to get weight-carrying Hunters, produced seven entries, rather a small number for such an important class. Pretty easily at the head of these was Mr. E. W. Robinson's Red Sahib, a son of the grand old sire Red Prince II., now seven years old; he was bred by Mr. T. P. Butler at Tallow, in Co. Waterford, and is making his mark as a sire both in England and his native country, his progeny coming out well throughout; his dam was Hindoo Girl by Tacitus, granddam by Uncas. Mr. Arthur McMahon, from the Colt Stud Farm, Abbeyleix, won second prize in this class with Blairmore, a seven-year-old, bred by Mr. Craven in England, got by Blainfinde by Kendal, his dam by Albert Victor. This horse was a great favourite with many at the ringside, and looks like being as useful a sire in the future, as he has already been in the past. The third prize was awarded Mr. Francis Flannery for Firmillian, bred by Lord Ellesmere, and a grandson of Hampton on the sire's side and Carnival on the part of the dam. He is built for speed, and his progeny so far are doing remarkably well. The Croker Challenge Cup for the best horse in these two classes was awarded to Flying Hackle, and the reserve to Red Sahib.

Thoroughbred Yearling Colts.

Thoroughbred yearling colts came next. Of these there were forty-five entries; a very striking lot all round. The growth and development of these yearlings is altogether astonishing; they seem to show such amazing power with their good quality and breeding. First prize in these was accorded to Mr. J. C. O'Sullivan for Baliva, a chesnut by Americus, his dam Cloheen by Sceneshifter; he looks like developing into a grand horse in the future, and was bred by his owner. Messrs. Bourke, from Co. Kildare, exhibited the second prize winner Cadamstown Boy, also a chesnut bred by the late Mrs. Bourke; his sire Succoth by Enthusiast, and the dam by Bendemeer; his breeding and quality leave little to be desired. Dr. White, from Elphin, was both breeder and owner of the third prize colt, which is by Merry Methodist out of a dam by Terror, granddam by Solon, so that the best of breeding is present also in this instance. The Perpetual Challenge Cup for the best yearling colt was awarded to the first prize winner, Mrs. O'Callagan being reserve with a very nice chesnut of Ben D'Or blood on the sire's side out of a dam by Necromancy.

There was a great falling off in the number of yearling fillies as compared with last year, and several other previous years, only twenty-eight competing upon the present occasion, breeders probably finding that the forcing necessary for this early development is not beneficial from a breeding point of view later in life. Mrs. A. M. O'Callaghan was awarded first prize for a sweet filly by that great sire General Peace by Gallinule; Mr. J. G. Evans, from Co Meath, came in second with another very good filly of his own breeding by Diakka, which was followed by Lady St. Gris, a sweet bay bred by the late Captain Murphy, of Mullingar, exhibited by Mr. S. Ray from Naas;



THE HUNTER STALLS AT THE ROYAL DUBLIN HORSE SHOW LAST WEEK.

this filly was got by St. Gris, her dam by Autocrat. Again it is very pleasing to find the prize winners are all of such magnificent strains of blood.

Thoroughbred Brood Mares.

Thoroughbred brood mares with foal at foot comprised thirteen entries, the first of these being Mr. E. E. Lennon's Auburn's Pride, a nine-year-old, bred by Mr. Allan Cameron, in Co. Roscommon; she is by Hackler, her dam by Florian, and she has a colt foal at foot by General Peace Denis Richard. Mr. E. N. Power's Lady Gallinule—as her name indicates, is a daughter of Gallinule, her dam by Favo—obtained the second honour; and Mrs. O'Callaghan's beautiful mare Irish Girl, fourteen years old, full of quality, sired by Gallinule, was placed third. The class generally was very good.

Mares over six years old with foal at foot calculated to breed weight-carrying Hunters were thirteen in number. The winner in these was Mr. R. G. Carden's famous mare Lady Tacitus, bred by her owner and sired by Tacitus. In addition to the first prize, this mare also secured the Coote Challenge Cup and the Hunter's Improvement Society's Medal for the best Hunter brood mare. Mr. James Cole was placed second in the class with May Morning by Marmiton, her dam by Ascetic, another roan with quality about her. Mr. Lawrence F. Ball's Griffinrath by Hackler carried off the third prize. The best foals in this class were Mr. Patrick Turley's, by Astrologer 2nd, and the best filly foal, Mr. R. G. Carden's by The Gull.

Mares six years old and under with foal at foot to produce weight-carrying Hunters, contained eleven entries. The best of these was Mr. R. Geraghty's Annagor's Pride by Annagor, her dam by Prince Eugene. Mr. Daniel Burke's second prize mare Shannon Lass was a daughter of Black Prince, whilst the third prize mare, Mr. Hassett's Belle of New York, was a daughter of Troy by Kendal. Mr. D. F. Casey obtained fourth for Star of Ross by Man of Ross, and Mrs Panton's Magnesia by Red Prince II. was reserved. Most of the mares in the latter classes were animals of great stamina and quality, exactly calculated to breed weight-carrying Hunters of the highest class.

Hunters.

The general Hunter classes were once more filled very satisfactorily as regards numbers, and though a good number of prizes went to English horses, still, on the whole quality was very satisfactory as regards the home exhibits. The demand for first-class Irish Hunters has been very great for two or three years past, and the country has been scoured over privately from time to time by English and foreign buyers, who are always anxious to secure the most promising young stock to take to their own countries. Naturally this makes a great deal of difference to the Irish exhibits. The best weight-carrying Hunter up to 15 stone and over was Colonel Grenfell's Sir John; he was bred by Mr. Patrick Coughlan in Co. Cork, whilst the first prize winner in the next class up to from 14 to 15 stone was Tytchley, exhibited by Mr. John Drage from England, but bred in Ireland. The same exhibitor also secured first honour in the following class up to 14 stone. This, again however, was an Irish bred horse. Still another honour went to Mr. Drage for an English exhibit, the famous Hunter All Gold, but he too was bred in Ireland, and is one of the finest stamp of Hunters that has been seen in England this year. The remaining classes of Hunters may be dismissed with a few general remarks that, as a rule, the younger horses show very fine breeding and great general improvement in style as compared with the earlier days of the society's labours.

Harness Horses.

Harness horses were largely in the hands of English exhibitors, Mr. John Kerr winning first in Double Harness with Loudwater Robin Hood and Loudwater Little John; the same exhibitor was also first in another class with Loudwater Gongelt and Loudwater Grangelt, which also secured the Milward Jones Perpetual Challenge Cup for the best pair of carriage horses. Mr. Kerr also got another first prize for Loudwater Fashion and Loudwater Flourish, whilst other winners from England were Mr. Paul Hoffman and Miss Ella Ross.

The pony Harness classes were also very satisfactory. The chief winners in these were Miss Gubbins, Mr. W. G. Carson, and Miss Anderson.

The Harness classes altogether attracted considerable attention—more than usual, and the pacing class also created great interest.

SHEEP.

The display of sheep throughout was considerably over the average, some breeds presenting vast improvements upon any previous occasion, notably the Oxford Downs, which appear to be flourishing in Ireland and extending their quarters very rapidly. Border Leicesters also still hold their own, as do Lincolns, Roscommons, and the Mountain breeds. Shropshires, though a good representation, have been as good upon some previous occasions, probably better; whilst Hampshires do not appear to be gaining many friends.

This section of the catalogue commences with the Border Leicester breed, which, as already intimated, well hold their own; indeed, have seldom if ever been so good. The chief exhibitors in these and the most successful were Mr. T. W. Stokes, from Hillsborough, Co. Down; Sir Algernon Coote, from Mountrath; Mr. C. M. Doyne, a very old exhibitor, Mr. R. W. Bell, also from Hillsborough: Miss Staples, and several others. The Irish bred exhibits well held their own, the Border Leicester challenge cup being awarded to Mr. R. W. Bell for sheep of his own breeding. Aged and shearling rams were very good, the latter class having no less than twenty-eight entries; the other classes were not as well filled numerically, shearling ewes and ewe lambs having eight entries each.

The old native breed of Roscommon sheep, one of the hardiest and most useful in any country, also present great improvement, especially in the older portion of them. Lambs of this breed were not quite as well matured as they might have been. That veteran breeder of this variety, Mr. G. R. Acheson, from Co. Roscommon, carried off the challenge cup for this breed, and was very successful throughout; other very successful breeders being Mr. P. J. Fitzmaurice, Mr. Edward Scott, and Mr. M. R. Anderson.

Lincolns, as already stated, were well up to former years. The challenge cup for this breed went to Mr. R. G. Carden, who exhibited some capital specimens, both of his own breeding and also from England. Mr. J. R. Lloyd, Mr. Joseph O'Brien, Mr. Patrick Hanlon and several other breeders were also well represented, and shared in the honours; whilst Mr. Richard Reynell carried off first prize for ram lambs and also for shearling rams.

The Black-faced Mountain breed of sheep are increasing rapidly in Ireland, and becoming greatly in favour both with breeders and buyers. There is an immense area of mountain land in that country that suits them fine, whilst the small joints and high quality of their mutton will always make them favourites with the consumer and butcher. The majority of these and the best of them were in the hands of Mr. H. D M. Barton, and displayed very nice quality and breed type. Colonel John Leslie was also a successful exhibitor, as well as Mr. S. M. Dobbs.

The challenge cup for the Shropshire breed was won by Mr. R. F. H. White, who exhibited a number of entries of capital stock animals that well retained the attributes of the Shropshire breed, and full of quality. Lady Margaret Chartteris was also a very successful exhibitor, as were Mr. R. H. Stubber, Lord Barrymore, Captain W. L. Naper, and others.

Oxford Downs were very strongly exhibited by Dr. Vaughan Harley, from Buckinghamshire, whose exhibits carried practically everything before them, winning the special prize as well as first honours in each class.

Hampshire Downs were few in number, and all in the hands of Mr. J. C. Hanbury, whilst Sir Algernon Coote annexed all the money in the Cheviot section.

Black-faced Suffolks had a single representative exhibited by Mr. B. F. Eustace.

THE WEEK'S SHOWS.

Derbyshire.

The annual show of the Derbyshire Agricultural Society, which was suspended last year on account of the visit of the Royal, was held at Derby last week in glorious weather; and though the entries were fewer than in 1905, this cannot be put down to the suspension last year, but to the fact that the season has prevented many from showing, and also to the fact that this exhibition clashed with that of the Warwickshire Agricultural Society. The cattle numbered only 86, as against 123 in 1905 and 108 in 1904. Of horses there were 307, as compared with 424 and 365 respectively, whilst sheep numbered 37, an increase of 5; pigs 30, an increase of 10; and butter and cheese 49, as against 48 in 1905. A new departure was a dog section, in which both the King and Queen were represented, their Majesties winning with Borzois, bassett hounds, and spaniels.

Derbyshire has always enjoyed a notable reputation for Shires, and the representatives this year were again up to a very high standard of quality. The cup offered by Mr. Edward Elsey for the best mare, filly, or foal was won by Mr. Egerton Orme, of Etwall, who was amongst the most successful exhibitors in the Shire section. Another of Mr. Orme's entries, a four months' filly foal, was placed reserve for the cup, and also won the "any age" cup offered by Mr. J. W. Whitehurst, conditionally upon the exhibit having been sired from the Markeaton Stud. The same exhibit won Mr. G. H. Bennett's cup for a tenant farmer's foal, whilst still another success which Mr. Orme scored was in being placed reserve for the Bennett trophy with Ash James, a beautiful four months' old colt, by Dunsmore Jameson, which has already had a distinguished career, having taken first at the Staffordshire show, and at Tutbury and Belper. Mr. J. W. Whitehurst was another successful exhibitor of Shires, his most notable achievement being the winning of the Shire Horse Society's gold medal with a capital three-year-old filly, to which Mr. Orme's two-year-old Combermere Abbess was placed reserve. In the open Shire classes many of the winning exhibits were of wide reputation. With Bardon Ruler, Mr. W. T. Everard, of Bardon Hall, Leicester, won the first prize in the open competition for two-year-old entire colts. In the next open class the winner was Mr. F. Farnsworth's Ratcliffe Coming King, a son of that well-known sire Lockinge Forest King. Mr. Whitehurst's Yatesbury Lass, a finely-proportioned five-year-old chesnut mare, was first in both the open and limit classes for mares with a foal at foot. She was the winner of the challenge cup at Bakewell, and was also very successful at Belper. In the open and local colt classes Ash James once more carried all before him, and Mr. Orme's cup-winning filly also had a strong lead in the classes in which she was shown. Mr. Everard's Ashleigh Royal Duchess was adjudged the best two-year-old filly in the open competition, and another of Mr. Everard's fillies was the first-prize winner amongst those included in the open entry for yearlings.

The Hackney and harness classes contained a number of celebrities who, with one or two exceptions, conquered once more in the ring. The judges started with contests restricted to landlords and tenants. Here the Messrs. Cockayne, of Sheffield, scored with Paddock Queen and a Paddock Polonius foal. The youngster was also decorated with one of the Hackney Society's silver medals. The Sheffield-owned Paddock Lucy, however, could not win in an open class from Mr. J. W. Featherby's (York) Astonishment, who, since his striking successes at the Yorkshire, has repeatedly been in the very forefront. The pick of the yearlings was Norbury Roosevelt, sent by Mr. E B. Carnley, of Alford, Lincolnshire. Coming to the harness horses, Astonishment again held the lead among geldings and mares over 15 hands, second position being occupied by Paddock Performer. Mr. G. E. Franklin's King Gobang easily beat all the animals between 14 and 15 hands pitted against him. With regard to ponies under 14 hands, a strong outside opinion did not accord with the decision which put Mr. Charles Clark's (Whaley Bridge) Ingoldsby in front of Mr. Caleb Jones's (Sheffield) Warburton Aneroid, who was a leading Royal winner. The Wigginton Stud, Tamworth, came first with tandems, with the Messrs. Cockayne second.

Shorthorns were not so good as we have seen them at Derby, and in some cases were rather disappointing. Among a moderate group of aged bulls the premier place was assigned to Pride of Sunshine, bred by the King, and owned by Mr. Thomas Atkinson, of Redvale's Farm, Bury, Lancashire. The leading yearling bull was a handsome Lincoln Red, Burton Hermit II. from Mr. John Even's noted herd. Bull calves were just useful, the winners being entered by Mr. R. Finney, of Hemmington, Derby, and Mr. R. Smedley, of Asher Fields, Pentrich, near Derby. The Shorthorn Society's county prize of £10 for bull calved in 1906 was won by Mr. Smedley with a beautiful roan named Rolleston Diamond of Sir Oswald Mosley's breeding Cows and heifers were more meritorious than the bulls, though, with the exception of the yearling heifer class, the competition was very weak, three contests only producing a total entry of ten. The first prize of £10 for pedigree dairy cows was given by the Shorthorn Society, the second of £5 coming from the society promoting the show. For these substantial premiums only two animals competed, and their milk yields and breeding qualities were of such a character that they secured both awards. The winners were Ruth Clarence 32nd and Mercote Lavender Princess, and they represented the herd of Mr. Reuben Shelton, of Ruddington, Notts. One of the best classes was that for cows in milk or to calve in 1907. The fight for pride of place lay between Mr. Atkinson's Jennie and Mr. Even's Burton Quality 3rd, victory resting with the Lancashire cow, who was champion at Peterborough and first at Leicestershire and Lancashire. Mr. Atkinson was again to the fore in the two-year-old heifer class, his entry beating the Staffordshire-owned Cheddleton Peri. Captain W. B. Harrison, of Aldershaw, Lichfield, has a capital yearling heifer in Aldershaw Primrose 3rd, who scored rather easily over the Duchess of York, exhibited by Messrs. W. and A. Holden, of Chevin, Belper. In the section devoted to Channel Islands cattle, Mr. O. F. Mosley, of Melton Mowbray, was first prize winner in each of the three classes, whilst the whole of

the Kerry and Dexter Kerry cattle came from the Duchess of Devonshire's herd.

One would have liked to have seen a bigger display of sheep, though there was little fault to find with the quality. The successful exhibitors of long-woolled specimens were Messrs. Francis Dunn, Flagg, Burton (four firsts and three seconds); A. J. Tomlinson, Bubnell Hall, Baslow (one first), and Philip Walker, Shipley, near Ilkeston (one second). Shortwoolled sheep were stronger in numbers, but Mr. W. Gibbs, of Kirk Langley, Derby, claimed five first and two second premiums; Mr. T. B. Handley, of the Lowes, Swarkestone, took a first and a second; Sir Peter Walker gained two seconds, and Mr. Poyser, of Swarkestone, had a second prize.

Pigs, too, were not particularly numerous, but good all round. In the Large White breed classes Mr. R. M. Knowles, of Colston Bassett Hall, Notts, won three firsts and a second, the other two second awards at the disposal of the judges falling to Mr. Thomas Hewson, of Peterborough. The whole of the six prizes for Tamworths went to Mr. F. W. Gilbert, of Swarkestone.

Worsley.

The Worsley and District Agricultural Society decided to hold their show on a Wednesday this year instead of the usual Saturday, and it is satisfactory to be able to report that the experiment proved a complete success, for on Wednesday last the attendance at Drywood Park was greater than ever. Despite the occurrence of other shows the same day, the entry of stock and dogs was the best the society has had, and the satisfactory feature was that the increase in quality and numbers was in the classes of stock that have hitherto been rather weak. Thus the cart horses were by far the best the society has had for some years, the cattle were better, pigs exceptionally good, and the dog show was an excellent one. In the horticultural show the entries, owing to the season, were fewer; but in quality the growers of vegetables who showed seemed to have risen superior to the season. Cats and rabbits have become so important that they had a separate tent. The Earl and Countess of Ellesmere were present during the best part of the day, and the Countess presented the cups to the fortunate winners.

Airedale.

The Airedale Agricultural Society were fortunate enough to have delightfully fine weather for the show at Bingley on Wednesday, and thus the forty-first annual meeting of the society proved one of the most successful. The total entries were 1,797, against 1,685 last year, and 1,514 the year before. This may not be quite equal to some of the totals achieved when the show was spread over two days, but it is far ahead of any of the records of recent years, and is probably the best of all the single day exhibitions. Simultaneously with the expansion of the catalogue there is an increase of about £55 in the prize money, which amounted in all to not far short of £600. One result of a liberal policy was seen in the high quality of the exhibits. Horses and cattle made a decidedly better show, and sheep, which a year ago had to be eliminated because of the poorness of the entry, numbered 48, several of the best known breeders being among the exhibitors. Shires and Hackneys composed the bulk of the horse section; all the cattle were either pure Shorthorns or of the Shorthorn type, and some of the best strains were represented.

Wigton.

The Wigton (Cumberland) Agricultural Society held their fifty-third show at Highmoor on Thursday, when, unfortunately, the weather was far from favourable, and thus affected the attendance. The show of stock was a highly creditable one, and had the weather been better the animals would have shown to much greater advantage. The entries totalled over 500, an increase of 80 upon last year, in addition to which a poultry section, added for the first time, had about 300 entries. Shorthorn cattle and heavy horses were the feature. All the successful Wigton district cattle breeders were represented, and no better show has been seen here, despite the fact that many young bulls and heifers have lately been sold out of the district for exportation. Heavy horses were solely confined to the Clydesdale breed, and were well up to the average, and there was the best show of slender horses for some years.

Arrangements have practically been concluded by Earl Carrington, as president of the Board of Agriculture to let a further area of over 900 acres of land in the Isle of Sheppey, in six holdings. This land has been farmed by the Crown in hand for the last ten years, as no tenant could be found for it. The last report on the Crown lands shows that the area of land in hand when Earl Carrington took over the management of the Crown lands was 3,494 acres, which will now be reduced by this and previous lettings to 490 acres, consisting of one farm in Oxfordshire.

Warwickshire.

The Warwickshire Agricultural Society's Show at Rugby apparently did not suffer by clashing with that of the Derbyshire Agricultural and Horticultural Society, for the entries were the best on record, totalling 1,007, as compared with 759 at Nuneaton last year, 809 at Coventry in 1905, and 889 at Rugby in 1895. The large entry was certainly gratifying, and for it some credit must be given to the Rugby and Dunchurch Agricultural Association, for they abandoned their show and amalgamated with the county society, thus helping to make the event worthy of the county.

Cattle.

Catt'e came first in the catalogue, and they made an excellent show all round, though the bulls and dairy cattle were perhaps the outstanding features. The tenant farmers' and local classes showed what a marked improvement is being carried out in the breeding of these animals, whilst in the open classes there were many animals that had figured successfully in other parts of the country. A notable exhibitor and prize winner was Sir Richard Cooper, whose famous Shenstone Court herd of Shorthorns added considerably to its already long list of honours. Sir Richard won premier honours in an exceptionally strong class of bulls with Chiddingstone Malcolm, a weighty roan of true type, Mr. George Harrison, of Darlington, coming second in this class with Elvetham Sweetmeat, bred by Lord Calthorpe, a remarkably good roan. In the class for younger bulls the positions of these two exhibitors were reversed, Mr. Harrison winning the premier prize with Pride of Tees, a very promising son of Primrose Pride. Shenstone Gipsy Lad, who has won several firsts this season, was the animal which secured second prize for Sir Richard Cooper. A prize for the best Shorthorn bull in Warwickshire attracted a good entry of useful animals, the best of which was a young red named Birk's Jewel, belonging to Mr. John Crawley, of Rugby. In the Shorthorn dairy cow class, Lord Rothschild won easily with Red Rose 3rd, a beautifully proportioned animal, Mr. W. A. H. Bass, Burton, being second with Lady Dorothy 50th. In the class for cows over three years there was a collection numbering fourteen, and the coveted red card was secured by Mr. Harrison, who was represented by Towey Princess. Competition in the heifer classes was also keen. Of the animals under three years old the best was Sir Alexander Henderson's Buscot Truth, a good looking red heifer bred at Buscot Park, whilst in the class for heifers under two years old, Sir Richard scored with a couple of well-known show animals.

That much neglected but interesting and useful breed, the Longhorns, as usual figured in the catalogue—the only county show at which they have done so this year—and they were the centre of much attention on the part of visitors. Mr. W. Hanson Sale, of Atherstone, was a prominent winner. In the cow class he won the first and second prizes, the former with Lady Panza, the handsome red and white, which won first at the Royal in her class and first there in the milking tests, and the second with another typical specimen named Arden Dairymaid. Mr. W. Shaw, Jun., took all three prizes for heifers, whilst Mr. W. L. Riley, Mr. B. Levett, and Mr. Sale divided the prizes for bulls. There were only two classes for Channel Island cattle, and the winners were good types of the breed.

Horses.

The agricultural horses were as usual the feature of the horse section, some of the best known breeders being represented. The Shire stallions were an excellent lot, fit for any show, and it was a big honour to win in such company. Mr. F. E. Muntz's King Forest was the winner, Emly Friar, Mr. Barr's brown stallion, coming second. Shire colts were strong both in numbers and quality, but Sir Albert P. Muntz, Bart., M.P., had little difficulty in carrying off first and second awards, Mr. Farnsworth's Ratcliffe Charming King being placed third. Yearlings were good all through, and the first two fillies in the open class, shown by Sir P. A. Muntz and Mr. Carrington respectively, have taken prizes all over the country. In the open class for Shire fillies Mr. F. E. Muntz won first with Aldeby Lady Jameson, a high-priced purchase at the recent Dunsmore sale, and unquestionably one of the finest of the Shire mare type at her age. Messrs. Thompson's Desford Future Queen, who has won both at London and other shows, came second. The class for Shire mares, four years old and upwards, was remarkable from the fact that nealy every animal has been a winner at the Royal or London shows. The first prize went to Mr. Appleby's Lockinge Garnet, a mare of very nice quality, and possessing grand movement. In the open class for colt foals Sir P. A. Muntz won with an animal which has won on each occasion shown, Mr. Wait coming second with a colt of beautiful build and character. In the open class for filly foals Sir Alexander Henderson came to the front with Buscot Rosemary, a nicely-balanced, well-grown animal. The Duke of Sutherland's filly, placed second, was younger than the winner, but she has a prominent future before her. The Dunsmore Cup was secured by the Duke of Sutherland's Lilleshall Moss Rose, an animal of great scale and width generally, which was second in the class for Shire mares with foal at foot, and many thought she ought to have been placed first. The Parnell Cup and Roberts Challenge Bowl went to Mr. Dunn's Glen Rose, a magnificent brown, with a long, low body, set upon grand legs.

Though not equal to the Shires the hunters, hacks, and ponies made a very good show. Mr. Eaton Kimbell won the Hunters' Improvement Society's gold medal for the best brood hunter mare with Nora Creina, who took first in the class for mares adapted for breeding hunters, in foal or with foal at foot; whilst the silver medal was taken by Mr. F. D. Wilkinson's Quick March, winner of the first prize for a two year-old filly likely to grow into a hunter. In the hunter classes there was, as has been the case up to now, nothing to approach Whisky, Mr. J. H. Stokes's grand bay. He was placed first in the middle-weight hunters' class, and thus brought his total winnings up to eighty-one firsts and twenty-eight championships. He had to beat a number of good horses, amongst them Mr. F. D. Wilkinson's Summertime, and another from his own stables named Mustard. Mr. F. D. Wilkinson secured the first prize for the best light-weight hunter with Cardonald, which has nice shoulders, splendid bone, and fine action, whilst in the weight carrying class for Hunters, Mr. Stokes had no difficulty in carrying off first with Axiom, which was described by a judge as handy as a pony and beautiful to ride. Mr. Sedgley's King Cole, who secured the second prize, is something of the same type as the winner, but lacks his substance.

Sheep.

The Shropshires were the chief attraction in the sheep section, though there was an uncommonly good display of Oxford Downs. In the open classes for Shropshires Sir Richard Cooper maintained his reputation by securing first prize for shearling rams, second prize for shearling ewes, and first for five ewe lambs; whilst Sir P. A. Muntz got the second prize for rams and the first prize for shearling ewes. In the class for two ram lambs of the Oxford Down type the first prize was secured by Mr. W. J. P. Reading, of Lechdale, whose exhibits beat those of Mr. J. Horlick, Cheltenham, but the latter came to the front in the class for shearling rams or ram lambs, and was also second for five ewe lambs. Lord Southampton was the winner in that for five shearling ewes, Mr. J. T. Smith, Towcester, coming second.

Pigs.

Pigs made the best and largest display for several years. Mr. R. Ibbotson, of Knowle, won the principal prizes for Tamworths, including the Tamworth Pig Breeders' Association's gold medal for the best representative of the breed. Mr. Thomas Henson and Mr. John Neaverson, both of Peterborough, secured nearly all the prizes for Large or Middle Whites. Mr. Henson took the National Pig Breeders' Association's silver medal for the best boar of Large White, Middle White, or Tamworth breed with Peterborough City, Mr. R. Ibbotson being reserve with Knowle Don, which was also reserve for the Tamworth Pig Breeders' Association's special, whilst the Pig Breeders' Association's silver medal for best sow of same breeds fell to Mr. J. Neaverson's Eye Lass 2nd, Mr. R. Ibbotson's Chesnut 10th, the champion Tamworth, being reserve. For Berkshires, which were not numerous but of first-class quality, the prizes were taken by Mr. R. W. Hudson, Mr. F. G. Gilbert, Derby, and the Rev. H. T. Longden.

Cartmel.

The Cartmel Agricultural Society's thirty-fifth annual show was held on Tuesday in Cartmel Park, on the Duke of Devonshire's Holker estate in North Lancashire—an ideal place for an agricultural show—and being favoured with delightfully fine weather was very largely attended. The entries numbered 738 as compared with 713 last year and 718 in 1905. Cattle were slightly down, but in the horse and sheep sections there were substantial increases, the figures being—horses 184, against 155 last year, and sheep 96, compared with 76. The outstanding feature of the show was the excellent display of heavy horses, a fact which is largely due to the efforts of the patron of the society, Mr. Victor C. W. Cavendish, M.P., to encourage Shire breeding in the Cartmel Valley.

The cattle section consisted of excellent displays of both Shorthorns and Jerseys, the latter being perhaps the best lot seen at a local show in Lancashire this year. The Blythwood Challenge Bowl, offered by Sir James Blyth, Bart., for the best Jersey cow or heifer, has this year been won outright by Mr. J. J. Shepherd, of Grange, with a fawn heifer calved in 1905, and sired by President out of Pearl II. Mr. M. Phizacklea, of Newby Bridge, gained the Fowler Challenge Cup with a nice heifer, while Mr. J. Johnson, of Mireside, took Captain Fraser's Challenge Cup with a Don Carlo.

Cheshire.

Prior to 1905, the Cheshire Agricultural Society held migratory exhibitions, but the results were not encouraging, and it was decided to try the plan of holding five successive shows at Chester, and the experiment has proved entire'y successful, for the third show held on Wednesday was, like its two immediate predecessors, a success from every point of view. The entries totalled 2,335, compared with 2,395 last year and 1,995 in 1905; and the attendance was a record, reaching 11,182 at five o'clock, compared with 8,701 in 1906 and 8,578 in 1905. The president is Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., who has done so much to foster the breeding of good stock. Sir Gilbert, who was accompanied by Lady Greenall, shared in the duties of judging, and also presided at the public luncheon.

Cheese and Butter.

Cheese was given premium position in the catalogue, and naturally the famous Cheshire was shown to the greatest advantage; in fact, it was considered by many to be one of the finest shows of cheese ever seen at this county's exhibitions, the remark applying more particularly to the coloured cheese. The champion cheese was found in the coloured class, and it was shown by Mr. H. Denson, a tenant on the estate of the Duke of Westminster. Thus it was quite in the order of things that the Duke of Westminster's cup should be won by one of the Duke's tenants. The quality of the cheese was described as being extremely rich, of silky texture and of handsome make.

Although there was only one class for butter there was a capital entry, most of the butter makers in Cheshire and adjacent counties competing, and the quality generally was very good.

Cattle.

There were fewer entries than usual in the cattle section—a falling off in number, which may have been due to the late date at which the show was held. Quality, however, was very good, one of the judges declaring that the section generally was the best he had seen at the county show. In the class for bulls above two years old several of the bulls were of such level quality that the judges had to call in a referee to decide between Mr. C. E. Parton's (Haughton) Evening Star and Mr. John Hobson's (Audlem) red bull for first and second prizes. The principal prize was finally awarded to Mr. Parton, which was the youngest bull in the class, being just over two years old. Yearling bulls were considered to be the strongest and best class in the show, and the best of them was Village Purple, Mr. Miller's bull, which won at the Birkenhead Show. In the class for bulls under one year, Mr. C. W. Kellock with Buxom Jack was a notable winner, and he won also in the class for bulls under two years. The dairy classes contained a number of deep milking cattle. In the four-year-old class Waterloo Rose 4th, the property of Mr. S. Sanday, of Puddington, was a good winner, and among other well-known exhibitors, who were first-prize winners, was Mr. S. S. Raingill. of Altrincham; Messrs. Parton and Charles Bell, of Norley. Sir Gilbert Greenall's silver cup for the best dairy cow was won by Mr. S. S. Raingill, whilst the Cheshire Land Agents' Association's silver cup for the best bull was awarded to Mr. Edwin Clarke, Moss Brow, Warburton. Two classes for the exhibition of Channel Island cattle and labourers' cows failed to attract attention, and the judges suggested that they should be discontinued.

Horses.

The heavy horse classes were somewhat weak as regards numbers, but some good quality animals were forward. The Earl of Egerton's Hendre Prince William was the only entry in the class for Shire stallions foaled prior to 1904, whilst there were only two entries in the two-year-old class, the winner of which was shown by the Keynsham Stud Co., of Monmouth. In the two-year-old class, Rustic Friar, the property of Mr. Lewis Dodd, of Tarporley, justified his previous fine record in the show yard, for besides taking first prize he also secured the Shire Horse Society's medal for the best stallion. The class for three-year-old geldings or fillies was a strong one, and here Mr. S. S. Raingill won with a big filly, which later secured the cup presented by Earl Egerton of Tatton for the best Shire mare. The two-year-old fillies were a strong class, but there were only one or two good promising youngsters in the yearling class, the best in the class being a useful filly exhibited by Mr. Lewis Dodd. In the class for mares or geldings for agricultural purposes, the grey mare Darling from Mr. James Gould's famous stud won easily, and she also carried off the prize for brood mares For brood mares with foals, Mr. R. Evans, of Belgrave, led the way in an excellent class, beating Mr. Gould and Mr. Beecroft. There were some good filly foals for agricultural purposes, but the colt foals were a somewhat indifferent lot.

The clashing with the Warwickshire and other shows caused the light horse entries to be fewer than usual, but on the whole the Hackneys were first class. The open class of stallions attracted six entries, and the prize went to Mr. A L Goodson's Heathfield Fireaway, a very fine chesnut. The brood mares were not up to the standard of the stallions taken collectively, but the winning mare, which belonged to Mr. Hinrichsen, of Congleton, was a very nice animal, which secured the Hackney Horse Society's medal. The two leading Roadster foals attracted some attention, but the other foals were not of a high standard. Mr. Goodson showed a previous winner in the yearling Hackneys, and was again the winner of the first prize.

Hunters made a much better show than the Hackneys, as they should do in such a hunting country. One of the strongest classes was that for Hunter colts or fillies, which contained animals representative of the best stock. The brood mares and the fillies likely to make Hunters were excellent. Among the colts, Mr. F. W. Hesketh's bay, which won one of the Tarporley Hunt Club's prizes, was the best, whilst Mr. Joseph Millington, of Middlewich, won with an excellent gelding in the mare or gelding class, this being the animal's eleventh successive first.

Sheep and Pigs.

Sheep were more numerous than they have been for a number of years, and all round it was a good show. As representatives of their respective breeds, the Shropshires, Leicestershires, and Lincolns were especially strong, and the prize winners would have held their own in the very best company.

There was even a better show of pigs, the Large Whites and the Berkshires being exceptionally good, as may be imagined when it is stated that the exhibitors included such well-known breeders as Sir Gilbert Greenall, Mr. Jefferson, of Peel Hall, and Messrs. Dodd, of Mollington. The last named won in the class for Large White boar against a strong entry, and again in the breeding sow class with a sow that was reserved at the Royal Show, whilst they also won with the litter from this sow—a dual victory which is not often achieved. In the Berkshire classes Mr. Jefferson had matters all his own way, for he won in the boar class, beat all comers in the class for breeding sow—the animal exhibited being considered a perfect type—and he was again successful in the class for pair of gilts. In the Large Black breeds Mr. Frank Dodd, of Tarvin, and Mr. J. A. Jackson, of Bolesworth, were the principal winners. Quality was strongly represented among the any other variety breeds. Sir Gilbert Greenall in the boar and sow classes was a notable winner with animals which won at the Royal Show, the boar having been a winner every time it has been out.

Buxton.

Buxton Horse Show is not often favoured by the weather, so that a fine day for the show held on August 24 was heartily appreciated by the society, as was also the large attendance. The entries were, however, not so numerous, being 213, as compared with 247 in 1906. In 1903 and 1904 the respective totals were 305 and 304, while an entry of 370 in 1900 constituted a record.

In accordance with the custom at Buxton, district classes were provided in each of the sections making up the horse department. Shires were a creditable collection, and though some of the local competitions might have been stronger, horses from neighbouring studs asserted their superiority in the open classes. A notable example of this was seen in the honours bestowed upon Mr. Robert Whitehead's Peak Dolly, a London winner, who looked very fit. After heading a local class of brood mares and obtaining the Partington Challenge Cup in a limited contest, she was, through winning the Wainwright Challenge Cup, declared to be the champion female. She added a fourth victory to her list of successes by being awarded the Shire Horse Society's silver medal. The Whitehead Challenge Cup, confined to six local classes, was gained by Mr. Joseph Swindell's Buscot Smart, a six-year old bay mare by Markeaton Royal Harold. The open brood mare class had a distinguished leader in Mr. H. H. Smith-Carrington's Hendre Crown Princess, who shows all the bloom of maturity.

Hackneys are never a big order here, and this year's display can only be described as moderate. One or two animals stood out in every class, the rest being of just middling quality. Mrs. Fred Holmes's Dainty Kate had an easy win under the saddle, but she was only placed second when brought out in harness, being beaten by an unnamed representative of Messrs. Cockanes's study.

There was a nice show of Hunters. The first prize taker in a couple of local brood mare classes, Mr. R. B. Tennent's Violate, was awarded the Hunters' Improvement Society's gold medal,

SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS.

ALTRINCHAM SHOW. WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 25. £1,850 IN PRIZES, besides Silver Cups and Medals, for Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Goats, Turn-outs, Hunters, Jumpers, Roots and Grain, Butter, Cheese, Honey, Implements, Dogs, Poultry, Pigeons, Rabbits, Cats, and Cavies. Prize list may be had from the Secretary,

J. HERBERT HALL,
2, Dunham Road, Altrincham.

Entries close.—All Classes except Implements, Space and Dogs, Saturday, September 7, with double fees up to September 11; Implements and Space, August 31; Dogs, September 13.

FROME SHOW.—WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1907.
Schedules of the Secretary,
T. C. HARDING,
Auctioneer, Frome.

THAME AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.
Show will be held on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1907.
Entries close as follows:—Fat Sheep, Class 8, March 5; Wet Sheep, Class 5, 6 and 7, April 16; Hedging, Classes 9 and 10, March 20; Steadside and Ploughing Classes, August 31; Horses, Cattle and Sheep, Roots, Honey, Poultry, Butter and Eggs, August 31; Rick Building and Thatching, September 16.
J. B—n, Secretary.

DAIRY SHOW, LONDON, OCT. 8, 9, 10 & 11.—Great Exhibition of DAIRY CATTLE, PRODUCE, APPLIANCES, &c. Entries close SEPT. 9.
Particulars of Wm. C. YOUNG. Secretary, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

WOLSINGHAM AND WEAR VALLEY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S 144TH ANNUAL SHOW will be held at Wolsingham, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1907 (on same site as Durham County Shows held in 1892 and 1906).
Cattle, Sheep, Horses, Ponies, 8 Classes Riding and Driving, Leaping, Pony Scamper, Goats, Dogs (K.C.L.), Honey, Dairy Produce, Field Produce, Open and Local Classes, Sheep-Dog Trials, Poultry, Pigeons, Rabbits, Cats, Cavies, Cage Birds (C.B.U.), &c.
Entries close August 31.
Schedules from
T. C. HUME,
Leazes Lodge,
Wolsingham, Co. Durham.

WARWICKSHIRE HUNT HORSE SHOW at KINETON, SEPTEMBER 20, 1907. Entries close September 3.—LORD WILLOUGHBY DE BROKE, Hon Secretary, Kineton, Warwickshire.

KINGTON HORSE SHOW, SEPTEMBER 19, 1907.
Competition Open to the United Kingdom.
£350 in PRIZES and FOUR SILVER MEDALS.
Heavy Weight Hunter—
1st Prize, £20; 2nd, £10; 3rd, £5.
Light Weight Hunter—
1st Prize, £10; 2nd, £5.
Entries close Sept. 3, or with Double Fee, Sept. 7. Prize Schedules and Entry Forms from the Secretary, T. H. VAUGHAN MORRIS, Byford House, near Hereford.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD & LINSLADE FOAL SHOW SOCIETY held on SEPTEMBER 17 (TUESDAY).
Entries close September 3. Post entries (double fees) September 10.
WALTER C. PRUDAMES. } Hon.
W. GRAVELY W. WILLIS } Secretaries.

SOUTHDOWN FLOCK BOOK.
NOTICE is hereby given that the Southdown Flock Book will be definitely closed to unregistered flocks on December 31 next, after which date no sheep from unregistered flocks will be accepted under any conditions whatever.
Owners who have not yet registered their flocks are earnestly requested to write for full information respecting the Southdown Sheep Society to
W. J. WICKHAM,
Secretary.
12, Hanover Square,
London, W.

GRANSDEN AND DISTRICT, at GREAT GRANSDEN.
SEPTEMBER 24, 1907.
Entries close September 10.
H. J. KISBY, Secretary.
Great Gransden, Sandy, Beds.

HAY HORSE SHOW, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1907.
Entries close on September 5th; double fees, September 12th.
REECE MORRIS, Secretary,
Broad Street, Hay, Hereford.

MARKET DRAYTON & DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
THE EIGHTH ANNUAL SHOW of HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, LIVE & DRESSED POULTRY, PIGEONS, CHEESE, BUTTER, DOGS, BEES, HONEY, BEESWAX, HORSE LEAPING, SINGLE TURNOUTS, and TANDEMS, will be held at the SYCH (adjoining the Railway Station), MARKET DRAYTON, ON THURSDAY, 19th SEPTEMBER, 1907.
19 VALUABLE CUPS and MEDALS.
Entries Close for Butter, Live and Dressed Poultry, Pigeons, Eggs, Bees, and Honey, 9th September; Dogs, 12th September; Horse Leaping and Turnouts, 18th September.
Schedules and Entry Forms from the Hon. Secretary, THOS. PODMORE, Market Drayton.

though in an open class competition the nine-year-old daughter of Gradnite suffered defeat at the hands of Mr. F. B. Wilkinson's Rosalinda, who has won honours all over the country. With foals, Mr. Tennent claimed three premiums, two of them being gained in a general contest. The yearling winner was furnished by Mrs. Payne-Gallwey, in a beautiful chesnut colt, Athlone by Limerick, second honours falling to Mr. Wilkinson for the bay filly Ladybird. The Notts breeder was more assertive in the two- and three-year-old competitions, taking premier awards with His Grace and Expert.

Next came Mr. J. H. Stoke's opportunity. Of nine prizes offered in three classes he took five—two firsts with the famous Whiskey and Ladylike, two seconds with Lyons Mail and Little Bronze, and a third with Black Pearl—and, with the aid of Whiskey, finished up by winning outright the Buxton champion 50 guinea cup, presented by Mr. R. Whitehead. The cup had to be won three years in succession by one horse—a feat which Whiskey accomplished. Mr. Stokes's Ladylike also stood reserve for this championship.

Allendale.

Delightful weather favoured the sixty-third annual show of the Allendale Agricultural Society, and there was a large attendance of visitors, whilst the entries were a record, and the collection of stock one of the best that has been seen at Allendale, so that the show was an all-round success. Colonel L. C. Lockhart, Hexham, presided at the luncheon. As usual, the cattle exhibits were the feature of the show. The district has for long been noted for its Shorthorns, and at this show there is every year a display which for evenness of quality would be difficult to see excelled at a local show anywhere. The horses were also very strong this year, and, as one might expect, the working horses were conspicuous in numbers. Hackneys were a very good lot, and the prize-winners especially worthy. Hunters, as a whole, were a very useful class for the district. In the district driving class there was a nice show of Dales ponies. The district is famous for its Black-faced sheep, which is the breed of the district, and the classes were well filled with excellent animals.

Hawes.

The backwardness of the season had an effect on the fifteenth annual show of Hawes Agricultural Society held on Tuesday, both the entries and attendance being somewhat smaller than usual. There was, nevertheless, a most creditable display of stock in the cattle classes. The Winn challenge cup for the best Shorthorn cow in the hands of the breeder, milking qualities to be specially considered, open to tenant farmers in the Aysgarth Union, went to Mr. H. Wilson, High Gill, Ay-garth. The best stock cow was also shown by Mr. Wilson; while Mr. W. Moore, Hardrow, had the best heifer calf, and won with a group of three calves.

The horse classes contained some good quality animals, as did also the sheep classes, which comprised Wensleydales, Scotch, and half-breeds. Mr. J. Close, Carperby, won the special for the best pair of Wensleydale lambs, given for members of the Wensleydale Incorporated Blue-Faced Sheep Breeders' Association.

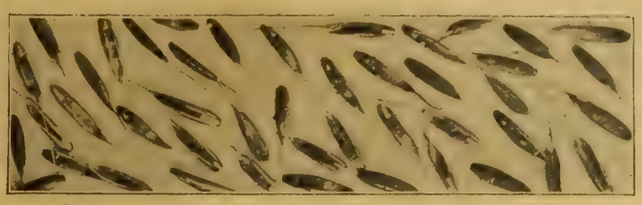
North-East Somerset.

The North-East Somerset Farmers' Club were fortunate enough to have delightful weather for their show in the lovely grounds of Newton Park, and with a good entry all round and a large attendance of visitors the show was a complete success. Horses numbered 124, as compared with 138 in 1906; of cattle there were eighty-four entries, and increase of seven; sheep numbered thirty seven, or one more than last year; whilst other entries comprised—cheese, forty-seven; butter, twenty-two; poultry, forty-seven; honey, eighteen; and cider, fifteen.

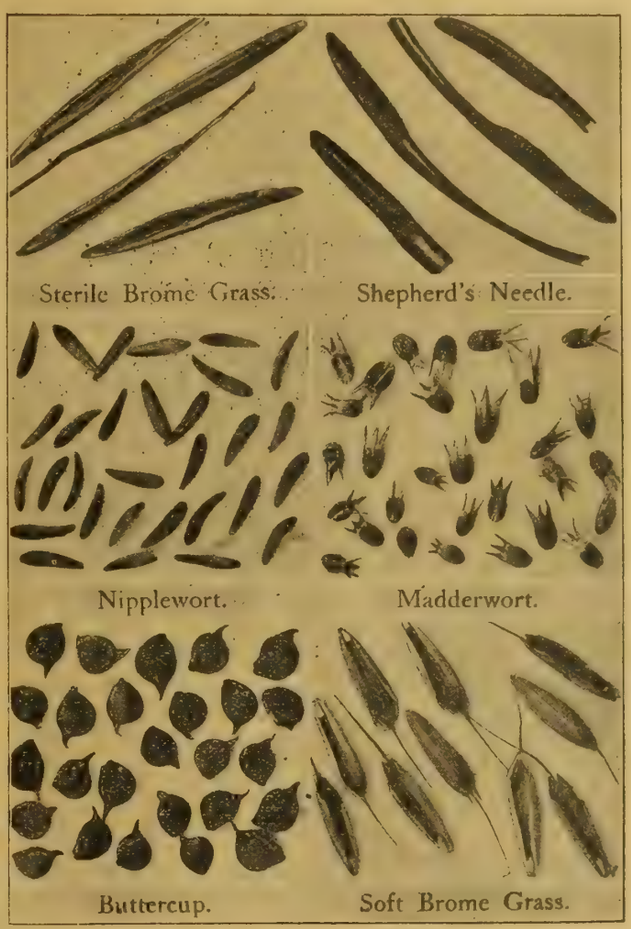
The cart horses were a good lot, particularly the mare and colt class, in which Lord Winterstoke was first with Holker Marionette and a nice dark brown filly colt, which caught the eye of the judges, so that they gave her the Shire Horse Society's silver medal.

The yearlings calculated for draught or agricultural purposes were rather a weak lot, while not much could be said in favour of the two-year-olds. There was a very good competition in the event for pair horses, whilst the nags made a fair show. Cattle made a good show on the whole, the best class being that for heifer calves, and Lord Winterstoke scored a win with two useful Shorthorn heifers. The young stock generally was deserving of commendation. The Channel Island cattle were not numerous, and the competition was somewhat limited, Earl Temple being the most successful of the exhibitors. Sheep were not numerous, but the quality was fair. The cheese was up to the average, whilst butter was an improvement on some of the previous shows. Cider was rather disappointing, and it was evident that some of the exhibitors have something to learn in the manufacture of this popular beverage.

Italian Rye Grass and Its Impurities.



Pure Italian Rye Grass.



SOME OF THE WEEDS
to be found in Imperfectly Dressed Samples of Italian Rye Grass.
For our illustrations we are indebted to
Messrs. Dickson and Robinson, Manchester.

Banbury.

Although the weather for a time on Tuesday foreboded a rainy day, it turned out delightfully fine, and there was a large and fashionable attendance at Banbury Horse Show. There was a curtailment in the number of the classes, but the entries were very satisfactory, especially in the light horse section, and a great many horses were in evidence which have figured in other show rings this season. Many animals on their way to the Warwickshire Show at Rugby called *en route*, and some of them succeeded in taking prize money from Banbury with them. Chief honours in the Cart horse section went to Mr. Bruce Fry, of Mollington, who won the Shire Horse Society's medal with Mollington Movement, a three-year-old filly of exceptional merit. Honours were widely distributed in the Hunter classes. Mr. Jackson, of Pershore, took leading place in the open Harness class. The open jumping classes were difficult to judge, and the gate had to be raised three times, but in the end Mr. Glencross, of Frome, took both first prizes.

Chester-le-Street.

The annual show of the Chester-le-Street and District Farmers' Club is always one of the most popular of the many cattle shows that take place year by year throughout the County Palatine, and with beautiful weather favouring the exhibition of Wednesday the attendance was one of the best ever recorded. In addition to having a pretty showground on the old racecourse in the park, the society is fortunate in having so generous a patron as the Earl of Durham, whose beautiful gardens were again open, whose beautiful gardens were again open, and were again a great attraction to the visitors. The entries were an increase over those of last year, the improvement being largely in the horse classes, while cattle, sheep, and poultry showed a decline. Always the chief feature of this show, the horses, the majority of which were Clydesdales, were again a grand lot, and included prize takers at the Northumberland and Durham County Shows and many local exhibitions.

Guildford.

Being favoured with ideal weather, the annual summer show of the Guildford and West Surrey Agricultural Association, held at Stoke Park, Guildford, on Wednesday, was very largely attended. The entries, which numbered over 500, showed a slight falling off, but the quality of the animals was well up to the average, and in some cases competition was very keen. Among the winners were the Duke of Northumberland, who was given first prize for a Jersey heifer and the first for a pen of ewe lambs. In the class open to all England for the best Southdown ram, the Duke was second, and he took a similar honour for a pen of fine Southdown ewes.

Lord Calthorpe showed some excellent cattle,

and with Sweetheart, a Shorthorn cow bred at the Royal Farm, Windsor, he won the Duke of Northumberland's prize and a 30 guinea challenge cup offered by the president (Mr. Harry Waechter). Lord Calthorpe was also given premier honours in the class for Shorthorn heifers, first for a Shire gelding, first for a Shire colt, first for pair of cart horses, and second for a single cart horse and for a Shire mare. Mr. Jeremiah Colman, of Sutton Park, Surrey, was another successful exhibitor. He secured the premier awards in the open to all England class for a Southdown ram, and also for five Southdown ewes, and for the best Shorthorn heifer, and second for a Shorthorn bull, a Shorthorn cow, and a Shorthorn heifer.

Mr. Max Michaelis, Tandridge Court, Oxted, retained the Norbury Park Challenge cup, value 25 guineas, for the best Shire mare or filly in the show, and also the Shire Horse Society's gold medal for the best mare or filly exhibited in the local Shire classes. Mr. Leopold Solomons, Norbury Park, Dorking, was made first reserve for the Shire Horse Society's gold medal, and also for the Norbury Park challenge cup; he secured the prize offered by the Lord Lieutenant of Surrey (Colonel Henry Cubitt) for the best Shire mare or gelding, was first for the best Shire mare, the best filly under three years, the best Shire filly foaled this year, and for Shire stallions.

The president's 20-guinea challenge cup for the best dairy cow in the show fell to Mr. Thomas Jones, of Godstone; the challenge cup, the gift of Mr. F. G. Colman, M.F.H. (Surrey Union Hunt), for the best Hunter, was won by Mr. Wilfred Johnstone, of Esher; and Mr. Alfred Benson, Upper Gatton Park, Merstham, won the Hackney Horse Society's medal for the best hackney or pony. The challenge cup for butter was awarded, after keen competition, to Mr. H. P. Sturgis, Leatherhead.

Chiltern Hills.

The fifty-fifth annual show of the Chiltern Hills (Wendover) Agricultural Society took place on Thursday in the beautiful domain of the popular president, Mr. Alfred de Rothschild, C.V.O., at Halton, and, being favoured with beautiful weather, was very largely attended, in fact it proved a record show in this respect. The society certainly deserved it, for the show is a very comprehensive one, including Hunters, agricultural horses, horned stock, sheep, pigs, roots, butter, eggs, poultry, vegetables, &c. Unfortunately, owing to the lateness of the season, the always interesting show of corn—for which a good number of entries had been received—was unavoidably omitted, but in all other departments improvements were to be noticed, and the show proved highly creditable to both the society and the exhibitors. One feature of the show was the success of Mr. Alfred de Rothschild, whose team won Lord Rothschild's silver cup, and also that given by Sir Thomas Barlow for the best teams in the ploughing classes, whilst he also took the first prize for heifers, and in the sheep classes two silver cups with some fine pens of Hampshires. The jumping competitions, which were more popular than ever, produced good sport.

SHOW GOSSIP.

The annual Birmingham autumnal Shorthorn show and sale, promoted by the Birmingham Agricultural Exhibition Society, to be held on Wednesday and Thursday next, has obtained an entry of 477 animals, a record number for the autumnal fixture. The females number 275 and the bulls 202; no fewer than sixty-three of the cows will have calves at foot. A feature of the sale is the inclusion of Mr. R. W. Hudson's well-known herd of fifty-one head. Other important exhibitors are Lord Calthorpe, Earl of Camperdown, Earl of Carnarvon, Lord Fitzhardinge, Earl of Northbrook, Lord Penrhyn, Lord Sherborne, Viscount Tredegar, Colonel Kingscote, Sir R. P. Cooper, Bart., Hon. Victor Cavendish, Miss A. de Rothschild, Mrs. Walsh, Messrs. S. H. Allen, W. A. H. Bass, A. E. W. Darby, Dyke Brothers, G. Freeman, W. T. Garne and Son, A. A. Haley, J. Handley, W. B. Harrison, J. T. Hobbs, J. Horlick, C. H. Jolliffe, C. E. Morris-Eyton, D. H. Mytton, R. R. Rothwell, and W. M. Scott. Many of the animals entered have won prizes at the principal shows, and, as usual, no higher reserve than 20 guineas is allowed. Catalogues (7d. each by post) may be had from the secretary, Mr. W. H. Lythall, Bingley Hall, Birmingham.

We would remind intending exhibitors that entries for the Altrincham Show close on Saturday next, September 7, or with double fees up to Wednesday, September 11. Dog entries only will be taken up to Friday the 13th. With 631 classes in the prize list, every section and variety is most liberally catered for. Three railway stations are near the show ground, and trains from Manchester run out to Altrincham every few minutes. The Manchester Corporation trams run *viâ* Sale and Stretford to near the entrance to the show field. Great attractions are provided, and every arrangement made for the comfort and refreshment of the public. The secretary of the show, Mr. J. Herbert Hall, 2, Dunham Road, Altrincham, will forward a prize list and entry form free on receipt of postcard.

Owing to the enormous increase in the entries in certain sections of the Mid-Somerset Show at Shepton Mallet over previous years, the committee have found it necessary to increase the number of judges. Cheese entries number nearly 400, a clear increase of 100 over the number entered at the corresponding date last year being recorded. The society once before made a good jump of the kind; that being of about seventy at once, and on another occasion a jump of sixty. For the first time in the history of dairy shows in the West of England, so far as can be ascertained, the butter entries number well over a hundred, butter coming from all parts of England, and from Wales, Scotland, and Ireland. Horses have also advanced by thirty beyond the record which was obtained last year, and number over 240. The two jumping classes, which are open to any distance, have attracted a large entry, including some of the finest jumpers in the kingdom, and there is also a local class of fencers which is sure to cause a considerable amount of interest on September 3 at Shepton Mallet. The total entries for the show exceed a thousand.

Lincolnshire Notes.

"SEED time and harvest!" Somehow, things generally come right. I am authoritatively assured that should this weather continue the harvest in Lincolnshire will be a very satisfactory one indeed. The crops are badly laid, and the early samples show a grain full of moisture; but the yield will be quite up to, and possibly rather more than, the average. It will not be so bountiful a harvest as last year, which produced an almost perfect cereal, but it will be a more profitable one. We may thank the higher prices of foreign corn for that.

THE popularity of the sales of the Lincoln Long-wool Sheepbreeders' Association is exceeding all bounds. For the September sale on Thursday and Friday there is the full complement of 400 rams entered. The regulations will allow no more, otherwise I understand that over 500 applications were received. The catalogue contains some new names, and a new feature is the sale of gimmers, of which there are 106 to be disposed of on Thursday. The success of the sale is receiving the very serious consideration of the Association, which is now discussing the advisability of extending its conditions. It cannot afford to refuse entries by the hundred at a time.

THE first harvest fatality, at Deeping Fen, carries its moral. Could not a safer seat be found for the driver of the reaper? In most cases his only accommodation is a small and insecure seat in the centre, and right over the knives and forks. The slightest jerk or the least unsteadiness, and he is in danger of being thrown overboard to instant and awful death. Can the danger be minimised? If for no other reason it is worth trying in these days of universal compensation. There is a contrivance in the shape of a wire shield secured to the back of the seat, and strong enough to hold up the driver should he lose his balance. It would pay the insurance companies to insist on something of the kind.

WHILST the hay dealers are organising an anti-railway crusade, the still more vexing question of railway rates all round is being agitated. I understand that a meeting will be held shortly in Lincoln, at which all the representative agricultural bodies in the county, together with the chambers of commerce, will be invited to co-operate. The object of the gathering is to send a protest to the Board of Trade and local members of Parliament against the heavy rates charged for the carriage of produce in the district. They are 20 to 25 per cent. greater than those of the London and South-Western or the North-Eastern, and, needless to say, are a serious handicap to Lincolnshire farmers. The Lincolnshire agriculturists are massing their forces against the evil, and it is hoped that something effective will result. If not it is going to be a hard fight, but the farmer can win it if he will bring up his big battalions.

THE Lincolnshire hay dealers are up in arms. Instructions have been received to the effect that the railway companies propose to make demurrage charges upon hay and straw of 3s. per truck and 1s. per sheet for every day after twenty-four hours that the trucks are left in siding. The regulations may be justified, but they will impose severe restrictions on the hay merchants, who complain that his business will be seriously injured by them. They complain that no such restrictions are imposed in regard to corn, and that they are altogether unnecessary in regard to hay as the companies are amply protected against unreasonable delay in the removal of goods by the charge of 6d. per week; also that the rates on this class of traffic are 25 per cent. too high. The dealers ventilated their grievances all round on Friday, and an agitation has been set on foot which may or may not come to something. Hitherto the railway companies' proclamations in this regard have not be taken seriously.

THE interesting letter from "H. W. P." in the columns of the MARK LANE EXPRESS calls attention to a difficulty which has often cropped up on the Lincolnshire corn exchanges. The matter has before now been on the agenda of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union for discussion, but it has slipped consideration. It is a cause which the Union might well make its own.

I HEAR that a very good bargain was struck by the syndicate composed of Mr. William Dennis, of Kirton, and others who associated together for the purchase of Lord Grimthorpe's Binbrook, Ashby-cum-Fenby, and Utterby estates on July 12 last. The property, which comprised 1,719a. 3r. 9p. of land, with buildings, was bought at auction for £21,700. It has since been divided up and sold privately, at a profit running into thousands.

LINCOLN is down on the farmer just now. Henry Paddison, of Branston, returning from market rather more unsteadily than he ought to be, was chased by a police-sergeant on a bicycle and lodged in the cells. Mr. Padley, on his behalf, suggested that the police had set a trap to catch farmers returning from market; but this was strongly denied. Mr. Paddison had a fine of £1 to pay.

LINCOLNSHIRE FARMERS' UNION.

At the meeting of the Central Committee of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union held on August 23, the secretary stated that several railway companies had issued a notice that on and after September 1 they will not accept hay and straw traffic at their sidings unless accompanied by forwarding instructions or the farmer or trader entered into an undertaking to furnish forwarding instructions within forty-eight hours from the commencement of loading, and failing which he agreed to pay truck and sheet demurrage at the rate of 3s. per truck per day, and 1s. per sheet per day after the expiration of the above-named period of forty-eight hours without deduction or dispute.

Mr. J. D. Blanshard said the railway companies were in the habit of issuing orders of that kind every now and again, and of abandoning them about a month later.

It was agreed to take no action in the matter.

Mr. E. W. Howard introduced the question of the swine fever regulations. He contended that the areas to which the orders referred were too large, and ventured to assert that if the authorities would take as much notice of pig-dealers and their carts as the railway companies did of their vans after they had been used for carrying swine, fever would not exist to the extent it did. The carts and premises ought to be thoroughly disinfected. Pig breeding paid very well, but he had been unable to go in for it because of the swine fever regulations.

Mr. H. Mawer said the carts of pig dealers were disinfected at the Lincoln market every week.

Mr. Howard: The railway companies disinfect their vans immediately after use.

Mr. G. W. Bellwood said this was an important matter, and if they could get someone from the Board of Agriculture to come down and go into the whole question with them more often a good deal of good might be done. Notwithstanding the precautions that were taken and the money that was spent, the Board of Agriculture were still at their wits' end to know what to do.

Mr. Howard moved that they write to the county councils urging them to be more strict in watching pig-dealers' premises and their carts, and requesting that the areas should be made as small as possible.

Mr. J. T. Glew seconded, and it was adopted.

The chairman, Mr. Colin Campbell, and Messrs. Bellwood and Howard were appointed a deputation to meet the Land Agents' Council in London to consider matters affecting agriculture.

The council sanctioned the formation of branches of the Union at Doncaster and Peterborough.

Nottinghamshire Notes

HARVEST operations are now in full swing throughout the county, and the majority of farmers have got a good deal of their corn cut. The numerous stooks in the fields betoken that some huge straw stacks are assured, while from inquiries which I have made among several of the largest farmers in the district who have knocked out a stack or two of oats and barley go to show that the yield will, after all, be a very fair one.

WINTER oats at Stoke, near Newark, looked remarkably well, and two farmers have threshed one stack each there. In one instance 84 qr. of marketable grain have been secured off ten acres, and in the other 97 off twelve acres, both being over 8 qr. to the acre, which can only be regarded as very good. The straw stacks, too, are of large dimensions, and will come in very useful for cattle during the coming winter.

BARLEY, too, has been threshed here and there, but as yet it is full early to speak. At Bottesford, however, which is just over the border, the yield has been 4¼ qr. to the acre; and at Screveton, a few miles to the south of Newark, 93 qr. have been weighed up, the result of one and a half days' threshing and the product of 14½ acres, which is 5 qr. to the acre.

AT Newark market yesterday several samples of wheat, barley, and oats were on offer, the produce of this year's growing. Wheats, however, were in poor condition, being soft and damp, and millers and corn merchants were not eager to purchase. One or two lots were sold, Messrs. Smith and Sons, of Langley Mill, a few miles from Nottingham, paying 33s. 6d. on rails. For black winter oats there was a good inquiry at prices ranging from 18s. to 20s. per qr., and barley made from 26s. to 28s.

THIS afternoon I paid a visit to the farm tenanted by Mr. Henry Rhodes, of Wbyburn House, Hucknall Torkard, which comprises about 350 acres, and is a portion of the Duke of Portland's estate. There are some excellent crops of barley and oats, but the land is scarcely suitable for wheat-growing, though there were one or two fields which will easily yield well over 4 qr. to the acre.

MR. RHODES, happily, is one of those gentlemen who does not farm for a living, but merely as a hobby, he being a large manufacturer of Shetland shawls. It is eight years since he took possession of his present holding, and the improvements he has introduced are truly surprising.

DUTCH barns have been erected, the crewyards covered in, and a new system of watering arranged, by means of which taps have been placed in all parts of the farm buildings; all that is now necessary, when the cattle require drink, being simply to turn on the taps and the troughs are filled in a very short time.

SEVERAL fields of oats have got badly laid, and one or two pieces of barley are suffering from the same cause; but the cropping taken all round looks admirable. Bordering Annesley Park—immortalised by Lord Byron, who once resided there—Mr. Rhodes suffers considerably from the rabbit pest. In order to overcome this to some extent rye and oats are grown in as many fields as possible, and promise good returns.

THE roots on the farm look excellent, especially the mangolds and swedes, though many of the former are running to seed, attributed to the fact that we have had such a quantity of rain. One field devoted to Thousand Headed kale and Autumn Drumhead cabbage is a wonderful crop, and Mr. Rhodes hit on the happy idea of drilling two rows of each crop, and by filling half the cups of the drills with putty his idea has answered wonderfully well. The kale is of enormous bulk, and will keep a large quantity of stock, while the two rows of cabbage allow plenty of room in which to spread out its branches, and is an excellent plan to follow.

THOUGH Mr. Rhodes is not what many of his neighbours please to term a thorough farmer, he is in all ways practical, and his live stock and crops are eloquent testimony to this assertion. What is more, his horses generally carry off one or more prizes at the Welbeck Tenants' Show, while a few years back he carried off the second prize for the best farm on the Duke's estates.

SEVERAL hay and corn stacks were destroyed by fire on Wednesday at the Moat Farm, near Loughborough, in the occupation of Mr. J. R. Mills. Threshing operations were in progress, and while the men were at dinner smoke was seen issuing from an old oat straw stack. An alarm was at once raised, the Loughborough Fire Brigade summoned, and though everything possible was done, the whole of the farm produce, consisting of six stacks, was destroyed. Unfortunately Mr. Mills is only partly insured, while only two years back he had two valuable horses burned to death. The fire on Wednesday is supposed to have been the outcome of a spark from the engine igniting the straw.

THE letter in the MARK LANE EXPRESS of Monday last, signed "H. W. P.," opens up an interesting question, and, in conversation with several farmers this week, I find that they are in agreement with the suggestion that some sort of registration of corn samples ought to be made compulsory.

CORN merchants—three of whom I have interviewed—are also of the same opinion, and, though they disagree with one or two of the statements, admit that it would be more business-like to have a signed contract and a portion of the sample left in the hands of some unbiassed official. It certainly would avoid much trouble, especially in the sale of peas and barley. This is a question upon which I am seeking further expression of opinion from thoroughly representative men.

AGRICULTURAL shows in Derbyshire of long ago were very different to the one held during the present week on the Osmaston ground. Though it was the forty-fifth exhibition held under the auspices of the Derbyshire Agricultural Society it is nearly ninety years since its predecessor was established under the title of the Scarsdale and High Peak Agricultural Society, which had Chesterfield as its headquarters.

GLANCING at a schedule for the society's show on July 26, 1827, I notice that the president was the Rev. C. H. R. Rodes, and the vice-president Mr. S. Oldknow, of Mellor, who was a partner of Arkwright—a name so well known because of his connection with the introduction of lace machines.

ON that occasion there were thirty-three prizes offered—sixteen for cattle, six for sheep, two for pigs, six for horses, and three for farm servants. In the course of some instructions in the schedule is the following:—"Much inconvenience having arisen at former meetings from persons crowding around the judges whilst scanning the stock, it is particularly requested that no person will intrude into or near the pens unless upon the society's business whilst the judges are making their decision. The judges are respectfully requested not to award premiums where the stock exhibited does not possess decided merit. It is also intended that the judges shall in their decisions be governed more by the general merits of the animals (exhibited as breeding stock) than by the extreme fatness of them, particularly where it appears such animals have been forced."

THOUGH these notes are really intended for the lace county, Derbyshire is so very near and so many of our farmers exhibit and visit the shows held in the Peak county, that the above quotation will doubtless be read with interest both by farmers and judges.

AMONG those gentlemen adjudicating at Derby on Wednesday were three well-known Notts agriculturists, viz., Mr. Arthur Stretton, of Sibthorpe, near Newark, for Shorthorns; Mr. H. Smith, jun., Cropwell Butler, for sheep; and his father, Mr. H. Smith, sen., for pigs.

THERE were a large number of farmers from Notts present at Elvaston Castle on Tuesday, when the occasion was the annual puppy walk for the Harrington Hunt. The Earl of Harrington was present, and looked much better for his sojourn abroad. At the luncheon his lordship spoke on the breeding of horses, and contended that though motor cars had come into such general use there was still plenty of room for good class animals, which he urged those present to breed. "A good horse," said his lordship, "eats no more than a bad one."

PLUMS are so numerous in the county that at Nottingham good sound fruit was on Wednesday sold for 3 lb. a penny. They were rather green, and chiefly those which had either fallen off the trees or been pulled in the thinning process. It is twenty years since they were so plentiful in the Bingham district, and many branches have been broken off the trees owing to their being unable to stand the strain of the increasing weight of the fruit.

MANY readers of the MARK LANE EXPRESS will regret to learn that Mr. W. F. Everard, of Bardon Hill, Leicester, and exceedingly well known in this county, has lost through death his noted three-year-old Shire filly Bardon Marion, which has won so many prizes in the Midlands this year, while at the Royal Show at Lincoln she gained first prize. She died on Saturday morning last, and from a post-mortem examination it has been ascertained that the cause of her decease was a ruptured diaphragm. Mr. Everard took several prizes at Derby show yesterday, and many of his friends expressed their sympathy to him at his sad loss.

MR. H. W. PALMER, the energetic secretary of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union, was over in Nottingham on Wednesday, and I ventured to ask him what was the next great question his organisation was about to take up. Mr. Palmer informed me that the high railway rates in Lincs and Notts were about to be taken up, and contended that they were from 10 to 20 per cent. higher for agricultural produce than several companies charged in other parts of England. Here, then, is another reason why farmers should combine, for unless the railway companies see that farmers are in earnest in the matter they will not attempt to reduce them.

August 29, 1907. R. K.

Midland Notes.

MOST of us have strong and definite ideas about necessary agricultural legislation. Here are those of Lord Norton, which need no comment:—I would propose that the official price of wheat should be the maximum rent of agricultural land, and that such land should be relieved of highway rates by a wheel tax, and the education rate paid by the Treasury, and an income tax paid by occupiers of land on profits; the cash price of the loaf fixed by law *pro rata* the official price per quarter of wheat, when the loaf would be 4½d with wheat at 25s. per quarter. Under such regulations there would be no rack renting, and an acre of allotment would be secured to a holder at 25s. rent plus interest on the outlay necessary for buildings or a cottage. I have no faith in any medium to Back to the Land between an allotment of one acre allocated to a cottage and pigstye, with a weekly wage, and a small holding of not less than fifty acres, with homestead and buildings, independent of a wage.

IT is not too soon, one hopes, to congratulate the good people of Bewdley upon the failure of a movement which threatened to deprive this little Worcestershire market town of some of its old rights. The incident has its instructive features. The local magistrates lately dismissed a police prosecution for obstruction on the ground that a charter of Charles I. gave carts a privilege to stand in the streets on certain market days. For the moment, at any rate, the County Standing Joint Committee has so far acquiesced as to refrain from application to the justices to state a case. One gathers that they are prepared to admit the right on the occasion of the yearly cherry fair, but that more prosecutions are likely to follow if it be claimed to apply to the ordinary weekly market.

AN unbiassed outsider would probably consider officialism has been making much ado about nothing. Most Bewdley people, it is likely, will resent a course of action which threatens serious interference with the trade of the town. A few light carts—or even heavy ones—drawn beside the kerk can create nothing more than a technical obstruction in a wide thorougfare like Lode Street, Bewdley; and at Worcester, Tewkesbury, and many other places, similar rights are exercised without damage to anybody. But officialism is apt to be wilful, to see harm where plain people can see none, and to look askance at ancient rights which seem to contravene the ordinary law of the land.

IN the Vale of Evesham there is a glut of plums this year, and the smaller growers, who can do all their picking without paying for outside help, are rejoicing. But a season like this has the effect of emphasising a long-standing grievance—the difficulty and expense of distributing the produce.

THE Evesham growers are hoping for good results from the recent visit of a Board of Trade official, whose inquiries are expected to lead to the formulation of new rules and regulations for the railway companies. Up to the present time, however, nothing has been done, and the growers remain in their old dilemma. They cannot afford to pay what are known as companies' rates, because the produce will not stand them. On the other hand, to send off stuff at the cheaper owners' risk rates is to bar oneself from every possibility of compensation in case of damage or unreasonable delay to fruit in course of transit. In this respect the companies seem to have absolutely the whip hand. In present circumstances no evidence of negligence seems good enough to make a railway company pay for its default.

THE Evesham Fruit Pests Committee has presented a petition to the County Council with

egard to the gooseberry mildew pest. In their view the enforced destruction of infested bushes under the new Destructive Insects and Pests Act "will inflict very great hardship and loss upon the industry," and they submit that "growers who are compelled by law to destroy their infected bushes should be adequately compensated."

WE are having the usual trouble over the irregular attendance of children at school during the pea and fruit picking season. As the Dudley and other magistrates have been imposing ten shilling fines with costs—no small matter for poor people—the delinquent parents will look back upon their country holidays this year with little satisfaction.

THERE will, however, probably be fewer police-court cases this year than there have been hitherto. There is a tendency in some cases to rearrange the holidays so as to include the hop-picking season; and though by no means all the affected districts have fallen in with this arrangement, it looks as though more would do so as time goes on. Black Country Education Committees have to recognise that the annual hopping excursions simply cannot be stopped. Parents will go, and they will continue to take the children along with them for the simple reason that there is nothing else to be done with them. And to insist upon arranging holidays so that the hopping season comes in term time means a loss to all the ratepayers through diminished Government grants.

WE are enjoying, at last, a turn of genuine harvest weather, worthy of August, and compensating for many hardships and disappointments of this trying season. The corn is three weeks late, but to day the sound of the reaper is to be heard on every hand. There are hundreds of acres, however, on which the machine can hardly operate at all. The area laid flat and tangled inextricably by rain and wind is very large this year, and even now it is too early to say anything of the quality of the new wheat and oats. The present summery conditions are welcomed by none more thankfully than by the hop growers. Picking will hardly begin before the second week of September, so there is still time for the crop to improve substantially—and it is doing so rapidly.

August 29, 1907.

West Country Notes.

IT is rare for a farmer to listen with any degree of patience, to say nothing of approval, to a suggestion on agricultural matters from a man who professedly knows nothing of that industry. When it comes from a man who for the first time is making acquaintance with the best samples of a particular product, and who says so, it is still more. This is because too often the novice tries to teach the professional how to do that in which he is expert.

I HAVE been listening to-day to a hard-headed man of business from the Midlands talking agriculture to farmers, and was rather surprised to hear applause greeting a practical suggestion he made. Not a new one in a sense, but somewhat fresh in its application, it was received with favour, and drew out an interesting bit about the present system of marketing goods which set my thoughts working.

IT was in respect to the branding of cheese with the place of origin. Hitherto it has been the case that by branding foreign goods with the country of origin a splendid advertisement has been given to our trade rivals. Now it appears that in respect of Cheddar cheese this man, who had been in the habit of paying a good price for the article, had been fondly believing that he had been eating an English production. He was evidently one of a very big crowd, and when he tasted the real thing he at once detected the great difference.

TO the makers he said: "Why don't all your agricultural societies agree to adopt a common brand for the products of your district?" "We who pay a good price for what we believe to be Cheddar of English make would then know what we were getting," he added. And the sentiment struck home.

A VERY well-known dealer told me afterwards that the foreign buyer of Cheddar cheese will not buy any cheese as Cheddar that does not bear the Royal Arms of England upon it and is stained to a particular colour. I had seen cheese so made, and had wondered what the particular reason for its being so branded was. The dealer who had them was not, however, to be drawn.

NOW I knew where some of these were made, and the quality of them, and also the selling price to the dealer. Though I could not get at the price which the foreign—as it proves to be—retailer got for these cheeses, I had a shrewd idea that it was over cent per cent above what the maker received for a somewhat similarly coloured cheese which was not branded and was stated at once to the merchant to be sold at cent per cent above the price he was paying, and he reluctantly admitted this to be correct. He had previously stated that for these cheeses he was getting the biggest price of any.

NOW I am not going to say what the quality of that cheese was, but if I wanted to advertise a make of cheese by sending out the best, I should not send those. If the best cheese were so branded there ought to be more men able to retirely early from agriculture.

WILL the new Butter Act effect much is being discussed, and amongst the farming community at any rate no strong hopes are entertained of much improvement.

THE breaks of fine weather are being made the most of for the clearing up of the fodder that should have been hay, but which can only be called so by courtesy. The corn farmer of the West is busy, and very varying are his returns. On the whole less damage appears to have been done than was feared, but that is not saying much. To cut at all is difficult in some cases where the heavy storms have laid the corn.

HERE and there a man is to be found who says he has no trouble. One such assured me that his certain preventive of corn being laid was to sow thin. His crops, he believed, grew stronger and stood better against bad weather than his neighbours who were more liberal with their seed, and who produced a dwindly plant at the outset. There is nothing new in this idea, but it is one the man desirous of doing his best with his crops is apt to overlook.

THE veteran secretary of the East Somerset Agricultural Society, good old Franky Harrold, was able to be at his post for the annual show, though looking less active than usual. Everyone was delighted to find that he had so far recovered from his recent severe illness to be present in his usual capacity, which he has so well filled for a very long period. Mr. Harrold is postmaster of the central town of the group combining for this district show. Last year they had the satisfaction of finding it possible to put away a nest egg of some £40. This year they had the great luck for the season of a fine day, and the result should not be less satisfactory.

SOME capital horses were competing at the show, and the stamp of brood mares was even better than usual. Yet one of the leading exhibitors perferred to motor to and from the show, and was chaffed accordingly.

THE North-East Somerset Show was located in a good quarter this year, midway between Bath and Bristol, on the main road practically, and this should prove an excellent thing for the show funds.

THE chairman of the Committee of Management is the mouthpiece of the Board of Agriculture in the House of Commons, Sir Edward Strachey. The entries for the show constituted a record, being fifty above last year.

Preston Cheese Fair.

The pitch at the August cheese fair at Preston on Tuesday was considerably less than at the corresponding fair last year, owing to diminished output and the fact that many farmers are holding in anticipation of rising markets. A fair trade was experienced at prices showing a slight advance on last month. Medium cheese made from 55s. to 57s. 6d.; fine produce 60s. to 65s. per cwt.

In reply to a question put by Mr. Field in the House of Commons as to whether the last report of the Royal Commission on Tuberculosis is of such a character as will enable the Government to forthwith introduce legislation dealing effectively with bovine tuberculosis, especially in relation to the seizures and condemnation of alleged tuberculous meat, the consumption of which is alleged to be a serious menace to public health, Mr. Burns replied: The report contains definite statements as to bovine tuberculosis in relation to milk, and these are receiving my consideration with a view to such legislation as may be necessary; but the question of tuberculous meat is not dealt with by the report, and legislation on this subject could not be based upon it. I understand, however, that the question is now being investigated by the Royal Commission, who will report upon it in due course.

Northern Notes.

THE last official "Return of Market Prices," issued by the Board of Agriculture, gives a total of 132 store pigs as having been penned last week at Darlington and Wakefield. These are the only Northern markets where any stores were offered. Hull, Leeds, Newcastle, Salford, and York were all a blank as regards this class of swine. This is a pretty accurate index of the state of affairs in the North. The trade is being scotched, if not killed entirely, as a result of the policy pursued by the Board of Agriculture.

THE member for the Buckrose Division of Yorks, as already stated in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, recently interviewed Lord Carrington on the subject of a petition by Yorkshire farmers; and this week Mr. White, the member alluded to, has received an autograph letter from his lordship telling him that he proposes to cause an inquiry to be held at Driffield, where a big trade was done in pigs prior to the issue of the Order of 1906. This news was received with very great satisfaction by the community, as the closing of the markets has affected hundreds of persons who were regularly making a few shillings or more per week, according to their good or ill luck.

THE traders in pork, as well as the producers of pigs, are making a great stir just now, and it is hoped the inquiry at Driffield will result in a modification at least of the Orders which are stultifying the trade all round. Their effects are the most keenly felt by the small farmer, the village allotment holders, and the jobbers.

ONE regrets very much to see in the latest agricultural returns—a copy of which was sent me by the B. of A. on Tuesday—a continued decrea e in the number of cattle in Great Britain, the figures given showing a reduction of 98,000 head on the year. How is this to be accounted for? A reason why the rearing of cattle is reduced is the ever-increasing demand for new milk. Numbers of young cattle are sold at a small price to be slaughtered in order to clear the way for all the milk to be sold. In this way the rearing of ca'ves is falling off.

BEFORE arable or feeding farmers could commence the rearing of cattle proper buildings for the purpose would need to be erected. Then comes the question, Whose duty is it to do this necessary work? It might be said it was the owner's duty, but in view of the fact that the Act of 1906 so alters the conditions of tenancy, it can scarcely be a matter of surprise that owne s of land do not feel inclined to spend any more money than can be possibly avoided in imp ovements. If the best possible return is to be made for the produce grown by the arable farmer, it is imperatively necessary that Dutch barns and covered yards shall be erected on farms which do not already possess them.

A SUGGESTION has been thrown out that the Royal and the great county shows might with beneficial results take a leaf out of the book of purely local shows by offering prizes for first and second crosses between any two distinct breeds, as such a plan would help to establish a rule as to which breed it is most desirable to use for crossing. There is a good deal to be said in favour of prizes for cross-breds; and we have seen recently, in the discussion at the Smithfield Club, for instance, the thwarting of the proposal of the National Sheepbreeders' Association as to the eligibility for registration of all sheep sent for exhibition. An animal, it was decided, whether it had pedigree or not, should be judged entirely on its merits.

SOME of our old local societies in the North of England have interesting histories, and their ages run into five and six decades. At a recent show—the Ryedale—Mr. T. Parrington, whose name sounds very familiar in connection with the Yorkshire County Show, said he had judged for that society fifty-three years ago; and he recounted an interesting fact that at the Ryedale Show he bought the best horse he had ever seen, and one which became the property of the Emperor Napoleon III., the horse being, as a matter of fact, that monarch's favourite charger at the time of his abdication.

AT the conference on October 25, to be held at Northallerton, of the North-Eastern Agricultural Federation, the subjects recommended for consideration are the Municipal Milk Bill, Tuberculosis, Taxation, and Small Holdings. The Earl of Carrington has promised to attend this conference; his consenting to do so is highly complimentary to the federation, as this will be the second year in succession that he will have listened to the deliberations. The presence of the Minister for Agriculture is one of the readiest means of bringing home to him any grievances or proposals for new legislation. None can deny that

the noble earl lends a sympathetic ear to the plaints of the farmers.

A SMALL place called Brandsby in North Yorkshire can boast of an agricultural trading association. It is a limited liability company, and it has a well-built and well-equipped depôt, where almost all agricultural necessaries can be obtained. The association is worked on the co-operative and and profit-sharing principles. In the dairy, where the most modern methods are employed, a large output of cream and cheese is maintained. The president is Mr. J. M. Strickland. He buys all his seeds, manures, &c., required for over 400 acres through the association. The society has for hire a strawsonizer for much spraying. This is one of its latest acquisitions.

WHILE people are talking of the present as a "late" harvest, there are many elderly farmers who can recall quite a number of harvests every bit as late, and when, too, they cut everything by hand. We are so accustomed to doing things in a hurry in these days that we become impatient of delay. Last year in some parts of Yorkshire cutting was completed on August 20. The reapers have only begun this week in the same district. Crops have, or rather are, ripening unevenly, and there is a tremendous lot of twisted corn. A delightful and welcome change in the weather set in on Tuesday.

August 30, 1907.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Kaffir Corn.

SIR,—I am sending you per this mail two samples of Kaffir corn, and I would be much obliged if you would let me know the analysis, as I can find it in no book on feeding stuffs.—Yours, &c., H. G.

Johannesburg.

*** We have no practical experience of the feeding value of Kaffir corn, but find from a book of reference that its composition is:—

Water	9·3
Ash	1·5
Crude fibre	1·4
Carbohydrates	74·9
Protein	9·9
Fat	3·0

Comparing this analysis with that of oats, of which the analysis of total valuable constituents is:—

Protein	11·8
Fat	5·
Carbohdyrate	59·7

it will be seen that it is of a more carbonaceous character.

Calculating out its "food units" by the MARK LANE EXPRESS scale, its value works out at 107 total feeding units.

It should be noted that in the above analyses the total food constituents are given. These figures are in excess of the *digestible* constituents which are often given, but as the digestibility of a food is a relative term, depending on the kind of stock, the age of the stock, their health and other variable factors, it is perhaps best to judge of a food by its total constituents, assuming the food to be a good one and in good condition.—ED.

The Black Currant Gall Mite.

SIR,—During 1905 6·7 I have gratuitously distributed upwards of 3,000 reports to different fruit growers in the British Isles, giving particulars of the lime and sulphur treatment for the black currant gall mite. Many of these growers have since written me and stated that "the cure recommended has proved most successful," or "we are entirely free from the 'big bud' now."

I propose issuing shortly a further report upon this subject, in which many of these reports will be incorporated, and I write to invite all growers who have tried this remedy to write me, stating upon how many acres or bushes they have tried it, with what result, and if they have any objection to their report being published with the others (not necessarily with their name and address).

Thanking you for making this known through your columns.—Yours, &c.

WALTER E. COLLINGE.

University of Birmingham,
Dept. of Economic Zoology,
53, Newhall Street, Birmingham.
August 29, 1907.

A Poor Outlook.

SIR,—The potato crop! Don't mention it! Very poor here. Cottagers disgusted and digging their best for the pig, and will have none for eating or to sell for rent.

Harvest just commenced in a field or two, wheats ripening, or rather not ripening, a miserable dirty colour, and must prove deficient. Beans a big crop, but dashed by storms and pods poorly filled.

Roots and grass 120 per cent. Cows, although up to the knees, are not yielding milk properly.

Lambs have got the strongylus filaria, and some have lost 100. I trust the mortality will cease. The wet summer has favoured the parasites.—Yours, &c., W. C. BROWN.

Doncaster, August 23.

Harvest Prospects in the West.

SIR,—Attention is now almost wholly centred on harvesting operations, which, favoured with greatly improved weather to what we have been having, are now being carried on with uninterrupted activity, the brilliant sunshine helping to finish off and harden the corn in a way that very few after the terribly disastrous rainstorms that played such havoc with the standing crops could have in any way anticipated.

Although considerable tracts in some districts have been badly "laid," rendering cutting by machinery very difficult, still the drying winds, coupled with the bright, warm sunshine, have done much to repair the mischief, and the corn, though still soft and somewhat discoloured, promises generally to be a much better sample than most farmers thought it would be, and the harvest, in spite of the phenomenal character of the season, is expected to prove considerably better than even the most sanguine could have anticipated, though the cutting of the crops will in many instances be attended with greater expense than is generally the case in more propitious summers.—Yours, &c., C. L.

August 30, 1907.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

Advice of a Legal character is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

A Tithe Question.

SIR,—Will you kindly say in your next issue if a tithepayer is compelled to pay tithe rent charge on the Mark Lane tithe rent charge averages forty miles away. It would cost about two shillings per quarter to send it there to Mark Lane market?—Yours, &c., SOUTH OXON

*** The value of the rent charge charged upon the land in lieu of tithes by the apportionment is, under the Tithe Acts, 1836 and 1837, reckoned to be of the value of such number of bushels and decimal parts of a bushel of wheat, barley, and oats as the same would have purchased at the prices of 7s. 0½d. for a bushel of wheat, 3s. 11½d. for a bushel of barley, and 2s. 9d. for a bushel of oats; and by the Tithe Act, 1836, s. 56, the average is settled each January from the returns of the seven previous years, ending on the Thursday before the preceding Christmas Day. I do not see why these charges averages should not be taken, nor do I see why the cost of carriage should be considered in the matter.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

The *London Gazette* of Tuesday last contains an Order of the Board of Agriculture dealing with glanders or farcy, and its important regulations should be known by all owners of horses, asses, or mules. It revokes the Glanders or Farcy Order of 1894, and its provisions take up no fewer than four pages of the *Gazette*. Copies of the Order can be obtained on application to the secretary of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, 4, Whitehall Place, London, S.W.

Mr. S. T. Nicholson, hon. general secretary to the National Chamber of Trade, replying to Earl Carrington's recent letter to the Chamber regarding the Small Holdings and Allotment Bill and Co-operative Societies, says that his lordship's statement as to Clause 39 differs from the clause itself, and that in neither case is it made definitely clear that the co-operation to be supported by public funds is to be solely agricultural in character, or that other objects may not be included which will be injurious and unjust to the individual trader who is compelled to be the security for the experiment and on whom its possible failure would fall. To subsidise any of the existing stores, connected as they are with the wealthiest trading organisation in the country, would be a palpably unjust method of reform with which it is impossible for the Chamber to credit either his lordship or the Government.

Acreage of Crops and Number of Live Stock of Great Britain in 1907.

The Board of Agriculture on Tuesday issued its preliminary statement of the crops and live stock of Great Britain in 1906, compiled from returns collected on June 4, also giving last year's figures for comparison. We give below the table in full, from which it will be seen that there has been a decrease of 22,645 acres in the area under crops and grass. The acreage under wheat continues to get smaller, and this year denotes a further shrinkage of no less than 130,208 acres; barley has been sown on 39,072 fewer acres than in 1906, and rye has decreased by 3,597 acres, but oats continue to grow in popularity and show the big increase of 80,010 acres. Increased acres are to be noted in peas and beans, the latter being grown on 20,370 more acres than in 1906, whilst peas have increased by 12,159 acres, but there are big decreases in potatoes, and turnips, and swedes, potatoes being 17,000 acres less than in 1906, whilst the acreage under the other two crops has fallen away to the extent of 27,889 acres. Mangolds on the other hand show an increase of 18,600 acres, and now cover 450,063 acres, whilst kohl rabi, cabbages, vetches and tares, and lucerne all show increases. Clover and rotation grasses for hay occupy 2,250,371, and not for hay 2,240,657, the former being an increase of 58,784, and the latter a decrease of 8,502 acres, whilst permanent grass covers for hay shows an increase of 151,928, and not for hay a decrease of 118,419 acres when compared.

Coming to the live stock, the most striking feature is the increasing popularity of sheep and pigs, for of the former there are 696,143 more than in 1906, and of pigs 313,347 more, but both horses and cattle show big declines, horses numbering 12,274 less than in 1906, and cattle a decrease of no less than 98,337 when compared with last year.

The official figures for both crops and live stock in 1907 and 1906 are appended, and afford some interesting comparisons.

Distribution.	1907.	1906.	Increase. Acres.	Increase. P.C.	Decrease. Acres.	Decrease. P.C.
	Ac.cs.	Acres.				
CROPS.						
Total area (excluding water)	56,201,418	56,201,418	—	—	—	—
Total acreage under all crops and grass(*)	32,244,110	32,266,755	—	—	22,645	0·1
Wheat	1,625,488	1,755,696	—	—	130,208	7·4
Barley	1,712,166	1,751,238	—	—	39,072	2·2
Oats	3,122,936	3,042,926	80,010	2·6	—	—
Rye	61,211	64,808	—	—	3,597	—
Beans	309,761	288,891	20,870	7·2	—	—
Peas	166,138	153,979	12,159	7·9	—	—
Potatoes	548,921	565,921	—	—	17,000	3·0
Turnips and Swedes	1,563,031	1,590,920	—	—	27,889	1·8
Mangold	450,063	431,458	18,605	4·3	—	—
Cabbage	74,897	70,368	4,529	6·4	—	—
Kohl-Rabi	20,687	17,714	2,973	16·8	—	—
Rape	91,273	93,830	—	—	2,557	2·7
Vetches & tares	154,058	142,047	12,011	8·5	—	—
Lucerne	63,796	55,734	8,062	14·5	—	—
Other crops	121,499	113,997	7,502	6·6	—	—
Clover and Rotation Grasses:						
For Hay	2,250,371	2,191,587	58,784	2·7	—	—
Not for Hay	2,240,657	2,249,159	—	—	8,502	0·4
Total	4,491,028	4,440,746	50,282	1·1	—	—
Permanent grass:—						
For hay	4,936,823	4,784,895	151,928	3·2	—	—
Not for hay	12,341,420	12,459,838	—	—	118,419	1·0
Total	17,278,243	17,244,734	33,509	0·2	—	—
Flax	372	263	109	41·4	—	—
Hops	44,938	46,722	—	—	1,784	3·8
Small fruit	82,167	80,226	1,941	2·4	—	—
Bare fallow	261,437	314,537	—	—	53,100	16·9
Orchards†	250,172	247,687	2,485	1·0	—	—
LIVE STOCK.						
Horses—	No.	No.	No.	P.C.	No.	P.C.
Agricultural purposes‡	1,115,962	1,116,505	—	—	543	0·0
Unbroken horses—						
One year and above	313,061	315,235	—	—	1,274	0·4
Under one year	126,484	136,941	—	—	10,457	7·6
Total of horses	1,556,407	1,568,681	—	—	12,274	0·8
Cows and heifers in milk or in calf	2,759,318	2,738,411	20,907	0·8	—	—
Other cattle—						
Two years and above	1,389,282	1,426,754	—	—	37,472	2·6
One year & under two	1,440,433	1,494,795	—	—	54,362	3·6
Under one year	1,323,486	1,350,896	—	—	27,410	2·0
Total of cattle	6,912,519	7,010,856	—	—	98,337	1·4
Ewes kept for breeding	10,277,428	10,061,104	216,324	2·2	—	—
Other sheep—						
One year and above	5,194,029	5,098,876	95,153	1·9	—	—
Under one year	10,645,046	10,260,380	384,666	3·7	—	—
Total of sheep	26,116,503	25,420,360	696,143	2·7	—	—
Sows kept for breeding	380,272	337,322	43,950	13·1	—	—
Other pigs	2,256,536	1,987,139	269,397	13·6	—	—
Total of pigs	2,636,808	2,323,461	313,347	13·5	—	—

* Excluding 12,742,779 acres returned as mountain and heath land used for grazing in 1907, and 12,748,364 acres in 1906.

† The acreage of any crop or grass grown under the trees in orchards is also returned under its proper heading.

‡ Including mares kept for breeding.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act.

Limits of Error in Guarantee.

In the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, Section I., it is stipulated that any statements made on the invoice of a fertiliser or feeding stuff as to the percentages of the principal constituents shall constitute a guarantee within the *prescribed limits of error*.

This latitude in the guarantee is intended to protect the manufacturer in cases of slight accidental deviations from the guarantee, it being recognised that such differences are liable sometimes to occur in the process of manufacture. The Board of Agriculture, acting on the powers conferred on them, have prescribed the deviations, or "limits of error," which may be allowed, and within which no legal responsibility can be fixed on the manufacturer.

In the consideration of this matter the Board of Agriculture have assumed that the manufacturers will act in a *bonâ fide* manner, and will not take advantage of the legal latitude to lower the standard of their goods while publishing the higher analysis.

The Fertiliser Manufacturers' Association, representing the principal fertiliser manufacturers, have announced that the members of the association will not avail themselves of the latitude to lower the quality of their goods, but will give compensation on the basis of the full published analyses in cases where a shortage of the quality may be proved.

The representatives of the feeding stuffs trade have not, so far as we are aware, issued a similar notice, but we are sure that the leading manufacturers will be guided by the same principle.

It would be well, however, if the manufacturers would let this intention on their part be widely known, because at present a good many farmers are in doubt about it.

Just recently a well-known farmer sent us two samples of compound cakes, sold to him with the following analyses :—

No. 1.—Oil	10 per cent.	}	price
Albuminoids ...	20 ,, ,,	}	£6 15s.
Carbohydrates ...	40 ,, ,,	}	per ton.
No. 2.—Oil	11 per cent.	}	price
Albuminoids ...	20 ,, ,,	}	£7 5s.
Carbohydrates ...	38 ,, ,,	}	per ton.

And he asked me to have them analysed for the following reason :—

"By the rule you give in your paper there appears to be only a few shillings' difference in the price, or should be, as far as I can make out. Now the question comes whether either of the makers of these two cakes is taking advantage of the Act which allows a margin of 1 per cent. in each constituent, as I have heard some makers are doing, thus showing a better analysis than should be the case. Both vendors say their cakes are made from the best of materials, so that their feeding value should be equal in this respect. For my own part, I am inclined to believe farmers are taken in, in spite of the many Acts passed for their protection, simply for the reason that they neglect to look after their own interests as they should. I may say the cakes are supplied from firms of reputed good standing, one of which advertises in the MARK LANE EXPRESS."

The letter speaks for itself, and no doubt represents the views of many farmers.

Here are the results of analyses :—

No. 1 Sample.

Moisture	11·25
Oil	8·27
Albuminoids ...	20·69
Carbohydrates ...	43·82
Indigestible fibre ...	8·57
Mineral matter ...	7·40
	100·20
Containing nitrogen ...	3·31
Ditto sand ...	1·80

Remark of Analyst.

"This sample does not come up to the guarantee as regards oil. It will also be seen from the analysis that the cake is dirty, containing far too much sand, which in a feeding stuff ought not to exceed 1 per cent."

No. 2 Sample.

Moisture	10·50
Oil	10·90
Albuminoids ...	20·81
Carbohydrates ...	42·82
Indigestible fibre ...	8·37
Mineral matter ...	6·60
	100·20
Containing nitrogen ...	3·33
Ditto sand ...	1·00

Remark of Analyst.

"This sample is up to the guarantee, and the cake is clean and in all respects satisfactory."

It will thus be seen that the cake as per sample No. II., although costing 10s. per ton more money, is in reality the better value.

Referring to the remark of our correspondent, that the Act allows a margin of 1 per cent. in each constituent, by reference to the Board of Agriculture regulations (Limits of Error) leaflet No. 18 he will find that the limit of error in a compound cake is

"One-tenth of the percentage of oil and one-tenth of the percentage of albuminoids stated in the invoice."

So that the *minimum* percentage of these cakes should be—

No. 1—Oil ...	9	per cent.
Albuminoids ...	18	,,
No. 2—Oil ...	9·90	per cent.
Albuminoids ...	18	,,

The carbohydrates need not be guaranteed.

Pigs on Pasture.

The advantage of letting pigs run on pasture is conclusively shown in the course of a series of experiments conducted at the Iowa experiment station. The pigs on timothy pasture ate more concentrated feed and gained more rapidly than pigs kept in yards eating the same kind of concentrated rations. The saving effected by the pasture in the amount of feed required per 100 lb. gain was almost inappreciable in the case of those pigs fed on rations of corn and meat meal or corn and tankage in the proportion of 5 to 1. On the other hand, pigs fed in yards required, for each 100 lb. of gain produced, 25 per cent. more of the ration composed of corn 2 parts and shorts 1 part, and 20 per cent. more of the ration composed of corn and shorts equal parts, than the pigs fed similar rations on timothy pasture.

The cheapest gains in the feeding of young and growing pigs were obtained from a ration of corn alone and clover pasture. The pigs fed on corn and clover pasture made 87 per cent. more rapid gains than did those pigs which were fed on expensive supplementary feeds with corn on timothy pasture, and almost 30 per cent. more rapid gains than those pigs fed on corn alone and timothy pasture. The amount of concentrated feed required to produce 100 lb. of gain was nearly as low for the ration of corn and clover as in the case of any of the other rations used, either in connection with the pasture or dry lot feeding. The gains due to the pasture itself were greatest when relatively smaller amounts of protein were supplied in the concentrated part of the ration, and amounted to 278 lb. of pork per acre from timothy pasture when a concentrated ration composed of 2 parts corn and 1 part shorts was fed after 1·85 tons of hay had been harvested four weeks before the experiment commenced. The ration composed of corn and clover pasture produced 116 lb. more pork per acre than the ration composed of the same number of pounds of corn and timothy pasture.

Horseflesh in Paris.

Horsebreeders in France are beginning to regard with more equanimity the substitution of motor traction for horse traction. It is true that the extension of railways, automobiles, and motors will eventually take the place of horses, but the change will be gradual, and the conditions of life will adapt themselves to the transformation. It is a fact shown clearly by statistics that the prejudice in France against the consuption of horseflesh is dying out.

Some years ago horseflesh was eaten only by the submerged classes in Paris, but now the working classes are adopting its use, and it is regularly employed in the hashes and stews eaten by the middle classes.

The number of horses butchered in Paris for the needs of the inhabitants has regularly increased for the last twenty years, which is stated to be the reason why the price of horses has not diminished and does not seem likely to do so.

Until last year only animals in good condition but prematurely spoilt by excessive work were slaughtered, but now all animals unfit for regular work pass into the hands of the butcher. Even stallions are utilised, although their flesh, like that of the bull, is inferior to the flesh of castrated animals.

Butchers now pay from £10 to £15 for animals that formerly were worth practically nothing, and the business is so lucrative that fortunes are being rapidly made.

In 1906 the number of horses slaughtered for food was 56,000, furnishing about 12,000 tons of meat. This outlet, writes Mr. Mossu, who has made a study of the subject, should suffice to remove the apprehension of those who think that horsebreeding may die out.

As may be supposed, of this large quantity of 12,000 tons the larger portion was used for the manufacture of sausages, meat paste, &c., while only about 4,000 tons was utilised as fresh meat. The consumption of 1906 exceeded that of the previous year by nearly 1,000 tons.

Horseflesh is no longer regarded as refuse meat, but is quite *à la mode*. Doctors frequently recommend it, not as superior to beef, but because it can be eaten raw by patients suffering from anæmia, without the evil consequences which sometimes follow the consumption of raw beef.

Economy and good quality, says Mr Mossu, are the two factors which conduce to the success of horseflesh, and point to a development in the future prosperity of horsebreeding.

It will be long before we in England come round to similar views on the subject, but it is interesting to note the course of events on the Continent. Not only in France, but in Germany and Belgium the horse is being more and more regarded as a source of food.

Potato Experiments at Inveresk.

A large number of farmers, potato merchants, and others interested in agriculture paid a visit of inspection one day last week to the trial potato plots, carried on by the Edinburgh and East of Scotland College of Agriculture at Inveresk, near Musselburgh. The experiments are made on an extensive scale, and embrace nearly seventy plots arranged to test a number of varieties of first early, second early, and late potatoes, as well as to afford information on other problems connected with potato cultivation.

The Earlys were first inspected, the weights being given as follows :—

	Tons.	Cwt.
Ninetyfold	13	13½
Sharp's Express	11	0
Conquest...	10	13½
Epicure	10	4½
Puritan	9	19½
Southern Queen	9	10½
Jeannie Deans	9	6
Sir John Llewellyn	9	4½
Mid-Lothian Early	8	16½
Duke of York	8	12
Dalmeny Early	8	6
Recorder...	7	19½
Webber's Early	7	7½

As regards the second Earlys, the college authorities have been directing their efforts to find a variety equal to British Queen in quality, but producing a heavier yield and with more power of resisting disease. Last year Dalmeny Radium was first among this class, and promised to be a good substitute for British Queen. It was seen that it was very similar in show and general appearance, with the exception that it was slightly stronger than British Queen, which was growing alongside of it in two parts of the field. The late varieties also promised very well, several of them, such as Dalhousie, being outstandingly good. The manurial trials were then explained. Spraying gave indication of fruitful results, lots which had been sprayed a fortnight ago being distinctly greener and stronger in foliage and presenting a fresh appearance.

Opening of New Nitrate Fields.

The financial Bill recently passed by the Parliament in Chili contains a measure intended to facilitate the increased production of nitrate of soda.

The Government will establish a mortgage bank for the opening up of new nitrate fields. To this end short-dated debentures will be issued in gold with a strong sinking fund, and specially guaranteed by a quota payable for each quintal of nitrate exported, which will be levied by the Government at the same time as the export duty. This new institution will start with a working capital of 5,000,000 pesos furnished by the Government as a special guarantee fund.

Various financiers interviewed on the subject expressed the opinion that with an increase in the production of nitrate, minerals, wool, and live-stock in the south of the country, the foreign exchanges would show a strong and rising tendency in a few years, as had been the case in the Argentine and in Brazil.—Reuter.

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of other article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a nom de plume, *in the paper.*

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR FARMERS WHEN BUYING.

Approximate Unit Cost of Fertilising Constituents.

It is necessary for guidance in the economical use of fertilisers, and especially in the purchase of Complete and Special Manures, that the relative unit cost of the principal fertilising constituents should be studied: the subjoined table affords information on the subject. By multiplying the guaranteed minimum percentages of a fertiliser by the unit costs given in the table, the buyer will get a good idea of the commercial value of any chemical manure offered to him. The unit values are subject to variations from time to time, and in this respect we shall endeavour to keep the table up to date besides which, buyers living in remote districts may have to pay a little more for heavier cost of delivery. If credit is required, this will also add to the cost.

	Peruvian Guano.			Nitrate of Soda.	Sulphate of Ammonia.	Bone Meal.	Superphosphate.	Basic Slag.	Bone Compounds.	Special Manures.	Kainit.	Sulphate of Potash.	Muriate of Potash.
	Raw or Equalised.	Phosphatic.	Dissolved (soluble).										
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ammonia, organic as in Guano and Bones	17 6	12 6	15 0	—	—	12 6	—	—	15 0	15 0	—	—	—
,, in Sulphate of Ammonia ...	—	—	—	—	10 6	—	—	—	—	12 6	—	—	—
,, calculated from Nitrogen in Nitrate of Soda ...	—	—	—	13 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phosphate soluble in water	—	—	2 0	—	—	—	2 0	—	2 0	2 0	—	—	—
,, assimilable...	1 6	1 2	1 3	—	—	1 2	—	—	1 3	1 3	—	—	—
,, insoluble	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 3	—	—	—	—	—
Potash (pure)	4 0	4 0	4 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 0	3 10	4 0	3 10

N.B.—The above table is based on the commercial cost of the fertilising constituents. Agricultural value is not always synonymous with the commercial cost, and every farmer must exercise his judgment, while considering the cost, which fertiliser may be expected to give the most profitable return on his soil and for his crops. This is the cheapest manure for him.

Approximate Unit Cost of the Nutritive Constituents in Feeding Cakes and Meals.

June 1906.

Cakes and other Feeding Stuffs.—In order to be able to form a correct opinion of their value, it is necessary to know the relative cost of the different nutritive constituents. The following note, by an eminent authority, supplies this information. By reference to it, a farmer can calculate out the approximate commercial value of a cake or meal, and then use his judgment as to which is most suitable for his special requirements.

	s. d.		s. d.
Albuminoids	2 8	to	3 0
Oil or fat	2 8	,,	3 0
Carbohydrates	1 1	,,	1 2

NOTE.—Most authorities in England are agreed that the value of each per cent. or unit of albuminoids and of oil is at least 2½ times that of 1 per cent. or unit carbohydrates. If, therefore, the percentages of albuminoids and oil in a feeding stuff be respectively multiplied by 2½ and added to the percentage of carbohydrates, the total feeding units contained in the article are obtained. The cost of the feeding stuff divided by this total of feeding units gives the price per unit. Example: A cotton cake contained

	Per cent.			=	Feeding units.
Albuminoids	22·1	×	2½	=	55·2
Oil	5·2	×	2½	=	13·0
Carbohydrates	33·2	×	1	=	33·2
Total feeding units					101·4

The price of the cake being £5 7s. 6d., the cost per feeding unit was just about 1s.

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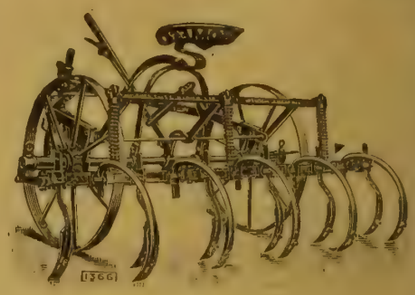
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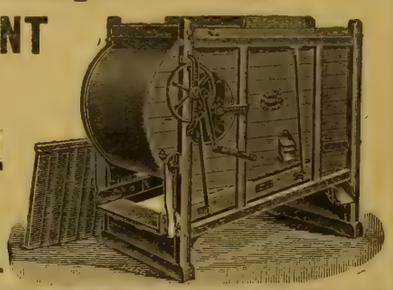
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THE CEREAL YEAR.

I.—BREADSTUFFS.

The average price of English wheat has now been below the level of 30s. for two successive cereal twelvemonths, and the tendency to increase the home wheat acreage has met with a rude check. To-day, when a new cereal year opens with prices well above 30s., the farmer will be asking whether he should increase his wheat sowings in the hope that the period of low prices has passed. The matter would seem to rest very largely with himself, for the deliveries of home-grown wheat during the past twelve months have neither been heavy in themselves nor depressed by foreign competition.

The whole trouble has consisted in the competition between the English farmers to sell early after harvest, so that two-thirds of the crop was sold in the first six months of the selling season, and millers were enabled to profit by an entirely artificial superabundance, an excess of supply on demand which bore no relation to the position on a survey from harvest to harvest. The question of sowing wheat this autumn therefore resolves itself mainly into one of resolution to hold wheat with some reasonable degree of firmness from Michaelmas to Lady Day, or at least into a new civil year.

So far as the facts of the weekly returns go the solution of the wheat-growing problem in England would appear to lie, not with any return to protection so much as with the establishment of State Agricultural banks, as in Russia. The failure of ordinary banks to help the farmer is admitted, the law allowing them no effective lien on the corn. But if the Government were to advance to farmers cash on their wheat at the current bank rate and up to a value of 20s. per 480 lb.—two-thirds of a rather low selling value only—the present astonishing and disastrous state of affairs might become a thing of the past.

Let us look at just a few weeks in the cereal year which closed on Saturday. In the week ended September 22 when millers were only offering 25s. 9d., farmers actually let them have at 186 recorded markets 90,292 qr. In the week ended August 17 millers paid 33s. 6d., but could only get 14,258 qr. Now there is a difference of 7s. 9d. per qr., and the Government could well afford to lend a farmer 20s. for a year at 9d. By well afford we mean that no burden would be laid upon the taxpayers; there would be no dole. There might be need for a new Act making it penal to move mortgaged wheat without a Government order, but the Board of Agriculture could easily arrange this detail, and there are few farmers whose wheat stacks are their only security. Even as late as February 16 farmers were selling 84,514 qr. at a mean price of 26s. 7d. per qr., though by June 1 31s. 4d. was obtainable, and money to hold on from February 16 to May 31 should have been possible at the outlay of 2½d. on the quarter. The means of getting the advance quickly, without law costs and so forth are what are lacking, and this lack drives agriculturists to selling heavily in a depressed market.

The price of flour in the past cereal year has followed that of wheat pretty closely, but bread was in proportion far too dear from September to April inclusive. Since May, it has been fairly in proportion to wheat and flour values, but all through the winter period of maximum bread consumption the public were effectually shut off from participating in the current cheapness of the produce of the wheat fields. The foreigner during the last twelve trading months has not ruled the roast. He has supplemented home deficiencies, but has not done so at all excessively. At no period have we been overstocked with imported wheat or flour. Latterly, indeed, the failure of the producers of the finer sorts of foreign flour to send supplies has become so marked that it is a question whether English mills turning out flour on the Hungarian and Belgian systems would not do a profitable business.

The exportation of five million cwt. per annum of meal and milling "offals," which are pre-eminently required for our own live stock, has probably something to do with the decrease in our herds of pigs, and is not a circumstance which we can contemplate with much satisfaction in any case.

COSTLY HARVESTING.

The corn harvest is now in full swing, and it seems something like old times to see gangs of men at work with scythe and sickle cutting oats and wheat, and women following up behind tying the sheaves after the manner of years ago. Farmers view this old-fashioned method of doing things, and count up the cost of such ways of harvesting compared with the work of the modern reaper and binder; but there is no help for it, for the machine has yet to be invented that will deal effectually with corn when it is beaten down as flat as it is in a good many fields this year.

This expensive corn cutting coming on the heels of a very costly hay harvest, adds considerably to the outlay, and the chances of profit will consequently be reduced. Another point is that while climatic conditions have increased the demand for labour, good labourers are not very plentiful, and high wages are being paid. It is true the labour supply has been augmented by the sturdy Irishmen who have crossed the Channel to assist in the harvest, and that their services are appreciated, is proved by the fact that they have no difficulty in securing employment. Whatever the working capacities of Pat may be in his own country, he is a rare good fellow in an English cornfield, and the amount of work he will get through on rough fare, and with still rougher lodgings, proves his worth.

Poor farmers! they are classed as a community of grumblers, but even their worst critics admit that they have reasons to complain this season, while the expenses mount up and the prospective returns are not correspondingly bright.

Thirsk Harvest Hirings.—There was a fair number of Irishmen at these hirings on Monday, and several contracts were made. The following were the average wages received:—Irishmen, 20s. to 25s. per week, with potatoes, &c.; Englishmen, able to stack and thatch, 18s. to 20s. per week, with all food.

DAIRY.

The London Dairy Show.

The prize schedule has now been issued for the London Dairy Show of 1907, which will be held under the auspices of the British Dairy Farmers' Association at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, on October 8, 9, 10, and 11. As was intimated at a meeting of the Association some time since, there are several alterations this year, and the results of our comparison of the schedules for this and last year are as follows:—

Taking the cattle section first, we find that in the milking trials the points for time since calving are reduced to a maximum of twelve instead of fourteen. A new class is provided for Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn cows, at the instance of the Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn Association, with prizes as in the other classes. Last year's classes for cows and heifers "not eligible to compete in preceding classes" are omitted, and the following two classes are provided for cows to be used in the milkers' contests instead of the special class originated last year:—(*a*) Pair of cows of any breed or cross, in milk, with prizes £15, £10, £7, £5, £3; (*b*) Single cows, any breed or cross, in milk, with prizes £5, £4, £3, £2, £1. In the bull classes it is notified that bulls from dams that have won the special milking prizes of the Shorthorn Society, or the prizes or certificates of the Dairy Shorthorn (Coates' Herd Book) Association, are eligible, as well as bulls whose dams have won prizes or certificates of merit in the milking trials or butter tests of the B.D.F.A. or any other society. The only alteration noticed in the goat section is that instead of two points being deducted when the milk contains less than 4 per cent. of fat (in the milking competition) only one point will be deducted.

In the cheese section separate classes are provided for coloured and uncoloured Cheshire cheese, and a new class is made for Derby cheese, while the prizes for double Gloucester are increased to the extent of £4. The Champion Cup, given by the Lord Mayor and Corporation of London, is offered this year for the best Stilton, last year the honour was given to Cheddar; but we miss the extra prize which was last year given by the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society for the best exhibit of Lancashire cheese. The cheese fair remains the same as in 1906, as does the section for collections of dairy produce, but in that for bacon and hams there are several alterations. For instance, the bacon section is divided into two classes, one for smoked and the other for unsmoked. Last year there were three classes—viz.:—(1) Cumberland and York; (2) smoked; and (3) pale dried (other than Cumberland and York); whilst for hams there is one class less, and no mention made of any particular variety, there being one class for smoked hams, two for unsmoked hams—one under 14 lb. and the other over 14 lb.—and the usual selling class for hams of any variety.

There is only one change in the butter section, and that is that Colonial butter will, for the first time, be judged according to a scale of points, a card to be placed at the top of each exhibit showing the points awarded. The points are as follows:—Colonial salt butter: Flavour, 55; texture, 20; colour, 10; salting, 10; packing, 5; total, 100. Colonial fresh butter: Flavour, 60; texture, 25; colour, 10; packing, 5; total, 100.

Skim-milk bread and scones, an always popular feature at the Dairy Show, have been retained as last year, and the honey classes are practically the same, the only difference being that the class for twelve sections of honey (size 4¼ in. by 4¼ in.) has now the proviso, "other than heather." The root classes are the same as in 1906, but we notice the addition of two conditions, namely, "At least one root to be cut in each exhibit," and "White cards only will be allowed to be put up by exhibitors or seedsmen."

In the appliance section the gold medal and the silver medal of the association will be offered for milk strainers, or strainers and filters combined, capable of effectually dealing, other than by centrifugal force, with at least 100 gallons of milk in an hour, whilst as last year there will be the class for "Any new invention relating to the dairy industry, or one showing distinct and practical improvement, not eligible for competition in any other class and not previously exhibited at the dairy show," and in this the judges may award a silver or bronze medal to any exhibit showing sufficient merit. Finally we notice that the success of last year's milkers' contest has encouraged the society to further increase the prizes, those for men to the extent of £4, and those for boys and girls respectively to the extent of £6 10s. in each class, whilst the prizes for women milkers amount to £25. Entries for the show close on September 9 with the secretary, Mr. W. C. Young, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

About 3,000 lambs were offered at the "harvest fair" at Little Driffield on Monday, and they met a slow demand at 38s. to 43s. per head.

Notes of the Week.

According to a well-known proverb "all things come to him who waits," and our belated summer has arrived at last.

From the vigour of his rays, Phœbus means to make up for lost time.

During the past week Ireland has presented two faces to the world—one of peace and one of war. In Dublin the horse show and harmony; on the West cattle-driving and discord.

The horse show was, was usual, a great success; well attended by visitors, all apparently in a happy and contented frame of mind.

It would be out of the radius of our Royal Agricultural Show to visit Ireland, but, if it were practicable, such a visit would do much good.

Sir Walter Gilbey has issued his usual eloquent appeal on behalf of the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution.

There is no institution more worthy of support, and his appeal should meet with a liberal response.

The clouds have sent us too much moisture this summer, but how necessary an ample annual rainfall is may be seen from the consideration that it takes 422 tons of water to make 1 ton of the dried substance of potatoes.

It is a matter of regret that the Countess of Warwick has found herself obliged to close her farming colleges from want of financial support.

Many of us may not sympathise with Lady Warwick's views on all subjects, but there is a general agreement that her schools have been doing good work.

The Government has been safely delivered of the "Small Holdings and Allotment Bill," and the infant is doing as well as can be expected.

Let us hope the little stranger will develop a peaceful and healthy disposition, even if he does not prove the prodigy his fond parents anticipate.

He who takes good care of the land,
Him will the land take good care of.

The good old times! In 1600 three quarts of nut-brown ale could be bought in most parts of England for the price of one penny.

It is hard on British makers that the War Office should place an order in America for 100,000 pairs of horseshoes.

It is calculated that it takes the produce of seven acres of wheat to pay for the sugar grown in one acre of beetroot.

Most English housewives would regard the coming rise in the price of bread with less concern if they knew that the extra money for the wheat went more largely into the pockets of the farmers of this country.

An American expert says, "There is no reason in sight why all our grains will not bring higher prices for many a year."

The acreage under wheat cultivation in the British Isles shows a further decrease this year. If we have a favourable autumn our farmers would do well to grow more wheat.

Doctors say that butter is one of the most nutritious articles of food. Bread and butter is an almost perfect diet.

But it must be genuine butter.

In our Australian Colonies the production of butter is booming. Victoria alone produced last year 33,611 tons, worth £3,500,000.

Rust disease in wheat is said to cause an annual loss to the world's cereal crop of more than £100,000,000.

Scientists are working diligently to discover an immune breed of wheat of a prolific type, and there seems to be a prospect of ultimate success.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3.—Agricultural Shows at Cowbridge, Shepton Mallet, Moor Green (near Nottingham), Bicester, and Gillingham (in Dorset)—Sending-in Day for Shows at Notton Road, Kilnsey, Market Deeping, Appleby, and Stanhope—Fairs at Kington, Thurles, Bury St. Edmunds, Westbury, and Ashbourne.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4.—Ashby-de-la-Zouche Show—Agricultural Shows at Knutsford and Doddington—Birmingham Shorthorn Show and Sale, first day—Bath Horse Show, first day—Peterborough Foal Show and Horse Sale—Ashby-de-la-Zouche Annual Horse Show and Sale—Manchester Horse Sale—Fairs at Leominster, Looe, Lostwithiel, Stalbridge, and Nantwich.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5.—Bath Horse Show, second (popular) day—Birmingham Shorthorn Show and Sale, second day—Abergavenny Agricultural Show—Rutland Show at Oakham—Lincoln Longwool Association Show at Lincoln, first day—Agricultural Show at Grayrigg, near Kendal—Thornton's Sale of Dexters, Eastbourne—Sending-in Day for Show at Ilkeston—Wimborne Great Sale of Cart Horses—First Day of Crewe Autumn Horse Sale—Horse Sale at Birmingham—Fairs at Montgomery, Northallerton, Barnet, Devizes, and Bristol.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6.—Second Day of the Great Lincoln Sheep Show—Agricultural Show at Badminton—Ram Lamb Sale at Chelmsford—Ram Sale at Kidderminster—Dickinson's Sale of Shearling Rams at Lincoln—Mansell's Special Sale of Live Stock, Shrewsbury—At Kerry, Montgomeryshire, Great Annual Sale of Kerry Hill Sheep—Lichfield Special Horse Sale—Second Day of Crewe Autumn Horse Sale—Fairs at Haverfordwest, Tarporley, and Stockport.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7.—Opening of the Bakers' Exhibition at Islington—Agricultural Shows at Ammanford, Cowshill, Skipton, Kirkby Stephen, Middleton-in-Teesdale, and Wharfedale District at Otley—Sending-in Day for Shows at Wardle, Abingdon, Blandford, and Kington—Fairs at Buckingham and Doncaster.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9.—Nuneaton Special Horse Sale—Fairs at Harlow, Carmarthen, Ashford, Oakham, Glastonbury, Sutton Coldfield, Buxton, Lisburn, Warwick, Darlington, and St. Ives.

Flock, Herd, and Stud Books.

The growing popularity of the Oxford Down breed of sheep at home, and also for export to the colonies and foreign countries, is shown by the increase of no fewer than twenty-five registered flocks during the last twelve months. The new volume (No 19) of the Flock Book therefore shows a satisfactory increase on its predecessor, for the new flocks then recorded numbered 12. Volume XIX. contains particulars of rams Nos. 4949 to 5322, and ewes 1708 to 1854, whilst there is the other usual useful information for all interested in the breed. The Flock Book is published at 10s. 6d., and can be had of the secretary of the Oxford Down Sheep Breeders' Association, Mr. Howard Sammons, 11, Queen Street, Oxford.

In Volume XVI. of the Southdown Flock Book recently issued, it is recorded that since the publication of the previous volume sixty-four additional flocks have been accepted for registration, thus making in two years an increased entry of no fewer than 116 flocks. Several old established flocks have, however, been dispersed, but the net increase during 1906 was fifty. The total number of flocks registered in Volume XVI. is 240, comprising a total of 81,850 breeding ewes. Details of rams was 6,493 to 6,987; ewes, 3,207 to 3,472; and wethers 13 to 14 are given with other information of interest to breeders.

Particular attention is drawn to the fact that after December 31 next no flock will be accepted for registration unless brought from a flock or flocks already entered, and no sheep will be accepted for registration if purchased from an unentered flock. In view of this fact members are requested to do their best to secure the immediate registration of all eligible flocks not yet entered.

Volume XVIII. of the "English Herd Book and Register of Pure-bred Jersey Cattle," just issued, contains the pedigrees of 1,280 cows and 350 bulls, together with a list of births in the herds of members of the English Jersey Cattle Society, prize-winners at the principal shows, and butter test awards, 1906, particulars of sales, and other information concerning 1906 of importance to Jersey cattle breeders. The volume, which as in other years is well printed and nicely bound, may be obtained of the secretary of the English Jersey Cattle Society, 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W.

Volume VI. of the Welsh Pony and Cob Stud Book contains the entries or 46 stallions, 199 mares, 19 racehorses, and an index of owners, breeders, foals and sires of produce, whilst there are several articles of interest to breeders of Welsh ponies, &c., amongst them being one by Sir Walter Gilbey, and another article, "Some Early Phases in the History of the Horse," by Mr. C. Collman Rogers. Several illustrations are given, and the whole makes quite an interesting stud book. It is published by the Welsh Pony and Cob Society, the secretary of which is Mr. J. Hamer, Greenfield, Penybont, Radnorshire.

Forthcoming Sales.

The catalogue is now ready of the Lincoln Longwool Sheep Breeders' Association's twenty-second sale, which will take place at Lincoln on Thursday and Friday next, September 5 and 6, when sheep from the flocks of probably all the well-known breeders will be offered. The catalogue may be obtained from Mr. W. Frankish, St. Benedict's Square, Lincoln.

Messrs. Nock, Deighton, and Kirkby will sell on Monday, September 9, at Bridgnorth, Salop, about 5,000 sheep, comprising about 150 rams and ram lambs, and 4,500 ewes, store wethers, and lambs. The sale will commence at 10.30 sharp.

We would remind our readers that Messrs. Stride and Son's second sale of pure-bred Southdown sheep will take place on Wednesday next at Chichester, when about 220 rams and ram lambs and 3,000 ewes and lambs from the flocks of all the well-known breeders will be sold. The sale will commence at 10 o'clock.

The Seaham Harbour Stud Company's annual sale of Clydesdales, Hackneys, and ponies will be held on Wednesday, September 18. The catalogues are now being prepared.

Consignments of rams or ram lambs from the Oxford Down flock of Mr. Hobbs will be sold by Messrs. R. W. Hobbs and Sons at Bury St. Edmunds on September 3, Edinburgh on September 12, Kelso on September 13, and Northampton on September 19.

Sir Gilbert Greenall's sale of Kerry cattle and Large and Middle White pigs will take place at Walton Hall, Warrington, on Thursday next, September 5, Mr. W. Bainbridge being the auctioneer. The high position held by this herd of Large and Middle breed pigs constitutes a guarantee of first-class character of the animals catalogued in this sale. Many of them are winners, and all are descended from prize-winning families. Every pig is entered or eligible for entry in the Herd Book of the National Pig Breeders' Association.

Messrs. John Swan and Sons', Ltd., great annual sale of 22,000 half-bred draught ewes will take place at Newton St. Boswells, N.B., on Monday, September 16; whilst their special sale of half-bred gimmers, feeding sheep, and half-bred, three-quarter bred, Oxford, cross Suffolk and Cheviot lambs will be held on the following Thursday at the same place, St. Boswells. The attention of buyers is directed to these sales, as they afford purchasers the best selection of half-bred ewes and half-bred gimmers obtainable in Scotland.

Mr. Frederick Ward's annual sale of Lincoln shearling rams is to be held at Quarrington on Saturday next. Last year 117 rams were disposed of for an aggregate of £2,426, making an average price of £20 14s. 9d. There are some other interesting facts about Quarrington rams. Two years ago twenty-seven of them were sold in Buenos Ayres at an average of £140 each, one making £430, and seven an average of £204. The Quarrington flock sired a great many of the Royal Show prize winners, as well as the highest priced ram, which made £700 in the Argentine last year. The great feature of the Quarrington ram is its size, its immense amount of bone and heavy fleece.

In many parts of the country plums are exceptionally plentiful this year, and it is feared that much of the fruit will be allowed to remain on the trees to spoil, owing to the exceptionally low prices that are now being realised. In the Nottingham market on Wednesday morning good sound English-grown plums were being sold at the rate of three pounds for a penny, whilst at Covent Garden English plums were quoted at 2s. to 3s. 6d. per half-sieve, as compared with 4s. 6d. to 5s. at the same period last year.

Ilminster Fair took place on Wednesday, when there was an exceptionally heavy entry of stock of all descriptions, and a very large attendance of buyers from all parts of the West of England. The whole of the stock was submitted to auction, and the entries included about 100 head of cattle and 3,500 sheep. The following are the prices quoted, and which are considered satisfactory:—Cows and calves, £15 to £16 10s; heifers and calves, £13 to 17s; barreners, £10 15s to £15 5s; suckler calves, 22s to 2 guineas; fat calves, £3 10s to £4 18s; suckers, 8 guineas to 14 guineas; steers, £7 10s to £9 5s. Down lambs, 42s to £48 6d; Down ewes, 49s to 55s 6d; fat sheep, 51s to 60s; rams, from 5 to 12 guineas; Down Chilver lambs, 39s 6d to 44s. Few horses on offer made up to 35 guineas.

HORSES.

Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

The Decline of the Arab.

THOSE who know the East well say that the breeding of Arabs of the best type is on the decline. And curiously enough the reasons for this decline are widely different. One is the introduction of the rifle amongst the Bedouins. When the lance was their principal weapon of offence, or indeed their only one, the horse was the only possible animal for the foray. But now that the Bedouins have taken to arms of precision the camel answers their purpose as well, or better. The other reason will be looked upon as a very remarkable one by those who have been accustomed to put implicit confidence in the fairy tales which have been written about the Arab's love for his "steed." It is that the Indian demand has fallen off owing to the decline of Arab racing.

The Trade in Arabs.

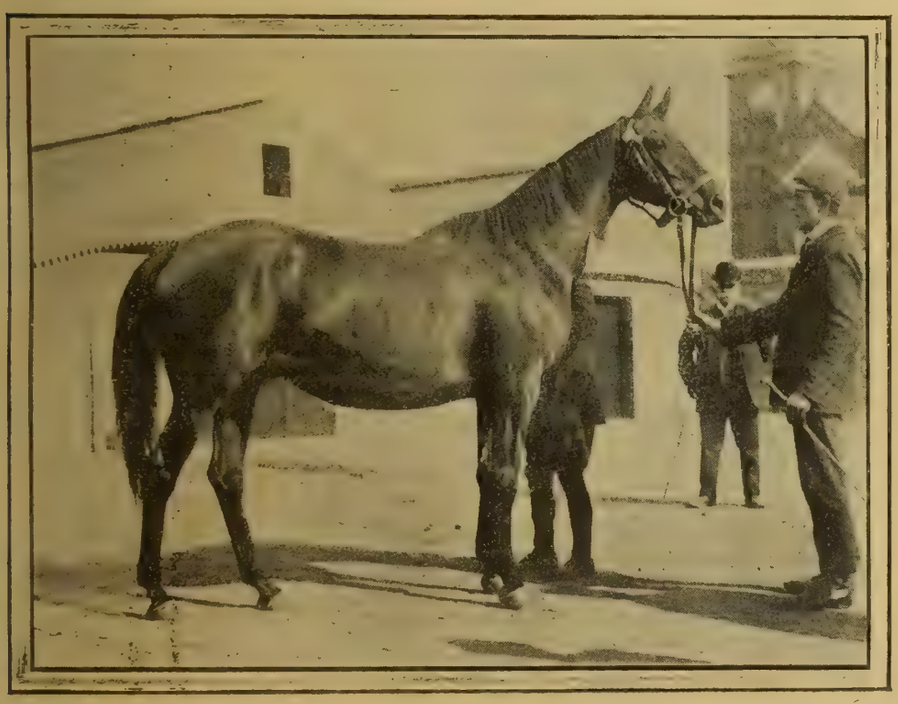
A FEW years ago the trade in Arabs was very brisk, Bombay being the principal market for them. The idea that the Arab would not sell his best horses is an erroneous one. The rich Arab, like the rich man in any other country, will not sell his favourite horse, but it stands to reason that where horses are bred there must be surplus stock, and these the Arab, who is a keen business man, was eager enough to sell. Especially were good stallions put on the market. The Arab, who very wisely traces his pedigree through the female side, naturally stuck to his best mares—a policy which would have been well if it had been followed by us.

What the Decline Means.

THIS decline in Arab breeding, if it continues and increases, cannot but have a very serious effect on the breeding of light horses in England. The Arab himself is not a high class racehorse. Neither is he a good Hunter; his lack of size and scope prevents him carrying a man over a big country when hounds run hard. His peculiar trotting action does not admit of his being a high-class Harness horse; and though he was considered an excellent if not a typical Polo pony under the old conditions of polo playing, since the height of the Polo pony has been raised English ponies have been bred that can carry a heavy man in a fast game better than any Arab. But every one of these breeds owes a deep debt of gratitude to the Arab. With the Racehorse we have nothing to do, save as a Hunter sire; but our Thoroughbreds certainly owe much of their stamina and their hard, flinty bone to their Eastern ancestors. I would even go farther than that, and say that the Arab might well be used as a Hunter sire on a certain type of mare—for instance, on the light carting mare or the powerful Cleveland Bay or Yorkshire Coaching mare. These big, strong mares should not be mated with big horses. They always breed better to the small, active, prepotent sire, and there is no sire so impressive as the Arab, for the simple reason that there is no breed of horses which has been kept so pure for such a long period as the Arab has. As for the Harness breeds, it is pretty generally acknowledged that the Cleveland Bay is descended from horses of Eastern blood, which were spread about the country during the Roman occupation of Britain; and there is, I think, every reason to believe that there was another introduction of the Thoroughbred into the breed in the middle of the eighteenth century. A horse who is known as Old Traveller, and who travelled in the neighbourhood of Yarm, figures in the pedigree of many of the old Cleveland Bays, and undoubtedly several of his sons travelled as Cleveland Bays. And Traveller was full of Eastern blood, some of which was Arab.

The Arab Strain in the Hackney.

HACKNEY breeders claim that their favourites have a great deal of Arab blood in their veins, and it is only fair to say that they make their claim good by the pedigrees of the older horses. Indeed, many horses of recent date have been closely allied to Arabs. One instance occurs to the memory in Mr. W. Pope's famous piebald pony Magpie. Not only was there Arab blood in the top crosses of this great prize winner, but she was fourth in direct descent from an Arab mare. It would, I think, be no exaggeration to say that she was half Arab in blood, and she certainly showed a good deal of the Arab character, especially in the beautiful quality and texture of her bone and in her remarkably developed sinew. She also wore well on her legs, which was another Arab characteristic, for her showyard career was considerably above the average.



The Thoroughbred brood mare Auburn's Pride, winner of First Prize and Perpetual Challenge Cup for best Thoroughbred brood mare at the Royal Dublin Horse Show last week. She is 9 years old and the property of Mr. E. E. Lennon, Merrison Square, Dublin, but was bred by Mr. A. Cameron, Mount Plunket, Roscommon, her sire being Hackler, and her dam Magnet.

Influence on the Polo Pony.

IF the Arab is not the best pony in the world to carry a heavy man in a fast game, he at any rate has had much to do with the production of that handsome and useful animal, the weight-carrying Polo pony. It seems unnecessary to refer to the big mark which Mootrub and other Arabs have made on the Polo pony, and to insist that the latter has got a good deal of his docility, his handiness, his courage, and his hardihood from his desert-bred ancestors.

Another Use of the Arab.

THERE is another purpose for which the Arab is used and for which he is peculiarly adapted. A great admirer of the breed has said very appropriately that as the Hunter is the horse of sport, the Arab is the horse of the foray. And undoubtedly the Arab is the best light cavalry horse in the world. This is perhaps scarcely recognised in England to the extent that it ought to be, but on the Continent the merits of the Arab as a cavalry horse are thoroughly recognised. Mr. Wilfrid Blunt, whose Arab stud at Crabbett Park has achieved such a world-wide fame, finds some of his best customers amongst European Governments. And here I would point out that Mr. Blunt's example might be followed with advantage by other gentlemen who take to breeding horses as a hobby, for Arab breeding on scientific lines will, I think, be very remunerative in the future.

Prejudice Against the Arab.

THERE is, unfortunately, a prejudice against the Arab amongst English breeders, a prejudice which is due in a great measure to their knowing little about him. There are moderate Arabs and there are moderate horses of all breeds. But if there are some Arabs with loaded shoulders it does not necessarily follow that all Arabs have loaded shoulders. Some Arabs, many of them, are bad hacks on an ordinary road, and many of them have a very peculiar gait on the trot, going with a straight knee. But I have sat behind some Arabs that were excellent Harness horses, that went at a very fair pace, and that never made a trip. I have had in my time more than one horse that was in direct descent from an Arab, and they were as hard as nails, no day too long for them, and they were always ready a day or two sooner than those that had not Arab blood in their veins. The value of the Arab cross can scarcely be too highly estimated.

How to Breed a Harness Horse.

THE breeding of Harness horses is a question which is constantly cropping up, and all kinds of theories are propounded, many of them very valuable theories indeed. I am, however, not going to discuss any theories, but am going to point out how one of the best harness mares I ever sat behind was bred. It was only a day or too since I was behind her, and her performance, for her age, fairly astonished me. She is twenty-two years old and she took two of us three miles on a rather hilly road in a quarter of an hour. Her dam was a stylish, well-bred Irish Hunter by Ascetic. She was quite on the high side and pretty nearly thoroughbred, and was a brilliant performer in the hunting field, until a big jump into a road finished her career as a hunter. Her owner wanted a horse to run in his dogcart, and thought she might breed one to a strong Hackney with action. So he mated her with Star of the East, a powerful horse and a fine mover, and the result was the mare referred to above. A big price was bid for her when she was young, and when in her heyday she could do her fifteen miles within the hour with a heavy load. She is a remarkably handsome mare, full of quality and with very fine action, and she is very fresh on her legs for the work she has done. If she had been taken care of and trained she would have made a show Harness mare. It will be remembered that Norbury Squire, who won so many prizes in harness, was bred on similar lines to this mare, being by a Hackney sire (Danegelt) from a Thoroughbred mare.

THE LOOKER-ON.

Mr. T. S. Taylor's Hackneys.

A sale of pedigree Hackney and Harness horses, belonging to Mr. T. S. Taylor, who is giving up the stud at the Bait Hill stud farm at Wymondham, took place on Tuesday in the presence of a large company of buyers, and though there was a good demand prices did not rule high, as the following details of the chief lots sold will show :—

May Queen, bay brood mare, Sir Walter Gilbey, 23 guineas; bay filly foal, Sir Walter Gilbey, 15 guineas; May Day, brown brood mare, Sir Walter Gilbey, 24 guineas; brown filly foal, Sir Walter Gilbey, 17 guineas; black yearling colt, Mr. Howell, 13½ guineas; bay colt, two years, Mr. Carlton, 30 guineas; brown filly, three years, Mr. Case, 15 guineas; brown filly, three years, Mr. Stebbings, 33 guineas; black colt, three years, Mr. Case, 27 guineas; bay colt, three years, Mr. Clement Barker, 20 guineas; black pony stallion, six years, Mr. Wharton, 15 guineas.

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(Revised Edition)
By W. J. MALDEN.
London: Wm. A. May, *Farm, Field & Fireside* Office, 3, Wellington Street, Strand. 1906.

CATTLE.

Notes and Jottings.

IT is not often that so many opportunities of obtaining pedigree cattle of such a variety of breeds and so good of their breed as will be the case during the present and following weeks. Last week we alluded to the quite special event of a sale of those beautiful and highly useful sheeted Welsh cattle to take place at Lord Penrhyn's home farm near Bangor on August 28. On Thursday next Messrs. John Thornton and Co. will offer another quite unique collection of cattle in the shape of the fine herd of Dexters, the property of the Duchess of Devonshire at Eastbourne. This herd has been quite at the front on all practical occasions, having won many milking test prizes.

IT is not generally known what admirable dairy cattle these miniature Irish Dexters are. Heifers in the herd under notice have given as much as three gallons of milk daily for a long time with their first calves, whilst from an inspection point of view a well-bred and well-shaped Dexter is about as handsome a little beast as could be imagined. Then as to beef, the breed, either in its pure state or when crossed, is second to none in quality, and the small joints it provides are always appreciated at a high value. Still there is another great point in favour of this breed, and that is the small quantity of food required to keep it and the fact that they will and do thrive wonderfully upon land that can only be looked upon as fit for rabbit warrens and the like.

IN addition to several private sales of Shorthorns during the present week the great autumnal sale at Bingley Hall, Birmingham, takes place, and this upon this occasion will probably be the largest autumnal sale ever held at Birmingham, being much increased by the addition of the entire herd of fifty-one head, comprising Mr. R. W. Hudson's stock from Danesfield. Many high-priced animals have passed through this herd, and there are many worth looking after on account of their breeding and merit at the present time. The sale this year extends over two days with a total of 477 head. The females are usually sold upon the first day and bulls upon the second day, and Birmingham is a very accessible centre.

SEVERAL very highly important sales of Aberdeen-Angus cattle are also notified to take place immediately, including Sir James Duke's entire herd at Lewes, on the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway. This herd is rich in the valuable Pride of Aberdeen, Rose of Spott, Leachel Lass, Ruby, Jipsey, Waterside Matilda, and Trojan Erica families. The Aberdeen-Angus is essentially a beef breed, and we have seen bullocks from this herd occupying the highest places in the Smithfield Show, than which no better testimonial as to their quality could be mentioned. The herd is stated to be in good breeding condition, but without any forced feeding. Several other important sales of this breed are also notified in England and Scotland.

ANOTHER sale that should and will doubtless attract considerable attention will be that of the dispersion of a large number of the old Dishley Lohghorns and some crosses, the property of Lord Gerard, at Eastwell Park, Ashford. There are some splendid cattle in this herd, steers having been sold frequently at as much as £36 per head, and some of the cows are also deep and rich milkers as well as good breeders. The lots to be offered comprise strains of the very oldest and most valuable blood, and it may be mentioned that the Longhorn milk in the Royal tests at Lincoln was about the second richest in butter fat of that from any breed. There are some fine Devon and Longhorn and crosses with Guernseys, &c., included in the sale, several of which will distinctly prove to all interested in cattle the value of the old Longhorn for crossing purposes.

A VERY good herd of Sussex cattle are also to be sold on September 12, the property of Sir L. Lindsay-Hogg. This breed is now rapidly emerging from what may correctly be styled a very dark cloud, for whereas from a beef point of view the breed is second to none for weight and quality at a given early age, yet they have found very few patrons either at home outside their own limited area or in foreign lands. They are now, however, begining to take their place amongst the breeds that are coming to the front, and this not upon mere fancy lines, but from their admitted practical utility and ability to make a good profit.

ANOTHER herd of yet another breed of great importance to come under the auctioneer's hammer on the 12th inst. will be the herd of pure-bred Devon cattle the property of Mr. W. Kidner, at Fennington, near Taunton. The herd consists of sixty females and some twenty males, the latter mostly bulls. The Devon is now rapidly making friends abroad, and it will be no surprise if prices for these juicy red plums should rise to double their present value in a little time. South Africa is making a great effort to become possessed of the blood, and the country is one of great extent. Japan is also giving them a trial, and we know from experience how readily and rapidly Devons grow in favour when they are bred and managed with care. Few if any beef cattle leave a better return, and they can easily be converted into milkers.

IT is very gratifying to find that so many of our breeds of cattle are now increasing in favour with the foreign buyer. Shorthorns and Herefords have for a long time enjoyed a very wide field of favour, nor does this demand show the slightest symptom of abating, large shipments following each other in rapid succession, and now to these breeds have to be added Angus in good numbers, Devons, Kerries, and Dexters, and also Guernseys. Jerseys, too, have been and are being well looked after for homes on the other side of the water, but many of these are purchased from the island as being considered the most purely bred and naturally the headquarters of the breed. In fact our herds of cattle have not only become the admiration of the whole world, but also a necessity for those foreigners to buy who desire to have the finest of cattle.

IN these days of innumerable milking trials and attempts to increase the yield of milk by breeding, we are frequently met with the information from one or another that the best milkers as a herd, and frequently the winners in competitions, are none pedigree animals. Pursuing the question further down, we are informed that though the animals are not pedigree stock they are purely bred. Where is the difference? Simply in the fact that the one lot have not been registered, whilst the pedigree ones have all been entered. A great point arises here. The owner of a first-class herd of milking cows, when asked if they are pedigree cows, replies: "No; but I have always used pedigree bulls for generations. in fact, for in some instances, we hear, as much as forty or fifty years."

WHEN this has been the case, and the heifer calves are retained to keep the herd up at its numerical requirements, naturally these cattle are pedigree ones, or, in other words, as purely bred as they can be. Then we turn to the so-called pedigree ones, and we find in many instances these are of such short pedigree as only just to have become eligible for the herd book, therefore though pedigreed are not nearly as purely bred as the non pedigree stock so-called. A good deal of dissatisfaction has arisen from time to time in our showyards where this question is concerned. Some exhibitors have been known to exhibit cattle ostensibly Shorthorns in the cross-bred classes, and have even had the audacity to enter the same animals at another show as purely bred Shorthorns.

THE weather during the past seven or eight days has been of a much more agreeable character; indeed, over a great portion of the country lovely and much warmer days have been experienced. It is much to be desired, not only for the saving of labour and getting the corn off one's mind, that the improvement may continue for several weeks. Oats, generally speaking, are enormous crops, and are cutting up well, so that with fine weather to harvest them, the straw will be very valuable to mix with much of the damaged hay that abounds in the country, and not only the straw but the corn also, for nothing is much cheaper or wholesome for young cattle and milch cows than a good supply of home-grown and home-ground oats; they are always a good thing.

THE mangold crop, too, is bulbing very fast now on well-farmed ground, the higher temperature being very favourable to this root, so that there is prospect on many farms of a supply of these to help out in making the damaged hay more nutritious and appetising. Prices of all cattle produce seem likely to be well maintained, as we read the importations of beef especially have fallen off considerably during the last ten days. Cheese, too, is going off well, and greater attention being paid to it, and the best dairies of butter also make a fair price. These loopholes will in all probability enable farmers to get as high, or perhaps a higher price for their winter milk than they have ever done upon those farms where milk selling is the order of the day.

The Craigavad Shorthorns.

The well-known herd of Shorthorn cattle belonging to Mr. A. M. Kirker, Craigavad House, County Down, was dispersed at the Royal Victoria Horse Bazaar, Belfast, on August 23. The herd was founded upon purchases made at the Caledon sale in 1898, and subsequently through importations from some of the leading herds in England and Scotland. In consequence of the system of management adopted, stock bred in the herd have realised satisfactory figures, and many of them have been shipped to the Argentine direct at prices that showed the esteem in which they were held by South American breeders.

There was a good attendance at the sale, but there were fewer cross Channel breeders present than had been anticipated. The top price was 100 guineas, paid by Mr. Mathew Marshall Stranraer, for the roan three-year old cow, Craigavad Lily, got by Nonpariel Courtier. This cow is beautifully coloured, and promises exceedingly well. One of the most prominent bidders was Major Chevasse, Waterford, who paid the next highest price, 65 guineas, for Quarryhill Kora, a roan out of Luxury, a sire at present in the King's Windsor herd. Major Chevasse also became the owner, at 40 guineas, of Lady Godiva, a rich roan daughter of Orphan Knight; whilst another roan named Craigavad Pink, sired by Master Stephen, was secured by the same purchaser for 41 guineas. The best-priced bull calf was a get of Quarryhill Kora by Villager, a red-coloured youngster, which fetched 58 guineas from Mr. Gibson, Craigavan. Another red bull calf named Carmen, home bred and got by Nonpareil Courtier, was led out at 50 guineas, at which price he was knocked down to Mr. A. Moutray, Auchnacloy. Other figures ranged from 15 to 40 guineas, the latter price being paid by Mr. Porter, Dublin, for Lady Augusta, a light roan, possessing many of the best features of the breed.

Sale of Sussex Cattle.

The sale of close on fifty head of pure-bred Sussex cattle belonging to Mr. Salliard, of Buchan Hall, Crawley, at Horsham market, attracted a large company of breeders, and there was a good demand, though no high prices were realised; but seeing that so many of the lots were calves, the average of the sale, £17, was considered satisfactory. Lot 1 was the old prize-winning cow, Elsa, champion of the breed on several occasions, who is now in her sixteenth year, and still looking well, but she made only 14½ guineas. She had a yearling bull in the sale, Bewbush Statesman 2nd, which went cheaply to the Hon. R. P. Nevill. Bewbush Duke, winner of first prize at the Royal and other prizes, was much admired, but did not reach his reserve price of 60 guineas. He should, however, soon find his way into a good herd at that figure. Mr. Blacklocks, of Lydd, was a buyer of several cows and calves, giving 15 guineas and 17 guineas for two of the latter. Mr. Nevill secured the best lot in the sale in Music, a very beautiful young cow of Mr. James Braby's breeding. She is a prize winner and well within her value at 34 guineas. Smeeth Prebble 2nd went to Mr. Gordon Neame, of Faversham, at 20 guineas, and her very promising bull calf, exceptionally dark in colour, and well grown, was bought by Mr. E. E. Braby. Doubtless he will be heard of again in the showyard. Mr. Buchanan, of Lavington, bought three very good heifers in Bewbush Derby 1st (30 guineas), Prebble Smeeth twin 2nd (31 guineas), and Bewbush Elsa (24 guineas), Mr. John Ainger taking the best of the younger stock in Bewbush Hairgrass at 27 guineas.

Store Stock Sale at Dublin.

On Thursday Mr. Gavin Low held a well-attended sale of store cattle. About 800 beasts were sold at very satisfactory prices. Amongst the most notable sales were Mr. Frank's eight Aberdeen Angus two and a-half year olds (which took the first prize offered by Mr. Low) and sold at from £15 2s. 6d. to £16 17s. 6d.; Mr. Aitken's eight Hereford bullocks (took second prize), and were sold for £16 5s. each. Dr. Gray took a first prize for some Hereford cross bred bullocks, which he sold for £13 12s. 6d. Mr. Heaven got £12 17s. for ten two and a-half year olds A.A. heifers, and Mr. Symes (who took second prize) sold his pen for £14 5s.

The following were some of the prices realised:—Horned bullocks and heifers (two and two and a-half years old), from £10 2s. 6d. to £16 7s. 6d., being 27s. to 31s. per cwt.; Aberdeen Angus, £10 5s. to £16 17s. 6d.; Hereford crosses, £11 12s. to £16. The top price of the day was £17, obtained by Captain Slater for a handsome lot of Hereford cross-bred bullocks (two and a-half years), which were sold at £17.

A good clearance was accomplished, though it was considered that the cattle did not go quite as well as at former sales. Some yearling heifers which got first and second prizes were sold at £12 10s and £12 15s each. A good clearance was accomplished.

The Smithfield Club Show, 1907.

The prize schedule for the Smithfield Club's Show at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, on December 9 to 13 next has made its appearance, and reminds one again of winter, which seems only to have just closed. Still, one has to take time by the forelock nowadays, and thus show schedules issued several months before the time of the show occasion little or no surprise.

To come to the prize schedule itself, we may remark that a comparison with that of 1906 shows several alterations, and the first is a reduction in the total amount offered. This year the sum is £4,113 16s. 6d., as compared with £4,152 6s. 2d. last year, so that there is a decrease of £38 9s. 8d. The amount, however, still allows of some handsome prizes in all sections, and there is no actual reduction in the class prizes or specials, which remain at the same amount as last year. The cause of the reduced total is the elimination of one or two classes which have not met with sufficient support, and have as a result been allowed to drop out. A notable example of this is that Cotswold sheep, which used to have, like the other breeds, a section to themselves with a special breed award, have gradually dwindled, until this year they are swallowed up in the section for Devons or any other long-woolled breed. This section now also includes the South Devons, which last year only numbered one. Cheviots only totalled two in two classes, so that exhibitors of these particular breeds have only themselves to blame for the loss of a section at the premier Christmas show of Great Britain.

There is another omission to note in the sheep section, and that is that the section for Dorset sheep has only one class this year, this being for lambs under twelve months old, and none for wethers. Last year the section for Small White or Black pigs failed to attract an entry, and the result is the section does not figure in the schedule this year. The porker class suitable for the London trade was so successful last year that two more classes have been added, and if these additions receive anything like the support accorded the one class in 1906 the section this year should be a notable one.

Beyond the items mentioned above, there is no striking alteration in the prize schedule. It will still be possible for a steer or ox to win £260, a heifer £255, a pen of three long or short woolled sheep £110, a pair of pigs £70, or a single pig £10, to say nothing of the special challenge cups, which are the same as last year. For the cattle classes the prizes amount to £2,013; for sheep, £1,100; pigs, £475; carcase competition, £281; table poultry, £121 8s.; whilst for the feeders of first-prize animals a sum of £122 18s. 6d. is set apart, so that exhibitors have something worth competing for at the Smithfield Show. Copies of the schedule can be had of the secretary, Mr. E. J. Powell, 12, Hanover Square London, W.



Our illustration above is of the Hereford Bull Rob Roy, which has been exhibited at many of the leading Shows this year. Its winnings include First Prize at the Oxford Show, Second at the Royal Show at Lincoln, and Reserves at the Bath and West and Royal Counties Shows. It is the property of Mr. G. D. Faber, of Rush Court, Wallingford, but was bred by Mr. W. Tudge, Summer Court, Herefordshire, its sire being Commandant 22,040 and dam Golden Blossom by Gold Box 15,339.

AUCTION SALES.

Auctioneers will favour us by sending in their advertisements as early in the week as possible. Charges for announcements under this heading Six Shillings an inch.

By Messrs. IRELAND.

Norwich, Norfolk.—Ireland's Norwich Hill Auction Mart (established 50 years). Every Saturday. Fat Bullocks and Sheep, Store Sheep. Special Spring and Autumn Store Cattle Sales.

MESSRS. IRELAND solicit consignments for these important weekly sales; best market value assured.

Cattle consigned to Ireland's, Norwich, will be properly fed and carefully attended to.

All cattle weighed upon entry to the sale ring if desired. Full particulars to be sent to—

IRELAND'S, Auctioneers.
Norwich, Norfolk.

By Messrs. NOCK & JOSELAND.

The best all-round Sale of Breeding and Feeding Sheep in the Midlands, including entries from many prize-winning flocks at the Royal and other great Shows.

KIDDERMINSTER GREAT ANNUAL SHEEP SALE,
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1907.
7,275 SHEEP.

275 grand Oxford, Hampshire, Shropshire, Ryeland, Border Leicester, and Kerry Hill Rams and Ram Lambs, including
50 Shropshires, bred by Sir H. F. Grey (Enville), Messrs. A. S. Berry (Lichfield), J. W. Dee (Wollas), and Geo. Gerrard (Offerton);
80 Oxfords, bred by Messrs. G. Corbishley (Bricklehampton), Jas. Horlick (Cowley Park), J. Phipps Smith (Abbot's Salford), and W. A. Treweeke (Ryne Hill);
70 Hampshires, bred by Lord Rothschild (Tring), Messrs. A. Edwards (Salisbury), A. C. Hall (Great Rollright), and H. C. Stephens (Cholderton);
20 Ryelands, bred by Messrs. W. T. Barneby (Saltmarshe), and W. H. Davies (Claston);
6 Border Leicesters, from Mr. Armstrong (Maryport), Cumberland;
6 Kerry Hill, bred by Mr. M. Darlington (Lyppard Grange).
4,500 Shropshire, Hampshire, Oxford, Radnor, Clun, and Kerry Ewes;
2,500 Shropshire and Cross-bred Wethers and Lambs.

Ewes, 10.30; Rams, 1.0; Lambs, 2.30; Wethers, 3.30.

Excellent Train Service. Special Sheep Trains after the Sale.

Punctual attendance specially requested.

NOCK & JOSELAND,
Auctioneers.

By Messrs. NOCK, DEIGHTON & KIRKBY.

MONDAY, 9th SEPTEMBER, 1907.

BRIDGNORTH (Salop).

5,000 SHEEP, comprising about
150 RAMS and RAM LAMBS;
4,500 EWES, STORE WETHERS, and LAMBS.

Sale with the Ewes at 10.30 to the minute.

NOCK, DEIGHTON & KIRKBY,
Auctioneers.

Tel. Address: "Nock, Bridgnorth."
Nat. Tel. No. 195.

IMPORTANT SALE OF
LARGE and MIDDLE WHITE PIGS
AND
REGISTERED KERRY CATTLE,
WALTON HALL, WARRINGTON,
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1907,
the property of
SIR GILBERT GREENALL, Bart.,
consisting of
ONE HUNDRED
PEDIGREE PIGS,
including many winners and descendants of winners, and THIRTEEN
KERRY COWS AND HEIFERS.

Further particulars and Catalogues of J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington; or W. BAINBRIDGE, Walton House, Warrington.

By Messrs. JOHN THORNTON & CO.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5.—The Duchess of Devonshire's DEXTERS, at Compton Place, Eastbourne.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13.—About 100 SHORTHORNS, at Chipping Norton Junction, Oxfordshire.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18.—Mr. W. Arkell's SHORTHORNS, at Kempsford, Fairford, Glos.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18.—The Hon. Mrs. Howard's JERSEY CATTLE, BERKSHIRE PIGS, and SOUTHDOWN SHEEP, at Dutchlands, Great Missenden, Bucks.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20.—About fifty first-class SHORTHORNS, the property of Joseph Harris, Esq., at Brackenburgh Tower, Carlisle.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24.—Mr. R. Bruce Ward's JERSEYS, at Westwood Park, Droitwich, Worcestershire.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26.—Mr. J. A. Preece's SHORTHORNS, at Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27.—Mr. F. J. Steward's SHORTHORNS, at Whitehall Farm, Brigstock, Thrapston.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON & Co., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

By Messrs. STRIDE & SON.

SINGLETON, CHARLTON, EAST DEAN, DROKE AND NEW HOUSE FARMS,
ON THE GOODWOOD ESTATE,
CHICHESTER, SUSSEX.
(About ¾ mile from Singleton and 5 miles from Chichester Stations, L.B. and S.C. Railway).

HIGHLY IMPORTANT SALE OF HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND GORDON'S PURE-BRED SOUTHDOWN HILL FLOCKS.

MESSRS. STRIDE AND SON beg to announce that they are in receipt of instructions from His Grace the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, K.G. (the farms being let), to Sell by Auction, at the MANOR FARM, SINGLETON, on
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5 next,
THE WHOLE OF THE PURE-BRED SOUTHDOWN HILL FLOCKS, comprising about:
2,200 SOUTHDOWN SHEEP, in regular flock ages, as follows:—
274 SHEARLING EWES,
532 FULL-MOUTHED EWES,
474 FOUR-TEETH EWES,
89 DRAFT EWES,
365 SIX-TEETH EWES,
500 LAMBS.

These pure-bred Southdown Hill Flocks were established many years back, chiefly by drafts of ewes from the Goodwood Home Farm Flock, by the late Duke of Richmond and Gordon as the various farms—which are situated amongst the hills North of the Goodwood Racecourse—came into hand.

Of late years much care and attention has been devoted to their breeding and selection. In 1903 rams used were from the flocks of Earl Bathurst, Mr. J. Colman, Mr. E. Henty, and Goodwood. In 1904 from Earl Cadogan, Lord Northbourne, Mr. F. N. Hobgen and Messrs. Waters and Son. In 1905 and 1906 from the Duke of Devonshire, Mr. J. Colman, Mr. Allan Cooper and Mr. Edwin Ellis.

The ewes are of good size and scale, with the hardiest of constitutions, and possess the quality, type and character which distinguishes the famous flocks from which they are descended.

The capital wether lambs which have been annually sold in Chichester Market furnish the best evidence of the mutton-producing capabilities of these flocks, while last year their wool made the highest price at the Chichester Wool sale.

All the flocks are fully eligible for registration.

Purchasers may leave their sheep on the farms free of charge, at their own risk, until September 29th.

The Flocks may be inspected by appointment with Mr. James Mackenzie, Manor Farm, Singleton, Chichester.

Buyers arriving at Chichester night prior to sale will find the "Dolphin" or "Anchor" comfortable hotels to stay at.

Sale immediately after 12 o'clock luncheon.

Commissions carefully executed.

Catalogues of the AUCTIONEERS, Auction and Estate Agency Offices, 63, East Street, Chichester, Sussex.

By Messrs. STRIDE & SON.

CHICHESTER, SUSSEX.
GREAT ANNUAL SECOND SALE OF PURE-BRED SOUTHDOWN EWES, RAMS, RAM LAMBS, EWES AND LAMBS.
WEDNESDAY NEXT, SEPTEMBER 4, 1907.

MESSRS. STRIDE AND SON beg to announce that present entries for the above sale, which is held in the Market, comprise about:—
220 SOUTHDOWN RAMS & RAM LAMBS,
3,000 SOUTHDOWN EWES & LAMBS,
from the following flockowners: His Grace the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, K.G., Goodwood; His Grace the Duke of Devonshire, K.G.; Sir Julius Wernher, Sir Henry Aubrey-Fletcher, Col. A. F. Walter, Mr. Alfred Heasman, Mr. Francis Elmer-Speed, Exors. of the late Mr. Geo. Peel, Mr. F. Stanford, Mr. A. M. Singer, Mr. T. W. Thorpe, Mr. J. G. B Stone, Mr. J. Buchanan, Mr. O. Ellis, Mr. T. Bushby, Mr. F. C Sparkes, Mr. E. J. Reddaway, Mr. G. Lock, Mr. F. H. Sawtell, Mr. Percy Herington, Mr. H. Paynter, Mr. C. Napper, Mr. H. C. Formby, Mrs. Pascoe, Mr. C. W. Schroeter, Exors. of the late Mr. Tait.

Also the whole of Mr. Francis Elmer Speed's CHOICE PURE-BRED REGISTERED SOUTHDOWN FLOCK (No. 206 in Flock Book) removed from KNOWLTON COURT, DOVER, for convenience of sale, comprising about:
330 EWES IN AGES,
25 RAMS and RAM LAMBS,
sold on account of the farms in hand being let; and the whole of Mr. J. E. PIKE'S capital SOUTHDOWN FLOCK, removed from WHEATCROFT, EMSWORTH, for convenience of sale, comprising about 150 EWES in ages.

FURTHER EARLY ENTRIES SOLICITED.

SHEEP taken off rail and placed in suitable keep any time prior to sale.

Sale of rams at ten o'clock. Ewes at 11 o'clock.

COMMISSIONS CAREFULLY EXECUTED.

First Edition catalogues on application to the Auctioneers, CHICHESTER

By Messrs. R. W. HOBBS & SONS.

OXFORD DOWNS.

SHEARLING RAMS or RAM LAMBS from the KELMSCOTT FLOCK will be SOLD by AUCTION at the undermentioned fairs:—
BURY ST. EDMUNDS, SEPTEMBER 3.
EDINBURGH, SEPTEMBER 12.
KELSO, SEPTEMBER 13.
NORTHAMPTON, SEPTEMBER 19.

YEARLING EWES FOR SALE AT HOME.

R. W. HOBBS & SONS.
Kelmscott, Lechlade.

THE SOUTHERN CENTRAL AUCTION MART,
NEWTOWN, ST. BOSWELL'S, N.B.

22,000 HALF-BRED EWES, GIMMERS and LAMBS.
GREAT ANNUAL SPECIAL SALE
OF
DRAFT HALF-BRED EWES,
ON
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1907, at 9.30 a.m.
Numbers sold last year, 11,320 EWES.

ANNUAL SPECIAL SALE
OF
HALF-BRED GIMMERS, FEEDING SHEEP, and HALF-BRED, THREE-QUARTER-BRED, CROSS OXFORD, CROSS SUFFOLK, and CHEVIOT LAMBS,
ON
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1907, at 10 a.m.
Numbers sold last year, 10,180 SHEEP.

The attention of buyers is directed to these highly Important Sales, which will afford purchasers the best selection of Half-bred Ewes and Half-bred Gimmers obtainable in Scotland.

JOHN SWAN & SONS, LTD.
6, Clifton Terrace,
Haymarket, Edinburgh.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

The ANNUAL SALE of PEDIGREE CLYDESDALES, HACKNEYS and PONIES, the property of the
SEAHAM HARBOUR STUD CO., will be held on
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18th.
Catalogues in preparation.
Apply, R. BRYDON, The Dene, Seaham Harbour.

(Continued on next page.)

AUCTION SALES.

Auctioneers will favour us by sending in their advertisements as early in the week as possible.

Charges for announcements under this heading, Six Shillings an inch.

By Mr. W. H. LYTHALL.

BIRMINGHAM AUTUMNAL SHORTHORN SHOW AND SALE.
THE SIXTY-SECOND GREAT SHOW & SALE
Will be held at
BINGLEY HALL, BIRMINGHAM,
On WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY, SEPT. 4 & 5.
477 Head of highly-descended COWS, HEIFERS and BULLS, including many prize-winners, are entered from the most noted Breeders, and will be SOLD BY AUCTION, by
MR. W. H. LYTHALL, without any further reserve than entering them at not more than £21 each.
Judging at 8 30 o'clock on Wednesday.
Sale at 10.30 o'clock each day.
Admission 1s. Catalogues, 7d., free by post.
W. H. LYTHALL,
Secretary.

By Mr. E. S. HOTHERSALL.

FULWOOD HERD OF
LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRE PIGS.
IMPORTANT SALE!
MR. E. S. HOTHERSALL, AUCTION MART, PRESTON, has received instructions from R. R. ROTHWELL, Esq, to SELL, at FULWOOD HALL FARM, near PRESTON, on FRIDAY, SEPT. 6 (day after Sir G. Greenall, Bart.'s sale), at 1 p.m., over 70 HEAD of choice young BOARS and GILTS, the pick of this successful prize-winning herd, including all the winners at the Royal, Bath & West, and other leading Shows.
Catalogues from D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston; J. WOOLLAM, Fulwood Hall Farm, Preston, or of the AUCTIONEER.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending August 27, 1907 :—

| | | |

auction at Driffield on Wednesday, in the presence of a good company of buyers. Messrs. F. Cook and Son had over 30 shearlings from Mr. J. D. Robinson, Sledmere, which made £2 10s. to £3 each. Messrs. Hornby and Wilberfoss sold a number of gimmer shearlings from Mr. J. Catton, South Hall, Cranswick, which realised 59s. to 61s. each, Mr. J. W. Stephenson's consignment making 50s. to 56s. 6d. Ewes from Mr. R. Holtby, Elmswell, ranged from 48s. to 54s. per head. Leicester ewes from Mr. L. Clarkson's, Huggate Lodge, sold from 49s. to 54s. each.

Messrs. G. W. Clark and Sons had the largest consignment, consisting of gimmers from Mr. J. H. Topham, Bainton, which reached 54s. to 57s. each. Gimmers from Mr. G. B. Dunning Driffield, made 49s. 6d. to 55s. each, and those from Mr. T. C. Wilson, North Dalton, fetched 49s. to 55s. each. Mr. J. C. Burdass's (Dotterill Park) ewes made to 49s. 6d., Mr. W. Knapton's (Ruston Parva) lot making 53s. to 58s.; Mr. C. Shipley's (Ruston Parva) consignment made 52s. to 54s. each; Mr. J. Saville's realised 47s. to 50s. 6d., Mr. J. Harrison's lot ranged from 55s. 6d to 64s. each, and Mr. G. R. Shipley's (Langtoft) lot fetched 48s. to 52s.

Hexham.

Between 4,000 and 5,000 lambs were offered at the Hexham Auction Mart on Wednesday, when trade was slow and dear. The three-parts-bred, of which there were 1,700 catalogued, made from 24s. 6d. to 36s. 6d. per head. Oxford Down crosses, 24s. to 38s. 6d.; half-bred Cheviot and Leicester ewe lambs, 24s. 6d. to 38s. 9d.; half-bred wether lambs, 24s. 6d. to 30s. 9d.; and mule lambs, 21s. to 31s. each.

Marlborough.

Messrs. Waters and Rawlence held their accustomed sale of ram lambs from registered Hampshire Down flocks at Marlborough Fair Thirty-six ram lambs from the flock of Mr G. L. Dean were first offered, and were all disposed of at from 5 guineas to 10½ guineas; 15 from Sir W. G. Pearce, Bart., Chilton Lodge, Hungerford, made from 4 guineas to 5 guineas; 15 from Mr. W. C. Young, Stratford-sub-Castle, 5 guineas to 8½ guineas; and 15 from Mr. A. F. T. Drake, 5 guineas to 12 guineas.

Mr. C. Coxon's Shropshires.

The annual sale of Shropshire sheep from the well-known Elford Park flock, Tamworth, the property of Mr. Charles Coxon, took place on Tuesday and, as usual, was largely attended. The catalogue included forty-five rams and seventy-five shearling ewes, which met a ready sale. The highest price for rams was paid by Mr. C. T. Pulley, the amount being 42 guineas, Mr. Clarke giving 33 guineas for another ram; whilst other prices realised were 21 guineas, 18 guineas, 15½ guineas, 14 guineas, 10 guineas. The average was £13 3s. 6d. Sixteen pens of ewes were sold at an average of £3 17s. 8d. per head, Lord Wenlock and Mr. Clarke being the chief buyers.

Salisbury.

Messrs. Waters and Rawlence submitted to auction at their Market House Yard, Salisbury, on Tuesday, selections of ram lambs from the flocks of Messrs, J. H. Dibben and Cary Coles, the former making from 5 guineas to 10½ guineas, with an average of £6 9s., and those of the latter 5 guineas to 20 guineas, with an average of £7. A few of each were unsold in the absence of sufficient buyers to effect a clearance.

Southmolton.

A sale of registered Exmoor horn sheep was held by the Exmoor Horn Sheep Breeders' Society at Southmolton on Wednesday, when nearly 5,000 sheep were disposed of in the presence of a large company of breeders. The prizes and chief prices were as follows:—

Old rams—1, J. H. Turner, Molland (sold to Mr. R. R. Bothwell, Morebath, for 11 guineas); 2, G. Thorne, Northmolton (sold to Mr. Bawden, Withypool, for 7 guineas); 3, W. Gammin, High Bray (3old to Mr. H. Chichester, Shirwell, for 8 guineas). Premiums—1, F. S. Yendell; 2, G. Thorne, Northmolton; 3, H. Buckingham, Northmolton.

Hoggs—1, and silver cup given by the Mayor of Southmolton (Mr. J. Sanders), J. H. Turner (sold to Mr. R. S. Westacott, Hawkridge, for 15½ guineas); 2, D. N. Purchase, Molland (sold to Mr. W. Burnell for 5 guineas); 3, J. Robbins, High Bray (sold to Mr. F. S. Yendell, Northmolton, for 10 guineas). Premiums—1, H. Buckingham, Northmolton; 2, D. N. Purchase; 3, G. Richards, Northmolton.

At Sanders and Sons' auction about 1,130 Exmoor sheep were disposed of, the average prices being, for ewes, 36s. 6d. to 46s., whilst about 35 rams made from 3½ guineas to 16½ guineas. Blackford and Son sold about 3,000 sheep, which made from 36s. to 54s.; horn, 28s. to 36s. 6d.; lambs, 27s. 6d. to 34s. One lot of Devon long-wool rams, the property of Mr. T. C. Ley, of Georgenympton, made from 5 to 8½ guineas; whilst Mr. J. S. Verney's (Bishopsnympton) made 5 guineas, and Mr. P. C. Tory's (Dorset) from 3½ to 4¼ guineas.

The Langdon Abbey Southdowns.

Mr. W. P. Hampton's flock of Southdown sheep was sold on the 23rd ult. at Langdon Abbey, Dover. The flock was in healthy breeding condition, and although the sale was fixed only a month ago the sheep were in choice condition and of true type. The yearling ewes made up to 53s., the four-tooth up to 60s., Messrs. McWilliam and Robinson taking the best pens, the sixth-tooth went up to 59s., the Duchess of Devonshire taking this pen, and also the highest priced full-mouthed ewes at 52s. Ewe lambs received up to 42s, several fats going to Mr. Cabb and Mr. T. Huggan. The 280 ewes averaged nearly 50s. Rams made up to 9½ guineas (C. Morris), and all round averaged £7 16s. 4d. There was a small company, and most of the sheep were purchased to go out of the district.

Thirsk.

At Thirsk on Monday there was an excellent trade for the 425 lambs and grazing sheep offered. The following were the prices realised:—Down lambs, 33s. to 36s. 6d.; twice-cross lambs, 32s. to 36s.; half-bred lambs, 28s. to 29s.; Wensleydale rams, to 51s.; Wensleydale ram lambs, to 58s.; half-bred shearlings, 39s. 6d. to 44s. 6d.

VETERINARY.

Advice of a Veterinary character, by a M.R.C.V.S., is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 7, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Milk Fever Prevention.

(*Concluded from p. 270.*)

A diet consisting of a moderate quantity of hay of average quality, with 1 lb. of linseed cake to neutralise any tendency to constipate the bowels, seems that finding most favour among practical dairymen, and recommended by country veterinary practitioners, who, of course, see and have to deal with cattle on a hundred farms, where some antiquated fossils, who prate of their experience, have to deal only with their own.

The state of the bowels must be carefully noted, and they should be kept rather relaxed during the concluding stages of gestation, and up to the time of calving, either by dieting or the administration of medicine. The regulation pound of Epsom salts is generally sufficient for this purpose, and the "dangerous" cow should have such a dose once or twice prior to calving, and from 12 oz. to 1 lb. of Epsom salts, with 1 oz. of nitrate of potash and ½ oz. of ginger after the event, unless it is the custom to give a "cleansing drink."

The management after calving, at least for the danger period, which does not usually extend beyond three days, is of some importance, but too frequently what is best is made subservient to what is most convenient.

There is no manner of doubt but that the safest plan of management in the case of the cow predisposed to milk fever is to leave the calf with her and let it suck at its own sweet will; refraining from hand milking at all.

By doing so we avoid exciting the cow by separating her from her calf, and the animal is much quieter. There are doubtless objections to be urged against this plan, and we know all about the interference it causes in the routine management of the cows, and the trouble there often is when the pair are separated; but practically it amounts to a choice of evils, and in the case of the "dangerous" cow, allowing her to have her calf with her for two or three days is the least.

It must not be understood that we are affirming that this is in any way a certain preventive, for we have seen too many cows "down" and delirious or unconscious, with their helpless offspring looking wonderingly on or vainly trying to suck the flaccid udder, to do anything of the kind.

To be sure, it has not always happened that other precautions prior and subsequent to calving have been observed, but some cases are certain to occur, even where the cow has from beginning to end been "farmed" on the most approved lines, and nothing is omitted that human ingenuity can devise to prevent the disease. But even then something is gained, for experience goes to show that where management fails to attain the object arrived at, the cow so managed who goes "down" stands a much better chance of recovery under modern treatment than the animal left to take her chance in the ordinary way.

Among other things, treacle is an excellent laxative for the newly-calved cow, and 3 lb. or 4 lb. may be given in a bucket of thin gruel as the first food after the event.

Forcing the milk is, of course, contra-indicated, and for the first few days the diet should be spare.

There is one other point of importance, and that is the date of calving. Experience goes to show that more cases occur in warm weather than in cool—in summer than in winter—and where "dangerous" cows are concerned it should, as far as possible, be contrived that they calve from October to March inclusive. No cow-keeper who knows his business will willingly have an aged cow of a milking type calve from May to the middle of September. Here, again, there may be some inconvenience, but we are concerned with the best methods of preventing milk fever and the choice of the least evil, rather than what is easiest or least troublesome.

With further reference to the influence of the presence of the calf, this not only has a soothing effect on the cow, but the fact that the calf does not empty out the udder, as when the cow is milked dry by hand, is of some importance, for there is not the same encouragement to the cow to increase the secretion, and it *does* make a difference whether milk is produced or not.

There are many dairymen who affirm that clean stripping practised immediately after calving is closely associated with the production of milk-fever, and go so far, like one of the parties to this dispute, as to maintain that merely removing enough for the sustenance of the calf for the first three or four days instead of regularly milking dry is, in itself, a preventive of milk-fever.

Since the above was written we have seen the remarks by the writer of "Cattle Notes and Jottings" on pp. 134 and 135. We feel that any discussion of the subject would be futile in his present frame of mind, or existing knowledge of the modern theories concerning parturient paralysis; besides which, "Hawks do not pike out hawks' e'en." But we cannot forbear remarking that while "beforehand milking" is being vaunted as "never known to fail," our unfortunate friend "Gloucestershire" has a cow dead of the disease which appears to have been subjected to this "beforehand milking." M.R.C.V.S.

Sale of Lord Penrhyn's Farm Stock.

The live and dead farm stock belonging to Lord Penrhyn was disposed of at Penrhyn Castle stables on Tuesday and Wednesday last, and was well attended. The harnesses and carriages were first offered and sold well, prices for the former ranging up to £9 10s., whilst the latter realised up to £32, which was given for a pair wagonette with cover. Then came the horses, which consisted chiefly of young colts and fillies in first-class condition. Prices for these ranged up to £40, whilst seventeen Welsh mountain ponies were sold at from £3 to £15each. Five unbroken young blood horses fetched from £14 10s. to £34 10s., whilst the Shire stallion Bury General White was withdrawn at £47 10s.

The cattle were of first-class quality, and showed careful breeding, but they sold somewhat cheaply. The bulls, 5 in number, realised from £10 to £18; 28 milch cows ranged from £7 10s. to £20; 16 two and three-year old heifers brought from £8 5s. to £14 5s. each; 15 heifer calves sold at from £2 5s. to £5 each; 5 bull calves were knocked down at prices ranging from £1 to £5 5s.; whilst yearling steers and heifers fetched from £5 12s. 6d. to £7 15s.

Some pure-bred Shropshire ewes and ram lambs were also offered and realised 45s. and 46s. each, and rams from 35s. and 50s. each.

Nantwich Cheese Fair.

Mr. R. Challinor, secretary to the Cheshire Dairy Farmers' Association, reports as follows upon the cheese fair held at Nantwich on Thursday:—The pitch was about 65 tons. The fair opened with a good attendance of buyers, and the tone of the market was fairly good. Prices:—Finest, 56s. to 60s. per cwt. (one lot made just over 60s.); medium qualities sold at 52s. to 55s.

This year's show of the Tiverton Agricultural Society, though one of the best as regards display of stock held by the society, was not a financial success. The total receipts at the last show were £820, including subscriptions £416; entrance fees £122; gate, £178; and grand stand, £33. The expenditure was £854, including £70 allowed for depreciation of stalls and ring fence, so that there was a deficit of £13.

The Countess of Warwick has stated in an interview that unless she receives support from the Essex County Council her agricultural school at Bigods will not reopen after the vacation. The parents of the pupils are, her ladyship says, too poor to continue payment without the prospect of scholarships, and these the Essex authorities refuse to give. The Hertford Council gave some notwithstanding. The Essex authorities gave £100 a year for a time, and then stopped it because farming subjects in lieu of the usual curriculum of French, &c., were taught. It is the aim of the school to bring the people back to the land, and give them a practical education for rural pursuits, yet the Board of Education at first refused grants because the higher mathematics and French were dropped, but gave them afterwards when support had been given by prominent educationists. Most of the pupils come from the farming class. Over 188 passed through the school, and 105 have remained in agricultural life; most of the others have gone into the Civil Service.

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

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HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL, Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Hereford. Stud Horses: Lockinge Lord of Misrule and Lockinge Bonny Lad, both by Lockinge Forester, full brother to Lockinge Forest King. Colts and Fillies for Sale.

MUNTZ, FREDERICK ERNEST, Umberslade, Hockley Heath, Warwickshire. Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, prize-winners.—Particulars from Mr. JOHN T. B. HARTLEY, Estate Office.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners, on Sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

ROWELL, JOHN, Bury, Huntingdon. Breeder Shires and Hackneys; Stallions for sale, hire, or service at home; mares and fillies for sale.

WHITEHEAD, Robert, Fashionably bred mares and fillies in natural condition on Sale. Stallions, Bodenham King 17177, Whitestone Prince Alfred 22980.—Apply J. M. JOHNSTONE, Hargate Hall, Buxton. Station, and telegrams, Millers Dale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

SHETLAND PONIES.

BEALE, Mrs. A. J., Cacketts, Cudham, Kent. Prize-bred Pedigree Shetlands for sale; three grand Stallions at stud.

PONIES.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

PREECE, JOHN ADNEY, Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston, Northampton.—Herd of 250 Shorthorns, best Bates and Scotch blood; stock Bulls, Duke of Barrington 70th, Primrose Earl 89341, and Royal Baron 93192; Bulls and Heifers for sale.

ROTHWELL, R. R., Much Hoole, near Preston. Pedigree Shorthorns, chiefly Scotch blood. Stock bull Strowan Marquis 13th, winner of many prizes. Young bulls and heifers always on sale.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

TAYLOR, GEORGE, Cranford, Middlesex.—Bates' Shorthorns, deep milkers. Winners Milking Competitions, London Dairy Show, 1905-6. Bull Calves for Sale. Stock Bulls: Beau Sabreur, Drumcree, Rowbury, and Kirkcharm.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

SUSSEX.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath, Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Sussex Cattle (descended from the oldest and best strains of blood), unrivalled for their early maturity, the production of the best beef and working oxen, and ability to thrive in all weathers on the roughest fare. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for Sale.

HEREFORDS.

PULLEY, CHARLES THORNTON, Lower Eaton, Hereford.—Noted prize-winning herd of HEREFORD CATTLE. First prize Royal winners, Protector 19660, 1900; Eaton Champion 21351, 1903; and Ashleaf 3rd, 1905. This herd is headed by Eaton Champion and Glendower 2nd 22196, also a Royal winner. Bulls and Heifers for sale. Also prize-winning Shropshire Sheep.—Apply Mr. HEDLEY JONES, Lower Eaton Estate Office, Hereford.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has in 1901 1905 and 1905 won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by Endale, Page Protector, and Fusilier. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited. —Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford Herefordshire.

CATTLE—*continued.*

HEREFORDS—*continued.*

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for Sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

DEVONS.

BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton Williton, Taunton, Breeder of Pedigree Devon Cattle. A speciality for large size, with quality and robust constitutions; colour dark red. Sent to all parts of the world. Prices moderate.

SKINNER, ALFRED C., Pound, Bishops-Lydeard, Somerset. Pedigree Devons, constitution, quality, size, milk; 600 prizes principal shows, many champions; exports most successful; bulls and heifers for sale. Inspection invited.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

BRIDGES, J. H.—This old-established herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle of the leading families can be seen at Langshott Home Farm, Horley, Surrey (near Horley Station, L.B. & S.C.R.), and catalogues obtained on application to Mr. Albert Pulling.

HURSLEY PARK HERD OF ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE, the property of Sir George Cooper, Bart., comprising Erica, Pride, Miss Burgess, Lady Ida, Matilda, Jemima of Morlich families. Prizes won during 1906: 7 firsts, 3 seconds, 3 reserves, 1 challenge cup, 2 silver medals, 3 reserve champions. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.—Catalogues on application to V. F. Leese, Estate Office, Hursley Park, Winchester.

THE ROCKLIFFE PARK HERD of Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, Ericas and Prides. Stock Bull, Pundit of Preston (17,156), Champion at Highland Show, 1901.—Apply, R. C. SWAN, Rockliffe Park, Darlington.

AYRSHIRES.

WALLACE, JAMES, J.P., Auchenbainzie, Thornhill, Dumfriesshire, Scotland. Breeder of pedigree prize-winning Ayrshire Cattle; hardy, healthy, good milkers; bred for dairy purposes, beauty and style. Bulls and Heifers for sale.

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably, from his prize-winning herd of Red Polls, Bulls, Cows, Heifers, from good milkers.—Apply C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

CARY-ELWES, V., Billing Hall, Northampton. Breeder of Jersey cattle.

JERSEYS, and Alderney Guernseys, fresh calved and near calving. Prices, particulars.—R. WHEADON, Ilminster.

MERTON GRANGE GUERNSEYS.—Property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. This Herd contains Champion Bull Royal Counties, Portsmouth, and Champion Cow Royal Derby, 1906. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of best Breeding for Sale.—Telegrams and particulars, W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay.

STERN, Sir E. D., Fan Court, Chertsey, Surrey. Herd of pedigree Jersey Cattle. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

TICHBORNE PARK, GUERNSEY.—Yearling Bulls and Heifers for sale.—Apply, D. MICHIE, Estate Office, Tichborne, Alresford, Hants.

GALLOWAYS.

GRAHAM, ROBERT, Auchengassel, Twynholm, breeder fashionable Galloway Cattle, winners at Royal and Highland Societies Shows. Pedigree Bulls, Cows, and Heifers, also Blue-greys for feeding, for sale. Commissions carefully executed.

KERRIES & DEXTERS.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

THE DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE'S PRIZE-WINNING DEXTER HERD.—During 1904 and 1905 this Herd won more prizes than any other three Dexter Herds combined, including both first and second milking prizes Royal, 1905, and first London Dairy Show, 1906. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers generally for Sale.—CHILD, Compton Place, Eastbourne.

RATTRAY, DAVID, Gortnaskehy, Ballybunion, Co. Kerry. Pedigree Prize-winning Herd of Kerries and Dexters. 155 Prizes and Honours won by Cattle from this Herd past three years. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONG WOOL.

ANDERSON, JOHN, Barton-on-Humber.—The old Barton Flock of Pure-bred LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, Flock Book 106. This flock is noted for hard constitutions and fine, lustrous wool. Inspection invited. Telegrams as above.

ATKINSON, T., & SON, North Kelsey, Lincoln. Old-established flock of pure Lincoln Longwools. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Noted for great size and long lustrous wool. Have given great satisfaction at home and abroad. Inspection invited.

SHEEP—*continued.*

LINCOLN LONG WOOL—*continued.*

BROOKS, W. J., Stowe Lodge, Weedon, Northants (Registered Flock 165), has for sale Rams and Ewes of best blood.

BROCKLEBANK, JOHN, Bassingham, Lincoln. (Flock 21). Pure-bred Lincoln Longwool Rams and Ewes. This old flock has been carefully bred for 100 years. Telegrams: Bassingham.

DRAKES, Wm., Tealby, Market Rasen. Flock No. 72 of Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs of best blood for sale. Lincoln Red Shorthorns. Prices moderate.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

SMITH, HENRY, jun., Cropwell Butler, Nottingham. Lincoln Longwool Flock No. 7, winner of £2,361 in prizes. Champion pen Lincolns, Smithfield Show, 1896; Association Championship, Leicester, 1897; Association Championship for pen of 3 Shearling Rams, Yorkshire, 1900; Championship, Rutland, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, and 1906. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

THE CHILMARK FLOCK OF REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—Owner, JAMES FLOWER, Chilwark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records. Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, out of 11 years competing, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" won eight times, thrice second, with pens of 8 ram lambs; a marvellous record. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 13 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05-06. At the Royal at Derby, 1906, every First Prize, two Seconds, and the Champion were won; an unequalled success!! Champions Birmingham, 1905, over all breeds, Reserve in 1906. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Short-wools, Smithfield, 1904-05-06. Highest average past 13 years. Bridford Fair, Aug. 12, 100 Ram Lambs, annual sale. Selections for Sale.

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1907.—Extraordinary records: Twin ram lambs let for 205 and 120 guineas. Ninety averaged £21 10s. Selections always for Sale.

JUDD, Sir GEORGE, Cocum, Barton Stacey, Hants.—Pure bred Hampshire Downs, over 1000 Ewes. Annual Sale, Ram Lambs, August 8th, 1907. Registered Vol. I., page 17.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. The Cholderton flock is individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded in the Hampshire Down Flock Book. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury.

OVEY, R. L., Hernes, Henley-on-Thames.—Pedigree HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK, Reg. Vol. IV. Prize-winners leading shows last five years.

WINCHESTER, the Most Hon. the Marquis of, Amport St. Mary, Andover, Hants. Pure-bred flock of Hampshire Down Sheep; high-class Rams and Ewes always on Sale.

OXFORD DOWNS.

ADAMS, GEORGE, Royal Prize Farm Flock, Faringdon, Berks. Pure Oxford Down Sheep, Shearling Rams, Ram Lambs, Ewes and Ewe Lambs for Sale. Special arrangements with foreign buyers. Many first prizes at R.A.S.E and other shows during past 25 years, including 2 first, 2 second, and 4 other prizes, World's Fair, Chicago, and 7 firsts, 4 seconds and champion at Royal Bath and West, Royal Counties, etc., this year.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

TREADWELL, JOHN, Upper Winchendon, Aylesbury.—Oxford Down Sheep. Annual Ram Sale, first Wednesday in August. Prizes won at R.A.S.E. 24 years in succession. Ewes for Sale.

WENSLEYDALE.

UNDERLEY WENSLEYDALES (Blue-faced), from the best blood obtainable. Successfully exhibited.—Apply, G. G. ROBINSON Bailiff, Underley Farm, Kirkby Lonsdale.

(Continued on page 296.)

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

CHARLES SPENCER, having taken over the Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts, herd of Large and Middle White Pigs, which won 12 prizes and reserves with 11 exhibits at Derby Royal, will price any of them.

FULWOOD HERD LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES, property R. R. Rothwell. 200 head bred from winners at leading shows.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for Sale at moderate prices

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station, G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices. —J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM. Herd of Large White Pigs. The oldest and largest Herd in Notts County. Over 100 Breeding Sows kept. Upwards of 600 to select from. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—Apply ARTHUR A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 100 to choose from. Correspondence invited. Grand young breeding stock always on Sale.—Apply R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts (15 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

SPALDING HERD of Pedigree Large Whites, young stock and in-pig Gilts for Sale. All bred from great winners.—ALFRED W. WHITE, "Hillegom," Spalding.

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THE CATTON HERD of Prize-winning MIDDLE WHITE PIGS, property of J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stock Boar Castlecroft Mikado, 1st Park Royal, 1st Bath and West. Gelts and Boars on Sale. Prices moderate.—Apply BAILIFF, Raddle Farm, Edingale, Tamworth.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

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SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

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BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath. SUSSEX (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Large Black Pigs of the best strains of blood, noted for their docility and for the production of a large proportion of lean meat. Good selection of Boars, unrelated Gilts, and in-pig Sows for Sale at reasonable prices.

CATTON HERD OF PRIZE-WINNING LARGE BLACK PIGS.—Stock Boar Trevisquite Excelsior 1487, 1st Devon County, 2nd and Reserve Champion Royal Show, 1906; pigs kept in hardy natural condition; gelts and boars always on sale.—Apply, J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stations: Croxall, 2½ miles (M.R.); Alrewas, 3½ miles (L.N.W.).

HASKETON CHAMPION PRIZE HERD OF LARGE BLACK PIGS.—This herd has won the Royal championship three out of four times, and is the only herd having won the breed challenge cup. Record: 47 firsts, 37 seconds, 11 thirds, 126 prize-winning cards; the herd this year being the winners of 14 firsts, 6 seconds, 2 thirds, championship and silver cup in five shows. Gelts and Boars at moderate prices consistent with quality. Exportation a speciality.—Apply, C. F. MARRINER, Hasketon, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS.—Select Herd, bred from choice Prize Winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale, moderate prices.—H. J. CLARKE, The Slade, Roughley, Sutton Coldfield.

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CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

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CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge. Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

READING CORPORATION.—150 Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, leading prize-winning strains, from son of Champion Mikado 10433 and prize-winner Domino 11323; inspection invited.—Apply, Mr. T. Chettle, Manor Farm, Reading, Berks.

STALL PITTS HERD OF PEDIGREE BERKSHIRES. One of the Oldest Herds. Unsurpassed for true character, size, and quality. Choice selection of Boars and Sows on offer at moderate prices.—J. LAWRENCE, Stall Pitts, Shrivenham, Berks

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LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES.

The following First Prizes, Championships, and Medals have been obtained by pigs **BRED** in these Herds in 1907:
1st and Champion, Gold Medal, R.A.S.E., Lincoln.
1st & Champion, President's Medal, Highland, Edinburgh,
1st Welsh National, Aberystwyth.
1st Bath and West Newport; 1st Royal Counties.
1st Nottingham; 1st Suffolk; 1st Norfolk.
1st Derby.
1st Hereford and Worcester; Special Prize Lincoln Agricultural Society; 1st Great Yorkshire; 1st Newark.

A number of additional Firsts and other Prizes have also been gained at the above Shows.

At the St. Louis Exposition, U.S.A., in 1904, the Champion Boar, and the Grand Champion of the Exposition were bred at Colston Bassett.

The Foreign and Home trade has largely increased during 1907.—GILBERT H. ELLIOT, Estate Office, Colston Bassett, Notts.

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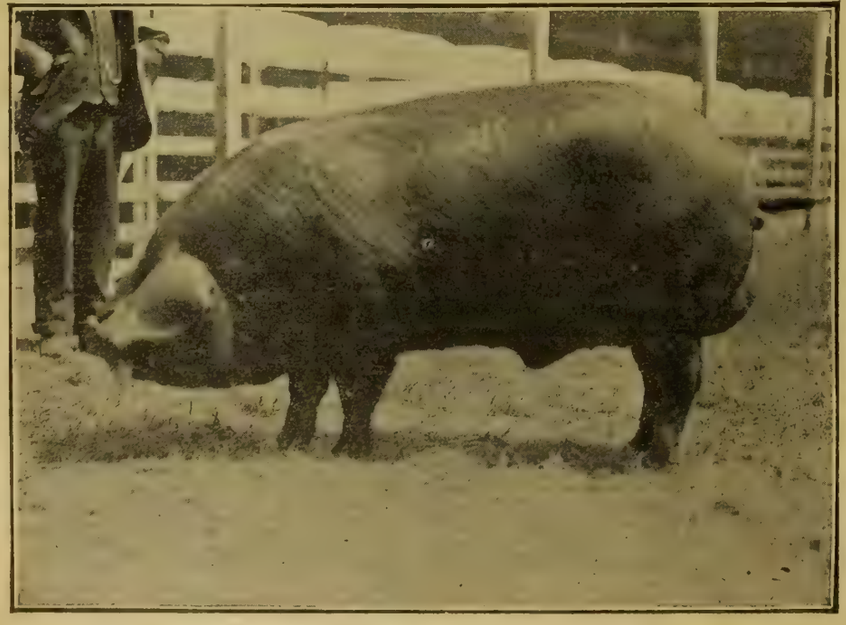
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At Reasonable Prices.

PIGS.

Sale of Lincolnshire Curly Coated Pigs.

The first sale held by the newly-formed association took place on Wednesday last at Boston, and proved a notable success. The prices for the leading lots offered, together with the general average of the same, all prove how much this combination of the interests of these breeders will tend to enhance the value of their stock and also increase the demand for the same, because quite a number of those sold were taken out of the district.

Mr. Arthur Sabel, the associations auctioneer, officiated, and the arrangements were carried out under the superintendence of Mr. C. E. Williams, the honorary secretary of the association. The following are the leading details, prices, averages, &c., of the several consignments:—

Mr. J. Bowser sold three boars to average £6 9s. 6d., top price 6½ guineas, to Mr. B. Rowland, and three gilts to average £4 0s. 4d., best price 4¾ guineas, to Mr. Booth. Mr. W. Bray sold two sows, both to Mr. H. Dudding, at 32 and 31 guineas each, average £33 1s. 6d, a gilt at 11 guineas to Mr. W. S. Fox, and two boars at 9½ gs. to Mr. Caudwell, and 7½ gs. to Mr. Skelton.

Mr. Henry Caudwell sold the first, second, and third prize Royal boars, farrowed in 1907, at 23 guineas to Mr. Stennett, 35 guineas to Mr. A. H. Carter, and 35 guineas to Mr. H. Dudding respectively. Mr. G. Fron's boar went to Mr. J. Bowser at 15 guineas, two from Mr. W. S. Fox at 7½ and 6½ guineas each, another from Mr. G. Godson made 32 guineas to Mr. E. Welsh. Four gilts from Messrs. C. E. Harris and Sons averaged £10 2s. 1d.; best prices were 14 guineas to Mr. E. Howood and 13½ guineas to Mr. Royds, of Caythorpe; two boars from this herd averaged £5 10s. 3d. Three others from Mr. T. E. Horncastle averaged £6 0s. 9d., with 8½ guineas to Mr. Porter as top price; two gilts from this herd averaged £6 6s. Three boars from Mr. H. S. Scorer averaged £7 10s. 6d., Mr. Harris giving top price—10 guineas. Four gilts from Mr. G. H. Welsh averaged £4 4s., and three sows from the same herd averaged £8 15s., Mr. Royds giving 12 guineas for one and Mr. Francis 7 guineas for another. A Boar from Mr. C. E. Williams' herd made 10½ guineas, and two gilts 10½ and 10 guineas to Messrs. Bonser and Hooker, and Mr. D. Wood's boar went to Mr. Porter at 12 guineas.

The twenty-two boars averaged £12 9s. 4d., the five sows £18 19s. 7d., the fifteen gilts £7 7s., and the whole sale of forty-two head, £11 7s. 5d.



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Our Hop Acreage.

My forecast last week of the probable reduction of the English hop area is proved by the official returns, just issued, to be practically correct. I estimated our present area at about 45,000 acres, and the statement of the Board of Agriculture defines it as 44,938. This shows a reduction from last year of 1,784 acres, and from 1905 we have lost 4,029 acres, equal to more than 8 per cent. A comparison of the present position with that of ten years ago is much more serious, as during that interval our area has diminished by nearly 6,000 acres, or about 12 per cent.

Although it may be argued that, as our improved cultivation has increased our productive capacity the loss of acreage is not of such importance as appears on the surface, it must be admitted that we are losing much in the employment of labour and the consequent circulation of money, and I fear we must accept these changes as indications of the unremunerative character of the industry, and must therefore conclude that such falling off is a serious feature from a national point of view. If we seek for the causes, we are immediately directed to the competition of foreign producers, and to the freedom they enjoy from the legislative restrictions under which our native business is conducted. Our open markets, contrasted with the tariff regulations of our opponents, provide good ground for complaint, and also for demand that the facts annually declared, and constantly evident, should secure the serious consideration of our Government.

We cannot lose sight of the smaller consumption of hops, clearly proved during the past few years, nor can we avoid the consequences of this tendency, which may in some degree account for the reduction of our acreage; but however we may be affected thereby, the necessity for the preservation of our home industry and the supply of English hops to British brewers appears to be more exigent as the years pass.

The published returns, which I append, show that the depression which has brought about the loss of acreage is not limited to any one county. The planters of the premier county, Kent, have grubbed no less than 1,127 acres, of which 867 acres are lost by the Eastern division. In Hampshire 97 acres, in Surrey 33 acres, and in Sussex 136 acres are now taken away. The Midland districts have lost 395 acres, of which 338 acres are grubbed in Herefordshire.

These are the facts which give us much food for thought, and suggest the inquiry as to what can be done to arrest the downward movement. I trust that the new association for the defence of growers, to which I referred last week, will soon be in form, and will be aroused to definite action without delay.

The figures given by the Board of Agriculture are as follows:—

Counties, &c.	1907. Acres.	1906. Acres.	1905. Acres.
Kent .. East ..	8,996	9,863	10,417
Kent .. Mid ..	9,647	9,849	10,464
Kent .. Weald ..	9,526	9,584	9,774
Kent .. Total, Kent	28,169	29,296	30,655
Hants	1,842	1,939	1,978
Hereford	6,143	6,481	6,851
Salop	129	127	135
Surrey	744	777	843
Sussex	4,243	4,379	4,647
Worcester	3,622	3,672	3,807
Gloucester and Suffolk	46	51	51
Total	44,938	46,722	48,967

New Hops.

The first pocket of the 1907 crop of Worcester hops came to market on Wednesday consigned to Messrs. J. W. Buckland, Son, and Co., hop merchants, Worcester and London, and has by them been despatched to Mr. E. E. Bevan, Vale of Neath Brewery, Neath, Glamorgan. The grower, Mr. John Smith, May House Farm, Newland, has a fine crop and is to be congratulated on the quality which is especially in evidence in this particular pocket, though it has come to market two or three weeks later than usual, the season being exceptionally late, but the quality shows that the slow development of the plant has ensured the future general fine properties of the 1907 crop of Worcester hops.

Country Notes.

England.

Amongst the reports that have come under my observation this week, there are several that are much more "croppy" than I have seen this season. Such expressions as the following are now found:—"There will be many more hops grown than could have been anticipated." "Hops hang thickly." "Our district will probably average 12 cwt. per acre." "There should be quite an average crop in our district." "The hops have improved considerably." "In many grounds the crops will be heavy." "The yield will probably be larger than was expected." "Hops have made excellent progress, and there is little doubt now that the crop will reach a full average." "Taken all round there will be, as regards quantity, one of the best crops of recent years." "Hops are doing well, and will give a good crop." "The crop will exceed expectation." "The prospect holds good for a heavy crop all round." "In some grounds the crop is large, and taking the whole district, it looks like being a good average in regard to quantity." "There will be a full average crop and perhaps a little over."

These must not be taken as representing the universal condition, but they are remarkable as indicating the alterations made in the crop prospects by the more genial weather of the last few days. Of course, there are many plantations in which improvement has not been so evident, but I think we may conclude that our recent estimates need not be lowered, but may rather be enlarged without much risk of error. An illustration of the various conditions which are found within a short distance of each other came under my own observation the other day.

I went through some gardens growing Fuggles and Bramblings, all of which had been well looked after, and gave evidence of the care and skill that had been exercised. They were absolutely free from vermin and mould, the bine was plentiful, strong and healthy, and the burr had passed into hop quite satisfactorily. Although the laterals carried hardly any cones, the tops were amply supplied but they had not grown out, and looked somewhat starved. The sky was clear, and the sun was pouring down his warm rays, but it hardly appeared possible that there would be time for full development before the necessary picking, therefore we could not estimate the crop at a higher average than about 8 cwt.

In other gardens, less than two miles away, where similar attention has been paid to the growth, and where the advantages of soil and situation are no greater, the hops were of good size and well developed, and looked like an average of 14 to 15 cwt. These instances prove the difficulty of forming a correct opinion this season, and we must be content to wait for the harvest for our certain information.

America.

Crop reports continue to be favourable, and, in fact, the outlook as to the total harvest becomes more promising with each advice. Even in New York State, where it was thought there would be deficiency, a full average yield is expected. The Californian growers, who have been inclined to minimise their crop, are compelled to admit that it will be quite up to an average. As regards the remainder of the Pacific Coast districts, there is no doubt that a bumper crop is being harvested.

Germany.

There is little to add to recent reports. Rain has fallen where it was needed, and has been succeeded by warm sunshine, so that the weather has been favourable to growth and development, and the experience of planters in the picking of the earlies encourages them to look for a heavy total.

Belgium.

The outlook this week is rather more satisfactory than when I last reported. The Belgian climate is very similar to our own, and the sunshine with which we have been favoured is also benefiting the Alost and Poperinghe plantations. Present estimates set the crop at a rather higher figure than last year.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

"The Farm Live Stock of Great Britain."

From Messrs. Oliver and Boyd, Edinburgh, we have received a copy of the fourth edition of Professor Wallace's "Farm Live Stock of Great Britain." It was originally published "to lay before the student, in the shortest possible form, the many interesting facts about farm live stock which ought to be known to everyone who takes an interest in this branch of the extensive subject of agriculture," but in the course of its revision it has increased its scope; it has in its fourth state reached an almost too bulky volume, and we suggest that future editions be divided up into four volumes—viz., one each for horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs—for the information given about each is sufficient for a volume by itself.

Its bulkiness is the only fault we have to find with the volume to which stock-breeders in general should give their hearty appreciation, for it is without doubt the first work in existence on the subject it deals with, and has the advantage of being up to date. A feature of this new edition is the very large number—over two hundred—of illustrations of live stock. These are in the form of photographic plates (they are not backed with reading matter), and they represent many of the best well-known specimens of the present-day breeds of horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs. The plates are excellently printed—as, by the way, is the whole of the volume—and they certainly add to the usefulness as well as interest of the fourth edition.

As to the work itself, this has been rewritten and brought up to date, and the magnitude of the task may be imagined when it is mentioned that it has extended over three years, and has necessitated a vast amount of reference. The result is a book that can be thoroughly relied upon, and which should be found in every farmer's and stock-breeder's library.

Professor Wallace takes the various breeds one by one, gives their history, their points, compares their merits with other breeds, gives information concerning the societies associated with the breed, whilst their common diseases are briefly described, and the remedies to be used in each case are stated. Thus it will be seen that everything connected with the various breeds of live stock is dealt with, and in such a manner as to be of interest to anyone who has anything to do with live stock, whilst the value of such a record will be appreciated by all.

Professor Wallace is to be congratulated on the success which has attended his labours, and his reward is the widespread appreciation of the volume, and also, we hope, a very extensive sale, though the price—16s. net, which is, by the way, not at all beyond its merits—will, we are afraid, be prohibitive to a good many would-be purchasers.

The last number of "British Birds"—an illustrated weekly magazine devoted to the birds on the British list—is, like other numbers, full of interest to all lovers of birds. The frontispiece is a capital photograph of a Reeve going on to her nest, while there are other illustrations also from photographs. "British Birds," which is edited by Mr. H. F. Witherby, F.S.S., is published at

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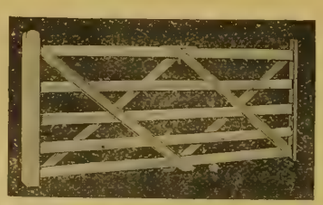
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Three useful handbooks published at 6d. net have come to hand from Messrs. Greening and Co., Ltd., namely, "Practical Fruit Culture," by John Whitehead; "Glass Culture," by James Cheal; and "Home Pets," by, amongst others, Dr. Gordon Staples and Herbert Compton. Each volume consists of just over 100 pages of printed and clear type, whilst the information given shou'd prove most useful to those for whom it is provided.

A useful volume for bee-keepers and intending bee-keepers is "Bees for Pleasure and Profit," by C. Gordon Samsom, of which a third and revised edition has been published at 1s. by Messrs. Crosby, Lockwood and Son, 7, Stationer's Hall Court, E.C. It is a complete guide to the manipulation of bees, the production of honey, and general management of the farm, is well illustrated, and is written in an interesting manner. These facts, together with its cheapness, should ensure a wide circulation for this new and enlarged edition.

The Journal of the South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, for 1907, is a somewhat bulky volume containing reports of the various departments of the college, and as a result of its extension in size, it is probable that in future years each department of the work of the college will have its special Journal. The 1907 edition contains a great deal of general interest, and the many illustrations which accompany the letterpress add considerably to the usefulness of the Journal. It is published at 6s., but can be had by residents in Kent or Surrey for 3s.

The bulb catalogue for 1907, issued by Messrs. Webb and Sons, of Wordsley, Stourbridge, is, like the other publications of this firm, an excellent production, being full of interesting details, and accompanied by splendid illustrations of perfect specimens of various flowers; but perhaps the most striking feature is the cover, which is printed in colours, and depicts a maid of Holland surrounded by blossoms of the most favourite bulbs. The cover is most striking and distinctive; it suggests bulbs at once.

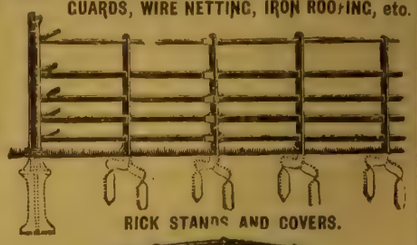
"The Traveller's Practical Manual of Conversation" is the title of an excellent little handbook providing a large number of conversational and colloquial sentences in English, French, German, and Italian, arranged according to subject, the subjects being in alphabetical order, so that the tourist can readily turn to the very thing he or she wishes to say or ask. It is in handy pocket form, and also gives travel notes, tables of money, &c, and a dictionary of the words required in everyday life. It is published at 1s. by Messrs. E. Marlborough and Co., 51, Old Bailey, E.C.

Sir Walter Gilbey has added two more volumes to the already long list of interesting and useful works. The new volumes are "Horses—Breeding to Colour" and the "Pig in Health—How to Avoid Swine Fever." In the former he explains the different colours in horses, and gives his views as to the reason for the increasing frequency of some colours and the decrease of others; whilst suggestions are offered as to how horses may be bred to colour; whilst in the book of pigs Sir Walter has collected some curious notes of a historic nature. The latter half of the volume is taken up with diseases of swine in olden times, swine fever, modern swine keeping, housing, selection, and feeding. Both books are beautifully got up and illustrated, and are published at 2s, post free 2s. 3d., by Messrs. Vinton and Co., 8, Breams Buildings, Chancery Lane, E.C.

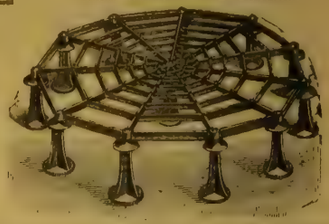
On comparing Sutton's bulb list for the current year with preceding editions a marked advance will be observed, especially in the new classification of narcissi. The list is considerably extended and the leading varieties are illustrated with beautiful reproductions from photographs. The lists of hyacinths, tulips, &c., have been compiled with the accuracy and care which distinguish the publications of the great Reading firm. Some of the numerous illustrations afford excellent examples of successful grouping; others show effective contrasts in the treatment of beds and borders. The pages devoted to begonias, cyclamens, gloxinias, and a few other flowers which do not belong to the category of Dutch bulbs, are extremely interesting from the fact that many of the plants formed part of the grand displays at the Royal Horticultural Society's Temple Show and other important exhibits. The gold medals awarded to Messrs. Sutton and Sons during the current year bring the total of these prizes to 342. A copy of the list should be in the hands of every lover of a garden, and it can be obtained by writing to the publishers at Reading.

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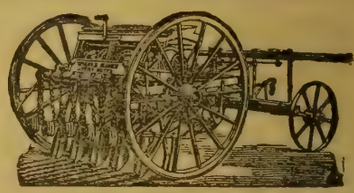
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POULTRY.

Durable Poultry Houses.

The advantage of making a right start in the matter of appliances is seen when visiting poultry plants in different parts of the country, and those who go in for fowls—no matter whether it is for one pen with the object of producing eggs for their own table, or for ten or more pens to breed numbers with the idea of founding a lasting stock from which to supply all comers—will do well to build houses which can be easily moved to another and larger place when necessary, and which will last for 20 years if required; whilst the only labour necessary during the whole of their period of use will be that of whitewashing the interior and creosoting the exterior twice in each year, and a fresh length of tarred roofing felt for the roof once in four or five years.

The best material to make a poultry house of is ⅜in. match-boarding (yellow), and the framework of 2in. quartering, which should be mortised together and the sides and back made separately, and then bolted together with coach screws. The roof should be made lean-to shape, and covered with well-tarred felt.

Houses may be made so that they can be carried from place to place, or they may be made so that they can lean against a wall. Whatever position they occupy care must be taken to well cover the floor with peat moss litter, as this is a deodoriser, and keeps the bottom of the house nice and dry.

Where rats are found they should be prevented getting into the house by strips of wire netting being put down in the ground about 12 in. below the surface. This will prevent burrowing under the boards, and be an effectual safeguard against rats, and any house may be made rat-proof in this way.

Inside the house perches should be fixed so that the ends drop into a socket, which keeps them about 15 in. to 18 in. above the floor of the house. Heavy birds should never roost higher than this, and light ones should not have perches higher than 2 ft.

These should always be movable, as if they are nailed the red bugs get underneath the ends, and are most destructive to the comfort and health of the fowls, as they suck their blood when they are on the perches at night. The perches should be paraffined two or three times during the summer to kill these, and bark should under no consideration be left on the perches.

Perches for fowls should be made quite flat and about 2 in wide, the sharp edges being bevelled off. Where round perches are used the pressure upon the breast-bone causes many of the chickens to have crooked breasts. There should be quite a clear 15 in. between each perch; if this is not allowed the birds are apt to peck at each other.

The nests should be placed so that the front of each box faces the darkest part of the house. Some people reverse this order of things, but experience clearly proves that a hen takes more readily to the nest when it is shaded from the light.

Poultry-houses must always be ventilated, and to do this effectually the opening should be made at the topmost point of the building at either end. This is a most important point in poultry-house construction, because the birds should never be allowed to roost in a draught; and the vapour and ammonia from the excrement rise to the top of the house, and are carried out by the rush of pure air. This is one reason why the perches should be kept low, so that the foul air may rise and be swept out by this, the only proper method of ventilation.

The opening for the fowls to go in and out should be fitted with a sliding frame, which should be covered with wire, and this also admits air and helps to purify the house, especially during the hot days of summer, when all possible ventilation is needed.

The window, which should figure in every fowl-house, should be made so that it might be opened or shut, according to the weather, fowls being very fond of light, which always has a tendency to benefit the health and well-being of living things.

It is not necessary to keep fowls warm in fowl-houses at night. The cooler they are kept the more eggs are produced during the winter months. Shelter from wind and rain is all they require. Fowls, as a rule, will lay many more eggs in an open shed than they will produce in a warm brick building during the winter months. As a matter of fact, they cannot have too much ventilation, as long as they do not sit in the draught. We always leave our doors or windows open at night, even in the coldest weather.

When fowls have a warm house for roosting in they should have a warm, sheltered run during the day, as if they do not they feel the cold so when they run out first thing in the morning. The warmer the houses—whatever breed is kept—we find the less number of eggs produced.

Fowls should never be huddled together; too many birds in one house means disaster and often disease.

In putting the houses together it is well to use screws as far as possible, so that the buildings may be easily taken to pieces. The sides should be made so that each one is a piece, as this makes it quite easy to transport them flat from place to place.

Where people live in the country they will, in many parts, frequently have sheds or outhouses that will be useful for poultry, but for town dwellers this is almost out of the question, and we know that generally such poultry-keepers have to provide their houses for the accommodation of their stock.

At the annual prize distribution of the Aldersey Grammar School, Bunbury, Cheshire, the headmaster, Mr. G. F. Dutton, reported that the pupils had continued the practice of collecting harmful insects, and during the past six months they had brought to the school 312,837 living specimens of these pests. The ox warble insect had absorbed a good deal of attention, and one boy had visited every farm within a large area and brought to school many canisters of maggots which he had squeezed out of the backs of the cattle at milking time.

OBITUARY.

Earl of Dunmore.

We regret to announce that the death took place at Frimley Manor House, near Camberley, early on Tuesday morning, of the Earl of Dunmore. His lordship had not complained of being unwell, and was out on Monday, but he was taken suddenly ill during the night, and died before a medical man could arrive. Lord Dunmore, who was known as the leading British adherent to Christian Science, was the seventh holder of the title, and was one of the best travelled and most versatile members of the House of Lords.

The deceased lord, who was a large landed proprietor, will long be remembered for his work in connection with live-stock breeding, for he was among the first to recognise the growing importance of live-stock breeding as a branch of our greatest industry, and as a breeder of Shorthorns during the sensational period that has been described as the golden seventies he had the honour of obtaining the highest price for a Shorthorn bull and the highest average of any sale in the world. The sale at which these records were made took place in August, 1875, and was certainly one of the most remarkable events of its kind that has ever taken place. Thirty-nine animals were sold for no less than £26,223, thus giving the extraordinary average per head of £672 8s. A bull named Duke of Connaught was sold to the late Lord Fitzhardinge for 4,500 guineas; another bull, Third Duke of Hillhurst, made 3,500 guineas to Mr. Larking, Ashdown; a cow, Marchioness of Oxford, realised 1,810 guineas from the late Duke of Manchester; Red Rose of the Isles, 1,950 guineas from Lord Bective; and Red Rose of Balmoral, 1,280 guineas, also from Lord Bective. The last portion of the Dunmore herd was sold in August, 1879, the year of agricultural disaster, and the results were of course not so good, but still the very fine average of £241 14s. 3d. was made for fifty-four animals, the highest prices being 3,200 guineas and 2,700 guineas.

Lord Dunmore, it may be added, was one of the founders of the Shorthorn Society in 1875, and was also instrumental in forming the Clydesdale Horse Society and the Highland Cattle Society, and it may be safely asserted that it was chiefly due to his enthusiasm and efforts that the organisation of stockbreeders was brought about and thus led to the institution of the numerous breed societies which we now have and appreciate. Lord Dunmore's death will therefore be regretted by none more than breeders of live stock, and more particularly Shorthorn breeders, for it was his excellent example that led to the formation of many notable herds and raised the Shorthorn to a popularity which increases every year.

The annual report of the Royal Horse Show, Richmond, presented to the shareholders last week, congratulated them on the success of this summer's show, despite the unfavourable weather. A dividend of 20 per cent. for the year was declared.

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METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF FULHAM.

THE FULHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL is prepared to receive TENDERS for the SUPPLY of OATS, HAY, CLOVER, MIXTURE, STRAW, BEANS, BRAN, and LINSEED for about 65 Horses, in such quantities as may be required during the six months ending March 31, 1908.

Tenders must be made on printed forms specifying conditions of contract, to be obtained on application to the Borough Surveyor, Mr. FRANCIS WOOD, M.I.C.E., Town Hall, Fulham, and to be delivered at the Town Hall, Fulham, to the undersigned by 4 p.m., on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1907, sealed and endorsed "Tender for Horse Provender."

The Council does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any Tender.

By Order,
R. M. PRESCOTT, Town Clerk.
Town Hall, Fulham, S.W.

TENDERS FOR FLOUR.

THE CONJOINT FLOUR COMMITTEE of the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue, the United Synagogue, and Federation of Synagogues, are about soliciting TENDERS for the supply of about 1,600 to 1,800 sacks of best HOUSEHOLD FLOUR, to be made of sound English wheat, the flour to be delivered free of all charges, in such quantities and at such times and in such places in London as may from time to time be directed.

The grinding of the flour must begin about the end of October, and be completed within six weeks, a mill being exclusively set aside for the purpose. The preparation of the mill, as well as the grinding of the flour, will have to be carried out under the superintendence of the Jewish Ecclesiastical Authorities.

Millers desirous of tendering can obtain full particulars, and copy of Form of Tender on application to Mr. P. ORNSTIEN, Secretary of the United Synagogue St James's Place, Aldgate, London, E.C.

The Conjoint Flour Committee will meet on THURSDAY, SEPT. 26, for the purpose of opening Tenders, which must be made on the printed form provided for the purpose and addressed to the said Committee, at the Offices of the United Synagogue, Saint James's Place, Aldgate, London, E.C., not later than THREE o'clock in the afternoon of the day named, accompanied by a 4 lb. sample of the flour to be supplied. The Committee do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

September, 1907.

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J. H. NICHOLAS, Secretary.
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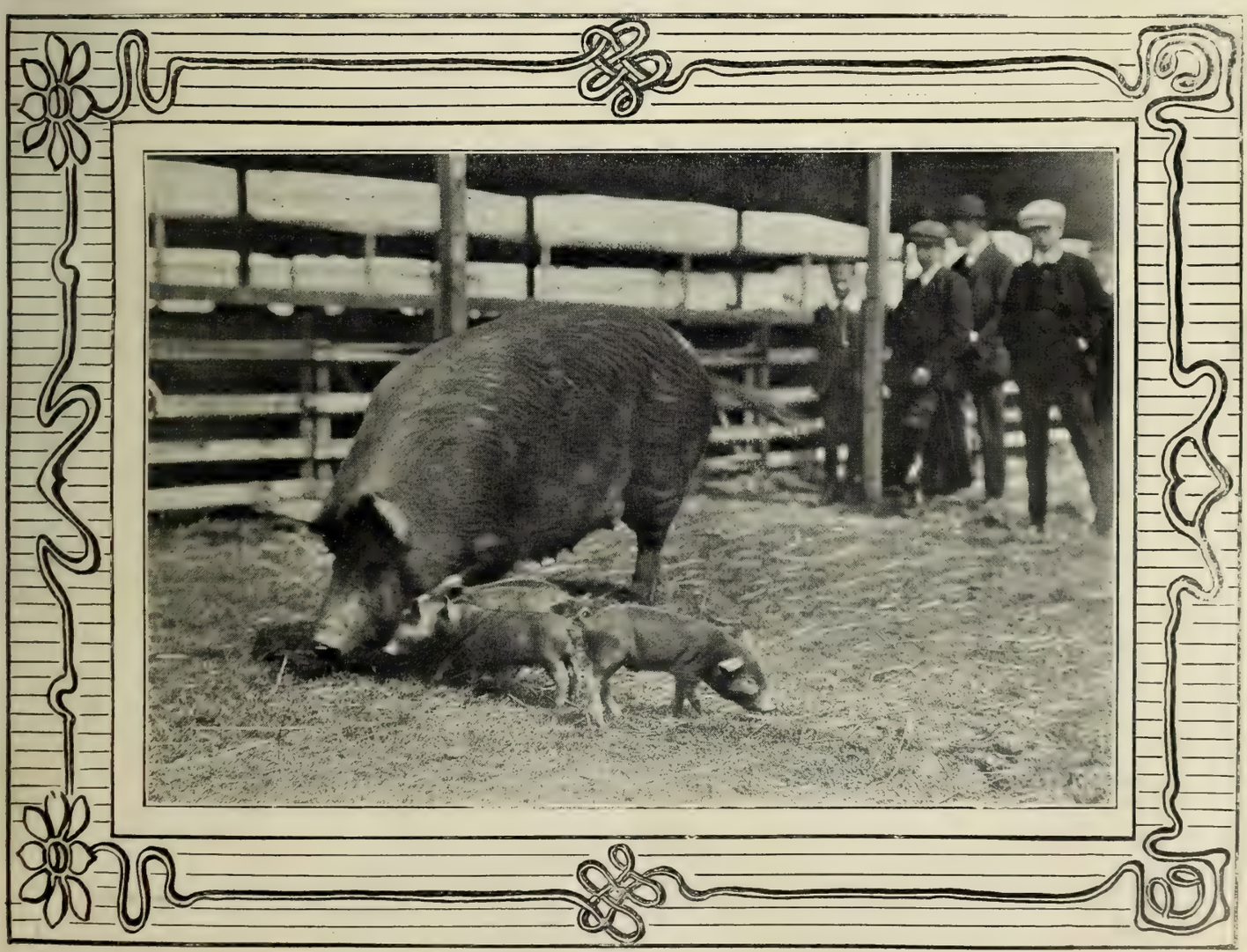
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ESTABLISHED 1832.

Vol. XCVII. No. 3963. [Registered as a Newspaper.] LONDON, MONDAY, SEPT. 9, 1907. [WITH SUPPLEMENTS] PRICE 3d. (PER SINGLE COPY.)



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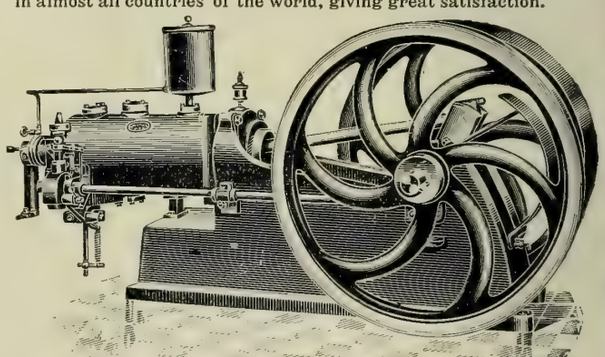
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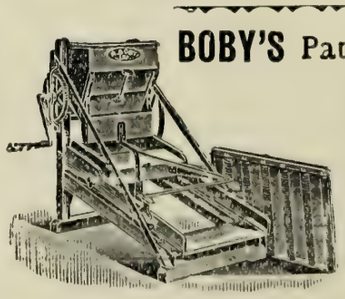
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Seasonable Topics.

Methods of Distribution. THERE is apparently something wrong with our methods of disposing of heavy crops of fruit, which no one has yet been ingenious enough to put right. It seems hard to believe that we in this country, with its densely-populated centres of trade and manufacture, should not be able to consume all the fruit that is produced, no matter how heavy the crops may be, but cases of over-supply spring up from time to time. Just now the trouble is with stone fruit, and we hear of plums being sold by growers at ruinous prices, while there are prospects of many tons of fruit never being picked at all. Is it really that in a good plum year like this more fruit is produced than can be consumed, or is it that the methods of distribution are so inferior that excessive quantities cannot be dealt with efficiently? The question is open, and must remain so, but it seems obvious that there is something wrong. Naturally in a season of plenty the price must be lower than usual, but this should be sufficient reason for the commodity being purchased in greater quantities and thus enable the growers to dispose of their crops at prices which at least show a profit. What with the difficulties he has to grow fruit, and then, when Nature is kind to him, the trouble he encounters in selling it remuneratively, the path of the fruit-grower is not such an easy way to fortune as some people would have us believe.

In the Name of Charity. IN a recent issue of the MARK LANE EXPRESS there appeared a letter of appeal on behalf of the Royal Agricultural Benefit Institution, in which the case of the institution was well made out. It is good to think that the funds are augmented to the extent they are from the offertories in places of worship, and the occasion of a harvest festival when thanks are returned for the fruits of the earth seems a fitting time for people to show their gratitude in a practical manner by helping an institution which lives for the benefit of farmers who have fallen on hard times. The Royal Agricultural Benefit Society has a general claim, for farming is a precarious business, and there are men to-day who were once prosperous and never thought they would need help. Yet through sheer force of circumstances they have come down, and would fare badly but for the above institution. It seems to us that there are other ways by which the society could be assisted that may not have been adopted. The other day we attended a show of fruit, flowers, vegetables, poultry, and dairy produce, at which all the exhibits were given and sold for the benefit of local medical institutions. Could not something of this kind be done at agricultural shows, for, unless we are mistaken there are many people who show such things as butter, cheese, dead poultry, and eggs who would willingly give their exhibits to be sold for the purpose of assisting the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution? That the institution is approved of and is doing good is shown by the increased support it has had in recent years, and it is the knowledge of its usefulness that prompts us to make the above suggestion.

Home-made Commodities. IN this paragraph we may be able to suggest one of the reasons why markets are glutted with perishable fruit when crops are heavy. In how many working households in the country is jam made? In the country, of course, where ideas are supposed to be old-fashioned, every thrifty housewife takes advantage of cheap fruit and lays in a stock of jam for the winter; but in towns this commodity is bought as it is wanted from the nearest provision shop, and the jam factor must get the advantage as he buys the fruit at his own price when the supply is plentiful. Supposing, just for argument's sake, that every housewife felt, as her grandmother did, that it was her duty to lay in a stock of jam, what an enormous difference it would make to the consumption of plums in a season like this, and assuming that the means of distribution were such that every would-be jam maker could get her fruit at a reasonable, and not necessarily a very low price, we should hear less about plums rotting on the ground because they do not pay to pick.

The Outlook for Roots. AMONG the many drawbacks of this gloomy season it is pleasant to be able to turn to some of its redeeming features. Last year at this time we looked out on fields of roots that were sparse, gappy, and in many cases parched up, and farmers seemed to be competing with each other as to how many times they had sown turnips and how many crops they had lost through the "flea." The trouble this time has been the weeds and the difficulty in getting labour for singling and hoeing, but so far as hops are concerned the outlook is hopeful and promising. With mangolds, turnips, and swedes there is, generally speaking, a good plant, and everything points favourably for individual size and heavy weight per acre. To sheep breeders this state of affairs is particularly gratifying, but roots now want sunshine and dry weather to bring them to perfection. In short, roots have grown, and are still growing well, but they want maturing, and to effect this September sunshine is needful. The clerk of the weather has only a short time now in which to redeem his reputation. Let us hope he will be equal to the occasion.

Judging the Judge. THOSE of our friends who are in the habit of acting as judges at shows are doubtless aware of the many times in which they come in for judgment at the hands of the critics whom they fail to please. There must be times, of course, when exhibitors and even outsiders fail to see eye to eye with judges, and in the same way there is such a thing as a judge being wrong, because according to an old saying, a man who never makes a mistake never makes anything. It is a good thing to criticise in a proper way the work of judges, because it shows interest, and we like to see an exhibitor who may be disappointed, asking the reason why certain awards are made, because he wants to know, and more often than not, when the points are explained to him, he is satisfied. On the other hand, we cannot stand the exhibitor who has apparently acquired a good deal of knowledge but has not yet learnt how to lose. We frequently meet with him in the showyard, and if he does not happen to have won first prize he is generally fretting and fuming and pouring the story of his wrongs into the ears of anyone who will listen to him.

The Great Wyrley Cattle Maiming Outrages. THE country at large, and, perhaps, farmers in particular (who have a good deal to do with animals) are incensed and disgusted at the revolting outrages on cattle in the Great Wyrley district, and if the culprit were caught red-handed we think he would stand a chance of realising the meaning of lynch law. Already one man has been convicted as the supposed culprit and has been set at liberty and still the outrages continue. There is a deep mystery about the dastardly proceedings which remind one of the Jack-the-Ripper crimes in London some years ago, but the maniac —we cannot think he can be anything else—in this case, does not kill outright, but maims his victims, which with dumb animals is perhaps worse. One fails entirely to discern any motive in such crimes, nor can one imagine any human being in his sober senses being guilty of such arrogant cruelty. We can only hope that the outrages will soon be put a stop to and that the culprit will be brought to justice and receive the punishment that he richly deserves. In the meantime it is easy to understand the feelings of terror which prevail amongst keepers of horses in the Great Wyrley district.

Hedge Trimming. IN view of the catchy time and the lateness of the harvest, there is no prospect of reducing the labour staff on the farm, and when conditions are at all favourable harvesting

is the one absorbing task and topic. The difficulty is to go straight on with it, and the man comes to the master for a job on days when harvesting operations are temporarily checked. There is a standing task with the hedge, however, and trimming may be proceeded with when the growth is not saturated with wet. The advantage, too, of getting on with hedge-cutting as early as possible is that the thorns and brambles, being tender, are severed with less effort by the plashing hook. Hedge-cutting season is looked upon by cyclists as being the time for punctures, and as about every other man in the country rides a bicycle now, a large community is affected. In the early days of pneumatic tyres hedge-cutters seemed to take a delight in strewing the road with thorns to catch the offending cyclist, but fortunately that old spirit of antagonism has subsided, and hedge trimmers usually brush the thorns from the road as the work proceeds, so that the cyclist has less need to fear punctures than he had in the past.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Labour M.P.'s and Agrarian Problems.

Of course, it would be a stupid mistake to assume that the next session of Parliament will have associated with it the discussion of so many agrarian problems and so many questions connected with the land as had the last session. Indeed, there is a growing restiveness against the countrysides of England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland monopolising—and this is particularly the case with the Labour and Socialist members—the attention of Parliament. The dissatisfaction of the extreme politicians with this Parliamentary proceeding is heightened by the fact that, in their view, the English and Irish land legislation, and even the suggested solution of the Scottish problem, are in the nature of anodynes and palliatives rather than of the nature of firm remedies. Just as these politicians believe that the Evicted Tenants Act is likely to accomplish little that will be lastingly beneficial for Ireland, and even as an expedient for dealing with a temporary difficulty is weak and invertebrate, so they regard the Small Holdings Act as a dilletante experiment chiefly designed to conciliate a few doctrinaire faddists who have really no conception of the actual vitalities of land reform. It may be asked why, if this be so, these politicians did not oppose both measures? Well, in the first place, they thought that if Irish Nationalism accepted the Irish measure they ought not to cavil at the proposal. Next, they were in a measure reconciled to the Small Holdings Act because the refusal of the Government to initiate the principle of peasant proprietorship was in their view a recognition of the doctrine of land nationalisation. At all events, it meant in their esteem that the Government was resolved to create no further obstacles to the State-resumption of the land. Dissatisfied as they are with the agrarian policy, these politicians declare that the country-sides have had enough attention devoted to them for a while. It is now, they aver, time to concentrate a more persistent attention on the throbbing anomalies of our great centres of life and to the wisdom of so enlarging the basis of taxation that aggrandised wealth shall be further penalised.

* * *

The Government's Scottish Intentions.

There is still, however, one direct agrarian question which must receive the attention of the next session. If the Government were pusillanimous enough to shirk dealing with the Scottish land question, it would be hopelessly discredited in the eyes of its more virile and effective following. Refusal to immediately deal with the issue would be held to be a craven yielding to the Lords which disentitled the Government to any respect or sympathy. This refusal would be hailed even by Radicals as an admission not merely of the constitutional authority of the Peers, but as a confession of their legislative wisdom. There is no doubt, too, as to the lines on which that legislation will proceed. The new Bill will propose even more definitely than before that there shall be only one land system erected in Scotland—that there shall be no differentiation in principle between the Lowlands and the Highlands. Perhaps the Bill will be given a more inflexible character, because of the implied assertion of Lord Rosebery—a strange derelict figure in our statecraft with no influence in Liberalism outside the most tepid Whig section—that such a policy would be "declared lunacy." The Conservatives and Roseberians aver, and rightly aver, that the economic and agrarian conditions of the Lowland and Highlands are hopelessly at variance, and that two sets of panaceas should thus be adopted. The Radicals aver that to divide Scotland and to apply an English economy to the Lowlands would be to exasperate the Scottish national sentiment into rebellion. This is the sharply-defined, piquant issue. It is ominous enough, in all sooth; but the Labour section and Socialists will demand that it shall absorb but a trifle of the time of the session. They have their own axes to grind—their own legislative ambitions to gratify.

* * *

Will the Tied-house System be Affected?

There is one other issue in which the countryside will be concerned, and that is the proposed licensing legislation. This concern arises not so much from the main principles involved in the Ministerial designs—though, of course, the country-side cannot be indifferent to them, but rather from the speculation that the proposal will deal with the tied-house system. The abolition of the tied-house system was once a distinct ambition of the agricultural Parliamentarians, and more particularly with those who hailed from East Anglia. What is more, it was one of the few suggestions that appealed equally to men on either side of the House. Its leaders were men who, alas! are no longer known to St. Stephen's—Sir Cuthbert Quilter and Mr F. W. Wilson. Their contention was, briefly, not only that the system established something like a method of serfdom, but that it made for the ill of the public, inasmuch as it often affected the accommodation and even the quality of the beverages supplied. They held, too, that this system had its worst expressions in the countryside, and that it introduced a demoralising element into the rural economy. Of late, however, there has been a recession of interest in this matter. The modern reformers are more concerned with the entire prohibition of alcoholic liquors than with its purity. Still, this prospect of inevitable licensing legislation has served to revive the memory of the old-time proposal and to quicken anew a half-enthusiastic interest in it. Mind, it would not be difficult to ginger this half-enthusiasm into a whole-hearted sentiment. The brewer has constituted himself the fugleman of the anti-Radical cohorts. His appeal to arms—a rather blatant effusion — is already to be seen in hundreds of public-houses. The Radicals would not be sorry of an opportunity of countering the move and hitting vigorously back.

* * *

Shall We Benefit from the Motor Tax?

We must seek to discipline Mr. Asquith's very scientific mind into a conception of the fact that if a heavier motor tax is to be imposed a considerable part of the financial result ought to be applied to the maintenance of the public highways. The tax should be utilised in a considerable degree for the relief of county rates, now dramatically overburdened as a consequence of this road-damaging motor-traffic. That Mr. Asquith intends to impose this enhanced tax is freely confessed by himself. If, however, he simply utilises the result to partially compensate the National Exchequer for "the loss suffered by the remission of the sugar-tax, he will be guilty of an act of callous ungenerosity and brutal unfairness to the local authorities. If motor-traffic is possible at all in England, it is, of course, largely because of the character of the roads. This traffic deplorably cuts up those roads, and their maintenance is therefore a burden, which, in the majority of instances, yields no compensating advantage to the local areas. To tax this traffic—and that is what this enhanced motor-tax would mean—without in some way benefiting the local areas whose sacrifice renders it possible would thus be an action unworthy of fair-minded statecraft. All the same, despite the logical justice of the claim of the local authorities, it is well that this statecraft should be ever and anon reminded of it. Will Messieurs of the Chambers of Agriculture take the hint? Mr. Asquith should not be permitted to lull himself into the belief that they are apathetic and indifferent.

* * *

Mr. Burns and Afforestation.

Will Mr. Burns realise his desire to initiate a formal State scheme of afforestation? Undeniably there has been a considerable impetus given in the last two years to the afforestation movement. The mere fact that the Irish Committee has been appointed within the last few days with a view to suggesting means for the public acquisition of land in Ireland for the purpose of afforestation is an evidence of this. In England there is practically a consensus of Parliamentary opinion that the sedulous neglect of the principle of afforestation and of the cultivation of certain of our State lands and waste lands and thus building up a national inheritance is a reflection upon our traditional common-sense. If Mr. Burns can persuade an unsensitive Treasury to entrust the Local Government Board and the Board of Agriculture with a sum sufficient to initiate the scheme—to initiate it in an experimental guise—he will have the unwonted distinction of receiving the plaudits of his erstwhile Socialist friends. The Socialists and extreme Labour men of the House of Commons are as ardent pro-afforestators as either Mr. Burns or Lord Carrington. Perhaps their sympathy has been rather quickened by the belief that a State-system of afforestation must inevitably make for the advantage of their *protégés*, the out-o'-works. Well, it may or it may not. At all events, Mr. Burns himself would not invoke the aid of the Treasury in this matter simply in order that he may gratify the political patrons of the gentlemen who, after all, play a much more picturesque part in buttressing the lamp-posts of West Ham. West Ham must ever loom large in our vision, but I ween that the right hon. gentleman would purely be influenced by national considerations.

* * *

Organised Labour and Farm Workers.

Well, I suppose the incident will not altogether evoke a spirit of tense indignation among the farming class. All the same, it is noteworthy that the Trades' Union Congress did not give a moment's attention to the agricultural labourers and their condition. This Congress a little arrogantly dubs itself "The Parliament of Labour." It is, however, that labour in which the rural worker has no part or lot. The matter is not without significance, apart from the light it throws on the attitude which the labour leaders adopt towards the farm workers. The disciplined labour organisation of Great Britain is a purely urban instrument. It cares nothing for rural interests, excepting so far as the land as a problem provides it with opportunities of flamboyant orations and yields it occasion to fashion impossible policies. Of practical sympathy it reveals not one jot which, withal, will not cause overwhelming heartburning in the farmhouses.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

Advice of a Legal character is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

The Pigeon Nuisance.

SIR,—I have twenty acres of peas this year, and I cannot keep the tame pigeons away, they come in hundreds. Should I be wrong in shooting them? I might add the nearest cote is quite two miles away. With peas being so dear, I cannot afford to feed 500 or 600 pigeons every day. If I cannot shoot them, what is my remedy?—Yours, &c., F. A.

West Ashby, Horncastle.

September 2, 1907.

*** If they come over your land I think you would not be justified in shooting the pigeons. If you know their owner, and you suffer from their depredations, you had better give him notice and tell him that you will hold him responsible. You would be liable for killing, wounding, or taking to a fine of £2 over and above the value of the bird (24 & 25 Vict. c. 96, s. 23).—Barrister-at-Law.

THE DELAYED HARVEST.

Our Reports from various parts of the Country all show how protracted and expensive the present Harvest is. A spell of sunny weather is essential to the rapid ingathering of the crops, and would do a great deal to redeem a wet and cold season.

East Yorks.

The season has been a most disappointing one on account of the little sun and warm weather we have had.

Bulky Crops.

Harvest is general now, and the crops are bulky. Straw will be plentiful, but I am afraid the yield and sample will not be so good as it ought to be. Wheat has come most slowly to harvest, and will have to be cut greener than it generally has been. Barley has ripened much the quicker this season. Oats are a heavy crop and are very much laid in some places.

Turnips Backward.

Turnips are backward, but are growing now, white turnips in particular; but swedes, I do not think, will ever be an average crop this season, the cold nights we have had seem to have stopped their growth.

Live Stock Markets.

Cattle and sheep have fed well, and lambs are also doing much better. The prices of beef and mutton have been rather lower lately, but I hope are on the improve again now.

It is to be hoped we shall have this month fine to get along with the harvest.

September 5, 1907. E. F. J.

South Notts.

Harvest work is progressing very slowly; on some farms nearly all the corn is battered down, and extra men are at work, causing losses in two ways, less grain, and that not expected to be good quality as some is grown through, especially oats and barley, and extra expense in casual labour.

The Late Harvest.

Wheat is scarcely ripe and this is September 4. Last year we commenced cutting wheat on July 30 and had finished harvest by this time. There is no doubt we shall have an abundance of straw, but on these arable farms we want a good yield of corn, even at the expense of straw.

Ploughing in Wheat

I may say last autumn I had a difficulty in getting my land fine enough for drilling wheat, so on twelve acres I reverted to the old-fashioned way of ploughing in. This wheat is nearly ripe and is standing perfectly, and I shall be much disappointed if we have not a yield of 5 qr. per acre. I think possibly we have been guilty of drilling our autumn-sown corn too shallow, and the experiment will be again tried more extensively this year, even on bare fallow.

Barleys are about an average and are ripening fast; several pieces, I fancy, have been cut before they have the curl on the grain, which means an uneven sample to the maltster.

Beans—Good and Bad.

Beans have suffered with the wireworm in the spring, and in some places are very patchy. Mine in one field are extremely good and extremely bad, being yards bare in places, in others thick with as many as 35 pods on a stem.

If we have fine weather for a month we should get some good corn.—Hoping it will be so.

September 5, 1907. J. A.

Shropshire.

We have now had four days since Friday's rain, which put a stop to harvest work, while showers keep the grain wet.

To-day (Wednesday) has been fine, with the glass rising; it is now on "Fair," while yesterday morning it was on "Rain." But the sky is cloudy. Fine weather is most anxiously looked for.

Crops Badly Laid.

Not one-quarter of the corn is yet gathered in. It is all cut about here. The crops are very good, but so badly laid that there has been much difficulty in cutting it with machines, especially self binders, and much has had to be cut with scythes.

Potatoes are a failure in most places.

The Markets.

Beef not so well sold this week. Mutton and bacon pigs quite as dear. Store pigs easier.

September 4, 1907. E. B.

Worcestershire.

It is very difficult to arrive at any definite or reliable information respecting the late harvest of 1907.

Crops over Average.

Crops of all kinds are over average as regards straw, but quality, which is in many cases already quite gone, and quantity fit for marketing cannot be decided until cut, thrashed, and carried, which at the present date with this variable weather seems most uncertain.

Wet Grass and Live Stock.

Grass has only been dry for a few days in July since Easter, consequently stock of all kinds have not matured for the butcher as they ought.

September 4, 1907. T. R. H.



THE CORN HARVEST.

Lancashire.

The last four months have been a most trying time for the British farmer, with scarcely two fine days together, excepting a few days in July.

Backward Grain Crops.

The hay harvest was only finished at the end of August, when the corn harvest started, but much of the grain crops are backward owing to the wet and cold weather; the best crops are so badly laid it will not be possible to cut them with the self-binder.

Roots Fairly Good.

Swedes and mangolds are fairly good, though the latter would have been better if they had had more sun, and potatoes are showing signs of disease. C. J. S.

September 5, 1907.

Cheshire.

With regard to the farming position in Mid-Cheshire, Mr. T. Young, of the College of Agriculture and Horticulture, Holmes Chapel, reports that the straw crops promise a good bulk of produce, but nearly all oats are so much laid by heavy rains that the harvest will be a slow and expensive one.

Good Hay Harvest.

The hay harvest was a very late and dragging time, but as a rule there have been good crops, and they have been gathered in better condition than was anticipated from the bad weather. Second crops are late and will be bad to win.

Potatoes Not Promising.

Roots as a rule promise well. The outlook of the potato crop is not promising. Potatoes are "going off" quickly, and disease will be prevalent.

Live Stock Doing Well.

Live stock may be said to be doing well and keeping healthy, especially when it is remembered that they have had a very wet and cold summer to face.

Cambridgeshire.

The agricultural prospect in this district has improved very much indeed the last month.

Good Average Crops.

Although very late indeed, it is a good harvest, and from reports the yield of wheats, oats, and barley are very good—a good average crop all round. It has ripened up much better than expected at one time.

Roots and Hay.

Wurzles a fair crop. Potatoes not to turn out well; many diseased ones. Good crops of hay and clovers; not so good in quality and not got in as as well as usual.

Harvest will not be finished before October 1.

September 5, 1907. SOHAM.

Isle of Wight.

Harvest was general here about August 14; weather very favourable.

Straw Plentiful.

Most of the barley is stacked, and should be an average crop. Wheat and oats are also pretty good. Anyhow, straw is plentiful; the thrashing machine has now to tell the tale. Given fine weather, all the corn in the island will be stacked next week.

An outsider might think that all the farms began about the same time. This is not so, as climate

and soil varies so much within very short distances.

Some wheat has been thrashed, but supposed price is not up to newspaper quotations. Roots good, some troubled with wireworms and grub.

The Use of Cattle.

Young seeds very promising.

What few cattle are grazed have done well, but no one can make anything of that at 12s. per score and stores as dear as when beef fetched 15s. It is quite true what an old farmer I knew used to say, that the only good bullocks were was to get rid of the straw and grass.

Wool was a disappointment after last year's flick up. Good haytime. Rainfall: July, ·95; August, ·76.

September 4, 1907. H. W.

Cornwall.

The harvest in this district is from two to three weeks later than last year. Up to now the weather has been favourable, and, given another fortnight of fine weather, the bulk will be secured.

The Grain Crops.

There is a bountiful supply of straw with all crops, and the oat and barley crops seem to be well kerned. The latter is rather badly stained owing to so much rain a few weeks back.

Wheat is rather a poor crop with regard to grain; many fields are little better than chicken wheat, and a few others—particularly the late-planted wheat—are a fairly good sample.

Extra Cost of Harvesting.

Harvesting the crops this season will cause the farmers a lot of extra expense, as many of the fields of corn are badly laid and tossed about. There is a good supply of grass everywhere, and cattle and sheep are looking well. Roots also are fairly good, but not quite as clean in some places as one could wish, owing to so much wet and a short supply of labour.

The Hay Crop.

The hay crop has been good, and most of it saved without rain in this neighbourhood, as we had fine weather here from about July 8 to July 23, and farmers took the opportuity of saving their hay at that time.

The Markets.

Prices for beef and sheep have been fairly good all through the summer; wool is less money than last season by from 1½d. to 2d. per lb. All grain and feeding meals have been dear to buy the last few months, and it is to be hoped that farmers will be able to make more satisfactory prices with their corn than they have the last few years.

Labour Troubles.

Labour is scarce and dear, and many of the men are not as good as they should be and take no interest in their work, the former is owing to the revival of Cornish mining and other industries, the latter I think is caused by so much rank "Radicalism and Socialism" being talked, and by the fact that Cornwall returns seven Radical M.P.'s and no others.

September 5, 1907. A. P.

DAIRY.

British Dairy Farmers' Association.

A meeting of the Council was held at 12, Hanover Square on Wednesday, when the Finances and General Purposes Committee reported that they had made the customary examination of the accounts, the available balance at the bank on September 3 being £439 on current account against which payments to a total of £838 were passed. In connection with the imports of milk and cream into the United Kingdom the committee reported that no fresh milk was received from abroad in the nine weeks ended August 31, against a total of 288 cwt. in the corresponding weeks of last year. In the same periods the imports of cream came to 638 compared with 1,040 cwt.; of preserved milk to 644 against 736 cwt.; and of condensed milk to 143,312 against 140,050 cwt.

Condensed Milk Analyses.

The following report by the Consulting Chemist, Mr. F. J. Lloyd, had been received with regard to further samples of condensed milk which had been analysed by him at the request of the committee:—

When I received instructions to make analyses of another five samples of condensed milk, and this time not to confine myself to machine-skimmed milk, I endeavoured to obtain samples of full-cream milk from the same sources as I had obtained the machine-skimmed. It must be clearly remembered that I had not bought these former samples as or knowing them to be machine-skimmed, but had simply asked for the brands of which they sold the greatest amount, and it was only after purchasing the samples that I found in all cases they were machine skimmed. Now upon attempting to obtain samples of full-cream milk I was met with two difficulties: First, that in many of these places nothing whatever was kept but condensed machine-skimmed milk; and secondly, that after numerous efforts in various places I could only find three full-cream condensed milks on the market. Subsequently I obtained Sample A89, unsweetened, and also Sample A88, which I had not previously examined, and which appears to be the cheapest machine-skimmed milk on the market. It is only fair to state that the makers of this brand print on the label surrounding the tin—"Unsuitable for the use of infants and invalids."

As regards the composition of the samples themselves nothing need be said, they all represent milk reduced to about one-third its volume, so that to bring it back to the richness of ordinary milk as regards fat and other solids, one part of these milks could be mixed with only two parts of water. It will be seen that even taking the first two samples, 45 oz. of milk would cost 5½d.—*i.e.*, only a little over a quart of milk, which is a much higher price than the same quantity of milk can be bought for in a fresh condition. There can, I think, be no doubt whatever that the people who use condensed milk dilute it to such an extent that it becomes practically a mixture of equal parts of milk and water. Indeed, on one of the tins, the directions state that for puddings, coffee, tea, &c., the milk may be diluted with four or five times its volume of water.

The society might endeavour to discover how far the condensed milk used in or imported into England consists of full-cream or machine-skimmed milk. I think also that some steps should be taken to draw the attention of the medical profession to the composition of condensed milk, and to the danger which must arise from infants being fed upon it. Probably much of the ill health among children, frequently attributed to the consumption of impure fresh milk, if investigated would be found to be due to the use of condensed and machine-skimmed milk. It is very doubtful whether the vast majority of the poor people who buy and use this condensed machine-skimmed milk have any knowledge of what they are using. They simply buy what is cheapest, and make it go as far as they possibly can, without any regard to the health of their infants.

The Committee further presented a recommendation with regard to their renewal of the lease of the Agricultural Hall for the purposes of the Dairy Show from 1908 to 1912 inclusive. The report was adopted.

	A 85.	A 86.	A 87.	A 88.	A 89.
Nature	Full Cream.	Unskimmed Swiss.	Full Cream.	Machine-skimmed.	Full Cream Unsweetened.
Prepared in	England.	Switzerland.	Switzerland.	Holland.	Norway.
Contents of tin	15 oz.	15 oz.	14½ oz.	13 oz.	12 oz.
Price of tin	5½d.	5½d.	5½d.	2d.	4½d.
Analysis—Water	18·70	13·04	16·52	26·11	67·72
Fat	9·94	11·13	8·20	1·02	10·13
Casein	10·95	8·37	9·90	8·43	10·86
Sugar	58·21	65·46	62·54	62·41	9·55
Ash	2·20	2·00	2·84	2·00	1·74
	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00
Containing boracic acid	·17	·10	none	none	none

Butter and Cheese Prices and Prospects.

Messrs. Weddel and Co. in issuing their annual review of the trade in colonial dairy produce, provide British farmers with a very good "tip" as to the probable trend of prices during the coming winter, and their remarks should not be allowed to fall upon deaf ears. So far as climatic and other conditions prevail, there is every indication of large supplies of butter during the coming winter. In the butter exporting countries of the Northern Hemisphere, the supply of fodder is much larger than last year, so that it is reasonable to expect an increase in the milking herds, especially in those countries which carry on winter dairying and supply British markets with their butter, such as Denmark, Russia, Sweden, Holland, and France. In Siberia, at present, hot dry weather is adversely affecting the make, but it is not enough to cause a serious falling off in the supply of winter butter. Canada is exporting considerably less than last year, but as receipts from there were only 2,000 tons during the last three months of 1906, and none at all from January to July, this deficiency will not be much felt.

In the United Kingdom, conclude Messrs. Weddel, the most favourable circumstances exist for an increase in the milking herds and the consequent augmentation in the make of butter this winter. On the other hand, trade is everywhere so prosperous that the consumptive demand is certain to be well maintained.

Turning to the outlook for cheese it appears that there are no indications at present of any great shortage in the make of cheese. The Canadian season is late, and consequently the production to date is not equal to last year, but even if there should be a deficiency it will be made up by the very large increase in the United Kingdom and Europe.

To sum up, considerably lower prices are to be expected for both butter and cheese than have prevailed during the past year.

Chester Cheese Fair.

The monthly cheese fair at Chester took place on Wednesday, and was largely attended by representatives of wholesale houses in the North and Midlands. Farmers brought in 65 to 70 tons of cheese, for which there was a sharp demand, the whole being cleared out at the following quotations:—Fine Cheshire, 58s. to 64s.; medium qualities, 52s. to 56s.; and common from 50s. per cwt. and upwards.

Ashbourne Cheese Fair.

The September Cheese Fair for summer-made cheese at Ashbourne was held on Tuesday, when the pitch—all Derbys—was very small, but the quality, considering the poor season for maturing, was very fair. The whole of the cheese changed hands at 55s. to 58s. per cwt.

Market Drayton Cheese Fair.

Although there was hardly so large a supply as last month there was a pitch of close upon 30 tons of cheese at this fair, held at Market Drayton on Thursday. Buyers were even in larger attendance than usual, and a very satisfactory clearance was quickly effected. Best qualities made from 65s. to 68s., and medium grades from 50s to 55s. per cwt.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

Account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended August 31, 1907, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year (the figures for 1906 are in parentheses):—

Animals, living:—Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves (13,599), 10,194; sheep and lambs (1,731), 408; horses (1,026), 331.

Fresh meat:—Beef (87,130 cwts.), 137,505; Mutton (82,192), 130,751; pork (8,293), 8,174.

Salted or preserved meat:—Bacon (105,585 cwt.), 123,397; beef (2,038), 2,616; hams (27,623), 37,417; pork (4,574), 5,979; meat (7,672), fresh, 10,942; salted (7,672), 1,215; meat, preserved (3,763), 7,069.

Dairy produce and substitutes:—Butter (80,617 cwt.), 73,678; margarine (20,316), 17,666; cheese (73,723), 67,714; milk, fresh in cans or drums (99), —; cream (208), 15; milk, condensed (15,854), 14,784; milk, preserved (182), 51.

Eggs (great hundreds):—(311,659), 416,271; poultry (value £2,819), £2,116; game (value £1,022), £720; rabbits, dead (not tinned), (42,333 cwt.), 50,689; lard (32,182 cwt.), 29,649.

Corn, grain, meal, and flour:—Wheat (1,883,700 cwt.), 1,988,000; wheat meal and flour (250,000), 201,900; barley (479,100), 522,500; oats (337,000), 122,300; peas (70,190), 40,120; beans (3,380) 18,120; maize or Indian corn (1,193,600), 1,086,600.

Fruit (raw):—Apples (16,813 cwt.), 15,752; pears (53,320 cwt.), 59,505; plums (93,563 cwt.), 49,577.

Hay (2,790 tons), 909; straw (1,477 tons), 788; moss litter (1,444 tons), 1,582; hops (681), cwt.), 818; locust beans (— cwt.), 2,070.

Vegetables, raw:—Onions (184,107 bush.), 189,410; potatoes (31,215 cwt.), 40,461; tomatoes (32,212); 26,435.

The September Colt Fair at Highbridge on Monday was largely attended, and trade was unusually brisk. Considerably over a hundred colts were offered, and the top price reached was £20, while £19, £18, £17, £16, £15, and £14 were common offers.

Two periods of remarkably long farm service are disclosed in the awards of the Gillingham (Dorset) Farmers' Club to agricultural labourers for longest continuous employment. In one instance William Henry Herridge, aged 72 years 2 months, is shown to have been employed on Milton Farm, Gillingham (occupied by Mr. L. B. Matthews), for 60 years 2 months; and in the other, Aaron Grey, aged 67 years 6 months, possesses a record of 55 years 6 months' continuous service on Mr. A. R. White's farm at Charnage, Mere.

SHOWS.

Peterborough Foal.

The twenty-seventh annual foal show at Peterborough, held on Wednesday, in every way maintained its reputation. Sixty-three entries were received, and it was the general opinion that they were one of the best lots of foals seen at Peterborough. Shires were the feature of the show. The fillies were, perhaps, a trifle better than the colts, and it was a foregone conclusion that Mr. Orme would carry away the first rosettes in the colt and filly classes, and finish up with the championship. His winning colt—a son of Dunsmore Jameson, which was one of a very strong dozen paraded—has never yet been beaten, except by his stable companion the filly, which the other day took a championship over his head. He took two firsts at the Staffordshire Show, two firsts at Tutbury, was reserved for both cups and took a couple of firsts at Belper, three firsts at the Derby County Show, and was reserved there for the championship—not a bad record, when first and champion at Peterborough are added, for a youngster of four months.

The second winner in the class was Mr. J. G. Williams' Redlynch Forest King foal, a remarkably weighty colt, but with hardly the quality of limbs of the winner, whilst third fell to Sir Albert Muntz's big bay son of Dunsmore Jameson, which hitherto had won premier honours wherever shown. Fourteen marvellously even and well-developed fillies gave the judges a lot of trouble, but, as we have already said, Mr. Orme's exhibit came up at the top. She is a filly of exceptional carriage, with a fine outlook and grand shoulders. Mr. F. Farnsworth got second with his Ratcliffe Forest King progeny, and third went to Mr. Morley's Raydon Duke filly. When the tenant farmers' exhibits came together they showed up exceedingly well, and made two striking classes. Mr. W. R. Odam, of Thorney, got the first colt prize with a very nice level son of Hendre Conqueror, which was later given the prize for the best stock left by the society's horse.

Nine Hunter foals were entered, and made a most successful class. Messrs Cheney, of Gidding Grove, always formidable opponents, secured premiers honours with a nice weighty bay filly by the not very well-known horse, Bachelor. Second place was taken by Mr. T. C. Molesworth's good-looking dark chesnut colt by Hereford, whilst a well-bred foal belonging to Mr. G. F. Stops, of Market Harborough, was third.

There were only seven Hackneys, compared with a dozen last year—a falling off which it is rather difficult to explain. The first three were easily the pick of the bunch, they making a trio of remarkably good foals. Mr. Hickling's chesnut son of Copper King, shown for the first time, was easily at top, and a better known foal, belonging to the same owner, was second—a younger filly by Garton Duke of Connaught; whilst Mr. A. J. Rowell, of Bury, came closely third with a nicely-moulded, good-moving filly, sired by the same horse as the one in front of her.

Mid-Somerset.

The Mid-Somerset Agricultural Society's show, held at Shepton Mallet on Tuesday, was in every respect a success. That all-important factor, the weather, was not favourable. The entries were about 200 more than last year, and the attendance of visitors was exceptionally good. As regards the show itself the outstanding feature was the increase of the cheese section, the entries showing an increase of 100; butter also showed a noticeable improvement. The horses were about an average, whilst the cattle were more than last year. A new feature was a flower tent, honours being awarded for meritorious displays, and the experiment turning out in accord with the best anticipations, the addition is likely to be a permanent one.

The chief feature of the show was undoubtedly the cheese tent, a marquee some 240ft. long and 40ft. broad, being required to hold the exhibits, which numbered over 400. The stimulus which the Mid-Somerset show has given to the industry is undoubted, and how the competition has increased may be judged from the fact that at the first exhibition the total entries of cheese numbered five. The pitch was of quite a representative character, and makers as far north as Scotland were competitors, but the majority of the prizes went to the home district. When the eight judges came te select the winner of the champion silver challenge bowl, value 10 guineas, for the best lot of Cheddar cheese in the show, given by Mr. Berryman, the ex-president, the majority preferred Messrs. Cary and Portch's to Mr. White's, and the award was thus made.

The cattle classes were up to the average, and the dairy cows call for particular mention, the quality being such that it would bear favourable comparison with some of the biggest shows. Mr. A. Hiscock, of Motcombe, took the championship for the best cow in the show with Polly Dayrell, a splendid representative of the Shorthorn breed, whilst Lord Winterstoke's noted winner, Royal Scotsman, a very heavy-fleshed bull for his age, had no difficulty in taking off premier honours in the old bull class. In the cart horse classes Lord Winterstoke had a notable triumph, taking off all three medals offered. Holker Marionette secured two of these, but she was run close in the championship by a promising daughter, a black filly foal, which gained first in her class, and also a silver medal for the best young cart horse under three years. The Hunters were up to the average, the principal prizes going to Messrs. Willcocks and Reed (Exeter), J. A. Mullins (Long Cross, Surrey), and W. Phelps (Wells). The light-weight Hunters were very even, and all seven received commendation.

Mid-Cheshire.

The show of the Mid-Cheshire Farmers' Association was held at Knutsford on Wednesday, under the presidency of Mr. H. M. Wilson, Master of the North Cheshire Hounds, and was a striking illustration of how farmers and hunters can pull together for their mutual benefit. Cattle had premier place in the catalogue, and for the most part were worthy of Cheshire. Mrs. Platt, of Bexton, had some useful farmers' stock, and won Mr. Norris Midwood's special for the best bull in the local section, Mr. Mee, of Chelford, with a pair of good dairy cows, taking Mr. King's special. The heifer classes were among the best of the local section, and Mr. Mee won the champion prize given by Colonel Longford Brooke. With Mr. R. R. Rothwell showing bulls here and Mr. Sam S. Raingill his famous cows, there was stock of above average merit in the open section.

There was an excellent show of pigs, especially of the Large White breed. Mr. C. Leonard Agnew's special for the best pig in the show was taken by that famous breeder, Mr. J. Jefferson, of Chester.

There has been a noteworthy improvement in heavy horse breeding in Cheshire, and the farmers are now able to provide quite good classes with many animals in them worth remunerative figures. The Tarporley Hunt class for cast mares, and the open brood mare class and Mr. Lowcock's cup for the best brood mare in the show went without any hesitation to Mr. Raingill's famous young mare Lockinge Forest Blossom. She has excellent feet and points and true Shire quality. Another excellent filly was Lord Egerton's Tatton Dray Queen, which has won champion prizes at most leading shows. The breeding classes of hunters were rather poorly filled, but there were nice quality animals at the top of each class that look like making middle-weight hunters. The breeding classes of Hackneys were also poorly filled, but there were nice animals forward, particularly among the foals. There were many other sections of the show such as farm produce, poultry, pigeons, dogs, cats, rabbits and cavies, and all secured the share of attention from the numerous visitors.

Fareham and Hants Farmers' Club.

The horse show of the Fareham and Hants Farmers' Club was held in Leigh Park, Havant, and proved a most successful one, for entries were good—about 300—the weather was all that could be desired, and the attendance, together with the takings, most satisfactory. The origin of the show was to bring about an improvement in the type of horses kept by members for their ordinary every-day work, and thus the agricultural horses claimed chief attention. Of these there were eight classes, which were confined to members of the club and subscribers of £1 and upwards residing within a radius of thirty miles from Fareham or using the club's horses. The entries all round were good, and, as one of the judges remarked, the quality was a distinct improvement on that seen at this show half a dozen years. The champion prize for the best bred horse in this section went to Mr R. Hind, of Westbury Manor Farm, Petersfield, for his typical brood mare, Jewel, which has not been beaten anywhere this year; whilst the Shire Horse Society's silver medal for the best Shire mare, filly or filly foal, went to Miss E. D. Coats for Redlynch Saxifrage, winner in the class for three-year-old mares.

The Hunter classes were confined chiefly to residents in Hampshire, or within a radius of twenty-five miles of Havant Station, but there were one or two open classes. All were well supported, and some first-class quality animals were forward, notably the light-



Photo by] MID-SOMERSET SHOW. *[Messrs. Bell and Son.*

A view of the Mid-Somerset Agricultural Society's Show at Shepton Mallet on Tuesday. The ring is about a third of a mile in circumference. In the background can be seen the great Cheese Tent—240 feet by 40 feet—and the Butter Tent, the size of which is 140 feet by 30 feet.

weight Hunters, the best of which was Admis, a five-year-old bay gelding, belonging to Mrs. Price, of Brockenhurst. He was a winner at Olympia, and has taken five or six prizes since then. The judges described him as "a most excellent ride, with beautiful manners," and awarded him first prize in the class for lady's Hunters, the largest class of the day, and the medal of the Hunters' Improvement Society for the best Hunter mare or gelding. The ponies, both polo or children's, contained many first-rate animals, and in connection with the former the bending competition again proved a popular feature, as were also the trade classes, which were highly creditable all round.

Bicester.

Bicester Horse Show, held on Tuesday, under the presidency of Mr. J. P. Heywood Lonsdale, the popular Master of the Bicester and Warden Hill Hunt, attracted a large and fashionable attendance. There was an excellent show of Hunters, and Mr. King, of Whitesfield, won the medal of the Hunters' Improvement Society. Mr. Kelvy, of St. Albans, won in the open jumping class in Shires. Mr. Roper won the Shire Horse Society's medal, and Mr. Bruce Fry repeated his Banbury success in the open filly class with Mollington Movement by Lockinge Forest King.

At the luncheon, the Earl of Jersey, in proposing Mr. Lonsdale's health, said that he hoped that whatever had been done in Parliament this session, nothing had transpired to interfere with the convenience or prosperity of those connected with the soil. If the Small Holdings Act proved successful they would welcome any addition to those of their number who were connected with the land, and the larger proprietors would be glad to know that small holders had met with success, feeling sure that the same prosperity would be shared by other occupiers.

Rutland.

The seventy-seventh annual show of the Rutland Agricultural Society was held at Oakham on Thursday. There was a satisfactory increase in the entries, especially in the cattle classes, the family class being particularly well filled. The total number of entries in this section exceeded 100, as against seventy-one in 1906. An increase was also noted in the entries of sheep, which made a better show than usual. The Shire horses were well up to the average standard, and the Hunter classes had some excellent entries, advantage having been taken by the owners to show foals, brood mares, and three-year-olds in classes formerly restricted to tenant farmers or tradesmen. This change was decided upon at the last annual meeting, and those who advocated the alteration were able to congratulate themselves that their suggestions had had the desired effect. The four-year-old classes, open to anyone in the district, also brought out a good entry and made a very creditable show. The heavy-weight class, open to all England, produced a representative lot of animals of rare type and quality. Altogether there were 235 exhibits of horses, being ten more than last year.

Cotswold.

A good entry, fine weather, and a large attendance was the record of the Cotswold Agricultural Society's Show at Chipping Norton on Thursday. The entries numbered 319, and were divided as follows:—Cattle, fifty-five; sheep, forty-seven; pigs, six; agricultural horses, forty-five; Hacks and Hunters, fifty-seven; driving, forty-five; jumping, twenty; butter, nine; poultry, six; eggs, twelve; and roots, seventeen. For the best two-year-old bull, Mr. W. M. Scott, Stow-on-the-Wold, secured the first prize, closely followed by Messrs Dyke Bros., Sibford Gower. Mr. Frederick Phillips, of Andersford, exhibited the best bull under two years, whilst for the best bull calf under two years Mr. F. E Bice, of Lower Slaughter, secured premier honours. Other successful exhibitors were Mr. G. H. Simpson-Hayward and Mr. R Hartley. There was a fair show of sheep, the weakest classes being, strangely enough, the Cotswolds; all others were particularly good, especially those exhibited by the tenant farmers. The agricultural horses were very strong, Mr. J. S. Camden, Stratford-on-Avon, securing first prizes for mare for agricultural purposes and best cart mare or gelding in regular work. Mr. J. H. Gregory was successful in the four-year-old and two-year old classes, also for best team and best groomed pair. The classes for Hacks and Hunters produced some keen competition.

Bath Horse Show.

THAT the Bath Horse Show has lost none of its popularity is proved by the capital attendance at last week's fixture. The entries were not quite so numerous as has been the case, Hunters showing a somewhat notable decline—74 against 92 last year—but the hacks and harness classes were the best for several years, numbering 114 as against 100 in 1906.

First Day.

The Hunter classes commenced the proceedings on the first day, and they were judged by Mr. Romer Williams (London), and the Rev. A. Milner (Dorchester). In the weight-carrying Hunters' class there were seven entries, and the competition was keen between those two well-known prize-winners, Mr. J. Drage's brown gelding, Midnight, and Mr. J. H. Stokes's Axiom, which have met in opposition on various occasions. This time the judges put the Chapel Brompton representative first, with Axiom, and the Olympia winner next; while Mr. S. Codrington's shapely Pattern came reserve. The champion of the Dublin Show, Chatterbox, belonging to Mr. Drage, turned out in the next event, which was for middle-weights, and romped home an easy winner. Mr. J. H. Stokes's brown mare Radiance was second, and the same owner's four-year-old mare Ladybird reserve; but in the next class, for novices, Mr. Stokes came to the front with Ladybird, a handsome bay mare, the offspring of Red Eagle. Mr. H. C. Walton was second and third with Caradoc and the Priest. In the four-year-olds (the first prize winners of the opening events being barred), Mr. J. H. Stokes scored a double win with Radiance and Ladybird. In the weight-carrying class, restricted to neighbouring counties, there was an entry of nine, and of these the best was Mr. S. Codrington's Pattern, who thus scored his thirteenth first this season. One of the best-filled classes was the middle-weights for the restricted area, Mr. M. J. Taylor, of Ivy Bridge, winning the red ribbon with Flaxman. The competition for the silver cup, presented by Captain Forester, for the first prize winners in the six principal classes, resolved itself into a match between Mr. Drage's Chatterbox and Mr. Stoke's Radiance, and the judges decided in favour of the first named, who thus followed up his Dublin success.

The saddle events were judged by Mr. A. E. Evans, and one of the first to be decided was that for covert hacks. Little Minister, the handsome chesnut gelding belonging to Mr. O. Muntz, of Yelverton, scored a good win, and this was only the prelude to other successes, for he carried off two other firsts in succeeding classes, thus adding to his winning career in the West of England. There was another meeting between Mrs. W. C N. Chapman's beautiful mare, Miss Trix, and Mrs. Price's Adonis, and this time the last named beat its rival. In the weight carrying cobs a notable score was made by Mr. A. M. Fry, who took first and second prizes with Snowball and Henbury. In the class for horses not less than 14 hands, after Little Minister came Miss Trix.

In the next event for horses exceeding 13 hands 2 in. and not above 14.2, there was an excellent entry of eleven, and the first prize-winner turned up in the Wigginton Stud's chesnut mare Gavotte, a nice five-year-old; with Mr. W. Foster's Mel Valley Veronique coming next. The novice class also attracted a very large entry, and the judges had plenty of work to do. Eventually Captain Gooch (Banbury) came to the fore with Bay Rum, a valuable five-year-old, Messrs. Wilcocks and Rew, of Exeter, getting second with Splash.

Mr. W. Foster had much more opposition in the pony class than at Shepton the previous day, but Mel Valley Spring Chicken proved the best of the thirteen entries, whilst in the pony class to be ridden by children not over thirteen years of age (a nice entry), Mr. Iver Pethick's bay gelding secured a popular win.

The Harness classes were noticeable for the quality of the horses competing, which were distinctly in advance of several previous years. For pairs of not less than 14.2 Mr. J. Kerr, of Loudwater, Herts, was put first with Loudwater Gongelt and Loudwater Grangelt, which won at Dublin, but Mrs. Hartley Batt was close up with her splendid bays, Hopwood Horace and Hopwood Spark.

For tandems under 14.2 Mr. Howard Frank, of Wimbledon Common, obtained the leading position with Tissington Kitcat and Tissington Cock Robin. There was a big surprise in the single harness class not less than 14.2, for as the result of a prolonged test between Mr. Paul Hoffmann's Riot, a winner at Dublin, and Radiant, owned by Mr. Gerald Jurgens, of North Cray, the verdict was given in favour of Radiant, which was admirably handled by Mr. Alfred Butcher, of Bristol. Mr. Kerr came in third with Loudwater Gongelt, whilst Mrs. Hartley Batt's Heathfield Squire, which was first in this class last September, had to be content with a reserve ticket. In the single harness cob or pony competition, Mr. H. Frank was first and second with Tissington Kitcat and Cock Robin respectively.

Jumpers are always in brave array at Bath, and this year there was splendid competition. In the class over full course it was such a close thing between Blink Bonny (Mr. Glencross, Frome) and Rufus (Mr. Grange, Farndon, Cheshire) that the judges divided the first and second prizes between them, whilst in the restricted class, no water being taken, Mr. Glencross's Kitty was first, and Mr. Nixey Smith second with Monarch.

Second Day.

On the second day judging started with the young Hunters, which were somewhat disappointing both in quality and quantity. Seven or eight yearlings were led into the ring, and Mr. J. W. Olver, of Westnorth, Cornwall, was placed first with Battersea, a promising chesnut, which was only given third prize at the Mid-Somerset Show on Tuesday, whilst General Jago Trelawny's Battleaxe, first at that show, was now only third, the two being divided by Dairymaid, the property of Mr. A. M. Fry Clifton, a brown of nice quality, to which was afterwards given a silver medal, offered by the Hunters' Improvement Society for the best Hunter filly in the show. Two-year-olds were not so good as usual, the best being Sybell belonging to Mr. George Churchill, West Harptree, which was placed first, second honours going to Ensign, owned by Mr. Niccisson, of Hinton Manor, Swindon. Three-year-olds were a much better class, and all the prizes went to well-known

SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS.

MARKET DRAYTON & DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

THE EIGHTH ANNUAL SHOW of HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, LIVE & DRESSED POULTRY, PIGEONS, CHEESE, BUTTER, DOGS, BEES, HONEY, BEESWAX, HORSE LEAPING, SINGLE TURNOUTS, and TANDEMS, will be held at the SYCH (adjoining the Railway Station), MARKET DRAYTON,

ON THURSDAY,

19th SEPTEMBER, 1907.

19 VALUABLE CUPS and MEDALS.

Entries Close for Butter, Live and Dressed Poultry, Pigeons, Eggs, Bees, and Honey, 9th September; Dogs, 12th September; Horse Leaping and Turnouts, 18th September.

Schedules and Entry Forms from the Hon. Secretary, THOS. PODMORE, Market Drayton.

CLYDESDALE HORSE SOCIETY.

STUD BOOK VOL. XXX.

Entries now being received at 50 per cent. additional on ordinary fees. No Schedules issued after October 1.

ARCHD. MACNEILAGE, Secretary,
93, Hope Street, Glasgow.

THAME AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

Show will be held on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1907.

Entries close as follows:—Dry Sheep, Class 8, March 5; Wet Sheep, Class 5, 6 and 7, April 16; Hedging, Classes 9 and 10, March 26; Servitude and Ploughing Classes, August 31; Horses, Cattle and Sheep, Roots, Honey, Poultry, Butter and Eggs, August 31; Rick Building and Thatching, September 16.

T. BUSH, Secretary.

GRANSDEN AND DISTRICT, at GREAT GRANSDEN.

SEPTEMBER 24, 1907.

Entries close September 10.

H. J. KISBY, Secretary.
Great Gransden, Sandy, Beds.

EAST BERKS HORSE SHOW SOCIETY.

12TH ANNUAL SHOW, AUGUST, 1908.

Foal Futurity Classes for Hunter and Shire Brood Mares.

First Instalment of Entry Fees due on or before 1st October, 1907.

Schedules and full particulars of the Hon. Sec., C. H. W. DIXON, 4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

DAIRY SHOW, LONDON, Oct. 8, 9, 10 & 11.—Great Exhibition of DAIRY CATTLE, PRODUCE, APPLIANCES, &c. From Sept. 9 to 13, Entry Fees are 50 per cent. additional.

Particulars of Wm. C. YOUNG, Secretary, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD & LINSLADE FOAL SHOW SOCIETY held on SEPTEMBER 17 (TUESDAY).

Entries close September 3. Post entries (double fees) September 10.

WALTER C. PRUDAMES. } Hon.
W. GRAVELY W. WILLIS } Secretaries.

SOUTHDOWN FLOCK BOOK.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Southdown Flock Book will be definitely closed to unregistered flocks on December 31 next, after which date no sheep from unregistered flocks will be accepted under any conditions whatever.

Owners who have not yet registered their flocks are earnestly requested to write for full information respecting the Southdown Sheep Society to

W. J. WICKISON,
Secretary.

12, Hanover Square,
London, W.

winners—the first to Mr. J. H. Watson, Kidderminster, with Juggler; the second to Mr. R. Birmingham, of Badminton, for Acrobat; and the third to Mr. Charles Beedell, Newton St. Cyres, Devon, for Gay Lad. Hunter brood mares with foal at foot was a particularly numerous class, and here again the decision at the Mid-Somerset Show was reversed, the first prize-winner at Shepton Mallet being set back, and the red ribbon handed to Mr Willoughby Cotton, of Western Rhyn, North Wales, for Creole, a good-looking black, which should breed capable cross-country horses. Mr. Ernest Robinson, of Brookleigh, Esher, was second with Golden Leaf; while Mrs. Gee, of Bristol, secured third place with Fanny Fern II., which was awarded the Hunters' Improvement Society's gold medal for the best Hunter brood mare in the exhibition.

More harness classes were judged after lunch—a lot of good ponies coming together under 13.2—and Mr. W. Foster's pretty gelding, Mel Valley's Spring Chicken won well, beating Mr. J. H. Tate's Monofly, second, and Mr. G. Griffiths's Lady Go Bang, third. There was a more formidable lot still in the class for cobs or ponies under 14 hands, and here Mr. Foster scored as well with Mel Valley's Tree Stars, Monofly getting second here also, and the Wiggington stud's Gavotte third. In another 14 hands 2 in. class or over, Mr. G. Jackson won from a very smart lot of ten with the neat little chesnut mare, Allesboro Wild—Tris, by Discount, and bred by her owner. She beat Mr. W. S. Cunard's White Cloud, a very good one, and Mr. J. G. Goldworth's Stocking, a fashionable bay, which took second and third respectively. Mr. Paul Hoffman's splendid dark chesnut gelding Riot won the medal given by the Hackney Horse Society for the best mare or gelding exhibited in single harness, Mr. George Jackson's Allesboro Wild Tris being reserve. The single harness classes concluded with the usual local competitions, which produced several meritorious exhibitions. Mr. William Pinsent, of Newton Abbot, secured the silver medal offered by the Hackney Horse Society for the best pony, mare, filly, or filly foal, with Fernihurst Lady Olivette, which was the only candidate eligible.

Abergavenny.

The show held in Bailey Cark, Abergavenny, on Thursday, fully maintained the good reputation of the Abergavenny Agricultural Society, the entries being highly creditable in quality, whilst as regards numbers they were the best on record. Hunters numbered 120 entries, trotting horses 6, jumping 7, harness classes 31, tradesmens' classes 15, cart horses 59, cattle 68, sheep 52, pigs 9, poultry—fowls 9, ducks 9, white eggs 9, coloured eggs 11, butter 14, shoeing competition 16, timbering competition—colliers 14, timbermen 20. Hereford cattle were represented by some notable animals. Mr. P. Coats, of Sheepcote Clifford, Herefordshire, took premier honours in the class for bull, cow, and offspring; Mr. D. Jones, Dyffryn, being second. There was a keen competition for Hereford stock bull, but eventually Mr. Jones's animal was judged the best, the second prize going to Mr. Henry Williams, of Red House, Llansantffraed. In the two-year-old bull class, any breed, Mr. H. R. Evans, Staunton-on-Arrow, Herefordshire, was easily placed first, whilst Mr. D. A. Thomas, M.P., was first with his yearling, any breed, and also took firsts for his two-year-old and yearling heifers. Lord Glanusk was successful with his rams, but in the Shropshire breed Mr. D. A Thomas swept the board, taking three firsts. Mr. Reginald Herbert, of Clytha, Abergavenny, was the most successful exhibitor of pigs. There was a very fine show of horses, both light and heavy, many prominent prizewinners being forward.

Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

The fourth annual show of the Ashby-de-la-Zouch Agricultural Society was held in the Bath Grounds, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, on Wednesday, under the presidency of the Earl of Loudoun. There was an all-round increase in the entries, as compared with last year, and as the event was favoured with fine weather, whilst the attendance was very satisfactory, so that an all-round success can be recorded. Prizes to the amount of over £340 were offered, in addition to special prizes, one of the latter being for the two best cows or heifers, or cow and heifer, in-milk or in calf, the property of a farmer This was won by Mr. E. A. Jackson, of Cow Pasture Among the prominent winners in the horse section was Mr. J. H. Stokes, of Great Bowden, who showed his famous bay gelding Whiskey, the winner of thirty-one firsts and twenty-six championships this season, and on this occasion he had no difficulty in taking the first prize in the hunting class, whilst the same owner's chesnut Mustard was second.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Useless Charities.

SIR,—In the days gone by there were many persons—doubtless good-hearted and generous-minded persons, too—who made provision for the perpetuation of their memories by leaving money or property, the proceeds of which should be used for all time for the purpose of charity. The motive was good, and probably the charities at the time of their institution were in most cases beneficial. Some of them are now, but others are not, and I venture to say if the founders of the same were alive to-day they would make provision for their money to be put to different uses.

In the passing of years many charities have doubtless been lost, but many still exist, and in some cases I do not envy the persons who have the dispensing of the same. Such charities as were left for providing so many loaves of bread, small doles of money, clothing, and so on amongst certain persons supposed to be eligible, do very little lasting good, and they not infrequently cause jealousies, bickerings, and backbitings amongst the people who claim that they are entitled to the benefits. One cannot help thinking that if the proceeds from many of the useless charities could be used in the direction of assisting some scheme for providing old age pensions for the deserving poor, or if they were utilised for the benefit of hospital and medical institutions that are such blessings to the community, they would do a great deal more good.

I can imagine that some people will lift their hands in holy horror at such a suggestion and oppose tooth and nail any idea of utilising charity money for any other purpose than that which the donor left it for, but we must not forget the different conditions of life. I say again that if those charitable-minded persons were making their wills now, their bequests would be left in accordance with the needs of the age rather than in doles of bread and similar commodities to people who may or may not appreciate them. As a matter of fact, in these days there are many ways in which the proceeds of charities could be more beneficially employed than they are at present.

September 5, 1907. LUX.

Standard Weights for Corn.

SIR,—It seems to me that it would be beneficial if there was a standard weight for all kinds of corn, and no sales to be legal otherwise—say, wheat 60 lb., barley 50 lb., and oats 40 lb. per bushel. I suggest round numbers for simplification.—Yours, &c., H. W.

September 4, 1907.

The Abortion Ravages.

SIR,—It is needless to dilate upon the enormous loss suffered by the dairying community of this country through the ravages of abortion. The subject has been aired in the Press over and over again, and yet we are constantly in conversation with men who have not yet discovered a remedy and who are still suffering great losses. I know men who have "tried everything," and who have taken the opinion and followed the advice of our most eminent professors of veterinary science—all without success.

We may help one another by giving our experiences of this insidious disease, and as I firmly believe I have thoroughly stamped it out on my farm, I propose, with your permission, to give details of the method by which this most satisfactory result has been attained. The herd comprises seventy-five head of cows, of which fifty (about) are carrying calves. Abortion appeared in the herd in September, 1903, and up to March, 1904, there were twenty-seven cases. Cows cast their calves in every grass field and in every shed on the farm, in spite of the most rigid precautions as to isolation and disinfection (of cows, sheds, and places in the fields where abortions took place), and cases once reached a total of four in a week.

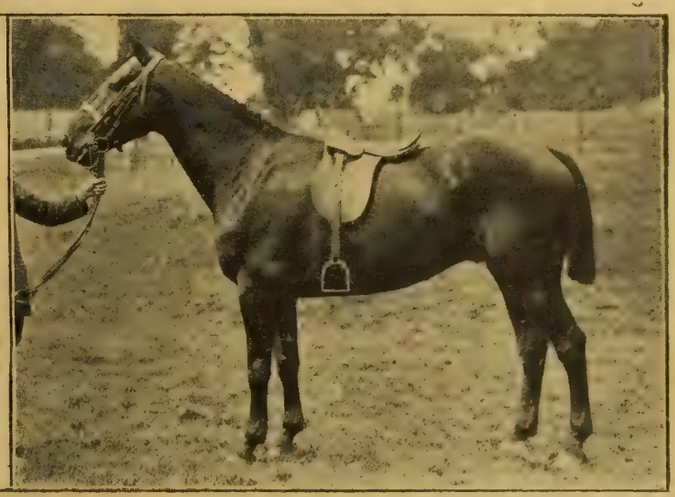
Treatment began on Christmas Day, 1903, and has been strictly followed until now. The result is as follows:—Cases, March, 1904, to March, 1905, nineteen; March, 1905, to March, 1906, ten; March, 1906, to March, 1907, two; since then none. It has naturally involved a great deal of trouble to arrive at this result, but it is certain that only those who really stick to the treatment will attain success.

The treatment consists in giving to every in-calf cow or heifer on the place a dose twice weekly of a preparation which is the discovery of Mr. Alexander Levie, F.R.C.V.S., of Broad Street, Nottingham, and it contains ingredients of which he alone knows. Mr. Levie is Lecturer in Veterinary Surgery to the Midland Agricultural College, and his discovery is the result of a long and painstaking series of experiments on several dairy herds. His latest preparation, which I have used, has been successful wherever tried.

The medicine is easily given; it is mixed with water and sprinkled on the food with a watering-can. In-calf cows in the fields will take it readily if sprinkled in the same way on a little cake, which may be put down in little heaps on the grass.

For the first six months the vulva and underside of tail of every cow should be painted twice weekly with a solution of chinosol. This is easily and quickly done All the usual precautions as to





BATH HORSE SHOW.

Judging the Double Harness Horses | Mr. J. Drage's Midnight, winner of First Prize for Hunters to carry 15 stones and upwards.

isolation and disinfection should be carried out. Young cows and good milkers that one wishes to keep are almost certain to carry their calves, even if they have aborted once, provided they receive this treatment and are not served until two or three months after abortion. It is wise to use a separate bull on cows that have aborted.

I most strongly advise anybody who is troubled with this curse to adopt this treatment without delay, as I am fully convinced that it will be successful when properly applied.—Yours, &c.,

WILTON ALLSEBROOK.

Aspley Hall Farm, Nottingham,
August 19, 1907.

The Culture of Kohl Rabi.

SIR,—May I ask you through the medium of your valuable paper to give me some information as regards the growing of Kohl Rabi?

Our soil is a stiff clay, retaining moisture. Its analysis is :—

Nitrogen	0·250
Phosphoric acid	0·013
Potash	0·008
Lime	0·970

We have given about 8 tons of farmyard and 5 cwt. of basic slag (with seeds) per acre. Part of the land was limed previously. The crop was got in very late, and looks like coming to a very small crop indeed.

Can anything be done now, and what should we do in the future, as we are anxious to give "Koli" a good chance?—Yours, &c., KOHL RABI.

*** You do not mention the date when you sowed the Kohl Rabi, but you say that you got the seeds in very late, and this fact is quite sufficient explanation for the crop being poor, as the plant requires a long season of growth to come to maturity. The amount of manure you gave, including the basic slag, was sufficient to grow a fair crop of Kohl Rabi, but the crop in all probability has not derived the full benefit of the slag, as it is a slowly soluble fertiliser, and should be applied in the autumn, or at any rate some time before sowing. It is very likely that in your case the next crop will benefit more from the basic slag than the Kohl Rabi has done. For the successful culture of Kohl Rabi it is necessary to have the land in good heart, and the crop will stand very heavy manuring. There is nothing like forming a basis with farmyard dung and supplementing it with artificials suited to the land. In a stiff medium like yours basic slag is good, but it should be applied early, and kainit would also be beneficial, as the land is somewhat deficient in potash. There are two methods of growing Kohl Rabi, both of which have their advantages. The first is that of sowing the seeds on well-prepared seed beds in March, and transplanting as soon as the seedlings are large enough and the land is fit. The advantage of this method is that time is gained by transplanting and the crop matures early, and a greater weight is obtained from the land. I may add, however, that transplanting was more general when seed was dear and labour cheap, but this order has been reversed of late years, and the more general method now is to drill the seed in from the middle to the end of March, if conditions are favorable, and set out the plants in the rows like turnips. It is advisable, however, to have a reserve seed bed to draw from for the purpose of filling up blanks. As the season is now so far advanced I am afraid you cannot do much to improve your crop, but when the growth is backward at an early stage a top dressing of nitrate of soda at the rate of 2 cwt. to the acre is very beneficial.—RUSTICUS.

Edgworth Crop Prospects: News of Protection.

SIR,—In this district the hay harvest on the whole is not equal to last year in quantity, and I am afraid not of a quarter the value. The clover crops I should call very good; second crops are bad. Wheat is very good, what little we have in the Bolton district. I am afraid the coming winter will be the worst ever experienced by present-day farmers. Dairy farmers will require a penny per quart more for their milk to meet extra cost of every article used both in the homestead and for stock; also advance of labour, and rates and coming requirements of the people.

I am one of those who believe that the agricultural industry of this country should be protected, seeing that this industry has at least ten times more foreign competition to contend with than all other industries put together. I am willing to pay more for my milk, butter, and bread, believing as I do that nothing but Protection can ever bring people back to the land. Any Act of Parliament which does not cause reasonable advance in agricultural produce will neither bring them back or keep present farmers and labourers on the land.

Yet we have one article—fresh milk, used by everybody—up to now needs no protection, but owing to the stupid jealousy amongst farmers they continue to sell milk at the same price, although the cost of producing must be at least a halfpenny per quart more than it cost four years ago. If farmers continue to contract at the present price, it would be a good thing for landowners to combine and fix wholesale prices of milk. By doing so they would not only be the salvation of dairy farming, but would stop our young farmers from leaving their homes for foreign countries.

J. WHITEHEAD,
Secretary, Edgworth and District Agricultural Society.

Nottinghamshire Notes.

HARVEST operations are now in full swing in this county, and a great bulk of the corn has been cut and much of it got into the stack. The weather on Monday and Tuesday was wet, but towards evening on the latter day a drying breeze did much good, and many farmers were busy leading on Wednesday. Though sun is badly needed to ripen some of the corn agriculturists in this district do not complain, for conditions might be much worse.

PRICES of grain are increasing, and farmers eagerly scan the columns of the newspapers for the latest quotations. Fancy wheat making 36s. to 37s. per qr. again! It really seems too good to be true, yet at Newark yesterday a sample of old wheat actually fetched 37s. 6d. per qr., while new wheats made from 33s. 6d. to 34s. 6d. At the same market the trade in malting barley was started, three or four lots changing hands at 28s., and a couple of good bold, bright grain of the Chevalier type fetched 30s. It is thought, however, by one of the leading buyers for a large firm of maltsters, that in the course of a month the figures will reach 34s. to 36s., as a large quantity of the corn is sadly out of condition.

OATS, considering their plentitude in the Midlands, and the big yields that are being reported for the winter-sown varieties, are making good prices, up to 19s. 6d. being given by merchants. The straw, however, is not nearly so good as last year, owing to the crops being so badly storm broken.

ONE field of sixteen acres sown with winter oats at Linby, about eight miles to the north-west of Nottingham, has proved the most expensive crop to harvest that I have ever heard of. It is only about two miles from Hucknall Torkard, and the owner has the advantage of a free supply of night soil, and, what is more, actually carted to the field desired. This particular enclosure was given an extra special dressing last autumn, the oats were drilled in a good seed bed and looked remarkably well until July. But, alas! A thunderstorm of unusual severity burst over the district, and the whole crop laid as flat as though a roller had passed over the field.

HARVEST day arrived, and before the oats were really ready the farmer made an effort to cut them with a grass-mower, hoping to succeed by fetching them. After a few hours' work this was given up as impossible, and men with scythes set on. They started at so much an acre, but before the first day had passed struck work and demanded 5s. an acre extra pay. In this there was no option to the farmer but to grant it. The next day passed, and again a dispute. Eventually it was agreed to pay the men 6s. a day, with half-a-gallon of ale each, and after a week's hard work the crop is now to be seen in stook.

THERE will be an enormous stack so far as straw is concerned, but the oats will be few, and the straw is half rotten. The owner calculates that when all expenses are paid he will be out of pocket, and have to pay the rent in addition. The moral appears to be "Don't do your land too well even if your manure is cheap."

THE Midland Farmers' Co-operative Association, which has Nottingham for its headquarters, is beginning to do a brisk business again, and I understand that there are now 266 members Mr. Allsebrook, of Aspley Hall Farm, has resigned the position of manager and secretary, as he found that he was unable to spare sufficient time to devote to the society's business. In his place Mr. C. G. Bryant, well known in agricultural circles around Peterborough, has been elected, and a number of meetings are being arranged for the autumn in the various villages for explaining the aims and objects of the association.

A WEEK or two back I mentioned in these notes the fact that Mr. H. Heath, J.P., of Bestwood Park, was growing two fields of Austrian or Hanna barley. Mr. Heath informs me that he has received a letter from the Inspector of Agriculture at Malta to supply him with some for the Government's experimental farms there. He states that in Malta they endeavour to sow their barley in September before the autumnal rains fall. Mr. Kime, of Marcham-le-Fen, Lincs., has also grown some of the same variety, and speaks highly of its yielding capabilities, while it is ready for cutting fully a week, and sometimes a fortnight, earlier than some English barleys.

THE success of Mr. R. M. Knowles, of Colston Bassett, during the present year has been remarkable. His herd of Large White Yorkshires have come out well, as the following list of prizes testify :—Newark, sow first, sow with pigs at foot first, boars first, gilts first; Nottinghamshire Show at Retford, sow first and medal, sow second, gilt second; Royal Counties, sow first, sow reserve; Leicester, sow second; Bath and West, first and reserve for medal, boar reserve, two gilts first; Suffolk, sow second, two gilts first; Hereford and Worcester, sow first, sow third, boar second; Norfolk, sow first, sow second and silver medal, three gilts second; Royal, sow first, and champion and gold medal and special (given by Lincoln Agricultural Society); Highland, sow first and President's medal for best pig of any breed, two gilts third; Welsh National, sow first, sow reserve; Lancashire, sow second, gilt third; Yorkshire, sow first, sow second; Derbyshire, sow first, boar first, boar second, three gilts first.

MR. KNOWLES is now devoting a good deal of attention to Shorthorns, and during the past few weeks has purchased several beautiful cows and heifers at long prices.

MR. ARTHUR S. GIBSON, of the Elms, Ruddington, whose portrait was printed in these columns a short time back, has returned from Canada, where he acted as one of the judges at the Winnipeg show.

MR. A. W. HICKLING, of Adbolton, is now in the Argentine, where he has gone to judge at the Great Palermo Show.

THERE were nearly 9,000 visitors to the show of the Eastwood Agricultural Society, held at Moorgreen on Tuesday, and some capital animals were seen in both horse and cattle classes. Mr. A. W. Hickling's Hackneys, as was expected, carried all before them with the brood mare Luizan, a fine mover, which also secured the Hackney Society's medal, and also Adbolton Swell, having Luizan as dam. Mr. Wilkinson, of Edwinstowe, who has had a remarkably successful season, was again a first prize winner.

THE judges at the show were all local men, including Mr. W. Machin, Edwalton; Mr. J. W. Whitehurst, Markeaton, Derby; and Mr. W. H. Bradwell, Nottingham.

AMONG the judges at the Rutland Agricultural Society's Show held at Oakham to-day were several very well-known farmers. For cattle and sheep Mr. S. E. Dean, of Folkingham, near Bourne, and Mr. W. W. Wells, of Withern, near Alford. There are very few farmers who can beat the latter gentleman at feeding bullocks, and every year, at the Louth Christmas Fat Stock Market Mr. Wells has the best show. For Shire horses Mr. H. Smith, Cropwell Butler, and Mr. W. Horrell, Peterborough, awarded the ribbons; and the Hunter classes were decided by Mr. Hugh Owen, Market Harborough, and Mr. A. Britten, Northampton.

THERE were a number of gentlemen from the lace county at the show, and in the class for Shorthorn heifers under one year old Mr. H. Smith, of Cropwell Butler, was awarded third prize for a promising youngster named Cropwell Hayle Duchess. There was a decrease in the number of entries in the Shire horse classes, but in the cattle, sheep, and Hunter sections there was an increase. The attendance was interfered with owing to so many farmers and breeders being busy in the harvest field.

HARVEST was completed 100 years ago on September 3rd, and the following were the prices of corn at Nottingham on September 1, 1807 :—Wheat, 70s. to 75s. per qr.; oats, 28s. to 34s; rye, 40s. to 44s.; barley, 40s. to 45s.; beans, 52s. to 58s.

"SHOULD samples of corn be registered by a merchant immediately they have been purchased?" This was a question I asked a large miller and corn merchant on Wednesday. I explained the idea as propounded in the letter written by "H. W. P." in the MARK LANE EXPRESS a fortnight back, and after a few words

my friend replied: "Yes, it would be a very good idea. Farmers always allege when we refuse the delivery that it is because prices have gone down. If samples were registered we could then submit them to some person who knew nothing of the bargain and ask for his candid opinion. Personally I favour the idea. Last November I had occasion to throw up 75 qr of barley. The difference between the sample and the bulk represented a monetary consideration of at least 2s per qr. I drew the farmer's attention to this, but he averred that I had purposely mixed the sample with corn from a higher-class barley. It would save merchants endless trouble and worry."

AGAINST this I have a large and important farmer's opinion, which is as follows:—"We cannot afford to pay any big fees, but if samples could be registered for 2s. or 3s. and sealed down in the presence of both buyer and seller, it would often save a lot of trouble and ill-feeling. I usually see the corn and procure my own sample from the bulk, though I must admit that I have at times had trouble with merchants, especially on a falling market. Two years back I had a sample of peas which I sold for 53s. per quarter. They were refused, and rather than take 50s. for them I kept the lot, and eventually sold them at 45s. The merchant and myself never speak when we meet, and of course I never offer him my corn now. If that sample had been registered and the bulk was declared to be inferior to it by an independent judge I should readily have given in." The idea is worth considering, and the giving of a signed contract is a thorough practical suggestion.

September 5, 1907. R. K.

Northern Notes.

A FARMER of my acquaintance tells me a curious incident in connection with this year's cereal crops. His barley fields have ripened first. This he has never known in all his life's experience to have previously happened. His wheat area will be the last to be cut this year—it is generally the first. He occupies a farm on a plain, very near the Yorkshire Wolds.

THE writer was conversing with a practical maltster in the course of a railway journey in the same county, and he volunteered the statement, in answer to a general question about the state of the harvest fields, that in his opinion the Yorkshire farmer does not grow barley equal in quality to what it was ten or twelve years ago. He thought this was accounted for by the indifference to change of seed. The Goldthorpe variety, he believed, is played out in the locality. The results do not show a good robust malting sample, the grain being incomparably small to that produced a decade ago. Quality is sometimes sacrificed in the endeavour to produce quantity.

AFTER a fine week-end, rain fell without intermission on Monday, on which day harvest would have become general up here; and where the fields had already been invaded by the self-binder they were to be seen, scores of them in a day's journey, enveloped in tarpaulin to shield them from the merciless rain.

CORNFIELDS this year, in the districts where the rains have laid the crops, present to the view an uncommon sight. There is the reaper struggling to get through the tangle, while in the worst parts are the hand-reapers with their scythes mowing as best they may the fallen corn stalks. The reaper can only cut one way in many fields this year. This is obviously a disadvantage where the fields are large—20, 30, 50 acres, as some Yorkshire fields are—and means a lot of lost time and waste of horseflesh, and takes one back to the old days of hand labour.

ALL hopes were centred in a fine September. As it is, the augury is against us. The month made a bad beginning, and we have the melancholy fact before us that in Lancashire the hay harvest started in June and is not finished at the beginning of the ninth month. Whatever may be the quantity of the crop, the quality is very inferior, one experienced grass land farmer estimating it at one quarter of the average value, and he is moreover afraid the coming winter may be the worst ever experienced by present-day farmers.

THE same occupier says he is one of those who believe that the agricultural industry should be protected, because, he says, it has at least ten times more foreign competition to contend with than all other industries put together, and he believes that nothing but Protection can ever bring people back to the land. This is probably a feeling that is growing among the farming communities, where an almost entire absence of sympathy with the Manchester school of politics is paramount.

THE Earl of Carrington is expected to pay a visit to Scarborough shortly to talk over with the authorities of the North Riding the question of small holdings. At the same time his lordship may possibly visit the East Riding in the matter of the petition about the Swine Fever Orders, which document emanated from influential persons more or less interested in the pig. When his lordship wrote to the local member (Mr. Luke White) he intimated that the result of the proposed inquiry would be in his possession in about a fortnight. That time has just elapsed, and Mr. White and the officials of the market concerned have had no word from the Board of Agriculture.

AN inspector, it is stated, visited Driffield, where the hon. member for Buckrose resides, and met a member of the East Riding Cattle Plague Committee, talked the matter over with him across the tea table, and that is all that has been heard up to the present. It was hoped that witnesses would have been called before an inspector and evidence taken as to the disastrous results of the Orders. Any other course, unless the Board has at length made up its mind to withdraw the Orders, would hardly be satisfactory, and would fail to comply with the interpretation put upon Lord Carrington's letter to Mr. White by the public at large.

ADVERTING to the paragraph about barley, have any of your readers had the unfortunate experience of a great deficiency in the ears this year? Many "deaf" ones, and partially deaf, are to be found in this part of the country. The deficiency must amount in some instances to several bushels per acre.

THIS poverty in the yield may possibly be due to a disease which has not yet been diagnosed. The disease occurs among the comparatively new kinds of barleys, and seems to confirm in part my maltster friend's ideas. Lack of some agent of fertility in the soil or the ungenial summer may have something to do with the deficiency. Whatever be the cause—too much heat or too severe weather, or scarcity of plant food—the problem is one that might very well form the subject of experiment and research by the staffs of our agricultural colleges.

A VERY well-known North Yorks agriculturist, Mr. H. T. Allison, of Stanghow-in-Cleveland, has just been placed on the Commission of the Peace. Mr. Allison is a familiar figure in the North, and fills a great many honorary offices, which testifies to his popularity and business abilities. He is a breeder of Leicester sheep, and officiated as judge at the Lincoln meeting of the Royal Show. As a farmer always willing to adapt himself to the times, he has achieved a considerable measure of success.

September 6, 1907.

Lincolnshire Notes.

THERE seems far too much credit in being cheerful this disheartening harvest weather. Operations are greatly delayed by the heavy rains. There is still only a moderate amount of corn in stock. One farmer told me this week that he does not propose cutting for quite three weeks yet, for the simple reason that his crops are not ready. We look like having a busy October.

ALL reports point to a heavy harvest. An agricultural correspondent, who writes with some authority, states that the crops in the Lincolnshire Fens promise to be quite equal to those of last harvest—in fact, there will be more straw than twelve months ago. From Boston and Sleaford, and then on to Spalding via Bourne, the number of stooks is enormous. In some fields there are sixteen and twenty sheaves in a stook, which are exceptionally numerous. At Heckington one farmer has a wheat stack 6 yds. wide, 14 yds. long, and a good height, off twelve acres of land, which will provide plenty of work for one and a half days with the threshing machine. This is not an isolated instance by any means, and Mr. W. Daft and Mr. Bowser, two of the large farmers in the Fen district, admit that if the weather permits of the ingathering of the corn they will have what will, from present appearances, be a record harvest.

THE dispersal sale of the Baumber Park flock would have been quite one of the events of an ordinary week. For forty five years the Sharpe family have maintained and cultivated it, and they have helped to make some of the best traditions of the Lincolnshire rams. For instance, it was a shearling purchased from this flock which sired Mr. Henry Dudding's world famous 1,000 guinea ram, and Mr. Taylor Sharpe's sheep have for some years been prominent figures, both in the prize and in the price lists.

THE sale was a very successful one, and held in the presence of a big company. The best figures were made by the stud rams, seven of which made an average of £22 4s. Seventy three shearling lambs were sold, and made the aggregate of £723 9s., which is £9 18s. 2½d. each; 143 shearling ewes made an average of 78s. each, whilst 202 stock ewes fetched an average of 71s. 6d. The ram lambs numbered 107, and were sold at 3 guineas average, whilst 173 she lambs brought prices averaging 18s.

MR. TAYLOR SHARPE himself is retiring from farming. He takes a keen interest in the breeding of racehorses, and he intends devoting his skill and energy to the Turf.

THERE have been several shows this week. The Billingboro' and District Foal Show did not quite come up to that of the previous years in point of entry, the season not having been quite so good. But in other respects the show was a good one, and there were some splendid animals amongst the 135 entries. Billingboro' is keeping up its reputation for one of the best foal shows in the country.

THE annual sale in connection with the show brought between twenty to thirty Shire foals to the hammer, and they were knocked down at prices ranging from 12 guineas to 24 guineas. The best price was given by Mr. G. Balderston, of Mount Pleasant, near Boston, from Mr. A. E. Smith's (Surfleet) bay foal, which won third prize in the Cart colt class.

A SALE of sheep was also held in connection with the event. A well-selected lot of Hampshire Down ram lambs, from the flock of Lord Rothschild, at Tring Park, were sold at an average price of 6¼ guineas. The top figure—9 guineas—was given by Mr. George Redford, of Sempringham. Longwool rams were not much in demand, but theaves and lambs met with a good sale. Some very good pens of shearlings came under the hammer. The top price for shearlings was 62s. 6d., and for lambs as much as 42s. 6d. was realised.

DONINGTON foal show had a similar tale to tell. There was a smaller entry, but a very high standard of quality. The competition was keen both for the ordinary and the special classes, Mr. S. Leggatt, of Dogdyke, being the most successful exhibitor.

LAST week Messrs. Dickinson, Riggall, and Davy, acting upon instructions received from Mr. R. Botterill, offered for sale by auction a number of pure-bred Lincoln Longwool shearling rams on the premises of Tathwell Hall, near Louth. Some of the principal prices were as follows:—Ram by Tathwell Emperor 42nd, sold to Mr. J. Ward, Withcall, for 8 guineas; Emperor 38th to Mr. E. Ward for 13 guineas; Emperor 38th to Mr. E L. Stevenson, of South Thoresby, for 12½ guineas; Pillar Tathwell to Mr. J. E. Davy, of Tathwell, for 11½ guineas; Emperor 45th to Mr. C. B. Robson for 10 guineas; Emperor 39th to Mr. W. H. Hole Toder, of Louth, for 10 guineas. The sale realised 414 guineas.

SOME good prices for small estates were realised last week. Four lots at Wrangle, 12a. 1r. 24p. totalled £1,190; one lot of 2a. 1r. 1p., belonging to the Boston Charity Trustees, being sold for £230; and another lot of 3a. 3r. 38p., for £405. A Friskney estate, consisting of a house, buildings, and 9a. 1r. 9p., realised £950.

SMALL holdings are arousing trouble in South Lincolnshire. The people of Moulton Sea's End ward have sent to Earl Carrington a strongly-worded protest against the action of the Moulton Parish Council in setting out the land placed in their hands by the Crown authorities in Moulton Sea's End for small holdings, and praying that he would at once order an inquiry to be held; and, further, that he would endeavour to have the land set out so as to meet the needs of those who petitioned the Board of Agriculture in June last. They further request that the applicants for three acres and upwards be first considered, as at present only thirty acres is being set out for that purpose, the rest being let to those who have already several acres of land, and have no need for small holdings. The dispute is evidently a local one, and will doubtless be quickly settled by a local inquiry.

The annual sale of foals and sheep held at Billingborough took place on Wednesday, when between twenty and thirty Shire foals were offered, and prices ranged from 12 guineas to 24 guineas. A well-selected lot of Hampshire Down ram lambs from the flock of Lord Rothschild, Tring Park, were sold at an average price of 6¼ guineas. The top price for shearlings was 62s. 6d., and lambs realised 42s. 6d.



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Plantation Reports.

Picking has actually commenced, and will be in full swing within the next few days. We have therefore passed out of the region of mere estimation, and are brought into contact with actual facts. But there is yet someroom for speculation as to the final issue of the crop, and this is expanded by the variations in weather and temperature recently experienced.

A week ago we were basking in sunshine, and calculating upon the beneficent action of the sun upon the cones. They would certainly be further developed and enriched, and the weight of the crop increased. Then came the searching winds and cold rains that for a few days made humanity shiver, and caused vegetation to shrink within itself. Down fell the faces of the experts, and the Borough was alarmed, most of the traders being disposed to yield to the adverse influence and to predict a very poor crop. Even the hopeful *Kentish Observer* has lowered the estimate to an average 8 cwt., giving a total of only 360,000 cwt. But as I write the outlook has again changed. Clear sunny skies are now above us and mild, warm airs around us. Although it is hardly possible that this more agreeable climate can now affect the hops to any great extent, we may take heart of grace and be thankful for the advantageous surroundings for the harvest. And from all I have heard during the last week I am not disposed to make any material alteration in my anticipations, but still hang on to a possible average of at least 9 cwt., with the chance of an approach to half a ton. I base my faith on the general improvement in all recent reports.

It is clear that the plantations were enriched by the sunshine and the warm rain, and I cannot think that any material damage was done by the two or three days and nights of cold weather, although it must be admitted they were very severe and trying. But there is vitality in the bine quite sufficient to resist such an attack. It has struggled through a succession of unpropitious conditions, and will pass from this temporary check without injury. There is some talk of the presence of red mould causing the necessity of some hops being picked prematurely, but I do not gather that there is any real ground for alarm in this direction.

With this exception all seems to be going quite as well as can be expected, and in many parishes the position is many degrees better than appeared possible earlier in the season. Several small lots of the new crop have made their appearance in the Borough. Their quality does not appear to be generally approved, but they cannot be accepted as fair samples of the crop, and we have every reason to believe that the bulk of the later growths will be satisfactory in every respect.

America.

In a letter just received from Messrs. Durst Brothers, of California, dated August 20, I am told that their picking would finish about August 27. Their crop comes out 2,500 bales short of last year, and they estimate that both Sacramento and Sonoma Counties will be considerably deficient. But it is anticipated that the quality will generally be very good. The reports from Oregon and Washington are conflicting, but their general tone points to the probability of a smaller crop than has hitherto been estimated. Mr. Durst points out the danger of the tightness of money, as many growers will be forced to contract at low prices to get funds. The stocks of 1906's being so heavy are depressing the outlook, but better times are hoped for.

Germany.

Experience, derived from the picking thus far, enables experts to declare that the quality of the crop will be exceptionally fine, and generally superior to the average of some years past. There are no definite reports yet available as to the coming down of the crop, but it is understood that growers are well satisfied, and are looking forward to a profitable season.

Burgundy.

Many gardens were severely attacked by blight during July, but the warmer weather in August cleared away the pests. Some of the hops still show the results of the attack, the remainder being vigorous and healthy, and promising a full average harvest. But, on the whole, the yield will not be heavy, probably hardly exceeding that of last year.

Bohemia.

The cold weather prevailing during the period of the conclusion of the growth has caused the cones to close prematurely; they will therefore not develop further, and their weight will be decreased. Recent estimates are being reduced to the extent of at least 10 per cent. The crop thus far is coming down in excellent condition, and will as usual occupy the first position in the valution of Continental brewers.

Belgium.

A friend who has lately taken a tour through the hop-growing districts tells me that he has formed no extravagant estimate of the probable crop. His view is that Poperinghe will be deficient, and that Aloast, though promising better, will hardly be able to make up the shortage. He therefore estimates that the Belgian crop will hardly equal that of last year. In this respect my friend differs from my other correspondents, all of whom predict a crop from 15 to 20 per cent. heavier than 1906. We shall soon know which is most nearly correct.

Scientific Hop Curing.

It is clearly recognised that if our hop growers desire to satisfy the modern demands of their customers—the brewers, more exact attention than heretofore must be given to the theory and practice of the best methods of drying their produce. Brewers are now judging the value of hops not by appearance only, but by chemical tests, which investigate minutely many points that previously passed without notice. The slightest trace of impurity is sought for and detected, if existent, and the almost infinitesimal standard fixed by Government authority renders the acceptance of hops uncertain, and brings rejections within the range of frequent possibility. For all the annoying results of such rejections growers are alone responsible, as upon them rests the obligation to produce hops without any suspicion of taint or risk. As long as the cones hang upon the bine they are as Nature has formed them, natural and innocuous, but when the manufacturing or curing process commences the time arrives when they can either be made or marred. If treated carelessly they are speedily spoiled either by under or over drying, and if exposed to the fumes arising from the combustion of fuel, there may be imparted to them that noxious element, concerning which we have recently heard so much. This knowledge is inducing some brewers to refuse all hops that cannot be guaranteed as cured by pure heated air, and it may be foreseen that such conditions of purchase will be extended when the subject is more generally ventilated.

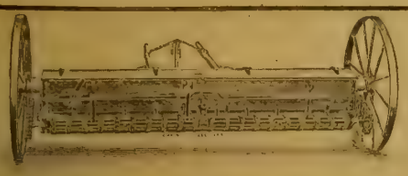
Our growers are, therefore, wisely looking round for the system that will most effectively and economically secure their hops from any of the dangers referred to. Mr. H. Wellband, of Otford Castle Farm, Kent, has installed Shew's patent Economic pure air plant in three of his kilns, and last week invited many of his fellow growers to inspect it. He very kindly included me, and I gladly responded by going down to Otford.

Being met by Mr. Wellband and the inventor of the system, we were shown the exterior of the oast, which are circular, and are not of modern construction. In the outer wall is fixed a fan 54 in. diameter, acted upon by an adjacent portable engine. From an inner air chamber three ducts direct the current of cold air to the furnaces, and shut-off valves are provided in case the whole of the kilns are not in use. Each kiln in a group can thus be worked independently of the others. Under the drying floor is fixed the air heater, which is constructed in cylindrical form of strong steel boiler plate. Upon the outer circumference of the fire-box is rivetted a series of cast iron gills which offer a very large heating surface to the air that is forced over and through them. The fire-door is closely fitted, and the only air admitted to the fire passes through the sliding openings in the ash door, enabling the draught to be regulated to a nicety. Slow and complete combustion, which means economy of fuel, is consequently secured. The heated gases from the furnace, pass into a chamber, where they are equally distributed through a set of eight radiating pipes made of cast iron, and fixed above the furnace in an angular and star-like arrangement. These being again united a little below the drying floor, a pipe is carried from them through the floor to the top of the kiln, whence the products of combustion, or at least what is left of them, are discharged. The jointings of the furnace and the pipes being all accurately made with asbestos, it is impossible for any of the fire fumes to come into contact with the hops, and the fire heat being practically absorbed and exhausted before it reaches the point of discharge, it is difficult to imagine a more economical plan. Under the conditions described, it will be understood that such fuel as costly anthracite is not required. Any fuel may be used, but gas coke is found to be preferable, at it is both inexpensive and smokeless, and also a good heat producer. The mechanical construction of the plant is strong and well designed in all its details, these and their durability being guaranteed by the makers, Messrs. Jones and Attwood, Heating Specialists, Stourbridge.

In working this apparatus, absolute control at every point is secured. The volume of cold air is regulated as already noted at the fan, it is then forced round the top of the furnace and through the gill plates, and travelling upward over the surface of the radiating pipes, passes through the load of hops at exactly such a temperature as may be desired. When the drying is completed, the opening of a door by the side of the furnace will admit a current of cold air, by which the temperature of the kiln will speedily be lowered and the hops cooled while resting on the hair cloth. Hops cured on this principle need not be turned during the drying and come off the floor whole and unbroken. With the assistance of a fan, such as we inspected, it is estimated that 40 pokes or 400 bushels can be thoroughly finished on a 15 ft. roundel in ten hours, the fuel required being about 15 cwt. per ton of dried hops.

Mr. Wellband and some forty other planters, who inspected the arrangement lately, expressed their complete confidence in its ultimate success, and Mr. Wellband desires me to add that he will be pleased for growers to examine the working of the system at any time during hop-picking. It has been adopted also by Mr. J. D. Large, of Goudhurst, and by several important growers in the Midlands, including Mr. W. F. Pudge, Bromyard; Mr. W. H. Gabb, Beauchamp Court; Messrs. Leeke, Bros., Malvern; Mr. C. Purser, Leigh; and others. The inventor's address is E. G. Shew, Cold Green, Bosbury, Ledbury.

A Foretaste of Winter.—Severe frost was experienced at Durham in the early hours of Wednesday, and wrought much damage to crops. This was not the only county that experienced such unusual weather, for in Cheshire two degrees of frost were registered, and in districts of North Shropshire and North Staffs a sharp frost was recorded in the morning, and did considerable damage to vegetation.



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SHOW GOSSIP.

We would remind intending exhibitors at the Frome Agricultural Society's forthcoming show that entries close on Wednesday next, the 11th inst. The secretary is Mr. T. C. Harding, auctioneer, Frome.

The Market Drayton and District Agricultural Society have arranged an attractive prize schedule for their eighth annual show to be held on Thursday, the 19th inst. Classes are provided for horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, leaping and turn-out competitions, butter, cheese, poultry, pigeons, and dogs, and in addition to liberal class prizes several specials are offered. The hon. secretary is Mr. T. Podmore, Market Drayton.

The Norfolk and Norwich Christmas Show Association have issued their prize schedule for the thirty-first annual fat cattle show, which is to be held at the Agricultural Hall, Norwich, on November 21, 22, and 23. The prize money offered comprises the following:—Eighteen classes for cattle, with prize money amounting to £304; champion and special prizes for cattle, £202; six classes for sheep, with prize money amounting to £84; champion and special prizes for sheep, £30; four classes for pigs, prize money £35 5s.; eight for roots and grain, £14; ten for dead poultry, £16; eighteen for butter, cheese, eggs, bread, &c., £38 12s. 6d.; for dinner table decorations, £5 15s. 6d.; sixteen classes for root prizes offered by various seedsmen, £45; or a total of £773 13s.

Increasing Expenditure for Local Government in Rural Districts.

The annual local taxation returns relating to rural district councils, parish councils, and other bodies entrusted with the duties of local government in rural areas, were published the other day in the form of a Blue Book. The report is a somewhat belated one, the return relating to the year ending April, 1905. They give, however, some indication of the extent and magnitude of the work being carried on by rural district councils. During the year under review there were 660 of these bodies, and the receipts (exclusive of borrowed money) amounted in the aggregate to £4,217,557, or an increase of £129,116 compared with the previous year. From rates £2,980,776 was obtained, grants under the Agricultural Rates Act amounted to £354,796, and other items made the aggregate mentioned above.

On the expenditure side the total was £4,201,787, or an increase of £158,597, the principal items being:—Maintenance, repair, and improvement of roads other than main roads, £2,164,767; maintenance, repair, and improvement of main roads, £445,085; other expenditure relating to highways, £158,896.

Altogether there were 101,844 miles of roads under the supervision of the rural district councils, the cost of maintenance per mile being—main roads, £62 12s.; ordinary highways, £22 1s.

The total expenditure defrayed out of loans during the year was £747,221, and during the year a sum of £813,959 was raised by rural district councils by means of loans. At March 31, 1905, the total amount of the outstanding balances of loans of rural district councils was £5,020,361.

The total receipts (other than from loans) of rural district councils during the year 1904-5 were greater than in any of the preceding four years, the total for 1904-5 being 23 per cent. in excess of that for 1900-1. The receipts from rates and from grants under the Agricultural Rates Act, 1896, which in 1900-1 amounted together to £2,670,784, and in 1904-5 to £3,335,572, show an increase of 25 per cent. The total expenditure, other than out of borrowed moneys, has increased year by year during the five years under review, and the total for the year 1904-5 exceeds by 21 per cent. that for 1900-1. By far the larger portion of the expenditure is in respect of highways. The amount expended on the actual maintenance, repair, and improvement of roads has increased continuously from £2,284,434 in 1900-1 to £2,592,087 in 1904-5, a total increase of 13 per cent.

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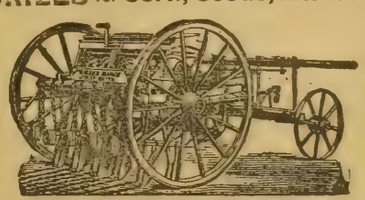
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Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

Report of Principal Government Chemist.

The poor we have always with us, and so also are those traders who try to make an illegitimate profit by adulterating the articles which form the staple of their business. Fraudulent admixture no longer takes the simple old form of adding chalk and water to milk, but scientific processes are utilised. To keep in check this undesirable development the authorities have to employ quite an army of investigators. It is a case of diamond cut diamond, and the Government chemists have a difficult task to keep even with the fraudulent admixers.

During the year ending last March the total number of analyses and examinations made in the Government Laboratory was 173,606, against 158,939 for the preceding year.

For the information of the Board of Agriculture as many as 2,429 samples were examined in the Government Laboratory. Of these a large number were foreign butter samples; 937 samples were found to contain boron preservative, and 617 added colouring matter. In eighteen samples there was conclusive proof of adulteration with foreign fat, while eighteen other samples were of a very suspicious character. In thirty samples the butter contained water in excess of the legal limit. In forty-six cases proceedings were taken, and in thirty cases the importers were convicted and fined. The remaining cases were still *sub judice* when the report was issued. The result of these proceedings has been a great improvement in the character of the butter imported from certain parts of the Continent.

Butter.

Of the forty-two samples examined, the greater number consisted of prepared animal and vegetable fats to be used in the manufacture of margarine or for confectionery purposes. Two samples were ordinary margarine of commerce, and, being in packages not marked "margarine," proceedings were taken and penalties imposed.

Margarine.

Eighty-seven foreign samples were examined. Many of them had not been prepared from whole milk, but in the absence of any regulation as to the marking of cheese made from skimmed or impoverished milk, no proceedings could be taken.

Cheese.

Fifty samples of fresh milk, 131 samples of condensed milk, and eighty-three samples of cream from abroad were tested. Many samples of the condensed milk were found to have been prepared from skimmed or impoverished milk, without the packages being marked as required.

Milk.

Of the cream samples, fifty-six contained boron preservative, and forty-three also contained salicylic acid.

In view of the agitation some time ago on this subject, it is interesting to note that 1,268 samples of beer, wort, and materials used by brewers have been tested for the presence of arsenic. Of these forty-nine were found to contain it in exeess of the limits laid down by the Royal Commission on Arsenical Poisoning—namely, the equivalent of one-hundredth of a grain of arsenious oxide per pound in the case of solids, or per gallon in the case of liquids.

Arsenic in Beer.

Of the 132 samples of malt examined, two only exceeded the limit, the highest amount found being one-eightieth of a grain per pound. Of 711 samples of glucose, invert sugar, caramel, &c., only two exceeded the limit—namely, a sample of invert sugar which contained one-fiftieth, and one of caramel which contained one-seventieth of a grain per pound. The greatest amount found in any sample of wort or beer was one-thirty-sixth of a grain per gallon. The greatest amount found in any sample examined was one-fifth of a grain per pound, this quantity being present in an article intended for flavouring stout.

Under the provisions of the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Acts, 1893, twelve samples have been examined—nine fertilisers and three feeding stuffs—and one sample of feeding stuff under the new Act of 1906. Of the fertilisers, three were basic slag, of which two were deficient as alleged, and one was not deficient; four were superphosphates, and in one case only was the sample equal to the guarantee; two were muriate of potash, and in neither case did we find the sample below the guarantee. The results in the case of the three feeding stuffs accord substantially with those of the past year's agricultural analyses. Under the new Act of 1906, which came into operation on January 1, 1907, the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, as a precedent to giving consent to a local authority to take proceedings, submitted a sample of a feeding stuff which, according to the official agricultural analyst's figures, was much below the guarantee. Our results were in close agreement with those of the analyst.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

Under the head of miscellaneous samples were some relating to materials used by a scientific butter adulterator. It is satisfactory to note that the importer was subsequently prosecuted and committed for trial on the charge of inciting to commit a felony. He failed to appear, and his bail of £800 was forfeited.

Miscellaneous.

Other samples of butter coming from a particular creamery were found to be adulterated. On the strength of evidence furnished by the Government Laboratory, search warrants were issued, and the entire process for the adulteration of butter was found in operation.

Manuring Seeds Hay.

A useful contribution to the literature on the best system of applying fertilisers to seeds hay has been made by the Edinburgh and East of Scotland College of Agriculture in the bulletin just issued. We extract the following:—

In manuring the hay crop, quantity alone must not be our sole object. In this we are often sharply reminded by the common query, Did you *nitre* it? In some districts, hay, if known to have received any nitrate of soda, is practically unsaleable. Undoubtedly, heavily nitrated hay has a diabetic tendency in animals, being specially harmful to horses. It is for this reason that purchasers of hay for town stables are afraid of hay that has received any nitrate of soda. It is well to remember that the quality of the hay is not affected by a moderate dressing of nitrate of soda. This quantity is variable, and will depend chiefly on the character of the soil, for, as a rule, the heavier the soil the more nitrate can be used without affecting the quality. Sulphate of ammonia has not the same forcing tendency on the crop, and consequently its use is not accompanied to the same extent by the evils mentioned above. By comparing the results we find little to choose between them in producing weight of crop. On the heavier soils nitrate of soda has usually given the better results, while on the lighter class of soils sulphate of ammonia has given the more satisfactory yields. The hay on plot 9A, which received 2½ cwt. of nitrate of soda per acre, was invariably inferior in quality, being soft and fibreless, while that on plot 9, which received just over 2½ cwt. per acre, showed also on the lighter soils a similar though less pronounced tendency. On the stronger soils no fault could be found with it. But our experience of the past three seasons' experiments is that the manuring of plot 7 is the one to be most recommended. It has consistently given good results. It has almost invariably been better than plot 2 (nitrate of soda) and plot 6 (sulphate of ammonia). It has the further advantage that the ingredients can all be mixed together and applied at one time, thereby saving the labour of a second application, as was considered advisable to be done in the case of plots, 2, 3, 4, 9, and 9A. The mixture sown on plot 7, as near as can be represented to the fraction of a cwt., is—

⅛ cwt. nitrate of soda.
⅝ cwt. sulphate of ammonia.
2½ cwt. superphosphate (30 per cent. soluble).
⅞ cwt. sulphate of potash (55 per cent. purity).

Generally this mixture has had a good aftermath, and in very few cases did it appear to have any injurious effect on the following year's grass. The small applications of nitrogen alone on plots 10 and 11 seemed to injuriously affect the aftermath more than that of any of the other plots, on which the accompaniment of phosphates and potash seemed to be a sufficient corrective, with the exception of plots 9 and 9A, which, it will be remembered, received very heavy dressings of nitrate of soda. This would indicate the advisability of sowing phosphates and potash along with the nitrogenous dressings, thereby preventing their exhausting effects. A further benefit derived from the use of a complete manure is the improved quality of the hay, which was generally quite apparent.

Summary.

1. This experiment in the manuring of seeds hay has been conducted for three consecutive seasons and at fifty-one centres.

2. The fertilising ingredient that has produced the largest weight of crop has been nitrogen.

3. Nitrogen, either in the form of nitrate of soda or of sulphate of ammonia, has given equally good results, and the best results from a mixture of the two.

4. The plots receiving the largest amount of nitrogen have given the heaviest crops, and, valuing their produce at the same rate as that grown on the other plots, they have given the best financial return. But generally it does not seem advisable to apply more than 2 cwt. of nitrate of soda, as the hay on plot 9 showed signs of deterioration in quality at a number of the centres, and that from plot 9A was inferior all round.

5. Phosphates and potash applied alone, and generally, too, in combination with nitrogen, have been remunerative. Their effect in preventing exhaustion of the soil, and in improving the quality of the hay, warrants their inclusion in any artificial dressing for this crop.

6. The mixture to be recommended as the one most likely to give general satisfaction is—

⅛ cwt. nitrate of soda (95 per cent. purity).
⅝ cwt. sulphate of ammonia (95 per cent purity).
2½ cwt. superphosphate (30 per cent. soluble).
⅞ cwt. sulphate of potash (55 per cent. purity)

Swede Manuring.

In some experiments on the application of fertilisers to the swede crop, conducted by the Cumberland and Westmorland Farm School, of which particulars are given in their eleventh annual report, it is shown that by far the best results are produced by a moderate complete mixture of artificials with a light dressing of dung, 8 loads = 6 tons to the acre.

The details of the application, in addition to the 6 tons of dung, are—

½ cwt. of nitrate of soda.
1 cwt. of kainit.
3 cwt. of superphosphate.

Costing 16s. per acre. This application produced 30½ tons' weight of crop.

Prices of Fertilisers.

The demand for fertilisers is now practically nil, and quotations merely nominal. But prices of the principal articles, such as nitrate of soda guano, superphosphate, basic slag, and bones remain on a firm level. The tendency of prices for some time has been on an upward direction, and this movement has not yet received a check.

Grass on Farms.

It is one of the most satisfactory signs of progress in the right direction that farmers are devoting much more attention to the proper cultivation of their pastures and meadows. These portions of the farm, too long treated with neglect, are now being managed in such a manner as to increase their valuable productive capacity.

Grass is indispensable on all well-regulated farms, and in its direct money value, and also in its collateral and indirect benefits, it is worth more to the world than all other cereal crops combined. Its direct is nothing to its indirect value in the influence it has in preserving the fertility of farms by its manurial wealth in many forms. No man can thrive on a farm, and no farm can be self-supporting, where grass is wholly neglected, or advantage is not taken of stock raised on grass farms. It is supposed by many that only such soil as is not fit for cultivation in the cereals or roots should be devoted to grass. This is a mistake. Farmers can afford to take their best soils for the production of this crop, and this is the real plan for bringing them up to the highest point of fertility.

In applying manure to the soil, aim to give the kind that the soil most requires. This may be known by careful observation of the kind and quality of the goods allowed the stock. The value of manure depends entirely on the materials of which it is composed. It is impossible to make rich manure from inferior feeding materials.

"How to Manure at a Profit."

This series of useful articles, combining the practice and science of "How to Manure at a Profit," is now finished. As many of our readers would like to have the articles in a form convenient for reference, we intend shortly to publish them in a small pamphlet.

Due notice will be given when the pamphlet is ready for issue, and price.

We are willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

Correspondence dealing with Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs appears in the regular correspondence columns of the paper. We think it unnecessary to publish the table of unit values in each issue. It will be published in the first issue of each month.

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR FARMERS WHEN BUYING.

Approximate Unit Cost of Fertilising Constituents.

It is necessary for guidance in the economical use of fertilisers, and especially in the purchase of Complete and Special Manures, that the relative unit cost of the principal fertilising constituents should be studied: the subjoined table affords information on the subject. By multiplying the guaranteed minimum percentages of a fertiliser by the unit costs given in the table, the buyer will get a good idea of the commercial value of any chemical manure offered to him. The unit values are subject to variations from time to time, and in this respect we shall endeavour to keep the table up to date besides which, buyers living in remote districts may have to pay a little more for heavier cost of delivery. If credit is required, this will also add to the cost.

	Peruvian Guano.			Nitrate of Soda.	Sulphate of Ammonia.	Bone Meal.	Superphosphate.	Basic Slag.	Bone Compounds.	Special Manures.	Kainit.	Sulphate of Potash.	Muriate of Potash.
	Raw or Equalised.	Phosphatic.	Dissolved (soluble).										
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ammonia, organic as in Guano and Bones	17 6	12 6	15 0	—	—	12 6	—	—	15 0	15 0	—	—	—
,, in Sulphate of Ammonia ...	—	—	—	—	10 6	—	—	—	—	12 6	—	—	—
,, calculated from Nitrogen in Nitrate of Soda ...	—	—	—	13 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phosphate soluble in water	—	—	2 0	—	—	—	2 0	—	2 0	2 0	—	—	—
,, assimilable	1 6	1 2	1 3	—	—	1 2	—	—	1 3	1 3	—	—	—
,, insoluble	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 3	—	—	—	—	—
Potash (pure)	4 0	4 0	4 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 0	3 10	4 0	3 10

N.B.—The above table is based on the commercial cost of the fertilising constituents. Agricultural value is not always synonymous with the commercial cost, and every farmer must exercise his judgment, while considering the cost, which fertiliser may be expected to give the most profitable return on his soil and for his crops. This is the cheapest manure for him.

Approximate Unit Cost of the Nutritive Constituents in Feeding Cakes and Meals.

June 1906.

Cakes and other Feeding Stuffs.—In order to be able to form a correct opinion of their value, it is necessary to know the relative cost of the different nutritive constituents. The following note, by an eminent authority, supplies this information. By reference to it, a farmer can calculate out the approximate commercial value of a cake or meal, and then use his judgment as to which is most suitable for his special requirements.

	s. d.		s. d.
Albuminoids	2 8	to	3 0
Oil or fat	2 8	,,	3 0
Carbohydrates	1 1	,,	1 2

NOTE.—Most authorities in England are agreed that the value of each per cent. or unit of albuminoids and of oil is at least 2½ times that of 1 per cent. or unit carbohydrates. If, therefore, the percentages of albuminoids and oil in a feeding stuff be respectively multiplied by 2½ and added to the percentage of carbohydrates, the total feeding units contained in the article are obtained. The cost of the feeding stuff divided by this total of feeding units gives the price per unit. Example: A cotton cake contained

	Per cent.			=	Feeding units.
Albuminoids	22·1	×	2½	=	55·2
Oil	5·2	×	2½	=	13·0
Carbohydrates	33·2	×	1	=	33·2
Total feeding units					101·4

The price of the cake being £5 7s. 6d., the cost per feeding unit was just about 1s.

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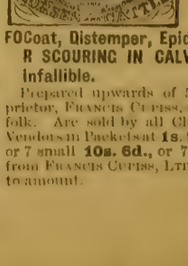
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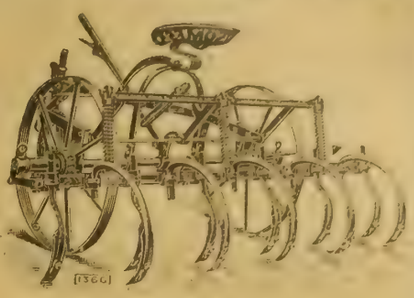
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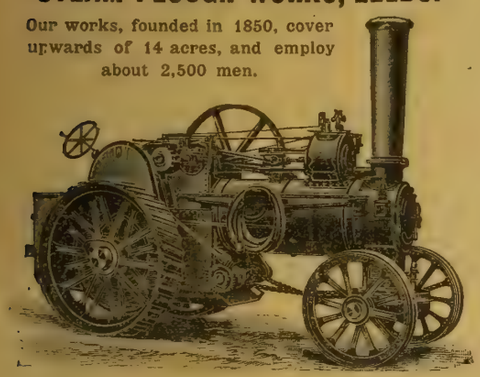
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FROM SLUM TO HOP GARDEN.

To go "'oppin dahn in Kent" means something to many a little gutter-bred youngster in the poor parts of the metropolis. It means a change and a holiday, which are, perhaps the first considerations of the young "hopper," but it means taking him into the fresh air, which puts a healthy tinge of colour into his pale face, and he is brought for a time into contact with a world that is natural, not artificial.

It is a strange mixed medley of humanity that journeys from London to Kent for the hop-picking in September, and one sees in it the influence that slum life has in depreciating human nature both physically and morally. The Eastender who goes into Kent for the hopping takes many of his vices with him, and the country folk are glad to be rid of him again; but he is not quite the same individual in the hop garden as he is in his native London alley. To begin with he must work, and he is under some kind of restraint, and days in the hop garden bring on a desire for sleep that he never appears to want at home.

In short, he is placed amid surroundings where the better side of him can be brought out if it is not entirely obliterated, and in speaking of the London hopper in these terms we do not refer to the quiet, respectable family who go down annually for the picking and come back better in health and pocket, but the material of the roughest order such as we have met in many a Kentish hop-garden.

THE CEREAL YEAR.

II.—FEEDING STUFFS.

British barley during the cereal year has averaged about £7 per ton, a price which it is difficult to regard as really profitable, seeing that scarcely any fields yield a full ton to the acre, and the straw is notoriously less serviceable than that of either wheat or oats. Barley-growing remains pretty nearly stationary with respect to the area occupied, but any substantial increase will need another 10s. on to the average price per ton to bring it about. The hope of attaining good malting quality and the need of barley for certain well-known crop rotations are the chief reasons why the area is about sustained. The idea that heavy manuring causes coarseness in the malting sample is by no means losing ground, in fact, the scientific grower is, if anything, coming into accord with the popular notion that barley land can easily be over-farmed.

Oats are now up to an average of £7 per ton, and as they yield more to the acre than barley, and the straw is more easily saleable, they should at this price pay their way. That farmers are more or less of this opinion is shown by the increased area under cultivation, but the increase is only 2½ per cent., and shows that the margin is not large or sufficient to bring poor land into the cereal area. The very low prices which were accepted for oats from September to January last had a depressing effect and a good deal was sown late, not indeed until the strong demand in March and early April had lent encouragement by forcing up prices.

Maize for the cereal year shows an average of about £5 10s. per ton, and closed the campaign with £6 per ton made at many of the inland markets. As the importer can usually keep for himself anything over a clear £5 per ton, the trade has been stimulated, and the imports of the twelvemonth have largely exceeded the need of 10,000,000 qr. The cheapness of the favourite small round variety has been a boon to poultry owners and to many others, but it is a cheapness which gives the Englishman's cheque to the Russian and Roumanian growers, people the least friendly to the English buyers. It is a pity that India does not grow maize for the English market more exclusively. Queensland, too, could grow enormous quantities, but the Labour Party in Australia is omnipotent at present and forbids the employment of coloured labour, while regarding field work by white men as rather beneath the dignity of the town loafer.

The foreign production of barley does not appear to be increasing, and Californian fine brewing barley has during the past twelvemonth crept gradually up in value until 30s. has been exceeded. The use of 3s. on the competing produce of the Pacific States is full of encouragement to English growers who can get their barley up to a fair malting standard. The great producing regions of Russia and

Roumania cannot grow barley above feeding quality, and India, Argentina, Australia, and New Zealand all keep outside the barley trade. The last two grow fine barley, and splendid samples may be seen at their London agencies, but either they use it all for their own beer-making, or else it is the product of a much smaller area than the public is allowed to know. The regions which could easily grow 10,000,000 qr. a year of bright and useful brewing and malting barley are Anatolia, Syria, and the North African Coast from Tripoli to Tangiers. All these regions are hopelessly hindered by the curse of Musulman ineptitude and business incapacity, but France is doing something for Tunis and Algeria.

The past year has thrown us very clear light upon the export surpluses of foreign oats, though the very small imports of the United Kingdom have been a main cause of maize selling so well, and have also led to the steady rise in the price of English oats during the last half of the cereal campaign. There seems to be no index to the price at which Russia and the United States, Canada and Argentina an profitably produce this cereal for ship-

London and the other English ports, though London remains the greatest buyer, doing nearly as large an import business in oats as all the other ports of the three kingdoms put together. The farmer in this juncture requires to keep his eye on one main fact. Only Canada seems able to grow 240 lb. oats at all, and the Canadians do not ship these oats in any quantity that can at all depress Mark Lane. The 304 lb. oats of America and Russia are poor feeding quality, and those of Argentine are even poorer than those from our other sources of supply.

The British grower, therefore, has only to get his oats up to 240 lb. level to be fairly safe as to value for them, while 336 lb. samples should never be at all unsaleable or need to be parted with under a fair price. All the talk about motor transport has only reduced our horses in number from 1,568,681 to 1,556,407, and all the investigations of experts in rations have only confirmed the truth that horseowners put in the oat as the very basis of stamina, the vital foundation upon which all equine dietary must depend for value.

Notes of the Week.

As sparks fly upward, so is man born to disappointments. When writing these notes last week, misled by a couple of days of sunshine, we vainly imagined that summer had come at last. Alas! it is autumn that has arrived.

It is not true that Mr. Roosevelt has offered to confer on Mr. Haldane, Secretary for State for the War Office, citizenship of the United States in recognition of his assistance to American industries.

Said Haldane, "To save is my creed,
And to put it in practice in deed,
I'll give Tommy a treat,
With Chicago canned meat,
And American shoes for his steed."

The continued advance in the price of coal and coke is causing much concern among the large number of horticulturists who supply the market with flowers and fruit grown in hot-houses.

For some years this class of trade has made enormous strides, but it will be hit hard this winter.

Will the love of this Government for parsimony prevent them from complying with the recommendation of the Royal Commission for a more liberal grant of money for the encouragement of horse breeding?

The Brazilian Government have expended during recent years considerable sums of money as bounties for rice cultivation. Result: instead of importing over 100,000 tons, the country now grows nearly all it requires.

This is very different from our important hop industry. During the last twenty years, as the result of foreign imports, 27,000 acres of hops have been grubbed up with a loss to British labour of about £500,000 a year.

The wet season has at least one compensation. The grass has grown so luxuriantly that good second crops of hay are being harvested.

Ichabod may be written over Barnet Fair. Its glory has departed from it.

In olden times it had a world-wide reputation, and horse dealers from all over Europe used to attend it.

It is a comfortable philosophy that every created thing has its uses. What is the use of wasps? The writer feels this subject acutely at present, having been stung by one of these pestilent insects.

Apropos of horseflesh, a morning paper writes: "We may confidently look to the substitution of tender colt for early lamb, and may yet appreciate a juicy joint of prime horseflesh in preference to stubs of beef."

For myself, I should feel almost like a cannibal, if I eat knowingly a piece of man's noblest friend.

The cry of Wolf, wolf, in Canada is too often a reality. In the far north-west regions they are becoming a scourge.

If caught in a thunderstorm, don't stand under a tree, but if a man should prefer the risk to getting drenched, select a birch tree and avoid an oak.

In some investigations made to test the proclivity of lightning for different trees, the result was—oaks 54 times, poplars 24, elms 14, firs 10, willows 6, beeches 6, but not a single birch.

Butchers, says a prominent health officer, should be compelled to place a mark on all frozen meat, so as to distinguish it from fresh meat.

In his opinion, frozen meat has one obvious disadvantage—in the process of thawing, water vapour and putrefactive bacteria may be deposited on the surface of the meat.

Sweet lavendar, sweet lavendar: all of us have a sentimental attachment to this sweet old plant. It is a pity that lavendar water and lavendar itself are going out of fashion, so that the growers on a large scale have fallen on hard times.

It is stated that 22,000 women, mostly the wives and daughters of farmers, have taken agricultural lessons at the New York State College of Agriculture.

Hop-pickers are now leaving London for the hop gardens in large quantities. It is to be feared they will have to rough it more than usual from the inclemency of the season and a poor crop.

Windmills are generally known to be of antiquated origin, but we wonder how many of our readers know that the earliest authoritative instance of a windmill in England was one which existed at Bury St. Edmunds in 1191.

Strolling into a grocer's shop the other day a little boy asked for half a pound of margarine. He was being served, and the shopman was about to wrap the margarine up in paper when he exclaimed:

"Please, sir, my muvver wants to know if you'll stamp a cow on it, 'cos we're having cump'ny!"

The Government of the Transvaal has commissioned M. B. Stilling Anderson, of Copenhagen, to organise an agricultural co-operative movement in South Africa on the lines of the Danish system. M. Stilling Anderson will leave for Pretoria shortly.

As a young bull from the show at Bingley Hall, Birmingham, was being put into a truck preparatory to being sent away, at New Street Station on Thursday afternoon, it broke loose and rushed at one of the porters, knocking him down and inflicting nasty injuries. The unfortunate man was removed to the General Hospital, where it was found he had received a scalp wound and other injuries to the chest, back, and arm. After being attended to he was removed in a cab to his home.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10.—Hitchin Foa Show—Agricultural Shows at Buckingham, Ampleforth, and Woodstock—Sale at Wick Down, Marlborough—Fairs at Melton Mowbray, Wirkworth, and Ormskirk—Live Stock Sale at Maids one—Whitchurch Sale of Pedigree Berkshire Pigs—Sale of Farms at Romiley—Sending-in Day for the Frome, Ashbourne, and Southall Shows.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11.—Ripley Agricultural Show—Sale of Horses at Crewe—Agricultural Shows at Watton, Wolsingham, and Shaftesbury—Sale of Lord Gerard's Longhorn Cattle at Eastwell Park—Cardiff and Newark Horse Shows—Sale of Jerseys, Maidstone—Chichester Special Market—Fairs at Hindley and Bristol.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12.—Thame Agricultural Show—Fennington Live Stock Sale—Rotherfield Hall Sale of Pedigree Sussex Cattle and Southdown Sheep—Bellingham Show—Market Deeping Show—Brough and Warcop Show—Second Day of the Cardiff Horse Show—Montgomeryshire Annual Show at Welshpool—Great Sheep Sale, Lichfield—Great Sale of Leicester Sheep at Driffield.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13.—Ram Sale at Kelso—Agricultural Shows at Dolgelly and Spalding—Sale of Shorthorn Cattle at Chipping Norton—Manley's Sale of Cart Horses at Crewe—Fairs at Durham, Kelso, Louth, and Stanhope—Horse Sale at Melton Mowbray—Lincoln September Fair and Sheep Sale.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14.—Tunstall Agricultural Land Sale, Norfolk—Sheep Sale, Caistor—Bowes Agricultural Show—Fairs at Reigate and Knighton—Sending-in Day for Shows at Pateley Bridge and Eggleston.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16.—Holme Agricultural Show—Great Sheep Sale at Newton St. Boswells (Scots Border); 23 000 already entered—Fareham Great Market—Fairs at Gloucester, Boston, Newcastle-under-Lyme, and Hemel Hempstead.

Forthcoming Sales.

Messrs. Hy. Duke and Son, at Poundbury Fair, Dorchester, on September 26, will sell by auction 10,000 Dorset Horn and Dorset Down sheep. The drafts will consist of early-lambing ewes, as well as a good selection of flock sheep. Catalogues may be obtained of the auctioneers, Dorchester.

Messrs. W. and B. Hobbs will hold a sale of breeding ewes, tegs, and lambs at Newingreen, Kent (close to Westenhanger Station), on Wednesday next, the 11th inst., the catalogue consisting of 5,600 ewes, tegs, and lambs, including—2,149 Kent and half-bred lambs; 2,402 one, two, and three-lamb ewes; 465 Kent ewe tegs; 584 Kent wether and half-bred tegs. The sale will commence punctually at ten o'clock, and a good supply of trucks will be on hand, whilst every convenience will be made for the quick removal of the stock.

At Ashford, on Friday next, Messrs. W. and B. Hobbs will hold a sale of breeding ewes, tegs, and lambs at the Cattle Market field, the entries for this sale including 2,200 ewes, tegs, and lambs; 250 Kent and half-bred lambs; 1,000 one, two, and three-lamb ewes; 750 Kent ewe tegs; 200 Kent wether and half-bred tegs, including 360 capital Kent ewe tegs, for Mr. Robert Amos. Catalogues of the sale, which will commence punctually at 10.30, can be had of the auctioneers, Auction and Estate Offices, Ashford, Kent.

Seventy-five head of pedigree Aberdeen-Angus cattle will be offered for sale by auction without reserve at 50, Prussia Street, Dublin, on Thursday next, the 12th inst. The animals include the entire prize-winning herds belonging to the Marquis of Waterford, K.P., and Richard G. Nash, Esq., J.P. There will also be sold seven pedigree Hereford cows, heifers, and calves. Catalogues can be had on application to the auctioneer, Mr. Gavin Low, 50, Prussia Street, Dublin.

Two important sales of registered Hampshire Down sheep are announced by Messrs. Ferris and Puckridge to take place in the last week of this month.

On Wednesday the 25th at Maddington, near Amesbury, Wilts, the late Mr. H. E. C. Hooper's flock of 1,822 ewes and lambs, including 837 two, four, and sixteenth ewes and 900 Clulver and wether lambs, will be brought under the hammer, whilst on Friday the 27th at Eastridge, near Ramsbury, Wilts, Mr. G. L. Waldron, who has let the farm, 217 ewes of regular ages, and 111 Clulver lambs belonging to Mr. G. L. Waldron, will be offered in consequence of the farm being let.

Catalogues may be obtained of Messrs. Ferris and Puckridge, surveyors and auctioneers, Milton, Pewsey, Wilts; and 82, Queen Street, London, E.C.

LINCOLN SHEEP SALES

This was the twenty-second sale held by the Lincoln Sheep Society since these combination sales were instituted in 1892. The sale took place on Friday last, adjacent to the ground upon which the successful Royal Show was held last June, and its entry was full up to the allowed number, 400.

The consignors numbered thirty-nine, and represented as many, if not more flocks than at any previous sale. Amongst the more notable absentees were Messrs. H. Dudding, T. Casswell, and S. E. Dean and Sons, all of whom are, we understand, sold out of rams, and we believe it is the first occasion that Messrs. Dean have had no sheep on offer at this sale, a fact brought about by their having established an annual sale at home, the first of which took place last July.

Readers will be interested to note that the following have been the averages realised at these sales since they were established:—In 1892 it was £15 8s. 9d., in 1893 £13 13s. 2d., in 1894 £13 19s. 1d., in 1895 £19 6s. 1d., in 1896 £29 19s. 5d., in 1897 £23 1s. 3d., in 1898 £16 1s. 6d., in 1899 £14 11s. 1d., in 1900 £15 9s. 1d., in 1901 £11 4s. 3d., in 1902 £11 5s. 6d., in 1903 £19 15s. 6d., in 1904 £21 8s. 9d., in 1905 £19 7s. 5d., in 1906 £20 5s. 1d., and in 1907 £14 19s.

The arrangements of the sale were excellent, and right from start to finish no exception could be taken to the manner in which the several lots followed each other in the ring. The falling off in the average as compared with last year, when 376 head were sold against 351 this year, is a matter of regret, but in order that its true significance may not be misunderstood, we must state distinctly that more than half of the rams on offer were below the general average of merit found at these great annual sales. The best average of the sale, £42 14s., was realised by Mr. C E. Howard's, whose excellent lot of rams were in good request. The trio that were first in pen of three at the Great Yorkshire Show sold well—96 guineas to Mr. Hughes, 90 guineas to Mr. Aves, and 70 guineas to Mr. H. Casswell, a real good average. Messrs. Hughes also took two others at 40 and 29 guineas each. Another made 46 guineas to Mr. J. E. Casswell, followed by one at 41 guineas to Messrs. Tomlinson and Hayward. Mr. Waterhouse gave 35 guineas, and at 3 guineas less Mr. Tom Brocklebank secured a fine ram. Mr. R. Wright got one at 26 guineas, one at 25 guineas, and one at 16 guineas, whilst Mr. Drakes gave 25 guineas for another.

The Laughton twenty made an average of £32 17s. 3d. for Mr. J. E. Casswell, who is to be congratulated upon securing the top price of the sale, 155 guineas for his second ram, Messrs. Dean and Son were the purchasers, and Mr. R. Fisher the runner up. Another made 52 guineas, Mr. F. Ward getting him. Mr. R. Fisher's selection came well within its value at 44 guineas, Mr. Hurdman got one, a typical Laughton ram, at 35 guineas. Mr. S. Yarrad took one at 35 guineas also, whilst three made 26 guineas, to Messrs. A. A. Spilman, Jackson, and W. B. Swallow, who also gave 32 guineas for another. The average for the other twenty lot at this sale was £24 3s. 6d. This consignment was owned by Mr. J. Pears, the first ram of which was wanted by both Messrs. J. E. Casswell and P. and G. Hughes, but the former got him at 85 guineas, and a good ram it is. Mr. John Brocklebank gave 34 guineas, followed by one at 30 guineas to Mr. R. Fisher. A pair of fine stud rams, Mr. Allison's choice, cost him 26 guineas, that of Mr. G. Marris, 25 guineas. Mr. Cooper paid 24 guineas, and two went at 22 guineas to Messrs. J. Cartwright and T. Atkinson; 21 guineas was the price at which Messrs. Hughes got two, Mr. Searby gave 20 guineas, and the remainder ranged down to 8 guineas. Mr. W. B. Swallow's average for seven was £21 18s., prices ranging from 27 to 12 guineas, two made the first named price to Messrs. R. Dixon and Chatterton, and two others went at 24 guineas to Messrs. C. E. Howard and Jackson. Mr. W. Bayles sold ten at from 50 to 8½ guineas, making an average of £20 12s. 9d. The first mentioned sheep went to Mr. G. Spilman, another going to Mr. L. W. Stephenson at 30 guineas. Mr. T. Spinks' were a choice lot of seven and ranged from 33 to 12 guineas, with an average of £20 5s., Mr. Strickland taking one of the Royal winners at 28 guineas, but the highest priced ram was the last, which went at 33 guineas to Mr. F. Ward.

Messrs. Crowder and Sons' ranged in price from 32 to 10 guineas, giving in an average of 19 guineas, Mr. Fletcher taking the top-priced one. Mr. Yarrad's range of prices was from 22 guineas to 11 guineas, and average 18 guineas, two making the top price to Messrs. J. E. Casswell and Dean. Mr. Joseph Brocklebank realised an average of £16 10s. 6d., with average of prices from 33 to 8 guineas, Mr. James Cartwright paying the top price; two others made 23 guineas, Messrs. R. Chatterton and John Brocklebank being the buyers. Messrs. Needham's rams were in good demand; 61 guineas to Mr. F. Ward was the top price, Mr. J. Pears being the runner-up. From this figure the other ten ranged down to 7 guineas, making an average of 15 guineas. Mr. H. Goodyear averaged £14 11s. 6d. for eleven; Mr. R. M. Fletcher gave top price, 28 guineas, Mr. C. Clarke came next at 22 guineas, others made 17 guineas, &c., down to 8 guineas. The average for Mr. James Cartwright's fourteen was £14 8s. 9d., ranging from 22 to 10 guineas, Mr. Thurlby paying the first-named price. Mr. C. Featherstone averaged £14 6s., best price 17 guineas, to Major Pinder. Mr. C. M. Dickinson's eighteen were in good demand, and averaged £14 15s. 10d.; Mr. W. Ward was the principal buyer at from 24 guineas, the top price. Mr. R. Fletcher's lot averaged 13 guineas, his top price was 42 guineas to Messrs. Dean, of Buckingham. Mr. J. Brocklebank averaged for fourteen £13 2s. 6d., top price 23 guineas; Mr. Cecil Rudkin, for ten, £10 4s 9d., top price 17 guineas; Mr. G. Spilman, for seven, top price, 22 guineas; Mr. Charles Clarke, for fifteen, £9 7s. 7s., top price 11 guineas; Messrs. C. Hunsman, and Son, for twelve, £9 6s. 4d., top price 20 guineas; Mr. F. Smith, for seven, £9 4s. 6d., top price 13 guineas; Mr. Richard Richardson, for five, £8 17s. 3d.; Mr. John Blankley for seven, £8 9s. 6d.; Mr. John Blankley, jun., for five, £7 19s. 7d.; Mr. T. Campion for ten, £7 15s. 4d.; Mr. T. Crompton for five, £7 15s. 4d.; Mr. Tomlinson for seven, £7 13s.; Messrs. Watson for nine, £7 5s. 10d.; Mr. James Rudkin for six, £6 14s. 9d.; Sir J. H. Thorold, Bart., for seventeen, £6 12s. 2d.; Mr. C. N. Anderson for three, £5 19s. 1d.; Mrs. Wildsmith for seven, £5 18s. 8d.; Major-General Sir M. Wilson for seven, £5 17s.; the Exors. of R. Taylor for three, £5 15s. 6d.; Captain E. M. Grantham for four, £5 10s. 3d.; and Mr. E. Langdale for seven, £5 8s.

The general average of the sale being 351, sold for £5,258 17s., average of £14 19s. The auctioneers engaged were Messrs. Dickinson, Riggall, and Davy, Escritt and Barrell, T. B. Richardson and Son, Saul and J. E. Walter.

THE GIMMER SALE.

This was the first year in which the Lincoln Longwool Sheep Society had arranged for a sale of yearling ewes. The date fixed was Thursday last in the afternoon preceding the annual ram sale. The entry was not a large one, nor was the sale a success; it may be, if continued, the fixture will become a recognised one, but if this is to be so, a much larger number of entries must be secured and the sheep must be of that merit that will induce the breeders to come for them; unless this can be done it will be better to drop the sale entirely, rather than to make it one at which butchers can come and get registered yearling ewes at prices about on a par with those current in the fat stock markets.

Mrs. Wildsmith's consignment of twenty in four lots realised 63s. and 61s. to Messrs. Kent, and 63s. and 62s. to Mr. Rudkin. Thirty from Mr. G. Hoyles were of good merit, 97s. 6d. being paid by Messrs. Hughes for export for the first five, Mr. Kent giving 62s. for the next lot, and 57s. for the last lot, Mr. Morris taking two lots at 62s. and 61s., and Mr. Philips one at 60s. Twenty from Messrs. C. Hunsman sold as follows:—58s. and 54s. to Mr. Rudkin, 57s. to Mr. Kent, and 56s. to Mr. Gamble. Six from Mr. W. H. Pate's went to the Argentine, Messrs. Hughes giving 92s. for them. Twenty from Sir J. H. Thorold



The Southdown Ram shown above is the animal with which Mr. C. R. W. Adeane, Babraham Hall, near Cambridge, won the First Prize for two Shear Rams, and the Southdown Sheep Society's Special Prize for the best Southdown Ram or Ram Lamb, at the Bath and West Society's Show at Newport this year.

sold to Messrs. Else at 63s., Mr. Gamble at 61s., Mr. Wilmot at 64s., and Mr Gamble at 59s. Mr. S. Yarrad's two lots went to Mr. Pate at 73s. and to Mr. J. Redmore at 72s.

FAIRS AND SALES.

Bristol.

Bristol September Fair was held on Thursday, when a large number of ram lambs were offered by auction, and about 140 of these came under the hammer of Messrs. Geo. Nichols, Howes, Young, Alder, and Co. There was a large company of flockmasters from all parts of the West of England, and the prices realised were well up to the usual average.

The first lot offered comprised fifteen pure-bred Oxford Down shearling ram lambs from the well-known Crudwell flock, of Malmesbury, the property of Mr. J. H. Large. There was a fair competition, and the prices realised were from 6 to 9 guineas. The next lot offered comprised 50 Hampshire Down and cross-bred ram lambs from Mr. Jeffrey Matthews, of Crossley Farm, Winterbourne. The thirty-five cross-bred ram lambs made from 5 to 15½ guineas, whilst the Hampshire Down ram lambs made from 7 to 12 guineas, with an average of 8 guineas. For the forty-one cross-bred ram lambs from the Cleve Hill flock, belonging to Mr. Henry Bridgman, of Downend, there was good competition, all excepting one being sold at prices ranging from 4½ to 16 guineas. A lot of twenty Hampshire Down lambs was offered from the Burcombe Manor flock, the property of Mr. G. Cairnes Waters, and these made from 5 to 12 guineas.

Bury St. Edmunds.

The annual sheep fair at Bury St. Edmunds took place on Tuesday, when the numbers were quite up to the average, whilst there was a large attendance of buyers and a capital trade. Chief interest centred in the sale at Messrs. Simpson and Sons' Mart, where a good consignment of sheep was disposed of, including 320 Suffolk, Oxford Down, Cotswold, Lincoln, and South Down rams, and about 5,300 Suffolk and half-bred ewes and lambs The sale commenced with the Suffolk rams. From the Marquis of Bristol's flock, at Ickworth, seven lambs were put up. One was knocked down at 13 guineas, two others at 12½ guineas, one at 10 guineas, and the three others went for 9½ guineas, 9 guineas, and 6½ guineas. The first-named figure was the top price for the breed, and it was also obtained by Mr. R. Burrell, of Westley, for one of his lots; whilst other consignments of Suffolks made up to 11 guineas.

In a separate ring Mr. Salter sold a number of Southdowns, Oxford Downs, Cotswold, and Lincoln rams. Six Southdown shearling rams from the Earl of Cadogan averaged 4½ guineas each, the top price being 5½ guineas, whilst a ram lamb fetched 42s. 6d. Twenty-three Oxford Down ram lambs from the celebrated Kelmscott flock, the property of Messrs. R. W. Hobbs and Son, sold for 108½ guineas, the prices ranging from 6 guineas to 4 guineas. Four cross-bred ram lambs, by Oxford Down rams, from Hampshire ewes, were sold for 3½ guineas and 3 guineas each. Eight Cotswold lambs, bred by Mr. F. Craddock, of Eastington, were sold at prices ranging from 7½ guineas to 3 guineas, whilst seven shearling rams were knocked down at from 6 guineas to 4½ guineas, Mr. Baker purchasing the seventeen animals. Seventeen similar ram lambs, bred by Mr. Russell Levanwick, of the Royal Agricultural College Farm, Cirencester, fetched from 8 guineas to 4½ guineas, and three shearling rams from the same breeder sold for 3½ guineas. 4½ guineas, and 5 guineas. Fifteen Lincoln Longwool ram lambs, the property of Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons, Dowsby Hall, Bourne, from the registered flock No. 47, were knocked down at prices ranging from 7 guineas to 4½ guineas, whilst four Lincoln shearlings, bred by Mr. Johnson, Morden, were sold at 7½ guineas and 8 guineas.

There was a good trade for the ewes and lambs; Mr. R. T. Simpson conducted the sale. Taken throughout, the shearling ewes were a very good lot. Of Suffolk shearling ewes, from the Marquis of Bristol's Home Farm, Ickworth, ten made 80s. per head, and three score made 73s., 71s., and 69s. per head. Mr. F. Cady, Long Melford, sent about eleven score shearlings, a very fine and level lot, most of which sold at from 78s. to 71s., the lowest pen making 66s., the average for the consignment being over 75s. Numerous other lots sold at prices up to 74s. A consignment of Southdown draft ewes, from the Earl of Cadogan, averaged 46s. Of the lambs, Suffolk ewes made up to 57s., half-breds to 48s., and crones to 48s. 6d.

Chichester September Sale.

On Wednesday last Messrs. Stride and Sons held their annual September sale of Southdown ewes, ewe lambs, rams, ram lambs, &c. The entry was a large one, and it was of unusual importance because included in it was the whole of the flock owned by Mr. F. Elmer Speed, at Goodnestone Park, Dover. The attendance at the sale was a very large and representative one, buyers being present from Nottinghamshire, North and South Wales, Cambridgeshire, Suffolk, and several of the Southern counties. The demand experienced for the ewes and ewe lambs was a particularly good one, whilst for the better class of rams and ram lambs it was satisfactory.

The result of the sale in the aggregate was that 2,115 head were disposed of, realising £5,277.

Turning to the details of the sale, we refer in the first place to that of the Knowleton Court Flock, and we find that the 61 yearling ewes averaged £3 9s. per head. The top price for a lot of ten was 100s., to the Duke of Devonshire, others making 65s., 62s., &c.

The four-tooth ewes averaged £3 12s., half of them going to Mr. Hall in Cambridgshire at 86s. The six-tooth ewes numbered twelve, and these went to Sir J. Wernher at £5. The full-mouth ewes, for which there was keen competition, averaged £3 1s., the Duke of Devonshire giving £5 15s. for the best pen.

The ewe lambs, which numbered ninety-five, made 39s. 10d. per head. Mr. Kenderdine paid 56s. for the best pen, to go to Mr. Fletcher's at Dale Park.

The stud rams averaged £6 0s. 9d., the yearling rams £8 11s., Mr. Street taking two of them at 13 guineas and 10 guineas.

The ram lambs were in request, and the twelve averaged £7 9s. 3d., Mr. Allan Cooper buying one at 13 guineas. Mr. Eversfield bought one at 12 guineas, and Mr. Twogood Parsons one at 10½ guineas.

The draft ewes entered by the various consignors other than the above numbered 583, and gave an average of £1 18s. The prices ranged from 53s. to 26s. 6d.

The four and six-tooth ewes numbered 463, and they averaged £2 10s. per head, a notably good average for so large a number. A pen from the Duke of Devonshire's made 65s.; others 59s., 56s., and so on down to 40s.

The yearling ewes numbered 119, and they averaged £2 15s. 1d. Another notably good average, individual pens making 65s., 60s., 56s., 52s., and 50s. The ewe lambs averaged £1 12s. 3d. for 180, the wether lambs £1 14s. 2d. for 220, and the wethers 33s. per head.

Turning to the ram sale, the number sold of yearling rams was sixty-four at an average of £6 9s. 3d. The best averages were:—Colonel A. F. Walter, eleven at £8 3s. 2d.; the Duke of Richmond, four at £7 7s.; the Duke of Devonshire, ten at £7 2s. 10d.; Mr. Allan Cooper, nine at £5 16s. 8d.; &c.

The fourteen stud rams, which ranged in price from 7 guineas, averaged £4 6s. 3d. The 106 ram lambs averaged £4 3s. 10d. Sir J. Wernher's ten sold well. They were a choice lot and averaged £6 7s 11d. Colonel Hammond's three averaged £6 16s. 6d.; Sir H. Audrey Fletcher averaged £4 11s. 10d. for four, the Duke of Devonshire £4 18s. for three, Mr. Stanford £4 19s. 9d. for six.

Amongst the other breeders who consigned rams or ram lambs were Messrs A. Heasman, T. W. Thorpe, O. H. Ellis, exors. of G. Peel, H. Paynter, P. Herrington, E. J. Reddaway, T. Bushby, &c.

Cirencester.

The September Sheep and Ram Fair at Cirencester took place in very wet weather on Monday, when there was a supply of about 4,000 sheep, which met a quick trade, and nearly all changed hands. Mr. A. F. Hobb's important consignments of Oxford Down ram lambs met with such another sale as in 1905, when all the rams were sold. Thirty from Messrs. R. W. Hobbs and Sons, Kelmscott, averaged £7 5s. 9d., the highest price being 10 guineas given by Mr. Hodgkins, Ireland, and others made 9, 8½, 8 guineas, &c. Fifteen from Mr. W. T. Stevens, Banbury, averaged £5 13s. 9d., one going to Mr. Robinson at 8 guineas; seventeen from Mr. W. J. P. Reading, of Langford, averaged £6 5s. 4d., top price 9 guineas, and twenty-five from Mr. William Arkell, of Kempsford, made an average of £5 18s. 7d., highest price 10 guineas. Twenty-five from Viscount St. Aldwyn, Williamstrip Park, averaged £7 10s., the highest price, 13½ guineas, being given by Mr. Howard Organ, of Cubberley, other buyers being Mr. Taylor, Easton Corsham, at 12½ guineas, Mr. Pike, Adderbury, Banbury, at 11½ guineas and 10 guineas, whilst twelve from Mr. Philip E. Frank, of Fulbrook, his first draft, averaged £5 9s. 6d.

Mr. James W. Tayler sold thirty six Oxford Down ram lambs, including twenty from Mr. James Horlick, Cowley Manor. These, being young lambs, met with a ready sale, and averaged £7 1s. 6d., whilst Mr. Akers, of Black Bourton, sent sixteen extraordinarily good strong lambs, which met with a keen competition and averaged £9 16s. 10d.

Mr. C. F. Moore also sold some good rams, the chief sales being as follow:—Fourteen Cotswold ram lambs from Mr. John Fowler, Aston Farm, Avening, average 5 guineas; Mr. Hugh Baker, of Manor Farm, Chedglow, twelve Oxfordshire Down ram lambs, average 4 guineas; Mr. J. H. Large, Crudwell Manor, ten Oxfordshire Down shearling rams, average 9 guineas (highest price was 12½ guineas); Mr. T. Rich, of Aldsworth, twenty-five Oxfordshire Down ram lambs, average £5 10s.

Hereford.

Messrs. A. and D. Edwards held the second of this season's sales of ram and stock ewes, in the Hereford Market on Wednesday, when there was a good attendance of buyers, and satisfactory prices were realised. Shropshire ewes made from 41s. to 56s., the best prices being made by Mr. A. P. Turner, The Leen, who sold ten yearling ewes at 55s., ten two-years at 56s., and ten three-years at 53s., to Mr. A. Hodgetts; Mr. B. Parry Jones, Lyde, who sold twenty three-years at 55s. to Mr. Meredith, Worcester, and the same number at a similar price to Captain Waters, Kingstone; whilst Mr. W. Allsopp sold ten three-and-four-year-olds at 55s to Major Parry, Harewood. The other breeds, Radnors, Kerry and cross-breds made from 23s. 6d. to 47s. 6d.

A large number of rams were also sold, the best priced lots being as follows:—Mr. P. Turner, The Leen; shearling rams—Mr. Newman, Wickton, 8½ guineas; Mr. Howells, Leinthall, 13 guineas; Sir John Cotterell, 9 guineas; Mr. J. Murch, Huntington, 12 guineas; Mr. Maddocks, Abergavenny, 11 guineas; Mr. P. H. Foley, Stoke Edith, 10 guineas; Mr. Williams, Garway, 8 guineas; Lord Llangattock, 9 guineas; and Sir John Cotterell (2) 9½ guineas and 9 guineas. Messrs. Jones and Moor, Henwood: shearling rams—Charles Goodwin, Burghill, 5½ guineas; Mr. Price, Crickhowell, 7 guineas; Mr. William Leake, Felton, 6 gs; Mr. Plevy, Westhope, 6 guineas; Mr. D. Edwards, 6 guineas; Mr. Like, Bishopstone. 6½ guineas; Mr. H R. Evans, Court of Noke: shearling rams, Mr. Ward, Much Marcle, 7 guineas; Mr. Ward, Mainstone, 6 guineas; Mr. Bishop, Tarrington, 7 guineas. Messrs. Jones and Moore: shearling rams, Mr. John Rogers, The Hill, 5 guineas; to Mrs. Hart, Moreton, 7 guineas; Mr. Partridge, Eardisley, 6 guineas; Mr. D. Edwards, 5 guineas; Mr. Morgan, 7 guineas; Mr. Roberts, Norton, 5½ guineas; Mr. G. Goodwin, 6 guineas; Mr. Pudge, 5 guineas.

Ipswich.

The second sale at Ipswich this season of Suffolk sheep from registered flocks took place on Friday at Gippeswyk Park, and notwithstanding the drizzling rain of the morning, there was a large attendance of buyers. The entries of ewes and ewe lambs were somewhat shorter than usual at this sale, but there was rather an increase in the number of rams, over 300 being penned. Nearly all of these were disposed of. Mr. R. Beaumont Bond opened the sale with the ewes, afterwards being assisted by Mr. Fred. G. Bond with the rams. The ewes sold remarkably well, Mr. Arthur Juby, of Brandeston, securing the highest price, viz., 107s. 6d. for a pen of two-shears, while Mr C. T. A. Robinson's went up to 102s 6d., a good average being maintained.

There was a good demand for the rams, considering the quantity entered. Those sent by Mr. J. W. Eagle, Walton-on-the-Naze, excited, as usual a good deal of attention. One made 16 guineas, another 10 guineas and a third 9 guineas. A nice ram lamb from Mr. S. R. Sherwood's flock, by Casseur, fetched 12 guineas, and two others 9½ guineas and 9 guineas. The bidding for the consignments from Mr. D. Abbot Green was very spirited, one going at 18, two at 15 each, a third at 14, and others from 11, 10, and 9½ guineas. Mr. Herbert E. Smith, Walton Grange, had a small lot, the prices realised being 13, 12, 10, and 9 guineas. The best of Mr. Alfred J. Smith's shearling rams ranged from 10 guineas downwards. Mr Thomas Goodchild, Great Yeldham Hall, sent some nice ram lambs, one (by Fingringhoe Grange I.), being knocked down at 14 guineas, whilst numerous other consignments sold at prices ranging up to the last mentioned figure.

Mr. G. Morris's Lincolns.

Some capital prices were realised at the sale of Lincoln shearling rams belonging to Mr. George Morris, Kirmington House, Brocklesby, on Wednesday. The best was 200 guineas realised for a typical specimen of the breed by Riby St. George, a sire of Mr. Henry Dudding's breeding, and it was to this gentleman that the animal was eventually sold, though there was keen competition. One of the second prize pens at the Royal Show at Lincoln was also in great demand, and was not sold until 68 guineas had been bid by Messrs. P. and G. Hughes, who were purchasing for the Argentine, and they secured, amongst others, another fine ram by the same sire as the 200 guineas animal, the price paid being 58 guineas. Yet another by Riby St. George went at 40 guineas to Mr. H. L. Barker Lambcroft, Mr. R Challerton gave 39 guineas for a son of Riby Jubilant, and other good sales were:—Mr. J. Atkinson, 30 guineas; Mr. Beachill, 20 guineas; and Messrs. C. and G. Hughes and Mr. H. L. Barker at 21 guineas each, the former buying two at this price. Others made up to 15 guineas, and the average per head for the ninety-eight shearling rams was the good one of £13 17s. Twelve shearling ewes were also offered and Mr. J. B. Nelson, Bigby, brought nine, six at

5 guineas each and three at 5½ guineas, whilst Mr. F. Ward took the other three at 4½ guineas apiece.

Mr. R. Botterill's Lincolns.

A number of choice pure-bred Lincoln Longwool shearling rams belonging to Mr. R. Botterill were sold byauction at Tathwell Hall, Louth, in the presence of a large company of buyers. The sale realised 414 guineas, the chief prices being as follow:—Ram by Tathwell Emperor 42nd, Mr. J. Ward, Withcall, 8 guineas; Emperor 41st, Mr. J. W. Ward, 13 guineas; Emperor 38th, Mr. E. L. Stephenson, South Thoresby, 12½ guineas; Pillar Tathwell, Mr. J. E. Davy, Tathwell, 11½ guineas: Emperor 45th, Mr. C. B. Robson, 10 guineas; Emperor 39th, Mr. W. H. Hole Toder, Louth, 10 guineas.

Peterborough.

Peterborough Ram Fair took place on Wednesday, when the numbers forward were smaller than usual, though exactly the same number of breeders were represented as last year. For good rams bidding was keen, but the poorer lots met with practically no demand. Hampshire Down rams were the most sought after, prices ranging from 5 guineas to 15 guineas. There were a few Oxford Downs and Lincolnshire Longwools, the latter ranging from 5 guineas to 10 guineas.

The chief consignments and prices realised were as follow:—

Mr. J. H. Dobben, Bishopston, Salisbury.—Mr. F. W. Griffin, Bore Fen, 15 guineas and 11½ guineas; Mr. J. Measures, 8 guineas and 7½ guineas; Mr. T. H. Vergette, 13½ guineas, and two at 8½ guineas; Mr. Newton, Grantham, 9½ guineas; Mr. Wiseman, Weston, 9½ guineas; and Mr. Bromhead, 10½ guineas and 8½ guineas. Others from this flock made up to 7½ guineas.

Mr. A. F. T. Drake, Dogdean, Salisbury.—Mr. T. H. Vergette, 5½ guineas, 11½ guineas, and 11 guineas; Mr. Neilson (for Lord Chesham), 8½ guineas and 7½ guineas; Mr. Bowser, 8½ guineas and 10½ guineas; E. Lord, Houghton-on-the-Hill, 11½ guineas; Mr. G. F. Rowley, St. Neots, 10 guineas; and others up to 5¾ guineas.

Mr. C. A. Scott Murray, Hambledon, Henley-on-Thames.—Mr. Baker, 6½ guineas; Mr. Harris, Tinwell, 7½ guineas; Mr. F. Holmes, 7½ guineas; Mr. John Hays, Warmington, 13½ guineas; Mr. V. H. Bettinson, Waternewton, 9 guineas; Mr. J. Fabling, Fotheringhay, 10½ guineas and 9½ guineas; Rev. W. Hopkinson, 11½ guineas and 9½ guineas; Mr. T. H. Vergette, 11 guineas; Mr. A. Whittome, 9½ guineas; and Mr. Milligan, 9½ guineas. Others up to 6½ guineas.

Mr. T. F. Buxton, Water's Place, Ware, Herts. Mr. E. Saunders, 7¾ guineas; Mr Greenfield, 11½ guineas and 9½ guineas; Mr. Wilders, Grantham, 10 guineas; Mr. Longstaff, 13 guineas; Mr. Lamming, 8 guineas; and Mr. Hampton, 9 guineas. Others up to 7 guineas.

Sir Richard Rycroft, Kempshott Park, Basingstoke.—Mr. E. Brand, two at 4½ guineas; Mr. W. Franks, three at 4 guineas; Mr. J. Whitsed, 5 guineas and 4¾ guineas; Mr. A. Wright, 4½ guineas; and Mr. J. Thurlby, Barton, 5 guineas and 4¾ guineas.

Sale of Southdowns.

The old-established herd of pure bred Southdown sheep, numbering 510 ewes and 410 ewe and wether lambs, belonging to Mr. E. G. King, North Stoke, Amberley, was disposed of by auction on Tuesday, together with 20 Southdown ram lambs from the registered flock of Mr. John Tompkins, Angmering. There was a good attendance of buyers, and bidding throughout was brisk. Shearling ewes averaged 59s. 10½d.; four-tooths, 62s. 8d.; six-tooths, 60s. 10½d.; full-mouthed, 53s. 8½d.; draft, 42s. 4d.; ewe lambs, 35s. 9d.; wether lambs, 36s. 9½d.; ram lambs, £7 7s. 7d.

Shrewsbury.

A successful sale of Shropshire sheep was held by Messrs. A. Mansell and Co. at Shrewsbury cattle market, about 1,500 rams and ewes being offered. There was a large attendance of breeders and flockmasters, and satisfactory prices for good rams were realised. One ram, the property of Mr. J. J. Brewin, realised 40 guineas to let for the season, whilst sales were effected at prices ranging up to 18½ guineas, the sales being as follow:—

Rams.—From Mr. C. Blatherwick, the Beam House, Ensdon, Montford, Shrewsbury, shearlings, 7 to 14 guineas; Sir Walter O. Corbet, Bart., Acton Reynold, shearlings, 5½ to 9½ guineas; Mr. J. E. Farmer, Felton, Ludlow, shearlings, 7 to 10 guineas; Mr. T. S. Minton, Montford, Shrewsbury, shearlings, 11 to 18½ guineas; Mr. T. G. Juckes, Tern, Wellington, shearlings, 7 to 10½ guineas; the Duke of Sutherland, Lilleshall, shearlings, 10 to 16 guineas; Mr. J. J. Brewin, Whitehouse, Barnston, near Birkenhead, 25 to 40 guineas (let); Mr. F. Bell, 5 to 19 guineas; Mr. P. Everall, 8 to 13 guineas; Mr. J. H. N. Walford, Ruyton Towers, ram lambs, 75s. to 80s.

Ewes.—From the representatives of the late Mr. W. Nevett, shearlings, 65s. to 90s.; Captain D. H. Mytton, Garth, Welshpool, shearlings, 51s. to 52s.; Sir Walter O. Corbet, shearlings, 95s. to 107s. 6d.; Messrs. C. and W. Kellock, Highfields, Audlem, shearlings, 77s. 6d. to 80s.; Mr. J. H. N. Walford, shearlings and stock ewes, 52s. 6d. to 59s.; Mr. F. Bell, 40s. to 54s.; Mr. E. J. Frank, shearlings, 57s. to 61s.

Truro.

A large number of registered South Devon rams were disposed of by auction at Truro Moor Field yesterday. There was a large attendance, and prices were very good.

Messrs. M. L. Blamey and Son had the largest consignment, forty-six being offered under their hammer. No. 1 of the flock of Mr. G. A. Northey, Gwarnick, Truro, fetched £7 16s. 1d.; ten from the flock of Mr. W. Lanyon, Treludderow, Newlyn East, averaged £10 9s. 4d., the highest price 12¾ guineas; fourteen from Mr. F. Kendall, Bodrugan, Mevagissey, averaged £9 10s. 3d., the highest price being 11¾ guineas; and ten from Messrs. J. Jennings and Son, Treworrick, Mevagissey, averaged £8 10s., highest 10¼ guineas.

Mr. W. H. Brewer offered twenty-one as follow:—From Mr. R. H. Ward, Menna, Brighton, seven hog rams, average £6 15s.; Mr. J. C. Lawry, Tregarton, Gerran, eight hog rams, average £7 10s.; Mr. J. A. Spry, Tregamenna, Ruan High Lanes, six hog rams, average £9 2s. 6d.

Messrs. Henry Thomas, Son, and Co. disposed of thirty one. From the flock of Messrs. J. P. Matthews and Sons, Blerrick, Antony, four hog rams averaged £12 3s., the highest fetching 13 guineas; four ram lambs averaged £3 5s 6d, top price 4 guineas; from Mr. Antony Williams, Penberthy, St. Hilary, ten hog rams averaged £6 5s, top price 9 guineas; from Mr. Wm. Tippett, The Barton, North Petherwin, six hog rams averaged £5 7s. 1d., highest 5½ guineas; and from Mr. E. H. Roberts, Bodinnick, Grampound Road, seven ram lambs averaged 9 guineas.

The Duke of Richmond's Southdowns.

The Duke of Richmond and Gordon's Southdown hill flocks, comprising about 2,200 Southdown sheep, in regular flock ages as follow:—about 270 shearling ewes, 470 four teeth ewes, 360 six-teeth ewes, 530 full-mouthed ewes, 90 draft ewes, and 500 lambs, were brought under the hammer at the Manor Farm, Singleton, on Thursday, in the presence of a large company of buyers. All the animals were from the Singleton, Charlton, East Dean, Droke, and New House Farms, on the Goodwood Estate (these farms having now been let), and, as may be imagined, they were brought out in first-class condition. There was brisk bidding and very satisfactory prices were obtained throughout, the average prices working out as follow:—Shearling ewes, 58s. 10d.; four teeth ewes, 63s. 6d.; six-teeth ewes, 61s. 11d.; full-mouthed ewes, 51s. 6d.; draft ewes, 36s. 7d.; lambs, 33s. 2d. Shearling ewes made up to 65s, four-teeth ewes to 100s, six-teeth ewes to 71s., full-mouthed ewes to 65s., and draft ewes up to 42s. 6d, whilst the lambs fetched from 31s. to 32s. 6d.

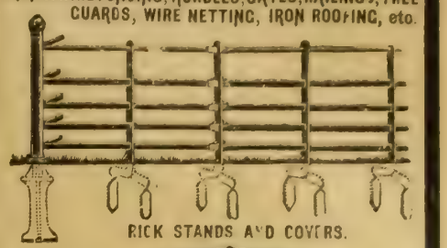
The Baumber Lincolnshires.

The celebrated flock of Lincolnshire Long Wool sheep belonging to Mr. W. Taylor Sharpe, J.P., of Baumber Park, near Horncastle, was sold by auction on Tuesday. The flock has been in the possession of Mr. Sharpe for forty-five years, and had been bred by the Sharpe family for three generations. A shearling ram, purchased from the flock by Mr. Henry Dudding, sired his 1,000 guineas Royal champion ram at York, and Mr. Sharpe's rams have always met a ready sale in Lincolnshire fairs and markets. There was a very large attendance at the sale and good bidding, the result being that 173 ewe lambs averaged 48s. each; 143 shearling rams, 78s.; 202 stock ewes, 71s. 6d.; 107 ram lambs, 63s.; and 73 shearling rams over 9 guineas each. The chief prices for the rams were as follow:—Pedigree shearling rams: Mr. W. Wood, 12 guineas; Mr. G. C. Sharpe, 30 guineas; Mr. R. Botterill, 15 guineas; Mr. Robinson, Spilsby, 16 guineas; Mr. Cartwright, Keddington, 26 guineas; Mr. Smith, Coningsby, 12 guineas; Mr. Park, Westmorland, 15 guineas; Mr. J. B. Nelson, 31 guineas; Mr. F. Scorer, 17 guineas; Mr. J. H. Gaunt, Waddingworth, 16½ guineas and 15 guineas. Stud rams: Leconfield Return, which cost 85 guineas in 1906, Mr. G. C. Sharpe, 36 guineas; Arnold Return, which cost 45 guineas in 1906, Mr. R. Botterill, 14 guineas; Baumber Wholesale, Mr. G. Sharpe, 40 guineas; Baumber Duke, Mr. G. Langdale, 15 guineas; Dexthorpe Champion, Mr. G. Morriss, 26 guineas.

Sheep Worrying.—During the last week farmers in the Ousby district of Cumberland have suffered much loss owing to sheep worrying. Over thirty have been attacked within a small radius, and of these nineteen were killed. A peculiar feature of the case is that four of the carcases were found down an old mine shaft with soil thrown over them.

At the Chester Horse Fair on Thursday there was an average supply, with a smaller proportion of high-class animals. Harvest operations affected both supply and demand, and business proved irregular. Good horses realised the full prices of last month; trap horses, £14 to £30; good cart horses, £25 to £45; and best dray horses, £35 to £70 each.

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LIQUID, POWDER & PASTE.
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MANY Prize-Winners at the Royal Show use BATTLE'S DIPS.

THE GREAT CURE FOR
GREASE IN HORSES.



T. MOTT'S Powder Lotion will cure Grease of all descriptions, 4 dozen 47s, 1 dozen 12s., sample pkts. 1s. 3d. Mott's Condition Powder, 21s. 11d. per case.
Sample tins, 5s., sent carriage paid.

T. MOTT, Littleport,
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CARRIAGE WORKS
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AUCTION SALES.

Auctioneers will favour us by sending in their advertisements as early in the week as possible. Charges for announcements under this heading Six Shillings an inch.

By Messrs. IRELAND.

Norwich, Norfolk.—Ireland's Norwich Hill Auction Mart (established 50 years). Every Saturday. Fat Bullocks and Sheep, Store Sheep. Special Spring and Autumn Store Cattle Sales.

MESSRS. IRELAND solicit consignments for these important weekly sales; best market value assured.

Cattle consigned to Ireland's, Norwich, will be properly fed and carefully attended to.

All cattle weighed upon entry to the sale ring if desired. Full particulars to be sent to—

IRELAND'S, Auctioneers.
Norwich, Norfolk.

By Messrs. HY. DUKE & SON.

10,000 DORSET HORN and DORSET DOWN SHEEP.

POUNDBURY FAIR, DORCHESTER.

MESSRS. HY. DUKE & SON will offer for SALE by AUCTION, on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, their usual IMPORTANT DRAFTS of

EARLY-LAMBING EWES,

as well as a good selection of

FLOCK SHEEP.

Catalogues may be obtained of the AUCTIONEERS, Dorchester, who undertake to act for distant purchasers.

By KENT SHEEP BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION.

REGISTERED KENT OR ROMNEY MARSH SHEEP.

THE Eleventh Annual SHOW and SALE of the Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep-Breeders' Association will take place at the Cattle Market, Ashford, Kent, on FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1907, at 11 a.m. prompt.

The prizes offered for competition at this Sale include a Challenge Cup, presented by the Vice-President (Lord Harris), for the best Ram other than a Yearling; the L. Hardy Challenge Cup, presented by L. Hardy, Esq., M.P. (the President); the Cooper Challenge Cup for the best five Yearling Rams, presented by Sir R. P. Cooper, Bart.; and cash prizes presented by Capt. Somerset Webb (the President Elect) and Messrs. C. E. Gunther, J. Howard and F. Neame, and in addition to these there is also offered a Special Prize for the best Woolled Ram.

In consequence of the offering of these valuable prizes the entry this year is comprised of a large selection, numbering 500, representative of the best strains of blood, and it includes many of the leading Rams of the year, and represents the pick of thirty-seven Registered Flocks, owned by the undermentioned flock-owners:—

The Right Hon. Earl Sondes (12), the Right Hon. Earl of Verulam (16), the Hon. Lord Harris (25), Major Powell Cotton (4), Capt. Somerset Webb (10), Mr. E. Ascharson (8), Mr. A. Amos (28), Mr. J. P. Barnes (12), Mr. J. B. Blake (4), Mr. G. Buley (8), Mr. F. de B. Collard (9), the Exors. of the late W. Elvy (10), Mr. G. Farmer (21), Mr. Chas File (17), Mr. J. File (13), Mr. T. File (6), Mr. Arthur Finn (20), Messrs. L. H. and G. W. Finn (11), Mr. O. E. d'Avigdor Goldsmid (2), G. M. Goodson (6), Mr. E. Hambrook (5), Mr. L. Hardy, M.P. (9), Mr. J. H. Harvey (4), Mr. W. R. Harvey (9), Mr. G. E Hawkins (7), Mr. A. J. Hickman (6), Mr. S. Kingsnorth (9), Mr. W. E. Long (11), Mr. J. D. Maxted (15), Mr. W. Millen (30), Mr. F. Neame (24), Mr. J. B. Palmer (7), Mr. J. E. Quested (34), H. Rigden (50), Mr. G. C. Swindells (25), Mr. H. Walters (3), and Mr. T. Wotton (10).

The judging for the prizes will commence at 8.30 a.m. sharp, the first prize to be awarded being that for the best pen of five Yearling Rams, and the Sale will commence at 11 a.m. sharp, and proceed without intermission to its close.

Lunch and refreshments will be obtainable on the Show-ground, as usual.

Catalogues, when ready, can be obtained from Mr. W. W. CHAPMAN, the Secretary, Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep-Breeders' Association, 4, Mowbray House, Norfolk Street, Strand, London, W.C., to whom all enquiries in respect to this Show and Sale are to be addressed.

By Messrs. JOHN THORNTON & CO.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

FRIDAY NEXT, SEPTEMBER 13.—About 100 SHORTHORNS, at Chipping Norton Junction, Oxfordshire.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18.—Mr. W. Arkell's SHORTHORNS, at Kempsford, Fairford, Glos.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18.—The Hon. Mrs. Howard's JERSEY CATTLE, BERKSHIRE PIGS, and SOUTHDOWN SHEEP, at Dutchlands, Great Missenden, Bucks.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20.—About fifty first-class SHORTHORNS, the property of Joseph Harris, Esq., at Brackenburgh Tower, Carlisle.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24.—Mr. R. Bruce Ward's JERSEYS, at Westwood Park, Droitwich, Worcestershire.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26.—Mr. J. A. Preece's SHORTHORNS, at Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27.—Mr. F. J. Steward's SHORTHORNS, at Whitehall Farm, Brigstock, Thrapston.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1.—Mr. G. T. INMAN'S BERKSHIRE PIGS, at Highmoor Farm, Henley-on-Thames.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3.—Col. Tufnell's and Mr. W. Dannatt's POLLED ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE, at Langleys, Chelmsford, Essex.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4.—Mr. R. Stratton's SHORTHORNS, at The Duffryn, Newport, Mon.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON & Co., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

By Messrs. FERRIS & PUCKRIDGE.

SALES OF REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWN SHEEP,

BY

MESSRS. FERRIS & PUCKRIDGE, of MILTON, near PEWSEY, WILTS.

ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25.—At Maddington, near Amesbury, Wilts, the late Mr. H. E. C. Hooper's Flock of 1,822 EWES and LAMBS, including 837 two, four, and sixteenth EWES and 900 Clulver and Wether LAMBS.

ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27.—Eastridge, near Ramsbury, Wilts, by instructions of Mr. G. L. Waldron, who has let the farm, 217 EWES of regular ages, and 111 Clulver LAMBS.

ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 7.—Chute Lodge, near Andover, for A. Grant Meek, Esq., who has let the farm, 320 EWES of regular ages.

All the above sheep are registered in the Hampshire Down Flock Book, show much nobility of breed, and are generally of good size and quality.

Catalogues may be obtained of Messrs. FERRIS and PUCKRIDGE, Surveyors and Auctioneers, Milton, Pewsey, Wilts; and 82, Queen Street, London, E.C.

By Messrs. AMBROSE & FOSTER.

PRELIMINARY ADVERTISEMENT.

THE LEEDS CASTLE FLOCK OF REGISTERED KENT SHEEP.

MESSRS. AMBROSE & FOSTER beg to announce that they are favoured with instructions from C. P. Wykeham-Martin, Esq., J.P., to SELL by AUCTION (in consequence of the death of the late Mr. T. Powell), at Greenway Forstal Farm, Hollingbourne, Kent, on SEPTEMBER 25, 1907, the whole of the

CELEBRATED LEEDS CASTLE FLOCK OF REGISTERED KENT SHEEP

of all descriptions, numbering about

620,

including 40 SHEARLING RAMS.

Full particulars of the Flock, Time of Sale, &c., will be advertised shortly.

3, Market Buildings, Maidstone.

By Messrs. W. & B. HOBBS.

KENT.
NEWINGREEN
(Close to Westenhanger Station).

BREEDING EWE, TEG, AND LAMB SALE.

MESSRS. W. & B. HOBBS will hold the above sale on WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 11, 1907, where a good supply of trucks will be on hand, and every convenience made for the quick removal of stock.

5,600 EWES, TEGS and LAMBS, including:
2,149 KENT and HALF BRED LAMBS,
2,402 ONE, TWO, and THREE-LAMB EWES,
465 KENT EWE TEGS,
584 KENT WETHER and HALF BRED TEGS.

Sale to commence punctually at TEN o'clock.
Luncheon provided.
Terms: Cash, or Banker's reference required
Auction and Estate Offices, Ashford, Kent.

KENT.
ASHFORD.

BREEDING EWE, TEG, AND LAMB SALE.

MESSRS. W. & B. HOBBS will hold the above sale in the Cattle Market Field, on FRIDAY, SEPT. 13, 1907, where a good supply of trucks will be on hand, and every convenience made for the quick removal of stock.

2,200 EWES, TEGS and LAMBS,
250 KENT and HALF-BRED LAMBS,
1,000 ONE, TWO, and THREE-LAMB EWES,
750 KENT EWE TEGS,
200 KENT WETHER and HALF-BRED TEGS, including 360 capital Kent EWE TEGS, for Mr. ROBERT AMOS.

Sale to commence punctually at 10.30 o'clock.
Luncheon provided.
Terms: Cash, or Banker's reference required.
Auction and Estate Offices, Ashford, Kent

By Messrs. R. W. HOBBS & SONS

OXFORD DOWNS.

SHEARLING RAMS or RAM LAMBS from the KELMSCOTT FLOCK will be SOLD by AUCTION at the undermentioned fairs:—

EDINBURGH, SEPTEMBER 12.
KELSO, SEPTEMBER 13.
NORTHAMPTON, SEPTEMBER 19.

YEARLING EWES FOR SALE AT HOME.

R. W. HOBBS & SONS.
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THE SOUTHERN CENTRAL AUCTION MART,
NEWTOWN, ST. BOSWELL'S, N.B.

22,000 HALF-BRED EWES, GIMMERS and LAMBS.

GREAT ANNUAL SPECIAL SALE
OF
DRAFT HALF-BRED EWES,
ON
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1907, at 9.30 a.m.
Numbers sold last year, 11,320 EWES.

ANNUAL SPECIAL SALE
OF
HALF-BRED GIMMERS, FEEDING SHEEP, and HALF-BRED, THREE-QUARTER-BRED, CROSS OXFORD, CROSS SUFFOLK, and CHEVIOT LAMBS,
ON
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1907, at 10 a.m.
Numbers sold last year, 10,180 SHEEP.

The attention of buyers is directed to these highly Important Sales, which will afford purchasers the best selection of Half-bred Ewes and Half-bred Gimmers obtainable in Scotland.

JOHN SWAN & SONS, LTD.
6, Clifton Terrace,
Haymarket, Edinburgh.

By Mr. GAVIN LOW.

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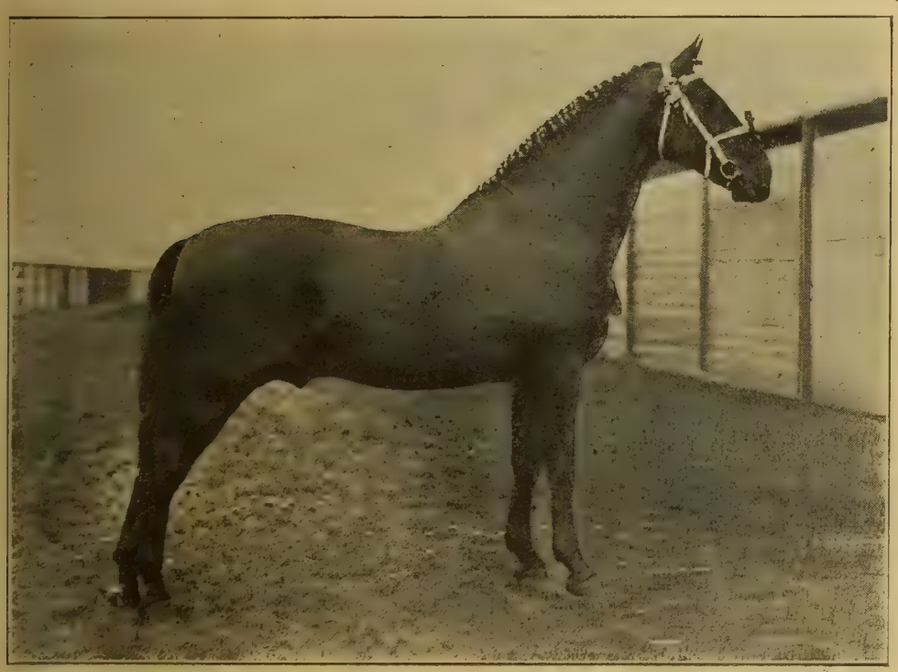
The Royal Commission on Horse-Breeding

The Judges' Report—A Conference—The Weakness of the System—Expenses—Reputation—A Lost Stallion.

THE report of the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding has just been issued, and it affords very interesting reading. Whether it is altogether satisfactory or not may however be well questioned. It is stated that the interest in the show is as great as ever. This understates the case rather than otherwise. Allowing for the special attraction which a new departure always brings in its train, it may be fairly said that the interest in the show of Thoroughbred stallions increases year after year. I do not think that, in my time at any rate, there has ever been so much general interest shown in the breeding of light horses as there is at the present day. I would like to hope that this interest is increasing, and that it will continue to increase. And if this is the case, naturally the winners of the King's Premiums will attract more and more attention every year—and more criticism.

The Judges' Report.

IT is perhaps worth while to compare the reports of the judges last year and this. In 1906 the judges said that "taken as a whole the stallions showed great improvement over those shown in former years, and that a majority of the horses had more bone and substance and truer action than the horses of previous years." This year the judges were more guarded in their remarks, saying generally that the horses exhibited were of a good stamp in the majority of the classes. It is within the recollection of those who watched the proceedings carefully when the judging took place in the Agricultural Hall last March, that many of the classes were very uneven in character and that some of the Premium winners were very lucky indeed to get where they did, and that they were by no means the class of stallion that it is desirable to send round the country. Of course, with horses of such a long pedigree as Thoroughbreds it is always possible that a horse may sire good stock, even if he is not a very good-looking or desirable horse in himself; but, speaking broadly, it will certainly be surprising if some of the districts benefit much from the Premium horses sent into them this year.



The Coaching Stallion, Breaston Prince, sire Beacon Prince, dam Zuleika, winner of First Prize at the Yorkshire Agricultural Society's Show at Barnsley. It was exhibited by Mr. F. H. Stericker, Westgate House, Pickering, but was bred by Mr. Watson, Breaston, Derbyshire.

A Conference.

LAST year there was a conference between the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding and the Board of Agriculture. At the conference the Royal Commission pointed out that under present conditions horses had to cover too wide a district, and the consequence was that the result was not what it should be, and that many breeders were to all intents and purposes out of the reach of the Premium horses. Nothing has come of the conference. Horse breeding being of national importance it naturally gets put to one side, and the Royal Commission was sanguine indeed if it expected that the scheme would receive any useful enlargement at the hands of a modern Government. What we have to do is to make the most of the pittance that is allotted to us, and taking it on the whole I think it may fairly be said that this is done.

The Weakness of the System.

IT is not possible to devise a perfect system of subsidised stallions, and for the very obvious reason that the rights and even the prejudices of owners must be considered. All sorts of hard and fast rules—rules as immutable as the laws of the Medes and Persians—have been suggested. It has been urged that the horses should all be shown in one class, and that the twenty-eight best horses should be selected for the premiums and allotted to the different districts. I have heard this plan advocated with some heat, and perhaps it does not look well on paper. It may be said, and is said, that it is an anomaly that a horse should should take a premium that is not half as good as one that is passed over altogether in another class. There is some justice in the remark, and it is true enough that the twenty-eight premiums do not go to the twenty-eight best horses that are shown. But any hard-and-fast rule in this direction, or any rule which would place the horses entered at the disposal of the Royal Commission, would have only one result—no entries.

Expenses.

A GRAND old Yorkshireman of my acquaintance once said that if he wanted to ruin a man he would give him a Thoroughbred stallion and make him keep and travel him, and that if one did not prove sufficient for the purpose he would give him two. My friend's experiences with Thoroughbred stallions were certainly not of a satisfactory nature, but without going so far as he did, I would point out that for the owner of a Thoroughbred stallion that travels the country the expenses are certain and heavy, the receipts precarious, and the risk great. And the farther from home the horse has to travel the greater are the expenses. So it is not to be wondered at that many men who willingly enter their horses to travel in the Midlands, in Yorkshire or the home counties, or within reasonable distance of their own homes, would have a very serious objection to sending their horses and servants a long distance from home, even if the premium were considerably larger than it is at present.

Reputation.

THERE is a circumstance which the owner of Thoroughbred stallions takes into serious consideration when he is making his entries which the general public is apt to overlook. And yet it is one of the greatest importance to the owner of the horse. I refer to the selection of a district where the horse is likely to make a reputation or to greatly enhance one that has already been made. A district in which high-class mares are to be found, and where the mares are more or less in the hands of men who are likely to show the produce if it is good enough, is naturally selected. A district, too, in which there is a chance of Thoroughbred mares is always favoured by the owner of stallions. A happy accident may at any time lift a horse from a two-guinea fee to a ten or twenty-guinea fee, or even more. Grey Leg was an exceptional case. It was only because of the Duke of Westminster's generosity that he ever came to be a King's Premium horse at all, and the same may be said of the generosity of other owners of exceptionally good King's Premium stallions. But the ordinary exhibitor wishes to make money of his horse, and he naturally wishes to make as much money as possible. And the more he is considered—the greater the opportunities that are afforded him of making the best of his horse, the larger the entries are likely to be and the better the class of horses shown. This is a fact which should be borne in mind by all who have to do with the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding.

A Lost Stallion.

A STALLION that was thrown away for the greater part of his life was Traveller by Partner, dam by Almanzor, grandam by Grey Hautboy. He was bred by Mr. Osbaldeston in 1735, and was the winner of several plates. Then, somehow—how history does not relate—he got into the hands of first one poor man and then another, and finally he drifted to Yarm-on-Tees. When there he served country mares at a fee of a few shillings, and no doubt put a good deal of quality into the Cleveland Bays of the day. Many Cleveland Bays trace their descent back to him; and had it not been for an accident he would have ended his days at Yarm, and been no more than a tradition amongst stallion horse grooms and a few breeders who might remember that their "sort" strained back to the old son of Partner. But it so happened that the Duke of Cleveland had been much impressed by the Hunters he had seen by him: so much so, that he went to see him, and finally decided on sending his fine mare Slighted by All to him. The result was Dainty Davy, who was foaled when his sire was seventeen years old. Dainty Davy was undoubtedly one of the best horses of his day, and drew attention to Traveller, who was afterwards the sire of several very good horses. I am not quite sure what became of him. I have an indistinct recollection of his having been sold for £200 or £300, but of this I cannot be quite sure.

THE LOOKER-ON.

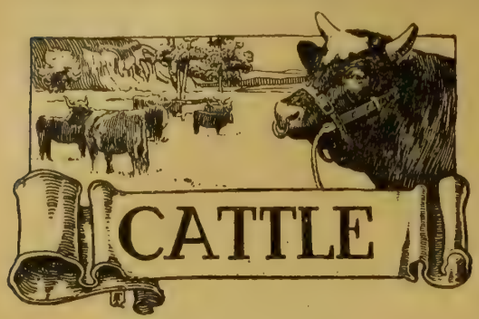
Sale of American Harness Horses.

There was a capital attendance at a sale of American harness horses by Mr. Douglas H. Grand at Hendon on Tuesday, and a good trade. Mr. Withers paid the top price, 180 guineas, for a well-matched pair of bay geldings. Messrs. W. J. Smith and Co. secured two fine pairs for 140 and 110 guineas respectively. Messrs. Donay and Bartlett, of Paris, purchased several lots, including a handsome red roan gelding, which fetched 100 guineas; whilst a blue roan went to Mr. Megregor for 95 guineas.

Some smart harvesting work is reported to have been performed by a Great Bentley farmer. He sold a quantity of oats by sample to a Glasgow firm, as they were standing in shocks in the field. They were immediately carted to the machine and threshed, conveyed by barge to London, and before eight o'clock the next morning had been unloaded into a Carron steamer for Scotland.

Mr. T. W. Russell, M.P., Vice-President of the Irish Department of Agriculture, has appointed a committee to inquire into certain matters relating to the improvement of forestry in Ireland. The committee consists of Mr. P. Gill (chairman), Lord Castletown, Mr. William Redmond, M.P., the most Rev. Denis Kelly (Bishop of Ross), Mr. Hugh de Fallenburg Montgomery, Mr. Commissioner Bailey, Mr. William Rogers Fisher, M.A., and Professor John R. Campbell. The committee will commence its sittings in October.

The seventh congress of the International Co-operative Alliance is to meet from September 22 to September 25 at Cremona. The first subject to be discussed is "The National Organisation of Agriculture on a Co-operative Basis," to be introduced by the Danish Minister of State, M. Högsbro, and M. Raineri, president of the Union of Italian Agricultural Co-operative Societies. There will be another communication, emanating from the Executive Committee, on the general lines to be followed in agricultural organisation and on the relations to be cultivated between the agricultural and other forms of co-operation.



Notes and Jottings.

GENERALLY speaking, all classes of cattle are very healthy this season, but just at the present time that nasty scourge, hoose or husk, is rather playing havoc with the spring-reared calves, and those that are low in condition will in many cases have considerable difficulty to get over it. No time must be lost in administering some of the many remedies that are advertised and known, and every possible means must be taken to keep up the strength of the animals. A well-bedded open shed for them to go in at night is a capital thing, where they can have a pound each or so of linseed cake per day and a little sweet hay. Also the water supply should be pure and clean. If a good spring is available it is very helpful, but even then care is necessary that the animals are not allowed to foul it with their feet or droppings.

I BELIEVE the question of water supply is not often sufficiently considered where rearing young calves is concerned. I recollect many years ago reading an account of an Irish veterinary surgeon's views upon this disease, wherein considerable stress was laid upon the water supply, the writer of the article giving it as his opinion that impure water was a far more fruitful cause of the disease than any other circumstances, and I well recollect how, upon reading the article, I had a spring of pure water conducted into a trough in the field where my calves were, and ever afterwards that field was specially saved for the calves, and attacks of hoose were very rare afterwards, though prior to the improved arrangement for water a season rarely passed without giving a good deal of trouble and often loss.

ALL calves of the present year will need attention earlier than usual this season, whether hoose is prevalent or no. The coldness of the nights has been quite phenomenal, freezing point having been reached several times in some cold localities during the last three weeks. With healthy calves a yard to lie in and a little hay to pick at their option will be sufficient except where rapid growth is desired, in which case some good linseed cake or a little crushed oats and chop will assist greatly in pushing the animals forward.

THE announcement that our cattle census this year falls short of last year's numbers by some 98,000 head will cause considerable uneasiness in the minds of most people who are interested in this branch of the live-stock business. Many times we have urged upon farmers and breeders the advisability of rearing a certain number of well-bred calves each year, and thus keeping up a supply for their own needs as well as helping to keep up the national supply. If the calves cannot for any reason be bred upon the farm, they might easily be purchased from some of the best herds of general purpose dairy Shorthorns. These make excellent feeders, and can be brought up when home reared in a manner most suitable to the requirements of the farm upon which they are bred or reared.

IT is a very singular thing, but certainly true, that in many parts of the country the young stock that are available for purchase are of simply a wretched description, possessing neither quantity nor quality. Why this should be in these days of increased numbers of pedigree bulls in use is quite difficult to understand. Possibly the fact that a good number of the stock that are offered in the markets when a year old have been brought up by very small farmers who have purchased them at the local auctions for rearing, too often taking the lowest-priced ones on account of the initial outlay. This is a very bad policy to pursue. A well-bred, healthy, good-coloured calf, bought at anywhere between £2 and £3, will leave more for profit behind it than a mongrel purchased for £1.

THE great and continuous demand for milk in our villages, towns, and cities has no doubt a good deal to do with the falling off in the number of cattle. When all the milk is sold off a farm direct from the cows the difficulty in rearing calves is rather great to contend with, and though some people have proved very successful in rearing upon calf foods or other substitutes for milk, a good deal of care and trouble is necessary that some farmers rather begrudge or leave to their inexperienced men, or even when in the hands of experienced herdsmen these are often too much handicapped with having more work to attend to than they can do properly, and so the young calves, being to all appearances of less consequence than the other cattle, have to put up with a certain amount of neglect.

Birmingham Autumn Shorthorn Show and Sale.

The growing importance of the autumnal Shorthorn show and sale at Bingley Hall, Birmingham, was again evident last week, for instead of a one day fixture as it used to be, two days (Wednesday and Thursday) were necessary, the judging being completed and the cows and heifers sold on the first day, whilst the second was devoted to the sale of the bulls. The entry was 477—a record number for the autumn fixture—and of this number 202 were bulls, 275 cows and calves, whilst there were 63 cows with calves at foot. Nearly all the leading Shorthorn breeders were represented, and a feature of the sale was the inclusion of Mr. R. W. Hudson's well-known herd of fifty-one head from Danesfield, Marlow, Bucks. Mr. Hudson has been a very successful breeder and exhibitor of late years, but he has now decided to retire from the field, and the fact that he is letting his land has necessitated the dispersal of his herd. The high esteem in which it is held by breeders was proved by the animals from the herd making the best prices. There were good attendances of both home and foreign buyers on both days, and the event proved a most successful one. Details of the owners and prices obtained in the various classes follow:—

Cows and Heifers.

The cows and heifers were divided into four classes, and in each there was a capital entry both as regards numbers and quality. The best class was that for cows or heifers exceeding three years old, for these numbered 163, and included many animals of exceptional merit. The judges gave the first prize to Lord Sherborne's Florodora, a useful seven year old, but she sold cheaply, Mr. Beech giving only 57 guineas for her, and the best in the opinion of buyers was Mr. R. W. Hudson's Beauty Oxford, a beautiful roan heifer, three years old, and with an exceptionally long pedigree. For her bidding was particularly brisk, and it was not until Mr. Holford bid 180 guineas that she was knocked down to him. The second prize taken in this class was Primula 65th, a seven-year-old, the property of Mr. H Turner, Worcester, and she was sold to Colonel Beech at 37 guineas, whilst for 23 guineas Mr. Foljambe secured the third winner, Welcome Lady, also seven years old, shown by Mr. C H. Joliffe, Darlington. Much better prices were obtained for other animals in the class. For instance, Mr. Hudson sold Maisie 2nd, with her twin calves, for 148 guineas, Sir O. Mosley being the buyer, and for his reserve animal, Apple Blossom 9th, a red seven-year old, and her calf, he got 116 guineas, the purchaser being Sir R. P. Cooper. Mr. Hudson also sold the following amongst others in this class:—The commended Duchess of Barrington 55th, Mr. Hazell, 52 guineas; Hambledon Kirklevington Lady 3rd and her calf, Mr. Kellock, 85 guineas; Snow Queen and her calf, Mr. George, 95 guineas; Duchess of Barrington 70th and her calf, Mr. Dean, 70 guineas; Duchess of Kirklevington 2nd and her calf, Mr. H. M. Webb, 65 guineas; Lady Ruth 2nd and her calf, Sir O. Mosley, 66 guineas; whilst Lady Fedora Fawsley and her calf went to Mr. Dean for 99 guineas. Other animals entered in this class from various herds made up to 51 guineas.

The best of the thirty-three two-year-old heifers in the opinion of the judges was Dr. Vaughan Harley's Notlaw Bridesmaid, a beautiful roan, and she came in for keen competition at the sale, being eventually secured by Mr. Eccles at 105 guineas, but for the reserved animal, Mr. Hudson's well-bred Danesfield Lady Bates, Sir R. P. Cooper had to give 125 guineas. The second prize taker, Furbelow, shown by the exors. of Mr. John Naylor, Welshpool, fetched only 30 guineas (Mr. George) but Lord Calthorpe got 40 guineas for his Murthly Eliza, sold to Mr. Munro, and Mr. Hudson sold Danesfield Kirklevington Lady for 63 guineas to Mr. Scott Murray.

Yearling heifers numbered close on sixty, and made a splendid class. The first prize was given to Captain Clive Behrens for a pretty roan named Swinton Georgina, and she realised 52 guineas from Mr. Blundell, whilst second honours went to Mr. Hudson for Danesfield Barrington, who, at the sale, quickly ran up to 80 guineas, at which figure she fell to Mr. Dean. Mr. Hudson also sold Danesfield Barrington 2nd to Mr. Holford for 59 guineas, and Danesfield Kirklevington Lady 2nd to Mr. Kellock for 45 guineas, whilst Mr. Horlick got 47 guineas from Mr. Munro for Marigold.

The judges gave the first prize for heifer calves to Lord Sherborne's Fairy Footstep which was sold to Mr. Steward for 27 guineas, the second prize winner, Mr. Haley's Whitewall Ann 4th, going to Mr. Bass at 30 guineas, whilst Capt. W. B. Harrison got 40 guineas for his highly commended Allershaw Golden Duchess, but top price of the class was got by Mr. Hudson for Danesfield Bertha, Mr. Holcroft giving 46 guineas for her.

Bulls.

The prices obtained for the bulls did not rule so high as for the females, the demand being nothing like so good, and many bulls went very cheaply.

The top price in the class for bulls exceeding eighteen months old was 100 guineas, which was given by Mr. Duborg, a Danish buyer, for Mr. R. W. Hudson's third prize taker Earl of Yewden 16th, a roan son of Rotherfield Augustus, and calved in January, 1906. The first and second winners—Mr. John Handley's Cumberland-bred Silverspoon and Mr. C A. Hewitt's (Ledbury) Scotch-bred Guard well Duke—went for the insignificant sum of 26 guineas each Mr. Poels bought several good animals in this class for the Argentine. He gave 66 guineas for the Earl of Carnarvon's Prince Joseph 45th, and 48 guineas for Miss Alice de Rothschild's Waddesdon Cherry Startle. Mr. Bucha, a German representative, paid 61 guineas for the same exhibitor's reserved bull Waddesdon Seagull; Sir Richard Cooper purchased Brimming Measure, shown by Mr. R. H. Thompson, Penrith, for 50 guineas. Lord Lilford from the herd of the Hon. W. F. D. Smith, Greenlands, Henley-on Thames, for a like amount, and the highly-commended Lotherton King, an exhibit of Mr. T. Winter, Aberford, Leeds, for 56 guineas.

There was an entry of 118 in the class for bulls between twelve and eighteen months old, and the highest price was 130 guineas, paid by Mr. George Harrison for Mr. Hudson's second prize roan bull, Danesfield Storm King. The first prize winner, Fylde Lord, the property of R. Silcock and Son, Poulton-le-Fylde, was sold to Mr. Bucha for 45 guineas, and this gentleman bought several cheap bulls for Germany. The Hon. W. F. D. Smith's reserved bull, Duke of Buckingham 8th, went to Mr. Duborg for 53 guineas; Longley Count, which took fourth ticket for Mr. W. S. Dowding, Longney, Gloucester, to Mr. Watkin Jones for 41 guineas; Mr. Hudson's Danesfield Prince, to Mr. Rowlandson for 55 guineas; and Barton Norton, exhibited by the Rev. Le Gendre G. Horton, Bath, went to Mr. J W. Wheatley for 51 guineas.

The young bulls under twelve months old numbered twenty-nine, and the best both in the opinion of the judges and buyers was Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote's useful-looking roan Kingscote Duke 31st, for whom the Marquis of Exeter gave 71 guineas. Mr. Haynes bought the second prize-taker, Hindlip Heir, from Mr. G. Gerrard, Hindlip, Worcester, at 46 guineas; the Earl of Camperdown, Shipston-on-Stour, sold Weston Veritas to Mr. Coxon for 41 guineas; and his lordship afterwards gave 32 guineas to Lord Fitzhardinge, Berkeley, for the commended Albany; whilst the reserve bull, Woodborough Commander, belonging to Mr. T. Potter, Nottingham, was sold to Mr. Tiemaine for 43 guineas.

The Duchess of Devonshire's Dexters.

A choice selection of Dexter cattle from the well-known herd belonging to the Duchess of Devonshire took place in the grounds of Compton Place, Eastbourne, on Thursday, and attracted a fairly large company of buyers, the excellence of the stock being well known. The Duke and Duchess of Devonshire were present during the sale, and they must have been disappointed with some of the prices realised, for several choice animals did not reach 10 guineas. The representative of H M. the King gave the top price of the sale, viz., 63 guineas, for the big prize-winner Daphne, whilst he also took Compton Dolly Varden (1902) at 47 guineas, and Compton Dolly Varden (1905) at 37 guineas. The last-named price was also given by Mr. F. B Bulley, Gloucester, for Compton Dorcas, Mr. Price gave 40 guineas for Compton Tiny, and Mr. Greensell Allen, Uxted, 31 guineas for Compton Deswa. Thanks to these good figures, the average for the sale worked out at about £19 per head.

Transactions in Store Stock.

(Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

Athlone Fair, co Westmeath, was held on 3rd inst. Average supply of cattle; improved demand for animals with condition and quality; other sorts sold slowly:—Yearlings, 1st class, £8 10s.; 2nd class, £6 10s. to £7; 3rd class, £4 15s. to £5 10s.; two years old, 1st class, £11 5s. to £12 5s.; 2nd class, £8 to £10 5s.; 3rd class, £6 10s. to £7 2s. 6d.; three years old, 1st class, £14 to £15 10s.; 2nd class, £10 15s. to £13; 3rd class, £7 10s. to £9 10s.; springers, 1st class, £16 10s. to £18; 3rd class, £9 10s. to £10 15s.

At Bandon Fair, co. Cork, held on the 4th inst., there was an average supply of cattle, the demand being good. Yearlings, 1st class, £8 to £9 10s.; 2nd class, £6 to £7 5s.; 3rd class, £4 15s. to

£5 10s.; two years old, 1st class, £10 15s. to £12 10s.; 2nd class, £8 10s. to £10 5s.; 3rd class, £6 15s. to £7 10s.; three years old, 2nd class, £13 to £14; springers, 1st class, £14 to £15 15s.; 2nd class, £12 5s. to £13 5s.; 3rd class, £11. Average supply of sheep, and demand fair. Lambs, 1st class, 30s to 33s.; 2nd class, 25s. to 29s.; one-year-old and over, 2nd class, 38s. to 44s.

VETERINARY.

Advice of a Veterinary character, by a M.R.C.V.S., is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Colt.

SIR,—I wish to thank your M.R.C.V.S. for his instructive remarks in answer to my inquiry as to the prevention of milk-fever, and am pleased to see he intends continuing the same.

It will be in the remembrance of this gentleman that some little time ago I requested his opinion with regard to a ruptured colt (a Shire) at birth, which he designated as congenital scrotal hernia, and corroborated what I mentioned I had been told, that it would probably right itself in time.

The colt is now a yearling off, exceptionally big for his age, and in all other respects most promising. What I wish to know is (as it does not right itself, and the time has arrived that it ought soon to be castrated owing to natural propensities), would it be safe now to do so (of course by a skilled veterinary and a M.R.C.V.S.)? I should esteem the advice of your veterinary and his experience on this matter as a favour, as mine is nil, never having one like it before, neither has anyone else of my acquaintance.—Yours, &c.,

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

*** The difficulty is that we do not "remember," and considering the number of cases with which we have to deal this is no disgrace. It is, however, of no particular moment, since what we have to consider is the case of a colt a year off suffering from congenital scrotal hernia, which as yet has not, as is generally the case, become spontaneously reduced—or, as you express it, "it does not right itself." So far as the lapse of time is concerned the case is not hopeless, and especially if there has been fluctuation from time to time in the volume of the swelling, since the hernia sometimes persists for over a year. Writing of congenital scrotal hernia, Williams says:—"This, the most frequent but the least dangerous species of hernia, is an attendant on birth, augmenting up to the third or sixth month, after that diminishing, and ultimately disappearing. Should it continue without lessening in volume for a year or eighteen months, it may be considered as, and has in fact become, a chronic or permanent scrotal hernia. In case the swelling, however, instead of being always the same, at intervals diminishes, and continues so to do, more sensibly as time advances, it will in the end recede altogether; and though it return again at times, still the relapses, growing less marked or frequent, at last the gut will enter the ring no more."

We do not know what has been happening from time to time in the matter of fluctuations in volume, or if the case must now be regarded as one of chronic or permanent scrotal hernia; but if there is any doubt, it seems that you might advantageously wait until the spring. In any case, you would hardly have the colt castrated so late in the year. It is, of course, usual to have the operation performed in the spring of the year succeeding the birth of the colt, the end of April or the beginning of May being the period generally fixed upon. This season of the year, when the east winds have ceased to blow, when the weather is neither too hot nor too cold, and there are few flies about to torment the animal, is the most suitable. If for any reason the operation is not performed when the animal is a yearling because of the presence of scrotal hernia, or because the colt is poor, thin, or ill furnished, it is usual to defer the operation until the following spring, and this we regard as preferable, unless the circumstances are exceptional, to operating in the autumn, when the pestilent British fly is particularly vicious, the weather uncertain, and the days short, and the nights long and cold. We advise you therefore to wait, if the animal can be controlled, until next spring. If the rupture persists, the colt will have to be castrated by what is termed the "covered operation," or by the inclusion of the scrotum and testicle, after returning the intestine into the abdomen, in a wooden clam. You recognise that the operation should be performed on your colt by a qualified veterinary surgeon of skill and experience, and thus it would be wise to consult the practitioner you propose to employ as to the time and method of operating.—M.R.C.V.S.

Ireland's Exports of Cattle, Horses, &c.

That Ireland is more than maintaining her most important branch of agriculture—the horse and cattle trade—is strikingly shown in the annual report on the administration of the Diseases of Animals Acts for 1906, for the figures given show that during that year the total number of animals (*i.e.*, cattle, sheep, swine, goats, horses, mules, asses) exported to Great Britain was 1,900,098, as against 1,848,327—being an increase of 51,771 animals. Particulars of the numbers of each class of animals are given as follows:—

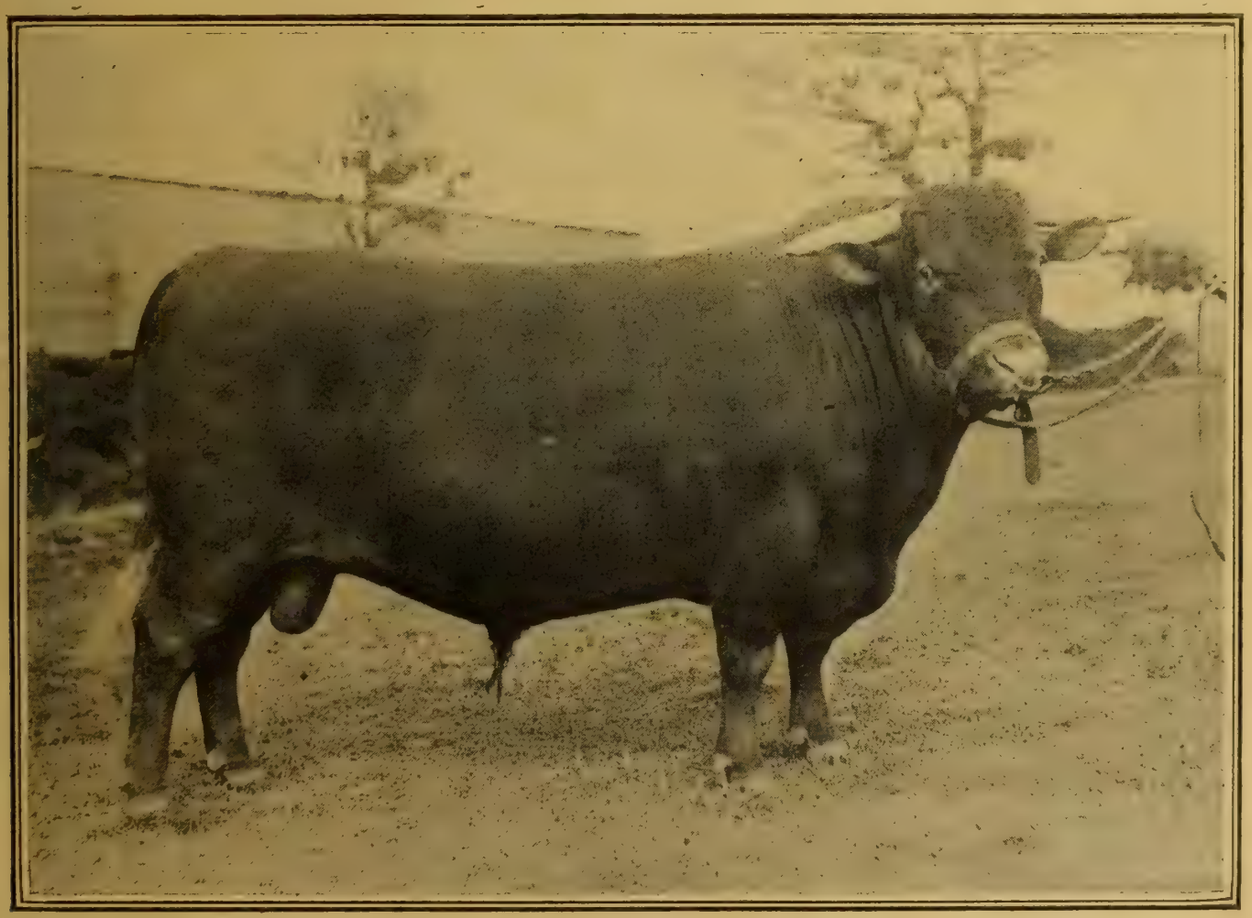
Animals.	Year 1906	Increase.	Decrease.
Cattle	775,374	26,243	—
Sheep	657,413	—	43,213
Swine	429,430	65,607	—
Goats	2,417	126	—
Horses	33,816	3,093	—
Mules	11	1	—
Asses	1,637	—	86
Total	1,900,098	95,070	43,299

It will be seen that there was a decrease of 43,213 in the exports of sheep. This may be in part attributable to the fact that there were fewer sheep in the country in 1906 than in any previous year since 1888. There has been a marked decline in sheep breeding of recent years, the number having dropped from 4,386,876 in 1900 to 3,714,832 in 1906.

On the other hand, there was an increase of 26,243 in the number of cattle exported, and a very substantial increase of 65,607 in the number of swine exported. This may be accounted for partly by the fact that larger numbers of swine were bred in the country in 1906 than in 1905, the figures being:—1906, 1,244,193; 1905, 1,164,316.

The increased exports of swine can also be attributed to the removal by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries from March 1, 1906, of the prohibition against the importation of store swine from Ireland into Great Britain which had been in force during the greater part of the year 1905. In 1905 only 1,032 store swine were exported to Great Britain, while in 1906, when the prohibitive order was relaxed, the exports of store swine rose to 19,920.

The exports of horses in 1906 were the largest for the past six years, numbering 33,816. The number of cattle imported into Ireland from Great Britain in 1906 for purposes of breeding or exhibition was 458, as against 631 in 1905, and of swine for similar purposes 71 in 1906, as against 23 in 1905.



The animal shown above is the Devon Bull, Pound Pink 'Un, winner of a First Prize and the Championship for Devon Bulls at the Royal Show at Lincoln. It was shown by the Hon. E. W. B. Portman, Hestercombe, Taunton, but was bred by the late Mr. A. C. Skinner, Pound Farm, Bishops Lydeard. Pound Pink 'Un was born January 4, 1903, sire Councillor, dam Pink 17th.

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

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HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL, Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Hereford. Stud Horses: Lockinge Lord of Misrule and Lockinge Bonny Lad, both by Lockinge Forester, full brother to Lockinge Forest King. Colts and Fillies for Sale.

MUNTZ, FREDERICK ERNEST, Umberslade, Hockley Heath, Warwickshire. Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, prize-winners.—Particulars from Mr. JOHN T. B. HARTLEY, Estate Office.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners, on Sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

ROWELL, JOHN, Bury, Huntingdon. Breeder Shires and Hackneys; Stallions for sale, hire, or service at home; mares and fillies for sale.

WHITEHEAD, Robert, Fashionably bred mares and fillies in natural condition on Sale. Stallions, Bodenham King 17177, Whitestone Prince Alfred 22930.—Apply J. M. JOHNSTONE, Burgate Hall, Euxton. Station, and telegrams, Millers Dale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

SHETLAND PONIES.

BEALE, Mrs. A. J., Cacketts, Cudham, Kent. Prize-bred Pedigree Shetlands for sale; three grand Stallions at stud.

PONIES.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

PREECE, JOHN ADNEY, Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston, Northampton.—Herd of 250 Shorthorns, best Bates and Scotch blood; stock Bulls, Duke of Barrington 70th, Primrose Earl 89641, and Royal Baron 93192; Bulls and Heifers for sale.

ROTHWELL, R. R., Much Hoole, near Preston. Pedigree Shorthorns, chiefly Scotch blood. Stock bull Strowan Marquis 13th, winner of many prizes. Young bulls and heifers always on sale.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

TAYLOR, GEORGE, Cranford, Middlesex.—Bates' Shorthorns, deep milkers. Winners Milking Competitions, London Dairy Show, 1905-6. Bull Calves for Sale. Stock Bulls: Beau Sabreur, Drumeree, Rowbury, and Kirkcharm.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

SUSSEX.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath, Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Sussex Cattle (descended from the oldest and best strains of blood), unrivalled for their early maturity, the production of the best beef and working oxen, and ability to thrive in all weathers on the roughest fare. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for Sale.

HEREFORDS.

PULLEY, CHARLES THORNTON, Lower Eaton, Hereford. Noted prize-winning herd of HEREFORD CATTLE. First prize Royal winners, Protector 19660, 1900; Eaton Champion 21351, 1903; and Ashleaf 3rd, 1905. This herd is headed by Eaton Champion and Glendower 2nd 22196, also a Royal winner. Bulls and Heifers for sale. Also prize-winning Shropshire Sheep.—Apply Mr. HEDLEY JONES, Lower Eaton Estate Office, Hereford.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has in 1904 1905 and 1906 won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by Eudale, Rage Protector, and Fusilier. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited.—Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford Herefordshire.

CATTLE—*continued.*

HEREFORDS—*continued.*

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for Sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

DEVONS.

BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Cipton Williton, Taunton, Breeder of Pedigree Devon Cattle. A speciality for large size, with quality and robust constitutions; colour dark red. Sent to all parts of the world. Prices moderate.

SKINNER, ALFRED C., Pound, Bishops-Lydeard, Somerset. Pedigree Devons, constitution, quality, size, milk; 600 prizes principal shows, many champions; exports most successful; bulls and heifers for sale. Inspection invited.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

BRIDGES, J. H.—This old-established herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle of the leading families can be seen at Langshott Home Farm, Horley, Surrey (near Horley Station, L.B. & S.C.R.), and catalogues obtained on application to Mr. Albert Pulling.

HURSLEY PARK HERD OF ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE, the property of Sir George Cooper, Bart., comprising Erica, Pride, Miss Burgess, Lady Ida, Matilda, Jemima of Morlich families. Prizes won during 1906: 7 firsts, 3 seconds, 3 reserves, 1 challenge cup, 2 silver medals, 3 reserve champions. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.—Catalogues on application to V. F. Lease, Estate Office, Hursley Park, Winchester.

THE ROCKLIFFE PARK HERD of Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, Ericas and Prides. Stock Bull, Pundit of Preston (17,156), Champion at Highland Show, 1904.—Apply, R. C. SWAN, Rockliffe Park, Darlington.

AYRSHIRES.

WALLACE, JAMES, J.P., Auchenbainzie, Thornhill, Dumfriesshire, Scotland. Breeder of pedigree prize-winning Ayrshire Cattle; hardy, healthy good milkers; bred for dairy purposes, beauty and style. Bulls and Heifers for sale.

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably, from his prize-winning herd of Red Polls, Bulls, Cows, Heifers, from good milkers.—Apply C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

CARY-ELWES, V., Billing Hall, Northampton. Breeder of Jersey cattle.

JERSEYS, and Alderney Guernseys, fresh calved and near calving. Prices, particulars.—R. WHEADON, Ilminster.

MERTON GRANGE GUERNSEYS.—Property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. This Herd contains Champion Bull Royal Counties, Portsmouth, and Champion Cow Royal Derby, 1906. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of best Breeding for Sale.—Telegrams and particulars, W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay.

STERN, Sir E. D., Fan Court, Chertsey, Surrey. Herd of pedigree Jersey Cattle. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

TICHBORNE PARK, GUERNSEY.—Yearling Bulls and Heifers for sale.—Apply, D. MICHIE, Estate Office, Tichborne, Alresford, Hants.

GALLOWAYS.

GRAHAM, ROBERT, Auchengassel, Twynholm, breeder fashionable Galloway Cattle, winners at Royal and Highland Societies Shows. Pedigree Bulls, Cows, and Heifers, also Blue-greys for feeding, for sale. Commissions carefully executed.

KERRIES & DEXTERS.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

THE DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE'S PRIZE-WINNING DEXTER HERD.—During 1904 and 1905 this Herd won more prizes than any other three Dexter Herds combined, including both first and second milking prizes Royal, 1905, and first London Dairy Show, 1906. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers generally for Sale.—CHILD, Compton Place, Eastbourne.

RATTRAY, DAVID, Gortnaskehy, Ballybunion, Co. Kerry. Pedigree Prize-winning Herd of Kerries and Dexters. 156 Prizes and Honours won by Cattle from this Herd past three years. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONG WOOL.

ANDERSON, JOHN, Barton-on-Humber.—The old Barton Flock of Pure-bred LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, Flock Book 106. This flock is noted for hard constitutions and fine, lustrous wool. Inspection invited. Telegrams as above.

ATKINSON, T., & SON, North Kelsey, Lincoln. Old-established flock of pure Lincoln Longwools. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Noted for great size and long lustrous wool. Have given great satisfaction at home and abroad. Inspection invited.

SHEEP—*continued.*

LINCOLN LONG WOOL—*continued.*

BROOKS, W. J., Stowe Lodge, Weedon, Northants (Registered Flock 165), has for sale Rams and Ewes of best blood.

BROCKLEBANK, JOHN, Bassingham, Lincoln. (Flock 24). Pure-bred Lincoln Longwool Rams and Ewes. This old flock has been carefully bred for 100 years. Telegrams: Bassingham.

DRAKES, Wm., Tealby, Market Rasen. Flock No. 72 of Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs of best blood for sale. Lincoln Red Shorthorns. Prices moderate.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

SMITH, HENRY, jun., Cropwell Butler, Nottingham. Lincoln Longwool Flock No. 7, winner of £2,361 in prizes. Champion pen Lincolns, Smithfield Show, 1896; Association Championship, Leicester, 1897; Association Championship for pen of 3 Shearling Rams, Yorkshire, 1900; Championship, Rutland, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, and 1906. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

THE CHILMARK FLOCK OF REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—Owner, JAMES FLOWER, Chilwark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records. Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, out of 11 years competing, 'The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" won eight times, thrice second, with pens of 8 ram lambs; a marvellous record. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 13 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05-06. At the Royal at Derby, 1906, every First Prize, two Seconds, and the Champion were won; an unequalled success!! Champions Birmingham, 1905, over all breeds, Reserve in 1906. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Short-wools, Smithfield, 1904-05-06. Highest average past 13 years. Bridford Fair, Aug. 12, 100 Ram Lambs, annual sale. Selections for Sale.

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1907.—Extraordinary records: Twin ram lambs let for 205 and 120 guineas. Ninety averaged £21 10s. Selections always for Sale.

JUDD, SIR GEORGE, Cocum, Barton Stacey, Hants.—Pure bred Hampshire Downs, over 1000 Ewes. Annual Sale, Ram Lambs, August 8th, 1907. Registered Vol. I., page 17.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. The Cholderton flock is individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded in the Hampshire Down Flock Book. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury.

OVEY, R. L., Hernes, Henley-on-Thames.—Pedigree HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK, Reg. Vol. IV. Prize winners leading shows last five years.

WINCHESTER, the Most Hon. the Marquis of, Amport St. Mary, Andover, Hants. Pure-bred flock of Hampshire Down Sheep; high-class Rams and Ewes always on Sale.

OXFORD DOWNS.

ADAMS, GEORGE, Royal Prize Farm Flock, Faringdon, Berks. Pure Oxford Down Sheep, Shearling Rams, Ram Lambs, Ewes and Ewe Lambs for Sale. Special arrangements with foreign buyers. Many first prizes at R.A.S.E. and other shows during past 25 years, including 2 first, 2 second, and 4 other prizes, World's Fair, Chicago, and 7 firsts, 4 seconds and champion at Royal Bath and West, Royal Counties, etc., this year.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

TREADWELL, JOHN, Upper Winchendon, Aylesbury. Oxford Down Sheep. Annual Ram Sale, first Wednesday in August. Prizes won at R.A.S.E. 24 years in succession. Ewes for Sale.

WENSLEYDALE.

UNDERLEY WENSLEYDALES (Blue-faced), from the best blood obtainable. Successfully exhibited.—Apply, G. G. ROBINSON, Bailiff, Underley Farm, Kirkby, Lonsdale.

(Continued on page 325.)

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

CHARLES SPENCER, having taken over the Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts, herd of Large and Middle White Pigs, which won 12 prizes and reserves with 11 exhibits at Derby Royal, will price any of them.

FULWOOD HERD LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES, property R. R. Rothwell. 200 head bred from winners at leading shows.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for Sale at moderate prices

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station, G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices. —J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM. Herd of Large White Pigs. The oldest and largest Herd in Notts County. Over 100 Breeding Sows kept. Upwards of 600 to select from. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—Apply ARTHUR A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 100 to choose from. Correspondence invited. Grand young breeding stock always on Sale.—Apply R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts (15 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

SPALDING HERD of Pedigree Large Whites, young stock and in-pig Gilts for Sale. All bred from great winners.—ALFRED W. WHITE, "Hillegom," Spalding.

MIDDLE WHITES.

THE CATTON HERD of Prize-winning MIDDLE WHITE PIGS, property of J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stock Boar Castlecroft Mikado, 1st Park Royal, 1st Bath and West. Gelts and Boars on Sale. Prices moderate.—Apply BAILIFF, Raddle Farm, Edingale, Tamworth.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 86 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

LARGE BLACKS.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath. Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Large Black Pigs of the best strains of blood, noted for their docility and for the production of a large proportion of lean meat. Good selection of Boars, unrelated Gilts, and in-pig Sows for Sale at reasonable prices.

CATTON HERD OF PRIZE-WINNING LARGE BLACK PIGS.—Stock Boar Trevisquite Excelsior 1487, 1st Devon County, 2nd and Reserve Champion Royal Show, 1906; pigs kept in hardy natural condition; gelts and boars always on sale.—Apply, J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stations: Croxall, 2½ miles (M.R.); Alrewas, 3½ miles (L.N.W.).

HASKETON CHAMPION PRIZE HERD OF LARGE BLACK PIGS.—This herd has won the Royal championship three out of four times, and is the only herd having won the breed challenge cup. Record: 47 firsts, 37 seconds, 11 thirds, 126 prize-winning cards; the herd this year being the winners of 14 firsts, 6 seconds, 2 thirds, championship and silver cup in five shows. Gelts and Boars at moderate prices consistent with quality. Exportation a speciality.—Apply, C. F. MARRINER, Hasketon, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS.—Select Herd, bred from choice Prize Winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale, moderate prices.—H. J. CLARKE, The Slade, Roughley, Sutton Coldfield.

WHEN Breeding, breed from the best Pedigree Large Black Prize-winning Pigs. TREVEGLOS HOPEFUL II., winner of First prizes and R.A.S.E. Silver Challenge Cup, 1907, beating all other Cup winners; also 1st Prize Bath and West, Newport; 1st Royal Counties, Maidenhead; 1st Royal Cornwall, Liskeard; 1st Devon County, Bideford; also 1st prize at the Royal Show, Lincoln, for Boar and Reserve for Champion prize. Boars and Sows for Sale of the above strain at moderate prices —Apply to JOHN WARNE, Treveglos Farm, St. Mabyn, R.S.O., Cornwall.

BERKSHIRES.

CARNARVON, the Earl of.—Prize winning Pedigree Herd. BOARS and GELTS, eligible Herd Book. Prices moderate.—Apply W. T. HALL, Highclere Farm, Newbury.

BERKSHIRES—*continued.*

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge. Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

READING CORPORATION. 150 Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, leading prize-winning strains, from son of Champion Mikado 104?? and prize-winner Domino 11828; inspection invited.—Apply, Mr. T. Chettle, Manor Farm, Reading, Berks.

STALL PITTS HERD OF PEDIGREE BERKSHIRES. One of the Oldest Herds. Unsurpassed for true character, size, and quality. Choice selection of Boars and Sows on offer at moderate prices.—J. LAWRENCE, Stall Pitts, Shrivenham, Berks

BORROWFIELD & COLSTON HERDS.

The property of R. MILLINGTON-KNOWLES, Colston Bassett Hall, Notts.

LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES.

The following First Prizes, Championships, and Medals have been obtained by pigs **BRED** in these Herds in 1907:

1st and Champion, Gold Medal, R.A.S.E., Lincoln.
1st & Champion, President's Medal, Highland, Edinburgh,
1st Welsh National, Aberystwyth.
1st Bath and West Newport; 1st Royal Counties.
1st Nottingham; 1st Suffolk; 1st Norfolk.
1st Derby.
1st Hereford and Worcester; Special Prize Lincoln Agricultural Society; 1st Great Yorkshire; 1st Newark.

A number of additional Firsts and other Prizes have also been gained at the above Shows.

At the St. Louis Exposition, U.S.A., in 1904, the Champion Boar, and the Grand Champion of the Exposition were bred at Colston Bassett.

The Foreign and Home trade has largely increased during 1907.—GILBERT H. ELLIOT, Estate Office, Colston Bassett, Notts.

For Sale.

PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.

Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.

GEORGE HOYLES, Skidby Manor, near Hull.

GEORGE HOYLES.

SKIDBY MANOR, HULL.

Breeder of Pure Lincoln Long Wool Sheep. Lustrous Fleeces. Good Constitutions.

SUITABLE FOR HOME AND ABROAD. STOCK FOR SALE.

West Country Notes.

THE cheese trade in the West is just at an interesting stage now, when the June makes are beginning to come into the markets. It is therefore of practical value to learn that the sellers at the Cheese School, dissatisfied with an offer of 63s. from the firm who have for so many years taken the whole make, went to a fresh firm, Messrs. William Cary and Son, who have purchased at 66s. This is not far from the top price prevalent, though of course some exceptional dairies are making more. The cheese disposed of at the school comprised the May and June makes.

THERE appears to be a very good make of cheese for the year, and though a lot of "baby cheese" is coming forward, there is good to fo low where longer time can be allowed for maturing. The ripening is slow, and not enough cheese rooms are capable of being hurried or retarded.

WHETHER the presence of Irish exhibits, or some other cause, tended to the curious result, it is the fact that the championship of the Mid-Somerset Show for cheese went to the second in its class. The overlapping of rennet makers' prizes placed this as first in a special class. When the full bench of judges came to award the championship, both first and second came in, and the result was that by six to two the previous decision was reversed.

THE gentlemen responsible for the original award roundly declare that they were right on flavour, this being of the right nutty character desired, whilst the texture was more silky. The test for fat, to which the prize cheeses were submitted later, does not affect the judgment, but it showed that whilst the proportion in the champion lot was 35 per cent., that in its rival was only 32 per cent.

TWO hundred miles by motor car in two days was the task which Mr. Theodore Candy and Mr. Ernest Hill undertook for the purpose of judging on the farms where it was made some thirty lots of cheese made in ten consecutive days at the end of June and the first day or two in July. They were enthusiastic at the result of this novel method, and gave a very neat hint to some of the cheese makers of their impressions by awarding a special prize from their own pockets to the lady whose dairy and cheese room came best up to their ideal of what such places should be. The cheeses were identified by means of an impressed stamp, so that there was no possibility of their being changed.

THE Canadian Commissioner of Agriculture and Cold Storage has been busy in the West Country during the past week, and has been picking up what wrinkles he could, not only as to outlets for trade, but also as to English methods.

LAST year at this season a party from New Zealand were visiting old friends "on a holiday," as they said, but in reality, as I discovered, brought over by an enterprising West Countryman, who was able to place more of certain products on the market than he could command from home supplies. Not a few up-to-date ideas did these gentlemen—experts themselves before they had left England originally—pick up to carry back with them and adopt at the Antipodes.

ARE we in this country quite as ready to learn from others? I do not think we are. But that is no reason for assuming that we are being left behind. There is a West Country saying anent farming which is well remembered, "Follow the man who is successful."

LET a man achieve success in any line of farming and he will not merely be watched by his neighbours, but friends from far and near will renew acquaintance to learn what they can from him. If he is shrewd he makes them pay for his knowledge. Nor does it thwart their intentions, his making a charge for imparting his secrets. They are ready to give time, and money too, to learn what they can, and will do their best to put it into practice, either systematically or by rule of humb.

THE demand for visits from the peripatetic instructors of the county councils also show English farmers are willing to learn at home.

TO return to our cheese and the Canadian Commissioner. The amount of pressure applied in his opinion makes the great difference between the English and the Canadian Cheddar, whilst the factory system prevalent in his country produced the greater uniformity the make exhibits.

RIVALRY is encouraged amongst the various factories by a system of rewards on the average make, as demonstrated by the comparison of a certain proportion of the make from each factory. Here, too, the stamping, which was referred to last week, comes in.

IN Manitoba, I learn, the Devonians have banded themselves into a society, one of whose objects is to place at the disposal of new-comers from the home county their advice and experience, and the practical aid which will fit them for their new surroundings. They are also ready to give information as to the best centres for intending settlers.

WILTSHIRE men are very busy with the harvest, and some of the fairs are suffering from the effects of the uncertain weather. If it happens to be a fine day, unless he has some special business to transact, the farmer leaves pleasure alone to see to his corn, or even in some cases his hay. The results are that their business-like character tells above the pleasure element, and the proprietors of the itinerant shows are deprived of a profitable item, whilst they are suffering also from the weather themselves. I have some sympathy with these showmen. There are some generous-hearted and kindly natures amongst them who are very ready to help where they can.

AT one of the shows lately a man came purling off the roundabout at my feet, and lay there coolly smoking a pipe. He was undoubtedly in liquor, and though he had sustained a compound fracture of the leg he gave no indication for some time. The hospital which received him was in a town which the showman visited shortly after, and became for one day, as the showman told me with a gleam of humour to cover his real feelings, "sole proprietor of the roundabout," and took all the money that could be made from it.

An unusual number of foxes have been turned up during harvesting operations in South Devon. In two fields as many as eleven were aroused, but the farmer had given strict orders that none shou'd be shot, though they had done great damage to his crops.

Midland Notes.

THE Birmingham Autumnal Shorthorn Show passes from one success to another, and it is still growing. To get 477 entries together (as was done at last week's fixture) is really a remarkable achievement for September—or would certainly have been thought so when the show was started. But breeders recognise the attractions of an exhibition which enables him to hold on to a good beast all the summer show season, and then finds an excellent market for him at the end of it. Birmingham people as a whole care nothing for these spring and autumn Shorthorn shows, regarding them as very unimportant in comparison with the fat stock show in the same building in December. They would probably laugh if told that the profit from these minor fixtures enabled the big show to be carried on; but the statement would not be far from the truth.

THERE is more trouble over the American gooseberry mildew pest. It is but a week or so ago since growers in Worcestershire were vigorously cutting back infected bushes and burning the diseased shoots. They were then given to understand that this was all the Board would require; and they were prompt in doing all that was demanded of them, although attending to the gooseberry bushes just lately has meant loss of money by missing some of the best of the plum season.

SINCE then, however, the county council has been sending out postcards ordering pruning to cease because the Board insists upon the Act in its entirety being carried out. In other words, the pruned bushes are to be altogether burned. Meanwhile the petition asking for compensation is being circulated in many districts of the county, and the county council's reply is being awaited with some anxiety.

I HAVE had an opportunity of looking into the arrangements which the railways are making to cope with the temporary rush of traffic from the fruit districts. The impression created is that whatever may be the grievances of growers with regard to heavy rates, and whatever the hardships arising from occasional delay in delivery, the railway people are showing commendable energy, and a disposition to facilitate the traffic as much as possible. The Midland Company, for instance, have sent down a special staff from Birmingham to deal exclusively with the fruit consignments; and at Evesham a new departure has been made in the organisation of a temporary service of drays which distribute empties, and are loaded on Sundays while the rush lasts.

THE special fruit vans which were built a few years ago have been doing excellent service this year, though there is no such difficulty in keeping the produce cool this season as is often experienced. They carry the fruit in good condition, and are returned immediately full of empties. Just lately it has been no uncommon thing to find trains from the fruit districts so heavy and lengthy as to demand the services of additional engines; and the sight of the long row of vans reminds one of the enormous amount of dead weight which our railways have to haul in proportion to the merchandise they carry.

HOPS are late this year, but the pickers from Neales Owen, Old Hill, Rowley, Cradley Heath, and other parts of the Black Country, are already beginning to arrive in the Hereford and Worcester gardens. Yesterday the first special trains were run for their benefit, a large number of people travelling to Bromyard, Tenbury, Ledbury, and other districts. It is to be feared the work will be less pleasant this year than usual, for cool days and very chilly nights are the rule, even when rain holds off. But nowadays the hop-pickers are generally better accommodated than they used to be.

THE High Court of Justice has appointed Mr. H. J. Peart, a Birmingham accountant, as receiver and manager in the case of the Avondale Bread Company. The company mills English wheat at Evesham, has retail shops in several parts of Birmingham, deals in preserves made from local fruit and other farm products of the district, as well as in bread. I understand it is intended to re-establish the business as soon as possible upon a firmer basis, and that both debenture holders and creditors are showing every disposition to assist in a scheme of reconstitution, so that a trading concern which has been distinctly valuable to the district shall not be lost.

ONE generally hears of an accident or two during the harvesting season. The most serious I have learned of this year took place at Kersoe in Worcestershire last week, when a labourer fell from a load of hay on to the prongs of a hay-fork, which penetrated his left breast and came out at the back of the neck. The impact was powerful enough to drive the handle of the tool far into the ground—2 ft. down, it is declared—before breaking it off. One is glad to hear of the condition of the unlucky man described as "quite hopeful"—testimony to the strength of vitality induced by good plain living and healthy work in the open air.

September 4th, 1907.

"**Bad for the Cows.**"—A Manchester-to-Colne express, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway, was on Monday night delayed by a remarkable mishap. When near Radcliffe the passengers experienced a slight shock, and great excitement prevailed until the train was brought to a standstill. It then transpired that a herd of cows had strayed on to the line, and that, dashing into them, the engine had killed three and maimed several others. It was half an hour before the train could proceed.

An illustrated catalogue of farm implements, comprising harness, ploughs, cultivators, rollers, manure distributors, pumps, &c., has just been issued by the Bon Accord Engineering Co., Ltd. (successors to Messrs. Ben Reid and Co.), Bon Accord Works, Aberdeen. Attention may be particularly drawn to the patent artificial manure distributor described in this catalogue, for it possesses many advantages, amongst which may be mentioned the following:—Its form of hopper prevents bridging, its delivery entirely prevents clogging, whilst the quantity can be varied instantly, and the delivery is continuous and regular.

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THE Council of the Metropolitan Borough of Woolwich invite TENDERS for the supp'y of FORAGE for a period of six months from the 1st October, 1907.

Forms of tender and any information required can be obtained at the office of Mr. J. Rush Dixon, Borough Engineer, Town Hall, Woolwich.

The person or firm whose tender is accepted will be required to enter into a formal contract.

Sealed tenders, properly filled in, must be delivered to me at the Town Hall, Woolwich, not later than 12 noon on MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1907, in envelope endorsed "Tender for Forage."

Samples to be submitted with each tender.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order,
ARTHUR B. BRYCESON,
Town Clerk.

Town Hall, Woolwich,
September 2, 1907.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET, ISLINGTON.

CONTRACT FOR HAY, STRAW, CLOVER, MIXTURE, OATS AND BRAN.

THE Cattle Markets Committee of the Corporation of the City of London will meet at Guildhall on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, at 2.30 o'clock p.m. precisely, to receive TENDERS for the supply of the finest Upland English Meadow HAY, STRAW, CLOVER, English MIXTURE, Russian OATS and BRAN, at the Metropolitan Cattle Market, for a period of twelve months from October 1, 1907.

A printed form of tender, with conditions, may be had on application at the Town Clerk's Office, Guildhall, or at the office of the Clerk and Superintendent at the Market.

The Committee do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

Tenders must be delivered at the Hall keeper's Office, Guildhall, on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1907, between the hours of One and Two o'clock.

BELL.

Guildhall, E.C.,
August, 1907.

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CONTRACTS FOR FLOUR, CORN CHANDLERY, HAY & STRAW, BREWERS' GRAINS, &c., &c.

THE Asylums Committee of the London County Council are prepared to receive TENDERS for the supply, from 1st November, 1907, of FLOUR, CORNCHANDLERY, HAY and STRAW, &c., for 5 months, and BREWERS' GRAINS for 12 months, to all the London County Asylums, viz.:—

1. Banstead Asylum, near Sutton, Surrey.
2. Bexley Asylum, Bexley, Kent.
3. Cane Hill Asylum, Coulsdon, Surrey.
4. Claybury Asylum, Woodford Bridge, Essex.
5. Colney Hatch Asylum, New Southgate, N.
6. Hanwell Asylum, Hanwell, W.
7. Horton Asylum, Epsom, Surrey.
8. Long Grove Asylum, Epsom, Surrey.
9. The Manor Asylum, Epsom, Surrey.
10. The Epileptic Colony, Ewell, Surrey.

Tenders for Brewers' Grains may include delivery at the Asylum or not, at the Tenderer's option.

Printed forms of tender (upon which alone tenders will be received), conditions of contract, and particulars of estimated quantities required, may be obtained at the office of the Asylums Committee, No. 6, Waterloo Place, S.W., on and after Monday, the 9th September, 1907.

(Continued on next column.)

TENDERS—(continued).

Tenders must be delivered at the said office not later than 9 30 a.m. on Tuesday, the 24th September, 1907.

The Asylums Committee do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tenders, and reserve to themselves the right to accept such tenders, or part thereof, as they may think fit to select.

H. F. KEENE,
Clerk of the Asylums Committee.

London Asylums Committee Office,
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3rd September 1907.

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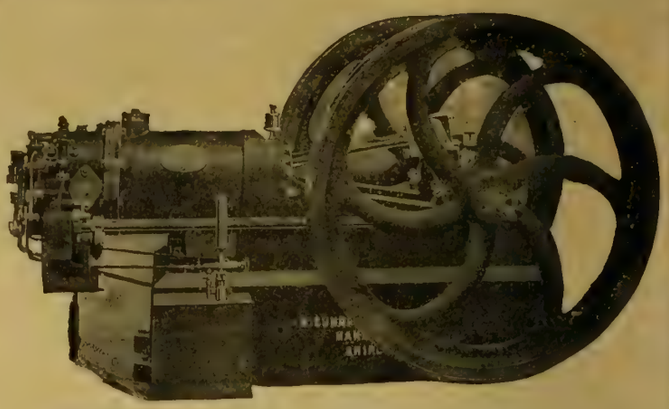
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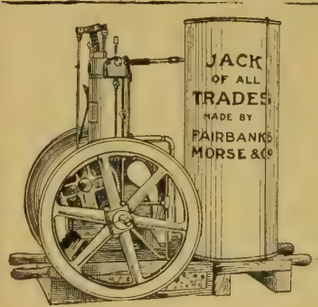
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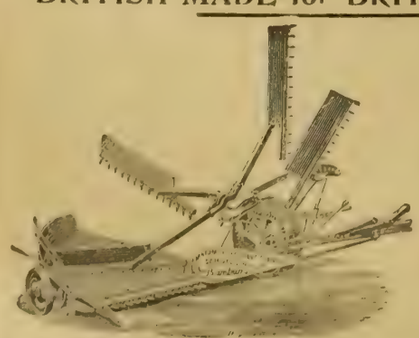
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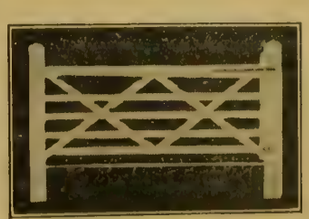
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Seasonable Topics.

September. ALL through this disappointing summer we have been waiting for the clerk of the weather to redeem his reputation, and at last—in the second week of the harvest month—he appears to be making an attempt in the above direction. With the bitter experience of what should have been the summer months so fresh in the memory we cannot feel much confidence in the future; but how delightful are these harvest days, and how welcome is the sunshine for drying the straggling remnants of the hay crop, ripening up the corn, and helping along the roots! Our thoughts now turn southward and westward to the counties where thousands of busy fingers are engaged in the work of hop-picking, and "hoppers," like the rest of us, have reason to feel thankful for this late attempt on the part of old Sol to triumph over dull and gloomy skies. Will it last? we ask ourselves as we write; but we are afraid to offer an answer to our question, as we have hoped so often and in vain, but now that conditions have improved we must take advantage of every real harvest day for getting the storm-beaten corn into the stack.

Second Crop Seeds. IN some catchy seasons we can remember the best hay of the summer was made from the second crop of seeds in September, but it is doubtful whether such will be the case this year. Never, we think, do we remember such a muddling, wearying, overlapping, and topsy-turvy harvest time, and it looks as if this sort of thing was going on to the end of the chapter. The other day we called on a farmer friend who was taking advantage of a brief spell of sunshine and doing his best to finish up his hay harvest proper, pick up a second crop of seeds, and carry his winter oats all at the same time. You need not ask, reader, whether the man was worried. Probably you have been in a similar plight yourself, and if so you know. But as for second crop seeds, some farmers have given up to them so far as any idea of hay is concerned, and though they have kept off ensilage hitherto, they have resorted to this method of disposing of the second cutting from the clover fields. Nor do we think it a bad plan, because when we get well into September, be the climatic conditions ever so favourable, the mists in the early evening, which hang till late the following day, are by no means favourable for haymaking. In short, September is the month for corn-harvesting rather than making hay.

Footpaths. IT is very nice when walking along a dusty road on a hot summer's day (we have had these, by the way, in the past) to be able to turn aside, mount a stile, and a take footpath across a field, and arrive at the place one wants to get to with springy turf beneath one's feet, and the knowledge that one is reducing the distance as well as increasing comfort by taking the short cut. It is something to know that motor cars have not yet taken possession of footpaths, and the pedestrian choked with dust and half suffocated with the stench of petrol feels that when he gets off the motor's highway (king's is no longer a proper term to use here) on to a footpath crossing a field that he has still one privilege left to him. And what do farmers think? Through the successive generations of agriculture footpaths have been thorns in their sides which cannot be removed. These roads, made by right of custom, cut through the best fields, upset the privacy of farms, and often pursue an aggravating course where they are no advantage to anybody, and the way across the farmer's field is further than going round by the road. Common sense says shut up these useless footpaths, at any rate; but Mr. British Public says no. They are his heritage, and he guards them with a jealousy which borders on stupidity; but he is not quite fair in his views, for whereas he will oppose, tooth and nail, any proposal to close a footpath, he will never hesitate about making a fresh one if he is allowed to do so.



By permission of ["*Vanity Fair.*"

"SMALL HOLDINGS."

(Earl Carrington, President of the Board of Agriculture).

Old Toasts. IT was the custom in the old days far more than it is now for farmers at market dinners, rent dinners, club dinners, and other convivial gatherings to propose toasts, and the phrases were guarded with a certain amount of jealousy by those who treated them as their own property. It would have been a great breach of etiquette for one man to knowingly propose another man's toast, and even after the death of an individual his toast was not given without quoting the name of the departed, as one would a famous author. Here is an example of a toast given by an old farmer at many a festive board:—"Here's health, wealth, long life, happiness and prosperity: good crop of corn, good price for your wool, more friends and less need of them." The phrasing of the above suggests an era of agriculture belonging to the past, but what could one wish for more? Quaintly constructed and often amusing were the old toasts which our grandfathers used to give, and though some of them have been handed down, many others have been lost to memory in the passing of years. What one regrets more than this, however, is that there was a jovial spirit of good fellowship amongst farmers in the old days which is by no means so apparent now.

The Grubbing of Hops. WE learn from the annual report of Messrs. W. H. and H. Le May, the well-known hop factors, that there are 1,784 acres less than were in cultivation last year, and whereas thirty-one years ago there were over 72,000 acres of hops in the country, now the acreage is only 44,938. According to the report as far back as 1819 there were 51,014 acres of hops when the consumption of beer was not more than one-fifth of what it is to day. What is the reason of this? The question is our own, and

the answer is culled from the factors' report :—"There is only one reason for this grubbing of hops in England—they don't pay the producer. Free imports are killing this industry as they have many others." It is not cheering to hear of this serious reduction in the acreage of hops and the decline of a time-honoured agricultural industry, and when we think of the consumption of Britain's national beverage—beer, this sort of thing ought not to be. We accept Messrs. Le May's explanation here without comment, but wonder at the same time how much of the beer, so-called, consumed at the present day is brewed without hops.

Education and the Imperial Exchequer.

NOW that there is no Education Bill to provide food for argument, and passive resisters are less notorious, various local bodies are devoting their energies in the direction of passing resolutions to the effect that the cost of education should come out of the national purse. To relieve the rates of the burden is the idea, and a very good idea too, but these good people seem to forget that if the burden were lifted off the rates it would fall somewhere else, and we should still have to pay for education. That education is costly now every ratepayer will agree, but if the change were made would things be managed more economically, and would there be the same local control? We have an idea that some of the individuals who sit at board meetings and support resolutions that the cost of education should be a national charge, do so under the impression that it would be an easy means of getting out of paying, but do not let us make any error about this. We are not arguing here, for or against; but there are two sides to every question, and it is well to examine both of them

Sport in the Cornfield.

MOST of us at some time in our lives have shared the excitement which prevails when corn is being cut and frightened rabbits, wondering, doubtless, at the cause of the disturbance, bolt out as the area of cover gets smaller and smaller. As we know from experience shooting rabbits as they bolt out from the corn is not bad sport, but unless one is fairly handy with a gun it is not wise to take part in it, for bolting rabbits can move at a fair pace, and to make a series of misses is not the way to win the admiration of the harvesters, who treat the rabbits killed in the light of perquisites. Further, there is a certain amount of risk attending rabbit shooting in a cornfield, because harvesters have a knack of losing their heads and getting excited, particularly when the rabbits bolt quickly from the last patch of standing corn. The men, forgetful of the guns, will rush across the line of fire, wildly attempting to knock over the rabbits with sticks, and it was this imprudence which recently led to a youth losing an eye and another getting his lower limbs riddled with small shot.

Big Potatoes.

THE average housewife when she purchases potatoes from the greengrocer prefers tubers of medium size rather than very large ones, and on the grounds of quality we certainly agree with her. In the same way the judges at vegetable shows frequently pass over large tubers in favour of medium-sized specimens, and they do so on the grounds that they wish to encourage quality rather than size. Quite right; but in commercial potato culture there is considerable demand for big tubers, and if they are not quite up to the mark when viewed from a standpoint of quality this does not make any difference. It is for the chipper that the demand has arisen for big potatoes, and it is surprising how many people eat chipped potatoes in these days. Long, oval tubers are the best for chipping purposes, and there is a market for anything big so long as the potatoes are of fair shape and not too deep in the eyes. As a matter of fact we have heard inquiries made for a really big potato, such as we should in the ordinary way term a cattle potato, to supply the demand for chips. King Edward VII. seems to meet the requirement as well as anything up to the present, which is probably the reason why this variety is grown to such a large extent.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Cider must be made from Fruit.

Of course, the matter is not one of vital moment to the whole agricultural community, but it is one of significance as revealing the trend of events—as revealing the anxiety of officialdom to secure purity of food. I am, of course, alluding to the campaign which has been successfully initiated in the West of England on behalf of pure cider. That initiation means that if a beverage is heralded as "cider on draught," it is a false description if, generally speaking, that beverage is not made from the juice of the apple. In this instance analysis failed to admit the presence of a single drop of apple juice. I applaud the timely intervention of the Board of Agriculture, at whose instance the proceedings were taken. This intervention is in harmony with the purpose of the Butter Act.

* * *

Suggestions to the Chambers.

If this policy be only the policy of Protection with the large P, why was it not resorted to by the last Government with its undeniably Protectionist sympathies? No, it is not Protection in the conventionally-economic sense. This Government in this sense does not deserve to be accused of arraying itself from the economic wardrobe of its rivals. The purpose in this is to secure absolute purity of food, and this has no more to do with Free Trade and Protection than with the sands o' Dee or with the monoliths of Stonehenge. Ministers deserve credit for their courage in pursuing a policy their predecessors, the traditional friends of agriculture, had not the strength or inclination to pursue. Will Messieurs the Chambers of Agriculture ask that this policy should be completed and continued? There are other avenues in which it might well be applied. There is, for instance, legislation still required in connection with the supply of milk. No dispassionate man can have read the recent pitiful and tragic revelations as to the manner in which chemical and obnoxious milk substitutes—I am thinking in particular of the report of the medical officer of that throbbing centre of Metropolitan life, Battersea—are a dire and fecund parent of infant mortality. To insist on the banishment of the milk fraud is to create a healthier childhood. Let not any Chamber be discouraged because its sphere is not a great apple centre, or because the local milk trade is not a profitable one. Sympathetic agitation in this matter is a duty it owes to the whole agrarian community.

* * *

A Scientific Point of Interest.

There is another phase of this question—a quasi-scientific phase—which is deserving of the thought of those politicians and organisations who may be seeking to influence the character of the regulations to be imposed under the Foods Regulations Act. This Act, I emphasise, is designed with the intention of preventing the importation of putrescent foods. Now, the greater bacteriologists of this generation, men as eminent as the late Professor Koch and the present Swedish authority, Professor Kellog, have asserted definitely that meat juice is a distinct conveyer of germs. Whilst fruit juice is the enemy of all forms of bacteria, meat juice may be described as a kind of pathological ally and friend. Now, this fact should induce the politicians and organisations to whom I have referred to insist that, if there is to be any differentiated treatment under those regulations, it should be in favour of fruit. There must be no loophole permitted for the contaminated imported meat. As I say, this is a scientific matter, and partly beyond my province. However, the machinery under which the scientific anxiety can be realised is brought under the ægis of Parliament. To make the insistence I have suggested is in the direct interest of British food-producers. Will Messieurs of the Chambers of Agriculture heed?

* * *

An Interesting Recruit to Toryism.

The ordinary politician will not, perhaps, attach the significance which is its due to the secession of Mr. Mark Beaufoy, J.P., from the Liberal party. Mr. Beaufoy is usually regarded in his industrial character as one of the most distinctive manufacturers of popular beverages in the metropolitan area. However, Mr. Beaufoy—a man, by the way, of great charm of manner, grace of speech and undeniable intellectuality—has another character. As the squire of that delightful Wiltshire retreat, Donhead St. Mary, he is a considerable influence in the agrarian politics of Wilts and Dorset. As a fact, he made the announcement of his secession from the Liberal party at the Shaftesbury agricultural dinner. When Mr. Beaufoy first went to Wiltshire he carried with him the distinction of being one of the rising members of the House of Commons, and the local Liberals assiduously sought his aid, although, as a consequence of the tyrannous attempt at coercion by the extreme teetotalers of his constituency, Mr. Beaufoy's Parliamentary career was interrupted, his connection with the Liberal Association still continued. As a fact, he was the right-hand man of that genial cavalryman and old-fashioned Liberal, Sir Thomas Fraser Grove, during the time he sat for the Wilton division. Mr. Beaufoy would scarcely have made this announcement in the public manner he did had he not designed to return to the Parliamentary arena. Will he be an urban or a rural candidate? Mr. Beaufoy's tastes are rural, despite his metropolitan associations. A sportsman, a fine follower of the hunt, a lover of all animals, a keen shot, something more than an amateur farmer, his natural bent would be to a rural constituency. Well, whether the Dorsetshire or the Wiltshire Unionists secure him—and naturally the Unionists of the Shaftesbury division comprehend that his winning personality would be an asset of theirs in a contest—Mr. Beaufoy would carry into a fight an admirable equipment for a renewed Parliamentary career. Few men between 1899 and 1905 more impressed the House than did he; and the old-time rural Parliamentarians—I am in particular thinking of Mr. Henry Chaplin—would cordially welcome his re-appearance. What is the Liberal loss is assuredly the Conservative gain.

* * *

In that Greatness be Fair.

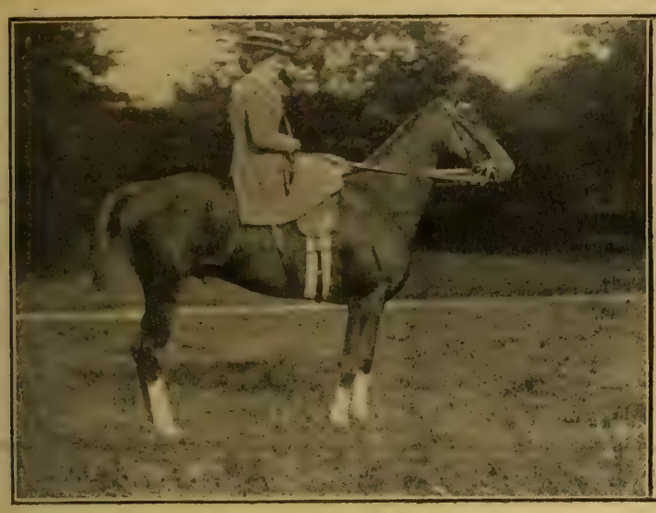
I am bound to say that the claim of certain Conservative Members is rather hard on the Liberal Government. They declare that because Mr. Harcourt promised that the Commissioners under the Small Holdings Act should not be partisans, they ought to be Conservative. Is this fair? Would Conservatives be non-partisan? The Small Holdings Act, after all, embodies principles of which the Conservatives as a body disapprove. Should antagonists of that policy be inevitably made the dictators of that policy? I only put it to my readers. I do not say that a Conservative should not be appointed. I only say that the Act is a Liberal measure embodying principles of which the Conservatives generally disagree, and that it is a little unkind to insist that both the executive officers should be Conservative. Let at least one be a Liberal.

Dr. Fream Memorial.

Under the Presidency of the Right Hon. the Earl of Jersey, P.C., a meeting of the general committee of the Dr. Fream Memorial Fund will take place at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, on October 8 next, at 12.30, in a room on the right-hand side of the Barford Street entrance (by kind permission of the council of the British Dairy Farmers' Association), when the reports of the executive committee and the hon. treasurer will be presented, with a recommendation that the following resolution passed at a recent meeting be confirmed :—

"That the Fream Memorial Fund shall be invested in the name of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries or of an official trustee selected by the Board, and shall be administered by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, and that the income shall be applied by way of a Fream Memorial Prize of books, to be competed for in each year by students in the science of agriculture, and so that as long as an examination is held by the National Agricultural Examination Board for the National Diploma in Agriculture the prize shall be awarded to the person who obtains the highest marks in such examination."

The above resolution has been communicated to Sir Thomas Elliott, Secretary to the Board of Agriculture, who has intimated that that Department is prepared to accept the responsibility which would devolve upon the Board of Agriculture in the event of this resolution being carried by the general committee.





CARDIFF HORSE SHOW.

Mr. W. J. Tatem's Penylan Minister (ridden by Mrs. Tatem), winner of First Prize for Covert or Lady's Hack.

Judging the Champion Harness Mare or Gelding Class, in which Mr. Hoffman's Riot won First Prize.

CARDIFF HORSE SHOW.

THE Cardiff Horse Show last week celebrated its silver jubilee; it was fitting that the weather should be all that could be desired on both days —Wednesday and Thursday—that the attendance of visitors should be practically a record one, and that the entries should also be the best on record. The total was nearly 600, or 100 more than last year, and the quality all round was excellent. There were, however, two regrettable incidents which somewhat marred the proceedings. On the first day Mrs. Hartley Batt, who, as usual, was most successful, was showing Heathfield Squire in harness when some unevenness in the ground caused her to lurch against a groom who was seated behind her, and who was thrown out. Mrs. Batt lost the reins, and the horse careered off madly. Doubling back the animal scattered the judges, and things were looking serious when the groom, who had in the meantime recovered his feet, luckily seized the horse by the head and brought it to a standstill.

The second incident was unhappily of a more serious nature. Whilst the judging was taking place in the Hunter class on the second day, Mr. Evans's Sarah got beyond the control of her rider, and, galloping at the fence surrounding the ring, broke through it, and jumped into the midst of a crowd of spectators. About half a dozen persons were knocked down and injured, and one, a Treherbert grocer named Roberts, was taken to Cardiff Infirmary in a critical condition, and on Friday succumbed to his injuries, the base of his skull having been fractured. The animal and her rider were unhurt.

FIRST DAY.

There was an attractive programme for each day. On the first the judging began with the yearling Hunters, of which there were ten—a really good lot. The principal award went to Whitesocks, a promising chesnut gelding, the property of Mr. A. E. Bowen, of Hockley Heath; the second prize being won by Mr. H. L. Woods, of Pembroke, and the third by Mr. J. W. Olver, of Duloe, Cornwall. In the two-year old class Mr. J. L. Nicksson won with his good-looking chesnut gelding Ensign, a worthy son of Yard Arm; whilst the second and third prizes went to Mr. Arthur Masters, of Llantrissant, and Miss E. L. Clay. The three-year-olds were a strong lot, Mr. J. Harold Watson, of Kidderminster, supplying the winner with Juggler. Thirteen entries were received for the four-year old class, and the most successful competitor was Mr. J. H. Stokes, of Market Harborough, who provided the first and third winners in Broadwood and Ladybird, these being divided by Mr. Drage's Best Man. The light-weight Hunters were fully up to the average, and Mr. W. J. Tatem scored a popular victory with his chesnut gelding Penylan Minister, beating Mr. J. H. Stokes's Beau, whilst Mrs. D. F. Lewis, of Llandrysil, took off the third prize. In the middle-weights it was once again a battle between Messrs. Stokes and Drage, and eventually the former won with a beautiful brown gelding named Lyons Mail, though Mr. Drage's Pytchley was not far off, and Mr. G. Robinson, of Northampton, was a meritorious third. In the heavy-weight class Mr. Drage won with Midnight, who thus followed up his success at Bath, Mr. J. H. Stokes's second prize animal being Masterpiece.

The harness classes were excellent, many well-known winners, and particularly some of those who figured in the recent Dublin Show prize list, being forward. Riot made up for his defeat at Bath by winning the event for mare or gelding exceeding 15 hands 2 in. A Liverpool gelding named Morocco, with nice action, belonging to Miss Dora Schintz, was second, and Miss Lynch, of the Manor House, Wylye, Wilts, third. In the next class, for horses exceeding 14 hands 2 in. and not above 15 hands 2 in., some noted prizewinners entered the ring. Mr. Kerr's splendid five-year-old bay gelding, Loudwater Gongelt, added to his many successes, with an old rival in Mrs. Batt's Heathfield Squire second. Mr. Howard Frank was anious to win the event for the 13 hands 2 in. and not above 14 hands 2 in., and had entered his famous pair, Tissington Kitcat and Tissington Cock Robin. The unbeaten mare continued her winning career, but her partner could only get third prize, Mr. William Foster's Mel Valley Veronique dividing them.

Only two tandems came out, but they were beautifully-matched pairs. Mr. A. Butcher drove Mr. W. Foster's Mel Valley Veronique and Mel Valley Three Star against Mr. Howard Frank with his browns, Tissington Kitcat and Tissington Cock Robin, the latter winning. The double harness class evoked more competition, and noted ring performers were prominent. Mr. Paul Hoffman's chesnuts, Riot and Rapid, were given the red ribbon, the Bath winners, Loudwater Gongelt and Loudwater Grangelt, coming next, and Mrs. Hartley Batt's bays third.

A finer collection of Hackneys has probably never been seen at Cardiff. In the class for mares or geldings exceeding 14 hands 2 in. and not above 15 hands 2in., Newton Swell, exhibited by Mr. Henry Watson, of Tadcaster, was first, Mr. Albert G. Verrier, of Bristol, being second. The class for Hackneys exceeding 13 hands 2 in. and not above 14 hands 2 in. produced nine entries, and the contest for first position lay between Ashton Dorothy Derby, Dr. Fuller's well-known mare, and Vanity Fair, which Mr. H. Le Marchant sent from Kent. The local competitor had to give way to the Kentishman. There were eight entries in the brood mare class, and Mr. R. P. Evans's Pollinaris was placed first, but all the others were such good animals that the judges could not withhold a commending card for the worst among them. In the next class, also for Hackney brood mares exceeding 14 hands 2 in., but confined to residents in South Wales, Mr. James Howell's Brown Colleen took first, the same exhibitor also being second with Campanula, but as the same mare had won a first prize last year he handed over the second prize now won to Mr. Idris J. Davies, Caerau, Bridgend, whose Lady Eva was placed third by the judges. The Hackney foals were a wonderfully good lot, Mr. James Howell's filly by Hywel's Royal Danegelt, out of Campanula, was first. Perhaps the Hackney yearling colts were not quite such a good class, but the fillies, although not a large class, included one or two very useful animals, Mr. James Howell's exhibit by Athil, out of Lady Kate Cadet, being placed first.

The Hackney ponies were among the strongest classes in the show, the entries totalling sixteen. A number of recent winners were present, including Mr. William Foster's Mel Valley Spring Chicken, which got first, Mr. George Griffiths' Lady Go Bang, which was third, and Mr. John H. Tate's Monafly, who divided the two. Polo ponies made a good show, some well-known exhibitors being represented.

The cart horse classes were a distinct feature of the show, the display comparing favourably with that of any previous year. Notably was this the case in regard to the drays, for, although only five animals put into the ring, the quality was superb, more particularly the fine grey gelding, Hope I., of Mr. Thomas Skeats, Whitchurch. This animal has never been beaten where exhibited, and was once again an easy first. And another local firm of exhibitors, Messrs. J. Moon and Sons, Cardiff, were placed second with their chesnut gelding Denmark Squire. Mr. F. E. Muntz, of Umberslade, Warwick, was, as usual, amongst the successful exhibitors, taking three firsts in the cart classes with Aldeby Lady Jameson, Maori Jameson, and King Forrest. Sir Alexander Henderson, of Buscot Park, also had a fine collection of animals on show, taking second with Buscot Shrew in the yearling cart filly class, and third in each of the cart mare or gelding and colt or filly classes with Ivy Fashion and Buscot Victor.

There were two jumping events, and these were watched with keen interest by the large company round the ring.

SECOND DAY.

The Hunter championships proved an attractive item of the second day's proceedings. In the class for heavy-weight champions the battle that has gone on for practically the whole of this season between Chatterbox and Whisky was renewed, whilst competing against both was Mr. J. H. Stokes's Axiom, a winner at Olympia, and reserve champion at Bath. The judges took some time to make up their minds, but they eventually placed the horses in the order named. In the champion light-weight class Mr. J. H. Stokes sent his winning mare Radiance, and on this occasion her most serious competitor was Mr. John Drage's All Gold. The mare got the first prize, with Mr. Drage's gelding next; while Broadwood, a good-quality gelding belonging to Mr. J. H. Stokes, came in for a third prize. The Hunters' Improvement Society's gold medal was won by Mr. C. W. Rees Stokes, of Tenby, with the Belle of Dee, a five-year old brown mare. The reserve for the medal was Mr. J. W. John, a Welsh competitor. The silver medal offered by the Hunters' Improvement Society for fillies was won by Mr. A. E. Bowen's Sparkle.

The result of champion Hackneys only realised expectations, for the chesnut Pole Chain, one of a pair that were reserve in double harness, won the premier award for Mr. H. Le Marchant, Mr. H. Watson's stylish Newton Swell being second. Seventeen entries were received for the covert or lady's Hack class, and a popular victory was obtained by Mrs. Tatem, who rode her husband's Penylan Perfection. The win was a notable one, for Mrs. W. C. N. Chapman's Miss Trix could only obtain second prize, with Mrs. Price's Adonis third. A medal for Hackney brood mares was won by Mr. R. P. Evans, of Reigate, and the same competitor also won another medal for his two-year-old colt, Kingsway.

The harness events were of the same high level of excellence that characterised the previous day. Mel Valley Spring Chicken followed up his success of the previous day by getting another first in the Pony class, Mr. R. Gill taking second prize to Cornwall with Lady Falmouth, whilst only three turned out for the champion Harness class. The first winner of the previous day, Mr. P. Hoffman's Riot, took off the championship, Loudwater Gongett, Mr. Kerr's noted bay gelding, being second. The two local Harness classes were so good that the judges gave all the animals an award. The local ponies were highly

creditable, as were also the tradesmen's turnouts, while the two jumping contests proved as interesting as usual.

The medal offered for Polo ponies was won by Mr. John Drage's Lady Dorothy, which was first in her class the previous day, whilst the Keynsham Stud Company, with White Witch, were given the medal offered for Polo pony brood mares.

Yeovil.

Despite the fact that it clashed with the Okehampton Show, the Yeovil Agricultural Society's exhibition at Yeovil on Thursday was one of the best held by the society, for, to begin with, there was a record entry—394, then the weather was most favourable, and, finally, the attendance was most satisfactory. The horse classes produced keen competition. In the open classes for Hunters, first place was secured by Mr. J. R. Burrington's Gay Boy. Mr. Burrington was also first in the weight class with the same horse which took first at Exeter, second at Bath, and second at the recent Mid-Somerset Show. In the light-weight class premier honours fell to Mr. W. J. Taylor's horse Flaxman, who was also first at the Bath Show. The harness horse class was won by Miss Burston. Lady Theodora Guest's horse was first in the cart stallion class. Cattle were a nice lot, and produced good competition. The Devons were of greater weight than usual. The bull clrss was a remarkable one, and Mr. Chafyn Groves's Shorthorn was an easy winner. In the sheep classes, Down rams were a useful lot, and there were good entries. Butter and cheese were about an average, considering the season, but the prize-winning entries were far above the others.

Sir Edward Strachey, speaking at the luncheon held in connection with the show, said he would shortly be attending the International Dairy Conference, at The Hague, to see if by co-operation something could be done to stop bad and adulterated produce being brought into the country. In Holland they had a marvellous way of producing milk in good condition, and to see how this was done was one of his objects in going there. He wanted to see how Dutch farmers housed their cattle, but did not expect to find much difference between them and English farmers. On the question of farmers being liable after milk had left their hands, he had suggested that a Departmental Committee should go into the matter. He regretted that the Royal Show and the Bath and West Show had done nothing in the matter of bringing this great question before the Government.

North Tyne.

The annual show of the North Tyne and Redesdale Agricultural Society was held at Bellingham on Thursday in delightful weather, and the attendance was one of the largest that has been seen here, while the entries also showed a great advance, numbering nearly a thousand, exclusive of the flower show section, which was a very good one, and there were besides exhibits of poultry, dogs, and cats. In the cattle section there were some good animals shown, Mr. George Harrison, of Gainford, being a notable winner. He won in the old bull and under two-year classes with Elvetham Sweetheart and Pride of Tees respectively, two well-known winners; in the cow class he secured first prize with Ursula Raglan, a Royal winner, and one of the best known cows in the country, was successful for heifers above two years with Montrave Wondrous, and with Gainford Fragrance, a Highland, Durham, and Northumberland prize taker, he secured the first prize for yearling heifers. Galloways made one of the best displays ever seen at Bellingham, and in this section the Countess of Carlisle was the chief prizewinner.

There were some of the noted sheep breeders on the ground, and the prizes went largely to gentlemen whose names figure in the chief shows of the year. Blackfaces and Cheviots were the leading sections. Mr. John Robson's old tup, which won in his class, was first and champion at the Northumberland, and his successful shearling was a winner at Carlisle, Hexham, Yorkshire, Durham, and other places. The Newton tup lamb repeated his success at Carlisle. Among the Cheviots Mr. Jacob Robson's old Cheviot was first at the Northumberland Show, and his second sheep was a first Royal winner.

The horses were chiefly local in character. There was a good useful show of saddle horses, and some good Hunters, whilst the draught and saddle classes were very creditable.

Okehampton.

The Okehampton and District Agricultural Association's seventeenth annual show, held in Major General Holley's beautiful grounds at Okehampton on Thursday in fine weather, was a successful one. The entries, 997, were not quite so numerous as last year, due chiefly to a big falling off in the poultry and pigeon sections, for horses numbered twenty more than last year—194, as compared with 174; cattle numbered twenty-eight as against twenty-four, whilst of sheep there were no fewer than seventy entries, whereas last year the total was but thirty-six. The classes for Hunters were well filled, and some excellent animals entered the ring, the judges having no little difficulty in awarding premier honours. Mr. E. P. Northey, of Okehampton, did exceedingly well in the open Hunter classes, winning two firsts with animals shown in the pink of condition. The local Hunter and hack classes provided keen competition, the silver challenge cup going to Mr. E. P. Northey. In the open competition for ponies, Mr. W. E. Horton, Plymouth, with Ranter kept up his winning sequence, this animal having now won thirteen prizes in eleven attempts. Cattle and sheep made a good show, while the jumping and driving classes were well up to the average, whilst there were interesting displays of butter and cream, eggs, honey, garden produce, &c.

Wolsingham.

The Wolsingham Agricultural Society's annual show was held in delightful weather on Wednesday, where there was a record meeting, the total number reaching 1,387; 85 in excess of the Durham County Agricultural Society's number at their show at Wolsingham last year, and an increase of 158 over the previous show of the Wolsingham Society held in 1905. The greatest advance was in dogs, which numbered 50 per cent. more than in 1905; while increases were also recorded in sheep, poultry, pigeons, rabbits, cavies, and in the leaping and pony scamper classes. Perhaps the chief feature was trials for which liberal prizes were offered, and twelve animals were entered for the open competition, while nine belonged to local owners. The sheep section was particularly well represented, while in the horse department some of the finest animals in the county were to be seen, notably the Royal Show winners of Messrs. Thos. Boddy, Bishop Auckland, and G. W. Dalston, Kirby Stephen. Cattle also made a nice display, and the show may be written down as a complete success.

Bury St. Edmunds.

The animal colt and foal show at Bury St. Edmunds took place on Wednesday, when in consequence of the harvest operations prevailing in many parts of the district the entries in some of the classes were somewhat shorter than usual. The show, however, was generally pronounced to be a very good one, the foals, especially Suffolks, being particularly noteworthy; in fact, the exhibition of Suffolk foals, both as regards quantity and quality, was the best ever witnessed in connection with the show. The challenge cup, presented by Mr. C. S. Wentworth Reeve, of Livermere Park, for the best Suffolk foal, eligible for the Stud Book, the condition being that the foal should have been bred as well as owned by a resident in West Suffolk, was awarded to Mr. R. Edgar, of Cockfield, for his colt foal, War Whoop, whose sire was War Cry and dam Lucky; whilst the challenge cup for a filly foal, other than Suffolk, bred and owned by a resident in West Suffolk, was awarded to Mr. J. Orbell, of Nowton, whose bay colt foal, Bravo, won easily. At a sale held in connection with the show about 140 animals were brought under the hammer, and they sold at prices up to 50 guineas.

Beaufort Hunt.

The Beaufort Hunt Farmers' Club's forty-seventh annual show fully maintained its reputation as the prettiest exhibition in the county. The interest which the Duke of Beaufort takes in the show is well known, and it is not limited to supplying a splendid site at Badminton for the show, but he entered some of his celebrated Hunters, and threw open the gardens for the inspection of the visitors, whilst he, with the Duchess and a distinguished party, made a lengthy stay at the show. The entries were well up to the average with regard to the cattle, and the horse events were exceptionally strong, some of the prize-winners at Bath being forward; whilst there was a good display of sheep, which, with other attractions, made the exhibition an altogether interesting one.

Mashamshire.

The Mashamshire Agricultural Society were fortunate enough to have brilliantly fine weather for their show, and the result was a very large attendance and a good gate, which should give a fresh lease of life to a deserving society. There was a slight drop in entries compared with a year ago, but the show itself was as good as ever. Seventy-seven cattle faced the judges, as compared with ninety-two last year; 106 sheep, as against ninety one; and 115 horses, or five less than a year ago, while the number of pigs exhibited declined from eighteen to nine. The other departments, such as farm and dairy produce, might be described as well up to the average.

The district is noted for its sheep, and in this section there was some keen competition among local breeders. This year the radius was reduced from ten to five miles, which had the effect of arousing keener local interest. The feature was the twice crossed breeds, but the Wensleydales also formed a strong section. Among the cattle were some exceptionally good beasts, and a credit to the neighbourhood.

Some excellent horses of the cart horse type were exhibited, the brood mares being an especially fine lot. Hackneys, too, were quite up to the average, but the yearlings and two-year olds were weak.

Woodstock.

The Woodstock Agricultural and Horticultural Association's Show reached its jubilee on Tuesday, and it is satisfactory to be able to record that the weather was all that could be desired, and the entries much larger than last year—1,204, or an increase of 200—so that the show's jubilee was fittingly celebrated. The exhibition was comprehensive in character, including horses, dogs, poultry, pigeons, cage birds, rabbits, cats, and agricultural and horticultural productions, whilst a great attraction were the band contests. There were, however, no cattle or sheep, and the chief section of the agricultural portion of the show was that for horses. The entries showed an increase on those of last year, and amongt the animals were several promising colts and filly foals. The Oxford Corporation secured the first prize of £3 in the class for colt foals, while Mr. Clement Keevil secured the premier award in the classes for filly foals and mares respectively. Mr. F. C. Taylor, of Church Farm, Radley, with Nuneham Diamond carried off the first prize in the class for four-year-old geldings or mares, and also the Shire Horse Society's silver medal for the best Shire mare, filly or filly foal, registered, or eligible for registration in the stud-book. He was also successful in gaining two other firsts in the classes for two-year-old and three-year-old geldings or mares. The horticultural display was a very good one, whilst the sections for dogs, poultry, rabbits, &c., were well supported, and proved interesting features to the visitors.

Thame.

The Thame Agricultural Society's Show, held on Thursday, was noticeable for a marked improvement both in number and quality of the exhibits, and the weather being favourable there was a large attendance, so that the show, as it deserved to be, was a most successful one. The live-stock entries numbered about 500, the entries for roots, &c., over 300, and the total number, including the classes for ploughmen, shepherds, &c., came to over 1,000. As usual, considerable interest was evinced in the classes for horses, and the judges had a by no means easy task to select the winners. Cart horses were an excellent lot, more especially in the older classes. The older gelding and mare classes showed very good entries, and there were some good specimens of the breed. There were two or three notable exhibits in each class from the two-year-old stage onwards, and the winner of the silver medal presented by the Shire Horse Society for the best Shire mare, filly, or filly foal in the show was a heavy short-legged mare, the property of Messrs. W. C. and A. J. Flowers, which showed a good deal of the Shire quality. As regards cattle, here again the entries were good, and some capital animals were present. Sheep were not particularly numerous, but very good, as were also the poultry and roots.

Chiltern Hills and Southern Bucks.

The annual exhibition of the Chiltern Hills and Southern Bucks Agricultural Association was held under the presidency of Earl Carrington in Daws Hill Park, High Wycombe, on Wednesday. Glorious weather prevailed, and the show was very largely attended. The entries numbered in the aggregate 554, against 472 last year. Of roots and corn there were 177, agricultural horses 55, Hunters and nags, including jumping, driving, &c., 142, Polo ponies 10, horned stock, 54, sheep 12, butter 32, dead poultry and eggs 23, honey 27, pony races 22. The pig classes were cancelled owing to the swine fever regulations. The show as a whole was one of the best ever held under the auspices of the society. The roots were of good size and quality, being the largest collection ever known at this show. There was also a creditable display of corn, especially of winter oats. The show of agricultural horses was an exceedingly good one, and in several classes the judges had considerable trouble in arriving at their decisions. The Hunters and nags also formed an interesting feature, and there was some capital jumping. The driving classes and tradesmen's turn-outs had attracted excellent entries, and the competition was very keen. The horned stock classes were well filled, the Shorthorns being a particularly good lot, and including some very fine animals. The sheep were few in number but of good quality, and there were some nice specimens of butter, dead poultry, and honey.

Buckingham.

The annual exhibition of the Buckingham Agricultural Association was held in the grounds of Mr. R. S. Budgett on Tuesday, when the weather was all that could be desired, and with a record number of entries in the various departments and a large attendance of visitors the show was a highly successful one. Horses were the chief feature. In the agricultural classes, Mr. C. E. B. Fry gained champion honours with his noted Mollington Manners, Mr. F. W. Lester being reserved with his Botolph Fashion. Other premier awards went to Mr. A. Lepper, Mr. F. J. Roper, Mr. W. C. Flowers, Mr. N. Coates, and Mr. T. F. Perry. The Hunters were an exceptionally fine lot. In the open Hunter class, Mr. J. H. Stokes was first with his celebrated Mustard, Mr. W. H. Norris being second with The Clown In the open driving class, Mr. B. Robins was first with his noted prizetaker, Sterling, with Mr. W. Kelvey's Bouncing Girl second. Other winners were Mr. W. R Monk, Mr. J. W. King, Mr. C. M. Prior, Mr. W. Manning, Mr. T. Stacey, Mr. B. W. Millington, Mr. O. Bartlett, Mr N. McCorquodale, Mr. B G Bishop, and Mr. C. Thompson.

In the cattle and sheep classes the chief prizetakers were Mr. J. L Shirley, Mr. A. J. Roberts, Mr. T. Culley, Mr. A. Lepper, Mr. Markham, Mr. T. Oxley, Mr. Stacey, Mr. R. Dickins, Mr. W. L. Waters, Mr. J. T. Smith, and Mr. Slater Harrison.

Wardle.

The Wardle Agricultural Society, the oldest in Lancashire, held its show on Wednesday, and was favoured with brilliant weather, a good attendance of visitors, and good entries, though the latter were somewhat below last year, but this is easily accounted for by the late season. Horses totalled 100, cattle 57, dogs 111, poultry 154, and pigeons 220. Though numbers were comparatively small, quality was high, particularly in the cattle section. Of sheep there were only 15, but these were of a good representative kind for this district. In the section for dogs there was a good deal of variety, and some particularly fine specimens were seen. Classes for poultry, rabbits, cats, vegetables, and dairy produce made up an interesting programme In the light horse section Mr. John Makeague, of Manchester, carried off the silver challenge cup for the best turnout, and Mr. Henry Whittles secured the Hackney Horse Society's silver medal for the best Hackney or Pony mare, filly, or filly foal registered or eligible for the Hackney Stud Book.

SHOW GOSSIP.

The balance-sheet of the Gloucestershire Agricultural Society, covering the Stroud Show, shows receipts to the amount of £2,247 3s. 5d., comprising balance brought forward, £127 10s. 8d.; subscriptions and arrears, £349 19s.; donations to prize fund, £292 15s.; entry fees, £379 6s. 6d.; Stroud local committee, £200; Stroud local committee local prizes, £26; gate money, £663 13s.; grand stand, £92 13s. 6d.; interest on deposit account, £18 5s. 9d.; premiums and contracts, £97.

The principal items of expenditure were:—Prizes, £804 1s.; advertising, £68 9s.; bills and posting, £95 1s. 6d.; stationery, printing, &c., £111 15s. 3d.; shedding for stock, implements, offices, stands, &c., £511 14s; special preparation of show ground, £16 10s. 7d.; Stroud local committee (cost of flower show tent and staging), £30; band, £55; ticket clerks, &c., £19 19s. 6d.; straw, £25; judges', stewards', and officials' expenses, £85 10s. 7d.; medals for forestry and nature study, £11 17s.; petty disbursements, including secretary's travelling expenses, £31 17s. 7d.; and secretary's salary, £100. £150 was placed to deposit account, and the balance at the bank is £98 6s. 9d. There is now £300 in cash on deposit, and the society holds £589 9s. 6d. in consols (purchased at a cost of £500).

The showground on Newcastle Town Moor for the show of the Royal Agricultural Society next year was recently inspected by the local committee and representatives of the society. The site, which has already been staked off, includes 110 acres, one of the largest enclosures ever devoted to the show, and exceeding by 20 acres the 1887 site. A certain amount of levelling has to be done, and arrangements have been made for this to be carried out before the winter, while a number of erections are already on the ground, and thousands of tons of timber are in readiness for further work.

In the afternoon a meeting of the local committee was held, the Lord Mayor (Mr. J. M. Oubridge) presiding. The question of allotting tickets, in accordance with subscriptions, as an inducement to subscribers, was considered, but eventually it was decided to appoint a committee similar to the one twenty years ago to collect subscriptions.

Sir Joseph Ellis offered a prize of 50 guineas for dairy farms, and Sir Gilbert Greenall, who was one of the representatives of the Royal Society, then remarked that the whole question of farm prizes would have to be considered by the council in London. The prizes were not a matter of so much importance as the judging, which cost £700 for farm prizes alone on the last occasion. There was no doubt farm prizes were of the greatest benefit to the show, as they were a splendid advertisement. Referring to the site, Sir Gilbert said it was one of the finest the society had had, being high and well drained.

SHOW SECRETARIES.



Mr. H. CROSSLEY,
Wetherby Agricultural Society.

The East Berks Horse Show Society has just issued the prize schedules for their next foal futurity classes, a feature which, though of recent introduction by this society, has become exceedingly popular with breeders of Hunters and Shires, who recognised it as being an excellent scheme for encouraging the retention of good mares in this country. The society offer between £150 to £170 as well as two champion silver cups for competition, the entries being confined to the produce of Hunter and Shire mares covered in 1907. The preliminary entries close on October 1 next with the hon. secretary, Mr. C. H. W. Dixon, 4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, W.C., from whom schedules, entry forms, &c., can be had.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Thatching and Thatching.

SIR,—In your issue of September 2 a paragraph on thatching concludes with the words: "We observe that in one or two counties requests are being made for more education money to be spent in giving instruction in this important work."

It may interest some of your readers to know that one such request to the Board of Education made by the managers of the Burgh and Billockby School (Fleggburgh), and kindly supported by the chairman of the local education committee, was in time acceded to, but under somewhat onerous conditions.

We received permission to include thatching in our time-table, but we were not successful in securing that "more education money be spent in giving instruction."

So far from it, the permission was only given on the distinct understanding that we should be responsible for all expenses—*i.e.*, for the instructor's payments (a duly qualified thatcher), tools, and materials. These terms were accepted by my brother managers.

Writing from memory, the lessons were for one hour a week, beginning in May and continuing till the school closed for the summer holidays—about twelve boys in the class for this the first course.

We had the honour of being inspected during that time by Mr. Dinmond, agricultural expert to the Board of Education, and our own H.M.I.

These gentlemen much encouraged us by expressing verbally their satisfaction at what they had seen, and their very favourable opinion of the thatching-instructor. Other visits are, I believe, to be made before any definite decision will be arrived at as to whether the present admittedly tentative experiment is to be further encouraged or not.

The immediate practical result so far is this:—One of the lads, who showed considerable interest and aptitude in his work in the class, has found remunerative employment during the holidays under his thatcher instructor.

I am emboldened, therefore, to hope that not a few of our boys will leave school ready and willing to keep "on the land," on having at least "elementary" knowledge of a rural handicraft with a money value; better, at all events, than being fit only to "scare birds," "mind sheep," or even lead the trace horse in a drill!—Yours, &c.,

GEO. C. FISHER,
(One time Bishop of Ipswich).

Burgh House, Fleggburgh, Norfolk,
September 9.

Harvesting in East Norfolk.

SIR,—The harvest is progressing slowly, and the greater bulk of it is secured in good condition.

I do not think any harm has been done beyond the delay; the wet weather we have had has not been of sufficient volume to injure anything, quite an absence of heavy storms. I consider we have suffered most through the lack of sunshine, and the cold nights especially through July and August.

Wheat, generally speaking, is a fair crop, though the acreage grown has sadly diminished. Barley is very variable; some places it has done very well, and there should be a satisfactory yield upon the whole, though not so good in quality as last year.

Oats are certainly the best crop, and I think will prove the most satisfactory crop grown, and as the last few days have been fine, good progress has been made in securing them in capital condition. Beans generally are good.

Roots.—Our mangolds are very good and full of growth generally, and look very promising for a heavy yield. Swedes vary very much, and in many places are in a poor way; mildew is frequent, and on the lighter soils rain is needed. I do not think this crop will be nearly so good as at

SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS.

EAST BERKS HORSE SHOW SOCIETY.

12TH ANNUAL SHOW, AUGUST, 1908.

Foal Futurity Classes for Hunter and Shire Brood Mares.

First Instalment of Entry Fees due on or before 1st October, 1907.

Schedules and full particulars of the Hon. Sec., C. H. W. DIXON, 4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

CLYDESDALE HORSE SOCIETY.

STUD BOOK VOL. XXX.

Entries now being received at 50 per cent. additional on ordinary fees. No Schedules issued after October 1.

ARCHD. MACNEILAGE, Secretary,
93, Hope Street, Glasgow.

GRANSDEN AND DISTRICT, at GREAT GRANSDEN.
SEPTEMBER 18, 1907.
Entries closed September 10.
H. J. KISBY, Secretary.
Great Gransden, Sandy, Beds

THAME AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

Show will be held on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1907.

Entries close as follows:—Dry Sheep, Class 8, March 5; Wet Sheep, Class 5, 6 and 7, April 16; Hedging, Classes 9 and 10, March 26; Servitude and Ploughing Classes, August 31; Horses, Cattle and Sheep, Roots, Honey, Poultry, Butter and Eggs, August 31; Rick Building and Thatching, September 16.

J. BUSH, Secretary.

SOUTHDOWN FLOCK BOOK.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Southdown Flock Book will be definitely closed to unregistered flocks on December 31 next, after which date no sheep from unregistered flocks will be accepted under any conditions whatever.

Owners who have not yet registered their flocks are earnestly requested to write for full information respecting the Southdown Sheep Society to

W. J. WICKISON,
Secretary.

12, Hanover Square,
London, W.

one time was expected, they laid stagnant in their growth so long there seemed no warmth in the soil to bring them on.

Generally speaking, there will be plenty of keep for winter stock, though I do not consider the quality will be equal to last year.—Yours, &c.,

September 12, 1907. T. K.

Harvesting on Salisbury Plain—Sheep Dipping Orders.

SIR,—Harvest was finished on most farms the early part of week. Wheat, a lot of straw, but corn inferior, more seconds than usual; it stood up well. Carter's White Stand-up and Scholey's Squarehead. Barley (Archer's Stiff Straw) stood well, above average crop. Oats the best crop—Garton's Rival and Abundance and Webb's Prolific Black Tartars. Sheep still sell well. Hampshire Down off-going ewes, 50s. to 60s.; lambs, 35s. to 60s.

I think the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries have given themselves, the farmers, and county police a great deal of unnecessary trouble in the Sheep Dipping Order, 1907. I fully concur in the compulsory dipping of all sheep, but surely one day's notice to the police ought to be quite sufficient in this changeable climate instead of three days' notice as at present required. The Board made an order that all sheep sent to a fair required a licence. This was revoked the last week in August, and they then made another order that sheep exposed for sale at an open fair, although previously dipped this summer, must be dipped again within 14 days. Results: Great trouble and expense to buyers and injury to sheep. This order is also revoked I believe. Such orders make it very hard on the county police, taking up most of their time to the great detriment of their civil duties.—Yours, &c., W. S. CLEVERLEY.

September 13, 1907.

Sowing, Lucerne, Sainfoin, and Cabbage.

SIR,—Will you kindly say through your columns whether lucerne and sainfoin would do if sown on suitable land in September, or whether the present time is suitable to sow cabbage and Brussels seed for planting out in March? The crop would be for a sheep feed in August next.—Yours, &c., A. G.

September 6.

*** The early spring is by far the best time to sow lucerne, and the operation may be performed from the middle of March to the end of April. There is an advantage in late sowing, inasmuch as the young plants, which are somewhat tender, are less liable to be injured by frost. If one has a perfectly clean seed bed the seed can be sown broadcast, and weeds are more effectually kept down than if drilling is adopted. On the other hand, by sowing in close drills about 8 in. apart the plants support each other and do not trail on the ground. March is the best month to sow sainfoin either by itself or drilled across the rows with a barley crop. This crop requires a clean seed bed, and it is a valuable forage plant for growing on dry or sandy soils. It is rather too late now to sow cabbage for spring planting, as it is doubtful whether the plants would grow big enough for the time you require them. As a rule, about the second week in August is the best time to sow cabbage for spring planting, and in these circumstances I think your best plan would be to buy plants in March. The Enfield Market type is good for feeding in August, and to make a succession the Drumhead is perhaps the best type, as these follow the Enfield and are fit for feeding in September, lasting till Christmas. By "Brussels" I take it that you refer to Brussels sprouts, and here again you are too late, because if sown now the plants would be very small, even if they managed to survive the winter. To get good specimens for spring planting the seed of Brussels sprouts should be sown in August about the same time as cabbage, as the plant needs a long season of growth. If a good seed bed is prepared in a favourable position in the early spring, and seeds are sown at the end of March or early in April, early plants of Brussels sprouts can be obtained. These, if put out as early as possible on well-manured land, will be fully grown by the autumn, but hardly by the time you require them.—RUSTICUS.

Some good prices were obtained at the Perth Ram Society's show and sale last week. Mr. R. M Buchanan got £90 for a shearling ram, bought by Mr. Scott, Cros-flatt, and at £5 less Messrs. Cadzow Bros. sold an animal of great substance to Mr. Fraser, Balnakettle. One of the pen with which Messrs. Cadzow gained third prize at the Highland Show was included, and after keen competition made £60, the buyer being Mr. Paterson, of Midcrosswood. Other outstanding prices for shearling rams were—Mr. J. Archibald, £65; Mr. R. Sandilands, £52; Mr. M. G. Hamilton, £50; and Mr. M. P. Fraser, £48. The highest average was £15 3s. for five sold by Mr. P. Campbell, Kennemore, whose top price was £31; Messrs. Cadzow sold sixty at £10 14s. 2d. apiece, and Mr. Buchanan forty at £12 5s. 6d. each.

DAIRY.

Pasteurisation.

The essential aim in pasteurising milk is to increase the keeping power of the milk by destroying as completely as possible the bacteria whose presence causes fermentative and other processes to be set up. If milk were a simple liquid, this freedom from bacteria could be obtained by merely raising the temperature to a degree varying from 145 to 170 deg. Fahr. and allowing it to stay under this condition for some minutes. The higher the temperature the less the time necessary to complete the process. All actively growing germs are destroyed, and there only remain the spores, which are capable of resisting a much higher temperature than this. Their growth, however, is delayed if, after heating, the milk is rapidly cooled, and this is the next step in the ordinary process of pasteurisation. The effect on the keeping quality of this cooling process is shown by experiments made in cooling to different temperatures after pasteurisation and noting the time during which the milk then remained sweet. When cooled to 86 deg. Fahr. the pasteurised milk remained sweet seven hours longer than raw milk. When cooled to 58 deg. Fahr. it remained sweet sixty hours longer than the raw milk. At intermediate temperatures to these it was found that the time of keeping increased in proportion to the lowering of the temperature.

The simplicity of the process and the results are, however, much complicated in practice by the other effects produced on the milk by the heating, all of which have to be considered in estimating the true value of the process.

Digestibility.

With regard to the digestibility of pasteurised milk, there is among medical men a difference of opinion. Results have been obtained by experimenters, and some of these are quite contradictory, though it is generally admitted that the digestibility of milk is not improved by the heating, the real point at issue being whether it is actually made less digestible or left unaltered. There is strong evidence that if the milk be highly heated its effect on children consuming it is to cause an increase in the amount of scurvy and rickets noticeable. Yet these effects are certainly not serious, even if they are in existence at all, if the milk be heated only to the low temperature necessary for pasteurisation as above stated.

The "Cooked" Taste.

A second objection raised to the process is that it produces the so called "cooked" taste, which renders it unpalatable to some persons. This taste is usually explained as being due to a change produced in the nitrogenous elements present in the milk, especially in the albumen. Yet Thoerner, the German experimenter, has shown there is a close connection between the formation of the cooked taste and the loss of certain of the gases which are expelled by heating. He discovered that if the heating takes place in a closed vessel from which the gases are not expelled the cooked flavour is much less marked than when heated in an open vessel in the ordinary way. The true cause of the change of taste must be admitted to be yet undiscovered. The "skin" which appears on the surface of milk when heated is said to be composed of albumen which has undergone the change mentioned above, but there is evidence which tends to show that it is casein modified by the rapid evaporation of the serum of the milk, which takes place most rapidly at the surface where the skin is formed.

Thinner Milk and Cream.

A third effect resulting from the heating is one which is more markedly shown in cream than in milk, but its effect does exist even in milk. Milk and cream are found when heated above 140 deg. Fahr. to lose consistency and become thinner in appearance, though there is no real loss of fat which this change suggests. An examination of the cream under the microscope shows clearly the cause of this. In unheated cream the globules of fat are connected in clusters or groups, but when the temperature is raised to the above-mentioned degree the clusters break up and are more evenly distributed throughout the whole, so that the cream appears to be considerably more liquid or less clotty than before, and this at first glance suggests that a less proportion of fat is present. This would be a drawback for market use, but a simple and ingenious remedy has been discovered for it. It is found that if a strong solution of cane sugar is added to freshly-slaked lime a clear liquid can be obtained by allowing the mixture to stand. In adding this to the cream, the globules are found to cluster again in small groups as before, and the old consistency reappears, though in neither the defect nor its remedy has the quantity of fat present been either lessened or increased.

General Advantage.

Of the general advantage of pasteurised milk over unpasteurised from the point of view of health considerations it is needless to speak.

The drop in the death rate of infant mortality in the poorer quarters of towns where pasteurised milk has been substituted is an unquestionable indication of the effectiveness of the method, not merely in lessening the spread of the well-known diseases whose germs are understood to be conveyed by milk, but also in diminishing infant mortality from general diarrhœal disturbances.

An examination of the milk pasteurised commercially was recently made in connection with the Wisconsin Dairy School. It was conclusively proved that 99·8 per cent. of the bacteria was destroyed by keeping the milk for twenty minutes at 155 deg. Fahr.

This is vividly shown diagrammatically by a square on a line 2 in long. If this square be taken to represent the original bacteria present in the milk before pasteurisation, the number left after the process is represented by a tiny square on a base only one-twelfth of an inch long.

LACTISSIMA.

International Dairy Congress.

The third International Dairy Congress, the purpose of which is the promotion of the scientific and technical interests of dairy work, is being held at the Hague—Scheveningen, opening yesterday and extending until the 20th inst.

European countries generally, as well as the United States of America, are represented, and the delegates include many well-known dairy experts.

The questions to be discussed are uniformity of methods for the control of milk and all milk products in the places where they are produced and in the market; dairy control; conditions to be imposed on the sale of milk; conditions to which milk must conform if intended for use, specially as food for children; the "pasteurisation" and sterilisation of milk, the sanitation of stables used in connection with the production of milk; the danger of milk from tuberculous cows; the causes which influence the proportion of water in butter, &c.

Whitchurch Cheese Fair.

At Whitchurch Cheese Fair on Wednesday there was a pitch of 70 tons. The market opened with a good inquiry, and there being a large attendance of buyers a rapid clearance was made at the following prices:—Best, 58s. to 62s. 6d., down to 50s. The corresponding fair last year shows 67 tons pitched, and prices 63s. to 67s. 6d.

Lancaster Cheese Fair.

The September Cheese Fair at Lancaster was held on Tuesday, and was largely attended. The pitch comprised seventy-eight dairies (1,381 cheese), as compared with ninety-nine dairies (1,729 cheese) at the corresponding fair last year. There was a good demand, and a 5s. advance resulted. Best cheese averaged about 67s. per cwt., medium 65s., and common 60s., whilst an exceptional lot of two brought 70s.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

Account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended September 7, 1907, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year (the figures for 1906 are in parentheses):—

Animals, living:—Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves (13,420), 6,614; sheep and lambs (1,152), 654; horses (367), 564.

Fresh meat:—Beef (112,159 cwts.), 143,831; Mutton (70,271), 89,422; pork (5,844), 9,941.

Salted or preserved meat:—Bacon (99,761 cwt.), 110,210; beef (2,334), 3,120; hams (22,744), 27,248; pork (5,323), 6,490; meat (7,381), fresh, 11,651; salted 1,052; meat, preserved (5,174), 6,319.

Dairy produce and substitutes:—Butter (87,161 cwt.), 71,732; margarine (21,837), 15,029; cheese (65,032), 56,759; milk, fresh in cans or drums (160), —; cream (77), 24; milk, condensed (17,927), 15,105; milk, preserved (351), 64.

Eggs (great hundreds):—(431,340), 366,194; poultry (value £3,502), £2,369; game (value £1,043), £1,423; rabbits, dead (not tinned), (47,979 cwt.), 20,088; lard (27,933 cwt.), 35,418.

Corn, grain, meal, and flour:—Wheat (2,849,400 cwt.), 1,812,800; wheat meal and flour (241,900), 245,000; barley (1,008,600), 661,800; oats (255,700), 122,800; peas (26,010), 12,040; beans (136,760) 9,370; maize or Indian corn (1,519,600), 904,800.

Fruit (raw):—Apples (15,629 cwt.), 12,702; grapes (23,511 cwt.), 37,449; pears (33,925 cwt.), 45,615; plums (114,581 cwt.), 25,585.

Hay (1,991 tons), 1,632; straw (1,032 tons), 1,198; moss litter (933 tons), 1,723; hops (1,656 cwt.), 386.



Fig. 1.—Magnified fungus. It grows grey only in colour upon raw potato, but is green upon cooked tubers. In the second circle are two tufts from the first, still further magnified in order to show the spores—or sporules—in chains, and then breaking away. Each spore is capable of setting up a mycelium bed.

POTATO FUNGI.

THE enormous value of the potato as an article of food should render all contributions bearing on the study of its diseases welcome to all those most concerned in its cultivation. The vegetable seems to be especially liable to extremely objectionable attacks of fungi in both tuber and haulm, and the pernicious results must often discourage growers. I propose, as some slight help towards elucidating some of its weaknesses, to describe some impressions dealing with the subject, which may have a tendency towards leading interested readers to give fuller consideration to it.

Suppose we cut a raw potato into slices and place them in a clean box for a few days We will also cook a skinned potato and slice that up as well, putting the layers in another receptacle. Examine both kinds from day to day, and before the elapse of a week the cooked specimens will be found densely covered with a grey, mouse-like fur, whereas the raw one will have turned brownish and hard on its starchy surfaces, resembling the skin, and show very faint traces of a whitish or faint grey fluff.

Before I go more fully into my theories it will be preferable to detail the results of the experiments. Incidentally my references and illustrations will give some idea of the curiosities of fungi to those who suffer from their effects, and who hear and read a lot concerning the vile growths in ignorance of their exact character. I will omit scientific names as far as possible, chiefly because they are useless to the general mass of readers, and also because various names are attached to the same things by different fungologists striving to get their own definitions accepted by the abolition of other appellations. My simple experiments can be repeated, and anyone can follow me with full comprehension, especially with the assistance of a strong lens or microscope.

The raw potato will disclose, when magnified, very, very tiny tufts of fungus, the whole giving a mere tinge to the skin and severed surfaces. This fungus consists of stalks, on the upper extremities of which necklaces of spores radiate from a common centre, and with low powers roughly resemble palm leaves (see No. 1). Each of the practically invisible beads is a spore, and consequently an inch of affected surface would contain myriads of them. Now, every one of these spores is capable of setting up complications on its own behalf. But it is necessary to say that it does not always follow that a spore will at once reproduce a *facsimile* of its parent plant. We must not expect for certain that this spore would reproduce palmate fungi, because much depends on the possibilities of impregnation allowed to the spores. Notwithstanding the great advances made in the study of microscopic fungi, we still grope in the dark in respect to the whole mysteries of their life cycles. So many of the species display a double system of fruiting, which is so difficult to follow on account of their minuteness — if we could handle the spores as we do seeds the problems would be quickly settled—that we are left to guess at many phases, and found our impressions thereon, varying them if our expectations are not realised. It may seem to be bewildering to speak of fungi having two totally different styles of fruiting; yet the potato plant itself will best explain the complication. In the latter, either the tubers or the seeds are capable of reproducing the parent. Imagine the plant to be a microscopic one, not affording facilities of being handled, and the berries and their contents, in addition to the tubers, always blown about by winds and draughts, and you will perceive the perplexity which would confront anyone striving to discover the precise actions of the tubers and the seeds.

Bear the preceding facts in mind while we proceed to magnify the slice of cooked potato. The first sign of fungus consists of white fibres of irregular lengths. Soon, glistening, glass-like balls appear among their bases right against the potato flesh, and become slowly lifted up on flimsy stalks, meantime turning to a dark grey colour. They continue to be elevated until they are ripe and almost black, at which period each is really a hollow shell crammed full of spores, which are discharged in all directions by the bursting of the receptacles. (See Nos. 2, 3, and 4)

The significance of the phenomena is intensified because the hosts of spores do not appear to solely reproduce the black-ball fungus. While new balls certainly do succeed the initially split ones, I believe they do not arise from the ejected contents, but from the mycelium—thread-roots—which started the first balls into existence. This opinion is derived from the fact that the grey fur is soon replaced by a green fungus (partially or wholly, according to the dry or moist condition of the slice), which generally begins as a bright spot within a white circle upon the grey. It is strange that this green fungus is shaped very similarly to the drab one which coats the slice of uncooked potato. It is palmate, consisting of rows of spores stretching out from the tips of the stalks. While it has a different name to the other fan-like species, there is no real proof that both appearances are not stages in the same species—the colour, and the absence of it, being respectively due to the different conditions of the foundation plants.

Two questions arise from these results. Why does not the raw potato develop either the black-ball or green fan fungus, whereas the cooked one exhibits both? It should be pointed out that the two latter kinds are to be found also on decaying kinds of vegetation; but so far as I can learn, underground tuberous growths are not susceptible to them until decay by heat and moisture sets in. This brings me to the consideration of another necessary phase of the problem. Although it seems difficult for the majority of people to grasp the full purport of the statement, it is none the less true that operations which go on in the soil — and above ground, for that matter—are the equivalents to boiling processes, as understood ordinarily by us. A very prosaic example will show what I mean. We take two separate pints of water. One we warm continuously in a kettle, and the other we place in a glass and leave for some time undisturbed. In the first case the water will boil away to steam and entirely disappear; the second lot will also quite vanish if time is allowed. Now in both instances similar processes have been at work—one quick and one slow. In each case the water has reverted to its original constituents, oxygen and hydrogen. If we could gather together the whole amount of the unnoticeable warmth which had caused the glass of water to evaporate, I daresay it would approximate to that concentrated together when the pint of water was boiled to gases. In both experiments the water has decayed or decomposed—the two terms are synonymous.

(To be concluded).

At a meeting of dairy farmers at Kirkstall on Thursday it was decided to recommend that from October 1 the wholesale price for milk should be raised 1d. per gallon. This is in consequence of it having been decided to raise the price of milk in Leeds.

At a meeting of the Cornwall County Dairy Show Committee at Truro on Wednesday, March 17 and 18 next were selected as the provisional dates for the first show at Truro. The Hon. John Boscawen, who presided, said he could not see how the show could be started on less than £200. As the objects of the show were largely of a technical educational character, he hoped the County Education Committee would be able to give a grant. The lectures would be on a higher grade than those given by the travelling dairy school. If they could collect £200, and get £30 in entrance money on the two days of the show, he thought they could cover expenses A finance committee was appointed to arrange for the issue of an appeal for financial support.

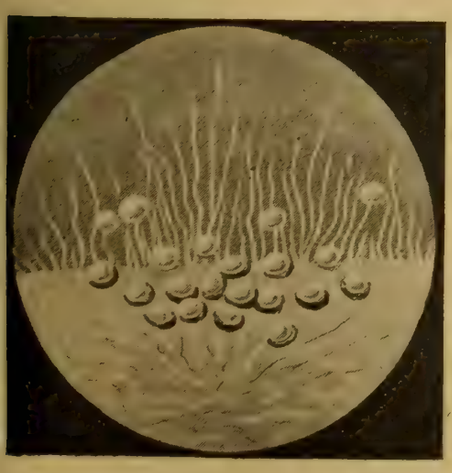


Fig. 2.—The beginning of the blackball fungus on a cooked potato. In this illustration and in figs. 3 and 4 the potato edge is the middle line in the circle, and the view is from the top. (Magnified).



Fig. 3.—Intermediate stage of the blackball fungus growing on a cooked potato. (Magnified.)

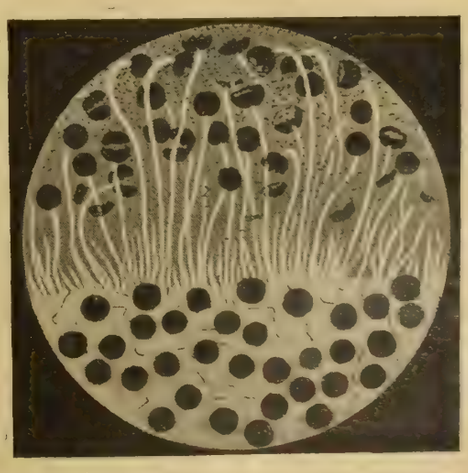


Fig. 4.—Final condition of the blackball fungus, in which the balls are splitting open and scattering their spores. (Magnified.)

West Country Notes.

THROUGHOUT the West there is rejoicing at the welcome arrival of the long-delayed summer. Every kind of harvest work is beginning to regain the lost ground, and the prospects for the threshing of such grain as there is have greatly improved in the last week.

THE beans are now coming in for attention, and hands are fully occupied in all branches of field work.

FROM the reports on the root crops there is plenty of bulk, and evidently a great many people are feeling that if they have not been able to save their hay as well as they would have liked, there is still one thing in the way of winter feed which may stand them well.

DEALERS in fodder are buying shrewdly and warily, but they are not letting many chances slip where a bit of good hay can be obtained. They are bidding very fair prices, and where it is at all worth their attention, there is a quiet giving of some little concessions which make a deal sure.

FROM the Devonshire moors comes a poor account of one branch of their autumn trade, that in the native ponies, which year by year are said to be growing less and less profitable, on account of the rate prices are going down. It has for some time been noticeable that droves of the wild shaggy creatures, fresh from the summer pasture, have been moving further from their moorland homes to find a market, and curious tales are told of the price at which a buyer can secure most useful workers and fast trotters in remote corners. Things are hardly likely to get so bad as to strike a serious blow at a pretty branch of Western agriculture, but some improvement would be gladly welcomed.

THE preliminary statistics for the country of the live stock returns are to hand this week. Some weeks ago I forecast that there would probably be found to be a diminution in the numbers of cattle. The shortage is more surprising even than anticipated, for it amounts in the six western counties to just upon 25,000 decrease since last year. Throughout the country, except in a very few instances, the decrease is to be noted, but it appears to be especially keen in the West.

THE decrease extends to horses and sheep; except in Cornwall in the case of horses, and Cornwall and Devon for sheep. Curiously enough in every county of the six, the numbers of pigs have increased, so that the porcine population has gone up by 54,000 in the year.

IT is somewhat difficult to find out the cause of such a remarkable change, and the fuller details which give the analysis of the returns into the various sections will be awaited with some curiosity.

THE crop reports are variable from the official estimators, but those true barometers of the present condition of the kinds upon which farmers depend for their feeding cattle—the cake merchants—agree that from their point of view there is too much grass about.

THE hay acreage far exceeds last year in the West, both where rotation and permanent grass is concerned. But the actual yield of "hay," in spite of the great growth, is very much below previous years, and never, perhaps, before has ensilage been so largely resorted to as it has been in many districts this year. This fodder is still being put up, and mowing continues; in many cases second cuttings taking place where such a practice is almost unknown.

THE round of one day shows in the West has had a very fortunate time so far as weather is concerned, and in most cases the results are favourable, though not extraordinary, for people engaged in harvesting cannot afford to give the time to pleasure that they would have done under other circumstances.

September 13, 1907.

A serious fire occurred at Messrs. Stanley, Earle and Co.'s oil refinery, Kirkby Street, Hull, on Thursday morning. The brigade had two steamers on the spot, but before the fire could be got under the offices, a two-storey building, were gutted. Tanks, casks, and drums containing linseed, cotton oil, &c., fed the flames for some time, and in this respect much damage was done.

Northern Notes.

IN Lancashire the promoters of harvest festivals are "taking time by the forelock," and these services of thanksgiving are already being held, although the harvest was not completed at the time, and scarcely any cereals were cut, much less "safely gathered in," to use the words of a familiar hymn that would no doubt be rendered by the choirs and congregations. There is a strange incongruity in these pre-arranged services, which come off with the regularity of clockwork, something after the plan of those methodical housekeepers who religiously refrain from lighting a fire after a certain date in the spring until winter comes round again with its chilling blasts.

IT is a good thing to offer thanks for yearly mercies, and perhaps if some people delayed their offerings they might forget all about their indebtedness for the promise of and the fulfilment of harvest. Without wishing to be too dogmatic, we confess that more pleasure would be ours if less of selfishness were shown in the matter of harvest thanksgivings. Are we always really sincere in these services? Are not the funds too frequently "devoted," as the announcements say, to some object of improvement in church or chapel, making merely for the increased comfort of the worshipper, rather than to some charitable purpose? Thankfulness should mean sacrifice, the giving of something in return for the blessings received in the form of bodily sustenance as represented in the fruits of the earth.

A FARMER and ram breeder said the other day to the writer, "I'm tired of these fairs, I shall sell my shearlings this year on an ordinary market day." True it is that people are getting tired of fairs, and it is an incontestable fact that fairs are declining in many parts of the country. The more prominent fairs of the South, the Midlands, and the North, which have a national reputation for size and importance, may be holding their own. In the Uplands of Yorkshire the fairs, too, are on a big scale, and flockowners are beginning to prepare for the disposal of their yearly crops of lambs which gradually find their way in October and November to the markets for lean stock all over the county, being sought after for putting on the turnip flats and fattening off for the spring dispersals as finished mutton.

BUT the fairs the farmer said he was tired of are the little fairs which are so-called chartered fairs that are held far outside a market town, and to reach them involves an expenditure of time, and time to dealers and others means money. It is astonishing, however, how people will cling tenaciously to old traditions and practices, and submit to inconveniences in doing so.

THE Irish harvester has been so little in evidence this year as to cause wonder what can have become of Pat. How familiar they used to be with their sickles and scythes—the blades carefully enwrapped with bands of straw; and with their bundles on their shoulders. Pat requires no other luggage now than his bundle, which contains perhaps a change of linen. We have seen hundreds in a market; now they may be counted in the same place on the fingers of two hands.

IN Yorkshire great progress has been made with the cereal harvest. Not a stalk of grain is left standing in some quarters, and the carting began in earnest this week, in splendid weather. Further north many fields of corn are almost green as grass, and the ripening of more forward crops is very uneven. The "laid" corn may ripen, but will be an inferior sample, and clean cutting will be an impossibility. In Northumberland wheat is given the credit of being the leading crop; on wet lands oats are poor; and barley has suffered from slow maturation.

A NUMBER of pure-bred Leicester shearling rams have lately been exported by members of the L.S.B.A. to New Zealand and elsewhere. The Leicester is a favourite with New Zealanders, and occupies a good position in the flocks there; and a Colonial paper just to hand says the prize for the best pen of freezers at the great Australasian show at Christchurch was awarded to a pen of handy weights from a Leicester ewe by a Southdown ram. The English Leicester Society gave a silver challenge cup at this show. Leicesters were the most numerous of any sheep exhibited there. The home breeders have a fine class of sheep, which have come to a great size, but they are endowed with too much modesty, and make far too little noise in the world to attain that amount of success which would otherwise be within their reach.

AS a commentary upon the immoderate nature of the restrictions upon the movement of swine in Yorkshire, it is stated that at one of the chief centres this week not a single pig of any description was penned—an unprecedented occurrence.

THE cattle market at Penistone, in Yorkshire, continues to be held in the open street, under an "extended" licence from the Board of Agriculture, pending the formulation and adoption of one scheme or another to obviate the continuation of the existing conditions under which cattle are exposed. The market has the sanction of long established custom, and the objections to it are more of a sentimental character than otherwise. The innkeepers and tradespeople do not favour its abolition, as may well be imagined, as its removal would be detrimental to their several businesses.

AT York, apart from the splendid covered premises there used for sheep and cattle and wool, "pens" are erected in the street, beneath the ancient city walls, and these are used by cattle dealers for store stock. When the vendors wish to show the cattle to better advantage the animals are driven from the pens into the open street. Nobody seems to raise any objection to this street market. It certainly is not lacking in picturesqueness on a busy day.

September 13, 1907.

Cider without Apples: Two Bristol Manufacturers Fined.

Two important prosecutions in connection with the movement on behalf of the sale of pure cider were heard at the Bristol police court on Thursday by Major Ramsey and Mr. E. J. Thatcher, and considerable interest was taken in the cases. The first heard was that in which Messrs. King and Co., of York Street, were prosecuted by the Board of Agriculture for selling a beverage to which a false trade description had been applied, and in stating his case the prosecuting counsel, Mr. Wansbrough, said that the charge was made under a provision of the Merchandise Marks Act, which read that anyone applying a false description to goods, or who sold goods to which a false description was applied, was liable on conviction to imprisonment or heavy fine. The case concerned the beverage called cider. He understood that the defence would concur that cider was "the fermented juice of the apple," but in the concoction sold by the defendants the magistrates would learn that there was not one drop of juice of the apple, but was made out of chemicals and colourings, sugar and flavourings, and an analyst from Somerset House, found that besides the essences and flavourings there was in the concoction in question a considerable quantity of aniline dyes, which was very objectionable, and some saponin, which was highly dangerous, and had been forbidden by the Inland Revenue authorities for use in the manufacture of beer. Owing to complaints of a liquor being sold as cider which was not genuine, certain steps were taken, and on June 6 a Mr. Smith, who kept a general shop at 151, Easton Road, wrote to the defendant firm for a two-gallon jar of cider, and some mineral waters. On the following day a messenger from the defendant's brought the jar of liquid to Mr. Smith, and it was received by him in company with Inspector Simpson, of the Food and Drugs Act department, the latter at once taking a sample for analysis. Mr. Simpson sent the samples for analysis, and when the result of the analysis was known a search warrant was issued and the premises of the defendant company were examined, and a large quantity of chemicals was found, but no cider mill or apples.

Witnesses were then called to bear out Mr. Wansbrough's statement.

The first was Mr. James Smith, who deposed to ordering a two gallon jar of cider from the defendants.

Mr. F. W. Simpson, Food and Drugs Act inspector, said that he received samples of the liquor Mr. Smith purchased, and, after sealing them, sent them for Government analysis.

Mr. Stubbs, an analyst from Somerset House, said that, in conjunction with Mr. Robbins, he examined the samples sent by Mr. Simpson, and found them to be a sugar solution, with chemicals, flavouring essences, and colouring matter. There was not a trace of apple juice in its composition.

Dr. Cook deposed that saponin, which had been found in the liquor, was harmful in any degree whatever, while aniline dyes were objectionable.

Mr. J. Cornelius, on behalf of the Board of Agriculture, said that he instituted the proceedings against defendants, and was present when a search was made of their premises. There were neither materials nor apparatus for making cider there. Mr. King raised no objection to the search, but aided them in every possible way.

Mr. Robbins, a Government analyst, stated that amongst the chemicals seized and produced in court were concentrated essence of sparkling ciderette, salicylic acid, aniline dye, tartaric acid, commercial phosphoric acid, caramel, and saponin. Some of these were far from harmful, but others were much condemned. He could not say that the sample of "cider" sold contained all, but

most of them were present, though not in a dangerous degree.

Mr. Gilmore, for the defence, submitted that Messrs. King had been manufacturing from the same recipe for the last fifteen years. They made cider from these chemicals as an accepted trade preparation before the proper apple juice cider had grown in popular demand. There was no intent to defraud, because it was plain that people expecting the proper apple juice cider would not go to a mineral water manufacturer for it. He would call witnesses in the mineral water trade to show that it had been the custom for many years to make a chemical preparation known as cider for public consumption. It was not an attempted imitation of the proper thing, but quite another beverage. It had been carefully made, and was in no way harmful; but, if necessary, they would give an undertaking not to manufacture any more of it.

Mr. C. King gave evidence in support of what Mr. Gilmore had stated; and Mr. Beavis, another mineral water manufacturer, agreed that it was an acknowledged practice in their trade for very many years to make "cyder" by that recipe. He had heard of cider being made from apple juice.

There was a summons against Messrs. R. F. Hansford and Co., of Grosvenor Road, for a like offence, and the magistrates said they would hear the facts before inflicting a fine, as they intended to do.

Mr. Gilmore said they were satisfied to let the ruling of the first case apply to the second.

Mr. Wansbrough said that in Hansford's case there was no saponin or aniline dye found.

The bench fined each defendant £5 and £20 costs.



The New Crops.

England.

The crops have arrived, no further progress in growth is possible, and we are now waiting only for the completion of the harvest, in hope that all the cones at present hanging on the bine will be gathered into the cribs, and duly cured and bagged in good merchantable condition. Concerning this desirable consummation there seems to be some doubt, as it is thought that the delay in the commencement of picking may possibly cause the abandonment of some of the later growths, thus reducing the total yield by an appreciable quantity. The weather is perhaps the most important factor in this matter, and experts are debating if the cool misty nights and sunny days we are now experiencing are likely to be favourable or otherwise to the final results. The weaker grounds will be not unlikely to suffer from such climatic extremes, but the stronger plants will doubtless hold their own as long as is necessary. Personal observation leads me to anticipate a general satisfactory finish. The bine has hitherto come through the trials of the past months in a wonderful manner, and is so far accustomed to a changeable climate that we are almost assured of its present safety. I am therefore hopeful that we shall not be disappointed, but that our yield will fulfil our reasonable expectations.

With regard to the actural quantity to be brought to market, opinions differ. The general tone of the Borough favours reduction of previous estimates, and this line of thought appears to be supported by the reports of the yield of the early pickings. We are told that the hops are coming down light in many places, owing to the small size of the cones. On the other hand, it must be remembered that, with some exceptions only, the earliest and weakest pieces have been handled. Most of the heavily laden gardens, of which there are not a few, are yet untouched, and I am prepared to hear that if the weather continues favourable the yield of such grounds will be fully up to the estimated mark. However, I am quite willing to be persuaded that the English crop will not exceed 400,000 cwt. We do not require more, and we may hope that, if we do not pass this figure, our growers will realise more satisfactory prices, and at least some profit upon their outlay.

America—Reduced Estimates.

I am pleased to be able to report that the previous anticipations of a heavy crop in the United States are now considerably modified. In a letter dated August 24, received by me a few days ago, it was confidently asserted that the American crop would be approximately 365,000 bales, and such an estimate has been generally confirmed by others. Since the harvest has commenced reports of deficiencies of output in various sections have been published. Messrs. Durst Bros. write me this week that they were completing their picking, and that their crop would not exceed 5,500 bales, in place of 8,000 bales last year. They state that shortage in similar proportion exists throughout California, and express their belief that Oregon and Washington will not yield anything like the quantity estimated. To-day I have received a cable message from a most reliable source in Washington, saying that both in Oregon and New York the crop is being seriously injured by mould, that it will be much smaller than was expected, and is not now estimated to exceed 290,000 bales. Thus we have a falling off to the extent of 75,000 bales, or over 20 per cent. This is good news for English growers, and will I trust be established by subsequent knowledge.

Austria.

The hop harvest is practically completed by this time, and the yield appears to be about 15 per cent. under expectation. The quality and condition are considered to be excellent, and growers are anticipating satisfactory prices.

Belgium.

The crop in Poperinghe is being rapidly picked, and, the yield being only moderate, the harvest will soon be over. Picking is just about commencing in Alost. It is now estimated that the Belgian crop will hardly exceed that of last year, and possibly may not equal it.

The Markets.

London.

I am happy to be able to write once more something about business in the Borough, as with the arrival of the early samples of the new crop some interest is being aroused. It is not very keen just yet, because the general average of quality is not too attractive. But a few sales are being made at prices proportionate to quality, and I am told to day by factors that a range of 40s. to 65s. may be taken as representative of present values. I have heard of a few choice Bramblings realising 70s. and also of some poor stuff being offered at 35s. But the market has hardly opened yet, and the trade will not be developed until further supplies come forward. By the time I make my next report business will have begun to get into tangible form, and will be influenced largely by further definite knowledge of the crop, and by the confirmation of present information concerning the position of foreign markets.

Brussels.

Owing to the somwhat unfavourable reports concerning probable results of the new crop the market has become rather stronger, and contracts for October-November delivery have advanced a few francs.

America.

My correspondents say in a recent letter:—"Growers are offering to contract at 8 cents, but there is not a single dealer, up to present writing, willing to operate at this figure. All the information we can get indicates that brewers have never been more heavily stocked than they are at this time. The indifference shown by them when they refuse to purchase choice hops of the coming crop at 10 to 11 cents is an indication of how they feel towards the future of the market." Mr. Durst also writes:—"There is no demand here for contracts for new crop, or for old hops at any price. Up to this time no one has tried to buy a bale of our new crop; at this time last season they were offering us 15 to 16 cents." Probably this dull condition of affairs will be altered if the declared shortage of the 1907 crop is confirmed.

Imports and Exports.

The Board of Trade returns for last month show that we have received during August from America 10,451 cwt. of hops, and from other countries 2,562 cwt., making a total of 13,013 cwt. Against this quantity we have exported 239 cwt. of English and 304 cwt. of foreign hops. The balance of overweight upon our market for the month is therefore 12,470 cwt.

Having now arrived at the conclusion of our hop trading year, it will be interesting to ascertain to what extent our foreign trade has affected us. The United States of America have sent us during the past twelve months no less than 148,684 cwt., which I think will be found to be a record quantity. Other countries have also favoured us with 84,875 cwt., so that our total receipts present the big figure of 233,559 cwt.

Our exports during this period are much below the average, indicating that our customers are either getting their supplies from other sources, or are increasing their own plantations.

Of English hops we have only shipped during the past year 9,415 cwt., and 2,650 cwt. of foreign growth, making our total exports only amounting to 12,065 cwt. Deducting this figure from that of our imports given above, we are left with the exceptional balance of 221,494 cwt., which has been pressing heavily upon our trade throughout the whole of the past season.

Remembering that English growers have been losing ground in lines that may be described as almost parallel to the course of our import business, which fact is demonstrated by the regular annual reduction of our acreage, it is not only desirable but imperative that the attention of the Government should be given to the position, and although the prospect of such intervention is at present almost hopeless, I am still hopeful that the day is not far distant when English planters will be aroused to take steps for their own defence in a more practical manner than has yet been done.

The Use of English Hops.

A strong plea on behalf of English hops is made in their annual circular by Messrs. Wests, Jones and Co., the well-known factors of the Borough. In recording a further reduction in the English acreage they admit that a lowering in the standard of quality of some beer has undoubtedly caused a reduction in the consumption of English hops, but contend that the present depressed state of the industry could not have been brought about had it not been for the unfair competition of foreign surpluses. The worst feature of the situation is that the English grower is powerless to help himself or his industry. Under-production at home is the direct result of over-production abroad; and, according to this firm's estimate of the English yield, it is only equal to about seven months' consumption. The Continental crop, as a whole, though not a very heavy one, is considerably lager than last year's, and while American reports point to a large yield, it will be substantially less than that of last season, and rumour indicates that the quality may again be indifferent.

Some brewers, the circular declares, have shown an increasing antagonism to paying English growers fair and remunerative prices, and, by the adoption of "waiting" tactics in regard to the purchase of English hops, they have done their best to crush this essentially national industry out of existence. "We would urge brewers to consider this point seriously," the circular goes on, "and to decide if it would not be wise policy as well as more patriotic to support those who support them. It is not to foreigners that they sell their beer, but to their own countrymen, and when presently their property is threatened, it will be to their own countrymen that they will look for support."

Less controversial, perhaps, is the statement that the quality and flavour of English hops are unsurpassable, and there seems to be cogency in the argument that, if the money now sent abroad for foreign hops is kept and circulated at home, much of it which is lost to the country would inevitably find its way back to the brewers' own pockets.

For 1907.

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Lincolnshire Notes.

WHAT a magnificent Sunday, I wondered as I saw the fields of glorious corn a week ago. I thought of the number of fine Sundays we have had in the last month or two, and I found myself asking the question whether Sunday observance does not go a bit too far when it suspends beneficial harvest operations. Why should not the farmer save his produce as well as pull his ox out of the pit on the Lord's Day? Why should he not gather in his corn just as much as he allows his domestics to cook the dinner or perform the other duties of the household? Some day we shall have to discuss this question in earnest if the fickle climate holds.

I WROTE this on Monday, little expecting the week of ideal harvest weather which has followed it. We are now really beginning to realise the fruits of the harvest. Considerably more than half the corn is out, and the fruits of the season are being won in earnest. On Friday there was a good deal of corn in Lincoln market. And whilst it does not come up to the ideal quality of last year, it is fetching anything up to 6s. per quarter more.

MR. CHRISTOPHER TURNOR had a very enthusiastic home-coming to Stoke Rocheford on Monday. "Make this your home" was the appeal of the villagers, artistically expressed on one of the numerous streamers. I am not going to emphasise the appeal. I am satisfied to know that Mr. Turnor has made his home in Lincolnshire. I am still more pleased to believe that the interest in agriculture and its development on modern lines is still going to be his principal concern and industry.

MR WM. STENNETT, of Billingborough, whose remains were interred on Thursday, was a well-known Lincolnshire agriculturist. He had many friends both in agricultural and religious circles, and his funeral was a striking manifestation of esteem.

WHY not make jam? The Gainsborough Guardians are adopting Mr. Gladstone's advice. They have instructed the master to purchase as much fruit as possible and start making jam. For consumption, not for sale, I presume. Careful householders who have children to nourish and please might well adopt the suggestion.

WITH the sunshine here at last, the root crops and mongolds are beginning to assume large dimensions. Swedes and common turnips are also doing wonderfully well, and abundant keep is already assured for the sheep during the coming winter. In the Lincolnshire Fens mangolds and swedes are growing rapidly, but it is to be feared that the sun has come too late to save the potatoes, which are now beyond doubt badly diseased.

INDEED, there are fears that the potato harvest is already ruined. A large grower in South Lincolnshire is very pessimistic. He writes:—"The wretched weather experienced during July and August will mean nearly ruination to many of the smaller farmers in this district, who largely depend upon the success of their potato crops for a living. Personally, I have over twenty acres of tubers, which are all more or less affected with disease. The plants show that they are suffering with blight, and on walking across two fields this week I noticed that the haulm was dying, which is a sure sign. To make sure, however, I dug up a number of roots, and some were so bad that they had actually commenced to rot. If this is the case in August, what are we to expect at the end of September, when we want to raise them?" What, indeed!

MR. T. H. B. FRESHNEY, of South Somercotes, shipped from Grimsby last week per s.s. *Leicester* sixteen Shire fillies and one stallion for Germany. These were bought by Mr. C. von Drathen chiefly in the Marsh district of Lincolnshire. They were a grand selection, being sired by such noted horses as Girton Charmer, Blythwood Conqueror, Lockinge Tug-of-War, and Rodney Stone. This is the third consignment which has been purchased by Herr von Drathen from the home of Lincolnshire Shires.

THE annual sale from Mr. Fred Ward's fine Quarrington flock quite eclipsed even the sale of the Lincolnshire Longwool Society the previous day. Mr. Ward did not make his splendid average of 1904, which amounted to £24 7s., but he beat all his other records, coming out with 116 rams sold for £2,495, or an average of £21 10s. 3d. each. Mr. J. E. Casswell, of Laughton, paid the highest price of 200 guineas, for which he obtained a ram by Dowsby Quality, which is described as almost perfect. There were some other respectable prices, Mr. J. Pears, of Mere, putting down 115 guineas for a son of Nocton. There were also some good family averages made. The six sons of Pointon Standpoint made £39 14s. 6d., eleven of Dowsby Quality reached an average of £31 17s. 6½d, and eighteen rams by Nocton Lincoln an average of £27 0s. 9d. As usual, some of the best sheep will go abroad, Mr. J. Truman, of Whittlesea, securing a dozen or so purchases at 38 guineas to 135 guineas, whilst Mr. C. A. Leonard, of Monte Video, was a large purchaser.

THE dinner which followed the sale was chiefly notable for a speech by Mr. A. W. Dean, J.P. Mr. Dean talked about two things—small holdings and stock breeding. On the former subject his views are sympathetic. But he pointed out that there was not a Government in the world in which small holdings are prosperous unless they are "protected" by the Government, and personally he will never support a scheme which will impose expense on the ratepayers. On the subject of stock, Mr. Dean spoke with more authority. Whilst he argues that it rests largely with the farmer as to how long he is to remain the universal provider for foreign flocks, he believes that England has still many natural advantages which will give her the command of the breeding for many a long day.

AT the behest of the Midland Corn and Agricultural Trades' Association, Ltd., the Midland Railway have provided a special market train, which will leave Nottingham at 10.30 a.m., Newark at 10.53, and arrive in Lincoln at 11.15.

THE tragic death of Mr. Gourley, late of Torksey, has been much regretted in the county of Lincolnshire, where he was well known. Mr. Gourley was thrown from a dogcart by the horse suddenly jerking round, and he fell on his head, fracturing his skull. He died three hours later without recovering consciousness. Mr. Gourley was fifty-nine years of age.

September 13, 1907.

Nottinghamshire Notes.

DECREASED entries in horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs marked the Ilkeston Agricultural Society's show this afternoon. The former number 185, against 211 last year; cattle tottalled 49, against 71 a year ago; sheep 30, as compared with 36; and pigs 31, against 43. In the butter and cheese classes the number of entries showed an increase, and the same remark applies to the classes for bread, there being 143 entries, against 33 a year ago.

FOR three years in succession the day on which this attractive show has been held proved wet, therefore it was a delightful change to-day, for the weather was all that could be desired. There was a huge attendance, and Mr. T. H. Richardson, the secretary, was inclined to the belief that the crowd would prove a record since the society was established ten years back. There were some capital animals on view, and without doubt this is one of the shows which has done much to create rivalry among local farmers as to who can breed the best stock. It is purely a tenant farmer's show, especially in the cattle classes.

MR. A. W. HICKLING, of Adbolton, carried all before him in the Hackney classes. In the filly foal class Adbolton Queen won the first and reserve special; for colt foals the first and special was awarded to Adbolton Performer; in the yearling colt or filly class Adbolton Lady Cooke was an easy winner; and in the two-year-old gelding or filly class Adbolton Royal was placed at the top. Four firsts and two specials to four Hackneys is not a bad day's work.

JUDGES were all well-known agriculturists in the district, including Mr. W. Machin, Edwalton, and Mr. J. W. Chappell, Alvaston, Derby, for Shires; Mr. R. Ford, of Duffield, for Hackneys; Mr. A. Payne-Gallwey, Bakewell (the Duke of Rutland's agent), and Mr. W. Richardson, Mackworth, Derby, for Hunters and Hacks; Mr. A. Stretton, Sibthorpe, Newark, and Mr. G. Chamberlain, Ridding's Farm, Alfreton, for cattle; and Mr. H. Smith, jun., Cropwell Butler, for pigs and sheep.

THE local show, which was held at Ripley yesterday was well attended. Until this year the exhibition had been an Easter fixture, but so bad has the weather been for several years that the committee decided to try the month of September for a change, and they will have good reason to be pleased for themselves. The entries were more numerous, and visitors rolled up in strong force. It is another of those societies which is doing a lot of good for farmers resident within a seven mile radius, and is well backed up by many influential farmers around Ripley.

DAMAGING growing crops in and about the townships of the county has long been one of the pastimes of irresponsible youths, and I have been surprised that farmers have not taken the trouble to bring the offenders to justice, as the havoc wrought in some instances is considerable. A field of wheat between Nottingham and Wollaton was so badly damaged through youths and the younger generation in general running amongst it and pulling the ears off the stems that two or three acres was not worth cutting. At Mansfield, to-day, however, six boys hailing from Selston and Warsop Vale had each to pay from 5s. to 10s. at the police-court for doing damage to two fields of wheat at Selston and Soukholme.

OWING to the great increase in the price of wheat and the consequent higher charges for flour, the Nottingham master bakers have raised the price of bread by 2d. per stone, the quartern loaf now selling at 5½d.

THOUGH we have had some heavy fogs in the county during the present week, the sun has more than made up for this, and a large amount of barley, wheat, peas, and nearly all the oats have been carted between Newark and Nottingham, and from the latter city to Loughborough good progress is being made. There are still odd fields of both barley and wheat which are green, and to the north of Nottingham, and around Mansfield, harvest has only just got going. Another week's fine weather will see "harvest home" on the majority of the farms, which is actually an accomplished fact with odd agriculturists.

MR. W. F. FAULCONBRIDGE, of Bulwell, near Nottingham, has kept a record of dates for forty-nine consecutive years when he began and finished harvesting. This year his first field of corn was cut on August 26, while last year he had actually finished harvesting on August 29. In 1859, the first crop was cut on July 12, and "harvest home" was celebrated on August 27. In 1860, however, the corn was not ready for cutting until September 6, while October 2 was the day on which the last load was taken into the homestead. The record for lateness since 1859 was October 20, 1892, when harvest was safely gathered in, while the earliest date for "harvest home" was in 1868, when cutting commenced on July 13 and finished on August 14.

SWALLOWS disappeared from this neighbourhood about the middle of August, and though I kept a keen look-out, not a single bird could I see for over a fortnight. However, large numbers of them are now to be seen hovering about, so that they must have returned once again.

THE unusual sight of a swarm of bees was to be seen at Normanton-on-Trent, near Newark, this week, and what is more they were kept at home and safely housed. Honey looks like being scarce this year, as the bees have been unable to get out owing to the wretched weather.

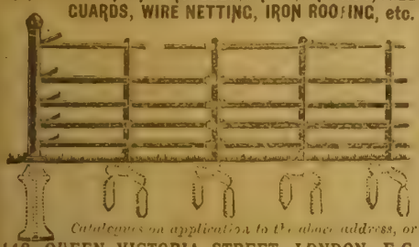
ROOT crops are forging ahead, and there is now no fear as to a scarcity of turnips for the sheep during the coming winter. It is truly surprising how rapidly mangolds have grown of late, and given a few more days of warm sunshine they will assume dimensions comparing favourably with many of the best grown last year.

FARMERS are beginning to prepare for wheat sowing, already a large acreage of seed land having been ploughed over. On Tuesday morning I was on a large farm near Newark at Hawton and six teams were out in one field ploughing up bean stubbles for wheat. Just before midday they took their horses home, and in the afternoon were busy leading barley, which was then in splendid trim. The heavy fog in the morning had made the stook on the outside as wet as though a heavy shower had fallen

ENGLISH corn was a trifle cheaper at Newark yesterday and again at Bourne to-day. Farmers are very eager to get a turn with the threshing machine in order to share in the high price of wheat at the present time. Speaking to a proprietor of three sets of threshing machines on Monday, he told me that he had never known a year when corn was in such bad condition as that which he has threshed this year. Farmers have been too anxious, and led the crops before they were ready. A stack of barley with a good proportion of clover in the straw had to be pulled to pieces last Sunday, near Bottesford, owing to it heating, the farmer being afraid of it firing.

PREPARATIONS are being made, both in Leicestershire at Belvoir and in Derbyshire, at Haddon Hall, for celebrating the coming of age next week of the Marquis of Granby, the Duke of Rutland's eldest son. The tenants are making a present to the Marquis, and they in turn are being entertained to dinner by the Duke and Duchess.

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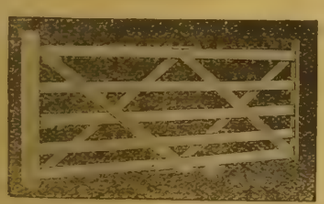
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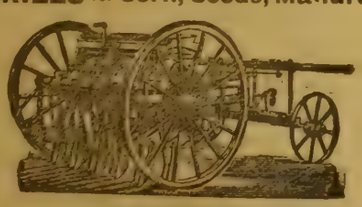
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LORD MIDDLETON, of Birdsall House, Yorks, and Wollaton Hall, near Nottingham, has given permission to the civic authorities in the lace city to hold a pageant in Wollaton Park, the site of the Bath and West Show three years back. The date has been provisionally fixed for the week commencing Monday, July 13, 1908.

PLAYING in a novel cricket match at Nottingham on Wednesday between Indian Mutiny and Crimean Veterans and a team of local ladies, Miss Hickling, daughter of Mr. A. W. Hickling, of Adbolton, of Hackney and Shorthorn fame, succeeded in making the top score on her side with 24, and Miss Hickling also secured the dismissal of Private M. Holland, Nottingham's sole survivor of the Balaclava charge, for a "duck," bowling him with a delivery that curled in. The ladies proved the winners by 106 runs to the veterans' only 83. The Sheriff of Nottingham and Mr. A. O. Jones were the umpires, and there was a very large number of spectators present from the country districts.

FOXES appear to be plentiful around Newark, as farmers are loud in their complaints about Reynard, who has paid a visit to a number of hen roosts in the district. From one farm over thirty fowls have been taken in a fortnight. R. K.
September 12, 1907.

FARM.

Flour and Bread-Making.

At the Bakers' Exhibition, which is taking place in London, one naturally heard a great deal about the different grades of flour and bread-making. Mr. W. A. Vernon, of Messrs. Vernon and Sons, communicated some interesting intelligence on the position of the trade. He described himself an apostle of white bread. He believed that for general English consumption white bread was the best and the purest, and that it contained all that was necessary for those who ate meat and butter. If one lived on bread and water only, then brown bread would be the best.

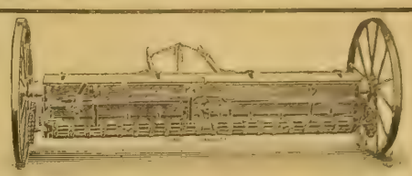
Between the highest and lowest grades of flour there was a difference of 14s. per sack; a penny increase on the price of a loaf was about 8s. per sack. When he began milling it was thought necessary to make the grain produce 78 per cent. of flour, but now the finest flour was produced the grain only yielded 60 per cent., but from that product all impurities had been eliminated, together with the fibre and bran. In the best harvested wheat there was bound to be some dirt, and this was more noticeable in the wheat that came from India. By careful milling the dirt and the husk were removed, and the flour which resulted was a creamy white. Recently there had been a great deal of bleaching of flour, which meant they had it of any whiteness they liked. There was nothing very detrimental in it, but the process took away that creamy look which was to be found in the best harvested wheat. Bleaching took away the rawness from the flour.

In a short reference to the price of bread, Mr. Vernon said, from the point of view of economy, the poorest man could afford to have good bread. It was foolish economy to buy cheap bread, and no other article of diet varied so little in price; if the poorest quality was 4d. or 5d. per 4 lb. loaf, the very best was only 6d. or 7d., and he submitted that quality and not price should be the point round which competition should move. At the present time there was a great importation of foreign low-grade flour, which was used by bakers because of the greater profit it yielded, and that low-grade flour was sent here because it was unsaleable in the countries which produced it. The milling industry of the country, which had always been an important one, was being ruined by the cry for cheap bread. In New York bread was 8d. and 9d. per quartern loaf, but only the very best flour was used; yet if the heavy protective duties were removed, English milled flour could successfully compete with that produced in the United States.

The English millers did not object to the best flours of America and Canada coming into England at an equivalent price to their own, but they did object to those countries sending in an article which was shillings below the best flours of this country. It would never find a market if the public knew the difference between the high and low-grade flours.

The Hardwick Hall Estate, near Castle Eden, county Durham, comprising a manor, two farms, and a temperance hotel, was offered for sale at West Hartlepool on Thursday by Messrs. Mabbett and Edge, London. The estate comprises 684 acres, and the annual rental is £716. The property was withdrawn at £15,000, but was subsequently purchased for Colonel Burdon, of Castle Eden, and the Horden Colliery Company for £15,400.

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As the result of a good deal of experience both in ordinary farming and at experimental stations with green manuring, Dr. Schneidewind considers that roots can make good use of a green manure. Taking the average of a number of years, peas and beans ploughed under produced an extra yield of roots per acre of 2½ tons.

Oats also availed themselves of the nitrogen in the greenstuff, in fact to such an extent that in wet seasons the crop was laid and the advantage gained by the extra fertility was lost.

As regards the best form of green manuring, peas and beans, according to the doctor's experiments, answered fairly well, but clover produced the best results. Last season's experiment was an interesting one. The following green crops were sown :—(1) Peas and beans after summer barley ; (2) clover ; (3) seradella with wheat. The following crops were afterwards grown on the plots :—Oats, potatoes, and beetroots. The oats on the clover plot developed most luxuriantly, but unfortunately were laid by a severe storm, so that the result of that plot could not be calculated.

The yields of the potatoes and roots calculated out per acre were :—

	Potatoes. Tons.	Roots. Tons.
Plot without green manure ...	5½	14
,, after seradella not inoculated	6	13½
,, after seradella inoculated	7	15
,, after peas and beans.....	7	16½
,, after clover	8	17

So that the clover proved the best system, especially as it costs considerably less than the peas and beans. It is interesting to note that the inoculated seradella did well, and it may be expected that on good soil the result would have been better.

The professor remarks that mustard is not a plant which should be used for the purpose of green manuring, although it is widely employed in some districts. In his opinion it is a practice which should certainly cease, as other plants give results so much superior.

Old Orchards Need Fertilisers.

In the case of orchards of some age, or on thin land, we regard the application of fertilisers as very important, says E. F. Stephens, who is an authority on the subject. Whoever saw a fat calf troubled with vermin? It is the poor, thin, scrawny animal that suffers. Likewise, it is our belief that orchard trees that are properly nourished and in full vigour can endure fungous diseases better than those trees which are in an impoverished condition on exhausted land. With this thought in mind we are at this time hauling 40 tons of stable litter weekly from three and a half to four miles to our orchards. We are applying 400 lb. of stable litter to each tree. If the litter is very coarse, we apply it under the branches along the rows out of the way of cultivation. If the manure is fine and can be worked in the ground with a disc, then we prefer to scatter over the entire area.

An experiment conducted along this line some years ago in these same orchards indicates that stable litter applied to bearing orchards was worth 5s. per load the first year, and its beneficial effects were apparent for a number of years. In one orchard, and on one variety, where we made very heavy application of stable litter, under bearing trees, we secured an annual yield three years in succession at the rate of 1,500 bushels of apples per acre. This return was secured in one of our closely planted orchards, where the apple trees stood 12½ by 20 ft., giving each tree 250 ft. of space, or at the rate of 174 trees per acre. This excessive production, however, seemed to weaken the trees, and they have not proved to be as long-lived as the same variety planted where they had more room and less exhaustive over-bearing.

We are also hauling 300 loads of straw into our orchards. We use this as a mulch 8 ft. in width in the row under the branches. We will continue to cultivate the middle of the rows. On side hills, liable to wash when under cultivation, cover the entire area, and thus shut off the tendency to loss of surface soil.

Appearance of Bone Manure.

The presence of bits of bone or partly dissolved bone in a manure is no evidence of the excellence of the manure ; but, on the other hand, should rather be regarded with suspicion, as perhaps indicating a wish on the part of the manufacturer to make his goods attractive by appearance. A properly dissolved bone manure should be in a fine condition, so that it can be spread evenly and each plant get its fair share of the nourishment supplied in the manure.

Cottonseed Oil Extraction.

The Acting British Consul at Savannah (Mr. A. Harkness) reports that he has received information from Atlanta, Georgia, to the effect that the State chemist has completed a chemical demonstration in the analysis of cottonseed meal which it is thought will be of interest to dealers and farmers, as it bids fair to change greatly the present method of extracting oil from cottonseed. Instead of applying the usual tests of such experiments, that of using ether mixed with cottonseed meal, he applied carbon tetrachloride, which is much less expensive, and found upon analysis that the weight of the oil extracted by this process was greater than by ether, and far less costly. This question has been the subject of tests also by the State chemist of Mississippi, who is said to have obtained similarly successful results, and who is a supporter of the theory that by its use more oil will be extracted from the seed. It is estimated that under the present system at least 10 per cent. of the oil is left in the meal, and as this oil is useless as a fertiliser, most of it is lost.

Fight against Weeds.

The farmer's struggle against weeds is a continuous one, and this wet season having encouraged their growth to an exceptional extent, his task in keeping them under during the coming months will be harder than usual. May we venture to impress upon him the following rules, and if everyone in a district were to follow them, the success would be more satisfactory :—

1. Select for sowing seeds free from weeds. Seeds intended for sowing should be examined for purity and freedom from weeds.
2. The sweepings from barns and other places which may have weed-seeds among the litter should not be fed, and should not be put on the manure or compost heap without the germinating power of the seeds being first destroyed.
3. All weeds growing on roadsides, ditches, and uncultivated places should be carefully destroyed before they seed.
4. Lands holding too much water should be drained.
5. Plenty of phosphate of lime and potash supplied to the cultivated crops enable them to suppress the weeds.
6. A suitable rotation of crops with alternations of cereal and root crops is very useful.
7. By a thorough cultivation of the soil before the crop seed is put in, a mass of weeds can be destroyed.
8. In the spring the growing weeds must be cut down, harrowed in, or destroyed in other ways.
9. During the growth of the crop the fight against the weeds must be incessant.
10. Charlock must be got rid of by spraying with sulphate of copper or sulphate of iron.
11. Meadows full of weeds should be ploughed up and sown with good grasses.
12. When arable land is infected with weeds it is necessary to fallow it, so that it may be thoroughly cultivated and cleaned.

Lawes' Chemical Manure Meeting.

The annual meeting of this well known company took place on the 3rd inst. Mr. E. G. Cubitt, who presided, said that as a result of the year's operations they had paid off £2,500 of the redeemable debentures, and had set aside £1,000 to reserve and £500 for bad and doubtful debts. The dividends for the year were 7 per cent. on the Preference shares and 7s. 6d. per share on the Ordinary shares.

In the past year there had been a rise in the prices they obtained for their products, but that had been somewhat counteracted by an unprecedentedly sharp increase in the price of raw materials.

Mr. W. B. van Haansbergen, a director, said that as they had laid in large stocks of raw material at prices considerably below the present figures, the outlook for the future might be considered as fairly good. This year their output of manufactured manures was the largest on record.

"How to Manure at a Profit."

This series of useful articles, combining the practice and science of "How to Manure at a Profit," is now finished. As many of our readers would like to have the articles in a form convenient for reference, we intend shortly to publish them in a small pamphlet.

Due notice will be given when the pamphlet is ready for issue, and price.

We are willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

Hay Grown Cheaply.

The experiments in grass cultivation which have been carried on for several years by Mr. Parke, of Kineton, under the expert advice of Dr. Dyer, have again produced some interesting results. The sixth hay crop, which, like most of the hay this year, was late, amounted when the land—a poor Warwickshire clay—was left to itself to 14 cwt. per acre in one field and 17 cwt. per acre in the other. In the former field a portion treated annually with 3 cwt. per acre of superphosphate gave 38 cwt. per acre of hay, and a portion treated with nitrate of soda only at the rate of 1¼ cwt. per acre gave 36½ cwt. When the two dressings (superphosphate and nitrate) were combined, the crop was 46 cwt. per acre, being an increase of 32 cwt. over the yield of the unmanured land. In the other field, where the natural yield was 17 cwt. per acre, basic slag alone (5 cwt. per acre yearly) gave 41 cwt., and nitrate of soda alone gave 39 cwt. per acre, while the two combined gave 46½ cwt. per acre, being nearly 30 cwt. more than the unmanured yield. Potash salts did not materially increase the crop. The use of superphosphate in one case and slag in the other is owing to differences in the soil. The average increase from phosphates and nitrate together in the two fields is over 1½ tons of hay per acre, and as the average cost of the manures is well under 30s., it follows that the additional yield costs under 20s. per ton to grow. The herbage on the various plots varies considerably, the best quality—a good mixture of grasses and clovers—being that found where the mixed manures are used. After the hay is gathered the whole of each field is promiscuously grazed every year, with the result that the unmanured portions (which are not fenced off) are, by natural means, sharing some of the improvement due to the richness of the manured portion. In the earlier years of the experiments these only yielded from a quarter to half a ton of hay per acre. Mr. Parke considers, therefore, that the difference in present yield between the dressed and the undressed land does not indicate the full value of the improvement effected by the fertilisers.

Sugar Industry in Germany.

The number of factories in operation is 376 ; the quantity of beets treated last season was 15,733,478 tons (metric), and the quantity of sugar produced was 2,314,779 tons (metric). The British Consul reports :—

The campaign of 1905 06 witnessed a material growth of the activity of German sugar factories within the German customs frontiers as compared with the previous year. The meagre beetroot crop of 1904 was followed by an exuberant yield of beets, and the year of minimum production of sugar was succeeded by one in which sugar manufactures attained hitherto unprecedented dimensions ; during the last financial year the beet crop showed an increase of 5,700,000 tons in round figures, and the production of sugar a rise of, roughly, 800,000 tons.

Increase of Weeds.

The enormous increase which results from allowing weeds to seed may be seen from the following short list, showing the number of seeds each of the weeds named is capable of producing in a single season :—

	No. of seeds on a single plant.
Groundsel	6,500
Corn cockle.....	2,590
Red poppy	50,000
Charlock	4,000
Sow thistle	19,000
Blackhead	3,000
Shepherd's purse	4,500
Cow parsnip	5,000
Stinking camomile	40,000
Ox-eye daisy	13,500
Burdock	24,520
Common dock.....	13,000
Dandelion	2,040

Prices of Fertilisers.

There is apparently going to be a fairly brisk demand for fertilisers suitable for autumn application, especially for basic slag, superphosphate, and kainit. Merchants are already booking orders freely at prices which have a tendency to move upward.

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a nom de plume, in the paper.

Approximate Unit Cost of the Nutritive Constituents in Feeding Cakes and Meals.

Cakes and other Feeding Stuffs.—In order to be able to form a correct opinion of their value, it is necessary to know the relative cost of the different nutritive constituents. The following note, by an eminent authority, supplies this information. By reference to it, a farmer can calculate out the approximate commercial value of a cake or meal, and then use his judgment as to which is most suitable for his special requirements.

	s. d.		s. d.
Albuminoids	2 8	to	3 0
Oil or fat	2 8	,,	3 0
Carbohydrates	1 1	,,	1 2

NOTE.—Most authorities in England are agreed that the value of each per cent. or unit of albuminoids and of oil is at least 2½ times that of 1 per cent. or unit carbohydrates. If, therefore, the percentages of albuminoids and oil in a feeding stuff be respectively multiplied by 2½ and added to the percentage of carbohydrates, the total feeding units contained in the article are obtained. The cost of the feeding stuff divided by this total of feeding units gives the price per unit. Example: A cotton cake contained

	Per cent.			Feeding units.
Albuminoids	22·1	×	2½	= 55·2
Oil	5·2	×	2½	= 13·0
Carbohydrates	33·2	×	1	= 33·2
Total feeding units				101·4

The price of the cake being £5 7s. 6d., the cost per feeding unit was just about 1s.

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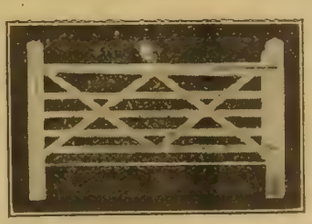
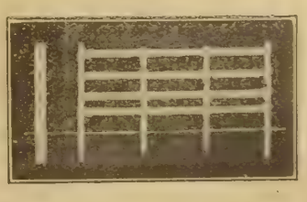
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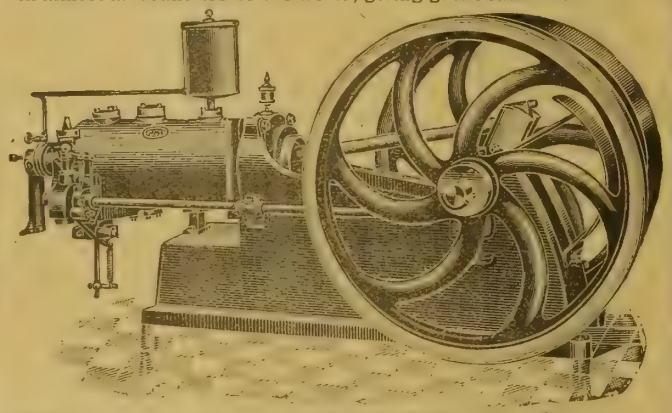
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MODERN AUCTION SALES AND OLD TIME FAIRS.

The growth of the special shows for young stock in late years is remarkable, and the enterprising auctioneers who for the most part run these events in connection with a sale have evidently hit upon something which is of service to the agriculturist; and have been able to encourage breeding to some extent by providing inducements to go in for a little better class of stock, and by finding a market for it which accords with modern views of dealing better than does the old fair, which has been so largely superseded by the auction sales.

The number of these old fairs which have dwindled to a shadow of their former greatness is enormous. Their character, too, has altered in a remarkable way. Some months ago the pupils of a school built on the site of a fair which formerly lasted a week—and which we saw the last of when about a score of yearlings represented all the stock offered—found a curiosity in the grounds which puzzled the staff to explain.

It proved on its being referred to an old drover to be one of the shoes with which oxen and milch cows alike were shod when travelling over the rough and tedious roads from fair to fair. Very few are left who can distinctly recollect when all animals had to be shod to travel, and these relics of a bye-gone age are very interesting when they do turn up.

SHEEP EXPORTS AND IMPORTS.

During the month of August sheep to the value of £20,811 have been exported. This amount of declared value represents the sum realised by the sale for export of 2,042 sheep, which gives an average of £10 3s. 9d. per sheep, a very satisfactory month's demand. It is, however, not so satisfactory as was the case twelve months previously, for we find that during August, 1906, 2,217 head were exported, which gave an average of £18 4s. 3d.

Despite the very satisfactory demand experienced at the present time for the home-grown mutton, we find that the quantity of mutton imported during the past month was 454,252 cwt., or 6 99 per cent. more than during the same period of the previous year, and it is worthy of note that last month's mutton importations were the highest on record for that month during the past thirteen years.

The declared value of the sheep and mutton imported during the past month was £849,271, or 7 86 per cent. more than for the same period of the year 1906.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

Advice of a Legal character is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

A Drainage Question.

Sir,—I shall be glad if, through your columns, you will give an answer to the following questions I happen to live in a village near to which a colliery has been sunk during recent years, and this has caused a big inrush of population into the village, which, of course, has no sanitary arrangements equal to what is now required. The surveyor to the Rural District Council has a scheme which would entail an expenditure of over £2,000, besides the cost of maintenance. This of course would mean a ruinous burden on a small village, even if money be borrowed at moderate interest. And in order to put off this big scheme in the hope that the village, which has grown considerably, may yet still further increase in rateable value (thus making the expense more to'erable), they have resorted to several tinkering expedients which have at last involved the lower end of our home croft in a perfect bog of sewage. The main part of the village is on elevated ground, which falls away for a matter of, perhaps, 400 or 500 yards, then rises again on the other side of the brook. The surveyor's big scheme is to pipe sewage from both ends of the village along bottom of valley to some large sewage disposal works. At present he has made a drain which is to be part of permanent scheme across field adjoining ours, and then dug a hole about 7 ft. deep out of which he professed to expect sewage would filter into the soil, a thing which is altogether impossible, as the land has a good deal of moisture in it. The consequence has been (as the farmer to whom the field belonged said) that the tank has swum over, the whole being made ten times worse by overflowing of the brook (during rainy weather) and finding its way through the wall, has deprived us of about 3 roods of land. But this is apparently not enough, for I now find that a grip has been cut from the tank at the other end of the village down by the side of the hedge and conducted into another of our fields. The consequence is that another bog of sewage is being formed there, and this has been done without mentioning a word to us—in fact it had been going on for several weeks before we found it. I am aware that by Act of Parliament suitable land can be compulsorily acquired for sewage works, but can the council stand by such a high-handed and unbusiness-like appropriation of a person's land for their temporary convenience, to danger of cattle grazing in the fields?

I shall be glad if you will tell me how the law stands with regard to a case like the above, and what you consider would be the best course for us to take.—Yours, &c. South Yorkshire.

*** I am of opinion that the council are acting improperly in what they are doing, and you could obtain an injunction restraining them and claiming damages. The best course for you to adopt is to place the matter in the hands of a solicitor, who will write to the local authority on the subject, for the matter you complain of constitutes a very serious nuisance.—Barrister-at Law.

A Record Harvesting Feat.

A remarkable harvesting feat was given in Lincolnshire on Thursday. The demonstration took place on one of the largest farms in the kingdom, that of Messrs. Dennis Brothers, of Kirton and London, potato growers and merchants. The feat of obtaining baked bread from corn which had just before been standing in the fields was accomplished in about four hours. More remarkable still was the full amount of the work done in so short a time. An acre of standing corn was marked out in the cornfield. This was cut, bound, threshed, and ground by the motive power of an agricultural tractor working with a petrol engine. An acre of ground was also ploughed, cultivated, drilled, harrowed, and sown with a new crop within seven and a-half hours.

This constitutes a world's "record"; and it is to the credit of the country that not only the tractor, but also the thresher, drum, mill, cultivator, drill, and harrow were all British. The harvesting machine came from Canada, so that the feat is, therefore, an Imperial one. The tractor is of 50 horse-power, and was built by Saundersons, of Bedford.

At 11.35 the tractor started its work by taking the threshing drum into the cornfield. Five minutes later it began to draw two Merseyharris harvesters through the corn. These not only cut the corn, but also bind it. Half a dozen men walking behind stacked it, and in exactly fifteen minutes what had been an acre of growing crop was standing on the field, cut and stacked ready to be placed on the cart which the tractor proceeded to draw round the field. By one o'clock the corn was lying at the side of the threshing drum The tractor then got into position to drive the thresher by means of a belt. At ten minutes past one a halt was called for luncheon. As soon as the threshing had begun, the flour was seen to come out of the mill, which was being worked off a pulley on the threshing drum.

A move was then made to another field for the ploughing It took an hour to take the plough down, and almost punctually at 3 the ploughing began, with a three-blade plough cutting three furrows 2 in. wide and 7 in. deep. Owing to an overheated bearing a halt of half an hour had to be made, and the ploughing was not, therefore, finished until 4.45.

A cultivator and a drill were then hooked on behind, and at 5.30 the acre was ready for the harrow, which had completed its work by 6 45, thus bringing to an end a most remarkable harvesting feat. After the deduction of the interval for luncheon and the stop due to the overheated bearing, the net time was six hours forty minutes.

Notes of the Week.

We have grumbled so often about the weather during the past few months, that it is a pleasant change to be able to compliment it on its good behaviour. It is making quite a brilliant stay.

This is the sort of weather when, after a good tramp in the country, one longs for a draught of thirst-quenching cider. Pity it is that so seldom can one get it genuine.

"O, bid the cider flow,
In ploughing and in sowing;
The healthiest drink I know
In reaping and in mowing."

Success to the efforts of the National Fruit and Cider Institute to get a legal standard for purity fixed by the legislature.

Are we growing madder? is the subject of correspondence in a London morning paper. Our impression is that most of the madder used in this country is grown in Holland. Our farmers are not so mad as to try and grow madder.

Coal continues to ascend in three ways:—
From the bottom of the pit to the top,
From the fireplace up the chimney,
And unfortunately in price.

Farmer to little boy: "What are you getting up that apple tree for?" "Stommickache, sir."

It is very evident, remarks the *Tailor and Cutter*, that the fair sex are adopting the ride astride style without hesitation. This style makes a good show in the parks, has been in evidence at horse shows, and it is expected that a large number of ride-astride ladies will be seen at the various hunts.

"It should be generally known," said a doctor at a recent inquest, "that mushrooms grown under elm trees are poisonous."

Is there any foundation for this statement?

The outlook for the small peasant farmers in the West of Ireland is described as very gloomy. The potato crop is practically a failure, and the poor people are also face to face with a fuel famine

The natives of Morocco, who are causing so much trouble just at present, follow patriarchal pastoral pursuits, except when occupied in cutting the throats of foreigners.

They export a large number of oxen and sheep, and do a big trade in skins and hides.

The number of pigs has increased in Germany from 7,725,601 in 1892, to 15,334,762 in 1906.

In spite of this increase, the price of pork has advanced within the last couple of years by 3d. per lb.

Within the same period the number of sheep has dropped from 10,109,594 to 5,432,851.

Foreigners are said to be casting longing eyes on Sussex cattle, and there are signs, says Sir Lindsay Hogg, that before long there will be a great boom in the breed.

A process has been discovered in America for making gas from straw. It is said that this discovery will bring down the price of coal gas. We fear the reporter was only, what is termed, gassing.

We are glad to hear that a movement is on foot to give expression to the appreciation felt for the distinguished services of Sir Horace Plunkett to Ireland.

The subscriptions will probably be devoted to the foundation of a "Plunkett Bureau of Rural Social Economy," for which he did so much during his term of office.

What's the difference, asks *Judy*, between a farmer and a thief? The one "till's the land," and the other "lands the till."

There were 10,000 fewer foals bred this year than last. It looks as if the mares were following the example of ladies in fashionable society.

A young man whose love of flowers and all things green and growing compelled him to establish his home in the country invited his old chum, Brown, to spend Sunday with him.

Brown was received with all appropriate honours, and all the attractions were duly displayed to his polite, but not overkeen gaze, for he was somewhat deficient in that primal passion for a garden which had come down through the generations from Adam.

At each meal he listened courteously to eulogies of "our own make" viands. He bore patiently "our own milk, lettuce from that frame you saw, peas off that lot at the back," and so on. But at last it got to this:—

"Harry, I can recommend this chicken especially. I raised it myself."

Then the worm turned—after the first mouthful of chicken—and with a sad smile remarked:—

"No, Will, I cannot believe that. You've only been here a little over two years."

Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep Breeders' Association.

At the last meeting of the Council of the Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep Breeders' Association the entries for the annual ram show and sale were considered and it was decided that as the number of rams entered exceeded that fixed for the total of the sale, the number of rams so entered should be reduced in proportion to the number of ewes owned by those who entered them. It was resolved that 4 per cent. be adopted as the basis for the allotment of the proportion of rams entered by each consignor, and that the overplus be divided among the next four largest entries.

The secretary's report stated that since the last meeting 144 export certificates for rams had been issued, and 124 for ewes, and he had applications for 19 more export certificates.

The adjudicators to judge the class for the best woolled ram at the Ashford Show and Sale, to be held September 27 next, were selected as follows, subject to their being able to act:—Messrs. C. E. Elgar (New Zealand), W. M. Dean (Patagonia), and Mr. Murray (New Zealand).

Forthcoming Sales.

The annual sale of pedigree Clydesdales, Hackneys and Hackney ponies, store cattle, &c., the property of the Seaham Harbour Stud Company, will take place at Seaham Harbour, near Sunderland, on Wednesday next, the 18th inst., when Messrs. A. T. and E. A. Crow will bring under the hammer over sixty Clydesdales, consisting of eight filly foals, twelve colt foals, four one-year-old fillies, one one year-old colt, six two-year-old fillies, six three-year-old fillies, nineteen brood mares, and six two-year-old geldings, whilst there will be offered six Hackneys and Hackney ponies. The chief feature of the sale will naturally be the Clydesdales, and these will be found to maintain the high reputation of the stud. The principal stud horse, Silver Cup, has won the highest honours in the national showyards of the United Kingdom, and year by year his reputation as a breeder is enhanced. His stock at the Northumberland and Durham county shows this year carried all before them, winning seventeen first prizes, seven seconds, and six thirds, and at the Royal Show at Lincoln the four animals exhibited by him were awarded one first, two seconds, one he, and the reserve championship of the section. The foals are a splendid lot; seven of them have been exhibited, and have each won one or more first prizes. The cattle are well bred and forward in condition, some of them being quite fit for the butcher, while all can easily be finished for the Christmas markets. They include five beautiful Highland heifers with calves at foot by a Shorthorn bull. The sale will commence at eleven o'clock prompt.

A conference of members of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture and delegates from associated societies throughout Scotland is to be held in Glasgow on Wednesday, October 23, when the President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries will be present. The magistrates of the city have resolved to extend the hospitality of the municipality to the members attending the conference.

On Monday the Stockton police authorities received a message that some sheep in a field at Newtown were being worried by dogs, so Sergeant Fraser and two constables went to the field and there saw a rough haired fox terrier and a cross-bred bull and fox terrier chasing the sheep round the field and making ferocious attacks upon them. When the police tried to get the dogs off, the rough haired terrier sprang at the sergeant and bit him in three places on the hand and arm. While the sergeant was choking the dog off, the other dog hung on to his clothing. Sergeant Fraser succeeded in securing one of the dogs by a piece of rope, and the other bolted out of field, and was followed to its home. The sheep were subsequently examined, and found to be only slightly bitten, but a considerable quantity of wool was torn off them.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17.—Leighton Buzzard Foal Show — Templecombe and Compton Horse and Foal Show — Show and Sale of Live Stock at Evercreech, Somerset—Holbeach Horse Fair—Market Drayton Cattle Fair—Ottery St. Mary and Ware Agricultural Fairs—Sale of Farms at Binstead, Hants—Sale of Farms at Lynn.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18.—Loughborough Agricultural Show—Easingwold Agricultural Show—Shap Agricultural Show—Brecon Agricultural Show—Bury Fair—Horse and Cattle Fair at Congleton—Newton Abbot Agricultural Fair—Thornton's Sale of Cattle, Sheep, and Pigs at Great Missenden—March Fair—Sale of the Seaham Harbour Stud—Partney Ram and Sheep Fair—Sending-in Day for the Dorchester, Ripon, and Byfield Shows.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19.—Abingdon Show—Stokesley Agricultural Show—Royston Horse and Foal Show—Horse Sale, Crewe—September Sheep Fair at Northampton—Annual Sheep Fair at Worcester—Farm Stock Sale at Writtle—Horse Sale at Southminster—Farm Stock Sale at Grays.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20.—Special Sale of Lincoln Red Shorthorns at Spalding—Reading Hop Fair—Horse Fair at Downham, Norfolk—Corwen Agricultural Show—Northallerton Agricultural Show—Sale of Dairy Farm at Whitchurch, Shropshire—Shorthorn Sale at Brackenbury Towers, near Carlisle—Warwickshire Hunt Horse Show at Kineton.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21.—Eggleston Agricultural Show—Alston Ram Fair—Alnwick, Lewes, and Egremont Agricultural Fairs—Pedigree Shorthorn Sale at Penrith.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23.—Pateley Bridge Agricultural Show—Fairs at Swindon and Stevenage—Rugby Cattle Fair—Agricultural Contracts to be sent in to the War Office not later than this day.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Sept. 10, 1907:—

	Period.	Anthrax. Outbreaks.	Anthrax. Animals Attacked.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Outbreaks.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Animals Attacked.	Glanders (including Farcy). Outbreaks.	Glanders (including Farcy). Animals Attacked.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Dogs.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Other Animals.	Sheep Scab. Outbreaks Reported.	Swine Fever. Outbreaks.	Swine Fever. Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.
		No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Week ended Sept. 7, 1907		20	32	...	...	15	22	...	...	3	39	271
Corresponding week	1906	13	19	...	...	8	27	...	...	1	9	42
	1905	17	18	...	...	14	24	...	...	1	6	22
	1904	20	29	...	...	29	65	...	...	4	7	39
Total for 36 weeks, 1907		773	1,035	...	...	637	1,458	...	...	419	1,862	8,766
Corresponding period	1906	633	927	...	...	771	1,452	...	...	301	796	4,462
	1905	682	933	...	...	875	1,515	...	...	661	610	2,771
	1904	686	1,085	...	...	1,101	1,958	...	...	1,072	1,003	4,615

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

Mr. William Russell Stewart-Freeman, J.P., D.L., of The Old Manor House, Wingrave, Bucks, and formerly of 12, Elvaston Place, South Kensington, S.W., proprietor of the famous Aldridge's Horse Repository, which he had controlled for nearly forty years, who died on July 10 last, left estate valued at £114,084 gross, and probate of his will has been granted to his widow, Mrs. Mary Stewart-Freeman, of The Old Manor House, Wingrave. Mr. Stewart-Freeman left handsome bequests to clerks and servants

HORSE NOTES AND JOTTINGS.

The Horned Horse—Modern Instances—Traces of Horns in Thoroughbreds —The Latest Horned Horse—The Foal Show—A Great Evil of Early Showing—Showing Brood Mares.

The Horned Horse.

"NOW I will believe," says Sebastian when Propero serves him with the Magic Banquet, "that there be unicorns." Certainly the old stories about horses with horns, which it was the fashion for so long to look upon as merely "traveller's tales"—inexactitudes, to use the modern euphemism, would seem to be true, for I have had no fewer than four horned horses brought to my ken within the last three or four years. Darwin showed that hornlike projections were not infrequently found in horses, and other writers have also drawn attention to the fact. Azara, an eminent Spanish naturalist, who flourished in the latter end of the eighteenth and the beginning of the nineteenth century, and whose researches in South America were of great value to the scientific world, speaks of a couple of horses in which the projections were 3 in. or 4 in. in length. The frequency with which these cases of horses with horns have been discovered in recent years at any rate, affords presumption that the travellers in the days of old had some grounds for the wonderful statements they made about horned horses.

Modern Instances

THE earliest case which came under my notice was that of a Thoroughbred horse, which was bred and owned by Col. Meysey Thompson at Nunthorpe Hall, near York. The horse in question showed considerable promise as a two-year-old, and was tried well. He had two protuberances on his forehead some couple of inches long, and of a horny nature. Mr. A. Day, the well-known trainer, also had a horse with horns, and at the same time as these cases were brought to my notice a gentleman wrote me from the West of England telling me of another case. This was a Thoroughbred Hunter.

Traces of Horns in Thoroughbreds.

TRACES of rudimentary horns had been found in several Thoroughbred horses after death, and in many of them were slight traces of the lachrymal depression which we find in deer. Hence it came to be a theory that the horse with horns was always one that was either of Eastern blood or directly descended from Eastern horses, the Eastern horse being supposed to be a direct descendant of a prehistoric breed of horses in which the horn and lachrymal depression were to be found. And there seemed good grounds for the theory, for the traces of the rudimentary horn in the skeleton of the Thoroughbred and Arab were fairly frequent.

The Latest Horned Horse.

AND now there comes to hand an instance which at first sight seems to demolish the theories already advanced. The other day I had a photograph sent me of the latest known horse with horns. He is a half bred cart-horse, and is working regularly in the Midlands. There are a pair of small bony frontal prominences about a fifth of the way from his ears to his nose. So far as I am able to judge from the photograph, they appear to be about a couple of inches long. In every other respect the horse is normal, and his head, though not showing exceptional quality, is a fairly good one. I have not yet been able to ascertain his pedigree, but he certainly does not show much of the Thoroughbred or Eastern character, with the exception, of course, of the frontal prominences. It is, of course, possible that his horn-like growths may be inherited from Eastern ancestors. It is possible that there may be a good deal of Eastern blood on both sides, though certainly the photograph would not lead one to think that such is the case.

The Foal Show.

OF late years foal shows held in the back part of the summer have increased in popularity, and they are becoming quite a function nowadays. And a capital thing they are if they are conducted on the right lines. They are an improvement on the old system for many reasons. To begin with, it is by no means desirable that foals should be shown early in the season. The mares and the foals as well will thrive much better if there is no premature forcing for show purposes. It is all very well for agricultural societies to lay down rules to the effect that in all breeding classes the exhibits shall be shown in natural condition. These rules are amongst the lot that are made to be broken. Men who are keen about showing will force their stock; they know what importance the judges attach to growth and size, and one of the consequences of early showing is that forcing which results in a majority of cases in horses with tops too big for their legs.

A Great Evil of Early Showing.

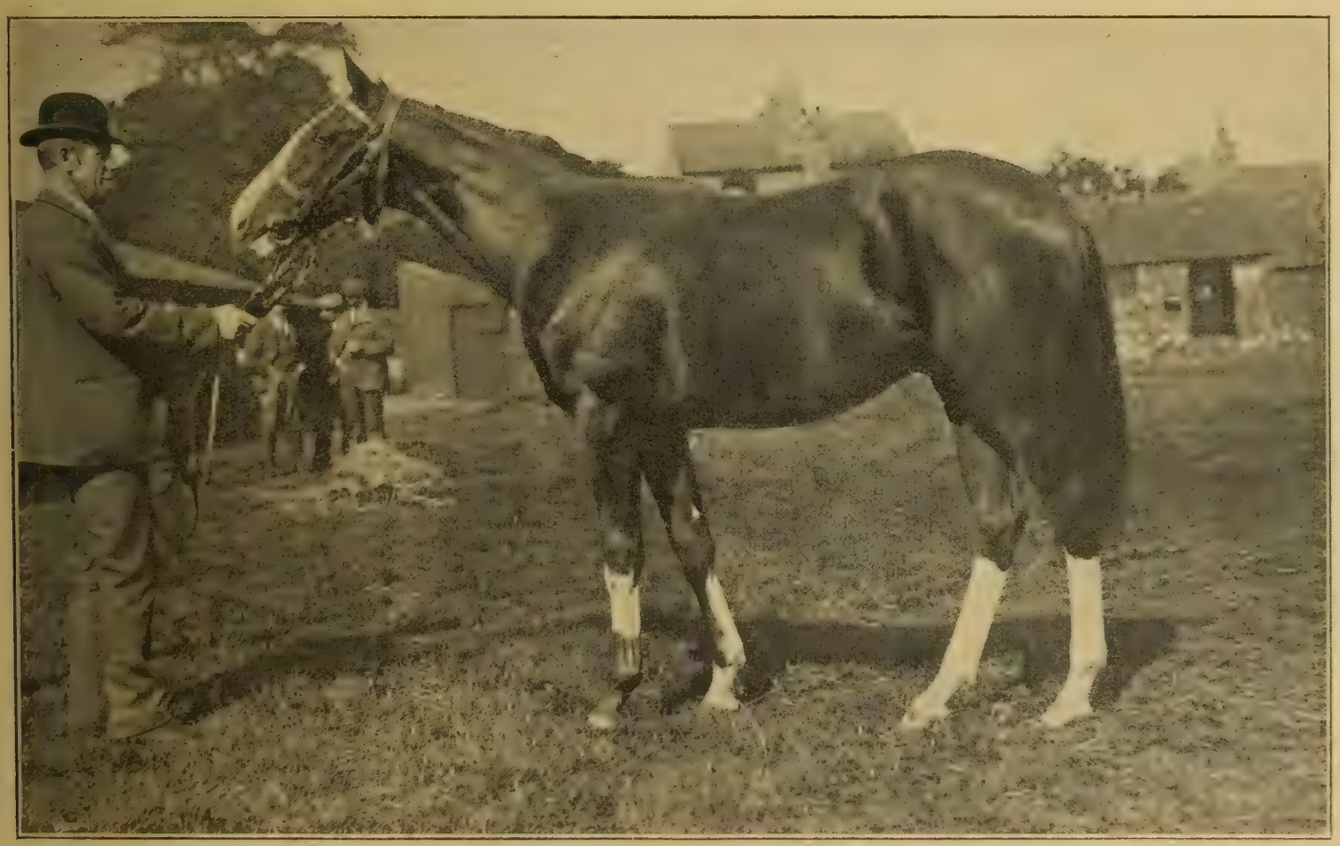
ANOTHER very serious evil which early showing brings about is shoeing. If a foal is shown in May, and then runs the round of the shows for the rest of the summer, he has to have something put on his feet to prevent them breaking. Euphemistically these are called tips. Generally, however, tips are only another word for shoes. It stands to reason that any interference with the feet of a young animal like the foal can only be attended with injury to that animal. Shoeing the young foal then is only the choice of a couple of evils, neither of which would have come into being if he had been living his natural life with his dam in his native pastures. I am speaking from experience, for I had a very good horse indeed ruined by having been shod when a foal. He won me some prizes, but it had been better for me if I had never seen them.

Showing Brood Mares.

IT will doubtless be urged by some that brood mares cannot be shown without their foals, and that to show the foals with their dams is as bad for them as to show them in a class by themselves. This is so, but only to a limited extent. For example, it does not hurt a foal so much to run at his dam's heels as to be swung and led and set on his legs and generally "pulled about" to make him handy in the ring; and so a foal with moderately good feet can do very well without any artificial protection for them if shown running at his dam's heels. But at many shows of late years there have been no classes for brood mares at the early summer shows, the brood mare classes being taken at the autumn foal shows. This is as it should be. The brood mare in the early part of the season is all the better for being kept quietly at home, instead of being knocked about from show to show; and taken on the whole she looks better in the autumn than she does earlier in the year, except perhaps just before she foals. When a mare is knocked about on the railway or taken a long journey on the road her milk becomes heated, and it is surely unnecessary to point out the deleterious effects which heated milk has upon a foal. When a mare is worked at home precautions can be taken to ensure her foal receiving no harm from the heated milk. At a show this, of course, is impossible. And therefore I think it an admirable plan to have the brood mare show in the autumn at the same time as the foal show.

Economic Reasons for the Autumn Foal Show.

THERE is another very sound reason for the autumn foal show; and that is, that it provides such a fair market for those who have foals to sell. There are many farmers who are ready and anxious to buy a few foals to graze. Either some of their own mares have been barren, and consequently they are short of numbers; or they lay themselves out to buy and graze a certain number of foals every year. It is palpable that an autumn foal show is the best place for these gentlemen to find what they



The Thoroughbred Colt shown above was sold at the Doncaster Blood Stock Sales last week for 2,100 gs., the purchaser being Mr. S. B. Joel. It is by Gallinule out of Little Eva, and was the property of Sir Tatton Sykes.

require. They see a lot of good foals together; they are much better able to judge of what they are likely to grow to in September than in any other month in the year; and the expense of looking for them is comparatively trifling. There is a choice, and when there is a choice there is always a market and a market price. Another advantage, and not the least advantage of the system, is that horse breeding is encouraged thereby. There are plenty of small farmers who would gladly breed a foal or two if they could dispose of them without much trouble and ensure getting a market price. The autumn foal show comes in to answer these requirements, and it seems to be within the range of possibility that the autumn foal show will be still further developed in the not very distant future. THE LOOKER ON.

PIGS.

Fulwood Herd of Large White Pedigree Pigs.

Mr. E. G. Hothersall of the Auction Mart, Preston, conducted a successful sale of Large White pigs at Fulwood Hall Farm, Preston, for Mr. R. R. Rothwell on Friday the 6th inst. There was a representative gathering of breeders from all parts of the country, and satisfactory prices resulted. Of 74 lots catalogued 67 were forward and 63 lots were sold at an average of £8 5s. 6d. each. The only lot withdrawn was the young boar second at the R.A.S.E, Lincoln, bid to 25 guineas. The highest price obtained was 35 guineas for the yearling boar Fulwood Lancastrian purchased by Messrs. Wherry. With the exception of this boar and about a dozen gilts a year old, all the pigs were farrowed in 1907. Twenty boars of this year averaged £9 12s., and 49 pigs of this year £8 2s. The following were the principal prices and buyers:—

Boars.—Messrs. Wherry, 35 guineas; the Earl of Derby, 10½ guineas; Mr. J. S. Smith, 10 guineas; Mr. D. W. Gunn (Edinburgh), 10½ guineas; Mr. White (Spalding), 9½ guineas; Mr. J. Leek, 9 guineas; Mr. J. Kay, 10 guineas; Mr. T. G. Parton, 8 guineas; Mr. J. Wood, 8 guineas; Mr. Duxbury, 7½ guineas; Mr. Hough, 9½ guineas.

Gilts.—Mr. R. Walker (Edinburgh), 11½ guineas; the Earl of Derby, 9½ guineas three times and 7½ guineas; Mr. D. W. Gunn, 10½ guineas; Mr. Henson, 10 guineas; Mr. J. Wylie, 10½ guineas and 9 guineas; Mr. D. Howsin, 11 guineas and 7 guineas; Mr. R. Ainscough, 10½ guineas; Hon. J. S. Tufton (Kent), 7 guineas; Mr. White, 10 guineas and 9 guineas; Mr. Duxbury, 9½ guineas; Mr. Hewitt, 8 guineas; Mr. Dixon, 8 guineas.

Sale of Walton Hall Pigs.

A choice selection of about 100 Large and Middle White pigs from Sir Gilbert Greenall's famous herd were offered for sale by auction at Walton Hall, Warrington, on the 5th inst., and as may be imagined there was a large company of buyers, and an eager demand for such excellent stock. The total realised by the pigs was over 800 guineas, individual prices ranging up to 20 guineas. This sum was given by Mr. Carter for Walton Beauty 5th, whilst at half a guinea less. Walton Fairy 5th was secured by Mr. Newton. Other chief prices were:—Walton Sarah 13th, Mr. Clarke, 15 guineas; Large White boar, Mr. Brown, 15 guineas; Combination 2nd, Duke of Portland, 13 guineas; Walton Sunlight 5th, Mr. Purvis, 14 guineas; Middle White boar, Mr. Tysak, 14 guineas; Large White sows, Mr. Philips and Mr. Livesey, 12½ guineas and 12 guineas respectively; Large White gilt, Mr. Frost, 12½ guineas; and others up to 11½ guineas.

Included in the sale were a number of choice Kerry cows and heifers which averaged 10 guineas per head.

Speaking at the luncheon held in connection with the Chilton Hills and Southern Bucks Agricultural Association on Wednesday, Earl Carrington referred to the decrease in foals as shown by the recent agricultural returns, and said he hoped before long to be able to make some practical proposals on the subject to try to arrest a state of things which, if it continued, would be a danger to the country. Referring to the Small Holdings question, his lordship said there was a satisfactory demand at the present time for land. Not many farms, he thought, were now being given up, and there was difficulty in getting them. A farm in North Buckinghamshire, which was lately to let, was eagerly applied for, and an increased rent was obtained. There was great eagerness to obtain small portions of land on the Crown properties; in fact, though a few months ago 3,494 acres were in hand, there were now only 400 acres to let, and he was in hopes that that farm might be let that day. The land was let in small portions, and the great complaint was that there was not enough land to go round. When the 400 acres were let the Crown would not have a single acre on hand. In spite of croakers and prophets of evil, British agriculturists, including the landlords, were by no means yet played out.

SHEEP NOTES AND JOTTINGS.

NO more striking instance of the increased interest taken by flockmasters in the different breeds of sheep of this country can be given than the very large amount of space given to the reports of sales and meetings held by the various sheep societies.

LOOKING back over a period of ten or fifteen years, and comparing the reports of those days with the present, the difference is astounding. As to why this is the case, one has only to refer to the proceedings reported from time to time in connection with sheep matters during that period to find that the main cause of this increased interest arises from the fact that flockmasters have gradually but surely realised the one great factor necessary for them to secure a share of the export trade has been to form themselves into different sheep societies. It is in effect the combination of individual interests that has been the mainspring from whence has arisen this enormous increase in the breeding of stud sheep.

FOR instance, one may quote the South Devon Sheep Society, a breed that has been known for generations and much appreciated in its own locality, but a breed that up to the time of its representatives forming a breed society was scarcely known beyond its own locality. Now, owing to the formation of the breed society, the breed is one that is known over a much wider area. Its exhibits have been seen and admired by flockmasters from different parts of the world, and from information that we have been favoured with there have been purchased during the present season a considerable selection of ewes and rams from some of the leading breeders for export to New Zealand.

WE are not aware whether or not this is the first instance of the South Devon sheep being taken to New Zealand, but it is eminently satisfactory to note that, owing to the progressive policy of the council of that association in advertising the breed as widely as its funds will allow, the result has been that some two or three breeders have been able to secure, after personal inspection of their flocks, a sale of these hardy and thrifty sheep to the Colony mentioned above.

THEN, again, one turns to the Exmoor Horn Sheep Society's work, and it is found in the report of their first show and sale that the result was to bring together a very large number of breeders interested in the breed, to engender, by means of the prizes, friendly rivalry between the different breeders, and at the same time to afford the public an opportunity of seeing together in one central place an assemblage of these sheep such as rarely occurs. So far as one can judge from the sale report, there were no sheep sold for export; but the fact that the breed has now established an annual sale at which a large and representative entry has been secured, makes it more than probable that in future years this annual meeting will attract buyers from districts far beyond the present confines of the breed.

THE result mentioned in the last sentence has been that which has been secured by the association's sales held by the Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep Society at Ashford, by the Lincoln Long Wool Sheep Society at Lincoln, and also by Messrs. Stride and Sons' annual sales at Chichester; each of these fixtures secures a thoroughly representative entry from many of the leading breeders of the different breeds; and buyers, both home and export, know that this is the case, and consequently they make these fixtures the particular fixtures to which they resort to purchase rams. The reason of this choice is a simple one—*i.e.*, that the number of rams entered is large, as is also the number of flocks represented, so that they are able to have a very wide field of selection, to compare one lot of sheep with another, and to purchase at such prices as may be the market value of the day without fear of being, owing to the small number offered, run to exceptionally high prices.

ANOTHER breed which we may mention that has already secured greatly increased notoriety owing to the combination of its interests into a Flock Book Association is the Kerry Hill sheep. This is a breed that is recognised by all who know it as being a very valuable breed for many purposes, and in a good many districts the breed has long been recognised as a breed, and round its own locality it reigns supreme; but until their efforts were combined by the formation of the society, it was impossible for the individual breeders to secure that publicity which they have been able to secure through the efforts of the society.

NO stronger instance of the truth of this is needed than to refer the reader to that notably fine and typical entry made by this breed at the late Royal Show at Lincoln.

THE above notes refer to the formation and to the result of the work of Sheep Breeders' Associations. They have also a direct interest upon the success of the flockmasters' interest in this country. It may be said, as it often has been, that the stud sheep business is a matter that benefits comparatively few breeders, but this statement is one that is not correct. Much evidence of an indisputable character could be quoted to prove that such is not the case; for instance, the increased demand of any particular breed of sheep for export or for home consumption without question raises the market value of that breed as a whole. It is better not to individualise or to specialise as to particular breeds, but there have been reported in the public Press during the past few weeks many notable examples of the increased price that the ordinary flockmasters have received for their draft ewes and yearling ewes not required for their own flocks in several breeds, simply because of the increased demand occasioned by the higher range of prices that such sheep of that breed have been realising.

A REFERENCE to the sale reports at this time of the year shows that there are scores of breeders at the present day owning registered flocks and selling stud and other sheep that twelve or fifteen years ago were not known outside their own immediate locality. These flockmasters have undoubtedly received great benefit from the formation of sheep societies; and then, if one inquires still further, it will be found that right through the whole of the different breeds there has been a material rise in the value of all sheep that are eligible for registration in the flock book.

THE great danger that faces one in connection with this increased interest and demand for stud sheep is that so very many men commence the moment they become owners of registered sheep to breed rams, thinking that the business of ram breeding is one that needs no special training, and the result is a larger supply of that class of sheep for which the demand is smaller than the supply. It is true the evil will cure itself, but while the cure is being effected all those who are breeding stud sheep of high merit, quality, and character are being compelled to take a lower price than they would be if the over-supply of inferior rams were non-existent.

FAIRS AND SALES.

Battle.

About 3,000 sheep and rams were penned at Battle Sheep Fair, which took place in wet weather, and this to some extent affected the attendance, but under the circumstances it was well attended and bidding was brisk at the following range of prices:—Lambs from 19s. to 36s. 6d.; ewes from 26s. to 47s.; tegs from 42s. to 45s. 6d.; rams from 15s. to £4.

Buckingham.

Buckingham Great Sheep Fair was held on the 7th inst., when some thousands of sheep were penned. There was a large attendance of farmers and dealers, and trade was very brisk, and good prices were realised. Sheaves made 70s. and ewes 40s. to 55s., lambs 30s. to 40s., ram lambs £4 to £7.

Glynde.

The seventeenth annual sale of Southdown sheep at Glynde took place in inclement weather, which affected the attendance of buyers, but there was a fair company present, and the numerous rams and ram lambs offered—they were from various well-known flocks—met a good trade. Ram lambs averaged £4 12s, shearling rams £6, four-teeth rams £5, and six-teeth rams, £3 7s. The best price for ram lambs was 8½ guineas, given by Mr. L. Martin, Westham, for one of Mr. R. H. Warren's, Angmering; Mr. J. Tompkins, also of Angmering, got the top price for shearling rams, viz., 12 guineas; whilst Mr. T. Strong, Worthing, secured the best price for four-teeth rams, 9½ guineas.

Kerry Hill Flock Book Society.

The Kerry Hill Flock Book Society's tenth annual show and sale took place at Kerry on the 6th inst., and proved the most successful of the series. Over 6,000 animals were penned, or 1,000

more than last year, and a capital clearance was effected, prices being well sustained throughout the sale. Prizes amounting to nearly £50 were offered, and were spread over eleven classes, and there was good competition in each.

The first class was for the best pen of thirty ewes, a very level lot, and it was doubtful whether the Graig ewes or Mr. John Anwyl's pen would be put top. The judges preferred the former ewes, and for the third year in succession Mr. Jones carried off the blue rosette. The pen were subsequently sold at 58s. to Lord Joicey, but Mr. Anwyl's pen made 58s each, Mr. John Adams being the purchaser. The highest price of the sale was paid for four yearling ewes from Mr. Anwyl. Three had won premier position at the Lincoln Royal, and Mr. Owen, Penybont, gave 85s. apiece for them. The Brompton ewes realised 55s., and eight show ewes from the same farm as much as 60s. Class 2, for the best fifty ewes, brought a large and meritorious entry. The draft from Gwernygoe, as in the past, occupied first place, and were sold to Mr. Matthew Darlington at 55s. There was little to choose between the ewes from Pentrenant, Glanmiheli, and Penygelly. The judge placed them in this order, and they were bought at 52s., 51s. 6d., and 50s. respectively by Mr. Newbould, Daventry, Mr. John Adams, and Mr. W. F. S. Humphreys. Mr. Jones, of Great Weston, preferred to divide his fifty ewes, but the same buyer, Mr. Peter Coats, took the lot at the one price, viz, 56s., other lots making up to 52s.

A class containing a lot of merit was that for the best pen of twenty ewes, the Cwmmule group, which last year occupied second place, and here were promoted to the leading position. Mr. John Lewis, Trwstllewelyn, was the buyer at 53s. 6d. Mr. Pugh, the Cloddia, sent a matchy pen, which obtained second prize, and were secured by Sir Powlett Milbank, Bart., at 51s, whilst the highly commended pen from the New House were much fancied, and realised 53s. to Colonel Wood.

The upper district class was headed by a fine pen of hardy ewes from Mr. Lewis, Glascoed. They fell to the bid of Mr. Bache, The Farm, at 54s., the second pen from Dolfor Hall realising 44s. 6d. to Mr. Evans, Neensolars.

Class 5 was for the best pen of unregistered ewes, not less than forty, a new competition, which brought forward some very useful sheep. Mr. Howard, Gwarthlow, was placed first with a good pen, which made 50s. to Mr. Frank Lloyd. The second prize pen from the Goitre realised 49s., and the reserve pen from Dudston 47s. 6d. Class 6, for the best twenty unregistered ewes, was also an innovation, and here the competition was keen, some forty lots being exhibited. A pen from the Rock stood first, and made 46s. to Mr. Henry Jones, whilst 45s. was paid for the second prize group from the Red House, and the reserve pen, which came from the Drewen, realised the same money to Mr. Hulme, Chelford.

The Upper Aldress pen, however, made 47s., the Bolboro draft 48s., the Penybank ewes 47s., the Lake pen 48s., and many others 45s. and 46s.

For the best fifty yearling wethers some ripe sheep from the Goitre stood first, and made 49s. to Mr. John Adams, but a pen from Glanmeheli realised 53s. to the same buyer. In Class 8, for the best twenty wethers, Mr. John Venables had an easy win, his sheep making 66s. to Mr. Maurice Powell, whilst the reserve pen from Mr. W. Alderson realised 52s.

Class 7 produced an entry of 87 shearling rams, the best of which was judged to be that shown by Mr. Beavan, the Graig. It was a thick set ram on short legs possessing immense scale, and Mr. Davies, Newchurch, bought him at 40 guineas after a hard contest with Mr. John Lewis. The second ram, Mr. T. Kinsey's exhibit, found equal favour with the public, and after spirited bidding he went to the Gwernygoe flock at 40 guineas. Another good ram from this draft was placed reserve, and realised 30 guineas to Mr. Price, Cwmearl. Mr. Kinsey's five rams averaged £22 3s. The third prize ram came from Penygelly, and was transferred to Mr. Frank Lloyd at 15½ guineas. Mr. Venables' eight rams averaged just under £9 each. Messrs. James, Brompton Hall, supplied the fourth prize ram, and Lord Joicey took him at 10½ guineas. The eight rams from Pentrenant were readily sold at an average of £10 10s. Mr. Morris, Gwernygoe, sent twelve nice typical rams, hardly so big as usual; they met a ready sale and averaged £9 each. The four rams from Glanmeheli were very good, and realised respectively 19 guineas to Mr. John Hamer, 24 guineas to Mr. J. R. Bache, 21 guineas to Mr. Evan Kinsey, and 8 guineas to Lord Joicey.

In the old ram class there were fifty-one entries, and here the blue ribbon was given to Mr. T. Jones's exhibit, a three-shear ram bred by Mr. Law on Moore. Mr. Hamar, Bicton, paid 12½ guineas for him. The second prize was awarded to a two-shear ram shown by Mr. Jones, Graig; whilst a four-shear ram, Marlow Samson, from Maesmawr was placed third, and realised 18 guineas to Messrs. Phillips, Llwynybrain. Mr. Price, Cwmearl, sent two good two-shear rams which made 17 guineas and 15 guineas to Mr. Evans, Bahaillon, and a three-shear exhibited by Mr. John Anwyl realised 21½ guineas to Mr. Owen, Penybont.

The ram lambs numbered 122, and included some promising youngsters. The winner was in Mr. Jones' (Graig) draft and he fetched 11 guineas, but the second prize lamb was shown by Mr. James, Upper Hall, and made 16 guineas, Mr. John Anwyl being the buyer; whilst a ram from Great Weston was awarded third position and fell to Mr. Gittins' bid at 13 guineas. Mr. T. Kinsey's four lambs averaged £8 5s. 6d., the top price being 12½ guineas. The seven lambs from Mr. John Anwyl averaged £9 4s. 6d., the highest price being 13½ guineas, to Mr. John Beavan. One hundred and twenty of the rams and ram lambs actually sold realised upwards of £1,200, or an average of upwards of £10 each. This was much better than any former year.

Kidderminster.

Messrs. Nock and Joseland's annual sheep sale at Kidderminster attracted a record entry in all classes, the total head of stock numbering nearly 7,000. The rams and ram lambs, which have been such a prominent feature at these sales, were a most varied and attractive lot, and included entries from many prize-winning flocks at the Royal and other shows. Six shearling Shropshire rams from Mr. A. S. Berry (Lichfield) reached 11 guineas each; sixteen, Mr. G. Gerard (Offerton), 10 guineas; twelve, Mr. J. W. Dee (Pershore), 8 guineas; seven, Sir H. F. Grey (Enville), 6 guineas.

Twelve Oxford shearlings from the noted Ryne Hill flock of Mr. Treweeke made up to 10½ guineas; and twenty grand lambs from the same breeder realised 14 guineas (to go to Leicester), and averaged nearly 7½ guineas.

Twelve Oxford shearlings from Mr. James Horlick (Cowley Manor) made up to 12 guineas, and averaged 8½ guineas; six from Mr. J. Phipps Smith (Evesham) up to 6½ guineas; fourteen ram lambs from Mr. G. Corbishley (Pershore) 7 guineas; ten, Mr. H. C. Bladder (Studley) 4 guineas.

Seven Ryeland rams from the well-known flock of Mr. W. T. Barneby (Saltmarshe) reached 8 guineas, and averaged £6 5s., and ten from Mr. W. H. Davies (Claston) up to 3 guineas.

The Hampshire Down class were represented from flocks of the most fashionable blood in the breed, and were fully appreciated, as not a single Hampshire lamb was unsold. Fifteen bred by Mr. A. C. Hall (Chipping Norton) made up to 10½ guineas, and averaged over £6; 20 lambs from the flock of Mr. H. C Stephens (Salisbury)



The Shearling Oxford Down Ram shown above is the animal with which Mr. J. T. Hobbs, Maisey Hampton, Fairford, Gloucestershire, won a First Prize at the Royal Agricultural Society's Show at Lincoln this year.

realised excellent prices; 15 bred by Lord Rothschild up to 9½ guineas, average £6, and 15 from Mr. A. Edwards (Salisbury) up to 4 guineas.

A consignment of six Border Leicester ram lambs from Cumberland, bred by Mr. Armstrong, reached 5½ guineas, whilst various other lots made up to 4½ guineas. The breeding ewes, which were of the usual high standard in quality seen at this sale, made up to 63s. 6d.; the store lambs, over 2,000 in number, made up to 42s, whilst store wethers met a ready sale at prices up to 50s. 6d.

Lanark.

The annual show and sale of Blackfaced rams at Lanark took place on Tuesday, 517 shearlings and 738 lambs being forward. In the pens of five shearlings, Messrs. Cadzow Brothers, Borland, were placed first; Mr. Hamilton, Woolfords, second; and Mr. Fraser, Rankinston, third; for single shearlings, Mr. Hamilton, Nether Wellwood, was first; Mr. Hamilton, South Cumberhead, second and third; and Mr. Craig, Kinnon, fourth; for aged sheep, Messrs. Cadzow were first; Mr. Anderson, Over Whitehaugh, second; and Mr. Hamilton, Woolfords, third; whilst in the lamb

section, Mr. Hamilton, Woolfords, was first; Mr. Clark, Auchinlongford, second; and Mr. Cadzow, Weston, third. In both sections there was a distinct improvement on the quality from last year.

There was an extra large attendance of breeders of Blackfaced sheep from both sides of the Border and Ireland, and the sale was one of the most successful ever held here. The bidding was very active in both rings, and continued so to the very close, and any animal showing quality anything over the average was very keenly competed for, while the ordinary class met a strong, good selling demand, at quite satisfactory prices. Mr. Anderson, Colzium, gave £140 for one of the Borland lot, which was the top price of the day. Mr. Scott, Bogside, had also one of this lot at £115; Mr. Calder, Ledlanet, and Colonel Mackenzie, Muirhouses, one each at £100; while one of the Glenbuck lot went to Mr. Stobart, Blackhalls, Kirkwhelpington, at £115; and one of the Lagg lot at £103 to Mr. H N. Mitchell, Kirkland. In the lamb section, Mr. Cameron, Dalmally, gave £30 each for two animals from the Mid-Crosswood lot, whilst for one of this lot Mr. Wilson, Wester Mosshat, gave £20. Other consignments made up to £30. Details of the highest prices, &c., are appended :—

SHEARLING RAMS

	Highest price. £ s. d.	Average. £ s. d.
Nether Wellwood (10)	43 0 0	10 18 6
Bogside (15)	36 0 0	12 8 8
Glencrosh (7)	26 0 0	8 10 0
Glenbuck (10)	115 0 0	33 11 0
Hazelside (30)	35 0 0	11 6 0
South Cumberhead (12)	30 0 0	8 15 5
Rankinston (17)	38 0 0	19 8 2
Carskeoch (7)	38 0 0	15 7 1
Kinnox (15)	28 0 0	6 6 4
Arden (6)	30 0 0	19 3 4
Borland (20)	140 0 0	41 14 6
The Bush, Antrim (10)	21 0 0	8 2 6
Woolfords (13)	80 0 0	22 18 5
Crossflat (11)	57 0 0	19 14 6
Muirhouses (13)	35 0 0	16 17 7
Overshiels (28)	28 0 0	10 3 2
Ledlanet (10)	40 0 0	15 8 0
Lagg (9)	103 0 0	20 4 5

RAM LAMBS.

Harthope (5)	13 0 0	5 15 0
Woolfords (20)	17 0 0	4 8 6
Fernichaugh (35)	26 0 0	5 15 5
Garpel (30)	16 0 0	3 4 0
Glenbuck (80)	14 0 0	4 1 7
Auchenlongford (30)	16 0 0	4 14 10
Mid Crosswood and Wet Crosswoodhill (21)	30 0 0	6 17 6
Gateside (13)	14 0 0	4 1 8
Weston (20)	22 0 0	4 16 10
Easter Yardhouses (12)	11 0 0	4 7 11
Over Whitchaugh and Blackside (36)	19 0 0	3 17 8
Wester Mosshat (12)	15 0 0	4 16 5

Mr. Fallon's Hampshire Downs.

The sale of the registered flock of Hampshire Down sheep belonging to Mr. Jno. Fallon, the well-known trainer and owner of racehorses, who is giving up sheep farming, attracted a good company of breeders to Homanton Farm, Winterbourne Stoke, and a satisfactory sale resulted. 170 two-tooth ewes made 69s., 67s., 62s., 61s. (twice), 60s. (thrice), 59s., 58s., and 57s., average 60s. 6d.; 119 four-tooth ewes made 67s., 65s., 64s., 62s., 61s., 60s., 59s. (twice), and 58s., average 61s.; 90 six-tooth ewes made 63s., 61s. (twice), 59s. (twice), and 58s. (twice), average 59s. 6d.; 100 r.d. ewes, 57s., 56s. (thrice), and 54s., average 55s. 9d.; 97 over-yeared ewes, fit for breeding, 52s., 51s, and 50s. (thrice), average 50s. 6d.; 22 grazing ewes, 41s; 200 ewe lambs fetched 53s., 51s., 48s. (thrice), 47s., 46s. (twice), 44s. (twice), 43s., and 42s., average 45s. 6d.; 100 wether lambs in two fifties, 47s. 6d. and 46s.; ram lambs, 4½ guineas singly, and 6 guineas to 9¼ guineas per pair; shearling rams, 4 guineas, 4½ guineas, and 5 guineas each. Some horned stock and poultry were also sold at satisfactory prices.

Mr. W. S. Ferguson's Leicesters.

The annual sale of Leicester sheep from Mr. W. S. Ferguson's famous Pictstonhill flock took place on Tuesday at Pictstonhill, Perth, and as usual was largely attended. The rams submitted were of rather more than the ordinary Pictstonhill scale, but a third or so of the lot were of an excellent size for hill use, and all were up to the usual standard in coats and activity. Thirty gimmers, representing a fair pick from the female crop, were also catalogued, and these had a brisk disposal. The first lot was a big, lengthy, good coated ram which has been winning locally. Set off at £10, this shearling passed out at £15 10s. to Mr. Murray, Belfast. No. 3, a nicely-coated ram, was sold to Mr. Mackenzie, of Earlshall, at £12; Dr. Shirra Gibb paid a pound more for No. 5, a prettily-balanced ram, which appeared in nice form; whilst a smart, compact, well ribbed shearling was knocked down at £15 to the Hon. A. D. Murray, Scones Lethendy. These were the best figures. Later on some promising rams were going at £8 to £11. For sixty-one shearlings the result was £464 10s., an average of £7 12s. 3d., against £8 15s. 1d. last year and £9 14s. 10d. in 1905; and for thirty gimmers the total realised was £111 7s. 6d., average £3 14s. 3d., against £3 14s. 8d. last year and £3 19s. 4d. in 1905.

Mr. Draycott's Lincolns.

In consequence of the death of the owner (the late Mr. J. G. Draycott) Messrs. Saul and Hodgkinson dispersed by auction at Folkingham, yesterday, a valuable flock of Lincoln Longwool sheep. Included in the sale were 40 Longwool shearling rams sired by sheep from the Laughton, Scopwick, Quarrington, and Riby flocks. The top price, 13 guineas, was given by Mr. E A. M. T. Fisher, Welby Warren, Grantham. Other prices were :—11½ guineas, by Lord Willoughby de Eresby, M.P.; 11 guineas, Mr. Wherry, Bourne; 10 guineas, Mr. J. Barnes, Howell; 9 guineas, Mr. W. F. Atkinson, Dunsby; 8½ guineas, Mr. T. Baker, Osbournby; and 7½ guineas, Mr. Sardeson, Heydour. The average price was about £7 5s. 6d. Ewes made up to 61s., theaves 64s 6d., lambs 46s. 6d., and ram lambs 40s. 6d.

Lord Alington's Southdowns.

A portion of the old-established pure-bred registered Southdown flock, the property of Lord Alington, Crichel, was offered for sale by auction at the recent Blandford Fair. This flock was established about 1834 from the best strains of blood obtainable in Sussex, and rams from the following noted breeders have been used, viz. :—The Duke of Richmond, Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote, Mr. Hugh Gorringe, Mr. Heasman, Mr. W. Toop, and the late Mr. John Ford, and latterly from Mr. Adeane, in addition to which high-class ewes have been purchased from the Sandringham and Goodwood flocks of his Majesty the King. The sheep were in bare working order, and were disposed of in a separate ring set apart for the occasion, and a good sale may be recorded. Two-teeth ewes made 57s. (thrice), 55s., 54s., 52s. (thrice), and 50s. —average 54s. Four-teeth ewes, 54s, 50s. (twice), 48s (five times) average 49s. 3d. Six-teeth ewes, 57s., 54s., 53s., 52s., 51s. (twice)—average 53s. Full-mouth ewes, 52s., 50s., 49s., 48s., 47s., 46s. (twice), 45s., 44s., and 43s.—average 47s. Rams made 3½ to 5½ guineas.

The Quarrington Lincolns.

There was a large and influential gathering of breeders and farmers, as well as foreign buyers, at the sale of the noted flock of Lincoln shearling rams at Quarrington, near Sleaford; 120 grand shearling rams were offered, and 117 were sold at an average of £21 8s. 2d. each. In 1904 the average was £24 7s., in 1905 £20 2s. 4d., and 1906 £20 4s. 8½d. One of the Dowsby progeny, which took prizes at the Royal Show, Lincoln, and in Yorkshire, was, after a keen competition, secured by Mr. J. E. Casswell, Laughton, for 200 guineas. Another fine ram, which was commended at the Royal Show, was bought by Mr. J. Pears, The Mere, for 115 guineas; whilst the other principal buyers were Mr. F. Money, Silk Willoughby, 80 guineas; Messrs. Dean, Dowsby, 70 guineas; Mr. C. E. Howard, Nocton, 52 guineas; Mr. Crewe (for the Argentine), 52 guineas; Messrs. Cooper, Berkhamstead, 40 guineas; Mr. Truman, Whittlesea, 46 guineas.

Mr. Tanner's Shropshires.

Breeders from all parts of England, and some from Ireland, attended the annual sale of Shropshire sheep at Shrawardine, near Shrewsbury, on Saturday last, when Mr. A. Tanner offered about forty pure-bred rams for sale. The Shrawardine flock is one of the best well known in the country, for as far back as 1858 animals from the flock took honours in the principal showyards, so that no description is needed here. Shrawardine Dream, a fine type of shearling ram, was withdrawn at 90 guineas, but Mr. Chandler gave 38 guineas for a shearling ram, Mr. Slater 18 guineas, Mr. Eare 14 guineas, Mr. Humphreys 17 guineas; whilst the chief prices for pasture rangers were—Captain Townshend 26 guineas, Mr. A. P. Turner 20 guineas, Mr. E. Frank 20 guineas, Mr. W. Nunneley 23 guineas, Mr. Humphreys 22 guineas, Mr. Tom Jones 31 guineas, and others down to 5½ guineas.

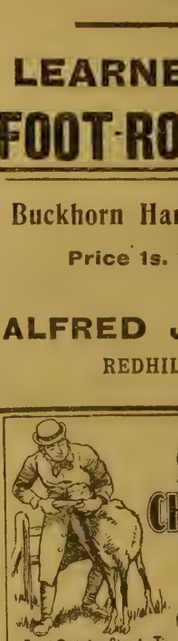
Dr. Wall's Shropshires.

The well known prize-winning flock of registered Shropshire sheep so long maintained by Dr. Bernard Wall at the Priory Farm, Shustoke, near Birmingham, was dispersed by auction on Tuesday in consequence of Dr. Wall's intention to give up the farm. A large company of buyers attended the sale, and it proved very successful, the ewes making unusually good prices. The prices realised were as follows :—Rams (pasture rangers), two shear, 8 guineas, Captain Townshend; shearlings, 9 guineas, Mr. Lovatt, 6, 17 guineas; Colonel Burne, 8, 8, 5½ guineas. Ram lambs, 5 guineas, Rev. E. R O. Bridgeman; 3, 3½ guineas, Mr. Coxon; 4, 3, 2½, 4½, 4, 3½, 4½ guineas, Mr. Bretherton; 3½, 3, 4 guineas, Mr. Burman; shearling ewes, pens of five, 6 guineas, Mr. T. Simon; 7 guineas, Mr. Bliss; and 3½ guineas, Mr. Bliss. Two-shear ewes, 5½ guineas, Hon. Victor Cavendish; 4 guineas, Mr. C. Coxon; 3½ guineas, Mr. Bliss; 3½ guineas, Mr. Vickers. Young stock ewes, 6¾ guineas, Hon. Victor Cavendish; 6½ guineas, Mr. T. Simon; 3¾ guineas, Mr. Fowler; 3½ and 3½ guineas, Mr. A. Bradburne; 5 and 4½ guineas, Duke of Westminster; 3½ guineas, Mr. Vickers. Ewe lambs, 4, 2¾, 2¾ guineas, &c.

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Catalogues may be obtained of the AUCTIONEERS, Dorchester, who undertake to act for distant purchasers.

By KENT SHEEP BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION.

REGISTERED KENT OR ROMNEY MARSH SHEEP.

THE Eleventh Annual SHOW and SALE of the Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep-Breeders' Association will take place at the Cattle Market, Ashford, Kent, on FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1907, at 11 a.m. prompt.

The prizes offered for competition at this Sale include a Challenge Cup, presented by the Vice-President (Lord Harris), for the best Ram other than a Yearling; the L. Hardy Challenge Cup, presented by L. Hardy, Esq., M.P. (the President); the Cooper Challenge Cup for the best five Yearling Rams, presented by Sir R. P. Cooper, Bart.; and cash prizes presented by Capt. Somerset Webb (the President Elect) and Messrs. C. E. Gunther, J. Howard and F. Neame, and in addition to these there is also offered a Special Prize for the best Woolled Ram.

In consequence of the offering of these valuable prizes the entry this year is comprised of a large selection, numbering 500, representative of the best strains of blood, and it includes many of the leading Rams of the year, and represents the pick of thirty-seven Registered Flocks, owned by the undermentioned flock-owners:—

The Right Hon. Earl Sondes (12), the Right Hon. Earl of Verulam (16), the Hon. Lord Harris (25), Major Powell Cotton (4), Capt. Somerset Webb (10), Mr. E. Ascharson (8), Mr. A. Amos (28), Mr. J. P. Barnes (12), Mr. J. B. Blake (4), Mr. G. Buley (8), Mr. F. de B. Collard (9), the Exors. of the late W. Elvy (10), Mr. G. Farmer (21), Mr. Chas. File (17), Mr. J. File (13), Mr. T. File (6), Mr. Arthur Finn (20), Messrs. L. H. and G. W. Finn (11), Mr. O. E. d'Avigdor Goldsmid (2), G. M. Goodson (6), Mr. E. Hambrook (5), Mr. L. Hardy, M.P. (9), Mr. J. H. Harvey (4), Mr. W. R. Harvey (9), Mr. G. E. Hawkins (7), Mr. A. J. Hickman (6), Mr. S. Kingsnorth (9), Mr. W. E. Long (11), Mr. J. D. Maxted (15), Mr. W. Millen (30), Mr. F. Neame (24), Mr. J. B. Palmer (7), Mr. J. E. Quested (34), H. Rigden (50), Mr. G. C. Swindells (25), Mr. H. Walters (3), and Mr. T. Wotton (10).

The judging for the prizes will commence at 8.30 a.m. sharp, the first prize to be awarded being that for the best pen of five Yearling Rams, and the Sale will commence at 11 a.m. sharp, and proceed without intermission to its close.

Lunch and refreshments will be obtainable on the Show-ground, as usual.

Catalogues, when ready, can be obtained from Mr. W. W. CHAPMAN, the Secretary, Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep-Breeders' Association, 4, Mowbray House, Norfolk Street, Strand, London, W.C., to whom all enquiries in respect to this Show and Sale are to be addressed.

By Messrs. JOHN THORNTON & CO.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

FRIDAY NEXT, SEPTEMBER 20.—About fifty first-class SHORTHORNS, the property of Joseph Harris, Esq., at Brackenburgh Tower, Carlisle.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24.—Mr. R. Bruce Ward's JERSEYS, at Westwood Park, Droitwich, Worcestershire.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26.—Mr. J. A. Preece's SHORTHORNS, at Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27.—Mr. F. J. Steward's SHORTHORNS, at Whitehall Farm, Brigstock, Thrapston.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1.—Mr. G. T. INMAN'S BERKSHIRE PIGS, at Highmoor Farm, Henley-on-Thames.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3.—Col. Tufnell's and Mr. W. Dannatt's POLLED ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE, at Langleys, Chelmsford, Essex.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4.—Mr. R. Stratton's SHORTHORNS, at The Duffryn, Newport, Mon.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON & Co., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

By Messrs. FERRIS & PUCKRIDGE.

SALES OF REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWN SHEEP,

BY

MESSRS. FERRIS & PUCKRIDGE, of MILTON, near PEWSEY, WILTS.

ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25.—At Maddington, near Amesbury, Wilts, the late Mr. H. E. C. Hooper's Flock of 1,822 EWES and LAMBS, including 837 two, four, and sixteenth EWES and 900 Clulver and Wether LAMBS.

ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27.—Eastridge, near Ramsbury, Wilts, by instructions of Mr. G. L. Waldron, who has let the farm, 217 EWES of regular ages, and 111 Clulver LAMBS.

ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 7.—Chute Lodge, near Andover, for A. Grant Meek, Esq., who has let the farm, 320 EWES of regular ages.

All the above sheep are registered in the Hampshire Down Flock Book, show much nobility of breed, and are generally of good size and quality.

Catalogues may be obtained of Messrs. FERRIS and PUCKRIDGE, Surveyors and Auctioneers, Milton, Pewsey, Wilts; and 82, Queen Street, London, E.C.

By Messrs. W. F. INGRAM & SON.

HODDERN FARM, PIDDINGHOE, SUSSEX,

About 2½ miles from Newhaven Station, on the L.B. and S.C. Railway, and equi-distant six miles from Lewes or Brighton.

MESSRS. W. F. INGRAM & SON, having Let the Farm, have received instructions from the Right Hon. the Earl of Chichester to SELL by AUCTION, at the HODDERN FARM, PIDDINGHOE, on THURSDAY, SEPT. 19, 1907, at 1.30 p.m. precisely, the old-established FLOCK OF PURE-BRED SOUTHDOWN SHEEP (No. 284 in the Flock Book), including 146 six-tooth, 167 four-tooth, and 168 two-tooth Ewes; also 174 full-mouth and draft Ewes, 160 stock Ewe Lambs and 100 Wether Lambs, nine Rams and seven Ram Lambs, together with the whole of the sheep tackling, oak wattles, hurdles, dipping apparatus and other accessories.

The AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS and MACHINERY and 12 powerful and active HORSES and six Cross-bred HEIFERS will be Sold on WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 25, 1907, at 11.30 precisely.

Conveyances will meet the Trains at Newhaven Town Station.

Catalogues may be obtained of the AUCTIONEERS, 2, St. Andrew's Place, Lewes.

By Messrs. R. W. HOBBS & SONS.

OXFORD DOWNS.

SHEARLING RAMS or RAM LAMBS from the KELMSCOTT FLOCK will be SOLD by AUCTION at the undermentioned fair:—

NORTHAMPTON, SEPTEMBER 19.

YEARLING EWES FOR SALE AT HOME.

R. W. HOBBS & SONS.
Kelmscott, Lechlade.

By EDWARD BAILEY & SON.

NEWARK CHEESE FAIR, 1907.

ANNUAL SALE OF BREEDING SHEEP AND LAMBS.

EDWARD BAILEY & SON will have for SALE by AUCTION, at this Fair, on WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 25, an excellent show of 3,500 SHEEP, including 2,200 LONG-WOOLLED and CROSS-BRED LAMBS, 400 EWES, and 900 superior GIMMERS (several from Registered Flocks).

Further entries will oblige.

Sale commences at 9.30.

SHEARLING RAMS.

NEWARK CHEESE FAIR.

EDWARD BAILEY & SON will have for SALE by AUCTION, at this Fair, on WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 25, superior SHEARLING RAMS from the following noted Flocks, viz.:—

20	from	Mr. John Brocklebank, Bassingham (F.B. No. 24).
20	,,	Mr. Joseph Brocklebank, Carlton-le-Moorland (F.B. No. 10).
10	,,	Mr. E. J. Storm, Muskham (F.B. No. 388).
5	,,	Mr. Wm. Oxley, Brant Broughton.
8	,,	Mr. Wm. Hutchinson, Marston.
5	,,	(Ram Lambs) Mr. W. E. Brocklebank, Carlton-le-Moorland (F.B. No. 423), and others.

Auction and Valuation Offices, 7, Kirkgate, Newark.

By Messrs. AMBROSE & FOSTER.

THE LEEDS CASTLE FLOCK OF REGISTERED KENT SHEEP.

MESSRS. AMBROSE & FOSTER beg to announce that they are favoured with instructions from C. P. Wykeham-Martin, Esq., J.P., to SELL by AUCTION, at Greenway Forstal Farm, Hollingbourne, Kent, on

WEDNESDAY, the 25th DAY of SEPTEMBER, 1907,

At 11.30 o'clock a.m. (in consequence of the death of the late Mr. Thos. Powell),

The Whole of the

CELEBRATED LEEDS CASTLE FLOCK

OF

REGISTERED KENT SHEEP,

Comprising 584 Head, as follows:—

102
EWE TEGS,
55
ONE-LAMB EWES,
45
TWO LAMB EWES,
62
THREE-LAMB EWES,
40
FOUR-LAMB EWES,
126
EWE LAMBS,
40
SHEARLING RAMS,
3
STUD RAMS,
35
RAM LAMBS,
76
WETHER LAMBS.

This Flock (Registered No. 32 in the Flock Book) will be found to possess to the full that excellence and uniformity for which it has always been noted. It represents one of the oldest flocks in the county, a large number of the late Mr. T. Powell's well-known flock having been purchased in 1894.

The place of sale is about one mile from Harrietsham Station (S.E. and C. Railway), and conveyances will meet trains.

Catalogues (when ready) may be obtained at the Place of Sale; the principal Inns in the neighbourhood; and of the AUCTIONEERS, 3, Market Buildings, Maidstone.

(Continued on next page.)

AUCTION SALES.

By JOHN THORNBORROW & CO.

PENRITH, CUMBERLAND.

JOHN THORNBORROW & CO. will SELL by AUCTION, on SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1907, at 11 o'clock (the day following Mr. Harris' Sale at Brackenburgh Tower), at the AUCTION MART, PENRITH (one minute's walk from the Station), about

80 PURE-BRED SHORTHORNS,

comprising a number of select animals of good families from the Herds of Lord Brougham and Vaux, Brougham; Lord Barnard, Raby Castle; Lord Polwarth, Mertoun; Exors. late J. Naylor, Leighton Park Farm; Messrs. R. Heywood Thompson, Nunwick Hall; Wm. Graham, Eden Grove; D. Bragg, Aikton; John Hewson, Parton; John Gill, Stainton; W. Kendall, Natland Park; and other noted Northern Breeders.

The animals include about 40 Young Cows and Heifers in calf or with calves at foot, and the remainder are smart good coloured Young Bulls, the majority of them fit for service.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNBORROW & CO., St. Andrew's Churchyard, Penrith, who will execute Commissions.

By Messrs. T. BANNISTER & CO.

TO DAIRY FARMERS AND OTHERS.

POYNINGS MANOR, POYNINGS, SUSSEX, About 1 mile from the Railway Station at the Dyke, 4 miles from Hassocks and Henfield, and 6 from Brighton.

MESSRS. T. BANNISTER & CO. are favoured with instructions from Messrs. C. and E. ROBINSON, to SELL by AUCTION, upon the premises as above,

ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1907,

THEIR VALUABLE HERDS OF HEAVY MILKING YOUNG DAIRY-SHORTHORN AND DUTCH COWS AND HEIFERS, mostly down Calving or with Calves by side, kept on their Poynings Manor and Perching Sands Farms, where they are discontinuing Dairy Farming, having given up a Milk Contract they have held for 13 years. The Herd consist of

71 SHORTHORN COWS AND HEIFERS, in Calf or with Calves by side,
10 DITTO HEIFERS AND 1 BULL, about 20 months old,
38 DUTCH COWS AND HEIFERS, in Calf or with Calves by side,
12 DITTO HEIFERS, about 20 months old,
1 DITTO BULL, about 2 years old.

The Dutch Cattle are descended from three exceptionally Heavy Milking Imported Cows, one of which yielded 32 Quarts of Milk per day for several seasons.

Also will be included, 5 POWERFUL ACTIVE CART and 3 VAN HORSES, BLACK WEIGHT-CARRYING GELDING, 5 years old, about 15.1 hands high, quiet to ride and drive and a good hunter, Milk Vans, Churns, Refrigerators, Pails, Sets of Harness, &c, 12 PEDIGREE LARGE BLACK PIGS, 140 SOUTHDOWN WETHER LAMBS, and some Handsome Young Rabbit Beagles.

Luncheon at 12 o'clock, Tickets 1s. 6d. each.

Sale to commence at 12.30.

Catalogues may be obtained of the AUCTIONEERS, Market Place, Haywards Heath (Tel. No. 7).

Messrs. FREDERICK ELLEN & SON.

STEVENTON MANOR FARM, HANTS, Three miles from Oakley and four from Micheldever Railway Stations (L. and S.W. Railway).

IMPORTANT and genuine Sale of the very old-established HAMPSHIRE DOWN BREEDING FLOCK (entered in Vol. 1 of the H.D.F. Book) comprising

1,040 EWES and LAMBS.

This Flock was established very many years ago by the late Rev. John Digweed, and was purchased upwards of 30 years since by the late H. Harris, Esq. The Flock will be found to possess plenty of size, with symmetry, good wool, and every other characteristic required in first-class Hampshire Down Sheep.

25 CART HORSES and COLTS,
55 HEAD CHOICE HORNED CATTLE,

Swine, Poultry, together with the whole of the AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS and MACHINERY, including an 8 h.p. FOWLER'S TRACTION ENGINE, &c., which Messrs. FREDERICK ELLEN & SON are favoured with instructions from H. Harris, Esq. (in consequence of the farm being let) to sell by AUCTION on the Premises on

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1907.

Sale to commence at 10.30 o'clock, and catalogues may be obtained of the AUCTIONEERS, The Mart, Andover, Hants.

Kelso.

The annual show and sale of rams under the auspices of the Border Union Agricultural Society took place at Kelso on Friday, and proved the most successful of the series, for there were record entries and record prices. Oxford Downs were well shown, but Border Leicesters still retained the fashionable lead, as prices eventually showed. The record price for these sales of £280 was paid by Mr. Wood, Carnoustie, for a very handsome sheep out of Messrs. Smith's Leaston lot, and this sheep is for exportation to New Zealand. Mr. Templeton, Sandyknowe, who headed the sale last year, sold one at £160 to Mr. Cark, Old Hamstocks, and two at £105, and secured the highest average of the sale—viz., £40 6s. The Sunnyside consignment sold up to £140, which sum was paid by Mr. Elliot, Nisbet Hill, and one from Barrelwell made £105, being bought by Mr. Taylor, Pitlievie. The highest price for Oxford Downs was £38 got for one of the Kipton lot, and Messrs. Massey, Hampton, and Lyne sold at £35 each, whilst the half-bred section was headed by the Deuchrie consignment at £25, bought by Mr. Porter, Doddington.

Ashford.

At Ashford Market on Tuesday Messrs. W. and B. Hobbs disposed of a consignment of Southdown ram tegs from Colonel W. W. Hammond's noted flock. Of these Mr. R. Strouts took two at £7 each, Mr. F. Uden one at £6 10s. and two at £7, and one at £6, and Mr. W. Pledge one at £7 5s.

Bridgnorth.

On Monday Messrs. Nock, Deighton, and Kirkby conducted their annual sheep sale in the Smithfield at Bridgnorth, when they had a record sale and were favoured with a large company of buyers. There were about 7,000 ewes, wethers, rams, and ram lambs entered and a capital trade was experienced. Ewes made up to 63s, wethers 48s 6d; ewe and wether lambs realised 40s. There was a useful lot of rams and ram lambs offered, rams making up to 12 guineas and ram lambs up to 6¼ guineas.

Newingreen.

A most successful sale of breeding ewes, tegs, and lambs was held at Newingreen, Kent, on Wednesday, about 6,000 animals being sold. Of the lambs Mr. W. Smith's 120 Kent ewes sold at 32s. 6d., 30s., and 27s. 6d.; seventy of Mr. D. Dryland's Kent lambs (mixed) fetched 30s; forty of Mr. Heritage's Kent ewe lambs, 32s; Mr. W. E. Grieve's Kent ewe lambs made 37s, his wethers 34s. 6d., and a mixed pen 27s. 6d.; while some Kent ewe lambs of Mr. W. Brice's made 34s. 6d. These were the superior lots, average lots realising round about 25s per head. Breeding ewes sold remarkably well. Mr. A. E. Dadds' seventy-five Kent three-lamb ewes made 42s., 45s., 48s 6d.; of eighty Kent three-lamb ewes of Mr. A. Blaxland's twenty sold at 44s., and the remainder made 46s.; Mr. A. Amos's one-lamb ewes fetched 57s., his two-lamb ewes 48s. 6d. and his three lamb ewes 44s., and a run of 220 three-lamb ewes of Mr. F. Hobbs realised from 39s. 6d. to 44s. Some crossbred two-lamb ewes, from the flock of the exors. of the late Mr. W. Long, fetched 52s. and 46s. Kent ewe tegs also sold well. A run of 125 from the exors. of Mr. Long fetched from 42s. to 46s; fifty of Mr. M. Seath's made 50s., and forty five realised 47s. 6d.; two pens of Mr. T. Pilcher's sold at 52s. and 53s.; and the great majority ranged round about 46s. Kent wether and crossbred tegs realised up to 47s. 6d.

Irish Ram Breeders' Association.

On Thursday, Mr. Low conducted the second sale of pedigree ewes and lambs for members of the Irish Ram-Breeding Association, at 50, Prussia Street, Dublin. Trade was animated from start to finish, and practically all the 100 lots catalogued were sold. The first of the rams to enter the ring was a typical upstanding shearling Lincoln from Mr. R. G. Carden, J.P., D.L., Fishmoyne, Templemore, which was sold at 9½ guineas to Mr Delaney. Other rams from the flock made up to 7½ guineas. Border Leicester rams were headed by a couple of nice shearlings from Sir Algernon Coote, Bart., H.M.L., Ballyfin, Mountrath, one being purchased by Colonel Tottenham at 9 guineas, and the other by Mr. Greaves at the same price. Oxford Downs were numerous, and the first lot to enter the ring came from the flock of Captain Longworth Dames, at Greenhill, Edenderry. These ranged in value from 4½ to 4¾ guineas, the buyers being Messrs. J. Coleman and Mooney. Mr. J. G. Evans had a nice well-bred lot, which were knocked down at from 6 to 7 guineas, the buyers being Messrs. McCloughry, Bobbett, Souhan, Hannon. Symes, and Burke. The shearling Shrops from Lady Margaret Charteris, Cahir Park, Cahir, were a useful lot, and sold as follows:—Hon. C. Trench, 7½ and 7 guineas; Mr. J. C. Kieran, Rathbrist, 8 and 5½ guineas; Mr. Dove, Athboy, 7 guineas; Mr. Aigie, 6¾ guineas; Mr. Hannon, 5½ guineas; Mr. H. L. King, 5½ and 5½ guineas; while a Shrop ram was sold to the Marquis of Ormonde at 7 guineas. Sir A. Coote's Cheviot ram brought 7 guineas from Major Casement.



Sir J. Duke's Aberdeen-Angus.

The sale of Sir James Duke's Laughton herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle at Lewes Cattle Market on Tuesday was attended by a large company of buyers, and a satisfactory sale resulted.

Many prize winning cattle have been bred in this herd, including several first and second prize bulls at the Royal shows and prize winning cattle at Smithfield, including Brunhilde, the champion heifer at Birmingham and Smithfield fat stock show, and Mr. Cridlan's champion steer at Birmingham and Smithfield; Jester, first and reserve at Smithfield; Marmaduke and Marmion, besides prize winning bulls at Dublin and other shows.

Bidding was brisk, and no difficulty was experienced in finding purchasers. The top price was 84 guineas, which sum Mr. Sandemann, Achwell, Herts, gave for Eolanthe, born January 27, 1904; whilst for her cow calf Mr. Whyte, Hayton, Forfar, gave 31 guineas. Elba of Knockanbuie, calved March 6, 1904, realised 60 guineas from Mr. H. Hardy, Hildenborough; Mr. Whyte gave 30 guineas for Rosette of Laughton, calved February 17, 1902; whilst other cows sold up to 24 guineas. Two-year-old heifers made from 16½ to 35 guineas, the latter figure being given by Mr. Buncombe for Winnie of Butterstocks; yearling heifers realised from 12½ to 21 guineas; whilst the two bulls, Bugler and Earl Eloquent, were sold for 22 and 19 guineas to Mr. Findlay (for Count Munster) and Mr. G. Hemsley respectively.

Sale of Mr. F. Brown's Milch Cows.

In consequence of a recent disastrous fire Mr. F. Brown, of Court Lodge, Chipstead, decided to dispose of his well-known herd of dairy Shorthorn and Dutch cows. The sale took place on Monday, and as was expected, drew a large company of buyers from all parts. The herd had gained a widespread reputation for its milk records, one cow, Bessie, having given 1,388 gallons in forty-five weeks, and its dispersal is much to be regretted. The animals met a ready trade, and sold at an all-round average of £20 5s., the chief sales being as follows:—

Ena, Mr. Innes, Wa'dron, £20; Frances, Mr. Benson, Upper Gatton Park, £27; Dutch half-bred, Mr. Innes, £26; Evelyn, Mr. Hatch, Croydon, £20; Susie, Mr. Benson, £27; Grace, Mr. Bodel, Bexhill, £25; Empress, half-bred Dutch, Mr. Fox, Tonbridge, £30; Lilly, Mr. Benson, £26 10s; Bride, Mr. Benson, £36 10s.; Ruby, Mr. Trevor, Bromley, £21 10s.; Dutch, Mr. Fox, £24 10s.; Cherry, Mr. Whittington, £20 10s.; Poppy, Mr. Whittington, £22; Dutch, Mr. Ford, Selby, Yorkshire, £30 10s.; Queen, Mr. H. Faure Walker, J.P., £21; Jessie, Mr. Whittington, £21 10s; Countess, Mr. Whittington, £22; Diamond, Mr. Skinner, Sutton, £23 10s.; Tulip, Mr. Fox, £25 10s.; Rover, Mr. Whittington, £20; Maud, Mr. Benson, £31; Dutch, Mr. Straker, Richmond, Yorkshire, £30 10s.; bull, Mr. Wilson, Richmond, Surrey, £20.

Lord Gerard's Longhorns.

Lord Gerard having let off the park and most of his grass land, it became necessary to very considerably reduce the well-known herd of Longhorn cattle which, for some years past, has been located at Eastwell, and on Wednesday the greater portion of the herd was brought under the hammer at Eastwell. Founded by extensive purchases from the very best blood, animals from Eastwell have won many prizes and high honours in the showyard in competition with the most noted beasts of the day; in fact, the herd has never yet been represented at a show without securing a first prize—probably a record in the annuals of pedigree cattle breeding. Of the 1907 winners the heifers were included in the sale. Prices were very moderate, the highest figure realised for the breeding stock being only 20 guineas, which was paid by the Hon. FitzRoy for Grace 11th, the handsome two and a-half years old heifer which won first prize at the Lincoln Royal. Mr. Parsons, of Coventry, gave 19½ guineas for Eastwell Empress, the two years old heifer which won second prize at the Royal and took a yearling bull, Eastwell Exquisite, for 13 guineas; while Mr. W. Bean, who is taking the park grazing, made many purchases at prices ranging up to 17 guineas.

The total amount realised for the breeding stock was £368 0s. 6d., which works out at an average of £12 5s. 4d. per head for beasts of all ages, from under a week old to cows of over twelve years. In addition some steers and heifers, mostly cross-breds, were offered and cleared out. A massive three years old Longhorn steer was purchased by Mr. R. Foord Thorpe for 24½ guineas; and other Longhorn steers made up to 23½ guineas. Cross-breds ranged from 6 guineas to 14½ guineas per head.

The Sale of Diseased Cattle.

The Local Government Board has sent the following letter to the councils of Metropolitan and other boroughs and of urban and rural districts:—

"I am directed by the Local Government Board to state that they have had under consideration various representations with respect to the sale for human food of diseased cattle, and especially of cows suffering from tuberculosis or other wasting disease. The Board understand that it is the practice of some dealers, though aware of the diseased condition of animals coming into their hands, so to dispose of them or of their carcases, that there is risk that they will be used as food for the poorer classes in London and other large towns.

"The Board have reason to believe that the practice in question obtains to a considerable extent; and accordingly they are desirous of drawing the attention of local authorities to the matter, in order that they may as far as possible exercise supervision over the cattle in their districts with a view to anticipating, and so averting, possible or intended infringement of the law.

"With this object, the local authority should instruct such of their officers as are engaged in administering the provisions of the Dairies, Cow-sheds, and Milkshops Orders, to observe particularly the condition of the cows which come under their notice, and, where any animal is clearly diseased and presumably unfit for food, to take such steps as are practicable to ensure that, in the event of the animal being slaughtered, the carcase is disposed of properly.

"The Board would also suggest that the sanitary or other suitable officers of the local authority should be instructed to watch closely the cattle markets, slaughter-houses, and knackers' yards in the district, with the view of satisfying themselves that no animal, the condition of which appears to render it unfit for human consumption, is disposed of in such a manner that it is likely to be used for this purpose.

Produce Stakes for Jerseys and Shorthorns.

The success of the Open Sussex Produce Stakes, introduced by the Tunbridge Wells and South-Eastern Counties Agricultural Society—over eighty-eight entries have been received—has induced the Society to extend this new and interesting feature to the Shorthorn and Jersey breeds. The stakes are of 10s. each, the only forfeit to the fund, for ewes or heifers to be entered and their produce to be shown on certain conditions.

The stakes will be divided as follows between the produce of the entered cows or heifers which shall be born:—(1st half) Between January 1 and June 30, 1908, inclusive (the entry for this half of the stakes closes on December 31, 1907), and (2nd half) between July 1 and December 31, 1908, inclusive (the entry for this half closes on March 31, 1908). The competition will take place at the summer show of the Tunbridge Wells and South-Eastern Counties Agricultural Society in 1909.

If there are sufficient entries bulls and heifers will not compete against each other, and separate classification will be provided for each sex. The money will be divided *pro rata* between the two sexes, less the entrance fee when shown, and will be awarded to the absolutely best of either sex.

Any of the produce shown for this stake will be able to compete also in their respective classes at the show for which they are eligible, by paying the usual fee for such class or classes, and it will therefore be seen that a single animal could carry away a considerable amount in money and prizes. The conditions and rules of these stakes include the following:—

Any number of Shorthorn cows or heifers, the property of the same owner, may be entered for the stake. Cows or heifers shall only be eligible for entry in respect of produce, to be born between the above-mentioned dates. Entries may be made at any time before the closing of the stake. One entry shall only cover one calf.

Within six weeks from the birth of the calf of any cow or heifer entered for the stake, the owner shall forward to the secretary of the Tunbridge Wells and South Eastern Counties Agricultural Society, a certificate, signed by himself and one witness, stating the date of birth, exact markings, sex, with name (and number if entered) of the dam and sire—but the acceptance of such description shall be left to the discretion of the council or their representatives, and every owner must prove the correctness of his entry to the satisfaction of the council, if called upon to do so.

Entrance fee 10s., to be paid on entering the cow or heifer, the only liability in case of forfeit; the remaining £1 to become due and to be paid if and when the owner accepts by nominating for the stake, the date for which will be in 1909, and announced.

A calf is eligible to compete under one subscription, provided that, if the breeder shall have sold or otherwise parted from it, no other person shall accept by nominating for the stakes, unless he also pay £1 for such acceptance, and forward to the secretary a certificate from the late owner, properly identifying, with exact markings and colour, to the satisfaction of the secretary of the council, the produce in question.

All communications respecting these stakes should be made to Mr. W. Roper, secretary Tunbridge Wells and South Eastern Counties Agricultural Society, Kentish Buildings, Tunbridge Wells.

Sale of Aberdeen-Angus at Dublin.

The herds of Aberdeen Angus cattle belonging to the Marquis of Waterford, K.P., from Curraghmore, Portlaw, and Mr. R. G. Nash, J.P., Finnstown, Lucan, were dispersed at Dublin on Thursday, together with a few stock of the same breed from the herds of Messrs. W. J. Cotton, Humphreystown, Blessington; Mr. R. Vesey Stoney, Knockadoo, Boyle, and others. For the best pedigree stock there was keen competition, but, as will be seen from the list appended, the prices did not rule particularly high, the best being 50 guineas given by Mr. Hume, Bland, for one of Mr. Nash's animals. The following is a list of the sales at 25 guineas and over:—

Cows and Calves.	Gs.
Egestas, bull calf, Lucan Equal Marquis of Ormonde	27
Necklet Second of Drogh (Mr. Nash's) Mr. E. M. Archdale	32
Ermine of St. Wolstans (Mr. Nash's) Mr. Beaumont Nesbitt	48
Meta of Humphreystown (Mr. W. J. Catton's) Mr. Archdale	27
Pride 6th of Wyrley (Mr. Nash's) Mr. Archdale	25
Lucan Maid (Mr. Nash's) Mr. Beaumont Nesbitt	29
Vain Vanora (Marquis of Waterford's) Mr. Jones	25½
Miss Melia (Mr. Nash's) Marquis of Ormonde	26
K.C. Bianca (Mr. W. J. Cotton's) and her bull calf Campbell-Bannerman Mr. A. Fraser	25
Lucan Elsa (Mr. Nash's) Mr. Beaumont Nesbitt	44
Lucan Easter (Mr. Nash's) Mr. H. Bland	50
Lucan Egesta (Mr. Nash's) Mr. George Barron	36
Lucas Miss Burgess (Mr. Nash's) Mr. George Barron	29
Gem of Curraghmore (Marquis of Waterford's) Mr. A. J. Owen	34
Lucan Egesta 2nd (Mr. Nash's) Mr. George Barron	35½

Judges for the Smithfield Show.

CATTLE. Devons, South Devons and Sussex: Chas. L. Hancock, The Manor House, Cothelestone, Bishops Lydeard, Taunton; Ernest E. Braby, Drungewick Manor House, Rudgwick, Horsham. Herefords and Red Polled: A. P. Turner, The Leen, Pembridge, Herefordshire; Herbert Blofield, Morley Manor, Wymondham, Norfolk. Shorthorns and Crossbreds: Henry Dudding, Riby Grove, Stallingboro', Lincs; George C. Terry, Weedon Hill, Aylesbury. Aberdeen-Angus and Galloways: George J. Walker, Portlethen, Aberdeen; Robert Sherman, Balg, Kirkcudbright. Welsh and Highland: John Vaughan, Llyssun, Llanerfyl, Welshpool; H. Macdiarmid, Island House, Tiree, Oban. Kerry, Dexter, and Small Crossbred Cattle: R. Tait Robertson, La Mancha, Malahide Co. Dublin; F. Turrill, Brookhampton, Wallingford, Berks. £25 Cup, £50 Cups, Champion Plate, and King's Challenge Cup: T. H. Hutchinson, Manor House, Catterick, Yorks; Clement Stephenson, Sandyford Villa, Newcastle-on Tyne.

SHEEP.—Leicesters, Border Leicesters, and Lincolns: John Twentyman, Moor Court, Sparsholt, Winchester; Robert Fisher, Leconfield, Beverley. Cotswolds, Kentish or Romney Marsh, and Devons: Robert Jacobs, Burford, Oxon; Arthur Finn, Westbroke House, Lydd, Kent. Cheviots and Mountains: A. Douglas, Riccalton, Jedburgh; Owen Price, Nantyrharn Cray, Brecon. Southdowns and Shropshires: Herbert Padwick, Manor House, West Thorney, Emsworth; Alfred Tanner, Shrawardine, Shrewsbury; Hampshire Downs and Suffolks: John Pain, Borough, Micheldever; S. R. Sherwod, Playford, Ipswich. Oxford Downs and Crossbreds: John Bryan, Southleigh, Witney; James Burbidge, 9, Blagrave Street, Reading. Ryeland and Dorset: David Price, Bulwark House, Brecon; W. A. Johnson, Stafford Park, Piddletown, Dorchester. Champion Plates for Long and Short-woolled Sheep, and Prince of Wales's Challenge Cup: Hugh Penfold, La Bagatelle, The Grove, Blackheath; Benjamin Painter, Cow Close Farm, Burley-on the-Hill, Oakham.

PIGS.—Middle and Large Whites: Walter J. Henman, St. Ives, Kendrick Road, Reading; Col. F. Walker-Jones, The Manor House, Burton, Westmorland. Large Black and Berkshires: H. W. Packard, Over Hall, Shotley, Ipswich; James Lawrence, Stall Pitts Farm, Shrivenham, Berks. Tamworths and Crossbreds: W. H. Mitchell, Elmdene, Kenilworth; H. W. Bishop, Manor Farm, Pendley, Tring. Champion Plates and Prince Christian's Challenge Cup: A. S. Gibson, The Elms, Ruddington, Nottingham; J. W. Kimber, Fyfield Wick, Abingdon.

CARCASE COMPETITION. — Cattle and Sheep: Robert R. Alden, The Market, Oxford; J. G. Randall, The Broadway, Crouch End, N. Pigs: T. Sack, Copenhagen House, 487, Caledonian Road, Holloway; H. T. Lewis, East Cranhams, Cirencester. Champion Prizes and Challenge Cups: Percy Scarlett-Smout, 39, Mount Street, W. Table Poultry: Percy Percival, Manor House, Berrow, Burnham, Somerset; N. A. Swaffield, Terrington, St. Clements, King's Lynn.



The Jersey Bull shown above is Barrister, winner of First Prize and Championship for Jersey Bulls at the Royal Counties Agricultural Society's Show at Maidenhead. It was born April 29, 1905, sire King's Council, dam Maitlands Annette, and was bred and exhibited by Mr. A. Pocock, Freegrove, Calne.

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

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HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL, Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Hereford. Stud Horses: Lockinge Lord of Misrule and Lockinge Bonny Lad, both by Lockinge Forester, full brother to Lockinge Forest King. Colts and Fillies for Sale.

MUNTZ, FREDERICK ERNEST, Umberslade, Hockley Heath, Warwickshire. Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, prize-winners.—Particulars from Mr. JOHN T. B. HARTLEY, Estate Office.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners, on Sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

ROWELL, JOHN, Bury, Huntingdon. Breeder Shires and Hackneys; Stallions for sale, hire, or service at home; mares and fillies for sale.

WHITEHEAD, Robert, Fashionably bred mares and fillies in natural condition on Sale. Stallions, Bodenham King 17177, Whitestone Prince Alfred 22930.—Apply J. M. JOHNSTONE, Hargate Hall, Buxton. Station, and telegrams, Millers Dale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

SHETLAND PONIES.

BEALE, Mrs. A. J., Cacketts, Cudham, Kent. Prize-bred Pedigree Shetlands for sale; three grand Stallions at stud.

PONIES.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

PREECE, JOHN ADNEY, Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston, Northampton.—Herd of 250 Shorthorns, best Bates and Scotch blood; stock Bulls, Duke of Barrington 70th, Primrose Earl 89641, and Royal Baron 93192; Bulls and Heifers for sale.

ROTHWELL, R. R, Much Hoole, near Preston. Pedigree Shorthorns, chiefly Scotch blood. Stock bull Strowan Marquis 13th, winner of many prizes. Young bulls and heifers always on sale.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

TAYLOR, GEORGE, Cranford, Middlesex.—Bates' Shorthorns, deep milkers. Winners Milking Competitions, London Dairy Show, 1905-6. Bull Calves for Sale. Stock Bulls: Beau Sabreur, Drumcree, Rowbury, and Kirkcharm.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

SUSSEX.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath, Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Sussex Cattle (descended from the oldest and best strains of blood), unrivalled for their early maturity, the production of the best beef and working oxen, and ability to thrive in all weathers on the roughest fare. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for Sale.

HEREFORDS

PULLEY, CHARLES THORNTON, Lower Eaton, Hereford.—Noted prize-winning herd of HEREFORD CATTLE. First prize Royal winners, Protector 19660, 1901. Eaton Champion 21251, 1903; and Ashleaf 3rd, 1905. The herd is headed by Eaton Champion and Glenbower 2nd 24196, sire a Royal winner. Bulls and Heifers for sale. Also prize-winning Shropshire Sheep.—Apply MR. HEDLEY JONES, Lower Eaton Home Farm Office, Hereford.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Crisp. Established 1860. This herd has in 1904 won and 1905 won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by Bredale, Rago Protector and Prudhoe. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited. —Apply, J. R. HEWINS, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford Herefordshire.

CATTLE—*continued.*

HEREFORDS—*continued.*

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for Sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

DEVONS.

BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton Williton, Taunton, Breeder of Pedigree Devon Cattle. A speciality for large size, with quality and robust constitutions; colour dark red. Sent to all parts of the world. Prices moderate.

SKINNER, ALFRED C., Pound, Bishops-Lydeard, Somerset. Pedigree Devons, constitution, quality, size, milk; 600 prizes principal shows, many champions; exports most successful; bulls and heifers for sale. Inspection invited.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

BRIDGES, J. H.—This old-established herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle of the leading families can be seen at Langshott Home Farm, Horley, Surrey (near Horley Station, L.B. & S.C.R.), and catalogues obtained on application to Mr. Albert Pulling

HURSLEY PARK HERD OF ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE, the property of Sir George Cooper, Bart., comprising Erica, Pride, Miss Burgess, Lady Ida, Matilda, Jemima of Meldrith families. Prizes won during 1906: 7 firsts, 3 seconds, 3 reserves, 1 challenge cup, 2 silver medals, 3 reserve champions. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale. Catalogues on application to V. F. Lesse, Estate Office, Hursley Park, Winchester.

THE ROCKLIFFE PARK HERD of Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, Ericas and Prides. Stock Bull, Pundit of Prestoh (17,156), Champion at Highland Show, 1904.—Apply, R. C. SWAN, Rockliffe Park, Darlington

AYRSHIRES.

WALLACE, JAMES, J.P., Auchenbainzie, Thornhill, Dumfriesshire, Scotland. Breeder of pedigree prize-winning Ayrshire Cattle; hardy, healthy, good milkers; bred for dairy purposes, beauty and style. Bulls and Heifers for sale.

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably, from his prize-winning herd of Red Polls, Bulls, Cows, Heifers, from good milkers.—Apply C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

CARY-ELWES, V., Billing Hall, Northampton. Breeder of Jersey cattle.

JERSEYS, and Alderney Guernseys, fresh calved and near calving. Prices, particulars.—R. WHEADON, Minster.

MERTON GRANGE GUERNSEYS.—Property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. This Herd contains Champion Bull Royal Counties, Portsmouth, and Champion Cow Royal Derby, 1906. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of best Breeding for Sale.—Telegrams and particulars, W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay.

STERN, Sir E. D., Fan Court, Chertsey, Surrey. Herd of pedigree Jersey Cattle. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

TICHBORNE PARK, GUERNSEY.—Yearling Bulls and Heifers for sale.—Apply, D. MICHIE, Estate Office, Tichborne, Alresford, Hants.

GALLOWAYS.

GRAHAM, ROBERT, Auchengassel, Twynholm, breeder fashionable Galloway Cattle, winners at Royal and Highland Societies Shows. Pedigree Bulls, Cows, and Heifers, also Blue-greys for feeding, for sale. Commissions carefully executed.

KERRIES & DEXTERS.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

THE DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE'S PRIZE-WINNING DEXTER HERD.—During 1904 and 1905 this Herd won more prizes than any other three Dexter Herds combined, including both first and second milking prizes Royal, 1905, and first London Dairy Show, 1906. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers generally for Sale.—CHILD, Compton Place, Eastbourne.

RATTRAY, DAVID, Gortnaskehy, Ballybanion, Co. Kerry. Pedigree Prize-winning Herd of Kerries and Dextors. 153 Prizes and Honours won by Cattle from this Herd past three years. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONG WOOL.

ANDERSON, JOHN, Barton-on-Humber.—The old Barton Flock of Pure-bred LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, Flock Book 106. This flock is noted for hard constitutions and fine, lustrous wool. Inspection invited. Telegrams as above.

ATKINSON, T., & SON, North Kelsey, Lincoln. Old-established Flock of pure Lincoln Longwools. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Noted for great size and long lustrous wool. Have given great satisfaction at home and abroad. Inspection invited

SHEEP—*continued.*

LINCOLN LONG WOOL—*continued.*

BROOKS, W. J., Stowe Lodge, Weedon, Northants (Registered Flock 165), has for sale Rams and Ewes of best blood.

BROCKLEBANK, JOHN, Bassingham, Lincoln. (Flock 24). Pure-bred Lincoln Longwool Rams and Ewes. This old flock has been carefully bred for 100 years. Telegrams: Basingham.

DRAKES. Wm., Tealby, Market Rasen. Flock No. 72 of Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs of best blood for sale. Lincoln Red Shorthorns. Prices moderate.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

SMITH, HENRY, jun; Cropwell Butler, Nottingham. Lincoln Longwool Flock No. 7, winner of £2,361 in prizes. Champion pen Lincolns, Smithfield Show, 1895; Association Championship, Leicester, 1897; Association Championship for pen of 3 Shearling Rams, Yorkshire, 1900; Championship, Rutland, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, and 1906. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

THE CHILMARK FLOCK OF REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—Owner, JAMES FLOWER, Chilwark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records. Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, out of 11 years competing, 'The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" won eight times, thrice second, with pens of 8 ram lambs; a many lous record. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 13 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05-06. At the Royal at Derby, 1906, every First Prize, two Seconds, and the Champion were won; an unequalled success!! Champions Birmingham, 1905, over all breeds, Reserve in 1906. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Short-wools, Smithfield, 1904-05-06. Highest average past 13 years Bridford Fair, Aug. 12, 100 Ram Lambs, annual sale. Selections for Sale.

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1907.—Extraordinary records: Twin ram lambs let for 205 and 120 guineas. Ninety averaged £21 10s. Selections always for Sale.

STEPHENS H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. The Cholderton flock is individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded in the Hampshire Down Flock Book. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury

OVEY, R. L., Hernes, Henley-on-Thames.—Pedigree HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK, Reg. Vol. IV. Prize-winners leading shows last five years.

WINCHESTER, the Most Hon. the Marquis of, Amport St. Mary, Andover, Hants. Pure-bred flock of Hampshire Down Sheep; high-class Rams and Ewes always on Sale.

OXFORD DOWNS.

ADAMS, GEORGE, Royal Prize Farm Flock, Faringdon, Berks. Pure Oxford Down Sheep, Shearling Rams, Ram Lambs, Ewes and Ewe Lambs for Sale. Special arrangements with foreign buyers. Many first prizes at R.A.S.E. and other shows during past 25 years, including 2 first, 2 second, and 4 other prizes, World's Fair, Chicago, and 7 firsts, 4 seconds and champion at Royal Bath and West, Royal Counties, etc., this year.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

TREADWELL, JOHN, Upper Winchendon, Aylesbury.—Oxford Down Sheep. Annual Ram Sale, first Wednesday in August. Prizes won at R.A.S.E. 24 years in succession. Ewes for Sale.

WENSLEYDALE.

UNDERLEY WENSLEYDALES (Blue faced), from the best blood obtainable. Successfully exhibited.—Apply, G. G. ROBINSON Bailiff, Underley Farm, Kirkby, Lonsdale.

(Continued on page 353.)

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

CHARLES SPENCER, having taken over the Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts, herd of Large and Middle White Pigs, which won 12 prizes and reserves with 11 exhibits at Derby Royal, will price any of them.

FULWOOD HERD LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES, property R. R. Rothwell. 200 head bred from winners at leading shows.—Apply to D. COLLIVER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for Sale at moderate prices

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station. G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices. —J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM. Herd of Large White Pigs. The oldest and largest Herd in Notts County. Over 100 Breeding Sows kept. Upwards of 600 to select from. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—Apply ARTHUR A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 100 to choose from. Correspondence invited. Grand young breeding stock always on Sale.—Apply R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts (15 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

SPALDING HERD of Pedigree Large Whites, young stock and in-pig Gilts for Sale. All bred from great winners.—ALFRED W. WHITE, "Hillegom," Spalding.

MIDDLE WHITES.

THE CATTON HERD of Prize-winning MIDDLE WHITE PIGS, property of J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stock Boar Castlecroft Mikado, 1st Park Royal, 1st Bath and West. Gelts and Boars on Sale. Prices moderate.—Apply BAILIFF, Raddle Farm, Edingale, Tamworth.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 86 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

LARGE BLACKS.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath. Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Large Black Pigs of the best strains of blood, noted for their docility and for the production of a large proportion of lean meat. Good selection of Boars, unrelated Gilts, and in-pig Sows for Sale at reasonable prices.

CATTON HERD OF PRIZE-WINNING LARGE BLACK PIGS.—Stock Boar Trevisquite Excelsior 1487, 1st Devon County, 2nd and Reserve Champion Royal Show, 1906; pigs kept in hardy natural condition; gelts and boars always on sale.—Apply, J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stations: Croxall, 2½ miles (M.R.); Alrewas, 3½ miles (L.N.W.).

HASKETON CHAMPION PRIZE HERD OF LARGE BLACK PIGS.—This herd has won the Royal championship three out of four times, and is the only herd having won the breed challenge cup. Record: 47 firsts, 37 seconds, 11 thirds, 126 prize-winning cards; the herd this year being the winners of 14 firsts, 6 seconds, 2 thirds, championship and silver cup in five shows. Gelts and Boars at moderate prices consistent with quality. Exportation a speciality.—Apply, C. F. MARRINER, Hasketon, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS.—Select Herd, bred from choice Prize Winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale, moderate prices.—H. J. CLARKE, The Slade, Roughley, Sutton Coldfield.

WHEN Breeding, breed from the best Pedigree Large Black Prize-winning Pigs. TREVEGLOS HOPEFUL II., winner of First prizes and R.A.S.E. Silver Challenge Cup, 1907, beating all other Cup winners; also 1st Prize Bath and West, Newport; 1st Royal Counties, Maidenhead; 1st Royal Cornwall, Liskeard; 1st Devon County, Bideford; also 1st prize at the Royal Show, Lincoln, for Boar and Reserve for Champion prize. Boars and Sows for Sale of the above strain at moderate prices.—Apply to JOHN WARNE, Treveglos Farm, St. Mabyn, R.S.O., Cornwall.

BERKSHIRES.

CARNARVON, the Earl of.—Prize winning Pedigree Herd. BOARS and GELTS. eligible Herd Book. Prices moderate.—Apply W. T. HALL, Highclere Farm, Newbury.

BERKSHIRES—*continued.*

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

READING CORPORATION.—150 Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, leading prize-winning strains, from son of Champion Mikado 10423 and prize-winner Duchess 11323; inspection invited. Apply, Mr. T. CHARLES, Manor Farm, Reading, Berks.

STALL PITTS HERD OF PEDIGREE BERKSHIRES. One of the Oldest Herds. Unsurpassed for true character, size, and quality. Choice selection of Boars and Sows on offer at moderate prices.—J. LAWRENCE, Stall Pitts, Shrivenham, Berks

BORROWFIELD & COLSTON HERDS.

The property of R. MILLINGTON-KNOWLES, Colston Bassett Hall, Notts.

LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES.

The following First Prizes, Championships, and Medals have been obtained by pigs **BRED** in these Herds in 1907:
1st and Champion, Gold Medal, R.A.S.E., Lincoln.
1st & Champion, President's Medal, Highland, Edinburgh,
1st Welsh National, Aberystwyth.
1st Bath and West Newport; 1st Royal Counties.
1st Nottingham; 1st Suffolk; 1st Norfolk.
1st Derby.
1st Hereford and Worcester; Special Prize Lincoln Agricultural Society; 1st Great Yorkshire; 1st Newark.

A number of additional Firsts and other Prizes have also been gained at the above Shows.

At the St. Louis Exposition, U.S.A., in 1904, the Champion Boar, and the Grand Champion of the Exposition were bred at Colston Bassett.

The Foreign and Home trade has largely increased during 1907.—GILBERT H. ELLIOT, Estate Office, Colston Bassett, Notts.

For Sale.

PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.

Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.

GEORGE HOYLES,
Skidby Manor, near Hull.

GEORGE HOYLES

SKIDBY MANOR, HULL.

Breeder of Pure Lincoln Long Wool Sheep.

Lustrous Fleeces. Good Constitutions.

SUITABLE FOR HOME AND ABROAD. STOCK FOR SALE

VETERINARY.

Advice of a Veterinary character, by a M.R.C.V.S., is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

DISEASES OF FARM ANIMALS.

Bloody and Discoloured Milk.

We are reminded by a recent complaint by a querist concerning a cow said to be yielding bloody milk from one of her quarters that this trouble is of very common occurrence in milking herds throughout the country, and that it is a cause of no small amount of annoyance and loss to the dairyman, though the health of the cow is not generally in any way affected. There is, however, every reason to believe, as pointed out in reply to the querist referred to, that in many cases where there is a demand for a recipe for the cure of bloody milk the trouble is not always exactly of this character.

Causss and Symptoms.

The complaint is invariably that the cow is giving bloody milk, but it is necessary to distinguish between red milk and bloody milk, or between milk of bloody colour and milk containing blood as blood, for they are by no means the same thing, or of equal importance. The occurrnce of bright red blood, blood that clots, and which invariably comes with the strippings, is quite a different matter to a case in which discoloured fluid is yielded throughout the milking.

One or more quarters may yield milk of a reddish tint, or milk on standing a few hours may deposit a red sediment, and this is generally described as blood. It is really nothing of the kind, but may be due to blood-colouring matter, or perhaps colouring matter derived from the food.

Law says that "milk may have a red sediment from feeding madder, logwood, and other agents," but madder and logwood are not common cow foods in this country, and we do not think that the consumption of acrid plants—ranunculus, hydropiper, resinous shoots, &c.—which he also says causes red milk, have much to do with it. The change very often occurs subsequent to the removal of the milk from the cow, and is as much a bacterial change as scouring, viscidity, ropiness, bitterness, &c.

Smith ("Veterinary Hygiene") says:—"Alterations in milk affecting its colour are known to result from organisms; thus blue milk results from the action of the *Bacillus cyanogenus*, a change which occurs in milk on standing, and in which the presence of lactic acid is an essential Red milk may be due to *Micrococcus prodigiosus* or other pigment-forming bacteria. Yellow-milk is caused by the *Bacillus synxanthus*. In addition, green and violet pigments are found in milk as the result of bacterial action. None of these organisms exist in the milk when drawn from the body, but are the result of subsequent contamination." These cases of discoloured milk, or of milk that deposits a red sediment on standing, are often most puzzling to the cowkeeper and dairyman, and defy elucidation, but we have often known the administration of a saline laxative—Epsom or Glauber's salts—followed by a cordial drench, to result in cessation of the discolouration. More frequently still does improvement follow on a course of small doses of hyposulphite of soda. Hyposulphite of soda ranks high as an antiseptic and deodoriser, and destroyed ferments and bacteria, and its presence in the milk may go a long way to prevent, or delay, bacterial changes that take place subsequent to the removal of the milk from the cow.

On the other hand, we have known this and other medicinal treatment to be quite ineffective, and the trouble to persist until the cow is dried off.

When blood as blood is drawn from the udder it generally makes its appearance towards the end of the milking, that is, it comes with the strippings.

The cause is weakness of the capillary vessels, which ramify through the udder. Normally these vessels have very thin walls, and readily exude their contents—indeed, it is part of their function to do so, in order to supply nutrition to the parts. These cases are often very difficult to deal with, owing to the necessity for clean stripping at each milking period precluding any possibility of rest.

Further, the trouble often reappears again and again in the same animal after it has been cured, or has ceased spontaneously. In many cases cows that give bloody milk are "stale," that is, they have been too long in milk and need drying off. Any cow whose near approach to calving, or long period in milk, suggests this origin of the trouble, should be promptly dried off, and the bother of treatment saved. It is generally found that after the usual period of rest there is no trouble at the next calving.

When the cow giving discoloured or bloody milk has yet a long time to run, something must, of course, be tried to remedy the defect The food supply, though rarely in any way responsible, should be overhauled, and such changes made in the diet as the results of the investigation suggest to be desirable.

Treatment.

As to treatment, local bathing with cold water, after clean stripping, is sometimes recommended as calculated to give tone to the weak blood-vessels, but where this is practical the udder should afterwards be very carefully dried with a soft cloth, and then gently massaged or rubbed with a little camphorated oil to prevent the animal taking cold in the gland. The best results are obtained in cases of bloody milk from treatment which includes the prolonged administration of tonic medicine containing iron.

A laxative drench of Epsom or Glauber's salts should be given, and followed twice a day with 1 oz., or one-sixteenth part, of a mixture of 4 oz. each of carbonate of iron, common salt, and powdered aniseed and gentian. This powder should be stored in a covered tin and given in the food, or as a drench in a quart of ale or thin gruel. In cases of discoloured milk it is often useful to give a drench of:—Nitrate of potash, 1 oz; powdered ginger, ½ oz.; Epsom salts, 12 oz.; ale 1 quart, and follow it twice a day with 1 oz. of hyposulphate of soda, dissolved in a quart of warm water. The milk from the quarters, the product of which is normal, should be kept separate, and the discoloured and bloody milk received into a different vessel. There is a superstition among cow-men that any abnormal milk should be stripped on to the ground. This certainly secures that it shall not be used for human consumption, or spoil the bulk, but milk so distributed taints the premises and furnishes a breeding-ground for germs that cause putrefaction and decay, if not for pathogenic organisms.

Generally there is no risk whatever in giving bloody or discoloured milk to pigs. They appreciate it none the less on account of its appearance; but, in any case, it is better received into a vessel, even if eventually thrown down the drain, than milked on the floor of the cowshed.

In those cases where blood, as blood, comes with the strippings, the milking should be conducted as gently as possible: but clean stripping

must not be omitted because the milk is bloody, or there may be worse trouble in the shape of mammary inflammation from retention of the milk, or the cow will go dry. M.R.C.V.S.

Midland Notes.

THESE are busy times indeed. We are in the thick of sheep sales, foal shows, farm dispersions, and such like autumn fixtures; but they have to share attention with the harvest, which is still busily proceeding, if not exactly merrily. Even now—almost the middle of September—it is the exception to see a farm totally cleared, and the ingathering of the straw crops, so badly laid and twisted as they are, is an expensive and a tedious business.

EVEN the hay is still giving ground for anxiety in some cases. Within the last few days I have seen not a few fields on which the cut grass still lies badly damaged, but intended to be saved when opportunity offers; and meanwhile the aftermath is growing thick and plentiful among it. Potato disease is spreading, encouraged by recent warm and muggy days. As a result, the heads are being cut off, though as this expedient puts an immediate end to the growth of the tubers it represents only the lesser of two evils. But roots and pastures thrive wonderfully; and the result is evident in the trade at the sheep sales. The Craven Arms sale is a conspicuous example. A rise of 6s. to 7s. per head on last year's prices is a big one indeed in the case of stock so inexpensive as ewes; and even at these rates the 16,000 odd sheep penned at this big Shropshire fixture were insufficient to go round. Store cattle, on the other hand, are making very ordinary prices.

A PROSECUTION of a Northfield farmer on Wednesday is typical of others which seem likely to be heard of in the near future. In this case a fine of £3 and costs was imposed by the King's Heath magistrates for the offence of keeping manure from a cowhouse piled in a pit closely adjacent to the house itself. The defendant had been previously warned by the local sanitary inspector, but explained by way of defence that he had nowhere else to deposit the manure.

THERE are indications that actions and warnings of this kind are likely to increase in number, for our urban and suburban councils have been told so much about bacterial disease that they are growing uneasy about very harmless incidents of rural life; and it is worth notice that the driving force behind them is supplied in not a few cases by "progressive" members, who are avowedly anxious to see the trade of milk production taken out of private hands altogether. In the particular instance referred to, the evidence of the local medical officer of health was to the effect that the presence of the manure (in the open air) was "likely to render the milk vessels unclean," and that contaminated milk "was considered to be one of the chief causes of summer diarrhœa and cholera among children."

WE are all very tired of the mildew muddle, as it has come to be called; but apparently we are very far indeed from being at the end of it. The County Council of Worcestershire had the business under consideration on Tuesday, and approved the steps which have been taken. These, of course, include the burning of diseased bushes, and of those likely to become infested; and (where burning is not practicable) the spraying with a strong solution of copper sulphate, this wash having been substituted for the obviously unsuitable sulphuric acid which was tried at first.

AND in addition to these precautions we have an order which prohibits the removal of gooseberry bushes, or any part thereof, without the leave and licence of the County Council. "It is a second swine fever campaign," was the expression of one grower when receiving this notice; the consolation is that nobody often wants to move a gooseberry bush. But meanwhile the mildew is officially said to be increasing, so that inconveniences are suffered willingly in the hope that the precautionary and extirpative measures may justify themselves.

THE same council has taken another step towards remedying the deficiency of country cottages in the country. Four months ago an inquiry was undertaken as to the need of cottages in the Evesham district. Now Lord Lifford, Messrs. Willis Bund, Henry Howard, and F. Impey have formally brought it to the knowledge of the council that a scarcity of cottages exists; they add that it seems likely to increase, and that it is helping to drive young people into the town, and to prevent the land being fully cultivated in small farms or holdings.

THEIR complaint that it "compels the system of farms, as against gardening, to continue" does not seem very happily worded; but it implies no antipathy to large and medium-sized farms as such. The Vale of Evesham, however, is an exceptional district, since on its rich and sheltered lands there is still room for large extension of fruit and market garden enterprise, and this branch of farming finds occupation for more labour and livings for more families per square mile than any other. The next move rests with the local district council; but it is understood that if the district council fails to prepare an adequate scheme within a reasonable time, the larger authority will be prepared to act independently. It is understood also that other agricultural districts in the country are to be similarly reported on, and dealt with in turn. This is good hearing for the smaller folk, but larger ratepayers are asking rather anxiously where the money for carrying out these schemes is coming from.

September 12, 1907.

Agricultural Machinery in Italy.

The following remarks on the opportunities for British agricultural machinery in Italy are extracted from the report of Mr. E. H Godfrey, juror for the agricultural machinery section of the International Exhibition at Milan, contained in the report of the British Royal Commission:—

"In regard to heavy articles such as steam engines and threshing machines, solidity and durability are essential. In these cases the question of draught is not so important because the engine is available for transportation. The heavy hay crops of Italy necessitate a substantial build in hay-making machinery and rakes; here the desideratum is strength and durability combined. On the other hand, in descriptions of implements such as ploughs, drills, and harvesters, lightness of draught and cheapness of cost are all-important. It is also important that agricultural machinery should be exported in large quantities at a time. If truck loads are sent not so much packing is necessary, and it should be remembered that freight and duty have to be paid on the packing as well as on the machines. Possibly more co-operation between British exporters might lead to economy in forwarding goods to the same country.

Ploughs.

"There is a great demand in Italy for ploughs, but the plough trade is at present almost entirely in the hands of Germany, whose makers have studied the exact requirements of Italian agriculturists, and have taken pains to meet them. English ploughs, so far as Italy is concerned, are too well made and cost too much. They are too heavy, and are not the shape required for Italian agriculture. Many of the Italian ploughs are required to turn the furrows to the left, and they must be capable of suiting not only ordinary arable cultivation, but also of turning the soil in preparation for the crops peculiar to the climate of Italy and other Southern countries. A ploughing depth of 12 in. is quite an ordinary one, and sometimes for vine culture the depth required is as much as 28 in, and occasionally 23½ in. Mould boards, too, are different in different provinces. Oxen are invariably used for draught purposes, and as a general rule two pairs of oxen are yoked to each plough. The average life of a plough, as used in Italy, is about two years, and Italian agriculturists find it more economical to purchase cheap ploughs of light draught and renew them at short intervals than to get more expensive implements the draught of which is too heavy for oxen, however solid in construction and durable in character they may prove to be. The ploughs used are generally made of wrought iron, and when worn out are readily disposed of to the local blacksmiths, who use the iron for many other purposes. Foreign ploughs are imported into Italy by car loads of 5 and 10 tons, usually the latter. Germany has doubtless an advantage in being able to send goods by train without reloading, but the facilities of manufacture enjoyed by British firms should enable them to compete successfully with German makers. The careful study of local requirements by agents acquainted with the language is, however, an essential preliminary to success.

Drills.

"These, too, are in large demand, being used for the sowing of wheat, barley, oats, rice, maize, and clover. This trade also is almost entirely in the hands of Germany, though a very few are of American manufacture. Lightness of construction and draught are also demanded for drills. They are used in great variety, and English makers should be able to obtain their fair share in the supply of an implement that is essentially an English invention.

Harvesting Machinery.

"Again, the Italian demand is for light machines. Horses in Italy are largely fed on chopped straw. Compared with our own equine stock, the animals are undersized and of inferior strength. Reapers and binders must therefore be suited to their capacity, for this appears to be more practicable than attempting to fit the horse to the machine. The trade in self-binders has up to the present been entirely in the hands of manufacturers in the United States; but Canada is now becoming a competitor, and Germany, too, is just commencing the manufacture of harvesting machinery for Italy. The American machines are generally too large. English mowers and reapers are of excellent construction, but are too heavy and dear for use in Italy, where the demand is for a light, cheap binder, capable of being drawn by comparatively inferior horses. . . . The following considerations apply to manufacturers in this connection:—(1) More frequent renewal means more continuous profits; (2) freight and duty are cheaper for lighter goods; (3) both maker and user are able to take more frequent advantage of the latest improvements as they are effected.

"At the risk of repetition, I would emphasise the necessity for studying Italian local requirements, and for adapting English agricultural machinery thereto. In this respect the example of English makers of heavy machinery may well be followed by other classes of manufacturers."

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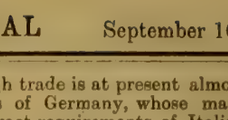
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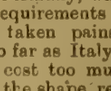
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By order,
ARTHUR P. JOHNSON,
Town Clerk.

Town Hall, Haverstock Hill, N.W.
September 9, 1907.

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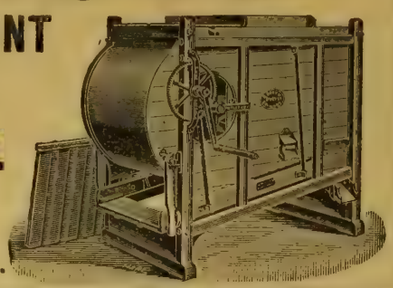
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Seasonable Topics.

Summer at Last.

WONDERFUL to relate, we have had a whole fine week. Since our last notes were written we have had glorious sunshine every day, and never has the warmth of Old Sol's rays been more appreciated. We may go so far as to say that the situation is saved, for had the rain and the gloom lasted into September the results must have been serious, if not disastrous. The harvest is, of course, late, and cutting has been an expensive item, but the hauling in of the corn is going on apace, and the outlook is better than it has been for some time past. And after the dreary, disappointing summer how delightful it is to have this beautiful September weather, and how one hopes that it may last! We feel that this is our last chance, and we want to make the most of it, for when the break comes winter will soon be upon us. The man in the street rejoices over the fine spell, and how much more reason has the farmer to do so, for to him the Indian summer means so much.

A Poor Partridge Season.

WE ventured some weeks ago to prophecy that sportsmen would have a poor time amongst the partridges this year, and this is just how matters are turning out. Owing to the backward state of the harvest very little shooting was done at the beginning of the month, and now that stubble is more general than standing corn more guns are out, but generally speaking, the filling of bags is a difficult matter. We tramped all through one hot day last week and got little else but tired limbs and voracious appetites, for coveys were exceedingly small and scarce, and the birds we saw were mostly old ones. This seems to be the general order, and when we think of the unfavourable weather at breeding time, it is not surprising that the sport is so poor. When birds are fairly plentiful we know of no sport more delightful than partridge shooting, but to tramp for hours over stubble and through roots under a hot September sun without getting a shot or even seeing a feather is rather wearying, to say the least of it.

Through Force of Circumstances.

ONE of the most regrettable things in the agriculture of late years is the dropping out of the names and families of farmers who once occupied leading positions in the districts where they lived. It was in the palmy days of agriculture that they flourished, and they are remembered still as being good farmers, good neighbours, and good sportsmen. These men could afford to take life fairly easy when prices were up and wages were low, but it was difficult for them to change their habits when agriculture grew less profitable, and this in many cases explains the reason why good old families have dropped out of the ranks of farmers. We frequently meet the sons of men who in their day were known as "gentlemen" farmers, occupying in some cases positions as stewards and bailiffs, and in others farming for themselves, but on a different scale to what they were brought up to, and one cannot help feeling sorry that fortune has dealt hardly with them, though, sweeping sentiment on one side, the bare fact remains that things might have been different had many prosperous farmers of a past decade faced the music with the changing of conditions, instead of drifting on in the old way until it was too late.

Harvest Beer or Extra Pay.

THERE can be no doubt that the harvest season of 1907, beginning with the hay and concluding with the corn, will be remembered as the most expensive of recent years, and when the reckoning day comes it would be interesting to know who are the best off, the farmers who stick to the old custom of providing beer for the men in harvest time or those who give extra money instead. We think that though old customs die hard, the practice of giving extra money instead of beer at harvest time is becoming more general, and most people who have adopted it are satisfied with the results. It is characteristic of the average labourer to want as much beer as he can get when the liquor is supplied by his master, but when he receives an extra 6d. a day instead, he remembers things that the money will buy, and consequently does with less beer. Another question naturally arises which concerns the farmer more—does he get more work done in the harvest when he provides beer as when he pays extra wages? Opinions may differ on this point, but we were discussing the question with a farmer the other day and he assured us that through dropping the beer and giving money instead, he has been saved a considerable amount of trouble and bother, has done the thing cheaper, with no falling off in the work, and the men were well satisfied with the change. It is sometimes urged that beer helps to keep up the energy of a man during a long day's work in the harvest field, and it may up to a certain point, but thirsts are powerful under hot sunshine, and we know of no greater nuisance in a hay or cornfield than a maudling labourer who is three sheets in the wind.

Harvest Festivals.

IN many ways the season has been an unsatisfactory one, but this does not affect the spirit of harvest festivals, and thanksgiving services will be the general order for the next few weeks in churches and chapels all over the country. When we consider that without the fruits of the earth the world would be immediately at a standstill we realise how appropriate the annual thanksgiving is, and though perhaps as individuals we may feel that Providence has not dealt with us this season quite as we would have wished, yet taking a broader view of the harvests of the world, history cannot record one instance of the breaking of the divine promise, "that so long as the earth remaineth seed time and harvest shall not fail." There is something homely, beautiful, and truly English about the harvest festival, be it held in church or chapel, and if we mistake not, the thoughts of many an Englishman harvesting in those far-off lands which now provide the old country with corn turn lovingly to the little church in his native village, which he sees in imagination, beautified with the products of field, orchard, garden, and woodland, and he fancies he hears the singing of the dear old harvest hymns which are loved by Britons in all parts of the world. Thus, though we may not think of it in this way, the festival at home voices the thanksgiving of England's sons in all parts of the world.

Peculiarities of Supply and Demand.

IT is one of the peculiarities of the British public to want things when they are dear, and neglect commodities that are cheap and plentiful. At the moment of writing plums are a glut on the market, and the heavy crop is credited with being the cause of it, but it is possible that the above characteristic has also got something to do with it. As we said before, plums are so plentiful and cheap that one would think the British public would not trouble about any other fruit so long as they lasted. But in accordance with the peculiarities of supply and demand, this is not the case, for people want apples, and this being a thin crop, they are not very plentiful, and are fetching good prices. Indeed, while plums are being neglected owing to the quantity, or people have got tired of them, the demand for apples is quite keen, and it seems to bear out the suggestion that things will sell when they are dear. It is the same with other commodities, and we have noticed that when sheep are dear everybody wants to eat mutton, and, on the other hand, when beef and pork are dear, demand is at its keenest. One can hardly understand why it should be—but there it is!

Autumn's Grass.

A YEAR ago grass land in most districts was dried up and burnt brown, and farmers were complaining about the shortage

of keep. This year the boot is on the other leg, for meadows have thrown up a good aftermath, and in many pastures there is more grass than the stock can possibly keep down. Indeed, in many fields there is more grass than one cares to see so late in the season, and in cases where the herbage is coarse, it has become sour, and stock are reluctant to eat it. Some farmers, luckier than their neighbours in getting through the harvest proper, have turned their attention to mowing in the pastures where the grass is long and coarse under the hedgerows and other places, and though this material is not first-class, it can be used later on as rough fodder, whereas it could never be of any use if left standing.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Farmers' Societies and the Southampton Platform.

An interesting question has arisen in Dorsetshire—a question which concerns the very character of agricultural societies. Mr. A. W. Wills, the Liberal M.P. for North Dorset, refused to subscribe to the excellent Shaftesbury Agricultural Association, because, as he averred, it had become a partisan organisation. His accusation was, he held, justified by the fact that it had accepted the Tariff resolution passed by the delegates at the now famous Southampton conference. Now, I will not for the moment inquire whether it was wise on the part of the Shaftesbury society to associate itself with what I may describe as the Southampton platform; but, for the life of me, I cannot see how a dispassionate man could altogether expect a Liberal Member to contribute to the funds of a body adopting that position. It is urged that the formal acceptance of the Southampton platform was not indicated until after the hon. member's refusal to subscribe. This simply meant that the Liberal M.P. had the gift of intelligent prescience, and was able to perceive the trend of the society's sympathies. It must not be forgotten—Conservatives cannot forget it—that Free Trade is the proclaimed sheet-anchor of the Liberal party. Relinquishment of it by any individual Liberal means his releasing himself from the party moorings. Even a suspicion of association with the Chamberlainite faith would render tepid the local Radical loyalty. Of course, it may be fairly urged that the use to which subscriptions to the Shaftesbury Society are mostly put—the offering of prizes in connection with matters deliberately affecting the farm and the prosperity of agriculture—has no more to do with this Southampton platform than it has with the pool of Siloam. It may be replied that the same might be said of the subscriptions to the sports at a Primrose League fête.

* * *

Let the Position be Made Clear.

I am not in any sense assailing the right of the Shaftesbury Society and of similar societies to adopt this position. It is well, however, to know exactly where we are. How far are we in our organised character determined to ally ourself with one school of economic thought, and thus to deliberately antagonise one of the historic parties in the State, with its Labour allies? How far, too, are we prepared to antagonise those politicians (including many farmers) to whom all-round Protection is a logical policy, but to whom colonial preference—the opening free of our markets to the deliberately encouraged competition of Australasia and Canada, who only export to us agrarian products, and who must thus be the rivals of the British farmer — is fraught with menace to British agriculture? The resolution of these local societies may even be wise—I repeat I do not argue this. They must, however, be prepared to accept the entire fruits of that resolution. Let us say what we will—the acceptance of the Southampton platform means to the Liberal an antagonistic declaration towards Liberalism. It may be that we are prepared to accept this interpretation. In that event let the situation, I reiterate, be made absolutely clear.

* * *

Questions by a Liberal Farmer.

Of course, there are still Liberal farmers as there are Liberal landowners. One of these Liberal farmers has sent me a number of papers published in the three counties of Wilts, Hants, and Dorset. These journals contain long reports of agricultural dinners and the like. "Now" (writes my correspondent) "where do you find in those reports any expression of gratitude for what the Liberal Government has, in its twenty months' existence, done for the farmers? What are those achievements? The first is the Dogs Act, long promised by the last two Conservative Governments and never conceded. The second was the Butter Act, long promised by the last Conservative Government, but which sedulously refused every opportunity to pass it into law. The third is the Foods Regulation Act, whose aim is to prevent all foreign or colonial producers of food—and, after all, farmers are only producers of food—sending their putrescent and foul tinned and other products into this country to oust by their cheapness the honest Britisher from those markets which should be his? This measure affects every kind of food—even to the cheap jams, which are often made with glucose and coloured by aniline dye—and every kind of drink, even to cider and beer. Where, too, can you find any expression of gratification at Mr. Asquith's intention to place a heavier tax on motors in his next budget, presumably with the intention of relieving us of a part of the terrible cost of the maintenance of our roads? Of course, we may not be all in favour of the Small Holdings Act, and certainly we must all deplore the suspicion of the county councils which it showed possesses this Liberal Government; but, all the same, that measure received the benediction of Mr. Chaplin and Mr. Jesse Collings, who, whilst lamenting certain incidents of it, acclaimed its purpose. Where do you find a compliment to the authors of this measure?"

* * *

Frankness Again Demanded.

I refrain from pointing the moral upon which this Liberal farmer insists. It may be—at least, in the bold garb he gives it—unjustified. To say that what in the Conservative is a holy achievement in the Liberal only deserves scorn is a sentiment, I am sure, does not possess these societies. Still it would be idle to deny that this reticence of any appreciation on the part of these societies of the work the Government has done in at least three instances cannot altogether appear as ill-omened to politicians like Mr. Wills. The question thus again presents itself—are we all prepared to subscribe to the Shaftesbury position? If we are, let us say so. Open avowel would be in harmony with the frank character of the British farmer.

* * *

Let us Accept any Gifts.

The man who intervenes in a dispute invites buffets against himself. In intervening in this matter I am foredoomed to be victimised by misconception. I already know what it is to be dubbed by my critics a prejudiced Tory and an arrogant Churchman. I now perceive myself hailed a rabid Radical. Fearful of my fate, I yet pursue my course. Does not this incident to which I have alluded emphasise and illustrate anew the wisdom of establishing an Agricultural Party—a party which, permitting its members freedom of thought and even freedom of prejudice on general politics, would be above and beyond partisanism on all agrarian matters, a party which would accept the gifts of the gods, whether they wear the red guise of Liberalism or are apparelled in the sea-green incorruptibility of Conservatism? The carrying of the Dogs Bill and the Butter Bill into law would have been, had they formulated a programme, an object dear to the heart of every farmers' organisation on the eve of the general election. The purpose of the Foods Regulation Act—which is penetrated by a ruthless antagonism to those foreign vendors of putrescent foods who must inevitably be the rivals of the British farmer—would assuredly have evoked their sympathy. Why should we fail to be grateful to the authors of the new laws because their general political views do not harmonise with ours? Why should we harness ourselves formally and inevitably to the car of a set of statesmen who, with all their rural sympathies, withheld opportunities to pass the first two measures into law? Let us not forget, too, that Mr. Balfour had so little an anxiety to conciliate agrarianism when he formed his second Ministry that he did not think it necessary to include in it Mr. Henry Chaplin, the British farmers' most distinctive and most honoured spokesman.

* * *

A Farmers' Party must be Formed.

These declarations will persuade certain of my critics that I have gone over, body and soul, to the enemy. Well, despite the fact that, notwithstanding its brief existence, the Government has passed these measures—plus a measure conceding something like the Three F's to British tenant-farmers—the ambitions of Liberalism will be ever urban rather than rural. It draws its strength and vitality from the towns, and to the towns will its activities be devoted. We must not—it would be crass folly—depend on Liberalism, with its crude and stupid suspicions of the farmer and its inherent and bitter distaste of the squire, and with its rapid development of revolutionary views on landlordism and property. But does this mean we must formally associate ourselves with Conservatism, sympathetic though its professions be, and accept the full responsibility of that alliance? A Farmers' Party—that is the real objective. And the Lincolnshire example means that this ambition is nearer realisation than some of us have thought it.

* * *

Compulsory Arbitration v. Strikes.

A railway strike will be a grim penalty to the countryside. We may deplore the height of railway rates, but an infinitely greater evil would be a paralysed or impotent railway system. I do not go so far as to suggest with Lord Brassey that the ominous character of this very menace is in itself a justification for nationalising the railways of Great Britain. The idea, however, does not, with my knowledge of the working of the nationalised systems of the Continent, altogether affrighten me. What I do say is that the possibility of this cruel affliction—an affliction all the more cruel in view of the fact that the sections of the community who would be really punished by it have done naught to deserve it—should bring nearer a State-compulsory arbitration in all industrial disputes. A strike is simply a war—and a war all the wickeder in view of the fact that by its means a passion-possessed and infinitesimal minority of the community may be able to paralyse or inconvenience the whole of that community. We summon conferences at the Hague in the hope that we may by their means soon usher in that halcyon day when murder-conflict shall give place to the cool judgment of the judicial tribunal. Why should we not have such a tribunal to deal in compulsory fashion with industrial conflicts? Then the soul of the British farmer would not be possessed by the fear which the present ominous industrial situation must have bred in him.

* * *

A Few Words to Liberals.

Now, there is one point I would put to politicians like my Liberal correspondent whom I have quoted. Is it not worth while seeking to conciliate the farmers and the landed classes? Or, rather, is it necessary to affrighten them by over-indulgence in the Socialistic visions and anti-landlord prophecies to which so many of them are prone? Is it necessary to paint the farmer—and this inartistic business was indulged in during the debates on the Small Holdings Act—as being possessed by a double dose of ineradicable antagonism towards the labourer, and particularly towards that labourer who is desirous of evolving himself into the small holder? Let me put another question—is not this attitude in a measure responsible for the policy of organisations like the Shaftesbury society? Must it not inevitably impel farmers to seek sympathy and friendship elsewhere? My Liberal correspondent seems to be possessed by the belief that the additional motor tax will be partially applied to the maintenance of the highways. Wherein does he find ground for his assurance? Does he find it in the declaration of the ordinary Liberal M.P.? Frankly, I cannot discover it. That Liberal M.P. is, generally speaking, possessed by other anxieties than the relief of the county rate.

THE WEATHER AND THE HARVEST

The following reports on the present agricultural outlook received from our correspondents in various parts of the country show that the recent spell of fine weather has been general, and that it has had a most beneficial effect on the crops, or, as one of our correspondents remarks, "It has saved the situation."

Devon.

Harvest is now nearly completed in this district. The corn crops have been good and harvested without damage. Wheat is an average crop in straw, but opinions vary as to its being an average yield, as there was not enough sunshine at blossoming time. Barley not much grown, but a fair crop in suitable soil.

Oats very Good.

Oats are very good, being very heavy in the straw, and also an abundant yield when threshed out. Owing to fine weather the steam thresher has been early employed.

Roots and Grass.

The roots are good taken altogether, but in some localities they seem to want moisture. Grass has been very plentiful all the season, and still continues so; hay was a heavy crop, and the bulk was saved well.

The potato crop is not up to the average. Apples are a very poor crop, and not much cider will be made; there is a quantity of old cider left on hand.

Live stock is healthy, with abundance of keep.

September 17, 1907. L. J.

Hampshire.

The harvest of 1907 has been an anxious time; the weather was very unfavourable at the commencement, no sun, and it seemed as if the corn would not ripen.

Corn Stacked before Fit.

Then came a week of bright sun which was all that could be desired, and haste was made to secure what corn was ready, but much too soon showers and gloomy days came, and the farmers stacked corn which was really not fit, the consequence of which will be that it will not be fit to thrash for some time, even if the sample is not spoilt as well. If they had known that the past week or two would have been so bright, it would have been better to have left it out.

Corn Crops.

The wheat crops round here are good, oats on the average, barley good straw, but grain slightly damaged in most cases with rain. If the weather had been favourable, I think the harvest crops of 1907 would have been much above the average of former years. H. G. B.

September 18, 1907.

Northumberland (North).

Good Harvest Weather.

Harvesting general. Barley mostly cut. Oats harvest commencing.

The last week has been good harvest weather, with hot sun by day and a touch of frost at night. Grain somewhat shaken by wind two days ago, but general conditions and outlook for harvest favourable.

Roots Backward

Roots, having been late sown, are backward, with some exceptions, and below the average for the time of year. E. M.

September 18, 1907.

Nottinghamshire (North).

The week's splendid weather has enabled farmers to harvest their corn in grand condition, and a general impression seems to prevail that most of the crops are a fair average except barley, which leaves a little to be desired.

Increased Cost of Harvests.

The cost of the ingathering will be considerably enhanced in too many places because the heavy sou ing rains laid the crops badly, and they have had to be invariably cut by hand. In many pieces the reapers would only work one way in a satisfactory manner, hence this drawback delayed the progress of reaping.

With a continuance of fine weather the bulk of the harvest will soon be secured in good condition. The rather heavy dews are retarding leading in the early part of the day, but the bright and glorious sunshine has enabled farmers to make capital progress; in fact, the weather has really been of an ideal character, for which all ought to be doubly thankful.

Oats Best—Barley Lacking.

Oats are probably the best crop after all, but wheat and barley are generally a fair average; but barley will doubtless be lacking in colour and quality, owing to the great absence of sunshine during the early ripening period.



A HARVEST SCENE.

Better Outlook.

However, crops are turning out in some cases better than was at one time anticipated, and farmers regard the present prospects cheerfully.

Thrashing Results.

Not much thrashing has yet been attempted, and where done has been attended with moderate results, owing to the moist, soft state of the grain. However, the yield has been fairly good, especially oats, for 6 to 8 qr. per acre and even more has been produced. It is fully expected that wheat and barley will be very indifferent in the sample, and the yield will be disappointing to many, there being a prevailing deficiency in the ear.

Stacked too Early.

Then, again, farmers have been far too anxious, and have led their corn before being ready, hence not a few stacks have been pulled in pieces and restacked owing to heating, many fields being overrun with weeds and a profusion of young clover. The grain really required more field-room to enable it to dry well.

The marked autumnal feeling in the air has slackened the activity of the green crops and moderated the growth of the grass.

The Root Crops.

Mangolds still look well and prosperous, but the same cannot be said of swedes, for they are attacked by mildew, but common turnips are doing much better so far.

Potatoes the Poorest Crop of the Year.

The potato crop is not satisfactory, but growers are anxiously hoping that the tubers will be less diseased than already reported, but there is little of a reassuring nature. The prospects are neither better nor worse, however there is a consensus of opinion that the tubers are the poorest crop of the year.

Some say a small yield often pays far better than a bountiful return, as prices fluctuate in sympathy with the supply and demand.

Live Stock.

The lamb trade seems to be fairly brisk, as well as sheep. The live stock generally are reported to be healthy, and grazing beasts have done very well this season, leaving a nice margin of profit. The foal trade is not over brisk, only for tip-top animals.

The Heavy Plum Crop.

The heavy crop of Victoria plums is now engrossing attention, and there is a steady demand at rather a low price. There is a glut in plums, and they fetch as low as 4d. per stone, 1s. seems to be the general run. There will be a poor crop of honey this year.

The farming outlook is not bad, taken all round.

September 18, 1907. AGRESTIC.

Hunts.

The past fortnight of grand harvest weather has effected a marvellous change in the appearance of the arable land in this county.

Results of the Fine Weather.

The immediate results include the following important ones:—

The corn on the uplands is mainly in the stack, and much of it secured against rain.

The horses and men are freed sooner than was for one moment anticipated to prepare for seeding the autumn crops in the form of manuring and ploughing the land.

The almost certain loss sustained from a protracted harvest, especially should it be a late one, is saved and the condition of the corn has been vastly improved even if the quality be not very much better than it would otherwise have been.

The Wheat Outlook.

Farmers will now be able to thresh their corn at any time, but so far they have certainly not made as much use of the threshing machine as is usual during and immediately succeeding harvest. This we may take as a proof of their belief in at least a continuance, if not an advance on, the recently-improved values of cereals, due not so much to the shortage of our own crops, but even in this the reduced area has some effect, associated as it is with a promised yield of not over an average—as to the poor harvests in those countries which are forced to ship their surplus to our country to be sold at just what it will fetch or the bears and bulls will allow.

The Fen lands have given better returns of late seasons than the high lands, owing to really good crops of corn and the growth of potatoes, celery, &c. This year the yield of corn in that district will be poor, with quality below the average. There have been complaints also of the potato crop, whether groundless or not remains to be proved. This splendid weather is in favour of the crop. S. S.

September 18, 1907.

Monmouthshire.

The weather of the last fortnight has "saved the situation," which had become extremely critical. Now most of the corn has been secured in good condition. Oats are a big crop and the quality good. Wheat average bulk, quality fair, not equal to last year. Barley perhaps average quantity, but inferior quality.

Hay Lacking in Feeding Value.

A considerable amount of hay has also been secured recently in bright condition, but there is, of course, little "feeding" value in it, though it will be useful for wintering store stock.

Roots an Average Crop.

Roots are an average crop, but far from clean. Grass abundant, and stock of all kinds should fully maintain their price. R. S.

September 19, 1907.

Somerset.

This season seems to be a month in arrear, and I do not think it can recover itself. The springtime was constant changes, attended with wet, cloudy, chilly coldness and but little sun and much easterly wind, which has been the chief cause no doubt.

Corn Harvest Completed.

Our corn harvest is just completed, and this month has been most favourable with good weather, certainly more bright days than any other month. Corn, wheat, barley, and oats nearly an average crop; hay three quarters.

Roots Below Average.

Roots a plant, but are wanting rain, and cannot make up to an average unless we get an exceptional mild and growing time.

Apple Failure.

The apple crop, which promised to be good at first, failed to hold, and will not be more than one-third of a crop.

Grass is shrinking, but as yet live stock are healthy and doing well.

September 18, 1907. A. B.

Suffolk (West).

We commenced cutting winter oats on August 12. The weather was very stormy for the first ten days; since then we have had good weather.

Wheat Light, Oats Good.

The wheat is a light crop and not an average. Oats are good and over an average. Winter beans are a fair crop, but will not yield according to bulk of straw—about an average.

Barley Spoiled by the Weather.

Barley is the principal crop. We had a fine season for sowing. Weather good till May, then we had between two and three inches of rain in less than ten days, which completely destroyed some fields on the mixed soiled land. The cold weather—no sun and frosty nights—has made the quality bad, and very little good malting barley in this neighbourhood. This crop is much under an average. It has taken a deal of time and patience to get into stack, as there was so much clover in the sheaves. Most of the barley is now carried, but it will take another week to get in the harvest. G. M.

September 18, 1907.

Sussex

At the commencement of harvest we had unfavourable weather. No large amount of rain, but often sufficient to stop harvest operations, and very little sun. In fact, the absence of sun and drying winds has been our great difficulty.

Corn Yield.

As to yield it is early days to speak, but I do not fancy the wheat is going to yield well. On this farm I have a very good crop of oats and very long straw; but I hear that on the Weald, on the stiff clays, the straw is short.

Peas are a fair crop; beans will not yield well. Roots are suffering from want of rain.

Sheep (especially lambs) are fetching fancy prices, and there does not seem room for much margin when they are sold.

Rain Wanted.

Rain is wanted to enable us to get on with ploughing. H. R.

September, 18, 1907.

Scotland (Inverness, Ross, Nairn, and Elgin).

The crop of barley and oats are very heavy ones this season, especially in Rossshire, double the bulk of straw on last year; very little wheat grown. The hay crop a heavy one and secured, the turnip crop not so heavy as last year, but an average and daily improving.

The Potato Crop.

Not so heavy as last season, but about Inverness an average one, quality excellent and no disease, but in some parts of the country the crops were partly destroyed by early frost and hindered the growth of the late varieties. Aberdeenshire was the worst county with the effect of frost.

Prospects of Heavy Grain.

The weather here is everything desirable for harvesting, fine dry winds and also sun shining daily. There is very little of the crop secured as yet, but the work is going ahead cutting the crop. The fields of oats and barley look lovely all over, and the grain full and plump, so that the grain will be sure to weigh heavy this season.

A great deal of the crops are lodged on account of the bulk of straw, and scythes are more required than usual upon the whole. As far as I can see from my own eye witness there is more than an average crop of both grain and straw this season in all the northern counties of Scotland. If the present fine weather continues most of the crops in the lowlands will be secured, but before the crops on the highlands and late districts are ripe and secured it will take the month of October before the whole crop is under cover.

In reference to live stock, yesterday's sales here (Inverness) were very dull, and prices for both cattle and sheep were back in price, but prime stock for butchers were high. Young pigs, four to six weeks old, were sold from 5s. 6d. to 13s. each; large pigs very high. Fowls very high. Eggs: Local pens, 1s. 6d. per dozen. Butter, 1s. 2d. and 1s. 3d. per lb. at Inverness Market on Thursday.

A Weather Prediction,

I must state that our growers have no reason to complain of the crops this season, and as far as my experience of the weather for the last fifty years can lead me, we are to have good weather up to January, 1908. J. C.

September 18, 1907.

Lincolnshire Notes.

THE Lincolnshire Farmers' Union has a somewhat ticklish job on. It is investigating the case of a farmer who has been given notice to quit for no apparent reason. His rent is regularly paid and his holding well cultivated, and there is nothing he can suggest to which his landlord might reasonably take exception. The Union will, of course, thoroughly inquire into all the circumstances by taking action, and, in any event, the problem by them is one of considerable delicacy. But if, as is very likely, the question turns out to be a mere misunderstanding between occupier and landlord, their intervention as arbitrators should be of great value to both sides.

THE Wilton Rural Council has always been on the track of the motor. It is now trying to stir up the county council to a crusade. It has resolved unanimously to call the attention of the Kesteven County authority to the dust caused on and the injury done to the roads by the motor traffic, and also to the inactivity of the police in the matter. What steps the council will take remains to be seen. The rural councils convictions on the matter are very strong. In the picturesque language of Mr. E. W. Howard they assert that the roads are being turned from the King's highway into a "fools' paradise." Also that the fast running tyres do more damage to the roads than a four-ton wagon. It is possible I hope that the county council will take up the challenge.

THE Board of Agriculture's return as to land under cultivation shows the following figures as to the county of Lincolnshire:—

	1907. Acres.	1906. Acres.	1905. Acres.
Wheat.....	156,453	171,407	176,771
Barley.....	197,681	201,694	189,798
Oats.....	133,711	126,651	127,576
Potatoes...	62,297	65,136	79,564

THIS county heads the list in regard to all four commodities, and the figures are not nearly so eloquent of decreasing cultivation as we have been led to expect.

COMPARED with the figures of the whole country some interesting percentages are revealed:—

	Lincoln. Per cent.	Gt. Britain. Per cent.
Wheat	—8·7	—7·4
Barley	—1 9	—2·2
Oats	x5·5	x2 6
Potatoes	—4·3	—3·0

x increase over 1906, — decrease from 1906.

AS to the live stock, there are 73,664 horses in the county, which is about 1,200 less than last year. This figure also tops the list, Norfolk coming next with 66,539, and the West Riding with 61,284. In the matter of cattle the West Riding leads with 278,478; Devon follows with 296,965, Lincoln coming next with 250,574, or 5,000 less than twelve months ago. In sheep, Northumberland (1,122,180) is far and away first, Lincoln running second with 990,664, which is a little over 3,000 below last year. The land of pork is Suffolk (158,101 pigs), with Somerset (128,266) next, and Lincoln (166,323) third. But the Lincoln total figure reveals a very satisfactory increase, last year's total being 99,752.

THE newly-formed Lincolnshire Hay Dealers' Association has had its first encounter. At a committee meeting held on Friday Mr. W. H. Brown, the secretary, read the reply of the railway companies to the association's complaint in regard to demurrage charges on trucks standing under load. The companies refuse to budge. Having regard to the unreasonable detentions which they have had to suffer, the regulation, they say, is their last and only alternative. The association's next move is an application to the Board of Trade. A wiser decision, it seems to me, was also arrived at later. The committee agreed to meet again and discuss terms of compromise.

A WELL-KNOWN agriculturist and a mighty hunter passed away on Thursday in the person of Mr. Christopher Bell Robson, of Cawkwell Manor, near Louth. Mr. Robson was one of the pioneers in the establishment of the Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn breed and a successful breeder of the Long Wools. He was a regular follower of the Southwold hounds, a puppy walker, and a judge at the hunt steeplechases. He was known throughout the kingdom as a judge of Hackneys and Hunters.

THERE were fair prices made at the Lincoln September ram sales. The highest average for ewes was 93s., which was made by Mr. J. H. Headland, of Potterhanworth. In gimmers Mr. G. W. Stephenson, of South Thoresby, carried off the highest price of 13½ guineas, eight of his sheep averaging £9. The top priced ram belonged to Mr. John Brocklebank, of Bassingham, who made 16 guineas for it. Prices of 15½ and 15 guineas ruled fairly common during the fair.

THE harvest is confounding the prophets. In some parts of the country the yield is said to be equal even to that of last year. One farmer in the Bourne district talks of 500 quarters from one field, which is the biggest harvest he has ever had. And, generally, farmers are finding that the threshing machine is bringing them the most delightful surprises.

IN spite of a bad breeding year, there was a good entry for the Boston and District Foal Show. The quality, too, was an improvement on several previous years. Messrs. Drewery and Sons, of Dorrington, carried off the Shire Horse Society's silver medal for the best Shire mare filly or foal eligible for the stud book.

A NOVEL incident occurred last week in a remote part of the parish of Pinchbeck, says a South Lincolnshire paper. A well-known farmer had let the cutting of a field of oats at per acre The men who took the work found it so badly laid that it promised to be a less remunerative bargain than they anticipated. The farmer declined to vary his contract, and the men refused to cut the oats. The farmer determined not to be beaten. On the following Monday three new reapers drawn by twelve magnificent horses, accompanied by half a score of men, with the farmer in his trap in the rear, entered the field of several acres.

IT was a perplexing task, and every now and again the reapers broke under the strain. The farmer held on, however, sometimes taking a hand at driving a reaper himself. Ere dusk arrived, the whole of the field had been cut; the long procession of splendid Shires, reapers, and workmen, with the employer again in his trap in the rear, returned home in very high spirits. The farmer determined not to be beaten; and he conquered under conditions which were probably unique in this district.

At Howden September horse fair on Monday there was one of the poorest displays of animals known for many years past. There was a fair attendance of dealers, but the animals on parade did not exceed fifty, and they were chiefly of an inferior class. Business was consequently very slow, and very few changed hands. Three Cart horses made £40 to £65 each, and a few Coachers realised £35 to £40.

Unique Harvest Festival.—The vicar and churchwardens of All Hallows, Barking, by the Tower—the parish church of Mark Lane and the Corn Exchange—are inviting parishioners connected with the Corn Exchange and others to join in a short, simple service of thanksgiving for the harvest on Monday, October 14, at 1.15 p.m. The Archdeacon of London has promised to preach. The collection will be for the Corn Exchange Benevolent Society.

The September Fair at Iron Acton was well attended, but the supply was not up to the average either in quantity or quality, and trade was somewhat dull, foals being in chief demand. Good useful sucking colts realised from £12 to £16 each, whilst others of the same class fetched from £5 to £10 each. A few cart horses of useful description were on offer, about £40 being the highest figure secured, whilst the majority were put at prices much below this sum, and in many instances failed to find a purchaser. For inferior animals sales were very sluggish and figures low. Of hacks there was a limited supply, and scarcely any noteworthy prices were obtained. The supply of store cattle was also somewhat small, and comprised principally a batch of Irish yearlings, of which only about a fifth were sold, notwithstanding the abundance of keep in the neighbourhood. The few pens of sheep in the fair commanded a brisk sale, two-tooths selling up to 54s. 6d. per head, ewes making 46s. 6d., and lambs 25s. 6d. per head.

POTATO FUNGI.

(*Continued from page 335.*)

Thus, when we cook a potato we break down its component parts and permit quicker decomposition. But when we slice a raw potato, the starch evidently counteracts the possibility of the same thing occurring until a very long time has elapsed. The germs of disaster would, or might, however, be contained within it, only awaiting opportunities for spreading its exertions. At this juncture I can emphasise the point I am driving at. If, when planting potatoes, the seeds or "eyes" are divided we have an exposed surface of flesh, disclosing its cells and starch granules in direct contact with the soil. A reference to No 5 will be useful at this stage. The continued heat and moisture—sun, soil-warmth, and rain—would little by little put the flesh into almost the same condition as if it had been boiled, and by decomposing the starch and cellulose tissue permit spores washed against it to ramify through it and impregnate its growing sprouts. Spores from the grey fan fungus with which potato skins are densely covered, unless it is removed purposely, might get among the cells; but being prevented from developing into a black-ball form by the pressure of soil grains, would have some other mysterious and dangerous influence. Thus I desire to show the folly of cutting seed potatoes when planting; and that this is not a mere useless presumption on my part I will prove by referring to the series of valuable and extensive experiments undertaken by Messrs. Sutton and Sons in October, 1906. Their 48 page illustrated booklet would be found of inestimable use to all growers; but I must content myself on this occasion with basing my discourse on one text only, or at least chiefly.

A stock of Magnum Bonum was grown continuously from 1876—thirty years—on one estate in North Devon, and was reproduced successfully by Messrs. Sutton and Sons. To quote fully from page 38 of the booklet referred to will be best.

"The case . . . . is especially remarkable in that our client, who kindly supplied the seed, states that no deterioration whatever has taken place since he procured the stock originally, and that he attributes his success to the fact that (1) he always raised his crop before it became thoroughly ripe, and (2) he has never cut his seed, but always planted whole sets."

To me, as a microscopist, the remark bracketted (2) is of immense importance; and before I go further I should state that the Board of Agriculture (leaflet No. 117) dealing with advice concerning black-leg or potato stem-rot, says:—"Potato 'sets' must not be cut, but the tubers should be planted entire."

Could anything more authoritative be required—advice and practical demonstration? I do but endeavour to explain why such courses are desirable.

Although the skin of a potato may be covered with the grey-fan fungus, if planted whole the toughness of the coat will not allow either the spores from it or any other fungus to enter the flesh; and if kept outside the store all fungi are as helpless as thieves outside a strong-room. Provide them with but one weak spot, though, and in they go, stealthily inflicting damage wherever they touch. But the entire skin allows the sprouts to extend within their own coverlets, or epidermis, without giving access to invading germs.

An experiment which would, on bare surface reflections, seem to discount the value of these statements, is contained in the announcement that the same firm planted potatoes contaminated—only slightly though—with the beastly disease *phytophthora infestans* (*see* Board of Agriculture Leaflet No. 23 for this disease), and yet raised good crops therefrom. A few important points, however, should be borne in mind. Such excellent and eminently practical gardeners as they are would doubtless have thoroughly well-prepared soil ready to receive the tubers, and thus possibly—I say possibly—the germs would be destroyed. On the other hand, the inherent vigour of the stock might have been sufficient to grow away from its contamination, just as a strong man will resist microbial attack better than a weak one receiving the same degree of onslaught. Or, the germs may have required the addition of some additional and sympathetic atoms—as the seed embryo of a flower needs pollen—before it could continue its activity. Or they may be lying dormant in that soil ready to attack a succeeding crop, not, perhaps, having had an opportunity of getting matured. It is not possible, in the present state of our knowledge, to speak dogmatically on these things. We can only each add our own ideas, making collectively a grand total of experience and research.

Experiments made with tubers having brown streaks and brown spots in them yielded comparatively poor results. As these diseases are, however, believed to be hardly fungoidal in basis, I will not discuss the experiment except to say that there is no reason to suppose that germs or bacteria might not imitate a malformation of vascular bundles, without actually reproducing themselves. In speaking of the black-leg or stem-rot, the Board of Agriculture says (leaflet No. 117):—"The disease is primarily caused by a bacterium; but as decay proceeds, various kinds of fungi—*i.e.*, moulds, &c, assist in the completion of the work." In fact, the whole series of diseases is instituted by Nature for the purpose of decomposing substances which have become weak through our ignorance of some vital principle or another. In our haste we may unduly force one feature to the detriment of another. We must remember that in a wild state the potato plant would produce mature seed to distribute its species, and hold its tubers in reserve as a precaution against possible extinction. I am approaching a very vexed phase of the problem here, which must be postponed until some other time before it can receive adequate attention.

What I have already said, backed up as it is by the expressions of the authorities named, should be sufficient to discourage the cutting of tubers for planting, even when no signs of disease are about. Crossing comes under a different head altogether. Inasmuch that the spores of the grey-fan fungus must be expected to adhere to most potatoes, I think growers would be recompensed by adopting the treatment suggested by the Board of Agriculture of mixing seed potatoes with sulphur after they have been thoroughly dried. This hinders the fungi considerably, and is also of great service if incorporated with suspected soil, being far preferable to lime, though the latter appears to be essential to react against undue sourness.

I fear that I shall tax the readers' credulity if, as concluding remarks, I narrate the belief expressed



Fig. 5.—Magnified slice of potato showing the cells containing the granules of starch. The lower cells have only a few grains.

a few years ago by M. Noel Bernard, a botanist in France, to the effect that the potato is itself the product of a fungus named *Fusarium solani*. As a cautionary note I must say that "*Fusariums*" are generally most dangerous parasites. I must here quote:—

"M. Bernard took sixteen tubercles of the variety called in France Marjohn, and planted them in flower-pots filled with fine silicious sand. Eight flower-pots were put aside under a glass frame. The other eight pots, in the soil of which a few chips of potato had been sown bearing *fusarium* fungus were placed in another frame house. Every one of the latter lot brought forth potatoes after a couple of months, while the eight flower-pots of the first lot were found to contain long, slender roots. . . . It is suggested that early potatoes might be obtained by sowing the soil with cultures of *Fusarium solani*."

I am not learned enough to say much on these sentences; but inasmuch that the dreadful sleepy disease of tomatoes is a *fusarium — Fusarium lycopersici*—I think it would be best to continue growing potatoes without trifling with fungi, although the above results certainly do sound interesting, and are scientifically important.

J. Scott.

We would remind Polo pony breeders that the entries for the Polo and Riding Pony Society's Supplement for 1907, open to colts and fillies—yearlings, two-year-olds, and three-year olds, close on Tuesday, October 1. Forms and full particulars can be had of the secretary, Mr. A. B. Charlton, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Future of Horse Breeding.

Sir,—In an issue of the *Live Stock Journal* of March 13, 1903, Sir Walter Gilbey deals most ably with the subject of the serious decline of horse breeding in England. One would have thought that the facts and convincing figures contained in his letter must have before now borne some fruit—either that the Government through its Board of Agriculture, or a body of English gentlemen anxious to help the tenant farmer of England in the first instance and the country generally in the second, would have made some movement in the four years and a half which have elapsed since the valuable letter I quote was published.

As far as I know, nothing practical has been done, which is most astonishing when we consider that some 30,000 horses more are required in England than we can produce, representing an outlay of something like £1,000,000 a year, which sum finds its way into the pocket of the foreigner, and that these horses could easily and profitably be bred at home, given that the Government made a practical move aided by a few such philanthropic landowners as Sir Walter Gilbey and more I could mention, surely it is high time a remedy was prescribed by some influential body.

To quote the figures Sir Walter Gilbey gives, and so refresh the memories of your readers, 373,021 horses were imported in ten years—1893 to 1902 inclusive—valued at £9,698,831, or about £26 each, Sir Walter suggesting that £35 apiece would be much nearer the mark, as a large proportion of this number were high-class carriage-horses from Normandy and Germany, worth no doubt from 50 to 100 guineas each; and as no one could possibly take exception to such valuation, the cash paid would represent £13,055,735 for ten years' purchases! We are, however, bound to look at our export side of the question. From the figures given by Sir Walter we see that, from 1893 to 1902, 271,916 horses were exported, valued at £6,485,727, clearly a fictitious value, bearing in mind that many thousands of these horses were exported to be slaughtered, and therefore possibly not worth more than £3 each.

As the figures are most clearly given, I strongly recommend all persons who are interested to peruse the article, and note what Sir Walter says, especially paragraphs from 14 to 23 inclusive. Such stallions as the Government should find ought not to be entirely Thoroughbreds, but include fine-actioned, bay or brown, Hackneys, and bloodlike Yorkshire Coach horses.

The sum now given for King's Premium horses is not enough, and many of the prize horses are not calculated to do good, being light of bone, with very indifferent action. Action is strength, and unless a horse really moves, he does harm rather than good in a district. Let us consider what they are and from whence some of these Premium horses come.

They are horses which, from their incapability to carry weight or stay, were sent to the stud early in life. Some are winners of good races, and some are horses which started stud life with good racing credentials, and, having failed to get winners, are sent to compete for the Premiums, and so find their way, if successful, to country districts, to probably fail again on the country mare. I fancy owners and breeders of race-horses consider they do good to the country by propagating and encouraging the breeding of race-horses, but no greater mistake can be made. From the national supply point of view the whole system of breeding horses for the turf is wrong. The turf should be the means of supplying the greatly needed, strong, fine-actioned Thoroughbred sire, but, alas! this is not the case. The best and most desirable sires always start stud life at a fee far beyond the reach of ordinary breeders, and the worst and least desirable sires are not at all calculated to produce the useful half-bred horse now so much in demand; besides, if bloodstock breeding (and training) was carried on under common-sense rules, what an enormous improvement there would soon be effected in our racehorses, and therefore ultimately in our travelling sires. What end is served if racehorses are bred who win short races in some seconds less time than their former compeers?

When the future racehorse is dropped early in January, and kept for the first three months of its life in a hot box together with his dam before there is any opportunity of picking a blade of grass, it is easy to see how handicapped he must be, when compared with other breeds, from the very first. The after-management is quite as absurd; he is crammed with corn as soon as he can eat it, and is kept like a hothouse plant till the July or September twelve months following his birth, when he is sent to Newmarket or Doncaster as fat as a pig and as sleek as a mole.

When purchased by a trainer he is immediately taken in hand with a view of winning a race in the following spring, when he is two years and three months old. This fat—which has cost so

much to put on—has now, at the expense of his legs, to be galloped off, and this treatment, together with the fact of his spending the whole winter in a hot stable, must at this tender age be most trying to a good constitution, and most disastrous to a bad one. If he fails to win races, and if he has no weight and size (very common complaints), he is sold for whatever he will fetch, and if good enough finds his way into a hansom cab, but many are not equal to this.

Now surely, if breeders of racehorses for one moment considered what benefit they might do to the country, they would adopt a plan of breeding which, whilst producing good racehorses, would also fill the country with good sires. It is perfectly clear to my mind that until two-year-old racing over short courses with light-weights is put a stop to, our blood sires cannot possibly improve. No one who understands anything about horse breeding can dispute the facts that all young stock should be dropped at the proper time of the year—viz., from March 1 to middle or end of April—that they should have no corn, given that their dams are reasonably good mothers until weaning time, which should be early in September, and that they should spend their first winter and summer out at grass with, of course, a good open shed to run into, and not be broken and trained until rising three (instead of two as heretofore), and that all races be one mile and over, and that no horses should ever under any circumstances carry less than 7 stone.

If the Jockey Club made some such rules as these, in a few years' time the English turf would be adorned with good, strong-constitutioned animals, and the country filled with sires worthy of the name. Breeders tell you that they could not afford to keep the yearlings for another year before offering them for sale, forgetting that the natural treatment I suggest is very much more economical than their own as at present adopted; and surely if a breeder cannot afford this extra year's keep, he is not in a sufficiently strong financial position to attempt the game. Great efforts have been made by English gentlemen to foster and encourage the breeding of Hunters, but in very exceptional cases only is this industry profitable to the farmer.

How many farmers on any large estate are able to breed, break, and make a Hunter, and keep him until he is four off? I venture to say not 10 per cent. of any nobleman's tenantry are fitted for the job. Then to breed a Hunter for profit he should make at least £150 when he is four years old—*i.e.*, taking the risk attending his production, and the fact that one out of every three is a misfit. Governments have voted some miserable sums towards premiums for often very miserable animals to compete for, and many of these sires are not very welcome or meet with great support in the district they travel.

I contend that if Government aided a movement in support of supplying to breeders very high-class Yorkshire Coach horses and the highest class possible Hackney stallions, whole-coloured bays and browns, free from all white, they would be doing a great service to the country.

Take, for instance, the best class of American trotters, such horses as George Hummer or Red Cloud, being good hacks, good trappers, good sires, and great travellers. It would be interesting to see the result of a cross betwixt a fine-actioned Yorkshire Coach horse, and an equally high-class, whole-coloured Hackney mare, and also *vice versâ*. Now I am of the opinion that should such produce not turn out as high-class carriage horses, worth £500 the pair, they would become what Sir Walter Gilbey speaks of in his letter, paragraph 2, as "a useful horse." He would carry a man (at ordinary work) or an officer in a cavalry regiment, or, failing this, he would pull a ton of coals and become an excellent farm horse, whereas the product of an ordinary premium stallion on the ordinary farmer's mare—if he should not turn out as a Hunter, or from any infirmity is unable to draw a dog-cart or a doctor's gig—is too light to work in draughts, and ends his days as he began them, in an unprofitable manner.

In short, it has been admitted that the result of premium horses travelling districts has not been so beneficial as was expected, therefore it would appear to be fitting and proper that the present Government should take steps in other directions to aid in the production of some other than the Hunter horse, and so to some degree encourage the English farmer to breed horses of a class suitable for sale or use at home. Hunter breeding has enriched very few tenant farmers, and to my knowledge has made scores poor. In a leading article of March 13, 1903, in the *Live Stock Journal*, the following paragraph occurs:—

"The War Office have apparently decided to maintain the old system, with certain necessary modifications of details, and they have announced to the Hunters' Improvement Society that they do not intend to buy young horses. The only plan therefore is to keep the subject constantly before the public, and ultimately some action may be forced upon the authorities by the nation."

It is now four years and six months since these lines were written, and the same time since Sir Walter's letter appeared in print, and as far as I know the authorities have not been forced into action, and there is no appearance of their being moved. But whilst we are muddling through, it is regrettable that some English noblemen do not bring this urgent matter before the House in a forcible manner.

The Royal Commission on Horse Breeding has issued its eleventh annual report, and therein you find that nothing more can be done until the Government think fit to find more money to augment the miserable amount now provided, wherby some twenty-eight stallions are subsidised to travel various districts.

It is reasonable to say that these twenty-eight sires cannot get more than thirty-five or forty foals each, so that under the most liberal calculations only 1,120 can be bred in the year, and this when Sir Walter affirms that we require 30,000 more horses annually than we now breed. A conference called by the Board of Agriculture was held, I believe, on October 31, 1906, when the Commissioners pointed out the paucity of stallions and their inability to do more without a further subsidy. I am afraid that in eleven months no more has been done by the Government.

Despite the efforts of the Hunters' Improvement Society, I fear Hunters are not more easily found in, say, East Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, Westmorland, Shropshire, or other districts, or even in Ireland—at least, all big dealers tell you how difficult it is to supply their customers now as compared with thirty years ago. No doubt many breeders felt unable to refuse tempting offers from foreigners for their best mares. If, even with the help of the Hunters' Improvement Society, their Stud Book, and their approved half-bred Hunter sires, Hunter breeding is not remunerative, surely the time has arrived when Government might step in and supply, free of all cost for approved mares, sires of great weight and size with really good action, for use of tenant farmers.

A misfit, rather light Hunter is next door to worthless, but a very common gelding of good colour, with fine action, can be turned into cash any moment.

Since writing this letter I see that Lord Carrington, in a speech the other day, said that 10,000 fewer foals were dropped this year than the year previous. Surely, then, the Government should require no further evidence as to the necessity of making a national move in the matter of horse breeding.—Yours, &c.,

R. L. Angas.

Estate Office, Blenheim Palace, Woodstock,
September 16, 1907.

The Abortion Ravages.

Sir,—The letter which appeared under this heading on p. 307 of the issue for September 9 from Mr. Wilton Allsebrook, deals with a subject of great interest and importance to dairymen and cowkeepers, and all readers of this journal will appreciate the motive which prompted him to write it, but somehow his remarks are not very convincing as to the cure of this "insidious disease," as Mr. Allsebrook calls it, being due to the treatment adopted; and what is most apparent is the advertisement for some preparation said to be the "discovery" of a veterinary surgeon, and to "contain ingredients of which he alone knows."

This "discovery" is said to be "the result of a long and painstaking series of experiments," and the "latest preparation," which Mr. Allsebrook used, is mentioned as having been "successful wherever tried," but the question is to what extent has it been tried? Although striving to keep abreast of the times, and reading with avidity every item bearing upon the subject of epizootic or contagious abortion appearing in agricultural or veterinary journals, we have never come across any reference to this preparation or its employment, and so far as Mr. Allsebrook's own case is concerned, the fortunate result may or may not have been due to the treatment adopted.

It is noted that Mr. Allsebrook's troubles commenced in 1904, or about three years ago. Well, many observers have noted the fact that abortion may be present in a herd for a period of three years, and may then disappear, although no preventive treatment has been used. Professor Cave, who conducted experiments on behalf of the Board of Agriculture, and whose report is embodied in the Leaflet (No. 108) on "Contagious Abortion in Cattle," issued by the Board, makes reference to the spontaneous disappearance of the disease through lapse of time, and there is not the least doubt but that many of the so-called remedies owe their reputation to having been tried at a time when, if the expression may be permitted, the disease had worn itself out. Unless a remedy for any disease has proved effective over a wide area, and for a long period under varying conditions, it cannot be accepted as a certain cure, and those most apt to publicly vaunt the thing as "sure," because within their limited experience there has been apparently beneficial results, are generally those who are least able to appreciate the importance of the long arm of coincidence where the treatment of animal diseases is concerned. As before remarked, we appreciate Mr. Allsebrook's motives, and his desire to help his fellows by describing his experience, but we have heard much the same thing before about abortion remedies, and it is a pity that the one in question consists of a preparation containing ingredients of which the discoverer alone knows the secret. The strange thing about this is that veterinary surgeons, like their medical confrères, are not supposed to dabble in secret remedies, and that every "discovery" is to be disclosed for the benefit of the profession and suffering humanity, which in this case would include the unfortunate farmer and dairyman losing by the aborting of his cows.

The veterinary surgeon in question may not, perhaps, thank Mr. Allsebrook for the use of his name or the recommendation of his "preparation" or "discovery" under such circumstances as those under notice, and might be somewhat more modest with reference to its certainty.—Yours, &c., M.R.C.V.S.

September 18, 1907.

Why is the Labourer's Vote Antagonistic to the Farmer?

Sir,—Will you allow me to make a suggestion *re* a matter that is coming to be regarded as of the first importance to the future success of British agriculture—viz., the formation of an agricultural Party in the House of Commons? The great difficulty in the way of the whole thing is the attitude the labourers might adopt towards it.

What I have to suggest is that any opposition on their part could easily be removed if farmers would adopt the co-operative system of selling their produce. Almost the whole of what a labourer's family consumes as food is produced on the farm where he works, and under the co-operative system these commodities could be supplied to him at a little over the cost of production.

The root cause of the labourer's political opposition to the farming class lies in the fact that with the small spending power of their wages they are entirely exposed to the vagaries of the market. What I have suggested would remove all that.

Bread is a considerable item of consumption in a labourer's household, and will serve as an illustration of what I mean. Instead of selling it to merchants, farmers should send their wheat to co-operative mills to be ground. Then when a man went to the factory for flour or bread, he would only have to show that he was a *bona-fide* labourer in order to obtain it at 50 per cent. less than he now is compelled to give.

And if he could obtain oats, barley, beef, mutton, bacon, butter, cheese, milk, eggs, poultry, fruit on more or less the same scale, the position he would be placed in is obvious.

I expect I shall be told that what I am suggesting is a large order. I do not think it is so "large" as some people may imagine. Farmers already everywhere are talking of putting down oil engines for the purpose of grinding their own barley and for similar purposes. This seems to point to the fact that they are getting a little tired of being bled by the middleman.

But why not do the thing properly? Why not do it on co-operative lines, which is the only method that has been found really successful? And why not in so doing it make an attempt to consolidate the agricultural interests?

Every thoughtful man knows that the relation between master and man is a subject that will have to be tackled in the near future.

Why should not agriculturists show the way?—Yours, &c., Joseph Clark.

Sunday Labour During Harvest.

Sir,—Being much interested in the "Lincolnshire Notes" in the Mark Lane Express, I could not help feeling indignant at the gentleman who talks about turning the "one day of rest" into a working day.

If he had seen the tired men and horses night after night as I have done, I think he would say: "Thank God for the Sunday." Perhaps he does not make hay when the sun shines.—Yours, &c., Farmer's Wife.

September 19, 1907.

Carrots Gone to Seed.

Sir,—Of two acres of carrots that I drilled the middle of May nine-tenths have gone to seed (White Belgium sort). Query, is it the season or the seed? A. B.

Masham Cattle Fair was held on Wednesday, when the show of stock was about an average but trade was very slow throughout the day owing to the scarcity of buyers, and prices ruled in buyers' favour. The best milch cows were quoted from £16 10s. to £20 per head; and secondary cows from £14 to £16. Calving heifers fetched from £11 to £13 per head. Grazing stock in good supply, but trade was almost stagnant, farmers being too busy harvesting. Yearling bullocks, £5 10s. to £6 5s. per head; two-year-olds, £8 10s. to £11; and three-year-olds forward in condition from £11 10s. to £13 a piece. A good show of young bulls, which were quoted from £10 to £12 per head.



The 1907 Hop Crops.

England.

There is now no reasonable room for doubt that our previous optimism with regard to the yield of our plantations must be entirely set aside. One of our most skilful and successful growers writes saying:—

"In this district we shall not grow as many as last year. My Bramblings do not average 6½ cwt. per acre, and I have the best crop of any round here. No pains or expense has been spared to get a crop, and I have every facility for washing, &c., in the best up-to-date manner. It is the climate that has beaten us. One of my neighbours will not pick his hops at all. Last year my average was 14 cwt., this year I doubt if it will be 8 cwt., and I don't believe this district will average over 4 to 5 cwts.

This letter only echoes many reports I have received from other districts both in the South and the Midlands. It was stated freely at Worcester Fair last week that the average for Worcestershire and Herefordshire is not likely to exceed 6 cwt, and the details to hand from Kent, Sussex, Surrey, and Hants uniformly show that earlier estimates are quite beside the mark, as the yield is everywhere, with very few exceptions, disappointing. My friend hits the blot when he says "the climate has beaten us," for although it is a popular desire that "September may blow soft till the fruit is in the loft," the genial weather has arrived too late for the hops.

My hope that the bine, which has been inured to climatic changes during the past few months, would still stand the trials of recent cold misty nights and warm days, has faded away as regards the fruiting, for although appearances were favourable up to the commencement of picking, it is clear that the absence of sunshine in the earlier months has hindered the condition of the cones, which in most cases are very small and spongy, and wanting in the weight that is necessary for a heavy yield.

There is, however, some comfort to be gleaned from the fact that we cannot anticipate a heavier harvest than 350,000 to 360,000 cwt. Consumers will be conscious that they must lay in stocks if they wish to provide for their requirements, and we may hope that they will soon commence to operate, and that the dulness which has depressed our market for so long a period will speedily disappear, and an active demand, with marked improvement in values, will be established.

America.

The information referred to in my last report as to the reduced estimates of the yield in the U.S.A. is confirmed by letters received this week. My correspondent in California writes under date September 1:—

"We have finished harvesting, our green weight is 30 per cent. less than 1906. We are 2,600 bales short, and all California is equally deficient, say 75,000 to 80,000 bales as against 107,000 last year. Until a few days ago it was claimed that Oregon would produce 150,000 to 170,000 bales. But early rains came and mould is very general. I hear by wire that half the hops will not be picked owing to mould. Pickers are scarce and wages are high; money is tight, and many renters cannot get money owing to the low prices ruling. Dealers want contracts at 7 to 8 cents, which means heavy loss to growers. We now calculate that the U.S.A. crop this year will not exceed 245,000 bales, and our home consumption is from 275,000 to 300,000 bales. Our yield this year, with the stocks of yearlings on hand, will therefore just about satisfy our requirements."

Another friend writes from Washington State:—"At the present moment it is impossible for us to estimate the crops in Oregon and Washington. There are a great many growers who state positively that they will not harvest their hops owing to the unfavourable market outlook, and also on account of the prevalence of mould in Oregon. The Washington crop is in fair condition at present, but it is impossible to predict how many hops will be picked in these two States. We believe, however, that when it is all over a large part will be safely harvested. While the crop of the United States will certainly be smaller than it was last year, it will, nevertheless be large enough for all purposes."

There is another important feature in this connection that must not be overlooked—the production and consumption of beer in the United States is largely increasing.

According to the official returns for the year ending last June 58,546,111 barrels of beer were brewed in the preceding twelve months, showing an increase upon the preceding year of 3,894,474 barrels. Taking an average of only one pound of hops per barrel, which I understand is generally accepted as correct, it means that 34,772 cwt. more hops are now required by American brewers than was formerly the case, and English growers may reasonably congratulate themselves thereupon.

How are the Markets?

London.

The Borough traders are disappointed by the results of business thus far. The samples hitherto offered for sale are generally unattractive in quality, being short of colour and condition. Some of them have evidently been picked "to save their lives," being immature, rough, and muddy. Such samples are naturally of low value, and their presence on the boards has tended to depress demand and depreciate the tone of the market. Coloury samples are, however, eagerly sought after, and have been easily sold, but unfortunately prices have not been adequate to the shortness of the supply.

I have heard of some lots changing hands at 30s. to 40s., and although there are rumours of a choice lot or two being sold at 80s., I cannot produce evidence that more than 70s. has been realised. The chief business done has ranged from 50s. to 60s., and even at these low figures the volume of trade has been comparatively small. Within the last day or two there are indications that the diminution of the crop is being better understood, enquiries are now more frequent, and merchants seem to be coming out of their seclusion and interesting themselves in the course of the trade.

It is probable that during next week we shall recognise more favourable symptoms of renewed life, and, indeed, there are already to be observed the shadows that are cast before the "coming events" for which we are anxiously waiting. I have good hopes for the future. Brewers must be wanting new hops, their stocks must be pretty well exhausted, and now they are assured that neither from England, America, or the Continent will the supplies be over-abundant, they will certainly be induced to buy "early and often." Once the ball is set rolling it must continue on its way, gathering strength as it goes, I have therefore confidence that there are better times in front of our growers, who certainly need all the help they can get, to compensate them for the trying experience of the past year.

A Worcestershire Hop Farm.

It was my privilege last week to enjoy a rapid run from Paddington to the "faithful City" of Worcester. The journey under sunny skies and through smiling country which seemed to be revelling in the genial climate of our September summer, was most delightful. This being followed by a drive through the ancient city and the villages of Hallow, Grimley, and Holt, presenting so many and varied scenes of rural beauty, my pleasure was enhanced to such an extent that I was almost sorry when it came to an end. From the main road I was conducted through meadows shaded by lofty trees, and was eventually welcomed at Northingtown, the noted farm of Messrs. Jones Brothers.

It was fortunate that my arrival coincided with the advent of the great crowd of hop-pickers, who, to the number of about 1,500, had been brought down the river Severn in steamers specially chartered for their accommodation. They tramped past the homestead, men, women, and children from Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Dudley, and other towns in the so-called "Black Country," evidently full of anticipation of a pleasant holiday. Their quarters were ready for them; the more experienced rushed to take possession of the most comfortable positions, and although others, who might be visiting the plantations for the first time, opened their eyes when they realised that they would occupy lodgings that may truthfully be described as primitive, they were all speedily settled in their temporary homes, in barns and tents, furnished with an abundance of fresh rustling straw.

Good humour and fun were everywhere evident, and soon the orchards and adjoining fields were dotted with groups gathered round numerous wood fires, on each of which kettles, pots, and pans were set in preparation for their evening meals. When the moon rose and illuminated the scene, it presented a picture that would have attracted and delighted an artist's eye. They were all asleep early, and perfect calm reigned throughout the farm precincts till morning.

I was awakened about five o'clock by a noisy human chattering, mingled with the crowing of cocks, the remonstrative quacking of ducks, and other well-known sounds of country life. Looking out of my window, I saw the work of the harvest beginning, in the gathering of the pickers round the cribs or bins to which they were allotted, and a long procession of pickers, each party carrying their own bin, was seen trotting off through the morning mists down to the hop yards. When I followed them, about nine o'clock, they had made a visible mark on the work. The hops were plentiful, sound, and large, and several of the bins were already nearly filled with shining cones, which promised well for the weight and quality of the crop. It was very pleasant to move about amongst them, chatting with them as their hands were busily engaged in stripping the bine. Their histories were varied, and they had many grievances and troubles to tell about, but on the whole cheerfulness and comparative contentment seemed to prevail, and they sung and gossipped at their work as if life was after all not so devoid of enjoyment, and as if they were determined at least to make the best of their present happy surroundings. The first day was representative of those following, and I had full opportunity to realise the advantages offered to these townspeople by their annual outing for hop-picking.

My short sojourn at Northingtown was made even more interesting by an examination of the arrangements for drying the hops. The skill of Messrs. Jones as growers generally secures a bounteous yield. This is the case in the present season, when such experience is by no means general. Therefore it is the more necessary for them to make ample provision for dealing with their produce efficiently at the kilns. The apparatus for drying and curing hops by hot air without permitting the cones to be affected by direct contact with the products of combustion, of which they claim to be the pioneer inventors, was fully described in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, Sept. 30, 1901. They have since always used this system with uniform success, and have now enlarged their kilns and laid down another powerful engine for the driving of a fan, which is 15 ft. in diameter, and is, I understand, the largest that has yet been applied to this purpose. Having 120 acres of hops under cultivation, they are now prepared to dry 40 tons per week, and thus far their kilns have been fully engaged this season. But even this large output does not meet the requirements of their business, which is done personally with consumers, as Messrs. Jones have great faith in the advantages accruing to both sellers and buyers in direct communication between them. Finding that their trade is increased beyond their present capacity of supply of their own growths, they have taken two of the farms in the Harbledown Valley, near Canterbury, formerly occupied by the late Mr. H. D. Barnes, and having 180 acres of hop land.

My visit to Northingtown was most satisfactory, not only by reason of the fresh country air I inhaled and the recreation of mind and body I achieved, but in the observations I was able to make of the progress in the science of hop growing and curing, which is so essential to the maintenance and prosperity of this industry in England. Our planters must keep in the forefront of the world's competition, and praise is due to those amongst them who lead others in the direction of that success, which, although it cannot be commanded, is certainly deserved.

Hop Growers' Conference.

A hop conference will be held at the South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, Kent, on Wednesday, November 27, to which all hop growers are invited.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

Advice of a Legal character is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Two Questions.

SIR,—1. Has an Act of Parliament been passed whereby a landlord is compelled to compensate a tenant to whom he has given notice to quit his farm for a frivolous cause? If so, when does this Act become law?

2. When an insured stack of hay is consumed by fire caused by over-heating, can the owner of it recover the amount of loss from the insurance company with whom he is insured against fire?

Q. Z.

*** 1. Such an Act has been passed, and is called the Agricultural Holdings Amendment Act, 1906; but it does not come into force till January, 1909. No doubt in due course its provisions will be fully explained in these columns. 2. I should think there is no doubt that he can, unless some exception is made by the policy. You have not informed me on this point, and I am ignorant of what the policy says on the matter.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

West Country Notes.

THE occurrence of a full week without rain in measureable quantity is quite an event in the present year, and it is wonderful how much has been accomplished by steady work in the period. The heat has not been so great as to afford any check upon industry, and the altogether favourable climatic conditions have been made the most of.

HARVEST festival promoters are not waiting for the harvest to be anything like over before they sing "All is safely gathered in." They still, if one may believe them, "plough the fertile meadows,"and do other extraordinary things which no agriculturist would dream of doing. But one is pleased to find that many of the more comic bits are gradually disappearing in the revision of hymns, and that the addresses on the subject of harvest and seed time are a little more suited to the facts of agriculture. In a good many places in the West the appropriate form of thanksgiving by which agriculturists in distress benefit is adopted.

I READ that thousands of people attended Newton Abbot Onion Fair, and that, except that a few horses were sold, the fair has lost all its business significance. Onions and horses have about as much in common, one would imagine, as agriculture and fishing, yet we have high authority for the two latter being associated.

NEARLY every show in the West is claiming to have a record in some way or other, and it is well that this is so, for it shows the hearty rivalry which is bound to have a good effect on the productions of crops or live stock.

IT is not always those connected with the shows who put forward the claim, and some of my friends were rather surprised to find that London dailies were setting up a claim on their behalf which they would not have thought of doing for themselves. This was in regard to the weight judging at Shepton Mallet Show for cattle. The results were certainly indicative of some of the farmers, auctioneers, dealers, and butchers knowing their business fairly well.

THE authentic return shows that three persons judged the dead weight of the steer correctly from their inspection of the living animal, six the sheep, and five the pig. One man was was only 4 lb. out on either, and had the aggregate correct. Another man was only 3 lb. out on either animal. There were two persons 1 lb. out on the aggregate weight, each animal being taken individually; four 1 lb. out on the steer, ten on the sheep, and eighteen on the pig. Those 2 lb. out in each case numbered 2, 3, 7, and 13 respectively; those 3 lb. wrong 2, 5, 5, and 22. Five were 4 lb. out on the steer, ten on the sheep, and sixteen on the pig; at 5 lb. out twenty persons were named, and at 6 to 10 lb. out eighty-eight. As about 45 per cent. of the estimates were within five points of correct it shows that the judgment was very keen.

ONE feature of the colt shows of the season is the far larger proportion of the animals than formerly which are eligible for the stud books. This indicates far more attention to breeding the best class, and to securing not only good sires but high class dams, than used to be the case. The profits are increasing accordingly, now that farmers and others are waking up to the fact that it costs no more to keep a good animal than a poor one. Even if the fees and prime cost are a little more, there is a better profit of making cent. per cent. on them.

WEST of England cider men are very well satisfied with the result of the first case to test their contention that cider is the fermented juice of the apple, and not a chemical compound. It is not a very promising year for the make, but there is ample cider in the cellars to supply the legitimate demand for the beverage for some time to come, and if the market can be secured by the rejection of the false stuff, so much the better for the genuine producer.

IF apples are out, plums are in; and it is astounding what great quantities there are in many places in the West. They are selling retail at 1d. per lb. after passing through two or three hands, so that the original price is lower than known for years. Yet they are a profitable line.

BLACKBERRIES are hardly a cultivated crop as yet, but they are of considerable value, and almost sufficiently important in some seasons to warrant the running of special trains. They are an important adjunct in such cases to the earnings of some of the cottagers. They are used not only for preserving, but also for dyeing and in the making of fruit syrups. This year the crop is abundant, but they are very late in ripening.

A LAUDABLE attempt is being made in Cornwall to start a County Dairy Show. The Hon. John Boscawen is at the head of the movement, which is meeting with a fair measure of support, and is deserving of every encouragement. The idea is to give instruction at the show of a higher type than the ordinary peripatetic lectures.

LOSTWITHIEL is one of the few places which can boast a record gate for its agricultural show on a wet day. Westerners care comparatively little about the weather on such occasions, but still a wet day does spell loss as a rule.

September 19, 1907.

Nottinghamshire Notes.

FARMERS and breeders from the lace county were present in strong force at the Loughborough show yesterday, which was a highly successful exhibition from every point of view. The society has now been established about seventy years, this being the sixty-ninth annual show. The weather was gloriously fine, the entries were good, and the society has a balance in hand of £218 16s. 4d. The sum given in prizes yesterday totalled £360, and the entries were as follows, the figures in brackets being the corresponding number last year:—Cattle 73 (72), sheep 62 (46), pigs 25 (17), horses (Shire) 52 (57), and Hunters, hacks, &c., 112 (96).

CATTLE were an exceptionally good lot, though the quality of the Shires was there scarcely up to the level of last year's lot. The Hunter classes had attracted some smart-looking animals, and the champion, owned by Mr. J. H. Stokes, of Nether House, Great Bowden, known by the name of Whisky, attracted a good deal of attention. Last year this horse won over £1,000 in prizes, and so far has this season netted over £750 for Mr. Stokes, having taken about ninety prizes.

POLICE-COURTS in Nottingham have this week had more than ordinary interest for honest farmers. At the Shire Hall on Wednesday a butcher named Watson, and a labourer named Gibbs, both of Beeston, about four miles to the west of the city, were charged with "depositing unsound meat in a slaughter-house for preparation for sale." The district council were the prosecutors, and in the course of his evidence a police constable said on visiting the slaughter-house he found the carcase of a sow dressed ready for sale. The animal had been about to litter, and was killed in a highly febrile condition. Not a particle of the flesh was fit for human consumption, as the kidneys were putrid, and the odour from the flesh was most objectionable. The Bench fined Gibbs (who was the owner of the pig) £3, or fourteen days in prison; and Watson, who had been previously convicted, was fined £10, or a month with hard labour.

WILLIAM BINGHAM, milk-seller, of Old Basford, a suburb of Nottingham, was today summoned for having sold a quantity of milk deficient in fat to the extent of 7 per cent., and containing 11 per cent. of added water. Naturally Bingham asserted that he had not adulterated the milk, and therefore the farmer who supplied it was blamed. As, however, he was convicted in 1894, the Bench did not believe his version, and the result was he had to pay a fine amounting with the costs to 40s.

AT the same Court Hannah Cockeram, of Bagthorpe Farm, was prosecuted for having sold milk deficient in fat to the extent of 6½ per cent., and containing 20 grains of boracic acid per gallon. Mr. Day, who was for the prosecution, said it had been legally decided that no addition of boracic acid to milk or cream was permissible, a Local Government Board inquiry into the matter having been held some time ago. The preservative had been proved to be injurious to health, and everybody should know that they were not allowed to put powerful chemicals such as boracic acid into human food. The defendant swore that she had not tampered with the milk in any way, having sold it just as received. Taking this view the Bench inflicted only a nominal penalty, defendant to pay 20s,. costs of the case.

IN a willow tree a short distance from the village of Sturton en-le-Steeple, in the north of the county, may be seen a cat and her kittens reposing in a pigeon's nest.

MEMBERS and friends of our local horticultural society yesterday paid a visit to Sandringham, and privileges not extended to the ordinary individual were granted. The party was not only conducted through the grounds, gardens, and plant-houses, but the Queen's pets in the kennels and stables were also pointed out.

IN the stables, which excited the greatest interest, was the Boer pony Black Prince which Lord Chesham used during the South African War, and afterwards presented to Queen Alexandra. Among the other animals pointed out was Tooting, which the King personally drives when in residence at Sandringham. Faithful Boy and Morgate Boy, the two horses specially reserved for the use of the Queen were pointed out; the Queen of Norway's horse Wasp, the late Duke of Clarence's horse Vivandière, and Stella, the horse used by the Queen of Spain prior to her marriage. The horses and ponies seen in the stables numbered twenty-three.

IDEAL weather has prevailed during the whole of the past week, and farmers have not had a single stoppage from this cause. "Harvest home," has already been shouted on many farms, and very little corn remains out in the fields. Here and there are odd fields of beans and late barleys, but 90 acres out of every 100 have been pulled together, and the thoughts of farmers are now turning in the direction of preparing the land for their wheat crops.

DURING the past few days I have made a special effort towards obtaining some authoritative opinions concerning the financial side of the present year from the farmer's standpoint, and I find that many are of the opinion that the year will prove to be one of the most prosperous since 1887. The corn is yielding well, and Mr. Henry Smith, of Screveton, near Bingham, reports a yield of six quarters of wheat to the acre. There are several other tenant-farmers who have had one day's threshing done where the yield of barley has been 6 and 7 qr., while one reports 7½ qr. of beans to the acre.

ON Wednesday evening a somewhat serious fire occurred at the Danethorpe Hill Farm, about five miles from Newark, resulting in about twenty tons of well-got hay being destroyed. The tenant of the farm, Mr. F. Blagg, was first to discover the outbreak, and the Newark Fire Brigade were summoned. They quickly arrived on the scene, and prevented the fire from spreading to the corn stacks in the yard, though damage was done to the extent of £60 or £70. How the fire originated has not been disclosed.

THE Sutton-in-Ashfield Urban Council go in for growing cabbages on a portion of their sewage farm, though, like the plums in isolated orchards, they have for some time been "going." A police constable, however, discovered a reason why they were becoming less in numbers, and the sequel was heard in Deansfield police court, when Edward Gascoigne was fined 21s. for stealing twenty-one cabbages, so that they were rather expensive vegetables—1s. each.

I HEAR that we are to be favoured with a visit by the King and Queen of Spain in November. It is highly probable that they will stay with the Duke and Duchess of Portland at Welbeck Abbey for two or three days.

COMING-OF-AGE festivities will play an important part in the lives of many local agriculturists in this district next week. On Tuesday the Duke and Duchess of Rutland will entertain to luncheon all their tenants, along with their wives and employees on the Ilkeston and Derbyshire estates, at Haddon Hall, in honour of the Marquis of Granby's twenty-first birthday. Presentation of addresses will follow, there being handsome presents from the tenants, the estate staff, the Corporation of Ilkeston, and the Longshaw Sheep Dog Trials Association. Similar festivities will take place at Belvoir Castle on Thursday next, when about 1,200 will be entertained, including the majority of the tenants and their wives, on the Duke's Leicestershire estates.

September 19, 1907. R. K.

Speaking at the Spalding Foal Show dinner, Mr. F. W. Griffin, of Borough Fen, Peterborough, the well-known breeder and exhibitor of Shire horses, said he did not think Shire horse breeding was ever on such a sound basis as to-day. There had never been a time when the foreigner was so much on the look out for good Shires. He himself had never had a better year. People now were coming from all countries and asking for Shires, and he believed there was a great future for Shire horse breeding. He was convinced that motor power was not going to hurt them.

At the Nantwich Cheese Fair on Thursday there was a pitch of 60 tons, and a large attendance of factors. The market opened with a brisk inquiry, which continued throughout, a clearance being effected at the following prices:—Finest, 61s. to 65s.; medium, from 55s. to 60s.; and lower grades, from 52s. per cwt.

SHOWS.

South Tyne.

The South Tyne Agricultural Society's Show at Bellister Parks, Haltwhistle, on the 14th inst., was favoured with beautiful weather, an almost record attendance, and very large entries—viz., 1,175, or an increase of 111 on those of 1906; the quality, too, was, if anything, better than ever, so that the show was an all-round success. The Shorthorn and Galloway cattle classes were exceptionally strong. In the former there was a capital show, Mr. T. Lancaster, Alston, carrying off premier honours in the aged bull class, while the Countess of Carlisle with Bruce of Naworth got the first ticket in the Galloway class. Leicester and half-bred sheep were large classes, but in the Black-faced Mr. John Robson, Newton, practically carried off all the premier honours. Agricultural horses, always the feature of past exhibitions, showed no falling off, some fine specimens being shown. Mr. E. Gibson carried off the special for the best mare or gelding in the confined classes. Light horses were not so numerous, but well-known prize winners were present. The poultry exhibition was a great attraction, some 550 exhibits being penned, while the classes for cats, an innovation, were quite a success.

Dunster.

Being favoured with beautiful weather, the Dunster summer show of horses, cattle, and sheep attracted a very large number of visitors, and the show proved as great a success from a "gate" point of view as it was in regard to the entries, for the takings were the best on record, while the entries, though not the highest recorded by the society, were an advance on those of last year. Horses numbered 172, cattle fifty-two, and sheep twenty-two. In the cattle section, two classes for any breed were given up, the entry having been in the past usually very small, and the society confined itself this year to Devon cattle. The entries generally were very good and of a very useful description, the two cow classes being the strongest, especially that for cow and offspring. A champion prize was for the best beast in the show, and it was won by Mr. A. Bowerman, of Capton, with a two-year-old heifer in-calf, bred by the exhibitor, Mr. Robert Gooding, of Nunnington Park, being placed reserve with a young bull, full of flesh and constitution, but not quite up to the heifer in style and flesh. Sheep, which were a little more numerous than last year, consisted of Exmoors and Devon Longwools, and some good specimens were shown. Agricultural horses showed an improvement on recent years, and with increased attention the section should become a good feature. A champion prize was given by Lieutenant-Colonel Boles, and was taken by Mr. Merson's fine cart mare, Doniford Smart, which has distinguished itself in so many showyards and has never been beaten in this part of the country. Hunters were undoubtedly the feature of the show, and they certainly attracted most attention. Messrs. Withycombe and Watts, Carhampton, carried off the special prize offered by Lieutenant-Colonel Boles, M.F.H., for the best Hunter, the property of and bred by the exhibitor, a *bona fide* tenant-farmer following agriculture solely for a livelihood, and living within fifteen miles radius from Dunster, with Actor, the first prize yearling colt. A stag's head, presented by Mr. E. A. V. Stanley, M.F.H., for the best light-weight Hunter, the property of and bred by the exhibitor, a *bona fide* tenant-farmer, following agriculture solely for a livelihood, and living within fifteen miles from Dunster, fell to Mr. James Ridler, Blackford, Minehead, for Acrobat, a five-year-old.

Bedfordshire Foal Show.

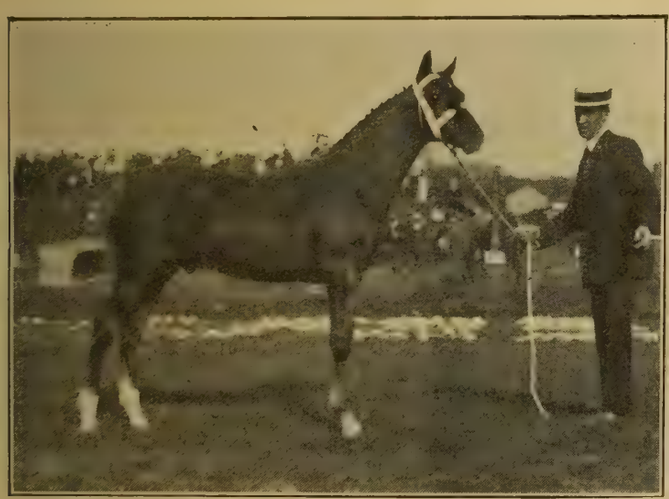
The eleventh annual foal show of the Beds. Shire Horse Society, held at Bedford, was, as regards quality, entirely satisfactory, and proved that the society is doing good work in improving the breed of horses in the district. As regards numbers, however, there was a big falling off when compared with last year, for the total was but sixty-eight as against ninety-three in 1906. The falling off was due in a great measure to the late harvest, and, given favourable circumstances, we have no doubt but that the entries will be more numerous next year. A silver cup was given for the best foal shown by a resident in the Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire countries, and this fell to Mr. Robert Long for a fine bay colt by Hitchin Cœur de Lion, dam Childwick Pink, which was first in the open class, and another bay colt by the same sire held the reserve number for the cup and in the class. The leading distinction in the county classes again fell to Mr. George Street, whose brown filly, 4 months 10 days old, by Bay Thumper, dam Maulden Lady Bedford III., was first in its class, also winner of the society's prize for the best foal by the society's horse of last season, and of the silver cup given by the masters of the Oakley and Harriers for the best foal in the first six classes belonging to a resident in the Oakley country.

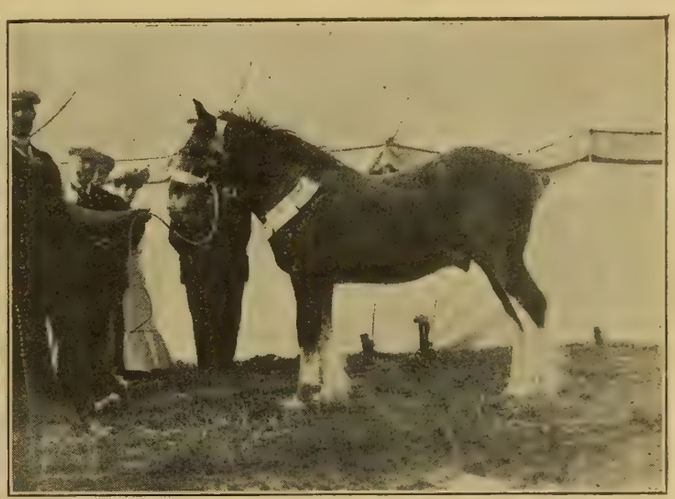
Shap.

Beautiful summer weather was associated with the forty-fifth annual show of the Shap Agricultural Society held on Wednesday, and with a very large entry—only 64 short of the record number 474—the event attracted a large attendance from the wide area it covers, namely, the whole of north Westmorland and the adjoining district of Cumberland. The entries of stock and butter reached 404, about 70 less than last year, but this was chiefly due to a fall in duplicate entries, so that the display of stock was quite equal to previous years Crop entries were also smaller, owing to the backward state of swedes and turnips. The judges who spent three days in visiting the farms reported that after the cold backward season they found many of the exhibits far exceeded expectations, and as most of the competitors occupied very high-lying farms their crops were very creditable. In the horse classes, which were highly creditable, many of the exhibits had come together last Saturday at Appleby, and so the judging was watched with unusual interest, but the awards were generally the same. The majority of the cattle were rich roans, and good hairy sorts, the females with excellent milking properties, and the males with plenty of power, good shape, and character. The best of the males was a shapely, good-lined roan bull from Mr. J. D. Taylor's herd at Crosby Lodge, and there were some valuable females from the Earl of Lonsdale's home farm at Lowther, which figured prominently in the prize schedule. Sheep were very well represented indeed. The white-faced classes were exceptionally well filled, and there was rather keen competition, but with Scots Black-shaped sheep the Lowther flock practically swept the deck, the Earl of Lonsdale securing first and second for aged tups, ewes or gimmers, shearlings and tup lambs, and first with gimmer lambs; Mr. E. de Vere Irving, of Shap Abbey, being the only other competitor to take a prize, and that a second premium.

Easingwold.

As in the case of other shows held last week, that of the Easingwold Agricultural Society, held on Wednesday, was favoured with delightful weather, and the result was a large attendance of visitors, amongst whom were Sir George Wombwell, Bart., who has taken great interest in the society since its formation, and he brought with him a distinguished party, which included the Marquess of Londonderry and Viscount Helmsley, M.P., who delivered speeches at the luncheon. The exhibition holds a high place amongst the shows of the district, and that of last week formed no exception to the rule; but if harvest operations had not been so late, the entries might have been larger. The total number in all sections was upwards of 600, this being about twenty less than last year. Among the horses the Hunters formed the best section. The York and Ainsty Hunt prize for the best mare or gelding not exceeding six years old was gained by Mr. F. A. Rickaby's four-year-old bay gelding Rapid and his five-year-old black gelding





TWO WINNERS AT THE ILKESTON SHOW.

Hackney Colt, Adbolton Performer (aged four months), sire Copper King 7764, dam 17075 Grand Lady; the property of Mr. A. W. Hickling, Adbolton; winner of Cup and Champion at Ilkeston and First Prize at Peterborough.

Shire Colt by Birdsall Gallant 32116 out of Smiler by Rock's Hero; the property of Mr. W. Smith, Wilsthorpe, who has won with it First and Cup for Champion at Ilkeston, two Firsts at Kingston, two Firsts at Heanor, First at Derby, and three Firsts at Moorgreen.

Loughborough.

The Loughborough and District Agricultural Association were fortunate enough to have glorious weather for their sixty-ninth anniversary show, held on Wednesday in Southfield Park, and the result should be an increase to the nice balance they already have in hand. The show was a good one all round, the entries showing a slight increase on previous years. Cattle were a record entry, while sheep and pigs were both greater than last year. There were, however, fewer draught horses, but the entries for Hackneys and Hunters were sixteen in excess. The tradesmen's turnouts were above the average, the winner Rocket secured the second honour in the same class. The Roadsters were small classes, and of the nine prizes awarded, Mr. Stephen Cliff's exhibits carried off seven. Mr. G. Brown, of Brantingham, was successful in the open class for gentlemen's Hackneys with a five-year old brown mare, and Mr. Edward Harrison's (Easingwold) chesnut mare Hermia was the winner in the open class for lady's Hackneys. The three-year-old Coaching geldings or fillies were a good class, and the winners of the first and second prizes, Mr. C. H. Hart's Factor and Benefactor, were sold to Mr. Wymbush, of London. In the cattle section the classes were well filled. The principal exhibitor was Mr. J. M. Strickland, who had entries in all the classes, and who secured twelve of the awards. Mr. Strickland was also successful in several classes in the sheep and pig sections.

being Mr. W. Starbuck, whose mare Queen of Diamonds was awarded the Hackney Society's silver medal. The really only disappointing section was that of the horticultural exhibits, which did not receive the support it deserved.

Westmoreland.

The annual show of the Westmoreland County and Kendal District Agricultural Society was held at Longlands on Thursday, and proved in every way successful. Since the centenary show of the society five years ago, when there was a record entry and a magnificent display of cattle, sheep, and horses, a very high standard of excellence has been maintained, and there was no falling away. In point of numbers the show was ahead of last year, the total number of entries being 944, against 861 a year ago. Cattle numbered 153, against 151; sheep 195, against 186; light horses, 141, against 163; heavy horses, 147, an increase of 43; and in the eggs, butter, cheese, bread, and sundry sections, there were 201 entries, or nearly forty more than a year ago. The exhibition of cheese, which was accountable for this rise, was a new feature of the show, intended to encourage cheese-making locally, and it was a successful feature that is estimated to have a good effect in a district which has somewhat neglected this profitable branch of dairy work.

It was fitting that in such an exclusively farming district as South Westmoreland the pride of place among the horses should have been given to the Shire type. Here we found the tenant-farmer competing with such well-known breeders as Lord Henry Cavendish Bentinck, of Underley, and Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P., of Holker. Both these landlords place some of their best horses at the disposal of their tenantry for breeding purposes. Mr. Victor Cavendish's chesnut brood mare, Holwell Spot, came out best in a strong company of nine. She is a fine quadruped, of the true type, and was awarded the Shire Horse Society's medal. Mr. Cavendish carried off a number of other notable triumphs with his Shires, including the society's silver medal for the best heavy horse. His bay filly foal, daughter of the winning mare, was easily the pick of the dozen youngsters which faced the judges. Holker Kismet, a bay one-year-old filly, and Holker Belle, a two-year-old, both, of course, from the same well-known stud, were the top of their respective classes, the latter making such a good show that she was placed reserve for the medal.

The Clydesdales were not so good a lot as have been seen at this show, but there were some good specimens forward, notably those of Mr. W. Griffiths, who was the chief owner. His bay brood mare, Daisy, proved to be the best of the ten shown, and his three-year-old gelding and his one-year-old colt also took part first prizes. The one-year-old filly shown by Mr. Wm. Graham had almost a walk-over in its class, but was so promising an animal that she was given the Clydesdale Society's medal.

Hunters made a brave display, and included some excellent weight-carriers across country. Most of the classes filled well, and the quality was good. Mr. Robinson's chesnut gelding, Major, was awarded the Improvement Society's medal. Farm horses, shown in gear, open to tenant farmers only, yielded some keen local competition, no fewer than fourteen horses and carts appearing in the ring at one time. Mr. Richard Wright earned the prize offered by Sir Maurice Bromley-Wilson, and Mr. W. Griffiths that of the Earl of Derby.

Among the Shorthorn cattle were some very good stock, especially of cows for breeding purposes. Mr. William Atkinson's white bull Wallace was declared to be the best on the ground. It is a powerful beast, and has fine shoulders and breast, but is rather short in the legs. Among the cows for breeding stock, Lord H. Cavendish Bentinck's roan Muriel Lorn was placed before Mr. A. Cleasby's Bright Eye, which has won a lot of prizes. The first showed, perhaps, better breeding, but some experts thought Mr. Cleasby's exhibit was the more level-fleshed. Lord Brougham showed a beautifully shaped heifer, which gained the society's medal, and Mr. Atkinson's powerful bull won the medal for the best bull shown, while Mr. John Handley's Lord Palatine obtained the special prize of £10 for the best Shorthorn bull calved in 1906, and Mr. T. Hunter another special for the best pedigree dairy cow, Mr. J. Morton being a good second to him.

The sheep were thoroughly representative of the county, and, as became the district, included a large number of fell sheep. Lord H. Cavendish Bentinck, Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P., Mr. J. Crossley, M.P., Mr. J. Dobson, Messrs. R. Parker and Sons, and Mr. J. Drague were among the principal prizewinners.

Stokesley.

The forty ninth annual show of the Stokesley Agricultural Society took place on Thursday in beautifully fine weather, and was very largely attended. Unfortunately the entries showed a diminution of no less than 154 as compared with last year, the falling off being mainly in cattle, sheep, and horses, while there were a few less entries in poultry, pigeons, rabbits, and farm produce; in fact, the entry was the lowest since 1899. Among the cattle the Shorthorns formed an excellent section, and included several winners at the Royal, the Yorkshire, and the Highland Society's Shows. The Leicester or Lincoln sheep were a good section, especially the tup lambs, of which there were more than two dozen entries. The Wensleydales also made a good show, especially the shearling gimmers and the gimmer lambs, whilst among the cross-breds also there were some very good exhibits. The entries of horses were only one less than last year, and among them were a number of animals of good quality.

Market Harborough.

Market Harborough Horse Show, held on Thursday, was robbed of two of its attractive features—viz., the sheep dog trials and foxhound puppies, neither of these being included this year. The horses, however, were a very fine lot, and well worth a visit to the show. In the Hunter section most interest centred in the open classes. In the light-weights premier honours went to the Countess of Warwick's Rockfeller, a very smart bay gelding, Mr. J. Stokes's brown gelding Lyons Mail being second, but in the heavy-weights Mr. Stokes's well-known Whiskey was an easy winner, thus making his record to date eighty-three first prizes at various shows. Biscuit, also belonging to Mr. Stokes, was second, and the Countess of Warwick's Wrangler reserve. Brood mares were good, and here first honours went to Empress III., belonging to Mr. H. R. Roe, of Cranoe. Mr. C. H. Dixon's prize for the best Hunter in the tenant farmers' classes, drew a big entry. The winner was Mr. R. J. Ward's Cherry Ripe, which was second in the same class last year. This animal also won the Hunters' Improvement Society's silver medal.

SHOW SECRETARIES.



Mr. G. FLETCHER,
Bishops Castle District Agricultural and Horticultural Society.

Competition was very keen in the open driving class, the first place going to Mr. Jack Mayor, of York, whose handsome brown beat Mr. Raynor's (Mansfield) Gay Boy. In the opening jumping Mr. Foster, of Brailsford, Derby, was first, and Mr. Johnson, of Melton, second.

Shires were the best lot seen at the show for some time. In the open class for colt or filly first honours went to Mr. F. Farmsworth, of Hinckley, and second to Mr. R. Crawford, of Lowesby. Mr. Houghton's Daphne won the Shire Horse Society's silver medal and also the challenge cup for the best Shire mare or filly in the show, the property of a tenant farmer.

Hunter Stud Book. — The Hunters' Improvement Society wish to draw the attention of Hunter breeders to the fact that entries for the Hunter Stud Book, Vol. 3, close on Tuesday, October 1. Entry forms and full particulars as to re-entry, registration (on pedigree, &c.) or entry (by prizes or inspection) can be obtained from the secretary, Mr. A. B. Charlton, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

South-Eastern Agricultural College. — In connection with the Garden Produce, Poultry, and Honey Competitions of the Kent County Council, and of the National Potato Society, at the South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, Kent, on Wednesday, October 2, a conference will be held, when an address will be given by the principal, Mr. M. J. R. Dunstan, to be followed by discussion. Those wishing to attend should send their names to the principal of the college.

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SHOW GOSSIP.

The thirty-third annual show of the Shropshire and West Midland Agricultural Society has been fixed to take place at Shrewsbury on Thursday and Friday, June 25 and 26, 1908, the entries to close as follows:—Trade Stands, May 11; Live Stock, May 18; Farm Produce, May 25; Dairy Competitions, June 1; Poultry, June 8; Dogs, June 15; Sheep Dog Trials, June 20; Ring Competitions, June 20.

At a meeting of the Durham County Agricultural Society held last week, an abstract of the accounts in connection with the recent Wynyard show was submitted, showing a loss of over £400, which the council considered was inevitable, considering the weather on the show day. At the same meeting a letter was read from Sir Gilbert Greenall, the honorary director of the Royal Agricultural Society, stating that he would be in Newcastle on October 11, and would be glad to meet a committee from the society to discuss in what way the two county societies would co-operate with the Royal next year. A committee was appointed to meet Sir Gilbert and the finance committee was asked to consider the question of financial assistance. A letter was also read from the Town Clerk of West Hartlepool inviting the society to hold their show next year within that borough, and it was agreed to thank the Mayor and Corporation for their invitation, but to suggest that the invitation be extended to some future time, as no show will be held next year.

The fashionable show of the Frome District Agricultural Society, which is acknowledged to be the largest cheese show in England, is fixed for Wednesday next. The cheese entries are above the usual average. The large cheese tent, 240 ft. long and 42 ft. wide, will contain nearly 400 entries of the finest Chedder that can be produced in the world. The butter classes are patronised by the best makers. In the working dairy, the actual making of butter by competitors may be witnessed, many of the competitors being crack hands. Table poultry and eggs are a large entry. In the jumping and driving competitions, of which there is a large entry, most of the best horses are competing, and some fine jumping and driving is anticipated. There is a capital entry of car horses and colts, Shorthorn and Jersey cattle, and sheep and pigs. There is also a large entry of roots, and a capital display of table decoration and herbaceous flowers. Mr. Jennings' steam galloping horses, roundabouts, &c., will also be in attendance. The band of the Volunteer 3rd Battalion P.A.S.L.I. (Frome detachment) will be

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in attendance throughout the day. The usual excursion trains will run from all parts. Refreshments on the show grounds are to be supplied by Mr. John Salter, of Salisbury. The Frome Fanciers' Association will hold a great show of dogs, poultry, pigeons on the ground on the same and following days. The annual dinner will be held on the 24th inst., when C. N. P. Phipps, Esq., will take the chair.

Gloucestershire and the Royal Show of 1909.

A meeting convened by the Lord-Lieutenant of the County (the Earl of Ducie) and the Mayor of Gloucester (Mr. Sam Aitken) was held at the Shire Hall, Gloucester, on Monday afternoon to receive a statement as to the subscriptions promised towards the expenses of the 1909 show of the Royal Agricultural Society, which will be held at Gloucester, and to elect a committee to carry out the necessary arrangements. The Earl of Ducie, who presided, said they were all very much indebted to the Mayor of Gloucester for having initiated the negotiations for holding the show of the Royal Agricultural Society for 1906 at Gloucester. Those negotiations had now been brought to a point at which they could act. He thought that what they ought first to do would be to receive the Mayor's statement as to the total promised towards the £6,000 required, and then to appoint a committee to carry out the arrangements.

The Mayor stated that the total subscriptions amounted to £1,908, which he did not think at all bad for a start. They had to remember that during the week in which this had been got together people had been greatly occupied with the festival. The Lord-Lieutenant had subscribed £200 to the fund; Mr. Vassar-Smith, Messrs. Bruton, Knowles, and Co., and Mr. H. Dent-Brocklehurst, 100 guineas each; Lord Fitzhardinge, Lieut.-Colonel Fairfax Rhodes, and Mr. James Horlick, £100 each; Mr. C. G. Clark and Mr. Russell J. Kerr, £52 10s each; and the Right Hon. Sir John Dorington, Mr. F. E. Fox, and Mr. Colin McIvor, £50 each. Some of the large works had not yet sent replies as the amounts they would subscribe, as the matter had to be considered by the directors; but there was ground for the belief that several very substantial sums would come from this source. It was necessary that the whole of the amount required should be made up without delay, because the contract with the society would have to be entered into in about two months' time.

Sir Lionel Darell asked to be put down for 25 guineas, and the Mayor announced that the Bishop of the diocese had handed him a cheque for £25 as his subscription towards the fund.

The Earl of Druce moved a resolution, which was carried unanimously, to the effect that the meeting cordially approved of what had been done.

Mr. St. John Ackers, who seconded, said he was old enough to remember when the Royal Society visited Gloucester before. The old city had had many interesting gatherings, but none, he thought, more worthy of the city and neighbourhood than the meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society.

The Right Hon. Sir John Dorington proposed a long list of gentlemen as the General Committee, pointing out that it was most important that the support of gentlemen in all parts of the county should be enlisted, and that it should be made a big county affair. This proposition having received the support of the meeting, Sir John Dorington proposed that the following should be appointed as the Executive Committee with power to add to their number, and an instruction to do so:—The Mayor of Gloucester, Sir Lionel Darell, the Mayor of Cheltenham, Messrs. R. V. Vassar-Smith, W. F. Hicks Beach, W. Priday, J. Peter, M. G. Lloyd Baker, R. Anderson, J. Horlick, R. G. Foster, and E. T. Gardom.

This proposition was unanimously adopted, after Sir John Dorington and Colonel Curtis Hayward had been added to the list; the Earl of Ducie explaining that it would be the duty of the Executive Committee to arrange all details, and to delegate any or all of its powers to sub-committees of not fewer than five. Mr. G. Sheffield Blakeway, Town Clerk of Gloucester, was appointed secretary.

The Mayor of Gloucester said they had received a letter from the Duke of Beaufort promising what it was believed would be a liberal subscription.

The Earl of Ducie, in acknowledging a vote of thanks, said he hoped and believed the show of 1909 would be a great success. The county offered a good many advantageous points. There was, first, the convergence of the railways; and the county was made up of hills, valleys, and forests. They used to pride themselves on the cheese manufactured in the county; but he was afraid comparatively little was manufactured now that foreign competition sent so much. Their cider left a good deal to be desired, and there were other matters with reference to which hints and advice might be obtained from exhibitions and displays such as they got at the Royal Show.

TO FARMERS AND POULTRY REARERS.



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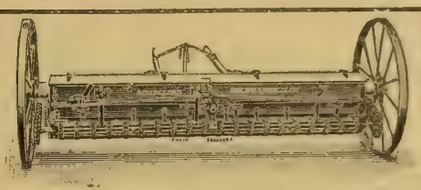
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Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

The Profitable Use of Artificial Manure.

An interesting lecture on the relative values of artificial manures, as applied to different soils, and the correct balance between such manures, so as to ensure their being used most profitably and economically, was given recently by Mr. R. S. Forbes, Dorset County Instructor in Agriculture. The question of profitable manuring, said Mr. Forbes, is one of great interest to all farmers. Every crop removes a greater or less amount of fertilising matter from the soil. Milk and beef also deplete the soil, and should these be sold off the farm its fertility ultimately sinks, unless it is replaced by some sort of natural or artificial manure. A plant requires about ten separate constituents, all essential, before it can grow; but by far the greatest part of all plants is built up of consolidated water and carbonic acid gas drawn from the atmosphere—sources which are practically inexhaustible. The soil is responsible only for a small portion, but, as the strength of a chain depends upon its weakest link, so also the ingredient obtained by the plant with the greatest difficulty regulates the crop. Of all the elements in ordinary cultivated soils only four are likely to run short—*i.e.*, nitrogen, phosphates, potash, and lime, and it is these we aim at supplying in the several manures. Abundance of any one ingredient in a soil will not make up for the deficiency of another. Some soil may only require one fertilising substance to be added before it can produce a full crop. Poor soils would naturally require a complete manure, which supplies all that is likely to be wanted, but it must be remembered that every manure is not complete. Some supply only one or may be two of these fertilising elements, and in consequence we have nitrogenous, phosphatic, and potassic manures. The most important point to a farmer is to know which particular class gives him the best results, or how to blend them for the same end. A knowledge of each group and simple trials on the farm, leaving unmanured parts for comparison, will often be the means of forming a paying investment to the farmer. Vendors of manures are bound to supply the purchaser with a guarantee stipulating the percentage of nitrogen, phosphates (soluble or insoluble), and potash they contain, as the case may be. The condition of a manure, as well as the kind and quality of the plant food it contains, has also to be taken into account when putting a value on it. Good cultivation is essential if the full effect of manure is desired. Not only does it help to make the dormant plant food in the soil soluble, but also gives more vigorous and robust plants. As to lime in the general average of soils this is found in sufficient quantities. It has a many-sided action. Not only is it a plant food, but it has also a physical effect, helping to open heavy soils, it binds together loose soils, helps to liberate other plant foods, combines with the acid in a sour soil and sweetens it, besides being one of the best curative agents to employ in combating club root in turnips. A usual dressing would be about two tons per acre. Too much lime in a soil is about as bad as too little; it has a tendency to sink downwards.

Manuring of Swedes.

This subject is out of season at present, but on the principle announced by Captain Cuttle of "when found make a note of," it may be worth while to make a note of the following instructive recommendations of the Midland Agricultural College as the result of a series of field experiments made by them. The results are summarised as follows:—

1. There is very little difference in the profit per acre resulting from the following dressings: 15 tons farmyard manure, 10 tons farmyard manure, 10 tons of farmyard with a small dressing of artificials.

2. Nitrate of soda proved a better source of nitrogen for the swede crop than sulphate of ammonia, when both were applied at the time of seeding.

3. When the nitrogen portion of the dressing is given at twice, half at seeding and half at singling it is better to give the half at seeding in the form of sulphate of ammonia.

4. When nitrate of soda is the only source of nitrogen given, better results accrue in a dry season, when all is applied at seeding.

5. Superphosphate proved the best source of phosphate, basic slag coming next in order of merit.

6. Of the three sources of potash (sulphate of potash, kainit, and muriate of potash), sulphate of potash was the most profitable; the other two, however, ran it very closely.

7. The following dressing gave the largest profit per acre: 191 lb. nitrate of soda per acre, 2 3 lb. of superphosphate, and 1 62 lb. sulphate of potash.

Nitrogen-Fixing Bacteria and their Work.

Scientific men are still plodding away at their investigations into the mysterious processes which underlie the operations of germ life, and how far their activity can be brought into play for the benefit of agriculture. The writer of the science notes of the *Globe* makes some interesting observations on the subject. He points out that the work of certain species of bacteria in fixing the nitrogen of the atmosphere in a form available for the higher forms of plant life is at present attracting much attention. The possibility of enriching the soil, and obtaining heavier crops through the agency of these bacteria, is being tested by many cultivators. The soil being inoculated with artificial cultures of the nitrogen-fixing organisms, a crop of leguminous plants—beans, peas, &c.—is grown. The bacteria associate themselves with the roots of these plants in what biologists call symbiosis—that is, a living together for mutual advantage. If a bean plant be pulled up, the nature of the association is clearly seen. In the roots there are found a number of little tuber like excrescences. These appear to be of the nature of gall growths, and are caused by colonies of bacteria. The bacteria elaborate nitrogenous products from the free nitrogen of the atmosphere, and of these the bean obtains a share. On the other hand, the bacteria absorb a part of the saline and sugar constituents of the sap of the bean. During the present season a number of cultivators have inoculated their soil with cultures of nitrogen fixing bacteria, and in many cases they have found a marked improvement in the crop.

New Investigations.

Side by side with this practical testing of their value, the scientific study of these bacteria is being further pursued. From nodules on the roots of the blue lupin, for example, Mr. R. Greig Smith isolated a nitrogen-producing colony. It was found on cultivation to be a mixture of different species, the chief of which was an Azotobacter. The mixed culture was found to fix the nitrogen more quickly and regularly than the pure-culture of the Azotobacter. The same experimenter found that the production of slime by bacteria coincides with, and is proportional to, the fixation of nitrogen.

It was also found that conditions which prevent the formation of slime prevent also the fixation of nitrogen. And the presence in the culture of another slime-forming bacterium assists the fixation. The same investigator also finds that all bacterial slimes are nitrogenous. As regards the mutual benefits of plant and bacterium, the former supplies saline and saccharine matters to the latter. The saccharine matter is converted by the bacteria into gum, and this mixed with elaborated nitrogen appears as the so-called "slime." From this the plant absorbs the nitrogenous and carbohydrate constituents.

New Species of Nitrifying Bacteria.

The number of species of bacteria known to possess these remarkable powers is increasing. Three new ones have been recently described by H. Kaserer. The conditions under which the fixation of nitrogen occurs are interesting. One of them is found to convert ammonia directly into nitrates. It forms dense white colonies, and does not liquefy gelatin. Another decomposes ammonium formate into nitrogen and formic acid, and then uses the latter. In the absence of combined nitrogen it produces ammonium carbonate from formic acid and atmospheric nitrogen. A third species decomposes cyanides with the production of carbonic acid gas and nitrogen. In the presence of sugar, however, it also fixes free nitrogen.

Where Inoculation May do Harm.

In testing the practical value of the nitrogen-fixing bacteria it has been found that there is no advantage in inoculating a soil already rich in nitrogenous matter. It would appear that in such a soil they do not exert their nitrogen fixing powers. The above interesting experiments seem to indicate that they may be actually injurious, that they may, in fact, set free the nitrogen already fixed and available as manure. For one of the above-mentioned species in presence of fixed nitrogen, in the form of ammonium formate, sets this element free. In the absence of combined nitrogen, however, it fixes that of the atmosphere. Another of them, we have seen, sets free nitrogen from cyanides. In the presence of sugar, however, it was found to fix the nitrogen of the air. Obviously the farmer and gardener will need to use the bacterial cultures with judgment. For while a soil poor in nitrogenous matter might greatly benefit, a rich soil might be deteriorated.

We are willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

An Interesting Experimental Union.

The Experimental Union of Canada is an organisation of young men at the agricultural colleges and institutions and of practical farmers. It has proved a great agent in the dissemination of information in experimental work. During last year 4,050 farmers in the province of Ontario conducted experiments on their own farms on lines laid down by the union for the better production of grasses and cereals, forage crops and roots; they report on the results once a year to the Agricultural College, co-operating heartily with the Experimental department, and in that way great progress has been made.

"One experimentalist in 1889, among other things, brought out from Manchuria a double handful of barley, which is known to a great many of you as common Mandscheuri barley. That was the only seed that was ever brought to this country direct from the country from which it came. It was planted on a small plot the first year, and then the largest seeds selected for the next year and sown. Then," according to the report, "we began to send it out to the different farms, and this year that barley produced from 4 to 5 bushels more per acre than the average barley raised throughout the Province of Ontario. It has been planted on our ordinary farms to the extent of half a million acres; and if you take half a million of acres of grain this year, each acre growing four bushels of barley per acre more than they would have grown had we not brought out those two handfuls some years ago, you can realise that at 50c. a bushel the Ontario Experimental Farm and College and the Ontario Department of Agriculture itself, and all the expenses connected with these three great institutions, would have been paid by that product alone. Hence we feel justified in calling attention to facts of that kind as bearing upon our work. We do the same with wheat, oats, rye, peas, mangels, sugar beets, &c., and we are getting results of a similar nature all along the line."

Soils Benefited by Lime.

1. Soils deficient in lime.

2. Sour soils, on which it acts as a sweetening agent, neutralising the soil-acidity. On land which is newly opened up, or land which is being reclaimed from swamps, the addition of lime is an essential.

3. On stiff clay soils. The action of lime on this class of soils is to lighten them and render them more friable and amenable to tillage operations.

4. On sandy soils, lime acts in an opposite manner, consolidating them and increasing the cohesive and capillary power of the soil.

5. On land which is destined for leguminous crops, or such crops as are specially benefited by the presence of lime. Where a green crop is shown to be ploughed under "green manuring," the previous application of lime to the soil is of the greatest benefit in promoting the growth of the green crop.

Imports of Fertilising Material During Last Month.

	Tons.		Value. £
Bones, whether burnt or not...	2,498	...	12,046
Guano	393	...	1,989
Nitrate of soda (cubic nitre)...	7,355	...	81,669
Phosphate of lime, and rock phosphate	50,780	...	85,809

Russian Mineral Fertiliser Difficulties.

The *Xosiastvo* publishes a long article on the dearness of mineral fertilisers in Russia, which is mainly caused by the immense distances between the sources of supply and the points of consumption In Russia there is only one factory producing Thomas slag; this is near the town of Taganrog, and the carriage of the fertiliser to where it is most in demand—the Baltic provinces and Poland—is so expensive that the farmers of the areas named prefer to get their supplies from abroad. The whole quantity of Thomas slag produced, amounting to 700,000 poods (13,000 tons) a year, is used up in sixteen governments. A somewhat similar state of affairs exists as to superphosphates, to produce which there are several factories, but they are all concentrated in Western Russia, and whilst such a state of the producing industry continues, the writer of the article urges a great reduction in railway carriage.

Correspondence dealing with Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs appears in the regular correspondence columns of the paper. We think it unnecessary to publish the table of unit values in each issue. It will be published in the first issue of each month.

When Should Farmyard Manure be Applied?

When the harvest is over, farmers will be turning their attention to the cartage of their manure heaps. As regards the time of year when dung should be applied much depends, as remarked in a Board of Agriculture leaflet, in the circumstances of the particular case. By far the greater quantity of dung goes on to meadows and green crops, and it may be said that in the former case autumn or early winter is the best time to make the application. The complete stocking of the ground with plants obviates much loss of soluble matters by washing. On farms entirely under grass there is no choice but to employ the dung on meadows or pastures, and on such farms it would be bad practice not to cart out all available dung in autumn. Of course, the dungstead will again fill up during winter, and, on the whole it is probably better to distribute this additional supply in spring than to leave it in the heap, subject to waste and yielding no return, till the following autumn. Late spring dressings, however, unless the dung is very "short"—*e.g.*, dung made with moss litter—interfere with the work of the mowing-machine, though this can be avoided by chain harrowing and raking the roughness off two or three months after dressing.

In the case of green crops, part of the dung may with advantage be ploughed in during autumn, but only on clean strong land in a dry district. But if foul and especially strong land has to be cleaned in spring it will be found that autumn dung, by holding moisture, retards the getting of the land into condition in spring. In any case the work of the cultivator brings much of the dung to the surface, and this, being collected with the weeds, is carted off the land again, or possibly wasted by burning. Farmyard manure ploughed in during autumn will decay more rapidly—and especially so in a mild winter—than if left in the dung-heap, so that a relatively larger proportion will be available for the use of the first crop. But just on this account the succeeding crops will not get so much benefit, and this fact has to be borne in mind in estimating the respective advantages of autumn and spring dressings.

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a nom de plume, *in the paper.*

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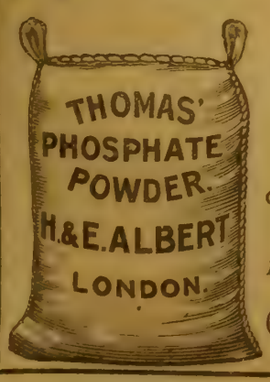
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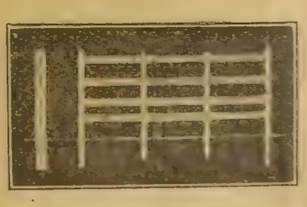
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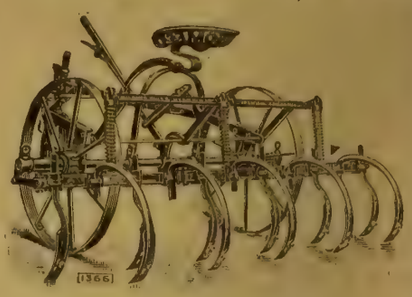
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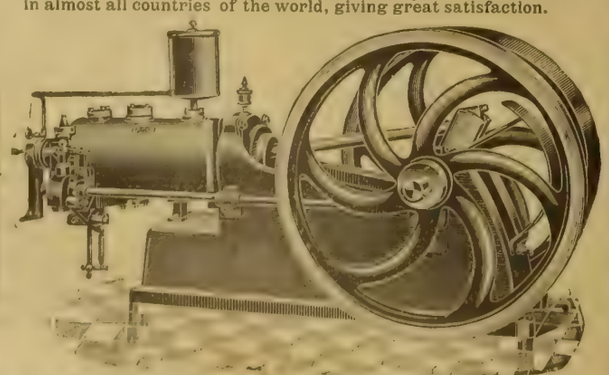
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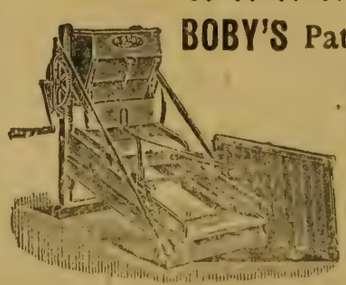
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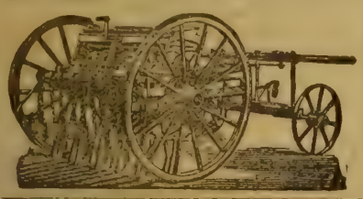
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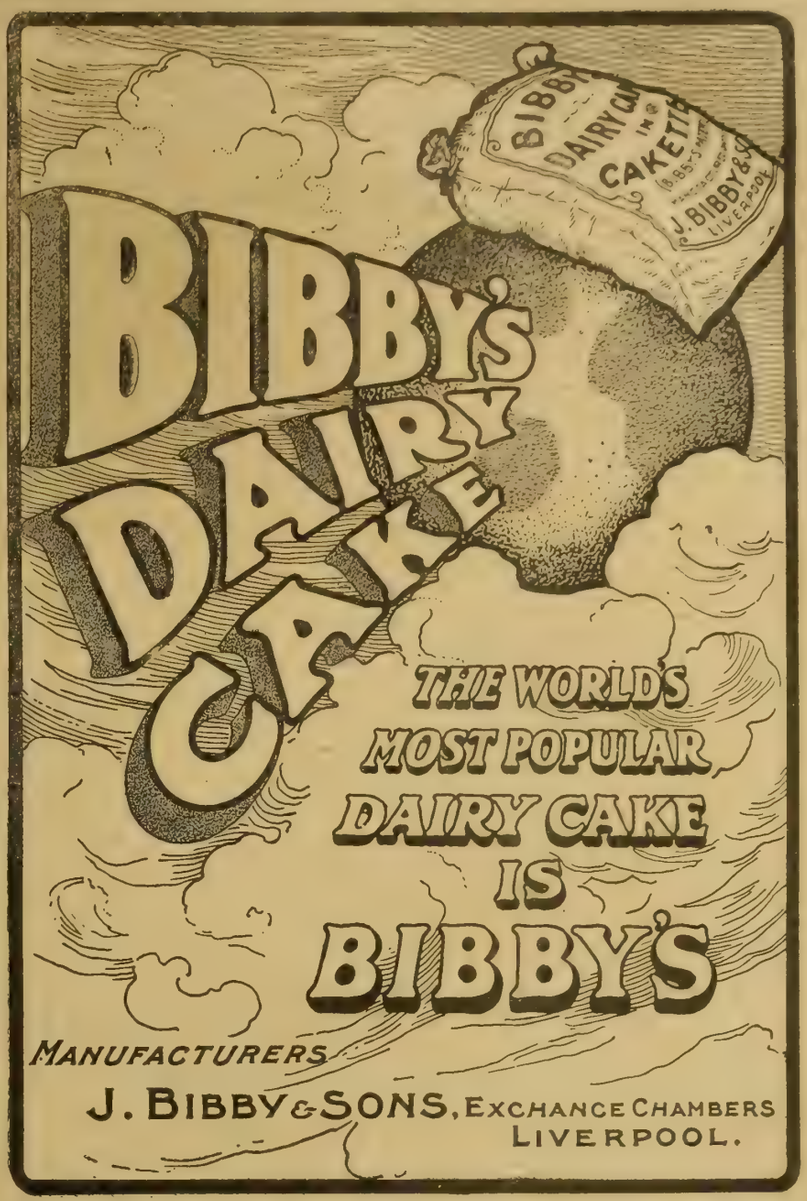
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Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

THE SHORTAGE OF HORSES.

The announcement made by Lord Carrington a few days ago, that there was a shortage of 10,000 foals this year, is a serious one, and likely to be far-reaching in its results. It would have an important effect on our horse supply even if there were any chance of the shortage being rectified next season.

No doubt the introduction of the motor omnibus, which has to a certain extent done away with the market for moderate horses, has a great deal to do with the falling off, but the drop is a very big one, and can perhaps scarcely be accounted for altogether by this. The market for third-rate horses is, however, apparently becoming more restricted every day, and it is sure to have its effect on horse-breeding, for we all know that the percentage of moderate horses is a heavy one, however careful the breeder may be. But such a falling off in the number of horses bred is a serious national loss, and moreover, in spite of what may be said to the contrary, horses are likely to be wanted for many a long year yet.

A motor-car is all very well on a good road, but it needs a good road—and a very good road, if we are to judge from the howls of motorists about our roads. But in case of war it will not take the place of cavalry; and if we had a war on our hands, where would our remounts come from?

DEAR BACON AND SOME OF THE CAUSES.

The man in the street is grumbling at the price he has to pay across the counter for his morning rasher of bacon, and he certainly has just cause for the complaint. The morning rasher at breakfast time is a national British commodity; yet bacon is about the dearest food that people buy who are not in a position to cure their own.

Still further, where would the man in the street be for his morning rasher if it were not for the foreigner? Of course he would have to go without, unless conditions changed very considerably at home, for about sixteen millions per annum are being paid for foreign bacon and hams. There is something wrong; of course there is. What is it? Some say the middleman is getting all the profits; but he says not, and blames the producer — or the person who should be the producer is the British farmer—for his backwardness. And the latter, what of him, hampered as he is with grandmotherly restrictions that would be less irksome if they succeeded in stamping-out swine fever? We hear complaints that the regulations are doing as much to stamp out pigs as fever, and there appears to be something in it.

The increase of the milk traffic is also responsible for the shortage of pigs, for in the old cheesemaking days piggy was essential to consume the by-products of the dairy, than which there is nothing better for pig feeding. Kitchen waste is now the only waste available for young pigs, and, having grown tired of putting his hand in his pocket to provide a substitute for the by-product of the dairy, many a milk-selling farmer has given up pig keeping, and his styes are empty. Speaking for the future, perhaps things will be better, because, if reports be true, pig-keeping is on the increase again now, and, with the present demand for bacon, there is certainly room for considerable development.

CHEDDAR CHEESE PROSPECTS.

A sudden fall in the price of cheese has startled the sellers of Somerset, so considerable a drop as 10s. a cwt. in the course of a week not having been at all anticipated. Makers cannot find anything to account for it, though

the dealers say that it is due to the large amount of cheese of indifferent quality offered. It is probable that the heavy make, not only in the West but in the Midlands, is the real cause, and there will probably be some recovery in the price next week. The drop is not in the best dairies.

Half the information which cheese makers have been anticipating has been forthcoming in regard to cheese-school results. The price at which cheese has sold is now officially confirmed, and although this was for May and June, only the details relating to the May make have been announced.

These show that 5,027 lb. of green cheese were made in May, and the shrinkage to the date of sale was nearly 5¼ per cent. The temperature of rennetting was 84 deg.; first and second scalds, 88 and 92; acidity of milk when rennetted, 0·195; of whey at the end of the second scald, 0·17; when vatted, 0 85. The average time when vatted was 3.24 p.m.

Now these particulars could be made much more interesting and instructive to cheese makers. As the information is not intended to be for only those who attend it, but for others, it ought to be easily possible to publish at the end of the season a day by day record of these results, which any cheese maker desiring it could obtain. The comparisons with the ordinary farmhouse records—many of which are now being very fairly kept—would prove instructive.

The additional details might be added of temperature and rainfall. They are kept in the neighbourhood, and would be of value for a scientific study of the conditions. The great aim should be to get the fullest advantage possible out of these movements.

The itinerant instructress in cheese-making in Somerset follows a somewhat different method to that of Miss Cannon at the school, and it is only fair to say that a great many makers have improved by the adoption of the "starter" system, which she teaches. There may be some good records in existence of the details of temperature, climatic conditions, times of vatting, and so forth, where this second system is in force. The comparison between the two would be of extreme value.

Notes of the Week.

This is decidedly a "plum" year. According to an old proverb—

"A 'plum' year is a 'dumb' year,"

though what is meant is not clear.

"The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few," is the cry of many farmers at present.

In some places the "town crier" is calling for men to work at harvesting.

Remarks about the weather get monotonous, but it may be noted that the present spell of sunshine is a record for this year.

The glorious harvest moon looks down on harvest operations in full swing throughout the country.

Afforestation is an awkward word, but it expresses a very good movement—the conversion of barren land into forests.

An historic example of turning lands—but in that case good land—into forests was the action of William the Conqueror in making the New Forest in Hampshire for hunting purposes.

Continental experts have shown how it can be done - leguminous crops nourished with plenty of mineral food; then the crop ploughed under and the trees planted.

"Give fools their gold and knaves their power,
Let fortune's bubbles rise and fall,
Who sows a field or trains a flower,
Or *plants a tree* is more than all."
(Old Song)

To strike or not to strike? that is the question at present agitating the minds of many men.

Numbers of men in different trades seem to have been inoculated with strike germs; railwaymen, boiler-makers, coal porters, and even hop pickers are feeling the influence of the germ.

Everyone in England considers himself a judge of horses, and apparently also of mushrooms, with the sad result that in the first case, many buyers of horses get taken in every year, and in the second case consumers of mushrooms get taken into the cemetery.

Mr. Haldane, it is said, carries a cane made of cordite. This seems unnecessary, as he has recently been so much blown up about the horse-shoes.

If he suffers from nightmare, he probably dreams that he is being kicked by an animal with enormous American hoofs.

When Queen Victoria ascended the throne we imported into this country only 400,000 qr. of wheat a year. Now we import over 26,000,000 qr. annually.

We then grew about 12,000,000 qr., now just about half as much. This is a topsy-turvy example of the usual law of supply and demand.

There is evidence that mankind has made use of horses for more than 5,000 years, and we shall not be able to do without them.

Some people try to make a distinction between "cyder" and "cider." The former, it is claimed, may be a concoction of chemicals, but the latter must be apple juice.

The public know no such distinction. When a man asks for a drink of cider he doesn't bother about the spelling of the word, but expects something made from the juice of apples and not chemicals.

The English chicken must look to its laurels. The manager of a large London hotel, using thousands of chickens a year, says the English chicken is inferior to the French bird.

"Its breast is not so full and meaty, nor its skin so good." The English breeders must buck-up and not be chicken-hearted.

Agricultural industries in France occupy 18,000,000 people, or 45 per cent. of the whole population.

Happy France, said a German statesman; it can produce sufficient to feed all its inhabitants without being obliged to buy from outside sources.

There seems to be some special affinity between music and farming. Paderewsky breeds prize pigs, and Madame Calvé, the great singer, has a model farm, and has just won a gold medal at an agricultural show.

Mr. Ailwyn E. Fellows offers the perfection of counsel to farmers when he recommends them not to press new wheat on the market.

Unfortunately, in most cases, necessity is the dominent factor of the situation.

Stranger: "That's a splendid pair of pigs. What are they worth now?"

Farmer: "When they have been killed by a motor car they will be worth at least £20 to me."

A lady, intent on raising some chickens, purchased some eggs for the purpose. She inquired of a friend how long the eggs should remain under the hen, and the friend replied:—"Three weeks for chickens, and four weeks for ducks."

Some time after, they met again, and the friend asked how the chickens had turned out

"After three weeks," the lady replied, "I looked and there were no chickens, so I took the hen away, as I didn't want ducks."

The Gloucestershire Agricultural Society have decided to hold their 1908 show at Cirencester, on May 13 and 14.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24.—Banbury Association's Annual Show—Great Gransden Agricultural Show—Rugby Foal Show and Sale.—Ayr Ram Show—Sale of Mr Bruce Ward's Jerseys at Droitwich—Special Sale of Suffolk Rams, Ipswich—Shalden Manor Sale, near Alton, Hampshire—Great Agricultural Sale at Sowerby, near Garstang.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25.—Ayr Ram Sale—Altrincham Show—Byfield Foal Show and Sale—Frome Show and Sale—Sending-in Day for the Market Rasen Show—Summercourt Fair—Winscombe Fair—Newark Cheese Fair—Newark Sheep Sale—Newark Special Sale of Shearling Rams.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26.—Ashbourne Shire Horse Society's Show—Lampeter Show—Witheridge Great Fair—Shorthorn Sale at Drayton House Farm, Thrapston—Ampfield Estate Sale, near Romsey, Hampshire—Ewenham Manor Sale, near Louth, Lincoln—Great Horse Sale at Doncaster.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27.—Ashford Ram Show and Sale—Dorchester Annual Show—Bridgwater Fair—Shorthorn Sale at Brigstock—Sale of Shorthorns at Waterbrook, near Kendal—Kent Marsh Sheep, Great Sale at Ashford—Great Sale of Pigs at Weedon, Northamptonshire—Shrewsbury Cattle Sale.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28.—Michaelmas Day falling on the Sunday this year, the many Michaelmas Fairs will be held this day—Marazion Great Fair—Wincanton Great Fair—Great Sale of Blackfaced and Cheviot Ewes at Thornhill, Dumfries—Horse Sale at Yeovil.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30.—Wainhouse-corner Agricultural Fair—Louth Shire Horse Society's Show—Sale of Milking Cattle at Poynings Sussex—Fairs at Stamford and Sleaford.

Forthcoming Sales.

For the Kent and Romney Marsh Sheep Breeders' Association's eleventh annual show and sale which takes place on Friday next, the 27th inst., at the Cattle Market, Ashford, an entry of 500 rams has been received, all the well-known flocks being represented, as the following list of consignors will show:—Earl Sondes, Earl Verulam, Lord Harris, Major Powell Cotton, Captain Somerset Webb, and Messrs. E. Ascherson, A. Amos, J. P. Barnes, J. B. Blake, G. Buley, F. de B. Collard, Exors. of the late W. Elvy, G. Farmer, Chas. File, John File, T. File, Arthur Finn, L. H. and G. W. Finn, O. E. d'Avigdor Goldsmid, G. M. Goodson, E. Hambrook, L. Hardy, M.P., J. H. Harvey, W. R. Harvey, G. E. Hawkins, A. J. Hickman, S. Kingsnorth, W. E. Long, J. D. Maxted, W. Millen, F. Neame, J. P. Palmer, J. E. Quested, H. Rigden, G. C. Swindells, H. Walters, and T. Wotton.

The society as usual offers several prizes, and there should be some keen competition for these. The sale will commence at 11 o'clock precisely, and will be conducted by no fewer than nine auctioneers. Catalogues, &c., can be had of the secretary, Mr. W. W. Chapman, Room 4, Mowbray House, Norfolk Street, Strand, W.C.

In connection with Newark Cheese Fair on Wednesday next, Messrs. Edward Bailey and Son will hold their annual sale of Lincoln Longwool sheep. The animals entered are from the flocks of several well-known breeders, including Mr. J. Abraham, Mr Joseph Brocklebank, Mr. John Brocklebank, Mr. W. E. Brocklebank, Captain J. S. Thorpe, Mr. E. J. Storm, Mr. T. S Cullen, Mr. E. J. Bullen, Mr. W. H. Pate, Mr. R. B. Burrows, &c. The sale will commence at 9.30 a.m.

Mr. Gavin Low will hold a special sale on Thursday next of 1,000 head of Irish store cattle, including bullocks and heifers of the different breeds. The sale will take place at his mart, 50, Prussia Street, Dublin.

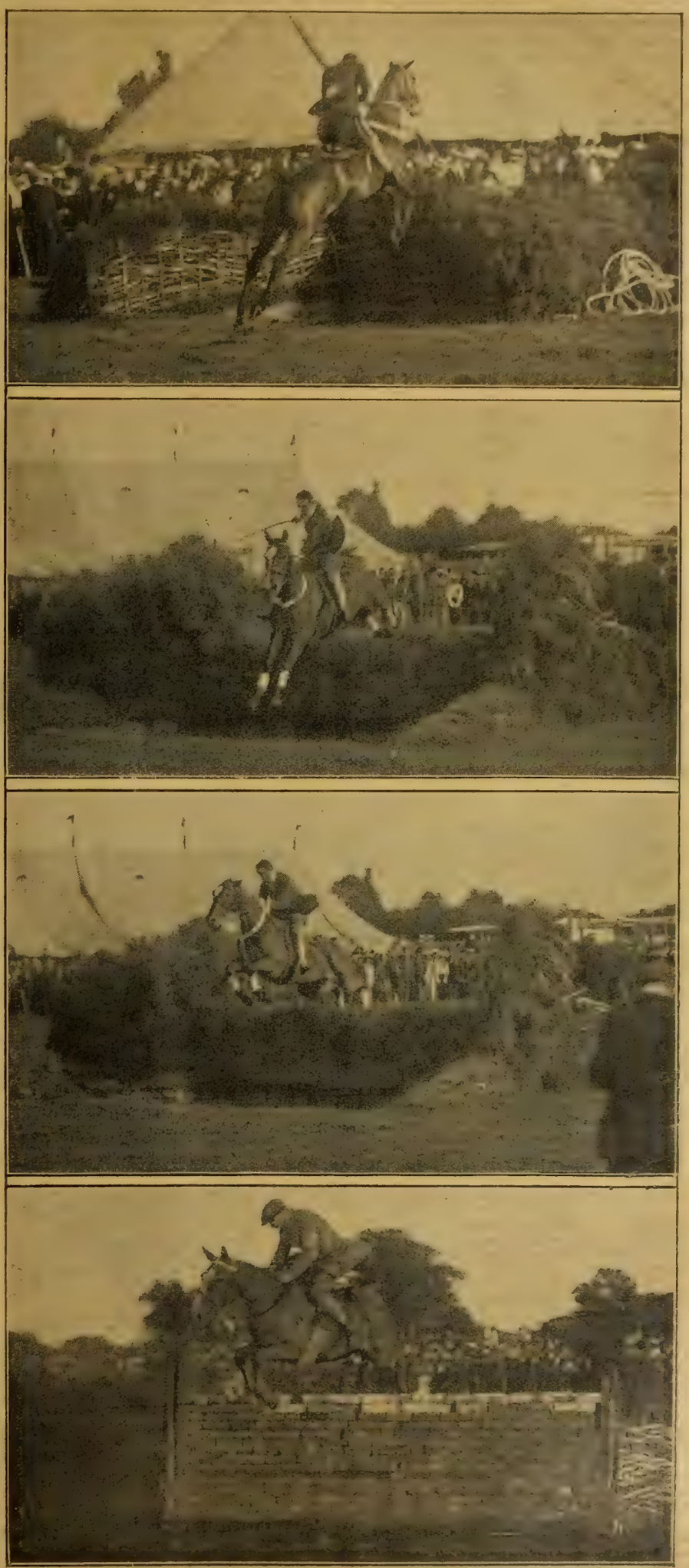
Mr. Ailwyn E. Fellowes, late President of the Board of Agriculture, speaking at the Mutford and Lothingland Agricultural Association's Show at Lowestoft on Tuesday, congratulated the farmers on having what appeared to be a fairly average harvest. They could not tell for certain until the threshing took place, but he hoped the quality would be better than they at present anticipated. He thought they would agree with him that such of them as were not pressed for money would do well not to thresh in a hurry this year. A year or so ago an enormous amount of grain was thrown on the market, and prices immediately went down. He had never been against small holdings, but he believed that they could not generalise; they might answer in one part of the country and absolutely fail in another. Where, however, they got suitable land and men who knew their job, small holdings might be a success in many districts. If the new Agricultural Commissioners were men who knew their business, and were not Party politicians, the Act would be a success. He hoped that it would be given a fair trial in the agricultural districts.

HORSES.

Four Good Jumpers.

One of the most popular features of gatherings of agriculturists, particularly in the hunting districts, is the jumping; and many of the best jumpers are known up and down the length and breadth of the land. Particularly is this the case with the horses of Messrs. Glencross Brothers, of Frome, and therefore our illustrations of some of these will be of interest of our readers.

The first represents Mr. James Glencross on his mare Kitty, taking off at a jump, which came as a surprise to man and horse, a ditch in front of a furzed hurdle. The obstacle was very successfully negotiated. The second represents the same rider on Nomination clearing the ordinary water jump of a show ring, whilst the third is a view of Mr. J. Glencross clearing the same jump on Bampton. A remarkably good jumper from the Duke of Beaufort's country, Mr. F. J. Smale's Compton Bassett, has recently distinguished itself in the West, and we give a snap shot of this animal giving one of the best performances ever seen over a wall 4 ft. high.



FOUR GOOD JUMPERS.

(See the Letterpress.)

NOTES AND JOTTINGS.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse.'
—"Merchant of Venice."

Death of a Well-known Farmer.

A YORKSHIRE farmer, whose name was well known out of his own county, passed away on Monday, the 16th, at the residence of his son, Perssick House, Marton-in-Cleveland. This was Mr. Robert Brunton, who for upwards of half a century was closely identified with the agricultural, public, and social life of the village of his adoption, Marton-in-Cleveland. It was late in the forties or early in the fifties—I cannot say to a year—that Mr. Brunton went to Marton, which was then one of the most sporting little places in the whole of Yorkshire. Mr. Brunton's natural taste for sport was here fostered and directed in an excellent school, and he soon became a regular attendant at the meets of the Cleveland Hounds, and one of the hardest riders of his day. His stud was never a very large one, but he was a fair judge, and probably had fewer bad horses than fall to the lot of most men through his hands.

Mr. Brunton as an Exhibitor.

MR. BRUNTON was contemporary with the great development, in showing which took place last century, and he took an active part in it. When he first came to Marton there was but the Cleveland Agricultural Society, then under the able secretaryship of his neighbour, Mr. Thomas Parrington, and the Whitby Agricultural Society between the Esk and the Tees, if we may accept one or two village shows which have afterwards developed. It was in the later fifties that shows began to increase rapidly all over the country, and it was in the later fifties that Mr. Brunton first became an exhibitor.

His First Show Horse.

HIS first show horse of any great merit was the Hunter mare Lady Bennett by St. Bennett, a famous horse who sired many good Hunters in his day, dam by Lord Collingwood. What was the next cross I do not know, but it is not unlikely that her granddam was a Cleveland Bay mare. I do not remember the name of her breeder, if indeed I ever knew it, but in her young days she was the property of Mr. William Vaughan, of Middlesborough Lodge. She was a bit of a handful, and proved too much for him, and she was purchased by Mr. Brunton, who was not very particular in those days about what a horse did so long as he galloped and jumped. So Lady Bennett became his property at a very reasonable figure, and his friends got a fright now and then, for she was very resolute and he let her go, and she jumped some remarkable places. Doubtless they had many narrow escapes, but they had no mishaps, and eventually she became a very useful and handy Hunter. He showed her at the Durham County Show at Stockton-on-Tees in 1859, when she was eight years old. Jumping was then quite a new feature at shows, and there were no jumping prizes, the Hunters shown in saddle having to jump the fences to the satisfaction of the judges. These fences were a thorn fence and posts and rails. At Stockton the posts and rails were 5 ft. high and fast, and Lady Bennett was the only one in a class of some fifteen or sixteen that would face them. Ridden by her owner she cleared them gallantly and, of course, won. She then became the property of Mr. Thomas Parrington, for whom she won in the class for the best Hunter mare at the great show at Middlesbrough in 1860, where she had seven of the best mares of the day behind her. Mr. Parrington won other prizes with her, and hunted her some seasons, and then he sold her to Mr. Smart Atkinson for a brood mare.

Then and Now.

IT is worth while pausing a moment to consider the difference there was in the conditions of Hunter showing then to what there was within a few years, and to what there is in the present day. Then secretaries of shows went into the hunting field to find the horses to fill the classes, and they found them. Lady Bennett was nine years old when she won at Middlesbrough and she had been hunted hard since she was five years old—probably since she was four. Within a very few years the show Hunter had never been hunted at all unless letting him see hounds a few times in the cub hunting season can be called hunting. During the last few years there has been an improvement in this direction, though I dare say there is room for more. However, the trend of present day show Hunter management is a marked improvement on what prevailed a few years ago. A well-known exhibitor took me to see one of his horses at the commencement of the show season, and remarked that he would make a better appearance later on, as he had been hard hunted.

Joe Bennett.

TO return to Mr. Brunton's horses. Good as Lady Bennett was, her son Joe Bennett was a better, and he certainly earned for himself the position of one of the great show Hunters of the nineteenth century. A big, upstanding bay, with the best of shoulders and beautifully turned, he had plenty of bone, and was perhaps one of the best gallopers for a big horse I ever saw. His weak point was his feet, which were rather brittle. There was not much fault to find, but they certainly might have been better with regard to the toughness of the horn, but so far as I know, there never was any trouble with them. Joe Bennett was by Hark Forward, and was foaled in 1867 when his dam was sixteen years old. Mr. Brunton purchased him in the latter part of the summer of 1868, and he won a few prizes for him as a yearling. In the following year he made a pretty clean sweep of the two-year-old prizes, and Mr. Bruton refused 200 guineas for him, a handsome profit, indeed, on the 30 guineas he had cost only a year previously. His name soon became known all over the country, and he travelled far and wide, picking up prizes at most of the shows he visited. He made his first great mark at the Yorkshire Show in 1871, when he won in the four-year-old class with fifty-three horses behind him. Mr. Brunton used to say this was the best class of Hunters he ever saw in a ring, and I have heard other good judges say the same. Joe Bennett continued his winning career, and a rare lot of victories to his credit in 1872 and 1873. In the latter year he won at the Royal at Hull, and also took the champion prize of 100 guineas for the best Hunters in the show. At this show after he had won he was objected to for his wind by the owner of a horse he had beaten all over the country from the days that he was four years old, a piece of very questionable taste to say the least of it. He was put through a very severe trial, and he came through the ordeal with flying colours, but unfortunately he happened on an accident. The going was very deep owing to some heavy thunder showers, and in turning the corner of the ring he got a very bad over-reach, cutting himself badly. The injury was so serious that permission was given to miss the parade, and it also prevented his sale to the late Mr. Hall, of Scarborough, who offered 600 guineas for him. Joe Bennett holds the unique record of having won at Darlington seven years in succession.

Mr. Brunton as a Horseman.

MR. BRUNTON could certainly not be called an elegant horseman, nor were his hands of the best; and horses that he had ridden a great deal always had a carriage of the head of their own. But if they were not interfered with they carried you, and as is not infrequent with men whose seat and hands do not appear right in the eyes of the critics, he was a much better horseman than he seemed. He had consummate judgment, and he could get to the end of a very good run on a very bad horse, which is a good test of ability in the saddle. He was one of the best men to hounds I ever knew, seeming to know intuitively the way they were bending in the big woods where they could not be ridden up to. His rule for riding to hounds was a simple one. "It is the easiest thing in the world," said he to me once; "it's only knowing when to open a gate and when to jump one." Mr. Brunton, who was in the seventy-sixth year of his age, leaves a wide circle of friends to mourn his loss.

THE LOOKER-ON.

The Earl of Durham's Clydesdales.

The Earl of Durham's well-known stud of Clydesdale horses having once again outgrown its accommodation, a choice selection was on Thursday brought under the hammer at Bowes House, near Fence Houses. This was the fifth similar sale here, the last having been about five years ago. Last week the catalogue consisted of forty animals, all of them well bred, and including several who have had a distinguished career in the showyard. They included seven mares, thirteen foals, three three-year-old fillies, four two-year-old fillies, four yearling fillies, two yearling colts, four yearling geldings, two two-year-old colts, and one three-year-old gelding.

There was a large company of buyers present, and one or two fairly high prices were realised, but they did not on the whole come up to expectation. The top price was given by Mr. Brydon for the Seaham Harbour Stud, who paid 110 guineas for Lambton Maud, a fine bay mare who has had a distinguished career in the showyard, her prizes including firsts at the Northumberland and Durham County Shows this year, and twelve other awards. Seventy guineas was the next highest price, and this was given by Mr. Mountford, of Cooper's House, for Lambton Chance, another mare by the same sire—viz., Lord Stewart, whilst a similar sum was given by Mr. Trotter for the three-year-old filly Lambton Darkie by Sir Andrew. The best of the two-year-old fillies—viz., Lambton Queen, with four prizes to her credit—was secured by Mr. Marshall, of Stranraer, for 68 guineas. A pair of two-year old colts brought 85 guineas, and 65 guineas was paid by Mr. Jones, of Fence Houses, for a handsome three-year-old gelding, second in his class at the recent Durham Show at Wynyard.

The total of the sale was £1,512 10s., the averages being as follows:—Seven mares, £394 5s.; thirteen foals, £322 7s.; three three-year-old fillies, £174 6s.; four two-year-old fillies, £169 11s.; four yearling fillies, £162 15s.; two yearling colts, £58 16s.; four yearling geldings, £72 19s.; two two-year-old colts, £89 5s.; one three-year-old gelding, £68 5s. Appended is a list of the chief sales:—

		Gs.
MARES AND FOALS.		
Filly foal by Lambton McGregor	Mr McLaren	25
Lambton Roberts	Mr Park	51
Lambton Chance	Mr Mountford	70
Filly foal by Baronson	Mr Hall	59
Lambton Maud	Mr R Brydon	116
Filly foal by Lambton McGregor	Mr Brown	35
Lambton Model	Mr Mitchell	40
Filly foal by Hiawatha Godolphin	Mr Marshall	33
Lambton Jewel	Mr J Snowdon	41
Filly foal by Lambton McGregor	Mr McKenzie	24
Lambton Daisy	Mr Fell	42
Filly foal by Lambton McGregor	Mr Mitchell	33
FOALS.		
Filly foal by the Comet	Mr Hall	21
Colt foal by Lambton Friar	Mr G Liddell	16
THREE-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.		
Lambton Darkie	Mr Trotter	70
Filly by Lambton McGregor	Mr G Liddell	44
Lambton Minnie	Mr Neasham	52
TWO YEAR-OLDS.		
Lambton Pride	Mr Furness	55
Lambton Lily	Messrs Brown Bros	46½
Lambton Dora	Mr Brownless	38
YEARLING FILLIES.		
Lambton Primrose	Mr Marshall	44
Lambton Queen	Mr Marshall	68
YEARLING COLTS.		
Lambton Squire	Mr Brownless	30
Lambton Viscount	Messrs. Brown Bros	26
YEARLING GELDING.		
Bay g by Lambton MacGregor	Messrs Brown Bros	29
TWO-YEAR-OLD COLTS.		
Lambton Victor	Messrs Brown Bros	46
Brown c by Silver Cup	Mr Little	48
THREE-YEAR-OLD GELDING.		
Bay g by Lambton MacGregor	Mr Jones	65

Sale at the Seaham Harbour Stud.

The annual sale of Clydesdale horses, Hackney and Hackney ponies, and store cattle, belonging to the Seaham Harbour Stud, Ltd., took place on Wednesday at Seaham Harbour and attracted a large company of buyers from all parts. The whole of the stock was offered without reserve, and comprised fifty-six Clydesdales, three Hackneys, and sixty-nine head of cattle. The Clydesdales, the feature of the sale, consisted of seven filly foals, eleven colt foals, two one-year-old fillies, one one-year-old colt, one two-year-old colt, five two-year-old fillies, six three-year-old fillies, eighteen brood mares, and six two-year-old geldings, all of which maintained the high reputation of the stud. Most of them were by the principal stud horse Silver Cup, sire Baron's Pride, dam Balmedie Vesta, which has won the highest honours in the national showyards of the United Kingdom, and year by year his reputation as a breeder is enhanced. The foals were a splendid lot, seven of them having each won one or more first prizes.

The sale commenced with the cattle, which were well bred and forward in condition, some of them being quite fit for the butcher. The sixty-nine head were quickly disposed of at fairly satisfactory prices, the average working out at £13 each; the top price was £16 5s.

The prices obtained for the Clydesdales were in many instances disappointing, and many of the buyers certainly got big bargains. The filly foals were first offered, and the best price for these was 63 guineas, given by Mr. Taylor, of Renfrew, for Noontide, by Silver Cup, first prize winner in the open class at the Durham County Show, the only time exhibited. Junket, another of Silver Cup's produce, which won the open special at the N.E. Durham Show, and first at the Northumberland Show at Tynemouth, was bought by Mr. Walter Aitkenhead, of Polmont, for 50 guineas, whilst at 60 guineas Mr. W. R. Trotter, of North Acomb, was the purchaser of Mimosa, by Silver Cup, winner of two firsts at the N.E. Durham Show, first at Durham County Show, first at Beamish and Pontop Show, and first at Lambton. The others made up to 45 guineas, the average for the seven being £47 2s. Colt foals did not sell so well, for the average for eleven was about 32 guineas, top price being 47 guineas, paid by Mr. Taylor, Renfrew, for Silver Coin, by Silver Cup, winner of two seconds at N.E. Durham Show, second at Greatham, first and second at Durham County, and first and second at Easington.

Two yearling fillies sold at 28 guineas and 25 guineas, whilst the best figure for the two-year-olds was 44 guineas, realised by Nectary by Silver Cup, purchased for the Cramlington Coal Co., who obtained a number of choice animals. Other two-year-old fillies made 33 guineas, 27½ guineas, &c., whilst Silver Pearl, a grey two-year-old colt, made 50 guineas, Mr. J. T. Cox, Sunderland, being the purchaser. The six three year-old fillies averaged £47 3s., three going at 30 guineas or over, and the top price was 58½ guineas, paid by Mr. M'Clement Irvin for Cambric, a lovely black, whose dam won first at the Tyneside Show and second at Brampton, the only times exhibited.

Eighteen brood mares were offered, and they were typical of the highest class of animals bred by the stud, but prices on the whole were disappointing, one being sold for as low as 10½ guineas, whilst the highest was only 57 guineas. This latter sum was got by Necklet by Holyrood, which has won fifteen first prizes, two seconds, and one championship. She was secured by Mr. Lewis, Penrith, whilst Mr. T. Oswald, of Durham, paid 56 guineas for Gratitude, which won first prizes at Yarm and the Durham County show, both as a yearling and a two-year-old. The brood mares altogether realised £727 13s., an average of £40 8s. each. The six geldings ranged in price from 12½ guineas to 51 guineas, the latter sum being given by Mr. Marshall for a two-year-old bay, which has already won fourteen first prizes. The three Hackneys were the last to be disposed of, but only reached moderate prices, two going at 20 guineas each, and the other at 18 guineas.

The amounts realised by the various lots were as follows:—7 filly foals, £329 14s.; 11 colt foals, £350 14s.; 2 yearling fillies, £55 13s.; 1 yearling colt, £28 7s.; 1 two-year-old colt, £52 10s.; 5 two-year old fillies, £159 12s.; 6 three-year-old fillies, £282 19s.; 18 mares, £727 2s.; 6 geldings, £183 15s.; 3 Hackneys, £60 18s.; total, £2,231 5s. Cattle, £897 12s. Grand total of sale, £3,128 17s.

Sale of Shetland Ponies.

An interesting sale of Shetland Ponies took place at Earlshall, Leuchars, N.B., on the 14th inst, when there came under the hammer a number of this picturesque breed from the studs of Mr. R. W. R. Mackenzie, Earlshall; the Seaham Harbour Stud Company; Mr. Gavin Hadden, Earls Croome, Worcester; Mr. George A. Miller, Lawmuir; Dr. Charles Douglas, Auchlochan; Mr. Francis N. M. Gourlay, Moniaive, Dumfriesshire; Colonel Smythe, Methven Castle; Mrs. Fawcett, Old Branhope Grange, Leeds; Mr. Wm. Matthewson, Comrie Castle, Fife; Mr. David Dow, Balmanno; Messrs. J. and D. Beveridge, Aberdalgie; and Mr. John Kidd, Rhynd, Leuchars.

The attendance was the largest seen at these sales—this was the fourth of the series—and trade was brisk throughout at prices which showed an improvement on former sales. There was an active demand from America, and an average of £22 14s. 9d. for eighty-four ponies, with 120 guineas paid in two instances, was regarded as very gratifying. The purchaser at this price was Mr. Taylor, of Pitlivie, who was purchasing for the Argentine, and the animals he bought were:—Mr. Mackenzie's Merryman, a compactly-built four-year old, standing 35 in. high, sired by Tiffor, and winner of the first prize at the Highland Society's Show last year; and Mr. G. A. Miller's Steinar, a handsome nine-year-old black stallion, and a son of Duncan, and whose pedigree on both sides goes back to Jack and Dandy. Mr. Mackenzie got 60 guineas from Miss Broughton for a three-year-old filly, and sold several at 30 guineas each, whilst Mr. Miller's second best price was 45 guineas given by Dr. Douglas for Barbara, a five-year-old mare. Mr. W. Matthewson sold at prices up to 37 guineas, Mrs. Fawcett's lot made up to 36 guineas, whilst

other consignments made up to 30 guineas. The averages were as follows:—

Mr. G. A. Miller (6), £42 6s. 8d.; Mr. R. W. R. Mackenzie (30), £26 9s. 10d.; Mrs. Fawcett (11), £25 11s. 7d.; Messrs. Beveridge (1), £21; Mr. F. N. M. Gourlay (8), £19 12s. 6d; Mr. W. Matthewson (5), £19 6s. 10d.; Mr. G. Hadden (9), £16 0s. 10d.: Mr. D. Dow (2), £12 1s. 6d.; Dr. Chas. Douglas (2), £11 5s. 9d.; Colonel Smythe (8), £11 1s. 7d.; Mr. John Kidd (2), £11 0s. 6d.

Sale of Clydesdales at Perth.

Some capital prices for pedigree Clydesdales were obtained at the sale held at Perth Auction Mart on Tuesday. The catalogue consisted of selections from various well-known studs, and many first-class animals came under the hammer. Mr. Kerr, of Harvestoun, had the honour of securing the top price of the sale and also the best average, for his fifteen made the excellent average of £149 10s. 6d., whilst the top price was 345 guineas paid by Mr. Scott Wyllie, Milton, for the famous prize-winner, the four-year-old Veronique. Queen of the Ochills, also from Mr. Kerr's stud, realised 300 guineas, from Mr. Wighton, Durham, Budding Rose went at 220 guinea to Mr. Lamb, Heaton House, Carlisle, whilst seven others of Mr. Kerr's lot made three figure prices. Lord Polwarth sold twelve at an average per head of £66 15s. 4d., the best prices being 165 guineas given by Mr. Dawson, Pollockshields, for the three-year-old Heather Bell, and 140 guineas by Mr. Scott, Kinpurney, for a filly; Mr. Robertson, Bullion, Invergowrie, sold three at an average of £103 15s. 4d., top price 150 guineas; Mr. Wilkie, Pitlaudie, Redgorton, sold Barney, foaled in 1905, for 190 guineas to Messrs. Dalgetty Bros., Dundee; whilst the last animal to be sold, a yearling colt sent by Messrs. Stirling and Son, Darlingfield, Kero, realised 320 guineas, Mr. Dunlop, Dunmuir, Ayr, being the purchaser.

PIGS.

Sale of Mr. F. A. Holman's Berkshires.

The sale of the herd of pure bred Berkshire pigs belonging to Mr. F. A. Holman, at Whitchurch, Hants, was well attended, and some satisfactory prices were obtained. Boars made up to 21 guineas, which sum was paid by the Reading Corporation for Dunley Lad. Other boars were bought by Captain Henderson at 14 guineas; Mr. Barnes, Birmingham, 11 guineas; Earl Carnarvon, 9 guineas; and Messrs. A. Brown, Ltd., at 8½ guineas, the average per head working out at £8 3s. 6d. Sows and their litters realised up to £21, given by Mr. Buckley for Dunley Fairy and her litter of five, whilst he also gave £18 7s. 6d. for Welmore Orchard Pride and her litter of nine, a similar price being given for Dunley Choice and her litter of six by Mr. A. Hiscock. Sows and gelts averaged £7 2s. 3d. each, the best prices being 17 guineas, Mr. A. Hiscock; £16 5s. 6d., Lord Calthorpe; 9 guineas, Dr. Macdonald; and 8 guineas, Mr. Cannings.

During a fair at Keady, co. Armagh, two cows, frightened at a passing traction engine, dashed into a dwelling house, and rushing into the parlour, created great havoc among the furniture, breaking almost every article in the room before they were driven out. On leaving the parlour they rushed upstairs, where they again wrought destruction on everything in their way, and it was with great difficulty that they were once more driven into the street.

SHEEP SALES AND FAIRS.

Bourne.

At a sale held at Bourne on Tuesday close upon 2,000 animals were penned, the quality being considerably above the average. Theaves and ewes sold well, the former making as high as 66s, and the latter up to 64s. There was a smaller show of lambs than usual, but they sold well, making up to 40s. There was a good sale for rams, prices ranging up to 6½ guineas.

Driffield.

The second of the lamb fairs at Little Driffield took place on Thursday, when some thousands of lambs were offered and met purchasers at prices varying from 38s. to 42s. per head. The principal feature of the fair, however, was the ram sales, which, year by year, have so increased in number, until the auctioneers found much difficulty in getting through with the number of lots they had to dispose of, and in finding purchasers. Rams, in some classes, made good prices, but a good many failed to find purchasers.

Messrs. G. W. Clark and Sons, of Driffield, submitted several lots of rams. The first to be put into the ring were thirty from the well-known flock of Leicesters, the property of Mr. E. F. Jordan, of Eastburn, and they made some good prices, £15 10s. being given for one by Mr. Stamper, of Highfield, Nunnington, whilst others made £11 (Mr. Bearpark, Sewerby, and Mr. R. Featherstone, Cayton), £10 5s. (Mr. Stephenson, Skelton), £10 (Mr. Consitt, Cranswick), £9 5s., and £9. Twelve Lincoln shearlings were offered from Mr. Jackson, of North Dale, and made up to £8 5s., paid by Mr. J. C. Stubbins. The top figure in the Buckton Hall lot of Lincoln shearling rams, from Mr. Joseph Jackson, fifteen of which were offered and sold, was £8 10s., Mr. D. Stubbins and Mr. E. Banks, Carnaby, being purchasers at that figure. The lot averaged about 6 guineas. Twelve Lincoln shearling rams from Mr. T. A. Jackson, Bridlington Grange, averaged close up to £11, the highest-priced ram going to Mr. Triffit, of Flixton, for £18, whilst other top prices were:—W. Wright, Lissett, £15 5s.; J. Buttle, Newbald, £15; W. Wright, £12; Mr. Walker, Scarborough, £11 5s.; and Mr. Walmsley, £10 10s.

Messrs. Hornby and Wilberfoss offered several several consignments from leading local breeders. Twenty Oxford Down ram lambs, the property of Mr. A. J. Coulson, Watton Abbey, were first offered, and made up to £7, the ten sold averaging about £5 10s; twenty Oxford Down ram lambs from Mr. W. Wilson, Speeton, were put into the ring, and made up to £12 10s; the lot averaging £6 6s.; thirty Lincoln shearling rams, the property of Mr. T. Crompton, Nafferton, made up to 15 guineas, which sum Mr. F. Buttle, Kirkburn, gave for a grand animal, the next best price being paid by Mr. C. Goodlass, Skerne—viz, £9 12s. 6d. Fifteen shearling Leicester rams from the flock of Mr. Stamper, Nunnington, made good prices at the beginning. Mr. Grundon, Neswick, paid £10 10s. and £14 3s. 6d. for Lots 1 and 2 respectively, but prices were not maintained, and declined to about 6 guineas for the remainder sold. The best price for the thirty Lincoln shearling rams from Mr. H. F. Duggleby, Nafferton, was 4 guineas given by Mr. H. Brumby, South Dalton, for Lot 1, others paying up to £9 9s., whilst shearling Leicester rams, the property of Mr. T. Barker, Potter Brompton, Sherburn, made 5½ guineas.

Messrs. Sugdon and Pearce-Brown disposed of the Leconfield Lincoln rams (fourteen in number) the property of Mr. Robert Fisher. The whole realised a total of £116 0s. 6d., or an average of £8 5s. 9d. per head. Mr. White, West Lutton, paid the highest price, viz, £13 2s. 6d., and Mr. Kirkham, on behalf of the county council farm at Garforth, purchased a couple at £8 8s. and £7 17s. 6d., whilst Mr. Wressle, North Dalton, and Mr. Brumby, South Dalton, paid 9 guineas. Only eight of the ten rams sent up from East Heslerton by Mr. T. Campion found purchasers, the average being £7 5s. 8d. per head.

Messrs. Cranswick and Cranswick's consignments included Leicesters belonging to Messrs. J. E. and C. H. Simpson, Hunmanby, and these made an average of close upon £7 per head, the highest prices being £11 10s paid by Mr. W. D. Megginson, and £10 by Mr. Crowe, Speeton. The Field House, Hunmanby, lot averaged about £7 6s. each, the highest-priced ones being Mr. Rookes, Flotmanby, £13; Mr. E. F. Jordan, Eastburn, £12; Mr. E. Holtby, Haywold, £10; the other prices ranging down to £5 5s. each. Mr. Spink's Lincolns made an average of £10 7s. per head, and the individual prices, which include £20 9s. 6d., 16 guineas, and 15 guineas were amongst the best of the year.

Mr. Hy. Jackson had for disposal twelve rams from Mr. John Jackson, Etton Westwood, and of these Mr. Heward and Mr. R. Jackson took one each at 10 guineas, the other prices ranging from £8 8s. to £5 15s. 6d. The average was over £7 per head. A number of gimmer shearlings belonging to Mr. Beachill, Beswick, made up to 52s. 6d. each.



Scenes at Little Driffield Ram Fair, held on Thursday, when a large number of Leicester Sheep, the property of Members of the Leicester Sheep Breeders' Association, were sold by auction.

Alford.

Alford ram fair was held on Tuesday, when the entries were more numerous than in previous years, and with a good attendance of buyers some satisfactory prices were realised.

Prizes offered by the Alford Bull Fair Committee were won as follow:—Best shearling ram: Messrs. J. W. Farrow and Sons, Strubby. Pen of twenty Lincoln breeding ewes: 1, Mr. R. Kemp, Thurlby; 2, Mr. W. R. Mountain. Mr. T. J. Parker, of Markby, was the judge. Among the sales effected were:—Messrs. Dales, of Earlesthorpe, half-bred lambs at 41s. 6d. and 31s.; Mr. Parnell Chapman, rams at 59s.; Mr. White, Markby, ewes at 39s. 6d. and 58s.; Mr. Charles Kirkham, ewes at 44s. 6d., 43s, and 45s., half-bred lambs at 33s. 6d., and Lincoln lambs at 31s., 38s., and 30s. 6d.; Mr. E. A. Young, Beesby, rams at 68s, and lambs at 32s. and 53s.; Mr. W. R. Mountain, ewes at 50s. 6d.; Mr. Kemp, of Thurlby, ewes at 57s. 6d.; Mr. H. Smith, Well, Lincoln he lambs at 34s., and rams at 2½ guineas and 2¾ guineas; Mr. J. Ranby, Bilsby, Lincoln he lambs at 39s. 6d.; Mr. G. J. Brown, Tothby, Lincoln lambs at 33s., and half-bred lambs at 37s. 6d.; Mr. W. Hildred, Sloothby, half-bred lambs at 39s.; Mr. T. Kirman, Habertoft, half-bred lambs at 41s., and Lincoln lambs at 39s. 6d.; Mr. W. Baker, Mawthorpe, Lincoln lambs at 31s.; Mr. J. Robinson, Bilsby, Lincoln ewes at 41s., and Lincoln lambs at 33s. 6d.; Messrs. J. W. Farrow and Sons, Strubby, shearling rams up to 8 guineas.

Findon.

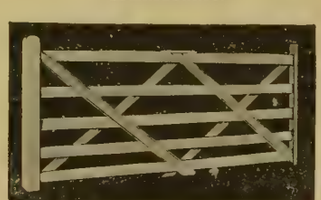
This famous Sussex lamb fair took place on Findon Downs, near Worthing, on the 14th inst., when considerably over 5,000 animals were brought under the hammer, and met an excellent trade at prices slightly in advance of last year; in fact, the executors of the late Mr. Robert Lee, of Cokeham Manor, Sompting, who sent one of the biggest drafts, over 300, obtained a higher average than in any previous year. The draft ewes, sold in one batch of a hundred, realised 45s. each, 10s. more

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GREASE IN HORSES.

T. MOTT'S Powder Lotion will cure Grease of all descriptions, 4 dozen 47s, 1 dozen 12s., sample pkts. 1s. 3d. Mott's Condition Powder, 21s. 11d. per case.
Sample tins, 5s., sent carriage paid.
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In Lots of Six, at 9/- each, delivered.
" 12 8/9 "
" 24 8/6 "
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If Creosoted under pressure, 1/3 per gate extra.
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than last year, and 31s. was paid for a draft of fifty mixed lambs. The top price of 50s., however, was paid for a hundred draft ewes from the flock of Mr. Hugh R. P. Wyatt, of Cissbury. Mr. T. Gatley, of Pulborough, also got good prices, 47s. being paid for a pen of ewes; while 270 ewes, sent from Goring by Mr. G. E. Harrison, averaged 43s., the draft ewes being run up to 46s. Two pens of ram lambs, sent from Angmering Park by Mr. T. Peacock, and from Highden by General R. T. Godman, averaged close upon 105s. each, the Duke of Wellington being among the buyers. The entire flock of Mr. Batchelor, of Greatham, aggregated £463 10s., an average of 51s. 6d. per head.

Hawick.

The annual sale of rams at Hawick by Messrs. A. Oliver and Son took place on Wednesday, when there were sold about 900 Cheviot, Leicester, Oxford, half-bred, and black-faced rams. This is the principal market in Scotland for the sale of Cheviots, and about 650 rams of this class were disposed of, drafts being forward from all the crack breeders. Mr. John Elliot, Hindhope, sent thirty Cheviots, one of which was sold for £90. This was a fine two-year-old, Peebles Dandy, sired by Dandy Sandy. Others sent by this breeder made £65, £34, and £30. Dinmonts sold at £76 and £33, and from the Newton Bellingham lot one was sold for £51, whilst other consignments made up to 35 guineas. There was a ready sale throughout, and while several of the averages show a fall there is an advance on others. Leicesters ranged up to £18, obtained for a Sandyknowle animal, the next best being 10 guineas for one from Ashybank. Oxford Downs made up to £9, and Blackfaces to £4.

Hull.

A large number of rams were offered for sale at the Hull cattle market on Wednesday. Prices for Lincolns ruled rather low, in consequence of the very large supply. A good many were not sold. Mr. J. W. Fisher sold some pure-bred Hampshires, which brought an average of 4 guineas each. By order of the executors of the late Mr. R. Taylor, of Withernwick, about a score of Lincoln long-wool shearling rams were offered by Messrs. George Tanton and Son, and realised up to £6 15s. each. Messrs. Tanton got through a number of rams belonging to Mr. R. Richardson, of Arnold, up to 18 guineas being paid. Messrs. Sugdon and Pearce-Brown sold a number of Lincoln long-wool shearling rams, the property of Mr. Wm. Maw, of Barton, which made up to 5½ guineas each.

Ilkley.

Close on 2,500 sheep were offered at Ilkley Fair on Wednesday, and they met a slow trade at the following prices:—Half-bred lambs, 20s. to 26s.; half-bred ewes, 40s. to 52s.; half-bred shearlings, 35s. to 45s.; lonks, 30s. to 35s.; Scotch ewes, 20s. per head.

Lord Leconfield's Southdowns.

Included in a sale of live and dead farming stock belonging to Lord Leconfield, which took place at Sutton Court Farm, Petworth, on Thursday, was the Sutton Court Southdown Hill Flock of 400 odd sheep, and the prices obtained proved very satisfactory. Mr. Marsh, who was buying for Mr. H. A. Daniell, Warlingham, gave 62s. a head for ten shearling ewes, the lowest price being 61s. One hundred and twenty shearling ewes were offered, and the average price secured was £2 15s. 9d. Mr. J. Taylor, of Midhurst, gave 65s. a head for ten four-tooth ewes, and, with the exception of one lot, the prices varied from 58s. upwards. The average for the seventy head was £2 19s. 8d. One hundred and seventy-two full-mouthed ewes were sold at an average price of £2 7s. 8d., the top price being 51s., whilst lambs made from 29s. 6d. to 36s., and rams up to £3 13s. 6d.

Masham.

The old-established sheep fair at Masham, which usually rules the prices for the various fairs held in this part of the north of England, was held on Tuesday. There were between 15,000 and 16,000 sheep shown, or 1,000 more than last year, but the attendance of buyers was somewhat poor, and the price of sheep and lambs decreased in consequence to the extent of from 3s to 4s. per head in buyers' favour, with the result that considerably more than half the sheep shown were left unsold at the close of the day. Prices ruled as follows:—Half-bred Masham lambs, of which there was the largest show, were quoted from 20s. to 28s. per head; twice crossed lambs, 34s. to 38s. per head; Scotch lambs, 10s. to 13s. 6d. apiece; half-bred ewes, 35s to 42s. per head; half-bred shearling sheep, 35s. to 55s. apiece; and half-bred shearling gimmers, 40s. to 50s. per head; pure bred Wensleydale shearling rams £6 to £12 10s. apiece, and ram lambs pure bred £4 to £6 apiece, with a very slow demand.

Newton St. Boswells.

The annual sale of half-bred draft ewes at Newton St. Boswells took place on Monday, when Messrs. John Swan and Sons, Ltd., had on offer fully 11,800 draft ewes, which number was greatly in excess of last year's entry. There was a full attendance of buyers, and a good steady trade was experienced at prices showing an average rise of about 1s. per head compared with last year's currencies. The demand hardened towards the finish of the sale, and a satisfactory clearance was effected. The top price of the day was 59s. per head, obtained by a very superior lot of tupped ewes consigned by Mr. Murray, Bettyfield, Kelso. The purchaser was Mr. Grinsdale, Newbigging, who bought last year's draft from the same flock. A small selected lot from Nettlingflat also sold to Mr. Grinsdale at 57s. The seconds from Bettyfield made 55s. apiece, the buyer being Mr. Clark, Newton, Markinch, and 55s. was also realised for the Hillhouse consignments. Various other lots sold from 50s. to 54s. 6d., but the sensation of the sale was the disposal in one lot of a consignment of 348 ewes from Cessford. They were bought by Mr. Ronaldson, Kilduff, at 53s. per head.

On Thursday Messrs. Swan and Sons had on offer fully 4,500 half-bred gimmers, 300 Cheviot gimmers, a few lots of feeding sheep and rams, and touching 6,000 rams of all classes, making in all a total of over 10,800 head. A start was made with the lambs, for which a fair trade was experienced, and, quality considered, the resultant prices were about equal to those of the previous sale. The top price was 38s. 6d. per head, given by Mr. W. C. Bowe, Thornton Law, for a superior consignment of cross Oxfords from Wester Ulston. Another good lot from West Mains sold at 36s. 9d. apiece to Mr. A. Boazman, Kelso; and Mr. Scott, Fenton Barns, got the Roxburgh Newton consignment, also a good lot of cross Oxfords, at 33s. The gimmers constituted a large and good show, but they met with a very unequal trade, the fall from the high prices ruling last year being in some instances as much as from 4s. to 6s. per head, particularly in the case of secondary class sheep. The top figure of 60s. was obtained for a small, selected lot of beautiful gimmers from Pinnacle, which were bought by Mrs. Scott, Mersington; whilst various other better-class consignments of half-breds sold at from 50s. up to 57s. A very good lot of Cheviot gimmers from Little Dean were bought at 49s. 6d. by Mr. Inch, Quickswood. The few feeding sheep on offer and the Oxford Down rams realised fair prices; 58s. per head was realised for a choice lot of half-bred gimmers consigned by Mr. Todd, jun., The Inch.

Partney.

There was a fairly good supply at Partney Sheep Fair on Wednesday, especially of breeding ewes, but these sold at from 4s. to 5s. per head lower than at the previous fair; lambs, too, were down fully 2s. per head, and generally speaking trade was not good. Stock ewes made up to 42s., gimmers 70s.; Lincoln lambs, 42s. 6d., and half-breds 44s. There was only a small show of Lincoln shearling rams, but the supply more than exceeded the demand. More interest was centred in the sales of Hampshire Down ram lambs, which sold at 5 guineas to 8½ guineas each. The following were the details of the Lincolnshire shearling rams:—Captain E. M. Grantham, West Keal, total, £49 17s. 6d., average £5 4s. 5d.; Mr. L. W. Stephenson, South Thoresby, total £86 2s.; average £7 16s. 5d.; Mr. W. Stovins, Dexthorpe, total £132 6s., average £6 19s. 3d.; Messrs. W. Crowder and Sons, Thornton, total £120 4s. 6d., average £12 0s. 5d; Messrs. J. T. and A. W. Needham, Hutton Grange, total £203 2s. 6d., average £7 5s. 1d.

Scunthorpe.

At Scunthorpe September Ram Fair, held on Tuesday, there were more rams than required, and only the best lots were sold. Mr. W. C. Brown's Appleby flock averaged 7¾ guineas, one fetching 13½ guineas, and Mr. George Spilman's averaged 7½ guineas, the highest price of the fair being 14½ guineas. There was a very large show of sheep, both for the butcher and for breeding purposes, and a capital sale. Gimmers made from 50s. to 66s., breeding ewes from 44s. to 54s., and lambs up to 38s. each; fat sheep, wethers 9d., ewes 6d. to 7d.

Sleaford.

The eighteenth annual sale of Lincoln rams and registered Long Wool theaves, ewes, and lambs at Sleaford took place on Thursday, when Messrs. Earl and Lawrence offered nearly 4,000. Buyers and dealers mustered in force, and trade ruled brisk. Rams made 5 guineas to 45 guineas; theaves, 55s. to 76s.; ewes, 36s. to 68s.; lambs, 32s. to 43s.; and pedigree Hampshire Down rams, 5 guineas to 8 guineas each. Valuable prizes were offered, the awards being as follows:—Shearling rams—1, Mr. H. Goodyear, Ansterby; 2, Mr. F. Money, Silk Willoughby. Twenty breeding theaves—1, Messrs. S. E. Dean and J. M. Dean, Threekingham; 2, Mr. F. Ward, Quarrington; reserve, Mr. R. B. Burrows, Leadenham. Thirty lambs—1, Mr. A. Leedale, Dorrington Grange; 2, Mr. S. Wright, Ruskington.

Wilton.

Something like 33,000 sheep were on offer at the Wilton September Sheep Fair, and with a large attendance of buyers and good keep prospects, trade was brisk at quite 4s. per head better than at Britford, after taking into consideration that the sheep have been kept another month. The general run of prices in the fair was:—Regular and draft ewes, 45s. to 56s.; two-teeth ewes, 46s. to 60s.; grazing ewes, 35s. to 43s.; ewes of mixed

ages, 47s. to 53s. ; fat wether lambs, 38s. to 56s. ; medium wether lambs, 43s. 6d. to 50s. ; smaller wether lambs, 35s. 6d. to 43s. ; mixed lambs, 36s. to 46s. 6d. ; chilver lambs, 38s. to 48s. The Earl of Pembroke offered a prize for the best pen of 100 wether lambs, and it was secured by Mr. W. J. K. Waters, of Bishopstone, with a splendid pen of lambs, afterwards sold in two lots of fifty at 62s. 6d. and 62s. a head.

Messrs. Waters and Rawlence held their accustomed sale, the entry comprising 14,100 head, which met a good trade at the following rates :— Regular draft ewes, 47s. 6d. to 59s. ; draft ewes, 45s. 6d. to 47s. 6d. ; grazing ewes, 35s. to 43s. ; ewes of mixed ages, 47s. to 53s. ; two and four-teeth ewes, 45s. to 60s. ; ewe lambs, 41s. to 50s. ; fat wether lambs, 50s. to 62s. 6d. ; medium ditto, 43s. 6d. to 49s. ; smaller ewer or wether lambs, 35s. 6d. to 43s. ; mixed lambs, 36s. to 46s. ; small cull lambs, 23s. to 33s. Messrs. Waters and Rawlence also submitted to auction about 250 ram lambs and rams, Mr. J. Flower's making 3 to 9 guineas ; Mr. Drake's, 3 to 10 guineas ; Mr. Dibben's, 5 to 8 guineas ; Mr. C. Coles', 4½ to 6½ guineas ; and Mr. Hulse's, 3 to 4 guineas.

At Messrs. John T. Woolley and Wallis' sale of ewes and lambs there were on offer 8,352 in 176 lots, all of which, with the exception of one lot, were sold at extremely satisfactory figures, higher prices being realised than for many years past. Over-aged draft ewes, good on tooth and udder, made from 57s. to 40s ; six-teeth ewes, 62s. 6d. ; four-teeth ewes, 57s. 6d. ; two-teeth ewes, from 64s. to 49s. Best wether lambs, 53s. to 43s. 6d. ; other wether lambs, 42s. to 38s. ; best chilver lambs, 47s. 6d. to 40s. ; other chilver lambs, 39s. to 34s. ; mixed lambs, 45s. downwards ; two-teeth wethers, 52s. 6d. to 51s. The same firm also disposed of 6,343, as against 5,651 last year. Generally speaking, trade was slow, a circumstance due mainly, if not entirely, to the large supplies on hand. The highest price paid for a ram sold by auction was 10 guineas, given by Mr. E. A. Milligan, Raunds, for one of the animals consigned by Mr. George Roberts, of Stowe, Weedon. For a ram lamb, the best price paid up to the same time was 13½ guineas, obtained for one of the animals sent in by Mr. A. S. Bowlby, J.P., Gilston Park, Harlow, Essex. The best average obtained for rams was the £8 1s. 9d. realised for the Oxford Down shearlings consigned by Mr. George Roberts, Stowe Manor House ; whilst for lambs the top average was £7 6s. 7d. for the Oxford Downs from the flock of Mr. H. Akers, Black Bourton, Cranfield, Oxon.

Messrs. R. W. Hobbs and Sons, Kelmscott, Lechlade, made an average of £8 1s. with thirty-two Oxford Down shearlings. Mr. G. Childs, Grandborough, paid the highest price, 12 guineas, and also bought at 8 guineas. Others of these rams went to Mr J. P. Toone, High Cross, Rugby, Mr. J. L. Humphrey, 11 guineas ; Mr. R. Deacon, Mr. J. S. Stanhope, Claybrooke, 10 guineas ; Sir A. Brooke, Great Oakley Hall, 9½ guineas, 8½ guineas, and 6½ guineas ; Mr. A. Reeve, Crick, 9 guineas ; and others up to 8½ guineas. Messrs. Hobbs' lambs, twenty-two in number, averaged about 6 guineas, the top prices being Mr. J. S. Stanhope, 10 guineas, and Mr. T. Clarke, Clipston, 9 guineas.

Hereford.

The third of the special annual ewe and ram sales held under the hammer of Messrs. A. and D. Edwards took place in Hereford Cattle Market on Wednesday. There was a large number of buyers, and satisfactory prices were obtained. Shropshire



The animal shown above is the Welsh Mountain Shearling Ram with which Mr. O. Price, Nantyrhan, Cray, Brecon, won a First Prize at this year's Show of the Bath and West and Southern Counties Society.

about seventy ram lambs at from 65 guineas to 3 guineas.

Messrs. John Jeffery and Son's sale comprised 6,003 sheep and lambs, and 35 ram lambs and rams. Regular draft and draft ewes made 45s. 6d. to 57s. 6d. ; four-teeth and six-teeth ewes, 52s. to 64s. ; two-teeth ewes, 46s. 6d. to 60s. ; grazing ewes, 32s. to 44s. ; wether sheep, 44s. to 51s ; working wether lambs, 38s. to 50s. ; ewe lambs, 37s. 6d. to 47s. ; mixed lambs, 35s. to 42s. Ram lambs, 3 guineas to 6 guineas ; shearling rams, 4½ guineas each.

The Earl of Chichester's Southdowns.

The Earl of Chichester having let Hoddern Farm, Newhaven, the whole of the pure-bred Southdown flock of 481 ewes in regular ages, 174 full-mouth and draft ewes, 160 stock ewe lambs, 100 wether lambs and rams was disposed of by auction. On Thursday in the presence of a large company of breeders, and with bidding brisk, the animals were quickly disposed of at satisfactory prices. The average per head for the ewes and lambs worked out as follows :—39 over age ewes, 39s. ; 138 full-mouth ewes, 47s. 4d. ; 151 six-tooth ewes, 50s. 8d. ; 170 four-tooth ewes, 54s. 10d. ; 168 two tooth ewes, 59s. 8d. ; 161 ewe lambs, 33s. 8d., and 103 wether lambs, 30s. 7d. Shearling rams made up to 4 guineas, six-tooth rams to 3½ guineas, and ram lambs from 1½ to 3 guineas each.

Northampton.

Northampton Ram Fair was held at the Cattle Market on Thursday. The weather was brilliant, and there was a large attendance of farmers and dealers. The supply of stock was the largest for several years, there being a heavy increase in the returns in each department, sheep numbering ewes made up to 54s., which sum Mr. F. Hawkins got for fifteen one and two-year-old ewes, the purchaser being Mr. Jones, Warlow. Other sheep sales were :—Mr. J. Davies, Stoke Prior, twenty two and three-year-old ewes at 50s. 6d., Mr. W. Probert, Llangarren Court ; Mr. B. C. Ridgely, Eyton, thirty one, two, and three-year-old ewes at 53s., Mr. Goode, Tenbury ; Mr. H. S. Williams, Stockton Bury, twenty two and three-year old ewes, 53s. 6d., Mr. Eakim, Tamworth ; twenty-five registered ewes, 50s. 6d., Mr. Andrews, Bullingham ; and Mr. E. T. Cave, Kimbolton, 9 two-year-old Shropshire ewes, 53s. 6d., Mr. Meredith, Worcester. Radnor and cross bred ewes realised from 37s. to 48s., whilst the chief transactions in Shropshire rams were as follows :—

Shearling rams : Mr. A. P. Turner, 11 guineas ; Mr. Matthews, Hollow Farm, Dinedor ; 7½ guineas, Messrs. Riley Bros., Marston ; 6½ guineas, Mr. Sherratt, Ocle Pychard, and Mr. T. Jones, Skynlas, Glasbury ; 7 guineas, Mr. J. E. Powell, Warham ; and others up to 6 guineas, Mr. H. R. Evans, Court of Noke ; 7½ guineas, Mr. Medlicott, Peterchurch ; 9½ guineas, Mr. Harris, Abergavennny, Mr. J. W. Dee, Wollas Hill ; 8½ guineas, Mr. Matthews, Holme Lacy ; 10 guineas, Mr. Andrews, Stretton Sugwas ; 9 guineas, Mr. Murch, Huntingdon ; 8 guineas, Mr. Wood, Thruxton ; and others to 7 guineas, Mr. T. Morris, Weston Court. Three-shear ram : 6½ guineas, Mr. Harris, The Sheriff, Kington.

Ram Lambs.—Mr. Thomas Abercrombie, Castle Farm, Madley : — Hampshire-Oxford ram : 4 guineas, Mr. W. Wiltshire, The Grove ; 3 guineas, Mr. Wiltshire ; and others at 2¾ guineas. Mr. H. Moore, Shucknall Court : Mr. Williams, Sutton, and others at 2 and 2¼ guineas ; and Mr. T. Morris, Weston Court : 3 guineas, Mr. Millichip, The Venn, and Mr. Baker, Kinley, Letton.

The Aghavoe Shropshires.

The sale of the flock of Shropshire sheep belonging to Mr. R. F. H. White, Aghavoe, Ballacolla, Queen's County, which took place on Monday, proved quite the event of the season to Irish sheepbreeders, the attendance being a very large one, and included several English and Scotch buyers. There was a keen demand, and some capital prices were realised. Mr. Bibby paid the two highest prices of the day—viz, 62 guineas for a fine shearling ram by Aghavoe Eclipse, and 40 guineas for a ram lamb, the second prize winner at Belfast and Dublin, by Ulster Councillor. Mr. Alfred Tanner paid 30 guineas for the first prize ram lamb at Belfast and Dublin, by Downton Count, whilst Lord Barrymore and Mr. R. Hamilton Stubber paid 22 guineas and 21 guineas respectively for ram lambs by Downton Count. To return to the shearling rams, the next best price to that paid by Mr. Bibby was 34 guineas, given by Captain Napier for the first prize-winner at Belfast, and second at Dublin this year. Major Lambart gave 30 guineas for the fourth prize-winner at Dublin, Mr. P. Cullinan gave 25 guineas for a shearling by Starling, and 18 guineas for another by Aghavoe, other purchasers paying up to 15 guineas. The two stock rams, Cornstalk and Ulster Councillor, both made 25 guineas each, the former going to Mr. Jackson, Kilkea, Castledermot, and the latter to Mr. T. Bullar, Coupar Angus. The shearling ewes made up to 7 guineas, two shears to 6½ guineas, and the young breeding ewes, sold in pens of five, realised from 3½ to 10 guineas, whilst for ewe lambs the range was 2½ to 5 guineas. The whole flock of 298 head, including ninety-seven lambs of this year, made the splendid average of £5 19s. 6d. each.

The twenty-seven shearling rams and stock rams averaged £15 5s ; fifty shearling ewes £4 12s. each ; forty five two-shear ewes, £4 9s. ; seventy-five young breeding ewes, £5 5s. 9d. ; thirty-three ram lambs, £7 9s. ; and sixty five ewe lambs, £3 12s. each.

Ashford.

At Ashford on Tuesday, Messrs. W. and B. Hobbs disposed of several lots of rams. A consignment of Southdown ram tegs from the flock of Lord Northbourne was bought by Messrs. C. Player, Heritage, Ashley-Dodd and Hann, at from £5 5s. to £6 16s. 6d., and averaged over £6 per head. Ten of Mr. G. Scott's Southdown ram tegs averaged £7 14s. per head, the range of values being from £5 5s. to £8 18s 6d., and the buyers—Messrs. W. Johnson, A. E. Dadds, F. Finn-Kelcey, T. H. Pearson, Ashley Dodd and E. Marshland. For nine of Mr. Vickers' Southdown ram tegs from £4 4s. to £6 16s. 6d. was given by Major Knight Bruce, Messrs. J. Kingsmill, Ashley-Dodd, J. Luckhurst, Davison, E. Marsland, and R. Hogben, and the average came out at a bit over £5 15s. 6d. per head. A consignment of Hampshire Down ram tegs from the flock of Mr. F. Rawlins, of Salisbury, made from £4 14s 6d to £7 7s.

Barnstaple.

At Barnstaple Fair—one of the oldest in the Kingdom—held on Wednesday, the supply of sheep exceeded that of previous years, over 3,000 being penned, mostly breeding ewes, which sold well. The general prices were :—Notts breeding ewes, 40s. to 48s. ; mongrels, 35s. to 45s ; horn ditto, 36s. to 42s. ; fat lambs, 28s. to 34s. ; fat ewes, £2 each ; Notts rams, £2 to 12 guineas ; other rams, £4 to £5 ; keeping lambs, 28s. to 32s ; store wethers, 40s to 44s. ; Exmoor breeding ewes, 35s. to 40s. As regards the rams, the chief sales were as follows :—Seven Hampshire Down lambs from Mr. J. Joyce, of Milverton, 3¾ to 4½ guineas ; six rams belonging to Mr. Turner, of Parkham, 10, 6½, 4½, and 5 guineas ; and two from Mr. Yeo made 8 and 5 guineas, the former price being paid by Sir Redvers Buller.

Transactions in Store Stock.

(Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

At Rathkeale Fair, co. Limerick, held on September 18. Moderate-sized fair ; demand good for conditioned cattle, but slow for thin animals. Calves, 2nd class, £3 10s. to £4 10s. ; third class, £2 15s. to £3 5s. ; yearlings, 1st class, £8 10s. to £9 ; 2nd class, £6 10s. to £8 5s. ; third class, £5 to £5 10s. ; two year-olds, 1st class, £12 to £13 10ss. ; 2nd class, £9 to £11 10s. ; 3rd class, £7 to £7 15s. ; three-year-olds, 1st class, £15 to £16 15s. ; 2nd class, £14 10s. ; springers, 1st class, £16 to £18 ; 2nd class, £12 10s. to £15 10s. Very small supply of lambs ; demand fair. Lambs, 1st class, 32s. to 35s. ; 2nd class, 28s. to 31s. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, 20s. to 25s. each.

At Naas Fair, co. Kildare, held on September 18, there was an average supply of cattle ; demand very slow, and a clearance not effected. Yearlings, 2nd class, £5 10s. to £7 7s. 6d. ; two-year-olds, 1st class, £11 to £13 15s. ; 2nd class, £8 15s. to £10 15s.

AUCTION SALES.

Auctioneers will favour us by sending in their advertisements as early in the week as possible. Charges for announcements under this heading Six Shillings an inch.

By Messrs. IRELAND.

Norwich, Norfolk.—Ireland's Norwich Hill Auction Mart (established 50 years). Every Saturday. Fat Bullocks and Sheep, Store Sheep. Special Spring and Autumn Store Cattle Sales.

MESSRS. IRELAND solicit consignments for these important weekly sales; best market value assured.

Cattle consigned to Ireland's, Norwich, will be properly fed and carefully attended to.

All cattle weighed upon entry to the sale ring if desired. Full particulars to be sent to—

IRELAND'S, Auctioneers.
Norwich, Norfolk.

By Messrs. FERRIS & PUCKRIDGE.

SALES OF REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWN SHEEP,
BY
MESSRS. FERRIS & PUCKRIDGE, of MILTON, near PEWSEY, WILTS.

ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25.—At Maddington, near Amesbury, Wilts, the late Mr. H. E. C. Hooper's Flock of 1,822 EWES and LAMBS, including 837 two, four, and sixteenth EWES and 900 Clulver and Wether LAMBS.

ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27.—Eastridge, near Ramsbury, Wilts, by instructions of Mr. G. L. Waldron, who has let the farm, 217 EWES of regular ages, and 111 Clulver LAMBS.

ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 7.—Chute Lodge, near Andover, for A. Grant Meek, Esq., who has let the farm, 320 EWES of regular ages.

All the above sheep are registered in the Hampshire Down Flock Book, show much nobility of breed, and are generally of good size and quality.

Catalogues may be obtained of Messrs. FERRIS and PUCKRIDGE, Surveyors and Auctioneers, Milton, Pewsey, Wilts; and 82, Queen Street, London, E C.

By Messrs. J. T. WOOLLEY & WALLIS.

DOWN FARM, ROCKBOURNE, HANTS.
8 Miles from Salisbury and 4 Miles from Fordingbridge Station.

JOHN T. WOOLLEY & WALLIS are favoured with instructions to SELL by AUCTION, on the Premises, on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1907, the whole of the

LIVE AND DEAD FARMING STOCK
of the Executors of the late Mr. George Morrice, viz., the very old established Registered
HAMPSHIRE DOWN BREEDING FLOCK
of
776 EWES AND EWE LAMBS,
viz.:—

198 Two-Teeth Ewes.	230 Ewe Lambs.
161 Four-teeth Ewes.	2 Two-teeth Rams bred
137 Six-teeth Ewes.	by Mr. W. Young.
50 Regular Draft Ewes.	6 Ram Lambs bred by Mr. A. F. T. Drake.

23 CAPITAL CART HORSES.

Catalogues of the Auctioneers, The Castle Auction Mart, Salisbury; Market Place, Romsey; and High Street, Fordingbridge.

GREAT BATHAMPTON FARM, WYLYE, WILTS.
1 Mile from Wylye Station, 11 Miles from Salisbury, and 9 Miles from Warminster.

JOHN T. WOOLLEY & WALLIS are favoured with instructions from Mr. A. Warren, who is quitting, to SELL by AUCTION, on the Premises, on FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, the whole of his valuable

LIVE AND DEAD FARMING STOCK,
viz.:—
THE REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWN BREEDING FLOCK
of
510 EWES AND CHILVER LAMBS,
viz.:—

115 Four-teeth Ewes.	200 Chilver Lambs.
137 Six-teeth Ewes.	3 Ram Lambs
21 Regular Draft Ewes.	A Two-teeth Ram bred
A Four teeth Ram bred	by Mr. H. C. Stephens.
by Mr. J. H. Dibben.	Ditto, bred by Mr. J.
Also	Dean.

40 HEAD OF DAIRY CATTLE.
7 CAPITAL YOUNG CART HORSES.

Catalogues of the Auctioneers, The Castle Auction Mart, Salisbury; Market Place, Romsey; and High Street, Fordingbridge.

By Messrs. JOHN THORNTON & CO.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

THURSDAY NEXT, SEPTEMBER 26.—Mr. J. A. Preece's SHORTHORNS, at Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston.

FRIDAY NEXT, SEPTEMBER 27.—Mr. F. J. Steward's SHORTHORNS, at Whitehall Farm, Brigstock, Thrapston.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1.—Mr. G. T. INMAN'S BERKSHIRE PIGS, at Highmoor Farm, Henley-on-Thames.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3.—Col. Tufnell's and Mr. W. Dannatt's POLLED ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE, at Langleys, Chelmsford, Essex.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4.—Mr. R. Stratton's SHORTHORNS, at The Duffryn, Newport, Mon.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON & Co., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

By Mr. GAVIN LOW.

IRISH STORE CATTLE.

1,000 HEAD BULLOCKS and HEIFERS of the different ages and breeds will be offered at Auction Mart, 50, PRUSSIA STREET, DUBLIN, on THURSDAY, SEPT. 26, 1907.

GAVIN LOW.

By KENT SHEEP BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION.

REGISTERED KENT OR ROMNEY MARSH SHEEP.

THE Eleventh Annual SHOW and SALE of the Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep-Breeders' Association will take place at the Cattle Market, Ashford, Kent, on FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1907, at 11 a.m. prompt.

The prizes offered for competition at this Sale include a Challenge Cup, presented by the Vice-President (Lord Harris), for the best Ram other than a Yearling; the L. Hardy Challenge Cup, presented by L. Hardy, Esq., M.P. (the President); the Cooper Challenge Cup for the best five Yearling Rams, presented by Sir R. P. Cooper, Bart.; and cash prizes presented by Capt. Somerset Webb (the President Elect) and Messrs. C. E. Gunther, J. Howard and F. Neame, and in addition to these there is also offered a Special Prize for the best Woolled Ram.

In consequence of the offering of these valuable prizes the entry this year is comprised of a large selection, numbering 500, representative of the best strains of blood, and it includes many of the leading Rams of the year, and represents the pick of thirty-seven Registered Flocks, owned by the undermentioned flock-owners:—

The Right Hon. Earl Sondes (12), the Right Hon. Earl of Verulam (16), the Hon. Lord Harris (25), Major Powell Cotton (4), Capt. Somerset Webb (10), Mr. E. Ascharson (8), Mr. A. Amos (28), Mr. J. P. Barnes (12), Mr. J. B. Blake (4), Mr. G. Buley (8), Mr. F. de B. Collard (9), the Exors. of the late W. Elvy (10), Mr. G. Farmer (21), Mr. Chas. File (17), Mr. J. File (13), Mr. T. File (6), Mr. Arthur Finn (20), Messrs. L. H. and G. W. Finn (11), Mr. O. E. d'Avigdor Goldsmid (2), G. M. Goodson (6), Mr. E. Hambrook (5), Mr. L. Hardy, M.P. (9), Mr. J. H. Harvey (4), Mr. W. R. Harvey (9), Mr. G. E. Hawkins (7), Mr. A. J. Hickman (6), Mr. S Kingsnorth (9), Mr. W. E. Long (11), Mr. J. D. Maxted (15), Mr. W. Millen (30), Mr. F. Neame (24), Mr. J. B. Palmer (7), Mr. J. E. Quested (34), H. Rigden (50), Mr. G. C. Swindells (25), Mr. H. Walters (3), and Mr. T. Wotton (10).

The judging for the prizes will commence at 8.30 a.m. sharp, the first prize to be awarded being that for the best pen of five Yearling Rams, and the Sale will commence at 11 a.m. sharp, and proceed without intermission to its close.

Lunch and refreshments will be obtainable on the Show-ground, as usual.

Catalogues, when ready, can be obtained from Mr. W. W. CHAPMAN, the Secretary, Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep-Breeders' Association, 4, Mowbray House, Norfolk Street, Strand, London, W.C., to whom all enquiries in respect to this Show and Sale are to be addressed.

By Messrs. E. BAILEY & SON.

NEWARK CHEESE FAIR.

ANNUAL SALE OF BREEDING SHEEP, LAMBS, AND SHEARLING RAMS.

EDWARD BAILEY & SON will have for this important Sale on WEDNESDAY next, SEPTEMBER 25, a grand show of
3,500 SHEEP,
including superior Lincoln Long-woolled and Cross-bred LAMBS, also about 430 EWES and GIMMERS from noted Registered Lincoln Flocks, including the following, viz.:—Mr. J. Abraham, Hawton (F.B. No 245); Mr. Joseph Brocklebank, Carlton-le-Moorland (F.B. No. 10); Mr. John Brocklebank, Bassingham (F B. No. 24); Mr. W. E. Brocklebank, Carlton-le-Moorland (F.B. No. 423); Captain J. S. Thorpe, Coddington Hall (F.B. No. 138); Mr. E. J. Storm, Muskham (F.B. No. 388); Mr. T. S. Cullen, Rolleston (F.B. No. 412); Mr. E. J. Bullen, Newark (F B. No. 336); Mr. W. H. Pate, Waddington Heath (F.B. No. 263); Mr. R. B. Burrows, Leadenham (F.B. No. 29), &c.

Sale commences at 9.30 a m.

LINCOLN LONG-WOOLLED SHEARLING RAMS.

NEWARK CHEESE FAIR.

EDWARD BAILEY & SON will have for SALE by AUCTION, at this Fair, on WEDNESDAY next, SEPTEMBER 25, the following superior Lincoln Long-woolled SHEARLING RAMS from noted Breeders, viz.:—

20	from	Mr. John Brocklebank, Bassingham (F.B. No. 24).
25	,,	Mr. Joseph Brocklebank, Carlton-le-Moorland (F.B. No. 10).
10	,,	Mr. E. J. Storm, Muskham (F.B. No. 388).
5	,,	Mr. Wm. Oxley, Brant Broughton.
8	,,	Mr. Wm. Hutchinson, Marston.
5	,,	(Ram Lambs) Mr. W. E. Brocklebank, Carlton-le-Moorland (F.B. No. 423).
20	,,	(Shearlings) Mr. Benjamin Barker, Newton, Nottingham (F.B. No. 243). and others.

Auction and Valuation Offices, 7, Kirkgate, Newark.

By Messrs. COBB.

KENT.
STROOD ANNUAL STOCK SALE.

MESSRS. COBB will SELL by AUCTION, in the FAIR MEADOW, FRINDSBURY, near Rochester, within a few minutes' walk of the Strood Stations on the S.E. and C. Railway, on FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1907, at 11 o'clock precisely,

93 pure-bred Kent RAM TEGS from the well-known registered flocks of Messrs. F. Baker, C. J. G. Hulkes, J. Robinson, and R. G. E. Locke.

11 KENT RAMS and RAM TEGS, the property of Mrs. B. Tuff.

16 pure bred HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAM LAMBS, the property of G. F. Hohler, Esq, and from the registered flock of the Right Honble. the Earl of Darnley, and about
3,073 KENT, HAMPSHIRE AND HALF-BRED SHEEP AND LAMBS, viz.:—

1,119 KENT EWE TEGS,
403 KENT WETHER TEGS,
272 KENT 1, 2 and 3 LAMB EWES,
316 KENT TURNMARKED EWES,
45 KENT 2-year-old WETHERS,
741 KENT and HALF-BRED LAMBS,
50 HAMPSHIRE DOWN 1, 2 and 3-LAMB EWES,
127 HAMPSHIRE DOWN EWE and WETHER LAMBS,

the property of Messrs. W. Stunt, C. Lake, J. Pye, L. Maclean, H. M. Cobb, G. Castle, J. Edmonds, J. Mugeridge, J. W. Dickens, G. S. Miles, R. Goord, F. Wright, H. Hales, R. Bett, E. H. Harrison, A. E. Whitebread, T. Lingham, W. F. Esenton, W. J. Castle, G A. H. Smith, J. Bellamy, E. Randall, Stunt and Edmonds, Horne and Sons, Mrs V. de Michele, Mrs. B. Tuff, Mrs. Beslee, The Right Honble. the Earl of Darnley, and Sir C. Howard, C.B.

Luncheon will be provided.

Arrangements will be made for a supply of Trucks at Stood Station.

Catalogues may be obtained at the Bull Hotels, Rochester and Sittingbourne; Angel and Gardeners' Inns, Strood; Fountain Hotel, Canterbury; Star Hotel, Maidstone; Saracen's Head Hotel, Ashford; Ship Hotel, Faversham; and of Messrs. COBB, Surveyors and Land Agents, 53, Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, London, W.C., and Higham, near Rochester.

AUCTION SALES.

Auctioneers will favour us by sending in their advertisements as early in the week as possible. | *Charges for announcements under this heading Six Shillings an inch.*

By Messrs. AMBROSE & FOSTER.

THE LEEDS CASTLE FLOCK OF REGISTERED KENT SHEEP.

MESSRS. AMBROSE & FOSTER beg to announce that they are favoured with instructions from C. P. Wykeham-Martin, Esq., J.P., to SELL by AUCTION, at Greenway Forstal Farm, Hollingbourne, Kent, on

WEDNESDAY, the 25th DAY of SEPTEMBER, 1907,

At 11.30 o'clock a.m. (in consequence of the death of the late Mr. Thos. Powell),
The Whole of the

CELEBRATED LEEDS CASTLE FLOCK OF REGISTERED KENT SHEEP,

Comprising 584 Head, as follows:—

102 EWE TEGS,
55 ONE-LAMB EWES,
45 TWO-LAMB EWES,
62 THREE-LAMB EWES,
40 FOUR-LAMB EWES,
126 EWE LAMBS,
40 SHEARLING RAMS,
3 STUD RAMS,
35 RAM LAMBS,
76 WETHER LAMBS.

This Flock (Registered No. 32 in the Flock Book) will be found to possess to the full that excellence and uniformity for which it has always been noted. It represents one of the oldest flocks in the county, a large number of the late Mr. T. Powell's well-known flock having been purchased in 1894.

The place of sale is about one mile from Harrietsham Station (S.E. and C. Railway), and conveyances will meet trains.

Catalogues (when ready) may be obtained at the Place of Sale; the principal Inns in the neighbourhood; and of the AUCTIONEERS, 3, Market Buildings, Maidstone.

By Messrs. SPEEDIE BROS.

SPEEDIE BROTHERS' SALES.

STIRLING AUCTION MARKET.

SPECIAL SALE OF CROSS CATTLE, LAMBS, &c.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, at 10.30 a.m.—SPECIAL SALE of 600 CROSS, BLACK-POLLED, and AYRSHIRE FEEDING and WINTERING CATTLE; also 5,000 CROSS and BLACK-FACED EWE and WEDDER LAMBS, and BLACK-FACED FEEDING EWES.

13,000 SHEEP, 3,500 CATTLE.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, at 10 a.m.—GREAT ANNUAL SALE of 13,000 BLACK-FACED EWES, GIMMERS, and WEDDERS, and CROSS and BLACK-FACED EWE and WEDDER LAMBS.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, at 10 a.m.—GREAT ANNUAL SALE of 1,750 TWO, THREE and FOUR-YEAR-OLD WEST HIGHLAND BULLOCKS.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, at 10 a.m.—GREAT ANNUAL SALE of 1,750 ONE, TWO, and THREE-YEAR-OLD WEST HIGHLAND HEIFERS and ONE-YEAR-OLD BULLOCKS.

*** NOTE.—The above sales of Highland Cattle will afford buyers a selection in all classes which cannot be equalled in any other market.

SPEEDIE BROS., Auctioneers.

By Messrs. SIMMONS & SONS.

FROGMILL FARM, HURLEY, BERKS.
(3 miles from Henley-on-Thames, 5 from Marlow, and 6 from Maidenhead.)

NOTICE OF IMPORTANT SALE OF LIVE and DEAD FARMING STOCK, and good OLD HAY.

SIMMONS & SONS, having let the Farm, are favoured with instructions from R. W. HUDSON, Esq., to SELL by AUCTION, on the Premises, on

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1907, at 12 o'clock, the
LIVE and DEAD FARMING STOCK, comprising
9 SHIRE MARES AND GELDINGS,
2 NAGS,
10 DAIRY COWS,
110 CROSS-BRED LAMBS,
50 PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS,
the large collection of AGRICULTURAL DEAD STOCK off a 700-acre Farm, together with
13 RICKS of PRIME OLD HAY.

Catalogues may be obtained of the AUCTIONEERS, Henley-on-Thames, Reading, and Basingstoke.

CATTLE.

Sale of Mr. W. Kidner's Devon Cattle.

In consequence of the farm being given up the well-known herd of Devon cattle belonging to Mr. W. Kidner was disposed of at Fennington Farm, near Kingston. The herd comprised sixty young cows, heifers and heifer calves, nineteen young bulls and calves, and one steer. As was expected, there was a large attendance and a good demand. Dorothy Lass, a splendid cow calved March, 1902, fetched 61 guineas, Mr. Marcus Kidner, who has taken over the farm, being the purchaser. He also bought amongst others Auntie 2nd, calved December 21, 1900, for 50 guineas, Dorothy 3rd at 45 guineas, her heifer calf at 25½ guineas, Dumpty's Darling 2nd at 41 guineas, Darkey 3rd at 36 guineas, and Alicia 2nd at 41 guineas. The last named animal had a magnificent bull calf, which came in for keen competition, and it was not until 62 guineas had been bid that it was finally knocked down to Mr. Ingham Baker. The best of the bulls was Bickley Opal, for whom Mr. H. C. Hancock gave 60 guineas. The following is a list of the chief sales:—

COWS, HEIFERS, AND CALVES.		Gs.
Alice 2nd, c Jan 1, 1897	Mr C Morris	50
Mistletoe 3rd, c Oct 12, 1897	Mr M Kidner	28
Her heifer calf, c Feb 13, 1907	Mr M Kidner	18½
Azalea 3rd, c Jan 24, 1898	Mr Huxtable	40
Her heifer calf, c Dec 7, 1906	Mr J Kidner	23
Dorothy 3rd, c Jan 26, 1898	Mr M Kidner	45
Her heifer calf, c Oct 19, 1906	Mr M Kidner	25½
May Queen 5th, c Jan 16, 1899	Mr N Cook	30
Mignonette 2nd, c Mar 8, 1899	Mr E Bryant	35
Her bull calf, c Dec 2, 1906	Mr E Bryant	38
Gay Girl, c Apr 3, 1899	Messrs Malet and Tritton	32
Aralia 1st, c Aug 22, 1899	Mr C Morris	35½
Dorothy Lass, c Mar 6, 1902	Mr M Kidner	61
Her heifer calf, c May 18, 1907	Mr J Kidner	19
Good Girl 5th, c Mar 23, 1902	Mr Williams	31
Her bull calf, c Feb 2, 1907	Mr C L Hancock	28
Missy, c June 29, 1903	Mr B C Shepherd	30
Auntie, c Jan 18, 1904	Mr M Kidner	43
Her bull calf, c Jan 14, 1907	Mr Huxtable	28
Zenobia's bull calf, c Jan 22, 1907	Mr Tapp	28
Alicia 2nd, c Feb 4, 1904	Mr M Kidner	41
Her bull calf, c Jan 3, 1907	Mr I Baker	62
Arum, c Feb 14, 1904	Mr B C Shepherd	31½
Dumpty's Darling 2nd, c Mar 4, 1904	Mr M Kidne	41
Her heifer calf, c Jan 27, 1907	Mr B C Shepherd	20
Darkey 3rd, c Nov 1, 1904	Mr M Kidner	36
Alicia 3rd, c Dec 15, 1904	Sir W Peek	50
Auntie 2nd, c Dec 21, 1904	Mr M Kidner	50
Amelia 2nd, c Dec 29, 1904	Mr C Morris	41
Arum 2nd, c Feb 28, 1905	Mr W G Rawle	31½
Darkey 4th, c Oct 8, 1905	Mr J Kidner	30
Marigold 4th, c Dec 26, 1905	Mr H C Hancock	38
Mignonette 6th, c Jan 4, 1906	Mr C Morris	31
BULLS.		
Bickley Opal, c Jan 28, 1091	Mr H C Hancock	60
Relic, c Dec 13, 1905	Mr B C Shepherd	29

Sale of Shorthorns at Chipping Norton.

The sale of over 100 head of pure-bred Shorthorns from various well-known herds held at Chipping Norton was well attended, but with one or two exceptions prices were not high, the average for eighty-five head sold being £29 3s. 3d. Mr. H. C. Lewis entered four splendid cows, one of which—Glad Tidings 4th—made 115 guineas, the purchaser being Mr. W. M. Scott (Nether Swell Manor, Stow-on-the-Wold). Her bull calf fetched 60 guineas. Another, Catherina 7th, was bought by Mr. E. H. Cartwright, of Louth, for 100 guineas. Lord Calthorpe bought another for 62 guineas, and the fourth went to Mr. Gallent, of Windsor, at 51 guineas. Two one-year-old heifers and two one-year-old bulls were entered by the King; Elaine, a red roan heifer by Romulus, was purchased by Mr. Tindall, of Wainfleet, for 43 guineas, whilst Fascination, a descendant of the Fairy strain, a red bull by Enchanter, was purchased for 73 guineas by Mr. F. W. Matthews, Fyfield. Mr. F. Ames' Charming Duchess 84th, a red cow, sold for 62 guineas to Mr. A. Turner, Worcester; Sir H. Scott Murray, Henley-on-Thames, purchased Lord Moreton's Fortuna 11th, a year and a-half old red heifer, for 30 guineas, while Hawford Marquis, a red bull eleven months old, sent by Mr. F. Ames, sold for 70 guineas to Mr. Oswald, of Oswestry.

The contributors to the sale were as follows:—H.M. the King, Royal Farms, Windsor; Mr. Frederick Ames, Hawford Lodge, Worcester; Mr. Hugh Baker, Chedglow Manor, Malmesbury, Wilts; Mr. J. A. Bloss, Bourton-on-the-Water; Mr. J. A. K. Falconer, Long Sutton House, Winchfield; Mr. John Garne, Fulbrook, Burford, Oxon; Mr. A. C. Hall, Great Rollright, Chipping Norton; Mr. G. L. Foster Harter, Salperton Park, Haselton, Glos.; Mr. R. Hartley, Grove Farm, Shipton under-Wychwood; Mr. J. Horlick, Cowley Manor, Cheltenham; Mr. H. C. Lewis, Hean Castle, Saundersfoot, Pembrokeshire; Lord Moreton, Sarsden, Chipping Norton; Mr. Herbert Page, Hertford; Mr. Charles Pinnell, Kidlington, Oxford; Colonel Spence, Biddlesden Park, Brackley; Mr. William Toy, Chipping Norton; Colonel Turnor, Pinkney Park, Malmesbury; Mr. G. W. Tyser, Oakfield, Mortimer, Berks; Mr. John Wakefield, Langley, Ascott-under-Wychwood.

Sale of Mr. J. Harris's Shorthorns at Carlisle.

In consequence of the herd having overgrown its accommodation, Mr. J. Harris, of Brackenburgh Tower, Carlisle, decided to dispose of the greater portion of his well known Shorthorns, and consequently on Friday nearly fifty, which included a grand lot of heifers and young stock, were brought under the hammer at The Farm, Brackenburgh Tower. The herd has a widespread reputation, and as it was expected would be the case, the sale attracted a large company of buyers, including colonial and foreign purchasers, with the result that some capital prices were realised, no fewer than thirteen animals fetching three figure prices, whilst the average for the forty females was the good one of £99 18s. 8d., the nine bulls averaging £50 19s. 8d. Mr. H. Lewis, Pembrokeshire gave the top figure of the sale—namely, 285 guineas for Duchess 139th, a typical specimen of the breed, Mr. T. Holford, however, ran him very closely for he paid 270 guineas for another cow, Duchess of Armathwaite 6th and also 265 guineas for Duchess 141st. As will be seen from the following list of the chief lots sold, other females made up to 200 guineas, whilst this amount was also realised for a bull, Duke of Cumberland 21st, which was secured by Mr. J. Hobbs. The total realised by the sale was no less than £4,456 for forty-nine animals.

COWS AND HEIFERS.		Gs.
Duchess 135th	Mr Gunter	150
Oxford Duchess of Calthwaite 34th	Mr T Holford	70
Oxford Duchess of Calthwaite 35th	The Earl of Lonsdale	54
Bertha of Calthwaite	Mr Cazalet	65
Laurestina of Calthwaite	Mr Capstick	45
Duchess of Armathwaite 6th	Mr T Holford	270
Her red Heifer calf	Messrs. Dean Bros	155
Wildeyes 47th	Mr Cazalet	66
Oxford Duchess of Calthwaite 36th	Mr Victor Cavendish, M.P.	80
Golden Thistle	Mr Cornelius	150
Duchess of Armathwaite 8th	Messrs Dean Bros.	63
Laurestina of Calthwaite 2nd	Mr R H Thompson, Nunwick Hall	67
Duchess 139th	Mr H Lewis	285
Lady Janet 2nd	Mr J Watt	38
Her roan Heifer calf	Mr G Harrison	39
Lady Dufton 10th	Lord Ridley	92
Oxford Duchess of Calthwaite 37th	Mr Cazalet	105
Duchess of Cumberland 11th	Mr Sandy	170
Roan Empress	Mr J C Toppin	40

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

*** *The charge for Advertisements (if set in small type) under classified headings in this section is one penny per word each insertion.*

HORSES.

SHIRES.

BELL, CHARLES, Norley Hall, Norley, Cheshire. Breeder of Shires of most fashionable blood. Stallions for sale, hire, and service at home; Mares and Fillies for sale. Telegrams, "Norley"; Railway Stations, Acton Bridge and Delamere.

BENNETT, HUGH, The Newry Farm, Builth Wells. Shire Stallion, Nero of the Newry, for sale, six years old, off.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL, Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season.

BROOKS, J. B., Finstall Park, Bromsgrove. Breeder of Pedigree Shires and Hackneys. Stallions for service. Mares and Fillies for sale.—Apply W. Maddocks, Finstall, Bromsgrove.

CARINGTON, H. H. SMITH, Ashby Folville, Melton Mowbray. Breeder of Pedigree Shire Horses. Benedict 17761, and other first-class Stallions for service.—Apply to A. Watts, The otud Farm, Ashby Folville, Melton Mowbray.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

EADIE, J. T. C., Barrow-on-Trent, Derby. Stallions for sale or hire.—Apply William Bailey, Barrow-on-Trent, Derby.

ELLESMERE, The Earl of, Worsley Hall Farm, Manchester. A choice selection of Colts, Mares, and Fillies of the best prize blood for sale. Inspection invited.—Apply Mr. Stuart Heaton, Worsley, Manchester.

GRIFFIN, F. W., Boro' Fen, Peterboro'. Shire Stallions, Mares, and Fillies for sale, in natural condition; 40 pedigree mares kept for breeding; every facility to foreign buyers.

HENDERSON, Sir ALEXANDER, Bart. Shires—Markeaton Royal Harold, Champion London Show, 1897; Buscot Harold, Champion London Show, 1898, 1899, and 1900; and other Stallions. Colts and Fillies by the above for sale.—Walter Crosland, Estate Office, Buscot Park, Faringdon.

HUDSON, R. W., Danesfield, Marlow, Bucks. Stallions: Danesfield Stonewall 23214, Shustoke Monarch 23706, Traitor 15401, Beachendon Royal Harold 19325, Celtic 19458, Grange Chief 20529, Danesfield Spark 21319. Mares, Fillies and Stallions, including many prize winners, always on sale or hire. Inspection invited.—Apply Mr. Colin Campbell, Estate Office, Danesfield, Marlow.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Hereford. Stud Horses: Lockinge Lord of Misrule and Lockinge Bonny Lad, both by Lockinge Forester, full brother to Lockinge Forest King. Colts and Fillies for Sale.

JOHNSON, WALTER, Hatfield, Doncaster. Stud Horse, Lambton King 16757; Stallions for hire; weighty young Stallions, Mares, and Fillies on Sale.

KEARNS, H. W., Baxenden, Accrington, Lancashire, and at Wellcross Farm, Gisburn, Yorkshire. Breeder of Shire Horses. All fashionable strains.

KENWORTHY, JOHN W., Castle Hill, Kelsall, Chester. Shire Stallions for hire or service.—Particulars, apply James Cliff, Stud Farm, Kelsall.

LANG, JOHN D., Knowle, Sidmouth. Shire Horses. Stud Horse, Hendre Royal Harold 20562, sire Prince Harold, dam Blythwood Haroldine, own sister to Blythwood Conqueror, by Hitchin Conqueror. Young stock usually for sale.

MORBEY, C., Beechurst, Soham, Cambs. Stud Horse, Raydon Duke 18302. Mares, Fillies for Sale.—Apply A. W. Richman, Soham, Cambs.

MUNTZ, FREDERICK ERNEST, Umberslade, Hockley Heath, Warwickshire. Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, prize-winners.—Particulars from Mr. JOHN T. B. HARTLEY, Estate Office.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners, on Sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

PEARSON, E. E., Brickendonbury, Hertford. Shire Stallions, Mares and Stock for service and sale; prize winners. Stations: Hertford, Great Eastern and Great Northern.—Apply Estate Office, Brickendonbury, Hertford.

ROWELL, JOHN, Bury, Huntingdon. Breeder of Shires and Hackneys; Stallions for sale, hire, or service at home; mares and fillies for sale.

HORSES—*continued*

SHIRES—*continued.*

SALOMONS, LEOPOLD, Norbury Park Shire Stud, Dorking. Stud Horses: Hendre Champion 18079, Norbury Menestrel, Norbury Claudius, Norbury Dane 16867. Mares and Fillies usually for sale.—For Stud Fees and particulars apply to Mr. J. Bastin, Estate Office, Norbury Park, Dorking.

SUTHERLAND, His Grace the Duke of, K.G., Lilleshall, Newport, Salop. Stud Horses, Lilleshall Harold 22522 and Alston Chief 21072. Mares, Fillies, and Stallions on sale or hire.—Apply Alex. Crow, Lilleshurst, Newport, Salop.

THOMPSON, W. & J., Barron's Park Stud, Desford, near Leicester. One of the largest and best Studs of Shire Horses in England. All kept in natural condition. Stallions, Mares, and Fillies, of the most fashionable blood, always for sale at moderate prices. A number of well-bred, weighty Stallions for hire. Inspection invited.—Apply W. Thompson, jun., Desford, near Leicester.

TOPHAM, JOSEPH, Thorney Park, Peterborough, has for hire or sale pure-bred pedigree Shire Stallions. Also for sale, good young Mares and Fillies in natural condition. Inspection invited.

WHITEHEAD, Robert, Fashionably bred mares and fillies in natural condition on Sale. Stallions, Bodenham King 17177, Whitestone Prince Alfred 22930.—Apply J. M. JOHNSTONE, Hargate Hall, Buxton. Station, and telegrams, Millers Dale.

WHITEHURST, J. W., Markeaton, two miles from Derby. Shires on sale, either sex; best Derbyshire blood. Several well-bred, sound and reliable Stallions to let for season 1907.

HACKNEYS, &c.

ABBOT BROS., Thuxton, Norfolk. Breeders and exporters of Stallions. Mares, young stock, and Harness Horses, noted winners, by best and most fashionable sires. Illustrated catalogue free.

BENSON, ALFRED, Upper Gatton Park, Merstham, Surrey. Hackney Stallions: Copper King 7764, reserve champion, London Hackney Shows, 1905 and 1906; Copper Prince 8426; yearling Colts and Fillies by Copper King and other well-known Stallions for sale. For particulars, pedigrees, &c., apply to T. Hyett.

CARNLEY, S. B., Norbury House Stud, Alford, Lincolnshire. Pure-bred Hackney Stallions, Mares Foals, and young stock for sale and exportation, by Rosador Connaught, Garton Sirdar, Sir Augustus, Norbury Lightning, Norbury Councillor, and others; over 450 1st and champion prizes won by this Stud. In 1906 foals were shown at five different Shows, and won five 1st prizes and one champion cup. Stock sold to Italy, India, Japan, Australia, South Africa, etc. Inspection invited. Telegrams: Civitas, Alford.

FLETCHER, Mrs., The Grange Stud, Angram, York. Hackney Stallions, Mares, and young stock by the champion sires for sale and exportation. Also breeder of pure-bred pedigree Lincoln Long-woolled Sheep. Flock Book No. 403. Telegrams, Askham Richard. Stations, York or Copmanthorpe.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

SHETLAND PONIES.

BEALE, Mrs. A. J., Cacketts, Cudham, Kent. Prize-bred Pedigree Shetlands for sale; three grand Stallions at stud.

PONIES.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

PREECE, JOHN ADNEY, Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston, Northampton.—Herd of 250 Shorthorns, best Bates and Scotch blood; stock Bulls, Duke of Barrington 70th, Primrose Earl 89641, and Royal Baron 93192; Bulls and Heifers for sale.

ROTHWELL, R. R., Much Hoole, near Preston. Pedigree Shorthorns, chiefly Scotch blood. Stock bull Strowan Marquis 18th, winner of many prizes. Young bulls and heifers always on sale.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Millor Arcade, Preston.

TAYLOR, GEORGE, Cranford, Middlesex.—Bates' Shorthorns, deep milkers. Winners Milking Competitions, London Dairy Show, 1905-6. Bull Calves for Sale. Stock Bulls: Beau Sabreur, Drumcree, Rowbury, and Kirkcharm.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

CATTLE—*continued.*

SUSSEX.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath, Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Sussex Cattle (descended from the oldest and best strains of blood), unrivalled for their early maturity, the production of the best beef and working oxen, and ability to thrive in all weathers on the roughest fare. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for Sale.

HEREFORDS.

PULLEY, CHARLES THORNTON, Lower Eaton, Hereford.—Noted prize-winning herd of HEREFORD CATTLE. First prize Royal winners, Protector 19660, 1900; Eaton Champion 21351, 1903; and Ashleaf 3rd, 1905. This herd is headed by Eaton Champion and Glendower 2nd 22196, also a Royal winner. Bulls and Heifers for sale. Also prize-winning Shropshire Sheep.—Apply Mr. HEDLEY JONES, Lower Eaton Estate Office, Hereford.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has in 1904 1905 and 1906 won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by Endale, Bage Protector, and Fusilier. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited.—Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford Herefordshire.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for Sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

DEVONS.

BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton Williton, Taunton, Breeder of Pedigree Devon Cattle. A speciality for large size, with quality and robust constitutions; colour dark red. Sent to all parts of the world. Prices moderate.

SKINNER, ALFRED C., Pound, Bishops-Lydeard, Somerset. Pedigree Devons, constitution, quality, size, milk; 600 prizes principal shows, many champions; exports most successful; bulls and heifers for sale. Inspection invited.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

BRIDGES, J. H.—This old-established herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle of the leading families can be seen at Langshott Home Farm, Horley, Surrey (near Horley Station, L.B. & S.C.R.), and catalogues obtained on application to Mr. Albert Pulling.

HURSLEY PARK HERD OF ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE, the property of Sir George Cooper, Bart., comprising Erica, Pride, Miss Burgess, Lady Ida, Matilda, Jemima of Morlich families. Prizes won during 1906: 7 firsts, 3 seconds, 3 reserves, 1 challenge cup, 2 silver medals, 3 reserve champions. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.—Catalogues on application to V. F. Lecse, Estate Office, Hursley Park, Winchester.

THE ROCKLIFFE PARK HERD of Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, Ericas and Prides. Stock Bull, Pundit of Preston (17,156), Champion at Highland Show, 1904.—Apply, R. C. SWAN, Rockliffe Park, Darlington.

AYRSHIRES.

WALLACE, JAMES, J.P., Auchenbainzie, Thornhill, Dumfriesshire, Scotland. Breeder of pedigree prize-winning Ayrshire Cattle; hardy, healthy, good milkers; bred for dairy purposes, beauty and style. Bulls and Heifers for sale.

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably, from his prize-winning herd of Red Polls, Bulls, Cows, Heifers, from good milkers.—Apply C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

CARY-ELWES, V., Billing Hall, Northampton. Breeder of Jersey cattle.

JERSEYS, and Alderney Guernseys, fresh calved and near calving. Prices, particulars.—R. WHEADON, Ilminster.

MERTON GRANGE GUERNSEYS.—Property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. This Herd contains Champion Bull Royal Counties, Portsmouth, and Champion Cow Royal Derby, 1906. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of best Breeding for Sale.—Telegrams and particulars, W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay.

STERN, Sir E. D., Fan Court, Chertsey, Surrey. Herd of pedigree Jersey Cattle. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

TICHBORNE PARK, GUERNSEY.—Yearling Bulls and Heifers for sale.—Apply, D. MICHIE, Estate Office, Tichborne, Alresford, Hants.

GALLOWAYS.

GRAHAM, ROBERT, Auchengassel, Twynholm, breeder fashionable Galloway Cattle, winners at Royal and Highland Societies Shows. Pedigree Bulls, Cows, and Heifers, also Blue-greys for feeding, for sale. Commissions carefully executed.

KERRIES & DEXTERS.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

(Continued on page 381.)

CATTLE—*continued.*

KERRIES & DEXTERS—*continued.*

THE DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE'S PRIZE-WINNING DEXTER HERD.—During 1904 and 1905 this Herd won more prizes than any other three Dexter Herds combined, including both first and second milking prizes Royal, 1905, and first London Dairy Show, 1906. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers generally for Sale.—CHILD, Compton Place, Eastbourne.

RATTRAY, DAVID, Gortnaskehy, Ballybunion, Co. Kerry. Pedigree Prize-winning Herd of Kerries and Dexters 155 Prizes and Honours won by Cattle from this Herd past three years. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONG WOOL.

ANDERSON, JOHN, Barton-on-Humber.—The old Barton Flock of Pure-bred LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, Flock Book 106. This flock is noted for hard constitutions and fine, lustrous wool. Inspection invited. Telegrams as above.

ATKINSON, T., & SON, North Kelsey, Lincoln. Old-established flock of pure Lincoln Longwools. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Noted for great size and long lustrous wool. Have given great satisfaction at home and abroad. Inspection invited

BROOKS, W. J., Stowe Lodge, Weedon, Northants (Registered Flock 165), has for sale Rams and Ewes of best blood.

BROCKLEBANK, JOHN, Bassingham, Lincoln. (Flock 24). Pure-bred Lincoln Longwool Rams and Ewes. This old flock has been carefully bred for 100 years. Telegrams: Basingham.

DRAKES, Wm., Tealby, Market Rasen. Flock No. 72 of Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs of best blood for sale. Lincoln Red Shorthorns. Prices moderate.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

SMITH, HENRY, jun., Cropwell Butler, Nottingham. Lincoln Longwool Flock No. 7, winner of £2,361 in prizes. Champion pen Lincolns, Smithfield Show, 1896; Association Championship, Leicester, 1897; Association Championship for pen of 3 Shearling Rams, Yorkshire, 1900; Championship, Rutland, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, and 1906. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

THE CHILMARK FLOCK OF REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—Owner, JAMES FLOWER, Chilwark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records. Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, out of 11 years competing, 'The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" won eight times, thrice second, with pens of 8 ram lambs; a marvellous record. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 13 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05-06. At the Royal at Derby, 1906, every First Prize, two Seconds, and the Champion were won; an unequalled success!! Champions Birmingham, 1905, over all breeds, Reserve in 1906. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Short-wools, Smithfield, 1904-05-06. Highest average past 13 years. Bridford Fair, Aug. 12, 100 Ram Lambs, annual sale. Selections for Sale.

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1907.—Extraordinary records: Twin ram lambs let for 205 and 120 guineas. Ninety averaged £21 10s. Selections always for Sale.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. The Cholderton flock is individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded in the Hampshire Down Flock Book. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury

OVEY, R. L., Hernes, Henley-on-Thames.—Pedigree HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK, Reg. Vol. IV. Prize-winners leading shows last five years.

WINCHESTER, the Most Hon. the Marquis of, Amport St. Mary, Andover, Hants. Pure-bred flock of Hampshire Down Sheep; high-class Rams and Ewes always on Sale.

SHEEP—*continued.*

OXFORD DOWNS.

ADAMS, GEORGE, Royal Prize Farm Flock, Faringdon, Berks. Pure Oxford Down Sheep, Shearling Rams, Ram Lambs, Ewes and Ewe Lambs for Sale. Special arrangements with foreign buyers. Many first prizes at R.A.S.E. and other shows during past 25 years, including 2 first, 2 second, and 4 other prizes, World's Fair, Chicago, and 7 firsts, 4 seconds and champion at Royal Bath and West, Royal Counties, etc., this year.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

TREADWELL, JOHN, Upper Winchendon, Aylesbury.—Oxford Down Sheep. Annual Ram Sale, first Wednesday in August. Prizes won at R.A.S.E. 24 years in succession. Ewes for Sale.

WENSLEYDALE.

UNDERLEY WENSLEYDALES (Blue-faced), from the best blood obtainable. Successfully exhibited.—Apply, G. G. ROBINSON Bailiff, Underley Farm, Kirkby, Lonsdale.

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

CHARLES SPENCER, having taken over the Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts, herd of Large and Middle White Pigs, which won 12 prizes and reserves with 11 exhibits at Derby Royal, will price any of them.

FULWOOD HERD LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES, property R. R. Rothwell. 200 head bred from winners at leading shows.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for Sale at moderate prices

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices.—J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM. Herd of Large White Pigs. The oldest and largest Herd in Notts County. Over 100 Breeding Sows kept. Upwards of 600 to select from. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—Apply ARTHUR A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

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SPALDING HERD of Pedigree Large Whites, young stock and in-pig Gilts for Sale. All bred from great winners.—ALFRED W. WHITE, "Hillegom," Spalding.

MIDDLE WHITES.

THE CATTON HERD of Prize-winning MIDDLE WHITE PIGS, property of J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stock Boar Castlecroft Mikado, 1st Park Royal, 1st Bath and West. Gelts and Boars on Sale. Prices moderate.—Apply BAILIFF, Raddle Farm, Edingale, Tamworth.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

PIGS—*continued.*

LARGE BLACKS.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath. Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Large Black Pigs of the best strains of blood, noted for their docility and for the production of a large proportion of lean meat. Good selection of Boars, unrelated Gilts, and in-pig Sows for Sale at reasonable prices.

CATTON HERD OF PRIZE-WINNING LARGE BLACK PIGS.—Stock Boar Treviscoe Excelsior 1427, 1st Devon County, 2nd and Reserve Champion Royal Show 1906; pigs kept in hardy natural condition; gelts and boars always on sale.—Apply, J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stations: Croxall, 2½ miles (M.R.); Alrewas, 3½ miles (L.N.W.).

HASKETON CHAMPION PRIZE HERD OF LARGE BLACK PIGS.—This herd has won the Royal championship three out of four times, and is the only herd having won the breed challenge cup. Record: 47 firsts, 37 seconds, 11 thirds, 126 prize-winning cards; the herd this year being the winners of 14 firsts, 6 seconds, 2 thirds, championship and silver cup in five shows. Gelts and Boars at moderate prices consistent with quality. Exportation a speciality.—Apply, C. F. MARRINER, Hasketon, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS.—Select Herd, bred from choice Prize Winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale, moderate prices.—H. J. CLARKE, The Slade, Roughley, Sutton Coldfield.

WHEN Breeding, breed from the best Pedigree Large Black Prize-winning Pigs. TREVEGLOS HOPEFUL II., winner of First prizes and R.A.S.E. Silver Challenge Cup, 1907, beating all other Cup winners; also 1st Prize Bath and West, Newport; 1st Royal Counties, Maidenhead; 1st Royal Cornwall, Liskeard; 1st Devon County, Bideford; also 1st prize at the Royal Show, Lincoln, for Boar and Reserve for Champion prize. Boars and Sows for Sale of the above strain at moderate prices.—Apply to JOHN WARNE, Treveglos Farm, St. Mabyn, R.S.O., Cornwall.

BERKSHIRES.

CARNARVON, the Earl of.—Prize winning Pedigree Herd. BOARS and GELTS, eligible Herd Book. Prices moderate.—Apply W. T. HALL, Highclere Farm, Newbury.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge. Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

READING CORPORATION.—150 Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, leading prize-winning strains, from son of Champion Mikado 10433 and prize-winner Domino 11323; inspection invited.—Apply, Mr. T. Chettle, Manor Farm, Reading, Berks.

STALL PITTS HERD OF PEDIGREE BERKSHIRES. One of the Oldest Herds. Unsurpassed for true character, size, and quality. Choice selection of Boars and Sows on offer at moderate prices.—J. LAWRENCE, Stall Pitts, Shrivenham, Berks

BORROWFIELD & COLSTON HERDS.

The property of R. MILLINGTON-KNOWLES, Colston Bassett Hall, Notts.

LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES.

The following First Prizes, Championships, and Medals have been obtained by pigs **BRED** in these Herds in 1907:
1st and Champion, Gold Medal, R.A.S.E., Lincoln.
1st & Champion, President's Medal, Highland, Edinburgh,
1st Welsh National, Aberystwyth.
1st Bath and West Newport; 1st Royal Counties.
1st Nottingham; 1st Suffolk; 1st Norfolk.
1st Derby.
1st Hereford and Worcester; Special Prize Lincoln Agricultural Society; 1st Great Yorkshire; 1st Newark.

A number of additional Firsts and other Prizes have also been gained at the above Shows.

At the St. Louis Exposition, U.S.A., in 1904, the Champion Boar, and the Grand Champion of the Exposition were bred at Colston Bassett.

The Foreign and Home trade has largely increased during 1907.—GILBERT H. ELLIOT, Estate Office, Colston Bassett, Notts.

For Sale.

PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.

Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.

GEORGE HOYLES,
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Breeder of Pure Lincoln Long Wool Sheep. Lustrous Fleeces. Good Constitutions.

SUITABLE FOR HOME AND ABROAD. STOCK FOR SALE.

Honeycomb	Mr H Winter	51
Laurestina of Calthwaite 4th	Lord Ridley	30
Her red calf	Lord Ridley	23
Lucy Raglan 4th	Mr H Dudding	61
Wild Eyes 49th	Lord Manvers	155
Hermione	Sir E Perry-Pryce	51
Lady Dufton 11th	Mr T Winter	35
Duchess of Cumberland 13th	Mr Cornelius	150
Duchess 14th	Mr Holford	265
Lady Bertha 3rd	Mr Gunter	32
Lady Dufton 12th	Mr Straker	32
Goldon Apple	Mr James	38
Oxford Duchess of Calthwaite 39th	Mr H Dudding	57
Duchess of Cumberland 14th	Mr Horlick	61
Lady Brenda	Duke of Northumberland	80
Laurestina of Calthwaite 6th	Mr W. Parkin-Moore	45
Duchess of Cumberland 24th	Mr Cazalet	160
Duchess 114th	Mr Cornelius	200
BULLS.		
Duke of Cumberland 21st	J Hobbs	200
Oxford Duke of Calthwaite 45th	Mr Faulkner	55

Sale of Lincolnshire Shorthorns and Curly-Coated Pigs.

The pedigree herd of Lincoln Red Shorthorns and Lincolnshire Curly-Coated pigs, bred by Mr. George Freir, were sold by auction at Deeping, St. Nicholas, on Friday in the presence of a good company of buyers. There was brisk bidding for the sixty-one head of cattle offered, and prices ranged up to £50, which was given by Mr. Turner, a Leicestershire buyer, for a yearling heifer. Six cows in calf averaged £28 6s. 9d., ten in-calf heifers £27 1s. 9d., ten yearling heifers and seven bulls £21 each, and twenty-eight cows and calves £19 15s.. The cattle realised £1,293, or an average of £21 4s. There was also a good demand for the Curly-Coated pigs, and thirty-five lots made £319, or an average of £9 per head.

Sale of Shorthorns in Dublin.

The recently-formed Irish Shorthorn Association held a sale of Shorthorns at Dublin on Thursday, when 169 animals of various ages from the herds of members of the association were offered. There was a somewhat poor demand, many of the animals failing to find purchasers, but one or two good prices were realised, notably 68 guineas given by Mr. C. H. Fleming, Keith, N.B., for Mr. R. Bruce's Princess Dolly, whilst for Mr. Bruce's Scottish Rosie 55½ guineas was paid by Mr. Bourke, co. Antrim. Other prices ranged up to 34 guineas, given by Mr. Sanday for Lord Barrymore's Rose of Belweely 3rd.

Sale from the Honingham Herd of Red Polled Cattle.

The Right Hon. A. E. Fellowes, of Honingham Hall, has of late sold several animals from his well-known herd of Red Polls to both home and foreign buyers. The most important animal, amongst others sold, was the bull Alake 9438, the champion bull at the Royal show at Lincoln, who has been bought by Captain Charley, of New South Wales, at a high figure. Accompanying him is a very promising yearling bull, Archbishop 9702 – dam Ardent 14469. Captain Charley took two bulls from Honingham five years ago, from which he has had some good stock.

Messrs. John Thornton and Co., who bought Alake for Captain Charley, also secured for the Spanish Government a very promising young bull, one cow, and a heifer Amongst others, Mr. A. Scorer has secured for the New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Company, Ltd., two two-year-old heifers, one yearling heifer, and the cow Angelus 1950, which took several first prizes at the Royal and other shows.

Mr. J. Cobbold, of Ipswich, has bought a yearling bull, cow, and two heifers; and a two year old bull, Author 9592, has gone to Mr. W. Champion, of Riddlesworth Hall, Norfolk, whilst a yearling bull, Auster 9704, has been sold to Lady Heytesbury through Mr. Herbert Blofield. Both Mr. Champion's and Lady Heytesbury's bulls are from the cow Avon, which is also the dam of Alba, another champion cow, still in the Honningham herd. All the animals chosen for exportation were tested, and passed.

Sale of Auchorachan Aberdeen-Angus.

The autumnal series of Aberdeen-Angus sales in Scotland commenced on Tuesday with the dispersal of a select draft of cows and heifers from the well-known herd of Colonel Smith-Grant, Auchorachan. It is five years since Colonel Smith-Grant held his last draft sale, and this year's selection was quite equal in merit to that of 1902, including, as it did, a fine lot of Ericas of the best possible pedigrees, which will enrich the herds to which they have gone.

There was a good attendance of buyers and a fairly brisk demand, but no fancy prices were obtained, the best being 85 guineas for the two-year-old heifer, Erica Fairy 5th, which was secured by Sir G. Macpherson Grant; Pride of Morlich 7th, another two-year-old heifer, was bought by Mr. Stewart; Carse of Strowan at 65 guineas; 60 guineas was given by Mr. W. S. Ferguson for Pride B. 7th of Auchorachan, also a two-year old heifer; whilst 60 guineas was obtained twice for cows, Mr. Stewart, Nether Blairoch, paying that sum for Eleonora, and Mr. W. S. Ferguson for Eriphyle of Auchorachan. The yearling heifers realised up to 40 guineas. The total proceeds of the sale amounted to £11,638 8s., being an average of £40 2s. 4d. for twenty-nine head; fourteen cows averaged £37 10s; nine two-year-old heifers, £51 18s. 4d.; and six one-year old heifers, £28 10s. 6d.

Mr. W. Arkell's Shorthorns.

A portion of the well-known dairy herd of Shorthorns belonging to Mr. W. Arkell, of Kempsford, Fairford, Glos, was sold by auction on Wednesday, and the sale attracted a large company of buyers from all parts. The herd was founded in 1870 with the Janette family, descended from two cows bought at Mr. W. Hewer's sale at Seven Hampton, to which was added the Ursulians and also the Frost family, a famous dairy strain that has been in the hands of the Arkells since 1818, and go back to a famous cow called Queen, bought at Darlington in 1790.

There was a good demand for the cows and heifers, but the bulls met a rather dragging sale. The top price of the day was 72 guineas, for Ursulina, one of the fine old Ursuline family, and it was bought by Mr. W. M. Cazalet, of Tonbridge.

Professor H. Arkell gave 46 guineas for Milker 7th, a four-year-old cow by Florentias Prince, and she is to go to Canada. Mr. G. Taylor, of Hounslow, paid 44 guineas for Red Vale 4th, a six-year-old cow by Challenge, whilst Ursulina 33rd, six years old, made 47 guineas to Mr. J. A. Preece, of Thrapstone. The Janettes sold well, Janette 45th, a prize-winner, making 43 guineas to Mr. Cazalet; and Janette 49th, 48 guineas to Mr. J. T. Nickels, of Shrewsbury. Duchess of Barrington 53rd, a nine-year-old cow of excellent breeding, was sold at 40 guineas to Mr. S. Sanday, of Cheshire. Several of the calves by Freetrades, bred by Mr. George Freeman, sold well, Mr. J. T. Hobbs giving 20 guineas for one, Mr. Cazalet 24 for another out of his 43-guinea Janette, and Sir A. Brown 16 guineas for a third. Of the nineteen bulls, one made 32 guins. and two 30 guins. each.

The total realised by the sale was £1,518 16s. 6d., or an average per head of £29 4s. 1d. for fifty-two animals. The thirty-three cows and heifers made £1,188 12s., being an average of £36 0s. 4d.; the sixteen pedigree bulls realised £301 7s., an average of £18 16s. 8d.; and when the three bulls not eligible for the herd book were added, the total for the bulls was £330 4s. 6d., making the average £17 7s. 7d.

The Morlich Aberdeen Angus.

On Wednesday a sale of fifty Aberdeen Angus, from Mr. G. Cran's herd at Morlich, Glenkindie, N.B., took place at Morlich. The stock were presented in a healthy, natural condition, and as the farm lies at an altitude of nearly 1,000 ft. above sea level, a characteristic of the animals was their sound constitution and hardness. There was a large and representative gathering of breeders, most of those present at the Auchorachan sale the previous day being again in attendance. Prices, however, did not rule quite so high, for the top figure was 71 guineas, made by Erlis of Morlich, the only Trojan Erica exposed. She is a three-year-old of fine breeding, sired by Jeshurun, and was bought by Lord Allendale, who gave the next best price—viz, 61 guineas for Jemima 63rd, Another cow, the Nuggett 13th made 60 guineas. Mr. Henderson, New Morlich, being the purchaser; whilst other prices averaged up to 52 guineas. The total realised for fifty one head was £1,556 2s, and the following were the averages:—Fourteen cows £38 5s., ten two-year-old heifers £36 19s.

FARMS, BUSINESSES, &c., TO BE SOLD OR LET.

FARMS TO LET of various size, in Kent, Sussex, Surrey, &c.—LANGRIDGE & FREEMAN, Agricultural Valuers and Auctioneers, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, and 28, Queen Street, London, E.C.

BAXTER, PAYNE, & LEPPER, LAND & ESTATE AGENTS, AGRICULTURAL VALUERS, SURVEYORS, & AUCTIONEERS. Special Agents for DAIRY, FRUIT, STOCK AND MARKET GARDEN FARMS. Particulars on application.

All applicants stating details of requirements will have a selected list of Farms answering thereto forwarded free of charge.

MESSRS. BAXTER, PAYNE & LEPPER'S AGENCY has proved a valuable medium for Owners and others to secure substantial Tenants for FARMS, ESTATES & COUNTRY PROPERTIES.

Landed Estates managed and owners advised upon the best method of dealing with Farms to meet the circumstances of present times, and so protect interest and income.

Offices: 69, King William Street, London, E.C., and Market Square, Bromley, Kent.

SEETHING LANE.—TO BE LET, capital Ground Floor, suitable for offices or a shop, opposite the Seething Lane entrance to the Corn Exchange. For particulars apply to ELLIS & SON, 45, Fenchurch Street, E.C.

EDUCATIONAL.

THE UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS and the MANOR FARM, GARFORTH. Complete Course of Agricultural Education. Lectures in the University and at the Farm from October 14, 1907, to March 14, 1908. Special provision for practical instruction. Fee £10. Students are prepared for the N.D.A. Examination. There is also a Special Course for the B.Sc. Degree.

Prospectus from the REGISTRAR, the University, Leeds.

ROYAL (DICK) VETERINARY COLLEGE, EDINBURGH.

EIGHTY-FIFTH SESSION.

THE INAUGURAL ADDRESS will be delivered on WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, at 2.30 o'clock, by JAMES FRASER, Esq., F.R.C.V.S., St. Albans, ex-President of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.

Sir WM. TURNER, K.C.B., LL.D., &c, in the chair.

All friends of the Institution invited.

EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY.—AGRICULTURE COURSE. Prospectus, Edinburgh Agriculture College; also Regulations, Degree of B.Sc., and GARTON LECTURES on COLONIAL and INDIAN AGRICULTURE. — Apply to CLERK OF SENATUS.

POULTRY.

PEAFOWLS and SWANS. Largest stock in England. All varieties kept.—WHEADON, Ilminster.

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To Dairy Farmers, &c.

20

DAIRY-BRED YEARLING HEIFERS

out of deep-milking Shorthorn Cows and sired by the noted Darnley, whose dam averaged 1,009 gallons of milk annually for 5 years, his sire, Magna Charta, being out of Moppy Gem 2nd (995½ gallons annually for 3 years).

These Heifers are mostly Dark Reds, in nice store condition, and from their fine dairy breeding cannot fail to make extra good milkers. They can be seen on application to—

E. GOODWIN PREECE,
Cross Hill, near SHREWSBURY.

Agents, Situations Wanted.

WANTED, AGENTS for the SALE of NATURAL Ammoniacal and Phosphatic GUANOS and high-class Chemical Manures. All analyses and dry condition guaranteed.—Apply to DANIEL DE PASS & CO., 1, Fenchurch Buildings, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.

TO PARENTS & GUARDIANS.—Vacancy for a Young Gentleman in an old-established firm of Corn and Seed Merchants in East Anglia; live with principal; premium required.—Apply, GOLDSMITH BROTHERS, Bury St. Edmunds.

LARGE BLACK PIG SOCIETY.—Applications are invited for the post of secretary and editor, vacant in December next. Salary £100 per annum, including an office in London. —Apply with testimonials, *by letter only*, Vice-President, Large Black Pig Society, 64, Oxford Street, Ipswich.

TENDER.

ST. PANCRAS BOROUGH COUNCIL.

THE HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE of the ST. PANCRAS BOROUGH COUNCIL invite TENDERS for the SUPPLY of HORSE FORAGE and LITTER, to be delivered to the Council's Stables, 6 & 7, Whitcher Place, N.W., from the date of acceptance of any Tender up to the 31st day of December next. A form of Contract and Schedule of the material required can be obtained on application to the Borough Engineer at the Town Hall, Pancras Road, N.W.

Tenders endorsed "Tender for Forage" to be delivered to the Borough Engineer not later than NOON on MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1907, from whom also further particulars may be obtained.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

By order,
C. H. F. BARRETT,
Town Clerk.

Town Hall, Pancras Road, N.W.
September 18, 1907.

Readers of Advertisements

in these pages will greatly oblige and assist us by mentioning

The Mark Lane Express

when writing to our Advertisers.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TRACTION ENGINES and WAGONS, Portable, Ploughing, and Fixed Engines, Thrashing Machines, &c. second-hand, for Sale, cheap, or to be Let on Hire-purchase Full list free. Inquiries for all classes of Machinery solicited. Largest stock in England to be seen at our Works as below. We are also buyers of good modern Engines at all times, for cash. Large stock of Beltings, Oils, and Engineers' Requisites of all descriptions. HENRY LEWIS & SONS, Thames Bank Iron Works, Reading.

10,000 YARDS Strained Wire Fencing. Improved Steel Bulb Tee Standards. Low prices.—W. J. MULLINGS, St. Agnes Ironworks, Bristol.

MEDICUS NON-BLISTERING OIL for Spavins, Splints, Sprains, Rheumatism, Swollen Joints, and all Lameness in horse and cattle. Use it and have a sound stud. Well recommended. Pint tins, post free, 4s. each.—WADDELL, Carnarvon Street, Glasgow.

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RATS, MICE, SPARROWS KILLED LIKE MAGIC. No smell from dead carcases, 1s. free.—COMMON SENSE Co., 21, Lime Street, London (Government Contractors).

BASIC SLAG. — Phosphates and fineness guarante d. Write us to-day for pamphlet and special quotation. Autumn and spring delivery.—CANNOCK AGRICULTURAL Co., LTD., Cannock, Staffs.

POWDER for DESTROYING LICE in CATTLE and HORSES, and FLEAS and LICE in DOGS and POULTRY. Sure remedy; simply sprinkled on, no washing; quite harmless. 1s. per lb., over 3 lbs. post free. E. RUMSEY & CO., Rhuddallt Fawr. Carnarvon.

POTATOES! POTATOES!! Edward England, Cardiff, Ltd. Importers and Exporters of potatoes. Head Office, West Dock, Cardiff; also Bath Street, Bristol, and North Dock, Swansea.

EDWARD ENGLAND, Cardiff. Limited.—Are always buyers of good English potatoes, for cash on rails.—Address, Head Office, West Dock, Cardiff.

LURRIES.—Every size from 10 cwts. up to 4 tons in for quick delivery, best make of lurrey and finish, adaptable for all trades. Furniture Vans, two and four-wheel Carts and Vans of every description.—STAGG & ROBSON, LTD., Van, Wagon and Wheel Works, Selby

PEDICURA, for Horses' Feet, produces a sound, healthy growth; also cures Thrush, Seedy, Brittle, Shelly Hoof, Corns, Cracked, Greasy Heels, Foul Smell of Feet, Itchy Mane, Tail, or Legs, Mangy Skin in all Animals.—Tins 2/6, of agents, or post free.—GREGORY & Co., Temple, Bristol.

GALVANISED BARB WIRE, 14s. per cwt.; Plain Fencing Wire, 9s. 9d. per cwt.; Galvanised Strand Wire, from 15s. per cwt.; Galvanised Feeding Appliances; Illustrated Catalogues free.—DAVID & Co., Taff Vale Iron Works, Dept. E, Cardiff.

JOHN PRIEST & SON, Ltd., Castle Iron Works, Bristol.

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FREDERICK HARRISON,
General Manager

LONDON AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.

DAIRY SHOW, to be held at the AGRICULTURAL HALL, LONDON, OCTOBER 8 to 11, 1907, The London and North Western Railway Company have made arrangements for Through Vans for the conveyance of Exhibits to be run to London on Monday, October 7. Consignments from the Branch Lines, and from Nottingham, Peterboro', Oxford, Cambridge, &c., will be placed in these Vans at the various Junctions. Conveyance Rates can be obtained at the various Stations on the Line. Arrangements will also be made for the return of the Traffic in Through Vans at the close of the Show, and Exhibitors are requested to order their Consignments "per London and North Western Railway." The Company's representatives will be at the Show to answer enquiries with regard to the arrangements for the return journey. All information can be obtained of the Superintendent of the Line, Euston Station, London; the Company's District Superintendent, Euston Station, London; or Mr. I. T. WILLIAMS, Broad Street Station, London, E.C.

FREDERICK HARRISON,
General Manager.

General Manager's Office, Euston Station, London, N.W., September, 1907

SOCIETIES.

SMITHFIELD CLUB FAT STOCK SHOW, DECEMBER 9 to 13, 1907, at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington. Entries close as follows: Implement Department, October 1; post entries, October 5. Live Stock (Cattle, Sheep, Pigs for Carcase Competition and Dead Poultry) November 1; post entries, November 5.—Prize lists, entry forms, and other information can be obtained on application to E. J. POWELL, Secretary, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

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Show will be held on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1907.

Entries close as follows:—Dry Sheep, Class 8, March 5; Wet Sheep, Class 5, 6 and 7, April 16; Hedging, Classes 9 and 10, March 26; Servitude and Ploughing Classes, August 31; Horses, Cattle and Sheep, Roots, Honey, Poultry, Butter and Eggs, August 31; Rick Building and Thatching, September 16.

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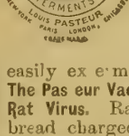
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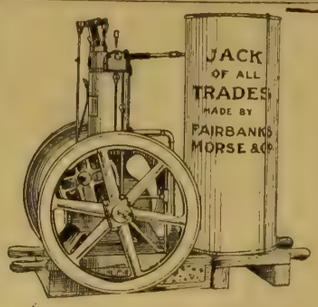
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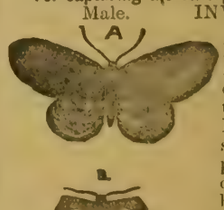
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LONDON, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1907.

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Seasonable Topics.

Mushrooms. EVERY year when the bathing season commences drowning fatalities provide local newspapers with copy, and just in the same way whenever the weather is favourable for the growth of mushrooms we hear of people being poisoned through eating what they supposed to be the edible fungi. Several cases of so-called mushroom poisoning have come before our notice of late, and they all point to the desirability of exercising the greatest care when buying or picking mushrooms to see that one has got the right thing. One can hardly understand a countryman making any mistake, but he does at times, though more generally it is people who know very little about mushrooms, but scour the fields in search of them for the sake of making a bit of money, who are the most liable to pick up poisonous fungi in mistake. There is hardly any mistaking the genuine mushroom which grows quickly out in the open field, and which is so delicious on the breakfast table, but it is not wise to go mushrooming under trees or to put anything in the basket that one is at all suspicious about.



THE REAPING MACHINE AT WORK.

Ventilation of Fodder Stacks. IT is not uncommon for stacks formed of oats and beans, with perhaps some clover in, that are put together for the purpose of providing fodder for horses to get warm, even in cases to the point of firing. Stacks of this character, put together as they are in September when dews hang on late in the morning and there is difficulty in getting the moisture in green herbage dried, may be a source of danger in a stackyard, and in such case it is wise to adopt some simple means of ventilation. A short time ago we saw a stack of the above character being put together, and the farmer being a little anxious and suspicious adopted the simple device of putting a row of stick faggots right through the stack, about halfway up, one in the centre and one between the middle and each end. The faggots, of course, prevented the fodder from going down close and provided an outlet for the heat, which could be easily felt by placing the hand where the ends of the rows of faggots protruded through the sides of the rick.

Blackberrying. TO what extent wild blackberries affect the sale of fruits that are grown under cultivation is a debateable point, but at this time of the year it is no uncommon sight to observe strings of women emerging in the mornings from towns and villages with baskets on their arms and youngsters hanging on to their skirts, starting out on blackberrying excursions. They return at eventide with baskets full, and the stains on the youngsters' cheeks indicate the way in which they disposed of some of their pickings. Blackberry pickers are free lances, and go just where inclination or the presence of fruit leads them. They recognise no law of trespass, but wander in places where they would never think of going under any other pretext. As a rule farmers tolerate them, and do not grudge the bit of money that cottage folk make out of blackberrying, but we often hear grumbles, and it is the old story of give a foot and take a yard, as blackberry pickers, not being satisfied with the privileges extended to them, do not respect the farmer's hedges, as one would think they would, but are often responsible for wilful damage to fences. Indeed, this has got to be such a nuisance in some districts that farmers cut the blackberry brambles out of their hedges as a means of thwarting the pickers.

The End of Hopping. PASSING through Kent at the end of September the traveller observes what a change has come over the scene in the past few weeks. No golden hops now hang from the poles, but the latter are strewn about in careless contusion, and heaps of dried bine are scattered here and there awaiting removal. There is no sign of animation in the hop garden, the huts are empty, the itinerant population of pickers has returned townward, the arduous work of the drier is ended, and the hop harvest of 1907 is over. Whether figures prove it to be profitable or otherwise, the hop grower can congratulate himself on a good picking time, and for this he has reason to be thankful. When the weather is unfavourable and hop picking drags along it is an expensive operation, to say nothing of the risk of hops spoiling, and this year growers have been saved this worry. As for the pickers, they have never had a better time so far as weather is concerned, and if some have returned to town not much better off in pocket, they have a healthy glow of colour on their cheeks which the sojourn in the hop garden has painted there. With the hop grower, however, the end of one year is the beginning of the next, and the close of the picking is quickly followed by a general clearing up and putting shipshape with the ultimate view of another season's picking.

The Advent of Hunting. JUST now that section of the community who can afford to ride to hounds and enjoy the sport of kings, are impatiently awaiting the commencement of the hunting season. In a way, of course, it has begun, for in the mists of these autumn mornings the hounds are out cubbing, and the most enthusiastic of the horsemen attend these preliminary proceedings. From the conversation we hear in a hunting country the supply of foxes is plentiful, and though this may sound joyful in the ears of the hunting man, it suggests to the farmer and poultry-keeper that they must be on the alert. Reynard will be Reynard as long as hunting exists, and raids on poultry yards are part of his very nature. Farmers know this, and not being averse to hunting (though it is questionable whether they profit as much by it as speakers at hunt dinners would have us imagine) they will look after the fastenings of the poultry pens. But do what they will, Reynard is sometimes too much for them, and it is then for the hunt to maintain a spirit of good feeling by not splitting straws when the question of compensation is raised.

The Potato Harvest. TEMPTED by the beautiful dry weather we have enjoyed of late, many people have set about digging main crop potatoes rather earlier than they would have done otherwise, and so far as our own experience and observation goes, the results are fairly satisfactory. We feared when the tops were struck down by disease in the summer that the evil would descend with force to the tubers, but it is gratifying now we come to dig to find only a small

proportion of bad potatoes. We hope this is the experience of growers generally, as here, of course, we only speak for one locality. Crops, we find, vary very considerably. In some parts where the bine was struck with disease at the end of July and went down quickly potatoes are fairly plentiful, but they are very small, and the crops consequently light, which shows that the check to the growth affected the development of the tubers. In other places the disease did not affect the tops so badly, and in spite of brown patches on the leaves the plants continued to grow and the tubers to swell. In these cases the crop is heavier by several tons to the acre, than in the instances where the bine was cut down early. Up to the present prices are satisfactory, and the outlook for the potato trade is better than it promised to be before the advent of the fine weather.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Lord Rosebery and Future Land Legislation.

What will be the effect of Lord Rosebery's wonderful personality and influence on the future of land legislation? There can be no doubt that the force of events is removing him farther and farther from the sympathies and anxieties of his erstwhile political associates; and this divergence is rapidly developing. I should say that at this moment the chasm separating the position of the two is almost unbridgable. It is true, of course, that Lord Rosebery supported the Small Holdings Act; but it was a lay, a tepid, and an inarticulate support, and had behind it none of the rattling vivacity, scornful contempt, and derisive superciliousness which marked his utterance on the Scottish Bill. Since that, too, his temper has become more definitely crystallised. He refuses—this he has made plainly apparent—to regard the landlord as a creature whose one purpose in the commonwealth is to be coerced by the State either in the interest of classes of lesser social moment or for the purpose of conciliating extreme visionary politicians. His lordship has long been suspect by his old Radical associates on the question of taxation of land values—he has never uttered a single definite benediction of the principle; and the future land policy of Liberalism will inevitably be on its lines. It is to this method of taxation and its financial fruits that the ordinary Radical looks for the provision of the means of realising his fervid purposes for the advantage of the protelariat. This assured antagonism to the future Radicalism is thus bound to throw Lord Rosebery into association with men to whom he was assumed to be in inevitable conflict. Will he carry with him a serious following? Well, the fate which befell Mr. Monro Fergusson's crusade in the House of Commons against the Scottish Bill revealed that Whiggism has there but few representatives, and that those representatives include man of no great moment. It may be different in the country. Hence a Rosebery-party opposed to the Radical land-policy is more than a possibility. It may be said that such a party would inevitably be swallowed up in the Conservative party. This assertion reveals no prescient conception of its probable character. The Conservative rank-and-file is inalienably pledged to tariff-reform. Of this Whiggism, Cobdenite Free Trade is the sheet-anchor, and Tariff-reform spells *anathema maranatha!*

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A Seductive Phrase—"True Economic Value."

Frankly, I can understand the real motive which possesses the opponents of the principle of hiring in connection with the new land legislation. What doth this principle portend? Doth it mean land nationalisation? Listen to this from the *Daily News*, the confessed journalistic spokesman of the Government:—"The present legislation," quoths my contemporary, "may pave the way to ultimate purchase by the community, but we must first have established through the operation of the Land Valuation Bill and other means the true economic basis of purchase." "Purchase by the community" does not in itself commend itself altogether to the territorial and anti-Socialistic prejudices of British landlordism—it evokes a whole army of grizzly fears. These ill-omened quakings assume a more dramatic character when we hear that the purchase is to be accomplished on the "true economic basis of purchase." "How far,' the anti-land-nationalising landlord asks himself, "is the 'true economic basis of purchase' removed from prairie value?" At once visions are evoked of a purchase-policy which would permit of no recompense for compulsory expropriation, which would regard the rooting-up of family traditions as a cause for scoffing rather than for solace, and which would not hesitate to regard the local rateable value accepted by local rating authorities—on which in other times landlords had a supreme voice—as providing a satisfactory basis of purchase. Many a Radical reformer regards this last prospect with supreme delight. To him it partakes of the nature of the relishing pastime of hoisting the landlord with his own petard! How far, however, will these, perhaps too romantic, fears go to swell the army of Liberal dissidents who will fight under the standard of Lord Rosebery? After all, the answer to this question provides the best measure of how the Policy of land-nationalisation based on the true economic basis of purchase may be thwarted? May we not, however, be affrightening ourselves by an unnecessary, phantasmic hobgoblin? Would the English people be seduced into a policy of flagrant injustice by a mere cant phrase?

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Has Lord Londonderry been Misreported?

I pray the Marquis of Londonderry has been misreported. "If," he is averred to have declared, "there is a real land hunger in this country, it is more likely to be satisfied in Western Canada where land is cheap." This is perilous advice. The men who are possessed of this land hunger are often the most stalwart of the rural community. Land is going increasingly out of cultivation in this country to our inevitable hurt, and the arrest of the process of the depopulation of our countryside has hitherto been beyond the capacity of our statecraft. At this juncture a great nobleman proposes—that is, if Lord Londonderry has not been misreported, and the only practical deduction from that report is permitted—that a sedulous system of exportation of this desirable cultivating element should be initiated. "Go to Western Canada" is this advice, "rather than remain pursuing your land-holding ambitions in your own country, which has need of you, but where your anxieties offend the nostrils of great territorialists and run counter to the prejudices of a policy which may have been partially responsible for the failure to maintain the country-side at its true standard of productivity." My lord, this is not statesmanship, it is petulance. We may have all our fears as to the new agrarian policy—fears naturally deepened by the arrogant spirit which too often has accompanied it; but we cannot in our exasperation afford to expropriate our best and most necessary bone, muscle, and intelligence.

* * *

Has Lord Carrington Made a Mistake?

No man will refuse the quality of courage to Earl Carrington. He is the breezy embodiment of confidence and faith. Were his native manner not tempered by the sagacity of his years he might even be guilty of rashness. His very *savoir faire* is the child of a spirited temperament. Hence it was not his fear of the consequences to himself or the nervelessness of a timorous soul that persuaded him to refuse to meet the Scottish agriculturists in conference. All the same, I would the Earl had consented to meet them—I regret his refusal, despite the undeniable antipathy of the *personnel* of that conference to the Government's Scottish land policy. It may be said by the Government's supporters—nay, is being said—that the promoters of this conference are possessed by partisan prejudices, and that they invited the Minister simply in order to make him the butt of a raking fire of querulous criticism. On the other hand, let it not be forgotten that Earl Carrington, in refusing to attend this conference, has interrupted a wholesome practice of annual consultation with the Scottish agriculturists which has been followed since the Board of Agriculture came into existence. Will it not now, with some show of truth, be said that Earl Carrington, and, of course, his fellow-Ministers, have revealed themselves to be possessed by a double dose of invincible obstinacy in their agrarian purpose, and to be indifferent to the lessons suggested by experience and of personal interest, if those lessons run counter to their sacrosanct resolves Verily, Earl Carrington—the most painstaking of Ministers, the most estimable of peers, and a man whose personal generosity is of the chivalrous texture—has made a mistake in this instance. He might have been well-buffeted at the conference—his serene temper would not have been seriously affected by it; but by his present policy he has given into the hands of the enemy the ability to say that the meditated law is a flagrant defiance of the suggestions of direct knowledge and of scientific acquaintance.

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Westminster Honours an Agrarian.

I heartily congratulate Mr. J. W. Dennis on his prospective election to the mayoralty of the city of Westminster, the most distinctive of the metropolitan mayoralties, outside, of course, that of the City. The honour has an added significance in view of the fact that Mr. Dennis's fellow-councillors determined upon him as a meet and fitting occupant of a position they had once designed for the Duke of Westminster. Mr. Dennis is a *rus in urbe*. In a word, his interests are so largely allied to the land and to its vital concerns that one was not surprised that the leaders of the tariff-reform movement besought him to accept membership of the practical sub-commission which inquired into the condition of agriculture. On that commission Mr. Dennis's attitude was that of an intelligent and practical elucidator. His questions were ever clear, pertinent, and pregnant with personal knowledge. He is a Conservative and a tariff-reformer, but in both capacities his faith is something very different to hide-bound prejudice and invincible partisanism. He has views in connection with the fnture of the railways and the question of railway charges, and even on the tenure of land, which would be, I ween, a little repellent to some politicians who array themselves in his own party garb; and he is abreast of the intelligent apprehension of many wise men who are anxious to revive the usefulness of our canal and river system. Mr. Dennis's election to this position should be a direct pride to Lincolnshire. If he has close and intimate associations with Covent Garden, it is to Lincolnshire that we must trace the practical application of his ideas and principles of culture. "The Most Worshipful the Mayor of Westminster" is a resounding title. It will never serve to divert Mr. Dennis from his practical agricultural schemes. I doff my cap to you, sir.

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Is this Advice Wise?

I pray it be not thought that, in Keats' famous line, I am a man with whom

> "But to think is to be full of sorrow
> And leaden-ey'd despair."

All the same, I ask those strong-viewed landlords who advise the holding aloof from the County Associations, the chief feature of Mr. Haldane's military scheme, whether they are altogether wise in their generation? "Why," they ask, "should we seek to facilitate the schemes of a Government whose only purpose is to despoil us?" Well, we need not inquire into the exactitude of this description of the Government's anxiety. Does not, however, this suggested refusal of an allotted part in the patriotic defence of the nation because of the Government's agrarian policy provide the enemies of landlordism with an instrument which might be used with most malevolent effect? Fortunately, the lords-lieutenant themselves show a disposition to disregard the invitation. And they are wise. As a fact, the State recognition of the influence of the lords-lieutenants and the landlords in a scheme of national defence is a concession to the principle of territorialism which some of us probably did not altogether expect from this Government.

At Market Rasen Foal Fair on Wednesday business rather dragged at first, but eventually nearly all were disposed of at prices from 9 guineas to £19. A number of Welsh cart colts fetched from £18. Cobs sold at £20, harness horses £16, and cart horses £15 10s.

DAIRY.

The Starter and its Use.

Even the most provincial dairyman of to day is becoming convinced at last that, after all, there is something in bacteriology, and that the science can throw some light on the principles to be followed in dairying and lead to valuable improvements in practice.

It has been clearly demonstrated that in milk and its products there are bacteria which can roughly be divided into three groups—those whose action is beneficial to the milk, those whose pre ence and activity is injurious, and a third which have neither the one nor the other of these qualities, and hence are called and considered as neutral. The deeper the knowledge possessed by the dairyman of these bacteria and their action under varying circumstances, the less is he at their mercy, and the more are the results of their activity under his control, and hence the more capable is he of dealing with the various fermentations which they produce, and the more successful he becomes in preventing, as far as possible, the entrance into the milk of those germs which injure it, and also the products which he obtains from it.

Even the beneficial germs are only so with limitations, for their good work, if allowed to become uncontinued, becomes harmful and injurious.

This is well exemplified in the normal ripening of cream. Present in the cream are some bacteria whose special work is the production under proper conditions of the ripeness, or sourness, or acidity which is necessary before churning takes place in the ordinary manufacture of sour cream butter.

If, however, the souring process is allowed to go too far too much acid results, and this excess is found to result in the production of strong and undesirable flavours in the butter obtained.

A further evil results from the over-acidity causing the firm coagulation of the casein present in the milk or cream; this is broken into minute grains in churning, and instead of passing into the buttermilk and out of the butter, its presence is found there in the specks or flakes of casein, which are one of the indications of inferior butter.

It would seem almost, however, that Nature desires directly to assist the dairyman in the prevention of over-ripening, for it is found that a limit is automatically set to the degree of acidity produced by the lactic acid bacteria. The result is that when a certain stage is reached in their acid-producing work, the acid which they themselves have produced puts a stop to their work—the acidity becomes such that they cannot continue the production of more acid.

This is usually explained by regarding the acid produced as excrementitious matter given off by the bacteria, and then as the medium becomes too obnoxious for their further growth, an end is thus put to their own existence. A parallel case is of daily occurrence in the fact that the foul air breathed out from the lungs of human beings and animals is unfavourable to the life of its producers if breathed again, and in an enclosed area the final result would be a cessation of the life of the producers unless a removal of the foul air and a substitution of fresh air were effected.

It is interesting to note further that, though the acid producers cease their activity at a certain stage, the character of the milk or cream is not such as to put an end to the growth of all bacteria. Another set of germs—which must have been present during the acid producing stage, but in a state of inactivity either because of the character of the medium, or because they were crowded out or overwhelmed in numbers by the acid producers—recommence their action, and if they are allowed to continue the milk develops a bitter flavour, which is the natural result of their life, as an acid flavour was of the others.

The manifest result is the production of the unpleasant butyric flavour and taste which are a well-known mark of inferior products.

Benefits of a Starter.

It will be now quite a simple matter to realise the benefit of using a starter. Seeing that the variety of bacteria which may usually be present in cream is very numerous, it is a matter of little wonder that the ripening should occasionally not be as successful as could be desired. Under good circumstances there is present a sufficient number of the lactic acid bacteria for them to be able by rapid development to oust or overwhelm the other germs, and the normal and successful progress of the ripening is thus enabled to go on. But if by reason of dirty handling of the milk or dirty utensils—and these are the great cause of the process being at fault—the other organisms gain the upper hand, then it is the work of the acid-forming germs which is suppressed, with the consequent deleterious effect upon the product obtained. The result simply depends upon which set gains the upper hand. One of the conditions which modifies the result is the temperature, which may be more suitable to one set of germs, and hence that set will be favoured while the other is handicapped at the same time.

This is frequently the case in winter, when, owing to less frequent churning, the cream has to be kept for a longer period than usual. During this waiting it must be kept at a temperature which is not suitable for the development of the acid-making germs, so that souring may be retarded; but this is a suitable temperature for the development of other less desirable germs, and other deleterious fermentations take place, with a consequent harmful effect on the quality of the butter obtained.

In a starter we have a more or less pure culture of lactic acid bacteria. A pure culture consists essentially of only one class of germs, which have been artificially prepared under such conditions as rendered the entry of others impossible. If then milk can be so treated as to remove all the germs it contains—and this is first what pasteurising or heating to a temperature of about 158 deg. will do—and then the pure culture be added, all the conditions of safe ripening are ensured. The culture is purchased in the form of a dry white powder. The earliest form was liquid, but the powder form is much superior in several points, most of all in its keeping properties. The powder contains the bacteria in a more or less dormant condition, and the stimulation of temperature and a suitable liquid medium are all that is necessary to rouse them into activity again. The process followed is well known to practical users of the pure culture starters. A suitable quantity of milk, preferably separator skim milk, is taken and heated to a temperature of about 158 deg. Fahr., in accordance with the principles stated earlier. This destroys practically all the germs it contains. It is then cooled down to a temperature of 75 or 80 deg., which is the one most suitable for the development of the bacteria contained in the culture, which is then added to the milk. Careful stirring ensures uniformity in the resulting acidity, and after standing for 20 to 24 hours at the above temperature a liquid is obtained which has been soured by the activity of practically only one set of bacilli, and hence it is unhampered by any of the undesirably flavoured decompositions which are otherwise too often present. So effective is this method upon the quality of the butter obtained that however serious may have been the previous taints or odours in the butter, and whatever may have been their causes, the use of a pure starter thus obtained in pasteurised milk will, with reasonable cleanliness, render the removal of the faults from future butter absolutely certain.

LACTISSIMA.



THE CHEESE TENT AT THE FROME AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW LAST WEEK

Sir J. Crichton-Browne on the Adulteration of Milk and Butter.

In the course of his presidential address at the annual conference of the Sanitary Inspectors' Association at Llandudno, Sir James Crichton-Browne, M.D., LL.D., F.R.S., made some pointed remarks on food adulteration. In commending the Public Health (Regulations as to Food) Act passed last session, he said that a maritime cordon of food safety would now be drawn round the country. That, however, was not enough, for it was suicide as well as assassination that had to be prevented, and home-made food as well as that from foreign parts must be kept under the strictest surveillance. We were constantly attempting to poison ourselves, or at any rate one another, and we were becoming gradually more sly and subtle in our nefarious practices. The aid of science was invoked to shelter dishonesty, and adulteration was converted into a fine art. By providing legislative authority for the control of food supplies, which though it need do no injury to any legitimate trader either in fresh or tinned food would put a stop to the vending of pernicious filth, Mr. John Burns had rendered an eminent public service.

Continuing, Sir Crichton-Browne said that the primary and paramount food question was the protection of milk, which entered in a greater or less degree into the diet of a vast majority of the population, and formed the almost exclusive food of a large proportion of its most susceptible units. If we would reduce infant mortality, diminish sickness and debility, prevent occasional outbreaks of infectious disease, and improve the race, we must see to our milk supply. And it seemed to him that a complete reorganisation of the whole milk trade throughout the country was inevitable, and happily the Government had definitely promised legislation on the subject.

We had it on the authority of the Local Government Board that 10 per cent. of the country's milk supply was adulterated, and that a much larger proportion had been so carefully manipulated that it was just above the required standard. They must have a guarantee that the cows that yielded the milk were healthy, properly fed, and were housed and milked under conditions of scrupulous cleanliness. They must have a guarantee that the milk was collected, treated, and dispensed with technical skill, and that it was conveyed to its destination with promptitude and intact. They must have a guarantee that it is up to a certain and sufficient standard, which would not allow of any attenuation by separated milk or water, and that it was not loaded with chemical preservatives.

The great point was the avoidance of dirt, and the restriction within proper bounds of the micro-organisms which milk must always to some extent contain, and for the development and multiplication of which it was a favourable medium; and to that end the farmer, veterinary surgeon, dairyman, sanitary inspector, medical officer of health, analyst, consumer, and, from time to time, the police magistrate, must all co operate.

Butter lent itself to fraudulent admixture quite

as readily as milk, and it was satisfactory that the Legislature had now been moved to take steps for its protection, on the lines indicated in the paper he read to them at Blackpool last year.

Commenting on the fact that imported butters containing 5 per cent. or less of moisture might by reworking have the quantity of water increased to 16 per cent., Dr. Crichton-Browne asserted that worse than water remained behind, for there were on the market cheap substances, invented by ingenious chemists abroad, which, when judiciously mixed with genuine butter, could not be definitely detected by any process of chemical analysis hitherto employed.

Margarine had many friends, and had been well bolstered up, and the prejudice against it was dying out. Made from pure animal fat and carefully manufactured, it was an excellent and inexpensive food, probably equal to butter, weight for weight, in nutritive value. But it was not the very best either from a gustatory, or digestive, or æsthetical point of view, and it now appeared that margarine is itself subject to adulteration. It was hinted in a celebrated case the other day that the increase in the price of soap was in some degree due to the increasing popularity of margarine, and, at any rate, it was certain that some margarine was faked up out of still more questionable substances.

A noteworthy suggestion was afterwards made by Mr. John T. Quinton, of Liverpool, vice-chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the Association. It was to the effect that the clause in the Fertilisers and Food Stuffs Act, making an invoice a warranty by the seller, should be applied by law to invoices of all food substances for human as well as for animal consumption, and his remark met with general applause.

Impressions of the Third International Dairy Conference.

The International Dairy Conference, which was officially closed at the end of last week, but which is still going on during the present week, impressed one as being capable of exerting immense influence in connection with dairy and agricultural matters.

The conference was the third of its kind, the first having been inaugurated by the National Dairy Society of Belgium in 1902, the second was held in Paris in 1905, and the conference which has just concluded was held at Scheveningen, near the Hague.

In so far as attendance was concerned, it was a record one, there being altogether 982 members, representing eighteen different countries. All the distinguished leaders of the dairy world assembled at the Hague to take part in the deliberations, and the only country which seemed not to have realised the importance of the occasion was the United Kingdom. The British committee was composed of from fifty to sixty gentlemen, but can hardly be described as being at all representative of the British dairy farmers of the United Kingdom, and the part which they took in the deliberations, which were looked upon by other countries as being of an extremely serious character, was fragmentary in the extreme. One could hardly help comparing the enthusiasm which was exhibited by other countries, such as France and Belgium, with the apparent indifference of the United Kingdom; and it is to be hoped that before another congress is held other arrangements will be made, so that a proper organisation may be got together, and that not only proper representatives should be invited from the societies representing dairying in the United Kingdom, but also that arrangements should be made that at the conference itself there should be some show of organisation.

In so far as local arrangements were concerned, the English visitors had to thank Dr. J. J. L. van Rijn for coming to the rescue quite unexpectedly, and making matters more agreeable for them.

It would be perhaps advisable that a permanent committee should be at once appointed in London, which would consider what would be the proper arrangements necessary in connection with the next congress, which is to be held at Budapest, in Hungary, two years hence. Such arrangements take a considerable time to make, and the sooner a permanent committee of the character indicated is appointed, the better.

With regard to the programme drawn up, this was of a very comprehensive character, and the discussions took place in three sections—namely, one dealing with legislation and regulations, in which the unification of chemical methods with the examination of milk, butter, and cheese, and uniformity of methods of control of milk and dairy produce were considered. The second was devoted to hygiene, and dealt with the conditions under which milk should be sold, its pasteurisation, sanitary conditions, and how to deal with tuberculous bacteria. In the third section the questions considered were more from the point of view of industry, and such matters as pure cultures, the proportion of water in butter, and the preservation and refrigeration of dairy produce were considered. In all three sections there were many papers from the various countries, and the general impression left by the examination of these papers, and listening to the discussion, was that there was a universal desire for local control of milk and butter, and also a strong wish that the dairy industry should be placed upon a thoroughly scientific basis, and that the examination of dairy products should be undertaken by qualified men.

In connection with the congress there was a magnificent agricultural exhibition held at the Hague, which might be suitably described as one of the best dairy exhibitions that has ever been held. Unfortunately cattle were absent owing to foot-and-mouth disease in the country, but the other exhibits could not be surpassed. The Government exhibit illustrating the work which is carried on at the technical schools, control stations and dairy institutes, was by far the best that has ever been shown in Europe.

The absence of the representatives of the agricultural press was very much commented upon, and it would perhaps be to the advantage of everybody if better arrangements in this respect were made in the future.

Conference of Dairymen and Cowkeepers.

The annual conference of the Ferderation of Dairymen and Cowkeepers' Associations of the United Kingdom was held in Nottingham, on Thursday afternoon, when delegates attended from Nottingham, Derby, Manchester, Hudders-field, Loughborough, Wakefield, and Liverpool, Councillor A. Hailwood, of Salford, the president of the federation, was in the chair, being supported by Mr. G. Cooke, Liverpool, the vice-president; Mr. J. Garner, Manchester, treasurer, and Mr. George Ashworth, Manchester, secretary.

Councillor E. N. Elborne, president of the Nottingham branch, welcomed the delegates to the city, and briefly alluded to the importance of their calling in relation to the health and well-being of the country at large.

One of the chief aims of the federation as set out in the half-yearly report reads as follows:—"To assist by all legitimate means the dairymen and cowkeepers to maintain their lawful rights as traders, and to resist all unfair legislation, whether local or imperial. To prevent further undue encroachments, and to obtain redress of any trade grievances."

In the course of the committee's report, they say: "We desire to draw your attention to the report recently issued by the Royal Commission on tuberculosis (human and bovine), in which it is clearly set forth that the tubercle-bacillus of the human being and that of the ox are one and the same. They say 'cows' milk containing bovine tubercle bacilli is a cause of tuberculosis, and of fatal tuberculosis in man. No doubt legislation will follow on this report, and should the proposals be of too drastic or too restrictive a nature, it will be the duty of the federation to endeavour to get them modified. We may rest assured that an attempt will be made to bring about a change in the conditions under which milk is produced, carried, and delivered to the people, for no Government can afford to ignore a report of this kind, dealing as it does with the health of the subject. The federation, while ever ready to assist local and other authorities in placing our trade on the best possible sanitary conditions, will strenuously oppose all harassing and needless restrictions put forward by these bodies."

The adoption of the report was moved by Mr. G. Cooke, seconded by Mr. Oates (Sheffield), and carried unanimously. Mr. S. R. Trotman, the city analyst, subsequently read an instructive paper on the "Scientific Aspect of a pure milk supply."

At the annual sale of cart mares, foals, and suckers, at Devizes, the entry comprised 170 animals, a large number of which did not change hands. The best prices were as follows:—Cart suckers, 20 guineas, 18 guineas, 17½ guineas, 16 guineas, and 15 guineas; yearling fillies and colts, 14 guineas, 13½ guineas, &c.; cart mares and geldings, between two and four years of age, 37 guineas, 34 guineas, 31 guineas, and 30 guineas; and mares and geldings, over four years of age, 45 guineas, 36 guineas, 32 guineas, &c.

Spalding September Fair took place on Wednesday, when there was a good show and a large attendance of farmers and dealers. In the cattle fair nearly 400 beasts were on offer, all the leading breeders of the district being represented. For stores there was a good trade at £10 to £12 per head for young stock, and up to £16 and £17 for grazing bullocks. Best fat beef realised 7s. 9d. and cow beef 6s. 6d. per stone. In-calvers were in demand at £18 each. A small show of sheep, and the best fat mutton realised up to 8½d. per lb., and stores 50s. each. In the horse fair there was a good show of both mares and foals. The best foals made £10 to £20, with a little more for a few which were the pick of the fair. Colts realised £30 and £40, and geldings sold well. Useful agricultural horses were in demand, and realised satisfactory prices.

SHOWS.

Frome.

The outstanding feature of the Frome Agricultural Society's Show, held under the most favourable circumstances on Wednesday, was the great display of Cheddar cheese, for good as have been previous year's shows, and notably that of 1906, last week's was better than ever. There were close upon 400 entries—not all Cheddars—and the quality was good all round. The much coveted championship prize this year went to the old cheese class, where Mr. Crocker, of Cattistock, had a lovely bit of toothsome Cheddar, for which five of the seven judges voted. The others favoured a lot by Messrs. Cary and Porch, which won the £20 prize, and was very similar to that with which they carried off the Shepton Mallet championship. The champion cheese was a very fat one, of delicious flavour, and we do not think any mistake was made in giving it the award against the younger cheese, though when the latter matures, and it should be a capital keeper, it will leave nothing to be desired. An old cheese from Mr. Theodore Candy was another delicious morsel, and ran his neighbour's very close. Mr. Crocker also took a £15 prize, headed his rennet class, and topped the cheese fair class, so that he had no cause to regret Frome Show. Mr. E. E. Hoddinott, of Upton Noble, was a successful winner in the limited classes with a very good make of cheese. The judges' opinion of the cheese may be gathered from the remarks made by them at the luncheon. Mr. Oakley said the cheese they had examined that day had been well up to the standard, if not above the standard, of former years. Class 2 (four cheese of not less than 56 lb. each) was one of the best classes he had ever judged at Frome, but in the class for those who had not taken a prize for four years only twelve out of forty-four lots merited approval. The prices this year could not be expected to be so high as last year. Mr. Mackie, the other judge, said in Class 1 (four cheese of not less than 60 lb. each of any system or make) there were a number of entries which would do credit to any show in any season and anywhere.

It may be added here that the usual cheese fair held in connection with the show took place in the adjoining market house, and the pitch was nearly double that of last year. There was a large attendance of buyers, and the whole of the pitch was cleared. Cheddars ranged from 52s. to 58s. per cwt. A few better lots realised 63s., whilst some of the prize dairies changed hands at several shillings more. There was only a small supply of Somersets, and they sold at from 52s. to 57s.; half skims, 47s. to 51s.; loaf cheese, 52s. to 60s., some of the prize lots making rather more.

To return to the show. Horses showed a slight falling off as regards numbers when compared with last year, but quality was quite up to the average. Nag mares and foals made a fairly good class, the best being shown by Mr. A. L. Kelly, of North Cadbury, Bath, with a foal by Yard Avon. Mr. Kelly also won in the nag class, Mr. G. E. Churchill, West Harptree, being second. In the yearling nags, first prize went to Mr. J. Clare, Tennis Court Farm, Hallatrow. Lord Winterstoke won somewhat easily in the class for two-year-old cart colts, and was also awarded first prize for the best cart mare or gelding. The Hunting classes on the whole were not so well filled as they should be; but, nevertheless, there were several entries of really high class. The weight-carrying Hunters' first premium fell to that well-known exhibitor, Mr. J. H. Stokes, of Market Harborough, with an unnamed entry, which later won the championship class. Up to thirteen stone, Mr. W. H. Munckton, West Mudford House, Yeovil, captured leading position with an entry named Middleman. One of the most interesting of the saddle events was for jumpers ridden by ladies, which resulted in a win for Mr. W. Singer, Woodcock Farm, Frome. The jumping was watched with the customary attention, the crowd following anything like good work and horsemanship with real enthusiasm.

Cattle, too, were not so numerous as last year, there being an unaccountable falling off in the Channel Island classes. In these Mr. Arthur Pocock, Calne, Wilts, and Mr. J. H. Smith, Barry, were practically the only exhibitors, Mr. J. H. Shore, Whatley House, Frome, being only represented by one entry (heifer calf under 12 months), which took second prize. Shorthorns showed to advantage, there being several well-filled classes.

In the sheep classes Hampshire Downs were the best, and with this breed Mr. G. W. Haine, Fair Oak Farm, Berkeley, Frome, had matters all his own way. In pigs, the ten-mile radius classes were cancelled. Mr. Dainton was awarded first for his pair of elts, and Mr. Percy Bush, Highcroft Farm, Frome, took first in the class for pens of five suitable for the bacon trade.

A pretty feature of the butter tent was the display of cut flowers, and the table decorations

introduced for the first time, which were probably the best seen this season in the West.

Kington.

The twenty-seventh annual horse show was held at Kington, and the exhibition was a very successful one. The weather being fine, the attendance was large, though perhaps scarcely as good as that of some previous years, but the entries in the various classes were thirty-one in excess of last year, and the quality of the exhibits was fully up to the usual high standard attained at this show. It is satisfactory to find that each year the exhibition is becoming more popular, and on this occasion there were present several winners from Olympia, Dublin, Cardiff, Richmond, and others. The society is giving every encouragement to the tenant farmers of the district to breed good stock, and this year three new classes were introduced for their benefit; they were for heavy horses, and should become quite a feature of the show. Agricultural horses made perhaps the best display, there being a large number of well-filled classes, but the Hunters and Hackneys also made a creditable show. The challenge cup for local cart foal fell to Mr. C. C. Nott, and a champion prize went to Mr. Coates's Clifford Belle, whilst the Shire Horse Society's silver medal was awarded to Finstall Marigold, shown by Mr. Brooks. The Hunters' Improvement Society's silver medals were taken by Sir H. W. Ripley, Bart., with Reine, and Mr. Arthur Masters's Angela, whilst the Hackney Horse Society's silver medal went to Strange Harmony, shown by Mr. C. C. Rogers, Brampton Brian.

Warwickshire Hunt.

The Warwickshire Hunt Horse Show was held at Kineton in most favourable weather, and was very largely attended. The entries showed an increase of 17 on last year, the total being 323, and consisted of 116 Shires, 188 Hunters, and 19 foals. There was an extremely nice lot of young Hunters, especially the yearlings and two-year-olds, and some creditable three-year-olds, doing great credit to the tenant farmers of Warwickshire. A leading feature of the show was the introduction of a prize of £10 for the best mare between the age of four and eight likely to breed a Hunter, and this was won by Mr. J. G. Spencer with his four-year-old bay Svengali. The Hunters' Improvement Society's gold medal was won by Mr. W. J. Lees, of Warwick, with the winner in a large class for the best mare and foal adapted for hunting purposes. Mr. Marlow Hincks, of Broadwell, was reserve with a winner in the small farmers' class. There was a large entry of two-year-olds, and here Mr. W. Canning, of Debden, won with a filly which secured the reserve ribbon for the silver medal of the Hunters' Improvement Society, which was carried off by Mr. J. G. Spencer, of Radway, who won first prize with a three-year-old filly. The Shires were certainly in advance of anything seen at Kineton before. Mr. Herbert Lees, of Warwick, won the silver medal of the Shire Horse Society, and Mr. Bruce Fry won a silver cup given by Mr. E. B. Wynn for the best animal in the cart horse classes with Mollington Manners, which won in the three-year-old class.



FROME AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW: THE CATTLE STALLS.

Ashbourne.

The Ashbourne Shire Horse Society's twenty-seventh annual show took place on Thursday, when the entries were not quite so strong in numbers as we have seen here, but the quality was well maintained, most of the well-known Shire breeders being represented. The Duke of Westminster's Eaton Drayman headed a numerous lot of colt foals, and the same animal carried off the challenge cup for the best foal in the show. Second to Eaton Drayman in his own class was Sir Albert Muntz's bay colt by Dunsmore Jameson, and Catterall Pope, bred and exhibited by Mr. C. P. Yates, of Garstang, Lancashire, was third. Some surprise was evinced at the failure of Mr. Egerton Orme's colt foal by Dunsmore Jameson, which has won so many prizes this season. On this occasion it was no more than fourth, but Mr. Orme was the winner in a strong class of filly foals, a smart youngster by Sterling Jameson maintaining her winning sequence. She was also reserve for the foal challenge cup.

The Wainwright Challenge Cup, for the best mare or filly, one year old and upwards, was won by Mr. F. E. Muntz, of Hockley Heath, with Aldeby Lady Jameson, a three-year-old bay well known in the show yard, his kinsman, Sir Albert Muntz, M.P., being reserve for the trophy with a grand yearling filly, which, like the winner, is one of Dunsmore Jameson's famous progeny. Mr. Egerton Orme's Combermere Abbess was first in the two-year-old filly class, whilst in the class for mares with foal at foot Mr. J. B. Brooks, of Bromsgrove, was awarded premier honours with Raby Violet, eight years. First in the class for yearling colts was Mr. James Gould's Lymn Grey, which has won at the Royal and several other shows, Sir Albert Muntz being second and third with two of Dunsmore Jameson's sons, which, by the way, were both Derbyshire bred. Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P., who usually carries off some prizes at Ashbourne, had entered several animals, but the death of his aunt, Lady Louisa Egerton, prevented their competing.

Hay.

Hay Horse Show was held in beautiful weather, and attracted a record attendance, whilst the entries were also better than in any previous year, so that the show was a complete success. The entries numbered 545, and comprised classes for cart horses, Hunters, hacks, ponies, whilst there were classes for horse-leaping and harness trials.

The average entry for each class was eleven. There was a grand entry in the cart horse section, and the foals were the best exhibited at this show, where there is always keen competition in Shires. The pony classes were well filled, and some of the best bred animals came under the notice of the judges. For the Welsh Pony and Cob Society's medal the judges had no easy task in allocating their awards, as also in other important classes. The medal went to Mr. Francis Brecon. In the Hunter section several very fine horses were shown, whilst the hacks included several highly creditable animals. A new, and what proved an interesting feature was the judging competition, for which six prizes were offered, open to persons interested in agriculture and not exceeding thirty years of age. Competitors were supplied with a judging book, and required to judge each class upon the horses entering the collecting ring. Ten minutes were allowed for judging each class, competitors being required to judge all classes for Shire horses, or any class might be withdrawn at the discretion of the stewards. The judging slips, properly signed by each competitor, were to be handed to the steward appointed to collect the same before the horses in each class passed into the judging ring. The slips so handed were afterwards compared with the slips of the official judges, and the prizes awarded accordingly.

West Staffs.

The West Staffordshire Shire Horse Society's fourth annual show took place at Stafford under the presidency of Sir Alex. Henderson, Bart. There was a capital entry of sixty-one mares, foals, yearlings, and two-year-olds, as compared with fifty-one last year, and the show was the best on record, a feature being the fine collection of mares. The filly foals were a good lot, but the yearling fillies, with the exception of the first prize winner, lacked weight, although good in quality. The Shire Horse Society's silver medal for the best female in the show was awarded to Mr. Idiens's Famous Flower, Mr. Harvey's Delamere Ringlet being reserve. The premium stallions who had travelled the district were Buscot Harold, the property of the president, and Hendre Champion, from the stud of Mr. Leopold Salomons, of Norbury Park, Dorking.

Otley Foal.

The Wharfedale Agricultural Society's annual foal show took place on the 21st inst., when, in addition to a good show of foals, there was a useful collection of agricultural and garden produce, a tent for poultry and pigeons, and, from the popular point of view the most attractive feature of all, sheep-dog trials. The entries of foals were well up in every class. Especially was this so with the heavy brood mares, no fewer than nineteen being entered. The first prize was taken by a very stylish and, at the same time, serviceable mare shown by Mr. J. Harper, of Kirkby Overblow, and the foal took first in its class. Two mares from Mr. Charles Robinson's stud at Arthington took first and second in the open class for light brood mares, and Mr. Thomas Burton's exhibits came out strongly in two successive classes for heavy foals. The Arthington stud again figured prominently in the open Hackney foal class, and in the Hunter section Mr. T. Mallorie, also of Arthington, took an excellent first with a beautiful specimen of Sirdar's strain.

Market Drayton.

Ideal weather favoured the eighth annual exhibition of the Market Drayton and District Agricultural Society, and both the entries and the attendance established a record, a success the society well deserved. The Shire horse classes were exceptionally strong, as were also those devoted to Hunters and hacks. In the sections for dairy cattle, bulls, &c., there was a fine show, while sheep were fully up to the average. Pigs, too, formed a big section, and the divisions set apart for live and dressed poultry, cheese, butter, eggs, honey, pigeons, and dogs were all capitally filled. In fact, the show was highly creditable to both the society and the exhibitors.

Winslow Shire Horse.

The 20th annual show of the Winslow Shire Horse Society (of which Mr. H. J. Chinnery, of Frinkford Hall, Bicester, is president for the year) was held in the old Flower Show Field, kindly lent by Mr. J. Buckingham, on Wednesday, and was favoured with a splendid day. The show was about an average one, a little bit short in the colt classes, but with a fair number of fillies and yearlings and a very fine lot of mares. The Shire Horse Society's silver medal was carried off by Mr. F. W. Lester, of Botolph Claydon's, Botolph Fashion, a very pretty chesnut filly, which had previously taken honours at nearly every show in the district, and which was sired by Thrupp Rival, one of the Society's horses. Mr. Lester also won for the second time the Winslow Town Challenge Cup, value 20 guineas, and has only to win it once more to claim it outright. He also took the champion prize of £10 given by Mr. Wm. Selby Loundes, jun., M.F.H., for the best Shire mare with Botolph Nancy (by Waresley Albert), a fine bay mare bred by himself. The judges were Mr. J. Bradley, of Halsted House, Filton, Leicester, and Mr. R. J. Rigby, of Souldern Banbury, and their awards gave general satisfaction.

Altrincham.

The show of the Altrincham Agricultural Society, held on Wednesday in delightful weather, was a striking testimony to the ever increasing popularity of this fixture—the largest one day show held in this country. There was a falling off in the entries to the extent of 316, but the classes affected were either those interfered with by the late harvest such as roots, grain, and horticultural produce, or the fancy classes of rabbits and cats. Light horse entries are still dwindling—they have dwindled every year for fourteen years, and the number of 148 is the lowest for the whole of that period. On the other hand, heavy horses were more numerous than they have been since 1903, and were well above the

average of the past ten years. All told, including implements, the show comprised 5,862 entries, a truly formidable list.

The horses are always the feature of the show, and so they proved again last week, and the heavy horses made one of the finest displays seen here, the entries including the best of Mr. James Gould's stud of Lord Egerton's and latterly of Mr. Sam Raingill's, whilst Mr. A. C. Sparkes showed his famous pair of shire geldings that have been the champions at the Shire Horse, the Royal, and the Olympia shows. Mr. Gould's famous young grey stallion had an easy win, and is one of the champion horses of the year. In numbers the mare or gelding class was one of the strongest, and the quality of the exhibits was shown by the fact that Mr. Raingill's mare could only get third. The district classes were not very big ones, but there were some good sturdy short-legged mares in the class under sixteen hands. In the open brood mare class it was a keen fight between Captain Heywood Lonsdale's well-known mare by Sir Alex. Henderson's Burcot Harold and the Duke of Sutherland's slightly lighter mare that has won a lot of prizes. They were placed in the order named, and the class was quite one of the smartest seen at the Altrincham Show. Lord Egerton was unlucky in that his colt foal was so young. This is a June colt by Tatton Friar, and had not much chance against the Duke of Westminster's March foal by that sturdy horse Lymm Champion. The Duke of Sutherland won easily in fillies. There were some very famous fillies in the yearling and two-year-old classes, and there was some surprise when Mr. Raingill's three-year-old was put behind Mr. Kearns's aristocratic looking filly by Lockinge Forest King.

The classes of Hunters were not strong in numbers, but the young entry was promising, and so were the mares. Three-year-olds were good both in saddle and harness, and the display all through the day in the large ring was one of the best Altrincham has seen. The open roadster class in saddle brought out several of the best horses in England. Mr. Tennant's famous East Riding gelding Authority won, and was shown very fit. He met some very good ones, and notably Miss Schintz's Morocco, a brown gelding with very handsome action. The light weight Hunters were not nearly as good as the heavy weights. In the turnout classes there were seen all the same horses that had been in saddle.

In both the open and district classes for cattle some first-class animals were forward, but competition was not so keen as it might have been. There were 159 entries, and the general improvement in quality was patent throughout. In the open classes Mr. Proctor, of Mobberley, Mr. Atkinson (Bury), Mr. G. Harrison (Darlington), and Mr. Rothewell (Preston) practically divided the prizes amongst them. In the dairy cattle classes Mr. Raingill and Earl Egerton had matters pretty much their own way. The open Channel Islands cattle competition saw Mr. Jersey de Knoop, of Tarporley, winner with his Inspector, Mr. J. Lewis, of Oakmere, being placed second with Oakmere Lad. Mr. De Knoop's Lady Lightfoot was second in a very big class for cow or heifer, and his Fancetta 3rd was good winner in the two-year-olds.

Sheep were but a small though nice show, and the same might be said of the pigs. Other sections, which all had their attractions, included goats, agricultural and horticultural produce, grain, honey, butter, eggs, cheese, poultry, and a big display of dogs.

Gransden.

The annual show of the Gransden and District Agricultural Society was held at Great Gransden on Tuesday in gloriously fine weather. The fixture is always a popular one, and this year it proved even more popular than usual, for no fewer than 1,500 people passed the gates, and altogether the attendance constituted a record. The entries numbered 568, or fifty-four more than last year, but in 1905 the total was 647. Last week horses, which included Shires, Hackneys, Hunters and ponies, numbered 141, the smallest for several years; but cattle were more numerous than usual, the total being 67, as compared with 34 last year, 59 in 1905, and 42 in 1904. They made a nice display, several first-class animals being forward. Sheep were about an average, whilst interesting displays of corn, roots, butter, eggs, &c., made up an altogether attractive and successful show.

Market Drayton Cheese Fair.

At this fair, held on Thursday, there was a larger pitch than at any fair since the market was inaugurated, the quantity representing about thirty-five tons. The quality throughout was excellently good; and as there was a brisk call from the commencement, the produce was speedily and satisfactorily cleared at the following rates. First qualities, 60s. to 65s.; medium grades, 55s. to 60s. per cwt.

Nottinghamshire Notes.

THERE was a large attendance on Wednesday at the Earl of Harrington's foal show at Borrowash, between Nottingham and Derby. A new feature was this year introduced, which took the form of a class for groups of four Hunter foals by one sire, having for its object the finding out of the best sire, and, at the same time, encouraging farmers to breed from them. The prize-money given at the show was subscribed by the Meynell, Quorn, Belvoir, Mr. Fernie's, Rufford, Blankney, Harrington, and Cottesmore Hunts. The conditions were that foals shown were bred by persons resident within the limits of the country hunted by his lordship, or within three miles of Elvaston Castle.

THE entries for the Hunter foal classes totalled thirty-three, and foals of the Shire type numbered twenty-nine. The weather was delightful, and among those present were the Earl and Countess of Harrington and Lord Manvers. The judges of the Hunters were Messrs. R. Fort, Wade (Leicester), and J. Drage (Northampton). For Shire foals the decisions rested on the judgment of Messrs. H. Smith (Cropwell Butler) and W. Machin (Edwalton). The competition was keen, and many small farmers have been induced to go in for breeding through the holding of this show, which is yearly increasing in popularity.

ONE of the judges at the Tattershall (near Horncastle) Foal Show on Wednesday hailed from this district, in the person of Mr. T. A. Oliver, of Claypole, near Newark.

LOUGHBOROUGH sheep sale was held on Wednesday, when over 1,100 animals were disposed of. There is a decided scarcity of breeding sheep in this district, and prices throughout ruled high. Five Lincoln theaves, sent by Sir Ernest Paget, of Kegworth, made 67s. apiece, and the same price was made of another consignment from Mr. J. Burrows, of Wymeswold. Ewes made up to 60s. 6d. each, and lambs fetched from 40s. to 47s. per head. Rams did not make big prices, 6 guineas being top figure.

WHAT is known as Newark Cheese Fair was held on Wednesday, and about 3,500 sheep were penned. There was a large attendance, and trade throughout for breeding sheep was brisk. Lambs from the flocks of Col. Fane made up to 55s. 6d.; W. Richardson (Ossington), 48s. 6d.; W. E. Denison (Ossington Hall), 44s. 6d. For gimmers the prices paid were from 62s. to 75s. apiece. Rams only made moderate prices, one animal sent in by Mr. J. Brocklebank (Carlton) making 15 guineas, and another from the flock of Mr. Storm (Muskham) 18½ guineas, which was top price of the fair. Trade for cattle was only moderate, young animals selling well. Messrs. E. Bailey and Son sold over 3,000 sheep, their sale realising about £8,200.

SOUTHWELL September fair was held on Monday, but the number of cattle on offer was extremely small. Yearlings and up to two years old fetched £6 to £13 apiece. The sheep trade was good, lambs making from 35s. to 53s. apiece. Breeding ewes realised from 55s. to 65s. apiece, Messrs. Bradwell's sale alone including over 1,200 sheep and 100 head of cattle.

THOUGH sporting scarcely comes within my province, I have this week had several chats with gentlemen owning estates, farmers, and also Earl Carnarvon's head gamekeeper at Bingham. The latter informed me that the present outlook for both pheasants and partridges in this portion of the country is the worst he has known for twenty years. There were a fair number of pheasants hatched, but they were either drowned or succumbed from cold. Hares, however, are plentiful. This opinion coincides with what others interested in game shooting have told me, and though very few guns have yet been out in the county, shot will be heard on all sides next week, for harvest is practically a thing of the past, so far as the year 1907 is concerned.

ONE of Earl Manvers' herdsmen has this week met with a shocking death at Cotgrave, about two miles from Holme Pierrepont. The man, whose name is Charles Hallam, and his age twenty-five, was cycling from Cotgrave to his work along with four others, and while descending a rather nasty hill applied the brakes to his cycle so that the machine stopped dead, and he was pitched over the handle bars on to his head. He was picked up unconscious, and died two hours later.

THE Melton Mowbray branch of the Midland Farmers' Association (Nottingham) have elected Mr. J. Longwill, of Pickwell, as chairman and also as their representative on the executive committee of the association. Mr. J. Barker, Ragdale, is the hon. secretary of the branch, and the following well-known farmers form the local committee:—Mr. A. Reid (Thrussington), Mr. Braithwaite (Stathern), Mr. Ensor (Long Clawson), Mr. R. Crawford (Lowesby), Mr. T. H. Stevenson (Hose), Mr. Lovett (Nether Broughton), Mr. T. Wilson (Freeby), and Mr. Fisher (Great Dalby).

THERE were many prominent agriculturists of the lace county present on Saturday afternoon last at the funeral of Mrs. Hildyard, wife of Mr. T. B. Hildyard, J.P., of Flintham Hall, who owns several thousand acres in that district, and farms one large holding himself. Mr. Hildyard was deeply attached to his wife, and the shock has been a severe one, though the deceased lady had been far from well for some time. She was highly esteemed by the tenants on the estate, and will be greatly missed by the villagers of Flintham, Screveton, and Car Colston. Mr. Hildyard, I might add, is brother to the famous general of that name, and as there is no family of the marriage, the estates in the ordinary course of things will revert to the general's eldest son, who is at present a clergyman holding a living in the south.

COMING-OF-AGE festivities have marked the present week as one long to be remembered in this district. On Tuesday the Duke of Rutland entertained about 1,300 tenants and their wives to luncheon at Haddon Hall to celebrate the twenty-first birthday of the Marquis of Granby, his eldest son. Several presentations were made to the Marquis, and each guest was handed a souvenir of the occasion, which took the form of a signed photograph of the future lord and master, and a booklet descriptive of the famous hall about which so much has been written.

THE festivities were continued at Belvoir Castle on Thursday, when the guests numbered 1,250. The Duke of Rutland again presided at the luncheon, accompanied by the Duchess, the Marquis of Granby, and other members of the family. The tenants on the Leicestershire estates made a presentation, as did also the tradesmen of Grantham.

RESPONDING to the toast of his health, proposed by Mr. A. Shipman, of Thorpe Arnold, the marquis said he was very proud of Belvoir and its associations with so many generations of his family. He should do his utmost to foster the good feeling at present existing among the tenants on the estates.

THE Duke of Rutland also spoke, remarking that it was not quite yesterday that his forbears and ancestors came into the Belvoir country. They had lived in Leicestershire for a great many hundred years, but he doubted whether any had been received by his friends and neighbours more heartily or in a more touching way than his son had been. He was greatly touched to have received such proof of the continued confidence in his family, not only from those in Leicestershire, but in Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, and Derbyshire. A gathering such as that to-day carried with it a great deal more of moral influence than it would have done 100 years ago. Many of them knew as well as he the reasons which had prevented him from being at Belvoir along with his family, as much as they could have wished.

"I CAN tell you," said his Grace, "I left Belvoir Castle for the purpose of doing financial good to the country. I cannot put it more delicately than that, but the country in general has rendered it impossible for me to spend the time here that I should have liked to have done, and it is not my fault. That is a question for the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who is a bigger man than I. Therefore I have had for the present to knock under. But I hope that that may be remedied before long. (Cheers.) At any rate, believe me that any absence that there may have been from Belvoir, on my part and on the part of my family, has been simply and solely for the cause which I have given you."

MR. C. H. HICKSON gave the toast of "The Duchess," and Mr. D. R. Daybell (Bottesford) proposed "The Rest of the Family," to which Lord Robert Manners replied.

AT dusk there was a display of fireworks, and the festivities were brought to a close shortly after six o'clock by the Duchess lighting a huge bonfire on Devon Hill, near the Kennels of the Belvoir Hounds, which could be seen for many miles around. R. K

September 27, 1907.

Chester Cheese Fair.

At the fair on Wednesday there was a pitch 66 tons, and a large attendance of buyers and brisk trade was experienced. Best Cheshire made 62s. to 66s. per cwt., medium 56s. to 60s., and lower grades down to 52s. These quotations are 5s. per cwt. higher than those of the last fair.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Marking of Foreign Eggs and Poultry.

SIR,—Through the courtesy of the secretary, Mr. W. C. Young, of the Dairy Farmers' Association, who is anxious to give every assistance to important questions connected with the farming industry to be discussed, I am glad to be able to announce that a meeting will be held in the club-room at the Dairy Show, on Thursday, October 10, at 5 30 punctually, open to all members of the poultry industry, to advance the interests of the movement for marking foreign eggs and poultry, and to propose those whom they consider most suited to represent them on the committee, and to complete the number required on the Executive Committee.—I am, &c.,

HERBERT M. YETTS,
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

SIR,—As members of the Executive Committee, which was formed at a public meeting held at the Liverpool Street Hotel on June 26 last for the purpose of considering the advisability of the marking of foreign eggs and poultry, we feel it necessary, if we are to carry on the duties entrusted to us to extend the scope of our work and thus bring the question to a successful issue.

So far we have received most gratifying support from all quarters of the United Kingdom from county councils, agricultural societies, poultry associations, societies, and clubs, besides letters of approval from many leading and influential private members of the poultry industry in all its various branches

Before asking the President of the Board of Agriculture to receive a deputation of members of the poultry industry we consider it advisable to circularise individually all other agricultural and co-operative poultry societies and endeavour to induce them to still further strengthen our hands.

This will necessarily entail a large expenditure, and whilst up to the present the committee have borne the entire outlay—a considerable sum—we now feel that the movement having been officially recognised and placed before the poultry industry, we are justified in asking poultry keepers and agriculturists to contribute towards the expenses of a movement by which they will be direct beneficiaries. In view of the national importance of this movement we feel that we have only to ask for the necessary funds for them to be forthcoming. If every poultry keeper were to contribute the small sum of 1s., amp'e funds would be provided for all necessary requirements, but we trust that those who have the interest of the movement at heart will contribute as liberally as it is possible for them to do, in view of the fact that a considerable amount will be required. Postal orders and cheques should be made payable to the treasurer, Captain Herbert M. Yetts, E. and P. Fund, and crossed —— and Co., and addressed to him, care of Dr. J. C. Hogan, 140, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.

Contributions will be acknowledged in the poultry and agricultural Press. Signed, Deerhurst, chairman; F. J. Broomhead, J. T. Brown, A. Lockley Cook, J. C. Hogan, M.D., T. H. Lewer, Horace J. Wright. Herbert M. Yetts, hon. sec., treasurer.

Thistles on a College Farm.

SIR,—Thistles are no respecters of places or persons, and these bold plants will even grow on the farm of that well-known collegiate establishment known as the South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, Kent.

A neighbouring gentleman, Mr. J. N. Sutton, presumably a farmer, has noticed the growth of the obnoxious vegetation, and has thought well to express his views on the matter in the following letter to the *Kentish Express*:—

"A few years ago we were informed that by the aid of technical education and experimental farming combined, all interested in agriculture would reap great benefit.

"Yet, to my great surprise, I find a large proportion of the pastures this season used by the South-Eastern Agricultural College at Wye well stocked with thistles of fine specimens seeding to perfection. If this is the example given by practical experience, I fail to see the knowledge gained, especially as our pasture is one of the principal items in agriculture at present."—Yours, &c.,

LUX.

September 26, 1907.

Carrots Gone to Seed.

SIR,—"Of two acres of carrots that I drilled the middle of May, nine-tenths have gone to seed (white Belgian sort). Query, is it the season or the seed?" Perhaps one, perhaps the other, perhaps both. There can be no doubt that the excessive moisture this season has been responsible for roots running to seed, and one hardly sees a piece of mangolds or carrots without noticing a good many runners. But nine-tenths of the crop is a very large proportion, and other conditions being favourable, I should hardly like to hold the season responsible for so many, particularly as I have noticed in the case of root crops generally that the smallest proportion of runners is to be found where the best strains of seed were sown. It is impossible to give a positive reason why roots run to seed, as they are no doubt influenced by the weather, while the strain of seed cannot be left out of the reckoning.—Yours, &c.,

September 26, 1907. RUSTICUS.

Sunday Labour During Harvest.

SIR,—With all respect to "Farmer's Wife," page 362, I do not think she is quite fair in her condemnation of the writer of "Lincolnshire Notes," *re* Sunday labour during harvest. I also saw the note which "Farmer's Wife" takes exception to, and I imagined the writer, a farmer wearied and worried with his haymaking in the catchy season now ended, and finding himself on Sunday with hay ready for carrying and prospects of rain again before Monday morning. If in such a predicament a man departs from the rule and picks up a few loads of hay, I think he is as justified in doing this as any other work of necessity. This is not turning the "one day of rest" into a working day as "Farmer's Wife" would imply, but merely meeting an extreme case by what in the ordinary course would be extreme measures. If I read the writer of "Lincolnshire Notes" aright, he thanks God for the Sunday the same as we all do, but it is difficult to make hay when the sun shines if Old Sol refuses to perform his proper function for a week at a stretch, and I do not for a moment think that the writer in question would advocate carrying hay on the Sunday if there was a reasonable prospect of the following day being fine. I agree that the greatest blessing we have in this country is our weekly rest day—our Sunday—which tired men and tired horses all appreciate; but in a hay season like that of 1907, when over and over again it was fine in the daytime and rained at night, I do not think any farmer acted sinfully who strained a point when occasions demanded it and carried hay on the Sabbath.—Yours, &c., LUX.

September 25, 1907.

SIR,—It is gratifying to think that "Farmer's Wife's" indignant protest against the above has but given expression to the feelings of the majority of farmers. If the writer of "Lincolnshire Notes" is so keen an advocate for work on the Sabbath, then let him become the proud possessor of a small holding, and he might then learn, what he evidently knows nothing of now, what harvest work really is. Can there be found another class of workmen who work so hard, have such long hours, and who have such few privileges? Their working hours are from six in the morning to six at night, with two or three hours extra in haytime and harvest; no holiday allowed during the whole year, and if a day is begged off to visit any local recreation, as often as not his day's wage is stopped. No words can be found in sufficient condemnation to such men as the writer of the above "Notes." The only gratification would be to find him similarly placed as the poor agricultural labourer, then, indeed, he might be glad of his Sunday rest.—Yours, &c, H. L.

Defective Sample of Barley.

SIR,—Enclosed please find two ears of barley, being a sample of a large quantity of similar ones grown. You will notice they are defective. I would be glad if you could give me a reason for the same.

It was grown from special seed, and with artificial manure containing no potash.

I intended to use some for seed next year. Do you think I could safely do so, and have a good crop free from defective heads?

Thanking you in anticipation for a reply in an early edition of your paper.—Yours, &c.,

A CONSTANT READER.

*** I regret to say that from the evidence before me I am unable to say definitely why a large proportion of the heads of barley are defective like the specimens you sent for examination. Appearances point to the seed being of an inferior strain or a poor variety, but you say that it was special seed, and I take it from this that you obtained it from a reliable source, and that a good variety was sown. Even with the best varieties, of course, it is necessary that the cultivation be good in order to get the best results, and the nature of the land, and the treatment thereof have a good deal to do with the samples grown. With no particulars before me I am unable to say whether the cultivation has anything to do with the defective heads, but you will doubtless be in a position to judge of this for yourself. Without going so far as to say that good barley could not be grown next year from the seed, in spite of the defects, provided cultural and other conditions are favourable, there would certainly be some risk in using the seed from this year's crop which is defective for sowing. Whether it would be wise to again use the seed depends on the proportion of defective heads, and whether the cause is due to faulty cultivation or poorness of the strain. In my opinion, however, there is nothing like seed from crops that are well up to standard and show no defects, and acting on this principle I should be disposed to avoid risks and secure a fresh supply of seed for next season.—RUSTICUS.

Swedes Attacked by Insects.

SIR,—I should be glad if you can give me any information as to the treatment of swedes infected with what is known among farmers in Yorkshire as "smother fly," which is really a species of aphis, pale slate-blue in colour. I am afraid, if not checked, it is going to make havoc among swedes this year. I remember (I believe it is six years since) we had a field of swedes which looked full of promise about harvest, tops meeting in rows, but the "smother fly" got on them and they only turned poor at the end. I have wondered if, with a knapsack sprayer and suitable solution, something might be done to check the ravages of this pest while it is only confined to patches. Would the Board of Agriculture's paraffin emulsion, or any other of their recipes, be likely to answer my purpose? Or can you suggest anything else? Shall be glad to hear from you through your columns.—Yours, &c.,

YORKSHIRE.

*** Though the term "smother fly" is new to me, and probably is a local term, I am well acquainted with the aphis, which attacks swedes at this time of the year, and in some cases causes a considerable check to the growth. I do not know whether it is so in your case, but as a rule, swedes are the most liable to attacks of aphis when grown on thin or poor lands, or where there is an insufficiency of plant food in the soil. In other words, when the plants are robust and vigorous they usually repel the pest, except, perhaps, an odd specimen here and there. A bad attack of aphis is a serious trouble, as the insects increase rapidly, and by sucking the juices from the leaves the plant is weakened and growth is checked. The glorious weather we have enjoyed of late has been most favourable for the increase of the pest, but if we happened to get a change, which might come at any time now to wet, or colder conditions, the pests would soon disappear. In the meantime, however, the crop is suffering and the evil is spreading, and it would probably be to your interest to put a check on the aphis while it is confined to patches in the field. You could do this by means of a knapsack sprayer and an insecticide that will destroy aphis, but care must be taken to apply the liquid to all parts of the foliage where the insects are secreted. The paraffin emulsion you refer to is a certain destroyer of aphis, but if this is used the directions for mixing must be closely followed, because if the oil is not thoroughly incorporated with the soap and water, injury to the leaves might follow. Quassia extracts are good for destroying sucking insects, and if you boil ½ lb. of soft soap and 1 lb. quassia chips till the former is dissolved and the bitterness is extracted from the quassia, and then dilute to make 10 gallons, you will have a useful insecticide. It should be thoroughly strained or the bits will clog the sprayer, and if applied lukewarm so much the better.—RUSTICUS.

The Harvest in Mid-Staffordshire.

SIR,—The recent spell of fine weather has done wonders in the way of giving a good finish to a harvest which a short time ago caused much anxiety. In this neighbourhood the corn crops generally have been rather troublesome to cut—specially so in the case of oats, which being much laid have in many cases been cut by hand, or with a combined mowing and reaping machine. Wheat generally has stood up well for work with a self-binder.

Late as the ripening of corn has been, the yield has been proved to be above an average, and, inasmuch as the selling value of all grains is higher than it has been in any year of late, the general return from corn growing will be more satisfactory than usual.

The writer has thrashed and sold 45 bushels of wheat per acre from a field of 7 acres, and it is reported that from a field of oats in the neighbour-

hood there has been a yield of 68 bushels per acre, The bulk of straw and hay gathered this season is much over an average.

Of hay the quality in most cases is decidedly inferior, although the damage done by bad weather has not been so great as it would have been if rain had been more continuous and the temperature had been high.

Live stock have done well, and the pastures still continue very good. Ponies also are fairly satisfactory. Notwithstanding periods of long-continued anxiety in the harvests of both hay and corn, the record of the season will be the record of a fat year. MID STAFFS.

September 24, 1907.

The Crops in Essex.

SIR,—In my district the crops generally are good and quite up to the average. The weather was troublesome during the first two weeks of harvest, but fine afterwards. Rain is now much needed for the root crops, also for the young seeds and clovers now exposed since the cutting and carrying of the corn. The pastures are getting very dried and want a good soaking.—Yours, &c., D. G.

Colchester, September 25, 1907.

A Better Outlook in East Suffolk.

SIR,—Harvest prospects a month ago were not bright, but the last fortnight's fine sunny weather has gladdened the hearts of farmers, and the corn is now mostly carted. Some of the earlier corn carted will need some time on the stacks, but the barley and wheat carted this last fortnight has come up in splendid order. Wheat seems to be about a fair crop—eight, nine, and ten coombs to the acre; hardly sufficient barley has been threshed yet to form an opinion of the crop. Samples generally will not be bright; some of the light land barleys look very promising as to colour and yield. Brans, both spring and winter, promise a good crop; peas medium.

Markets for wheat very firm, ranging from 34s. to 33s. per qr. Peas also are selling well.

Seed clover is very fit, and many fields should be carried next week. Beetroots about an average. Turnips promise well, and there looks like the prospect of plenty of winter keep.

Altogether, the prospect looks favourable for farmers generally, with a prospect of better prices. EAST SUFFOLK.

September 25, 1907.

Earl Carrington Declines to Attend the Scottish Conference.

A special meeting of the directors of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture was held in Edinburgh on Wednesday to consider correspondence between the Chamber and Earl Carrington, President of the Board of Agriculture. Arrangements had been nearly completed for a conference between Lord Carrington and the Chamber, at the annual meeting of the Chamber on October 23, when, on September 6, Lord Carrington wrote stating that he thought the Board had better not be represented. Questions connected with the Scottish Small Holders Bill were sure to come up for discussion, and it would, he was afraid, be difficult to avoid a somewhat heated controversy. The Bill, continued Lord Carrington, represented the settled policy of the Government, in which he entirely concurred.

In reply to this letter the secretary of the chamber stated that to remove any difficulty they would strike the subjects of the Bill out of the conference programme.

Lord Carrington wrote in reply appreciating this action of the chamber, but said he felt very little advantage would be gained by the discussion of a programme so curtailed. The proposals in the Government Bill overshadowed everything else with which the Scottish agriculturists were concerned at the present time, and until these were carried into law minor matters must stand over for consideration under the new *régime* which they proposed to inaugurate.

It was agreed to hold the conference in spite of the fact that the Board of Agriculture was not to be represented. The various resolutions to be discussed were adopted, as already drafted, and it was agreed that the land question be discussed on a motion to the effect that the Government be strongly urged before reintroducing the Bill to amend it on a purchase basis system.

The live and dead farm stock at the Home Farm, Laughton, and the property of Sir James Duke, was dispersed by auction on Tuesday, in consequence of the farm having been let. The sale included a good number of pure bred Southdown sheep, which are descended from Sir James Duke's well known and old-established flock, No. 48 in the Flock Book, and these met a good demand at prices up to 6 guineas. Some Aberdeen and mixed bred cattle made up to £24 a head, while draught horses and colts realised up to 49½ guineas.

West Country Notes.

THE harvest is now well forward, and there is a general feeling of surprise that it is so good. There is nothing to brag over in most places, but everywhere the worst fears were entertained, and that there has been a disappointment on the right side has put heart into the farmer that was wanting. Prices have hardened a bit for corn.

CHEESE, however, on which so many in the West depend, shows a return of 8s. to 10s. per cwt. behind last year. At Frome Fair on the Tuesday trade was decidedly slack, and this gave a check to sales, which recovered on the Wednesday. A great deal of the year's make changed hands at 6d. per lb., and the good ordinary lots made only about 58s. to 60s. The cheese-dealers' view of the position was that the high prices of last year checked the consumption, and they would not risk such a thing again.

THEY also asserted that a great proportion of the cheese was too tasty. The uncertainty of the season, and the sudden ripening during the past few weeks, has probably had some effect; but judging from the samples in the show itself there was something to be said on the farmers' side. Really, there were very few samples under the mark, and the general quality has greatly improved since the earlier shows. The best dairies made their mark, but there was certainly a big drop in all classes from the prices prevalent a few weeks ago.

SOME of the Wiltshire hiring fairs have been held this week, and this test of the condition of the labour market proved a surprise. Farmers found no difficulty in securing hands at Swindon on Monday, and the terms asked by the men were not stuck to so hardly as for some time past. Bargains were easily struck at moderate rates, and most of the farmers were suited. This is ascribed, in part at any rate, to the labourers having learnt that there is less to be gained by removal to towns than was the case at one time. The interchange of visits by means of excursions and trips of various sorts, and the greater tendency and ability for letter writing, are having some effect on the migratory tendencies of the labourer, in the view of those who have special facilities for studying the subject.

THE people who wished to see the butter at Frome Show were grumbling a little at so many of the lots being covered up with muslin. Last year the grumbling was at the grit which smothered the exhibits. It is difficult to please everyone, and the keenest and most obliging of stewards and committees must always find that something fails to go right.

THE bringing of flowers into agricultural shows, particularly into the dairy sections, has caught on in the West, and it is evident that it proves an attraction to the ladies who do not care overmuch for the inspection of cattle and horses. The fair sex who come to the shows have an important share in securing a good gate, and therefore must be studied. Though horticulture and "husbandry" are not strictly within the limits of the show scope, yet it is more closely allied to agriculture than were the balloon ascents, Blondin exhibitions, and boxing kangaroos, to which a few years ago some of the shows resorted to bring grist to their mill.

THE price of bread generally has gone up in the West, but it has not been found possible in all cases to maintain it. The boards of guardians, asylum boards, and others who have to make their contracts for the ensuing three or six months, find that the extra cost is making a considerable difference to their outgoings; and in some cases it has sent the rates up to the extent of a farthing, and even a halfpenny, combined with the increase in the price of coal and other necessaries.

DEVON County Council met last week, and amongst the subjects on the agenda was that of small holdings. The committee who have been going into the question presented a report which was practically a replica of that to other county councils in the West—and elsewhere.

SIR JOHN SHELLEY stated that his committee found in the county that large numbers of small holdings were provided, in some cases more were wanted and land was available, and in other places the needs could not be so readily met. There the matter ends till the next meeting, when further steps will be possible.

THE welcome intimation of a decrease in the expenditure on main roads is certainly an unusual one nowaday, and was much appreciate those who have to pay the rates in Devon.

THE abundance of keep in the West generally is having the effect of keeping cattle off the markets in many districts. At some of the Devon ram sales the prices of exceptionally good animals keep up to 10 or 12 guineas, but 5 or 6 guineas is the average run; and registered ewes are selling at really moderate prices.

THE question of puppy hounds is still agitating the minds of the hunt masters in the West, who almost unanimously declare that it is not advisable that these should be compelled to wear collars. The Board of Agriculture have been appealed to from Devonshire, and Lord Poltimore informed the County Council that the Board have stated that the question is purely one for the local authority.

IN the neighbouring county of Somerset this week there comes into force the new regulation for keeping all dogs in confinement during the night, or under strict control.

September 26, 1907.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Messrs. Gartons, Ltd., the well-known seed growers and experts of Warrington, have issued a neatly arranged catalogue containing instructions and full descriptions of the new breeds of seed wheats raised by their own system of plant breeding. Messrs. Gartons claim that these new breeds of wheats are not only heavier croppers than the older varieties cultivated, but they are also much richer in gluten, and therefore much more valuable from a miller's point of view. New and improved breeds of winter barleys, winter oats, and other seeds for autumn sowing are also fully described.

The official report has now been issued of the Second National Poultry Conference which, it will be remembered, took place at Reading on July 8 to 11 inclusive. The report, which has been edited by Mr. E. Brown, F.L.S., the hon. secretary, extends to close on 400 pages, the major portion of which is taken up with the numerous papers which were read and discussed at the conference. These will be read with considerable interest by all who were unable to be present at the conference, whilst they will also be appreciated by those who were fortunate enough to be able to attend. The subjects dealt with cover a wide range, and these, together with the details of the time, make the report one of great interest to all poultry breeders. It is published at 5s net, and copies can be had of the hon. secretary, National Poultry Conference, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

We are in receipt of "British Rainfall, 1906," in which the distribution of rain in space and time over the British Isles during the year 1906, as recorded by more than 4,000 observers, is discussed by Dr. Hugh Robert Mill, who also gives a number of articles upon various branches of rainfall work. This is the fifty-sixth annual volume, and though Dr. Mill has had the misfortune to lose, through death, two of his most valued assistants, the volume made its appearance only a fortnight later than usual, and is in every respect up to its predecessors as regards records and interesting and serviceable articles. Such a work as this must involve unending trouble and unerring knowledge, and Dr. Mill has earned the gratitude of thousands for his great work, which is deserving of more financial support than it receives. Such a subject as this is one which the Government might very well assist with a subsidy, and we trust that they will shortly see their way clear to do so. The volume, which extends to close on 300 pages and is nicely bound, is published at 10s. by Messrs. E. Stanford, 12, 13, and 14, Long Acre, London, W.C.

Farmer and Child Labourers.—Thomas Porter, farmer and landowner, Hutton Dacre, was charged at Penrith on Tuesday with employing two boys who were not legally exempt from school attendance. He told the Bench he was "guilty, and had been so for the last twenty-five years," meaning that he had always employed such boys. He asserted that the feeling of the country was against such a restriction, and he stood out for the good of the country. It was a poor thing if a man with a large family could not benefit by the opportunity of the children earning something, and at haytime men were costly and bad to get. For the prosecution, it was stated that defendant had persistently set the education authority at defiance. He was a man who farmed his own land and owned other property, so that his was not the case of a small struggling farmer. The Bench fined the defendant 10s. and costs in one case and ordered him to pay the costs in the second.



Where Are We Now?

The hop harvest is practically concluded, and the business of selling and buying has commenced. What can be said about the position as far as it has been revealed? This is a difficult question to answer, and I venture to declare that if it were addressed to a dozen traders in the Borough to-day, as many different answers would be forthcoming. The factors are optimistic, as a rule; they generally cling to their estimates of very defficient crop, and arguing therefrom that prices must advance, are in many cases advising their clients to wait further developments.

The growers who have decided to open their samples are therefore generally firm in their demands, and are refusing the bids of possible buyers, and the results of this policy are seen in an improving tone, which has culminated in the establishment of advanced prices to the extent of 10s. to 15s. from the lowest figure at which the trade started. But on the other hand the merchants are expressing their belief that the final result of the crop will be larger than it is figured by factors and growers.

One merchant's circular just issued and quoted in this week's *Times* gives the average of 10 cwt. per acre, or a total of about 450,000 cwt., and merchants say in addition, that they cannot yet venture upon anticipating what their customers will do, whether they will operate early or play the "hand-to-mouth" game, as before. Therefore their present purchases are small and experimental, and thus far they are not encouraged by the experience of their travellers. We seem consequently to be now resting on the horns of a dilemma, a position that is far from satisfactory to all parties concerned.

The ultimate solution of our doubts rests, as usual, with the brewers. If a legitimate demand from them sets in, it is easy to prognosticate the issue. The crop, however favourably estimated, cannot be too large for the consumption; we are reasonably assured that foreign supplies will not be excessive this year, and thus we may expect further enhancement of values, which will benefit those who are not in a hurry to sell. Should the brewers decide to buy only what they require from week to week, we shall have a dragging trade, and the tendency will rather be in the direction of lower than of higher prices.

But for my part, I am inclined to take courage from the experience of the past week, and hope for the best. It is painfully evident that the figures at which sales have hitherto been made, are absolutely unremunerative, and even spell loss for growers, whose determination to make a stand against them has, in some slight degree, been rewarded.

The producers of any product should have a voice in settling its value, and although it must be admitted that the strength in the fight is generally found associated with money, there are conditions very prominent just now which impart power to the weaker side.

It therefore seems desirable that our growers should exert all the influence they possess to avoid the crushing down, which is unfortunately their fate too frequently. If such policy is persevered in I have great hopes that they will succeed in raising the market still further, and eventually obtaining such prices as will sufficiently recompense them.

Consumption of Beer.

I will not now attempt to discuss whether it is to the advantage or disadvantage of the nation to consume more beer than formerly, but I hold a private opinion that increased demand for our national beverage is an indication of increasing prosperity, and therefore note with some satisfaction that the Inland Revenue returns for the year ending March 31 last show substantial improvement in this respect on the immediately preceding twelve months. Since 1900-1, the output of our breweries has been steadily declining, but now a change has taken place. The production of beer in 1906-7 was 34,352,313 barrels of standard gravity, being an increase on the previous year of 243,050 barrels.

The actual bulk of liquid barrels, of the average gravity at which the beer is consumed, show an increase of 340,603, and we may safely assume therefrom that about 6,000 cwt. of hops were required in excess of the quantity used in 1905-6. This, in itself, is encouraging to us, and we have the satisfaction of knowing that this increase does not carry with it any tendency towards the greater absorption of an intoxicating drink (as our friends the total abstainers might argue), for we find that, owing to the enlargement of our population, the average consumption of beer per head has been slightly reduced.

Invitation to Foreign Growers.

An incident, which has surprised and puzzled the Borough lately, has been the knowledge that a leading firm of factors has recently issued to German growers a circular printed in German stating that, owing to the shortage of the English crop, there will be room for all foreign hops that may be sent here, and offering their services for the disposal of them. It is understood that the firm referred to justify their action by maintaining that they will thus be able to raise the prices of these competing growths, and in proportion benefit English planters. Such reasoning is very difficult for the ordinary observer to appreciate, and I must confess I am not able to support it.

Supply and demand always has ruled, and will continue to rule any market, and it is impossible for the most ingenious sophistry to alter the universal laws of trade. It appears to my simple mind that the issue of the circular must defeat its own professed ends, and that the inducements offered will of necessity rather tend to damage our market than improve it. Our competitors are keen enough to find out for themselves what is going on here, and we have quite enough to do when we are called upon to meet the pressure of their shipments.

It is therefore hard to understand why such an invitation should have been issued, especially as it emanates from gentlemen whose declarations of their special interest in the English hop-growing industry are so frequently heard.

Nuremberg.

The business thus far has been fairly active, and the great square in which the bales of green hops are exposed for examination and sale has been well filled daily, and the space allotted to growers and traders has been constantly thronged. Prices have not varied much since the market opened, occasionally buyers have been able to secure a slight reduction, say of 5s. or so, but renewed activity soon wiped this off, and previous values in due course were re-established.

Some demand for medium qualities for shipment to England has assisted in the support of prices, but the local brewers are buying pretty freely of the choice lots, and thus the tone of the trade is well maintained. Recent quotations are:—Market hops, 37s. to 52s.; hill growths, 55s. to 60s.; Hallertaus, 60s. to 80s.; Spalts, 60s. to 75s.; Wurtembergs, 60s. to 80s. It must always be remembered that the above are the values of air-dried hops, and that something like 20s. must be added thereto to represent them by the time they are ready for the brewer. During the week ending September 18 the arrivals at Nuremberg were 8,000 bales, and the sales for the same period were 6,500 bales.

Brussels.

The harvest is now completed, and the returns of the output show that there is a substantial falling off from expectation. This is especially the case in the Alost districts. Although the business has hitherto been comparatively unimportant, the market is fairly well sustained, quotations for Alosts for October-November delivery being about 48 francs, and Poperinghe-villes 38 to 39 francs.

Hops in Belgium.

In the current issue of *Le Petit Journal du Brasseur* I find an interesting article by M. Hector Miserez, Agronome de l'Etat, or Government expert. It is headed "Reproduction Interdite," but I venture to take advantage of the usual consideration of my friend the Editor to translate some extracts from the article for the information of my readers.

M. Miserez says:—"The cultivation of hops in Belgium seems to have been practised for at least 600 years. It appears to have originally been established in the districts of Alost and Poperinghe, and the earliest historical references have relation to about this period. Statistical returns were then generally defective, and it is not until about the middle of the last century that regular agricultural returns were undertaken. The first that can be relied upon was issued in 1846, from which we ascertain that the area of hops then under cultivation was practically the same as at present, with the difference that the cultivation was then less limited as regards location. For instance, the province of Hainaut at that time included more than one-sixth of the total area, whilst the province of Liège, from which the plantations have now entirely disappeared, then included nearly 1,300 acres of hops. From this date the hop area was increased year by year, until in 1880 it attained its maximum of nearly 10,500 acres. Gradually from this point the area has been diminished, being returned in 1895 as 9,260 acres, and five years later it had fallen to about 6,750 acres, which figure has remained practically stationary to the present moment. Since 1846 hop growing has been gradually limited to certain districts, so that now almost all the Belgian hops are grown within six cantons, mainly those of Poperinghe, Ypres, Roulers, Iseghe, Haringhe, Asscke, Lennick-Saint-Quentin (in the Brussels district), and Alost. In fact, there is now not more than forty of the parishes in Belgium where hop culture remains in an honourable position. This is evidently a sign of the times.

"Outside these well-known regions, and a small area which is maintained at Buvrinnes, there is the neighbourhood of Ertvelde, where M. Van de Voorde is attempting to introduce hops, having at present about 70 acres in hand. The greater part of our plantations are established in soils that contain a good proportion of lime. This is notably the case in the two great centres of Poperinghe and Alost, although here and there are found plots of a more sandy character, or even distinctly stronger owing to the presence of clay. In the vicinity of Alost and Termonde one meets with soil showing the transition between lime and sand, and producing most excellent hops. But the limy soils are preferred, as they are generally not deficient, either in the quantity or the quality of the crop, while too heavy or too light soils are not infrequently disappointing. It may be noted here that the experiments at Ertvelde are being made on soils that are essentially sandy, both on the surface and beneath it, but good results are obtained by copious manuring.

"From the topographic point of view the Belgian hop districts present sufficient variety. Throughout Poperinghe the plantations are established on a generally flat country, but in Brabant, and notably about Assche, Pamel, Goyke, and Scheplael they are scattered about in various positions on the highlands, in the valleys, and on the slopes of the hills, all more or less picturesque. Another difference is observable. The Poperinghe hop grounds are found in the open country, distant from dwellings, and each contains thousands of plants, in comparison with hundred that comprise the average contents of the plantations in Alost, where they are contiguous to houses, after the fashion of the gardens and orchards they have superseded. Thus they are designated hop gardens in this province. Again hops are here planted on small patches of ground, instead of being included in one larger area. It is, therefore, hardly necessary to explain that the method of cultivation, being thus parcelled out, in this part of the country must be very different to that which is practised in the greater centres of production. Not only so, but whereas the Poperinghe planters nearly always control a certain amount of capital and are relatively developed intellectually, and are also either their own masters in holding their lands in their own right, or leasing them for long terms, we find ourselves in the Alost country in the company of small farmers, who have for the most part received only a rudimentary education, and perhaps only possess one or two cows. They have little or no capital, which is frequently so limited that the poles they have bought in the spring are not paid for till the hops they assisted to produce shall have been sold in the autumn. If they harvest no more than a small crop their position is awkward.

"If it be true, as is generally acknowledged, that the soil exercises the preponderating influence upon the nature of its products, Belgian hops should present attractive qualities. But as parishes and provinces vary, and also plantations according to their conditions, it can hardly be said that two hops resemble one another. However that may be, one fact remains evident, there is only one price, and this is fixed by the Brussels Bourse."

For the convenience of exhibitors at the Dairy Show, to be held at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, on October 8 to 11, the London and North Western Railway Company have made arrangements for through vans for the conveyance of exhibits to be run to London on Monday, October 7, by trains leaving Carlisle at 8 30 a.m., Liverpool (Lime Street) at 12 noon, Manchester (London Road) at 12.10 noon, Shrewsbury at 12.35 p.m., and Northampton (Castle) at 3.38 p.m. (These will be in addition to the vans running regularly on the through trains to London.) Consignments from the branch lines, and from Nottingham, Peterborough, Oxford, Cambridge, &c., will be placed in these vans at the various junctions, thus ensuring direct transit to the show. Rates for the conveyance of exhibits can be obtained at the various stations on the line. Arrangements will also be made for the return of the traffic in through vans at the close of the show. The company's representatives will be at the show to answer inquiries with regard to the arrangements for the return journey. All information can be obtained of Mr. Robert Turnbull, Superintendent of the Line, Euston Station, London.

Midland Notes.

SINCE my last notes in this column the death has taken place of Mr. William Worthington, of Weston in Arden, near Nuneaton. The late Mr. Worthington had a fondness and talent for public work which made him well and widely known, and he belonged to a family which is said to have resided in the parish of Bulkington for three centuries.

I HAVE been looking lately at the records of some other Midland families, whose firm and constant attachment to the soil of one parish or village is no less striking. Even without special inquiry, almost anyone can point to tenancies of two and three generations which may easily cover a century. And so it is also among the labourers. I call to mind one who died a year or two ago at eighty-six. His father, eighty-two, was born, lived, and died in the same cottage; so did his father before him. And now the place remains to the son of the late octogenarian—as thrifty, honest, self-respecting a man as any of his forbears. These are the aristocracy of village life; and no class is more valuable, or better worth encouragement.

A SHROPSHIRE friend kindly sends me details of a lengthy dispute, ending apparently in a deadlock, which has arisen between the Bridgnorth Rural District Council and the Local Government Board. The council, it seems, regard the model regulations under the Cowsheds Order as entirely unsuitable to a district where cows are on the fields at least half the year; the Board, of course, thinks otherwise, and there the matter rests. Since the air-space regulations (to which objection is taken) apply only to sheds, the cows in which are not habitually turned out and grazed, it is a little difficult to see the grounds on which the Bridgnorth protest is based. But there is no doubt these model regulations are not regarded with much fondness in the dairying districts.

THE fine September weather came in time to add some weight to the later hops of Worcester and Hereford. Perhaps 8 cwt. per acre may be picked if all the crop be harvested; but that is doubtful. Lately the heavy dews at night have been browning the ripe hops, especially upon light soils. It is evident that samples will vary very largely. There will be some choice qualities sent to market from the better cultivated gardens in the Worcestershire valleys; but as to the general run, the prices at the opening sales were not promising. Rates of 40s. to 70s. per cwt. are much too low to be contemplated with equanimity.

IT is not surprising in the circumstances to find some of the factors making a strong plea for English hops. There is no doubt the dealers are beginning to be concerned over the continual shrinkage in the hop area, and corresponding reduction of the volume of trade they do. Meanwhile there remains an uneasy suspicion with the growers that even a lowering of the standard of quality in certain beers—the usual explanation—will not wholly account for the low rates offered for their produce. They discern also the baneful influence of grossly over-capitalised brewery companies, which can only raise their dividends by beating down the price of raw materials below what is fair and reasonable.

A NOTE by the MARK LANE EXPRESS hop expert upon the primitive accommodation available for certain pickers in the Worcester district directs attention to the interesting statement on the same subject which was made some days ago by the Mayor of Dudley.

HIS Worship, it appears, has been making a tour of inspection, in order to be able to make a report to the Local Education Committee, which has taken to arranging school holidays so as to fit in with the picking season. He went, among other places to Stanford Court, Stockton Court, Chilsey Walsh, Bromyard, Weston Baggard, Stoke Edith, Ashperton, Ledbury, Colwall, and Leigh Sinlox, and he visited farms which find employment for any number between twenty or thirty and 500 to 700 pickers. He found them "in many cases living under quite as good conditions as they did at home;" and he was "surprised" (one wonders why) "at the superior character of the growers, even in out of the way places."

IN another sentence there is a hint to farmers, which might possibly be worth taking to heart. The Mayor of Dudley found some of the children "willing to remain in the country permanently." Probably the majority would change their minds if they fully realised what farm work means. Still, might it not be possible to keep some of these young people for a time, and let them try the experiment?

September 26, 1907.

LINCOLNSHIRE FARMERS' UNION.

RAILWAY RATES.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING.

The Central Committee of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union met at Lincoln on Friday under the presidency of Mr. Colin Campbell, those present including Messrs. G. A. Bellwood, E. W. Howard, J. G. Glew, H. Rawding, E. Harrison, J. C. Mountain, G. Bartholomew, E. J. Bullen, C. Featherstone, J. D. Blanshard, W. S. Fox, &c., with the secretary (Mr. W. H. Palmer).

There was laid before the meeting, in circular form, the following copy of the letter written by Mr. E. J. Bullen, on behalf of the Midland Corn and Agricultural Trades' Association, to the President of the Board of Trade on the question of railway rates:—

"I am desired by the Lincolnshire Farmers Union, the Lincolnshire Chamber of Agriculture, the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce, the Midland Corn and Agricultural Trades Association, the Notts. Dairy Farmers' Club, the Millers' Association, the Lincolnshire Hay Dealers' Association, and the Newark Maltsters and others interested in the production, sale, and manufacture of agricultural produce, to enquire whether you would kindly receive a deputation from the above associations, to discuss the question of the exceptionally heavy railway rates on agricultural produce and requisites in Lincolnshire and the Midland Counties, the same being 25 per cent. higher than the corresponding rates in the Northern Counties served by the North-Eastern Railway, and the Southern Counties by the London and South-Western Railway. And also, as far as grain is concerned, in the Eastern Counties served by the Great Eastern Railway. It is suggested that the proposed deputation should consist of a small body of say, ten to twenty representatives of the associations concerned. The facts have been brought before the railway companies concerned, and I enclose you a copy of the note taken at the conference. The railway companies having refused to put into force scales of rates as desired. They have, however, given reduced rates for five ton truck loads of grain only of an unsatisfactory character, conveyed distances of seventy miles or upwards, but each case is considered separately, and a reduced rate may be given or withheld at the caprice of the railway companies."

The combined associations specially complain of two things:—

1. The absence of scales of rates per truck loads of agricultural produce and requisites to and from any place at which the same are, or may be consumed or produced. Such scales of rates are in force on the North-Eastern, and London and South-Western Railways—copies enclosed.

2. The fact that the irregular individual rates in force in Lincolnshire and the Midland counties are so largely in excess of the rates in other parts of the country.

It is desired to discuss the facts and suggest methods with a view to legislation by which agricultural produce, which is produced and consumed all over the country, may be distributed all over the country by means of the railway companies, so that farmers and others in all parts of the country may be able to compete for the trade of London, Manchester, Leeds, &c., on equitable terms, and that no part of the country shall be prejudiced as Lincolnshire and the Midland Counties are at present, by unjust heavy railway rates in forwarding or receiving agricultural produce or requirements.

Mr. Bullen attended the meeting to bring the question forward, and stated that a letter had been received from the Board of Trade, but they had not been able to fix a date for the deputation. He alluded to the necessity of combination amongst those interested if they were to successfully fight the combined companies.

The chairman inquired whether the Union would appoint a deputation to join the other associations in attending upon the Board of Trade, and on the proposition of Mr. Mountain, seconded by Mr. Harrison, Messrs. W. S. Fox and J. D. Blanshard were appointed to represent the Union.

A suggestion was then made by Mr. Bullen that it was desirable to hold a mass meeting in Lincoln on the subject, and that the local Members of Parliament and leading agriculturists be invited to attend.

It was decided, on the motion of Mr. Howard, seconded by Mr. Bellwood, that the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union were willing to join the other associations named in Mr. Bullen's letter in organising such a meeting, and that it be held at the Lincoln Corn Exchange on some Friday to be subsequently selected.

Lincolnshire Notes.

JOHN BARLEYCORN has sair surprised us all again. The harvest is upsetting all our most cherished anticipations. It is not a long one, as we fondly imagined, it is not even particularly late; it is not ruined by the rains, and it is being gathered in the most glorious weather. And the prices! To-day wheat is quoted at between 34s. and 35s. per qr., whereas last year it was 26s, and there are plenty of farmers who can remember having sold wheat at 18s. per qr. On the other hand, one is reminded of the time when 70s. was realised, and when during the Crimean War the famine price of 105s. was touched. But 35s. will do very well. It means that farmers are making £1 an acre more out of their land. It means that they will practically pay their rent out of the extra prices. Yes, we shall remember the harvest of 1907.

DOES it pay to grow wheat? An interesting calculation is presented by an agricultural contemporary, based on the experience of a Lincolnshire farmer. This is how he works out the figures:—

	£	s.	d.
Rent	2	10	0
Ploughing		10	0
Harrowing		2	0
Drilling		5	0
Seed		10	0
Seed harrowing		1	0
Rolling		1	0
Harrowing		1	0
Hoeing		2	6
Weeding		2	6
Cutting (reaper)		4	0
Leading		5	0
Threshing		10	0
Carting to station		2	6
Total	£5	6	6

which means that the farmer is not making any undue demand in asking for a fairly steady market for his corn at 35s. to 40s. Four quarters to the acre at 30s. would allow him quite little enough margin.

EVEN the potato crop, long given up as ruined, has improved with the change in the weather. The yield is likely to be smaller, but that, of course, will mean better prices. In many fields, particularly in small gardens, there is a large proportion of rotton tubers. But some farmers are anticipating quite a respectable crop. And it is a fact to be noted well that buyers are very busy.

BRAVO the Moulton Parish Council! This courageous little body is rapidly perfecting its small holdings experiment. The council will provide thirteen houses, which are to be occupied only by married persons or by tenants who intend to marry and settle on the land. Six of the tenants chosen are eligible bachelors, who have contracted to take to themselves wives, and set up domestic establishments "within a reasonable time." There is the originality of genius behind the council's plan. It is doubtless the creation of their genial clerk, Mr. J. H. Diggle.

AN important sale of Shorthorns was held last week by Mr. Freir, of Deeping St. Nicholas. It realised the capital average of 20 guineas, with an aggregate of 1,232 guineas. He also did well with his famous Curly Coated pigs.

AN interesting challenge has been issued *apropos* of the rivalry between breeders of the Lincolnshire Curly Coats and of the equally famous Yorkshire Whites. A bet of £20 has been fixed up between Mr. H. Caudwell, of Midville, on behalf of the Lincolnshires, and Mr. T. Henson, of Peterborough, for the Yorkshires. The heaviest dead weight of two animals from the own breed of each party to the bet will win.

A CONSIGNMENT has just been sent off to South America of fifty shearling rams from the flock of Mr. Tom Casswell, of Pointon, near Billingborough. This is the second lot of a consignment of 140 animals which Mr. Casswell is under contract to supply.

September 27, 1907.

A serious outbreak of fire occurred on Thursday afternoon on the extensive farm of Saughtrees, on the Wamphray estate of Sir Robert Jardine, Bart., of Castlemilk, and in the occupation of the proprietor. It originated in a large hay shed containing 3,000 stones of this season's hay. This was totally consumed, and the building was destroyed. The origin of the fire is not exactly known, but it is supposed to have arisen through children playing with matches.

POULTRY.

The Poultry Farmer's Medicine Chest.

Many a farmer does not believe in spending much time or much trouble over poultry that are ill or diseased; he believes it does not pay, and is often better to wring a bird's neck than to attempt to cure it—and cheaper withal. This method of peremptory "cure," however, must be carried on within limits; it obviously will not do to apply it indiscriminately to valuable stock, however freely it may be resorted to with mongrels, and it is mainly with a view to showing how a small series of useful general remedies can be prepared and kept together to be brought into requisition when obviously it is worth while to attempt a little "doctoring" that the following has been penned.

Common Troubles to be Provided for.

Let us see what are the commonest ailments and troubles that occur amongst poultry; we can then readily determine what remedies will be required. We offer no suggestion as to the form of medicine "chest" suitable to contain the remedies described. That can be arranged for by each individual poultry-keeper for himself according to his own ideas and his own needs.

But now as to the diseases. There is roup, there is liver complaint, there is cramp, there is egg-binding, there are feather troubles, and skin complaints like comb-disease and scaly-leg. There is also consumption, or "going light"; but we need not enumerate any more, but will give, under those headings, particulars of a series of remedies that will cover all the ordinary needs of the poultry yard.



A FIRST PRIZE GOOSE.

Necessary Surgical Appliances.

A few words, first of all, about surgical appliances, which may, if desired, form part of the poultry-keeper's outfit. There are a good many accidents of various kinds which need attention where a large number of poultry are kept, ranging from the trifling injury caused by a thorn, which a pair of small pincers will extract in a moment, to the more serious trouble known as "crop-binding," which frequently calls for a surgical operation—neither risky nor troublesome but requiring to be performed with proper appliances and in a proper manner.

A pair of sharp-pointed and a pair of blunt scissors of the ordinary surgical type, needles and some silk thread, a piece of soft sponge, a threepenny roll of calico bandage about 1½ in. wide, a pair of small "tweezers," and a small surgical knife, or a sharp penknife. These are every one sure to be useful, and will be all that the fancier is likely to require for surgical purposes, if in addition he is armed with some carbolised ointment and a bottle of weak carbolic lotion, both to be used, the latter for bathing and the former for anointing in cases of wounding (even in such a matter as comb-tearing by fighting cocks). Now for ailments proper. Take first

Roup and Liver Medicines.

There are several types of roup, and liver trouble does not always take the same form; but we want first of all a good, useful alterative medicine which can safely be given in any case (if we except that form or stage of liver disease when diarrhœa or dysentery set in).

There is such a remedy as this in common Epsom salts, or a mixture of equal parts of Epsom salts and Glauber's salt. The two may be crushed up together by the aid of the family rolling-pin, and the powder should be kept in a bottle for use as required. No better cooling alterative medicine than this could possibly be given in either case. The only objection to it is that it is not easy to administer. It must be added to the drinking-water—a teaspoonful to half a pint; then the fowls will often remain thirsty instead of taking it by reason of its nauseous flavour. Well, let us see if there is not another remedy equally good.

Compound rhubarb pills—that renowned old family physic—are wonderfully good for poultry. Get them in three-grain size and, preferably, uncoated. One for a half-grown and two for a full-grown fowl will have a good effect upon the liver, and will cool the system in cases of roup. Then keep a bottle of castor oil and a bottle of sweet oil.

In case of diarrhœa, always shun "chalky" remedies, and begin with a brisk dose of castor oil, which will clear away all fœtid matter from the intestines; then follow on with frequent doses of sweet oil (half to one teaspoonful at a time) to keep the bowels soothed.

Liver complaint needs no other remedies than these. If they fail there is nothing more to be done. But in roup treatment you need a lotion. Nothing can possibly be more useful, whether it be for sponging the nostrils and mouth of a roupy bird or for bathing a sore place or wound on a healthy bird than a lotion made by dropping a few crystals of permanganate of potassium into a tea-cupful of water. The crystals should be kept in a glass bottle, and they will suffice for the purpose of making instantaneously an antiseptic lotion whenever such is required for any purpose whatsoever.

A Serviceable Liniment.

For cramp and leg-weakness the only remedy needed is a good stimulating liniment. Equal parts of soap liniment and camphorated oil mixed together will make a very serviceable article. The only thing about this mixture is that it needs to be well shaken up every time it is used, as the ingredients quickly separate again.

The liniment will answer not only for cramp affecting chickens and ducklings, but also for the rheumatic affections of older poultry; it is, moreover, a very serviceable application for scaly-leg if used before the ointment to be described later on in this article. It tends to destroy the parasites which burrow under the leg-scales, and set up the unsightly trouble so called.

(To be continued.)

There was only a small show of beasts on offer at Bourne September Fair on Thursday, except in the auction marts. Beef made 7s. 6d. a stone. Store sheep sold well, theaves making up to 67s., and ewes up to 64s. Lambs were a better trade, and realised 44s. Pigs were in good demand, suckers selling freely at late rate rates, and pork making 6s. 6d. to 7s. per stone.

At Dumfries Horse Fair, held on Tuesday and Wednesday there was a good supply, but trade was slow. The best lots sold at about £80 to £85, and one came near the three figures, whilst a good number of the better class changed hands at £55 to £65. Others were sold at prices from £35 upwards. For young horses there was very little demand, but a number of two-year-olds were sold at about 40 guineas each. In saddle and harness horses very little business was done.

For 1907.

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Author of the "Country Readers," and Joint Author of "Lessons on Country Life,"

AND

J. J. WILLIS,

Superintendent of the Rothamsted Field Experiments.

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LIME—RESULTS OF.
MANURING GENERALLY.
TO TREAT FOR "FINGER AND TOE."
ROTHAMSTED EXPERIMENTS.
POLITICIANS AND WASTE LANDS.

Price 6D. Post Free.

W. A. MAY, "MARK LANE EXPRESS" OFFICE, 3, WELLINGTON STREET, STRAND, LONDON.

Birmingham Onion Fair is now only a ghost of its former importance, and at that held last week the supply of onions was on a limited scale. What English ones there were forward were chiefly from Bedfordshire, and they commanded a fairly ready sale at 4s. to 4s. 6d. per dozen ropes. For the rest, the market was made up to a great extent of the foreign article—Valentia at 5s. to 6s. a case, Dutch onions and Belgian onions at 3s. to 4s. 3d. a hundredweight.

Wycombe Michaelmas Hiring Fair—about the oldest in Buckinghamshire—was held in High Wycombe on Monday, when agricultural servants of all descriptions assembled in the vicinity of the market place, and offered their services for the ensuing year, many specifying, as of yore, "with the addition of harvesting beer" or its equivalent in wages. The hirelings decorated themselves in peculiar fashion, carters and wagoners displaying knots of horsehair and pieces of whipcord, while shepherds sported tufts of wool in their hair. There was a good demand for servants, and the rates of remuneration were well up to the average.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

A Few Remarks on Fertilisers.

It may be well from time to time to keep before us the principles that underlie the use of fertilisers, and that should serve as a guide in their application to our crops. Thus we may first consider

What Plant Foods are Deficient from the Soil?

Among the considerable number of substances which plants require for proper growth and development, three are of special importance, because the soil is often deficient in them; these three are nitrogen, phosphoric acid, and potash, and in company with them may be placed frequently a fourth, lime. The farmer has to see that no one of these ingredients in an available condition is wanting in the soil, because they may be said to form a fertilising chain, and if the chain is weak in one of the fertilising links, the result must be unsatisfactory.

Farmyard manure contains all these substances, and therefore it is the duty of every farmer to protect from loss, and preserve this valuable substance as much as he possibly can. Farmyard manure must be the foundation of the fertility of his crops—"muck's the mother of money." But there is not sufficient farmyard manure to replace in to-day's intensive cultivation, the plant food taken from the soil in the cereals, roots, meat, milk, &c. These products extract yearly nitrogen, phosphoric acid, and potash in large proportions, and in order to restore these necessary ingredients it is necessary to have recourse to artificial fertilisers. That being taken for granted, we may then consider

What Fertilisers can most Profitably be Used?

This is a subject on which different farmers, and indeed scientists, have different opinions. One may prefer nitrate of sode, another guano or sulphate of ammonia; one man pins his faith on superphosphate, another finds basic slag gives the best results; one man considers potash essential, another says it is an unnecessary expense, and so on. There is no hard-and-fast rule. All may be right, according to the varying conditions of their soil and system of farming. All that can be said is that the fertiliser which supplies the requirements of the particular soil and particular crop is the best in each case. In order to find out which substance is wanting in the soil of a farm the best method is, no doubt, by field trial. It may be thought that chemical analysis of the soil would supply the answer, but soil analyses are not trustworthy guides. They show the total ingredients present, but not the available proportion, and that is what the plant utilises.

Now field trials and practical experience have proved over and over again that although soil analysis may indicate no lack of nitrogen or phosphoric acid or potash in the soil, still, as a general rule, the application of these three ingredients produces the most profitable results. The use of a one-sided fertiliser, whether only nitrogen, or phosphoric acid, or potash is not a rational system. Of course there are exceptions, as, for instance, in growing leguminæ the application of nitrogen may be dispensed with, and on well-worked heavy clay land it may not be necessary to add potash; but in general, the precept holds good that it is best to supply the crop with the three important constituents.

In what Form can they be obtained?

Nitrogen is principally bought in nitrate of soda or sulphate of ammonia, and in smaller quantities as guano, fish manure, bones, &c.

Nitrate of soda is the most rapid in action, and in a few days after its application, assuming the weather favourable and the soil supplied with other necessary ingredients, its effect is visible in the quickened growth of the crop. Wheat, oats, mangels all respond quickly to the quickening power of nitrate. Wheat, especially after a long winter, is much benefited.

Sulphate of ammonia is slower, and therefore more suited to crops that occupy more time in maturing, such as turnips, swedes, and potatoes. It is also considered preferable for barley where a stimulant is required for this crop.

Phosphoric acid is generally applied in the form of superphosphate or basic slag, although there is always a good demand for bone manures, bone meal, and phosphatic guano. Farmers should make trials on their soil to ascertain which kind of phosphate is the most suitable. If a soil contains a good supply of lime, superphosphate should be used; in the reverse case basic slag. Guano and bone manures are suitable for all classes of soil. A rough test as to the presence of sufficient lime in the soil is to take a small sample of the soil and pour on it a little hydrochloric acid. If it bubbles, that indicates a sufficiency of lime; if not, lime is deficient.

The presence of sufficient lime in the soil is so essential to the healthy growth of plants that soil known to be poor in lime should receive a good dressing of this valuable substance every few years.

It would not do to forget the importance of potash, we would rather say available potash, because in most heavy lands there is plenty of this constituent; but it is locked up in the soil in a combination which prevents the plants utilising it. Applications of readily available potash in the well known forms of kainit, sulphate of potash or muriate of potash, in combination with phosphate of lime and nitrogen, will often make a remarkable difference in the bulk and quality of a crop, particularly in the cultivation of crops of which potash forms the dominant constituent, such as potatoes, clovers, beans, &c.

Application of Fertilisers to the Bean Crop.

The cultivation of the bean crop, which showed a marked decrease during the last decade, is again receiving increased attention, especially in the Eastern Counties. During the past four years the average under the crop has increased every year, thus in

1904	it was	252,782 acres.
1905	,,	254,765 ,,
1906	,,	288,891 ,,
1907	,,	309,761 ,,

The average yield of the crop over the whole country for ten years has been 27·66 bushels per acre.

Suffolk leads the way in the industry, having more than 35,000 acres devoted to the crop, while Lincolnshire and Essex follow closely behind.

The yield of the crop shows a considerable variation in the different counties. In this respect Lincolnshire has the place of honour in England with an average of 32·09, whereas the average of Suffolk is 27·62, and in some of the counties it is as low as 20 bushels per acre.

Some parts of Scotland seem especially adapted to bean cultivation, as in Renfrew, the ten years average is as high as 39·06 bushels, and in Kincardine 36·64 bushels per acre.

The question as to the best system of applying fertilisers to the bean crop has been the subject of considerable investigation and experiment.

Analysis shows that the bean is rich in phosphoric acid and potash, and care must therefore be taken to ensure a supply of these ingredients on the soil.

A treatment which can safely be recommended is a moderate dressing of farmyard manure, say 10 to 12 tons, supplemented by the application of 3 to 4 cwt. of superphosphate or 5 to 6 cwt. of basic slag, according to the character of the soil, with 1 to 1½ cwt. of sulphate of potash in cases where there is reason to think that available potash is deficient.

When farmyard manure has been applied it is not necessary to add artificial nitrogen to the dressing, although the application of a small quantity of quickly available nitrogen has been found very efficacious during the first stages of growth.

When it is not convenient to give a dressing of farmyard manure, a complete fertiliser should be used. In such cases a dressing of 5 to 6 cwt. of a fertiliser containing:—

4 to 5 per cent. of ammonia,
15 to 17 ,, soluble phosphate,
5 to 6 ,, potash (pure),

can be trusted to produce good results.

To Manure at a Profit.

We have pleasure in directing attention to the booklet "To Manure at a Profit—Every Farmer His Own Experimenter"—published at the office of this paper at the small price of 6d. It is a reprint of the series of articles, which appeared in these columns some time ago, and attracted a good deal of attention. The writers of the articles combine a thoroughly practical and scientific knowledge of the important subject dealt with, and have succeeded in putting their suggestions and recommendations in simple language capable of being grasped by the reader, who is too busy to study the scientific books usually written by scientific men.

Every farmer should read the booklet and keep it by him for reference.

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a nom de plume, in the paper.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1906.

Amendments Affected by the New Act.

As some of our readers may be considering their autumn purchases of fertilisers, it may be opportune to call their attention to the leaflet recently issued by the Board of Agriculture, summarising the principal amendments of the law relating to fertilisers and feeding stuffs, which were made by the new Act.

They are as follows:—

1. The actual percentages, and not merely the minimum percentages, of nitrogen, soluble phosphates, insoluble phosphates, and potash must be stated in the invoices of fertilisers which have been subjected to any artificial process in the United Kingdom or imported from abroad.

2. The Act applies to sales of fertilisers however small the quantity sold.

3. Statements of the percentages of chemical and other ingredients in any article sold for use as a fertiliser, whether contained in the invoice or in an advertisement or circular descriptive of the article, will have effect as warranties; but, in the case of statements in an invoice as to percentages of nitrogen, phosphates, and potash, the extent of the warranty is affected by the "limits of error" which are prescribed by regulations which have been made by the Board.

4. In the case of any feeding stuff artificially prepared otherwise than by being mixed, broken, ground, or chopped, the invoice must state the percentages of oils and albuminoids.

5. Provision is made for analysis by the official agricultural analyst of samples taken without any communication of the fact to the seller.

6. Local authorities are authorised to appoint official samplers who can take samples of any fertiliser or feeding stuff without the consent of the owner.

7. Provision is made to secure sellers from unreasonable prosecutions, and for prescribing by regulation the "limits of error" within which they will be free from civil liability in respect of the statutory warranty arising from the statement of percentages contained in invoices.

8. The Act applies to foods for poultry as well as foods for cattle, sheep, goats, swine, and horses.

Use of Fertilisers in Afforesting.

The subject of utilising waste lands by converting them into forests, which would eventually more than repay the cost of the work, is occupying the serious attention of economists in this country. It is work which would be a national benefit, both in the increased value of the land and as finding a means of employing a good deal of waste labour.

On the Continent the contemplated industry is no new thing. In Germany, Holland, and Belgium much has been done, and favourable results obtained; but as it is no good trying to make a silk purse out of a sow's ear, so it is no use planting trees on land so poor and barren that the young trees cannot get sufficient nourishment to make a start in life. As Mr. Peters, in his pamphlet, "The Use of Artificial Manures in Forestry," points out, it is essential that the soil should have ample supplies of phosphate of lime and potash.

The chief credit of having opened the way in respect to the use of artificial manures in reafforesting waste land belongs to Luxemburg and Holland. At present Belgium is following this lead most energetically. Recognising the immense profit which has accrued to agriculture as the result of the use of artificial manures, and the probability of the growth of timber being also considerably enhanced by the same means, the Belgian Government has, since 1893, continuously induced the parishes to carry out experiments, granting liberal subventions for this purpose. Considerable allowances are also made in respect to cultivating or afforesting waste land. As a rule one-third of the total cost is refunded where the heath land is planted with conifers, half the cost where the land is cultivated for farm crops, and two-thirds of the cost if the land is reafforested with foliage trees.

This action of the Belgian Government has been followed by very successful results. Not only have these experiments afforded valuable guidance in dealing with land of a similar nature, but they have also induced the owners of estates to undertake reafforesting of large areas. The following are a few of the results yielded by the experiments:—

The parish of Bocholt, near Brée (Belgium), started a detailed experiment on common spruce in 1893, under the auspices of Mr. Halleux, Forest Officer of the Belgian Government. The soil experimented on is poor heath land, consisting of

grey and yellowish sand, deficient in organic matter. The experiment comprised five plots, which were manured for planting as follows:—

Plot 1.—15 cwt. basic slag and 1½ cwt. kainit per acre.

Plot 2.—9 cwt. basic slag and 3 cwt. kainit per acre.

Plot 3.—3 cwt. basic slag and 4½ cwt. kainit per acre.

Plot 4.—3 cwt. basic slag.

Plot 5.—Unmanured.

In August, 1903, the nine-year-old plants were carefully measured, and the following average heights ascertained:—

Plot 1	8 ft. 10 in.
Plot 2	7 ft. 8 in.
Plot 3	6 ft. 4 in.
Plot 4	5 ft. 8 in.
Plot 5	4 ft. 3 in.

All the plants on Plot 5 looked poorly, having only short needles, and already showed signs of decay. The spruces on Plot 1 and Plot 2 had at the time of measuring already covered the soil for four years, whereas on Plot 3 and Plot 4 this was not expected to take place until two years later. Plot 1, to which the largest quantity of basic slag was applied, undoubtedly presents the best appearance in respect to vigour, of growth, height of the plants, and dark green colour of the leaves.

Although nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash, as absolutely necessary plant foods, must be present in all fertile soils not only in sufficient quantities, but also in available forms, yet each ingredient has a special function to perform on the organisation of the plant.

Whether and up to what limit any one of these three essential ingredients can compensate for a partial deficiency of another has not been definitely determined. It is a problem which still remains to be solved by science.

Prices of Fertilisers.

There is now a brisk demand for fertilisers required for autumn application, particularly for basic slag, superphosphate and potash salts, while we hear of contracts also being made for nitrate of soda and guano for Spring delivery.

	£	s.	d.
Nitrate of soda	11	5	0
Sulphate of ammonia	11	17	6
Peruvian guano	according to analysis		
Superphosphate, 26 per cent.	2	10	0
,, 35 ,,	3	6	3
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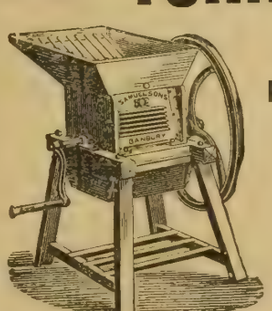
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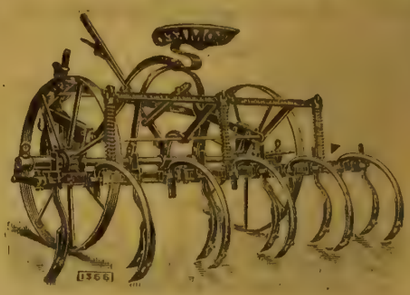
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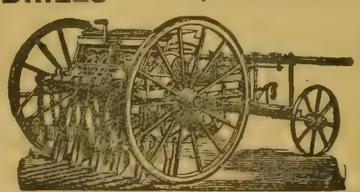


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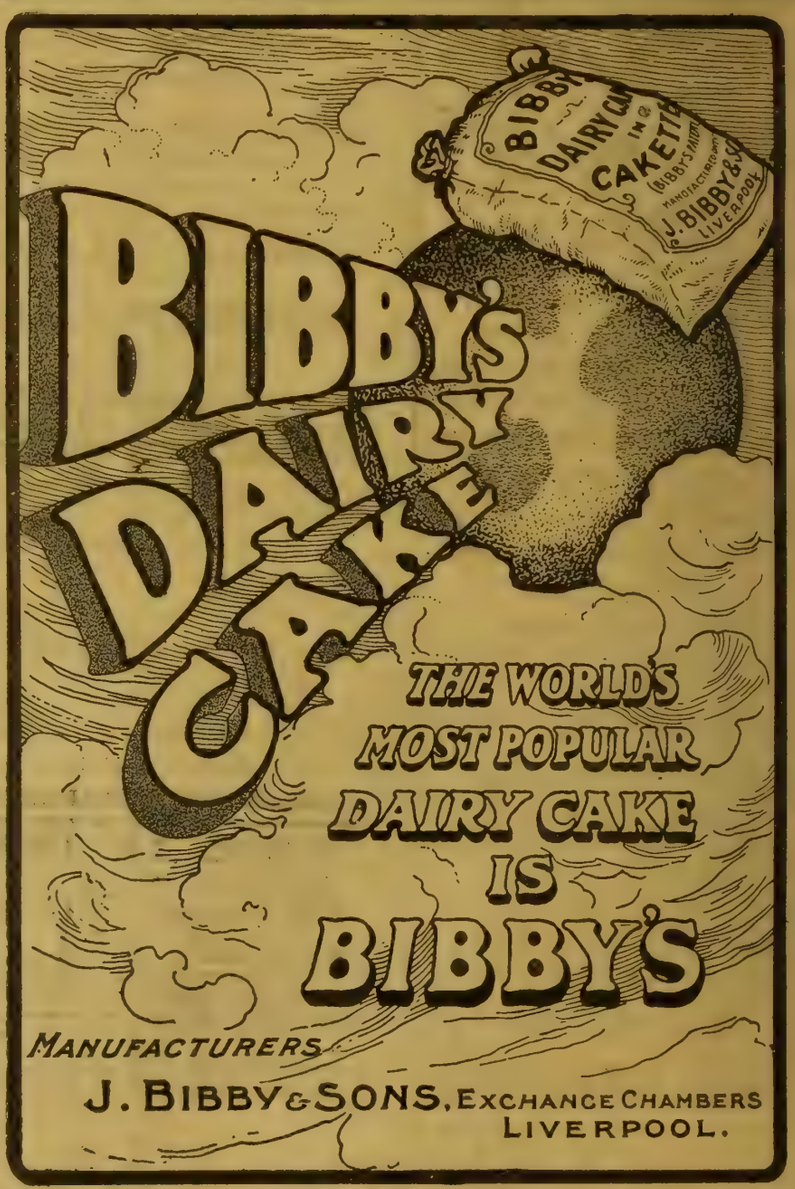
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Mark Lane Express
Agricultural Journal
and
Live Stock Record.
ESTABLISHED 1832.
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MICHAELMAS.

There are several epoch-marking periods in the agricultural year, and Michaelmas is one of them, as it is a time of endings as well as beginnings. With the advent of Michaelmas comes the conclusion of the harvest, and though at one time we thought that October would be far advanced ere the fields were cleared, thanks to the delightful spell of Indian summer weather we have enjoyed of late splendid progress has been made, and the majority of farmers South of the Trent have written *finis* on the harvest operations of 1907.

Michaelmas, as we have said, is a time of beginnings as well as endings. We have the conclusion of harvest and the conclusion of tenancies; auctioneers at this season are busy with sales, and it is no uncommon sight just now to meet waggons on the roads laden with the goods and chattels of farmers who are leaving one homestead and taking up their abode in another; giving up one farm that has served them well or ill to try their luck on another about which they know little or perhaps nothing.

It is no business of ours to pry into the reasons why men leave farms at Michaelmas time, but we do say that changes, however desirable or necessary they may be, are always attended with risks, and when a fresh sphere of labour is begun on a new holding there are natural anxieties that all may turn out well.

The glory of the old time fairs is slowly, but surely, departing, and even those gatherings which still retain some of their ancient importance are not the fairs that they used to be by any means. In days gone by the Michaelmas fairs held in different parts of the country were events to be looked forward to both by business men and people who sought pleasure, but amid the changes of recent years the old-time fair has declined in popularity and importance.

Railway facilities, weekly markets, and auction sales have all affected fairs and made them less indispensable than they were in the days when distances were great owing to slow means of locomotion.

Still, by right of custom Michaelmas fairs are held, and for the keeping up of the pleasure side of these events the travelling showman must be given credit. In the majority of places fairs have been removed from the streets after something of a struggle, and all the paraphernalia which contributes to the fun is collected on a site selected for the purpose.

The showman will see that the Michaelmas fair does not die out, for though his apparatus and means of providing amusement have all changed, he is the same showman still, and possessed of all the nomadic habits of his grandsires. His shows are more elaborate, there is more brass and more tinsel, and he moves his apparatus by means of traction engines, but the modern showman keeps his place and his reputation in spite of all the different means of amusement offered to the public of to day.

In country places there still remains a native love for the fair; extra shillings that have been earned in the harvest are freely spent at the Michaelmas gathering, and in spite of education and other advancement the retailer of quack medicines, sham jewelry, and purses with crown pieces in them can gull his customers just as easily as his grandfather did before him.

Northern Notes.

THE advent of a long spell of sunshine is a boon that has been appreciated in the backward hay districts of the North, and during the past three weeks a lot of hay has been "berthed" in fair condition, considering the fact that we are nearing the end of September. The hay and corn harvests are in some places coincident operations. Waste in the hay field was inevitable; and we cannot help thinking that a few people have not exerted themselves as they might have done to secure the crop. Much corn is being cut green all over the north of England. This proceeding is not to be commended, but we can well understand the farmers becoming impatient, and in the light of past experience coming to the conclusion to cut while the weather is fine, let the outcome be what it may. Yesterday the first heavy rain of three weeks fell. Turnips will be greatly improved, as mildew has made its appearance. Roots are very backward, and sheep-dealers have difficulty in effecting sales. They are standing up for high prices notwithstanding; and the sales of breeding sheep have been remarkably good.

NOTWITHSTANDING reports of prevalence of disease among tubers, potatoes are cheap in the north, very good samples being retailed at 6d. per stone, and in bags of 8 stones at 1d. less. Many crops already tested are turning out poor in quality and yield. With such a summer as we have experienced it would be a matter for surprise if the crops generally were at all approaching a normal state. They are the best on dry soils.

EARL CARRINGTON has written in a sympathetic tone to Mr. White, the member for Buckrose, in reply to a petition the hon. member presented to the Board of Agriculture complaining of the hardships of the Swine Fever Regulations in Yorkshire. Lord Carrington has not consented to their withdrawal, as he was asked, but he has done the next best thing, having caused to be gazetted a modification of the Orders now in force. This modification is novel in character.

AT present, where an Order relating to the movement of swine is in force, pigs removed from a market under a licence have to remain at the place of detention for twenty-eight days. The new Order, which came into force on the 23rd inst., gives the owner the privilege of obtaining a second licence for the purpose of transferring the same pigs for the unexpired period covered by the first licence to some other place other than a public market. This concession may possibly create greater activity in the pig trade in the districts affected. It is to be hoped it will do so.

EARL CARRINGTON makes a point in his letter by calling attention of his critics to the fact that notwithstanding the Board's regulations the agricultural returns show an increase this year of over 300,000 pigs as compared with 1906. These figures are somewhat difficult to get over; but his lordship very wisely refrains in his letter from commenting upon another set of figures, relating to swine fever outbreaks and the slaughter of diseased and in-contact pigs. Here the president would have been treading on ground of a less certain nature, as for the thirty-six weeks of the present year (I am quoting from the MARK LANE EXPRESS table) 1,862 outbreaks of swine fever were recorded, compared with only 796 in the corresponding weeks of 1906, and of 610 in 1905. These figures must of a certainty impress the public with the ineffectiveness of the Board's policy, which it is continuing in its efforts to "stamp out" what most practical men say is an ineradicable disease.

IN a North Riding market this week I heard of a farmer selling an acre of oats as they stood in the field for £15. I assume that the straw went into the bargain. Even at that the yield must have been very liberal. There are some tremendous crops in Yorkshire, which will far exceed the estimates given in the official reports. Stackyards are crowded, and it is not an uncommon experience to see a few stacks placed outside in the nearest position possible to the stack "garth," or in the cornfields some distance from the homestead.

THE immense crop of stone fruit has led to much proffered advice to people to preserve it fresh. A visitor to Scarborough informed me that at Covent Garden Market he had seen fruit (good English grown plums) retailed at a penny for 5 lb. On his arrival at the seaside the same class of fruit was ticketed at the greengrocers at 6d. per lb. Fruit bottling may well be termed a domestic industry, and it is to be hoped the method of preserving our plentiful supplies in a fresh state will be largely resorted to. The Leeds University (Agricultural Department) has done very much to educate the public in this direction by demonstrations at the Yorkshire and other agricultural exhibitions. The plan of bottling may with advantage be extended to other fruits and vegetables, such as green peas. The practice is not intended as a substitute for jam-making. One reason why the poorer classes do not make much jam is because of the outlay required in sugar. In bottling fresh fruit no sugar is required, nor any preservatives. The fruit retains its freshness and flavour.

THE North Riding Education Committee have decided that managers of all schools in the Riding be communicated with as to the desirability or otherwise of arranging for annual school exhibitions of nature study work. They have also decided that the secretaries of agricultural and horticultural societies be approached as to the inclusion of a nature study section in connection with the shows. The children have taken the deepest interest in this work in the rural schools, and it is held to be an important factor in the school curriculum, as the knowledge thus imparted may influence the after life of the scholars and induce them to remain on the land.

REPORTS of stack fires are now numerous. The firing was not unexpected. A very sensible suggestion from an experienced farmer reaches me. He recommends others to follow his example if they have not got their hay all carted —*i.e.*, to construct lengthy and narrow stacks, and not round stacks or "pikes," as they are sometimes called in Yorkshire. In round stacks he contends the heat centres in the middle and cannot escape. His reasons for making long stacks are that they are easier to make, easier to thatch, and easier to cut down. The ideas may be very useful when the 1908 crop is ready.

September 27, 1907.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

Account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended September 21, 1907, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year (the figures for 1906 are in parentheses):—

Animals, living:—Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves (11,506), 9,208; sheep and lambs (921), 1,483; horses (239), 710.

Fresh meat:—Beef (121,687 cwts.), 107,830; mutton (89,107), 81,773; pork (10,883), 11,482

Salted or preserved meat:—Bacon (113,978 cwt.), 87,623; beef (2,075), 2,417; hams (24,057), 12,139; pork (5,292), 5,531; meat (9,791), fresh, 13,569; salted 1,191; meat, preserved (3,697), 6,329.

Dairy produce and substitutes:—Butter (81,031 cwt.), 69,823; margarine (21,776), 13,715; cheese (72,239), 63,755; milk, fresh in cans or drums (120), —; cream (79), 58; milk, condensed (21,163), 16,283; milk, preserved (218), 47.

Eggs (great hundreds):—(376,604), 427,949; poultry (value £1,552), £1,950; game (value £2,220), £1,854; rabbits, dead (not tinned), (48,184 cwt.), 43,398; lard (30,623 cwt.), 24,980.

Corn, grain, meal, and flour:—Wheat (1,890,100 cwt.), 2,482,100; wheat meal and flour (373,300), 240,300; barley (510,500), 667,900; oats (218,700), 55,900; peas (23,250), 21,560; beans (13,300) 3,830; maize or Indian corn (867,600), 582,500.

Fruit (raw):—Apples (23,796 cwt.), 14,957; grapes (21,242 cwt.), 39,197; pears (40,176 cwt.), 27,630; plums (72,556 cwt.), 3,047.

Hay (1,755 tons), 939; straw (931 tons), 1,375; moss litter (1,450 tons) 1,281; hops (2,242 cwt.), 1,467; locust beans (810 cwt.), 23,400.

Vegetables (raw):—Onions 200,824 bushels), 208,433; potatoes (15,616 cwt.), 51,622; tomatoes (23,123), 25,903.

Damage to the extent of nearly £2,000 was caused by a fire at Stinches Farm, St. Mary's-in-the-Marsh, Kent, on Wednesday. Twelve stacks, which had been erected only a few weeks, and a large barn were destroyed, despite the efforts of the Lydd, New Romney, Hythe, and Sandgate fire brigades.

Notes of the Week.

A good harvest is Nature's bank dividend.

Says an old saw:—
"In harvest time, harvest folk, servants and all,
Should make together good cheer in the hall."

"All flesh is grass," contended Isaiah, which is consoling in view of the fact of the continually increasing area under grass in this country.

If flesh is grass on the authority of such a reliable old prophet, why should vegetarians so strongly object to it?

A crop of tobacco 5 ft. high may be seen in the gardens of the Royal Botanic Society.

The proof of the tobacco will be in the smoking.

Some parts of the country have been visited by a veritable plague of green flies.

In other districts mosquitoes of a sanguinary carnivorous disposition have done their best to make life unpleasant.

Rural education—Village schoolmaster (explaining biped and quadruped): "Now, little boy, what is the difference between me and a pig?" Little boy: "Couldn't tell you, sir."

The blackberry season is now on, and the fences of many a farmer are down.

With a fine autumn and prospects of better prices for wheat, there should be a greatly-enlarged area under the crop.

We should remember that the "seed is the beginning of life" and take care to put in pure seed of good vitality.

The primeval inhabitants of the globe must have encountered monstrous animals. A skeleton of a beast, "dinosaurus," 80 feet long, has been discovered.

Lincolnshire is becoming quite famous in the matter of Unions.

There is the "Farmers' Union," growing in power, active and energetic in advancing the interests of their class.

Now it is stipulated in the grant of small holdings at Moulton, Lincolnshire, that unmarried applicants must enter into the union of marriage before their application will be considered.

Cheshire is happy. There is a regular boom in cheese.

An interesting relic of old customs is the gleaner's bell, still rung in an Essex village.

The announcement of the coming Brewers' Exhibition is a reminder that the year is fast going.

"Here's a health to the barley mow,
Here's a health to the man
Who very well can
Both harrow and plough and sow."
(A favourite old toast.)

"The battle of the breeds." The respective merits of the curly-coated pig and the Yorkshire White is to be tested, as the result of a wager £20 a side.

A French professor is said to have made the startling discovery of the secret of life. He has some special chemical preparation, containing ammonia, in which he immerses non-productive eggs and they become vitalised.

The world's production of wool is estimated to be 2,666,000,000 lb., of which Australia supplies the largest proportion.

The cultivation of rubber is taking an important place in the agriculture of Ceylon; more than 150,000 acres are now devoted to this profitable crop.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1.—Sale of Berkshire Pigs at Henley-on-Thames — Middlesex Agricultural Society: Annual Meeting, Hayes Gate, near Southall—Horningsea Farm Sale—Hunton Farm Sale—Stirling Great Smithfield Club: Entries Close for the Implement Department—Sheep Sale—Entries Close for the Crewe Autumn Horse Sale.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2.—Peterborough Great Horse Sale—Sale of Romney Marsh Sheep at Elham, near Canterbury—Friningham Farm Sale—Necton Farm Sale—Okehurst Farm Sale—Bethersden Farm Sale.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3.—Great Sheep Sale at Lichfield—Sale of Aberdeen-Angus Cattle at Chelmsford—Hawkins' Sale of Shorthorns at Daventry—Ospringe Farm Sale—Barming Farm Sale—Smarden Farm Sale—North Elmham Farm Sale—Kelshall Farm Sale, Herts—Maulden Farm Sale.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4.—Sale of Shorthorns at Newport, Mon.—Bannister's Sale of Sussex Cattle at Haywards Heath—Great Annual Stock Sale, Strood, Kent—Feltwell Farm Sale—Lancing Farm Sale—Yeovil Live Stock Sale.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5.—Smithfield Club Post Entries—Many Michaelmas Fairs this day (Saturday after Michaelmas), which is also a big market day for all the country towns having Saturday for their chief market

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7.—Dairy Show, Islington—Luncheon, Judging, and Private Inspection by Members of the Dairy Farmers' Association (Public Opening 9 a.m. on the 8th—Fairs and Special Markets at Darlington, St. Ives, Sleaford, and Stamford.

PIGS.

Bacon Curing in Hertfordshire.

At the invitation of Viscount Hampden, Mr. L. M. Douglas, of Edinburgh, delivered a lecture on September 24 at Hitchin on bacon-curing.

There was a very large attendance of agriculturalists from the neighbouring counties, as it was market day. Mr. Matthew Gray, agent to Viscount Hampden, was in the chair, and presided over an interesting discussion which took place on the possibilities of successful bacon-curing in Hertfordshire.

The lecture was copiously illustrated with lantern slides showing the various breeds of pigs in the country, and the fittings and general design of modern bacon factories.

The lecturer referred to the history of pig-breeding and bacon curing in Europe, and of the vast strides that had been made by Denmark and some of the other countries which supplied England with a large portion of the bacon they used. He also pointed out that the conditions were such that there was no reason why similar developments should not take place in England. The propaganda which had been carried on for a year or two in connection with pig breeding, had resulted in an enormous increase in the pig population of the United Kingdom during the past year, which seemed to augur well for the prosperity of the bacon-curing industry.

The lecturer pointed out that a bacon factory may be constructed either under a scheme of co-operation amongst farmers, or could be owned privately. A co-operative scheme amongst farmers would undoubtedly be a very likely one, inasmuch as each farmer would have a special interest in the success of the undertaking. This is the system which has succeeded so well in Denmark. On the other hand, a privately-owned factory in a specially agricultural area like Hertfordshire had every prospect of being a successful venture, as it was a curious thing that no bacon factory of any consequence seemed to be in operation in the eastern part of England.

The following students at University College and the British Dairy Institute, Reading, have passed the examinations for diplomas and certificates offered by the British Dairy Farmers' Association, held at Reading on September 5 to 7:—Pandit Ram Gopal, Grace Heather Mason, Ethel Morris, Stanley Scott Trevor, Janet James, Barham Middleton, Hilda Taylor.

VETERINARY.

Advice of a Veterinary character, by a M.R.C.V.S., is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

A Shiverer.

Sir,—I have a two year-old colt, and some of my neighbours say he is what is called a shiverer. If there is such a thing, could you tell me what are the symptoms, or what way they are affected? Is it a disease or weakness of any part, or only a habit? Would it do him any harm for work; if it would, what would you advise me to do with him?—Yours, &c., A Subscriber.

*** Whether or no your neighbours are correct in saying that your colt is "what is called a shiverer," we can, of course, form no reliable opinion, but there certainly is "such a thing," and it is by no means impossible that your animal is affected, although the symptoms are not generally developed until the horse has been some time at work. Your questions—"What are the symptoms or what way are they affected? Is it a disease or weakness of any part, or only a habit? and would it do them any harm for work?" will be perhaps best answered by the following quotation from Williams' "Principles and Practice of Veterinary Surgery":—"'Shivering' is another peculiar nervo-muscular affection of the posterior extremities, resembling stringhalt, and manifested more particularly during the acts of 'backing' or 'turning round.' In a case of this kind the animal, when made to back, will perform that act with some difficulty; the muscles of the gluteal and femoral regions are thrown into a state of 'clonic spasm,' contracting and relaxing in a very irregular manner; hence the term 'shivering,' from the resemblance of the muscular action to trembling or shivering. In some cases the tail is spasmodically elevated and depressed in the manner of a pump-handle, and the limbs elevated from the ground by a peculiar rigid or stiff movement; the foot often suspended for a moment, as if the animal were unable to direct the action of the muscles. When moved forwards, the necessary actions will be performed tolerably well, but the backward movement is done with more or less difficulty, and sometimes cannot be performed at all. Shivering, *immobilité*, jinked back, and their various modifications, must be considered as causes of unsoundness, since their tendency is to increase in severity as the animal becomes older. They often interfere with his condition, and generally give him an aged appearance before he has reached his prime; and they prevent him lying down, particularly if he is confined to a stall. Some horses while so affected lie down well enough; the majority, however, scarcely ever do so, but fall down in their sleep occasionally, and, being unable to rise again without assistance, often injure themselves by struggling." "What would you advise me to do with him?" is a difficult question to answer—one we are inclined to shirk and leave to your perception of the fitness of things. You will gather from what has been said about these obscure nervo-muscular diseases that they are progressive and incurable, so that it is of no use attempting treatment, and the longer you keep the colt the worse it will get, and the greater difficulty there will be in selling it. If you have any experience of horses you will know what usually happens to animals that are what the dealer calls "wrong over the bridge"; but, needless to remark, we do not recommend the practice of taking in the stranger.—M.R.C.V.S.

Forthcoming Sales.

A sale of Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart.'s, Galloway, Angus, and Blue Grey stock cattle will be held by Mr. W. Bainbridge at the Stud Farm, Terrington St. John, Norfolk, on Wednesday, October 9. The consist of two and three-year-old bullocks and heifers, a number of which have been cake-fed and are fat, whilst others just require finishing. The stores are very thick and forward, and will make good weights. The sale will commence 1.30 sharp.

Messrs. Cobb will hold their annual sheep sale on Friday next at Strood, Kent, when they will offer ninety-three pure-bred Kent ram tegs from the well-known flocks of Messrs. T. Baker, C. J. G. Hulkes, J. Robinson, and R. G. F. Locke; eleven Kent rams and ram tegs, the property of Mrs. B. Tuff; twenty-eight Hampshire Down ram lambs from Mr. G. F. Hohler's, the Right Hon. the Earl of Darnley's and Messrs. R. H. and G. French's flocks, also 3,256 Kent-Hampshire and half-bred sheep and lambs, the property of many well-known breeders. Luncheon will be provided, and arrangements will be made for a supply of trucks at Strood Station. Catalogues may now be obtained.

Sir Alexander Acland-Hood, M.P., presided at a meeting of the Taunton and West Somerset Farmers' Club, on the 31st inst., when the Agricultural Holdings Act was discussed. Mr. Samuel Kidner condemned the attempts which, he said, had been made to coerce tenant-farmers to contract themselves out of the provisions of the Act. If tenant-farmers were to be coerced by land agents, he would ask Sir Alexander to put the question in Parliament. In passing the Act, the Government had acted in the interests of agriculturists. Sir Alexander Acland-Hood said that it was no business of one man to criticise the act of an agent of another man's property. No landlord had the least intention of getting rid of a man who was farming his land well. He should not like that club to interfere between landlord and tenant. It would be introducing Irish methods, which had wrought so much havoc in thesister island. He advised the club not to carry the discussion further. This course was adopted.

THE FUTURE OF HORSE-BREEDING.

Mr R. L. Angas's Letter—The Thoroughbred Horse—Scarcity of Good Stallions—Keeping a Stallion—Mr. Angas on Racing—Hunter Breeding—The Profit of Hunter Breeding—Prices and Selling.

Mr. R. L. Angas's Letter.

I CANNOT do better this week than refer to a few points in the long and able letter which appeared over the signature of Mr. R. L. Angas. On many points I am in complete agreement with Mr. Angas; on some I regret to say that I differ from him. I say regret "advisedly," for Mr. Angas is a man of wide experience in the horse world, a fine judge of a horse, and a man that puts his views temperately. That he sometimes only sees one side of a subject is merely to say that he is human. So much by way of preface.

The Thoroughbred Horse.

TO begin with the Thoroughbred horse. I must join issue with Mr. Angas as to his opinion about the Thoroughbred horse, but if he will modify it so far as to say the Thoroughbred horse as he is seen as the average King's Premium winner, I am in complete agreement with him. There cannot in my opinion be a greater mistake than to imagine that the horses shown for King's Premiums are representative of the best horses that are available as Hunter sires. With a few notable exceptions I should feel inclined to say that they were the worst. Of course, horses like Roe O'Neill, Wales, Drummond's Pride, though he did not get a premium last March, and a few more that can be mentioned, are exceptions, but in a lump they were bad, and have been moderate from the commencement of the shows. Nor is the reason far to seek. A man with a really good horse can make more money of him without the premium with it, on account of the rules and restrictions imposed. He can select what route he likes for his horse, and he prefers to keep full control of is own property. Can you blame him?

Scarcity of Good Stallions.

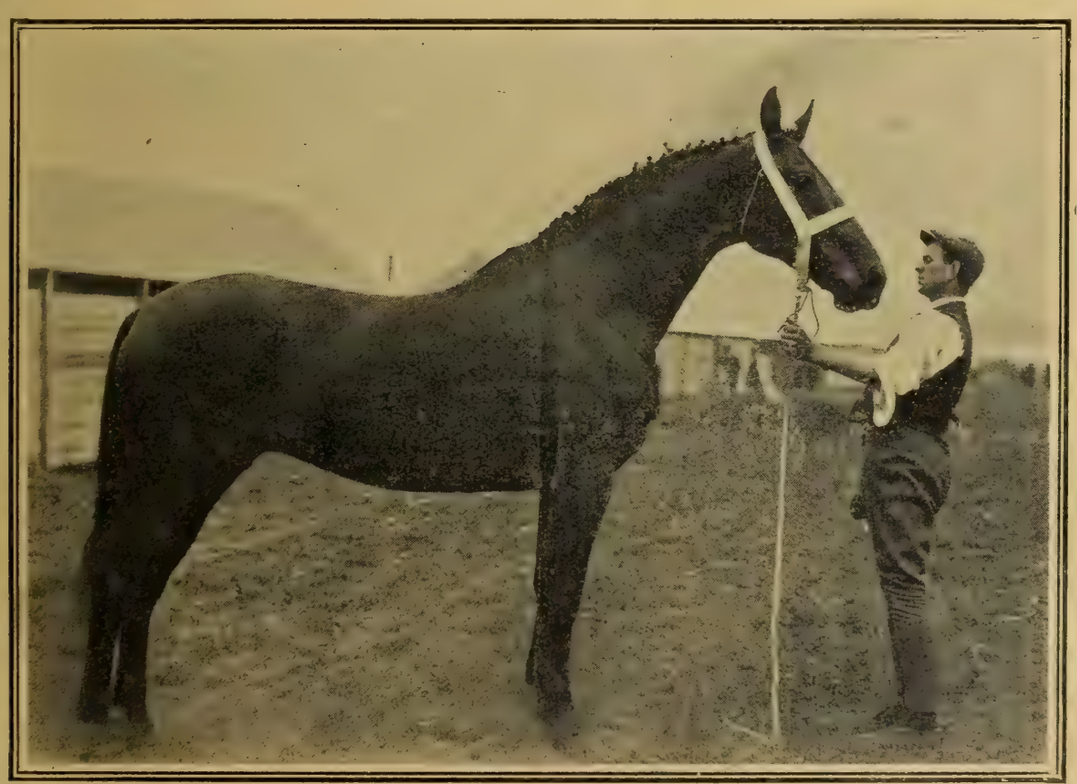
I AM also with Mr. Angas when he speaks of the scarcity of good stallions, but I do not agree with him as to the causes of the scarcity. Travelling about the country as I do from January to December to shows and race meetings I see many Thoroughbred horses that are admirably adapted for country stallions, horses such as Mr. Angas describes, with size, power, and action. What becomes of them? They are sold to go abroad! Foreign buyers have their emissaries all over the country, who will give a little more for a Thoroughbred stallion they like than he will bring in England; the owner, rather than be put to the annoyance and worry of travelling his horse, pockets his extra fifty or so, and the horse goes abroad to sire some of those horses of which we import, as Sir Walter Gilbey and Mr. Angas point out, some 30,000 every year at a cost of nearly a million per annum.

Keeping a Stallion.

THE man who keeps a stallion "for the good of his neighbours" has not a very rosy time of it. He seems to be fair game for most of them. Let me give an instance from my own experience. I had a couple of stallions, very good horses of their breeds. One of my customers insisted upon having a couple of mares at the price of one-and-a-quarter, which I could not for a long time get him to see as a very different thing to taking four mares at the price of three. His final argument was that he always made a bargain, so it did not matter. I would not give way, and we did not trade. Others insisted on the mares proving in foal—I believe one man went so far as to want a living foal born—before they would pay the full fee. To this I was compelled to agree. Mark the sequel. One well-to-do man had three mares to my horses, one to one of them and two to the other. I left the immediate neighbourhood, and when I applied for my balance in the spring was told that these mares were not in foal. He only paid for one foal. Now five years after that I had a letter from a man asking me for the pedigree of my horse, as he had two very good mares by him he had bought at X's sale. These mares were sold for some £65 each. I asked for the breeder's address when I sent horse's name and pedigree, and was informed that he was dead. Now I was not only robbed of the money due to me; but my horse was "crabbed" as well as an uncertain foal-getter. If these mares, which were shown as young ones *without a pedigree*—an opening to fraud, of which show secretaries seem to take no notice—had been shown with their full pedigrees, my horse would have got the credit he deserved, and I should have been richer by a considerable sum eventually. So I do not blame men who part with their stallions to go abroad at little more than market price, though I cannot help saying with Othello "Oh the pity o' it!"

Mr. Angas on Racing.

MR. ANGAS makes a pretty sharp attack on racing and racing methods, and urges the necessity of drastic reforms. With early two-year old racing I have no sympathy, but we have no early two-year-old racing now of any importance. No valuable two-year-old race is allowed to be run until June, and by June any two-year-old that has been judiciously reared and fed is quite fit for the work inherent on training for and running in a two-year-old race. The abolition of two-year-old racing would be a drastic change indeed, but it is one which there is no necessity to discuss, because it is entirely out of the range of practical politics. Then, again, Mr. Angas would have no race under one mile. Here again he does not quite see what would be the result of such a law. The reason of shorter races is to give moderate horses a chance, horses that cannot stay a distance. But much as I believe in long-distance races I should not like to see us revert to the old days of four-mile heats or four-mile races in which they crawled for three miles and a half and raced for half a mile. It may perhaps come as a surprise to some of my readers that a straight mile takes more "staying" than any other course. An experienced jockey told me that in all his experience he had only ridden three horses that could gallop a mile from end to end. Then Mr. Angas would raise the weights to a minimum of 7 st. I am sure he has never considered what an unfair thing that would be to the best horses. It would have raised Velocity's weight in the City and Suburban to 10 st. 2 lb., and in the Kempton Jubilee Handicap to 10 st. 12 lb.; and it would have brought Bridge of Canny's weight in the Great Yorkshire Handicap at Doncaster to 9 st. 11 lb. No great weights to carry either, it may be said. Perhaps not, but very serious weights—indeed, impossible weights to race under. No one can have any idea at the pace a race is run at unless they have ridden in one, and the strain on a horse's muscles and sinews is immense, and of course, all the more if there is a heavy weight up. And it is a well-known fact that if weights are raised a stone all round it is all in favour of the lower weights, that is of the worst horses.



The animal shown above is the Cleveland Bay Mare Aislaby Beauty, winner of First Prize for Cleveland Bay Brood Mares, and Silver Medal for Best Mare of the Breed, at the Yorkshire Agricultural Society's Show at Barnsley this year. Aislaby Beauty was born in 1900, sire Prince George, dam Hetty, and was bred by Mr. G. Elders, Toft House, Aislaby, but is the property of Mr. J. H. Tyerman, Pond Farm, Hinderwell, S.O.

Hunter Breeding.

I CANNOT think that Hunter breeding is quite such an unprofitable business as Mr. Angas would have us believe. That only a small percentage of tenant farmers can make Hunter breeding pay as it is at present carried

on is quite true. To get the most out of Hunter breeding it is essential that a man should be a horseman; that his sympathies should be with horses, and that he should care rather more for them than just as a means of making money. He should make them to a certain extent a hobby as well as a business. All the successful breeders I have known have loved their horses. And the finer the breed the more is this sympathy necessary, though it must be there whatever the breed is, if a breeder would be successful. So much may be taken for granted; and it may also be taken for granted that at any rate a considerable proportion of tenant farmers do not care much about horses. These men of course are not likely to make money out of breeding Hunters or any other kind of horses.

The Profit of Hunter Breeding.

THERE are some ways of Hunter breeding and training which are sure to result in loss even if very good horses are bred. Let me give an instance. A man whom I knew bred a very good mare indeed; to spare expense he had her broken in at home by a lout of a ploughboy whose nerve was undeniable, but whose hands were wooden and whose brains, so far as horses were concerned, lay in his heels. I bought that mare for £40, and though in a way she did well with me, it would have been better for me if I had never seen her, for though I got her to go well and to be a fine hunter she gave me a smashing fall before the operation was concluded, and I had a bad break, amounting nearly to a compound fracture, which kept me on the sick list for twelve weeks. Now if the mare had been properly broken I would gladly have given £120 for her, and I should have been in pocket.

Prices and Selling.

THE estimate that a Hunter to pay must make £150 at four years old is I think wide of the mark. He should cost very little up to the time he is three—that is to say, he should not consume a great deal of corn. Some he should have every winter, and other good food to keep him growing, but a four-year-old can be sold at a profit for considerably under that sum, and I think if one with another £80 were averaged, or even less, no harm would be done to the breeder. And many times a real good horse is bred which costs a good deal more than £150. But why wait till four years old to sell? Four years old is perhaps the very worst age at which a horse can be offered nowadays. Formerly it was not so, but then times have changed, and people with them. But a good three-year-old generally commands a ready market, and the shows provide an excellent market. I am, however, reminded that I am at the end of my paper, and I shall have more to say on this subject of the sale of Hunters next week, when I shall also touch on some more points raised in Mr. Angas's letter, such as the forcing of Thoroughbreds and Government encouragement of other breeds.

THE LOOKER-ON.

Sale of Suffolk Horses.

In consequence of the farms being let, the famous stud of Suffolk horses founded by the late Mr. W. Biddell, and on his death taken over by his son-in-law, the Rev. Henry Taylor, was on Thursday brought under the hammer at Lavenham in the the presence of a representative company of breeders, and there was some keen competition. The success attending the reverend gentleman's stud during the past six years may be seen in the fact that at the Royal Show his exhibits gained three second prizes; at the Suffolk Show one first, three seconds, and three thirds; at the Essex, one second; and at local shows, thirty-one firsts, seven specials, and challenge cup. The top price realised was 72 guineas, which was given by Mr. Cordy Wolton, the incoming tenant, for a four-year-old mare, Hollesley, and by Mr. Stephens (Stephens' Inks) for Tiffen III., an eight-year-old mare, with no less than fifteen prize cards attached to her. The mare Countess by Court Fop realised 67 guineas, and other mares made 50, 49, 47, and 44 guineas, &c., whilst fillies realised up to 44 guineas each.

Sale of the Barrow Hills Stud.

The show Hunters and brood stock from Barrow Hills, Chertsey, with which Mr. J. A. Mullens has been so successful at all the leading shows for some years, formed the chief lots at the sale of Messrs. Warner, Sheppard, and Wade, at Leicester, on the 21st inst. The attendance was very large and every lot was sold, the stud aggregating 1,019 guineas, a very satisfactory return considering that Mr. Mullens sent his horses to Leicester for practically unreserved sale. The Royal and Peterborough winning brood mare, Glow Worm, and Everlasting, another of the team which did so well for the stud at Lincoln this year, each realised 95 guineas, and 61 guineas was accepted for the three-year-old Beaver, a son of Riverstown, and the winner of many prizes.

Offers of 54 guineas and 50 guineas were accepted for a colt and a filly foal by Glenrossal, with which Mr. Mullens won at Lincoln and Richmond, and the handsome chesnut colt, Golden Flag, by Chevele d'Or, was a bargain at 40 guineas, while Gay Lassie, a winner of the Hunters' Improvement Society's medal, and claiming Glenrossal as her sire, appeared to be cheap at 35 guineas. A good stamp of brood mare, Red Cross II., the dam of several winners, was allowed to go at 35 guineas.

Among the miscellaneous lots sent from Barrow Hills were the steeple chasers Larry and Seaford II. They reached 46 guineas and 52 guineas respectively, while a small draft of Shetland ponies averaged 8 guineas each. All round, Saturday's sale was a good beginning of the autumn season at Leicester, other lots which sold well being Mr. W. Fitzherbert's Fire Brand, 110 guineas; Mr. W. Herbert's Lady Marmion, 70 guineas; Mr. A. E. Bower's Riverstown Panto, 50 guineas; and Mr. T. Chance Quarrell's brown gelding and chesnut gelding, 120 guineas and 90 guineas respectively.

Welsh Pony and Cob Society.

At the annual meeting of the Welsh Pony and Cob Society, held on Monday, Lord Glanusk was unanimously elected president for the ensuing year, and Mr. C. Lloyd Edward, Pwllheli, and Mr. J. D. Lewis, Narberth, were elected vice-presidents. The annual report showed that the society had a credit balance of £537. Reference was made to the great demand for Welsh ponies in America, and the difficulties breeders in Wales labour under in consequence of the high import duties imposed by the States Government. In order to secure the removal of these duties it was pointed out that it would be an advantage if the Government would give local authorities power to clear the hills of undesirable stallions, and regret was expressed that Lord Carrington had not yet put forward such a Bill.

The chairman moved the adoption of the report, saying that seven of the Welsh county council's had passed resolutions in favour of legislation, and that the other councils had the matter in hand.

The secretary (Mr. James Hamer) said he had received information that the United States Government had consented to recognise the Welsh Pony and Cob Society, and if that was so, then their ponies would in future go in free. The report was adopted.

SHEEP: NOTES AND JOTTINGS.

THE leaderette in the issue of the 17th inst., *re* sheep exports and imports, deserves some notice, because the matter referred to is of direct importance to the whole of the sheep-breeding industry of this country. There are several points to which special attention might with profit be directed. One, the enormous increase in the supply of mutton. When this increase will end it is impossible to tell, and the only certainty about it appears to be that our home breeders and feeders will have, at any rate for some time to come, a still larger quantity sent to our markets in competition with the home-grown and fed article.

INCREASED exports of stud sheep are most satisfactory. On the other hand, it is these increased exports of stud sheep that confirm the opinion expressed above, that our mutton supplies from the colonies and abroad will still be larger.

NO artificial restriction can well be devised that will prevent this inevitable result. This being the case, it follows that other means will have to be adopted by those engaged in mutton production at home to face the inevitable keener demand.

THE writer is no believer in restrictions in freedom of trade. The developments that have taken place during the past decade have made distance of but little object, and have made the metropolis the central market of a world's supply instead of that of our own country. With these facts before us, there stand out clearly two points that the flockmaster's attention must be fixed on: the first one is a reasonable one, and one that should be insisted upon both in the interests of those who produce the mutton and those who consume it. It is that means should be taken to compel all who sell mutton to state clearly and distinctly the source of its origin. No question is raised as to its quality or its merit, but the flockmasters of this country have a right to insist upon their mutton being sold for what it is, and an equal right to insist upon imported mutton being sold as imported mutton, and the consumers have the same right. Consequently this point is one which has a direct interest and bearing to all classes of the community.

NOW with regard to the other point, and that is one that affects the flockmasters and feeders of sheep only. The facts mentioned above show them distinctly that the competition they are going to meet with from countries beyond the sea will be still keener in the future than at the present time, and as is well known in every line of business, it is the best qualities that secure both the readiest sale and the best prices. This brings out clearly that other point mentioned—*i.e.*, that if our home breeders and feeders are to be able to maintain their position in respect to the supply of mutton at home, it will only be done by their producing the very best quality. To do this means that the flockmasters will have to breed the best class of sheep for mutton production, they will have to breed the best shaped sheep, and they will have to breed those sheep that produce the larger proportion of the more valuable joints, and the lesser proportion of those of lower value.

THE last paragraph places in a nutshell the reason why the work of the stud or pedigree sheep-breeder is so extremely valuable to the ordinary flockmaster, and in view of the still keener competition one may reasonably expect, it is quite certain that the work of the stud breeders will be still more profitable to the ordinary flockmaster in the future.

THERE are some—probably many—who will laugh at this what they may term theoretical reason why the work of the stud or pedigree sheep breeder will be of increased value to the flockmaster.

LET all who doubt the correctness of this deduction examine carefully any group of stud sheep from a leading flock, and note the development of the different parts of their carcase, and then go and take a similar number of sheep from an ordinary flock and put them through the same examination, then compare the result, and they will find that the first lot will be incomparably more valuable to the butcher in respect to the worth of their flesh than the latter.

IF it were possible to be able in almost every market of the country to have a demonstration such as is referred to in the previous paragraph, what an immense difference it would make amongst the general run of flocks throughout the country.

WE have, unquestionably, a large number of flocks that cannot be equalled in any country, but, unfortunately, there are very many that need great improvement to bring them up to the standard they should be to produce the best-formed joints and the largest possible proportion of the most valuable parts of the carcase.

MORE than one Colonial has called the writer's attention to this fact, and as stated by one of them, "It is most striking and surprising to me to find as I go about the country that there are so many of what one may term inferior sheep; it is incomprehensible that this should be so." It is unfortunately impossible to controvert the result of the observation mentioned above, and it is just as well that this observation should be brought clearly to the notice of those most interested.

IT is far better to have a keen critic than a flatterer, and as the gentleman from whom the observation is quoted is a practical sheep breeder, it is just as well that our flockmasters should know that there are some of them at least who could with advantage adopt the foreign or colonial breeders' method and use in their flocks high-class stud sheep, with a view of doing that which their competitors are doing abroad and in the colonies—*i.e.*, improving the formation of the carcase, increasing the depth and wealth of the flesh, and by so doing enable either themselves or those who will ultimately finish the sheep for the market to be in a better position to more successfully meet the keener competition that must inevitably come from the great sheep countries across the sea.

A Cure for Distemper.—Dr. Rodas Shaw, a well-known medical practitioner residing at Bowness, Windermere, has, after considerable research, evolved a medicine which promises to abolish distemper in dogs. Many valuable animals are yearly lost through this disease, and Dr. Shaw has already had marked success with all the cases he has treated locally. Such a medicine would be invaluable in all kennels, and, in fact, to everyone owning a dog. The dose, which is in liquid form, is given in small quantities (one teaspoonful for small dogs, two for large), and can be mixed with milk or broth. Such a discovery has been long awaited, as the disease has always been very difficult of treatment.

SHEEP SALES AND FAIRS.

KENT AND ROMNEY MARSH SHOW AND SALE

The eleventh show and sale has proved to have been one of the most successful ever held in connection with the Kent and Romney Marsh sheep. Never before at any sale have four yearling rams been sold for over the century, nor have so many of these high-priced rams been disposed of. From start to finish the sale was one in which the best rams went at high prices, and the inferior ones were quite neglected.

One of the features of this show and sale is the competition for the very handsome challenge cups. A new one this year was for the best five yearling rams given by Sir Richard Cooper. Mr. J. B. Palmer won it, Mr. Theame took second honours. Mr. Rigden was rn, and Messrs. C. File and G. Farmer were hc, and Messrs. Quested and A. Amos commended. The competition for the Laurence Hardy Challenge Cup was a very keen one; here Mr. F. Neame was followed by Mr. J. B. Palmer and A. Amos as second and; third Mr. Farmer was rn, Mr. Amos hc, and Messrs. Quested and C. File commended. The Lord Harris Challenge Cup for the stud rams followed. Here a four-year-old from Mr. H. Rigden was first, Messrs. L. H. and G. W. Finn were second, with Mr. Farmer rn, Mr. F. Neame hc, and J. B. Palmer c. In that fine class for the best woolled ram, Mr. C. File's ram first at the Royal Thornton, Mr. D. Murray was the runner up; 20 guineas, Mr. B. Chambers, for New Zealand; 16, 12, and 11 guineas for the home breeders; the average for the seven sold was £28 4s.

Mr. J. H. Harvey sent five; these gave an average of £22 19s., Mr. F. Neave, pushed by Mr. T. Wotton, paying 75 guineas for one of them.

Mr. F. Neame, who was the owner of two rams that won the Challenge Cup for the best yearling ram averaged for twenty four £22 16s. 9d. The top price was 140 guineas for the cup winner, and one of the pen that were second for the Cooper Challenge Cup, Mr. C. E. Gunther was the purchaser, the other four of this lot made 24 guineas, W. F. Wood; 29 guineas, Exors. W. Elvy; 19 guineas, Lord Harris; and 22 guineas, J. T. Thornton and Co. Mr. Lister Kay gave 21 guineas for one, as did also Major Powell Colton, and the others ranged down to 10 guineas. Mr. A. Amos found his top priced ram in the 3rd prize yearling ram, this went to Messrs. Liebig, Mr. E. Astherson gave 55 guineas, Mr. Miller 42 guineas, Mr. W. W. Chapman 30 guineas, this buyer took five others at low prizes. Mr. D Murray gave 20 guineas for New Zealand, &c., Mr. Arthur Finn realised an average of £14 11s. 4d. for twenty, 31 guineas was paid twice, once by Major Denny, and once by Mr. Kinwood, who also gave 25 guineas for a second. Mr. J. E. Quested gave 15 guineas, and the remainder went down to 10 guineas. Mr. G. Fenner's level lot were in good request, the twenty-five made an average of £13 14s., Mr. Arthur Finn gave top price, 45 guineas; Mr. Law, of Knockbridge, gave 40 guineas; Mr. Robson, for the second prize two-shear at the Royal Show, 23 guineas, and 21 guineas for another; Mr. Chapman gave 16 guineas, and the others went down to 3½ guineas. Mr. H. Rigdon's last lot was the first prize old ram, a four-year-old, bred by Mr. T. Wotton; here the competition was a keen one, Mr. Green wanting him, but Mr. J. B. Palmer would not be denied, and 80 guineas was paid for him, a record price for a stud ram. Mr. D. Murray, for New Zealand, gave 50 guineas, Mr. L. Hardy, M.P., 30 guineas, Mr. W. E. Long 26 guineas, Mr. A. Brown 26 guineas, Mr. T. Wotton 20 guineas, the Hon. S. Tufton 22 guineas, and the average worked out at £13 6s. Twenty-nine from Mr. J. E. Quested went at an average of £11 19s. 4d.; 40 guineas was the best price to Messrs. J. Thornton & Co., Mr. J. Finn, Kelsey, gave 29½ guineas for one and 15 guineas for another, Messrs. Zubig 19½ guineas, and several went to Messrs. Cooper Nephews for export. The following are the averages and best prices for the other consignors:—

Messrs. Miller, twenty-eight at £1| 1s. 7d., top price 21 guineas; Mr. T. Wotton ten at £10 17s 4d., top price 8 guineas; Mr. J. File, thirteen at £10 17s. 4d., top price 18 guineas; Mr. F. de B. Collard, nine at £9 4s. 4d., top price 21 guineas; Lord Harris, twenty-four at £8 9s. 4d., top price 26 guineas; Mr. E. Aschurm, eight at £8 2s. 9d., top price 9½ guineas; Mr. E. Hambrook, three at £7 10s. 6d., top price 10 guineas; Mr. G. C. Swinde'ls, twenty-three at 7 guineas, top price 21 guineas; Exors. W. Elvy, ten at £7 3s. 10d., top price 9½ guineas; Mr. G. Birley, four at £6 19s. 1d., top price 7 guineas; Mr. S. Kingsworth averaged £6 19s. for five; Captain Sumerset Webb, £6 0s. 9d. for eight; Major Powell Cotton, £5 18s. 1d. for four; Mr. T. File, £5 18s. 4d. for four; Mr. J. D. Maxted, £5 15s. 6d. for five; Earl Sondes, £5 11s. 6d. for twelve; Mr. G. M. Goodson, £5 11s. 3d. for five; Mr. W. R. Harvey, £5 11s. 3d. for five; Mr. J. B. Blake, £5 10s. 3d. for two; Mr. L. Hardy, M.P., £5 10s. 3d. for eight; Mr. J. P. Barnes, 5 guineas for three; Mr. d'Avigdor Goldsmid, 5 guineas for two; Mr. C. E. Hawkins, 5 guineas for one; and Earl Verulam 4½ guineas for fourteen.

The general average of this year's sale was £12 17s. for 410 head, and the following table gives the general averages, &c., of the whole of the series of sales since 1897:—



SCENES AT LEWES SHEEP FAIR.

Removing Lambs. | On the Downs. A General View of the Fair.

won with ease, Mr. Palmer came second, and Messrs. Neame, G. Farmer, and J. E. Quested were hc, and c to the latter two.

Messrs. F. Austin, Bensted, J. Finn, Kelcey, and H. Spanton judged the cup classes; and Messrs. W. M. Dean, Patagonia, W. Elgar, New Zealand, and D. Murray, New Zealand, that for the best-woolled ram.

The best average was £42 for Messrs. L. H. and G. W. Finn's second prize old ram, which went to Mr. Quested at that figure, only one ram being sent by these consignors. Mr. C. File's grand lot of seventeen in reality made the best average of the sale, namely, £10 10s. 4d., Mr. D. Murray, one of the wool judges, giving 150 guineas for that grand ram, first for wool, out of the whole entry of just under 500, an unbeaten ram at the summer shows, and one of great merit and superior quality; the same buyer took another at 21 guineas. Four others, or six out of the seventeen, were taken by the wool judges for New Zealand; these went to Mr. W. Elgar at 130, 30, 25, and 23 guineas respectively—a striking testimony of the popularity of Mr. File's sheep in New Zealand. Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. got two, one 96 guineas, and two others at 45 guineas; Messrs. Cooper and Chapman, &c., were also purchasers.

Mr. J. B. Palmer, who won the cup for the best five rams, realised for these 110 guineas to Messrs.

	No. Sold.	Average. £ s. d.
1897	520	7 14 0
1898	329	7 11 1
1899	386	6 18 1
1900	386	7 13 1
1901	282	6 14 0
1902	303	7 12 8
1903	312	8 5 0
1904	296	10 13 7
1905	329	12 0 9
1906	476	12 5 8
1907	410	12 17 0

Ayr Ram Society.

The annual show and sale of the Ayr Ram Society took place at Ayr last week, and, as usual, attracted a good entry and a large attendance of buyers, whilst some capital prices were realised. The top figure was £88 for one of the Borland first-prize group of five, the purchaser being Mr. Hamilton, Woolfords. The others of the Borland group also sold well; Mr. M'Dougall, High Craigton, bought one at £62; Colonel M'Kenzie, Muirhouses, Duntocher, one at £51; and Mr. Scott, Bogside, one at £31; the total for the group being £246 10s., or an average of £49 6s. each. The Woodfords second-prize group realised £177 10s. One of the lot brought the second-best price of the day, namely, £70, and the purchaser was Mr. Howatson, Carskeoch, the others selling at £53 to Colonel Blair, of

Blair, at £20 to Mr. Weir, &c. One of the West Browncastle second-prize pen sold at £33 to Mr. Watt, Blairpark, and another at £21 to Mr. Wilson, Auchencloigh. The Corsebank first prize single shearling went to Mr. J. H. Hunter, Machriebeg, at £54; and a Rankinston sheep, which had been placed fifth, went to an Irish purchaser, Mr. M'Elheron, at £36. The first prize Weston Blackface tup lamb went to Mr. Dunlop, Morriston, at £25, and the Woolfords second prize lamb to Mr. Latta, Kyle, at £21s. 10s., whilst the Greenan first prize Border Leicester shearling sold at £20 to Mr. Kerr Houdston, and the Skerrington Mains first prize Border Leicester tup lamb at £20 10s. to Mr. Crawford, Dowhill.

Dorchester Poundbury.

This, the recognised county fair for Dorset, to which all the best-known breeders of Dorset Horns, as well as Downs, in the county regularly contribute, was held in quite, for the time of the year, torrid weather on Thursday, when the numbers penned showed a decline on the numbers at previous fairs, this being due, many considered, to the exceptionally good prices which have ruled all through the season, and, naturally, has proved a strong inducement to sell earlier in the year. The number penned on the hill totalled about 12,000, and were entrusted for disposal to Messrs. Ensor and Son, Messrs Duke and Son, and Messrs. Symonds and Sampson, the three auctioneering firms who have now for some years been associated with the fair. Although Dorset Horns are one of the chief features of the fair—and here the breed can be seen as at no other fair in England—still there were many Downs, and more especially those of the Dorset Down type, penned at the different sales, and in uniformly excellent condition the sheep undoubtedly were.

One of the great attractions, as for many years past, was the competition for the prizes generously offered by Messrs. Ensor and Son for the best lot of horn ewes penned, the prizes being divided into two classes, one of which was restricted to exhibitors whose flocks do not exceed 400. There has seldom ever been keener competition than this year, the judges—Mr. R. B. White, Herringstone, and Mr. W. Rogers, Chesilborne—having to call in a third person to help them in their deliberations, Mr. C. B. Stiby, of Bradford, readily volunteering to help these judges out of their difficulty. Mr. Douch, of Alton, who entered a grand lot of sheep, was eventually awarded the blue ribbon, taking the three guinea cup, and Mr. C. Hawkins, Waddon, the second prize, Captain Nicholson, Mangerton, and Mr. J. H. Chick, of Wynford, both receiving h.c.'s. In the restricted section Mr. W. E. Riggs, Chilfrome, was awarded first, and Mr. R. C. Bennett, Chesilborne, second, Mr. C. E. Lane, of Kimmeridge, whose sheep were much admired, gaining a h.c.

As regards trade, business in point of sharpness exceeded anything remembered for years, everything selling with a run at prices showing a uniform advance for all classes of sheep of from 7s .to 10s. a head, one lot of ewes which sold at 40s. last year making 15s. this year! Horn ewes (for the best lots) realised 61s. to 69s. each, and others 57s. to 60s; couples, 72s. to 79s.; horn chilver lambs, 43s. to 49s.; horn wether lambs, 30s. to 40s.; grazing ewes, 40s. to 49s. Down sheep made equally good prices, the range for ewes being from 42s. to 56s.; Down chilver lambs, 32s. to 39s.; mixed lambs, 39s. to 42s. 6d.

Driffield.

Close on 700 breeding sheep were offered at Driffield Cattle Market on Wednesday, and they realised fair prices; 29 gimmer shearlings from Mr. Mason Rounding, Fraisthorpe, made 56s. to 58s. 6d. per head, 20 from Mr. I. Burdass, Lowthorpe, 56s. to 61s., 30 from Mr. R. Duggleby, of Cawkell, 57s. to. 60s.; 50 from the flock of Mr. E. F. Jordan, Eastburn, 59s. to 62s.; 30 from the Exors. of the late Mr. James Clark, Tibthorpe, 57s. 6d. to 60s.; 100 from Mr. A. Botterill, Garton, 54s. 6d. to 62s. each; 53 from Mr. B. Crozier, 56s. 6d. to 67s. 6d. each; 30 shearlings from Mr. W. Knapton, Ruston Parva, 55s. 6d. to 58s. 6d.; 24 from Mr. I. Burdass, Lowthorpe, 58s. 6d. to 63s. 6d.: and 20 from Mr. G. Robinson, 58s. to 61s. 6d. each; 12 Lincoln pedigree shearling rams, belonging to Mr. T. D. Robinson, averaged close on £5 each, the highest price being £6 7s. 6d.: four shearling rams of the Lincoln type, belonging to Mr. M. Sellers, Foston-on-the-Wolds, averaged just on £4 per head; whilst four longwool rams belonging to Mr. Charles Longbottom, Nafferton, made £3 5s. to £4 per head.

Ipswich.

The last of the sale of rams at Ipswich for the present season took place on Tuesday, when there were offered consignments from most of the noted breeders of the district, the numbers being larger than at the corresponding sale last year. Buyers were numerous, and attended from a wide area, one representative from Wales securing about a score for crossing with Welsh ewes, whilst three of the best ram lambs were purchased for export to Germany. A brisk trade was experienced throughout at the following prices:—Mr. S. R. Sherwood 6 guineas to 4 guineas, Mr. D. Abbott Green 6½ guineas to 4 guineas, Mr. H. E. Smith 6 guineas to 3¾ guineas, Mr. J. R. Keeble 6¾ guineas to 3¾ guineas, Mr. Thomas Goodchild's averaged over 4 guineas, Mr. G. P. Watkins' to 5½ guineas, Mr. F. H. Roberts to 4¾ guineas, Mr. W. H. Borrett to 5 guineas. A grand lot of twenty-five Lincoln shearling rams sold cheaply at from 6¾ guineas to 5 guineas. The trade for Suffolk ewes was slow, and prices lower.

Lewes.

The famous annual sheep fair at Lewes took place on the 21st inst, and events proved that it has lost none of its popularity, for the supply consisted of about 12,000, the attendance of buyers was good, and so were the prices; in fact, the demand was greater than the supply, a very early clearance being effected. The top prices, both for ewes and lambs, were secured early in the day by Mr. Tompkins, of Angmering, who sold 100 ewes to Mr. Pape, Ninfield, at 60s. The next best price was 51s. Mr. J. R. Thornton disposed of Count Munster's entry of 200 lambs at 45s., whilst Mr. W. T. Wallis also sold 100 at 45s., and a couple of pens went at 44s. and 43s.

The following were the chief sales:—

Ewes.—Mr. Tompkins, Angmering, sold 100 at 60s. to Mr. Pape, Ninfield; Mr. R. R. Verrall, 100 at 51s.; Mr. J. Stacey, 100 at 51s., and 100 at 50s.; Mr. H. Stacey, Firle, 100 at 50s., and 100 at 45s.; Mr. L. Martin, 90 at 50s.; Mr. W. T. Wallis, 100 at 50s.: Mr. Harry Willett, 80 at 49s.; Mr. A. Wadman, 100 at 49s., and 100 at 45s.; Mr. Bray, 150 at 48s.; Mr. J. Kenward 30 at 47s.; Mr. F. Gorringe, 100 at 44s.; Colonel Colin Campbell, 50 at 44s.; Mr. G. Hewitt, 60 at 42s.; Mr. Wyatt, 80 at 36s.

Lambs.—Court Munster sold 200 at 45s.; Mr. W. T. Wallis, 100 at 45s.; Mr. J. E. Moubray, 33 at 44s.; Mr. J. Porter, J.P., 100 at 43s. and 100 at 37s.; Mr. Stubbs, 100 at 38s. and 100 at 34s.; Mr. Cooper, Willingdon, 80 at 38s.; Mr. T. Bannister, 100 at 37s. and 90 at 34s.; Mr. Scrase, 100 at 35s.; Mr. Harry Willett, 40 at 34s. 6d.; Mr. Bray, 250 at 34s.; Mr. H Stacey, Firle, 100 at 30s; Mr. Burtenshaw, 39 at 30s.

Rams.—Mr. J. Kenward, two at 10 guineas; Colonel Campbell, four at 4 guineas.

Ram lambs.—Mr. Ellis, Guildford, one at 7 guineas, one at 6 guineas, two at 7 guineas, one at 6 guineas, one at 7 guineas; Count Munster, one at 7 guineas, one at 6 guineas, and four at £5; Mr. Tompkins sold seventeen at an average of 5 guineas each.

Louth.

There was a large supply of rams and breeding sheep at Louth Ram Fair on Friday, when the highest price realised was 35 guineas, given for one of Mr. E. H. Cartwright's Keddington rams, and another made 15 guineas. Other top prices were 12 guineas for animals the property of Mr. T. H. B. Freshney, South Somercotes; and 11½ guineas, the property of Mr. W. Nainby-Manby, of Thorganby Hall. Drape ewes (forty-five), the property of Mr. H. Odling, Lambcroft, averaged 66s. 6d. per head, the best making 71s.; while shearling ewes, the property of Mr. John Moore, Leicester, realised 60s.; Hampshire Down ram lambs, the property of Mr. W. H. Smyth, made up to 10 guineas; while Mr. R. Botterill's Tathwell rams made up to 13¼ guineas.

Loughborough.

The annual sale of store sheep at Loughborough took place on Wednesday, when over 1,000 sheep were penned on the Athletic Ground. The top price for rams was £6 6s., Mr. E. T. Parker, of Alton, Hants, being the owner. Lincoln theaves sent by Sir Ernest Paget and Mr. J. Burrows, of Wymeswold, realised 67s. each. A pen of ewes sent by Mr. G. Lacey, of Cotes, commanded the best price, namely 60s. 6d. each. The highest figure for lambs was 48s., these being sent by Mr. Barnett, of Burton-on-the-Wolds. This was a record price for lambs at this sale which was a successful one from a seller's point of view.

Malton.

A sale of rams and breeding sheep was held at Malton on Tuesday, and was largely attended, whilst some good prices were realised. Mr. W. S. Fretenby, of Nunnington, sold Lincoln gimmer shearlings at 59s. to 77s. each, and twenty-four made an aggregate of £79 11s.; some Lincoln gimmer shearlings from the flock of Mr. A. J. Cholmley made 50s. to 61s. each; Mr. A. Lamb's Leicester gimmer shearlings fetched 50s. to 56s. each; and Mr. J. Lett's (Bishop Wilton) Masham gimmer shearlings up to 57s. 6d. each. Some excellent rams were put forward, and met a fair demand, but several of the poorer lots were unsold. The highest price paid for a Lincoln Longwool shearling ram was £9 5s. for one from the flock of Mr. Thos. Campion, East Heslerton, who sold two others at £7 15s. and £7 2s. 6d. respectively. Mr. W. S. Fretenby's (Nunnington) Lincoln Longwool rams brought £6 2s. 6d. to £7, and Mr. A. J. Cholmley's Lincoln Longwool shearling rams made £5 2s. 6d. per head.

Market Rasen.

At Market Rasen September Sheep Fair held on Wednesday, there was a large show of gimmers and breeding ewes, and a fairly good trade, but lambs sold slowly. Gimmers made from 40s. to 51s., ewes 33s. 6d. to 49s., lambs 27s. 6d. to 37s. 6d., tup lambs 30s., and tups, 26s. to 50s.

The supply of rams was about the average, but trade was not quite so good as last year, 8¾ guineas was the top price, against 9¼ guineas last year, but the averages were slightly better. A score of the Otby rams (Mr. E. Abraham's) averaged £5 13s. 4¾d. each, with 8¾ guineas as the top price; a dozen of the Walesby rams (Mr. H. Abrahams) averaged £5 19s., with 8 guineas the top; twenty of the Tealby rams averaged £5 1s. 3¾d., Mr. Drake's top figure being 8 guineas, whilst seven of Mr. Marris's Kermington rams averaged £3 14s. 3d., sixteen of Mr. Wright's Risby rams £3 5s. 11½d. A dozen of the Lissington rams (Mr. W. Sengrave's) averaged £3 8s. 9¾d., and half a dozen of Mr. G. A. Bellwood's (Bishop Norton) £5 3s. 5½d., and those entered by Messrs. Atkinson and Son, of North Kelsey, averaged £4 9s. 3d. Mr. Weighman, of Wrayby, had a pen of Hampshire Down rams, and these he sold at £5 to £5 5s. each.

Market Weighton.

At Market Weighton September Fair held on Wednesday there was a good show of ewes, shearlings, lambs, and gimmer shearlings, and an excellent show of rams. Buyers attended in good numbers, and a fair trade was done. A consignment of gimmer shearlings from the St. Williams School, Market Weighton, sold at 40s. to 46s. 6d., wethers from the same school made 37s. 6d. to 41s. 6d. per head, Ewes and rams, the property of Mr. W. B. Walmsey, Park Farm, Londesborough, realised 48s. 6d. to 51s. and 76s. to 84s. respectively, and Mr. J. Lavarack, Everingham, had several pens of shearlings, which made 57s. 6d. to 60s. per head. Twelve rams, the property of Mr. Thompson, Wandby, realised £4 5s. to £6 15s.; twenty-four Lincoln rams, the property of Mr. John Jackson, Etton, Westwood, went at £6 6s. to £12 1s. 6d., and several pens of shearlings, the property of Mr. John Thompson, Holme-on-the-Wolds, realised from 55s. to 57s. 6d.

Newark.

In connection with Newark Cheese Fair held on Wednesday no fewer than 3,500 sheep came under the auctioneers' hammer. Messrs. E. Bailey and Son sold the following, the principal prices being:—Lambs from Colonel Fane up to 55s. 6d.; from Mr. W. Richardson, Ossington, 48s. 6d.; and Mr. W. E. Denison, J.P., Ossington, 44s. 6d. For gimmers the top prices were Mr. Cartwright, Dunham, 79s. (thirty-three averaged 77s. apiece); Mr. J. T. Farrar, Waddington Heath, 71s.; Mr. H. Pate, 70s.; Mr. Abraham, Hawton, 63s.; Mr. Bembridge, 66s.; Mr. Ward, Langford, 64s. 6d.; Mr. Cecil Harmer, 64s.; Mr. Burrows, Leadenham, 65s.; Mr. Christian, Staythorpe, 62s.; Captain Thorpe, 69s.; Mr. Roberts, Beckingham, 67s.; Mr. Cullen, Rolleston, 66s. 6d.; Mr. Storm, Muskham, 61s.; Mr. John Brocklebank, 63s.; Mr. Joseph Brocklebank, 64s.; Mr. E. J. Bullen, 61s.; Mr. F. Blagg, 65s. A number of Lincoln rams were also sold, the principal prices being:—Mr. John Brocklebank, Bassingham, 5½ guineas to 9 guineas; Mr. Joseph Brocklebank, Carlton-le-Moorland, from 6½ guineas to 15 guineas (average 9 guineas); Mr. Storm, 5½ guineas to 18½ guineas (top price).

Pocklington.

At the annual sale of ewes, gimmer shearlings, and rams, held at Pocklington on Monday, about 800 sheep were penned. There was a large company, and prices were well up to the average of previous years. Mr. B. Binnington, Warter, sent five shearling rams, which made up to £6 10s. each. Mr. J. T. Elgey, Kilnwick Percy, sent seventeen rams, which realised from £2 17s. 6d. to £3 17s. 6d. each, whilst rams from the flock of Mr. E. Holtby, Hay Wold, made up to £3 17s. 6d., and thirty Leicester gimmer shearlings from the same breeder averaged 63s. each. Mr. E. Johnson, High Catton, had three pens, which averaged £3 4s. 6d. each. Five pens from Mr. T. Dale, Callis Wold, averaged 3 guineas each. Leicester ewes from the same breeder made up to 52s. each. Lord Nunburnholme, Warter Priory, had six pens of Leicester gimmer shearlings, which made up to 63s. each, and ewes from the same flock fetched 47s. each. Mr. W. Grundon, Grimthorpe, sent seven pens of Lincoln gimmer shearlings, which made 63s. each, whilst 150 gimmer shearlings from Mr. W. Laughton, Little Givendale, fetched 60s. each.

Preston.

At the annual store sale at Preston on Monday nearly 4,000 sheep were penned, and they met a ready trade. With the exception of a few horned sheep a clearance was quickly effected. Half-bred ewes made 40s. to 45s.: half-bred lambs, 21s. 6d. to 30s. 6d.; horned ewes, 20s. to 27s.; and Cheviots, 25s. to 29s.

Robertsbridge.

At the annual sheep and lamb fair, held at Robertsbridge (Sussex) on Wednesday, some 2,500 sheep and lambs were disposed of at wonderfully good prices. There was a large attendance of buyers, and a brisk demand for sheep. One well-known buyer stated that prices were higher than at any fair or sale he had attended during the

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year. Kent and cross-bred lambs averaged 31s. 6d.

Stamford.

The fourteenth annual sale of rams from the Newstead flock, the property of Major Pinder, was held in Stamford Cattle Market on Monday, when there were also included in the sale rams from Mr. F. Ward, Quarrington, Sleaford; Mr. James Hornsby, Laxton Park, Stamford; Mr. J. Flower, Chilmark, Salisbury; Mr. G. L. Dean, Homington, Salisbury; and others. There was a large attendance of buyers, and the bidding, especially for the best, was brisk with prices good. The chief sales were as follows:—Major Pinder's Lincoln Longwool shearling rams averaged £5 17s. 2d. for nineteen, Mr. W. Sharpley, Wittering, buying at 8½ guineas and 5 guineas; Mr. J. Berridge, Sawtry, at 8¼ guineas; Mr. G. Hindson, Empingham, at 7¼ guineas, and others up to 7 guineas. Better prices were obtained for the Lincoln shearling rams belonging to Mr. Ward, an average of £11 4s. 10½d. being obtained for twelve. Mr. A. Templeton, Little Casterton, paid 15 guineas; Mr. Cave, 16½ and 13 guineas; Mr. J. G. Jackson, 12 guineas; Mr. S. Arnsby, 12½ guineas; and others up to 10½ guineas. The ten Hampshire Down ram lambs sold by Mr. J. Flower averaged £6 13s. 4d., the best prices being 8½ guineas (Mr. Rylands), and 8 guineas (Mr. Skinner). Mr. G. L. Dean got an average of £5 6s. 9d. for his eighteen Hampshire Down rams, whilst for sixteen rams of the same breed Mr. J. Hornsby got £4 2s. 4d. per head, the best price being 6¼ guineas.

The Lavenham Southdowns.

On Thursday the flock of Southdown sheep formed by the late Mr. Biddell from purchases from the old-established flock of the Marquess of Bristol in 1891, and from Mr. C. Adeane's, the Duke of Hamilton's, and the late Mr. J. J. Colman's well-known flock, was brought under the hammer in consequence of the owner, the Rev. H. Taylor, having given up the farm. The best pen of a score two-shear ewes went at 50s., and three other pens of a similar number made 48s. 6d., 45s. 6d., and 42s. 6d. respectively. A score three-sheers fetched 45s.; a score full-mouthed 48s. 6d, and six score ditto averaged about 42s. Ten broken-mouthed ewes went at 36s. Half a score ewe lambs made 40s., and five score averaged about 36s. A shearling ram fetched 55s., a two-shear 47s. 6d., while two two-shear rams, bred by the Exors. of the late Colonel McCalmont, fetched 70s. and 52s. 6d. respectively, and two four-year-old rams, bred by the Duke of Richmond, went for 62s 6d. and 50s. Of a half-bred flock, a score two-shear ewes made 56s. 6d., nineteen ditto 49s, and two score full-mouthed averaged about 46s.

The Leeds Castle Flock.

Consequent upon the death of Mr. Thomas Powell, who from its foundation managed it, the Leeds Castle registered flock of Kent or Romney Marsh sheep, the property of Mr. C. P. Wykeham-Martin, was entirely dispersed on Wednesday. The Leeds Castle flock was almost entirely founded from the late Mr. Powell's famous old East Lenham flock, and there was a large attendance of buyers anxious to secure the blood. The result was a most successful sale at good prices, as the following summary will show:—102 ewe tegs, ranged from 55s. to 127s., and averaged 73s.; fifty-five one-lamb ewes, 56s. to 81s., average 65s. 4d.; forty-five two-lamb ewes, 60s. to 95s., average 78s. 4d.; sixty-two three-lamb ewes, 52s. to 80s, average 68s.; forty four-lamb ewes, 43s. to 52s., average 46s. 10d.; 126 ewe lambs, 32s. to 51s., average, 34s. 4d.; forty ram tegs, 4½ guineas to 27 guineas, average £9 6s. 10d.; three-year-old rams, 4½ guineas to 13 guineas, average, £8 11s. 6d.; thirty-five rams lambs, 35s. to 67s. 6d., average 46s. Total for 508 heads of breeding stock of all ages £1,744 1s. 6d. In addition seventy-four wether lambs averaged 30s. 3d. per head and brought the grand total up to exactly £1,856. The buyer of the 27 guineas ram teg was Mr. Gordon F. Deedes, of Hythe, and he paid 12 guineas for another. Mr. A. Stevens gave 20 guineas for another, Mr. R. G. E. Locke (Hartlip) 18 guineas and 17 guineas for a pair, and Sir H. Dering, Bart., was a purchaser at 18 guineas. The purchaser of the pen of ewe tegs which made 127s. was Mr. A. Hickman of Egerton; Mr. W. Skinner gave 81s. for a pen of one-lamb ewes, and 95s. for a pen of two-lamb ewes, and Mr. E. Ascherson, of Charing, paid 80s. for some three-lamb ewes.

Wensleydale Longwools.

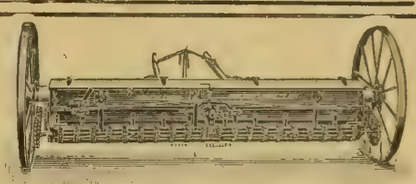
The Wensleydale Longwool Sheep Breeders' Association's annual show and sale took place on Wednesday, at Northallerton. Up to last year the show and sale was held at Leyburn, which, though more in the heart of the Wensleydale country, was found to be rather inconveniently situated both for buyers from a distance and for the removal of stock sold. And so it was decided to remove to Northallerton. Thus far the change has been attended with every advantage. Last year, for many reasons quite apart, no doubt, the sale was one of the most successful the association has yet held, and though the same anxiety to buy was not

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present at last week's sale, yet the pick of the male stock was soon disposed of.

The show sheep were judged by Mr. John Heugh, of Bedale, and Mr. T. Thompson, of Scruton, and in most of the classes the competition was extraordinarily keen. For instance, there were no fewer than thirty-three entries in the ram lamb class, whilst in the class for five shearling rams eighteen pens of excellent sheep were shown.

The following were the awards :—

Aged ram : 1, J. Hargrave, Wath; 2, J. Rhodes, Wetherby ; 3, S. H. Rowlandson, Barton. Five shearling rams : 1, J. Greensit, Holme-on-Swale ; 2, E. K. Cleasby, Carlton Miniott ; 3, S. H. Rowlandson. Shearling ram : 1, W. J. Greensit ; 2, J. Hargrave ; 3, E. K. Cleasby. Ram lamb : 1, T. B. Earle, Aldborough ; 2, H. Dewhurst, Skipton ; 3. J. Thompson, Winston ; 4, E. H. Cleasby, Five shearling ewes : 1, J. O. Trotter, Scruton, Bedale ; 2, J. Rhodes. Three ewe lambs : 1, E. Horseman, Richmond ; 2, F. E. C. Dobson, Stokesley.

At the subsequent sales the highest price fetched was £20, given by Mr. Jackson, Wetherby, for a shearling ram, the best of the winning pen, belonging to Mr. J. W. Greensit, of Holme on-Swale. The other four in the pen averaged about £10. The next best price was £18, given by Mr. Metcalfe, of Spensley, for a shearling ram belonging to Mr. T. W. Bainbridge, of Richmond ; whilst the second prize ram in the shearling class, belonging to Mr. E. K. Cleasby, of Carlton Miniott, realised £16, and was bought by Mr. Wood, of Masham ; a similar figure was got for a shearling ram, the property of Mr. Hargrave, of Wath, knocked down to Mr. Wells, of Melmerby.

York.

In the York cattle market on Thursday several local auctioneers held sales of rams, the total number offered being about 400. There was a fair attendance of buyers, and trade generally was brisk. Five Oxford Down shearling rams, the property of Messrs. H. Overman and Bros, Weasenham, Norfolk, made 4½ to 13 guineas ; twenty-four Oxford Down ram lambs, 4 to 9½ guineas, making on an average a little over 5½ guineas apiece. Fifteen pure-bred Leicester shearling rams from Mr. Cundall's flock, Pallathorpe, made from £4 to £8 apiece ; six pure bred Wensleydale shearling gimmers from the Hon. H. W. Fitzwilliam, Wigganthorpe, York, fetched, in two cases, £17 and £15 10s., the rest making an average of £11 10s. ; eight pure-bred Wensleydale shearling rams from Mr. J. Jackson, Hunsingore, made from £4 10s. to £7 5s., and forty pure bred Wensleydale shearlings from Mr. F. Kirkby, West Huntington, made from £4 to £10 5s. Gimmers made up to 61s. apiece ; lambs, 40s ; gimmer lambs and Masham ewes up to 46s. 6d.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Sept. 24, 1907 :—

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CATTLE: NOTES AND JOTTINGS

THE nights are rapidly lengthening now, and the sunshine daily becoming shorter, so that in spite of the fine and generally favourable change in the weather the nights have a winterly foretaste that is not pleasant to think about, and the cattle that are intended for the Christmas markets will at any time now be all the better for a comfortable fold-yard and a good feed of dry corn and cake, with a little chop at each end of the day. Late-reared calves should also very shortly be receiving similar treatment, if of weaker food. With milking cattle it is different, or has at least been proven different in many instances where experiments have been tried, and the milk supply has shown itself to be more easily maintained by letting the cows lie out as late in the season as possible.

HARVEST is now being rapidly secured and in very fair condition. There will in most places be an abundance of straw, which will come in very useful, and the higher temperature is causing the mangold crop to gain weight very rapidly. Swedes, on the contrary, are not showing so healthy a lookout as was the case a few weeks back; in many places mildew has made its appearance and is working sad havoc, and the smother fly also is very plentiful in some fields and localities. Either of these pests quickly rob the swedes of a good share of their nutritive properties and render them much less valuable for feeding purposes. There should be a good supply of ripe bullocks for Christmas this year, and it is to be hoped prices will hold up.

AT the sale of Sussex cattle at Hayward's Heath recently fairly good prices were realised, a number of animals realising from 30 up to 38 guineas each. Sir Lindsay Hogg, Bart., presided at the luncheon, and in the course of a speech proposing Mr. Bannister's health, said he hoped before long the councils of the various agricultural shows would give instructions to judges to thin out cattle only fit for fat stock shows, and to give the prizes to animals shown in their natural breeding condition. This is a subject that has been thrashed out many and many a time, and for generations past we may practically say, and without any great results. It is a question that after all the years of debating that have been spent upon it, it is still open to much criticism. There are, in fact, more reasons why the present high feeding should be continued than there are for its being abandoned.

IN favour of the highly conditioned animal in the showyard it must be said, and great emphasis may be used, that if shown in their ordinary home condition many animals would be winning prizes that all the feeder's skill in the world could not condition beyond a certain point, and to breed from such would at once be encouraging a degenerate race of stock. It would also cause our showyards to lose much, very much, of their present attraction to cattle breeders who visit these places for the purpose of seeing which breeds of cattle can be brought out in the greatest perfection, or which strains of blood make the most satisfactory and healthy development as well as the contrary of these points.

TO come to the other side of the question—namely, what would be gained by discontinuing the high pressure feeding? There are two points mainly to be considered—one is the cost of raising this high condition; the other is that in the case of cattle intended for milking purposes the effect of an excess of flesh is to obstruct the milk vessels, especially of the young stock, and render them less useful for the dairy. This may be and is in some cases rather a serious matter, but on the whole is not fraught with as much danger to the milking properties as the passing of leaner animals that would not feed would be to the constitution of young stock bred from them. We often hear it said, too, that many very high-class animals are ruined for breeding purposes by being made excessively fat.

THAT cases of this kind have been known it is useless to deny, but in the majority of such cases, if the animal is very valuable, she may be induced to breed by reducing flesh, or by other means. Whilst upon this subject, the writer recollects a case in which the judges passed over a very highly-conditioned cow in the Royal showyard many years ago, for the reason that they considered her too fat to breed. The herdsman at the time, however, assured the judges that the animal was then in calf, and the singular ending of the case was that the cow brought forth in due time twin calves. It does not seem a practice to be commended for some reasons the taking prize heifers from the Smithfield Show and putting them to breeding purposes, but this has been done very successfully upon many occasions.

THE new slaughterhouses or abattoirs adjoining the Islington Cattle Market, it is expected, will shortly be open to the public. With the general trend of things pointing to an extended, we may almost say exclusively, dead meat trade, it seems rather a pity to have expended so great an outlay upon these premises. There are many reasons that point to an entirely dead meat trade. The increasing traffic of all kinds in the London streets causes the driving of cattle along them at almost any hour of the day or night not only a cruel, but also a dangerous thing. Then, as far as the quality of the meat is concerned, there can be little doubt but that meat freshly killed in the quiet, cool country slaughterhouse is much more wholesome than it would be after railways and marketing alive in London.

ACCORDING to American reports the exports of range cattle from Alberta to England this autumn will be some 24,000 less than for the corresponding period of last year. Though not an alarming decrease, this should tend to create a better demand for home-fed cattle throughout this country, and, generally speaking, throughout America. The supply of fat cattle, especially those of ripe, good quality, appears likely to fall short of requirements. Inferior stock there, as at home, are by far the most plentiful. The falling off in the number of cattle, according to the Board of Trade Returns, ought to have an appreciable bearing upon the scale of prices. There is no doubt, as intimated in a recent issue, the demand for forward stores will have considerable effect on beef prices.

Sale of Shorthorns at Penrith.

A sale of about seventy pure-bred Shorthorns from herds in Cumberland and Westmoreland took place at the Agricultural Hall, Penrith, on the 21st inst. With about three exceptions all the breeders were tenant-farmers, and they put rather high reserves on their animals, with the result that there were fewer sales than if an open market had been given. Lord Brougham had the honour of securing the top price of the sale—viz, 125 guineas, this sum being paid by Mr. W. Thompson, of Moresdale Hall, for the cow Grand Duchess of Oxford cxxxvi. The next best price was but 45 guineas for a female, paid by Mr. G. Harrison, of Gainford Hall, for Mr. W. Jackson's Silver Queen. Other cows and heifers sold up to 37 guineas, whilst the chief prices for bulls were: 48 guineas given by Mr. R. Thompson for Mr. D. Bragg's Magnet, and 34 guineas paid by Mr. J. Robertson Walker for Mr. W. Richardson's Royal Patrick.

Mr. Thornborrow, the auctioneer, explained that it was intended to make the autumn sale an annual one, it being felt that the district was the home of the best class of animals, and buyers could be certain of getting first-class stock.

Jersey Sale in Worcestershire.

The younger portion of Mr. R. Bruce Ward's choicely-bred herd of Jersey cattle were sold by auction on Tuesday at Westwood Park, between Worcester and Droitwich. The herd has been bred from some of the best-known strains of the day, including those of the Marquis of Winchester, Mrs. Mackintosh, and Mr. Miller Hallett. Sir W. Cooke purchased three of the best cows in Salvia at 40 guineas, Silken Fairy 36 guineas, and Silken Nymph 34 guineas, to keep in the county, as well as some of the younger stock. Mr. R. F. Bolitho also secured Silken Fairy for 31 guineas, Orange Girl, whose dam and granddam were both butter-test winners, at 25 guineas, and Orange Silk (28 guineas), to take into Cornwall. Among other purchasers were Lord Rosebery, Mr. Grey, who gave 29 guineas for Moon Daisy, belonging to the Earl of Plymouth, Mr. Keyderdine, and Mr. J. F. Shaw. An average of £25 6s. 9d. was obtained for the thirty lots sold.

Guernseys at Wimborne.

Messrs. T. Ensor and Son held a special sale of pure-bred Guernsey cattle at Wimborne Repository on Tuesday, the catalogue comprising twenty-one registered Guernsey cows, heifers, and four bulls from the Hon. Mrs. Baillie Hamilton, Burley Lodge, Ringwood, and four heifers from Captain Carr Glyn, Woodleaze. There was a good company of buyers present, and good competition ruled for all the best descriptions, in-calf cows from the Burley Lodge herd making up to 11 guineas, yearling heifers to 8 guineas, yearling bulls to 6 guineas; Captain Glyn's heifers made up to 13 guineas; others to 15½ guineas from Mr. Chissell.

Perth Aberdeen-Angus Sale.

Drafts from several herds of Aberdeen-Angus were offered at Perth on the 19th inst. in the presence of an attendance which did not come up to those of the two previous days, either did the prices. Even the best class of animals, with the exception of some half dozen of outstanding breeding, experienced a dull trade, and, contrary to anticipations, prices were on the whole disappointing. There were seven consigners, and their stock only made an average of £19 10s., whilst several were withdrawn. The highest price was 85 guineas, which was realised during the last half-hour for the sale of a seven-year-old cow from the Donavourd herd, the purchaser being Mr. Calder, of Ardargie. Sir G. Macpherson Grant gave 60 guineas for a bull from the same herd, and Mr. Grant, Knockenbuie, gave 61 guineas for a two-year-old heifer belonging to Mr. G. Willsher, whilst at 58 guineas Mr. Stewart Clark, Dundas Castle, bought Epicure, a three-year-old cow, from Woodhill. No others topped the half century, and the sale was certainly disappointing to sellers, but purchasers got some big bargains. The averages of the various consignments were as follows:—Mr. R. W. Hudson, Danesfield, Marlow: 9 cows, £21 2s. 4d.; 2 two-year-old heifers, £20 14s. 9d.; 3 yearling heifers, £21 14s.; 8 calves, £13 14s. 3d.; 1 bull, £32 11s. Mr. G. Willsher, Pitpointie: 6 cows, £17 6s. 6d.; 6 two-year-old heifers, £24 3s.; 2 yearling heifers, £13 2s. 6d.; 6 calves, £9 3s. 9d.; 1 bull, £25 4s. Mr. Chalmers, Aldbar: 7 cows: £24 10s. 6d.; 1 two-year-heifer, £22 1s; 3 yearling heifers, £24 3s.; 2 bulls, £28 7s. Mr. C. Calder, Woodhill: 7 cows, £20 15s. 6d.; 5 calves, £9 13s. 3d.; 1 bull, £27 6s. Mr. M'Ainsh, Congash: 4 heifer calves, £8 2s. 9d.; 1 bull, £22 1s.; and the trustees of the late Mr. W. Maxwell, Donavourd: 16 cows, £26 12s. 2d.; 5 yearling heifers, £22 9s. 5d.; 9 calves, £11 14s. 6d.; 3 bulls, £34 9s. 6d.

Mr. Vergette's Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns.

At the periodical sale of Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns belonging to Mr. T. H. Vergette, which took place at Dogsthorpe, Peterborough, on Wednesday, there was a large attendance of buyers and a good demand. Mr. Wm. Caudwell, of Holbeach Marsh, who bought several important lots, gave the top price—52 guineas—for the stock bull Kirby Middle Marsh 2nd, bred by Mr. John Todd, of Lincoln, while three young bulls made 29 guineas, 29 guineas, and 20 guineas respectively; cows made up to 25 guineas, heifers up to 30 guineas, and calves up to 20½ guineas. The total realised was £2,226 10s. 6d., giving the good average, including the young stock and calves, of £18 11s.

Mr. Rees Keene's Herefords.

The sale of Mr. Rees Keene's herd of sixty-three pedigree Herefords at Llanvihangel Court, Rogiet, near Newport, on Thursday, attracted a large company of buyers, but the prices obtained were only moderate. Whitlen Marksman, a four-year-old bull, bred by the late Mr. R. Green, was purchased by Mr. Fred Carter, of Newport, for 26 guineas; Reform, a two yoar-old, bred by Mr. Keene, was sold to Lord Tredegar at 32 guineas; Rajah, another of Mr. Keene's breeding, was secured by Mr. T. Baker, of Magor, for 22 guineas; and for a similar sum Mr. W. Jones, of Llandowlais, Usk, secured Royal Marksman, a yearling; whilst Mr. Jones, of Court Farm, Dingestow, Chepstow, bought Raffles, a yearling, for 25 guineas; and for a like sum Mr. George, of Bishton, became the owner of Recruit. The best of the cows were undoubtedly San Tan, calved nearly seven years ago at Llanvihangel Court. She was secured by Sir Frederick Cawley for 58 guineas, the top price of the sale. Farewell Fancy, the heifer calve of Fantastic, fetched 22 guineas, Fantastic herself being secured by Mr. J. H. Fursbrook for 25 guineas. Sir W. St. Rouse Boughton became the owner of Butterine for 42 guineas, his other purchases including Fanlight, the heifer calf of Fan Tan, for 22 guineas, and Carmen, the heifer calf of Blush, for 13 guineas. Viscount Tredegar purchased Blanch Rugby, the heifer calf of Blanch Curate, for 50 guineas, and Miss Archer, a yearling heifer, for 19 guineas.

Mr. J. A. Preece's Shorthorns.

Nearly 100 pure-bred Shorthorn cattle, the property of Mr. J. A. Preece, of Drayton Park, Thrapston, were offered for sale by auction on Thursday in the presence of a representative company of breeders, and the sale proved a most satisfactory one, seventy-seven females averaging £46 4s. and eleven bulls £51 1s. 4d. per head, the total result of the sale being £4,118 12s. 6d. for eighty-eight animals. The top figure of the sale was 255 guineas, realised by the bull, Primrose Earl, the purchaser being Sir R. P. Cooper, Bart. As will be seen from the following list of the chief sales other three-figure prices were realised, amongst them being 160 guineas, given by Lord Manvers, for Duchess of Barrington 97th.

Cows and Heifers:—Waterloo Princess, Mr. T. Stokes, Warmington, 66 guineas; Charming Barrington, Mr. F. Jennings, Cockfield, Suffolk, 65 guineas; heifer, Sir R. P. Cooper, 61 guineas; Sherwood Gem, Mr. C. H. Dixon, Uppingham,

(Continued on page 419).

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

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HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL, Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

GRIFFIN, F. W., Boro' Fen, Peterboro'. Shire Stallions, Mares, and Fillies for sale, in natural condition; 40 pedigree mares kept for breeding; every facility to foreign buyers.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Hereford. Stud Horses: Lockinge Lord of Misrule and Lockinge Bonny Lad, both by Lockinge Forester, full brother to Lockinge Forest King. Colts and Fillies for Sale.

MUNTZ, FREDERICK ERNEST, Umberslade, Hockley Heath, Warwickshire. Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, prize-winners.—Particulars from Mr. JOHN T. B. HARTLEY, Estate Office.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners, on Sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

ROWELL, JOHN, Bury, Huntingdon. Breeder Shires and Hackneys; Stallions for sale, hire, or service at home; mares and fillies for sale.

WHITEHEAD, Robert, Fashionably bred mares and fillies in natural condition on Sale. Stallions, Bodenham King 17177, Whitestone Prince Alfred 22930.—Apply J. M. JOHNSTONE, Hargate Hall, Buxton. Station, and telegrams, Millers Dale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

BENSON, ALFRED, Upper Gatton Park, Merstham, Surrey. Hackney Stallions: Copper King 7764, reserve champion, London Hackney Shows, 1905 and 1906; yearling Colts and Fillies by Copper King and other well-known Stallions for sale. For particulars, pedigrees, &c., apply to T. Hyett.

GREENALL, Sir GILBERT, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large Stud of high-class Pedigree Hackneys and Hackney Ponies; over 200 head to select from. Hackney Stud at Terrington (M. & G.N.R.), Norfolk; ponies at Tissington (L. & N.W.R.), Derbyshire.—Apply W. Bainbridge, Walton House, Warrington.

KNOWLES, Sir LEES, Bart., Westwood, Pendlebury, Manchester. Hackney Stud Horse, Dainty Duke 7417, by Garton Duke of Connaught 3009; Shire Stud Horse, Pendlebury Welkin, by Blythwood King Maker 18534. Stock on Sale by the above named and other noted sires.—For particulars apply to the Stud Groom, Dam Head Farm, Mobberley, Cheshire, or to Owner.

MCNAUGHTAN, E. D., Milnthorpe, Westmorland. Stallions, Bonfire 2381 and Bonus 8387. Stock for sale by these and other noted sires. Inspection invited.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

NICHOLSON, DIXON, The Grange, Watton, Cranswick, Hull. Stud Stallion, Watton Baronet, a wheel-coloured brown, 15.3 (never shed a chestnut); fee £4 4s. Several prize winners yearlings, two-year-olds, and others. Average prizes won last four years 49. Inspection invited.

SMITH, THOMAS, Shirley Stud, Hall Green, Birmingham. Breeder of Pedigree Hackneys and Ponies. Owner Hackney Stallions, Viscount Hopwood 8686, Hopwood Viscount 9280, Pony Stallion Pinderfields Horace 7052; prize winners on sale.

WHITWORTH, ROBERT, Warley Stud, Halifax, and London-road Stud Market Weighton. Hackney Stallions Polemius, Edenmyre Aristocrat II., Beckingham Squire 8078. Hackneys Harness Horses always on sale. Matched pairs a speciality.

PONIES.

BEALE, Mrs. A. J., Cacketts, Cudham, Kent. Prize-bred Pedigree Shetlands for sale; three grand Stallions at stud.

HENRIQUES, Col. E. N., Mursley Polo and Riding Pony Stud Winslow. Stallions, Thoroughbred 9 C.B. by Wisdom, winner of five Queens and Kings Premiums, Champion Arab Moolah 32, Hurlingham 90, by Rosewater out of Esmeralda. Particulars on application. Sta. Swanbourne, L.N.W. Tele. Mursley.

HORSES—*continued*

PONIES—*continued.*

IVES, Hon. Mrs., Moyns Park, Birdbrook, Essex. Polo and Riding Pony Stallions; Thoroughbred Gillieflower, Arab Bashom, Polo-bred Chateau, etc. Young Stock, Made and Racing Ponies for sale. Excellent accommodation for mares.

JONES, JOHN, & SON, Dinarth Hall Pony Stud Farm, Colwyn Bay. Largest Stud typical Welsh Breed Mares, Stallions, Saddle and Harness Ponies in Wales. Particulars on application.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

MONTEFIORE, Rev. D. B., Islip, Oxon. Pedigree prize-winning Ponies for sale. Prices, service fees, etc., on application.

SUFFOLKS.

SMITH, ALFRED J., Rendlesham, Woodbridge, Suffolk. Gold Medal Stud, 35 Suffolk Stallions, 60 Mares and Fillies. 329 prizes won, besides numerous reserves and commended honours, and 1st and Champion Royal Show, 1905; horses bred and exported from this stud have won 1st prizes at Chicago, Buffalo, Iowa, Paris, Brussels, the Royal Agricultural Society of South Australia, and at many other shows. Largest stud in England. Inspection invited.

SUDBOURNE SUFFOLKS (the property of Kenneth M. Clark, Esq.). The Stud contains over 150 pedigree animals. 309 prizes and honours (including 11 champion prizes, 4 for stallions and 7 for mares) won since 1898. Several promising young Stallions for sale cheap.—Apply Manager, Home Farm, Sudbourne Hall, Orford Suffolk.

THOROUGHBREDS AND HUNTERS.

DYSON, HARRY, Priory Farm, Pamber, Basingstoke. Thoroughbred Stallion, Boscawen, winner of 7 First Prizes as Hunter sire; also pony stallion, Twilight, winner of several first prizes. Young stock always for sale.

ROBINSON, Ernest W., Brookleigh, Esher. Irish-bred one-, two-, three- and four-year-old brood Mares; made and unmade Hunters for sale.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

PREECE, JOHN ADNEY, Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston, Northampton.—Herd of 250 Shorthorns, best Bates and Scotch blood; stock Bulls, Duke of Barrington 70th, Primrose Earl 89641, and Royal Baron 93192; Bulls and Heifers for sale.

ROTHWELL, R. R, Much Hoole, near Preston. Pedigree Shorthorns, chiefly Scotch blood. Stock bull Strowan Marquis 13th, winner of many prizes. Young bulls and heifers always on sale.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

TAYLOR, GEORGE, Cranford, Middlesex.—Bates' Shorthorns, deep milkers. Winners Milking Competitions, London Dairy Show, 1905-6. Bull Calves for Sale. Stock Bulls: Beau Sabreur, Drumcree, Rowbury, and Kirkcharm.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

SUSSEX.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath, Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Sussex Cattle (descended from the oldest and best strains of blood), unrivalled for their early maturity, the production of the best beef and working oxen, and ability to thrive in all weathers on the roughest fare. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for Sale.

HEREFORDS.

PULLEY, CHARLES THORNTON, Lower Eaton, Hereford.—Noted prize-winning herd of HEREFORD CATTLE. First prize Royal winners, Protector 19660 1900; Eaton Champion 21351, 1903; and Ashleaf 3rd, 1905. This herd is headed by Eaton Champion and Glendower 2nd 22196, also a Royal winner. Bulls and Heifers for sale. Also prize-winning Shropshire Sheep.—Apply Mr. HEDLEY JONES, Lower Eaton Estate Office, Hereford.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has in 1904 1905 and 1906 won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by Endale, Bage Protector, and Fusilier. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited.—Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford Herefordshire.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for Sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

CATTLE—*continued.*

DEVONS.

BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton Williton, Taunton. Breeder of Pedigree Devon Cattle. A speciality for large size, with quality and robust constitutions; colour dark red. Sent to all parts of the world. Prices moderate.

MORGAN, T. S, Whimple House, Whimple, Exeter, Devon (close to Station). Pedigree Devon bulls, cows, and heifers for sale; large size and heavy milkers; inspection invited.

SKINNER, ALFRED C., Pound, Bishops-Lydeard, Somerset. Pedigree Devons, constitution, quality, size, milk; 600 prizes principal shows, many champions; exports most successful; bulls and heifers for sale. Inspection invited.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

BRIDGES, J. H.—This old-established herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle of the leading families can be seen at Langshott Home Farm, Horley, Surrey (near Horley Station, L.B. & S.C.R.), and catalogues obtained on application to Mr. Albert Pulling.

CRIDLAN, J. J. Maisemore Park, Gloucester. Erica, Pride of Aberdeen, Lady Ida, and other noted tribes. Stock bull, Elate 16513, Champion and Gold Medal winner 1901 and 1902 and Wizard 21405.

DALMENY ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.—Apply Manager, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

GRANT, GEO. SMITH, Auchorachan, Ballindalloch, Scotland, Aberdeen-Angus Cattle. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

JOHNSON, WALTER, Hatfield, Doncaster. Stud Horse, Lambton King 16757; Stallions for hire; weighty young Stallions, Mares and Fillies on Sale.

HURSLEY PARK HERD OF ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE, the property of Sir George Cooper, Bart., comprising Erica, Pride, Miss Burgess, Lady Ida, Matilda, Jemima of Morlich families. Prizes won during 1906: 7 firsts, 3 seconds, 3 reserves, 1 challenge cup, 2 silver medals, 3 reserve champions. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.—Catalogues on application to V. F. Lease, Estate Office, Hursley Park, Winchester.

MACPHERSON, Mrs.—Leading families of the breed represented in the herd; young stock always on sale; Corskie 4th of Wyrley, 1st prize Royal 1905. Apply P. Mitchell, Wyrley Grove, Pelsall, Walsall.

PERRINS, C. W. DYSON, Ardross, Ross-shire, N.B. Pure-bred Aberdeen-Angus Cattle.—For Particulars apply The Manager, Home Farm, Ardross, Alness, N.B.

SWAYLANDS ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD, the property of Mr. George Drummond. Stock always on Sale. Stud Bull, Eboniser 21782, winner of three firsts and two champions, 1905.—Apply W. E. Rogers, Bowens, Penshurst, Kent.

THE ROCKLIFFE PARK HERD of Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, Ericas and Prides. Stock Bull, Pundit of Preston (17,156), Champion at Highland Show, 1904.—Apply, R. C. SWAN, Rockliffe Park, Darlington.

AYRSHIRES.

WALLACE, JAMES, J.P., Auchenbainzie, Thornhill, Dumfriesshire, Scotland. Breeder of pedigree prize-winning Ayrshire Cattle; hardy, healthy, good milkers; bred for dairy purposes, beauty and style. Bulls and Heifers for sale.

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably, from his prize-winning herd of Red Polls, Bulls, Cows, Heifers, from good milkers.—Apply C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

DUTCH.

BROWN, JOHN, Marden Farm, Hertford. Dutch, the best Dairy Cattle in the world. Over 200 head kept. Record, one cow gave 1,615 gallons of milk in 52 weeks. Bulls for sale.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

BUTTER from Pedigree Guernseys, large or small quantities; also Cows and Heifers for sale.—For particulars apply to Wm. Owton, Chalcroft Farm, West End, Hants.

CARY-ELWES, V., Billing Hall, Northampton. Breeder of Jersey cattle.

JERSEYS, and Alderney Guernseys, fresh calved and near calving. Prices, particulars.—R. WHEADON, Minster.

MERTON GRANGE GUERNSEYS.—Property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. This Herd contains Champion Bull Royal Counties, Portsmouth, and Champion Cow Royal Derby, 1906. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of best Breeding for Sale.—Telegrams and particulars, W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Ganlingay.

PLUMPTRE, H. FITZWALTER, Goodnestone Park. Herd of Guernseys; milking and prize-winning strains; milk records kept of every cow; inspection invited. Apply E. W. Amos, Goodnestone, Dover. Station, Adisham, S.E. & C.R.

STERN, Sir E. D., Fan Court, Chertsey, Surrey. Herd of pedigree Jersey Cattle. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

(Continued on page 409.)

CATTLE—*continued.*

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS—*continued.*

TICHBORNE PARK, GUERNSEY.—Yearling Bulls and Heifers for sale.—Apply, D. MUNRO, Estate Office, Tichborne, Alresford, Hants.

GALLOWAYS.

GRAHAM, ROBERT, Auchengassel, Twynholm, breeder fashionable Galloway Cattle, winners at Royal and Highland Societies Shows. Pedigree Bulls, Cows, and Heifers, also Blue-greys for feeding, for sale. Commissions carefully executed.

KERRIES & DEXTERS.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

THE DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE'S PRIZE-WINNING DEXTER HERD.—During 1904 and 1905 this Herd won more prizes than any other three Dexter Herds combined, including both first and second milking prizes Royal, 1905, and first London Dairy Show, 1906. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers generally for Sale.—CHILD, Compton Place, Eastbourne.

RATTRAY, DAVID, Gortnaskehy, Ballybunion, Co. Kerry. Pedigree Prize-winning Herd of Kerries and Dexters. 15 Prizes and Honours won by Cattle from this Herd past three years. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONG WOOL.

ANDERSON, JOHN, Barton-on-Humber.—The old Barton Flock of Pure-bred LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, Flock Book 106. This flock is noted for hard constitutions and fine, lustrous wool. Inspection invited. Telegrams as above.

ATKINSON, T., & SON, North Kelsey, Lincoln. Old-established flock of pure Lincoln Longwools. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Noted for great size and long lustrous wool. Have given great satisfaction at home and abroad. Inspection invited

BROOKS, W. J., Stowe Lodge, Weedon, Northants (Registered Flock 165), has for sale Rams and Ewes of best blood.

BROCKLEBANK, JOHN, Bassingham, Lincoln. (Flock 24). Pure-bred Lincoln Longwool Rams and Ewes. This old flock has been carefully bred for 100 years. Telegrams: Basingham.

DRAKES, Wm., Tealby, Market Rasen. Flock No. 72 of Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs of best blood for sale. Lincoln Red Shorthorns. Prices moderate

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

SMITH, HENRY, jun., Cropwell Butler, Nottingham. Lincoln Longwool Flock No. 7, winner of £2,361 in prizes. Champion pen Lincolns, Smithfield Show, 1896; Association Championship, Leicester, 1897; Association Championship for pen of 3 Shearling Rams, Yorkshire, 1900; Championship, Rutland, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, and 1906. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

THE CHILMARK FLOCK OF REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—Owner, JAMES FLOWER, Chilwark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records. Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, out of 11 years competing, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" won eight times, thrice second, with pens of 8 ram lambs; a marvellous record. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 13 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05-06. At the Royal at Derby, 1906, every First Prize, two Seconds, and the Champion were won; an unequalled success!! Champions Birmingham, 1905, over all breeds, Reserve in 1906. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Short-wools, Smithfield, 1904-05-06. Highest average past 13 years. Bridford Fair, Aug. 12, 100 Ram Lambs, annual sale. Selections for Sale.

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1907.—Extraordinary records: Twin ram lambs let for 205 and 120 guineas. Ninety averaged £21 10s. Selections always for Sale.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. The Cholderton flock is individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded in the Hampshire Down Flock Book. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury

OVEY, R. L., Hernes, Henley-on-Thames.—Pedigree HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK, Reg. Vol. IV. Prize winners leading shows last five years.

SHEEP—*continued.*

OXFORD DOWNS.

ADAMS, GEORGE, Royal Prize Farm Flock, Faringdon, Berks. Pure Oxford Down Sheep, Shearling Rams, Ram Lambs, Ewes and Ewe Lambs for Sale. Special arrangements with foreign buyers. Many first prizes at R.A.S.E and other shows during past 25 years, including 2 first, 2 second, and 4 other prizes, World's Fair, Chicago, and 7 firsts, 4 seconds and champion at Royal Bath and West, Royal Counties, etc., this year.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

TREADWELL, JOHN, Upper Winchendon, Aylesbury.—Oxford Down Sheep. Annual Ram Sale, first Wednesday in August. Prizes won at R.A.S.E. 24 years in succession. Ewes for Sale.

WENSLEYDALE.

UNDERLEY WENSLEYDALES (Blue-faced), from the best blood obtainable. Successfully exhibited.—Apply, G. G. ROBINSON Bailiff, Underley Farm, Kirkby, Lonsdale.

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

CHARLES SPENCER, having taken over the Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts, herd of Large and Middle White Pigs, which won 12 prizes and reserves with 11 exhibits at Derby Royal, will price any of them.

FULWOOD HERD LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES, property R. R. Rothwell. 200 head bred from winners at leading shows.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for Sale at moderate prices

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices.—J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM. Herd of Large White Pigs. The oldest and largest Herd in Notts County. Over 100 Breeding Sows kept. Upwards of 600 to select from. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—Apply ARTHUR A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale—FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 100 to choose from. Correspondence invited. Grand young breeding stock always on Sale.—Apply R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts (15 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

SPALDING HERD of Pedigree Large Whites, young stock and in-pig Gilts for Sale. All bred from great winners.—ALFRED W. WHITE, "Hillegom," Spalding.

MIDDLE WHITES.

THE CATTON HERD of Prize-winning MIDDLE WHITE PIGS, property of J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stock Boar Castlecroft Mikado, 1st Park Royal, 1st Bath and West. Gelts and Boars on Sale. Prices moderate.—Apply BAILIFF, Raddle Farm, Edingale, Tamworth.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

PIGS—*continued.*

LARGE BLACKS.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath, Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London) Pedigree Large Black Pigs of the best strains of blood, noted for their docility and for the production of a large proportion of lean meat. Good selection of Boars, unrelated Gilts, and in-pig Sows for Sale at reasonable prices.

CATTON HERD OF PRIZE-WINNING LARGE BLACK PIGS. Stock Boar Treasurer Excelsior 1427, 1st Devon County, 2nd and Reserve Champion Royal Show, 1906; pigs kept in hardy but real condition; gelts and boars always on sale.—Apply, J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stations: Croxall, 2½ miles (M.R.); Alrewas, 3½ miles (L.N.W.).

HASKETON CHAMPION PRIZE HERD OF LARGE BLACK PIGS.—This herd has won the Royal championship three out of four times, and is the only herd having won the breed challenge cup. Record: 47 firsts, 37 seconds, 11 thirds, 126 prize-winning cards; the herd this year being the winners of 14 firsts, 6 seconds, 2 thirds, championship and silver cup in five shows. Gelts and Boars at moderate prices consistent with quality. Exportation a speciality.—Apply, C. F. MARRINER, Hasketon, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS.—Select Herd, bred from choice Prize Winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale, moderate prices.—H. J. CLARKE, The Slade, Roughley, Sutton Coldfield.

WHEN Breeding, breed from the best Pedigree Large Black Prize-winning Pigs. TREVEGLOS HOPEFUL II., winner of First prizes and R.A.S.E. Silver Challenge Cup, 1907, beating all other Cup winners; also 1st Prize Bath and West, Newport; 1st Royal Counties, Maidenhead; 1st Royal Cornwall, Liskeard; 1st Devon County, Bideford; also 1st prize at the Royal Show, Lincoln, for Boar and Reserve for Champion prize. Boars and Sows for Sale of the above strain at moderate prices.—Apply to JOHN WARNE, Treveglos Farm, St. Mabyn, R.S.O., Cornwall.

BERKSHIRES.

CARNARVON, the Earl of.—Prize winning Pedigree Herd. BOARS and GELTS, eligible Herd Book. Prices moderate.—Apply W. T. HALL, Highclere Farm, Newbury.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge. Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

READING CORPORATION.—150 Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, leading prize-winning strains, from son of Champion Mikado 10433 and prize-winner Domino 11323; inspection invited.—Apply, Mr. T. Chettle, Manor Farm, Reading, Berks.

STALL PITTS HERD OF PEDIGREE BERKSHIRES. One of the Oldest Herds. Unsurpassed for true character, size, and quality. Choice selection of Boars and Sows on offer at moderate prices.—J. LAWRENCE, Stall Pitts, Shrivenham, Berks.

BORROWFIELD & COLSTON HERDS.

The property of R. MILLINGTON-KNOWLES, Colston Bassett Hall, Notts.

LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES.

The following First Prizes, Championships, and Medals have been obtained by pigs **BRED** in these Herds in 1907:

1st and Champion, Gold Medal, R.A.S.E., Lincoln.
1st & Champion, President's Medal, Highland, Edinburgh.
1st Welsh National, Aberystwyth.
1st Bath and West Newport; 1st Royal Counties.
1st Nottingham; 1st Suffolk; 1st Norfolk.
1st Derby.
1st Hereford and Worcester; Special Prize Lincoln Agricultural Society; 1st Great Yorkshire; 1st Newark.

A number of additional Firsts and other Prizes have also been gained at the above Shows.

At the St. Louis Exposition, U.S.A., in 1904, the Champion Boar, and the Grand Champion of the Exposition were bred at Colston Bassett.

The Foreign and Home trade has largely increased during 1907.—GILBERT H. ELLIOT, Estate Office, Colston Bassett, Notts.

For Sale.

PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.

Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.

GEORGE HOYLES,
Skidby Manor, near Hull.

GEORGE HOYLES

SKIDBY MANOR, HULL.

Breeder of Pure Lincoln Long Wool Sheep.

Lustrous Fleeces. Good Constitutions.

SUITABLE FOR HOME AND ABROAD. STOCK FOR SALE.

40 guineas; bull calf, Mr. H. George, York, 27 guineas; Lady Charming Barrington, Mr. G. Williams, Cardiff, 58 guineas; bull calf, Mr. W. Arkell, Fairford, 42 guineas; Roan Gem, Mr. J. T. Nickels, Shrewsbury, 54 guineas; the calf of Barrington Mayoress 2nd, Mr. A. Britten, Great Billing, 75 guineas; Invincible Belle, Mr. H. K. Turnor, Lincoln, 63 guineas; Barrington Duchess, calf, Messrs. S. E Dean and Son, Bourne, 35 guineas; Acomb Scottish Bride 2nd, Mr. W. J. Morgan, Rickmansworth, 47 guineas; bull calf, Messrs. S. E. Dean and Son, Bourne, 38 guineas; Waresley Maritana, Mr. G. Williams, Cardiff, 70 guineas; Fairy Duchess 28th, Mr. W. M. Cazalet, Tonbridge, 61 guineas; Frost 95th, Mr. F. Ames, Worcester, 50 guineas; Golden Lady's calf, Mr. J. T. Nichols, 40 guineas; Barrington Belle 3rd, Duke of Portland, 42 guineas; Fairy Princess, Mr. H. K. Turnor, Liveden, 57 guineas; Joan, Mr. F. H. Thornton, Kingsthorpe, 40 guineas; Duchess of Barrington 97th, Lord Manvers, Nottingham, 160 guineas; Invincible Lass, Mr. E. Casares (for export to South America), 100 guineas; Acomb Scottish Bride 3rd, Captain Duncombe, Waresby, 44 guineas; Lady Lavender 4th, Mr. J. L. Stockburn, Kettering, 41 guineas; Fairy Glen, Mr. Wilkinson, 41 guineas; Barrington Belle 4th, Mr. F. H. Jennings, Cockfield, Suffolk, 43 guineas; Drayton Pearl, Duke of Portland, 51 guineas; Fairy Dell, Mr. Wilkinson, 43 guineas; Corisande 17th, Mr. Casares, 110 guineas; Waterloo Duchess, Mr. H. Dudding, Riley, Lincolnshire, 110 guineas; Drayton Maritana, Captain Harrison, Lichfield, 51 guineas; Drayton Gem 3rd, Mr. Nichols, 50 guineas; Barrington Duchess 35th, H.M. the King, Sandringham, 51 guineas; Duchess of Barrington 100th, Mr. F. H. Jennings, 46 guineas; Drayton Gem 5th, Captain Duncombe, 60 guineas.

Bulls.—Primrose Earl, Sir R. P. Cooper, Lichfield, 255 guineas; Golden Grove Duke, Mr. Langdon, 28 guineas; Duke of Barrington 95th, Mr. Doncaster, Sleaford, 35 guineas; Pearl King, Mr. T. B. Measures, Aldwinckle, 36 guineas; Charming Crown, Mr. George Bell, 59 guineas.

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LARGEST AND OLDEST LIVE STOCK AGENCY. ESTABLISHED 1878.
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Yearling Wethers, 45s. to 50s.	Dairy-bred Heifers for bulling, £8 to £10.
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CROSS HILL, near SHREWSBURY.

RAILWAY ANNOUNCEMENT.

LONDON AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.

DAIRY SHOW, to be held at the AGRICULTURAL HALL, LONDON, OCTOBER 8 to 11, 1907, The London and North Western Railway Company have made arrangements for Through Vans for the conveyance of Exhibits to be run to London on Monday, October 7. Consignments from the Branch Lines, and from Nottingham, Peterboro', Oxford, Cambridge, &c., will be placed in these Vans at the various Junctions. Conveyance Rates can be obtained at the various Stations on the Line. Arrangements will also be made for the return of the Traffic in Through Vans at the close of the Show, and Exhibitors are requested to order their Consignments "per London and North Western Railway." The Company's representatives will be at the Show to answer enquiries with regard to the arrangements for the return journey. All information can be obtained of the Superintendent of the Line, Euston Station, London; the Company's District Superintendent, Euston Station, London; or Mr. I. T. WILLIAMS, Broad Street Station, London, E.C.

FREDERICK HARRISON,
General Manager.

General Manager's Office, Euston Station, London, N.W., eptember, 1907

LONDON AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.

KENNEL CLUB'S DOG SHOW, to be held at the CRYSTAL PALACE, OCTOBER 22 to 24, 1907. The London and North Western Railway Company will make arrangements for Through Vans for the conveyance of Dogs to be run to the Crystal Palace on Monday, October 21. Consignments from the Branch Lines, and from Nottingham, Peterboro', Oxford, Cambridge, &c., will be placed in these Vans at the various Junctions. Conveyance Rates can be obtained at the various Stations on the Line. Arrangements will also be made for the return of the Traffic in Through Vans at the close of the Show, and Exhibitors are requested to order their Consignments "per London and North Western Railway." The Company's representatives will be at the Show to answer enquiries with regard to the arrangements for the return journey. All information can be obtained of Mr. ROBERT TURNBULL, Superintendent of the Line, Euston Station, London; the Company's District Superintendent, Mr. H. A. WALKER, Euston Station, London; or Mr. I. T. WILLIAMS, Broad Street Station, London, E.C.

FREDERICK HARRISON,
General Manager.

SOCIETIES.

SMITHFIELD CLUB FAT STOCK SHOW, DECEMBER 9 to 13, 1907, at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington. Entries close as follows: Implement Department, October 1; pest entries, October 5. Live Stock (Cattle, Sheep, Pigs for Carcase Competition and Dead Poultry), November 1; post entries, November 5.—Prize lists, entry forms, and other information can be obtained on application to E. J. POWELL, Secretary, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

DAIRY SHOW, AGRICULTURAL HALL, LONDON, N.
TUESDAY till FRIDAY. OCT. 8 to 11.
CATTLE, GOATS, POULTRY, PIGEONS.
ALL KINDS OF DAIRY PRODUCE, APPLIANCES, MILKING & BUTTER TESTS. BUTTER MAKING, Etc.
BAND OF H.M. IRISH GUARDS.
Tuesday, Oct. 8: 2s. 6d., from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; 1s, from 6 to 10 p.m.
Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday: 1s., from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Cheap Excursions on Principal Lines.

THAME AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.
Show will be held on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1907.

Entries close as follows:—Dry Sheep, Class 8, March 5; Wet Sheep, Class 5, 6 and 7, April 16; Hedging, Classes 9 and 10, March 26; Servitude and Ploughing Classes, August 31; Horses, Cattle and Sheep, Roots, Honey, Poultry, Butter and Eggs, August 31; Rick Building and Thatching, September 16.

I. BUSH, Secretary.

EAST BERKS HORSE SHOW SOCIETY.
12TH ANNUAL SHOW, AUGUST, 1908.
Foal Futurity Classes for Hunter and Shire Brood Mares.
First Instalment of Entry Fees due on or before 1st October, 1907.
Schedules and full particulars of the Hon. Sec., C. H. W. DIXON, 4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

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PEAFOWLS and SWANS. Largest stock in England. All varieties kept.—WHEADON, Ilminster.

PURE WHITE OLD ENGLISH GAME FOWLS, splendid birds, 10s. each.—Hon. FRANCIS DAWNAY, Easthorpe Hall, Malton, Yorkshire.

FOR SALE.—Buff Wyandotte Cockerels, April hatched, pure bred, 3s. 6d. each.—LADY MURIEL COVENTRY, Monkton Park, Chippenham.

40 ENORMOUS FULLY-GROWN FEATHERED GOSLINGS, make immense weights, fat, 4s. each, carriage paid six. No small birds on offer.—MILLHOUSE POULTRY YARDS, Ullesthorpe.

48 FULLY-GROWN DUCKLINGS, fat in week, 24s. dozen; very large; great bargain. Approval.—MILLHOUSE POULTRY YARDS, Ullesthorpe.

50 ENORMOUS HEAVY BONED COCK TURKEYS, March hatched; make immense weights, fat, 7s. 6d. each. 50 superb hens, 5s. 6d. each, carriage paid six.—MILLHOUSE POULTRY YARDS, Ullesthorpe.

100 Crossbred Pullets, make extra good, winter layers, 28/- doz., carr. paid; near laying.—MILLHOUSE POULTRY YARDS, Ullesthorpe, Rugby.

100 Laying Pullets (1906), 30/- doz. carr. paid.—MILLHOUSE, Ullesthorpe, Rugby.

PULLETS for laying, first cross, Feb., March and April (1907). Pullets, selected from the finest possible layers, consisting of Orpington Leghorn, Minorca Leghorn, Rock Langshan, Rock Leghorn, Houdan Leghorn, Leghorn Houdan, Minorcas, Leghorn Cochin, Faverolle Leghorn, and other good crosses. Guaranteed to make some of the finest layers in England; perfect health and pink of condition. All orders, however small, shall have the best attention, and any not giving perfect satisfaction can be returned, 3/- each; 33/- doz., carr. paid, six. Give a fair honest price and get it back in eggs.—MILLHOUSE POULTRY YARDS, Ullesthorpe, Rugby.

LARGE QUANTITIES WANTED. regular supply of real New-laid Eggs; producers only please reply; no dealers; good price over best local market; bank references given.—S. MILLS, 1, Swiss Terrace, South Hampstead.

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FASTEST TO CANADA.
NEW "EMPRESS" MAIL STEAMERS (4 DAYS OPEN SEA). Weekly from Liverpool. Work and Wages Pamphlet free. Emigrants met at Liverpool by C.P. officials.
For Passages, apply C.P. Rly., 62, Charing Cross, S.W.; 67, King William Street, E.C., or Local Agent.

"LAW FOR THE HOUSEHOLDER," by a Barrister-at-Law. A book published to supply every householder with information on matters of personal interest. Price 1s. (by post 1s. 2d.).—W. A. MAY, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, W.C.

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in these pages will greatly oblige and assist us by mentioning
The Mark Lane Express
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MISCELLANEOUS.

OIL ENGINES.—Cundall's Patent Engines are the simplest to work. Sole Makers, CUNDALL, SONS & Co., LTD., Shipley, Yorks.

LADDERS, with wood sides, galvanised tube round, from 6d. per round, carriage paid.—JONES & Co., Sedgley.

GALVANISED CORRUGATED SHEETS, best quality, 24 gauge, 14s.; 26 gauge, 15s. 6d. per cwt.; second quality, 24 gauge, 13s.; 26 gauge, 14s. per cwt. BARBED WIRE, English make, 16s; foreign, 14s. per cwt. Wrought Iron Standards, 6ft. 6in. long, 1s. 3d. each. Roofing Felt, Wire Netting, Black Varnish, Red Oxide Nails, Bolts, Nuts, Screws and Washers.—BUTLER, Bell Works, Wolverhampton. Established 1828.

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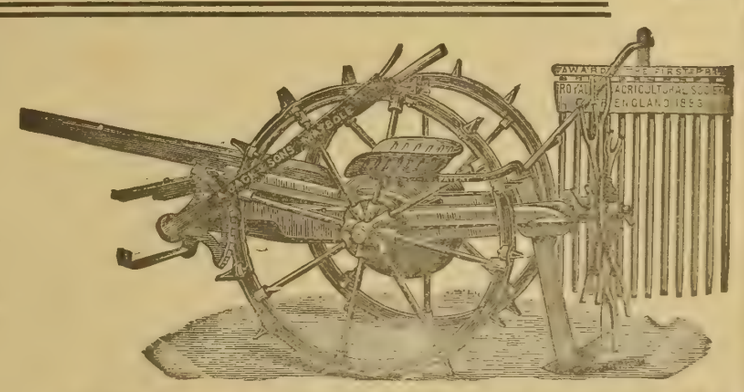
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Seasonable Topics.

Hirings Then and Now.

A SHORT time ago we passed through an old town in a West Country shire on the occasion of the annual hiring fair. All the difference we noticed was a larger number of people than usual standing about the market square, and while many of them had the typical towny look about them one could see from the bronzed faces of others, the slouching gait, and the somewhat awkward fit of their Sunday clothes that they hailed from the country and were out for a day's holiday, if for nothing more. Indeed, just a few had the time-honoured bit of whipcord in their buttonholes to show that they were open for service, and this seemed to be the only real connection between the 'Mops Monday" of then and now. Not quite, however, for standing on the kerbstone and eying with infinite disgust a motor car in the road, was an old man who needed two sticks to support and help him along. He was evidently wound up ready to talk, and began by saying, "I ain't missed a mops for over forty year and sha'nt as long as I can come, but bless you, how things is altered. Why, I've seen this market packed wi' masters and men, hiring and being hired, and I got my first place at this very corner, but now look at 'em, there's hardly a likely looking farm chap in the whole crowd. Fact is, they won't have it; service sounds too much loike hard work, and youths nowadays wants to begin late and leave off early, wi' their footballin' of a Saturday and all the rest of it. Not as they are any better off as I can see, and there's a lot standing about here now in their collars and cuffs as looks as if a good meal 'ud do 'em a power o' good. Dry! well, sir, I could do wi' a cup of cider if there's such a thing to be got in any of these town pubs." We thought the latter offer would be the likeliest means of appeasing the old man, who was sad at heart about the modern and, in his eyes, disastrous changes that have come over the hiring fair.

Harvest Home.

THE profits of farmers have been so reduced of late years that many of the acts of generosity towards those under them, which were common in the old days, have had to be dropped, and, amongst them, the keeping of harvest home is no longer the annual event that it used to be. Still it has not dropped out entirely, and there are farms on which the labourers and their wives and families are invited to a festive gathering at the homestead every year when the harvest is safely gathered in. We need not go into the details of it, the wholesome viands, and the eating and drinking, as only farm men know how to do it, followed by the jollifications in the barn, and the singing of the old-fashioned songs, which are only heard on such occasions, and then rolled out in a manner which at any rate has heartiness to recommend it. What we mostly regard with favour about the harvest home is its tendency to maintain a spirit of sympathy and good fellowship between employer and employed, which we fear is being largely obliterated under modern conditions of labour. It is said that there is no room for sentiment in the business relations of master and man, but we are not so sure of this, and if sentiment is squeezed out altogether it will be all the worse for both. As a matter of fact, it is that spirit of sentiment which binds the two together, and one sees it displayed on the occasion of harvest home.



Photo by FOR THE HARVEST BREAKFAST. [*Clarke and Hyde*]

In Cambridgeshire the rabbits caught and killed by the farm hands during the progress of reaping a cornfield are sold by auction to the highest bidder, and the proceeds are put towards a fund for what is known as "Harvest Breakfast," which takes place when the harvest is finished. Our illustration shows an auction sale in progress.

Gathering Apples.

UNFORTUNATELY there are not many to gather this season, which is all the more reason why the most should be made of them. We have often had to say with regret that the orchard is the most neglected item on many a farm, and this extends even to the harvesting of the fruit. On those farms where apples are grown for sale there is nothing to complain of in the prices this year, and most growers are tempted to dispose of the fruit direct from the trees. But fruit is also wanted for the home supply through the winter in most establishments, and the way in which in many cases it is battered off the trees is simply appalling. To begin with, late apples will not keep in a sound, fresh condition if they are picked too soon, and the test is to lift a fruit from its hanging position to an upright one, and if ready the stalk will be severed without any tugging. Good fruit is worth taking care of; ladders should be fixed in the orchard trees, and in picking the apples they should not be handled roughly or bruised. If the idea is keeping for future use, only sound specimens should be selected, and if placed on the floor of grainery or cheese room, as is often the case, it is best to place the fruit in heaps three or four deep than in single layers, as apples help to preserve each other. A cool, even, and not too dry atmosphere is best for apples.

A Good Idea.

WE learn that it is the custom of the Board of Guardians at Faversham, in Kent, to allow the children in the workhouse to go hop-picking in the season, with the double object of giving them a little relaxation outside the routine of the house, and teaching them to be useful. It need not be asked whether the youngsters enjoy the outing, and, what is equally as much to the point, they have this year earned the substantial sum of £16 7s, but of this amount the guardians have placed £10 to the children's summer outing fund, and each child has had 3s. added to its account in the Post-office savings bank, with a little encouragement in the shape of 6d. to spend. We consider this to be a capital idea, which other guardians might make a note of. Of course, hop-picking can only be done in districts where hops are grown, but in most districts there is work at certain seasons that boys can do, and it would be a welcome change for the union children to get outside the walls of the house for a spell. We know a certain reformatory school where the lads are hired out for different farm operations, and the demand for their services is so great at busy times that the authorities of the school have difficulty in supplying it.

Record-Breaking Rams.

THERE can be no doubt that the Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep Breeders' Association has made itself felt, and the value of the breed which takes its name from the historical Romney Marsh is recognised in the mutton and wool-producing lands on the other side of the world. At the annual sale at Ashford at the close of September as fine a lot of sheep were penned as anyone need wish to see, and buyers from all parts of the world were represented. It was a day of record breaking, and Mr. W. File's ram teg which won the prize for the best woolled ram was bought by Mr. Murray for New Zealand for 150 guineas, and another teg belonging to the same breeder fetched 130 guineas. The previous record price was 120 guineas paid for a ram at last year's sale. Well done Romney Marsh! It is good to know that the old country still has the blood.

Manuring.

THE harvest is now finished, and teams are at liberty, but up to the time of writing there has been no rain, and in many places the land is so hard and baked that ploughing is out of the question. One task, however, may be got on with—namely, that of carting manure out on to the land, and, generally speaking, for this operation there could be no better time than the present. In the first place, the ground is hard, which is very desirable for manure drawing, and in due course we shall be sure to have the rain, which will make a quagmire of the land, while it is possible that we may not have hard frost this side of Christmas. Autumn is a good time for carting manure on to meadow land, as the goodness from it is soaked gently on to the roots with small risk of it being washed off the land. The best time for manuring arable land is a question of conditions. Generally speaking, it may be carted on to the stubble now and ploughed in with advantage, but if the medium happens to be very light there is the danger of the plant food from the dung being washed into the subsoil by winter rains, and to avoid this spring manuring is better in the latter circumstances.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

The Villages and the Anti-Socialist Campaign.

Of course, the landed interest is directly involved in the anti-Socialistic campaign which is now being so vigorously initiated. The nationalisation of the land is one of the most immediate ambitions of the Socialistic crusade. However, there is one consideration which should be present to the minds of those associated with this antagonistic propaganda. They appeal directly and explicitly to the middle-classes, who must, of course, include the farmers. Every section of those middle-classes should, they declare, unite in a continuous exposure of what they regard as the futilities of Socialism—no public occasion should be allowed to pass without couching a lance at the new economy. Well, supposing farmers and the propertied elements of the villages were to do this, what might be the sequel? At present the villages are outside the ken of the Socialist evangelists. They cannot find in those villages a theme even for exploitation at the annual Trades' Union Congress. Once, however, an assault on Socialism were conducted in the villages you would not find your Arcadias any longer neglected. The failure of the village agitation which the Socialists ventured upon a decade ago, was attributable to the fact that the faith was beyond the mental appreciation of the villagers, and the propagandists were not prepared to go in for elementary instructional spade-work. Once, however, assailing debates and discussions were conducted, it would not be long ere intelligent interest was evoked. There never was a fad promulgated since the dawn of day on this globe which did not soon secure for itself recruits and disciples. We are as emotional to-day as when Joanna Southcott lived. In the experience of Socialism attack means growth. At present the villages are outside the Socialist sphere of influence. Is it wise to drag them within the turbulent area?

* * *

Should the Villagers Hold Aloof?

That the leaders in this antagonistic movement think it well to appeal to the counties is apparent. The *Daily Telegraph* is the chief journalistic exponent of anti-Socialism; and I find that it has published news from the remotest market towns—somnolent little centres of rural activity which have hitherto been unmoved by the new eddying political forces that war in the towns—as to how far it is possible to checkmate the red campaign. Buckingham, Chelmsford, Chichester Aylesbury, Kendal, Wilton, Salisbury, and Ashford are among the places in which, apparently, the tocsin is to be sounded. Socialism, however, has no or little influence in either. Why, then, seek to sound there the knell of a faith which really is non-existent? You won't sound the knell at all—you will perform the part of a parent rather than of a gravedigger. You will evoke that spirit of inquiry which is bound to be, in a more or less degree, the preface to sympathy. The villagers are for the moment subjected only to the conventional political faiths. The comprehend the distinction between a Liberal and a Conservative, but they haven't yet sufficient subtlety of appreciation to distinguish between Radicalism of the individualistic school (a very decaying quantity, by the way) and Radicalism of the Socialistic school, or that Radicalism which is Socialism pure and simple. Is it better, as these anti-Socialistic protagonists suggest, to anticipate the evil, and thus to be in a sense its advocate, or to leave the villagers for a while in their present condition of indifference? The Socialists are in a belligerent mood, and if they are assailed in the villages—now almost derided by them—to the villages they will hie.

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Is the Opportunity Being Neglected?

I repeat a question which I have already asked—how far are the organisations which it is assumed look after the weal of the British farmer taking steps with a view to British food-producers reaping an advantage from Mr. John Burns Foods Regulations Act? This measure seeks to kill—and I believe will kill—the trade in the filthy and putrescent cheap food-products, which have been sold in such vast quantities in England to the great physical hurt of the British people. It is a very simple Bill, and wisely so. It gives power to the Local Government Board to impose such regulations as it deems desirable in checking this traffic. It does not in itself impose rigid regulations. If it did, the astute Transatlantic traders would only find in them a subtle invitation to evade them. It gives the Board power to make such regulations as it may deem fit to meet the dodgery of this unhallowed competition. The Board is conceded power to checkmate every counter-more of the heroes of "The Jungle" revelations. I believe that this measure provides an opportunity for the British food-producers such as has not been vouchsafed them for fifty years. The Local Government Board is in itself a great food-consumer. What steps are being taken to derive the advantage of its apparent desire to encourage the consumption of wholesome home-produced foods? How far are the distributors of British food products being encouraged to secure the contracts of the multitude of establishments which are under the final control of the Local Government Board? If this opportunity be lost, then we shall see the very Vendors of this offal-food deriving an advantage from this measure. They will simply conform to the sanitary standard demanded by the Local Government Board—they would even do this rather than lose the trade.

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The Labourer and the Price of his Necessities.

A correspondent of mine in the southern counties propounds an interesting question: "To what extent do you think the agricultural labourers would be induced to vote Tory by the recent rise in the price of the domestic necessities of the poor? Remember that the labourers were chiefly induced to vote Liberal by the cheap-food cry." Well, in all sooth, 'tis a pretty speculation. Coal has gone up, sugar has gone up, and bread is going up. Of course, the Radical will claim that the increase in the price of coal has nought whatever to do—as even the *Times* has admitted—with the Ministerial policy, that the price of sugar is due really to the operation of that Conservative instrument the Brussels Convention, and that the price of bread is due to influences over which no Government, whatever its complexion, could have averted or avoided. There is certainly much in these contentions; but can the rural labourer be expected to examine into their justification? Two contrasting facts confront him. The first is that the Liberals at the general election proclaimed that their return to Parliamentary power was absolutely necessary if the price of the domestic necessities of the poor was not to be heightened. The second is that after nineteen months of Liberal administration the price of three vital necessities of the poor has been heightened. The Liberal explanation of the causes of this increased price has too much of casuistry and subtlety associated with it to be acceptable to the ordinary labourer. The real matter to him is the enhanced price. That slaps him in the face with the pact of a bludgeon. Frankly, I do not personally hold the Government responsible in either instance. Ministers are the victims of unfortunate and unavoidable influences. Still they must suffer the penalty of the dramatic contrast of the present public experience and of their electoral pretensions.

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A Second Means of Inter-Transit.

The prospect of a great railway strike—now, fortunately, less ominous than it was a week since—must once more tend to deepen the revive the canal and river system of anxiety to Great Britain. How far is the Board of Trade in sympathy with the movement? True, it has appointed a committee of inquiry; but to what extent is Mr Lloyd-George prepared to encourage and even to apply a practical scheme? The mere fact that a city like Worcester should have appointed a committee to consider by what means Worcester could be, in the event of a railway strike, secured river and canal communication with Bristol, protrudes into an admirable relief the importance of this matter. The canals and rivers should provide for Great Britain a subsidiary and secondary means of intercommunication. The existence of this secondary means is absolutely a national necessity; and the varying Governments which connived by their indifference and apathy in the death of the canal system—for this is what the purchase of the canals by great railway combinations meant—were guilty of a national crime. A second system of intercommunication would mitigate in a very large degree the paralysing influence which a national railway strike must have on industries like the agricultural industry. If Mr. Lloyd-George has been quickened to an appreciation of this fact we may even have reason to be thankful for the industrial alarums and excursions of the last week or two.

At Peterborough Bridge Fair, held on Wednesday, horses and cattle were in large supply, but the demand was not great, though the best sold readily. Good bullocks made up to £20 15s., but there was most inquiry for store beasts at £11 to £17. Lincoln Reds sold well. Cows in calf made up to £20, and three-year-old Herefords up to £18. Cart horses realised fair prices, useful five-year-old geldings realising £70, vanners £30 to £35, Welsh ponies £7 to £17, Hunters and riding horses £38 to £65, and nags £15 to £25 each. Hampshire and Oxford Down rams made £4 to £7.

DAIRY.

The Dairy Show.

Everyone concerned in the production and distribution of milk and its by-products is represented among the 8,175 exhibits and persons enrolled in the comprehensive classes arranged for the great National Dairy Show at Islington. This popular exhibition begins for the thirty-second successive year at the Agricultural Hall on Tuesday morning, and until Friday evening the building will be the centre of a continual round of contests for the valuable prizes offered, totalling £2,600, by the British Dairy Farmers' Association and other generous donors.

The mayor and Corporation of London contribute six champion cups, Lord Blyth offers a silver bowl, Lord Northbourne provides £30 as rewards for women milkers, and there are numerous other special premiums, such as the Barham and Spencer Challenge Cups (value £50 and 50 guineas respectively), £10 offered by the Shorthorn Society, £19 and medals given by the English Jersey Cattle Society, a cup presented by the English Kerry and Dexter Cattle Society, the British Goat Society's Challenge Cup, the late Baroness Burdett-Coutts' Challenge Cups, medals offered by the Worshipful Company of Poulters, and a number of others.

Cattle to the number of 237 are entered in the classes devoted to Shorthorns, Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns, Jerseys, Guernseys, Red Polls, Ayrshires, Kerries, Dexters, and cows "of any other breed or cross." The latter are to be used for the milkers' contests. A sum of £43 was set aside for South Devon cows, but, unfortunately, only two entries were forthcoming, and the class has been cancelled for want of competition. Most of the animals compete for two sets of prizes: in the first place, those awarded for appearance; and, secondly, for performance—the awards in this case being dependent upon a series of points for the weight of milk produced on Wednesday and Thursday, as well as for the butter fat and other solids it contains.

That there are some cows which, even at the Dairy Show, refuse to yield milk of the quality demanded by the Board of Agriculture, is evident by the provision that certain deductions are to be made for every time the fat is below 3 per cent., or the "solids other than fat" fall below 8·5 per cent. The remarkable growth of interest on the part of farmers in the milking trials and butter tests is a matter of great encouragement to those who have devoted themselves for many years to this method of helping to develop the milking capacity of the different breeds of dairy cows. There is plenty of scope for greater efforts in the same direction. For these very practical trials the entries this year number 245. Incidentally it may be mentioned that all the bulls shown are the direct descendants of dams that have won prizes in previous milking trials or butter tests.

Goats are present in sufficient force to illustrate the different types that are now most in favour, the forty-eight specimens including some very notable ones.

One of the most striking features of this year's exhibition is the exceptionally large display of British cheese, the total being over 50 per cent. greater than the average of former years. This is mainly the result of greater liberalty in the prize money, and the inclusion of one or two additional classes. The work of the judges of Cheddar and Cheshire cheese will be especially onerous, while the fact of one of the City Corporation's prizes being available for Stilton has caused an increased competition among makers of that variety. Other sorts included in the exhibition are Wensleydale, Lancashire, Leicester, Derby, Double Gloster, Single Gloster, Caerphilly, and several kinds of soft cheese. Nearly all these varieties contribute towards the increase in this department. Bacon and hams are shown by more curers than have sent their products to Islington for some years past.

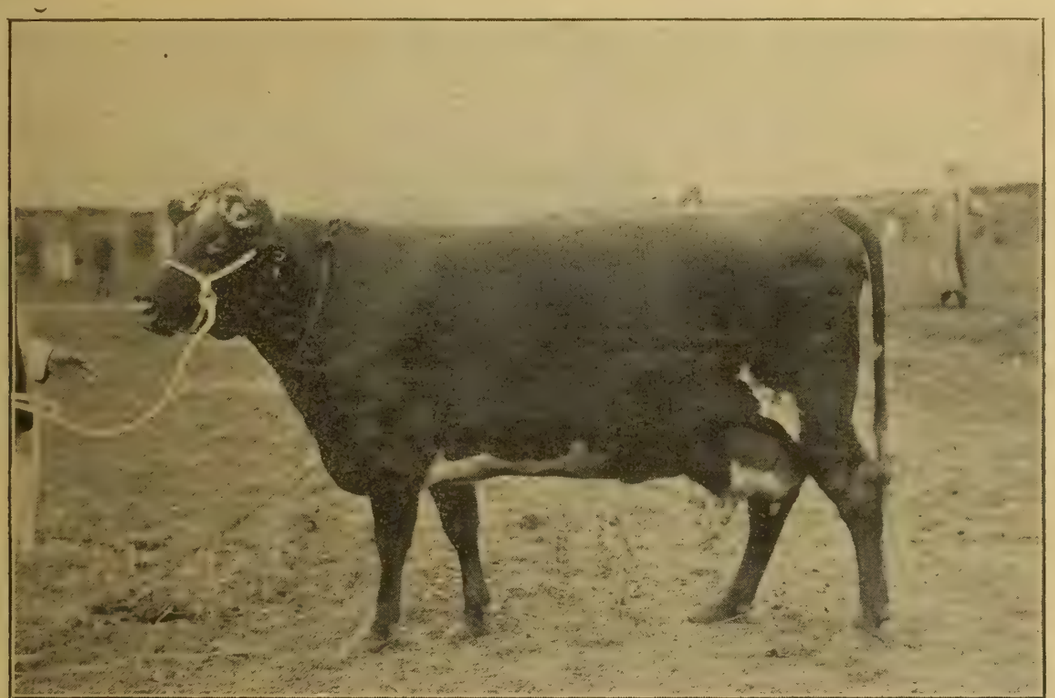
Butter and cream again occupied a considerable portion of the minor hall, the exhibits coming principally from the best-known British dairies, many Irish creameries sending nearly all the "cured" butter except that which comes from the colonies. In deference to the wish of colonial exhibitors, their butter will be judged according to a scale of points for flavour, texture, colour, packing, and (in the case of salt butter) for salting.

Bread and scones mixed with skim milk in lieu of water constitute another section of the show. Apparently the only weak department is that for honey, but this is not surprising when we remember that the past season has been one of the worst experienced by apiarians for many years.

Roots make more than average representation, and are shown to better advantage than formerly, being assigned a more favourable position. The collections of roots, kale, kohl-rabi, and cabbages, for cattle feeding in winter, are specially noticeable, while the information afforded as to the nature of the soil in which exhibit was grown, the name of the seed, and the manurial treatment will be appreciated by other growers.

Always alive to the importance of encouraging perfect cleanliness in every department of the dairy, the authorities of the show have this year offered prizes for milk strainers, or strainers and filters combined, capable of dealing other than by centrifugal force with 100 gallons of milk in an hour. The object is to meet the want of an appliance that will remove all visible sediment in a reasonable time. For these prizes there are ten entries, and in view of their extremely varying character and price (the latter ranging from 7s. 6d. to £6 16s. 6d.) the trials are likely to prove of much interest. Among other inventions relating to the dairy industry may be mentioned a milking machine (to be shown in operation on six cows), a new system of milk distribution, milk and cream receptacles made of wood pulp paper and fluid-proofing material, apparatus for measuring and filling bottles, and several improvements in relation to railway churns, butter churns and cream separators.

Reference remains to be made to the enormous interest which continues to be felt among dairymaids and milkmaids, as well as boy and men milkers, in the competitions reserved for them. For the butter-making competitions there are exactly 200 entries, and for the milkers' contests 135. Both of these will be in progress on each day of the show, and on Friday afternoon, when the Lord Mayor visits the exhibition, the Lady Mayoress has promised to present as many as possible of the prizes. Of milkers, both sexes compete in about equal number, there being sixty-six men and boys, and sixty-nine women and girls. It is noticeable that these are not drawn from the immediate neighbourhood of London, and it is characteristic of the widely-diffused interest in the show generally to find that they come from Scotland, Wales, and as many as thirty English counties, ranging from Durham to Cornwall.



The Shorthorn Dairy Cow Priceless Princess, shown above, won the First Prize for Shorthorn Dairy Cows, in milk, calved previously to or in 1902, and the Dairy Shorthorn Association's Champion Prize for the best animal in the Shorthorn Dairy Cattle Classes at the Royal Agricultural Society's Show at Lincoln this year. She was born February 10, 1902, sire Golden Noble, dam Princess Raglan, and was bred and exhibited by Mr. C. R. W. Adeane, Babraham Hall, Cambridge.

The galleries are occupied with an enormous collection of poultry and pigeons, and of appliances connected with their culture. The assemblage of domestic poultry will be found to be one of the finest, both from a utilitarian and ornamental point of view, that has ever been gathered together. Prominence is given to the Orpingtons, the breed that has gained such a notoriety for excellence of flesh as a table fowl as well as egg-producing qualities. Mention should also be made of the Wyandottes and Plymouth Rocks, of which there are some magnificent specimens.

Amongst the egg-producing races the Leghorns and Minorcas contribute largely to the excellence of the display. Many of the large breeds are to be seen reproduced in miniature in the Bantam room. It is really wonderful what the art and perseverance of breeders have done in presenting in pigmy form the exact type and plumage markings seen in the large races of fowls. Waterfowl, turkeys, and dead poultry for table purposes add to the attractiveness of this department.

The exhibitors include the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, the Duchess of Newcastle, Marquis of Downshire, Marchioness of Graham, Earl of Radnor, Earl of Mount-Edgcumbe, Earl of Plymouth, Countess of Craven, Countess De la Warr, Countess of Home, Lord Middleton, Lord Portman, Lord Rothschild, Lord Carew, Lady Grant, Lady Evelyn Cotterell, Lady Wantage, Lady Greenall, Lady de Rothschild, Sir Richard Cooper, Bart., Sir Walter Corbet, Bart.

Sir Robert Harvey, Bart., Sir Henry F. Lennard, Bart., Sir Mark J. Stewart, Bart., Sir Julius Wernher, Bart., Hon. Vere Boscawen, Hon. Gerald Hill, Hon. Claud Portman, Hon. Rear-Admiral T. S. Brand, Hon. A. Holland Hibbert, Hon. Rose E. Hubbard, Hon. Mrs. Claud Portman, Hon. Mrs. Murray Smith, Colonel Sandbach, Colonel Colvin, C.B., Major Thurlow, Lieut.-Colonel E. H. Eyre Coote, and over 2,000 others. Lord Kenyon is president for the year.

The attractions to the general public are even more abundant than before. It is true that some contests of milkers will take place before most Londoners are out of their beds—*i.e.*, at half-past seven in the morning, but provision has been made for the afternoon contests to be in full view of onlookers; while the weighing and sampling of the milk of cows competing in the milking trials and butter tests will be in the main hall instead of in one of the annexes. The butter-making competitions will occupy the greater portion of each morning, afternoon, and evening; and there will be illustrations of the making and baking of milk scones, and demonstrations of trussing and preparing poultry for market. The band of H.M. Irish Guards has been again engaged. In extent, variety and popular interest, the present dairy show seems to surpass all exhibitions of the kind. It is obvious that very great efforts have been made to bring about the success that now appears to be assured.

Below is given a comparative statement of entries for six years:—

Comparative Statement of Dairy Show Entries.

	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.
Cattle	164	182	240	237
Milking and butter tests	167	217	247	245
Goats	46	51	51	48
Poultry	2,678	3,068	3,347	3,081
Pigeons	2,426	2,440	2,573	2,664
Poultry and pigeon appliances	—	—	55	65
British cheese	250	268	255	420
Bacon and hams	46	49	39	57
Butter	556	641	578	593
Cream	44	52	42	35
Skim-milk bread, &c.	140	121	159	118
Honey, &c.	122	124	118	67
Egg and butter packages	20	—	—	—
New and improved inventions	43	22	17	33
Vehicles for conveying milk	25	—	—	—
Roots	184	170	156	177
Butter-making contests	172	206	199	200
Milkers' contests	55	66	121	135
Total..	7,138	7,677	8,197	8,175

Winter Dairying.

The importance of obtaining a uniform and steady supply of milk and its products all the year round is too evident to need argument. If the natural state of affairs is allowed to hold good, there will be a flush in the supply of milk in the spring and summer, and a falling-off in the quantity during the winter. Yet this will, in a short time, provide a natural remedy. For the short supply in the winter will raise the price of milk and butter. This will make it worth the farmer's while to adopt such changes as will enable him to provide a good supply at this short season of the year, and as a result, both he will be directly benefited by the higher rate he can command for his supply for the market, and the public will also have the advantage of an increased supply at a time of the year when such supply would tend naturally to fall off. In addition to this, the demand for butter and other fatty foods during the cold weather is greater than at any other time of the year. This can easily be explained by simple observation of animal economy.

Animals—and this includes human beings—require more fatty foods in winter in order to produce the increased heat and energy which are necessary in consequence of the diminution in the supply of external heat. The increase in heat-producing foods is necessary to supply the heat which the sun during that part of the year fails to supply in sufficient quantity. The external cold, in fact, necessitates a greater consumption of fuel in the animal body.

Heat Forming Foods.

Hence the extraordinary increase in heat-forming foods in winter. The amount consumed, in fact, by a healthy person in winter is such as would in summer be looked upon with aversion, and which would in many cases produce nausea if it had to be eaten. Yet this is eagerly devoured during the cold season of the year.

Here, then, is an accepted physical fact which offers the dairy farmer an opportunity of advantageously getting rid of an increased quantity of his goods at a higher price than usual, provided that he can supply them at the right moment, that is during the colder months.

This is not the only advantage which follows from the adoption of such a plan. Others can thus be definitely stated:—

1. A higher price can be obtained for butter, and in consequence milk also commands a higher price.

2. The dairy herd can be given more attention, and the cows being better housed and fed, yield a somewhat richer milk even if the quantity does not also increase.

3. The making of the butter can be carried on under more economical conditions since the lower temperature is more favourable for dairy operations. The expenditure upon ice, for example, is definitely reduced.

In attempting to obtain and ensure a good supply of milk during the winter, the first and only really essential step is to regulate the herd so that some cows will calve in the spring and others right on into November. This system of having calves continually dropping is the only one which ensures that both the quantity and the quality of the milk shall be kept up to a steady average. More care will probably be needed in the early rearing of calves dropped late in the year, yet this is a matter which needs but a little attention, and the advantages secured more than repays the little extra care required.

A second point of importance is the regulation of the quantity and quality of the food fed to the cows. Cows that calve in March or April are receiving winter rations, and these will be continued until they are turned out to pasture in (say) May. The succulent grass aids the natural flow of milk, or re establishes it if there has been any falling off, and these animals milk right up till the end of the year.

Feeding Winter Milkers.

The animals that are to be winter milkers require, however, special attention. A well balanced ration containing all the necessary food constituents in right proportion, and yet at the same time giving sufficient bulk to satisfy the craving of the animal, for quantity must be secured.

Hay and roots may be made barely sufficient, but it is a much better plan, and really less expensive in the end, to add a little cake and meal—from 6 to 8 lb. a day is not too much. This will not only keep the animal in better general condition, but will tend to improve the quality of the milk also, which actually ensures a higher price if it is sold, as is frequently the case, by quality at a neighbouring creamery.

The fact that some creameries have to close down owing to shortness of milk supply in winter, is one too evident bad result of a mismanagement which can easily be avoided. The inevitable disorganisation and the lying idle of valuable plant are evils which are sufficiently serious to justify drastic measures being taken in order to avoid such serious loss.

Similar reasoning holds good of the case of the individual farmer. Any system which allows an excess in the supply to exist at a time when conditions tend to cause rapid deterioration in the goods—in this case milk and butter—must be condemned as bad and uneconomical all round.

When this same system also brought it about that the supply shall be lowest at a time when the demand is greatest one cannot but wonder at the persistence with which dairy farmers have clung to such arrangements.

Happily the changes are being made in many districts and on many farms. The advantages are so clear, that once the alteration is introduced, there can be no fear of any relapse into the old, uneconomical, and financially unprofitable arrangements.

LACTISSIMA.

Milk-Sugar and Souring.

Of the many natural chemical changes which are continually going on around us, none perhaps is more important—next to that of combustion—than the decomposition or "going bad" of the various foods after they have been kept for some time. The souring of milk is the one of this class which most concerns the dairyman. He has, on the one hand, to prevent it being set up, since it means the complete unsaleability of the wares he offers. On the other hand, he must have it completely under control, because it is one of the absolutely necessary changes which must be set up in connection with the manufacture of the butter.

The actual process which takes place is the formation in the milk—spontaneously, in so much as no external human agency is required—of an acid substance called lactic acid. This is formed by the breaking up of one of the essential constituents of the milk, milk-sugar or lactose.

It is a substance which is essentially characteristic of milk since it is found naturally nowhere else but in milk. It is present in proportions which show very slight variations normally, and rarely varies outside 4½ to 5 per cent, the average being 4·6. Chemically it belongs to the class known as carbohydrates, which are all composed of carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen, together in its case with some added water. The oxygen present is eight times as great as the hydrogen, the carbon slightly less than seven times. On examining the proportions of these substances, which are present in any one molecule, it is found that each is just four times as great as those present in the substance lactic acid—the substance first mentioned as being the cause of the souring of milk. The conversion of milk-sugar into this acid would therefore seem to be a mere breaking up of one molecule into four others, and this is the usual explanation of the change which takes place. Yet it is more than doubtful whether it is quite so simple, since the formation of lactic acid is very frequently accompanied by the formation of carbonic acid, and often also alcohol is formed at the same time. It is therefore considered as certain that in the case of ordinary lactic fermentation decomposition never takes place so completely and exactly that the milk-sugar is entirely converted into lactic acid and nothing else.

This change in the milk-sugar is produced by bacteria, but not merely by one class of bacteria. It has been conclusively proved that there are at least ten different kinds of bacteria—this number have been isolated—all of which possess the power of breaking down the milk-sugar and causing the formation of the lactic acid from it. Of these ten, several have been identified in milk. Their characteristics differ in other respects in not a few points. One of the commonest—the Bacillus Acidi lactici I. Hueppe, so named after the scientist whose investigations on this point were so exhaustive—practically ceases its growth and development if the temperature of the milk falls below 50 deg. Fahr., develops only feebly at 54 deg., increases rapidly when the temperature rises to 60 deg., and between 96 deg. and 108 deg. its development is still very active. Above the last temperature it rapidly diminishes its activity, and at about 114 deg. Fahr. its activity ceases altogether. The size of this bacillus has been measured, and it is about 1-25,000th of an inch long, and 1-62,500th of an inch broad.

In the case of some of these various lactic-acid-forming bacteria, it is interesting to note that while one group of them may be found to be the principal cause of the souring of milk in one district, quite another may be the cause in another locality. In the case of some of them, one formation of the lactic acid is merely incidental to the formation of other different products. Some of the bacteria, for example, which produce different colours in milk—blue, red, or yellow—produce the lactic acid in addition to effecting the change in the colour.

It has further been shown that if the lactic-acid bacteria are cultivated for some time in a medium which contains no milk-sugar, they lose their power of producing lactic acid at all, even when returned to a medium containing milk-sugar.

It has long been known that though all these groups are capable of producing lactic acid in milk, they are not all equally well adapted to act as the ferments in producing this change; and since the souring of the cream has such a fundamental effect on the quality of the butter produced, attempts have been made to discover and isolate and cultivate in pure cultures, so that they alone would exist—those of the bacteria which are best suited for the souring of cream for butter making.

These experiments have been eminently successful, but though the pure cultures have marked advantages so far as their single character and purity is concerned, the effect on the flavour of the butter has not yet quite come up to the fullest expectations. It is proved, however, to be merely a matter of time and the continuation of the experiments in order that the souring of the cream and the absolute uniformity of the products shall be ensured.

One point in this and other fermentations is of interest. When, by the life action of the bacteria the fermentation has caused the production of a certain degree of acidity, the acid formed becomes fatal to the activity and life of the bacteria forming it, and it and they cease. Thus, in fact, when something over 1 per cent. of lactic acid has been generated, the fermentation ceases, and further production of acid is stopped.

Whitchurch Cheese Fair.

This fair was held on Wednesday, when there was a pitch of 81 tons. Fine lots were especially sought after, and with a good attendance of buyers a clearance was affected at the following prices:—Best, 61s. to 66s.; medium, 56s. to 60s., down to 50s. At the corresponding fair last year the pitch was 52 tons only, and the prices:—Best, 70s. to 75s., with nothing below 60s.

Agricultural Education.—In presenting agricultural diplomas and certificates at Preston, Sir Henry Hibbert (chairman of the Lancashire Education Committee) urged that it was a duty for every commercial community to do all it could to foster the study of agriculture and place it on a scientific basis, so that our farmers could compete with those of other countries. Last year we imported butter, eggs, and cheese to the extent of over £38,000,000, a large proportion of which, under favourable conditions, ought to be produced in this country. Sir Henry stated that the majority of technical students came ill-prepared for the education awaiting them. An enormous amount was spent on elementary education, and it almost seemed that a large proportion was wasted. Personally, he thought this was due to the interregnum between leaving the elementary day school and commencing evening classes.

CATTLE.

Red Polls for Australia.

Four first-class Norfolk Red Poll bulls from the studs of Sir Walter Corbett, of Acton Reynold, Shrewsbury, and the Right Hon. A. E. Fellowes, of Honingham Hall, near Norwich, were recently shipped, per the *Cufic* (White Star Line) by Mr. G. P. Doolette to the order of Capt. Philip Charley, of Belmont Park, Richmond, New South Wales. The animals were shipped in prime condition, being carefully boxed and provided for, so that they should arrive in Australia in equal condition to that in which they left here.

Alake, an illustration of whom appears on our front page, is a bull of great quality, and was the champion of its breed at the Royal Agricultural Society's Show this year, whilst he has won other prizes. The other bull, from Honinghom Hall, was Honingham Archbishop, calved May 15, 1906, by Davyson, 262 H.B. 9288, out of Ardent, H.B. 14469, by The Pope H.B. 4581.

The third bull, Acton Dewstone, bred by Sir Walter Corbett, was calved on November 27, 1905, sire Albert 7789 by The Pope 4581, dam Dewdrop 18977 by Lord Rattler 8977. He took first Royal, and second at the Norfolk shows this year. The fourth bull, Acton Ajax 9655, also bred by Sir Walter Corbett, was calved January 26, 1906, sire Albert 7789 by The Pope 4581, dam Dardy 12175 by Majisline 3600. He also has been exhibited with success, winning first at the Suffolk and Essex shows, and second at the Norfolk show this year.

To Captain Philip Charley belongs the credit of having introduced Red Polled stock into New South Wales; and at his stud farm at Belmont Park, by the stock he is producing, he is maintaining a splendid record for quality and appearance in this Norfolk speciality.

Captain Charley has gained a reputation throughout Australia for the excellency of the horses which he breeds at Belmont Park stud. Some fifteen years ago he started his stud farm for the express purpose of meeting a long-felt want in the way of carriage and coaching horses, and the sires Freedom, Moncrieff Statesman, Lord Derby, and Count Risby, are examples of the very best blood to be found in any part of the world, and in New South Wales, and wherever else they are shown in Australia, they are always amongst the first-prize winners.

Sale of Messrs. C. and E. Robinson's Dairy Herds.

The well-known dairy herds belonging to Messrs. C. and E. Robinson, Poynings Manor, Sussex, was brought under the hammer on Monday. The cattle included many Dutch animals, descended from three exceptionally good imported cows which the firm had had on hand when further importations were prohibited, one of which gave thirty-two quarts of milk per day for several seasons. There was a good attendance of buyers and a ready sale.

In the dispersal of the Perching Sands herd prices ranged from 9 guineas to 29 guineas, the highest amount being secured for a Shorthorn cow, five years old, with calf by side. The total realised for the herd was £957 odd. Bidding was also brisk for the Poynings Manor herd, top prices, 31 guineas, being obtained for two Dutch cows, five years old, with calf by side, while the aggregate for this herd exceeded £1,100. Of the young stock Shorthorn heifers and Dutch heifers averaged 19 to 29 guineas per pair. A few lots of Southdown ewe lambs sold at 47s. and 47s. 6d. per head; wether lambs fetched 15s. to 35s. 6d. per head; and mixed lambs 33s. to 33s. 6d.

National Cattle-Breeders' Association.

The next meeting of the National Cattle-Breeders' Association will be held at the Salisbury Hotel, Salisbury Square, Fleet Street, London, E.C., to-morrow (Tuesday), at 3 p.m., the agenda being as follows:—

1. To read minutes.
2. To receive and consider replies received from the Agents-General for the Australasian colonies to a letter written by direction of the last meeting.
3. To consider the following resolution sent up by the Hereford Herd Book Society (adjourned from the last meeting). "That the attention of the National Cattle-Breeders' Association be drawn to the fact that animals over two years old known to have failed to pass the tuberculine test are being exhibited at the leading agricultural shows in this country, and are thus a great source of damage to any healthy animals coming in contact with them."
4. To consider correspondence received since last meeting.
5. To receive secretary's report.

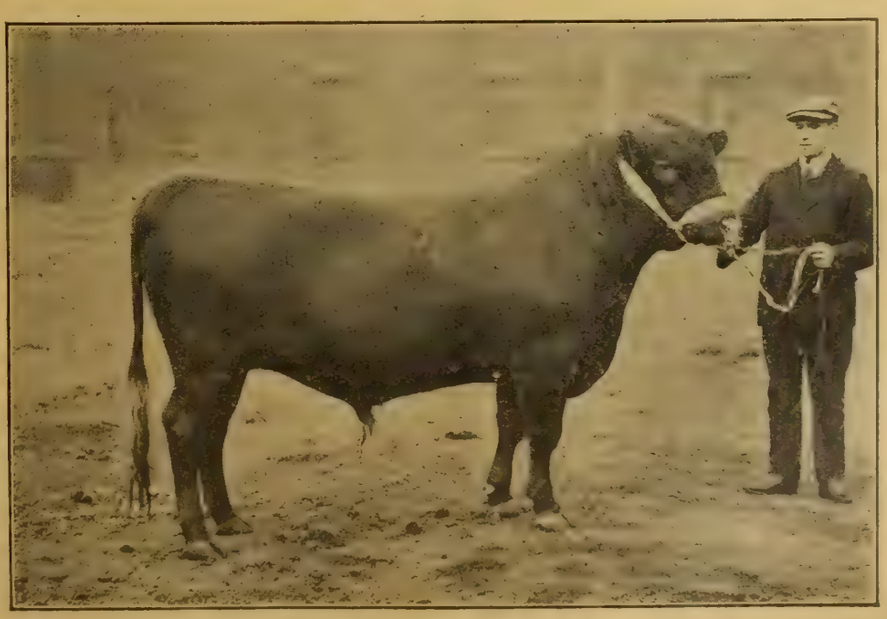
Red Polls for Australia.



ACTON AJAX.



HONINGHAM ARCHBISHOP.



ACTON DEWSTONE.

[See Letterpress.

Mr. F. J. Steward's Shorthorns.

Following the sale of Mr. J. A. Preece's Shorthorns at Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston, Messrs. John Thornton and Co. conducted a similar dispersal at Whiteway Farm, Brigstock, Thrapston, for Mr. F. J. Steward, the stock including some notable prize-winners at local shows. Two years ago Mr. Steward held a similar sale, when the sixty-two head of cattle realised an average of £28 15s. Since that time Mr. Steward has visited Ireland and purchased some cattle from Major Craddock, and has also strengthened his herd from the stock of well-known English breeders. Mr. Steward's success in local shows opened for him a good trade with Continental buyers, but the increase in the herd was so large that in spite of extra acreage of land Mr. Steward felt compelled to part with a portion of them before the coming winter. The cows were shown in good breeding condition, but not forced. The heifers were also well brought out, and comprised nearly the whole of the yearlings; these met a good demand at excellent prices, several being purchased to go to the Continent, and others for South America. A list of the chief sales is appended. The sixty-one cows realised £2,079, an average of £34 1s. 7d. per animal, and ten bulls realised £267 15s., an average of £26 15s. 6d., the total sales realising £2,346 15s., this being an increase of £5 per head on the previous sale:—

		Gs.
COWS AND HEIFERS.		
Lady 2nd, c Jan 13, 1898	Mr A E Dixie	33
Catthorpe Vestris, c Sept 19, 1901	Mr W Richardson	31
Ewerby May Duchess, c May 23, 1902	Mr C Harrison	40
Blithfield Belle 2nd, c June 18, 1902	Mr N C Casares (South America)	52
Her red cow calf	Mr W J Atkinson	22
Waterloo Vittoria, c Jan 10, 1904	Mr J T Hobbs	39
Brigstock Carwin Lady, c July 1, 1904	Mr R W Hobbs	55
Scotch Maid 3rd, c Sept 17, 1904	Captain Harrison	58
Lancastrian Baroness, c Jan 19, 1905	Mr Jackson	48
Barrington Duchess, c Feb 23, 1905	Mr Wm Arkell	30
Saturnia, c Mar 11, 1905	Mr C Bathurst	32
Muriel Daisy, c Mar 20, 1905	Mr E N Casares	39
May Queen, c May 7, 1905	Mr E N Casares	120
Brigstock Barrington Daisy, c June 10, 1905	Mr J A Preece	38
Mrs Simpkins, c Aug 2, 1905	Mr T Wilkinson (South America)	33
Lady Careless 4th, c Nov 29, 1905	Mr Casares	51
Brigstock Diagram, c Jan 13, 1906	Mr T Wilkinson	32
Brigstock Blithfield Belle, c Jan 30, 1906	Mr J T Hobbs	32
Brigstock Beatrice, c Feb 27, 1906	Mr W Jackson	37
Barrington Victoria, c April 16, 1906	Mr W Hipwell	38
Saturnia 2nd, c Mar 20, 1906	Mr J A Preece	35
Brigstock Barrington Daisy 2nd, c Aug 2, 1906	Mr J A Preece	35
Ewerby Beauty 2nd, c Aug 16, 1906	Messrs S E Dean and Son	32
Barrington Combine, c Sept 13, 1906	Mr H Dudding	105
Brigstock Kirklevington Duchess, c Dec 1, 1906	Mr T Stokes	40
Ewerby Sweet Duchess 4th, c Sept 19, 1906	Mr H Dudding	40
BULLS.		
Solid Silver 87419, c April 3, 1903	Mr C Morgan Richardson	73
Snowstorm, c Jan 5, 1906	Mr R Long	25
Remus, c Jan 23, 1906	Mr J White	23

Sale of South Devons at Totnes.

At Totnes on Thursday the autumn sale of cattle entered in the South Devon Herd Book took place, and entries were made of animals from some of the most noted herds, the majority being of high quality. Despite the various sales held this season, there was a good demand for the smartest bulls, and the general average of prices was most satisfactory, the cows realising over 31½ guineas, while over 26 guineas was obtained for the bulls under twenty months, and the yearling draft made an average of 22 guineas. The president (Mr. W. E. P. Bastard) gave a cup for the highest priced bull, and this went to Mr. Ben Luscombe, whose Masher's Boy, sixteen months old, sold for 36½ guineas, and a cup given by Mr. E. Windeatt (Totnes) was awarded to Mr. S. S. Horton, who secured for Cherry's Forester, seventeen months old, but half a guinea less than Mr. Luscombe's beast. Saltram, a former winner, of the Devonport Challenge Cup at the Bath and West of England Show, was disposed of among the old bulls. Mr. Ben Luscombe achieved a splendid record for the breed by selling to Mr. J. Mercer Bennetts, of Truro, his bull Lord Masher, not two years old until January, for 80 guineas. This bull won the first prize in its class wherever exhibited this year, and was reserve for the champion cups at the Devon County and Bath and West Shows, and is a grand specimen. The animals sold and purchasers were:—

Cows and heifers.—Mr. H. Bradridge's (Ashburton) Dolly 3rd, 29 guineas, Mr. J. Wood, Totnes, and her bull calf, 11 guineas, Mr. E. Cocks, Plymouth; Mr. J. M. Peeke, junior's (Harbertonford) Dahlia 4th, 27½ guineas, Mr. E. Cocks; Mr. W. S. Harris's (Stoke Gabriel) Dairy 7th, 35 guineas, Mr. Whitley, Paignton, and Blossom 5th, 35 guineas, Mr. J. Shinner, Ashburton.

Bulls not less than 12 or more than 20 months' old on October 1.—Mr. Ben Luscombe (Aveton Gifford), 25½ guineas, Mr. T. Luscombe, Totnes, and Masher's Boy, 36½ guineas, Mr. Sherwell, Fowey; Exors. of the late Mr. Walter Symons (Chillington), Mayflower's Star, 26½ guineas, Mr. Vigers, Saltash; Messrs. F. G. Luscombe and Son's (Crowmhill) Golden King, 16 guineas, Mr. Bradridge, Coryton, and Favourite Boy, 26 guineas, Mr. Pearse, Walkhampton; Mr. J. Wood's Admiral, 17 guineas, Mr. Hannaford, Broadclyst; Mr. J. Luscombe's (Ugborough) Coarswell Masher, 26 guineas, Mr. Weymouth, Salcombe; Mr. J. S. Ford's (Yealmpton) Royalist, 31½ guineas, Mr. J. Wakeham, Yealmpton, and the Earl, 28 guineas, Mr. Bray, St. Stephen's; Mr. S. S. Horton's (Loddiswell) Cherry's Forester, 36 guineas, Mr. J. E. D. Moysey, Rattery; Mr. E. B. Luscombe's (Woodleigh) Sir Thomas, 19 guineas, Mr. Wills, Liskeard; Mr. R. Sergeant's (Charleton) Ajax, 18 guineas, Mr. Gloyn, West Alvington; Mr. E. Cornish's (Kingsbridge) Blue Belle's Champion, 33 guineas, Mr. Truscott, Grampound Road; Messrs. R. H. Luscombe and Sons' (Kingsbridge) Botha 2nd, 17½ guineas, Mr. Tavener, Exeter; and Mr. H. J. Crossing's (Plympton St. Mary) Prime Minister, 34 guineas, Lord Ashcombe, Fallapit, Mounts.

Bulls not less than 8 months or over 12 months old on October 1.—Messrs. J. M. Peeke and Son's (Harbertonford) Jumbo, 25 guineas, Mr. Stancombe, Lamerton, and Napoleon, 25 guineas, Mr. E. H. Hoskins, Liskeard; Mr. W. H. Bowden's (Aveton Gifford), 21 guineas, Messrs. Parr and Son Lustleigh; Mr. H. Bradridge's (Ashburton) 16 guineas, Mr. Nosworthy, Kingsbridge; Messrs. Butland Bros. (Plympton) Famous, 19 guineas, Mr. Valance, Sampford Spiney, and Leigham Hector, 16½ guineas, Mr. Tucker, St. Germans; Mr. T. W. Luscombe's (Totnes) 15½ guineas, Mr. Palk, Ashburton; Mr. N. Boon's (Kingsbridge) Merry Monarch, 22 guineas, Mr. Elliott, Brixham; Mr. E. B. Luscombe's (Woodleigh) Sir John, 30 guineas, Mr. T. Wills, Moretonhampstead, and Bruin, 30 guineas, Mr. Jeffery, Paignton; Mr. Mildmay, M.P.'s (Ivybridge) Lord Devon, 25 guineas, Mr. Batten, Saltash; Mr. E. Cornish's (Kingsbridge) Rattler, 26 guineas, Mr. Rowell, Newton Abbot, and Russell, 15½ guineas, Mr. Luscombe, Wodbury.

Bulls over 20 months old on Oct. 1.—Mr. J. Wood's Saltram, 26 guineas, Mr. C. Lillicrap (Plymouth); and Mr. Twill's Eclipse, 23 guineas, Mr. Wills, Stokenham.

The Late Mr. J. Walter's Lincoln Shorthorns.

The herd of sixty-seven Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns (entered in the Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn Association's Herd Book, vol. I., p. 70), belonging to the trustees of the late Mr. James Walter, of the Old Hall Farm, Hatton, was sold by auction on Monday in presence of a good company. The herd was founded by the late Mr. Walter forty-five years ago, from the herds of the late Mr. James Walter, of Girsby, and others, and since then a careful selection of sires had been made from the herds of many well-known breeders, the result being the establishment of a first-class herd, members of which have distinguished themselves in the showyard. The animals met a good demand, but prices did not rule at all high, the cows making up to 30 guineas, bull calves up to 10½ guineas, she-calves up to 16 guineas, heifers up to 21½ guineas, yearling heifers, 17½ guineas, whilst the bull Red Chief 2nd went at 17 guineas, and the bull Minting Chief at 11 guineas.

The flock of sheep was also sold, gimmers making up to 62s. 6d., two-shear ewes 65s., ewes 61s. 6d., he-lambs 42s. 6d., she-lambs 43s. 6d., and half-bred lambs 45s.

Mr. A. J. Crawley's Lincoln Reds.

The herd of forty-seven pure-bred Lincoln Red Shorthorn cattle, the property of Mr. J. Crawley, Church Lawford, Warwickshire, came under the hammer on Friday, and met a good demand at satisfactory prices. The chief buyers of cows and heifers, which sold as follows, was Mr. Somes, Bedfordshire: Woll Princess 2nd, 20 guineas; Bridesmaid, 25½ guineas; Bride Cake, 28 guineas; Rose Mary, 21 guineas; Cowslip Red 4th and 5th, 25 guineas each; Cowslip Red 9th, 22 guineas; Cowslip Red 10th, 20 guineas; Pearl of Pearls, 20 guineas; Cowslip Red 6th, 31 guineas; Lawford Princess, 30 guineas; Lawford Primrose, 19½ guineas; Well Princess 7th, 20½ guineas.

The principal bull offered was Birks Jewel, bred at Stamford Bridge, Yorkshire, the sire being Holder Jewel, and the dam Wild Rose by Mariner. The bidding for him was brisk, and he was finally knocked down to Mr. W. J. Atkinson, the well-known breeder of Reds, for 91 guineas. Other prices for bulls were:—Crescent Pearl, 22 guineas; Crimson Pearl, 21 guineas; Red Bull, 17 guineas; Cowslip Pearl, 13 guineas. The total for the thirty-seven cows was 763 guineas, and for the ten bulls, 209 guineas.

Sale of Aberdeen-Angus in Essex.

The herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle belonging to Col. W. N. Tufnell, J.P., of Langleys, was sold by auction at Chatham Hall Farm, Great Waltham, Essex, on Thursday, together with a few animals from Mr. W. Dannatt's herd. The Langleys herd has been in existence for sixteen years, and many prizes have been won at the Essex Agricultural Society's shows and at other exhibitions. There was a good attendance and demand, but prices ruled somewhat low, the top one being only 28 guineas, and this was given by Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart., of Rolleston Hall, Burton-on-Trent, for Mouse,. which won first prize at the Essex Show in 1905 and second in 1906. Messrs. W. H. Brown and Son, of Crimpleshaw, Downham Market, paid a similar price for Mousta of Langleys, calved December 20, 1905, which won first prize at the Essex Show this year. These animals belonged to Colonel Tufnell, Mousta, calved February 6, 1894, which won first prizes at the Essex Shows in 1895 and 1896, only realised 12 guineas, Mr. W. Dannatt being the buyer. The bull, Estimate, belonging to Colonel Tufnell, and calved on June 9, 1903, a first prize winner at the Essex Show in 1905, and a second prize winner this year, realised 22 guineas, Mr. L. W. Campen, of Little Waltham, being the purchaser.

Of Mr. Dannatt's cattle, Sir Oswald Mosley, bought Vagabond of the Hyde, calved December 17, 1904, for 13 guineas, and Mr. G. H. Green, of Norfolk, gave 16 guineas for Vaal, calved March 14, 1900. Beware of the Hyde, calved September 2, 1905, and Valiant of the Hyde, calved December 21, 1905, bulls, were bought by Colonel Tufnell for 16 and 9½ guineas respectively. For thirty-five animals Colonel Tufnell got £522 7s. 6d., whilst Mr. Dannatt's sixteen realised £140 14s.

Transactions in Store Stock.

(Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

At Ballinasloe Fair, co. Galway, held on October 1, the supply of sheep appeared to be smaller than that of last year; demand moderate for ewes, but rather slow for two-year-old wethers. Almost a complete clearance was effected. One-year-old and over, 1st class, 47s. 6d. to 53s.; 2nd class, 40s. to 43s. 6d.; 3rd class, 33s. to 35s; two-year-old and over, 1st class, 49s. to 60s.; 2nd class, 44s. to 47s.; 3rd class, 36s. to 40s.

At Ballinasloe Fair, co. Galway, held on October 2, there was an average supply of sheep, chiefly first and second class lambs and hoggets. Demand slow, more especially for lambs, and prices all round showed a downward tendency. A considerable number of lambs remained unsold. Lambs, 1st class, 31s. to 35s.; 2nd class, 24s. 6d. to 29s.; 3rd class, 17s. 9d. to 22s. 6d.; one-year-old and over, 1st class, 50s. to 55s.; 2nd class, 40s. to 45s.; 3rd class, 32s. 6d. to 35s.; two-year-old and over, 3rd class, 33s. to 37s. 6d.

Forthcoming Sales.

The Annual Autumn Sale of Lean Stock and Registered Kent Ram Tegs at Sittingbourne will be held by Mr. F. Austen Bensted on Wednesday the 16th inst., when there will be offered 5,000 Kent and half-bred sheep and lambs, including about 70 one and two lamb ewes and 200 three-lamb ewes from the flock of the Right Hon. Lord Harris and 170 registered Kent ram tegs from the well-known flocks of the Right Hon. Lord Harris, Lieut.-Col. Honeyball, Messrs. N. Bensted, Exors. of the late Mr. W. Elvy, B. Gascoyne, R. G. E. Locke, P. P. Manwaring, and W. F. Wood. Catalogues may be obtained from the Auctioneer, The Lawn, Sittingbourne.

Messrs. Belcher, Adkin, and Belcher, will hold a sale of live and dead farm stock to-morrow (Tuesday) at the New Farm, Compton, Berks. The catalogue consists of twelve cart horses with plenty of size and bone, forty well-bred Shorthorn heifers fit for fattening and breeding, and the registered flock of Hampshire Down sheep comprising 600 ewes, 164 ewe lambs, and 544 wether lambs, all in excellent order. There will also be offered eighty-five half-bred Berkshire and Tamworth pigs, 172 head of poultry, also farm implements, machines, wagons, carts, harness, and other usual items which are in thorough order. The sale will commence at 11 o'clock.

SHOWS.

Royal South Bucks.

The King, who is patron of the Royal South Bucks Agricultural Association, gave two prizes for competition at the annual exhibition and ploughing match, held at Datchet, near Slough, on Wednesday. His Majesty presented a handsome silver cup of the value of 20 guineas for the tenant farmer showing the best cultivated root crops generally, and after a keen contest the winner proved to be Mr. T. W. Purser, of Colnbrook. Messrs. Headington Brothers, of Cippenham, Burnham, near Slough, took the second prize, offered by the Maidenhead Committee of the Royal Counties Agricultural Society. The King's other prize consisted of 5 guineas for the best plough man on the field, and this was won by James Tappern, of Gerrard's Cross. Despite Tuesday night's rain, the ground was hard and unfavourable for ploughing.

By the rules of the association, any farmer winning the Royal Cup is debarred from competing for it for the next succeeding two years. Mr. John Kinross holds the distinction of having won the cup four times consecutively in accordance with the rules by which he could compete, namely, in 1897, 1900, 1903, and 1906.

Lord Montagu presided at the luncheon on the ground, and in proposing the toast of "Success to the Royal South Bucks Agricultural Association," said he was one of those who thought that agriculture was going fairly well, and he believed a higher range of prices would be obtained during the next ten or twenty years. The reason for that was that the wheat-eating population was growing faster in proportion than the wheat produced.

Moreton-in-Marsh.

On Tuesday was held the annual show of the Moreton-in-Marsh Shire Horse Society, which has Lord Redesdale as president, and it attracted breeders of Shires from all parts of England, there being a large and good entry. There were both open and tenant farmers' classes, and the latter contained a lot of highly creditable animals, whilst many well-known owners were shown in the open classes, to which the following particulars alone refer.

In the class for colt foal, Sir P. A. Muntz was an outstanding winner with a big bay, which has been first at Leicester, Peterborough, and the Warwickshire show, and was now awarded the champion prize, Mr. W. T. Everard, of Bardon Hall, Leicester, being second. In the filly foal class Buscot Rosemary, shown by Sir A. Henderson, Bart., of Buscot Park, Faringdon, took the first and champion prize, Mr. F. Farnsworth, of Tooley Park, Hinckley, coming second with Ratcliffe Combine.

Yearling fillies made a very strong class, but Sir P. A. Muntz had a somewhat easy win with Dunsmore Quicklime, who beat Bardon Flower of the Forest, exhibited by Mr. W. T. Everard. In the yearling colts Sir P. A. Muntz was again to the fore, taking the first prize with a colt by Dunsmore Jameson, and the second with a colt by Dunsmore Albert Victor, Lady Wantage being third with Lockinge Crown Jewel. The two-year-old colt class also provided another success for Sir P. A. Muntz, who took all the prizes it was possible for him to win with the animals he entered. In the open class for two year-old filly the first prize was awarded to Mr. J. B. Brooks, of Finstall Park, who Bromsgrove, showed the best two-year-old filly in Finstall Marigold; whilst the best mare, three years old and upwards, was Mr. J. B. Brooks's Raby Violet, who was also given the gold medal. Mr. A. W. Fernihough's Lawford Diamond was second and reserve for the gold medal. Some animals of high merit were shown in the non-pedigree classes.

In the afternoon a large gathering watched the judging of the light horses and the jumping and driving competitions. For Polo Ponies Mr. Hargreaves, of Walton, Warwick, was first with Rhona; in the class for best Polo pony, mare, and foal, Mr. F. H. Unwin, of Arle Court, Cheltenham, was first with Zoe; and the Keynsham Stud Company second with the Pheasant. There were nine entries in the class for Hunter mare or gelding, under seven, capable of carrying 14 st. or upwards, and the first prize went to Mr. R. F. K. Gooch, of Swalcliffe, Banbury, for Unexpected. Thirteen were entered in the class for light-weight Hunter mare or gelding, and here Mr. J. L. Walker, of Banbury, was first with Friar.

Dorchester.

The 66th annual show of the Dorchester (Dorset) Agricultural Society was favoured with fine weather and a large attendance of visitors, but the entries were not quite so numerous as in some previous years, the total being 309 as against 333 last year, 364 in 1905, and 318 in 1904. It was generally agreed, however, that quality all round had never been better. Devon cattle naturally showed to advantage, but two exhibitors shared the first prizes, Lord Portman taking three and two specials, whilst Mr. Chick, Stratton, took the other three firsts. The former exhibitor was also to the fore in the Channel Island classes, in which the other principal owner was Col. Brymer. Shorthorns were not numerous, but good, whilst there was a creditable show of dairy cattle.

The show of sheep was divided into four departments, viz., for Dorset Horns, South Downs, Dorset Downs, and other Down sheep, and each were fairly well patronised. But one expected, in the heart of the homeland of that famous animal, a better show of the Dorset Horn. Pigs were a capital lot, whilst horses were also good, the agricultural classes being particularly strong. As to the butter, the judges were of opinion that in grain it could not have been better, and was superior to that seen at the show for ten or twelve years past. It was of good colour, fine grain, and exquisite flavour; but the judges observed that many of the exhibitors were faulty in making up the butter, doubtless owing to being over-anxious and working it too much after it was churned.

East Berks.

At the annual show of the Royal East Berks Agricultural Association held on Thursday at Shottesbrooke, the show of corn was above the average, while there was a remarkably fine display of roots. Mr. F. A. Horwood, of Bury Court Farm, secured the King's cup, value £21, for the best cultivation of root crops; and Mr. T. C. Horn, Shottesbrooke Farm, was awarded the Prince of Wales's prize, a piece of plate, for the second best cultivation. They also took prizes for roots and corn, Mr. Horn being especially successful in the classes for oats. Lord Desborough's plate for the cultivation of root crops went to Messrs. E. and A. Purser, of Maidenhead. The ploughing championship was won by Thomas Williams, ploughman to Mr. Joseph Gardner, Maidenhead Thicket.

It was suggested by Mr. Horn at a luncheon given by Mr. Guy Oswald Smith, owner of the Shottesbrooke Park Estate, that in future prizes should be offered for milking cows and stock hunters. The proposal was well received, and offers of substantial prizes were made to the hon. secretary of the association.

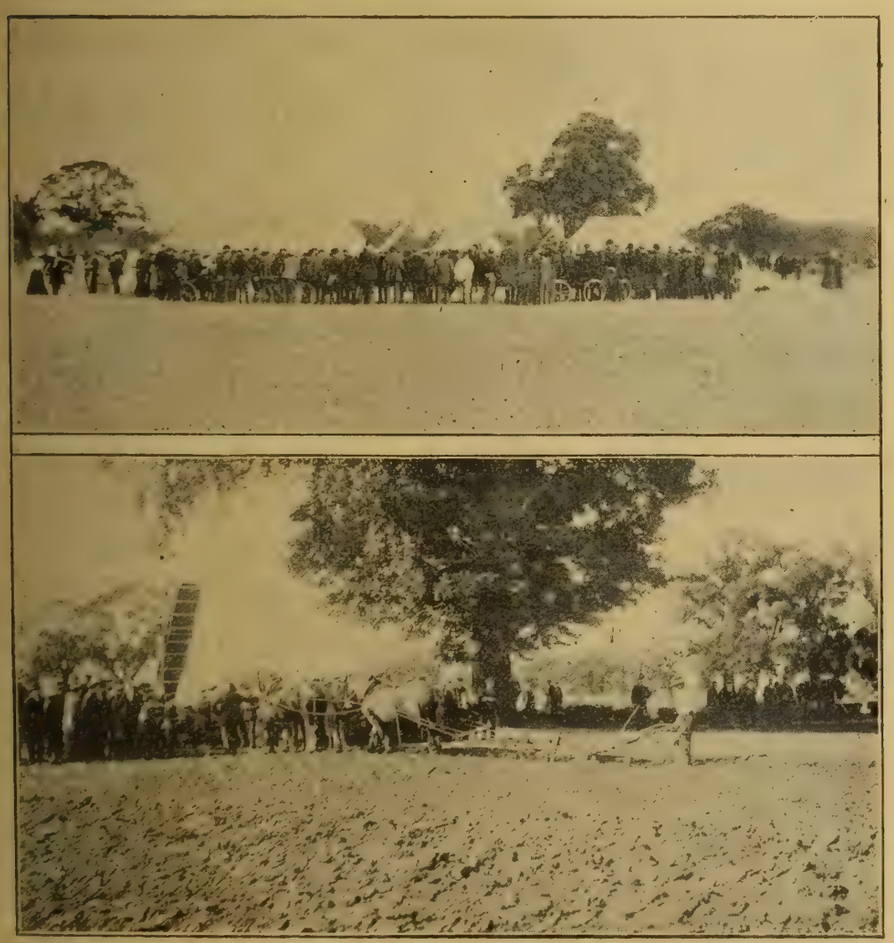
National Potato Society.

The National Potato Society's annual show and conference took place on Wednesday at Wye College, and with it was associated the annual competition in connection with the courses of instruction upon cottage gardening, poultry rearing, and bee keeping, given through the county by lecturers under the Kent Education Committee. There was a big attendance, and two very fine shows were seen. With regard to the potato show, in which there were entries from England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales, the exhibits were not quite so numerous as at the last show, probably on account of the disease from which the tubers have this year suffered, and also, no doubt, because of its being somewhat early for the Scotch exhibitors. What little the show lacked numerically, however, was amply made up by the excellence of the exhibits, for a finer lot of tubers than those staged would indeed be difficult to find.

The judges all through had a very hard task set them in differentiating between the entries, and in the competition for the Carter-Findlay cup for the best collection of twelve varieties (nine tubers of each) the competition was very keen. In the end the judges awarded it to Mr. B. Ashton, of Ormskirk (gardener to Earl Lathom), and as he has won it three years in succession the cup (which is valued at £50) becomes his own property. Included in this exhibit was the best dish of white potatoes in the show—of the Carter's Royal variety—and for this Mr. Ashton was awarded a silver medal, while he also won the silver challenge cup presented by Sir John T. D. Llewelyn, Bart., for the best exhibit in the show. The silver medal for the best dish of coloured potatoes in the show went to Mr. A. Lawson, of of King's Kettle, N.B., for a dish of the King Edward VII. variety, which well deserved the honour.

The show in connection with the higher education lectures was held in a marquee in the grounds, and was a most interesting one, going far to prove the value of the instruction given by the county lecturers in the various departments.

Royal South Bucks Ploughing Match.



THE CROWD AT THE FAIR.
THE WINNER, MR. J. TAPPERN, FINISHING.

SHOW GOSSIP.

At a recent meeting of the council of the Scottish Fat Stock Club at Edinburgh it was reported that donations to the prize fund for the forthcoming show amounted to £122, an increase on the amount in hand on the corresponding date last year. At the same meeting Mr. P. P. Campbell, Cartland, Lanark, moved that the judges of live stock, before commencing their duties, should not be supplied with a list of the weights of the stock they were to judge, but might learn, if necessary for any final decision, the weight of any animal or pen of animals. Mr. Campbell said more attention ought to be paid to the characteristics of the animal by the judges. Prizes were very often awarded by weight. Mr. Alexander Guild said there was a feeling that in some instances awards were decided by weight. The motion was withdrawn on the understanding that the council at next meeting would consider the rules relating to judging, with special reference to the point raised by Mr. Campbell.

The Collingham Farmers' Club's sixty-seventh annual ploughing match and agricultural and poultry show, will be held at Collingham, on Thursday, October 31. An attractive prize schedule has been drawn up, and prizes to the value of £150 are offered for competition. The ploughing competitions are perhaps the chief feature of the event, but the classes for horses, cattle, sheep, poultry, butter, and eggs, receive a fair amount of patronage, thus making the fixture an interesting one all round; and seeing that liberal prizes are again offered, the sixty-seventh show should come up to the average. Entries close October 18th, with the secretary, Mr. J. W. Belton, Besthorpe, Newark.

Now that the summer and autumn agricultural exhibitions all over the country are practically over, the stockbreeder, grazier, farmer, and public generally will be turning their attention to the winter fat stock exhibitions, of which the Norwich Fat Cattle Show is as usual the opening event. The thirty-first annual exhibition will be held at the Agricultural Hall, Norwich, on November 21, 22, and 23 next, and entries in all departments should be made on or before October 26, which is the last day of entry.

The Norwich Fat Cattle Show has now so firmly established itself that interest in it extends all over the kingdom, and breeders and graziers always look forward to the annual meeting, as it usually provides a strong competitor for the championship at the Birmingham and Smithfield Shows, sometimes Norwich finding the winner for the triple championship.

Prizes to the value of £773 are offered in the various departments as follows:—

Cattle.—Eighteen classes and eight champion and special prizes; value £506.

Sheep.—Six classes and four special prizes; value £114.

Pigs.—Three classes and one special prize; value £35 5s.

Roots and Grain.—Eight classes (confined to Norfolk); value £14.

Dead Poultry.—Ten classes; value £16.

Butter, Cheese, and Eggs.—Eighteen classes; £38 12s. 6d.

Dinner Table Decorations.—Value £5 15s. 6d.

Root Prizes offered by various seedsmen.—Sixteen classes (confined to Norfolk); value £45.

Total value in prizes.—£773 13s.

The best beast in the show will win the champion prize of £100. The prize money in each class for cattle is:—First, £10; second, £5; and third, £2. In each class for sheep:—First, £8, second, £4; and third £2. And in each class for pigs:—First, £5; second, £3: and third, £2.

Out of a total of twenty-seven classes and thirteen special prizes for cattle, sheep, and pigs twenty classes and eight special prizes are open to the United Kingdom.

The prize list of the New York Show, to be held November 18 to 23, 1907, has come to hand, and a short summary of it may be of interest to English exhibitors. The classes of most interest on this side are the Hackney classes and classes for half-breds. The classes for Hackney stallions practically cover horses of every age and height from yearlings upwards, and the mare classes correspond. There are innumerable harness classes in addition to the classes for appointments, which are more particularly American. The first prize money in the majority of classes is £10. The pony section is very well catered for both in hand and in harness. The numerous championships make a total prize list of over £7,000. We understand that American exhibitors would welcome with cordiality a visit from English horsemen to reciprocate the enterprise shown in connection with the last Olympia Show, and, as there is but slight expense in sending horses to New York, where there is an excellent market, it is hoped that some English exhibitors will be represented. It should be mentioned that the English Hackney Society has offered a £100 gold challenge cup in the harness classes to mark their friendly feeling towards this great American show. Entries close on October 26, and particulars can be obtained from the English Hackney Society, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.



The Markets.

London.

"What a fine thing hope is," says an old Spanish writer, and we are all ready to endorse his words. The indications of last week filled me with hope concerning the immediate future of the market. A steady and apparently strong demand had commenced, with the result that an advance of 15s. to 20s. was established, and business certainly looked promising. But we are now told that the purchases then made by merchants are only for the purpose of supplying their travellers with samples, and that their experience thus far with their customers is by no means encouraging.

Brewers appear to be comparatively indifferent, and if they can be induced to give any orders, they are extremely cautious, and keep their operations within very small limits. We therefore find that the trade has partially subsided, and we can only say to day that the recently advanced prices are upheld with moderate firmness. The main support of values is traceable to the attitude of growers, who are strenuous in their determination to refuse lower bids.

Many, to whom I have spoken, are solid in their intention to hold their produce until they can realise more satisfactory figures. And thus the annual fight begins again, and it remains to be seen which side will win the battle.

From my point of view, which is more or less outside the actual field of contention, I am inclined to favour the sellers, whose claims to better remuneration are absolutely incontestable. The home crop is but small, the supplies from abroad are not likely to be excessive, and one can hardly suppose that consumers can afford to keep out of the market much longer.

Therefore, it would appear that growers are well advised if they sit upon their hops for the present. At the same time, we cannot lose sight of one or two important facts. Brewers are visited daily by Continental travellers, who have been perhaps encouraged to come over to England by the invitations sent to them from this side, to which I referred last week. They are not offering their best hops, but only such as they can sell at prices which are much too low for English growers to compete with. I am not aware that they are doing much business, but their presence is disturbing to our market, and a hindrance to our progress. Possibly, when they find that their efforts are fruitless, they will take return tickets, but at the moment there is no doubt that we are feeling the effects of their insistent competition. Let us hope that it will soon be terminated.

Another feature that tells against us is the poor quality of our own early supplies. It is difficult to get rid of the impression, implanted in the minds of consumers by the low rates at which the market opened (these being fixed by the unsatisfactory samples then offered), that they would be able to buy at their own valuations throughout the season. This impression still remains, and will doubtless continue to influence our trade until these cheap lots are cleared.

Growers should not ignore such considerations, but may, nevertheless, be encouraged to wait for better things. At present there is a healthy tone in the inquiries for choice or coloury samples, and it appears probable that we shall soon hear that such qualities are commanding higher figures. Patience seems, therefore, to be suggested, as the prospect of the realisation of our hopes comes within the range of possibility.

The Continent.

Somewhat similar conditions to our own are referred to in the reports from Nuremberg. The full supplies that are coming forward enable buyers to estimate the value of the crop more correctly. It is found that, while there is not much to complain of as regards richness in lupulin, a large proportion of the hops is very deficient of colour. German brewers attach great importance to this point; therefore, although exceptionally prime samples, which are comparatively scarce, are improving in value, the tone of the market, with respect to the medium and lower sorts, is tending towards reduced quotations.

On the whole some weakness is evident, and my latest information indicates that lower rates are becoming general. A fair amount of export business for England has been done, but the total sales for the week ending September 21 did not exceed 6,500 bales, while the arrivals amounted to 10,000 bales. Comparing the most recent quotations with those of the previous week, we may conclude that values have generally fallen from 5s to 10s.

The Belgian markets are very quiet, and are entirely ruled by the speculations of operators on the Brussels Bourse. Prices rise and fall day by day to the extent of a few francs, in sympathy with the movements of the gamblers. Brewers are not active buyers, but content themselves with such small transactions as meet their immediate requirements. Actual current values are a few points below those of last week.

America.

The "dark horse" is still kept in the background. So contradictory are the reports received that it is almost impossible to satisfy oneself as to the true state of affairs. As far as I can gather the position is not much altered. Dealers are "cracking up" the crop and predicting a low range of prices, and, in order to achieve their desires, are making very few offers. On the other hand growers are generally holding out, and thus between the two opposing forces there is a state of calmness which augurs rather badly for the future. Added to this is the tightness of money, which compels needy growers to realise if they can, and at any price. The outlook is not encouraging, and it is not improbable that a considerable reduction of acreage will take place before the work for the 1908 crop commences.

Agricultural Machinery for Russia.

Mr. A. F. Medhurst, his Majesty's Consul at Rostov-on-Don, in his report for 1906 states that the chief import in machinery is agricultural machinery. It provides employment for a number of people, and the stores in which the machinery is exhibited are the finest in the town.

Fewer steam thresher sets were sold than in 1905, and the sales were mostly for smaller sets than the usual eight horse-power ones. This was accounted for by the orders all coming from districts where only small sets were required. Rostov firms sold, either directly or through their branch establishments, about 320 sets during the year, of which some 80 came from Germany, and the remainder from the United Kingdom. The keen competition causes this trade to become daily more difficult.

As in former years, reapers and binders were imported from the United States in very large numbers. They reach Rostov *via* Novorossisk, and are thence distributed to the Don country, Caucasus, and the vast districts along the Volga. The returns for 1906 comprised 1,300 binders, 8,000 reapers, 4,000 mowers, and 5,000 horse rakes, of which 400 binders, 1,000 reapers, 500 mowers, and 1,000 horse rakes came from Canada.

The sale of these Canadian machines increases steadily, notwithstanding the retail price being somewhat higher than that asked by many of the American makers. Farmers find the binder to be a strong, good machine, well suited to local requirements.

It must be remembered, the Consul adds, that although the total import of this class of machinery attains such great proportions it does not follow that the figures represent actual sales. The Rostov agents, who either place their orders or receive their goods on consignment, distribute them to their sub-agents, with whom they may remain unsold for many months. Nevertheless, this is a good and steadily increasing trade.

The plough trade is entirely in the hands of German makers, who supply many of the "sack" type, and Russian works (especially those in Odessa), who supply cheap ploughs which appear to suit the farmers. British makers cannot compete with the low prices charged by Russian works. An American firm makes strenuous efforts to introduce a new disk plough, but the draught is heavy and the price high, and the Consul does not think this class of plough will ever be popular in his district.

Speaking at a garden produce exhibition at Stafford, the Earl of Dartmouth, Lord-Lieutenant of Staffordshire, said landowners had no desire to oppose small holdings. He had 500 holdings under 40 acres each, but owing to the factory system and emigration to towns the demand for small holdings had gone, and there was a difficulty in finding tenants. The Board of Agriculture might say plenty could be found, but placing unsuitable men on land would be disastrous.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Motor Cars and Farmers.

SIR,—I enclose a cutting from the *Lancashire Daily Post* of yesterday's date, giving particulars of the conduct of a motorist.

The sheep were a shocking sight, most of the six killed being ripped open, and two others are badly injured. I trust you will give prominence to the matter in your next issue; such so-called "accidents" are constantly occurring in one part of the country or another, and show that the speed at which cars travel is altogether too fast for even moderate safety. Motorists of the class in question are not by any means as uncommon as we are asked to believe.

It is impossible to see the numbers on a car at night, and owing to the speed at which they travel and the dust it is often equally impracticable in the daytime.

Can you not, sir, take up the cudgels on behalf of farmers and agriculturists in making a demand for reduced speed and illuminated numbering?

In this county feeling is beginning to run rather high amongst farmers and the country people upon this question.

I do not send this letter for publication, but in the hope that you will advocate rational legislation to regulate motoring.—I am, &c.,

HERBERT H. OWTRAM.

Newland Hall, Ellel, near Lancaster,
September 28, 1907.

*** The following is the report referred to, Mr. Owtram having subsequently agreed to the publication of his letter:—

"The disgraceful behaviour of an unknown motorist near Lancaster, last evening, deserves some publicity. About seven o'clock the flockman of Mr. H. H. Owtram, Newland Hall, Ellel, was driving a flock of sheep along the Lancaster road between Scorton and Bay Horse, when a large light-coloured motor-car coming from Lancaster direction dashed into them.

"The motor was stopped for a moment, and while the man was endeavouring to pull some of the sheep from under the car it dashed on over the remainder, killing six and mutilating others. In the glare of the lights, and in the endeavour to save the sheep, the man was unable to take the number of the car, which proceeded at full speed, and, it was subsequently ascertained, turned off the highway towards Churchtown or Blackpool road. To designate such motorists 'road hogs' is altogether too mild a term."

A correspondent, writing to us on the matter, says:—"So long as a fine is the only penalty for bolting after an accident, it will no doubt remain the popular way of getting out of trouble with a certain section of motorists."

Sunday Labour During Harvest.

SIR,—The correspondence on this subject is decidedly interesting in bringing out different views. "H. L." in his letter appears to take it for granted that the writer of the original "note" does not know what it is to have barley awns chafing between his shirt and his skin for six days, and is therefore not in a position to appreciate to the full the one comfort of a clean shirt and a wash on the seventh. "Lux," in attempting to save his friend a fall, holds forth on the whole question with a pulpit-like oration, in attempting to show how and why work might be done on Sunday without acting "sinfully." What a grand saving clause in this word, if this it is, or the fear of its consequences, which holds labour in check for the one day in seven. The labourer may rest on the Sabbath, not necessarily for his own sake, but for fear his taskmaster should have to suffer in some future state. Though, if work could be squeezed in on that day without being set down in the account as "sinful," "Lux" would have us believe it was alright according to the doctrine he holds.

No, sir. It has taken a woman to look at matters in a fair light, and the protest of "Farmer's Wife" holds the field. And, sir, in spite of "Lux's" excellent sermon, does not the fact remain, that through all seasons, good or bad, during a few hundred years, the farmer himself (with some rare exceptions) has held faith and utterly refrained from harvest labour, let the loss have been what it may? Neither has the suggestion arisen this season from that quarter, that is if we may accept "H. L.'s" hint about the gratification of a small holding and having to live on it. Anyhow, with the small holding do not let us have the Continental conditions of farm work imposed upon us as well. As a class farmers object to Sunday work no matter what the harvest or season. But when "Lux" seeks to justify matters in general, and the writer of the "note" in particular, by assuming that he "thanks God for Sunday the same as we all do," and then remarks that "if Old Sol refused to perform his proper functions, &c.," why, then, he may venture to leave some of us out of those thanks on "the same" bargaining terms. Thanks, in the meantime are due to "Farmer's Wife" for her timely protest against a suggestion to break in upon the day of rest.—Yours, &c. WAMBA.

October 2, 1907.

The Harvest in Cumberland.

SIR,—The period of stocktaking of agricultural products for 1907 must be close upon us, if it has not already arrived, and those parties who are engaged to perform such duties, or voluntarily undertake such duties, may reasonably be expected to record the results of their inquiries and examination. As regards the season as a whole, it will be generally admitted it has been extremely capricious, but, broadly speaking, highly favourable to the production of winter produce for the support of cattle which require it through the cold season.

A very bulky crop of seed grass and meadow hay has been been grown, and nearly the whole of the former and a portion of the latter was secured in the pink of condition and at the least possible cost during the eight or nine days of real summer weather we had in the month of July. The remainder with almost endless labour and considerable depreciation in quality, although loss in colour from the length of time it was exposed, which may probably be accounted for from the extreme cold temperature which prevailed through the latter part of July and the whole of August.

September, however, proved the salvation of farmers, as it enabled the high-lying districts to complete the in gathering of their abundant crops of meadow hay in excellent condition; but hay secured in September is always less nutritive than what is secured in fine weather in the summer months. But to the arable farmers the harvest, although late, has been all that the most sanguine would have wished for; scarcely a drop of rain has fallen, no clogging of reaper wheels, no winds to twist the corn; so that the progress of the reapers was more like a wheeled conveyance on the highways, though less rapid than those abominable motor-cars which are daily killing and maiming the industrious classes, for whose use they were constructed and who are compelled to keep in repair.

Fully one half of the grain has already been carted, and in the earliest districts two-thirds. The oat crop, the chief grain cultivated, has proved quite a record crop, fully one third above an average. Barley, too, is above average, but the superb harvest weather we have had has had a very different effect upon all descriptions of green crops, especially mangels and turnips, which, unless we get rain soon, will be more than one-third below average.

Potatoes, too, are deficient, but the extra price they are commanding will quite compensate the growers; but the deficiency in the turnip crop will seriously increase the cost of feeding cattle and sheep.

Back to the land is the mocking cry of the day by the office-seeking politicians. But by what means?—certainly not by the fanatical cry of small holdings.—Yours, &c., T. B.

September 30, 1907.

What is a Tenant Farmer?

SIR,—I shall be very much obliged if you will give me your opinion on the following objection in Class 50:—For the best tenant farmer's turnout. Exhibitors to reside in Hay Union, and to have owned the whole turnout not less than three months prior to September 20.

The winner of the first prize keeps an hotel, and lives there. He has also buildings, stables, &c., near, and rents a number of acres of land (a few acres arable) in the neighbourhood of Hay. He is objected to on the ground that he has no holding or homestead connected with the land, that the land is accommodation land, and that he is not a tenant farmer.

The favour of a reply per return will be esteemed, as we have a committee meeting on Thursday next, at which the above will be decided. Thanking you in anticipation,—Yours, &c.,

REECE MORRIS,
Secretary Hay Horse Show Society.

*** In our opinion, judging from the particulars you furnish, the objection should be upheld. Our reasons for arriving at this conclusion are principally based upon the fact that the exhibitor in question does not reside at the farm nor does he rent any farmhouse or farm building. The mere fact of him being an hotel keeper and living on the premises would not prevent him from being a tenant farmer, but in your letter you distinctly say he has no holding or homestead and that the land is accommodation, and it is on these grounds that we should say that the exhibitor in question was not a tenant farmer.—ED.

Nettles on Pasture Land.

SIR,—Can you kindly, through the medium of your valuable paper, tell me how best to do away with nettles infesting pasture land?—Yours, &c.,

J. J. S.

*** One method of eradicating nettles from pasture land is to grub out the roots by means of a fork or other implement at this time of the year, and again when growth commences in the spring, but another very simple and also effective way of getting rid of nettles is to wait till they have got well into growth in the spring, then cut the tops close down with a scythe and sprinkle a liberal application of coarse salt over the roots. If the first treatment does not bring about the desired end, repeat it. Generally speaking, nettles grow in patches in meadow and pasture land, and by adopting the above simple remedy, I have been able to completely eradicate the obnoxious vegetation.—RUSTICUS.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

Advice of a Legal character is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

A Tithe Question.

SIR,—In a long-standing tenancy where the occupier has always paid the tithe and has given up the land at Michaelmas, is he liable for the payment of this or any part which became due on October 1? There is nothing in any agreement relating thereto. SUBSCRIBER.

*** The fact that the occupier has paid the tithe does not make him liable to pay it, nor would an agreement with the landlord to that effect, for all such agreements are void. I therefore see nothing to make the occupier liable for the payment of that or any part of it which may become due on October 1.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

A Hiring Case.

A case of some interest to farmers was decided at Guisbrough, on Tuesday, when Robert William Stevenson, of Trout Hall, Skelton, a prominent Cleveland agriculturist, sued Stanley Chapman for £3 damages for breach of contract.

It was stated in evidence that the farm servant was engaged at Egton hirings on November 5 of last year, but it was then agreed that his service should not commence until November 23, and that it should end twelve months from that date.

There was no written agreement, and Mr. Hoggett for the defence, argued that according to the Statute of Frauds, Mr. Stevenson could not succeed, as he could not recover damages for breach of contract when the period of service was over a year from the date of the agreement, unless there was a written contract. The Bench upheld this view and dismissed the case.

County Councils and the New Small Holdings Act.

The Board of Agriculture has issued a circular to county councils and county boroughs in England and Wales reminding them that the Small Holdings and Allotments Act, 1907, comes into operation on January 1 next, and advising them in view of the very important and extensive powers which it gives to county councils to consider at an early date what steps should be taken to carry out the provisions of the Act.

The circular explains that the Act provides that county councils may themselves take the initiative in preparing a draft scheme or schemes for the provision of small holdings, and suggests that county councils through their individual members should at once set on foot preliminary inquiries as to the extent of the demand for small holdings in their districts, and as to the possibility of satisfying these demands by the acquisition of land either within or without the county, and further to see that the provisions of the Act are made known to those who are likely to take advantage of it.

The Board states further that the small holdings provided by the County Councils under the Act of 1892 have in no case resulted in any charge being placed on the rates of the county, and where small holdings are provided under the Act of this year the possibility of any such charge arising has been very considerably diminished.

Northern Notes.

HARVESTING is being prolonged by the shortness of the working days, the night dews, and heavy fog, which has made its appearance all too soon this autumn in the Tyne district. Farmers have made as much haste as possible, and the harvest will go down in local history as one of the shortest on record. The rainfall in Yorkshire (where harvesting is not quite finished) was abnormally small during September. While this was a factor favourable to the gathering of the grain crops, the absence of rain has seriously hindered the progress of roots, grass is deficient, and seeds, fields, and fogs are comparatively poor.

A METEOROLOGIST has supplied me with some interesting figures relating to the rainfall at the foot of the wolds. The total fall last month was 0·735 in.; the greatest fall in twenty-four hours being 0·32 in. on the 4th. Rain fell on seven days. The total precipitation for the past nine months was 15·445 in., compared with 17·890 in. in the corresponding period of last year. From the 4th to the 25th September no rain fell; and between the 4th and the 30th only 0·165 in. has fallen. Thirty days with less than thirty points of rain (=0·3 in.) is considered a prolonged drought. A period of twenty-five days with only 0·165 in. had already passed before the advent of October. This is exceptional for the ninth month of the year.

FARMERS could not hurry their leading operations, the same causes hindering them as did their brother-farmers further north. Some of the corn has taken a lot of getting, apart from the tremendous bulk everywhere apparent. A slight deficiency of labour is reported, but there is not much doubt that farmers could have hired more hands if they had cared to run the weather risks. Until the fag-end of harvest was reached there was no stoppage of operations worth mentioning. It has been a remarkable harvest. The hay and clover crops were the largest on record, and recent sales of hay are quoted at 47s. 6d. to 50s., and for clover 60s. The second crop clover is somewhat light. The barley crop is good on the whole, and threshings show a yield in excess of last year's. Prices have already touched 30s. for a crop grown on thin land; and new wheat in dry condition is realising 35s. per qr. Wheat will show to exceptional advantage this year, and farmers are expressing vain regrets that a larger area was not planted with this "staff of life."

LIMITED yard accommodation has compelled resort to the building of stacks in the open fields, an unmistakable sign of an abundant harvest. Will the granaries be of sufficient capacity to shelter all the grain? The agents of landowners are anticipating a year almost entirely free from missives asking favours and remissions. Rent-day this back-end will be anticipated with a greater degree of composure by both parties. But are not Northern landlords among the best in the country?

THE weigh-bridge question at Hull Cattle Market at one time assumed an acute phase. Now the matter has been settled without any breaking of heads or bones. The Holderness Agricultural Club, one of the most powerful organisations of its kind in the whole of England, agitated persistently, and have at length moved the markets committee of the corporation into action. The committee, it is said, moved very cautiously, and some of the members desired to hang up the question for a time. The Club then became impatient, and they have now drawn from the committee an instruction to the city engineers to prepare estimates for the erection of three weighbridges. The committee's caution was due to the probability of the market being enlarged. Now, however, all intentions of extending the area having been abandoned for the present, the committee was morally bound to carry out the wish of the users of the market so clearly expressed at the poll taken for and against the additional weighbridges, which secured a large majority of "ayes."

ONE of the most remarkable surprises of the week is the fall in the price of folding sheep or lambs, dealers have them on their hands in large numbers. At the same time a good trade is being done in breeding sheep, good bred Leicester gimmer shearlings having made well over 60s. a head. The late harvest may have had some slight influence upon the market, but this does not entirely account for the absence of brisk business. A scarcity of grass is a much more likely cause, and the serious backwardness of the turnip crop; also the falling off of pastures. Imports of mutton will hardly account for the situation, as they have not been excessive. Fat sheep, store sheep, and ram sheep all suffer alike, and mutton is a slow trade. Not an unlikely suggestion is that attributing the position to a revolt on the part of farmers against high prices. If that is so, can we discern in it a sign of the effects of co-operation? If farmers band together for the purpose of advancing their mutual interests in the purchase of seed, cake, and implements, why should not their operations be extended to the purchase of holding stock, and in this way preventing artificial inflation of prices? Dealers in this part of the country are very much out of love with the lamb trade at present. The situation is hardly likely to show signs of improvement until roots are further advanced on the way to maturity. The drought succeeding heavy rains has hardened the ground and bulb development was consequently checked. There is no reason why roots, with favouring weather, should not yet make a good show.

CLEANING appears to have gone entirely out of fashion; one reason seems to be that labourers and their families are better off, in these days of cheap food, than they were formerly, and that many of those who happen to be unencumbered with large families would—even if they were harder put to it than they are—despise the gleaners' vocation, and would indignantly resent a suggestion to put on apron and a hood and go into the fields to pick up the leavings of the horse rake. What an immense amount of rakings there is this year, the heaps resemble hay cocks for size!

AT York this week, as well as at other markets of a minor character in Yorkshire, farmers are beginning to say the time has come when the markets ought to be exempted from the very drastic provisions of the regulations governing the movement of swine. The various orders which have been promulgated from time to time have seriously harassed the pig trade in York and district, and have practically prohibited the sale of store pigs in any open market. In one of the markets so affected only 868 pigs were entered from January 1 to September 30 of this year, compared with 15,443 in twelve months twenty years ago! The restrictions affect most of all the class of people whom the present Government seems to have a beaming desire to benefit, viz., cottagers and small holders.

October 3, 1907.

Nottinghamshire Notes.

REFERENCE has frequently been made in these notes as to the yield of wheat in the lace county this season, and this week I have received a most interesting letter from one of the largest farmers in Notts who desires to remain anonymous.

IN the course of his communication he says:—"I threshed 41 qr. of wheat out of a field containing 5a. 2r. 28p. in 1898, which works out an average yield of 7 qr. 1 bushel to the acre. This I sold at 24s. 6d. per qr., the cheque received being one for £50 4s. 6d. This year, however, I threshed the wheat out of the same field recently and obtained 36½ qr., which I sold at 36s., bringing in £65 14s. Therefore, although I had 4½ qr. less grain, I secured £15 9s. 6d. more in money."

"THIS is the first occasion," says my informant, "that I have sold wheat at 1s. per stone, and wool at 1s. per lb. in the same season." The following list was also enclosed, which shows the prices made of the first lot of wheat sold each year since 1894 by my correspondent:—

Year.	Date sold.	Price per qr.
1894	Sept. 1	21s. 0d.
1895	Aug. 31	25s. 0d.
1896	Sept. 26	29s. 0d.
1897	Aug. 24	33s. 6d.
1898	Sept. 10	24s. 6d.
1899	Sept. 2	27s. 0d.
1900	Sept. 15	28s. 6d.
1901	Aug. 23	28s. 0d.
1902	Sept. 20	26s. 9d.
1903	Sept. 11	27s. 6d.
1904	Aug. 12	28s. 6d.
1905	Aug. 16	27s. 6d.
1906	Aug. 23	28s. 6d.
1907	Sept. 14	36s. 0d.

MELTON MOWBRAY September Stilton Cheese Fair proved a record, for there was a pitch numbering 1,057 dozen cheeses against 641 dozen in 1906 and 702 dozen in 1905. There are tremendous quantities of this variety of cheese manufactured in the south of the lace county, and the past summer has proved highly remunerative to our dairy farmers.

KEEPING has been plentiful, and cows have done well, while so far as milk is concerned the yield has been of abnormal dimensions. In addition to these important factors, the season has been an excellent one for the maturing of cheese, and the quality has never been finer. Prices at Melton, however, were somewhat disappointing, the highest quotation in the fair being 9d. per lb., while hundreds changed hands for as low as 5d. per lb. The average quotations were from 7½d. to 8d., and one large cheesemaker informed me that it is thirty years since there was such a glut at the fair.

TOURING around Edwalton, Ruddington, Gotham, Kingston, Ratcliffe-on-Soar, and Clifton, I was somewhat surprised on Tuesday to notice what a tremendous number of mangold crops have run to seed. I endeavoured to obtain an explanation for this remarkable "bolting" from a well-known agriculturist, but he admitted his ignorance as to the exact cause. "Some farmers," he said, "allege that it is due to faulty seed, but this cannot be correct, for it matters little into which part of the district one goes, the same conditions prevail. Personally, I attribute the running to seed as being entirely due to the backward season and the excessive wet, coupled with a lack of sunshine. This made many of the mangolds struggle for their existence. Of course, it means a serious loss to us, for there is nothing, in my opinion, that deteriorates the quality of the roots more than seed bearing, and those that went early will not only be worthless, but, owing to their hard and tough nature, will prove extremely dangerous to cattle."

REGISTRATION of corn samples is a subject which I do not mean to let rest. A few days back I called the attention of Earl Carrington to the question, and I have received a reply from Mr. Walter E. Archer, assistant secretary to the Board of Agriculture. After expressing a wish to be informed of the views of those interested, Mr. Archer says: "It would appear, however, that the matter is one which could be more conveniently arranged between buyers and sellers themselves, without the intervention of Government officials."

PERSONALLY I am not of this opinion, for having spent some months with a corn merchant I can speak with a certain amount of authority. I could cite several cases where blue peas have been thrown up merely because of the fact that prices had fallen several shillings per quarter. But on the other hand I know farmers who deliberately picked all the bleached and worm-eaten peas out of the sample, and also those which had been split in the threshing machine, and then complained not only to the merchant but advised farmers to have nothing to do with him, when the bulk was refused. It is an important question, and I am looking forward with faith that the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union will tackle the matter in the near future, and send a strongly-worded resolution to the officials at St. James's Square.

WHEAT continues to advance in price round about here in sympathy with the markets throughout the world. I honestly believe that at Christmas the price will be £2 per qr. A great outcry will, of course, be made in the halfpenny press, but I ask my readers, where can they find more bread wasted than in the slum and poorer districts of our large towns. A few days ago I was passing a large blouse factory in Nottingham shortly after the workgirls had left, and I was surprised to notice the large number of pieces of bread and butter which had been thrown on to some waste land opposite. If the quartern loaf was sold at 6d. or 6½d., I contend that it would conduce towards reducing the scandalous wastage which is now going on, and the pigs in many of the rural districts would not have the pleasure of devouring so large a number of crusts as at the present time.

GOOSE fair. The words really seem to denote some event of world-wide importance. London newspapers have been telegraphing to their Nottingham correspondents for "good stories," the newsagents have given prominence to the placards bearing such words as "Goose Fair Carnival," "What there is to be seen at Goose Fair," &c., until it really makes the inhabitants of the lace metropolis think that it is after all an important event.

LOOKING at the market-place, which is 7½ acres in extent, it is marvellous where all the people come from. I asked a prominent police official what was his estimate of the number of people around the shows, and was amazed when he declared 40,000. This was at 8.30 p.m., and to attempt to cross from one side of the show-ground to the other in less than twenty minutes would be impossible.

IN the cattle-market from an early hour this morning there were scenes of great animation,

and when the various auctioneers began their task of selling shortly after nine o'clock, there would be fully 7,000 sheep penned. Messrs. Bradwell sold about 2,800, Messrs. Walker, Walton, and Hanson over 1,000, and Mr. Arthur Chonler had nearly the same number.

"IMPROVED trade at higher prices" sums up the result of the fair so far as sheep are concerned. Breeding sheep and lambs sold like ripe cherries, and the supply, though so large, was unequal to the demand. Lambs made from 30s. to 48s. apiece, young breeding ewes from 54s. to 60s., crossbred shearlings 50s. to 62s. For rams there was not such a good demand as expected, Hampshires being most in favour, the highest price so far as I could ascertain being 30½ guineas paid for an Oxford shearling ram from the flock of Mr. Houghton, of Asfordby, Lincolnshire.

STORE beasts met with a good demand, yearlings fetching from £6 10s. to £9; two-year-olds from £10 to £15; and older animals up to £19, which was a good price when the cake necessary for fattening is paid for. For cows and heifers in full profit prices ruled high, up to £24 being paid.

FOR some time I watched Messrs. Walker, Walton, and Hanson's sale, and from a general summary I arrived at the following prices:—Longwool theaves, 58s. to 69s.; Longwool ewes, 48s. to 60s.; cross-bred theaves, 46s. to 56s.; cross-bred ewes, 40s to 48s. The Longwool rams made from 4½ guineas to 9 guineas, and ram lambs 2½ guineas to 5½ guineas. Lambs fetched from 38s. to 46s. The milch beast realised from £18 to £24, and in-calf heifers from £14 10s. to £9 10s. Messrs. Bradwell's sale amounted to £7,029 for the day.

NOTTINGHAM'S Corporation Farm appears to be rather expensive to manage judging from the report of Mr. Mark Mellers, one of the city auditors. He says: "The books are well kept, equal to any of the city accounts, and call for few remarks, except that the farm is a serious expense to the city, involving a loss for the year of £1,416 3s. 4d. The reason for this large expenditure is the disposal of the city sewage. It appears that there are as many as 2,428 head of horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs on the farm, including some of the finest Shire horses in the world. Is it possible that these are retained too long for show?"

THE above is slightly misleading, for in making calculations it should be remembered that millions of gallons of sewage have to be got rid of, which must be a serious handicap to successful farming. R. K.

October 3, 1907.

Midland Notes.

LORD DARTMOUTH'S remarks on Saturday (made at an exhibition of the Stafford County Council evening school garden produce) indicate how widely the conditions of the small holdings problem vary in different districts. He himself, he said, had some 500 holdings under forty acres each, which the Yorkshire weavers used to cultivate. That was in the days of home employment. Now the growth of the factory system has taken these men and their like into the towns, and the demand for his small holdings has gone. To-day the difficulty is to find tenants. Could one have any more striking demonstration of the fallacy of the belief that everywhere men are "hungering for the soil?"

THE guardians of the Worcester Hop Market met on Monday, when they learned officially that the local crop was now expected to exceed early estimates. Anticipation is now for something not quite so big as the 1905 yield, but "very good" in quality. Since September 19 (the annual fair day), 3,444 pockets have been weighed at Worcester, so that the new season has made a good start, while nearly 5,400 pockets (insured for £15,000) are now in the warehouses.

THE large milk-dealing firms are trying hard to reduce the standard prices on new milk contracts. They find their justification in the abnormally large amount of milk now offering in many districts. But there is no ground for assuming that the present state of things will last, and the milk famine of last year is fresh in mind. I understand the Midland Dairy Farmers' Association is hopeful of renewing contracts at the same rates as those prevailing last Michaelmas, *e.g.*, 1s. 8d. and 1s. 3d. per barn gallon for the London market, and 8½d. for the winter at the local factories. The association, which has had meetings lately at Uttoxeter, Hulme End, and Waterhouses, has now a strong hold; its agencies in London, Birmingham, and Manchester have done good work; and the local factors, where they exist, are found not a little helpful in keeping up the price.

SOME two hundred and seventy-five agriculturist and market gardeners have signed the petition to the county council of Worcestershire, asking for compensation in respect to gooseberry bushes which have been or may be destroyed under the recent order of the Board of Agriculture. The number may not seem very large, considering how many people in the Tame, Arron and Bron valleys make a living out of fruit culture; still the signatories represent upwards of 1,000 acres of gooseberry bushes between them.

MY own inquiries tend to indicate that there is small chance of the county council thinking well of the petition. Urban members—and some others—take the view that danger from mildew, like that from any other similar disease, has to be reckoned an ordinary trade risk, with which the community at large has nothing to do. "We might as well be asked to compensate—for the pot-rot in his sheep, or—(the greengrocer) for the plums that went rotten in his shop, or—(a labourer) because he had to send his daughter to the fever hospital." Such was the opinion expressed the other day by a member of the council whom I am not at liberty to name. It would not be surprising, then, if the gooseberry growers are bluntly told that they must either bear the risks incidental to their industry, or insure against them on their own account.

NEVERTHELESS, a rather different aspect is put on the demand by the statement of Mr. W. E. Collinge, read on Monday at the town hall meeting, Evesham. Mr. Collinge, it seems, has come round definitely to the view that the disease known as American gooseberry mildew is by no means so disastrous as was feared when its presence here was first detected. Now that opinion is shared by many practical growers; and it would be hard to deny the fairness of a claim for compensation where a public authority decrees the absolute destruction of bushes on account of the presence of a disease which might be checked by means less drastic. More than that need hardly be said. One is glad to hear that Colonel Long, M.P., will act as one of the growers' delegates. With him to represent them, in conjunction with the Mayor of Evesham and others, and with the precedent of the Colorado beetle compensation to point to, the growers may be sure of making out a strong case.

October 3, 1907.

Agricultural Conference at Northallerton.

The third annual conference of the North-Eastern Agricultural Federation will be held in the Town Hall, Northallerton, on Friday, the 25th inst at 1.30 p.m., when the following resolutions will be considered:—

1. Legislation Affecting Dairy Farmers.—"That sectional legislation promoted by local authorities which touches the interests of farmers be opposed, and that the Government be requested to deal with the milk and meat supply on national and uniform lines at the earliest possible date." Proposed by Mr. C. Marshall, Northumberland and Durham Dairy and Tenant Farmers' Association; seconded by Mr. T. B. Bainbridge, Stockton-on-Tees Chamber of Agriculture.

2. Small Holdings.—"That, whilst giving general approval to the system of allotments and small holdings, this Federation strongly objects to any additional charge being placed upon local rates through the provision of the same, and to any farmer being dispossessed of his land without ample compensation." Proposed by Mr. J. W. Wilkinson, Hexham Farmers' Protection Association; seconded by Mr. W. Parlour, Darlington Chamber of Agriculture.

3. Taxation.—"That agricultural land should be relieved from a large portion of the burthen of local taxation, a burthen which is out of all proportion to the benefits derived by it from the huge and rapidly expanding outlay on sanitation, education, poor, police, roads, and other local purposes." Proposed by Major Hedley, Newcastle Farmers' Club; seconded by Mr. J. T. Wilson, Stockton-on-Tees Chamber of Agriculture.

The Earl Carrington, K.G., President of the Board of Agriculture, has promised to attend the conference and respond to the resolution.

Votes of thanks.

A whirlwind broke over Leaford Farm, in the village of Whatlington, near Battle, on Wednesday night. One side of the house caught the full force of the storm, which broke the windows, disarranged the furniture inside, and swept away chimney pots and roof tiles, whilst a dozen trees were uprooted, and a fowlhouse was lifted up and dropped in a field twenty yards distant. The effects of the storm were not felt at other houses close to the farm.

For 1907.

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Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

Over-Production of Potatoes.

The production of potatoes on the Continent has increased in recent years to such an enormous extent that the growers experience great difficulty in using or selling their crops at remunerative prices. In Germany alone there are more than 8,000,000 acres under the crop with a total yield of 50,000,000 tons. (In England we produce less than 4,000,000 tons.)

This unsatisfactory position was discussed at the last International Agricultural Congress at Vienna, and a resolution was adopted that

1. Special efforts should be made to extend the use and consumption of potatoes, and with this object the best method of preserving potatoes should be carefully studied; that lower railway rates should be demanded, and that a duty should be put on imported potatoes and manufactures made from them.

2. The advancement of such industries as employ potatoes as raw material—alcohol and starch.

3. Arrangements should be made for carrying over from one year to another products made from potatoes, so that prices may remain fairly uniform over a series of years, including bad and good seasons. The erection of factories for drying potatoes should be encouraged in every possible way, and the discovery of the best systems encouraged in every possible way by prizes and other inducements.

A great industry is gradually being developed in Germany in the preparation of dried potatoes, a product being obtained which will keep for a considerable time, and is found valuable both as a nourishing food for animals and for household consumption.

It is a subject which should be watched by us, because a good system of drying potatoes and fruit would be a most useful adjunct to farming operations in this country. To see the necessity of it, we have only to look at the plum crop this season, when enormous quantities of fruit are being either sold without any profit or allowed to go to waste.

Importance of Wheat Cultivation.

At the same congress the unprofitable price of wheat was discussed, and a resolution was passed "that in view of the absolute necessity of maintaining the acreage under wheat, from considerations both of a political and industrial character, every means should be adopted to make the growth of this important crop profitable to the grower. A failure to maintain the production of wheat on a large scale would lead to the decline of the prosperity of the empire."

It would be reassuring if more importance were attached to similar considerations in this country.

Potash Salts for Grass Lands.

Winter versus Spring Application.

In order to get the best results from the application of potash salts, especially in the form of kainit, it is essential that the fertiliser should be applied in good time; in the winter, or at any rate some weeks before the crop is sown.

The West of Scotland Agricultural College carried out some experiments to test the relative efficacy of winter versus spring application to the hay crop, and reported:—

(1) That the potash in the manure should be applied in winter rather than in spring, in order to obtain the largest increase of hay seed.

(2) That sulphate of potash is less effective than the other potash manures in producing an increase in the yield.

(3) That of the four potash manures employed in the experiments, kainit was found to be the least beneficial form of potash to the clovers, whether applied in winter or spring.

(4) The best results, especially in the second cutting or aftermath, are obtained from muriate of potash or potash manure salts.

Among the other recommendations in the same report may be mentioned the following:—

That the yield of the hay crop can be largely increased by the use of suitable manure.

That complete manures applied in winter or spring produce as marked increases in the second cutting or aftermath as in the first cutting of the hay crop.

That the employment of farmyard manure applied alone to the hay crop is not an economical practice.

That the yield of hay can be greatly increased by the use of suitable artificial manures.

That farmyard manure is very ineffective in producing an increase in the yield of seed, whether it be applied in winter or in spring.

That the seed grown by farmyard manure is inferior in weight and lightness, as well as in total quantity to that produced by suitable dressings of artificial manures.

Effect of Fertilisers on Lucerne.

The success of the lucerne crop is very dependent on the application of suitable fertilisers. This was illustrated in a striking manner by experiments made by the Department of Agriculture, Cambridge University. The results are worth noting:—

Experiment on Lucerne at Saxmundham (Clay Soil). Crops weighed as Hay. Plots 1-20 acre. Figures per acre.

Plot.	Manure applied each year.	Cost of Manure per Annum.	Saxmundham. Yield 2 cuttings.	Aver. yield 3 years, 6 cuttings.	Average increase or decrease (—) due to Manure.
		s.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
1	6 tons farmyard	30	94	67	35
2	3½ cwt. kainit in 1902, 03, 04 4 cwt. bone meal in 1904, 05	9 20	59	40	8
3	2 cwt. nitrate of soda	20	36	31	—1
4	2 cwt. superphosphate	6	92	63	31
5	1 cwt. muriate of potash	9	41	31	—1
6	No manure	—	41	32	—
7	2 cwt. super., 1 cwt. muriate of potash	15	103	70	38
8	2 cwt. nitrate of soda, 1 cwt. muriate of potash	29	38	32	0
9	2 cwt. nitrate of soda, 2 cwt. super	26	90	60	28
10	2 cwt. nitrate of soda, 2 cwt. super, 1 cwt. muriate of potash	35	93	62	30

It brings out the importance of supplying phosphoric acid and potash, as the best results were obtained from a dressing of 2 cwt. superphosphate and 1 cwt. muriate of potash.

The Loss of Fertilising Value in Dung.

Every farmer knows the great value of dung made by animals fed with cotton cake, but an important point to be borne in mind is that such rich dung is much more liable to loss during storage than farmyard manure of a poorer character.

Mr. T. B. Wood, of Cambridge, found the following results:—

Dung made by Animals eating.	Nitrogen per cent. in fresh dung. As ammonia.	As organic compound.	Total.	Percentage of total Nitrogen. As ammonia.	As organic compound.
Roots and hay only	0·028	0·290	0·318	9	91
Roots, hay, and cake	0·203	0·371	0·571	35	65

These figures, observes Mr. Wood, show very strikingly the effect in the composition of the dung from the consumption of a concentrated nitrogenous food such as decorticated cotton cake. The nitrogen, being almost entirely digestible, is excreted in the urine in the form of readily fermentable compounds, which are quickly transformed into ammonia. Of the 42·8 lb. of nitrogen contained in the cake eaten by the two heifers, no less than 23 lb. can be accounted for as increased ammoniacal nitrogen in the dung. It is this quality that causes such dung to have such a marked effect on the crops.

But the presence in the dung of a large percentage of ammonia renders it subject to serious loss during storage. Following Mr. Wood's figures—

	Lbs. Nitrogen in Dung. No Cake Feed.	Cake Feed.
Ammoniacal nitrogen in fresh dung	3·2	25·1
Ammoniacal nitrogen in rotted dung	1·9	10·0
Loss ammoniacal nitrogen storage	1·3	15·1
Percentage loss of ammoniacal nitrogen	25 per cent.	62 per cent.

The dung of the cake-fed animals contains eight times as much ammoniacal nitrogen as the poorer dung, and about two-thirds of this is lost during storage. This great loss of ammonia accounts for 62 per cent. of the total loss during storage in the richer dung, while in the poorer dung only about one-third is lost. There is also a small loss of potash during storage, the quantity reaching the and being only about three-fourths, instead of the whole, and there would also appear to be a loss, though unimportant, of phosphoric acid.

The important point for farmers to consider is how such losses in the valuable manure can be lessened. The best system is to store the liquid separately from the solid manure, by which arrangement the process of fermentation is hindered; but such a plan involves structural expensive arrangements, which are not often possible, and then it would seem that the best plan is to apply the manure to the soil in as fresh a condition as is convenient. The soil will absorb a proportion of the nitrogen and preserve it for the use of the crop.

To Manure at a Profit.

We have pleasure in directing attention to the booklet "To Manure at a Profit—Every Farmer His Own Experimenter"—published at the office of this paper at the small price of 6d. (by post 7½d.). It is a reprint of the series of articles which appeared in these columns some time ago, and attracted a good deal of attention. The writers of the articles combine a thoroughly practical and scientific knowledge of the important subject dealt with, and have succeeded in putting their suggestions and recommendations in simple language capable of being grasped by the reader who is too busy to study the scientific books usually written by scientific men. Every farmer should read the booklet and keep it by him for reference. It can be obtained from the Publisher, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a nom de plume, *in the paper.*

Correspondence dealing with Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs appears in the regular correspondence columns of the paper. We think it unnecessary to publish the table of unit values in each issue. It will be published in an early issue of each month.

We are willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

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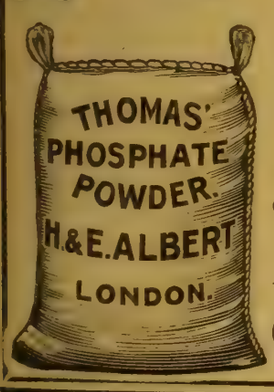
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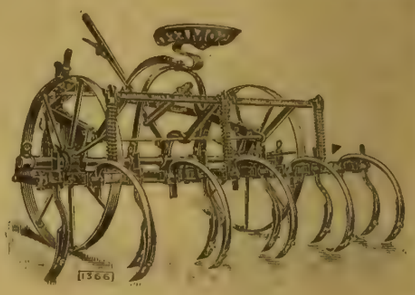
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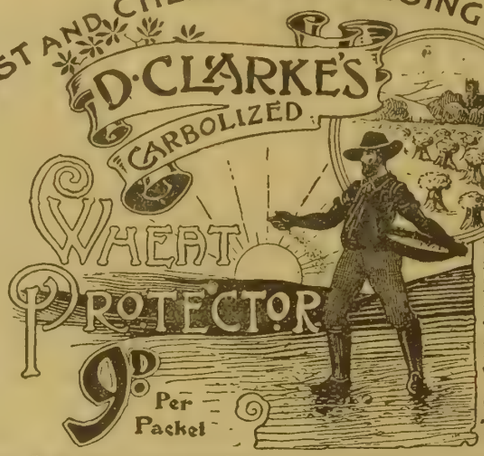
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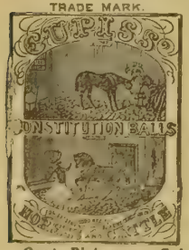
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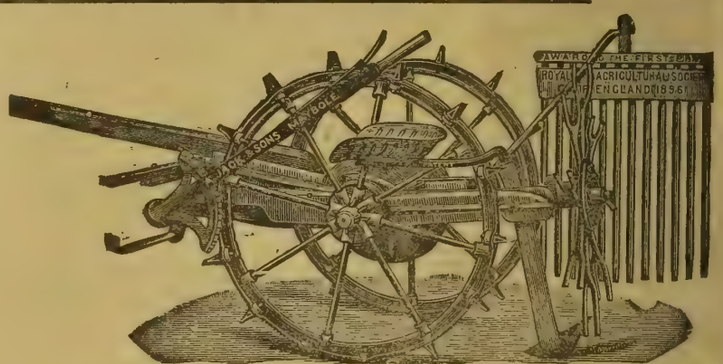
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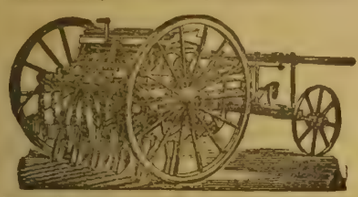
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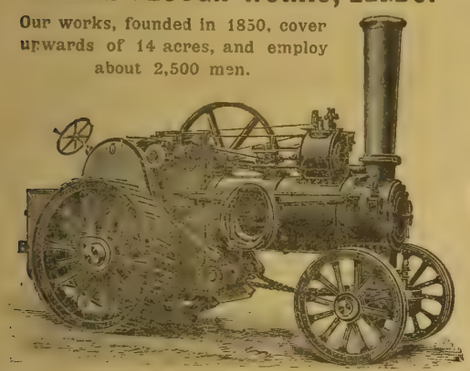
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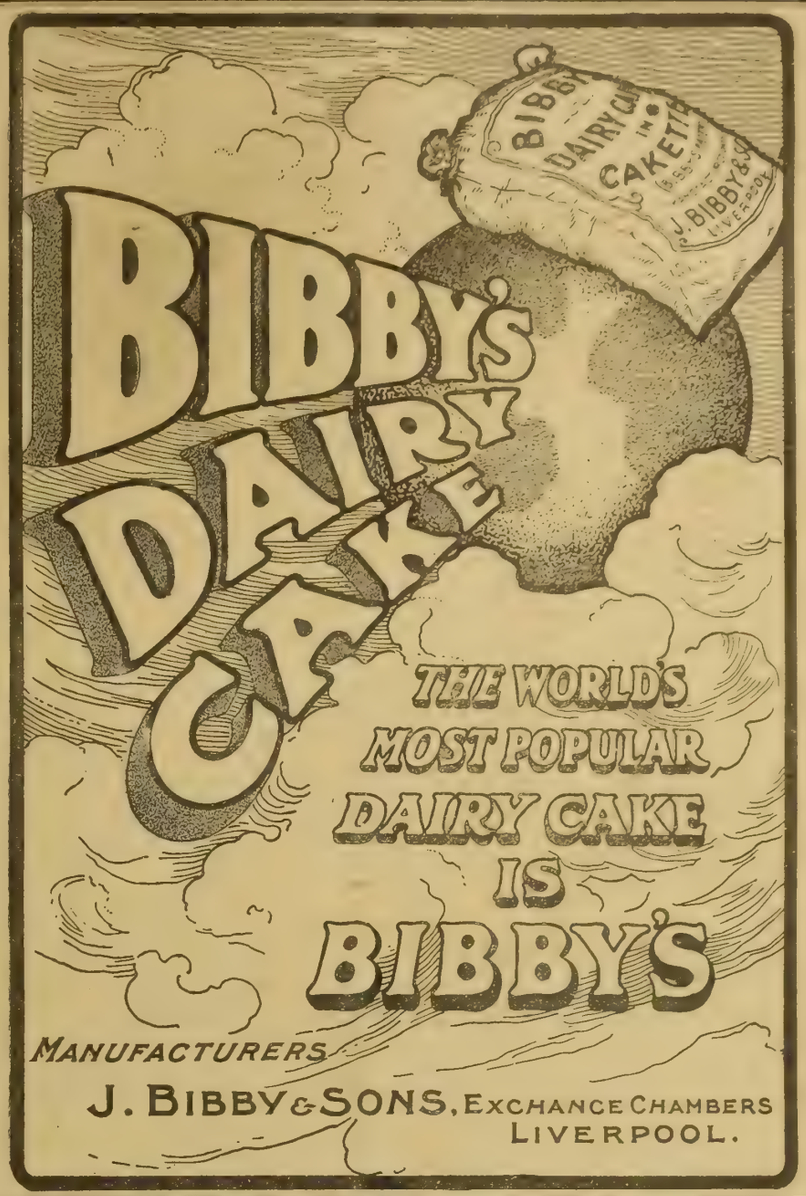
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MOTOR "ACCIDENTS" AND FARMERS.

The increasing antipathy of all country residents to the presence of fast motor cars on our country roads is easily explained by the number of so-called "accidents" which are constantly being recorded in the columns of the daily Press. A particularly bad case is related in another column. Mr. H. H. Owtram, who was the sufferer in this particular instance, wrote asking whether this journal could not take up the cudgels on behalf of the farming industry, and endeavour to obtain some relief by legislation.

Now the difficulty is that unanimity among the various classes affected by the fast motor traffic is impossible. We know that such cases of injury and rapid retreat from the scene of the disaster, such as related by our correspondent, are unhappily by no means rare. Among a certain class of motorists discretion is indeed the better part of valour; and when such inconsiderate drivers and owners as in the case related are brought to justice, something more than a fine is essential if their like are to be prevented from such outrages on peaceful users of our highways.

This question of the limitation of the speed of motors and better means of identification is a very real one; and while we are happy to think that the bulk of motorists are by no means of the type outlined by Mr. Owtram, there are hundreds of irresponsible chauffeurs and owners whom it has become essential should be made to feel the rigour of the law, and be taught once and for all that the roads do not belong to the motor exclusively.

Various plans have been outlined by which such offences could be more easily detected and punished; but it is a subject which well requires consideration, and we should like our readers to place in evidence in our columns their views as to what course legislation should take in this direction.

HURRYING OVER HARVEST.

Perhaps it was the experience of the first part of the summer which caused farmers to have no faith in the clerk of the weather, and when the rain ceased and the sun began to shine in real earnest early in September they could not bring themselves to believe that such conditions could possibly last. Consequently a good many people hurried on with the corn carrying, putting straw and grain into stack before either was dry or ready, and they have lived to repent it. Despite the glorious harvest time, stacks have heated in some cases to the point of firing, and when the time comes for pulling them to pieces for the purpose of threshing the result of being in too great a hurry will be seen in many a stackyard.

One can understand people taking risks with hay in a catchy season, when the work has to be done so many times over, but after corn is cut and set up Nature must do the rest; and what is the good of risking half the value of the crop, or perhaps more, by hauling it to the stack before it is in proper condition?

One looks upon the occupation of gleaning in a cornfield as being something belonging entirely to the past, and the old folks in the country love to tell of the bread they used to bake from the flour made out of the corn gleaned in the harvest fields.

But strange things are always liable to happen, and some districts this year have seen quite a revival of gleaning amongst the cottage folk. The explanation is not far to seek, for crops were so heavy, and in many cases so laid, that the reaper and binder was put out of action, and its work had to be done with scythes or reaping hook. A good many straws were consequently left about to be collected up by the horse rake where the spirit of gleaning was dead,

but where it still remained alive it was quite an old-world sight to see cornfields dotted with women and children engaged in the occupation of Ruth.

In the cases which came before our immediate notice they seemed to quite enjoy it, and the revived experience of gleaning will doubtless be a topic of conversation for some time to come.

Notes of the Week.

Autumn has come quickly on the footsteps of the brilliant close of summer, and our stocks of coal and stores of warm clothes are matters of interest.

"With colour bright the autumn clads the trees,
But men, alas! catch cold and sadly sneeze."

The railway men and the railway companies are engaged in a game of "bluff." There is reason to suppose that a general strike of railway men, which would involve serious consequence, will be averted.

A misunderstanding! The secretary of a Hunt, owing to the large number of puppies this season, advertised for foster mothers, and among the replies was the following:—"Dear Sir,—In reply to your advertisement I beg to offer my services. I am 35 years old; strong, and am fond of children."

Really the prospects of the farming industry look brighter than has been the case for a long time.

Better prices for cereals have come to stay, according to the opinions of those best able to judge, and the autumn sheep sales are very satisfactory.

Three crops in three months must be nearly a record. A farmer in Warwickshire has cut three crops of grass from a four-acre field within that period.

Oxford University is beginning to shake off the dry-as dust conservatism of classical education. A movement is on foot to organise a modern agricultural department, similar to the Department of Agricultural Research so successfully conducted at Cambridge.

We must be careful on the 15th of this month—"Old Moore" says that it will be "an evil day for all things; avoid travelling and visiting."

The enormous crop of plums, a large part of which will be wasted for want of a profitable market, raises again the question of fruit drying or bottling.

On the Continent great progress has been made during recent years in arrangements for drying fruit, and other crops such as potatoes, so that they can be kept for months in good condition.

At an electrical show in America, a number of cows are being milked by an electric arrangement, by which great things in the way of saving labour, cleanliness, &c., are expected.

A casual coincidence. Two men calling themselves A. J. Balfour and John Burns, who have been hop-picking, have applied for admission to the casual ward of Malling Workhouse, Kent. They protest they have given their right names.

The Bishop of London, it is reported, was smothered with kisses by the farmers' wives at Aylmer—where his brother has a farm—in Canada.

And it is added that he managed to give as many kisses as he received. No wonder the poor man showed signs of fatigue.

The German Government stand no nonsense. They recently wanted land for allotments in Posen, so they ex-propriated the Polish landowners.

A landowner, whose woods are infested by nut-pickers, having found the Latin name for hazel nut, has put up the following notice:—"Caution.—All persons entering this wood do so at their own risk. The Corylus avelanna abounds here, as well as equally venomous snakes." The notice has proved efficacious.

The well-known writer, Mr. G. K. Chesterton, is of opinion that it is absurd to make it an objection to brewers that they sell beer. His only objection to many brewers is that they do not, and he has sampled the stuff they sell in a large number of their tied houses.

Growing wheat in France is a prosperous industry. The acreage under the crop in France increased by over 30,000 acres between 1906 and 1907.

The Government are losing no time in acting on their ideas re afforestation. They have made a beginning by buying for £30,000 an estate of 12,000 acres in Scotland for experiments, and to serve as a school for forestry.

Nottingham goose fair maintains its historic importance. It is still opened by the mayor arrayed in all his glory.

Tomato plants stimulated by electricity at the Botanic Gardens are a month in advance of plants left to nature alone.

Berlin is plagued with rats. A society with the title "Rattenvertilgungszweckverband" has been formed for their destruction.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8.—Islington Dairy Show, first day—Horse Fairs at Hay, Denbigh, and Falkirk—Cattle Fairs at Bingley, Swansea, Birkenhead, Denbigh, Kington, and Falkirk—Hay Pig Fair—Sheep Fairs at Hay and Denbigh—Crewe Autumn Horse Sale, first day—St. Ives Special Autumn Horse Sale—Farm Sales at Maidstone and Lynn—Mayfield Agricultural Sale—Farm and Stock Sale at Cranbrook—Hothersall's Autumn Sale of Horses and Live Stock at Preston—Sale of Lincoln Red Shorthorns at Alford.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9.—Islington Dairy Show, second day—Worcestershire Shire Horse Society's Show at Worcester—Horse Fairs at Carmarthen and Cockermouth—Cattle Fairs at Worksop, Bolton, and Dewsbury—Sheep Fairs at Cockermouth and Dewsbury—Crewe Sale, second day—Farm Sales at Chatham, Sutton Valence, Nettlestead, and Tunbridge Wells—Richardson's Annual Sale of Fruit and Other Trees at Tunbridge Wells, first day—Special Sale of Lincoln Curly-Coated Pigs at Boston.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10.—Islington Dairy Show, third day—Horse Show at Ashby-de-la-Zouche—Cork Agricultural Show, first day—Weyhill Great Agricultural Fair—Looe Cattle Fair—Sheep Fairs at Hadleigh, Pontypool, Lancaster, Leicester, and Mansfield—Crewe Sale, third day—Wrexham Horse Sale—Farm Sales at Harty, Brookland Court, Wadhurst Hall, and Whittlesea—Billington Live Stock and Farm Sale—Sending-in Day for the Coleshill Show.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11.—Islington Dairy Show, last day—Cork Agricultural Show, second day—Lichfield Horse Sale—Etchingham Agricultural Sale—Stollery's Cart Horse Sale, The Barbican—Glastonbury Great Fair—Agricultural Fairs at St. Albans, Barnsley, Hull, Malton, Kingsland, Eastbourne, Bishop Stortford, Sittingbourne, Bedale, Tring, Colne, Holbeach, Ashford, and Leyburn—Crewe Sale, fourth day—Lanley (Kent) Farm Sale—Sending-in Day for the Kilmarnock Show.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12.—Crewe Sale, last day—Farm Sales at Challock and Canterbury—Perth Sale of Pedigree Cattle—Norwich, Canterbury, Cambridge, Oxford, Peterborough, Aylesbury, Wisbech, and Colchester Markets; first full supplies of new malting barley expected—Agricultural Fairs at Sevenoaks, Warwick, Alston, Carlisle, Rhayader, and Bedford—Redruth Great Fair—Sending-in Day for the Dufton Show.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 14.—Agricultural Fairs at St. Ives, Leominster, Bakewell, Sherborne, Thorne, Croston, and Ludlow—Farm Sales at Poldhurst, Friningham, and Stamford.

West Country Notes.

AT their meeting on Wednesday the Somerset County Agricultural Instruction Committee made choice of Miss Musgrave from the Herefordshire Butter School to take charge of the Somerset School, in succession to Miss E. W. Stubbs, who has resigned on her approaching marriage. The happy event takes place on the day of issue of this paper.

FROM their unfortunate experimental farm at Bickenhall the Somerset Committee saved a sum of £1,520, the result of the sale of stock, &c. The disposal of this sum to other educational purposes than those of agriculture was suggested, but Mr. A. F. Somerville and Mr. R. Neville Grenville and others pointed out that there was experimental work which could be carried out at the cheese school, and in other directions, for which such money might better be used, and it was agreed to hold it in hand for the present with some such object in view.

THE committee also discussed the subject of the remarks made in the MARK LANE EXPRESS of a week or two ago, and agreed that they would continue to publish the details hitherto given of the work at the school. There are some members of the committee who quite agree that the additional details which were suggested in your comments would be very useful information to cheese makers.

THE price of cheese is slightly better again, and more satisfaction is felt at the current prices than has been the case for the past few weeks, so far as some of the farmers are concerned; but reliable information from dealers shows that they have a difficulty in placing the higher-priced dairies, "unless the price comes down to a point that will induce people to eat more cheese, we shall have a difficulty to clear our stocks this year."

THERE are at last distinct signs, as most people had been anticipating, of the craze for sport invading agricultural quarters. The farmers who are at this season changing hands find, particularly amongst the younger hands, a demand that the Saturday afternoons shall be free for football. Cows and other animals need attention on these days as well as others, and it is at present a problem which requires solution as to how the holiday can be granted and yet the necessary work carried out.

WILL the farmer be ultimately obliged to employ men in shifts or relays, as is done in some other competing branches of employment?

ANE old West Countryman has passed over to the majority in the late Mr. E. J. Stanley, who was for about a quarter of a century member of Parliament for the Bridgewater division. He was well known in the agricultural showyard not so long ago for his fine breed of West country cattle, and won numerous prizes at all the leading shows. He was one of the finest types of squire known in the West, spending his money amongst his neighbours and the towns in his vicinity, and in all possible ways upholding the district in which he resided.

HIS popularity was unbounded in consequence, and his success at the Parliamentary contests in which he engaged was largely assured by this local patriotism.

MOREOVER, he was always a keen sportsman, and the freedom with which he assisted at all functions to promote good and deserving objects about him, enhanced the esteem in which he was regarded.

A QUAINT old custom has been followed in Gloucestershire this week, where the sheriff, having received a writ in ancient form from the King, has given notice to hold a court of freeholders of the county to elect a verderer of the Royal Forest of Dean. The only applicant for the appointment at present is Mr. Charles Bathurst, of Redhill Park, Lydney, the son of the late holder of the office. The verderers meet at the Speech House every forty days to transact any business, but the duties are practically nil. Formerly each verderer was allowed two horses, five spears, one javelin, one shield, and 200 shillings annually for his services in protecting and preserving the King's deer. They had also to administer the quaint old forest laws.

AN extraordinary accident to a child has occurred in North Devon, one that would probably be impossible elsewhere. Mrs. Clarke, wife of a J.P. at Fremington, called at Chilcott Farm, in that parish, and the children ran into the passage to play. One of the children, a boy of two and a half years, tripped and fell into a pan of milk which had just been scalded and set out to cool with others. The poor little lad sustained such severe injuries that he died from the shock. All through the district the deepest sympathy is felt with the parents.

IN both Gloucestershire and Somersetshire this week the reports on the school gardens have been presented, and in each case very favourable results have been attained. An extension is contemplated in Somerset, and also a proper course of instruction for teachers. This should be a valuable adjunct to the work already in progress.

October 4, 1907.

SHEEP: NOTES AND JOTTINGS.

THOSE flockmasters who have been strong supporters of the value of registration of sheep's pedigrees and of the work done by sheep breeders' associations, can with every justification point out to the great success that has been secured by the Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep Breeders' Association as a proof of the soundne s of their contention.

THIRTEEN yeirs have e'apsed since this Association was formed, and during that period the interest of the breed has been fostered and pushed to the fore by untiring energy and perseverance, and the result is that within those few short years a breed, which was then looked upon as quite of secondary importance, has secured for itself and its breeders a position pretty nearly equal to the most popular breed of the present d iy.

THE sale report that was given in our last issue indicates how keen the competition was for the best. It is very seldom indeed, outside the Lincoln breed, that any sale more than one, or at the most, two rams exceed the century, but at Ashford, on September 27 last, four rams sold for over 100 guineas, another made 96 guineas, another 90 guineas, another 75 guineas, and yet another, a four-year-old stud ram, 80 guineas, whilst a reference to the average list makes one almost inclined to say that the Kent or Romney Marsh sheep are soon going to equal the Lincoln in this respect, for we find two of the averages exceeding £40, and three exceeding £20, all of which are in excess of those ever before recorded.

File's sheep, was £40 10s. 4d., and the bottom average of the sale—the Earl of Verulam's—was £4 14s. 6d. A striking difference between two consignments, which is still further emphasised when we remark that the strain of blood represented by the two flocks is, to a large extent, identical.

ANOTHER point to which one may refer in connection with this sale is the striking difference of opinion between the purchasers and the judges. For instance, the first four pens in the competition for the Copper Challenge Cup realised the following averages:—The first prize pen £35 9s. 10d., the second prize pen £49 2s. 10d., the rn pen £24 11s. 5d., and the first he pen (Mr. Charles File's) £68 0s. 10d. Whether or not the averages can be taken as a true test of the individual merits of the respective sheep need not be discussed, but it must be clearly patent to all that the marked preference shown by the purchasers for the last mentioned pen indicates that either a mistake was made or that the purchasers, most of which were buyers for export, were very wrong in their es'imation of the merits of the respective sheep.

THIS week's notes have been largely given over to the Ashford Ram Sale, for it is seldom that so well deserved a success is secured as that to which reference has been made.

IT may be that breeders of other varieties may think that too great prominence has been given to this success. It is not so, however, for the success that has been secured by the society mentioned above can be secured by others also. The first essential is elimination of the individual, and the substitution of the general interest.

old associations and upset many arrangements that have been in vogue for perhaps generations. This, however, cannot be helped, for the demand at the present time is that which has to be supplied. The arrangements suitable for twenty, fifty, or a hundred years back are not suitable now, consequently those who desire to secure the attendance of the buyer must supply him with that which he requires.

CAREFUL thought and a full knowledge of the different systems for disposal of registered sheep throughout the country convince those responsible for the management of the Ashford Ram Show and Sale that the one great want in connection with their breed was the establishment of one central sale at which all the best sheep of the breed could be seen and purchased.

THE first sale, which took place eleven years ago, was not a success, and those who were responsible for its institution were anything but popular, in fact, very hot times were promised to them.

THESE have indeed come, for the success of the past two years' sales have given them a very hot time indeed, not in being found fault with, but in receiving the congratulations of those who were the most bitter opponents at the time when these sales were first established.

TO those breeds—and there are many—which have not yet secured the advantage of the combination sale the writer urges them to lose no time in following the example set them by the Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep Breeders' Association, the Lincoln Sheep Breeders' Association, the South Devon Flock Book Association, &c., for depend upon it, once get a start made, and success is assured.



The Wensleydale Ram shown above is the animal with which the Exors. of the late Mr T. Willis won a First Prize and Special at the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society's Show this year.

MANY valuable and instructive lessons might be drawn from this excellent result, but it will suffice if we mention just a few. The first and foremost is that this success has been secured, simply and solely by reason of the combination of interests having become united and used with one object—*i.e.*, the benefit of the breed. Again, it may be pointed out that the most successful flock at the present sale was Mr. Charles File's, and it is a great satisfaction to those who are believers in pedigree to know that not only does Mr. Charles File individually number his sheep, but that practically the whole of his ewe flock is individually entered in the flock book.

THE success that has followed this system of careful breeding is emphasised in an equally striking manner, by a reference to Mr. J. B. Palmer, who also owns an individually numbered flock, as do also Messrs. F. Neame and A. Amos.

ANOTHER lesson of general interest can be deducted from the result of this successful sale, and that is the marked difference in the receipts received by the vendors for their sheep. The top average, which was secured by Mr. C.

"HOW is it," said a visitor from the Colonies, "that this sale secures regularly so good and general an attendance?" The reply was, "because it is worked for the benefit of the breed as a whole, and not for the individual, the rules governing the society are clear and defined; all sheep offered are for sale without reserve, and those who attend the sale know full well that at the sale there is on offer a larger representation of the different flocks of the breed than at any other fixtures." This is one of the greatest reasons for the success of the sale. Buyers can come, and they do come, from all the different countries in which the breed is known, with full confidence that at the Ashford Ram Sale they will be able to see and compare at one and the same time the representatives of the best flocks of the breed.

THE institution of combination sales of this description takes time, for they affect many

Sale of Lincoln Sheep and Shorthorns.

The flock of Lincoln Long-wool sheep and herd of Lincoln Red Shorthorn cattle, the property of Mr. W. A. Ewbank, of Covenham Manor, near Louth, were recently dispersed by auction. The flock is one of the oldest established in Lincolnshire, and with a large attendance of buyers competition was keen and prices ruled high. The averages were:—Eighty-three shearling ewes, £3 7s 9½d.; fifty-three two shear ewes, £3 8s. 9d; fifty three shear ewes, £3 4s. 9½d.; thirty-four four-shear ewes, £2 6s. 8½d.; 100 shelambs, £2 4s. 4d.; fifty three he-lambs, £1 19s. 11d.; nineteen shearling rams, £7 8s. 8d.; thirty-seven ram lambs, £2 9s. 3d.; thirty cows with calves, £31 16s. 10d.; twelve two-year-old heifers, £22 9s. 9d.; thirteen yearling heifers, £12 2s. 7d.; fifteen yearling steers, £15 7s. 10d.; two stud bulls, £27 19s. 1d.

SALES AND FAIRS.

Blandford.

The October fair at Blandford, Dorset, which is generally looked upon largely as a "cull" fair, was held on Thursday, when the supply totalled between 3,000 and 4,000 at sales held respectively by various auctioneers. The great bulk of the offer comprised Down wether lambs, of which there were some good drafts penned, but was by no means confined to this particular class of sheep. Best Down wether lambs sold from 46s. to 48s. 6d.; others, 35s. to 45s.; Down chilver lambs, 42s. to 44s.; Down mixed lambs, 28s. to 34s.; high condition wether lambs, 51s. to 54s.; Down ewes, 46s. to 53s. A capital clearance was effected, there being a very full attendance of buyers from all parts of the Western counties.

Doncaster.

The first ram sale of the season at Doncaster was held on the 28th inst., when twenty rams belonging to Mr. J. T. Waterhouse, of Braithwell, averaged 7 guineas each; ten belonging to Mr. Ward, of Quarrington, near Sleaford, made £9 10s. per head, and other lots averaged £6 5s., £5 10s., and £5 each.

Mr. C. File's Kent and Romney Marsh Sheep.

On Wednesday there was a large company of breeders present at Elham, near Canterbury, for the sale of a number of ewes and rams from Mr. C. File's well-known flock of Kent and Romney Marsh sheep, and with keen competition a capital sale resulted:—Eighty-five ewe tegs made from 55s. to 95s., twenty four-tooth ewes from 55s. to 87s, five six-tooth ewes 57s. 6d., thirty-seven full-mouth ewes from 60s. to 80s., and twenty-four ram tegs from £5 16s. 6d. to £14 3s. 6d. The ewe tegs thus averaged 72s 6d., the four-tooth ewes, 66s. 10d., the six-tooth ewes 57s. 6d., the full-mouth ewes 67s. 9d., the ram tegs £8 11s. 11½d. Ewes of all ages together averaged 70s. 1d. apiece, and ewes and rams together throughout fetched a grand total of £721 14s, or just over 4 guineas per head. The buyers included Lord Harris, Lord Northbourne, Earl Guilford, Messrs. C. Collard, T. C. Crawford, Cecil Collard, E. J. Goodson, Gordon Brown, A. Miles, Hodgson, G. S. Goodson, G. Setterfield, T. Wotton, F. Greaves, H. Newman, H. J. Smith, R. W. Wood, Gordon Neame, Friend, White, Matthewa, W. Perkins, Palmer, Whittaker, and G. Jekin.

At the same time a number of ewes and rams from the registered flock of Mr. J. File, of Saltwood, were also sold. Sixty shearling ewes realised from 55s. to 62s. 6d., ten, four, and six-tooth ewes made 54s. and of 55 full-mouth ewes, ten made 53s. and the remainder 55s. Six ram tegs fetched from £5 15s. 6d. to £8 8s.

Mr. A. G. Hecks' Dorset Horns.

The registered Dorset Horn breeding flock belonging to Mr. A. G. Hecks, Brimley Farm, Stoke Abbott, was sold by auction on Monday in the presence of a good company, and met with a good demand. The flock comprised 500 ewes and ewe lambs, registered No. 228 in the Dorset Horn Flock Book, and was founded in 1892 from the best West Dorset strains, replenishments having been made during recent years from well-known flocks. The following were the prices made:—Six-teeth ewes: 73s., Mr. R. B. White; 70s., Mr. F. Johnson; 66s. 6d., Mr. J. Davy; 62s., Mr. Cox; 61s., Mr. Masters; 60s., Mr. F. Johnson; 15 cull ewes, 54s., Mr. Woolmington; average, 71s. 6d. Four-teeth ewes: 77s., Mr. F. Johnson; 64s., Mr. Manfield; 63s. (twice), Messrs. G. Mayo and G. Masters; 62s., Mr. W. Chick; 58s., Mr. Marsh; 56s., Mr. J. Frampton; culls to 52s., Mr. Lenthall; average, 60s. 2d. Two-teeth ewes: 57s., Mr. P. Wakeley; 56s., Mr. Bowditch; 55s., Mr. Frampton; 52s., Mr. Frampton; 50s. 6d., Mr. H. Lenthall; average, 54s. 3d. Ewe lambs: 57s., 55s. 6d., and 46s., Mr. R. H. Cooper; 47s., Mr. J. H. Lenthall; 45s. 6d. and 46s. 6d., Mr. R. B. White, down to 40s.; average, 46s.

Mr. H. F. Locke-King's Southdowns.

Mr. H. F. Locke-King, of Okehurst Farm, Okehurst, Billingshurst, Sussex, having let his farms, the whole of the stock was disposed of last week by auction, and included was the well-known flock of Southdown sheep, for which there was a keen demand at good prices. Draft ewes made up to £2 4s.; shearling ewes to £2 15s.; stock ewe lambs, £1 15s. 6d.; wether lambs, £1 17s. 6d.; mixed lambs, £1 14s.; and rams and ram lambs made up to £5 15s. 6d. The average per head worked out as follows:—50 draft ewes, £2; 200 shearling ewes, £2 8s. 9d.; 200 stock ewe lambs, £1 14s. 10½d.; 200 wether lambs, £1 16s. 6d.; 299 mixed lambs, £1 12s. 3d.; 3 rams, £5 18s. 6d.; 13 ram lambs, £3 6s. 3d.

Ripon.

There was a good supply at Ripon October Sheep Fair, held on Thursday, but a very slow trade in all classes except for anything young and good. Best twice crossed lambs made 35s. to 36s., half bred ditto 22s. to 24s, half bred ewes 40s., and shearlings 45s. each. Small show of rams, which were quoted at £3 10s. to £4.

Shrewsbury.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co.'s final sheep sale of the season at Shrewsbury took place on Monday, when there was a large attendance of buyers and satisfactory prices were realised, in fact it was the best clearance that has taken place for some years past. The chief prices, with vendors' names, were as follow:—

Shearling Rams.—Sir Walter O. Corbet, Bt., Acton Reynold, 5½ guineas to 7 guineas; Mr. M. Williams, Whiston, Albrighton, 7 to 9 guineas; Mr. S. F. M. Nevett, Yorton, 4½ to 6 guineas; Mr. P. Everall, Uckington, 5½ to 13 guineas; Mr. T. Jones, Cotwall, Wellington, 5 to 6 guineas; Mr. T. S. Minton, Montford, 8 to 12 guineas; Mr. R. C. Pryce, Broughton, 3½ to 5 guineas; Mr. Frank Bibby, Hardwicke, 6 to 8 guineas; Mr. A. Tanner, Shrawardine, 6 to 14 guineas; Mr. T. G. Juckes, Tern, Wellington, 5½ and 8½ guineas; Mr. C. Blatherwick, the Beam House, Montford, 6 to 8½ guineas; Mr. E. J. Frank, Beslow, Wroxeter, 5 to 6 guineas.

Ram Lambs.—Mr. W. J. Wood, Saredon, Wolverhampton, 2¾ to 2½ guineas; Mr. J. H. N. Walford, Ruyton Towers, 3 to 3½ guineas; Mr. R. C. Pryce, Broughton, 3 to 4¼ guineas; Mr. W. Gregory, Walford, 3 guineas.

Ewes.—Mr. F. Bibby, 55s. to 57s.; Mr. T. Cornes, Lythwood, 44s. to 56s.; Mr. Kent, Eyton, 44s. to 53s.; Mr. Davies, Whitley, 49s. to 51s.; Mr. Jones, The Thresholds, 42s. to 47s.; the Earl of Powis, Powis Castle, Welshpool (ewe lambs), 33s. to 35s.

About 500 Shropshire cross-bred and Clun ewes and wethers made from 40s. to 47s.

Wensleydale Bluefaced Sheep.

The Wensleydale Bluefaced Sheep Breeders' Association and Flock Book Society held their annual show and sale at Hellifield on Tuesday, when the entries were considerably more numerous than last year, and the attendance of breeders and buyers was again satisfactory, but the high rates of last year were not generally sustained, except for the highest class of animal, which was in as much request as ever. The top price was 23½ guineas, given by Mr. R. Procter, of Barkerfield, for the champion ram of the show, Royal Crown, the property of the Exors. of the late Mr. Thomas Willis, of Carperby, the next best price, being £20, paid for the third prize shearling ram (owned by Mr. Thomas Walker, of Grange-over-Sands) by Mr. Morphet, of Dent. Judging occupied the whole morning, and the chief winners, with the prices obtained, were as follows:—

Aged ram.—1, Lord Henry Bentinck's King of Blues, sold to Mr. Smith, of Howden, for £8 15s.; 2, the Exors. of the late R. Ewbank, Lawkland Green, Clapham, Lucky Star, reserved at £4 15s.; 3, T. Woof, Sedbergh, Carperby Prince, £6, to Mr. Bushby, Swinithwaite.

Shearling Rams.—1 and champion sheep in the show, the Exors. of the late T. Willis, of Carperby, Royal Crown, Mr. R. Procter, of Barkerfield, Downham, 23½ guineas; 2, Lord H. Bentinck's Underley Blue, Mr. W. Foster, of Thoresby, £16 15s.; 3, T. Walker, Grange-over-Sands, King Maker, Mr. W. Morphet, of Dent, for £20.

Ram Lambs (class for members who keep more than ten ewes).—1 and reserved for champion, T. Walker, Grange-over-Sands, Mr. W. Graham, Eden Grove, £18 15s.; 2, J. Askew, Skerton, Lancaster, Mr. Coultherd, of Clapham, £6 10s.; 3, R. H. Millner, Mowbrick Farm, Hest Bank, Lancaster, Mr. Robinson, of Strickley, for £6 10s.

Ram Lambs (members with not more than ten ewes).—1 and champion, J. Close, of Carperby, S.O.; 2, T. Kitchen, Tatham Hall, Wray; 3, the Exors. of R. Ewbank, Clapham.

Three Ram Lambs.—1, Lord H. Bentinck, M.P., Underley Hall, Kirkby Lonsdale; 2, Messrs. E. Newhouse and Son, Arncliffe Hall, Slyne, Lancaster; 3, C. Knowles, Ellel, Lancaster.

Ram Lamb (selling class, reserve not to exceed £5).—1 and 2, Lord H. Bentinck; 3, J. Towers, Nether Kellet.

Sheep Dipping.

Although it may seem paradoxical to say so, there are certain cases decided by courts of law that merit consideration more on account of what they do not decide than of what they do, and into this category, we are inclined to think, falls the very recent case of "Bingley *v.* Quest" (1907), reported 71 J. P. 443. In itself the case is only one of a long series of decisions, of which "R. *v.* Hopkins" (1903), 57 J. P. 152, is a good example, on the somewhat technical point that a conviction cannot be supported unless on its face it discloses an offence; but we notice that in certain quarters a fictitious importance has been attached to the case by attributing to it the disclosure of an unpremeditated gap in the legislation for the prevention and eradication of disease in animals. In some newspapers which give prominence to matters connected with agricultural interests it has been claimed for the case that it decides that sheep need not be dipped in accordance with the regulations of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, as formulated in the various Sheep Dipping Orders. The case does nothing of the kind, though it was concerned with the escape from a penalty of a person who had declined to comply with such regulations; but such escape was on purely technical grounds connected with the drawing up of the conviction, and had nothing to do with the merits of the case. In view of this unfounded claim, it may be useful to submit both the decision and the general law on the subject of the dipping of sheep to a brief examination, since the subject is one of considerable importance to farmers and sheep graziers, as well as to the authorities and officers engaged in administering the Diseases of Animals Acts.

Sheep scab, as is well known, is an irritating and persistent disease caused by the presence in the skin of a small parasite which is readily transferred from one sheep to another by contact, or even by bits of the detached wool of an infected animal, and in order to keep the disease in check it has, of late years, been found desirable to provide for the compulsory and periodical dipping of sheep in a liquid designed to kill any parasites present on the skin. Accordingly, by Section 1 of the Diseases of Animals Act, 1903, Section 22 of the Diseases of Animals Act, 1894, was amended and extended so as to provide that the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries might make orders for prescribing, regulating, and securing the periodical treatment of all sheep by effective dipping. In exercise of this power the Board have from time to time made various orders, some of general, others of local, application. For our present purpose we need only refer to these orders in so far as they relate to the composition and preparation of dips. The Sheep Scab Order, 1905, provides (Art. 18) that a sheep dip prepared in accordance with any of the prescriptions (which are three in number) specified in the Second Schedule to the Order, shall be deemed to be a sheep dip approved by the Board for sheep scab, and a sheep dip contained in a package or vessel marked with a statement or indication that the sheep dip has been so prepared shall be deemed to be a sheep dip purporting to be approved by the Board for sheep scab. By the Sheep Scab (Compulsory Dipping Areas) Order, 1906, it is provided (Art. 2) that the owner of any sheep in an area where dipping is made compulsory, must cause the sheep to be treated for sheep scab by effective dipping, and may not (Art. 4) expose them for sale or exhibition in any market, &c., unless they have been thoroughly dipped in an efficient sheep dip, which is defined to mean (Art. 16) a sheep dip approved by the Board for sheep scab, or purporting to be so approved.

By the Sheep Dipping (North of England) (Order), 1906 (and orders in similar terms have been made for other parts of the country), a compulsory dipping area was constituted, and it was provided that where sheep were to be dipped under the Order, they should be dipped by a thorough immersion in a sheep dip approved by the Board for sheep scab, or purporting to be so approved; and that (Art. 19) if a sheep was not dipped as required by the Order, the owner and person in charge of the sheep should, each according to and in respect of his own acts and defaults, be deemed guilty of an offence against the Diseases of Animals Act, 1894.

Having thus briefly stated the law as to sheep dipping so far as it relates to the use of an approved dip, we turn to the facts in the case of "Bingley *v.* Quest" (*supra*). The appellant was the owner of certain sheep within the compulsory area constituted by the North of England Order, and it was his duty to dip his sheep between the 15th and 30th of September, 1906. His shepherd duly gave notice to the local authority of his intention to dip the sheep on the 26th of September, and on that day the sheep were dipped in the presence of representatives of the authority. The dip used, however, was not a sheep dip approved or purporting to be approved by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, and was used by the appellant with the knowledge that it was not an approved dip, for the evidence showed that he stated to the officers, on the non-compliance with the requirements of the Order being pointed out to him, that in his opinion it was more effectual than the approved dip, and that he should not comply with a notice to dip the sheep in an improved dip. Except by the dipping on September 26, the sheep were not dipped at all between September 15 and 30. On October 3 proceedings were taken against the owner before justices, by whom he was convicted "for that he on September 26, 1906, then being the owner o certain sheep"—we quote from the conviction, which followed the terms of the information and summons—"did not dip the same in a sheep dip approved by the Board of Agriculture and Fisher for sheep scab or purporting to be so approved, contrary to the Sheep Dipping (North of England) Order, 1906, and contrary to the form of the statute in such case made and provided." This conviction was upheld at quarter sessions, subject to a case stated.

A perusal of this conviction will make it clear to our readers that it discloses no offence: the owner was not required to dip on September 26,

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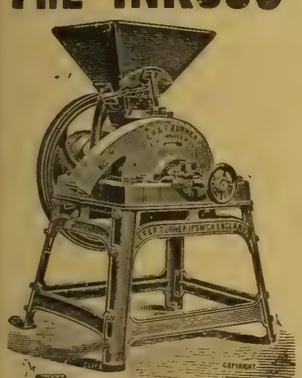
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but between the 15th and 30th, and to have been in order the conviction should have been for, as was the fact, not dipping between those dates. To get over the difficulty it was ingeniously argued that the conviction must be read in the light of the facts proved, and that as the owner did not and, would not, dip before the expiration of the legal period, he was rightly convicted. But, as the court pointed out, to be rightly convicted on facts is not all that is required: the record of the conviction must be properly drawn up so as to disclose an offence in law, and as this conviction did not show an offence, it must be quashed. That was all the case decided, and it leaves as undoubted law that sheep must be dipped before the end of the prescribed period in a dip approved by the Board. It is greatly to be regretted that the lay Press should so loosely report legal proceedings as they have done in this case, actually going so far as to attribute to one of the judges the statement that the Acts did not make it necessary to use a particular dip, and that not using a dip approved by the Board was not an offence, and leaving out all mention of the important qualification of use within the prescribed period.—*The Justice of the Peace.*

Suffolk Sheep Society.

At the last meeting of the council of the Suffolk Sheep Society the secretary read a letter from Mr. B. H. Hinde, secretary of the International Live Stock Exposition, thanking the Suffolk Sheep Society for the offer of £10 for special awards for Suffolk Sheep at the coming International Live Stock Exposition, and he said he was sure that this offer would be thoroughly appreciated by all of the prominent breeders of Suffolk sheep. The secretary also announced the receipt of a later letter on the same subject from Mr. George W. Franklin, secretary of the American Suffolk Flock Registry Association, who suggested that the best way to popularise the Suffolks in America would be along the lines of getting some of the large importers to bring over good flocks of show Suffolks, and make the circuit of the fairs. These men would do this if they had proper inducement. Showing at fairs seemed to be the best way to get the Suffolks before the people. If some good Suffolks could be sent to the president of the association, that gentleman would be glad to show them, as he would be exhibiting at the International.

Considerable discussion took place on the subject, in the course of which it was generally admitted that it would be advisable to take advantage of the opportunity of sending some choice examples of Suffolk sheep, and eventually it was resolved that Mr. S. R. Sherwood, Mr. Herbert Smith, Mr. Thos. Goodchild, and Mr. J. R. Keeble should form a sub-committee to reply to the communications which had been received. Several gentlemen volunteered to send selections from their several flocks, and the president, Mr. E. G. Pretyman, said he should be glad to help the fund by a donation of 10 guineas.

Flock Competitions.

The secretary announced the flock competitions for 1907 as follows:—

Division I.

Class A (one entry): Mr. Percy Eagle, Risby, 250 ewes.

Class B (two entries): Mr. D. Abbott Green, Fingringhoe Hall, 201 ewes; and Mr. R. L. Barclay, Higham, 203 ewes.

Division II.

Class A (four entries): Mr. Leopold Davies, Herringswell, 303 ewes; Mr. Edwin Giles, Great Clacton, 505 ewes; Mr. F. D. Girling, Thorrington Hall, 305 ewes; and Sir E. Walter Greene, Nether Hall, 362 ewes.

Class B (seven entries): Colonel A. W. Ruggles-Brise, Spains Hall, 220 ewes; Exors. of the late Marquess of Bristol, Ickworth Park, 120 ewes; Mr. W. G. Fairhead, Peldon, 157 ewes; Earl of Onslow, Hannams Hall, 155 ewes; Mr. W. F. Paul, Kirton Lodge, about 200 ewes; Mr. Clement C. Smith, Trimley, 188 ewes.

PRETYMAN CUP (thirteen entries).—Mr. R. L. Barclay, 24 lambs; the late Marquess of Bristol, 12; Mr. F. Leopold Davies, 27; Mr. Spencer Dawson, Stratton Hall, 30; Mr. Percy Eagle, 25; Mr. Edwin Giles, 50; Mr. F. D. Girling, Thorington Hall, 29; Mr. D. Abbott Green, 20; Mr. J. R. Keeble, Brantham Hall, 19; Earl of Onslow, 18; Mr. C. C. Smith, 19; Mr. H. S. Smith, Walton, 18; and ditto, Grimston, 16.

The chairman pointed out that it was satisfactory to know that there were twenty six entries this year, in comparison with twenty-two last year.

Ear Marking.

The chairman read the report of the Editing Committee on the subject of ear-marking, which stated that it was unanimously decided to recommend the council to appoint an official ear-marker for each district, whose services would be available to any member of the society desiring his assistance. The suggested charge for his services to be one penny per sheep marked, with a minimum

Continued on page 432, column 3.

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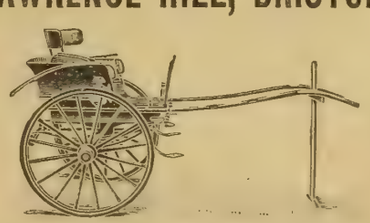
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LIGHT TWO-WHEEL CARS,

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LIGHT SPRING TIPPING CARTS, LUGGAGE CARTS, &c.

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AUCTION SALES.

Auctioneers will favour us by sending in their advertisements as early in the week as possible.

Charges for announcements under this heading, Six Shillings an inch.

By Messrs. IRELAND.

Norwich, Norfolk.—Ireland's Norwich Hill Auction Mart (established 50 years). Every Saturday. Fat Bullocks and Sheep, Store Sheep. Special Spring and Autumn Store Cattle Sales.

MESSRS. IRELAND solicit consignments for these important weekly sales; best market value assured.

Cattle consigned to Ireland's, Norwich, will be properly fed and carefully attended to.

All cattle weighed upon entry to the sale ring if desired. Full particulars to be sent to—

IRELAND'S, Auctioneers.

Norwich, Norfolk.

By Messrs. BELCHER, ADKIN & BELCHER.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT SALE TO-MORROW.
NEW FARM, COMPTON, BERKS.
Within a mile of Compton Station, on the Didcot and Newbury Line.

BELCHER, ADKIN & BELCHER are honoured with instructions from the Lady Wantage to SELL by AUCTION, on TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, the valuable stock of this 1000 acre Farm, comprising 12 staunch Cart Horses, possessing plenty of size and bone, and worthy of the attention of town buyers and agriculturalists, 40 well-bred, carefully selected, and coloury Shorthorn Heifers, fit for fatting or breeding; the registered flock of Hampshire Down Sheep, viz., 600 Ewes, 2, 4 and 6 teeth, 174 Ewe Lambs, and 544 Wether Lambs, all in excellent order, 85 half-bred Berkshire and Tamworth Pigs, a type noted for its rapid growth and producing the class of hog mostly in demand, 172 head of Poultry; also the capital Implements, Machines, Wagons, Carts, Harness, and other usual items, which have for the most part been recently overhauled and put in thorough order.

Sale will commence at 11 o'clock. Sheep and other Live Stock at 2 o'clock.

Catalogues may be had of the Auctioneers, Wantage, Berks.

By Mr. W. BAINBRIDGE.

SEVENTH ANNUAL UNRESERVED SALE OF GALLOWAY, ANGUS AND BLUE-GREY SCOTCH-BRED CATTLE.

SIR GILBERT GREENALL, Bart., who yearly summer-grazes a large number of POLLED CATTLE on his extensive Stud Farms in Norfolk and Derbyshire, will offer by PUBLIC AUCTION about

400 PRIME SCOTCH POLLED BEASTS,
Many of which are Blue-Greys,
At the Stud Farm, Terrington St. John, Norfolk, at 1.30 prompt,
On WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1907.

They consist of two and three-year-old Bullocks and Heifers. A number have been cake fed and are fat, others just require finishing; the stores are very thick and forward, and will make good weights. They are the most beautiful lot of cattle ever offered here.

Terrington Stud Farm is two miles from Terrington Station, M. and G. N. Railway (conveyances will be arranged for on day of sale), and about 6 miles from King's Lynn and Wisbech respectively.

Further particulars of W. BAINBRIDGE, Land Agent, Walton House, Warrington.

By MR. F. AUSTEN BENSTED.

SITTINGBOURNE ANNUAL AUTUMN LEAN STOCK and REGISTERED KENT RAM TEG SALE.

MR. F. AUSTEN BENSTED will hold the above Sale on WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16TH, 1907, in the Albany Road Meadow, adjoining the Bull Hotel, Sittingbourne. Sale to commence at 10 o'clock. Rams at 1 o'clock. 5,000 KENT and HALF-BRED SHEEP and LAMBS, including about 70 one and two lambed ewes, and 200 three-lambed ewes from the Registered Flock of the Right Hon. Lord Harris, and 170 REGISTERED KENT RAM TEGS, from the well-known flocks of the Right Hon. Lord Harris, Lt.-Col. Honeyball, Messrs. M. Bensted, Exors. of the late Mr. W. Elvy, B. Gascoyne, R. G. E. Locke, P. P. Manwaring, and W. F. Wood. Catalogues may be obtained of the AUCTIONEER, The Lawn, Sittingbourne.

By Messrs. JOHN THORNTON & CO.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15.—Mr. Geo. Harrison's SHORTHORNS, at Gainford Hall, Darlington.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16.—Extensive Sale of about 200 SHORTHORNS, at York.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17.—Mr. A. Deverell's entire herd of 45 KERRY CATTLE, at Attington House, Tetsworth, Oxon.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18.—Mr. T. Stokes' SHORTHORNS, at Warmington, Oundle.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18.—Extensive Sale of about 80 JERSEY CATTLE, at Bletchley.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22—Mrs. Maitland Spencer's herd of JERSEYS, at Hillylands, Oakhill, Bath.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24.—Mr. Arthur Hiscock's SHORTHORNS, at Motcombe, Shaftesbury, Dorsetshire.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25.—Mr. C. E. Hogg's entire Dairy Herd of GUERNSEY CATTLE and a few JERSEYS at Alltrees, Cowham, Sussex.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON & Co., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

By Mr. HARRIE STACEY.

By Order of the Executors of the late Mr. T. C. Woolcock.
IMPORTANT TWO DAYS' SALE.
PETRIDGE WOOD FARM,
EARLSWOOD, REDHILL,
one mile from Earlswood Station and two miles from Redhill and Horley.—Mr.

HARRIE STACEY having let this Farm, and also Margery Farm, Kingswood, is instructed to Sell by Auction, at Petridge Wood, on THURSDAY and FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17 and 18, 1907, at 11 o'clock precisely each day
THE WHOLE OF THE VALUABLE
LIVE AND DEAD FARMING STOCK
including about
200
head of
HORNED STOCK, viz:—
94 SHORTHORN DAIRY COWS,
20 SHORTHORN IN-CALF HEIFERS,
18 YEARLING HEIFERS,
60 SHORTHORN HEIFER CALVES,
4 SHORTHORN BULLS,
(included in the above is a small herd of Pedigree Shorthorns).
9 useful CART HORSES, 4 CART COLTS, NAG MARE, NAG GELDING, and 5 PONIES,
also the
IMPLEMENTS AND MACHINERY.

Catalogues may be had at the place of Sale, and of Mr. HARRIE STACEY, Auctioneer, Land and Estate Agent, Redhill, Reigate and Tadworth.

By Messrs. BOULTON & COOPER.

ANNUAL MICHAELMAS SALES OF RAMS AND BREEDING SHEEP AT MALTON.
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11TH, 1907.
(First Fair Day.)

MESSRS. BOULTON & COOPER will SELL by AUCTION at their Mart in the CATTLE MARKET, MALTON.

300 PEDIGREE LINCOLN, LEICESTER, and DOWN RAMS, and

500 LEICESTER, LINCOLN, and CROSS-BRED GIMMER SHEARLINGS and YOUNG EWES, from the most celebrated flocks in the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire.

Sale of Rams at 11 o'clock; Breeding Sheep at 2 o'clock.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12TH, 1907.
(Second Fair Day), in the Fair Field, Malton, at 10 o'clock.
SPECIAL SALE OF
1,300 LEICESTER, LINCOLN, and CROSS-BRED GIMMER SHEARLINGS and BREEDING EWES, from the most noted Wold Flocks.

Catalogues of all Sales forwarded free on application to the AUCTIONEERS, Malton, Yorks.

charge of 5s., plus railway fare. The committee also recommended the council to appoint inspectors, preferably members of the council, who would attend sales and examine the registered sheep offered, reporting to the society any cases of incorrect or deficient ear-marking. It was further suggested to circulate the above decisions, if adopted, to all members of the society, at the same time pointing out the importance of correct and careful ear-marking.

On the motion of Mr. J. C Dawson, seconded by Mr. J. R. Grimsey; and Mr. Frank Roberts having pointed out that it was somewhat too late to take action this year, one-third of the returns having been already sent in, it was resolved that the question of the appointment of inspectors should be brought forward at the next meeting, and that the secretary should issue circulars in due time next season with respect to effective ear-marking.

Cheviot Sheep Society.

At the annual meeting of the Cheviot Sheep Society, Mr. Borthwick, of Oxnam Row, was unanimously re-elected president for the ensuing year, and Mr. J. Robson, Newton Bellingham, was reappointed secretary.

At the same meeting a letter from Mr. G. G. Rea, of Middleton, Wooler, with reference to the question of classes for Cheviot sheep at next year's Royal Show at Newcastle, was read. He suggested that they should draw up a list of classes and classification as regards numbers to be exhibited in a pen, which should be sent to the secretary of the Royal Agricultural Society, with an intimation of what they would be prepared to subscribe. As next year's show was so near the Borders, it seemed a particularly fitting occasion to make a special effort to have the breed well represented.

Mr. Robson, secretary, said they should give something to the Royal Society. It was important that they should keep the Cheviot Society before the Royal, and he felt confident that if they did not support them both financially and by showing more than they had been doing, these classes might be taken out of the prize list, which would be a great pity. It was the Royal Show to which most of the foreigners went first, and if they allowed the Cheviot classes to die out there, they would lose any chance of foreign support.

Mr. John Elliot, Hindhope, moved that they ask the Royal Society to give four Cheviot sheep classes—viz., aged tups, dinmonts, ewes, and gimmers. Mr. M'Kerrow, of Boreland of Southwick, seconded, and it was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. Jacob Robson, Byrness, moved that they also suggest that ewes and gimmers be shown singly instead of in threes. Mr. Thomas Elliot, Attonburn, seconded, and the president said he thought it was a very good proposal, although he doubted if the Royal Society would agree to it. Mr. M'Kerrow said they should draw their attention to the fact that this was what the Highland and Agricultural Society had done and it brought out more sheep.

This suggestion was also agreed to.

The president said that as a breed society they should give some financial support to the Royal, and after some discussion, Mr. John Elliot, Hindhope, moved that they give £15, on condition that the Royal Society provided four Cheviot classes, and the motion was agreed to.

Leicester Sheep Society.

A meeting of the council of the Leicester Sheep Breeders' Association was held at the Keys Hotel, Driffield, on Thursday last, Mr. L. Clarkson (Huggate Lodge), vice-president, being in the chair. It was decided to again contribute £18 as a class prize for Leicesters at the Royal Show at Newcastle next year. The council were, however, not entirely agreed as to the principle of contributing to the prize list. At the request of the Stock Prizes Committee of the R.A.S.E., the council nominated six members as competent judges of Leicester sheep, from which a selection will be made for the Newcastle meeting.

Store Stock Sale at Dublin.

Mr. Gavin Low held his second autumn sale of over 900 head of cattle. There was a good attendance of English and Scotch men, but prices were 1s. per cwt. below Mr. Low's last autumn sale. The top live weight was secured by Mr. J. Williamson for a very choice two and a half-year-old Aberdeen-Angus bullock, which was sold for £14 7s. 6d. Mr. J. T. Smith sold a fine lot of three-year-old Aberdeens for 31s. 6d. per cwt. Mr. Nicholson's Hereford yearlings gave rise to considerable competition, and made 30s. 6d per cwt. Lord Clonbrook's cattle were also very fine, and excited keen bidding, comparatively few lots changed hands at less than 27s. per cwt. A good clearance was effected.

THE FUTURE OF HORSE-BREEDING.

Profitable Hunter Breeding—Over-Feeding—The Encouragement of Other Breeds—The Hackney Cross—Cleveland Bays and Coach Horses—The New York Show.

Profitable Hunter Breeding.

LAST week I intimated that Hunters might be bred so as to leave a satisfactory profit if the breeder begins on right lines and does not go to the trouble and expense of breaking in and schooling, which, in a great majority of cases, is done badly, a fact that is patent to everyone who goes amongst horses. That there is less risk of leaming a horse when he is sold at three years old is obvious; for the high-spirited and well-bred horse is far more liable to accident in the hands of a bad horseman than in those of a good one. It may be objected that as dealers do not care to buy until a horse is five years old, the market for a three-year-old will naturally be limited. A moment's consideration of the facts will, I think, show that this will scarcely be the case. A four-year old costs a great deal more than a three-year-old, if he be a good one, and he is still a year off work; whilst in a great majority of cases his education has to be begun all over again. So unless he is a very good one the dealer looks shy at him. But in every important hunting country there are many farmers and a few gentlemen who like to graze a few hunters and who are good customers for likely three-year-olds, which they break themselves and school for a season before passing them on to dealers or others. A three year-o'd, however well he has been done, if he has been done judiciously, leaves plenty of profit at £50 or £60 if his dam has earned her living all the time, which she should have done, and more than done, if one of the right sort.



Our illustration above is of the Hackney Pony Stallion Mickleover Swell, sire Sir Horace, dam Mickleover Mite. Mickleover Swell was bred by Mr. H. E. Ayre, Mickleover, near Derby, who won with him the First Prize for two-year-old Pony Stallions at the Hackney Horse Society's Show this year.

Over-Feeding.

I AM in complete agreement with Mr. Angas about the over-feeding and forcing of young animals. Letting young horses rough it in all weathers, and giving them nothing but what they can find for themselves in the pastures, is one extreme; pampering them with highly nitrogenous foods, oilcake and such-like, is the other. Nothing can be more absurd than putting on fat on purpose to get it off again, and I have heard many trainers inveigh bitterly against the practice which, is not only unnatural but unnecessary. A yearling wants to look like a yearling. Of course, if he has to be raced he must be well done, and by the way, I do not think any foal or yearling is any the worse for a little corn judiciously given. And the same over-feeding that does so much harm to the Thoroughbred does equal harm to other breeds, and many a good horse is ruined in the first two or three years of his life by being forced for show purposes. It is a very singular thing that whilst every man is opposed to this over-feeding in theory, let him once show or have a sale and he at once commences to feed his horses hard, and if some of them are not as fat as bullocks he hastens to apologise for their want of condition and to explain that he has not had time to get them "up." His argument is that if they are not fat neither judges nor the public will look at them. Is he right? I am afraid so. At any rate, I know it requires considerable courage to give a first prize to a good poor horse.

The Encouragement of Other Breeds.

AGAIN I am quite in agreement with Mr. Angas on the question of the encouragement and subsidising of other breeds as well as the Thoroughbred. When the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding was appointed I was examined before it, and I then pointed out that there was urgent need of encouraging other breeds than the Thoroughbred. I pointed out that whilst our country was being depleted of its best Cleveland Bays, Coach Horses, and Hackneys, we were spending our money in buying back what our foreign customers bred from our own stock, and that the time would come when we should sadly feel the want of those horses which were being regularly and in great numbers exported from our shores. That time has come, but it is not too late even yet to recover our position if we make an effort in the right direction.

The Hackney Cross.

MR. ANGAS speaks of a cross between a Hackney and a Yorkshire Coach horse. This cross has been tried considerably, and as a rule high-class harness horses are the result. I can put my hands on many that are bred that way. But I would urge upon Mr. Angas and the gentlemen who are desirous to see the result of this cross or that, that it is of the greatest importance that there should be plenty of pure race to cross from or the foundation will soon be lost. I do not think, however, that such horses as would result from this cross will ever make saddle horses. I had several of them in my time, but I have never seen one any officer would ride as a charger. Their place is a gentleman's carriage—or the plough. Hackney breeding is all right if conducted on proper lines, and there is plenty of money in it. But breeding cross-bred Hackneys, that is, breeding the ordinary ride-and-drive horse, is anything but a lucrative business. The bicycle hit the third-rate Hackney trade very hard, and the motor-car has done its share in injuring it. For instance, doctors have motor-cars, not horses, nowadays.

Cleveland Bays and Coach Horses.

THE want of the Cleveland Bay and Yorkshire Coach Horse is being felt now, when perhaps they are more neglected than at any period of their history. A good Cleveland Bay or Yorkshire Coaching mare is invaluable, as I have shown again and again. Now, alas! the high-class Cleveland Bay or Coaching mare is getting scarcer every day. There are Cleveland Bays and Yorkshire Coaching mares of fine pedigree that are by no means what I mean. I am afraid that in order to meen the fashionable demand for quality breeders have let that predominate, and have in many instances lost type. I would not be misunderstood. Quality in any horse is highly necessary, but equally necessary is the preservation of type. A Cleveland Bay or Yorkshire Coaching mare of the right sort could take her share of the work on a farm, and breed anything—a Hunter or a high-class Harness horse; or if a misfit, a useful vanner or artillery horse or remount. And whilst we have been theorising for thirty years about raising a breed of light horses of general utility, whilst men have talked and written columns upon columns of theory, we have wilfully neglected the valuable material we had to our hands. Is it too late now to make a change in our policy? I think there is yet time myself, but it is getting short.

The New York Show.

JUST as I am closing my article a prize list of the New York Horse Show has come to hand. Hackneys make the most interesting feature of the show to English exhibitors, and both for stallions and mares there are full classes from yearlings upwards, and covering all the varieties of height. Harness classes will also be numerous, and the English Hackney Horse Society is giving a £100 gold challenge cupin the harness classes. It is to be hoped that English exhibitors will avail themselves of the opportunity of returning the visit our American friends paid us last June, and that at any rate they will not come empty away. The show will open on November 18 and close on the 23rd, and entries close on October 26. Mr. Euren, the secretary of the Hackney Horse Society, will be pleased to give any information to intending exhibitors.

THE LOOKER-ON.

Sale of Shires at Peterborough.

A most successful sale of Shire horses was held at Peterborough Repository on Wednesday, the outstanding feature being the good demand for the animals from Mr. R. W. Hudson's stud, which, to the regret of Shire breeders, is being given up, Mr. Hudson having decided to relinquish farming. Mr. Hudson had twenty-seven animals forward, and how good the demand for these was can be imagined when it is stated that the average per head worked out at over £110. No fewer than a dozen of them ran into three figures, the best price being 270 guineas, given by Mr. H. S. Leon for the well-known mare Blythwood Laurel. Lord Rothschild paid the next best price, viz, 260 guineas, for the stallion, Lockinge William II. by Lockinge Forester, whilst Mr. Balderston had to bid 240 guineas before he could secure Danesfield Defiance by Hendre Hydrometer. How the remainder sold, together with purchasers' names, will be seen from the list appended, all the animals mentioned being sent by Mr. Hudson. Numerous other consignments were offered, and realised up to 100 guineas.

		Gs.
Danesfield Lass, foaled 1902	Mr W Maxwell	64
Hendre Jeannette, foaled 1900	Mr H S Leon	145
Desford Chance, foaled 1903	Mr F W Horrell	46
Blythwood Laurel, foaled 1900	Mr H S Leon	270
Bay colt foal	Mr Bowery	58
Poole Duchess, foaled 1901	Mr Pearson	125
Danesfield Champion Duchess, filly foal	Mr Fowler	100
Danesfield Champion Feathers, filly foal	Mr Whittome	85
Danesfield Champion Dazzle, colt foal	Mr Whittle	105
Danesfield Tapestry, foaled 1905	Mr Brand	116
Danesfield Betty, foaled 1905	Mr H Munson	56
Danesfield Fortunate, foaled 1906	Mr. Lowesley	86
Danesfield Peeress, foaled 1906	Mr Truman	72
Queen Dorothy, foaled 1906	Mr Richman	52
Danesfield President, foaled 1906	Mr Bowery	76
Danesfield Ringleader, foaled 1906	Mr Knott	40
Danesfield Primus, foaled 1906	Mr Fielding	56
Tatton Royal William, foaled 1906	Mr Truman	125
Lockinge Woodcutter, foaled 1906	Mr Bryers	82
Danesfield Hero, foaled 1906	Mr J H Grundy	44
Beachendon Royal Harold, foaled 1899	Col Henriquez	190
Danesfield Park, foaled 1902	Mr Bowery	105
Grange Chief, foaled 1901	Mr J W Nettleton	136
Shangton Sir Redvers, foaled 1902	Mr Truman	66
Lockinge William II., foaled 1904	Lord Rothschild	260
Danesfield King, foaled 1905	Mr J H Bryars	64
Danesfield Defiance, foaled 1905	Mr Balderston	240

Major Cobbold's Suffolks.

In consequence of the farm being let, the stud of Suffolk horses and flock of registered Suffolk sheep, together with other items belonging to Major A. W. Cobbold, were disposed of by auction at the Lodge Farm, Hollesley, on Friday, in the presence of a representative company of breeders, including many members of the Suffolk Horse Society, notably the president, Sir Cuthbert Quilter, Bart., who helped the horse section of the sale considerably by securing some of the high-priced animals. The chief prices for Suffolk horses were as follows:—

Pert, f. 1904, s. Smith's Prince Albert, 50 guineas; Purity, f. 1903, s. Smith's Prince Albert, 46 guineas; Peggy, f. 1902, s. Smith's Prince Albert, 50 guineas; Peerless, f. 1901, s. Sir Cuthbert Quilter's Prince Wedgewood, 49 guineas; Pansy, f. 1901, s. Smith's Wedgewood, 51 guineas; Phyllis, f. 1901, s. Smith's Saturn, 60 guineas; Polly, f. 1900, s. Pratt's Golden Grain, 48 guineas; Promise, f. 1891, s. Wolton's Dauntless, 34 guineas; Smiler, f. 1893, 48 guineas; Procter, f. 1903, 44 guineas; Puck, filly, f. 1905, s. Smith's Prince Albert, 55 guineas; Gelding, f. 1905, s. Rendlesham Star, 36 guineas; Filly, foal, f. 1907, s. Rendlesham Star, 20 guineas.

With respect to the Suffolk sheep, ten two-shear went at 62s each, and a score at 57s. Ten three-shear ewes at 75s., ten more 66s., and a score at 50s. Full-mouthed ewes sold at from 60s., and the young ewe and wether lambs from 36s.

The purchasers of stock included:—Sir Cuthbert Quilter, Bart., Mr. Fred Smith, Sir Cecil S. Benson, Hertford, Mr. R. E Proctor, Langenhoe, Mr. J. Cant, Colchester, Mr. J. A. Hamilton, Kelsale, Mr. E. S. Catchpole, Mr. J. F. Thurston, Fressingfield, Mr. C. I. Pratt, Mr. James Toller, Blaxhall, Mr. Harold Dawson (for Mr. J. D. Cobbold), Mr. Thompson, Mr. Wm Freeman, Mr. Hawes, Mr. Coleman, Mr. Nathan Minter, Mr. Bloss, jun., Mr. Bates, Mr. C. A. Creasey, Mr. Bendall, Mr. Boast, and others.

Show and Sale at the Keynsham Stud.

In view of the lapsing of the annual show and sale of the Compton Stud at Templecombe this year, the Keynsham Stud Company thought it, a fitting opportunity to institute an annual show and sale at their stud, and it was held on Wednesday. There was an entry of thirty-eight, and by no means a bad start, but the prices obtained at the auction sale were disappointing. There was a rather meagre class of Shire foals, the second prize only being awarded to Mr. H. J. Chancellor, Rookery Farm, Norton Malreward, with a very useful bay filly. There was a much larger class of yearlings and two-year-olds, and here the first prize-taker was Silver King, sired by Castern Harold, and shown by Mr. J. Gifford, Chewton Keynsham.

The light horses were better represented. In the class for colt or filly foals suitable for field or road, the first prize went to Dr. W. R. T. Hawkins, Ashley Road, Bristol, with a very smart foal, Ilex, whilst for colt, gelding, or filly suitable for hunting, one and two years old, exceeding 14 hands and 14 hands 1 in. respectively, Mr. G. E. Churchill, West Harptree, was placed first with his shapely filly, Sybil, which has won at Bath and elsewhere this season. There was a rather larger entry of mares and geldings three years old and upwards, exceeding 14 hands 3 in., to be shown in saddle, suitable for hunting. The first prize went to a very useful mare, Mr. G. E. Smart's Lady Dorothy, by Mountain Dew, from Combe Hay Park, Bath. In the harness section for colt, gelding, or filly, one and two years old, any height, Mr. J. Loxton, Queen Charlton, was first with Young Phenomenon, a dark bay colt, and in the harness class, three years old and upwards, Mr. C. B. Brock's six year-old mare, Black Bess, from Portishead, was an easy first. There were also polo classes, which were fairly well supported.

At the sale the Keynsham Stud Company's animals were placed in the ring first. The best price was but 25 guineas made by the pony stallion Rory, bought by Mr. Hargreaves, whilst others sold down to 8½ guineas. Amongst the general animals offered, Mr. G. T. Candy's two-year-old shire filly, Flower, realised 15½ guineas from Mr. Hurditch; Mrs. B. B. Fox's Bessie going to Mr. Carson, at 15 guineas; Mrs. Fox bought Mr. R. G. Hall's harness filly yearling, Bright Light, at 11 guineas; and Mr. Pillers purchased Mr. Stadden's Schoolmate at 26 guineas.

Messrs. Simpson, of Hunmanby, Yorks, have sold a Leicester shearling ram, a gimmer shearling, and two two-shear ewes from their pure-bred flock for exportation to Ireland.

At a well attended meeting of dairy farmers, held at Wellington, Shropshire, on Monday evening, it was unanimously decided to form a local branch of the Midland Farmers' Association.

PIGS.

Sale of Mr. Inman's Berkshire Pigs.

One of the best sales of Berkshire pigs ever held in this country took place on Tuesday at Highmoor Farm, Henley-on-Thames, when Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. sold Mr. G. Talfourd Inman's herd of Berkshires. Breeders were present from all parts of England, and the great average of £11 4s. was obtained for 112 head, or a total of £1,254 15s. being realised. The celebrated boar Highmoor Mikado was reserved, but his son, Highmoor Curio, was purchased by Mr. Colin Campbell for R. W. Hudson, Esq., at 80 guineas; his own sisters, Mimosa and Geisha, going to Mr. Hudson and Sir R. P. Cooper at 35 guineas and 41 guineas respectively.

As will be seen by the sale list below, many high prices were reached, the whole of Mikado's produce selling at good prices. One January boar went to Mr. W. Candy for export at 48 guineas, another to Mr. Sanday at 31 guineas, and a third to Mr. Laurence Currie at 37 guineas. Altogether the sale was a brilliant success, and reflects much credit on Mr. Bryant, who for many years has managed the Highmoor herd.

Pigs.		Gs.
Sow, Danesfield Stella	Mr H Vise	12
Sow, Compton Daisy	Mr A Brown	13
Sow, Highmoor Dowager	Mr E Wherry	12
Sow, Highmoor Thistle	Mr R Carter	19
Sow, Compton Rosebud	Lord Manvers	21
Sow, Highmoor Polly	Hon C Portman	13½
Sow, Highmoor Adula, own sister to previous lot	Mr H Vise	15
Sow, Highmore Adèle, own sister to previous lot	Lord Manvers	25
Sow, Highmoor Adora, own sister to previous lot	Mr V Colby	21
Sow, Highmoor Burn	Mr R Swanwick	15
Sow, Highmoor Hilda	Mr R W Wood	12½
Sow, Highmoor Gipsy	Lord Manvers	15
Boar, Highmoor Curio	Mr R W Hudson	80
Sow, Highmoor Mimosa, own sister to previous lot	Mr R W Hudson	35
Sow, Highmoor Geisha, own sister to previous lot	Sir R P Cooper	41
Sow, Highmoor Dalia	Mr G F Raphael	11½
Sow, Highmoor Dulce, own sister to previous lot	Mr S Sanday	21
Sow, Highmore Queen	Mr J McMonies	24
Sow, Highclere Laburnham	Mr A Brown	12
Sow	Mr L Currie	18½
Sow, Highmoor Tata	Mr L Currie	19½
Gilt	Lord Manvers	15
Gilt, own sister to previous lot	Mr H Peacock	16
Gilt, own sister to previous lot	Mr H Peacock	20
Boar, own brother to previous lot	Dr Macdonald	15
Gilt	Mr B Wood	16½
Gilt, own sister to previous lot	Mr C F Raphael	14½
Gilt	Duchess of Devonshire	11½
		Gs.
Boar	Mr S Sanday	31
Boar, own brother to previous lot	Mr M J Sutton	15
Boar	Mr W Candy	48
Gilt, own sister to previous lot	Mr R W Hudson	20
Gilt, own sister to previous lot	Mr H Sessions	18
Gilt, own sister to previous lot	Lord Manvers	11
Gilt	Mr J Jefferson	12
Boar	Mr L Currie	37
Boar	Mr W Buckley	12
Gilt	Hon. C. Portman	13½

FARM STOCK SALES.

Earl of Chichester's.

The Earl of Chichester having let Hoddern Farm, Piddinghoe, Sussex, the stock, comprising twelve cart horses and six cross-bred heifers, with a large quantity of agricultural implements and machinery, was dispersed by auction. The horses fetching the highest prices were those bought by Mr. Funnell, who paid £38 17s., £35 14s, and £29 18s. 6d. apiece for three. Prices for the other horses ranged from £28 downwards. In the cattle lots, the highest price paid was £12 5s. for a part Sussex cross-bred heifer, Mr. West being the purchaser.

Mr. H. Harris's.

A large company was present at the sale of farm stock belonging to Mr. H. Harris, Steventon Manor, Hants. Sheep realised good prices, two-tooth ewes 80s., 76s., 74s. (twice), 72s., 69s., 65s., 63s., 61s., &c.; four-tooth ewes, 80s., 68s. (twice), 67s., 66s. (twice), 60s. (twice), 56s. (twice), 55s., &c.; six tooth ewes, 82s., 71s., 66s., 60s. (three times), 59s. (three times), &c.; Chilver lambs, 54s., 51s., 49s. (three times), 48s. (twice), 47s., 45s., 44s. (twice), &c.; wether lambs 48s. and 44s. 6d., and mixed lambs 34s. The horses were keenly bid for, and made up to 50 guineas; the dairy cattle realised up to £19 5s. The swine and the poultry concluded a very successful day's sale.

Mr. F. Warren's.

Some good prices were obtained at the sale of live and dead farming stock belonging to Mr. A. Warren, Great Bathampton Farm, Wyle, Hampshire. There were 180 lots of dead stock which realised good prices as there was the flock of registered Hampshire Down sheep. The 116 four-teeth ewes made up to 67s., average 62s. 6d.; 137 six-teeth ewes to 68s., average 62s. 8d.; 21 full-mouthed ewes, 60s; 205 ewe lambs made up to 48s, average 45s.; and two-teeth rams up to 80s. The cart horses made up to 44 guineas, and the dairy cows to £20 10s., £19 (twice), and £18, averaging £14 10s. per cow.

The late Mr. G. Morrice's.

The extensive old-established Hampshire Down breeding flock, teams of cart horses, pigs, cattle, poultry, and dead stock the property of the Exors. of the late Mr. G. Morrice, Rockbourne Down Farm, were dispersed by auction in the presence of a good company of buyers and a satisfactory sale resulted. The 200 lb. of dead stock were first disposed of at good prices, then followed the pigs, porkers realising up to 52s., sows and pigs to £7 10s., and sows in farrow to £6 7s. 6d. The sheep followed and realised the following prices:—198 two-teeth ewes, 68s. to 58s., average 64s. 8d.; 162 four-teeth ewes, 58s. to 63s., average 64s.; 135 six-teeth ewes, 67s. to 56s, average 65s. 9d.; 49 full-mouthed ewes averaged 58s. 5d.; 225 ewe lambs from 55s. to 39s., average 46s.; 40 cull wether lambs, 41s. 6d.; and 44 ditto, 35s; 14 cart horses from the farm were next offered, and met with keen competition, making up to 51 guineas. The nine cows and heifers also sold at good prices.

Mr. W. C. Keevil's.

The sale of Mr. W. C. Keevil's extensive live and dead farming stock at Teffont Magna, Wilts, attracted a large and representative company of buyers, and the stock met a good demand. The flock of regular Hampshire Down sheep sold as follows:—221 two-teeth ewes, 76s. to 60s., average 65s. 6d.; 215 four-teeth ewes, 70s. to 59s., average 63s. 6d.; 169 six teeth ewes, 68s. to 59s, average 63s.; 13 regular draft ewes made 54s.; 212 ewe lambs, 52s to 44s., average 46s. 6d.; shearling rams, 55s. to 65s.; ram lambs, 58s. to 5 guineas, the average of the whole 839 ewes, lambs, and rams together being 59s. 6d. The cart horses made up to 50 guineas. The horn stock sold as follows:—Heifers and calves, £18 5s. to £13 5s. Springing heifers, £17 singly, and £32 10s. and £27 per pair; four yearling heifers made £34 10s., and three ditto £25.

The Late Mr. W. Flower's.

The sale of the live and dead farm stock of the late Mr. Walter Flower, Coombe Bissett, held on Monday, proved a most satisfactory one. The sale commenced with the dead stock, mostly of a much used description, but which realised full value. Luncheon was next partaken of, the sale being resumed with the registered Hampshire Down flock, which elicited keen competition: 135 two-teeth ewes made from 72s. to 61s., average 68s.; 125 four-teeth ewes, 73s. to 65s., average 68s. 6d.; 120 six-teeth ewes, 72s. to 64s., average 67s. 6d.; 103 full-mouthed (or regular draft) ewes, 66s. to 60s., average 63s.; 194 ewe lambs, 56s. to 46s., average 49s., whilst the seven ram lambs which had been in service made 85s., 75s., 70s., 60s. (thrice), and 50s. The cart horses, which were of a medium-sized tight and active stamp, made up to 48 guineas, whilst the in-calf cows fetched up to £17 10s., the sale concluding with the poultry, which fetched from 2s. per head.

Mr. T. Watson's.

There was a very large attendance of farmers and stockbreeders at Old Salts Farm, Lancing, on Friday, when the live and dead farming stock belonging to Mr. Thomas Watson, who is relinquishing farming on account of failing health, was sold by auction. Mr. Watson has held Old Salts Farm for something like thirty-six years, and it was a matter for regret that indisposition prevented him from being present at the sale. The catalogue included fifteen young pedigree Shire brood mares, fillies, and colts (several being prize winners), and they sold well at prices up to 54 guineas. The herd of Shorthorn dairy cows and heifers numbered fifty-six, and included Ruby, which won second prize at the County Show at Brighton last year, second at Arundel this year, and was first in the dairy class at the Sussex County show at Hastings, and also in the milking trial at the same show. This cow fetched top price, £38, being sold to Mr. Robinson, Lewes. Another prize cow, Duchess, which was first at the County Show at Hastings, was sold for £28, and will go to Guildford, Mr. Kelly being the purchaser. The herd realised over £1,100, and the average price obtained was £19 15s. Some pedigree bulls made up to £28, and the Southdown lambs were disposed of at prices ranging from 38s. to 42s.

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

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HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL, Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

GRIFFIN, F. W., Boro' Fen, Peterboro'. Shire Stallions, Mares, and Fillies for sale, in natural condition; 40 pedigree mares kept for breeding; every facility to foreign buyers.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Hereford. Stud Horses: Lockinge Lord of Misrule and Lockinge Bonny Lad, both by Lockinge Forester, full brother to Lockinge Forest King. Colts and Fillies for Sale.

JOHNSON, WALTER, Hatfield, Doncaster. Stud Horse, Lambton King 16757; Stallions for hire; weighty young Stallions, Mares, and Fillies on Sale.

MUNTZ, FREDERICK ERNEST, Umberslade, Hockley Heath, Warwickshire. Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, prize-winners.—Particulars from Mr. JOHN T. B. HARTLEY, Estate Office.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners, on Sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

PEARSON, E. E., Brickendonbury, Hertford. Shire Stallions, Mares and Stock for service and sale; prize winners. Stations: Hertford, Great Eastern and Great Northern.—Apply Estate Office, Brickendonbury, Hertford.

ROWELL, JOHN, Bury, Huntingdon. Breeder Shires and Hackneys; Stallions for sale, hire, or service at home; mares and fillies for sale.

WHITEHEAD, Robert, Fashionably bred mares and fillies in natural condition on Sale. Stallions, Bodenham King 17177, Whitestone Prince Alfred 22930.—Apply J. M. JOHNSTONE, Hargate Hall, Buxton. Station, and telegrams, Millers Dale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

BENSON, ALFRED, Upper Gatton Park, Merstham, Surrey. Hackney Stallions: Copper King 7764, reserve champion, London Hackney Shows, 1905 and 1906; yearling Colts and Fillies by Copper King and other well-known Stallions for sale. For particulars, pedigrees, &c., apply to T. Hyett.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

PONIES.

BEALE, Mrs. A. J., Cacketts, Cudham, Kent. Prize-bred Pedigree Shetlands for sale; three grand Stallions at stud.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

PREECE, JOHN ADNEY, Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston, Northampton.—Herd of 250 Shorthorns, best Bates and Scotch blood; stock Bulls, Duke of Barrington 70th, Primrose Earl 89641, and Royal Baron 93192; Bulls and Heifers for sale.

ROTHWELL, R. R., Much Hoole, near Preston. Pedigree Shorthorns, chiefly Scotch blood. Stock bull Strowan Marquis 13th, winner of many prizes. Young bulls and heifers always on sale.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

TAYLOR, GEORGE, Cranford, Middlesex.—Bates' Shorthorns, deep milkers. Winners Milking Competitions, London Dairy Show, 1905-6. Bull Calves for Sale. Stock Bulls: Beau Sabreur, Drumcree, Rowbury, and Kirkcharm.

WORDSWORTH, Dufficarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

CATTLE—*continued*

SUSSEX.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath, Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Sussex Cattle (descended from the oldest and best strains of blood), unrivalled for their early maturity, the production of the best beef and working oxen, and ability to thrive in all weathers on the roughest fare. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for Sale.

HEREFORDS.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for Sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

PULLEY, CHARLES THORNTON, Lower Eaton, Hereford.—Noted prize-winning herd of HEREFORD CATTLE. First prize Royal winners, Protector 19660 1900; Eaton Champion 21351, 1903; and Ashleaf 3rd, 1905. This herd is headed by Eaton Champion and Glendower 2nd 22196, also a Royal winner. Bulls and Heifers for sale. Also prize-winning Shropshire Sheep.—Apply Mr. HEDLEY JONES, Lower Eaton Estate Office, Hereford.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has in 1904 1905 and 1906 won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by Endale, Bage Protector, and Fusilier. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited.—Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford Herefordshire.

DEVONS.

BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton Williton, Taunton, Breeder of Pedigree Devon Cattle. A speciality for large size, with quality and robust constitutions; colour dark red. Sent to all parts of the world. Prices moderate.

SKINNER, ALFRED C., Pound, Bishop's Lydeard, Somerset. Pedigree Devons, constitution, quality, size, milk; 600 prizes principal shows, many champions; exports most successful; bulls and heifers for sale. Inspection invited.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

BRIDGES, J. H.—This old-established herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle of the leading families can be seen at Langshott Home Farm, Horley, Surrey (near Horley Station, L.B. & S.C.R.), and catalogues obtained on application to Mr. Albert Pulling.

HURSLEY PARK HERD OF ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE, the property of Sir George Cooper, Bart., comprising Erica, Pride, Miss Burgess, Lady Ida, Matilda, Jemima of Morlich families. Prizes won during 1906: 7 firsts, 3 seconds, 3 reserves, 1 challenge cup, 2 silver medals, 3 reserve champions. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.—Catalogues on application to J. E. Thorold, Estate Office, Hursley Park, Winchester.

THE ROCKLIFFE PARK HERD of Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, Ericas and Prides. Stock Bull, Pundit of Preston (17,156), Champion at Highland Show, 1904.—Apply, R. C. SWAN, Rockliffe Park, Darlington.

AYRSHIRES.

WALLACE, JAMES, J.P., Auchenbainzie, Thornhill, Dumfriesshire, Scotland. Breeder of pedigree prize-winning Ayrshire Cattle; hardy, healthy, good milkers; bred for dairy purposes, beauty and style. Bulls and Heifers for sale.

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably, from his prize-winning herd of Red Polls, Bulls, Cows, Heifers, from good milkers.—Apply C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

CARY-ELWES, V., Billing Hall, Northampton. Breeder of Jersey cattle.

JERSEYS, and Alderney Guernseys, fresh calved and near calving. Prices, particulars.—R. WHEADON, Ilminster.

MERTON GRANGE GUERNSEYS.—Property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. This Herd contains Champion Bull Royal Counties, Portsmouth, and Champion Cow Royal Derby, 1906. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of best Breeding for Sale.—Telegrams and particulars, W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay.

STERN, Sir E. D., Fan Court, Chertsey, Surrey. Herd of pedigree Jersey Cattle. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

TICHBORNE PARK, GUERNSEY.—Yearling Bulls and Heifers for sale.—Apply, D. MICHIE, Estate Office, Tichborne, Alresford, Hants.

GALLOWAYS.

GRAHAM, ROBERT, Auchengassel, Twynholm, breeder fashionable Galloway Cattle, winners at Royal and Highland Societies Shows. Pedigree Bulls, Cows, and Heifers, also Blue-greys for feeding, for sale. Commissions carefully executed.

KERRIES & DEXTER KERRIES.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

CATTLE—*continued.*

KERRIES & DEXTER KERRIES—*continued.*

THE DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE'S PRIZE-WINNING DEXTER HERD.—During 1904 and 1905 this Herd won more prizes than any other three Dexter Herds combined, including both first and second milking prizes Royal, 1905, and first London Dairy Show, 1906. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers generally for Sale.—CHILD, Compton Place, Eastbourne.

RATTRAY, DAVID, Gortnaskehy, Ballybunion, Co. Kerry. Pedigree Prize-winning Herd of Kerries and Dexters. 15 Prizes and Honours won by Cattle from this Herd past three years. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONG WOOL.

ANDERSON, JOHN, Barton on-Humber.—The old Barton Flock of Pure-bred LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, Flock Book 106. This flock is noted for hard constitutions and fine, lustrous wool. Inspection invited. Telegrams as above.

ATKINSON, T., & SON, North Kelsey, Lincoln. Old-established flock of pure Lincoln Longwools. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Noted for great size and long lustrous wool. Have given great satisfaction at home and abroad. Inspection invited.

BROCKLEBANK, JOHN, Bassingham, Lincoln, (Flock 24). Pure-bred Lincoln Longwool Rams and Ewes. This old flock has been carefully bred for 100 years. Telegrams: Basingham.

BROOKS, W. J., Stowe Lodge, Weedon, Northants (Registered Flock 165), has for sale Rams and Ewes of best blood.

DRAKES, Wm., Tealby, Market Rasen. Flock No. 72 of Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs of best blood for sale. Lincoln Red Shorthorns. Prices moderate.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Grimsby, and 3 from Stallingboro Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

SMITH, HENRY, jun., Cropwell Butler, Nottingham. Lincoln Longwool Flock No. 7, winner of £2,361 in prizes. Champion pen Lincolns, Smithfield Show, 1896; Association Championship, Leicester, 1897; Association Championship for pen of 3 Shearling Rams, Yorkshire, 1900; Championship, Rutland, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, and 1906. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1907.—Extraordinary records: Twin ram lambs let for 215 and 120 guineas. Ninety averaged £21 10s. Selections always for Sale.

OVEY, R. L., Hernes, Henley-on-Thames.—Pedigree HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK, Reg. Vol. IV. Prize-winners leading shows last five years.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. The Cholderton flock is individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded in the Hampshire Down Flock Book. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cho'derton, Salisbury.

THE CHILMARK FLOCK OF REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—Owner, JAMES FLOWER, Chilwark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records. Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, out of 11 years competing, 'The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" won eight times, thrice second, with pens of 8 ram lambs; a marvellous record. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 13 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05-06. At the Royal at Derby, 1906, every First Prize, two Seconds, and the Champion were won; an unequalled success!! Champions Birmingham, 1905, over all breeds, Reserve in 1906. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Short-wools, Smithfield, 1904-05-06. Highest average past 13 years. Bridford Fair, Aug. 12, 100 Ram Lambs, annual sale. Selections for Sale.

(Continued on page 436.)

SHEEP—*continued.*

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS—*continued.*

WINCHESTER, the Most Hon. the Marquis of, Ampert St. Mary, Andover, Hants. Pure-bred flock of Hampshire Down Sheep; high-class Rams and Ewes always on Sale.

OXFORD DOWNS.

ADAMS, GEORGE, Royal Prize Farm Flock, Faringdon, Berks. Pure Oxford Down Sheep, Shearling Rams, Ram Lambs, Ewes and Ewe Lambs for Sale. Special arrangements with foreign buyers. Many first prizes at R.A.S.E. and other shows during past 25 years, including 2 first, 2 second, and 4 other prizes, World's Fair, Chicago, and 7 firsts, 4 seconds and champion at Royal Bath and West, Royal Counties, etc., this year.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

TREADWELL, JOHN, Upper Winchendon, Aylesbury.—Oxford Down Sheep. Annual Ram Sale, first Wednesday in August. Prizes won at R.A.S.E. 24 years in succession. Ewes for Sale.

WENSLEYDALE.

UNDERLEY WENSLEYDALES (Blue-faced), from the best blood obtainable. Successfully exhibited.—Apply, G. G. ROBINSON Bailiff, Underley Farm, Kirkby, Lonsdale.

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

CHARLES SPENCER, having taken over the Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts, herd of Large and Middle White Pigs, which won 12 prizes and reserves with 11 exhibits at Derby Royal, will price any of them.

FULWOOD HERD LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES, property R. R. Rothwell. 200 head bred from winners at leading shows.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for Sale at moderate prices

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices. —J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM. Herd of Large White Pigs. The oldest and largest Herd in Notts County. Over 100 Breeding Sows kept. Upwards of 600 to select from. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—Apply ARTHUR A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

SPALDING HERD of Pedigree Large Whites, young stock and in-pig Gilts for Sale. All bred from great winners.—ALFRED W. WHITE, "Hillegom," Spalding.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

PIGS—*continued.*

LARGE WHITES—*continued.*

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 100 to choose from. Correspondence invited. Grand young breeding stock always on Sale.—Apply R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts (15 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

MIDDLE WHITES.

THE CATTON HERD of Prize-winning MIDDLE WHITE PIGS, property of J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stock Boar Castlecroft Mikado, 1st Park Royal, 1st Bath and West. Gelts and Boars on Sale. Prices moderate.—Apply BAILIFF, Raddle Farm, Edingale, Tamworth.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 86 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

LARGE BLACKS.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath. Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Large Black Pigs of the best strains of blood, noted for their docility and for the production of a large proportion of lean meat. Good selection of Boars, unrelated Gilts, and in-pig Sows for Sale at reasonable prices.

CATTON HERD OF PRIZE-WINNING LARGE BLACK PIGS.—Stock Boar Trevisquite Excelsior 1487, 1st Devon County, 2nd and Reserve Champion Royal Show, 1906; pigs kept in hardy natural condition; gelts and boars always on sale.—Apply, J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stations: Croxall, 2½ miles (M.R.); Alrewas, 3½ miles (L.N.W.).

HASKETON CHAMPION PRIZE HERD OF LARGE BLACK PIGS.—This herd has won the Royal championship three out of four times, and is the only herd having won the breed challenge cup. Record: 47 firsts, 37 seconds, 11 thirds, 126 prize-winning cards; the herd this year being the winners of 14 firsts, 6 seconds, 2 thirds, championship and silver cup in five shows. Gelts and Boars at moderate prices consistent with quality. Exportation a speciality.—Apply, C. F. MARRINER, Hasketon, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS.—Select Herd, bred from choice Prize Winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale, moderate prices.—H. J. CLARKE, The Slade, Roughley, Sutton Coldfield.

WHEN Breeding, breed from the best Pedigree Large Black Prize-winning Pigs. TREVEGLOS HOPEFUL II., winner of First prizes and R.A.S.E. Silver Challenge Cup, 1907, beating all other Cup winners; also 1st Prize Bath and West, Newport; 1st Royal Counties, Maidenhead; 1st Royal Cornwall, Liskeard; 1st Devon County Bideford; also 1st prize at the Royal Show, Lincoln, for Boar and Reserve for Champion prize. Boars and Sows for Sale of the above strain at moderate prices.—Apply to JOHN WARNE, Treveglos Farm, St. Mabyn, R.S.O., Cornwall.

PIGS—*continued.*

BERKSHIRES.

CARNARVON, the Earl of.—Prize winning Pedigree Herd. BOARS and GELTS, eligible Herd Book. Prices moderate.—Apply W. T. HALL, Highclere Farm, Newbury.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge. Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

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1st Bath and West Newport; 1st Royal Counties.
1st Nottingham; 1st Suffolk; 1st Norfolk.
1st Derby.
1st Hereford and Worcester; Special Prize Lincoln Agricultural Society; 1st Great Yorkshire; 1st Newark.

A number of additional Firsts and other Prizes have also been gained at the above Shows.

At the St. Louis Exposition, U.S.A., in 1904, the Champion Boar, and the Grand Champion of the Exposition were bred at Colston Bassett.

The Foreign and Home trade has largely increased during 1907.—GILBERT H. ELLIOT, Estate Office, Colston Bassett, Notts.

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Lincolnshire Notes.

THE agricultural organisations of Lincolnshire are forming up their battalions for the big fight against railway rates. I do not know what the issue will be. The railway companies have a huge armoury and they are strongly entrenched. But the attacking forces are setting the right way to work. The proposed public meetings in Lincoln and Lincolnshire will publish the farmers' grievance to the world ; the deputation to Mr. Lloyd-George will stir up the powers that be. It is more than possible that justice is going to be done at last. At all events, a measure of justice seems likely to be obtained.

THE first shot was fired on Friday afternoon, when a private consultation was held with Mr. Cohen, of the Board of Trade. The whole case of the Lincs farmers and traders was put before Mr. Cohen, who stated that he was anxious to place a *bona fide* statement before the Board of Trade, and that the matter will be considered in due course.

THE Lincs Agricultural Society has had a good year. Its income has exceeded the expenditure by £200. Arrangements are well in hand for the Sleaford exhibition, for which a site has been selected on the Lincoln Broad.

THE dispersal sale of the Hatton herd of Shorthorns was held on Monday. The herd, which is sixty-seven in number, was founded from the famous stock of the late Mr. John Walker, of Girsby. It has been carefully bred from the sires of the Earl of Yarborough, Messrs. Chatterton, H. E. Cartwright, G. A. Oliver, and others. The animals are deep coloured reds, heavy fleshed, and from good milking strains. The late owner has always found a good market for his young bulls, and has gained honours in the showyard, one of his cows taking third prize at the Lincoln Royal Show. The animals sold well at prices up to 28 guineas.

AT the same sale were also included 400 Long Wool sheep, gimmers making up to 62s, two-shear ewes up to 65s., ewes up to 61s. 6d., he lambs up to 42s. 6d., she-lambs up to 43s. 6d., and half-bred lambs up to 45s.

FIRST amongst the organisations which are working to encourage the breeding of Lincoln Shires is the Louth Shire Horse Society. It is only four years old, but it has done a splendid work. It has produced some notable sires. In its first year it was singularly fortunate in securing Red Lynch Victor Chief 19056, hired from Mr. Bryars, of the Nailstone Stud, near Sheffield. He fathered a grand lot of youngsters. During the past three years sires have been leased from Lord Rothschild's noted Tring stud, and the first animal sent into Lincolnshire from the Tring stud was Girton Charmer 20515, champion at the London Show. Last year the society secured Birdsall Menestrel, also a London winner, with whom Lord Rothschild won the gold cup outright, taking the trophy three years in succession. As a sire Birdsall Menestrel has proved a veritable gold mine, and his progeny this year have practically won all before them, making their bow only to Mr. Samuel Leggate's chesnut by Sargeant VI.

THE society held its annual show on Monday and realised a record entry. The colts found the winner in Mr. J. W. Davy's bay, which was recognised in his class at the Royal Show. In the filly foals there was keen competition, and everybody was surprised to see Mr. E. A. Kirk's bay defeat Mr. W. Bowser's bay, which had not tasted defeat up to a fortnight ago. Mr. Kirk's filly took first at Scunthorpe and at Alford, and she has come on a great deal lately. Among the yearling colts Mr. Gilbert Houlden's black filly, which won at Louth last year, was an easy winner, and Mr. E. H. Cartwright's bay filly easily headed the list of a splendid lot of two-year-olds. She is indeed a beautiful animal, who has taken first and champion wherever she has been shown. In the class for mares and fillies she was again shown, and finished a fine second to Mr. G. H. Upton's Raithby Granite. The silver medal for the best foal went to Mr. E. A. Kirk, and the Shire Horse Society's medal to Mr. G. H. Upton.

A WELL-KNOWN farmer has just passed away in the person of Mr. William Webster. The deceased for the past twenty-three years resided at the Heneage Arms and made a wide circle of friends, being a frequent visitor to the markets in the neighbourhood.

THE question of registration of corn samples is making progress. It is being discussed in farming circles all over the country, and there is a general sentiment in its favour. It only remains for the Farmers' Union to strike the iron when it becomes sufficiently hot, and another of the anomalies which harry the farmers' lot will have disappeared.

THE disposal of the flock of Lincoln Long Wool sheep and Lincoln Red Shorthorn cattle, the property of Mr. W. A. Ewbank, of Covenham Manor, near Louth, took place on Thursday. The flock is one of the oldest established in Lincolnshire, and the prices ruled high. The averages were :—Eighty-three shearling ewes, £3 7s. 9½d. ; fifty-three two-shear ewes, £3 8s. 9d. ; fifty three-shear ewes, £3 4s. 9½d. ; thirty-four four-shear ewes, £2 6s. 8½d. ; 100 she lambs, £2 4s. 4d. ; fifty-three he lambs, £1 19s. 11d. ; nineteen shearling rams, £7 8s. 8d. ; thirty-seven ram lambs, £2 9s. 3d. ; thirty cows with calves, £31 16s. 10d. ; twelve two-year-old heifers, £22 9s. 9d. ; thirteen yearling heifers, £12 2s. 7d. ; fifteen yearling steers, £15 7s. 10d. ; two stud bulls, £27 19s. 1d. The aggregate of the sale was close on £3,000.

MORE wagers. An interesting challenge was decided at Horncastle on Tuesday between two local men named H. Boothby and H. Blenkiron. The question was which could carry a 19 stone bag of beans the greatest distance. The men decided that they should start on the Wharf Road, and carry the bag round the river side between the Wesleyan School Bridge and the Town Bridge, a distance of just over a quarter of a mile. Blenkiron started first and did well, but had to drop his load 20 yards from home, and Boothby succeeded in finishing, and thus won. The match was watched by a number of interested spectators.

SEVERAL Shorthorn bulls from the herd of Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons, of Dowsby Hall, near Bourne, have been sold for export to Buenos Ayres. Two of the animals have the well-known Scotch-bred bull Imperial Favourite as sire, which Messrs. Dean sold for export to the Argentina at the long price of £1,045.

Essex Notes.

THE anxieties of harvest, so far as we are concerned, are practically over. Now come two questions :—The best time to thrash our produce and the best price ? and, What shall we sow ?

AS to the first question, undoubtedly if corn is thrashed at once there is not much waste, either through vermin, imperfect thatch, bottoms getting damp, or any other of the ills we are liable to.

AS to prices, now that 36s. has been given locally, with cost of carriage but a small amount, many are quickly getting their wheat to the mill, and they certainly seem to be on a firmer footing ; for, with money to go on with and autumn work waiting to be done, they are now more free to cope with future difficulties of weather, &c., should they unfortunately occur.

OF course, prices may still have an upward tendency, for there seem to be several places from whence some of our supplies come which cannot send so much wheat this season. Large millers in and around the Colchester district say, naturally, they cannot tell if more money will be obtained ; us farmers are in the same position.

AFTER last year's prices, we are very pleased to get larger cheques for the same amount of quarters ; and the more so because there is a far better yield.

LET the past die, but last August twelve month I thrashed my wheat and kept it until the end of November for 28s. per qr., in the hope of selling it for more money.

"A RARE year for farmers," said a friend of mine the other day. "Yes," I answered, "but how about last year's prices, and how do you know I have paid last year's rent ?"

THE only other question I can go into this week (we are so busy) is the one in my first paragraph : "What shall we sow ?" This is indeed a far-reaching question. On our light land the answer must soon be given so as to prepare accordingly. Of course, although a fairly good price this year, it does not at all follow that a good return will also be obtainable for next year's produce ; but if a fair proportion of an occupation be given to wheat and oats, there is, as a rule, a fairly good market for them.

IN 1906, according to the Agricultural Returns list I received this week, there were 112,020 acres of wheat grown in Essex ; in 1907, 105,630. This fact has helped up prices somewhat, no doubt.

IN the light land part of Essex, the sooner winter oats are sown the better. This crop, on fairly good land, generally tells a satisfactory tale at the machine—either the threshing or the weighing one.

STORE pigs are not quite so good a market. The restrictions as to moving them about are a general drawback to the trade.

IF shacking is still required to be done, the Board of Agriculture will, I believe, grant special licences for pigs to go to any part of an occupation. I obtained such an order, and also hear that other farmers have since done so.

LINCOLNSHIRE FARMERS' UNION.

A meeting of the Wragby Branch was held on Saturday, the 28th, Mr. C. Turnor presiding, there being also present Messrs. H. A. Mawer, J. D. Blanchard, Varlow, A. and B. Harrison, Dunn, &c.

The secretary (Mr. H. W. Palmer) reported the progress that had been made since the last meeting of the Branch, and this was considered very satisfactory. A resolution was carried supporting the action of the Union with regard to railway rates, also a further resolution urging the Union to press on the matter of insurance.

Mr. Turnor mentioned the unfair railway charges on potatoes, the foreign produce having an advantage of 3s. per ton on the charges on English. Much damage was reported to have been done to the crops of the district by birds, and a farmers' club for the destruction of birds was suggested.

Lord Londonderry on Rural Depopulation.

In the course of a speech at the luncheon held in connection with the Easingwold Agricultural Society's Show, the Marquess of Londonderry referred to the Small Holdings Bill recently passed, and said he thought there was no one there who did not sympathise with the avowed object of that Act, which was to increase the number of people who were living on and cultivating the land, and if it was conducive to maintaining a large agricultural population on the land, he should say it would have a great and good effect. There was no agriculturist who did not deplore the depopulation of the rural districts, and it was no use shutting their eyes to the fact that in recent years the rural population had migrated to the great centres of England. From the rural point of view it was very important that they should endeavour to keep the rural population who had been brought up to recognise agriculture as their great industry, rooted to the soil, if he might use the expression. They had in their industrial districts a great demand for food of all sorts for the population, and surely if they were to meet the demand without having to call in the assistance of the foreigner—whether the Colonies or foreign countries—by importing those commodities they required, it was necessary that they should have an agricultural population to assist them to meet the wants and requirements of the people of the country.

What they wanted to do at the present time was to stem this tide of depopulation of the rural districts, and because he thought it was perhaps giving a chance to agricultural labourers to realise the advantages of living in their own houses, he said nothing whatever against the Act which had been passed ; but, on the contrary, if it was likely to succeed in rooting the people to the land he should be glad to think it had passed the Houses of Parliament.

He was somewhat doubtful as to whether the present Act, as it had passed Parliament, would have the effect which they were all desirous to see, namely, keeping the rural population in the district in which they lived. Whether they approved of it or disapproved of it, it was their duty as loyal citizens to endeavour to make the Act work absolutely satisfactorily, and he was sure he represented the views of the landowner class in the country when he said they were anxious to make the Act work as satisfactorily as they could in the interests of those who were associated with agriculture.

Burton Statute fair was held on Monday, when a considerable amount of hiring was transacted, and there was a very good demand for both men and boys. Lads of sixteen received from £7 to £12 a year, and able-bodied men from £20 to £24. The engagements of servant girls were very few.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TRACTION ENGINES and WAGONS, Portable, Ploughing, and Fixed Engines, Thrashing Machines, &c. second-hand, for Sale, cheap, or to be Let on Hire-purchase Full list free. Inquiries for all classes of Machinery solicited. Largest stock in England to be seen at our Works as below. We are also buyers of good modern Engines at all times, for cash. Large stock of Beltings, Oils, and Engineers' Requisites of all descriptions. HENRY LEWIS & SONS, Thames Bank Iron Works, Reading.

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LONDON DISTRICT. — Horse Guards, Whitehall, S.W.
NORTHERN COMMAND.—York.
SCOTTISH COMMAND.—Edinburgh.
SOUTHERN COMMAND 3rd DIVISION.—Tidworth; PORTSMOUTH COAST DEFENCES. — Portsmouth; PLYMOUTH COAST DEFENCES.—Devonport.
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Forms of Tender and Conditions of Contract may be obtained on application at the above named Head Quarter Offices, by letter addressed to the Officer Commanding, Army Service Corps, or in person between the hours of Ten and Four o'clock.

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October, 1907.

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DAIRY SHOW, to be held at the AGRICULTURAL HALL, LONDON, OCTOBER 8 to 11, 1907, The London and North Western Railway Company have made arrangements for Through Vans for the conveyance of Exhibits to be run to London on Monday, October 7. Consignments from the Branch Lines, and from Nottingham, Peterboro', Oxford, Cambridge, &c., will be placed in these Vans at the various Junctions. Conveyance Rates can be obtained at the various Stations on the Line. Arrangements will also be made for the return of the Traffic in Through Vans at the close of the Show, and Exhibitors are requested to order their Consignments "per London and North Western Railway." All information can be obtained of the Superintendent of the Line, Euston Station, London; the Company's District Superintendent, Euston Station, London; or Mr. I. T. WILLIAMS, Broad Street Station, London, E.C.

FREDERICK HARRISON,
General Manager.

General Manager's Office, Euston Station, London, N.W., September, 1907

LONDON AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.

KENNEL CLUB'S DOG SHOW, to be held at the CRYSTAL PALACE, OCTOBER 22 to 24, 1907. The London and North Western Railway Company will make arrangements for Through Vans for the conveyance of Dogs to be run to the Crystal Palace on Monday, October 21. Consignments from the Branch Lines, and from Nottingham, Peterboro', Oxford, Cambridge, &c., will be placed in these Vans at the various Junctions. Conveyance Rates can be obtained at the various Stations on the Line. Arrangements will also be made for the return of the Traffic in Through Vans at the close of the Show, and Exhibitors are requested to order their Consignments "per London and North Western Railway." The Company's representatives will be at the Show to answer enquiries with regard to the arrangements for the return journey. All information can be obtained of Mr. ROBERT TURNBULL, Superintendent of the Line, Euston Station, London; the Company's District Superintendent, Mr. H. A. WALKER, Euston Station, London; or Mr. I. T. WILLIAMS, Broad Street Station, London, E.C.

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COLLINGHAM FARMERS' CLUB.—The 67th Annual Ploughing Match, Agricultural and Poultry Show, will be held on Thursday, OCTOBER 31. For further particulars see bills. All Entries to be made on or before October 18.—J. W. BELTON, Secretary, Beathorpe. The Secretary will attend at the Offices of Messrs. E. Bailey and Son, Kirkgate, Newark, on Wednesday, October 16, from 12 to 2 p.m., and at the Royal Oak, Collingham, October 18, from 6 to 9 p.m.

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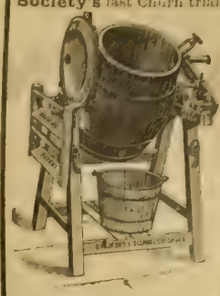
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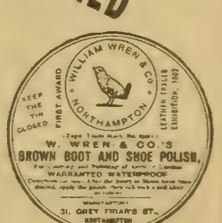
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Seasonable Topics.

Flowers in Dairy Tents.

ON several occasions we have expressed our approval of the growing tendency to make a closer union between the sister arts of agriculture and horticulture by including a floral section at agricultural shows. We are pleased to see that the idea is catching on, and at the recent show at Frome a portion of the dairy tent was utilised for this purpose. Table decorations were introduced for the first time, and it is encouraging to learn that nothing better of the kind has been seen this year in the West of England. We are aware that any suggestion to introduce flowers amongst exhibits of dairy produce would have shocked any farmer's wife of the old school, and she would have condemned it as being a waste of time if her daughters had attempted anything in the way of table decoration, but in this respect things are different to what they used to be. We cannot imagine a more suitable place for a display of flowers than in a butter tent; and whereas every lady who visits this section of a show may not be interested in butter there are few who do not take a delight in flowers, and for tastefully arranging the latter we know that farmers' wives and daughters are quite capable of holding their own.



THE STACKYARD.

Ox-Roasting at Fairs.

AT some of the old-fashioned towns in the Midland and Western Counties, such as Warwick and Stratford-on-Avon for instance, the ancient custom of roasting oxen whole in the streets on the occasion of the annual "mop" day still prevails. We have no evidence to show how it originated, but can imagine that in the old days it served a purpose of usefulness, for then, when the country people went to the mop, and of course everybody went, the majority of them had to walk long distances, and they arrived in the town possessed of a hunger that was no pretence. It was doubtless a novelty to see dinner being prepared in the open street, but when the time came for carving up it was business in real earnest. Years ago public ox-roasting was generally associated with rejoicings and thanksgiving, and had Mafeking been relieved about the same time as Waterloo was won, doubtless many a beast would have been led to the public spit. We may take it perhaps that feelings are more refined, and there is something barbarous about public ox-roasting, and not altogether because the custom originated in barbarous times. At any rate, we hear expressions of opinion that the time has come when the annual mop can be held without having one's dinner roasted wholesale in the public street, and one can hardly look upon it as being a refined form of amusement.

A Link With the Past.

ONLY quite recently the daily papers told the world of the passing away at the ripe old age of ninety, of Lord Brampton, better known perhaps as Mr. Justice Hawkins, the terror of criminals and evil-doers during the greater part of the Victorian era. It is no part of our office to write reminiscences of the lives of great judges but in thinking over the episodes in Lord Brampton's fifty years or more of active service, the mind wanders back to the time when the gallows was a public fixture, placed where everybody could see it, and men were hanged for stealing a sheep. According to some these were the good old times, but speaking for ourselves we are quite contented to live a little bit later in history, when, though punishment is less severe, property is more respected. It is sometimes urged now that our prison system is not severe enough, and that penal servitude has no terrors for the hardened criminal; but however true this may be, it is gratifying for us farmers to know that we can safely leave our sheep in the pastures without fear of their being stolen, which is more than our grandsires could do in the days when hanging was the penalty for this offence.

Dearer Commodities.

AFTER a dismal summer, which made farmers downcast, they have had their spirits cheered by a glorious harvest time and a price for corn which many of them never hoped to get again. All agriculturists rejoice in the improvement, which is having its effect, and faith again is being revived in the plough and land under arable culture. The harvest of 1907 will be remembered, and if another year sees prices of wheat at between 30s. and 40s. a quarter it will be surprising if the plough is not seen on land that in recent years has been put down to grass. The farmer rejoices, and we congratulate him on the season ending much better than it promised; but it is the turn of the man in the street to be gloomy now, for he has to pay more for his bread, coal has gone up somewhat seriously for the purchaser, other commodities show a rising tendency, though generally speaking wages are not increasing in proportion. Much as we rejoice with the farmer in getting a better price for his grain, we can realise that to thousands of struggling workers that extra amount which the baker is asking for his loaves is likely to be a sharp pinch before the winter is over.

The Harvest of Cider Fruit.

PASSING through the apple-growing or cider-making districts in the West of England in October one sees the preparations being made for the harvest of vintage fruit, which this year will be considerably below the average. Fortunately there was an abundance of apples last year, and on the majority of farms every available cask was filled with cider, with the consequence that there is a fair amount of liquor still on hand, so the shortage of fruit will not be felt so much. From some reports we have read it would appear as if the crop was a general failure, but this is not the case, for in some orchards there is a fair sprinkling of fruit, and in due course the cider mill will commence its annual process of grinding. The shortage of crop is more apparent amongst apples than pears, and many trees of varieties suitable for perry-making are well laden with fruit, which hang on the trees till they fall or are blown off, when they are collected and placed in heaps preparatory to grinding. Of course there will be less liquor made this year than usual, and good cider should find sale at remunerative prices.

Night Shelter for Cattle.

THERE is a chilliness about the night air now, with occasional catches of frost, which indicate that the autumn has arrived, and cattle must be treated in accordance with the season. There are some people who have set rules as to the time when cattle shall first be allowed to remain out at night and also when they shall be brought under cover in the evening, but in our opinion this is a matter about which the state of the weather should be the guide, and when weather is unfavourable it is foolish to allow cattle to remain out for the sake of complying with any date on the calendar. Milking cows and young stock are particularly susceptible to cold, and it is not good for them to graze in the early morning on wet grass or herbage that is white with frosty rime. In most cases there is an abundance of fodder, so, except for the little extra trouble, there is no reason why cows should not now have the benefit of the shelter which the sheds afford at night. As a matter of fact, where the care of live stock is concerned it is always better to err on the side of over caution than to take unnecessary risks.

The Hum of the Threshing Machine.

A FAMILIAR sound now that the harvest is over is the hum of the threshing machine at work in neighbouring stackyards, and though, perhaps, a little monotonous, when there is a pinch of frost in the air, the hum of the thresher is not unmusical. A lot of corn has been got together in fine condition this year, and the grain being dry early threshing is quite practicable. In short, the threshing machine is much in demand, and the above is not the only reason, because markets are tempting just now, and many, being loth to trust the future, are anxious to turn grain into money as soon as possible. Big farmers who have a threshing plant of their own are masters of the situation, and can get on as fast as they like, but the majority, perhaps are dependent on the itinerant machine which does its annual round and serves each client in turn The trouble with many would-be threshers just now is that they have everything in readiness, but they cannot get the services of the machine until someone else who spoke for it before has done with it.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

The Premier and Depopulation.

Of course Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman was, from his political point of view, justified in calling attention to the fact that the population in Wales has not decreased, and that the Principality is also remarkable for the number of its (comparative) small holdings. Hence, he argued that the Principality was in itself an evidence of the wisdom of the Small Holdings Act. Is the analogy quite applicable? Wales is a Principality of small towns. Apart from Cardiff, Swansea, Merthyr, Carmarthen, and Carnarvon, the towns of Wales are really little more than enlarged villages. Hence it is that there is not in the Principality the same attraction that in England seduces the labourer from his native heath. Here in England every county has practically its vivifying capital, whose enjoyment and fascination appeal instinctively to the hind, and which in themselves become a kind of conduit-pipe connecting with the greater towns. I repeat that the Premier was justified in utilising the undeniable illustration which Wales provides; but I insist that, all the same, it was special pleading. The villages of Wales retain their population because in a large measure Wales has no towns. England has a surplus of effervescing towns, and their vigour and vim are an attraction which even a complete and mathematical system of small holdings would never counteract.

* * *

The Government and the Roads.

Is the Roads Improvement Association wisely inspired in suggesting that the State should contribute out of the Imperial Exchequer no less a sum than a million a year towards the maintenance of roads. That the roads are a national concern, I agree; that the national authorities would not be other than antagonised by such a suggestion as this I am persuaded. The State should undeniably contribute, but it should be out of a fund created by the taxation of these self-propelled, road-maiming vehicles. Hence the Roads Improvement Association would be wiser if it vigorously sought that the inevitable increased motor tax should be largely utilised in relieving the cost of the increased maintenance of the roads—an increase in maintenance due absolutely to these machines. Mr. Asquith intends a tax on motors. How is to be applied? Is it simply to recompense the Exchequer—and don't forget that this has been deliberately and deliberately suggested—for the loss of the sugar duties? Is it to be applied, as logic and justice suggest, to the upkeep of the roads which the motors punish and ruin, and to the relief of that local taxation it now does nothing to alleviate? This were a wiser question for the Roads Improvement Association to consider.

* * *

The Villages and Socialism.

"Are you a Socialist? If you are not, why did you open your comments of last week on the anti-Socialist agitation?" Thus writes a correspondent to me. Well, I can place my hand on my heart, and solemnly affirm I am not a Socialist. I can only believe that Socialism—that is exact and scientific Socialism—is possible when you have a humanity from which all the ills that humanity is now heir to has been eradicated I could understand Socialism being applied in an absolutely new and virgin world with an absolutely perfected humanity. All the same, I aver that it will be a mistake and a folly to carry the anti-Socialistic propaganda into the villages. Denunciation of a faith that is unknown means the promulgation of that faith—means the securing of recruits for that faith. If I were a Socialist leader I should desire nothing better than this denunciation. It must breed a spirit of inquiry, and inquiry into Socialism on the part of a labourer who is sensitive to the unpractical and emotional, means the influencing of his mind in a sympathetic direction. "We are equal," quoths the Socialist, "in the eyes of heaven, we are equal before the law; we should thus be equal in opportunities and in possessions." Seek to contradict these sequential assertions, denounce the last phase as atheism, immorality, and theft, and you make converts. This is why I advise that there should be no Socialist propaganda in the villages. My suggestion is in the interest of anti-Socialism.

* * *

The Primate is Mistaken.

Has not the Archbishop of Canterbury permitted himself to paint in too lurid pigments the state of village home-life? It may be that the dramatic element in his Grace's temperament has unconsciously induced him to exaggeration. Be this as it may, it certainly cannot be the fact that village morality has sunk to the deplorable depths his Grace has allowed his imagination to plumb. "No one," said his Grace, "can look without dismay upon accounts such as are given from some of the rural parishes, especially as to the pre-nuptial wrong-doing, and as to the popular opinion which found expression or did not find expression thereupon." "Pre-nuptial wrong-doing"—a dulcet but expressive phrase. Is it, however, justified? I doubt it; I doubt that the pre-nuptial relations of the villages are one whit less exalted than the pre-nuptial relations of the towns. I will go farther and declare that those relations among the class to which his grace, of course, refers are inspired by a tenderer sentiment, a holier intention, and a more moral purpose than those which prevail in the crowded congeries of our life. His Grace has been misled. The town cleric has so many pre-occupations that he does not dwell on the question. The rural cleric has so much leisure that in his letters and reports he gives rein to his romantic visions and educational gifts. The villages are not seething with sexual immorality. Human nature exists there as in the towns, but it is curbed by a wiser conception of decency and responsibility. The Primate is mistaken.

* * *

Who will be the Commissioners?

I find that in political and Parliamentary circles some surprise is being expressed at the delay in the appointment of the three Commissioners under the Small Holdings Act. Why does Lord Carrington hesitate? I am personally aware of his strong anxiety to prevent even the suspicion of nepotism in the appointments, and his desire, while selecting men who are in sympathy with the purpose of the Act, not to let the public imagine he has appointed men because of their partisanism. Several names have been mentioned to me as likely to be offered the position. I have heard the names of Sir George Judd, Mr. Ridley (a well-known Wiltshire farmer) and Mr. Fred Horne. It is probable that when these gentlemen see their names in print this will be to them the first intimation they have received that they have been thought of at all. At all events, the mere fact that they should have been mentioned is a clear indication of the fact that it is appreciated that Lord Carrington is desirous of associating with the position men of practical experience and practical mind. But why the delay? The county councils would prefer to know who are the men to be invested with the powers of coercive authority.

* * *

Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes.

Of course the withdrawal of Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes from the Conservative candidature for North Huntingdonshire cannot assuredly be regarded as a withdrawal from active political life. I do not hesitate to say that this would be a blow to the sane Parliamentary consideration of agricultural problems. Owing to circumstances upon which I will not now dwell, Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes never had a fair chance as the Conservative Minister for Agriculture. He was possessed by a generous legislative design, but he found that design thwarted whenever he desired to give it actual expression. In the field of administration he was sympathetic, practical, receptive, and ever open to suggestion. I rather take his present action to mean that he desires to be untrammelled by any engagement—in other words, that he desires to be free to accept the party candidature in any impending bye-election. If this be so, Mr. Fellowes' party and agriculture will have cause to rejoice.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

Conveying Land.

SIR,—Will "Barrister" kindly inform me the cheapest way to get the following business settled—viz., to get it conveyed, &c.—and about how much it would cost?

A gentleman has given to A and B a small piece of land 28 ft. wide by 60 ft. long so that they may build a room to hold religious services in. The piece of land is in the corner of one of his fields, and, of course, forms part of the field. Is it necessary to employ a land surveyor to map the ground? It is situated close to the high road.

SUBSCRIBER.

*** You had better instruct a firm of solicitors in this matter. The cost might be arranged with them; it is impossible to give you a definite opinion on the subject. A plan prepared on the conveyance would show the dimensions of the land. The landlord's solicitors would be able to check the dimensions, or it might be that you could employ them, which would be a better course than employing a separate solicitor.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

A Successful Claim against Auctioneers.

An interesting case touching upon the rights of auctioneers was heard by Judge Bompas, K.C., at the Otley County Court last week, when Walter Johnson, farmer, Queensbury, sued Messrs. Dacre and Son, auctioneers, of Otley, for £8 14s., which plaintiff alleged he had lost through defendants refusing to sell his cattle at the auction mart on June 17.

It appeared that plaintiff had offered his cattle, and had received a catalogue in which they were announced for sale. On the morning of the sale he was told by defendants that they would not offer his cattle until a certain outstanding account between themselves and him had been paid. In consequence of this plaintiff had been put to the expense of driving the cattle from Queensbury to Otley, keeping them at Otley, and then sending them on to the next auction at Skipton.

For the defence, it was stated that the auctioneers had a right to say whether they would or would not sell any particular cattle, and that the publication of a catalogue was not tantamount to an agreement.

His Honour held that for an auctioneer to accept cattle for sale by publishing them in a catalogue was a contract according to law. He held that defendants had committed a breach of contract, and found for plaintiff.

Judgment was given for £5 5s.

THE DAIRY SHOW.

THE thirty-second Dairy Show, which closed on Friday, has added another to the already long list of successful exhibitions held by the British Dairy Farmers' Association. The various competitions during the week were followed with general interest, but probably none appealed more to visitors than the butter-making contests, the entries for which were well maintained. Closer attention was this year given to the milkers' contests, in all sections of which there were many more competitors than formerly. As is usual on the closing day of the show, a visit was received from the Lord Mayor of London, who, with the Lady Mayoress, spent an instructive hour in the great hall, and distributed the prizes to the winners.

CATTLE.

The entry in this section was within three of last year. The Shorthorn section was as strongly represented as hitherto, but a rougher class of animal was presented, than last year. The inspection prizes, which are the least important, were received by Lord Rothschild for Red Rose III., a six-year-old, Mr. Geo. B. Nelson, of Cockerham Hall, near Garstang, for Comely Maid, a seven-year-old roan, and Mr. Geo. Taylor, of Cranford, Hounslow, for Melody, a red-and-white, twelve years. Lord Rothschild was an easy winner, but some doubt existed as to whether both the second and third were entitled to stand in front of Mr. C. R. W. Adeane's roan cow, Oxford Ada, a fine specimen, which was deserving of some notice. As many as twenty-one animals were exhibited in this class, among them being a couple from Mr. C. R. W. Adeane, of Babraham Hall, Cambridge. Shorthorn heifers, not exceeding three years, and eligible for Coates' Herd Book, totalled eleven. There was good competition, the leading animal being Matchless 69th, owned by Mr. J. T. Hobbs, of Maisey Hampton, Fairford, Gloucester, who came in front of Lord Rothschild, with Aster. Mr. William M. Cazalet, of Fairlawn, Tonbridge, was third with Babraham Wild Eyebright, a roan. The premier Shorthorns in the exhibition were discovered in the class for pair of cows of any breed or cross, the exhibit being in the names of Mr. S. S. Raingill, of Altrincham. The pair were well developed, and having good milking qualities were generally admired.

Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns constituted a small class in comparison with the other Shorthorns,



The Cheese Display.

Mr. S. S. Raingill's First Prize Shorthorn Cow Witch.

Miss M. L. Nisbet winning the Second Prize in the Girls' Milking Contests.

Judging the Jersey Cows.

The Fancy Butter Exhibits.

Mr. S. S. Raingill's First Prize Pair of Shorthorn Cows Altrincham Faithful and Pansy.

but the seven animals in the stalls were of good quality, the leading specimens being shown by Mr. John Evens, of Burton, Lincoln, who captured both the first and second prizes with Burton Ruby Spot 2nd and Burton Nancy 3rd.

Jerseys always appear in large numbers at the Dairy Show, and with more than a couple of dozen entered in the cow class, it was no exception to the rule. A nice seven-year-old animal, Mrs. Viola, from Mr. R. Bruce Ward, of Westwood, Droitwich, was the winner, Mr. J. H. Smith-Barry, of Pewsey, coming second with Unaware, a fawn and white six months younger. Lady de Rothschild, though only third with Whitewood 4th, a ten-year-old, nevertheless managed to secure the Blythwood Challenge Bowl, which has been offered for several years by Lord Blyth for the best Jersey cow or heifer bred in Great Britain or Ireland. The Jersey heifers bred in Great Britain or Ireland formed an attractive collection, and a stiff encounter between Mr. J. H. Smith-Barry, of Pewsey, and Mr. Henry P. Smith, of North Hall, Wrentham, led to the judge giving his verdict in favour of Marionette, the animal bred by the first-named gentleman. Sea Swallow, which was Mr. Smith's exhibit, came in front of Waterhen, shown by Lady de Rothschild, who was likewise reserved.

Heifers bred in the Channel Islands were decidedly more numerous than those bred in this country, but the best of their number was the property of Lord Rothschild, who was in other classes taking the leading place. It was a close thing with Mr. John Pallot, of Mont Pelier Farm, Jersey, who was just ahead of another English exhibitor in Mr. Jersey de Knoop, of Calverley Hall, Cheshire. As on other occasions, Mr. E. A. Hambro, of Hayes, Kent, was easily first and second with Jersey cows.

There were a couple of classes for Red Polls. Lord Rothschild took the premier place with a pair of handsome animals, which brought him both the first and second prizes. The winning cow, Atalanta, which is approaching its ninth year, was bred by Mr. J. E. Platt. Sir Walter Corbett, with Desire of Johnstown, a six-year-old, bred by the late Lord Maurice Fitzgerald, came in for the third award, highly commended cards going to Mr. A. J. Smith's seven-year-old, Rendlesham Abigail, and the Earl of Radnor's Ashlyns Rose 2nd, bred by Mrs. A. Morrison.

A dozen heifers appeared, the winner being Sudbourne Princess, a grand animal, nearly three years old, which was one of three entered by Mr. Kenneth M. Clark, of Sudbourne. A son of Mr. Alf. J. Smith, Rendlesham, in Mr. A. Carlyle Smith, of Campsea Ash, who came next to Mr. Kenneth Clark, took a second with Queen Mab, and he therefore had the satisfaction of beating his father.

Ayrshire cows, though few in number, included good specimens. The winner, a five-year-old red-and-white, with a particularly large udder, belonged to Mr. J. Littleton, of Arkleby Hall Farm, Aspatria, Carlisle. Mr. W. Nisbet, of Hinxton, near Saffron Walden, who entered a couple, was reserved.

Dexters were the fancy animals of the show to the ordinary visitor, who lingered long in the vicinity of these handsome black-coated little animals. Ladies owned the best animals, the Countess de la Warr and Lady Greenall being ahead with Kerry cows, and the Hon. Mrs. Claud Portman and the Duchess of Devonshire to the front with Dexters.

The Shorthorn bulls, six in number, were headed by Lord Rothschild's Traveller, a two-year-old roan, which beat Mr. J. T. Hobbs's Royal Plato. Mr. A. Miller Hallet, of Chelsfield, in a good class of eight Jersey bulls, beat Lady de Rothschild's Stormer with Alfriston's Pride, the third being Mr. W. M. Cazalet's Oatland Glory.

The premier bull of any other pure breed came from Burton, near Lincoln, being Mr. John Evens's Burton Hermit II.

MILKING TRIALS.

The best milkers were Shorthorns, and the winner was found among the non-pedigree animals grouped in the second class. She was a seven-year-old roan, belonging to Mr George B. Nelson, of Cockerham Hall, near Garstang who, by virtue of this success, won the three most coveted trophies offered for competition. These comprised the Barham 50 guinea challenge cup, offered by Mr. Titus Barham, son of the newly-elected president, for the cow gaining the greatest number of points in the milking trials; the Spencer 50-guinea challenge cup, presented by Mr. J. F. Spencer, for the cow scoring the highest number of points in the inspection and milking trials, as well as the butter tests; also the Lord Mayor's Champion Cup, for the best Shorthorn in the exhibition. Mr. Nelson's cow gained a total of 158·7 points, her average milk yield being 29·3 for the two mornings of Wednesday and Thursday, and 31·0 in the afternoons of the same days. The reserve animal for all of these three trophies was another seven-year old Shorthorn, entered in the same class by Messrs. R. and E. Brown, of Ripon, Yorkshire. Her total points were 149 7, the average yield of milk being 23·9 in the morning and 31·0 in the afternoon.

The first of the pedigree Shorthorns in the three trials was Broadhooks 3rd, owned by Lord Rothschild, which was unsuccessful on the day of the inspection. Her average yield came out at 34·1 in the morning and 34·7 in the afternoon. Mr. G. B. Nelson's Comely, which was second for the inspection prizes, again took that place in regard to her milk yield, but was bracketed second with Mr. William Nisbet's (Hinxton, Saffron Walden) Red Millicent 3rd. Mr. Nelson's animal gave an average supply of 28·4 and 27·9, while the last-named exhibitor's cow was responsible for an average of 27·9 in the morning and 27·2 in the afternoon.

The best result in the Lincolnshire Shorthorn class was gained by Mr. John Evens, of Barton, whose seven-year-old Nancy 4th gave an average of 27·5 and 23·2. In the pedigree Shorthorn heifer class, Mr. William Nisbet was first with Bendyshe Queen, her yield being an average of 13·3 and 13 1.

In the non-pedigree heifer class there was again another win for Mr. George B. Nelson, the average for his roan Polly working out at 23·6 and 20 7.

In the Jersey cow class the best results were gained by Mr. J. H. Smith Barry's (Pewsey, Wilts) Post Obit, the yield being 21·2 and 18·0 for the mornings and afternoons respectively.

In the Guernsey classes there was a higher yield, the prize going to Mr. E. A. Hambro, of Hayes, Kent, who was also first when his cow, Queen of the Roses, was presented to the judges on the opening day. Her average supply was 24·5 and 23 0

The first of the Red Polled cows was one belonging to Lord Radnor, a five-year-old, bred by the exhibitor, which was only commended on Tuesday. She gave an average quantity of 26·6 in the morning and 25 0 in the afternoon, and won with a total of 103·8 points. In the heifer class Mr. Kenneth M. Clark again won with his first-prize Sudbourne Princess, her total points being 73 8, and her average daily yield being 17·4 for the morning and 16·4 for the afternoon. Mr. A. Carlyle Smith, of Campsea Ashe, who was also second with Queen Mab at the inspection, took a like place in these trials. He totalled 66·9 points, the milk yield being 12 9 and 12·4.

THE BUTTER TESTS.

These were conducted in three classes, and this year a fresh record has been created by an unregistered Shorthorn, with a butter yield of 2 lb. 11¼ oz. from 66 lb. of milk. Mr. J. Sheppy showed third and fourth cows. In the class for cows other than Shorthorns and Jerseys two Lincoln Red Shorthorns come out first and second. Mr. Evens's Burton Nancy 4th gave 2 lb. 8 oz. of butter from 52 lb. milk. Miss K.

MILKING TESTS.

Class and Animal.	Actual Weight of Fat in lbs.		Actual Weight of Solids, not Fat, in lbs.		Points.	Awards.
	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.		
CLASS I.—SHORTHORN COWS—						
Mr. G. Taylor's Melody	·96	1 16 (First and	3 1 second	3·10 prize	126·2 equal	1st prize. (for Shorthorn Society's prize)
Mr. G B. Nelson's Comely Maid	1·03	1·09	2·71	2 43	118 8	2nd and 3rd prizes
Mr. W. Nisbet's Red Millicent 3rd	·90	1·17	2 6	2·5	118 7	divided.
Messrs. R. W. Hobbs and Sons' Tulip 7th	·96	1·03	2·88	2 31	113·5	Reserve.
Lord Rothschild's Red Rose	·93	·97	2 80	2·41	111·9	Very highly commanded.
Lord Rothschild's Broadhooks 3rd	·69	1·14	1 96	2 0	98·4	Highly commended.
Mr. S. Sanday's Fear'ess	·88	·8	2·21	1 98	96·8	Highly commended.
Mr. E. S. Goosell's Darlington Cranford 11th	·72	·91	2·34	2·34	95 5	Highly commended.
Mr. W. Nisbet's Ewerby Beauty	·79	·87	2·48	2·25	95·6	Highly commended.
Hon. C. B. Portman's Fair Promise	·78	·84	2·3	2·0	90 3	Commended.
Lord Rothschild's Dorothy	·79	·58	1·84	1 55	90·5	Commended.
CLASS II.—SHORTHORN COWS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR CLASS I.						
Mr. J. B. Nelson's Daisy	1·71	2·14	2·66	2 64	158·7	1st prize, Barham & Spencer Challenge Cups and Lord Mayor's Cup for best Shorthorn.
Messrs. R. and E. Brown's Perfection	1·56	1·17	3·4	3·15	149·7	2nd prize and reserve for Barham and Lord Mayor's Cups.
Mr. J. Wilson	1·47	1·25	3·16	2·8	146 0	3rd prize and reserve for Spencer Cup.
Mr. Dunbar Kelly's Sweetheart	1·01	1·17	3·08	2·9	133 3	Reserve.
Mr. J. Sheppy's Chewton Daisy 2nd.	1·07	1·18	2 76	2·63	129 3	Very highly commended.
Mr. J. Sheppy's Chewton Rose	1·11	1 19	2·48	2 55	120·1	Highly commended.
Mr. W. Nisbet's Poll'y 1st	·86	1 09	2·49	2·32	113·6	Commended.
CLASS III. LINCOLNSHIRE RED SHORTHORN COWS—						
Mr. J. Evens' Burton Nancy 4th	1·14	1 01	2 52	2·10	112·8	1st prize and Lord Mayor's Cup for breed other than Shorthorns.
Mr. F. Scorer's Bracebridge No. 38	·95	·99	2·85	2 66	112 5	2nd prize and reserve and Lord Mayor's Cup for breed other than Shorthorns.
Miss K. Carleton's Burton Young Cherry	·82	·79	2·28	2 03	108·0	Reserve.
Mr. J. Evens' Burton Nancy III.	·94	·76	2 22	2·08	100·6	Commended.
Mr. J. Evens' Burton Ruby Spot 2nd	·84	·76	2 36	2 14	99 6	Commended.
CLASS IV.—SHORTHORN HEIFERS NOT OVER THREE YEARS OLD.—						
Mr. W. Nisbet's Bendyshe Queen	·44	·60	1·27	1·24	59 2	1st prize.
Lord Rothschild's Aster	·52	·38	1 15	1·05	54·8	2nd prize.
Mr. C. R. W. Adeane's Babraham Treasure	·60	·4	1·06	1 08	52 5	3rd prize.
Mr. G. Taylor's Wild Cran 10th	·40	·57	1 34	1·53	54 9	Reserve.
CLASS V.—SHORTHORN HEIFERS NOT OVER 3 YEARS OLD, AND INELIGIBLE FOR CLASS IV.—						
Mr. G. B. Nelson's Polly	·93	·79	2·0	1·9	94 3	1st prize.
Mr. W. Nisbet's Jessie	·62	·69	1·9	1·87	85 0	2nd prize.
Mr. J. L. Shirley's Masie	·58	·55	1·6	1 62	75 9	3rd prize.
Mr. J. Even's Burton C Star 7th	·57	·68	1·65	1 56	72·9	Reserve.
CLASS VI.—JERSEY COWS—						
Mr. J. H. Smith Barry's Post Obit	1 11	1·17	1·98	1·52	110 8	1st prize.
Mrs. E. M. Watson Kennedy's Majorca	1 11	1·20	1·97	1·69	105 3	2nd prize.
Mr. R. Bruce Ward's Lovely Venus	·77	·90	2 10	2·00	96·7	3rd prize.
CLASS IX. GUERNSEY COWS—						
Mr. E. A. Hambro's Queen of the Roses	·95	1·01	2 24	2·12	104·2	1st prize.
Sir H. F. Lennard's Lady 88th	·81	·91	1 91	1 81	92·0	2nd prize.
Sir H. F. Lennard's Lady Russell	·61	1·0	1·31	1·91	88 5	Reserve.
CLASS XI. RED POLLED COWS						
Earl of Radnor's Mona	·81	·81	2·38	2·22	103·8	1st prize.
Lord Rothschild's Ethel 3rd	·87	·79	2·29	1·88	97·1	2nd prize.
Sir W Corbet's Desiree of Johnstown	·80	·89	1·92	1·68	96·7	3rd prize.
Earl of Radnor's Ashlyns Rose 2nd	1·16	·64	1·95	1·47	91·9	Reserve.
CLASS XII. RED POLLED HEIFERS.						
Mr. K. M. Clark's Sudbourne Princess	·59	·59	1·62	1·52	73·8	1st prize.
Mr. A. C. Smith's Queen Mab	·52	·49	1·20	1 15	66·9	2nd prize.
Mr. K. M. Clark's Sudbourne Lute I.	·74	·41	1·50	1·33	69·9	3rd prize.
CLASS XIII. AYRSHIRE COWS—No award						
CLASS XV.—KERRY COWS—						
Countess De la Warr's Buckhurst Gem	1 03	1·17	2·14	1·96	107·2	1st prize.
Lady Greenall's Walton Joyous	·70	·78	1 95	1·85	93·8	2nd prize.
Countess De la Warr's Buckhurst Waterville Sapphire	·92	·94	1·78	1·60	91·1	3rd prize.
Countess De la Warr's Buckhurst Peaceful	·75	1·03	1 77	1·80	89·1	Reserve and highly commended.
CLASS XVI.—DEXTER COWS—						
Duchess of Devonshire's Compton Dark Beauty	·77	·81	1·96	1·75	89·9	1st prize.
Hon. Mrs. C. Portman's Buckhurst June	·66	·61	1·97	1·72	87 7	2nd prize.

Carleton's second yielded 1 lb. 11 oz. butter from five gallons milk. A Guernsey of Sir H. F. Lennard's won a prize of £3, as did Sir W. O. Corbet's Red Poll Desiree of Johnstown and Countess De La Warr's Kerry.

CHEESE.

Considering the season, which has been none too favourable to cheese makers, the show of cheese was very creditable. Most widespread interest, as usual, attached to the Cheddar class, where the Scottish and English rivalry is strong. Cheddars have probably been better, so far as quality is concerned, but at the same time little exception could be taken to them in this respect, and number of entries considered, they were one of the best shows seen at this fixture. The class for four cheeses contained almost a hundred lots, and the judges eventually decided on Mr. T. C. Candy's cheese, from Dorset, for leading honours, Mr. R. Stevenson, Ayrshire, who has been prominent at this show in recent years, was second; Mr. A. White, a Somerset maker, was third; and fourth honours fell to the lot of Mr. A. Cross, Ayrshire. Mr. J. Smith, Castle-Douglas, and Mr. D. A. Hood, Kirkbudbright, also participated in the highly commendeds, and Mr. A. Clanachan, Stranraer, was commended for two exhibits.

The truckles class did not draw such a big entry, only two dozen in all, but a very good lot was staged. Mr. J. Candy here won the premier award, and Mr. Stevenson had again to take second and reserve positions, the texture of his cheeses being their stumbling block. He made a very close second here, however, and some would have placed his second lot first on account of its good colour and better condition. A southern exhibitor had third place, but Mr. A. Cross and Mr. Plunkett took he cards to Ayrshire and Mr. W. Hunter to Wigtown.

In the cheese fair class for twenty cheeses, there were fifty-six entries, and these engaged the judges' attention during the afternoon. Eventually both first and second honours went to Messrs. Corey and Portch, Somerset, for well matured cheeses of nice flavour and texture. Mr. Cross, who had third honours, had a very good lot of cheese that wanted more time.

For Stilton, Mr. J. C. Wilford, Tong Clanson, Melton Mowbray, was the winner. There was a nice display of Wensleydale cheese, for which Mr. Anthony Harker, Caperby, was a good first, and Mrs. Stubbs, Swinithwaite, Leybourne, a good second. The large display of Cheshire cheese was a feature of the year, no less than thirty separate exhibits being staged. The first prize for Lancashire cheese was taken by Mr. J. Blundell, Scotforth, Lancashire.

BUTTER TESTS.

Shorthorns.

Exhibitor and Name of Animal.	Milk Yield in 24 hours.	Butter Yield.	Ratio: viz., lbs. Milk to lbs. Butter.	Points for Butter.	Points for Lactation.	Total Points.	Awards.
	lbs. oz.	lbs. oz.					
Mr. W. Nisbet's Red Millicent 3rd	53 3	2 2¼	24·84	34·25	1·8	36 05	Highly commended
Mr. G. B. Nelson's Daisy	61 2	4 0¼	15·22	64·25	·2	64·45	First prize and silver medal
Mr. J. Sheppy's Chewton Daisy 2nd	61 3	2 8½	24·17	40·50	2·1	42 60	Reserve and very highly commended
Mr. J. Sheppy's Chewton Rose	54 2	2 8¾	21·25	40·75	—	40·75	Very highly commended
Mr. J. Wilson	66 9	2 11¼	24·62	43·25	—	43·25	Second prize and bronze medal

Jerseys.

Sir J. Hollam's Golden Primrose	39 6	1 11¼	23·11	27·25	4·60	31·85	Certificate of merit
Mr. Watson Kennedy's Majorca	40 11	2 9¼	15·78	41·25	5·10	46·35	Second prize
Mr. J. Smith-Barry's Post Obit	38 11	2 4¾	16 84	36·75	12 00	48·75	First prize and £1 butter prize
Mr. R. Bruce Ward's L'Aumone Belle	23 1	1 7½	15·70	23·50	12·00	35·50	Certificate of merit
Mr. F. Bateman's Exchequer	29 15	1 10	18·42	26 00	9·00	35 00	Certificate of merit
Mr. A. Miller Hallett's Goddington Pippin	40 1	1 13¾	21·54	29 75	3·90	33·65	Certificate of merit
Mr. J. H. Smith-Barry's Marionette	33 5	1 11¾	19·20	27·75	3·50	31·25	Certificate of merit
Mr. O. F. Moseley's Loulah 3rd	35 0	1 10	22·15	26·00	12·00	38·00	Third prize

Other Breeds.

Mr. F. Scorer's Bracebridge, No. 91 (Lincoln Red)	53 8	1 11¾	30·84	27·75	4·0	31·75	Highly commended
Mr. F. Scorer's Bracebridge, No. 5B (Lincoln Red)	51 6	1 13¾	27·63	29·75	2·0	31·75	Highly commended
Mr. F. Scorer's Bracebridge, No. 3B (Lincoln Red)	60 11	2 1½	28·98	33·50	9·3	36·30	Very highly commended
Miss K. Carleton's Burton Young Cherry (Lincoln Red)	50 9	1 11	29·96	27·00	1·1	27·60	Second prize
Mr. J. Evens' Burton Nancy 4th (Lincoln Red)	52 0	2 8	20·80	40 00	—	40·00	First prize
Sir H. F. Leonard's Lady Russell (Guernsey)	38 8	1 14	20·53	30·00	10 20	40 20	£3 Prize
Lord Rothschild's Clarissa (Red Polled	37 2	1 0	37 20	16·00	12·0	28·00	Highly commended
Sir W. Corbet's Desiree of Johnstown (Red Polled)	37 13	1 6½	26·88	22·50	12·0	34 50	£3 Prize
Countess de la Warr's Buckhurst Waterville Sapphire (Kerry)	36 1	2 0½	17·75	32·50	4·2	36·70	£3 Prize

BACON AND HAMS.

The classes for bacon and hams were rather stronger than usual as regards the number of entries. Hillier's Bacon Curing Company won in the smoked class, with Mr. J. Smith, Carlisle, in the unsmoked class. Four classes for hams were well filled. Messrs. Palethorpes, Ltd., Mr. S. J. Wright, and Mr. Joseph Smith were the principal winners, while in the selling class Mr. J. Smith's first prize exhibit made as much as 5s. per lb. when submitted for auction.

BUTTER.

In the butter classes Lord Portman secured two first prizes, and among others to win first places were Mrs. A. A. Beere (Tiverton), Miss E. Masson (Kelso), A. S. Hay (Ware), Mrs. Freed (West Wickham), Miss M. K. Harris (Stalbridge), Mrs. E. Lewis (Carmarthen), Mrs. L. R. Mildon (Morehard Bishop), Mrs. George Adlam (Wookey Hole), Miss M. Dalrymple (St. Boswell's), F. Ricardo (Old Windsor), C. Prideaux (Motcombe). Miss H. M. Trenchard, of Axminster, claimed first prize in two classes for ornamental designs in butter, and the classes for colonial salt and fresh butter were respectively won by the Downs Co-Operative Dairy, Toowoomba, Queensland and N. Wesphalen, Robertstown, South Australia. There were 124 entries in the colonial section, but much of the Australasian makes had distinct traces of that "fishiness," which is so objectionable.



The Jersey Cow shown above is Whitewood 4th, winner of the Blythwood Challenge Bowl for the Best Jersey Cow or Heifer in milk (bred in Great Britain or Ireland) at the Dairy Show last week. She is 10 years 5 months old, is by Nelson out of Whitewood 3rd, and was bred by Mr. J. J. Shepherd, but is the property of Lady de Rothschild Aston Clinton, Bucks.

ROOTS.

The minor hall, wherein was displayed the butter and cream, also contained the roots exhibits, which were of a very high quality. Some of the best samples came from the Channel Islands, their weight in several instances approximating 27 lb.

Roots from the South of England were also of excellent quality, but from the North of England little or nothing was consigned, for the reason that a partial failure is reported Some of the more weighty specimens were not of the best quality, as the use of the knife quickly proved.

JUDGES.

MILKING TRIALS.—Wm Ashcroft, Samuel R Whitley, F J Lloyd, F.C.S.

BUTTER TESTS.—R H Evans.

CATTLE.—Shorthorn Cows and Bulls: J C Robinson. Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn Cows and Shorthorn Heifers: Edward Mason. Jerseys: J T Keddie. Guernseys and Bulls in Class 21: G Titus Barham. Red Polls, Kerries, and Dexters: F N Webb. Ayrshires: Alex Cross. Cows in Classes 17 and 18: W J Hosken.

CHEESE.—Cheddar, J Hugh Mackie and Andrew Mitchell: Stilton, Wensleydale, and Leicester, Joseph Swain; Lancashire, Cheshire, and Derbyshire, W Gunstone; Double and Single Gloucester, Caerphilly, and Soft Cheese, Isaac Bidwell.

COLLECTIONS OF DAIRY PRODUCE.—W Gunstone.

BACON AND HAMS.—Mortimer Webb.

BUTTER. Colonial salt butter, W G Oakey; Colonial fresh butter, Howard F Kingham; Butter, free from salt, Mrs Clement Smith; Butter slightly salted, George Siggs, jun; Butter, commercial classes, H Griffith.

ORNAMENTAL BUTTER AND CREAM.—Miss M Johnstone.

ROOTS, &c.—Geo Fuller.

INVENTIONS.—John Speir, Primrose McConnell.

BUTTER-MAKING CONTESTS.—Miss A R Jenkins, Miss M A Johnstone, C E Walker-Tisdale, W J Grant (Class 99), Professor Carroll (champion contest).

MILKERS.—Edward Mason, W. J. Hosken, Nathaniel Cates jun.

PRIZE LIST.

COWS AND HEIFERS IN MILK.

Class 1. Shorthorn Cows.—1 and 4, Lord Rothschild (Red Rose and Broadhooks 3rd); 2, G B Nelson (Comely Maid); 3 and vhc, G Taylor (Melody and Barrington Cran); c, W Nisbet (Red Millicent 3rd).

Class 2. Shorthorn Cows, not eligible for Class 1.—1, S S Raingill (Witch); 2, A J Hollington (White Heather); 3 and c, and C G B Nelson (Daisy, Dot, and Sally); 4, R and E Brown (Perfection); r, J Wilson; vhc, A Skelton (Daisy), J Sheppy (Chewton Daisy 2nd).

Class 3. Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn Cows.—1, 2, and c, J Evens (Burton Ruby Spot, Burton Nancy 3rd, Burton Nancy 4th), R F Scorer (Bracebridge No 3d).

Class 4. Shorthorn Heifers, not exceeding three years.—1, J T Hobbs (Matchless 69th); 2, Lord Rothschild (Aster); 3, W M Cazalet (Babraham Wild Eyebright); 4, W Nisbet (Bendyshe Queen); r and c, C R W Adeane (Babraham Treasure and Babraham Lammermoor).

Class 5. Shorthorn Heifers not exceeding three years, not eligible for Class 4.—1 and r, J Evans (Burton C Star 7th, Burton C Star 8th); 2, G B Nelson (Polly); 3, J L Shirley (Masie); 4, W Nisbet (Jessie).

Class 6 Jersey Cows.—1, R Bruce Ward (Mrs Viola); 2, vhc, and hc, J H Smith Barry (Unaware, Gueld r Rose, and Post Obit); 3, Lady de Rothschild (Whitewood 4th); r, and hc, and vhc, A Miller Hallett (Carol, Goddington, Pipkin 2nd); hc, Sir J Hollams (Golden Primrose); W. M. Cazalet (La Belle Agatha and Forfarshire Lucy).

Class 7. Jersey Heifers not exceeding three years bred in Great Britain or Ireland.—1, J H Smith Barry (Marionette); 2, H P. Smith (Sea Swallow); 3, r, and hc, Lady de Rothschild (Waterhen and Ghezirch).

Class 8. Jersey Heifer not exceeding three years, bred in the Channel Islands.—1, Lord Rothschild (Palm Sunday); 2 and hc, J Pallot (Little Beauty and MontPellier Lily); 3, J de Knoop (Miss Sellon); r and hc, F V le Feuvre (Fauvic's Ida); hc, Mrs Eyres Monsell (White Heather); W J Alexander (Pansy 8th, Le Marais, and Dainty Daisy).

Class 9. Guernsey Cows.—1 and 2 E A Hambro (Queen of the Roses and Hayes Express); r and hc and c, Sir H F Lennard (Lady Russell and Lady 88th); hc, Hon Miss R E Hubbard (Flora Dance).

Class 10. Cancelled.

Class 11. Red Polled Cows.—1, 2, and c, Lord Rothschild (Atalanta, Clarissa, and Ethel 3rd); 3, Sir W Corbet (Desirae of Johnstown); r and hc, A J Smith (Rendlesham Abigail); hc and c, Earl of Radnor (Ashlyns Rose 2nd and Mona); c, S Woodiwiss (Beauty).

Class 12. Red Polled Heifers, not exceeding three years.—1 and hc, K M Clark (Sudbourne Princess and Sudbourne Lute 1st); 2, A Carlyle Smith (Queen Mab); 3 and r and hc, Lord Rothschild (Heroine and Cranberry); c, Sir R Cooper (Ashlyns Queen 2nd), A J Smith (Rendlesham Snowdrop), S Woodiwiss (Sedgemere Moselle).

Class 13. Ayrshire Cows.—1, J Littleton (Sally); r, W Nisbet (Dalfibble Daisy Bell).

Class 14. Cancelled.

Class 15. Kerry Cows.—1, 2, and hc, Countess de la Warr (Buckhurst Gem, Buckhurst Peaceful, and Buckhurst Waterville Sapphire); 3, Lady Greenall (Walton Joyous); r and hc and c, Duchess of Newcastle (Killarney 4th and Hardwick Jessie).

Class 16. Dexter Cows.—1, Hon Mrs C Portman (Buckhurst Juno); 2 and 3, Duchess of Devonshire (Compton Dark Beauty and Compton Dooka); r and hc, Sir W. Corbet (Acton Gipsy); c, Hon. Miss R E Hubbard (Acme Big and Compton Dazzle).

Class 17. Pair of Cows, of any breed or cross, in milk.—1, S S Raingill (Faithful and Pansy); 2, G B Nelson (Dot and Daisy); 3, J Evens (Burton Cot Fox 4th and Violet 6th); 4, R E Birch (Llandrill's Lady and Bryneuryn Beauty) 5, J Little on (Molly and Ruth); r, D Kelly (Miriel 2nd and Maud).

Class 18. Single Cow of any breed or cross, in milk. 1, J Wilson; 2, J L Shirley (Minnie); 3, J Evens (Burton Polly 2nd); 4, D Kelly (Running Water); 5, G B Nelson (Buttercup).

BULLS.

Class 19. Shorthorn Bull, twelve months old or over.—1, Lord Rothschild (Traveller); 2, J T Hobbs (Royal Pluto); 3, A B and W G Little (Victory 3rd); r, G W Tysor (Prodigy); vhc, C R W Adeane (Babraham Dairy King).

Class 20. Jersey Bull above one year and not exceeding three years.—1, A Miller Hallett (Alfriston's Pride); 2, Lady de Rothschild (Sparmer); 3, W M Cazalet (Oatland's Glory); r and hc J R Corbett (Edwin); hc, Lieut-Colonel C H Eyre Coote (Mobberley Lad), Lord Rothschild (Oxford Wrangler).

Class 21. Bull of any other pure breed, twelve months old or over.—Silver medal, J Evens (Burton Hermit 2 d).

CHEESE.

Class 22. Cheddar.—1, T C Carely 2, R Stevenson; 3, A White; 4, A Cross; 5, Carey and Portch; r and vhc, R Stevenson; vhc, R H. White; hc, F Portch, J Smith, D A Hood, Carey and Portch, G and C Harding; c, A Clanachan (2) H Travers, E Brake, P H Francis, F W J Crocker, J Candy, E C Sims (2), H Pickford, F Osborne, G Lester.

Class 30. Cheddar Truckles.—1, J Candy; 2, R Stevenson; 3, H Pickford; r and hc, R Stevenson; hc, A Cross, W Hunter, W G Plunkett; c, W W Keel, J Harding.

Class 31. Stilton.—1, J. C. Wilfo d; 2, Tuxford and Nephews; 3, Mrs C Fairbrother; r, H Morris; hc, Mrs A M E Bowmer, W Cowan, H B Wilford.

Class 32. Wensleydale.—1. A Harker; 2, Mrs Stubbs; 3, W Mason; r, Wensleydale Pure Milk Society, Ltd.; hc, Mrs Willis.

Class 33. Cheshire (coloured).—1, W H Hobson; 2, J Dutton; 3, S Dickin; r, W H Hobson; vhc, Mrs Withington, T Parton, Miss A Boffey, H Denson, R Cooper; hc, F Jeffries, C Price, Mrs M A Nunnerley, J H Bourne, S Dutton, J Sadler, J E Jones; c, F Heath, H S Walley, CE Parton.

Class 34. Cheshire (uncoloured).—1, S. Lea; 2, P. Dutton; 3, C. Price; r, T. Parton; vhc, J. Craddock. H. S. Walley, E. H. Lea; hc, C. F. Hobson (2). R. A. Walley; c, J. H. Bourne, S. Charlesworth, S. Dickin, J. Kynaston, F. Jeffries.

Class 35. Lancashire.—1, L. Bailey; 2, J. Bee; r, G. Whitaker; vhc, T. Thexton; hc J. Blundell, G. B. Nelson.

Class 36. Double Gloster.—1, Swepston Dairy Co; 2, R. H. White; 3, J. Sage; r, T. Kent.

Class 37. Single Gloster.—1. G. Prout.

Class 38. Leicester. 1, E Ball; 2, Swepston Dairy Company; 3, J Platt; r, Mrs A M E Bowmer; hc, Warwickshire County Council.

Class 39. Derby.—1, G. W. Lewis; 2, C A Goodwin; r, T Kent; vhc, J Platt; hc, F W Gilbert; c, Croxden Dairy Association.

Class 40. Caerphilly.—1, C Harris and Son; 2, Wilts United Dairies, Ltd.; 3, Wilts United Dairies, Ltd.. r, C and G Prideaux, Cheddar Valley Dairy Company; c, Wilts United Dairy, Ltd.

Class 41. Cream Cheese.—1, Wensleydale Pure Milk Company and Lady de Rothschild; 2, F W Gilbert and C and G Prideaux.

Class 42. Gervais.—1, Wilts United Dairies, Ltd; 2, Wilts United Dairies, Ltd.

Class 43. Unripened Soft Cheese, other than Cream Cheese or Gervais.—1, Miss J Watt White; 2, Miss J Watt White; r, Miss Robson.

Class 44. Ripened Soft Cheese, other than Cream Cheese or Gervais.—1, Miss H J M Taylor; 2, Miss E G Cook; r, Miss J Watt White.

Class 45. Cheddar.—1, Carey and Portch; 2, Carey and Portch; 3, A Cross; 4, R Stevenson; 5, J Whyte; r and vhc, J Whyte; hc, W G Plunkett, J Smith, H Pickford, R Stevenson, T C Candy, G D Templeman; c, A Osborne, F Osborne, J Beer; R E Harding, H Travers, T C Candy, B. R. Brought n.

Class 46. Stilton.—1, H Morris; 2, Scalford Dairy, Ltd r, Miller and Miller.

Class 47. Collection of British Dairy Produce.—1 and gold medal, Aplin and Barrett and the Western Counties Creameries, Ltd.

Class 48.—No entry.

BACON AND HAMS.

Bacon.

Class 49. Smoked.—1, Hillier's Bacon Curing Company; 2, E E. Pigott.

Class 50. Unsmoked.—2, J. Smith.

Hams.

Class 51. Smoked.—1, S J Wright and Co; 2, Palethorpes, Ltd.

Class 52. Unsmoked, under 14 lb.—1, Palethorpes, Ltd; 2, Palethorpes, Ltd.

Class 53. Unsmoked, over 14 lb.—1, Palethorpes, Ltd; 2, J Smith.

Class 54. Selling class for hams, any variety.—1, J Smith; 2, W Mitchell and Sons.

BUTTER.

Class 55. Butter free from salt, the produce of Channel Islands cattle and their crosses.—1, Mrs A A Bere, Miss E Masson, Lord Portman; 2, A F Somerville, Mrs C McIntosh, Mrs L R Mildon; 3, Mrs Evelyn, Lady de Rothschild, Mrs M Custance; hc, Lord Rothschild, A Palmer, Mrs F Ward, Miss M K Harris.

Class 56. Butter slightly salted, the produce of Channel Islands cattle or their crosses.—1, A S Hay, Mrs F Reed, Miss M K Harris; 2, J de Knoop, Hon A Holland Hibbert, Lady de Rothschild; 3, Mrs A A Bere, A Palmer, A Miller Hallett; vhc, Mrs F Ward; hc, Mrs J Blenkley, C A Goodwin, R Underwood, Mrs G Adlam.

Class 57. Butter free from salt, the produce of Shorthorn and other cattle and their crosses.—1, Mrs E Lewis, Mrs L R Mildon, Mrs G Adlam; 2, Mrs A A Bere, Mrs T Down Weeks, Miss A Andrews; 3, J Harrison, Miss S A Cliffe, Miss W. Langdon; vhc, Mrs M Stokes, Lord Portman, F K Ettinger, Miss M K Harris; hc, A S Hay, Mrs J T Dennis, Miss M Dalrymple, Miss E. Masson; c, R Underwood.

Class 58. Butter slightly salted, the produce of Shorthorn and other cattle and their crosses.—1, Miss M. Dalrymple, Lord Portman Mrs G Adlam; 2, Mrs S A Koirby, Mrs Pickup, Miss M K Harris; 3, Mrs H Pendlebury, W Rennie, Miss W Langdon; vhc, Mrs W Webster; hc, Mrs A Cookson, Mrs E Lewis, Mrs J Way, J Darlington, Mrs Williams, Centenary Co-operative Creamery Company, Kiltoghert Co-Operative Agricultural and Dairy Society, Limited, Miss Bowman, Miss I Allan.

Class 59. Butter slightly salted.—1, F Ricardo; 2 Mrs F Ward; 3, J de Knoop; r and vhc, J Hunter; vhc, Miss Roberts; hc, Mrs A A Bere, Kiltoghert Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society, Ltd, Killeshandra Co operative Dairy and Agricultural Society, Mrs Smith Neill.

Class 60. Butter made from salted cream only.—1, A C de Rothschild; 2, Mrs A A Bere; 3, Lord Rothschild; vhc, Mrs G Adlam, Mrs J T Harvey; hc, C E Keyser, Mrs F Ward, Mrs Smith Neill, Mrs S Pet le, Mrs Williams, Lady de Rothschild; c, Mrs L R Mildon.

Class 61. Fresh Butter, free from salt, in 24 lb. boxes.—1, C Prideaux; 2, Coagh Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society, Ltd; 3, Leckpatrick Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society, Ltd; 4, Genwilliam Co-operative Dairy Society, Ltd; 5, Killeshandra Co-operative Dairy and Agricultural Society; vhc, Spamount Co-operative Dairy and Agricultural Society, Ltd, Bellcek Co-operative Dairy Society, Ltd, Newcastle West Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society, Ltd; hc, Drumcliffe Co-operative Dairy Society, Keltoghert Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society, Ltd, Drumholme Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society, Ballymote Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society; c, Phillips and Son.

Class 62 Mild cured butter in 24 lb. boxes.—1, Solohead Co-operative Dairy Society; 2, Leckpatrick Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society; 3, Kiltoghert Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society; 4, Moneymore Co-operative Dairy Society, Ltd.; 5, Newcastle West Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society; r, Ardagh Co-operative Dairy Society; hc, Omagh Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society.

Class 63. Cured butter, not less than 28 lb., slightly salted.—1, Tamnaskenny Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society; 2, Rose Bower Dairy Company; 3, C Prideaux; 4, Moneymore Co-operative Dairy Society; 5, Glenwilliam Co-operative Dairy society; vhc, Solohead Co-operative Dairy Society, Newcastle West Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society; hc, Spamount Co-operative Dairy and Agricultural Society.

Class 64. Cured Butter, 56 lb.—1, Tammaskenny Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society, Ltd; 2, C Prideaux; 3, Newcastle West Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society; 4, Glenwilliam Co-operative Dairy Society; 5, Centenary Co-operative Creamery Company; vhc, Rose Bower Dairy Company, Solohead Co-operative Dairy Society, Ltd, Gramagh Co-operative Dairy Society, Ltd.

Class 65. Fancy or ornamental design in Butter, with foliage or other extraneous decoration.—1, Miss H M Trenchard; 2, Miss B M G Dare; r and vhc, Mrs J Holloway.

Class 66. Fancy or Ornamental Design in Butter, without extraneous decoration adapted for table use.—1, Miss H M Trenchard; 2, Mrs Custance; r and vhc, Miss B M G Dare; hc, Miss L Page.

COLONIAL BUTTER.

Class 67. Salt Butter. One box containing not less than 56 lb.—1, Downs Co-operative Dairy Company; 2, Framlingham Butter Factory; 3, North Coast Co-operative Company, Ltd; r and vhc, Warrnambool Butter Factory; vhc, Tyers Butter Factory, Cowarr Butter Factory, Echuca Co-operative Butter Factory; hc, Cambridge Co-operative Dairy Company; Bairnsdale Butter Factory, Milawa Co-operative Dairy Company, Eurva Butter and Ice Factory, J L Frederich—Killarney Valley Butter Factory, Samson Vale Butter Factory, Melrose Buttor and Produce Company, Ltd, Alexandra Dairy Company, Benal'a Dairy Company.

Class 68. Fresh Butter. One box containing not less than 56 lb. 1, N Westphalen; 2, Warrnambool Butter Factory; 3, A W Sandeford and Co; hc, Du Kaparing Cheese, Butter, and Produce Company, Benalla Dairy Co; c, Norsewood Co-operative Dairy Company, Ltd; Baddaginnie Butter Factory, Newstead Butter Factory.

CREAM.

Class 69. Clotted Cream.—1, Mrs L R Mildon; 2, Miss E G Everest; r and vhc, W Boer; vhc, F and H Hornby; c, J Dolbear, J Pepperell, C Prideaux, Mid-Sussex Dairy Company, Ltd.

Class 70. Cream other than Clotted.—1, Mrs L R Mildon; 2, A A Wilmott; r and vhc, Glynde Creameries, Ltd; vhc, C Prideaux; hc, Miss E G Everest; c, C and G Prideaux, F and H Hornby, F W Gilbert.

ROOTS.

Class 87. Six specimens of Long Mangolds.—1, P le Feuvre; 2, Lady Wantage; 3, T W Purser; r and c, C Tough.

Class 88. Six specimens of Globe Mangolds.—1, J Bowden; 2, Lady Wantage; 3, L J Smith; r and hc, C Tough; c, T Chettle.

Class 89. Six specimens of Tankard or intermediate Mangolds.—1, P Le Feuvre; 2, J B Le Feuvre; 3, J Bowden; r and hc, L J Smith; c, Lady Wantage.

Class 90. Six Specimens of Swedes.—1, H Bulford; 2, Mrs Dring; 3, Mrs Dring; r and hc, Mrs. McIntosh; hc, Mrs McIntosh; c, Lady Wantage, E Mead, Sir R G Harvey.

Class 91. Collection of Roots.—1, Mrs McIntosh; 2, Lady Wantage; 3, Mrs McIntosh; r and hc, T Doult; c, P E Mead, F Hoone

BUTTER-MAKING CONTESTS.

Class 94. Section A, Butter-making contest, open to those who have never won a prize at any show, wherever held.—1, Miss M Kavanagh; 2, Miss J Cassidy; 3, Miss A Jones; r, O D Carter; hc, Miss A Roberts; c, Miss H G Forman, Miss A L Smith.

Class 94. Section B, Butter-making contest, open to those who have never won a prize at any show, wherever held.—1, Miss E McEntogart; 2, Miss H Cadwallerder; 3, Miss J O'Hanlan; r, Miss G A Nicholas; hc, Miss G Hopkin; c, Miss D J Dudeney, Miss E M Masson.

Class 95. Butter-making contest, open to students who have attended classes at the British Dairy Institute for not less than one month during the past two years.—1, Miss J L Bull; 2, Miss H J M Taylor; 3, Miss E Morris; r, Miss G H Mason; hc, Miss A Jones.

Class 96 Section A, Butter-making contest open to women only.—1, Mrs N Comer; 2, Miss M P Comer; 3, Miss J Cassidy; r, Miss E E James; hc, Miss A Jones, Mrs W Watts; c, Miss E M Herbert.

Class 96. Section B. Butter-making contest, open to women only.—1, Miss E W Williams; 2, Miss M Jenkins; 3, Miss M Matthews; hc, Miss M Dalrymple, Miss J O'Hanlan; c, Miss L White.

Class 96. Section C, Butter-making contest, open to women only.—1, Miss M James; 2, Miss E M Powell; 3, Miss L K Perrett; r, Miss A Jones; hc, Miss S Sapsed, Miss G F White; c, Miss E A Jones, Miss M S Wild, Mrs T B Cross, Miss J Watt White.

Class 97. Section A, Butter-making contest, open to men and women.—1, Miss I White; 2, T A Burridge; 3, Miss R Goodwin; r, Miss F M Underwood; hc, Miss E Dunn, Miss A Furse; c, Miss S Jenkins.

Class 97. Section B, Butter-making contest, open to men and women.—1, Miss J Garbutt; 2 Mrs A Roberts; 3, Miss J Cassidy; r, Miss M P Comer; hc, Miss R Davies; c, Miss G W Welden, O D Carter.

Class 97 Section C, Butter-making contest, open to men and women.—1, Miss H J M Taylor; 2, Miss M Matthews; 3, Miss S Sapseed; r, Miss L Cook; hc, Miss M Dalrymple, H S Briggs; c, Miss E Tansley.

Class 98. Butter-making contest, open for first-prize Dairy Show winners of 1907.—1, Miss J Garbutt; 2, Mrs N Comer; 3, Miss E W Williams; r, Miss J L Bull; vhc, Miss M Kavanagh, Miss E MacEntogart, Miss M James, Miss J White, Miss H J M Taylor.

Class 99. Champion Butter-making contest, open to winners of first prizes in the preceding classes or at the Dairy Show of 1903, champions of any year excepted.—1, Miss E W Williams; 2, Mrs N C mer; 3, Miss M Kavanagh; r, Miss E McEntogart; vhc, Miss J L Bull, Miss H M Trinchard, Miss M James, Miss I White, Miss J Garbutt, Miss H J M Taylor, Miss A Garrard.

MILKERS' CONTEST.

Class 101. Milking contest, open to men over 18.—1, J D Tooood-Parsons; 2, W A Chapp ll; 3 G B Nelson; vhc, D Watt White, W J Hallett, F Ormesby; hc, F G Hamphire, G M Kirk; c, A Adler, R Haynes.

Class 102. Milking Contest, open to boys under 18.—1 F Hampshire; r and vhc, G R Nelson, jun; vhc, A H Vigar; hc, R P Clark, W Brown; c, S R Hook.

Class 103. Milking Contest, open to women over 18.—1, Miss J M Collins; 2, Mrs Askew; 3, Miss E Masson; 4, Mrs J Nisbet, Miss H Young. Mrs W H Purnell, Miss M E Nelson; vhc, Miss J Thompson, Miss H G Forman, Miss M Dalrymple, Miss E Nicholas, Mrs M Potts; hc, Miss A R Turney, Miss J Nesbit, Mrs M Jones, Miss A Furse, Miss A George, Mrs M Milner.

Class 104. Milking Contest, open to girls under 18.—1 Miss S Nelson; 2, Miss M L Nisbet; 3, Miss R J Masson.

CHAMPIONS.

The Blithwood Challenge Bowl for the best Jersey Cow or Heifer in milk in any of the Jersey classes bred in Great Britain or Ireland, to be awarded by inspection.—Lady de Rothschild's Whitewood 4th; r, A Miller Hallett's Carol.

Champion Cup, value £5 5s, for the best Stilton.—Mr J C Wilford.

The Barham Challenge Cup, value £50, for the cow gaining the greatest number of points in the Milking Trials.—Mr. G. B. Nelson's Shorthorn cow Daisy, 158·7 points; r, Messrs R and E Brown's Shorthorn cow Perfection, 149·7 points.

The Spencer Challenge Cup, value 50 guineas, for the best dairy cow in the show gaining the greatest number of points

by inspection, milking trial and butter test.—Mr G B Nelson's Shorthorn cow Daisy. Points: Milking 158·7, butter 64·4, inspection 40·0, total 263·1; r, Mr J Wilson's Shorthorn cow—Points: milking 146·0, butter 43·2, inspection 35·0, total 224·2.

Champion Cup, value £5 5s, for the best Shorthorn in the milking trials (Classes 1 and 2).—Equal firsts, Mr. G. Taylor's Melody (milking 4, inspection 2, total 6 points) and Mr G B Nelson's Comely Maid (milking 3, inspection 3, total 6 points).

B.D.F.A. ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the association was held on Wednesday, the president, Lord Kenyon, in the chair.

The chairman, in moving the adoption of the annual report, said he would like to draw attention to the circumstance that the exhibition was undoubtedly one of the largest that had been held. He was glad to notice that the Cheshire cheese entries had more than trebled. He hoped the interest taken in the show by the Cheshire cheese makers would be maintained, and he hoped as a result there would be a greater sale for that kind of cheese in London. For some years past Cheshire cheese had hardly been seen in London, and it was in the North of England where the trade had been done.

Mr. Thomas Carrick proposed the election of Sir George Barham as the new president.

Sir George Barham said he appreciated the honour of being the first member of the council to be elected to the position of president.



Lord Rothschild's Red Polled Cow Atalanta, winner of First Prize, by inspection, at the Dairy Show last week. She is just over 8 years 8 months old, and has produced five calves. She is by Caistor Minotaur out of Rich Lady, and was bred by Mr. J. E. Platt.

Twelve members of the council were elected, as under:—Mr. A. L. Alexander, Mr. W. Ashcroft, Capt. R. O. Bellairs, Mr. W. C. Brown, Mr. R. Carr, Mr. T. Carrick, Prof. F. Carroll, Mr. S. P. Page, Mr. G. Taylor, Mr. S. R. Whitley, Mr. J. C. Robinson, and Mr. J. Sadler.

Mr. Stapleton brought forward a resolution in which he recommended the appointment of a deputation to wait upon the Board of Agriculture, with a view of showing that the agricultural interests of the country, including those of the dairy farmers, had suffered very seriously through the exportation of meal and offal, upon which he advocated a tax should be levied. He ventured to urge the Government to impose a tax on the exportation of meals and millers' offals and other cattle foods.

The resolution was not accepted.

Mr. Kelly, who asked for the introduction of the dual system of judging, also suggested that a class for first-cross cows should again be included in the catalogue. Most farmers considered it the best dairy cow, and seeing twenty-two were exhibited at the last exhibition, he could not understand why it had been deleted, especially when they considered the few entries in the Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn, the Ayrshire, and other classes.

NATIONAL DIPLOMA IN DAIRYING

The twelfth annual exhibition for the National Diploma in the Science and Practice of Dairying was held by the National Agricultural Examination Board, at the Midland Agricultural and Dairy College, Kingston, Derby, for English students from the 21st to the 27th ult., and at the Dairy School for Scotland, Kilmarnock, for Scottish students from September 30 to the 4th inst. Fifty-nine candidates entered for the examination, twenty-nine at the English centre and thirty at the Scottish centre.

As the result of the examination, the following thirty-eight candidates succeeded in satisfying the examiners, and have thus become entitled receive the National Diploma in Dairying:—

English Centre.—Tom. Clark, Miss Helen G. Forman, Miss Ivy G. Fuller, Pandit Ram Gopal, Miss Jean Jones, Patrick Lee, A. S. Llewellyn, Miss Grace Heather Mason, Miss Ethel Morris, Miss Jennie Shemwell, George F. Slinger, William Thompson, Mrs. Toussaint, Stanley S. Trevor, Miss Margaret S. Wild, Miss Emma Evans, Watkin S. Jones.

Scottish Centre.—Miss Gwen Bagnall, James McCulloch Brown, Thomas R. D. Carruthers, Alexander F. Cumming, Miss Jeannie Currie, Reginald Grant, Miss M A. Irons, John Goodwin Lucas, Miss Mary Jane McKerrow, Miss Elspeth M. Martin, Miss Jeanie Morrison, William Paterson, William Paton. Alexander V. D. Rintoul, Miss Ella Wyllie Stevenson, William Murray Denny, Miss Constance M. Emmerson, James P. Cow, William Hunter, Miss Winifred E. Love, Allister Ogilvy.

NEW APPLIANCES AT THE DAIRY SHOW.

Two classes were provided for new inventions and improved machinery for use in connection with dairy work, and a number of medals were given by the society.

INVENTIONS, &c.

Class 92 was for a milk strainer, or strainer and filter combined, capable of effectively dealing, other than by centrifugal force, with at least 100 gallons of milk in an hour.

The first prize of a gold medal was awarded to the Dairy Outfit Company, Ltd., for their exhibits of milk filter for country use, price £4 10s., and milk filter with refrigerator pan, price £6 2s. 6d.

A silver medal went to Burmeister and Wain, Ltd., for their Perfect milk strainer and filter combined, to strain 100 gallons of milk per hour; price, 18s. 6d.

A bronze medal was won by Thomas Grayson for a milk strainer and filter combined; price 7s. 6d.

Class 93 was for any other new invention relating to the dairy industry, or one showing distinct and practical improvement, not eligible for competition in any other class, and not previously exhibited at the Dairy Show.

A silver medal was won by the Dairy Supply Co., Ltd., for Dr. N. Gerber's Sal Butyrometer. It shows simply, quickly, and with perfect accuracy, the percentage of butter fat in any sample of milk, and possesses two great improvements over the apparatus hitherto sold:—1. No acid is required, the use of which is objectionable to many persons, and may be dangerous if carelessly handled. 2. Centrifugal apparatus of new design, entirely enclosed to prevent accidents, fitted with speed indicator and brake. To make eight tests at one operation. Price, £6 15s.

A bronze medal to the Dairy Supply Company, Ltd., for Swiftsure bottle-filling machine. Automatically receives bottles, fills and delivers them as fast as they can be removed by one man. Bottles of various sizes filled at the same time, absolutely accurate measure. A great labour-saving appliance for dairies having a large sale of milk in bottles. Price, £35.

A bronze medal to H. Bartram for the L. K. G. milking machine, to milk two cows at one time. Price, £25.

A bronze medal to Mono Service Vessels, Ltd., for Taylor's hygienic Milkups and Creamugs. Made of wood pulp paper and fluid proofing material. Prize, 2s. to 7s.

A silver medal to Robert Bobey, Ltd., for Garbutt's improved patent Two Minute butter churn. Price, £3 15s.

A silver medal to Burmeister and Wain, Ltd., for new Perfect hand separator; capacity, 75 gallons per hour. Price, £18.

A bronze medal to Blackstone and Co., Ltd., Stamford, for their improved swath turner and collector.

A bronze medal to W. Hopkins, Stadacona, Morena Park Road, Cheltenham, for a churn lid fastener, suitable for any size or make of churn. Price, 7s. 6d. to 10s.

Bronze medal to John Blackburn, Oarside Dairy Farm, Liscard, Wallasey, Cheshire, for apparatus for measuring and filling bottles. £7 10s.

The exhibit of the Dairy Supply Company, Ltd., Museum Street, London, W.C., included many novelties, which are new since the gathering at Islington twelve months ago, and some are now exhibited for the first time at any show. This company are sole agents for Dr. N. Gerber's patent process for testing milk and milk products, which is the best known and almost universally used throughout Europe. In this apparatus it has hitherto been necessary to use an acid, which is mixed with the milk in order to break up the casein and liberate the fat, so that it may be readily separated and the quantity read in a graduated tube. The use of the acid is unpleasant to many people, and there is no doubt, in the hands of careless people, it may be a source of danger, and likely to involve injury to fingers or clothes. Dr. Gerber has now, after many years' careful research and great experiment, perfected an apparatus which gives thoroughly reliable results without the use of any acids at all. It is distinguished as the Sal Butyrometer. In place of the acid a special chemical preparation is used, which is entirely free from any acid reaction or other objections and yet equally effective in operation. This is shown in connection with a new pattern centrifugal apparatus, the whole of which is entirely closed to prevent accidents, and which is fitted with a speed indicator to show when the correct speed is obtained, and a brake to avoid the waste of time caused by waiting whilst the machine runs down. The price of this complete to make eight tests at one operation is £6 15s.

Waide and Sons, Ltd., of Crown Point Road, Leeds, have patented and placed on the market an improved method of securing the lids of end-over-end churns, by dispensing with all screws. Since the invention of end-over-end churns the lids have been made with screws and lugs, to fasten down and effect a tight joint between the lid and churn. By this patented improvement all screws are dispensed with The lid is secured by two or more levers, according to the size of the churn, and are worked into position in one movement, which makes a complete air-tight joint. Waide and Sons, Ltd., are the original inventors and patentees of the end-over-end churn, and they were granted Royal Letters Patent for the same in the year 1897, and which churn is known throughout the world as the Victoria, and has been more successful than any other churn on the market. It was awarded £10 and silver medal in 1880 by the British Dairy Farmers' Association, being the largest prize ever given to any churn.

We had the opportunity at last week's Dairy Show of a talk with Mr. H. Bartram, who, as sole agent for the Midlands and South of England, was showing the L.K.G. cow-milker, which, being in actual operation, attracted a good deal of attention. It would seem, after careful inquiry, that this machine continues to give satisfaction to many farmers in this country, and we were introduced to the daughters of Mr. Graham, of Willow Farm, Wickham Market, who had loaned four of the six cows for use at Islington. These ladies informed us that the installation has been used on their Suffolk farm some four or five months for use on thirty cows daily, and, as an indication of the saving of milk by its use referred to the fact that recently, through one of the lamp machines accidentally not working, they had to resort to hand-milking, which, on one meal's milking, resulted in a shortage of four gallons. As to simplicity and ease of working Mr. G. Kaddatz, of Vince Mackay, Queensland, says, two of his boys, one aged twelve and the other nine, milked their cows with two machines in less time than six adults could do by hand-milking.

At a meeting of the National Fruit Growers' Federation, held on Monday, a discussion took place on the question of compensation to growers whose bushes were compulsorily destroyed owing to gooseberry mildew, and it was unanimously resolved: "That justice and expediency require the giving of some compensation for gooseberry bushes destroyed by order of the County Council under the Destructive Insects Act, 1907, and that this is indispensable to the efficient carrying out of the Act and the stamping out of the disease." The secretary was asked to forward copies of the resolution to the county councils.

SHOW GOSSIP.

At a meeting of the council of the Essex Agricultural Society, held on Monday, the secretary, Mr. Taylor, presented the accounts of the Jubilee Show at Chelmsford this year, and was in the happy position of being able to report a profit of £500, thus making their deposit up to £900. Mr. Taylor, however, remarked that if they went back to the time when they had a fairly substantial balance in hand, they would find that their reserve was not yet equal to what it was then. The secretary said the successful financial results were due to the fine weather they had on each day of the show, a circumstance which led to an increase in the admission money from £827 to £1,154. The amount received from entries had also increased—namely, from £510 to £853. There were increases under practically every heading on the receipt side of the accounts, the total amount of the receipts being £4,883.

The council, in accepting the accounts, thanked Mr. Taylor for the great interest he had displayed in the exhibition, and also agreed, on the motion of Mr. Whitlock, to make Mr. Taylor a special grant of £25.

When the question of where to hold next year's show came under discussion, Mr. T. Goodchild said that, as theirs was probably the most important of all the county shows in England, they must see that they did not allow their exhibition to go behind in any one particular. He thought they should conduct the next and all future shows on exactly the same lines as that held at Chelmsford; there should be no reduction either in the classes or in the prize money. That meant they would have to give up the idea of going to small towns, where it was impossible to get all the money they desired, and where the accommodation was too limited for a large show, as that of the Essex Society had now become. As there were only a few large towns in the county, and as his idea would lead to their visiting these more often, then they must rely more upon their own efforts, and expect less in the way of subscriptions than they had done in the past from the own they visited. They wanted to get to their exhibition the colonial and foreign visitors who came to this country for the Royal Agricultural Show, and also to buy pedigree stock. They would only come so long as the Essex Show remained the premier county exhibition, and so long as the place where it was held was easy of access. It was for that, among other reasons, he made the suggestion he had done. Mr. Goodchild concluded his observations by suggesting that he thought Colchester would be glad to entertain the society next year.

It was pointed out by both the chairman and the secretary that the society was not now getting the assistance they used to from the towns visited. Formerly, Chelmsford gave them a sum of between £800 and £900, but this year it only amounted to £325, and the society—contrary to previous arrangements—had to defray the show ground expenses.

The chairman agreed with Mr. Goodchild that it would be undesirable to in any way interfere with the prize list, which should remain the same as this year. It was only by having many classes and handsome prizes that they could expect to gain exhibits from all parts of the country.

The question of the date of the show being next raised, Mr. Vero Taylor said, being the premier county show, they should fix their dates without regard to what other societies were doing. Hitherto they had scrambled out of other people's way, but he did not think they should do it again. He agreed that a convenient day between the Derby and Ascot would be most acceptable. A small committee, comprising the Chairman, Mr. Parker, and the secretary, were appointed to interview the Mayor of Colchester, and it was left to them to provisionally fix the day of the show.

The Newcastle Royal Show.

At a meeting of the local executive committee having charge of the arrangements for the Royal Agricultural Show to be held in Newcastle next year, held on Friday, the subscription committee reported that subscriptions had been promised amounting to £1,910 10s., including the following:—Duke of Northumberland, £250; Lord Ridley, £100; Lord Allendale, £75; North Eastern Railway, £500; Mr. J. C. Straker, £100; Messrs. Bainbridge and Co., £100; Messrs. Lambton and Co., £105; Messrs. Barclay and Co., £105; Messrs. Newcastle Breweries Company, Ltd., £105; Messrs. W. B. Reid and Co., £105; Northumberland Agricultural Society, £100; Sir B. C. Browne, £56; Messrs. Hindhaugh and Co. (per Sir Joseph Ellis), £52 10s.; Mr. R. C. Swan, £50, &c.

Mr. Bolam, secretary of the Northumberland Agricultural Society, intimated that the Northumberland Society proposed holding a one-day show of their own inside the Royal Show Ground. Towards their own show they proposed to give £300 in prizes, and they would also give £150 in special prizes towards classes arranged by the Royal Society. They were also giving a subscription of £100 towards the local funds.

It was agreed that prizes should be given by the Newcastle Local Committee to a total value of not exceeding £2,000.

It was suggested that a dog and pigeon show be held in conjunction with the Royal Show, and the proposal will be discussed at the council meeting on November 6.

A public appeal, accompanied by preliminary subscription lists, will shortly be issued, and it is proposed that each subscriber of £1 be granted one season-ticket, and subscribers of £5 and upwards two season-tickets.

Dairy Shorthorn Society.

The Dairy Shorthorn (Coates's Herd Book) Association's second annual general meeting was held on Wednesday, the second day of the dairy show, at the Royal Agricultural Hall. Mr. Richardson Carr in the chair.

Lord Northbrook was elected president for the next year, Lord Crewe vice-president, and Messrs. C. R. W. Adeane, Richardson Carr, R. W. Hobbs, and G. Taylor were re-elected on the council, and Messrs. John Thornton and Co. auditors. The report of the council and statement of accounts were received and adopted.

It was decided to offer £100 in prizes for pedigree dairy Shorthorn cows and heifers to the following societies:—The Royal Show, the Bath and West of England Show, the Royal Dublin, the Royal Counties, the Oxfordshire, the Royal Lancashire, the Great Yorkshire, and the Tring.

A hearty vote of thanks was unanimously passed to Lord Crewe for his services as president.

The next council meeting was fixed to be held in London during the Smithfield Club Show week.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

Account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended October 5, 1907, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year (the figures for 1906 are in parentheses):—

Animals, living:—Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves (12,372), 8,776; sheep and lambs (5,039), 1,306; horses (332), 481.

Fresh meat:—Beef (113,876 cwts.), 109,520; mutton (71,283), 82,353; pork (11,724), 12,522.

Salted or preserved meat:—Bacon (106,732 cwt.), 84,022; beef (3,518), 1,964; hams (17,949), 17,361; pork (3,445), 4,139; meat (14,592), fresh, 10,468; salted 1,701; meat, preserved (5,614), 6,948.

Dairy produce and substitutes:—Butter (85,071 cwt.), 66,127; margarine (22,636), 13,955; cheese (66,766), 40,243; milk, fresh in cans or drums (31), —; cream (64), 88; milk, condensed (20,457), 20,236; milk, preserved, other kinds (290), 49.

Eggs (great hundreds):—(399,638), 364,695; poultry (value £1,813), £4,293; game (value £3,325), £3,240; rabbits, dead (not tinned), (34,560 cwt.), 43,713; lard (44,870 cwt.), 28,815.

Corn, grain, meal, and flour:—Wheat (1,368,100 cwt.), 1,806,000; wheat meal and flour (346,700), 332,700; barley (508,800), 474,400; oats (184,200), 147,100; peas (84,660), 51,830; beans (38,240) 37,880; maize or Indian corn (692,700), 878,200.

Fruit (raw):—Apples (86,461 cwt.), 61,767; grapes (74,505 cwt.), 55,358; pears (21,382 cwt.), 29,530; plums (33,197 cwt.), 3,340.

Hay (2,739 tons), 1,384; straw (1,076 tons), 1,924; moss litter (1,392 tons), 1,208; hops (4,071 cwt.), 4,394; locust beans (48,920 cwt.), 12,900.

Vegetables (raw):—Onions (210,091 bushels), 278,493; potatoes (22,863 cwt.), 89,845; tomatoes (12,339), 22,419.

Molassine Meal £25 Competition was met with very great interest by agriculturists throughout the United Kingdom, but with the usual up-to-dateness which characterises the methods of the Molassine Company, they were able to certify the result on the 2nd of this month, which proved the winner to be Mr. John Foster, of 72 and 73, Port Street, Bengeworth, Evesham, to whom a cheque for £25 has been sent. Mr. Foster's original acknowledgment of the £25, we notice, was this week exhibited at the Molassine Company's stand at the Dairy Show. We understand that the company propose to continue this competition, particulars of which can be obtained from the Molassine Company (1907), Ltd., 36, Mark Lane, E.C., and all corn merchants.

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RAILWAY ANNOUNCEMENT.

LONDON AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.

KENNEL CLUB'S DOG SHOW, to be held at the CRYSTAL PALACE, OCTOBER 22 to 24, 1907 The London and North Western Railway Company will make arrangements for Through Vans for the conveyance of Dogs to be run to the Crystal Palace on Monday, October 21. Consignments from the Branch Lines, and from Nottingham, Peterboro', Oxford, Cambridge, &c., will be placed in these Vans at the various Junctions. Conveyance Rates can be obtained at the various Stations on the Line. Arrangements will also be made for the return of the Traffic in Through Vans at the close of the Show, and Exhibitors are requested to order their Consignments "per London and North Western Railway." The Company's representatives will be at the Show to answer enquiries with regard to the arrangements for the return journey. All information can be obtained of Mr. ROBERT TURNBULL, Superintendent of the Line, Euston Station, London; the Company's District Superintendent, Mr. H. A. WALKER, Euston Station, London; or Mr. I. T. WILLIAMS, Broad Street Station, London, E.C.

FREDERICK HARRISON,
General Manager.

West Country Notes.

THE price of Cheddar cheese has in the Western markets shown a still further recovery of 1s. to 1s. 6d., and the top price now quoted is 64s. 6d. This, though not up to last year, is about a fair average, but there being more buyers there is likely to be some further advance, even if it is not much.

RECENTLY allusion was made to a certain show having a record gate on a wet day. A police officer from the district in Cornwall where this occurred gives a hint as to the reason, though it may be supposed to cut rather the other way. Passing along his beat he noticed a farmer—rather more noted than some of his fellows for his saving propensity—busy at work in his field, though the rain was descending pretty heavily. A passing greeting and an inquiry how it was he was still at work in such weather, elicited the reply that he did not care about the weather so long as he was earning or saving a little money.

ANOTHER instance showing that the Welch of the Horn, as they were called of old, may be credited with as great a care of the coppers as their distant brethren of North Britain. A neighbour of the man alluded to last went five miles or so to get a pig removal license to find that owing to the absence of a particular form he could not take it back with him. "It is not worth your while to come in again so far for it," said the obliging officer, "leave me the post address and I will send it on to you to-night." "That's all right, but who is to pay the postage?" asked the farmer. "Oh," said the officer, "you will pay that, of course." "Not I; if you can't pay the postage I'll walk in to-morrow and get it," was the astonishing reply, and walk the nine or ten miles he did.

A CURIOUS string of occurrences led to the death of an aged farm labourer at Bishopsnympton in Devon a few days ago. He was picking up a load amongst the stubble, when a wasp stung the pony he was driving. The pony bolted, and the old man was knocked down as he jumped to the animal's head. He sustained a broken leg and such internal injuries that he succumbed to the shock.

TIVERTON Fair, though it has fallen on days of a similar character to those of other fairs which have been knocked out by the auctioneer, is still proclaimed in ancient form at Michaelmas. The ceremony dates back for close upon 300 years. The Town Council assemble at the Town Hall, and walk to a certain pool of water in the road, known as Coggan's Well, and according to an account that reaches me through a Devonshire friend, a police officer there reads a quaintly-worded notice, warning all foreigners and strangers having wares of merchandise to sell that they can do so during the fair, but not afterwards. Returning to the hall, "Success to the Fair" is drunk with all solemnity."

THERE was a great amount of practical experience about a speech which a Devonshire farmer delivered at a harvest home gathering, a few days since, on the Small Holdings Act. Coming from a parish—Clayhidon—where the majority of the holdings came within the definition of "small" according to the Act, he pointed out that he would not put too much trust in the effect of the Act being to bring people back on the land, because the small holdings were decreasing for want of fair play on the part of the authorities, not because they were not to be obtained from the landlords.

PERHAPS, he said, they would be surprised if they were to look over the parish books he had at home, to see how the authorities treated the small holder. The small holder paid about 2s. 6d. per acre in the way of rates, and in one case it was 3s. 2½d. On top of this came the land tax of 1s., so that the small holder had to pay 3s. 6d. to 4s. 6d. in this way per acre. Did not that, he asked, seem a strange way to try to get the people on to the land? It seemed to him that instead of bringing people on to the land it was going to kill out those who were there.

IF there had been a fair chance for the small holder there would not have been the need for the Act—the number of small holders would have grown naturally, was his argument.

DORSET and Devon are rejoicing in many places over rain. There has been a shortage in the ponds, and on the land the plough has been held up by the hardened state of the soil. Curiously enough, in many places where the haymaking has been most hindered by the wet, the ponds are dry, and hauling of water has had to go on up to the present time.

HALBERTON rejoices in a veteran farmer who has occupied his holding, Pitt Farm, for four years over the half-century. Mr. Frank Smith, the gentleman in question, declares that though seventy-eight years of age he is not afraid to face a day's work with anyone.

A VERY large number of stock sales are taking place in the West, and as a rule prices are holding up very satisfactorily. One of the best flock sales held took place this week at Ashton, near Dorchester, where Messrs. Ensor dispersed the flock of Dorset horns belonging to Mr. J. D. Symonds. Over 800 sheep were offered, and the six-tooths made up to 119s. apiece, averaging 78s. 6d.; four-tooths made up to 110s., averaging 77s. 8d.; the two-tooths up to 165s. in one case, and the average working out at 78s. 6d.; while the chilver lambs worked out at 48s., with a top figure of 56s. This is considered the record price for Dorset horns.

THE Board of Agriculture and Fisheries have again been sending an inspector to make inquiries into a scourge which effects serious loss to the farmers in some parts of the West—the art of scouring land. There are many peculiarities in this condition of things. Whether it be in the soil, in the herbage, or in atmospheric conditions, there are, in certain very well-defined areas, fields which, all at the same time, affect cattle with a kind of irritant poisoning, setting up diarrhœa. remove them, perhaps, only to the next field, and they are cured as rapidly as they went back. For years various bodies have been tinkering at the subject, but the Board which looks after the interests of the farmers cannot find £10 or so to start a preliminary investigation on scientific lines into the actual character of the disorder. This the people, who suffer the loss, consider the first step to ascertaining remedies. Surely for such an important body of men as the British agricultural community, it ought to be possible for Parliament to give the Department some margin not earmarked so absolutely as to preclude them from undertaking so important an investigation.

October 11, 1907.

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FARM.

Crops and Live Stock in Ireland.

The agricultural statistics for Ireland showing the acreage under crops and the numbers of live stock in each county and province for 1906-7 have now been issued by the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, and they show a decrease of 14,392 acres in the area under corn crops, of 30,772 acres under green crops, 48,753 under hay, and 37,675 acres of barren mountain and bog, &c., when compared with the preceding year. On the other hand, there was an increase of 124,350 acres of pasture and grazed mountain, and of 4,466 acres under flax cultivation. The total net decrease in the area under corn and green crops and flax in 1907, as compared with 1906, amounts to 40,698 acres, or 1·7 per cent. of the total area under these crops.

This decrease has taken place chiefly in Ulster—the province which has the largest tillage area—and in Connaught, the province having the smallest tillage area. The decrease in Ulster amounts to 25,139 acres, or 2·6 per cent. of the area under corn and green crops and flax in that province; the decrease in Connaught to 11,296 acres, or 3·9 per cent. In Leinster and in Munster the net change in crops is small. In Leinster there is an increase of 167 acres in corn crops, and a decrease of 2,631 acres in green crops, giving a net decrease of 2,464 acres in corn and green crops. In Munster there is an increase of 2,825 acres in corn crops, and a decrease of 4,624 acres in green crops, giving a net decrease of 1,799 acres.

The area under flax in Ulster shows an increase of 4,426 acres. The wet unfavourable season, especially in the north and west, has affected adversely the area under tillage, while the shortage of grass in many districts has increased the area grazed at the expense of the area of hay.

The decrease of 5,729 acres under wheat amounts to 13 per cent. of the total area under wheat in 1906. It has taken place in each of the four provinces, but chiefly in Ulster, Munster, and Connaught, where the decreases amount to 2,786 acres, 1,472 acres, and 1,315 acres respectively. In Leinster the decrease was 156 acres.

In oats the decrease of 937 acres is equal to 0·1 per cent. of the total area under oats in 1906. There were increases of 5,173 and 5,942 acres in Leinster and Munster respectively; but a decrease of 10,682 acres in Ulster, and of 1,370 acres in Connaught.

The decrease of 6,194 acres amounts to 3·5 per cent. of the total area under barley in 1906. It has taken place in Leinster, Munster, and Connaught, more especially in Leinster and Munster, in which provinces 95 per cent. of the barley in Ireland is grown. The decrease in Leinster and Munster amounted to 5,144 acres and 1,494 acres respectively. There was an increase of 830 acres in Ulster, and a decrease of 386 acres in Connaught.

The decrease of 25,134 acres under potatoes is equal to 4·1 per cent. of the total area in 1906. There is a decrease in each of the four provinces, but chiefly in Ulster, where it amounts to 13,006 acres. The decrease in the other provinces is as follows:—Leinster, 3,478 acres; Munster, 2,924 acres; and Connaught, 5,726 acres.

Live Stock.

During the year there has been an increase in cattle, sheep, pigs, and poultry, and a decrease in horses, mules, asses, and goats. The total number of horses has decreased by 8,389. There is a decrease in Leinster of 988, in Munster of 2,506, in Ulster of 2,841, and in Connaught of 2,054. The number of mules and jennets has decreased by 1,168. The number of asses shows a decrease of 5,288, the number in Munster having decreased by 2,315, and in Leinster and Ulster by 1,017 and 2,207 respectively.

The total number of cattle shows an increase of 35,910. There is an increase in Leinster, Munster, and Connaught of 15,714, 16,445, and 19,756 respectively, and in Ulster a decrease of 15,005. The number of milch cows, including heifers in calf, is 1,580,801, showing an increase of 64,517, as compared with 1906.

The total number of sheep has increased by 101,163. There is an increase in Leinster of 59,126, in Munster of 10,763, in Ulster of 23,683, and in Connaught of 7,591.

The number of pigs shows an increase of 72,536, the number in Leinster, Munster, and Connaught having increased, and in Ulster decreased. Leinster, Munster, and Connaught have increased by 25,780, 47,227, and 11,757 respectively, and Ulster has increased by 12,228.

The number of poultry returned in 1907 amounts to a total of 24,318,752. The number in Leinster is 5,095,885, in Munster 5,568,818, in Ulster 9,265,988, and in Connaught 4,388,861. These figures show a great increase, especially in Ulster and Munster, as compared with 1906. It is probable that this increase is, in a great measure, due to a more complete record of young birds having been made in 1907.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Bottling Fruit.

SIR,—On page 399 the writer of Northern Notes observes: "One reason why the poorer classes do not make jam is because of the outlay required in sugar. In bottling fresh fruit no sugar is required, nor any preservatives. The fruit retains its freshness and flavour." Just so; but will your correspondent kindly inform us what bottles he would suggest that the poorer classes should use? I do not ask the question out of any desire to criticise, but I am prompted by a genuine desire to know.

So far as I am aware the bottles chiefly employed for bottling fruit are fitted with a screw stopper and rubber band, or some other specially designed lid, and on account of a particular kind of bottle being required poor people are prohibited from doing much fruit bottling on account of the receptacles. If your correspondent can furnish readers of the MARK LANE EXPRESS with particulars of a device by which fruit can be effectually bottled without having to go to the expense of specially made receptacles, he will indicate a means by which cottage-folk can adopt this method of preserving fruit.

If one has to lay out money to begin with in the purchase of specially made bottles the process is of little use to the cottager, and, as I see it, the expense is greater than the purchase of sugar for jam. Perhaps your correspondent will kindly furnish us with information on this point, as it seems useless to advocate fruit-bottling in preference to jam-making, if the process entails what to the cottager is an initial heavy outlay for bottles. —Yours, &c. COUNTRYMAN.

October 9, 1907.

Does it Pay to Grow Wheat?

SIR,—Your Lincolnshire correspondent asks the above question on page 394, and then proceeds to answer it by giving a calculation presented by an agricultural contemporary based on experience in the above county. What interested me most was the item for rent, viz., £2 10s. per acre, much the biggest item.

By getting 4 qrs. to the acre and selling at 30s., not to say 35s. to 40s., the farmer can make a small margin of profit; but if these figures be correct what a glorious time farmers on the Cotswolds, in Wilts, and other places must have who rent land that will grow good corn and pay from 7s. 6d. to 10s. per acre for it.

They can allow for growing less and yet show a good profit on the estimate of expenditure given. If it is not asking too much, perhaps one of your readers who pays, say, 10s. per acre for his land will say whether expenditure and profits work out anything like the tables presented by your Lincolnshire correspondent.—Yours, &c.,

October 9, 1907. INQUISITIVE.

Sunday Labour During Harvest.

SIR,—All that is wanted now is for "my friend," as "Wamba" puts it (though I have never seen him), the writer of Lincolnshire Notes, to defend his paragraph which appeared on September 16, and let us know whether I or your other correspondents misunderstood his meaning. I thank the playful "Wamba" (is not this the name of a jester in the olden times?) for his congratulations on what he is pleased to call my sermon, because I didn't know that I had the capacity for preaching before.

However, to return to the argument, "Wamba" says, "Does not the fact remain that through all seasons, good or bad, during a few hundred years, the farmer himself (with some rare exceptions) has held faith and utterly refrained from harvest labour"—on Sundays? (The last two words are mine). Just so, and it is the exceptions I am defending, the cases where, in a summer like the past, the picking up of hay on Sunday was the means of saving it, and leaving it, because the day was Sunday, meant its ruin.

"Wamba" seems to suggest that a farmer who asks his men to work on Sunday in a case of emergency would do so without paying them, as he enlarges on the hardships that the latter would suffer.

Not a bit of it; and if he did I should condemn him at once; but if he had a cow ailing on a Sunday he would if necessary send for the vet. and pay him for the sake of saving the animal. Surely by the same argument he would be justified in paying his men to save a field of hay from ruin on a Sunday. On railways and other big concerns emergency work is done on Sundays to save upsetting the weekday routine and organisation, and surely the saving of a crop is a matter of even greater importance to the farmer.

I say, in spite of "Wamba's" misconstruction, that I protest against any proposal to turn Sunday into a general working day; but there are cases of emergency when a farmer is justified in employing (and paying for) labour to save a crop in harvest time, and I understand that these were the instances which the writer of the note that created the controversy had in mind.—Yours, &c., LUX.

October 8, 1907.

Whirlwind near Battle.

SIR,—Referring to your note on this subject in your issue of the 7th inst., it may be of interest to remark that on that Wednesday afternoon, when I was on the beach at Kemp Town, Brighton, I saw a waterspout. A funnel-shaped protuberance gradually descended from a bank of clouds to the southward to within a short distance of the water, which seemed to rise towards it, and was as gradually withdrawn, the phenomenon lasting about half an hour.

Perhaps this subsequently descended as a whirlwind at Battle, as the wind was S.W.—Yours, &c.,

HASTINGS C. DENT.

The Homestead, South Godstone, Surrey,
October 9, 1907.

Artificials to Use.

SIR,—About six acres of land that had been laid down for five years was dug last winter and potatoes planted in the spring. But the ground evidently did not suit them, as a large number only came to seed size. The ground is a mixture of chalk, clay, and loam. In some parts chalk predominates, in others clay. It is proposed to sow oats and barley next spring on the same ground.

Another part of the same field, now grass, is to be prepared for potatoes. This is a heavy loam soil, with a chalk subsoil.

What artificials do you advise for the cereals, and what for the tubers, also quantities? There is a fair amount of town manure available for the latter.—Yours, &c., A. E. B.

October 8 1907.

Legislation against Motors.

SIR,—Seeing an invitation in your valuable paper for your readers to give in your columns their views as to what course legislation should take in respect of motor traction, here are a few remarks from one who has been travelling about the country for nearly eighty years. Motors are not only killing man and beast, but they are spoiling the pleasure of thousands of people who go out for a walk or take a tour on the King's highway, having to pass through a cloud of dust and smoke so thick that they cannot see through owing to the fearful speed at which they travel. They are also causing expense to and grumbling by the ratepayers throughout the length and breadth of the land, and not without cause.

I have now in my mind, and have had for a long time, what would stop the unpleasantness and the mischief they are doing—that is, limit their speed to ten miles per hour, and if they exceed that speed let the law be rigidly enforced. Instead of letting the drivers off with a paltry fine, which they snap their fingers at, it would be better for all parties, I should think, if the authorities would enforce such a law, for that would put things right again. It would save many lives, and make it pleasant for people to travel about the country again without being blinded by dust. It would prevent the roads from being torn up, and many accidents which are happening to-day would thus be averted.

I have given my views on the subject of limiting the speed, because I think it is a great danger.—Yours, &c., A RATEPAYER.

October 10, 1907.

Worksop October Fair was held on Wednesday, when the attendance was larger than for some years. There was a good show of fair class horses. Among them were several well-bred Irish yearlings and two-year-old Hackneys, which made up to 20 guineas each. Useful nags varied from 8 to 22½ guineas. Over 3,000 sheep were penned, and trade was good. There was a good supply of store beasts, which made £8 to £12 10s. each; store lambs, 25s. to 38s. each; and gimmers, up to 56s. each. A fair supply of Oxford and Lincolnshire rams, the former making 50s. to 90s., and the latter about 3½ guineas each.

At a meeting of agriculturists, held at Kirkmichael, Isle of Man, on Wednesday, to consider the question of the importation of foreign and frozen meat, the disadvantage under which farmers and stock dealers laboured from foreign competition was emphasised, and it was contended that foreign meat should be labelled the same as margarine, and that the Manx Government should legislate in advance of the Imperial Government, as hitherto. A strong committee from all parts of the island was appointed to prepare a scheme for presentation to the Governor with a view to legislation.

Essex Notes.

WE have had three or four very wet days since my last week's Notes were written. Roots wanted the rain very badly; it was also good for any trifolium lately planted.

BUT for seed clover it is quite a different matter. Of course, it is not yet cut, so much the better; but, unless the mower soon gets to work on it, there are two things to consider. How much longer can it be left before the heads will come off? and will the wheat be got in in fairly good time?

SOME prefer spring oats to late-planted wheat: but, like all questions, there are two sides:—1, Too many oats in proportion to the occupation, to the exclusion of wheat; 2, the awkwardness of not having any or only a little wheat.

A LARGE or small number of horses to be kept on a farm all winter without any wheat chaff is a great drawback, as a rule, to their well-doing.

AND how about next year's hay and stover to be thatched?

OAT straw (cut up, of course) for horses will do for a makeshift, perhaps, for chaff; but there is a great risk of death by stoppage. So that, even at the risk of wheat being at a lower figure next year than it is this, there is no doubt it is the best plan by far to grow some. For thatching, too, wheat straw is, of course, by far the best, if water is to be safely kept out; and as to cottages, barns, sheds, &c., if reeds cannot be conveniently bought, wheat straw is the next best. I have two cottages on my farm so thatched; the tenants like them too, because they are cool in summer and warm in winter.

BUT there is no question about it: wheat at the price I quoted mine sold at last year is far too low to do us farmers any good; in fact, it has been the other way about. Even at 40s. per quarter many growers say they do not care particularly about growing it, because, always a whole-year crop and so many drawbacks as to plant and lots of other difficulties, the "pudding is hardly worth the boiling," they say.

BUT if the "pudding" is made in the way of the land being ready, it is the best plan to try again, but not on the condition of the commandment of old—to make bricks without straw. The land must be talked to if you want it to answer you again at thrashing time.

TO simply keep turning over land time after time, perhaps always ploughing the same way of the field (a very improper system to work it on), can anyone expect a crop—except of weeds?

ENERGY and a proper sum of money are required in farming as in any other business. If we take land where one blade of good grass has usually grown, we must at once see if we cannot make two grow next time. J. B. M.

October 11, 1907.

Famous Clydesdale Dead.—Mr. William Smith, Eastlands Farm, Crosby, Maryport, has had the great misfortune to lose by death the famous Clydesdale mare, Royal Rose, for which at the sale of the Blacon Point Stud last year he gave 515 guineas, a record price for a sixteen-year-old cart mare. Royal Rose was a most successful breeder, several of her offspring realising big prices, and being most successful show animals. In April the mare gave birth to a fine colt foal, which did not long survive. The mare was found dead in a field, a post-mortem examination showing death to be due to rupture.

At the quarterly meeting of the Somerset County Agricultural Instruction Committee, Colonel Blake presented the report of the Cheese School Sub-committee, showing that the school was going on very satisfactorily. A discussion arose as to whether the reports of the school should be published as hitherto, together with the names of the purchasers of the school cheese; but, on a division, it was agreed to follow the original course. Reports were presented by the agricultural, the gardening, and the poultry instructors, but provoked no discussion.

The great damson fair of the year was held at Market Drayton, Shropshire, on Wednesday, when for several hours the streets of the ancient market town were practically blocked with the numerous vehicles conveying fruit from the outside districts. The railway companies consigned close upon a hundred tons of damsons to various parts of Lancashire, Yorkshire, and Staffordshire, principally for preserving purposes. The trade was brisk. The prices obtained varied from 5s. to 6s. 6d. per pot or measure of 90 lb. weight.

Lincolnshire Notes.

WILL that Aisby stack get thrashed this year? It is now thirty years old, and its owner is under a vow never to sell it under £3 per quarter. He is an old man, and I am afraid if he does not strike his bargain this year he never will. The stack looks pretty dilapidated, but it will probably outlive its owner.

THE better news of the potato harvest is being steadily confirmed. The best results are said to be coming from Royal Kidneys, but British Queens and King Edwards are also doing well. The yield is also fair generally, whilst prices are more than satisfactory, for buyers are very active. What a profitable farmers' year it has been.

PROFITABLE, indeed! And only a short time back we were comparing the season with the black years of 1860 and 1879. How true it is that the slightest caprice of Nature may make or mar the harvest. How little we realise that one slight mistake may starve the world to death. But the old dame seems to know her business. She seems to delight in showing us how little we know about her.

IT has been a late harvest. Presuming that it is now well over, which is scarcely the fact, it has been one of the latest finishes of the last twenty years, and absolutely one of the latest to start. Some interesting figures on the subject are contributed to the *Spalding Free Press* by Mr. James Robinson, of Pinchbeck, Spalding. From these it seems that on only two occasions during the period covered by the record has a start been made later than August 22. This was in 1879, when harvest was not completed until October 18, and in 1902, when with twenty-four acres less to lead, it lasted from August 25 to October 16, so that this season has been more favourable than these. In 1892, operations began two days earlier and finished on September 29.

THE record for an early start is held by 1868—July 15. Five times only during the period has August witnessed the end of the ingathering—1870, 1874, 1887, 1893, and 1896, and in three of these years the date was the same—August 26. The year 1887 furnishes the only instance of a harvest begun (August 1) and completed (August 31) in the same month; but in 1876 the duration was shorter, a period of twenty-six days covering the whole operation. In 1880, on the other hand, harvest occupied nearly two months. These calculations give the commencement of the harvest this year as August 22 and its conclusion as October 3.

THE greatest interest is being manifested in the recent challenge between breeders of Lincolnshire Curly Coats and the Yorkshire White pigs. The result will have a tremendous effect in the general estimation of the value of the two breeds. But a correspondent who has recently written to the Press suggests that the conditions are not sufficiently comprehensive. He writes: "One of the most important points in connection with the respective values of the two breeds appears to be entirely lost sight of—*i.e.*, the market value of the pork made. Everyone who has given the least study to the question knows how much more valuable is the pound of meat from one breed, or even from one carcase of a similar breed as compared with the meat from another breed or specimen. I would ask of what practical value would a trial between Southdown and Long-woolled sheep made, say, in Staffordshire, be in the determination of the question of the profitable manufacture of meat, or, as in the instance referred to, the mere production of a certain weight of meat from an uncertain quantity of food?"

GEORGE SHEPHERD, late huntsman to the Earl of Hampton's hounds, was a Lincolnshire man, and though it is many years since he left the county, he will have not a few mourners amongst the followers of the hunt in this part of the world.

ANOTHER dispersal sale. On Monday the herd of Red Shorthorns, bred by the late Mr. George Laughton, of Belchford, near Horncastle, came under the hammer. Prices all round were good. The sale totalled 776 guineas, the average for cows and calves, heifers and calves, and yearling heifers being £23 5s. 7d. The highest price was 48 guineas for a heifer calved in 1905 by Norbury Cato, which won third prize at the Lincoln Royal Show.

GOOD prices were obtained at Sleaford horse and foal sale on Thursday, when prizes were awarded by Mr. William Dicken, of Thorpe Latimer, as follows:—Cart colt foal, 1 and 2, Mr. James Rickett, Little Hale. Cart filly foal, 1, Mr. S. Garton, Billingborough; 2, Mr. James Rickett; 3, Mr. Henry Cooper, Swaton. The winner of the second prize in the cart colt foals made 16 guineas, being half-a-guinea more than was given for the colt which took first prize. Nag and harness horses made up to 30 guineas, and cart horses up to 42 guineas.



Photo by A COW AND GANDER AS COMPANIONS. [*Jackson, Spalding*

LINCOLNSHIRE is a grand place to live in. At any rate, so says the Irish harvester who has been unburdening himself to the representative of a North Lincolnshire paper. It finds him work, it finds him something to take home to pay his rent; he finds the people kind and all well off, well off, that is, in comparison with his own poverty-stricken native land. Ireland is alright, but there is no work to do. And so far as he is concerned he is going to stop in England as long as he can, for there is nobody wanting him at home. They cannot afford him.

EVERY Lincolnshire farmer knew Mr. Charles Clarke, who has just died at Bath—suddenly, but at the ripe old age of seventy-nine years. One of the old school of Yeomen, Mr. Clarke was a famous breeder of stock and a veteran hunter Residing for sixty-five years at Ashby-de-la-Launde, Sleaford, he increased the fame of the splendid flock of sheep which he inherited, and he achieved an almost world-wide reputation as a breeder of rams. He was one of the founders of the Lincolnshire Longwool Sheepbreeders' Association, and one of the founders of the flock book, a strong supporter of the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society, and a breeder of Hunters. Though one of the old generation, the late Mr. Clarke will have many genuine mourners amongst the agriculturists of Lincolnshire to-day.

AN important sale of Lincolnshire Reds took place at Weston, near Spalding, on Wednesday. There were eighty six head of cattle belonging to Mr. W. J. Atkinson, and they included some Royal Show winners. The aggregate realised at the sale was 2,019 guineas. The highest individual price was 52 guineas, paid by Mr. T. Watkinson, of Stamford, for Nonpareil 16th, a heifer with service. Amongst the cows, 45 guineas was paid by Mr. Robert Clayton for Keddington Enderby 3rd, and the same amount was paid by Mr. Wiseman, Weston, for a heifer calf, Choice Jug. In other cases figures reached between 30 and 40 guineas Amongst cows for service the top price was 44 guineas, paid by Mr. T. H. Vergette, Borough Fen, for Keddington Baroness. Amongst heifers with service Mr. Vergette bought Surfleet Royal Lady for 45 guineas, whilst Weston Pink, a Royal prize winner, was purchased by Mr. C. Hensman, Fulletby, near Louth, for 41 guineas. Yearling heifers made up to 29 guineas, which was paid by Mr. Eggleston, Weston Hills, and bulls made up to 38 guineas, given by Mr. James Rawlinson, Pinchbeck, for Weston Victor.

THERE is a strong disinclination to disregard the Sheep Dipping Order. But it has got to be obeyed.

AT Lincoln last week Alfred Wipp (Skellingthorpe), Charles Albans (Thorpe-on-the-Hill), David Renshaw (North Hykeham), and John Green (Branston), were summoned for failing to have their sheep dipped in compliance with the Sheep Dipping (England) Order, 1907. The cattle inspector for Kesteven said out of 2,000 flock owners in the county only seven had not complied with the regulations. The order was made for the purpose of eradicating sheep scab and the cases were brought before the bench for the purpose of showing them that they must do their duty and loyally co-operate with the large flock owners and the local authorities. The defendants, who pleaded ignorance of the order, and said that their sheep had now been dipped, were fined 3s. 6d. each.

SOME notable purchases were made at a sale of Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns at Church Lawford Grange, near Rugby. The Rev. W. Hopkinson, of Wansford, Notts, gave 40 guineas for Ladylike, a cow by Royal Blood, having Thurlby Princess as dam. Mr. Atkinson, of Weston, near Lincoln, paid 91 guineas for a fine bull named Berks Jewel, eighteen months old, by Holker Jewel, out of Wild Rose. He is entered in Coates' Herd Book, his pedigree running back to the famous blood of the Bates' tribe. At the recent Warwickshire Agricultural Society's show he carried off the Shorthorn Society's medal.

LINCOLNSHIRE was represented at the Dairy Show principally by Mr. John Evens, of Burton. In the class for Lincolnshire red Shorthorn cows, entered in or eligible for the Herd Book of the Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn Association, the first prize of £10 went to Mr. Evens's Burton Ruby, spot red, six years and three months, sire Red Rover, dam Burton Ruby spot, by Professor, and the second prize of £5 to his Burton Nancy 3rd, red, aged four years and two months, sire Burton Rex, dam Burton Nancy, by Burton Snow. Mr. Evens also obtained the silver medal for his bull Burton Hermit 2nd, dam Saltfleet Favourite, by Grandad. Saltfleet Favourite won a second prize in the milking trials. Mr. F. Scorer, Bracebridge, obtained the reserve card in Lincolnshire red Shorthorn cows with Bracebridge No. 3b.

October 11, 1907.

A Cow and Gander as Companions.

A novel companionship, which is exciting a great deal of interest at Holbeach, Lincolnshire, is illustrated in the photograph which we reproduce on this page.

The view shows a Lincoln Red Shorthorn cow and a gander, belonging to Mr. George Hix, farmer, of Holbeach, which have formed a remarkable friendship. The cow and the gander may be seen in company passing through Holbeach town every morning and evening.

The gander accompanies the cow when it goes to be milked at Mr. Hix's premises on the Spalding Road, and also goes with it to the cricket field at Holbeach, where both cow and gander remain during the day. In the middle of the day and in the evening the two may be seen lying down together, the bird always making a point of lying down at the same time as the cow.

The gander sleeps with the cow, and also remains with it whilst being milked, and the strange thing is that although Mr. Hix has other ganders on his premises, this one refuses to make

a companion of any of them, or to associate with them, and closely attaches itself to the cow.

The men who take the cows down to the cricket field have tried to drive the gander back, but it refuses to go, and the only way to keep it from being near its favourite is to detach it by setting the dog on it, and lock it up, which is not an easy matter; and then, when released, it at once seeks out its companion. The cow also seems to show as much affection for the gander as the bird does for it.

The gander is a last year's bird, and came out of Norfolk, being purchased by Mr. Hix in Spalding market. It was to have been killed for dinner last Sunday, but in view of the novel companionship, and the great interest manifested in the case by the public, the bird has been spared, and it is likely that, when the time for dispersal comes, both cow and gander will have to be sold together.

Thorough inquiry has been made, but no explanation of the strange friendship is forthcoming, and it is regarded as one of the most remarkable cases which has ever been known.

Northern Notes.

THE past fortnight has seen a pretty heavy drop in the prices of breeding sheep, except for the best sorts; and in the grazing lamb trade prices are reduced, except again for tip-toppers, which realise (for white-faced Leicesters or half-bred Lincolns) anything up to 42s. or 43s. per head. Farmers must have the stock to fold on turnips and enrich the land for the following crops; otherwise it seems an impossibility, where cake has to be given as well, that a remunerative return can be expected when these same lambs are marketed between January and April and sold as mutton. For ordinary North-country lambs the trade is in a very queer state, and dealers are exercising the greatest caution in their operations. It is certain they are not able to tap the sources of origin and bring them into Yorkshire with a great margin of profit. Big transactions and quick returns alone seem to pay.

THE outlook for roots is the one fly in the ointment. The variety of reports as to the prospects are almost incredible. One farmer tells you his roots "look well," while another two or three miles off says his are "very poor." It is a matter of certainty that the same number of sheep will not be wintered on the arable farms of Yorkshire as was the case last season. One farmer tells me his grazing flock will number hundreds less than in the previous year, and there are others in the same predicament. A speaker at a harvest festival voiced the opinion of others recently when he said they had had a good harvest, with plenty of barley and oats, but that there was a scarcity of turnips. These are not ready for receiving the sheep, and farmers with lambs recently purchased for carrying over the winter are turning them among the stubbles just to put time on a bit. But the grand results of the cereal harvest have put the agriculturist into splendid feather. There is a near prospect of a much more liberal circulation of money.

SEVERAL of the Leicester flockmasters are dissatisfied with the sale results this year. Their sheep were exposed at a fair where large numbers of other breeds were also on offer; and as four auctioneers were all selling at the same time, buyers who would have preferred to see the whole of the 300 rams sold had to make their choice of a ring. It is obvious that under such conditions vendors would not feel satisfied. The averages went down a trifle; but as the rams this year were better than ever, much higher prices were expected.

THE Leicester has been developed in size of late years, the result of judicious mating. The Leicester men have not made the excellences of their sheep sufficiently well known to the outside world, and, as is the case with the Lincolns, comparatively few venture into the prize-ring. The flockowners must revert to their former practice, and hold a yearly sale on their own account. This step would, perhaps, give greater publicity to the Leicester breed.

THE North-Eastern Agricultural Federation Conference, a programme of which was given in the last issue of this journal, promises to be of unusual interest. It wil be held, for one thing, almost on the eve of the coming into operation of the Small Holdings Act; and Lord Carrington, who has promised to attend the gathering, may add something of interest to the discussion on that subject. We may be quite sure the debate will not be altogether a one-sided affair. Some of the delegates will wish to know how the interests of old established tenants are to be safeguarded—the tenants whose land may be acquired for cutting up into smaller holdings. Many sore feelings, it is feared, may be engendered by the operation of the Act in some districts where large farmers are makig a living and will not wish to part with even a few acres of their holdings. Lord Carrington may be able to shed a ray of light over prospective troubles. At any rate, his visit is anticipated with pleasure. He is the fountain head of the Department, and if his lordship's utterances do not always carry with them the hoped-for consolation to the farming interest, his optimism is a valuable asset. His inspiriting language begets enthusiasm — or ought to.

THESE federations are capable of great usefulness. Mutual support among farmers is so very desirable that every agricultural centre ought to have its organisation of tenants, where they can talk freely over their individual interests —in case of necessity—as well as their combined interests, and the interests of agriculture in a national sense. The North-Eastern Federation and the Yorkshire Union of Agricultural Clubs are exercising a desirable leaven upon the whole farming community. Their importance might be vastly increased by large additions to the membership of affiliated clubs. The ranks ought at least to be doubled in strength.

A WHOLESALE and retail grocer tells me that buttermaking is declining in volume in these parts; that his regular customers' wants he cannot supply, and the consequence is he imports "fresh" butter from the South of England. The demand for the home-made article is always in excess of the supply, and has been for years. Farmers find it more advantageous to sell their milk direct to retailers.

ONE cannot but think that buttermaking, with so keen a demand, would pay better if farmers—or their wives, who have very often the financial result of the weekly churning for their pin-money—would stand out for higher prices. I am told that rarely does the average price work out at more than 1s. per lb. the year round. This is a poor price for an article of such domestic value, and is below the average of Danish. I know an English dairy—in Yorkshire—which commands 1s. 6d. per lb. for its butter all the year round. Why should the price fluctuate? The makers of good butter could rule their prices and "set the market" standard if they went the right way about it.

October 11, 1907.

SOCIETIES.

Cleveland Chamber.

At the annual meeting of the Cleveland Chamber of Agriculture, held on Tuesday, the subject of a separate agricultural party in the House of Commons was discussed. Mr. Middleton, the hon. secretary, said he did not anticipate that the movement in this direction would be very successful, for he did not think that any party of that kind with any great weight behind it could be formed. The best method to adopt towards having agricultural interests attended to properly by Parliament was to strengthen the power of the Central Chamber, and thus increase the influence it could exert.

The president, Mr. J. W. Clarke, agreed that much more could be done for agriculture if farmers acted more unitedly.

Mr. J. W. Clarke said that nearly everybody but the agriculturists were represented in the House of Commons. He was the person above all others that each party tried to humbug with a view to getting their votes. The time had come when they should cease to be the catspaw of the political parties.

It was ultimately agreed to defer consideration of the subject.

The Chamber decided to approve of the amended Larceny Bill, and decided to call the attention of the Central Chamber to the state of the law regarding oral contracts between farmers and their servants.

The annual financial statement showed that the income was £70 3s. 3d., and that after meeting all expenses there remained a balance of £17 2s. 2d. Sir Alfred E. Pease, Bart., was unanimously elected president, in succession to the Marquis of Zetland; and Colonel R. G. Chaloner, and Mr. R. B. Turton were re-elected vice-presidents.

The Yorkshire Union.

The next general meeting of the Yorkshire Union of Agricultural Clubs and Chambers of Agriculture, will be held at the Agricultural Club House, Pavement, York, on Thursday, November 7, at 2.30 p.m., when the agenda will be as follows:—

1. General business.
2. Communications.
3. Address by Captain Mark Sykes on "Agriculture and the State."
4. The sheep dipping regulations. To be introduced by Mr. Edward Robinson.

[Return railway tickets at a single fare and a quarter (minimum 1s.) will be issued from any station on the North Eastern Railway to any member of the Union desiring to attend the above meeting, upon production of a voucher which can be obtained from the secretary. Early application for vouchers is requested.

Cornwall Farmers' Union.

A largely attended meeting was held under the auspices of the Cornwall County Farmers' Union at Wadebridge on Wednesday, the chief topic of discussion being the Small Holdings and Allotments Act, which comes into force on January 1 next. As the result of the discussion, the following resolution was carried:—"That the Cornwall County Farmers' Union approves of the Small Holdings Act being carried out on sound economic lines, but is of opinion that the matter being of national importance, all expenses should be made a national charge."

Other matters dealt with were elementary education and local taxation, and the following resolutions were passed:—

"That the Cornwall County Farmers' Union is strongly of the opinion that the present system of education in our elementary schools tends to unfit children for rural pursuits; that the education should be varied for the country and the town; and this union is of opinion that education being a matter of national importance should be paid for out of Imperial taxation, and that the Departmental Council formed by Lord Carrington should inquire into both elementary and secondary education, and that care should be taken to appoint teachers who are qualified to instruct in agricultural subjects."

"That this council is strongly of opinion that urgent legislation is necessary for the removal of those injustices and inequalities which, under the existing antiquated system of local taxation, rest upon agriculture: 1, by a Valuation Bill on the lines recommended by the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture; 2, by placing a far larger proportion of those charges said to be onerous rather than beneficial to a locality upon the Imperial Exchequer; 3, by placing the owners of property under direct contribution of local charges."

The question of auctioneers' charges also came up, but this matter was deferred for a settlement to the next meeting.

Lincolnshire.

At a meeting of the council of the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society held on the 4th inst., the finance committee reported that the income for the year had exceeded the expenditure by about £200, and submitted a report of the year's proceedings, which was adopted for presentation at the annual meeting of members to be held on the 25th inst. A draft prize list for next year's Sleaford exhibition was considered and adopted, and the stewards reported that arrangements had been made for the use of a suitable show ground on the Lincoln Road, over the railway, and also announced that water adjoining the ground would be supplied by the local authorities free of cost.

The Scottish Agricultural Conference.

The annual meeting and conference of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture and Associated Societies will take place in the hall of the Christian Institute, 70, Bothwell Street, Glasgow, on Wednesday, the 23rd inst. The annual meeting will take place at 10.30 a.m., Mr. John Craig, president, in the chair, and the election of the various officers having been accomplished, there will be a discussion on the resolution, proposed by the Renfrewshire Agricultural Society, that associated societies with a large membership should be allowed to appoint directors to the Chamber as hitherto. Lord Rosebery has been nominated honorary president, and it is expected that his lordship will be present at both the meeting and the conference.

At the conference Mr. J. S. Ainsworth, M.P., honorary president, will preside, but, as was intimated some time ago, Lord Carrington, President of the Board of Agriculture, will not be present. The following resolutions will, however, be moved and discussed:—

Consolidation of Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Acts.—That H.M. Government be respectfully urged to introduce a Bill early next session for the purpose of consolidating the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Acts.

Sheep Stock Valuations, &c.—That the Agricultural Holdings Act, 1906, should forthwith be amended so as to exclude from sub-section 2 of section 1 all away-going valuations, including especially sheep stock valuations.

Expenses in Milk Prosecutions.—Resolve to again impress on the Board of Agriculture the justice of the claim by successful defenders in milk prosecutions to be repaid their expenses incurred in rebutting a presumption of guilt created against them by statute, and urge that legislation should

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be introduced for this purpose without further delay.

Sale and Consumption of Milk—Tuberculosis Commission Report.—That, in any measures that may be introduced into Parliament to give effect to the conclusions which the Royal Commission on Tuberculosis have reached regarding the sale and consumption of milk, due provision ought to be made for the payment of compensation to individuals who may suffer loss thereby in the public interest, and that the Board of Agriculture be respectfully urged to give this matter their particular attention in order to safeguard the interests of agriculturists.

Fiars Courts and Prices.—That the Board of Agriculture be respectfully urged to appoint a Departmental Committee to consider and report as to what alterations should be made on the present antiquated procedure for striking fiars prices in Scotland in order to bring such procedure into conformity with modern requirements and conditions.

Agricultural Education.—That, recognising the value of agricultural education, this conference is of opinion that the subject should be included in the curriculum of all our day schools in rural districts, and remits to the directors to take the necessary steps with a view to attaining this object; further, resolves that the Board of Agriculture be respectfully requested to appoint a Departmental Committee to inquire into the present condition of agricultural education and research in Scotland on lines similar to those of the inquiry presently proceeding in England.

Damage by Rats and Birds.—That the attention of the Board of Agriculture be directed to the importance of taking legislative or other steps without delay, with a view to the destruction of rats and birds, from which agriculturists suffer serious loss every year.

There will be an adjournment for luncheon, and the conference will be resumed at 2.30 p.m., when the following resolutions will be considered.

Small Landholders (Scotland) Bill.—That H.M. Government be strongly urged before reintroducing the Small Landholders (Scotland) Bill to amend it (1) on a purchase basis, (2) by constituting a Scottish Agricultural Council subordinate to the present Board of Agriculture, and otherwise on lines which would not involve the separation of Scotland from that Board, together with needless disturbance of the existing conditions under which Scottish agriculture has been an outstanding success, and loss of support from the classes directly interested in the prosperity of agriculture.

Traction Engine Traffic.—That the statutory requirement for three men being in attendance on traction engines on public roads should be repealed.

Railway Rates on Perishable Goods.

Manure and Fertiliser Rings.—That the operation of manure and fertiliser rings by tending unfairly to enhance prices and to exclude legitimate competition is seriously prejudicial to the interests of agriculture, and that, with a view to providing a remedy, the Board of Agriculture should appoint a Departmental Committee to inquire into the matter.

There were very heavy consignments of store cattle at Leicester October Fair on Friday, and the bulk of the stock came to hand in very good condition. Buyers and dealers were well represented, and trade ruled active, the whole of the lots changing hands at slightly firmer prices. Choice milch cows sold freely at £20 to £22, good lots £18 to £19, secondary £14 to £15, Shorthorn bullocks £12 10s. to £15, Irish cattle £13 10s. to £16, Welsh bullocks, £9 to £14 10s., heifers £8 to to £13 10s., young stock £5 to £8, and calves 20s. to 35s. per head.

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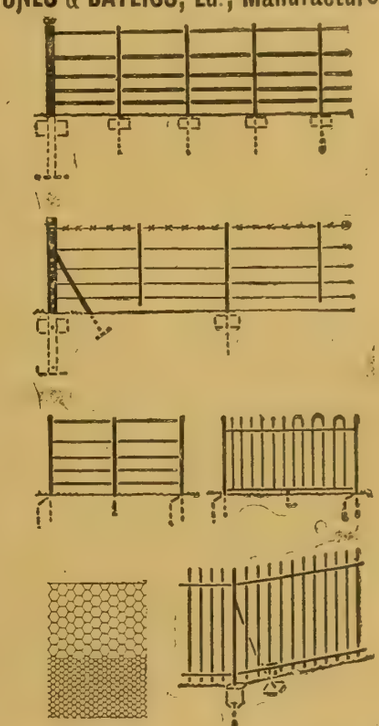
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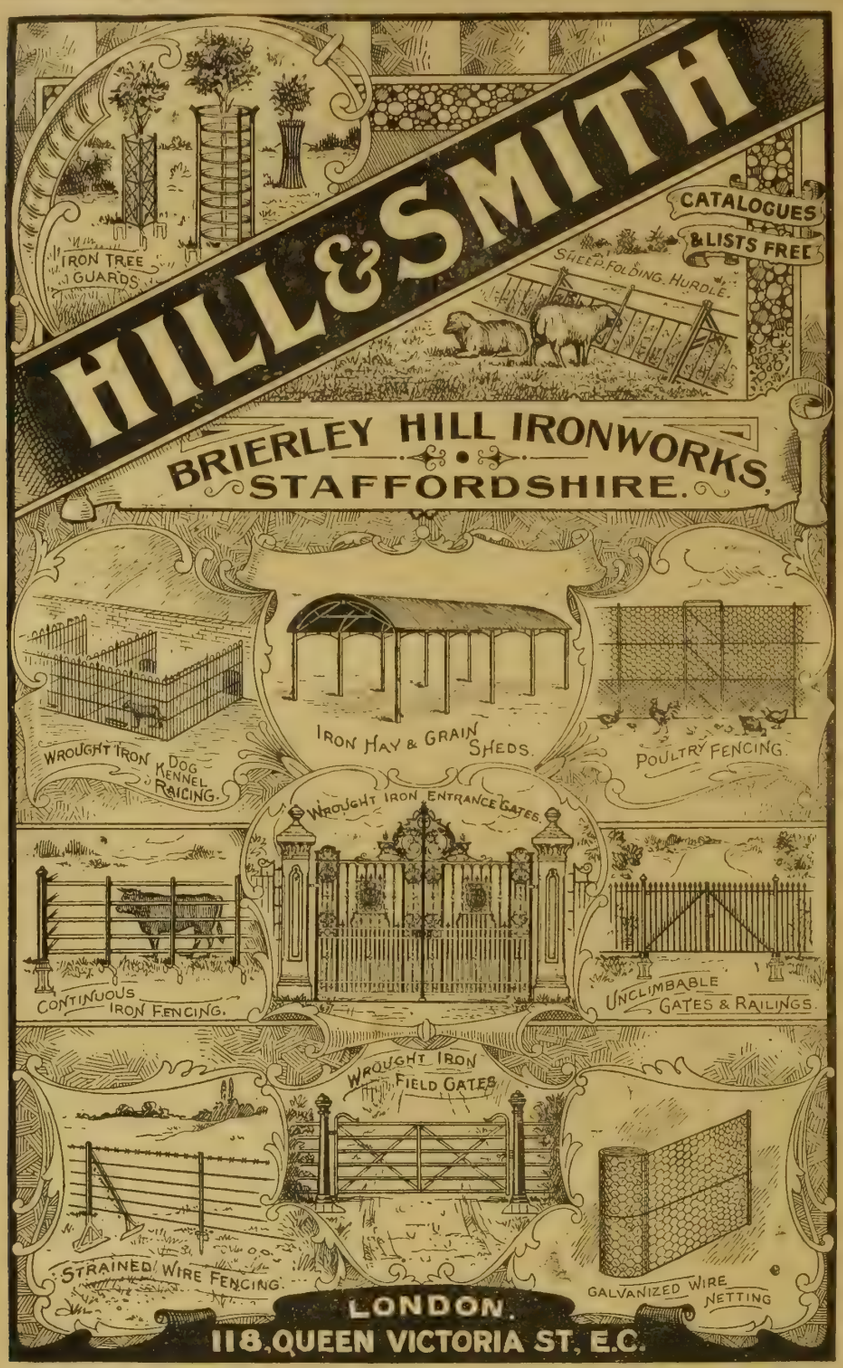
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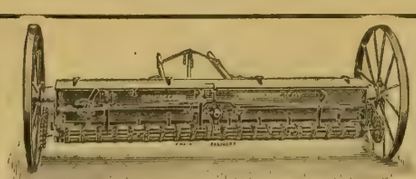
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Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

Fertilisers for the Wheat Crop.

The prospect of more satisfactory prices for wheat will induce many farmers, should the autumn weather be favourable, to devote more land to the crop, and to be more liberal in the use of fertilisers so as to obtain a big yield.

The principal requirement of wheat, as with other cereals, is for fertilisers of a nitrogenous character, applied as a top dressing in the spring, and when farmers have wanted to spare money in view of the very low price of the product, the application of phosphates has very often been dispensed with; but there is no doubt that a dressing of superphosphate in the autumn is a help to the crop. During the winter months the roots are not idle, but are gathering strength for the subsequent growth of the crop, and a supply of phosphoric acid is of assistance to them at the early stage of their development.

On the Continent it is almost the universal practice to apply to the autumn-sown wheats a mixture of superphosphate and sulphate of ammonia, with results that are quite satisfactory. The sulphate of ammonia is not lost, as during the cold weather and frost it is not converted into nitrate, and therefore remains in the soil ready to be transformed into assimilable food directly the warmer weather of spring sets in, and to be at the disposal of the young plants just when required. Perhaps the winters in this country are not uniformly sufficiently cold to make the autumn application of ammonia a prudent measure, but the autumn application of 3 cwt. per acre of superphosphate can certainly be recommended.

On the usual heavy class of wheat lands it is not necessary to apply potash, but on light land the crop should be given the benefit of 3 cwt. kainit applied with the superphosphate in the autumn.

When superphosphate is not applied in the autumn, the crop should have a dressing of 3 to 4 cwt. of dissolved Peruvian guano quite early in the spring.

As regards a nitrogenous top dressing in the spring, nitrate of soda may be considered as the best for wheat, but in view of the relatively cheaper price of sulphate of ammonia, farmers can be recommended to use the latter to a certain extent. The top dressing should be divided, say 1 cwt. of ammonia applied quite early directly the plant shows above the ground, and then, if at all backward, in about a month's time ½ cwt. of nitrate of soda. Both the sulphate of ammonia and nitrate of soda should be well mixed with sand or dry earth to enable it to be evenly spread over the field.

Fertilisers for Celery.

In a special bulletin on the growing of celery, the United States Department of Agriculture recommend that manure be freely used, as much as from ten to twenty tons per acre per year, lime and salt also being suggested. The bulletin also states that one to two tons of high-grade fertiliser to the acre may be profitably applied on most soils in addition to the stable manure and lime. As a rule, the quick-acting fertilisers are used, and a mixture suitable for growing celery should contain about 6 per cent. of nitrogen, 5 per cent. of available phosphoric acid, and 10 per cent of potash. An excellent plan is to drill a part of the fertiliser into the land by means of the fertiliser attachment of a grain drill, and then scatter the remainder in the rows and work it into the soil by means of a harrow or cultivator. In the preparation of the rows for growing the home supply of celery, it will be sufficient to apply between two and three quarts of high-grade fertiliser to every rod of row to be planted, working the fertiliser into a strip of soil 12 to 18 in. in width. After the celery plants have become well established their growth may be hastened by making frequent light applications of nitrate of soda to the surface of the soil before cultivation.

Prices of Fertilisers.

There is now a brisk demand for fertilisers required for autumn application, particularly for basic slag, superphosphate and potash salts, while we hear of contracts also being made for nitrate of soda and guano for Spring delivery.

	£	s.	d.
Nitrate of soda	11	5	0
Sulphate of ammonia	12	0	0
Peruvian guano	according to analysis		
Superphosphate, 26 per cent.	2	10	0
,, 35 ,,	3	6	3
Pure dissolved bones	5	7	6
Bone compound, ordinary	3	8	9
Bone Meal	5	10	0
Ground hoofs, 15 per cent.	9	10	0
Fish guano, first quality, scarce & dear	7	10	0
Kainit	2	7	6
Sulphate of potash	10	0	0
Muriate of potash	9	0	0

Manuring Meadows.

In order to get the best results from the application of fertilisers to meadows, they should be applied in the autumn, and phosphate of lime and potash are the fertilisers that should be used.

It is assumed that the meadow land contains a sufficient supply of lime, otherwise no manuring will be effective. Lime is the first essential, but with sufficient lime in the soil the application of phosphate and potash is most advantageous, not only as regards the quantity of the crop produced, but especially as regards its quality. The most nourishing plants, particularly the clovers, are developed, and the value of the fodder increased proportionately.

So much being generally recognised, the question remains: What is the best time and what the most suitable manures to apply?

The best time is the autumn, and the best fertilisers superphosphate, basic slag, and kainit.

According to the table given in "Aikman's Manures and Manuring" a crop of 1½ tons of hay take from the soil in mineral constituents 51 lb. of potash and 12 lb. of phosphoric acid, and to replace this deficiency it would be necessary to apply, say 3½ cwt. of kainit and 1 cwt. of superphosphate, or an equivalent proportion of basic slag per acre.

As a matter of experience, in order that the roots of the grass may have a plentiful supply of phosphoric acid, it is found necessary to apply 2 to 3 cwt. of superphosphate, or equivalent of basic slag, to produce the best results.

With kainit it appears to be different, and 3 to 3½ cwt. per acre satisfies all the requirements of the crop; in fact, experiments have demonstrated that extra supplies of potash are no good.

The point we would like to impress on our readers is the advantage of the combined dressing of potash and phosphates, thus in some trials:—

	lb. per acre.
Unmanured the crop was	1,900
Manured with kainit	2,100
Or with kainit and phosphate	3,700

proving that in the absence of the phosphoric acid the potash could not exercise its influence, even although theoretically the crop requires potash more than phosphoric acid.

What form of phosphate of lime is the best? On well drained meadows the choice should be superphosphate, but on all poverty-stricken meadows, and meadows containing moss or generally out of condition, the best form of phosphate is undoubtedly basic slag.

The manures should be applied in the autumn. Both kainit and basic slag produce far better results on meadows applied in autumn than if put on in the spring. The roots of the grass are getting the nourishment during the winter, and are then ready to start in strong vigorous growth in the spring.

If necessary in the spring to give the meadows a little stimulus, a slight dressing of nitrate of soda or sulphate of ammonia will have the desired effect.

Condition of Plant Food.

It is not merely the amount of this or that plant food present in the soil which must be taken into account, but also their mode of combination; the fertilising substances may be present in the soil and soluble in the acid used for analysis, but yet beyond the reach of the plant, in a locked-up or dormant condition. The plant can only obtain substances which have been previously dissolved in the water contained by soils in the field, hence plant food in the soil is only available for the plant in so far as it can pass into solution. The apparent paradox of a soil being poor or impoverished while yet containing enough plant food to furnish a hundred crops or more, is thus explained by the comparative insolubility of these reserves, which can only become available to the plant by passing into solution. To use an illustration, the plant food in the soil may be represented by the capital a man may have locked up in a particular business, the available plant food will correspond to the cash in hand, which may often run dangerously short, however great the capital involved. Similarly a good many of the operations of cultivation have for their end the bringing of the capital of the soil into a circulating form as rapidly as possible, and the realisation of a profit from it.

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a nom de plume, in the paper.

Horse-Chestnuts as Food for Stock.

The principal use of chestnuts seems to be to serve as "conkers," and a lad who is the proud possessor of the toughest nut is regarded as a "conkering" hero. It is probable that the nuts, when plentiful in a district, might be put to a more profitable use.

In Turkey, when ground and mixed with ordinary provender, they are given to horses, and for this purpose are regularly collected.

The *Journal d'Agriculture Pratique* points out that the harmless nature of chestnuts has been known for more than a century. Numerous experiments have served to demonstrate that 1 to 2 lb. can be given to sheep per day, and as much as 10 lb. to oxen, without any ill effects, and that they are considered to be a remedy for broken wind in horses.

For smaller animals they are not suitable; thus it has been found that a couple of ounces will suffice to kill a duck.

Analysis shows that the chestnut contains about—

39	per cent.	of water.
5	,,	,, proteins.
46	,,	,, carbohydrates.
2	,,	,, ash.

From experiments recorded by Professor Gay it would appear that 1 lb. of cooked chestnuts affords as much nourishment as 3 lb. of beet roots.

Rations which contained cooked chestnuts produced an increase of weight in sheep of 32 lb., while the same quantity of chestnuts given in a raw condition only by 6 lb., proving the advantage of having them cooked.

It was found by Professor Gay that 10 lb. of cooked chestnuts could be given to a cow per day without exercising any adverse change either in the flavour or richness of the milk. The quantity of the milk seemed to be somewhat reduced, but this was remedied by adding more roots containing a large proportion of water. Pigs have a natural dislike for raw chestnuts, but when shelled, cooked, and ground, ¼lb per pig can be given with advantage.

It may be mentioned that a flock of 250 sheep at Noisy-le-Roi were given for several years about 60 tons of chestnuts, collected in the parks of Versailles and Saint Cloud.

The object of cooking the chestnuts is to remove the bitter taste and to make them more digestible.

A German agricultural paper has an article on the same subject. According to it chestnuts have considerable value as food, almost equal to that of rape and wheat, but it points out that they should always be cooked. They should be boiled in their shells till quite soft, and then the bitter water poured off. Afterwards they should be well boiled again in fresh water; the water then has a sweet taste, while the chestnuts have the aromatic flavour of sweet chestnuts.

It is said that they are also useful in horticulture, and especially in pot-culture as a means of getting rid of worms and grubs. For this purpose they should be soaked in water, and the bitter water poured over the soil in the pots, when the worms will soon come to the surface and can be collected.

Success of Basic Slag.

The immense success of basic slag has, in the opinion of Mr. Hall, of Rothamsted, been mainly due to its special power of improving a particular class of poor grass lands on clay. The soils of these clays are lacking in both phosphoric acid and carbonate of lime, and when they have been long down to grass they become covered with a thin, poor herbage of bent grass, which creeps along the surface in straggling tufts and affords very poor grazing for any kind of stock. Farmyard manure, and almost any form of nitrogenous fertiliser, have no good effects, often an injurious one; but the summer following a dressing of basic slag, the whole pasture becomes covered with white clover, small plants of which have previously been living stunted beneath the "bents." Stock now graze the land with great relish and the vegetation improves year by year, the bent grass giving place to clovers and other grasses of better character.

Correspondence dealing with Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs appears in the regular correspondence columns of the paper. We think it unnecessary to publish the table of unit values in each issue. It will be published in an early issue of each month.

We are willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

Fertilisers and Pastures.

Farmers in America and Canada are being urged to devote more attention to the cultivation of their grass lands, just as much as they are in this old country.

A considerable improvement, writes the *Fertiliser Journal*, can be made on most poor pastures by suitable manurial treatment where there is no deficiency in the supply of moisture.

The principle of improvement consists in altering the character of the herbage by rendering the chemical condition of the soil favourable to the growth of white clover and plants of the same natural order.

The growth of such plants, among other effects, increases the soil's supply of nitrogenous material, and in old land hay diminishes the demand for direct nitrogenous manuring. Direct nitrogenous manuring, and the manurial residues from the feeding of grain to the grazing stock, are usually unprofitable and ineffective in the early stages of pasture improvement.

Abundant supplies of available phosphate, potash and lime are necessary to promote the growth of clover. The seed must be sown if the plant is totally absent, and there are no dormant seeds in the soil.

The cheapest combination of available phosphate and lime is furnished in basic slag, and this manure has, in general, been demonstrated to be the most profitable form in which to supply these ingredients. The application of lime alone has been uniformly unprofitable. Ground lime and superphosphate make a more costly combination, and though an improvement is effected in pastures, it has not been proved equally profitable.

Potash is especially necessary for leguminous herbage, and the addition of kainit to the phosphatic dressing has been proved to be profitable on a considerable range of soils from the beginning. It is probable, even on those clay soils which are at present regarded as exceptions, that after the first year the soil's supply of available potash will require to be supplemented in order to maintain suitable conditions for the production of a nutritious and well-mixed herbage.

To Manure at a Profit.

We have pleasure in directing attention to the booklet "To Manure at a Profit—Every Farmer His Own Experimenter"—published at the office of this paper at the small price of 6d. (by post 7½d.). It is a reprint of the series of articles which appeared in these columns some time ago, and attracted a good deal of attention. The writers of the articles combine a thoroughly practical and scientific knowledge of the important subject dealt with, and have succeeded in putting their suggestions and recommendations in simple language capable of being grasped by the reader who is too busy to study the scientific books usually written by scientific men. Every farmer should read the booklet and keep it by him for reference. It can be obtained from the Publisher, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Basic Superphosphate.

We have received one or two inquiries as to the nature of this fertiliser. It is prepared from superphosphate and slaked lime, so that the acid character of the superphosphate is neutralised, the result being a phosphoric fertiliser free from acidity. Basic superphosphate thus occupies a position half way between ordinary superphosphate and basic slag. It is said by makers to be quicker in action than basic slag, and free from the objections to the use of superphosphate on soils deficient in lime.

It contains 26 per cent. phosphate of lime in an available condition. There is also about 34 per cent of lime in it, against the quantity of about 23 per cent. in ordinary superphosphate.

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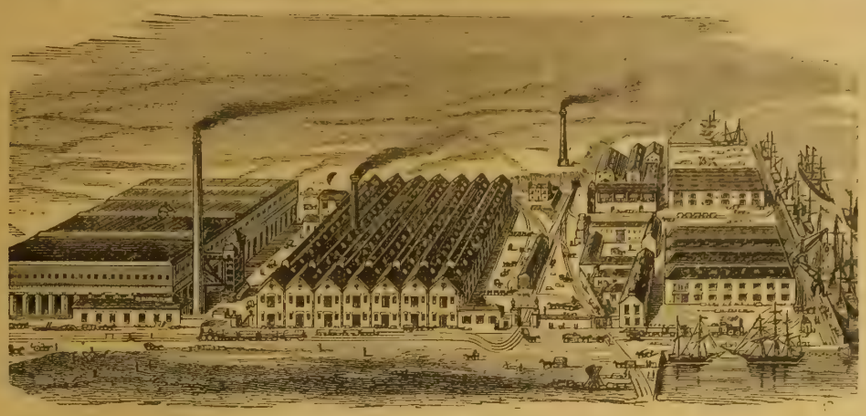
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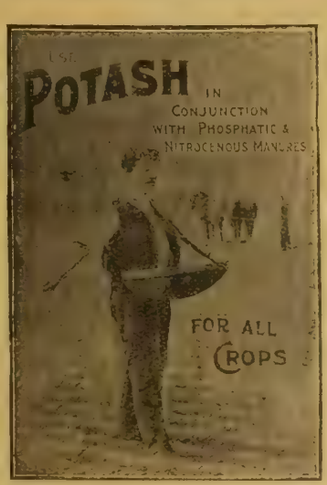
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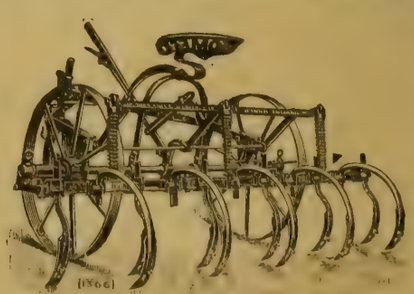
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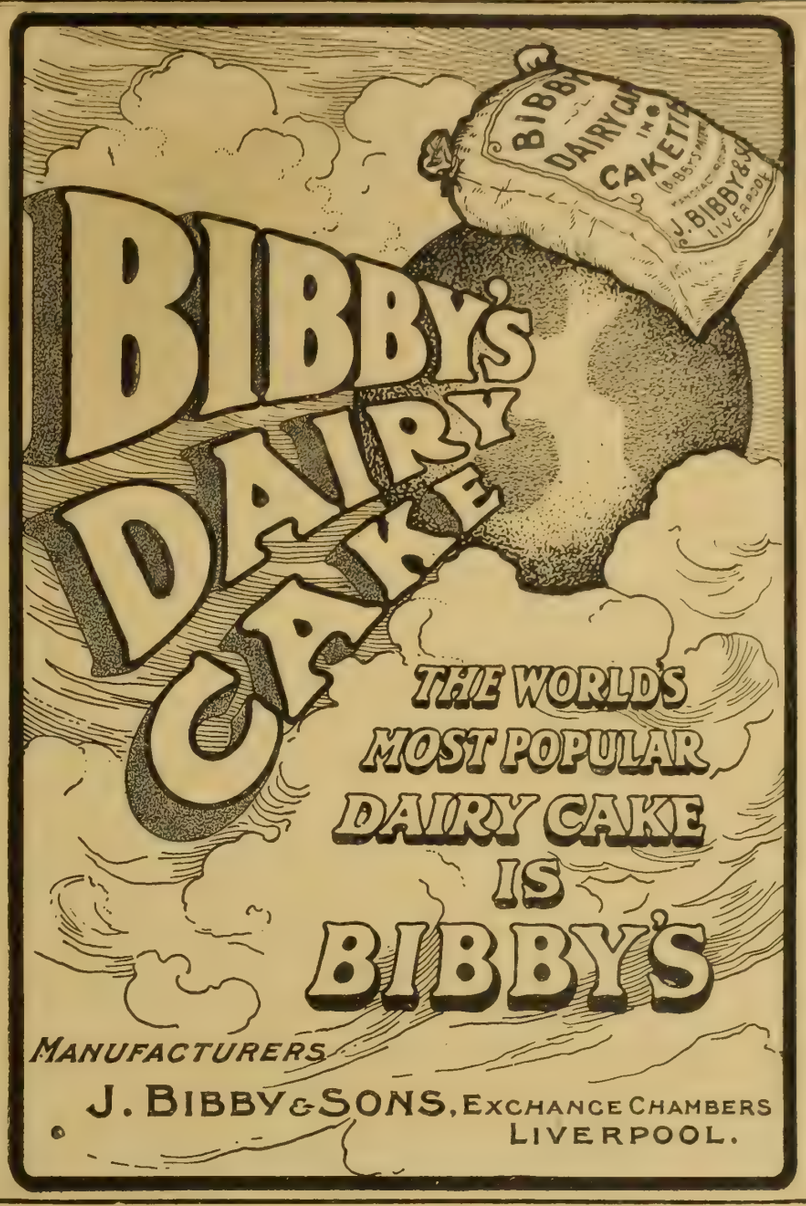
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THE DAIRY SHOW.

The annual show of the British Dairy Farmers' Association which took place during the whole of the last week has added one more to the already long list of successful dairy exhibitions held in the Agricultural Hall. The father happy thought of calling it the National Dairy Show is one that deserves continuance, for the exhibition of last week was truly national in the right sense of the word.

The show of cattle was a large one, and there were representatives present of most of the dairy breeds with which we are familiar. The bulk of the animals were of Shorthorn or Channel Island blood. It is a pity that Scottish breeders do not support the show more, and send down some of their first-class Ayrshire cows. This breed has never done itself justice at the Dairy Show.

There seems to be quite a boom in cheese-making and the entry obtained this year was a record one. The Cheddar prizes this year, we are pleased to see, went to West country makers, the Scotch dairies with one or two exceptions only being able to secure the minor cards. Possibly the season has had something to do with the superiority of the English Cheddar, for the farther north one goes the more the inclemency of such a season as we have experienced this year is felt. Again, of Cheshire cheese there was a remarkable increase, and this variety seems to be making great headway in the metropolis and other large towns.

Of butter the display was an excellent one, whilst the other items which the Dairy Show takes under its wing made the usual interesting collections, and the popularity of the show seems to increase year by year. We do not know what the official figures of admission are, but there can be no doubt that the gate receipts were on a large and satisfactory scale. We hope that such results will encourage the society to go on with the good work which it is doing on behalf of the dairy farmers of this country.

RAM BREEDING.

The ram sales of the past fortnight show clearly the over-supply of second-grade rams. For the best sheep a higher range of price had been secured than ever before, but at the same time a lower range of price is being made than has been the case for some few years.

This result is not confined to any particular breed, and it is one of the problems that want taking up and dealing with. Unquestionably this over supply of rams arises mainly by reason of the increased number of registered flocks.

Strange though it may appear, no sooner does a breeder own a registered flock than he starts doing that which he never dreamt of before—*i.e.*, breeding rams. The result, as a great number of them know to their cost, is disappointment. Whether or not steps should be taken by the different breed societies to in some way limit the number of registered rams that a breeder should offer, or whether or not a standard of merit and quality should be fixed by each society, to be complied with before an animal could be accepted for registration, are points worthy of consideration.

So far as regards the home flocks, there is no fear of harm resulting from the over-supply of lower-grade registered rams. The home breeder will take good care that he will only use for stud purposes such rams as are typical and good specimens of the breed.

With regard, however, to the export demand, great damage to the best interests of the different breeds will assuredly arise if the present

large supply of lower-grade registered rams be allowed to continue. Most of the importing countries now make it a condition that animals imported for stud purposes must be animals duly registered in their respective flock books, but this condition being complied with, there is none other as to whether or not the animal in question is a really good and typical specimen of its breed, or whether it is one suitable for the purposes for which it it imported.

This matter should be carefully and fully considered by all those who are responsible for the management and control of the different sheep breed societies of this country, for the question is one that affects every breeder of sheep.

It is not one that applies to either the home trade or the export trade only, but to both, and there can be no doubt that it would be greatly to the interest of the mutton producer at home if a higher and better class of rams were more generally used in our home flocks.

ONION FAIRS.

"What's in a name?" asked the Bard of Avon, and echo answers what indeed, when the name of a commodity is given as a descriptive title to a fair at which the article is represented, and that is about all that can be said for it.

We do not suppose that the well-known Birmingham Onion Fair will ever die out—that is to say, the name part of it, and judging from the character of the display posters on the railway which recently announced the event, one might have expected to find the busy Midland town redolent with the smell of onions. But it was not so, and if the fair had depended on onions there would have been no fair to speak of. There were some onions from Bedfordshire, but, tell it not in Gath, most of the trade done was in onions from Valentia, Holland, and Belgium.

Another lost industry! and no proper explanation why. Here we have a commodity, quite indispensable, and very largely consumed in the country, and hundreds of acres of land that under proper tillage would grow onions well, yet for the main supply of this vegetable the million is absolutely dependent on foreign countries.

The specimens of foreign onions which come in show that the conditions under which they are grown are suitable, in fact more suitable than our own may be; but the way they are selected, packed, and shipped has more than a little to do with the foreigner's monopoly of the onion trade in this country.

As a matter of fact foreign onion growers have got a wholesale market in Great Britain, and they set out to supply it in a wholesale way.

Notes of the Week.

The thirty-second annual meeting of the British Daity Farmers' Association at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, was the event of the week.

The Hall was converted for the occasion into a regular farmyard, and attracted a large number of visitors. It was altogether a great success.

Some of the cows ought to be prosecuted; they produced milk below the legal standard.

The dairymaids, rosy of face and neat of dress, were a great attraction.

Dairy farmers continue to protest against the preference given to butter substitutes in the matter of moisture.

It is equivalent to licensing the sale of water added to butter, and is a blot on an otherwise good bill.

A number of poor women are to be invited next week to inspect Mrs. Wiggs' celebrated cabbage patch. The idea is that it will give them fresh views on husbandry.

Harvest festivals are now the order of the day on Sundays.

They serve a useful purpose as a medium for charity, and also to remind town people that agriculture is not extinct in this country.

Harvest weddings seem to be popular this year. At a village church in Cambridgeshire the banns of no fewer than fifteen couples were published on one Sunday.

So many unions is said to be the result of an excellent harvest in the district.

On the return of our old Irish servant from church last Sunday she told us that the clergyman had preached a sermon against marriage with a wife's diseased sister. She could not understand why any man should want to marry the diseased sister.

There are 23,000 miles of rails in the United Kingdom. If the much-talked-of strike takes place, there will be much more "railing," and many of the railway men will be "shunted."

The Utility Poultry Club is organising an egg-laying competition to last for a whole year. Egg-laying in the winter months is the development to be aimed at.

Such a competition is useful, but what good object can there be in a cock crowing competition? In a competition of this sort at a place in Devonshire the winning bird crowed fifty times in fifteen minutes.

Farmers in Wiltshire should encourage the consumption of pigeon pie, as the birds in that county are so numerous that they have become a regular plague.

"The old grey mare" is the name given to a motor omnibus in London, because it breaks down so often. The epithet is a libel on the mare.

October is ushered in with the usual winds and rains. The old adage,

"And he that will to bed go sober
Falls with the leaf still in October,"

points to other times and other manners.

Tiverton Corporation keeps green the memory of their old, now-extinct Michaelmas fair, which dates from 1615, by going in state through the principal streets to the Town Hall and drinking in solemn silence "Success to the fair."

British farmers may note that the crops over a wide district of India are a failure. This means less imports to compete against home-grown produce.

The cry of the countryside against reckless motorists is growing louder and louder.

The numbers of the cars should be made more conspicuous in some way. At present they often evade responsibility by simply going off as quickly as possible.

Two million pounds saved by bees. Professor Hunter, of Kansas University, is said to have discovered a bee which multiplies faster than the wheat bug and destroys it. He supplied 12,000 boxes of bees to the farmers in the Western States, and so saved the year's wheat crop from the bug plague.

His Majesty's Cup—The 20 guinea cup graciously presented by H.M. the King for the best root crops generally in the Royal South Bucks Agricultural Association has again been won by one of Messrs. Webbs' customers, viz.:—Mr. T. W. Purser, Tan House, Colnbrook, Slough, whose crops include swedes and mangels grown from Webbs' seeds.

The last remaining windmill at Great Yarmouth was sold by auction last week for demolition, and the structure, with sails and stones, realised the small sum of £7. At one time Yarmouth resembled a Dutch town from its number of windmills. This last mill dated from 1796, and had been bodily removed from its original site, in consequence of the growth of the town, to a remote position on the Denes. Once more building developments have overtaken it, and, having been purchased by the corporation, it was doomed to demolition to make room for Yarmouth's garden suburb.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15.—Mr. Jesse Collings, M.P., addresses the South Devon Chamber of Agriculture on Small Holdings—Frittenden Farm Sale—Farningham Fair and Open Sheep Sale—Agricultural Fairs at Macclesfield, Carmarthen, March, and Thrapston—Chester Dairy Show, first day—Horse Sale at Preston.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16.—Chester Dairy Show, second day—Shorthorn Sale at York—Nettleshead and Horsemonden Farm Sales—Penshurst Farm Sale—Special Cattle Market at Orpington—Raynbird's Sale of Live Stock at Basingstoke—Wadhurst Open Sale for Store Stock—Shoreham (Kent) Farm Sale—Agricultural Fairs at Thorne, Edenbridge, Brentwood, and Hereford—Ram and Sheep Sale at Sittingbourne—Horsham Great Market.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17.—Thornton's Sale of Kerry Cattle at Tetsworth, Oxfordshire—Great Sale of Pure-bred Devon Cattle at Taunton—Maidstone Fair—Fairs at Lynn, Brentwood, St. Neots, and Chester.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18.—Worcester Shire Horse Show at Droitwich—Doncaster Horse Sale, first day—Kintyre Dairy Show at Campbelltown—Sale of Shorthorns at Oundle—Sale of Jersey Cattle at Bletchley—Smarden and Yalding Farm Sales—Important Farm Sales at Sevenoaks—Fairs at Newnham, Lampeter, Lincoln, and Market Harborough.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19.—Opening of the Brewers' and Barley Exhibition at Islington—Slindon Special Sale of Underwood at the Newburgh Arms, 2 p.m.—Special Sale of Horses and Welsh Colts at Canterbury—Fairs at Canterbury and Colchester—Doncaster Horse Sale, second day—Sending-in Day for Implements, &c., for the Birmingham Fat Stock Show.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 21.—Brewers' and Barley Exhibition at Islington, second day—Addington Farm Sale—Fairs at Sleaford, Luton, Olney, and Belper—Sale of Pedigree Dexters at Pulborough—Pulborough Market.

Dr. Fream Memorial.

Lord Jersey presided over a meeting of the General Committee of the Dr. Fream Memorial Fund on Tuesday last at the Agricultural Hall, Islington. The honorary secretary said that they were called together to confirm the following resolution passed at a recent meeting and accepted by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries:—

"That the Fream Memorial Fund shall be invested in the name of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries or of an official trustee selected by the Board, and shall be administered by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, and that the income shall be applied by way of a Fream memorial prize of books to be competed for in each year by students in the science of agriculture, and so that as long as an examination is held by the National Agricultural Examination Board for the national diploma in agriculture the prize shall be awarded to the person who obtains the highest marks in such examination."

The secretary stated that Professor Hendrick, of the Aberdeen Agricultural College, had written taking exception to the words "science of agriculture" in the resolution.

Professor Hendrick said that the teaching of agriculture involved the study of many sciences, and he proposed that the Dr. Fream prize should be given for one science only, and he suggested entomology. Professor Sheldon said that Botany was Dr. Fream's favourite science, and if any alteration was made it would be a bigger compliment to their late friend if his favourite study was honoured.

Sir George Barham, the hon. treasurer, said the list was still open, if any admirers of Dr. Fream desired to send in subscriptions.

The sale of Mr. W. C. Keevil's extensive live and dead farming stock on his Swallowcliffe Farm, Hants, which he is giving up, attracted a large company of buyers, and a satisfactory sale resulted on Thursday last. About 200 lots of implements, &c., were first quickly disposed of at good prices, then followed the registered Hampshire Down flock of about 850 ewes and lambs. These sold well; 220 two-teeth ewes making from 68s. to 55s, average 63s.; 194 four-teeth ewes 72s. to 57s., average 65s.; 181 six-teeth ewes, 73s. to 55s., average 64s.; 220 ewe lambs, 57s. to 45s, average 50s.; whilst rams and ram lambs made from 65s. downwards. The cart horses made up to 47 guineas, and the dairy stock up to £22 5s.

HORSES.

A Critical Time—Pampering and Neglect—A State of Nature—Are Young Horses far from Profit?—Treatment of Young Horses—Exercise—Shelter—Food.

A Critical Time.

THE weather may now fairly be said to have broken. True, we have had no heavy rain as yet, and the sun has shone with summer warmth in the afternoons almost up to the time of writing. But there is a watery glimmer in the sunshine as I write, a wild and cold wind is blowing, and the blackening of the celery tops tells that frost has been sharp on more than one occasion. It is a critical time with young horses, and much of their future value depends upon their management during the fall of the year. Foals especially require careful looking to at this time of the year, a fact which is so self-evident that one would think it unnecessary to draw attention to it were it not that one sees, as one rides about the country, so many farms at which provision for the winter comfort of the young horses is conspicuous by its absence; and the case of yearlings and two-year-olds, and even of three-year-olds, is equally urgent.

Pampering and Neglect.

IT is a curious thing that young horses suffer so much either from pampering or neglect, and that the happy medium seems so difficult to hit. There seems no reason why this happy medium should not be hit, but before going into the question let us just for a moment inquire into the reasons for the pampering and the neglect to which I have referred. The reason for the pampering and overfeeding is not difficult to find. Condition for the spring shows is the object of the man who overfeeds and keeps his colt too warm; and his reward is filled joints, humour, and not infrequently some defect in the respiratory organs. The reason for neglect would seem to be that the colts are a long way off profit, and that the time will come after a while when they will be "got up" for sale. In the meantime, you are told, they are being kept in a natural condition.

A State of Nature.

THE excuse for carelessness, that the young horses are kept in a state of nature, will not bear examination for a moment. The modern horse, be he Shire or Hackney, Hunter or Coach horse, is never in a state of nature. He is, indeed, a highly artificial product, and his life is to all intents and purposes an artificial one from the day of his birth till he finds his way to the kennels or to the artificial manure manufacturer. Such being the case, it is imperative, if a man would make the most of his horses, that they should be kept in a nice growing state, not overgrown and loaded with unnecessary fat, but well fleshed, putting on muscle and growing bone regularly. I am quite certain that horses would pay well enough if they were taken as much care of, and if as much intelligent interest was taken in them in their early years, as is taken in that part of the farm stock which comes quicker to profit.

Are Young Horses far from Profit?

BUT are the young horses on a farm the farthest from profit of any of the stock? I very much question it, for if young horses are in a nice, healthy, growing state there is generally some one wanting them, provided, that is, that they are of fairly good class. At least, such is my experience. I have given as much as £40 for a foal before to-day, and I should like to know what stock the farmer I bought him from had that left him as much profit as that foal, for his dam worked regularly on the farm. Nor was he dear, for I had £10 profit bid on him within a week of his being delivered. I have also sold yearlings for as much as 100 guineas, and two-year-olds and three-year-olds at good prices. And though the horse trade is not so good as it was—more's the pity!—I occasionally hear of big prices being given for young horses in these days. But one thing is certain; no one will give a good price or even look at a walking skeleton that gives the idea of having lost his growth.

Treatment of Young Horses.

YOUNG horses need generous food, shelter from the cold, and plenty of exercise. What they too frequently get is a bit of indifferent hay to pick amongst, some oat straw or chopped straw, perhaps now and again some chop with a little corn in it; and they are frequently left out altogether till the snow comes, with perhaps the chance of a hovel to run into, which may or may not afford them protection from the bitterest and coldest winds. Or else they are shut up in a dark building where they stand on hot manure—a state of things which is not calculated to improve their feet—or are turned into a fold yard amongst a lot of cattle, in which case it is by no means unlikely that the weakest will go to the wall.

Exercise.

EXERCISE is of the greatest importance to young horses, and they should be turned out every day for an hour or two, except perhaps in very heavy rain or snow, when going out can do them no good. But they are all the better for facing ordinary rough weather. Of course, when days are still fairly long they can remain out the whole of the day—that is, from about eight o'clock in the morning till evening. Later in the year, when days are shorter and colder, two or three hours in the middle of the day will be long enough provided the young horses have roomy yards, as they ought to have. My own plan was to turn them out at eleven o'clock and bring them in about three or half-past. If the ground is very hard from frost some discretion has to be used about turning out, as a horse may easily slip and lame himself even if he is not shod.

Shelter.

WHEN possible young horses are best wintered in roomy yards which have plenty of straw in them, so that the hot manure can have no bad effect on their feet. Care, however, should be taken not to put too many horses in one yard, and they should be carefully watched lest one should overrun the others or one should be shut out from the manger by them, a by no means infrequent occurrence. When it happens the poor victim gets more and more bullied every day, till he becomes a pitiable object indeed, if the mischief has not been found out and remedied. Now, very frequently the bullying has gone a long way and considerable harm been done before it is discovered. This should not be; a careful and observant man will notice what is going on before it has been going on long enough to do any serious harm, and will have the bullied one removed at once and kept by himself till he has got him fed up and strong again. Then he may be put back amongst his fellows, but he should be carefully watched lest the bullying should break out again.

Food.

PEOPLE differ in their opinions as to the best ration to give young, growing horses; but I think there can only be one opinion as to the quality of the ration—it should be of the best. A foal at weaning time needs a great deal of care to prevent him losing condition, and it is indeed a critical period of a horse's life, for growth lost at this age may never be recovered. I once bought a yearling that had been none too well done at weaning time. He seemed to lose a year's



Photo by [W. H. Pearsons.

The Shire Stallion shown above is Moors Regent, with whom Mr. E. Green, The Moors, Welshpool, won First Prize for Stallions 10 years old and upwards at the Shire Horse Society's Show this year. Its sire was Regent II., dam Bertha by Carbon, and it was bred by Messrs. E. Jones and Sons, The Bank, Pool Quay, Welshpool.

growth, and, do as I would, I could never get him to develop as he should do. He got what is called in Yorkshire "set in," and the good food he got put him into splendid condition, but did not make him grow out. I sold him at three years old, when he looked like a backward two-year-old, and someone got a cheap horse. He was a rare bred one—a stallion—and would have been cheap at £100 more than I got for him if he had not been stunted in his growth. So foals should be generously fed when they are first taken from their dams. Crushed oats, a little sweet chop mixed with them, sweet hay-clover—hay for choice—and mashes every other day make a good ration for them. When they are turned out again they do not require so much hand food, but they always should have a little corn. When they are brought in at night is the best time to give it, and I need scarcely say that after foals are weaned they should never lay out. I always found it a good plan to feed young horses lightly in the morning. If they are well fed, then they never do anything but hang about the gates, and neither attempt to graze nor take any exercise. If they are well fed when they come in, there will be no trouble in getting them housed. The plan I adopted was to have the feed for them to come in to, and then to feed them again about eight o'clock, and only give them a bit of hay in the morning. It answered very well. Twice a week, at least, I used to give them mashes made of bran, a few crushed oats, and a handful of linseed cake. A swede turnip was generally given them once a day, and they appreciated it. My young horses were never fat, but they were always fit to be seen and were soon got ready when wanted. And depend upon it, if a horse is not worth caring for and feeding generously, you are better without him.

THE LOOKER ON.

Sale of Brookfield Stud Hackneys.

As was only to be expected, there was a large company present at the sale of about 100 Hackneys from Mr. Burdett Coutts's famous Brookfield stud at Howden, Yorks, on Tuesday.

It was at first intended that this sale should be a dispersal of the whole of the Brookfield stud. The calls on the owner's time, which have greatly increased during the past year, render the personal attention he has always devoted to the stud no longer possible, and to conduct the enterprise through other hands would be, from his point of view, an unsatisfactory change. But two difficulties arose. First, it would not have been possible to disperse the stud in a single day's sale, and a two-days' sale, or two successive sales at the same time of year in Yorkshire would be inconvenient; secondly, after nearly twenty-five years of careful breeding and selection, which have secured to the stud the world-wide position it occupies, the owner viewed with poignant regret the prospect of its final exit from the theatre of horse-breeding.

The first consideration will involve another sale, which will probably take place early next year, and for which the three-year-old and four-year-old geldings (except in two or three cases explained under the lots), and a few young stock, are reserved. The second induced the owner to retain a very small stud, so limited in numbers that he will be able in the future, as he has done in the past, to personally control its breeding interests. For this purpose the Metham Farm will be kept on. Purseley Farm in Hertfordshire has been let. The Brookfield Stables, the London establishment of the Harness Department, remain—for the present.

At Tuesday's sale most of the valuable young stock (for breeding or use), all the yearlings and two-year-old geldings, and about a dozen fine harness horses were offered, and the fact that it included some sixteen of the get of Polonius; the family of Nelly II., full sister to Danegelt, and dam of the first Anconeus; that of Lady Lyons, dam of Matchless and Beau Lyons; of Maggie Stewart, dam of Polly Stewart; and of the three Lady Fireaways; as well as full brothers and sisters to such horses as Riot, the recent Dublin champion; Chieftain, the well-known show horse; to Nunnery and Pollinaris, and to many other prize-winners and very high-priced harness horses, is a proof of the character of the sale.

As will be seen from the appended list of the chief lots sold, purchases, &c., some good prices were realised, no fewer than nine three-figure sums being obtained, whilst many other prices near that high value mark were recorded. Undoubtedly the pick of the sale was the Hackney stallion Polichinello, which has been used in the stud with such success, and for him there was keen competition, and it was not until Mr. J. Morton bid 230 guineas that he was able to secure this splendid specimen of the breed. The other chief prices are given below:—

		Gs.
Polly Vane, two-year-old filly	Mr Whitworth	110
Lemuel, three-year-old filly	Mr Anderson	150
Sprunt's Delight, Hackney mare (harness), f 1901	Mr R Edwards	50
Victoria Flirt, roadster mare, f 1902	Mr Whitworth	72
Fragility's colt foal	Mr Clitheroe	100
Re-Coin, roadster gelding, f 1903	Mr R Edwards	60
Fiamma, four-year-old mare	Mr Whitworth	92
Riot III., four-year-old gelding,	Mr Anderson	92
Phosphite, two-year old filly	Mr Catslow	50
Victor Sylvia II., roadster gelding (harness), f 1901	Mr Brandt	100
Victoria Sylvia, roadster mare, f 1903	Mr Whitworth	72
Maybe, Hackney harness and brood mare, f 1902	Mr Matheson	51
Victor Viva, roadster gelding, f 1901	Mr R Edwards	56
Leopard, Hackney stallion, f 1904	Mr Burnell Tubbs	120
Leopardess, two-year-old filly, f 1905	Mr Brandt	115
Faustus, Hackney gelding, f 1901	Mr Whitworth	90
Gold Thread, two-year-old filly	Mr Burnell Tubbs	80
Fosconia, brood mare, f 1893	Mr Anderson	88
Fostonella, two year-old-filly	Mr Baggerley	60
Fortunata, yearling filly	Mr Miller	70
Sweet Nell, brood mare, f 1900	Mr Vaughan	125
Polichinello, stallion, f 1902	Mr J Morton	230
Propice, four-year-old mare	Mr Anderson	100
Fusion, roadster mare, f 1903	M Longueville (Paris)	90
Reflector, roadster gelding, f 1093	Mr Catalou	96
Leopoldina, three year old filly	Mr Anderson	77
Last Trick, Hackney gelding, f 1902	M Longueville	77

Hackney Horse Society.

A joint meeting of the Show and Finance Committees of the Hackney Horse Society was held at 12, Hanover Square, W., on Wednesday (Mr. A. E. Evans in the chair), when a detailed report was prepared for presentation to the council in November concerning the best means by which the society may benefit by the enlargement of the accommodation at the Agricultural Hall, the arrangement of stabling and seating stands, the hours of judging, the popularity of the afternoon performances, &c.

It was resolved to again take the opinion of the council on the advisability of engaging a good band to play on the first three afternoons of the show, the committee considering that the time is more propitious for such an innovation as a large proportion of the horses will now be stabled in the new annexe, which will be quite distinct from the large hall and the main ring.

The question of submitting the harness classes to the same stringent veterinary examination as the breeding section was considered at great length, and it was agred to submit the following suggestion to the council for their discussion:—

"The judges will select such animals in each of the harness classes as they consider eligible for prizes or commendation, and when they deem a veterinary examination necessary, such examination will be made before the prizes are awarded."

The sale register and other show details were agreed upon, and the appointment of separate harness judges was discussed.

Prize Schedule.

The classes in the prize list were thoroughly revised, and a large number of prizes were added throughout. It was determined to retain all the classes in this year's schedule, and to add thereto two fresh classes for Tandems under 15 hands and 15 hands and over, with a champion gold medal for the best of any height. To allow for the judging of the most important classes early in the afternoon of the Tuesday, the numbering of the stallion classes was re-arranged so that the older horses will be taken immediately after the three-year-olds.

Permission was granted to Mr. Euren to proceed to New York Show to represent there the interests of the Hackney Society and the International Horse Show. It was reported that the gold cup to be offered by the English Society at the New York Show had been dispatched, and that a pressing invitation had been received from the show authorities for English exhibitors of Hackneys and Harness horses to send specimens of their studs in competition, and assuring them of a warm and hospitable welcome.

Mr. Burdett Coutts on Motor Cars and Horse Breeding.

Some interesting remarks concerning horse breeding and motor cars were made by Mr. Burdett Coutts, M.P., at the sale of his horses at Howden on Tuesday. He said that he was still no enemy of motor cars; he admitted their utility and necessity, and was in no way surprised at the great increase in their number and use. And he was still of opinion that horses, harness horses, would always be wanted, and that if we gave up our horses and lost all the fine blood for which Yorkshire and the North had been famous, the demand for them would go elsewhere—probably to other countries. Leaving for a moment the question of high-class Harness horses, and coming to utility horses, there was this one thing to be said—that while motors had enormously increased in numbers they had not correspondingly decreased in expense; and undoubtedly they would have to face a new charge. He would say nothing of their misuse, of the terrible roll of accidents that seemed to increase every day, or of the danger and discomfort they caused to the great mass of the humbler users of the King's highway—largely due, in his opinion to an unwarrantable assumption on the part of motor drivers, that they, and they alone, ought to be considered, that the roads were made for them, and that everyone else ought to get out of the way, and then go down on their knees and thank God they had been spry enough to do so. What he did say was that the roads were not made for motors, and were not maintained in any due proportion by the people who enjoyed the use of motors. The latter then would either have to make roads for themselves, as railways had done, or they would have to be taxed, and taxed heavily—perhaps in the shape of high licences—for the maintenance of the public roads they used and wore out, leaving to the ordinary ratepayer the double burden of personal discomfort and expense of road-making and road-repairing.

There would, added Mr. Coutts, always be a large number of people of different classes and varied means who would want horses for use, for the work they could get out of them in harness and saddle. Would there be none who would want them for pleasure, for beauty, for price in something which their fathers and forefathers, and they themselves till yesterday, loved and were proud of? Had all sentiment, all sportsmanlike instinct, all love of the beautiful for its own sake, left us and gone to the Americans? "For, mark you," he continued, "no matter how many motors they have, the Americans are holding on to their horses. They take pride and pleasure in them, and are willing to spend money on them, as we saw at Olympia, and as will be seen at the great New York Show next month.

"Is it true that we in England are going to become suddenly Chicagoised in mind and taste, while the nation that gave us that term usurps our place in the pure love of horses for their own sake?" That was the proposition presented to the gentlefolk and the wealthy classes of England. "Oh," but they exclaimed, "we have our racing and our hunting. As long as we keep that up it doesn't matter about your harness horses and hacks." Yes, but why should racing remain? Brooklands, the great motor racing track, would supplant Newmarket. A motor could go much faster, and further than a thoroughbred. And a motor was much more useful—and just as uncertain to bet on. Speed, distance, and utility are the sole criteria now, and if you add gambling, you've got the thing perfect.

And what of hunting? How did we know that any day someone—a Mr. Mercedes or Daimler or Fiat—would not invent a motor hunter that would gallop and jump by machinery and gallop much faster and jump much bigger than the horse. A new manufacturing industry for England. We owe to be told that it was only because no foreigner had yet brought us such an invention, that the gentlemen of England still hunted on the horse? Yet that was exactly what we were told to infer with regard to Harness horses and Hacks, and he claimed that the analogy was a close one, since hunting was pleasure, pure and simple.

As for the Harness horse, it could not be denied that he was more useful than the Hunter. But he too, was generous, beautiful, and of old English origin. Were we to be told that there was no place left for him in the affections of the well-to-do classes in this country, and that all pleasure and pride in the horse was to disappear in presence of a mechanical invention, of great utility, it was true, but not appealing to one single generous æsthetic, traditional, or national instinct of Englishmen? He did not believe it.

Nantwich Cheese Fair.

At the Nantwich Cheese Fair on Thursday the pitch was 70 tons. There was a large and representative attendance of buyers. Trade was fairly brisk at the opening of the fair. A clearance was effected at the following prices:—Finest qualities from 62s. to 67s., medium from 62s. to 67s., medium from 57s. to 61s., and lower grades from 54s. per cwt.

At Bingley Autumn Fair, held on Tuesday, sheep were penned in larger numbers than ever before, and there was a fairly steady trade, the best call being for good lambs. Half-bred ewes made 40s. to 50s., lonk ewes 30s. to 36s., and half-bred lambs 25s. to 30s.; Scotch sheep 20s. to 30s. each. Cattle were of about the usual number, and the demand was good for animals of any quality. Calving cows, which were comparatively few, made £16 to £22, laying off cows, which were good to sell, £16 to £20, and gold beasts £8 to £12 per head. Horses were, as generally is the case, mainly of indifferent quality.

SHEEP.

Notes and Jottings.

MENTION was made a few weeks back that the South Devon sheep had secured the patronage of some New Zealand breeders who were over on a visit to this country.

THE details of this most important selection, for it is without question the largest selection of this breed that has ever left these shores for either New Zealand or any other destination, are as follows:—From Mr. J. Stooke ten ewes are taken, five by Mr. Chambers, and five by Mr. W. C. Birch, and with them goes a handsome ram bred by Mr. E. Stooke, and owned by Mr. J. Stooke. The same two purchasers have also taken nine ewes and a ram lamb from Mr. J. S. Hallett's flock, and a similar consignment from the flock owned by Mr. William Tippett, making their joint selection to number thirty-one head.

IN addition to the above, another stud ram of the same breed has been selected on behalf of the New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency for export to New Zealand. This ram is known as Hoskins No. 3 of 1906, and he was bred by Mr. E. H. Hoskin and purchased and used this year as a stud ram by Mr. A. E. Stidston at Thurlestone.

FOR a consignment of thirty-two sheep of any breed to be despatched to any new destination is an event of considerable importance. The reason of this importance is that upon the result that follows the importation of these sheep to New Zealand largely depends the future demand for this breed from the colony.

IF this initial shipment proves satisfactory, other orders will follow, but should (which is not at all expected, for the sheep selected are high-class specimens of their breed) the contrary be the case, it will be unfortunate for the best interests of the breed.

THE foregoing paragraph brings out in clear prominence how much depends upon the right class and kind of animals being selected for export.

ONE cannot too often emphasise this, neither can it be too strongly stated that each stud animal that is exported goes from this country as representative of its breed, and that the future demand for such breed depends, to a very large extent indeed, upon the result of each and every importation.

AS we have mentioned in previous notes, the increased competition from the mutton producers abroad continues to increase, practically without ceasing, for we find that during the past nine months we have imported from abroad 3,689,575 cwt. of mutton, or 10·14 per cent. more than during the same period of the previous year.

TO meet this increased competition our home breeders must produce the best quality of mutton, and also the most perfectly formed carcase. It is essential that the home mutton should be of the highest quality, but it is still more important that each and every carcase should be of that description of which there is the larger proportion of the more valuable parts, and the lesser of the cheaper parts.

TO produce and to breed the sheep that will grow up with the carcases and quality of mutton indicated above, it is necessary that only the best and most typical specimens of the different breeds should be used for stud purposes.

AMONGST the items in the Trade and Navigation Returns that are worthy of note in respect to the mutton supply, is the rapid increase in the supply received from Uruguay. During the first nine months of the current year that country has supplied us with 58,809 cwt. of mutton as against 24,000 cwt. in the same period of 1906, and 48,000 cwt. in the same period of the year 1905.

THIS is but one example of how the mutton supply from abroad continues to increase. Uruguay has been, during the past two or three years, a large purchaser of stud sheep, and the number sent this year shows an increase, and consequently still larger supplies in the near future will be doubtless received from that country.



The Pen of Three Shropshire Ewe Lambs shown above is that with which the Right Hon. Victor Cavendish, M.P., won a First Prize at the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society's Show this year.

SALES AND FAIRS.

Ashford.

The forty-sixth annual sale of ram tegs from the Westbroke flock of Kentish sheep, belonging to Mr. Arthur Finn, was held at Ashford Market on Tuesday. The consignment were a wonderfully level lot of beautiful quality, and with a range of prices of from 6½ guineas to 21 guineas averaged £10 11s. 8d. per head, as against an average last year of £9 5s. 6d. At the same market several other sales were effected at good prices, the averages ranging up to £8 15s. 6d.

Corby.

The old-established fair at Corby, which formerly ranked as one of the largest sheep fairs in Lincolnshire, was held on Monday, when, although the show of sheep was not so large as it used to be, several thousand were penned. Lambs were a good trade, at from 40s. to 46s. per head, and these prices were fully from 4s. to 5s. dearer than they were last year. Of the breeding sheep, theaves realised from 55s. to 65s., and ewes from 50s. to 55s. The season is getting rather advanced for the ram trade, but several breeders sold animals at satisfactory figures.

Leicester.

At Leicester October Fair, held on Thursday, the supply of sheep was the largest for many years; buyers were well represented, and trade ruled very active at high prices. The outstanding feature was the very marked preference for fine short-woolled breeding sheep, which were 2s. to 3s. per head dearer than last year for ewes, while short-woolled rams were 21s. to 42s. per head higher, with very keen competition. Choice long-wool rams made £7 7s. to £11 11s., and secondary sorts £4 4s. to £6 6s. each. Shropshire rams sold better than for many years, the best making £10 10s. to £14 14s. per head; ram lambs, £4 4s. to £7 15s.; Hampshire rams, £5 5s. to £11 11s.; Oxford rams, £3 6s. to £10 10s.; and ram lambs, £3 3s. to £7 10s. Breeding ewes were in active demand at 40s. to 60s., theaves 48s. to 68s., and lamb hoggs 28s. to 42s. per head. Agricultural horses were only a moderate supply, and made good prices.

Leyburn.

At Leyburn October Sheep Fair held on Friday trade was slow, with the exception of that for breeding sheep. Prices:—Good-bred tups, £4 to £10; good-bred tup lambs, £2 10s. to £7; good-bred sheep, 55s. to 60s.; good-bred gimmer lambs, 50s. to 60s.; good-bred shearling gimmers, 60s. to 70s.; twice-crossed lambs, 30s. to 40s.; half-bred ewes, 35s. to 60s.; half-bred shearlings, 42s. to 50s.; half-bred lambs, 18s. to 28s.; Scotch ewes, 14s. to 20s. each.

Malton.

At Malton Michaelmas Fair on Friday there was a big show of rams and ram lambs, as well as breeding sheep. Trade for tups was rather sluggish at the opening, and no big prices were made. Entries included Leicesters, Lincoln Longwools, Wensleydales, and Oxford and Hampshire Downs. Some first-class Lincolns from Mr. F. Coverdale, Hagg House, Pickering, made £7 to £13 each, thirteen making a total of £102 15s. Mr. Thomas Campion's (East Heslerton) lot made £6 to £10 10s. each, eighteen realising £141 7s. 6d. Some good Leicester shearlings from Mr. T. Dawnay Lodge, made up to £11 10s. each, and some of Mr. W. D. Megginson, of Towthorpe Manor, 5 guineas to 9 guineas. Mr. A. J. Cholmley's long-wool Lincoln shearlings made up to £8 2s. 6d., and Mr. Henry Foster's (Filey) Lincoln ram lambs £4 10s. to £5 10s. per head. Mr. J. J. Stamper's Leicesters made up to £8 15s. each, ten totalling about £75. Some good prices were obtained for Lincoln ram lambs, as much as £5 7s. 6d. being paid. In the open markets some good two-shear sheep sold up to £15. Breeding ewes and gimmers made up to 58s.

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each, being, if anything, rather easier than last year.

Strood.

At Messrs. Cobb's annual sale of stock at Strood, Kent, there were penned about 3,500 Kent, Hampshire Down, and half-bred sheep and lambs, besides 93 pure-bred Kent ram tegs from the well-known registered flocks of Messrs. Baker, C. J. G. Hulkes, J. Robinson, and R. G. E. Locke; 11 Kent rams and ram tegs, the property of Mrs. B. Tuff; and 28 pure-bred Hampshire Down ram lambs, contributed by Mr. G. F. Hohler, the Earl of Darnley, and Messrs. R. and G. French. Both sheep and lambs throughout were a remarkably fine lot, and exceptionally good prices were given, the bidding from a large attendance being exceedingly brisk. Kent ram tegs averaged £4 16s. per head; and Hampshire Down ram lambs £3 13s; Kent ewes ranged from 33s. to 34s.; Kent turnmarks from 23s. to 36s.; Kent ewe tegs from 37s. to 62s.; Kent wether tegs from 35s. to 45s.; Kent ewe and wether lambs from 22s. to 38s.; Hampshire Down ewe and wether lambs, 34s. 6d. to 42s.; and Half-bred ewe and wether lambs from 19s. to 39s. Hampshire Down ewes averaged 53s.

The Preston Court Southdowns.

The flock of Southdown sheep, comprising 742 ewes in ages, and 200 stock lambs and rams, belonging to Mr. J. Stacey, Preston Court Farm, Beddingham, was sold by auction on Thursday. The flock (No. 316 in the Flock Book) was established in 1890 with ewes from Mr. J. Stacey's Rodmell flock and then Firle flock. Ewes were also introduced from the late Mr. A. W. Hodson's flock, which had its home at Preston Court. Rams were used from the flocks of Lord Leconfield, Messrs. Botting, Bushby, Ellis, Hammond, Heasman, Stanford, and Tompkins. There was a representative attendance of flockmasters, and bidding was brisk, the result being a quick sale at good prices:—174 full-mouthed ewes averaged 49s. 6d., 193 six-tooths 52s., 180 four-tooths 59s. 6d., 201 two-tooths 60s., and 196 stock ewe lambs 38s.

Forthcoming Sales.

Newingreen annual sheep and bullock sale will be held on Wednesday and Friday next, when Messrs. W. and B. Hobbs will offer 3,500 Kent sheep, rams and lambs, and 600 home-bred beasts will be sold. The sheep consist of 1,454 one, two, and three lamb ewes, 1,687 Kent ewe and wether and half-bred tegs, 293 Kent ewe and wether and half-bred lambs, and 62 rams and ram tegs. The cattle will consist of 150 yearlings, 75 18-months old steers and heifers, 292 2 and 3-year-old fatting beasts, and one barren cow, 68 cows and heifers in and with calves, 7 bulls, 7 calves.

1,300 Irish store cattle will be sold by Mr. Gavin Low at his auction mart, 50, Prussia Street, Dublin, on Thursday next. The sale will consist of Polly bullocks, Aberdeen-Angus crosses, Hereford crosses, Shorthorn bullocks and heifers, many with age, and all in good condition; also a number of young cattle.

Mr. F. Austin Bensted will hold his annual sale of lean stock and Kent rams on Wednesday next, at Sittingbourne. The catalogue consists of 6,000 Kent and half-bred sheep and lambs, 152 registered Kent ram tegs from the flocks of many well-known breeders, 5 two and three years old rams, 12 Kent ram tegs, and 7 pure bred Southdown ram tegs, the property of Mr. R. Blenkarn, also 50 store beasts.

English Jersey Cattle Society.

A council meeting of this society was held at 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, on the 7th inst. Colonel Willan, president, in the chair.

Mr. Ernest Matthews, on behalf of the General Purposes Committee, reported that they had examined the statement of funds. The balance at the bank amounted to £293 9s. 9d., which compared favourably with that of the corresponding period of last year.

Letters were read from the secretaries of the Royal Agricultural Society and the Bath and West Society applying for prizes for competition at their shows in 1908. It was agreed to offer virtually the same amounts at these shows as in 1907.

A discussion arose as to the practicability of carrying out dairy tests at breeders' own farms on the same principle as adopted in Denmark. It was pointed out that the main difficulty was the great distance which divided dairy herds in this country compared with those on the Continent, where they were in close proximity.

The annual October fair for the sale of horses and cattle in the Alnwick district was held on the Market Hill, Alnwick, on Monday, when the attendance of farmers and dealers was numerous, but trade throughout was very slow and dragging. Cattle were freely shown, nice Irish grazing heifers made up to £12 per head, and smaller cattle from £6 to £7 10s. per head. Milch cows sold to £16. Keeping pigs met a partial clearance at prices ranging from 18s. to 25s. each.

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HORSES.

SHIRES.

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CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

GRIFFIN, F. W., Boro' Fen, Peterboro'. Shire Stallions, Mares, and Fillies for sale, in natural condition; 40 pedigree mares kept for breeding; every facility to foreign buyers.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Hereford. Stud Horses: Lockinge Lord of Misrule and Lockinge Bonny Lad, both by Lockinge Forester, full brother to Lockinge Forest King. Colts and Fillies for Sale.

JOHNSON, WALTER, Hatfield, Doncaster. Stud Horse, Lambton King 16757; Stallions for hire; weighty young Stallions, Mares, and Fillies on Sale.

MUNTZ, FREDERICK ERNEST, Umberslade, Hockley Heath, Warwickshire. Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, prize-winners.—Particulars from Mr. JOHN T. B. HARTLEY, Estate Office.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby. — SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners, on Sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

PEARSON, E. E., Brickendonbury, Hertford. Shire Stallions, Mares and Stock for service and sale; prize winners. Stations: Hertford, Great Eastern and Great Northern.—Apply Estate Office, Brickendonbury, Hertford.

ROWELL, JOHN, Bury, Huntingdon. Breeder Shires and Hackneys; Stallions for sale, hire, or service at home; mares and fillies for sale.

WHITEHEAD, Robert, Fashionably bred mares and fillies in natural condition on Sale. Stallions, Bodenham King 17177, Whitestone Prince Alfred 22930.—Apply J. M. JOHNSTONE, Hargate Hall, Buxton. Station, and telegrams, Millers Dale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

BENSON, ALFRED, Upper Gatton Park, Merstham, Surrey. Hackney Stallions: Copper King 7784, reserve champion, London Hackney Shows, 1905 and 1906; yearling Colts and Fillies by Copper King and other well-known Stallions for sale. For particulars, pedigrees, &c., apply to T. Hyett.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

SMITH, THOMAS, Shirley Stud, Hall Green, Birmingham Breeder of Pedigree Hackneys and Ponies. Owner Hackney Stallion, "Viscount Hopwood" 8686; Pony Stallions, "Pinderfields Horace" 7952, "Shirley King Horace" 9882. Prize winners on sale.

WHITWORTH, ROBERT, Warley Stud, Halifax, and Londesboro' Stud, Market Weighton. Hackney Stallions: Polonius, Edemynag, Beckingham Squire 8078. Hackneys and Harness Horses always on sale. Matched pairs a speciality.

PONIES.

BEALE, Mrs. A. J., Cacketts, Cudham, Kent. Prize-bred Pedigree Shetlands for sale; three grand Stallions at stud.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

ABBOT BROS., Thuxton, Norfolk. Breeders and exporters of large-framed Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns, heavy milking strains; Bulls, Cows, Heifers, and Calves, noted winners Illustrated catalogue free.

ADEANE, C., Babraham Hall, Cambridge. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns; numerous prizes at Dairy Show; 1 first Royal, 2 Royal Counties, 1 Tring, &c., 1906, with cows bred at Babraham.—Apply F. N. WEBB, Babraham, Cambridge.

BELL, CHARLES, Norley Hall, Norley, Cheshire. Shorthorn Bulls for sale, from Kirklevington, Red Rose, Barrington, and Cruickshank tribes. Telegrams "Norley"; railway stations, Acton Bridge and Delamere.

BRITTEN, JOHN, Little Billing, Northampton. Bulls and Heifers for sale. Stock bought and shipped on commission. Stock Bull, General Goldie 83556 by Scottish Wanderer.

CATTLE—*continued.*

SHORTHORNS—*continued.*

BROCKLEBANK, Rev. C. H., Bartlow, Cambs. Pure-bred Shorthorns (mostly Bates). Young Bulls and Heifers for sale; inspection invited.—Apply F. K. GASCOYNE, Estate Office, Bartlow. Tele. and station (G.E.R.), Bartlow. Station on Farm.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

DEAN & SONS, Dowsby Hall, Bourne, Lincolnshire, have for sale at moderate prices Coates' Herd Book Shorthorns. Scotch Bulls recently used—Baron 82777, bred by Lord Lovat, Imperial Favourite 86233, bred by the late W. S. Marr, and sold in the Argentine for £1,045 for use in Senor Leonardo Pereyra's herd; stock Bull now in service, Baron Broadhooks 90785, bred by Lord Lovat and purchased at the Perth Sale in 1906 for 700 guineas; inspection invited.

DEBENHAM, F. G., Cheshunt Park, Herts.—Cheshunt Station (G.E.R.)

DENNIS, S., Latton, Cricklade, Wilts. Shorthorns of choicest strains for sale; leading Stud Bull Eastover Topper by Throne Room, dam Eastover Kirklevington 7th by Captain Lavender, purchased at the Birmingham Sale, 1906, for 600 guineas; Prince of Buscot, prize-winner, also in service.

DENNY, Messrs. F. A. & E. H. M., Bore Place, Chiddingstone, Edenbridge, Kent. Carefully-selected Herd, choice Shorthorns, Stock Bulls Ascott Constellation 85184. Bull's and Heifers for sale.—Apply G. MACLEAN DAVIDSON, as above. Telegs.: Bore Place, Bough-beech Station, Penshurst.

EARL OF NORTHBROOK, Stratton, Micheldever. Pure-bred Shorthorns, mainly Cruickshank and Scotch blood.—For particulars, apply A. E. SKEVINGTON, Home Farm, Stratton, Micheldever Station.

GATTON PARK SHORTHORNS, belonging to Mr. Jeremiah Colman. Prizes won in 1902 include Colman Challenge Bowl, 2 championships, 60 firsts and seconds. A few choice selections of breeding animals always on sale.—Particulars, G. F. Bampton, Estate Office, Gatton Park, Surrey.

PREECE, JOHN ADNEY, Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston, Northampton.—Herd of 250 Shorthorns, best Bates and Scotch blood; stock Bulls, Duke of Barrington 70th, Primrose Earl 89541, and Royal Baron 93192; Bulls and Heifers for sale.

ROTHWELL, R. R, Much Hoole, near Preston. Pedigree Shorthorns, chiefly Scotch blood. Stock bull Strowan Marquis 13th, winner of many prizes. Young bulls and heifers always on sale.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

TAYLOR, GEORGE, Cranford, Middlesex.—Bates' Shorthorns, deep milkers. Winners Milking Competitions, London Dairy Show, 1905-6. Bull Calves for Sale. Stock Bulls: Beau Sabreur, Drumcree, Rowbury, and Kirkcharm.

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BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath, Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Sussex Cattle (descended from the oldest and best strains of blood), unrivalled for their early maturity, the production of the best beef and working oxen, and ability to thrive in all weathers on the roughest fare. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for Sale.

HEREFORDS.

BROOKS, J. B., Finstall Park, Bromsgrove. Pedigree herd of Herefords; young Bulls for sale.—Apply W. MADDOCKS, Finstall, Bromsgrove.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for Sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

MOORE, LAWTON, Brampton Brian, Herefordshire. Pedigree Yearling and two-year-old Bulls for sale. Herd established 1852; first and champion females R.A.S.E. 1906.

OLD ESTABLISHED PEDIGREE HEREFORD HERD, combining milk with flesh, and descended from the best strains; young Bulls and Heifers always for sale at moderate prices.—Apply W. J. S. WHITE, Zeals Park, Wiltshire.

PULLEY, CHARLES THORNTON, Lower Eaton, Hereford.—Noted prize-winning herd of HEREFORD CATTLE. First prize Royal winners, Protector 19660 1900; Eaton Champion 21351, 1903; and Ashleaf 3rd, 1905. This herd is headed by Eaton Champion and Glendower 2nd 22196, also a Royal winner. Bulls and Heifers for sale. Also prize-winning Shropshire Sheep.—Apply Mr. HEDLEY JONES, Lower Eaton Estate Office, Hereford.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has in 1904 1905 and 1906 won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by Endale, Bago Protector, and Fusilier. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited.—Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford Herefordshire.

CATTLE—*continued.*

HEREFORDS—*continued.*

THOMAS, D. A., M.P.—Prize-winning pedigree Herd from Stocktonbury, Hampton Court, Court House, and other leading strains. Young Bulls and Heifers by Tumbler 17588, Fine Lad 19414, and other well-known sires, for sale; eligible for entry in home and foreign herd books; inspection invited; 1 hour from Hereford, 2¼ from London.—Apply THOMAS AUSTEN TURNER, Llanwern, Newport, Mon.

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BRIDGES, J. H.—This old-established herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle of the leading families can be seen at Langshott Home Farm, Horley, Surrey (near Horley Station, L.B. & S.C.R.), and catalogues obtained on application to Mr. Albert Pulling.

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THE ROCKLIFFE PARK HERD of Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, Ericas and Prides. Stock Bull, Pundit of Preston (17,156), Champion at Highland Show, 1904.—Apply, R. C. SWAN, Rockliffe Park, Darlington

AYRSHIRES.

WALLACE, JAMES, J.P., Auchenbainzie, Thornhill, Dumfriesshire, Scotland. Breeder of pedigree prize-winning Ayrshire Cattle; hardy, healthy, good milkers; bred for dairy purposes, beauty and style. Bulls and Heifers for sale.

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CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably, from his prize-winning herd of Red Polls, Bulls, Cows, Heifers, from good milkers.—Apply C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

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LINCOLNSHIRE RED SHORTHORNS.

BRACEBRIDGE HEATH Herd of Lincoln Red Dairy Shorthorns; well descended; milk and flesh combined. Young Bulls and Heifers on sale.—FRED. SCORER, Nettleham, Lincoln. Telegrams: Nettleham. Station: Lincoln, three miles.

BURTON HERD of Champion Dairy Lincoln Red Shorthorns.—London Dairy Show.—Won 1 Challenge, 3 Champion Cups, 10 Medals, 9 First, 5 Second, 4 Third Prizes; First for group of Dairy Cows, any pure breed, 1900 and 1901. Bath and West Show.—1st Milking, three years in succession, 1900, 1901, 1902; 2nd, 1903. 1st and 2nd Milking, Royal Show of England, two years in succession.—Dublin, also Belfast, 1st and Challenge Cup, 1902, 1903.—Tring, 1st, 1902, 1903. All in milking trials. Best Milking Cows have been selected, and kept for many years; and young Bulls from guaranteed good milking cows are generally on sale. Milk register kept since 1885; last year's average, 821 gals. per cow. Bulls only from proved dairy cows used. Inspection invited.—JOHN EVERSS, Burton, 2 miles from Lincoln.

CHATTERTON, R. R., Scampton, Lincoln. Selections for sale from champion herd. Beef and dairy Lincoln Red Shorthorns. Herd winnings over 100 prizes, including 5 firsts Royal, 7 firsts Lincoln County Show, 1901, 1902. Inspection invited. Telegrams: Doningtton-on-Bain. Station G.N.R.

ROBERTS, REUBEN, Horncastle. Lincoln Red Shorthorn herd of 50 breeding beasts. Est. over 30 years. Pure-bred registered sires from best breeders only. Register, Vol. I., p. 56.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

CARY-ELWES, V., Billing Hall, Northampton. Breeder of Jersey cattle.

CURRIE, LAURENCE, Minley Manor, Farnborough, Hants Pedigree Jerseys from this prize-winning herd for sale.—Apply W. MUSSON, Minley Farm, Farnborough, Hants.

FOWLER, P. T., Importer, Watford, Herts. A choice selection of pedigree Jersey and Guernsey Cows, Heifers and young Bulls from prize herds of the Islands; particulars forwarded; inspection invited.

JERSEYS, and Alderney Guernseys, fresh calved and near calving. Prices, particulars.—R. WHEADON, Ilminster.

(Continued on page 466.)

CATTLE—*continued.*

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS—*continued.*

LE BROCQ, F. W., Maitland, Trinity Road, Jersey. Pedigree Jersey Bulls and down-calving Heifers for sale.

STERN, Sir E. D., Fan Court, Chertsey, Surrey. Herd of pedigree Jersey Cattle. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

TICHBORNE PARK, GUERNSEY.—Yearling Bulls and Heifers for sale.—Apply, D. MICHIE, Estate Office, Tichborne, Alresford, Hants.

GALLOWAYS.

GRAHAM, ROBERT, Auchengassel, Twynholm, breeder fashionable Galloway Cattle, winners at Royal and Highland Societies Shows. Pedigree Bulls, Cows, and Heifers, also Blue-greys for feeding, for sale. Commissions carefully executed.

KERRIES & DEXTER KERRIES.

CHETWYND, GODFREY J. B., Wyndthorpe, nr. Doncaster. Pedigree Dexters, bred from prize-winning animals, descendants of the celebrated champion Bull, Don Gentian 244; milking records kept.—Address, The Manager.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

MURIEL, Countess DE LA WARR, Old Lodge, Nutley, Sussex. Prize-winning Pedigree Kerries for sale.—Apply H. MAY, Old Lodge, Nutley, Sussex.

RATTRAY, DAVID, Gortnaskehy, Ballybunion, Co. Kerry. Pedigree Prize-winning Herd of Kerries and Dexters. 156 Prizes and Honours won by Cattle from this Herd past three years. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

THE DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE'S PRIZE-WINNING DEXTER HERD.—During 1904 and 1905 this Herd won more prizes than any other three Dexter Herds combined, including both first and second milking prizes Royal, 1905, and first London Dairy Show, 1906. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers generally for Sale.—CHILD, Compton Place, Eastbourne.

DUTCH.

BROWN, JOHN, Marden Farm, Hertford. Dutch, the best Dairy Cattle in the world. Over 200 head kept. Record, one cow gave 1,615 gallons of milk in 52 weeks. Bulls for sale.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONG WOOL.

ANDERSON, JOHN, Barton-on-Humber.—The old Barton Flock of Pure-bred LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, Flock Book 106. This flock is noted for hard constitutions and fine, lustrous wool. Inspection invited. Telegrams as above.

ATKINSON, T., & SON, North Kelsey, Lincoln. Old-established flock of pure Lincoln Longwools. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Noted for great size and long lustrous wool. Have given great satisfaction at home and abroad. Inspection invited

BROCKLEBANK, JOHN, Bassingham, Lincoln, (Flock 24). Pure-bred Lincoln Longwool Rams and Ewes. This old flock has been carefully bred for 100 years. Telegrams: Basingham.

BROOKS, W. J., Stowe Lodge, Weedon, Northants (Registered Flock 165), has for sale Rams and Ewes of best blood.

DRAKES, Wm., Tealby, Market Rasen. Flock No. 72 of Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs of best blood for sale. Lincoln Red Shorthorns. Prices moderate.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 8 from Stallingboro Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

SMITH, HENRY, jun., Cropwell Butler, Nottingham. Lincoln Longwool Flock No. 7, winner of £2,361 in prizes. Champion pen Lincolns, Smithfield Show, 1896; Association Championship, Leicester, 1897; Association Championship for pen of 3 Shearling Rams, Yorkshire, 1900; Championship, Rutland, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, and 1906. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.

LEICESTER.

SIMPSON BROS., Pilmoor House, Hunmanby, Yorkshire, Breeders of Leicesters (Flock No. 2 in Leicester Book), have always for inspection or sale Rams and Ewes. These Sheep are of great size with heavy fleeces, and include Royal Winners.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gns. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1907.—Extraordinary records: Twin ram lambs let for 205 and 120 guineas. Ninety averaged £21 10s. Selections always for Sale.

OVEY, R. L., Hernes, Henley-on-Thames.—Pedigree HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK, Reg. Vol. IV.] Prize-winners leading shows last five years.

SHEEP—*continued.*

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS—*continued.*

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. The Cholderton flock is individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded in the Hampshire Down Flock Book. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury.

THE CHILMARK FLOCK OF REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—Owner JAMES FLOWER, Chilwark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records. Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, out of 11 years competing, 'The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" won eight times, thrice second, with pens of 3 ram lambs; a marvellous record. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 13 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05-06. At the Royal at Derby, 1906, every First Prize, two Seconds, and the Champion were won; an unequalled success!! Champions Birmingham, 1905, over all breeds, Reserve in 1906. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Short-wools, Smithfield, 1904-05-06. Highest average past 18 years. Bridford Fair, Aug. 12, 100 Ram Lambs, annual sale Selections for Sale.

OXFORD DOWNS.

ADAMS, GEORGE, Royal Prize Farm Flock, Faringdon, Berks. Pure Oxford Down Sheep, Shearling Rams, Ram Lambs, Ewes and Ewe Lambs for Sale. Special arrangements with foreign buyers. Many first prizes at R.A.S.E. and other shows during past 25 years, including 2 first, 2 second, and 4 other prizes, World's Fair, Chicago, and 7 firsts, 4 seconds and champion at Royal Bath and West, Royal Counties, etc., this year.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

TREADWELL, JOHN, Upper Winchendon, Aylesbury.—Oxford Down Sheep. Annual Ram Sale, first Wednesday in August. Prizes won at R.A.S.E. 24 years in succession. Ewes for Sale.

WENSLEYDALE.

UNDERLEY WENSLEYDALES (Blue-faced) from the best blood obtainable. Successfully exhibited.—Apply, G. G. ROBINSON Bailiff, Underley Farm, Kirkby, Lonsdale.

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

CHARLES SPENCER, having taken over the Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts, herd of Large and Middle White Pigs, which won 12 prizes and res rves with 11 exhibits at Derby Royal, will price any of them.

FULWOOD HERD LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES, property R. R. Rothwell. 200 head bred from winners at leading shows.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for Sale at moderate prices

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices.—J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM. Herd of Large White Pigs. The oldest and largest Herd in Notts County. Over 100 Breeding Sows kept. Upwards of 600 to select from. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—Apply ARTHUR A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale—FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

SPALDING HERD of Pedigree Large Whites, young stock and in-pig Gilts for Sale. All bred from great winners.—ALFRED W. WHITE, "Hillegom," Spalding.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 100 to choose from. Correspondence invited. Grand young breeding stock always on Sale.—Apply R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts (15 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 86 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

THE CATTON HERD of Prize-winning MIDDLE WHITE PIGS, property of J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stock Boar Castlecroft Mikado, 1st Park Royal, 1st Bath and West. Gelts and Boars on Sale. Prices moderate.—Apply BAILIFF, Raddle Farm, Edingale, Tamworth.

PIGS—*continued.*

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

LARGE BLACKS.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath. Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Large Black Pigs of the best strains of blood, noted for their docility and for the production of a large proportion of lean meat. Good selection of Boars, unrelated Gilts, and in-pig Sows for Sale at reasonable prices.

CATTON HERD OF PRIZE-WINNING LARGE BLACK PIGS.—Stock Boar Trevisquite Excelsior 1487, 1st Devon County, 2nd and Reserve Champion Royal Show, 1906; pigs kept in hardy natural condition; gelts and boars always on sale.—Apply, J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stations: Croxall, 2½ miles (M.R.); Alrewas, 3½ miles (L.N.W.).

HASKETON CHAMPION PRIZE HERD OF LARGE BLACK PIGS.—This herd has won the Royal championship three out of four times, and is the only herd having won the breed challenge cup. Record: 47 firsts, 37 seconds, 11 thirds, 126 prize-winning cards; the herd this year being the winners of 14 firsts, 6 seconds, 2 thirds, championship and silver cup in five shows. Gelts and Boars at moderate prices consistent with quality. Exportation a speciality.—Apply, C. F. MARRINER, Hasketon, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS.—Select Herd, bred from choice Prize Winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale, moderate prices.—H. J. CLARKE, The Slade, Roughley, Sutton Coldfield.

WHEN Breeding, breed from the best Pedigree Large Black Prize-winning Pigs. TREVEGLOS HOPEFUL II., winner of First prizes and R.A.S.E. Silver Challenge Cup, 1907, beating all other Cup winners; also 1st Prize Bath and West, Newport; 1st Royal Counties, Maidenhead; 1st Royal Cornwall, Liskeard; 1st Devon County, Bideford; also 1st prize at the Royal Show, Lincoln, for Boar and Reserve for Champion prize. Boars and Sows for Sale of the above strain at moderate prices.—Apply to JOHN WARNE, Treveglos Farm, St. Mabyn, R.S.O., Cornwall.

BERKSHIRES.

BERKSHIRE PIGS.—For Sale, 6 young boars, fit for service, sired by Pett Roger (12,258) in Berkshire Stud Book.—Apply A. FLEMING, Chart Court, Ashford, Kent.

CARNARVON, the Earl of.—Prize winning Pedigree Herd. BOARS and GELTS, eligible Herd Book. Prices moderate.—Apply W. T. HALL, Highclere Farm, Newbury.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

READING CORPORATION.—150 Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, leading prize-winning strains, from son of Champion Mikado 10433 and prize-winner Domino 11323; inspection invited.—Apply, Mr. T. Chettle, Manor Farm, Reading, Berks.

STALL PITTS HERD OF PEDIGREE BERKSHIRES. One of the Oldest Herds. Unsurpassed for true character, size, and quality. Choice selection of Boars and Sows on offer at moderate prices.—J. LAWRENCE, Stall Pitts, Shrivenham, Berks.

BORROWFIELD & COLSTON HERDS.

The property of R. MILLINGTON-KNOWLES, Colston Bassett Hall, Notts.

LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES.

The following First Prizes, Championships, and Meda have been obtained by pigs **BRED** in these Herds in 1907:
1st and Champion, Gold Medal, R.A.S.E., Lincoln.
1st & Champion, President's Medal, Highland, Edinburgh,
1st Welsh National, Aberystwyth.
1st Bath and West Newport; 1st Royal Counties,
1st Nottingham; 1st Suffolk; 1st Norfolk.
1st Derby.
1st Hereford and Worcester; Special Prize Lincoln Agricultural Society; 1st Great Yorkshire; 1st Newark.

A number of additional Firsts and other Prizes have also been gained at the above Shows.

At the St. Louis Exposition, U.S.A., in 1904, the Champion Boar, and the Grand Champion of the Exposition were bred at Colston Bassett.

The Foreign and Home trade has largely increased during 1907.—GILBERT H. ELLIOT, Estate Office, Colston Bassett, Notts.

For Sale.

PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.

Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.

GEORGE HOYLES,
Skidby Manor, near Hull.

GEORGE HOYLES

SKIDBY MANOR, HULL.

Breeder of Pure Lincoln Long Wool Sheep. Lustrous Fleeces. Good Constitutions.

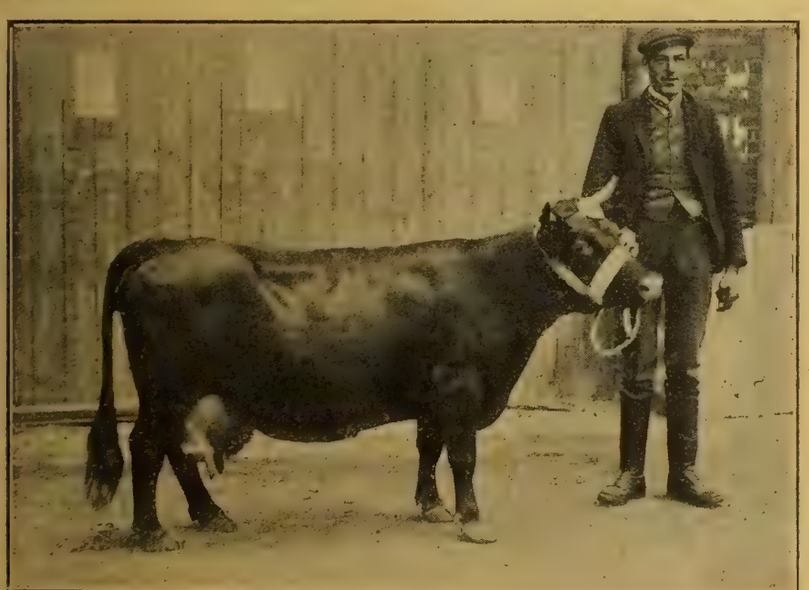
SUITABLE FOR HOME AND ABROAD. STOCK FOR SALE.

CATTLE.

Notes and Jottings.

THE season of 1907 bids fair to be memorable for a long time to come amongst all cattle breeders on account of the extreme foreign demand which has prevailed, and which has in a more or less degree affected most of the leading breeds. It is very satisfactory, too, to find that in spite of a few irregularities in connection with the tuberculin test that for a time created some scare, the foreigner is as keen on buying our best animals to-day, in the face of winter storms and rough voyages which are now due, as he was at mid-summer when the seas were smooth and glassy and all things favourable to export. It is certainly an increased mark of the great esteem in which British stock are held by the foreigner, and proves that he will have our best cattle, in spite of what conditions and prices have been enforced upon him.

THE Red, White, and Roan has been far the most prominent breed throughout the season up to the present time, and shows no sign of being neglected as the season advances. Both so far as numbers and prices are concerned, this breed must have experienced quite a phenomenal season, and it must be very pleasant reading for breeders where they find that that well-known exporter, Mr. Donald M'Clennan, has recently been favoured with one of the most successful auctions of the year at Buenos Ayres, where every one of his forty lots found purchasers at the respectable average of £360 per head. The highest price upon this occasion was paid for the beautiful bull Shenley Victor, which ran the sand out at £1,487 18s., English money. The breed has also been making long prices for some individual specimens to be shipped to the Antipodes and other places.



The Hon. Mrs. C. Portman's Dexter Cow Buckhurst Juno, winner of First Prize by Inspection, and Second Prize in the Milking Trials, at the Dairy Show last week. Buckhurst Juno who is 6 years 3 months 2 weeks old, is by Buckhurst Omega, dam Venus, and was bred by Countess de la Warr.

THE Hereford breed has been next in importance both as to numbers and prices, and what may be called vast herds of these what may be called beef-producing white faces have been shipped from time to time to the Argentine, feeders in that country speaking in the highest terms of the results obtained under the warm climate and alfalfa pastures of the Argentine. So far as we read in the various papers, the Hereford breed has been peculiarly fortunate with respect to the tuberculin test. At a recent sale in Monmouthshire (a draft sale), prices did not reach quite such a high level as might have been anticipated, for which, doubtless, there were reasons sufficient, as there is apparently no diminution in the foreign demand, and new herds are frequently being founded at home.

THERE appears during the last few weeks to be a greater demand for milking breeds than has probably ever been experienced, and though all milking breeds are sharing in this demand, the Jersey from the Channel Islands bearing that name. From an island of so small an area it is indeed surprising how these cattle can be produced in such numbers. Very recently a single consignment, numbering 550, was shipped to Denmark, a country that has also taken previous shipments during the season, and is still requiring more; coming to North America, many private buyers from the States have been making purchases of from fifty to more than 100 head of stock, and for most of these animals remunerative prices have been paid, and in some cases even fancy figures have prevailed. Some exporters appear to have found their estimate of the animals' value according to its general appearance before them, whilst others prefer purchasing tested animals.

AT the English sales Aberdeen Angus have not experienced any too satisfactory a demand, but in some of the northern herds very good figures have resulted, and a good many animals appear to have been changing hands privately, some for adding to home herds and some for shipment across the Atlantic. Crosses of this breed and the Shorthorn for feeding purposes must have been a fairly remunerative business to their producers, prices for young stores being altogether out of proportion to the rates obtaining for the same cross when ready for the butcher. In the north of England, and in many other parts of the country too, the Galloway and Shorthorn cross appear to be running the Angus crosses very closely. The almost universal colour that prevails in the Galloway and Shorthorn cross is in itself a great attraction, then the animals, even in their store state, are clothed with a wealth of hair and flesh that is most pleasing to see.

THE Red Poll breed does not appear at present to have caught on well in South America, or if it has, reports are somewhat silent on the subject. In the dairy countries, however, the breed there is no doubt is making headway, and as more attention becomes paid to milk, so will it bring increased attention to the Red Poll. In New South Wales this East Anglian breed appears to be making itself quite a home, but then dairying is quite an important feature in that country, some of the butter shipped thence to this country being of a most creditable quality. The Red Poll is a dual purpose breed, too, though not to the same extent on the beef side of the question as the Shorthorn, yet it makes very handy weights of a quality of beef that is always saleable, and where farms are of a greater extent than is wanted for the dairy, and a certain amount of beef feeding is practised, it is manifestly a great advantage to have a breed like the Red Poll.

AT the London Dairy Show last week the Ayrshire breed was once more very disappointing; our Scottish neighbours, for some reason or other, appear to be determined that we English people shall not know what a good Ayrshire is, or what results she is capable of yielding. One would think it would be highly profitable to the north country farmer to exhibit some few of these cattle of the better class at this time of the year; October is a month when good dairy cattle are invariably in great request at high prices, and there is no doubt that many an Ayrshire breeder would, by exhibiting some first-rate cows at the Dairy Show find customers for the whole of his drafts year by year. There are few dairy breeds that are more eye-filling than a first-rate Ayrshire, when shown in good condition at this time of the year, their capacious and beautifully square udders are a treat to see, and it is well known that from the practical side of the question they will bear strict investigation.

Mr. R. Stratton's Shorthorns.

A large and representative gathering of Shorthorn breeders assembled at the sale of a draft from Mr. Richard Stratton's well-known herd of pure-bred Shorthorns at The Duffryn, near Newport, Monmouth. The draft consisted chiefly of the younger portion, and included thirty-five in-calf heifers, remarkably true to the type with which the herd has long been associated. Competition was pretty keen, but no big prices were realised, the best being 95 guineas, given by Viscount Tredegar for Scarlet Runner, a daughter of First Favour and Roving Maid, calved in 1905. Waterloo Cranford, a representative of the old Bates' Waterloos, was purchased by Mr. G. C. Williams, of Llanrumney Hall, Cardiff, for 85 guineas; while Trill, a heifer calf of great promise for showing, and which has already won prizes at Llanelly, Aberystwith, and Carmarthen, was secured by Mr. J. A. Preece, of Thrapston, Northants, for 70 guineas. Altogether fifty-five animals were sold at an average per head of £36 2s. 5d., the chief sales being as follows:—

		Gs.
COWS AND HEIFERS.		
Harmony 2nd, c Aug 1, 1899	Mr G Taylor	38
Charming Betsy, c Jan. 24, 1901	Mr H Butler	27
Her CC	Mr H Sessions	29
Carnation, c Jan 28, 1901	Mr C Bathurst	34
Her CC	Mr C Bathurst	36
Joy, c Mar 11, 1902	Sir O Mosley, Bart	50
Waterloo Cranford 13th, c Jan 1, 1903	Mr G C Williams	85
Dewdrop, c Mar 11, 1904	Col Morgan	50
Grace Mogul, c Jan 21, 1905	Mr J A Preece	50
Scarlet Runner, c Feb 13, 1905	Lord Tredegar	95
Belle Alliance, c Mar 18, 1905	Mr G C Williams	60
Pantomime, c Mar 26, 1905	Earl Cawdor	38
March Rose, c Mar 27, 1905	Mr F Gadd	32
Cressida, c April 11, 1905	Mr Williamson	46
Iris 12th, c April 21, 1905	Lord Tredegar	41
Errant Princess, c June 19, 1905	Mr E Currie	35
Naomi, c Jan 8, 1906	Sir A C Stepney	40
Satinet, c Jan 14, 1906	Lord Tredegar	61
Crocus 3rd, c Feb 18, 1906	Mr W. S. Thompson	34
Melody, c Nov 27, 1906	Mr J A Preece	35
Trill, c Jan 12, 1907	Mr J A Preece	70
Pageant, c Feb 25, 1907	Mr H Butler	31
Mother-of-Pearl, c Mar 6, 1907	Lord Tredegar	41
BULLS.		
Lord Blanche 15th, c Jan 23, 1905	Mr J G Attwater	50
Fortunatus, c Nov 5, 1905	Mr R Withers	38
Glaucus, c April 20, 1906	Mr E Curre	40
Portcullis, c Sept 27, 1906	Dr Soutar	40
Palermo, c Oct 18, 1906	Mr W T Beaven	30

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.		Total. £ s. d.
42 Cows	38 9 0	...	1,614 18 0
13 Bulls	28 11 10	...	371 14 0
55 head.....	36 2 5	...	1,986 12 0

Mr. W. J. Atkinson's Lincoln Red Shorthorns.

A most successful sale of Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns, the property of Mr. W. J. Atkinson, Weston, near Spalding, took place on Wednesday. The prices were not particularly high, but the excellent average of £34 was obtained for 63 head. Keddington Enderby went to Mr. R. Clayton at 41 guineas, while her heifer calf, Weston Keddington, was sold to Mr. R. Chatterton at 34 guineas, another heifer calf, Choice Jap, being knocked down to Mr. A. Wiseman at 45 guineas. Keddington Baroness was sold to Mr. T. H. Vergette at 44 guineas, who also paid 45 guineas for Surfleet Royal Lady White, whilst Nonpariel 16th made 52 guineas to Mr. T. W. R. Atkinson. The two-year-old heifer, Weston Pink, first prize winner at the Royal Show, went to Mr. C. Hensman at 41 guineas, a decided bargain.

Shorthorn Sales in Scotland.

The first of the week's sale of Shorthorns held in Scotland annually in the autumn by Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co., Limited, took place on Tuesday, with as usual, the sale of drafts from the famous Collynie and Uppermill herds, the respective property of Mr. Duthie and Mr. Marr. Last year Mr. Duthie secured the splendid average of £304 per head for eighteen calves, and it was generally considered that high water mark had been reached. That such, however, was not the case, was quickly proved by the excellent demand at Tuesday's sale; so keen, in fact, was the competition for Mr. Duthie's animals that no fewer than

three animals made over 700 guineas each, and the average for the seventeen sold worked out at no less than £409 16s. 3d., a truly remarkable testimony to the high value placed upon the Collynie herd.

Mr. Marr's consignment met with a good demand, but his top price was 220 guineas, and the average for four bull calves £105. Appended is a complete sale list :—

MR. DUTHIE'S HERD.

BULL CALVES. Gns.

Pride of the Goldies, Mr Casares, Buenos Ayres 280
Pride of Lavender Capt Behrens, Yorkshire 700
Pride of Sittyton Messrs Denny Bros, Kent 750
Pride of Fancy Mr Walker, Tillygreig 80
Pride of the Herd Mr Jas Durno, Westertown 530
Proud Champion Mr Lewis, Haynes Castle 510
Collynie Champion Mr George Harrison, Gainsford Hall, Darlington 400
Proud Banner Mr J B Manson, of Kilblean 150
Round Robin Mr Massie, Kingoodie 45
King's Knight Mr Caswell, Lincoln 280
British Ideal Mr Martiniz de Hoz, Buenos Ayres 580
Master Champion Mr S E Dean, Dowsly Hall, Lincolnshire 115
Collynie Victor Mr George Harrison 145
Proud Emblem Mr William Anderson, Saphock 530
Collynie Stamp Earl Manvers, Holme Pierpont 720
Hawthorn Champion Messrs. Law, Mains of Sanquhar, Forres 500
Golden Favourite Mr Robertson, Ballechin 320

MR. MARR'S HERD.

BULL CALVES.

Scottish Bard Mr Gravius 105
Scotch Bank Messrs Pettit and Sons, Canada 60
Royal Sceptre Mr Casares, Buenos Ayres 220
Lord Butterfly Mr Elliott, Harehead 15

STOCK BULLS.

Violet Royal, three years old Mr Douglas, Spott Mains, Kelso 100
Bright Butterfly, two years old Mr Pressley, Crossbill 20

YEARLING HEIFERS AND CALVES.

Rosemary 228th Mr Shepherd, Shethin 24
Lady Anne 18th Mr Shepherd 15
Glosterina 13th Mr Martinez de Hoz 28
Scotch Beauty 6th Captain Behrens 75

Sale at Aberdeen.

On Wednesday Kittybrewster Mart Buildings, Aberdeen, was the scene of the sale, and the stock offered comprised drafts from various herds, the total number of animals offered being 168. There was again an excellent company of buyers present, and though the high prices of the previous day were not repeated, the sale proved a satisfactory one, 120 head being sold at an average of £49 13s. 10d. The top price of the sale was 500 guineas, paid by Mr. Scot, Stow-on-the Mold, for a rich roan eleven-months-old heifer calf from the Saphock herd and of the famous Broadbooks family, which has won such renown in the possession of Lord Lovat. This is a calf of great substance, full of flesh and hair, and was favoured by Mr. Casares, the well-known Argentine exporter, but Mr. Scot stayed the longest. In cows, Mr. Duthie paid the leading price, 200 guineas, for Linksfie'd Regina, a dark roan of Colonel Johnstone's breeding, owned by Mr. A. T. Gordon, Combcaussway, who also had the honour of heading the prices in two-year-old heifers, Mr. Cameron, Balnakyle, paying 180 guineas for a stylish red of the Myrtle family, bred in Forfarshire. The leading figure in bull calves, 120 guineas, was secured by Mr. Gordon, of Newton, for Newton Peer, a very pretty red of the Jenny Lind strain, Mr. Gravins being the purchaser.

The principal results were as follow :—Pirriesmill (11 head), averaged, £34 11s. 7d. ; Combscauseway (25 head), £48 0s. 11d. ; West Fingask (13 head), £24 17s. 6d. ; Saphock (10 head), £94 3s. 8d. ; Whiteside (15 head), £29 8s. ; Harthill (5 head), £46 4s. ; Heatherwick (8 head), £70 1s. 9d. ; Jackston (6 head), £55 13s. ; Newton (6 head), £71 15s. ; Tillygreig (5 head), £55 13s.

On Thursday the third sale was held at Aberdeen under the auspices of the North-Eastern Shorthorn Association, who offered prizes. There was another good attendance of buyers and further satisfactory sales, ninety-six head realising an average of £38 10s. 1d. each. A considerable proportion of the Reds and Roans were taken out for South America, but the most of the good-coloured animals remain, for the time being, at least, in this country. The winning yearling heifer, Mr. G. Hill's Jilt 45th, fetched the top price of the day—300 guineas from Mr. Cornelius, Cheshire, second last in the bidding being Mr. Jolliffe. The first prize two-year-old, Mr. J. Morrison's Dora 6th, was also secured by Mr. Cornelius at the handsome price of 260 guineas, the runner up being Mr. Martinez de Hoz, who, however, got the second prize heifer at 120 guineas. Mr. W. Connon's Crown Jewel won the first prize for bull calves, and was sold at 81 guineas to Mr. Locke, but the second prize bull calf, Mr. A. Watson's Red Chief, ran up to 160 guineas before being knocked down to Mr. G. Harrison. The above were the only three figure prices of the sale, the principal herd results being as follows :—Gordon Castle, eighteen head, averaged £56 9s. 8d. ; Fingask House, four, £50 8s. ; Phingask, seven, £75 9s. ; Nether Coullie, eight, £47 7s. 7d. ; Bruceland, seven, £52 1s. ; Wardes, four, £53 5s. 9d. ; Little Haddo, three, £140 14s.

Mr. J. Crawley's Lincoln Reds.

Close on fifty head of pure-bred Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns, the property of Mr. J. Crawley, Lawford Grange, near Rugby, were sold by auction on the 4th inst. in the presence of a large company of breeders. The cows were a splendid lot of short legged cattle, and they made good prices, Mr. H. Stokes giving 51 guineas for Sea Gem, and the Rev. H. Hopkinson, of Wansford, 40 guineas for Ladylike. Two-year-old heifers made from 18½ guineas to 22 guineas, yearling heifers from 13 guineas to 20½ guineas, and this year's calves up to 20 guineas. Nine bulls were sold, including Birks Jewel, the winner of the Shorthorn Society's prize at the Warwickshire Agricultural Society show, who, after spirited competition, was sold to Mr. Atkinson, of Weston, Lincoln, for 91 guineas. Yearling bulls made from 17 guineas to 22 guineas, and bull calves from 6 guineas to 13 guineas.

The Strubby Manor Herd of Lincoln Reds.

Just over 100 animals from Messrs. J. W. Farrow and Sons' well-known Strubby Manor Herd were offered for sale by auction in the presence of a large and representative attendance of breeders, and the result was a most satisfactory sale, thirty-six cows with calves averaging £39 14s. 4d. ; thirteen two-year-old bulled heifers, £27 17s. 4d. ; fourteen yearling heifers, £20 8s. 9d. ; and four bulls, £25 6s. 8d. The top figure for the cows was 42 guineas, given by Mr. J. Drewery, Donington, for Ivory Horn 2nd, whilst at two guineas less Mr. J. Wells, Withern, secured Ivory Horn, and Mr. B. Rowland, Wainfleet, bought Strubby Red Lady 2nd. Ivory Horn 3rd made the top price of the two-year-old bulled heifers, being knocked down to Mr. A. Turner, Leicester, for 35 guineas, this gentleman also paying the top price for yearling heifers, viz., 40 guineas for Lady Cardiff 4th. The bulls made up to 30 guineas, paid by Mr. L. Coppin, Willoughby, for Strubby Under Porter 2nd.

The Late Mr. G. Laughton's Lincoln Reds.

On Monday the herd of Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns (Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn Society's Herd Book, Vol. II., p. 37), bred by the late Mr. George Laughton, of Belchford, near Horncastle, was dispersed by auction at Belchford, and there was a good attendance of buyers, whilst some excellent prices were realised, the average per head for thirty-five cows and calves and heifers being £23 5s 1d. The heifer which won the third prize at the Royal Show at Lincoln this year was purchased by Messrs. Hensman and Sons, Fulletby, for 46 guineas ; another heifer went to Mr. Atkinson, Weston, for 27 guineas ; and another, calved in 1904, was sold to Mr. G. Laughton, jun., Belchford, for 31 guineas. The cow Ruby 4th realised 38 guineas from Mr. J. Marriott, Cropwell Butler, Notts, and another cow went to Mr. Crawley, Hemington, Oundle, for 25 guineas. The bull calves made up to 20 guineas, and yearling heifers from 10 guineas to 16¾ guineas.

Mr. J. Langham's Lincoln Reds.

A sale of a choice selection of Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns from the herd of Mr. John Langham, of Brandon Grange, near Grantham, and Newark, took place on Thursday. There was only a very small attendance, and the animals were sold at relatively very low prices, for they were of beautiful type and character. The handsome two-year-old heifer Brandon Beauty by Brandon—Christmas Gift, was sold to Mr. F. Taylor, Nether Broughton, at 50 guineas, and all the calves sold well. The pick of the yearling heifers was Brandon Ruby Nonpareil by Brandon—Christmas Gift, from Nonpareil 9th of Keddington descent, and was bought by Mr. R. Chatterton, Stenniggt, at 52 guineas, the same gentleman also paying 48 guineas for Brandon Nonpareil Ruby by Brandon—Lord Chief Justice, from Nonpareil 5th. Mr. W. J. Atkinson, Weston, gave 38 guineas for Brandon Faith, and Mr. F. Taylor 35 guineas for Brandon Alice 2nd, both yearling heifers. The 65 head realised £1,506, and averaged £23 3s. 7d., the eleven cows and calves averaging £32 11s., twenty-four heifers £23 11s., twenty-six yearling heifers £20, and the four bull calves £15 5s. 7d.

Sale of Mr. Tudge's Herefords.

One of the most successful sales of Hereford cattle held this year took place on Thursday, when Mr. J. Tudge's well-known Duxmoor herd was dispersed. Animals from this herd have been exhibited with success at many shows, and are of the highest breeding, being of the same strains of blood as in the old Leinthall and Adforton herds. In one of the bulls for instance, in Wonder, there was a combination of the three best Adforton strains—the Darlings, the Ladies, and the Beauties. Mr. John Tudge managed the Adforton herd for nine or ten years before its dispersal, and in his first year's management that herd took three firsts and one third at the Royal Show at Leicester, and in his second year four firsts and one second at Manchester with five animals. He started his own herd with a selection from the old herd, and for some time afterwards made a point of purchasing as many examples of the strains used by his father as possible. Some hundreds of prizes and many championships at the Royal and other shows have been taken by the herd, a number of them for groups of cattle. For two years Mr. Tudge was the largest prize-winner for Herefords, and amongst other successes was breeder of the champion at the Park Royal at Sydney, Australia, 1903, 1904, and 1905. All cows of this herd are good breeders and are noted as excellent milkers, one sold to Mr. White, of Zeals, Wilts, producing no less than seven gallons of milk per day. Mr. Tudge stated at the sale that he had always had the sires tested before using them.

Despite inclement weather there was a large company of breeders present at the sale, and also buyers from America and Australia, in fact, three of the best animals were sold to go to the latter country. Mr. Christisson, Lammermoor Queensland, giving 100 guineas for Royal Shot by Royal Rupert, whilst double that sum was paid by Mr. Jonas Webb for the bull Wonder for exportation to New South Wales ; 200 guineas was also obtained for the bull His Majesty by Royal Shot, the purchaser in this instance being Captain Braga, of Uruguay. These three prices were far in advance of any others, for the nearest approach was 70 guineas, given by Mr. D. Rowlands, Bromyard, for the bull calf Marvel by Wonder Girl. A good sale was experienced all through, with the result that an average of close on £42 per head was obtained. The following were the sales at 30 guineas and over.

COWS, HEIFERS, AND CALVES. Gs.

Albano, s Royal Rupert Mr T S Minton 66
Albania, s Albany, Mr T S Minton 40
Her bull calf, Marvel, s Wonder Mr D Rowlands 70
Diadem, s Tip Top Mr R Palmer 46
Royal Gem, s Francis Mr D A Thomas, MP 47
Bannerette, s Royal Rupert Mr A P Turner 51
Her heifer calf, Jewel, s Wonder Mr J Edwards 34
Princess, s G W R Mr T S Minton 31
Golden Bell, s Golden Rule Mr W H Cooke 35
Pure Gold, s Golden Rule Mr T S Minton 66
Queenie, s Golden Rule Mr Morris 36
Dainty Bell, s Golden Rule Mr W T Cooke 31
Lady Bountiful, s Royal Rupert Major H H Parry 38
Sunbeam, s Commandant Liebigs, Ltd 44
Golden Star, s Silver Star Liebigs, Ltd 39

BULLS.

Royal Shot, s Royal Rupert Mr Christisson (Queensland) 100
Wonder, s Whitfield Chamberlain Mr Jonas Webb (for New South Wales) 200
His Majesty, s Royal Shot Captain Braga (Uruguay) 200

Transactions in Store Stock.

(Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

At Tralee Fair, co. Kerry, held on October 9, there was a fair supply of cattle ; demand slow, except for calves and springers. Calves, 2nd class, £3 5s. to £4 ; 3rd class, £2 2s. to £3. Yearlings, 2nd class, £5 10s. to £7 5s. ; 3rd class, £4 to £5. Two-year olds, 2nd class, £7 15s. to £9 2s. 6d. ; 3rd class, £5 10s. to £7 7s. 6d. Springers, 2nd class, £12 to £13 ; 3rd class, £8 5s. to £10 10s.

At Tipperary Fair, held on October 10, there was an average supply of cattle ; demand good and a fair clearance effected. Calves. 1st class, £5 to £5 12s. 6d ; 2nd class, £3 10s. to £4 10s. ; yearlings, 1st class, £8 17s. 6d. to £10 10s. ; 2nd class, £7 to £8 10s ; two years old, 1st class, £12 5s. to £14 ; 2nd class, £8 10s. to £11 15s. ; 3rd class, £5 17s. 6d. to £7 ; springers, 1st class, £15 10s. to £17 5s ; 2nd class, £12 to £15. Only a few lots of lambs, for which demand was quiet ; 1st class, 32s. to 35s. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, were in fair demand at from 18s. to 22s. each.

The Tunbridge Wells and South-Eastern Counties Agricultural Society have decided to hold their 1908 show on Thursday and Friday, July 23 and 24.

AUCTION SALES.

Auctioneers will favour us by sending in their advertisements as early in the week as possible. Charges for announcements under this heading Six Shillings an inch.

By Messrs. IRELAND.

Norwich, Norfolk.—Ireland's Norwich Hill Auction Mart (established 50 years). Every Saturday. Fat Bullocks and Sheep, Store Sheep. Special Spring and Autumn Store Cattle Sales.

MESSRS. IRELAND solicit consignments for these important weekly sales; best market value assured.

Cattle consigned to Ireland's, Norwich, will be properly fed and carefully attended to.

All cattle weighed upon entry to the sale ring if desired. Full particulars to be sent to—

IRELAND'S, Auctioneers.

Norwich, Norfolk.

By MR. F. AUSTEN BENSTED.

SITTINGBOURNE ANNUAL AUTUMN LEAN STOCK & REGISTERED RAM SALE.

CATALOGUE OF
6,000
KENT AND HALF-BRED SHEEP & LAMBS,
152
REGISTERED KENT RAM TEGS,

from the well-known Flocks of the Right Hon. Lord Harris, Lt.-Col. Honeyball, R. G. E. Locke, Esq., E. B. Gascoyne Esq., Mr. M. Bensted, Exors of the late Mr. W. Elvy, Mr. P. P. Manwaring, and Mr. W. F. Wood;

5 TWO AND THREE-YEAR-OLD RAMS,
12 KENT RAM TEGS,
7 PURE-BRED SOUTHDOWN RAM TEGS,

The property of Mr. R. Blenkarn; and

50 STORE BEASTS,

Which will be SOLD BY AUCTION, by MR. F. AUSTEN BENSTED, at the ALBANY ROAD MEADOW, adjoining the "Bull Hotel," SITTINGBOURNE,

ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1907.

Sale to commence at TEN o'clock. Rams at ONE o'clock.

Luncheon by ticket, one shilling each.

Catalogues may be obtained at the "Bull Hotel," Sittingbourne; and of the AUCTIONEER, The Lawn, Sittingbourne.

By Messrs. AMBROSE & FOSTER.

MAIDSTONE FAIR.

MESSRS. AMBROSE and FOSTER beg to announce they will SELL by AUCTION, at Maidstone Fair, on

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1907,

8594
EXCELLENT KENT, SOUTHDOWN, SHROPSHIRE and HALF-BRED SHEEP and LAMBS, viz.:

920 KENT LAMBS,
180 SHROPSHIRE DITTO,
2,704 HALF-BRED SOUTHDOWN DITTO,
1,441 KENT TEGS,
363 HALF-BRED DITTO,
2,937 KENT BREEDING EWES,
39 SOUTHDOWN DITTO,
10 HAMPSHIRE DITTO,

Including a run of 140 Ewes and 30 Ewe Tegs from Mr. GEO. FARMER'S Registered Kent Flock; also 100 Ewe Tegs from Mr. S. SKINNER, and 50 Ewe Tegs from Messrs. W. SKINNER & SON;

182
PEDIGREE RAM TEGS, viz.:
111 KENT and ROMNEY MARSH RAM TEGS,

The property of the following well-known breeders: Messrs. GEO. FARMER, W. SKINNER and SON, J. B. PALMER, E. ASCHERON, A. MARCHANT, O. E. D'AVIGDOR GOLDSMID, and GEO. BENSTED;

47 HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAM TEGS,

The property of Messrs. CANNON and ROGERS, and R. A. and G. FRENCH, and T. DANES.

24 SOUTHDOWN RAM TEGS,

The property of Colonel W. H. HAMMOND, Messrs. J. FIFE, W. M. CAZALET and R. H. STYLE.

87
BEASTS,
AND SEVERAL HORSES.

Sale to commence at 10 o'clock precisely.

Catalogues (when ready) may be obtained of the AUCTIONEERS, 3, Market Buildings, Maidstone.

By Messrs. W. & B. HOBBS.

KENT.
NEWINGREEN ANNUAL SHEEP SALE.

Close to Westenhanger Station, S.E. and C.R., where a good supply of trucks will be on hand, and every convenience made for the quick removal of Stock.

MESSRS. W. & B. HOBBS will SELL by AUCTION, on WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16 1907, at the "ROYAL OAK HOTEL," NEWINGREEN, about

3,500
WELL-BRED KENT SHEEP, RAMS & LAMBS,
comprising about:

1,454 ONE, TWO AND THREE-LAMB EWES,
1,687 KENT EWE AND WETHER AND HALF-BRED TEGS,
297 KENT EWE, WETHER AND HALF-BRED LAMBS,
62 RAMS AND RAM TEGS.

Luncheon provided.

Stock must be in the field by six o'clock

Terms cash, or banker's reference.

Catalogues may be obtained at the Auction and Estate Offices, Ashford, Kent.

KENT.
NEWINGREEN ANNUAL BULLOCK SALE.

A good supply of trucks will be on hand.

MESSRS. W. & B. HOBBS will SELL by AUCTION, on FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1907, at the "ROYAL OAK HOTEL," NEWINGREEN, about

600
EXCELLENT HOME-BRED BEASTS,
comprising about:

150 YEARLINGS,
75 18-MONTHS-OLD STEERS & HEIFERS.
292 2 & 3-YEAR-OLD FATTING BEASTS.
1 BARREN COW.
68 COWS & HEIFERS IN & WITH CALVES.
7 BULLS.
7 CALVES.

Luncheon provided.

Stock must be in the field by six o'clock.

Sale to commence at 10 o'clock.

Terms cash, or banker's reference.

Catalogues may be obtained at the Auction and Estate Offices, Ashford, Kent.

By Mr. HARRIE STACEY.

By Order of the Executors of the late Mr. T. C. Woodcock.
IMPORTANT TWO DAYS' SALE.
PETRIDGE WOOD FARM,
EARLSWOOD, REDHILL,
one mile from Earlswood Station and two miles from Redhill and Horley.—Mr.

HARRIE STACEY having let this Farm, and also Margery Farm, Kingswood, is instructed to Sell by Auction, at Petridge Wood, on THURSDAY and FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17 and 18, 1907, at 11 o'clock precisely each day

THE WHOLE OF THE VALUABLE
LIVE AND DEAD FARMING STOCK
including about
200
head of
HORNED STOCK, viz:—

94 SHORTHORN DAIRY COWS,
20 SHORTHORN IN-CALF HEIFERS,
18 YEARLING HEIFERS,
60 SHORTHORN HEIFER CALVES,
4 SHORTHORN BULLS,
(included in the above is a small herd of Pedigree Shorthorns).
9 useful CART HORSES 4 CART COLTS,
NAG MARE, NAG GELDING, and 5 PONIES,
also the
IMPLEMENTS AND MACHINERY.

Catalogues may be had at the place of Sale, and of Mr. HARRIE STACEY, Auctioneer, Land and Estate Agent, Redhill, Reigate and Tadworth.

By Messrs. JOHN THORNTON & CO.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16.—Extensive Sale of about 200 SHORTHORNS, at York.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17.—Mr. A. Deverell's entire herd of 45 KERRY CATTLE, at Artington House, Tetsworth, Oxon.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18.—Mr. T. Stokes' SHORTHORNS, at Warmington, Oundle.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18.—Extensive Sale of about 80 JERSEY CATTLE at Bletchley.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22.—Mrs. Maitland Spencer's herd of JERSEYS, at Hillylands, Oakhill, Bath.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24.—Mr. Arthur Hiscock's SHORTHORNS, at Mocombe, Shaftesbury, Dorsetshire

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25.—Mr. C. E. Hogg's entire Dairy Herd of GUERNSEY CATTLE and a few JERSEYS at Alltrees, Cowham, Sussex.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON & Co., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

By Mr. GAVIN LOW.

1,200 IRISH STORE CATTLE.

AT AUCTION MART, 50, PRUSSIA STREET, DUBLIN, on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1907. Above will comprise the largest and best show of Store Cattle to be offered in Dublin this season including a large number of POLLY BULLOCKS ABERDEEN ANGUS CROSSES, HEREFORD CROSSES, SHORTHORN BULLOCKS, and HEIFERS, many with age and all in good condition, also a number of well bred young cattle.

GAVIN LOW.

50, Prussia Street, Dublin.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Oct. 8, 1907:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	206	72	13	21	9,418	4,884	2,921	4,874
	Outbreaks.	No.	34	16	6	9	1,995	804	649	1,047
Sheep Scab.	Outbreaks Reported.	No.	3	2	3	5	424	309	678	1,094
Rabies.	Cases Confirmed. Other Animals.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Dogs.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Glanders (including Farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	28	39	25	43	1,550	1,588	1,657	2,163
	Outbreaks.	No.	15	24	12	26	677	849	959	1,222
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	24	29	27	34	1,118	1,001	1,051	1,260
	Outbreaks.	No.	20	28	18	27	870	949	759	789

Period.			Swine Fever. Animals Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	Swine Fever. Outbreaks.	Sheep Scab. Outbreaks Reported.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Other Animals.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Dogs.	Glanders (including Farcy). Animals Attacked.	Glanders (including Farcy). Outbreaks.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Animals Attacked.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Outbreaks.	Anthrax. Animals Attacked.	Anthrax. Outbreaks.
Week ended Oct. 5, 1907			No. 206	No. 34	No. 3	No. ...	No. ...	No. 28	No. 15	No. ...	No. ...	No. 24	No. 20
Corresponding week in ...		1906	72	16	2	...	...	39	24	...	...	29	28
		1905	13	6	3	...	...	25	12	...	...	27	18
		1904	21	9	5	...	...	43	26	...	...	34	27
Total for 40 weeks, 1907			9,418	1,995	424	...	...	1,550	677	...	...	1,118	870
Corresponding period in ...		1906	4,884	804	309	...	...	1,588	849	...	...	1,001	949
		1905	2,921	649	678	...	...	1,657	959	...	...	1,051	759
		1904	4,874	1,047	1,094	...	...	2,163	1,222	...	...	1,260	789

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.



How is the Trade Moving?

London.

The disappointing and unsatisfactory condition of business in the Borough makes one rather disposed to exclaim with old Ben Jonson, "Trade, I will cashier thee till to-morrow." I do not wish to imply from this remark that we are not doing business, for hops are being sold day by day, but growers, whose interests I have most at heart, are disgusted at the prices they are able to obtain, and many of them are losing confidence, and are now much more willing to accept bids that they have hitherto refused. A large number of them thronged our High Street on Wednesday; their depression was too evident, and the necessary consequences followed.

Merchants believed that they had control of the position, and the previous demand, except for choice coloury samples, fell off. Since then business has been comparatively quiet, and although growers have to-day wisely remained at home, there is a dull tone in the market, which does not augur well for the future. As far as I can ascertain, by inquiries from factors and merchants, there may be some hope for planters who are holding the best qualities, and for such I am inclined to believe that higher figures may be realised. But as the lower and medium qualities are now neglected by buyers, the tendency for these sorts is rather downward. It is quite clear that nothing can be gained by holders pressing the sale of their produce, and too much crowding round the factors' offices will certainly defeat the object we have in view, viz., to improve the tone of the market.

There is much talk just now of further and somewhat extensive "grubbing" if the outlook is not speedily brighter, and it appears, not only from English but also from American experience, that this is likely to come about. It is generally acknowledged that, owing to the decreased consumption of beer and the accompanying smaller requirements for hops, the world produces more hops than the consumption justifies. The only remedy is reduced acreage, and it is the opinion of many, in which I share, that we shall not see our hop markets in a sound, healthy condition until this is effected by general consent. In the meantime our growers must be content to struggle on and meet the circumstances they have to contend with in the best possible manner.

Our eminent merchants, Messrs. Cattley, Gridley and Co., in their annual report, just issued, say:—"The London market is fairly supplied, but growers are inclined to hold their better qualities for more remunerative prices than can be obtained at present. It remains to be seen how far they will succeed in the face of surplus abroad for export, though there is no doubt present currency is again seriously unremunerative to English producers." This is a fair statement of the position, and our growers must carefully watch the progress of events if they would protect themselves from more acute disappointment.

America.

A recent letter from my Washington correspondents gives their views as follows:—"As we indicated in our cable, the crop of the U.S.A. on account of mould and low prices will come down much lighter than expected. Harvesting is completed in all sections, and we think a conservative estimate of the American crop may be taken at 300,000 bales (about 550,000 cwt.). Adding 50,000 bales of 1906's and a probable importation from Germany of 40,000 bales, will give us 390,000, which will leave a very large surplus. Owing to a little manipulation our market is firmer, and "bluff" offers are being made of 9 cents.

"The general opinion here is that the market will recede rapidly, and everyone expects to buy hops at 5 cents, or even less. The quality in this country will fall far below expectation, and we will again be burdened with a large lot of inferior stuff, which will force down the value of good hops. The outlook to-day is certainly very discouraging from the standpoint of the grower. As we have written you before, there seems to be but one hope for the future of the hop industry, and that is a large general decrease in acreage. This is being advocated on this side, and we believe it would be to the advantage of your growers if they followed along the same lines."

Nuremberg.

There has been of late a marked dulness in the trade here, which is expressed by falling prices. It is true that buyers for export, and especially to England, have taken about 1,000 bales, the principal transactions in this business being in poor coloured Hallerdaus at 40s. to 58s., and Wurtembergs at 45s. to 53s., but this trade has not sufficed to relieve the market, which is overburdened by very heavy arrivals, coming in considerable quantities by rail from Hallertau, Wurtemberg, and Alsace. Most of these hops are deficient in colour, despite the favourable weather that prevailed during the picking, and the prices realised for them hardly compensate the growers.

Local brewers will only look at the good green qualities produced in our own districts, the lower sorts being bought daily at 45s. to 50s., and the choice samples realising as much as 82s. Common market hops are offered from 30s. to 40s., but such qualities are generally neglected. Holders are almost universally disposed to offer considerable concessions in price, consequently depression is at present the ruling feature of the trade The arrivals for the week ending October 2 were 7,300 bales, and as the sales for the same period did not exceed 4,400 bales, the addition to stocks was very substantial. Latest advices report further reductions to the extent of 3s. to 5s.

Dijon (Burgundy).

Business has been fairly active since the conclusion of the harvest, but growers are much disappointed by the low prices they are getting for their small crops. Burgundy hops, which have previously realised as much as those grown in Alsace, are hardly worth to-day more than the growths in the north of France and Belgium. At the recent fairs at Dijon and Beire-le-Chatel planters were willing to sell at whatever prices they were offered, which varied from 50 francs for mediums, to 60 francs for the best samples. These figures represent 40s. to 48s. English.

Alsace

There has been good demand for choice coloury samples, but not more than 45s. to 50s. have been made of them. Lower qualities are offered at 36s. to 40s., and even at these prices buyers are very slow to operate.

Brussels.

The current quotations on the Bourse are about 45 francs for Alosts, and 35 francs for Poperinghes. These are equal to about 36s. and 28s. respectively. Local brewers are buying freely, but the demand for export is exceedingly quiet, and, generally speaking, offers are in excess of inquiries.

It will be seen from the above reports, which I have endeavoured to make as correctly as possible, that the world's hop trade is not encouraging to sellers, and the conditions are such, that unless an alteration takes place soon, we may look for lower prices in every direction.

The Veterinary Profession and Agriculture.

In the course of his introductory lecture at the reopening of the Royal Veterinary College, Professor G. D Lander said that he thought the power of the motor as a source of injury to the veterinary profession in general was overstated, certainly so from time to time in papers, where one read of really astonishing effects already worked. Newspaper inaccuracy in general was very harmless. This type could not harm the existing practitioner, but it might injure a veterinary college, acting as a possible deterrent to those contemplating the profession, and not possessed of independent reliable information, and on this account it was to be deplored.

But apart from the horse practice, there were other established and prospective avenues before them. There still remained the farm and other domesticated animals. The revival of agriculture as a main asset was always in the air. Whether progress were maintained by means of small holdings, by means of better railway freight charges, or rapid motor conveyance of produce, or by any other means, agricultural improvement implied the improvement of veterinary prospects. For the agriculturist must advance side by side with the veterinarian, who should alone be his guide and preceptor in the care of his stock, and for the present, at any rate, no mechanical contrivance appeared possible to supply them with beef, butter, and milk.

The sale of the live and dead farming stock and a few lots of household furniture, by order of the executors of the late Mr. W. Whitlock, Winterslow, Wilts, took place on Monday, in the presence of a large company of buyers. The farm implements, which were all old and much worn, made full value. The breeding flock (not registered) sold as follows:—100 four-teeth ewes, 58s. (twice), 57s., 54s., 53s., and 51s; 96 six-teeth ewes, 60s., 57s., 55s., 54s., and 51s.; draft ewes, 48s. to 40s.; grazing ewes, 41s. and 35s.; ewe lambs, 45s., 44s., 43s. (twice), 39s., and 30s for the cull pen; 50 wether lambs, 47s. 6d.; 40 ditto, 43s., and the culls 36s.; rams and ram lambs, £2 to £2 12s. 6d.

POULTRY.

The Poultry Farmer's Medicine Chest.

(*Concluded from page 395.*)

Troubles of the Egg Organs.

The only articles likely to be required in cases of egg-binding are the castor oil and the olive oil (or "sweet" oil) already referred to, the former to be given internally as a physic, and the latter to be used by the medium of a feather for lubricating the egg-passage (which must be done with the utmost care).

Perhaps we ought to mention also the trouble known as "laying soft eggs"—*i.e*, eggs not supplied with the proper coating of shell. This is a complaint due either to general debility or to fright; if the latter it does not keep recurring, if the former it does, and the best remedy for it is the liver treatment already described, plus a reduced food allowance, except in regard to greenstuffs, which may be given *ad lib.*

Feather and Skin Disorders.

For slow feathering give a good tonic. The best general tonic for poultry is chemical food—the red syrup known as "Parrish's." Keep a bottle of this on hand, therefore, and when needed add a teaspoonful of it to a pint of drinking water, and let the birds dose themselves, which they will do quite readily. For the moulting season, needless to say, it is very valuable.

Passing on to the other feather troubles (due to vermin, probably) and to such skin disorders as white comb (a form of eczema) and scrofulous eruptions, the poultry-keeper needs two remedies to enable him to deal successfully with these various matters (scaly-leg we include with the others). Ointments are most convenient, but the permanganate lotion can often be used to advantage as a preliminary.

Get a strong carbolic ointment—carbolised vaseline will answer very well, but see that you are supplied by your chemist with the full strength. That can be used where stringent measures are needed; for the rest (and, in many circumstances, to follow the other) we need a milder ointment altogether. A mixture of two parts of plain vaseline to one part of zinc ointment will answer the second purpose well.

Sulphur ointment might be substituted for the latter also; and, indeed, dealing with such a matter as scaly-leg there is no remedy better than sulphur ointment, applied, that is to say, after the legs have been dressed with some sort of strong liniment such as has been described above under "cramp" A thorough saturation with the liniment (after the legs have been well scrubbed in hot water), and then a dressing with sulphur ointment, will often result in a complete cure of very bad cases.

Remedy for Wasting Disease.

Consumption in one form or other is responsible for a great deal of mortality amongst poultry, and of all the diseases for which provision ought to be made by a poultry-keeper none calls more loudly for notice. We have already referred to chemical food—that is, one specific; but alone it will not suffice to cure the wasting of the tissues which causes the weakened, emaciated condition of the birds affected by this complaint.

Cod-liver oil is supposed to be the best thing to give; it tends to repair the wastage referred to. Given in conjunction with the chemical food, it will often work wonders—given, that is, in capsules, whilst the food is added to the drinking-water. In many cases capsules of cod-liver oil with a little quinine added have a beneficial effect. They can be obtained in small tins from any good veterinary chemist, specially prepared of the right strength for poultry, and they are very easy to give to ailing birds.

Another good strengthening remedy is a pill made of sulphate of iron—one grain in each pill—which any chemist will prepare at very little cost. A dozen other tonics might be mentioned, but these will suffice. And now, to conclude, let me give a recipe for

A Good All-round Poultry Powder.

Many poultry-keepers like to have one general physic in the form of a powder which they can mix in the food, and which will act as an alterative and a stimulant at one and the same time. This is the right plan to go upon; but let me warn all concerned against the use of pungent spices, which do not give warmth, but merely irritate the lining of the passages and retard the process of digestion instead of encouraging it (which is a most essential thing in egg-production).

Here, then, is a recipe. Take of Epsom salts, dried in a hot oven, 1 oz.; sulphur in "flowers," 1 oz.; fenugreek powder, 6 oz.; aniseed powder, 2 oz.; carraway powder, 2 oz.; fine sharps, flour, or any other innocuous powder, 22 oz. Mix all together. The product is, of course, 2 lb. in weight. Give of this a heaped-up tablespoonful to about twenty fowls once or twice a week.

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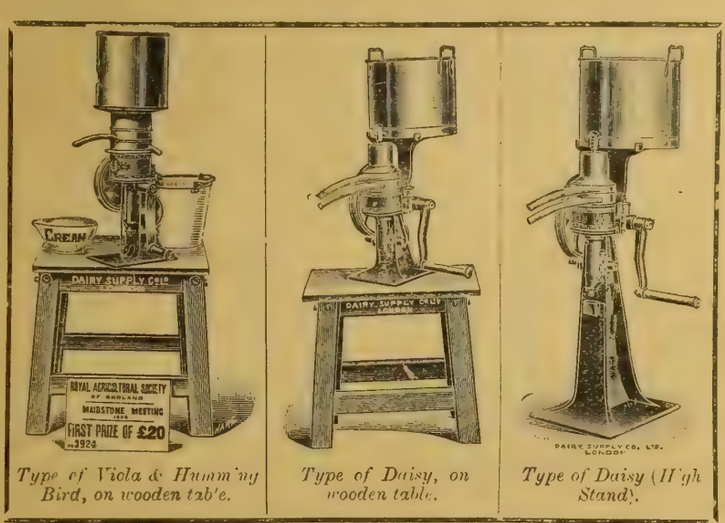
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NORWICH FAT CATTLE SHOW. 31st Annual Exhibition of Fat Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, &c., Agricultural Hall, Norwich. November 21, 22, and 23, 1907. Last day of Entry for Stock and Stand Space, October 26. Prize Lists, Entry Forms, and all particulars of the Secretaries, CALEB BARKER & Co., East Harling, Thetford.

BIRMINGHAM CATTLE AND POULTRY SHOW.

The 59th GREAT ANNUAL EXHIBITION of Fat Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Poultry, Corn, Roots, and Implements will be held in Bingley Hall on November 30th and December 2nd, 3rd 4th, and 5th.

ENTRIES CLOSE: Implements, Saturday, October 19th; Stock, Poultry, &c. Friday, November 1st.

Prize List and Entry Forms may be obtained from

W. H. LYTHALL, Secretary.

COLLINGHAM FARMERS' CLUB.—The 67th Annual Ploughing Match, Agricultural and Poultry Show, will be held on Thursday, OCTOBER 31. For further particulars see bills. All Entries to be made on or before October 18.—J. W. BELTON, Secretary, Besthorpe. The Secretary will attend at the Offices of Messrs. E. Bailey and Son, Kirkgate, Newark, on Wednesday, October 16, from 12 to 2 p.m., and at the Royal Oak, Collingham, October 18, from 6 to 9 p.m.

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N.B.—Entries Close October 30th, for Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, and Horses; for Poultry and Pigeons, October 26th.

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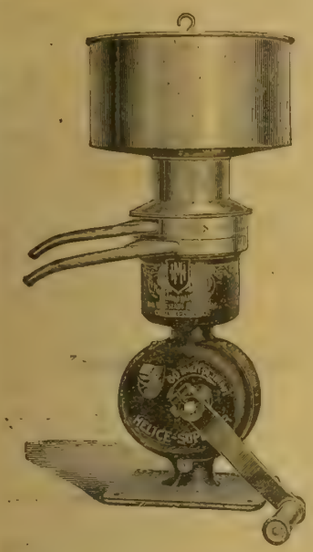
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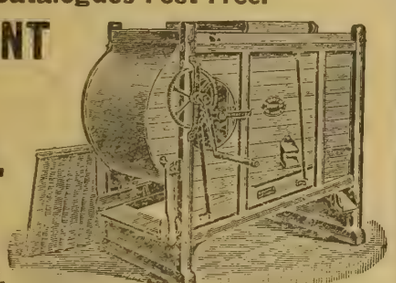
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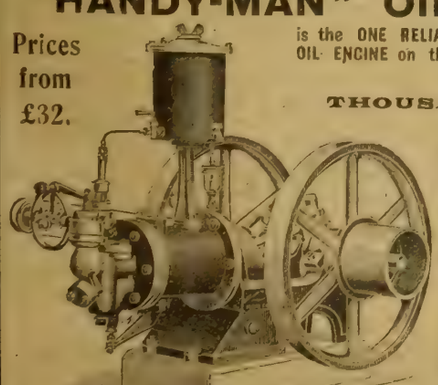
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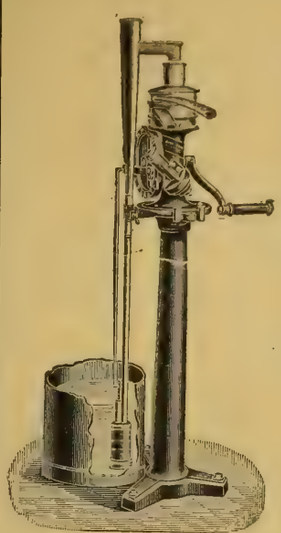
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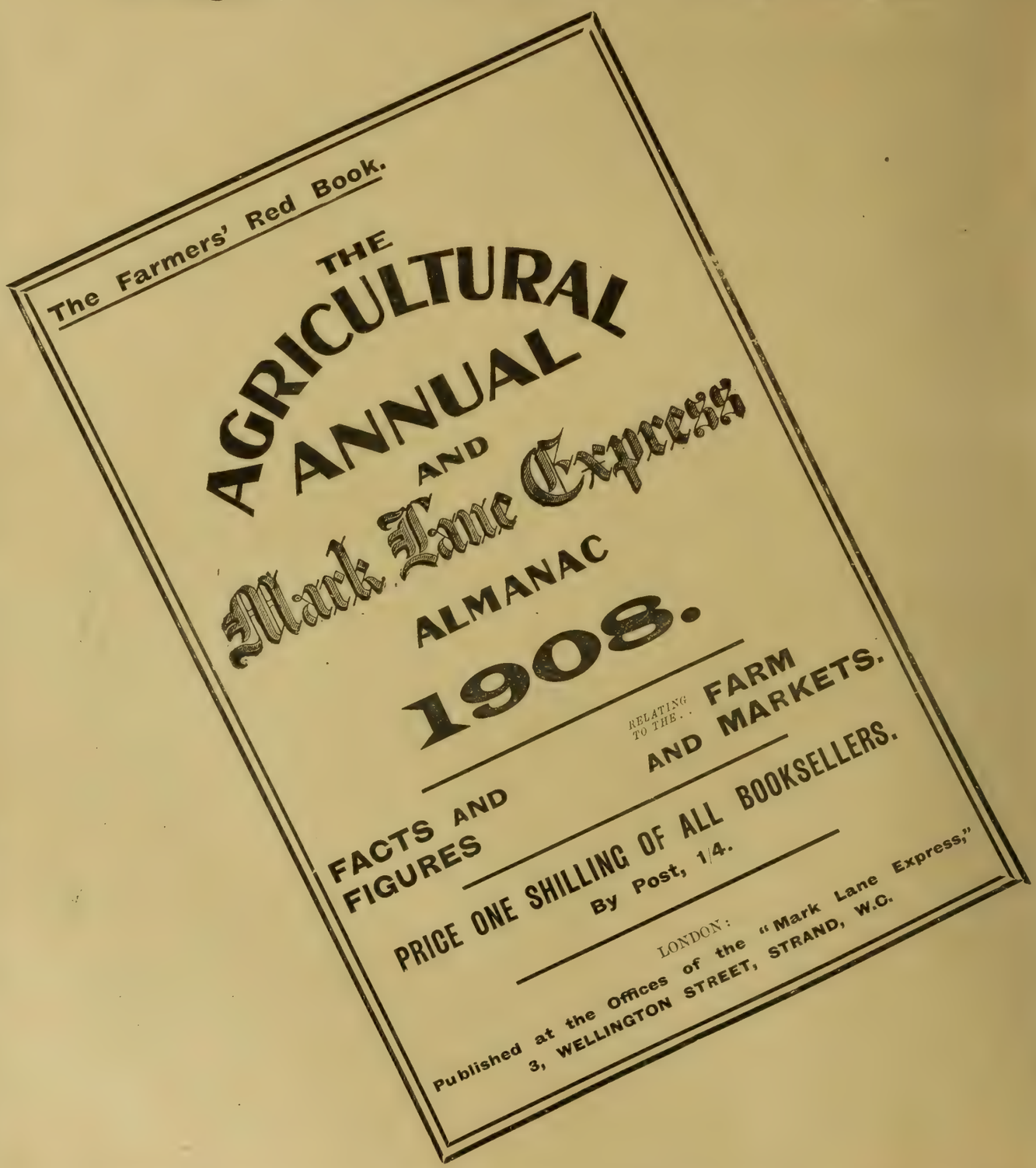
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LONDON, MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1907.

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Seasonable Topics.

October Rains.

WITHOUT having anything that could be called a deluge, a considerable amount of rain has fallen since the harvest weather broke, and, as is usual with the rains of the autumn, it has come down in real earnest. In late corn districts farmers would have been glad if the Indian summer had lasted a bit longer, but with these exceptions agriculturists were ready for the moisture. In a few cases early ploughing matches had to be postponed because the land was too dry and hard; but there is no need to fear any further delay for this reason, and look which way you will, teams may be seen in the fields and stubble is giving place to brown crumbling earth on the surface. The rain, too, has had its effect on the grass, and rarely have we had more keep so late in October. At the end of September roots began to look as if they were coming to a standstill, but the moisture has freshened them up, and they are still growing. In short, the autumn rains have done their work, and farmers have reasons to be satisfied with the climatic conditions of the close of the season.

The Farmer Smiles.

WELL he may, for having got a fixed idea into his head that corn-growing was played out in the old country, and that he could never hope to make 30s. a quarter of wheat again, the sudden rise this autumn has come as a pleasant shock to him, and in every place where farmers most do congregate this is the absorbing topic of conversation. Will it last? Shall I sell now or wait? Will the prices rise to 40s. a quarter? These are a few of the questions debated, and future events must of course settle them. Some of the smiles are tinged with regret that more wheat was not sown, but who was to know that for various reasons the wheat crops would be short in those parts of the world where our main supplies come from? Ah well, the man in the street may express his regrets, but it is an ill wind that blows nobody any good, and it is time the wheel of fortune turned a little bit in favour of the British farmer, who when congratulated on the year may justly refer to prices in the past few seasons, and outstanding accounts that he may have to settle out of the better returns of 1907.

Ploughing Matches.

EVERYTHING in its season, and during October reports come freely to hand of ploughing matches arranged in different parts of the country by local farmers' clubs and agricultural societies. Very interesting, exceedingly useful, and highly educational are these competitions, because when everything has been said in favour of scientific teaching and its effect on farming, it is useless without the skill of the craftsman. Ploughing matches are old institutions, and interest in them is fairly well maintained, but in many cases the enthusiasm in connection with these gatherings is not so keen as we should like to see it. It is good to see the local champions turn up year after year and pit their skill against each other, but we should like to see more lads and youths training and bidding for championship honours. Except in instances where there is a certain amount of whipping up, they seem slow to come forward, and one would like to see a keener desire to excel in this important branch of agricultural labour. Surely it is to the credit of either a young farmer or a young labourer to be an expert ploughman.

Breaking Records.

TO the British mind there is something fascinating about making a record and still more so about breaking one that is established. We see motorists risking life and limb in a senseless manner. What for? To break records. And we do not know how many men have tried to swim the Channel and break the record established years ago by the late Captain Webb. Farmers are not without this love for record making and breaking, and the performance of any prodigious feat of labour never fails to arouse local interest and a desire on the part of someone to excel it. We have a newspaper cutting before us telling of a farmer who recently cut a field of corn, carried it, threshed it, and sold it in one day, thus creating a record of which the man is presumably proud, and it would appear as if the person who goes one better will have to have it ground into flour within the day. Various agricultural operations lend themselves to record making, and it is interesting to observe how extraordinary feats live in local history long after other matters of greater importance are forgotten.

Mangolds Going to Seed.

A CORRESPONDENT in these pages recently made some reference to the large number of mangolds that have gone to seed this season in a certain part of the country which he named. From what we have heard and seen the complaint is general, and in many cases the percentage of "bolted" roots is so large that the value of the crop is reduced considerably. Various explanations are given for this disappointing behaviour of the mangolds, and complaints being too general to attach the blame to the seedsman it is saddled on to the broad shoulders of the clerk of the weather. Nor do we think that the charge is misplaced, because we have noticed the same tendency to "bolt" in beetroot, carrots, and onions, but not to similar extent No doubt it was the check which the plants suffered at a critical stage, through the cold and the lack of sunshine, that was responsible for the trouble, for though a few bolters are generally seen every season, the percentage is invariably small when growth is steady and regular from the seedling stage to the time of maturity. The unfortunate part is that "bolting" reduces the feeding quality of the roots.



A RURAL CANAL SCENE.

Motor Car Lights and Numbers.

IT is quite evident that if nothing is done to deal effectually with the dust trouble, or check the speed at which motor cars travel on the public roads, it will be essential to adopt different methods of lighting and numbering cars. It is the "road hog" who is the nuisance, and at present the only means of effecting his capture after he has done some damage, providing his car is uninjured, is to take his number. Easier said than done, for except at very close quarters the number plate at the back of the car is hidden from view by the dust in the daytime, and at night the light that is carried to show up the number is more often than not useless for the purpose of detection. Headlights, too, are not what they should be. We grant that a motorist should be furnished with good lights for the sake of the safety of the public as much as himself, but we frequently pass cars at night which have very powerful acetylene lamps and

these so dazzle the eyes of a passer-by that when the motor has gone the black darkness in front is confusing and risks are run of collisions and accidents.

Implements After Harvest.

HARVEST for the year is over, and there are implements used solely in the item of the annual routine that will not be required for some time to come. What shall be done with these things in the meantime—the reaper, mower, raker, swath turner and so forth? Sometimes you see one or more of the above standing out in an open stack-yard, or perhaps given the shelter of a cart-shed to remain until required again just as it came in from the field. Surely this is not good farming, and if implements are drawn temporarily under cover while the pressure of harvest work is on, there are days later on when time may be profitably spent in overhauling machines, oiling, cleaning and putting them away in the dry for the winter. We met a farmer the other day taking his mowing machine to be repaired. Experience had taught him wisdom, for once before his machine had gone wrong at the close of the season and he neglected to have it overhauled till it was nearly time for mowing again. The usual thing happened, the local smith was bunged up with repairing work, the man had to wait, and his haymaking operations were delayed. Moral: Avoid any possibilities of this by having machines overhauled at the close, not at the beginning of harvest.

Wasting Time.

WE heard a good story the other day of a farmer who called on a neighbour about mid-day with the object of buying some calves. Not being able to get them at his own price he lingered during the afternoon till it was getting late in the evening, where at last a bargain was struck, and, on wishing his friend good-night, he said he would come again some day when he was not busy, and spend an hour or two with him. This, by the way, is by no means an exaggerated case, and, in the transaction of agricultural business, a good deal of valuable time is wasted. In his buying and selling the farmer seems to possess a natural propensity for taking his time about it, and it would often be a surprise to him if he knew how much of that valuable commodity he wasted over a transaction. Weekly markets are responsible for a good deal of wasted time, and if a return could be given of the instances in which a whole day is spent in transacting business that could be done in an hour or two, the figures would be startling. It may be urged that farmers are their own masters, and can do what they like with their own. Quite so, but we would point out in reply that wasting time in the above and other ways has brought more than one practitioner on to the rocks of adversity.

Competitive Milking.

NOT long ago a writer in a daily paper informed his readers that one more vocation was doomed—that of the milk-maid—and that her place would soon be taken by the machine which extracts the milk from the udder of the cow. Of course, we know that an apparatus of this character is used successfully, but one might as well say that the unmusical "Milk-oh" of the London milkman will soon be heard no more because the Grosvenor Dairies' Company in Westminster have penny-in-the-slot contrivances at their depôts where you can go and drop in your coin and get your pennyworth of milk without asking questions. No, the vocation of the human milker is not dead yet. Indeed, it is very much alive, and there never was a greater demand for quick and expert milkers. In the old days it was not important that the milking should be completed at a given time, night and morning, but now that it has to be coo'ed and run to the station in time to catch a certain train, there must be no delay about getting through the milking. In short, the dairy-farmer of to-day must have good milkers, male and female, and not the least interesting feature of the recent London Dairy Show was the milking contests in which men and boys and women and girls from all parts of the country competed with each other for honours in milking. These contests are both interesting and useful, for though milking is not a fine art, there are milkers and milkers, and there is something to be learnt from watching an expert manipulator of teats.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Earl Carrington's Commissioners.

There can be no doubt whatever that Earl Carrington has, by his first two appointments of commissioners under the Small Holdings Act, absolutely redeemed Mr. L. Harcourt's promise to the House of Commons Committee that the nominations should be of a non-partisan and non-political character. No objection can be logically directed against the appointment of Mr. Edwin John Cheney and Mr. Matthew Talbot Baines. If it be urged by those not friendly to the principle of small holdings that both will come to their work with minds sympathetically biassed—(Mr. Cheney is, of course, the chairman of the Eastern Counties Farmers' Co-operative Association, and Mr. Baines has had the management of something like three thousand allotments, on the estates which have recently been under his control)—I reply that to ask Lord Carrington and Mr. Harcourt to appoint men who would regard their purpose with tepid zeal, and have no past experience in its working, would in itself have meant suspecting them of insincerity in their professed design. The Ministers had a wide area from which to make their selection—an area in which dwelt practically-equipped men, who had placed the Liberal Party under some obligations by their personal zealotry. Had, however, appointments been made from the ranks of these politicians they might have antagonised many of the county councils and not an unimportant section of the landlord element already rendered sensitive and restless by the criticisms and attacks indulged in during the passage of the Bill through the House of Commons. These appointments are rather an heroic act of self-restraint on the part of the Ministers in view of the growth of the idea that in politics the spoils should go to the victors. However, it must have its reward in the fact that it will as its first fruit breed the conviction that there is no malice behind the new policy, and that it will be inspired by a dispassionate and practical appreciation of the necessities of local areas. The appointments are in every sense admirable.

Mr. Collings Demands a Rural Party

So Mr. Jesse Collings is now among the *sans culottes*—Mr. Collings is among those who declare that we need an agrarian party to combat, or rather to restrain, the growing arrogance and assertiveness of the commercial and industrial elements in Parliament. This has long been my conviction, and I have been strengthened in it by the experience of the last two sessions. It may be urged that the very legislative achievements of those sessions in the interest of agriculture—the Dogs Act, the Butter Act, the Fertilisers Act, and the Foods Regulations Act—illustrate the ungenerosity of my contention. They do nothing of the kind. These measures were passed because of the fact that their assumed innocuity rendered them beneath the notice of the urban Parliamentarians, absorbed as they are in so many turgid and ambitious designs. They were passed, because the men who hit their head against the sublime stars have no perception for lesser things. It may be urged, too, that the Small Holdings Act is a revelation of a greater Parliamentary friendliness to agriculture. It is nothing of the kind. The Small Holdings Act had so powerful an urban sympathy behind it, because, first of all, it induced the thought that it would probably relieve the congestion of population in the great towns, and next, because it in a sense gave expression to the rather undisciplined anxieties as to the future disposition of the land which possess so many sections of those urbanites. This Parliament is willing to indulge in further experiments with the land, but only in so far as the financial milking of it may provide funds for the realisation of the new economic and social purposes, for the benefit of the towns. This is, in so far as its main inspirations go, an urban Parliament. Its thoughts are mostly centred in commercial designs or upon the conditions of the seething masses of the crowded congeries of our life. It epitomises more distinctly and emphatically than any of its predecessors the legislative ambitions of commercialism and industrialism. We want an independence and self assertion equal to that which possesses those two sections.

Liberalism and Land Purchase.

Mr. Jesse Collings may as well relinquish any immediate hope of the realisation of his prophecy that the English farmer will yet be given the same opportunity as the Irish farmer of becoming—as a sequel to the advance of money by the State—his own landlord. I mean he should relinquish it if he believe in his own prophecy that the next General Election will mean the return of the Liberal Government to power. Liberalism may be willing to secure the expropriation of the present race of landlords, but it is not willing to establish another race of landlords in its place, even though that race be of the farming-class. It may, speaking generally, be willing to utilise the finances of the State in carrying out the policy of expropriation, but that policy must be on the lines of State-nationalisation. If the Government proceeded on the lines of individual ownership, it would array against it the whole forces of Radicalism, Socialism, and Labour—it would build up for itself a heritage of woe and contumely before the prospect of which its cheek might well blanch. Entire security of tenure, complete security for personal investment, entire freedom of culture, and the occasional revision of rents by scientifically-manned courts—all these things Liberalism, that is, unofficial Liberalism, would probably even at this moment offer, But individual ownership—no. Individual ownership would mean the building up of a multitude of barriers to the nationalising ideal. So, Mr. Collings, you had better save your breath—at least at this moment—for an ambition having a more roseate prospect.

* * *

The Future of Rural Education.

It is one of the piquancies of our politics that a treasured purpose of so inflexible an anti-Liberal as Mr. Jesse Collings—that is, anti-Liberalism in its present guise—should have associated with it a possibility of realisation at the hands of a Liberal Government. It is also in its way pathetic that this ambition—the association of a really practical system of rural education with rural schools, a system under which the children would be taught the elements of farming—should have elicited so little sympathy from official Conservatism. Mr. Collings' Bill had associated with it some of the most honoured figures in in territorial Conservatism; but it never elicited anything more than a wan smile from the leaders—the chieftains, that is, of the avowed and self-proclaimed rural party. Why should not this purpose be associated with the forthcoming Education Bill? I can understand relentless Tories saying they would give no countenance to anything which would peril the present system of religious teaching, or weaken the authority of the Church of England cleric. They would thus vote against the Bill under all and any conditions and at every opportunity. Well, all the same, to me such an attitude as this would mean the lending of a character of fantastic extremism to party zeal. Mr. Collings' purpose might be realised in a special clause, to which general consent might be given. Let us not forget that there were non-debatable points both in the Government's last Bill and in the preceding Conservative measure. To adopt such a provision as this by general consent would, too, render it less possible to relinquish the Bill in its entirety because of the amendments of the House of Lords. But why do I think there is a possibility of the Government accepting Mr. Collings's idea? Well, in the framing of the next Education Bill Dr. Macnamara, the Secretary of the Local Government Board, will be an inevitable influence. He is the educational expert of the Government. Dr. Macnamara again and again in the days of his non-official youth advocated such a method of practical education as that of which Mr. Collings has been the unfaltering advocate.

An important new department of economic biology has been formed at Bristol University College, with a view to placing gratuitously at the disposal of farmers, fruit-growers, and those engaged in fisheries in the western counties the resources of scientific knowledge and research. It has the approval of the county councils and the Board of Agriculture, and at a largely attended conference, held on Thursday, Mr. Middleton, representing the Board of Agriculture, said that his department welcomed such assistance, and he hoped that the time was coming when it would be able to do more financially for applied science than it now did. Such work was not subsidising a class, but benefiting the whole, all being consumers.

BARLEY AND HOPS AT THE BREWERS' EXHIBITION.

MALTING BARLEY.

English barley this year has had to take a secondary position at the Brewers' Exhibition in competition for the handsome prizes offered for malting samples. The world's champion prize, which is offered for the finest bushel of malting barley of any growth from any country or colony, was won by a sample of Austro-Hungarian corn exhibited by Messrs. Liebmann Bros.

The reserve number, however, went to a Somersetshire Chevalier barley grown and exhibited by Mr. Thomas Rawle, of Porlock, who has on many previous occasions figured in the prize list at the Brewers' Exhibition. This barley was grown on stonebrash with a subsoil of gravel, and the two preceding crops were ley and wheat. The seed was E. W. King's Chevalier, and the crop was sown on March 15 and the crop cut on August 21. This sample also won the first prize in the class for British-grown Chevalier, the second prize went to a Kentish barley grown by Mr. S. Champion, while third position was again won by Mr. T. Rawle.

For Goldthorpe, or any variety of barley except Chevalier, first prize went to a Shropshire barley shown by Mr. R Preece, while second was Mr. T. E. James, Minehead, Somerset, and third Mr. W. H. Laverack, Knapton, Yorks.

Speaking on behalf of the barley judges at the inaugural luncheon on Saturday, Mr. S. N. Thompson, of Smethwick, drew attention to several items in connection with the present show of barley. English barley, although defeated for the championship, owes its secondary position entirely to the peculiar weather of the past season. On the continent there has been far more sun and less climatic changes than we have experienced. The variable season in this country has resulted in abundance at the expense of quality.

British barley this year is generally not equal to the average, and this is due to the fact that the season has favoured the growth of the straw, with the result that much of the barley is not up to the malting standard and is weather-stained to a great extent. One noticeable improvement, largely due to the barley classes at the Brewers' Exhibition, is the greater attention paid to the threshing of the samples. Formerly it was quite common to see samples that had been passed through a too-closely-set machine; but of late years there has been a consistent improvement in this respect, and the quality of the corn for malting purposes has grown enormously.

It is still strange, however, that barley growers are so apathetic in their support of the barley classes. There are this year 195 entries of British-grown entries; this number, it may be judged, is fairly representative one, and fully up to the average. Such is the case, but growers are not taking full advantage of their opportunities. Some excellent malting barley is grown in Yorkshire, but from the whole of this large county there are but eight samples of Goldthorpe, grown by seven farmers, and one solitary sample of Chevalier. Surely this is not a representative display for the county of broad acres. Again, take Shropshire, where some of the finest malting barley comes from; of Chevalier there is one sample; of Goldthorpe six.

These are only two instances from many, and growers would do well to support the classes to a greater extent. Many farmers frequently complain that they cannot get top malting prices for their produce, and cannot understand why it is. They should bear in mind that maltsters require a particular type of barley, threshed in the most perfect manner possible. Instead of lamenting, the British grower would do far better in personally seeing the sort of barley that an independent and an impartial board of judges consider the best for malting purposes, and in the following year sending up their produce for adjudication at the same hands.

Below will be found the prize list as far as it was decided on Saturday. The full list including the winners of diplomas for seed barley, will appear in our next issue:—

JUDGES.

Frank Flinn, chairman, Maltster, Bishops Stortford, Dullingham and Newmarket.

S. N. Thompson, vice-chairman, Maltster (S. Thompson and Sons), Smethwick.

W. H. Cox, 128, High Street, Burton-on-Trent.

James Grant, F.I.C., F.C.S, Manchester Brewing School.

Edward R. Hill (Messrs. F. and G. Smith, Ltd., East Dereham.)

C. Howard-Tripp, Managing Director, Ind, Coope and Co., Ltd., Burton-on-Trent and Romford.

C. R. Jolliffe (A. Milnthorp, Maltster, Town Maltings, Thirsk.)

H. Mackeson, Brewer and Maltster, Hythe.

Lewis J. Meakin, Maltster (L. and G. Meakin, Ltd.), Burton-on-Trent.

J. W. Rogerson, Esq. (Director, Meux's Brewery Co, Ltd., London W.)

PRIZE LIST.

WORLD'S CHAMPION PRIZE.

Catalogue No.

209. Austrian-Hungarian barley: Messrs. Liebmann, Bros., Hop Exchange, S.E.

106. (Reserve) Somerset barley: Mr. T. Rawle, Court Place, Porlock.

CLASS I.—CHEVALIER (British Grown).

106. First prize, Somerset barley: Mr. T. Rawle, Court Place, Porlock.

44. Second prize, Kentish barley: Mr. S. Champion, The Elms, Sarre, Isle of Thanet.

108. Third prize, Somerset barley: Mr. T. Rawle, Court Place, Porlock.

14. Very highly commended, Bucks barley: Mr. R. E. Horwood, Upper Farm, Drayton Beauchamp, Tring.

25. Highly commended, Essex barley: Mr. M. G. Bacon, Lower Marsh Farm, Brightlingsea.

CLASS II.—GOLDTHORPE (British Grown).

182. First prize, Salop barley: Mr. R. Preece, Cressage House, Cressage, Shrewsbury.

183. Second prize, Somerset barley: Mr. T. E. James, Lower Farm, Minehead.

193. Third prize, Yorkshire barley: Mr. W. H. Laverack, The Grange, Knapton.

HOP COMPETITION.

The entries this year are considerably in excess of the two previous years, the whole of the samples being well appreciated by the following gentlemen who acted as judges:—

CHAIRMAN.—Burnett Tabrum, J.P., Tabrum and Son, London (chairman, London Hop Trade Association).

FACTORS.—D. H. Gaskain (D. H. Gaskain and Co.), London; H. E. Jones (Wests', Jones and Co.), London; Stuart Neame (Wild, Neame and Co.), London; Bertram Noakes (J. T. Noakes and Co.), London.

MERCHANTS.—C. Oscar Gridley, J.P. (Cattley, Gridley and Co.), London; Lionel H. Hanbury (Wood, Field and Hanbury), London; J. Hopkins Meredith (J. Hopkins Meredith and Co.), Worcester; Basil E. Richardson (Wigan, Richardson and Co.), London.

The list includes 97 entries, divided as follows:—

Class 1.—East Kents, pale ales, 19 entries.

Class 2.—Mid Kents, pale ales, 9 entries.

Class 3.—East and Mid Kents, ordinary beers, 15 entries.

Class 4.—Wealds and Bastard East Kents, pale ales, 7 entries.

Class 5.—Wealds and Bastard East Kents, ordinary beers, 11 entries.

Class 6.—Sussex, pale ales, 6 entries.

Class 7.—Sussex, ordinary beers, 3 entries.

Class 8.—Worcester and Hereford, pale ales, 10 entries.

Class 9.—Worcester and Hereford, ordinary beers, 8 entries.

Class 10.—Farnhams and Country Farnhams, pale ales, 6 entries.

Class 11.—Farnhams and Country Farnhams, ordinary beers, 3 entries.

The following are the prizes offered, and the awards in reference thereto, by the directors of the exhibition:—

AWARDS.

A champion prize (gold medal) and silver and bronze medals, with diplomas, for the best, second and third best samples of any growth from any district:—

Champion, gold medal, Mr. G. Mount, Canterbury.

Silver medal, Messrs. E. A. White, Ltd., Paddock Wood.

Bronze medal, Mr. W. F. Pudge, Bishops Froome.

In each and every class, £3, £2, and £1 with diplomas.

Class 1.—1st, Mr. G. Mount, Canterbury; 2nd, Mr. T. Minter, Faversham: 3rd, Mr. G. Mount, Canterbury.

Class 2.—1st, Messrs. E. A. White, Ltd.; 2nd, Mr. W. Rogers, Horton Kirby; 3rd, Mr. F. D. Thomas, Loose, Maidstone.

Class 3.—1st, Mr. H. Wellband, Otford Castle; 2nd, Mr. W. Rogers, Horton Kirby; 3rd, Mr. G. Mount, Canterbury.

Class 4.—1st, Mr. E. Wickham, Goudhurst; 2nd, Mr. J. D. Large, Goudhurst; 3rd, Mr. W. J. Noakes, Trottenden.

Class 5.—1st, Mr. J. D. Large, Goudhurst; 2nd, Messrs. J. Body and Son, Whittersham; 3rd, Mr. E. Mannington, Benenden.

Class 6.—1st, Mr. C Brissenden, Wadhurst 2nd, Mr. J. Taylor, Hadlow; 3rd, Mr. H B. Simes, Mayfield, Burwash.

Class 7.—1st, Mr. H. Ashby, Withyham.

Class 8.—1st, Mr. E. G. Shew, Bosbury, Ledbury; 2nd, Mr. W. H. Gabb, Beauchamp Court, Worcester; 3rd, Mr. W. F. Pudge, Bishop's Froome.

Class 9.—1st, Mr. W. F. Pudge, Bishop's Froome, Worcester.

Class 10.—1st, Mr. L. G. Bonham-Carter, Buriton, Petersfield; 2nd, Mr. G. W. Duncan, Bentley, Hants; 3rd, Mr. H. Lillywhite, Bentley, Farnham.

Class 11.—1st, Messrs. Candy and Baigent, Froyle, Alton.

The prizes offered by Messrs. Fisons, Ipswich, were awarded to Mr. Thomas Minter and Mr. J. D. Large.

Messrs. Webb and Sons, Wordsley, offered prizes of £10 and £5 for hops grown with their special manure, both in the Southern and the Midland districts, these being awarded as follows:—

Southern districts.—1st, Mr. H. Lillywhite, Bentley, Farnham; 2nd, Mr. W. Lillywhite Thanington, Canterbury.

Midland districts.—1st, Mr. E. G. Shew, Bosbury, Ledbury; 2nd, Mr. W. H. Gabb, Beauchamp Court, Powick.

Messrs. E. A. White's prizes of £10, £5, and £3, were awarded as under:—

1st, Mr. G. Mount, Canterbury.

2nd, Mr. W. F. Pudge, Bishops Frome.

3rd, Mr. G. Mount, Canterbury.

The Sheppy Glue and Chemical Works Company's prizes of £10 and £5 went to Mr. G. Mount, Canterbury, and Messrs. E. A. White, Paddock Wood, and the prize of £10 offered by the Anglo-Continental Guano Works, was taken by Messrs. E A. White, Ltd., Paddock Wood.

We reserve our examination of, and criticism upon, the hop exhibits until next week, as they were not arranged in time for our present issue.

Dorset County Show at Dorchester.

Under the auspices of the United Farmers' Clubs of Dorset, Dorchester, Winfrith, Wareham and Blandford, a successful exhibition was held at the Corn Exchange, Dorchester, on Saturday, when £100 was offered in prizes, one of the classes for malting barley being open to the world. As usual, the exhibition excited very keen interest amongst the agriculturists of the county, and more especially amongst those who, from the adaptability of their soils, make a feature of growing barley especially suitable for the brewer. The entries scarcely came up to those of some previous years, the responsibility for which is attributed largely to the continuous wet weather which has prevailed for the past fortnight, which has completely put a stop to threshing operations, and another factor that also had some effect in lessening the entries is that many

WHERE AND HOW THE PRIZE BARLEYS WERE GROWN.

CLASS I.—CHEVALIER

			Soil.	Subsoil.	Two Preceding Crops.		Seed Sown.	Peck per Acre.	Manure Used.	Date Sown.	Cut.	Quantity Grown Qr.	Cleaning Machinery.
1st	Ed. Rawle	Somerset	Stonebrash	Gravel	Ley	Wheat	E. W. King's	9	Fison and Co.	March 15	August 21	7	Penny's.
2nd	S. Champion	Kent	Light	Chalk	Oats	Ley	Webb's Kinver	9	None	March 5	August 14	6	Boby's.
3rd	Ed. Rawle	Somerset	Stonebrash	Gravel	Turnips	Wheat	J. K. King's	8	Fison and Co.	March 8	August 16	6	Penny's.
v.h.c.	R. E. Horwood	Bucks	Chalk	Ragstone	Wheat	Sainfoin	Carter's	8	Sulphate of Ammonia.	April	September 1	7	Boby's.
h.c.	M. G. Bacon	Essex	Light	Mixed	Mangolds	Oats and barley	E. W. King's	8	—	February	August	4½	Wood's.

CLASS II.—GOLDTHORPE.

1st	R. Preece	Shropshire	Light	Gravel	Wheat	Roots	Burton Malting	10	Webb's	March	August	7	Boby's.
2nd	T. E. James	Somerset	Black	Red gravel	Grass	Grass	Carter's	9	Fison & Co.s	March 26	August 12	7	Boby's.
3rd	W. H. Laverack	Yorkshire	Sand	Gravel & sand	Swedes	Fallow	Standwell	12	None	March	August 20	3	Sawney's.

farmers were not anxious to bring their barleys to market just yet, believing that by holding their stocks over there is the probability of getting a better return for their grain a little later on.

After making due allowance for the unfavourable character of the summer this year for barley growing, the quality of the barley was distinctly disappointing. Much of the barley was more or less discoloured, and the odour in some of the samples shown was the reverse of sweet, the result probably of the sweating the corn was undergoing. Although there was by no means an absence of chipped ends, still the dreising showed signs of distinct improvement on what we have seen at previous shows, and it is to be hoped this will be continued. The championship prize, as well as the first prize in the leading class (50 qr.), fell to Mr. C. Duke, of Woodsford, with a very nice sample of Hallett's, which scaled 56 lb. per bushel. Mr. G. Mitchell, Rogers Hill, won premier honours in the second class (30 qr.), with a good sample of the Champion Chevalier, weighing 56 lb.; and in the class for 20 qr. Mr. W. J. Foot, Stourpaine, secured the blue ribbon with a sample, scaling 56 lb. per bushel of Carter's Prolific, which, to judge by the sample exhibited, is no misnomer.

Wheat, although lacking the plumpness and good colour often seen at the show, was, on the whole, quite up to what had been expected in such an adverse season. The champion prize for wheat was awarded to Mr. T. B. Sprake, Knowle Hill, with a decent sample of red, known as Master's Squarehead, with which he also took first prize in Class 5, whilst for red wheat Sir R. Baker was first with a very fair sample of the variety known as Ambrose Standup.

Oats, as had been generally anticipated, made a very creditable display, the only drawback being the careless manner in which many of the samples had been dressed, which detracted greatly from the merit of what otherwise would have been an excellent class. Sir R. Baker secured the first prize with a capital sample of white oats which scaled 45 lb. to the bushel—by far the heaviest weight amongst all the exhibits.

We subjoin a complete list of the awards, the judges were:—Barley, Mr. M. A. K. Bailey (Frome), and Mr. F. Flinn (Bishop's Stortford); wheat, Mr. J. Bradfield, Stoke, Wareham; oats, Mr. T. H. Webb, Blandford.

BARLEY.—Championship prize of £8:—1st, Mr. T. C. Duke, Woodsford; 2nd, Mr. J. Foot, Stourpaine, Blandford. Class 1: Best exhibits malting barley (from bulk sample of 50 qr.).—1st, £6, Mr. T. C. Duke; 2nd, £4, Mr. F. Johnson, Affpiddle; 3rd, £2, Messrs. Bedford and Dwight, Bere Regis; r, Mr. W. J. Foot. Class 2: from bulk sample of 30 qr.—1st, £5, Mr. G. Mitchell, Rogers Hill; 2nd, £3, Mr. G. Wood, Homer, Bardolf Manor; 3rd, £1 10s., Mr. F. J. Johnson; r, Mr. C. Trowbridge, Iwerne Minster. Class 3: From the bulk sample of 20 qr.—1st, £4, Mr. W. J. Foot; 2nd, £2, Mr. G. Wood Horner; r, Mr. F. J. Johnson. Threshing and dressing corn (awarded to engine driver and threshing machine feeder jointly), for best meshed and dressed barley exhibited in Classes 1, 2, or 3, £1, Mr. Johnson's men; 2nd, 10s., Mr. T. C. Duke's men.

WHEAT—Class 4.—Best exhibits white wheat (from bulk sample of 25 qr.):—£4, Sir R. Baker, Bart., Rauston, Blandford. Class 5—Best exhibits red wheat (from bulk sample of 25 qr.):—1st, £4, Mr. T. B. Sprake, Knowle Hill; 2nd, £2, Mr. T. B. Sprake; 3rd, £1, Mr. R. W. Shepard, Long Crichel; r, Mr. J. Shepard, Long Crichel. For best threshed and dressed wheat exhibited either in Classes 4 or 5:—1st, £1 10s., Mr. J. Shepard's men.

OATS.—Class 6.—For best exhibit of spring oats (from bulk sample of 25 qr.): 1, £3, Sir R. Baker; 2, £2, Mr. W. H. Stokes, Delcombe, Blandford; r, Mr. C. Trowbridge.

The arrangements for the show were efficiently carried out by Mr. J. E. Tory, of Dorchester, the hon sec.

Afterwards there was a luncheon at the King's Arms Hotel, under the presidency of Colonel Brymer, a large company being present. The speeches generally were of a practical character, and dealt principally with the character of the exhibits and the condition in which they came under the notice of the judges, who, whilst generally agreeing that the quality of the grain compared unfavourably with that of previous shows—the result almost entirely of bad harvest weather—pointed out that this might have been minimised in a measure if only proper care had been bestowed in the preparation of the corn for market, which was sadly lacking, as evidenced by so much broken and chipped corn found in most of the samples. The popularity of oats with growers was instanced by the fact that over 2,000 acres more were grown in the county this year than on any previous occasion. Mr. Tory made an earnest appeal to agriculturists for more competition, and pointed out that if only this were done, enhanced values for their malting barleys and other corn would inevitably be the result.

HARVEST RESULTS.

Dorset.

Notwithstanding the low temperature and the absence of sunshine which were such noticeable features in the past summer, it is now generally admitted that on the whole the year 1907 is the best for farmers that they have had for many years.

Hay was a bulky crop, although about half the crop was more or less damaged by rain Roots are fairly plentiful, and are now growing fast.

Threshing Results.

All crops of corn showed plenty of straw, and the results of threshing are generally satisfactory. The oat crop is a record one, crops of 10 and 12 qr. and over being very general.

The Markets.

All kinds of corn are selling well with an upward tendency in price. Sheep are unusually dear, Dorset horn flocks making 80s. a head. Mutton has been dear all the year. Milking cows sell well.

Good Demand for Farms.

Farms are letting readily at existing rents, and good tenants can be obtained. There are men willing to take farms at increased rents, but it is wise to accept a good tenant without an increase. G. R.

October 17, 1907.

Durham (East).

Agricultural prospects in this, as in other northern counties, were greatly improved during September in regard to all grain crops, wheat, barley, and oats being then estimated at nearly average crops, and the quality much better than at one time anticipated; but fog and rain this month have seriously delayed the completion of harvest, and some farmers, unfortunately, have many acres of wheat, and oats more particularly, still to stack.

The Root Crops.

The rain was not in time to help roots much; they made little progress during September. Potatoes, though as yet free from disease, are a short crop, and turnips are below last year. Hay was a heavy crop, but some of it was not secured in the best condition. Pastures are deficient, and fogs comparatively poor. S. R.

October 17, 1907.

Kent.

With the exception of hops, farming prospects in Kent are more flourishing than they have been for many years.

A Good Corn Harvest.

Wheat seems to be the crop of the season, the general yield coming out 5 up to even 8 quarters per acre, and at the present prices it pays more than it has since 1898. Oats, too, turn out a heavy crop in most parts. Barley does not come out so well either in quantity or quality.

Potato Disease.

Potatoes dig up a bulky crop, but a great many of them have disease, and at present the price is not good; but no dout this will improve later on. Mangolds are fairly heavy, probably averaging 20 tons to the acre.

Pastures

look well since the heavy rains this month, and will afford all stock a good bite this winter. All that is wanted now is fair weather for getting up the potatoes and mangolds, and for wheat season.

The Price of Hops.

The heavy blow to Kent is the price of hops, which means a great loss to all growers on the small crop that was picked this year—possibly 7 to 8 cwt.; it is also the more disappointing after the short yield of last year. Unless something unforeseen happens, the hop industry is about ruined. No doubt thousands of acres will be grubbed up this year, 100 being doomed in a small parish near here.

Farmers cannot possibly continue growing these at a cost of £40 per acre, and selling them, as some have been sold this year, at £2 per cwt. It does not end with the grower. The loss, too, will be most severe to the hop-dryer, labourer, and the London pickers. W. S.

October 16, 1907.

Lancashire (North).

The crops have been housed in good condition, and the fall of the year has made up for the black summer. Corn is yielding well, barley fairly well, and wheat has not been a big crop here.

Grazing bullocks have got away earlier this year than I have known before. Sheep trade has slipped back suddenly, three or four shillings per head. I feel sure it will regain itself in a few weeks. The calving cow trade is improving.

Lancashire cheese is selling, choice lots, 7d. per lb. wholesale. The season is finishing above expectations. B.

Sussex (West).

The long-looked-for rains have fallen, and the land is just in good condition for wheat ploughing; very little wheat has been sown as yet, but with fine weather a lot will be got in in a short time.

Work on the Land

is not quite as forward as usual, owing to the long harvest and the fine September having encouraged many people to clean a foul stubble.

Live Stock and Keep.

Keep of all descriptions is very plentiful; the only trouble is to buy the stock at a reasonable price to feed it off. Beasts are not quite so dear as sheep, but breeders will not be able to complain of prices this year.

Yields of Corn.

Wheat is yielding better than was anticipated, and, given fine weather, plenty will be threshed so as to take advantage of the recent rise in prices. Oats yield very fairly well on the whole, but the barley crop is indifferent, both as to yield and quality. Peas are the worst crop for many years.

Labour is plentiful, but wages are still at the old level. H. W. D.

October 16, 1907.

South Oxon and North Berks.

September proving such a splendid month for harvest operations, most of the corn has been carried in very fair condition. The threshing that has been done, which is very little, has given very satisfactory results, and as prices are much better there appears every indication at last that this year may be a more favourable one for the agricultural world.

The Crops.

Wheat is almost an average crop; barley quite an average; oats more than an average; beans an average; peas hardly an average; potatoes very variable—in some instances quite an average crop and very little disease, in other places they are very bad and full of disease. Roots are a good average crop, especially mangels, for they took especial advantage of the fine weather in September.

Michaelmas Sales.

The Michaelmas sales have gone off well, and show most decidedly how very few sheep there are in the country. Horses, too, have changed hands at very remunerative prices. Cattle also sell well. Pigs are too cheap according to the price of bacon; no wonder they are getting scarce; who can fat pigs at the price of feeding stuffs at 9s. per score? Mutton sells well. Labour seems plentiful.

October 16, 1907. T. L.

Aberdeenshire.

In the earlier districts along the coast cutting is now far advanced, if not almost finished, but in the inland regions reaping is little more than half done. Owing to foggy nights, often ending in rain in the morning, the forenoons are practically lost, so on that account progress is remarkably slow.

As a general rule the crop is stocking well, but it is noticeable that there are many greens to be seen, which it is to be feared will spoil the appearance of the samples of grain. Fortunately fodder will be plentiful, and this is a good job, as much of it is required in this county, where stock keeping is practised so extensively.

Barley Threshing Complaints.

As regards threshing there are numerous complaints of barley turning out badly. The weight also is wretched, being from 3 to 4 lb. per bushel under the weight current during the past three seasons. Where early trials have been made by distillers there are numerous complaints of the grain germinating badly. It is to be feared that a large quantity of Aberdeenshire barley will only be fit for feeding purposes this season. But then it may command a better price than might be expected, as all kinds of feeding stuffs are dear, and this should not be without an effect on the value of feeding barley.

The Outlook for Oats.

In regard to oats, it is generally anticipated that they will thresh well. The ear seems fairly prolific, giving every indication of a good threshing crop. In several of the later districts there are, unfortunately, numerous complaints of injury from frost.

Early and Late Districts.

It is noticeable that farmers who have been brought up in these late inland regions are taking opportunities as they occur of leaving for earlier districts. This is no wonder when one thinks of it, inasmuch as it costs quite as much to produce a quarter of grain in a late region as an early, and the chances of a favourable harvest are certainly greater in the early districts. J. B.

October 11, 1907.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Motors and the Public.

SIR,—I have read with interest your letters *re* motors and legislation, but the subject does not appear to be taken up very enthusiastically. With regard to legislation, if we impose too drastic measures it may prove eventually that we are harassing our best friend, as was the case with many of the towns and villages at the advent of the railways. Many to-day are sorry for the action of their ancestors in forcing the railways to take another course, while others rejoice that the railway was forced upon them.

The motor trade is yet in its infancy, but in case of a railway strike to-day, what could reach our outlying districts like a good service of commercial motors?

We all regret to hear of cases like the one near Lancaster, but a thought arises, Was the shepherd civil? Many men would leave a cantankerous man to care for himself when they would disdain to shirk what would be their duty. I only mention this in the hope that those who may be again in a like position will think more about the number plate than the sheep, and remember civility costs nothing, but sometimes wins a lot. I am not saying the shepherd did anything wrong, but I know with most of us in a case like this words are apt to flow rather too freely.—Yours, &c.,

October 17, 1907. FARMER.

Legislation Against Motors.

SIR,—I can hardly say how much I respect the feelings of your correspondent, "A Ratepayer," who has been travelling about the country for nearly eighty years and has lived to see the roads practically monopolised by the machines which, as he says, kill man and beast (and now and then even a motorist) and spoil the pleasure of thousands of people with the dust and smoke and stench they kick up as they rush along.

While sympathising with all your correspondent says and allowing something for the not unnatural prejudice of his age, I am afraid the ten-miles-an-hour speed limit is an unpractical suggestion.

Why, even the modest cyclist can do twelve or fourteen comfortably, and no one says him nay, though one remembers the time when cyclists were fined for furious riding even with the old-fashioned big wheel and a little one. Again, if a ten mile an hour speed limit were enforced we should have to make every able-bodied man serve a term of years in the police force, the same as they do in the army in Germany, because we should want a man in blue with a stop watch at every turn in the road and a bench of magistrates at every village to impose fines.

We must realise, I think, that the motor has come to stay, and if the ingenuity of man could devise something to abate the dust nuisance a part of our troubles would be over. We should still have the danger through reckless driving and excessive speed, but I fancy this would be reduced if, when charges were proved, instead of inflicting useless fines, the road hogs should be given time for reflection in the cheerful occupation of oakum picking.

Further, if a man were charged more than a certain number of times with furious or reckless driving, I would stop his motoring by taking away his licence and not letting him have it back again.

More severe punishment is what is wanted to bring reckless motorists to their senses, but I think they have been allowed to drive fast too long to bring down the speed to ten miles an hour.—Yours, &c.,

A YOUNGER READER AND RATEPAYER.

October 17, 1907.

Artificials to Use.

SIR,—In reply to the question put by A. E. B. on p. 450, I am not sure whether the light crop of potatoes he has obtained is due entirely to the ground not suiting them. The fact of a large number only coming to seed size seems to suggest that the tubers planted were affected with the all-too-common "leaf curl" disease, the symptoms of which are a want of vigour in the growth—thin wiry stems, leaves blotched and crimped and curled at the edges, and when the crop is lifted one invariably finds the old seed tuber undecayed, and as hard and firm as it was when planted, with a few small tubers clustering round the stalks. If A. E. B. observed these symptoms, he may be sure that the partial failure of the crop was not altogether the fault of the ground. Let me advise your correspondent to get his seed tubers from Scotland for planting next spring. If the part of the field, now grass, which is being broken up for potatoes is old turf, it ought to grow a good crop without any artificials the first year, particularly as there is town manure available; but if your correspondent prefers to use a concentrated fertiliser, I would suggest a dressing of 3 cwt. superphosphate, 1 cwt. sulphate of potash, and 1 cwt. sulphate of ammonia mixed together and applied in the drills at the time of planting. For the oats a dressing of 2 cwt. of superphosphate to the acre with the seed may be used, and if in the spring the crop looks as if it needs a little stimulant, give a top dressing of 1 cwt. nitrate of soda to the acre. Generally speaking, barley responds well to a complete fertiliser, which may be obtained by mixing together 3 cwt. superphosphate, 2 cwt. of kainit, and ½ cwt. sulphate of ammonia to the acre, and applying it with the seed.—Yours, &c.,

RUSTICUS.

Barley Prices.

SIR,—In the MARK LANE EXPRESS this week you return all barley, if I remember rightly, at 24s. per qr. This I can hardly accept, seeing in your price lists (B. and F.) of this grain there are



A Remarkable Tree, age 170 years, height 32½ metres (nearly 100 feet), circumference over 3 metres.

thirteen different grades, prices from 37s. to 24s., and yet the average price of that sold is only 7s. above the lowest quotation.

In speaking of oats you rather condemn the growers for thrashing so freely. Surely the farmer knows best how he is situated and what pays him best. The crop is a big one, making 9 to 10 qr., and to-day 40 lb. new oats made 20s.—Yours, &c.,

W. FOOKES.

North Wilts Club, Devizes, October 17, 1907.

Mark Lane Prices.

SIR,—I take up your paper this morning, for I am a grower of wheat, to find out the latest price yesterday at Mark Lane. I also take up the *Daily Telegraph*, and if you will refer to same, you will find there is a 4s. difference in the price of wheats. Which is right? Early last week we were selling new red wheat at 39s. per qr. in Essex, and the market has stiffened since then.—Yours, &c.,

October 15, 1907. R. J. SUTER.

*** Mr. Suter has omitted to read our late note, "Close of the Market," though, as the latest news, it is printed in capitals. This makes the difference 3s. and not 4s. The figures which he refers to are, with this exception, quite correct; we give prices made and not prices asked, or, as in the case of some dealers, prices imagined. We will return to the subject next week.—ED.

Nettles on Pasture Land.

SIR,—If these are mown in spring when about 10 in. high, and repeated as often as they grow again before any blossom appears, they will die out in about two years. Cow stock will eat them when they have been mown a day or two.

J. H. B.

Afforestation.

SIR,—I never think of your journal but the memory of my dear friend who wrote so much in the columns of the MARK LANE EXPRESS—the late Dr. W. A. Hunter, M.P.—occurs to me. I know the sincere interest he felt in agricultural and kindred subjects—forestry included; and my first feeling on my return from a *voyage d'étude* in the north of France is to send you, herewith, copy of a letter—in an English dress—which I addressed to the Paris *Rappel* as a sort of poor return, I fear—a *lettre de digestion*, as they call it over there—for the generous hospitality and ready access on all moot points so warmly vouchsafed to me. Perhaps it may be of interest to your sylvicultural readers.—Yours, &c.,

CHARLES HANCOCK, B.L.
(Member of the Royal Scottish Arboricultural Society).

Reform Club, S.W., October 11, 1907.

Subjoined is the letter in question:—

SIR,—On my return from a short excursion through the Northern forests, where I was warmly welcomed by the French inspectors, and among them Messrs. Gibert (of Villers-Cotterets), Peiffer (of Compiègne), Pintiau (of the Mormal Forest, near Le Quesnoy), and others, I believe it may be of interest to dwell upon the more striking points dealt with in a recently-published pamphlet from the able pen of Mr. Léon Pardé (of Beauvais), the well-known forest inspector in the large district yonder.

The author gives, in a very concise manner, his views regarding the reafforestation of fallow lands and the methods most suitable to further its development. The system advocated by Mr. Pardé offers, to quote his own words, two principal advantages:—"It does away with any excessive curting up or capricious changes on the part of private owners, and it supplies the necessary funds for carrying out the reafforestation of waste lands."

I will not mention here the methods to be adopted by the State, the Communes and other legally recognised bodies, but will examine briefly the principles which, in his opinion, should guide private persons in regard to forestal questions. Mr. Pardé's advice is to authorise and to facilitate the purchase of lands for reafforestation purposes—and also to create "protective areas," as is done at present in Switzerland—such areas to be placed, in his view, under a special *réyime*, in accordance with which the owners of uncultivated lands should be compelled to replant trees; the State, on its part, granting subventions for this purpose. But, Sir, is this not leaving too much for the State to do? I think that Mr. Pardé is better inspired when, with a view to popularising forestal questions, he advocates a series of very interesting means easy of execution. The first is the theoretical and chiefly practical teaching of forestry in all schools—even in barracks. And allow me to mention here, Sir, that a start I find has already been made in that direction, at least as regards agriculture, lectures being given to the soldier on rural questions.

Mr. Pardé proposes forestry excursions and lectures which might be promoted by the forestry expert officials of the State. This could, indeed, be undertaken with useful results. And it seems to me that geographical societies, of which there are now a fair number, as well in your country as in my own—could easily induce their excursionist-members to visit these magnificent forests of France, providing for them at the same time frequent lectures on suitable subjects connected therewith.

Everybody knows how charming are these "Sylvan festivities" (*fêtes de l'arbre*) which Belgium and the United States know so well how to organise.

The distinguished Beauvais inspector named wishes these "festivities" to increase in number, and there is no commune near a wood where a celebration of this kind could not take place with complete success.

The French people at all times have been prone to planting trees commemorative of Libe ty. The reafforestation of a country is important enough also to justify the planting of commemorative trees, such as the noble oak of 400 years' growth which M. Peiffer, of Compiègne, drove me out to see. These would in due time soon create places of public resort.

Encouragement should also be given—either in money, seeds, or plants—to private individuals desirous of reafforesting their fallow lands.

In short, it seems to me that Mr. Pardé wants to keep an eye—a very alert eye—on the future! The methods he advocates are many and most carefully thought out, and one can but desire to see in all countries men as devoted to forestry as himself, willing and ready to advance these

methods with steady application and without undue delay.—Yours, &c.,

CHARLES HANCOCK, of London, B.L.
(of the Royal Scottish Arboricultural Society).

The Hop Outlook.

SIR,—U.S. official returns show in year ended June 30 last 58,546,111 barrels beer paid excise, 3,894,474 barrels more than in 1905-6. At only 1 lb. hops per barrel America's consumption is 522,733 cwt., and increases 7 per cent. a year; its total 1907 crop is estimated by bears 500,000, by bulls 400,000 cwt. With all its reserves, America has nothing to export, and may have to import.

Europe's crop and reserves are short of its wants.

Present prices are absurd, and cannot but go up. The lack in quality of this year's world's crop is an additional cause of rise; for a like quantity of beer, more weak than strong hops are wanted.

Short sellers' reasonings are peculiar. They make America's consumption 430,000 cwt. only, and add to its supply at present visible 70,000 cwt. which they say America will this season import from Germany. So they arrive at an American surplus for export.—Yours, &c.,

Antwerp, VAN WINT AND CO.
October 11, 1907.

Sunday Labour During Harvest.

SIR,—With your permission I would say, good "Lux," I like thy parrying, which falls as pleasant as thy preaching. And, as thou perceivest, I fall not under either, causing thee to call on thy friend to pick up his quarter staff. For "friend" let me repeat, and parley not. Who doubts friendship of a quality that takes up his neighbour's cause valiantly?—though, alack, such a cause!

The ailing cow, or the ancient ox in the pit on the Sabbath? Does the older similitude suffer most from use or abuse, as excuse for labour of a very different type? Wise men recognise their weakness, as it is told, and thou would weight thy argument with the force of a railway company.

Yet I would judge thee more at home in the forest than in a director's chair on dividend day. So thy company, fearful of upsetting the weekly routine (and dividends, perchance) scarcely takes us in argument. Matched with steam, physical endurance finds its limit, and then, good "Lux," other things get upset.

But i' faith art thou with me in principle, and seek only to defend thy exceptions, for Sunday harvesting.

Hearken, then, how in Barnsdale rumour telleth of a magistrate and a lawyer who, labouring not on other days, set themselves carrying corn on Sunday—leaving the farm hands to rest on that day. And from the Lincolnshire of thy friend comes the tale of a holy clerk who needs must secure his crops on Sunday in wet times.

Yet, alack, for the example to the flock, so boldly set. For the wheels stuck, and failed to perform their proper office—held by the evil one as 'twas said—though, perchance, by the sodden wet furrows of the glebe. These and such exceptions are fully granted to "Lux." Let the Lincolnshire writer of "Notes" also carry his precepts by his own practical example before he suggest that others should harvest on Sunday. For, "Lux," I doubt whether even thou would support him in practice as valiantly as thou hast attempted to defend his precepts.

For beshrew me, I could like thy parrying, and had I the ales of Newark or eau-de-vie of Dublin (dost remember a certain camp at Lincoln Show?) thy cup should measure to thine inclination, while we wait in this glade, for that writer of precepts.

Yet why wait, since "Farmer's Wife" interpreted his precepts at the outset?—Yours, &c.,

WAMBA.

Socialism in the Villages.

SIR,—Your remarks on the folly of the Anti-Socialist going into the villages are not only opportune, but deserving of careful consideration from those responsible for the silly move. The Socialists here are highly elated over the want of diplomacy shown by their opponents. It is only this year that they—the Socialists—made their first attempt to open up the country places, and the lack of interest shown by the rustics was not too encouraging.

Now, although the rural population do not show any appreciation of Socialism at present, the doctrine only needs to be systematically preached to be readily swallowed. Agricultural labourers may not be cute, but they have enough sense to know that their life's work is not honestly rewarded. They know, too, that Liberalism and Toryism have each failed to raise a labourer's wage very far from starvation point. This being so—once the labourers are interested—any *new* party is sure to be given a trial.

That Socialism must be fought most now know; the difficulties of the situation are, however, more than ordinary, and deserve more thought than the Anti-Socialist League has given to the subject. No doubt you have noticed that the Socialists now in Parliament were not returned because their constituents had become Socialists; they simply made a point of drawing special attention to the need for certain reforms which affect commercial life more than the religious or educational. "Old Age Pensions," "Living Wage," "Unemployment," &c., were debated, not Socialism as such.

Once a few of these reforms are made law—provided the job is not put off too long—the Socialists will not have a peg upon which to hang their arguments.

Make the labourers more happy. For the propagation of Socialism the best field is a discontented mind.

The reforms just mentioned must become law soon. Why, then, does not the Tory or Liberal manfully tackle these matters?

After a life of hard work it surely is not right for a labourer to be compelled to finish up in the workhouse. The best way to fight Socialism is to remedy these faults of our present system.

I should like to see further notes from you on this important matter.—Yours, &c.,

October 17, 1907. TIMELY REFORM.

West Country Notes.

THE success which attended the horses ridden by a West Countryman at Olympia in the summer caused a change of hands of the champion jumper at a substantial figure, as will be remembered. The good stroke of business rendered it necessary that the stud should be replenished, and Mr. Glencross has set out on a journey "down under" to see if the champion can be matched in the land of its nativity.

THE same issue of the Melbourne papers which gives an account and views of their own Royal Show gives a spirited reproduction of the Olympian win at the high jump.

THIS is not the only item of interest to West countrymen connected with our antipodean friends. It is evident that they have a very poor idea of our cidermen's methods. They state, on the authority of a London correspondent, that the French cider makers can afford to buy apples in Somerset, as English growers, though they have the best of fruit, fail to make a good use of it. This is news indeed. There are, no doubt, some cases in which old-fashioned methods prevail, and a lot of cider is made for local use according to ideas which the more expert makers would not approve of, and the medical fraternity would condemn.

THE real facts of the case are that the most expert cider makers readily buy up all the fruit obtainable in ordinary years, and convert it into a luscious drink on the most sanitary lines, and with the utmost cleanliness.

THE report goes on to say that many of the English cider makers pay too little heed to cleanliness in their work, and none to uniformity of product, which is essential to success in all industries. There is a sub-stratum of truth in this, but it is no more the whole truth than the former statement. Plenty of men pay the closest attention to all the details of production, and to securing as far as possible the uniformity which is an absolute necessity to them to fill their contracts and maintain their trade.

THEIR Continental rivals, we are further told, use good fruit, handle it carefully, and produce a satisfactory beverage, which they sell at good profit either in their own country or in England. Proper attention in their own interests would even now prevent English orchardists from running the risk of losing a source of income which the foreigner may otherwise take from them.

EVIDENTLY the writer of the report which has been quoted is not aware of the splendid work which has been going on for many years in the Butleigh homestead, for which the French Government has awarded special honours, and later in the National Fruit and Cider Institute at Long Ashton, from which has developed a great advance in every particular in cider-making. Throughout the Western Counties, and wherever in the kingdom cider is made, this influence is felt; and one result already secured is the settling of the vexed question as to what is cider, and the declaration of a court of justice that cider is the juice of the apple.

THE step thus taken must be followed up by others, and the Conference on educational work in the agricultural world, which includes cider production, which takes place at Bristol this week, and the forthcoming Cider Makers' Conference at Shepton Mallet, will probably indicate lines on which advances can be made.

IT is a coincidence that concurrently with the arrival of the papers with the unfriendly criticism of English cider methods, an effort was being made to establish friendly relations with cider makers from "down under," and an exchange of views and productions. A Hereford native who, having settled in Australia and done splendid service for the empire, is now in his native land trying to serve Colonial interests in commercial ways, will, it is hoped, be at the cider makers conference referred to, and will be able not only to give some account of what is being done in Australia, but also carry back a correct opinion on the state of affairs in England. If the opportunity occurs, he may be able to supplement our scanty crop of English apples by importations of those which his own colony can produce. New South Wales has sent some cider samples to England.

POLICE sergeants are not all saints—some of them were never built that way—but here and there one can be found who is really all round an estimable fellow. When we hear one of this sort declaring with a woe-begone air that the "marriage licences for pigs" are rapidly driving him to the nether regions, and hear the corresponding remarks of the farmers who have been awaiting his return from a beat of fourteen to twenty miles afoot, one wonders how much longer the office-boy regulations are to prevail.

SURELY the present absurd conditions were never drafted by anyone who had the least idea of country police work. In a town the police office has always its occupant. In the country it is mostly locked up. The conditions of the two places are totally dissimilar. The regulations which would work well in the one place are impossible to carry out in the other without a maximum of loss and annoyance all round. It is to be hoped that farmers will unite in impressing as strongly as possible upon those in authority the necessity for a thorough revision of the present regulations which, as I have before pointed out, are unnecessary, because the same end can be secured by other methods.

I AM pleased to hear that the Somerset County authorities are practically unanimous in demanding that the restrictions should be withdrawn. If other counties interested, Cornwall and Devon, follow suit, there is some hope of a modification. It will only be by continuous pressure that such a thing can occur. It is not proposed to open the markets.

DEVON is still exercised over the young hounds. Somerset has cut the Gordian knot by adding a clause to their exceptions, which places "hounds of any age already marked for the purpose of identification" on the same level as those already in the pack as regards collars. There is a difference of opinion outside on how far this is wise, and many would gladly see these mischievous youngsters kept under stricter control, instead of the control being relaxed!

SMALL holdings return for Somerset shows that there is practically no demand in nineteen districts (eight rural and eleven urban), a partial demand in six rural, a demand but insufficient land in five districts (one rural, four urban), no available land in one urban, and no returns from eight districts (two rural, six urban).

AT the meeting of the county council on Wednesday the Right Hon. Henry Hobhouse counselled the exercise of great tact in putting the Act into operation. It was a delicate thing to take land from a man who valued his land and did not wish to give it up, and give it to a man who was anxious to take it. It was comparatively easy for Parliament to pass an Act of the sort, but it was exceedingly difficult for those who had to administer it; and he advised proceeding very cautiously and discreetly with the experiment.

A GOOD old West of England parson has passed away in the Rev. E. B. C. Spurway, whom old competitors at the Bath and West found a formidable opponent in the cider classes. He had attained the good age of eighty-two.

October 18, 1907.

The Wem and District Agricultural Association's annual ploughing matches and hedging and ditching competitions will take place on Friday next, the 25th inst, on the farm occupied by Mr. J. Parker, English Frankton. There will be five ploughing matches, with prizes ranging up to £2, whilst there are several specials. The hedging and ditching competitions are divided into three classes, with prizes of the value of 30s. to 5s., the latter being the fifth prize in each class. Entries close to-day (Monday) with the secretary, Mr. Philip Lee, Wem, Shropshire.

DAIRY.

Variations in Quality of Milk.

The importance of recognising the variations in the quality of milk which are natural ones cannot be over-rated. The fact that a definite legal standard has been fixed, below which milk may not be sold, is only one phase of the matter. It is in the interest of the farmer to know accurately what variations take place from time to time in the quality of the milk given both by individual cows and by the herd as a whole. With this knowledge at hand he can take steps to remove or modify the circumstances which tend to lower the quality, or, at least, he knows which circumstances causing the variations can be safely ignored, and which need immediate attention in the interest both of the milk and of the cow and of his own pocket.

Of the factors which tend to produce such variations, the period of lactation—that is, the length of time since calving took place—is one over which no control can be exercised. The loss of milking time owing to calving is, on an average, from six to eight weeks. This leaves, roughly, the usual 300 days as the length of the milking period. One investigator has expressed the variation in the quality of milk during this period by dividing it into three equal periods. He finds that during the second period the milk was 17 per cent. richer in fat than during the first, and during the third it was 46 per cent. richer than during the first. The term "variation in quality" has in practice almost become limited to the variation in fat present in the milk, though the albumin and casein and the ash and sugar should also be taken into consideration. Since, however, the ash and sugar are found under widely varying conditions to vary very little, while the variations of the albumin are equally slight, there remains only the casein and the fat to consider. It has been found generally that in average milk where the percentage of fat lies between 3 and 4·5, the changes of casein keep a practically constant ratio with those of the fat. Taking all these points into consideration, it is clear that in knowing the changes which occur in the percentages of fat present we have in brief a good idea of the varying quality generally, and it is this fact which justifies the consideration of the fat present being regarded as fairly indicative of the character of the milk, so far as all its constituents are concerned.

One other method is adopted of indicating the change in fat content according to the interval from calving.

The general effect of becoming pregnant is to lessen the tendency to give milk. For this two causes may be given. The first is considered to be merely a sympathetic effect which comes into play immediately upon conception taking place, and is probably slighter in its effect on the production and yield of the milk. The second is purely physical, and is caused by the withdrawal of the blood from the udder in order to ensure the full nourishment of the growing young.

This is naturally not marked at first, but steadily increases, and by the time the fourth or fifth month of pregnancy is reached it is the essential cause of the diminution in the supply of milk. There are, as would be expected, considerable variations from this in individual animals, varying from those who hold out in such a way that the effect of becoming pregnant is little or none, to those who during the whole period are practically useless as milk producers.

The variations in the fat content of the milk after the calf is dropped, and after the colostrum has ceased, are such that from the third or fourth week to the seventh or eighth month the fat remains practically constant in quantity. Yet there is a definite variation noticeable in the character of the fat globules.

Early on in this period the globules are much larger in size, and, as the distance from parturition increases, these gradually diminish in size, but at the same time so increase in number, that only very slight variation is observable in the total fat present. Early in the period the cows are often out at pasture, and the character of the fresh food materially aids another characteristic of the milk. During that period the fat is found to contain more of the soft olein, which may even rise up to as much as 50 per cent. of the whole fat present, whereas the normal amount of this is only about 34. As time goes on this slowly diminishes, and the proportion of the harden fats, shearin and palmivin, increases, until from 50 per cent. the olein may drop as low as 20 per cent. This natural variation is intensified by any change from fresh to dry food, which may take place at the same time, and which also tends to increase the proportion of the hard, and lower that of the soft fats present.

A second cause of variation in the fat content of the milk, is as "natural" as the one above mentioned, and its modification is just as far beyond the power of the dairymen to effect. This is the difference between first-drawn milk (fore milk) and last-drawn milk (stripping-). It is well known that a wide difference exists between the extremes, and the first quart drawn may show a percentage of little over one, while the strippings will frequently rise as high as 10 per cent., being thus ten times richer in fat than the first-drawn milk.

The old explanation of this was simple and natural and very probably incorrect. It regarded the milk as naturally creaming itself while lying in the udder; the cream naturally rose to the top and the lower, the first-drawn portions, were thus a sort of skim milk, while the last contained the cream, and hence showed such a large increase in fat.

A more correct explanation is probably that the large globules of fat which tend to make the proportion of fat rise highest move much less readily along the milk ducts than the more watery portion of the milk. The latter, therefore, is first out, while the slower-moving fat globules come on later. This slow movement will also be still further retarded, as the udder becomes distended with the earlier milk, and considerable pressure is thus exerted on the milk ducts along which the slow-moving large fat globules have to pass.

Another assisting cause is suggested in the probable reabsorptive action of the lymphatics upon the milk which has been long standing in the milk cisterns. This absorptive action is naturally slow, and hence is apparent more clearly in the milk which has come first into the udder and remained there a considerable time before being drawn as the first drawn milk. The later milk, which has been in the udder a considerably shorter time, has suffered to a less degree the absorptive action of these lymphatics, and hence has retained a much higher proportion of fat.

LACTISSIMA.



Our illustration above is of the Jersey Cow Post Obit, winner of the First Prize in the Jersey Butter Test, First Prize in the Milking Trials, and Highly Commended by Inspection at the recent London Dairy Show. Post Obit, who was bred and exhibited by Mr. J. H. Smith-Barry, Stowell Park, Pewsey, Wilts, is 3 years 6 months old, and has produced two calves. She is by Gay Boy out of Post Stamp 6th.

Cheshire Cheese Show.

The twenty-sixth annual show of the Cheshire Dairy Farmers' Association was held in the Market Hall, Chester, on Tuesday and Wednesday, when a record was established in point of entries of cheese, there being 511 exhibits of cheese, comprising over 3,000 cheeses from the best dairies in the famous cheese county, and it is estimated that the display represented 90 tons. The cheese varied from the very big to the very small, but the medium sized was in a great majority, and coloured cheese predominated over white.

For the second year in succession Mr. Harry Denson, of Poulton, Chester, carried off the gold medal given by the association with a lot six weeks old and made on the medium ripening principle. They were shown in the class for the best twelve cheese, whereas last year the champion lot came from the "no barbed wire" class. They were rich, open-meated, clean-flavoured, very bright in colour, and of fair-keeping properties. Mr. Denson is a tenant of the Duke of Westminster, and has won many championships at important shows. He has this year won the Challenge Cup at Birkenhead, and the Duke of Westminster's Cup and first at the Cheshire Show. At the Fair the champion cheese was disposed of at the fine price of 145s. per cwt., the best for many years. The association's silver medal for the reserve lot in the final competition for the gold medal was awarded to Mr. R. Cooper, Ridley Hill, one of Lord Tollemache's tenants, whose cheese were also of high merit.

While the cheese as a whole were a splendid display, of fine quality, and well worthy the great fame of the premier cheese-making county, there were some lots in the show which helped to swell the total entries, and had no pretensions to winning in high-class company. One unfortunate feature, however, was that some excellent lots were disqualified through one or two of the cheese being discoloured. The judges could not assign any one cause for this discolouration, but suggested that there must be a variety of causes, or any single cause would have been discovered. It is a problem which they recommend cheesemakers to carefully study. The present summer has, of course, been the most trying for some years on account of the thundery spells, and the weather would no doubt adversely affect many cheese.

The class with the largest entry was that for the best four coloured or uncoloured. There were no fewer than ninety-five entries, and here again the judges found above the average number of discoloured cheese At the same time the general excellence of quality was so gratifying that many lots which had to be content with highly commended or commended cards were well worthy of receiving prize money. The class represented all the leading dairies of the county, and the judges of this class observed that it was not the early-ripening cheese which had won, but the substantial cheese full of body and substance. Mr. R. Cooper, of Ridley Hill, was placed first, Mr. Harry Denson second, Mr. R. Mullock, of Waverton, third, and Mr. W. H. Hobson, of Blakenhall (winner at the London Dairy Show) fourth.

As usual there were a number of classes for butter, which received fair patronage, whilst the butter all round was highly creditable.

There was a splendid show of cheese at the fair in conjunction with the show on Wednesday. One hundred tons of cheese were pitched, and also 100 tons of show cheese. There was a capital attendance of buyers, and trade was sharp. The best lots realised 65s. to 70s. per cwt., one lot fetching a higher figure. Medium lots 60s. to 64s., and lower grades down to 55s.

The champion gold medal cheese was sold for 145s. per cwt., which is in advance of the price obtained for the last few years. Silver medal cheese realised 120s. per cwt. Some of the first prize lots were purchased at prices ranging from 80s. to 100s., and other prize cheese made from 72s. 6d. to 80s., and ordinary show cheese from 65s to 70s.

Lincolnshire Notes.

ANOTHER Daniel is coming to the judgment of the small holder. Lord Kesteven, a gentleman who seldom speaks in the county, told his mind to a meeting of agriculturists at Weston, near Spalding. He did not propose to say a word against small holdings; he believed in them in reason. But they did not pay, and that was the reason why small holdings had decreased in number in the last 100 years. His lordship hinted that something in the direction of Fiscal Reform might alter things, but that he very rightly dismissed as quite another story.

THE burden of his argument was that whatever may be right about the subject, the Government is wrong. Some of their statements reminded him of the prospectuses put forward by promoters of what were popularly called "wild cat undertakings." If they were sure of the success of small holdings, why did not the Government devote some of the money they were using so freely, and buy up land to experiment with it, instead of pursuing what he called the distinctly dishonest policy of forcing the landowner to adopt the system which he believed to be wrong, and to compel him to let land in small holdings, whether he liked it or not?

WELL, time will tell us. A hundred years hence we shall all be competent to judge whether the small holdings movement is a failure or not. But that, too, will be quite another story.

MR. ATKINSON'S sale, at which his lordship spoke, averaged £34 2s. 10d. for the sixty-five lots. Mr. Atkinson is one of the foremost amongst the men who have devoted themselves to the improvement of the Lincolnshire Reds. He is quite in the front rank amongst the breeders, a prominent Royal winner, and his stock represents the very best the county has to show.

SOME important farming property has just changed hands in the South Lincolnshire district. Last week the whole of the Preston estates were purchased by Messrs. Calthrop and Leopold Harvey, solicitors of Spalding. The land comprises about 500 acres, the principal farms being the Marrow Hall Farm, Lutton, consisting of about 170 acres, which has been occupied by Mr. R. M. Wright and his late father (Mr. Wm. Wright) for the past fifty-three years; the Gedney Marsh Farm of about 130 acres, occupied by Mr. F. W. Tillson and his father for about fifty years; and a farm of about 150 acres at Swineshead. The purchase has no special significance, and I understand that the present tenants are not to be disturbed.

TWENTY tons to the acre. How's that for a potato harvest? Such has been the luck and the fruits of good husbandry of Councillor Tunnard, of Kirton, the well-known grower. It is the heaviest yield in the Boston district, and twice as big as would be regarded as a good average that way. Councillor Tunnard has been awarded a prize by Mr. J. H. Milestone, of Hull, for his achievement.

THE splendid harvest and the propitious weather are accounting for a much larger acreage of corn being sown this year. The farmers of Lincolnshire are beginning to be busy again.

MR. COHEN, of the Board of Trade, who is inquiring into the grievances of Lincolnshire farmers against the railway companies, was in several agricultural centres in the county last week. Mr. Cohen is gathering a good deal of information, and he seems to be drawing up a pretty strong indictment.

MR. COATES SHARPLEY, whose sudden death is recorded this week, was one of the biggest and best known farmers in Lincolnshire. The eldest son of the late Mr. Croft Sharpley, of Acthorpe, near Louth, he had resided at Kelstern Hall some fifty years. He was reputed to be the largest farmer in England. He owned and occupied nine farms, with a total acreage of between 6,000 and 7,000. His farms were at Kelstern, Wold, Newton (two), Grainthorpe, Alvingham, Towes, Bishopthorpe, and Brackenborough. He was a Churchman, and in politics a Conservative, and one of the strong men of the Louth district.

CATTLE owners, who graze their stock by the roadside, must beware. The law is on their track. At the sitting of the Gainsborough police last week, the Chairman (Mr. W. Embleton Fox) drew the attention of Supt. Wilkinson to the inconvenience caused by the presence of cattle on the roads. It was becoming increasingly a nuisance now that the roads were so much used by cyclists and motorists. It did not so much matter twenty years ago, when there were few cycles, or ten years ago, when there were no motors; but it seemed a great pity nowadays, when the roads were so much more important than they were; that there was no alteration of the law, so that no cattle should be allowed on the roads in this way.—Supt. Wilkinson said all the "tenters" in his district had been warned. The Bench might rest assured that the first case that came to his notice would be brought before them.

SOME of the Gainsborough farmers are beginning to ask what they pay their rates for? Also to express the fervent hope that their friends, the motorists, will graciously permit them to be on the earth.

A LOT of sixty-eight Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns from the herd of Mr. J. Langham, J.P., were disposed of by Messrs. Dickinson, Riggall, and Davy, at Brandon Grange, near Grantham, on Thursday. The total realised by the yearlings was 504½ guineas, or an average of £20 7s. 6d., whilst the females fetched in all £1,453 14s. 6d., which gives an average of £23 16s. 7d. Bull calves ranged in price from 8 guineas to 11½ guineas, and the sale realised £1,506 17s. Mr. W. J. Atkinson, of Weston, gave 28 guineas for Brandon Faith, and Mr. R. Chatterton, of Stenigot, 52 guineas for Brandon Ruby Nonpareil.

LINCOLNSHIRE FARMERS' UNION.

DONCASTER BRANCH.

A short time ago a meeting was held under the auspices of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union at Doncaster, when it was decided to form a local branch of the Union, and on the 12th inst. this resolution was put into effect, the branch being put on a sound business basis at a well attended meeting presided over by Mr. T. Harrison, of Marr, who was elected president of the branch.

Mr. Harrison said there was every encouragement for them to form a branch for Doncaster and the district, and every reason why they should do so and make it a very useful and flourishing branch. He had conferred with many leading agriculturists, and he was really surprised to find how general was the feeling in favour of the Union scheme. He understood that the Union had been very successful in Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire, and he thought that in an important area of Yorkshire like the Doncaster district a branch of the Union ought to be even more successful. There were many things in political and trading directions that they, as individual tenant farmers, were unable to cope with, but if they were combined there was no difficulty that could not be faced and overcome. They would be able to protect their interests as an important section of the public, and be in direct touch with Parliament. He saw no reason why a great industry like that of farming should not be directly represented at St. Stephen's.

Mr. Featherstone, one of the pioneers of the Union, said he had never had cause to regret being one of the founders of the Union. It seemed strange that while other trades and professions had their unions, from professional men like lawyers, to miners, all having representatives in Parliament to voice their case when their interests were attacked, the farmers had remained behind. Until the farmers placed themselves on similar footing they would not be able to protect their interests. A most important feature of the Union's work was legal aid, in which the Union had proved to be of great service in cases where, had the farmers been on their individual ground, they would have fallen. But that was not the extent of the Union's ramifications. Agriculture was the biggest industry in the country, and in connection with it they were all glad for brighter times in the way of prices. They wished to get upon a thoroughly sound system, to have their industry acknowledged and show the British public that they wished not to inflate prices, but to have their interests guarded in a respectable fashion, so as to be able to command the support of the public.

Amongst many things that they wanted was the registering of foreign meat. It was only right that when one went to a shop for Yorkshire mutton or beef he should have what he required, but at the present time anyone could sell foreign meat and charge the same price as for meat bred and fed at home. In common honesty it was time that this kind of thing was put an end to, and all those shops that sold foreign meat should be registered. In the matter of Army supply it was right that they should supply beef, pork, and mutton to the army that existed for the interests of the country in which they carried on their industry.

The question of rates cropped up from time to time, and it was clear that the farmer paid an undue share of the rates for the maintenance of the roads. The automobile had come, and come to stay, and it certainly should pay in some form or another to the maintenance of the roads that it used. As matters were, they who paid were practically driven off the roads that their fathers and grandfathers made.

Education rates pressed heavily upon them, and they did not get the advantage they ought to get in proportion to the rates that they paid. They wanted children in the country districts educated according to the conditions of their lives. They did not want them to be educated for town life. He, personally, would like to see a system whereby schools could be closed for a longer period in summer, and something in the nature of night schools introduced, so that boys would have the opportunity of being trained in a practical manner for the conditions of life that they would be called upon to fulfil.

Urging the necessity of combination, he said that the members of the Farmers' Union had not to pay a subscription even in proportion to that of the miners. The teachers had a union and two or three members of Parliament. In an ordinary way they had only a couple of teachers in a village, yet they could be well represented in Parliament, while farmers, of whom there were generally three or four in an ordinary village, were not represented.

Mr. Palmer, secretary of the Union, also made a speech, and in the course of his remarks spoke against the preferential railway rates for foreign produce, and said correspondence was being carried on with the President of the Board of Trade as to the unequal rates that the Lincolnshire and East Midland counties were paying on railways. They were paying 20 or 25 per cent. more than the North-Eastern, London and South-Western, and Great Eastern railways. Unfortunately, they would carry on their own lines, but when they got on other lines, up went the rates about 25 per cent. The Union were doing their best to meet this difficulty, and, he felt, would meet it well.

Mr. C. D. Nicholson, speaking in support of the Union movement, expressed himself as thoroughly in accord with most of the propositions of the Union. He was glad that there was nothing protective in this movement. There was no reason why the Doncaster district should not vie with and surpass any district in the Union.

The election of Mr Harrison as president of the new branch was confirmed, and Mr. J. Law was made vice-chairman. Mr. Law said the Union was a good movement, and he would do his best for it.

The president proposed that Mr. Dodson be the secretary for the next twelve months, Mr. Law seconded, and Mr. Coward supported, both testifying to Mr. Dodson's ability and the general respect in which he was held. The appointment was duly made, and the following elected the committee, with power to be added to:—Messrs. C. A. Chatterton (Intake), Ford (Wheatley); Salmon (Wilsic), G. Lockwood (Hickleton), J. Cooke, G. Pennington, R. Coward, W. Hinchliffe, Milner (Clifton), J. H. Haresign.

A vote of thanks to the chairman closed the meeting.

The membership of the new branch represents about 11,000 acres of land in the Doncaster district.

Small Holdings Commissioners.

Earl Carrington, K.G., President of the Board Agriculture and Fisheries, has appointed Messrs. Edwin John Cheney and Matthew Talbot Baines to be Small Holdings Commissioners for the purposes of the Small Holdings and Allotments Act, 1907.

Mr. Edwin John Cheney was born in the year 1862, and was educated privately and at Jesus College, Cambridge, and subsequently at the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester, where he took a Diploma with Honours and the Haygarth Gold Medal. In 1888 he was elected, after examination, as a Professional Associate of the Surveyors' Institution. Since that date he has been concerned with the management of extensive landed estates in Surrey, Somerset, Dorset, Wilts, and Suffolk. In 1904 Mr. Cheney founded the Eastern Counties Farmers' Co-operative Association, of which he is the chairman, which has now a membership of over 600 and a turnover of some £170,000 a year.

Mr. Matthew Talbot Baines was born in the year 1863, and was educated at Harrow and Trinity Hall, Cambridge. In 1891 he was enrolled after examination, as a Fellow of the Surveyors' Institution, and has been concerned with the management of landed property in Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, Hertfordshire, Warwickshire, and Wiltshire.

Nottinghamshire Notes.

TEMPESTUOUS and stormy weather, accompanied by a heavy fall of rain, has been the chief characteristic so far as the atmospheric conditions are concerned during the present week. This has naturally considerably impeded the progress of the preparations being made for the sowing of wheat, winter oats, and beans. Odd fields have been drilled, but taking the county as a whole very few farmers begin sowing until the latter end of October.

SINCE my last notes a large acreage of potatoes have been lifted, and as with results of the corn harvest there has been much surprise created by the yield. On the light land I am told that there are actually more and better potatoes than were gathered in a year back. Here and there patches have been affected by disease, but not to any great extent. Since the advent of October tubers have increased in price about 15s. per ton, and one of the leading wholesale merchants gives it as his opinion that long before Christmas quotations will show an advance of £1 per ton as compared with the prices ruling at the present time.

THIS statement led me to ask the cause for dearer potatoes, and the reply I received is certainly worth recording, for the merchant stated: "The price of bread has increased by ½d. per loaf within a few weeks, and many people, when they find that 1s. only pays for two instead of three loaves quickly look round for a substitute. Many families who have hitherto consumed large quantities of bread at their mid-day meal will fall back upon potatoes, hence a larger demand. The supply not being so large as twelve months ago and the demand considerably greater, there is bound to be higher prices secured for potatoes in the near future."

THE Nottingham, Newark, Deansfield, Retford, and Worksop corn markets, along with the rest of the country, are just now of more than ordinary interest, so far as farmers are concerned. Agriculturists are reaping a rich harvest, and can hardly yet realise that wheat is once more in the region of £2 per quarter. But the saying that "much wants more" has once again proved true, and where farmers are not in immediate want of ready cash they are holding out for still higher prices.

WILL wheat make more money? is a question I have been asked many times during the past two or three weeks, and personally I am honestly of the opinion that it will. There is without doubt a certain shortage in the world's supplies, and the law of supply and demand will bring about still higher rates. This opinion is borne out by Mr. Robert Hubble, the genial secretary of the Nottingham Corn Exchange Company, who has been in business as a corn factor for many years, and also by Messrs. Armitage and Hopewell, with whom I have had a brief chat this week. Malting barley is also fetching higher prices, and the same may be said regarding oats and beans.

"HOW will this sudden return to prosperity affect the letting of land?" was a question I addressed to a large estate agent yesterday. "Most of the farms which were given up last Lady Day have been taken on again," he replied. "Our books are practically clear, and in some cases landlords have instructed us to ask for increased rentals. Many farmers who were hovering within measurable distance of the bankruptcy court will be set on their feet again, and land will quickly go up in value. Farmers want two or three years like this, and we should then hear less about the rural exodus."

MR. A. W. HICKLING, of Adbolton, Notts, and Messrs. Henry Dudding and R. Wright, of Lincolnshire, have arrived home from the Argentine, where they have been judging at the great Palermo Show.

THE Adbolton Stud of Hackneys has long been famous, and Mr. A. W. Hickling does not mean his horses to lack proper training. He has just had a large trotting and show ring made adjoining his stables, which will, without doubt, create surprise to visitors when they see its elaborate character. It is a good length, and boarded the whole of the way round to the height of about 8 ft., so that the attention of the animals will not be diverted when out exercising.

PROFESSOR ARKELL, of the McGill University, Canada, has purchased for the Macdonald College a very fine Large White boar and sow from Mr. R. M. Knowles, Colston Bassett, bred from noted prize-winning sows. An order has also been received from Frankfort, Germany, for a number of pigs from the same herd to be sent there.

ONE of the most serious cases of milk adulteration in Nottingham for some time was heard by the city magistrates to-day, when a man named Arthur Dexter, of Cinder Hill, was fined Inspector Sutton, in the course of his evidence, said that on July 27 samples were taken from two churns and also a bucket. The analyses gave the following startling results:—(1) 16 per cent. deficient in fat, and 14 per cent. of added water; (2) 19 per cent. deficient in fat and 13 per cent. of added water; (3) 7 per cent. deficient in fat, and 7 per cent. added water.

DEXTER denied interfering with the milk, but the chairman of the magistrates (Mr. F. Acton) said he must have known that he was grossly defrauding the public in selling such adulterated milk. "We intend to protect the public as far as we can, and in two cases we fine you £5, or £10 and costs."

MR. ARTHUR S. GIBSON, who for many years was steward at Ruddington to the late Mr. Philo L. Mills, has left this district to take up a similar appointment in South Lancashire.

BREAD has been advanced in price throughout the major part of this district, and is now selling at 6d per quartern loaf. I understand that another meeting of the Master Bakers' Association is to be held next week to consider the advisability of further increasing the price.

ONE of Derbyshire's leading farmers died on Tuesday in the person of Mr. T. B. Handley, of Swarkestone Lows, near Derby, at the age of fifty-six. Deceased met with an accident on Wednesday last, being thrown out of a trap in endeavouring to avoid a collision with another vehicle on entering the village of Swarkestone. He was returning home from judging at the Brailsford ploughing-match. It was mainly due to Mr. Handley that the Derbyshire Dairy Farmers' Association came into existence, deceased being one of the largest dairy farmers in the county. He was for many years a member of the council of the Derbyshire Agricultural Society, and also a member of the Shardlow Board of Guardians and Rural District Council. For some time deceased resided at Wirksworth and Stanton-by-Bridge. He leaves a widow and two sons to mourn his loss. One of Mr. Handley's sons died as the result of an accident on the farm a few years back. It was at Swarkestone Lows farm that a famous agriculturist lived for many years to whom is due the honour of first introducing the Shorthorn into the county—I refer to the late Mr. Wm. Smith. It was in 1818 that Mr. Smith attended a sale of Durham cattle at Mr. Colling's in that county, and many people thought him mad when he gave 621 guineas for a bull. However, in less than ten years afterwards Mr. Smith had a sale of Shorthorns at Swarkestone Lows, when over £4,000 was realised.

R. K.

October 17, 1907.

Dumfries hiring fair was held on Wednesday, when there was a moderate attendance of male servants, female servants also being scarce. Wages for experienced ploughmen were about the usual, but less experienced hands received from £13 to £14 10s., lads from £3 10s. to £7 10s., byrewomen to £10 10s., and kitchen women to £10.

Messrs. J. Rands and Jeckell, of Ipswich, have just issued a new illustrated list of their well-known rot-proof and weather-proof covers, which are in great demand at present for covers for machinery, &c., also particulars are given of their horse cloths and clothing, horses' loin covers, &c., together with other items for which they are famous. The extremely changeable weather we have been having lately has made it almost a necessity to have water and weather-proof covers for the machinery, otherwise it would get rusty and useless; horses have also to have covers on now because of the cold nip in the air in the early morning and late evening. Carters have to be kept dry, and Messrs. Rands and Jeckell have a large variety of waterproof aprons and rugs in stock. They have also a large number of hemp and jute sacks and bags, waggon and cart ropes, plough lines, halters, horse nets, cart nets, &c. The catalogue is well illustrated, a picture of a team of Suffolk horses in the front being especially good, while photographs of waggons, carts, machinery, &c., covered with their waterproof covers, are also shown, and the whole is enclosed in a tastefully-coloured green cover. A copy of this list will be sent free to readers on application.

Effective Spraying of Fruit Trees.

Two New Fluids.

That spraying is no longer an experiment, but a necessary practice in the successful cultivation of fruit, is now generally acknowledged by growers, but the difficulty has been to obtain an altogether satisfactory substance to spray with, and this drawback has led to many researches, notable among which may be mentioned those carried out by the Cooper Research Laboratory at Berkhamstead, and Mr. Walter E. Collinge, M.Sc.F.E.S., &c., head of the Department of Economic Zoology in the University of Birmingham. As the result of their investigations two new spray fluids have been put on the market by Messrs. W. Cooper and Nephews, Berkhamstead, who have issued under the title of "The Spraying of Fruit Trees" an interesting and valuable booklet giving full details of the sprays. A copy should certainly be in the hands of all fruit growers.

The history of the discovery of these two spray fluids is an interesting one, illustrating the fact that two separate and independent investigations not infrequently lead to an almost identical and simultaneous conclusion, and combined, to the solution of a difficult problem.

Mr. Walter Collinge had undertaken a thorough research, with the object of producing a spray fluid which should kill with absolute certainty the eggs of all insects and mites, and, having arrived at a certain formula, he found that the Cooper Research Laboratory had been engaged in similar experiments, the outcome of which was an almost identical preparation.

Messrs. Cooper placed at Mr. Collinge's disposal the results they had achieved, and he, in return, made certain recommendations to them which as above stated has resulted in the placing upon the market of two new fluids under the names of V1 and V2 which, in Mr. Collinge's opinion, are almost impossible to improve upon.

V1 fluid is for winter spraying, and is deadly to all animal parasites and their eggs, and to mosses, lichens, fungi, and their spores.

V2 fluid is for summer spraying, and destroys instantly aphis, scale, and other active pests, without injury to leaf or blossom.

These fluids constitute a complete revolution in spray fluids, being unlike anything else on the market—in composition, in chemical treatment, and in the thoroughness with which they do their work.

V1 fluid is not only a powerful insecticide in the ordinary sense of the term, but it will destroy every egg of every insect and mite, also chrysalids, and other forms of dormant animal life with which it comes in contact. Moreover, it effectively destroys lichens, mosses, and fungi, and does it so completely that they will fall away from the trees, leaving them clean and free of infection. These statements have been borne out over and over again, not only in the laboratory, but in different orchards throughout the country. The claims are further based upon exhaustive experiments on enormous tracts of fruit ground, the results of which show that insect and other pests may be practically exterminated and the crops improved, both in quantity and quality.

Thus with care in the winter spraying and the use of V1 fluid, every orchard may now be so thoroughly cleansed that in the spring time the fruit trees may start into bud, and blossom unhampered and uninjured by the pests which they have hitherto had to encounter. What this means to the fruit grower may readily be imagined.

Of course, no one expects winter spraying to prevent re-infection, no fluid can do this, so that it is necessary, for a time, to give the trees a summer spraying to destroy the insects which come from neighbouring ground. This fact being taken into consideration a separate series of investigations was initiated, and resulted in the discovery of V2 fluid which, as proprietor states, will not injure leaf or blossom, yet is certain death to such insects as apple suckers, aphids, and scale insects.

Both fluids are equally easy of application. They have only to be diluted with cold water to the strength advised in the printed instructions to make perfect spray fluids for their respective purposes.

As to the cost of spraying with V1 and V2 fluids, this is such as to add only an infinitesimal amount to the expenses, for when diluted as directed, they make an absolutely effective spraying mixture at a cost of about a penny a gallon, and as one gallon is sufficient for an average-sized tree, it will be seen how cheap the fluids are. The small cost is, however, soon repaid with bumping interest by the increased production of the trees; in fact, money laid out on V1 and V2 fluids is, without doubt, a first-class investment, and one which no fruit-grower should fail to take advantage of.

At the last meeting of the council of the Hereford Herd Book Society it was decided to give the same amount of money as before to the prize schedule at the Royal Agricultural Show.



Our 1907 Crop.

As far as the official returns can satisfy us, we may rest content with the answers now given to our many questions and our various forecasts. I do not recall any season in which there has been so much uncertainty or so large a range of figures put forward as to the weight of our yield as during the past few weeks. We have ventured as high as 450,000 cwt. and as low as a little more than half that quantity, some being confident that the crop of last year would not be exceeded now.

The official figures just published hardly satisfy the doubts that even still exist, but, at all events, our bets are settled, and some money has changed hands in consequence. In the minds of most of us there yet remains some question as to the correctness of the returns. This is not unusual, when we are aware of the haphazard methods adopted by the Board of Agriculture in this matter.

We are informed that their estimate of the total production of hops in England this year is 347,129 cwt. from 44,938 acres, showing a general average of 8·33 cwt per acre. Assuming this to be approximately accurate, we find an increase in the total from last year of 128,441 cwt., and an increased average of 3·07 cwt. per acre.

Considering the trying and somewhat unfavourable character of the last growing season, this comparison may be accepted as sufficiently satisfactory if we could be certain that it is to be relied upon. I may venture to say, however, that in the opinions of those who are acquainted with the facts, these figures are regarded as only comparative, the general feeling being that the actual crop harvested is somewhat, and perhaps considerably, in excess of the Government statement.

But having said this much, we have no choice but to examine the returns, in order to ascertain what we can from them. We find that with the exception of one insignificant item under the head of Gloucester and Suffolk, the renowned divisions of East Kent and Mid Kent show the worst results of all. Their totals are only 62,035 and 66,117 cwt. respectively, their common average being only 6·87 cwt. The Weald easily beats them, with a total of 93,708 and an average of 9·84 cwt.

Hampshire comes out bravely with an average of 9·70 cwt., and Surrey and Sussex are not far behind with averages of 9·53 and 9·35 cwt.

Turning to the Midlands, we have a good average of 9·48 cwt. from Hereford, but the sister county, Worcester, drops off to 7·79. This last is disappointing, although the Midlands as a whole have yielded much better than people talked about when, at the beginning of picking, it was said that the averages would not exceed 6 cwt. This instance proves how difficult it has been this year to make estimates in advance.

We find, therefore, that while the southern districts have given us 286,493 cwt., we get from the Midlands 87,636 cwt., the latter being about 23 per cent. of the whole yield.

As the Midland acreage remains in about the same proportion to the total English hop area, it can be seen that the growers there are well ho'ding their own with respect to production, and I have every reason to believe with respect to quality also.

The World's Markets.

London.

During the past week the Borough trade has undergone little if any change. As I anticipated in my last report, the comparative scarcity of choice samples has stimulated the demand for such qualities, and values have been slightly advanced.

The tendency in this direction is encouraging to holders, and I am prepared to see still further improvement. We have also more numerous inquiries for low priced lots, but I am not able to trace that any better prices have been realised, indeed, I hear that buyers are still able to operate at the currency of three weeks ago.

The medium sorts, priced at 50s. to 65s., are rather neglected at present, and, as many growers are anxious to sell, the tendency of this class of hops appears to be somewhat in favour of lower figures.

On the whole, the trade can hardly be described as vigorous, although fair quantities have been sold. But there is a dragging undertone in the market, which makes me rather apprehensive concerning the future. Much depends upon the growers themselves. If they are urgent sellers we shall have a dull market, with lower prices, and if they remain firm it is most probable that the market will be strengthened and values will be advanced. Unfortunately the merchants are not finding that their customers are supporting them. Brewers remain more or less indifferent, and until a healthy demand sets in from consumers we can hardly expect much improvement in the Borough.

The *Brewers' Journal* intimates in its issue this week that stocks of yearlings and older hops are held by brewers to some considerable extent, and appears to infer that the trade in hops will probably continue to be quiet for some time to come.

Most sincerely I hope that this will not be the case, as I am painfully aware that the prices at which hops are now being sold are not only unremunerative to growers, but involve very serious losses, and for the sake of the industry we all devoutly desire that this condition of affairs may be speedily replaced by a stronger trade and a substantial rise in values.

Nuremberg.

Although a gradual decline in quotations must be admitted, it is felt that the present position is more encouraging, as American demand has recently restored a rather firmer tone to the market. It is, however, a fact that cannot be ignored, that stocks are increasing, as the new supplies overbalance the sales, which totalled in the week ending October 9, 3,900 bales, whereas the arrivals amounted to 5,300 bales.

It is expected that before long local brewers will be operating more freely, and that a generally improved demand for bright healthy lots will be developed.

Saaz.

The Bohemian crop turns out well as regards quality and colour, and is therefore attracting the attention of the German buyers. Demand has been brisk, and the result is seen in advanced values to the extent of about 10s. per cwt.

Brussels.

The Belgian market remains in a calm and almost lifeless condition. Brewers are only buying sparingly, and dealers are waiting to see which way things are likely to go, and have therefore no special spirit. Current quotations are merely nominal, but they show a slight reduction from those of last week.

Recently at Ghent, and in several villages in Poperinghe, exhibitions of Belgian hops have been held, and competitions for prizes arranged. The examiners of the samples exposed have unanimously declared that marked improvements are evident in the general character of the various growths. The hops are tested in detail, points being awarded for aroma and lupulin, for colour, for the shape of the cones and their wholeness, for care in picking, and for drying or curing.

In all these particulars the judges discern much advancement, many of the samples being accepted as equal in all respects to the produce of other countries previously preferred by Belgian brewers.

These results are attributable to the encouragement given by the Government to the planters and the instructions conveyed in the agricultural schools and by means of the consultative associations established throughout the Belgian hop-growing districts.

America.

Recent advices do not show that the hop trade is improving. A letter just to hand from Washington, referring to the early advance in the English market, says:—"Our opinion is that the advance is only temporary, as the abundance of hops all over the world at the present time will entirely prevent any excitement in the markets.

"Business is very slow in this country, and the range of values on the Pacific Coast to-day is not more than 7 to 9 cents. The estimates we gave you in our last have not changed materially. California, however, is now estimated at 90,000 instead of 85,000 bales. This brings the crops of the U.S.A. to over 300,000 bales.

"Without taking into account the large stocks of "olds" on hand, we will have many more hops than we require, and therefore cannot see anything in the future but lower prices.

"Some efforts are being made by interested parties to minimise the size of the American crop, but this can have no lasting effect. The probability is that later in the year a better idea can be obtained of the actual yields, which will then show up much heavier than we have estimated."

I have received a cable message from the other side, which tells that "Markets are very dull, with very little doing, as buyers are holding off, waiting for lower prices. Brewers' trade very dull."

Imports and Exports.

Our new hop year does not open very favourably with respect to our trade in foreign competitive produce. We learn from the Board of Trade returns for September that we have received during that month from America 6,083 cwt., and from other countries 3,520 cwt., making a total of 9,603 cwt. landed in our ports, just at the moment when our own new crop is coming forward, and when we do not wish to be hindered by the least appearance of supplies from oversea.

This is really very trying to our planters, who are certainly surprised, when they know of invitations being issued to their opponents, by those who profess to be their best friends. Our exports for the same month are small, being only 271 cwt. of English and 66 cwt. of foreign hops, so that we are burdened already with a balance of 9,266 cwt. that we could very well do without, but which we fear are but the advance guard of an army that is even now threatening to invade us, to our sorrow, forecasting as it does ultimate disaster, so long as we are in our present helpless position.

These notes of warning are not pleasant to me who sound them, and I am sure they are equally unwelcome to my friends who read them. I wish we could assure ourselves that the forewarning meant the fore-arming, but, unhappily, we have no remedy for the coming evil day so long as we allow our rulers to remain quiescent, and so long as they remain deaf to our cries for reasonable assistance.

May the day soon come when the urgent necessities of our industry will arouse us to action, when one mind will influence us, and one mighty voice will be heard demanding justice for those who have so long laboured for their country's good, and suffered for her sake.

Earl Carrington on Horse Breeding.

In the course of a speech at Scarborough on Friday evening, Earl Carrington, President of the Board of Agriculture, referred to the question of horse breeding, and remarked that there was a general agreement that the present position of the industry was very far from satisfactory, as was seen from the fact that 10,000 fewer foals were dropped this year than last year. It was impossible to ignore the fact that many agriculturists were very dissatisfied with the Royal Commission. The opinion seemed to be growing that the matter should be put under Ministerial control instead of being left to an independent body, responsible to no one, and that a strong practical body should be created responsible to Parliament, on which the War Office, the Board of Agriculture, practical horse dealers, and representatives of agricultural societies should be represented. At present the War Office bought only horses at five years old. But farmers said they could not afford to keep animals for five years and then only get £40 each for them, though they were willing to breed them if they were bought at three years. On the other hand, they were of little use to the Government under five years, and it would cost £30 a year to keep them, which would involve a heavy dead weight expenditure on horses not available for service.

He did not profess to be able to suggest a solution of the difficulty, but he thought something might be learnt from the plan which was in force in France. There the Remount Committee usually bought three-year-olds in the autumn of their fourth year. In the case of mares suitable as brood mares, they were authorised to purchase in March or April, paying down their full value, and leaving them with their owners on the following conditions, which were embodied in a regular legal contract. The farmer undertook to feed the mare and keep her in good condition on light work only, paying all expenses, including forage, shoeing, &c. He further undertook to put the mare to a named Government saddle station two years in succession, in her fourth and fifth years, the produce remaining his absolute property. The mares were finally taken over by the remount authorities in the autumn of the sixth year, when the second foal was weaned.

The bargain was satisfactory to all parties; the farmer got the use of his money and of his mare as well, and probably two foals, and the Army got a young remount well cared for, without expense, instead of sending it to a remount farm to mature, and the resources of the State were probably increased by two embryo war horses.

At a recent meeting of the Yarmouth General Purposes Committee the Town Clerk stated that Mr. W. Shipley, the secretary to the local agricultural show, had inquired whether, in the event of the Norfolk Agricultural Association's show being held in Yarmouth in June, 1908, the new recreation ground would be placed at the disposal of the society free of expense, both as regards user and water supply. The borough surveyor estimated the total cost at from £150 to £200. It was resolved that a cordial invitation be given to the society to hold their show in Great Yarmouth next year, the Corporation granting them the free use of the new recreation ground for the purpose, together with the requisite water supply, and that the sum of £200 be included in the estimates, to be presented in March next, to meet the cost. There is therefore a probability of the Norfolk Show being held in "Bloater Town" next year.

POULTRY.

Winter Egg Production.

Poultry-keepers are always anxious to get eggs from their birds during the winter months, but although they hatch their pullets early with this object in view they do not always realise the best prices for their eggs, because they are not able to produce them at the time when eggs are scarce, and consequently fetch the highest prices. It is possible, by careful management of the birds, to secure eggs all the year round, and those who hatch pullets for laying will do well to learn how it is managed.

Birds which are not required to lay at the present time should be fed entirely on hard corn from the time they are three and a-half months old, and this should be given to them sparingly, and they should be made to scratch for all the grain they have. This causes the birds to grow well and become strong and healthy, and when they commence to lay they will not be troubled with ovarian diseases. If the young pullets' combs grow well, and they redden up for laying before eggs are required, they can be kept back by being moved from their run to another every fortnight.

A peaceful, contented life, combined with warm soft food in the morning and good grain, produces development and consequently activity of the egg organs, and assists in the growth of the birds, which are certainly stronger and hardier than those which are encouraged to lay at an early age.

Regulation of Diet.

If pullets are first allowed to lay at an early age, as birds bred from really good laying strains will do, eggs will be produced before they are wanted, and then when they are fetching the best prices, the birds will be resting between their batches. Those who have not tried to arrange matters in this respect will be very surprised to see how much they can do by the regulation of the birds' diet.

We have frequently kept pens of pullets back from laying for two months in this way, and then when we have required eggs we have had them in full lay, by feeding them on nourishing soft food for breakfast and boiled grain at night, with the addition of some meat two or three times a week.

It is necessary to begin feeding on soft food carefully—not to soften the condition of the birds too much after being fed on hard corn altogether. Where there are flocks of young birds, as there are now on every successful poultry-farmer's place, and on many ordinary farms, it is most essential that plenty of housing accommodation be provided.

Avoid Overcrowding.

Overcrowding should be very carefully avoided, as the young birds grow better when they are not crowded together, and they keep much healthier. Where it is not possible to build substantial houses to keep in reserve for the extra number of birds, which there must of necessity be during the autumn, before the cockerels hatched in the summer are disposed of and the young pullets sorted for laying purposes, it is well to provide the extra accommodation by the erection of padded hurdles, or sheets of galvanised iron, taking care to allow plenty of light and ventilation for the birds.

We have frequently seen birds which have not been doing well improve wonderfully in their condition by thinning them out and giving them all more room, and a dose of castor-oil once a week. A little aperient is most helpful to fowls, which frequently suffer from partial indigestion, and we believe that much illness would be avoided if more care were taken in this respect.

Separate the Cockerels and Pullets.

Young cockerels and pullets should be separated as soon as they can be distinguished from each other, as the pullets do not develop so quickly when separated thus, and this is a distinct advantage to their stamina, for although early laying proves that the laying strain of the birds is all right, and the sight of a few eggs is a pleasant one to those who have not done much rearing, the experienced poultry-keeper knows that it is not for the good of his pullets to have eggs which are worth but little produced before the birds are from six to seven months old.

We have been frequently asked as to whether it is possible for those who rear pullets for laying

To Get a Constant Supply of Eggs

throughout the year, and we have invariably answered in the affirmative, but we know so many who fail to accomplish their purpose that we feel it will be helpful if we give a few hints on the subject.

First of all, to secure eggs all the year round, one must consider that the egg-selling season commences in October, and to produce eggs then pullets should be hatched in February and March, and kept back from laying until the beginning of October; then pullets hatched in April and May will be laying in November and December, and these, if run on through the winter months and well fed and cared for, will lay throughout the winter, spring, and summer.

The secret of securing plenty of eggs from pullets which lay brown-shelled eggs—consequently of breeds which sit—is to allow them to waste no time in broodiness. It is always a subject for conjecture to people who get too many opinions on the best breeds for certain purposes as to which is really the best, because the opinions vary so much, and the advice offered by so-called experts is so entirely at variance with much that is written on the subject, that amateur poultry-keepers who wish to make the best selection possible are more confused than helped.



A WHITE WYANDOTTE PULLET AND COCKEREL.

Non-sitters as Egg Producers.

Many people argue that non-sitting breeds must be the best for egg-production, because the birds do not waste any time in broodiness—and there is sound sense in the argument, but everything depends upon the selection of the strain of those non-sitting breeds as to whether they will produce as many eggs as expected and required of them.

Minorcas are good layers, but are not hardy enough to stand the variations of the English winter, unless they have particularly well sheltered houses and runs. Some strains of Minorcas are absolutely useless for egg production in the winter months, owing to their lack of stamina and the impossibility of their supplying the reserve needed for the activity of their egg organs, on account of their being too frail to assimilate sufficient food to sustain the birds in health, and to supply the necessary motive power to enable their egg organs to become operative and especially in the winter months

It is not possible for those who have not studied the habits of fowls understand that there must be first of all

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Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

Potato Manurial Experiments.

The results of the trials with different combinations of fertilisers, on the potato crop, carried out by the Edinburgh and East of Scotland College of Agriculture, should be studied by farmers interested in the cultivation of the potato crop. The plots were arranged on the following system :—

Plot 1.—1 cwt. sulphate of ammonia ; 4 cwt. superphosphate (30 per cent. sol.) ; and 1½ cwt. potash salts (55 per cent. sulphate of potash).

Plot 2.—1 cwt sulphate of ammonia ; 4 cwt. superphosphate (30 per cent.) ; and 1 cwt. sulphate of potash (92 per cent.).

Plot 3.—1 cwt. sulphate of ammonia ; 4 cwt. superphosphate ; and ¾ cwt muriate of potash.

Plot 4.—No artificial manure.

Plot 5.—No artificial manure.

Plot 6.—1 cwt. sulphate of ammonia ; 4 cwt. superphosphate ; 1½ cwt. magnesia potash sulphate (30 per cent. potash), equal to ¾ cwt. muriate of potash.

Plot 7.—(Board of Agriculture mixture) ½ cwt. sulphate of ammonia ; ½ cwt. nitrate of soda ; 2 cwt. pure dissolved bones ; 2 cwt. superphosphate ; and ¾ cwt. muriate of potash (92 per cent.).

Plot 8.—1 cwt. sulphate of ammonia ; 6 cwt. basic slag (30 per cent. phosphate) ; and 1 cwt. sulphate of potash.

Plot 9.—1 cwt. sulphate of ammonia ; 4 cwt. superphosphate ; ¾ cwt muriate of potash ; and 5 cwt. ground lime.

Plot 10.—1 cwt. sulphate of ammonia ; 4 cwt. superphosphate ; ¾ cwt muriate of potash ; 4 cwt. ground lime ; and 1 cwt. carbonate of magnesia.

And the results were as follows :—

	Total per Acre.		
Plot 1	12	2	16
,, 2	12	12	96
,, 3	12	2	96
,, 4	9	14	32
,, 5	8	8	64
,, 6	11	19	32
,, 7	11	19	32
,, 8	11	13	64
,, 9	10	7	96
,, 10	11	6	48

It should be mentioned that all the plots had been dressed with 30 loads of dung ploughed in during the winter, the artificials being applied later on in the usual way.

The best results were obtained from Plot 2, treated with

1 cwt. sulphate of ammonia
4 cwt. superphosphate of lime (30 per cent. soluble)
1 cwt. sulphate of potash (high quality 90 to 92 per cent.),

this would be equal to a dressing of 6 cwt. of a special manure with an analysis of

4 to 5 per cent. of ammonia
20 to 22 ,, of soluble potash
8 to 9 ,, of potash (pure),

and would cost about £6 to £7 per ton, or say, £2 per acre, amply repaid by the increased crop of 3 to 4 tons of potatoes.

Plot 3, to which the same dressing was applied, excepting that muriate of potash was substituted for the sulphate, was the next best, being nearly equal to No. 2 plot, and costing a little less money.

These results coincide with the conclusions arrived at by previous trials in different parts of the country, and may be accepted as a guide to potato growers, excepting that on soils of a full character, the expenditure on potash might be reduced, especially when a liberal dressing of farmyard manure has been applied. The quantity of sulphate of potash could probably be reduced by one-half without adversely affecting the crop.

Prices of Fertilisers.

There is now a brisk demand for fertilisers required for autumn application, particularly for basic slag, superphosphate and potash salts, while we hear of contracts also being made for nitrate of soda and guano for spring delivery.

	£	s.	d.
Nitrate of soda	11	5	0
Sulphate of ammonia	12	0	0
Peruvian guano ..... according to analysis			
Superphosphate, 26 per cent.	2	10	0
,, 35 ,,	3	6	3
Pure dissolved bones	5	7	6
Bone compound, ordinary	3	8	9
Bone Meal	5	10	0
Ground hoofs, 15 per cent.	9	10	0
Fish guano, first quality, scarce & dear	7	10	0
Kainit	2	7	0
Sulphate of potash	10	0	0
Muriate of potash	9	0	6

At an Agricultural Show.

By H. B. M. Buchanan, B.A., Hales.

What struck me most were six small square wooden boxes, each containing a square foot or so of freshly cut grass sods.

It is not the cattle, sheep, horses, pigs, poultry, butter, cheese, honey, agricultural machinery, excellent as all these undoubtedly were, which have fixed themselves in my memory since the show, but just the contents of those six boxes, and for this very important, practical reason :—

The contents of those boxes seem to me to point to a better time coming for British agriculture.

The sod in two of the boxes was taken from the same field after the hay had come off, but one sod had been taken from a portion of the field which had been unmanured, while the other sod had been taken from the same field to which 7 to 8 cwt. of basic slag per acre had been applied the previous December.

There was no comparison between the unmanured plot and the manured plot.

It was the difference in feeding value of the aftermath of the two plots that has burnt deep into my memory.

I have seen many illustrations at shows, agricultural colleges, and at farms, of what skilful manuring will do to improve the feeding value of grass lands, but never before have I seen it so strikingly illustrated as those two small plots illustrated it.

The herbage of the manured aftermath was long, deep green in colour, and composed exclusively of clovers and profitable feeding grasses.

A feed that meant a good yield of rich milk.

The aftermath of the unmanured plot—well, the usual thing, which we all know only too well, very little clover, short, coarse herbage, all of which of course denotes a small yield of poor milk.

Judging from the aftermath, the hay harvested from the slagged portion must have been not only weightier in bulk, but, which is even of greater importance, it must have been composed of grasses and clovers of a vastly superior feeding quality.

If I mistake not, during the coming winter the milking cows and feeding beasts will find it out, and so will the purse of the farmer.

I might, perhaps, have said the balance-sheet of the farmer, but as farmers consider balance-sheets beneath their notice, it is of little use discussing the relative value of the two sods from the balance-sheet point of view.

Another two boxes.

This time they contained not sods cut from an aftermath, but sods cut from a permanent grazing pasture.

One sod had been slagged, and was covered with a thick carpet of delicious-looking clover and finefee ding grasses.

The unmanured plot. Well, yes, you all know the depressing sight only too well—coarse, rough, yellowish tinge, rough herbage, with no vestige of the milk-giving, flesh-forming clovers.

A herbage that even a town-bred, town-living, land-reforming, land-ignorant, gassy politician might see would be avoided by all stock, so long as a blade of anything better could have been found anywhere else over the whole field.

A herbage which, when I see it, and I see far too much of it, makes me feel downright savage. Savage against the appalling ignorance, or the appalling conservancy, or wicked neglect that has permitted such stuff to defile the surface of our soils.

The startling contrast of the sods in these two boxes had been brought about by the simple application of 8 cwt. of slag to the acre, which had been sown the previous December.

Some few weeks ago I was watching a bunch of cattle grazing ; they grazed on slowly towards me, until they reached a certain line in the field ; as each beast grazed up to this line it turned back, and not one ventured over it. That line extending across the field seemed to keep them in as effectively as a strand of barbed wire would have done.

In about an hour's time I returned to the same field, and found that the whole herd had walked over several acres in the middle of the field and were grazing at the other end of the field, where another line seemed to hem them in. The explanation was very simple.

The few acres in the middle of the field had not been slagged, while the few acres at each end of the field had been slagged, and the lines which had driven the animals back were the very lines which divided the slagged portion from the unslagged portion.

Well, every experiment made in every part of the country, from the north to the south, from the east to the west, teaches the same lesson the lesson, namely, that a much larger net profit is to be made from the grass lands of this country when they are treated by a skilled system of up-to-date manuring.

The farmer who will not try to learn the lessons of the experiments, or who will not endeavour to apply that knowledge to his own farm by making experiments for himself, is not fit to have the privilege of farming the lands of this country.

He would do far better to try his luck in those countries where he would be surrounded by desolation and discomfort, and where farming means turning the soil, throwing the seed in, and awaiting the harvest.

But the skilled, wide-awake, adaptable, and businesslike farmer in this country is better off in all ways—I write from what I have seen for myself and heard from farmers on the spot—than is the farmer over the seas, who in many cases is farming, if it can be called farming, in a manner which would make a skilful farmer over here shudder with horror.

Storing up Phosphoric Acid in the Soil.

Phosphoric acid, or phosphate of lime, must be present in every part of cultivated soils in order that it may be easily available for plant nourishment, because phosphoric acid does not remain in an actually soluble condition in the soil in the same way that nitrate of soda or sulphate of ammonia or even potash salts do. When superphosphate is applied to the land the soluble phosphoric acid in it is at once distributed and taken into combination by the lime or other bases in the soil, and then again converted into a condition to be absorbed by the plants by the carbonic acid in the soil, or the acid exuded by the plant rootlets. It is therefore essential that the plant fibres should be contiguous to the phosphate of lime, and to attain this object the fertiliser must be distributed everywhere in the soil.

This is the reason why it is necessary to apply to soils larger quantities of phosphate than the crops actually require, and some agricultural authorities, therefore, recommend that it is good practice to stock the soil with a large quantity as a reserve, and then only to apply yearly just as much as the particular crop may require.

There would be no waste, because phosphate of lime is not washed out of the soil.

To see how this idea would answer, the following experiment over four years was made on a fairly well cultivated light soil :—

Plot.

1. No phosphate or potash.
2. 10 cwt. slag, 10 ,, kainit } spread over three years, say 3⅓ cwt. each of slag and kainit per annum.
3. 10 cwt. slag, 10 ,, kainit } in one dressing. first year.
4. 10 cwt. slag, 10 ,, kainit } first year. spread over three years.
5. 10 cwt. slag, first year. 2½ cwt. slag, following two years. 10 cwt. kainit, spread over three years.

All the plots, including No. 1 plot, received a dressing of nitrogen.

The relative average results obtained over the four years, taking the yield of No 2 plot as 100, were :—

No. 3 plot	102·18
No. 4 plot	106· 2
No. 5 plot	113· 8

and the average profits were, after deducting the cost of the fertilisers over the four years, over the no manure plot :—

Plot 2	33s. per acre.
,, 3	38s. ,,
,, 4	40s. ,,
,, 5	42s. ,,

It was observed that the effect of the one big dressing of slag lasted throughout the four years, and was most effective during the third and fourth year. On the other hand, the effect of one big dressing of kainit was most apparent during the first and second year, and fell off during the last two seasons.

Taken as a whole, this interesting experiment seems to show that on ordinary soils it is good farming to stock the soil with a big supply of phosphate of lime and afterwards just to apply sufficient to meet the actual requirements of the crop—that is, just as much as is extracted from the crop from year to year.

The same principle does not hold good with potash, which cannot be stored in the soil in the same way, and is much more soluble, so that there is not the same necessity to have a surplus quantity distributed through the soil.

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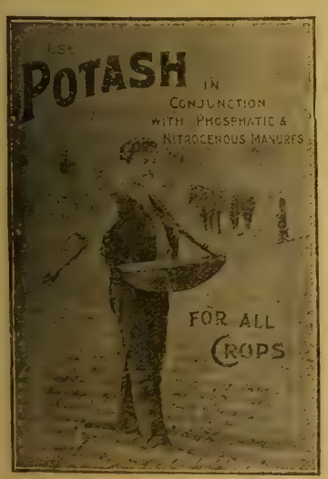
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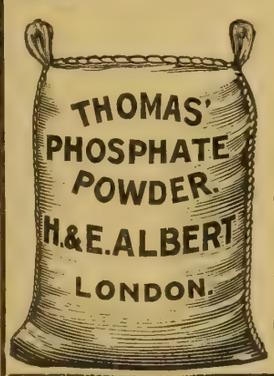
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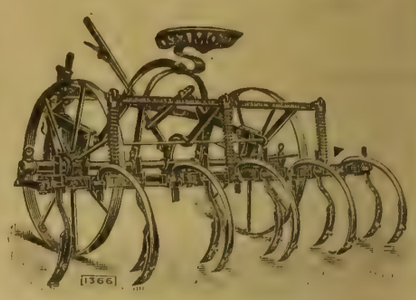
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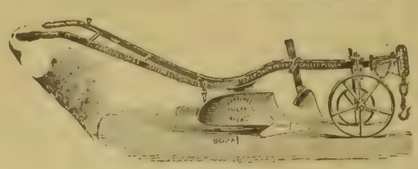
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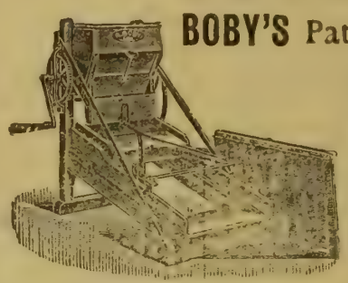




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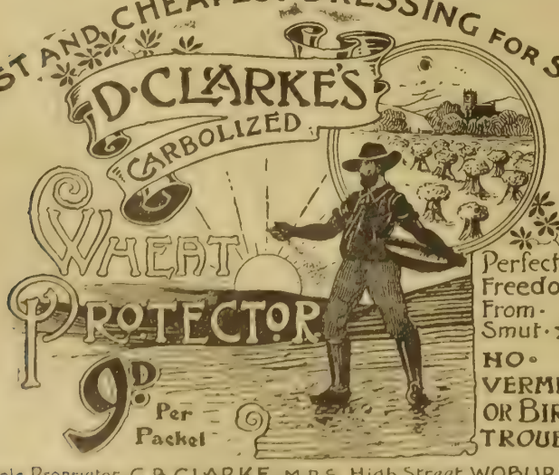
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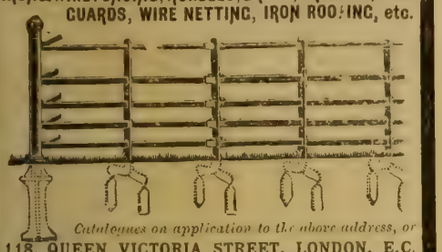
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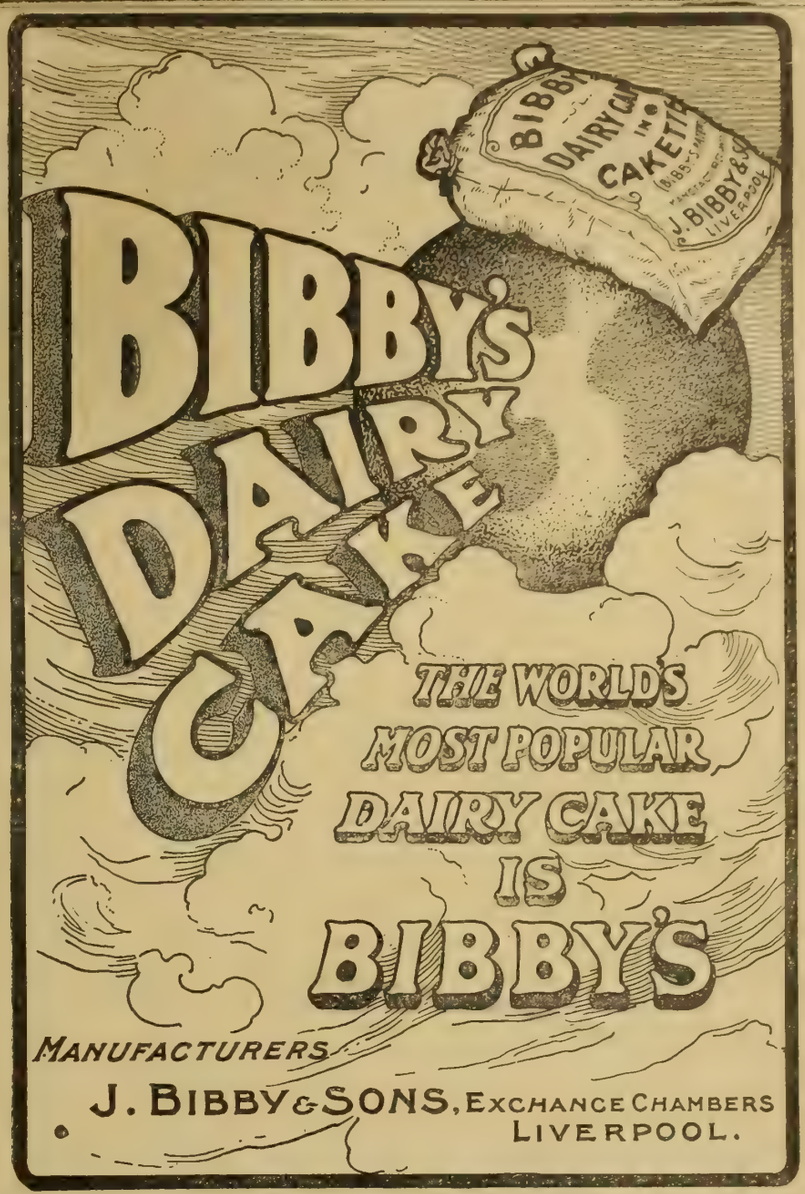


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WHEAT PRICES: THE TOP OF THE MARKET?

It is happily not necessary to bother readers of a leader column with the figures that must needs abound in the market portion of the paper. The main fact which we have to discuss here is sufficiently expressed in the heading of this article. We appear now to have arrived at the top of the market for breadstuffs, and the efforts of farmers should be devoted to maintaining a level of value which without being in any way excessive, is remunerative and encouraging. No fears exist as to the mass of the community suffering from dear bread.

If the present price of wheat is maintained the proper price for the quartern loaf will be sixpence, including delivery and a moderate amount of credit. A sixpenny loaf is not a dear loaf, but if the consumer finds it a grievance he can get it for fivepence halfpenny by calling at the baker's for it. He will even be obliging the baker by doing so, for the main anxiety of many bakers is over the distribution rather than over the making of the bread.

Compulsory education is now continued to so late an age that a permanent scarcity of boy labour is set up, and lads can get places without the least delay or even inquiry as to character. The result is natural enough, carelessness is the order of the day, and bakers, so far from profiting by the halfpenny on the loaf, which they charge in effect for delivery, lose customers continually, and suffer endless anxiety as to their rounds. The sixpenny loaf may be reduced another halfpenny still if the consumer would only bake his own bread. Not only is this perfectly feasible with the ordinary household oven, but a further economy is secured in the fact that home-made bread keeps longer and remains moist longer than baker's bread. The present price of flour allows of the home-made loaf being turned out for 5d., and the individual consumer can have his individual taste attended to. The farmer's satisfaction with wheat prices therefore need not and should not entail the consumer's dissatisfaction.

The question asked at Mark Lane is, of course, whether prices are likely to be undermined by foreign arrivals in November and December. We do not think that they are; for the supply on passage is below the average, and the Russian, Indian, and Canadian crops prove to have been recklessly over-estimated. In our technical market articles we have stated this weeks before the resulting rise occurred; we have now to warn our readers that it is with the English farmer that the prices for the remainder of 1907 will rest. If he persists in sending to market at the present excessive rate, there will not only be pause in prices but reaction. Already would Mark Lane be weaker but for the negligence and mismanagement of the railway companies, which have made it impossible to secure anything like prompt delivery of the new corn freshly sent up. Many hundreds, perhaps some thousands of quarters of new grain have become heated and got weather and travel stained through this railway breakdown, and we hear of litigation threatened right and left through millers refusing to accept grain which it would be dangerous to put through the mill, while farmers sent it off from their local stations in proper milling condition.

Let farmers make every effort to hold their new wheat and hold their new oats; the state of trade ought to result in the banks being willing to make sufficient money advances on the security of the stacks.

MASTERS, MEN, IMPLEMENTS.

Masters.

This week my text is taken from the first Book of Agriculture, and the second verse, because the first one is money, the quantity of which for the land occupied I need not go into it is now as when I was a lad, so far as one can see—about £10 an acre when starting as tenant, the first year's expenses always being heavy, and, as a rule, not much cash to take for twelve months.

But my subject is "Masters." How varied a one it is! To begin with, there are many farmers who do not employ even one regular horseman. In bygone days these little men were more numerous than now; they could not stand against such years as 1868 and 1879; the latter year I remember well. I was not master at our farm, however, and a good thing for me. It was terribly trying.

Surely it must be hard to make a living this way, and a tedious hardness with it, too: manure, plough, sow, and mow all oneself, as nearly as possible.

Any holding under 45 or 50 acres is not a workable one, in my humble opinion, or, anyway, not one upon which a living can be made; it will do nicely for Mr. Tapes or Mr. Cottons to spend money upon as a hobby.

This Government or any other can offer or give people 10 or 12 acres each. What can the folks do with them?

Then there are those who regularly employ one horseman, a lad or two, and odd men often. The first class of master and the second I take together. As a rule they are very practical as farmers, being so much more in actual touch with the minutiæ of the general working of the land than those with whom I deal later on. On a small holding, the greatest difficulty is often experienced unless the holder has as many implements as far larger farmers.

Next comes the 100-acre man. There there is a great deal of waste in horseflesh and the master's time, unless the hand that rules is a truly business-like one. Five large cart horses on 100 acres, as farming must now be done, is too much expense; and, unless "something coming in," as is generally said, or some time spent in managing other land or in another business, there is waste of time on the master's part too. He must keep two horsemen, therefore his time certainly ought not to be given on the farm.

If he is situate far from a station, and cannot ride a bicycle, one of the four horses he should keep can occasionally be used for the road, the fellow one being used for carting, single harrowing, or light rolling during the absence of the fellow horse and its master.

A 200-acre farm is a good one for comfortably working. Binder, drill, mower, and all else, as nearly as possible, will do as well for 200 as for 100 acres.

Masters must have a good supply of implements.

The 300, 400, 500, and 600 acre farmer is, of course, or is supposed to be, a "man of money," as we say. The income, had the money been invested elsewhere, should be sufficient to provide him with several luxuries; but we in Essex are not accustomed to see any class of master-farmer indulge to any extent in luxuries.

A 1,000 acre farmer is an important man in the parish, and, as a rule, is also the one who does most of the honorary work for the parish.

And now, in conclusion, a few genuine words of advice to all masters. Be firm with, but kind to, your employees; give a little and take a little; let them plainly understand, and try and make them see, that their master's interest is their interest; encourage them to look well after and fully work the horses under their charge; make them punctual in the morning, and let them be punctual at night; pay them for all overtime; strict honesty or instant dismissal; courtesy an essential from every one; neatness compulsory: in a word, be fair, honest, and right ahead with your men, as "you would they should be with you." J. B. M.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22.—Clay Cross Ploughing Matches—Brewers' and Barley Exhibition at Islington continued—Sale of Hereford Cattle at Kingsland, near Leominster, at noon—Important Sale of Underwood at Patching, Sussex—Horse Sale at Bognor—Horse Fairs at Rugeley and Salisbury—Great Dog Show at the Crystal Palace—Agricultural Fairs at Market Harborough and Gainsborough.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23.—Brewers' and Barley Exhibition continued—Horse Sale at Crewe—Bath and West of England Society: Finance Committee meets at Bath—Bardon Hill Horse Sale—Chichester Market—Live Stock Sale at Basingstoke—Great Sale of Trees at Haywards Heath—Farm Sales at Tonbridge and Lower Halling, Kent—Agricultural Fairs at Winchester, Ripley, and Boroughbridge.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24.—Kilmarnock Dairy Show, first day—Brewers' and Barley Exhibition continued—Horse Sale at Derby—Agricultural Fairs at Gravesend, Marshfield, Market Drayton, Ashford, and Leighton Buzzard—Special Horse Sale at Southminster—Melton Mowbray Great Autumn Cattle Market—Lloyd's Great Horse Sale at Welshpool—Sale of Lincoln Red Shorthorns at Stenigot (Donington Railway Station), Lord Heneage presiding at the Show and Sale Luncheon, 12.30 p.m.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25.—Kilmarnock Dairy Show, second day—Brewers' and Barley Exhibition continued—Great Autumn Farm and Live Stock Show at Tonbridge—Sale of Small Farms, Cottages, and Fruit Plantations at Sittingbourne (Bull Hotel, 4 p.m.)—Great Autumn Sale of Store Stock at Kidderminster—Farm Sale at Lenham—Agricultural Fairs at Grantham, Chepstow, Louth, and Warwick—Windrow Great Annual Fair—Queen Canal Fair—Dorchester Great Autumn Sheep Sale—Runcorn Special Cattle Market.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26.—Agricultural Fairs at Carlisle, Leyland, Penrith, and Ballymena—Newcastle-on-Tyne Special Horse Sale—Sending-in Day for the Norwich Fat Stock Show.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 28.—Sending-in Day for the Nantwich Dairy Show—Fareham Great Market—Helston Great Autumn Fair—Agricultural Fairs at Horncastle, Thirsk, Burton, Newtown, and High Wycombe.

Notes of the Week.

Wheat has topped 40s. per qr. on our markets for the first time for many years.

That is a fact worth a very big note!

"Land as an investment" may again come within the range of practical consideration.

And England may become once more "Merrie England."

"The oldest industry"—

"Honour waits o'er all the earth,
Through endless generations,
The art that calls the harvest forth,
And feeds the expectant nations."

It is reported that the root crops are bolting all over the country.

But why they are bolting and where they are going to no one seems to know.

Twelve hundred householders in Maine, United States, have pledged themselves to abstain from fresh meat for the space of fourteen days.

This is not in order to boom vegetarianism, but, if possible, to break the high price of meat due to the action of the meat trust.

A New York restaurant, feeding daily 13,000 people, as a consequence of the high cost of meat has raised its prices for dinner for the first time for forty years.

The storm fiend has been working havoc during the last week in France and Spain. The French Government propose to make a contribution of £240,000 to relieve the distress.

Even a mountain in the South of France has been so influenced that it has been moving across the country to the consternation of the inhabitants.

The tail of the fiend has swished these islands during the last few days.

We sympathise sincerely with those farmers in the North, who still have corn crops out in the fields; they will be severe sufferers.

The name of the horse chestnut has nothing to do with horses. It is derived from a Welsh word meaning hot or bitter.

The *Lancet* is of opinion that much indigestion is caused by food which has been preserved by borax. The moral is that we should avoid foods imported from abroad.

We are threatened with a new potato disease, the "black scab." Any grower observing the intruder is requested to give prompt notice to the Board of Agriculture.

The gooseberry mildew is another undesirable alien, unfortunately becoming naturalised.

No half-measures are of use against such pestilent pests. They must be eradicated.

The effect of some drugs on flowers is remarkable. If a plant is chloroformed, it wakes out of its enforced sleep with a vigour that causes it to outstrip in growth plants not so treated.

Different colours also influence plants most strangely. Plants under red glass grow vigourously; plants under blue become stunted; plants under green act normally.

The fact that some plants are able to absorb ammonia from the atmosphere was known more than a century ago.

Dr. Howison, a hundred years ago, wrote:—"I consider mustard an excellent medium by which to take ammonia from the atmosphere. It will grow in land so much worn out as not to bear any other crop."

Artificial manures have become a necessity to farmers in Australia. In the province of Victoria the use of superphosphates has grown from 40,000 tons in 1903 to nearly 100,000 tons.

And this increase is in spite of the fact that they have to pay £5 10s. per ton for superphosphates, 35 per cent. soluble, the price here for the same fertiliser being £3 10s. per ton.

Wheat grown west of Chicago and sold in Great Britain at less than 30s. per qr. after paying all charges leaves a loss to somebody, says the chairman of a big American Land Company.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

Account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended October 12, 1907, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year (the figures for 1906 are in parentheses):—

Animals, living:—Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves (12,078), 8,369; sheep and lambs (1,664), 872; horses (186), 245.

Fresh meat:—Beef (109,837 cwts.), 120,475; mutton (113,416), 56,599; pork (9,951), 14,298.

Salted or preserved meat:—Bacon (97,930 cwt.), 83,720; beef (2,780), 4,222; hams (19,686), 14,200; pork (3,314), 4,478; meat (11,611), fresh, 11,489; salted 1,228; meat, preserved (7,146), 5,781.

Dairy produce and substitutes:—Butter (73,314 cwt.), 61,819; margarine (21,461), 14,273; cheese (81,845), 73,460; milk, fresh in cans or drums (—), —; cream (69), 79; milk, condensed (19,188), 16,032; milk, preserved, other kinds (380), 92.

Eggs (great hundreds):—(434,150), 450,235; poultry (value £2,142), £2,696; game (value £1,991), £2,804; rabbits, dead (not tinned), (36,005 cwt.), 26,678; lard (22,689 cwt.), 32,247.

Corn, grain, meal, and flour:—Wheat (780,100 cwt.), 2,279,700; wheat meal and flour (375,700), 216,400; barley (455,700), 522,200; oats (199,500), 239,400; peas (30,010), 52,330; beans (5,040), 77,690; maize or Indian corn (1,111,600), 983,600.

Fruit (raw):—Apples (100,060 cwt.), 136,667; grapes (67,379 cwt.), 62,051; pears (18,639 cwt.), 25,743; plums (32,640 cwt.), 1,752.

Hay (3,308 tons), 630; straw (1,904 tons), 1,618; moss litter (1,884 tons), 1,183; hops (4,589 cwt.), 4,407; locust beans (10,100 cwt.), —.

Vegetables (raw):—Onions (173,489 bushels), 179,573; potatoes (24,967 cwt.), 89,089; tomatoes (14,568 cwt.), 15,554.

At the October Fair at Bakewell on Monday there was a large show of stock of all descriptions, and a fairly brisk trade at about late market prices. Best milch cows and in-calf cows found purchasers at £17 10s. to £22; superior calving heifers from £15 to £17 10s.; barren and lying-off cows, £11 to £14 10s.; stirks and steers, £8 to £11. Best heifer beef, 7s. to 7s. 9d. A good trade was done in the sheep market. Best wether mutton realised 8d. to 9d. per lb.; fat ewes, 7d. to 8d.; lamb, 9d. to 10d. per lb.; hogs, 32s. to 35s. each; store ewes, 38s. to 42s. A few good store pigs sold from 25s. to 45s. each. In the horse fair were some very useful hacks and lighter horses suitable for trade purposes. These realised good prices.



LORD ROTHSCHILD'S HERD OF SHORTHORNS AT TRING PARK. SEVERAL OF THE WINNERS AT THE RECENT LONDON DAIRY SHOW ARE SHOWN IN THE GROUP.

Photo by] [J. T. Newman.

CATTLE.

Notes and Jottings.

AT the time of writing the weather appears to be of a very broken and stormy character throughout the country generally; heavy downpours of rain have been experienced, causing many of the low lying parts of the country to be flooded; cold winds and frosts have also helped to make matters very uncomfortable for the outlying cattle. It is very safe to prophesy that we are going to have higher prices for cattle of all kinds; therefore they will be worth looking after, and care must be taken either to supply them with some dry food on their pastures (for there is still an immense quantity of grass left on the fields), or what with valuable stock is much better, a shelter of a good open fold yard at night where the dry food can be utilised without poaching the land so badly.

OUR daily papers are very loud in their cries about dearer food of all kinds for the population. One of the first products to be noticed in this respect is beef; home markets, though not what one may term brisk, are characterised by firmness and a good demand for all animals of a good standard. The American markets, we read too, are steadily advancing, so that the close of the year bids fair to find feeders in a better position than at one time was anticipated. In addition to the greater demand for beef, the supply of stores is visibly shorter, and a great many animals that, had this been the reverse, would have gone to the block are being taken into the yards and sheds for winter feeding.

MILCH cattle are also sharing in the better demand, cows with condition and good udders of the ordinary market kind (that is, without pedigree) readily fetching from £20 upwards per head, whilst the calves that they take with them into the market are eagerly sought after at the extreme prices of 50s. to £3 per head. In spite of the demand for these cows, however, it is rather difficult to understand why the prices paid by the dairymen for their udder produce are lower than those prevailing a year ago. The abundance of succulent food available at the present time must doubtless be the cause of this rather untoward circumstance.

THE recent Dairy Show in London was a great triumph for the Shorthorn and Lincoln Red Shorthorn breeds of cattle. The former breed, both pedigree and non-pedigree, was altogether exceptionally well represented. A very satisfactory feature in these classes was the fact that the cows have improved considerably in quality and shape when compared with their predecessors of a few years ago. In the way of richness of milk (butter fat) there is also room for great satisfaction, if figures and management are correct, which we have no reason to doubt. The fact of a Shorthorn cow yielding considerably over 4 lb. of butter in twenty-four hours, so far as memory will serve, is a record breaker.

IN America these dual purpose Shorthorns appear to be rapidly establishing themselves. Complaints, however, are urged by some breeders and exhibitors that the quantity of milk, 20 lb. at morning and 20 lb. at evening, if freshly calved, is rather a severe task to enable them to become elegible for competition. Some of these quantities will in the course of time doubtless be regulated upon a more reasonable basis. Meantime breeders, in attempting to produce these heavy yields, must not lose sight of the other side of the question, the ability to produce beef; if so they will develop simply a milking machine, which is not at all the end desired.

SO far as bulls are concerned and beef production, only the Scotch-bred Shorthorn appears to hold the field against all comers. The extreme prices prevailing at the Duthie sale the other day are quite, of late years at least, unprecedented. Mr. Duthie's selection was so keenly competed for that the seventeen calves sold worked out at the remarkable average of £409 16s. 3d. per head, three bulls making over 700 guineas each, and very few of these are leaving the country. It is quite wonderful how these Scotch bred animals retain their favour, and it is equally wonderful what fine animals they produce when crossed upon milking herds.

IT was very pleasing to find that so great a demand was experienced at the sale of Mr. Tudge's famous Herefords at Dux Moor, in the home of the breed. Great attention has always been paid in the management of the herd as regards the strains of blood mated, as well as the individual merit of the animals. We invariably find them not only symmetrical to a degree, but covered with a wealth of hair and flesh. Buyers appear to have been present from all parts of the world, several of the best animals being sold for exportation to Australia and New South Wales.

Two hundred guineas were also paid for a bull for export to Uruguay, the average for the whole herd of £42 per head being obtained, distinct proof that the White Faces are holding their own with the foreigner as well as at home.

THE shaggy West Highlander, we are pleased to see, has not been forgotten in the good things that have been taking place, the sale at Oban the other day being prolific of steady and satisfactory prices, though not excessively high. Ordinary store cattle of this kind for grazing purposes are almost certain to experience a pretty good trade, the immense quantity of grass left upon the pastures being much in their favour, as also is the great quantity of indifferent hay about the country. Highlanders in bad weather are the best of foragers, and will not turn up their noses at damaged fodder, especially when the weather is severe. At Oban the pedigree animals of this breed ran up as high as £53 each, a good number realising from £30 to £50 each.

MANGEL and swede crops have bulbed since the recent falls of rain, many crops of the former having developed into great weight per acre. Where other green crops are scarce a few mangels may be quite safely used thus early, but they must be added to a liberal supply of good cut chaff and a certain amount of dry concentrated food, such as some of the varieties of corn meals. Milch cows will thrive and do well on them under such conditions, and fat stock will also clean out their mangers with better relish, for all cattle are fond of the sweet juice of the mangel.

Sale of Gainford Hall Cattle.

Mr. George Harrison's pure bred herd of Shorthorns at Gainford Hall, Darlington, is known throughout the country and also abroad as one of the greatest excellence, and the sale on Tuesday of a choice selection, owing to the breed having outgrown the accommodation, naturally attracted a large and representative attendance of breeders from all parts, all eager to secure such first-class animals. Started in 1890 by the purchase of the heifer Warfare and the bull Royal Ury, the herd has gradually grown up by judicious purchases and systematic management until it has reached a very high state of perfection. Exhibiting began in 1893, and has continued year by year with such remarkable success that up to September 20 of this year 2,008 prizes—and in this number are no fewer than eighty-eight champion awards and 1,168 first prizes, truly a remarkable record—have been won at the Royal, the Highland, the Royal Dublin, as well as at the great county shows throughout the kingdom.

Tuesday's catalogue comprised nearly half the herd, offered without reserve, and included some very good cows. The two-year-old heifers as a lot made a most favourable impression, and several of the yearlings looked very well indeed. A number of the bulls, on the other hand, were rather plain in colour, but in the main they met a very fair sale. The handicap in the case of over a dozen animals was the lack of the very long pedigrees which are now looked for in the Argentine, but it was evident that buyers had other outlets in view, and so they kept up a cheerful run of bids where shapes and colours took their fancy. Gainford Fragrance, a rich roan, winner of seven firsts as calf and ten premier awards this season, in calf to The Pride of Tees, made the top price of the sale, viz., 210 guineas, purchaser being Sir W. Greenwell. Earl Manvers, of Holme Pierrepont, Notts, gave 120 guineas for Kate Forty-seventh, a yearling heifer by Mr. W. Anderson's noted bull Sir Simon, which has already figured prominently in the prize ring, whilst the Duke of Northumberland paid 125 guineas for Gainford Rhoda, a roan by Royal Ensign and calved February 21, 1906. These were the only three-figure prices, but, as will be seen from the following list of the principal lots, a large number realised well over 50 guineas, and the average per head for the fifty sold worked out at a little over £49. Sir Oswald Mosely, Rolleston Hall, Burton-on-Trent, got a cheap heifer in Rose of Gainford 7th, a most promising roan, in calf to Royal Ensign. He also purchased Bella 4th, a white yearling.

Cows and Heifers.		Gs.
Christmas Rose 3rd, c Nov 24, 1900	Lord Barnard	36
Rosaline 2nd, c April 3, 1899	Mr S Sandy	60
Nelly Lee 15th, c Oct 16, 1900	Mr Sandy	50
Stanley Betty, c Jan 30, 1903	Mr W Duthie	50
Rosabel 5th, c April 5, 1903	Mr Duthie	66
Stanley Beauty, c June 28, 1903	Mr Duthie	81
Towy Princess, c Oct 27, 1903	Sir H Smiley	61
Rose of Gainford 5th, c Jan 11, 1904	Mr C H Jolliff	92
Keir Sunflower, c Feb 14, 1904	Sir H Smiley	47
Furbelow, c Dec 16, 1904	Lord Barnard	35
Rose of Gainford 6th, c April 23, 1905	Col. Munro	35
Busy Bee, c May 23, 1905	Mr H Dudding	40
Gainford Queen, c Sept. 22, 1905	Mr W Graham	41
Gainford Fragrance, c Oct 23, 1905	Sir W Greenwell	210
Gainford Rosemary, c Jan 1, 1906	Lord Calthorpe	72
Rose of Gainford 7th, c Nov 15, 1905	Sir O Mosely	51
Gainford Betty, c Feb 19, 1906	Mr J A Priest	80
Kate, c Jan 25, 1906	Lord Manvers	120
Gainford Rhoda, c Feb 21, 1906	Duke of Northumberland	125
Gainford Belle, c April 21, 1906	Mr W F Winn	40
Adelaide, c Jan 4, 1907	Mr H Dudding	87
Gainford Rhoda	Mr F J Stewart	55
Bulls.		
Pine Apple, c Nov 22, 1905	Mr Raine	35
Goldie's Emblem, c Sept 26, 1906	Mr J Gravieus (South America)	43
Gainford Charming Victor, c Oct 28. 1906	Sir W Greenwell	41

Sale of Shorthorns at York.

Over 200 head of Shorthorns were brought under the hammer at York Wool Sheds on Thursday in the presence of a large company of buyers, and though with but two exceptions prices were not particularly high, there was a good demand and a satisfactory sale resulted.

Among those who sent stock were Sir Maurice Bromley-Wilson, Bart, Milnthorpe; Sir John Swinburne, Bart., Capheaton; Major Cradock, Richmond; the Right Hon. F. J. S. Foljambe; Mr. H. Williams, Moor Park; the Earl of Feversham, the Hon. H. W. C. Fitzwilliam, Lieut-Colonel the Hon. W. Lawson, Sir Oswald Moseley, and Mr. P. E. J. Hemelryk, Woolton, Lancs, whose whole herd was forward. The highest price realised for a cow was 100 guineas, which was paid by Mr. Victor Cavendish, M P., for Duchess of Bartlow 3rd, while Senor Bolero purchased Mr. R. Booth's bull Viking, which has won a good many prizes at local shows this year, for 205 guineas, for exportation to South America. A number of Guernseys were also included, among them being some very useful milkers; prices ranged from 14½ guineas to 18 guineas, a young bull being sold to Mr. Thomas Parker, York, for 41 guineas, and a bull calf for 3½ guineas to Mr. Appleton. The following were the chief sales of Shorthorns:—

Cows and Heifers		Gs.
Jessamine 3rd (Mr H Williams), c 1899	Mr W F Lax	75
Daisy Ranby Wedlock (Lieut-Col W Lawson), c 1900	Mr Cromer	45
Hartforth Primula 11th (Major S Cradock), c 1901	Mr Farnsworth	51
Chester Primrose (Mr T Atkinson), c 1901	Mr Brooksbank	55
Her calf	Mr Cradock	18
Duchess of Hodge-Beck (Mr J P Raynar), c 1903	Col Munroe	46
Duchess of Bartlow 3rd (Rev C H Brocklebank), c 1903	Mr Victor Cavendish, MP	100
Bartlow Oxford 4th (Rev C H Brocklebank), c 1905	Mr Sandys	60
Hartgrange Dairy (Mr H Straker), c 1905	Mr Stamford	40
Park Buttercup (Mr H Williams), c 1906	Mr McCarthy	41
Whitewall Butterfly 3rd (Mr A A Haley), c 1906	Mr McCarthy	60
Rose Leaf (Mr C Welford), c 1906	Mr Dudding	40
Bulls.		
Bletchley Lord (Right Hon F J S Foljambe), c 1904	Mr Toplin	60
Lord Waterloo (Sir Oswald Moseley), c 1905	Mr Aimes	40
Viking (Mr K Booth), c 1905	Senor Bolero (South America)	205
Ormonde (Mr H Williams), c 1905	Mr Aimes	37
Royal Emperor Oxford 19th (Sir J Swinburne, Bart), c 1906	Mr Chappell	36
Yorick (Mr W Botterill), c 1906	Mr Burkwith	33
Ribstone King (Mr Cass), c 1906	Mr Hampkins	37
Newton Victor Mr W Thompson), c 1906	Mr Raynar	48
Pearl Chief (Mr G Lax), c 1906	Mr Pears	37
Rydal Mount (Mr E Potter), c 1906	Rev E Brocklebank	52
Oxford's Merry Duke (Sir J Swinburne), c 1906	Mr H Williams	50
Lord Byron (Mr T Pears), c 1906	Mr Jacques	33
King Augustus (Mr H Williams), c 1906	Col Staveley	37
Trocadero (Medd and Moon), c 1906	Earl of Cawdor	55
Dreadnought (Medd and Moon), c 1906	Mr W Leonard	38
Royal Benedict (Medd and Moon), c 1906	Mr T H Hodgson	38
British Shamrock (Medd and Moon), c 1906	Mr J Thompson	42

Shorthorn Sales in Scotland.

Pressure on space prevented us giving the results of the last two of the week's sales of Shorthorns in Scotland in our last issue, so we make good the omission here. As is usually the case, the prices obtained at the end of the week did not come up to those at the first sale, but nevertheless satisfactory sales were the rule. At Mains of Sanquhar, near Forres, on the Friday, the Messrs. Law offered just over thirty animals from their far-famed herd, and obtained an average per head of £69, whilst Mr. H. M. S. Mackay got the fine average of £102 2s. 8d. for eleven. Curiously enough the top price of the day—240 guineas—was obtained by both these sellers, Messrs. Dean and Son paying that sum for Messrs. Law's bull calf Sanquhar Pearl, whilst Mr. Gordon, Cullerse, gave a similar amount for Mr. Mackay's yearling heifer Border Zoe, and also 200 gns. for that gentleman's yearling heifer Princess Royal, B. Messrs. Law also sold at 200 guineas, paid by Mr. Crawford, Lime Park, for Florence 3rd, whilst 170 guineas was given by Mr. W. Duthie, for the cow Zoe 10th. Altogether fifty-six head were sold at this sale for an average of £75 9s. 9d.

At the conclusion of this sale another was held at Forres Auction Mart, several breeders contributing to the catalogue, and some first-class animals were brought under the hammer, the result being a good sale, with an average of £52 5s. 6d. for fifty-two head. Mr. Duthie gave 155 guineas for one of Sir H. J. Smiley's lot; Fairy Fancy 2nd, from the same herd, was knocked down at 130 guineas to Mr. Durno, while Mr. Hughes, Gresby, gave 130 guineas for Plum Blossom 2nd, which also came from Sir H. J. Smiley's herd, fifteen animals from which realised no less than £1,191 15s., or £79 9s. per head.

Perth was the scene of the concluding sale on the Saturday, and here there were offered over 100 animals from about a score of herds Quality, taken all round, was not up to that of the previous days, and the result was a big drop in price. Only three three-figure prices were recorded, whilst many animals sold at considerably less than 20 guineas, and the average for the eighty-three sold was but £28 12s. 2d. per head. The three-figure animals were:—Pansy 5th, a two-year-old heifer sent by Colonel Munro and sold to Sir H. H. Smiley for 160 guineas; Red Baron, a yearling bull from Aberchurl, sold to Mr. Thomson, Kendal, for 120 guineas; and Mr. Stephen Mitchell's two-year-old heifer Augusta Lady 2nd, bought by Mr. Watson at 100 guineas.

Mr. T. Stokes' Shorthorns.

On Friday just over forty pure bred Shorthorns from the herd of Mr. Thomas Stokes, Warmington, Oundle, Northamptonshire, were offered for sale by auction at Warmington. Unfortunately the wet weather mitigated against the attendance, which was somewhat small, but local tenant farmers gave the sale their hearty support, and the fairly satisfactory average of £10 14s. 6d. per head for forty animals was obtained. The chief sales were as follows:—

Cows and Heifers		Gns.
Lady Oxford York 7th, c Feb 23, 1897	Mr G Taylor	40
Duchess of Twywell 2nd, c Jan 2, 1898	Mrs Buckmaster	31
Gladys Barrington Waterloo, c Jan 17, 1900	Mr F J Steward	50
Her c c	Mr F J Steward	15
Eaglethorpe Amy 3rd, c Sept 20, 1900	Mr G Taylor	36
Lady Seraph 3rd, c Feb 6, 1901	Mr W G Robinson	30
Eaglethorpe Rose, c June 1, 1901	Lord Lilford	70
Lady Seraph 4th, c July 10, 1902	Mr W J Martin	31
Eaglethorpe Rose 2nd, c Sept 6, 1902	Rev H R Rokeby	31
Eaglethorpe Oxford, c Sept 20, 1902	Mrs Dixon	38
Eaglethorpe Waterloo Belle, c Jan 3, 1903	Miss D'Arcy Taylor	45
Eaglethorpe Marigold, c Aug 10, 1903	Mr G Taylor	36
Royal Morwenna, c Oct 18, 1903	Mr T B Silcock	31
Royal Annie, c Oct 27, 1903	Mr J A Preece	60
Eaglethorpe Waterloo Belle 2nd, c Dec 25, 1903	Mr G Taylor	53
Lady Oxford, c Oct 5, 1904	Mr A T Maclaren	32
Eaglethorpe Ruby, c June 20, 1905	Mr W G Robinson	55
rming Duchess 94th, c Sept 5, 1905	Mr W G Robinson	60
Gladys Rose 10th, c Oct 2, 1905	Mr J H Thornton	51
Hevic	Mr J Crawley	18
Royal Waterloo 3rd, c Nov 1, 1905	Mr W G Robinson	41
Eaglethorpe Lady Oxford, c Nov 5, 1905	Mr W G Robinson	43
Royal Gwynne 3rd, c Jan 1, 1906	Mr Wilson	46

Rose of Waterloo, c May 20, 1906 Gns.
Mr W G Robinson 47
Rose of Waterloo, c Nov 18, 1906
Mr R Wood 42

BULLS.

Neptune 92653, c Sept 28, 1903
Rev J Dixon 27
Autumn Prince 94084, c Oct 2, 1906
Mr C E Wodehouse 50
Royal Eaglethorpe, c Jan 2, 1907
Mr R Shelton 40

Devon Cattle Breeders' Sale at Taunton.

The forty-third sale of pure-bred Devon cattle, held under the auspices of the Devon Cattle Breeders' Society, took place in Taunton Market on Thursday in the presence of a large attendance. Thirty-five pedigree Devon bulls and four pedigree Devon cows, from well-known breeders, were offered, and met a ready demand at satisfactory prices, which ranged up to 40 guineas, given by Mr. S. A. Passmore, Ashby St. Ledgers, for Mr. T. C. Dening's Troubadour, but the general run of prices was between 20 and 25 guineas. The chief sales were as follow:—

BULLS.—Playmate (Mr. T. Hearn's), Mr. Clark, Middle Chinnock, 24 guineas; Taunton Mayor (Mr. H. Gillam's), Mr. T. L. Mead, 25 guineas; Compton Gerald (Mr. J. Taop's), Mr. W. Day, 22 guineas; Bickley Tutor (Mr. S. Kidner's), Mr. W. Burden, Barnstaple 25 guineas; Lord Olga (Mr. E. Clatworthy's), Mr. Knapman, Loxbeare, Tiverton, 23 guineas; Lord Nurthey 7th (Mr. A. J. Hill's), Mr. T. Penny, Musgrave Farm, Taunton, 26 guineas; Rosy Quaker (Mr. H. C. Hancock's), Mr. Tink, Linkinhorne, 25 guineas; Daylight (Mr. T. C. Dening's), Mr. Tucker, 22 guineas); The Czar (Mr. C. L. Hancock's), Mr. J. Pope, 20 guineas; Orderer (Mr. T. Dibble's), Mr. F. Yeandle, Thorverton, 25 guineas; Dewdrop Boy 7th (Mr. A. J. Hill's) Mr. Bond, North Petherton, 26 guineas; Troubadour (Mr. T. C. Dening's), Mr. S. A. Passmore, Ashby St. Ledgers, 40 guineas; Stockleigh Magnum Bonum (Mr. W. Tuckett's) Mr. Thos. Dyer, Liskeard, 37 guineas; Stockleigh Model (Mr. Tuckett's) Mr. J. Watts, 28 guineas; Dewdrop Boy 8th (Mr. A. J. Hill's), Mr. T. S. Mead, 20 guineas; Longforth Ploughboy (Mr. E. H. Buncombe's), Mr. F. H. Brooks, Wellington, 26 guineas; Rosebery (Mr. T. C. Dening's), Mr. T. Boucher, Wivelscombe, 28 guineas; Overton Eclipse 3rd (Mr. J. L. Huxtable's), Mr. Slowman Heals, 27 guineas.

COWS AND HEIFERS.—Crusoe's Lady A (Mr. S. Kidner's), Mr. Mallett, 23 guineas; Crusoe's Lady Jane (Mr. Kidner's), Mr. Mallett, 20 guineas; Dainty 18th and her steer calf (Mr. J. Surridge's), Mr. T. G. Bisdee, 26 guineas.

Sale of Kerry Cattle at Tetsworth.

There was a good company at Attington House, Thame, on Thursday last, when Messrs. Thornton and Co. sold the entire herd of Kerries belonging to Mr. Alfred Deverell. The cattle have been kept as a dairy herd to supply a London milk contract, and were a choice lot, the cows having good udders. Mr. J. L. Tillotson secured, among others, a couple of good cows in Attington Blackberry at 15 guineas and Shiplake Molly at 16 guineas, as well as Hazel at 18 guineas. Mr. E. W. Beck gave 20 guineas for Marguerite, to go into Norfolk. Several of the others made up to 13½ and 14 guineas each, Mr. J. E. Ward taking several animals at these prices into Wiltshire. The forty-one head sold averaged £10 2s. 3d.

Forthcoming Sales.

The Earl of Carnarvon has instructed Messrs. Dreweatt and Watson to sell a choice draft of sixty-nine pedigree Berkshire and thirty-nine other pigs at Highclere Park near Newbury, on Friday, the 29th inst. The herd of Berkshire pigs at Highclere Castle was founded in 1895, and replenished since by purchases of many well-known breeders, and has obtained a world-wide reputation. Many noted sires have been used, all either winners or bred direct from winners, and all are sires of winners. The sale will afford a rare opportunity to obtain some of the old Highclere blood which is so popular in the United States, as nearly all the pigs now offered can trace back to the grand sow Highclere 14th, the Royal champion of 1897. Conveyances will meet all trains at Highclere Station.

Ashford annual sheep and bullock sale will be held by Messrs. W. and B. Hobbs on Friday next. The catalogue will consist of 1,500 Kent and half-bred sheep and lambs, including 450 Kent ewe tegs and 300 capital home bred beasts, including 10 pedigree Sussex yearling heifers from Mr. H. Amos's herd, 161 two-year-old steers and heifers, 118 yearlings to eighteen months, 19 cows and heifers in and with calves, and 2 bulls. There will be a good supply of trucks on hand, and every convenience will be made for the quick removal of stock. The sale will commence at 10 o'clock.

AUCTION SALES.

Auctioneers will favour us by sending in their advertisements as early in the week as possible. | *Charges for announcements under this heading Six Shillings an inch.*

By Messrs. IRELAND.

Norwich, Norfolk.—Ireland's Norwich Hill Auction Mart (established 50 years). Every Saturday. Fat Bullocks and Sheep, Store Sheep. Special Spring and Autumn Store Cattle Sales.

MESSRS. IRELAND solicit consignments for these important weekly sales; best market value assured.

Cattle consigned to Ireland's, Norwich, will be properly fed and carefully attended to.

All cattle weighed upon entry to the sale ring if desired. Full particulars to be sent to—

IRELAND'S, Auctioneers.

Norwich, Norfolk.

By Messrs. DREWEATT & WATSON.

HIGHCLERE PARK, NEAR NEWBURY.

One-and-a-half Miles from Highclere Station and Five from Newbury.

MESSRS. DREWEATT and WATSON are honoured with instructions from the Right Hon. the EARL OF CARNARVON, to SELL by AUCTION, at HIGHCLERE PARK DAIRY, on TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1907, at 12 for 1 o'clock, a choice draft of

69 PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE AND 30 OTHER PIGS.

The herd of Berkshire Pigs at Highclere Castle was founded in 1895 from the stock of Mr. E. Hayter, Mr. E. Burbidge, and Mr. A. Hiscock, and replenished since by purchases of many well-known breeders, and has obtained a world-wide reputation. Many prizes have been won at the leading Shows, including twice Champion at the Royal; also Breed Cup and Champion at Smithfield. Pigs have been sent all over the World, and at a recent sale at Baltimore, U.S.A., four young sows (sisters) bred at Highclere, sold for over £50 each. Many noted Sires have been used, among others may be mentioned Swansea, Rightaway, Blenheim, Handyman, Drogheda, Hall Mark G., Persimmon, Barsac, William III., Harold XI, and His Lordship, all either winners themselves or bred direct from winners, and all are sires of winners. The pigs now offered include all the young pigs in the herd, those retained being the Boar, Sailor Prince, and the older Sows with litters at foot. The present Sale affords a rare opportunity to obtain some of the old Highclere blood which is so popular in the United States, as nearly all the pigs now offered can trace back to the grand sow Highclere XIV, the Royal Champion of 1897.

Conveyances will meet all trains at Highclere Station.

May be viewed, and Catalogues had of Mr. W. T. Hall, Highclere Farm; and of the Auctioneers, Newbury.

By Mr. E. CROUCHER.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT SALE OF DAIRY STOCK, HORSES, SHEEP, & IMPLEMENTS.

THE CAGE FARM, TONBRIDGE.

MR. E. CROUCHER, having let the farm, will SELL by AUCTION, on WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1907, at 10 o'clock to the minute (owing to the number of lots), the whole of the valuable LIVE AND DEAD FARMING STOCK, comprising:

10 POWERFUL UPSTANDING CART HORSES, and COLTS,
42 EXCELLENT DAIRY COWS,
2 BULLS,
31 HOME-BRED THREE-YEAR-OLD IN-CALF HEIFERS,
46 18-MONTH-OLD DEVON HEIFERS AND STEERS,
12 2-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS,
40 YEARLINGS AND CALVES,
200 SHEEP, 8 RAMS, 3 PIGS,
Waggons, Dung Carts, Reapers and Binders, Elevator, Dung Dollies, Ploughs, Harrows, Mowing Machines, Hop Washers, Sulphurators, Rakes, Tedders, Rolls, Harnesses, and a large quantity miscellaneous effects; also about
70,000 HOP POLES.

On view day previous to and morning of Sale.

Luncheon by ticket, 1s. 6d. each.

Catalogues may be obtained at the AUCTIONEER'S Offices, High Street, Tonbridge.

By Messrs. JOHN THORNTON & CO.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

THURSDAY NEXT, OCTOBER 24.—Mr. Arthur Hiscock's SHORTHORNS, at Mo'combe, Shaftesbury, Dorsetshire.

FRIDAY NEXT OCTOBER 25.—The extensive Dairy Herd of GUERNSEY CATTLE belonging to C. E. Hogg, Esq., at Alltrees, Cookham, Sussex.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON & Co., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London.

By Messrs. W. & B. HOBBS.

KENT.

ASHFORD ANNUAL SHEEP AND BULLOCK SALE.

MESSRS. W. & B. HOBBS will hold the above SALE in the CATTLE MARKET, ASHFORD (where a good supply of trucks will be on hand and every convenience made for the quick removal of Stock), on FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1907.

1,500
KENT and HALF-BRED SHEEP and LAMBS, including
450 KENT EWE TEGS.
Also 300
CAPITAL HOME-BRED BEASTS
(including 10 Pedigree Sussex Yearling Heifers, for HY. AMOS, Esq.),
comprising about:
161 TWO YEAR-OLD STEERS & HEIFERS.
118 YEARLINGS TO 18-MONTHS.
19 COWS & HEIFERS IN & WITH CALVES.
2 BULLS.

Luncheon provided.

Sale to commence at 10 o'clock.

Catalogues may be obtained at the Auction and Estate Offices, Ashford, Kent.

By Messrs. NOCK & JOSELAND.

KIDDERMINSTER GREAT AUTUMN SALE OF STORE STOCK.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1907.

650 WELL-BRED HEREFORD and SHORTHORN BULLOCKS and HEIFERS, including large entries of very fresh two-year-old Cattle fit for winter feeding.

1000 STORE WETHERS, LAMBS and EWES.

Sheep, 11 o'clock. Cattle, 12 o'clock.

NOTE.—The above will include the best lot of Store Cattle ever offered in this district.

NOCK & JOSELAND,
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By Messrs. STRIDE & SON.

CHICHESTER MARKET.

WEDNESDAY NEXT, OCTOBER 23, 1907.

FIRST ANNUAL AUCTION SALE of 70 PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE SOWS and BOARS at 11 o'clock, by—

Messrs. STRIDE & SON,
Auctioneers, Chichester.

Catalogues on application.

Transactions in Store Stock.

(Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

Tuam Fair, co. Galway, held on October 16, was a very large fair. There were plenty of buyers present and demand was brisk, especially for bullocks with quality and condition. Almost a complete clearance was effected at prices favouring sellers:—Calves, 1st class, £4 15s. to £5 5s.; 2nd class, £3 12s. 6d. to £4 10s.; yearlings, 2nd class, £6 10s. to £7 10s.; 3rd class, £4 5s. to £5 10s.; two-year-olds, 1st class, £11 7s. 6d. to to £12 5s.; 2nd class, £8 12s. 6d. so £10 10s.; 3rd class, £6 10s. to £7 10s; three-year-olds, 1st class, £13 10s. to £15; 2nd class, £10 12s 6d. to £12 17s. 6d.; 3rd class, £8 15s. to £9 10s.; springers, 2nd class, £12 to £14; 3rd class, £9 5s. to £10 10s.

HORSES: NOTES AND JOTTINGS

The Motor Car as Covert Hack—Her Methods—The Unfairness of It—The Remedy—The Position of Farmers—Ladies and the Spur—The Railway Rates on Polo Ponies—A Good Stud.

The Motor Car as Covert Hack.

ONE of the boasts of motorists is that their pet motor car is the best of covert hacks. I once heard a lady boast that she could hunt with hounds seventy miles from her home and always be back to dinner by using her motor car. Whether she was wanted in the country she honoured with her presence in this way, or whether her absence would not have been preferred, she never once inquired. Whether she was doing something which was likely to cause annoyance to those to whom she was indebted for her sport she never once considered. Her own selfish pleasure, which wealth enabled her to gratify, was all she thought about.

Her Methods.

NOW to gratify these pleasures, let us see what annoyance she caused others. It answered her purpose to live in a country in which hounds were not—a fine shooting country. But she must have good hunting too, so she drove some seventy miles twice a day to get it. And under these circumstances would she drive at a reasonable pace? It is scarcely likely; forty miles an hour would be nearer the mark than twenty, and I have heard these motorists boast of their great speed when there was no risk of their being brought to answer for it. Then after driving to the annoyance and danger of the peaceful inhabitants a distance of seventy miles she hunted in a country in which no one wanted her, and no one cared to see her but a few of her own kidney. She was a nuisance to the master of hounds, to the secretary, and to the members of the Hunt. She subscribed—as little as she could, you may be sure of that—and said sweetly as an excuse for not giving more that she lived out of the county. She had not one single thing in common with the people over whose land she hunted, and she and such as she caused trouble and heart-burning in a country where such things were hitherto unknown.

The Unfairness of it.

I have dwelt rather at length upon the methods of this lady, because of their unfairness. She is a type of much of the unrest of the present day—and not a very pleasant type either. But the type is there and has to be reckoned with. Not only do such as she make mischief by their selfishness and want of thought for others; they act unfairly in other ways. For instance, the lady whose vagaries I have been describing spent nothing in the country which she honoured with her presence. No charity ever received her assistance—her charity began at home. No agricultural society received her subscription. She paid the minimum subscription to hunt and poultry fund, and thought she did all that could be required of her.

The Remedy.

BUT what is the use of dwelling on this subject, my readers may ask.? We can tell of plenty of similar instances, but where is the remedy? There is none. Now that is what I am coming to. There is a remedy. We cannot drive the motor car and the road hog from our roads it is true, though there is no doubt that more drastic methods to keep them in order will be resorted to ere long. No, but we can keep them from our hunting fixtures; we can prevent people using them as covert hacks. A friend of mine who farms some 3,000 acres of land in a good hunting country managed the matter very nicely. The hounds met at his house, and the master drove up in a motor car. He went into the house as usual. And then my friend told him that if he used a motor car as a covert hack again he should send the three puppies home that he walked and were every yard of land in his occupation. "I do not object to your doing it yourself so much," said he. "But others will follow your example, and we shall have a big crowd of people coming for whom we care nothing, and from whom we shall never get a courteous or even civil word." People, that is, who are like the lady of whom I wrote above. Motor cars are not seen in evidence at fixtures of the pack of which I have been speaking. Neither are they to be found at the fixtures of the Warwickshire, Lord Willoughby de Broke having spoken to some purpose on the subject.

The Position of Farmers.

FARMERS have it entirely in their own hands as to whether they will have motor cars at the Hunting fixtures in their country. If they make a fitting representation of their wishes on this subject to the master of hounds those wishes will be respected. And I am quite certain that the bulk of hunting men in the country, who have motor cars, when they hear of the farmer's protest, will cease to use those motor cars as covert hacks when they realise why they are objected to. The motor car can bring a much greater influx of objectionable strangers than the railway can, and that is a thing to be taken into consideration. In taking leave of this subject I would not be misunderstood. All strangers in the hunting field are not objectionable. Hunting men and farmers alike welcome the stranger who comes a few times to visit their country. But the man or woman who comes regularly, and who never in any way identifies himself with the rural life of the country in which he gets his sport, is a great deal better away, and farmers can, at any rate, prevent him coming in a motor car.

Ladies and the Spur.

I AM very sorry to learn that it is becoming fashionable amongst ladies to use the spur. There are very few men who ought to ride with sharp spurs, and certainly there are fewer ladies. I heard a lady say the other day that she liked to ride with a spur because it made her horse so frisky. This being interpreted means that she spurred the horse to make him jump about, and punished him with the bit for doing what she had incited him to do. This is not only cruel but it likewise goes far to spoil a horse and make a generous horse a rogue. Of course it may be said that the lady's spur should be blunt, but whoever knew a lady ride without a "business" end to it. Feminine logic would at once ask the question, What is the use of wearing a spur that is not sharp? A woman's seat gives her tremendous purchase in the use of the spur, and I have seen some horses cruelly butchered by ladies' spurs. The best horsewomen I have known only used the spur on certain horses. It is a maxim which admits of no refutation that no one should wear sharp spurs who cannot keep them from the horse's sides when they are not needed. And how many horsemen and horsewomen can do that?

The Railway Rates on Polo Ponies.

I HEAR that there is to be a meeting of the County Polo Association early next month, at which the excessive rates charged for Polo ponies will be considered. The existing rates are certainly very heavy for ponies going to and returning from matches, and something like the same rules should prevail with Polo ponies as with horses going to shows or Hunters. Anything and everything which tends to lessen the expense of playing polo is of importance to the breeder—more people would play polo if the cost of the game is lessened, and consequently more ponies will be wanted. It is the incidental expenses which make Polo costly. And in these days of motor cars, Polo pony breeding is one branch of horse breeding that is not affected.

A Good Stud.

IT is not often that I mention a stud of horses that is going to be sold in these columns, but exceptional circumstances are a sufficient excuse for me calling attention to Mr. W. Eyton's half dozen weight-carrying Hunters that are to be sold at Tattersall's to-day. Of the half dozen five are well up to 17 stone, and the horse I particularly liked, Ginger, an eight-year-old chesnut by Greenfield, is in my opinion just the right type of weight-carrier. He is one of the old, long, low, and level sort, standing 15 hands 3½ in., and is remarkably level in shape, and very near the ground. He is also a fine mover, and looks a Hunter all over him. His sire Greenfield is a rare bred one. He was by the famous Springfield, and his dam, Lady Lucas, was by Tynedale, who was by Warlock, and who strained back to Whisker and Phantom on the dam's side. Lady Ripon, the dam of Lady Lucas, was by Stockwell, from Mary Aislabie by Malcolm, so that Greenfield is remarkably stoutly bred on the dam's side, coming from a family of short-legged powerful horses. I wonder if there are any stallions by him travelling. If there are and they are well bred on the side of their dams they should make famous Hunter sires. Greenfield was foaled in 1883, so if living is an old horse. He is a rare sire if his stock all take as Ginger.

THE LOOKER ON.

Good Prices for Hunters.

The chief lots included in the sale of Messrs. Warner, Sheppard, and Wade, at their Leicester Repository on the 12th inst. were Hunters sent from the South of Ireland by Mr. T. Donovan, M.F.H., and they fetched capital prices. The top price, 175 guineas, was paid for an upstanding bay gelding described as being up to any weight; and two other Hunters, one the winner of a point-to-point steeplechase over one of the most difficult countries in Ireland, each reached 150 guineas; whilst a chesnut gelding up to 14 stone seemed to be a bargain at 110 guineas. Mr. G. E. Gibson sent a nice draft of Hunters from Oakham, and Sprite, up to 13 stone, reached 95 guineas, while Edante changed hands for 80 guineas. Other consignments sold at prices ranging up to the last mentioned figure.

Suffolk Horse Society.

A meeting of the council of the Suffolk Horse Society was held at Ipswich on Tuesday, when, before the business on the agenda was commenced, a vote of sincere condolence with the Marchioness of Bristol and other members of the family on the great loss they have sustained was passed on the motion of the president, Sir Cuthbert Quilter, Bart.

The Breeding Scheme Committee reported that at the annual sale, held on July 29, eight nomination foals were sold, averaging £20 13s. 6d., against £18 3s. 6d. in 1906. Owing to the small crop of foals, only 42 per cent. of the mares put to stud producing foals for the sale, the committee has to report a loss of £14 10s. on the year's work. Considering, however, that this money has been the means of encouraging and extending the breeding of Suffolk horses, and has been of material assistance to small farmers, the financial deficiency may safely be regarded as money expended in a satisfactory manner in furthering the chief aims of the society. At the same time, the committee are of opinion that a much greater percentage of foals may be safely anticipated in average years.

The president said he did not know that he had anything to add to the report. He thought that the small deficiency should not cause a feeling of discouragement. The scheme was uniformly successful, and it had doubtless done a great amount of good. Many had been benefited, and it had, undoubtedly, useful work before it. He moved the adoption of the report, which was carried.

A letter was read from the secretary of the Royal Agricultural Society, stating that the council would have under consideration the prize sheet for 1908 at their meeting to be held on November 6. The hon. director was desirous that the prize list should then be as complete as possible, and it would be a great assistance if the Suffolk Horse Society would be so good as to state in what way they proposed to support the prize sheet in furtherance of the interests of the Suffolks.

Accompanying this was a letter from Sir Gilbert Greenall, stating that though a long distance from Newcastle, he hoped the Suffolk Horse Society would do what they could towards the classes for Suffolks at the Royal. The exhibition of Sir Cuthbert's team had, he felt certain, made many people interested in the breed that previously took little notice of them. He hoped the Suffolk Society would give something to the breed classes beyond its challenge cup. He might say that it was proposed to give prizes at the coming show for heavy cart horses, shown in vehicles, and he hoped it would be a most attractive feature.

The president observed that, having read this communication, he thought it would be well to call the council together. He somehow felt that the Royal had not in the past been quite in as much accord with them, nor they perhaps with the Royal, upon certain points, as they could well have hoped. However, what they had to consider was what they as a council should do next year. They did not, of course, forget that they were desirous of keeping their place with the Royal Society, and while they might be disposed to meet the proposals of the Royal, were the Royal, on their part, disposed to meet their views? This was a point which they had to consider, and he should be glad to know the feelings of the council on the point.

Mr. W. R. Hustler asked to be permitted to digress from the agenda for a moment. He desired, now that they were on the subject of the Royal prize list, to make a proposal, which he was sure would meet with the approval of the council and their cordial support. It was that they should accord a hearty vote of thanks to Sir Cuthbert Quilter for the great assistance he has rendered the Suffolk horse in exhibiting his valuable team of horses at the Olympia and at the Royal Show. The result had undoubtedly been to create a boom in Suffolk horses, much to the benefit of the breed, and at the same time their pockets, while it had undoubtedly awakened much widespread interest in the chesnuts. It had been a huge advertisement—indeed, one of the best that the Suffolks had had. He had much pleasure in proposing also that the resolution should be placed on the books of the Suffolk Horse Society.

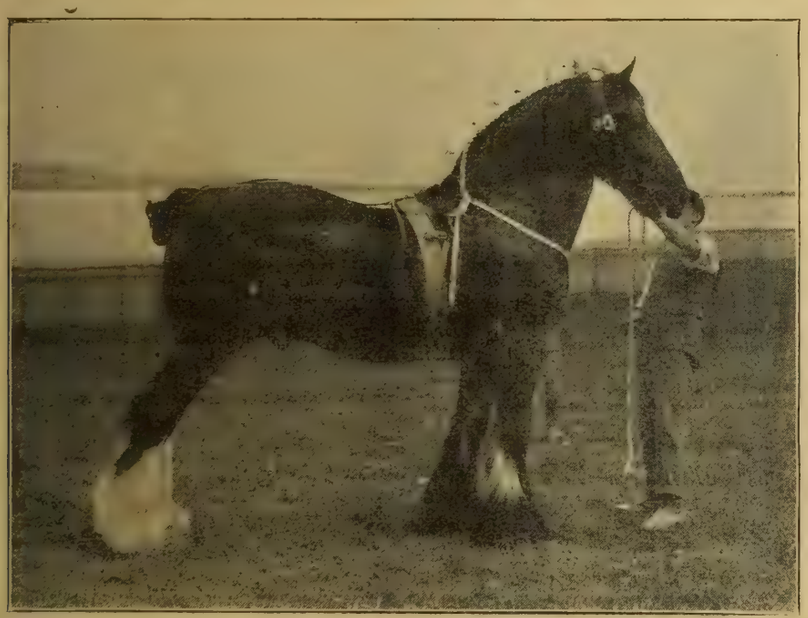
The motion was carried unanimously amidst applause.

Sir Cuthbert Quilter, in acknowledgment, remarked that though he embarked upon the Olympia venture with great hesitation and considerable difficulty, he must confess that he was extremely glad at the result. He trusted that it might be an inducement to the authorities at the Olympia, and on the part of the Royal Show, to endeavour to afford owners an opportunity of showing their horses in harness and in waggons. Of course, the expenses of a team of that size were very heavy indeed, and if any prize was given at the Royal or Olympia shows it might be regarded as something by way of a return for expenses incurred. He desired to heartily thank the council for the resolution they had just passed.

Considerable discussion then took place upon the letter of the Royal Agricultural Society, and it was suggested that the Suffolk Horse Society should contribute the same amount as last year to the Suffolk classes. It was said, however, that they were practically prevented from showing the best horses in consequence of the age limit for the classes. One gentleman pointed out that this applied all round, and a member of the council replied that gentlemen identified with other breeds did not probably want to show their older horses.

The president reminded them that there was proposal to have a class for heavy horses in harness, and suggested that possibly an opportunity would be afforded of showing mature Suffolks in connection with this section of the show. The expenses of such a show were, however, considerable, and perhaps the Royal could be induced to provide a fund from which to ease the expense of the conveyance of vehicles to exhibitions.

The proposal was regarded an excellent one, and the council eventually resolved that £40 should be given as last year, and the president, Mr. W. R. Hustler, and Mr. E. R. H. Moorsom were appointed a committee to arrange the apportionments of the classes.



Mr. E. Muntz's Shire Stallion King Forest, winner of First Prize for Shire Stallions foaled in 1905 at the Bath and West Show this year. Its sire was Lockinge Forest King, dam Lockinge Dimple, and was bred by Mr. H. R. Craig, Market Harborough.

Record Price for a Dorset Horn.

A record for Dorset Horn sheep was established at the dispersion of the famous registered flock of Mr. J. H. Creed, at Burstock Grange, near Bridport, when six-teeth ewes made up to 110s. apiece, which was given by Mr. C. Scutt, a prominent Dorset flockmaster, of Preston, near Dorchester. The next age fetched 105s., Mr. Murford purchasing at this figure, whilst the two-teeths, which excited unusual rivalry, went up to £8 10s. apiece, the entire flock of ewes, some 800 in number, averaging 80s. a head. This price, extraordinary as it was, was eclipsed by the Chilver lambs, Mr. Johnson, an Australian buyer, paying £8 10s. for a pen, a price never before touched for lambs in the West of England, or, in fact, any other sale for lambs simply for flock purposes.

Professor Arkell, of McGill University, Canada, has purchased for the Macdonald College a very fine Large White boar and sow from the Colston Bassett and Borrowfield herds, bred from noted prize-winning sows. An order has also been received for a number to be sent to Frankfort, Germany.

SHEEP: NOTES AND JOTTINGS.

THE warm and fine month of September, followed as it has been by abundant showers during the past fortnight, has undoubtedly improved the prospects for the winter keep of the flockmaster. The vigorous growth one notices when passing through the country, particularly in the swedes and turnips, is a gratifying feature for those who are flockowners. The mangel crops and also those of the thousand headed kale and other fodder crops for autumn consumption is highly satisfactory.

TAKING a review of the position of the flockmaster so far as regards food for the coming winter and spring, it may be said that there is every reason to anticipate an abundant crop.

TO those who own breeding flocks experience has proved that an abundant crop of turnips is not altogether a blessing. If reference be made to the lambing reports in past years one cannot fail to be struck with the fact that it is almost a certainty that in a good turnip year the losses in the lambing flocks are always heavier and more severe than in those years in which the turnip crop is a short one.

THERE cannot be any question but that a large percentage of this heavier loss is accounted for by too many turnips being given to the lambing flock previously to the lambing time. It is as well, therefore, that attention should be called to this fact before harm has been done.

EVERYONE who is acquainted with the management of those farms whereon the large lambing flocks of this country are kept, know full well that the turnip crop is grown with a dual object—first, to provide food for the flock, the produce of which forms a very large proportion of the receipts of the farm, and, secondly, to provide means for manuring the land upon which these crops are grown. Consequently those who are farming such land naturally look to the ewe flock to consume upon the land where the turnips are grown.

EXPERIENCE, however, as mentioned above, shows that when too abundant a supply of roots is given to the lambing flock, the results accruing from that flock are not so good as when the supply of roots is small, and this supply has to be supplemented by an additional supply of dry food in some form or other.

NOW, in view of the experience of former years, the prudent manager of a lambing flock will take care that the usual supply of dry fodder shall always be given to the ewe flock, no matter how large the crop of turnips may be.

IF it should be that the turnip crop is so abundant that the land cannot be cleared in time for the succeeding corn crop by the ewe flock, then comes the position as to how the surplus shall be dealt with. There are two ways of doing this, either to purchase other sheep, and let them eat the roots, or to draw the roots off and consume them elsewhere by cattle, or, if neither of the above methods can be adopted, then there is a third way—*i.e.*, that the over-abundant supply of roots shall be utilised for manure—*i.e.*, that the roots shall be ploughed in. This last resource, however, must only be taken when all other schemes have been exhausted; and it is well to remember that there are so many chances against the root crop holding out sound all through the winter, and consequently the last method recommended for dealing with the surplus crop should not be carried out until a certainty has been secured of a full supply of food for that period of the year, when the food supplies for the flock often run very short—*i.e.*, in the early spring.

NOWADAYS one does not see so much of that excellent practice in dealing with the root crops, followed, as used to be the case some thirty years ago, *i.e.*, for the swedes packed together in long rows and then to be covered up by running the plough down each side of them. The practice was to put some five or six rows of swedes together, packed closely, and then a couple of furrows thrown up by the plough on either side to cover them up and to keep them to some extent protected from the frost, and also to preserve them in a moist and good condition for late feeding in the spring.

THE importance of the flock to every farmer who owns one needs no word to emphasise it at the present, for a reference to the prices that are being paid for the first quality home grown and fed mutton proves most conclusively that this source of income is one of the most lucrative that is at the command of the farmers at the present time, and there is no indication whatever of any likelihood of the value of English mutton being depreciated for some time to come.

THE prices at which store sheep have been selling also show how keen the demand is for them, and this fact emphasises how essential and important it is that all owners of flocks should take every means they know to prevent any unavoidable losses taking place in the lambing pen, for every lamb that is saved means a substantial addition to the profit that such flockowners ought to be able to make.

ADVICES received from the Argentine show that the prices realised there by the Argentine-bred Lincoln sheep at Palermo Show, whilst they have not been quite so high as was the case last year, are still at an average that affords those who are importing stud rams an ample margin of profit for breeding stud sheep.

AMONGST the prices realised by Mr. M. J. Cobo (who was the principal winner at Palermo) for his rams were £323 15s., £262 10s., £87 10s., £78 15s., &c., the average for fourteen being £70 15s.

MR. T. E. DE ANCHORENA averaged £42 2s. 6d. for three, Mr. Villafane £59 5s. for seven, Mr. C. Lopez £59 7s. 6d. for five; 102 rams, bred by different breeders, which sold at prices from £87 10s. to £10 5s., averaged £23 4s.; another lot of seventeen averaged £25 17s. 9d.

MR. M. J. COBO averaged £24 1s. 10d. for fifteen, the range of price being from £29 7s. 6d. to £19 5s.

A NOTABLE sale of imported sheep took place on September 17 last at Buenos Ayres. This consignment, which numbered thirty-six yearling rams, averaged £34 10s. 10d., Mr. Dudding's quota making an average of £177 2s. £182 was the top price, another made £306 5s., and so on down to £23,12s. 6d. Mr. E. C. Howard's average for five was £70 17s. 6d., top price £87 10s. Mr. J. H. Headland's average for three was £43 15s., top price £70.

MR. H. CASSWELL'S average for seven was £42 15s., top price £87 10s. Mr. W. Pate's average for seven was £40 15s., top price £70. Mr. W. S. Fox's average was £37 7s. 11d. for six, £70 being the top price. Five ewes from Mr. C. E. Howard's flock averaged £58 6s. 8d., five from Mr. Henry Budding's flock averaged £26 15s., eight from Mr. H. Casswell's flock averaged £21, and twelve lambs from Mr. Henry Dudding's flock averaged £22 8s.

Sheep Sale at Sittingbourne.

At Sittingbourne on Wednesday there were offered about 6,000 sheep and lambs which, on the whole, met a satisfactory demand, only a few failing to find purchasers. Kent wether lambs made up to 36s., several lots making 30s. and over.

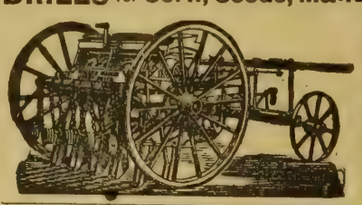
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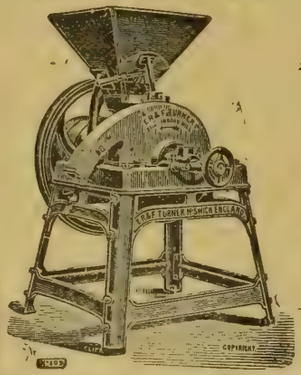


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Kent ewe lambs of good quality were in good request, and ranged up to 35s. Kent lambs (ewes and wethers mixed) ranged from 36s.; half-breds made from 31s.; Southdowns, from 24s.; and one lot of Suffolks, from 32s. per head. The Kent ewe tegs, many of which were draft lots, were hardly in so keen demand as expected, 59s. was the top price, and for wethers they ranged down to 38s. 6d. per head.

The ram trade, although the prices were not high, was decidedly better than at Stroud and the whole of the 152 registered rams offered were readily sold. Mr. W. F. Wood sold a dozen at an average of £6 5s., Mr. Faunce de Laune giving £11 10s., the top price; Mr. Croucher gave £7, the others ranging from £6 10s. Mr. M. Benstead's annual consignment came out well and were readily sold at an average of £6 4s. 2d. for the twenty-six. Messrs. Dean gave the top price, £8 15s., the others making from £8 to £6 15s. Fifteen of Mr. R. G. E Locke's were disposed of at £4 6s. 4d., and here £6 was the top price. The Exors. of Mr. W. Elvy sold thirty at £6 0s. 11d. Mr. Philips gave the top price, £11 10s., the same buyer took another at £10, at which figure Mr. Ledger also got one. Thirty from Lieut.-Colonel Honeyball realised an average of £4 3s. 10d. Mr. Warren gave the top price of £7 10s., whilst twenty of the second run from Lord Harris's flock averaged £5, the best price being £8 10s., given by Messrs. Wakeley Bros.

Maidstone October Fair.

The annual fair at Maidstone took place on Thursday, when the supply, with the exception of cattle, was the largest for many years, whilst despite unfavourable weather there was a very large attendance of buyers and others. Sheep were the feature of the fair, there being on offer upwards of 13,000 sheep and rams, and they met a ready trade and good prices.

Messrs. Ambrose and Foster offered no fewer than 8,606 sheep, as compared with 7,200 last year, together with 179 rams, 18 horses, and 95 beasts. The sale of sheep was also highly satisfactory, and throughout the bidding was brisk. The prices for Kent lambs were from 27s. to 30s., but in a few cases 32s. and 33s. were obtained. The highest price for half-bred lambs was 37s., which was given for a pen of twenty belonging to Mr. W. Veitch. Some good prices were realised for Kent sheep, Mr. C. F. Foster obtaining 65s. for a pen of ewe tegs, and Mr W. L. Wigan 56s. for similar sheep Mr. T. Phillips sent eight pens of ewe tegs, which changed hands at from 44s. to 61s., whilst Mr. G. Farmer secured 62s. for one pen and 60s. for each of three other pens.

The first Kent rams offered were a consignment of thirty-four by Mr. G. Farmer, of Leeds Abbey, and these made the best prices of the sale, the top figure being £12 1s. 6d., which Mr. Champion gave for a splendid specimen. Lord Falmouth also became the owner of one almost as good for £11 11s., whilst others from the same flock reached up to 8½ guineas. Rams from other breeders made up to 7 guineas, whilst for ram tegs prices ranged from 2 guineas to 4 guineas.

Mr. Edward Waterman offered over 3,773 sheep and lambs, 211 rams, &c., and with bidding brisk, a good trade was done. Of Kent sheep, the principal consignor was Mr. F. Chambers, of Chart Sutton, whose 200 ewe tegs were of excellent quality, and were quickly disposed of, the top price of 57s. being obtained, whilst other figures were 56s., 55s., and 54s, other consignments reaching 49s. Half-bred sheep which were not particularly numerous, reached up to 43s, and Southdowns to 50s. For the rams there was a good demand at satisfactory prices.

For rams some good prices were realised, the highest being 14 guineas, which was given by Mr. Cornwallis for a pure-bred Southdown ram of Duke of Richmond blood, belonging to the Hon. R. P. Nevill. The same purchaser also became the owner at 10 guineas of a similar sheep sent by the Hon. R. P. Nevill. These prices stood out as the highest in the sale. The next being 7½ guineas, which was also given for one of the Birling flock.

OBITUARY.

Mr. T. B. Handley.

The death occurred on Tuesday morning, as the result of an accident, of Mr. T. B. Handley, of Swarkestone Lowe, near Derby. On Wednesday the deceased gentleman was thrown out of his trap while returning from a ploughing match, at which he had been judging, and sustained internal injuries. Mr. Handley was one of the largest dairy farmers in the country, was a member of the council of the Derbyshire Agricultural Society, and was looked to as an authority on pigs and sheep and the quality of milk.

At the annual cattle fair at Knaresborough on Wednesday there was a small show of grazing stock and a fair supply of horses. Calving cows were in better demand, whilst the best cart horses made £40 to £60, harness horses £25 to £35, ponies £15 to £20 each.

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If your cattle are troubled this way, stop it now by asking particulars of

JOHN J. FORBES,
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How is it your Hens are not laying as they ought?

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In the morning's soft food, which will keep them free from Colds, Roup, &c., and in a short time the Egg Production will be wonderfully improved.

All Poultry Keepers ought to know its value. Ask those who have tried it!

Beech Mount, Garstang.

Mr. J. Thomas, Dear Sir,—My Turkeys for last Xmas kept dying off one by one until I was afraid I was going to lose them all; my man, Walter Cross, had heard something of your Powder, so he suggested to me one day that we should try the "Garstang Tonic." We did so, and I can assure you that we lost very few more, and what were left fed up and were as good a lot of Turkeys as ever I had for Xmas. I also gave it to some Irish pullets, and it had exactly the same effect on them, smartening them up, and making them ready in very little time. I can confidently recommend the "Garstang Tonic" as the best preparation ever I have used, and I have tried a good many in my time.—Yours respectfully,

(Signed) ROBERT MARSDEN.

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HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL, Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

GRIFFIN, F. W., Boro' Fen, Peterboro'. Shire Stallions, Mares, and Fillies for sale, in natural condition; 40 pedigree mares kept for breeding; every facility to foreign buyers.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Hereford. Stud Horses: Lockinge Lord of Misrule and Lockinge Bonny Lad, both by Lockinge Forester, full brother to Lockinge Forest King. Colts and Fillies for Sale.

JOHNSON, WALTER, Hatfield, Doncaster. Stud Horse, Lambton King 16757; Stallions for hire; weighty young Stallions, Mares, and Fillies on Sale.

MUNTZ, FREDERICK ERNEST, Umberslade, Hockley Heath, Warwickshire. Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, prize-winners.—Particulars from Mr. JOHN T. B. HARTLEY, Estate Office.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners, on Sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

PEARSON, E. E., Brickendonbury, Hertford. Shire Stallions, Mares and Stock for service and sale; prize winners. Stations: Hertford, Great Eastern and Great Northern.—Apply Estate Office, Brickendonbury, Hertford.

ROWELL, JOHN, Bury, Huntingdon. Breeder Shires and Hackneys; Stallions for sale, hire, or service at home; mares and fillies for sale.

WHITEHEAD, Robert, Fashionably bred mares and fillies in natural condition on Sale. Stallions, Bodenham King 17177, Whitestone Prince Alfred 22930.—Apply J. M. JOHNSTONE, Hargate Hall, Buxton. Station, and telegrams, Millers Dale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

BENSON, ALFRED, Upper Gatton Park, Merstham, Surrey. Hackney Stallions: Copper King 7744, reserve champion, London Hackney Shows, 1905 and 1906; yearling Colts and Fillies by Copper King and other well-known Stallions for sale. For particulars, pedigrees, &c., apply to T. Hyett.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

SMITH, THOMAS, Shirley Stud, Hall Green, Birmingham. Breeder of Pedigree Hackneys and Ponies. Owner Hackney Stallion, "Viscount Hopwood" 8686; Pony Stallions, "Pinderfields Horace" 7952, "Shirley King Horace" 9882. Prize winners on sale.

WHITWORTH, ROBERT, Warley Stud, Halifax, and Londesboro' Stud, Market Weighton. Hackney Stallions: Polonius, Edemynag, Beckingham Squire 8078. Hackneys and Harness Horses always on sale. Matched pairs a speciality.

PONIES.

BEALE, Mrs. A. J., Cacketts, Cudham, Kent. Prize-bred Pedigree Shetlands for sale; three grand Stallions at stud.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

GORDON, ALEX. T., Combscauseway, Insch, Aberdeenshire. Shorthorn Bulls, descended from prominent winners and best Cruickshank breeding, always on sale; Cows and Heifers if required. Many prizes last season. Inspection invited.

HARTFORTH GRANGE HERD of Dairy Shorthorns, the property of Herbert Straker. The cows for this herd have for the last 12 years been selected from the best pedigree milking strains in England; young bulls always on sale.—Apply Farm Bailiff, Hartforth Grange, Richmond, Yorks.

CATTLE—*continued.*

SHORTHORNS—*continued.*

HALL, A. C., Great Rollright Manor, Chipping Norton. Pedigree Shorthorn Herd, combining milk with flesh. Daily milk record kept. Chief stock Bull Lavender Yet 74880.

HENDERSON, Sir ALEXANDER, Bart., Buscot Park, Faringdon. Pedigree Shorthorns of deep milking strains, Bates, Cruickshank. Young Bulls for sale.—Address, Mr. Walter Croslaud, Estate Office, Buscot Park, Faringdon.

HOBBS, JAMES T., Maisey Hampton, Fairford, Glos. Herd of 180 pure-bred Shorthorns. Bulls and Heifers on sale. Bulls in service: Near Go 79473, Buscot Pluto 88032 by Wanderer's Prince 78105 Beaufort Prince 87933 by Master Millicent 84080. Also see Oxford Down Sheep.

HOBBS, R. W., & SONS, Kelmscott, Lechlade. Herd of 180 Cows, Dairy Shorthorns; numerous prizes obtained milking competitions, including first at Trinity; also first in Dairy Herd Competitions, both Bath and West and Oxfordshire Societies, 1906. Bulls, Bull Calves, Cows and Heifers always on sale.

HORNE, W. E., Esq., Hall Place, Shackleford, Godalming. Pedigree Shorthorn Dairy Herd; records kept; young Bulls and Heifers for sale. Bull in service, Friar 88636.—Apply W. Stimson, Cross Farm, Shackleford, Godalming.

HUDSON, R. W., Danesfield, Marlow, Bucks. Pure bred Shorthorns, young Bulls and Heifers on sale. Herd may be seen by appointment.—Apply Mr. Colin Campbell, Estate Office, Danesfield, Marlow.

LEON, H. S., Bletchley Park, Bucks. Herd of Pedigree Shorthorns; young Bulls and Heifers always on sale from the oldest and finest blood. Exporters and breeders are asked to pay the farm a visit.—Address J. T. Watson, Home Farm, Bletchley, Bucks.

LEWIS, HERBERT C., Hean Castle, Saundersfoot, Pembrokeshire. Pedigree Shorthorns of best Bates and Cruickshank strains; heavy-fleshed Bulls and Heifers by Royal prize-winner Barton Sceptre 82773, fit for export.

MOSLEY, Sir OSWALD.—High-class Shorthorns. Home Farm, Rolleston Hall. Bulls and Heifers on sale.—Apply A. E. Beck, Rolleston, Burton-on-Trent.

POWIS, Earl of, Powis Castle. Young Bulls and Heifers of choice breeding for sale; Reds and Roans, Bates and Cruickshank blood; also Berkshires and Middle White Pigs of fashionable strains at reasonable prices.—Manager, Home Farm, Coed-y-dinas, Welshpool.

PREECE, JOHN ADNEY, Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston, Northampton.—Herd of 250 Shorthorns, best Bates and Scotch blood; stock Bulls, Duke of Barrington 70th, Primrose Earl 89641, and Royal Baron 93192; Bulls and Heifers for sale.

ROTHWELL, R. R., Much Hoole, near Preston. Pedigree Shorthorns, chiefly Scotch blood. Stock bull Strowan Marquis 13th, winner of many prizes. Young bulls and heifers always on sale.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

SCOTT-MURRAY, C. A.—Shorthorn Bulls from first-class milking dams, combining milk with flesh.—Apply R. Vernon, Estate Office, Hambleden, Henley-on-Thames.

SHIPTON-SOLLARS MANOR SHORTHORN HERD, property of Frederick Phillips, Esq. Bulls and Heifers for sale, descended from Garne's Old Pye Blood.—Apply Brain, Shipton-Sollars, Andoversford. Wires: Andoversford.

STEWARD, F. J., Whitehall Farm, Brigstock, Thrapston. Telegrams: Brigstock. Pedigree Shorthorns, Bates, Booths, and Scotch blood; herd has won many prizes. Also prize Shire Mares and Fillies for sale.

SWINBURNE, Sir JOHN, Bart., Capheaton. Bates Shorthorns.—James Hepple, Capheaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

TAYLOR, GEORGE, Cranford, Middlesex.—Bates' Shorthorns, deep milkers. Winners Milking Competitions, London Dairy Show, 1905-6. Bull Calves for Sale. Stock Bulls: Beau Sabreur, Drumcree, Rowbury, and Kirkcharm.

WILKINS, T. R., The Grove, Longton, Lancs. Shorthorn Cows of the Seraphina, Julia, and old Fairy families; young Bulls and Heifers by Blood Royal 78414; younger stock by Jeweller 88937 (son of Blood Royal), recently sold for exportation.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

SUSSEX.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath, Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Sussex Cattle (descended from the oldest and best strains of blood), unrivalled for their early maturity, the production of the best beef and working oxen, and ability to thrive in all weathers on the roughest fare. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for Sale.

HEREFORDS.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for Sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

CATTLE—*continued.*

HEREFORDS—*continued.*

PULLEY, CHARLES THORNTON, Lower Eaton, Hereford.—Noted prize-winning herd of HEREFORD CATTLE. First prize Royal winners, Protector 19660 1900; Eaton Champion 21351, 1903; and Ashleaf 3rd, 1905. This herd is headed by Eaton Champion and Glendower 2nd 22196, also a Royal winner. Bulls and Heifers for sale. Also prize-winning Shropshire Sheep.—Apply Mr. HEDLEY JONES, Lower Eaton Estate Office, Hereford.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has in 1904 1905 and 1906 won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by Endale, Bage Protector, and Fusilier. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited.—Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford, Herefordshire.

DEVONS.

BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton Williton, Taunton, Breeder of Pedigree Devon Cattle. A speciality for large size, with quality and robust constitutions; colour dark red. Sent to all parts of the world. Prices moderate.

SKINNER, ALFRED C., Pound, Bishops-Lydeard, Somerset. Pedigree Devons, constitution, quality, size, milk; 600 prizes principal shows, many champions; exports most successful; bulls and heifers for sale. Inspection invited.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

BRIDGES, J. H.—This old-established herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle of the leading families can be seen at Langshott Home Farm, Horley, Surrey (near Horley Station, L.B. & S.C.R.), and catalogues obtained on application to Mr. Albert Pulling.

CRIDLAN, J. J., Masemore Park, Gloucester, Erica, Pride of Aberdeen, Lady Ida and other noted tribes. Stock Bulls, Wizard of Maisemore (21,405), Champion and winner of gold medals, 1905; Everwise (24,436), Champion and medal winner, 1907; Bengal of Ballindalloch, prize winner, 1906.

HURSLEY PARK HERD OF ABERDEEN ANGUS CATTLE, the property of Sir George Cooper Bart., comprising Erica, Pride, Miss Burgess, Lady Ida, Matilda, Jemima of Morlich families. Prizes won during 1906: 7 firsts, 3 seconds, 3 reserves, 1 challenge cup, 2 silver medals, 3 reserve champions. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.—Catalogues on application to J. E. Thorold, Estate Office, Hursley Park, Winchester.

THE ROCKLIFFE PARK HERD of Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, Ericas and Prides. Stock Bull, Pundit of Preston (17,156), Champion at Highland Show, 1904.—Apply, R. C. SWAN, Rockliffe Park, Darlington

AYRSHIRES.

WALLACE, JAMES, J.P., Auchenbainzie, Thornhill, Dumfriesshire, Scotland. Breeder of pedigree prize-winning Ayrshire Cattle; hardy, healthy, good milkers; bred for dairy purposes, beauty and style. Bulls and Heifers for sale.

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably, from his prize-winning herd of Red Polls, Bulls, Cows, Heifers, from good milkers.—Apply C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

CARY-ELWES, V., Billing Hall, Northampton. Breeder of Jersey cattle.

JERSEYS, and Alderney Guernseys, fresh calved and near calving. Prices, particulars.—R. WHEADON, Ilminster.

STERN, Sir E. D., Fan Court, Chertsey Surrey. Herd of pedigree Jersey Cattle. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for sale.

TICHBORNE PARK, GUERNSEY.—Yearling Bulls and Heifers for sale—Apply, D. MICHIE, Estate Office, Tichborne, Alresford, Hants.

GALLOWAYS.

GRAHAM, ROBERT, Auchengassel, Twynholm, breeder fashionable Galloway Cattle, winners at Royal and Highland Societies Shows. Pedigree Bulls, Cows, and Heifers, also Blue-greys for feeding, for sale. Commissions carefully executed.

KERRIES & DEXTER KERRIES.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

RATTRAY, DAVID, Gortnaskehy, Ballybunion, Co. Kerry. Pedigree Prize-winning Herd of Kerries and Dexters. 155 Prizes and Honours won by Cattle from this Herd past three years. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

THE DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE'S PRIZE-WINNING DEXTER HERD.—During 1904 and 1905 this Herd won more prizes than any other three Dexter Herds combined, including both first and second milking prizes Royal, 1905, and first London Dairy Show, 1906. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers generally for Sale.—CHILD, Compton Place, Eastbourne.

DUTCH.

BROWN, JOHN, Marden Farm, Hertford. Dutch, the best Dairy Cattle in the world. Over 200 head kept. Record, one cow gave 1,615 gallons of milk in 52 weeks. Bulls for sale.

(Continued on page 500.)

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONG WOOL.

ANDERSON, JOHN, Barton-on-Humber.—The old Barton Flock of Pure-bred LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, Flock Book 106. This flock is noted for hard constitutions and fine, lustrous wool. Inspection invited. Telegrams as above.

ATKINSON, T., & SON, North Kelsey, Lincoln. Old-established flock of pure Lincoln Longwools. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Noted for great size and long lustrous wool. Have given great satisfaction at home and abroad. Inspection invited

BROCKLEBANK, JOHN, Bassingham, Lincoln, (Flock 24). Pure-bred Lincoln Longwool Rams and Ewes. This old flock has been carefully bred for 100 years. Telegrams: Basingham.

BROOKS, W. J., Stowe Lodge, Weedon, Northants (Registered Flock 165), has for sale Rams and Ewes of best blood.

DRAKES, Wm., Tealby, Market Rasen. Flock No. 72 of Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs of best blood for sale. Lincoln Red Shorthorns. Prices moderate.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from Stallingboro Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

SMITH, HENRY, jun., Cropwell Butler, Nottingham. Lincoln Longwool Flock No. 7, winner of £2,361 in prizes. Champion pen Lincolns, Smithfield Show, 1896; Association Championship, Leicester, 1897; Association Championship for pen of 3 Shearling Rams, Yorkshire, 1900; Championship, Rutland, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, and 1906. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.

LEICESTER.

SIMPSON BROS., Pilmoor House, Hunmanby, Yorkshire, Breeders of Leicesters (Flock No. 2 in Leicester Book), have always for inspection or sale Rams and Ewes. These Sheep are of great size with heavy fleeces, and include Royal Winners.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1907.—Extraordinary records: Twin ram lambs let for 205 and 120 guineas. Ninety averaged £21 10s. Selections always for Sale.

OVEY, R. L., Hernes, Henley-on-Thames.—Pedigree HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK, Reg. Vol. IV. Prize-winners leading shows last five years.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. The Cholderton flock is individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded in the Hampshire Down Flock Book. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury.

THE CHILMARK FLOCK OF REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—Owner JAMES FLOWER, Chilwark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records. Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, out of 11 years competing, 'The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" won eight times, thrice second, with pens of 8 ram lambs; a marvellous record. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 13 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05-06. At the Royal at Derby, 1906, every First Prize, two Seconds, and the Champion were won; an unequalled success!! Champions Birmingham, 1905, over all breeds, Reserve in 1906. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Short-wools, Smithfield, 1904-05-06. Highest average past 13 years. Bridford Fair, Aug. 12, 100 Ram Lambs, annual sale. Selections for Sale.

OXFORD DOWNS.

ADAMS, GEORGE, Royal Prize Farm Flock, Faringdon, Berks. Pure Oxford Down Sheep, Shearling Rams, Ram Lambs, Ewes and Ewe Lambs for Sale. Special arrangements with foreign buyers. Many first prizes at R.A.S.E. and other shows during past 25 years, including 2 first, 2 second, and 4 other prizes, World's Fair, Chicago, and 7 firsts, 4 seconds and champion at Royal Bath and West, Royal Counties, etc., this year.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

SHEEP—*continued.*

OXFORD DOWNS—*continued.*

TREADWELL, JOHN, Upper Winchendon, Aylesbury.—Oxford Down Sheep. Annual Ram Sale, first Wednesday in August. Prizes won at R.A.S.E. 24 years in succession. Ewes for Sale.

WENSLEYDALE.

UNDERLEY WENSLEYDALES (Blue-faced) from the best blood obtainable. Successfully exhibited.—Apply, G. G. ROBINSON, Bailiff, Underley Farm, Kirkby, Lonsdale.

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

CHARLES SPENCER, having taken over the Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts, herd of Large and Middle White Pigs, which won 12 prizes and reserves with 11 exhibits at Derby Royal, will price any of them.

FULWOOD HERD LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES, property R. R. Rothwell. 200 head bred from winners at leading shows.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for Sale at moderate prices

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices.—J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM. Herd of Large White Pigs. The oldest and largest Herd in Notts County. Over 100 Breeding Sows kept. Upwards of 600 to select from. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—Apply ARTHUR A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

SPALDING HERD of Pedigree Large Whites, young stock and in-pig Gilts for Sale. All bred from great winners.—ALFRED W. WHITE, "Hillegom," Spalding.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 100 to choose from. Correspondence invited. Grand young breeding stock always on Sale.—Apply R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts (15 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

THE CATTON HERD of Prize-winning MIDDLE WHITE PIGS, property of J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stock Boar Castlecroft Mikado, 1st Park Royal, 1st Bath and West. Gelts and Boars on Sale. Prices moderate.—Apply BAILIFF, Raddle Farm, Edingale, Tamworth.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

LARGE BLACKS.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath, Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Large Black Pigs of the best strains of blood, noted for their docility and for the production of a large proportion of lean meat. Good selection of Boars, unrelated Gilts, and in-pig Sows for Sale at reasonable prices.

CATTON HERD OF PRIZE-WINNING LARGE BLACK PIGS.—Stock Boar Trevisquite Excelsior 1487, 1st Devon County, 2nd and Reserve Champion Royal Show, 1906; pigs kept in hardy natural condition; gelts and boars always on sale.—Apply, J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stations: Croxall, 2½ miles (M.R.); Alrewas, 3½ miles (L.N.W.).

PIGS—*continued.*

LARGE BLACKS—*continued.*

HASKETON CHAMPION PRIZE HERD OF LARGE BLACK PIGS.—This herd has won the Royal championship three out of four times, and is the only herd having won the breed challenge cup. Record: 47 firsts, 37 seconds, 11 thirds, 126 prize-winning cards; the herd this year being the winners of 14 firsts, 6 seconds, 2 thirds, championship and silver cup in five shows. Gelts and Boars at moderate prices consistent with quality. Exportation a speciality.—Apply, C. F. MARRINER, Hasketon, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS.—Select Herd bred from choice Prize Winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale, moderate prices.—H. J. CLARKE, The Slade, Roughley, Sutton Coldfield.

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PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

We have received a copy of a booklet written by Mr. A. H. Hartevett, of 6, Stationsweg, Rotterdam, which deals with the Canadian Pacific Railway Company's Irrigation Project in Canada, and more especially with Southern Alberta. A series of dry seasons turned the attention of settlers to the possibility of aiding the growth of their crops by irrigation. Such marked success attended their efforts that general attention was directed to this method of extending settlement and increasing crop production. This little booklet shows how the irrigation scheme was carried out by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, and the great benefit all classes of agriculturists have derived from irrigation. The scheme makes the farmers practically independent of rain, for if a dry season occurs, they can water their fields and stock by means of the canals made under the irrigation scheme. The land out in Southern Alberta is cheap, and a determined man can save money and become independent long before old age. We strongly advise intending emigrants to get a copy of this booklet, which is written in English and well illustrated, for Southern Alberta is destined to be one of the first countries for stock raising, dairying, and small farming.

We have received a copy of the *Salisbury and Winchester Journal's* Complete Farmers' Account Book. This book will enable the farmer to keep his accounts accurately and in order without him having to learn all the intricacies of book-keeping, which he has not time nor the inclination to do. Most farmers are very careless about their accounts, and only hazard a guess at what they earn above their expenditure; but this book would change all that, and the farmer will be able to tell at a glance what a certain thing would cost or was sold for and the date of the transaction, instead of having to spend a lot of time looking up bills, &c. All the transactions are printed and classified, and all the farmer need do is to enter the amount of the transaction, and at the end of the year he can fill up the balance sheet which is already made out for him with the exception of the amounts, and thus tell how much profit he has made during the past year, what expenses he has incurred, and how his profit has been made, besides which there is a space for memoranda at the end of the book, also spaces to show how many cheques he has received, the amount and who they are from. The book is well got up and is printed on good paper, besides being enclosed in a stout orange and green cover. No business can be satisfactorily carried on without book-keeping, and this useful book is published at 5s, from the *Salisbury and Winchester Journal* office, Salisbury.

Messrs. Wm. Blackwood and Sons will shortly begin the publication of a new edition of "The Book of the Farm." Originally compiled by the late Mr. Henry Stephens, F.R.S.E., "The Book of the Farm" has for nearly threequarters of a century been recognised as the leading standard work upon British agriculture. In the gifted author's own days three large editions were exhausted; and about twenty years ago the publication was begun of a fourth edition, revised and in great part re-written by Mr. James Macdonald, F.R.S.E., secretary of the Highland and Agricultural Society. That edition with several reprints has also been exhausted, and to meet the continued demand a fifth edition is now being prepared. The work is being brought thoroughly up-to date in all its departments, and in this undertaking the editor is being assisted by a large number of the most eminent agricultural authorities of the day. As with former editions, the work will ultimately be published in three large one-guinea volumes, but in the first place it will be issued in six divisional volumes at 10s. 6d each. Publication will begin early in the new year.

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BIRMINGHAM CATTLE AND POULTRY SHOW.

The 59th GREAT ANNUAL EXHIBITION of Fat Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Poultry, Corn, Roots, and Implements will be held in Bingley Hall on November 30th and December 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th.

ENTRIES CLOSE for Stock, Poultry, &c. Friday, November 1st. Implement Entries already closed.

Prize Lists and Entry Forms may be obtained from

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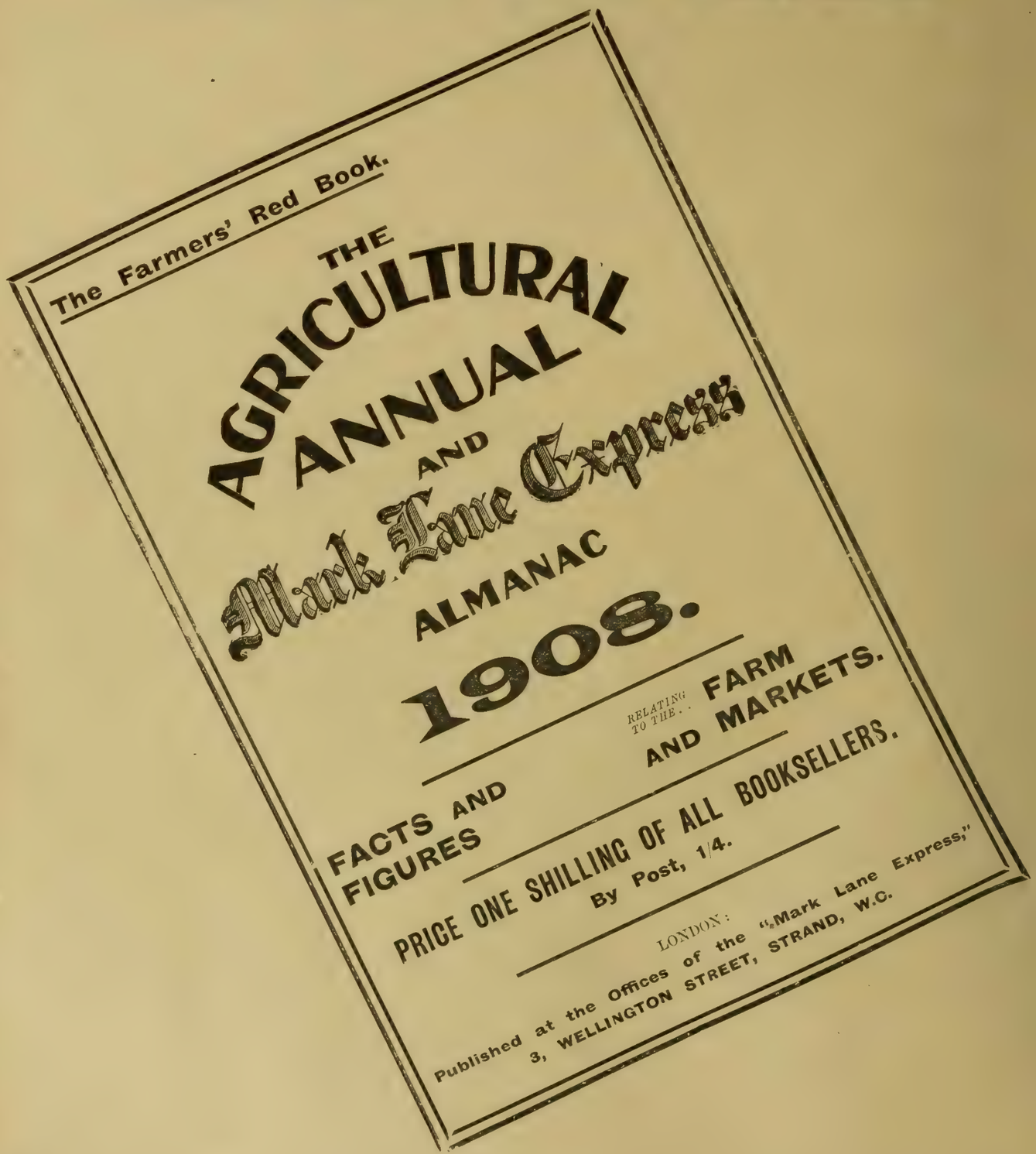
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LONDON, MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1907.

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Seasonable Topics.

Floods. RECORDS show that heavy rains in the autumn are not unseasonable, while they are also beneficial after the harvest is gather over in filling up the springs and replenishing the earth with its essential moisture, but, of course, it is easily possible to get rather too much of a good thing. Some of our friends are thinking so who want to get on with their preparations for sowing, but are prevented from doing so by the moist conditions prevailing. We have had storm and tempest since October came in, and at the moment of writing rivers have swollen into torrential streams of muddy water, and many acres of low-lying land are under water. This state of affairs is somewhat troublesome and inconvenient, but even floods have their redeeming features if they do not come at the wrong season, for after the water has gone down a rich deposit is left on the land which has its own fertilising properties, and some of the best feeding and dairying land in the country is to be found in the valleys of rivers where it is liable to be submerged in rainy seasons. The trouble is when the floods come at the wrong time, in the summer for instance, when hay is about, and then the effects are disastrous, as many farmers know to their cost.

Autumn Tints. FARMERS are essentially a severely practical class of men, and are little prone to give way to feelings of sentiment, but breathes there a man, we wonder, in the agricultural fraternity who can look on a coppice or woodland in the autumn, when the leaves are painted with a hundred glorious and delicate tints, without being moved with the beauty of the scene? If so we pity him, for one needs not the soul of an artist to admire the work of the great painter, Nature, on the threshold of winter. We are used to the picture. We have seen it every year from childhood upwards, and have written of it more than once, but as successive autumns roll round it is placed before us again and has all its old attractions. The golden tints of ripened leaves have an appeal of sadness about them, because they speak and tell of death, but in every touch of brilliant colour one sees on the part of Nature a combined—yea, and successful—attempt to make her dying days the most beautiful. And when the colours are at their brightest the scene changes; frost comes, leaves fall, and winter reigns supreme.

Falling Leaves. WE have dwelt above on the beauty of autumn tints and their appeal to human nature, but there is something dismal and depressing about the falling of leaves. First they come to the ground with a continuous pitter-pat that grows monotonous, and then the process is aided by a storm of wind and rain, which brings off the leaves in showers and hurtles them hither and thither until they are finally deposited in some corner as mere heaps of dampness and decay. Whether the habitation be a mansion, a farmstead, or a cottage, its surroundings are untidy and look uncared for while the leaves are falling, and so they must remain till the trees are bare and a general clearing up can be effected. But the leaves have not completed their work when they flicker mournfully to the ground, for decay follows death, and in the latter process food is provided for living vegetation, and the cultivated crust of the earth is improved by the humus matter that is added to it. Leaf-mould is not such an essential requirement of the farmer as the gardener, and the latter would have difficulty in finding a substitute for the above material when mixing up his soil for potting purposes. But in agriculture falling leaves play their own part, which is not a small one when all things connected with them are considered.

The Earthworm. IN connection with the fall and decay of leaves we may associate that humble and silent friend of the farmer, the earth worm, who drags quantities of fallen leaves into its burrows, breaks them into tiny morsels, mixes them with the soil, and rich humus is formed. Nor is this the only good office which worms perform, for they live by consuming earth containing vegetable matter, and having been made use of in this way, the soil is brought to the surface by the worms and cast about in the form of a surface dressing. That great observer of Nature, Darwin, is the authority for the statement that in some parts of the country ten tons or more of earth on every acre passes every year through the organs of worms and is brought to the surface. Worms are like some other blessings that are never missed till they are gone, and we have known instances of wholesale destruction of these creatures through over-applications of gas lime or by tidal floods, and the ground set so hard and steely that it was most difficult to break it asunder. Further credit to the earthworm is given by the statement that its burrows are useful aids to drainage, and they act as channels by which the air enters the soil. In short, the earthworm is such a useful creature that it is deserving of a word of approbation occasionally, lest we should forget the good offices it performs.



MILL ON THE RIVER AVON (WARWICKSHIRE).

Milking Machines. IS the dainty, prim milkmaid of poetry and fiction to give way to a prosaic machine for extracting the milk from the udder of the cow? Time will tell, but at therecent Dairy Show a large and interested crowd gathered round to see cows milked by machinery without the aid of human fingers. Well may the old country dame ask: "Lors a mussy, what is the world acomin' to?" But what do we hear about the new cow milker? Namely, that it extracts more milk than human hands, and by the aid of machines two boys can milk cows in less time than six adults could perform the operation by hand milking. Saving of time and labour and saving of milk! These are items which appeal to farmers of to-day, and particularly those farmers who dispatch their milk from the shed and experience difficulty in getting good milkers. We hold no brief for the new machine, and do not prophecy about its future, but like all other machines, if it does its work well and saves time and labour, no sentiment will stand in the way to guard the occupation of the milkmaid.

Damsons on Farms. THE damson is not everybody's fruit, because it selects its own localities where it will grow and flourish, and it is not represented in quantity outside these areas. But in what are known as damson districts this is an exceedingly useful and popular fruit, as it is a general favourite with the public, and the demand for it is usually keen. Like all the plum family, damsons are either plentiful or scarce according to the season, and sometimes there are gluts, but, though this may be termed a damson year, the demand has been keen, and prices have kept up fairly well. Damsons are a farmer's fruit, and in Cheshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, and other parts where the fruit flourishes, one sees trees growing in orchards and dividing hedgerows, costing nothing to cultivate, and, taking one season with another, adding appreciably to the revenue of the holding. It is questionable, indeed, whether there is any fruit which demands so little from the cultivator and gives, taking one season with another, such a good return. Indeed, where the damson-growing farmer is concerned, picking and marketing are practically the only items of expense.

Liquid Manure. PASSING the other day by a farmstead situated near to the roadside we noticed a stream of rich brown liquor that had oozed from a heap of manure in the yard, trickling down amongst the cobblestones, and eventually losing itself amongst the nettles and docks growing luxuriously in a ditch close by. If this was a solitary case there would be no need to comment on it, but the same thing is occurring on scores of farms, and hundreds of gallons of liquid manure —the very essence of plant food—are annually wasted in this deplorable manner. We know, of course, that the proper way to keep manure is under shelter, but covered yards are the exception rather than the rule, and scores of farmers have no means of preventing the rain from falling on the dung heap and washing the plant food out of it. After admitting this, however, there are numerous instances in which a contrivance could be made for the liquor from the dung-heap to run into a tank or even a hole, from which it could be taken from time to time in cart or barrel and put to more useful purpose than assisting the growth of docks and nettles in adjoining ditches.

Dirty Milk. A SHORT time ago a milk vendor was brought before a Westminster magistrate to answer a charge of selling dirty milk, and not being able to do this satisfactorily, a sentence of six months' hard labour was passed on him. We commend the magistrate on displaying the courage of his convictions in this manner, as it will perhaps serve as a warning to others who are not so careful as they ought to be over the manipulation of this commodity. What provision will be made in the Bill that Mr. John Burns has in preparation for enforcing cleanliness and purity in the sale of milk remains to be seen, but we understand that there is a possibility of the measure being introduced shortly, and the hand of the Local Government Board is strengthened by the above case. In the interests of public health it is absolutely essential that every care should be taken to ensure nothing but pure and wholesome milk being supplied, and any legislation that will assist in this direction and at the same time avoid unnecessary pressure on milk producers—farmers—will be welcomed.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

A Welsh Purchase Movement.

I do not know whether there is any similar intention in England as there evidently is in Wales to seek to put into operation the land purchase clauses of the Act of 1892. If there be such an intention I should doubt its success. Under those clauses county councils can lend to tenant farmers four-fifths of the money required for the purchase of their holdings. In the Principality there is justification for seeking to render effective a Parliamentary purpose which elsewhere has been nugatory. First of all, there exists a sympathetic disposition in the local authorities. More important still, a considerable quantity of occupied agricultural land happens to be in the market. Of course, where the landlord declines to sell or where the local authority refuses to raise the loans, the Act is useless; but here we have conditions which make for its effectiveness. It is a singular fact that the earnest advocates of purchase—and how earnest they are and how many they are few of us had but little comprehension until Mr. Harcourt introduced the Small Holdings Bill—have not hitherto recognised that in this measure they have at hand an instrument for the realisation of their purpose. May I point out to Mr. Jesse Collings, for instance, how here he has a means of calling into existence that peasant proprietary which is his ideal? Why should he not initiate a propaganda among that landlordism which, when the Small Holdings Act was passing through the Lords, professed itself to be hugely enamoured of the idea of purchase? Why should he not appeal to those county councils which actually have these powers and against whose coercion by the executive authority the very heavens were recently bidden to revolt? Yes, this Welsh incident provides Mr. Collings with his mission.

* * *

Mr. Chaplin and his Old Constituents.

The honour which his old Sleaford constituents have paid to Mr. Henry Chaplin does them infinite credit. Mr. Chaplin occupies a position in our Parliamentary esteem in which he has no peer. No other personage in our public life can lay claim to his title—the agricultural statesman. No man has so deliberately devoted himself and his energies to the agrarian interest. No politician has so distinctive a recognition in the House itself as, if I may be allowed the phrase, an agricultural specialist. Mr. Chaplin is, in a sense, a paradox. He is both a memory and an influence. He recalls in his method and demeanour a past decade. His oratory is reminiscent of the old school—it has the element of dramatic dignity, which, in these days of compact debating, has somewhat of the appearance of diffuseness. While this is so, the right hon. gentleman is abreast of modern influences and is a recognised leader in the new economic propaganda. I should say that quite as much an influence in securing Mr. Chaplin his remarkable and distinctive position is the Parliamentary comprehension of the fine sense of honour animating him, of the catholicity of his temperament and of that generous outlook which refuses to allow his political enthusiasms to canker his personal relations. I would that Mr. Chaplin represented a constituency of a more rural character than Wimbledon possesses. I am personally profoundly grateful that Wimbledon has been the means of returning so fragrant a personality to the House of Commons.

* * *

The Anti-Socialist Unwisdom.

I have to thank your correspondent "Timely Reform" for his admirable and instructive letter on the unwisdom of introducing the Anti-Socialist propaganda into the villages. Let me emphasise his assertions. The Socialists themselves disregard the villages; they disregard the labourers. In all their scheme for what they call the redemption of labour the rural worker has no part. To their trade union conventions they do not invite that rural worker. Theirs is a purely urban faith, and they do not for the moment seek to accomplish aught more than will affect the proletariat of the towns. To, therefore, repel an attack before that attack is made is to invite assault. To reply to a faith that is not entertained is to invite an examination of that faith. The villages are as yet outside the ken of the Socialist. That Socialist, however, is a belligerent animal—he is, in Mr. Healey's famous phrase, ever on the pounce. He will go where he is attacked; and, going there, will become an evangelist in a faith that before was never understood.

* * *

Mr. Burns' Method.

Mr. Burns has, I find, been sedulously pursuing a system of rural inquiry. He has gone from village to village seeking information on the subject that is now nearest his heart—rural housing. He has gone outside official sources—he has trusted to his own intuitions and observation. The President of the Local Government Board has persuaded himself that in a matter of this moment he must secure first-hand information, and he has gone the most practical way to work to secure it. He has gone unheralded, seeking no publicity, inquiring of cottagers themselves, delving into the bye-paths and byeways, cultivating acquaintance with practical men. It is an unconventional method for a politician having the official distinction of Mr. Burns, but it must have a beneficial effect on the measure he intends to introduce. The Housing Bill will, of course, not be a mere rural measure; but its chief significance will be derived from the influence it will have on rural areas. What will be the borrowing powers conferred on rural authorities? What will be deemed a remunerative rent? What powers of rent-revision will be conferred?

* * *

Explaining the New Act.

I understand that the Liberal electioneerers, as well as Earl Carrington, are altogether satisfied with the reception accorded the Small Holdings Act. The Board of Agriculture has, of course, been deluged with requests for information concerning the measures, and the method in which it may taken advantage of. These electioneerers, however—and I do not think they are prompted by political motives alone—attach more significance to the explanatory conferences which they are conducting. Those conferences have evoked a considerable local interest, and they have been marked by an intelligence and by a practical anxiety, and, moreover, by a worldly wisdom that has greatly gratified the politicians sent down to counsel. Lord Carrington is himself so impressed with the success of this effort that he is, I am told, half convinced that it would be well to introduce into the machinery of the Act a few expert lecturers—men, in a word, who would not have associated with their practical exposition the taint of partisanism. I repeat that I do not believe that these Liberal conferences have been inspired by a mere party design. All the same their genesis cannot but affect the reception of the counsel given at them.

Monmouthshire Chamber of Agriculture.

An important general meeting of the above Chamber will be held to-morrow (Tuesday), at 2.30 p.m., at the Beaufort Arms Hotel, Chepstow, the agenda being as follows:—

1. Election of new members and other general business, including minutes of last meeting, and business arising therefrom.
2. Secretary's report of meeting of secretaries held at Royal Show, Lincoln, upon the question of forming an independent agricultural party.
3. The Draft Larceny Bill (which is intended to check trespassing in search of mushrooms, blackberries, &c.).
4. Report of the Departmental Committee on Agricultural Education (if issued).
5. Report of the Post Office Departmental Committee on insurance by Government against workmen's compensation.
6. Circular from Birmingham and District Butchers' and Pork Butchers' Trade Association respecting the decrease in pig rearing and feeding.
7. Resolution from Glamorganshire Chamber of Agriculture respecting the turning out of undesirable stallions on the hills and waste lands of Wales.
8. Letter from the Ratin Bacteriological Laboratory, and report from Glamorganshire Chamber of Agriculture, upon the experiments to demonstrate the rat-killing properties of Ratin.
9. Suggestions for Mr. John Burns' Bill, in next session of Parliament, dealing with the production and distribution of milk.
10. Other general business.

Offices, Emlyn Works, Newport, Mon.,
October 23, 1907.

Mr. G. Harrison, of Gainford, has sold a Leicester shearling ram for exportation to New Zealand, its destination being Mr. Slack's farm at Palmerston North.

An important unreserved sale of pedigree Large White Yorkshire Pigs belonging to Mr. John Blundell, of Lower Burrow Farm, Scotforth, near Lancaster, and Mr. J. J. Tong, of Hambleton, near Poulton-le-Fylde, will take place on Wednesday, November 20, at Lower Burrow Farm, Scotforth, near Lancaster. The catalogue comprises the entire herd of prize-winning pedigree pigs, numbering ninety-five head, principally choice young sows due to farrow in early spring and a quantity of boars, including the prize boar, Shard Roger, 8725, a winner of numerous first prizes, and the grand stock boar, Jester, of Nottingham, 9923. There will be a luncheon at 11.30, and the sale will commence at 1. Catalogues can be had from the owners, or Mr. E. G. Hothersall, auctioneer and valuer, Auction Mart, Preston.

BARLEY, HOPS, AND CIDER AT THE BREWERS' EXHIBITION.

AMONGST THE BARLEY.

It is difficult indeed for the mere spectator to find ideal conditions of light as well as opportunity to pay a visit to each individual sample, and compare its merits and demerits with the same exactitude as does the bench of judges, and the task is rendered the more difficult as the judging numbers remain on the sacks and render identification extremely difficult in the earlier stages of the show when alone there was ample light. Anyone conversant with the season through which we have passed would not expect English barleys to come forward in that fine condition so often seen in the hall. It was only too apparent after an inspection of the various samples that many sent their barley in the hope of winning rather than in the expectancy of doing so, as on some occasions. There were barleys that would not be lookeed at, much less examined, by the judges, their defect was so apparent, that being so the judges' work was rendered all the more difficult to pick the winners and in placing the seed diplomas in order

The general run was a weighty, plump barley, lacking in fineness of skin and also colour; in fact, the ideal Burton barleys were rather conspicuous by their absence rather than by their presence. The champion barley originally went to an Austrian-Hungarian sample, of which few particulars could be gleaned; it was of nice colour, with thin skin, and fairly plump, but it was not so even as has been before. It was undoubtedly best.

On Thursday a consultation of the barley judges led to the Hungarian sample being disqualified on account of the exhibitor not being able, in compliance with the conditions of entry, to produce the requisite quantity in bulk from which the sample was taken.

The champion cups, therefore, all pass to Mr. Thomas Rawle, who farms on the stonebrash in those cosy little fields at Porlock, which catch every glint of sunshine and suffer more from dryness than moisture. It was grown after ley fallowing wheat. Fison's manure being used, there was a plumpness about this sample that certainly attracted it, but it had not the curl or the skin of the champion; it was well shown and evenly dressed.

Coming to the British grown, Chevalier still holds the precedence. The first prize went to Mr. T. Rawle's sample, the second going into Kent; and here lies the singular coincidence that these two best British barleys were grown near the sea, and it is well known that the atmospheric conditions vary more considerably than they do inland; there are more breezes to part the clouds and let the sunshine through. The third prize went to barley grown near the sea in Somerset; the very highly commended was grown on the chalk and ragstone of Buckinghamshire, and then the highly commended was found again very near the sea, being grown at Brightlingsea. It may be a mere coincidence, but when it comes to four to one, the odds are that the best Chevalier barleys are this year to be found rather near the coast.

The same is found with the Goldthorpe barley; here, again, the third prize lot was grown on the breezy coast line at Minehead, Somerset. First honours therefore appear to be due to some climatic conditions that occurred round the coast, which certainly produced thinner-skinned barley of better colour.

The next noticeable item was the number of weather-stained samples shown and the sourish smell so indicative that they were not in condition. It became more and more noticeable that they were sweating, and these are not in favour. It would also tend to show the farmer how careful he should be with his bulk samples at home, as barleys seemingly in condition get out of it in record time.

If the barleys were bad in themselves it was apparent even to the most non-skilled observer who has come to the show year after year how educational it has been in many respects. Firstly, as to the threshing, it mattered not how the drum of the thresher was set so long as it threshed the straw clean; if set too close it split or pulped a goodly percentage of the barley, according as to whether it was dry or soft and the number of damaged ends, the maltster's horror, was simply appalling. But even this had a beneficial side, as it induced growers to pay far more attention to dressing to get rid of the crime committed with the split and damaged corn. The utility of this was so apparent that closer dressing followed the sensible setting of the drum of the thresher. These two things have brought barley into more favour in these days when substitutes could be used. There is not now the waste in the steeping tank or on the floor as in days gone by, and the malt is all the better for it.

There is no hope of winning a prize, much less taking one with barley that is either badly threshed or dressed, and what is more, the maltsters know how to regulate the price to cover the loss of weight and the expense of removing it. The farmer thus gives away tail corn that would be useful for feeding purposes on his farm and has extra carriage also.

Another object lesson has also been driven home—that is, barley must not follow the sheep; those dark yellow barleys, reeking of the sheepfold, are not in request to-day for delicate ales. A perusal of the entries will show year by year a diminution of barley grown after turnips or swedes. It is a pity that the entry does not show whether these were fed on the land or carted off for feeding elsewhere. But the tendency is to increase year by year the fallowing of a white straw crop, generally wheat, but in some instances barley after barley; this has a most refining influence, and is permissible and good practice in these days of free cultivation.

The British farmer must produce what his customers requires, or else some one else will do it.

As regards cultivation; or manuring rather, it is most noticeable how the artificial has replaced the natural or farmyard manure, and seldom indeed was there any manure used.

It is quite surprising the meagre entries made by the farmers of some counties and the keen competition made by others. Taking away Norfolk and Suffolk, which are ideal barley counties, we find counties with over half a dozen entries in the Chevalier section as follows:—Berks, Bucks, Essex, Kent, Lincoln, Oxford, Somerset. Then corn-growing farmers of Gloucester are well content with one entry equalled by Huntingdon, Louth and Tipperary, Middlesex and mighty Yorkshire, Northumberland and Shropshire. Surely there must be barleys worthy of exhibiton in

GROWERS OF PRIZE BARLEYS.



Mr. SIDNEY CHAMPION,
Sarre, Birchington-on-Sea, Kent.



Mr. R. E. HORWOOD,
Drayton Beauchamp, Bucks.



Mr. R. PREECE,
Cressage House, near Shrewsbury.



Mr. T. E. JAMES,
Minehead, Somerset.



Mr. M. E. BACON,
Brightlingsea, Essex.

these counties. Then in the two are included Bedford, Devon, Dorset, which has an old established barley show of its own, Hampshire, Herefordshire, Kerry, Rutland. Norfolk made fourteen entries and Suffolk twenty-one, or equal to a goodly number of the other counties grouped together. How the farmers of these apathetic counties are content not to put their barley beneath the eyes of the finest judges and buyers in the world passes comprehension.

As to variety, whilst Norfolk is devoted to Chevalier, Herefordshire prefers the stiffer straw of the Goldthorpe, Shropshire is the same, and it is with this variety that Yorkshire makes a better entry. As regards crops grown, the two heaviest were grown in Worcestershire with Goldthorpe and in Kent with Chevalier, the quantity grown being 8 qr. per acre respectiveiy in one instance, after swedes, in the other after mangolds; this bears out the old-time theory that the heaviest crops can be grown after roots, but the quality is not there, and it is this which makes the price in the market.

Even now, with the improvement already made, there is still ample opportunity for more, and the British farmer must move forward and not be content to put everything down to weather. He must know what his aim is, the seed required, the soil to suit it, to cut at the opportune moment, and then the proper machinery to be used to put it on the market in the most perfect condition. All these must come in together harmoniously to produce the desired result of growing the champion barley of the world.

PRIZE LIST.

World's Champion Prize.

106.—Barley: Mr. T. Rawle, Court Place, Porlock.

The Burton Challenge Cup: The "Mark Lane Express" Challenge Cup: the E. W. King and Co.'s 25 guinea Challenge Cup: the Joseph Fison and Co.'s £25 Challenge Prize: the Penny and Co.'s 5 guinea Cup.

106.—Somerset Barley: Mr. T. Rawle, Court Place, Porlock.

CLASS I. (Chevalier).

106.—1st, Somerset Barley: Mr. T. Rawle, Court Place, Porlock.
44.—2nd, Kent Barley: Mr. S. Champion, The Elms, Sarre, Isle of Thanet.
108.—3rd, Somerset Barley: Mr. T. Rawle, Court Place, Porlock.
14.—V.H.C., Bucks Barley: Mr. R. E. Horwood, Drayton Beauchamp, Tring.
35.—H.C., Essex Barley; Mr. H. G. Bacon, Lower Marsh Farm, Brightlingsea.

CLASS II. (GOLDTHORPE).

182.—1st, Salop Barley: Mr. R. Preece, Cressage House, Cressage.
183.—2nd, Somerset Barley: Mr. T. E. James, Lower Moor, Minehead.
198.—3rd, Yorkshire Barley: Mr. W. H. Laverack, The Grange, Knapton (entered by Isaac Poad and Sons, York).

CLASS III. (No entries).

CLASS IV. FOREIGN MALTING BARLEY (Two-rowed).

209.—1st, Slovak Barley: Messrs. Liebmann Brothers, Hop Exchange, S.E.
232. 2nd, Moravian Barley: Prince Rudolf Liechtenstein, Kroman, Austria (entered by Woodley, Watney and Richardson, 31-32, Crutched Friars, E.C.).
230.—3rd, Moravian Barley: Prince Rudolf Liechtenstein, Kroman, Austria (entered by Woodley, Watney and Richardson, 31-32, Crutched Friars, E.C.).

CLASS V. FOREIGN MALTING BARLEY (Two-rowed).

237.—1st, Ouchac Barley: Messrs. Woodley, Watney, and Richardson, 31-32, Crutched Friars, E.C.

CLASSES VI. and VII. (no entries).

CLASS VIII. (Foreign Malting Barley, other than two-rowed.)

213.—1st, Smyrna Barley: Messrs. Shaw, Son, and Co., Ltd., Hull.
226.—2nd, North African Barley: Messrs. J. Westrope and Co., Hull.
225.—3rd, North African Barley: Messrs. J. Westrope and Co., Hull.

CLASS IX. FOREIGN MALTING BARLEY (Other than two-rowed).

229.—1st, Californian Barley: Messrs. J. Westrope and Co., Hull.
228.—2nd, Californian Barley: Messrs. J. Westrope and Co., Hull.

CLASS X. SPECIAL COUNTY PRIZES.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

(No award for 1st prize.)

19.—2nd, Mr. C. F. Clay, Manor Farm, Little Shelford.
21.—3rd, Mr. J. Scambler, Conington, Cambridge.

LINCOLNSHIRE.

61.—1st, Mr. F. Holmes, Greatford, Stamford.
65.—2nd, Mr. J. Thurlby, Baston, Market Deeping.
60.—3rd, W. T. Dixon, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Lincoln.

YORKSHIRE.

193.—1st, Mr. W. H. Laverack, The Grange, Knapton (entered by Isaac Poad and Sons, York).
188.—2nd, Mr. W. Bowe, Crakehall, Bedale (entered by C. D. Mills, Ltd., York).
189.—3rd, Mr. C. H. Clark, Thrintoft, Northallerton (entered by Isaac Poad and Sons, York).

CLASS II. SPECIAL COUNTY PRIZES.

ESSEX.

25.—1st, Mr. M. G. Bacon, Lower Marsh Farm, Brightlingsea.
29.—2nd, Mr. G. Cousins, Jun., Cressing (entered by Hasler and Clapham, Dunmow).
80.—3rd, Mr. W. G. Fairhead, Brick House, Peldon, Colchester.

NORFOLK.

74.—1st, Mr. G. B. Burtt, Denton, Harleston.
83.—2nd, Mr. A. Rushbrooke, The Grove, Roydon, Diss.
171.—3rd, Mr. W. Mitchell, The Vale, Kirby, Bedon, Trowse.

SUFFOLK.

119.—1st, Mr. W. Dyer, Edwardstone, Boxford.
126.—2nd, Mr. W. M. Lawson, Church Farm, Bedingfield, Eye.
120.—3rd, Mr. H. Fulcher, Blaxhall Hall, Wickham Market.

CLASS XII. SHEPPEY GLUE AND CHEMICAL CO.'S PRIZES.

44.—1st, Kent Barley, Mr. S. Champion, Sarre, Isle of Thanet.
156.—2nd, Essex Barley, Mr. J. G. Eve, North Ockendon, Romford.

CLASS XIII. STEPHENS' CHEMICAL MANURE CO.'S PRIZES.

137.—1st, Surrey Barley, Mr. C. H. Goschen, Ballards, Addington.
185.—2nd, Sussex Barley, Mr. H. Jennings, Park Farm, Pulborough.

CLASS XIV. CRONE AND TAYLOR'S PRIZES.

136.—1st, Surrey Barley, Mr. C. H. Goschen, Ballards, Addington.
60.—2nd, Lincolnshire Barley, Mr. W. T. Dixon, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Lincoln.
57.—3rd, Lincolnshire Barley, Messrs. Briggs and Sons, Priory Farm, Stamford.

CLASS XV. JOSEPH FISON AND CO.'S PRIZES.

GROUP A.

120.—1st, Mr. H. Fulcher, Blaxhall Hall, Wickham Market, Suffolk.
133.—2nd, Mr. F. W. Stearn, Old Newton, Stowmarket, Suffolk.
83.—3rd, Mr. A. Rushbrooke, Roydon, Diss, Norfolk.

GROUP B.

88.—1st, Mr. F. Holmes, Greatford, Stamford, Northampton.
90.—2nd, Mr. S. Taylor, Barnack, Stamford, Northampton.
87.—3rd, Mr. W. Carter, Ailesworth, Castor, Peterborough, Northampton.

GROUP C.

106.—1st, Mr. T. Rawle, Court Place, Porlock, Somerset.
108.—2nd, Mr. T. Rawle, Court Place, Porlock, Somerset.
107.—3rd, Mr. T. Rawle, Court Place, Porlock, Somerset.

GROUP D.

1.—1st, Mr. G. Duncombe, Cople, Bedford.

GROUP E.

139.—1st, Mr. H. Gosling, Botley Park, Chertsey, Surrey.
163.—2nd, Mr. O. J. L. Bird, Belvidere, East Malling, Kent.
144.—3rd, Mr. H. Jennings, Park Farm, Pulborough, Sussex.

GROUP F.

154.—1st, Mr. W. Purser, Bovoney Court Farm, Windsor, Bucks.
92.—2nd, Mr. F. W. Castleman, Heyford, Banbury, Oxon.
96.—3rd, Mr. G. Partridge, Begbroke Hill, Kidlington, Oxon.

CLASS XVI. E. WEBB AND SON'S PRIZES.

DISTRICT A.

182.—1st, Mr. R. Preece, Cressage House, Cressage, Salop.
159.—2nd, Mr. J. Poulton, Strangford, Ross, Hereford.
36.—3rd, Mr. H. Butler, Pauntley Court, Newent, Glos.

DISTRICT B.

128.—1st, Mr. T. S. Moore, Occold, Eye, Suffolk.
124.—2nd, Mr. W. G. Jarvis, Church Farm, Clare, Suffolk.
34.—3rd, Mr. R. Seabrook, Tolleshunt D'Arcy, Essex.

DISTRICT C.

173.—1st, Mr. J. Chew, Woodford, Thrapston, Northampton.

DISTRICT D. (No entries).

DISTRICT E.

61.—1st, Mr. F. Holmes, Greatford, Stamford, Lincs.
97.—2nd, Mr. G. Smith, Church Farm, Lewknor, Oxon.
7.—3rd, Mr. F. A. Horwood, White Waltham, Maidenhead, Berks.

DISTRICT F.

43.—1st, Mr. G. Kelsey Burge, Dent-de-Lion, Westgate-on-Sea, Kent.
143.—2nd, Mr. H. Jennings, Park Farm, Pulborough, Sussex.
50.—3rd, Mr. H. S. Lane, Cliffe-at-Hoo, Rochester, Kent.

CLASS XVII. "MARK LANE EXPRESS" DIPLOMAS. (CHEVALIER BARLEY).

BEDS.

2.—Mr. G. Duncombe, Cople.
1.—Mr. G. Duncombe, Cople.

BERKSHIRE.

5.—Mr. F. W. Headington, Wargrave.
7.—Mr. F. A. Horwood, White Waltham.

BUCKS.

14.—Mr. R. E. Horwood, Drayton Beauchamp.
12.—Mr. J. H. R. Horwood, Drayton Beauchamp.

CAMBRIDGE.

19.—Mr. C. F. Clay, Little Shelford.

DORSET.

24.—Messrs. Bedford and Dwight, Bere Regis, Warcham.

WHERE AND HOW THE PRIZE BARLEYS WERE GROWN.

CHEVALIER.

No.	Grower.	Where Grown.	Soil.	Subsoil.	Two Preceding Crops. 1906.	1905.	Seed Sown.	Pecks per Acre.	Manure Used.	Date Sown.	Date Cut.	Quantity Grown. Qr.	Cleaning Machinery.
					Bedfordshire.								
1	G. Duncombe	Cople	Gravel	Gravel	Barley	Kohl & swedes	J. K. King's Chevalier	9	J. Fison & Co.'s	Feb. 27 & 28	Sept. 13 & 14	4	—
2	G. Duncombe	Cople	Gravel	Gravel	—	Swedes	J. K. King's Chevalier	9	Prentice's Barley Fertilis r	Feb. 27	Sept. 13	4	—
					Berkshire.								
5	F. W. Headington	Wargrave	Light	Chalk	Oats	Wheat	Scotch	10	J. Fison and Co.'s	—	—	4	Boby's.
7	F. A. Horwood	Bury Court Farm	Sand	Clay	Potatoes	Winter oats	Webbs'	10	Webbs' Barley	March 22	August 2	5	Baker's.
					Buckinghamshire.								
12	J. H. R. Horwood	Drayton Beauchamp	Chalky	Chalk	Wheat	Clover	Carter's P. Prolific	10	Colchester's G. Cup	March 20	Sept. 20	5	Boby's.
14	R. E. Horwood	Drayton Beauchamp	Chalk	Ragstone	Wheat	Sanfoin	Carter's Prolific	8	Sulph. of Ammonia	April	Sept. 1	5	Boby's.
					Cambridgeshire.								
19	C. F. Clay	Little Shelford	Light Loam	Gravel	Cole Seed	Oats	Webbs'	7	None	March 25	August 10	5	Baker's.
21	J. Scambler	Fen-drayton	Loam	Gravel	Mangolds	Barley	Hallett's	10	Crone and Taylor's	Feb. 21	August 25	5	Stubbs and Boby
					Dorsetshire.								
24	Bedford & Dwight	Bere Regis.	Light loam	Sand & gravel	Grass&clover	Oats	Archer's stiff straw	10	J. Fison & Co.'s	March 1	August 17	—	Stubbs'.
					Essex								
25	M. G. Bacon	Brightlingsea.	Light mixed	Sand	Mangolds	Oats & barley	E. W. King's	8	—	February	August	4½	Wood's.
29	G. Cousins, jun	Cressing	Clay	Loamy	Fallow	—	"Chevalier"	8	Farmyard	April	—	5	Boby's.
30	W. G. Fairhead	Peldon	Heavy	Loam	Mangolds	Wheat	"Chevalier"	8	None	March 12	August 28	4½	Baker's.
34	R. Seabrook	Tolleshunt D'Arcy	Mixed	—	Mangolds	Wheat	Webbs'	8	Webbs' barley	March 6	August 23	4½	Boby's.
					Gloucestershire.								
36	H. Butler	Pauntley Court	Sandy loam	Sandstone	Turnips	Wheat	Webbs' "Kin Chev"	10	Webbs' special	April 16	September 3	5	Nall's.
					Hampshire.								
37	S. Chandler	Crondall	Loam	Chalk	Wheat	—	Hallett's "Ped Chev"	9	J. Fison and Co.'s.	March 14	August 23	—	—
38	G. Grant	Cosham	Chalky loam.	—	Turnips	Oats	Webbs'	10	None	March 12	August 21	5	Boby's.
					Kent.								
43	G. K. Burge	Dent de Lion	Light	Chalk	Wurzel		Webbs' "Kin. Chev."	8	Webbs' Barley	March 12	August 7	6	Boby's.
44	S. Champion	Sarre	Light	Chalk	Oats	Lucerne ley	Webbs' "Kin. Chev."	9	Sheppey Glue and Chemical Co.	March 5	August 21	6	Boby's.
50	H. S. Lane	Cliffe at Hoo	Light loam	Chalk	Oats	Potatoes	Webbs' "Ped. Chev."	8	Webbs' Special	March 4	August 7	7	Boby's.
51	R. W. Stennet	Minster	Loam	Chalk	Wheat	Clover	Webbs' "Kin. Chev."	10	Colchester's G. Cup	March	August	5	Boby's.
					County Kerry.								
54	J. Moriarty	Taulought.	Limestone	Gravel	Potatoes	Barley	Chevalier	10 st.	Farmyard and sea-weed	April 10	August 25	12 lb.	Booth's.
55	R. Parker	Penit	Limestone	Gravel	Potatoes	Barley	Chevalier	14 st.	Goulding's	April 1	August 25	12 lb.	Booth's.
					Lincolnshire.								
57	Briggs & Sons	Stamford	Light	Limestone	Barley	Turnips	Own selection	12	Crone & Taylor's	March 8	August 28	4	Rainforth's
60	W. T. Dixon	Ashby de la Zouch			Wheat	Clover	Hallett's	12	Crone & Taylor's	March 15	August 30	4	Rainforth's
64	F. Holmes	Greatford	Loam	Gravel	Barley	Turnips	Webbs'	10	Webbs' Special	March 6	August 22	4	Baker's.
65	J. Thurlby	Greatford	Loam	Gravel	Barley	Seeds	Webbs' "Kin. Chev."	10	J. Fison & Co.'s.	February 27	August 27	4	Couch.

ESSEX.
25.—Mr. M. G. Bacon, Brightlingsea.
29.—Mr. G. Cousins, jun., Cressing.
GLOUCESTER.
36.—Mr. H. Butler, Newent.
HAMPSHIRE.
38.—Mr. G. Grant, Cosham.
37.—Mr. S. Chaundler, Crondall.
KENT.
44.—Mr. S. Champion, Sarre.
51.—Mr. R. W. Stennett, Minster.
COUNTY KERRY.
54.—Mr. J. Moriarty, Fenet.
55.—Mr. R. Parker, Fenet.
LINCOLNSHIRE.
61.—Mr. F. Holmes, Greatford, Stamford.
65.—Mr. J. Thurlby, Baston, Market Deeping.
MIDDLESEX.
67.—Mr. T. W. Purser, Hammond's Farm, Staines.
MONMOUTH.
70.—Mr. H. F. Parsons, Portskewett, Chepstow.
72.—Mr. H. F. Parsons, Portskewett, Chepstow.
NORFOLK.
74.—Mr. G. B. Burtt, Harleston.
83.—Mr. A. Rushbrooke, Roydon, Diss.
NORTHAMPTON.
88.—Mr. F. Holmes, Greatford, Stamford.
87.—Mr. W. Carter, Ailesworth, Peterborough.
OXFORDSHIRE.
92.—Mr. F. W. Castleman, Heyford, Banbury.
93.—Mr. G. Partridge, Begbroke Hill, Kidlington.
RUTLAND.
99.—Messrs. Briggs and Son, Belmesthorpe, Stamford.
SHROPSHIRE.
101.—Mr. F. Horne, Claverley, Wolverhampton.
SOMERSET.
106.—Mr. T. Rawle, Porlock.
108.—Mr. T. Rawle, Porlock.
STAFFORD.
113.—Mr. F. Horne, Bobbington, Stourbridge.
SUFFOLK.
119.—Mr. W. Dyer, Edwardstone, Boxford.
120.—Mr. W. M. Lawson, Bedingfield, Eye.
SURREY.
130.—Mr. H. Gosling, Botley's Park, Chertsey.
136.—Mr. C. H. Goschen, Ballards, Addington.
SUSSEX.
143.—Mr. H. Jennings, Pulborough.
144.—Mr. H. Jennings, Pulborough.
WORCESTER.
150.—Mr. G. Corbishley, Bricklehampton, Pershore.
152.—Mr. E. Hailes, Harvington, Kidderminster.

CLASS XVIII. BEST SHEAVES.
198.—Hereford barley: 1st, Mr. J. Poulton, Strangford, Ross.
200.—Bucks barley: 2nd, Mr. W. Purser, Bovency, Windsor.
196.—Essex barley: 3rd, Messrs. R. W. King and Co., Coggeshall

CLASS XIX. BEST THRASHED BARLEY.
182.—Mr. Jones and Mr. S. Humphries, in the employ of Mr. R. Preece, Cressage House, Cressage, Salop.
85.—Mr. J. Sillett and Mr. W. Sillett, in the employ of Mr. G. Warnes, Redenhall, Harleston, Norfolk.
106.—Mr. R. Groves and Mr. J. Roxworthy, in the employ of Mr. T. Rawle, Cou t Place, Porlock, Somerset.

SPECIAL PRIZES FOR SEED.
182.—£5, Mr. R. Preece, Cressage House, Cressage, Salop (E. Webb and Sons), Class II.
61.—[illegible]s., Mr. F. Holmes, Greatford, Stamford, Lincs (E. Webb and Sons), Class X.
119.—[illegible]s., Mr. W. Dyer, Edwardstone, Boxford, Suffolk (E. Webb and Sons) Class XI.
25.—£2 2s., Mr. M. G. Bacon, Lower Marsh Farm, Brightlingsea, Essex (E. W. King and Co.) Class XI.

CLASS XVII. "MARK LANE EXPRESS" DIPLOMAS.
(Goldthorpe Barley.)
BUCKS.
154.—Mr. W. Purser, Bovency, Windsor.
HEREFORD.
159.—Mr. J. Poulton, Strangford, Ross.
158.—Mr. J. Poulton, Strangford, Ross.
KENT.
163.—Mr. O. J. L. Bird, Belvidere, East Malling.
COUNTY KERRY.
166.—Mr. M. Parker, Fenet.
COUNTY LOUTH.
167.—Mr. P. D. Carrahor, Mayne, Castle Bellingham.
169.—Mr. J. Hoey, Annagassan, Castle Billingham.
MONMOUTH.
170.—Mr. H. F. Parsons, Portskewett, Chepstow.
NORTHAMPTON.
173.—Mr. J. Chew, Woodford, Thrapston.
172.—W. Carter, Ailesworth, Peterboro'.
NOTTINGHAM.
175.—Mr. F. S. Rolling, Rufford, Ollerton.
174.—Mr. A. J. Mortimer, Banks House, Bingham.
OXON.
176.—Mr. J. B. A. Boar, Cowfields Farm, Henley-on-Thames.
SALOP.
182.—Mr. R Preece, Cressage House, Cressage.
180.—Mr. J. C. Evorall, Cressage, Shrewsbury.
SOMERSET.
183.—Mr. T. E. James, Lower Moor, Minchead.
SUSSEX.
187.—Mr. G. F. Stanford, Worthing Road, Horsham.
186.—Mr. W. F. Rudwick, West Wittering, Chichester.
YORKSHIRE.
193.—Mr. W. M. Laverack, The Grange, Knapton.
188.—Mr. W. Bowe, Crakehall, Bedale.

THE HOP SECTION.

Mr. Burnett Tabrum, J.P., chairman of the judges in this section, in replying to the toast at the inaugural luncheon, in which he was interested, remarked that some years ago he had ventured to predict that the Weald would eventually surpass East and Mid Kent in the quality of their produce unless the planters in the latter divisions of the county bestirred themselves. He was glad to say that the desired result, thanks in some degree to the stimulus given by the competitions at Islington, had been effected.

In proof of the remarkable progress made in English hop growing, he would mention that he had introduced a foreign visitor not long ago to the famous plantations of Messrs. E. A. White, at Beltring, and his friend was so deeply impressed with the skill displayed, and the machinery and other appliances, that he exclaimed in amazement: "This is not merely hop-growing, it is the manufacture of hops; it is magnificent!"

Improvement was manifest all round, the hops were now much more whole than formerly, and were consequently better conditioned, and he was glad to notice that hops were now judged more frequently by their intrinsic value than by their mere outward appearance. Certainly the present crop was deficient in colour, but this was to be traced to the absence of sunshine from which they had all suffered during the summer, and he sincerely regretted the losses to growers which had occurred, despite the pains they had taken to secure the crop.

But they also suffered from other causes, one of the principal of which was our annual importations of about 200,000 cwt., and he considered that something should be done to check these supplies, and retain the labourers, from whom our best soldiers and sailors were recruited, on the land. He was decidedly of opinion that the interests of our own country were the most prominent, and should have first consideration.

THE EXHIBITS

entered for competition numbered ninety-seven, this being the largest number of entries since these competitions were inaugurated. Probably the increased value of the prizes offered had some effect in bringing more competitors into the field, but whatever may be the cause, the directors are to be congratulated on the success that has this year attended their efforts in this respect. But while recognising, as we do in all sincerity, this excellent result, we must be permitted to take exception to the arrangements made for the display of the samples.

The object in view, as we understand it, is to afford to brewers a full opportunity of judging of the quality of the English growths. As Mr. Tabrum pointed out, this judgment should be arrived at not by outward appearance only. The intrinsic quality can only be ascertained by the "rub," which involves the handling, and "nosing" of a portion of the samples. The enclosure of the exhibits within a high wire fence absolutely prevents any such examination, and even hinders satisfactory examination by the eye. The multitude of cards placed in front of and upon the samples, and the greenish coloured glasses with which each sample was covered, were also serious hindrances to efficient display, and last but not least, the location of the counters is most unfavourable, as tho light in this position does not fall upon the hops to show them to advantage.

We trust that before our next exhibition the directors, who, we are sure are willing to assist their friends as far as possible, will arrange to make such alterations as will result in more complete success in this section of their very popular show.

We are compelled to plead the disadvantages referred to as our excuse for any deficiencies that may be found in our criticisms, and can only say that, imperfect as we know they must be under the circumstances, we have done our best to make them impartial.

The keynote to the whole of the samples is

No.	Grower.	Where Grown.	Soil.	Subsoil.	Two Preceding Crops. 1906.	1905.	Seed Sown.	Pecks per Acre.	Manure Used.	Date Sown.	Date Cut.	Quantity Grown. Qr.	Cleaning Machinery.
					Middlesex.								
67	T. W. Purser....	Staines ..	Brown loam	Clay	Clover	Oats	Webb's "Kin. Chev"	8	Webbs'.....	March 10..	August 8..	5	Boby's.
					Monmouthshire.								
70	H. F. Parsons ...	Portskewett	Sandy loam	Sandstone	Wheat	Clover	Chevalier	11	Webbs' Barley	March 12..	August 26	5	Boby's.
72	H. F. Parsons ..	Portskewett	Sandy loam	Sandstone]....	Wheat	Clover	Chevalier	11	J. Fison & Co.'s..	March 15..	August 28	5	Boby's.
					Norfolk								
74	G. B. Burtt	Denton ..	Strong loam	Clay	Mangolds ..	Wheat	Miles' Cham. Norfolk.	10	J. Fison and Co.'s.	March 20..	Sept. 12 ...	4	Boby's
83	A. Rushbrooke ..	Roydon ..	Light sand..	Gravel	Barley	Ro ts	Chevalier	10	J. Fison and Co.'s.	March 12..	Aug. 25 ..	4½	Boby's
					Northamptonshire.								
87	W. Carter	Ailesworth	Light	Gravel	Turnips	Oats	Webbs'.....	12	J. Fison and Co.'s	March	Aug.....	4	Corbett's.
88	F. Holmes	Sutton	Loam	Gravel	Barley	Turnips ..	Webbs'.....	10	J. Fison and Co.'s	March 4..	Aug. 30	4	Cooch.
90	S. Taylor.....	Barnack ..	Light	Gravel	Turnips	Barley	Webbs' "Kin. Chev."	9	Fison's barley	Feb. 27 ..	Aug. 22	5	Boby's.
					Oxfordshire								
92	F. W. Castleman	Heyford ..	Stone brash	Limestone	Barley	Roots	Webbs' "Kin. Chev."	12	Fison's Special	March 15..	Sept. 2....	4	Boby's.
96	G. Partridge	Begbroke Hill	Sandy loam	Gravel	Barley	Roots	Webbs' "Kin. Chev."	10	J. Fison and Co.'s	Feb. 28....	Aug. 26 ..	3½	Boby's.
97	G. Smith.....	Lewknor...	Gravel	Chalk	Mangolds ..	Barley	Webbs' "Kin. Chev."	10	Webb's Special	March 24..	Sept. 5....	5	Baker's.
					Rutland.								
99	Briggs & Son. ..	Belmesthorpe	Limestone ...	—	Tares	Barley.....	Own Selection	12	J. Fison's & Co.....	March 4 ...	Aug. 23 ..	5	Rainforth's.
					Shropshire.								
101	F. Horne	Claverley ..	Loam	Clay	Barley	Swedes ..	Webbs'.....	10	Webbs' Special	March 5 ..	Sept. 3	5	Boby's.
					Somersetshire.								
106	T. Rawle.....	Porlock ..	Stonebrash..	Gravel	Ley	Wheat	E. W. King's ..	9	J. Fison and Co.'s	March 15 ..	Aug. 21 ..	5	Penney's.
107	T. Rawle.....	Porlock ..	Stonebrash..	Gravel	Turnips	Barley	E. W. King's "Prize Chev."	8	J. Fison and Co.'s	March 5 ..	Aug. 20 ..	6	Penney's.
108	T. Rawle.....	Porlock ..	Stonebrash..	Gravel	Turnips	Wheat	J. K. King's "Prize Chev."	8	J. Fison and Co.'s	March 8 ..	Aug. 16 ..	6	Penney's.
					Staffordshire.								
113	F. Horne.....	Bobbington	Light	Sand	Oats	Mangolds..	Webbs'	8	Webbs' Special	March 22 ..	Sept. 6	4½	Boby's.
					Suffolk.								
119	W. Dyer	Edwardstone	Mixed	Clay	Wheat	Clover	Webbs'	10	Prentice's	March	September	5	Boby's.
120	H. Fulcher	Blaxhall ..	Light	Sand	Trifolium ..	Barley	Chevalier	10	J. Fison and Co.'s..	March 12..	August 21	4	Boby's.
124	W. G. Jarvis	Clare.....	Loam	Clay and Chalk	Mangolds ..	Oats	Webbs'.....	12	Webb's Special	March 5 ..	Sept. 7....	5½	Boby's.
126	W. M. Lowson ..	Bedingfield	Mixed	Clay	Mangolds ..	Wheat	Webbs' "Kin. Chev."	8	Prentice's	March 19..	Sept. 13 ..	5	Boby's.
128	T. S. Moore	Occold	Heavy	Clay	Mangolds ..	Wheat	Webbs' "Kin. Chev."	9	Webbs' Special	March 19..	Sept. 10 ..	5½	Baker's.
133	F. W. Stearn ..	Old Newnton	Heavy	Clay	Barley	Roots	Webb's "Kin. Chev."	9	J. Fison and Co.'s.	March 23 .	Sept. 5....	5	Boby's.
					Surrey.								
136	C. H. Goschen ..	Addington	Chalky.....	Chalk	Oats	Turnips ..	Webbs' "Kin. Chev."	10	Crone and Taylor's	March 5..	Aug. 21 ..	4	Baker's
137	C. H. Goschen ..	Addington	Loam	Chalk	Tares	Oats	Webbs' "Kin. Chev."	10	Stephens' Special..	March 8..	Aug. 22 ..	4½	Baker's
139	H. Gosling	Botley's Park	Strong Loam	Clay	Wheat	Clover	Chevalier	10	J. Fison and Co.'s	March 19..	Aug. 24 ..	—	Baker's Screen
					Sussex.								
143	H. Jennings	Pulborough	Greensand ..	Green rock sand	Oats	Mangolds	Webbs' Kin. Chevalier	8	Webb's special	Feb. 26....	Aug. 14 ..	—	Boby's.
144	H. Jennings	Pulborough	Hazel mould	Sand.....	Turnips	Wheat	J. K. King's ..	8	J. Fison and Co.'s	March 14..	Aug. 8 ..	—	Boby's.
					Worcestershire.								
150	G. Corbishley ..	Bricklehampton	Light loam..	Brashy gravel..	Potatoes	Wheat	Webbs' "Kin. Chev"	12	Webbs' barley	March 23..	Aug. 21 ..	6	Wantage Eng. Co.
152	E. Hailes	Harvington Hall Farm	Red loam	Sandstone	Swedes	Barley	Webbs' "Kin. Chev"	12	Webbs' barley	March 27..	Sept. 4....	8	Boby's

sounded by Mr. Tabrum, when he refers to the absence of sunshine. When this is absent, as it has been during the greater part of the last growing season, hops must be deficient not only of colour and brightness, but also of condition. With but few exceptions these deficiencies characterised the samples as a whole, and although the champion exhibit is found amongst the East Kent Goldings in Class 1, a survey of this class does not give us a very favourable impression of the growths of this renowned district. Mr. Mount, who takes the gold medal, certainly deserves his distinction, which is doubtless gained by the delicate flavour, and good management and ripeness, although the sample seems to be wanting in brilliancy. The same grower takes the third place also in this class, but we did not find any marked superiority in the sample, beyond that it presented a fairly good side. Mr. Minter's sample that secured the second award, seemed to us somewhat chaffy, and without any special attraction.

In Class 2 Messrs. White's excellent sample, taking the highest class position, and also the silver medal in the champion class, presents very attractive features, being not only smart and clean, but well furnished with lupulin, and showing a fat side and bold face. We were rather inclined to wonder why it had not been placed in the premier position. Mr. W. Rogers has not attained his usual pre-eminence this year, but we are hardly surprised when we see that his sample, which is placed second, does not come up to his previous standard. It is bold, but somewhat coarse, and appears to be wanting in condition. Mr. Thomas's sample, standing in the third place, is well ripened and rich apparently, and will, we think, be appreciated by brewers.

Mr. Wellband takes the first prize in Class 3 with an attractive sample, the boldness of which demonstrates his skilful management. It is full of quality, and speaks well for the hot-air system by which it was cured. Again we meet with Mr. Rogers taking the second place in this class, and showing a very merchantable sample of fairly rich, whole, and bright hops. Of Mr. Mount's exhibit, which takes the third place, there hardly needs any further notice than it is a fair sample of the season's produce.

The 1st prize sample in Class 4 does not present any special attraction to our eye, and we are rather surprised when we compare it with Mr. Large's sample, which is placed second, as the latter appears to us much more worthy of honour. Mr. Noakes also shows an excellent sample in this class, his hops having a bold side, betokening condition, and useful brewing quality. The judges have, however, only given him the third place.

A fine sample is that of Mr. Large, who takes the first prize in Class 5. These hops are fully ripe, of rich colour, well managed, whole, well-conditioned, and full of brew. Messrs. Body's sample is also fairly attractive, and well deserves the position as winning the second prize, but we consider Mr. Mannington, who comes third, might safely have been placed higher, as his sample is skilfully managed, well grown and ripened, and of very useful quality. Coming to Class 6, we find Mr. Brissenden at the top, and his sample is certainly worthy of its position, as it is of good useful quality, and well ripened, though not very even in colour. Of the others in this class we prefer to say nothing; they are just ordinary, and do not call for remark.

The first and only award in Class 7 is given to Mr. Ashby, and we congratulate him that his competitors were few, otherwise we hardly think his hops would be occupying their present position.

We now arrive at the display from the Midland districts, and with absolute impartiality we venture to say that we have before us a very superior range of samples. First in Class 8 stands Mr. Shew, who, being the inventor of a special system of hot air drying, has doubtless done his best to demonstrate its merits. He has certainly succeeded, as his hops are perfectly whole, bright in colour, and full of condition. The winning sample was universally approved. Mr. W. H. Gabb takes second place in this class, but we fail to see the reason, as Mr. Pudge's hops, which take only the third prize, are, in our judgment, much superior both in colour, form, and condition.

There were seven entries in Class 9, but owing to some unexplained mishap only three samples were presented to the judges. Of these, Mr. W. F. Pudge's is, of course, placed first. It could not have been otherwise decided, as his sample presents all the super excellent qualities for which he has so long been noted. We have frequently remarked upon Mr. Pudge's skill as a hop grower, and need not say more now than that the sample at present under review is well up to his usual high standard. With this sample Mr. Pudge gained the bronze medal in the champion class.

Mr. L. G. Bonham-Carter's sample was awarded the first prize in Class 10. These hops are plummy and fat, well ripened, and have fair colour. Their position is worthy of their quality. The second and third prize samples, shown by Mr. G. W. Duncan and Mr. W. Lillywhite, were almost hidden in a shaded corner, where it was impossible to examine them; they appeared to be of good average quality, but we can say nothing further concerning them.

Only one prize was awarded in Class 11, this being taken by Messrs. Candy & Baigent, whose sample presents no special feature to call for remark.

Outside the Competition.

Amongst the English firms exhibiting hops are Messrs. Jones Brothers, of Northingtown, Worcester, who are now cultivating over 120 acres in Worcestershire, and are taking over 180 acres at Harbledown, Kent, formerly occupied by the late Mr. Henry Barnes. This firm disperse of their produce direct to brewers, and, for the information of their customers, have issued a most elegant booklet on the history and evolution of hops, illustrated by numerous photographs and engravings. Their excellent samples secured the attention of a constant crowd of visitors. Messrs. Webb and Sons, Wordsley; Messrs. Gascoyne and Co., of Worcester; Messrs. J. T. Best and Son, of Preston; Messrs. J. W. Buckland and Son, Worcester; and others, occupied their usual places in the hall, showing hops of various qualities.

Foreign competition was also evident, the most prominent display being that of the E. Clemens Horst Company, of San Francisco. In their stand we examined three bales of hops from California and Oregon which had gained the Champion silver cup offered at the State Fair in San Francisco. These hops were picked entirely by the use of a machine, invented by Mr. Clemens Horst, and were absolutely free from leaves or stalks. Their perfect condition and brilliant colour attracted the attention, and excited the wonder of many of our English growers, to whom they were freely displayed. This company is engaged in many interesting experiments with regard to the constituents of hops, and exhibited samples of the aromatic oils extracted therefrom under various conditions. Their experiments are not yet completed, but as far as they have gone, they are able to demonstrate that the lower the temperature at which hops are dried, the higher is the percentage of essential oil, that excessive sulphuring reduces the proportion of oil, and that the same result appears when hops are stored at very low temperatures. These researches are most important, and will probably affect the future of the hop industry very materially. Messrs. Edward Scharrer and Co., of Canstatt and Nuremberg, exhibit Bavarian and other Continental hops. Messrs. the Horst Company, Denman Street, London, show samples of Oregons, Californian, and Washington hops; also of Oregons grown from English sets, which they claim are free from the pungent aroma of those ordinarily grown on the other side of the Atlantic.

Mr. E. G. Shew, of Bosbury, Ledbury, exhibited drawings and photos of his newly-invented and patented pure hot-air drying apparatus. This has been previously described in our columns, therefore we need only say here that its utility and success are demonstrated by the awarding of ten prizes in the present competition to hops dried by this process. Mr. Shew's invention was examined by many growers, and we understand that he received orders for the fitting of some thirty kilns in readiness for nex season.

THE CIDER.

The cider section has now got over that crudeness which was so characteristic of its inception—the exhibitors know what is required, they send it better packed, and, what is more, of vastly better quality. This year the collections of apples were not so large by reason of the great scarcity of cider fruit in the apple-growing counties of the West, but it was noticeable that they were much better shown and more of them named, and there was a splendid collection of perry pears, one of the finest that has yet been seen together. The difficulty of getting such a collection is great, and it is a pity that there is no fruit-modelling establishments in England as there exist in Germany, where such a collection could be modelled and kept for reference to all time.

The ciders as a whole were this year much better, all the prize-winning lots having to be submitted to analysis for purity before the judges' decisions are confirmed. This is a big stride in the pure cider movement. The Devon exhibits showed great improvement; but the classes of the show for quality were Somersetshire bottled ciders, and dry and sweet perry. These three were as near perfection as possible, except that there were a few dry perrys in the sweet class and *vice versa*, otherwise each exhibit would have been noticed by the judges. The champion prize went to those well-known Somersetshire makers, Messrs. Tilley Bros., whose cider was superb; and for the first time Devonshire obtained such high position as reserve champion, this going to Mr. C. Dart.

For the first time the Colonies were represented, a bronze medal being awarded to exhibits from New South Wales and Nova Scotia.

Judges at the Dublin Winter Show.

The following gentlemen have agreed to officiate as judges at the Royal Dublin Society's forthcoming winter show:—

IN-FED CATTLE.—W. A. Mitchell, Auchnagathle, Whitehouse, Aberdeenshire.

KERRY AND DEXTER AND OTHER SMALL CATTLE.—William Field, M.P., Blackrock, co. Dublin.

OUT-FED BULLOCKS.—Joseph O'Connor, Mylerstown, Naas.

OUT-FED HEIFERS AND COWS.—G. H. Lennon, Hotwell, Enfield, co. Meath.

SHEEP.—John S. Paterson, Cluen, Bansha, co. Tipperary.

BUTTER, CREAM, AND CHEESE.—R. Gibson, Public Creamery Market, Limerick.

HONEY.—E. B. Drought, Woodlands, Blackrock, co. Dublin.

MALTING BARLEY.—H. W. Hutchison, Kirkaldy, N.B.; A. E. Walker, Great Yarmouth.

ROOTS.—E. M. Archdale, Riversdale, Ballinamallard, co. Fermanagh; Thomas O'Malley, Woodlands, Raheny, co. Dublin.

POULTRY.—H. Abbott, Thuxton, Norfolk; T. H. Stritch, Vine Cottage, Ormskirk, Lancs.

Wisbech Mustard Market.

There was a larger supply and also a larger attendance at the second mustard market held at Wisbech, and a considerable amount of business was transacted. The prices remained about the same, though the good quality of the seed kept the average high, compared with the top price. The buyers of white seed had much more business than at the first market, and more seed changed hands. The prices were 8s. to 8s. 6d., the average being a good 8s. 3d. There was a great deal of good brown seed, but also a considerable quantity of second quality samples. The best quality seed maintained the prices of the previous market week, viz., 10s. to 10s. 6d., but second quality were bought at rather lower figures, 9s. to 9s. 6d. There is still a large quantity of seed to come, and it is expected that two or three more markets will be held.

Owing to the disqualification of the Hungarian barley the Champion Cup passes to Mr. Thomas Rawle, of Porlock, Somersetshire. The manure used was the extra quality fertiliser, manufactured by Messrs. Joseph Fison and Co., of Ipswich, who, it is interesting to mention, have had their manures used by the winners of the Champion Cup on no less than five occasions since 1896. Quite a host of cups and prizes go to Mr. Rawle by virtue of success; among them being the 25 guinea cup or cash from Messrs. Joseph Fison and Co., Ltd., besides other minor prizes.

At Ashbourne October Fair, held on Monday, calving cows made £17 to £20; calving heifers, £14 to £17; stirks, £11 to £13; two-year-o'd bullocks, about £12; yearlings, £7 10s. to £9; barren cows, £12 to £13; and barren stirks, £7 to £9. A good average show of sheep, prices ruling firm. Ewes, 45s. to 51s.; wethers, 47s. to 53s.; store lambs, best, to 35s.; smaller sorts, 28s. to 30s.; rams, £5 to £6; yearling rams, £3 to £4 10s. each.

At Yarm Fair on Monday trade in sheep was somewhat slow. Leicester tup rams brought 55s. to 80s.; Leicester shearling rams, 70s. to 100s.; Scotch ewes, 17s. to 25s.; half-bred shearlings, 42s. to 50s.; half-bred lambs, 18s. to 24s.; Cheviot ewes, 32s. to 40s.; Wensleydale rams, £3 to £4 each. Irish cattle sold quickly at £10 to £13 for the better class, and £5 to £7 10s. inferior. A few Wensleydale cheese were disposed of at 6d. to 8d. per lb.

The annual horse and cattle fair, known as "Great Saturday Fair," was held at Clitheroe on Thursday, when there was a very large attendance, the streets being crowded throughout the day. The show of stock of all kinds was abnormally large, the most notable feature being the extraordinary number of rams, for which there was a keen demand. Trade all round was good, and excellent prices were realised, especially for horses. Team horses made £22 to £55; agricultural horses, £15 to £35; Hackneys, £15 to £45; traders' horses, £7 to £20; unbroken colts, £15 to £25; unbroken fillies, £14 to £30; cobs, £10 10s. to £30; ponies, £2 10s. to £15; foals, £5 to £12 10s.; calving cows, £13 to £19; calving heifers, £11 10s. to £17 10s.; newly calved cattle, £12 10s. to £23; lying-off cattle, £11 10s. to £18 10s.; geld cows, £8 to £13; bulls, £7 10s. to £13 10s.; bullocks, £4 to £9; stirks, £3 10s. to £7 10s.; Scots, £7 10s. to £10; Irish store stock, £2 10s. to £6 10s.; young stock, £3 10s. to £6 10s.; Scotch ewes, 22s. 6d. to 34s.; Cheviot ewes, 23s. 6d. to 32s. 6d.; halfbred ewes, 37s. 6d. to 45s.; good-bred sheep up to 65s.; shearlings, 20s. to 31s.; store lambs, 16s. to 25s.; Leicester rams, £2 to £7 10s.; Shropshire 37s. 6d. to £6.

DAIRY.

Fermentations in Milk.

The constitution of milk is such as to make it a complete and almost perfect food. In this fact lies its great and recognised utility. But this excellent character indicates a composition which is admirably suited for the growth and development of fermentation, and the superiority as a food renders it equally successful as a medium for those varied changes which are called collectively fermentative changes.

The work of animals and plants during life is to raise the food they consume into higher and usually more complex forms. The waste materials given off, and the whole body after the processes called "life" have ceased, return again to their original state. In this simpler form they again blend with the air or the soil, and a new set of changes is begun which enables the substances to serve again as the food once more of other plants and animals. And thus one unending cycle goes on: one part consisting of a building-up of more complicated substances, the other of the reduction and simplification of these; the most important of the accompaniments of these being that condition of the plant or animal serving as the medium of changes which we name "life."



The Jersey Heifer Doria, the subject of our illustration above, was calved May 14, 1907, sire Flying Foam, dam Dulce of Oaklands, and was bred by Lady de Rothschild, Aston Clinton, Tring, who won with it a Third Prize at the Royal Show at Lincoln, and a Highly Commended Card at the Royal Counties Show at Maidenhead.

In the reduction of these complicated animal and vegetable products to the simpler forms, one of the most active agencies is that called generally fermentation. The "process" is set going and continued by a ferment. The ferments are of wide variety in their work, but are all organisms which in character lie on the borderland of the animal and vegetable kingdoms. They are of microscopic size, and their essential characteristic is that their life course necessitates or produces those chemical changes which are summed up generally under the name of fermentation or fermentative processes.

There are, as in all forms of life, certain conditions which must exist before they can continue their activities, and it is because milk furnishes these conditions in an almost ideal manner that they have a direct connection with dairy products and the dairyer's work.

In order that the microbe or ferment may germinate and continue its action effectively, there must be moisture present in some degree. The food for the microbe must also be at hand, and though there is considerable variety in the forms in which it is most easily utilised, the sugar and albuminoids in milk give it in one of the most easily available forms. Milk, further, contains inorganic compounds which in some cases are indispensable to their growth and are injurious to few or none.

One other condition alone is necessary, and that is a suitable temperature. Each of the microbes of fermentation has a temperature which suits its growth best—above and below there is a range which allows its growth to continue, though not the most advantageous. Outside these upper and lower limits their activity is lessened or destroyed. Heat of about 140 deg. Fahr. destroys altogether the majority of them in their most ordinary forms; but they exist in the harder spore form quite frequently, and in this state they are able to endure unharmed a much higher temperature. Later the ordinary form develops from the spore, and unless the temperature is outside the range mentioned above the development will go on unaffected by the greater heat to which the spore has been subjected.

All forms of ferments appear to have an immense power of resistance to cold, and this means of affecting their activity is practically inoperative.

It is to be understood that by no means all the fermentations which milk undergoes are harmful. In some undoubtedly the value of the milk is destroyed if the fermentation is allowed to get beyond control and to go on unchecked. Yet the character and quality of butter is greatly modified and improved by the setting up and continuance of certain fermentations, and in the manufacture of cheese certain other fermentations are absolutely indispensable.

The fermentations can be regarded also from another standpoint. One group may be regarded as normal ones—that is, they occur naturally in milk when it is left under ordinary conditions. The other are less frequent and may be called abnormal, since their occurrence only comes about under special conditions, or incidentally, or in isolated localities. The latter class are nearly always associated with some distinct taste or smell, or some odour or flavour is noticeable which by its presence is sufficient to indicate the abnormal character of the fermentation. To this belongs that producing ropy or slimy milk; that which causes bitter milk; and the whole group of fermentations which are named "chromogenic," or colour-producing, since the most noticeable feature of their existence is the presence of an unusual colour in the milk in which this class of ferment is at work. In another class of abnormal ferment the casein coagulates without the production of lactic acid—the so-called sweet curdling takes place. These ferments are of the rennet class, and the most common is the one named the tyrothrix bacteria. Another not infrequent form is that shown by the production of alcohol from the breaking down of the milk sugar into alcohol and carbon dioxide. Milk sugar, however, responds much more slowly than fruit-sugar to this type of fermentation, and hence its occurrence is comparatively rare and its rate of formation slow.

Of the normal fermentations the souring of milk shows the most frequent of all; and the one of most importance from the dairy standpoint. It belongs to the friendly class of fermentations when under control, or when specially desired, as in the ripening of milk and cream for churning; but will have to be classified as unfriendly when it causes the turning of milk which it is desired to keep sweet.

Another group of normal fermentations is concerned, not with the milk-sugar, but with the albuminoids—the nitrogenous compounds in the milk. They are usually divided into two classes. One group is classed as peptogenic, since they produce a digestive action on the albuminoids; the casein first coagulates and then is liquefied or changed to a peptone. The second, and by far the more numerous class, is called putrefactive, since they are caused by the decomposition of the albuminoids, together with the production of some gases of a non-agreeable odour. The exact relation of the work of these ferments to those of the lactic-acid fermentation group is not yet clearly understood. Their action is weakened by vigorous lactic-acid fermentations, and hence, since the latter are very frequent, the former are of the rarer occurrence. They go on more vigorously at lower temperatures, and are accompanied by the liberation of odours which are foul smelling, sometimes accompanied by a bitter taste.

The third and last group of normal fermentations are those which result from changes in the fat. These are much slower and more rarely found than either of the two preceding ones, and this is usually attributed to the protection afforded to the fat by the so-called envelope of the globules. The change which does take place is the decomposition of the fat into butyric acid and carbon dioxide and hydrogen. The two latter gases are liberated, while the formation of the former is the cause of the rancid-butter odour which is not infrequently to be detected in old sour milk. The old explanation gave it as a sort of advanced stage of the lactic-acid fermentation, but later investigation

goes to prove that the fermentation is caused by a distinct set of microbes, which find sour milk all the more favourable to their development because of the absence of dissolved oxygen in the milk, since this has been consumed by the lactic-acid forming organisms. LACTISSIMA.

Gainsborough Cheese Fair.

At the October Cheese Fair held at Gainsborough on Tuesday the following prices were realised:—English Stiltons, 9d. to 10d.; Cheddars, 9d. to 10d.; Cheshires, 6d. to 8d.; Trentsides, 6d. to 7d.; Derby, 6d. to 7d.; double Gloucesters, 8d. to 9d.; Canadians and States, 6d. to 7d. per lb.

Whitchurch Cheese Fair.

There was a pitch of 80 tons at the above fair on Wednesday. The market opened with a good tone, and several new buyers being present a rapid clearance was made at the following prices:—Best 66s. to 70s., one lot exceeding that figure; medium, 60s. to 65s.; lowe-t, 55s. As compared with last year prices were 73s. to 78s.—nothing under 60s., pitch then being 60 tons.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Small Holdings.

SIR,—The article which recently appeared in the *Times* relating to the development of the Wissington Estates by Mr. Keeble has drawn further attention to the question of small holdings which the Government are creating by means of the new Act which comes into operation next year. Whether such an experiment as Mr. Keeble's can be imitated, even in a lesser degree, successfully by county councils and county boroughs, is open to the gravest doubt. The *Times* correspondent says truly enough that men are the essentials, the land but an accident; and we question if a body of men, generally of varied occupations, such as an ordinary county council, are capable of devising a scheme to acquire, compulsorily if need be, lands of neighbouring owners, and to divide them into holdings to satisfy the aspirations of the small cultivator and enable him to make a living. The very existence of the latter class might seem to be a matter of doubt, as the Board of Agriculture, in its circular letter of the 30th ult., artlessly recommends that they may be sought for in advertisements, which should be framed in simple language! Very few men in this country can make a livelihood out of a 50-acre holding, except perhaps in the case of a skilled and experienced market gardener having the right land within easy reach of a big town.

Whilst this country is content to remain the commercial and monetary exchange of the universe, agriculture here must feel the effects of foreign and colonial competition, and to hold his own the farmer should possess the widest training and adequate capital, and co-operation amongst farmers is generally almost essential if greater success is to be assured. Our experience is that as a rule the small holding is a delusion—in the main a petted project of politicians mostly ignorant of the subject on which they talk so freely, but who have to satisfy at election times the fads of the day.

As Mr. Keeble's agents, it is true that we purchased the greater part of this land at a low price, but it must be remembered that he has spent thereon many thousands of pounds beyond his initial outlay to bring about the present result. That the officials of the Government failed to attempt what he has achieved is not altogether their fault—it required bold initiative and considerable capital as well as engineering skill to succeed in such an undertaking. The experiment—which has been in this case justified by the enterprise of an individual with a practical knowledge of the capabilities of the land when adequately drained, and a shrewd foresight into the requirements of the tenants likely to cultivate it—could not have been undertaken by a public body in the ordinary way. Mr. Keeble, although benefiting others by his labours, is the last man to pose as a philanthropist, and his example should invite large landowners to inquire as to whether their properties are laid out and managed on the most advantageous lines. Probably other estates could be made more remunerative if governed by a proper appreciation of their inherent possibilities.

Whether a real demand will ensue from a genuine agricultural class, just beyond the grade of labourers, to acquire the small holdings to be provided under the Act, remains to be seen. If so, we shall watch its progress with interest and sympathy, but with doubt as to its successful working. As the cost of failure will to a large extent fall upon the taxpayer, it is to be hoped that the commissioners appointed under the new Act will in every case require very strong evidence indeed before giving their approval to compulsory acquirements.

It is a deplorable fact that in different parts of the country are to be found striking instances of the ill success of these minute divisions of land. The men who clamour most for the allotment holding rarely prove to be the best workers. No doubt many of your country readers can point to cases where an exceptionally steady allotment worker has acquired extra land, and has by his industry and capacity raised himself into a higher position. Unfortunately the other side of the medal reveals holdings neglected and abandoned from incompetence, idleness, removals, and other causes, the derelict land often forming a puzzle for the owner what to do with.—Yours, &c.,

London, W., KNIGHT FRANK RUTLEY.
October 21, 1907.

Duplicate Samples.

SIR,—I notice in your excellent paper, which I always read with great interest, that you have once or twice touched upon the subject of farmers having some method by which a duplicate sample of the grain they sell be retained in case of any dispute. I intended writing you upon this point but have been so busy with the association work in all my spare time that I have not had an opportunity. I might say that you will have observed that the existence of this association owes its birth to such kind of disputes—deliveries of barley being thrown up at some station a hundred more or less miles away was not infrequent, a position of affairs difficult for an ordinary farmer to deal with. In consequence members were advised to divide the samples sold, handing the buyer one and myself the other, which samples are kept in a cupboard specially provided in the Corn Exchange here.

This has been most effective, barley and other grain disputes are few, and only about a small percentage of members now avail themselves of it. When a dispute occurs samples are drawn from a number of bags of the delivery according to quantity of bulk and are examined with the retained sample. When the latter does not exist the dispute is settled the best way without. When it is barley the question may resolve itself into whether being sold for malting purposes it is fit for the purpose or not, or freedom from heated or dead grain, &c.

Decisions have not always ended in favour of the farmer, there are careless agriculturists as well as other people. The result of the whole is, the latter exercise more care, and the buyer does not make complaints without first satisfying himself there is just ground for it.

The relations of each are not strained by the services of the association being called into requisition, rather a welcome mediator.—Yours, &c.,

P. B. KENT.
(The Farmers' Protection Association—Head Centre, Darlington.)

Ingleside, Darlington.
October 15, 1907.

Socialism in the Villages.

SIR,—I quite agree with "Timely Reform" that the best, in fact, the only way to fight Socialism, as the term is generally understood, is to remedy the faults of the present system. The agricultural labourer is not a vindictive individual; he may, as your correspondent says, not be cute, but he is not quite the same meek-spirited knock-me-down-and-kick-me individual that he was half a century ago.

I do not believe he wants any Socialism, but he knows that he does not get adequate reward for his labours, and his remedy now is to get out of it. I am tired of that hackneyed cry about country lads being lured to the town by the lights in the streets, the amusements, and excitement and glamour.

Let us be honest about it and admit that it is wages, prospects, shorter hours, and a spirit of independence that prompt him to leave the occupation of his fathers and the village home of his childhood. Can you blame him? I have a case before me now of a man who has worked all his life as an agricultural labourer and has brought up a family respectably on his meagre 14s. a week. How he has done it no one knows except himself, and I doubt if he could tell you; but now he is old he can work no longer, and is invited to go to the workhouse, where he will be parted from the partner who has stood shoulder to shoulder with him through his long struggle for existence, and, what is worse, he will be branded as a pauper—that wretched name which sticks in the throat of every self-respecting man or woman.

This is a solitary case, but there are many more, and the number would be increased considerably but for the kindly sentiment of those farmers who keep old men on till the end of the chapter, and when they are no longer profitable to them, or even earn the wages they get, rather than see them end their days as paupers. Let the agitator describe all these possibilities in forcible language in country places, and the spirit of modern Socialism will be established in the village as it is in the town. Remove the evils, remedy the faults, act instead of talking; either give the farm labourer a wage that allows some margin for saving, or provide some prospect for his old age that is better than the workhouse, and the ground of the modern Socialist will be cut from under his feet. We want none of that Socialism which levels down, and we must fight it by a policy of levelling up.—Yours, &c., ANOTHER REFORMER.
October 22, 1907.

The Inflation of Grain Prices.

SIR,—Noticing the criticisms of grain prices in your columns, I perceive that in one quarter they are regarded as too low, in another as too high. Where such differences of opinion manifest themselves, it may usually, perhaps, be inferred that the original figures criticised are about right, but the point which I wish to ventilate in your columns rather relates to your article on "The Top of the Market" than to particular details of any four days' trade.

What I would ask farmers most earnestly to bear in mind is that the artificial inflation of grain prices is always to their detriment. Many agriculturists fail to see this; friends on the Stock Exchange or elsewhere have talked to them about "getting in on the top of the movement," and so forth, and they therefore tend to encourage figures in advance of the fact.

What in effect happens is that inflated prices are quoted in the interest of importers who have stock in granary or import, and who want promptly to unload. The "fancy quotation" once in print forms a lever from which a good bargain may be made, and the clever promoter who operates daily has got home with his profit before the farmer gets into action.

Then the latter finds that the inflated price quoted has checked demand, and that his stuff is exceedingly difficult to place at all. Moderate quotations on a rising market help to sustain the *bonâ fide* business of sellers for actual delivery, that is to say, farmers.

The prices that are inflated by fancy figures in the daily Press are thus, in my experience, manipulated. The first device is to publish prices as "prices asking," which, though it tends to deceive, is in itself no deception, for, of course, a holder may ask what he pleases. When, however, the plot thickens and there is market excitement, this little limitation is apt to drop out.

The second device is to give enormous emphasis to one sort of grain which happens through real scarcity to be at a specially high price. How many dealers during the past month have quoted Manitoba best wheat as if it were the leading sort dealt in, whereas it seldom exceeds 5 per cent., one ton in twenty, of the whole transactions at a port market, and hardly appears at inland markets at all.

The third trouble is not like the first two, a trick of the market, but a genuine omission. You escape it more or less than others, but only because you give special space to the markets. It is the omission to say with what previous date the rise quoted is compared.

Thus a Monday market's report in a daily will often be found to quote a rise when the comparison is with the previous Monday (though since the Monday's market trade may have gone back), and on another occasion to quote a rise when it is only from the previous Friday, and on the week there is a loss of ground.

If the Government published averages of trade in foreign and imported corn the trade would be able to compare sales with some accuracy. In the total absence of such figures the Press would be held to fulfil a most valuable market, and, indeed, public service, so as, with all imperfections, to leave us much its debtor.

Meanwhile you will, Sir, be specially serving the trade in continuing to give us for imported produce analogous figures to the Government's figures for English produce, that is to say, returns of prices *made*.—Yours, &c.,

A MAN OF MARK LANE.
Farmers' Club, October 23, 1907.

At the last meeting of the Canterbury Farmers Club a resolution was passed, only two voting against it. "That in the opinion of this club an independent agricultural party is quite necessary to the interests of agriculture." At the same meeting the following was carried unanimously:—"That this club suggests to the Central Chamber that an effort should be made to induce the Government to establish an insurance department where agriculturists and others could insure their employees at a moderate rate and on more favourable terms in respect to the older workmen than is now the case."

West Country Notes.

THE price made for the July draft of cheese from the Cheddar Cheese School will make a good many mouths water, the lot having been secured by Messrs. W. Cary and Son, of Shepton Mallet, at 68s. The general run is making now about 60s. to 63s. and 64s.; truckles, as usual, a shade under.

I FIND there is an increasing inquiry from some of the retailers for cheese direct from the makers of the best dairies, and these are only too willing to try to do away with the middleman where they can see a chance of placing a really good consignment.

THERE is another side to the question, however; for the dealer will take the lot, and there is from his point of view the set-off that he does not care to take the job lots left over after the pick have gone. Unless there is a fair prospect of clearing all except the few lots which the landlord bespeaks and the friends require, the maker thinks twice before he makes a deal with the retailer.

CAERPHILLY prices are variable just now, ranging as widely as most people can remember. The lower grades are going at about 45s., whilst the best command up to 60s., and selections can be made at almost any price between.

GENERALLY the cheese prices are advancing from their late low level. This is in harmony with the general rise of other commodities.

ZUMMERZET had a look in at the championships of the week, what with the good place of the barley at the Brewers', the cider championship there, and the winner of the latter, Mr. Tilley, taking a championship and two reserve championships at the Crystal Palace Dog Show for his sheep dogs.

ORCHARD work is receiving plenty of attention just now with the fruit shows at Street, Shepton Mallet, Exeter, and Gloucester, as well as some others in Devon and the West Midlands. There are evidently those who are beginning to recognise that the orchard is more profitable in the long run than the cow. Prizes for orchard cultivation are becoming a feature with some show societies.

THE land of sunshine at "the Italy of England" belied its credit on the occasion of a public function at Penzance lately, and gave the bishop a chance for indulging in an episcopal joke at the expense of the weather—a shockingly common thing, of course, for a bishop to do. Still, over 2 in. of rain in a day was something like a downpour, and agriculturists would rather that it came a little less abundantly. It is thirteen years since the total was exceeded in one day.

DEVONIANS, in some of the show parts of the county particularly, are exercising their minds about the hedges again. How they shall be kept is a question in which residents, visitors, the bench of magistrates and the county council and its officials may have views totally divergent from the unfortunate owner. One writer suggests the formation of an association of passive resisters on one phase of the question. This would inevitably lead to others resisting if the farmers would combine. But when did they ever do much that way?

FAIRS and pedigree stock sales are causing a lot of cattle to change hands at the present time, and as both sellers and buyers appear to be satisfied, the run of prices must be considered profitable to both. They are not very remarkable anyway.

MRS. MAITLAND SPENCER has cleared out her herd of Jerseys founded by the late Mr. Maitland Spencer a number of years back at Oakhill on the Mendips. A few of the animals remain on the Mendips and at the foot of the hills; but the customers on Wednesday covered a large area. Lord Roberts, whose nephew is married to a daughter of Mrs. Spencer, secured a few for Ascot; another nephew of his lordship secured some; Captain Spicer, of Spye Park, went to the top price of 31 guineas for a cow. The average ranged at £15 13s.

"ARTHUR" welcomed all and sundry at Motcombe for his sale on Thursday, and I hear is quite as smiling as ever at the result, though full details are not available at the moment of writing.

TRAINS are being held up in some parts of Devonshire by the bunny rabbits. The timid creatures being already dead, there is no special cause for alarm, but passengers are crying out that the extent of the traffic requires better organisation.

BRAVO, Dartmoor! They are waking up at last to the fact that the handy little ponies on their wild lands are occasionally worth more than the pound a leg or less which is so common. That jump from £5 to £75 at Olympia has caused them to agitate for a better representation of the breed at the big shows.

A SERIOUS charge against a farmer is a novelty, and a sad case of a man, Fred Keitch, forty-two, of Knowle St. Giles, after being a farmer, having to accept work as a labourer and then losing his head over his worries to such an extent as to try to murder his employer's son, came before the Western Assize Courts this week. A sentence of ten years was imposed, with the intimation from the judge that the man's health would be studied whilst under sentence.

WEST Countrymen foregathered at the Cape recently and regaled themselves with as many delicacies of the Old Country as they could obtain. Cornish pilchards, Somerset ham, apple dumplings, and cream, Devonshire junket, and Gloucester and Cheddar cheese were washed down by "zyder," and then the smoke of the long churchwardens rose, whilst the ear was regaled with "Widdicombe Fair," "All among the turmits," and other West Country songs.

THE re-opening of mines and the stimulus given to the employment of labour by this means is likely to have a serious effect upon the profits of West Country farmers in the near future.

October 25, 1907.

Northern Notes.

THE hymn-book is hardly closed upon the thanksgiving-service favourite, "All is safely gathered in," than we hear of farms on the Wolds of Yorkshire, let alone North Britain, where not a single sheaf of corn had been "gathered in" at the time of writing! Thanksgivings with the use of such hymns are a travesty of religion and a reflection upon our common sense. This leads one to reflect upon the absence of that close bond of sympathy which might with great advantage bind the farming classes together and induce them readily to reach out a helping hand one to the other in cases of necessity; and especially would the loan of a wagon or two and a few horses be acceptable to help on the carting. Thus when one farmer had finished he could exercise the gift of charity and enable his neighbour to bring his last sheaves home.

"COUNTRYMAN" interrogates me in your issue of last week about the bottling of fruit. My reference to the poor failing to avail themselves of the cheapness of fruit was intended to show that, notwithstanding this year of plenty, the difficulty in the way was the dearness (comparatively) of sugar. I left out of account the "capital" expenditure on the bottles, which I foresaw was prohibitive to them, and therefore I did not mention these specially-constructed receptacles. They may be purchased at almost any large glass and china warehouse, and range in price, I believe, from about 2½d. each. The agricultural department of the Leeds University has taken a great interest in this matter, and at the agricultural shows in the county the lecturers had on view various styles of bottles used for preserving fresh fruit, and for demonstrating the process employed. Another stumbling block in the way of the poor "preserving" fruit by boiling and reducing to jam is the initial cost of a proper brass pan. Jam makers talk of "silver" pans used by them when puffing their wares; but the ordinary householder who chooses to make her own is content with a brass receptacle. Fruit might be "bottled," I would suggest, in old pickle jars with wide mouths, which may be purchased at marine stores for about a halfpenny each. These are within the means, at any rate, of cottagers. The temptation to buy jam at the grocer's all ready for use is perhaps too great to be overcome.

THE Martinmas hirings are close upon us. They are already advertised in the local newspapers, and it is as well to impress upon those concerned that to make a bargain for over the year cannot be upheld in law. Cases of breach of agreement are now seldom entered for hearing unless there has been a written agreement between the parties. What seems so strange is that local bodies sanction and actually advertise hirings days to be held prior to the date when contracts made without being reduced to writing are null and void at the caprice of either of the parties to them. The ordinary term day is November 23, and as the majority of hirings take place a week or more earlier, farm servants engaged before the 23rd until the corresponding date in the following year are really "engaged" for upwards of twelve months, although they would be actually paid for only a year of service; therefore the contract is not binding. Masters should know this. Most of them probably are aware of it. A little trouble in making the contract a reality would be advisable. Lads may give their word to enter upon their duties on a particular farm, but when they realise that hiring by parole is not legally effective, one cannot wonder that a few of the fickle ones should change their minds when an offer of more money comes their way. In some quarters a movement is being made to obtain an alteration of the law, and to provide that agreements for a year should be good by parole, that is, when made *viva voce*. We have not much hope of that consummation being reached, nor do we think it desirable. Farm servants, as a rule, have consciences; the exceptions are few.

A DISCUSSION, which is not without interest to the outside world, but into the merits of which it is not expedient to enter, has been going on among the supporters of Wensleydale sheep. The breeders of this type of sheep have two flock books. One is known as the Longwool Society, and the other as the Blue-Faced Association. Both societies were founded in 1890. The first named society was the original. The council offered to accept for registration rams which had been used prior to the year 1889, but not to number them, and as some think, by so decreeing, "utterly disregarded one of the most important objects for which any pedigree record association is founded." Some of the older breeders, who could prove the purity of and wished to number rams used many years before the foundation of the Flock Book Society, resented this action of their council, and, all argument failing to move that body, another association was formed with the prefix of "Blue-faced," and no flock was accepted for registration in which there was any doubt of purity of lineage. Both societies have the same aim. Their methods vary; that is all. It is said, however, that the seceders have become the much more powerful association of the two; but it appears there are two opinions on that head. In justification of their action, it is pointed out that between twenty and thirty rams used in the "Longwool" flocks last season were bred by the "Blue face" flockmasters, and that only one ram bred in the Longwool flocks was used in the Blue-face flocks, and this ram's sire, his dam's sire, and granddam's sire were all bred by Blue-face members. Another peculiarity of the situation is that a good sheep belonging to either book is eagerly competed for by members of both books. All the first and champion prizes offered at the Royal, Yorkshire, Royal Lancashire, and Wensleydale shows during the past two years have also been awarded to the Blue-face sheep.

I HEARD the Vicar of Walker lecture at Newcastle last week on his rambles in Northumbria. He threw on the screen the picture of a very fine Border Leicester ram, which he said was "the best sheep of the year in England, because," the rev. lecturer added, "it was the winner of first prizes at both the Royal at Lincoln and the Yorkshire at Barnsley!" Mr. Wardroper is one of the raciest raconteurs I have ever listened to, and his stories of life among the hills and dales of Northumbria kept his audience in a continuous laughing mood. His harvest pictures—of hay and cereal ingatherings—were most interesting, and his groups of large families and personal details must have impressed his city audience with the happiness and healthiness of rural occupations.

THE next day I had the pleasure of travelling over a fine stretch of the country which the Tyneside vicar talked about. From Newcastle to Hexham (noted for its famous abbey, now in the restorers' hands) by rail is a veritable panorama of the loveliest river and hillside scenery; the autumn-tinted foliage of the woods with which the country is thickly studded form a nature picture that will leave a lasting impression.

Poultry Show at Norwich.—In connection with this important show the Great Northern Railway Company are making arrangements for the conveyance of exhibits to the show from stations on all parts of their system. Rates for the conveyance of traffic may be obtained on application to any Great Northern stationmaster or agent, and they will be found in no case to exceed the rates in force by any other route.

Nottinghamshire Notes.

CORN merchants in the district continue to complain respecting the scarcity of blue peas, and a friend writing from Hull predicts almost famine prices for them should the coming winter be severe. Already quotations have reached 90s. per qr., but almost without exception the yields have been disappointing.

NEW Acts of Parliament mean new duties, and the justices' clerks in Nottingham are finding that the Dogs Act has entailed a considerable addition to their clerical work. They are agitating for increased remuneration as a consequence, but for the time being the question has been postponed by the County Council.

WHAT are people going to do in the event of a railway strike. This is a question which a good many people are asking. It will not only seriously affect townspeople, but also farmers. It will be just as well if they see that their supplies of cake for feeding purposes is increased and plenty of coal secured. In this district events cast their shadows before them. We already have a number of men in camp at Chellaston, a few miles from Derby, ready to take the places of men who go on strike in connection with the Midland Railway. I am informed this evening that the same company are making preparations in Nottingham for the housing of a number of other men in one of their warehouses. However, forewarned is almost equal to being forearmed, and farmers will be well advised to study the consequences if such a calamity is brought about as a railway strike.

BACON pigs just now are very cheap, several being sold in Nottingham and Newark markets this week for as low as 6s. per stone. Why don't farmers combine and go in for bacon-curing factories like our friends in Denmark? An Englishman loves his rasher of bacon for breakfast, therefore why do not our English farmers cater for him? I have made inquiries at a number of provision merchants' shops this week not only in Nottingham, but also in Leicester, Loughborough, Derby, and Mansfield, and I find that the retail prices of American bacon ranges from 7½d. to 11d. per lb. This is considerably more than our English farmers are securing for their large pigs, and I again ask why do they not go in for bacon curing factories? The initial outlay would not be large, and farmers could send their fat pigs to the factories, where they could be killed, dressed, and cured, and then sold direct to the retailers, and I am certain that the idea is worthy of consideration. Co-operation is one of the few ways of successfully fighting the foreigner at the present time.

MR. PEARCE, of Sturton-on-le-Steeple, has just had the misfortune to lose through death a nine-year-old pony. A post-mortem examination shows that death was due to the fact that in the animal's intestines was a stone 21 inches in circumference and weighed 6¾ lb.

AMONG those attending the Small Holdings Conference at Leicester on Thursday there were several gentlemen from this district, including Mr. Wilton Allsebrook, J.P., Mr. E. W. Enfield, J.P., Mr. J. Godfrey, J.P., Mr. J. R. Anderson, C.C., Mr. J. Greenwood, Mr. S. Plumb, Mr. J. E. Truman, and Mr. H. Lee. Gentlemen were also present from the counties of Derby, Bedford, Rutland, Worcester, and Northampton.

VISCOUNT GALWAY, who is a large landowner in the lace county, presided over the annual dinner of the Worksop Labourers' Friend Society on Thursday. In the course of his speech he alluded to the Small Holdings Act, which he was prepared to see carried out fairly and squarely, but with due regard to the interests of the ratepayers. He had always favoured the idea of small holdings, because they helped to encourage individual energy and thrift. He liked the idea of encouraging a man to a small holding and from that to a larger one. Where men succeeded in this manner they were bound to be a real help to the prosperity of the district in which they lived.

October 25, 1907.

At a meeting of the Lancashire Farmers' Association at Lancaster on the 19th inst., the Sheep Dipping Order was discussed at length, and resolutions were passed that three days' notice of dipping was a longer time than was necessary; that the time for dipping should be extended to November 24 (a fortnight more); and that rams should be excused the later dipping, because it was injurious to them. Another debate took place in regard to the sparrow pest, and it was resolved that the attention of the Board of Agriculture be drawn to the pest, which was doing serious harm to farmers, especially where cereals were grown.

SCOTTISH AGRICULTURAL CONFERENCE.

The annual conference promoted by the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture took place at Glasgow on Wednesday, and despite the fact that it was robbed of a great deal of its interest by the absence of the President of the Board of Agriculture, the attendance was one of the most representative of recent years.

The annual meeting of the Chamber was first held, Mr. J. Craig, Invergeldie, presiding, at which Lord Rosebery was unanimously elected honorary president. All the retiring directors were re elected, and a number of others, including the Rev. Dr. Gillespie, of Mouswald, were appointed.

The Renfrewshire Agricultural Society had on the agenda a proposed amendment of the rules to the effect that associated societies with a large membership should be allowed to appoint directors to the Chamber as hitherto. It was remitted to the directors to consider the propriety of devising a method whereby district societies could nominate directors.

Mr. J. S. Ainsworth, M.P., hon. president, who took the chair at the conference, said they all regretted the absence of Lord Carrington. He knew Lord Carrington enjoyed the conferences with Scottish agriculturists, and he thought that he was influenced by the fact that the Chamber had taken a strong attitude in opposition to the Small Holdings Bill, which, as they knew, was to be reintroduced next session. Above all, Lord Carrington was a sportsman, and he was sure his feeling was, knowing the general opinion of that Chamber, that in the discussion it would be better that the opinion of Scottish agriculturists represented there should be expressed quite freely in his absence.

Eleven resolutions dealing with various important matters were down on the agenda, and the majority of them were carried unanimously. The first was "That H.M. Government be respectfully urged to introduce a Bill early next session for the purpose of consolidating the Agricultural (Scotland) Acts," and this was carried unanimously. The second resolution was to the following effect:—"That the Agricultural Holdings Act, 1906, should forthwith be amended so as to exclude from sub-section 2 of section 1 all away-going valuations, including especially sheep stock valuations." Considerable discussion followed, but after an amendment had been submitted that the words "including especially sheep stock valuations," and a rider had been moved "but that otherwise the provisions under the Act in respect of away-going valuations as a whole shall remain unaltered," the resolution as originally framed was adopted.

Two resolutions dealing with milk were then submitted and both carried, viz.:—(1) "Resolve to again impress on the Board of Agriculture the justice of the claims by successful defenders in milk prosecutions to be repaid their expenses incurred in rebutting a presumption of guilt created against them by statute, and urge that legislation should be introduced for this purpose without further delay." (2) "That in any measures that may be introduced into Parliament to give effect to the conclusions which the Royal Commission on Tuberculosis have reached regarding the sale and consumption of milk, due provision ought to be made for the payment of compensation to any individuals who may suffer loss thereby in the public interest, and that the Board of Agriculture be respectfully urged to give this matter their particular attention in order to safeguard the interests of agriculture."

The subject of friars prices was then discussed, the following resolution being moved:—"That the Board of Agriculture be respectfully urged to appoint a Departmental Committee to consider and report as to what alterations should be made on the present antiquated procedure for striking friars prices in Scotland, in order to bring such procedure into conformity with modern requirements and conditions," but it was suggested that the words "or be abolished upon equitable conditions to all concerned" should be added, and the resolution with this amendment was adopted.

Then came a resolution dealing with agricultural education, and as usual when this topic is introduced, there was much said, but in the end the resolution, which was to the following effect, was carried unanimously:—"That, recognising the value of agricultural education, this conference is of opinion that the subject should be included in the curriculum of all our day schools in rural districts, and remits to the directors to take the necessary steps with a view to attaining this object; further, resolves that the Board of Agriculture be respectfully requested to appoint a Departmental Committee to inquire into the present condition of agricultural education and research in Scotland on lines similar to those of the inquiry presently proceeding in England."

Finally a resolution "That the attention of the Board of Agriculture be directed to the importance of taking legislative or other steps without delay with a view to the destruction of rats and birds, from which agriculturists suffered serious loss every year," was passed, and then there was an adjournment for luncheon, the delegates being entertained in the City Chambers by the Corporation of Glasgow. Many speeches were made at this luncheon, but the outstanding feature was the strong attack on the Scottish Small Landowners Bill by Lord Rosebery. The ex-Premier made a stirring speech, which was applauded all the way through, thus indicating that his lordship was voicing the views of the majority present. He said he felt so strongly about this Bill that he was sceptical about it ever becoming law. It was no doubt promised in the highest quarters that it would be re-introduced in its present shape unaltered and unimproved. If that were so it could only be meant as a battering ram against the House of Lords, because it could not be expected that the House of Lords would recant in eight months without reason, having shown its deliberate opinion on the principle of this Bill. If the House of Lords were sick, and some said it was sick, its debility must, indeed, be great if it were to be swept away by the Scotch Small Holdings Bill. If the House of Lords were destined to perish he himself would drop a sympathetic tear over its remains, but he should at the same time feel it could die in no better cause than in resisting to the last the introduction of a system so vicious, so pregnant with malignant possibilities as that contained in the Scotch Small Landholders Bill.

The conference was resumed with a consideration of the Bill which was so strongly condemned by Lord Rosebery. There were divided views on the matter, but in the end the following resolution, which figured on the agenda, was carried by 149 votes to 31:—"That H.M. Government be strongly urged before re introducing the Small Landholders (Scotland) Bill to amend it (1) on a purchase basis, (2) by constituting a Scottish Agricultural Council subordinate to the present Board of Agriculture, and otherwise on lines which would not involve the separation of Scotland from that Board, together with needless disturbance of the existing conditions under which Scottish agriculture has been an outstanding success, and loss of support from the classes directly interested in the prosperity of agriculture."

Other resolutions were passed declaring "That the statutory requirement for three men being in attendance on traction engines on public roads should be repealed;" calling attention to the railway rates on perishable goods; and declaring "That the operation of manure and fertiliser rings, by tending unfairly to enhance prices and to exclude legitimate competition, is seriously prejudicial to the interests of agriculture, and that, with a view to providing a remedy, the Board of Agriculture should appoint a Departmental Committee to inquire into the matter." To the latter resolution the previous question was moved, but the motion received only four votes.

The proceedings thereafter terminated with a vote of thanks to Mr. Gilchrist, who had been concerned in making the arrangements for the conference, and to the chairman for presiding.

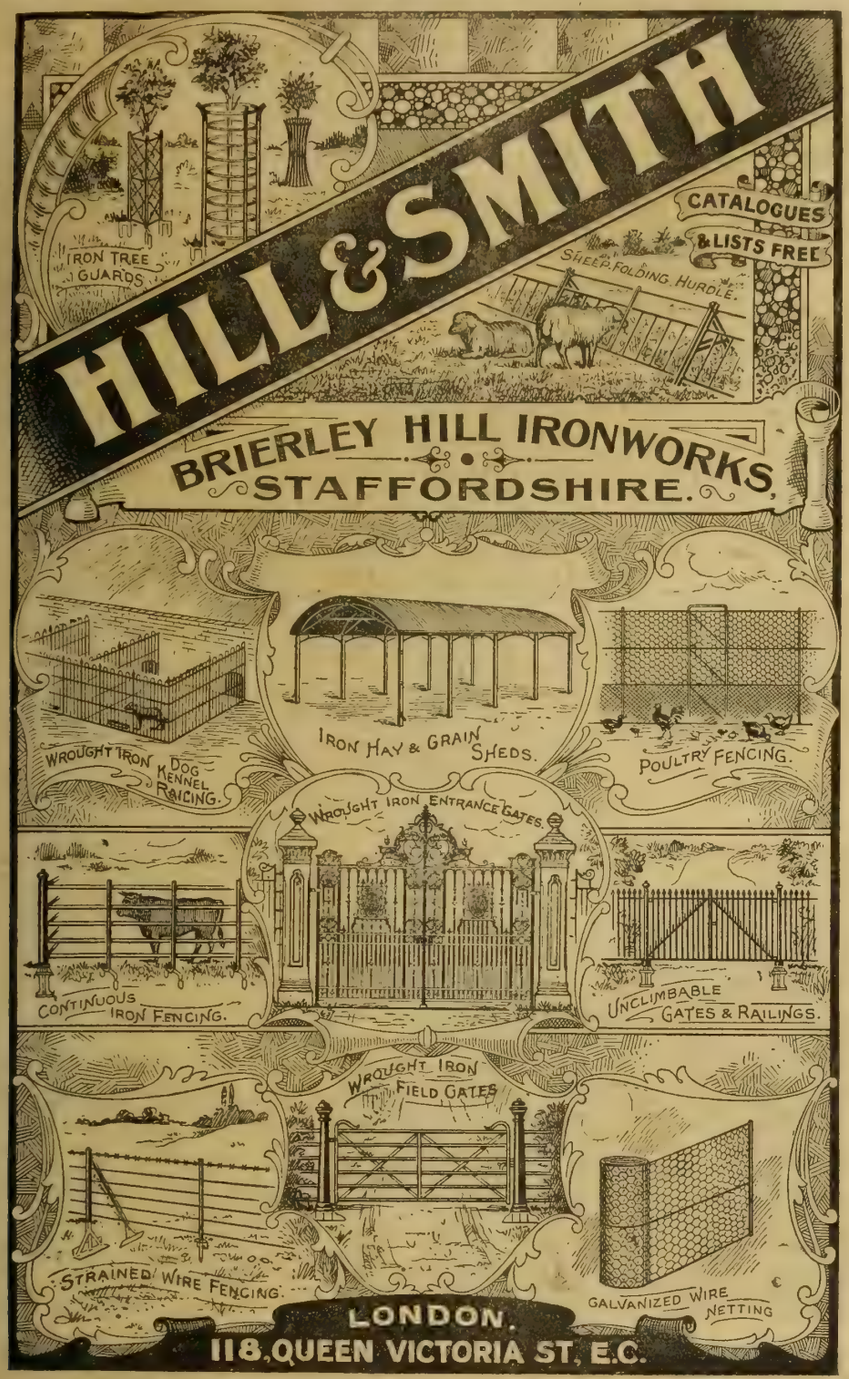
The annual dinner was held in the evening, and was well attended.

SHOW GOSSIP.

Intending exhibitors of live stock, poultry, roots, &c., at the Birmingham Cattle and Poultry Show, November 30 to December 5, are reminded that entries close on Friday next, November 1. When applying to the secretary, Mr. W. H. Lythall, Bingley Hall, Birmingham, for entry forms, it is necessary to state for which section they are required. The entries for implements and stands have already closed.

The council of the Hereford Herd Book Society have decided to offer at the Royal Dublin Society's forthcoming winter show a champion prize of £10 for the best Crossbred beast by a registered Hereford bull. We would here remind intending exhibitors that the entries for the show close as follows, viz.:—On single fees Friday, next, November 1. On double fees, Saturday, November 2. Entries for poultry close finally on single fees on Thursday, November 7. Applications for entry forms, &c., should be addressed to the agricultural superintendent, Leinster House, Dublin.

By an Order of the Board of Agriculture which appeared in Tuesday's *London Gazette*, the administrative counties of Derby, Leicester, and Nottingham, and the county boroughs of the same counties, to-day come under the regulations in force in other places with regard to gooseberry mildew.



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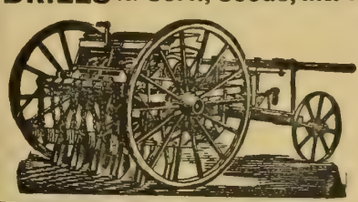
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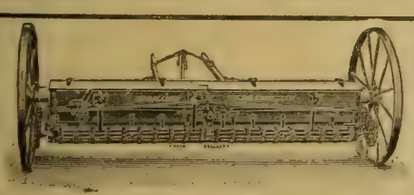
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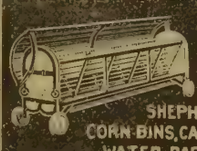
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Experiment by
Mr. J. B. BAILEY,
Thornhill, Bitterne,
Southampton,
Hants.



Crop: Potatoes.
Soil: Hazel.
Gain from 1½ cwt. of Sulphate of Potash—
3 tons 10 cwt. of Potatoes.

STRAWBERRIES.

Experiment by
Mr. J. B. BAILEY,
Thornhill, Bitterne,
Southampton,
Hants.



Crop: Strawberries.
Soil: Clay.
Gain from 1 cwt. of Sulphate of Potash—
920 lbs. of Strawberries.



HAY.

Experiment by Mr. R. H. TUCKER, Babbage Farm, Bickington, Fremington, N. Devon.
Crop: Meadow Hay. Soil: Heavy Clay.
Gain from 4 cwt. of Kainit—1 ton 9 cwt. 2 qrs. of Hay.



MANGOLDS.

Experiment by Mr. A. BROWN, Hill Lane Dairy Farm, Southampton, Hants.
Crop: Mangolds. Soil: Deep Loam.
Gain from 5 cwt. of Kainit—19 tons 10 cwt. of Mangolds.

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Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

Fertilisers for Early Potatoes.

Within the memory of many of us, the Channel Islands enjoyed a practical monopoly in supplying the English market with the delicacy of early potatoes, and the industry had the reputation of being so lucrative that growers in other places were induced to make an attempt to secure a share of it.

Thus, gradually, early potatoes were shipped from Malta, the Canaries, Portugal, and more recently in large quantities from the north of France, while they have been cultivated with a fair share of success in some parts of this country, notably in the south-west of Scotland, and within the last few years an effort has been made to introduce the industry into Ireland.

It is certain that the Channel Islands will have to meet increased competition in the future and in order to do so with success, the growers must strain every nerve to make their systems of cultivation and marketing as perfect as possible.

Nature is very favourable to them. They have a climate and soil specially suited to the industry; they are conveniently situated for shipment, and "Jersey" potatoes enjoy a prestige which is worth a great deal.

The judicious use of suitable fertilisers plays an important part in the production of a crop to arrive at early maturity, and it is to this point that some growers do not devote sufficient care As the committee appointed, a few years ago by the Royal Jersey Agricultural Society to investigate the conditions of local agriculture, pointed out, there is reason to believe that artificial manure is, in many cases, extravagantly used or misapplied, but, so far as we can see, the committee did not go a step further and offer any suggestions as to what system of manuring could be recommended so as to produce the best results. The growers should also be very careful that the quality of the purchased fertilisers is up to the mark both in the percentage of the principal constituents and in their condition. The minimum percentages of ammonia soluble phosphate and potash should be guaranteed by the seller, and sample sent to the analyst of the agricultural society to be tested.

The crop is so dependent on the fertiliser applied that it is not to be wondered at if the results are disappointing when the manure has been carelessly bought without any guarantee of quality.

In this connection it is surprising that there is no fertiliser law in the Channel Islands to protect the interests of the farmers. It is an anomaly which we hope will be rendered at an early date, because it places Jersey farmers at a disadvantage with farmers elsewhere. In Great Britain and its important Colonies, in America and in all the countries of Europe, the purchasers of artificial manures and feeding stuffs are protected by law against fraudulent sellers, and although cases of fraud may be scarce, the fact that the law exists has a great moral effect, and has served to raise the quality and purity of the goods sold.

What is the Most Suitable Fertiliser?

The Jersey early potato growers use enormous quantities of fertilisers of various kinds, and we have not the necessary local knowledge or experience to enable us to recommend any special system. This would be more within the province of the Agricultural Society, but one may draw attention to the suggestions of the Irish Department of Agriculture, which has been making a special study on the subject. It is pointed out that farmyard manure alone, no matter how heavy the dressing, will not produce the maximum crop nor the best quality. Dung must be supplemented by a suitable artificial fertiliser, this is imperative for early potatoes.

A fertiliser of quick action must be used as it has only about three months to do its work, and one with an analysis of:—

Nitrogen ..... 8 per cent.
(Equal to ammonia 9·75).
Potash ..... 4 to 5 per cent.
Soluble phosphate... 18 to 20 per cent.

and compounded of soluble materials would be a safe mixture.

The quantity to apply will vary according to the condition of the land and the quantity of dung applied. With a moderate dressing of dung 6 cwt. of artificials should be enough. If without farmyard manure, the artificials should be doubled.

The time to apply is at planting, and before the sets are put down. It is not a good plan to top-dress potatoes and force them by fits and starts, as might be done with a forage crop or cabbage.

As regards the composition of the fertiliser, it has always been found that soluble guano is one of the most suitable, as its complex quality renders its action quick at the start, with further supplies of nourishment available to carry the crop to maturity.

Seaweed Analyses.

Semi-decayed seaweed, according to analysis, has the following composition:—

Analysis of Semi Decayed Seaweed.

	Per cent.
Water	61·03
Organic matter	28·92
Ash or mineral matter	10·05
	100·00
Nitrogen	1·20
Phosphoric acid	·19
Potash	·90

Some years ago a sample of fresh seaweed (*Fucus furcatus*) was analysed, the data of which may here be given for the purpose of comparison.

Analysis of Fresh Seaweed.

Water	63·49
Organic matter	27·63
Ash or mineral matter	8·58
	100·00
Nitrogen	·468
Phosphoric acid	·108
Potash	2·025

The general result of the decomposition, it will be seen, has been to increase the nitrogen-content and to decrease the percentage of potash, so that while the fresh seaweed is essentially a potassic manure, the semi-decayed weed is more particularly nitrogenous. The value of seaweed as a manure is undoubtedly enhanced by the readiness with which this naturally occurring fertiliser decomposes in the soil, quickly liberating its constituents in forms available to crops.

Trials with Different Forms of Nitrogen.

Farmers in Germany are watching with much interest the result of trials made with the new nitrogenous fertiliser (calcium cyanamide), because they hope to find in it a gradual substitute for nitrate of soda, or at any rate, a means of keeping nitrate of soda within reasonable prices. Some hundreds of tons of calcium cyanamide were used in Germany last season, with results that, on the whole, appear to have been satisfactory.

The journal of the National Agricultural Society (Germany) published some interesting results of numerous experiments, according to which the effective power of the three fertilisers, nitrate of soda, sulphate of ammonia, and calcium cyanamide, many be classed somewhat as follows, taking nitrate of soda as 100:—

	Nitrate of Soda.	Sulphate of Ammonia.	Calcium Cyanamide.
Barley	100	92	77
Potatoes	100	99	95
Beetroots	100	93	72
Average	100	95	81

Sulphate of ammonia and calcium cyanamide appear to be better suited for potatoes and cereals than for roots.

In the application of the calcium it may be noted that it is not adapted for broadcasting by hand, either alone or mixed with sand or dry earth, but must be applied by a manure distributor,

As regards time of application, experiments prove that in light soils none of the fertilising materials in question should be applied in the autumn, otherwise the greater part of the nitrogen is lost. On the other hand, in heavier soils both sulphate of ammonia and calcium cyanamide can be applied with advantage in the autumn for wheat.

Calcium cyanamide must not be mixed with superphosphate, but it can be quite well mixed with basic slag and potash salts, either kainit, sulphate or muriate of potash.

Prices of Fertilisers.

There is now a brisk demand for fertilisers required for autumn application, particularly for basic slag, superphosphate and potash salts, while we hear of contracts also being made for nitrate of soda and guano for spring delivery.

	£	s.	d.
Nitrate of soda	11	5	0
Sulphate of ammonia	12	0	0
Peruvian guano ..... according to analysis			
Superphosphate, 26 per cent.	2	10	0
,, 35 ,,	3	6	3
Pure dissolved bones	5	7	6
Bone compound, ordinary	3	8	9
Bone Meal	5	10	0
Ground hoofs, 15 per cent.	9	10	0
Fish guano, first quality, scarce & dear	7	10	0
Kainit	2	7	0
Sulphate of potash	10	0	0
Muriate of potash	9	0	6

The Supply of Superphosphate.

The fluctuations of the phosphate market during the last quarter of a century afford a striking example of the changes which may take place in the position of an important commodity.

At a lecture delivered in London about twenty years ago by a chemical manure manufacturer, attention was directed to the growing deficiency in the supplies of raw phosphate and the increasing difficulties experienced by manufacturers of superphosphate in securing the necessary supplies. At that time the bulk of the supplies came from South Carolina, and the total imports into the United Kingdom were about 280,000 tons. The demand for superphosphate throughout Europe was rapidly growing, and was springing up in America as well as in Australia, while the supplies of the material from which to make it were not increasing, and indeed, showed signs of diminishing. People were talking of a "phosphate famine," and the prospects for the industry were gloomy.

It was not long, however, before the demand brought in the market new supplies. Deposits were discovered in Florida, Algeria, and Tunis, and on islands in the Pacific. The new deposits were rapidly opened up, and within the space of a few years the supply once more overlapped the requirements of the trade. This continued to be the position until about a couple of years ago, when the enormously increased demand throughout the world sufficed to absorb all the surplus stocks and strained to the utmost the producers of phosphate to meet it.

As a consequence, the price of the raw phosphate has been moving upwards for some time, and manufacturers of superphosphate for the last eighteen months have had to pay about 25 per cent. more for the raw material.

At the present time the total quantity of raw phosphate raised in the world is estimated by Monsieur Tibulle Collot in round figures as—

America	2,000 000 tons
North Africa	1,000,000 ,,
Islands in the Pacific	250,000 ,,
Europe	750,000 ,,
	4,000,000 ,,

and the consumption of superphosphate in the different countries as—

America	1,600,000 tons.
France	1,400,000 ,,
Germany	1,100,000 ,,
United Kingdom	850,000 ,,
Italy	600,000 ,,
Belgium	350,000 ,,
Austria-Hungary	350,000 ,,
Australia	200,000 ,,
Japan	150,000 ,,
Other Countries	750,000 ,,
	7,350,000 ,,

reaching the enormous total of over seven million tons, and increasing rapidly.

The use of superphosphate in America, Australia, and Japan, and even Italy is comparatively modern, and is extending in those countries at a very rapid pace.

This is a good thing for our farmers, because it is evident that the virgin soils have become exhausted, and that the cost of producing the crops will be greater.

There is, however, no foundation for the rumours of a phosphate famine. The deposits already known are sufficient to last for more than a century, and there is no reason to suppose that new deposits will not be discovered, but the raisers of phosphate are in the fortunate position that the demand for their goods is greater than the present supply, and they are therefore able to ask for an advance in price, which the manufacturers, protest as they may against paying more, are finally obliged to concede.

No doubt, in due course, the pendulum will swing back again. The remunerative prices for the phosphate will encourage the raisers to produce larger quantities by employing more labour and more machinery, so that in the course of time the supply will again overtake the demand and prices drop again, but for the present the enhanced cost of the raw material is leading to higher prices for superphosphate on all the markets in Europe.

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a nom de plume, in the paper.

We are willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

More Profit from Stock.

The profit from rearing and especially fattening cattle is usually much diminished by the necessity of purchasing a large quantity of expensive concentrated foods. How this expenditure can be diminished is a problem which the dairymen in Denmark are considering, just as much as the farmers in this country. The Journal of the Agricultural Society for Denmark discusses the subject as follows :—

The farmer could spare many a hard-earned pound if he were more careful to make the best use of his own pastures and meadows; the fodder obtained from those is the best and cheapest he can get.

He must set himself to improve the quality of his grass and increase the quantity. In this important matter there has been far too much neglect.

The average yield of the meadows is only equal to 1½ tons of hay per acre, whereas with proper management it could be brought up to nearly double as much.

The cause of the unsatisfactory average yield is in most cases neglect of proper management, and especially the omission to supply the grass crop with proper nourishment. Phosphate of lime must be considered a necessary for all grass lands, and potash is almost as essential. With the help of these two substances the meadows can be wonderfully improved, and in many cases the omission of either one or the other renders the expenses useless.

Not only the hay meadows, but also the pastures must be treated in a rational way if the best results are to be obtained. When compost is made it should be enriched with addition of phosphate and kainit.

Every two or three years the pastures should have the benefit of a dressing of basic slag or superphosphate and kainit applied in the autumn.

The Danish farmers are finding out, just as our farmers are doing, that the neglect of meadows and pastures has been a weak link in the prosperity of their farms, and are now beginning to remedy this defect.

Correspondence dealing with Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs appears in the regular correspondence columns of the paper. We think it unnecessary to publish the table of unit values in each issue. It will be published in an early issue of each month.

Turnip Manurial Experiments.

In a bulletin issued by the West of Scotland Agricultural College, Professor Wright gives an interesting report on the results of his experiments with fertilisers in turnip cultivation.

The objects of the experiments were :—

1. To compare the efficacy of phosphatic manures (superphosphate and basic slag) applied in autumn and applied in spring.

2. To compare the efficacy of the potassic manures (kainit, potash manure salt, and muriate of potash) applied in autumn and applied in spring.

3. To compare the efficacy of these three potash manures with each other, whether applied in autumn or in spring.

4. To compare the efficacy of the two phosphatic manures, superphosphate and basic slag, with each other, whether applied in autumn or in spring.

5. To determine the value of the new nitrogenous manure, lime nitrogen (cyanamide of calcium), as compared with a combined dressing of sulphate of ammonia and nitrate of soda.

The conclusions drawn are thus stated :—

1. That superphosphate forms a more effective manure for the turnip crop when applied in the drills in spring than when broadcast on the land in winter.

2. That basic slag also generally produces larger crops when applied in the drills in spring than when broadcast in winter.

3. That kainit and the other potash manures also generally, though not invariably, give the best results on the turnip crop when applied in the drills in spring.

4. That the relative efficacy of the winter and the spring applications varies with the season, and that in some years the spring application may be only moderately, if at all superior.

5. That potash appears to be of nearly equal efficacy for the turnip crop in the three forms of kainit, muriate of potash, and potash manure salt, but that kainit is somewhat the more effective form of the three.

6. That lime nitrogen appears likely to prove a valuable nitrogenous manure for the turnip crop.

With regard to conclusion No. 6 more experiments are desirable because other experiments seem to show that the new nitrogenous fertiliser is not so suitable for roots as sulphate of ammonia or nitrate of soda.

Storage of Cake and other Concentrated Foods.

It should be remembered that cattle cakes and other concentrated foods should not be stored in unsuitable places, otherwise they are liable to lose part of their value. The warehouse should be airy and dry.

As a rule, cakes should not be stored over a stable or shed, where the warm air permeates, nor in a place where fodder is steamed.

It is not an uncommon occurrence that the results obtained from the cakes are not so satisfactory as might be expected from their high quality, and the cause is due to their deterioration through bad storage. Moreover, if cake is kept in a damp place it may get mouldy and be absolutely injurious to stock.

To Manure at a Profit.

We have pleasure in directing attention to the booklet "To manure at a Profit—Every Farmer His Own Experimenter"—published at the office of this paper at the small price of 6d. (by post 7½d.). It is a reprint of the series of articles which appeared in these columns some time ago, and attracted a good deal of attention. The writers of the articles combine a thoroughly practical and scientific knowledge of the important subjects dealt with, and have succeeded in putting their suggestions and recommendations in simple language capable of being grasped by the reader who is too busy to study the scientific books usually written by scientific men. Every farmer should read the booklet and keep it by him for reference. It can be obtained from the Publisher, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Correspondence dealing with Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs appear in the regular correspondence columns of the paper. We think it unnecessary to publish the table of unit values in each issue. It will be published in an early issue of each month.

We are willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

Approximate Analyses of Principal Fertilisers.

Statement showing the approximate percentages of nitrogen equal to ammonia, phosphoric acid equal to phosphate of lime, potash and lime in the principal commercial fertilisers :—

	Nitrogen.	Equal to Ammonia.	Phosphoric Acid.	Equal to Phosphate of Lime.	Potash.	Lime.
NITROGENOUS—	from to	from to	from to	from to	from to	from to
Sulphate of Ammonia	20—21	24—25	—	—	—	—
Nitrate of Soda	15—16	18—19	—	—	—	—
Peruvian Guano	7—9	8—10	12—17	25—35	2—3	12—15
Fish Guano	5—8	6—10	6—7	13—15	traces	10—12
Ground Hoofs	12—14	14—16	—	—	—	—
Dried Blood	11—12	13—14	1—2	2—4	½—2	—
NITROGENOUS AND PHOSPHATIC—						
Peruvian Guano	2½—3½	3—4	25—30	50—60	3—4	15—20
Bone Meal	3½—4	4—5	21—25	45—50	—	30—32
Vitriolised Bones, phosphates partly soluble	2½—3	3—3½	15—17	32—35	—	20—22
Bone Compound, ordinary phosphate three-quarters soluble	¾—1	1—1½	13—14	28—30	—	25—30
PHOSPHATIC—						
Superphosphate, phosphate soluble	various	grades from	12—18	25—40	—	20—25
Basic Slag, various grades from	—	—	12—20	26—44	—	40—50
Bone Flour	¾—1¼	1—1½	28—30	60—65	—	36—38
POTASSIC—						
Sulphate of Potash, 90—95	—	—	—	—	48—50	—
Muriate of Potash, 80—85	—	—	—	—	50—52	—
Kainit, 23	—	—	—	—	12—13	—
Potash Manure Salts	—	—	—	—	20—21	—
Nitrate of Potash	13—14	16—17	—	—	42—45	—
FARMYARD MANURE	½	¾	¼	½	½	1
CLOVER PLOUGHED IN	½	¾	¼	¼	½	½

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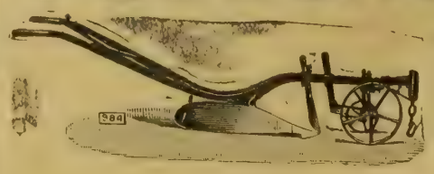
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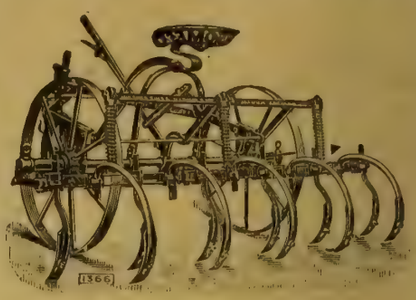
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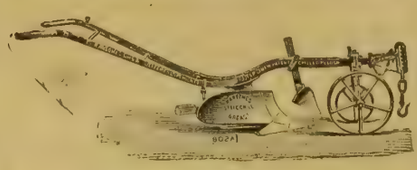
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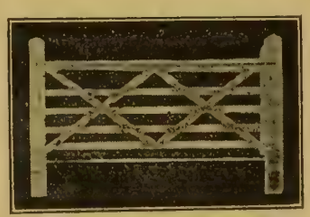
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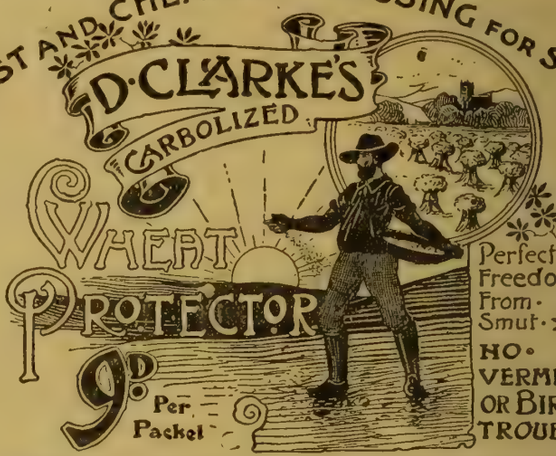




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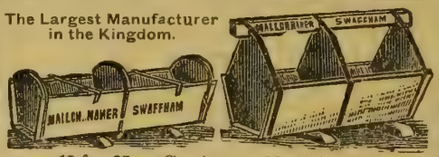
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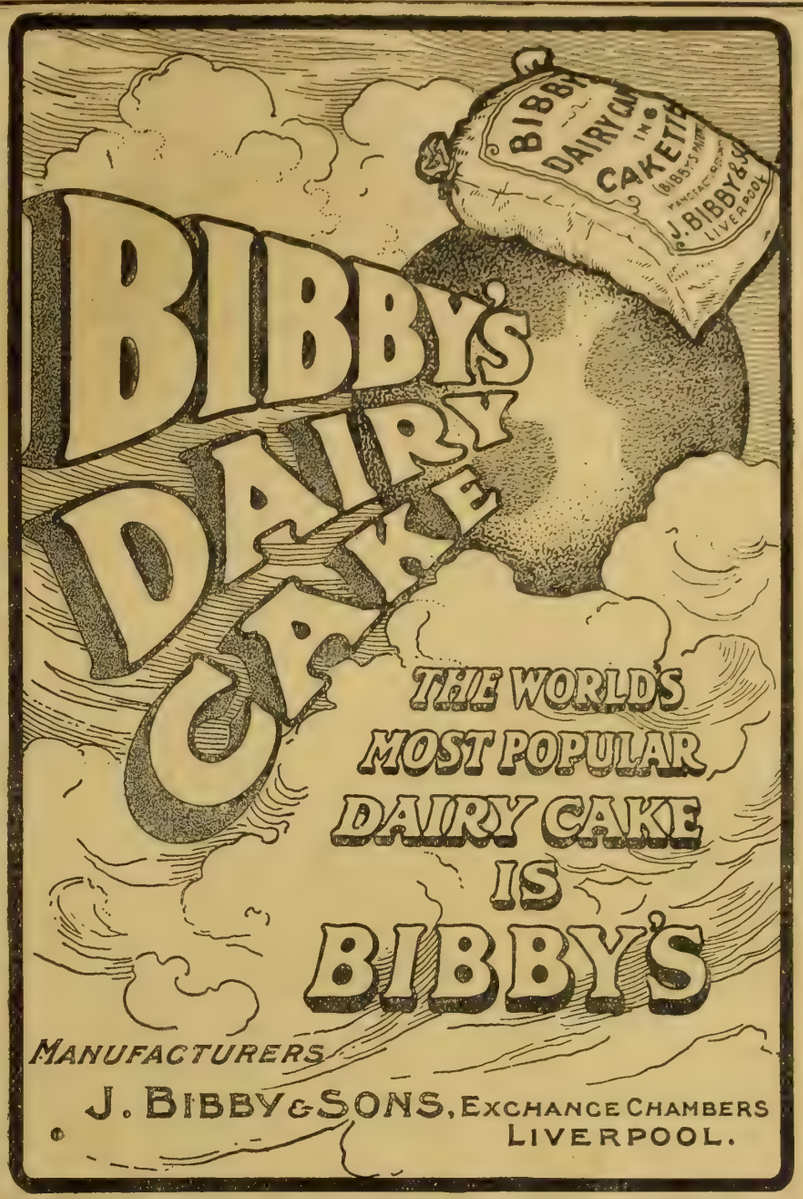
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Live Stock Record.
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BETTER TIMES—BIGGER RENTS.

One of the results of higher prices for farm produce is already making itself apparent in the subject of rents. A striking instance has transpired last week, when a farmer residing only a few miles from Newark, gave his landlord notice that unless the rent of the 160 acre farm which he occupied was reduced, he should quit on Lady Day, 1908. Of course the notice was handed in, but no abatement of rent was offered or even promised.

With the advent of August this particular farmer saw that times were likely to be better than was expected. His crops—both cereal and root—looked wonderfully well, and an abundant harvest was assured. Fodder was plentiful, he had been successful in his lambs, many of them having gone off fat to the butcher, while his wool had averaged 12¾d. per lb. He, therefore, bethought himself, and after due deliberation with his wife and family, decided to take the farm on again at the old price of 26s. 6d. per acre rental.

As was his custom, he attended Newark market, and after transacting certain business he sought out his landlord's agent and endeavoured to persuade him to take 1s. 6d. per acre off the rent. The agent allowed him to ventilate the whole of his grievances—hard times, low price of corn, heavy rates, dilapidated buildings, and so forth, and then sprung upon the farmer not only a flat refusal to take less money per acre, but the startling statement that 28s. was to be the rent in the future. Naturally the farmer left the office, after making several remarks not altogether complimentary.

Since that time wheat has advanced considerably, barley meets with a better demand than twelve months ago, oats are maintaining their prices well, beef and mutton continue dear; in fact, farmers are just now enjoying a rosy time. Last Wednesday the same gentleman again wended his way to the agent's sanctum, having decided to pay 28s. per acre rather than lose the farm. But he was too late. He was surprised when informed on his previous visit that 28s. was the price, but he was staggered when told that a farmer in a neighbouring village had actually taken the farm and given 30s. per acre. This is not an isolated case where the rent has been increased, for it was whispered in Nottingham Market last week that on two or three estates the stewards have given a good broad hint that notice of increased rentals will be given next April.

There are very few farms in the county to let, and even some farmers who retired a year or two back are expressing a desire to again enter business.

MASTERS—MEN—IMPLEMENTS.

II.

MEN.

Undoubtedly the class of man we employ on a farm is a great help on the road to success if he is a good class man, and soon a serious drawback if he is not. I have seen a good deal of the labour market in the metropolis and elsewhere; the way work is done in London seems, to my idea, the best way in several businesses—*i.e.*, an almost natural briskness, smartness, and general promptness. But our Essex men and their ways, like most subjects, have a bright side and a rather dark side.

I have heard it said that the labour problem is the great drawback to agriculture. But let us look at the matter in a perfectly fair way. Let the men be divided into four departments or classes—1, lazy; 2, indifferent; 3, medium; 4, good.

1. Lazy.—Please tell me of a worse disease! Late in the morning; if a horseman, horses never properly seen to, and seldom cleaned; untidy; possibly a man who drinks too much; the land "muddled about," but never done;

work getting behind; implements and pieces of them all over everywhere, &c., &c. But someone says, "Well, a good farmer would not keep such a man." In some instances there are such men kept, possibly partly through the true old saying, "Like master, like man."

2. Indifferent.—Also a rather bad class. The end breaks off his ploughshare; he does not notice it; he never cleans his harness if he has a few spare moments in the stable; a shoe comes off a day or two before he notices it; a horse's shoulder gets quite raw by collar-chafe before he sees it; he would almost as least think of picking up the moon in his garden as stooping to pick up a dangerous piece of glass or a nail, and so on *ad lib.*

3. Medium.—Now we begin to get along on a far more pleasant road. The man is not by several degrees what he ought to be; still, there are many things about him we like, perhaps an even-tempered fellow—a capital point for a horseman; to be depended upon for a fair day's work, although perhaps not so when going to "town," as they say, which means the county or local one, of course; a few days in town would do many of them good, if only to see how hard it is to get a job. But with a fairly slow-going master, and perhaps as slow-going son, the middle-class or medium Essex agricultural labourer or horseman is "sorter tidy happy," he says. These men come up to the house for their wages very regularly; that's the only strictly regular thing with them. Why do not they try a little more and get into a better system; there is great need in every department of the world's commercial enterprises for a better supply of the fittest.

Now I come to the part of my subject to enjoy myself upon. My pen could very comfortably go on until a column—ah! and a column of smaller type, too, and "larger measure" than the MARK LANE EXPRESS—was written, then I should not be tired.

What is a nicer sentence in connection with farming than that important one: "I have good men"? There are little "ups" and little "downs," of course, in all occupations; but a master knows he has men he can depend upon, and is so far content. To time in the morning; clean horses; out early when a long journey with corn; home good time, and horses not very hot and never knocked up; good-tempered, tidy at all times and in all places; land a pleasure to see because so well ploughed, or whatever else done to it, always in a thorough workmanlike way; honest, obliging; by giving his time ungrudgingly he helps his own interests as well as those of his master.

As last week, a word of advice in conclusion. You will find, my men, it will never pay you to be independent and offhanded. The sun shines to-day, perhaps; how do you know that you will not presently be pleased to have your old master chatting to you by the side of your sick bed, a bed from which perhaps the doctor says it will be weeks before you can rise? Do your work as every Englishman should, and your conscience will give you as much independence as is good for anyone; your tongue can keep quiet.

My experience is that in Essex we have all the men we want—with an important alteration: we would that some kind fairy (I nearly put fiend!) came and took many a one away and left a better man in his place; good food should never be wasted on that that does not pay for it, and also him who does not properly earn it.

I once spent the day on and about the battle-field—no, not as a soldier, but at Waterloo, but not during the battle. It was in 1905, and I was greatly impressed with the large amount of women labour farmers employ—a class of women, too, who seem perfectly happy in their work, some of which was carting away in harvest time, weeding, &c. Still, it certainly looks more natural to see buskins than frocks with horses.

J. B. M.

Notes of the Week.

The Brewery Exhibition at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, was the great event of last week.

The brewery industry is so closely allied with important agricultural interests that the exhibition always brings up to London a number of country visitors.

Not so closely allied as it should be, says my cynical friend. There's too much chemical about it.

As a man brews so shall he drink, according to an old proverb.

The Hall had undergone a great transformation scene, from the Dairy Show of the week before to the Breweries.

Milk had given place to malt, butter to beer.

The exhibition was eminently successful, and it was enlivening to meet so many cheerful people.

The contemplated attack of the Government on brewing interests evidently did not bother them.

And the rabid teetotaller who expected to find signs of depression would have turned green with spite.

It is pleasing to note that the world's champion barley prize remains in England, having, after all, been awarded to Mr. T. Rawle, of Porlock.

Our hearty congratulations to him on his great success.

At the same time we sympathise with Messrs. Liebmann Bros. in the disappointment which they must naturally feel.

We hope they will compete again next year. A little foreign competition will serve to stimulate English growers to greater exertion.

By the way, the chief object of the hop and barley samples seems to be to advertise chemical manure makers.

A little official control and organisation in the matter would not be amiss.

"Hops, carp, pickerel and beer,
Came into England all in one year" (1532).

A black Sussex pig has been engaged to perform a part at one of the London theatres. The play is called "The O'Grindles."

Of course it's an Irish piece, and the pig is "the gentleman that pays the rent."

The animal-maiming miscreants seem to have transferred their diabolical energies to pigs. Some mysterious outrages on pigs have occurred in Lincolnshire.

A single Government Board to control such different interests as Agricultural and Fisheries is a curious combination. So it is in contemplation to have a separate Board of Fisheries.

On the subject of Fisheries, the fishermen of Yarmouth had a splendid harvest last week. They netted out of the sea in the one week 76,000,000 herrings, worth £50,000.

"A plague on you both" is the feeling on the part of the public on the much-boomed dispute between railway men and railway directors.

In this case might and right seem to be on the same side.

New Zealand sheep breeders are importing numbers of South Devon sheep. The climate and scenery of New Zealand much resembles Devonshire.

The wettest week for many years is a fair description of the kind of weather we had during the week of the Dairy Show.

"I canna get over it," a Scotch farmer remarked to his wife. "I put a twa-shillin' piece in ta plate at the kirk this morn instead o' ma usual penny!"

The beadle had noticed the mistake, and also the frightened face of his old friend, who had not the courage to retake the coin as the old-fashioned ladle-like spoon was carefully passed over the head to the next pew, and one penny after another was dropped into the bowl. The farmer said nothing, and in silence the old beadle allowed him to miss the plate for twenty-three consecutive Sundays. On the twenty-fourth Sunday the farmer again ignored the collection, but the old beadle steadied the ladle in front of him, and in a loud tragic whisper hoarsely said:

"Your time's up noo, Sandy!"

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29.—Bath and West Society's Council Meeting at Bristol—Sale of Lord Carnarvon's Pedigree Berkshire and other Pigs at Highclere, near Newbury—Farm Sale at Etchingham—Bridgnorth St. Luke's Fair and Great Annual Cattle Market—Fairs at Ashford, Great Marlow, Wellingborough, and Preston.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30.—Rochester Agricultural Association's Show—Nantwich Dairy Show—Leek Cheese Fair—Horse Sales at Bampton and Shrewsbury—Agricultural Fairs at Tadcaster, Saintfield, Newcastle-on-Tyne, North Molton, St Lawrence, and Bury St. Edmunds—Great Sale of Store Cattle, Carlisle—Mynd Farm Sale, Shropshire—Aldington Farm Sale, near Thurnham—Oaklands Farm Sale, near Tonbridge.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31.—Ely Annual Three Days' Fair Opens—Agricultural Fairs at Bourne, Frodsham, and Nuneaton—Mottram Cattle and Pig Fair—Important Corn Market, Maidstone—Sending-in Day for Viscount Tredegar's Show at Newport—Great Live Stock Sale at Perth—Strood Autumn Stock Sale—Longton (Staffordshire) Prize Horse Sale.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1.—Shepton Mallet Cider Show—Sending-in Day for the Smithfield Show—Great Horse Sale at Peterborough—Wrexham Great Horse Sale—Tarrant Rawston (Dorset) Cattle Sale—Agricultural Fairs at Coventry, Poole, Wadhurst, and Saffron Walden—Many other Fairs. "All Saints' Day Fairs"—Horse Sales at Newark, Moy, and Kelso—Cattle Sales at Rutherglen and Llan-y-byther—Important Farm Sale at Alcombe—Birmingham Cattle Show Entries Close.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2.—Alnwick Agricultural Hiring Fair—Berwick Agricultural Hiring Fair—Halifax Great Fair—Keswick Cheese Fair—Sending-in Day for Darenth Show—Carlisle Great Sheep and Lamb Sale—Buckingham Cattle and Sheep Sale—Tolgarth Agricultural Sale—Knutsford Cattle Sale—Toddington Cattle Sale—Winch's Great Agricultural Sale at Rhoden, near Paddock Wood.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4.—Farmers' Club Meeting, 4 p.m.—Farmers' Club House Dinner, 6.15 p.m.—Edinburgh Great Sheep Sale—Sending-in Day for Whitchurch Dairy Show—Agricultural Fairs at Eastwood, Droxfield, Plymouth, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Rotherham, Welshpool, Beverley, Aberystwyth, and Crewe—Farm Sale at Willesborough—Cirencester Cattle Fair.

A Disastrous Harvest in Scotland.

Probably one-half of the Scottish grain crop is still in the fields, and much of what has been secured cannot be said to satisfy the owners. Stooks which were set from a fortnight to nearly three weeks ago are in a very bad way owing to the excessive drenchings and relatively mild atmosphere.

Of the fairly early counties under normal circumstances, Berwick and Stirling are now among the most unfortunate. The north-east of Scotland is barely finished with cutting. Ten days ago a good deal of grain on the lower grounds of Aberdeenshire was getting into very fair condition for leading, but since then misfortune has followed misfortune, and the last state is worse than the first.

There will be an excessive amount of bad fodder in the country, especially in what might be classed as the "second early" localities. The very early districts escaped more or less, and the latest are nearly half right so far as straw is concerned. In the latter case, however, much of the oat grain has been either devoured by birds or knocked out by the storms.

On the stronger soils the late potato crop cannot be touched owing to the sodden conditions. In the majority of cases the crop is at the least from 25 to 30 per cent. under a good average for bulk. Rain has helped the turnips to a moderate extent where there was a form of growth, but otherwise it has not apparently moved the important root crop out of its early dead set. "Shot" fields, mainly the result of early June frosts, are much more common in the southern than in the northern counties. —*Glasgow Herald*, October 22, 1907.

A Dyed Horse.—In a case heard at Birmingham County Court, on Wednesday, a plaintiff said he bought what seemed to be "a beautiful black steed, young and healthy," but some days later he found that though its body was still black the legs were a suspicious grey. Apparently they had been bleached by standing out in the rain. Its teeth had also been filed down, and the horse, instead of being a "vigorous young blood of seven years, turned out to be a decrepit old hack of apparently twenty-seven." He believed the horse had been dyed with black lead. He therefore sued to recover a portion of the £15 spent on this "beautiful black steed," and was awarded £5.

SHEEP.

THE PRODUCTION OF WOOL.

THE report of the production of wool of Great Britain, which has just been issued by the Board of Agriculture, is one that should be read and studied by every breeder of sheep in this country.

THE subject with which it deals is one of outstanding importance, and the information it contains is interesting, instructive, and doubtless will be, in many cases, of great value to those who are breeding sheep.

THE report, as a whole, is most valuable, and it brings to the fore many vital questions that affect, to a large extent, the welfare of those who are engaged in breeding sheep.

VERY many points there are to which reference could profitably be made, and opportunity will be taken in future notes to refer in more detail to the different points that are dealt with, for before this is done there is need of careful thought and study, and as the report has only just been issued there has not been sufficient time to thoroughly master all of its valuable details.

TABLE 3 in the appendix appears to be one of special importance, for there in tabular form is given the average weight per fleece of washed and unwashed wool of seventeen distinct breeds of sheep, and eight distinct cross-breeds.

THE total number of fleeces of washed wool given is 2,396,128, weighing 13,284,110 lb., which brings out the average weight of the washed fleece to 5½ lb.

THE total number of unwashed fleeces given is 961,963, weighing 7,768,120 lb. This gives an average weight of 8¼ lb. per fleece. This table enables the breeders of sheep to ascertain the correct proportion of the reduction in price that should be made for the unwashed fleece as compared with the washed fleece.

THE percentage of the allowance that should be made, however, varies materially in the different breeds. For instance, the average weight of the washed fleece of the Herdwick and the Cheviot were, respectively, 3⅜ lb. and 4 lb., and their unwashed fleeces 4 lb. and 4¾ lb., so that in the case of these two breeds the difference between the washed and the unwashed fleece is much smaller than the general average shows.

LEICESTERS and Lincolns, on the other hand, when washed, give an average of 10⅜ lb. per fleece, but when unwashed an average of 14⅜ lb. The Shropshire gives an average of 5¼ lb. for washed fleeces and 8¼ lb. for unwashed. The Southdown's average for washed fleeces is 4½ lb., and for unwashed 6¼ lb.

IT is singular to note that so far as regards the South Devon and Dartmoor breed, there are no returns given of the washed wool at all, the average weight of the unwashed fleeces being 11 lb. On the other hand, the whole of the Dorset Horn and the Cotswold wool included in the return is given as washed.

ANOTHER interesting point in connection with the wool production is that lambs' wool practically applies only to three breeds—*i.e.*, the Kent, Dorset Horn, and Dorset Down, and the average weight of the washed fleeces from 161,597 lambs is 1½ lb., and of the unwashed fleece from 33,615 lambs 2⅞ lb.

TABLE 2 is one also of great interest. It gives the average weight of the ewe fleeces for the different breeds kept in each county of Great Britain. It gives also a very useful summary, and it shows that the 9,998,435 ewes kept in Great Britain gave an average weight of 5⅜ lb. of wool, and that the 5,123,196 other sheep, one year old and above, gave an average weight of 6½ lb., making the average production of wool in this country for the year 1905-1906 to be 87,837,000 lb.

LOOKING down the tables one observes that the heaviest average weight per fleece for ewes was produced in Devon, *i.e.*, 11¼ lb. for 833,872 sheep, Lincoln, on the other hand, producing the highest average for sheep one year old and above, *i.e.*, 13 lb. for 203,962 sheep, Cornwall coming close up with an average of 12½ lb., followed by Devon with an average of 12 lb.

THE highest average for Wales was 6¼ lb. for Anglesea, for the ewe flocks numbering 40,059, and the same county gave the highest average for other sheep one-year old and above—*i.e.*, 6¼ lb. for 6,450.

IN respect to Scotland, the highest county average for ewe fleeces was 6¼ lb. for Fife, the number of ewes being 38,466. Two other counties gave an average of 6¼ lb., and the same county gave the highest average for sheep one-year-old and above—*i.e.*, 7¾ lb. for 19,792. One other county, Renfrew, gave an average for this section of 7½ lb., and three others, Clacmannan, Forfar, and Haddington, an average of 7¼ lb.

THE concluding table in Mr. Rew's very able report shows that the average production of wool for the United Kingdom for the year 1905-6 was 133,088,000 lb., which shows that we produce at home about 27 per cent. of the required quantity of wool used for home consumption.

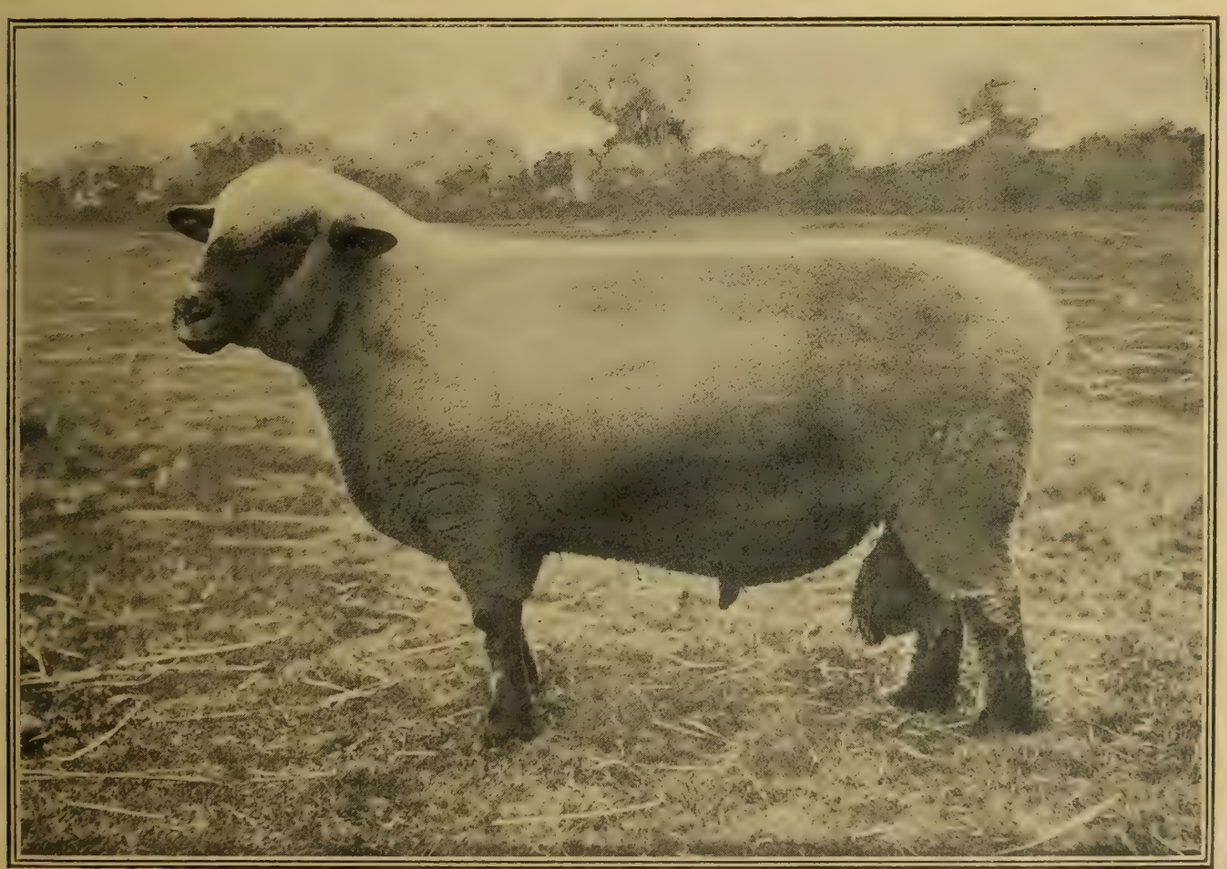
THE above statement shows that the users of wool for clothes, &c., are, like the consumers of mutton and other commodities, also to a very large extent dependent upon their supply from the imported produce. Is it possible that an increased quantity of wool could be, with profit, produced in this country? This is an important question for all who are interested in the prosperity of agriculture, and the reply is that without question a good deal more wool could be grown at home. There are two ways in which this could be done, both of which ought to be adopted.

IN the first place, the keeping of more breeding sheep, for we have many acres of land upon which such sheep could be kept with undoubted profit and benefit, and in the second place by those who are breeding sheep giving greater attention to the production of wool.

DURING the past thirty or forty years enormous strides have been made in the production of mutton, and there can be no doubt but that if the same attention had been given to the increased production of wool, much heavier fleece could have been grown.

THE neglect of so many flock-masters to give any serious attention to the question of wool production has resulted in many of the flocks of this country not producing nearly the quantity of wool they should. The more careful selection of breeding sheep, particularly in regard to their fleeces, would materially add to the average weight of the fleeces produced. For instance, not long ago the writer, at a sale of one of the Down breeds, watched throughout the day the purchases of rams for breeding purposes made by several flock masters.

AN examination of these stud rams afterwards disclosed the fact that those who had purchased them had done so without any regard, or



The animal shown above is the Hampshire Down Two-shear Ram with which Mr. James Flower, Chilmark, Salisbury, won a First Prize at the Royal Agricultural Society's Show at Lincoln this year.

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Mr. J. Thomas, Dear Sir,—My Turkeys for last Xmas kept dying off one by one until I was afraid I was going to lose them all; my man, Walter Cross, had heard something of your Powder, so he suggested to me one day that we should try the "Garstang Tonic." We did so, and I can assure you that we lost very few more, and what were left fed up and were as good a lot of Turkeys as ever I had for Xmas. I also gave it to some Irish pullets, and it had exactly the same effect on them, smartening them up, and making them ready in very little time. I can confidently recommend the "Garstang Tonic" as the best preparation ever I have used, and I have tried a good many in my time.—Yours respectfully,

(Signed) ROBERT MARSDEN.

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KYNAZON TREATMENT.

Hundreds of herds have been cleared of the disease by its use; and one user writes as follows:—

Wiltshire, 26th December, 1906.

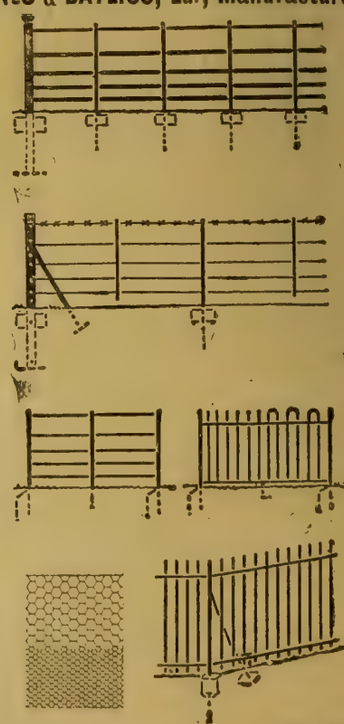
"I am pleased to say the result of the treatment has been highly satisfactory In all 70 cows were treated. Those which were in calf then carried their calves to full time and gave birth to healthy calves. Those not in calf were put to the bull, held, and have calved or are now heavy in calf."

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1907.

at any rate with but little regard, as to the quantity of wool they were likely to produce, and in some cases the fleeces were thick, close set, and filled the hand when handled. In others the fleeces were thin, and when in the hand were found to be wanting in closeness, or in other words, some rams had fleeces that would produce from one to two pounds more weight in the ordinary year's growth than others, and yet rams of both descriptions were purchased by the same breeders.

IF it were possible to ascertain the difference in the weight of the fleeces produced by the progeny of these two different rams, a very instructive lesson in connection with the wool production of this country would be afforded. This reference, referring as it does to an individual purchase, could without doubt be duplicated many times, and it is owing to this want of care in selection of stud sheep that the gross production of wool of this country is not nearly so large as it might and could be without in the slightest degree decreasing the production of mutton.

CATTLE.

Mr. A. Hiscock's Shorthorns.

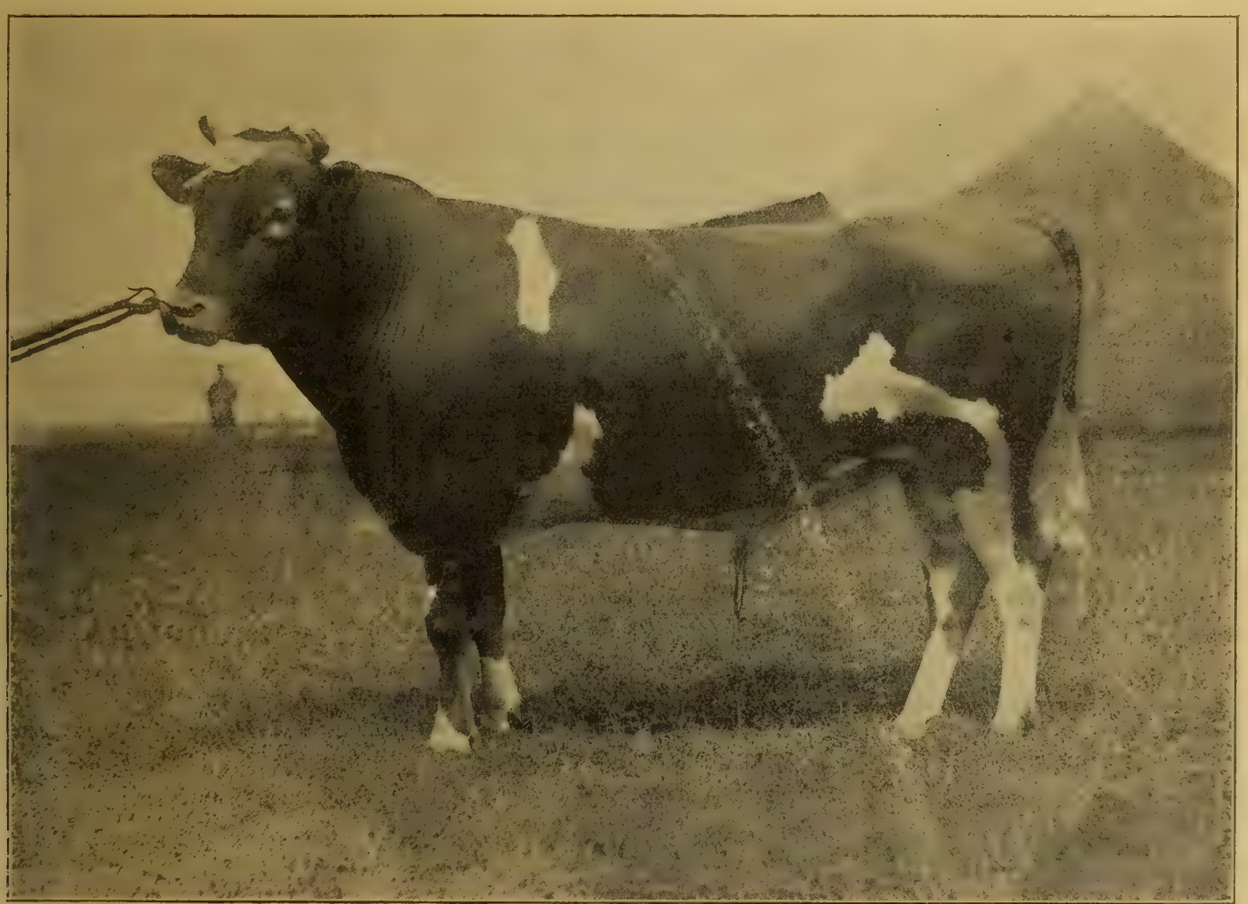
Mr. Arthur Hiscock's herd of Shorthorns at Motcombe, Shaftesbury, Dorset, which has now been established as a large dairy herd for a quarter of a century, having been started by Mr. Hiscock's father in 1882, having become considerably overstocked, a sale became necessary before winter set in, as the building accommodation is limited. This took place on Thursday and attracted a large company of breeders from all parts; but it is satisfactory to record that many of the best lots were bought by Dorsetshire breeders. The catalogue consisted of eighty lots, including the calves at foot, and they well maintained the great reputation of the herd. Bidding throughout the sale was very brisk, with the result that some first-rate prices were realised, the average for the sixty-three head sold working out at over £41 10s. Appended is a list of the sales at 30 guineas and over :—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

		Gs.
Manor Primrose, c Feb. 3, 1899	Lord Wolverton	75
Her red CC, by Coker Pansy	Mr T Halford	76
Coker Clipper, c Aug. 14, 1899	Lord Wolverton	30
Dauntless Lass, c Sept. 13, 1899	Lord Wolverton	70
Ewerby Marchioness, c April 16, 1900	Sir O. Mosley	41
Her roan BC, by Sebastopolian	Major Chichester	40
Manor Bianca, calved Aug. 13, 1900	Hon C Portman	45
Marie Stuart, c Feb. 13, 1901	Captain Glen Kitson	40
Kirklevington Princess, c Nov 14, 1901	Hon C Portman	105
Manor Pauline, c Aug. 9, 1902	Mr Fox	31
Ruby Queen, c Oct. 11, 1902	Mr C Trowbridge	31
Crystal Ruby, c March 9, 1903	Lord Wolverton	30
Okeford Roseleaf, c Oct 1, 1903	Captain Kitson	40
Charming Duchess, c Nov 1, 1903	Hon C Portman	49
Coker Lilian 3rd, c Jan 7, 1904	Mr T B Richard	34
Manor Honeydew c Jan 19, 1904	Lord Calthorpe	31
Okeford Cloverleaf, c Sept 13, 1904	Lord Northbrook	110
Magenta, c Feb 10, 1905	Mr M Handsford	30
Welcome Kirlevington, c March 6, 1905	Mr. S. Halford	76
Beauty's Pride, c March 11, 1905	Sir O. Mosley	61
Princess Lady Maud, c April 24, 1905	Mrs. Fox	48
Coker Lally, c June 27, 1905	Mr J A Preece	36
Coker Beautiful, c Oct 7, 1905	Mr E Creed	27
Manor Marchioness, c March 2, 1906	Mr S Matthews	42
Manor Sweet Rose, c July 18, 1896	Mr J A Preece	50
Manor Rosalind, c Oct 7 1906	Mr S Matthews	66
Lavender Lady, c Feb 21, 1907	Capt Kitson	100

BULLS.

Golden Grove Highlander, c Feb 17, 1905	Lord Wolverton	30
Coker Eclipse, c Sept 27, 1905	Mr W Arkell	51
Manor Royal Oak, c Aug 19, 1905	Mr J Lock	30
Manor Nimrod, c Sept 19, 1906	Mr W Corf	40
Manor Best Man, c Sept 29, 1906	Mr W C Martin	41
Manor Rufus, c Aug 4, 1906	Mr F Genge	40



The Guernsey Bull shown above is Merton Signet, sire Reuben 2nd, dam Signalmina, bred by and the property of Mr. F. Hargreaves, Merton Grange, Gamlingay, Cambridgeshire. At the Bath and West Show at Newport this year Merton won the First Prize in its class, that for bulls of the breed calved in 1903 or 1904; but at the Royal Show at Lincoln and the Royal Counties at Maidenhead it had to be content with a Second Prize.

Transactions in Store Stock.

(Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

New Ross Fair, co. Wexford, held on October 22, was an average-sized fair; demand good, especially for cattle with condition. Yearlings, 1st class, £8 to £8 6s. 8d; 2nd class, £6 7s. 6d. to £7 10s.; 3rd class, £5 17s. 6d.; two years old, 1st class, £11 to £12 17s. 6d.; 2nd class, £9 5s. to £10 5s; 3rd class, £7 10s.; three years old, 1st class, £13 15s.; 2nd class, £12 10s.

Maryborough Fair, Queen's Co., held on Oct. 23. Average-sized fair; good demand, which was chiefly local, but a clearance not quite effected. Calves, 1st class, £4 12s. 6d.; 2nd class, £4 2s. 6d. to £4 5s.; yearlings, 1st class, £7 15s. to £9 15s.; 2nd class, £6 10s. to £7 5s.; two-year-olds, 1st class, £11 5s. to £12 15s.; 2nd class, £8 15s. to £10 10s.; three-year-olds, 1st class, £13 10s.; 2nd class, £12; springers, 2nd class, £12 10s. to £14 15s.

Sleaford Cattle Fair, held on Monday, was fairly well attended, whilst the supply was good. Strong bullocks made £17 10s. to £18 10s., and younger sorts £12 to £14. About 600 lambs were penned, prices ranging from 38s. to 44s. each. There was very little demand for horses, the bulk of which were unsold.

Sale of Jersey Cattle at Bletchley.

Messrs. John Thornton and Co. conducted a sale of Jerseys at Bletchley on Friday, the 18th inst., to which several of the best breeders of these well-known Island cattle contributed. The day was most unpropitious, heavy rain falling throughout the afternoon, but as will be seen by the sale list below, some good prices were realised, an £18 average being obtained for nearly ninety lots.

COWS AND HEIFERS.

		Gs.
Maitland's Busy Body (Exors of Mr. E. Bond)	Mrs Brierley	21
Begum (Mrs Dauncey)	Mr E Upton	33
Grace (Mrs Dauncey)	Hon C W Bampfylde	36
Dahlia (Mr Bevan)	Mr E Upton	30

	Gs
Pontorson 9th (Bishop Fisher) Mr F R Bathurst	26
Duchess Leonie (Mr W M Cazalet) Mr F Freeman Thomas	22
Larkspur (Mrs Peel) Hon C W Bampfylde	38
Sequoia (Messrs C and M Palmer) Hon C W Bampfylde	26
Melvina 9th (The Ladies Hope) Mr R Bruce Ward	46
Lady Marian 2nd (Mr W J Alexander) Mr A Shuttleworth	22
Wonderland (Mr Butt Miller) Mr H C Smith	38
Bowsprit's Rosie (Mr W J Alexander) Mr F R Bathurst	22
Pansy (Mrs Peel) Sir J Luscombe	22
Merry Girl (Mr Butt Miller) Hon C W Bampfylde	39
Diamond (The Ladies Hope) Hon C W Bampfylde	40
Chesnut 5th (Bishop Fisher) Mr R J Streatfeild	23
Bessie Linda (Mr W J Alexander) Mr H S Leon	35
Amethyst (Mr Butt Miller) Mr P. S Danby	30
Free Trade (Mrs Watson Kennedy) Mr E Upton	30
Hopeful (Mrs Watson-Kennedy) Mr E Upton	28
Brownie (Marquis of Winchester) Mr C H G Harrison	28
Wench 2nd (Marquis of Winchester) Mr C H G Harrison	30
BULLS.	
Trojan (Lady de Rothschild) Hon C W Bampfylde	42
Goddington Orange Peel (Mrs Peel) Mr C S W Reeve	27
Merry Sunshine (Marquis of Winchester) Mr W Reed	25

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
79 Calves	17 13 5	1,395 19 6
7 Bulls	21 3 0	148 1 0
86 head	18 0 0	1,544 0 6

Sale of Store Cattle at Dublin.

One of the most successful of a series of sales held during this autumn at Dublin took place on the 17th inst., when the catalogue totalled almost 1,500 head consigned direct from breeders and graziers, and represented a very large entry of Polly bullocks, also a large number of Aberdeen-Angus cross and Hereford cross bullocks as well as Horned bullocks and heifers, all in forward condition and many suitable for short keep. There were also several lots of choice-bred yearlings.

Although the late harvest prevented a number of cross-Channel patrons from attending, a fairly representative company of buyers turned up, and trade ruled buoyant for cattle of good class and quality. Most of the Pollies and a number of the Aberdeen-Angus yearlings were bought by Scotch feeders, while home feeders purchased most of the Horned bullocks, a large number of heifers being bought for the Isle of Man.

The following are a few of the prices realised:—Polly bullocks from £7 17s. 6d. to £15 17s. 6d., Aberdeen-Angus bullocks from £10 15s. to £15, Aberdeen-Angus heifers from £8 12s. 6d. to £15, Shorthorn bullocks from £7 10s. to £14 17s. 6d., Shorthorn heifers from £7 10s. to £12 5s., Aberdeen-Angus yearlings from £6 17s. 6d. to £9, Shorthorn yearlings from £4 10s. to £9.

Sale of Stenigot Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns.

Further evidence of the increasing popularity of Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns was given by the good prices realised on Thursday at a sale of animals from Mr. R. Chatterton's well-known Stenigot herd. Altogether 65 cows, heifers, and bulls were sold for £2,808 4s. 6d., or an average of £43 4s. apiece, the eight bulls averaging £55 15s. 7d., and the 57 females £41 8s. 9d. per head. Stenigot Duchess Beau, the first prize two-year-old bull at the Royal Show at Lincoln this year, was knocked down to Mr. D. Frame, for export to South Africa, at 99 guineas, after keen competition with Mr. E. Ashley, Godmanchester, and Mr. J. F. Locking, Weelsby, but Mr. Ashley managed to secure King Cowslip at 72 guineas. Flower Chief goes into Derbyshire to Mr. Swanston's, at 52 guineas, and Birthday to Mr. W. B. Swallow's at 40 guineas, while another fine bull named Welcome Chief was bought for South Africa by Mr. Eustace Barlow, at 62 guineas.

The twenty-one cows with heifer calves averaged £50 8s., Stenigot Gwynne 16th going to Mr. George Marris, Kirmington, at 48 guineas, and her calf, by Ashbed Red 2nd, to Mr. G. Langdale, Market Stainton, at 36 guineas. Cows with bull calves numbered fourteen, and these averaged £51 14s., Steingot Flower 23rd falling to Mr. Turnor, Oadby, Leicester, at 40 guineas, and the bull calf, Rose Knight, to Mr. George Langdale, at 42 guineas; Violet 8th and her calf made 64 guineas; and the Duchess 10th 61 guineas. The pick of the ten two-year heifers was Stenigot Daisy 21st, who went into Mr. George Marris's herd at 44 guineas, while Mr. W. B. Swallow, Wootton, gave 38 guineas for Daisy 22nd. These heifers averaged £30 3s., and the twelve yearlings £23 2s., Mr. T. B. Wilkinson, Edwinstowe, giving 30 guineas for Queen 9th, and Mr. J. Thompson, East Keal, 31 guineas for Buttercup 17th.

Mrs. Maitland Spencer's Jerseys.

In consequence of the farm having been given up the herd of pure-bred Jersey cattle, belonging to Mrs. Maitland Spencer, of Hillylands, near Bath, was disposed of by auction on Tuesday in the presence of a fair company of breeders. The prices only ranged up to 31 guineas, and the average per head for the thirty-three sold was £15 13s. 1d. Capt. Spicer bought Portia at 31 guineas, and Dorothea 3rd at 21 guineas. Lord Roberts gave 29 guineas for Phœbe, Mr. T. Holford the same amount for Oxford Dame. Beautiful went to Mr. A. O. Shuttleworth at 28 guineas, whilst Mr. J. Brutton gave 26 guineas for Irish Lass. Other prices ranged up to 21 guineas.

Sale of the Kingsland Herefords.

One of the most successful sales of Herefords this season took place on Tuesday, when the pure-bred herd established by the late Dr. Hamlen Williams was disposed of at St. Mary's, Kingsland, near Leominster. The animals numbered over a hundred, of which thirty-five were calves, so that the average of £32 11s. per head obtained for them must have been highly satisfactory to Mrs. Hamlen Williams, who has carried on the herd with so much success, a fact proved by her winnings at shows during the past two years, these including thirteen firsts, fourteen seconds, and six thirds, the greater number of these being gained by quartettes of cows with their calves, two-year-old and yearling heifers, and yearling steers.

The sale was well attended, and, as has been gathered from the good average realised, the demand was keen throughout. Mr. D. A. Thomas, M.P., paid the top price of the sale, viz, 130 guineas, for the two-year-old heifer Carnation, winner of second prize at the Ludlow and Leominster Shows this year; whilst the next best price was 100 guineas, given by Mr. T. R. Thompson, Penarth, for Silkweed, a splendid cow, which has won amongst other prizes first at both the Royal and Bath and West Shows. These were the only three-figure prices, the nearest approach being 75 guineas for the two-year-old Reefer Lovisine, Mr. T. R. Thompson being the buyer. Appended is a list of the other sales at 30 guineas and over.

COWS AND CALVES.—San Toy, Mr. de F Pennefather, Kinnersley, 36 gs.; her bull calf, Chinaman, Mr. A. Tanner, Shrawardine, 51 gs.; Silene, Mr. T. R. Thompson, Penarth, 33 gs.; Silkweed, Mr. T. R. Thompson, 100 gs.; her heifer calf, Mr. George Firkins, 29 gs.; Aurania, Mr. T. R. Thompson, 60 gs.; Trilby, Lady Boughton, 72 gs.; Pretty Maid 7th, Mr. H. Dent, Perton, 33 gs.; Prunella, Mr. de F. Pennefather, 33 gs.; Pinky 8th, Mr. W. Whiteman, Leominster, 34 gs.; Silver Queen, Mr. Price, Cwmhir, 30 gs.; her bull calf, Mr. Walpole, Ireland, 29 gs.; Sultana 3rd, Mr. P. E. Bradstock, Yarkhill, 34 gs.; Her bull calf, Mr. J. L. Hall, Lulham, 34 gs.; Delta, Mr. J. Bowkett, Kingsland, 30 gs.; Gipsycraft, Mr. J. W. Smith, Thinghill, 30 gs.; Phyllis, Mr. G. A. Denny, Yarsop, 32 gs.; Guitar, Mr. D. A. Thomas, M.P., Llanwern, Newport, 50 gs.; Her bull calf, Mr. James Smith, Monkton, 40 gs.; Clematis, Mr. D. A. Thomas, M.P., 50 gs.; Bridesmaid, Mr. Williams, Cowbridge, 36 gs.; Her heifer calf, Mr. H. Weston, Much Marcle, 27 gs.; Royal Maid, Mr. T. R. Thompson, 51 gs.; Princess, Mr. T. S. Minton, Montford, 41 gs.; Susie, Mr. George Firkins, 33 gs.; Her bull calf, Mr. R. Phipps, Buckenhill, Bromyard, 27 gs.; Fairfield Pink, five-year-old, Mr. A. P. Turner, The Leen, 35 gs.; Argent, Mr. Shuker, Presteign, 31 gs.; Her bull calf, Mr. Jones, Cwmhiley, Rhayader, 31 gs.; Coalport, Mr. Sidney S. Smith, Yarkhill, 33 gs.; Peggy, Mr. H. A. Christy, Brecon, 70.

TWO-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.—Lovisine, Mr. T. R. Thompson, 75 gs.; Filigree, Mr. Marshall, Sarnesfield, 40 gs.; Hilda, Mr. H. A. Christy, 70 gs.; Geraldine, Mr. Marshall, 32 gs.; Hawthorne, Lady Boughton, 40 gs.; Sister Sue, Mr. George Firkins, 40 gs.; Plush, Mr. A. E. Hill, Eggleton Court, Ledbury, 35 gs.; Thelma, Mr. Jenkins, Westhide, 32 gs.; Carnation, Mr. D. A. Thomas, M.P., 130 gs.; Lilac, Mr. D. A. Thomas, M.P., 42 gs; Winifred, Messrs. Newman, Bros., Wickton, 31 gs.; Penelope, Mr. Price, Cwm Hir, 30 gs.; Songstress, Mr. Percy Bradstock, Tarrington, Ledbury, 32.

YEARLING HEIFERS. — Mandoline, Mr. Morris, Gwernygol, 35 gs.; Fortune Teller, Messrs. P. and G. Hughes, Crewe, 71 gs.; Rose, Messrs. P. and G. Hughes, 60 gs.; Delia, Mr. D. A. Thomas, M.P., 30 gs.; Susannah, Mr. T. R. Thompson, 40 gs.

BULLS.—Field Marshal, Mr. W. H. B. Cave, Monkland, 60 gs.; Best Man, Mr. Cooper, Kyre, Tenbury, 40 gs.; Simon, Mr. Bach, White House, Onibury, 62 gs.

Not "Overstocked."

There was a very large gathering of agriculturists and others interested during the hearing at Stokesley Petty Sessions on Saturday, the 19th, of summonses against Mr. Thomas Petch, farmer, of Little Ayton, at the instance of Inspector Cape, of the R.S.P.C.A. (of Darlington), for the alleged overstocking of three cows which he had purchased at Stokesley Auction Mart on September 30.

Mr. G. H. Watson (Messrs. G. Newby Watson and Son, of Darlington) appeared for the complainant, and the defendant was represented by Mr. E. Wooler, on behalf of the Darlington F.P.A.

At the outset Mr. Wooler took objection that the defendant was charged with three offences on one summons, and the complainant must elect on which of the three he would proceed. After legal arguments, two charges were struck out, and the complainant proceeded with one is respect of a cow numbered Lot 102 in the catalogue of sale.

Police-Inspector Side stated that he was at the Auction Mart, and saw the cow in question. It was overstocked with milk. He afterwards saw the defendant's driver driving it home. The udder was distended and the teats projecting at a sharp angle from it. Mr. Smith, veterinary surgeon, of Stokesley, said that the animal must have been inconvenienced, and probably suffered pain.

The defence was that Mr. Petch was a large farmer in the district, and was not likely to do anything to injure his own stock; that the animal was not overstocked; and that if anyone ought to have been summoned, it was the vendor. Mr. Petch paid for the cow when it was knocked down to him, and at once ordered its removal.

A number of witnesses were called to prove that the animal was not overstocked, and the Bench dismissed the case. Summonses against the vendors for overstocking the three cows were then withdrawn.

An American Appreciation of the South Devon Cow.

Mr. J. E. Wing, who has been visiting Great Britain during the past summer, and has visited nearly all parts of the country, was much impressed with the excellence of the South Devon cattle. It is wonderful, says Mr. Wing, that the South Devons have not been introduced into America. They are very large cattle, the largest shown at the Royal Show. They are red, of a yellowish tinge, fairly smooth, very good beef cattle, easily fattened, reaching enormous weights sometimes, a bull at the late Royal show weighing 3,136 lbs., and heavier ones were left in Devon. There had been killed a bull recently weighing dressed above 1,900 lb., if I remember correctly. The cows are gentle, having good udders and teats, are large milkers. In 1904 a South Devon cow won the championship at the National Dairy Show. In 1906 in the butter test at that show the South Devon class of cows produced the highest average points of any breed. The breeders have now a herd book and 250 members, and are doing much to improve the form and promote uniformity in the breed. It is probable that many years ago there was an infusion of Guernsey blood put into the Devon veins. This with selection and good environments has made the present breed.

A Farmers' Dinner at Oswestry.

The Molassine Company (1907), Ltd., recently entertained a large number of agriculturists—the majority of them buyers of molassine—to an excellent banquet at Oswestry. Mr. John Prosser, manager of the company, occupied the chair, and in rising to respond to the toast of "Success to the Molassine Company," was accorded a warm reception. He said he thought it was very flattering to a company like theirs that they should have been able to gather round that table such a representative company. This was his first official visit to Oswestry, and he hoped it would not be his last. He had several times been asked why they called their friends together in that way. Indeed, when in Scotland last year, a chemist asked him whether it would not be better to reduce the price of molassine meal instead of giving these dinners. He (the chairman) told him what their turnover was, and when he assured him that sixpence a ton on their turnover provided all the dinners which they gave in the course of a year, he seemed amazed. While he was glad to inform them that they were doing extremely well with their sales, he wished to acknowledge that it was in great measure due to their customers who, realising when they had a good thing, stuck to them instead of forsaking them; and thus it was that instead of distributing this sixpence on the tonnage among their shareholders, they were encouraged to share it with them in that way. Indeed, he did not know a

better mode of meeting than around the dinner table. Many a dispute had been settled over a mutton chop, and he oftentimes thought that if they used the dinner-table more and the law courts less people would get on a great deal better than they did

Proceeding, Mr. Prosser remarked that there were all sorts of misconceptions abroad as to what Molassine Meal really was and what it did; but before he proceeded to clear the air of these he would like to say, inasmuch as they had been good enough to drink success to his Company, and in that way wish for increased sales of their meal, that their wish was, without a shadow of a doubt, already being realised. They had only been in existence some six years; yet in that time they had got together an enormous business, having its ramifications in every part of the United Kingdom. Apart from that, they were sending their meal by the ship load to America, to Canada; indeed, to all parts of the civilised world. Naturally, there must be some reason for success such as this, and he thought the explanation was to be found in their having put on the market an article not only of merit, but also of considerable worth—a food for all classes of live stock superior to anything ever produced before. Now, this article, when first introduced, was not put on for experimental purposes. It had been tried on hundreds of farms before it was commended to the British public. For a hundred years and more it had been recognised that molasses, the chief constituent of which was sugar, were good for animals, and yet it was not given them in any quantity. The explanation of this was two-fold; one was the difficulty in getting animals to take them, and the other was the danger which would arise from the use of molasses in large quantities, owing to the potash salts which it contained giving rise to diarrhœa. To meet these difficulties all sorts of experiments were tried. Oats, bran meal, and other things were mixed with molasses in the ground state in order to get them into the animal's stomach. All proved unsuccessful. Afterwards, a special kind of moss was tried, and that was the bugbear of their trade at the present time. People argued that it was a good thing to put under a horse but not inside him; beyond that, they tried to make them believe that this was the stuff they used in the manufacture of their meal. Now, there was no mystery at all about what they used. It was a species of moss—and the sample he held in his hand was exactly the moss they used; and it was used first because it was a fine absorbent—it absorbed the molasses better than anything hitherto discovered—and, secondly, because it contained a certain acid which, when it came into contact with the molasses, changed it. Indeed, it had so definite an effect on the potash salts that, instead of those salts remaining in the stomach and doing mischief, they passed away in the excreta.

Now, what were the objections to Molassine Meal? Why was it that, with such evidence as they could produce with regard to its worth and value, they sent out travellers to seek their orders? The answer was a simple one, because there was so much prejudice against its use. First of all, there was an objection against its appearance. He had come across many well-known breeders who had said, "Fancy giving my animals this!" When they commenced business it was not unusual for them to receive letters like this:—"Dear Sir,—I ordered 5 tons of Molassine Meal; you appear to have sent 5 tons of manure instead. Please fetch it from the station." Such a man, accustomed to giving his horses the best oats and beans that money would buy, was thunderstruck when advised to feed his animals with this. Let him say at once that Molassine Meal was not sold by reason of its appearance, but by reason of its merits.

Then there was some objection to its composition. As he had already made clear to them, it was simply composed of Molasses and moss, and he hoped he had destroyed the excuse for this objection by what he had said before. Still, there was far more virtue in this moss than many people seemed to realise. They knew very well that worms only lived in filth! Now, such was the healthy condition which Molassine Meal created in the stomach of the animals fed upon it, that parasites and worms could not live in it, and that had been proved over and over again by the users of the Meal.

Another objection raised was the so-called absence of analyses. Some people thought they did not show such a large analysis as did other foods. After all, while they believed in analysis, analyses were sometimes prone to be a little misleading. He was once talking to a prominent dairyman, who said he cared more for experience than he did for analysis. The best analysis was afforded by the cow's stomach, and if by giving a food, he said, he could get milk of greater quality and quantity, then he did not care what kind of analysis was produced.

Then there was another misconception about their meal, and that was that it was a condiment. This was a mistake, and he begged them to understand that it was a food, which could be used instead of oats, beans, or cakes, and that it could be given to all kinds of animals.

He had one more word to add about their food, and that was to point out that it was of British manufacture, that there was nothing imported about it, that it was manufactured for them by the well-known firm of Henry Tate and Sons, of Liverpool and London, a firm which would never have lent their name to the food were they not satisfied that it was above suspicion. All he asked of them was to give it a trial, and if they did that he was sure they would like it, would continue to use it, would talk about it and would recommend it.

Some time ago he was told that one of their customers made a request to his friends that when he was dead and his body was placed in its coffin they would cover it with Molassine meal, and when asked why he made this strange request, he replied that he did so because he knew from experience that it was the best preventive against worms.

Concluding, Mr. Prosser again thanked them for their presence, and expressed the wish, that, while he hoped to see them all again on some future occasion, in the meantime they would have the pleasure of doing a big trade with them, one which would be continued for many years to come.

AUCTION SALES.

Auctioneers will favour us by sending in their advertisements as early in the week as possible.

Charges for announcements under this heading Six Shillings an inch.

By Messrs. IRELAND.

Norwich, Norfolk.—Ireland's Norwich Hill Auction Mart (established 50 years). Every Saturday. Fat Bullocks and Sheep, Store Sheep. Special Spring and Autumn Store Cattle Sales.

MESSRS. IRELAND solicit consignments for these important weekly sales; best market value assured.

Cattle consigned to Ireland's, Norwich, will be properly fed and carefully attended to.

All cattle weighed upon entry to the sale ring if desired. Full particulars to be sent to—

IRELAND'S, Auctioneers.

Norwich, Norfolk.

By Messrs. WATERS & RAWLENCE.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1907.

THE BUTTS, SALISBURY.

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL SPECIAL AUTUMN SALE.

MESSRS. WATERS & RAWLENCE will hold their Annual AUTUMN SALE of SHEEP and CATTLE, on the above date, at 11.30 o'clock. Present entries comprise: 7,000 EWE AND WETHER LAMBS AND EWES, including many fat Hampshire Down Lambs, ripe for the butcher.

Catalogues of the AUCTIONEERS, Salisbury.

By Messrs. STRIDE & SON.

MADAMS, SCOTLAND, UPPER AND LOWER NORTH PARK FARMS, MIDHURST, SUSSEX.

(About 3 miles from Midhurst Station, L.B. and S.C. Ry. and L. and S.W. Ry., and 6 miles from Haslemere Station, L. and S.W. Ry.).

HIGHLY IMPORTANT UNRESERVED SALE of the LIVE AND DEAD FARMING STOCK, including the pure-bred registered Southdown Flock, Pedigree BERKSHIRE PIGS, CART HORSES, SHORTHORN CATTLE, and a very large assortment of nearly new Implements, Machinery and Tools.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8th NEXT, 1907.

MESSRS. STRIDE & SON are in receipt of instructions from D. J. NEAME, Esq., who is relinquishing farming, to SELL by AUCTION, without reserve, at MADAMS FARM, on the above date, the whole of the VERY VALUABLE LIVE AND DEAD FARMING STOCK, comprising the PURE-BRED REGISTERED SOUTHDOWN FLOCK of about 470 EWES in regular flock ages (Ram turned out Sept 10th) as follows:—

43 SHEARLING EWES,
30 FOUR-TEETH EWES,
30 SIX-TEETH EWES,
90 FULL-MOUTH EWES,
80 EWE LAMBS,
159 WETHER LAMBS,
8 RAMS AND RAM LAMBS, 7 TEGS and 9 TWO-TEETH WETHERS, being prepared for Christmas showing; also 71 FOUR-TEETH WELSH WETHERS, nearly fit to kill.
13 Young, UPSTANDING, POWERFUL CART HORSES, ranging from 5 to 6 years old, suitable for Road or Town work.
12 PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE SOWS (with and in pig) and BOARS.
3 CROSS-BRED (Berkshire and Sussex) SOWS in pig.
20 cross-bred (Berkshire and Sussex) BACON HOGS.

About 30 HEAD OF SHORTHORN CATTLE, including 16 home-bred fifteen-months Heifers and 10 Fat Shorthorn Steers.

300 HEAD OF POULTRY, 30 DUCKS AND 3 GEESE.

Together with the very large and varied ASSORTMENT OF NEARLY NEW AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, MACHINERY AND TOOLS.

Sale to commence at ELEVEN o'clock.

Refreshments obtainable on the premises.

Conveyances will meet trains at Midhurst and Haslemere Stations to carry passengers to the sale at a charge of 1s. per head.

Commissions carefully executed.

Catalogues of the AUCTIONEERS, STRIDE AND SON, CHICHESTER.

By Mr. E. C. HOTHERSALL, F.A.I.

IMPORTANT AND UNRESERVED SALE OF PEDIGREE LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRE PIGS.

Mr. John Blundell, of Lower Burrow Farm, Scotforth, near Lancaster, in conjunction with C. J. Tong, Esq., of Hambleton, near Poulton-le-Fylde, have instructed

MR. E. C. HOTHERSALL, F.A.I., to SELL by AUCTION on WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, at Lower Burrow Farm, Scotforth, near Lancaster, the entire Herd of Prize-winning Pedigree Pigs, numbering 95 Head, principally choice Young Sows due to farrow in early Spring, and a quantity of Boars including the Prize Boar, Shard Roger, 8725, a winner of numerous First Prizes, and the Grand Stock Boar, Jester, of Nottingham, 9923.

Luncheon at 11.30., Sale at 1.

Catalogues from the Owners, or E. C. HOTHERSALL, Auctioneer and Valuer, Auction Mart, Preston.

By Messrs. BARBER & SON.

WELLINGTON, SHROPSHIRE.

BARBER & SON'S GREAT STORE STOCK SALES.

THURSDAY NEXT, OCTOBER 31, 1907.

1200 CATTLE,

consisting of many special entries reserved for this sale, of HEREFORDS, SHORTHORNS and CROSS-BRED BULLOCKS and HEIFERS, many three-quarter fat, fit for going into yards at once.

Special consignments of

400 IRISH CATTLE.

Several lots weighing 11 cwts., suitable for finishing for Christmas, including Aberdeen-Angus cross, Blue-greys, Shorthorn and Hereford cross bullocks and heifers, from the Marquis of Sligo, Charles Phibbs, Esq., R. G. Robinson, Esq., Messrs. Murphy, Smith, and others; the greater portion for absolute unreserved sale.

Sale at 12.30.

Commissions carefully executed.

All cattle weighed in view of bidders.

Auction Offices:
Wellington, Shropshire.

Earl Carrington, President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, visited the fish market at Hull on Monday, and at a subsequent meeting, replying to an appeal for a separate department in the interests of the trade, said he acknowledged that, with its wonderful growth, with the necessity for prompt action in dealing with its affairs, there was a great deal to be said in favour of the fishery department being a separate department of the State, and his first duty on his return to London would be to lay their request before Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman. The demand for a separate department wts simply made with the object of developing the fishing trade to its utmost capacity, and to do this would require the individula services of a Minister.

HORSES.

The Horned Horse—A Cleveland Bay Market—The Japanese and Horse-Breeding—An Open Mind—The Lesson—The Origin of the Cleveland Bay—The Forest Horse—The Royal Commission.

The Horned Horse.

SOME weeks ago I drew attention to a horned horse which is in the possession of Messrs. Southall Brothers and Barclay, Ltd. I have now got the pedigree of that horse so far as it is known. He is by Crofton Compensation 15566, a Shire horse that was bred by Mr. Samuel Beckett Chadwick, of Runcorn, Cheshire, and that was by St. Pancras 13544—16952 Mab by Timon 5394. The dam of the horned horse is described by his breeder, who hails from Launceston, as being a "breedy mare," but her pedigree was unknown. It would be interesting to know if she is descended from any of those forest ponies of which there are so many in the West. It is not unlikely, and as they are of long descent and are very closely allied to Eastern blood—practically having the same tap root—it is probably from some ancestor of one of these breeds that the horns are derived. Horned horses have by no means been uncommon, as Darwin points out, and in the "Natural History of the Quadrupeds of Paraguay," by Azara, quoted by Professor Ridgeway, it is stated that two horses in South America had hornlike projections between three or four inches in length. But however common hornlike projections may have been, or may be, and they are common enough for most writers on horses to cite instances, the cases quoted have all been, so far as I am aware, of well-bred horses, that is, of horses bred on what may be termed thoroughbred lines. This is the first instance that has come to my knowledge of a half-bred horse—a horse with carting blood in his veins—having any horn-like projections, nor do I remember hearing of the skull of a Shire or Clydesdale showing traces of rudimentary horns.

A Cleveland Bay Market.

AMONGST purchasers of Cleveland Bays the Japanese are now to be counted, and quite recently three good Cleveland Bay stallions have been purchased and sent to Japan. So far as I know, and I have a pretty close knowledge of the Cleveland Bay trade for upwards of twenty-three years, this is the first time that a Cleveland Bay has gone to that country.

The Japanese and Horse Breeding.

THE Japanese have not been great horse breeders, and their lack of adequate cavalry in the Russo-Japanese war was one of the marked features of that gigantic contest. The Japanese horses are undersized—ponies, in fact—and though they may probably possess several good properties, they are looked upon as very inferior animals by those whose writings on the subject I have come across. The new departure on the part of the Japanese is really of more importance than on first sight appears. It should be needless to insist upon the thoroughly practical, common-sense methods of the Japanese. They have adopted Western civilisation and modern inventions in a remarkable way. They have no sentimental regards for old-fashioned European methods. The romance and traditions which cling round the horse in England are as nothing to them. To them such names as Eclipse, or Herod, or Matchem are not names to conjure with. To the average Japanese I should say that they convey no concrete mean. Traditions of "Tantivy Trot" awake no pleasing memories of a means of travelling, which if not very rapid, was at any rate picturesque. Ramsdale's Performer, the very mention of whom will make the Market Weighton men thrill, to them is a mere figment.

An Open Mind.

HERE then is a people who have a perfectly open mind as to horses and mechanical means of locomotion. They are also so eminently practical that they are not likely to look at anything which comes from the West except from one standpoint—that of practical utility to the people of Japan. If the cry of the motor fanatic that the motor car will oust the horse before very long has anything in it, here in Japan, one would think, would be first seen demonstrated the uselessness of the horse. But Japan is setting herself seriously to work to breed horses, and, having examined well the various breeds, they have selected the Cleveland Bay as a foundation. No Yorkshire Coach Horse would do for them, or no Hackney; they were not to be led away by the caprices of fashion. Cleveland Bays of good pedigree were what they wanted for a foundation. Let the rest come after.

The Lesson.

WE may well take a lesson from our allies of the Eastern seas. They have recognised the value of a breed which it has been the fashion in England to neglect of late years, even by those who should have known better. There was a chance a few years ago of increasing the number of high-class Cleveland mares, and of keeping them in the country. But the chance was neglected. Many many years ago, when there was a "slump" in Cleveland Bays, ship loads of high-class mares were sold at starvation prices, £30 each and even under, and we are paying big prices for the descendants of those mares as carriage horses at the present day; carriage horses, mark you, that are nothing like so good as we should have bred here if we had had the sense to keep those mares at home. There are plenty of useful mares yet to make a foundation, if the supply is used with intelligence, and in a few years we might have a body of brood mares in the country which would bring horse breeding once more into the position which it occupied once as a national history.

The Origin of the Cleveland Bay.

PROFESSOR J. COSSAR EWART in his able "History of the Origin of the Domestic Horse," inclines to the theory I have always held, viz., that the Cleveland Bay is the result of a cross between the Barb and the native mares of Yorkshire. Professor Ewart calls these the cart mares of Yorkshire, but he means something other than mares of the Shire type. He points out that these cart mares were very probably "fairly typical members of the Forest variety," which is a distinct family of prehistoric horses, the existence of which has only recently been thoroughly established. Then he goes on to say that the probability of this origin "is suggested by the fact that at one time Cleveland Bays had, as a rule, a distinct dorsal band, and because in the offspring of Broadfaced mares and Barbs the face is usually long." It is curious that science and tradition should be at one upon such a difficult subject as the origin and breed of horses.

The Forest Horse.

PROFESSOR COSSAR EWART'S description of the Forest horse is worth reproducing. Says he: "The head is short and broad, and (partly owing to the position of the eyes) the distance between the eyes and the nostrils is relatively short — shorter even than in the Plateau variety; the ears, broad but not long, are wide apart, but not far back as in the Steppe horse. The eyebrows sometimes project beyond the level of the somewhat concave forehead, and the outline of the face for some distance beyond the level of the eyes is concave, but about midway between the eyes and the nostril it becomes convex. . . . The neck is short and thick and often greatly arched, but while in the Steppe horse the body is short, the back nearly straight and the croup nearly level, in the Forest horse the stout body (mounted on short strong legs) is very long, the back hollow, and the outline from the highest point of the croup to the beginning of the second thigh in the form of a half circle, from near the centre of which projects the low set-on tail. Between the loins and the root of the tail the dorsal band lies in a shallow groove. . . . In the short-headed Forest horse the withers are thick and flat. In the fore limb one especially notices the short upright pastern, thick fetlock joint, wide shank, broad knee, tied-in elbow, and that the arm is short and the shoulder blade nearly upright; the hind legs agree with the fore limbs in the pastern and fetlock joints; the hocks are inclined to be straight and wide apart, and the feebly-developed gaskins are abruptly separated from the thighs. As might be expected in a forest form, the action is free and high, but neither at the trot nor the gallop is a great speed attained, As the conformation leads one to anticipate, the Forest horse is only adapted for covering short distances at its fastest paces." Something descended from this type might well make a foundation for the Cleveland Bay when crossed with something smarter in the shape of the Libyan horse.

The Royal Commission.

SPEAKING at Scarborough the other day, Lord Carrington said that many practical farmers were disappointed with the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding and its work, that at the Conference on Horse Breeding many men had made long speeches but no suggestions, and then he suggested that the question of horse breeding would perhaps be better handed over to a responsible Minister. Lord Carrington's ill-disguised sneers are unfair. I have in the past more than once considered it my duty to criticise the actions of the Royal Commission, and it is more than likely that I may have to do so again. But the Commission is composed of practical men who have done a lot of good considering the wretched pittance which has been doled out to them. As for there being no suggestions made at the conference, but requests for more money, what suggestions, in the name of wonder, can be made when such a meagre sum as £4,200 per annum is all that is likely to be at the disposal of the Royal Commission? The Royal Commission does its work quite as well as any Government department can be expected to do—in all probablity a great deal better; and it certainly does not make so much noise about it. After all, successful horse-breeding, which is the only horse-breeding worth consideration, is a matter of individual intelligence, and that a Government department has a monopoly of intelligence I have yet to learn.

THE LOOKER ON.

Sale of Shire Horses at Bardon Hill.

Some capital prices were obtained at the sale of Shire horses at Bardon Hill, Leicestershire, on Wednesday, when just over sixty Shire mares, fillies, and stallions belonging to Mr. W. T. Everard and Mr. M. Hubbard, were brought under the hammer. They included all the recent prize-winning mares and fillies of both owners, and were mostly by or in-foal to that noted sire Lockinge Forest King or his sons, and it was for his stock that the best demand was experienced, though bidding was brisk throughout, with the result that Mr. Everard got an average per head of £137 15s. for his animals, whilst Mr. Hubbard's average was £86 18s.

A list of the chief lots sold, purchasers' names, &c., is given below, so we need not refer in detail to the various sales, but would mention that three-figure prices were quite common, Mr. Everard securing no fewer than a dozen, whilst Mr. Hubbard's record was seven. Mr. Everard paid the top price of the sale, viz., 610 guineas for Mr. Hubbard's three-year-old stallion, Ivy Forest Chief, by Lockinge Forest King, the next best figure being 440 guineas for another of this sire's stock, viz., Mr. Everard's three-year-old filly Easenhall Shamrock, the purchaser being Mr. Hamer Towgood.

MR W T EVERARD'S.

THREE-YEAR-OLD FILLIES. Gs

Bardon Alberta, s Lockinge Forest King — Mr Morris 130
Lavinia, s Lockinge Forest King — Lord Rothschild 210
Easenhall Shamrock, s Lockinge Forest King — Mr Hamer Towgood 440

TWO-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.

Ashleigh Royal Duchess, s Lockinge Forest King — Mr Whitley 480
Ruddington Glory, s Boro' Conqueror II — Mr Freckleton 70
Maori Diamond, s Lockinge Forest King — Mr J Brooks 96

YEARLING FILLIES.

Bardon Flower of the Forest, s Lockinge Forest King — Mr F E Muntz 230
Falterton Heather Bell, s Lockinge Forest King — Mr Smith Carington 220
Newton Solney Countess, s Dunsmore Jameson — Mr F E Muntz 92

YEARLING COLTS.

Bardon Swell, s Watnall Warrior — Miss Talbot 115
Bardon Tickler, s Lockinge Forest King — Mr F E Muntz 210
Bardon Monarch, s Lockinge Forest King — Mr Hudson 78
Bardon Salopian, s Markeaton Ransom — Mr Kington 56

FOUR-YEAR-OLD MARE.

Bardon Gertrude, s Lockinge Albert — Mr Blacker 70

BROOD MARES AND FOALS.

Bardon Dorothy, f 1903, s Lockinge Manners — Mr Humphreys 56
Bay filly foal by Ivy Jubilee Harold — Mr C E de Trafford 41
Bardon Louisa, s Bardon Harold — Mr Conchar 165
Bay colt foal by Lockinge Forest King — M De Hoz 170
Bardon Merry Lass, s Bardon Harold — Mr Nicholson 310
Brown colt foal by Lunesdale Kingmaker — M De Hoz 82
Alfrida of Willington, s Vulcan — The Grantham Corporation 52
Rustic Princess, s Rustic Prince II — Mr Wild 76
Bay filly foal by Lockinge Forest King — Mr Porter 50
Bardon Lady, s First Lord — Mr Kearns 76
Bardon Hilda, s First Lord — Mr Kearns 210
Sweet Mary, s Calwich Heirloom — Mr T Horn 86
Rosebud, s Dunsmore Willington Boy — Mr Topham 60
Bardon Rose, s Harold — Mr Watters 54

MR MATTHEW HUBBARD'S

THREE-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.

Markeaton Graceful, s Lockinge Forest King — Mr F W Griffin 95
Ivy Buttercup, s Markeaton Royalty — Mr Waddington 53

TWO-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.

Ivy Forest May, s Lockinge Forest King — Mr Everard 110
Emily Belle, s Lockinge Manners — Mr Whitley 165

YEARLING COLTS.

Dreadnought, s Dunsmore Raider — Mr W Richardson 140
Ivy Victor Chief, s Intake Albert — Mr W Smith Carington 250

THREE YEAR-OLD STALLIONS.

Ivy Forest Chief, s Lockinge Forest King — Mr Everard 610

FOUR-YEAR-OLD MARES.

Hitchin Goldylocks, s Holker Conqueror — Mr S Grimes 105
Ivy Flower Girl, s Hendre Wonder — Mr Emberlin 50

BROOD MARES AND FOALS.

Ivy Darling, s Scalford Baron — Mr Heathcote 72
Gunthorpe Flower II, s Cotheridge Swell — Mr Wright 54
Brown filly foal, s Dunsmore Combination — Mr Buckmaster 40
Desford Belle, s Pride of Blagdon — Mr Graves 54
Waresley Dolly, s Castle Bromwich Keith — Grantham Corporation 56
Brown filly foal, s Redlynch Forest King — Mr Nicholson 66
Lowfield Violet, s Hendre Conqueror — Mr Handley 130

Good Prices for Hunters.

There was a very large attendance at the Leicester sale yard on the 19th inst, and capital prices all round were paid for Hunters. This was more especially the case with the draft sent from Lamport Grange by the executors of the late Major Jenkinson, the stud of eight aggregating 1,520 guineas, only a few shillings under £200 each. The top price, 240 guineas, was paid for Rascal, a six-year-old undocked gelding by Florin, and there was keen bidding for the possession of Villiers, a winner at the Pytchley Show at Althorp last season. He reached 230 guineas, and offers of 210 guineas and 200 guineas were accepted for Jeanette and Royalty respectively. The remaining lots from Lamport, with the prices paid for them, were:—Konig 175 guineas, New Boy 170 guineas, Swallow 150 guineas, and Rector 145 guineas.

Mr. E. Stanley Webb sold a five-year-old chestnut gelding by Peter Lobb for 120 guineas, and Robin Hood, a winner in the show ring, for 75 guineas; Mr. A. J. Cay's Miss Golightly was allowed to go at 70 guineas. The studs of Mr. Douglas Courage and Mr. H. E. Courage also sold very well, Jim reaching 130 guineas, Pilot 140 guineas, and Rufus 120 guineas, while Mr. Edmund Hodgson sold Paddy, well known in the Holderness country, for 140 guineas. An Irish-bred Hunter, Grey Lady, with which Mr. A. W. Hickling had been successful in the show ring, was cheap at 120 guineas, and of the remnant of the stud sent up by the executors of the late Mr. Edgar Lubbock Bridge and Token reached the highest prices. They were sold for 155 guineas and 120 guineas respectively.



The above illustration is of the Shire Gelding Kirby Muxloe Duke II., winner of First Prize in the Class for Four-year-old Geldings at the Shire Horse Society's Show this year. It was exhibited by Mr. F. S. Freckleton, Kirby Muxloe, Leicester, but was bred by Mr. D. Simpson, Crimbles Farm, Cockerham, Garstang, its sire being Horbling Harold, and its dam by Tartar II.

Hunters' Improvement Society.

Hunter Stud Book Rules.

One of the principal topics at the last meeting of the Council of the Hunters' Improvement Society was the report of the Special Committee appointed on April 11 to inquire into the operation of the rules relating to the admission of stallions into the Hunter Stud Book, and the extent to which the objects of the council had been realised. Mr. J. B. Kingscote, chairman of the Editing Committee, stated that that committee had considered the report at a previous meeting, and he added that the desideratum aimed at by the council when instituting a system of premiums for Hunter sires was to bring about the production of sires of weight, bone, and substance, with the necessary three crosses of Thoroughbred blood laid down by the council. The Special Committee found that after allowing for the Thoroughbred stallions registered under this scheme, and those Hunter stallions which had either died, been exported, castrated, &c., there were eighteen stallions registered which, *prima facie*, satisfied the requirements referred to. The Special Committee felt that the breeding from the produce of registered mares was proceeding slowly, and that some more expeditious method seemed to be needed, and that the attention of breeders might be usefully drawn to this aspect of an important matter.

Mr. Kingscote said that the feeling among the members of the Editing Committee was that the results quoted were as much as they could expect at the present stage, in view of the difficulties of giving effect to the objects aimed at by the council. There was a distinct and growing demand for these Hunter stallions from the colonies, and their experience was that the rules laid down for registration and entry in the Hunter Stud Book had proved to be correctly framed, but, owing to the apparent apathy of owners of mares, the registration of the produce—colts and fillies from registered mares—was not maintained, while in most cases colts that were registered were not kept entire, thereby defeating the object of the rules, viz., to insure the continuity of registration. Taking, therefore, all the circumstances into consideration, the committee recommended that the conditions for the next three volumes, 4, 5 and 6, should remain unaltered, with the exception that it would probably help registration if the society admitted foals to entry, and a number, with a slight amendment of Clause 3, that mares or their produce winning races under rules would be admitted to full registration. This report having been presented, a short discussion ensued, Sir Richard Green-Price bearing testimony to the efficacy of the rules of registration. Their difficulty was undoubtedly due to the apathy of breeders in entering up the produce of registered mares, and the indifference of the purchaser to the breeding of their horses. Their progress must of necessity be slow, and he thought it might be of some encouragement if they were to give a premium to four-year-old stallions bred on the lines advocated by the council.

Mr. Algernon Turnor thought that the crux of the matter was the expense of keeping the colts entire, a contingency difficult to obviate. He had endeavoured to meet that difficulty by his suggestion to form a syndicate. They might, however, take one step, and that was to impress upon the judges the importance of the class of horse aimed at; the undesirability of giving premiums to light horses which, while lacking purity of blood, had no advantage over the ordinary Thoroughbred country sire in the essential matter of weight and substance; the want so strongly felt by owners of light high-bred mares of a cross which would give bone and substance.

Captain H. Heywood Lonsdale, as an owner of a Hunter stallion, urged that the scheme must essentially take a long time. In the first place a three-quarter bred stallion had no reputation, except that of the showyard, while there was very little opportunity given to them when they had to compete against Thoroughbreds. Practically there was only the class given by the society at Islington, to which they also admitted the Thoroughbreds registered in the Society's Stud Book, and judges would naturally lean towards the quality horse.

Mr. Algernon Turnor moved, and Captain E. Pennell Elmhirst seconded, that the judges officiating upon the Hunter Stallion Class at Islington should have a copy of the report of the Special Committee, directing their attention to the points mentioned above. This resolution being accepted by the council, the report of the Editing Committee was then adopted.

Mr. Kingscote stated that the number of entries received for Vol. 3 of the Hunter Stud Book numbered over 500, and would include twenty-four stallions registered under the society's rules, and more than 480 mares. From entries specially submitted for the committee's consideration, three stallions and seven mares had been selected for registration, two others being remitted for inspection. The illustrations would include the two champion horses at the 1906 and 1907 shows—viz., King Edward and Fable, while the returns collated in respect of qualified stallions serving under the horsebreeding schemes covered the awards to 1,350 produce sired by 366 stallions.

The 1908 Show.

Mr. Owen C. Wallis, chairman of the Horse Show Committee, reported that the dates of the Spring Show in 1908 would be March 10, 11, and 12. The schedule had been carefully considered, together with suggestions from members and judges at the last show, and they recommended that no alteration should be introduced, with the one exception that in the produce class the sire of the group need not necessarily be alive at the time of entry. In view of the increased size of the ring, they proposed that the jumping competitions would be improved by the addition of a water jump; while the desirability of introducing high jumping would be further considered at their December meeting. Increased publicity of the show was also considered, and their recommendations submitted, while the catering arrangements made for members was also gone into with a view to improvement in this direction. The report of the committee was adopted.

Gold and Silver Medals.

The secretary presented his annual statement showing that thirty-four gold medals had been awarded to Hunter brood mares, twenty-six silver medals for fillies, thirty-five silver medals for mares and geldings at associated shows in addition to the six gold medals given by the society at the national shows.

It was resolved that the medals should again be offered under the same conditions as in force in 1907, those for brood mares and fillies to be awarded to the best animals actually registered or entered in the Hunter Stud Book at the time of the award, while the Royal Agricultural Society of England, the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, and the Royal Dublin Society, the council resolved to again offer medals under similar conditions to those awarded during the past season.

The council then adjourned till their meeting on Thursday, December 12.

If you want your hens to lay more eggs, give them a little Colman's Mustard in their morning meal.

See "The Field," Feb. 6, 1906.

It's a simple experiment and well worth trying.

For every six fowls take one teaspoonful of Colman's Mustard and mix with the dry meal before adding the water. It also keeps the hens in fine condition.

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DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

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HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL, Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

GRIFFIN, F. W., Boro' Fen, Peterboro'. Shire Stallions, Mares, and Fillies for sale, in natural condition; 40 pedigree mares kept for breeding; every facility to foreign buyers.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Hereford. Stud Horses: Lockinge Lord of Misrule and Lockinge Bonny Lad, both by Lockinge Forester, full brother to Lockinge Forest King. Colts and Fillies for Sale.

JOHNSON, WALTER, Hatfield, Doncaster. Stud Horse, Lambton King 16757; Stallions for hire; weighty young Stallions, Mares, and Fillies on Sale.

MUNTZ, FREDERICK ERNEST, Umberslade, Hockley Heath, Warwickshire. Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, prize-winners.—Particulars from Mr. JOHN T. B. HARTLEY, Estate Office.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby. — SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners, on Sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

PEARSON, E. E., Brickendonbury, Hertford. Shire Stallions, Mares and Stock for service and sale; prize winners. Stations: Hertford, Great Eastern and Great Northern.—Apply Estate Office, Brickendonbury, Hertford.

ROWELL, JOHN, Bury, Huntingdon. Breeder Shires and Hackneys; Stallions for sale, hire, or service at home; mares and fillies for sale.

WHITEHEAD, Robert, Fashionably bred mares and fillies in natural condition on Sale. Stallions, Bodenham King 17177, Whitestone Prince Alfred 22930.—Apply J. M. JOHNSTONE, Hargate Hall, Buxton. Station, and telegrams, Millers Dale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

BENSON, ALFRED, Upper Gatton Park, Merstham, Surrey. Hackney Stallions: Copper King 7764, reserve champion, London Hackney Shows, 1905 and 1906; yearling Colts and Fillies by Copper King and other well-known Stallions for sale. For particulars, pedigrees, &c., apply to T. Hyett.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

SMITH, THOMAS, Shirley Stud, Hall Green, Birmingham. Breeder of Pedigree Hackneys and Ponies. Owner Hackney Stallion, "Viscount Hopwood" 8686; Pony Stallions, "Pinderfields Horace" 7952, "Shirley King Horace" 9882. Prize winners on sale.

WHITWORTH, ROBERT, Warley Stud, Halifax, and Londesboro' Stud, Market Weighton. Hackney Stallions: Polonius, Edemynag, Beckingham Squire 8078. Hacknevs and Harness Horses always on sale. Matched pairs a specialitv.

PONIES.

BEALE, Mrs. A. J., Cacketts, Cudham, Kent. Prize-bred Pedigree Shetlands for sale; three grand Stallions at stud.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

BELL, CHARLES, Norley Hall, Norley, Cheshire. Shorthorn Bulls for sale, from Kirklevington, Red Rose, Barrington, and Cruick bank tribes. Telegrams "Norley"; railway stations, Acton Bridge and Delamere.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

MOSLEY, Sir OSWALD.—High-class Shorthorns. Home Farm, Rolleston Hall. Bulls and Heifers on sale. Apply A. E. Beck, Rolleston, Burton-on-Trent.

PREECE, JOHN ADNEY, Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston, Northampton. Herd of 250 Shorthorns, best Bates and Scotch blood; stock Bulls, Duke of Barrington 70th, Primrose Earl 83641, and Royal Baron 93492; Bulls and Heifers for sale.

CATTLE—*continued.*

SHORTHORNS—*continued.*

ROTHWELL, R. R., Much Hoole, near Preston. Pedigree Shorthorns, chiefly Scotch blood. Stock bull Strowan Marquis 13th, winner of many prizes. Young bulls and heifers always on sale.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

TAYLOR, GEORGE, Cranford, Middlesex.—Bates' Shorthorns, deep milkers. Winners Milking Competitions, London Dairy Show, 1905-6. Bull Calves for Sale. Stock Bulls: Beau Sabreur, Drumcree, Rowbury, and Kirkcharm.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

SUSSEX.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath, Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Sussex Cattle (descended from the oldest and best strains of blood), unrivalled for their early maturity, the production of the best beef and working oxen, and ability to thrive in all weathers on the roughest fare. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for Sale.

HEREFORDS.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for Sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

PULLEY, CHARLES THORNTON, Lower Eaton, Hereford.—Noted prize-winning herd of HEREFORD CATTLE. First prize Royal winners, Protector 19660 1900; Eaton Champion 21351, 1903; and Ashleaf 3rd, 1905. This herd is headed by Eaton Champion and Glendower 2nd 22196, also a Royal winner. Bulls and Heifers for sale. Also prize-winning Shropshire Sheep.—Apply Mr. HEDLEY JONES, Lower Eaton Estate Office, Hereford.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has in 1904 1905 and 1906 won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by Endale, Bage Protector, and Fusilier. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited. —Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford, Herefordshire.

DEVONS.

BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton Williton, Taunton, Breeder of Pedigree Devon Cattle. A speciality for large size, with quality and robust constitutions; colour dark red. Sent to all parts of the world. Prices moderate.

SKINNER, ALFRED C., Pound, Bishops-Lydeard, Somerset. Pedigree Devons, constitution, quality, size, milk; 600 prizes principal shows, many champions; exports most successful; bulls and heifers for sale. Inspection invited.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

BRIDGES, J. H.—This old-established herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle of the leading families can be seen at Langshott Home Farm, Horley, Surrey (near Horley Station, L.B. & S.C.R.), and catalogues obtained on application to Mr. Albert Pulling.

CRIDLAN, J. J., Maisemore Park, Gloucester, Erica, Pride of Aberdeen, Lady Ida and other noted tribes. Stock Bulls, Wizard of Maisemore (21,465), Champion and winner of gold medals, 1905; Everwise (24,436), Champion and medal winner, 1907; Bengal of Ballindalloch, prize winner, 1906.

HURSLEY PARK HERD OF ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE, the property of Sir George Cooper, Bart., comprising Erica, Pride, Miss Burgess, Lady Ida, Matilda, Jemima of Morlich families. Prizes won during 1906: 7 firsts, 3 seconds, 3 reserves, 1 challenge cup, 2 silver medals, 3 reserve champions. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.—Catalogues on application to J. E. Thorold, Estate Office, Hursley Park, Winchester.

THE ROCKLIFFE PARK HERD of Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, Ericas and Prides. Stock Bull, Pundit of Preston (17,156), Champion at Highland Show, 1904.—Apply, R. C. SWAN, Rockliffe Park, Darlington.

AYRSHIRES.

WALLACE, JAMES, J.P., Auchenbainzie, Thornhill, Dumfriesshire, Scotland. Breeder of pedigree prize-winning Ayrshire Cattle; hardy, healthy, good milkers; bred for dairy purposes, beauty and style. Bulls and Heifers for sale.

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably, from his prize-winning herd of Red Polls, Bulls, Cows, Heifers, from good milkers.—Apply C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

CARY-ELWES, V., Billing Hall, Northampton. Breeder of Jersey cattle.

FOWLER, P. T., Importer, Watford, Herts. A choice selection of pedigree Jersey and Guernsey Cows, Heifers and young Bulls from prize herds of the Islands; particulars forwarded; inspection invited.

JERSEYS, and Alderney Guernseys, fresh calved and near calving. Prices, particulars.—R. WHEADON, Ilminster.

MERTON GRANGE GUERNSEYS.—Property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. This Herd contains Champion Bull, 1906. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of best Breeding for Sale. Telegrams and particulars, W. J. EMMENS, Merton, Gamlingay.

CATTLE—*continued.*

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS—*continued.*

STERN, Sir E. D., Fan Court, Chertsey Surrey. Herd of pedigree Jersey Cattle. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for sale.

TICHBORNE PARK, GUERNSEY.—Yearling Bulls and Heifers for sale.—Apply, D. MICHIE, Estate Office, Tichborne, Alresford, Hants.

GALLOWAYS.

GRAHAM, ROBERT, Auchengassel, Twynholm, breeder fashionable Galloway Cattle, winners at Royal and Highland Societies Shows. Pedigree Bulls, Cows, and Heifers, also Blue-greys for feeding, for sale. Commissions carefully executed.

KERRIES & DEXTER KERRIES.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

RATTRAY, DAVID, Gortnaskehy, Ballybunion, Co. Kerry. Pedigree Prize-winning Herd of Kerries and Dexters. 156 Prizes and Honours won by Cattle from this Herd past three years. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

THE DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE'S PRIZE-WINNING DEXTER HERD.—During 1904 and 1905 this Herd won more prizes than any other three Dexter Herds combined, including both first and second milking prizes Royal, 1905, and first London Dairy Show, 1906. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers generally for Sale.—CHILD, Compton Place, Eastbourne.

DUTCH.

BROWN, JOHN, Marden Farm, Hertford. Dutch, the best Dairy Cattle in the world. Over 200 head kept. Record, one cow gave 1,615 gallons of milk in 52 weeks. Bulls for sale.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

ANDERSON, JOHN, Barton-on-Humber.—The old Barton Flock of Pure-bred LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP, Flock Book 106. This flock is noted for hard constitutions and fine, lustrous wool. Inspection invited. Telegrams as above.

ATKINSON, T., & SON, North Kelsey, Lincoln. Old-established flock of pure Lincoln Longwools. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Noted for great size and long lustrous wool. Have given great satisfaction at home and abroad. Inspection invited

BAYLES, WILLIAM, Welton Cliff, Lincoln. Flock No. 44 of pure-bred Lincoln Longwool Sheep of best blood. Rams, Ewes, and Ram and Ewe Lambs for sale. Inspection invited.

BROCKLEBANK, JOHN, Bassingham, Lincoln (Flock 24). Pure-bred Lincoln Longwool Rams and Ewes. This old flock has been carefully bred for 100 years. Telegrams: Bassingham.

BROOKS, W. J., Stowe Lodge, Weedon, Northants (Registered Flock 165), has for sale Rams and Ewes of best blood.

CARTWRIGHT, JAMES, Dunston Pillar, Nocton, Lincoln. Pure-bred Lincoln Rams and Ewes, noted for their great size and wool. Flock 53. The greater part of this flock has gone to Buenos Ayres for last 25 years.

CASSWELL, J. E., Laughton, Folkingham (No. 46 in Flock Book). Breeder of Champion Lincoln Longwool Ram at the Royal and Lincolnshire Shows, 1899 and 1901; thirty-four Shearling Rams sold by auction on September 24th, 1903, in Buenos Ayres, averaged about £80 14s. 5d., twenty-three of which averaged about £131. The flock has descended since 1785 from father to son without a single dispersion sale. Ram and Ewe Hoggs, Shearlings, Shire Horses, pure Shorthorns for sale. Telegrams: "Casswell, Laughton, Folkingham." Station, Billingborough, G.N.R.

DEAN & SONS, Dowsby Hall, Bourne, Lincolnshire, have for sale at moderate prices Rams and Ewes from their flock of pure Lincolns, including many prize winners. In addition to the numerous prizes won at the leading shows, the flock has also won 1st prize, Lincoln Breed Cup and the £50 Challenge Plate against all Longwool breeds at the Smithfield Show for four years in succession—viz.: 1903, 4, 5, and 6. Inspection invited.

DICKINSON, C. S., Branston, Lincoln. Breeder of pure Pedigree Lincoln Longwool Sheep, descended from the celebrated flocks of Marshall, Dudding, Pears and Wright (Flock Book 71), has for sale superior Shearling Rams and She Hoggs.

DIXON, R., Brandesburton, Hull. Pure Lincoln Longwool Sheep of best blood. Wool a speciality, with quality and size combined. Flock No. 69. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Telegrams: Brandesburton.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

(Continued on page 531.)

SHEEP—*continued.*

LINCOLN LONG WOOL—*continued.*

DRAKES, Wm., Tealby, Market Rasen. Flock No. 72 of Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs of best blood for sale. Lincoln Red Shorthorns. Prices moderate.

FISHER, ROBERT, Leconfield, Beverley, Yorks., invites inspection of his flock of Lincoln Longwolled Sheep. Est. over 100 years, and well known at home and abroad.

GOODYEAR, HENRY, Austerby, Bourne. Flock Book 21. Breeder of pure Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Royal Champion descended from this flock. Made the third highest average price at Lincoln Sept. Fair, 1906. Rams and Ewes for sale.

JOHNSON, C. M., Kingsforth, Barton-on-Humber. Flock 216 of Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Registered Rams, Ewes and Lambs of best blood for sale. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.

MARRIS, GEORGE, Kirmington, Brocklesby, Lincolnshire. Lincoln Longwool Flock 35. Prizes for Lincoln Fleeces taken at Royal Show; large proportion of Rams exported for many years. The Yearling Rams for sale this season are a well-grown lot.—Telegrams: Marris, Kirmington.

MONEY, FRED, Silk Willoughby, Sleaford. Flock 323; established over a century. Four Rams from this flock fetched over £1,300 in the Argentine, February, 1903, one making £700, the record for a single ram in Buenos Ayres. Rams for sale. Inspection invited.

NEEDHAM, J. T. & A. W., Huttoft, S.O., Lincs. (Flock 17). Pure Lincoln Rams and Ewes carefully bred. Est. 1762. Several Sheep sold to Buenos Ayres. Station, Sutton-on-Sea. Telegrams, Huttoft.

SHARPE, W. TAYLOR, Baumber Park, Horncastle. Flock 4, best strains; long lustrous wool and strong constitutions. Mr. Dudding's 1,000-guinea ram was by a shearling from this flock. Buyers invited to inspect. Telegrams, Sharpe, Baumber.

SMITH, HENRY, jun., Cropwell Butler, Nottingham. Lincoln Longwool Flock No. 7, winner of £2,361 in prizes. Champion pen Lincolns, Smithfield Show, 1896; Association Championship, Leicester, 1897; Association Championship for pen of 3 Shearling Rams, Yorkshire, 1900; Championship, Rutland, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, and 1906. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.

STEPHENSON, LESLIE W., South Thoresby Manor, Alford, has for sale Lincoln Longwool Rams of great size and substance with heavy fleeces; also Ewes and Lambs. Inspection of flock invited. Flock No. 88. Telegrams: Leslie Stephenson, Swaby. Aby Station.

STOVIN, WALTER, Dexthorpe, Spilsby (Flock No. 91), has for sale, at moderate prices, pure Lincoln Longwool Rams, Ewes, and Lambs. Flock well descended for nearly a century; specially noted for size, quality and even fleeces. Inspection invited. Telegrams: "Stovin, Dexthorpe, Partney." Station: Alford.

SWALLOW, W. B., Horkstow, Barton-on-Humber. Pure-bred Lincoln Longwool Sheep and Lincoln Red Shorthorn Cattle. The Flock, est. 1832, always noted for its wonderful quality of wool, and in great request for export trade. Top price and highest average at Lincoln Ram Sale 1905, and in Buenos Ayres Sale Yard top-priced imported ram was one from this flock, making £280. Successfully exhibited at the leading English shows. Selections for sale.—Apply Owner, Wootton Lawn, Ulceby, Lincs. Tel. "Wootton, Lincolnshire."

WARD, F., Quarrington, Sleaford. Lincoln Longwool (Flock 155). Typical in type and character, even fleeces, substance and constitution. Inspection invited. Teleg. and Station: Sleaford.

LEICESTER.

SIMPSON BROS., Pilmoor House, Hunmanby, Yorkshire, Breeders of Leicesters (Flock No. 2 in Leicester Book), have always for inspection or sale Rams and Ewes. These Sheep are of great size with heavy fleeces, and include Royal Winners.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

BOWLBY, ARTHUR S., Gilston Park, Harlow, Essex. Registered Hampshire Down Flock of choicest blood, consisting of the well-known strains represented by the flocks of Messrs. J. H. Dibben, W. C. Young, H. C. Stephens, T. F. Buxton, and James Flower. The sires used were selected from the prize-winning flocks of Messrs. T. F. Buxton, J. Flower, H. C. Stephens, A. F. T. Drake, &c. Selections for sale.—Apply E. D. Bricant, Estate office, Gilston Park, Harlow, Essex.

COLES, CARY, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. **Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1907.—Extraordinary records: Twin ram lambs let for 205 and 120 guineas. Ninety averaged £21 10s. Selections always for Sale.**

DIBBEN, JOHN HERBERT, Bishopstone Salisbury. Breeder of Pure Hampshires. Annual Sale in August, at Salisbury, of 100 Rams and Ram Lambs. Flock consists of 500 Ewes.

HALL, A. C., Great Rollright Manor, Chipping Norton. Registered Hampshire Down Flock, founded by purchases from Prof. Wrightson, Mr. James Flower, and Lord Carnarvon. Tegs from this flock were unbeaten at local fat stock shows in 1902, 1905, and were H.C. Birmingham, 1905.

HENDERSON, Sir ALEXANDER, Bart., Buscot Park, Faringdon, Berks. Pedigree Hampshire Downs of most fashionable prize-winning strains for sale. Address, Walter Crosland, Estate Office, Buscot Park, Faringdon.

HOLMAN, F. A., Dunley Manor, Whitchurch, Hants. Registered Hampshire Down Flock of 700 carefully selected ewes. Ram Lambs sold at Weyhill fair, 26th July. Selections always on sale.—Apply J. Notley, Eggbury, St. Marybourne, Andover.

PEARCE, Sir W. G., Bart., Chilton Lodge, Hungerford, Berks. Pedigree flock of registered Hampshire Downs, of the most fashionable breeding and prize-winning strains. Prizes won at Smithfield, Birmingham, the Royal Agricultural Society, the Royal Counties, and all the leading County Shows, including King's Piece of Plate and the Hampshire Down Association Champion at Bournemouth, 1905. Selections for sale.—Apply, J. B. Harding, Chilton Lodge, Hungerford, Berks.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS—*continued.*

OVEY, R. L., Hernes, Henley-on-Thames.—Pedigree HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK, Reg. Vol. IV. Prize-winners leading shows last five years.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. The Cholderton flock is individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded in the Hampshire Down Flock Book. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury.

THE CHILMARK FLOCK OF REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—Owner JAMES FLOWER, Chilwark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records. Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, out of 11 years competing, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" won eight times, thrice second, with pens of 8 ram lambs; a marvellous record. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 13 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05-06. At the Royal at Derby, 1906, every First Prize, two Seconds, and the Champion were won; an unequalled success!! Champions Birmingham, 1905, over all breeds, Reserve in 1906. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Short-wools, Smithfield, 1904-05-06. Highest average past 13 years. Bridford Fair, Aug. 12, 100 Ram Lambs, annual sale. Selections for Sale.

OXFORD DOWNS.

ADAMS, GEORGE, Royal Prize Farm Flock, Faringdon, Berks. Pure Oxford Down Sheep, Shearling Rams, Ram Lambs, Ewes and Ewe Lambs for Sale. Special arrangements with foreign buyers. Many first prizes at R.A.S.E. and other shows during past 25 years, including 2 first, 2 second, and 4 other prizes, World's Fair, Chicago, and 7 firsts, 4 seconds and champion at Royal Bath and West, Royal Counties, etc., this year.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

TREADWELL, JOHN, Upper Winchendon' Aylesbury.—Oxford Down Sheep. Annual Ram Sale first Wednesday in August. Prizes won at R.A.S.E. 24 years in succession. Ewes for Sale.

WENSLEYDALE.

UNDERLEY WENSLEYDALES (Blue-faced) from the best blood obtainable. Successfully exhibited.—Apply, G. G. ROBINSON, Bailiff, Underley Farm, Kirkby, Lonsdale.

DORSET HORNS.

FLOWER, W. R., West Stafford, Dorchester. Registered Flock of Dorset Horns. Prize-winners at Royal, Royal Counties, Bath and West, Somerset, Smithfield and other shows. Specimens always for sale. Inspection of entire flock invited.

HAMBRO, E. A., Milton Abbey, Blandford Registered Dorset Horns, prize-winners Royal, Royal Counties, Bath and West, Somerset and other shows; and a yearling ewe and ram took First Prize and Grand Champion World's Fair, St. Louis.

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

CHARLES SPENCER, having taken over the Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts, herd of Large and Middle White Pigs, which won 12 prizes and res rves with 11 exhibits at Derby Royal, will price any of them.

FULWOOD HERD LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES, property R. R. Rothwell. 200 head bred from winners at leading shows.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for Sale at moderate prices

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices. —J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM. Herd of Large White Pigs. The oldest and largest Herd in Notts County. Over 100 Breeding Sows kept. Upwards of 600 to select from. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—Apply ARTHUR A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

SPALDING HERD of Pedigree Large Whites, young stock and in-pig Gilts for Sale. All bred from great winners.—ALFRED W. WHITE, "Hillegom," Spalding.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 100 to choose from. Correspondence invited. Grand young breeding stock always on Sale.—Apply R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts (15 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington

PIGS—*continued.*

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

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LARGE BLACKS.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath. Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Large Black Pigs of the best strains of blood, noted for their docility and for the production of a large proportion of lean meat. Good selection of Boars, unrelated Gilts, and in-pig Sows for Sale at reasonable prices.

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PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS.—Select Herd-bred from choice Prize Winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale, moderate prices.—H. J. CLARKE, The Slade, Roughley, Sutton Coldfield.

WHEN Breeding, breed from the best Pedigree Large Black Prize-winning Pigs. TREVEGLOS HOPEFUL II., winner of First prizes and R.A.S.E. Silver Challenge Cup, 1907, beating all other Cup winners; also 1st Prize Bath and West, Newport; 1st Royal Counties, Maidenhead; 1st Royal Cornwall, Liskeard; 1st Devon County Bideford; also 1st prize at the Royal Show, Lincoln, for Boar and Reserve for Champion prize. Boars and Sows for Sale of the above strain at moderate prices.—Apply to JOHN WARNE, Treveglos Farm, St. Mabyn, R.S.O., Cornwall.

BERKSHIRES.

CARNARVON, the Earl of.—Prize-winning Pedigree Herd. BOARS and GELTS, eligible Herd Book. Prices moderate.—Apply W. T. HALL, Highclere Farm, Newbury.

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TAMWORTHS.

PEDIGREE TAMWORTHS, the property of C. HOWARD TAYLOR, Middlewood Hall; a few good young Boars and Gilts for sale.—Apply, Hampole Priory, Doncaster.

BORROWFIELD & COLSTON HERDS.

The property of R. MILLINGTON-KNOWLES
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LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES.

The following First Prizes, Championships, and Medals have been obtained by pigs **BRED** in these Herds in 1907:
1st and Champion, Gold Medal, R.A.S.E., Lincoln.
1st & Champion, President's Medal, Highland, Edinburgh.
1st Welsh National, Aberystwyth.
1st Bath and West Newport; 1st Royal Counties.
1st Nottingham; 1st Suffolk; 1st Norfolk.
1st Derby.
1st Hereford and Worcester; Special Prize Lincoln Agricultural Society; 1st Great Yorkshire; 1st Newark.

A number of additional Firsts and other Prizes have also been gained at the above Shows.

At the St. Louis Exposition, U.S.A., in 1904, the Champion Boar, and the Grand Champion of the Exposition were bred at Colston Bassett.

The Foreign and Home trade has largely increased during 1907.—GILBERT H. ELLIOT, Estate Office, Colston Bassett, Notts.

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Skidby Manor, near Hull.

GEORGE HOYLES

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Breeder of Pure Lincoln Long Wool Sheep.
Lustrous Fleeces. Good Constitutions.
SUITABLE FOR HOME AND ABROAD. STOCK FOR SALE.

Lincolnshire Notes.

A WORD for small holdings. And from a landlord, too. Lord Boston, who owns land in South Lincolnshire, has addressed to his tenants a message of congratulation on the land legislation of the Government. He expresses himself in favour of the principal provisions of the Land Tenure Act, and he believes firmly that the measure will cause no disturbance whatever in the relations of landlord and tenant when estates are administered in accordance with best traditions. That has all along been the Liberal argument for the measure. Baron Boston is not a Liberal, but he is evidently a liberal-minded man.

BUT about small holdings. His lordship does not expect so much from them as his friend Earl Carrington, and he favours conferences between landlord and tenant as a substitute for the compulsory acquisition of land. But as a landlord he recognises that "legislation of that kind must be met in a philosophic spirit. No injustice must be caused to the sitting tenant, and he feared that the tenants of the intermediate public authority might suffer from being cut off from immediate contact with the owner of the soil. Still, he recognised that changes in a modified form were inevitable, and that it was desirable that a larger number of persons should, if possible, and in pursuance of equitable arrangements, be settled on the land."

BRAVO! Right or wrong, that is the spirit in which to meet the growing aspirations of the land-worker. It is as refreshing as a sea-breeze to hear it from the lips of a landowner.

IN Lincolnshire we deny that farmers are a race of grumblers. They are not grumbling, and they have nothing to grumble at, we are told, for they have had a glorious harvest, wheat is being bought freely at 39s. per qr., and there is a splendid outlook for the potatoes. Prices are still going up, and they are going to touch 50s. we are told. Grumbling? We are in the highest spirits; we do not even want to sell our corn. We are going to wait a little while and count the blessings of this wonderful 1907. Besides, prices are still going up.

WHO is the largest Lincolnshire farmer? A South Lincolnshire paper asks the question *apropos* of the death of Mr. Coates Sharpley. The Bowsers, the Wards, the Atkinsons, the Dennises, the Casswells, the Proctors, the Banks's and the Thompsons are all names that suggest themselves in this part of the country. Probably the largest individual occupier is Mr. William Bowser, of Sibsey, whose holdings extend in all directions from Boston to Lincoln and Louth.

LORD WILLOUGHBY D'ERESBY, M.P. for Horncastle, has disposed of his famous thoroughbred stallion White Feather. His new home will be in South Africa, and it will perhaps be remembered by some of my readers that a few years back this fine animal carried off the Ascot Plate and the Goodwood Stakes. For some time he has been on the Drummond Castle in Perthshire, where he has left some very good stock.

EVEN agricultural poverty has its compensations. A seventy-year-old labourer has just died at Boston who, from birth to death, had never had a doctor. He expired suddenly, and a medical man was called in after death—that was the only time a doctor had been requisitioned on his account. Apparently, he lived a normal life and died a natural death. How many of us well fed, well clothed, well slept, well amused, and well pampered individuals, will be able to say the same at three score years and ten?

THE vexed question as to when foxhound puppies out at walk come within the provisions of the Dogs Order as to the wearing of collars has again been before the magistrates at Spittlegate (Grantham). Counsel for defendant argued that the Act did not intend to apply to foxhounds. Lord Carrington, who had charge of the Bill in the House of Lords, was asked the direct question whether it applied to foxhounds, and he said foxhounds and all sporting dogs would be exempted from wearing collars. The magistrates dismissed all three cases, but refused the application for costs.

LINCOLNSHIRE has really seen the last of the smock frock. The veteran Holden, of Pinchbeck, who clung to the old order of agricultural attire, both for Sunday and weekday wear, died last week. He was really the last link of a gone and now almost forgotten past.

MUSTARD, we are told, is expected to yield well this year. Threshing operations have been delayed by the heavy rains, but there are good prospects of a plentiful harvest. Up to the present hour the demand is not very keen. At the Wisbech mustard market Messrs. Coleman were the principal buyers, and prices ruled from 10s. 6d. to as low as 6s. 6d. per bushel.

THE Farmers' Union, which has had a splendid inauguration at Peterborough this week, was unable to be as strongly represented as it would have liked at the annual conference of the North-Eastern Agricultural Federation, held at Northallerton on Friday. The date, unfortunately, clashed with the ordinary monthly meeting of the F.U. committee; but the two important subjects, Small Holdings and Federation, have been thoroughly thrashed out by the Union, and a wire was sent from the committee meeting cordially approving of the resolutions submitted to the conference.

SOME cattle maiming outrages are being inquired into by the Lincolnshire police in conjunction with the Nottinghamshire police. Two valuable pigs, the property of George Bell, a cottager and the sub-postmaster of Willingham, on the borders of the county, were discovered maimed by a piece of whipcord tied tightly round the hind leg so as to cut the flesh to the bone. The dastardly deed is said to be the work of a stranger—a madman, too, I should imagine.

LINCOLNSHIRE FARMERS' UNION.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Central Committee of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union was held at Lincoln on Friday. Mr. Colin Campbell, who presided, stated that the North Eastern Agricultural Federation was meeting at Northallerton at the same time, and he was of opinion that it would be very graceful on the Union's part to send a telegram wishing them every success. Among the resolutions to be submitted at the conference were two the Union had often discussed, viz., "That, whilst giving general approval to the system of Allotments and Small Holdings, this Federation strongly objects to any additional charge being placed upon local rates through the provision of the same, and to any farmer being dispossessed of his land without ample compensation," and "That agricultural land should be relieved from a larger portion of the burden of local taxation, a burden which is out of all proportion to the benefits derived by it from the huge and rapidly expanding outlay on sanitation, education, poor, police, roads, and other local purposes."

The meeting unanimously decided to send a telegram expressing their warm approval of these resolutions, and wishing the conference every success.

The chairman informed the Union that in accordance with their wishes Mr. Howard and himself met the Land Agents Society last Friday, and had a very good meeting indeed. If there had been any suspicions of their (the Union) actions in the past, he thought what they said, for they were asked a good many questions about what they were doing, quite allayed them. In the future he did not think they would be looked upon by any of the good land agents with any suspicion at all.

A letter was received from Mr. T. Roberts, of Croxton, regarding the Motor Car Act, which is to come up for revision during the next Parliamentary session, and proposing that the Union appoint a committee to gather evidence of damage to roads adjoining owners' crops, and the increased cost to farmers caused by motor traffic, &c., and also the great danger to farm teams in winter by the use of tarred roads.

Mr. Godson, who is on the Highway Committee of the Kesteven County Council, said there would be no more tarred roads in Kesteven for some time; they had had quite enough.

Mr. Howard agreed with some of Mr. Roberts' proposals, and said they ought to get in touch with the authorities to prevent damage being done on the roads by motors, as it fell on them to pay the cost. If they did not move in the matter nobody would help them.

Mr. Burt said he had nothing against motor cars as long as they were driven carefully, but he did think they ought not to tar the roads for the pleasure of motorists. It was against their teams, for, as they all knew, on a frosty winter's morning the horses were unable to hold their feet as well as on the ordinary roads. If the motor people would pay for them it would be all right, but if not it was for some of the members to grumble, and grumble very much.

Mr. J. C. Mountain said the general conclusion come to in Warwickshire by drivers of all vehicle traffic was that the macadam roads were very much against them, and very dangerous indeed during winter time.

The chairman did not think a committee necessary, and suggested that the matter be referred to the General Purposes Committee to consider and report. There was no doubt whatever but that this was a very serious matter indeed for them. He also happened to be on the Highway Committee of the Kesteven County Council, and he had been speaking to Mr. Purser, the surveyor, recently on the matter. It was awful what it was going to cost them. He specially pointed out that it was having through passage cars with studded tyres that did the damage. and he believed the surveyor said that the roads that had been steam rolled on the Great North road in ordinary cases would have lasted ten years, whereas now they would only last four. He (the speaker) thought the General Purposes Committee should go fully into the matter, and that they (the Union) should send a deputation to the President of the Board of Trade before this Bill was brought in. He did not know any more serious thing that they had pressing on them at the present time than this.

Mr. Godson remarked that the county surveyor said the roads had cost £2,000 extra.

The suggestion of the chairman was unanimously adopted.

PETERBOROUGH BRANCH.

Although the attendance was not to the extent one could have wished for, there was a large and representative gathering of farmers in connection with the formation of the Peterborough Branch, held at Peterborough on the 19th inst. Mr. T. H. Vergette, who was voted to the chair, said he should like to know what other body had so much stake in the country as agriculturists? Farmers were the backbone of the country, and they fed, clothed, and educated the people all for nothing. Instead of being disunited they should be one of the strongest bodies in the land. *Punch* was fond of picturing Farmer Giles in his top boots and with a very leisurely way, as if he did not care for anything, but they all knew, in real life, that when agriculture failed then trade failed. If the corn trade went up, then the trade throughout the country went up also, for the farmers dug the gold of the world. It was therefore essential that they should be a united body, that they should be acknowledged as such, and that they should have their own representatives in Parliament. Was there a single tenant farmer representative in Parliament at the present time? ("No.") That being the case, therefore, it was about time that farmers set about altering the present state of affairs, for, at present, it was left to the farmers to fight their own battles and also those of the landlords, the agricultural labourers, and the whole lot. Farmers should think of all these things for themselves, and he was sure that if they would then combine together they could demand fair railway rates and fair taxation, and he therefore hoped that all present that afternoon would support the Farmers' Union.

Mr. S. Dean (Folkingham) followed with a lengthy address, in which he contended that it was absolutely necessary for the farmers to combine and have a Union, for although agriculture was the most important industry in the country, gave employment to most labour, and had ten times more capital invested in it than any other industry, yet there was no organisation in existence to protect its interests, and it had no direct representation in Parliament. Agriculture had lost the influence and power it once held in the country, and he believed that was due to the extension of the franchise, for when more people received the vote they immediately started organisations to safeguard their interests, and agriculture had at last been squeezed out by these very organisations. If tenant farmers combined they would be able to remove many injustices that at present existed, and also restore agriculture to its former place. By these means also, not only the tenant farmers, but the landlords and also the labourers would benefit.

Mr. S. Fitzwilliam remarked that if small and big holders of land would combine and make the Union "go," then it would doubtless be for the benefit of the landlord, the tenant farmer, and the labourer also. If they could see agriculture on a better footing than at the present time they would then be pleased to meet one another, instead of the tenant farmer being afraid to come into the office occasionally to meet his landlord. Years ago he tried to get them to combine, and they started off with enthusiasm, but they ended there also. If they combined and stuck to it, they could do anything with any Parliament in the world.

After other speeches Mr. Little proposed that every farmer in the room should become members of the association. This was seconded and carried unanimously.

The question of the appointment of officers was then proceeded with, and resulted as follows:—Chairman, Mr. T. H. Vergette; vice-chairman, Mr. Geo. Moore; committee, Messrs. H. Little, J. H. Saunders, S. Egar, W. Horrell W. Carter, R. Walker, James Heys, E. Shepperson, and Jos. Emerton.

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24th October, 1907.

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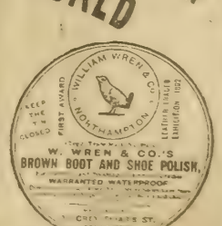
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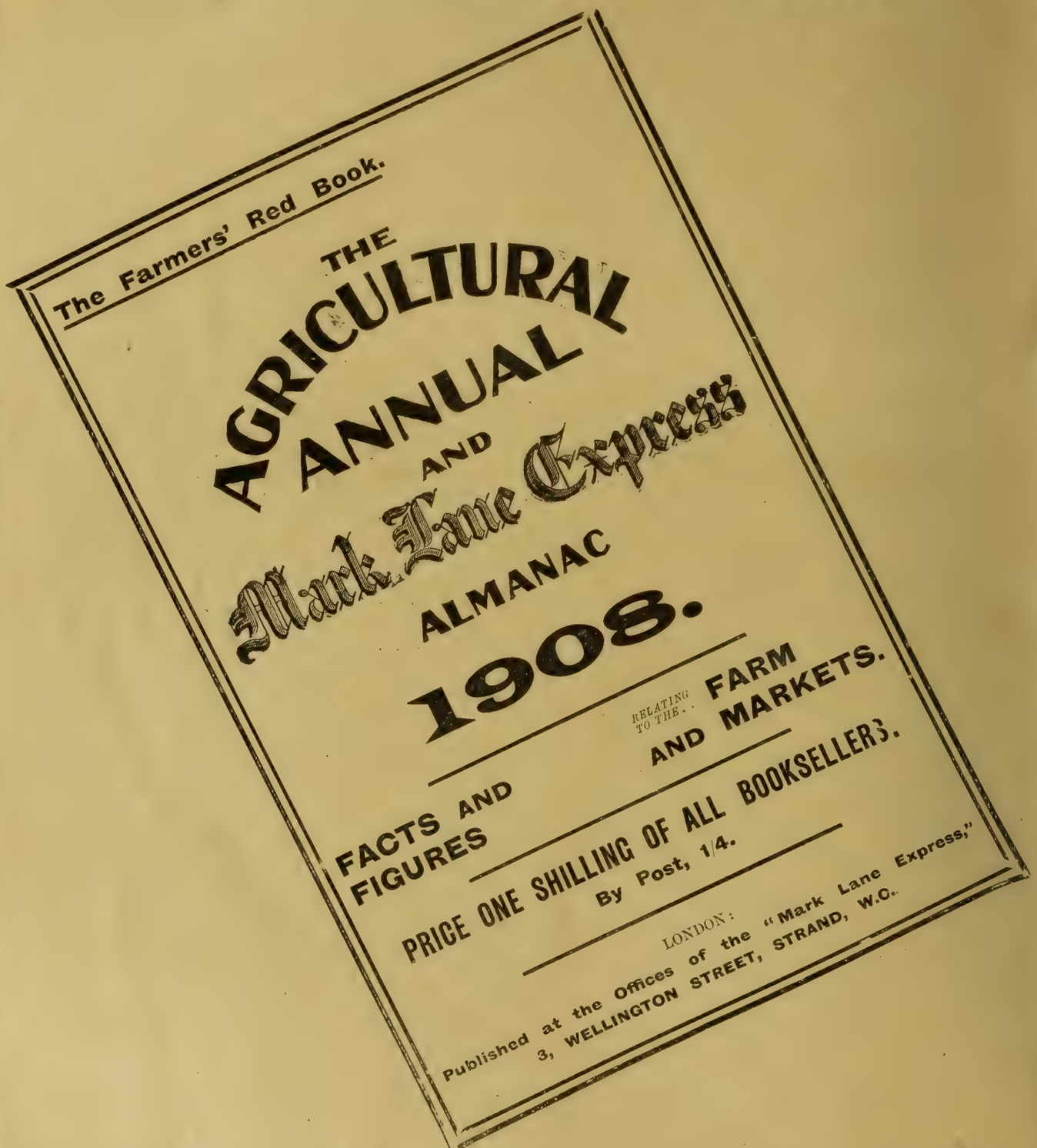




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LONDON, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1907.

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Seasonable Topics.

November. TIME flies along. We are now in November, which in some respects is the dullest and dreariest month in the year. A typical November is damp, foggy, and dark; the days are short and the nights long, and there does not seem much to look forward to till the shortest day is past and the first half of the winter is over. Isolated indeed are many farmsteads at this time of the year, and it is now that our town cousins feel sorry for us, and wonder how we manage to pass the time. It is done, however, and without time dragging or seeming to go slowly, for when weather is unfit for outdoor operations a farmer is never at a loss to find a job under cover, and when work for the day is over there are ways and means of making time pass pleasantly which townsfolk know nothing of. Happily the old spirit of freemasonry which has existed among farmers for so long has not been obliterated in the changes of modern life, and it is this spirit which brings farmer folk together in the winter and helps to break the monotony that might otherwise be depressing.



A CHAMPION MERINO EWE.

Bonfire Day. THE fifth of November is imprinted on the mind of every schoolboy as the day when Guy Fawkes was disturbed in his nefarious design to blow up the House of Commons, but perhaps more particularly as the day when he (the schoolboy) is privileged to put crackers under your door, fasten catherine wheels to your window frame, and explode fireworks in your backyard—outrages that he would never think of commiting on any other occasion. While firework-makers exist we do not think that Guy Fawkes day will be forgotten, but in some places the event is celebrated with far more zeal than in others. In most places bonfires glare in the darkness on the fifth of November, and stacks and buildings run a greater or less risk of getting ignited; but in some of the villages of Kent, for instance, there are properly organised bonfire societies that have carnivals on the eventful day, a flare up, of course, at night, and, need it be said, the all-essential dinner, which makes a complete finish to the whole business. These bonfire societies are amongst the oldest institutions in Kent—a county that delights in keeping up ancient customs.

Farmers and the Railway Crisis. AT the moment of writing the unfortunate disagreement between railway servants and directors is unsettled, and people are anxiously asking each other what would happen if the trouble should end in a general strike. For our own part we are sanguine enough to think that common sense will prevail and the calamity be avoided, and we hope that when these lines are being read the crisis will be past, the knotty points settled, and the minds of the public be at rest. We represent agriculture, and hold no brief for either directors or employees, and though we, as farmers, have reasons at times to complain of the railway companies, we realise their indispensability; also the fact that they exist for public convenience as well as the payment of dividends, and we contend that even the danger of a railway strike ought to be made impossible. It is absurd to think that the whole business of the country should be disorganised and helpless individuals be put to inconvenience and loss because a certain few people get to loggerheads over matters that could be settled by sensible arbitration.

The Scarcity of Eggs. GREAT advances have been made in the industry of poultry keeping during recent years, and science has been brought to bear upon it with marked effect, but there is one important bit of knowledge that does not yet appear to be in the hands of poultry keepers in general—how to make fowls lay in November. Perhaps this remark will bring some expert on to the platform, so to speak, to show how it can be done as easily as A, B, C, but the fact remains that the man who enjoys a new laid egg for his breakfast in the morning has a difficulty in getting it at this time of the year, even if he is prepared to pay twopence for it, and the good people who sell their few odd eggs at the above price would give anything if they could only induce their fowls to lay more. The obvious deduction then is that the production of eggs in November is not so easy in practice as it appears on paper or we should hear less of the scarcity. Of course, some people have home preserved eggs to fall back upon and the well-known "shop 'un" can always be had, but the proper companion to the morning rasher is the egg that is newly laid, and at the present scarcity and price this is a luxury.

Roadside Grazing. FROM time immemorial it has been the custom of cattle owners, particularly small holders, to graze their cattle on the herbage that grows by the roadside, and no one has complained, but now things are changing, and in some districts efforts are being made to prevent roadside grazing, even when a "tenter" is in charge. Is this another concession to the motorist, who on many roads has made side grazing impossible by choking up the grass with dust? To us it seems a pity that the useful herbage that grows by the wayside should be wasted, and that the people who have been in the habit of grazing their cattle on the roadsides (properly tended, of course) should be deprived of the privilege, but little by little country people seem to be losing grip of the roads, and soon all that will be left to them will be the pleasure of paying for them.

Fine Weather Wanted. QUITE enough autumn rain has fallen to satisfy the agricultural fraternity, and what is wanted now is fine weather. We are now in November, and under the most trying conditions we see attempts being made at ploughing, and a strain indeed it is on horseflesh if the land is at all on the heavy side. We have just returned from a journey in an upland district in a western shire, and observed the hillsides dotted with beans waiting only for fine weather to get them in. Beans, of course, will not take much harm, and they have often been carried later than this; but still, one does not like them to remain out day after day and week after week, when a few dry days would put them in condition for hauling. As for the sowing of wheat and winter oats, these operations are being retarded considerably by the state of the ground and the weather, and farmers

to-day are more serious about wheat-growing than they have been for some years. We have heard, by the way, expressions of opinion that the prices will touch 50s. by Christmas. What optimism, to be sure, to come from a farmer! We will wait and see.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Can We Have a Conference?

It is, of course, perfectly obvious now that the next momentous fight between the peers and Liberalism will be over the Scottish Land Bill. Lord Rosebery's conduct has simply rendered that inevitable. It would be—human nature being as it is—an act of craven cowardice to refuse the Premier's invitation. To connive at a measure which the large majority of the peers aver to be unwise, and which the former colleague of the Ministry declares to be malignant, would mean the wrecking of its own authority and the flagrant jettisoning of its own claim to be a fair, dispassionate, and judicial revising chamber. I do not for the moment say whether the Bill is wise or unwise. To review the debate would be to prematurely rehash the funereal meats of the last session. Is it possible, after all, to avoid this strenuous conflict—a conflict in which the admitted necessity for Scottish land reform will be obscured and forgotten? Is the line of cleavage so sharp-cut that conciliation and a mutual understanding is impossible? Is it, after all, impossible to make some concession to those Lowland peers who hold that it is simply midsummer madness to mathematically apply to their areas principles of tenure only applicable to the Highlands? I ask this question in the hope of preventing a great Parliamentary effort fallow of results. Supposing the Bill be mutilated and re-shaped by the peers, would the Government resign? I do not believe it for a moment. If it did, it would call down upon its head the vehement and vitriolic criticism of all those anxious for educational reform, licensing reform, disestablishment, and what not. The Bill—which will inevitably contain many desirable provisions—would be simply abandoned; and this time it would have no resuscitation.

Should Wales be Differently Treated.

Are we to have a different land system in every individual part of the United Kingdom? The Irish system differs from the English; it is suggested that the Scotch should differ from both. And now there is a clamorous demand being raised in the Principality for the distinctive treatment of Wales. It is urged by leaders of Welsh thought like Mr. D. A. Thomas, M.P., that it is ludicrous to apply the same principles of tenure to a people so differing from the English in temperament, in method, and in practice as do the Welsh. These men hold, indeed, that Lord Carrington himself has been recreant, so far as the Principality is concerned, in not embodying in his Small Holdings Act the views he expressed in the famous Land Commission report. Wales—or, rather, the overwhelming section of the Principality—is ready for a Land Commission? It is no use blinking our eyes to this. It may be urged that the power to at intervals revise rents amounts in practise to a Land Commission. It does not in the esteem of the Welsh land reformers. They want a formal Land Commission with definite powers, clearly expressed in a formal Act. They want that Land Commission to have not inflexible powers but a certain elastic authority which would permit of some occasional concessions, when deemed necessary, to human failures and human ills. We shall not, of course, see it in the life-time of this Parliament. Its cruse of responsibilities is filled to overflowing. This fact will only tend to nerve the agitation. We shall hear a good deal of this demand in the next few years; and the prophets of the Principality aver that the landlords may even welcome it in preference to nationalisation.

Wisdom of the Lords Lieutenant.

The lords lieutenant have set an example in the art of patriotism, and in doing so they have rebuked those foolish persons who advised that they should hold aloof from the Territorial Army scheme because of its Liberal inspiration. Had they taken this advice they would have revealed that they were possessed by a partisanism that preferred a party and schismatic triumph to a national and Imperial necessity. They have risen above the rather sordid suggestions of these maladroit persons, and shown that in their view the nation should not be visited with a penalty because it had had the impertinence to prefer a Liberal Administration. I am not going to pretend that some of the accusations delivered by individual Liberals against landlordism have not been infected with unnecessary spleen—they have been in not a few cases gangrened with venom. Mr. Haldane's policy is, however, nothing less than a recognition of landlordism as a force in the natural polity. The lords lieutenant represent landlordism; and the lords lieutenant have been now conceded that formal position of authority in the national fabric which before was only faintly surmised. Had the lords lieutenant been unwise enough to hold aloof from the new military system, they would have connived at their own undoing. They would, for instance, have placed a formidable weapon in the hands of those who would remove the manning of the magistracy from their jurisdiction. I do not say that this was in the minds of the lords lieutenant; I believe their action to be an entirely patriotic impulse. They, however, have done admirably well for their order.

The Future of the Board.

It is an interesting speculation as to whether Earl Carrington will manage to associate a greater authority with the Board of Agriculture than it as yet possesses. Of course, the Small Holdings Act has considerably accentuated its significance and given it a place in county administration which it did not before possess. All the same the Board, so far as agriculture as a calling is really concerned, remains still a shrunken, debilitated, and emasculated body. Its powers are sadly restricted, and even when it seeks to be useful it has so to rely on voluntary effort that it can seldom be aught than impotent. That so much should have been accomplished, by successive Ministers is under the circumstances in itself a tribute to their sagacity and enterprise. The purpose of the English Board of Agriculture should be to secure a grant corresponding—let area and population be the standard—to that secured for the Irish Board of Agriculture. Then it might become a real potent influence in the old traditional interest of this country. It does all that is possible with the money at its command. The parsimony of the State is its enemy. It ought to have its advisers in every part of the country. Its experimental culture ought to be a boon and a blessing to every farmer. Lord Carrington hath a persuasive tongue, and his colleagues have in the past shown themselves greatly sensitive to it.

Kill the Dangers of a Strike.

I want to emphasise the danger it would mean to agrarianism if the railway strike takes place. The whole circuit of communication with the great distributive centres would be interrupted. This would be a calamity not merely to the industry, but to the State. Now, let me point out that if we had subsidiary means of communication this danger would be in a large degree mitigated. Had we a complete system of co-operative distribution it would be entirely avoided. And with a co-operative system of depôts it would be impossible. In this I am arguing for a system of co-operative distribution in which local depôts would be supplemented by a generous State contribution. In this event any tragic disturbance of the means of communication with the great centres could not take place. The killing of the canals was an economic and national crime. The establishment of a compensating method of auxiliary inter-communication is a duty. Whatever is established must be an auxiliary system. The railway must always be the first and supreme method of communication. It is well, however, to have a substitute for the railway when it fails, be that failure through the ineradicable double dose of original sin possessing the men or the unfortunate mistakes of Nature.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Messrs. John K. King and Sons, of Reading and Coggeshall, have just issued an illustrated pamphlet, entitled "Earth's Ripened Grain," on their pedigree seed corn. It is a work which every farmer should have. That the system of pedigree selection, as carried on by Messrs. John K. King and Sons on their Essex seed farms has been productive of the most remarkable results, was abundantly testified by the English and Continental visitors who inspected the crops last summer. Messrs. John K. King and Sons' aim for a long time past has been to produce wheat, barley, oats, and other grains which will yield the biggest crops and finest quality grain, and they have been very successful in doing so. The pamphlet may be obtained free from Messrs. John K. King and Sons, Coggeshall, Essex, and Reading, Berks.

The third edition of the "Chemical Trade Directory" is now on sale. It gives a list of all the names of merchants, agents, &c., who deal in manures, acids, chemicals, &c., and will be found most useful to all who are in any way interested in the chemical trades and allied industries. The names and addresses of public analysts have been omitted from this edition. Since the last edition of this Directory was issued the Institute of Chemistry has published an official list, and to this list all inquirers are referred. This directory may be obtained from Messrs. Davis Brothers, Danes' Inn House, 265, Strand, London, W.C.

Volume XIII. of the Kent and Romney Marsh Flock Book has been recently issued, and it shows that success has attended the efforts and work of the Association during the twelve months since the previous issue. The number of members, and also of registered flocks, show a most satisfactory increase. The rams entered are 2,402 in excess of any previous year, but a considerable number of ram lambs are included in the entries. The number of ewes entered (524) is of great importance, and it includes those sold for export. It may be remarked that one feature of the demand—a very large one all through the year, more particularly from New Zealand—has been the great increase in the number of ewes purchased. Copies of this volume may be had from the secretary, Mr. W. W. Chapman, Mowbray House, Norfolk Street, Strand, London, W.C.

The Calendar of the Armstrong College, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, for 1907-8, which has recently come to hand, gives a very comprehensive survey of the college, and shows what a great work is being carried out there, the education extending over a very wide area. The book contains a list of former students who have passed their examinations, also one of present students, of degrees, scholarships, &c.; also a lot of other information which would be of great help to intending students. The price is only 1s., or 1s. 4d. post free, obtainable from the college.

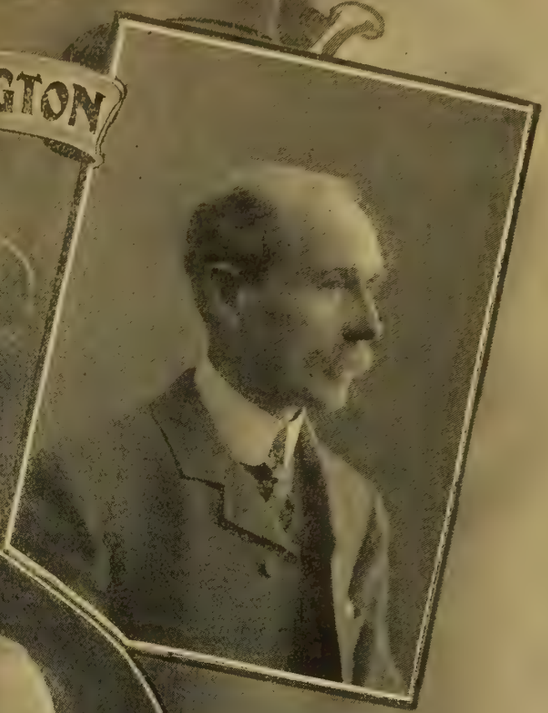
"Observing and Forecasting the Weather: Meteorology Without Instruments," by D. W. Horner, F.R. Met.Soc., &c., is a handy little guide for amateurs for telling what the weather will be. As there are many works of much greater pretensions than the present, already before the public, treating of instrumental observations, the author has confined his remarks almost entirely to non-instrumental observations, a subject which can be taken up without any expense or outlay whatever, and if due care be used to eliminate errors these observations may frequently turn out of practical scientific value, when perhaps the worker was aiming no higher than his own amusement or instruction. This little book is published by Messrs. Witherby and Co., 326, High Holborn, London, E.C. Price 6d., post-free 7d.

Thirsk October Cattle Fair, held on Tuesday, was well supplied with stock. Beasts forward in condition and likely soon to make beef were most in demand, and found ready purchasers. English heifer stirks made from £5 to £5 10s; two-year-old English bullocks, £8 to £8 10s.; two-and-a-half year old English bullocks, £10 to £11; and forward animals to £13. There was a herd of good strong Irish heifers, which made from £11 to £12 10s. Very few dairy cows were on offer, and late prices were realised. Although Monday was the sheep fair, there were a few, principally half-bred lambs, for sale, which made from 17s to 20s.; North country lambs, 28s. to 33s. At the sheep fair on Monday there was a good show but a slow trade. Twice crossed lambs were the best to sell, and made from 30s. to 35s.; half-bred lambs realised to 25s.; Scotch sheep, 20s.; breeding sheep up to 45s.; Wensleydale rams, £3 10s. to £5 each.

The Farmers' Protection Association of Darlington



Mr. Councillor J. G. Fruish.
Chairman of Bedale Branch.



Mr. P. B. Kent.
The Secretary.



Mr. Geo. Smurthwaite
Chairman.



Mr. W. Dent.
Hon Secy. for the Barnard Castle and Barlington Branch.



Mr. A. G. Ramshay
Secy. of Bedale Branch.

FULL PARTICULARS OF THE DARLINGTON FARMERS PROTECTION ASSOCIATION WILL BE FOUND ON NEXT PAGE.

DARLINGTON FARMERS' ASSOCIATION.

Objects of the Association—The Last Annual Report—Work of the Association—Value of the Association—Financial Report—The Executive—Rules—Aims and Ideals.

A new form of combination among farmers has been growing rapidly of late, and it is pleasant to know that the Darlington Farmers' Protection Association, though of youthful origin, is perhaps the oldest body of its kind in the north of England, and has not failed to make rapid strides during the past year or so.

It has now a membership of nearly 800, and with an energetic executive at its head will soon total over four figures. Such a body can and will be of assistance to its members. Whether it be a railway company, a trading company, or an individual, there would be much greater hesitation in pursuing a farmer where it is known that he is defended by the body to which he belongs, especially where such body has through its committee heard the evidence on both sides, and determined its action accordingly.

Objects of the Association.

Farmers in the past have too frequently been the butt of others. Their good temper, their geniality, and dislike of law and annoyance, their too great submission to the demands of those who have been in the past too ready to impose upon them, have frequently been followed by losses which they ought never to have borne. Instead, therefore, of future submission to wrong or to the still more disagreeable necessity of consulting a lawyer in their own defence, they have only to adopt the methods of the association to protect themselves.

Numerous cases have been settled—frequently by the arbitration of the secretary—with necessarily good results. The unfair action of their servants, difficulties with railway companies, damages to cattle, losses owing to the wrong delivery of produce, trespasses, and damage to their land, false warranty in regard to stock which they have purchased, imperfect samples of grain, unsound feeding stuffs, the sampling of milk, losses by bad debts, and other matters have from time to time occurred, and have been wholly or partially settled without having recourse to law, or, when this is essential, by action being taken for the benefit of the member by the association itself.

The Last Annual Report.

The last annual report stated that, with a considerable addition to the list of members, the work of the association has grown proportionately, increasing the duties and responsibilities of officials. Upwards of seventy cases have claimed attention during the past year, in addition to all the other business details that necessarily arise in conducting the affairs of a large society that seeks to promote the best interests of agriculture besides looking after its own special province. The committee are pleased to be able to report that in the great majority of disputes dealt with, settlements have been fortunately arrived at without recourse to law through the policy adopted of using all reasonable means to effect an amicable arrangement without materially giving way or sacrificing a principle. It is equally gratifying to state that in those cases in which no other alternative was left but to take legal proceedings favourable verdicts were in each instance secured. Several of the decisions were of much importance to agriculturists generally, and were regarded as being in some measure in the nature of test cases.

Work of the Association.

The various matters of dispute that have arisen are of a somewhat similar character to those occurring in preceding years. There are only three to report in connection with the sale of barley, which formerly was a great source of trouble; two were settled by the secretary acting as arbitrator at the request of both parties, each approving of the decisions, and the other is in the early stages of inquiry. Penalties have been exacted against servants found guilty of unjust actions or wilful misconduct. Four railway cases have engaged attention, in three of which compensation was obtained, namely:—1. Damage to stock in transit. 2 Delay in the delivery of goods and consequent loss. 3. Damage by sparks from railway engine. The fourth arose from an excessive charge in the carriage of the bull, and the charge was substantially reduced. Compensation has also been obtained in regard to seed grain not being equal to purchased sample, failure of a quantity of valuable marked peas to germinate, sheep worrying by dogs, damage to conveyance, trespassing upon land and damaging crop, a sale by auction warranty, inferior delivery of feeding stuffs, &c. Legal and expert advice has also been given to members, enabling them to steer clear of complications present and future.

Value of the Association.

The value of an association of this kind should not be solely judged by the number of cases in which it is engaged, as these by injudicious acts can always be multiplied. The influence it wields over the wide area in which its members are scattered must also be considered. The knowledge of the existence of the association is a well-known hindrance to vexatious and unjustifiable actions being brought against its members.

Financial Report.

The balance-sheet presented has been duly audited, and shows a balance in hand of £126 12s., which may be considered very satisfactory.

The Executive.

The members are to be congratulated upon having an efficient staff of officials, whose efforts are ably seconded by the various members of committees, all of whom are practical farmers and good business men.

During the year, in Darlington, upwards of 100 new members have been elected, whilst at Bedale the additions have been equally encouraging, and the total of combined membership approaches 800. Most of the principal work of the association is necessarily done in private The secretary's annual report of last year (from which extracts appear above), excellent as it is, can only be regarded as a sort of index, and in no sense an adequate presentation of admirable work, accomplished at a minimum cost, quietly done, but none the less effectively.

The chairman in Darlington, which is the head centre, is Mr. George Smurthwaite, a well-known farmer, who is also chairman of the Farmers' Auction Mart Company. The secretaryship of the association is in the capable hands of Mr. P. B. Kent, of Ingleside, Darlington. Mr. Kent is frequently asked to render assistance in forming similar organizations elsewhere.

In the Barnard Castle and Lartington Districts Mr. W. Dent kindly acts as hon. secretary in an enthusiastic and praiseworthy manner. The branch at Bedale enjoys the advantage of having Mr. Councillor John O. Trotter as chairman and Mr. Albert Smith, J.P., as vice-chairman, both of whom are deservedly popular and possess a wide knowledge of all matters agricultural An excellent secretary is found in Mr. A. C. Ramshay.

Rules.

The association is established for the purpose of protecting and promoting the interests of its members in all matters relating to them as farmers.

Members must be—

1. Bona-fide tenant farmers.
2. Farmers in actual practice.
3. Farmers temporarily out of business.
4. Retired farmers.
5. Sons of farmers engaged in farming.
6. Agricultural pupils.

The subscription shall be 5s. per annum, payable in advance in January of each year.

No member shall be entitled to vote or enjoy the privileges of the association whose subscription is in arrear. A member intending to withdraw must give notice in writing to the secretary on or before the December 1 in each year.

A general annual meeting of the members shall be held in Darlington, or such other place as may be decided, in January of each year, to receive the annual report and balance sheet, to elect officers, and transact general business.

General meetings shall be held at intervals, when considered necessary or expedient by the committee, due notice being given by the secretary.

A special general meeting may be called by a requisition to the secretary signed by not less than seven members. Such requisition must state the object for which the meeting is to be convened. The meeting shall be held within twenty-one days from the receipt of the requisition, at a date to be fixed by the chairman. The purpose of the meeting shall be stated in the notice issued to members.

The officers of the association shall consist of a chairman, vice-chairman, treasurer, secretary, and a committee of twelve members.

One-third of the committee shall retire annually in rotation. Retiring members shall be eligible for re-election provided they have attended one-half of the meetings of the committee during their term of office.

Five members shall form a quorum. The chairman, vice-chairman and secretary shall be ex-officio members of the committee.

The committee shall transact the general business of the association. They shall investigate all complaints or other matters submitted to them, and shall have power to engage legal or other assistance, and to take any action they may deem advisable to protect members.

After examining each matter submitted, and the evidence relating thereto, the committee shall decide what action (if any) the association shall take, and what proportion (if any) of the costs incurred shall be borne by them.

No member shall be entitled to receive assistance in matters that have arisen prior to the date of his election, or within a period of three months afterwards.

Members desiring the advice and assistance of the association must supply full particulars to the secretary as early as possible. The committee are not authorised to consider cases that are prejudiced by lapse of time, contributory negligence, or other cause, when brought to their notice. A member giving evidence to the committee of a false or misleading character, or withholding essential or vital particulars, shall forfeit all claims to assistance from the association.

The committee shall have power in cases of emergency or necessity to levy extra subscriptions on members.

All the funds of the association shall be at the disposal of the committee for the time being, and no money shall be expended except by a resolution of the committee.

Aims and Ideals.

The association does not co-operate in buying or selling, as it is found that there is no difficulty in members obtaining all agricultural requirements at the lowest rates from the competitive sources of supply which are now in existence.

Fresh markets for produce or overlapping of supplies come in for attention, and the association has been of considerable assistance in this direction. The association does not interfere in the relations between landlord and tenant.

The "Mark Lane Express" has been appointed the Official Organ of the Darlington Farmers' Protection Association, and in future all Official Notices and Reports will appear in these columns.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

Account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended October 26, 1907, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year (the figures for 1906 are in parentheses):—

Animals, living:—Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves (6,841), 8,382; sheep and lambs (2,391), 1588; horses (280), 277.

Fresh meat:—Beef (88,635 cwts.), 151,151; mutton (59,586), 105,751; pork (12,456), 12,891.

Salted or preserved meat:—Bacon (102,257), cwt.), 76,977; beef (2 478), 2,081; hams (23,114), 13,171; pork (3,026), 4,440; meat, fresh (11,782), 10,393; salted (11,782), 963; meat, preserved (5,856), 10,112.

Dairy produce and substitutes:—Butter (68,330 cwt.), 56,758; margarine (21,271), 14,322; cheese (73,424), 61,907; milk, fresh in cans or drums (—), 2; cream (103), 95; milk, condensed (17,127), 17,943; milk, preserved, other kinds (178), 86.

Eggs (great hundreds):—(427,207), 506,042; poultry (value £3,663), £4,222; game (value £2,843), £3,960; rabbits, dead (not tinned), (24,905 cwt.), 22,090; lard (25,963 cwt.), 30,130.

Corn, grain, meal, and flour:—Wheat (1,405,300 cwt.), 2,461,600; wheat meal and flour (215,900), 210,200; barley (789,800), 943,300; oats (216,700), 265,500; peas (36,340), 137,210; beans (8,190), 89,170; maize or Indian corn (956,000), 1,190,200.

Fruit (raw):—Apples (151,817 cwt.), 103,733; grapes (70,510 cwt.), 87,280; pears (14,539 cwt.), 17,506; plums (8,064 cwt.), 226.

Hay 3,379 tons), 895; straw (1,060 tons), 1,585; moss litter (1,211 tons), 1,627; hops (6,236 cwt.), 6,956; locust beans (21,657 cwt.), 56,404.

Vegetables (raw):—Onions (194,726 bushels), 220,340; potatoes (19,699 cwt.), 205,997; tomatoes (9,109 cwt.), 11,794.

OBITUARY.

Mr. P. Slatter.

We regret to have to announce the death of Mr. Philip Slatter, of Bourton-on-the-Hill, who died in the Moreton-in-Marsh Cottage Hospital on October 26, after an illness of only a fortnight. His malady was a most painful one, viz., an affection of the bladder. Frequenters of the Moreton-in-Marsh Shire Horse Show will learn with regret of Mr. Slatter's death. He has been a prominent exhibitor from the formation of the society. He was one of the first to seize the opportunity of embarking in the Shire horse boom in this district some twenty years ago, and the well-known Shire mare Flower was one of his first notable representatives. On the occasion of her being shown as a two-year-old he was bid 200 guineas for her, but her progeny proved so valuable that perhaps his refusal was not unwise.

The latest of his stars was Bourton Marvellous, a very fine mare of true Shire character, and winner for two or three years at the Moreton-in-Marsh Show. The deceased gentleman leaves a widow, three sons, and two daughters.

Lincolnshire Notes.

THE £500 from the local fund of the Royal Show visit is a nice and an unexpected little plum for the ratepayers of Lincoln. So well did the folk of Lincolnshire respond to the appeal that the fund was over subscribed by £1,000. Of this Lincoln rates will get £500, the Farmers' Benevolent Society £300, and the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society £100. It would have completed a capital scheme of distribution had the other £200 been divided amongst the other agricultural organisations of the city—say the Chamber of Agriculture and the Farmers' Union. Both institutions could have made an excellent and thoroughly educational use of the money.

HOWEVER, we must be content with £100 for the Agricultural Society. Its funds will well do with the money, for although fortunately the society's income has exceeded the expenditure by £209 last year, it has lost, through the visit of the Royal Show to Lincoln, the opportunity of a remunerative show. Let us hope the loss will be more than made up in a bumping success at Sleaford next year. Everything promises well for such a result. A good site has been secured, the draft schedule is prepared, and everybody is looking forward to a big event. Major-General Sir Mildmay Willson is appointed the new president of the society.

IT was Sir Mildmay Wilson, K.C.B., who presided at the notable gathering at which the presentation was made to Mr. Chaplin last week. He is a gentleman of considerable prominence in the Sleaford district, and frequently takes the chair at petty sessions. Sir Mildmay has had a distinguished military career. He entered the Scots Guards in 1866; served with the Guards' Camel Corps on the Nile in 1884-5; was a Special Service officer in South Africa 1901-2, and was thrice mentioned in despatches; was made a K.C.B. in 1902; in 1875 was High Sheriff of Lincolnshire: and now takes a very active part in county affairs. Sir Mildmay is sixty years old.

SOMETHING has got to be done. The outcry against the motor-car grows louder than ever. County councils are waking up to an enormously increased cost of repair of the roads; district councils are writhing under the general nuisance and the danger; and agricultural associations like the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union, which is about to lay its views before the Board of Trade, are everywhere protesting against the annoyance, the danger, the damage, and the unblushing impudence of the motor traffic. The motorist has never been a man and a brother. At his very best his offence is rank, and smells to heaven. But he has become altogether *de trop*. Yet he is much too big an individual to be kicked out. What are we going to do with him?

AS to the roads, it is stated that, at one time, the Great North Road surface lasted ten years; now, in consequence of the heavy motor-car traffic, it only lasts four years. The farmers of Lincolnshire heard with joy that Kesteven County Council will have no more of tarred macadam roads.

WHEAT has not yet found 50s. a quarter, and those farmers who are holding until spring in the expectation of such an event are taking rather a long risk. Nevertheless, there will be no more corn sold than is absolutely necessary this side of Christmas. The excellent condition into which the recent rains have brought the land is very favourable to wheat sowing, and doubtless there will be more land laid down than there has been for many years past. But is not that making rather a long calculation, too? Does it necessarily follow that the foreign harvests will fail in 1908 as they have done in 1907?

IS a wet summer wholly unfavourable to the root crops? Here is rather a potent argument. In the Deepings' acreage classes Mr. Jonathan Ward has again carried off the championship, but this year he has a weight of 51 tons 16 cwt. to the acre as against last year's weight of 66 tons 10 cwt. of mangolds. In last year's dry summer a number of competitors exceeded 50 tons and five scored over 60, but this year Mr. Ward is the only one to exceed 50 tons.

LINCOLNSHIRE is still waiting for the opportunity to grow sugar-beet. Recently Mr. Fell, M.P., speaking at Yarmouth, put some attractive figures before his audience as to the possibilities of beet culture in Norfolk, and he gave the results of some experimental growing on a farm at Martham. The roots had been compared with those of the German culture with the following results:—The quantity of sugar in 100 parts of juice from the Martham roots was 18·70 per cent., and in German (Magdeburg) beet 17 per cent. The quotient of purity was 88·38 per cent, against 88 per cent. of the Magdeburg roots. The quantity of sugar per 100 parts of roots was 17 per cent. from the Martham examples and 14 per cent. from Magdeburg beet. The analyst, Mr. Sigmund Stein, of Liverpool, observed in his certificate that they were good roots for manufacturing purposes, the saccharine content being highly satisfactory and comparing favourably with Continental grown roots.

THE standard for observation, I understand, is that wherever there is an average saccharine content exceeding 10 per cent., sugar growing can be made to pay. There is little doubt about there being plenty of land both in Lincolnshire and Norfolk suitable for beet growing, and plenty of farmers under certain conditions are ready to grow it. But the conditions, we are told, cannot be secured without Government help. And that is a long story.

November 1, 1907.

Northern Notes.

THE county councils in the north have been making inquiries into the "requirements" of the people under the Small Holdings Act, and generally in the agricultural districts the demand is larger than many persons would have conjectured. In several centres of East Yorkshire the demand of the small holdings already existing are profitably cultivated, and there is no difficulty in obtaining them. In the Sculcoates Rural District (near Hull City) the council reported to the county authority its opinion of the difficulty that would be experienced in equipping the holdings with suitable farm buildings, and that an adequate rent would not be obtainable, as the tenants would only want to pay a rent at the same rate as paid for large holdings. It is doubtful, except in special cases of land in proximity to a town, whether small holdings would be a profitable investment, generally speaking. The chairman of a parish meeting in the Bridlington district states that small farms of twenty to fifty acres are always in demand, and are eagerly seized by farm foremen who have saved up a sufficient sum of money and are anxious to start farming on their own account. In one or two villages the returns speak of "more holdings than sufficient to meet the demand." In another parish not many miles away, ten residents sent in "demands" for small holdings "to be supplied at once."

A REMARKABLE answer was received from the Howden Rural District Council. Howden is celebrated for its fine church and its more celebrated horse fair. There is no demand there, however, for small holdings. The authority has not received a single application, neither has there been any discussion or expression of opinion or desire to acquire land under the Act. This is a purely agricultural locality. In two parishes within the borders of this council every cottager has sufficient land for a cow, and throughout the district there are "innumerable" tenants occupying twenty to fifty acres. No "land hunger" therefore exists in that district.

IN the Norton (Malton) rural district, of thirty parishes, nine sent in applications for small holdings, while the reply from the rest was in the negative. In one parish all the cottages have land attached. This is as it should be in villages.

AN example of deterioration in the value of agricultural land was afforded on Tuesday of this week at a sale in Driffield, Yorkshire. Twenty acres of arable land, "as good as any to be found in England," the auctioneer said, sold for £885 to the sitting tenant, who has paid £40 a year rent. The vendor's solicitor (Mr. Luke White, M.P.) stated that when the land changed hands previously it was sold for £1,600. The land is near the town, and well fenced, but has no permanent buildings upon it.

IN Cumberland the county council have issued a circular letter inviting the co-operation of the urban, rural, and parish councils in making the Small Holdings Act known, and bringing them in touch with applicants. They invite applications for (*a*) small holdings, which may consist of any area from 5 to 50 acres; (*b*) allotments from half an acre to 5 acres; (*c*) right of grazing to be held with the holding. Applicants are asked to state the quantity of land required, their past experience in agriculture, the amount of capital at their disposal, and whether houses or buildings are required or not. Applications will be dealt with by sub-committees, consisting of county councillors, and members co-opted from the urban, rural, and parish councils of the districts.

THIS is a most reasonable and highly-to-be-commended system, as all classes of public men will have a voice in the decisions. Cumberland is, on the whole, a county of little fame, and hence it is expected that, in the purely agricultural districts, there will not be a large demand for small holdings. Applications, however, may come from unexpected quarters. Owing to the Cumberland custom of the farm servants living in with the farmers and the lack of cottages in rural districts, the land is tilled mainly by single young men, who when they marry are generally forced by circumstances to abandon agriculture for some other labouring work. The result is that in the towns and populous mining villages there are many men who have been reared on the soil and of whom some would be glad to return to if they could get "a bit of land for their own."

PASSING along from York northwards the other day we observed that many crops of potatoes had been put into "pies" in the fields; in other places girls and women were at work picking potatoes as they were thrown up by the digger. This is dirty and rather loathsome work for females. The crop between York and Newcastle on dry soils is about an average, and is proving better than expectations. On heavy land much disease is experienced. Prices range from 65s. to 80s. per ton. The best potatoes are delivered at £4, which is a considerable advance on the prices of 1906 at the corresponding period. Dear bread may also mean dear potatoes, and with coals at a high price, and hundreds of men out of work in the North, much distress is anticipated throughout the winter months.

SOME curious names of farms are to be met with in Yorkshire. There is a "Cheesecake" farm somewhere on the Wolds; but many of these can be matched by the names of inns to which land is generally attached. The "Cat and Bagpipes" at Harlsay is one of these. The tenant there for fifty years was a Mr. Fawcett, who has tilled land or helped in the tilling of it for seventy years, and is still in vigorous health.

THE possibility of getting the corn crops harvested earlier in the year is a problem that will require a good deal of working out. Would that it were possible to accomplish so desirable a thing. Any such plan would be welcomed by hundreds of farmers in the North who have still many patches lying out in the fields rotting and growing together. I mentioned in my notes of last week that on Yorkshire wold farms (I hear of two of 300 acres apiece) not a single sheaf had then been gathered. My informant—a valuer in a large way of business—is of opinion that the cereals on these holdings, if every day was fine, would not be harvested much before Christmas, and snow may be expected before all is carted.

SOME of the forest trees are retaining their greenness a long time, notably the ash, no frosts to speak of having as yet been experienced to cause a profuse shedding of the leaves. A continuance of the open weather is hoped for that farmers may pursue ploughing operations while the land is in a "kindly" condition.

October 31, 1907.

THE YORKSHIRE UNION.

A general meeting of the Yorkshire Union of Agricultural Clubs and Chambers of Agriculture will be held at the Agricultural Club House, Pavement, York, on Thursday next, the 7th inst., at 2.30 p.m., when Captain Mark Sykes will give an address on "Agriculture and the State," whilst a discussion on the sheep dipping Regulations will be introduced by Mr. Edward Robinson.

The sale of twenty-nine farms and plantations owned by Lord Penrhyn in South Carnarvonshire by auction at Pwllheli Town Hall on Wednesday realised a total of £31,435. Two of seven lots withdrawn were sold privately. In the majority of cases the tenants were purchasers.

The Traders' Association of Eastleigh, Hampshire, have appointed a committee to make inquiries from stock breeders, farmers, and dealers as to the desirability of establishing a cattle and corn market at Eastleigh. At the meeting it was pointed out that Eastleigh has become a most important centre, and the establishment of the railway works there had brought a large population to the district. From a village the place has become a largely populated town.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Bottling Fruit.

SIR,—I thank the writer of "Northern Notes" for his reply to my questions on the subject of fruit bottling by cottagers in preference to jam making. I see that your correspondent agrees that the capital expenditure of 2½d. each for bottles (which can be easily broken) is prohibitive for the average cottager, and he goes on to suggest that old pickle-jars with wide mouths, which may be purchased at marine-stores for about a half-penny each, should be utilised for the above purpose.

I should like to point out that the high price of the receptacles sold for fruit bottling is on account of the stopper, not the bottle, and I should be glad if your correspondent will say what kind of stopper or cover he would use for the halfpenny pickle-jar, assuming that nothing in the shape of syrup or sugar is put with the fruit as a preservative. It seems to me that the whole thing hinges on this, and if fruit can be successfully bottled in unemployed pickle-jars that can be bought at half-penny each, why in the name of all that is reasonable should any person go to the expense of buying specially made bottles at twopence-halfpenny apiece?

Perhaps your correspondent will oblige with a little further information that would be highly beneficial to a lot of people who would not have to lay out even the modest halfpenny on bottles for the simple reason that they have a stock on the premises. Your correspondent refers to the stumbling block in the way of the poor "preserving" fruit by jam making on account of the initial cost of a proper brass pan. Just so, but when a brass pan is obtained it will last a lifetime and comparing the initial cost of home-made jam in a season when fruit is plentiful by the side of jam bought from a shop, even a brass pan would soon pay for itself.

But is a brass pan necessary for the requirements of a cottage? As a matter of fact, I have an enamel pan that has been in use in my house for some years for jam making, and it answers the purpose well, though the initial cost was only a few shillings. I cannot see any real reason why cottage folk should not take advantage of a plentiful crop of fruit by making jam, even allowing for the dearness (comparatively) of sugar.

I am sure it would be cheaper than buying jam at the grocer's, and probably the fact that people will not take the trouble is the real reason why the grocer does such a good trade in jam. However, if your correspondent will kindly give me the information *re* stoppers or covers for the half-penny pickle-jar I should feel obliged to him.—Yours, &c.,

COUNTRYMAN.

October 3, 1907.

Couch-Grass Growing Through the Rough Potato.

SIR,—I enclose you a potato with couch-grass growing right through it. To me it seems odd. But, knowing this weed as a great master, perhaps it may not be very extraordinary.—Yours, &c.,

E. W. H.

October 28, 1907.

*** You are quite right, it does seem odd to see a piece of couch-grass growing right through a potato, and the specimen you sent illustrating this is highly interesting. At the same time it is by no means an unprecedented case, as I have on one or two occasions dug potatoes which had couch grass growing through them. One thing the specimen proves, if any proof is really needed, namely, the remarkable persistency of this weed which will bore its way through a potato tuber instead of steering a course round it, as one would naturally expect. You speak of couch-grass as a great master. I quite agree with the definition, and after an illustration like the one before me, I can believe almost anything of the weed.—RUSTICUS.

Perry and Perry Making.

SIR,—It might be interesting to some of your readers to know that the collection of perry pears at the Brewers' Exhibition, which you so favourably commented upon in your last week's issue, came from Pershore, Worcestershire—a little town which has been noted for its perry for many hundreds of years. The collection contained all the best kinds of perry pears grown in the district lying between Bredon Hill, the most outlying spur of the Cotswold Hills, and Malvern Hill, except the Taynton Squash pear, which, being the earliest of all the perry pears, could not be saved for the show.

It appears that perry making was introduced into the district by the Benedictine monks of the ancient abbey of Pershore in the reign of Henry II., and in many works there are references to its manufacture in connection with the town; amongst them, in Symond's "Hanley Castle," certain royalists in the reign of Charles I. are mentioned as calling at the White Horse Inn near the Lych Gate, "where the natives were assembled drinking their favourite beverage and quoting the old distich":—

"Pershore perry with a toast,
Is the drink that I love most."

In the Victorian Counties History, under the heading "Trades of Worcestershire" is mentioned the perry making of the Pershore district, and especially that "early in the nineteenth century, one Tommy Hope (of the Royal Three Tuns Hotel, Pershore) had in his cellar famous Balm perry (as he called it) which was thirty years old. It was dark as porter, and was kept in vats holding about 500 gallons each."

All trace of the pear from which this balm perry was made is, however, lost. We cannot find that any attempt to produce the perry on scientific lines was made until very recent years, when a local chemist gave it his attention, and the fact that for three years in succession the silver medals for dry perry at the Brewers' Exhibition, and this year the first prizes at the Royal Show at Lincoln, both for perry and dry cider, have found their way to Pershore seems to show that the old industry of the district is worth reviving.

It is thought by some that the very name of Pershore is a corruption of Pear shore, and as the town lies on the banks of the Avon, and pear trees many of them hundreds of years old are to be found flourishing there in every direction, it may be that this is true.

One further fact may be worth recording, that is, that the finest perry comes from the very oldest trees, and that juices of the fruit from younger trees of the same varieties does not show the same richness upon analysis.

When cider apples are scarce perry pears are usually plentiful, and *vice versa*. This year the pears are plentiful, and as the collection proved, are of medium size and of good quality, a sample of juice which we examined showing a density of 1081.

We think more will be heard of Pershore perry in the near future.—Yours, &c.,

PERSHORIAN.

October 31, 1907.

The Harvest in Warwickshire.

SIR,—The harvest is all secured in good ricking condition, but there are still a few spring beans left to carry on the deeper and later soil.

Most of the farmers had such a trying time with the hay, and were therefore afraid to give the corn much field room, and there are in consequence a good many rough samples of grain on the market. The yield is generally satisfactory, some crops that are threshed turning out better than was expected.

Owing to the welcome advance in prices there was a great demand on the threshing machines, and they are fully employed. This takes longer than usual, as a good deal of the corn is long and cut by hand, which rolls up the sheaves, and it does not run through the drum as well as usual.

There is an abundance of keep, and roots are doing well, especially late-planted swedes. The earlier swedes and turnips are mildewed a good deal, and will want some cake with them if fat stock are expected.

Stock of all kinds sell well, except old sows and half-fat bullocks. Good stores are in demand, and lambs suitable for going on to roots sell better than fat sheep.

Hay is very low in price, and the same may be said of straw. At a recent sale of ricks none of the hay and clover made much over £2 in the rick, unless the vendor agreed to cart to station or wharf.

Still, all things considered, 1907 will not rank as one of the lean years, or least expensive.

C. P.

Farm Work in North Lincoln.

SIR,—We are all intensely busy, too busy to thrash, be the pocket never so needy. The season wanes apace, and although the potatoes are nearly all in their pies, yet wurtzels, which are so easily frosted, must be cared for. The Irishmen have worked well and steadily, and so they should, when they earn or get 7s. 7d. per day picking potatoes by piecework. We had a small crop, so by contrary we gave more per acre, and as a result they roll in money.

Heavy rains prevent the seedwheat being sown in the potato land, and all horse work is very heavy, but no doubt a change of weather will put this right, and wheat does not like a dusty bed.

The lambs are doing well on the turnips, of which they eat and enjoy their quantum, as well as plenty of cake. Several were lost from worm in the throat, but are healthy now round the district.

Sharps, bran, &c., are scarce and dear, but as wheat, &c., is also higher, we must make the best of it. I trust prices of farm produce are permanently dearer.

NORTH LINDSEY.

November 1, 1907.

Town or Country Life.

SIR,—In your issue of the 28th I read an interesting letter touching on the rush to the town of the farm labourer. Your writer says he is tired of the hackneyed cry of country lads being lured to the town by lighted streets, amusements, and excitements, and goes on to say, let us be honest and admit it is wages, prospects, shorter hours, and a spirit of independence which prompts him to leave his country home.

Now, in my opinion, that is not all that draws our country lads. A few years ago you did not find many labourers' cottages without a pig-sty and garden, he could grow a few potatoes, &c., and feed a good-sized pig to land him over the winter. But the restrictions have been so severe that his sty has been condemned and pulled down.

Then our education keeps lads at school learning subjects that are no earthly use to most lads in the village; consequently he wants a cuff-and-collar job, so he goes to the town. Now in some cases a farm labourer's wages do not come up to the wages in the town, but in some they do; when you speak of a town man's wage it is so much all told.

Then the farm man's wage has extras not often mentioned. I myself have a man to-day I am paying 18s. per week and £2 extra—hours, 6.30 to 6, 5.30 Saturday—for harvest, house and garden found. House rent costs me £3 10s., rates 12s. 6d. per year, two pints old milk daily, coals, and permission to grow potatoes in the field, and, in addition to this, all the fixtures in his house are valued to me. And often you can find men with all these extras and from 20s. to 25s. per week.

Now for a comparison. I have a friend in business in Manchester who wanted a junior clerk two years ago at 12s. 6d. per week all told. Accordingly an advert. was sent: "Wanted Junior Clerk, 12s. 6d. weekly;" and next morning brings seventy-five applications—some men married, thirty and thirty-five years old.

Now, how does a farm labourer's prospects compare with this? How many of the leading firms employ men over forty-five in our towns (in these days of compensation)? Not many. But how many farms but will keep the labourer until he is seventy! Very few farmers to-day but would pay him more if he could do so.

Find the British farmer a better price for his produce, then he will gladly pay more for his labour.—Yours, &c.,

J. L. BROWN.

Worksop, November 1, 1907.

Barley, Hops, and Substitutes at the Brewers' Exhibition.

SIR,—I have read with interest various Press accounts of the barley, hops, &c., exhibited at the recent Brewers' Exhibition. I remember recently reading a Government return of the ingredients other than malt and hops which were used in the manufacture of "beer." They comprised hop substitutes, glucose, flaked maize, and rice. I cannot quote from memory their amounts in hundredweights, but they totalled an enormous amount.

I see no mention of any prizes given to them. I should imagine that they must vary in quality as do barley and hops, or that as such large quantities have hitherto been used, it must of necessity be of moment to brewers to know their varied degrees of excellence.

As nothing appears to have been mentioned in the Press about them, we must either infer:—

1. That none were exhibited. Query: If not, why not?
2. That the reporters overlooked them.
3. Or that they have fallen into disuse.

Should the latter inference be correct, we shall see no mention of them in future Government returns, and we shall then know that "beer" is malt and hops, as it was formerly, and is not a decoction from these varied substances, as much of it must recently have been.

COLIN CAMPBELL.

Stapleford, Newark, November 1, 1907.

Motors and the Farmers.

Our attention was called to the following extract referring to the recent accident described in our columns. The *Morning Advertiser* of the 17th inst. said:—

"A correspondent in the columns of the MARK LANE EXPRESS complains of having had a flock of his sheep run into by a car, six being killed and two others severely injured, and naturally expresses wrathful indignation. The facts concerning the matter considerably weaken the case of the farmer, for I learn that his flock of sheep was being driven along the highway at night time without a light being used, or if there was a light it was not properly displayed."

Upon this we wrote to Mr. Owtram, who in reply to the above sent us the following letter:—

SIR,—In reply to your letter of the 22nd inst., the

time at which the accident in question took place was stated to be about 7 p.m., and my man said it was "just dusk," the lamps of the car were lighted. Other motorists tell me that if the driver had not been exceeding twenty miles an hour, he could have easily have seen the sheep and pulled up. The accident occurred on a wide, straight part of the main North Road.

The author of the article you enclosed discreetly passes over the conduct of the occupants of the car in bolting after stopping for a moment and seeing the damage they had done. I have, however, to inform you that the owner of the car, after seeing in the papers that the sheep belonged to me, came to apologise and make reparation. I consequently did not take legal proceedings, and have not divulged his name. He admitted that there was absolutely no excuse whatever for the conduct displayed.

Considering that motorists are not taxed for the relief of the highway rates, where is the justification for the suggestion that farmers, simply for the benefit of motorists, should be put to the expense of employing men to carry lights (front and rear) when driving cattle or sheep home from markets, &c., in the evening, as in this case?

Why are not strong representations made by all district councils, &c., for pressure to be put upon the proper authorities to enforce the law as it stands in regard to the speed of motors?—

Yours, &c., HERBERT H. OWTRAM.

Newland Hall, Ellel, near Lancaster,
October 23, 1907.

Royal Cornwall.

The accounts presented at the annual meeting of the Royal Cornwall Agricultural Association showed that the receipts for the past year amounted to £2,419 7s. 10d., and the expenditure to £2,473 18s. 2d., there being a debit balance of £54 10s. 4d. It was explained that, taking into account the balance that had been available, the total loss on the year's working was £146. A member asked whether the loss was due to the bad weather affecting the attendances at the show, and the secretary replied that that was so. The show itself was, however, all that could be expected, and was, in fact, one of the best exhibitions the society had ever held.

The report stated that for 1908 the council had received invitations from Helston and St. Ives, and had accepted the former. The hope was expressed to the deputation from St. Ives that they would renew their kind invitation at the next favourable opportunity. A large number of new members had been added to the society, clearly indicating that its popularity and usefulness were well sustained.

The report of the dairy section stated that there could be no doubt that the Cornwall County Council Dairy School was materially improving the butter making of the county, and the 143 entries very clearly indicated that the Royal Cornwall competitions and exhibitions were becoming more popular and useful.

Mr. Llewellyn (Penzance) spoke of the desirability of cattle being properly weighed before they were sold, and said there should be a weighbridge for that purpose in every market. He suggested that a demonstration of weighing should be given at next year's show.

The chairman, the Hon. J. Boscawen, pointed out that that proposal was outside the operations of the society. The matter was dealt with by the recording of a minute to the effect that Mr. Llewellyn had called attention to the value of the use of a weighbridge in the sale of stock.

Prior to the annual meeting the council of the association met and appointed the following as the committee to arrange the prize schedule for next year's show:—Messrs. J. C. Williams (Devons), W. James (Shorthorns), F. W. Rowe (South Devons), the Hon. J. Boscawen (Channel Islands), P. G. Brown (sheep), G. Nickell, Body, and Robins (horses), Warne (pigs), the Hon. J. Boscawen (dairy section), J. Frayne (horse shoeing), and Mr. J. de Cressy Trefry.

A letter was received from Mr. Trefry advocating a suggestion, emanating from the War Office, that the society should arrange for classes for remounts for the Army. This was approved of by the council, and sent forward to the Prize Schedule Committee.

Devon.

The report presented at the annual meeting of the Devon County Agricultural Society referred to the success which attended the county show at Bideford, and stated that owing to the need for improvement in the manner in which the catering had been carried out, the council for the first time determined to undertake the detail of this department themselves, and supply visitors to the show with a good article at a reasonable price. The results attained both in providing for the requirements of the public and from a financial point of view might be regarded as eminently satisfactory, and it was felt that the experiment should be continued. The council recorded their most cordial thanks to Lord Clinton for so ably carrying out the duties of president, and also to the local committee and inhabitants of Bideford, and the neighbourhood generally for the facilities provided, and the warm welcome given to the association. It was unfortunate that the agricultural societies of Torrington and Barnstaple were unable to give up their local shows in favour of the county show, though they took advantage of the facilities offered to local societies and accepted free admission tickets for their members. The accounts showed a credit balance of £1,093, as against £1,176 last year.

The report was adopted, and the election of the Earl of Morley as president agreed to, as also were the dates suggested for the Plymouth show, viz., May 19, 20, and 21 next year. A discussion followed *re* the action of the Barnstaple and Torrington societies holding their show notwithstanding the fact they accepted free tickets for the county show, and Mayor R. C. Tucker moved:—"That any local agricultural society, which holds its own shown in the same year in which the Devon County Agricultural Association visits its district, be not offered the same privileges as have hitherto been awarded to the members of a local agricultural society that gives up its own show in favour of the Devon County Show." The resolution was, however, considered too drastic, but was eventually carried by 22 votes to 10, on condition that it did not become operative until after 1908.

Prior to the above meeting the council met, and amongst other items considered was a letter from the National Commercial Temperance League, asking the association to follow the example of the Highland Society by taking steps to adopt a regulation prohibiting the free distribution of alcoholic drinks from stands in the show. It was, however, the general opinion that there had never been any ill-effects from the hospitality of exhibitors, and that prohibition was not necessary.

Mr. A. Scott Browne presented the report of the committee on registration of stallions. Professor Penberty, of the Royal Veterinary College, had examined forty-seven stallions, of which forty-four passed the examination, but two of these were subsequently disqualified as they were not pure bred, and one other was sold out of the county, and not so registered; eight stallions which were exempt from veterinary examination were also registered, making a total of forty-nine (as compared with fifty-three in 1906), comprising thirty-one Shires, fifteen Thoroughbreds, and three Hackneys. But for the loss of six ponies which were registered last year, the numbers would have been fully as strong as then. The registration of mares was steadily growing. One new society had started to register this year, bringing the number up to thirteen, which covered five-sixths of the whole county. As evidence of the progress of the registration movement, nine local societies were offering prizes for registered stallions and mares and their progeny amounting to £150. This year £19 was voted by the council as prize money for registered stock, but with this evidence of what had been done by local societies, it was hoped that a larger sum would be voted for the purpose during the coming year. The thanks of the association were due to the guarantors, who had made good the deficits on the first three years' working of the registration scheme, and whose liability had now ceased. The balance-sheet showed a loss of only £9 14s., as compared with £13 14s. in 1906, and £12 in 1905.

The report was adopted, and acknowledgment was made of the valuable services rendered by Mr. Scott Browne and Mr. Bowden on the subject of registration, Mr. Loveys remarking that the work of the committee would undoubtedly lead to an improvement in the breed of horses in the county.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

Chief or Quit Rents.

SIR,—As a constant reader of your valuable paper, and taking much interest in the legal replies, I should like to have your opinion on the following question:—

We have to pay a payment which is called chief rent, due to the Crown as lord of the lordship or manor.

We farmers have paid it regularly till this year, but we have not paid it this year, and we do not intend to do so, because we do not believe it is an honest payment, though they are only a few shillings. My rent is £900, and the chief rent, as it is called, about 6s. If you please, I should like to know if you think that we must pay them.

A YOUNG FARMER.

[If the quit rent is incidental to the Crown as lords of the manor, I think you must pay. You do not give me any information showing me any good reason why you should not. You say you do not think it is an honest payment—that is, I suppose, that the Crown has no claim; but why? If you will inform me I will endeavour to deal with it.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.]

Nottinghamshire Notes.

NOVEMBER, the month of fogs, has arrived, and in Nottingham, on Thursday evening, it was impossible to see more than two or three feet ahead. The fog was so bad about nine o'clock that cabmen had actually to lead their horses, it being impossible to distinguish the roadway from the footpaths. In the Hyson Green district I met a dairyman with his milk float at 9.30 who had still over three gallons of milk to deliver, but had decided to abandon all idea of proceeding further on his round, it being well nigh impossible to find the houses in streets where the residences are built in the same style of architecture. He said he left home at 3.30, and generally finished at seven, reaching his farm about an hour later. On Thursday night, however, it would be well after midnight before he got his horse into the stable.

DEATH has this week removed a well-known farmer in this district in Mr. William Widdowson, who occupied for several years the Glebe Farm at Stanton-on-the-Wolds. He had been at work on a straw stack on the farm of Mr. T. Emmerson, at Willoughby, on Tuesday morning, while threshing operations were in progress. Suddenly, without any warning, Mr. Widdowson fell forward and expired from heart disease in a few moments. Deceased retired from farming three or four years back, and had been living at Willoughby, near Loughborough.

THE annual show of the Collingham Farmers' Club was held on Thursday, and, despite the cold and dull weather, there was a large attendance, the event being looked forward to with pleasure by a large number of farmers in the Newark district, while not a few were present from Lincoln way. This year's fixture makes the 67th ploughing match, and bearing in mind that an agricultural and poultry show are also held, it can with truth be said that the club does a great deal of good.

ENTRIES showed a slight decrease in the ploughing competitions, but a reason for this is that farmers are very busy just now owing to a late harvest, and several waggoners and others engaged on farms would have been competitors but for this. Still, the work done was of the best order, every man competing clearly showing that he knew how to handle a plough.

IN the other section of the affair there were 400 entries, against 370 last year, and Mr. R. Dakin, of Sutton-on-Trent, carried off several first prizes in the cattle classes, two cows which won premier honours being especially good animals. In the sheep classes, Mr. J. Slack, of Besthorpe, was well to the fore, and there is no doubt that the existence of the Collingham Farmers' Club is ensured for many years to come.

AN address on "Sheep Dips" was given in the Nottingham University College on Wednesday evening, by Mr. Oliver Quibell, of Newark. The question of sheep parasites, said Mr. Quibell, was one of extreme importance, and he was glad that the gravity of the subject had been recognised by the agricultural departments of the majority of the Governments throughout the world. So far as sheep scab was concerned, the measures adopted had been largely successful. In New Zealand and Australia most stringent measures had been adopted, and the result was that both countries, which at one time were overridden with scab were now practically free.

MR. Quibell said that they were hoping that with the co-operation of the farmer and those interested, that the Board of Agriculture of Great Britain would soon be able to report a similar state of affairs. The good effect of an arsenical dip upon the quality of the fleece of the animal dipped in it was amply proved by the high prices obtained for the wool at the London and provincial markets. The Sheep Dipping Committee had also found that carbolic acid dips were highly effective as parasiticides, yet their lasting properties were very small, and in this respect inferior to arsenical dips. The address was given in connection with the Nottingham section of the Society of Chemical Industry, of whom Mr. Quibell is chairman for the year.

WHILE at Leicester last week I had a walk around the town, and I was very much surprised to see so many dairy shops selling practically nothing else but butter, cheese, eggs, and milk. What is more, nearly all the milk was sterilised and in bottles with patent fasteners. I was told that there was an enormous trade done in this sterilised milk, and that many workmen took it with them to work in preference to tea or beer. What a contrast this is to Nottingham! I question if there are more than two shops in the city selling dairy produce and nothing else, while I believe it would almost be impossible to purchase

For 1907.

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Made of the same material as above, which is THE BEST.

MEN'S, 2 Buckles (as shown) 4/6
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Iron fixed on Soles and Heels if desired.

SEND us a Postal Order stating the size wanted, and by return you will receive a pair of our "WARMFELTS."

E. BROWN & SON, Country Footwear Specialists,

313, ARGYLE STREET, GLASGOW.

a bottle of sterilised milk. There is room in this district for an enterprising firm to start a milk sterilising depôt.

I HAD a chat on Saturday last with Mr. Hardstaff, of the firm of Hardstaff and Brown, the well-known corn merchants in this district, with reference to the question of the registration of corn samples. Mr. Hardstaff admitted that the idea was a good one, but thought that it would scarcely be practicable owing to the average farmer being against any trouble or extra work. That it would avoid much friction on both sides was freely admitted, and Mr. Hardstaff mentioned a typical instance of a farmer not delivering up to sample which has occurred within the past few days.

THE farmer in question brought a sample of blue peas, which Messrs. Hardstaff and Brown bought. He stated that the sample had been taken from a bulk which had passed through the dressing machine. The peas were duly delivered, but the bulk was very different from the sample, and worth from 5s. to 10s. per qr. less money. Investigations subsequently made showed that the farmer in question had no dressing machine, but declares that the sample had not been picked over before being sold. Here then is a case where, had the sample been registered, much trouble would have been saved and the merchants freed from all blame had they refused to accept delivery.

HALF-HOLIDAYS have long been regarded as the right of the working man employed in towns, and from what I hear, labourers are about to demand a half-day's respite from toil weekly in addition to the Sabbath. Speaking to a large farmer in this county in the Cattle Market, Nottingham, on Wednesday, he informed me that two of his labourers had left because he refused to allow them to have their Saturday afternoons off. Both have gone as carters at collieries where this privilege is enjoyed, and now another day man has come forward and says that he is also leaving if he does not get off by four o'clock on Saturdays. This plainly shows the difficulties farmers have to contend with in colliery districts, where work is plentiful.

MALTING barley, of the best quality, is in demand at our local markets, and I learn that up to 38s. per qr. is being paid for really good lots. Merchants are complaining bitterly of the poor samples on offer just now, and declare that they are only fit for grinding. Good barleys are more scarce than usual this year, and farmers with grain of the right sort can almost always get their own price from the big brewers just now.

THE Small Holdings Act was discussed by our county council at Nottingham on Tuesday last, and they decided to take full advantage of the powers conferred upon them by the new measure. Lord Galway said they had two broad principles to consider—first, the discovery of suitable people to take advantage of the Act, people who understood agriculture, and who would afterwards get larger holdings; and, secondly, the position of the ratepayer in the matter, and on those lines he thought they would all be animated to carry out the act as far as possible.

LORD BELPER said he entirely concurred with the suggestions contained in a circular letter sent by the Board of Agriculture. He thought the County Council should take the initiative without waiting for the Commissioners to make suggestions. Hr was sure that if the Act was to be satisfactorily carried out it would be much more efficiently and smoothly worked if they had the help and local knowledge which the members of the County Council possessed. He suggested that the present Small Holdings Committee of the council should be asked to take the initial steps suggested by the Board of Agriculture, which was agreed to.

AT the same council meeting General Warrand submitted the report of the Foods and Drugs Act Committee, which showed that fifty-four samples of new milk had been taken and examined, and nine of them were found to be adulterated. One had been mixed with skimmed milk, and eight with water from 2 to 9 per cent. The opportunity for having foodstuffs analysed at a small cost was being taken more advantage of. One sample examined was sold as fourths, but was found to contain a large proportion of oat husks.

R. K.

November 1, 1907.

At Ely October fair there was a moderate supply of stock, more especially of superior home-breds, and a very fair trade was experienced. Buds and steers sold from £6 to £8, stores from £9 to £14, and milch cows £14 to £20. Horses varied greatly; good agricultural animals reached £65; nags and trade horses changed hands at from £20 to £35.

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They require a little

"GARSTANG TONIC"

In the morning's soft food, which will keep them free from Colds, Roup, &c., and in a short time the Egg Production will be wonderfully improved.

All Poultry Keepers ought to know its value. Ask those who have tried it!

Beech Mount, Garstang.

Mr. J. Thomas, Dear Sir,—My Turkeys for last Xmas kept dying off one by one until I was afraid I was going to lose them all; my man, Walter Cross, had heard something of your Powder, so he suggested to me one day that we should try the "Garstang Tonic." We did so, and I can assure you that we lost very few more, and what were left fed up and were as good a lot of Turkeys as ever I had for Xmas. I also gave it to some Irish pullets, and it had exactly the same effect on them, smartening them up, and making them ready in very little time. I can confidently recommend the "Garstang Tonic" as the best preparation ever I have used, and I have tried a good many in my time.—Yours respectfully,

(Signed) Robert Marsden.

To be had from all Grocers and Chemists. Be sure you ask for Thomas's "Garstang Tonic," and don't be put off with any other. If you have any difficulty in obtaining the Powder write direct, and you shall have a tin per return.

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(See "The Field," Feb. 6, 1904).

Since the fact was discovered, hundreds of poultry keepers are increasing their egg production by giving a teaspoonful of Colman's Mustard, for every six fowls, mixed in the dry meal before adding the water. It invigorates the ovaries and keeps the hens in good condition. Ask your friends who have tried it.

The best Mustard for the purpose is, of course,

Colman's Mustard

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POULTRY.

Turkey Rearing Hints.

The object of everyone who feeds young turkeys should be to get them to eat as much as possible, and to accomplish this pains must be taken. After they are on their feet they should be fed every two hours during the day.

There is not any better food for them than scalded biscuit meal, or specially prepared chicken and pheasant meal, which is a mixture of fine biscuit flour, ground oats, buckwheat meal, and several other nourishing meals.

Do not on any account give the young birds anything which is wet or sloppy. They are very clean in their ways, and like crumbly food, but not anything which adheres to their beaks. Soaked bread should be avoided unless the birds are constipated, when a feed of this may be safely given, as it is relaxing.

The scalded biscuit meal should be given for the first meal in the morning, then a mixture of ground oats and middlings, mixed nice and crumbly, then a feed of split groats, and then biscuit meal again, and so on, always giving groats for the last feed.

After they are a week old, whole groats should be given instead of split ones, and when they are three weeks old small, best quality wheat may be substituted for the groats. The young birds should be plentifully supplied with green food.

A little roup powder added to their soft food twice a day will prevent colds and help the birds very much.

They are very fond of onions, and these, chopped very finely with young blades of grass, make a good mixture for them. The green food for all young birds requires to be perfectly fresh and crisp, and chopped up very small indeed, and should be given between the feeds in the morning, and in the afternoon may be mixed with some fine oatmeal and substituted for one of the feeds of meal.

Those who have the care of young turkeys should always be careful to notice the excrements of the birds, for they are apt to have constipation, and where the back passage becomes clogged there is very little hope of recovery, as the birds are so frail they must have a constant supply of nourishing food, and there must be an outlet for the waste material.

Quite a number of young turkeys die every year from a stoppage at the vent, which could easily be prevented.

After the turkey chicks are two days old they should have fine flint grit sprinkled on the board on which they are fed—twice a day—at the time of giving soft food, so that it adheres to this, and is eaten with the food.

The question of sharp grit for the feathered tribes is becoming much better understood than it was formerly, and we are very glad of it, as this is a very important matter. When birds have their liberty they search about and pick up all the sharpest small stones they can get, which go into the gizzard for the purpose of grinding their food; and it is necessary that this habit of these birds should show us that there is need for some material sufficiently hard and sharp to answer that purpose for our birds which are cooped.

We believe in a supply of fresh water for young turkeys—this being given to them in a perfectly clean saucer, and renewed as often as necessary.

Avoid feeding on a lot of hard-boiled egg, which is much too constipating; good nutritious cereal food is much better for the birds, and the advantage of a good biscuit meal is that it is a perfectly-cooked food.

The addition of finely chopped meat after the birds are a fortnight old is advisable, granulated meat being a good substitute where the fresh meat is not to be had.

It is very important that young turkeys be kept perfectly dry. If they are allowed to get damp, and particularly before they are seven weeks old, they nearly always fall victims to inflammation of the lungs.

In order that they may be kept quite dry it is a good plan te have a covered run attached to each coop. The run should have a wooden top and a strip of wire netting of fine mesh 6 in. wide let in along the centre of the two sides, but not at the end.

The run should be 18 in. high and 30 in. long, and this will give 6 in. of board top and bottom of sides, with the wire netting along the centre, so that the birds have fresh air.

The coop and run should always be placed back to the wind, and should there be a storm or a little shower a sack should be covered over the side of the run where the wind blows, to keep the birds dry; the other side of the run will provide them with fresh air.

We find it a good plan to put dry road dust or peat moss dust, to the depth of at least two inches, on the floor of the run, so that the birds' feet are kept quite dry.

The run should be fastened on to the coop with small hooks, so that the young birds will be quite safe from cats. In the coop where the hen is dry road dust or peat moss dust should also be used.

An Incubating Station.

The Street and District Collecting Depôt, Ltd., held a meeting at "The Bear," Street, Somerset, last Wednesday, to consider a scheme for starting an incubating station and fattening centre in connection with the Egg Depôt. It is pointed out that the difficulties which most poultry breeders have to contend with are (1) hatching enough early chicken; (2) disappointment in disposing of cockerels for table purposes. The committee have often had these matters under consideration, but concluded that they were not a large enough body to stand much chance of success. They, however, now believe that with the recent additions to their ranks and the prospect of still further increase, they may very well be able to successfully negotiate a combined scheme, the two portions of which are essential to each other. It is proposed to start an incubating station with incubators to hold 5,000 eggs to hatch pure-bred birds from eggs bought for the purpose, and to sell day old or six week old chicken, and also to incubate members' eggs at a fixed charge. The objects aimed at will include:—

1. The improvement of laying strain by hatching from good stock.
2. Hatching earlier to obtain more winter eggs.
3. Hatching stock fit for fattening.

It is hoped that members and poultry-keepers will help in the following ways:—

(*a*) By taking as many of these early chickens as possible to rear.

(*b*) By keeping pure flocks of fowls from which the eggs for incubating may be obtained.

The fattening centre is to assist in marketing table poultry, and to make the best prices possible for cockerels for killing. Poultry for this purpose must be of suitable breed to fetch good prices, and there is more profit to be made with early chicken. It is proposed to buy chicken to fatten, and also, if desired, to fatten and market poultry for any member.

The importance of the meeting and movement can hardly be over-estimated as a pioneer of future undertakings and assistance to the poultry industry, not only in this neighbourhood but generally.



Photo by [*Clarke and Hyde,*

ON A TURKEY FARM: A MEAL IN THE FIELD BEFORE BEING TAKEN HOME.

Midland Notes.

MIDLAND agriculturists are watching with much interest the renewed movement towards the formation of an agricultural party in Parliament. Especially is interest strong in Staffordshire, whose Chamber of Agriculture passed an unanimous resolution last May upon the subject, thereby bringing it once again under the notice of the Central Chamber.

ANYBODY who has seen anything of election-eering knows full well that when the day of trial comes the bonds of political party allegiance prove generally too strong to be broken. But there are healthy signs that in many districts of the Midlands a Parliamentary candidate who was agriculturist first and politician afterwards would find no lack of support. It looks as though some recent county council contests, in which farmers have come boldly forward in order to make a stand against increasing expenditure, had done good in this respect. They have done something to arouse the instinct of self-preservation and the fighting spirit, and to demonstrate to agriculturists the power they possess. And the spread of the co-operative movement, which has a strong hold now in Stafford, Warwick, and Worcester, has not been without its influence.

SOME of our Worcestershire folk, who have the very gratified pleasure of getting a living off small holdings, seem to be watching Earl Carrington's oratorical career with rather critical eyes. The other day the President of the Board of Agriculture told of his twenty-five small tenants at Drayton Parslow, in Bucks, who "succeeded in raising 5 qr. of wheat an acre, of the value of £10"—and that on a "poor, cold clay." "My word!" was the comment of a local man, "if I could get a regular £2 a quarter for my wheat, wouldn't I just let the fruit go! But I couldn't." And that feeling is not unusual. Will not Earl Carrington explain how his tenants manage to sell their produce at a rate so much above the average? Or was he speaking of one fortunate season? If so, the point of the argument seems a little blunted.

THE Worcestershire County Council has issued an instructive report upon the experimental spraying for the apple sucker, undertaken by Mr. Kenneth Furley. This, in an ordinary year, is easily the most troublesome pest with which the Worcestershire growers have to deal; and it is hardly less common in other districts.

MR. FURLEY'S report indicates that much in the history of the sucker still remains obscure. Nevertheless, it is a document of real value, for its perusal will save growers from wasting further time, labour, and money over some popular washes which have been definitely ascertained to be ineffective. These include the ordinary and double strengths of caustic soda, the three strengths of paraffin emulsion, lime and paraffin, and paraffin and soda. Of lime, sulphur, and caustic soda, the best that can be said is that in the trials it did kill a few—but very few—of the ova. Apparently the lime and salt wash is the only thing really worth trying.

THE gooseberry-mildew pest keeps up its reputation as the most-talked-of nuisance for a long time past. Outbreaks at Bidford and Salford Priors are among the latest reported, and an unpleasant impression has been produced by the recent friction between the County Council of Worcestershire and Professor W. E. Collinge, who has offended the local authority by asking the Board of Agriculture to look at the almost microscopic traces of disease on certain plantations which have been officially pronounced infected, and therefore condemned to total destruction without compensation.

IT is not the intention of the present writer to take any side in that little quarrel. But surely the contention of the council—that its small contribution to the general funds of the University of Birmingham ought to keep a specialist like Mr. Collinge from criticising its doings where they touch his own department—can hardly be considered admissible. Mr. Collinge may be right or wrong in the view he takes of the disease and its attendant dangers, but in any case he is not a servant of the county.

IT is with regret that I add that after next March this eminent authority will be also unconnected with the University. Agriculturists of the Midlands will be sincerely sorry to learn of his impending resignation from the Department of Economic Zoology, which is his creation, and has clearly proved its possibilities of practical utility. It is understood that the work of this experimental department and bureau of information has expanded lately until it has taxed the resources of its head to the full. It has also drawn considerably upon Professor Collinge's

private means; and doubtless the lack of adequate financial support from the University may be reckoned the chief cause of his retirement.

AMONG minor agricultural events of the week the autumnal competitions of the Droitwich and Bromsgrove Farmers' Club claim a word of notice on account of the wide area the organisation covers and the considerable increase in entries. Lord Hindlip and Messrs. T. P. Hobbes, J. G. Green, T. W. Wall (on whose farm the show was held), W. H. Tilt, W. Wilson, and S. G. Wilson were most prominent in the prize list.

October 31, 1907.

West Country Notes.

NEVER before have the West of England men done so well at the Scotch show as they have done with their cheese at Kilmarnock. In a class of about ninety entries with fourteen prizes, five came to the West of England Cheddar makers, Mr. A. White, of Lambrook, being first; Mr. C. W. Francis, of Templecombe, second; Mr. Joseph Candy, of Doulting, third; Mr. W. J. Hall, a former Mendipper, fifth; and Mr. Theodore Candy seventh. Mr. A. White was also reserved for the championship of the show, and Mr. Joseph Candy took fifth for the truckles.

THE butter classes also saw a couple of awards given to Devonshire ladies, Mrs. Frank Ward, of Tavistock, taking a fifth prize, and Mrs. Mildon, of Morchard Bishop, being also noticed.

A COUPLE of West of England men were found amongst the thirteen cheese judges. Mr. C. Henry White went up from Frome, and Mr. Hugh Mackie, a member of a Scotch family, from Castle Cary to judge.

THE opinion of some of the prize-winners is that a very different standard of judgment prevails in Scotland to what obtains in their own Cheddar district. Cheeses that were passed over at home came to the front in Scotland, and one lot at any rate that were of very different ages were winners in Scotland, which they would hardly have been at the shows of the West.

BUTTER, too, appears also to be judged differently there, and the moral is "travel and learn." There are certainly some points about the Scotch system of judging which commend themselves as superior to the English method hitherto generally in vogue. Judging by points is bound to give more exact results, and be more instructive than what generally occurs at cheese shows in the West.

ONE of the best cheese judges I ever came across not only judged by points, but, being a shorthand writer, made able comments in stenography on each lot as he went along, giving him an immense advantage in exactness over others.

SOMERSET has now its lady master of hounds, and at the end of last week there was a good gathering of sportsmen at the residence of Sir Cuthbert Slade, Bart., at Maunsell Grange, North Petherton, to the opening meet of Lady Slade's new pack of harriers. The district is one where the sportsmen are keen and numerous, and splendid country afford every opportunity one could desire for thorough enjoyment of the chase. The musters are therefore likely to be large, and, with the chivalry which attaches to hunting men, her ladyship may be very certain of ample support in her venture.

DURING the first day of the pack four hares were killed, all after the first giving very pretty runs. The whole of the Bridgwater district is to be visited, and for the present it is understood that the meets will be weekly ones.

VILLAGE life in the winter evenings is getting less and less dull, according to the old ideas of dulness, that is the lack of opportunities for social gatherings. Yesterday I was present at a couple of gatherings in villages at a considerable distance from each other where improved opportunities were being afforded by the efforts of the residents themselves for combined enjoyment. It is wonderful how much can be, and is being, done in this way in almost every direction. The ingenuity, too, with which plans are worked out so that one building shall suit various purposes, shows ready wit and much adaptability.

A CHARGE will be heard at the assizes against a Dunsford farmer, which shows that it is dangerous to try to save oneself trouble and bother once the law has been set in motion. The farmer in question summoned a gipsy for stealing corn, and then compromised the matter with the man by accepting a sovereign from him, it is alleged. He was, however, made to prosecute at the Moretonhampstead Petty Sessions, and then was himself prosecuted for compounding a felony, and committed for trial.

AT Lostwithiel the market committee have decided to purchase some disused mine buildings and convert them into a covered market for cows and calves, an advance which will be welcomed by the farmers using the market.

AT Chard, near the borders of Somerset, Devon, and Dorset the date of the weekly market is under discussion, as complaints are made that the present market day, Monday, is the most inconvenient day in the week. At a meeting of argriculturists and others interested in the market it was decided that Thursday would be preferable, and the subject will be further discussed between the market people and the tradesmen of the town. Under its old Charter Chard has the privilege of holding its market on three days in the week, showing its ancient importance, so that it can select at will Mondays, Thursdays, or Saturdays. Custom fixed Monday as the great market, but circumstances have since altered.

DOWN in Dorset one of those curious freaks of maternity which appear to violate the ordinary laws of natural history is to be seen. A Wareham man found some tiny rabbits, still blind, and took them home for his cat. She had just been deprived of her kittens, and instead of making a meal of the baby bunnies adopted them, and is now nursing them with all her maternal solicitude.

DEVON travelling dairy school is still continuing its good work. Those who have received instruction at the various courses have good reason to speak well of it, apparently. At the Somerset cheese school the manufacture of Cheddar gives place this week to Caerphilly, for which there is a good demand from the South Wales dealers. This is by arrangement with the owner of the farm, who takes the produce and disposes of it, instead of selling the milk to the schoo'.

THE usual details of the make of cheese last sold are issued rather more promptly than last time, with the official confirmation of the price as given last week.

IT appears that 5,663 gallons of milk made 5,561 lb. of green cheese, which, when sold, had shrunk about 4½ per cent. to 5,301 lb. The rennetting temperature was 84 deg.; temperature of scalds, 88 and 92 deg.; acidity of milk when rennetted, 0·20; acidity of whey at end of first scald, 0·17; and when vatted, 0·86. It was vatted on the average at 3.20 p.m. At what time was the rennetting?

November 1, 1907.

DAIRY.

Nantwich Cheese Show.

The Cheshire Dairy Farmers' Association's annual two-day cheese, &c., show at Nantwich was held on Wednesday and Thursday, and, judged by its fine proportions and the quality of the cheese—the dairies' exhibits in the majority of the classes were typical of the best Cheshire cheese made—was as impressive as any of the similar great shows of Cheshire cheese have been during recent years. The cheese exhibits numbered 273, as compared with 281 entries last year, but the aggregate weight of the dairies competing was about the same, namely, between 60 and 70 tons. The great majority of the dairies were of medium size, but there were many cheeses weighing considerably over 100 lb. Most of the dairies were of the coloured make. The prize-winning dairies especially were beautifully made cheese, having all the rich properties that are to be found in the finest Cheshire dairies, while amongst the dairies that only had cards, there were many fine cheese.

The championship dairy, consisting of ten cheeses, each about 100 lb. in weight, was chosen from the class for tri-coloured cheese, irrespective of weight, made, owned, and exhibited by any farmer resident in the association's district. The judges pronounced the class one of the finest they had ever judged. That it contained many fine dairies, and that it was judged by a high standard was suggested by the fact that amongst the exhibitors who did not win cards were several prominent makers of cheese in the county. The first prize, which also carried off the gold medal of the association, was won by Mr. Harry Denson, of Chester—a tenant on the Duke of Westminster's estate—who thus had the rarely-achieved distinction of carrying off in the same year, at the Chester and Nantwich shows, the highest honours that an exhibitor can win, since at Chester, as well as at Nantwich, Mr. Denson was the gold medallist. The dairy deserved its supreme position, for it excelled everywhere—in make, and in flavour and texture. The second prize dairy, exhibited by Mr. T. Charlesworth, of Baddington, well deserved its place in the class.

A second champion prize for the best uncoloured cheese was offered, and was won by Mr. T. Tew, Coole Lane, Nantwich, for his exhibit in the white class, concerning which the judges reported: "An extremely fine class, and we had the greatest difficulty in separating the winning dairies. All the winning dairies were really excellent."

There was a very good display of exhibits of butter. The farmers' class especially contained many excellent samples, and the comment made by the judge that "if we had more butter of the quality I have seen to-day in this class, we should have no occasion to go abroad for a good deal of our butter," is worthy of consideration.

The cheese fair was held on the second day, and the following is the report of Mr. R. Challinor, secretary of the Cheshire Dairy Farmers' Association:—There was a largely increased attendance of buyers, being show day. Trade was brisk in the fair, where there was a pitch of 85 tons. A good clearance was effected at the following prices:—Finest, from 68s. to 73s. per cwt.; medium, from 63s. to 67s.; and the lower grades from 60s. per cwt.

In the show there were 65 tons of cheese. The championship dairy was sold at 145s. per cwt.; first prize dairies made 100s.; second and third prize dairies from 75s. to 80s.; and other prize-winning dairies, and those which were honourably mentioned made from 70s. to 75s. per cwt.

Kilmarnock Cheese Show.

That the annual show of cheese, butter, &c., at Kilmarnock, under the auspices of the Ayrshire Agricultural Association, is losing none of its popularity was proved by the large entries received for the fifty-third show. Considering the unfavourable weather the produce was shown in remarkably good condition. Cheese is the main feature of the show, and this section was responsible for 688 of the total entries. Generally it was rather open in texture, and the flavour showed the effect of the bad weather and the feeding required in consequence to keep the cows in condition, though the section as a whole was of average merit. The competitors forward from England were as numerous as last year, and several prizes went south of the Border. The blue ribbon of the show, the Jubilee Silver Cup for the champion cheese in the exhibition, was awarded to Mr. Alexander Cross, Knockdon, Maybole, who thus took the cup back to Ayrshire, from which it has been absent for some years. He won it with his sweet milk cheese which was first in sweepstake competition. The winning white deep cheese, shown by Mr. A. White, West Lambrook, South Petherton, was placed reserve. These two exhibits came to the front by reason of their superiority in ripeness of quality and richness of flavour, and being less curdy.

At the sale of these on the second day the general tone of the market was dull. Holders were reluctant to sell at the prices offered, and buyers were unwilling to advance. The result was a form of dead slowness in striking bargains. Most of the white Cheddars which changed hands were bought for England. The following fairly represents the course of business:—Flat white, 64s. to 66s.; coloured Cheddars, 66s. to 70s.; white ditto, 64s. to 66s. per cwt.

Butter was very good all over, some samples being quite up to anything previously shown. Grain and seeds were a fine show, and it was the opinion of the judges that better grain had never been shown at Kilmarnock, the exhibitors having been fortunate in securing it in good condition before the floods set in. Turnips and potatoes were exceptionally good, and competition was keen, whilst there was a creditable exhibition of honey.

Preston Cheese Fair.

At the October Cheese Fair at Preston on Tuesday, the pitch consisted of 81 lots and 1,465 cheeses, an increase of 23 lots and 465 cheeses compared with the corresponding fair of last year. There was a brisk demand, and the prices at the corresponding fair of last year were fully maintained, while an advance of 5s. to 6s. per cwt. was shown above those of the last fair. Cheese of medium quality made 67s. 6d. to 70s., fine 72s. 6d. to 75s., while a few superior lots realised 76s.

The last volume of Davy's Devon Herd Book is the thirtieth of the series, and not the thirteenth as was stated in a recent notice of the volume.

At the autumn session of the Association of Municipal Corporations held in London, Mr. Harmood Banner, M.P., presiding, the motor car nuisance was considered and the following resolution passed: "That the attention of the President of the Local Government Board be drawn to the undue speed of motor cars, the noise caused by the hooters, and the emission of vapours and oil, all of which are sources of danger to the public at large; with an expression of opinion on the part of this association that the nuisance is one urgently requiring the attention of his Majesty's Government, with a view to fresh legislation."

SOCIETIES.

Bath and West.

A council meeting of the above society was held at Bristol on Tuesday, the president (Lord Digby) in the chair.

Elections.

The following new members were elected :—

W. Cary and Son, Shepton Mallet.

Right Hon. Jesse Collings, M.P., Edgbaston, Birmingham.

The Earl of Devon, Powderham Castle, Devon.

H. W. P. Hoskyns, North Perrott Manor, Crewkerne, Somerset.

C. Morley, Shockerwick, Bath.

Dorchester Show Dates Altered.

Sir J. Shelley, as chairman of the Show Dates Committee, presented the following report :—

"Since the last meeting of council, when, upon the recommendation of this committee, it was resolved that the society's 1908 exhibition should be held on June 3, 4, 5, 6, and 8, circumstances have arisen which, in the opinion of the committee, render it desirable to reconsider the decision then arrived at. The dates proposed were, previous to their adoption by the council, communicated to the Royal Counties Society, and the correspondence upon the subject which ensued was laid before the July meeting of the Bath and West Council. The Secretary of the Royal Counties Society in his last communication up to that time stated that the fact that the International Horse Show would be held from June 4 to 13, inclusive, might have to be taken into account in fixing the date of his society's show. The council, inferring from this that the Royal Counties Society would be not unlikely to avoid these dates, adopted your committee's recommendation. Since then the council of the Royal Counties Society have met and fixed the dates of their show for June 4, 5, 6, and 8, and they consider that they are justified in doing so on the ground that these dates very nearly correspond with those upon which the society has in most years held its show. Your committee find that during the last eight years (with the exception of the present year, when the date of opening was altered from June 11 to May 27) the earliest date has been June 4 and the latest date June 12 on which the Royal Counties Show has been opened, so that there is some justification for that Society's contention.

"Your committee are strongly of opinion that it would be lamentable if the two societies were in open conflict, as would be the case if both persisted in holding their shows at one and the same time, especially when, as in 1908, they will be in much closer proximity than usual—one being at Dorchester and the other at Southampton. Whilst it could not but affect the friendly feeling which has hitherto existed between the two bodies, there is no doubt but that it would seriously prejudice the success of both shows, besides greatly inconveniencing many exhibitors. Your committee having communicated with the Mayor of Dorchester upon the subject, with a view to eliciting if any objection to a change of dates would be likely to be raised by those whom he represented, have received satisfactory assurances that the town and district would support the society in any action it might deem it desirable to take to avoid the clashing of dates referred to.

"Under these circumstances your committee unanimously recommend that the show dates resolution passed at the last council meeting be rescinded and that the show be held instead on May 27, 28, 29, 30, and June 1."

This was seconded by Mr. C. L. F. Edwards.

In reply to a communication, which was read, from members of the Wilts Agricultural Association, it was resolved that the association be informed that the council sincerely regretted that the association should be inconvenienced by the change of dates, which the council would gladly have avoided had they felt able to do so, especially in view of the very friendly relationship which had always existed between the Bath and West Society and the association. It was further resolved that the association should be furnished with a copy of the foregoing report, in order that it might see the very strong reason there was for the course that had been pursued.

The report, after some discussion, was unanimously adopted.

Stock Prizes.

Mr. Sillifant, as chairman of the Stock Prize Sheet Committee, brought up the committee's report dealing with the prizes and regulations proposed for the Dorchester meeting. The following were among the committee's recommendations :—

That an offer from the Devon Cattle Breeders' Society of special prizes for pedigree milking Devons—to be shown in two classes, one for milk test and one for inspection—be accepted ; that the classes for the Sussex cattle be increased from three to four, so as to allow of yearlings being shown separately from two-year-olds ; and that classes be added for Dorset Down and also for Exmoor sheep.

That in the cider section two classes be added, one for a cask of not less than 18 and not more than 30 gallons of cider made in 1907, and the other for twelve bottles of cider made in 1907 ; the competition in both classes to be limited to *bond fide* farmers who have never taken a first prize at any public exhibition.

The adoption of the report was moved by Mr. Sillifant, seconded by Lord Wynford, and agreed to, power being given to the Stock Prize Sheet Committee to accept, should they see fit, and incorporate in the list, any additional prizes that might be offered by the Dorchester Local Committee, by Breed Societies, or others, so that the issue of the prize list may not be delayed.

Dairy.

Sir C. T. D. Ackland, as chairman of the Dairy Committee, moved the adoption of the committee's report, in which was included the following recommendation :—

That an offer, made by Mr. G. Gibbons, to be responsible for prizes to the amount of £6 for an additional class, be accepted ; such class to be for 3 lb. of butter made up in brick shapes of any pattern, neatness and elegance of style being taken into consideration in judging it.

This was seconded by Col. E. H. Llewellyn and agreed to.

Election to Council.

Mr. R. F. Glyn, of Gaunts' House, Wimborne, Dorset, proposed by Colonel Parry Okeden, was elected to an extraordinary vacancy in the Without Reference to District Division of the council, caused by the election of Mr. C. R. Collins as a vice-president.

Lincolnshire.

The report of the council presented at the annual meeting of the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society embraced the work in connection with the show of the Royal Agricultural Society held in Lincoln in June, and stated that by the facilities given to members of the Lincolnshire Society by the R.A.S.E the membership of the county society had increased considerably, being an increase of 82 in numbers and £176 3s. in subscriptions during the year. At the same time they lost by resignation and death twenty-five members. One new member had paid £50 for a life subscription as a vice-president. The income for the year exceeded the expenditure by £209 4s. 3d., although £139 was expended in the prize list of the Royal and £287 in the local classes for the one day's show.

The society had accepted the invitation of Sleaford to hold their show there this year, but, of course, by the event of the R.A.S.E. coming to Lincoln it had of necessity to be passed over for the year. The invitation had been renewed, and the local committee at Sleaford were now taking active measures to render a visit there next year successful, and hoped for a handsome subscription list. A suitable ground had been selected on the Lincoln Road.

The secretary also read the financial statement, which showed that the credit balance of £497 12s. 3d. at the commencement of the year had been increased to £706 16s. 6d., and that the assets of the society consisted of Consols valued at £1,807 17s., and show plant, &c., £400.

Mr. A. W. Dean moved the adoption of the report and statement of accounts, and said he thought they might congratulate themselves on having had a most successful year. He only hoped the prosperity they had enjoyed this year would be continued next year, and he had no doubt that everyone would do their best to make the Sleaford Show profitable, pleasurable, and successful in every way.

The motion was agreed to.

Col. Hutton proposed, and it was unanimously carried, that the thanks of the society be accorded to Sir John Thorold for his services as chairman during the past year, observing that no gentleman in the county had devoted so much time to the advancement of every branch of agriculture as Sir John, and no member of the council did so much for the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society.

Sir John Thorold, in reply, said he was very glad to have been able to render any service to the society, but he had been greatly assisted during his year by the secretary, Mr. Frankish. He felt also very thankful to Mr. Tindall, to whom the society owed much more than to himself, for with his knowledge of the Royal Society's requirements he had been able to be of the greatest use to them.

Surplus from Royal Show Subscriptions.

Sir John Thorold announced that there had recently been a meeting of the committee that was appointed to collect subscriptions for the Royal Agricultural Show, and they found they had at their disposal nearly £1,000 which had been over-subscribed. It was practically settled by the Finance Committee that, as two-thirds of that money had been subscribed in the city of Lincoln and one-third in the county, the money should be divided in that proportion ; and it was decided to give £500 to the corporation towards the cost of water, &c., supplied to the show, which would otherwise have fallen on the rates, and that the remainder of the money should go to the county, £300 being given to the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution and £100 to the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society. Their secretary as local secretary to the institution had sent up a cheque for £300 to the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution, and had received an acknowledgment stating that it would entitle the Lincolnshire Society to fifty-seven votes for fifty years, and that they would be at the disposal of the chairman of that society. The £100 to the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society was given partly in view of the fact that the Royal Show having been held at Lincoln this year it would be very unlikely that the county society would be able to visit Lincoln for some years, and therefore they might be subject to losses by visiting towns which might not be so remunerative as Lincoln. He now moved that they accept these gifts and return their hearty thanks to the local committee. The resolution was heartily agreed to.

General Sir Mildmay Wilson was unanimously elected chairman of the society for the ensuing year.



Drying and Curing.

The meeting of hop growers from all districts, encouraged by the occasion afforded by the recent Brewers' Exhibition, gives them an opportunity of comparing notes and discussing their experiences. When their examination of the competing samples is concluded, they naturally form little groups and begin to talk about what they have been doing during the past season. I heard and joined in several of these interesting conversations, and may venture to say that there is no subject which is at present occupying the thoughts of our planters that is more prominent than that of the best system of the management of hops upon the kiln.

While there are some who still advocate the open fire, because, as they say, they can by this means secure a brighter sample, the more advanced of our men recognise the risks attendant upon the older practice, and admit that the preservation of the valuable constituents contained within the cones, and the consequent improved condition from the brewer's point of view are of much greater importance than mere showy appearance. The recent alarm aroused by the strictures with respect to the possible presence of arsenic in hops, adds force to these reflections ; and gradually, but I think practically, our growers are gaining the conviction that they must make arrangements for the curing of their produce by such a process as will avoid the remotest chance of any contamination, and as will secure the delivery of hops to the brewer without any loss of the qualities for attainment of which their labour and capital have been expended. Therefore it is satisfactory to find that the various systems of drying by pure hot air are being carefully and generally examined, and in many instances certain of them have been installed.

It is only by such progressive action that the reputation of English hops can be maintained in the face of keen competition, and I trust that our growers will not be deterred by the necessary outlay from adopting this or that improvement that they may consider most desirable for the accomplishment of their object.

I have just received a copy of a paper written by Dr. W. W. Stockberger, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Washington, U.S.A., and issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, which contains some instructive remarks on the subject we are considering. Thinking that perhaps some extracts from this paper may be serviceable and suggestive to my readers, I reproduce them as follows :—

The Object of Curing.

The primary object of curing hops is to reduce rapidly their moisture content to such a degree that they may be safely stored and their properties preserved. According to the variety and the degree of ripeness when gathered, freshly picked hops contain 65 to 75 per cent. of moisture, but when in a dry state, fit for storage or marketing, they should contain only 10 to 14 per cent. of

moisture. Increased knowledge of the constituents and properties of hops has extended the idea of curing to include the production of a hop which has not only a fine physical appearance, but which also contains the maximum amount of the desirable principles upon which its intrinsic value is based.

The most important of these principles are the tannin, found mostly in the bracts of the cone, the soft resins, the volatile oil, and the bitter principles which occur chiefly in the lupulin. Curing is all too frequently conducted with regard to the physical appearance alone, and the methods employed often injure the quality of the hop through their harmful effects on the oil, lupulin, &c.

The Theory of Drying.

The removal of moisture from hops constitutes drying. In the atmosphere this is ordinarily accomplished by evaporation, a process which is dependent upon the ability of the air surrounding the drying hops to carry off the surface moisture in a vaporised state. The amount of moisture in the form of vapour which the air can take up depends upon its dryness, since there is a maximum amount of vapour which the air can contain. When this maximum is reached the air is saturated, or at the dew point, and it will then take up no more moisture. In order that drying may proceed, the saturated air must be constantly replaced by drier air, and a brisk artificial circulation therefore hastens the process.

The ability of the air to take up moisture varies with its temperature, and an immediate effect of heat on the atmosphere is to increase its capacity to absorb aqueous vapour. For example, it has been determined that the moisture in 10,000 cubic feet of air saturated with aqueous vapour at 62 deg. Fahr. weighs 8·81 lb. On raising the temperature of the air to 82 deg. Fahr. the 10,000 cubic feet of air can take up 7·86 lb. additional moisture, and by increasing the temperature to 122 deg. Fahr. 42·61 lb. additional can be carried. If, however, the air at 62 Fahr. is only half saturated, 10,000 cubic feet will contain but 4·4 lb. of moisture; then raising the temperature to 82 Fahr. will enable the 10,000 cubic feet to take up 12·27 lb. additional, and increasing the temperature to 122 Fahr. admits of 47 lb. additional being carried.

The volume of air necessary to effect drying within a given time is dependent upon its temperature. Because of its greater moisture-carrying power a small quantity of air at a high temperature will absorb and carry away an amount of vapour the removal of which would require a relatively larger volume of air at a low temperature. If half-saturated air, heated to 162 deg. Fahr., in passing over a moist surface at the rate of 10,000 cubic feet per minute, removed therefrom in that time 130 lb. of moisture, it would require about twenty-three minutes to carry away 3,000 lb. of moisture. If now the same air were cooled to 82 deg. Fahr., 10,000 cubic feet per minute could remove only about 12 lb., and nearly four and a half hours would be required to remove 3,000 lb. of moisture. To carry away the moisture in the same time as the air at 162 deg. Fahr., a volume of air of about 108,000 feet per minute would be required.

In practice is has been found that the air driven through a mass of hops does not become fully saturated with moisture, and only during the early stages of drying does the amount of moisture actually removed approach the quantity which would be removed if the air carried its full capacity. At the temperature commonly used in drying, therefore, a much larger volume of air must be provided to remove a given amount of moisture than apparently would be required from a consideration of the figures given.

A certain degree of heat is always advantageous in drying hops, because of the conditions under which the moisture in them occurs. A part of this moisture is free water, and is the first to be exhausted in drying. The rest forms a part of the sap and tissues, and its removal affects the physical condition of the drying hops. Heat, by raising the temperature of the tissues and cell sap, promotes the passage of water to the surface, where it may be removed by vaporisation. An artificial supply of heat is also necessary to replace that lost by the hops by the process of vaporisation, otherwise the temperature of the moisture held in the cells will remain so low that it will not move readily to the surface and drying will be retarded.

In drying hops, good results, however, are not obtained merely by supplying a high degree of heat below the floor of the kiln. When hops are piled on the floor at the depth of from 14 in. to 30 in., they form an extremely poor conductor of heat. Not only are the hops themselves a poor conductor, but the air, heavy with aqueous vapour filling the spaces between the hops, offers much resistance to the transfer of heat. It thus happens that when heat is applied to the floor of hops, the moisture of the lower layers is driven off, the air in contact with them becomes saturated, and, rising quickly, comes in contact with cooler layers. Here the saturated air is cooled, with the result that its moisture is condensed and deposited on the upper layer until they become wet and soaked. The continuous application of heat thus results in the lower layers becoming dried out and overheated, while the heat gradually working upward through the wet layers of hops subjects them to a harmful steaming process. The difficulty is frequently increased by the practice of turning the hops, as in this way the overdried layers from the bottom are brought to the surface, and again steamed and dried.

I propose to continue my examination of this instructive paper next week, and hope to be able to point out how the difficulties and faults referred to by Dr. Stockberger may be avoided by the adoption of certain arrangements that are within the reach of English growers.

The Trade Position.

London.

The farmers who foregather in considerable numbers at Islington during the Brewers' Show week bring with them an atmosphere suggestive of country life, and the few hours that I spent in the company of growers I met there were very refreshing after a long stretch of drudgery in town. They came from Kent, Sussex, Surrey, Hants, Worcester, and Hereford, and it was interesting to observe the zest with which they examined the competing samples, and to listen to the various opinions expressed by the growers as to quality, and the awards of the judges. Unanimity in such matters is impossible, but in regard to two main points there was no discussion, for all agreed that the general quality of the samples on show was below the average of previous years, and that the state of the market is most lamentable. Another point concerning which there seems to be a consensus of opinion was, that the present condition of affairs must necessitate considerable "grubbing," and with these convictions, they went on their way smiling, and with evident determination, after the true British fashion, to make the best of the circumstances, admitting that "what can't be cured must be endured."

Returning to the Borough, I find that the Exhibition is not favoured by our traders. They allege that it disturbs business, almost even to the point of suspension, and do not hesitate to attribute to this cause the dulness that has prevailed during its continuance.

It was hoped that as soon as this counter attraction had closed, we should hear of a renewal of business, but unfortunately this has not been our experience, and there is no doubt that demand has slackened to such an extent that factors have practically nothing to attend to, and although I do not find that prices are actually lower, the tone of the market is certainly tending towards weakness. It therefore appears to be desirable for growers to examine the position seriously, lest perchance they may find, that they have lost their opportunity. Choice samples are now holding their own, but their scarcity does not appear to enhance their values. At the same time good medium hops are neglected, and if they are pressed for sale lower prices must be accepted. At the bottom of the scale we find that common lots are being bought, and there is thus far no reduction in price of these sorts, but this is explained by the fact that the figures are already too low for further concessions. Thus, I can hardly say that the market is healthy, and the only consolation we can find is that the trade in Americans and Continentals is equally quiet, so that we may conclude that we must look to consumers to explain the position, and that until they begin to move we must be content to wait.

In remarking upon the Government returns of the crop, Messrs. Cattley, Grindley, and Co. say:—

1. Although the crop is only moderate as far as quantity is concerned, there appears ample supply, with imports, to satisfy ordinary demand.

2. The position, however, is complicated by the fact that English consumers do not use more than one-third foreign to two-thirds English hops unless English are very dear.

3. English hops are very cheap, and consumers will prefer the home growth, and particularly the healthy bright hops.

6. Consumers will desire to secure, during the year, twelve months' consumption, say 600,000 cwt., half being healthy, bright English hops, remainder lower quality English and foreign.

5. If the above be correct, the English crop will not suffice, for it is generally admitted that not half the crop is healthy and bright.

6. The acreage will be again materially reduced this winter, as English producers are again heavy losers at present prices.

They estimate that British requirements for the year will induce imports to the extent of nearly 220,000 cwt., and they add that it is their opinion that good, healthy, bright English hops will quickly be cleared at gradually advancing currency.

America.

The hop trade remains in a very quiet and entirely unsatisfactory condion. Latest reports refer to some sales at 8 to 9 cents, with many growers anxious to realise. It is anticipated that the recent financial panic in New York will intensify the dulness of the situation, as money will become tighter, and banks will be even less disposed to make advances to their customers than before. They will thus be compelled to sell their produce at any prices obtainable. The future of this section of the trade is therefore by no means bright.

I have received a cable message from the other side this week, telling me that the market is showing rather a declining tendency, that the brewers' trade is dull, and that growers are more willing to sell. My correspondents express their belief that the market will go lower, and they add that the American financial situation is already affecting the hop market.

Nuremberg.

Somewhat considerable business for export has strengthened the hop market, although quotations have not materially advanced. The principal demand has been from England, for which country market hops are being bought at 26s. to 35s., also Wurtembergs and Hallerdaus at 40s. to 50s. American buyers have also been operating, and there is a fair local demand from local consumers for the better sorts. Although arrivals still exceed sales, the excess is not so great as in former weeks, therefore the tendency of the market at present favours further increase in values.

Bohemia.

The latest report from Saaz speaks of an active demand with marked firmness, and advanced prices to the extent of 5 to 10 crowns (4s. to 8s.). Best qualities were then realising about 105s., and good mediums about 85s. In the Dauba districts similar activity prevails, with very firm prices.

Brussels.

In sympathy with the German and other Continental markets the Belgian position has become slightly stronger. Local brewers are buying rather more freely, and quotations have advanced by a little since last week. At the free hop market held at Assche recently, when 236 bales of hops were submitted to a jury of experts in competition for prizes, the whole of the exhibits were sold to brewers or dealers very much in excess of the current quotations in Brussels. They realised 45 to 60 francs (say 35s. to 47s. 6d.) per cwt. These figures are explained by the general superiority of these selected lots to the ordinary commercial qualities.

Wem Ploughing Matches.

Despite the wet weather there was a large attendance at the Wem and District Agricultural Association's sixth annual ploughing, hedging, and ditching competitions, and considerable interest was taken in the work of the competitors who were more numerous than last year, whilst competition was particularly keen, a referee having in several cases to be called in to decide who should have the first prize. In one class, that for ploughing an acre with a double ordinary plough and three horses, open to men of any age, the two competitors, Alfred Davies and Richard Tibbott, both of Broughton, were so good that the judges put them both first and divided the prizes between them. The awards in the other classes were as follows:—

Ploughing Matches.

Half an Acre with a Single One-way Plough. Open to Men of any Age.—1, James Griffiths, Nill Green; 2, T. Harrison, Stanwardine; 3, Isaac Ratcliffe, Kenwick.

Half an Acre with a Single Ordinary Plough. Open to Men of any Age.—1, Oliver Leadsom, Sleap; 2, Joseph Weston, Cruckmoor; 3, — Chetwood, Noneley; 4, Samuel Dulson, Coton.

Half an Acre with a Single Ordinary Plough. Open to Youths under Twenty-one Years of Age. 1, W. Child, Holbrook; 2, H. Williams, Milford Hall; 3, George Chetwood, The Springs, Ellesmere.

Half an Acre with a Digger Plough.—1, E. Rogers; 2, Mr. Husbands.

Hedging and Ditching Competitions.

Men over Fifty Years of Age.—1, Enoch Smith, Wem; 2, James Cooper, Myddle; 3, Samuel Wilcox, Moreton; 4, John Eaton, Myddle Wood; 5, George Hall, Coton.

Men over Thirty and under Fifty Years of Age.—1, Philip Williams, Frankton; 2, William Price, Cockshutt; 3, John Bebb, Grinshill; 4, A. Dutridge, Eardiston; 5, George Groom, Hadnall.

Men under Thirty Years of Age.—1, Thomas Williams, Ruyton XI. Town; 2, George Tibbett, Myddle; 3, George Preen, Acton Reynald Farm; 4, George Brain, Myddle; 5, John Jones, Marton Grange.

In the absence of Lord Barnard Mr. Nicholas Robinson, the owner of the farm, presented the prizes. At the request of the committee Mr. Frank Bibby, M.F.H., sent his hedger over on the Thursday to do a length of hedge, and his work was followed with the greatest interest.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Some Common Impurities and Means for their Detection.

The purchase of feeding stuffs is one of the most important of the many purchases which a farmer has to make, and seeing that in many cases the money laid out is the largest item in the farmer's annual expenditure it is very necessary that he should know whether he is actually receiving that for which he is paying.

There is no doubt that, frequently, the buyer of feeding stuffs receives, either with or without the seller's knowledge, mixed with the feeding stuffs he buys, many substances he does not want, which, besides lowering the value of the food he has bought, are often positively harmful to his stock. It is perhaps difficult to say how often this adulteration occurs since the cases that come to light are few in number. But, on the other hand, I believe it is for this reason that feeding stuffs are not found profitable to use by so many people, simply because their feeding values are not up to the standard. The farmer is, of course, protected in this matter by the "Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs" Act, but such protection is in many cases inoperative through the farmer's lack of knowledge of the law, or through there being no sample of the food available after damage has been done, or where nothing untoward has occurred through no question arising touching the purity of the food stuff. For it must be borne in mind that a food may be adulterated with something quite harmless or even of feeding value, yet, because it is not what the invoice declares it to be, it is an impurity, and therefore to be guarded against.

Under the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1906, it is prescribed that the invoice shall state the name of the article, and whether it has been prepared from one substance or seed, or from more than one substance or seed, and in the case of an article artificially prepared otherwise than by being mixed, broken, ground, or chopped, what are the percentages (if any) of oil and albuminoids contained in the article, and the invoice shall have effect as a warranty by the seller, except as respects percentages provided they do not transgress the following limits of error:—

Linseed cake or meal Rape cake or meal ... Maize products.....	$\frac{1}{3}$th of the percentage of oil and $\frac{1}{3}$th of the percentage of albuminoids stated in the invoice.
Dec. cotton cake or meal, undec. cotton cake or meal, compound cakes or meal (and some others quoted)	$\frac{1}{10}$th of the percentage of oil and $\frac{1}{10}$th of the percentage of albuminoids stated in the invoice.

All other feeding stuffs $\frac{1}{5}$th ditto and $\frac{1}{5}$th ditto.

Further, where any article sold for use as food for cattle or poultry is sold under a name or description implying that it is made from any particular substance, or from two or more particular substances, or is the product of any particular seed, or of any two or more particular seeds, and without . . . indication that it is mixed or compounded with any other substance or seed, there shall be implied a warranty by the seller that it is pure—*i.e.*, is prepared from that substance or substances only, or is a product of that seed or those seeds only.

There is also understood a warranty that any article sold as food for cattle or poultry is suitable to be used as such.

The only certain means of guarding against imposition is chemical and microscopical analysis, which of course the farmer himself cannot undertake. Analysis of every consignment of feeding stuff is, however, an expensive matter—though I am not sure whether it would not be in the long run economical—and in addition it involves a considerable amount of time and trouble in taking and despatching samples.

There are, however, many rough tests which do not require special technical knowledge, and which are easily made, and it is of these that I wish to give some account, in the hope that they will materially assist farmers in dealing with this important matter.

The habit of accurate observation is a very valuable one, and the ability to draw deductions from such observation will often save a considerable amount of money. For instance, if a farmer is in the habit of buying a certain kind of cake or meal, and a consignment comes home which is of a slightly different colour or weighs a little heavier than usual, the chances are that some adulterant has been included, and it would be well to make a careful examination with the object of finding the cause of the change, and making a claim upon the makers if any foreign substance is ultimately found.

Another point which should be obvious is that a vendor of feeding stuffs is not likely to sell good food at less than current prices—in exceptional cases only are bargains possible—and consequently extra precautions should be taken if an apparently cheap lot has been obtained, to make quite sure that the commodity would not be much too dear at even half the price paid.

(To be continued.)

Notes on Agricultural Analyses.

The Essex Agricultural Committee have issued a little pamphlet containing Notes on Agricultural Analyses, compiled by V. H. Kirkham. In addition to some useful information on the character of the different fertilisers and feeding stuffs in ordinary use, it gives the results of a large number of analyses made during the years 1903 to 1905.

In looking over these details, the general high quality of the fertilisers and feeding stuffs sold in the county is manifest, although at the same time there are sufficient instances of inferior quality to indicate the necessity of caution in buying. Thus there are two samples of nitrate of soda, testing only just over 92 per cent. instead of 95 per cent.; superphosphate, 22 per cent. soluble; basic slag, low quality and defective condition; bone-meal not up to guarantee, &c.

The conclusion to be drawn from a study of the analytical results is, that there is not much amiss with the general quality of the fertilisers so long as purchases are made from well-known vendors, and the buyer is willing to give a fair price.

On the subject of basic slag, the remark is made that "for Essex clay soils a low-grade slag with a large proportion of tetracalcic phosphate—that is, phosphate soluble in 2 per cent. acid solution—is undoubtedly much the best to use."

The notes on the character of the Essex soils, as indicated by analysis, are worth a careful study. The analysis of a soil does not afford absolute information as to its proper manurial treatment, but it is a guide. For instance, the soil of a district showed a deficiency of available phosphate for the growth of turnips, and this received striking confirmation from the result of a field experiment, in which a dressing of 5¼ cwt. of superphosphate per acre (probably 4 cwt. would have been enough) increased the yield from 8¼ tons to 13¾ tons per acre. No other artificial manure had much effect, and it may be concluded that on such a soil (hollow-bottomed soil) only superphosphate is required in addition to farmyard manure.

The remarkable increase in the turnips produced by the superphosphate was partly due to the fact that this, and indeed all the artificial manures tried (superphosphate, sulphate of potash, and sulphate of ammonia), saved the young plants from attack by wireworm, or rather from the rooks which, in getting the wireworm, pulled up the young turnips too. The plots dressed with these manures had just two and a-half times as many turnips left in them as the unmanured plots had. There is probably no better method of preventing injury by wireworm than the method of drilling the seed with an artificial manure, since the manure can be used which is needed by the crop.

Much of the Essex land is deficient in lime, and clover crops grown in such soils are very subject to clover sickness. A field experiment was made to see how far the clover sickness might be affected by the composition of the soil. Clover was grown twice in three years on plots dressed with different manures. The second time clover was grown the effect of the manures was remarkable. Very little clover survived on the plots manured with dung or nitrate of soda, while on the plot dressed with ground lime (25 cwt. per acre), and especially on that dressed with basic slag (4 cwt.) and kainit (4 cwt.) a capital plant of clover was obtained.

Prices of Fertilisers.

There is now a brisk demand for fertilisers required for autumn application, particularly for basic slag, superphosphate and potash salts, while we hear of contracts also being made for nitrate of soda and guano for spring delivery.

	£	s.	d.
Nitrate of soda	11	5	0
Sulphate of ammonia	12	0	0
Peruvian guano ..... according to analysis			
Superphosphate, 26 per cent.	2	10	0
,, 35 ,,	3	6	3
Pure dissolved bones	5	7	6
Bone compound, ordinary	3	8	9
Bone Meal	5	10	0
Ground hoofs, 15 per cent.	9	10	0
Fish guano, first quality, scarce & dear	7	10	0
Kainit	2	7	0
Sulphate of potash	10	0	0
Muriate of potash	9	0	6

Inferior Fertilisers.

From a discussion that arose recently at a meeting of the Dumfriesshire County Council, it would appear that, according to the report of their analyst, the fertilisers sold in the district are often not up to the guaranteed quality. The analyst and chief constable were asked to supply the committee with a list of the vendors of such faulty fertilisers, with the object that a sharp watch might be kept on them in future with the view, if occasion arose, of taking legal action against them, as provided for by the Act. The following discussion took place:—

Mr. Charlton: All the samples should be taken under the Act, and if there is any deficiency the offenders should be prosecuted.

The chairman said the committee thought that as the Act came into operation so recently they should, as a precaution, find out in a larger number of cases what was the composition of the articles dealt with.

Mr. Charlton thought they should not make any exceptions. In all cases analyses should be made under the Act, so that the committee could consider, if they thought necessary, to prosecute. He moved accordingly.

The chairman explained that the Board of Agriculture had provided for this other system, and had put great stress upon those administering the Act to take samples with the view of discovering the class of suspects, in order to deal more sharply and more strictly with this class of people.

Mr. Waugh thought the lines on which they had been going were perfectly correct so far as the interests of agriculturists were concerned.

Mr. Moffat (Canonbie), while seconding Mr. Charlton's motion, did not think it was necessary to prosecute in every case He agreed that samples should be taken in accordance with the Act, but that prosecution should only take place where the committee thought it necessary.

Mr. Carlyle thought they should not fetter the hands of the sub-committee. They had been trying to find a way out of the difficulty. He moved the previous question.

Mr. Brown seconded, and on a division 11 voted for the amendment and 2 for the motion.

Warning a Seller.

At a later stage when the report of the analyst was read the chairman said the sub-committee had the analyst's report before them, and among other things special attention was drawn to one paragraph, which stated, with reference to a certain manure, that "the percentage of soluble phosphates that it ought to contain were not stated." The Act of Parliament said that when a seller sells a manure to a purchaser the invoice must contain the percentage of soluble phosphates, and they agreed, subject to the approval of that meeting, that they give notice to this individual seller that he had not complied with the Act—not with a view to prosecuting, but only as a warning. Sellers should take care to comply with the Act in this particular, for the committee would have no hesitation in prosecuting if it was repeated.

Mr. Waugh: Does this manure contain soluble phosphates?

The Chairman: I don't know. We thought it was not desirable to prosecute—simply to warn.

Mr. Charlton: What would the manure contain if it did not contain phosphates?

Mr. James Moffat: It does not say.

The Chairman remarked that it was the first instance of the kind brought to their notice.

Which is most Profitable for Potatoes?

a. A small dressing of dung.
b. A large dressing of dung.
c. A small dressing of dung and artificials.
d. Artificials alone.

The following results obtained in trials made in Lincolnshire by the Midland Agricultural Institute supply an answer to the question, and we may say that the answer is confirmatory of experience gained elsewhere:—

Plot.	Total Yield per Acre. Average of Six Farms. T. c.	Value of Increase over unmanured Plot. s. d.	Cost of the Dressing. s. d.	Profit per Acre. s. d.
a	7 2½	91 3	40 0	51 3
b	8 2¼	135 3	80 0	55 3
c	8 19½	176 6	86 0	90 6
d	7 19½	129 11	46 0	83 11

The results show that the most profitable system is the application of a small dressing of dung supplemented by artificials.

We are willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

Forage Improved by Fertilisers.

"There is one phase of the question of soil fertility which has a direct bearing upon the feeding of animals, and is worthy of consideration—namely, the influence which fertilisers have upon the composition and feeding value of crops," says Professor Henry Snyder, who read a paper on the subject at a recent meeting in Minnesota. It is well-known that fertilisers, particularly farm manures, increase the yield of forage crops. In addition to this they also favourably influence the composition and quality of the crops. Corn fodder, timothy, and the grasses and hays in general are influenced to a greater extent than are the legumes, as clover and peas.

In trials at the Minnesota Experiment Station, it was found that timothy hay grown on manured land contained 8·75 per cent. protein, while that grown on poor soil contained 6·45 per cent. a difference of 2·3 per cent. in favour of that grown on the first. This is an increase of over 30 per cent. of the total protein content of the crop, due to the use of manure. Equally as great differences were observed in samples of prairie hay grown on rich and poor soil. The forage grown upon the manured land contained not only the maximum amount of protein, but also showed a tendency to contain the minimum amount of fibre. Numerous digestion experiments have shown that forage crops and grains which contain the least fibre are the most digestible, hence the gain in digestible protein resulting from the use of manure is greater, in timothy, than 30 per cent. Forage grown on manured land has a dark, rich green colour, indicating greater activity of the plant cells, particularly of the protoplasm and chlorophyll, the two most active agents which take a part in the production of plant tissues. The larger amount of plant food in the manured soil places at the disposal of the crop a larger amount of building material in the form of the essential elements, and as a result a crop of higher feeding value is secured. Crops feed upon the soil, and if the soil fails to contain the requisite amount of nourishment an inferior crop is produced.

In the case of corn fodder the effect of manure upon composition and feeding value is even more noticeable than with timothy. Corn fodder grown in unmanured land contained 6·63 per cent. of protein, while that grown on manured land contained 9·44 per cent. When the land had been still further enriched by a clover crop, the corn sodder yielded 10·57 per cent. protein. The difference between these extremes is large, nearly 60 per cent. in favour of the corn fodder grown upon well-fertilised land. Let us consider the increased feeding value of the corn fodder grown on the richer land. If 10 lb. of dry matter of the poor corn fodder were fed it would take 2½ lb. of the best farm grains to make up the difference in protein value.

In feeding for milk production, and beef production as well, the largest returns at minimum cost are secured from using the most valuable and nutritious fodder. The quality of the forage is generally the deciding factor in determining economy of production. When forage crops contain the maximum amount of protein, less grain and milled products are required to secure returns than when low protein forage is used. To secure the maximum protein content in forage, farm manures are very valuable, and the farmer who feeds crops grown upon fertile soils has a decided advantage over the one who feeds crops from poor soils. Increasing the fertility of soil through the use of manure will result not only in larger yields, but also in better quality of crops.

The Action of Phosphoric Acid.

The action of phosphoric acid in the plant is not confined to its ripening effect; it stimulates, said Mr. Hall, the early development of the young seedling to a remarkable extent. Farmers are well acquainted with the good start that any crop gets when manured with superphosphate; indeed, it is often used merely to secure a better a plant, though with little expectation of otherwise increasing the yield.

More than sixty years ago this had been noticed by the late Sir John Lawes, and in one of his earliest papers on "Turnip Culture," in 1847, he wrote "whether or not superphosphate of lime owes much of its effect to its chemical action in the soil, it is certainly true that it causes a much enhanced development of the underground collective apparatus of the plant especially of lateral and fibrous root. To what extent this stimulus to root growth is brought about by other sources of phosphoric acid and under diverse conditions of soil has not yet been worked out, but there can be little doubt but that it explains why a phosphatic manuring has such a valuable effect in establishing the plant, even if the gross yield is not ultimately much enhanced. . . . It may be noted that the two crops which most respond to phosphatic manuring, turnips and barley, are both possessed of shallow roots, confined to a comparative limited layer of soil; whereas under ordinary farming conditions wheat responds very little to phosphoric acid and mangels hardly at all, both being deep-rooted plants.

Warmth in the Soil.

The power of a soil to absorb warmth is dependent in a great measure on the amount of moisture in the soil and its colour. The darker in colour a soil is the quicker can it absorb warmth, and the lighter in colour so much the longer will it be in attaining a warm temperature.

Soils containing much moisture are always colder than dry soils, hence the great advantage of draining wet lands.

Soils rich in humus absorb warmth quickly, but also give off the warmth rapidly. With damp clay soil the action is just the reverse. They take a long time in acquiring a higher temperature, but on the other hand retain their warmth better. By the application of farmyard manure, composts, cultivation, and draining the farmer is in a position to improve the condition of his soil.

If wheat is sown in two soils, one dark and the other light, but treated in all other respects in exactly the same way, the crop in the darker soil will mature more quickly and better than the crop in the light soil.

It is one of the advantages of farmyard manure that, in addition to supplying plant nourishment, it produces in the soil a darker colour, and thus by aiding its capacity for absorbing warmth, increases materially its fertility.

The manure on farms varies according to the quality of the raw materials (foods) from which produced. The same rule applies to fertilisers.

In one ton of corn there are about 36 lb. nitrogen, 14 lb. phosphoric acid and 8 lb. potash. In a ton of bran there are 53 lb. nitrogen, 58 lb. phosphoric acid and 22 lb. potash. The bran is consequently much richer than corn in those elements, and it will pay to sell corn and buy bran.

It is claimed, says the *American Fertiliser*, that it takes 7 acres of American wheat to pay for the sugar grown on 1 acre in Europe with sugar beets. The importance of the beet-sugar industry in this country should receive the consideration of every farmer. Sugar is an article for which we have a market at our doors.

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR FARMERS WHEN BUYING.

Approximate Unit Cost of Fertilising Constituents.

It is necessary for guidance in the economical use of fertilisers, and especially in the purchase of Complete and Special Manures, that the relative unit cost of the principal fertilising constituents should be studied: the subjoined table affords information on the subject. By multiplying the guaranteed minimum percentages of a fertiliser by the unit costs given in the table, the buyer will get a good idea of the commercial value of any chemical manure offered to him. The unit values are subject to variations from time to time, and in this respect we shall endeavour to keep the table up to date besides which, buyers living in remote districts may have to pay a little more for heavier cost of delivery. If credit is required, this will also add to the cost.

	Peruvian Guano.			Nitrate of Soda.	Sulphate of Ammonia.	Bone Meal.	Superphosphate.	Basic Slag.	Bone Compounds	Special Manures.	Kainit.	Sulphate of Potash.	Muriate of Potash.
	Raw or Equalised.	Phosphatic.	Dissolved (soluble).										
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ammonia, organic as in Guano and													
Bones	17 6	12 6	15 0	—	—	12 6	—	—	15 0	15 0	—	—	—
,, in Sulphate of Ammonia ...	—	—	—	—	10 6	—	—	—	—	12 6	—	—	—
,, calculated from Nitrogen in Nitrate of Soda ...	—	—	—	13 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phosphate soluble in water	—	—	2 0	—	—	—	2 0	—	2 0	2 0	—	—	—
,, assimilable	1 6	1 2	1 3	—	—	1 2	—	—	1 3	1 3	—	—	—
,, insoluble	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 3	—	—	—	—	—
potash (pure)	4 0	4 0	4 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 0	3 10	4 0	3 10

N.B.—The above table is based on the commercial cost of the fertilising constituents. Agricultural value is not always synonymous with the commercial cost, and every farmer must exercise his judgment, while considering the cost, which fertiliser may be expected to give the most profitable return on his soil and for his crops. This is the cheapest manure for him.

Approximate Unit Cost of the Nutritive Constituents in Feeding Cakes and Meals.

Cakes and other Feeding Stuffs.—In order to be able to form a correct opinion of their value, it is necessary to know the relative cost of the different nutritive constituents. The following note, by an eminent authority, supplies this information. By reference to it, a farmer can calculate out the approximate commercial value of a cake or meal, and then use his judgment as to which is most suitable for his special requirements.

	s. d.		s. d.
Albuminoids	2 8	to	3 0
Oil or fat	2 8	,,	3 0
Carbohydrates	1 1	,,	1 2

NOTE.—Most authorities in England are agreed that the value of each per cent. or unit of albuminoids and of oil is at least 2½ times that of 1 per cent. or unit carbohydrates. If, therefore, the percentages of albuminoids and oil in a feeding stuff be respectively multiplied by 2½ and added to the percentage of carbohydrates, the total feeding units contained in the article are obtained. The cost of the feeding stuff divided by this total of feeding units gives the price per unit. Example: A cotton cake contained

	Per cent.			=	Feeding units.
Albuminoids	22·1	×	2½	=	55·2
Oil	5·2	×	2½	=	13·0
Carbohydrates	33·2	×	1	=	33·2
Total feeding units					101·4

The price of the cake being £5 7s. 6d., the cost per feeding unit was just about 1s.

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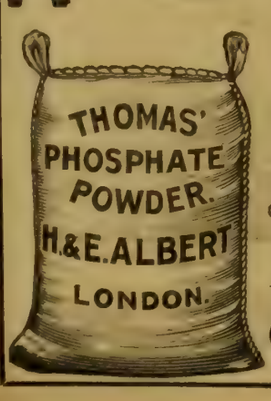
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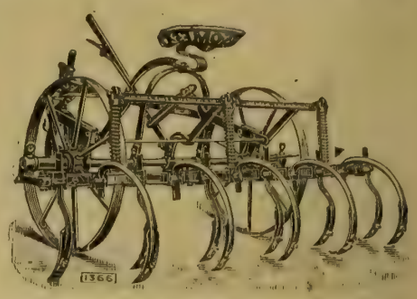
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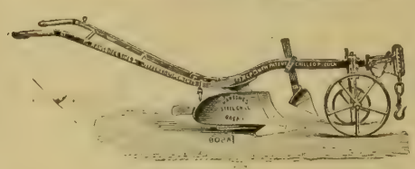
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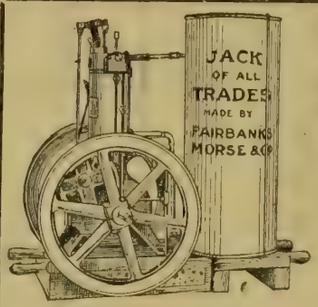
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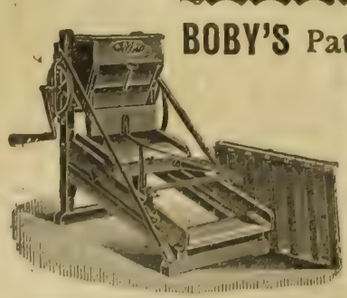
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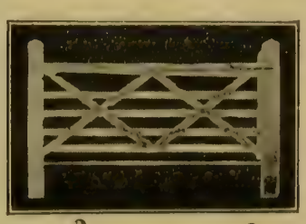
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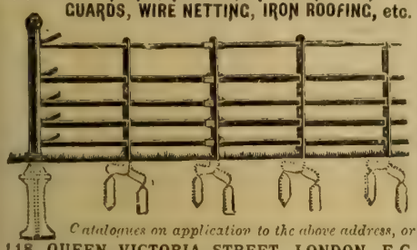
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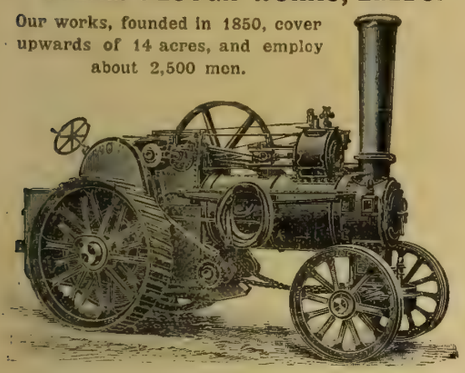
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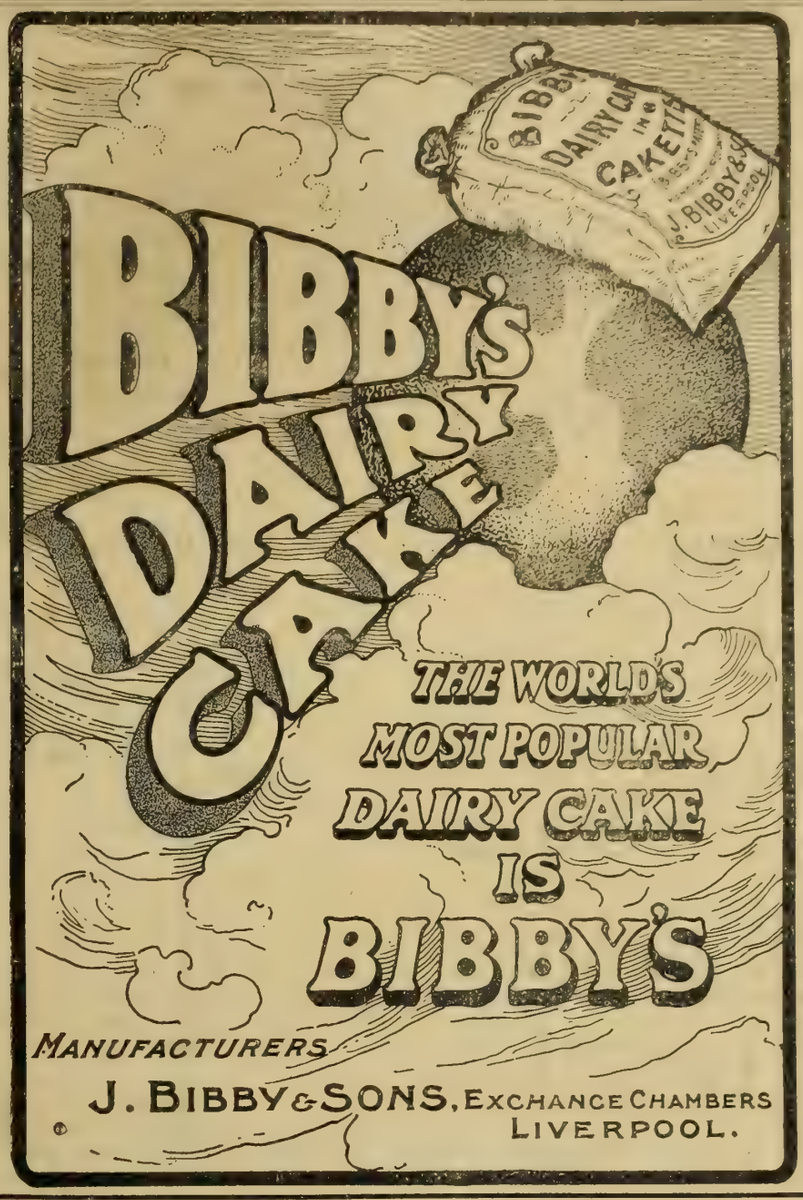


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WHEAT PAYING ITS WAY.

Now that wheat is once again paying its way we fully associate ourselves with the hope expressed by a Mark Lane correspondent that no artificial inflation of prices will be successful. The details of how such inflation is sometimes brought about will only interest a minority, but it is clear that the farmer is the last person interested to be benefited by the speculative operations of those who hold imported produce only.

The position of the actual grower of wheat is a much more complicated one than that of the importer, and he is often forced to sell by causes which it is not within his power to discuss, or, we might sometimes say, his interest to disclose. What we would now bring before the attention of readers is the welcome fact that if farmers can only manage to hold the wheat crop of 1907 with a reasonable amount of firmness they are practically certain to get a fairly remunerative price for it. Where they cannot so hold they will have our sympathy, but where they are in a position to stand out for a satisfactory price they will have something more than sympathy—namely, the assurance that they are striking a blow for national prosperity and a real revival in our national agriculture.

The breeding of pedigree stock is a well-to-do man's speculation; it is beyond the average farmer's resources. But to grow wheat is not beyond his powers, and the importance of our growing an adequate quantity of wheat within our four seas is of the first order. In case of war a pedigree animal, costing four times the price of an ordinary beast, would not cut up into four times as many joints. The promise of a reasonable profit on wheat growing is therefore a matter of the utmost national concern.

The present price of English wheat on natural markets, where the daily telegram from New York is not considered, and the speculator in cargoes off coast is unknown, is about 38s. for white and 37s. for red. This price pays the farmer, especially as there is a good demand for straw. Can this level, say 37s. 6d. for an average, be maintained; can farmers now sow wheat with a reasonable hope of its ruling a year hence when the grain confided to the soil this November is a crop in stack?

It is, of course, a long way to look ahead, but there are three points which already are clearly to be discerned. The population of the world increases steadily on the whole. If France, Australia, and a few other countries are stationary in this respect the lands of largest population such as Germany, Russia, the United States, and India are adding to their list of consumers at the mean rate of 1 per cent. per annum. Now wheat production is not increasing at all, and the effect of this seems to be a higher range of prices. It is true that Argentina, Canada, and the Punjab show a larger wheat yield year after year, but decline elsewhere balances this, and the total growth of wheat throughout the world is believed to have diminished by about 15,000,000 qr. in the past five years.

The second point to notice is the steadily-increasing use of wheat as food for live stock in the form of meal, and for poultry both as grain and in the ground state. The value of wheat as the best maker of eggs has only come to be generally recognised since the new century was with us. Now, there are 20,000,000 fowls in Ireland for which we have returns, and in Great Britain (for which we have no official data) probably three times as many. If wheat is recognised as far and away the best feed for 80,000,000 birds, it may safely be said that tail corn will cease to be a loss to the farmer. The prices now paid for poultry wheat range from

32s 6d. to 34s. per 448 lb., and are decidedly encouraging.

The third and last point to detain us now is the probability that with international commerce unusually prosperous, and with the United Kingdom doing an unprecedented business both in exports and imports, the cost of grain freights from abroad is likely to rise. Now the extremely low charges for these freights from 1901 to 1906 made it often very difficult for English farmers to sell their wheat at all, except to local buyers. When a ton of wheat was carried from New York to London for half-a-crown less than from Norfolk to London—and this was the case during the years referred to—the English grower was naturally much discouraged. But the probability of this premium on foreign grain continuing is light; the competitive demand of other produce or space on the ships is forcing freights up to terms which seem likely to be well supported so long as general commercial activity continues. The rise in the price of coal will, it is said, induce a further rise in freights. This we cannot discuss here, but the freight market is not likely in the next seven years to be the cause of depression to English producers, dependent on the railways, that it has been in the last seven.

For these reasons we urge farmers to trust in wheat.

ROOT AND GRAIN SHOWS.

We talk of a certain period of the year as the show season, but it really would seem rather as if it extended over the whole twelve months, for hardly have we got over the events of the Dairy Show before notices come to hand telling of the root and grain shows, which are popular and, we would add, useful institutions in many parts of the country.

It is at these exhibitions that the man, who realises that he may still have something more to learn, can see finely-grown samples of grain and study the characteristics of different varieties. And what shall we say of the roots, the mangolds, turnips, swedes, yea and cabbage, as they appear at the shows in November? Generally huge in size and sometimes course, they represent the possibilities of these plants in the hands of the grower. These show monsters are often the result of garden cultivation extended to the farm, and they show what can be done with express culture and liberal manuring

We can claim acquaintance with a few individuals who have cups and trophies adorning their sideboards, won by monstrous roots at November shows, and we know these men to have their own particular pet pieces of ground, fed to a high state of fertility, and on which the exhibition specimens are annually grown.

Whether the monstrous wurzel or swede which calls for the expressions of wonder at the annual root show is the best for feeding and utility purposes is an open question, but that, as Kipling would say, is part of another story, for the fact remains that size has decided fascinations, and the man who stages a number of mighty specimens at the root and grain show feels that at any rate he has achieved something, and has not lived and farmed in vain.

THE STORAGE OF MANGOLDS.

To leave mangolds in the ground after the first week in November means running some risk, and this fact being generally realised, a common operation on farms where the crop is grown (and it should be on all) just now is that of pulling the roots, trimming off the leaves, and storing the former for use when they are in condition later on.

Some people, we think, make a mistake in feeding with mangolds too soon, though sometimes sheer force of circumstances is responsible for this; but it is well to remember that the root is unripe in the autumn, and the food it contains is not in a form that is readily digested by stock, but in storage the starch is converted into sugar, and in the early spring the root is in its best condition and indispensable for the feeding of cattle and sheep.

A common and convenient practice is that of storing mangolds, after they have been allowed to remain in small heaps on the ground for a day or two, in long clamps, where they are protected by a layer of straw, covered with another of earth. In selecting the site for the mangold clamp a fairly high and dry situation should be chosen where the bottom is firm and sound, and for home feeding a good deal of labour is saved by storing the roots somewhere adjacent to the homestead.

Many people let themselves in for an unnecessary amount of mangold carting by neglecting this point; the thing is to clamp the roots as near as possible to the place where they will be wanted. This may of course necessitate extra hauling, but it is more easy to do it now when the roots are in the cart than when the stock is being drawn on for feeding.

Upwards of 700 sheep, being 500 more than last year, were penned at Horncastle sheep fair on Monday. Trade was fair, and prices ranged from 40s. to 46s. for the best class. By auction lambs made 25s. 6d. to 39s. per head, and three-shear ewes 43s.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5.—Central Chamber of Agriculture: Meeting at the Surveyors' Institution, Great George Street, Westminster, 11 a.m., to discuss the formation of an Agricultural Party——Great Sale of Underwood at Loxwood —— Ashbourne Cheese Fair——Special Horse and Cattle Market at Beverley —— Fairs at Brecon, Longridge, Portland, Ramsey, and Wells.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6.—Royal Agricultural Society (Resumption of Meetings after the Vacation): Council Meeting at noon at 16, Bedford Square——Sale of Shire Horses at Norbury Park, near Dorking——Capel Agricultural Show——Fairs at Swaffham, Oswestry, Norfolk, and Chipping Norton.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7.—North Kent Agricultural Show (Roots, Produce, &c.) at Darenth——Barfrestone, near Dover: Annual East Kent Ploughing Matches —— Entries for the Whitchurch Dairy Show to be sent in——Pony Society's Meeting at 12, Hanover Square——Devizes Cattle Show —— Sale of Shire Horses at Dewstow——Bishop Auckland Annual Agricultural Hiring Fair ——Fairs at Doncaster, Preston, Rochdale, Ripon, and Alston.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8.—Stride's Sale of Southdown Sheep at Midhurst, 11 a.m.—— Lady Dunrany's Underwoods: Special Sale at Dunstall——Downham Cattle and Sheep Fair——Fairs at Hertford, Keighley, Knutsford, Lydney, and Newmarket.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9.—Entries for the Penistone Ploughing Matches to be sent in ——Entries for the Redhill Fat Stock Show to be sent in —— Sale of Hunters at Aldridge's —— Fairs at Carlisle, Egremont, Keswick, Leeds, and Nottingham.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11. — Martinmas. — Many fairs held this day, and a good many farm agreements expire at this date, "the mid-quarter"——Agricultural Hiring Fairs at Hexham and Whitby.

Notes of the Week.

"God speed the plow
And bless the mow."

Mow is an old word, fallen out of use, meaning that which is mown, thus the hay and cereal harvest.

The recent heavy rains in Scotland have been disastrous. The loss to farmers is estimated to be over £3,000,000.

An inch of rain represents an enormous fall of water over a district; a statistician has calculated that 1 in. of rain over greater London at 1d. per gallon would amount up to over £7,000,000.

A few weeks of dry weather at the present time would be a great blessing. It would speed the plough.

And weather prophets say we are likely to have it, as the October rains have been so excessive.

The world seems to be suffering from a scarcity of gold. If gold appreciates in value the prices of all products will fall.

"Better times, bigger rents"—the leaderette in last week's issue suggests unpleasant reflections.

A grasping policy at the first sign of better times will deprive the landowners of any public symyathy.

It is the proud boast of an English county gentleman, wrote Washington Irving, to live on his estates and diffuse happiness around him. So it should be.

A curious ploughing match was arranged the other day at Brightlingsea, in Essex. Daughters of farmers competed against daughters of yachtsmen.

The unexpected happened. The yachtmen's daughters won. They seemed as skilful in ploughing the land as their paters in ploughing the deep, or the nobleman who has made a reputation in ploughing a lonely furrow.

Legislation connected with the milk trade and small holdings are two subjects much discussed at farmers' gatherings.

The Government policy is advocated by the peripatetic Earl Carrington, but its wisdom is doubted in agricultural circles.

The Duke of Argyll asks whether, in view of recent and contemplated legislation, the cry of "back to the land" means "capital" or "paupers" are to go back.

Time will show. By wonderful wireless telegraphy we can communicate with friends through a space of 4,000 miles, but unfortunately not ahead over the space of even twelve months.

"If I had my way, I would make every motorist eat 2 lb. of dust every day."

This drastic proposal was made by an old gardener in the witness box the other day. The dust from motor cars had quite ruined his strawberry crop.

The authorities in Belgium have a short way of dealing with reckless motorists.

A motorist, charged with having seriously injured a girl by reckless driving, was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment and a fine of £720.

Sleaford has honoured itself in honouring Mr. Chaplin.

Ever since the last election many of the constituents seem to have regretted having gone back on the Squire.

Market Drayton October Fair is an important event—but why is it known as "Dirty Fair"?

At a Mid-Sussex elementary school the teacher closed some pregnant remarks on the effect of sunshine on the ripening corn with the question—"And now, can anyone tell me what is the most necessary thing for the harvest, the thing that the farmer prays for, the thing that the labourer must have if his work is not to be valueless? Thomas Buddington, you raised your hand first. It is for you to tell the class what, of course, they already know. Speak, Thomas, speak." "Beer," said Thomas.

A grower of barley named Rawle,
Swept the famed Agricultural Hall.
Than the rivals of Somerset
You ne'er saw a glummer set,
For the prizes he collared them all!
or nearly all.

The great ages of agricultural veterans is frequently alluded to, but imagine a land crab computed to be 3,000 to 4,000 years old. The crab was recently dug out of a rock, and was alive.

To escape a motor car a cow dashed into a house in a village in Surrey and smashed up the furniture. We can't blame the poor animal.

CATTLE.

Notes and Jottings.

IN spite of heavy rains and floods almost throughout the length and breadth of the land, the weather continues so mild that most of the cattle in the grazing districts are still at large, many pastures having a most luxuriant appearance; soon, however, all this will be changed, and the animals will get their first pinch of winter. The majority of them, too, are looking remarkably well at present. Whilst travelling during the present week we saw some remarkably fine lots of Devon and Hereford steers looking fit for the Christmas markets, and looking as sleak and fit as possible in the midst of terrific storms. The manner, however, in which their pastures were being trampelled up and poached in the neighbourhood of their feeding troughs and cribs was not by any means an agreeable sight to be seen.

I NOTICE in one of our daily papers some remarks anent tuberculosis which appear to have emanated from butchers in which the statement is made that there are as many bullocks and heifers affected with the disease as there are milking cows. This is putting a very different face upon the subject to anything I have ever heard or yet seen. I have met and discussed the question with many large and wholesale butchers as well as others having smaller businesses, and with one and all of them the tale of woe has always been that the milking cow and the four-year-old bull are the two classes of cattle which, above all others, are prone to the disease, and the majority of losses by carcases being unsaleable has been amongst these sections.

IT is only reasonable to suppose that the older the animals the more seriously and the more numerously they would be affected. The very fact that these two sections have, in nine cases out of ten, been subject to much warmer and more careful housing is of itself convincing. Heifers and bullocks up to three years old have had very small chance of becoming affected unless they were born so, and both these classes upon the whole, especially in England, Wales, and Ireland, live in many instances an entirely outdoor life. The present season has been a very bad one for finding out animals affected with this or any other disease, the perpetual cold and wet telling a very severe tale, and in driving about the country one sees many individuals in large herds that it is very manifest are suffering from the disease and would have been far better removed and slaughtered.

I NOTICE the Hereford Herd Book Society are offering prizes at the Royal Dublin Society's winter show for the best Hereford crosses; this is a very good step to encourage their breeding, which is well deserved. There is little doubt that the Hereford is one of the best crosses of the present time, especially when annexed to the Shorthorn, that cross being productive of first-class milkers as well as fattening stock. In Ireland very few Hereford crosses are held over for Christmas, their earlier ripening enabling them to be sold in the earlier part of the summer whilst beef is making a better price.

THE great demand for milk all round both at home and abroad is causing a good deal more attention to be paid to the South Devon or South Ham breed of cattle. The enormous size some of the representatives of this breed attain to is almost an overpowering attraction to a stranger; with male specimens in the Royal showyard weighing close upon 30 cwt. alive, their massiveness and market value is at once apparent. We have at present not been furnished with any record of the amount of food consumed by these cattle, but from all appearances it is quite fair to anticipate them as very gross feeders, and this of course means extra expense; however, they appear to be a hardy and useful breed, and will doubtless find their true level with the public.

BEEF markets, except for the very choicest quality, appear to be on the downward grade slightly. Chicago appears to be literally swamped with Western droves, 103,000 odd having been marketed within six days. This is mainly the outcome of the season of the year, as snow and frost will shortly render marketing impossible in many instances. Numbers have doubtless also been much increased owing to the higher price of corn, which is increasing the feeder's bill enormously. Even amongst all these thousands, however, it is said that butchers who are purchasers of the best qualities find considerable difficulty in obtaining their supplies.

THIS week of November reminds us very vividly that Christmas is close upon us, entries being about to close for the fat stock shows. Very shortly the leading topic in fat stock circles will have reference to the prospective champions. Up to the present reports are not very numerous as to the quality of the representatives in many of the feeders' herds, but some feeders prefer to keep their horses dark until the last minute, perhaps not an altogether unwise proceeding. The Angus and Galloways and their crosses will no doubt form a very large proportion of very high class exhibits.

REFERRING to the above two crosses further, the Galloway and Shorthorn appear to be gaining favour very rapidly throughout the country. We have seen many magnificent lots of bullocks of this cross during the present season, bullocks of beautiful symmetry, heavily fleshed, and clothed with a wealth of hair that all feeders delight in. After slaughtering, too, this cross gives very great satisfaction. Where heifers are concerned, Angus crosses are often quite as great a success; both, however, are extremely valuable in the present day on account of our great scarcity of feeding stock.

WE read also that in the west of Ireland the Premium bulls supplied are carrying on an excellent work in the improvement of the store cattle; in that district the Galloway cross is very highly spoken of. In those districts the Dexter and Kerry females form a very profitable foundation for breeding stores when crossed with bulls of any of the beef breeds; the produce in many instances takes after the large breed of the sires. Thus a beast with sufficient marketable size and of the highest quality is raised at a minimum of expense, and where the land is not of the very richest description it is surprising what a good return these little animals make for their cost.



Photo by] [*G. H. Farsons.*

Our illustration above is of the Shorthorn Heifer Queen of Hearts, who was unbeaten as a calf, and this year has won a number of prizes, including First Prize at the Cheshire County Show, Second at the Wirral and Birkenhead, First at the Knutsford, and First at the Flint and Denbigh Show. Her sire was Wild Duke of Geneva 245th, dam Ingram's Beauty 2nd, and she is the property of Mr. S. Sanday, Puddington Hall, Neston, Cheshire.

THE feeding of calves for veal is causing considerable discussion in various parts of the country, probably from the fact that good veal calves have been selling well throughout the season. Various ways of fattening them are adduced from different quarters, but there is no mistake about it that if a really good calf is to be made fit for market the great bulk of his feeding must consist of new milk direct from the cow. Opinions vary somewhat as to whether the little animal should be allowed to help himself, or whether the milk should be first drawn from the cow and then handed to him in the pail. Again experience tells us that the former system undoubtedly has the advantage in many ways; indeed, in every way so far as the calf is concerned. There is no giving him too little at one meal and too much at another, or fear of him being fed from a dirty pail, which might bring on scour and interfere with health and appetite, and not only this, the very act of sucking imparts health and greater progress to the animal. The great drawback to the self-helping system comes when the calf's teeth get strong and his supply of milk is not any too much for him; at such times the youngster is apt to bite the teats mercilessly, and in the summer time when the flies are busy this gives great discomfort to the cow, and often causes her to lose flesh rapidly.

Sale of Red Polls at Ipswich.

The chief feature of the sale of Red Polls at Ipswich was the consignment of Sir G. Farrar, D.S.O., who was disposing of his herd because of the important position he held in South Africa, where he will be stationed permanently. Amongst other herds represented were those of Sir R. P. Cooper, Bart., Sir H. F. de Trafford, Bart., Mr. R. Hervey Mason, the Right Hon. A. E. Fellowes, Sir Joshua T. Rowley, Bart, &c. There was a good attendance of buyers, and some satisfactory prices were obtained, the best being 43 guineas, which sum Mr. Balston, Potter's Bar, gave for Mr. E. Kersey's Lass, calved June 25, 1902. Next came 40 guineas given by Mr. J. E. Hill, Gressenhall, for Sir Walter Corbet's bull Acton Druid. The Hon. A. E. Fellowes, gave 31 guineas for Sir G. Farrar's bull Honingham Adjutant, and Mr. Balston secured Sir J. T. Rowley's bull Triton for 29 guineas, whilst other prices ranged up to 21½ guineas.

Sale of Jersey Cows at Thirsk.

The choice herd of Jerseys belonging to Messrs. Fowler, De La Perelle, and Co., Southampton, was brought under the hammer at Thirsk on Monday, but the prices were not particularly good. A two-year-old heifer, newly calven, was sold to Mr. F. Kettlewell, Thirsk, for 22½ guineas; Mr. W. Hill, Sowerby, purchased a two-year-old heifer, newly calven, for 22½ guineas; and the Rev. G. R. Dupuis, Sessay, a three-year-old heifer, for 22 guineas; whilst a two-and-a-half-year-old heifer, newly calven, was purchased for 21½ guineas by Mr. Jackson, Ormsby. Other prices ranged down to 2 guineas for a heifer calf.

Sale of Guernsey Cattle in Sussex.

Although heavy rain fell all day there was a good company at the sale of Mr. C. E. Hoggs' herd of Guernsey cattle on the 25th ult. at Altrees, Coolham, Sussex. For the best cows there was good competition. Mr. J. C. Forster, of Clatford, gave 27 guineas for Hettie 4th, winner of three first and other prizes, and 21 guineas for Fair Hyacinth 2nd. Mr. H. F. Plumptre, of Goodnestone, Dover, purchased several to add to his well-known herd in Kent, among them being Florrie of the Palatterie at 20 guineas, and Mr. F. N. Hobgen, Mr. G. Barstrop and Mr. G. Long were also good buyers. The pure bred Guernseys averaged nearly £13. Many unregistered cattle were also sold, and these made up to 19 guineas.

Store Stock Sale at Kidderminster.

Messrs. Nock and Joseland held their autumn sale of store stock on Friday, October 25, when when they had one of the finest displays of Hereford cattle ever offered in the district, and good entries of Shorthorn and cross bred cattle, store wethers, ewes, and lambs. In spite of the almost incessant downpour of rain there was a capital attendance of buyers, and all the best bullocks and heifers met a ready sale, but inferior cattle were not wanted. Sheep and lambs, although looking at their worst, met a firm trade at about late rates. The range of prices was as follow:—Hereford bullocks, £8 to £19 2s. 6d.; Shorthorns and cross-breds, £9 to £14 15s.; and in-calf cows up to £18. Wether sheep, 35s. 6d. to 52s. 6d.; and store lambs, 28s. 6d. to 45s.

Transactions in Store Stock.

(Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

At Mallow Fair, co. Cork, held on October 30, there was a large supply of cattle; demand fair. Calves, 1st class, £4 15s. to £5 5s.; 2nd class, £3 12s. 6d. to £4 2s. 6d.; yearlings, 1st class, £8 to £10 5s.; 2nd class, £6 to £7 15s.; 3rd class, £5 to £5 10s.; two years old, 1st class, £11 to £12 17s. 6d.; 2nd class, £8 7s. 6d. to £10 5s.; 3rd class, £7 5s. to £7 15s.; three years old, 1st class, £14 10s.; Springers, 1st class, £14 10s. to £16 5s.; 2nd class, £12 to £13 10s. Average supply of sheep; demand fair. Lambs, 1st class, 30s. to 34s.; 2nd class, 26s. to 28s. 6d.; one-year-old and over, 1st class, 42s. 6d. to 47s. 6d.; 2nd class, 38s. to 41s. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, 20s. to 24s. each.

Aberdeen-Angus Cattle in the Argentine.

For some time there has been under the consideration of breeders of Aberdeen-Angus cattle what steps might with advantage be taken towards developing the interests of the breed in the Argentine Republic. Conferences of breeders took place in July at the shows of the Highland and Agricultural Society and of the Royal Northern Agricultural Society, and at both the question was fully discussed.

The council of the Polled Cattle Society at their last meeting took up consideration of the remit made to them by these meetings, when it was unanimously agreed to provide for competition two challenge cups of the value of £50 each, the one to be competed for at the breeding shows of the Argentine Rural Society held annually at Palermo, and the other at the fat stock shows to be held under the auspices of the Liga Agraria.

In the case of the former show the cup will be given for the best animal of the Aberdeen-Angus breed, and in the latter case the competition will be open to Aberdeen-Angus cattle and their crosses.

It was also agreed to award a gold medal for competition at the Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition, Canada, next year, as also two gold medals for competition at the Highland and Agricultural Society's show at Aberdeen, one for the best male and the other for the best female, and one gold medal each to the Royal Agricultural Society of England, the Royal Dublin Society, the Royal Counties Agricultural Society, and the Bath and West Agricultural Society.

Dairy Cows.

In the course of a letter to the *Yorkshire Post* "Dairy" calls the attention of dairy farmers to the necessity of introducing improved stock into their herds, and his remarks are certainly worthy of their attention. He says:—The frequent prosecutions for selling milk under the standard quality would, one should suppose, have opened the eyes of milk sellers to this necessity, but unfortunately a great many farmers are content to go along selling their milk, satisfied that it is pure, and exactly as drawn from the cow, and quite indifferent to the fact that, notwithstanding this, it may be, and frequently is, much below the standard of 3 per cent. butter fat and 8·5 per cent. non-fatty solids.

Too frequently, quantity and not quality is the goal aimed at, with the result that cows giving a heavy milk yield are kept, without any consideration being given as to the amount of butter fat contained in the milk. For this purpose Shorthorns are usually chosen in Yorkshire, but it is notorious that this breed, taken as a whole, are by no means high in the scale as producers of rich milk. In the "Report of Milk Investigations at Garforth, 1904," it is stated that at the County Council farm, with the mixed milk of about twenty cows, during a series of experiments extending from June 13 to September 9 the minimum butter fat contained in the morning milk was 2·42 per cent., and the maximum 3·60 per cent., and during the whole period the standard per cent. was not reached on fifty out of ninety-five days in the mornings.

Further, the report goes on to say, "When the conditions are similar to those of Garforth, particularly with respect to the breed of cows and times of milking, results of a precisely similar nature are usually obtained. . . . In the Reading experiment the mixed morning milk of eight Shorthorn cows, milked at intervals of fifteen hours and nine hours respectively, contained 3 per cent. or more of butter fat on four mornings only out of forty-two."

Surely this should be enough to show that fresh blood from a milking strain is needed to improve our so-called "dairy cows," and I would suggest that at future shows the Yorkshire Agricultural Society should provide classes for dairy cattle, based upon similar lines to those at the London Dairy Show, and other shows in the South of England, where the milk is carefully tested, and the prizes awarded for the greatest percentage of butter fat contained. By their action of recent years the Yorkshire Agricultural Society is putting a veto on Jersey and Channel Island cattle, which are without a doubt the best dairy cattle in the world, as they have reduced the prize list to a minimum. A very brief examination of the prizes offered at the last show of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society will prove this.

Eleven classes for Shorthorns being given, with prizes (not including specials) amounting to £270; three classes for Aberdeen-Angus, with prizes of £45; whilst only two classes were provided for Jerseys, their prizes being £24. From this it is obvious that the committee are determined to push Shorthorns to the fore, at the expense of all other breeds. It is not to be expected that breeders will go to a considerable expense in sending cattle from a distance under circumstances such as these.

Dairy farmers will sooner or later be compelled in their own interests to introduce Jersey blood into their herds in order to maintain a proper standard quality of milk, and it is no use trying to bolster up Shorthorns as dairy cows.

Shorthorns, as producers of beef, are no doubt hard to beat; let them therefore be bred for beef, and let them give up their claims for a place as dairy cattle. I am not overlooking the fact that individual members of the breed are undoubtedly excellent as milkers, as, for instance, the winner of the butter tests at the recent dairy show, but I am now speaking of the breed as a whole.

Not long ago I tested the milk of a pedigree Shorthorn—bought from a world-renowned herd—and found the result to be 1·5 of butter fat for the morning, and 1·4 for the evening milking, and more recently an ordinary "dairy Shorthorn" which gave an average of 1·9 butter fat and 8·0 of non-fatty solids as a result of several tests. On the other hand, the lowest percentage of butter fat I have any record of ever having obtained from a pure-bred Jersey was 3·6, the average being about 5 0, whilst I have obtained as much as 6·80, and this without special feeding.

Jersey cattle are by no means the delicate animals some people suppose, more especially if English bred and not brought direct from the Channel Islands; and I may say that, having kept several breeds of cattle during the last thirty years, I am of opinion that for hardiness they will equal almost any breed, if, as I said before, they are bred in this country.

The Tring Park Shires.

Lord Rothschild's famous stud of Shires at Tring Park has recently been strengthened by the addition of several promising foals purchased at good figures from tenant farmers; also two yearling colts and a two-year-old colt, all three of which look like growing into good stallions, thus considerably adding to the stallion section of the stud, which is already strong in promising colts.

The value of the Tring stud sires is only too well known and appreciated, and among the societies that have recently hired stallions from the stud are the following:—The Montgomeryshire and District Entire Horse Association, who have hired Childwick Champion for next season; the Kettering Society have hired Lunesdale Kingmaker; the Winslow Society, Blythwood Kingmaker; whilst Mr. Fernie's Hunt Committee (Market Harborough) have hired Birdsall Menestrel and Thrupp Rival.

Clydesdale Horse Society.

No fewer than ninety new members were elected at the meeting of the council of the Clydesdale Horse Society held on October 23, whilst the Carnwath Agricultural Society and Morayshire Farmer Club were affiliated.

On the suggestion of the Editing Committee, it was decided to issue a new index of stallions from Vols. I. to XXX., whilst the prefix "Cawdor" was reserved for the Earl of Cawdor.

The secretary was authorised to issue certificates for certain animals exported to South America about twenty years ago, for which certificates had not been granted, these certificates to be signed by the exporters in the usual way.

It was agreed to give a grant of £70 to the funds for the Clydesdale classes at the Newcastle show of the Royal Agricultural Society, and to ask that a class be instituted for yearling Clydesdale fillies; also to give a list of qualified judges recommended by the council in answer to the request of the Royal Society.

The next meeting was appointed to be held on Wednesday, November 20, in the registered office of the society.

Cold storage acquires new charms when presented in so dainty a pamphlet as that just issued by the Canadian Pacific Railway in connection with their new cool chambers at Sandon Dock, Liverpool. Here we have photographs illustrating rapid handling of Canadian produce from ship to store, and from store to railway. The enterprise of a colonial railway in establishing a cold store in the old country marks, as the writer says, "an epoch in commercial history," and should do much in a quiet way to promote closer trade relations between Canada and Great Britain.

PIGS.

Sale of Highclere Berkshires.

As all pig-breeders know, the Highclere herd of Berkshire pigs, belonging to the Earl of Carnarvon, has gained for itself a world-wide reputation, and it was therefore only to be expected that a large and representative company of breeders would be present at the sale of a number of its choice specimens held on Tuesday last, at Highclere Park, near Newbury. The pigs offered included all the young pigs in the herd, those retained being the boar Sailor Prince, and the older sows with litters at foot. The sale afforded a rare opportunity to obtain some of the old Highclere blood, which is so popular in the United States, as nearly all the pigs offered could trace back to that grand sow Highclere 14th, the Royal Champion of 1897, and naturally breeders took advantage of the opportunity, there being a good demand throughout at prices ranging up to 25 guineas, obtained for an elt by His Lordship. Other chief prices were 22 guineas for an elt, dam Highclere Lucy, and 20 guineas for a boar, the offspring of His Lordship and Jack-of-all-Trades, both prize-winners. A boar, by Sailor Prince, realised 17 guineas, and another by the same sire sold for 15½ guineas, while an elt of the same stock fetched 16 guineas. Other animals sold as follows:—15 guineas, 14½ guineas, 13 guineas, 12½ guineas, 10½ guineas, 10 guineas, 9 guineas, 8½ guineas, 8 guineas, 7½ guineas, 7 guineas, 6½ guineas, 5½ guineas, 5 guineas, 4½ guineas, 4 guineas, 3½ guineas, 3 guineas, 2½ guineas, 2 guineas. About ten lots were bought for exportation to New Zealand and Buenos Ayres. A selection of fat hogs and porkers were subsequently sold, and made good prices.

Amongst the buyers were Lord Middleton, Colonel Van de Weyer (Windsor), Canon Hutton (Lincoln), Dr. Macdonald (Dorchester), Messrs. Hudson (Danesfield), Edney Hayter (Whitchurch), Simonds (Basingstoke), Waring (Beenham), Hiscock (Shaftesbury), Whitmarsh (Monkton), Higham (Addleston), Fricker (Wincanton), Henwood (Tring), Jefferson (Chester), Chick (Dorchester), Carter (Norfolk), Treble (Ware), Brown (Southampton), Toogood (Tunbridge Wells), Sheen (Maidenhead), Carter (Wisbech), Halford (Dorchester), Spencer (Winchester), Gooch (Inholmes), Knowles (Linkenholt), Weston, Booth, Judd, Hancock, Butler, Aldridge, &c.

VETERINARY.

Advice of a Veterinary character, by a M.R.C.V.S., is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Calf.

Sir,—I would feel very grateful if you would at an early date in your valuable paper give me advice in the following case:—I have a fine calf, six months old, which up to a few days ago was in spendid condition. It then got a wetting, from which it took a cough, and immediately swelled up to a great extent, so much so that it was not able to turn or walk except stiffly. It was able to drink milk for a couple of days, but then the glands of the neck got swelled up and something like lockjaw set in, as its mouth could not be forced open to put a bottle in to give medicine. It is now a week in that condition and is still living, but will not be long so.

I am very many miles from a veterinary surgeon, and would be glad to have advice, fearing a similar case may occur among the other calves.

There are three others in the same house with it, and I have not removed them as I did not think it was anything infectious. J. M.

*** The question is, What is or was the matter with the calf? This is by no means clear or certainly to be gathered from the description furnished, although not much fault can be found with this. The early symptoms, including the swelling, appear not inconsistent with tetanus or lock-jaw, which obviously subsequently developed. In bygone days, before tetanus was recognised as an infectious and contagious disease due to a specific blood poisoning from a toxin developed by a micro organism—the Bacillus tetani—it used to be divided into two forms, traumatic and idiopathic. The traumatic form was associated with wounds, particularly of the feet, and the idiopathic to exposure or, very vaguely, "to some peculiar susceptibility to derangement of the constitution itself." Now we know that it is all one disease, that it is due to an organism which may gain entry through a mere scratch or abrasion of the buccal membrane, and that a wound need not be situated in any particular part, or be large or obvious. Assuming that the case is one of tetanus, as there seems every reason to fear that it is, it will be desirable to thoroughly disinfect the premises where the animal has lived and probably died.

We will refer to the subject again shortly.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES OF FARM ANIMALS.

Extract from To-Day's Farmers' Club Paper by Professor Penberthy, of the Royal Veterinary College, who deals particularly with Glanders and Anthrax.

The first meeting of the Farmers' Club after the recess was fixed to take place to-day (Monday) at 4 p.m., the chief feature being the reading of a paper, entitled "Contagious Diseases of Farm Animals, with special reference to Glanders and Anthrax," by Professor Penberthy, of the Royal Veterinary College. The secretary of the club has kindly sent us an advance proof of the paper, from which we take the following:—

A critical review of matters relating to contagious diseases during the sixty years which have intervened since the subject of cattle diseases was first discussed by this club might possibly be of interest and practical value, but time and space forbid entering deeply into this or any aspect of the subject chosen for me. However, it is well to keep in memory the "bridge which has safely carried us over," and I venture to think a brief retrospect may not be without some value.

In the forties of the last century sheep-pox was rampant and claimed a large number of victims, entailing immense monetary loss. Forty years ago two counties only in England were free from cattle plague. In the first three weeks of 1866 38,400 head of cattle were attacked with that fatal malady, while from June 24, 1865, to September, 1867, 278,927 were attacked, and 56,911 healthy animals slaughtered to prevent spread of the disease, a total of 335,838 animals, entailing a loss of more than £5,000,000 in two and a half years. In 1871 foot-and-mouth disease existed in ninety-two counties in the United Kingdom, and during the year there were 52,000 outbreaks and 691,560 animals affected. In 1883, in seventy-five counties in Great Britain, there were 18,732 outbreaks and 461,145 animals affected.

In 1887 pleuro-pneumonia existed in seventy counties; there were 2,007 outbreaks and 5,330 cattle attacked.

These plagues were all imported from abroad, and probably in every instance by live animals. After suppression at stupendous cost, their recurrence has been prevented by a simple measure prohibiting the importation of live animals, except at certain places for immediate slaughter without removal from the place of landing.

A dozen years ago rabies existed in forty-one counties, from which 438 cases were reported, the record of the previous year being 672. No case has been reported since 1902. The quarantine of imported dogs has apparently been effectual in securing immunity from this terrible malady. Sheep-pox has not existed in English sheep for several years. Cattle plague was stamped out thirty years ago, and has made no re-appearance in the United Kingdom. Pleuro-pneumonia has been non existent since 1898.

There is every reason for supposing that the foregoing diseases are now exterminated, and it is certain that if they reappear the contagion must be imported from abroad. This immunity has been secured at immense cost and annoyance to the farmer and the community at large, and by a vigorous policy upheld by successive Governments against the violent assaults of those of limited interest, sentimentalists, and vote-hunting individuals and associations. The authority which would submit the country to any risk in this direction by premature alteration of the existing law must be prepared to take the responsibility of undoing that which has been secured at such tremendous sacrifice, and of extinguishing the flickering hope of the agricultural industry.

Of the more important diseases scheduled under the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act, and Orders of the Board, there now remain sheep scab, glanders, anthrax, and swine fever. The result of operations against sheep scab during the past thirty-seven years are shown by the following figures, which speak for themselves:—

Year.	Outbreaks reported.	No. of counties.
1870	2,573*	6
1887	1,596†	75
1896	3,536	79
1903	1,792	73
1906	534	63
1907	428‡ (in 41 weeks)	

Though there would appear to be a slight recrudescence, the present state in relation to sheep scab must be regarded as highly satisfactory, compared with any previous period.

Glanders.

The paper then deals exhaustively with the subject of glanders, tracing its origin, and showing the number of outbreaks in various years.

* 76,718 sheep attacked.

† 26,383 sheep attacked.

‡ Compares with 322 in corresponding period 1906.

As regards the nature of glanders, Professor Penberthy says:—

The very minute microbe, on which it depends, finds conditions most suitable for its development in the horse. It multiplies best at temperatures between 90 deg. Fahr. and 100 deg. Fahr.—*i.e.*, about body heat and a little lower, but such as rarely obtain in this country in the soil or the surroundings of horses. It is destroyed by desiccation and after exposure for some time to sunlight, so that, under sanitary conditions, it probably lives and remains effective only a comparatively short time outside the body of the affected animal.

These results of the experimental study of the virus have provided, amongst other matters, some grounds for modification of our views concerning the part played by stables which have been occupied by animals affected with glanders, and especially as to how long they remain dangerous. At one time attention was mainly centered on the assumed importance of the contaminated place or thing, and it was customary to have the stable pulled down or "gutted" and renewed. To-day it is believed that disinfection of places and things can readily be effected, and that a plentiful supply of sunlight and removal of all moist dirt are of the greatest assistance in this direction.

The wide variation in the manifestations of the disease render hopeless any attempt to fully describe what is to be regarded as diseased or suspected. We will, however, venture to mention some conditions which should determine the person in charge of a horse, ass, or mule to notify his suspicion to the constable nearest to the place in which the suspected animal is. A generally swollen limb, particularly if there are small elevations, abscesses, or sores on it, the so called "farcied" leg, similar swellings in any part of the skin, or elongated tube-like swellings, "farcy pipes," having in their course small nodules or abscesses discharging an amber-coloured liquid, are suggestive of the form of glanders usually known as farcy. Discharge from the nostrils, or more especially one nostril, and a swelling between the jaws, sores or ulcers in the nostril, slight bleeding from the nostrils, are symptoms often regarded as typical of glanders. During the existence of these indications the animal usually feeds well, but may lose flesh and condition, be easily fatigued, and frequently have a cough. The foregoing have sometimes been placed in the category of chronic farcy or chronic glanders. The malady may show itself in an acute form, in which extreme depression, high temperature, great constitutional disturbance, hurried breathing, and small abscesses, generally distributed over the skin, may be noticeable. This has been named "acute farcy." At other times the general symptoms just described may be accompanied by much swelling in the space between the jaws, discharge from and ulceration of the nostrils, so-called acute glanders. Such cases usually end fatally in a few days at most. As a rule, the glanders bacillus produces small seed-like nodules in the lungs, which do not evince much activity. It may, however, produce acute pneumonia or pleurisy, or both, whose specific nature cannot be determined until after death, and then only by microscopic examination or inoculation.

Every horse which has been stabled with one suffering from glanders must, until proved to be free from the disease, be a suspected animal. Mallein will in the great majority of cases confirm the suspicion or remove it, and with its aid the eradication of glanders can, at least, be attempted with reasonable hope of success.

Anthrax.

In the course of his remarks on anthrax, Professor Penberthy says:—

Anthrax has a wide distribution over the globe, but is more common in hot than temperate regions, as a high temperature favours the development of the anthrax germ outside the animal body. It is regarded as a disease of the country rather than of the town, though occasionally it has done serious damage in town stables and byres.

Though by inoculation very readily communicated to all farm animals, for some reason anthrax, under ordinary circumstances, is much more common in cattle. The returns for 1906 report a total of 1,330 deaths of animals of all species. Of these, 999 were of cattle, 83 of sheep, 213 of swine, and 34 of horses. How far cases occurring in cattle, sheep, and horses depend on each other is not easy to ascertain, but it appears probable that animals of these several species do not usually acquire the disease directly from each other, but from the same or distinct sources.

With swine the case is quite different, for though it is quite possible for pigs to become affected by taking the virus from an independent source, the great majority become infected by

eating portions of the carcase offal, blood, or discharges of animals dead of the malady. The total number of cases and the numbers at single outbreaks, shown in the annual returns, are considerably affected by figures against swine. On theoretical grounds most of these cases are avoidable.

Anthrax is not limited to farm animals, as the majority of mammals are susceptible. Dogs and other flesh-eating animals may contract the disease in the same manner as swine. Rabbits, mice, sparrows, &c., are readily infected by inoculation. Occasionally deer become naturally infected, and in the return for 1889 it is shown that 461 died of the disease. Anthrax gains its greatest importance from the fact that it is communicable and often fatal to man.

The total economic loss from anthrax must be regarded as small. In Great Britain there are 35,600,000 susceptible farm animals, and in no year up to the present time has a larger number than 1,589 deaths been recorded; and though to a man whose worldly possessions consist only of three acres and one cow loss to the individual may be most serious, a national insurance of 3d. a score would cover all risks, at £15 a head for cattle, 50s. for sheep, £2 for swine, and £30 for horses.

The main fact concerning anthrax which affords the material for practical application is that it is caused by bacilli, which swarm in inconceivable myriads in the blood, where they can be found only a short time before death, and may be identified by microscopic examination, if this is carried out before putrefaction sets in. As this process begins later on the outside than internally, the blood of the ear is selected, a practice which is easy and safe, because little or no blood is spilled, and the part can be easily disinfected.

If the carcase be buried, as the animal dies, without any shedding of blood, putrefaction kills all the bacilli, and when complete all danger from anthrax is gone. If by any means the bacilli become exposed to air, and the temperature is not below 60 deg. Fahr., or above 110 deg. Fahr., they may multiply. If the temperature is above 65 deg. Fahr. and below 105 deg. Fahr., germs or spores form inside the bacilli, but this does not occur unless the bacilli have free access to oxygen (air). Bacilli are easily destroyed, a temperature of 160 deg. Fahr. being fatal in a short time.

On the contrary, spores are very resistant; putrefaction does not destroy them, and under circumstances favourable to them in the dried state they live for years outside the animal body. They withstand a very high temperature of dry heat, 110 deg. Fahr. above the boiling point being necessary to immediately kill them. In the moist state they are killed by five minutes' exposure at the boiling point (212 deg. Fahr.).

It will be seen that temperatures usually obtaining in Great Britain do not favour the development of spores. In fact, in the greater part of the year, on this account spores do not form; but there is just the possibility of this occurring should the blood be exposed while the carcase is warm, or in the heat of summer.

In dealing with anthrax the most important consideration is the prevention of spore formation. From the above facts it will be seen that if any suspected material to be used as food is subjected to boiling for five minutes all danger of its producing anthrax is averted.

The prevention of anthrax is, of course, the cardinal consideration. The stockowner's protection of his own interests is closely associated with the performance of the duty imposed on him by the State to notify at the earliest opportunity his conviction or suspicion. In the present state of our knowledge the first case of anthrax in a place is an accident, usually due to circumstances beyond our control; subsequent cases, most frequently to neglect of precautionary measures at our disposal. It is natural to ask the question, How can one know when an animal is dead of anthrax? The answer is, that of his own knowledge the ordinary stock-owner cannot tell that any animal dying suddenly did *not* die of anthrax.

It is perfectly clear that he should suspect all such animals, give notice immediately to the nearest constable, and make provision for preventing access to and egress from the place in which the carcase is, and that it should not be touched. On the arrival of the inspector all the owner has to do is to render facilities and abstain from doing a few things, such as the removal of milk of a diseased cow from the place in which she is or has been, &c. The restrictions following confirmation of the existence of anthrax are not irksome. Where the provisions of the Anthrax Order are adopted promptly, the dangers from recurrence of anthrax as a result of the first case are remote.

In cattle and sheep there are no distinctive or suggestive symptoms during life except a high temperature, which may exist several hours before death, but in almost every case illness is so short that the animal is found dead. Pigs usually have very much swollen necks, which cause loud breathing. Horses are affected in various ways, but there are no diagnostic symptoms. If it is practicable, the subjection of the constituents of the various cakes when in the moist or semi-liquid state to a temperature of 212 degs. Fahr. for five minutes would remove all possible danger from this source. Indian and other meals containing anthrax spores in a dry state would require a much higher temperature to render them safe.

AUCTION SALES.

Auctioneers will favour us by sending in their advertisements as early in the week as possible.

Charges for announcements under this heading Six Shillings an inch.

By Messrs. STRIDE & SON.

MADAMS, SCOTLAND, UPPER AND LOWER NORTH PARK FARMS, MIDHURST, SUSSEX.
(About 3 miles from Midhurst Station, L.B and S.C. Ry. and L. and S.W. Ry., and 6 miles from Haslemere Station, L. and S.W. Ry.).

HIGHLY IMPORTANT UNRESERVED SALE of the LIVE AND DEAD FARMING STOCK, including the pure-bred registered Southdown Flock (No. 337 in Flock Book), Pedigree BERKSHIRE PIGS, CART HORSES, SHORTHORN CATTLE, and a very large assortment of nearly new Implements, Machinery and Tools.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8th NEXT, 1907.

MESSRS. STRIDE & SON are in receipt of instructions from D. J. NEAME, Esq., who is relinquishing farming, to SELL by AUCTION, without reserve, at MADAMS FARM, on the above date, the whole of the VERY VALUABLE LIVE AND DEAD FARMING STOCK, comprising the PURE-BRED REGISTERED SOUTHDOWN FLOCK (No. 337 in Flock Book) of about 470 EWES in regular flock ages (Ram turned out Sept 10th) as follows:—

43 SHEARLING EWES,
30 FOUR-TEETH EWES,
30 SIX-TEETH EWES,
90 FULL-MOUTH EWES,
80 EWE LAMBS,
159 WETHER LAMBS,
8 RAMS AND RAM LAMBS, 7 TEGS and 9 TWO-TEETH WETHERS, being prepared for Christmas showing; also 71 FOUR-TEETH WELSH WETHERS, nearly fit to kill.
13 Young, UPSTANDING, POWERFUL CART HORSES, ranging from 5 to 6 years old, suitable for Road or Town work.
12 PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE SOWS (with and in pig) and BOARS
3 CROSS-BRED (Berkshire and Sussex) SOWS in pig.
20 cross-bred (Berkshire and Sussex) BACON HOGS.

About 30 HEAD OF SHORTHORN CATTLE, including 16 home-bred fifteen-months Heifers and 10 Fat Shorthorn Steers.

300 HEAD OF POULTRY, 30 DUCKS AND 3 GEESE.

Together with the very large and varied ASSORTMENT OF NEARLY NEW AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, MACHINERY AND TOOLS.

Sale to commence at ELEVEN o'clock.
Refreshments obtainable on the premises.
Conveyances will meet trains at Midhurst and Haslemere Stations to carry passengers to and from the sale at a charge of 1s. per head each journey.
Commissions carefully executed.
Catalogues of the AUCTIONEERS, STRIDE AND SON, CHICHESTER.

By Messrs. IRELAND.

Norwich, Norfolk.—Ireland's Norwich Hill Auction Mart (established 50 years). Every Saturday. Fat Bullocks and Sheep, Store Sheep. Special Spring and Autumn Store Cattle Sales.

MESSRS. IRELAND solicit consignments for these important weekly sales; best market value assured.

Cattle consigned to Ireland's, Norwich, will be properly fed and carefully attended to.

All cattle weighed upon entry to the sale ring if desired. Full particulars to be sent to—

IRELAND'S, Auctioneers.
Norwich, Norfolk.

By Mr. GAVIN LOW.

IRISH STORE CATTLE.

NEXT GREAT SALE, LIMITED TO 1,200 HEAD, at 50, PRUSSIA STREET, DUBLIN, on THURSDAY, NOV. 7, comprising a large number of Polled Bullocks, Horned Bullocks and Heifers, Aberdeen Angus and Hereford Crosses, 2 to 3 years, in forward condition, and a large entry of Young Cattle, including over 100 choicely-bred Aberdeen Angus and Hereford Cross Bullocks and Heifers, 7 to 18 months old.

GAVIN LOW.
50, Prussia Street, Dublin.

By Mr. E. G. HOTHERSALL, F.A.I.

IMPORTANT AND UNRESERVED SALE OF PEDIGREE LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRE PIGS.

Mr. John Blundell, of Lower Burrow Farm, Scotforth, near Lancaster, in conjunction with C. J. Tong, Esq., of Hambleton, near Poulton-le-Fylde, have instructed

MR. E. G. HOTHERSALL, F.A.I., to SELL by AUCTION on
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20,
at Lower Burrow Farm, Scotforth, near Lancaster, the entire Herds of PRIZE-WINNING PEDIGREE PIGS,
numbering 95 Head,
principally choice Young Sows due to farrow in early spring, and a quantity of Boars, including the Prize Boar, Shard Roger 8725, a winner of numerous First Prizes, and the grand Stock Boar, Jester of Nottingham 9923.

Luncheon at 11.30. Sale at 1.

Catalogues from the Owners, or E. G. HOTHERSALL, Auctioneer and Valuer, Auction Mart, Preston.

By Mr. W. BAINBRIDGE.

WALTON HALL, WARRINGTON.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1907.

OWING to alteration and re-organisation of the Walton Herd of Pigs, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., a Second Important Sale for this season, consisting of upwards of
100 HIGH-CLASS LARGE AND MIDDLE WHITE PEDIGREE BOARS, SOWS, GILTS, and YOUNG PIGS, including many winners and descendants of winners from this celebrated herd, will take place on Thursday, November 14, 1907.

Further particulars and Catalogues of W. BAINBRIDGE, Land Agent, Walton House, Warrington.

Forthcoming Sales.

Owing to alteration and reorganisation of Sir Gilbert Greenall's well-known Walton herd of pigs, a second sale will be held at Walton Hall, Warrington, on Thursday, November 14, when Mr. W. Bainbridge will sell 100 Large and Middle White pigs, including many winners and descendants of winners from this famous herd.

Mr. Gavin Low's next sale of Irish store cattle will take place on Thursday next at 50, Prussia Street, Dublin, the catalogue consisting of 12,000 head, comprising Polled bullocks, Horned bullocks and heifers, Aberdeen-Angus and Hereford crosses two to three years old, also a large entry of young stock, including over 190 choicely bred Aberdeen-Angus and Hereford cross bullocks and heifers seven to eighteen months old.

On the 20th of this month Mr. E. G. Hothersall, auctioneer, of Preston, will bring under the hammer at Lower Burrow Farm, Scotforth, near Lancaster, and Mr. C. J. Tong, of Hambleton, near Poulton-le-Fylde. There will be a luncheon at 11.30, and the sale will commence at one o'clock. Catalogues can be had of the owners or the auctioneer.

Sale of Sheep at Ashford.

The demand for Kent rams was very fair at Ashford Market on Tuesday, when Messrs. W. and B. Hobbs disposed of numerous consignments. Of these, ten of Mr. Alfred Amos's registered tegs realised a total of £47 10s., or an average of £4 15s. per head, with a range of prices of from £4 to £7 5s.; nine of Mr. T. Vicker's pure-bred Kent tegs, with a range of from £3 10s. to £5 15s., realised a total of £41, or an average of £4 11s. per head; a consignment of fourteen pure Kent tegs from Mr. A. Sutton's flock realised £48 10s., or an average of £3 9s. 3d. per head; a few of Mr. Ashley Dodd's Kent ram tegs fetched from £2 to £3; and Mr. C. Bates' grass-fed Kent tegs made from £2 5s. to £4 15s. A very small, but very useful, lot of Kent ram tegs from Mr. T. Hills's flock made from £3 5s. to £4 15s.

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

*** *The charge for Advertisements (if set in small type) under classified headings in this section is one penny per word each insertion.*

HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL, Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

GRIFFIN, F. W., Boro' Fen, Peterboro'. Shire Stallions, Mares, and Fillies for sale, in natural condition; 40 pedigree mares kept for breeding; every facility to foreign buyers.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Hereford. Stud Horses: Lockinge Lord of Misrule and Lockinge Bonny Lad, both by Lockinge Forester, full brother to Lockinge Forest King. Colts and Fillies for Sale.

JOHNSON, WALTER, Hatfield, Doncaster. Stud Horse, Lambton King 16757; Stallions for hire; weighty young Stallions, Mares, and Fillies on Sale.

MUNTZ, FREDERICK ERNEST, Umberslade, Hockley Heath, Warwickshire. Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, prize-winners.—Particulars from Mr. JOHN T. B. HARTLEY, Estate Office.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby. — SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners, on Sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

PEARSON, E. E., Brickendonbury, Hertford. Shire Stallions, Mares and Stock for service and sale; prize winners. Stations: Hertford, Great Eastern and Great Northern.—Apply Estate Office, Brickendonbury, Hertford.

ROWELL, JOHN, Bury, Huntingdon. Breeder of Shires and Hackneys; Stallions for sale, hire, or service at home; mares and fillies for sale.

WHITEHEAD, Robert, Fashionably bred mares and fillies in natural condition on Sale. Stallions, Bodenham King 17177, Whitestone Prince Alfred 22930.—Apply J. M. JOHNSTONE, Hargate Hall, Buxton. Station, and telegrams, Millers Dale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

BENSON, ALFRED, Upper Gatton Park, Merstham, Surrey. Hackney Stallions: Copper King 7784, reserve champion, London Hackney Shows, 1905 and 1906; yearling Colts and Fillies by Copper King and other well-known Stallions for sale. For particulars, pedigrees, &c., apply to T. Hyett.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

SMITH, THOMAS, Shirley Stud, Hall Green, Birmingham Breeder of Pedigree Hackneys and Ponies. Owner Hackney Stallion, "Viscount Hopwood" 8686; Pony Stallions, "Pinderfields Horace" 7952, "Shirley King Horace" 9882. Prize winners on sale.

WHITWORTH, ROBERT, Warley Stud, Halifax, and Londesboro' Stud, Market Weighton. Hackney Stallions: Polonius, Edemynag, Beckingham Squire 8078. Hackneys and Harness Horses always on sale. Matched pairs a speciality.

PONIES.

BEALE, Mrs. A. J., Cacketts, Cudham, Kent. Prize-bred Pedigree Shetlands for sale; three grand Stallions at stud.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

BELL, CHARLES, Norley Hall, Norley, Cheshire. Shorthorn Bulls for sale, from Kirklevington, Red Rose, Barrington, and Cruickshank tribes. Telegrams "Norley"; railway stations, Acton Bridge and Delamere.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

DUDDING, MR. HY., Riby Grove, Great Grimsby, has for inspection and sale the largest pure herd of SHORTHORNS in the county, which comprises the best Bates, Booth, Cruickshank and Scotch blood. The prize bulls recently used and now in service are Prince Alastair 90471, a noted winner, and sold at the Riby Sale, 1906, for 1,000 gs.; Scottish Daisy Duke 77916, Merry Squire 87th 84026, Stratton Squire 89662, Bapton Favourite 76880, Wanderer's Chief 89219, Royal Pearl 89950, President Pierrepont 92846, Alastair 87764, Scottish Standard 97058, and Strowan Butterfly 22nd. In July of last year 51 Shorthorns and 56 Lincoln Rams were sold to average 125 gs. each, realising a total of nearly £14,000. In July this year 53 Shorthorns and 48 Rams averaged over 90 gs. each, with a total of nearly £10,000. Numerous prizes have been won at the leading shows in England by the Riby Shorthorns and Lincoln Sheep. Telegrams: "Dudding, Keelby."

MOSLEY, Sir OSWALD.—High-class Shorthorns. Home Farm, Rolleston Hall. Bulls and Heifers on sale.—Apply A. E. Bock, Rolleston, Burton-on-Trent.

PREECE, JOHN ADNEY, Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston, Northampton.—Herd of 250 Shorthorns, best Bates and Scotch blood; stock Bulls, Duke of Barrington 70th, Primrose Earl 89641, and Royal Baron 93192; Bulls and Heifers for sale.

ROTHWELL, R. R., Much Hoole, near Preston. Pedigree Shorthorns, chiefly Scotch blood. Stock bull Strowan Marquis 13th, winner of many prizes. Young bulls and heifers always on sale.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

TAYLOR, GEORGE, Cranford, Middlesex.—Bates' Shorthorns, deep milkers. Winners Milking Competitions, London Dairy Show, 1905-6. Bull Calves for Sale. Stock Bulls: Beau Sabreur, Drumcree, Rowbury, and Kirkcharm.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

SUSSEX.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath, Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Sussex Cattle (descended from the oldest and best strains of blood), unrivalled for their early maturity, the production of the best beef and working oxen, and ability to thrive in all weathers on the roughest fare. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for Sale.

HEREFORDS.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for Sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

PULLEY, CHARLES THORNTON, Lower Eaton, Hereford.—Noted prize-winning herd of HEREFORD CATTLE. First prize Royal winners, Protector 19660, 1900; Eaton Champion 21351, 1903; and Ashleaf 3rd, 1905. This herd is headed by Eaton Champion and Glendower 2nd 22196, also a Royal winner. Bulls and Heifers for sale. Also prize-winning Shropshire Sheep.—Apply Mr. HEDLEY JONES, Lower Eaton Estate Office, Hereford.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has in 1904 1905 and 1906 won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by Endale, Bage Protector, and Fusilier. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited. —Apply. J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford, Herefordshire.

DEVONS.

BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton Williton, Taunton. Breeder of Pedigree Devon Cattle. A speciality for large size, with quality and robust constitutions; colour dark red. Sent to all parts of the world. Prices moderate.

SKINNER, ALFRED C., Pound, Bishops-Lydeard, Somerset. Pedigree Devons, constitution, quality, size, milk; 600 prizes principal shows, many champions; exports most successful; bulls and heifers for sale. Inspection invited.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

BRIDGES, J. H.—This old-established herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle of the leading families can be seen at Langshott Home Farm, Horley, Surrey (near Horley Station, L.B. & S.C.R.), and catalogues obtained on application to Mr. Albert Pulling.

CRIDLAN, J. J., Maisemore Park, Gloucester, Erica, Pride of Aberdeen, Lady Ida and other noted tribes. Stock Bulls, Wizard of Maisemore (21,465), Champion and winner of gold medals, 1905; Everwise (24,436), Champion and medal winner, 1907; Bengal of Ballindalloch, prize winner, 1906.

HURSLEY PARK HERD OF ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE, the property of Sir George Cooper, Bart., comprising Erica, Pride, Miss Burgess, Lady Ida, Matilda, Jemima of Morlich families. Prizes won during 1906: 7 firsts, 3 seconds, 3 reserves, 1 challenge cup, 2 silver medals, 3 reserve champions. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.—Catalogues on application to J. E. Thorold, Estate Office, Hursley Park, Winchester.

THE ROCKLIFFE PARK HERD of Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, Ericas and Prides. Stock Bull, Pundit of Preston (17,156), Champion at Highland Show, 1904. —Apply, R. C. SWAN, Rockliffe Park, Darlington.

AYRSHIRES.

WALLACE, JAMES, J.P., Auchenbainzie, Thornhill, Dumfriesshire, Scotland. Breeder of pedigree prize-winning Ayrshire Cattle; hardy, healthy, good milkers; bred for dairy purposes, beauty and style. Bulls and Heifers for sale.

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably, from his prize-winning herd of Red Polls, Bulls, Cows, Heifers, from good milkers.—Apply C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

CARY-ELWES, V., Billing Hall, Northampton. Breeder of Jersey cattle.

FOWLER, P. T., Importer, Watford, Herts. A choice selection of pedigree Jersey and Guernsey Cows, Heifers and young Bulls from prize herds of the Islands; particulars forwarded; inspection invited.

JERSEYS, and Alderney Guernseys, fresh calved and near calving. Prices, particulars.—R. WHEADON, Ilminster.

MERTON GRANGE GUERNSEYS.—Property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. This Herd contains Champion Bull, 1906; also Bull Royal Governor, winner of seven Firsts, and unbeaten 1907. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of best Breeding for Sale.—Telegrams and particulars, W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay.

STERN, Sir E. D., Fan Court, Chertsey, Surrey. Herd of pedigree Jersey Cattle. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for sale.

TICHBORNE PARK, GUERNSEY.—Yearling Bulls and Heifers for sale.—Apply, D. MICHIE, Estate Office, Tichborne, Alresford, Hants.

GALLOWAYS.

GRAHAM, ROBERT, Auchengassel, Twynholm, breeder fashionable Galloway Cattle, winners at Royal and Highland Societies Shows. Pedigree Bulls, Cows, and Heifers, also Blue-greys for feeding, for sale. Commissions carefully executed.

KERRIES & DEXTER KERRIES.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

RATTRAY, DAVID, Gortnaskehy, Ballybunion, Co. Kerry. Pedigree Prize-winning Herd of Kerries and Dexters. 155 Prizes and Honours won by Cattle from this Herd past three years. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

THE DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE'S PRIZE-WINNING DEXTER HERD.—During 1904 and 1905 this Herd won more prizes than any other three Dexter Herds combined, including both first and second milking prizes Royal, 1905, and first London Dairy Show, 1906. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers generally for Sale.—CHILD, Compton Place, Eastbourne.

DUTCH.

BROWN, JOHN, Marden Farm, Hertford. Dutch, the best Dairy Cattle in the world. Over 200 head kept. Record, one cow gave 1,615 gallons of milk in 52 weeks. Bulls for sale.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

ANDERSON, JOHN, Barton-on-Humber.—The old Barton Flock of Pure-bred LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP, Flock Book 106. This flock is noted for hard constitutions and fine, lustrous wool. Inspection invited. Telegrams as above.

ATKINSON, T., & SON, North Kelsey, Lincoln. Old-established flock of pure Lincoln Longwools. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Noted for great size and long lustrous wool. Have given great satisfaction at home and abroad. Inspection invited

BROCKLEBANK, JOHN, Bassingham, Lincoln (Flock 24). Pure-bred Lincoln Longwool Rams and Ewes. This old flock has been carefully bred for 100 years. Telegrams: Bassingham.

BROOKS, W. J., Stowe Lodge, Weedon, Northants (Registered Flock 165), has for sale Ram and Ewes of best blood.

DRAKES, Wm., Tealby, Market Rasen. Flock No. 72 of Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs of best blood for sale. Lincoln Red Short horns. Prices moderate.

DUDDING, MR. HY., Riby Grove, Great Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale the largest flock of pure Lincoln Longwool Sheep in the county, and many prize-winners. They are famous for great size, fine wool, and 150 years' good breeding, and at the home Sales have made the highest prices on record. In July, 1906, 51 shearling rams sold to average £151 each, the record price being made for a single ram, namely, 1,450 gs., and on two other occasions have rams made 1,000 gs. The wonderful success of the Riby sheep at the Royal Show, Lincoln, 1907, and at the Home Sale in July when 48 rams averaged over £94 each, proves that the Riby blood leads the way. Champion and premier prizes have been secured in all the leading exhibitions throughout the world. Telegrams: "Dudding, Kee by."

SMITH, HENRY, jun., Cropwell Butler, Nottingham. Lincoln Longwool Flock No. 7, winner of £2,361 in prizes. Champion pen Lincolns, Smithfield Show, 1896; Association Championship, Leicester 1897; Association Championship for pen of 3 Shearling Rams, Yorkshire, 1900; Championship, Rutland, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, and 1906. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.

LEICESTER.

SIMPSON BROS., Pilmoor House, Hunmanby, Yorkshire, Breeders of Leicesters (Flock No. 2 in Leicester Book), have always for inspection or sale Rams and Ewes. These Sheep are of great size with heavy fleeces, and include Royal Winners.

(Continued on page 560.)

SHEEP—*continued.*

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

COLES, CARY, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gns. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1907.—Extraordinary records: Twin ram lambs let for 205 and 120 guineas. Ninety averaged £21 10s. Selections always for Sale.

OVEY, R. L., Hernes, Henley-on-Thames.—Pedigree HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK, Reg. Vol. IV. Prize-winners leading shows last five years.

STEPHENS. H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. The Cholderton flock is individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded in the Hampshire Down Flock Book. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury.

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PIGS—*continued.*

LARGE BLACKS—*continued.*

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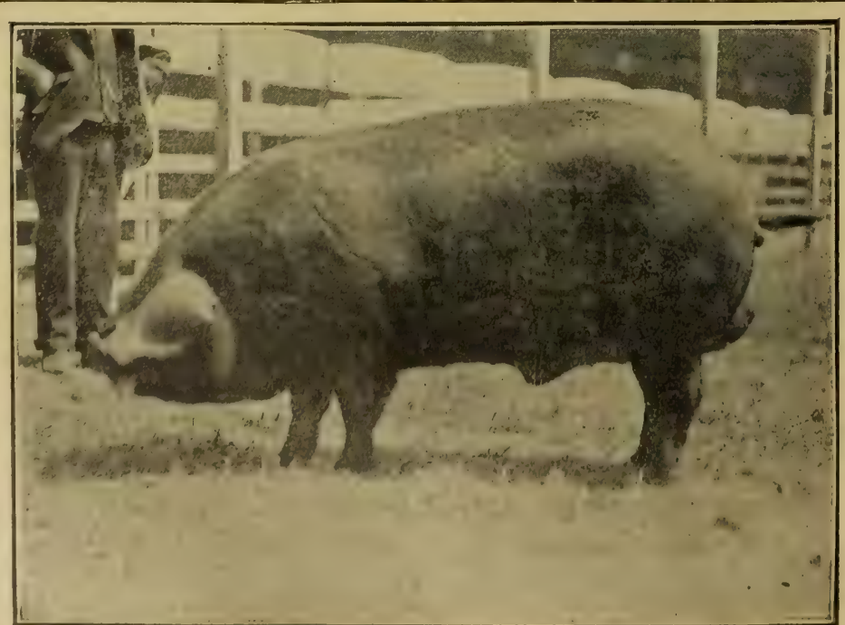
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1st Bath and West Newport; 1st Royal Counties,
1st Nottingham; 1st Suffolk; 1st Norfolk.
1st Derby.
1st Hereford and Worcester; Special Prize Lincoln Agricultural Society; 1st Great Yorkshire; 1st Newark.
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HORSES.

The Decadent Thoroughbred—"Good" and "Bad" Relative Terms—Bad Horses—A Reason—Pedigree—Selecting a Sire—Pedigrees of Sires.

The Decadent Thoroughbred.

SOME writers and speakers—they are generally men with a theory to propound—are never tired of denouncing the Thoroughbred and all his works. We are treated (?) to lugubrious discourses as to the evil effects of short distance races and the training of two-year-olds, and it is very curious that those gentlemen who write the most strongly against the abuses of our present system and their results know very little of the history of the Thoroughbred horse. We are told that it is no matter whether a horse has upright shoulders, long weak pasterns, and indeed, all the faults of conformation he can have, so long as he is able to win a five furlong race. Of course, this is an exaggeration, as so many strong statements are. It surely need not be insisted that a horse's conformation must be somewhat on correct lines to enable him to gallop at any pace, and to have good action a horse must necessarily be truly shaped. But I am not going to assert that the Thoroughbred is all we could wish him to be. I have always held that, taking one year with another, our Thoroughbred horses show no real deterioration. We have good years and we have bad years. We always have had, and we always shall have. As there were brave men before Agamemnon, there have been bad Thoroughbreds before the present year of grace, in which, I am sorry to say, there are a lot of bad ones.

"Good" and "Bad" Relative Terms.

I WONDER how many men pause to consider what a very little difference there really is between a good Thoroughbred and a bad one; that, in fact, as applied to a good year or a bad year, the terms are relative? This may at first sight seem a contradiction, but it is not. The test by which we try the Thoroughbreds of one year with the Thoroughbreds of another is racing, and in racing half-a-dozen lengths mean a good deal. But the best horse of a bad year, though infinitely inferior to the best horse of a good one as a racehorse, may be little or no worse for general purposes. I mean that he may be as good, and that he probably is as good, in every respect, speed alone excepted. This is a point that is not sufficiently considered by the critics of the Thoroughbred.

Bad Horses.

I HAVE already said that we have a great number of very bad Thoroughbred horses at the present time. I may go even further than that, and say that we have a very large proportion of bad Thoroughbreds at the present time. Such a statement would not be difficult to prove, but this is neither the time nor the place to give an analysis of the form of horses. At the same time we have several very good horsee, as good horses as ever we had, always taking an average of years in making the estimate, which is the only fair way. Men who jump to a hasty conclusion say two-year-old racing and short distance races are the cause of the falling off. But in the halcyon days of which they love to talk, two-year-old racing went on uncontrolled from February to the end of the season, and there were half-mile selling handicaps. I think we must look to something else than our racing methods for a reason for the numerous bad Thoroughbreds we hear about and see.

A Reason.

I HAVE spoken on a former occasion of the foolish way in which yearlings are forced with stimulating foods to secure growth—how some breeders force them as if they were bullocks destined to early maturity and the shambles. This fat has to be got off, of course, to the injury of the legs, and the longer the operation of getting the fat off is postponed naturally the greater the strain and more difficult it will be to get off. This system no doubt is injurious to the young horse, and I personally never could see the use of putting fat on just to take off. A superabundance of fat never deceives a good judge, and excessive growth at an early age is not an unmixed benefit, even from the racing point of view. Balance is more conducive to speed than size, a fact which we see exemplified every day and times in a day. But we must go further back to find the root of what mischief there is. Not many years ago I was standing at the ring side with a friend, who is one of the best judges of horses I know, and he expressed his disappointment at the poor lot of horses that appeared in the ring, summing them up graphically as "a lot of bad horses with good pedigrees" Here is the root of the matter. Mares are mated with fashionable sires, with a view to the sale ring, and in the sale ring it succeeds—for a time.

Pedigree.

THIS fashion in pedigree is decidedly an evil, but curiously enough, though men talk about the evil, more or less in whispers, *bien entendu*, they seem to forget it when the time comes round to buy. At least many of them do, and the very fact of a man not having a long purse makes him frequently get hold of a really good horse in spite of himself. A high-sounding pedigree, he soon learns to know, means spending a great deal of money, and not always securing a good animal. For a pedigree may be as fashionable as you please and yet may not be a good one. A mare may be mated with the best horse in the world and the produce be valueless, simply because the strains do not nick. I have a great objection to giving instances, because one should always write carefully about any man's private business lest by any means one should do him an injury. But Sir Tatton Sykes' yearlings of 1904 form such a strong proof of my contention that I cannot help referring to them. The unfashionably bred Spearmint—no one could call his dam, Maid of the Mint by Minting, her dam Warble by Skylark, a fashionably-bred mare—brought the lowest price of the nine sold, yet he won four times more than all the rest put together. Nor does this craze for fashionable sires prevail amongst Thoroughbreds alone. Every other breed suffers from it more or less, and the lighter breeds more than the heavy ones. Hackneys have certainly suffered greatly; so have Hunters, and cases could be found amongst Cleveland Bays and Yorkshire Coach Horses.

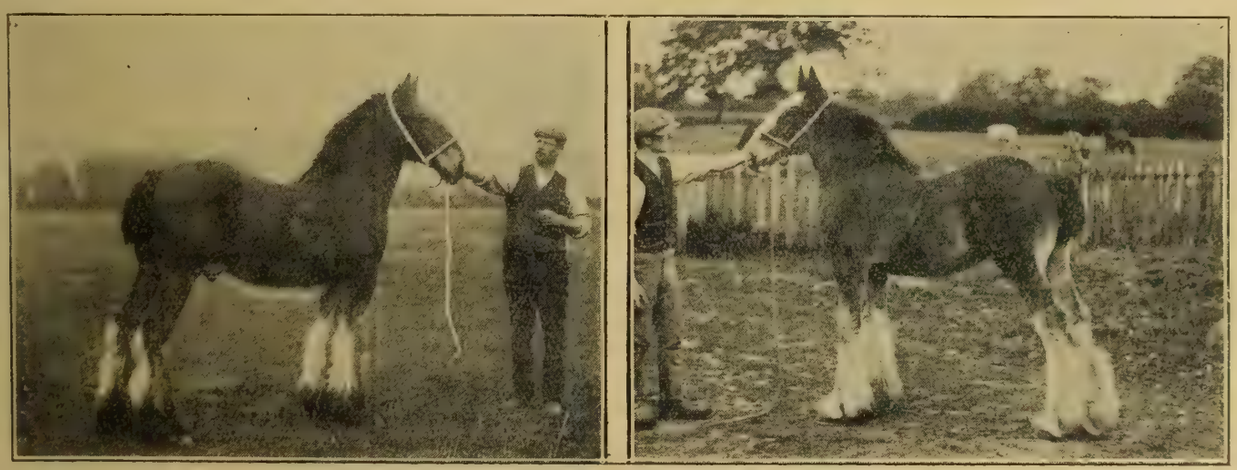
Selecting a Sire.

I THINK most practical men will agree with me that in selecting a sire the breeder should devote a great deal of attention to conformation. It should be unnecessary to urge the necessity of this, but it unfortunately is not. For example, if a Hackney wins a prize or two in good company and has extravagant action, he will meet with a lot of patronage, and many breeders will never give a thought to whether he goes straight or not, or to whether he is likely by his shape to nick with their mares. The consequence of this policy is found in the number of upright shouldered, "destiny" horses, that it is impossible to get anything approaching a remunerative price for. It is, of course, not so easy to prove cases of this kind with a Hackney as it is with a Thoroughbred, for there are not so many reliable data to go upon, and a very important consideration—one, too, that is frequently lost sight of—is that practically every Thoroughbred is registered, whilst only the best of the other breeds, or, at any rate, only those of which the owners have a high opinion, find a place in the respective Stud Books.

Pedigrees of Sires.

THERE is one maxim which stands out as proved by experience. The horse with a long pedigree—a horse that is descended from a long line of illustrious ancestors—is the most impressive sire, and therefore care should be taken to select a horse of undoubted descent. But I very much question whether what I may call individuality of any ancestor more than six generations back has a marked effect on the young horse. Sometimes one may think one sees it, but practically I think that so far as individual traits are concerned they may be said to die out in six generations. This, however, by no means implies that a horse seventh in direct descent from a carting mare, with six top crosses of Thoroughbred blood, would make a good hunting sire. He might show no signs of his carting ancestress—he probably would show no such signs. But he would not be such an impressive sire as, for instance, the Arab, who is the most impressive sire in the world, a fact owing to his exceptional purity of breeding.

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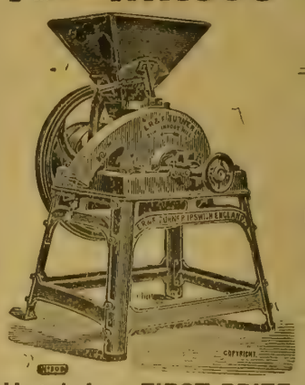
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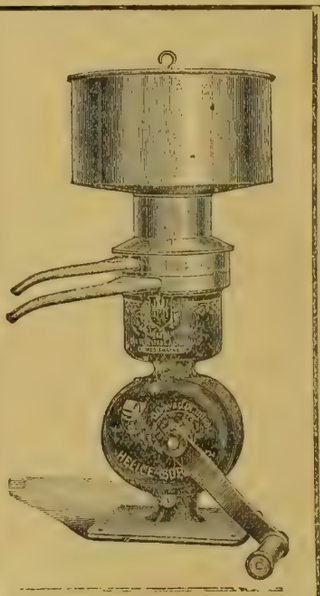


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SHEEP.

Notes and Jottings.

THE Southdown Sheep Society's council meeting, held last week, was a memorable one, for we understand that no less than eighty-one new flock-owners were admitted into membership. So large an increase in the membership of any society is a matter of great interest; it shows that those who are interested in this particular breed have realised the advantages of becoming members of the society, and so large an accession of strength is altogether, we think, without parallel.

IT may be that a considerable number of these new members have been obtained by reason of the determination of the council to close the Flock Book at the end of the current year. Be this so or not, the fact of so many breeders becoming members of this particular society must be to the advantage of the breed.

THE question as to whether or not the Flock Book should be closed, or, indeed, whether this or any other flock book should be closed is a matter upon which great difference of opinion exists. There are several ways in which the same object could be obtained without actually closing the book, but the Southdown Society has decided to take this step. It is hoped that it will be one that will work to the advantage of the breed, but there is room to doubt whether it would not have been far more to the advantage of the breed for the Flock Book to have remained open with very stringent conditions of entry.

THE South Devon sheep-breeders, at their meeting held on Thursday last, received a report which was most satisfactory, in connection with the progress of their breed during the past five or six months, for during that period there had been exported to New Zealand a consignment of sheep numbering thirty-one, which is the largest consignment of South Devon sheep ever sent out of this country.

THE above reference to the reports of three meetings of sheep societies held recently, all tends to show how rapidly the membership of these societies is increasing, and also proves the great value of the work that these societies are doing for the respective breeds which they represent.

THE ability of the individual to push his particular breed in the world's market is very limited, but when aided by the co-operation of all who are interested in the breed, a society representing such combination can undoubtedly, with greater effect, bring forward and push to the front the interests of the breed it represents.

A POINT that is worthy of consideration is whether or not the combined Sheep Breeders' Associations, as represented by the National Sheep Breeders' Association, are doing all they St. Albans, their purchaser being Mr. D. MacClenan, who was exporting them to Uruguay.

FLOCKMASTERS have been urged, in these notes quite recently, to see that no opportunity is lost to prevent the spread of lameness or footrot amongst their flocks. Unfortunately the period of wet and damp weather experienced recently has enabled this disease to spread very rapidly, and several large flock owners, with whom the writer has come in contact during the past week, have informed him that there is plenty of work to be done in looking after lame sheep.

WHETHER or not the exposure of such sheep in the public markets should be prohibited is a question upon which there would doubtless be great difference of opinion, but it does seem exceptionally hard to find that owners of sound flocks run great risk of having their flocks infected, by reason of sheep with lameness (it may be foot rot or other lameness), being allowed to be exposed for sale in the public market, or being permitted to travel to and fro on the public highway.

FEW but those who have foot-rot in their flocks can ever realise the enormous amount of trouble, cost, and loss that such a disease occasions in any flock that happens to become infected with it.

IT is a well-known fact that to secure the most profit out of any class of live stock the first essential is that that stock shall be kept in a thoroughly healthy and good condition, and consequently, no matter how trivial the ailment may be, any stock that is suffering in the slightest degree is stock that is not doing its best for its owner, and neither is that owner doing the best for himself by allowing any such ailments to remain unattended to or unchecked.



The Lonk Shearling Ram shown above is the animal with which Mr. Edward Smith won a First Prize at the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society's Show this year.

THE Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep Breeders' Association at its last meeting received a most satisfactory report. Eleven new members were elected, eight of which were owners of flocks. Five of these flocks, however, will not be eligible for registration until the year 1910, for under the conditions of entry of this society it is necessary that before a flock can become eligible for inspection and registration, only registered sires must have been used in that flock for the previous four seasons.

ANOTHER item in connection with this council meeting, which is of interest to all who are breeding Kent or Romney Marsh sheep, is that since August 27 last, 333 export certificates had been issued for sheep sent abroad, 190 being for rams, and the remainder for ewes.

IN addition to this large number being sent, the secretary also reported that he had received that morning another application for forty export certificates, ten of which were for rams, and thirty for ewes, the whole of these being sold from the flock owned by the Earl of Verulam, at Gorhambury, should do, or could do, in respect to securing greater freedom of trade, or of conditions of importation of stud sheep into those countries which at the present time are large customers for this class of stock.

IT was mentioned at the meeting of the Kent Sheep Breeders' Association how essential it was that some renewed efforts should be made to secure, if possible, some reduction of the lengthened period of quarantine enforced by the Australasian Colonies against British sheep imported into those Colonies.

THE subject is one that has been considered several times, but in view of the energetic action of our Board of Agriculture in stamping out sheep scab, there surely may be a chance that now that sheep scab has been practically got within control in this country, and that there is no possible danger of its being exported with stud sheep, that some reduction of this long period of quarantine may be secured through the united efforts of the whole of the Sheep Breeders' Associations of this country.

Southdown Sheep Society.

The decision of the Southdown Sheep Society to close the Flock Book at the end of the present year against the further admission of unregistered sheep has brought about a rush of flockmasters anxious to register their flocks, and at the last meeting of the council no fewer than eighty-one new members were elected.

The council having decided that it was desirable to inspect every flock tendered for entry in the Flock Book, arrangements were made for the inspection of the whole of the flocks belonging to new members.

At the same meeting the matter of prizes for Southdowns to be offered by this society at country shows in 1908 was discussed, and it was decided to renew their offer as in the year 1907, with the addition of a special prize of £5 5s. at the Sussex County Show for the best pen of nine Southdown ewes or ewe lambs. The complete list of prizes to be offered by this society for Southdowns in 1908 will therefore be as follows:—

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—Champion gold medal, value £10 10s., or £10 10s. in cash, for the best two-shear or shearling ram; silver medal for the best pen of ewes or ewe lambs; prizes of £10,

£5, £3, for two-shear rams; prizes of £10, £5, £3, for pens of three shearling rams.

ROYAL COUNTIES.—Champion gold medal, value £10 10s, or £10 10s. in cash, for the best ram or ram lamb; silver medal for the best pen of ewes or ewe lambs.

BATH AND WEST.—Prizes of £10, £5, £2, for two-shear rams; silver medal for the best ram or ram lamb; silver medal for the best pen of ewes or ewe lambs.

SUSSEX COUNTY.—Champion gold medal, value £10 10s., or £10 10s. in cash, for the best ram or ram lamb; silver medal for the best three ewes or ewe lambs; special prize of £5 5s. for the best pen of nine ewes or ewe lambs.

EAST KENT, ESSEX, GLOUCESTERSHIRE, OXFORDSHIRE, SUFFOLK, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—Silver medal for the best ram or ram lamb; silver medal for the best pen of ewes or ewe lambs.

Inspection certificates were submitted in respect of eleven new flocks, and, as the report in their case was satisfactory, the flocks were accepted for registration in the Flock book.

A letter was read from Mr. Jeremiah Colman, stating that he accepted with pleasure the invitation of the council to become president-elect.

A report was received from the General Purposes Committee detailing the arrangements which they had made in regard to advertising the closing of the Flock Book against unregistered flocks, and advertising the society in foreign and colonial papers.

The representatives of the Southdown Sheep Society on the Council of the National Sheep Breeders' Association for 1908 were unanimously elected as follows:—Mr. Herbert Padwick (vice-president), Sir Thomas Barrett-Lennard, Bart., Mr. Allan Cooper, and Mr. Henry Webb.

The report of the International Conference of Sheep Breeders held at Lincoln in June last was duly received, and, in compliance with a request from the association, the council suggested that Mr. Herbert Padwick should be nominated as president-elect.

Hampshire Down Sheep Breeders' Association.

A meeting of the council of the Hampshire Down Sheep Breeders' Association was held at Basingstoke on Monday, the Hon. A. H. Baring (president) in the chair.

After the reading and confirmation of the previous minutes and the announcement of apologies for absence from several members by the secretary, forty-five new members were elected. The annual meeting was fixed for Wednesday, December 11, at the Agricultural Hall, Islington.

The reports of the Editing and Finance Committees were presented and passed, and the secretary announced the issue of 440 export certificates, being an increase of about 200 on the past year.

It was decided to continue the shepherds' prize competition as before.

It was decided, on the motion of Mr. Kerr, to allot a registration number to every flock entered in the Flock Book.

It was decided, on the motion of Mr. White, to adopt an official tattoo earmark consisting of the letters H.D.

It was resolved to present prizes to the amount of £28 for Hampshire Downs at the Royal Show to be held at Newcastle. The business of the meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

Old Barton Lincolns for the Argentine.

Mr. John Anderson, of Chapel Farm, Barton-on-Humber, Lincolnshire, shipped on the 26th ult. thirty specially selected Lincoln yearling rams per Messrs. Lamport and Holt's steamer *Romney*, from Alexander Dock, Liverpool, to the order of Mr. Robert Taylor, for Buenos Ayres.

The annual autumn clearance fair for sheep and young cattle at Kirkby Stephen took place on Monday, when the show of sheep was considerably larger than last year. Prices:—Blackfaced ewes, 20s. to 28s.; wether lambs, 8s. to 14s. 6d.; gimmer lambs, 12s. to 17s. 6d.; tups, £1 to £5; grey-faced wether lambs, 23s. to 25s.; gimmer lambs 27s. to 28s.; gimmer shearlings, to 42s.; Wensleydale shearling tups, £5 to £9; tup lambs, £3 to £4; young bullocks, about £5; yearlings, £6 to £6 10s.; two-year-olds, £9; three-year-olds, £11 to £12; gelt cattle, £12 to £13.

At Grantham October Fair there was a fairly good show of cattle, but trade was slow except for young stores. The supply of sheep was small, and there was an average show of horses. Quotations: Strong three year-old bullocks made up to £18 each, two-year-olds £11 to £12, yearlings £5, year-and-a-half-olds £7, milk cows £18 to £22, heifers in profit up to £18 each, in-calf heifers to £17 each. Horses: Good Irish colts £25 to £30, ponies £14 to £18. Wether sheep 50s. to 55s. each, lambs 35s. to 40s. each.

NOTES AND NEWS OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

Among other matters considered at the last meeting of the Darlington Chamber of Agriculture was the subject of rural education, and the following resolution was carried:—"That this Chamber of Agriculture, in supporting Mr. Dymond's (the school inspector) report, make the following recommendations: That in considering the suggestions for partial exemption in certain cases in rural schools after the age of twelve years, due regard should be given to the high standard of education obtaining in the county; that more latitude should be given as to the time of the holidays; that first-hand observation of such things as form the rural surroundings of the school, both natural and industrial, should be introduced; and that in rural schools this should take the place of hygiene and temperance in standards 6 and 7; that the younger children should be encouraged to bring flowers, leaves, and other natural objects to school, and to draw them, to germinate seeds, &c., and that the older scholars should form collections of grasses, weeds, and seeds, injurious insects, &c.; that the reading, arithmetic, geography, drawing and other lessons should have closer reference to the surroundings and the probable future of the scholars." The question of the formation of an independent agricultural party in Parliament was also considered, and it was resolved that the Chamber support the views which it was proposed to bring before the Central Chamber to inaugurate such a party.

At the last meeting of the Buckinghamshire Chamber of Agriculture, Mr. W. Weston introduced the subject of the great desirability of the Central Chamber of Agriculture bringing fresh pressure to bear upon the Government to procure information as to the produce of other countries. Seeing that only one-sixth part of the food supply was raised in this country, it was of the greatest importance, he said, that the farmers should be in possession of official information as to the yield in other countries. We had consuls and a lot of secret service money was spent on other matters, but it did appear to him that the interests of agriculturists were sadly ignored. He hoped that the Central Chamber of Agriculture would impress upon the Board of Agriculture the importance of obtaining and disseminating throughout the country early estimates of the crops and yields of foreign countries, so that the English farmers might have the opportunity of benefiting from the information. He moved a resolution to this effect, and it was unanimously adopted, the members expressing their cordial approval of the proposal.

At a largely attended meeting convened by the Mayor of Blackpool, Councillor S. Hill, and held in the Town Hall on Tuesday, it was decided to re establish the Blackpool Agricultural Society and to hold annual shows. It is seven or eight years since the old society fell out of existence, but the interest displayed at the above meeting was such that a strong committee was at once formed to carry the movement forward. The scheme is receiving influential support, the Mayor being assisted by numbers of aldermen and members of the Town Council.

The council of the Gloucestershire Chamber of Agriculture voted 15 guineas towards the local expenses of the visit of the Royal Agricultural Society to Gloucester in 1909, and this was approved at the last general meeting of the Chamber. At this meeting several subjects were discussed amongst them being the draft Larceny Bill which was heartily approved of. The Workmen's Compensation Act was also dealt with, and the following resolution was passed:—"That in view of the fact that the Government has, by the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, rendered it necessary for employers to insure against accidents of all kinds happening to their employees, the Government ought, through one of their departments, to afford facilities for such insurance without the necessity of having recourse to insurance companies." Whilst in the discussion on agriculture education the Vice-President, Mr. C. Bathurst, referred to the report of the Departmental Committee on Agricutural Education, not yet issued, and counselled members to be careful how they received it. He thought some of the evidence given was wholly wrong and misleading, and that the witnesses, so far as they were allowed to express their opinions, expressed opinions which were not representative of the agricultural community as a whole.

Mr. Victor Cavendish, speaking at a banquet of the Matlock Farmers' Association on Thursday, referred to the Small Holdings Acts, and said he disapproved of the suggestion in the House of Commons debates that agriculturists were dead alive and not up to their work. However, the Act was law, and he hoped they would try to make it a success, though he doubted whether it would lead to any fundamental changes. He believed the success of agriculture could be better secured by Farmers' Associations. He suggested that pedigree breeding of stock was vital, but could hardly imagine its success among the pots and pans of small holdings and allotments. Good cattle rearing and horse breeding was of the utmost importance, however, and it would be found to pay by even the small holder to have pedigree stock rather than the common stock so prevalent.

The Banbury Agricultural Association are to be congratulated on having had a successful year, for at the annual meeting a balance in hand of £35 4s. 8d., as compared with £22 14s. 4d. at the beginning of the year, was reported. Mr. J. F. Starkey was unanimously elected president for the ensuing year, and Mr. Ralph Cartwright and Captain Yates were added to the list of vice-presidents.

On the proposition of Mr. T. Christian the Fareham and Hampshire Farmers' Club, at their last meeting, passed the following resolution:—"That this club heartily approves an independent Agricultural party being formed in the House of Commons, and urges the Central Chamber of Agriculture to consider the best mode of creating and maintaining such a party." Mr. Christian expressed the opinion that there was scarcely an intelligent agriculturist in the land who would not approve of the formation of such a party as proposed. Agriculture was left out in the cold in the House of Commons because farmers were not represented there. He urged the necessity for sinking their political differences and working with more co-operation.

Prices of Irish Agricultural Produce.

A return of prices of crops, live stock, and other Irish agricultural products was issued last week. Summing up the changes that have taken place since 1840, the return says that four periods may be distinguished.

First, the period from 1840 to 1852, in which, excepting wheat, prices were low, and fluctuated considerably.

Second, from 1853 to 1865—the period of rising prices, and in the cereals, of high prices.

Third, from 1865 to 1884—the period of high prices generally; in these years, and especially from 1871 to 1878, there was a remarkable concurrence of high prices among the different agricultural commodities After 1878 considerable fluctuations occurred, and the level of prices fell somewhat lower until 1884.

Fourth, there is the period from 1884 to 1907. This period began with the great fall in prices from 1884 to 1887. From 1887 to 1896 prices showed considerable fluctuations, and in the years 1892 to 1894 the level of prices was in several commodities lower than from 1885 to 1887.

During the past ten years, 1897 to 1906, the level of prices has to some extent improved, and there has been a more general stability in prices than in the ten years preceding.

The coroner for South-East Warwickshire held an inquest at Warmington on Thursday on Mr. Owen Wady, aged 59, of Warmington, one of the best-known farmers in Warwickshire. The deceased was gathering pears, and, ascending a ladder reared against a tree, missed his hold, falling thirty feet to the ground, and injured his spine. A verdict of accidental death was returned.

Owing to the heavy rain last month the farming outlook in the Wigton district of Cumberland is, says the *Manchester Courier*, quite a deplorable one. On many farms there is much outstanding grain, and with the blackened "stooks" in many cases standing in water, the corn is beginning to sprout in the ear, and the damage is great. In the higher districts not half the cereal crops have yet been harvested; in fact on some backward farms cutting operations have not yet been completed. Potato crops have also suffered from the continued wet.

At the special meeting of the Worcestershire County Council on Monday, the Gooseberry Mildew Committee stated that the Board of Agriculture had been asked to make an order for the destruction of bushes affected with gooseberry mildew, and recommended that compensation should not be paid for diseased bushes, only for sound bushes or crops damaged in the process. In their report the committee said they informed the Evesham deputation that they were unable to recommend the council to resolve to pay any compensation for diseased bushes it might be necessary to destroy, but if they considered damage was done to sound bushes or to any crops in the destruction of diseased bushes compensation should be paid. An amendment urging the payment of compensation was before the meeting, but ultimately the report of the committee received adoption.

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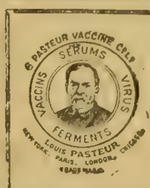
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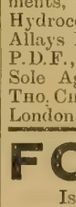
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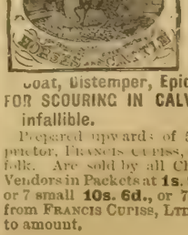
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Seasonable Topics.

The Question of Rent.

WHETHER it would be possible to devise a scheme or sliding scale for the adjustment of farm rents, or even whether such a thing is desirable, is a question we leave open, but the system at present prevailing does not strike us as being altogether satisfactory. Just now things are better than they have been of late, prices are higher, and the outlook is more promising. Quite so, and while landlords think that they should share the increased prosperity by receiving more for the land, tenants consider that they should have full advantage of the better times to make up for past years of adversity. Each party looks at it from his own point of view, and we can hardly say that either is unnatural, as they both have their interests to look after. On the other hand, when times are bad and landlords return a part of the rent, they do it voluntarily, and are prompted doubtless by a spirit of generosity; but after all there is a flavour of charity about it, and when a man returns a portion of his due in a time of adversity it is not unnatural that he should expect a little more when things improve. It would seem that a more business-like way would be for rents to rise and fall in accordance with the price of agricultural products; but the question is a knotty one, and being suitable for discussion, perhaps some of our readers would like to express their views on it.

Mutual Help.

ONE of our correspondents recently deplored the lack of sympathy between farmers, and pictured a brighter state of affairs if, say, when one man had finished his harvest he would be more willing to lend his horses and wagons to assist a neighbour who might be behindhand. We realise the spirit in which the suggestion was made—pure neighbourliness and good feeling—and we admire it, but like Socialism, which in principle appears right and just, there is the possibility of the thing not working so well in practice as in theory. If every farmer was keen, alert, industrious, and persevering, they might help each other out with mutual advantage; but with human nature as it is, some men would never require help, while others would always be in need of it. In any district where climatic and other conditions are the same, the men who get promptly through the harvest and keep pace with the work are the keen farmers, and it is the sluggards who lag behind. To expect a man who has done his work to help another who has neglected his opportunities is like the kind of Socialism which uggests that the industrious should divide their earnings with the lazy. The idea is unpractical, and though we agree with mutual self-help, there must be modifications.

Aristocratic Dairymaids.

IF any young ladies of the smart set wish to bring their names prominently before the public, all that they need do is to enter as students in a dairy school and they can leave the rest to the daily Press (the halfpenny section). A short time ago Lady Helen Grimston, daughter of the Earl of Verulam, thought well to take a course of instruction at the County Dairy School at Chelmsford, and the fact was promptly made known to the world by the daily Press under glaring headlines; while one enterprising organ published a series of illustrations showing Lady Helen engaged in various dairying operations, as if there was something very wonderful about an earl's daughter learning how to make butter. For our own part, we congratulate Lady Helen Grimston on making herself practically acquainted with the routine of dairying, and if other daughters of nobility would follow her example they would be more usefully employed than playing bridge or mastering the art of "Diabolo"; but at the same time, if a lady of noble birth chooses to learn the work of a dairymaid, surely she is at liberty to do so without having fame thrust upon her by an enterprising halfpenny Press.

Rats, Birds, and Legislation.

THE Scottish Chamber of Agriculture recently passed a resolution that the attention of the Board of Agriculture be directed to the importance of taking legislative or other steps without delay, with a view to the destruction of rats and birds from which agriculturists suffer serious loss every year. Whether any suggestions we made as to what methods of destruction should be adopted we do not know, but if the Board acts on all the resolutions that have been passed by various agricultural bodies of late there will be no fear of its members joining the army of unemployed. Happily, perhaps, for its own sake, the Board is not easily flurried and carries its burdens lightly. But to return to the rats and the birds, legislation for their destruction is rather a novel idea, and if we should get an Order dealing with them it would probably cause more commotion than gooseberry mildew. Perhaps the agriculturists in the south have not so much faith in the Board as our friends in the north, but the farmers in Kent and the adjoining counties protect themselves against the above pests by means of rat and sparrow clubs, which are quite thriving institutions in many villages. At this time of the year rat and sparrow clubs are very active bodies, and reports reach us frequently telling of the number of rats' tails and birds' heads that are presented at the periodical meetings. As the Board may move slowly, we commend the idea to the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture.

Defenders' Expenses in Milk Prosecutions.

IT has been said that a defendant in a milk prosecution never gets off, but this by the way, and we fully agree with the resolution passed by the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture, to again impress on the Board of Agriculture the justice of claims by successful defenders in milk prosecutions to be repaid their expenses incurred in rebutting a presumption of guilt created against them by statute, and urge that legislation should be introduced for this purpose without delay. There is nothing about this but what is perfectly reasonable and fair, and with the law getting more stringent on one side, justice should certainly be done to the other. Because a man figures as a defendant in a milk prosecution case it by no means follows that he is guilty, and if on the other hand he succeeds in proving his innocence, it is quite unfair that he should be out of pocket by it. Indeed, it is an open question whether a successful defendant in a milk prosecution case should not be compensated for time and inconvenience, apart from purely out-of-pocket expenses.

Home-made and Factory Jam.

A SHORT time ago we ventured to suggest that housewives should take advantage of the plentiful supply and cheapness of plums by laying in a store of home-made jam instead of being entirely dependent on the grocer for this commodity. In doing this we are charged with making a "discovery" by a paper, which perhaps a few of our readers have heard of, called the *Fruitgrower, Fruiterer, and Florist*, which journal, by the way, sets itself up as being an omnipotent authority on all things horticultural, and it seems to take the greatest delight in criticising, always adversely, statements that are made in other journals. While giving the *Fruitgrower* credit for its extreme smartness we would in the interests of other journals besides our own suggest to our contemporary that it should not lay claim to *all* the knowledge but give other people credit for knowing—*well, just a little bit.* But to return to the jam. We willingly credit the skilled jam factor with making a wholesome and moderately cheap article, but any suggestion that home-made jam cannot be produced at a lower cost when fruit is plentiful and cheap shows a lamentable ignorance of the whole matter. "Comparatively few housewives can make jam in quantity that will keep," writes the *Fruitgrower*. What a reflection on the capabilities of British housewives! Cannot make a bit of jam even!

We should like to see our contemporary proving the statement, or trying to do so, before a score of ladies we could mention, armed with jam spoons. And again our contemporary asserts "that fewer still have the necessary storing places for their jams when they are made." However did they manage before jam factories sprang into existence? The *Fruitgrower* observes that "the skilled jam-maker of to-day substitutes the old-fashioned domestic source of supply." What a fund of knowledge there must be behind such a statement, and what nonsense it is! Jam is still made in thousands of British homes cheaper than it can be bought at the shop, and if it were made in thousands of others there would still be plenty of business left for the jam factor. We leave our readers to form their own opinion of a journal that goes out of its way to actually discourage such a useful home industry as jam making.

Should a Government Insurance Department be Formed?

THERE can be no doubt that the burdens of farmers have been increased very largely of late years by the money they have to pay in order to remove their responsibilities under the Employers' Liability Act to the shoulders of insurance companies, and at a recent meeting of the Canterbury Farmers' Club it was decided to suggest to the Central Chamber that an effort be made to induce the Government to establish an insurance department, where agriculturists and others could insure their employees at a moderate rate and on more favourable terms in respect of the older workmen than is now the case. Whether, of course, a Government department would be able to give better terms than an insurance company is in a position to do is a point at issue, but when we think of workmen in agriculture, age should certainly be considered in the rate of premiums, and, of course, the risks in some occupations are greater than in others. We do not think that agriculturists as a rule complain about the terms offered by insurance companies, but the matter is an interesting one, and we shall welcome expressions of opinion on it.

Cider and Cider Making.

IT is a common sight in the West of England just now to observe wagons and carts standing in orchards filled, or partly filled, with apples and pears that fall or are shaken from the trees o'erhead. These are for the cider mill, and the complaint this year is that apples are scarce, so that the amount of liquor made will doubtless be below the average. Most people know that there is cider and cider, and grave charges have been made—indeed, they are still made—about the unmentionable things that get picked up with the fruit in West Country orchards and pass along with the apples through the cider mill. But matters have improved of late, and the admittance on part of the most successful cider-makers that cleanliness and care in all things have had more to do with their triumphs than anything has not been without its effect. But there are various grades of cider in the West, and perhaps that over which the least trouble is bestowed is the "cider for the men." One needs educating to drink some of this liquor, which in certain cases is too much for even the hardened palate of the West Country labourer, and very different indeed is it to the cider one is in the habit of sampling at the Brewers' Exhibition or the Bath and West Show.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

The New Agricultural Party.

At last we are within sight of the formation of an agricultural party. However, for the moment the Organisation Committee of the Central Chamber has in its suggestions gone rather beyond what is immediately practicable. Apparently, this body is possessed by the dream not merely of a party within Parliament, but of a party with a definite electoral machinery in the constituencies. Well, for awhile this is not realisable. I doubt, indeed, that though there are 150 Parliamentary divisions in which the agricultural voters are predominant, you would get a majority of the voters even in three of them to accept a candidate who held himself aloof from the distinctive partisan-issues of the moment and contented himself with a prosaic, humdrum programme of rural reform. It may be that the mere formulation of a set of interrogations for the partisan candidates does not yield much profit; it may be that the candidates answer in the affirmative without attaching much value to the pledge simply for the sake of gaining votes. However, in the House of Commons itself you might easily call into existence a solid phalanx of members pledged to act in harmony with the designs, say, of the Central Chambers themselves. Of course, this implies that those Chambers must have a clear conception of rural necessities and not be afraid to expound them. Those Chambers would then have to lead Parliamentary opinion instead of being, as they too often have been, a tepid uninspiring echo.

* * *

Those Admirable Purposes.

Now, I think the resolution which Mr. Bridgman, M.P., intends to move at the Birmingham Conservative Conference might at least provide the basis of a common policy. I pray no Liberal will be appalled by the origin of these suggestions. After all, a Conservative may be occasionally a wise reformer. First of all, Mr. Bridgman would facilitate the purchase of land by simplifying and cheapening the cost of transfer. Why, a couple of decades since this was the ambition of the united Liberal party. Cheapen and simplify the cost of transfer, make it less a harvest for the lawyers—so ran their anticipations in those days—you would usher in a new Jerusalem as roseate and happy as that of which William Morris sang. In the second place Mr. Bridgman would encourage co-operative agriculture by a grant out of the public funds. Now, the very language of the Small Holdings Act shows that this is an anxiety which has the sympathy of the Government. As a fact, an organised system of co-operative distribution is an inevitable and inherent factor in any successful scheme of *petite culture*; and a national endowment of such a system would be the first surety of that success. We cannot afford to permit this inevitable element of the new agrarian economy to depend upon a fluctuating, variable, voluntary sympathy. In the third place, Mr. Bridgman would relieve the land from a part of the weight it now bears of local and general taxation. Why there are at least a hundred Liberal M.P.'s who are convinced that this burden is the great enemy to many of their own ambitions. How can those ambitions be realised when the local guardians of the public purse are afraid of their responsibility for public expenditure being the subject of electoral criticism and, perhaps, of punishment. Why, the Radical will never realise his educational ideals so long as the State refuses to make the cost of that education a national charge.

* * *

Other Immediate Duties.

Of course, such a tripatite purpose as this will not be resounding enough for many politicians—for instance, for the bold-vision'd men who only desire to hit their sublime heads against the stars. It will be laughed to scorn by the politicians who are clamorous for what they describe as a bold and wide-sweeping scheme of land reform, and who believe that a just incident of such a scheme is a many-millioned policy of land nationalisation. It will not satisfy those who believe that the redemption of the countryside can only be secured by a complete scheme of Protection. The association of either such a purpose with the suggested organisation would, however, wreck the whole business. It is inevitable that this agricultural party must—when great and far-reaching partisan issues are debated, even though they have a direct influence on agriculture—be content with subordinating and, sometimes, of effacing itself. It must be, rather, content to associate itself with what I will call the intimate life of the farmer rather than with deep-delving principles and economics. As a fact, this tripartite purpose is only an evidence of what this party might accomplish; these three subjects do not by any means exhaust its potentialities. A prefatory anxiety should be to give a more practical character to the Board of Agriculture. At present it is little more than a skeleton; the new party should seek to give a useful rotundity to its shrunken framework. A second anxiety should be to secure a part of the proposed motor tax as a national contribution towards the maintenance of main roads. These provide an admirable field for the exhibition of intelligence and persistence, and, withal, are sufficiently far removed from the party area as to be uninfected with its bitterness.

* * *

The Organisation must be Flexible.

The supreme, gratifying point in the situation is that the farmers' organisations are now alertly awake to the fact that they must work out their own salvation—they must do something more than be loyal to a glib-tongued, ready-promising, acquiescing-in-everything partisan. Mr. Jesse Collings is right when he describes the method which, in its most practical moments, never does more than submit a series of cut-and-dried interrogatories, which in their formality sometimes permit of a deceptive answer. The farmers must be their own friends—there is no necessity in thus championing their own interests to be arrogant, assertive, and dogmatic. Indeed, it is necessary that the organisation should be flexible in its character and be wary of adopting sides on great Imperial issues. It must be content with seeking to benefit the farmer in what I have described as the intimate side of his business. Why this Small Holdings Act alone—with the possibility of its being worked in a manner unfriendly to the tenant-farmers—provides such a party with ample opportunities for vigilance.

* * *

Lord Carrington's Reassurance.

And here let me say how wisely-inspired Earl Carrington is in seeking to reassure the farmers that this Small Holdings Act will not be worked in a manner inimical to their interest. I do not say that the fear that the Act may become an instrument of danger or annoyance to the farmers is altogether justified. Lord Carrington is himself possessed by a fund of practical sympathy with the farming class. "I derive all my income from land," says he, "and is it likely under those circumstances that I should initiate legislation which would operate to the hurt of the farmers?" Justified or not, however, the fear has had many expressions. Labourers are to be given compensation, and they are deprived of their employment as a sequel to the creation of small holdings; and as a matter of common fairness, the administration of the Act ought to be sympathetic in the most practical degree towards the farmers. It would be poor demagogism to disadvantage and hurt one class of the rural community simply in order to benefit another class hitherto occupying a less important social and economic status. But this poor demagogism is not within the intention of Lord Carrington. True, he is an enthusiastic pro-small-holder; but he does not believe that in order to evolve his colonies of small holders it is necessary to disinherit and despoil the tenant farmer. And verily I think that a Minister who is responsible for the Butter Act and the Dogs Act, who has secured freedom of cropping, compensation for damage by winged game, and compensation for unreasonable disturbance, and who has been the ally of Mr. John Burns in the resolve to put an end to the putrescent food trade by which American cupidity benefited and the honest British food-producer was hurt, has some claim to appeal for the confidence of tenant-farmers. "I do not intend," says Earl Carrington, in effect, "to kill a tenant-farmer in order to make a small-holders' holiday."

A decision of interest to those who hire shooting rights was recently given in Dunmow County Court by his Honour Judge Tindal Atkinson. Edward Livermore, a London tea merchant, who hires shooting at Dunmow, was sued by Thomas Smith, a farmer, of Dunmow, for damages resulting in the loss of two fox terrier dogs. Mr. Livermore admitted that he shot the two dogs in question, which were valued at £7 2s., and claimed justification in so doing, because he found the dogs chasing a rabbit on the farm where he had the shooting rights. He contended that the dogs were poaching, and said that in order to save his rabbit's life he shot them. His Honour found the plea of justification fully sustained, and said that if the dogs had not been shot the rabbit would inevitably have been killed. To save the rabbit's life Mr. Livermore was justified in shooting the dogs, although the rabbit was only valued at 6d. Judgment was given for defendant, with costs. Leave to appeal was granted.

THE HARVEST IN THE NORTH OF ENGLAND.

Many statements and rumours have been going the rounds of late as to "the most disastrous harvest" in the North of England, and with a view to getting some definite information on the subject, we have made enquiries of numerous Northern Farmers as to the exact state of affairs. It will be seen from the following statements that happily the Harvest has not been such a disastrous one as has been made out. Nevertheless, in too many instances, notably the Later and Colder Farms, the Corn Crops have indeed been practically a failure owing to the wet weather of October; but there is also a brighter side to the picture, for where Early Harvesting was the rule some good Crops were secured.

In the Bedale district the season has been a very good one on the light land and early farms, most farmers having secured all their crops in good condition before the weather broke, but on the later and colder farms the prospect is very bad indeed; the crops on these farms did not ripen in time to be secured during the fine weather, and thousands of acres are still sodden and sprouted in the fields, whilst a large quantity has been secured during the prolonged wet weather in very bad condition; much of this has been threshed out and sent to the nearest kiln to be dried.

This summary of the outlook in Bedale is borne out by another correspondent who writes:—The deplorably wet weather experienced during the past four or five weeks, coming as it has done on the top of a very backward season, has, on the higher lands in North Yorkshire to a great extent ruined an otherwise good harvest. In many places, notably south of Barnard Castle, in the Garne district, in parts of Wensleydale and the upland farms near Thirsk, much corn is still rotting in the fields, no change having been afforded for many weeks past of getting it to stack in anything approaching to dry condition. Many excellent crops of barley and some of wheat are ruined, and oats are growing (sprouting) at the top of the "stooks," in some places giving a green tinge to the whole of a field. A much better state of things prevails in more forward districts and at lower altitudes, where, owing to the corn having ripened earlier, it has been safely got in good condition before the break in the weather.

In the Danby district the season is considered the worst for farmers that has been experienced for many years. Potatoes are only about half a crop owing to the early frosts; turnips have done well, but there was nothing like the usual quantity sown owing to the wet weather; whilst there is plenty of corn, though late, but it has been the worst season known for securing it, a good deal being out yet (November 6), though a little was got on Saturday last.

Coming to the district of Leyburn we have to record a very disastrous season for the majority of farmers. Some have finished harvest, but a very large majority of corn is still in the fields, and if not now, will very soon be useless, whilst there are many heated stacks amongst those which have been carted. A fortnight ago there were hopes of getting in the corn in a more or less damaged condition, but heavy winds, rains, and floods thoroughly soaked the sheaves of corn to the centre before the majority could be secured, whilst that which was carted and stacked before the deluge heated in the stack and was spoilt in that way.

Further evidence of the bad state of affairs in the Leyburn district is afforded by the remarks of a correspondent, who writes:—The corn crops as a rule were above an average, and what has been led and thrashed is very good, but there is a large breadth of land where never a stook has been led, and some barley I know will yield nothing; it has simply been thrashed out on the field. It is indeed a bad look out on farms with backward land. The high land farmers, however, have on the whole had a favourable season, where they have no ploughing land.

Round about Pickering the harvest has been a long and expensive time. About here there is corn that has been cut and in stook for six weeks, and certainly would have been gathered in but for the expense of hired labour. The high lands and dales have never had a chance; only partly cut on October 5, when the weather broke, and there has been no chance to get dry corn since, that is not to thrash; it might do to stand in stack for three or four months, but corn that was harvested in September was in splendid condition. Wheat was only a moderate yield, and damaged a little with frost on September 4. Barley seems to be yielding above an average, but oats are the best crop of the season by far.

Coming to another part of the Pickering district we have a better state of affairs to report, for on the whole the harvest has been secured mostly in fair condition, except a small portion that was out late. Wheat, generally speaking, is not yielding well, much of it being frozen has spoiled the sample. Barley is yielding fairly well, and best samples are making more money, and seems to be the farmer's sheet anchor. Oats are selling well; a good crop and fair yield.

An inspection of several farms around Richmond was disheartening, for though there was plenty of straw and good ears, it could not be secured in anything like keeping condition, consequently the bulk is standing in the fields in a sad condition. Some good farmers have barley and oats on good land, of which they have not got a sheaf led owing to the frequency of the rain.

Regarding the agricultural outlook for the district comprising the market towns of Ripon, Thirsk, and southwards to York, the season, although a sunny day has been somewhat of a rarity, has not been unfavourable for farm crops generally. Almost all crops are a good average, and mostly well harvested. North of Thirsk and district the outlook is much less favourable, a large proportion of the corn having been caught in the recent October rains, rendering it at the present time practically unfit for any purpose, and doubtless will prove of very small value at any time.

There have been some very good crops of corn about Whitby, and corn which was ripe before September 4 yields very well, but there is still a lot of corn about yet, owing to the fact that for the last six weeks the weather has been wet and misty nearly every day, with the result that in many places the corn is growing quite green in the stacks. Potatoes that were set early on dry land are just a fair crop, but those set late on wet land are a very poor crop, for the frost on September 4 in the valleys killed all the tops and turned them black. Turnips have done well lately, but there will not be quite an average crop, and many were late in getting sown on account of the wet weather.

In the Knaresborough district of the West Riding the harvest was fairly good the first month, but since the weather broke there has not been a chance to cart any corn, and there are several pieces still in the fields in this part. Oats and barley are an average crop, and generally a good sample where carted in good condition. Wheat is various, but generally it did not ripen properly owing to the cold weather and frost, and will not yield according to the straw, and some is a very bad sample, no better than hen corn. Farmers are very anxious to get some wheat sown, but through the continued wet weather there has been no possibility of getting on to the land; in fact, one of our correspondents remarks that he never knew so little sown at this date for fifty years. Turnips and mangolds are a light crop, but have done well the last month, but are pulling up very small. Potatoes are not as good a crop as last year in this part of Yorkshire. There is not much disease, and it has been a difficult time for getting them raised, owing to the continued wet weather.

The harvest in the Driffield and Holderness district was a very late one, but fortunately there was a spell of fine weather, and all the corn



SCENES AT THE NORTH KENT PLOUGHING MATCHES AT DARENTH LAST WEEK.
1. The Champion Iron Balance Plough. 2. The Champion Turnrise Plough.

was got in well except on the high wolds, and there is a lot of corn out and wasted on the high backward farms. Stackyards are very full this year, and as an oat year this will rank as the best for very many years. Beans are a great crop all over; but it is early to say how they will turn out. Corn yielding well; but owing to very wet weather lately, threshing not very forward. Mangolds are not as good as last year, and it is considered that both turnips and swedes will not take the eating they did last year. The long spell of cold, wet weather checked them so much early on.

From another part of Driffield we are informed that for a late harvest it has been a good one, but in some backward situations it will have been the reverse, for there was some corn still out on the 1st of this month. Oats and barley are the best crops. Swedes and turnips have improved very much lately, so that there is now a good prospect of plenty of meat for the stock during the winter. Clovers are well set, and give promise of a good crop.

Another Driffield farmer has had a good harvest all round, and remarks: "I trust I may never experience a worse season."

Round about Stillingfleet (East Riding) wheat is a fair crop, but will not yield as well as might be expected owing to the cold, wet weather in June. Barley will be below the average, but oats have been a heavy crop, and much laid, causing much expense in harvesting. Several patches of corn are still in the fields, and will be practically wasted. Potatoes are a good crop on high, dry potato land, but on wet or heavy soil, a very light crop and a good deal of disease. Turnips a fair crop, but mangolds below an an average, having suffered for want of sunshine.

In the district of Howden, East Riding, there is very little corn out. The crops have been, as a rule, very good. Wheat is a little over the average, and barley about the average. Oats are a very good crop, long in the straw and yielding very well. Root crops are variable. Where farmers have planted old seed potatoes the crops are very poor, many not more than 4 or 5 tons per acre. Good new seed and well tilled, from 8 to 10 tons per acre. Wurzels are a light crop, but swede turnips are very good.

The corn crops in the north-east district of Durham are excellent, and decidedly above the average. Those that were cut in the first fortnight of September were secured in splendid order, but where they were later in ripening they encountered a change in the weather which greatly retarded harvest operations. During the last week in September and throughout October rain fell nearly every day, and it was only by taking advantage of every available hour that crops could be secured, and even yet in the later parts of the district there is still a great deal in the fields. It is not, however, so much spoilt as might have been expected, but it will be a good while yet before much of it is in order for threshing. The rainy weather has greatly benefited the turnip crops, and potatoes, especially of the later varieties, are a better crop than was expected.

A Disastrous Harvest in Scotland.

It is a doleful tale that is revealed in the report on the Scottish grain harvest of 1907, given in a recent issue of the *Scotsman*. That it has become "the worst harvest in the memory of living men" is, says our contemporary, the general verdict. It is stated by men who have been farming land in Scotland for forty or more years that only twice, in 1872 and 1879, have they experienced a harvest nearly so disastrous. Certainly, bad as the "Seventy-two" harvest was, it was a few degrees better than that of the present year.

Dismal "Seventy-nine" has long loomed as the blackest year in the memory of the older race of Scottish farmers, but there are many men now struggling with sodden crops on farms in Scotland who are prepared to affirm that the amount of damage sustained by the Scottish corn crops in the process of harvesting will this year be greater than in 1879.

Happily in other respects the present year forms a favourable contrast to that lamentable year. In 1879 the owners of live stock fared just as badly as those who depended upon the produce of arable farms. This year the returns from livestock have been on the whole highly satisfactory, while everywhere the stock are likely to pass into the new year in the best of health—a pleasant contrast truly to the experience of stock-owners twenty-eight years ago. Moreover, the turnip and potato crops, deficient as they may be in different parts, are this year superior to what they were in 1879.

But if the comparison with 1879 be confined to the grain crops, it assuredly cannot be said that the advantage lies with the present harvest. Speaking generally, the grain crops at the beginning of harvest were this year greatly superior to those of 1879, but the weather during the past four weeks has been so extremely inclement that the damage inflicted on the crops in process of harvesting has been in a large part of the country almost unprecedentedly severe.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Finance—Farm Prizes at Newcastle—Stock Prizes—Judges at Newcastle—Implements at Newcastle—Selection—Dairy and Produce Prizes.

A monthly council meeting was held at 16, Bedford Square, W.C., on Wednesday. The following being present:—Trustees: The Earl of Coventry, Earl Egerton of Tatton, Lord Middleton. Vice-Presidents: Mr. J. Bowen-Jones, Mr. Percy Crutchley, Mr. J. Marshall Dugdale, the Earl of Northbrook, the Hon. C. T. Parker. Other members of the Council: Mr. George Adams, Mr. Charles R. W. Adeane, Mr. T. L. Aveling, Mr. S. N. Bankart, Mr. John Barker, M.P., Mr. H. Dent Brocklehurst) Mr. T. A. Buttar, Mr. R. G. Carden, Sir Richard P. Cooper, Bart., Sir H. F. de Trafford, Bart., Mr. Henry Dudding, Mr. J. T. C. Eadie, Mr. J. W. Glover, Mr. R. M. Greaves, Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Mr. W. Harrison, Mr. J. H. Hine, Mr. R. J. Bayntun Hippisley, Mr. R. W. Hobbs, Mr. J. Howard Howard, Mr. W. F. Ingram, Mr. Ernest Mathews, Mr. W. A. May, Mr. T. H. Miller, Mr. T. S. Minton, Mr. Ralph Palmer, Mr. C. M. S. Pilkington, Mr. H. F. Plumptre, Mr. G. G. Rea, Mr. F. Reynard, Mr. C. C. Rogers, Mr. John Rowell, Mr. E. W. Shackle, Mr. R. Stratton, Mr. G. Taylor, Mr. A. P. Turner, Mr. E. V. V. Wheeler, and Mr. C. W. Wilson.

The following members of the Newcastle local committee were also present:—Mr. Johnstone Wallace and Mr. A. M. Olivet (local secretary).

In the unavoidable absence of the president, Mr. Cornwallis was called to the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting of the council, held on July 31, 1907, having been taken as read and approved, the election of thirty-three members was proceeded with.

Finance.

Mr. Adeane reported that the draft balance-sheet of the society's recent show at Lincoln had been submitted, and instructions given for its final examination by the society's accountants and auditors.

Privileges for Local Societies.

The question of granting privileges to members of the Northumberland and Durham Agricultural Societies who are foregoing their local shows next year in view of the society holding its 1908 Show at Newcastle-on-Tyne had been considered, and the committee recommended that the following privileges be given to the members of the two societies:—

"That all members of the Northumberland and Durham Agricultural Societies, who are not members of this society, subscribing not less than 20s. for the year 1908, and having paid a subscription in 1907, will be allowed to enter stock, &c., at the same fees as members of the Royal Agricultural Society, and have a free admission to the show for the whole of the meeting. Members being annual subscribers of 10s. in 1907 and 1908 will have free tickets giving admission to the show each day."

Mr. Adeane, in moving the adoption of the Report, said that the committee had had the Lincoln Show accounts before them on the previous day, and had passed them for audit. He hoped to be able to present them to the council at their meeting in December. In order to allay the curiosity which was naturally felt with regard to the result of the Lincoln Show, he would like to inform them that, subject to audit, the net profit was £5,056, exclusive of the £2,000 allocated to the show account from the ordinary account.

Farm Prizes at Newcastle.

Mr. Cornwallis (Chairman) reported that the Local Committee had intimated that £1,018 would be given in prizes for Hunters and Polo ponies (to be ridden), Harness horses, draught horses, and for jumping classes. A band contest and sheep-dog trials will be arranged by the Local Committee, to be held on the Saturday of the show—*i.e.*, July 4. Prizes for farms in Northumberland and Durham would be offered as follows:—

1. Mixed and arable farm exceeding 50 and not over 600 acres—First prize, £60; second prize, £30; third prize, £15.

2. Mixed and arable farm exceeding 50 and not over 250 acres—First prize, £35; second prize, £25; third prize, £10.

3. Dairy farm, 50 acres and upwards—First prize, £35; second prize, £25; third prize, £10.

The prizes to be provided by the local committee and the expenses in connection with the judging to be defrayed by the society.

A suggestion that prizes should be offered in connection with the Newcastle Show for Plans of Farm Buildings had been made by Sir Richard Cooper, who had also offered to provide prizes of £50 and £25 for such a competition. The committee recommended that this generous offer be accepted, and that it be referred to the Stock Prize Committee to make the necessary arrangements.

The committee recommended that the following classes be provided for horse-shoeing in the Newcastle showyard:—

	PRIZES.				
	1st.	2nd.	3rd.	4th.	5th.
Class I.— Hunters	£3 10s.	£3	£2 10s.	£2	£1 10s.
Class II.— Cart horses..	£3 10s.	£3	£2 10s.	£2	£1 10s.

They had considered and approved certain recommendations made to them by the Stock Prizes Committee.

Scheduling Tuberculosis.

A suggestion that the Board of Agriculture should be advised to schedule tuberculosis had been considered, and, after very full discussion, the following resolution had been unanimously adopted:—"That in the event of the promotion of legislation dealing with the question of tuberculosis and other diseases of cattle, the council of the Royal Agricultural Society of England is of opinion that any regulations for dealing with this question should be issued by the Board of Agriculture and not by any other Department."

Mr. Adeane said that as the question of tuberculosis was coming to the front very much in this country and great interest was being taken in it, it was desirable, as there were possibilities of legislation in the near future, that the interests of agriculture should be watched. He therefore proposed, with the view of ultimately forming a powerful and representative committee of farmers and breeders of cattle to watch the development of this question, "That a committee be formed to communicate with other societies for the purpose of watching the interests of agriculture in view of possible legislation with regard to the tuberculosis question." He moved that the following should be members of the committee:—Lord Northbrook, the Hon. Cecil Parker, Mr. J. Bowen-Jones, Mr. Richardson Carr, Mr. Ernest Mathews, Mr. Claude M. S. Pilkington, Mr. Richard Stratton, and Mr. George Taylor, with power to add to their number.

Mr. Stratton, in seconding, said that they were threatened with legislation of the most harassing description, and not only legislation, but the local authorities, who appeared to be faddists, were inclined to harass the agricultural interests in every possible way and in a most unnecessary manner. It was in his opinion desirable that the society should take the lead in support of the agricultural side of the question.

The Earl of Northbrook expressed his willingness to accept Mr. Adeane's resolution as an addition to the report of the Veterinary Committee. He felt that it was very necessary to endeavour to do what they could to protect the farmers' interest in this matter. They did not know what form the proposed legislation was going to take, but the committee felt strongly that though it might be the business of the Local Government Board to deal with the matter of the pure milk supply to the consumer, when it came to the question of dealing with farm stock and the treatment of cattle, the matter would be more properly dealt with and would be more satisfactory to the agricultural interest if it were dealt with by the Board of Agriculture than by any other department. Personally, he did not agree with the idea of recommending the board at the present moment to "schedule" tuberculosis, because he had good reason to believe, in the first place, that the suggestion would not be entertained by the Board, and as there was a prospect of general legislation on the question, he thought it would be very inopportune at this moment for the disease to be scheduled. Speaking for himself, he thought that if they advised the Board to schedule the disease and their request was acceded to, they might get more than they expected or wanted. It would mean not only notification, but inspection, and in some cases compulsory slaughter of animals, for which compensation would have to be paid by the local authority, and he thought that in most counties it was felt that now with the obligations to compensate for the slaughter of animals suffering from anthrax, swine fever, and glanders, the burden was quite sufficient. If they were to deal with this great question, and if there was to be compulsory slaughter, he thought that a certain proportion of the compensation should be borne by the Exchequer.

The resolution was then unanimously agreed to.

A meeting of this committee was subsequently held at which the Earl of Northbrook was elected chairman. There were also present Mr. Pilkington, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Stratton, and Mr. Ernest Mathews. It was decided to invite the various cattle and county agricultural societies to send one or two representatives to attend a meeting to be held in the afternoon of the Wednesday of the Smithfield Cattle Show week—viz., December 11, at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington.

Stock Prizes.

The committee had prepared a draft prize-sheet, which they recommended should be printed

and circulated amongst the council for their consideration in anticipation of the final settlement of the prize-sheet at the December meeting. The following additions and alterations were recommended :—

That the fee for each entry in the jumping and pace and action classes be £1 instead of 30s., and in the foal classes 10s. instead of 30s.

At the option of exhibitors in the classes for riding and driving horses, and heavy horses in gears, these horses need not be brought into the show-yard until the morning of the day on which they compete, and will be permitted to leave the yard at the close of the day's proceedings.

Polo ponies will not be measured at the show-yard if their Hurlingham certificates are produced at the time of entry.

Where in any class of cattle (Milk Yield and Group Classes excepted) there are ten different exhibitors making entries, a fourth prize of £3, and in the case of fifteen different exhibitors making entries, a fifth prize of £3 will be given. Where there are only two prizes and six persons make exhibits a third prize of £4 will be given. In the case of sheep and pigs the third prize will be £3, the fourth prize £2, and the fifth prize £2.

That the wording of the classes for Three Shearling Ewes be altered from "of same flock" to "bred in same flock."

The committee recommended the acceptance with thanks of various offers of champion and other prizes from the breed societies.

Mr. Reynard, in moving the adoption of the report, stated that, thanks to the generosity of their friends, the breed societies, and the liberality of the Newcastle Local Committee, they had been able to draw up a very comprehensive and attractive prize sheet. By the assistance given them they had been able to increase the first prizes in the most important of the horse classes from £15 to £20, and in the cattle, sheep, and pig classes to offer third, fourth, and fifth prizes where the exhibitors exceeded a certain number.

Judges at Newcastle.

Mr. Reynard (chairman) reported that the judging of horses at the Newcastle Show would commence at 10 a.m. on the first day, and of cattle, sheep, pigs, poultry, and produce at 9 a.m. The committee had selected the names of gentlemen to act as judges of the various classes of live stock, poultry, &c., at the Newcastle Show. Instructions had been given for the issue of the invitations forthwith, and for the publication of the names in the prize sheet.

Implements at Newcastle.

Mr. Greaves (chairman) reported that the regulations for the trials of manure distributors, to be held in connection with the society's show at Newcastle, had been considered and approved, and they recommended that the following prizes be offered :

	First prize.	Second prize.
Class I. Artificial Manure Distributors	Gold medal ..	Bronze medal
Class II. Farmyard Manure Distributors	Gold medal ..	Bronze medal

The committee had considered the implement regulations, and approved the following amendments, suggested by the sub-committee appointed at the last meeting.

In Regulation 9 delete the words "and to deliver the implements within six months of the show."

Omit Regulation 10 relating to selling price.

Regulations 32 and 33 as to the application for and display of reference cards on the exhibits to be emphasised in the letter to exhibitors and their enforcement insisted upon.

Regulation 34 as to the exhibition of duplicates to be omitted.

The amendment of Regulations 44 to 61 relative to machinery in motion, engines, boilers, &c., to meet present-day requirements, more particularly in connection with the storage of petroleum.

Petroleum for engines in motion must be stored either in the feed tank of the machines or in closed metal vessels of two gallons capacity each, the amount so stored at one time not to exceed six gallons. Petroleum will be provided and sold by an agent duly appointed by the society.

In cases of engines used as power for driving, &c., the following to be inserted in place of existing regulations as to pressure gauges, &c. :—

In the cases of engines (other than new) used for driving machinery, the certificate of a recognised boiler insurance company not later than two months prior to the show must be produced for the inspection and authority of the consulting engineer before the boiler can be worked.

Regulation 64.—The charges to exhibitors for the restoration of broken ground to be made by the society and not by the contractor.

Regulation 71 as to implement or improvement being new to be omitted.

Selection.

Mr. Cornwallis (in the absence of Sir John Thorold) reported that the secretary had submitted a list of attendances of council and committee meetings by the members of council representing the divisions of "Group B," who retire by rotation at the next annual general meeting. The committee had considered the time and place for holding the annual general meeting, and they recommended that the meeting should take place at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, at 2 p.m., on December 11 next (the Wednesday of the Smithfield Show). The committee suggested that the existing trustees and vice-presidents of the society be recommended by the council for re-election at the annual general meeting. The dates of the meetings of the council for 1908 were fixed as follows :—January 29, February 26, April 1, May 6, June 3, July 1 or 2 (in Newcastle show-yard), July 29, November 4, December 9.

A letter had been received from the joint honorary secretaries of the Conference of Road Engineers and Road Users, inviting the society to nominate a representative on a committee which had been formed "to act as a deputation to the Government or other official bodies concerned, and generally to give effect to the resolutions arrived at by the conference." The committee recommended that Mr. Christopher W. Wilson be nominated as the society's representative. The secretary had reported the receipt of letters from members of council, intimating the committees on which they desired to serve, and instructions had been given for the preparation of a list to be submitted to the next meeting of the committee of selection.

Dairy and Produce Prize.

Mr. Mathews (chairman) reported that the committee had agreed upon a schedule of prizes for dairy produce, which they had referred to the Stock Prizes Committee for inclusion in the prize sheet for the Newcastle meeting. The suggestion by Mr. John Watkins, the judge of cider at the Lincoln Show, that a class for dry cider should be provided at the society's show next year had been considered, and the committee recommended that the suggestion be brought forward when the prizes for produce at the society's show, to be held at Gloucester in 1909, are under consideration. The committee recommended that two classes for Cheshire cheese should be given at the Newcastle Show, as follows :—

	£	£	£
Three coloured Cheshire cheeses of not less than 40 lb. each	3	2	1
Three uncoloured Cheshire cheeses of not less than 40 lb. each	3	2	1

A communication had been read from the secretary of the Northumberland and Durham Dairy and Tenant Farmers' Association as to a local fund being raised to be devoted to classes for dairy cattle and milking competitions in connection with the society's show next year.

The Report of the Annual General Meeting.

The report of the council to the annual general meeting of governors and members, to be held at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, December 11, was prepared and ordered to be issued.

The council adjourned until Wednesday, December 11, 1907, at 11 a.m.

AN AGRICULTURAL PARTY.

Discussion at the Central Chamber.

The chief topic of discussion at the meeting of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture held on Tuesday was the report of the Organisation Committee, which recommended the foundation of an Independant Agricultural Parliamentary Party. The committee stated :

Your committee are of opinion, and they believe it is one generally held, that the industry of agriculture is not represented in the legislature in a degree that its relative importance, industrially and politically, demands, and therefore it does not receive the consideration that is necessary for its advancement that is so freely offered to it—with such marked results—in other countries. In making this statement your committee desire to recall that there are about 150 Parliamentary divisions in which the voters are chiefly agricultural, and it is, therefore, not through any lack of material that there has been this marked inactivity. The question your committee are asked to consider is how can the present representation be shaped into a working party, and how can it be so effectively increased that agriculture can demand more attention from Parliament and from the Government of the day. On a matter of such importance it is necessary that some definite line of action should be decided upon by those interested without loss of time.

Your committee have no hesitation in saying that the obvious answer to the question laid before them is, by strengthening and consolidating existing agricultural organisations, and by the formation of others in unorganised districts. It is, however, unfortunately the case that the continued efforts of forty years have failed to bring more than a moderate percentage of agriculturists into line, and this forces your committee to the conclusion that more attractive proposals are necessary to bring about the requisite combination than those hitherto laid before the farming community.

The Lincoln resolution proposes the formation of a distinct agricultural party. Your committee feel that this is the ideal for which to strive, despite the financial consideration such a policy would involve. It must be obvious that with a section of the House of Commons returned as agricultural members by agriculturists, pledged to promote beneficial measures and to resist injurious legislation, and quite independent of the whips of other sections of the House, agriculture will receive more of its due share of attention than it does now, or has ever done in the past.

It may be urged that an individual cannot sit in the Imperial Parliament simply as an agricultural member, since wider and more important matters than even British agriculture must claim the attention of Parliament. But there are numerous precedents of members who nominally represent particular divisions, but in reality represent particular interests which may or may not exist in their respective constituencies. Moreover, every Parliamentary candidate will always have to give expression to his views on imperial and general questions, and unless those views commend themselves to the voters he will fail to be returned.

The second part of the Lincoln resolution suggests the formation of a joint committee, composed of members drawn from all parties. Your committee would point out, however, that the Parliamentary Committee of the Central Chamber is potentially all that is required. It is composed of members drawn from the two great parties, and there is nothing to prevent other parties being represented upon it. The Parliamentary Committee has never been influenced by party considerations, and there are manifest objections to multiplying unattached committees. The one fault that can be found with the present Parliamentary Committe is that, collectively, it might show more activity, and that its individual members ought to attend its meetings more regularly. If this can be said of a committee which has the stimulating force of the Central Chamber to stir it into action, there is no reason for supposing that one which has not this impetus behind it will be more active. There is also the danger that with two committees—if the second one be formed—there would be overlapping, and therefore waste of time, possibly friction, and, more particularly, many things that are at present well done would be left undone, as they might fall between the two committees in a well-intentioned endeavour not to interfere with each other's work.

One proposal laid before your committee is that agriculturists should select their own candidate, subject to the approval of the Central Chamber, and inform the "party" associations that they have done so, and claim their support. It is further suggested that in a division where the predominant vote is Liberal a candidate acceptable to the Liberals should be chosen, and conversely in the case of a Conservative constituency. It is claimed that this course would involve a minimum of expenditure, though it is pointed out that a central fund would, of course, be a necessity to fight a battle in some semi-rural districts, and, in certain cases, to aid suitable and successful candidates to bear the expenditure of Parliamentary life. Your committee record this proposal without comment.

As this report deals with a matter which affects so vitally the future of agriculture in this country, your committee recommend that before any decision is recorded by the council it should be referred to the local chambers for their immediate consideration. With regard to the suggestion in the present report your committee desire to support the first part of the Lincoln resolution advocating the formation of an "Independent Agricultural Party." They are of opinion, however, that the second suggestion of the secretaries would only end in disappointment, and in waste of time and money. Your committee consider that it is better boldly to face all the difficulties involved in the creation of a new Parliamentary party, and recommend the formation at once of a central fund for electioneering purposes. This fund should be kept quite distinct from the current account of the Central Chamber, and should be administered by a special committee nominated by, and consisting of, members of the Central Chamber.

Your committee think that if care is taken, much expense may be avoided by selecting constituencies where a Central Chamber candidate would be generally acceptable, and would, therefore, not be opposed.

In conclusion, your committee are strongly of opinion that the value of such a party as that proposed depends far more on its absolute independence and singleness of aim than on its numerical strength, and recommend that the efforts to establish it shall at first be concentrated on those constituencies whence it would be possible to secure a thoroughly compact and reliable body.

Mr. Kidner moved that the report be received and sent to local chambers for their immediate consideration. For many years, he said, they had seen that whenever questions concerning agriculture came up in Parliament members who were expected to represent the industry were driven into one lobby or the other by party whips.

They must all realise that in fighting Bills and forwarding legislation the Central Chamber would be enormously assisted by a compact body in the House to back up their views.

Mr. Latham, in seconding, said he thought agriculturists were very much behindhand in not coming years ago to the conclusion embodied in the report.

Mr. Biddell doubted the wisdom of the committee's proposal. Time after time they had had separate organisations, but nothing had come of them, and he thought it better to give extended support to the Central Association they had than to weaken it by establishing another.

Mr. J. W. Dennis remarked that unless agriculturists were prepared to organise in the same way as other industries did, they would be swamped by their neighbours.

Mr. Trustram Eve considered that a good deal could be done through existing agencies, and in time an independent party would follow. But the question was of so great importance that he strongly urged that it be referred to a special committee for further consideration with a view to drawing up a concrete scheme for submission to the chambers throughout the country.

Mr. Christian said the matter bristled with difficulties, but still he did not think it would be insurmountable if they were prepared to pay the price. What was the price? What were the two greatest barriers against the formation of such a party as they desired? The first barrier was party politics. The second was the lack of organisation amongst agriculturists themselves. Were they preparad—Radicals and Tories—to carry out what was suggested? If they waited for the extreme men they would never get them. Were the members of the present parties prepared to sink their political differences? They could not get the party that they wanted without votes, and what they had to consider was how they were going to get the votes? Where were the votes? His landlord had got one vote,, but his labourers had got nine. This was the case on one farm. How many of those votes would they be able to get? They had Mr. Jesse Collings's scheme, and a very good scheme it was. If they got increased ownership they would give a great impetus to such a party as was wanted, but that was a matter in the far distance. He thought so because in his own neighbourhood he did not find a keen desire either for ownership or for occupation, on the part of the agrarian population. They ought to have the labourers with them. He was getting old and was coming to the end of his tether as an occupier of land, and when he thought about his labourers, honest men who had worked faithfully for him for years, he thought about their future. What had they got to look forward to? They ought to have some great agricultural union with a large benefit society for workmen connected with it, and carried on with the help of the landlord and with the help of the State. If they went on such lines they would get the labourers with them What was wanted was that those who criticised the programme should show them better.

Mr. C. Turnor believed a good many farmers and landowners, and, he hoped, labourers also, were in favour of an independent agricultural party. To approach boldly the formation of an independent party was the ideal thing, but by using means already existing they could save the huge expense of fighting an election campaign. He therefore moved by way of amendment that the subject be referred to a special committee.

Mr. Courthope, M.P., in seconding, said they must send to the local chambers something more definite than anything contained in the report. He would like to see an agricultural party, but he did not think they could find the funds to run independent agrarian candidates in 150 constituencies. They should make full use of existing opportunities. If it were known that the farmers of an agricultural constituency were determined to have an agriculturist to represent them, both political parties would vie with each other, and the farmers would have two suitable men to choose between without cost to themselves.

Mr. Jesse Collings, M.P., supported the report. He said the amendment meant shelving the question, and was really an invitation to the council to run away from a proposition fairly put before them. It was no good putting questions to candidates of the existing political parties. They would answer them in any way the questioner liked. Party politicians had no conscience. Given a prospect of a vote they would promise everything to everybody everywhere. He personally admired the Irish agricultural party, and knew no party but the agricultural party. They never said "Thank you" when they got what they asked for, but immediately asked for more and got it.

After further discussion the amendment was withdrawn, and Mr. Kidner's proposition adopted.

Swine Fever.

Mr. Amos, calling attention to the action of the Board of Agriculture in reference to swine fever, said that when a man reported that one of his pigs had died under suspicious circumstances, and sent the carcase to the Board for examination, his farm was kept shut up for at least a fortnight, even after it was known there was no swine fever. That did not encourage people to report suspicious cases.

It was stated that the Board of Agriculture had been written to on the subject, and had been given instances of delays varying from fourteen days to six weeks.

Milk Supplies.

Mr. Fitzherbert-Brockholes moved the adoption of a report of the Dairy Products Committee on the subject of the lines to be followed by general legislation dealing with milk production. Their principal recommendations were:—"That adequate legislative steps shall be taken to secure the proper (*a*) lighting, (*b*) ventilation, (*c*) cleansing, (*d*) drainage, (*e*) water supply, of cowsheds in both urban and rural district areas. That every local authority shall only register such premises as they may deem suitable. That all premises occupied for the purpose of milk selling shall be inspected not less than twice in each year. That all cattle used for the purpose of milk selling shall be examined (especially for tuberculosis of the udder) by qualified veterinary surgeons appointed by the County Council, not less than twice in each year. That every animal which appears to show symptoms of tuberculosis of the udder shall be isolated and slaughtered.

Mr. Sadler seconded, and the report was adopted and ordered to be sent to members of the Government and to the County Councils Association.

Scottish Chamber.

A meeting of the directors of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture was held at Edinburgh on Wednesday. Mr. Harry Hope, chairman of directors, who presided, at the outset thanked them for electing him to his office. He thought their conference had been a very successful one, and although they had not Lord Carrington present he was sure he was expressing the opinion of the directors when he said that they would be glad to see him at their next conference if he was still in charge of the department. Referring to the harvest, he said that this year they had had the most disastrous harvest that there had ever been in the memory of even the oldest farmer in Scotland. He was quite sure that this season would have a disastrous and painful effect upon many. They did not know how the rents were going to be met out of the produce of this year. All that brought to their mind the fact that, in all sytems of land tenure, they had got to frame them in accordance with Nature's laws.

The resolution of the conference urging greater attention to agricultural education in rural schools was submitted, and it was unanimously resolved to send it to the Board of Agriculture and to the Secretary for Scotland, and that Mr. Struthers, the secretary to the Scottish Education Department, should be asked to receive a deputation on the subject.

A somewhat lengthy discussion followed on security of tenure and fair rent, the subject being introduced by Mr. Dunlop, Midland, Fenwick, who moved the following resolution:—"That, in the opinion of the directors, security of tenure and fair rent, applicable to all tenancies, would give an immense stimulus to the agriculture of Scotland by bestowing upon farmers that feeling of independence and security which encourages intensive farming and the desire for co-operation."

Several members, however, spoke against the resolution, and on a vote being taken only three were in favour of it, whilst seventeen voted against it.

A letter was read from Mr. Ainsworth stating that he had had a word with the legal advisor to the Board of Agriculture on the point as to whether any amending words could be put into the Agricultural Acts Consolidation Bill with reference to sheep valuations, as was suggested at the conference. He feared that this would be impossible, as if they introduced amendments on any one point it would lay the whole of the Bill equally open to amendment. He (Mr. Ainsworth) undertook to see what was delaying the Bill, and to try to get it advanced as soon as possible.

Highland Society.

At the meeting of the directors of the Highland and Agricultural Society, held at Edinburgh on Wednesday, Dr. Wilson, of Carbeth, presiding, the secretary stated that the accounts for the Edinburgh Show of last summer had not yet been audited, but the profit would amount to about £2,300.

He also read a letter from the Duke of Buccleuch intimating that he was desired by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to convey an expression of His Royal Highness's entire satisfaction and approval of all the arrangements that were made and so successfully carried out during the two days on which their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales visited the show last July.

With regard to next year's show at Aberdeen, the secretary reported that the prize money offered would amount to £130 or £140 more than at the last Aberdeen show, eight years ago. The following special prizes had also been intimated:—

By the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, president of the society, champion bronze medals for the best animal or pen in each section of live stock; by the Polled Cattle Society, gold medal for the best breeding male, and for the best breeding female of the Aberdeen-Angus breed; by the Ayrshire Cattle Herd Book Society, special prize of £10 for the best animal of the Ayrshire breed, entered in that society's herd book; by the Shorthorn Society, special prizes of £25 each for the best male and female of the Shorthorn breed; by the Clydesdale Horse Society, the Cawdor Challenge Cup for best Clydesdale mare or filly; by Sir John Gilmour, of Montrave, £18 in prizes for yearlings by Thoroughbred stallions; by Captain Clayhills Henderson, of Invergowrie, £27 in prizes for Hunter brood mares with foal at foot; by Hunters' Improvement Society, gold medal for best Hunter filly not exceeding three years old; and by the Society of Border Leicester Sheep-breeders, £10 for best pen of Border Leicester sheep.

To commemorate his twenty-fifth year as a steward, Dr. Gillespie was presented with a photographic group of stewards, the presentation being made by Mr. Middleton, Glastulich. In reply, Dr. Gillespie said that he had been a director also for twenty-seven years, remarking that while others had done the work as stewards he had been put into the ring for ornament. He had a good deal of the agricultural element in him, and he would continue as long as he was able to do all he could for Scottish agriculture.

The Science Committee reported that they had had under consideration the question of the spread of anthrax and the desirableness of having a thorough investigation into its causes. Even though it were ascertained that foreign food did occasionally cause outbreaks of anthrax, the Board of Agriculture took up the position that stockowners would not be in favour of excluding these foods, and therefore they did not feel inclined to ask the Treasury to vote a sum of money to inquire into the disease. There was, however, a feeling among farmers that something should be done to investigate the effect of foreign cakes, and the committee asked authority to expend £100 in such investigation. This was unanimously agreed to.

The secretary reported the result of the conference with the Ayrshire Cattle Herd Book Society Committee regarding milk records. The deputation from the society had attended on the previous day, and had had a most satisfactory discussion of the whole matter with their committee, and he submitted a rough scheme suggested for a basis.

Oxfordshire.

At the annual meeting of the Oxfordshire Agricultural Society, Viscount Villiers (the president) had a very pleasant duty to perform in congratulating the society that, in spite of the terrible weather at the Banbury meeting, there was no financial loss, but a surplus of £100 on the year's working.

The thanks of the society were cordially expressed to the president, Viscount Villiers, for his valuable services; the mayor and corporation of Banbury, the local committee and hon. secretaries for promoting the success of the show; and the noblemen, gentlemen, and societies for their handsome contributions in special prizes.

Sir Alex. Henderson, Bart, was elected president for the ensuing year, and his Grace the Duke of Marlborough president-elect, whilst to the present list of vice-presidents were added Admiral Clutterbuck, Mr. G. Randell Higgins, Mr. James H. Morrell, and Dr. Somerville, Sibthorpian Professor of Rural Economy, Oxford.

We are pleased to note the following resolution was unanimously passed:—"That the General Purposes Committee confer as to enlarging the scope of usefulness of the society and report in due course to the council."

The invitation from the town of Abingdon was cordially accepted, and next year's meeting will be held in that town on Wednesday and Thursday, May 21 and 22.

At the Mid-Somerset Agricultural Society's second annual cider and apple show at Shepton Mallet, the display of cider was one of the largest ever held in the West of England, and constituted certainly a record for this society, the total entries numbering forty-seven, against thirty-nine last year. Moreover, every lot, except one (withdrawn), was in its place. On the other hand the interest in the apple section was not keen, owing to the great deficiency in the crop this year, and although gentelmen's gardeners, nurserymen, amateurs, and cottagers failed to fill any of the classes allotted to them, the farmers rallied well round the society, and sent in not only a very attractive display of cider fruit, but also a good number of cooking and dessert sorts. The prizes were well distributed over the orchard areas, though some of them were limited in their representation.

POULTRY.

Purchasing Birds for Breeding.

One of the questions which will be now occupying the mind of the poultry farmer is the selection of birds suitable for breeding stock. Whether the objective be exhibition points or utility features the importance of this matter cannot be too strongly urged. The utility farmer should be keenly alive to the necessity of periodically importing new blood into his yards so as to obtain that additional vigour in his flock which will result in an increased egg-return, strong fertility, and healthy offspring.

The fancier who desires to perpetuate any particular feature of marking or type will doubtless do much to attain his object by judicious line-breeding, although even here the introduction of unrelated stock is often necessary in order to minimise the danger of too close in-breeding.

For whichever purpose new birds are required the greatest care must be exercised in purchasing, and no birds that are not, like Cæsar's wife, "above suspicion," should be allowed to come into the reckoning.

No matter where one buys, all fresh purchases should be isolated for a week or ten days before being permitted to mix with the home flock. By this course the chance of introducing disease into the yards is practically nullified.

The question where to buy naturally enough vexes many novices. Although there are numbers of thoroughly honest breeders to whom one can go in perfect faith, there are also, unfortunately, many who do not hesitate to palm off inferior specimens as first-rate stock. The writer, who has purchased birds from many parts of the country, has sometimes received most weird creatures under the name of Buff Orpingtons. Yellow legs, feathered legs, jet-black tails, striped hackles,



Photo by] **A CHAMPION SALMON FAVEROLLE HEN** *[Clarke and Hyde.*

white lobes, have all appeared with more or less frequency.

In order to avoid such experiences as these, by far the best plan is, of course, to inspect the birds for oneself before purchasing, but if this is impracticable the safest course is to send to one of the well-known breeders, stating one's exact requirements. The cost may be a little more, but the possession of reliable birds will repay the additional outlay.

In introducing new blood into the flock, the most popular system at present seems to be the purchase of cockerels. There is an old saying, and a true one withal, to the effect that the male bird is half the pen. Why, then, should not the farmer reserve some of his own-bred cockerels, whose merits he knows, and import females to mate with them? One-year-old hens, which are usually more reliable than pullets for breeding purposes, and which are certainly preferable to mate with young males, are always plentiful at this season of the year at reasonable prices.

Another important point to be borne in mind by intending purchasers is the question of locality. Birds, equally as much as human beings, are very susceptible to change. Buyers should endeavour as far as possible to obtain their birds from localities similar in conditions of climate and soil to their own farms.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Potato Disease.

SIR,—When time permits I should like to ask all potato growers to examine with a sharp knife the string end of the tubers, noting carefully the different maturity as shown in the separate tubers that are lifted from the same root. Also to take an inquiring walk across the potato grounds with the same implement to examine the haulms (locally called) or stems that are fully ripe, and note the different signs of life contained, these to be the preparation in readiness to receive the reports of the two Colonies from "down under" as to the success of their pickling of potato sets. Until the reports are received it is out of place to attempt to do anything more than prepare ourselves as practical growers to tackle in earnest the long-continuing disease.

The old people who have come through the non-disease days of the closing thirties and suffered through the early forties, when the disease spread throughout our islands, may be able to help us by referring back to their uses of lime.

And also during the period of waiting may I suggest a visit to the old establishment of Nature:—

(*a*) The provisions.
(*b*) The pure laws of reproduction.
(*c*) Balances.
(*d*) The sun as our incubator, with the husbandman as attendant.

Are compartments solidly furnished with every requisite to complete their several departments?

Mention has been made in back numbers of the MARK LANE EXPRESS respecting blank grains showing in different portions of the barley heads. For the last two seasons I have called attention to the cause in our local papers, but time and space will not permit at present to deal with such a "wide" subject in your columns, because someone of the establishment of Theorists, Faddists, Fungus and Co. may want to fire a shot into it. Then I should have to level my heavy piece also, and as we are now going through the dull season of the year perhaps it would be best left over until the bright days of spring.—Yours, &c.,

November 7, 1907. PLOUGHTAIL.

Are Times Better for Farmers?

SIR,—I fear your articles—"Better times, bigger rents," "Wheat paying its way"—are somewhat misleading.

Those of us who have been badly hit by the droughts of the past years, who have been drained by the high prices of feeding stuff, and who have cashed little of this year's harvest, feel rather hurt at the wonderful accounts of the result of this year's harvest that are appearing in all the newspapers—agricultural and otherwise.

Several extra millions of money are supposed to be rolling about in farmers' pockets. "There is many a slip," &c., and April next will be soon enough to estimate the actual result of this year's working.

In this district we have many signs of the impecuniosity of farmers, rates bad to get, accounts overdue, and no more labour on the land than is absolutely necessary to work the land, no improvements in hand.

The increased demand for land is caused by other things than the price of produce; one of the most important of these hereabouts is the fact that workpeople (ploughmen, waggoners, stockmen, domestic servants, village tradesmen, carriers) have saved money and are competing for, and in many cases occupying, the farms held by their former employers. Nearly half the land in some parishes is already held by these people, who employ less labour than their predecessors—one of the causes of rural depopulation. They are very hardworking and thrifty, and are content so long as they are able to feel at the end of each year they have made some little progress.

If it were not that this saving portion of the country folk is a small one, this form of competition would be much keener than it is.

The following is a balance-sheet of an acre of wheat reckoned as part of a 10-acre field of this year's harvest, and is about an average for this district:—

Outgo.	£	s.	d.	Income.	£	s.	d.
Rent and rates	1	5	0	4 qr. wheat at 35s...	7	0	0
Ploughing	0	10	0	Consuming value of straw	0	10	0
Rolling (twice)	0	2	0				
Harrowing (5 times)	0	5	0				
Drilling.....	0	1	6				
Seed	0	12	0				
Dressing and tenting	0	1	0				
10 loads dung	1	10	0				
Carting dung	0	10	0				
Spreading	0	2	0				
Hoeing	0	6	0				
Hedging and ditching	0	1	6				
Harvesting, binder	0	5	6				
Stooking	0	1	0				
Carting, men	0	3	6				
,, teams	0	3	6				
Thatching	0	2	0				
Thrashing	0	6	6				
Salt, 3 cwt.	0	9	0				
Delivering	0	4	0				
Sack hire	0	0	4				
Insurance and workmen's comp.....	0	1	0				
Cost of fallowing (proportion)	0	16	0	Loss	0	8	4
	£7	18	4		£7	18	4

Leaving out anything for the innumerable petty expenses, cost of management, interest of capital invested, all of which must be paid before actual profit comes in.

These figures are as accurate as I can make them after long practice, and any criticisms of them will be welcome.—Yours, &c.,

SON OF THE SOIL.

North Lincolnshire, November 7, 1907.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

Rating Questions.

SIR,—Will you kindly help me by your advice. I own and occupy a farm of 800 acres, and also own the impropriate tithe, which is commuted at £105. This tithe is charged with a fee farm rent amounting to £47 per annum. What I wish to know is, can I deduct the amount of the fee farm rent from the tithe for rating purposes? To be perhaps plainer, am I liable to be rated on the full value of the tithe, less usual deductions, or minus the fee farm rent and deductions for collecting, &c.?

Of course, if I sold the tithes I should only get their value less the fee farm rent; and all I get as income from the tithe is what is left after the fee farm rent is deducted.

If you can help me I should be much obliged, as it would strengthen my case before the assessment committee.—Yours, &c.,

ENQUIRER.

*** I do not see on what ground you can claim to deduct the amount charged on the tithe. You are rated in respect of occupation, and, as I understand, the fee farm rent is charged on the tithe.

BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

Trap Accident.

SIR,—I have had a severe trap accident by my horse shying at a heap of sanitary pipes laid by the roadside, and I think they ought to be able to pay compensation, as my new trap is broken and my horse lamed, and I have received severe injuries. I have had medical attendance for six days, and it will be a good while before my left arm becomes all right. I think when people lay things down in such careless places, they ought to pay compensation for it. You will perhaps reply in your next issue.—Yours, &c., J. R.

*** Though the local authority would not be liable for non-feasance—that is the omission to do something which they ought to do—they are liable for misfeasance—that is an act of nuisance on the road. The question would be, was it a reasonable consequence of leaving a heap of sanitary pipes on the road that a horse should shy at them? I am inclined to think that the behaviour of the horse was what might be expected, and that, therefore, the person who placed the pipes on the road would be responsible, even it were a local authority.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

Northern Notes.

I AM afraid that, unwittingly, in conjunction with your printer, I must plead guilty to libelling the county of Cumberland in my last notes, as there I am made to say that that county is one of little fame. I imagine I wrote, or intended doing so, "one of little farms." I hope this apology to my Cumberland friends will be regarded as satisfactory.

MAY I briefly reply to "Countryman's" letter in the MARK LANE EXPRESS of November 4? He asks what form of cover may be substituted for the metal one (a screw top) in bottling or preserving fruit. I would suggest two layers of clean paper, failing a "bung" of cork or wood, which should be close fitting; and if the latter is available, it should be covered over with paper, pasted or gummed down to the sides of the receptacle. If paper only is used, the object should be to obtain a hermetically-sealed jar, impervious to the air. Butter paper, which "turns" grease, might be suitable for the purpose; but I would, in any case, recommend a double layer of good white paper, well pasted or gummed down. As to jam-making, I have heard of enamelled pans being used, but there is always the danger of pieces of the enamel coming off, and these are a source of great danger to vital organs if swallowed. The cottager too poor to invest in a brass pan, would not have much difficulty in borrowing one from the farmer's wife.

HONEY and hares are said to be scarce this season. Cottagers are making 9d. per lb. of their honey crop; in the shops the retail price is 1s. The honey as a rule this year is very good, and it is surprising that more attention is not devoted to apiculture. The hobby is an interesting one, and is followed by many persons of leisure, who work on the latest scientific lines. In rural districts the old "skep" hive is going out of fashion.

AS to the scarcity of hares and other game, the men who take small shootings will be hit rather hardly, and there will be a diminution of acceptable gifts among their friends. The Earl of Feversham, I notice, has sent a hare to each recipient of out-relief in the township of Helmsley. This is a kind and commendable act.

THE rainfall on the Wolds of Yorkshire in October, as registered by a close observer of meteorological affairs, reached a total of 5·115 in., rain falling on twenty-three days, and on the last day the precipitation approached to very nearly one inch. The rainfall for the ten months of this year now equals 20·560 in., which is about a normal amount. In September a measurable quantity of rain fell on seven days only. The recent rains have placed very large areas of land under water in the North, and it was not an uncommon sight last week to see in the swollen rivers an occasional dead sheep among the *débris*. Considerable damage to live stock and property was occasioned.

THERE still remains in the cornfields quantities of grain which should in the ordinary course have been under thatch a month or six weeks ago. The value of all that remains uncarted is reduced to a minimum, and farmers and the friends who take an interest in agriculture are much concerned about the financial part of this year's results. Some landlords come to the aid of their tenants without asking; others afford no relief in a bad season, as they seem to expect that by setting one season against another the farmer's income is equalised. This does not always hold good, and certainly the men who have been very badly hit by the weather working disaster upon their crops will need to be relieved from paying a proportion of their rents.

THE harvest is always, by some growers, awaited anxiously in the hope that the early realisation of a portion of the crops will enable them to lay out the proceeds in stock for winter and spring feeding. How tantalising it is for a farmer to be gazing at a bunch of fifty or 100 lambs, which are just what he wants, but finds his pockets empty, and he has to turn sorrowfully away. Such men, with their crops wasting in the fields, claim our sincerest sympathy. May we throw out the hint to farmers generally to let the newspapers know of every case of generosity by landowners to their tenants? The force of example may be an incentive to others of a closer-fisted nature, to "go and do likewise."

IT cannot be denied that while the heavy rains have prevented the gathering in of cereals, the root crops have reaped advantages, and they are progressing in an extraordinary manner. Ploughing has made some further progress, but not since my last, as it has been a very wet time, and November opened with field work considerably in arrear. On the Wolds a good breadth of the winter wheat has been drilled in a fair tilth; in the same neighbourhood two or three farmers are in a plight unprecedented in their experience, as they have not recovered a quarter of their corn crops!

THE Ryedale Farmers' Club recently discussed the question of Martinmas hiring of servants. The talk was principally on the point of "illegal" hiring—*i.e.*, of making bargains between master and man before November 23. One speaker suggested that for a servant to accept a "fastening penny" or "fest" before November 23 was to be guilty of obtaining money under false pretences. But what of the farmer offering money under such circumstances? No; we are inclined to the opinion that no alteration can hastily be made or is practicable in the hiring of farm hands, nor are we inclined to share the belief of another speaker that these hirings will die a natural death in a few years.

AN unfortunate dispute about the pen charges for pigs is reported from Wakefield. The dealers and the market authorities are at variance as to the tolls, which are regarded as excessive. The system of charging so much per pen has been altered, it appears, to a toll for each head of swine. The West Riding Chamber of Agriculture has decided to ask the Governors of Wakefield Charities—who own the market—to revise the tolls. A reference to the Board of Agriculture's "Official Returns" of market prices for October 31 shows that no pigs of any sort were entered at Wakefield that week. In the interests of the trade it is to be regretted the dispute has reached so acute a stage.

November 6, 1907.

Midland Notes.

NOVEMBER has opened with fog and flood worthy of its dismal reputation. The Severn and Avon have overflowed lately in many places; so have the Teme, Lugg, and Arrow; and many fields along the courses of these streams are deeply inundated.

WE are congratulating ourselves upon the quite respective prices lately ruling for British wheat; but the chorus is by no means unanimous. In a journey last week of about a dozen miles in South Warwickshire, the writer noticed three large fields in which crops of wheat had been abandoned in the stook. When seen the grain was sprouting and the straw blackened, half-rotten and almost worthless. Incidentally, nothing is more common now than complaints of bad hay. Roots will be plentiful, but evidently first-rate dry fodder will be at a premium this coming winter.

EVIDENTLY the Small Holdings Act is going to be administered in the Midlands with all enterprise, and proper consideration for the welfare of the classes it is meant to benefit. So much is fairly deducible from the debates and the practical steps which are already being taken by the county councils. They may not like some of the principles embodied in the Act, but they are ready, at any rate, to do what they can with it.

IN the case of Warwickshire, the Rev. Provost Talbot announced that the Small Holdings Committee intended to circularise the district and parish councils and the parish meetings, pointing out the general provisions of the Act, and requiring information as to the demand for small holdings and allotments in each locality. On the other hand, it is good to hear it definitely stated that the committee reckon it "no use for people to apply for small holdings unless they are prepared to put into the concern certain constituents on their own part." In other words, they demand that applicants shall show "some capital, some experience, and willingness to work." All which is encouraging to men of the right class, but not to incompetent theorisers from the towns.

SHROPSHIRE, it appears, is delaying action for the present, agreeing cordially with Sir Offley Wakeman that it would be "a thousand pities if by any impulsive action they embarked on schemes which turned out failures either by placing unsuitable people on the land or people in unsuitable positions." Shropshire, it seems, has already 3,845 holdings of between one and five acres, and 5,157 more between five and fifty.

AT the instance of a Board of Agriculture inspector, the Moreton-in-Marsh Farmers' Dairy Company, Limited, has had to defend a prosecution for selling a mixture of condensed milk and butter under a false trade description, and as a result the Wolverhampton stipendiary imposed two fines of £10 each and costs, amounting to £20 10s. more. The evidence showed that the offending butter was sent out in boxes labelled "Guaranteed pure butter and to contain under 16 per cent. of moisture," but on analysis the Board of Trade discovered an abnormal quantity of curd and preservative. Later on when the inspector visited the premises he found barrels of colonial butter there, along with churns of condensed milk and the machines by which the notorious "milk blended" butter was turned out.

I DO not desire to comment on the case in detail. The defence admitted that addition to the natural butter was made "for the purpose of flavouring." Farmers, I think, will agree with the stipendiary that no need for such flavouring ought to exist. We know that colonial and foreign butters of the poorer qualities are certainly inclined to err in the way of strength. But is it not said that stuff of this description should be vended, whether improved or not by blending, by trading concerns possessed of such titles as this "Moreton-in-Marsh Farmers' Dairy"? In the eyes of the public a conviction like this, widely reported as it has been, tends most unjustly to cast discredit on the whole agricultural co-operative movement.

I NOTE with regret two deaths. Mr. Owen Wordy, who was well known in south-east Warwickshire, met his end sadly while gathering pears. A slip of the ladder and a missed hold resulted in a 30-ft. fall and spinal injuries, to which the unlucky farmer shortly afterwards succumbed. He was fifty-nine years old. The death is announced also of Mr. Augustus Butcher, one of the directors of Lea, Ltd., the Kidderminster spinning firm. Mr. Butcher lived at Bewdley Hill, Kidderminster, and he was known among wool dealers far and wide. He was president for some years of the Northern Wool Buyers' Association, which has its headquarters in Liverpool.

November 8, 1907.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

Account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended November 2, 1907, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year (the figures for 1906 are in parentheses):—

Animals, living:—Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves (8,591), 8,826; sheep and lambs (2,211), 4,196; horses (210), 327.

Fresh meat:—Beef (109,895 cwts.), 87,497; mutton (56,599), 54,038; pork (11,878), 13,026.

Salted or preserved meat:—Bacon (104,405 cwt.), 90,106; beef (2 001), 2,904; hams (18,556), 19,896; pork (1,965), 2,918; meat (13,055), fresh, 13,499, salted, 1,498; meat, preserved (7,937), 20,849.

Dairy produce and substitutes:—Butter (71,227 cwt.), 66,865; margarine (22,831), 17,106; cheese (63,342), 78,870; milk, fresh in cans or drums (—), —; cream (90), 63; milk, condensed (19,883), 19,783; milk, preserved, other kinds (229), 53.

Eggs (great hundreds):—(449,459), 492,157; poultry (value £5,676), £4,389; game (value £2,521), £4,483; rabbits, dead (not tinned), (32,162 cwt.), 45,580; lard (33,869 cwt.), 35,314.

Corn, grain, meal, and flour:—Wheat (1,004,200 cwt.), 1,615,700; wheat meal and flour (314,500), 446,600; barley (759,900), 861,900; oats (327,100), 270,200; peas (46,460), 35,290; beans (40,200), 3,110; maize or Indian corn (677,800), 1,127,600.

Fruit (raw):—Apples (144,882 cwt.), 180,860; grapes (56,641 cwt.), 78,309; pears (15,849 cwt.), 8,944; plums (5,935 cwt.), 195.

Hay 3,548 tons), 1,079; straw (720 tons), 1,858; moss litter (1,986 tons), 1,260; hops (13,523 cwt.), 7,668; locust beans (35,720 cwt.), 30,000.

The seventeenth annual general meeting of Prentice Brothers, Ltd., will be held on Saturday next, the 16th inst., at the offices of the company, the Chemical Works, Stowmarket, at 11 a.m. The report of the directors states that, after placing £100 to the reserves for bad debts (making a total of £4,100 now standing to this reserve account), and a further £300 to the reserve for general purposes, the net profit for the year, together with the sum brought forward from last year, amounts to £3,955 2s. 1d., and is available for dividend. Out of this sum the directors recommend the payment of dividends at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum on the preference shares, and 6 per cent. per annum on the ordinary shares, leaving a balance of £1,249 6s. 7d. to be carried forward. Both dividends to be paid on December 1, less income tax.

Lincolnshire Notes.

OUR curiosity is allayed. Mr. Adeane, chairman of the Finance Committee of the Royal Agricultural Society, informs us that the net profit of the Lincoln Royal Show is £5,056, exclusive of the £2,000 allocated to the show account from the ordinary account. This will satisfy both our curiosity and our pride. It is a splendid result. Against it the £2,028 gained at Derby sinks into insignificance, whilst the losses of from £3,000 to £10,000 which were so consistently sustained at Park Royal, become mere memories by the splendid prospect which it opens out. The new era for the Royal Society has now begun in earnest.

A CURIOUS situation has arisen on the Lincoln Cattle Market. The Lincoln and District Butchers' Association, in view of the drastic inspection of meat imposed by the sanitary authorities of the city, has established an indemnity fund. Members contribute in the following sums:—1s. for a bull, 1s. for a cow, and 6d. for a beast or maiden heifer, and out of the sum so realised the association compensates any member who may suffer a *bona fide* loss through the condemnation of an animal on the ground of the presence of tuberculosis. The fund is however, proving insufficient, and the association has therefore asked farmers who send stock to Lincoln market to contribute an equal amount.

THEIR argument is that it is almost impossible to detect a tuberculous condition in any live animal, and that the butcher frequently purchases a beast at a good market price and apparently in sound condition, to find it condemned by the meat inspector after it has been slaughtered. The Butchers' Association contends that the farmer is entitled to bear at any rate an equal share of the burden, hence the demand.

MANY farmers have agreed willingly, but some have refused. The latter the butchers have notified that unless they can fall into line with the suggestion members of the association will decline to bid for their stock or to purchase it without a guarantee as to its soundness. This threat they are carrying out, and several farmers had to bring their cattle back unsold from the Lincoln cattle market on Tuesday. I have not heard the end of the incident. No doubt an arrangement will be arrived at eventually. Pending legislation, it is only reasonable that the farmer and the butcher should share the great risks which attend the slaughtering and the preparation of carcases for human food.

THAT the law of trespass is both inadequate and unjust will be generally admitted. The Lincoln Chamber of Agriculture last week discussed Mr. Courthope's successful Bill, which provides that any person stealing, destroying or damaging plants, roots, fruit, flowers or vegetable products on cultivated or enclosed property, shall be deemed guilty of an offence under Section 37 of the Larceny Act of 1861. This will go so far to relieve an anomaly, but the opinion of the Chamber is very strongly that trespass alone, apart from the question of damage, should carry liability to prosecution. They did not say as much by resolution, but they did adopt a general expression of opinion that the law should be dealt with in a much simpler and more practicable method.

IT was a pity that the chamber had not the advantage of the presence of Mr. Christopher Turnor, whose letter re the new Central Land Association was read with so much interest. The aims of the new organisation are comprehensive. It is to be non-party, and its principal concern, like that of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union, is to increase the agricultural influence on the local councils, the local political associations, and in Parliament. Secondarily, it seeks to secure a larger membership of chambers of agriculture and other agricultural societies, and to encourage the organisation of the rural labourers on non-party lines.

THESE are excellent ideals, which every agriculturist, master or man, should adopt and work for. Let us hope that the various agricultural associations who have adopted political permeation as their motto will work for it side by side. There never was a better chance for the political salvation of agriculture so long as all parties to the cause can agree and pull one way. And before they can do that they must, of course, settle their own little domestic differences. Why not start doing that at once?

LINCOLNSHIRE still holds the record for wool. In Mr. Rews' very interesting report to the Board of Agriculture are some pertinent comparative tables. It seems that in Lincolnshire the average weight for ewes is 10 lb., and for other sheep 13 lb, as against 6¾ lb. and 7¾ lb. respectively, for the West Riding. In the case of Derbyshire, the average works out at 7¼ lb. and 9¼ lb. respectively, and for Notts 8¼ lb and 10¼ lb. respectively.

MR. COLIN CAMPBELL had a useful all-round talk with the farmers of Grantham at the branch dinner of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union. He does not believe in consolidation, but he does want to see landlords, farmers, and labourers each with a union of their own, sitting around a joint board to talk about the consolidation of agricultural interests. He urged the formation of a mutual insurance amongst the farming class, and renewed his feud against the destroying motor car. Farmers are being driven off the roads which they largely pay for, and the matter is becoming really serious. The chairman of the Farmers' Union wishes to see motors licensed according to their power, so that motorists may pay for the roads, which appear to be made for them.

THE excellent show of roots and farm produce was one of the best of the year, and it is a distinct pity that it did not attract a greater and a more intelligent interest amongst the local farmers. Competition is very keen, and much interest was taken in the competition for the silver medal championship prize for the best exhibit on the field. This was ultimately awarded to a remarkably fine exhibit of Johnson's Prize Medal Golden Globe Mangel, grown by Mr. H. Lockwood, of Boston West.

THOUGH Lincolnshire was not strongly represented at the Brewers' Exhibition, one or two of the prizes came into the county. Two awards for Chevalier barley were sent to South Lincolnshire. The winners were Mr. J. Thurlby, of Baston, a farmer well known in the Bourne district, and chairman of the local branch of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union, and Mr. F. Holmes, of Greatford. Mr. Holmes also won in the Northamptonshire section, and carried off a special for seed. Mr. Holmes' crop was grown on loam over gravel, after turnips, from Webbs' seed and with Webbs' manures. It was sown on March 6 and cut on August 22, and came out at 4 qr. Mr. Thurlby's was the same class of land and Webbs' seed, but the crop was grown after seeds with Fison's manure. It was sown February 27 and cut August 27, and also came out at 4 qr.

LINCOLNSHIRE FARMERS' UNION.

GRANTHAM BRANCH.

The annual luncheon of the Grantham Branch of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union took place at Grantham on Monday, and was very well attended, practically all the well-known agriculturists of the district being present Mr. R. C. Bemrose presided, and proposed the loyal toasts, which were enthusiastically honoured.

Mr. R. N. Morley, of Leadenham, in proposing "The Lincolnshire Farmers' Union," said if they were shopkeepers instead of farmers they would not have so much advice offered to them by people outside as to how they should conduct their business. They could hardly pick up a paper but they found some asthmatical haberdasher or superannuated tinker writing to tell them how to manage their business. He did not think farmers were more backward in the management of their business than anybody else, and he believed that at the present day they were more alert than their forefathers. He was sorry that some of the representatives of the old farming families had not yet fallen into line. He did not know why, but he hoped that soon the scales would be removed from their eyes.

Mr. Colin Campbell, chairman of the Union, replied, and in doing so congratulated Mr. Golding, the hon. organising secretary, upon his successful work in connection with that branch of the Union. With regard to the movement for the consolidation of agricultural interests, he said they as a Union were in favour of consolidation, but they did not wish to take all three classes connected with the land into the Union. He would prefer that the landlord should have his organisation, the farmer his union, and the labourer his They were told that the labourers were going to organise. They as a union would not go against the labourers; in fact, they would do all they could to help them. When those three organisations were formed they could have a joint board to talk about the consolidation of agricultural interests.

On the question of insurance, most of them know to their sorrow that as year succeeded year their premiums went up—not only fire premiums, but employers' liability premiums also. What they wanted was to devise some better scheme of insurance. There were two alternatives. They would either have to go to some office for a substantial reduction or they would have to start a mutual insurance society of their own. In the past they had had many advisers and sympathisers, but now was the time for sacrifices. He wanted them to show their sympathy by taking shares in a mutual insurance company. Members would reap direct benefit from it, and it would be the means of drawing them closer together.

Passing on to the subject of motor traffic on the roads, Mr. Campbell said the Motor Car Act expired this year, and a new Bill would have to be brought in. He thought the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union ought to take a very active part in pointing out to the President of the Local Government Board the lines on which it should be drawn. He had every reason to believe that if they sent up a deputation they would be received in a most sympathetic way and their recommendations would be considered. He was connected with the Highways Committee of the Kesteven County Council, and he knew of the large amount of damage done to roads by the motor traffic. This was a very serious thing indeed for farmers, who had to pay the rates and did not use motor cars.

Mr. T. Roberts (Croxton), in proposing "Success to the Grantham Branch of the Union," reviewed the history of the movement in the district, and observed that farmers were now beginning to realise that the Union was going to benefit them individually. Still there was room for more in the Union. With reference to motor car traffic, they as farmers paid a very large proportion of the cost of maintaining the roads, but to all intents and purposes were being driven off them by gentlemen who came from a distance, did not pay anything towards the local rates, and did not pay much in the district from which they came. These gentlemen were not satisfied with a portion of the road, they wanted the lot. He had been turned upon his back out of his trap; he had had to get out of the way by taking a young horse over the hedge; and he had a horse which, instead of being worth 70 or 80 guineas, was only worth seven or eight pounds, in consequence of being startled by a motor. Unless they spurred up the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union to take action with respect to the alteration about to be made in the law, they might find that instead of having a portion of the road they would not be allowed upon it at all.

Mr. Palmer, giving the health of the hon. secretary of the Union, congratulated the Grantham Branch upon the fact that its membership had increased from twenty-five to 100.

Mr. F. Godson proposed "The Chairman," and remarked that at one time landlords and agents thought that farmers by their union were going to kick the landlords. At the present time all landlords and agents in the county were pleased to see the Farmers' Union doing so well.

The Chairman said he was proud of the fact that he was one of the pioneers of the Farmers' Union. They were not antagonistic to either landlord or labourer. They could not tell what benefits would accrue, but if all farmers joined they might do wonders. He agreed with Mr. Campbell that they ought to have an insurance society of their own. With regard to motor cars, he would like to see them bear a licence according to their power. If roads were to be made for motors, then motorists ought to pay for them.

The new Lord Mayor of Cardiff is Alderman Illtyd Thomas, valuer to the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, for which body he also acts as estimator of the yield of produce and crops for the Cardiff and the Bridgend and Cowbridge Unions. Alderman Thomas, who lives at Maesylai, the residence attached to Ely Farm, where his ancestors have resided for over 300 years, will be the youngest mayor or lord mayor Cardiff has had, with the exceptional instances of the Marquess of Bute and the Earl of Plymouth (as Lord Windsor).

The annual show of seed corn under the auspices of the United East Lothian Agricultural Society, postponed from October 18, was held in the Corn Exchange, Haddington, on the 1st inst., when entries were very few, but the quality of square head wheat (red chaff) was pronounced a good average for the last ten years. There were no entries in the classes for any approved white or red variety, duly named. The awards were:—One quarter square head wheat (white chaff)—Sir David Baird, Bart., Whitekirk. One quarter ditto (red chaff)—1, James Shields, Longniddry; 2, G. B. Shields, Dolphingston. Corn—T. Elder, Stevenson Mains, and T. Dale, Lochhouses.



What Are We Doing?

Moving about the Borough day by day, I find that a cloud rests upon the minds of our traders, who, almost without exception, declare that they have never experienced a more unsatisfactory season than the present one. The hopes for improvement in the demand, and consequent advance in values, with which they have encouraged each other from week to week, appear to be extinguished, and the experience of the last few days has intensified the dulness that has continued too long. Certainly we know that some considerable business has been done recently in special large growths, but from what I hear, the prices realised have been most disappointing to the growers, who would not have sold at such low rates, had they not lost faith in the future of the market. But even these large transactions have not assisted the general trade, which has apparently settled down to an almost stagnant condition.

Consequently we hear of lower prices being offered, and in some cases accepted, for all descriptions. Even the choice lots, of which there are only a few left, are feeling the effect of the universal depression, and holders are evidently inclined to give way rather than miss the chance of a sale. Foreseeing the uncertainties of the trade this year, I have not failed to warn my readers of the possible results of delay in selling, and I again repeat, that the market is in a very perilous position, and that it behoves prudent men to be on their guard lest they be taken by surprise and suffer accordingly. I would that I could write more hopefully, but my impressions are too vivid to enable me to make any other forecast.

Other Views.

I am glad to note that the serious trials, through which our growers are now passing, have been the subject of correspondence in certain London newspapers. It proves that the interest in our industry is wider than is sometimes recognised, and we should welcome these utterances, even when we cannot agree with them.

One writer raises the question, whether "the methods at present in use in the English hop gardens are economically sound, and the best possible, to secure a profit on hop-growing." He argues that, as the arable farmer has successfully met foreign competition, by the selection of improved varieties of seed corn, by working with strict regard to economy, and by the abandonment of expensive high farming, hop-growers should meet their present difficulties by similar means. He advises that we should follow the example of our Bavarian competitors in excluding male plants, and thus producing hops of higher market value.

Attention is also called to the encouragement of the life cycle of the aphis blight, by the proximity of orchards of damsons to the hop gardens, and it is asked if the costly system of washing for blight is economically wise, inasmuch as although the aphis is thereby destroyed, the natural protectors of the plant—the ladybirds—are killed by the same process. The writer would rather know that a small crop was grown at a minimum cost, than that a large yield was secured at an outlay that only results in loss to the grower.

This letter was followed by one from Mr. John Gretton, of Burton-on-Trent, in which he expresses his conviction "that the modern system of forcing and high cultivation of English hops does not pay the grower. His expenses are very great, and his risks are much greater than under the old system, owing to his much heavier outlay, and the decreased vitality of the hop plant." He adds: "The result of high and artificial manuring has been to glut the land with stimulants at great cost, and to force the growth of the hop plant, until its vitality is weakened and it readily becomes a prey to disease. To ward against this evil further expense is incurred in washing and spraying with various chemicals. The extent to which the process has gone is shown by the fact that practically as many hops are now grown upon about 48,000 acres as formerly on 65,000 acres. And they realise a less price per hundredweight, for the hops are of less value to the user, who is the brewer; they become thin and husky, and contain less of the essential properties which give flavour and character to the ales and provide the keeping qualities."

Mr. Gretton goes on to say—

"When my experience commenced, twenty-five years ago, fine, rich, thick Kent hops were common; now they are rare. The seasons will not explain the difference, for some few English growers who continue the old methods still have healthy and saleable hops year after year. Scientific opinion is not always reliable in dealing with every aspect of the growth of plants and the cultivation of the soil; in this case the scientific forcing of hops in England has failed to pay the grower in the long run, and has deteriorated the character of the hops and their value to the brewer. It is, unfortunately, probable that the 'stocks' in many of the plantations are permanently deteriorated, and that the remedy will be to grub a portion of such plantations in successive years and to commence growing new stocks of the best character under healthy, natural, and less costly conditions."

The views of a practical man of such long experience as Mr. Gretton, who, as a consumer of our own produce in one of the most scientific breweries in the world, must have full knowledge of his requirements in this department of his business, are most worthy of acceptance by our growers. Taking the two letters together, what is the lesson they are meant to teach us? It is simply this as I read between the lines—that "quality" should be the first consideration of the English grower, and that "quantity" should be subservient thereto. Our planters are always proud of a big crop; they display it to their visitors, and are congratulated on their success. I know it is hard to settle down into the dull rut of contentment with more limited results; but we may be encouraged to look favourably at the question from this point of view, when we think of the experience of our Bavarian and Bohemian competitors, whose excellent qualities are more or less superseding ours, in our own market, and who are happy in gathering crops not exceeding 4 to 5 cwt. per acre. They make hop growing pay, for although their selling prices are not infrequently low, their outlay is so small that a margin of profit always remains. If we cross the Atlantic the conditions are very different. There, every planter aims at a heavy crop, and he is able to realise it at small cost, because it is grown on virgin soil, with very little expenditure for manures or cultivation, and under such climatic advantages, that even when sold at prices that would spell ruin for the English grower, profit accrues to the American.

Our Foreign Trade.

The figures furnished by the Board of Trade returns for the last month show that the tide of our imports is rising, despite of the serious depression of our home demand. During October we received from the United States 3,082 cwt., and from other countries 21,208 cwt., making our total imports for the month 24,290 cwt. Our exports have improved somewhat, as we have shipped 1,566 cwt. of English and 361 cwt. of foreign hops. The balance against our market is, however, much too heavy, being 22,363 cwt. Since September 1 our imports have amounted to 33,893 cwt., and as we have exported only 2,264 cwt., the adverse balance for the first two months of the season is 31,629 cwt. Considering the slowness of the sales of our native produce this season, and the poor prices realised by our growers, the figures I have quoted are sufficiently serious to create much anxiety as to the future of the trade, and I am not surprised that attention is being given to the present position of affairs. I earnestly trust that the danger that is too evidently ahead, will cause our reasonable fears to assume a practical form, and that our legislators will be compelled to listen to us when we insist upon measures for the salvation of our industry.

Drying and Curing.

The following is a continuation of my extracts from the paper by Dr. Stockberger, of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, partly dealt with in our columns last week:—

The Theory of Drying.

It is evident that a rapid and continuous removal of moisture is desirable, and to accomplish this draught and ventilation are necessary. A strong draught is essential to insure a rapid movement of the heated air through the layers of hops, since by rapid replacement of the air in contact with the moist hops, time is not afforded to approximate the point of saturation. Hence the air can undergo quite a degree of cooling in the upper layers without reaching the dew point and depositing its moisture. Top ventilation is also necessary to remove the vapour-laden atmosphere from above the hops, otherwise the point of saturation would be quickly reached, and the moisture deposited on the sides of the kiln and on the hops themselves.

Draught and ventilation as well as drying, are very dependent on the temperature and humidity of the atmosphere. A definite upward movement of the air in a kiln occurs when heat is applied at its base. The cold air outside the kiln being heavier than the warm air within, constantly tends to establish an equilibrium of pressure by flowing down to the base of the heated kiln. As a direct consequence, the heated air is forced upward, and the cold air taking its place, is in turn heated and will follow the same course. A continuous circulation is thus established, its velocity and volume depending on the difference in density of the outside air and the air within the kiln.

The changes of temperature in the external atmosphere have very marked influence on draught. It is generally observed that the best draught is secured about two or three o'clock in the morning. This is about the time when the greatest temperature differences exist between the outside and inside air, with a corresponding difference in pressure, resulting in stronger draught. This advantage, however, is largely offset by the great increase of humidity in the atmosphere at night In the daytime, when the outside temperature is high, great difficulty frequently arises in securing a draught without at the same time overheating the hops. Usually a difference of about 50 deg. F. between the temperature under the kiln floor and that over the top of the kiln is necessary in California to cause a sufficient pressure to force the air through the hops. In Oregon a difference of 30 deg. Fahr. is generally sufficient to accomplish the same result. Assuming that a difference in temperature between the atmosphere and the air in the kiln of from 30 to 50 deg. Fahr. is needful to cause a proper draught through the hops, it is apparent that the greatest care must be exercised to avoid damage to the hops by overheating.

Many of the difficulties attendant on the use of natural draught have been overcome by recourse to forced draught. By this means a large volume of air is driven through the hops, instantly setting up a good circulation of air and rapidly carrying off the moisture. Drying is also possible at a much lower temperature, and this method presents many other advantages, among which is absolute control of a low even temperature, giving an increase of soft resins, flavour, aroma, and weight.

Nature of the Curing Process.

When the hops are placed on the floor of the kiln, the cells which compose their tissues are still alive. Proper curing consists in bringing about the death of these cells through the gradual withdrawal of water from them at a moderate temperature. Within each cell are many chemical substances which remain separated as long as the cell is alive, but which are thrown out of solution by the loss of water from the cell and left in a form in which they are very readily soluble. If the removal of water does not proceed steadily, or if the vapours are allowed to settle back, moisture condenses on the hops and is quickly reabsorbed, and coming in contact with the readily soluble substances, dissolves them. In this condition these substances cause discoloration, and the hops are injured in other ways.

Death of the cells may be caused without much water loss by sudden exposure to high temperature. In such a case the chemical substances no longer remain separated, but flow together and form new compounds with resultant changes in colour, aroma, and other desirable qualities. The cells may sustain a considerable water loss before they are killed, provided the temperature is kept below a certain point, say about 10 deg. Fahr. As soon as the death of the cell occurs and the flowing together of its compounds begins, drying should be forced somewhat more rapidly, in order to reduce the amount of water present as fast as possible, but even at this stage of drying the temperature can probably not long exceed 140 deg. Fahr. without injury to the quality of the product.

(To be continued.)

Agriculturists and Birthday Honours.

The King's Birthday Honours List, published on Saturday, contains, we are glad to see, some names of gentlemen well known in the agricultural world, though perhaps, with but one exception, the honours are given as political rather than agricultural awards. The one exception is in the case of Mr. Charles Whitehead, who has been made a knight. Mr. Whitehead, who is well known in connection with the Royal Agricultural Society, was the first agricultural adviser to the Privy Council. Then he became technical adviser to the Board of Agriculture, but owing to an accident was obliged to resign the post in 1900. Himself a practical farmer, he has written much on questions interesting to all kinds of cultivators. Mr. Whitehead was born in 1834, and resides at Maidstone.

The others we noticed named in the list are Mr. Jeremiah Colman, of Gatton Park, Reigate, who is equally well known to our readers as a member of the well-known mustard firm and a most successful breeder of Shorthorns; Mr. Clifford John Cory, of Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire, a breeder of Hunters and a member of the Hunters' Improvement Society; and Mr. Alfred Apperley, of Stroud, Gloucestershire, a well-known sheep breeder and a director of a woollen cloth weaving firm. Mr. Colman and Mr. Cory have been made baronets, and Mr. Apperley a knight.

Nottinghamshire Notes.

DURING the past few days the daily newspapers have been recording the fact that in Scotland there is still a large amount of corn not yet cut. It will perhaps surprise some of my readers when I state that in this county and also in Derbyshire there are still several fields of barley standing—one piece in Derbyshire was far from being ready to cut at the beginning of this week. Even at Bestwood, only three miles north of Nottingham, there is a field where the sheaves of barley are still laying on the ground where the reaper left them, while a number of farmers have up to the present been unable to gather in the rakings, which of course are now grown through and the corn ruined.

WHEAT sowing is a slow process in this neighbourhood, the land being so wet, and farmers have found it impossible to do any good with their horses on the arable land where the soil is of a clayey character. Here and there, however, may be seen a few fields which have been drilled with wheat, while odd pieces may be found where the wheat can be seen in rows from one end of the field to the other. Speaking for the farmers as a whole, only a small acreage of wheat has so far been got in around this district.

POTATO lifting operations in Notts have been seriously impeded by the constant rains, and many acres of tubers have yet to be got up. This week I have made a number of inquiries not only around Nottingham, but also in Newark, Mansfield, Worksop, and the Retford districts as to how potatoes are yielding, and on the whole I find that they are turning out even better than a year ago.

MR. H. HEATH, J.P., C.C., of Bestwood Park, near Nottingham, is by far the largest potato grower we have in this district, for he usually sets between forty and fifty acres with tubers, and this year has grown about forty acres. Not only that, but Mr. Heath is one of those gentlemen who is nothing if not up to date, and spares neither time nor money in order to secure the best possible seed not only from various parts of England, but also from Scotland, Ireland—aye, and even South Africa.

THE Irish people are ever complaining of the injustices meted out to them by the English people, therefore I think it only right that for once they should have their due praise. Mr. Heath in the spring of this year obtained a quantity of Up-to-Date seed potatoes from Ireland and also Scotland, together with some of the same variety that had been grown in England. These he planted in one of the best fields on the farm, and from the first week that the tops forced their way through the ground, the Irish seed has done the best. A similar state of affairs has been revealed at the Kingston Agricultural College Farm, where Professor Blackshaw, for experimental purposes, set the seed obtained from the three different countries side by side, and it was possible at a glance to distinguish the Irish tubers.

DURING July I accompanied a party of agriculturists from Derbyshire round the institute's farm at Kingston, and after Professor Blackshaw had remarked on how well the Irish potatoes were looking, an old-fashioned farmer turned to me and remarked, "It's all right now, there's plenty of top; but how many 'taties' will there be at a root? It's them that count!"

IN order that I could witness the difference in the yield Mr. Heath very kindly had a row of each variety dug up while I was watching, and I can safely bear him out in his statement when he declared that the Irish tubers would average 14 tons per acre, Scottish 10 to 11, and English 7 to 8.

FARMERS should note the above results, and as Mr. Heath intends to buy a considerably larger quantity of seed tubers from Ireland next year for setting, other agriculturists might take a hint and profit thereby.

TAKING the various reports on potato growing in the county as a whole, I find that those set on the heavy or clay soils have done the best during the past season, and many crops will yield from 9 to 10 tons per acre, while on the light sandy land from 8 to 9 tons per acre will be the average. They are now fetching a very good price, wholesale dealers paying from £4 to £4 10s. per ton for good eating potatoes, and the tendency appears to be in the direction of still higher rates. So far very few diseased tubers have been found.

MR. ARTHUR A. AVIS has been importing some fresh blood into the herd of Large White Yorkshire pigs at Stoke Bardolph during the past week. He has purchased from Mr. F. J. Hollingworth, of Weston-on-Trent, a fine boar known by the name of Weston Prince Albert, and a young unnamed boar by the above. Also Weston Maggie, Weston Duchess 3rd, and Weston Betty, the latter having a litter of nine about a month old.

MESSRS. JAMES FORSHAW AND SONS, of Carlton-on-Trent, near Newark, have purchased six capital foals from Lancashire having Present King II. as their sire. They include one from Mr. Taylor, of Bretherton, near Preston, already a prizewinner; a brown colt from Mr. C. P. Yates, Catherall Hall, Garstang, near Preston; a brown filly from Mr. W. Sutton, Dutch Barn, Chorley; one from Mr. R. Wiggans, Lime Kiln Farm, Lostock Hall, near Preston; a black foal from Mr. T. Bretherton, Grimsargh, near Preston; and a very promising bay foal, which promises to develop into a valuable Shire stallion, from Mr. Walmesley, Runshaw Moor, near Chorley.

WORKSOP Statute Fair on Wednesday for the annual hirings was of a very tame character, and might as well be passed over, for there were very few farm hands in want of situations, and only a small number of men and girls put in an appearance. In fact, there was little difference to be noted on Wednesday from any other Wednesday, which is the usual market day.

FARMERS gathered together in strong force at Bestwood on Tuesday, the occasion being the 65th annual ploughing match and show of the Bestwood Park Agricultural Society. The ploughing took place on the Goosedale Farm, in the occupation of the owner, the Duke of St. Albans. Some excellent work was done, and Mr. Ralph Cowing, agent to the Earl of Harrington at Elvaston Castle, one of the judges, declared it to be equal to anything done in Derbyshire.

THERE were also competitions for hedgings, which was done in a manner that showed the men took more than a passing interest in their work. A man named Parker, who has won prizes in many parts of the Midlands, did his work so well that it would be almost impossible for a rabbit to get through the hedge. The men all round protected the stools well and made excellent fences out of overgrown hedges.

BESTWOOD is noted for its root crops and sheep, and there were a number of classes for both. The land is generally of a sandy character, and turnips and mangolds attain enormous proportions. Mr. James Acton again secured for his seventh or eighth consecutive year the first prize for mangolds—but he always grows them in the same field.

DINNER was partaken of at a neighbouring hotel in the evening, when the company included four of the members of the Nottingham Town Council, Mr. J. A. Trumper (agent to the Duke of St. Albans), and the leading farmers of the district. The speeches were for the most part devoted to the Small Holdings Act, most of whom were in favour of the measure. It was generally agreed that the Act would meet a long-felt want, and one speaker mentioned that several applications had already been made for small holdings in that district. Mr. J. T. Farr, who farms a large holding at Staunton, near Newark, who is also a member of the Notts County Council, spoke strongly in favour of small holdings, and I believe he has already let off a portion of a farm which he owns in Lincolnshire to a former labourer in order that the man could keep his sons at home instead of them going out to Canada.

MR. HENRY RHODES, who was another of the judges, humorously referred to a paragraph which appeared in the MARK LANE EXPRESS some months back describing him as not a thorough farmer—this in spite of the fact that he had farmed for over thirty years and now occupied over 300 acres. "This is," he laughingly explained, "because I am also a manufacturer." I might say that Mr. Rhodes is a large blouse and Shetland shawl manufacturer at Hucknall, only a few miles away, while he is in addition a landowner, and lets off one of the most ideal small holdings to an old couple who make a good living off a few acres of land. R. K.

November 7, 1907.

The Collingham Farmers' Club's sixty-seventh annual ploughing match and agricultural and poultry show was held in dull but dry weather, and was well attended, whilst the entries were good, numbering 400, as compared with 370 at last year's exhibition, and the quality of stock had also improved. There was a slight decrease in the entries for ploughing, but this was accounted for by the fact that the farmers were exceptionally busy, owing to the late harvest. The poultry and dairy produce was good in quality, but the roots, although numerous in entry, had suffered from the wetness of the season.

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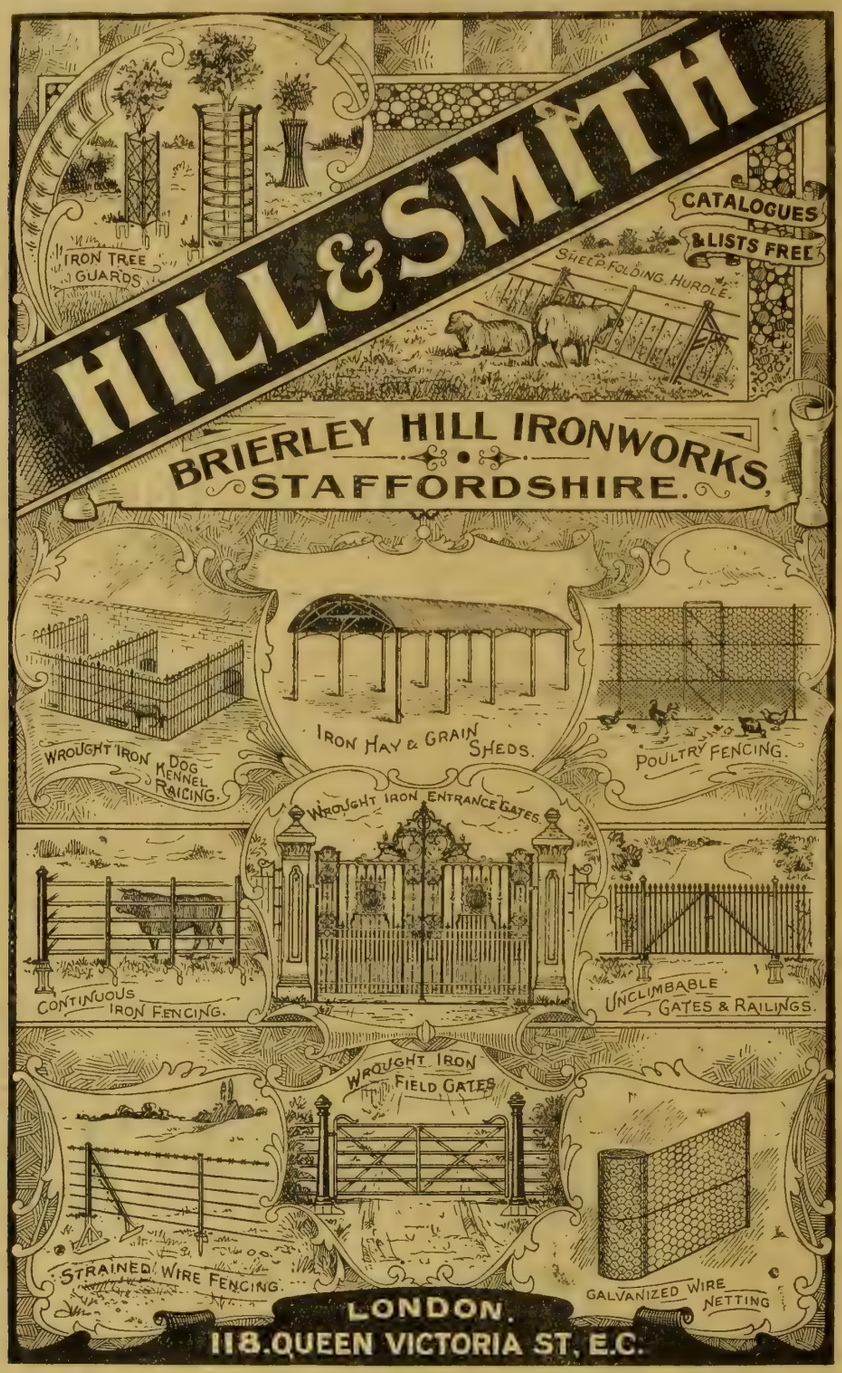
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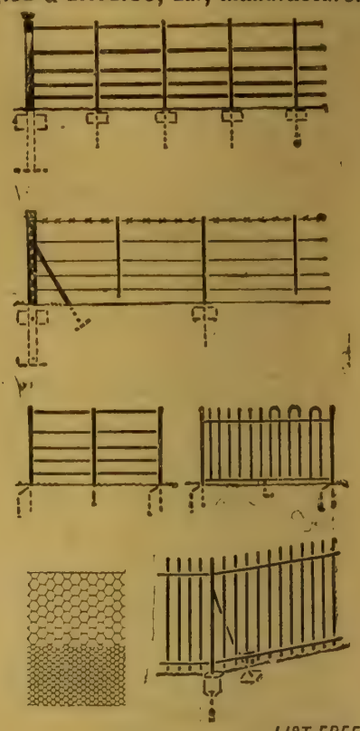
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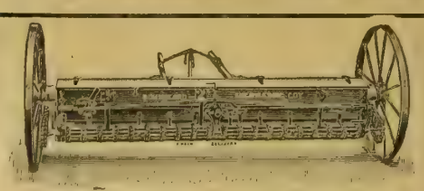
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F. WALKER, Tithby, Notts.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

FEEDING STUFFS.

(Continued from last issue).

Water.—Excess of water over the natural amount contained in a food is a method of adulteration which is to be guarded against in both cakes and meals, but more especially in the former. It is a profitable form of adulteration, and, moreover, one not often looked for, even by careful farmers. Assuming that in a linseed cake, for instance, the natural amount of moisture present is 11½ per cent., and a means is found for preparing the cake with 14½ per cent, moisture in it, there is in every 100 tons the substitution of 3 tons of water for 3 tons of cake, and this at £12 per ton means a handsome profit to the manufacturer. Besides the purchase of water at £12 per ton, the farmer is liable to lose in another way through this excessive amount of moisture, for cakes so made do not keep well, and frequently go mouldy even when stored for a few weeks.

The method of detection and calculation of the percentage of water in a food is one which every farmer could do at home in a rough, though sufficiently accurate manner. It is this :

A fair sample of the foodstuff is taken by crushing, say, two to three cakes per ton, picked at random from the lot, into small pieces and thoroughly mixing. From this a small portion, say 1 lb., is taken and crushed in a mortar, or by similar means, to powder. It is, of course, important that all samples be taken as soon as possible after receipt of the consignment, and that they be mixed on a dry, clean floor or in dry, clean vessels.

The next step, having obtained the pound or so of the feeding stuff in a powdery condition, is to weigh out very accurately two or three small portions of it on a good balance—say, 2 oz.—and put these portions into weighed clean and dry saucers, or similar non-absorbent receptacles.

The best way to do this is to weigh the saucer first very accurately, put on a 2 oz. weight, and then add the food stuff until the balance is again equal. Probably few farmers will have in their possession a balance sufficiently accurate for this purpose, but a small apothecary's balance and weights could easily be bought for a small sum, and this would do excellently.

The 2 oz. samples (or whatever weight be selected) have now to be dried in order to drive off all the moisture. This might be done in an ordinary oven, provided it were kept at a good heat; the proper temperature is 212 deg. Fahr. The samples will probably require about three hours, but should be taken out every half-hour, allowed to cool, and quickly weighed. They will be found to have lost weight. After weighing the samples are replaced in the oven each time until two successive weighings show no alteration, or at any rate a very slight one. When this occurs it is safe to conclude that all the moisture has been driven off, and therefore it is equal to the difference between the weight at starting and the final weight. For example, taking a sample weighing two ounces, after three hours' drying it might weigh 1⅞ oz., after a further half-hour's drying it might still weigh 1¾ ozs., therefore the moisture contained in 2 oz. is equal to ¼ oz., and 100 oz. 12½ oz. or 12½ per cent.

Or if apothecaries' weight were used :—

Weighed out 1 oz. cake,		
First weighing.....	250	grains.
Second weighing...	242	,,
Third weighing ...	242	,,
Moisture in 1 oz....	46	,,
Moisture in 100 oz.	16 oz. or 16 per cent.	

As, however, it is not always convenient to use the kitchen oven for so long a time, a substitute can be made by taking an old biscuit tin and threading it across about half-way up with wire, thus making a shelf for the saucer and its contents, and heating the tin from below by means of a spirit or oil lamp. When the lid is on the temperature soon rises to the required height. It is always necessary to see that no charring takes place and that the powder does not cake together to a solid mass.

I do not pretend that a determination of moisture made in this rough way would be sufficiently accurate to form the basis of a demand for an allowance on the price paid for the feeding stuff, but it would certainly give an indication, and if by this means the percentage of moisture were found to be too high it, would pay to have a proper analysis made by a competent analyst on which to base a claim for such allowance.

The percentage of water natural to the various feeding stuffs is given below, though, of course, a variation of 10 per cent. up or down would be permissible :—

	Per cent.
Beans	14·5
Brewers' grains	76·6
Dried grains	12·0
Decorticated cotton cake	10·1
Undecorticated	11·5
Linseed	12·3
Linseed cake	11·5
Maize meal	14·4
Peas	14·3
Rape cake	10·4
Rice meal	11·5

Sand.—This is another common impurity, and is used on account of its weight and the difficulty of detecting it with the naked eye. Sand should not be present in greater quantity than about 1 per cent. of the whole bulk. In some cases accurate observation of the weight of sacks or loads will show that something has been added which has increased their weight.

The following are normal weights of a few common feeding stuffs :—

	Per bushel.
Dried grains	20 lb.
Broken decorticated cotton cake	50 ,,
Broken undecorticated cotton cake	38 ,,
Linsed	52 ,,
Linseed cake (broken to walnut size)	43 ,,
Maize meal	47 ,,
Rice meal	66½ ,,

An increase of weight may therefore show adulteration with sand or water, though it must be remembered that these weights are approximate only.

A simple test for sand is the gritty feeling experienced when a little of the cake or meal is crushed between the teeth.

A further test which can be easily carried out is to put a little of the suspected cake or meal into a tumbler of water; the sand will immediately fall to the bottom whilst the meal will float, and in this way the adulteration can be detected. The test can be made with a weighed quantity of meal, being a fair sample, and when the sand has settled the water and meal can be carefully decanted off, the sand dried in the oven and weighed, and the percentage proportion calculated from the figures obtained. In the case of cakes the sample must of course be ground to a powder.

The search for excess amounts of sand and water, if present, are determinations which should be made in every case where it is possible. The next things to consider are faults and impurities common to the various individual feeding stuffs.

(To be continued).

Effect of Sesame Cake Feed on Milk.

Complaints have been rife in dairying districts in Germany that the flavour of milk and the quality of the butter were being influenced unfavourably by sesame cake in the cows' rations. It was therefore decided to test carefully the effect of the cake. The trials were carried on for several seasons, and led to the following results :—

1. The yield of milk increased in a satisfactory manner by the addition of 2 lb. of sesame cake per cow per day. The further addition of 1 lb. per day did not further increase the yield.

2. The percentage of fat in the milk did not vary from that of milk from cows receiving no sesame cake.

3. The cheese made from the milk did not turn out well, as it developed a somewhat bitter taste.

4. About the quality of the butter there was a difference of opinion among the experts. The effect of the sesame cake remains therefore in this respect an open question. It would certainly be wise not to exceed the quantity of 2 lb. per cow per day, and to be careful that the cake is in good condition.

Superphosphate for Beans.

The bean crop does not require applications of artificial nitrogen, but phosphate of lime in the quickly-acting form of superphosphate is of great advantage to it. Thus in some experiments made by the Department of Agriculture, Cambridge University, it was found that the crop was increased by nearly 12 bushels by the use of superphosphate, and a mixed manure, of which superphosphate was the chief ingredient, produced a crop of 59 bushels per acre. Muriate of potash, when employed alone, seemed to have an injurious effect rather than to do good, but when combined with superphosphate it increased the average crop by about 2½ bushels. A suitable manure on clay soils (described as stiff boulder clay in the report) was found to be per acre—

4 cwt. superphosphate.
½ cwt. muriate of potash.

Rape Dust.

Result of Analysis.

The sample contained :—

Nitrogen	5·15
(Equal to ammonia	6·25)
Ash	16·90
(Containing sand	9·30)

"Rape Dust" is correct in the assumption that the sample contains an exceptional quantity of dirt; at the same time the percentage of nitrogen is up to the average. The vendor of the meal should have given a guarantee as to the percentage of nitrogen, and if he did not the purchaser should inform the clerk of his county council, so that steps might be taken to prevent this breach of the Fertilisers Act in future.

Winter Feeding of Cows.

The winter feeding of dairy cows is a subject upon which dairymen have to devote a great amount of attention, because upon it depends in a measure their balance at the bank.

As affording guidance in the matter, the general conclusions published by the Highland and Agricultural Society, arrived at as the result of investigations into the Influence of Food on Milk Yield, may be studied with advantage :—

1. A heavy allowance of concentrated food, of not less than 12 lb. per cow per day, may cause an increase in the milk yield as compared with a more moderate allowance.

2. The increase thus caused will be in a great measure of a temporary character, and is much more marked early in the lactation period than it is as the period advances.

3. Although a heavy ration will produce more milk at first than a moderate ration, there is a limit beyond which the ration cannot be increased with profit.

4. An allowance of as much as 12lb. per 1,000 lb. live weight per day may, as a rule, be regarded as excessive, having regard to profit.

5. When cows begin to fall off in their yield as the lactation period advances, an increase in the concentrated food does not check this falling off except temporarily; and conversely a decrease in the concentrated food under similar conditions does not cause a more rapid falling off in the yield.

6. With regard to the butter-fat in milk, it is doubtful, provided the cows receive a sufficient amount of concentrated food to keep them in good condition, whether an additional amount in the ration has any appreciable influence in increasing the percentage. The same applies even in a greater degree to the "solids not fat."

7. The morning milk of an average lot of cows, even when well fed, may frequently be under the standard in butter fat during the earlier part of the lactation period, when the day interval between milkings is shorter; an augmented ration of concentrated food causes but little improvement in this respect.

8. A heavy ration causes a greater increase in the average live weight of the cows than a moderate one, the gain being greatest towards the end of the lactation period, when the cows are falling off in yield.

9. The character of the cows has much more to do with determining the quantity and quality of the milk than the actual amount of concentrated food in the daily ration so long as the cows receive enough to keep them in a thriving condition, and it is a mistake to suppose that, once this limit is reached, an increase in the concentrated food results in a permanent increase and improvement in the milk. It may, indeed, have the opposite effect.

10. Finally, as the results obtained in the experiments indicate, a heavier ration of concentrated food may be employed with profit earlier in the lactation period than can be done as the period advances, it seems probable that the most economical method of feeding dairy cows, having regard only to the milk produced, would be to make the ration largely dependent upon the amount of milk the cows yield. In other words, the full ration should be given when the cows are in full milk, and as they fall off in the yield the allowance should be gradually curtailed until, at the end of the lactation period, it reaches the minimum necessary to keep the cows in good condition. It is difficult to say at present what quantity of concentrated food constitutes a full ration, further than that, having regard to profit, it is certain that it should not, on the average, reach as much as 12 lb. per 1,000 lb. live-weight per day.

Correspondence dealing with Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs appears in the regular correspondence columns of the paper. We think it unnecessary to publish the table of unit values in each issue. It will be published in an early issue of each month.

Barley Cultivation.

The circumstance that the best sample of barley at the recent Brewers' Exhibition was of foreign growth created some sensation and served as an object lesson to our growers. Of recent years great efforts have been made in Bohemia and Bavaria to improve the cultivation and to produce a grain, which would give satisfactory results from the brewers' point of view. The points to which attention has been principally directed are :—

1. The choice of uniform seed.
2. The careful selection of the previous crop.
3. Thorough cultivation of the soil.
4. Judicious application of fertilisers.

It is recognised that uniform seed is a necessary condition for the production of good malting quality, and that the variety cultivated must be adapted to the soil and climate. For instance, in Bohemia, after trying the Chevalier and Imperial, the growers have gone back to the native varieties which require less moisture and ripen earlier. In the opinion of the local experts, the two English kinds can be grown with success only in heavier soils than they have at their disposal and in localities favoured with a plentiful rainfall during the period of the crops' growth.

In the choice of the preceding crop, the grower takes into consideration the condition in which it will leave the soil, and the proportion of nitrogen that will be left over. The barley crop requires a mild, loose soil, free from weeds, but still a soil containing a fair quantity of available plant food—thus, a soil in good condition, both physically and as regards nourishment. Looked at from these points of view the previous crop should be one requiring thorough working of the soil and liberal manuring, and it must be a crop that uses up a large proportion of the nitrogen supplied to it. It is important that the nitrogen left in the soil for the barley crop should be in right proportion to the mineral constituents, phosphate of lime and potash. An abundance of nitrogen is injurious to the barley as it produces a grain rich in nitrogenous substance and poor in starch, a quality which does not suit brewers. For this reason, clover, lucerne, and similar crops which collect nitrogen are avoided. Sugar beet is considered one of the best crops to precede barley, as the soil is thoroughly well worked and manured for the crop, and it uses up a large proportion of the nitrogen applied.

The barley crop requires that the soil should be thoroughly well prepared for the seed. It must be ploughed deep in the autumn, but not spring ploughed, so as to preserve in the soil the moisture necessary for the crop. As regards the application of fertilisers, farmyard manure is not applied direct ; it is too slow for a crop which is in the ground a short time, and the organic matter in the manure is not desirable. The most appropriate manures are found to be superphosphate and kainit applied about three weeks before the seed is sown ; if the land is at all heavy the kainit is replaced by a more concentrated form of potash, sulphate of potash. If the crop is backward a little nitrate of soda is applied, but in small quantities of about 40 lb. to the acre at a time, as required by the appearance of the growing plant.

Water and Plant Foods.

It is important that the soil receive a sufficiency of moisture or the crops will not thrive. Soluble fertilisers dissolve in water, but all fertilisers are not alike, some requiring more water than others before being taken into the bodies of plants. An average corn crop requires about 700 tons of water per acre, the potato crop 625 tons, oats 600 tons, other crops also requiring large quantities. It is estimated that 2,000 tons of water fall upon each acre during the year in this region, and no fertiliser or manure can give satisfactory results unless the soil contains a sufficiency of moisture. It is important, therefore, that all crops receive careful cultivation, so as to conserve the moisture in the soil, the harrow or cultivator, after each rain, being efficient implements for destroying robber weeds and assisting to render plant food more useful and valuable.

In one week an acre of ground in July loses 9 tons of water, says an experimenter. It takes 309 tons of water to make one ton of dried matter in corn. It takes 422 tons of water to make one ton of dried matter in potatoes. Decayed matter will hold water better than anything else. One hundred pounds of sand will hold only 22 before it runs out ; 100 lb. of clay soil will hold only 10 ; 100 lb. of humus (decayed matter in our soil), 84 lb. of water. It takes the humus to make things grow ; it is wetter in dry weather and drier in wet weather. Our soil is wasting its fertility by losing its heat. Bacteria will only grow between 54 and 96 deg. of heat.

Farmyard Manure.

The most valuable part of the manure heap is the rich dark liquid that drains off it. We cannot too often remember that every pint of drainage represents a waste of money, and after heavy rain on an unprotected heap the loss is serious. As has been pointed out, if a child loses a halfpenny it is scolded ; if it should lose a shilling quite a fuss is made ; and yet many farmers do not bother their heads about the large amounts that are yearly lost by careless management of the manure heap.

Nitrogen Loss in Mixtures.

It is well known that if nitrate of soda is mixed with superphosphate or any other fertiliser that has been treated with acid, chemical action is set up resulting in the loss of valuable nitrogen ; but the serious character of the loss is not appreciated. Farmers sometimes mix the two ingredients together and do not apply the mixture at once ; we have heard of cases where a farmer has got a manufacturer to make the mixing for him with the intention of using it directly, but circumstances have prevented the operation, and the mixed manure when finally applied must have been of very poor quality.

In some experiments to ascertain the extent of the loss in such mixture, it was found, when the mixed material was stored for some weeks in bags in a warehouse, which happened to be rather damp, that the effective loss was 60 per cent. of the nitrogen, and in other trials of a shorter time the loss varied from 6 to 24 per cent., according to the age of the superphosphate.

Gypsum is sometimes added to such mixtures in order to improve their condition and to lessen the danger of loss, which it does to a certain extent, but the best course is to avoid such mixture altogether. The nitrate of soda and superphosphate should be applied separately, and if it is desired to dress the crop with a combination of nitrogen and phosphoric acid, it is better to use a safe mixing, such as sulphate of ammonia or nitrogenous guano and superphosphate.

Poor Quality.

At the meeting held last week of the committee of the Highland and Agricultural Society, the chemist to the society submitted his report.

As on previous occasions, deliveries of lime were unsatisfactory in several instances. One parcel sold as containing 70 per cent. caustic lime tested only 60·8 per cent.

Another sample showed 62·9 per cent , and a third sample not more than 41·9 per cent., a very poor quality.

Ground Bones.—This was a mixture of steamed bone flour, ground corn, and finely-ground bone. It had a composition resembling bone meal, and was much more finely ground than is usual with bone meal. Scotia Slag.—This sample was not well ground. Only 69 per cent. passed the standard sieve. The solubility, on the contrary, was high—over 91 per cent. Linseed Cake.—This sample was sent as a linseed cake, but was a mixed or composite cake containing niger and rape seed, as well as linseed. It also contained cereal offals and flavouring materials. Dairy Meal.—This meal was guaranteed to contain 8 per cent. of oil. It was found to contain 7 per cent. It was a very ordinary mixed food, without any special qualifications as a dairy meal.

How to Test Seeds at Home.

The crop is dependent on the purity and germinating power of the seed, and farmers cannot be too careful to make sure that the seed supplied to them is satisfactory in both respects. The operation of seed testing is now carried out at most agricultural institutions, but a farmer can make a simple test at home in the following manner :—

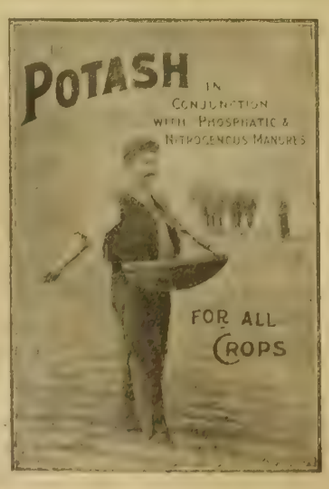
Strips of cotton-flannel, first sterilised in boiling water to destroy any fungi which might be present, should be folded twice and placed in a dinner or soup plate. The seeds are then laid between the folds of flannel, so as not to touch each other, and a second plate put over the first, thus forming a moist receptacle. The strips must be kept well moistened, but not saturated—preferably with water that has been sterilised by boiling and allowed to cool. Two or three lots of seeds may be tested in the germinator at one time, but each lot should be contained in a separate slip and numbered to avoid error.

How to Do It.—A definite number of seeds taken as they come from an average sample are counted out for each germination test. For seeds in rather small lots, as garden seeds, fifty to one hundred will answer, while for cereals, grasses, clovers, and others used, in extensive cultural operations, about two hundred should be used and the tests duplicated when any doubt exists about the results. The tests should be examined from day to day, and the sprouted ones removed and counted, the number being recorded on a sheet of paper.

The length of time required for germination is dependent upon several factors, chief of which are moisture, temperature, vitality, and varietal differences, six to ten days being sufficient for most kinds. When tests are made during the winter or early spring months, at which time it is usually most convenient, the germination should be conducted in a moderately warm room, so that the temperature will not fall below 50 deg. Fahr. at night and remain between 70 deg. and 80 deg. Fahr. during the day. In the case of lucerne and certain other of the clover family, a small percentage of the seeds will remain apparently sound at the close of the germination test. Allowance is usually made for these, one-third being counted as viable—*i.e.*, capable of growth.

The Purity Test.—The careful farmer will often find it desirable to make the purity test for seeds. For this purpose a definite quantity of seeds by weight is taken from an average sample and separated by hand into the following lots :—(1) pure seed of the variety desired ; (2) inert matter, including dirt, chaff, injured seeds, &c. ; and (3) foreign seeds, including weed seeds. The amount of pure seed in a pound or bushel is now easily estimated, and after its germination test has been made, the planter knows its exact value. By the purity test, also, the introduction of noxious weeds will be lessened, since one will not knowingly sow foul seed, and samples suspected of containing harmful weed seeds should be referred to the experiment station.

We are willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.



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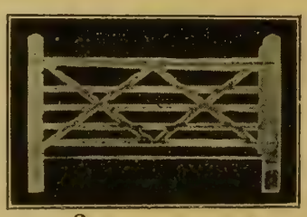
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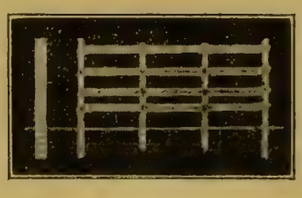
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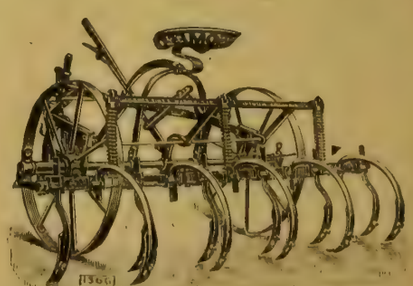
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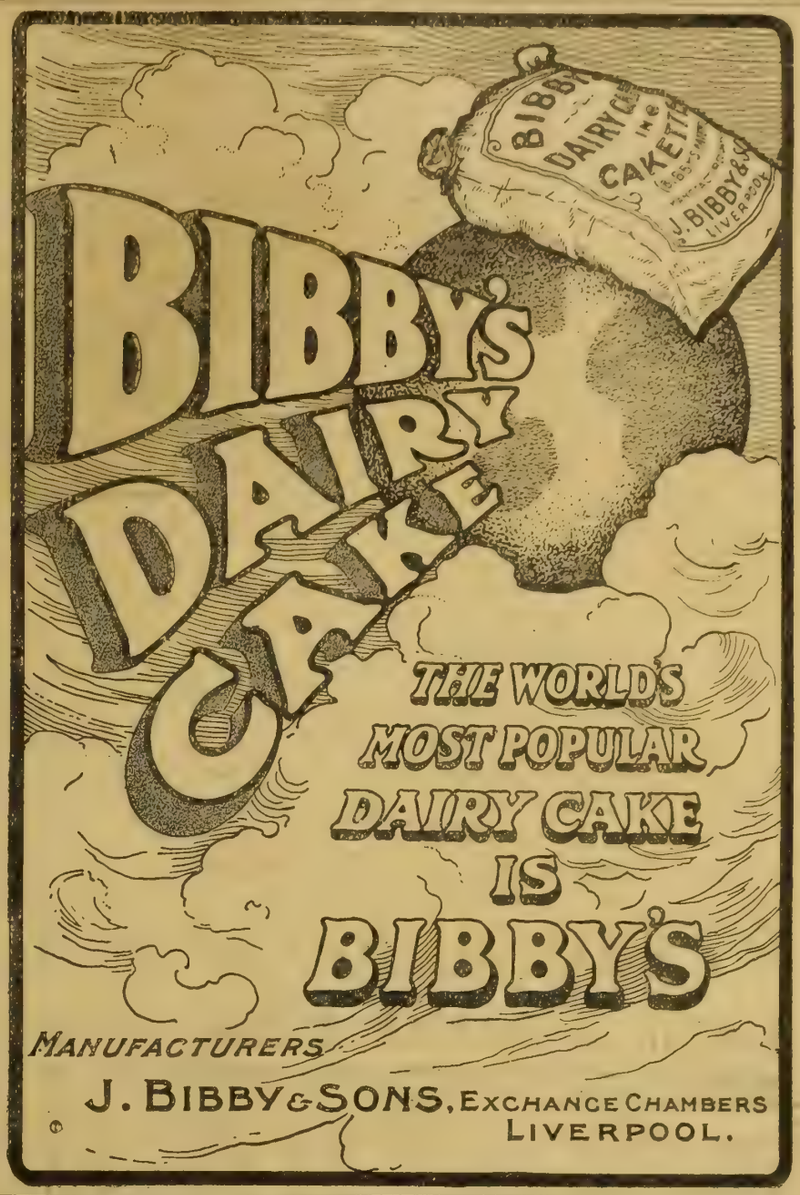
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OUR SLEEPY SOCIETIES.

I.

This being the time when the agricultural societies are most awake appears to be the best chance of asking them if they cannot take some useful preparation which will keep them on the alert throughout the year. The twin attractions of Guy Fawkes Day and the Lord Mayor's Show suffice to invest the first ten days of November with a strange charm, so that within that brief period we see the Farmers' Club, the Central Chamber, and half a score of county and local chambers all once more upon their feet and holding meetings. On Thursday even the Pony Society awoke from a repose, which had endured since June 6, and cantered merrily round Hanover Square.

Our chief appeal would be to agricultural organisations to throw off a somnolence which deprives them of all power during the critical period of the Parliamentary season, the period when agricultural measures assume their final form, and for good or evil are made or marred. At present what happens? No sooner has the agricultural public come away from the show-yard of a happily rejuvenated "Royal," than the Central Chamber emulates the dormouse and the Farmers' Club ceases to shed enlightenment from its erudite papers and intellectual debates.

The idea, of course, is that from early July to the completion of wheat sowing and root raising the agriculturist is too busy to attend to societies. Now if this idea could be enforced on the general world it might be well enough; but while the Central is hybernating, the Farmers' Club an absentee from the Whitehall Rooms, and the hundred or more of small local organisations and chambers all in the land of Nod, the Government of the day is busy defining milk as a solid, butter as a preparation from horses' hooves, or bread as an ingenious combination of maize and rice-flour. We do not say that the sespecific definitions have yet been made statutory, but they might have been for all that our watch-dogs would have known. The industrial and commercial interests are always on the watch.

The nature of our political life is such that there are two main periods of legislative and enacting activity in every year. The first of these is from the middle of July to the third week in August, when even the Labour leader is yearning for his grouse moor, and the Bills which from mid-July had been debated daily are either dropped or passed. The second is from the rising of Parliament to the return of influential people to town in November. It is in this second period that the Government offices are active, issuing orders, publishing blue books, promulgating orders, and generally taking advantage of the fact that Parliament will not meet again till February, and that critics may be supposed to be out of town. It need hardly be said that we do not defend, far less admire, this procedure. The Dog Days are not those best fitted for the crisis of legislation, and all important actions of the Government offices should be put through in time to be made the subject, if necessary, of discussion at Westminster. We have, however, to live in the world as we find it, and we venture to suggest that the agricultural societies might observe the same conditions.

The Central Chamber should be in more or less permanent session while Parliament is sitting, and the Farmers' Club, with the rare advantage of its rooms being at Westminster, should be the rallying point of the agricultural interest during the same vital period. Agricultural representatives should be able to consult from day to day with small committees of experts knowing the details

of the particular Bills under discussion. When there arises that situation, so distinctive of England with its worship of Compromise, when a settlement is proposed between Liberals or Conservatives, or between Lords and Commons, the agricultural M.P.'s or peers who have been watching the Bill should be able to call a representative meeting of agriculturists to decide promptly whether or no the settlement was—

(i.) Acceptable.

(ii.) Workable.

A step in the right direction would be the appointment by the Central Chamber of small permanent—or rather sessional—political committees, which in cases of technical discussion should have power to associate with itself the best men on the particular issue.

The watching the procedure and orders of Government departments might well form the work of a separate committee, which should be so far plenipotentiary as to be able to object in the name of the Central Chamber, of the Farmers' Club, and of agriculturists in general to any unwise or untoward step.

So much for the moment of somnolence on the political side. We shall hope soon to be considering the sleepy show societies and their failure to organise success.

MASTERS—MEN—IMPLEMENTS.

III.

IMPLEMENTS.

That "a bad workman finds fault with his tools" is undoubtedly often correct, be the tools or implements never so good. To find a good master, good men, and good implements all on one farm is, ordinarily, an unusual occurrence.

As already stated in my first article of this series of "Masters, Men, Implements," "Masters must have a good supply of implements." But the word "must" often has to give way to "ought," and this latter to the still further lower scale of having but very few, and even these of an almost valueless kind.

In speaking to a friend of mine a little while ago, I asked his idea of how it was that, when both implements and horses kept getting in a worse state on a farm, the occupier kept his head above water at all? He replied that he (the occupier) was living on his capital. This is undoubtedly correct: money that should be spent on necessaries for the land is kept for the grocer and other such tradesmen.

It is a very pitiable sight to see the little struggling farmer struggling with his struggling implements but almost non-struggling horses. [Horses are here classed as "implements," but there is soon whoa! or woe to the men who use them as such. Be careful with and thoroughly attend to them, by all means.] Yes, there can be but little chance for the poor fellow who cannot afford to keep his things in proper working order. Bad times, perhaps a delicate wife and two or three ailing children, or, worse still, bad land at a high rent, have pulled him down the hill.

Now we will take a sad leave of the poor, old, untidy, and unreliable jimcracks, and proceed to the neat master's place where, without being at all reckless, he has nevertheless been very wise in his selection of, perhaps, mostly new and good implements. On such a farm a day's work can, as a rule, be relied upon; anyhow, it is not the fault of the tools in use. Accidents happen, we know; but an accident is absolutely different from a known defect not made good. The difference is as daylight and darkness in comparison.

The "man with money" generally goes to the agricultural engineer and buys the best of the best of all. This is only the position of those who live in the Land of Goshen, or in that locality: we have not many such in Essex. But it is indeed a pleasure to see such capital things at work. Do not buy often if you can help it, but be sure and buy good if you anyhow can.

Now some general remarks on the ordinary usefulness or otherwise of the things a farmer requires to efficiently carry on his business.

Horses are "implements" as far as they can be, good creatures; but, as stated before, be sure you do not use them in any such way. Good, willing ones should be kept; or, if not, the best should be had as far as one's means will possibly allow. To get in debt is almost certain failure in the end. Always keep an eye to the horses' shoes, and see the animals are efficiently shod too.

As to machines. I remember the old "horse-power," as we used to call it, coming to our farm. Many of your readers no doubt remember them too—to their sorrow, perhaps, as far as hard work for the horses was concerned, but it was the best machine then, and we were fairly content to use it. But, oh! What a mess! Corn and chaff nearly all in one heap. (How differently done now).

Then there was the flail. Many and many a day I have heard it going. Old-style scarifiers, ploughs, and lots of other things are now almost obsolete, and a good thing too.

Steerage drills are better for horses, man, and master than those with shafts. The only slight drawback is that, in turning so sharply as has to be done, the land is turned up a little by one wheel. I do not see how this is to be remedied.

Ploughs are an all-important item. If the plough is not properly handled, what other implement can do its work well after it? Different lands, different makes and weights.

Zigzag harrows are well known as the proper ones to generally use; crome, &c., are excellent too.

Three cylinder rolls are also much to be preferred to those with only two.

On horse-hoes opinions vary a great deal. Simplicity and efficiency can very well go together; some folks think you must have a formidable fore-carriage filled with almost innumerable tools or the crop will not be properly freed from weeds. It is not always so by any means. A plain little hoe used by a good little man and the nasty little weeds will quickly die.

Horse-rakes, drag-rakes, and wood rakes take their turn in the year's work. After the toppler the horse-rake is next best, and if a hand can be spared in hay-time, let him have a drag-rake and keep level with the wagon, if there are not sufficient men or wagons to keep a horse rake going.

Wagons and carts should not be too heavily built; heaviness does not mean strongness.

Harness cloths, hurdles, sacks, &c., it is best to buy new, as a rule, when starting farming.

If the tenant has money to spare and is fairly sure not to want it, he can purchase such implements as hay-shakers, manure distributors, and so on, and can also erect hay and corn sheds of iron; most of this class of implement and convenience may be handy, but at the same time certainly not a necessity.

If an occupier has a 300 or 400 acre farm, it is much better to buy a thrashing machine than to lay money out on things he can more conveniently do without. There is generally work to be had at one's neighbours. Since farming has been at a low ebb, the great difficulty sometimes is to get the threshing bill settled, it is true; but, as a body, it seems to be a generally admitted fact that farmers are a very fairly honourable set of folks.

In conclusion, my advice is to be careful to try and purchase such implements only as are suitable to your occupation, and when you buy pay at once if you possibly can. The year's discounts will in all probability pay for your Christmas turkey, if you care to have one, and something to spare for a little of that "that maketh glad the heart of man." J. B. M.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12.—Whitchurch Dairy Show, first day—Special Autumn Sale of Horses at Salisbury—Sending-in Day for Ashford Cattle and Fat Stock Show—Fairs at Chelmsford, Lynn, and Douglas.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13.—Whitchurch Dairy Show, second day.—Downham Special Cattle and Sheep Market—Denbigh Special Sale of Pigs—Edinburgh Great Agricultural Fair, "All Hallow's Day," Old Style—Wolverhampton Horse Sale—Fairs at Dunstable, Leek, Kingston, and South Shields.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14.—Great Horticultural Show at Edinburgh (and on the 15th and 16th inst.)—Special Sale of Heavy and Agricultural Horses at Wimborne—Ploughing Matches at Lyndene, near Penistone—Sending-in Day for Yorkshire Fat Stock Show at York—Special Sale of Sir Gilbert Greenall's Pigs at Walton Hall, Warrington—Special Sale of Store Cattle at Dublin—Fairs at Carmarthen, Ulverstone, and Uttoxeter.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15.—Bolton, Huddersfield, and Sheffield Horticultural Shows—Special Sale of Heavy Horses at Lynn—Special Pig Market at Carmarthen—Fairs at Lincoln, Yeovil, and Biggleswade.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16.—Fairs at Lancaster, Malton, Durham, and Kendal.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18.—Sending-in Day for Preston Cheese Show—Sending-in Day for Wadhurst Stock Show—Nuneaton Great Horse Market—Special Live Stock Market at Welshpool—Fairs at Andover, Bridgnorth, Darlington, Horsham, Rugby, Boston, and Stamford.

Notes of the Week.

Colder and drier weather may be expected is the forecast of the weather wise. So may it prove to be.

The leaves are falling fast from the trees. As Walter Scott wrote—

"November's sky is chill and drear,
November's leaf is red and sear."

The plough is now busy over a wide tract of the country—

"One ploughs, another sows,
What the harvest, no man knows."

The same old story, said a magistrate the other day as he listened to the usual excuse of a grocer who sold margarine for butter, and was fined 10s. and 14s. 6d. costs.

The same old story, and the same old inadequate fine.

Another Irish grievance.—Nobody knows, writes an Irish paper, the amount of margarine sold as Irish butter. Nobody knows how many inspectors in English cities are in the pay of the fakers, or how many millions we lose by it.

"What does John Burns know about a cow? I question whether he knows the head of a cow from its tail," said a speaker in a discussion on the coming milk legislation.

"We must educate him," said another speaker.

"Come hither, Burns, my little boy,
And throw away that silly toy,
This cow inspect that you may know
Its character from top to toe."

"Please, sir," said Burns, "I'm not a wit,
And can't make head or tail of it."

The cow is a useful animal, said a little school essayist. "It gives us milk in summer and butter when it freezes."

And of a horse another wrote: "The horse is a noble animal which stands on four legs, one at each corner; when irritated it ceases to do so!"

In London there are about 12,000 shops where milk is sold.

It is risky to drink raw milk, say some doctors, but according to the *Lancet* there is real danger of contagion in a pack of cards. "After being used over and over again they become hotbeds of microbes."

The Bank rate of 7 per cent. is a factor of "interest" to many people.

Coming agricultural events for next year are beginning to cast their shadows ahead.

The Royal Agricultural Society's next meeting at Newcastle is being discussed. It will receive a fresh impetus from the great success at Lincoln.

Arrangements are already being made for the next International Horse Show at Olympia. It will be a really International Exhibition, and attract competitors from all parts of the world.

"All's well that ends well" may be said of the termination of the railway crisis.

We can now rest in peace without the fear that our supplies of Christmas cheer will be cut off.

Poor old Guy Fawkes! He is in a moribund condition. The Fifth of November used to be an

event in the country, but its honour has departed from it. R.I.P.

The movement towards a real independent agricultural party is going ahead. Every farmer should give it a push forward.

Agriculture in politics will become a factor to be reckoned with.

County Unions, such as the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union, form an ideal basis for the advancement and support of the movement.

The failure of the crop over a huge district of India is sad to contemplate. It means, according to the reports, that about forty-five millions of people will be starving.

Famine is also stalking through wide provinces of Russia.

While we in England are apt to grumble if the cost of living moves up a little.

Birds are vermin, in the opinion of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture, which urges legislation for their destruction.

The dense fogs of London are to be made the object of an experimental attack by bombardment with cannon 60 ft. long.

The week of the Smithfield Fat Stock Show is the usual time for the visit of the thickest fog. Visitors would not be sorry to miss the "London particular."

The Salvation Army has won the thirty-guinea cup at Norwich Poultry Show. Its hymn was a lay.

It is reported that the hens engaged in the great international egg-laying contest are acting up to their expectations.

They are laying eggs, and it is said some of the owners are laying odds on their birds.

The "Nantes Butter and Refrigerating Co." propose to send to England 250 tons of butter weekly. It is a sign of *l'entente cordiale* that British farmers could dispense with.

Germany may be called the home of the brewery trade. There are about 51,000 breweries in the world, and of these 26,000 are in Germany.

One of the first books treating scientifically of brewing was entitled "On the Divine Noble Gift, the philosophical highly dear and wondrous art of brewing beer."

CATTLE.

THE OX WARBLE FLY.

An interesting and instructive paper entitled "The Ox Warble Fly: Best Means of Prevention and Remedy," was read at the recent meeting of the Gloucestershire Chamber of Agriculture by Mr. Drysdale Turner, Director of Agricultural Instruction for the County. For some time, he said, it had been known that these warbles in the backs of cattle were caused by a fly (the *Hypoderma bovis*), which deposited its eggs on the hide during the previous summer. It was also considered that the egg was placed either on or just below the surface of the hide, was quickly hatched, and the young maggots made their way under the skin, locating themselves along the back of the animal. Doubt had been felt, however, for some years whether the soft ovinositor of the above fly, as described by Miss Ormerod, was able to pierce the hides of cattle, or whether the soft young maggots, as hatched, were able to gnaw their way to the under surface.

It had now been proved that the majority of warbles were produced by a fly known as the American heel fly (or *Hypoderma lineata*), which deposited its eggs on the backs of the legs just above the hoof. These, on hatching, passed into the mouth, when the animal licked itself, then passed through the wall of the gullet, and finally took up their position just under the hide along the back. This view was confirmed by the authorities who had recently inquired into the matter both here and in America. Mr. Theobald, the well-known authority on agricultural entomology, informed him while discussing the matter with him the other day that he had discovered the larvæ in the act of passing through the œsophagus in the carcases of two bullocks he had examined.

To further satisfy himself on the point he visited the Museum of Natural History at South Kensington, and was kindly allowed to see their collection of warble flies. Out of the twenty-one specimens in the collection there were only three specimens of *Hypoderma bovis*, the rest being the American heel fly. The same applied to other collections in this country; so there was no doubt that the majority of warbles in our cattle were produced by the latter fly, which much resembled a bee in appearance. It was very hairy, and the abdomen was banded with black and grey, being yellow or orange at the extremity. The fly appeared in Great Britain during the summer from the middle of May until the beginning of September.

The injury which the insect did was originated by the female laying her eggs upon the hair on the various parts of the bodies of cattle, particularly the legs just above the hoofs. The eggs were of a peculiar shape, about one-twelfth of an inch long, and they were attached to the hairs by what were called claspers. The animal licked the place where the eggs were deposited, and the larvae were carried by the tongue into the mouth, and so to the gullet, through the walls of which they passed. Then after moulting they wandered about in the connective tissues of the beast, until they finally took up their position along the back, when they moulted again.

About this time a good deal of irritation was set up locally, and swellings began to appear, which soon developed small holes at their summits. It was through these holes by means of air tubes that the maggots as they grew were able to breathe. When mature, about June, the maggots worked their way out by means of openings and fell to the ground, where they pupated. Within three to six weeks the fly emerged from the pupa case, and after pairing the females commenced laying their eggs on the cattle, thus ensuring a crop of maggots for the following year.

There was practically no evidence to show that the life history of the other warble fly injurious to cattle, viz., *Hypoderma bovis*, as described in the past as laying its eggs in the back of cattle, was correct, and there was now little doubt that the life cycle was performed in the same way as that of the American heel fly. It did not matter to the farmer, however, whether the warble gained access to the backs of his cattle by the fly piercing the hide or by the maggots passing through the gullet, providing he could find out some remedy which would save him loss on his beasts.

After describing the enormous losses caused by the ravages of the insect or fly to the hide merchant, the tanner, the farmer, and the butcher, Mr. Drysdale Turner went on to deal with the subject of

Remedial Measures.

When devising some means to combat an enemy, he said, the more they knew of his habits and his method of living the better were they able to devise some means for his destruction. A point therefore to be noticed in the habits of the members of the warble family (*œstridae*) was that they were found on the wing in bright and sunshiny weather only, and that they had a strong aversion to shady and cool places, refusing to fly into shade or over water. Much relief might for these reasons be given to cattle when worried by the fly in hot weather by allowing them plenty of shade, either natural or artificial.

One of the great points in warding off the attacks of the ox warble fly was to prevent the egg-laying on the cattle by the female. For this purpose some strong smelling mixture objectionable to the fly should be applied to the hides of cattle in those regions where eggs were likely to be deposited. A good mixture for this purpose was: Train oil 1 gallon, spirits of tar 1 pint, and flower of sulphur 1 pint.

In the past it had been customary to advocate smearing the back, loins, and ribs of cattle for the purpose, but where this had been carried out systematically for a number of years it had been found not to appreciably decrease the attack. The reason for this was apparent now that the habits of the fly causing the bulk of the warbles in this country were more perfectly known. The remedy, therefore, resolved itself into smearing the shoulders and front legs of the cattle with some strong smelling substance to prevent the flies laying their eggs.

If the fly succeeded in depositing its eggs, and the maggots once got an entry into the body, the only remedy was to destroy the warbles when they appeared, and this, he said, might be done by plugging up the small holes through which the warbles breathed with some sort of grease or sheep dip. This treatment would destroy the maggot and the sore would heal up. One of the best ways of dealing with this pest was the old-fashioned method of pressing the warbles out when nearly ripe and crushing them under foot.

Where are the Eggs Laid?

In the course of a short discussion Mr. Priday said for many years Miss Ormerod's idea that the warble fly laid its eggs into the back of the cattle direct held good. Now Mr. Drysdale Turner told them they were laid on the hoof and front legs. He was not at all sure about this now. If the maggots were taken into the system it was strange that they made their appearance nowhere but on the back, and it was strange also that the tail of the warble was always at the surface of the hide. In the opinion of many farmers also it was not the warble fly that made the cattle run so much as the gad fly. In that case they had to wage against two flies instead of one. This year there had been less warbles than any time in his experience, and that might be due to the wet, dull weather. He once raised this matter at the county



Photo by [*Eastman and Sons.*

The Guernsey Bull Royal Governor of the Gron, winner of First Prize at the Bath and West and Royal Counties Shows this year. It was exhibited by Mr. F. Hargreaves, Merton Grange, Gamlingay, Cambs, but was bred by Mr. T. Bourgaize, Gron, St. Saviour's, Guernsey, its sire being Royal Governor of L'Etiennerie, and its dam Butter Bowl 3rd.

council, and they voted £50 for experiments, which were carried out in his district. To a certain extent these experimental means prevented the cattle running about, but it by no means prevented it altogether.

The Value of Smearing the Back.

Mr. St. John Ackers said as one who could speak from personal experience he must most emphatically refute the assertion that smearing the backs of cattle was not effective. Whereas he was very much troubled with warbles at one time, after following the practice systematically and carefully for some seasons, he would have given anyone £1,000 who could have found a warble in the back of one of his Shorthorns. And as to the cause of the cattle tearing about the fields, not once did his warble-free animals do so even in the hottest weather. He did not care a straw whether the fly laid its eggs on the hoof or on the back, if by smearing the back they could prevent the injury.

Mr. Scott said he had smeared the backs of his cattle, and since then there had been no warbles in the hide at all. The cost was less than 1s. per hide, and the beasts made from 20s. to 30s. more.

Mr. Drysdale Turner, replying to the discussion, suggested that where the smearing had proved effective it had not been confined to the back of the animal, but had run down the shoulders to the legs, where the eggs were laid. As to the warbles' appearance on the back only—where Mr. Cozens had remarked the swish of the tail could not reach the ovidepositor—this was no doubt due to some natural instinct which taught the maggot to move in a direction where it would be least liable to attack. He explained the fact that the tail end of the maggot was always at the surface of the hide by observing that its breathing organs were at that extremity, while the mouth was in the head, the latter being therefore kept buried in the tissues of the animal's back. He knew of cases where smearing along the back had been practised, and the results were not satisfactory. It resolved itself into a question of where to apply the smearing. Certainly, he said, follow the smearing, but he repeated it was simply a point of where they should apply their smearing. There was a difference of opinion on the subject, and it would be a good thing if some further observations could be carried out.

Alford Bull Fair.

The annual show and fair of Lincoln Red Shorthorn bulls at Alford was held on Thursday, when 120 animals were sold at an average of 21¼ guineas, which price has only once been beaten—viz., last year, when it was 24 guineas.

The top price of the fair was 150 guineas, given by Mr. J. Evens for Croft Son of Violet, 4791, sent by Mr. J. Searby, of Croft, whilst the nearest approach to this was 61 guineas, given by Mr. J. Mason for one of Mr. W. Chatterton's calves. The awards and prizes were as follows :—

Best red bull, not exceeding fifteen months old on fair day.—1, Mr. H C. Raithby, Mablethorpe, sold for 52 guineas to Mr. Locking, New Clee ; 2, Messrs. S. and J. H. Briggs, Saleby ; 3, Messrs. Robinson and Son. Anderby, 32 guineas, sold to Mr. F. Needham, Norfolk.

Best red bull, exceeding fifteen months old on fair day.—1, Mr. J. Searby, Croft, sold for 150 guineas to Mr. John Evens, Burton, Lincoln : 2, Mr J. Searby, Croft, sold for 44 guineas to Mr. J. F. Rawnsley.

Best red calf bull, not exceeding nine months old on fair day.—1, Mr. W. Chatterton, Hallington, sold for 40 guineas to Mr J. E. Davy, Tathwell ; 2, Mr. C. W. Tindall, Wainfleet.

Best group of not less than four red bulls, not exceeding two years old on the fair day, the property of one exhibitor.—1, Mr. W. Chatterton, Hallington, Louth.

Open to the United Kingdom.—Best red Shorthorn bull, not exceeding four years old on the fair day.—1, Mr. J. Searlby's winner, which, as stated above, was sold for 150 guineas.

Sale of Sussex Farm Stock.

Mr. D. J. Neame, who is giving up the tenancy of Madams, Scotland, and Upper and Lower Park Farms, near Midhurst, Sussex, instructed Messrs. Stride and Son, auctioneers, of Chichester, to dispose of his farming stock, and the sale took place at Madams Farm on Friday. The stock included the Southdown flock (Registered No. 337)—a very fine lot of sheep. The flock was established last year by selected ewes purchased from the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, the Earl of Egmont, and Mr. F. H. Jennings. This year additions were made by the purchase of ewes from the Duke of Devonshire, the Earl of Chichester, Mr. Elmer Speed, and Mr. E. S. Reddaway. Good rams had been used. Some powerful horses, promising cattle, Berkshire and other pigs, poultry, and over 400 lots of dead stock were also sold. There was a capital attendance, and the prices were satisfactory. Shearling ewes made up to 61s ; four-tooth ewes, 55s. ; six-tooth ewes, 58s. ; full-mouthed ewes, 56s. ; ewe lambs, 41s. ; wether lambs, 47s. 6d. ; two-tooth wethers, 66s ; tegs, 62s ; and rams and ram lambs to 70s. 6d. The Shorthorn heifers realised from £8 2s. 6d. to £10, steers from £18 10s. to £21, and the dairy stock from 53s. for a calf to £13 15s. for a cow ; whilst the horses sold at prices varying from 15½ guineas to 54 guineas.

Transactions in Store Stock.

Bandon Fair, co. Cork, held on November 6. Average supply of cattle, for which there was a fair demand. Calves, 1st class, £4 10s. to £5 2s. 6d. ; 2nd class, £4 to £4 5s. ; 3rd class, £3 to £3 10s. ; yearlings, 1st class, £7 15s. to £9 ; 2nd class, £6 5s. to £7 10s. ; 3rd class, £5 to £5 12s. 6d. ; two-year-olds, 1st class, £10 15s. to £11 10s. ; 2nd class, £8 12s. 6d. to £10 ; 3rd class, £7 to £8 ; three-year-olds, 2nd class, £13 5s. ; springers, 1st class, £15 to £16 10s. ; 2nd class, £12 10s. to £13 10s. ; 3rd class, £10 to £10 7s. 6d.

DAIRY.

British Dairy Farmers' Association.

A meeting of the council of the British Dairy Farmers' Association was held at 12, Hanover Square, London, W., on Wednesday, November 8, Mr. Geo. F. Roumieu, J.P. (vice-president), in the chair. The General Purposes Committee presented figures showing that in the nine weeks ended November 2nd, 62 cwt. of fresh milk were imported into the United Kingdom, compared with 511 cwt. in the corresponding weeks of last year. In the same period the imports of cream totalled 544 against 786 cwt. ; of preserved milk 514 cwt. were received from abroad, against 2,462 cwt ; while of condensed milk the imports amounted to 156,432 compared with 183,302 cwt.

The Show Committtee submitted a detailed report upon the various items of expenditure incurred in relation to the Dairy Show, together with a report of the takings at the turnstiles, &c. Compared with all other years than the record one of 1906, the receipts at the turnstiles showed an improvement surpassing 1905 by £180 10s., and 1904 by £147, the latter having been the best year previously since 1898. The total number of visitors to the show who passed through the turnstiles was 46,290.

Correspondence was read from exhibitors who had been called upon to explain discrepancies between the description of their animals on the entry form and the animals actually exhibited. In one case it was resolved that the exhibitor be informed that his explanation is not satisfactory, and that he be warned to be more careful in future. In another instance, relating to cow No. 217 in Class 18, as the explanation was still more unsatisfactory, it was resolved that the prize awarded be withheld.

The next meeting of the council was fixed to be held on Tuesday, December 10.

Cheese Show and Fair at Market Market Drayton.

The first annual dairy show promoted by the Market Drayton Cheese Fair Association took place on Wednesday, and for an initial event was strikingly successful. Close upon 1,000 fine cheese were sent in for exhibition, the aggregate weight being about 50 tons, while one of the large rooms adjoining had to be utilised for the staging of the butter, dressed poultry, eggs, &c , sent in for competition. Mr. W. H. Hobson, Blakenhall, Nantwich, was awarded the champion prize for the best lot of cheese in the show with a splendid lot, in fact, quality all round was excellent.

At the fair on Thursday the quantity pitched was far larger than on any previous occasion. Close upon 80 tons were offered, including many prize cheeses exhibited at the previous day's Dairy Show. In the cheese fair proper the best qualities brought from 68s. to 72s., second qualities from 65s. to 68s , and other grades to 65s. per cwt. Several prize-winning cheeses fetched over 80s., while some of the champion show cheese was sold at 1s. per lb.

Chester Cheese Fair.

Chester Cheese Fair was held on Wednesday, when farmers brought in fifty-five tons of excellent cheese, and with an average attendance of buyers trade was good, a clearance being made at the following quotations :—Fine Cheshire 66s. to 71s., medium 60s. to 65s., and common 55s. per cwt. and upwards.

At Kirkby Stephen hirings on Monday the attendance of young farm hands in search of places was larger than usual, while older men of experience were not nearly so plentiful. Hiring proceeded slowly, and, as a general rule, wages about corresponded with those paid for the past summer term. The ensuing half-year is an exceptionally long one, owing to Whitsuntide falling late. Shepherds were able to command from £18 to £20 ; first-rate farm hands, £15 to £16 ; second-rate men, £11 to £13 ; strong youths, £8 to £9 ; and lads, £6. Very few women servants offered themselves, and late high wages obtained, the figures ranging from £9 to £11 for young girls, and £12 to £18 for experienced women.

AUCTION SALES.

Auctioneers will favour us by sending in their advertisements as early in the week as possible.

Charges for announcements under this heading Six Shillings an inch.

By Messrs. IRELAND.

Norwich, Norfolk.—Ireland's Norwich Hill Auction Mart (established 50 years). Every Saturday. Fat Bullocks and Sheep, Store Sheep. Special Spring and Autumn Store Cattle Sales.

MESSRS. IRELAND solicit consignments for these important weekly sales ; best market value assured.

Cattle consigned to Ireland's, Norwich, will be properly fed and carefully attended to.

All cattle weighed upon entry to the sale ring if desired. Full particulars to be sent to—

IRELAND'S, Auctioneers.
Norwich, Norfolk.

By Mr. E. G. HOTHERSALL, F.A.I.

IMPORTANT AND UNRESERVED SALE OF PEDIGREE LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRE PIGS.

Mr. John Blundell, of Lower Burrow Farm, Scotforth, near Lancaster, in conjunction with C. J. Tong, Esq., of Hambleton, near Poulton-le-Fylde, have instructed

MR. E. G. HOTHERSALL, F.A.I., to SELL by AUCTION on
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20,
at Lower Burrow Farm, Scotforth, near Lancaster, the entire Herds of PRIZE-WINNING PEDIGREE PIGS,
numbering 95 Head,
principally choice Young Sows due to farrow in early spring, and a quantity of Boars, including the Prize Boar, Shard Roger 8725, a winner of numerous First Prizes, and the grand Stock Boar, Jester of Nottingham 9923.

Luncheon at 11.30. Sale at 1.

Catalogues from the Owners, or E. G. HOTHERSALL, Auctioneer and Valuer, Auction Mart, Preston.

By Messrs. BOND & BURROWS.

HOME FARM, WADDESDON, BUCKS.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT ANNUAL SALE OF PRIME FAT STOCK.

MESSRS. BOND & BURROWS are favoured with instructions from Miss ALICE DE ROTHSCHILD, to SELL by AUCTION, on the premises, on THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21st, 1907, at ONE o'clock precisely,

92 GRAND FAT POLLED ANGUS, SHORTHORN and JERSEY BULLOCKS and HEIFERS, very ripe, of exceptional quality and nice weights ;

5 VALUABLE YOUNG PEDIGREE BULLS, descended from the best milking strains and of good colour ;

97 DOWN EWES and TEGS, of choice quality .

Luncheon from 12 o'clock.

Catalogues with Train Service may be obtained of G. A. SIMS, Esq , Winchendon ; the George and Crown Hotels, Aylesbury ; the Spread Eagle Hotel, Thame ; or of the AUCTIONEERS, Thame, Oxon.

By Mr. W. BAINBRIDGE.

WALTON HALL, WARRINGTON.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1907.

OWING to alteration and re-organisation of the Walton Herd of Pigs, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., a Second Important Sale for this season, consisting of upwards of
100 HIGH-CLASS LARGE AND MIDDLE WHITE PEDIGREE BOARS, SOWS, GILTS, and YOUNG PIGS, including many winners and descendants of winners from this celebrated herd, will take place on Thursday, November 14, 1907.

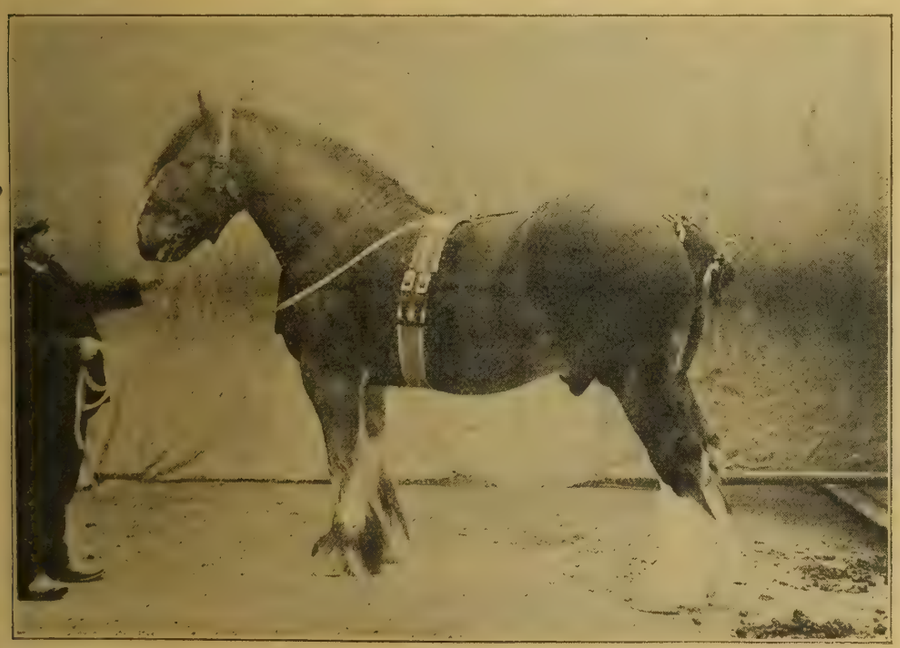
Further particulars and Catalogues of W. BAINBRIDGE, Land Agent, Walton House, Warrington.

HORSES.

Shire Sales—A Brisk Foreign Trade—The Old Draught Horse—A Qualification—Inferences—What Caused the Improvement?—A Lack of Good Order of Breeding—Chance Horses.

Shire Sales.

IT is seldom that we have Shire sales so late in the year as November. Generally the Shire sale season is supposed to begin in January, and there are few sales held after August. Indeed, the first six months of the year are generally the busiest for sales, and perhaps the best dates of all are those before the Shire Horse Show. At any rate, those are the dates which experienced breeders seem the most anxious to secure. The extension of the sale season to so late into the autumn shows that the trade in Shire horses is in a very healthy condition, and Mr. Salomons, whose sale has been the latest to take place, has certainly no reason to find fault with the prices his stud realised. The top price was made by Norbury Juno, a very handsome and weighty filly that did well in the show ring last season, and that was none too dear at the 400 guineas which Mr. Whitley paid for her. She was ninth in a remarkably good class of two-year-old fillies at the Shire Horse Show last spring, was a winner at Reigate, Tunbridge Wells, and the Royal Counties, and reserve at the Royal and at Peterborough, all performances of great merit, on which it is far from unlikely that she will improve next season. Mr. Whitley also bought a promising yearling that must be looked out for next season in Norbury Bloom, for which he gave 185 guineas. The forty-five lots offered realised 3,848 guineas, or the very useful average of £89 15s. 8d. each. This compares very favourably with the averages of 1906. In that year Mr. Simpson Jay's ten averaged £116 8s. each. Then came Mr. R. W. Hudson's average of £86 7s. each for forty, and Sir A. Henderson's average of £80 8s. for thirty-five. So that for a large stud, for it is not fair to compare Mr. Simpson Jay's ten with Mr. Salomons' forty-five, the latter gentleman has exceeded the best average last year. The sale at the show at Islington, of course, does not come in for consideration, as it consisted of the pick of many studs, and the champion mare was included.



The Shire Stallion Holker Menestrel II., who was foaled in 1903, sire Birdsall Menestrel, dam Royal Rose, is the property of, and was bred by, Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P., Holker Hall, Cark-in-Cartmel, Lancashire. At this year's show of the Shire Horse Society Holker Menestrel II. won the First Prize in the class for Four-year-old Stallions.

A Brisk Foreign Trade.

AMONG those who were present at the Norbury Park Sale were Mr. Martinez de Hoz and Mr. E. N. Casares, both of whom were bidding briskly for the Argentine breeders, and both of whom bought a few horses. Hitherto we have been accustomed to see the foreign trade begin to open in the latter part of February at the earliest, and buyers from the American continent, at any rate, had not been much in evidence till considerably later in the year. Now it would appear, indeed, as if they were taking time by the forelock, and the presence of the gentlemen mentioned and the good prices realised at Norbury Park on Wednesday would lead one to hope that there will be an excellent trade in Shire horses next year. Let us hope that this trade will spread to other breeds and that our light horse breeders may have a return of the "sunshine" which they enjoyed a few years ago. If that happy chance be theirs, it is to be hoped that they will profit from past experiences, and above all things, that nothing will tempt them to sell their good mares.

The Old Draught Horse.

IT is very interesting to read what old writers of books on Horse-breeding and Horses have to say about the various breeds of horses, and those who are inclined to laugh at them merely because they advise such curious compounds as horse medicines fail to recognise what anyone who has read their books carefully must acknowledge, and that is that our ancestors, with all their ignorance of medicine and their superstitions about the phases of the moon, &c., were thoroughly practical horsemen, who knew how to breed, rear, and break their horses. If they had not, indeed, it is impossible to see how the business of the country would have been carried on. Blundeville's advice to the breeder of draught horses, written in the middle of the sixteenth century, nearly 350 years ago, is not uninstructive even at the present time "But now to content the countrieman, his desire which seeketh to brede horses for draught or burthen," says he "where should I wish him to provide himself of mares and stallions, better than here in England, whereas he maie easilie find a number of strong jades, more meete for that purpose than for the saddle, and all for lack of good order of breeding, which if it might be once observed in this realme, I believe there would be so good and so faire horses bred here as in anie place in Christendome. But as for the cart horse, so that he be great of stature, deep ribbed, side bellied, and have strong legs, and good hoofes: and therewith will stoope to his worke and laie sure hold on the grounde with his feete, and stoutlie pull at a pinch, it maketh no matter how fowle or evill favoured he be." From this it would seem that there was a good supply of powerful horses in the country in Elizabethan times—horses which would do good work, in the opinion of an expert like Blundeville, who certainly does not at first speak with much respect for the "countrieman's" horse.

A Qualification.

IT is one thing to say that good looks are not necessary in a Cart Horse—though, by the way, a horse would have to be pretty truly made to come up to Blundeville's description of the Cart Horse already given—and another to say that good looks were not there, and Blundeville has something to say for the Cart Horse breeders and users of his time. For he continues, "Notwithstanding, I have knowne some carriers that goe with cartes to be so exquisite in their choice of horses, as unlesse they had been as comelie to the eie as good in their worke they would not buie them, insomuch I have seene sometime drawing in their cartes better proportioned horses than I have knowne to be finelie kept in stables, as jewels for the saddle."

Inferences.

FROM the above quotations two inferences will, I think, be readily drawn. The first is that horse breeding had made a vast improvement between the early years of King Henry VII., when very drastic laws were made to protect the breed from the carelessness and indifference of owners, and the date when this book was written, a period of some sixty-three years. For the legislation of Henry VII., and also of his son goes to prove that there was great danger of our horses getting undersized, and of no use for "service," as the old writers term war. The other inference is that whereas the cart horses of the time were strong, they were also especially active, well shaped—that is, the best of them—and adapted for breeding good saddle horses of the Hunter type. And it may be also inferred, by the way, that Blundeville was in favour of more Government interference with horse breeding, though certainly he does not say so explicitly.

What Caused the Improvement?

WHAT caused the improvement is a question worth a moment's consideration. On the face of it, it would seem that the somewhat severe legislation on the subject had had its effect. Such, however, is scarcely my opinion. All these acts were repealed sixty-five years after the commencement of Elizabeth's reign, and 128 years after the first of them was passed. There were several of these Acts of Parliament to regulate horse-breeding, but the probability is that they fell into disuse long before they were repealed, and for the best of all possible reasons—viz., that the country gentlemen—and Blundeville's plain "countriemen," the small owners and squires, at whom it is the fashion to sneer in these days, had, as soon as the country got fairly settled after the Wars of the Roses, seen the importance that horse-breeding was to the country and also to themselves, and set about horse-breeding in such a systematic manner as to distance the Government schemes.

A Lack of Good Order of Breeding.

IT will be noticed that our Elizabethan author speaks of "a lack of good order of breeding," and that lack of good order of breeding exists to the present day, possibly in no greater or lesser degree than it did in the sixteenth century. It is absurd to expect that every man who has a brood mare should be a scientific breeder. If he were a good many mares that are breeding foals now would soon be put from the stud. There are some men who have curious theories about breeding, and who, if they have the means, will follow these theories out in practice. There are others, and these are a very numerous body, who say to themselves "I have a mare, I will take a foal from her, it will be worth something some day." And straightway they proceed to what they dignify by the name of the choice of a stallion. There are hundreds of small breeders who I am sure could not give the reason why they have mated their mares with a certain horse. And sometimes these breeders drop on to a happy accident, and we all learn something. But "a good order of breeding" can never be brought about by legislation. The best way to ensure that much to be desired end is to persuade men to keep their best mares and not to be persuaded to breed from their bad ones let the temptation be never so great.

Chance Horses.

THAT there are in the country a lot of chance horses is undoubted, and very good horses many of them are. One sees in show catalogues not one, but many entries like the following, "Bred by Mr. A. Pedigree unknown," which is absurd. How can it be possible for the breeder of a three or four year, or even an older horse, not to know something about his pedigree? But it passes by, because no one chooses to make inquiries. Now and again we come across a thoroughbred that is a chance horse, and perhaps the most remarkable instance of a chance thoroughbred is the famous Fandango. His dam Castanette, was moderate, so moderate that she was not worth keeping in training and she was not sent to the stud farm at Aske, but was sent down for Lord Zetland's shepherd to ride. She came down with him on the road, and cut her knees so badly that she had to be laid by. Whereupon the shepherd on his own responsibility had her covered by Barn-

ton, an own brother to Voltigeur, who was travelling the Richmond—Leyburn district in the fifties and who made a high reputation as a Hunter sire. Fandango was the best horse his dam ever bred or that Barnton ever sired, and he is a remarkable instance of a chance horse. THE LOOKER ON.

Mr. L. Salomons' Shires.

The sale of a draft of Shire horses from the well-known stud of Mr. Leopold Salomons drew a large and representative gathering of breeders to Norbury Park, near Dorking, for with youngsters by Hendre Champion included in the catalogue the importance of the sale was fully recognised. From the beginning the bidding was keen, and the aggregate of 3,848 guineas for forty-five lots—an average of £89 15s. 9d. each—must be considered very satisfactory, proving that there is still a good demand for heavy horses of the right sort.

His Majesty the King secured the brood mare Buscot Chloris at 220 guineas, while the highest price of the sale was 400 guineas, paid by Mr. Whitley, of Paignton, for the two-year-old filly Norbury Juno. The same breeder secured the yearling filly Norbury Bloom at 185 guineas and the mare Hendre Merry Lass at 220 guineas. The well-known mare Wern Blossom is destined for export to the Argentine, having been purchased at 200 guineas by Mr. E. N. Casares, Mr. Conchar paid 115 guineas for Norbury Pearl, Sir Berkeley Sheffield 130 guineas for Norbury Corona, Lord Northbourne 150 guineas for Norbury Desdemona, Mr. Smith Carington 175 guineas for Norbury Surprise, and Lord Rothschild 155 guineas for Norbury Flash. A sale list is appended :—

		Gs.
BROOD MARES.		
Southern Wood Echo	Mr Pottinger	60
Scarcliffe Meteor	Mr R G Brown	50
Worsley Princess VII	Mr Frank	52
Norbury Bella	Mr E N Casares	58
Hendre Merry Lass	Mr Whitley	220
Fern Blossom	Mr E N Casares	200
Norby Alexandra	Mr Collard	56
Buscot Chloris	The King	220
Norbury Bess	Mr W Frank	56
Hendre Degrade	Mr Deadman	64
Dunsmore Mistress	Mr Martinez de Hoz	70
Norbury Pearl	Mr Conchar	115
Norbury Corona	Sir Berkeley Sheffield	130
Buscot Iris	Mr Collard	74
Norbury Sunbeam	Mr R G Brown	62
Norbury Eileen	Mr J Grimes	74
FOUR-YEAR OLD MARES.		
Norbury Lucy	Mr E Hamlyn	48
Hendre Alberta	Mr Hodges	66
Dunsmore Nancy	Mr C Keevil	56
Norbury Lassie	Mr Martinez de Hoz	86
THREE-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.		
Norbury Desdemona	Lord Northbourne	150
Norbury Star	Mr Crow	42
Norbury Echo	Mr Curtis	60
TWO-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.		
Norbury Juno	Mr Whitley	400
Norbury Surprise	Mr S Carrington	175
Norbury Donna	Mr Bishop	48
Norbury Flash	Lord Rothschild	155
Norbury Dora	Mr Caswell	60
Norbury Hazard	Mr Crow	52
YEARLING FILLIES.		
Norbury Diamond	Mr C Keevil	74
Norbury Bloom	Mr Whitley	185
Norbury Argentine	Mr J Davies	54
Norbury Tiara	Lord Rothschild	76
Ten foals		419

Royal Commission on Horse-Breeding.

A meeting of the Royal Commission on Horse-Breeding was held at 16, Bedford Square, W.C., on Monday, when there were present the Earl of Granard (Master of the Horse) in the chair, the Earl of Coventry, Lord Middleton, Sir John Gilmour, Bart., Mr. J. Bowen Jones, and Mr. J. Herbert Taylor, secretary.

The Duke of Portland, K.G., Lord Ribblesdale, and Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., wrote expressing regret at being unable to attend the meeting.

The numbers of mares served during the past season were laid before the commissioners, and in cases where stallions had failed to get the required number the premiums were reduced in accordance with the rules and regulations. The percentage of foals for the 1906 season was presented, and the average considered very good.

Sir John Gilmour had a resolution on the agenda affecting the management of the 1908 show, but, owing to the meeting not being considered fully representative, the further discussion was adjourned until a meeting of the commission, to be held on Monday of Smithfield week.

The premium list for the 1908 show was considered, and ordered to be printed and presented to his Majesty and the treasury for approval.

Shire Horse Society.

At the meeting of the council of the Shire Horse Society held on Tuesday no fewer than fifty new members were elected, whilst Mr. A. C. Duncombe, chairman of the Editing Committee, reported that the committee had that morning considered and approved applications for sixty-nine prefixes and three affixes :—

Prefix.	Applicant.
Adelaide.	S. Cross.
Asher Fields.	R. Smedley.
Bamigg.	H. L. Storey.
Baskerville.	J. T. Colley.
Bayham.	Marquis Camden.
Bolas.	D. Eardley.
Brompton.	James Bros.
Burghfield.	J. Lousley.
Catterall.	C. P. Yates.
Charwelton.	E. Bolt.
Chelford.	T. Wilson, jun.
Chesterton.	W. H. Wilsdon.
Cotlands.	G. Fish.
Croswell.	G. E. Meakin.
Delve (and affix).	S. Ruston.
Deppers Bridge.	T. Milner.
Diamond.	R. R. Heap.
Dolver.	F. White.
Dordon.	J. P. Davies.
Ellerton.	T. and G. R. Nutt.
Estcourt.	G. E. Beaven.
First Park.	Gotobed & Smith
Forage.	A. B. Fermibough.
Fotheringhay.	J. C. Cheney.
Gillibrand.	H. Rawcliffe.
Hatford.	G. A. Lee.
Haugham.	C. C. Parr.
Haverlands.	J. W. Burton.
Haynes.	T. Simpson.
Hodsons.	W. Barber.
Holdenby.	J. Chambers.
Hollyhurst.	H. Barker.
Holygate.	J. Gretton.
Horswood.	W. J. Viccars.
Humbleton.	J. Wood.
Inskip.	T. Milner.
Kerridge.	W. T. Beard.
Kingswood.	Sir A. R. de C. Brooke.
Kinsley.	J. S. Watson.
Lindridge.	J. H. Parkes.
Lots Bridge.	G. Scott.
Madryn.	University College of North Wales.
Maylands.	G. Gotheridge.
Mountain.	Earl of Powis.
Northerwood.	W. A. Gillson.
Playford.	S. R. Sherwood.
Plumsley Vale.	Exors. of S. Stubbins.
Portway.	W. Wood.
Prescote.	J. Hughes
Radstone.	J. A. Thomas.
Ranton.	J. W. Wardle.
Red Hill.	W. Hewitt.
Rempstone.	T. & J. Allsop.
Royalty.	N. S. Parker.
Ryedale.	W. Wilson.
Silin.	W. M. Richards.
Strethall.	W. C. Elmson.
Sudbourne	K. M. Clark.
Sulham (and affix).	D. Ross.
Thaxted.	R. Barnard.
Toll.	C. W. Brown.
Toy.	S. Stacey.
Warford (and affix).	J. W. Proctor.
Wawne.	M. H. Ringrose.
Welland.	J. S. Reynolds.
Winsley.	T. Jones.
Wilmotts.	A. E. Poynter.
Woonersley.	A. Taylor.
Wychdon.	W. Wint.

The Editing Committee also reported that they had dealt with several incomplete and other entries for Vol. XXIX. They had arranged to meet on Wednesday, November 20, at 11 a.m., to revise the Stud Book proofs, while they recommended that the conditions of entry for Vol. XXXI. should remain the same as in force for Vols. XXIX. and XXX. This report was adopted.

Awards of Medals.

Sir P. Albert Muntz, Bart., M.P., vice-chairman of the Horse Show Committee, reported that thirty-seven gold medals had during the past season been awarded at thirty-two shows, with £140 allotted to breeders, while at 224 shows the society had awarded 235 silver medals, with £166 given to the breeders. The results of the society's offer at horse parades indicated that in London thirty-two silver medals and twelve premiums of £1 had been awarded, while at provincial parades fifty-three silver medals and twenty-one premiums of £1 had been allotted.

For 1908 the committee recommended no alteration in the conditions, but decided to add to the list of foreign shows that at Palermo, to the executive of which they proposed to offer two gold medals for the best Shire stallion and best Shire mare. Several awards of the past season, in abeyance, had been presented for their decision, and in two cases they had decided that the medals should be withheld, allotting one medal in the third case for the best Shire mare exhibited in the show.

A proposal from one of the county societies to amend the wording of the rules relating to the residential qualification of an exhibitor competing for the gold medal was not entertained, and it was resolved to offer to the Royal Ulster Agricultural Society the sum of £10 in prizes for Shire horses at their 1908 spring exhibition.

The revised conditions of sale submitted by Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck had been carefully considered, and their proposals adopted, especially that relating to the return of a shiverer within a definite date of the auction.

The 1908 Show.

The schedule of prizes for the London Spring Show had been carefully considered, and the seven classes for stallions, seven classes for mares and fillies, and three classes for geldings would remain as in previous shows.

The committee recommended the addition of an eighth class for mares—viz. : For barren mares, five years old and upwards, any height; first prize £15, second prize £10, third prize £5.

No mare competing in this class should be eligible to compete again until she had produced a living foal.

The result of this addition would bring the prizes to be offered at the 1908 show to £2,210.

This report having been presented, it was resolved, upon the initiative of Mr. John Rowell, to consider the desirability of the society providing the requisite canvas covering the stallion boxes at the next show, while after a short discussion it was decided that the prices of admission to the show on the first three days should be co-ordinated —viz., 2s. each day, with 1s. for the Friday. This report was adopted.

Royal Show at Newcastle-on-Tyne.

On the proposal of Mr. John Rowell, seconded by Mr. C. W. Tindall, it was unanimously resolved to again offer to the Royal Agricultural Society of England the sum of £70 as class prizes in the Shire section of the 1908 exhibition at Newcastle, with two gold medals and breeders' prizes for the best Shire stallion and for the best Shire mare or filly exhibited.

The council then adjourned until their meeting on December 10.

Sale of Mr. H. Oakley's Shires.

On the day after the Norbory Park Sale there was a sale of Shires at Dewston, Chepstow, the animals belonging to Mr. H. Oakley, who has bred a goodly number or prize-winners, and now sold all the stud with the exception of a few aged brood mares and two stud horses, which he had decided to retain. The young stock were particularly admired by the large company present, no fewer than six of them being by Dunsmore Jameson, and three by Lockinge Forest King, whilst the mares were by Harold, Alston Hero II., Valcan, First Lord, Hendre Baronet, Markeaton Royal Harold, &c., and in foal to Dunsmore Jameson, Ravenspur, Montford Jupiter, &c. Bidding at the sale was brisk and prices ruled satisfactory, though they were not so high as on the previous day. The top figure was 165 guineas, this sum being given by Mr. Wheatley for the two-year-old stallion Dewstow Jameson, who was bought for California. The same amount was given by Mr. Everard for the yearling colt, Dewstow Forest King, by Lockinge Forest King, whilst Mr. F. G. Muntz gave 140 guineas and 145 guineas for two foals, as will be seen from the list of the chief sales given below. Other three figure prizes were recorded, and the result was an average per head of £66 10s. for thirty-nine animals.

		Gs
THREE-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.		
Dewstow Nora, s Markeaton Royal Harold	Mr Tovey	46
Dewstow Fan, s Dewstow Pioneer	Mr Davies	32
Dewstow Casket II, s Markeaton Royal Harold	Mr O H Winterbottom	54
Yate Jubilee Sultana, s Wykeham Pioneer	Mr Welsh	46
TWO-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.		
Dewstow Blossom, s Dunsmore Jameson	Mr W E Baker	130
Dewstow Buttercup, s Hendre Baronet	Mr Clement, Keevil	43
Dewstow Starlight, s Lockinge Forest King	Lord Sherborne	86
Dewstow Jean, s Dunsmore Jameson	Mr S Baker	100
Regret Mettle, s Dewstow Pioneer	Mr H Wheatley	32
YEARLING FILLIES.		
Dewstow Diamond, s Lockinge Forest King	Mr Everard	100
Dewstow Maid, s Hendre Conqueror	Lord Sherborne	50
YEARLING COLTS.		
Dewstow Forest King, s Lockinge Forest King	Mr Everard	165
Dewstow Jameson II, s Dunsmore Jameson	Mr Winterbottom	50
Dewstow Chancellor II, s Dewstow Chancellor	Mr Heath	60
TWO-YEAR-OLD STALLIONS.		
Dewstow Conqueror II, s Dewstow Conqueror	Mr Wynn	54
Dewstow Jameson, s Dunsmore Jameson	Mr Wheatley	165
FOUR-YEAR-OLD STALLION.		
Dewstow Vulcan, s Hendre Baronet	Mr Thomas	80
FOALS.		
Bay colt foal, s Dewstow Chancellor	Messrs W and J Thompson	56
Bay filly foal, s Dunsmore Jameson	Mr F E Muntz	140
Bay filly foal, s Dunsmore Jameson	Mr F E Muntz	145
Grey filly foal, s Dewstow Chancellor	Lord Beauchamp	35
Bay filly foal, s Dewstow Champion	Mr J Ferneyhough	52
BROOD MARES.		
Lady Blagdon II, f 1903, s Alston Hero II	The Duke of Sutherland	140
Belgrave Ethel, f 1902, s Wiggen Prince	Mr C Rhewderyn	48
Finstall Countess, f 1903, s Ashwell Royal	Mr Wheatley	45
Girton Cosy, f 1899, s First Lord	Mr Smith	40
Dewstow Flora, f 1902, s Willington Wolseley III	Mr Sheaf	42
Hendre Heroine, f 1903, s Hendre Baronet	Mr G H Williams	90
Dewstow Lass, f 1903, s Iron Chancellor	Mr Smith	46

Sale of Shires at Peterborough.

A sale of Shire mares, fillies, foals, stallions, and geldings was held at Peterborough on the 1st inst., in the presence of a large company, and some good prices were realised. A yearling bay filly sired by Lockinge Forest King, and belonging to Mr. J. L. Cross, Catthorpe Towers, Rugby, reached the top price, 105 guineas. This animal is own sister to Lord Egerton's famous Catthorpe Damion. One hundred guineas was paid for Lawford Lassie, a yearling bay filly belonging to Mr. E. Ashby, Long Buckby, whose sire was Lockinge Forest King, whilst another yearling filly, Danesfield Pearl sired by Hendre Hydrometer, and belonging to Sir P. A. Muntz, M.P., went for 100 guineas. Prizes were offered for the best Shire mare, four years old and upwards, realising not less than 40 guineas, Sir Berkeley Sheffield's Medbourne Sundial being first, and Mr. J. Brandon's Buscot Minerva second.

Earl Carrington, President of the Board of Agriculture, presided at a meeting held in the Guildhall, High Wycombe, on Wednesday, convened by the Home Counties Liberal Federation for the purpose of discusssing the Small Holdings and Allotments Act, 1907, and in the course of a speech, expressed the belief that the measure, without doing harm to any section of the community, would be of great benefit to agricultural workers in the acquisition of allotments. He repudiated the suggestion that there was no demand for small holdings. His experience with Crown lands showed that such an argument would not hold water. The Government were not hunting for popularity in bringing in this legislation, but had intended to act fearlessly, courageously, and honestly in the interests of the people.

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

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HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL, Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

GRIFFIN, F. W., Boro' Fen, Peterboro'. Shire Stallions, Mares, and Fillies for sale, in natural condition; 40 pedigree mares kept for breeding; every facility to foreign buyers.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Hereford. Stud Horses: Lockinge Lord of Misrule and Lockinge Bonny Lad, both by Lockinge Forester, full brother to Lockinge Forest King. Colts and Fillies for Sale.

JOHNSON, WALTER, Hatfield, Doncaster. Stud Horse, Lambton King 16757; Stallions for hire; weighty young Stallions, Mares, and Fillies on Sale.

MUNTZ, FREDERICK ERNEST, Umberslade, Hockley Heath, Warwickshire. Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, prize-winners.—Particulars from Mr. JOHN T. B. HARTLEY, Estate Office.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby. — SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners, on Sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

PEARSON, E. E., Brickendonbury, Hertford. Shire Stallions, Mares and Stock for service and sale; prize winners. Stations: Hertford, Great Eastern and Great Northern.—Apply Estate Office, Brickendonbury, Hertford.

ROWELL, JOHN, Bury, Huntingdon. Breeder Shires and Hackneys; Stallions for sale, hire, or service at home; mares and fillies for sale.

WHITEHEAD, Robert, Fashionably bred mares and fillies in natural condition on Sale. Stallions, Bodenham King 17177, Whitestone Prince Alfred 22930.—Apply J. M. JOHNSTONE, Hargate Hall, Buxton. Station, and telegrams, Millers Dale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

BENSON, ALFRED, Upper Gatton Park, Merstham, Surrey. Hackney Stallions: Copper King 7764, reserve champion, London Hackney Shows, 1905 and 1906; yearling Colts and Fillies by Copper King and other well-known Stallions for sale. For particulars, pedigrees, &c., apply to T. Hyett.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

SMITH, THOMAS, Shirley Stud, Hall Green, Birmingham. Breeder of Pedigree Hackneys and Ponies. Owner Hackney Stallion, "Viscount Hopwood" 8656; Pony Stallions, "Pinderfields Horace" 7952, "Shirley King Horace" 9882. Prize winners on sale.

WHITWORTH, ROBERT, Warley Stud, Halifax, and Londesboro' Stud, Market Weighton. Hackney Stallions: Polonius, Edemynag, Beckingham Squire 8078. Hackneys and Harness Horses always on sale. Matched pairs a speciality.

PONIES.

BEALE, Mrs. A. J., Cacketts, Cudham, Kent. Prize-bred Pedigree Shetlands for sale; three grand Stallions at stud.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

BELL, CHARLES, Norley Hall, Norley, Cheshire. Shorthorn Bulls for sale, from Kirklevington, Red Rose, Barrington, and Cruickshank tribes. Telegrams "Norley"; railway stations, Acton Bridge and Delamere.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

MOSLEY, Sir OSWALD.—High-class Shorthorns. Home Farm, Rolleston Hall. Bulls and Heifers on sale.—Apply A. E. Beck, Rolleston, Burton-on-Trent.

PREECE, JOHN ADNEY, Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston, Northampton.—Herd of 250 Shorthorns, best Bates and Scotch blood; stock Bulls, Duke of Barrington 70th, Primrose Earl 89641, and Royal Baron 93192; Bulls and Heifers for sale.

CATTLE—*continued.*

SHORTHORNS—*continued.*

DUDDING, MR. HY., Raby Grove, Great Grimsby, has for inspection and sale the largest pure herd of SHORTHORNS in the county, which comprise the best Bates, Booth, Cruickshank and Scotch blood. The prize bulls recently used and now in service are Prince Alastair 89647, a noted winner, and sold at the Raby Sale, 1906, for 1,000 gs.; Scottish Daisy Duke 79916, Merry Squire 5th 85626, Stratton Squire 80092, Baylon Favourite 76880, Wanderer's Chief 80210, Royal Pearl 85959, President Pierrepont 92846, Aberdeen 87764, Scottish Standard 97058, and Strowan Butterfly 2360. In July of last year 51 Shorthorns and 56 Lincoln Rams were sold to average 125 gs. each, realising a total of nearly £14,000. In July this year 53 Shorthorns and 48 Rams averaged over 90 gs. each, with a total of nearly £10,000. Numerous prizes have been won at the leading shows in England by the Raby Shorthorns and Lincoln Sheep. Telegrams: "Dudding, Keelby."

ROTHWELL, R. R., Much Hoole, near Preston. Pedigree Shorthorns, chiefly Scotch blood. Stock bull Strowan Marquis 13th, winner of many prizes. Young bulls and heifers always on sale.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

TAYLOR, GEORGE, Cranford, Middlesex.—Bates' Shorthorns, deep milkers. Winners Milking Competitions, London Dairy Show, 1905-6. Bull Calves for Sale. Stock Bulls: Beau Sabreur, Drumcree, Rowbury, and Kirkcharm.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

SUSSEX.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath, Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Sussex Cattle (descended from the oldest and best strains of blood), unrivalled for their early maturity, the production of the best beef and working oxen, and ability to thrive in all weathers on the roughest fare. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for Sale.

HEREFORDS.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for Sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

PULLEY, CHARLES THORNTON, Lower Eaton, Hereford.—Noted prize-winning herd of HEREFORD CATTLE. First prize Royal winners, Protector 19660, 1900; Eaton Champion 21351, 1903; and Ashleaf 3rd, 1905. This herd is headed by Eaton Champion and Glendower 2nd 22196, also a Royal winner. Bulls and Heifers for sale. Also prize-winning Shropshire Sheep.—Apply Mr. HEDLEY JONES, Lower Eaton Estate Office, Hereford.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has in 1904 1905 and 1906 won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by Endale, Bage Protector, and Fusilier. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited.—Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford, Herefordshire.

DEVONS.

BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton Williton, Taunton, Breeder of Pedigree Devon Cattle. A speciality for large size, with quality and robust constitutions; colour dark red. Sent to all parts of the world. Prices moderate.

SKINNER, ALFRED C., Pound, Bishops-Lydeard, Somerset. Pedigree Devons, constitution, quality, size, milk; 600 prizes principal shows, many champions; exports most successful; bulls and heifers for sale. Inspection invited.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

BRIDGES, J. H.—This old-established herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle of the leading families can be seen at Langshott Home Farm, Horley, Surrey (near Horley Station, L.B. & S.C.R.), and catalogues obtained on application to Mr. Albert Pulling.

CRIDLAN, J. J., Maisemore Park, Gloucester, Erica, Pride of Aberdeen, Lady Ida and other noted tribes. Stock Bulls, Wizard of Maisemore (21,465), Champion and winner of gold medals, 1905; Everwise (24,436), Champion and medal winner, 1907; Bengal of Ballindalloch, prize winner, 1906.

HURSLEY PARK HERD OF ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE, the property of Sir George Cooper, Bart., comprising Erica, Pride, Miss Burgess, Lady Ida, Matilda, Jemima of Morlich families. Prizes won during 1906: 7 firsts, 3 seconds, 3 reserves, 1 challenge cup, 2 silver medals, 3 reserve champions. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.—Catalogues on application to J. E. Thorold, Estate Office, Hursley Park, Winchester.

THE ROCKLIFFE PARK HERD of Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, Ericas and Prides. Stock Bull, Pundit of Preston (17,156), Champion at Highland Show, 1904.—Apply, R. C. SWAN, Rockliffe Park, Darlington.

AYRSHIRES.

WALLACE, JAMES, J.P., Auchenbainzie, Thornhill, Dumfriesshire, Scotland. Breeder of pedigree prize-winning Ayrshire Cattle; hardy, healthy, good milkers; bred for dairy purposes, beauty and style. Bulls and Heifers for sale.

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably, from his prize-winning herd of Red Polls, Bulls, Cows, Heifers, from good milkers.—Apply C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

CATTLE—*continued.*

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

CARY-ELWES, V., Billing Hall, Northampton. Breeder of Jersey cattle.

FOWLER, P. T., Importer, Watford, Herts. A choice selection of pedigree Jersey and Guernsey Cows, Heifers and young Bulls from prize herds of the Islands; particulars forwarded; inspection invited.

JERSEYS, and Alderney Guernseys, fresh calved and near calving. Prices, particulars.—R. WHEADON, Ilminster.

MERTON GRANGE GUERNSEYS.—Property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. This Herd contains Champion Bull, 1906; also Bull Royal Governor, winner of seven Firsts, and unbeaten 1907. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of best Breeding for Sale.—Telegrams and particulars, W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay.

STERN, Sir E. D., Fan Court, Chertsey, Surrey. Herd of pedigree Jersey Cattle. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for sale.

TICHBORNE PARK, GUERNSEY.—Yearling Bulls and Heifers for sale.—Apply, D. MICHIE, Estate Office, Tichborne, Alresford, Hants.

GALLOWAYS.

GRAHAM, ROBERT, Auchengassel, Twynholm, breeder fashionable Galloway Cattle, winners at Royal and Highland Societies Shows. Pedigree Bulls, Cows, and Heifers, also Blue-greys for feeding, for sale. Commissions carefully executed.

KERRIES & DEXTER KERRIES.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

RATTRAY, DAVID, Gortnaskehy, Ballybunion, Co. Kerry. Pedigree Prize-winning Herd of Kerries and Dexters. 155 Prizes and Honours won by Cattle from this Herd past three years. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

THE DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE'S PRIZE-WINNING DEXTER HERD.—During 1904 and 1905 this Herd won more prizes than any other three Dexter Herds combined, including both first and second milking prizes Royal, 1905, and first London Dairy Show, 1906. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers generally for Sale.—CHILD, Compton Place, Eastbourne.

DUTCH.

BROWN, JOHN, Marden Farm, Hertford. Dutch, the best Dairy Cattle in the world. Over 200 head kept. Record, one cow gave 1,615 gallons of milk in 52 weeks. Bulls for sale.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

ANDERSON, JOHN, Barton-on-Humber.—The old Barton Flock of Pure-bred LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP, Flock Book 106. This flock is noted for hard constitutions and fine, lustrous wool. Inspection invited. Telegrams as above.

ATKINSON, T., & SON, North Kelsey, Lincoln. Old-established flock of pure Lincoln Longwools. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Noted for great size and long lustrous wool. Have given great satisfaction at home and abroad. Inspection invited

BROCKLEBANK, JOHN, Bassingham, Lincoln (Flock 24). Pure-bred Lincoln Longwool Rams and Ewes. This old flock has been carefully bred for 100 years. Telegrams: Bassingham.

BROOKS, W. J., Stowe Lodge, Weedon, Northants (Registered Flock 165), has for sale Rams and Ewes of best blood.

DRAKES, Wm., Tealby, Market Rasen. Flock No. 72 of Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs of best blood for sale. Lincoln Red Shorthorns. Prices moderate.

DUDDING, MR. HY., Raby Grove, Great Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale the largest flock of pure Lincoln Longwool Sheep in the county, and many prize-winners. They are famous for great size, fine wool, and 150 years' good breeding, and at the home Sales have made the highest prices on record. In July, 1906, 51 shearling rams sold to average £151 each, the record price being made for a single ram, namely, 1,450 gs., and on two other occasions have rams made 1,000 gs. The wonderful success of the Raby sheep at the Royal Show, Lincoln, 1907, and at the Home Sale in July when 48 rams averaged £94 each, proves that the Riby blood leads the way. Champion and premier prizes have been secured in all the leading exhibitions throughout the world. Telegrams: "Dudding, Keelby."

MONEY, FRED. Silk Willoughby, Sleaford. Flock 323; established over a century. Four Rams from this flock fetched over £1,300 in the Argentine, February, 1903, one making £700, the record for a single ram in Buenos Ayres. Rams for sale. Inspection invited.

SMITH, HENRY, jun., Cropwell Butler, Nottingham. Lincoln Longwool Flock No. 7, winner of £2,361 in prizes. Champion pen Lincolns, Smithfield Show, 1896; Association Championship, Leicester 1897 Association Championship for pen of 3 Shearling Rams Yorkshire, 1900; Championship, Rutland, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, and 1906. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.

LEICESTER.

SIMPSON BROS., Pilmoor House, Hunmanby, Yorkshire, Breeders of Leicesters (Flock No. 2 in Leicester Book), have always for inspection or sale Rams and Ewes. These Sheep are of great size with heavy fleeces, and include Royal Winners.

(Continued on page 592.)

SHEEP—*continued.*

KENTISH OR ROMNEY MARSH.

BAKER, FREDK., Frindsbury, Rochester. Registered Flock 20. Est. 1884. 600 Breeding Ewes carefully selected. Breeding Flock and Rams kept on Marsh. 50 Ram Tegs sold each September.

BALSTON, R. J., The Priory, Bilsington, Kent. Flock of registered Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep, Registered No. 106, and Herd of Shorthorn Cattle, representative of the choicest strains of blood.—Apply, R. H. Green, Estate Office, Willesborough, Kent.

COLLARD, F. de B., Minster Abbey, Ramsgate. Registered Flock of Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep and Herd of Aberdeen-Angus Cattle. Selections for Sale bred & raised under natural conditions.—Apply Owner

FARMER, GEORGE, Leeds Abbey, Maidstone. Pure Kent or Romney Marsh. Flock No. 38. Established 1838. Full Pedigrees kept. Inspection invited.

FINN, L. and G., Westwood Court, Faversham. Rams and Breeding Ewes for Sale. Registered Flock est. 1865. Winners of prizes at all principal shows. Sale of Rams held at Ashford Cattle Market in the autumn.

HAMBROOK, EDWIN, Newington, Folkestone (Shorncliffe Station, S.E & C.R.), registered Kent Sheep Breeder. Hardy, kindly upland flock, pedigrees of both sexes on record. Yearling and Ram Lambs for Sale.

KINGSNORTH, S., The Cottage, Cherry Garden Avenue, Folkestone. Registered Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep for Sale, full pedigrees.—Rail Station, Shorncliffe, S.E. & C.R.

MILLEN, W., Syndale Valley, Faversham. Flock 13. Full pedigrees. Flock 1,150. Individually numbered. Unrivalled record, winning '95 to '98 every Champion Prize, 53 1st, 28 2nd Prizes, &c.

NEAME, FREDERICK, Macknade, Faversham, Kent. Winner of 90 prizes last five years. Highest average price at Ashford Annual Sale on 50 Rams, 1902-3-4-5-6. Challenge Cup Yearling Rams, 1902, 1904. Stud Ram, 1906. Wool a speciality.

PALMER, J. B., New Shelve Manor, Lenham, Kent. Registered Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep for sale, bred from the choicest strains of prize-winning blood. Individual pedigrees kept.—Apply Owner.

SWINDELLS, G. O., Monks Horton Park, Hythe, Kent. The flock was established as far back as 1856. The sires used throughout its existence have in all cases been of the choicest strains of blood. Rams, Ewes, &c., for sale fully characteristic of the breed, with size, substance, and quality combined with pedigree of highest merit. Registered No. 100, Vol. 12.—Apply, R. H. Green, Estate Office, Horton Park, Hythe, Kent.

WYKEHAM-MARTIN, C. P., Leeds Castle, Maidstone. Flock 32. Registered Kent for sale, descended from Mr. T. Powell's noted flock.—H. B. Couchman, Rickmansworth, Herts.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

COLES, CARY, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1907.—Extraordinary records: Twin ram lambs let for 205 and 120 guineas. Ninety averaged £21 10s. Selections always for Sale.

DIBBEN, JOHN HERBERT, Bishopstone, Salisbury. Breeder of Pure Hampshires. Annual Sale in August, at Salisbury, of 100 Rams and Ram Lambs. Flock consists of 300 Ewes.

OVEY, R. L., Hernes, Henley-on-Thames.—Pedigree HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK, Reg. Vol. IV. Prize-winners leading shows last five years.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. The Cholderton flock is individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded in the Hampshire Down Flock Book. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury.

THE CHILMARK FLOCK OF REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—Owner JAMES FLOWER, Chilwark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records. Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, out of 11 years competing, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" won eight times, thrice second, with pens of 8 ram lambs; a marvellous record. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 13 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05-06. At the Royal at Derby, 1906, every First Prize, two Seconds, and the Champion were won; an unequalled success!! Champions Birmingham, 1905, over all breeds, Reserve in 1906. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Short-wools, Smithfield, 1904-05-06. Highest average past 13 years. Bridford Fair, Aug. 12, 100 Ram Lambs, annual sale. Selections for Sale.

OXFORD DOWNS.

ADAMS, GEORGE, Royal Prize Farm Flock, Faringdon, Berks. Pure Oxford Down Sheep, Shearling Rams, Ram Lambs, Ewes and Ewe Lambs for Sale. Special arrangements with foreign buyers. Many first prizes at R.A.S.E and other shows during past 25 years, including 2 first, 2 second, and 4 other prizes, World's Fair, Chicago, and 7 firsts, 4 seconds and champion at Royal Bath and West, Royal Counties, etc., this year.

BRYAN, JOHN, & SON, Southleigh, Witney, Oxon. One of the oldest Registered Flocks of pure-bred Oxford Downs. Annual Sale of Rams, Oxford Ram Fair. Rams and Ewes for Sale at home. Inspection invited.

CASE, JAMES PHILIP, Bunham, Wighton, Norfolk. Flock est. 1863. Rams always for disposal. 60 Ram Lambs sold annually at Hempton Green Fair, Norfolk, first Wednesday in September.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

HOBBS, JAMES T., Maisey Hampton, Fairford, Glos. Flock of 1,000 registered Oxford Down Sheep. Prizes won in 1907 include 1st and Breed Cup at Smithfield Show, 1st at Birmingham Fat Stock Show, two 1sts and Champion at Highland Show, 1st at Royal Show, two 1sts at Bath and West Show, three 1sts and Champion Oxfordshire Show. 60 Rams sold annually at Cirencester first Tuesday in August. Ewes, Rams and Ram Lambs on Sale privately. Also see Shorthorn Cattle.

SHEEP—*continued.*

OXFORD DOWNS—*continued.*

HOBBS, R. W., & SONS, Kelmscott, Lechlade. Largest flock in Oxford Down Flock Book. Numerous prizes at principal shows. Rams or Ram Lambs always on Sale. Drafts of Rams sold annually, Oxford, Cirencester, Edinburgh, Kelso, Northampton, and other fairs.

HOUGHTON, J. H., Western Farm, Asfordby, Melton Mowbray. 300 Ewe Flock of Pedigree Registered Oxfords. Sales Sept., at Nottingham, Melton, Edinburgh, &c. Ewes and Rams privately in autumn. Many prizes. Inspection invited.

STILGOE, H. W., Adderbury, Banbury. Annual Ram Sale at Oxford. Others on Sale privately also Ewes. Many prizes.

TREADWELL, JOHN, Upper Winchendon, Aylesbury.—Oxford Down Sheep. Annual Ram Sale, first Wednesday in August. Prizes won at R.A.S.E. 24 years in succession. Ewes for Sale.

WHITE, JOHN, Ham Court Farm, Bampton, R.S.O., Oxon. Pedigree Oxford Down Sheep of best and purest strains for Sale. Foreign and home buyers invited to inspect.

WENSLEYDALE.

UNDERLEY WENSLEYDALES (Blue-faced) from the best blood obtainable. Successfully exhibited.—Apply, G. G. ROBINSON, Bailiff, Underley Farm, Kirkby Lonsdale.

SHROPSHIRES.

BELL, FRANK, Norley, Cheshire, Breeder of Pedigree Shropshires. Dispersal Sale August 30th. Flock may be seen by appointment.—For particulars apply above, or Alfred Mansell and Co., College Hill, Shrewsbury.

BERRY, A. S., Shenstone Hall, Lichfield. Winner of Gold Medal for Champion Shropshire Ram at Royal Chester, and £50 Champion Plate for best pen of Sheep at Smithfield Show, and principal prizes Birmingham and County Shows.

CORBET, Sir WALTER, Bart.—Registered flock of Shropshires of oldest and purest strains. Noted for true type and first-rate wool. Have won numerous prizes at Bath and West, Shropshire and West Midland, Royal Lancashire, Wirral and Birkenhead, etc. Can be seen at any time on application to Reginald Astley, Acton Reynold, Shrewsbury.

NOCK, EDWARD, Harrington Hall, Shifnal, Salop, owner of the old Sutton Maddock Pedigree Shropshire Flock. Founded 1832. Winner of prizes at most of the leading shows in England, U.S.A., and Canada.

RYELANDS.

DAVIES, WILLIAM HENRY, Claston, Dormington, Hereford. Old-established flock of Pedigree Ryelands Sheep; prizes won Royal and leading shows, including First Prize for wool at Royal, 1903-4-5.

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

CHARLES SPENCER, having taken over the Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts, herd of Large and Middle White Pigs, which won 12 prizes and reserves with 11 exhibits at Derby Royal, will price any of them.

FULWOOD HERD LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES, property R. R. Rothwell. 200 head bred from winners at leading shows.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for Sale at moderate prices

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse Station, G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices. —J. PHIPPS SMITH. Salford Priors. Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM. Herd of Large White Pigs. The oldest and largest Herd in Notts County. Over 100 Breeding Sows kept. Upwards of 600 to select from. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—Apply ARTHUR A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

SPALDING HERD of Pedigree Large Whites, young stock and in-pig Gilts for Sale. All bred from great winners.—ALFRED W. WHITE, "Hillegom," Spalding.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 100 to choose from. Correspondence invited. Grand young breeding stock always on Sale.—Apply R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts (15 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—Apply to Mr. W. BAINBRIDGE, Walton House, Warrington.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 86 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

PIGS—*continued.*

MIDDLE WHITES—*continued.*

THE CATTON HERD of Prize-winning MIDDLE WHITE PIGS, property of J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stock Boar Castlecroft Mikado, 1st Park Royal, 1st Bath and West. Gelts and Boars on Sale. Prices moderate.—Apply BAILIFF, Raddle Farm, Edingale, Tamworth.

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BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath, Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Large Black Pigs of the best strains of blood, noted for their docility and for the production of a large proportion of lean meat. Good selection of Boars, unrelated Gilts, and in-pig Sows for Sale at reasonable prices.

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PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS.—Select Herd-bred from choice Prize Winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale, moderate prices.—H. J. CLARKE, The Slade, Roughley, Sutton Coldfield.

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1st Welsh National, Aberystwyth.
1st Bath and West Newport; 1st Royal Counties,
1st Nottingham; 1st Suffolk; 1st Norfolk.
1st Derby.
1st Hereford and Worcester; Special Prize Lincoln Agricultural Society; 1st Great Yorkshire; 1st Newark.

A number of additional Firsts and other Prizes have also been gained at the above Shows.

At the St. Louis Exposition, U.S.A., in 1904, the Champion Boar, and the Grand Champion of the Exposition were bred at Colston Bassett.

The Foreign and Home trade has largely increased during 1907.—GILBERT H. ELLIOT, Estate Office, Colston Bassett, Notts.

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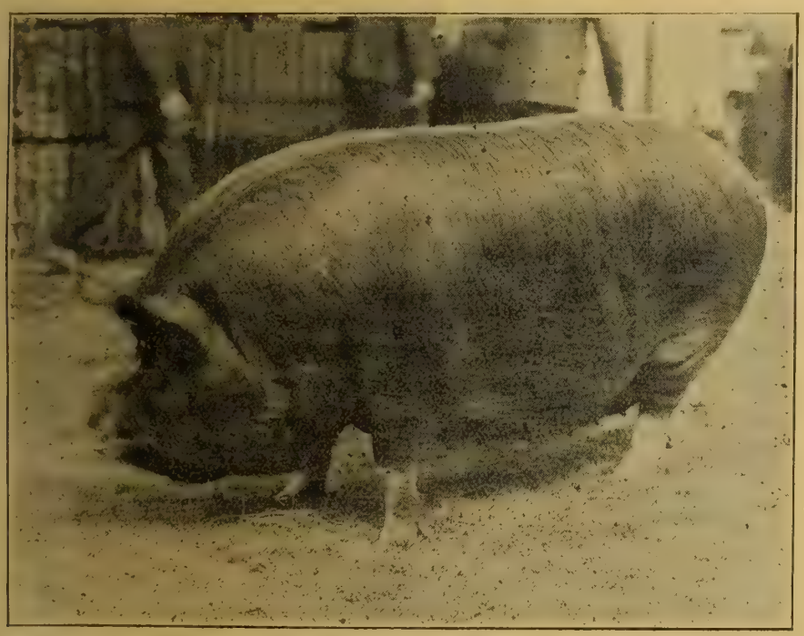
PIGS.

Suffolk and the Swine Fever Regulations.

A small deputation of Suffolk gentlemen, all of whom are members of the East Suffolk County Council, waited upon the president of the Board of Agriculture on Thursday, with a view to securing a modification in the severe regulations that are put in force when there is an outbreak of swine fever.

The deputation was introduced by Mr. R. Lacey Everett, M.P., who referred to a resolution that had been passed by the executive committee appointed under the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act, in which it was contended that the policy adopted by the Board of Agriculture in its endeavour to stamp out swine fever was inconvenient and costly, and ought to be discontinued. He said that the general opinion was that more losses were occasioned to farmers through the swine fever restrictions than the disease itself. If the restrictions had been successful in their effects, then farmers would have willingly put up with them. Personally, he believed it would be better to go back to the times of their forefathers; they had to contend with swine fever, but they were never subject to restrictions from the Board of Agriculture, and each farmer dealt with the disease in the best way he could. He would have people punished who had diseased animals and moved them about. It would, Mr. Everett added, be a great advantage to the agricultural industry if the restrictions could be removed entirely or modified.

The other members of the deputation having spoken, Earl Carrington said he thought the Board of Agriculture could claim to have done something towards stamping out the disease. Every single member of the Board was anxious to co-operate with the farmers in every way, and they realised it was a very distasteful thing to have to enforce the swine fever regulations, which were passed simply and solely in the interests of agriculturists. Swine fever was, no doubt, a hard nut to crack. All he could say was that their object was to do what was right and fair for all connected with agriculture, but they could not take one particular county, and make an exception in the case of Suffolk. There must be continuity, and a uniform policy all over the country. He assured the deputation that he was anxious to do the best he could for agriculturists, and regretted there should be these complaints about the swine fever regulations. At that point he would rather say no more than that. He mentioned the fact that in two years eight Acts of Parliament had been passed on matters solely dealing with agriculture, and it seemed swine fever was about the only thing troubling farmers now.



The Berkshire Sow shown above is Elvetham Fancy, winner of First Prize and Reserve Champion Berkshire Sow at the Royal Agricultural Society's Show at Lincoln, where she was exhibited by Lord Calthorpe, Elvetham Park, Winchfield. Elvetham Fancy was born January 8, 1906, sire Supreme's Boy, dam Compton Fancy, and was bred by Mr. R. B. Vincent, Compton Valence, Dorchester, Dorset.

At Newark November Fair there were over 2,000 beasts and 3,000 sheep on offer. Bulls met with a ready sale at prices up to 17½ guineas, whilst sheep averaged 35s. to 49s. each.

SHEEP.

Notes and Jottings.

AMONGST the items that will come up for discussion at the meeting of the National Sheep-breeders' Association in December, is a notice of motion to call attention to the Sheep Dipping Order, and to move a resolution. This will afford the representative breeders on the council of this association full opportunity to discuss, if they think fit, the effect of the Sheep Dipping Order that has been enforced during the past year. That the Order has done great good no one who is acquainted with the sheep industry will for one moment gainsay.

SHEEP dipping has probably been more generally carried out in this country during the past twelve months than ever before. Not one, but many, in fact scores of breeders have said to the writer that they hardly ever remember (for they are careful not to say they never remember) a year in which the store sheep being sold at the autumn fairs have been found so free from lice and from ticks. That this is the case is a matter of great benefit to those who are feeding sheep, because it needs no great stretch of imagination, neither a lengthy statement, to prove how much more likely these sheep, which have got rid of that host of parasites that one finds upon undipped sheep, are to develop and thrive than if it were otherwise.

IT has never yet been possible to ascertain the amount of nourishment that the parasites that one finds in dirty and undipped sheep require, but be this as it may, it is quite certain that the whole of their nourishment is obtained from the sheep upon which they exist. Consequently, the whole of their nourishment, which is of no benefit whatever to the sheep, has to be provided by the owner of the sheep, and it follows, therefore, that if such parasites are absent the owner of the sheep does not have to keep them by means of feeding the sheep; but, instead, the sheep is able to utilise, to its own well-doing, the whole of the food it consumes.

A MATTER which emphasises the need of this country being freed from sheep scab came vividly to the fore at the autumn meeting of the National Sheep Breeders' Association. At this meeting the replies to a request made by the association that the Australasian Colonies and New Zealand should reduce their period of quarantine were produced. The replies received from each of the States of the Commonwealth, and from the Dominion of New Zealand, were in agreement that it was impossible to reduce the period of quarantine enforced on British sheep, but the reply received from the Government of Victoria contained also a report of the chief veterinary inspector of that colony, and this report sets out clearly the reason that he could not advise his Government to reduce the period of quarantine—*i.e.*, that sheep scab existed in Great Britain, and that so long as it did it was impossible to reduce the period of quarantine.

HERE we have before us a clear statement that the continued existence of sheep scab in this country prevents our stud sheep breeders from securing a very much larger demand for their sheep from Australia and New Zealand.

IT may be said that the report does not state this. Quite so; but those who are engaged in the export trade of this country know perfectly well that if it were not for the very heavy expenses of the thirty days' quarantine, coupled with the three official dippings and the various other fees that have to be paid by the importers on arrival in the respective colonies, a very much larger number of sheep would be taken there.

A WELL-KNOWN fell monger told the writer the other day that he was confident, from his experience of dealing with sheep skins from New Zealand and Australian sheep, that they were wanting a large infusion of fresh blood. This may be the case or not, but the opinion of my informant was that there was a great tendency being shown, in the New Zealand skins particularly, for the pelt to become thinner, to lose substance, and this he put down to the want of a renewal of fresh blood from the fountain head.

THOSE who are acquainted with New Zealand know very well that the tendency out there is for the British sheep to lose bone, to lose coarseness of wool, and, in fact, generally to become finer sheep, and if the wool tends to become finer, and the bone tends to become less, it is quite as reasonable to assume that the thickness of the pelt will also diminish.

MANY other reasons might be given to support the assumption that if it were not for the heavy expenses mentioned above in connection with quarantine, that the demand for British stud sheep for Australia and New Zealand would be very much larger than it is at the present time.

DURING the past season quite a number of sheep have been taken to New Zealand and to Australia, and those who have been over here from those countries all agree that more are wanted, and they also all agree that the reason more are not taken is that the expenses attached to their going are so heavy.

THE combination represented by the National Sheep Breeders' Association is one that has proved itself to be of great value to the sheep breeding industry of this country upon more than one occasion, and amongst the more recent successes that the combination represented by this association has secured, has been the reduction of the fees charged by the official veterinary surgeons for the inspection of sheep going to Australasia and New Zealand.

A LETTER from the Agent-General for New South Wales was read at the last meeting of the National Sheep Breeders' Association, stating that the reduced fees agreed to at the conference held between the representatives of the National Sheep Breeders' Association and the Colonial Veterinary Surgeons during October, 1906, had been accepted by his Government, and that they would be charged in future.

THIS is a concession of considerable importance to those who are importing sheep to those Colonies, and it is also of importance to those at home who are breeding sheep of the class that is required for those Colonies, because any reduction in the expenses tends to make those who desire to purchase keener buyers.

FOR eight years past it has been the practice of the National Sheep Breeders' Association to hold an International Conference of Sheep Breeders on the day preceding the opening of the Royal Agricultural Society's Show, and it is with great satisfaction we note that the subject chosen for discussion at the Ninth International Conference of Sheep-Breeders, which will be held at Newcastle on Monday, June 29 next, is "The General Management of Sheep."

THIS is a subject that will afford ample room for discussion, and, we trust, secure the expression of many valuable opinions.

IN asking Mr. A. Mansell, of Shrewsbury, to prepare and read this paper, the council of the National Sheep-Breeders' Association, have unquestionably made an excellent choice, for Mr. Mansell is well known as a very high authority

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(Signed) ROBERT MARSDEN.

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upon all matters in connection with the sheep industry of this country, and he has also at the same time had a very large and varied experience in connection with the industry practically all over the country.

The Champion Suffolk Flock of Breeding Ewes.

The Suffolk Sheep Society's Champion Challenge Cup for the best flock of Suffolk breeding ewes has this year been secured by Mr. D. Abbott Green, of Fingringhoe Hall, Essex, and in accordance with custom the flock was on Thursday inspected by members of the society. The flock was shown on a grass field at the back of the Hall buildings, and they excited the admiration of the large company of breeders present because of their uniformity, being very matchy and of great scale. They numbered 201, with five rams, three purchased of Mr. Herbert Smith, one lamb from Mr. Clement Smith, and the shearling which has been the round of the shows, a Royal prize winner as well as at the Suffolk and Essex Shows, Fingringhoe Hero. The others were Persimmon 9th, the three-shear sheep, which has done excellent service in the flock for the last three seasons, and the others lambs, one being the highest prize sheep of the season.

The flock had not been in competition since 1904. It was duly entered in the division, and competed for the Bristol Champion Prize, Mr. Herbert Smith being the winner, and Mr. Green's flock won reserve. Previous to that it had not competed since the first year the Bristol Champion Cup was offered. On that occasion the entries were numerous, Mr. Smith's amongst them. Mr. S. R. Sherwood was the winner, and the Fingringhoe Hall flock reserve. It had previously to that won the Division or District Cup, as it was called by the late Marquis of Bristol, before the Gold Cup competition.

According to the rules, a competitor has to show two lambs to the score, and as there were 207 ewes last year, it was necessary to show twenty-one lambs, the object being to get fair specimens of what the flock has produced. It is needless to say that these also came in for close scrutiny, as did also the sires.

After the competition those present were entertained to luncheon, at which the president of the Suffolk Sheep Society, Mr. E. S. Pretyman, occupied the chair.

Exports of Leicester Sheep.

We are informed that Mr. G. Harrison, of Gainford Hall, Darlington, has sold to Mr. P. Harrison, of Hobart, Tasmania, two of his pure-bred Leicester shearling rams which were in a pen of three that received first prize at the Yorkshire Show held at Barnsley this year. The Melbourne (Australia) *Leader* of September 14 reports an important sale of imported English Leicester sheep on behalf of Mr. George Simonds, of Tasmania. The consignment comprised twelve ewes with their imported lambs, and in-lamb again to the imported ram, at prices ranging to 50 guineas per head; and one imported ram at 100 guineas. These sheep were bred by Mr. Harrison, whose flock is No. 42 in the flock book of the L.S.B.A.

Mr. John Sinclair, Secretary for Scotland, in opening a special school of study for young farmers at Ardenconnel Holiday Home, Dumbartonshire, referred to the work carried on in the agricultural colleges at Glasgow, Edinburgh, and Aberdeen, and said he thought it would now be possible to give better grants for agricultural education. The colleges had been invited to lay before the department definite proposals for the extension of their work, so that the funds reasonably required might be placed at their service.

Prize Root Competition. — The annual show of roots (mangels and swedes) was held at the Tattenhall Road Bone Works, near Chester, when the proprietors, Messrs. W. R. Smith and Son, offered the sum of £60 in cash prizes. The pen competitions were for the five heaviest mangels and the five heaviest swedes grown by the aid of the Messrs. Smiths' manures, and some really very fine bulbs of both were staged, especially those from Gloucester, Cheshire, and Denbighshire. The first prize amounting to £30 for the mangels went to Mr. Ernest F. Bellamy, of Newent, Gloucestershire, and the first prize of £30 for swedes was awarded to Mr. Leonard J. Smith, of the Scarr, Newent. The weight of the five prize mangels scaled 209 lb., and that of the swedes 137 lb., both of which represented field crops of over 100 tons per acre. The respective bulbs were Garton's improved breed of large yellow globe mangel, and Garton's improved model swede. Next in order of merit came Mr. William Shepherd of Burton, Denbighshire, and Mr. Arnold Sherwin, of Waverton, Cheshire. During the past year Messrs. Smith have largely extended their works, and at the close of the competition the visitors were shown over the works by Mr. Gordon Smith, the junior partner, and Mr. H. A. Longrigg.

THE YORKSHIRE UNION.

Agriculture and the State.

Chief interest at the meeting of the Yorkshire Union of the Agricultural Clubs and Chambers of Agriculture, held on Thursday, centred in the address given by Captain Mark Sykes on "Agriculture and the State." It was a most attractive paper, and was listened to from beginning to end with keen interest by the goodly company present.

Captain Mark Sykes said that the attitude of the State to agriculture, the economic and national position of agriculture in England, would soon become one of the leading questions of the day. If they looked through history, they would find that in the building up of many empires agriculture has in the first instance been the cause of their rise, and its decline has run parallel with their fall. In the early history of the Roman Empire they found that the pristine vigour of the Republic was derived almost entirely from the services of the stalwart yeoman farmer who dwelt within the neighbourhood of the city; they provided the invincible powers of the early legions they infused the public with that rugged spirit of perseverance and national probity, and to them was due that stern independence which would brook neither the tyranny of a monarch at home, nor that of an invader from without.

The speaker examined the social conditions of Rome preceding her downfall in detail—the better income for the industrious in the city than on the land, and the daily pension of bread for the idle; and remarked that the yeoman farmer of Rome could not be revived for the very good reason that he was not wanted. He became extinct as the result of certain economic laws, which neither statesmen nor prophets could alter. This kind of thing, he proceeded, was very sad and regrettable, but he warned them not to try to avoid studying it because the inferences they might draw from it might prove unpleasant to their peace of mind. Other world empires rose from other causes, and our English Empire owed its rise and expansion to not one, but to nearly all, the recognised first causes of greatness.

Captain Sykes traced the gradual social and economic evolution of the English race from Saxon times to the Napoleonic era, at which period British agriculture, with prices high and wages low, became a highly artificial industry with all the faults of one that is fostered or subsidised at the expense of others.

The Decline in Agricultural Population.

As a result of the repeal of the Corn Laws and the gigantic impetus given to town industries, agricultural industry, relieved of its own function of providing city folk with food, took its place as an industry run on purely economic lines, with as little labour, as much machinery, and as much science as could be put into it. Under these circumstances the agricultural population had declined, it was declining, and, if he might venture an unpopular prophecy, he thought it would continue to decline. We were marching along a road upon which we could never retrace our steps.

Now directly this decline in the agricultural population was realised, many people from many different classes were filled with alarm. The soldier says: "Where are my sturdy ploughboys who fought at Waterloo, my yeomen of Agincourt, my thanes of Senlac?" The capitalist: "Where are my reserves of labour, men who can work and will work?" The Socialist: "Where are the people to whom the land belongs by right?" The Imperialist: "Where are the fathers and mothers of our Imperial race?" Commissions investigate, census returns are flourished in our faces, and it suddenly appears that in ancient times, and even now, agriculture appears to have had a function which neither Cobden nor his fellow-economists took into consideration—the production of a healthy-minded, healthy-bodied population. We thought of the future in dismay—soldier, Socialist, Imperialist, and commercialist alike—and we said to ourselves, "Is this the end of all our triumphs?"

A Variety of Cures

were suggested to remedy the growing evil. Some philosophers would have them return to that original system of giving English agriculture a solitary monopoly of our food supply, but the fates are against the re-introduction of such a device. What was intolerable in 1840 is impossible in 1907. Others affirmed that the only solution lies in the creation of small holdings. He believed, however, that rural depopulation had little to do with politics; that it was a natural consequence of modern social development, and that under either a collectivist or individualist *régime* the case would be the same. As it was, under a capitalist Government they saw machinery driving labour off the land, and a capitalist Government endeavouring to drive away machinery with small holdings. They could imagine a Socialist Government trying to do the same thing in a different way; an agricultural Government trying to raise the price and worth of labour by heavy protective tariffs, but none of these shields against the improvement of mechanical inventions could possibly get over the difficulty. They must accept it as a basic fact that the primary object of agriculture was to produce foodstuffs and not to provide labour, and that when it is profitable to employ machinery, machinery must and would be employed under any circumstances.

Two Practical Causes of the Decline.

Setting aside the question of what is called "land hunger," as one of the causes of decline in the rural population, Captain Sykes said there were two other causes which had a practical and not a sentimental origin, and were far more serious—the falling off in the demand for agricultural labourers and the increasing demand for the services of country men in the towns.

A stout intelligent country lad if he went to a large town found employment, no matter how many unemployed there happened to be in the city, because there was always a demand for men who were above the average in health and physique.

"I cannot help believing," Captain Sykes proceeded, "as a fact that if we are to depend on the agricultural industry alone to provide us with healthy men, women, and children, and take it for granted that the towns will devour them at the same rate as in the past, and that our cities must depend upon agriculture for inhabitants just as they formerly depended on it for food, that we have reached the limit of time assigned to us in history as one of the great people of the earth. The demand is in excess of the supply. If we would avoid the catastrophe which overtook Rome we must admit that up to the present the production of a healthy population has been one of the 'accidentals' attending upon the agricultural industry."

Examining the distribution of employment in mediæval rural England, with a view to discovering

Why the agricultural labourer is superior

in physique to the urban labourer, the speaker said that it was not the agricultural labourer only, but all the survivors of rural industry to this day, who were fully as magnificent physical specimens as the ploughman. He thought the gradual disappearance of the rural artisan and trader indicated that we could never re-establish a rural population until we have supplied some sister industries to agriculture, and that with the departure of village industries you have another necessary cause of rural depopulation.

What, he asked, was to be

The Future of the Countryside?

He believed that decentralisation was to be achieved neither by protecting nor by altering the normal and economic coures of agricultural industry. It was to be accomplished by transit and building. "The garden city, although it contains grotesque and unsightly houses, and although many of its inhabitants strive wildly to break conventions bred in their marrow, is full of fair promise for the future. If we make use of the implements science and invention had put into our hands, there is no earthly reason why by legislation and the intelligent investment of capital we should not in forty years have dislocated our towns to such an extent that by night they will be as empty as are the business regions of the City of London at present, their slums transformed into wholesome rural colonies, whose inhabitants will be conveyed forty and fifty miles to and from their daily toil.

"As for agriculture, let us hope that it will be permitted to fulfil its true function—the cultivation of the unoccupied soil in the best and most efficient way. My expectation is that in the future the urban worker will live in the country, that the farmer will be a man of science, and the agricultural labourer a highly-skilled and highly-paid mechanic."

An Economic Question.

Major Dent, in moving a vote of thanks to Captain Sykes for his interesting paper, said he had felt for many years that rural depopulation was a purely economic question, and no amount of legislation or artificial fostering could bring that population back to the land. The only way to get the town population on to the land was to "diffuse" it over the country by affording quick and easy transit so that they might live and sleep in the country. If only capital and science were put into it agriculture was still a paying industry, and if only given a fair chance in regard to the burdens it had to bear, might pay very well.

Captain Key (Fulford), who seconded the vote, remarked that the whole difficulty in regard to labour on the land lay in the fact that the towns provided so many amusements for the young, and he thought the fiscal policy had had the effect of reducing prices and starving the landowner and the farmer.

Mr. D. W. Dickinson observed that they wanted engineering achievement and chemical analysis of the land if they were to obtain prosperity in the future.

Others also spoke to the resolution, which was cordially adopted.

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The Agricultural Education Committee.

The operations of the Agricultural Education Committee, which was formed in the year 1899 to secure systematic and efficient instruction, both theoretical and practical, in agricultural subjects suitable to every class engaged in agriculture, and to diffuse among the agricultural classes a more thorough appreciation of the advantages of instruction bearing directly or indirectly on their industry.

At the time there was a widespread belief that agricultural education in this country was far from satisfactory, especially when compared with the conditions existing in foreign countries and in the colonies. This backward condition was attributed to two main causes, namely, the lack of appreciation of the advantages of education among large sections of agriculturists, and the defective organisation of the Government departments and the local bodies concerned with the subject.

It was felt that such hindrances (particularly the latter) might be largely diminished by the united action of a representative committee of persons interested in both agricultural and educational progress, and that a meeting should be called to consider and to determine what could be done to promote this movement.

A final report has now been issued which deals largely with what has been accomplished by the committee. Sir William Hart-Dyke, in an accompanying letter, writes that the conclusion has forced upon himself, as well as upon other members, that the committee's operations should now be regarded as at an end.

OBITUARY.

Mr. R. D. Prosser.

We regret to announce the death at Brynderwen, Llangunnor, near Carmarthen, in his eighty-sixth year, of Mr. David Prosser, at one time one of the leading agriculturists in West Wales. Any measure that had for its object the improvement of agriculture found in him a staunch supporter, and even up to the time of his death he contributed valuable articles dealing with agricultural topics to the MARK LANE EXPRESS, *Times*, &c. For forty years he acted as secretary of the old Carmarthenshire Agricultural Society, and upon his retirement, in 1892, he was presented by the members with an illuminated address, silver plate and salver, &c. He also proved one of the most useful members of the Carmarthenshire Chamber of Agriculture, being one of its original members and a secretary. We may add that Mr. Prosser was a brother of Mr. W. W. Prosser, Capel Dewi, who has acted as secretary of the Carmarthenshire Chamber of Agriculture for about a quarter of a century.

The half-yearly hiring at Morpeth for single servants was held on Wednesday, when there was a downward tendency in wages, and as has been the case for some years, men were easier to hire than women. Girls going out for the first time got from £3 3s. upwards; and those with some experience £6 to £7. Women got from £8 to £10 10s., and in some cases more. Lads got from £6 to £9, and men from £10, £12, £13, and £14, according to fitness.

A meeting of the Perthshire and Forfarshire farmers was held at Perth on the 1st inst. to consider the best means by which cattle could be insured against anthrax. The Hon. A. D. Murray, Scones, presided, and, in addressing the meeting, said they were all agreed that something must be done. A good many of them had waited for years expecting to get compensation from the Government, but he ventured to say that the youngest person present would be a tottering, feeble old man before he got compensation from any Government. The question of forming an association was discussed, but ultimately it was agreed to advise farmers to insure with the company they considered best.

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Viscount Tredegar has fixed the 89th Annual Meeting to be held at the
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Seasonable Topics.

Farmers' Protection. NO, we are not referring here to Protection as the term is generally understood—namely, the charging of duty on commodities brought into this country, for that is part of another story, and our reference is rather to the combination of farmers to protect their mutual interests. It has been said that all the world might combine, but farmers, true to their conservative traditions, would remain as units, each one fighting his own battle independent of his neighbour. Events contradict this opinion, and in different parts of the country powerful bodies of agriculturists with their backs to the wall are being formed into societies for the protection and support of their mutual interests. It is our privilege and pleasure to assist such bodies, and as the official organ of the Darlington Farmers' Protection Society we have taken up a new *rôle*—Mutual protection! Surely it is time that farmers realised more generally the necessity of this and looked after their own interest, instead of depending on the promises of vote seekers at election times. Nothing could be more encouraging than the progress made by the different associations that have been established for the above purpose, and we shall be surprised if they do not increase in number in the near future.



A DORSETSHIRE VILLAGE.

The Potato Trade. MANY people are asking just now what the price of potatoes will be in the spring, and though it will be risky to venture an opinion in figures, there are good reasons to think that the man in the street will have to pay dearly for the homely tuber. From his point of view this is not encouraging, particularly in consideration of the increased price of bread, but naturally potato growers look at the matter with different eyes. It is not usual to be able to record potatoes at £4 to £5 a ton in November, and these figures naturally suggest a shortage in the crop. Indeed they were considerably lower in price last year at this time with not the same prospect of increase. In our experience crops left in the ground till late were much more diseased than those lifted earlier, and we hear of stocks being reduced in weight by the spread of the trouble. A grower of our acquaintance was cogitating the other day as to whether he should accept an offer of £4 a ton or hold his tubers in the expectation of getting another pound. The fear haunted him—they may go bad, so he accepted the offer, and perhaps acted wisely. But, any way, potatoes will pay all right at the above figure, even with a moderate crop.

The Harvest in the North. WHILST we in the lower half of Great Britain have good reasons for congratulating ourselves in securing an abundant harvest in good condition, our friends north of the Tweed are much less fortunate, and reports come to hand telling of much corn still out in the fields, with little or no prospect of it being harvested. What a difference weather makes, to be sure, and while we sympathise with Scottish farmers in their loss and trouble, we realise that the agricultural records of the southern part of the island would have read very differently but for those few weeks of fine weather in September, which just came in time to save the situation. But for this break what is freely admitted to be a good year must necessarily have been a bad one, as it will assuredly prove to be in the north, where the farmers have not been so favoured at harvest time. Authorities are giving estimates in figures of the loss that will be sustained through the unfavourable harvest time, and even if these are merely approximate, we fear that many farmers in the north will have painful reason to remember the season of 1907.

Larks. THE student of Nature usually associates the lark with the pleasant days of the early spring, when the little brown bird rises from the ground and soars heavenward, singing as he goes until he becomes a mere speck in the sky or becomes lost to view, and the sound of his voice is the only indication left of his presence up above. But we have the lark in another *rôle* where he does not appeal to the poetic side of agricultural human nature. This is when he appears, not in units but battalions, just when the October-sown wheat is coming through, and then he gives painful evidence of the extent of his appetite. Corn sowing being late this year on account of the bad weather, we shall doubtless hear a good deal about bird troubles, and larks are amongst the worst of feathered pests. They come in large flocks, feed voraciously on the springing corn, and when scared merely drop on the other side of the nearest hedge till the coast is clear. Scaring is not an easy matter, because the lads that the farmer used to employ for this purpose are either in school, or, if the weather be fine, taking a walk in the country in company with the teacher—studying Nature.

Funds for Research Work. IT is a matter of common knowledge that a good deal of public money has been and is wasted on so-called education, and yet very useful work is retarded and checked for the want of funds to carry it on. Particularly is this so in the direction of research, and it is quite time that the authorities who hold the purse strings should realise that the scientist in the laboratory can find out things of importance and be of great help to practical workers who have neither the means, the time, nor the knowledge to devote to this side of the business. It is generally admitted in the Midlands that the Department of Economic Zoology of the Birmingham University, through its enthusiastic head, Mr. Walter E. Collinge, has done a good deal of useful work in the interests of farmers and fruit growers, and we regret to learn that Professor Collinge is about to retire, just when the value of his services is beginning to be felt. Lack of financial support to the department in which he is interested is given as the cause, and if this is an actual fact, surely the voice of those people in the Midlands who are interested in agriculture, fruit growing, and market gardening should be heard. When we think of what is done in Canada and the United States to put scientific knowledge in the hands of the agricultural fraternity, our disjointed efforts appear very puny indeed, and it is a pity that any enthusiast who is a scientific expert should be discouraged to the point of resignation through the lack of financial support.

Foreign Fruit.

WE attended a local fruit and grain show the other day at which, in addition to home-grown produce, there was an exhibit of apples from Canada. Apart from the colour, the British fruit struck us as being the finest, but of course we had to remember that the other had come across the Atlantic, and yet appeared on the table as fresh as paint. This is the point to which we would draw attention. The best English apples are unequalled by any in the world, but the unfortunate thing is that we do not produce enough of the best, though there is no real reason why we should not grow much more. Further, it is only re-telling an old story to say that trans-Atlantic growers pay careful attention to grading and packing their fruit in boxes and barrels of standard size, and these, by the way, figure conspicuously in the shops even in the very heart of our apple-growing localities. To sum up the whole situation, growers abroad treat fruit culture very seriously. They regard it as a business, and have set out on systematic lines to supply the wholesale markets of the world. As to whether they have succeeded there can be no two opinions.

Is the Labourer's Half Holiday Possible?

THIS point has been argued more than once in our columns, and generally when the practicability of one short day a week for farm labourers is discussed it is scouted as being impossible, and opposed to the traditions of farm labour. We realise all the difficulties on the farmer's side, but still the matter does not drop, and in a recent issue our Nottinghamshire correspondent gave an instance of two labourers who had left a farm because their employer could not see his way to let them have Saturday afternoons to themselves. Farmers in purely agricultural districts do not have difficulties of this kind to contend with, but they are getting very real in localities where there are coal mines and other industries that are just now booming. There can be no doubt that it is the prospect of six full days a week, possibly with Sunday labour as well, that prevents many men from sticking to the farm, and as time goes on there is every probability of the agitation for a half holiday for labourers becoming more general. It may not come yet, but there are certainly indications which point in that direction.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

A Question for Mr. Chaplin.

I see that Mr. Chaplin professes himself to be satisfied with Mr. Balfour's latest pronouncement. I presume that he is satisfied with Mr. Balfour as his political leader and with his general acceptance of the policy of broadening the basis of taxation. But I want now to ask Mr. Chaplin, the Farmers' Friend—as distinguished from Mr. Chaplin, the Party-Politician—a general question. Does he believe the new policy is going to advantage the British farmer? Wherein is the protection for the British farmer indicated in the following declaration of the Conservative leader at Birmingham?:—

> Take (said Mr. Balfour) corn again. The whole theory of British economics on corn was based on the fact of what economists called the law of diminishing return, that, as a community increases in numbers, pressure upon the means of subsistence increased also, and various consequences I need not go into would ensue. That is no longer the law governing wheat. Wheat is now not subject to the law of diminishing cost, and the *enormous strides which the growth of wheat has shown in Canada, Argentina, and elsewhere, the enormous improvements in transport*, however unfortunate for the farming class to which I belong—(laughter)—absolutely destroy the whole basis of economic argument familiar to our forefathers.

Understand that Mr. Balfour had only just immediately before been discussing what he described as "the colonial aspect" of the tariff question. He was then emphasising the fact that the economic position had entirely changed since the days of Sir Robert Peel. "When," said the statesman, "the colonies, with our vaunted system of taxation, were not merely in their infancy, but in their cradle, it never occurred to anybody that they were great nations of the future, that it was with them that it was our interest as well as our duty to make commercial arrangements." We are to make a commercial arrangement with the great wheat-bearing colony of Canada —"where the growth of wheat has made enormous strides"—and, in doing this, to take advantage of "the enormous improvements in transport!" This anticipation opens out a vision of a competition unparalleled in the experience of the British farmer. The new policy has a two-fold basis—the protection of British industries in alliance with a closer commercial and family understanding with our colonies. I am not arguing, in the general sense, that this is wrong. I am, however, asking where—in the assurance of the Balfourian design—do we find protection of the agricultural interest? We have no right to let partisan sympathies run athwart our own weal. Now, Mr. Chaplin, the Farmers' Friend, will you answer this question?

Mr. Balfour's Remarks Examined.

I pray that there will be no hurling of epithets because of the re-propounding of this problem. The farmers as a class are Conservative; and the farmers ought not to be the one victimised interest; the one sacrificial offering made to secure a possibly-quickened trade for the urban industries. Understand, that in all the discussions we have had on Colonial preference, no other interest but the rural interest has been threatened with a swamping rivalry. In Mr. Balfour's speech, as in the oceans of oratory which have preceded it, the only effective competition from the British colonies which was or had been suggested is an agrarian competition, and the only class suggested to be penalised is the farming class! "However unfortunate," said Mr. Balfour, in anticipating the effect and advantages of the new policy, "*for the farming class to which I belong.*" This is not, I repeat, so much a question of the general wisdom of the suggested fiscal and economic departure. Let that be accepted, if you will. The real question is—How will the British farmer advantage from this stimulated, encouraged, and invoked competition in the very products whose growth means his living? Wherein will he advantage if the foreign competition in wheat is exchanged for a colonial competition—a competition which will probably be infinitely greater in volume? How can he hope to fight competitors thus invoked and encouraged who practically pay no rent, know nothing of local taxation, and for whom the cost of transit to the British market is sometimes even less than it is to the British farmer?

Let us be Practical.

Do not, I beseech, in replying to this, beat the drum-patriotic. Let us confess that the spectacle of a closer union with our colonies does surcharge our materfamilian bosom with a joyous emotion—we should be less than human if it were not so. But, withal, let us be practical. This new policy is inspired by the anxiety to protect British industries. Wherein is the protection for the British farmer, who, by the way, may possibly have to bear a protection tax on implements and products necessary in his industry, and to pay, too, slightly higher wages. Laugh not at this last assertion. More assured employment and higher wages compose one of the baits offered to the workers. If British industries are to be protected let that protection be an all-round protection. To the farmer there is no difference in a colonial competition—apart from the very proper patriotic sentiment—and a foreign competition. Label that competition as you may it will still be competitive and still be rivalry. Why should the old traditional industry of the nation, agriculture, be the Cinderella of the family, without the prospect of Cinderella's evolution into fortune and graceful eminence?

A Septet of Interrogations.

Let us assume—in order to give a significance to the interrogations I will submit—that Tariff Reform is not merely the accepted faith of the great Conservative party, but is the accepted faith of farmers as a class. And, frankly, I believe that if a plebiscite of that class were possible there would be a larger majority in favour of the adoption of some form of Protection. Should, however, it be this form of Protection? "I am," said Mr. Balfour, "in favour of safeguarding the great Protective industries from unfair competition." Would the farmers of England be protected under this system? Would not that competition be rather accentuated? Now for my questions:—

(*a*) Would not a preferenced and encouraged Colonial trade mean that the wheat and produce markets would be flooded with Colonial produce?

(*b*) Is it not the fact that Canadian statecraft anticipates this, and has already its agents in several of our great centres ready to discover and take advantage of new opportunities for the sale of Canadian produce?

(*c*) Does not the Canadian farmer enjoy advantages of rent, rates, cost of transit and fertility of soil which must seriously handicap the British farmer in any competition of the British markets?

(*d*) Would the foreign wheat-competition be really put a stop to? Remember that Mr. Balfour laid it down explicitly in his Birmingham speech that one of the four principles animating this policy must be that—I quote his very words—"*your duties must be small.*' Would that small duty altogether keep out the out the foreigner? Would not the foreign trade — though it might be of somewhat lessened bulk—accentuate the penalty resulting from the volume of encouraged, preferenced colonial competition?

(*e*) Could, under the conditions imposed by Mr. Balfour, any serious import-tax be placed on wheat? A second of the four principles he laid down—and again I quote his words—was "*the duties should not touch raw material.*" Cereals are in a large degree a raw material? Apart from this, if he object to an import-tax on raw material would he, think you, agree to a serious import-tax on the people's foodstuffs?

(*f*) Does not the very declaration of Mr. Balfour that he would not support any import-tax if it "*augmented the proportion paid by the working man*" emphasise the belief that he does not intend a tax on imported food-products? Bread is much more the staple food of the working man than it is of any other section of the community.

(*g*) Does it not look rather that, whilst the illimitable and fertile areas of the great North-west—and, mind you, Canadian statecraft anticipates the early day when those areas will quadruple their yield—are to flood our markets with their harvest, the foreign rival of the British farmer is not to be seriously rebuked?

Is the New Policy Protection or Penalty?

I have framed these interrogations in no casuistical or pedantic or querulous spirit. I have deliberately framed them for the purpose of securing elucidation. I have deliberately framed them in the hope that they may induce Mr. Chaplin—to whom the farming class has a right to look for guidance, if only because of the manifold obligations under which the right honourable gentleman has placed that interest—to a clear and explicit exposition of the economic situation so far as it affects the food-producing cultivators of England, Scotland, and Wales? Mr. Chaplin has avowed himself "intensely satisfied" with Mr. Balfour's speech. Let me again ask him definitely—and this request really epitomises and crystallises the seven questions I have propounded—how far the new policy of Protection means the protection of the British farmer? Does it, in a word, mean protection or penalty? Will the encouragement of a colonial invasion of our produce-markets—plus no very serious discouragement of the foreign competitor—mean a greater demand and a higher price for British products? I implore Mr. Chaplin to give this phase of the subject his thought. We have, I repeat, a right to appeal to him—he is not merely a chieftain in the sphere of agricultural politics, he is one of the chief propagandists of the new economic evangel. If he remove the doubts inspired by Mr. Balfour's exposition of the new faith and the lessons many have deduced from that speech, he will have become the master of strengthened legions.

The dates of the two principal foreign horse shows in which English exhibitors are interested have now been fixed. The Paris Concours Hippique will be held as usual in the Grand Palais from March 22 to April 12, 1908, and the Hague Show will commence on July 6 and finish on July 12. The latter date has been fixed for the convenience of English exhibitors who will be engaged at the Royal Show at Newcastle.

FARM.

Gloucestershire Root, Fruit, and Grain Show.

The annual show of the Gloucestershire Root, Fruit, and Grain Society is an event of considerable interest in the county, and that it was as popular as ever was proved by the success of the forty-fourth show held in the Shire Hall, Gloucester, on the 9th inst. Roots of immense size were exhibited on stages round the corridors, and the assembly room was filled with flowers and fruit and vegetables, all of grand quality. The show was formally opened by the newly-elected Mayor (Mr. F. H. Bretherton), who attended in state, accompanied by members of the corporation, who afterwards were present at the annual dinner. The Hon. Michael Hugh Hicks-Beach, M.P., in proposing "The Mayor, City High Sheriff and Corporation," said they appreciated the presence of the Mayor and corporation, and felt sure that during the Mayor's year of office he would do his best for the city of Gloucester, for the Root, Fruit, and Grain Society, and also for agriculture in general. Mr. Bretherton's predecessor had also done a great thing in setting on foot a movement for holding the Royal Show in Gloucester in 1909, and in collecting such a large sum for that object. He hoped before the present mayor's term of office had expired he would have the pleasure of announcing that he had received the promise of the sum that remained to be raised to ensure the visit of the Royal Society. It was not for him to dilate upon the advantages that show would bring to the agriculturists of Gloucestershire, but he said it would also bring enormous advantages to the city of Gloucester.

The mayor, after thanking the company for their reception of the toast, announced that the promises for the Royal Show visit now amounted to £3,924. That was very far from the sum needed, viz., £6,000. The subscriptions up to date had been on a large and liberal scale—very liberal, from gentlemen in the county whose names were an honour to the county. And he wanted to throw out a hint, which was that if every farmer in the county would subscribe according to his ability, they would have the amount required subscribed within the next six months.

Mr. Thomas McRow, secretary to the Royal Agricultural Society, was down to respond to the toast of "Success to Agriculture and the Gloucestershire Root, Fruit, and Grain Society," but having to leave early was called on by the chairman to make a few remarks without any formal proposal of the toast. He remarked that the agricultural industry in this country was second to none, and the interest maintained in the Royal Agricultural Society, the society he had the honour to represent, was far beyond what some people might think. When he was invited to attend their dinner, his council expressed their high appreciation, and he was exceedingly glad he could arrange to be present. He hoped to be in very close touch with Gloucester for some time to come. Personally, he had already had some very enjoyable times in their city with their late mayor, and with Mr. Sheffield Blakeway, and was looking forward to equally good times with the present mayor and other gentlemen associated with him.

As those who attended the Royal Show were aware, it was not alone for the week of the show, but for a considerable time before there was a large influx of people into the district. There were something between 800 and 900 stock exhibitors and anything from 1,300 to 1,500 implement exhibitors, and when they remembered that the implements section had to be in the yard a week before the show, and that the various representatives of the firms were coming in and out of their city, they could form a better idea of what was involved. The yard was in course of erection from about February up to the time of the show, which brought an influx of people and made work, and altogether he thought that the Gloucester people would find that the show would be beneficial.

They might have observed from the statement made at the last meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society's Council by the chairman of the Finance Committee, the fact that the balance over their expenditure at Lincoln was £5,056; the profit of the show having been that amount. This was very gratifying to the society, and also to the Lincoln people themselves, and he had received a very generous letter from the Lincoln Agricultural Society, saying what help the show had been to that particular society. In past years the visit of the Royal had not been looked upon as helping local societies, on the other hand it was said to have done more harm than good, but the arrangements now made tended very much to the benefit of the local society, and when they came to Gloucester he thought their local society would feel the advantage.

Personally it was a matter of great pleasure to him to know that the Royal Agricultural Society was coming to Gloucester. He happened to be connected with the adjoining county of Herefordshire, and he sincerely hoped that the show in Gloucestershire would be as satisfactory and successful as appearances would lead one to suppose that it would be. With regard to the necessary funds, he assured Gloucester that the society sympathised with local efforts, and he trusted that during the mayoralty of the present Mayor the money would be obtained, and that Gloucester would really have a difficulty after the visit in knowing what to do with the balance.



A REMARKABLE WHEAT STACK.

The Wheat Stack shown above has been standing in its present position for close upon thirty years. It belongs to Mr. Philip Selby, and is to be seen in his stackyard at Aisby, a few miles from Grantham. The stack can undoubtedly claim the distinction of being the oldest of its kind in the world. It is said that the reason it has never been thrashed is because the owner once made a vow that he would not sell the grain under a certain price, which it never attained. It is black with age, but the grain is in good condition. It is said that there is not a rat in the stack; the holes seen in the picture have been made by birds.

Martinmas Hiring Fairs.

Monday last being the Scottish Quarter-Day of Martinmas, several Martinmas Hiring Fairs were held in the north on that day and also on the preceding Saturday. The principal was that at Carlisle on the Saturday when, unfortunately, the weather was most unfavourable, and the attendance of both masters and servants was not so large as usual. The term of hiring was for the half-year, ending Whitsuntide next, and the length of the term, together with the fact that there was still a good deal of harvesting to be done, made the demand for servants a good one, and they naturally were inclined to stand out for bigger wages, so that the fixing up of agreements was somewhat slow.

The best class of men obtained about £17 for the half-year, more being given only in exceptional cases. Second-class men were engaged at from £12 to £14; strong lads, £8 to £11; and boys from £5 to £6. Women and girls were scarce, and difficult to hire. Experienced women were engaged at up to £13; younger women, £8 to £10; and girls from about £5 upwards. These terms include board and lodgings in the farmhouses during the half-year.

At the first of the three annual statute hiring fairs at Malton, held on the Saturday, very little attention was given to hiring, and where engagements were made the wages of last year seemed to rule. Female domestics were in big demand, and obtained £15 to £18 for strong servants, £9 to £12 girls, and from £7 young nurses. Farm lads asked £10 to £12, strong youths £15 to £17, and wagoners and experienced hands, of which there were only a few present, obtained from £18 to £21.

The Appleby hirings, which were held on the same day as Carlisle, were fairly well attended, particularly by masters, but there was a scarcity of female labour, and those that were present asked for higher wages, which in many cases were obtained. Experienced men obtained £16 to £17, secondary men £13 to £14, young men £10 to £12, and lads £5 to £8 the half-year, with board and lodging.

The Hexham Martinmas hirings, which are for single servants, took place on Monday, and were well attended, but transactions were somewhat slow, and there was little or no change in wages. For men the general run of wages was from £12 to £16 for the half year, but in exceptional instances £18 was given for experienced men. Women got from £9 to £13, and in a few cases £14 was given; girls from £5 to £8; and young lads from £5 10s. to £9, according to age and ability.

Monday also witnessed the holding of the first and principal of the Martinmas hirings at Thirsk, and here, as at Carlisle, the backwardness of harvesting and ploughing induced the servants to ask for higher wages, which farmers were not inclined to pay, and where agreements were entered into, the wages ruled practically the same as last year. Hinds with wife to attend poultry, with cottage, garden, and the usual allowances, were fairly good to get, and made from 18s. to 21s. per week. Capable farm foremen obtained from £26 to £30; head lads and horsemen, £17 10s. to £18 10s.; farm boys, £6 to £8 10s.; and plough lads, of which there was an excellent attendance, from £9 to £10 10s. Girls for farmhouse places were as usual scarce, in fact the demand for female labour far exceeded the supply. Farmhouse head girls secured from £19 to £21; second hands, £15 10s. to £16: and young girls, £8 to £10 10s.

On Tuesday the Martinmas Hiring Fair at Wigton, Cumberland, was held, and was largely attended by both farmers and servants. As at other fairs, the latter, knowing the backward state of work, held out for higher wages, and the hiring was accordingly slow. Experienced men obtained from £15 to £17 for the ensuing half-year ending Whitsuntide; second class, £12 to £14; youths, £8 to £11; and lads, £5 to £7. Female servants were scarce, and were outnumbered by employers. Experienced women got as much as £13; second class women, £8 10s. to £10; and girls, £5 upwards. The wages in each case include board and lodging at the farms.

At Stockton, on Wednesday, men capable of doing all classes of farm work, and women for general farm work, were very scarce, and hardly any engagements were made with women. Ploughmen commanded £15 a half-year, boys £6 and £7 whilst girls received £7 to £9.

Winter Fruit Spraying.

In view of the general interest which this subject is arousing throughout the Kingdom, and indeed in many other parts of the world, by the important researches of Mr. Walter Collinge, of the Birmingham University, and other investigators, we have pleasure in giving, with this number, a Coloured Supplement illustrating the actual results achieved by Mr. W. Edmonds, of Rede Court, Strood, one of the most progressive of Kentish fruit growers. In this illustration representative samples of Apples from Sprayed and Unsprayed Fruit Trees in the same Orchard are given side by side. The results speak for themselves.

We ought to add that these illustrations are from actual untouched photos of the Fruit itself.

West Country Notes.

HOW many expressions of thankfulness I have heard during the past week at the relaxation of the regulations requiring licenses for all movements of swine. It is practically only in the places bordering on the county of Somerset that difficulties continue, so far as that county is concerned.

THE Somerset, Wilts, and Dorset Farmers' Association continues to make satisfactory progress, and the second annual meeting of the Weston-super-Mare branch, just held, reported a growing interest in its action in that district. The member for the division, Mr. T. B. Silcock, as usual with men of his stamp, advocated combination of farmers to effect their objects, and to influence the Government.

A DAY or two before I was listening to speeches of a very different sort. A couple of the representatives of Colonial Governments met a big practical group of Somerset farmers, and some from adjacent counties, to discuss business with them. Both Mr. Mackinnon, the Bristol trade representative of the Canadian Government, and Major A. E. M. Norton, D.S.O., the commercial agent of the South Australian Government, gave a graphic account of the manner in which their respective Governments looked after the interests of agriculture.

NOT merely from the point of fostering the interests of their own colonists were these efforts directed, but also, as the surest way of doing so, securing uniformity of production, and purity and cleanliness in the products sent out, by which the consumer has the advantage. "Supply what your customers ask for" was apparently the advice of both Governments to their producers.

TO the residents within these islands Major Norton made it abundantly clear that the people "down under" were intensely loyal. To the man whose father had never seen these shores, nor had he himself, England was still "home," he told me. The South Australian would be quite content with his share of the trade of this country if only our buyers would be as loyal to British productions as Colonials were to "home" products.

NOW this would seem somewhat straight ideas to be laid before home producers, were it not quite evident that rivalry commercially was less serious than would appear on the face of it. For instance, Australia is now a very good customer for our West of England breeds of cattle, and the way in which the Dorset Horn sheep are being received beyond the seas shows a good market for home produce.

MOREOVER, many of the West of England men are too closely associated with the Colonies to feel jealousy of their progress, as was very evident during the meeting referred to. It was again apparent at the meeting of the Dorset Horn Sheep Breeders' Association last week, where it was decided to form an Australian branch of the association.

NOW neither Mr. Mackinnon nor Major Norton had one word to say about our home Government and agriculture. Yet the effect produced by their speeches upon everybody, apparently, was how lamentably behindhand our Board of Agriculture is in real work for the farmer.

RECENTLY, in that very district, a grievous scourge of the farmers over a wide area was brought to the notice of the Board. There was plenty of talk and correspondence about the subject, and visits paid by one or two inspectors, but as to finding a £10 note for anything practical, that was quite out of the question, though I believe the Board was honestly desirous of helping. Under either the Dominion or the Commonwealth Government it was generally felt that the result would have been very different.

A PRACTICAL view of a claim for compensation was taken by a judge in a county court in the West a day or two ago, and one which it is sincerely to be hoped will not be upset. A man on the wrong side of fifty attempted to slide down the side of a rather steep rick which he was engaged upon. The result was, as might have been easily foreseen, that he met with "an accident." The judge considered that such a risk was one the man ought to have had sense enough not to have taken. He refused to grant any compensation. The only excuse the man had for doing such a foolish thing was that a ladder had been moved.

SOME practical hints on the things that might be taught in agricultural districts, and are not, were given in a speech the other day at a prize distribution by Mr. A. F. Somerville. If, said he, the boys were going in in after life for apple growing and cider making, and intended to make it a success, they should be made conversant in school days with the various forms of tree disease, and of the methods by which trees could be freed from those diseases, and from the insects which infested them and spoilt the fruit. There was no doubt, he thought, that the growing of apples would be a most valuable asset in the future to farmers in the West.

AGAIN, he remarked, a farmer often wanted to know the weight of a rick of hay, and there was no reason why the boys at school should not be taught at school the way to measure a rick of hay. Land surveying was also a practical part of education in agriculture. If a field had to be ploughed or sown or mown a farmer wanted to know the area to be able to tell how much should be paid for the work.

ONE thing that has often struck me about the problems in these subjects which are set for school instruction is the utterly misleading figures that are given in text books. Here is one from a book before me, from an eminent firm, which suggests that it takes sixty men to mow 84 acres, and they are fourteen days over the job. A little later on it suggests that a mower can cut 7½ acres in thirty-five hours. It is quite time for a firm hand to be taken to make arithmetic studies a little more practical. And this is not the only branch of education that needs attention in the same way.

WATCHING a carnival procession in our district, I was surprised to hear a merry song from a trade car suddenly cease, and a waving of hands in my direction, and a call of my name. There were a merry group of dairymaids, who had found out a way to make agriculture attractive to the spectators of a pageant, and were showing the hand-and-tub method, dollying, and also the modern churn and worker in action. They were not alone in giving representations of agriculture, for a grey-bearded old shepherd with his dog, and a sheep which I expected to hear bark, were near at hand, and also another car with agricultural produce.

THE shepherd as well as our dairymaids were fortunate enough to be the winners of nice prizes for their enterprise, and later, at the fancy dress ball, I saw one of the damsels waltzing round with a swain in one of those rare old smocked frocks over which the needlewomen used to take so much pains, and, though ragged, it still looked well over the manly breast. England is still merry England, when people choose to make it so.

The Newcastle Royal Show.

At a meeting of the Newcastle Executive Committee in connection with the Royal Agricultural Show of 1908, held at Newcastle on Monday, the Lord Mayor (Mr. W. J. Sanderson) presiding, it was reported that the subscriptions promised (including one of £52 from the Lord Mayor) now amounted to £3,918. It was desirable to obtain over £6,000, and local subscription centres were being instituted in Northumberland and Durham.

With regard to dairying prizes, it was agreed to ask Mr. Charles Marshall, secretary of the Northumberland and Durham Dairy Farmers' Association, to submit definite proposals.

Some discussion arose on a proposed grant of £250 for farm prizes, and it was suggested that the matter should stand over until it was seen how the funds came in. Sir Joseph Ellis said he had offered £52 10s. for a dairy farm prize in the interests of a pure milk supply for big towns. The London committee had added to this, and gave three prizes, a first of £35, and two smaller ones. He thought this ought not to have been done. If special prizes were interfered with in that way the response to their appeal for funds would not be what they expected.

Sir Joseph's question was adjourned, and it was agreed to grant £260 from local funds for farm prizes.

There was a fair supply of horses at Darlington November Fair, held on Monday, but trade was not very brisk, especially in secondary qualities. Draught horses of the best class made £50 to £60, and others £25 to £35 each. Hackneys were not of high quality, and made £15 to £23. There was a fair supply of ponies, which for best kinds made £11 to £14 each, and secondary £8 to £9. Of store cattle there was a good show, and forward animals sold at good prices, but many were of indifferent quality. Good bullocks realised £13 to £14 10s., secondary £11 to £12, stirks (best) £9 to £11, secondary £8, younger cattle £5 to £7. Heifers, £11 to £13 10s., and geld cows £12 to £14.

Nottinghamshire Notes.

SPEAKING at the annual dinner of the Grantham branch of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union last week, Mr. R. N. Walker, of Leadenham, made reference to his ancestors who at one time farmed in Nottinghamshire. He said he was descended from a yeoman who farmed at Winthorpe, near Newark, from the year 1772 to 1778. He had secured no less than thirteen five-guinea gold medals from the Nottinghamshire and Yorkshire Agricultural Societies for experimental and scientific farming. The medal he valued most was the one secured for the best cultivated farm, with gates, tiles, and ditches in the best order.

IT was in 1800, continued Mr. Walker, that the House of Lords took a great interest in agricultural matters, and they recommended certain subjects to the Board of Agriculture. Some of them were invited to write essays, and his ancestor was awarded a medal by the first Lord Carrington. It was possible that some of them did not know that the peerage was created as far back as 1779, that the family name was Smith, and that the first Lord Carrington was President of the Board of Agriculture. This fact he told to the present President of the Board of Agriculture at Lincoln Show, who told him that the position in those days was simply a private affair.

ONE of the largest turnips which I have so far seen in this neighbourhood during this season measures 33½in. in circumference and weighs 21½ lb. It was grown at Kibworth.

DEATH has this week removed one of the best-known cattle dealers in the Midlands in the person of Mr. John Rayner, of Abbeydale, near Mansfield, who died on Sunday at the age of sixty. The deceased was well known at the principal cattle markets in the kingdom, particularly in Ireland and East Anglia. In the Lincolnshire district, too, he was a familiar figure, being a large holder of grazing land, especially near Wainfleet.

AN interesting experiment is being made in Scotland in the matter of rural education, a special school of study for young farmers having been opened at Ardenconnel, near Glasgow. The scheme was originated by the Rev. Dr. Paton, of Nottingham, and is being carried out by the Scottish Christian Social Union.

IN reality the idea emanates from Denmark. All over that country are to be found what are called Popular High Schools, which this year have been attended by about 6,000 young men and women of the agricultural class—five months in winter for the men, and three months in summer for the women. Towards the expenses entailed in attending the classes, pupils receive small grants from the State To the United Kingdom at the present time the aim and achievements of these Danish schools are very suggestive.

THE material value of these schools was proved in a remarkable way. Between 1870 and 1880 Danish agriculture seemed on the brink of ruin owing to the fall in value of its staple productions—corn and cattle. A new industry was required, and there was built up that wonderfully organised system of scientific co-operative dairying which now exports many million pounds' worth of produce a year. The quickness and skill with which the change was carried out was largely due to the high schools, for they turned out sets of young men and women able at once to grasp and execute new ideas.

MANY of the public offices in Denmark are held by men who have passed through these high schools. In Sweden and Norway schools of a similar character are already in existence. But so far as the British Isles are concerned the school for young farmers at Ardenconnel, near Glasgow, is a pioneer. The whole charge, including board, lodgings, instruction, and registration, is only £4 4s., and the instruction commenced on November 4 and ends on November 29. There is a very large list of learned professors who will give lectures, the subjects of instruction including agricultural science, English, history, and geography, economic science, nature knowledge, hand and eye training, gymnastics, and arrangements have been made for lectures on the teaching of the law and the prophets, the Christian ideal of character, the romance of missions, &c.

THIS experiment comes at a most opportune time, when our reformers are hoping to see a great increase of small holdings. If it succeeds, and there appears to be no reason why it should not, the idea will doubtless be taken up elsewhere, and the small holdings movement will have a valuable ally, which cannot fail to solve the problem of "Back to the Land."

RAPID progress has been made with wheat sowing in the county during the past few

days, and many farmers have finished. Some of it has been got in well, and from what I can gather farmers are making an effort to sow as much wheat as possible this autumn, in view of the good prices realised since the beginning of October.

THE Nottingham Corporation have decided to erect structures of brick on the Stoke Bardolph Farm in place of a number of old wooden buildings which have done service for fully twenty-five years. A large number of cattle are fed at the home farm, and it has long been far from convenient for the beasts in the old and dilapidated buildings.

IN this month's circular of the Midland Farmers' Co-operative Society, the manager (Mr. Bryant) refers to the death of Mr. T. B. Handley, who was well known in Notts and Derbyshire, and says: "It is with the deepest possible regret that we have to record the death, through an accident, of our good friend, Mr. Handley. We mourn the loss of a man who cannot be replaced. Though not at first, perhaps, altogether in favour of co-operation, once he became convinced of its real benefit to farmers he was most enthusiastic in support of it, and threw himself heart and soul into the work of the association, and did much to inaugurate it and carry it on to success, giving much time and attention to it, although engaged in a great deal of public work. A most genial, upright, straightforward man, he will be sadly missed in many quarters, he was always striving to do good to someone; he has left the world better than he found it, and the good he did still lives after him. We beg to tender our most sincere sympathy to his widow and family." R. K.

November 14, 1907.

Lord Heneage on an Agricultural Party.

Speaking at the annual dinner of the Louth Ploughing Society on Thursday, Lord Heneage referred to the proper forming of an agricultural party, and remarked that the first attempt at that was made forty years ago, when he and other members of Parliament of all politics formed the Central Chamber of Agriculture. The second great question at that time was unfortunately still before them, that of the cruel incidence of rating on agricultural land, the raw material of agriculture. When he was President of the Chamber in 1872 they passed a resolution in Parliament calling for legislation on the subject, but the ugly head of Protection showed itself, and since then the protection and rating questions had been cutting one another's throats.

What did they want an agricultural party for, and how were they going to get one when they were divided among themselves! Before they could form a party or make themselves heard in the House of Commons, they must have some definite opinion upon which all parties could agree. When he was in the House of Commons each party had an agricultural committee, and whips who conferred to secure common action on important questions. There was not much harmony now between agricultural members on both sides. The idea was how much capital for political purposes could be made out of this or that question.

That was not the way a large industry should be treated. Whether agricultural districts were represented by Conservatives, Liberal Unionists, Liberals, Tariff Reformers, or Free Traders, their object ought to be that agriculture should not be treated as a party question, and that they should do their best to act together for the interests which they represented.



A greatly magnified head of Corn Thrips (larva), revealing its curious antennæ or feelers. Those of an adult are slightly different.

CORN THRIPS.

Farmers who do not avail themselves of the use of the microscope (which is an instrument possessing immeasurably valuable properties for them) may sometimes have reason to express surprise when their apparently robust corn commences to show signs of deterioration. They may often have succoured it to perfection, almost to the point of ripening, meantime preventing the attacks of such pests as the Hessian, gout, and saw flies, until the ears begin to develop; yet, in spite of their strenuous efforts, very evident symptoms of weakness exist to interfere with their hopes concerning the future harvest.



Two Thrips running over the outlets of flowers of corn, the latter of which are shown respectively closed and open, with pollen emerging. These are larvæ.

Close examination of a number of the ears reveals the fact that many of the seeds are in a shrivelled condition, from which it seems impossible to expect recovery. Late-sown wheat is liable more especially to these defects than is early-sown. As these particular disasters occur chiefly in sultry, thundery weather, many farmers are apt to spring to conclusions respecting the matter, and to associate the damage entirely with the weather.

There is some excuse for the favouring of this mistake, because, although the injuries are due to insects, the latter are so minute as to escape observation unless they are purposely sought for. It is usual to shake the attacked ears over a sheet of clean white paper, when there will almost immediately afterwards be seen several tiny black specks nimbly hopping about; and it will not be long before they have entirely cleared off. These are thrips, mischievous creatures only too well known to growers of all kinds of crops in some form or another. When fully grown and perfect they are about one-twelfth of an inch long, and blackish; but in their larval state are paler, being then of a brown tint.

They may be encountered on wheat ears throughout the whole growth of the latter, from June onwards. Within the sheathing leaves, too, is a favourite place for their accumulation and ravages. Very frequently, by sucking the juices out from the stalks at spots just above the knots during the tender stages of the plants, they considerably add to the destruction.

It should be the business of anyone who suffers from any kind of pest to endeavour to make as complete acquaintance as possible with it, notwithstanding the fact that remedies directed towards eradicating the insects may not be numerous, or may not be of a certainty always effective. Armed with knowledge, and guided by judgment based on years of practical experience, a farmer would be in a far better position to avoid continued suffering than he would be without the particular entomological information. Hence we will penetrate a little into the mystery of the thrips.

If a grower will take the trouble to look closely among the ears of his wheat when they are issuing from their sheaths he will see some bright yellow objects dangling from each flower. Naturally, these must be quite familiar things to observant men; but I must mention the subject or my other remarks will not be thoroughly understood. These are anthers, and to each flower—each flower becomes a husk, &c., later on—there are allotted three of them, in addition to a central germ which slowly develops into the grain. The anthers discharge the pollen-dust, without which no grain would properly grow. The bright, windy weather, so coveted by farmers, enables the pollen dust to be blown about from the anthers on to the prepared tips of the young seeds, which it fertilises. Up to this point all seems to be fairly comprehensible, but if we wish to get into closer touch with Nature's details we must magnify the anthers. We then discover that each one is a tiny bag which splits open along two sides, beginning the process in the manner illustrated. At the same time the pollen is disclosed as being composed of perfect balls, the contents of which can be squeezed out separately, like the juice from an orange. It is this essential fluid which is soaked into the tissues of the embryo grain; anything which interferes with the due performance of any of the necessary functions causes the seeds to become stunted and to stop growing.

Now, to make all matters clear, I have shown some thrips upon corn anthers, all parts being drawn in approximate proportions one to the others. The sketch will convey a better idea of the truth than reams of description will. You can at once learn that a thrip could worm its way into an anther, before it was ready to poke itself from the flower, and feed upon the maturing pollen, thereby viciously tampering with the desired course of events. The specks of pollen dust are, in comparison with the insect, like delicious fruit, each having a definite skin and contents. It is this "relativeness" of one minute thing with another, constituting a dwarf and almost separate world, which is so little understood by the majority of people.

The thrip, bear in mind, never exceeds one-twelfth of an inch, although it is, of course, smaller than this during its growth. It is wingless, as shown, until it becomes an adult, when it acquires either one or two pairs of feathery-like wings, which are almost useless for flight, but assist it to spring briskly about amidst fly. During all its stages each of its six legs terminates in a sucker instead of a claw; and it is these features which so annoyingly irritate the flesh of anyone who handles plants from which they emerge.

If we look for awhile at a similarly magnified seed of wheat we find that several layers surround one another like the rings of a tree stump, and enclose a comparatively large middle area. The grain really consists of a large number of separate tiny skins laid together in intimate contact, and each coat has a somewhat different appearance from that of its companions, and is composed of characteristic chemical compounds. The practical farmer will not desire me to go further into this phase of the subject.

The entire seed is built up of myriads of cells, yet each coat has an arrangement varying from the others; and all appear like tiny sets of wire-work over which transparent films are stretched and fixed. The sizes and numbers of the meshes will not be precisely the same in all seeds; so much depends on age and quality. Even a minute foe can wreak havoc upon some of its cells, to the disadvantage of surrounding ones. Thus these tiny thrips, by consuming the pollen, anthers, and young seeds, inflict very severe trouble on the growing ears, a period when every energy is concentrated on the one effort to perfect and strengthen the products for which the whole of the



Magnified Thrip in flight. Some species have four wings, while others have none. The actual length of the insect is only about 1-12th of an inch long.

plant has hitherto been toiling, under the direction of the patient farmer.

The greatest trouble is to discover a good remedy; yet nothing really serviceable seems to be available. Tobacco and sulphur recipes, and the like, which may be profitably employed against thrips in the garden and greenhouse—for other species attack all kinds of plants—generally fail in the field, as may be expected. To adopt such things is almost equal to killing an elephant with a pin. Inasmuch as sun and wind are absolutely necessary for the quick ripening of corn, care should be taken that these two factors have full and free play. It has often been noticed that the thrips pest multiplies to a greater extent on plants which happen to be sheltered in any way from the wind. This fact suggests its own routine of prevention. Avoid such situations for wheat, &c.

Early sown wheat manages, as a rule, to secure time to grow sufficiently strong to resist the attacks of thrips. The grain appears before the insects are numerous, and gets hard enough to cause them inconvenience in trying to split up the tissues. Early sown wheat also enables the pollen to get blown out before thrips can meddle with it. There is not the least doubt that they do feed on it. I have the evidence of my own eyes during my microscopical experiments to prove it.

Remember that soil which is thoroughly well drained, and from which weeds are steadfastly kept absent, in addition to neatly-trimmed hedges, will all help to ward off thrips. All cereals, such as wild barley, will harbour this pest in millions, and render all the farmer's struggles abortive if allowed to grow near his fields.

JAMES SCOTT.

Lincolnshire Notes.

THE Lincolnshire Association for the Prevention of Poisonous Drugs to Horses held its twenty-eighth annual meeting on Friday. The association is beginning to put on flesh, so to speak. Time was when it was busy enough. But the growth of education, and the general uprising of common-sense amongst the men who look after agricultural horses, is dissipating the absurd notions which used to prevail as to the magical ways of imparting condition to a horse. The association had only one case to deal with last year, and this was an instance of the servant stealing his master's corn. And having less and less work to do it is accumulating a nice little balance, which has amounted to £326 12s. 6d. May it go on accumulating. The interests of horseflesh in the county will find some very good use for the money as soon as ever it gets big enough.

SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE is beginning to chafe against the restrictions on the pig market. During the past fortnight a petition to the President of the Board of Agriculture has been extensively signed praying for the removal of the present embargo on the markets. The signatories include a large proportion of the farmers, small holders, allotment holders, and ratepayers of the parts of Holland whose nearest market town is Spalding. The petition asks that the markets may be open for the sale of both fat and store pigs, and calls attention to the fact that the district is now practically free from disease, and has been for some time past. Let us sincerely hope Earl Carrington will incline a favourable ear. The inconvenience and loss caused by these restrictions makes it very advisable that they should be removed at the earliest safe and possible moment.

LINCOLNSHIRE'S new high sheriff, though he has not before taken any public part in the affairs of the county, is one of its well-known men. Lords of the manor, patrons of the living, owners of most of the soil in the parish, the Fanes have long been a potent force in the village of Fulbeck, which is some nine miles from Sleaford and eleven from Grantham. The new sheriff, Captain William Vere Reve Fane, of Fulbeck Hall, is a member of the county council of Kesteven, but has no other public responsibility. He has, however, attained military distinction. He was given a company command in the 3rd Battalion Lincolnshire Regiment (Royal North Lincoln Militia), in November, 1896, and served with his embodied unit in South Africa during the Boer War, under Colonel C. A. Swan, C.M.G.

CONGRATULATIONS to Mr. W. Dennis, of Kirton, whose son, Mr. J. W. Dennis, was on Saturday elected Mayor of Westminster. Amongst his other distinctions, Mr. Dennis is a prominent figure in Covent Garden, and an active member of the Central Chamber of Agriculture. He was a member of Mr. Chamberlain's Tariff Commission, and was the moving spirit in the agitation for reducing the railway rates. He will make a Mayor with brains in his head as well as energy in his nerves.

THE prospect of the realisation of small holdings is opening out the way to a discussion of some of the real difficulties which stand in the way of agricultural progress in this county. In South Lincolnshire all circumstances are favourable, and there is much genuine demand. But the housing question is standing out a grim, determined obstacle to any real progress in the question.

AT Moulton the courageous Parish Council has set itself to relieve the difficulty, but in many localities the evil is still very acute. Agricultural labourers with families, we are told, will not come to some of these parishes, and young fellows who are anxious to marry will not remain there, simply because the housing conditions are so antiquated and inadequate. Farmers all round the district are made painfully conscious of this difficulty, and altogether the prospect is anything but rosy. It is plainly the duty of the local authorities to step in. Convenient healthy cottages at reasonable rents should be secured as the very *sine quâ non* which they are to a prosperous agricultural district. It is no use expecting Providence to intervene. Even at some cost to the rates the authorities should set to work at once, the sooner the better for the prosperity for the south, and generally for the county of Lincolnshire.

THE successful inauguration of another branch at Spalding marks another milestone in the progress of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union. It has now not 2,000 but 3,000 farmers comprised in its powerful fold. A Spalding paper declares it now really seems as though the Union has accomplished something substantial in the direction of awakening agriculturists to the value of co-operation for protective and aggressive purposes. It more than seems the Farmers' Union has lighted up the country with the real zeal for the co-operation and combination in matters agricultural.

THE ideal of an independent agricultural party in national politics has never been anything like so near its realisation. Already both political parties have begun to coquet with the Union, but I am glad to see it will have none of them. As the matter has been so well and so strongly put the Government will minister to an interest just as in the proportion that that party's interest is represented in the House of Commons. The Irish party realised that fact long ago; the Labour party has just begun to realise it, very much to its own advantage. Now that the agriculturists, who have never yet been represented there at all, have begun to tumble to the idea we look like getting on.

THE fight against the new railway demurrage charges has advanced another stage. On Tuesday members of the Lancashire Hay Dealers' Association had a conference with representatives of the railway company. A negotiation did not result, but an understanding of some kind was arrived at. The association has undertaken to discuss the matter and make a practical suggestion to the companies as to how far they are prepared to go in the matter. The rest should be only a matter of bargaining, and if both sides are reasonable the settlement should be found very near at hand.

THE uninitiated often wonder at what appears to be the stupendous folly of the farmer in refusing to gather in his corn. Well, here is his defence. A Washingborough correspondent, to a local paper, writes as follows:—

"We hear of a large quantity of corn in the North not yet gathered in, but we need not go so far to see this. We have some in our Fen, only six miles from the city, which is not yet cut, and some which has only just been cut, although it has been ready for some six or seven weeks. This is, so we learn, all through the advance in the harvest time of the price of labour to gather it. What is left of it now is practically spoilt."

THERE must be something wrong here. Corn which will not pay to reap this harvest must be expensive gathering. I am afraid it is another instance of that stupidity with which some farmers are so apt to kill their own interests.

In the description of the Shire colt foal which was given in our issue of the 4th inst., it was stated that the foal was bred by Mr. A. Nicholson, Highfield Hall, Leek. We are, however, informed that it was bred by the owner, Mr. J. G. Williams, but that Mr. Nicholson is the owner of the foal's sire, Redlynch Forest King.

LINCOLNSHIRE FARMERS' UNION.

A BRANCH FOR SPALDING.

On Tuesday afternoon a meeting of agriculturists was held at Spalding to consider a proposal for the formation in the district of a branch of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union. Mr. James Robinson, of Pinchbeck West, presided, and there was a very fair attendance.

The chairman, in opening the proceedings, urged the necessity of the farmers combining in order to bring pressure to bear upon Parliament to secure attention to their needs.

Mr. S. E. Dean, the chairman of the Sleaford branch of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union, addressed the meeting. He said they could not have failed to observe during late years the apathy shown by Parliament towards any measure that had for its object the benefit of agriculture, and the reason for this, he suggested, was that the agriculturists had never combined to promote their interests, which had been squeezed out by the combination of other industries. He looked to the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union to be the means of raising the agricultural interest from the present position of impotence in which it stood to a higher sphere more in accordance with its national character.

Mr. Featherstone and Mr. J. Thurlby, of Baston, the chairman of the Stamford Branch of the Union, also addressed the meeting, the latter stating that the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union had now a membership of 3,000, and they were doing their utmost to organise the whole of the county, and were also establishing branches in neighbouring counties.

Mr. W. Dennis, J.P., of Kirton, moved a resolution that a branch of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union be established for the Spalding district, and he acknowledged the importance of combination amongst the farmers.

Mr. Henry Casswell, of Quadring, seconded, and the resolution was agreed to, and a number of names were subsequently given in for membership.

Judges for the Birmingham Fat Stock Show.

HEREFORDS, DEVONS, WELSH, KERRIES, AND EXTRA STOCK.—F. W. Shuker, Scorrier, Cornwall; J. H. Yeomans, Withington, Hereford. SHORTHORNS, SCOTS, AND CROSSES.—W. S. Ferguson, Pictstonhill, Perth, N.B; H.W. Woods, Ivydene, St. Andrew's Road, St. Anne's-on-Sea.

SHEEP.—A. Bradburne, Streethay House, near Lichfield; Cary Coles, Manor House, Winterbourne, Stoke, Salisbury; F. M. Jonas, Holly Cot, Burley, near Ringwood, Hants.

PIGS.—T. S. Minton, Montford, Shrewsbury; A. R. Baxter, Dale End, Birmingham.

CORN.—J. Edwin Mitchell, Cape Hill, Birmingham; Frank B. Ludlow, Holt Street, Birmingham.

ROOTS.—John Myatt, Lynn House, near Walsall; Thomas Palmer, Hampton Lodge, Warwick.

POTATOES.—W. Halliday, Patshull Gardens, Wolverhampton.

At the largest ploughing match in the world, that of the North Kent match held near Dartford on November 7, there was a great victory for the Howard ploughs. Twenty-one prizes were won with the Howard ploughs, including seven out of nine first prizes, and the first prize in the champion iron balance plough class, as well as two special prizes for the best work in the field with an ordinary balance plough and with an ordinary iron plough.

The King has intimated his intention to send thirty-five Devon and other cattle, 300 Hampshire and Southdown sheep, and over 100 pigs from the Flemish and Home Farms at Windsor to the Slough Christmas Cattle Show and Sale on December 10.

Specially constructed vans for the conveyance of prize cattle by passenger train can be supplied for conveying cattle to and from the Birmingham Fat Stock Show (November 30, December 2, 3, 4, and 5) on application being made to any of the Midland Railway Company's stations, Mr. J. Mitchell, District Superintendent, Derby, or to Mr. J. Elliott, Superintendent of the Line, Derby. For the convenience of exhibitors of poultry and cage birds at the same show the Midland Railway Company have made every arrangement for the convenient and careful transit of exhibits to and from the show. Through trains to Birmingham will be run on Friday, November 29 by certain trains from their principal stations, full details of which can be had on application as above.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Town or Country Life.

SIR,—As the writer of the letter to which Mr. J. L. Brown refers in your issue of November 4, I thank him for his view of the case and also for the comparison he draws between the men he employs and the junior clerk in Manchester on 12s. 6d. per week. I quite agree with your correspondent that modern restrictions and the dearth of suitable cottages have driven many men from the land, and if all labourers were paid as well as those employed by Mr. J. L. Brown and had as many perquisites there would be no need for complaint. But, alas! such is not the case, for only a short time ago I was talking with a farm hand who is trying to make ends meet on 12s. a week, and being associated with his master's animals this man, in accordance with a rule established in the district, is denied the privilege of keeping a pig of his own for fear that he might succumb to the temptation of appropriating his employer's meal to feed it with. The eighteen shillings per week labourer who has perquisites and can earn extra money in harvest time is admittedly better off in the country than he would be in the town, but what about the 12s. a week man who drudges along from morning till night without a prospect of getting any more? Is it a wonder that he leaves the land and takes the risk of doing better—he can hardly do worse—elsewhere? Your correspondent states an actual case, as also do I, and each must be treated on its merits. I do not say that it is the farmer's fault that men have to grind on 12s. a week or less as they do, perhaps in more cases than those in which labourers are as well off as those in the employ of your correspondent, and it is gratifying to think that farmers would pay more for their labour if they got better prices for their produce, but I should like to know how many of the good people who try to make out that the farm labourer on 12s. a week is not so badly off would stick it. Not many, I fancy, if there was any prospect of another job.—Yours, &c.,

ANOTHER REFORMER.

Are Times Better for Farmers?

SIR,—Certainly times are better than they have been for some years, but these conditions must remain for some time before farmers can feel the benefit, or take advantage of them. Bigger rents are out of the question. For years farms have not paid interest on the capital required to stock them and a salary to the farmer as manager, which they should do before there can be any ground for raising rents.

Farmers have not kept on at their present rents because their farms have been paying properly, but because they had no alternative occupation to take to.

Just a word about your correspondent's balance-sheet. The value of the straw from an acre of a fair crop of wheat in this locality would be about £5, which would bring the balance to the other side of the sheet; £12 per acre is a fair average for the corn and straw of a crop of wheat here, though I have made as much as £15 per acre when wheat has been 30s. per qr.

There is a good local demand for wheat straw at 65s. to 70s. per ton, and there is not much grown, only about 20 per cent. of the land being arable, and a good deal of that is cropped with clover and roots.—Yours, &c.,

November 13, 1907. A. J. R.

Crops and Rent.

SIR,—It is sad to read in your journal of the quantity of corn that is now out about the country after the splendid weather we had in September and beginning of October. I think the reason is somewhat due to other causes than the weather. For instance, I know at least of two energetic farmers on the highest point of the Cotswolds who not only got their corn in and thatched before the rainy season set in, but have their young wheat well up in drill in October, while most of their immediate neighbours have either a piece of oats or wheat still out, and at that time not a grain of wheat planted, notwithstanding the Cotswolds are as late as any in the kingdom, barring extreme north, bearing out the old adage—The early man never wants to borrow of the late.

The favourable seasons we have had of late seems to have created an apathetic and easy-going feeling amongst many, for this adverse weather at the time of year must be expected, and will be sure to come, and the consequences may to a great extent be averted by getting on with the planting in the good old-fashioned time. Wheat should at the least, in these late districts, be in not later than September. Of course, spring corn depends a good deal on the lateness of the root crop being fed off. These periodical seasons act as a caution to the unwary, and to be prepared is always the safest policy.

With regard to rents, I am at a loss to understand by what stretch of imagination some landlords should come to the conclusion that they ought to be risen, even if the rumour is correct that wheat is going to be a little better price, farmers have had no time to realise this (and of late this seems to have a downward tendency), and it is more than probable that next year may be down to the old level.

I ask where is this sudden prosperity to come in to benefit the farmer. I say the thing is preposterous, and only exists in the imagination of the class of landlords for which the new Act, to come in force in 1909, would be appropriately applicable. Good landlords would like first to see that their tenants would really benefit before thinking of this.—Yours, &c.,

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

Agriculture and the State.

SIR,—Having read in last week's MARK LANE EXPRESS the report of Captain Mark Sykes's address, entitled "Agriculture and the State," delivered before the members of the Yorkshire Union of Agricultural Clubs on Tuesday at York, I should like with your permission to make a few comments upon that part of it dealing with the extinction of the yeoman class in Italy, which had no small share in the downfall of the mighty Roman Empire.

In order to make my remarks more forcible I will quote the passage I refer to:—

In the early history of the Roman Empire they found that the pristine vigour of the Republic was derived almost entirely from the services of the stalwart yeoman farmer who dwelt within the neighbourhood of the city; they provided the invincible powers of the early legions they infused the public with that rugged spirit of perseverance and national probity, and to them was due that stern independence which would brook neither the tyranny of a monarch at home, nor that of an invader from without.

The speaker examined the social conditions of Rome preceding her downfall in detail—the better income for the industrious in the city than on the land, and the daily pension of bread for the idle; and remarked that the yeoman farmer of Rome could not be revived for the very good reason that he was not wanted. He became extinct as the result of certain economic laws, which neither statesmen nor prophets could alter. This kind of thing, he proceeded, was very sad and regrettable.

Now it appears to me that Captain Mark Sykes can never have read that scholarly work by Dr. Dill, entitled "Roman Society in the Last Century of the Western Empire," or he would have gained some information regarding the disappearance of the justly praised yeoman class. Therefore I will take a few quotations from it to enlighten him.

On page 205 I read:—

Anyone who wishes to understand the meaning of the great social catastrophe of the Fifth Century must fix his attention on the condition and distribution of landed property and on the classes who possessed it.

And upon page 220 I find the following:—

Large landowners lay their hands on a debtor's land. The terms of one law of Honorius makes it probable that mere terrorism exercised by great nobles or officials, without any legal right whatever, often compelled the small farmer to part with his land by pretended sale or gift.

If a farmer got into difficulties from bad seasons or under municipal burdens, his readiest resource was to borrow from some rich neighbour. There were many ways by which the great man could lay his hands on the debtor's land, and the code leaves no doubt that the most unblushing oppression and chicanery were often employed to dispossess him; accumulations of interest occasioned forced sales, when there were few bidders but rich landlords, as the law seemed to discourage the merchant class from buying any land.

On Page 116 the author says:—

There can be no doubt that the hardened venality of the financial service, and the greed and rapacity of the great landowners, were the vices which did most to undermine the fabric of Roman society.

On page 190 the author states that

In the contest the middle or bourgeois class was almost extinguished, Roman financial administration was paralysed, and at its close the real victors were the great landholders surrounded by their serfs and dependants.

From the quotations I have given, it is perfectly easy to see why the yeoman as a class disappeared. Now, Captain Mark Sykes states, to quote his own words, "he was not wanted." Quite true; he was not wanted; but by whom he was not wanted the Captain does not say. Yet there is no doubt at all, when the passages I have quoted from Dr. Dill's work are kept in mind, that it was the big landlord who did not want him. Furthermore, the fact is quite apparent from Dr. Dill's writing that the class of huge landowners did not acquit themselves too well during the times of national trouble, for he says on page 135:—

Patricians fought hard to avoid the levy of recruits from their estates in the Gildonic War; they also showed what seems an unworthy timidity in the riots caused by the failure of the corn supplies from Africa. The same selfish weakness is revealed a few years afterwards in the flight of the wealthy when the troops of Alaric were closing round the city.

I would here like to insert a few quotations from Gibbon's "Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire." From page 14 of Vol. I. I take the following:—

In the purer ages of the Commonwealth the use of arms was reserved for those ranks of citizens who had a country to love, a property to defend, and some share in enacting those laws which it was their interest as well as a duty, to defend. [A footnote reads as follows:—The poorest rank of soldiers possessed above 40 pounds sterling (Dionys. Halicarn, iv., 17), a very high qualification at a time when money was so scarce that an ounce of silver was equivalent to 70 pounds weight of brass. The populace excluded by the ancient constitution were indiscriminately admitted by Marius.]

And then the author proceeds to state that

After every qualification of property had been laid aside, the armies of the Roman Emperor were still commanded, for the most part, by officers of a liberal birth and education; but the common soldiers, like the mercenary troops of modern Europe, were drawn from the meanest, and very frequently from the most profligate of mankind.

Of course, as is well known, this state of affairs, became even worse; for, in after years, when the barbarian hosts were pouring into the north of Italy, the slaves had to be pressed into the ranks of the legions—those legions whose fame, whilst they were recruited from the Yeoman class, will last as long as history remains.

I do wish that all patriotic Englishmen would read Dr. Dill's instructive work, and also, if they can command the time, Gibbon's "Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire"; and when they have done so they cannot fail to see the remarkable similarity between the state of the Roman Empire in the latter years of its greatness and the signs of the times, as well as the general social conditions existing in England to-day.—Yours, &c.,

JOHN O. NICHOLSON,
Norwegian Chalet,
November 12, 1907. Bridlington.

Agriculture in East Cumberland and North Westmoreland.

SIR,—I think it will be admitted by all parties who are financially connected with farming industry that the year 1907 has been the most critical and unsteady that the oldest of the farming community can remember, and its injurious and beneficial results have been so varied in different districts in close proximity to each other that no description can be more than approximately accurate.

So far as green crop is concerned there is no doubt but that the drier and finer soils had a great advantage over those of a wetter and heavier description; although the copious rains we had in July had enabled the latter to make much headway, they will still be quite one-third below average, and in several cases not average half a crop. But the remarkably fine September which so suddenly burst upon us after the unsettled August made a marvellous change in the relative condition of crops on different soils and situations. In whatever direction you travelled, it showed how very much we depend upon that capricious element the weather, over which we have no control, and therefore must grin and bear its vagaries, and at the same time admit its absolute power over us.

Our prospects at the close of September were hopeful and glorious. Abundant crops of grass, hay, and corn, had been reaped in all directions, and the hay as a whole well and cheaply secured, and most of the corn cut and secured, although a considerable quantity too hastily, as is shown by the smoking stacks, which was speedily followed by the wettest month of the year, October, which has more than half wasted the value of the large quantity of corn still outstanding till the first week in November.

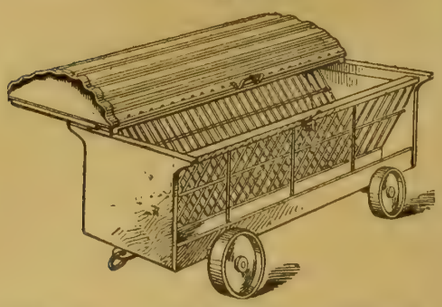
Where are our friends that still keep saying "Back to the land"? By what remedial policy do they propose to accomplish the ends they so loudly proclaim their intention to effect? Certainly not by socialistic doctrines or small allotments, or small holdings Acts.—Yours, &c.,

T. B.

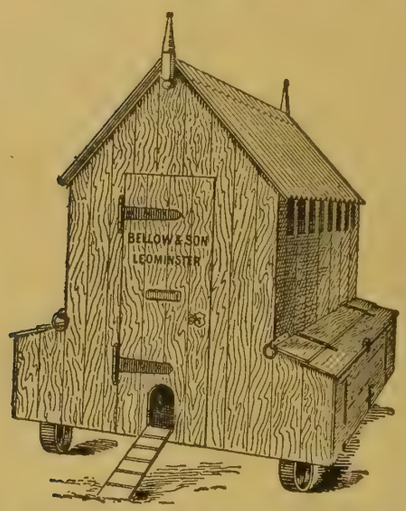
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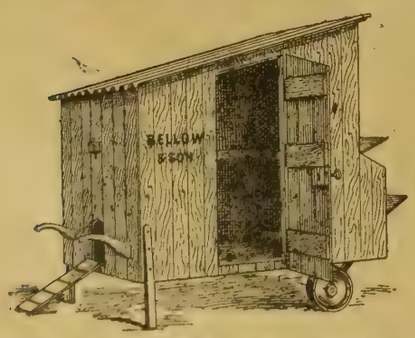
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MR. THOMAS, DEAR SIR.—Will you please forward me per return of post a 2/6 tin of your "Garstang Tonic." I may say that I used your Tonic last year, and found it far superior to all others I had previously tried. It is an excellent egg producer. It keeps the fowls in good condition, and helps them to stand changes in the weather. Hoping to receive the tin per return,—I am, yours faithfully,

(Signed) G. S. KITCHEN.

To be had from all Grocers and Chemists. Be sure you ask for Thomas's "Garstang Tonic," and don't be put off with any other. If you have any difficulty in obtaining the Powder write direct, and you shall have a tin per return.

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Prepared by JOSEPH THOMAS, Chemist, GARSTANG.

POULTRY.

Poultry on the Farm.

In speaking, for ease of expression, of natural and artificial methods of poultry keeping and production, we are in danger of forgetting that all our methods are more or less unnatural and artificial, as must needs be the case in our treatment of domesticated creatures of any description. We cannot keep domestic fowls under really natural conditions in this country, and any attempt to do so amid surroundings similar to their original habitat would eventuate in a reversion to primitive habits and characteristics—which would be unprofitable in the present century. Nevertheless, bearing in mind the inevitable limitations of the use of the word, the "natural" conditions of the farm are those most suited to the profitable keeping of poultry of various descriptions, and some sorts cannot be kept in a healthy and productive state in any other circumstances.

Under such conditions as prevail in this country, physically and economically, poultry can nowhere be kept so suitably—upon a commercially productive basis—as upon the farm. What is known as intensive production has been tried times out of number, and found wanting. The land will not stand it, and where the attempt has been made to make it carry an excessive head of poultry for a considerable period the ground has become fowl sick, with the inevitable result that disease has either modified or terminated the efforts to achieve the impossible. Chicken rearing, which is a common aim of the intensive enthusiast, cannot be conducted upon a sufficiently large scale for the purpose without ample room for change of rearing ground, separation from adult fowls, and the continual removal of the growing stock to "fresh fields and pastures new," such as are at the disposal of the farmer alone, to any desirable and sufficient extent. Ducklings may, of course, be reared and fattened within very narrow limits, but nowhere will the stock ducks breed so well and produce such fertile eggs as amid the "natural" surroundings of the farm. Guinea fowls would be objectionable elsewhere, and are sometimes obnoxious on even a large farm, but nowhere else can their peculiar habits be long tolerated. Geese are only possible and profitable in the possession of the farmer or commoner, and turkeys cost too much to feed without the wide range of fields and woods.

Yet although fowls have been inseparable from the farmyard from the most ancient times, and their utility "points" have been thought worthy of description by Roman agricultural writers, it is only within quite recent years that British farmers have commenced to regard them seriously, as being of any real commercial value. Individually they are not yet perhaps of much account on the majority of farms, yet collectively poultry production is an important agricultural asset; and in face of much that has been written and spoken deprecatingly, it is a fact that the farmers are the chief producers, with cottagers a good second, the so-called "poultry farmers" occupying the field. No other producer is in such a generally favourable position as the farmer in regard to cost of production, whether in relation to rent, labour, or food; the chief difficulty in some cases being the lack of facilities for marketing, which are, however, insuperable in but relatively rare instances. Poultry and eggs are extremely perishable articles of produce, and rapid collection and transit are essential to successful marketing, just as low rates for carriage are necessary where the margin of profit is narrow. Organisation, which is so generally desirable in agricultural affairs, is especially so in this particular; and where there is a natural growth of organisation, upon a businesslike basis suited to the local requirements, it is often much more lastingly satisfactory than when the motive-power is exterior to the particular needs of the locality.

Whatever immediate expedients may be resorted to in regard to marketing, the ultimate aim should be the co-operative supply of a large central market; and none is so generally remunerative, on the average of the year, as London. Such co-operative marketing does not necessitate any very elaborate organisation, or interference on the part of central officials, but may very well be engineered by an enterprising carrier in a market town, if he can induce a sufficient number of producing farmers to work with him. By such a simple method the individual charge for collection is reduced to a minimum, and the consignment in bulk has the necessary modifying influence upon the railway charges—which latter should be a matter of arrangement between the collecting carrier and the railway company.

With regard to the cash transactions, affairs may be further simplified by an arrangement under which the salesmen transmit the total cost of carriage to the carriers (who adjust matters with the railway company) and forward the balance, less their further personal charge of 5 per cent. commission, to the producers direct. The whole thing is simple, and whilst it reduces the expenses and trouble of marketing to the lowest possible point, it involves no expense for management and preserves the independence of each consigner.

This is no impossible Utopian scheme, but is the method employed in the south-eastern chicken industry, and has been adopted and grown by a simple commercial process, without any adventitious aids from those not immediately engaged in the producing industry. Without suggesting such an impossibility as the reproduction of this special industry throughout the length and breadth of the land—there are other and more vital factors operative in the success of this unique localised enterprise—it is at least reasonable to suggest that the method of co-operative marketing is applicable elsewhere.

It may, of course, be objected, and it would be a fair comment, that under this system the producer places himself rather unreservedly in the hands of the salesmen: and in this connection there is at the present time an active movement among a section of the producers with the object of safeguarding their interests by the exercise of some more definite control over the salesmen. Nevertheless, although there are always exceptions, the stall holders in the London markets are as a body men of business integrity, who are anxious to retain their stalls and who recognise that their existence is dependent upon the producers. Speaking generally, they treat their clients fairly. Anyway, despite the keen competition of imported poultry, and the grumbles of the agitators, the large and regular consigners agree that this year has been one of the best within their experience, and that good returns have been received for produce of good quality. To irregularly market inferior poultry and eggs of uncertain age is naturally to court disaster, as should be obvious to the businesslike farmer. The level of quality must, of course, remain an individual matter, but co-operative marketing will assist as regards bulk and regularity of supplies.

J. W. HURST.



Photo by] [Clarke and Hyde.

A LANGSHAN COCK, A WINNER OF MANY FIRST AND SPECIAL PRIZES.

The Twelve Months' Laying Competition.

The results have now been issued for the first month of the Utility Poultry Club's twelve months' competition, which is being held at Stocks Farm, Rayne, Braintree, under the management of Mr. E. W. Richardson, honorary secretary. Each pen consists of six pure bred pullets, hatched not earlier than January, 1907. Each pen of birds has a house to itself, and duplicate grass and scratching shelters are also provided.

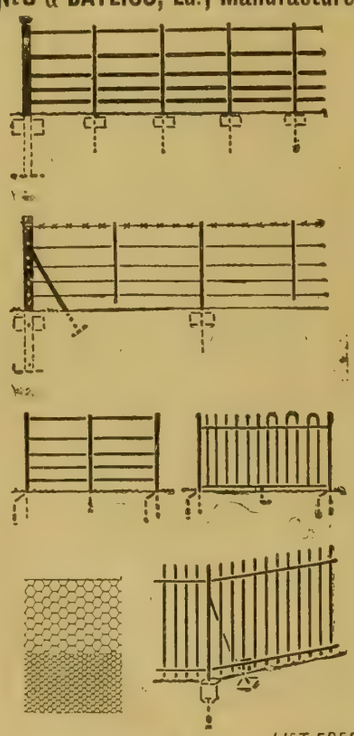
At the head of the list at the end of the first month is a pen of White Wyandottes, whose total number of eggs for the month is 77, by far the best total, for the nearest approach is but 58 by a pen of Buff Rocks; whilst two other pens of White Wyandottes are third and fourth, with totals of 49 and 41 respectively, the last-mentioned figure being also the record of the next pen, six White Leghorns.

In this competition the eggs are divided into grades, eggs which scale 2 ozs. or over being termed first grade, and those which scale under 2 ozs. second grade. The records of the best half dozen pens for the month are as follows:—

Breed.	1st grade eggs.	2nd grade eggs.	Unsaleable eggs.	Total.
White Wyandottes...	34	43	—	77
Buff Rocks	12	45	—	58
White Wyandottes...	5	43	1	49
White Wyandottes...	6	35	—	41
White Leghorns	5	36	—	41
Buff Rocks	19	12	—	31

It will thus be seen that, so far, White Wyandottes have proved far superior as layers, and it

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will be interesting to see if the pen maintains its position. As to individual effort, the best record is held by a bird in the third pen of White Wyandottes, she having laid twenty-five eggs during the month: second to her comes one of the second pen of Buff Rocks with a record of twenty-three eggs, whilst two in the first pen of White Wyandottes have twenty-one eggs to their credit.

The Dangers of Breeding from Diseased Fowls.

The best thing that can possibly happen to a really seriously diseased fowl is a prompt extension of the neck. It may require a little courage at the moment, but in the end it will save much trouble and worry, and prove a decidedly remunerative proceeding; and if this course is promptly followed with the first case that appears in a poultry-breeder's yard an epidemic will probably be prevented, and the great danger of breeding diseased offspring will be thus averted. With a sick mongrel it is quite likely prompt execution may be practised without much hesitation; but what happens in the case of the highly-bred exhibition or pure-bred specimen, or in the case of the pedigree layer with a champion trap-nest record, plus possibly a prominent position in one of the laying competitions? Such a bird is in its owner's opinion far too valuable to be thus peremptorily disposed of just because it happens to have contracted roup or developed symptoms of liver disease or tuberculosis, or any of the many other hereditary diseases to which poultry flesh is heir. So he coddles it up, doctors it with various nostrums, sometimes suitable, oftentimes quite the reverse, until in the end, after a vast amount of trouble, he is perhaps successful in so far patching up the patient that the outward and visible signs of the inward disease are dispelled, and the bird once again presents the appearance of a healthy specimen; but such appearances are in the majority of cases delusive. A fowl that has once been seriously affected is rarely, if ever, thoroughly and safely cured, and at any time it is liable under encouraging conditions such as unfavourable weather to break down again. But all this is not considered; the patient is "cured" (?), and if an exhibition specimen it is again allowed to follow its show career, which further strains and weakens its already delicate constitution, and finally, whether a show bird or a utility laying sprinter, it goes into the breeding pen, where it will possibly more or less, according to the disease, contaminate all the rest of the inmates, and almost certainly reproduce in its offspring the same undesirable troubles from which it has itself been a sufferer. To the thus doctoring up of a show specimen in order to again fit it for exhibition, there is not much to be said. The trouble may be worth the results to the owner, but under no circumstances should such a bird be bred from. The disease is not only liable to again crop up at all times and seasons when least expected, and thus upset breeding arrangements, but will also most surely bring trouble a hundredfold in the succeeding generations, whilst if eggs for hatching are sold from such specimens, they may prove the means of spreading the disease all over the country. Ask a farmer if he would knowingly breed from a glandered horse or a tuberculous cow, and yet such a proceeding would only be on a par with breeding from a fowl of either sex that has been affected with any of the numerous contagious and hereditary diseases to which poultry are liable, and, possibly more than any other animals, inclined to transmit to their young, and which, when they do not appear in the next, frequently crop out in succeeding generations years afterwards. Cures like that above referred to are usually superficial; the taint of the disease in the majority of cases remains in the blood—lurking within, ready to break out again on slight provocation, or to be transmitted to the offspring. The breeder of fowls who desires to produce strong, healthy, vigorous stock should exercise the greatest possible care in excluding from his breeding pen every bird that has at any time shown the slightest sign of disease. It may seem hard at the time to kill or ostracise otherwise valuable specimens, but it will pay many times over in the end, and if greater care in this respect were generally practised, we should hear much less of poultry epidemics and failures in poultry-keeping, the length of the post-mortem columns of the various poultry organs would be considerably reduced, and poultry-keeping of all phases would be much more remunerative. It is the delicate, unhealthy specimen that causes so much care and trouble, and in the end picks the pocket of its breeder.

MIDLANDER.

The Shorthorn sales in Scotland for the year show that 1,264 head were disposed of at a total value of £60,118 5s. 6d., or an average of £47 11s. 2d., against 1,051 head sold in 1906, and an average of £59 12s. 3d. last year.

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THEN READ THE
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Containing an Article on PROFESSOR BOTTOMLEY and the boon which he has conferred on British Agriculture.
This Wonder-working Scientist has Tapped the Nitrogen in the air, and he shows you how to benefit by his discovery.
EVERY FARMER AND GARDENER SHOULD READ THIS ARTICLE.
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Sample tins, 5s., sent carriage paid.
T. MOTT, Littleport,
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Questions and Answers.

FARMING.

Cauliflowers for Cows.—Will you kindly say if cauliflower leaves are as good as cabbage leaves for milking cows? And if not, what is the objection to them.—T. P.

ANSWER: Cauliflower leaves presumably means the cup-like cluster of leaves left after removal of the edible portion of the plant for sale. The leaves of the cauliflower are somewhat stronger than those of the cabbage, and are much more stalky than their representative of the brassica tribe; but they can safely be used in moderation, provided they are quite fresh and green. The outside leaves of the cabbage are known to impart an objectionable taste to milk, cream, and butter.

Kohl-rabi.—In this part of the country (Co. Dublin) we leave our swede turnips in the ground all the winter, only pulling them as required. Can I do the same with kohl-rabi, or must I pull and store it now same as mangel?—HIBERNIA.

ANSWER: Kohl rabi can bear a fair degree of frost but is not frost-proof. Some contend that it will keep better in the land than swedes do, but this is scarcely the case on those soils and in those climates where swedes are not stored. Perhaps the truth is that the ability to stand the winter in a given situation depends upon the period of sowing and upon the development of the plant. It is well known that swede bulbs of large size, which have been sown early and have attained full growth by Christmas, do not stand nearly as much frost as swedes sown later in the season and which are in full growth when the hard r frost sets in, and the more essentially nitrogenous the manuring and the more rapid the growth of the matured crop, the smaller is its ability to stand frost. It is well known that early-sown swedes, grown with superphosphate and nitrate of soda, are far more susceptible to injury from frost than swedes grown with a dressing of bone-meal alone. The analogy holds in the case of kohl-rabi. I do not know the peculiarity of your soil—and the peculiar characteristics of the soil have more to do with the keeping properties of roots than has climate, but as you can keep swedes unstored, I should say you can keep kohl-rabi unstored also. My advice is that you store a part of your crop, the earliest sown and best grown part, and let the remainder stand and note the results.

LEGAL.

Agricultural Holdings Amendment Act, 1906.—Would you kindly, through the medium of your valuable paper, give me the opinion of your legal adviser upon the operation of the above, which comes into force upon January 1, 1909, upon this one question? If a landlord gives his present tenants "notice to quit" in view of the above, in order to bring them under a new agreement, how do those tenants stand affected under the provisions of the Act?—AGRICOLA.

ANSWER: The only Section of the Act that appears likely or could have a retrospective operation is Section 4—the one you write about. Section 9 provides that the Act shall come into operation on the 1st day of January, 1909; therefore nothing done in the way of terminating a tenancy could possibly be affected by the Act if the tenancy terminated at Christmas, 1908; that is, the tenant would have a right to claim the benefits conferred by Section 4 in respect of additional compensation. The question is not so clear if the notice given terminates a tenancy and such tenancy comes to an end after January 1st, 1909, although I am of opinion that such a case would not fall within the Act, for the object aimed at in postponing the operation of the Act was to enable landlords to make fresh agreements with their tenants.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

Chief Rent.—I cannot give you any good reason why we do not pay it, but I should like to know what was the origin of the chief rent, and on what we are paying it. It can't be so much in the £, because I know of a farmer who pays only tenpence, and another about the same rent pays 7s. 6d. I have heard it said that it was goodwill of our forefathers towards the keep of hounds to destroy wolves, if so, I do not believe that anybody can claim them now.—J. F.

ANSWER: A chief rent is the annual payment that a freeholder of a manor makes—this rent is also called a quit rent. The history of these rents is interesting—the lord of the manor was a feudal lord, and the tenants held under him on performance of certain services, thus if he went to war he could call upon them to render him assistance. There were certain other rights the lord had, such as homage, wardships, values, and forfeitures of marriage. He could also call upon his tenants to pay aids for making the lord's son a knight, or on the marriage of his daughter. These services were not unfrequently commuted by payments known as quit rents, or chief rents, to get rid of the obligations or services, and the lord accepted these annually. The sanctions show that the particular services of the tenants varied. Payments: At the time these bargains were struck 10d. was a very considerable sum and its purchasing power was great, but owing to the fall in the value of money it is of course now a comparatively insignificant amount. The origin of your particular chief rent you say was for your ancestors to have the goodwill of the lord in keeping hounds to destroy the wolves. This may or may not be the case. I should rather think that your ancestors had to protect the manor from wolves, and that the lord of the manor took this duty on his own shoulders by keeping hounds, etc., in consideration of the tenants paying him a rent to get quit of their obligation. The rent is perfectly good. This is of probably more interest to the student of law and to the antiquary than anyone else.—BARRISTER AT-LAW.

VETERINARY.

Mallenders.—I have a mare affected with mallenders, and have tried different things (including veterinary preparations), but nothing seems to effect a perfect cure. Can your vet. tell me of anything that will remove it?—J. C. B.

ANSWER: "Nothing seems to effect a perfect cure," is, unfortunately, by no means an uncommon experience, and the late Professor Williams, in dealing with the treatment of mallenders and sallenders, technically *psoriasis carpi et tarsi*, says: "Generally remedies seem to have no effect, and beyond modifying the condition of the cracks when inflamed, the efforts of the practitioner are productive of no positive results." Mallenders and sallenders, frequently seen in animals otherwise quite healthy, is essentially a chronic and often an intractable disease, but it never spreads over any great extent of surface, and remains confined to the flexures of the limbs. Of all local applications tar ointment is the best, but we cannot guarantee that it will effect a perfect cure, and probably you can do as much towards modifying the condition of the cracks as by means of anything we can tell you. The authority referred to above states that in the case of a valuable animal, where the eradication of the disease is a question of importance, the treatment must be both local and general. He suggests the employment of a triple compound of arsenic, iodine, and mercury, but in the ordinary case it is best to keep the animal presentable by the employment of local dressings.—M.R.C.V.S.

Pony's Eye Wrong.—Kindly give us a good remedy for pony's eye. It is running water and keeps it closed. He must have knocked it, or a draught causing inflammation.—T. T.

ANSWER: The case may be one of simple ophthalmia, due to one of the causes mentioned, or it might be one of specific ophthalmia. This condition, although not so prevalent as was once the case in this country, still occurs occasionally where the hygienic conditions are not of the best. The great number of cases of blindness due to cataract met with a quarter of a century ago were due to this specific or recurring ophthalmia, or "moon blindness." We are, of course, unable to say to what cause the inflammation of the eye is due, but that it is inflamed is obvious from its running, and the intolerance of light. Light is very irritating to inflamed eyes, and that is why the animal protects the organ by closing the lids. The first step should be a careful examination in which it may be desirable to employ cocaine, to ascertain if any foreign body is present. The trouble is sometimes due to a piece of chaff or oat husk getting into the eye. If nothing of the kind is found, foment with a decoction of poppy heads in warm water, to which a little wine of opium has been added, and drop in a little lotion of: Sulphate of zinc, 10 grains; elderflower water, 8 ounces. The animal should be kept in a darkened stable, since light is very irritating. These directions apply more particularly to the beginning of a case of ophthalmia. What it requires no v. if anything, it is difficult to foresee.—M.R.C.V.S

Northern Notes.

THE week opened with a dry day, then rain the next, and the third was a day when "half a gale" blew. Farmers are making as much haste as possible to overtake the arrears of work on the arable portion of their holdings, and they are sanguine of being able to do this before the 23rd if the weather is anything like favourable; though it is perhaps their misfortune that the hirings are intervening, and causing the working days to be so many less than are marked on the almanack. The yearly hands claim their days off to attend the hirings, and a day of fine weather is very precious at this time of the year. To-day "is cold enough for snow," folk are saying, and a fall would surprise nobody. We should be far happier if the weather remained of that open type which would permit of all the winter wheat being sown—including the increased acreage which the high "paying price" had stimulated the farmer to prepare for.

INSTANCES are rare of wheat this season reaching 40s. per qr. in this part of the country. One or two well-won samples made the two sovereigns. Now we hear of many indifferent offerings at the markets, soft and unmillable samples, which ought to have been allowed to harden before the stack was disturbed and put through the thresher.

IN talking over the question of an Agricultural Party in Parliament, it seems most strange that no account has been taken of the labourer! Who gave the successful candidates in rural constituencies at the last election the overwhelming majorities that some of them received? Was it not the vote of the agricultural labourers? And yet some candidates only cultivate the acquaintance of this most important factor in politics just on the eve of a Parliamentary contest; then some of them envy the successful party their organisation. They wonder how it is done. Elections as a rule are not won by a three weeks' campaign simply and solely.

JUST as the agricultural labourer becomes more and more weaned from the village cleric, he is sought after by the dissenting bodies, who give him more consolatory draughts of religion than he finds elsewhere. I was asked the other day if in my experience of rural constituencies I had ever known an instance of a farm labourer being summoned to attend on a committee of a Conservative organisation. I could not recall any such instance. No; smock frocks and corduroy have been too long ignored by the party that is now enjoying a rest from the toils and spoils of office, and one would be safe in saying that in most agricultural centres nothing is being done to interest the labourer in politics, or to influence his mind in relation to the government of the country, except by the Liberals. They keep in touch with the labourer, and they alone. They treat him as a man, and not merely as an asset of the farm.

THEN we talk of an agricultural party! At the same time the man who constitutes the majority is left out in the cold. Is anybody quite sure that any large body of labourers will ever be convinced that free trade is not altogether best for their interests? Farmers—or many of them at least—are eager for "fiscal reform"; how, then, in the choice of a Parliamentary "agricultural" candidate could we reconcile the two interests. The labourer would vote for cheap bread, and the farmer for protected wheat. An agricultural party would have its advantages and also its inevitably considerable limitations.

THE recent discussion in London on the subject has fallen flat in the country. I have read somewhere since the meeting was held that about the only practical recommendation in the report is the one proposing a fund for electioneering purposes. Whether this report represents the opinions generally of farmers is questionable. Something of a more definite and tangible character is necessary to arouse the agricultural interest. We see the indifference of the people even in rural districts, where no steps are taken to press forward the claims of agriculture on representative bodies such as county councils. The apathy is truly astounding.

TYNESIDE folk are beginning to realise, amid their many varied interests, the approach of another "Royal" visit, and preparations are already in progress for the great show of stock and implements. The prize sheet as drawn up will be very comprehensive and attractive. This has been rendered possible by the liberality of the breed societies and the local committee. No less than twenty-nine breed societies have already promised contributions; and the increase in the amount of some of the first prizes from £15 to £20, and in the cattle, sheep, and pig classes to offer additional prizes where the exhibits exceed a certain number, has afforded great satisfaction amongst breeders, and all intimately associated with the showyards of the country.

THE specimens of farm hands who "stood the market" for hiring this week at Driffield were a very robust lot of men and youths, who seemed as keen as mustard to secure engagements. An improvement in the behaviour of the "hands" was noted, though there is always a sprinkling of the rougher element at these fairs, who drink and fight, and get into the hands of the police. But these men are the exceptions, and the excesses are committed invariably under the influence of drink. Does anybody believe these hiring fairs are doomed? Let them see what thousands congregate in the towns of Beverley, Bridlington, Driffield, &c., between this and the 25th inst., on the special days set apart for hirings.

MR. GEO. HARRISON, of Gainford Hall, informs us that he has sold, by cable, the Leicester shearling ram that won the first prize at the Leicester meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society, and also first at Barnsley (Yorkshire Agricultural Show). He has commanded a very high price for the sheep, which he considers is one of the best he has ever bred. As a lamb this sheep was in a pen of those awarded first honours at the "Royal" of 1906, and first as a single ram lamb at the Yorkshire Show held at Middlesborough. His sire, Towthorpe Lord 726th, was first as a two shear ram at the Great Yorkshire Show at Hull. His breeding goes back to to the Wauldby flock of Mr. Jos. Thompson and the Messrs. Simpson's, of Pilmoor House, Hunmanby, Yorks. The fortunate purchaser of this grand ram is Mr. Percy Harrison, of Northumbria, Hobart, Tasmania, who had just previously bought two prize shearlings of Mr. Harrison.

November 14, 1907.

At the Evesham Fruit Pests Committee, held on Tuesday, a deputation was appointed to wait on Lord Carrington on the 19th inst. with respect to gooseberry mildew and the compensation question. Colonel Long, M.P., sent a letter from Sir Thomas H. Elliott, Bart, which stated that Lord Carrington would be happy to receive a small deputation of Evesham fruit growers as to the measures to be taken to get rid of the American gooseberry mildew.

At the twenty-eighth annual meeting of the Lincolnshire Association for the Prevention of the Administration of Poisonous Drugs, &c., to Horses, the committee were pleased to report that the association had only once been called upon during the past year to carry into effect its objects, a waggoner being convicted at the Lindsey Court, Lincoln, of taking his master's wheat and giving it to the horses. The financial statement for the year showed an increase of funds to the amount of £7 10s. 4d., with a balance at the bank of £236 12s. 6d. The membership totalled 109, compared with 114 a year ago. The balance in favour of the insurance account now stood at £602 10s. 6d.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

FEEDING STUFFS.

(Continued from issues Nov. 4 and 11).

(Conclusion.)

Linseed Cakes and Meals.—Such cakes are often sold as "95 per cent. pure," or some similar guarantee, which is practically useless, and is made to cover occasional impurities which ought not to be present in linseed cake.

Bran is sometimes added to linseed cake, and can be easily detected in the following way:—A little of the cake or meal, about an ounce, should be brought to the boil in a glass test tube or suitable vessel, allowed to cool, and then a drop of tincture of iodine (or iodine in potassium iodide solution) is added. If bran or other material containing starch be present, the iodine will turn a deep blue colour on shaking the vessel up. If no blue colour results it may be concluded that the linseed is free from starchy impurity.

The colour of the linseed cake or meal is an aid to judgment of its purity or suitability. A too dark colour indicates over heating and fermentation, which will render it not so valuable for feeding purposes; whilst a too light colour points to adulteration with other seed or grain. As the colour varies very much with the country of origin, a good deal of experience is necessary to judge anything from this indication.

The detection of such foreign seed or grain adulteration is only possible microscopically; the method will be dealt with in another part.

Rapè Cake or Meal.—This food is not in very great favour, mainly on account of its acrid flavour, because of one impurity which is sometimes found in it—namely, mustard. This is easily detected by making a paste of the cake or meal in a little cold water, and then leaving it in a bottle or other closed vessel in a warm place for a few hours. The characteristic smell of mustard will then be readily noticeable on reopening the bottle.

Cotton Cakes. — Decorticated cotton cake is usually found to be fairly pure. Undecorticated cotton cake, too, is commonly found pure, but it may not be generally known that if fed too liberally, the latter disturbs the digestion of young animals or sheep, causing gastritis, which sometimes results in death. This is due to the large proportion of indigestible woody fibre contained therein, consisting of the husk and some short cotton fibres adhering to it. Undecorticated cotton cake is also frequently contained in compound cakes, and where these two kinds are fed together the animals receive a larger amount of an undecorticated cotton cake than their stomachs can deal with. Cotton cakes are made either from Egyptian or Bombay cottonseed. The former is more valuable from a feeding point of view and is a bright yellow colour, whilst the Bombay cake is a dark brown tint.

A common impurity of Bombay cakes is the addition of borax as a preservative, and in order to change the colour to something approaching the bright yellow of Egyptian cake. The use of borax is to be deprecated, because it has a disturbing effect upon the digestive organs, and renders them less capable of doing their proper work. Borax can be detected by allowing a little of the cake to burn to a black ash in some suitable clean vessel over a hot fire. When it has all burnt down, two drops of sulphuric acid are added and then sufficient alcohol to cover the ash is poured into the receptacle. The alcohol is lighted and the flame watched carefully. If borax is present there will be a distinct green tinge in the otherwise blue flame, more especially noticeable towards the end of the burning. The green colour is more readily observed if the burning is done in a dark room or cupboard.

In order to tell whether a cake is made from undecorticated Bombay or Egyptian cotton, a piece of the cake should be broken off and crushed to a powder. This should then be passed through a sieve with ¼ in. to ½ in. holes—an ordinary kitchen colander will do—it will then be found that a woolly residue will be left on the sieve consisting of cottonseed husk and cotton fibre.

If the cake is made from Bombay seed the fibre and husk will adhere together in little fluffy lumps, whereas if made from Egyptian seed the fibres can be picked out more or less separately, as they part from the husk and from each other easily.

Many cakes made from Bombay cotton, which have been brightened with borax and sold as Egyptian, can be detected by means of these two tests.

Compound Cakes and Meals.

In farming practice it is often found convenient to use compound cakes and meals, but as they are more liable to adulteration than linseed and cotton cakes, it behoves the farmer to be exceedingly careful to buy only from reputable firms, and to avoid anything which appears to be in the nature of a cheap lot.

An impurity which has been found in samples of compound cakes is the poisonous husk of the castor oil bean. When only a very slight proportion of castor oil bean is present, animals are always badly scoured, and very frequently die. Cakes containing it are therefore unfit for food and only useful as manure. The detection of the castor oil bean is, however, difficult, and can only be undertaken by a practised microscopist.

Corn cockle and spurrey are weed seed impurities found in compound and other cakes. Corn cockle has, it is thought, a decidedly injurious effect on stock, many deaths of calves and lambs being supposed to be due to its inclusion in their food. Spurrey is said to be specially injurious to pigs. Whilst there is not enough evidence to condemn these weed seeds on this score, their feeding value is undoubtedly low, and even though obtained cheaply there is probably not sufficient return gained for the money expended. It is certain, however, that compound cakes are more liable to serious adulteration than linseed and cottoncakes, and therefore we repeat the farmer must be exceedingly careful in buying only from reputable firms, and to avoid anything which appears to be in the nature of a cheap lot.

Microscopical Examination of Food Stuffs.

It is not possible to expect that many farmers will be able to make a proper microscopical examination of the feeding stuffs, but since with a little practice some useful result might be obtained with a strong magnifying glass, I will give, briefly, the process of preparation of the samples to be examined.

A fair sample should be taken as before, powdered, and a few ounces boiled for fifteen or twenty minutes in water. Then a little weak sulphuric acid is added and thoroughly stirred in—this should never be worked up in a metal vessel. The sulphuric acid should be of 2 per cent. strength, and can be obtained from a chemist. It is advisable to keep it in poison bottles and not to allow any spilled drops to remain about, as they will damage anything coming in contact with them. The acid is allowed to remain for ten minutes and is then poured off—down an outside drain—and the sample at the bottom is washed three times with hot water, *i.e.*, hot water is added, the whole stirred up, allowed to settle, and the water poured off, taking care not to lose any of the cake.

After washing, a little caustic potash solution is added (again 2 per cent. strength, obtainable from chemists, and to be kept in a poison bottle), and, when this has been stirred up and allowed to settle, the sample should be washed three times as before. Next add two or three drops of hydrochloric acid and the digestion is complete. It only remains to spread a little on a microscope slide and examine, or separate the particles on a piece of glass and look at them through a strong lens.

It, of course, requires practice to pick out one kind of husk or seed from another, but if some pure samples of various seed, as linseed, spurrey, corn cockle, wheat, barley, rape, millet, rice, hemp, &c. (which could be obtained from seed merchants), are treated in this way and kept for reference, it will soon become an easy matter to pick them out in any sample that may come to hand, and once this can be done it will result in much saving of money on the purchase of stuffs of inferior quality.

It is obvious that if such examinations could be made of consignments already bought they could also be made of samples before purchase, and would be an invaluable guide as to the suitability or worth of any given feeding stuff. For it is extremely probable that many deaths of stock are due to the slow, cumulative, irritating action of certain weed seeds, though by reason of their slow action the feeding stuffs are rarely suspected as the cause of death.

I do not suggest that such rough tests as these would be sufficiently accurate for them to be made the only basis of a claim for compensation or allowance; but if carefully carried out they are valuable as aids to judging samples, estimating values, and as showing where it would be worth while to submit a sample to a competent analyst for his further opinion.

The examination for excess of water and sand, or similar foreign matter, and the microscopical or lens test, should be made in all cases. The other tests are only necessary in the special instances given. With a little practice they can be done quite easily and rapidly.

I trust that these suggestions will result in a saving in pocket to many farmers, and that, as a result of increased watchfulness on their part, manufacturers will cease to produce inferior articles, which certainly will happen as soon as they find their sale for them has vanished.

So-called Cheap Pig Food.

With millers' offal at prohibitive prices an excellent opportunity has offered itself for the introduction of a cheap pig food.

The article has not been long in forthcoming, and is now being largely boomed on the market. Three samples of it have been sent to the county laboratories at Chelmsford, for opinion as to its merits, and further inquiries from different parts have been made concerning it, and West of England feeders had better keep a look out for it. The samples gave the following figures on analysis:—

	I.	II.	III.
Moisture	8·72	10·50	10·06
Oil	2·96	3·88	4·42
Albuminoids	4·72	5·60	5·16
Soluble carbohydrates	52·10	52·00	48·12
Fibre	29·94	25·52	29·60
Ash	1·56	2·50	2·64
	100·00	100·00	100·00
Food units	71½	75½	72

The price asked was £3 3s. per ton, and the article I was described as being made from cotton-seed only.

There are two important points to be considered in regard to all foods, viz., suitability for the purpose intended and value.

The article is an old friend with a new face—cotton hulls, the waste product in the manufacture of decorticated cotton cake and meal. As a refuse manure I have had samples of it before, and have generally found it to be worth 10s. to 15s. per ton. Considered as a food the high percentage of fibre at once casts suspicion on its digestibility, but this, of course, must be tested practically before an opinion can be given. The albuminoid ratio—the proportion of nitrogenous to non-nitrogenous digestible matter—is about 1 to 12, much too low for any kind of feeding, and the ration would have to be largely supplemented with a nitrogenous concentrated food.

Now, the most important question is, will it suit pigs? Henry, in his book on "Feeds and Feeding," describing some experiments on the feeding of cottonseed to swine, states:—"One lot of pigs was fed corn in each trial, and these pigs always made excellent gains, with no deaths, thereby showing that normal conditions generally prevailed. On the other hand, many pigs fed cottonseed or cottonseed meal sickened and died in from six to eight weeks after feeding began. The mortality of the pigs receiving cottonseed meal was 87 per cent.; when roasted seed was fed it was 75 per cent., and for boiled seed 25 per cent. In these experiments no trouble occurred until several weeks after feeding commenced, and it was observed that pigs escaping sickness and death for thirty days beyond the time when the trouble usually began were safe from attack, though they were permanently stunted in growth."

Concerning the cause of this effect upon pigs (and also calves) he says: "The ill-effects have been ascribed to the lint of the seed, to the leathery seed coats causing injury to the delicate lining of the digestive tract, to moulds, to changes in the composition of the meal when exposed to the air, and to some definite principle in the seed itself, as in the case of the castor oil bean," but the cause appears to be still a mystery.

With this warning in front of him a farmer will do well to let the above experiments be confuted before feeding cotton hulls to his pigs.

With regard to value Henry states that until recently the hulls were used as fuel in the factories, but it was found that cattle would eat them, and in consequence they came in the American market at from 8s. to 16s. per ton. The digestible nutrients are less than in oat straw. From these facts farmers may judge for themselves what would be a reasonable price to pay for the article, to use either as manure or for cow or steer feeding. For pigs it would appear to be the worst possible thing that could be found, and it is to be hoped that merchants will see the great danger they run in selling the article to farmers as pig food.

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a nom de plume, *in the paper.*

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR FARMERS WHEN BUYING.

Approximate Unit Cost of Fertilising Constituents.

It is necessary for guidance in the economical use of fertilisers, and especially in the purchase of Complete and Special Manures, that the relative unit cost of the principal fertilising constituents should be studied: the subjoined table affords information on the subject. By multiplying the guaranteed minimum percentages of a fertiliser by the unit costs given in the table, the buyer will get a good idea of the commercial value of any chemical manure offered to him. The unit values are subject to variations from time to time, and in this respect we shall endeavour to keep the table up to date besides which, buyers living in remote districts may have to pay a little more for heavier cost of delivery. If credit is required, this will also add to the cost.

	Peruvian Guano.			Nitrate of Soda.	Sulphate of Ammonia.	Bone Meal.	Superphosphate.	Basic Slag.	Bone Compounds.	Special Manures.	Kainit.	Sulphate of Potash.	Muriate of Potash.
	Raw or Equalised.	Phosphatic.	Dissolved (soluble).										
Ammonia, organic as in Guano and Bones	s. d. 17 6	s. d. 12 6	s. d. 15 0	s. d. —	s. d. —	s. d. 12 6	s. d. —	s. d. —	s. d. 15 0	s. d. 15 0	s. d. —	s. d. —	s. d. —
,, in Sulphate of Ammonia ...	—	—	—	—	10 6	—	—	—	—	12 6	—	—	—
,, calculated from Nitrogen in Nitrate of Soda ...	—	—	—	13 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phosphate soluble in water	—	—	2 0	—	—	—	2 0	—	2 0	2 0	—	—	—
,, assimilable...	1 6	1 2	1 3	—	—	1 2	—	—	1 3	1 3	—	—	—
,, insoluble	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 3	—	—	—	—	—
Potash (pure)	4 0	4 0	4 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 0	3 10	4 0	3 10

N.B.—The above table is based on the commercial cost of the fertilising constituents. Agricultural value is not always synonymous with the commercial cost, and every farmer must exercise his judgment, while considering the cost, which fertiliser may be expected to give the most profitable return on his soil and for his crops. This is the cheapest manure for him.

Unexhausted Values.

The question of unexhausted values was discussed at a recent meeting of the Staffordshire Chamber of Agriculture, and proposals as a basis for compensation and dilapidation were adopted.

For manures applied to grass lands the following scale was approved:—

a. (1) For raw bones and lime, on land which was grazed, a basis of eight years; mown alternate years, five years; mown each year, three years; (2) dissolved or boiled bones and bone meal, grazed, six years; mown alternate years, three years; mown each year, three years; (3) basic slag, grazed four years; mown alternate years, three years mown each year, two years; (4) superphosphate, grazed three years; if mown at all, two years. For manures applied to roots (potatoes excepted) the following scale was approved:—(1) Raw bones and purchased town manure (to be hereafter defined), two-thirds of the cost price; (2) boiled bones, disolved bones, bone meal, basic slag, superphosphate, bone compound, &c., one-half of cost price, this particular scale to apply to the last year's root crop only, and no allowance to be made where one straw crop has been taken. It was also decided that ground lime for all arable land should be on a four years' basis, and agricultural lime on a seven years' basis. Compensation is limited to 35s. per acre for the cost price of artificial manures.

b. That for the consumption on the holding by cattle, sheep, or pigs an allowance be made (1) for linseed cake and meal, cotton cake and meal, or rape cake, one-third of the cost for the last year of tenancy, and one-sixth of the cost of the year preceding; (2) for corn, corn-cake, malt dust, dried grains, or other manufactured feeding stuffs of similar manurial value, one-sixth of the cost for the last year of tenancy, and one-twelfth of the cost for the year preceding; (3) for wet grains, one-twelfth of the cost for the last year of tenancy only.

c. In regard to dilapidation, it was decided that it should be charged for produce and roots (potatoes excepted) taken off the farm as follows:—(1) Clover, seeds, and hay, 10s. per ton for the last year of the tenancy, and 5s. per ton for the year preceding; (2) straw 5s. for the last year of tenancy, and 2s. 6d. for the year preceding; (3) roots 2s. 6d. per ton for the last year of tenancy only; (4) the produce and roots brought on a farm should be compensated for on a similar basis to those taken away.

The final clause of the report of the committee stated that, in respect to all other improvements, no uniform scale of compensation could be recommended, but each one should be dealt with by the valuers on the broad lines set out in the report—namely, that whilst the outgoing tenant was entitled to be paid the full unexhausted value of his improvements, the incoming tenant must be equally secured against having to pay for so-called improvements which have no value. The report was referred back to the committee, in order that the amendments made by the Chamber might be made with the view of the scale being published for the guidance of farmers and valuers.

Manuring Flax.

In the report of the deputation sent to Belgium and Holland to study the cultivation of flax it is mentioned under the head of "Tilling, Manuring, and Rotation" that the thorough manner in which every operation of tillage, manuring, cleansing, and manuring is performed is worthy of attention. Tillage operations and manuring are as thorough as in garden culture. Flax is taken not oftener than once every seven or eight years, in some instances once in every ten years. The dressings of manure, as a rule, are not heavy, except in the case of the crop immediately preceding the flax crop. Almost every crop in the rotation is manured either with farmyard manure, liquid manure, or chemical manures, or a combination of both. Experience has shown that it is best to manure the crop coming immediately before the flax heavily, and not to apply any manure directly to the flax, except an application of liquid manure a few days—in some cases two or three weeks—before the seed is sown. Chemical manures are not largely used for flax. The above-mentioned practice, "little and often," we believe to be sound practice.

Potato Blight: Digging the Crop.

Very marked results have been obtained from spraying during the past season, and there is no doubt that if the conditions of the season had been more favourable for the growth of the potato crop, the results would have been even better. Notwithstanding the late season and the early appearance of blight, there can be no question that a large proportion of the potato crop in the west has been saved from total failure by the operation of spraying.

In making their report the Department of Agriculture for Ireland add that spraying alone is not, however, sufficient to secure a good yield of sound potatoes. Potato blight, as is well known, first attacks the foliage of the plants, with the result that the leaves and stems become black and die, and all growth ceases. Spraying is carried out with the object of preventing the development of the disease on the foliage, and thus prolonging growth for at least the normal period, and until tubers are fully growd. This object can be achieved without difficulty in most seasons.

There still remains the danger of the potatoes becoming diseased and rotting before or after they are lifted. This danger arises from the spores of the disease passing from the decayed foliage through the soil to the tubers, which quickly become affected with the disease. The spores of the disease pass more readily through in wet weather, and this may be regarded as one of the causes of potatoes decaying in the ground in wet seasons and in wet soils.

When the potato haulms have become black, and all green has disappeared, further growth of tubers will not take place, and the crop should, accordingly, be dug without delay. No good can result from leaving the crop in the ground, and every day the crop remains undug increases the loss from potatoes turning "black." This is especially the case in such a season as the present.

Farmers, therefore, are urged to dig their potatoes without delay, as it is the only means of preventing the entire crop from becoming diseased.

When the crop is lifted the potatoes should be carefully sorted, the sound potatoes should be stored separately, and any that are affected with disease should be put aside for consumption by pigs or poultry.

The potatoes may be stored either in houses or in pits. If they are pitted, they should be covered only with straw or dry rushes until they are quite dry, and all likelihood of heating has passed, then the straw should be covered with a layer of soil about 6 in. deep, but provision should be made for ventilation by fixing small bundles of straw through the soil and at intervals along the top of the pit.

The pits should be situated in a dry place and away from trees, and should not be more than 2½ ft. wide, nor should the ground be hollowed out more than 6 in. deep when making the pit.

On no account should potato haulms be used for covering either the potatoes or the pit.

The Manuring of Picking Peas.

The object of the following Essex field experiment was to test the comparative results of a dressing of London dung with a dressing of artificial manure.

The application of dung involves a heavy expenditure, and it was considered desirable to see whether equally good results could not be obtained from artificials.

The manurial scheme and results were as follows:—

Plot.	Manure per acre.	No. of bags* per acre.	Weight of green haulm per acre. tons.	cwt.
1	15 tons London dung...	84½	4	1½
2	10 tons London dung...	84½	4	10½
3	5 cwt. super..... 5 cwt. kainit ..... 1 cwt. nitrate of soda	85½	4	4½
4	5 cwt. basic slag..... 5 cwt. kainit	51½	2	0¾
5	No manure	32¾	1	18

* Bags contained 93 lb.

It is impossible, as the report says, to deduce any general conclusion from the results of a single experiment for one season, but the results indicate—

1. That 10 tons of dung may give a return in foods and haulm equal to a larger dressing of 15 tons.

2. That a dressing of artificials may produce results equal to those obtained from dung.

The scheme of experiments did not include an application of dung and artificials, which would probably have been most effective.

The dressing of artificials, No. 3 Plot, would cost between 35s. and 40s. per acre, while 15 tons of dung would involve an expenditure of at least £3 15s., so that the balance of results is much in favour of the artificials, even if it is calculated that the dung would leave a larger residue of fertility in the soil.

Feeding Ratios.

The following represent what have been found by experiment to be the most suitable "albuminoid ratios" in the rations for various purposes:—

For very young animals	1 : 4·0
For oxen at rest	1 : 10·0
For horses moderately worked...	1 : 7·0
For horses heavily worked	1 : 5·5
For cows giving little milk	1 : 6·0
For cows giving much milk	1 : 5·0
For sheep for wool production...	1 : 8·0
Fattening sheep, cattle, and pigs	1 : 5·5
For laying hens or ducks	1 : 4·0

Animals undergoing hard work require more nitrogenous food than those at rest, in order to permit of the renewal of the tissue which wastes more rapidly, while young growing animals or those giving milk obviously require more of the tissue-forming material — proteid — than adult resting animals. If, in a particular instance, the ration of an animal possesses an albuminoid ratio much "wider" or "narrower" than that most suitable, then either waste of some constituent of the food occurs, or the requirements of the animal are not supplied and its health suffers.

Effect of Dung Made with Straw and with Moss Litter.

In a trial made at Cockle Park Experiment Station dung made from moss litter and from straw, produced as near as possible under the same conditions, was applied to two plots in 1905, and also to two plots in 1906, the soil being in both years a light sandy loam. The following are the results:—

Plot.	Weight of Swedes. 1905. Tons cwt.	1906. Tons cwt.
1. 12 tons moss litter dung	25 14 ...	18 14
2. 12 tons straw litter dung	23 7 ...	20 16

It will be seen that the moss litter dung gave 47 cwt. more swedes in 1905, but 42 cwt. less than ordinary dung in the following year. It should be noted that the rainfall during May, June, and July, 1905, was 3·04 in., and 9·11 in. during the same months in 1906. The bulk of the extra rainfall in the latter year was in May.

It looks as if moss litter dung had not proved so suitable for the wetter early summer of 1906.

Value of Dried Grains.

It is pointed out in Mr. Kirkham's notes on agricultural analyses that the advantage of the use of dried grains over wet grains is that since 65 to 80 per cent. of wet grains is water, the cost of cartage becomes very great when a farmer is far from a brewery. The process of drying does not impair the feeding qualities, and dried grains are, therefore, one of the most concentrated foods on the market, and at present market prices are of the cheapest for the nutritive value. In several samples of distillers' grains a minute amount of copper has been found, but the quantity is within very narrow limits, and has come through the copper vessels in the distillery being attacked by the slightly acid mash. There is no definite experience available as to whether such minute amounts could have any injurious effect on animals, but probably not, as no case of ill-effects following upon the use of such grains has been reported.

Chilean Nitrate.

From Valparaiso U.S. Consul Lupton reports as follows on the Chilean nitrate production. The exportation in 1906 of 17,279,651 metric quintals (of 220·46 lb. each), reduced to the unit of the fields, gives 37,564,460 Spanish quintals (101·6 lb. per quintal)—equal to about 1,700,000 tons, valued at 84,520,035 dols. United States gold. The cost of exploitation per Spanish quintal delivered on board and including the Government tax of 28 English pence per quintal, as given by the different countries, varies from 4·4 to 5·17 pesos. As the product is worth about 9 pesos per quintal, this shows an average profit of nearly 50 per cent. La Asociacion Salitrera de Propaganda, which regulates the exportation and the quota of each company, when arranging for the year ending March 31, 1907, took into consideration 135 officinas, with an estimated capacity of 76,000,000 Spanish quintals, and authorised an exportation of 43,000,000 quintals, equal to about 2,000,000 tons.

Price of Nitrate of Soda.

The present price of nitrate of soda may be put to-day at £11 to £11 2s. 6d., against £11 7s. 6d. to £11 10s. at this time last year. The tendency of the market appears to be in a downward direction, and we should think that buyers will act wisely in waiting to see the course of the market, or at any rate to buy at present only a portion of their probable requirements.

The gardener is able to work his small area of land into a splendid condition, and enriches it with relatively enormous quantities of manure. The result is that he gets a yield from it far in excess of what a farmer can do, but a farmer, as far as practicable, should aim at the same methods, viz, good soil cultivation and liberal crop nourishment.

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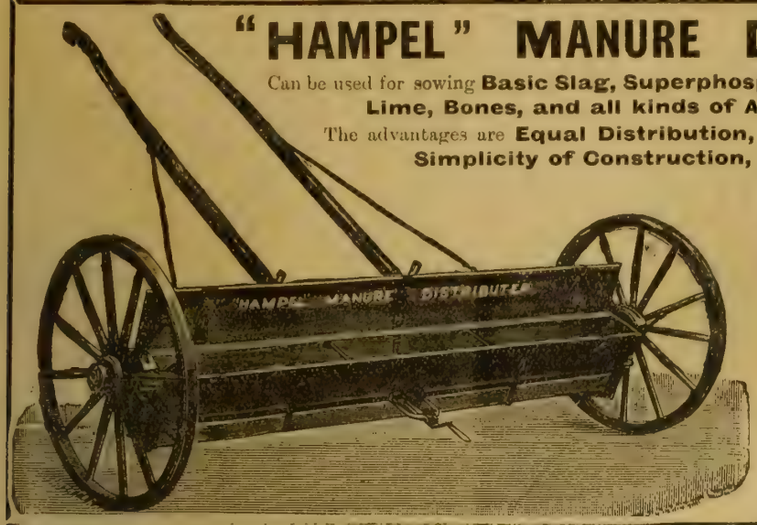
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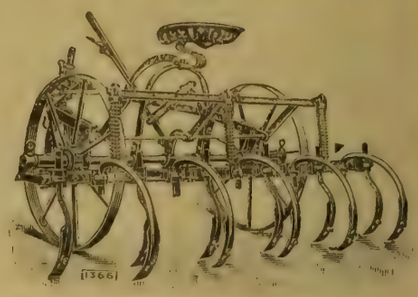
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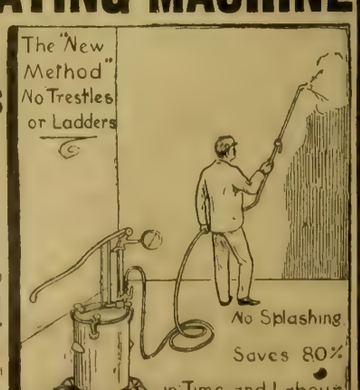
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That on the left shows a representative sample of Apples from his unsprayed trees. These have been attacked by Apple Scab, a disease due to the fungus *Fusicladium dendriticum*, which causes dark brown and black spots to appear on the leaves, followed by spotting and cracking of the surface of the fruit, which, in consequence, is usually small and deformed. The remedy is to spray the trees before the blossom buds commence to open.

The Photograph on the right is representative of the Apples from trees in the same orchard, which have been sprayed with VI FLUID, manufactured by

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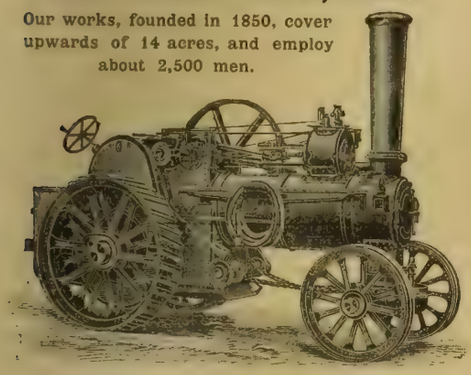
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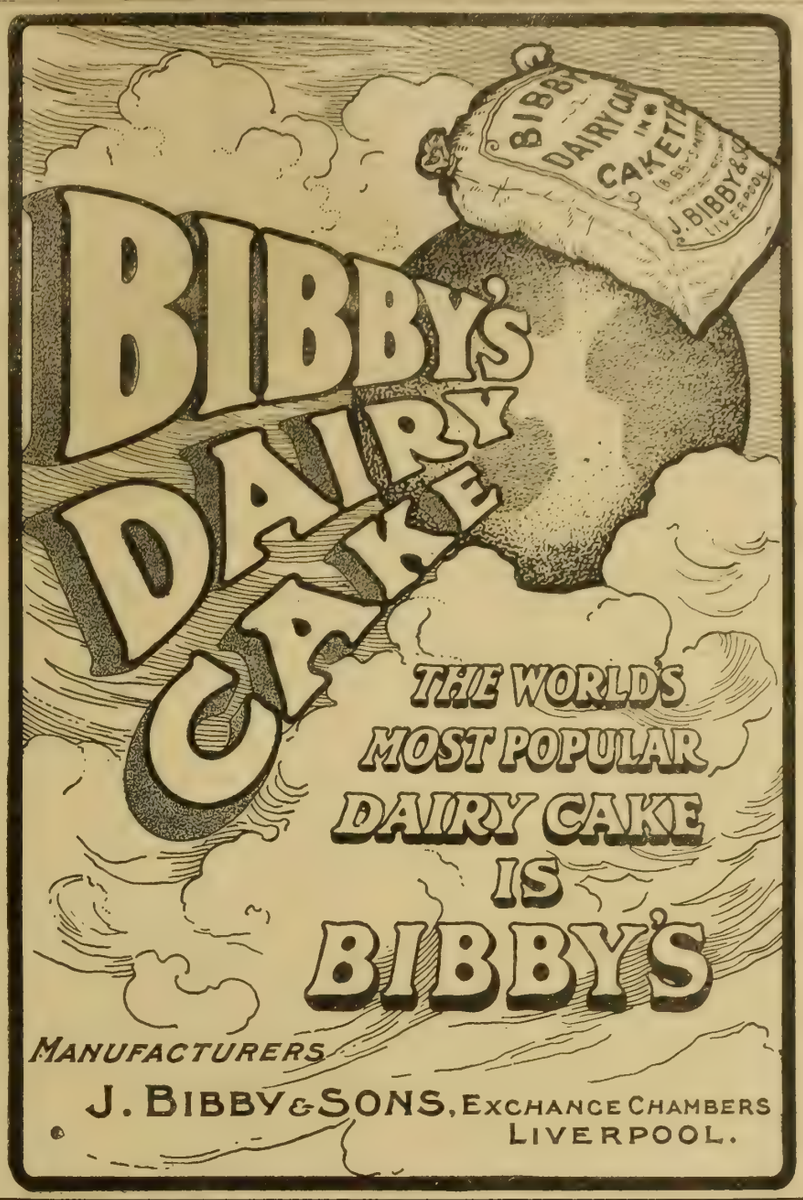
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PLANTING ORCHARD FRUIT TREES.

In saying that a fruit orchard is a valuable adjunct to a farm homestead is repeating what we have contended on previous occasions, and November is the time for planting new orchards or renovating existing ones by filling up gaps with young trees. The advantages of November planting are two-fold.

First the ground still retains some warmth from the summer, and secondly trees planted in the autumn have a chance of getting hold at the root before branch growth commences. In selecting standard trees for orchard planting it is desirable that good specimens—having stout, straight stems and well-balanced heads—should be chosen, and though they may cost a little more at the outset, good trees are always cheapest in the end. It is pitiable in many farm orchards to see trees that have been planted for years, and yet they are scarcely any bigger now than when they were put in.

Perhaps they were poor and weak when they were planted, and more likely than not they have never received a bit of attention since. This kind of thing will not do, and if trees in a farm orchard are to succeed and be profitable they must be treated seriously as a crop, and not be left to look after themselves.

The necessary details of planting, staking, fencing, manuring, pruning, and cleaning must receive attention, and the time above all others when a tree needs the most care is in the early years of its growth.

OUR SLEEPY SOCIETIES.

II.

Oblivion is one of sleep's choicest gifts, and this, by a little judicious cultivation on the part of show secretaries, can be made to go far. Thus if two leading societies largely dividing the interest of the South of England between them, can so far forget each other's existence as to arrange to meet at Dorchester and Southampton respectively for the same week out of the entire year, it is clear that the maximum of confusion will be created and the minimum of success be ensured. It is the peculiar privilege of the established religion to provide us with changing festivals which happen at various dates—thus, to take the easiest of examples, Easter may fall in later March or in later April, or at any intervening date. Herein the sleepy secretary finds his chance. He has only to decide that the last Ascensiontide date for the local show was a success, and to forget that the festival changes, to arrange in advance for illimitable confusion. His committee will assuredly accept with enthusiasm his suggestion, that as the society made a record profit last Ascension Day it shall meet next year for its annual show on the same festival. This will bring his society into acute conflict with all organisations going by fixed dates, and in the assurance that this must needs be so he can go comfortably to sleep until the day of confusion arrives.

If a county, say Kent or Surrey, has a prominent name and a wealthy residential class of people who, while friendly to agriculture, are not agriculturists, then it is obvious that the way to lose their support and alienate their interest is to forget their limitations, and instead of asking them to support the county show, which they would do with liberality to a man, bid them to the show of some society which, by its very name, appears to be sectional and unrepresentative. If two shows within the same county can be fixed for the same date, this inadvertence can always be relied upon to reduce the profits of either to a minimum.

Fat stock shows give a rare opportunity.

Let each secretary outside London note that "Smithfield" opens on December 9. Then let him tell his executive that any date a little before that date will suit. After that, retirement to the dormitory will produce all the needed results. Thus we shall have a great show at Birmingham covering December 3, 4, and 5, which the Yorkshire Show also covers, and we shall have the great Scottish Show at Edinburgh beginning well before either of the two other shows are over. Several more purely local shows being fixed for the same date, we shall have due emphasis given not only to the way that societies forget each other's existence, but to the fact of the really first-rate expert judges on the Press being admittedly few. Thus it will be impossible for the most energetic of Editors, backed by the most willing staff, to cover all the ground, and then some at least of the secretaries can complain that their exhibitions were insufficiently reported, or were relegated to pens of not quite the first order. This game can also be played by ordinary societies in June and July.

An attempt which merits recognition is to hold a small but well-supported and old-established local show on the same day as the greater show of a society covering the particuler ground in question. Thus if a Durham or Westmoreland Exhibition could be fixed for the same date as that of any greater show intended to cover the North of England the officials of both shows would probably be saved much labour in adding up the gate money and would be sooner retired to their accustomed repose. Some societies are devoted exclusively to a single animal, most usually, perhaps, the noble one. If the executives of these societies can contrive to forget that a county agricultural show including horses is to be held in their district, the fixing of identical dates will naturally prevent choice exhibits appearing at both shows, and will thus prove the desired point, namely, that their officials were too sleepy to hear of the other officials.

Some minor efforts in the art of oblivion may be very briefly praised. The choice of a name that is bound to get misprinted has much to recommend it from this point of view. Thus "West Gloucestershire" would be a good descriptive and inclusive name for a show devoted to that part of the county which lies west of the Severn; but by calling the west of Severn gathering the Lydney Society, which inevitably gets misprinted Sydney, intending exhibitors are bound to be confused and may even be induced to post their entries to Australia. Names like Newcastle and Newport may be rendered very deceptive by the simple omission of the county, and the railway companies will be found most obliging over this matter, adding, indeed, to the confusion by stations like Bodmin Junction, which is seven miles from Bodmin, and by others like Abbey, which adorns a county noted for its many abbeys. The sleepiest of show secretaries can hardly improve upon the officials of our leading railway companies. Where it is customary to hold a show of poultry and pigeons, or of flowers, as the case may be, in connection with an agricultural show, the advantage of such combination can be practically neutralised by failing to note that some poultry show of national rank or horticultural show of prime consequence is already fixed for the day decided upon.

Next week we hope, in conclusion, to speak of the last crowning success which a steady use of chloral hydrate should confer on the Champion Sleepy Society. This is the absolute and entire obliviousness of the Public, of how they should get to a show, and of what they should do there. Without a careful study of this, the Higher Branch of Soporifics, a show may yield a profit, despite the best forgetfulness of the most drowsy executive. If, however, this final Degree be taken, not only will the secretary become entitled to the famous Patagonian Order of the Giant Sloth, but the *desideratum* of a deficit on the show itself can be assured, and that, even if the most delightful weather be enjoyed. This last and perfect stage, however, we must reserve for a final review.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19.—Ipswich Live Stock Sale—Maidstone Live Stock Sale—Cattle Sales at Truro, Abergavenny, Wirksworth, and Carmarthen—Boston Horse Fair—Annual Horse Sale at St. Ives, Hunts—Fairs at Abergavenny, Wirksworth, and Lynn.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20.—Crewe Horse Sale, first day—Sale of Pigs at Scotforth, Lancaster—Malmesbury Cattle Fair—Sutton Valence Agricultural Fair.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21.—Norwich Fat Stock Show, first day—Cattle Sales at Tattenhall, Barnet, and Llan-y-bythor—Crewe Horse Sale, second day—Ashton-under-Lyne Cheese Fair.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22.—Norwich Fat Stock Show, second day—Live Stock Sales at Yeovil, Lincoln, and Derby—Cattle Sales at Congleton, Altrincham, Brigstock, and Scarborough—Ipswich Great Sale of Red Poll Cattle—Fairs at Battle, Crowle, Durham, and Rugby.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23.—Cattle Sales at York, Ripon, Louth, and Malton—Sheep Sale at Marlborough—Fairs at Kendal, Ripon, Skipton, and Whitby—Norwich Fat Stock Show, last day—Special Sale of Store Cattle at Norwich—"St. Clement's Fairs," at several small places otherwise unimportant, are held this day—Entries for the Leeds Fat Stock Show to be sent in.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25.—Live Stock Sale at Stamford—Live Stock Sale at Darlington—Cattle and Sheep Sale at Pickering, Cattle Sale at Holt—Pig Sale at Winsford—Fairs at Winsford, Lunpool, Chesterfield, and Alfreton—Cattle Sale at Wendover—Live Stock Sales at Camborne, Sleaford, Ludlow, Swindon, and Cirencester—Entries for the Maidstone Fat Stock Show to be sent in.

Notes of the Week.

Farewell, let us hope, a long farewell to the fog. It never will be missed, although it may be mist.

A friend who lived a long time in London and has since been for some years in the tropics, basking in almost perpetual sunshine, says he would give anything to see and smell a real old-fashioned English fog. Thus does absence make the heart grow fonder.

The pretty town of Evesham, celebrated for its fruit-growing industry, is just now the centre of a fine collection of branches of aristocracy; dukes and other nobles are nearly as plentiful as blackberries.

As befits the approach of Christmastide, the air is full of peace and conciliation.

The threatened railway strike has been averted by conciliation, and the visit of the Kaiser is a regular peace tonic.

Both the German Emperor and his wife are enthusiasts for agriculture. The Empress is noted for her love of animals, and the Emperor considers agriculture as the foundation of German prosperity.

In this respect he resembles our own King. By the bye, the King is disposing of a lot of his stock at the Slough Cattle Show and Sale on December 10.

"Grants for the extermination of insects injurious to agriculture" was the name under which an Italian Minister put his expenses incurred in buying a big collection of photos of pretty girls.

Terminological inexactitude seems to fit the transaction.

Mr. Jesse Collings, we are sorry to note, has been obliged by ill-health to cancel his engagements, and to take a period of rest.

Ordinary hunting in some parts of Ireland is attended with considerable difficulty. The Land League object to it, and prefer to do the hunting themselves. The hunted are the graziers.

A visit to the Motor Show illustrates the use which motors will eventually be to agriculture.

In all countries except Denmark, said Mr. Eric Gioskov in a paper read at the National Liberal Club, the great majority of small holders hardly earn a bare existence.

We fear that most of the new small holders in England will join the great majority.

The financial *débacle* in America is reacting on the corn market, as it is forcing holders of grain to realise.

A profitable crop in China is human hair, large quantities of which are exported to Europe.

Chinese pig-tails may be said to adorn the heads of European beauties; that's where, as Kipling might say, the East and West meet.

The price of sugar continues to be under 10s. per cwt., which is not very encouraging to the hopes of beet sugar enthusiasts in this country.

The live-cattle trade between America and this country is about fifty years old. One can imagine the sufferings of the poor animals before the trade was properly organised.

Cattle on board ship can smell the land and begin to bellow some time before the land is visible to the naked eye.

Now, boys, can any of you tell me what a ruminating animal is? Please, sir, it's an animal what eats its cubs.

The Crystal Palace Poultry Show is a great success. One of the varieties seems to have no legs

They are no doubt good roasters, but apparently bad roosters.

The Sunday-school superintendent was illustrating the text, "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." "If," he said, "I want to raise a crop of turnips, what sort of seed must I sow?" "Turnip seed," said the class. "And if I want to raise a crop of tomatoes, what seed must I sow?" The class were with him over this fence, too. "Tomato seed," they chanted. "Very good. Now, if I want to raise a crop of good manhood, of noble strength, of rigid well-doing, what kind of seed must I sow then?" An observer, who kept count, reports that half the school said "Turnip seed," while the other half went solid for "Tomato seed."

All the cattle in Belgium have a registered trade number, engraved on a ring fastened to the ear of each beast.

It would not be a bad idea to so distinguish motorists.

Norway is the land of afforestation. No one is allowed to cut down a tree without planting three.

Two farmers in Wales, who had broken a by-law, pleaded that they could not read the notice printed in English. That is where Esperanto would be useful.

Farmers and their wives interested in fruit bottling should read "On Home Bottling of Fruit" in the Journal of the Department of Agriculture for Ireland.

The Chinese are making astonishing progress in Western civilisation. In a Chinese province there is a Government notice, "English taught from A to C" in the school.

We are pleased to note, now the Cheshire cheese shows are over for this year, that Mr. W. H. Hobson, Gourlay Hill, Blackenhall, Nantwich, Cheshire, can claim to have won more with cheese than any maker of Cheshire cheese in one year, including value of challenge cups. His prizes amount to £176 13s. It will be remembered that Mr. Hobson won first prize at London this year, and first at the Royal Agricultural Show at Derby last year.

HORSES.

The Pack Horse—Sir Walter Calverley—Early Pedigrees—Ancient Breeding Theories—Nineteenth Century Breeders—A New Idea—Fluky Breeding.

The Pack Horse.

BLUNDEVILLE'S description of the pack horse, though only short, affords very interesting reading to those students who inquire into the origin of our modern breeds of horses. "The horse that is meete for the cart," says he, "maie serve also for the burthen, because he is strong and able to beare much, but the packman requireth besides strength, three other things in his horse. First, that he be a good traveller; secondlie, that his hoofes be so good as he neede not to be often shod; thirdlie, that he be no unreasonable feeder for the avoiding of expenses, for which cause I thinke our packmen here in England do most commonlie go with geldings, which lacking the fervent heat which stoned horses have, cannot consume so much meate as they do, but chiefly perhaps because the geldings are more easie to rule by the waie than horses." It is much to be regretted that a keen observer like Blundeville, who was evidently a good judge and a good horseman, has not told us more of the pack horse of his time, for probably this pack horse forms the foundation of more than one of our present breeds. Indeed, it is quite likely that the Shire horse, the Hackney, the Cleveland Bay, and the Yorkshire Coach Horse are all descended from this old pack horse, or "horse for draught."

peace of the country, General Lambert's defeat at Daventry nine years later having but little effect on the country at large, and was merely local in its effects on industry. So country gentlemen and yeomen would have more time to devote to horse breeding, then the most important subject to which agriculturists could turn their attention. And about this time the importation of Eastern horses was much increased, so that breeders had an opportunity such as had never before existed.

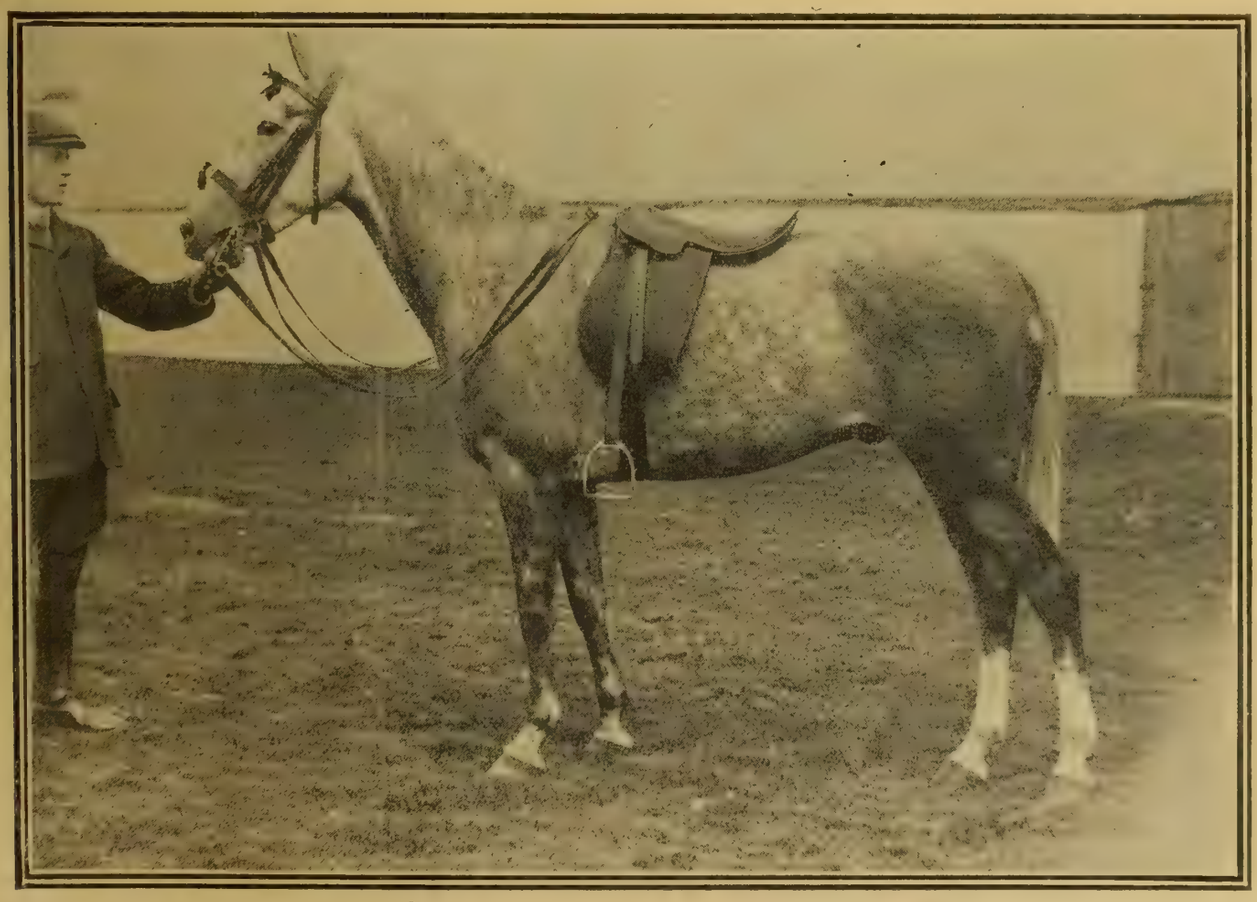
Early Pedigrees.

NATURALLY the Thoroughbred horses would first have their pedigrees registered, but early in the eighteenth century both Hackney and Cleveland Bay pedigrees were recorded, though in rather a perfunctory way. The Hackney would get his name from the uses he was put to, and no doubt a "stout Hackney" was a term well known before the Hackney breed was recognised as a separate one, and similarly with the pack horse, which, however, on the authority of the late Lumley Hodgson, was known as the Chapman breed quite early in the eighteenth century. Most likely it was the first of our domestic breeds to find recognition as a separate breed.

other. Between Blundeville and Blome were a hundred years, yet their opinions on breeding coincide, and our old writers were given to speaking their minds pretty freely when they disagreed with each other, of which many instances might be given.

Nineteenth Century Breeders.

IT is a curious thing that breeders of the early part of the nineteenth century were quite at one with the authorities of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Mr. Thomas Parrington, in the letter he wrote to Lord Cathcart in 1882, expressed the opinion that the best way to breed a Hunter was to breed from a big Cleveland Bay or a powerful short-legged Hunter mare, and to mate her with a Thoroughbred horse not exceeding 15 hands 2 in. or 15 hands 3 in. at the outside. Mr. Parrington insisted on four things in this stallion—good action, high courage, and soundness. Many excellent Hunter sires have been even of less stature than Mr. Parrington's standard. Perion may be given as an example, and perhaps it is not too much to say that no Hunter sire, thoroughbred or half-bred, ever sired such a large proportion of good horses as he did. He filled Cleveland with good horses and with money, for no matter what kind of mare he was mated with, she was pretty certain to breed a good-looking, saleable horse to the good little son of Catton and the Darioletta. And Perion was under 15 hands, in spite of which he ran second in the Derby after running to the top of the hill in some fifteen or sixteen false starts. He was a high-couraged, even a hot-tempered horse, and beautifully put together. In some seasons he had as many as 250 mares, and only a very small number of them barren. Cleveland was full of good, powerful



The Riding Pony shown above is the Gelding Sequence, winner of First Prize in the Class for Polo and Riding Pony Mares or Geldings, foaled in 1902 or 1903, not exceeding 14·2 hands, at the Royal Agricultural Society's Show at Lincoln this year. It was foaled in 1902, and was exhibited by Mr. O. T. Price, Brockenhurst, Hants.

Sir Walter Calverley.

SIR WALTER CALVERLEY, who lived some hundred years later than Blundeville, has an entry in his Note Book bearing date, January 15, 1670, in which he says that when he wanted his coach he horsed it with the lighter "meares" (mares) used on his farm. It is very probable that mares like Sir Walter Calverley's lighted mares formed the foundation of all our modern light breeds, and that our ancestors simply bred for this foundation, crossing the lighter mares with horses of Eastern blood according to their requirements. The country had been, comparatively speaking, settled for nearly twenty years when Sir Walter Calverley made the entry in his note book, for after the battle of Worcester in 1651 there was nothing to disturb the internal

Ancient Breeding Theories.

OUR ancestors, though they had some peculiar views about horses, viewed from our standpoint, thoroughly understood the art of breeding, and their theory on the breeding of a Hunter or war horse has certainly not been improved upon up to the present day. Blunderville, Markham, De la Grey, Blome, and other writers too numerous to mention, all advocate breeding from a powerful, short-legged, roomy mare, and mating her with a horse of Eastern blood. "A horse of Barbarie" is generally recommended, and the qualities most insisted upon in the sire are stamina, constitution, speed, and those characteristics which we sum up in these days under the somewhat vague heading of "quality." Nor can it fairly be said that these writers copied each

Cleveland Bay mares when Perion flourished, so no wonder that the Cleveland farmers bred a lot of good horses.

A New Idea.

AT the latter part of the last century a new idea got about, and a new theory began to find favour, and one heard of nothing but big, powerful sires, great bone, &c. A horse under 16 hands or 16 hands 1in. and with less than from 8 to 8½in. of bone was described as a weed, the new school quite ignoring the fact that the great horses, whose loss they were always lamenting, were sired by horses like Perion, Bay President, Sir Harry Dimsdale, St. Bennett, and others too numerous to mention, all of which were well under 16 hands and some of them under 15 hands. The late Mr.

Anthony Maynard, than whom there were few finer judges of either horse or hound, and whose experience was a very wide one, said to me at the show of Thoroughbred stallions at Newcastle in 1887, that the horses the premiums were given to were the horses we wanted to ride, not to breed from, and subsequent experience has shown that he was right.

Fluky Breeding.

THE desire for big stallions has no doubt its origin to a considerable extent in the wish to raise a special breed of Hunters. This has been the object of some breeders for about a quarter of a century, and they have not got very far yet. The idea, no doubt, is that by mating a big, powerful horse to a big, powerful mare a big, powerful weight carrier will result. This may occur sometimes, but both theory and experience go to prove that the result of mating two crossbred animals must always be fluky. We know that when one of the parents is of pure race the result is often very different to what has been anticipated, and risk must be more than doubled when both parents are crossbred. The prepotency of a pure-bred animal is much greater than that of a crossbred, and it stands to reason that it should be so. It may be said that the theory of breeding from a big mare and a big sire receives the support of the authority I have often quoted—Blundeville to wit—and I often hear a variation of his opinion used in argument. "Like begets like," says the man of theories. Like most epigrams this is only a partial truth. Blundeville says this: "If anie man desire to have swift runners, let him choose a horse of Barbarie, or a Turk to be his stallion, and let the mares, which he shall put unto him, be of like stature and making unto him, so nigh as maie be, for most commonlie such sire and damme, such colt." Here are two particulars which call for notice. In the first place, Blundeville is speaking of what was practically, even in his day, a pure bred. No man would attempt to breed a "swift runner," in other words a racehorse, from a pack mare, even in the sixteenth century. Lancelot, Leonard, and Christopher were "Ryders of the runninge Gueldens" for Henry VIII., a proof that there was a special breed for "running." And it will be noticed that Blundeville emphasises the necessitie of "like making" to the sire of Eastern blood. Secondly, even when horse and mare are of kindred race he qualifies his statement "such sire and damme, such colt," by the words "most commonlie."

THE LOOKER-ON.

Prizes for Polo and Riding Ponies in 1908.

At the meeting of the Council of the Polo and Riding Pony Society held on the 7th inst. Mr. G. Norris Midwood, chairman of the Horse Show Committee, reported that suggestions from the judges at the 1907 show and from members and exhibitors had been carefully considered in drafting the schedule of prizes for the 1908 show to be held on March 13 and 14, and their recommendations were as follows:—

(*a*) To omit the class for brood mares "not exceeding 12 hands 2 in.," and to devote the prizes to increasing the grants to the Mountain and Moorland ponies at the district shows.

(*b*) To raise the height of the 13 hands 2 in. stallions and brood mares to 14 hands.

(*c*) For the best Polo pony in the riding classes, whose sire and [or] dam is registered in the Polo Pony Stud, and which has been reasonably played during any season at any recognised club, the offer of a £20 silver challenge cup carrying with it a gold medal and a first prize of £5, with second and third prizes of £3 and £2 respectively. This challenge cup to be won two years in succession, or three times in all, to become the property of the exhibitor. A further offer of £5 was added on condition that the breeder of the winner is not the exhibitor.

(*d*) The challenge cup offered by the proprietors of the *Ladies' Field*, value £25, is to be offered for the best Polo pony exhibited in the riding classes. The cup to be won three times to become the absolute property of the exhibitor; a small silver replica being also given as a memento.

The total amount offered at the 1908 show would therefore not fall short of £500, while the increase of and improvement in the competitions, in view of the improved accommodation and larger ring, had been referred to a small sub-committee for report at the December meeting.

The two classes for Shetland ponies would be also maintained by the guarantee given by Mr. R. W. R. Mackenzie and other Shetland pony breeders.

The returns of gold and silver medals awarded in 1907 had been laid on the table, showing that thirty-three had been awarded during the past season. The committee recommended that the four schemes for brood mares, fillies, stallions, and colts, and Polo ponies, the property of a member of the society, should be continued. Appreciative reports had been received from the conveners of the Mountain and Moorland sections as to the award of the society's prizes, and it was resolved to increase the grant given to each section, to be offered at the following shows:—

Dartmoor.—Brentor and Lydford Show.
Exmoor.—Lynton Show; Exford Show.
Highland.—Highland and Agricultural Show.
New Forest.—Burley Show.
Welsh.—Northern Division: Conway Show; Southern Division: Welsh National Show.

This report having been presented, an interesting discussion arose upon the proposal by a member (who was willing to provide the prizes) as to the desirability of re-including the class for Eastern sires in the schedule. The general feeling of the council was in favour of acceding to the suggestion, though Arab stallions were not now fashionable, and the demand for Eastern ponies in polo was practically dying out; whereas twelve years ago they would see Arab and Syrian ponies playing in high-class polo, their appearance now on the polo field was only watched with curiosity. The English and Australian ponies had cut the Arab out.

Mr. C. D. Miller informed the council that the Roehampton Club would again be prepared to provide classes at a summer show for members of the society, and it was thought desirable that it should take place on Friday, June 26, during the International Horse Show week.

The chairman, Mr. C. Howard Taylor, thanked Mr. Miller for his interest in the matter, and it was resolved to bring the fact to the notice of members, with the view of securing their co-operation.

The council resolved to offer the R.A.S.E. two gold medals for the best Polo pony stallion and for the best Polo pony mare exhibited; and to contribute the sum of £50 towards the class prizes for Polo ponies.

CATTLE.

Notes and Jottings.

ALTHOUGH the weather of the past few days has been mild and genial for the time of the year, yet we must not forget that the dull and dreary days of winter are close upon us, so that the genial weather may at any minute be succeeded by a period of great severity. In a very few days' time the Martinmas term commences, a period that our forefathers looked forward to with great concern, the common saying being that wherever the wind sat on Martinmas eve, there it would remain until Candlemas quarter. Many a winter has the writer lived to prove the correctness of this old adage. One winter especially, on that important evening the wind veered round to the extreme north and one of the severest winters on record followed. It is wise, however, to see that all roots are covered and made secure, and all the cattle that are to be housed should have their quarters made quite ready for them, so that in case of emergency they can be moved at short notice.

WINTER'S advent does not appear to be affecting the prices of pedigree stock. I notice in the States a large herd of Herefords, of which number thirty were bulls, realised the very satisfactory average of nearly £30 per head, the male portion exceeding that amount by £2 per head. When we look at these as being American-bred specimens the sale must be accounted highly satisfactory.

IN the Argentine, however, the Shorthorn is still holding sway, and appears likely to do so, as, in addition to the great demand for beef-bred animals, a very increased inquiry is being instituted for the dual-purpose Shorthorn.

AT a recent sale a bull of Lord Lovatt's breeding —Beaufort Prince—topped the list, reaching £306 5s.; other bulls were disposed of at figures ranging between £288 15s. down to 100 guineas. Things in general point to a continued demand for the best of our pedigree stock for the herds in that Republic. Breeders, however, must bear in mind that, though considerable pedigree is demanded by the Argentine buyers, pedigree is not by any means the only thing concerned, buyers for that county require that the highest price stock they purchase shall be as symmetrical as possible, showing style, and covered with a great wealth of flesh and hair. The medium Shorthorn is in but very little demand now by the foreigner.

A RATHER important matter was discussed by the Shorthorn Society recently; we allude to the use of registered names, which, it was decided on the motion of Lord Moreton, should only be used for animals bred by the owner of such registered name. This arrangement should meet with the general approval of all breeders; many times in our showyards we have met with a prefix which led us to suppose they were bred by the person using that prefix, whereas on inquiry it was found that the animal was bred elsewhere. Entries so made are very misleading.

THE Bates tribe of Shorthorns appears once more likely to take the lead in demand and probably in prices too. The institution of the Dairy ShorthornSociety has had a good deal to do, doubtless, in bringing this fine old strain of cattle to the front. A better type of Shorthorn than a genuine Bates need not be desired. In the long past we have known herds of these that in the way of size, milk-vessels, and constitution were all that could be desired. We have also seen many members of these herds, after being dried and given three months' feeding, realise considerably over £30 for beef, this, of course, being when that commodity was much higher in price than to-day.

OUR leading feeders for the Christmas markets are brining out a splendid supply of highly-fed stock, both for private auction and also for many of the local auctions. The Slough Christmas auctions, doubtless, will form the chief centre of attraction to butchers, as we see the Royal feeding yards at Windsor are contributing no less than twenty-five grand Devon bullocks, as well as heavy contingents of choice blues and Shorthorns. Miss Alice de Rothschild, too, is offering no less than ninety-two at the home farm at Waddesdon, Bucks. It may be taken for granted that these will be of choice quality and thoroughly finished. The breeds here represented will be Angus, Shorthorns, and Jerseys.

TO speak about Jersey bullocks at a great Christmas auction savours somewhat of the ludicrous, yet it is astonishing how the numbers of this breed offered increase of late years, and some feeders speak very favourably of them. The immense quantity of suet they carry is always valuable as the festive season is coming on, and both feeders and butchers have become aware of the fact.

RED POLLS appear to be doing fairly well, and good prices may be anticipated at the dispersion sale of Mr. A. J. Smith's herd, which are coming under the hammer of Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons at Ipswich on November 22. At a special sale of this breed at Shotford Hall the other day, Red-Polled steers realised as much as £26 per head, and others down to £21 10s. The Red Poll appears to be a very good cutter when made ripe; the carcase is seldom overburdened with fat.

THE average of Aberdeen-Angus cattle sold in Scotland during 1907 shows a satisfactory advance over the prices of 1906, and a total of just upon 1,300 were sold. The opening fat stock show of the season commences at Norwich on Thursday next, where it is pretty safe to say we shall find many very fine animals of the bonny black breed with their shiny coats and rotund forms. It is to be hoped that prices will be a little more cheerful during the next month than they have been recently. Our markets are now continually being scared with one thing or another, butchers in hundreds of cases buy with extreme caution lest they should find themselves with a tuberculous carcase upon their hands; surely it is high time something was done to secure the buyer against losses of this kind.

MOST remote islands of the sea have occasionally, during recent years, been purchasers of Shorthorns from our shores, and, wherever landed, these have invariably given a good account of themselves. It is very interesting to find that the Devon breed is beginning to be sought after, as we read that two bulls of this herd have recently been exported to Cyprus. If the Devon is well cared for in a new home, he is not long in acquiring a good bevy of friends, and it is quite likely that the island of Cyprus will find that it is acquiring a very valuable breed in the red rubies from the Devonshire pastures.

Sale of Irish Store Cattle.

There was a grand show of cattle, totalling 1,200 head, at Mr. Gavin Low's sale by auction at 50, Prussia Street, Dublin, on the 7th inst. The consignments were strong in forward conditioned horned cattle and Polly bullocks, as well as Aberdeen-Angus and Hereford crosses. There were also a very good entry of young cattle, a good

proportion of which were Aberdeen-Angus-Hereford and Shorthorn-Hereford crosses from six to eighteen months, many of exceptional merit. Trade was fairly uniform throughout, buyers being pleased with good condition of stock. Young cattle were exceptionally good, and sold at prices that must ensure remunerative profit.

Shorthorn bullocks, two and a-half and three years, sold from £9 to £14 2s. 6d.; Shorthorn heifers, two and a-half and three years, sold from £8 15s. to £12 2s. 6d.; Polly bullocks, two and a-half and three years, sold from £9 15s. to £14 5s.; Aberdeen-Angus and Hereford crosses, two to two and a-half years, sold from £9 to £12 5s., yearlings from £5 15s. to £9 10s.; Aberdeen-Angus and Hereford cross yearlings sold from £7 to £9 15s.

Norwich Fat Stock Show.

The thirty-first annual exhibition of the Norfolk and Norwich Christmas Show Association will open at the Agricultural Hall, Norwich, on Thursday, the 21st, and will continue during Friday and Saturday, the 22nd and 23rd, under the presidency of Sir Charles R. Gilman.

Being the first of the great winter fat stock exhibitions, the Norwich Show naturally excites a great deal of interest all over the country, as all concerned in the breeding and grazing of stock look forward to this first event of the Christmas season to provide some indication of what may be expected at the Birmingham and Smithfield Shows, which follow the Norwich Show.

ingham and Smithfield on several occasions, so, taking it altogether, Norfolk, pitted against the whole country, has taken a lot of beating.

Nearly half the number of championships have been awarded for cross-bred cattle, these having won on fourteen occasions (without a break for the last seven years). Shorthorns come next with six, Herefords four, Red Polled three, Aberdeen-Angus two, and Devons one.

There is a very good entry for the present show, as will be observed by the following comparative statement, and some of the most prominent breeders and graziers in the country are sending their stock for competition, his Majesty the King as usual sending a large number of exhibits :—

Year.	Beasts.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Roots, Grain, &c.	Poultry, Butter, &c.	Seedsmen's Prizes.
1900	90	105	48	31	161	208
1901	113	97	—	42	145	207
1902	98	63	27	47	157	202
1903	120	84	36	43	158	221
1904	107	96	15	58	159	215
1905	122	96	33	61	164	219
1906	99	90	36	64	174	214
1907	103	105	12	80	168	220

About 60 per cent. of the cattle are entered by Norfolk exhibitors, and about 34 per cent. have been bred in the county.

The prize money offered in the various sections amounts altogether to £773 13s., as follows:—Cattle, eighteen classes and eight champion and special prizes, £506; sheep, six classes and four special prizes, £114; pigs, three classes and one special prize, £35 5s.; roots and grain, eight classes, £14; dead poultry, ten classes, £16; butter, cheese, eggs, bread, eighteen classes, £38 12s. 6d.; dinner-table decorations, £5 15s. 6d.; root prizes offered by various seedsmen, sixteen classes, £45.

The judges appointed to award the prizes are as follows:—

CATTLE.—Mr. Peter Dunn, Pasture House, Sigglesthorne, Hull; Mr. W. Reid, 160, Central Meat Market, London, E C.

SHEEP.—Mr. T. B. Eagle, Thrupp, Oxon; Mr. G. F. Hempson, Estate Office, Gatton Park, Reigate, Surrey.

BUTCHERS' PRIZES (CATTLE AND PIGS).—Mr. J. Lindsay, 107, High Street, Putney, S.W.: Mr. Geo. Raby, Melton Constable; Umpire, Mr. W. H. Hinde, 103, Grove Road, Norwich.

ROOTS AND GRAIN.—Mr. William Case, Tuttington, Aylsham; Mr. Chas. Waters, Postwick, Norwich.

The Large Assembly Room, as usual, will be occupied with the exhibits of dead poultry, butter, cheese, eggs, bread, and table decorations, and the Board of Agriculture for Ireland will display some Irish produce, which doubtless will be of much interest.

Both the Great Eastern Railway and the Midland and Great Northern Joint Railway Companies are running excursions and special trains at cheap fares, full particulars of which may be obtained at all railway stations.

The show opens at 10 a.m. on Thursday (at which hour catalogues may be obtained), and the admission each day will be as follows:—Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., 2s. 6d.; from 2 p.m. to 9.30 p.m., 1s. All day on Friday, from 10 a.m. to 9.30 p.m., and Saturday 10 a.m. to 5.30 p.m., 1s.



The Pen of Sheep illustrated above is that with which Mr. John Anwyl, Priest Weston, Chirbury, Shropshire, won the First Prize for a Pen of Three Kerry Hill Shearling Ewes (of the same flock) at the Royal Agricultural Society's Show at Lincoln. The sire of the Sheep was Roundabout's Pride, and the dam by Protector.

The show is open to the United Kingdom for nearly all classes of stock and farm produce, with the exception of roots and grain, the classes for which are confined to the county, as also are the classes provided by the Norfolk Education Committee for dairy produce exhibited by students who have attended dairy lectures, and a few of the cattle classes are reserved exclusively for Norfolk exhibits. However, the majority of the classes are open, and it is always an interesting feature to see whether the championship of the show falls to the lot of a Norfolk exhibitor or to an exhibitor outside the county.

In the course of the thirty shows which have been held since the establishment of the association, the championship, which carries with it the handsome prize of £100 sterling, has been won by Norfolk exhibitors fourteen times, the late Mr. J. J. Colman taking the lead with six wins—viz., in 1880, 1888, 1889, 1892, 1895 and 1898. The late Mr. Robert Wortley comes next with three wins, in 1879, 1882, and 1884. Mr. John Wortley won two years in succession—viz., in 1896 and 1897, when he also secured the championship at both Birmingham and Smithfield, and Mr. E. T. Learner and his son (Mr. W. E. Learner) have won it twice and once respectively. Mr. W. E. Learner, we believe, was reserve for championship at Norwich, Birm-

Sheep Notes and Jottings

CHRISTMAS Fat Stock Shows will shortly be the leading matter of comment in our agricultural papers. The admiration so generously given by the public and by the judges to the winning pens of the different breeds of sheep will be expressed in much the same language as those of us who are getting on in life have been accustomed to hear for many years past.

THE judges will go through their accustomed task—for most of them who are engaged at the important shows are old hands at the work—they will make their awards, the public will inspect the different winners, and the shows will be over.

TO those, however, who view these shows in more important light than many, the result of these shows, if properly thought out, is a matter that does not end at the conclusion of the show-yard season.

"WHY should feeders fat up their animals to the enormous extent they do?" asked a fellow traveller, coming to town the other day, when talking of the coming Smithfield Show. "It must be a great waste, and it certainly appears to me, from a commercial point of view useless."

THE reason why this excessive feeding was practised, which is well-known to all breeders, was explained to him, *i.e.*, that it is the object of each breeder to show to those who come to these exhibitions, the greatest possible development that any particular breed can produce within a given time, so as to prove the advantage of one breed over the other.

THE writer has for many years urged that, as at present conducted and managed, the Christmas fat stock shows at the best only do a part of the good they should. The Smithfield Show, with its dual set of classes could, if the management of it fully realised the importance o

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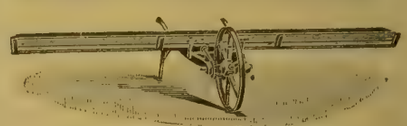
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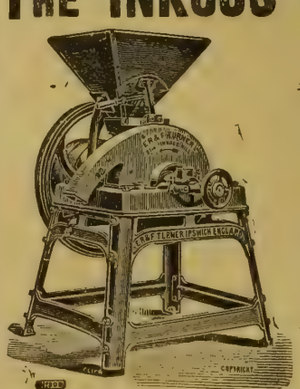


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the opportunity that this dual exhibition affords them, be made one of the most valuable exhibitions of live stock to the feeder, and also to the breeder, in the world.

IT is no use mincing matters at all, as the exhibition is arranged and carried out at the present time the general breeder and feeder gets little or no benefit at all from it. He is told in the catalogue, and by the weigh bridge, that certain pens of sheep or lambs are a given age, and that their weight alive is a given weight. In the carcase test classes similar information is given, with the additional information of the carcase weight, but here the opportunity for comparison ends, and the need of further information commences. The further information that is required, and that ought to be given, is: What has it cost to produce the grand specimen pens exhibited alive, and what is the result given by them when dead, and the same information is equally essential in respect to the cost of the production of the animals exhibited in the carcase test.

IT will be said that in years gone by many of the shows used to make it a condition of entry that on the entry form there should be stated how the different animals had been fed. Experience proved that the information given in this respect was useless, or nearly so, but that was not the fault of the system, but the way the system was worked. If breeders and feeders are keen enough to prepare animals for exhibition, and take the trouble that is necessary to do so, it is quite certain that amongst them there would be found sufficient who would also take the trouble to give full and complete details of the amount of food consumed and its cost.

IF this information could be obtained, it would indeed increase tremendously the value of the great exhibition we shall witness in the course of a few weeks at Smithfield; particularly so, because at that exhibition, owing to the energy and determination of the London butchers, there is a dual exhibition—*i.e.*, animals alive, fed and prepared for exhibition alive, and the carcases of animals slaughtered, fed and prepared specially for that object.

THE difficulty one finds in bringing to the fore new points for consideration is well known. The reference made above certainly does not bring forward a new point, but it revives, it is hoped, a very old one, on a subject that may ultimately secure its proper recognition, resulting in the breeders and feeders of this country, and also of the world, being put in possession of data in respect to the feeding and cost of the feeding of the two distinct types of animals that will be seen at our great annual Smithfield Show.

THE imported supply of mutton during the past month has been a very large one compared with the corresponding periods of previous years. The total declared value of these imports—*i.e.*, mutton and live sheep—during the past month was £693,123, which is the highest total on record for the month of October since this business was started.

THE increase, as compared with the same period last year, is 16·63 per cent. The actual quantity of mutton imported during the month was 362,677 cwt.; this quantity was 14·28 per cent. more than in the same period of 1906.

PRACTICALLY the whole of this increase is accounted for by the very large increase in the quantities imported from both Australia and New Zealand. Compared with 1906, Australia sent us 79 per cent. more and New Zealand 50 per cent. more. On the other hand, the Argentine shipments received during October last were 21·85 per cent. less than in 1906.

THE supply of live sheep imported is the smallest on record for the month of October since before the year 1895. We only received during the month 8,634 head of sheep; 2,532 of these came from "other countries," *i.e.*, from countries other than United States and Canada, mainly, we believe, from Iceland. This supply is one that generally appears in the returns for the month of October, but the number imported during the current year was just about half that which was imported in the previous year for the same period.

THE export demand for sheep continues to be a very satisfactory one, and we observe that several important shipments have been despatched during the past month to both North and South America.

A VERY fine lot of Kent ewe lambs left last week for Uruguay from Messrs. G. W. Finn's flock, Cotswolds from Mr. W. T. Garne's flock were sent to North America, and Hampshire Downs from Mr. H. C. Stephens' and Sir A. Henderson's flocks were sent to the same country.

Dorset Horn Sheep at the Bath and West Show.

At the last meeting of the council of the Dorset Horn Sheep Breeders' Association the secretary, Mr. T. H. Ensor, read a letter from Lord Wynford, who stated that at a meeting of the Stock Prize Committee of the Bath and West Society, which show is to be held at Dorchester in 1908, he noticed that there were only three classes for Dorset Horn sheep. The Dorset Down Society had offered prizes which had enabled the Bath and West Society to arrange for four classes, and it seemed a pity that when the show was at Dorchester the older sheep society should not have as many classes as others.

Mr. Attrill asked if the Dorchester Agricultural Society was giving any prizes for Dorset Horns?

Mr. Hawkins answered that they had handed over their subscriptions to the general fund, which was giving £100 in prizes. Seeing that the breed societies were offering good prizes, they practically left the sheep classes to the Dorset Horn Society and the Dorset Down Society.

Mr. Attrill said it behoved them to do the best they could in those circumstances. The show would be in the midst of the breed and he moved and it was agreed that substantial prizes be granted.

After a lengthy discussion it was ultimately resolved that £51 be granted in prize money by the association, and that the classes be as follow:—

Three chilver lambs (dropped after November 1, 1907) £10, £5, and £2; five chilver hoggs, in their wool (not trimmed after January 1, 1908) £10, £5, and £2; ram, any age, except shearling ram or ram lamb, £5, £2; five chilver lambs, the property of an exhibitor who has never won a prize at the Bath and West, Royal, or Royal Counties Shows, £5, £3, and £2.

The secretary stated that the prizes to be given by the Bath and West Society for Horn sheep were:—Shearling ram, £10, £5, and £2; pair of ram lambs (dropped after November 1, 1907) £10, £5, and £2. He added that the total amount now offered for Horn sheep at the show would be £102.

The association also decided to give £18 in prizes for Dorset Horn sheep at the Newcastle Show of the Royal Agricultural Society in 1908 as they did at Lincoln.

PIGS.

Sale at Walton Hall.

Owing to alterations and reorganisation of Sir Gilbert Greenall's famous herd of pigs, a second and unreserved sale for this season was held at Walton Hall, Warrington, on Thursday, when there were brought under the hammer many excellent representative pigs, which should do well in the showyard as well as for breeding; in fact, many had already won prizes and were eagerly sought after by the large company of breeders. Close on ninety lots were offered, and they realised a total of over £500. Among notable middle-breed animals sold were Walton Rose 30th and Walton Daisy 8th, bought by Earl Sefton for 20 and 17 guineas respectively; Mr. Fraser, of Huyton, secured, amongst others, animals of the Walton Rufus strain for 19 and 16 guineas apiece; Mr. Stanga gave 15 guineas for a Large White boar and 13 guineas for a Large White sow; Mr Purvis gave 14 guineas for the Large White sow Walton Beauty 8th, whilst other buyers paid up to 11½ guineas. A list of the chief lots is appended:—

Large White boar, Mr. Wade, 7 guineas; Large White gilt, Mr. Fraser, 6½; Middle White gilt, Mr. Loram, 5; Middle White gilt, Mr. Fraser, 5½; Middle White gilt, Mr. Lees, 5½; Middle White gilt, Mr. Loram, 5; Middle White gilt, Mr. Fraser, 6; Large White sow Walton Sarah 20th, Mr. Fraser, 9½; Middle White boar Offley John, Mr C. Spencer, 11; Middle White gilt, Mr. Fraser, 16; Middle White gilt, Mr. Fraser, 19; Middle White sow Walton Daisy 8th, Earl Sefton, 17; Large White sow Walton Beauty 8th, Mr. Purvis, 14; Large White sow Walton Beauty 9th, Mr. Darlington, 8½; Large White boar Walton William 2nd, Mr. Hallas, 6; Middle White gilt, Mr. Ventriss, 11½; Large White boar Walton William 3rd, Leeds Co-operative, 10½; Large White sow, Mr. Stephenson, 11½; Middle White boar, Mr. Twentyman, 5; Middle White gilt, Mr. Paget, 5½; Middle White sow Walton Rose 30th, Earl Sefton, 20; Large White boar, Mr. Stephenson, 9; Large White gilt, Mr. Stanga, 10; Large White boar, Mr. Taylor, 6½; Large White sow, Mr. McIver, 10½; Large White sow Walton Betty 5th, Mr. Stanga, 15; Large White boar, Mr. Stanga, 13; Large White boar, Mr. Howson, 7½; Large White sow Walton Elenora 7th, Mr. Priestner, 8½; Large White sow, Mr. Dodd, 6½; Large White sow, Mr. Fogg, 8½; Large White gilt, Mr. Bridge, 8½; Large White gilt, Mr. Whalley, 7½; Large White gilt, Mr. Potts, 9½; Middle White sow Walton Rose 46th, Mr. Fraser, 7.

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The Demand for Small Holdings in Cheshire.

An inquiry has been made in Cheshire by the Small Holdings and Allotments Committee of the County Council as to the number of holdings exceeding one acre and not exceeding fifty acres in the municipal boroughs, urban districts, and parishes comprising the rural districts of the county. Inquiry was also made as to the demand for small holdings, and whether land was available for the purpose.

It appears that out of 450 parishes, twenty-four reported that there was a demand for small holdings, but that no land was available for the purpose; five that there was land available, and 211 that there was no demand for small holdings, and that no replies had been received from the remaining 210 parishes.

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ROWELL, JOHN, Bury, Huntingdon. Breeder Shires and Hackneys: Stallions for sale, hire, or service at home: mares and fillies for sale.

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CATTLE.

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MOSLEY, Sir OSWALD.—High-class Shorthorns. Home Farm, Rolleston Hall. Bulls and Heifers on sale.—Apply A. E. Beck, Rolleston, Burton-on-Trent

CATTLE—*continued.*

SHORTHORNS—*continued.*

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DUDDING, MR. HY., Riby Grove, Great Grimsby, has for inspection and sale the largest pure herd of SHORTHORNS in the county, which comprise the best Bates, Booth, Cruickshank and Scotch blood. The prize bulls recently used and now in service are Prince Alastair 89647, a noted winner, and sold at the Riby Sale, 1906, for 1,000 gs.; Scottish Daisy Duke 79916, Merry Squire 5th 85626, Stratton Squire 80062, Bapton Favourite 76080, Wanderer's Chief 80210, Royal Pearl 89959, President Pierrepont 92846, Aberdeen 87764, Scottish Standard 97058, and Strowan Butterfly 23rd. In July of last year 51 Shorthorns and 56 Lincoln Rams were sold to average 125 gs. each, realising a total of nearly £14,000. In July this year 53 Shorthorns and 48 Rams averaged over 90 gs. each, with a total of nearly £10,000. Numerous prizes have been won at the leading shows in England by the Riby Shorthorns and Lincoln Sheep. Telegrams: "Dudding, Keelby."

ROTHWELL, R. R., Much Hoole, near Preston. Pedigree Shorthorns, chiefly Scotch blood. Stock bull Strowan Marquis 13th, winner of many prizes. Young bulls and heifers always on sale.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

TAYLOR, GEORGE, Cranford, Middlesex.—Bates' Shorthorns, deep milkers. Winners Milking Competitions, London Dairy Show, 1905-6. Bull Calves for Sale. Stock Bulls: Beau Sabreur, Drumcree, Rowbury, and Kirkcharm.

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CATTLE—*continued.*

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FOWLER, P. T., Importer, Watford, Herts. A choice selection of pedigree Jersey and Guernsey Cows, Heifers and young Bulls from prize herds of the Islands; particulars forwarded; inspection invited.

JERSEYS, and Alderney Guernseys, fresh calved and near calving. Prices, particulars.—R. WHEADON, Ilminster.

MERTON GRANGE GUERNSEYS.—Property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. This Herd contains Champion Bull, 1906; also Bull Royal Governor, winner of seven Firsts, and unbeaten 1907. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of best Breeding for Sale.—Telegrams and particulars, W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay.

STERN, Sir E. D., Fan Court, Chertsey, Surrey. Herd of pedigree Jersey Cattle. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for sale.

TICHBORNE PARK, GUERNSEY.—Yearling Bulls and Heifers for sale.—Apply, D. MICHIE, Estate Office, Tichborne, Alresford, Hants.

GALLOWAYS.

GRAHAM, ROBERT, Auchengassel, Twynholm, breeder fashionable Galloway Cattle, winners at Royal and Highland Societies Shows. Pedigree Bulls, Cows, and Heifers, also Blue-greys for feeding, for sale. Commissions carefully executed.

KERRIES & DEXTER KERRIES.

CORY, Sir CLIFFORD JOHN, Bart., M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows.—Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

RATTRAY, DAVID, Gortnaskehy, Ballybunion, Co. Kerry. Pedigree Prize-winning Herd of Kerries and Dexters. 153 Prizes and Honours won by Cattle from this Herd past three years. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

THE DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE'S PRIZE-WINNING DEXTER HERD.—During 1904 and 1905 this Herd won more prizes than any other three Dexter Herds combined, including both first and second milking prizes Royal, 1905, and first London Dairy Show, 1906, Bulls, Cows, and Heifers generally for Sale.—CHILD, Compton Place, Eastbourne.

DUTCH.

BROWN, JOHN, Marden Farm, Hertford. Dutch, the best Dairy Cattle in the world. Over 200 head kept. Record, one cow gave 1,615 gallons of milk in 52 weeks. Bulls for sale.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

ANDERSON, JOHN, Barton-on-Humber.—The old Barton Flock of Pure-bred LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP, Flock Book 106. This flock is noted for hard constitutions and fine, lustrous wool. Inspection invited. Telegrams as above.

ATKINSON, T., & SON, North Kelsey, Lincoln. Old-established flock of pure Lincoln Longwools. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Noted for great size and long lustrous wool. Have given great satisfaction at home and abroad. Inspection invited

BROCKLEBANK, JOHN, Bassingham, Lincoln (Flock 24). Pure-bred Lincoln Longwool Rams and Ewes. This old flock has been carefully bred for 100 years. Telegrams: Bassingham.

BROOKS, W. J., Stowe Lodge, Weedon, Northants (Registered Flock 165), has for sale Rams and Ewes of best blood.

DRAKES, Wm., Tealby, Market Rasen. Flock No. 72 of Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs of best blood for sale. Lincoln Red Shorthorns. Prices moderate.

DUDDING, MR. HY., Riby Grove, Great Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale the largest flock of pure Lincoln Longwool Sheep in the county, and many prize-winners. They are famous for great size, fine wool, and 150 years good breeding, and at the home Sales have made the highest prices on record. In July, 1906, 51 shearling rams sold to average £151 each, the record price being made for a single ram, namely, 1,450 gs., and on two other occasions have rams made 1,000 gs. The wonderful success of the Riby sheep at the Royal Show, Lincoln, 1907, and at the Home Sale in July when 48 rams averaged over £91 each, proves that the Riby blood leads the way. Champion and premier prizes have been secured in all the leading exhibitions throughout the world. Telegrams: "Dudding, Keelby."

(Continued on page 625.)

SHEEP—*continued.*

LINCOLN LONGWOOL—*continued.*

MONEY, FRED. Silk Willoughby, Sleaford. Flock 323; established over a century. Four Rams from this flock fetched over £1,300 in the Argentine, February, 1903, one making £700, the record for a single ram in Buenos Ayres. Rams for sale. Inspection invited.

SMITH, HENRY, jun., Cropwell Butler, Nottingham. Lincoln Longwool Flock No. 7, winner of £2,361 in prizes. Champion pen Lincolns, Smithfield Show, 1896; Association Championship, Leicester 1897 Association Championship for pen of 3 Shearling Rams, Yorkshire, 1900; Championship, Rutland, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, and 1906. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.

LEICESTER.

SIMPSON BROS., Pilmoor House, Hunmanby, Yorkshire, Breeders of Leicesters (Flock No. 2 in Leicester Book), have always for inspection or sale Rams and Ewes. These Sheep are of great size with heavy fleeces, and include Royal Winners.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

COLES, CARY, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1907.—Extraordinary records: Twin ram lambs let for 205 and 120 guineas. Ninety averaged £21 10s. Selections always for Sale.

DIBBEN, JOHN HERBERT, Bishopstone, Salisbury. Breeder of Pure Hampshires. Annual Sale in August, at Salisbury, of 100 Rams and Ram Lambs. Flock consists of 800 Ewes.

OVEY, R. L., Hernes, Henley-on-Thames.—Pedigree HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK, Reg. Vol. IV. Prize-winners leading shows last five years.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. The Cholderton flock is individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded in the Hampshire Down Flock Book. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury.

THE CHILMARK FLOCK OF REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—Owner JAMES FLOWER, Chilwark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records. Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, out of 11 years competing, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" won eight times, thrice second, with pens of 8 ram lambs; a marvellous record. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 13 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05-06. At the Royal at Derby, 1906, every First Prize, two Seconds, and the Champion were won; an unequalled success!! Champions Birmingham, 1905, over all breeds, Reserve in 1906. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Short-wools, Smithfield, 1904-05-06. Highest average past 13 years. Bridford Fair, Aug. 12, 100 Ram Lambs, annual sale. Selections for Sale.

OXFORD DOWNS.

ADAMS, GEORGE, Royal Prize Farm Flock, Faringdon, Berks. Pure Oxford Down Sheep, Shearling Rams, Ram Lambs, Ewes and Ewe Lambs for Sale. Special arrangements with foreign buyers. Many first prizes at R.A.S.E. and other shows during past 25 years, including 2 first, 2 second, and 4 other prizes, World's Fair, Chicago, and 7 firsts, 4 seconds and champion at Royal Bath and West, Royal Counties, etc., this year.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

TREADWELL, JOHN, Upper Winchendon, Aylesbury.—Oxford Down Sheep. Annual Ram Sale first Wednesday in August. Prizes won at R.A.S.E. 24 years in succession. Ewes for Sale.

SOUTH DOWNS.

BABRAHAM SOUTHDOWNS, property of Mr. Adeane. Pedigrees registered. This old-established flock has won numerous prizes, including 2 firsts, 1 second in three-ram classes, Royal Show, and 2 champion, 1 first, 2 seconds, Royal Counties Show in two-ram classes, 1906.—For catalogue and particulars, apply F. N. Webb, Babraham, Cambridge, England.

CHEVELEY PARK SOUTHDOWNS, the property of the Executors of the late Col. McCalmont. This flock has won numerous prizes at the principal shows, and animals purchased from it have been very successful in New Zealand, Canada, and the United States. Rams and ewes usually for sale.—Apply to H. J. Garrod, Cheveley, Newmarket, Cambs.

COOPER, ALLAN, Norton, Bishopstone, Lewes, Registered Southdown Flock, No. 70; trade marked; hardy constitution and good wool. This flock of 520 ewes is kept on its native hills. Rams, ewes and lambs for sale.

GATTON PARK SOUTHDOWNS, belonging to Mr. Jeremiah Colman. Prizes won in 1902-5 include Blythwood Challenge Bowl, reserve for Blythwood Challenge Bowl, 18 championships, 12 reserve for championships, 51 firsts, and 30 seconds. A few choice selections of breeding animals always on sale.—Particulars G. F. Hempson, Estate Office, Gatton Park, Surrey.

SHEEP—*continued.*

SOUTH DOWNS—*continued.*

NORTHBOURNE, Lord, Betteshanger Park, Dover. Registered Southdowns for sale, combining best strains.—For particulars, apply Manager, Home Farm, Betteshanger, Dover.

PEEL, G., Wymering, Cosham, Hants, Registered Southdowns, Flock, No. 44. Yearling Ewes and Ram Lambs for sale, sired by rams of highest merit, out of specially selected ewes.

WALTER, Colonel A. F., has a registered flock (No. 159) of Pedigree Southdown Sheep, Rams on sale.—Apply for particulars to R. Holloway, Home Farm, Boarwood, Wokingham, Berks.

WENSLEYDALES.

ABBOT BROS., Thuxton, Norfolk. Breeders and exporters of many winners at home and in the Colonies of the best possible breeding. Illustrated catalogue free.

UNDERLEY WENSLEYDALES (Blue-faced) from the best blood obtainable. Successfully exhibited.—Apply, G. G. ROBINSON, Bailiff, Underley Farm, Kirkby Lonsdale.

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

CHARLES SPENCER, having taken over the Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts, herd of Large and Middle White Pigs, which won 12 prizes and reserves with 11 exhibits at Derby Royal, will price any of them.

FULWOOD HERD LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES, property R. R. Rothwell. 200 head bred from winners at leading shows.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for Sale at moderate prices

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse Station, G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices.—J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM. Herd of Large White Pigs. The oldest and largest Herd in Notts County. Over 100 Breeding Sows kept. Upwards of 600 to select from. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—Apply ARTHUR A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale—FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

SPALDING HERD of Pedigree Large Whites, young stock and in-pig Gilts for Sale. All bred from great winners.—ALFRED W. WHITE, "Hillegom," Spalding.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 100 to choose from. Correspondence invited. Grand young breeding stock always on Sale.—Apply R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts (15 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—Apply to Mr. W. BAINBRIDGE, Walton House, Warrington.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

THE CATTON HERD of Prize-winning MIDDLE WHITE PIGS, property of J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stock Boar Castlecroft Mikado, 1st Park Royal, 1st Bath and West. Gelts and Boars on Sale. Prices moderate.—Apply BAILIFF, Raddle Farm, Edingale, Tamworth.

LARGE BLACKS.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath, Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Large Black Pigs of the best strains of blood, noted for their docility and for the production of a large proportion of lean meat. Good selection of Boars, unrelated Gilts, and in-pig Sows for Sale at reasonable prices.

PIGS—*continued.*

LARGE BLACKS—*continued.*

CATTON HERD OF PRIZE-WINNING LARGE BLACK PIGS. Stock Boar Treviglas Excelsior 1487, 1st Devon County, 2nd and Reserve Champion Royal Show, 1906; pigs kept in hardy natural condition; gelts and boars always on sale.—Apply, J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stations: Croxall, 2½ miles (M.R.); Alrewas, 3½ miles (L.N.W.).

HASKETON CHAMPION PRIZE HERD OF LARGE BLACK PIGS.—This herd has won the Royal championship three out of four times, and is the only herd having won the breed challenge cup. Record: 47 firsts, 37 seconds, 11 thirds, 126 prize-winning cards; the herd this year being the winners of 14 firsts, 6 seconds, 2 thirds, championship and silver cup in five shows. Gelts and Boars at moderate prices consistent with quality. Expectation a speciality.—Apply, C. F. MARRINER, Hasketon, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS.—Select Herd-bred from choice Prize Winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale, moderate prices.—H. J. CLARKE, The Slade, Roughley, Sutton Coldfield.

WHEN Breeding, breed from the best Pedigree Large Black Prize-winning Pigs. TREVEGLOS HOPEFUL II., winner of First prizes and R.A.S.E. Silver Challenge Cup, 1907, beating all other Cup winners; also 1st Prize Bath and West, Newport; 1st Royal Counties, Maidenhead; 1st Royal Cornwall, Liskeard; 1st Devon County, Bideford; also 1st prize at the Royal Show, Lincoln, for Boar and Reserve for Champion prize. Boars and Sows for Sale of the above strain at moderate prices.—Apply to JOHN WARNE, Treveglos Farm, St. Mabyn, R.S.O., Cornwall.

BERKSHIRES.

CARNARVON, the Earl of.—Prize winning Pedigree Herd. BOARS and GELTS, eligible Herd Book. Prices moderate.—Apply W. T. HALL, Highclere Farm, Newbury.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gilts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

READING CORPORATION.—150 Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, leading prize-winning strains, from son of Champion Mikado 10433 and prize-winner Domino 11323; inspection invited.—Apply, Mr. T. Chettle, Manor Farm, Reading, Berks.

STALL PITTS HERD OF PEDIGREE BERKSHIRES. One of the Oldest Herds. Unsurpassed for true character size, and quality. Choice selection of Boars and Sows on offer at moderate prices—J. LAWRENCE, Stall Pitts, Shrivenham, Berks.

TAMWORTHS.

PEDIGREE TAMWORTHS, the property of C. HOWARD TAYLOR, Middlewood Hall; a few good young Boars and Gilts for sale.—Apply, Hampole Priory, Doncaster.

BORROWFIELD & COLSTON HERDS.

The property of R. MILLINGTON-KNOWLES Colston Bassett Hall, Notts.

LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES.

The following First Prizes, Championships, and Medals have been obtained by pigs **BRED** in these Herds in 1907:
1st and Champion, Gold Medal, R.A.S.E., Lincoln.
1st & Champion, President's Medal, Highland, Edinburgh.
1st Welsh National, Aberystwyth.
1st Bath and West Newport; 1st Royal Counties.
1st Nottingham; 1st Suffolk; 1st Norfolk.
1st Derby.
1st Hereford and Worcester; Special Prize Lincoln Agricultural Society; 1st Great Yorkshire; 1st Newark.

A number of additional Firsts and other Prizes have also been gained at the above Shows.

At the St. Louis Exposition, U.S.A., in 1904, the Champion Boar, and the Grand Champion of the Exposition were bred at Colston Bassett.

The Foreign and Home trade has largely increased during 1907.—GILBERT H. ELLIOT, Estate Office, Colston Bassett, Notts.

For Sale.
PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.
Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.
GEORGE HOYLES,
Skidby Manor, near Hull.

GEORGE HOYLES
SKIDBY MANOR, HULL.
Breeder of Pure Lincoln Long Wool Sheep.
Lustrous Fleeces. Good Constitutions.
SUITABLE FOR HOME AND ABROAD. STOCK FOR SALE.

Shorthorn Society.

There was very little important business transacted at the last meeting of the council of the Shorthorn Society, the chief perhaps being the consideration of the suggestion made by Mr. John Thornton at the annual general meeting that at the Royal Agricultural Society's Show next year the group class should be for a "bull and his offspring," instead of for a "bull and his male offspring."

After some discussion the wording of the group class was altered to read as follows:—"Group class consisting of a bull of any age (not necessarily bred by exhibitor), and two, three, or four of his offspring, bred by exhibitor, not less than six months old on the day of entry," and the secretary was instructed to send a copy of this to the Royal Agricultural Society.

In pursuance of notice, Lord Moreton called attention to the use by owners of their registered prefix and affix in the naming of animals purchased by them. He felt that this was using the registered name in a manner which was not intended, and he moved that registered names should only be used for animals bred by the owner of such registered name,

The motion, seconded by Mr. Ackers and adopted, was ordered to be entered on the rules of entry.

The General Purposes Committee recommended and it was agreed that the same prizes be offered at the shows of the following societies in 1908 as were offered this year, viz.:—Royal Agricultural Society of England, Bath and West, &c., Agricultural Society, Highland, &c., Agricultural Society, Royal Dublin Society, and that a full scheme of the prizes to be offered in 1908 will be considered at the next meeting.

Twenty new members were elected, and the council adjourned till December 10.

SOCIETIES.

Smithfield Club.

A meeting of the council of the Smithfield Club was held at 12, Hanover Square, on the 6th inst, when the president, Mr. James Hornsby, made the following allusion to the death of Earl Winterton, a vice-president of the club, and who for some years had been chairman of their Stock Prize Committee. No man on the council, said Mr. Hornsby, had done more for the Smithfield Club than had Lord Winterton. He had attended most of their meetings, and had given a great amount of time to the interests of the club.

On the motion of the president, seconded by the Earl of Coventry, a unanimous vote of condolence and sympathy with the family of their late vice-president, Earl Winterton, was passed.

The Selection Committee recommended twenty-two names to be submitted to the members for the election therefrom of eleven names to serve on the council in the place of the eleven gentlemen who retire by rotation at the end of the current year. This report was adopted.

Scrutineers were appointed to examine the voting papers sent in.

Other business (of no particular interest) in connection with the forthcoming show was transacted, and after the election of forty-one new members the council adjourned until December 10.

Royal Lancashire.

A meeting of the council of the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society was held at Liverpool on Wednesday, when the secretary, Mr. Edward Bohane, presented the balance-sheet, and it was a remarkable testimony to the popularity and success of this well-managed society.

The annual subscriptions during the closing year, he said, had amounted to £1,912; entrance fees for implements and live stock had brought in £2,006; the receipts at the show-yard and grand-stand (including season tickets) totalled £6,505, and, together with a donation of £2,240 from the Bolton Committee and other items, the total receipts came to £13,616 15s. 7d. After meeting the expenditure there was a balance of profit to the net revenue account of £3,233 2s. 8d., while the general balance in favour of the society now stood at the satisfactory sum of about £15,000.

Mr. James Kay gave the report of the Catering Committee, which was also satisfactory. The society had appointed its own staff, numbering 375 persons, and they had not only given the public better food and refreshments, but by reduced charges had saved them €1,500. They had supplied 8,532 luncheons 17,000 teas, and although the wages list was double that of the Lancaster Show the results were even more favourable, and a surplus was left of £250.

On the motion of Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mr. Backhouse, a vote of thanks was passed to the committee and Mr. Bohane, Mr. Harrison remarking that no show was better catered for.

Mr. Bohane gave the report of the House Committee, which stated that the new headquarters of the society in Winckley Square, Preston, would be opened by Lord Derby on December 19. Mr. Bohane reported that he had received a letter from Lord Egerton of Tatton intimating that he would be pleased to accept the presidency of the society on the occasion of his visit to Manchester.

Mr. Windham E. Hale, chairman of the Works Committee, said that the site of the society's next year's show in Manchester had not yet been decided on, and it had been found necessary for the time being to continue the tenancy of their works. yard. The total cost of fitting up the Bolton show ground had been about £2,191. No society in England fitted up so satisfactory a show ground at so small a cost as did the Royal Lancashire. He hoped shortly to be able to report on the subject of removal to Manchester for the forthcoming show.

Lancashire Federation.

A meeting of the Lancashire Federation of Agricultural Societies was held at Bolton on the 9th inst.—Sir Lees Knowles, Bart., presiding—when it was decided to admit the Saddleworth and Mid-Cheshire Societies as members of the Federation, and a resolution that the title of the Federation be changed to the Lancashire and Cheshire Federation of Agricultural Societies was passed, and alterations to rules as suggested by a special committee were accepted. The secretary announced that the Federation challenge trophies for horses had been won as follows:—First half of the season, Mr. F. V. Grange, of Farndon, and second half, Mr. John Taylor, of Ormskirk. He also reported that the Federated Societies had received during the past season 31,536 entries, the average per show being 1,233, as against 1,136 last year, and 1,088 for 1905.

The annual dinner and meeting was fixed for Manchester on December 13, and a local committee was appointed to make arrangements.

On the motion of Mr. J. W. Parkinson, secretary of the Worsley Society, Sir Lees Knowles was requested to retain the presidency for another year.

The President, while acknowledging the feeling displayed in his favour, said he did not feel justified in keeping out anyone who might be appointed in his place. While he had a large amount of public work, he took an immense interest in the Federation, and would leave himself in the hands of the conference.

Mr. Kenworthy seconded the proposal, saying they could not get a better man, and the resolution for the re-election was carried with acclamation.

Sir Lees Knowles, in reply, promised to do his best in the interests of the Federation.

Mr. Kenworthy suggested that the Federation should do something to help individual societies in settling disputes with exhibitors. Could not something be done, he asked, to bind exhibitors to submit all disputes to a committee of the Federation, or to arbitrators appointed by the Federation.

The president thought the difficulty was one which might be met by a special rule, and the matter was left to be dealt with by the committee.

Yorkshire.

At a special meeting of the council of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society held at York on the 7th inst., there was present a deputation from the Halifax Local Committee, including Mr. R. Whitworth (president) and Mr. Learoyd (hon. secretary), who attended on the subject of the date of the show at Halifax next year, and it was decided to hold the show on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, August 5, 6, and 7.

The draft prize list for the show of 1908 was submitted, and was referred for revision to the next meeting of the council.

A deputation from the Yorkshire Poultry Club drew the attention of the council to the fact that the Yorkshire Agricultural Society was the only county society which did not do anything towards the encouragement of the breeding of poultry. The council decided to obtain further information on the subject, which will be brought before their next meeting.

Cornwall Farmers' Union.

The Cornwall Farmers' Union discussed a variety of subjects at their meeting on Monday, prominent amongst them being the question of an Agricultural Party and Small Holdings. On the former matter there was a diversity of opinion, and in the end it was agreed to discuss the subject at length at the next meeting. Regarding small holdings, the following resolution was proposed:—"That the Cornwall County Farmers' Union favours the formation of small holdings on sound economical lines, but is of opinion that the matter being of national importance, all expenses connected therewith should be a national charge." This met with general approval and was carried, whilst it was decided to send copies of it to the members of the county council, the Board of Agriculture, the Central Chamber of Agriculture, and the local Members of Parliament.

One speaker remarked that the cry of "Back to the land" was all very well, but from the ratepayers' point of view it would be a very bold county council—and he for one would strongly oppose it—to put back men on the land from the town indiscriminately. It seemed to him applicants should have at least two qualifications: they should prove their ability to farm the small holdings, and that they had the necessary capital. He would not be a party to establishing a class of small holdings if any financial loss was to fall upon the local ratepayers. Except in favoured neighbourhoods, near towns, where there was a first class market for produce, he failed to see how a small holding of under 10 acres was to be made to pay.

Another speaker pointed out that there was a great deal of waste land in the county that was available for small holdings. There were thousands of acres. They should not go and attack the farms that were well equipped in the first instance. They could deal with land in a dilapidated state, so far as the buildings were concerned; they could deal with land in the market, and then the Act specified that they were to deal with glebe lands, Crown lands, and land under Ecclesiastical Commissioners in the first instance. He hoped that, so far as they were concerned, there would be no idea of displacing one man to put in another.

It was decided to advise the desirability of fixing and using weighbridges in the receiving pens of all public cattle markets in the county where auction sales were held for the sale of fat cattle, for the use of which the farmers were prepared to pay a fee; and it was also agreed that it was desirable that one uniform system of weights and measures throughout the county should be established.

NOTES AND NEWS OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

The Staffordshire Chamber of Agriculture had under consideration at its last meeting the report of a special committee which had been appointed by the Chamber to consider the question of unexhausted improvements in tenant right valuations for the county. The committee presented recommendations in regard to dilapidation and compensation as to produce and roots sold off or bought on a farm, which they agreed should be on the same basis. In two or three instances the recommendations were varied, and the amendments were referred back to the committee to embody in a scale which is to be published.

In regard to compensation to the out-going tenant for unexhausted improvements, the Chamber approved of a scale which, for the last year of tenancy, awarded one-third of the cost for linseed cake and meal, cotton cake and meal, or rape cake, and one-sixth of the cost for the year preceding. For the same periods the allowance in regard to corn, corn-cake, malt dust, dried grains or other manufactured feeding stuffs of similar manurial value was one-sixth and one-twelfth, while for wet grains one-twelfth of the cost for the last year of tenancy only.

The proposals with regard to dilapidations for taking off the farm produce and roots, with the exception of potatoes, were, for clover, seeds, and hay so removed, 10s. per ton for the last year of tenancy, and 5s. per ton for the preceding year, while straw for the periods named was fixed at half the sums named, and for roots removed the figure was fixed at 2s. 6d. per ton for the last year of tenancy only. It was agreed that produce and roots brought on the farm should be compensated for on a similar basis.

For manures applied to grass land the scale adopted was—for raw bones and lime used on grazing land a basis of eight years, for land mown in alternate years five years, and for land mown each year three years. Under like conditions in regard to dissolved or boiled bones and bone meal the compensation was fixed on a basis of six, three, and two years respectively, while in regard to the use of basic slag the basis was four, three, and two years.

With respect to superphosphates, the basis was three years if used on grazing land, and two years if the land was mown at all. For ground lime used in arable land the basis was fixed at four years and seven years for agricultural lime. Compensation is limited to 35s. per acre for the cost price of artificial manures.

In respect to all other improvements the committee reported that no scale could be recommended, but each one should be dealt with by the valuers on the broad lines set out in the report.

At their meeting on the 1st inst. the Lincolnshire Chamber of Agriculture considered the report of the Organisation Committee, with special reference to an independent agricultural party in the House of Commons, and a resolution was passed fully approving of the report, and urging the Central Chamber to further the formation of such a party. The draft of the Larceny and Trespass Bill, introduced by Mr. G. L. Courthope, M.P., on behalf of the Central Chamber, was also considered, several members expressing the opinion that the present law of trespass is inadequate, and on the motion of Sir Montague Cholmeley, a resolution was passed that trespass and other menaces to agriculture should be dealt with in a much simpler and more practical manner than the present state of the law allows. A resolution was also passed expressing the opinion that while the insurance companies, with regard to workmen's compensation, are treating their clients very fairly, there is without doubt a great opportunity for the Government to offer further facilities for insurance through the Post Office.

The thirty-third anniversary dinner of the Metropolitan Dairymen's Benevolent Institution is appointed to take place in the King's Hall, Holborn Restaurant, High Holborn, on Thursday, December 5. The object of the institution is to relieve the deserving members of the trade and their widows in old age and infirmity by pensions or otherwise, and the orphans of annuitants by gratuities. Since the foundation of the institution on February 4, 1874, 107 male and female candidates have been admitted, thirty-eight of whom are now on the register, and are in receipt of annuities, the total amount of which exceeds £800 per annum. The pensions are from £18 to £26 per annum, and the total outlay in pensions and special grants during the past year was £915. The institution has expended over £15,000 in affording relief to distressed members.



Market Notes.

London.

The passage of another week has unfortunately neither dispersed nor lessened the dull cloud that has hung about the Borough for too long a period. We hear of business being done, and some of our factors are able to report that a fairly considerable quantity of hops have changed hands, but when prices are quoted they are found to be very unremunerative to growers. This fact, coupled with the increasing desire of growers to sell, justifies the general opinion that the present condition of the market is "rotten," and that the outlook for the early future is far from encouraging. Personally, I am reluctantly compelled by the force of surrounding circumstances to accept the general view of the situation. I would gladly write in a more hopeful strain if it were possible, for as a rule I endorse Milton's lines in "Comus," "Where an equal poise of hope and fear does arbitrate the event, my nature is, that I incline to hope, rather than fear." But now "the sickening pang of hope deferr'd," unhappily brings fear to the front, and makes me hesitate as I look ahead. Seeking for a solution of the problem before us, it appears that it can only be found by reference to the consumers of our produce. We know that the brewing industry is kept in a state of suspense, by reason of the threatening attitude of the Government, whose intentions, evidently inimical, are not yet fully revealed. It is, therefore, not difficult to understand, why brewers are not disposed to increase their stocks until they know something definite as to their future position.

Thus they are buying very sparingly, and are further induced to this course of action by the reserves held in cold storage from the large crops of 1905, and the reports of the supplies available this year from America and the Continent. Unless an unforeseen change takes place in this direction, it hardly appears probable that our demand for hops can be improved or that values can be advanced. These views are confirmed by cables I have recently received from America, by one of which I am informed that large consignments of hops are coming forward to London, and in the other, to hand to-day, I am told that the markets on the other side are very unsettled, and that choice Oregons are being bought at 6½ to 7 cents, and prime Oregons at 5½ cents per lb. These figures mean that the hops can be landed in London at from 43s. to 50s. per cwt. forecasting keen competition for English business, at rates that must be disastrous for our growers. I am sometimes told in the Borough, that it is not always expedient to declare the "whole truth," and I can assure my readers that I would much more willingly conceal unpleasant things than display them. But, after all, "facts are stubborn things," and it must be better to be forewarned than to be taken by surprise. This is my apology for what I quoted, although I know that such intelligence cannot be otherwise than unpalatable to those whose interests I certainly endeavour to support.

Nuremberg.

During the past fortnight a steady trade has been maintained, strengthened to a considerable extent by the export demand from England and America. The bulk of the shipments has been taken at prices varying from 30s. to 45s. for mediums, up to 50s. and 55s. for better samples of Hallerdans and Wurtemberg, and some parcels of good colour at 60s. The local business is also fairly active at rates ranging from 55s. to 95s., the higher figures being paid for exceptionally fine selections. Bohemian buyers have also done business in Bavarian hops at 50s. to 65s. The demand had somewhat relaxed, but quotations remained firm at the date of the latest report. During the fortnight ending November 6 the arrivals amounted to 10,200 bales, and the sales totalled 9,000 bales.

Brussels.

The recent hop trade has only been moderate, but values have not materially altered. Certain speculators, being deficient of hops to cover their contracts, have been compelled to buy, and this necessity has given a temporary firmness to Alosts, but apart from this the tendency is rather towards reduced quotations, especially for Pops, which are now being offered at 30 francs, or about 24s. English currency. Alosts for December delivery are quoted at 42 francs, or 3 francs less than they can be bought for present consumption.

America.

My correspondents write me under date October 26 anticipating the lower prices, which have since been realised. Growers are ready sellers in all sections, and with present financial pressure cannot hold their produce. It is added that the U.S.A. crop is now confirmed at 300,000 bales, which, in addition to the large carry over stock, will again give them a heavy surplus for export.

Drying and Curing.

(*Continued from page 578.*)

Practical Drying.

No other factor affects the quality, appearance, and market value of hops as much as the manner in which they are handled during the curing process. In this process three points are of primary importance. These are:—1, The degree of temperature applied; 2, the length of time in drying; 3, the volume of air passing through the hops. In drying at a very low temperature the humidity of the air is also an important factor. Only the first two of the factors named are generally recognised, and the high temperatures too frequently used are the result of the attempts to shorten the time of drying. It is, however, possible to diminish the temperature materially without prolonging the time of drying, by forcing through the hops a large volume of air at a low scale.

Dr. Stockberger emphasises the evident necessity for the even laying of the hops upon the drying-floor, and notes that some advanced growers set a stout wire screen of about 5 in. mesh at the desired height above the floor, the hops emptied from the bags upon this screen falling lightly and evenly to the floor beneath. He advocates starting the drying at a very moderate temperature, so that the hops may be very gradually warmed throughout, and strongly condemns the practice of turning the hops with a fork or by any other means, as the cones are thereby broken, and much of the lupulin is lost. Warming the air and the sides of the kiln above the hops materially aids drying, and encourages the necessary ventilation.

The almost universal failure to recognise the harmful effects of high temperatures has caused wide diversity in practice. Experiments made with hops cured on kilns at different temperatures have proved that, apart from ruining the flavour by overdrying or scorching, there is a distinct loss of valuable essential principles by drying with excessive heat. The volatile oils, to which the aroma is largely due, are partially evaporated, and the lupulin is deteriorated since the amount of the desirable soft resins becomes proportionately less as the drying heat is increased. The best temperature for drying has yet to be determined, but every consideration indicates that it should be much lower than that commonly employed, and should probably range from 100 to 140 deg. Fahr. Practical experience has shown that good drying may be accomplished at 110 deg. Fahr., and the general trend of opinion is towards the use of the lower temperatures. In taking the temperature, care should be exercised in seeing that the thermometer is placed where the heat on the hops is greatest. This point has been found to be just below the drying floor.

The advantages of slower curing or curing at a lower temperature should be universally understood by hop growers. Even a moderately high temperature, continued too long, will damage the quality the same as if it were too high. In order that the hops may be dried at as low a temperature as can be made to do the work, a strong draught is absolutely necessary, and there is no doubt that the principle of the air-blast kiln at present most satisfactorily meets these requirements.

In general, drying should continue until nearly all the stems or cores are shrivelled, but are still soft and pliable. If overdried, the stems crumble and break readily, and the lupulin loses its bright, clear, yellow appearance, and turns brown. If the hops are taken off the kiln slack or underdried, they are apt to heat in the bales, the lupulin turns brown, and a sour, musty smell is developed.

If they are high or over-dried the cones will break easily and become chaffy, and they may also develop a burnt, pea-nutty flavour.

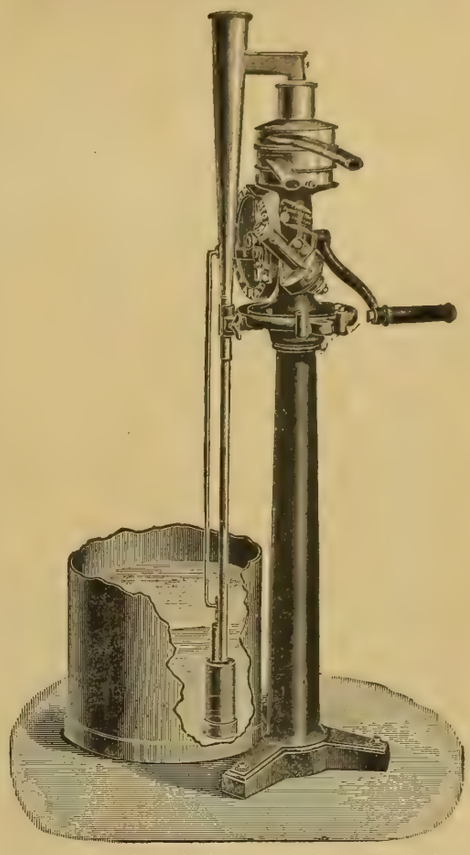
The thin petals of the hop usually become dry enough to break readily by the time the stems or strigs are dried sufficiently to make it safe to remove the hops from the kiln. This condition may be remedied by closing the ventilator half an hour before the drying is finished. This will also somewhat restore hops that have been over-dried, as the further escape of moisture from the kiln is prevented, which then tends to equalise in the hops, soon softening and toughening them. The same result may be accomplished by opening all the doors of the kiln and letting the hops cool for about an hour, as by this means they absorb moisture from the outer air, and become less brittle.

(*To be continued*).

DAIRY.

The Pump Separator.

We give on this page an illustration of a separator which is gaining in popularity every week—namely, the Pump Separator, the sole importers of which for the British Isles are Messrs. F. C. Southwell and Co., Ltd., 75, Southwark Street, London, S.E. As our illustration will show, one of its chief advantages is that it does away with the troublesome repeated filling of the milk tank on top of most separators. With the pump separator all that is required is to put a milk basin (of any size) on the floor beside the separator and the milk is then automatically lifted up by the pump. What a saving this is will be readily seen. The pump also acts as a speed controller, whilst two other important advantages are:—Always very sharp skimming, because the supply of milk depends on the speed of turning, therefore less milk is supplied if the speed is slower; and the sharpness of the skimming can be regulated, because the supply of milk by the pump



can be altered, and if less milk is supplied the skimming will be sharper.

As regards the running of this machine its extreme ease is one of the chief points, and this is evidenced by the fact that the hand power sizes can be made up to 260 gallons per hour. All the parts are easily accessible, and are fastened in a simple and solid way, whilst when any particular part wears out it can be easily replaced by the merest novice. As regards capacity, the smallest will separate 17 gallons per hour, and can be worked easily by a child, whilst as many as 260 gallons per hour can be separated by the No. III. hand machine. Power attachments can also be obtained. In conclusion, we may add that the pump separator has won the silver medal of the Royal Agricultural Society of England and the bronze medal of the German Agricultural Society, in addition to numerous other medals in all parts of the world, so that its merits have been appreciated as much in showyards as they have by its many users.

Whitchurch Cheese Show.

The last of the three great Cheshire cheese displays of the year opened on Tuesday last in the Whitchurch Market Hall, when an enormous number of people attended the nineteenth annual show under the auspices of the Whitchurch Dairy Farmers' Association. The show was in most respects the largest and most successful ever held, and as an example of the extraordinary growth of the institution it may be stated that the entries for cheese alone numbered no less than 533 (an increase of eighty-seven as compared with last year), and that these entries represented a total of 3,400 cheeses—an increase of some hundreds—while the weight of cheese displayed exceeded 110 tons, the largest entry yet recorded. The quality was on the whole fully up to the average, and the judges remarked upon the increasing

excellence and uniformity of the cheese, especially in the larger classes.

A conspicuous feature of the show was the striking success of Mr. Harry Denson, of Pulford, Chester, who succeeded in obtaining the championship gold medal and also the 20 guinea challenge cup (given by Captain Ethelston) for the best cheese in the show. Mr. Denson has achieved a remarkable distinction this year, having won the gold medal championship at Chester, Nantwich, and Whitchurch, thus establishing a record in the way of prize-winning. Mr. Denson is a tenant of the Duke of Westminster, and his wife comes of an old cheese-making family, her father winning the first prize in one of the open classes at this show. Mr. Joseph Ankers, of Cholmondeley, was the reservist for the chief honours, and Mr. W. H. Hobson, another notably successful exhibitor, also figured largely in the prize list.

Cheese.—In the fair the pitch of cheese was 115 tons, and the total weight in the show and fair was 228 tons. There was a very large attendance of buyers, and a satisfactory clearance resulted. In the show, 210s. per cwt. was realised, this being the price which was paid for the championship dairy of Mr. Harry Denson. The dairy was bought by Mr. Driver, a cutter-up, of Bradford. In the fair, best dairies made from 68s. to 72s. per cwt., and lower grades from 60s. per cwt.

The Brewers' Exhibition: Amended Awards.

As the result of disqualifications for various reasons the award list of malting and seed barley competitions at the recent Brewers' Exhibition at the Royal Agricultural Hall, have undergone some changes. For instance, the championship now goes to Mr. S. Champion, The Elms, Sarre, Isle of Thanet, for his Kent barley No. 44 in the catalogue, this being awarded the MARK LANE EXPRESS Challenge Cup, the Burton Challenge Cup, the R. Boby Champion Screen prize, and Messrs. E. Webb and Sons Special Prize.

Then again in Class 1 (Chevalier) the prizes have been re-awarded as follows, the numbers in parentheses being the catalogue number:—1, Kent barley (44), Mr. S. Champion, The Elms, Sarre, Isle of Thanet; 2, Somerset barley (108), Mr. T. Rawle, Court Place, Porlock; 3, Bucks barley (14), Mr. R. E. Horwood, Drayton Beauchamp, Tring; vhc, Essex barley (25), Mr. M. G. Bacon, Lower Marsh Farm, Brightlingsea.

All the awards in Class 4, foreign malting barley, two-rowed, have been cancelled; in Group C of Messrs. J. Fison and Co.'s prizes, the awards are now—1, Mr. T. Rawle, Court Place, Porlock, catalogue number 108; 2, ditto, No. 107; 3, Mr. T. E. James, Lower Moor, Minehead, catalogue No. 183. In the Somerset Class for the MARK LANE EXPRESS Diplomas (Chevalier), Mr. T. Rawle is now given only one for his lot, catalogue No. 108; whilst the two following classes for Messrs. Fison's prizes did not figure in the prize list given in our issue of October 28:—

Group G.—1. Mr. J. Thurlby, Baston, Market Deeping, Lincolnshire (No. 65); 2. Mr. R Bland, Baston, Market Deeping, Lincolnshire (No. 56); 3. Mr. W. T. Dixon, Ashby-de la-Launde, Lincoln (No. 59).

Group H.—1. Mr. T. W. Bebb, Brockton, Newport, Salop (No. 177); 2. Mr. H. F. Parsons, South Brook, Portskewett, Chepstow, Mon. (No. 72); 3. Mr. J. Hoey, Annagassan, Castle Bellingham, co. Louth (No. 169).

With the above exceptions our prize list of October 28 stands good.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

Account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended November 9, 1907, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year (the figures for 1906 are in parentheses):—

Animals, living:—Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves (9,735), 11,927; sheep and lambs (1,063), 3,188; horses (418), 319.

Fresh meat:— Beef (70,145 cwts.), 100,105; mutton (36,295), 48,051; pork (11,365), 11,436.

Salted or preserved meat:—Bacon (103,814 cwt.), 94,640; beef (2,401), 1,683; hams (17,077), 27,228; pork (3,766), 4,676; meat (8,690), fresh, 10,898, salted, 1,380; meat, preserved (2,443), 5,645.

Dairy produce and substitutes:—Butter (67,084 cwt.), 61,056; margarine (18,825), 15,767; cheese (39,589), 49,365; milk, fresh in cans or drums (—), —; cream (74), 110; milk, condensed (14,674), 21,303; milk, preserved, other kinds (187), 184.

Eggs (great hundreds):—(453,591), 480,978; poultry (value £7,244), £12,105; game (value £2,479), £2,549; rabbits, dead (not tinned), (40,233 cwt.), 19,554; lard (31,073 cwt.), 46,616.

Corn, grain, meal, and flour:—Wheat (1,239,000 cwt.), 1,298,700; wheat meal and flour (304,100), 324,200; barley (660,300), 626,700; oats (285,700), 369,200; peas (116,380), 27,620; beans (4,330), 19,750; maize or Indian corn (941,500), 1,239,500.

Fruit (raw):— Apples (195,347 cwt.), 150,102; grapes (36,294 cwt.), 77,544; pears (8,845 cwt.), 9,434; plums (4,384 cwt.), 289.

Hay 2,671 tons), 1,218; straw (708 tons), 539; moss litter (1,675 tons), 1,141; hops (12,665 cwt.), 7,993; locust beans (31,100 cwt.), 9,200.

The annual horse fair at Kendal took place on the 11th inst, when there was a large attendance of dealers and a larger number of horses than in recent years. Trade was slow during the early part of the day, sellers asking high prices; later there was more business, and many sales were effected. Cobs varied from £10 to £20, finished roadsters reached £40, but the majority averaged between £25 and £30. There was a large show of heavy horses The best price was £45, and geldings of quality varied between that sum and £35.

In his quarterly report to the Cheshire County Council, Mr. J. Carter Bell, the public analyst, remarks:—"Again this quarter the milk supply has been excellent, and it seems almost hypercritical to single out five samples when the deficiency in fat was so exceedingly small, but still I could not pass them as pure." He adds that the result of analyses of samples conclusively shows what a first-class supply of milk the Cheshire farmers give. All the milks were examined for preservatives, and with the exception of traces of formalin in some samples, they might be said to be practically free from preservatives.

By the *Narrung*, which sailed on the 12th inst., Mr. G. P. Doolette shipped to the order of Captain Philip Charley, of Belmont Park, Richmond, New South Wales, two Lincoln rams from the flock of Mr. W. B. Swallow, of Wooton Lawn, Ulceby, Lincolnshire. These rams are being shipped to Captain Charley's run at Narrung, South Australia, and are named Nocton Hercules and Mere, and are pedigreed stock.

The Petworth and District Agricultural Association's ploughing, hedging, and ditching, stack-building, and thatching competitions, and show of corn and field roots will be held at the Park Farm, Pulborough, Sussex, on Thursday next, the 24th inst., and as prizes worth winning are offered, a good entry has been received, and some keen competition should be witnessed. At the conclusion the ploughing match dinner will be held in the Corn Exchange, Pulborough, at which Lord Leconfield, president of the society, will preside. The secretary of the society is Mr. B. A. Nevatt, Petworth.

The profound interest now being taken in Canada by the British working classes may be realised from the fact that 2,100,000 copies of a little pamphlet entitled "Work and Wages" have been sent out in the last five years in response to inquiries from the various offices of the Canadian Pacific Railway. Of these, 935,000 have been sent out in the last eighteen months. This pamphlet is compiled with the assistance of the Canadian Provincial Governments, and gives a statement of wages current in the various trades throughout the Dominion.

Swede-Growing Competition.—The judging and awarding of prizes has now been announced in connection with the annual swede-growing competition inaugurated and promoted by Messrs. Wm. Fell and Co., Hexham, and Messrs. Henry Bell and Sons, Hexham, for the best 5 acres of swedes. The competition is open to the Northern counties, and the awards are as follows:—First prize, £10 10s., Wm. Potts and Son, Kenton, Newcastle, 36 tons 17 cwt. 1 qr. 17 lb. per acre; second prize, £5 5s., J. R. Spraggon, Priestman Colliery Farms, Blaydon, 36 tons 11 cwt. 3 qr. 24 lb. per acre; third prize, £2 2s., George Hodgson, Carlattan, Head's Nook, 35 tons 18 cwt 0 qr. 6 lb. per acre; fourth prize, £1 1s., J. Fisher, Houghton Mains, Humshaugh, 35 tons 1 cwt. 1 qr. 0 lb. per acre; highly commended, Wm. Appleby, Bewridge Mill, Morpeth; commended, Wm. Harrington, Brainhwaite, Cockermouth. The judges, Messrs. G. P. Graham, Manager, Colliery Farms, Ashington, and W. Y. Younger, Willington Farm, Willington-on-Tyne, report that they were exceedingly pleased with all the crops inspected, and all competitors are deserving of great credit for general cleanliness of the land and good management, while they were much struck with the sound, health, and vigorous appearance of the roots and their freedom from running to seed. There was a larger entry this season than on any previous occasion, and this fact goes to prove the keen interest displayed in the competition by agriculturists. The weights have been arrived at by careful weighing and testing of each crop. The first prize variety was Fell's Selected Halewood Bronze-top Swede; second and third prizes were awarded for Best of All; and fourth prize for X.L. All Swedes.

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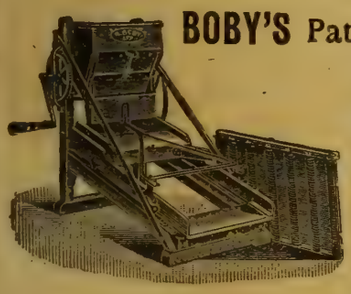
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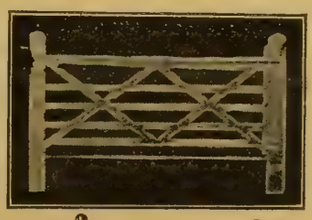
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Seasonable Topics.

Farmers and Hunting Men.

IT is at public dinners when the wine flows freely that one hears the most about the glories of fox-hunting, and the benefits that the farmer derives from the time-honoured sport. In his quiet moments at home, however, the latter is not so sure that fox-hunting is much of a blessing to him, particularly if he has just had a field of seeds ridden over or Reynard has paid a recent nocturnal visit to his poultry yard. After all, the farmer can be induced to think well or ill of the hunt by the way the latter treats him, and we have just read with satisfaction a letter from a Master of Hounds to a local paper urging those who follow the hounds to do as little damage as possible, either by jumping unnecessarily or riding over seeds and roots. The master also urges the desirability of shutting gates, and giving explicit instructions to menservants to do the same, either when hunting or returning from the sport. This is as it should be, and we contend that if instructions like the above were generally followed it would be a good deal better than patting the farmer on the back at a hunt breakfast or public dinner. Do as you would be done by is the motto to follow if the farmer's sympathy with hunting is to be maintained.

Methods of Whitewashing.

WE need not urge again the necessity of cleanliness or the desirability of a liberal use of whitewash on the inside walls of stables, cowsheds, and other buildings, and this, by the way, is an operation for performance on wet days and at the time of the year when outdoor work is impracticable or not pressing. But if the necessity of whitewashing remains the same, methods of application are changing. Perhaps the general, and certainly the old-fashioned idea of whitewashing is a man with a pail and a brush slapdashing the mixture on to the wall, and bespattering the general surroundings, himself included. This is not so in all cases nowadays, for the time-honoured whitewash brush has had to give place to the modern spraying apparatus, by which lime wash can be applied to walls quicker, easier, without splashing and with much less waste of material. The saving in labour is alone sufficient to merit the use of a whitewashing machine where there is a good deal of this work to be done, and it may be used for a double purpose—*i.e.*, for the spraying of fruit trees and crops, and in view of the ravages of insect and fungoid pests, this is becoming to be treated as an essential operation.

Amateur Farmers.

IN spite of all that has been said and written about the depression in agriculture, and the difficulty experienced for years past to make ends really meet, the life of a farmer seems to hold out attractions for a number of people. There seems to be an impression amongst amateurs and novices that established and practical farmers do not work on the right lines, and that they would do better if they were more up-to-date in their methods. This is all very well, so far as it goes, but we are not sure whether the amateur farmer, with his advanced ideas and no sound experience to base them on, has not done more than anybody to check the development of modern ideas. We have known more than one man, possessed of capital but no experience, who has set out to farm on what are wrongly termed scientific lines. As a rule these amateurs, for they cannot be described in any other words, promptly lose their money in gaining the experience they should have had at first, while the old practitioner expresses no surprise, and has another sarcastic dig at "these scientific methods," though if he would only admit it, he knows that is not the method that is at fault, but rather the mode of application. We like to see a man enthusiastic, and perhaps this virtue is a little wanting amongst the members of the old school, but we have felt it our duty more than once to damp the ardour of amateur farmers who would put their money into agriculture before first getting the experience.

Working Oxen.

WE travelled in a railway train the other day with a number of hill country farmers who were discussing—we thought a little regretfully—the days when they could work a team of oxen on the land, and after getting a good bit of labour out of the beasts fatten them up at five or six years old, and make from £30 to £40 apiece of them at a Christmas market. That day is gone, however, and while bullocks on the one hand are too slow for labour on the land, the butcher of to-day makes no demand for those huge mountains of fat, about which there is so much waste. Some men were so loth to give up the old ways that they stuck to working oxen even against their better judgment, and it was not until they had carted the beasts from market to market to no purpose that they realised that the game was played out. Now and then one sees a team of oxen slowly labouring their way round a field, and there is something picturesque and old worldly about the sight, but, generally speaking, where they are kept it is more for the sake of old custom than anything.

Will Farm Labourers Combine?

IN view of the times the question is not unreasonable, nor is it altogether novel when we think of that doughty champion of years ago, Joseph Arch, who worked so hard in the interests of the class he represented, and was certainly the means of bringing about some reforms. But the position is this: There is an organised movement on foot for farmers to combine in their mutual interest, and the general feeling is that it is a wonder they have not done it before. This movement will naturally lead to the landlords having their organisation, and in this age of Union it is not unlikely that the labourers will be caught by the spirit of combination. And even if it were so there would not necessarily be anything disastrous about it, for in the relations between capital and labour a more sensible spirit has prevailed of late years, and union does not essentially mean strikes and all sorts of turmoil. At any rate what is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander, for when farmers over the whole country are combined, the movement must essentially spread to the labourer, and it may be added that for leading and organising there are men amongst the class who are not wanting in ability.

Milk from Producer to Consumer.

IN view of infantile mortality, and in the interests of general health, it is of course essential that the public should be supplied with pure milk, and without discussing the rights and wrongs of Mr. John Burns's Bill, we will give it credit for having this for its object. Now there are three stages that the daily milk supply passes through. At first it is in the hands of the producer, the farmer, who passes it on to the middleman, the milkseller, and he in turn disposes of it to the consumer. The law will bring its force to bear on the two former parties, but what of the milk when it gets into the hands of the third? Some time elapses before the daily milk is consumed after purchase, and if one could see the conditions under which it is kept in hundreds of poor households, there would be no need to discuss the possibilities of contamination. It may be urged that the fault rests with the consumer if any ill arises through the milk, after purchase, not being kept under clean and sanitary conditions. Just so, but if this happens, it is unfair to saddle the blame on the farmer or the milk-seller.

Hares Past and Present.

WE are again in the midst of the shooting season, and once more we hear the wails of sportsmen about the decrease in the hare population. It is quite true, for though on some estates where game is stringently preserved hares are still plentiful, in other districts puss is as extinct as the dodo, and shooting men, with tears in their eyes, tell of the hares they used to get in course of a day's shoot, and now they never see one. Of course, if you discuss the matter confidentially with the gamekeeper, he will tell you how farmers have slaughtered hares since the passing of the Ground Game Act, almost to the point of extinction, but other people have had a finger in the pie besides farmers, for puss is a proverbially foolish creature where her own safety is concerned, and falls an easy prey to the wiles of the poacher. A short time ago we were discussing the question with a man who has a few solitary hares on his farm where there used to be scores, and he said he might as well have them, because if he did not somebody else would. It is this sort of thing, no doubt, that is responsible for the decline in the hare population.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Why Another Small Holdings Act?

Of course, we assume that when Mr. Balfour spoke of further legislation on the Small Holdings question being the purpose of the Conservative party he intended to convey the idea of a scheme of peasant proprietorship as opposed to the present policy of peasant tenancy. Let me ask Mr. Balfour if it be not well for a juncture to let this question lie? Frankly, apart from the incentive which the idea of possession must always give to a man, I cannot see the irrevocability of occupation meaning the ruin of the principle, and ownership meaning its inevitable success. And putting the question of ownership *versus* occupation aside, what could be the purpose of any new legislation? Mr. Balfour certainly would not introduce a Bill simply to relieve the county councils of what, I think, was, during the debate in the Commons, described as the tyrany of the commissioners—and those commissioners, moreover, are the mildest-mannered men that ever scuttled ship. Then I come back to my question—why more legislation? The Ministerial policy may be said to be a great experiment following on the lines of minor experiments. Why not wait until the disciplined results of those experiments are to hand? Of course, I comprehend that with all statesmen it is necessary to descend to the game of tickling-the-ears-of-the-groundlings; but the land is too grave and serious a matter to be made the subject of policy based upon that game. Perhaps, after all, Mr. Balfour does not mean to embark on a small holdings policy. 'Twere well, in very sooth.

* * *

The Evasion of the Tenure Act.

I had a brief conversation a few days ago with Earl Carrington on the subject of the attempts to evade the Land Tenure Act. For my part, I cannot understand attempts to evade the specific anxiety of the law by constitution-lovers. These, pray understand, are the very men who scoffed at passive resisters, and now demand the obedience of the Irish cottiers to the law of the land. True, they will urge that their case is different inasmuch as a loophole was accidently provided for them by the State. This reasoning is beyond me—it smacks too much of casuistry. The purpose of the State as indicated by Act of Parliament was made clear and distinct. This is, that this new tenure-law should apply to the farming industry. To seek to evade it is worse than passive resisterism—it is belligerent resisterism. The law may be right or wrong—if it be wrong seek to impress the public conscience that it may be altered. The landed interest of Great Britain has behind it so many ennobling traditions and fragrant policies that to evade and thwart the deliberate design of the State is not altogether worthy of it. But to my conversation with Lord Carrington: there was no doubt whatever about his lordship's temper. During the passage of the Bill through Parliament the Earl declared that if there were a deliberate intention to evade the Act, he would know how to deal with it—a hint at future legislation which the Radicals greeted with enthusiasm. That legislation is not merely possible, it is probable if the evading tactics be persevered in. Is it well to invoke it? Is even an escape from the damage caused by winged game worth it? Is compensation for unexhausted improvements?

* * *

A Ministry for Health and Agriculture.

I can certainly understand the anxiety which is attributed to Mr. John Burns to establish a Ministry of Health having absolutely independent authority from the Local Government Board. There can be no doubt that the Ministerial responsibility for securing the purity of the food of the people is going to be considerably increased. The new Foods Regulations Act will impose upon it duties sufficient in themselves to absorb an engrossed attention. While this is so Mr. Burns designs a housing scheme and an afforestation policy which will require a persistent, close, and most vigilant observation. The trend, too, of political opinion is in the direction of making the State increasingly responsible for the care not of the ne'er-do-wells of the community but of the unfortunates. This being so, the creation of a body having the care of the people's health has simply become inevitable, and it says much for the prescience of Mr. John Burns that he should have appreciated the fact. Now, if a Health Department—a Purity of Foods Department—be called into existence, it will have a direct and close importance for the agricultural interest. Our's is a food-producing calling and nothing else; this would be a food-safeguarding department and nothing else. What steps will the bodies associated with our interest take to secure an adequate representation on the *personnel* of this new department? Supposing there be an actual Ministry of Health, will it seek to associate with itself an active representative body? We have, of course, connected with each of our national departments and its statesman-chief a body of titular personages who are never consulted or considered. Will it be possible to give this advisory body of the Ministry for Health an actual definite existence?

* * *

The Villagers and the Act.

Mr. R. Winfrey, M.P., the Parliamentary Secretary of Lord Carrington, assured me the other day that the Board of Agriculture has every reason to be gratified at the reception which has been accorded the Small Holdings Act. "There is," he remarked, "behind this enthusiasm an intelligence, a wise anxiety, and a sane moderation which are the best sureties of its success. I am not merely speaking of the expository meetings we have held," proceeded Mr. Winfrey. "They have been certainly characterised by an interest, and even at times by an appreciation of the machinery we have set up, which can only be described as remarkable. These meetings have illustrated anew what many of us have felt to be the fact — that the clearer-eyed workers in the rural areas look to colonies of small holdings as one of the vital redemptive influences of the villages." I perceived from Mr. Winfrey's tone that he himself is under no illusions in regard to this fact. The political world does not need to be told that he is an enthusiastic pro-smallholder; but he does not believe that small holdings constitute the last word in rural politics. He, like Lord Carrington, is anxiously interested in the new Housing Bill. What will be the authority Mr. Burns will dower with responsibility? If the parish council be the unit, will the parish be given powers to coerce it should it refuse to act? Will a body, say of twenty parishioners, be able to set the Local Government Board in operation?

* * *

The State and Agricultural Organisation.

Mr. Yerburgh is a man who has pursued a just and righteous intention under discouraging conditions. His Agricultural Organisation Society is one of the most beneficent influences that has ever thrived under the pallid sun of an indifferent official sky. True, that sun has now been given a greater warmth, and the sky has a more roseate tone. Neither warmth nor sun means dollars. I beg Mr. Yerburgh to pursue the anxiety to secure a more definite grant from the State. It is pitiable that clear-eyed statesmen like Mr. Harcourt and Earl Carrington should, in a matter involving the very life of agriculture under modern conditions, have been content to rely on mere voluntary effort. Heaven forfend it be deemed I would discard voluntary effort. I am no State-Socialist, but I would have the State associate itself deliberately and practically with a policy which involves the whole scheme of agrarian distribution. Perhaps Lord Carrington deems it wise to make his first demand on the Treasury provide for the better equipment of his own department. I pray this may be his second anxiety.

The report of the Central Chamber of Agriculture with reference to the formation of an Independent Agricultural Party was considered at a meeting of the Herts Chamber of Agriculture held on Thursday, and after some discussion a resolution to the effect that "an Independent Agricultural Party was absolutely necessary, and could be formed," was carried by 14 votes to 5.

SOCIETIES.

Cambridgeshire.

The forty-fourth annual meeting of the members of the Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely Agricultural Society was held at Cambridge on the 6th inst. The annual report and financial statement for 1906-7, which showed a surplus on the show at Cambridge in July last, and a total balance in the favour of the society of £262 16s. 4d., was received and adopted. An invitation to hold the show for 1908 at Chatteris was considered and accepted, and it was decided that the forty-fifth annual exhibition be held at Chatteris on July 22 next. E. Cecil Beck, Esq., M.P., the Liberal member for North Cambridgeshire, was unanimously elected president for 1907-8. Three vice-presidents were elected, most of the retiring members were re-elected, and Messrs. R. G. Heaton, J. C. Smith, W. Kent, and J. P. Pentelow were elected new members of the committee until 1911. Mr. E. B. Foster, J.P., was appointed treasurer, whilst Mr. R. Peters, who has been associated with the secretarial duties since 1863, was re-elected secretary.

Devon.

At the last meeting of the council of the Devon County Agricultural Association a letter was read from the Earl of Morley stating that he had great pleasure in accepting the presidency of the association for the current year.

The Royal Agricultural Society sent a communication suggesting that any legislation on the subject of tuberculosis and other diseases of cattle should issue from the Board of Agriculture, and that the matter should be carefully watched. The society had formed a committee, and invited this association to appoint representatives to attend a meeting during Smithfield Show week.

Mr. Morgan regarded the matter as a very serious one, and thought it would be well for the association to carefully consider the question before taking action. He maintained there was not half the disease in cattle in this country as was represented. He moved that no representative from that association be appointed to attend the meeting.

This, however, found no seconder, and it was decided to ask Mr. F. B. Mildmay, M.P., Mr. H. Eve, M.P., and Mr. Morgan to attend the meeting.

Mr. W. J. Crossing moved:—That the advantages conferred on members of local agricultural associations within the prescribed radius of the place in which the county show is held be restricted to subscribers of 10s. and upwards to any such show.

Whilst they were anxious to work in harmony with local associations, and to do all they could to promote their show, yet it was, he said, rather an unfair advantage to admit 5s. subscribers free to the county show. If the resolution was carried it would considerably restrict the issue of free tickets.—The motion was carried *nem. con.*

The report presented at the annual meeting of the East Sussex Farmers' Club was of the most satisfactory nature, showing a balance to be carried forward of £19 10s. 11d. compared with £11 14s. 1d. last year. Subscriptions for the past year represented £49 15s. With unanimity Mr. W. F. Ingram was re-elected chairman, and Mr. A. Wadman vice-chairman. In thanking the meeting Mr. Ingram said the club had existed for some twenty-seven years, and as it aged it increased in usefulness and certainly was appreciated, because every year they got considerably more members. It was a matter for great congratulation that they had now nearly every farmer in the district belonging to it, and also nearly every landowner; and it might thus be said that the agricultural interest of East Sussex was well represented and, further, the intellect and acreage of East Sussex.

The Canterbury Farmers' Club and East Kent Chamber of Agriculture, at their last meeting, discussed the following proposition by Mr. Alfred Amos: "That all tenant farmers who have received notice to quit this Michaelmas be invited to send in their names and addresses, the name and address of the owner of their farm, and of his agent (if any), also stating the reason for notice being given." He referred to the fact that several farmers whose leases were nearly up had received notice to quit, and called attention to the promise of Lord Carrington that if he found the new Land Tenure Act was being systematically evaded in order that its benefits should not be enjoyed by the tenants, he would make its provisions retrospective. He (Mr. Amos) considered it very hard that these notices to quit had been given, because there was nothing to warrant a rise in rents at the present time, and therefore no notice could have been given on that score. These notices had been issued not only in Kent, but in several other counties. Considerable discussion ensued, the general view being that the resolution had been much too widely drawn. It was eventually negatived by twenty-two to two votes.

NORWICH FAT STOCK SHOW.

The annual Fat Stock Show commenced on Thursday last in the Agricultural Hall, Norwich, with favourable weather, and a very good entry of live stock. Indeed the hall was quite crowded to excess, the number of entries totalling more than last year. Naturally the chief feature of the show is the display of cattle, and these were, on the whole, up to the average, the superior quality of several of the best specimens compensating for the rather large number of inferior animals that were present in some of the classes. The cold season had done much to enable the animals to retain their good coats of hair, which is a very important item in the bringing out of fat stock. Red Polls, Shorthorns, and the small cattle classes were capitally filled, both as regards their number and quality. Some of the county classes and the cross-bred classes were not quite as level as usual. Coming to the sheep section, the display of lambs was quite wonderful, many of them being brought out to perfection. Pigs formed a very small portion of the whole.

CATTLE.

The catalogue commences with the local breed of Red Poll, steers not exceeding two years old coming first. The first prize in this class was won by Mr. R. J. Harman for a steer of very good beef quality, shape, and the very satisfactory live weight of 14 cwt. 1 qr. 23 lb.; second and third prizes were awarded to two remarkably typical steers from the Hon. A. E. Fellowe's herd; these as regards symmetry were exceptionally good and evenly filled up with roasting beef of choice quality; on the scales, however, they fell fully 2 cwt. short of the first-prize steer. The reserve was accorded Sir Walter Corbet for another evenly-fed and well-brought-out steer. The older class, not exceeding three years, mustered but two entries, the best of which was bred and shown by Sir Walter Corbet and sired by Albert. This bullock has a capital top line and is well covered with excellent beef; his weight, too, 16 cwt. 0 qr. 4 lb., is excellent for a Red Poll. The other entry was also excellent beef and well moulded, but 1 cwt. lighter on the scales than the winner; this was exhibited by Sir Edward Mann.

The females were also very strong. Sir Walter Corbet's heifer Acton Beryl is wonderfully symmetrical, heavily fleshed, and of ripe good quality; she scales 12 cwt. 3 qr. 15 lb. Sir Richard Cooper provided a very good second in Ashlyn's Pitwood, bred by her owner, well put together and finished, with a live weight of 14 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lb. Lord Cranworth carried off the third prize with a young cow, which, though massive in form and heavily fleshed and recording 15 cwt. 3 qr. 8 lb. on the scales, was obliged to yield to the previous winners in point of quality. The champion prize for the best Red Poll was awarded to Mr, Thurman's young steer, and the reserve to Sir Walter Corbet's heifer.

Shorthorn stores above two years and not exceeding three were the next class to deal with. His Majesty the King came well to the front in these with a white of exceedingly good quality, bred by exhibitor and sired by Royal Carlisle. In outline he is very perfect, and he handles with a beautiful touch, which denotes good beef, his capital covering of hair, too, is very pleasing. He pulled up the beam at 15 cwt. 2 qr. 19 lb., and was also awarded the special prize for the best animal bred and fed in Norfolk. Sir Walter Corbet contributed the second prize winner in a roan of Mr. John Ross's breeding, with 16 cwt. 1 qr. 15 lb. to his credit, level in his feeding, and a great wealth of roasting beef. Mr. Charles Emmerson came in third with a much heavier bullock than either of the preceding, bred in the North of England, and possessing a capital back of beef. The other two steers in the class were very big, their weights being respectively 17 cwt. 3 qr. 16 lb. and 18 cwt. 2 qr. 1 lb.

Shorthorn cows or heifers followed, and these, too, were well represented. The winner turned up in Mr. H. S. Leon's famous heifer Silver Streak, bred at Bletchley Park, and sired by Uppermill Challenger; she is very level, and well filled in her roasting parts, her fore end being particularly good, and her weight, 16 cwt. 1 qr. 3 lb., she is also very satisfactory.

The Sandringham herd contributed the second prize-winner in Molly, a very evenly-fleshed white by Royal Carlisle. Her sweetness of breed, character, and excellent top, together with a scale record of 14 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb. at two years and five months old are not easily beaten. Mr. Robert Mattocks had a sappy, heavy-fleshed heifer to which the reserve card was awarded.

Steers of any other breed than Shorthorn or Red Poll consisted of a Galloway of Mr. R. W. Hudson's, Danesfield Challenger and an Aberdeen-Angus of Mr. B. W. Parsons', the latter, however, was a long way behind his companion the Galloway, which at two years and eight months records 16 cwt. 1 qr. 15 lb., and both in outline, quality, and finish is a very awkward opponent.

The next class was for steer of any breed, including cross or mixed, but excluding Red Polls. This was a somewhat moderate class with the exception of the first prize winner. This was Mr. R. W. Hudson's Aberdeen-Angus Danesfield Waterman, which records 12 cwt. 3 qr. 9 lb. on the scales, is of extremely perfect symmetry, and in point of finish and quality is one of the best of his age seen for a long time. He was eventually awarded the president's prize as best ox or steer in the show. Mr. Charles Emmerson, Sir Walter Gilbey, and Sir F. E. A. Adair, were the other exhibitors in the class with promising steers for another year.

The older class of crossbred steers, not exceeding three years, consisted of a number of big, Shorthorn and other crosses without anything of outstanding showyard points. Mr. C. Emerson, Mr. Martin Gurry, and Mr. Murrell carried off the prizes in the order written.

Cows or heifers of cross or mixed breeding, or pure breeding other than Shorthorn or Red Polled, brought out the champion of the show and best female; this was Mr. J. J. Cridlan's Aberdeen-Angus Elegance of Maisemore, a daughter of Aachen. She was bred by her owner, and is a heifer of quite wonderful proportions, coming near to the ground, with a perfectly even top line, and covered with a great wealth of first-class beef; she comes out and shows herself well, too, her scale record is 14 cwt. 2 qr. 5 lb. A close second was found in Lord Calthorpe's Devon and Angus cross, very shapely in her build, ripe in her finish, and with a record of 15 cwt. 2 qr. 25 lb. on the scales, she is by no means an easy one to beat.

Steers of any breed, bred and fed in Norfolk, not exceeding two years old, followed, and severa



The subject of our illustration above is the Champion Beast at the Norwich Fat Stock Show last week—namely, the Aberdeen-Angus Heifer Elegance of Maisemore—sire Aachen, dam Elegance of Preston—bred and exhibited by Mr. J. J. Cridlan, Maisemore Park Farm, Gloucester. Elegance of Maisemore was shown in the Class for Cow of Any Breed other than Shorthorn and Red Polled (including Cross and Mixed) that has produced at least one live calf, or Heifer of Any Breed not exceeding four years old. She was placed top of this class; was awarded the Special Prize for the Best Cow or Heifer in the Show, and the Patron's Prize for the Best Beast in the Show. Her age was given as 2 years 9 months 3 weeks 3 days, and her weight 14 cwt. 2 qr. 5 lb.

useful ones were included in the ranks. Mr. J. M. Bond, Major Jary, and Mr. W. Le Neve were the winners.

Steers of any breed, bred and fed in Norfolk, above two and not exceeding three years, brought out two or three remarkably good bullocks, including a Shorthorn of his Majesty the King's, pulling up the beam at over 18 cwt. Very level, both in outline and flesh, covered with a good coat of hair and handling very firmly; following him



Photo by [*G. H. Parsons.*

The Shorthorn Steer illustrated above won the Second Prize for Shorthorn Steers above two years and not exceeding three years old at the Norwich Fat Stock Show last week. It was exhibited by Sir W. Corbet, Bart., Acton Reynold, Shrewsbury, but was bred by Mr. J. Ross, Millcraig, Alness, N.B., its sire being Winning Count and its dam Alina. Its age last week was 2 years 9 months 1 week 6 days, and its weight 16 cwt. 1 qr. 15 lb.

was another very good Shorthorn of Mr. E. H. Evans-Lombe's, a little lighter than the Sandringham bullock, but an admiralbe class. Sir Edward Mann had also a very good bullock in the third place of Hereford cross that weighed 18 cwt. 1 qr. 24 lb.

The Norfolk class of heifers under two were a useful class of five entries, the honours falling to Mr. Thomas Kidner, His Majesty the King, and Mr. B. E. Fletcher. There was seven entries of cows in the class following, consisting of Shorthorns and crossbreds chiefly. Mr. J. B. Dimmock was awarded first prize for a massive well-fed Shorthorn of 16 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. Another of Royal Carlisle's daughters taking second for his Majesty the King, and a Shorthorn and Red Poll cross of Mr. Robert Mattocks' came in third, a capital quality heifer, too.

Small cattle were again wonderfully represented; for symmetry and finish, indeed, they were fully equal to anything in the show. The Danesfield contingent were quite at home again in these classes, carrying off first prize for steers and also for females, as well as the champion prize. The first prize steer was a Dexter and Shorthorn cross, most perfect in his moulding, and as ripe as a plum; he pulled up the beam at 8 cwt. 3 qr. 7 lb.

Mr. B. de Bertadano had also a very sweet steer in the second place, and His Majesty the King contributed an excellent beef steer for the third prize. The champion, Danesfield Marjory, is a pure Dexter, a marvel of beauty and quality, with the excellent weight of 8 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb.

Sir Walter Gilbey had also a beautiful heifer placed second, of Red Poll and Dexter cross, she scales 8 cwt. 0 qr. 15 lb., and was reserve for the championship of the section. A second entry from the same herd secured the third prize.

Irish cattle, though on the whole well represented, contained several of rather plain character. This, however, could not be said of Mr. Thomas Cook's first in the young class, or of the one similarly honoured in the older class from the same herd, which scaled 18 cwt. 1 qr. 19 lb. Other winners in these classes were shown by Mr. W. A. Starling, Mr. Gowing, Mr. Emery, and Mr. Hargrave. In the butchers' class Mr. F. Nash was placed first with an Irish bred one, and Mr. Cook second with another similarly bred.

SHEEP.

The chief strength of this section consisted in the magnificent show of lambs, the champion prize for the best pen in the show being readily accorded to H.M. the King's first-prize pen of Southdown lambs, which were wonderfully true and ripe and scaled 4 cwt. Other winners amongst the Southdown lambs were the Exors. of the late Colonel McCalmont, with a considerably heavier pen, and his Grace the Duke of Devonshire. Lambs of other short-wooled breeds were headed by a pen of Mr. H. E. Smith's Suffolks, wonderfully ripe and finished, with a record of 5 cwt. 2 qr. 20 lb. on the scales. Mr. T. F. Buxton's Hampshires, placed second, scaled 5 cwt. 1 qr. 13 lb. Captain Fielding had also two capital pens of Suffolk lambs. Mr. Thomas Rush, as usual, carried off the lion's share of the crossbred classes with his Oxford and Hampshires, the first prize pen pulling up the beam at 6 cwt. 0 qr. 15 lb., and the second at 5 cwt. 3 qr. 14 lb.

The best pen of wethers in the show proved to be Mr. E. Smith's Suffolks, 7 cwt. 1 qr. In Southdown wethers the executors of the late Colonel McCalmont came in first, the Royal flock second, and the Duke of Devonshire's third. Wethers of other breeds consisted of a famous pen of crossbreds of Mr. Rash's, 8 cwt. 0 qr. 12 lb., and a pen of Hampshire's shown by Mr. T. F. Buxton, scaling 7 cwt. 2 qr. 15 lb.

SWINE.

This section of the show mustered but very few entries. The executors of the late Colonel McCalmont were awarded first for the only pen of Berkshires under ten months, and a very neat entry. Mr. W. Mitchell had the only entry of Whites, which were awarded the second prize. The Norwich Corporation exhibited several useful pens of crossbreds, as did also Mr. W. H Webster.

ROOTS.

There was an uncommonly good show of roots, which, though not large, were of excellent quality. Of mangolds especially there was a big entry in the various classes, especially of Globe and Tankard. As to the swedes, there was about a score entries in one class, and, viewing the roots in their entirety, the root season in the great agricultural county of Norfolk must be a very satisfactory crop, judging from the examples benched.

GRAIN.

The grain was rather a better show than usual, all the prize-winning samples of barley being very fine indeed. The first prize was of beautiful colour, but there was a drawback in all this year's barleys, in that they had not got as fine a skin as maltsters like, which is accounted for by the absence of sun. The first prize barley was grown on a gravelly soil. Those grown on the heavy land, which usually take a high place, were this year somewhat inferior to those grown on the ight lands.

CHAMPION AND SPECIAL PRIZES.

CATTLE.

The Patron's Prize for the best beast in the show.—1, Mr. J. J. Cridlan's Elegance of Maisemore; r, Mr. R. W. Hudson's Danesfield Waterman.

The President's Prize, to the value of £20, for the best ox or steer in the show.—1, Mr. R. W. Hudson's Danesfield Waterman; r, Mr. R. W. Hudson's Danesfield Challenger.

A prize of the value of £15 for the best cow or heifer in the show.—1, Mr. J. J. Cridlan's Elegance of Maisemore; r, Mr. R. W. Hudson's Danesfield Marjorie.

The Members' Prize of the value of £15 for the best Red-Polled beast in the show.—1, Mr. R. J. Shurman; r, Sir W. Corbet, Bart.'s Acton Beryl.

A prize of the value of £15 for the best beast in the show bred and fed in Norfolk—1, H.M. the King, Sandringham; r, H.M. the King, Sandringham.

Special Prizes for Norfolk fed beasts—1, Mr. W. A. Starling's Tinker; 2, Mr. G. Emery; r, Mr. F. Nash's Butcher Boy.

A prize to the value of 10 guineas for the best beast in the Small Cattle Classes Nos. 14 and 15—1, Mr. R. W. Hudson's Danesfield Marjorie; r, Sir W. Corbet, Bart.

A Silver Challenge Cup for the best beast in the show exhibited by a Norfolk farmer—1, Mr. J. M. Bond; r, T. Kidner's Darling.

SHEEP.

Champion Prize for the best pen of sheep in the show.—1, H.M. the King, Sandringham; r, Mr. H. E Smith.

Special Prize of the value of £5 for the best pen of lambs in the show.—1, H.M. the King, Sandringham; r, T. Rush.

Special Prize of the value of £5 for the best pen of shearling wethers in the show.—1, Mr. H. E. Smith; r, the Exors. of the late Colonel McCalmont.

Special Prize of £5 for the best pen of sheep in the show exhibited by a Norfolk farmer.—1, Captain A. B. Fielden; r, Captain A. B. Fielden.

JUDGES.

CATTLE.—Mr. Peter Dunn, Pasture House, Sigglesthorne Hull; Mr. William Reid, 160, Central Meat Market, London, E.C.

SHEEP.—Mr. T. B. Eagle, Thrupp, Oxon; Mr. G. F. Hempson, Estate Office, Gatton Park, Reigate, Surrey.

BUTCHERS' SHEEP AND PIGS.—Mr. J. Lindsay, 107, High Street, Putney, S.W.; Mr. George Raby, Melton Constable, Norfolk.

ROOTS AND GRAIN.—Mr. William Case, Tuttington, Aylsham; Mr. Charles Waters, Postwick, Norwich.



Photo by [*G. H. Parsons.*

The Red Polled Heifer shown above is Acton Beryl, winner of a First Prize and Reserve for the Best Red Poll at the Norwich Fat Stock Show last week. She is by Albert out of Acton Ruby, and was bred and exhibited by Sir W. Corbet, Bart., Acton Reynold, Shrewsbury. Her age at the Show was given as 2 years 10 months 4 days, and her weight 13 cwt. 3 qr. 15 lb.

SHOW GOSSIP.

The second of the great fat stock shows for the year opens on Saturday next, when the 59th annual exhibition will be held in Bingley Hall, Birmingham, and extend over the following Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. The entries are:—Cattle, 175; sheep, 56; pigs, 92; corn, 63; roots, 144; potatoes, 39; poultry, 2,090; eggs, 24; pigeons, 964. His Majesty the King is a large exhibitor, having entries of Herefords, Shorthorns, and Devons from the Royal Farms, Windsor, while four pens of Southdowns will be sent from Sandringham. The challenge prizes, value £105 each, given by Messrs. Elkington and Co., Mr. J. Thorley, and Messrs. Webb and Sons, will be offered for competition. The first and last-named are new cups this year, as his Majesty won these trophies outright in 1906. There are also two £50 challenge cups, the gift of the proprietors of the *Birmingham Daily Post* and Mr. J. J. Cridlan respectively.

For sheep there is the Cooper challenge cup, and the one offered for pigs (in which section there is in excellent entry) is provided by the hotel and innkeepers of Birmingham. Mr. G. F. Hempson, Estate Office, Gatton Park, Reigate, will act as one of the sheep judges, instead of Mr. Jonas as announced last week. The Board of Agriculture and the local authorities have passed special orders and issued licences to allow the exhibition of swine and to facilitate their movement to and from the show. There will be an excellent show of corn, roots, and potatoes, and the usual number of attractive stands, implements, &c. The leading railway companies are running a large number of excursions at low fares.

The Denbighshire and Flintshire Agricultural Society's sixty-sixth annual show is fixed to take place at Rhyl on Thursday, August 6.

The Devon County Agricultural Association's 1908 show has been fixed for Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, May 19, 20, and 21, at Plymouth, the entries to close as follows:—Implements, April 7; stock, April 14; and poultry and pigeons, May 5. The secretary is Mr. E. R. Callender, Starcross, South Devon.

A highly satisfactory balance-sheet was presented at the annual meeting of the Woodbridge Horse Show Society, for it showed a large balance in hand—viz, £58 19s. 3d., as against £8 4s. 3d. last year. This result was due to new subscribers, increased subscriptions, the special donations, and a record gate at this year's show. Such a state of affairs naturally gave considerable satisfaction, but the committee wisely reminded them they should continue to do their very best for the society. The balance-sheet showed receipts to amount to £358 18s., the principal items being subscriptions, £122 6s.; donations, £47 2s.; entry fees, £29; box fees, £29; gate money, £104 19s. 6d. On the other side £138 went for prize money, £70 1s. for materials and labour, whilst smaller items brought the total up to £299 18s. 9d., leaving a balance in hand of £58 19s. 3d.

The disadvantages under which the Devon and Exeter Horse Show Society's annual exhibition was held this year were set forth at the annual meeting of the society, when the secretary had to report that the credit balance had been reduced by £53 6s. 11d. It was reported that the ground space at the County Ground had been curtailed to rather an alarming extent, whilst freedom of action had also been limited. Almost every available space had been let for advertising by the County Ground authorities, so that even decoration was objected to, whilst the right of catering was absolutely taken out of the hands of the Horse Show Committee, and this department alone in former years brought in a revenue of £30. The question as to whether the show should be continued was seriously discussed, and, happily, it was decided to hold a show next year, a committee being appointed to consider the question of a new site.

The prize schedule has now been issued for the Scottish National Fat Stock Club's show, to be held in the Waverley Market, Edinburgh, on December 4 and 5. The handsome sum of £1,470 is offered in prizes, divided up as follows:—£1,018 for cattle, £156 for sheep, £33 for pigs, £225 for roots, grain, &c., and £38 for butter making. How valuable the awards are will be imagined when it is stated that it is possible to win with one steer or one heifer £95, in addition to challenge cups, or with a pen of sheep to win £20, and with a pen of two pigs £8. The show has long earned the title of the Smithfield Show of Scotland, and that the forthcoming exhibition will maintain its reputation practically goes without saying, for the fixture is more popular than ever, a fact well proved by the present flourishing condition of the society, who have, we understand, the substantial sum of £600 in hand and a membership of about 700. The following is a list of gentlemen who have been selected to act as judges at the show:—

CATTLE: Shorthorns, Aberdeen-Angus, and cross breeds.—Messrs. George Harrison, Gainford Hall, Darlington; Alex. Beddie, Adziel, Strichen; and James Lawson, Scotsmill, Alford. Galloway, Highland, and president's prizes.—Messrs. John M'Turk, Ashley Bank, Castle-Douglas; Archibald Whyte, Inverquharity, Kirriemuir; and Robert Thomson, 29, Port Street, Stirling. Extra class and dairy cows.—Messrs. S. W. Hackney, Leopold Mount, Chapeltown Road, Leeds; Joseph Brown, Hermitage, Dalbeattie; and John Harrison, Tems House, Giggleswick, Settle.

SHEEP: Blackfaced, Cheviots, and Half-Breds.—Messrs. John Robson, Newton, Bellingham; Donald Innes, Sandside, Thurso; and James Thomson, 1, Belmont Villa, Haddington. Crosses and Extra Classes.—Messrs. W. Shiel Dods, 38, High Street, Berwick-on-Tweed; Wm. Jackson, Broomlands, Symington, S.O., Lanarkshire; and R. B. Meiklejohn, 36, St. Enoch Square, Glasgow.

PIGS.—Mr. James Wilson, 27, Albemarle Crescent, Scarborough.

ROOTS, &c.: Swedes, Yellow and White Turnips, Cabbages, and Potatoes.—Messrs. John A. Bell, Ploughlands, St. Boswells; Thomas B. Wright, Cairnhill, Girvan; George Donald, Ladyhill, Keith; and William Duthie, Collynie, Tarves, Aberdeenshire. Referee.—Mr. James Cook, Arniston, Gorebridge.

GRAIN.—Messrs. William Inglis, Bonnington Park House, Edinburgh; George Maclennan, 14, Cluny Terrace, Edinburgh. Referee.—James Wyllie, Pathhead, Cockburnspath.

BUTTERMAKING.—Messrs. R. J. Drummond, Dairy School, Kilmarnock (open classes and championship); and Fred. Smith, 7, Shandon Street, Edinburgh (novices' second day).

SPECIAL JUDGES: For Best Steer, Best Heifer, and Best Animal at the Show.—Messrs. George Harrison, Gainford Hall, Darlington; Archibald Whyte, Inverquharity, Kirriemuir; and James Wood, Faussett Hill, Gullane. Best Pen of Sheep.—Messrs. Donald Innes, Sandside, Thurso; William Jackson, Broomlands, Symington; and Mr. J. M'Kinnon, live stock agent, Blairgowrie. Best Pen of Pigs.—Mr. James Wilson, Scarborough.

The Suffolk Fat Cattle Club have received a record entry for their forthcoming show, the total being 1,284, as compared with 1,020 last year. With the exception of corn and dairy produce, the increase is spread over each section, the most notable being that for pigs, for whereas last year there were only eighty entries, in this section this year there are no fewer than 200. Cattle number eighty as against seventy-four, and sheep thirty-two against fifty-seven, whilst the entries in the other sections are as follows:—Corn, forty-six, a decrease of twelve; roots and vegetables, 310, an increase of twenty-five; cottagers' fruit and vegetables, ninety-three, or forty more han last year; dairy produce, eighty-four, a drop of six; poultry and eggs, sixty, an increase of twenty-seven; bread, sixty-six, four more than in 1907; fruit and flowers, seventy, against fifty; and miscellaneous, 218, an increase of fifteen. With such good entries the show should prove the best of the series.

The West Riding Chamber of Agriculture at their last meeting passed the following resolution:—"That the members of this Chamber, having considered the Larceny Bill, are unanimously of opinion that, as soon as possible, it should be introduced and passed by Parliament, as, in these populous districts, petty thieving and trespass have now become intolerable." In pointing out the need of such a Bill, one of the members remarked: "If a man steals a hen, or some turnips, or potatoes, I have to bear the expenses of prosecution myself, but if a man walks down the street and takes a penny novel, or anything else, from a shop the Government takes the matter up and pays for it."

Stockton Hirings took place on Wednesday in unfavourable weather, and the attendance naturally suffered. There was a poor supply of practical men, who wanted £14 for the half-year, and a good demand for plough boys, who asked from £10 to £11 for the year. The wages for women and girls were considerably lower, whilst there was only a fair number seeking employment. Women obtained £18 for the year, and girls for a similar period received from £8 to £10.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Farmers and Protection.

SIR,—"Lobbyist," in yours of November 18, puts forward a number of questions for Mr. Chaplin to answer. These make a suitable series for winter evening answering, and as Mr. Chaplin is doubtless otherwise engaged, I should like to give my answers.

We have in the first place to remember that the dark days of farming during the past twenty-eight years are undeniably the result of the Free Trade which swamped the British farmer. Is there any reason to suppose that the British farmer is going to face a worse competition than he has? "Lobbyist" apparently does not disagree with Mr. Balfour on the probability of Canada, Argentina, &c., smothering the British farmer in the years to come. If this is to be, surely farmers look to some protection against it. Free Trade has not protected him in the past, and it will not in the future. Personally I do not see anything illogical in Mr. Balfour's observations quoted in the paragragph on corn. He points out the situation of this country is not relatively the same towards the rest of the world now as it was sixty years ago; and he gives the reason why—because the wheat-growing areas of the world have been hugely developed since then; competition, small then, is immense now; therefore the necessity for using other weapons.

To me, "Lobbyist's" argument loses the whole of its force because he does not recognise that colonial preference does not necessarily mean that colonial-grown corn must come in duty free. We can put some duty on the Colonies, and a bigger duty on foreign countries not belonging to the British Empire. Surely Mr. Balfour and Mr. Chaplin, who have studied this question, must see it in this light, if "Lobbyist" does not; and I take it the public also see it in this aspect.

How is Protection to benefit the British farmer? Mr. Chaplin is asked. My answer is, by modifying the present overpowering competition which Free Trade has imposed upon him, and in the place of it give him protection on a high scale from the foreigner, and on a lower scale from our colonial relatives; then he will be so much better off than he otherwise would be. He will be benefited to the extent of the duty placed on those who do not pay our country's taxes but use its markets.

And why should not this be done? 'Lobbyist" asks. "Why should the old traditional industry of the nation, agriculture, be the Cinderella of the family?" I repeat, why should it? Why should not this protection be given to it which has been withheld under Free Trade? What substitute has he to put in its place unless he would serve up the panaceas of the Socialist? I have looked round farming from many aspects, but I do not see others. Take off taxes? Well, that only means someone else but farmers will have to pay them, just as they would have to pay a little more if food were taxed.

Now, as to the seven questions put by "Lobbyist."

The three first have been answered by giving the Colonies preference over other countries in the manner indicated.

As to the fourth (*d*). Foreign competition would not be really put a stop to. This is a guarantee that the large population in this country need have no fears in this respect. Every farmer agrees that duties must be small. They must be, and there is no need for them to be big; but they must be big enough to substantially assist, in so far that they make it profitable to grow wheat. At the present time the people are eating bread made from wheat which costs 40s. per qr.; in 1893 or thereabouts it cost 18s. a qr., at which price I sold hundreds of quarters of sound wheat. Of course the doubling of the price ought to bring about a revolution, but it has not. It is awfully stupid of it not to, because our Free Trade friends took off 1s. per qr. because of its serious detriment to British industries other than farming; and they resist any increase through taxation on principle. Now wheat may or may not go up to 45s. a qr. Suppose it does, will everything be unhinged? Yet at that price a very large increase in the wheat area and a general all-round improvement in farming would take place, greatly to the benefit of those industries which cater for the country markets. Personally, I believe practically every farmer would farm without grumbling if wheat were guaranteed at 45s. Therefore, I say the tax need not be great, but it should be enough to keep the balance between farming and other industries, and not let farming be the Cinderella.

As to No. 5 (*e*). No serious import would be put on wheat. Commonsense would, of course, have to be applied to "raw materials." That is to say, the extent of duty on raw material should be in close relation to its value for developing into a manufactured material. Some articles require very little labour spent on them, others require more, and they are therefore of different value to the industrial population.

No 6 (*f*). I do not see that Mr. Balfour's state-

Questions and Answers.

FARMING.

Rats and Potato Clamps.—What is the best way to keep rats from boring potato pits?—TROUBLED.

ANSWER: The only advice I can give is that you kill the rats or take steps to remove them from the vicinity of the clamps. If you allow the rats to remain unmolested you cannot keep them out of the clamps, but by the persistent use of ferrets and traps, or of poison and traps, you might prevent the rats doing much damage to your potato clamps, and in very bad situations you might find narrow-meshed wire netting of considerable service. The rats would soon learn to go under the netting, but you could readily detect that.

Fattening Bullocks.—What is the best and quickest fattening food to give 18 months' old bullocks? I have nothing but some very good hay, no roots. Kindly say what quantity, by weight or measure, to give?—RANCHER.

ANSWER.—If you desire to fatten your bullocks as speedily as possible, and you have plenty of good hay, but must buy all other food you may require, I think you must make your hay the basis of your feeding and supplement it with oilcake. Perhaps you could not do better than give your bullocks all the hay they will eat, 3lbs. of linseed cake, and 3lbs. of undecorticated cottoncake per head per day. If you can obtain it, you might find it advantageous to also give a quantity of oat-straw, say about 5lbs. per head per day, chaffed, along with the cake. If you want to put a limit to the hay, say 21lbs. per bullock per day.

VETERINARY.

Recipe for Thrush.—Would you be kind enough to give recipe for the above, as I have a horse that has got it slightly?—READER.

ANSWER: A recipe is not the sole essential for the cure of thrush, for the most efficient dressings will fail if the exciting causes are allowed to persist. There must first then be a removal of the cause, or the recipe will not assist you much. Do you know the common causes of thrush in horses, or that in operation in your particular case? Mild cases disappear with attention to cleanliness, proper shoeing, and simple dressing with tar ointment. More advanced cases require to have the cleft cleaned out, loose and decayed bone removed, but strictly conserving anything that is sound, and to be kept clean and dry, and to be dressed with astringent agents. A popular dressing for thrush is equal parts of butyr of antimony and aloctic tincture of myrrh, but the modern veterinary surgeon generally gives preference to dry dressings, and dusts the affected parts with calomel.—M.R.C.V.S.

Mare with Swelled Legs.—Would you please tell me what I am to give a mare? She was out of health last winter, but appeared to get right in the summer. She was put in the house by night about three weeks ago, and her legs swell. She is on the grass by day, and does some work. When in the stable she gets nothing but hay. The water she makes is as clear as spring water, different from the other horses. She also passed some worms, rush worms we call them. The hair is standing. She is eight years old, and with foal. Her heels are a little cracked.—W. F.

ANSWER: Debility is the usual cause of swelling of the legs, and of this dropsical condition cracked heels is not an uncommon accompaniment. The mare suffers from worms, and perhaps from diabetes insipidus, and she is known to be in foal. Add all these drafts together, consider that they are operating on an animal apparently naturally unthrifty, and far from robust, and ask yourself if it is giving such an animal a fair chance to ask her to work on the food provided? She is "on the grass by day," presumably when not at work, and "when in the stable she gets nothing but hay." Then you go on to ask what to give her. Give her? Give her some corn, and do not be so foolish as to suppose that drugs can provide nutriment for a debilitated body, or compensate for insufficient feeding. To begin with, either get the mare in altogether, or let her run and cease to work her. Do not expect work and carrying a foal on a grass belly. Next get rid of the worms. I do not know what particular parasite is known locally as "rush worms," but they are probably one of the several sclerostomes to which the horse so often plays the part of host, and you may try the following balls:—Santonine, 20 grains; thymol, 10 grains; Barbadoes aloes, sulphate of iron, and calumba root, of each 2 drachms; treacle to form a ball. Get three made, and give one at intervals of a week. Feed generously with corn and good hay, frequently handrub the legs, and bandage them regularly after work. In the passing of the pale-coloured urine there is a suggestion of diabetes insipidus, and in these cases care must be taken to avoid musty hay, grain, or bran, new or inferior oats, watery foods, or diuretic plants. The food should be of top quality, and nourishing and easily digested. As to the cracks in the heels, they will probably disappear with a reduction in the swelling of the legs, but keep them dry and clean, and dress with calamine ointment. If you elect to throw the mare out of work, still give the corn; in fact, nurse her up into something like condition.—M.R.C.V.S.

Cow Retaining Milk.—My master has a cow, who has for this last month or two thrown no milk. She eats pretty heartily. I should be very glad if you could enlighten us as to what is the matter with her. I should also be very glad if you could tell me what to give a colt, just weaned from its mother, to eat to make it grow? He was five months old on November 3.—ANXIOUS ONE.

ANSWER: Cows have the power of retaining their milk at will, and sometimes they exercise it as against a particular milker to whom for some reason they have conceived a dislike. The remedy in such a case is to change the milker. If no one can be found to whom the cow will yield her milk, about the only thing to do is to sell her, or set her to rear calves. If this refusal to give down the milk goes on for any length of time secretion will soon cease, and the animal go dry, unless something worse, in the shape of mammitis or garget, happens on account of retention. The best food for the newly-weaned foal to "make it grow" is crushed oats and bran.—M.R.C.V.S.

LEGAL.

Notice to Quit.—Will your legal adviser kindly inform me whether a tenancy from year to year of an agricultural holding in Norfolk, commencing October 11, can be determined by a years notice, given on the afternoon of a succeeding October 11, to quit on that day in the following year? There is no question about a year's notice being the proper one; but it seems to me that as each year of tenancy expires at midnight of October 10, the notice to be good must be given on that day at latest. A reference to cases on the matter would oblige.—ALPHA.

ANSWER.—A tenancy from year to year ending on a quarter-day can be determined by notice expiring on the proper day. The notice, so long as it is posted so that in the ordinary course of post it would be delivered on a quarter-day, would be good. There is authority for this statement in the text-book. In such a case, the tenancy is to determine on one of the four quarter-days. If the year is divided into the half year from December 25 to June 24, and the half year from June 24, it will be found to be unequal. The cases, therefore, as to notice on quarter-day are probably not applicable for the moment. I know of no authority on the point that you mention.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

POULTRY.

To Fatten Geese.—Will you please to kindly give a few notes on how and when to begin fattening geese for Christmas, and as to how old a gander has to be before fertile?—R. S.

ANSWER: These birds should be fed on a mixture of barley meal, ground oats, and maize meal, mixed with rough fat and milk, if obtainable each morning, and at night should have boiled maize one day, and boiled barley the next, and so on. Toulouse and Embden ganders should be in their second season, but Chinese ganders breed well during their first season.

ment that "he would not support any import tax if it augmented the proportion paid by the working man," suggests that he will not tax imported food products. It would be absurd if he did. He says proportion, and means that as the working man benefits in one direction he may reasonably be called upon to meet it proportionately in another. It is not far away from justice or commonsense. Possibly the working man eats more bread than any other section of the community; by working man I do not know who is included. The very lowest stratum of labourers may, but except for them, I doubt if the artisan does eat more than a vast portion of the country, farmers included. Food does not take up anything like the proportion of a man's earnings that it used to.

No. 8 (*g*). The foreign rival of the British farmer must be seriously rebuked, the colonial farmer must have preference over the foreign farmer, and the Cinderella, the British farmer, must not have his foot squeezed in the future as he has in the past; he has stood in the crowd to have his foot trampled upon by all, and Mr. Balfour propounds a means for relieving him. It is in this way that the bogey seen by "Lobbyist" in the question must be guarded against, for it is certain that it will not be done under the present system of Free Trade.—Yours, &c., W. J. MALDEN.

Are Times Better for Farmers?

SIR,—"A. J. R." lives in a specially favoured district for the sale of straw, and I do not think his case affects my balance-sheet, which is a sample of what the wheat crop is returning over a large area of one of the largest corn-growing districts in the United Kingdom. The majority of farm agreements in Lincolnshire forbid the sale of straw, and there is not much desire to do this where the distance from a railway is considerable.

The prices quoted in the return issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending November 14 last vary from 53s. 6d. first quality wheat straw in London to 20s. on rails Peterborough per ton. Considering the expense and work there is in dealing in the straw these prices are not very tempting.

I admit it is difficult to value straw for use as litter and manure, but I would point out that any higher value that I have put upon it would have to appear on the other side of the account in manure applied to the crop.

The main object of my letter was to show that much of what is written as to the result of this year's harvest, and the farmer's position generally is very unreliable, and the exaggerated statements that have appeared in the press are likely to add to his other troubles. In this "A. J. R." cordially agrees, for which he has the thanks of yours, &c.,

SON OF THE SOIL.

North Lincolnshire, November 21, 1907.

Tariff Reform and Agricultural Interests.

SIR,—I read with great interest the well-thought-ought problems propounded by "A Lobbyist" in your last issue, in connection with Mr. Balfour's speech at Birmingham.

The question of Tariff Reform, as outlined in that speech, is one that requires the earnest attention of all farmers.

When Mr. Chamberlain's proposals were first published I immediately looked through the accounts of my farm of 700 acres, to see how I should be affected, and I found that if I realised on all the farm produce which I sold, an enhanced value equal to the full import duty which it was proposed to put on such produce, and if, on the other hand, I paid a similarly enhanced price for all that I required to purchase, I should on an average be better off by the sum of about £100 annually. And this £100 would be all that I should have to meet the extra cost of living, the extra demand for rent from my landlord, and the extra wages which my labourers would surely require.

It naturally did not take me long to decide that I should be worse off under that system of Tariff Reform than under the present Free Trade.

But since then Mr. Chamberlain's proposals have been greatly altered, and all to the farmer's detriment. Colonial preference is to be given, which probably means the sacrifice by the farmer of at least half the benefits he would receive from the imposition of a universal import duty, and now, to cap all, we are told that raw materials are not to be taxed. Wheat and wool are my finished productions, but to bakers and clothmakers they are raw materials. Will Mr. Balfour or Mr. Chaplin say under which category they class them.

This is an all-important question to farmers, and one that will give rise to endless dispute and worry. In all human probability they will be held to be partly manufactured, and the duty reduced to, say, one half.

So that instead of a 10 per cent. duty, corn and wool will have 5 per cent. only to pay, and Colonial imports will have a further preference, which will reduce the duty they pay to 2½ per cent. And then where will the British farmer be?

Many years ago Free Trade was introduced to satisfy the inhabitants and manufacturers in the towns, and British agriculture was sacrificed. Now, it seems strongly to me, that the same process is to be repeated, and that just at the moment when farmers of the present generation have adapted themselves to present circumstances, and by sheer economy and industry are making a living, they are again to be sacrificed under a fantastic system of Tariff Reform, to the benefit only of the manufacturing interests of the country. I may be wrong, and I sincerely hope so; but, anyhow, let us press Mr. Balfour in the first place to declare clearly whether corn, wool, hops, &c., are raw material or not, and then, with that point settled, let every farmer take his last year's accounts and add to the value of his sales the amount of duty which they would bear if imported, and to the amount of his purchases a similar duty, and he will clearly see to what extent he will be better off under Tariff Reform, and what extra rent and extra labour bill he will be able to pay without being worse off than hitherto.—Yours, &c,

Feering Bury, Kelvedon. PERCY C. REID.

Where is the Flail Still in Use?

SIR,—Could any of your readers give me any information as to whether the flail is still in use on any farm in their district? I believe it is not quite obsolete, and should be glad to have any facts relating thereto.—Yours, &c.,

H. W. LEWER,
Priors, Loughton, Essex.

November 18, 1907.

The Farmers' Club.

The annual general meeting of the Farmers' Club will be held at the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Metropole, S.W., on Monday, December 9, at 6 p.m., when Mr. Alfred Mansell, of Shrewsbury, will read a paper entitled "The Value of Live Stock on the Farm."

Immediately after the meeting (about 8 p.m.) the usual club dinner will be served in the dining room, No. 2, Whitehall Court, S.W.

The annual dinner will be held, in conjunction with the Central Chamber of Agriculture, on Tuesday, December 10, at the Criterion Restaurant, Piccadilly Circus, W., at 7 o'clock precisely, under the chairmanship of Lord Desborough.

Owing to the high prices of butter at Toronto, the dealers are importing butter from Ireland for retail at 25 cents per lb.

The second and main hirings at Bedale took place on Tuesday, when the supply of servants was hardly equal to the demand, this being particularly the case with the female servants. Wages ruled as follows:—Managing foreman, £20 to £28 for the year with board and lodgings; waggoners and ploughmen, £14 to £18 10s.: plough lads, £9 to £12, and lads first time out at service from £6 to £7 10s. for the year. Hinds' wages were up to 21s. per week with the usual cottage, garden, potatoes, milk, &c. The wages of female servants ruled as follows:—Capable dairy managers, £20 to £23 per annum; female servants for farm houses, £13 to £15 for the year, and young girls for farm houses, £7 to £9 for the year.

DAIRY.

Ayrshire Milk Records.

A special meeting of the Ayrshire Cattle Herd Book Society was held on Tuesday for the purpose of receiving the report of a committee appointed to draw up a scheme for the management of milk records among Ayrshire cattle.

In May last the Ayrshire Cattle Herd Book Society received from the Highland and Agricultural Society a letter on the subject of milk records for Ayrshire cattle, pointing out that the Highland Society were favourable to continuing the fostering of milk tests, but realised that with the substantial change in the management of work, it could not be of real service to breeders. They therefore invited the co-operation of the Herd Book Society to consider the future working of the scheme, and asked for the appointment of a sub-committee to confer with the Milk Records Committee of the Highland Society. The committee met, and as the result of their discussion drafted the following scheme for the management of the milk records:—

"That there be appointed for the management of milk records among Ayrshire cattle a new body, to be known as the Ayrshire Milk Records Committee or Association. This body would have the general management of the Ayrshire milk records. It would arrange as to the lines to be followed in weighing and testing milk, as to ensuring the accuracy of the records and the taking of samples. It would arrange for the keeping of the records in an official register, and for publication of the results. It would grant certificates free, or upon payment of reasonable fees for herds or individual cows. It would arrange the terms for conducting records on individual farms or groups of farms. It would consist mainly of representative breeders and owners of Ayrshire cattle, and would include a small number nominated by the Highland Society."

The above scheme, the report stated, had been submitted to a meeting of the Herd Book Committee, and after full discussion it had been unanimously agreed to recommend its adoption. The committee considered that well-conducted milk records might play an important part in the development of Ayrshire cattle. The above scheme had also been approved generally by the directors of the Highland Society, and the Herd Book Committee thought there was reason to hope that that society would continue for the present to give financial aid, and thought that aid should be given through the new body.

The Highland Society had signified that they wished representation on the new body only to the extent of two members, and the Herd Book Committee recommended that the composition of the new body should be—Two representatives to be appointed by the Highland Society, eight representatives to be appointed by the Herd Book Society, one representative to be appointed from each local Milk Record Society, and any other persons whom the new body as above constituted may associate with themselves. It was thought that if this scheme were adopted that the new body might be in a position to start work in the beginning of January.

At the meeting on Tuesday the report was unanimously adopted. It was explained that the Highland and Agricultural Society would be represented on the Milk Records Committee, and that the members of local committees would be asked to send one or more representatives.

The secretary, Mr. John Howie, stated that the Highland and Agricultural Society had agreed to give a certain classification for Ayrshire cattle in the event of the Herd Book Society contributing £40 of the prize-money at the Highland Show next year. The society had given £10, and there had been raised in subscriptions £27, making a total of £37 in hand of the required £40. It was agreed to raise the other £3 by subscription through the secretary. In view of the contribution the Highland and Agricultural Society agree to give six classes at their show in 1908 for Ayrshire bulls and stirks and cows and queys, with £20 in prize money for each class, or £120 in all for Ayrshires.

Boracic Acid in Cream.

After a hearing spread over three days, Mr. Robert Wallace, K.C., and a bench of justices, sitting at the Clerkenwell Sessions, on Monday, gave their decision in the boric acid in cream case, which had aroused considerable interest. It was the appeal of W. H. Cullen, a grocer, of Lupus Street, Westminster, against a conviction and fine of £2 and costs for unlawfully selling cream which was mixed with boric acid, so as to render the article injurious to health.

A large number of eminent men were called on both sides, and the court, in deciding the matter, found as a fact that the boric acid in the cream, supplied in this case was not injurious to adults of normal health, but would be injurious to children and invalids. As the court found as a fact that cream now formed part of the ordinary diet of children, the supply of cream under the present circumstances must be taken to be within the section. The appeal would, therefore, be dismissed, and the conviction upheld, with costs.

The Bench, however, expressed its willingness to state a case upon a point of law subject to the finding of the fact that cream now formed part of the recognised diet of children.

During the hearing of the appeal it was stated that if the conviction were upheld it would practically stop the cream supply of the metropolis, as the sale of cream without a preservative would almost be impossible.

Nantwich Cheese Fair.

At Nantwich Cheese Fair, on Thursday, there was a pitch of 60 tons of cheese. The tone was good, and there was a good clearance. Finest dairies made from 68s to 71s.; medium qualities from 63s. to 67s.; and lower grades from 58s. per cwt.



Photo by [*J. T. Newman.*

Our illustration above is of the Shorthorn Cow Minnie, which was placed Second in the Class for Single Cow of Any Breed or Cross, in milk, at the recent London Dairy Show, but has now received the First Prize in consequence of an objection against the First Prize winner at the Show having been sustained. Minnie is the property of, and was bred by, Mr. J. L. Shirley, Bletchley.

West Country Notes.

THE movement for securing some compensation to farmers where it is found necessary in the public interest to slaughter their cattle, or to condemn the carcases when slaughtered, on account of disease which may or may not be communicable to human beings, is growing in strength. This week an important meeting of Somerset farmers has been held to discuss the subject, at which it was decided to circularise various societies in England with a view to joint action, and suggesting that a meeting of delegates be held in London to discuss the matter.

THIS was, in particular, in regard to compensation in cases of tuberculosis, but the question is really of much wider importance, and should be made of a general character. When in the old days of cattle plague and so on a very heavy loss fell upon the farmer from disease, the enhanced price of meat helped to recoup the loss, and made it possible for the voluntary insurance schemes to work with fairness to all participating. There was not then the competition from abroad to keep the prices uniform; and though the farmer suffered, the loss was shared by the consumer.

TO-DAY the losses fall wholly upon the agricultural community, whose burdens have not been lightened of late years in the way of contributions to the expenses of local government. Their means of meeting the increased calls for sanitary and traffic improvements are certainly no better than they were. The slight enhancement of value in some classes of produce, which are of recent date, do not affect the general bulk of the farmers.

HENCE if further calls are to be made upon them to bear the whole loss arising from the trend of modern science in the inspection and supervision of food supplies, the industry will be charged with a grievous burden. This must be mitigated by immediate relief, either direct or by removing some of the burdens which farming has already to bear for the general community. The readjustment of local taxation will have to be conceded if compensation for confiscation of diseased cattle is not possible.

THE great difficulties in the detection of some of the diseases make the position of the owner of cattle a very precarious one, and if the public are to be adequately protected, and the industry to be preserved, some revision of the existing methods is imperative.

THE principle applies not merely to cattle, but with the new Act—the value of which is fully recognised by fruit growers—for dealing with fruit trees, the principle should be carried further to all branches of industry where protection is afforded to any one section of the community by destruction of diseased produce to prevent the spread of the disorder.

THE week has been productive of rather more than the usual crop of reports of sudden deaths and serious accidents connected with hunting in the West, and this not so much in the actual sport as to persons who are returning from the field or are scarcely to be said to be participating in the chase. Dorset, Devon, and the vicinity of Bath have all contributed their share of cases. Mr. J. C. Ware, of Moorstone Farm, Halberton, Devon, who dropped on the way from the hunt on Monday, was a member of a family that has occupied one farm for over 200 years.

THE character of the stock at the markets show the close approach of Christmas, and the next fortnight will see the great majority of the Christmas sales of the season in full swing. There are some very good stocks to come forward, if one may judge from the comments of those who are behind the scenes, but the very great bulk of fat which was shown by some of the animals of a few years ago will probably not be sought after by the feeders ever again, unless the public taste alters. There is the demand now for prime meat rather tending to red than white in all classes of cattle.

A SIGNIFICANT statement was made at a meeting of Devon agriculturists lately by the Right Hon. Sir John Kennaway, who pointed out that during the last thirty or forty years, something like eighty-four Acts had been passed which added to the burdens of local taxation. This had been met by an attempt at readjustment of the burdens by the passing of the Agricultural Rates Act.

THE Act was of course of some immediate benefit to the agricultural ratepayer. It is still of benefit, but the farmer is again paying as much (and in many cases more) in rates as he was at the time the Act was passed owing to the many forms of increase.

THE root crops are now in almost all cases properly secured. The results are better in the case of cattle-feeding roots than were at one time anticipated. Potatoes, however, are very disappointing, and it is somewhat difficult to secure really good samples.

THE season has so far been a mild one in the West, and it is only within the past week that the first white frost severe enough to put a stop to the picking of French beans and other delicate garden produce has occurred. Many of the spring flowers are showing signs of precocious blooming, whilst the summer wild fruits are lingering on, as well as garden fruits. In many cases fruit trees have flowered and borne fruit a second time.

THE price of bread, which has been pretty generally at sixpence per 4 lb. loaf in the West, shows signs at last of going back a little. It is many years since the figure was so high, and with the shortage of potatoes some signs of distress in the poorer quarters are manifest.

November 22, 1907.

Nottinghamshire Notes.

A WEEK or two back I referred in the MARK LANE EXPRESS to the great success that had attended the efforts of local potato growers by using Irish seed, especially Mr. H. Heath, J.P., C.C., at Bestwood Park, near Nottingham. A large number of farmers in various parts of England have, in consequence of my notes, written to Mr. Heath, asking for further details, which at once shows the good done through publishing items of this character, and also speaks well for the circulation of this journal.

WHAT surprised Mr. Heath was his receiving a number of letters from farmers in Ireland, and one especially deserves mention. I refer to the letter sent by that well-known Irish potato grower Mr. J. F. Williamson, F.R.H.S., who resides a few miles from Mallow. Mr. Williamson in the course of his letter contends that it was his success in the Rugby trials in 1904 that first drew attention to the productiveness of Irish seed potatoes. He also mentions that his Duchess of Cornwall seed has been a big success in the Surrey County Council trials this season, and mentions that the ratio of yield was: Irish seed, 76 lb.; Scottish seed, 30 lb.

THERE is not the slightest doubt as to the superiority of Irish seed potatoes grown in Nottinghamshire, and Professor Blackshaw, of the Midland Agricultural College, and also Mr. Heath are loud in their praises of the tubers imported from the Emerald Isle; and what is more, larger quantities are to be purchased from "Pat" next spring.

RIDICULOUSLY low prices marked the November Stilton Cheese Fair at Melton Mowbray to-day. There was a very large pitch, numbering 593½ dozen against 357½ dozen at the November fair a year ago. Buyers were scarce, and many farmers had to return home with less than half of their cheeses sold.

BEANS and barley are still be seen in stock out in the fields at Sturton-en-le-Steeple, in the north of the county. Of course the barley is ruined, but the beans are still worth leading. The district is very late, and only a fortnight back there were several fields of hay that had been in cook for over six weeks.

PRESENT KING II., the London champion Shire, has arrived safely in the Argentine, and has caused such a sensation there that cables have been received in England giving instructions for the purchase of several really good Shire mares in foal to him. As my readers are aware, he formerly belonged to Messrs. James Forshaw and Sons, of Carlton-on-Trent.

COMMODORE BARMAID, a typical Shire mare in foal to Present King II., has been sold by Mr. Samuel Arnold, of Carlton-on-Trent, near Newark, to Mr. E. N. Casares, and exported to the Argentine.

FROM what I can learn there is a great deal of interest taken in Shorthorn breeding abroad, for Mr. G. H. Elliott, of Colston Bassett estate offices, informs me that he sold a large number of his diagrams illustrating the methods of line breeding adopted by the three famous Shorthorn breeders — Thomas Bates, Richard Booth, and Amos Cruickshank. Orders have come from Ireland, Canada, the United States, the Argentine, Australia, Austria, France, Germany, and even Russia, which speaks well for the enterprise of a gentleman born and now resident in the lace county.

TRAVELLING in a railway carriage the other day I happened to meet a well-known agriculturist in Mr. John Parr, of Ruddington, who is well known in the pig-breeding world, and who at one time had a farm at Cropwell. He was speaking of the better price of grain and wool, and I ventured to ask him if he thought rents would increase in consequence. Mr. Parr, however, did not think the good prices would continue sufficiently long for landlords to increase rentals. He said he could remember the time when land around Bingham let at £2 and over an acre, and then a tithe of 10s. an acre on top of that. He admitted that some of it was exceptionally good land, but declared that very little of it now let for more than 25s. an acre. Mr. Parr recalled the time when wool made 60s. per tod, and wheat 50s. to 70s. a quarter, and spoke of the vast changes that had been brought about since that time.

FREQUENT reference has been made in the MARK LANE EXPRESS anent the advisability of adopting some system of the registration of corn samples. To-day I had a long chat with two village stationmasters, and singular to relate, both had within the past few days experienced considerable difficulty with farmers and corn merchants through consignments of grain being refused by the latter owing to the "bulk" sample not being up to that sold by the farmer.

WE all know that since the advent of November prices for several cereals have eased somewhat, and one stationmaster declared that, though he never read the corn markets, he always knew when prices were down. I demanded an explanation for this assertion, and I must admit it convinced me more than ever that some system of registration ought to be adopted—and that before long.

"SUPPOSE we take a sample of barley for instance," said the stationmaster. "On November 4, 5, and 6 a big farmer put on rail at my station 67 qr. of malting barley. On the Wednesday I sent a bulk sample to the merchant who had bought it, and following morning came a letter stating that he refused to accept delivery, and it remained in the trucks at the company's risk. Of course, the farmer also got a similar letter, and later in the day came to see me. Now I have known this farmer for many years, and can speak of him as a straightforward man. He told me he had sold the barley for 32s. per qr. from a sample taken from a sack put up in the barn, and that none of the corn had been touched since. It had been dressed and put up in bags before the sample was taken. But he also told me that barley had gone down 2s. per qr. in about a fortnight, and there the secret lay. The farmer, of course, sent his men and wagons for the corn back, and had to pay a few shillings for truck hire, while the merchant gets off scot free with no fear of being sued."

THE above is a correct version of what actually happened, for I have seen the merchant's letter refusing to accept the corn, and also know the farmer personally. I am looking forward to this question being taken up by the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union in the near future.

THE Midland Farmers' Co-operative Association (Nottingham) continues to increase its membership and usefulness, and I understand that when the balance sheet is issued in February, there will be a surprise in store for those who declare there is no good to be obtained by co-operation. The latest idea on the part of the association is to undertake to sell members' corn. All that a farmer has to do is to forward a sample on to the manager at the market or offices, with the quantity for sale and the limit price, and the rest is easy. The corn is sold, and a commission of 3d. per qr. charged for the trouble. This has already proved very convenient to some farmers who did not find it possible to personally attend the market, while the manager being at four and five markets per week knows the top price that the cereals can command, and what is more, obtains it.

ON Tuesday I was shown a number of red currants which had just been pulled from a garden on the outskirts of Nottingham, while to-day I saw several strawberries on a plant in the open. This is surely remarkable for November.

AT a meeting of the council of the Notts Agricultural Society this week it was finally decided to hold the annual show in Colwich Park on Tuesday and Wednesday, June 9 and 10 next. Mr. W. E. Burnside, of Tollerton Hall, was chosen as the president for 1908, and it was agreed to offer the sum of £1,200 in prizes. The prize schedule was discussed and judges nominated. I understand that the society sustained a loss of about £15 on the show held at Retford this year, when the weather was exceptionally showery.

EARL MANVERS, who met with such a serious accident in the hunting field a few days ago, is improving rapidly in health, though he will not be able to leave his room at Thoresby House for another two or three weeks yet.

November 21, 1907. R. K.

PRODUCE OF CROPS, 1907.

A preliminary statement has been issued by the Board of Agriculture showing the estimated total produce and yield per acre of the corn, pulse, and hay crops in Great Britain in the year 1907, with comparisons for 1906, and the average yield per acre of the ten years 1897-1906.

CROPS.		Estimated Total Produce.		Acreage.		Average Estimated Yield per Acre.		Average of the ten years.
		1907.	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.	1906.	1897-1906
		Quarters.	Quarters.	Acres.	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
WHEAT	England	6,526,769	6,977,980	1,537,208	1,661,147	33·97	33·61	31·15
	Wales	137,969	158,514	39,921	44,403	27·65	23·56	26·08
	Scotland	336,428	249,977	48,307	50,059	39·15	39·95	38·83
	Great Britain	6,901,166	7,386,471	1,625,436	1,755,609	33·97	33·66	31·22
BARLEY	England	6,290 730	6,246,063	1,411,163	1,439,708	35·66	34·71	32·88
	Wales	349,622	377,576	90,622	92,834	30·86	32 54	31·27
	Scotland	904,714	945,540	210,309	218,681	34·41	34·59	35 81
	Great Britain	7,545,066	7,569,179	1,712,094	1,751,223	35·26	34·58	33·14
OATS	England	11,476,709	10,191,564	1,967,671	1,881,031	46·66	43·34	41·38
	Wales	954,263	977,079	203,908	206,110	37·44	38·11	34·22
	Scotland	4,369,313	4 254,462	951,011	956,816	36·76	35·57	36·38
	Great Britain	16,800,285	15,423,105	3,122,590	3,042,957	43·04	40·55	39·20
BEANS	England	1,270,988	1,190,807	295,129	274,779	34·45	34 67	29·28
	Wales	5,635	4,756	1,572	1,310	28·68	29·27	25 84
	Scotland	52,046	50,798	11,430	10,994	36·96	36·43	34·20
	Great Britain	1,328,669	1,246,361	308,131	287,073	34·50	34 73	29·50
PEAS	England	587,788	559,417	159,431	148,034	29·49	30·23	27·15
	Wales	2,214	2,911	845	858	20·96	27·15	21·41
	Scotland	2,089	2,145	600	598	27·86	28·70	26·05
	Great Britain	522,091	564,473	160,876	149,490	29·44	30·21	27·10
		Tons.	Tons.			Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
HAY from Clover, Sainfoin, &c.	England	2,738,779	2,205,545	1,644,622	1,576,114	33·31	27·99	29·40
	Wales	252,918	258,246	183,502	190,281	27·57	27·14	24·98
	Scotland	717,984	737,178	422,195	425,192	34·01	34·68	32·34
	Great Britain	3,709,621	3,200,960	2,250,319	2,191,587	32·97	29·21	29·56
HAY from Permanent Grass.	England	5,941,256	4,818,526	4,275,780	4,130,262	27·79	22·36	21 33
	Wales	561,838	545,942	517 191	510,831	21·73	21·37	19·50
	Scotland	216,163	219,096	143,011	142,707	30·23	30·69	29·59
	Great Britain	6,719,257	5,383,564	4,935,936	4,783,860	27·23	22·54	23·99

Northern Notes.

VISCOUNT DOWNE, the Lord of the Manor of Driffield, has parted the last year or two with several of his best farms that lie nearest to that town at the foot of the Yorkshire Wolds. One of these, which has been in the occupancy of the Dunning family since 1830, was sold lately to a wholesale provision merchant. Since the holding became a separate farm only three names have been associated with it, namely, a Hornby, a Smith, and two Dunnings (uncle and nephew). The farm house is in a splendid situation, and within the urban district of Driffield, with easy cartage to railway and canal. Some people have associated this farm with the late Mr. George Coates, the originator of Coates' Herd Book; but I have it on the authority of Mr. G. B. Dunning that this famous breeder of the Shorthorn Bull Patriot farmed another holding within a mile as the crow flies, and now occupied by Mr. Walter Highmoor under the same landlord. The confusion in respect of Mr. Coates' tenancy has arisen over a discrepancy in the directory, which designates both farms as "Field House."

BOTH farms will see fresh tenants installed in the spring. Besides the bull, Mr. Coates bred from the same stock, a cow for which he is said to have refused 1,000 guineas. This cow was a red and white, and copies of a now rare "print," or what looks more like a water-colour, are in the possession of several people, and are highly prized. The print is dedicated to "Richard Langley, Esq," the head of a family formerly considerable owners of land in the town and neighbourhood; and the copy I have seen is embellished beneath with the family arms. These old prints possess a historic interest which increases as the years roll by.

IN the course of conversation with a North Yorkshire landowner the other day he told me of the fine harvest his tenants had experienced, and one of them, of a particularly confiding nature, said his field had produced "too much stuff." It is seldom one hears of crops that are too large. It is quite safe to say that no harvest within living memory has been so bountiful as this year's in the East Riding. This opinion was volunteered by a valuer in a large way of business in his profession and also as an occupier of land. Instances are not wanting where the farmer was very badly hit by the weather. In these cases the crops were backward, and the fine September availed them nothing.

WE may begin to hear almost at any time of the heating of numerous stacks of corn resulting from hasty harvesting, and it is already realised that a very great deal of corn that was carted in an unfit state cannot possibly be ready for threshing till the spring.

SO far as one has been able to collect opinions, the heavy crops this year, taken in conjunction with the high prices of wheat and other cereals, have not greatly influenced farmers in regard to their sowings. A normal course will probably be followed. Because wheat is at a high price it does not follow that a greater breadth will be sown, for it is altogether enigmatical which cereals will be the best paying crop next harvest.

THE Christmas fat stock markets are beginning to occupy one's thoughts. The wet October increased the proportions of the turnip crop; but notwithstanding roots were late in providing feed, and as only three weeks separate us from the earliest of the markets patronised by butchers artificial foods will bulk more largely in the rations. Stall fed cattle of exceptional quality will be scarce this Christmas, and no surprise need be affected if the price per stone is higher than a year ago. The beef markets are nothing to boast of at present, and the trade in mutton has fallen flat, after a very good time; though to buy, stores are quite dear—a "fashionable" price is about 2 guineas per head. Some farmers have as many roots as they care to see; others are not in that fortunate position, and will not require so large a number of hogs as they can usually carry through the winter.

TRADE in pigs in the open market is about stifled—the result of the long-continued and, as many people think, oppressive orders of the Board of Agriculture, which too stringently "regulate" the movement of swine. A petition, I observe, is being got up in Lincolnshire (*vide* "Lincolnshire Notes") praying the President of the Board of Agriculture to "remove the present embargo on the markets."

I FEAR the petition will be so much waste paper. Three hundred persons further North, representative of all classes connected with farming, this year signed a similar document, all to no purpose. An M.P. presented it, and afterwards interviewed Lord Carrington. His lordship, I am told, really seemed inclined to answer the prayers, so fervently tendered, in a favourable manner; but he is bound to pay regard to the opinions of permanent officials, and whether swine fever be prevalent in a district or otherwise, there is going to be no relaxation of market restrictions; of that we may be certain—at any rate for a long time to come.

THE outlook for soft turnips and swedes in the North is much better than could have been expected. Few turnips have so far been pulled in this neighbourhood of the capital of Northumberland, where the rain has hindered carting from the land, and has also interfered with tillage work; sowing is in arrear. Grass is reduced to a minimum in the pastures, and seems to have lost its "nature." We are having a spell of typical November weather, with occasional fog, and rain which has generally fallen while the bulk of humanity has slept.

AT the Martinmas hirings, which in Durham and Northumberland differ from the Yorkshire terms, about the same wages as last year are asked. In the two northernmost counties the hands are hired for half a year, whereas in the county of "broad" acres the engagements are for twelve months. Hiring in Yorkshire goes on until well after November 23, on which date the male and female servants in the farmhouses are paid their money, and take a week's—some a ten days'—holiday. This applies to the servants who hire on again, as well as to those who are changing "spots."

OF course, it must be understood that females do not engage in the actual work of the farm in Yorkshire. They are only domestics, and few of them even do the milking. In the other counties, where the dignity of labour is perhaps better understood, females do work in the fields, though the desire for employment in this line is going out of fashion very fast. Situations as shop-girls or as dressmakers' apprentices is regarded as the more correct thing. Our girls are becoming too fine in the fingers for hard but healthy work which can be obtained in and about the farmhouse. Is not this fact to be deplored?

November 21, 1907.

Midland Notes.

MILK retailers are putting up their prices—or threatening to put them up—in Birmingham and other large centres of population in the Midlands. At present 3½d. per quart is the rule; the prospect is a rate of 4d.

THE reasons given to the purchasing public are rather interesting. In view of the increased price of cheese, it is declared, many dairy farmers are finding it more profitable to keep their milk on the farm. Simultaneously "the chocolate and condensed milk factories" are calling for much more than usual; and to make things worse "many agriculturists have given up dairy farming owing to the harassing restrictions placed upon them by local authorities." There seems to be just enough truth in these explanations or excuses to help them to pass muster with the uncritical. One doubts, however, whether farmers will think much of them. The extra amount taken at the Bournville works, for the milk chocolate of the great Cadbury firm is but an infinitesimal proportion of a great city's supply; and the farmers who have been driven out of cowkeeping by oppressive by-laws and over-zealous sanitary inspectors, though they exist, are rather difficult to find. Although the black country and ironworkers and the City middle classes have been developing a very healthy preference for English cheese, inquiry generally shows that the agriculturists who have forsaken the milk trade, with its long contracts and regular cheques, have done so because of the impossibility of getting decent terms from the retailers.

INQUIRY, in fact, seems to indicate that the retailers are feeling the effects of the spread among farmers of co-operative dealing. With the progress of such bodies as the Midland Farmers' Association, the amount of milk offering at ruinous, cut-throat prices is become less than it used to be; and autumn contracts have generally to be made at prices which, no doubt, are higher than the average of a few years ago. And naturally the public are called upon to pay the difference—plus something more.

THE one thing that is not alleged by the milk vendors is shortage in the pastures. Yet the outlook in this direction is not uniformly good. There is a fair amount of grass, but not abnormally much; and, on the other hand, much of the hay having lain long in the wet, is of doubtful quality, while purchased feeding stuffs are expensive luxuries.

IN this state of affairs the cattle feeders of our extensive grazing districts are looking forward to the Christmas trade with some anxiety. So far as can be seen at present, their chances of being able to recoup themselves for a long period of unremunerative prices are the reverse of hopeful. Still, it is pleasant to see that the trade is showing a certain tendency towards improvement as better class stock comes into the market.

THERE is some compensation in the quiet trade for sheep, but prices in this district have not advanced as they generally do at this time of year. However, close on 60s. per head—which has been paid at recent Warwickshire sales for really good mutton—means a fair commercial profit. At this rate the North-country lambs which come here to be wintered on grass and grazed next summer, pay well for their keep.

THE upshot of the Midland fruit-growers' deputation to the Board of Agriculture is awaited with some anxiety, and a statement by Mr. Willis Bund to the effect that the Board would withdraw the present order which requires the burning of mildewed gooseberry bushes, has been much discussed. As a rule the Worcestershire growers are in agreement with their fellows of Wisbech, who have already waited on Earl Carrington. Feeling that official knowledge of the mildew amounts to little or nothing, they demand a year in which to try and eradicate the disease by means of copper sulphate and liberal cutting back. "If we fail," they say, "destruction of the bushes can come afterwards." But the Order has justified itself. It has made everybody eager and anxious to do his utmost to eradicate the disease, and that is a spirit which was not observable at first when the gooseberry mildew was first discovered. Nothing was more common than to hear a grower say:—"I have had that, or something like it, in my plantation for years," and to confess that he had given no particular attention to it.

LITTLE is heard nowadays of sugar beet; the very possibility of denunciation of the anti-Bounty Convention seems to have sufficed to crush a movement which promised well for agriculture. Still, some of the enthusiasts keep on growing fine beets by way of showing what can be done. One exceptionally good result is reported by a Warwickshire rector—Rev. E. Muckleston, of Haseley, who has produced a crop averaging 1,066 grammes per root (against 424 grammes for German beet), and 16·1 per cent of sugar (against the German 15·4). These roots, in other words, would give twice as much sugar per acre as those on which the agriculturist of Germany makes a profit.

November 21, 1907.

The question of the formation of an independent agricultural party does not seem to interest the farmers of the Craven district, for at a meeting held at Skipton on Monday to specially consider the matter it was stated that only one *bonâ fide* tenant farmer was in attendance! Colonel Maude moved a resolution approving the proposal to form an independent agricultural party. The idea was, he said, to adopt the same methods of bringing pressure to bear on the Government as were adopted by the Labour or the railway groups in the House of Commons. There was some difference of opinion as to the wisdom of the step amongst those present but the resolution was carried.

The second of the Martinmas statute hirings at Thirsk took place on Monday in the Market Place, the attendance showing a considerable decline to that of the previous Monday. There was a fair attendance of masters but little hiring was done, farmers preferring to wait until to-day. A slight advance in wages was in most cases asked, farmers being backward with their work. What few contracts were made, however, were mostly at the old rates. Hinds with cottage garden and the usual allowances made from 18s. to 21s.; good managing hinds, 24s. to 27s per week. Capable farm foremen, £25 to £30; head lads and horsemen, £17 to £18 10s; farm boys, £6 to £8; plough lads, £9 to £11. Girls both for farm house and town places were as usual scarce, and good wages were obtained by likely hands. Young girls for farm houses, £7 10s. to £10 10s.; second hands, £15 to £16; head girls, £19 to £21.

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1907.

POULTRY.

Colony Houses in Winter.

Perhaps the most remarkable feature of the growth of the poultry industry of Great Britain is the general adoption by farmers of the colony system of housing both fowls and chickens, as well as turkeys, ducks, and geese. Not many years ago farmers were dead against keeping poultry on their farms as part of the stock, which might be allowed to run on the pastures as sheep and cows are, but now it seems to be pretty generally agreed amongst them that fowls instead of injuring pastures in any way are a decided benefit to them, and the indications that farmers of the younger generation believe in poultry as a profitable source of income are the large numbers of portable houses which are now to be seen in travelling through all parts of Great Britain. Poultry are no longer confined to small yards, nor are they left without shelter, and the great majority of progressive farmers are proud of their poultry and provide them with suitable houses, capable of being moved to every part of the farm, so that advantage can be taken of the ploughed land in winter and spring, meadow land after the hay crop has been mown, stubbles in the harvest time, and pasturage at all other times of the year. The climate of the British Islands is admirably adapted to the colony system of poultry keeping, and the only argument against the system which is worth considering is the greater labour which is involved in caring for a large number of fowls, scattered over a farm in small flocks, than would be required for the same number of fowls kept in a large continuous house and yarded. But against this there are so many points in favour of the colony house system that it is rapidly becoming the favourite system with the British farmer. Briefly enumerated, the advantages of the colony system over the yarding system are:—Consumption of considerably less food, greater egg production, very much less initial cost in providing houses, no cost for fencing, invariable good health of the fowls, and improvement to the land in the way of manuring it, and keeping it clear of noxious insects, grubs and worms.



A BLACK ORPINGTON HEN.

Winter Grouping of Houses.

The ideal method of poultry keeping for the farmer would be to house his birds in colony houses during late spring, summer, and autumn, and during the severe portions of the year to house them in substantial fixed buildings, with yards and scratching sheds attached, but there are few who care to go to the double expense of providing and keeping up two sets of houses—one for summer and the other for winter—and there are fewer still who can spare one of their large and comfortable stables, barns, or cow-houses for the winter housing of poultry. If the difficulty of the initial expense were once overcome, there is no doubt that it would pay to have a double set of houses, but for those who are not so favourably circumstanced I would recommend the following plan, which in practice I have found to work out very well. As winter approaches select a well-sheltered field, of fair size, such as will afford the number of fowls kept an adequate run for four months or so, and in a corner of this make a temporary platform or floor, consisting of large stones for a foundation, covered over by rubble, and finished off with finer gravel. Let this be of sufficient area to take all the houses, and then move them in and set them up in a group. Here the fowls will have all the advantages of a fixed building with a dry floor, which is the really important point. Most portable houses are made without floors, and wooden floors are not in any case recommended, and this is the great drawback to them for wintering.

Selection of a Winter Site.

On almost every farm some sheltered nook for wintering can be found, but the two best places are, as a rule, the rick yard and the orchard. In the rick yard, if the hay and straw is raised from the ground on stands, we have an ideal place for day shelter, and any scratching shed that can be devised will not give better results than can be got by scattering chaff or similar litter in the spaces beneath the ricks, and feeding the fowls all their whole corn in the litter. Even when the ricks rest on the ground they afford excellent shelter, and as portion of the hay and straw in the barns is used up vacant spaces are left in which fowls can be fed and can take shelter and exercise. The reason why an orchard also is a good place for winter colonising is because it is usually so well sheltered that fowls can spend all day out of doors and yet will not suffer from either wet or cold. They can be fed in the shelter of these close trees and hedges which are found in all orchards, and in these conditions the winter egg yield is likely to be satisfactory.

Scratching Sheds.

Another plan which is sometimes adopted when colony houses are moved into winter groups is to erect a temporary scratching shed near by. This ought to be done if the poultry keeper feels that there is not sufficient shelter, and the cost will not be very great. A few dozen boards with standards, rafters, and beams will make a suitable day shelter, and can be roughly erected to be taken down again when the birds leave for their summer quarters. When the farm flock consists of a large number of birds—say 400 to 500—it is not advisable to run them all together in winter, and in this case two or more groups should be made, and the poultry keeper will have an opportunity of testing the rival merits of rick-yard, orchard, and paddock as a wintering place. H. M. Cooney.

Non-Sitting Breeds for Crossing to Produce Layers.

There are a large number of poultry-keepers whose object is to produce eggs rather than table fowls, and the majority of these are people who have a very useful collection of cross-bred hens which they have selected on their merits as layers, and the mating of which is a matter of importance to them affecting the following two seasons' production.

The Houdan comes at the top of the list for mating for egg production, and this breed will undoubtedly retain its popularity on account of its splendid laying qualities, combined with the quality of its flesh. This is the only non sitting breed for which it can be claimed that the pullets are excellent layers and the cockerels really profitable as table birds, both in their pure state and when crossed with another breed or breeds. The drawback to other non-sitting breeds is their want of size and flesh on the table, and as it is, unfortunately, impossible to raise all pullets from the eggs set, and the large percentage of cockerels which invariably make their appearance have to be reckoned with, this must be considered as a distinct advantage, as, although the other non-sitting breeds are excellent layers when they are hatched from good laying strains, the cockerels reared do not as a rule fetch more than it has cost to rear them when they are disposed of for the table.

In this respect Minorcas possess an advantage over Leghorns, but there is not very much difference between them. Houdans are very largely used for crossing purposes. There are quite as many Houdan cockerels purchased for mating with hens of other breeds as there are of Buff Orpingtons, these being the two most popular breeds for crossing. It is not possible to misplace a Houdan cockerel, provided that he has been obtained from a good laying strain, because the progeny are invariably good layers and plump table birds of nice quality, and are profitable fowls. The plan of mating a pure bred male bird with hens of several breeds is one which has gained ground each year, and fortunately for poultry-keepers in general it is still largely followed.

The progeny are invariably very much better layers than those birds which are bred from non-descript cocks, and there is a distinctive look about the pullets which are hatched from a pure-bred cock, no matter how many breeds may have been in the hens. In this respect Houdans have made themselves felt, as the half-bred Houdan pullets are very pretty fowls, with small top-knots, and are splendid layers.

In keeping Houdans for stock purposes in their pure state it is advisable to trim the crests of the hens and pullets by cutting the small feathers along each side over the eyes, so that the birds have plenty of light, as they are not then subject to colds, because their eyes do not become delicate as is invariably the case if the light is excluded; and there is also the advantage of keeping the crests dry when the birds are drinking if this precaution is taken. The appearance of the birds is not spoilt by doing this, provided that the feathers are cut evenly. By adopting this precautionary measure the birds are kept healthy, and it has been due to the neglect of this that poultry-keepers have encouraged the idea that Houdans are delicate birds, whereas they are not so in reality.

It cannot be good to exclude the fresh air from the birds' eyes, or for them to have wet feathers overhanging their faces all day. This could not be done in the case of birds kept for exhibition, as it is essential then for them to have large, even crests. The quality of the flesh of the pure Houdan is exceedingly good; it is pure white, very juicy, and tender, and each year the numbers of birds of this breed which are reared prove the profitableness of the fowls, as it may always be accepted that breeds which do not possess qualities which commend themselves to the utilitarian will not be reared largely, as all the cull birds and those which are not good enough for selling as stock birds must find a market, and unless they have good laying and table qualities, or are either good layers or good table birds, this is not possible. We believe that Houdans are bred more largely for crossing purposes than for being kept in their pure state, but they are always profitable when bred from strains which have been carefully kept for egg-production.

We do not advise poultry-keepers to purchase birds for profit from exhibition strains of Houdans, as attention to their laying qualities is really necessary, more so than in some other breeds. Of the non-sitting breeds, we must claim for the Leghorn (in its several varieties) the place of

honour as the most popular breed, and one which can be kept most profitably under all circumstances These fowls are kept for laying eggs, not for the production of flesh for the table, as they certainly are not profitable in this direction. The birds are altogether too active for the accumulation of the flesh necessary in a table bird, and this is not as juicy or full of flavour as in birds of other breeds.

Leghorns are really profitable when considered from the standpoint of egg production. They have been called "natural layers," and it is an apt term, for they are very profitable for the production of an abundance of eggs. We have had a good many pure bred Leghorns which have produced 200 eggs each (and over) in twelve months, and it is not difficult to find cases of this kind when comparing notes with other poultry-keepers who have studied the laying qualities of fowls, and specially selected those which have proved themselves to be good layers for their breeding pens, and these only.

There is not much difference between the egg-producing qualities of the different varieties of Leghorns when they are bred with a view to egg-production, and not so much attention has been paid to the colouring of each feather. For the country White Leghorns are better than for the town, as their plumage appears to greater advantage in contrast to their green surroundings when kept under good natural conditions, for lovers of birds do not like to see the plumage of their stock out of condition, and it is not possible for white fowls to retain their purity of plumage when they are surrounded by chimneys, and the run is hemmed in by buildings. For such runs the black or brown variety should be selected, as these birds lay and look as well in a small place as when they have a free range in the country.

Black Leghorns are becoming very popular both for utility purposes and for exhibition, and deservedly so, as they are particularly pretty birds, and some of the finest layers it is possible to obtain. Leghorns should be kept where eggs are required and table birds are not wanted.

There are a great many people who only have sufficient room for a few fowls, but who like to have their own eggs for breakfast, and, if possible, for use in the house, yet they do not want the trouble of rearing the young ones. These should certainly go in for Leghorns in their pure state, or Houdan-Leghorns, and by purchasing a few early-hatched pullets from a good laying strain in the autumn they will make good laying birds for just two years from that time, after which they should replace their birds by another similar purchase. Non sitters are an advantage for such runs as these, as there is not then any time wasted in periods of broodiness, and the birds are very profitable, because they can be kept principally on the scraps from the house, and even if these are forthcoming they will pay well for the little trouble they give and the cost of their food.

The Buff Leghorns are not making the same headway as the other three varieties we have mentioned, and this is undoubtedly due to the fact that the utility poultry-keeper has discovered the difficulty in retaining the colour of the plumage of the birds, and to the small size of eggs which are produced. Their eggs are smaller than those laid by the other varities of Leghorns. Black Minorcas come next in point of popularity to the Leghorns, and this is undoubtedly due to the number of fine eggs laid by these birds.

There is a specially fine look about a basket of Minorca eggs. They are so pure white in the colour of shell, and they are so large that one feels when handling them that they have something really substantial. The Minorcas are not nearly as hardy as Leghorns, and they feel the changes in the weather in the winter and spring very much more than the Leghorns, and are not therefore, so well suited for runs which are at all exposed. They should be kept in sheltered runs in cold or damp weather, and then they can be made very profitable. The size of their eggs is out of proportion to their own size, and we always think there is a peculiar richness about the egg of the Minorca fowl.

Each year the Minorcas are increasing in popularity, and as the cockerels make table birds of very delicate quality, they are very much more profitable in this direction than the Leghorns, which have yellow skins and flesh, which is not at all juicy or full of flavour. Minorcas are very popular as layers and for the show pen. Blue Andalusians are equally as good layers as the Minorcas, but owing to the difficulty in getting blue birds, so many of the chickens being mismarked in the colourings of their plumage, they have not made the headway that their laying qualities should have won for them. The advantage of Houdans, Leghorns, and Minorcas is that they breed very true to colour, and are consequently very little trouble to breed.

The winter school of agriculture in connection with the Essex Education Committee, held at the County Laboratories, Chelmsford, commenced on Monday, November 18, with thirty students in attendance.

Suffolk Agricultural Society's Annual Meeting.

The annual meeting of the Suffolk Agricultural Association was held at Ipswich on the 15th inst., but prior to the meeting the council met for the purpose of receiving deputations from towns in Suffolk desirous of entertaining the association in 1908. The only deputation was from Felixstowe, and Mr. Frank W. Mason, chairman of the Felixstowe and Urban District Council, who introduced the deputation, extended a cordial invitation to the association to hold their 1908 show at Felixstowe. He thought they would agree that they could offer great facilities, for they had an excellent site, within ten minutes of the station. It was grass land, with an area of 46 acres; it was almost level, and had a dry subsoil, with a hard road on two sides of the field. It was practically square, and within sight of the sea, and he reckoned there were but few places in the county equal to it. The railway facilities at Felixstowe were exceedingly good, and although it was only a single line the G.E R. Company had an excellent system of working it. There was plenty of sleeping accommodation at Felixstowe, and there was steamboat connection with both Ipswich and Harwich—the river trip was bound to be a popular route for excursionists. There was a ferry connecting Bawdsey and district, and he thought everything could be arranged so as to practically assure success.

In reply to questions, Mr. Mason said the tenant of the land would offer it free of charge. It was properly fenced in, and there was a suitable water supply; it was the same ground the Volunteers usually had for their encampment.

The deputation having retired, the President, Sir Cuthbert Quilter, moved, and Mr. E. C. Ransome seconded that the invitation of the deputation be accepted. This was carried unanimously, and the date subsequently fixed was June 3 and 4.

On being informed of the result of the committee's deliberations, Mr. Mason said the committee could rest assured that they would do their best to take such steps that would assist them in every possible way.

The annual meeting was then held, and Sir Cuthbert Quilter explained what the committee had decided, and the decision met with general approval.

Mr. F. T. Cobbold, M.P., was unanimously elected president, whilst a vote of thanks to Sir Cuthbert Quilter for his services during the year was carried with declamation.

The balance sheet, which was adopted, showed that the receipts for the Sudbury Show were £2,693 16s. 8d.; the principal items being Sudbury Show Committee, £300; gate money, £688; prizes presented, £215; membership subscriptions, £840; entrance fees, £304. The principal items on the other side were:—Hotel expenses, £181; printing, &c., £132; shedding, £355; prizes, £1,227; the full total being £2,527 16s. 8d., thus showing a profit of £165 on last year's show.

The chairman said at the Sudbury Show in 1885 the loss was £233, leaving a balance of £487; this year, although the liabilities were £801 more, they made a profit of £166, leaving a total credit to the association of £2,317.

Mr. F. L Bland raised the question of arranging some classes in order to induce the small farmers to enter.

The chairman said that was a matter with which they were in full sympathy. It so happened that Mr. Edward Packard had offered prizes of £10 and £5 to the tenant farmer who had never won prizes at the association shows in a class for Suffolk horses. He would see that the new president and committee were acquainted with the desire expressed for adding more such classes.

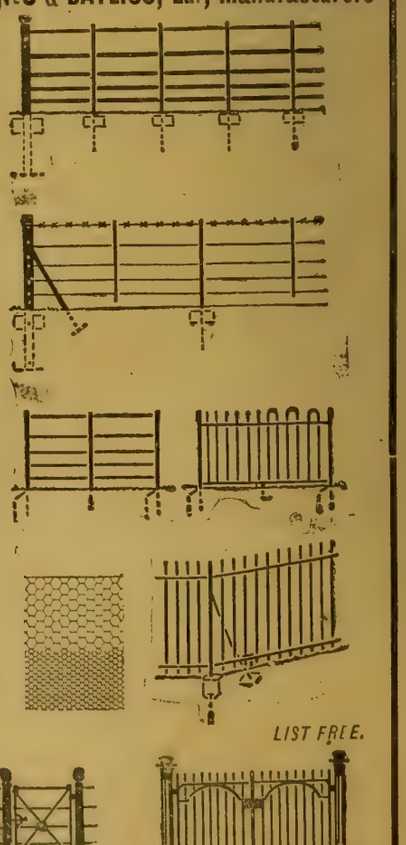
A communication was read from the Royal Agricultural Society with regard to the advisability of regulations touching upon tuberculosis and other diseases in cattle being issued by the Board of Agriculture, and not by any other department. With a view to watching the interests of agriculture with regard to this question, the society asked the Suffolk Association to appoint one or two representatives to attend a meeting at the Royal Agricultural Hall on December 11. It was decided to ask Mr. Harry Fisk and Mr. G. P. Watkins to attend.

The chief statute hirings for the November term for the district of Teesdale were held at Barnard Castle on Wednesday in indifferent weather. There was not a large attendance of servants, many engagements having been made beforehand. The contracts for men were mainly for the half-year, the wages paid being at the rate of £28 to £30 a year for efficient farm men and qualified foremen. Secondary male servants obtained £22 to £25 for the better class, ploughboys, £16 to £18; and younger boys, £8 to £9. Female servants were somewhat scarce, and asked and received high wages. Dairymaids and experienced farm workers got £18 to £21; ordinary domestic servants, £15 to £16; girls, £10 to £11; and young girls, £7 to £8 for the year.

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Economy in Manuring.

It must be recognised that farmyard manure is the best at the disposal of the farmer, and that it should be produced under the most favourable conditions possible. The lightest soils on the farm are those on which dung should be used to the greatest extent. When dung has to be kept for some time it should be stored in a dungstead with a watertight bottom to prevent loss by drainage of the valuable liquid. When dung is well made, kept compact, and not allowed to heat, it loses little of its valuable materials, but when left in heaps in the field it rapidly deteriorates. It is better to have it spread on the land as soon as possible, and if applied some time before the commencement of growth of the following crop it should not be ploughed in deeply, but kept near the surface so that its valuable soluble materials may be distributed in the soil near the surface by the passage of rain-water in the soil.

When decorticated cotton cake is fed to fattening cattle only 3·9 per cent. of the nitrogen it contains is retained in the animal body, and about 22·6 per cent. of it will pass through in the solid excrement (dung), and about 73·5 per cent. in the urine. According to Voelcker and Hall's Manurial Values of Foods (1902) decorticated cotton cake contains about 6·9 per cent. of nitrogen, which at 12s. per unit (1 per cent. of 1 ton) is = 82s. 10d. a ton for this nitrogen. Tests at Woburn have shown that from 15 to 18 per cent. of the nitrogen of the excrements may be lost while making dung in boxes under the best conditions, while there is likely to be a further loss of 15 to 18 per cent. of nitrogen during storage of the dung till it is used, or a total loss in all of from 30 to 35 per cent. of the nitrogen (R.A.S.E Journal, 1902, p. 87). If to this is added the 4 per cent. of nitrogen retained by a fattening beast, the total amount lost is still under 40 per cent. Even under the best conditions, however, of ordinary management of dung, greater losses than these must take place, and therefore only half of the total nitrogen value is allowed, or 41s. 5d. instead of 82s. 10d. per ton of cake. The full manurial value allowed for decorticated cotton cake is 15s. in addition to this for phosphates and potash (but this will not be considered now), or in all 56s. 5d. a ton.

I have put these figures before you to show that dung, if made under the best conditions, has a high direct manurial value, because of the ingredients it contains, especially when cakes and other concentrated foods are fed to the stock. In addition to this the good effects of the organic matter it contains are important. Dung from milch cows has a lower manurial value, owing to some of the valuable manurial ingredients of the food being carried off in the milk, but even in this case the nitrogen retained by the animal for milk and other purposes does not amount to 25 per cent, so that well-managed dung from well-fed milch cows is worth a great deal as a manure.

It is of the greatest importance to note the very large proportion of nitrogen that is voided in the urine, and to realise how important it is that loss of this should be prevented as much as possible. This should all be drained to the dungstead, not diluted with water from roofs or elsewhere, and utilised for watering the dung or otherwise.

With regard to artificials, the nitrogenous manures, nitrate of soda, and sulphate of ammonia were of special value for mangels, cabbages, and a few other crops. Good dung, however, would supply the nitrogen requirements of many farm crops, and these manures were not needed at all for leguminous crops, such as beans, peas, and clover.

Basic slag has a great value in doing much to supply the lime as well as the phosphatic requirements of the soil. On most soils it will probably be useful to supply the phosphates in two-thirds of this manure and one-third of superphosphate, although when the soil is rich in lime the latter is most likely to give the best results.

Potash manures were, as a rule, not wanted when dung was available, especially on the heavier classes of soils, but on poor light soils the addition of a manure of this class such as kainit or muriate of potash was of the greatest importance, especially if dung was not, or only sparingly, used.

To sum up, the farmer may considerably reduce his cost for nitrogenous manures, by careful management of dung and urine, and by the judicious growth of leguminous plants and crops as collectors of nitrogen. Basic slag is the most economical phosphatic manure for most crops on a great range of soils, especially for pasture and meadow hay, and also has a great value as a lime fertiliser. Potash manures are needed (except for a special crop like potatoes, for which more potash is necessary) on a limited range of soils—usually those of the lighter character—and even on these they may be dispensed with when plenty of good dung is available.—Market Day Lectures (Essex Education Committee).

"Utility with Research."

These words, "Utility with Research," are the motto which Mr. F. T. Shutt, Principal of the Chemistry Department of the Canadian Government Farms, claimed in an address, delivered by him to the American Chemical Society, as representative of the work of his department.

It was no vain boast, because the investigations carried out by the Chemical Department on scientific and thoroughly practical lines are well known, and have often been mentioned in these columns.

Canada is a fortunate country. Here is a quotation from the 1906 report of the Select Committee on Agriculture:—

"A careful survey of the entire field demonstrates that agriculture, the cornerstone of national wealth and power, is in a more prosperous condition in Canada than in any other country of the world, while the yet unmeasured territory of rich lands awaits settlement ready to respond bounteously to the industry and intelligence of many millions of willing hands."

At the same time, the scientific men whose duty it is to watch over the conditions of agriculture in the country, are conscious of the fact that under the present system of wheat growing the land is being slowly depleted of its fertility. In some parts of the older districts the soils have already been partially exhausted by irrational and wasteful methods, and in the course of his interesting address Mr. Shult pointed out the means which in his opinion, would have to be adopted to maintain over a series of years the crop-bearing capacity of the land.

The present system is continuous grain-growing, interspersed with fallowing, and Mr. Shutt showed by soil analyses that this involved a serious loss of fertilising constituents, and he points out the necessity of adopting less wasteful methods. "We must introduce a crop for the West as we already have for the East occasionally or, better still, systematically, as in a rotation that will keep up the store of organic matter and nitrogen."

Farmyard manure would be the ideal means of replenishing the organic constituents, but the supply is inadequate, and so Mr. Shutt says, "we fall back upon the leguminosæ, the nitrogen gatherers, Nature's soil enriches."

The fertilising value of the legumes does not lie simply and solely in the nitrogen they yield, though therein is their chief merit; the large quantity of humus-forming material they furnish, the mineral matter—potash, phosphoric acid, and lime set free in their decomposition are features the significance of which have been somewhat overlooked.

Mr. Shutt gave a table showing the large quantity of nitrogen in the various legumes, and the result of an experiment made by him. He enclosed a plot of poor sandy land and dressed it with mineral manures, superphosphate and muriate of potash at the rate respectively of 400lb. and 200 lb. per acre.

It was then sown with red clover, and during each succeeding season the growth was cut twice and the material allowed to decay on the soil. At the end of every second season the crop was turned under, the soil being stirred to the depth of about 4in., and the plot resown the following spring. The result was that in two seasons the soil was enriched by 175 lb. of nitrogen, and in five years to the extent of 308 lb. per acre.

Mr. Shutt is in the habit of telling the Canadian farmers that in the growth of red clover, which takes place after the harvesting of the cereal crop, and before the season closes there should be in the neighbourhood 100 lb. of nitrogen per acre. The ploughing under of this crop in the late autumn or the following spring, according to the nature of the next crop to be planted, is a system widely adopted with excellent results. This is the way to make use of Nature's nitrogen collectors, and to avoid the necessity of buying expensive nitrogenous fertilisers, and it is to this point that we would like to draw the attention of our readers.

Analyses of Poultry Manure.

Analyses of poultry manure are of little value, as much depends upon the age of the fowl, the breed, the kinds of foods, and other conditions. The latest estimate of the composition of poultry manure is that it contained 62·5 per cent. of water, 0·83 per cent. of lime, 2·13 per cent. of alkalis, &c., 0·65 per cent. of phosphoric acid, and nitrogen equal to 1·93 per cent. of ammonia. The feather waste contained 9·12 per cent. of water, 1·25 per cent. of lime, 2·74 per cent. of alkalis, &c., 1·4 per cent. of phosphoric acid, and nitrogen equal to 12·08 per cent. of ammonia.

Soil Inoculation.

Mr. Stead's Great Expectations.

We have just been reading in the *Review of Reviews* for this month Mr. Stead's character sketch of Professor Bottomley, which has served as a vehicle for a manifesto on the subject of soil inoculation, and we arise from the perusal with a lively sense of regret that hopes so great and aspirations so beneficent do not rest on a more solid foundation.

Mr. Stead had been interviewing Professor Bottomley, of King's College, London, and having listened to the professor's observations and assertions with regard to the wonders of soil inoculation, he became, *more suo*, so fired with enthusiasm, that he exclaimed—

> "You have discovered a method of reviving agriculture, of reclaiming waste land, and of adding millions to the value of our British soil. What are you going to do to secure to mankind the full and immediate benefit of your discovery?"

Whereupon the professor explained that, being a scientific man, he could not make a business of what he had pursued as a profession, and that he had urged the Government to take the business in hand, but had found the Board of Agriculture inert and impecunious.

That was too much for Mr. Stead's peace of mind. He stepped boldly into the breach, and determined that British agriculture should no longer languish for the want of this miracle-working wonder. He made an agreement with the professor for the sole right of supplying his nitro-cultures for the space of twelve months. In Mr. Stead's own words: "Our lawyers are now drawing up the formal legal documents securing me the exclusive right of handling the wonder-working mixture for twelve months, &c."

Mr. Stead is evidently under the impression that the nitro-cultures are a kind of good fairy, who will wave a wand over our fields, and then they will blossom as if by magic with magnificent crops.

Will Mr. Stead's great expectations be realised? We trow not.

Soil inoculation by nitro cultures is no novelty in this country.

The Mark Lane Express has reported from time to time reliable information about the result of experiments and investigations. Nitro-cultures have been offered commercially for some years, and last spring the Nitro-Culture Company, of Dublin, announced through the advertising columns of this paper that they would give £100 in gold as a prize for the best results from the use of nitro culture on clovers and vetches.

The Board of Agriculture have not been remiss in the matter; they have published in their journal particulars of the American experiments and full instructions as to the use of the substance.

Our various agricultural institutions and colleges have also made numerous experiments and published in their respective journals the results obtained, so that farmers have had plenty of opportunities of knowing all about it, and if it had been such a veritable wonder-working miracle, its cost would not have stood in the way of a big demand.

The present attitude of the best agricultural authorities towards soil inoculation was summed up by Mr. Hall, of Rothamsted, in his lecture before the members of the Society of Arts. He said:—"Attempts have already been made to raise these nitrogen-fixing bacteria artificially, particularly those associated with leguminous plants, and by introducing them into soil that was lacking or poorly supplied with them to render it capable of self-enrichment in this most natural manner. Such cultures are, in fact, sold commercially at the present time, and have in some cases been somewhat unscrupulously boomed as dispensing with the need of nitrogenous fertilisers. Undoubtedly, cases may be quoted where the use of these pure cultures of nodule-forming bacteria has been of great service, generally on newly-reclaimed soils, which have thus become for the first time capable of carrying a leguminous crop. But in old cultivated soils the organism is already present, and sufficient evidence is not forthcoming to show that the new introductions have had any effect; certainly the results obtained in the British Isles are almost wholly negative. . . . . So the picture of the farmer carrying the manure for a field in his waistcoat pocket and applying it with a hypodermic syringe is still a vision of the future."

For use in this country, soil inoculation has definite limitations; it also has its advantages, and it will, no doubt, gradually take a recognised place among other substances as a help to scientific agriculture, but exaggerated statements of its

virtues are to be deprecated. They lead to disappointment followed by depreciation.

Food of Plants and Animals.

In an interesting paper read by Mr. J. F. Mason, M.P. for Windsor, before a joint meeting of the Glasgow Agricultural Discussion Society and the Agricultural Organisation Society, he made the following interesting and suggestive remarks relative to the food of plants and animals:—

There is a great field for effecting savings in both of these. The food of animals may be said to be roughly divided into albuminoids, or nitrogenous foods, and carbohydrates. Now an animal under certain given conditions needs certain proportions of these two classes of food to meet its requirements. If the animal receives an excess of one class over the other, it will be found that that excess goes to waste. As a matter of fact, in the feeding of cattle, farmers have, by a rule of thumb practice, discovered, with a wonderful degree of success, how to get these proportions; but I venture to think that, if science were called in more than it is on this question of food mixtures, the results would be more satisfactory than they are, and that the saving to farmers' pockets might amount to a large sum. With respect to plants, they practically depend on three elements for food—nitrogen, potash, and phosphorus. Other elements enter only in small quantities, and are almost always present in sufficiency. Of these three principal foods by far the most expensive is nitrogen. If applied in the form of nitrate of soda, it costs about 8d. a lb. or £76 a ton of nitrogen. And yet nature is always surrounded by an unlimited quantity of free nitrogen, if only it could be turned to account for our purposes. The atmosphere which we breathe is composed, as to four-fifths, of nitrogen. The problem has naturally arisen as to how this unlimited store can be turned to profitable use. With ample facilities for research perhaps the problem would have been more fully solved years ago than it is to-day. Owing, however, to the individual efforts of certain scientific men, it has been ascertained that there are bacteria which have the power of fixing this nitrogen into the roots of what are called leguminous plants. So far, this has not effected a complete revolution in agriculture, and much remains to be done before the full benefit of the discovery can be realised; but I am now farming on a rotation designed to effectually extract by cereal crops the nitrogen fixed by preceding leguminous crops. We think that this bacterial action may sometimes be assisted artificially; for instance, this year a large field of lucerne in Sussex failed to give any crop, though a good "stand" of plant had been obtained. Examination showed that the lucerne plants were starving for want of the right kind of bacteria, which have now been introduced into the soil, and the result is awaited with interest. Again, in making farmyard manure from 30 to 50 per cent. of the most valuable constituent (the nitrogen) gets wasted before the dung is "made," even under the best existing practical conditions. This waste is due to bacteria of the wrong kind setting nitrogen free as gas. Equally, when the made dung is applied to the land, not 50 per cent. of the nitrogen applied comes out in the crop, even when a long period of years is considered. The rest is wasted as nitrogen gas or is locked up in forms which take a lifetime to reach the plant. The waste is due to bacteria of the wrong kind; the slow action is due to the weakness of bacteria of the right kind. When we can control the bacteria of the soil, we shall be able to double the fertilising value of so prosaic a manure as dung. These are only samples of profitable lines for research. A farmer said this year about a particular treatment of the hop crop, worked out by a scientific man now in India, that he considered it had saved him £600 this year, and added, "But don't you scientific people go about the countryside telling the other growers how it is done!"

Scientific Agriculture in Spain.

The general progressive movement in Spain is expressed by a recent Government order creating a sort of ambulating school for teaching scientific farming in the remote agricultural districts of the country. The Government order provides for a course of experimental and practical instruction to be given every year by itinerant lecturers, selected from among the agricultural engineers at the district Schools of Agriculture. In the months of January and February of each year the directors of these schools are required to report to the Department of Agriculture at Madrid, giving the programme of the lectures intended to be given during the ensuing twelve months, with an estimate of the cost, including travelling expenses and remuneration of the teachers, and transport of the agricultural machinery or appliances which it may be considered advisable to carry to those remote villages where the practical instruction is to be given.

So far only the Schools of Agriculture at Zaragoza, Jaen, Palencia, Badajoz, and Barcelona, and the two stations at Haro and Villafranca del Panades are referred to in this order, but if the movement prove a success it will no doubt be extended, and must lead to a wider use of modern farming appliances in Spain.

Do Fertilisers Injure Stock.

It is reported in "Deut. Tierärztl. Wchnschr.," that a series of feeding tests was undertaken chiefly with rabbits, sheep, and cattle, during which the experimental animals were fed with superphosphate, basic slag, and kainit. The feeding periods ranged from ten to thirty days, and the amounts of the different fertilisers were graduated to the size of the animal. The conclusion reached from these feeding experiments is that, under ordinary conditions, neither domestic nor wild animals are likely to eat a sufficient quantity of the artificial fertilisers in question to produce poisonous effects.

Prices of Fertilisers.

There is at present a brisk demand for fertilisers required, particularly for basic slag, superphosphate and potash salts, while we hear of contracts also being made for nitrate of soda and guano for spring delivery.

	£	s.	d.
Nitrate of soda	11	5	0
Sulphate of ammonia	12	0	0
Peruvian guano	according to analysis		
Superphosphate, 26 per cent.	2	10	0
,, 35 ,,	3	6	3
Pure dissolved bones	5	7	6
Bone compound, ordinary	3	8	9
Bone Meal	5	10	0
Ground hoofs, 15 per cent.	9	10	0
Fish guano, first quality, scarce & dear	7	10	0
Kainit	2	7	0
Sulphate of potash	10	0	0
Muriate of potash	9	0	6

It is said that the chemical industry of Germany, and especially the manufacture of chemical fertilisers, is increasing so rapidly that other European countries are being left behind in this respect. France, Holland, Belgium, and England are not making nearly so much progress as Germany and America.

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a nom de plume, *in the paper.*

Potato Leaf Curl.

This disease is reported to be causing serious trouble in many parts of the country, and growers should take precautions to prevent its extension to their next potato crop. The Board of Agriculture has an article in their Journal for this month detailing the measures that should be adopted. On the subject of manuring the crop, it is said that there is no evidence that any special course of manuring can be relied upon to exert much influence in checking curl. The practice of spreading dry manure in the drills and placing the sets in direct contact with it is to be deprecated. This material does not retain moisture, and becomes like so much hay round the plants.

Manure from cowyards should be used much more extensively than it is at the present time. Its quality by analysis may not be very high, but its mechanical value is considerable, and its lack of nourishing properties can be easily made up by the addition of well-chosen chemical fertilisers.

Kainit has been found of considerable value; its caustic action is injurious to the spores of the fungus, and the potash salts in it stimulate the crop. Kainit is cheap and may be used with advantage at the rate of 7 cwts. per acre towards the end of winter.

The application of Bordeaux mixture cannot be relied upon to check curl.

Salt.

The following reasons why salt should be regularly supplied to farm stock are given by Professor A. P. Aitken, D.Sc.:—

1. Because in the blood of animals there is six or seven times more sodium than potassium, and that the composition of the blood is constant.

2. To keep animals in good health a definite amount of common salt must be assimilated.

3. The excess of potassium salts in vegetable foods causes by chemical exchange an abnormal loss of common salt. This is proved by the fact that the craving of an animal for common salt is most noticeable when the food contains a large proportion of potassium salts, such as wheat, barley, oats, potatoes, beans, and peas.

4. The addition of salt to animal food increases the appetite, promotes the repair of tissue by its searching diffusion through the body, and stimulates the rapid using up of its waste products.

5. Boussingault's experiments showed that salt increases muscular vigour and activity, and improves their general appearance and condition.

Loose Soils.

That a loose soil is protected against ordinary drought has been repeatedly proven. Being a non-conductor of heat, it acts as a mulch, keeps the soil damp, and the roots cool; whereas the hard, unploughed land is a good conductor, and affords no resistance to the access of the injurious heat of the sun. Dew in abundance is very valuable to young plants, and its formation is facilitated by stirring the soil. If any farmer will observe in the morning in his flower or kitchen garden, he will see that dew is often abundantly formed upon the loosely-cultivated beds, while it is totally absent in the hard walks, and this is just what happens on a much larger scale in the fields. Moreover, when the formation of dew is so great as to be everywhere, that upon the loose soil is absorbed and carried to the roots of the plants, while that upon the hard soil is quickly evaporated and lost.

To Produce 1 lb. Increase.

The food required to produce 1 lb. increase in live weight in fattening animals has been computed by experts to be:—

	For Ox.	For Sheep.
Linseed cake	2·5 lb. ...	2·5 lb.
Clover hay	6·0 lb. ...	3·0 lb.
Swedes	35·0 lb. ...	40·0 lb.

Pigs require about 5 lb. barley-meal to produce the same result.

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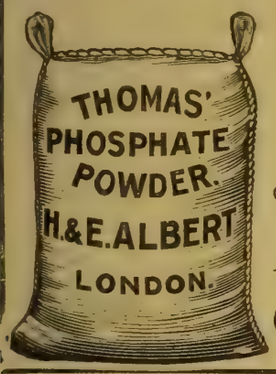
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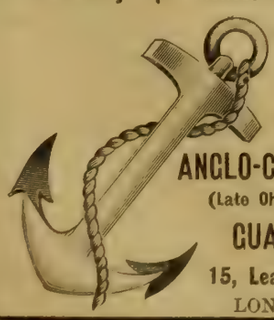
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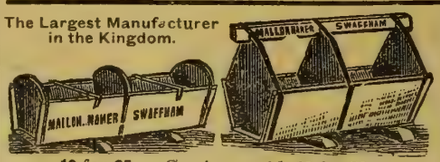
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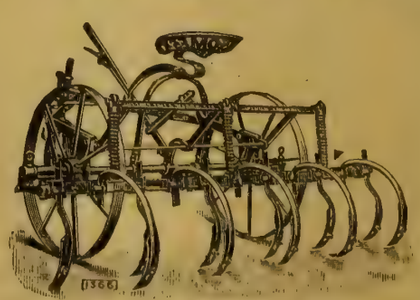
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NOVEMBER 25, 1907.

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Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "Mark Lane Express," 8, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

PRESERVATIVES IN CIDER AT THE BREWERS' EXHIBITION.

The analyst's report on the prize-winning samples of cider at the Brewers' Exhibition discloses a serious state of affairs. For some time past it was felt in certain quarters that the purity of much of the cider at the Agricultural Hall was not what it ought to be. We do not mean by this that the cider was not prepared from the juice of the fruit, but that it was suspected that preservatives such as salicylic acid were frequently added.

Unfortunately this has been proved to be the case, for of forty-three samples of bottled ciders analysed no fewer than eleven were found to have been doctored with salicylic acid, no doubt, for the purpose of making them keep better. These figures refer only to the bottled cider, but we believe no steps were taken in order to ensure that the cask ciders were tested for the presence of preservatives. At all events, there are no figures available which show how these came out of the test, and it is only fair to assume that these would survive the ordeal with about similar results.

The notes of the analyst which accompanies the report is not of a too reassuring character, for it says: "In all my tests I have only notified the presence of salicylic acid in those cases where the evidence was unmistakable. In certain cases the indication was very indefinite, pointing to the use of very small amounts, and these I have included among those notes as free."

This report constitutes a serious state of affairs, and it means that the amended prize list will differ considerably from that which has already been made public. The rules under which the cider is judged at the Brewers' Exhibition render it compulsory that any cider which is found to be adulterated with salicylic acid shall be disqualified.

The worst part of the affair, however, is the fact that it shows up the cider trade in an unfavourable light; for a long time past makers have been agitating for the definition of pure cider, and here at the Brewers' Exhibition it is found that, roughly speaking, 25 per cent. of the ciders have been found to have been dosed or adulterated with that objectionable preservative—salicylic acid.

IRISH SEED POTATOES.

It was at the time of the great potato boom that people began to talk seriously about planting Irish seed as a means of increasing crops, and when in trials the above gave better results than seed tubers from Scotland, the possibilities of a new industry for "Ould Oireland" were discussed. But since the boom potatoes have not been talked about quite so much, and it is quite refreshing to have the matter brought forward again by our Nottinghamshire correspondent in the issue for November 11, where some interesting figures were given to show how crops were increased in the cases mentioned through planting Irish seed.

It is generally admitted in these days that frequent changes of seed are not only desirable, but essential, and Scotland has got a well-earned reputation for the growing of seed potatoes. Now Ireland is in the field, or, at any rate, with such recommendations as the one we quote she has the chance to be, and it would be interesting to know what efforts are being made in the green isle to supply the demand in this country for seed potatoes.

When an up-to-date grower (we are not speaking here of the variety) of 40 acres of potatoes plumps for Irish seed there must be something in it.

OUR SLEEPY SOCIETIES.

III.

Hitherto we have been dealing with the efforts of those who may be considered in the light of amateurs. We now approach the work of masters and feel all too keenly our limited powers. Whole provinces of the art of securing an unsuccessful show there doubtless are, into which no pressmen has ever entered, provinces which are only to be conquered by a lifetime of study. The difficulties of the task may be imagined from the fact that no mere neglect will secure an unsuccessful show. The element of surprise combined with fine weather has ere this been known to draw a gate. No, the seeds of failure must be sown very carefully in advance.

Advertisement must by no means be eschewed. Here the amateur would certainly fail, as he would send no placards for display at railway stations, print no handbills for distribution, insert no notices in the newspapers. But in that case the visitor may blame himself for overlooking these things and hearing somehow of a big affair in the neighbourhood may actually go to it.

The perfect non-succeeder behaves very differently. To begin with, he considers what is the particular show's leading feature, and then he designs a poster illustrating some other animal. A Hunter clearing a hurdle makes a pretty picture and will do much to prevent people from going to a show of milking cattle or of sheep. Where horses are to the fore, a picture of a field showing a steam threshing machine at work has many non-merits. The handbills should resemble in print and paper those of the less reputable medicines; but the really essential way to create a general impression that the show is a paltry affair, absolutely unworthy of attention, is to send a small, cheap, and ill-spaced advertisement to the agricultural and local papers. If by refusing to go where the manager of the journal suggests the advertisement can be isolated from any fitting context the effect of injury to the show itself will be perceptibly increased! Rigid insistence on imaginary rights will do much in the country press.

Having arranged in these ways in advance the security for quiet sleep during the actual show day requires further safeguarding. The site chosen must be as far from a railway station as possible. This is *de rigueur*, and any secretary who arranged for a siding or secured fields contiguous to the line would at once be condemned as downright wide-awake. There is one trap that must be particularly avoided. Some towns have a municipal jurisdiction stretching a long way out, and have a contest over cab and even omnibus fares. This must be borne in mind, and the show-yard fixed outside the radius, so that owners of vehicles for hire can charge just what they please. The catering department at the majority of shows is already so well calculated to keep visitors away that we hardly know how to supply any further suggestion; but a strict refusal to allow re-admission on any pretence whatsoever will effectively prevent the visitor getting cheap and wholesome sustenance or beverages outside. It also has the further claim that, in case of a local resident, it will prevent him attending to any bit of business and then returning to the show.

Our unsettled climate affords many aids to the advocate of the solitary show. A complete absence of tents for shelter is invaluable for keeping people away in showery weather, and an uncovered bandstand will prevent a waiting crowd from having their natural impatience allayed by music. If the ground is soft the omission to provide any planking will often go far to repel, and a good deal of irritation may always be caused by providing minor shows of cats or dogs, or plants or water-colours, for which an additional 3d. or 6d. is charged. These things, which would add to the attendance if included in the original gate-money, can thus easily be made an annoyance. The family group may always be discouraged by no half-price for the young. Where landowners and well-to-do farmers would gladly give show passes to their agricultural employees or poorer neighbours, it will suffice simply to fail to print or provide any such passes. The good-natured man will then have to give the actual money, and thereby make the thing a dole.

We feel grieved to think that these shows come round year after year, so that the perfect sleepy secretary is recurrently aroused. As, however, he can effectively reduce attendance beforehand by means which we have indicated, and can also reduce disturbance from visitors at the actual show to a minimum, so finally he can do something further to prevent exhibitors sending again. If he "nursed" the prize moneys himself the smarter exhibitors might think him rather a sly dog, and likely to push the society where it was to his own advantage. But he can avoid this by seeing that the cheques are drawn on an account to other officials' credit, and are drawn by distinguished local patrons and honorary presidents who are mostly abroad or on a journey. If prize winners get their awards a month or two late, and yet with a most vexatious feeling that there is nobody exactly to blame, they will do as little as maybe in other years to send to that particular show; in which case, of course, there will be fewer entrance forms to file, less correspondence of all sorts, less trouble generally.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26.—Viscount Tredegar's Show at Newport, Monmouth, first day—Frittenden Sale of Underwoods—Horbridge Sale of Underwoods—Royal Horticultural Society's Show, Vincent Sq. Machynlleth Great Annual Sheep Sale—Bromsgrove Annual Cattle Sale—Wrexham Autumn Sale of Hunters—Fairs at Ballyclare and Newtown—Sending-in Day for Lynn Fat Stock Show.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27.—The Hop Growers' and Buyers' Conference at the Agricultural College, Wye, Kent—Viscount Tredegar's Show at Newport, second day—Preston Cheese Show, first day—Horsham Annual Horse Fair and Sale—Shottermill Farm Sale—Wrexham Autumn Sale of Ponies—Fairs at Colne, Ilminster, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saintfield, and Basingstoke.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28.—Preston Cheese Show, second day—Chippenham Show, first day—Farm Sale at Champion Court, near Sittingbourne—Wrexham Autumn Sale of Heavy Horses—Smarden Farm Sale—Newington Fruit Tree Sale—Northampton Annual Ram Sale and Fair—Harlow Horse and Cattle Sale—Chesham Cattle Sale—Rudgwick Farm Sale—Fairs at Belper, Basingstoke, Penzance, and Uttoxeter.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29.—Chippenham Show second day—Cattle Sales at Warrington and Ballymena—Fairs at Ashbourne and Warrington.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30.—Birmingham Fat Stock Show, first day—Hawkhurst Sale of Underwoods—Fairs at Gloucester, Pontefract, Bury St. Edmunds, and Hythe—Chesterfield Cattle Sale—Sending-in Day for the Vale of Aylesbury Fat Stock Show.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2.—Birmingham Fat Stock Show, second day—Tonbridge Fat Stock Show, first day—York Great Horse Sale—Melton Mowbray Cheese Fair—Fairs at Chipping Norton, Lancaster, Nantwich, and Oswestry.

Notes of the Week.

Norwich was enshrouded in fog on Thursday, when the first of the fat stock shows opened.

In the hall agriculturists gathered in large numbers, and there was a capital attendance.

The show was a bit under the average as regards quality, and many of the exhibits were poor. The best, on the contrary, were good.

An objection on Thursday, which was not upheld, leads one to ask, What is a Red Poll?

The Red Polled Cattle Society may have something to say on the matter.

A big attendance at the principal shows is expected, as both horn and corn have been doing well lately, so that more farmers than usual will give themselves the pleasure of a visit to one or other of the shows.

The Birmingham Show, which takes place this week, has been held regularly for nearly sixty years.

Of course the fog has returned. It could not be absent during the days of the shows.

It is reported that turkeys are going to be cheap this Christmas. This is said to be due to the financial crisis.

The President of the United States has been trying to make things hot for the "bulls" and "bears," and turkeys seem to be suffering in consequence.

A wealthy Greek merchant has left £20,000 to the Greek Royal Agricultural Society.

A few more people have been killed during the week by motor cars. It is getting quite monotonous.

How about the legality of Christmas boxes. Can we give them outside our own circle? That is a question that is perplexing a good many people.

The following is rather a tall story from India: "My son was working in the garden when a viper glided past him A straight shot with a stone cut open the reptile, thereby restoring to freedom a frog, which hopped unhurt out of the reptile."

One of the latest fads is carrot milk for infants. At the Fruitarian Hospital babies are being fed with extract of carrots instead of extract from cows!

The total quantity of wool produced in Great Britain is estimated to be about 121,000,000 lb.

The price of wool has advanced within the last five years 100 per cent.

This is a satisfactory position. To go "wool gathering" nowadays is a profitable enterprise.

As much as £40 has been offered for a single good bat-willow tree.

Farmers with suitable soil and locality should read the article "Cricket-bat Willow" in this month's Journal of the Board of Agriculture.

A London weekly reports that hens at £200 apiece were on view at the International Poultry Show, and the editor is therefore not surprised at the present high price of eggs.

An Irish bull has been on the rampage in Dublin. It scattered a battalion of soldiers helter-skelter, and defied the whole army until shot.

"Irish bulls" are celebrated, but are usually more a subject of laughter than alarm.

Recent discussions on rural education have given a stimulus to school gardening in elementary schools.

There are now quite a number of gardens attached to elementary schools, where the youngsters get some ideas about plants and their cultivation.

This is right; it is training a child in the way it should go.

Enormous quantities of colonial and foreign fruit are now being poured into this country for Christmas consumption.

Fruit to the value of nearly £10,000,000 sterling is consumed in this country every year.

Honey is sometimes called the concentrated essence of flowers. About a million flowers are drained by the bees to make 1 lb. of honey.

"It's a shameful cruelty, and this horrible traffic ought to be stopped," said a magistrate the other day, referring to the shipment of poor old horses to the Continent for sausage making.

Farmers in America are doing so well that they are buying the motor-cars of the stockbrokers almost ruined by the financial panic.

The financiers have sown the wind and are reaping the natural harvest of the crop.

Ministers and ex-ministers have been explaining to a listening public their views.

We have read the speeches, but do not see where the advancement of agriculture from a farmer's point of view comes in.

"Small holdings" on the one side, "Preference" on the other—but how about me? the farmer may well say.

Napoleon said, "Heaven is on the side of the biggest battalions." Even so; Government is on the side of an organised body of voters.

Speaking at the eleventh annual meeting in Dublin of the council of the Irish Department of Agriculture, Mr. T. W. Russell, M.P., vice-president, said he knew little or nothing about the Irish Agricultural Organisation Society's work, but one officer of the department, who was paid £1,000 a year, devoted his time largely to looking after the expenditure of the £3,700 subsidy from the Departmental funds, "the most unbusiness-like arrangement," said Mr. Russell, "I ever came across." He criticised strongly the policy of subsidising such an organisation to enable it to compete with the taxpayers. After discussion, it was decided by forty-five votes to two to continue the subsidy for a limited number of years only, Mr. Russell saying that he did not wish to disrupt the organisation at once.

SHEEP.

Notes and Jottings.

AMONGST the information that has recently come before me in respect to the Hampshire Down breed is the result of the competition for prizes given by the Hampshire Down Sheep Society to shepherds who rear the largest percentage of lambs. Briefly, the result is that forty-six flocks competed, having an aggregate total of 21,845 ewes, and these gave an average of 11·35 per cent. of lambs, with a loss of only 1·84 per cent. of ewes.

THE only other breed society that follows this excellent practice is the Suffolk Society. Their record for the year 1907 is not yet to hand, but the record that this society has established, dating as it does from 1887, affords full proof of the notable fecundity of that particular breed.

IT has often occurred to me that similar information in respect to other breeds would be of interest and advantage to those who are interested in such breeds. It may be that the percentage of increase would not equal either of those breeds to which reference has been made; but whether this is so or not, it would certainly be to the advantage of every flockowner to know whether or not the result he obtained was equal to or in excess of the general average of the breed.

ANOTHER competition that the Hampshire Down breeders carry out through their breed society is to give prizes to the shepherds who carry their dry flocks through the season with the least loss. In this competition no less than sixty-one flocks were entered, numbering 10,256 head, and the average loss of the whole lot amounted only to 0·33 per cent., or practically one-third of a sheep per hundred. This result speaks well for the healthfulness and hardiness of the Hampshire Down breed, and fully confirms the wisdom of the Hampshire Down Council undertaking and carrying out this contest. The result gives the breed a very excellent advertisement; it calls the attention of sheep-feeders and graziers to the fact that under proper management and care there is practically no loss incurred during the feeding period of sheep of their breed. Similar information in respect to other breeds, particularly those breeds which are grazed together in large numbers, would be of great value and importance to the breed as a whole, both at home and abroad.

IN foreign and colonial countries one of the most essential points in favour of any breed of sheep is that there should be available as much evidence as possible of the healthfulness of such breeds, and one cannot get away from the fact that if such excellent results as is shown by the quotation in respect to the Hampshire Down breed becomes known in those countries that are grazing large numbers of sheep, it will certainly be to the advantage of that breed.

THE fat stock shows of the current year have commenced, and the report of the first of the three great Southern shows, *i.e.*, the Norwich, appears in this issue. The sheep exhibit there represents the best efforts of some of the leading breeders in the South of England, the Southdown, the Suffolk, the Hampshire Down, and the cross-bred being all well and typically represented. "Wonderfully good specimens of their breed," says the report, "remarkable development in comparison with that we used to see twenty-five years back." That such results are possible at the present day is satisfactory, but one sometimes questions whether or not this excessive craze for early development is being obtained by the sacrifice of other valuable properties.

SO far as regards the Southdown, it cannot be too often emphasised that the great merit of the breed is small joints, with a very small percentage of bone and offal. It is a matter of great doubt whether or not the exhibitors of Southdowns, particularly in the wether lambs classes, do not in their endeavour to secure the greatest possible development and weight, overlook the fact that by so doing they are trying to make the Southdown a bigger and coarser breed of sheep.

JUDGES, too, are responsible to a very large extent for this tendency, because their decisions have been more often than not in recent years distinctly in favour of the larger and heavier, or, as they say, the bigger lambs.

MENTION of the different classes at fat stock shows brings to the mind a question asked the other day: "What is a wether?" The reply was: "An altered male sheep." "Quite so," said the inquirer; "but when should this operation take place in order to make the animal a 'wether'?" So far as the writer's experience is concerned, there is no particular date or time fixed upon this point, for although no one can dispute the fact that male sheep which are kept entire for the first fifteen or sixteen months of their lives, and then "altered," are technically wethers, it is a point upon which some difference of opinion exists as to whether or not such sheep are really those sheep for which the prizes are offered in the wether classes at the different agricultural shows.

IT would be of interest if the opinion of breeders upon this point could be ascertained, because in the general acceptance of the term "wether" there can be no question but that it means sheep that were castrated as lambs.

PROBABLY many who read these notes will say "Why trouble about such a point, for everyone knows what a wether is." It is just because everyone knows what a wether is that it is necessary to ascertain, and if possible settle, the date or time upon which the sheep can be castrated so as to become one within the general acceptance of the term's meaning.

INFORMATION received from export buyers shows that the demand for many of the breeds of sheep is very keen at the present time, more particularly for Australasia and Chili.

THE Argentine reports in respect to the sheep sales that have been taking place during the months of September and October are certainly not at all satisfactory from the point of view of the Argentine consignors. Quite a number of high-priced sheep have reached comparatively low prices in that country, and it is very much to be feared that many of the second grade imported rams will leave a heavy loss to their importer.

WHY this state of affairs has come about is patent to all who give the matter thought. It is the result of the over-crowding of the Argentine market with more imported sheep than that market requires, particularly of the lower grades of quality.



The Welsh Mountain Ram illustrated above is the Glaurafon Cymro Goren, the animal with which the University College of North Wales won at the Royal Show at Lincoln this year the First Prize for Welsh Mountain Rams, shearling and upwards. Glaurafon Cymro Goren was born in March, 1905, sire Cymro Ieuanc, and was bred by Mr. W. Conwy Bell, Brynyffynon, Rhuddlan.

Exmoor Horn Sheep Society.

Mr. C. Birmingham presided at the annual meeting of Exmoor Horn Sheep Breeders' Society, and congratulated the members on the great success that had attended their enterprise.

Lord Poltimore was elected president for the ensuing year.

A long discussion took place as to whether the society should be represented at the Royal Show at Newcastle, and the Bath and West Show at Dorchester next year. Various suggestions were made, one being that the society should pay half the railway fares for all the exhibits.

The hon. secretary (Mr. D. J. Tapp) pointed out that a truck to Newcastle would cost quite £15, besides entrance fees; and the chairman said the finances of the society would not stand the strain this year.

Mr. Taylor said as regarded intrinsic merit, Exmoor sheep were better than the Cheviots and Black-faced variety, and the best way to get

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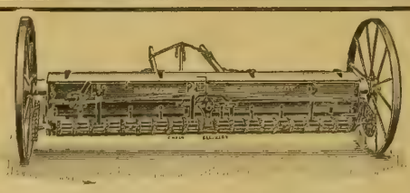
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Hundreds of herds have been cleared of the disease by its use; and one user writes as follows:—

Wiltshire, 26th December, 1906.

"I am pleased to say the result of the treatment has been highly satisfactory. In all 70 cows were treated. Those which were in calf then carried their calves to full time and gave birth to healthy calves. Those not in calf were put to the bull, held, and have calved or are now heavy in calf."

The name and address of this user will be given on application. Full particulars sent free on application to

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INVALUABLE IN PREPARING ANIMALS
FOR SHOW

WM. COOPER & NEPHEWS, BERKHAMSTED, ENGLAND

other people to know it was to send Exmoors to the Royal Show.

It was decided not to exhibit Exmoors at the Royal Show until 1909; but the members decided to exhibit at the Bath and West Show next year, provided prizes were given for registered sheep. The secretary of the Bath and West Society wrote that his council were willing to encourage the breeding of Exmoors as much as possible.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

Account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended November 16, 1907, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year (the figures for 1906 are in parentheses):—

Animals, living:—Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves (8,411), 5,748; sheep and lambs (1,905), —; horses (249), 277.

Fresh meat:—Beef (125,710 cwts.), 63,236; mutton (32,282), 40,767; pork (12,078), 12,340.

Salted or preserved meat:—Bacon (95,439 cwt.), 98,957; beef (5,997), 3,812; hams (11,705), 22,946; pork (4,061), 4,906; meat (12,765), fresh, 11,170, salted, 1,551; meat, preserved (4,247), 7,902.

Dairy produce and substitutes:—Butter (66,312 cwt.), 58,516; margarine (24,503), 14,614; cheese (63,236), 40,815; milk, fresh in cans or drums (—), —; cream (98), 94; milk, condensed (15,880), 17,618; milk, preserved, other kinds (314), 226.

Eggs (great hundreds):—(426,093), 400,125; poultry (value £6,201), £6,028; game (value £2,444), £4,110; rabbits, dead (not tinned), (30,714 cwt.), 8,976; lard (37,814 cwt.), 46,187.

Corn, grain, meal, and flour:—Wheat (2,159,200 cwt.), 1,801,100; wheat meal and flour (255,600), 186,200; barley (744,000), 693,800; oats (209,000), 272,400; peas (44 090), 60,190; beans (10,520), 27,290; maize or Indian corn (643,800), 1,547,700.

Fruit (raw):—Apples (156,737 cwt.), 181,759; grapes (36,244 cwt.), 48,448; pears (6,435 cwt.), 6,536; plums (795 cwt.), 186.

Hay (3,625 tons), 1,269; straw (1,180 tons), 586; moss litter (1,608 tons), 1,868; hops (7,867 cwt.), 6,663; locust beans (12,840 cwt.), 588.

Vegetables, Raw:—Onions (182,789 bushels), 160,217; potatoes, (40,757 cwt.), 370,762; tomatoes, (11,811 cwt.), 18,430.

The second hirings at Carlisle were held in unfavourable weather, but notwithstanding the crowd of servants and masters in the Market Place was considerable. Wages were a little easier than last week, and were as follows:—Best men, £14 to £15; lads able to plough, £10 to £12; younger, £5 to £6; girls and women, £6 to £10 and £11.

HORSES.

What is a Pure Breed?—The Characteristics of a Pure Breed?—Registration Rules—The Result of Eight Crosses—Motor Accidents—The Inference—Lord Montagu of Beaulieu—What Came of the Greys?

What is a Pure Breed?

SOME years ago Mr. G. E. Lascelles, of Sion Hill, near Thirsk, a fine judge of a horse and a man of considerable experience in horse breeding, said in a letter to the writer that in his opinion there were only two pure breeds of horses—viz., the Thoroughbred and the Cart horse; and only one Stud Book that was thoroughly reliable—viz., the General Stud Book. I cannot place my hand on Mr. Lascelles' letter, so cannot quote him verbatim; but this is practically what he said. Then we have a saying "as thoroughbred as Eclipse," and straightway the late Joseph Osborne points out that Eclipse was not a Thoroughbred horse at all, for he was a mixture of Eastern and English blood. So the question presents itself for answer, What is a pure breed?



The Hunter Gelding Goldmint 2nd was foaled in 1901, and bred by Mr. J. H. Stokes, Nether House, Great Bowden, Market Harborough, who exhibited it at the Royal Show at Lincoln this year, where it won First Prize in the Class for Hunter Mares or Geldings foaled in or before 1903, up to more than 13 stones 7 lbs. and not more than 15 stones; and Reserve and Highly Commended awards in the Novice Class for Hunter Mares or Geldings foaled in or before 1902, up to from 12 stones to 14 stones.

The Characteristics of a Pure Breed.

PERHAPS it would be as well to ask what we expect from a so called pure breed of horses. In the first place, we want fixity of type, and in the second place we look for prepotency in the sires, which perhaps, after all, is only another way of putting the same thing. Now one thing is certain, and that is that the prepotency of a horse depends in great measure—indeed, it may be said to depend altogether—on his ancestry. If, from one generation to another for many generations, horses of pure blood and of similar make to himself have been his ancestors he may fairly be expected to transmit their good qualities to his descendants. In this sense of the word then Thoroughbreds and the old Cleveland Bays, of which there are still a few left, and cart horses are the only pure breeds of all our English breeds of horses. Note here that at present I have nothing to say about ponies.

Registration Rules.

THE mere arbitrary rules of stud book registration and the calling of a breed by a certain name does not by any means constitute a pure breed, and an interesting question on breeding is how many top crosses in breeding are necessary to make a horse prepotent in the same sense as a Thoroughbred or an Arab is prepotent? In other words, how many generations are necessary to work the alloy out? It is held by some experienced men that after six generations the peculiar characteristics of ancestors are not transmitted. It is a question upon which it is very difficult to generalise, for the very good reason that we have not plenty of data to go upon. We are groping in the dark all the time. For people do not make accurate notes of the characteristics of their horses, and it is questionable whether the evidence that is procurable in any other way is of any value. Perhaps one might be not far from the mark if one said that eight generations of careful breeding on recognised lines are sufficient to stamp a breed as a pure one. But even here, if some of the horses or mares in the middle of the pedigree were cross bred, disappointment would be sure to ensue every now and again. With eight generations of carefully selected crosses we might have a fairly good foundation on which to set a pure breed.

The Result of Eight Crosses.

BUT even if we were to succeed in making a pure breed—that is, a breed possessing the same characteristics and breeding true to type; if our plan of eight carefully-selected top crosses were adopted, what would be the result? Why, we should have something very like what we have got already, only in all probability not quite so good. For instance, if we breed the eight top crosses of Thoroughbred blood on a Cleveland or hunting mare with the object of producing a Hunter breed we should have a horse of the Thoroughbred type, but not quite so good. I have seen several of the so-called half-bred Hunter sires—I may say that I have seen all the best of them, and these can only be distinguised from the Thoroughbred by the stain in the pedigree. And a stain in the pedigree, I take it, is no recommendation in itself, though by the way some people write and talk it would seem to be one. So far as I can see, no crossing of crossbred horses has ever resulted in a pure breed. It may be said that the Hackney is a pure breed, and the Yorkshire Coach horse lays claim to the same distinction. But what are the facts of the case? With the Yorkshire Coach horse recourse has constantly to be had to one or

other of the foundation breeds to maintain size and type, and Hackneys do not breed to type with the certainty that could be desired, as is evidenced by the undersized and somewhat weedy but fashionably-bred ones that flood the repositories at certain times of the year.

Motor Accidents.

ANYONE connected with horse-breeding, however remotely, must take an interest in the statistics which have just been issued by Mr. L. H. Barnes, the secretary of the Highways Protection League, an association which should be supported by all who wish to see the British ratepayer have reasonable enjoyment of the roads, for the maintenance of which he pays. A fairly good idea may be formed of the danger of motor conveyances as they are used by the figures Mr. Barnes gives. First taking the 'buses, there were 2,964 licensed in London in 1906, and in accidents caused by them fourteen people were killed and 420 were injured. During the same year the 783 licensed motor 'buses killed twenty-five people and injured 824 So that practically one horse 'bus in seven was responsible for an injury, while there were sixty-six more people injured than there were vehicles. Then taking the four-wheeled cabs, of which there were 3,844 licensed, we find that there were 237 injuries caused by them, of which five were fatal, whilst the ninety-six motor cabs have a record of twenty-three injuries, none of which were fatal. As Mr. Barnes puts it, it takes sixteen cabs and only four motor cars to cause an injury.

The Inference.

WHEN one sees the proportion of injuries put down in plain figures it is appalling, yet the proportion is not greater than I expected, and I have very little hesitation in saying, from what I have seen of motor driving out of London, that the proportion of accidents is similar in the country. However that may go, as there are no means of getting at reliable figures, and the London ones are quite sufficient to prove that present legislation is not adequate to keep motor drivers within reasonable bounds. In London, where the traffic is so carefully regulated, and where the policeman is nearly ubiquitous, such a state of things should make even motorists themselves take pause and show some consideration for the safety of others.

Lord Montagu of Beaulieu.

WHETHER it will, however, is a matter which is certainly questionable, especially if we are to judge from the letter written by Lord Montagu of Beaulieu. Lord Montagu says Mr. Barnes' figures are unfair, inasmuch as the mileage covered by the motor vehicles is much greater than that covered by horse-drawn conveyances. Granting that Lord Montagu's figures are correct, we still have the horse-drawn 'buses covering 11,681 miles more per day than the motor 'buses, which are responsible for 415 more injuries, only a trifle short of twice as many. Lord Montagu says the motor cab will cover five or six times as much ground as the horse cab, but there is really no way of getting at the figures. Nor does it very much matter, for after all, his argument only puts in other words what all but prejudiced people say, and that is that the motor traffic as at present conducted is a danger to the public, and that the pace of motor vehicles is too great.

What Came of the Greys?

THOSE who have carefully studied the pedigrees of Yorkshire Coach horses do not need to be told of the many grey thoroughbred horses whose names are found in the old pedigrees. Young Camillus and Delpini are names which at once occur to the memory. At a much later date there were grey Coach horses, one of which was named Monarch or Young Monarch. There was also, I think, a Coach horse named Duncan Gray, but I am speaking from memory and cannot be sure of his history. There was, of course, a Thoroughbred of that name, but he flourished very early in the nineteenth century. Monarch belonged to Mr. Stamper, and was a white horse, very shapely and full of quality, and of typical Coach horse character. Naturally with so many grey horses in the pedigrees, greys would be foaled from time to time, notwithstanding the prepotency of the old Cleveland Bay foundation. And the question that cannot help occurring to anyone who looks through the Coach Horse Stud Book is what became of those greys? For need I say that in the stud book no mention is made of them? I remember a grey Coaching mare winning in the Cleveland Bay brood mare class at Whitby many years ago, and the judge's decision was upheld on appeal, some technical omission in the conditions enabling her to take the prize. But greys were never heard of for many years before the stud book days, and though claims were made for chesnuts, there was never one made for the admission of a grey. But there were several greys bred previous to stud book days, Mr. Stamper himself breeding several very high class animals of that colour. Now Mr. Stamper had a fine connection in Russia; the grey Coach horses commended themselves to Russian Royalty, and the descendants of Young Monarch and other Coach horses that were grey in colour went to improve the Orloff trotter. This is certainly one of the cases in which both the country that imports and the country that exports are benefited, for we have no room for grey Coach horses in England.

THE LOOKER ON.

Next Year's Hackney Horse Show.

The first of the schedules for the Spring Horse Shows of 1908 has just been issued. The Hackney Horse Society has published the list of prizes to be offered at its twenty-fourth annual London Show, to be held in the Agricultural Hall, Islington, on March 3, 4, 5, and 6 next, and we see that the prize money has been increased to £1,915.

The society calls attention to the fact that as a consequence of the enlargement of the Agricultural Hall, the ring will be increased to 200 ft. by 77 ft., the stabling will provide accommodation for 700 horses, the grand stand will be much more extensive, and arrangements will be made for the covered standing of vehicles in the driving competitions. Under these improved circumstances the show should increase in popularity, not only with the exhibitors; but also with the general public, more especially as one of the best military bands has been engaged to play in the afternoons.

In no less than twenty classes have additional prizes been added, and several quite new classes have been instituted. A barren brood mare class will provide for mares debarred from competition in the in-foal classes, and two classes and a championship will cater for Tandems, any age, over and under 15 hands.

A new regulation as to the veterinary examination of the harness horses will, it is expected, enable exhibitors to make a much larger display of representative Hackneys in harness than has formerly been the case, as in many instances horses which have been sound for all harness purposes have been *hors concours* when subjected to the same stringent examination as the stallions and mares in hand.

More especially has this been the case in the pair classes, where a slight blemish in one of the horses has caused the rejection of an otherwise meritorious pair. Needless to say the same stringent examination for the breeding classes will be adhered to, as this is universally conceded to be of paramount importance.

The arrangements to encourage private sale will again be in force, and a feature will once more be made of inviting foreign breeders to attend the show.

Entries will close on January 20, 1908, and with the usual late fee on January 27. All particulars, copies of the schedule, entry forms, &c., can be obtained of the Hackney Horse Society at its offices, 12, Hanover Square, W.

Mr. William Everall's next sale of store cattle is to be held in Shrewsbury Smithfield on Friday next, the 29th inst., when he will offer about 1,000 cattle of all breeds and ages. A large proportion of the cattle are threequarter fat, and include a good number of Angus, Shorthorn, and Hereford bullocks and heifers, one, two, and three years old. As this is his last store stock sale of the year a large attendance of buyers is expected. The sale will commence at 11.30.

The death at the early age of thirty-five years of Mr. S. Hugh Rowlandson, of Newton Morrell (from a short attack of pneumonia) has deprived the North Riding of one of its well-known and rising agriculturists, whose Oxford and Wensleydale rams have been much sought after. A small but choice herd of Shorthorns was in course of formation, several additions having recently been purchased. He was secretary to the Middleton Tyas Agricultural Show, and also a rural district councillor. The funeral was attended by a large company of agriculturists from a wide area, thus testifying to the deceased's popularity.

It has been decided that the Monmouthshire tribute to Viscount Tredegar, for which between five and six thousand subscribers contributed £3,500, in recognition of his lordship's services to the county, of which he is lord lieutenant, and as an expression of the affection in which he is held, shall take the form of a portrait by Hugh Riviere, R.A., a replica to be hung in the council chamber of the county council at Newport, a silver-gilt cup bearing the Tredegar arms, and an album containing the names of the subscribers. Any balance remaining his lordship will hand back to be invested in a trust fund, the income of which is to be divided among the various hospitals of the county. The presentation will be made at a luncheon at Newport on December 17.

AUCTION SALES.

Auctioneers will favour us by sending in their advertisements as early in the week as possible.

Charges for announcements under this heading Six Shillings an inch.

By Messrs. IRELAND.

Norwich, Norfolk.—Ireland's Norwich Hill Auction Mart (established 50 years). Every Saturday. Fat Bullocks and Sheep, Store Sheep. Special Spring and Autumn Store Cattle Sales.

MESSRS. IRELAND solicit consignments for these important weekly sales; best market value assured.

Cattle consigned to Ireland's, Norwich, will be properly fed and carefully attended to.

All cattle weighed upon entry to the sale ring if desired. Full particulars to be sent to—

IRELAND'S, Auctioneers.
Norwich, Norfolk.

By Mr. W. EVERALL.

SHREWSBURY,
FRIDAY NEXT, NOVEMBER 29.

1,000 CATTLE, all breeds and ages.
250 SHEEP.

A LARGE proportion of the Cattle are three-quarters fat, and include a good number of ANGUS, SHORTHORN and HEREFORD BULLOCKS and HEIFERS, 1, 2 and 3 years old. Sale at 11.30.

WILLIAM EVERALL,
(Acting solely as agent), Auctioneer,
Shrewsbury.

By Mr. GAVIN LOW.

1,000 HEAD STORE CATTLE, including the usual classes, will be SOLD by AUCTION, at 50, PRUSSIA STREET, DUBLIN, on THURSDAY, 28th NOVEMBER.

GAVIN LOW,
AUCTIONEER, LIVE STOCK SALESMAN, &c.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Nov. 19, 1907 :—

Period		Anthrax. Outbreaks.	Anthrax. Animals Attacked.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Outbreaks.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Animals Attacked.	Glanders (including Farcy). Outbreaks.	Glanders (including Farcy). Animals Attacked.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Dogs.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Other Animals.	Sheep Scab. Outbreaks Reported.	Swine Fever. Outbreaks.	Swine Fever. Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.
		No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Week ended Nov. 16, 1907		16	19	...	...	24	52	...	...	17	28	170
Corresponding week in	1906	22	23	...	...	23	42	...	...	11	37	221
	1905	14	14	...	...	17	29	...	...	15	9	34
	1904	22	27	...	...	24	41	...	...	16	14	141
Total for 46 weeks, 1907		957	1,283	...	...	763	1,749	...	...	484	2,167	10,417
Corresponding period in	1906	812	1,153	...	...	974	1,846	...	...	366	1,064	6,079
	1905	856	1,167	...	...	1,090	1,867	...	...	759	715	3,203
	1904	893	1,349	...	...	1,373	2,398	...	...	1,164	1,113	5,261

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

**** The charge for Advertisements (if set in small type) under classified headings in this section is one penny per word each insertion.*

HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL, Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

GRIFFIN, F. W., Boro' Fen, Peterboro'. Shire Stallions, Mares, and Fillies for sale, in natural condition; 40 pedigree mares kept for breeding; every facility to foreign buyers.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Hereford. Stud Horses: Lockinge Lord of Misrule and Lockinge Bonny Lad, both by Lockinge Forester, full brother to Lockinge Forest King. Colts and Fillies for Sale.

JOHNSON, WALTER, Hatfield, Doncaster. Stud Horse, Lambton King 16757; Stallions for hire; weighty young Stallions, Mares, and Fillies on Sale.

MUNTZ, FREDERICK ERNEST, Umberslade, Hockley Heath, Warwickshire. Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, prize-winners.—Particulars from Mr. JOHN T. B. HARTLEY, Estate Office.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners, on Sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

PEARSON, E. E., Brickendonbury, Hertford. Shire Stallions, Mares and Stock for service and sale; prize winners. Stations: Hertford, Great Eastern and Great Northern.—Apply Estate Office, Brickendonbury, Hertford.

ROWELL, JOHN, Bury, Huntingdon. Breeder Shires and Hackneys; Stallions for sale, hire, or service at home; mares and fillies for sale.

WHITEHEAD, Robert, Fashionably bred mares and fillies in natural condition on Sale. Stallions, Bodenham King 17177, Whitestone Prince Alfred 22930.—Apply J. M. JOHNSTONE, Hargate Hall, Buxton. Station, and telegrams, Millers Dale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

BENSON, ALFRED, Upper Gatton Park, Merstham, Surrey. Hackney Stallions: Copper King 7764, reserve champion, London Hackney Shows, 1905 and 1906; yearling Colts and Fillies by Copper King and other well-known Stallions for sale. For particulars, pedigrees, &c., apply to T. Hyett.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

SMITH, THOMAS, Shirley Stud, Hall Green, Birmingham. Breeder of Pedigree Hackneys and Ponies. Owner Hackney Stallion, "Viscount Hopwood" 8686; Pony Stallions, "Pinderfields Horace" 7952, "Shirley King Horace" 9382. Prize winners on sale.

WHITWORTH, ROBERT, Warley Stud, Halifax, and Londesboro' Stud, Market Weighton. Hackney Stallions: Polonius, Edemynag, Beckingham Squire 8078. Hackneys and Harness Horses always on sale. Matched pairs a speciality.

PONIES.

BEALE, Mrs. A. J., Cacketts, Cudham, Kent. Prize-bred Pedigree Shetlands for sale; three grand Stallions at stud.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

BELL, CHARLES, Norley Hall, Norley, Cheshire. Shorthorn Bulls for sale, from Kirklevington, Red Rose, Barrington, and Cruickshank tribes. Telegrams "Norley"; railway stations, Acton Bridge and Delamere.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

MOSLEY, Sir OSWALD.—High-class Shorthorns. Home Farm, Rolleston Hall. Bulls and Heifers on sale.—Apply A. E. Beck, Rolleston, Burton-on-Trent

CATTLE—*continued.*

SHORTHORNS—*continued.*

PREECE, JOHN ADNEY, Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston, Northampton.—Herd of 250 Shorthorns, best Bates and Scotch blood; stock Bulls, Duke of Barrington 70th, Primrose Earl 89641, and Royal Baron 93192; Bulls and Heifers for sale.

DUDDING, MR. HY., Riby Grove, Great Grimsby, has for inspection and sale the largest pure herd of SHORTHORNS in the county, which comprise the best Bates, Booth, Cruikshank and Scotch blood. The prize bulls recently used and now in service are Prince Alastair 89647, a noted winner, and sold at the Riby Sale, 1906, for 1,000 gs.; Scottish Daisy Duke 79916, Merry Squire 5th 85626, Stratton Squire 80062, Bapton Favourite 76080, Wanderer's Chief 80210, Royal Pearl 89959, President Pierrepont 92846, Aberdeen 87764, Scottish Standard 97058, and Strowan Butterfly 23rd. In July of last year 51 Shorthorns and 56 Lincoln Rams were sold to average 125 gs. each, realising a total of nearly £14,000. In July this year 53 Shorthorns and 48 Rams averaged over 90 gs. each, with a total of nearly £10,000. Numerous prizes have been won at the leading shows in England by the Riby Shorthorns and Lincoln Sheep. Telegrams: "Dudding, Keelby."

ROTHWELL, R. R., Much Hoole, near Preston. Pedigree Shorthorns, chiefly Scotch blood. Stock bull Strowan Marquis 18th, winner of many prizes. Young bulls and heifers always on sale.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

TAYLOR, GEORGE, Cranford, Middlesex.—Bates' Shorthorns, deep milkers. Winners Milking Competitions, London Dairy Show, 1905-6. Bull Calves for Sale. Stock Bulls: Beau Sabreur, Drumcree, Rowbury, and Kirkcharm.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

SUSSEX.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath, Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Sussex Cattle (descended from the oldest and best strains of blood), unrivalled for their early maturity, the production of the best beef and working oxen, and ability to thrive in all weathers on the roughest fare. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for Sale.

HEREFORDS.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for Sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

PULLEY, CHARLES THORNTON, Lower Eaton, Hereford.—Noted prize-winning herd of HEREFORD CATTLE. First prize Royal winners, Protector 19660, 1900; Eaton Champion 21351, 1903; and Ashleaf 3rd, 1905. This herd is headed by Eaton Champion and Glendower 2nd 22196, also a Royal winner. Bulls and Heifers for sale. Also prize-winning Shropshire Sheep.—Apply Mr. HEDLEY JONES, Lower Eaton Estate Office, Hereford.

DEVONS.

BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton Williton, Taunton, Breeder of Pedigree Devon Cattle. A speciality for large size, with quality and robust constitutions; colour dark red. Sent to all parts of the world. Prices moderate.

SKINNER, ALFRED C., Pound, Bishops-Lydeard, Somerset. Pedigree Devons, constitution, quality, size, milk; 600 prizes principal shows, many champions; exports most successful; bulls and heifers for sale. Inspection invited.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

BRIDGES, J. H.—This old-established herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle of the leading families can be seen at Langshott Home Farm, Horley, Surrey (near Horley Station, L.B. & S.C.R.), and catalogues obtained on application to Mr. Albert Pulling.

CRIDLAN, J. J., Maisemore Park, Gloucester, Erica, Pride of Aberdeen, Lady Ida and other noted tribes. Stock Bulls, Wizard of Maisemore (21,465), Champion and winner of gold medals, 1905; Everwise (24,436), Champion and medal winner, 1907; Bengal of Ballindalloch, prize winner, 1906.

HURSLEY PARK HERD OF ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE, the property of Sir George Cooper, Bart., comprising Erica, Pride, Miss Burgess, Lady Ida, Matilda, Jemima of Morlich families. Prizes won during 1906: 7 firsts, 3 seconds, 3 reserves, 1 challenge cup, 2 silver medals, 3 reserve champions. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.—Catalogues on application to J. E. Thorold, Estate Office, Hursley Park, Winchester.

THE ROCKLIFFE PARK HERD of Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, Ericas and Prides. Stock Bull, Pundit of Preston (17,156), Champion at Highland Show, 1904.—Apply, R. C. SWAN, Rockliffe Park, Darlington.

AYRSHIRES.

WALLACE, JAMES, J.P., Auchenbainzie, Thornhill, Dumfriesshire, Scotland. Breeder of pedigree prize-winning Ayrshire Cattle; hardy, healthy, good milkers; bred for dairy purposes, beauty and style. Bulls and Heifers for sale.

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably, from his prize-winning herd of Red Polls, Bulls, Cows, Heifers, from good milkers.—Apply C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

CARY-ELWES, V., Billing Hall, Northampton. Breeder of Jersey cattle.

CATTLE—*continued.*

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS—*continued.*

FOWLER, P. T., Importer, Watford, Herts. A choice selection of pedigree Jersey and Guernsey Cows, Heifers and young Bulls from prize herds of the Islands; particulars forwarded; inspection invited.

JERSEYS, and Alderney Guernseys, fresh calved and near calving. Prices, particulars.—R. WHEADON, Ilminster.

MERTON GRANGE GUERNSEYS.—Property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. This Herd contains Champion Bull, 1906; also Bull Royal Governor, winner of seven Firsts, and unbeaten 1907. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of best Breeding for Sale.—Telegrams and particulars, W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay.

STERN, Sir E. D., Fan Court, Chertsey, Surrey. Herd of pedigree Jersey Cattle. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for sale.

TICHBORNE PARK, GUERNSEY.—Yearling Bulls and Heifers for sale.—Apply, D. MICHIE, Estate Office, Tichborne, Alresford, Hants.

GALLOWAYS.

GRAHAM, ROBERT, Auchengassel, Twynholm, breeder fashionable Galloway Cattle, winners at Royal and Highland Societies Shows. Pedigree Bulls, Cows, and Heifers, also Blue-greys for feeding, for sale. Commissions carefully executed.

KERRIES & DEXTER KERRIES.

CORY, Sir CLIFFORD JOHN, Bart, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows.—Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

RATTRAY, DAVID, Gortnaskehy, Ballybunion, Co. Kerry. Pedigree Prize-winning Herd of Kerries and Dexters. 153 Prizes and Honours won by Cattle from this Herd past three years. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

THE DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE'S PRIZE-WINNING DEXTER HERD.—During 1904 and 1905 this Herd won more prizes than any other three Dexter Herds combined, including both first and second milking prizes Royal, 1905, and first London Dairy Show, 1906, Bulls, Cows, and Heifers generally for Sale.—CHILD, Compton Place, Eastbourne.

DUTCH.

BROWN, JOHN, Marden Farm, Hertford. Dutch, the best Dairy Cattle in the world. Over 200 head kept. Record, one cow gave 1,615 gallons of milk in 52 weeks. Bulls for sale.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

ANDERSON, JOHN, Barton-on-Humber.—The old Barton Flock of Pure-bred LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP, Flock Book 106. This flock is noted for hard constitutions and fine, lustrous wool. Inspection invited. Telegrams as above.

ATKINSON, T., & SON, North Kelsey, Lincoln. Old-established flock of pure Lincoln Longwools. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Noted for great size and long lustrous wool. Have given great satisfaction at home and abroad. Inspection invited

BROCKLEBANK, JOHN, Bassingham, Lincoln (Flock 24). Pure-bred Lincoln Longwool Rams and Ewes. This old flock has been carefully bred for 100 years. Telegrams: Bassingham.

BROOKS, W. J., Stowe Lodge, Weedon, Northants (Registered Flock 165), has for sale Rams and Ewes of best blood.

DRAKES, Wm., Tealby, Market Rasen. Flock No. 72 of Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs of best blood for sale. Lincoln Red Shorthorns. Prices moderate.

DUDDING, MR. HY., Riby Grove, Great Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale the largest flock of pure Lincoln Longwool Sheep in the county, and many prize-winners. They are famous for great size, fine wool, and 150 years' good breeding, and at the home Sales have made the highest prices on record. In July, 1906, 51 shearling rams sold to average £151 each, the record price being made for a single ram, namely, 1,450 gs., and on two other occasions have rams made 1,000 gs. The wonderful success of the Riby sheep at the Royal Show, Lincoln, 1907, and at the Home Sale in July when 48 rams averaged over £94 each, proves that the Riby blood leads the way Champion and premier prizes have been secured in all the leading exhibitions throughout the world. Telegrams "Dudding, Keelby."

MONEY, FRED, Silk Willoughby, Sleaford. Flock 323; established over a century. Four Rams from this flock fetched over £1,300 in the Argentine, February, 1903, one making £700, the record for a single ram in Buenos Ayres. Rams for sale. Inspection invited.

SMITH, HENRY, jun., Cropwell Butler, Nottingham. Lincoln Longwool Flock No. 7, winner of £2,361 in prizes. Champion pen Lincolns, Smithfield Show, 1896; Association Championship, Leicester, 1897 Association Championship for pen of 3 Shearling Rams, Yorkshire, 1900; Championship, Rutland, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, and 1906. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.

LEICESTER.

SIMPSON BROS., Pilmoor House, Hunmanby, Yorkshire, Breeders of Leicesters (Flock No. 2 in Leicester Book), have always for inspection or sale Rams and Ewes. These Sheep are of great size with heavy fleeces, and include Royal Winners.

(Continued on page 656.)

SHEEP—*continued.*

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

THE CHILMARK FLOCK OF REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—Owner JAMES FLOWER, Chilwark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records. Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, out of 11 years competing, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" won eight times, thrice second, with pens of 8 ram lambs; a marvellous record. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 13 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05-03. At the Royal at Derby, 1906, every First Prize, two Seconds, and the Champion were won; an unequalled success!! Champions Birmingham, 1905, over all breeds, Reserve in 1906. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Short-wools, Smithfield, 1904-05-06. Highest average past 18 years. Bridford Fair, Aug. 12, 100 Ram Lambs, annual sale. Selections for Sale.

COLES, CARY, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1907.—Extraordinary records: Twin ram lambs let for 205 and 120 guineas. Ninety averaged £21 10s. Selections always for Sale.

DIBBEN, JOHN HERBERT, Bishopstone, Salisbury. Breeder of Pure Hampshires. Annual Sale in August, at Salisbury, of 100 Rams and Ram Lambs. Flock consists of 800 Ewes.

OVEY, R. L., Hernes, Henley-on-Thames.—Pedigree HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK, Reg. Vol. IV. Prize-winners leading shows last five years.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. The Cholderton flock is individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded in the Hampshire Down Flock Book. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury.

OXFORD DOWNS.

ADAMS, GEORGE, Royal Prize Farm Flock, Faringdon, Berks. Pure Oxford Down Sheep, Shearling Rams, Ram Lambs, Ewes and Ewe Lambs for Sale. Special arrangements with foreign buyers. Many first prizes at R.A.S.E. and other shows during past 25 years, including 2 first, 2 second, and 4 other prizes, World's Fair, Chicago, and 7 firsts, 4 seconds and champion at Royal Bath and West, Royal Counties, etc., this year.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

HOUGHTON, J. H., Western Farm, Asfordby, Melton Mowbray. 300 Ewe Flock of Pedigree Registered Oxfords. Sales Sept., at Nottingham, Melton, Edinburgh, &c. Ewes and Rams privately in autumn. Many prizes. Inspection invited.

TREADWELL, JOHN, Upper Winchendon, Aylesbury.—Oxford Down Sheep. Annual Ram Sales first Wednesday in August. Prizes won at R.A.S.E. 24 years in succession. Ewes for Sale.

WHITE, JOHN, Ham Court Farm, Bampton, R.S.O., Oxon. Pedigree Oxford Down Sheep of best and purest strains for Sale. Foreign and home buyers invited to inspect.

SHROPSHIRES.

CORBET, Sir WALTER, Bart.—Registered flock of Shropshires of oldest and purest strains. Noted for true type and first-rate wool. Have won numerous prizes at Bath and West, Shropshire and West Midland, Royal Lancashire, Wirral and Birkenhead, etc. Can be seen at any time on application to Reginald Astley, Acton Reynold, Shrewsbury.

NOCK, EDWARD, Harrington Hall, Shifnal, Salop, owner of the old Sutton Maddock Pedigree Shropshire Flock. Founded 1832. Winner of prizes at most of the leading shows in England, U.S.A., and Canada.

WENSLEYDALES.

UNDERLEY WENSLEYDALES (Blue-faced) from the best blood obtainable. Successfully exhibited.—Apply, G. G. ROBINSON, Bailiff, Underley Farm, Kirkby Lonsdale.

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

ARIES, J. R., Hill End Farm, St. Michaels, St. Albans, breeder of Pedigree Large White Yorkshire Pigs, has Young Boars and Yelts for Sale at moderate prices. Inspection invited.

CHARLES SPENCER, having taken over the Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts, herd of Large and Middle White Pigs, which won 12 prizes and reserves with 11 exhibits at Derby Royal, will price any of them.

DALMENY HERD OF LARGE WHITE PEDIGREE PIGS, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Young Boars and Sows of the very best quality and choicest breeding for sale at moderate prices.—Apply Manager, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, by Edinburgh.

FULWOOD HERD LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES, property R. R. Rothwell. 200 head bred from winners at leading shows.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

HARDWICK GRANGE HERD OF LARGE AND MIDDLE WHITE YORKSHIRE PEDIGREE PIGS, the property of Her Grace the Duchess of Newcastle. Young Boars and Gilts of the best quality and breeding for sale at moderate prices.—Apply, Wm. Beattie, Hardwick Grange, Worksop, Notts.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for Sale at moderate prices

PIGS—*continued.*

LARGE WHITES—*continued.*

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse Station, G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices.—J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

MOLLINGTON HERD OF LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRE PIGS. All eligible for Herd Book. Boars and Gilts for sale, prize strains.—Particulars, Dodd and Sons, Mollington, Chester.

MORANT, EDWARD J.—Pedigree Large White Pigs, best strains. Boars and Gilts always for sale at all prices. Breeds kept on separate farms.—Apply, Mr. Cecil Sutton, The Estate Office, Brokenhurst, Hants.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM. Herd of Large White Pigs. The oldest and largest Herd in Notts County. Over 100 Breeding Sows kept. Upwards of 600 to select from. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—Apply ARTHUR A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale—FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

PETERBORO' HERD OF PEDIGREE WHITE PIGS.

This old-established and well-known Herd has exceeded all previous records during show season of 1906, and in competition at all leading shows.

1906 record: 86 prizes and honours, with 79 exhibits.

222 prizes won in 1903-4, -5, -6, including 29 champion cups and medals.

Boars and Gilts from choicest blood in England for Sale.—All communications to Owner, T. HENSON, Eastgate, Peterboro'.

SHELBOURNE HERD OF PEDIGREE LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES.—All registered parents of prize-winning early-maturing strains. Youngsters from £1 1s. Send for Guide to Pig-Keeping (free).—HERDSMAN, Mount Cottage Farm, Shirley, Birmingham.

SPALDING HERD of Pedigree Large Whites, young stock and in-pig Gilts for Sale. All bred from great winners.—ALFRED W. WHITE, "Hillegom," Spalding.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 100 to choose from. Correspondence invited. Grand young breeding stock always on Sale.—Apply R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts (15 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—Apply to Mr. W. BAINBRIDGE, Walton House, Warrington.

THE WORSLEY HERD OF PEDIGREE LARGE WHITE PIGS,

the property of the
EARL OF ELLESMERE.

This herd, during the years 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, has won, whenever it exhibited at the Royal, Bath and West, Highland, and Royal Lancashire Shows, more 1st prizes than all the other exhibitors combined. BOARS, SOWS AND GILTS of all ages (for breeding) at FARMERS' PRICES. SPECIALITY AT PRESENT, YOUNG BOARS READY FOR IMMEDIATE SERVICE.

Pedigrees and full particulars sent on application to Mr. STUART HEATON, Worsley, Manchester.

MIDDLE WHITES.

CASTLECROFT HERD OF PEDIGREE MIDDLE WHITE PIGS.—A fine selection of grand young Boars and Sows are now on sale. They are true to type and bred from prize winners.—Write for full details to THE BAILIFF, Castlecroft Farm, Wolverhampton.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 86 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

PAGET, LEOPOLD C., Harewood, Leeds.—Herd of Registered Pedigree Middle White Yorkshire Pigs. Young Boars and Gilts of the best quality and breeding for sale at moderate prices.

PEDIGREE MIDDLE WHITES.—Choice breeding, quality, early maturity. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.—Henry Smith, jun., Cropwell Butler, Nottingham.

THE CATTON HERD of Prize-winning MIDDLE WHITE PIGS, property of J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stock Boar Castlecroft Mikado, 1st Park Royal, 1st Bath and West. Gelts and Boars on Sale. Prices moderate.—Apply BAILIFF, Raddle Farm, Edingale, Tamworth.

LARGE BLACKS.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath, Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Large Black Pigs of the best strains of blood, noted or their docility and for the production of a large proportion of lean meat. Good selection of Boars, unrelated Gilts, and in-pig Sows for Sale at reasonable prices.

CATTON HERD OF PRIZE-WINNING LARGE BLACK PIGS.—Stock Boar Trevisquite Excelsior 1427, 1st Devon County, 2nd and Reserve Champion Royal Show, 1906; pigs kept in hardy natural condition; gelts and boars always on sale.—Apply, J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stations: Croxall, 2½ miles (M.R.); Airewas, 3½ miles (L.N.W.).

PIGS—*continued.*

LARGE BLACKS—*continued.*

HASKETON CHAMPION PRIZE HERD OF LARGE BLACK PIGS.—This herd has won the Royal championship three out of four times, and is the only herd having won the breed challenge cup. Record: 47 firsts, 37 seconds, 11 thirds, 126 prize-winning cards; the herd this year being the winners of 14 firsts, 6 seconds, 2 thirds, championship and silver cup in five shows. Gelts and Boars at moderate prices consistent with quality. Exportation a speciality.—Apply, C. F. MARRINER, Hasketon, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS.—Select Herd-bred from choice Prize Winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale, moderate prices.—H. J. CLARKE, The Slade, Roughley, Sutton Coldfield.

WHEN Breeding, breed from the best Pedigree Large Black Prize-winning Pigs. TREVEGLOS HOPEFUL II., winner of First prizes and R.A.S.E. Silver Challenge Cup, 1907, beating all other Cup winners; also 1st Prize Bath and West, Newport; 1st Royal Counties, Maidenhead; 1st Royal Cornwall, Liskeard; 1st Devon County, Bideford; also 1st prize at the Royal Show, Lincoln, for Boar and Reserve for Champion prize. Boars and Sows for Sale of the above strain at moderate prices.—Apply to JOHN WARNE, Treveglos Farm, St. Mabyn, R.S.O., Cornwall.

BERKSHIRES.

BEHRENS, CAPTAIN, Swinton Grange, Malton, Yorkshire. Pure-bred Berkshire Boars and Gilts usually for sale, bred from prize-winners and the most noted blood.—Apply, Bailiff, Home Farm.

BERNERS, C. H., Woolverstone Park.—Pedigree Berkshire BOARS and Gelts, from noted prize-winners, for sale.—Apply to Hon. Louis Johnstone, Estate Office, Woolverstone, Ipswich.

BERTODANO, C. E. de.—Herds of Pedigree Berkshire and Middle White Pigs, most noted strains. Choice Gelts for sale.—Kerton, Cowbridge House Farm, Malmesbury, Wilts.

BEVAN, C., Mapledurham, Reading.—Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, pure-bred Boars and Gilts, of all ages and at moderate prices.

BLYTH, AUDLEY, Tilbrook Hall, Kimbolton, Hunts.—Berkshire Pigs, all ages, including descendants of Champion Ethel 7105. Moderate prices.

CARNARVON, the Earl of.—Prize winning Pedigree Herd. BOARS and GELTS, eligible Herd Book. Prices moderate.—Apply W. T. HALL, Highclere Farm, Newbury.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

READING CORPORATION.—150 Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, leading prize-winning strains, from son of Champion Mikado 10433 and prize-winner Domino 11323; inspection invited.—Apply, Mr. T. Chettle, Manor Farm, Reading, Berks.

STALL PITTS HERD OF PEDIGREE BERKSHIRES. One of the Oldest Herds. Unsurpassed for true character, size, and quality. Choice selection of Boars and Sows on offer at moderate prices.—J. LAWRENCE, Stall Pitts, Shrivenham, Berks.

TAMWORTHS.

PEDIGREE TAMWORTHS, the property of C. HOWARD TAYLOR, Middlewood Hall; a few good young Boars and Gilts for sale.—Apply, Hampole Priory, Doncaster.

BORROWFIELD & COLSTON HERDS.

The property of R. MILLINGTON-KNOWLES
Colston Bassett Hall, Notts.

LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES.

The following First Prizes, Championships, and Medals have been obtained by pigs **BRED** in these Herds in 1907:

1st and Champion, Gold Medal, R.A.S.E., Lincoln.
1st & Champion, President's Medal, Highland, Edinburgh.
1st Welsh National, Aberystwyth.
1st Bath and West Newport; 1st Royal Counties,
1st Nottingham; 1st Suffolk; 1st Norfolk.
1st Derby.
1st Hereford and Worcester; Special Prize Lincoln Agricultural Society; 1st Great Yorkshire; 1st Newark.

A number of additional Firsts and other Prizes have also been gained at the above Shows.

At the St. Louis Exposition, U.S.A., in 1904, the Champion Boar, and the Grand Champion of the Exposition were bred at Colston Bassett.

The Foreign and Home trade has largely increased during 1907.—GILBERT H. ELLIOT, Estate Office, Colston Bassett, Notts.

For Sale.

PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.

Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.

GEORGE HOYLES,
Skidby Manor, near Hull.

GEORGE HOYLES
SKIDBY MANOR, HULL.

Breeder of Pure Lincoln Long Wool Sheep.
Lustrous Fleeces. Good Constitutions.
SUITABLE FOR HOME AND ABROAD. STOCK FOR SALE.

CATTLE.

Compensation for Tuberculous Cattle.

A meeting of the Somerset Dairy Farmers' Association was held at Highbridge on Monday afternoon to discuss the question of tuberculosis as affecting farmers' interest Mr. W. J. Ruscombe Poole presided over a large attendance, and explained that the meeting was called in consequence of the butchers combining to extract a guarantee from farmers that all meat sold was sound. The farmers intended to petition the Government in order that compensation should be paid to them in cases where meat was condemned as being unfit for human food, because it was impossible to tell that cattle, &c., were affected with tuberculosis until killed and opened. If the Government would grant them two thirds compensation of the value of the cattle the farmers could secure the other third by mutual insurance

After considerable discussion, the following resolution was passed:—"That the secretary be requested to circularise the various kindred societies in England inviting joint action, and suggesting that a meeting of delegates be organised in London to discuss the matter, and that a copy of the memorial be sent to the county council of Somerset with a request that they will consider this question, and take such action as they think fit to further the matter."

The following tables show the results for this year, and the average prices for the past half-dozen years:—

SHORTHORNS, 1904.

	Average.	Total.
779 Bulls	£51 16 4	£39,889 12 0
124 Cows	34 16 4	4,317 11 0
78 Two-year-old heifers	52 13 6	4,109 14 0
211 Yearling heifers	44 18 8	9,483 19 6
82 Heifer calves	30 19 3	2,538 18 0
1294	£47 7 2	£60,336 14 6

ABERDEEN-ANGUS, 1907.

	Average	Total.
844 Bulls	£22 7 2	£18,871 3 6
167 Cows	24 2 2	4,026 4 6
110 Two-year-old heifers	27 1 9	2,979 7 0
184 Yearling heifers	22 7 2	4,114 8 6
62 Heifer calves	13 13 0	846 5 6
1367	£22 11 2	£30,837 9 0

SHORTHORN.				ABERDEEN-ANGUS.			
Year.	No. sold.	Average. £ s. d.		Year.	No. sold.	Average. £ s. d.	
1902	1060	30 16 3	..	1902	1578	25 10 0	
1903	1034	33 13 6	..	1903	1435	25 4 4	
1904	1105	51 15 1	..	1904	1435	21 17 1	
1905	1202	43 0 5	..	1905	1479	22 12 11	
1906	1066	63 10 5	..	1906	1162	22 3 0	
1907	1274	47 7 5	..	1907	1367	22 11 2	

Sale of Store Stock at Shrewsbury.

At Mr. W. Everall's store stock sale in Shrewsbury Cattle Market on the 15th inst., 1,023 cattle of all breeds and ages were offered, and a satisfactory clearance was effected, though prices were no higher than recorded last sale.

The Irish cattle comprised a splendid lot, most conspicuous amongst them being the Hereford-Shorthorn cross bullocks, which were sent by Messrs. W. J. Walpole, R. Smith, P. Webb, all these cattle being readily sold and made top prices. Lord Sligo sent thirty-three Angus cross bullocks which made £13, or 32s. per cwt. Mr. W. J. Walpole's seventeen Hereford crosses made £14 12s. 6d. up to 32s. 6d. Mr. R. Smith's sixty-two Hereford-Shorthorn crosses made from £16 down to £12 10s., from 31s. per cwt. Messrs. Murphy's thirty-four Shorthorns made up to £15 Mr. P. Webb's twenty-five Hereford cross bullocks made up to £13 17s. 6d.—31s. per cwt. In addition to these lots Mr. O'Connell showed thirty Angus bullocks and heifers, Mr. A. C. Smith Polled Shorthorn yearlings, Mr. H. Jones seventy-two Shorthorn and Hereford heifers and bullocks.

Amongst the English entries the principal consignors were:—Mr. Evans, Shawbury, Hereford bullocks made £16—33s. per cwt; Mr. Jones, Hurst, thirteen Hereford bullocks, £12; Mr. Evans, seventeen Herefords, up to £12 5s.—33s. per cwt.; Mr. Edwards, Seaton, Shorthorn yearlings, £10; Mr. Griffiths, Weston, Shorthorn yearlings, £9 10s. Other prices were:—Herefords, £14, £13, £11 17s. 6d., down to £9; crossbreds, £11 17s. 6d., £11 5s., £10 15s. to £9 5s.



The Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn Heifer Burton C. Star VII., sire Royalty, dam Burton C. Star V., won a First Prize, by inspection, at the recent London Dairy Show, in the Class for Shorthorn Heifers not exceeding three years old. She was bred and exhibited by Mr. John Evens, Burton, Lincoln, and her age at time of exhibition was 2 years and 8 months.

Results of Shorthorn and Aberdeen-Angus Sales in Scotland.

Following usual fashion, the *Banffshire Journal* now that the sales are over, gives a summary of the results of Shorthorn and Aberdeen-Angus sales in Scotland during the present year:—Of both breeds there were sold 2,461, and the average price was £34 10s. 5d., or a reduction of £7 10s. 9d. per head as compared with the average made by 2,228 head of cattle in 1906. The reduction is wholly accounted for by the decline in the value of Shorthorn cattle, although an average of £47 7s. 2d. for 1,274 of this breed, despite a drop in the average price in the course of a single year of £16 3s. 3d., shows that the year has been a very remunerative one for the breeders in Scotland of this variety. All classes of Shorthorn cattle have contributed to the decline in prices, the average for bulls being £11 less, the average for cows £12 less, the average for two-year-old heifers £22 less, the average for yearling heifers £29 less, and the average for heifer calves £22 less.

Aberdeen-Angus cattle, on the other hand, show a slight increase in value, and that, too, in face of an increase of over 200 head of cattle sold at the year's sales as compared with last year, and of only a very limited demand from abroad. Though the average increase only represents some eight shillings, the results of the year's transactions must be regarded as fairly satisfactory, especially in view of the two circumstances which we have just noted.

Sale of Miss Alice de Rothschild's Fat Stock.

The annual sale of Shorthorns, Jerseys and Polled-Angus cattle, together with sheep, belonging to Miss Alice de Rothschild, took place on Thursday at the Home Farm, Waddesdon, and, as usual, was a successful one, there being a large company of buyers, and some capital prices were realised, 103 sheep totalling £256 14s., eighty-three cows £1,861, and five bulls £116 10s., or a total of £2,234 4s.

The sale commenced with the sheep, the lots offered consisting of some fine fat Oxfordshire Down ewes. The highest price was paid by Mr. J. Boddington (Cuddington), who bought a pen of five for 60s. each; Mr. R. Alden (Oxford) took four pens at 55s. 6d., 54s. 6d. (2), and 49s. each; Mr. Jarrett (Rickmansworth) five at 53s. 6d. Mr. Archer was the largest purchaser, securing ten lots of five each at prices ranging from 51s. to 42s. per head; Mr. F. Smith (Aylesbury) three lots of five at 51s., 40s 6d., and 36s. 6d.; Mr. H. Fuller (Shabbington) one at 44s. 6d. Four grand Oxfordshire Down show wethers sold particularly well, being purchased by Mr. C. Ing, Haddenham, £4 1s. and £4; Mr. Almond, Stoke Poges, £3 15s.; and Mr. F. Smith, Aylesbury, £3 14s. Two Oxfordshire ram lambs were bought by Mr. T. Keinch, Cuddington, for £2 16s. and £2 3s.

An adjournment was then made to the cattle ring, the first lots being some choice Polled-Angus oxen. Mr. F. North, London, gave the highest price, £29 15s., Mr. Tavendale, Welshpool, coming next with £29 5s. Other prices for these animals ranged from £23 15s. to £21 5s. The highest price given for a heifer of the same breed was £21 15s., by Mr. Wyatt, Bath, who also bought a prize Polled-Angus heifer for £27. The Shorthorns were a nice lot, the highest price being paid by Mr. C. Stevens, High Wycombe, £29; the next highest, £28, went to Mr. F. Turrill, Oxford, and others ranged from £27 to £17. Jersey oxen were next offered and sold up to £23 15s., given by Mr. Cust, London, others ranged from £20 to £13 15s. Jersey cows sold well, Mr. Plater giving £20 for one, while others made from £19 15s. to £16 15s. Five Shorthorn bulls completed the disposal, and these sold as follows:—Mr. J. B. Stevens, Marlborough, £30 for Waddesdon Scarlet; Mr. Bunker, Stanbridge, £18 10s. for Waddesdon Red Oriel; Mr. Cox, Winchendon, £24 10s. for Waddesdon St. Julien; Mr. E. Bury, Worminghall, £29 10s. for Waddesdon Baritone; and Mr. J. Goss, Westcott, £14 for Waddesdon Arbitration.

Root Growing in the States.

The publication of two bulletins by the Agricultural Department of Cornell University during the last twelve months on roots for stock feeding may be taken as one of the signs of the transition state of American agriculture.

Hitherto, roots for live stock have been almost entirely neglected in the United States, but it is probable that as the ranges get divided into small farms they will come gradually into use. Where maize is not grown extensively they are particularly needed, and it has always been a wonder to British stock-keepers that they have not come into common use in the North Atlantic States.

The bulletins describe the different varieties of roots and the methods of cultivating them. Some of the leading varieties of English mangels, swedes, common turnips, and other roots were used in the experiments.

The manuring as a rule was not at all high, and this probably accounts for the many poor specimens depicted in the illustrations from photographs. Some fair yields, however, were obtained.

At the annual meeting of the East Kent Agricultural Society the following resolution was unanimously carried:—"That in order that the society may be placed on a firmer financial basis, it is resolved that members of the council be asked to become guarantors against loss for a sum not less than £2 2s. each." As regards the result of the past year's working there was a balance in hand of £73 10s. 10d. The question of the arrangement for the venue of the next annual show was deferred.

The Devon County Agricultural Association will be holding its annual exhibition in May next at Plymouth, and last week a meeting of the sites committee of the association was held at Plymouth. A visit was made to the site at Mount Gold, Plymouth, which had been suggested as suitable for the purposes of the show. The county committee were impressed with its suitability, and decided to recommend it to the Devon County Association for adoption. None of the other suggested sites were visited, as it is believed that at Mount Gold meets all requirements.

Lincolnshire Notes.

THE argument for the registration of corn samples is being strongly demonstrated just now. The fall in the price of wheat has been the signal for the refusal of quite a number of consignments as not according to sample. Such disputes, we are assured, seldom, if ever, arise on a rising market. Another and stronger appeal is being made to the Farmers' Union to take up the matter.

THE movement for the establishment of the sugar-beet industry in Lincolnshire received another stimulus last week. A number of farmers inspected with the deepest interest at Spalding Corn Exchange a quantity of sugar-beet roots shown by Messrs. W. S. White and Co, the well-known Lincoln merchants. These roots, an excellent sample, were grown by Mr. W. Pickworth in Whaplode Fen, and the seed was supplied by Messrs. Morgan and Sons, of Germany. Mr. Morgan, the head of the firm, is so firmly convinced of the future success of the industry in England that when the Sleaford project was mooted he offered to take £1,000 worth of shares if a company were formed. The experimental plots in the district have yielded the most satisfactory results, and once more the question of the sugar beet industry is looming into favourable consideration. Whether the farmers of Lincolnshire will have the courage of their convictions has yet to be seen.

IT was a most interesting conference which met on Thursday in the Central Hall, Lincoln, to discuss the Small Holdings and Allotments Acts. The member for Lincoln was in the chair, and an address on the possibilities of the Act was given by Mr. R. Winfrey, M.P. The debate which followed was a very instructive one, and a large number of members of local authorities and agricultural bodies carried away an amount of most valuable information.

THE conference was very representative and entirely non-political, and its general tone was sympathetic. Mr. Perks made several criticisms, and he described the operations of the Act as a speculation and an experiment, but these terms were repudiated by Mr. C. R. Buxton, chairman of the Co-operative Small Holders' Association. The practical note was sounded by Mr. Embleton Fox, chairman of the Lindsey County Council, who pointed to several difficulties in administration which occurred to him. But he met them courageously. County councils he said exist to overcome difficulties, and he promised that, so far as his authority was concerned, they would tackle the problem in a benevolent spirit. There was not a single dissonant note, and the conference has uttered the happiest augury for the success of small holdings in Lincolnshire.

THE Lincolnshire Farmers' Union had a busy day on Friday. The Central Chamber of Agriculture's proposals for the formation of an agricultural party to send direct representatives to Parliament, and to maintain its activities by a central fund, promises to arouse some controversy. In the last resource such a party will certainly have to be established. But the question arises, whether that last resource has been reached, still more whether the occasion is ripe for the promotion of such a vast organisation.

THE Farmers' Union inclines to the policy of permeation. So long as it can impress its programme upon would-be members, it believes it is doing all that can reasonably be done to advance the best interests of agriculture. That is distinctly my view. With the prospect of shorter Parliaments, the pledges of candidates will take on a new significance, and I believe that more can be done by a vigorous campaign in every constituency than will ever be accomplished by the promotion of a few candidates.

THE aggregate amount realised at the seventh annual sale of registered Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns under the auspices of the Alford Bull Fair Committee constituted a record; and the average price is considerably higher than when the same number of bulls were sold. The following table gives some interesting particulars showing the progress of the fair:—

Year.	Bulls offered.	Sold.	Average price. Gns.
1901	76	56	15½
1902	84	56	20
1903	127	95	16½
1904	160	120	19
1905	—	86	21½
1906	114	104	24
1907	134	120	21½

This table is very eloquent of the increasing popularity of the Lincoln Red Shorthorn.

AN interesting letter correcting a statement in the *Daily News* appeared in that paper on Tuesday. Miss Lena Wallis, the daughter of a large Lincolnshire farmer, was reported as having said at a conference of Liberal women that it was a remarkable thing that labourers earning 14s a week brought up families of fourteen children. Miss Wallis explains that she did not speak on the subject at all, and would most emphatically have repudiated any such statement. In the Lincolnshire Wolds she says labourers get 15s. a week, which with harvesting, &c., brings their wages up to 18s. or 19s. On the other hand, rents are low and the labourer has many perquisites, the value of which cannot be reckoned in money. His lot is hard enough at the present time, but nothing is gained by making him live on impossibilities.

LINCOLNSHIRE FARMERS' UNION.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Central Committee of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union was held at Lincoln on Friday, when Mr. Colin Campbell, who was in the chair, stated he had requested the secretary to write to Earl Carrington to see if he would attend their dinner. A letter had been received stating that the Earl appreciated the invitation sent to him, and adding that he would have great pleasure in attending their annual dinner and meeting on January 31.

Tuberculosis in Cattle.

In connection with the Royal Agricultural Society of England, a letter was read from Lord Northbrook concerning tuberculosis in cattle. The latter implied that a meeting of the council of the society held on Wednesday last the following recommendation was unanimously adopted:—"In the event of promotion of legislation dealing with the question of tuberculosis and other diseases of cattle, the council is of opinion that any regulations dealing with this question should be issued by the Board of Agriculture, and not by any other department. The council also decided that a committee be formed to communicate with other societies for the purpose of watching the interests of agriculture with a view to possible legislation with reference to the tuberculosis question. The Union were requested to appoint one or two gentlemen to attend a meeting to be held at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, on December 11.

The chairman characterised the question as a very important one, and was of opinion they ought to be represented. The good thing about this was that the R.A.S.E. was a society absolutely without suspicion as far as any political views went. When they took a thing up it was taken up in order to benefit the farmer and the butcher.

Mr. Harrison stated with reference to their own market at Lincoln that it had been much injured owing to the attitude of the butchers, who demanded the payment of an indemnity fee.

It was decided that the Union be represented by the chairman and Messrs. Harrison, and G. A. Bellwood.

An Agricultural Party.

The question of a proposed agricultural party in the House of Commons came up. It appeared that the movement had been taken up by the Organisation Committee of the Central Chamber of Agriculture.

Mr. Harrison stated that he was of the opinion that it was in their very best interests to have a Parliamentary party of their own. Hitherto they had had no real claim on anyone. If they were not able to get many members at first, they would in the course of time be able to gather more, and in the end get a very strong party in the House.

Mr. Robinson: I scarcely know all that is implied by an agricultural party.

Mr. Blanshard said they might get one or two members to run under their auspices, but should not they get the members interested in agriculture in the House to form an agricultural party, and then add to them?

The chairman said the Central Chamber of Agriculture recommended to be done something which they had already done, namely, to bring pressure on the local members, and they should be formed into an agricultural party, and called together, no matter what their opinions might be, and get them to look on agricultural questions as non-party ones. That was what they directly recommended. They also said there was another alternative, viz., to have members sent by them and representing them directly. Their opinion was that representation would be very costly, and would upset the existing state of things. He thought that the first thing they recommended was the best for the present. That was what that Union had thought from the start, and now these other people throughout the country were coming exactly to what they had been working for. If that Union was to come to an end that day they would not have lived in vain. His idea was that if this thing went on which they had advocated, there would be a sort of joint board representative of the various classes of people interested in land, and to talk over other things of common interest.

Mr. Robinson said at the present they went to their Parliamentary representatives and asked them if they were in favour of certain measures. If they had Parliamentary representatives of their own they could break away, whereas now if a member was pledged to certain measures he could not get away from it. It was of more advantage to go on the lines they had been doing than go on lines which they would have no control of.

Mr. Morley supported Mr. Robinson, and said it would be all right so long as they went for men who went for measures they wanted.

Mr. Howard said the Union had put new life into agriculture. Each generation wanted new ideas.

Mr. Rawding said the knowledge Mr. Lupton, M.P. for Sleaford, had gained of agriculture was very small, and if he had been a farmer eighteen months he would have learned a great deal more.

It was eventually resolved to let the matter rest for the present, and if the Central Chamber of Agriculture approached them again they would consider it.

Road Grazing.

Mr. Powell brought up the question of road grazing. He said Mr. Embleton Fox had described road grazing cattle as an intolerable nuisance. If it were not for this road grazing many small farmers and cottagers such as those at Wellinggore and Navenby would scarcely be able to keep any cattle. Continuing, the speaker said Mr. Fox had also spoken of the tenters being away from the cattle, and he (the speaker) thought they as farmers must remedy that. He thought it was for them to see they sent suitable men on district councils and county councils to see their roads were not taken from them. He proposed a resolution to the effect that the General Purposes Committee in discussing the motor traffic resolution should pay special attention to the interests of farmers regarding cattle grazing on the roadside.

Mr. Harrison seconded, and Mr. Rawding supported.

Mr. Robinson: I do not know why we want a resolution. The county councils and district councils have nothing to do with it.

Mr. Morley: The county councils have a nasty little way of making by-laws at times.

The resolution was carried.

Railway Rates.

Mr. Glew mentioned a long delay at the station at which his teams were kept, and the delegates were instructed to ventilate the matter at the conference to be held in London.

BRIGG BRANCH.

There was only a poor attendance at the annual meeting of the Brigg branch of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union, held on Thursday. Mr. Taylor, Sturton, who was unanimously re-elected chairman, said the meetings at Brigg were about the worst attended of any of the branches of the Union, and he hoped there would be an increased attendance in the future.

Mr. Ford, Redbourne, was chosen vice-chairman, and Mr. Dodds, Elsham, re-elected secretary.

With reference to the motor traffic, Mr. Morris, Kirmington, said there was no doubt it required regulating as the cost of the maintenance of the highways was continually increasing.

Mr. Ford, Redbourne, said motorists should contribute more towards the cost of the upkeep of the road, and any increase in the cost of the license should go towards local taxation. The secretary pointed out that the increase in the cost of the maintenance of the Lincolnshire roads was about £2,000. He thought motor cars should be taxed according to their horse power.

The chairman said the faster the cars were driven the more wear and tear there was upon the roads. Also the dust nuisance from which they suffered was greatly increased. A resolution was ultimately passed that the Brigg branch suggested that motorists should be compelled to pay for licences according to the horse power of their cars, and the increased revenue should be devoted to the maintenance of the highways, and also that the police should be more vigilant as to the excessive speed at which motor cars were driven.

The Insurance Question

was also discussed, and Mr. Ford thought if agriculturists insured against fire accidents, and through the Farmers' Union, the premium would not be so much as insurance through a company. It would also tend to increase the membership of the Union to start such a scheme of insurance.

Members of the local branches would have to become guarantors in case there was a call upon the Union. Mr. Ford proposed a resolution that the Union should establish a scheme of insurance.

The chairman, in seconding, said the members of the Union would be shareholders in the suggested scheme, and at the commencement would have to give a guarantee. The motion was carried unanimously.

MEETING AT NORTH HYKEHAM.

A meeting in connection with the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union was held at North Hykeham on the 15th inst. Mr. Wm. Bradshaw presided, and in opening, spoke of the objects of the Farmers' Union, which he felt sure would command the sympathy of all present.

Mr. E. W. Howard reviewed the programme of the Union in his usual racy style, and had an enthusiastic reception. He contended that no body of men had done more to lift agriculture than the Farmers' Union.

The secretary (Mr. H. W. Palmer) referred to the excellent work done by the Union since the last meeting at Hykeham twelve months ago, and instanced the help that had been given to members in the nature of legal aid and advice, which went far to illustrate the direct benefits conferred on those who belonged to the Union.

One especial feature of the meeting was that before it concluded everyone present had paid his subscription.

The usual votes of thanks concluded a successful gathering.

The Fate of the Glasgow Agricultural Society.

The adjourned extraordinary general meeting of Glasgow and West of Scotland Agricultural Society, in connection with a proposal to go into liquidation, was held at Glasgow on Wednesday. Mr. W. E. Gilmour, president, was in the chair, and he explained that the last meeting was continued in order to give Colonel M'Kenzie, Edinbarnet, Duntocher, an opportunity of communicating with the debenture holders, with a view to getting them to waive their claims to interest until the society got into funds. He asked Colonel M'Kenzie to report.

Colonel M'Kenzie stated that he was sorry to say that he was disappointed with the reception that his proposal had met with from a few of the debenture holders. The great bulk of them had very readily signed the agreement to waive their claim for interest past and present, and leave it to the directors to pay from time to time such interest as the funds of the society would allow, but there were a few who had not seen their way to sign. One debenture holder wrote that he would not sign any document, another said he did not see his way to agree, but would postpone for five years. There were a number of others, the total amount being £1,600, who had not yet formally given him in writing an agreement to postpone their claims.

He thought those gentlemen would have seen from the circular sent to them that it was in their own interest to agree to the proposal, because it seemed to him very clear that if the society could not get clear of the £1,200 arrears of interest hanging over it, which it had not sufficient funds to meet, it simply could not evade going into liquidation. That would mean total loss of the principal sum of the debentures and a very large loss of the interest. In these circumstances it seemed to him that it would be very much better to save the chance of redeeming the principal sum and getting some interest than to lose nearly the whole thing, as they were bound to do under liquidation.

If they fully understood the situation, and took up the attitude of saying they would not sign, then he said it was a very shabby, dog-in-the-manger policy. His hope was that they did not appreciate the situation quite fully. He thought it would be wise, seeing such a large number of debenture holders had agreed to the proposal, that the meeting should be adjourned a little further, so that they might ask those gentlemen to consider carefully the advisability, for their own sakes as well as for that of the society, of agreeing to the proposal.

The chairman said it would be a pity if the society went into liquidation for a matter of £1,600. It would also be very unfair that those holding the £1,600 should get payment in full and the remaining debenture-holders nothing. He thought Colonel M'Kenzie's proposal was a very fair one, and he moved, and it was unanimously agreed to, that the meeting be adjourned till December 18, which was the date of the annual meeting of the society.

The balance-sheet presented at the annual meeting of the Melton Mowbray District Horse Show Society showed receipts amounting to £560 1s. 6d., and the expenditure £539 12s. 2d., there thus being a profit on the year's working of £28 9s. 4d.



Course of the Markets.

London.

"To morrow and to-morrow and to-morrow, creeps in this petty pace from day to day." We are all the time looking for something better that to-morrow may bring us, and we are all the time being disappointed. Another week has passed, and I regret to say that I have no good news for my country friends. Indeed, the position of our market appears to become rather worse than better. It is true that a little business is passing, but the bids are lower, and holders are more willing to accept them, thus losses increase and remuneration seems to have vanished out of sight. I hear of hands being discharged for want of employment in the Borough warehouses, of merchants declaring that it would be almost advantageous for them to close their offices for a period, and I know, from personal observation, that factors are weary with waiting for inquiries that do not arrive. Such a condition of affairs at this period of the season is almost without precedent, and it follows naturally that values are gradually but certainly being reduced, and are now at such a low point as should create demand if consumers were in need of our produce. But here is the question, which it is most difficult, if not impossible to answer, Do the brewers want our hops? If we are to judge by the slow demand we have hitherto met with, we may conclude that they can almost do without us, at least for the present. We might reasonably suppose that stocks held by brewers, however large they may have been, should be materially lessened, and perhaps almost exhausted by this time, but when we find that the present very low currency does not tempt them to operate, we are compelled to decide that they are waiting the further development of events, which are as yet dormant or concealed in the mind of the Government. We can hardly be surprised at this reticence when we recall the loud talk about licensing legislation that is promised for next session. What direction it will take we cannot tell; the air is full of rumours, but it appears to be accepted that the interests of the brewing industry will be seriously attacked. Therefore it is reasonable that our customers should pause before committing themselves to greater obligations than they can by any means avoid. It is this disturbing uncertainty that is, I believe, the main cause of our troubles of to-day, and I fear that we shall be obliged to wait for some time for the dawn of the to morrow that may release us from our perplexity.

Nuremberg.

This market seems to be gradually losing its earlier firmness, the demand for export having become weaker, and purchases by native consumers having materially lessened. Stocks are increasing, the arrivals for the week ending November 19, being 3,100 bales and the sales for the same week amounting only to 1,900 bales. The results are seen in the reduction of quotations by some shillings, especially for low and medium qualities. Even the better sorts that have hitherto held their values are offered at lower prices, holders being willing to make concessions in order to induce business. The present tendency favours continued dulness, with some probability of further reduction of prices.

Brussels.

The Belgian markets are wanting in life. The brewery demand is fairly steady, but the volume of business is very limited. The export trade is quiet, and although prices remain at the same nominal point as previously reported, there is an under current of pressure to sell, indicating the probability of lower quotations in the near future.

The imports of hops into Belgium during September last were 2,376 cwt., of which the greater part came from Germany, the arrivals from England only amounting to 53 cwt. Belgian exports for the same month were 1,352 cwt., our English market having received nearly two-thirds of this quantity, the bulk of the remainder going to France.

America.

My most recent letters from the West confirm previous information. I am told that "the hop market, which is already in a very weak condition, has received a further blow by the financial crisis through which we are now passing. The money market is so tight that there is absolutely no buying, and, on the other hand, the country banks and others who have made loans on hop crops, are calling for their money and demanding immediate sales by farmers. This, of course, is having a demoralising effect, with a consequent lowering of values on all sides. Hops can be purchased to-day at lower prices than we have ever known since we have been in business. There certainly has never been a time in Washington when good hops could be purchased in October as low as 5 cents, and considerable business has been done here recently at this price. The market in Oregon is a little higher, having been supported at a certain firmness by English buying, but now there are no more export orders there, and the market has flattened out, and there are indications that it will soon be on a parity with ours." It is stated that Durst and others are agitating for the consignment of 50,000 or 75,000 bales to London, and that the United States of America can easily spare 100,000 bales and still have plenty left for home requirements. Already some considerable quantities have been shipped, and further consignments are being arranged for from Oregon, which will be shipped as soon as the financial situation clears up a little.

The prospects are certainly not promising for the future of our Borough market.

Drying and Curing.

(Concluded from page 627.)

Sulphuring.

Dr. Stockberger points out that the practice of burning sulphur in the kiln during the drying process is permissible, chiefly as it is a response to the demands of the market for the pale yellowish colour. Many dealers are guided in their estimate of value more by colour than by other more essential qualities, and are frequently inclined to rate unsulphured hops as inferior, while sulphured hops of the same growth are classed as choice. It is, however, probable that a moderate application of sulphur is useful in destroying any micro-organisms that may be able to survive the heat of the kiln, and thus the keeping qualities are improved. Some experts assert that the use of sulphur accelerates drying, but this advantage requires further proof. From 2 lb. to 6 lb. of sulphur per 100 lb. of green hops is the usual proportion, and it is most essential that only refined sulphur of guaranteed purity should be used, as the fumes arising from the unrefined or crude sorts will contaminate the hops and injure their brewing quality.

Treatment in the Cooling Room.

A very important part of the successful curing of hops is the handling they receive in the cooling room. Being spread out on the floor, they lose their heat and absorb moisture from the air. The stems are usually not so dry as the other parts of the cones, and during this sweating process the moisture is equalised and the hops become tough and pliable. The best-informed growers recognise that other important changes occur which materially affect the quality of the product. A finer and more pleasing aroma, as well as a more attractive physical appearance is said to be developed, provided the process is carefully watched, and the hops prevented from becoming heated or too moist. Under ordinary circumstances these two evils are avoided by loosening up the hops in the usual way. If taken in time slack dried hops may be brought out and thus practically freed from their sour, musty smell. Great care and good judgment are necessary at this period for proper handling, and more attention given to this phase of hop curing will certainly result in improved qualities.

Yield of Crops.

The paper we are examining gives some figures that may be interesting when the question of American competition is considered. It is shown that from 1879 to 1899 the average production per acre in the States mentioned was as follows:—

New York	577 lb.
Oregon	982 ,,
California	1,379 ,,
Washington	1,410 ,,

Dr. Stockberger adds that in favourable seasons, on the better soils, the yield will usually be much larger. In California, an acre may produce 1,800 to 2,400 lb.; in Washington, 1,200 to 2,000 lb.; in Oregon, 1,000 to 1,600 lb.; and in New York, 800 to 1,500 lb.

The annual estimates of the production of hops in the United States show a steady and substantial increase during the past six years, the figures quoted being as follows:—

1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
346,732	348,200	395,490	438,600	495,850	586,200

The increase during the above period is thus seen to be nearly 70 per cent.

Types of Kilns.

The kilns in use in the U.S.A. are described and illustrated by Dr. Stockberger, but without the drawings it would be almost useless for me to attempt to give the details. I gather that the use of the air blast kiln is advocated in preference to those with only natural draught. I note also that there is no mention of drying hops by means

of open fires, all American kilns being provided with closed stoves, the air passing through the hops, being heated by contact with pipes, so that, whatever may be the actual plan of the kiln, there is no possibility in any case of the products of combustion contaminating the hops on the drying floor.

In thus concluding my extracts from this interesting paper, which comprises many other important points concerning climate, soil, cultivation, and marketing, it only remains for me to refer briefly to the lessons we may learn from the information provided.

Our English Methods.

It would appear that our predecessors in the industry were not quite so ignorant of the correct principles of curing hops as some of us moderns are inclined to consider them. The "cockle" oast was in common use in former times, and, imperfect as was its construction, it had at least the merit of avoiding the risks and dangers of the open furnaces which subsequently came into general use. But its action was too slow to meet modern requirements; two loads of hops must be dried in the same time as the "cockle" could dry one load, and the advantages of the older system were therefore set aside in favour of the quicker dispatch of the business, accomplished by the more rapid transmission of heat from open fires. To-day we are again changing our views. Assisted by engineering science, we are finding out that it is possible to hasten the drying process by means of forced draught, with the additional gains of an increased volume of air at low temperature, and absolute purity of the air which is the vehicle for removing the moisture. This is being effected in various ways. We have in one system elaborate batteries of comparatively small pipes heated by burning fuel, through which batteries the air is drawn by a powerful fan, and by the same means is propelled through the hops. Another, and to my mind a better system, is that which employs a battery of steam heated pipes for raising the temperature of the air forced through it by a powerful fan. Such systems are most effective, but the initial cost is heavy and beyond the pocket of the average grower. The necessities of the time have aroused inventors, who have succeeded in accomplishing equal efficiency at much lighter outlay. Without any bias in favour of either, I can mention with satisfaction the arrangements introduced and patented both by Mr. Joyce, of Hereford, and Mr. Shew, of Ledbury. These differ in details of construction, and naturally each inventor claims precedence. Speaking candidly, both systems are excellent, and both attain the objects indicated by Dr. Stockberger, when he points out what is necessary for the proper management of hops in the kiln. The moderate cost at which either of these systems can be installed brings them within reach of every English planter, and the approval they have already secured from so many expert growers encourages me to look for the speedy extinction of all open fires, and the early conversion of our older kilns to these more advanced and more perfect systems.

Our industry is seriously threatened by the world's competition, that becomes keener every season. English growers have fought the battle bravely for many years, but the time has now arrived when they must look carefully at every point of their position. The cost of production, the quality of their produce, and the best means of lowering the former and improving the latter, these claim attention to-day. I am confident that when the necessities of the case are fully realised, our people will be found equal to the occasion, and will demonstrate, as they always have, their true character by keeping their place at the top.

Hop Conference at Wye.

The conference of hop growers will be held here on November 27, at 11.15 a.m., when a large attendance of growers is expected. The agenda will include:—11.15, "The Influence of Fertilisation on the 'Growing out' of Hops," Messrs. E. S. Salmos and Arthur Amos; 2 30, "Arsenic in Hops," Mr. M. J. R. Dunstan and Dr. Goodwin; "Eelworms," Mr. F. V. Theobald; followed by discussion.

The annual hirings at Darlington took place on Monday, when servants seeking situations were not so numerous as in some former years, most of the engagements being made beforehand. The hiring of men was more for half a year than formerly, being at the rate of £28 to £30 per year for the best men and foremen; secondary, £23 to £24; strong youths for ploughboys, £16 to £18; younger boys, £8 to £9. Female servants were rather scarce and commanded high wages. Dairymaids and experienced farm workers were £18 to £21; ordinary servants, £15 to £16; girls, £10 to £11; young girls, £7 to £8 for the year.

FARM.

Gloucester Root Competitions.

The West Gloucester Farmers' Club in 1904 started a root competition which has grown in popularity each year, for whereas in the first year the entries were only nineteen, this year they numbered sixty-four, and Mr. E. K. Morgan, of Slymbridge, who officiated as judge reports most favourably of the roots entered. In his report now issued he says:—

The whole of the entries are very commendable. Mr. G. H. Jones, of Badminton, who takes the first prize for swedes in the "Hill District," has a grand lot of roots, heavy, with quality, and very growing, cultivations excellent. The same exhibitor also takes the prize for turnips. Mr. Harry Butler, Badminton, wins the mangold prize with good quality roots. Mr. Henry Nicholls, Iron Acton, the chief winner in the Vale, has the best lot of roots I would wish to walk through, his mangolds, swedes and turnips having a remarkable average. They are not only heavy, but the quality cultivations, and management are undeniable. Mr. Jeffery Matthews's (Winterbourne) roots are of very choice quality, very growing, and the cultivations, together with management, are superbly done. Mr. Henry Matthews, of Winterbourne, richly deserves the society's mangold prize with a heavy piece, well cultivated; the same competitor also has some useful swedes. Messrs. Henry Bridgman (Downend), T. Meredith (Iron Acton), John Rymer (Hambrook), and F. Biss (Almondsbury) deserves mentioning for the care and judgment they evidently have used in growing such excellent root crops. In concluding my report, I would like to make one suggestion for future competitions—that all roots should be grown on land which has produced a white straw crop the previous year.

Forestry in Ireland.

The inquiries in Ireland as to tree planting and felling operations instituted in 1890, and continued in the fifteen following years, were repeated in 1906. According to the returns, during the year ended June 30, 1906, 1,013 acres were planted with trees, 378 acres more than the extent planted in the preceding year.

The number of trees felled, both for clearance and for thinning plantations, amounted in 1906 to 883,732. The area returned as cleared is 1,045 acres. It may be noted from Irish statistics just published that while there would appear to have been an increase of 3,565 acres under woods and plantations, the statistics of planting and felling show a decrease of thirty-two acres.

There is thus a discrepancy in the figures, but, as has been pointed out in previous reports, considerable difficulties exist in ascertaining the area under woods and plantations from a very large number of persons, many of whom are imperfectly acquainted with the acreage under timber on their holdings.

Of the trees felled, 407,149 were used for "propping," which appears to have been the chief purpose to which the timber of almost all descriptions was applied.

The numbers applied to the principal specified uses comprise also:—25,788 trees for sleepers, 99,363 for paling, 17,330 for fuel, 23,337 for furniture and building purposes, 3,045 for carts, wagons, &c., 3,870 for clog soles, 1,295 for shipbuilding, 750 for telegraph and telephone poles, 1,900 for soap boxes, 1,895 for butter and egg boxes, 1,648 for street paving, &c., 1,260 for railway carriage, 1,000 for tramways, and 1,000 for charcoal.

Webb and Sons' Root Competition.

The awards in the annual competition for the valuable prizes offered by Webb and Sons, the King's seedsmen, Wordsley, Stourbridge, for root crops grown from their seeds and with the aid of their special manure, have just been made by the judges, viz.:—Mr. H. W. Woods, "Ivydene," St. Anns-on-Sea, Lancashire; Mr. J. Myatt, Lynn House, near Walsall, Staffordshire; Mr. W. L. Anson, Iverley, Stourbridge, Worcestershire; and the following is a copy of their awards:—

District 1.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the counties of Salop, Stafford, Montgomery, Warwick, and Leicester. First prize, £15 15s., Mr. William Humphreys, Evenall, Oswestry, Salop, 49 tons 12 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb. per acre; second prize, £10 10s., Mrs. T. J. Major Adderley Lees, Market Drayton, 49 ton 11 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. per acre. Three acres of Webbs' mangold. First prize, £10 10s., Mr. Septimus Timmis, Charnes Old Hall, Eccleshall, Staffordshire, 58 tons 4 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb. per acre; second prize, £5 5s., Mr. W. H. O. Lander, Day House, Wellington, Salop, 57 tons 12 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb. per acre.

District 2.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the counties of Hereford, Monmouth, Brecon, Glamorgan, Carmarthen, and Pembroke. First prize, £15 15s., Mr. William Emerson, Swelden Farm, Cyntwell, Cardiff, 46 tons 7 cwt. 0 qr. 16 lb. per acre; second prize, £5 5s., Mr. W. Hier Evans, Rudyr Court, Llandaff, Cardiff, 40 tons 17 cwt. 0 qr. 6 lb. per acre. Two acres of Webbs' mangold. Prize, £10 10s., Mr. J. J. Corbishley, Eccleswall Court, Ross, Hereford, 65 tons 11 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. per acre.

District 3.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the counties of Oxon, Northampton, Berks, Bucks, Wilts, Hants, Surrey, Worcester, and Gloucester. First prize, £15 15s., Mr. George Bonnor, Hill Top, Rochford, Tenbury, 46 tons 4 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb. per acre; second prize, £5 5s., Marquis of Downshire, Easthampstead Park, Wokingham, Berks, 34 tons 17 cwt. 0 qr. 16 lb. per acre. Three acres of Webbs' mangold, open to the counties of Oxon, Northampton, Berks, Bucks, Wilts, Hants, Surrey, and Worcester. Prize, £10 10s., Mr. Alfred Brown, Hill Farm, Southampton, 79 tons 12 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb. per acre.

District 4.—Two acres of Webbs' mangold, open to the county of Gloucester. Prize, £5 5s., Mr. H. W. S. Gist, Manor House, Alston, Tewkesbury, 47 tons 10 cwt. per acre.

District 5.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the county of York. First prize, £10 10s, Mr. J. W. Earle, Kirkbridge, Aldbro', Darlington, 27 tons 19 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb per acre; second prize, £5 5s., E. W. Stanyforth, Esq., Kirk Hammerton Hall, York, 27 tons 8 cwt. 2 qr. 8 lb. per acre. Three acres of Webbs' mangold. Prize £10 10s., E. W. Stanyforth, Kirk Hammerton Hall, York, 36 tons per acre.

District 6.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk. Prize £10 10s., Exors. of the late S. Nightingale, Esq., Thurne, Great Yarmouth, 26 tons 2 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb. per acre. Three acres of Webbs' mangold. Prize, £10 10s., Mr. J. Love, Walcot, Stalham, Norfolk, 39 tons 6 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. per acre.

District 7.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the counties of Bedford, Cambridge, Cornwall, Cumberland, Cheshire, Derby, Devon, Dorset, Durham, Essex, Herts, Huntingdon, Kent, Lancaster, Lincoln, Middlesex, Northumberland, Notts, Rutland, Somerset, Sussex, Westmoreland, Cardigan, Carnarvon, Denbigh, Flint, Merioneth, and Radnor. First prize, £15 15s., Mr. T. W. Turnbull, Wark-on-Tweed, Coldstream, N B, 36 tons 14 cwt, 1 qr. 4 lb. per acre; second prize, £5 5s., Mr. S. S. Raingill, the Grange, Ringway, Altrincham. 36 tons 4 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb. per acre. Two acres of Webbs' mangold. Prize, £10 10s., Mr. A. Wright, Royals Wood, Nantwich, Cheshire, 61 tons 4 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb. per acre.

District 8.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the counties of Roxburgh, Haddington, Berwick, Edinburgh, and Linlithgow. First prize, £10 10s., Mr. James Cook, Arniston, Gorebridge, Edinburgh, 35 tons per acre; second prize, £5 5s., Mr. William Gemmill, Greendykes, Macmerry, 32 tons 12 cwt. 3 qrs. 12 lb. per acre.

District 9.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the county of Perth. First prize, £10 10s., Earl of Mansfield, Balboughty, Perth, 36 tons 7 cwt. 0 qrs. 16 lbs. per acre; second prize, £5 5s, Mr. C. A. Murray, Taymount, Stanley, 34 tons 14 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb. per acre.

District 10.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the counties of Forfar, Fife, and Kinross First prize, £10 10s., Mr. James Law, Spencerfield, Inver Keithing, 35 tons per acre; second prize, £5 5s., Mr. Thomas Walker, Kilmaron, Cupar, 33 tons 18 cwt 2 qr. 8 lb. per acre.

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District 13.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the counties of Stirling Dumbarton, and Clackmannan. Prize £5 5s, Mr. James Todd, Blackdub, Bridge of Allan, 23 tons per acre.

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District 15.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the counties of Peebles and Lanark. Prize, £5 5s, Mr. George Findlater, Jerviswood Mains, Lanark, 36 tons 10 cwt. per acre. Five acres of Webbs' yellow turnips. Prize, £5 5s., Mr. James Struthers, Anston, Dunsyre, Carstairs, 33 tons 11 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. per acre.

District 16.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the counties of Sutherland and Caithness. Prize £5 5s, Mr. J. D. Cameron, Kirkton, Golspie, 30 tons per acre. Five acres of Webbs', yellow turnips. Prize £5 5s., Mr. Magnus McKenzie, Westfield, Thurso, 32 tons 15 cwt. 2 qr. 24 lb.

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JAMES P. HENDERSON,
Secretary, *pro tem.*

LEGAL NOTICE.

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Chancery Division,
Mr. Justice PICTON.
In the matter of
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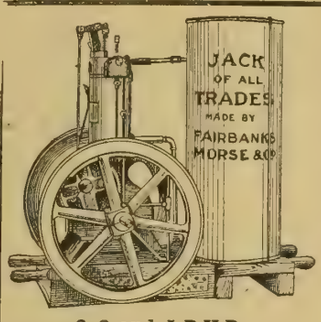


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LONDON, MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1907.

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Seasonable Topics.

"MARK LANE EXPRESS" STAND AT THE CATTLE SHOW.

The "Mark Lane Express" Stand at the Smithfield Show next week will be No. 104 in the Main Gallery, where we shall be pleased to see all our friends and readers visiting the Show.



THE BROOK.

Overstocking in Markets. WHAT a pity it is that we have no means of ascertaining direct from cows themselves when they are suffering pain through being overstocked with milk. It would save a good deal of argument, and magistrates who have cases of overstocking brought before them would find matters very much simplified. As it is, there is no wonder that magistrates, who perhaps do not know very much about it themselves, are somewhat at a loss to know how to decide in face of such a diversity of expert opinion. The farmer who takes his cow into market with calf at foot to sell naturally wants the animal to present as good a bag as possible, but we will give him credit for not wishing to put her to unnecessary pain. On the other hand, there is the inspector belonging to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals on the alert for cases of overstocking, and he is only doing his duty by taking action in a flagrant case. The difficulty arises when experts on one side contend that the cow was not overstocked and experts on the other give evidence in the opposite direction. The only individual who really knows is the cow, and her word cannot be taken, hence the difficulty. The obvious course is for farmers to avoid any risks of a charge, and for officials not to be over-zealous, and to be quite sure of a case before prosecuting.

Cutting Noses to Spite Faces. IN a recent issue of the MARK LANE EXPRESS there was an extraordinary picture, showing a wheat stack that has stood for nearly thirty years untouched, the alleged reason being that the owner made a vow that he would not sell the grain under a certain price, which it has never attained, nor should we think there is much likelihood of it now. The story, by the way, reminds one somewhat of that told by the immortal Sam Weller about the man who did everything on principle, even to the eating of an enormous quantity of crumpets and then blowing his brains out, but is it not a clear case of cutting one's nose to spite one's face? No individual is one whit the better off through the corn standing in the stack for nearly thirty years, and if the owner was determined not to sell the grain below a certain price, it would have been better to have given it away to his poorer neighbours, because this would have benefited somebody. This, of course, is a flagrant case, but others might be given of farmers who have cut their noses, so to speak, and have been the losers through sticking to one line, simply because they were used to it, instead of conforming to changed ideas and modern requirements. Farmers, in fact, like other people, must set out to supply what people want at current prices, and refusal to conform with this rule is merely cutting one's nose to spite the face.

Winter. SO long as the weather keeps mild and open in the closing months of the year, we feel that the winter is creeping on, and the season when we may expect severity is gradually growing shorter. In fact, if we can see Christmas over without anything very bad, we feel that we have not done amiss; but such is not the case in all parts this year, for while writing we have reports before us telling of wintry conditions in the Midlands and the North, with heavy falls of snow, though in some places the last remnants of the belated harvest are not yet gathered in. Surely this year will go down to posterity with a strange record as regards peculiar weather conditions and sudden changes, but snow in November is not the kind of thing to cheer the farmer. It means serious inroads into the fodder stacks, and what would be more welcome is a spell of dry, breezy days so that the seasonable operations on arable land which are retarded on account of the prolonged wet could be got on with. When the ground is covered with snow, however, work is necessarily stopped, and these conditions prevailing in November mean the possibility of a long winter.

The Labourer's Vote. AGRICULTURAL politics are dealt with in another column, and we merely draw attention here to a matter that appears to be in danger of being overlooked in the Parliamentary considerations of the future—*i.e.*, the power of the labourer's vote. It went a long way towards putting the present party into power, as it will with other parties in the future, for though the labourer may not, by his demeanour, appear to concern himself with party politics, he realises his privilege at election times and does not fail to exercise it. In the farming world to-day there is a strong feeling as to the desirability of having an agricultural party in the House of Commons to look after the interests of the ancient industry. Quite right; but in making calculations it would be well not to forget that farmers alone do not represent agriculture. In short, there is the labourer's vote to be considered; he will have his demands to make, and some of them may not be quite in accordance with the views of farmers; but, nevertheless, the possibility of an agricultural party in Parliament rests largely with the labouring fraternity.

Practical Education. TO us it seems an unfortunate thing that many agricultural societies pay little or no attention to the educational side of the industry, and yet they have such fine opportunities. We readily admit that a society which exists merely for the sake of holding an annual show and promoting competitions does good, but it might do more in the way of educating the rising generation of farmers in matters connected with their calling. As an example we would mention the Berkeley Hunt Society, in Gloucestershire, which makes a strong point of looking after the education of its junior members, both practically and theoretically. The teaching is done at weekly classes arranged for the purpose,

and practical examinations in such important work as ploughing, thatching, &c., are held. Good prizes are offered as inducements for the young men to join the classes and enter for the examinations, and at the last annual show a new feature was introduced in the shape of a cattle-judging competition, in which a number of young fellows demonstrated their ability in this direction. The value of practical education of this kind can hardly be over estimated as it is a means of equipping farmers of the future with knowledge that must be useful to them.

Artificial Manures in Small Quantities.

THERE are no two opinions to-day about the value of artificial manures, and up-to-date farmers realise that they must use these valuable aids to fertility if they would get the best results. As yet, however, it is the man who farms on a large and medium scale who uses the most artificial manure, and this perhaps because he can buy on the most favourable terms. In fact he enjoys certain privileges through being a wholesale purchaser, but the small proprietor and the allotment holder is not so well off. He is not averse to the use of artificials because he sees their value on the farms around him, but in many country districts there is a difficulty in obtaining artificial manures in small quantities and at reasonable prices. Some we know get their little bits through neighbouring farmers, but these are isolated cases, and if the above difficulty were removed artificials would be more extensively used on cabbage gardens, allotments, and small holdings than is the case at present.

The Shooting Season.

IT is in the two last months of the year that most of the covert shooting is done, and, despite the fact that it has been a poor season for pheasants, big bags are reported from estates where game is strictly preserved. In what way are farmers interested in the shooting operations of their landlords? In the first place because farmers have sporting blood in their veins, and can hardly help themselves, and secondly, farmers play their own part in the preservation of the game that is killed. This, by the way, is by no means an unimportant part if the relations between landlord and tenant, where game is concerned, are as they should be, and the former should see that the farmers on his estate are treated with consideration. We know several estates, by the way, on which even the largest farmers take part in the beating on big shooting days, and are pleased to do it, because the landlord in each case is one of the right type, and a short time after the big days are over the farmers receive invitations—not to beat, but to shoot this time, and good sport is provided for them. Even where this is not done a small present of game from the landlord after a big battue is greatly appreciated by a tenant, and he takes it as a little recompense for what he has done towards the preservation of the same.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Not Protection, but Penalty.

I am grateful to Mr. W. J. Malden and Mr. Percy C. Reid for their exceedingly interesting and able reflections on my comments upon Mr. Balfour's Birmingham speech. May I say that, I fear, both correspondents—though Mr. Reid in a lesser degree — have misapprehended my position. I was not, and am not now, arguing the issue of Protection *versus* Free Trade. My demand was and is that, if we insist on a policy of Protection, the British farmer should not alone be selected for penalty. And I aver that under the new economy this would inevitably be the case. A sop has to be given to Cerberus. The colonists have to be offered a *quid pro quo*. They are told, "Give a preference over the foreigner to English industrialism in your markets, and you shall have a preference for your produce in the English markets." Their produce is the fruit of the earth—it is entirely agricultural. Hence in order to secure a more assured trade for general industrialism a rival to the British farmer is to be encouraged—nay, bribed—to secure the British markets. And that rival does not conceal his intention. I have hitherto left out of consideration the Australian farmer; I have dealt only with the Canadian farmer. The statecraft of the Dominion makes no secret of its intention. "Our fertility," it says, "is so remarkable that we can supply the whole of the food necessities of the British people, and under the policy of Colonial preference we should do it." Where would the British farmer come in? Now, Mr. Malden, is this Protection—is this the Protection which the British farmer (I admit the majority of the British farmers are Protectionists) has assiduously demanded? When the British farmer speaks of tariff reform does he mean a reform by which a tariff consideration shall be given to every calling but his own, and that in his case the tariff consideration shall be given to his Colonial rival, already so well placed in regard to rent, rates, and railway charges that he enters into the competition field blessed with a considerable and favourable handicap? Is this Protection? It is nothing of the sort. It is Penalty in the interest of other trades.

* * *

Is the Farmer to be Sacrificed?

Now, Mr. Malden, do not, I beg of you, urge that we should receive an advantage in the shape of a rebuked foreign competition that the Canadian competitor would be no more than is at this moment the general foreign competition. First of all, let me reiterate, this is not the view of Canadian statecraft. That statecraft indulges in the vision of entirely usurping our markets; and that vision harmonises with the prospective development of the great reaches of the Far West. More significant than all is Mr. Balfour's distinct, clear, and emphatic declarations that the duties on the foreign competitor *must be small*, "that they shall *not augment the proportion paid by the working man*," and that they "*shall not touch raw material*."—Apart from the fact that the working man (whose proportion is *not* to be augmented) is far and away the largest consumer of food products in these islands, here we have definitely indicated that not only is the foreigner *not* to be seriously rebuked, but that even much of that which enters into competition with the British farmer is not to be taxed at all. For heaven's sake, don't propound to me the old problem "when is raw material not raw material?" It is at such a juncture as foolish an interrogation as that which puzzled the old schoolists—how many angels could dance upon the point of a needle? We all know that much of what we produce—ask the confectioner, the cheesemonger, and the baker—is raw material, and that no subtlety of interpretation can get rid of this fact. Here, then, we have the one supreme deduction: Whilst one phase of the competition which the British farmer has to meet is to be encouraged—nay, bribed—to enter the markets which should be his, the other phase of the competition is *not* to be seriously rebuked. Again I come back to my question—is this Protection? It is not. Colonial preference, under the conditions suggested, means a possibly advantaged urban trade at *the direct expense of the British farmer*. The British farmer is not only to be exempted from the operation of the new scheme—he is to be sacrificed.

* * *

Protection All Round.

Protection if you will; but let it be Protection all round. Is this Protection all round? Is this—forgive the damnable iteration—Protection for the British farmer? There is no concealment of the fact—and here I turn to Mr. Percy Reid's excellently logical letter—that the new economy may heighten the cost of living and necessarily compel a rise in wages. If it heighten the cost of living the sequel of a heavier wages bill is, in view of the present-day organised power of labour, inevitable. Whether there would be a consequent rise in rent is, I will suggest, problematical. We will even assume that landlords, in their characteristic patriotism, would be willing to abandon their righteous share in the increased prosperity of the nation, and be ready to welcome increased demands on their own purse without taking the only step possible to them to increase its contents. Does Mr. Malden indulge in the hope that, appreciating all this, the Canadian Government would refrain from seeking to realise its own confessed ambition, the capture of our produce markets? When Mr. Chamberlain first propounded his new evangel, he expressed the belief that the Colonies would adopt the attitude of patriotic renunciation and actually refuse, even within their own borders, to set up industries likely to compete with British industries. This idea was at once derided and rejected by no less a personage in the Imperial fabric than Sir Wilfred Laurier. Canada, he declared in effect, was going to put no limit to its own internal industrial development. We must therefore be under no illusions on this point. Canada will—as will every one of the Australian colonies—play for her own hand. True, there may be permeating the whole colonial policy the filial desire for closer and more intimate practical relations with the Motherland; but you cannot eliminate from relations between colonies and the parent country—after all, a very different thing to the personal relations between daughter and mother—the principle of self. Again I ask, Is the new policy, under the circumstances, really Protection for the farmer? It may be Protection for the urban trades; but for the farmer it is immolation. Protection if you will; but Protection all round.

* * *

Where will the Farmer Come In?

Let me illustrate the temper of the colonies by the action of the Australian Commonwealth. Under the new preferential policy adopted by that body certain of the duties against British goods have been raised from 15 and 25 to 35 and 40 per cent. True, there is a heavier duty against the foreigner; but these duties are sufficient to keep out British goods. I pray I may not be described as munching the remainder-biscuit of a played-out yesterday. Undeniably Cobdenism was inspired by the anxiety to benefit the towns, and that, as a consequence, the agrarian interest for awhile seriously suffered. The Manchester school was the school of urban capitalism—a stern, personal school, moved ever and anon by gusts of humanitarian sentiment. I am now anxious that agriculture shall not be again sacrificed to the desire of urbanism. And the one outstanding fact of the situation is that the bait offered to the colonists for resorting in an increasing degree to the factories of the towns is that they themselves shall find a moderated competition, or rather no competition, in the produce-markets of Great Britain, and thus be enabled to dump their own products in an assured and profitable mart. Where in this transaction does the British farmer come in? Where will he come in even if there be, as Mr. Malden suggests, a graduated tariff under which the colonies will be moderately afflicted and the foreigner greatly afflicted? And, after all, Mr. Malden must remember that Mr. Balfour has declared that, not only must the duties not touch raw material, but that they *must be small*. Wherein with small duties shall we find a field for serious differentiation?

SMITHFIELD CATTLE SHOW,
ISLINGTON,
December 9 to 13, 1907.
The "Mark Lane Express"
STAND WILL BE
No. 104 (MAIN GALLERY, USUAL POSITION).

The report of the committee of the Berkeley Hunt Agricultural Society for 1907 should afford the members interesting reading, for it is a record of success. Favoured with splendid weather and a record entry, the show on August Bank Holiday was a conspicuous success. With the increased contributions of several members of the Hunt, and a splendid membership of over 500, the prize list was further extended, a total of £759 being paid, and increase of £58, and although the receipts on the show day did not reach last year's record, a satisfactory profit of nearly £20 has been made on the year. The expenses are slightly under £350, and it is worthy of note that the whole of the subscriptions, donations, and entry fees are returned in prizes, with a few pounds in addition. The other work of the Society has also been attended with conspicuous success, and it is to be hoped that the society will continue to prosper and thus be able to increase the good work it is already doing.

BIRMINGHAM FAT STOCK SHOW.

BIRMINGHAM Fat Cattle Show opened on Saturday in the Bingley Hall, this being the 59th of the series. Weather conditions in the Midlands were not at all favourable, as a thick fog impeded traffic and delayed the train service. The Bingley Hall itself wore its accustomed aspect, but it was generally the impression that the quality of the cattle was not up to the standard of many previous years; the sheep, however, were exceptionally good.

From impressions formed on Saturday there is every probability of another success being added to the annals of the Great Midland Fat Stock Show, and there should be large attendances of the public during the week.

CHAMPIONSHIPS.

The awarding of the championships this year was rather more complicated than usual, and the leading trophies were somewhat divided. The breeders' champion prize, offered for the best animal in classes 1 to 24, was awarded Sir J. R. G. Cotterell's first prize aged Hereford, which carried off the Elkington Challenge Cup, the reserve for both honours was Miss A. de Rothschild's first prize crossbred steer under two years old. Messrs. Webb's Challenge Cup was also allotted to the Hereford and the reserve as in the preceding cases. The Thorley Challenge Cup was awarded to Mr. Peter Dunn's first prize Shorthorn steer, which in this instance beat Sir J. R. G. Cotterell's Hereford, which was reserve.

The *Birmingham Daily Post* Challenge Cup for best animal in the cattle classes not exceeding two years old was awarded to Miss Alice de Rothschild's steer, and the reserve to Mr. Phipp's first prize Hereford junior steer. Messrs Shorthouse's special prize for the heaviest beast in the show was awarded to a Shorthorn of Mr. J. G. Parsons', which gave the substantial record of 22 cwt. 3 qr.

Altogether the championships gave general satisfaction, though the announcements in one or two instances came as a surprise.

CATTLE.

Herefords.

The Whitefaced breed from Herefordshire were wonderfully well represented in each of their classes. Exceeding two year and not exceeding three-year-olds there were no less than ten entries, the first prize by common consent going to Sir J. R. G. Cotterell, Bart., for a steer by Rameses out of Sylph. This steer is no less remarkable for his weight than he is for his beautiful quality, symmetry, and finish. On the scales he pulls up the beam at 17 cwt. 1 qr. 23 lb. at two years seven months, and his handling is of the very best. He has laid this flesh on so very evenly and well, and was an easy winner of the Hereford breed cup, as well as other of the champion honours. Sir R. P. Cooper followed for the second place with another steer scaling over 17 cwt., bred by Mr. H. F. Russell and sired by Soudan. He is a capital ribbed bullock, famous top, loin, shoulders, well covered and well packed in his hindquarters. He looks like making a famous bullock dead. H.M. the King secured the third prize with a very good bullock by Fire King out of Rosita. He, too, is of admirable quality, with a famous covering of roasting beef. Mr. R. L. Batchelore was reserved with a bullock scaling 18 cwt. 1 qr. 1 lb. H.c. cards were allotted to Mr. W. H. Cook, and c cards to Mr. Peter Coates and Mr. Richard Bright.

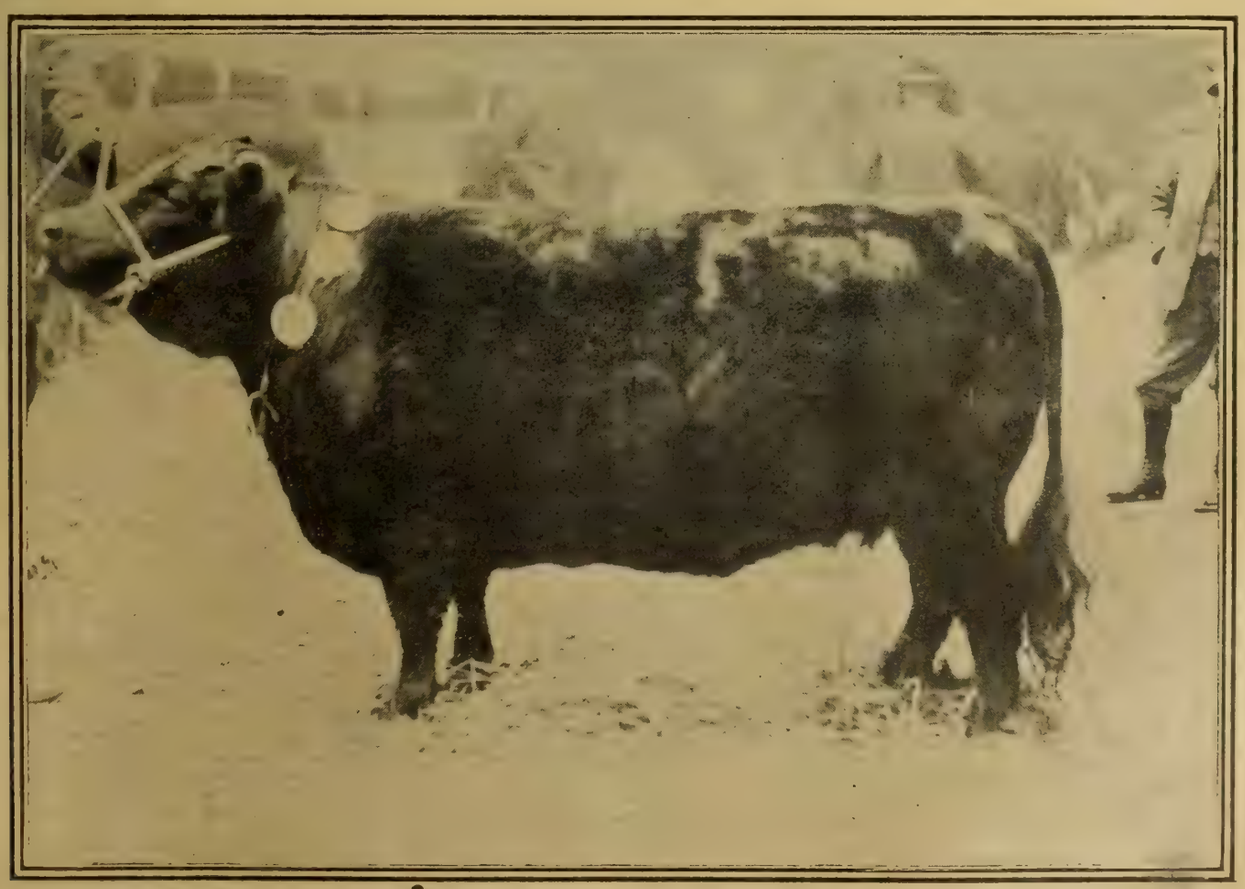
Steers not exceeding two years were a very pretty class, displaying more muscular flesh than we are accustomed to see. The first prize in these went to Mr. R. Phillips for a well-brought-out symmetrical steer by Locarno, he records well on the scales, being 13 cwt. 3 qr. 8 lb., and in addition to his first prize was reserve for the Hereford Breed Cup. Mr. James Edwards provided a much bigger beast for the second prize in a son of Carbineer, that pulled up the beam at 15 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lb, capital fleshed one, but none too well covered at present on the fore ribs. A second entry of Mr. Phillips's, of very good stamp carried off the third prize, and a second entry of Mr. James Edwards was reserve. Minor honours were very liberally bestowed, the Earl of Coventry and Mr. W. H. Cook, as well as another entry of Mr. Edwards, being honoured with hc cards, whilst Mr. T. S. Minton was also commended.

Hereford cows or heifers were four in number, and a very good class. His Majesty the King was placed first with Prudence by Fire King out of Peoney; she records 15 cwt. on the scales, and is very heavily fleshed on the best part. Mr. W. B. Tudge followed for the second place with Princess Beatrice by All Fours, a big, well-ribbed heifer, with immense wealth of flesh and a great length and scope about her; she pulls the beam up at 17 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb. The Hon. F. G. Wynn was placed third with a very good quality heifer, rather younger and lighter; and Mr. Peter Coates' Mary, a daughter of the famous Endale, was reserved.

Shorthorns.

Once again we have to write the Shorthorn section as very weak, and there is no doubt so long as the splendid home and foreign demand for the breed continues, the same complaint will have to be made from time to time. It is a very good thing for our stock breeders, and for the country in general, that this state of things has continued so long. It has helped much in maintaining the standard of agriculture generally in the British Islands, and has immensely improved the quality of stocks of Shorthorns in tenant farmers' hands, who, had it not been for the higher prices and excitement obtaining at our large breeding stock shows and sales would probably have been content to drag on in the old grooves. However, there is no doubt whatever as to the extreme foreign demand being accountable for the limited entry of the red, white, and roan in our great Christmas shows.

The section for the breed commences with the class for steers exceeding two and not exceeding three years of age. Five competitors only were catalogued, the winner turning up in Gentleman John, exhibited by that famous Yorkshire feeder, Mr. Peter Dunn, and bred by Mr. John Ross at Millcraig, Alness; he was sired by that capital getter Ajax out of Lissie by Champion and at two years and about nine months, turns the scales at 16 cwt 1 qr. 27 lb. he also wins the Shorthorn breed cup, and one or two higher honours that will be referred to later on. Though rather of the small type in general appearance and not a great eye filler at first sight, he stands picking to pieces well and is full of quality, he is well covered on the top and shoulders and his hindquarters are neat, whilst he stands on very short legs and is well filled along his border line. The second prize steer is quite an extraordinary



Dexter Heifer Danesfield Marjorie, winner of Special Prize for Best Beast in the Small Cattle Classes, and First Prize for a Small Cattle Heifer over 18 months and not above three years old, at the Norwich Fat Stock Show. Bred by Mr. J. Lee, Munro Lodge, Littlewick, near Maidenhead, and exhibited by Mr. R. W. Hudson, Danesfield, Great Marlow, Bucks. Its sire was Littlewick Jem, dam La Mancha Marjorie; age 2 years 7 months 2 weeks 3 days; weight 8 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb.

good one. This is a son of the great sire Beauty's Pride out of Rolleston Duchess; he was bred by his owner, Sir Oswald Mosley, who now exhibits him, he is well brought out, and is a steer of great scale and full of good flesh as well as shapely, and handles firmly. He should prove a good one in the block, and, as he pulls up the beam at 18 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lbs. at two years and nine months old, he has done remarkably well. This steer was reserved for the Shorthorn Breed Cup. The Earl of Durham came in third with a steer by Alphonso, short legged and with a well covered fore end, he is considerably lighter in weight than either of the preceding steers. The Earl of Powis provided a weighty-good steer for the reserve in a red and white by Aldsworth Pioneer, this steer has a famous back and loin.

Steers, not exceeding two-years-old, were also but five in number, and were headed by a particularly attractive white from the Royal farms. Symmetry and quality are well exemplified in this one, and he promises well for another year; he was sired by Royal Chieftain out of Proud Missie 2nd, and at a year and ten months weighs 12 cwt. 3 qr. 15 lb. The second prize steer, also a white one, is of Messrs. Garne and Sons' breeding, by Village Beau out of Jewel Case. He is somewhat heavier than the first-prize steer, and is well put together, with a deal of good flesh and quality. Sir Oswald Mosley provided the third prize winner in another white, a son of Beauty's Bride out of Complex. He is an extremely neat, pretty steer, showing good breeding and the best of quality, but in his class he seemed a little outdone in growth. The reserve card fell to the lot of Viscount Tredegar for a steer by Emperor of Oxford 12th. He scales well for age, and is a straight-backed, level steer. Smaller still was the female class, only four of this sex being catalogued. Mr. H. S. Leon's heifer, so successful in the summer shows and first in her class at Norwich the other day, had a very easy win of the first honour; she is very wealthy of flesh, and it is laid on evenly, whilst her breed, character, and symmetry are very good too, and she could not be better finished; she was bred by her owner and sired by Uppermill Challenger out of Silver Moon; her scale record at Birmingham being 16 cwt. 0 qr. 18 lb. at just under the age limit. The second prize was accorded to H.M. the King for Eva by Royal Chieftain, a big grown heifer, but she did not record well on the scales, though she carries plenty of flesh. Sir Oswald Mosley carried off third honour with Selina of Eden, a seven years old red by Leonidas.

Devons

The Red Rubies were remarkable for their evenness of merit rather than for any especially outstanding exhibit. This state of affairs has been very observable in connection with the breed in recent years, as at the time perfectly symmetrical models of the true North Devon have been gradually replaced by a larger and hitherto somewhat coarser animal; this is, however, being moulded into the one-time characteristic shape. There is one thing the Devons have not lost in the process, that is the justly celebrated sirloin and the rich rounds. In the older steer class there was a very keen competition, indeed, between Mr. J. J. Cridlan's Model, which was exhibited last year by its breeder Mr. T. S. Morgan, Whimple, Devon. It is a lovely quality steer, with good sirloin, and butts with depth, and well finished forward. In this respect it furnished the referee with the main point for giving the class prize in its favour. Second to it was Lord Rosebery's steer, bred by Mr. Thomas Yeo, Loxhore, Barnstaple. It is a very level steer, with a grand back and loin, a trifle light forward, but so compactly fed as hardly to show the weight carried. It is the keenest competition amongst the Devons for years past, and a reversal of the judgment at Smithfield should occasion no surprise whatever. These two were undoubtedly the plums of the Red Ruby section; the reserve went to Mr. T. S. Morgan's Whimple Favourite, a level deep steer hardly so weighty as the others, or so good in the butts; Mr. Morgan was also highly commended with Fashion, one of Mr. Robert Cook's breeding; this one was somewhat slack and drooped. Lord Rosebery was also highly commended with a very useful steer bred by Mr. W. Southcombe, Whitehall, South Molton; it was not quite so good at the end as some of the others, but had a rare sirloin. His Majesty the King's steer was also highly commended; one of Ben Galtoncett's get was rather weak over the shoulders, and somewhat lumpy. Mr. W. D. Sanders' Barum was also highly commended; it is a big steer, somewhat leggy. There was not such a large entry for young steers. Here Lord Rosebery had a fine youngster, bred by Mr. Joseph, Yendell, South Molton, as first. It was very fleshy, level, and with a nice head. The runner-up was His Majesty the King's steer, the most typical North Devon in the classes—too small, as compared with the first, but so pretty. The reserve went to Mr. T. S. Morgan's Whimple Model 2nd, a very pretty steer, but hardly size enough to win. Highly commended went to Mr. T. S. Morgan's Marsh Mallow, a large growing steer, somewhat plain. There was only a pair of Devon females; here Mr. T. S. Morgan had a walk over with Ruby; she had quality, with great depth and scale. The second award went to a very fleshy heifer that did not show herself so well at the ends as at the summer show, His Majesty the King's Carolina. Mr. J. J. Cridlan secured the breed cup with Model, the Earl of Rosebery's young steer being reserve for the same.

Aberdeen-Angus.

Quality was more in evidence than were the numbers in the Angus classes, which are usually rather weak at Midland exhibitions.

Steers exceeding two and not exceeding three years old brought out three competitors, Mr. E. P. Alexander taking the first honour with a rather young and light steer, though full of quality and handling well. He is of Ballindalloch blood on the sire's side. Mr. James McWilliam came in second with a very weighty bullock by Alick of Aberlour, which pulled the beam up at 18 cwt 1 qr. 5 lb. Mr. J. J. Cridlan's Black Chief, which was reserve, is also a weighty and capitally-fleshed bullock. The class for steers not exceeding two years old was not especially strong, yet it contained the reserve animal for the Scotch breed cup, Mr. R. W. Hudson's Danesfield Waterman. He was first in his class and reserve for championship at Norwich the other day. A steer of most faultless proportions and the highest quality of ripeness, he was sired by Danesfield Jester, and records 12 cwt. 3 qr. on the scales. Mr. James McWilliam was awarded second prize for Harry, a somewhat lighter but neat steer; and two sappy, good steers of Mr. J. J. Cridlan's were reserve and highly commended respectively.

The female class of this section brought out one of the leading animals of the show in the shape of Mr. J. J. Cridlan's Elegance of Maisemore. This most beautiful heifer won first in her class at Norwich, where she was also awarded the female championship, as well as the championship of the entire show; she was bred by her owner, and sired by Aachen out of Elegance of Preston. She is full of style, roasting beef, and quality, and at two years and ten months records 14 cwt. 3 qr. 5 lb. on the scales. At Birmingham, in addition to her first prize, she carried off the breed cup as the best Scot. The only other entry in this class was a rather small heifer of Mr. F. J. Stanhope's, which, however, was accounted good enough to be given the second prize.

Galloways.

There were only three entries of this breed, and Mr. R. W. Hudson's Danesfield Challenger had a very easy run for the first prize. He was first in the mixed breed class at Norwich, and is a bullock of beautiful shape and quality, with also a very satisfactory scale record, being 16 cwt. 21 lb. He was bred by Mr. John Agnew in the north. Sir John Swinburne carried off the second prize with a very useful but much lighter bullock. Mr. Alfred Palmer was reserve for a still smaller one.

West Highland.

There was a total of ten entries of these, which gave an excellent account of themselves, showing the best of breeding and shape, with admirable uniformity of quality. Sir Reginald Cathcart carried off the first prize and reserve number, being beaten for the second prize by the Earl of Durham. These bullocks were exceedingly ripe and scaled about 18 cwt. each. The three females were very beautiful animals, these were shown by the Earl of Durham and Sir John Swinburne, and were awarded in the order written.

Welsh.

These cattle were not so numerous as we have sometimes seen them, but their quality has seldom if ever been better. The Coed Coch Trustees exhibited an extraordinary bullock that won in the class for aged steers, massive to a degree, short legged, and covered with a wealth of first-rate flesh, he pulled up the beam at 18 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lb. He was bred by Mr. Henry Jones in the Island of Anglesea He was also awarded the extra prize as best bullock in the mixed classes. Another very good bullock from the same herd also carried off the second prize. Mr. R. M. Greaves was reserve. Steers not exceeding two years old were a small class, but the winner, shown by the Hon. F. G. Wynn, is very symmetrical and a good fleshed one, his weight, too, is very satisfactory, being 14 cwt. 2 qr. 5 lb Mr. Robert Hughes won second with a smaller but neat steer; Mr. R. M. Greaves was reserve and highly commended. The best of the females was the Hon. F. G. Wynn's Lady Glyn, a very symmetrical and heavily fleshed heifer with a scale record of 14 cwt. 18 lb. The Coed Coch Trustees were second, and Mr. Robert Hughes reserve.

The butchers' classes were of the usual mixed and varied quality. In the heavy-weight class the judges appeared to select a good many of the biggest cattle, Angus and Shorthorn crosses apparently being the greatest favourites. The winners were Mr. A. B. Dryburgh with a bullock weighing 17 cwt. 19 lb. Colonel the Hon. F. C. Morgan, with one scaling 16 cwt. 3 qr. 17 lb., and the Duke of Sutherland's, which pulled up the beam at 16 cwt. 1 qr. 17 lb. The winners in the light weight class were Mr. R. W. Hudson's with 10 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lb. to his credit, the Duchess of Newcastle's with a weight of 9 cwt. 3 qr. 17 lb. and Mr. R. Ratcliffe's scaling 12 cwt. 3 qr. 4 lb.

SHEEP.

This year there was a very even display of sheep, much more so, in fact, than for years past. In the Southdown classes for wethers the Exors. of the late Colonel McCalmont were first with deep, well-finished sheep, grand in the loin with nicely-fleshed legs. His Majesty the King was second; his were very matching, but they did not show the weight of the others. Another pen from the Royal Farm was not matching. Mrs. Montefiore had a fine pen, two of the three being especially good. But it was in the lamb class where the Southdowns were at their best. Here the Royal Farms were to the fore. There was no gainsaying the genuine merits of the leading pen. The Duke of Devonshire had a lot of quality in his second prize pen, but they did not touch over the shoulder as the others did; third went to Colonel McCalmont's Exors. These three pens were as even as different breeders' pens well could be. There was disappointment at the size of the Shropshire class, but it evidently pays better to export than to convert into mutton. Sir Richard P. Cooper was first with a splendid pen, level with nice wool, and the right sort of meat beneath. The second prize lot of Mr. A. S. Berry was heavier, but not so evenly done. The lamb class was represented by two pens only. Sir Richard Cooper was first with weighty lambs that moved out well. Mrs. W. F. Inge's second prize could have done with a little more finish.

The Oxfordshires turned out in stronger numbers, Mr. James Harlick sustaining his breeding career in the summer yards. His pen handled remarkably well, and they had nice wool. Mr. James P. Hobbs was second; his sheep were shown unadorned and somewhat long in the wool. Miss Alice de Rothschild's were shown coloured. In the lamb class there was another good entry, Mr. James Harlick being here again quite easily to the fore, Mr. John Hazell's second lot not being quite so matching. It was a pity that Mr. W. H. Lovell's pens, the weightier of the lot, were not quite even, else they should have been higher up.

The Hampshires made a small entry of fat wethers, there being only a quartette of pens. Mr. James Flower was an easy winner here; they had good shoulders, fine backs, and excellent legs. The seconds of Mr. Buxton were smaller, and one of them stood slack. A very useful pen of Sir William G. Pearce's was reserved. The lamb class was decidedly the best of the two here. Mr. Buxton's left very little to be desired as regards breed and finish; they were weighty and evenly fleshed, but they had a very close run with Mr. Flower's two pens. Mr. Sam Darling had a most creditable pen as reserve. All the rest of the exhibits were mentioned. The cross-bred classes have become to be regarded as a monopoly for Mr. Thomas Rush; this year he came in as usual with his Oxford Hampshire cross, Mr. W. T. Barnely was second with a remarkably useful butcher's pen of the Ryeland breed. It is a pity that this breed is not more widely known; anyway they seemed to constitute the nicest mutton in this class, though they weighed 2 cwt. lighter, the reserve went to the same exhibitors and nearly as good. In the female class Mr. Thomas Rush took first with his nicely finished pen in the lamb class; they were very even. Mr. W. H. Lovell's Oxford or cross Oxford and Hampshire were big, but not so evenly modelled, third went to a much lighter pen of Hampshire Southdown crosses sent by Mrs. Montefiore. It might have been expected that this class would have filled better. This year the Cooper Challenge Cup went to Mr. Buxton's Hampshire lambs, Colonel McCalmont's Southdown wethers was reserve for the same.

PIGS.

It is many years, if ever before, such a splendid lot of butchers' pigs were seen in Bingley Hall. There was a partial absence of those extremely fed ones. In the Berkshires not exceeding nine months the entries were very small indeed. The Duchess of Devonshire was first with a level even pair, with nicely turned hams, Mr. J. A. Fricker being second with rather more sizable pigs, but not so well furnished. In the older section there were four entries only. Here the breed was seen at its best. Mr. Alfred Brown Southampton was first and reserve champion with a very lengthy deep pig with plenty of bloom; second to them was Mr. J. A. Fricker's pair, very nice on top with deep sides, but not so good on their legs. Mr. N. Benjafield's reserves were well bred, but they lacked bloom; the other mention was taken by the Duchess of Devonshire.

The Tamworths made exceptional classes; they were nearly perfect in colour and quality, in fact, there was rather more of the latter than has been previously observed in the rank and file apart from the leaders. In the younger class first went to Mr. J. Pitts' pair, very lengthy with good

hams, but a trifle narrow across the loins. Mr. Fowler was second; his pair might have shown improvement behind the shoulder. Mr. D. W. Philip was third with pigs that showed length and quality, his reserve pen not being a pair by any means.

In the older class the breed was seen at its best. Mr. Philip again took the lead with nice lengthy pigs, Mr. Ibbotson's second prize having the best of backs, but a trifle short; he was also reserved. A highly commended card went to Mr. D. W. Philip for a nice pen as to breeding, but not forward enough.

The Large Whites made the show: the classes were well filled, and did not overtail. Mr. John Riddell was first with a grand pair, long, well up and straight backs with good heads. Mr. John Neverson was second, his pigs were very mighty. The Earl of Ellesmere's third looked more like winning in the pen than out of it, but they were a trifle weak over the hams. Mr. P. Baker's reserves needed a little more maturity. There was a splendid class in the older section. Here the Earl of Ellesmere's herd was represented at its best, there was no gainsaying their positions as champions, they were grand in length and quality, deep in the sides; in fact, ideal baconers. Mr. Arthur Hiscock's were level and useful, but not quite so well furnished in the hams. Messrs. Green's third were not a pair else they would have been higher, one was longer. A useful pen of Mr. F. Dodd took the reserve; all the other exhibits in this class were noticed.

The Middle and Small Whites were lumped together, but none of the latter were visible. The Middles showed quality in every pen. Mr. C. H. Palethorpe was a good name to associate with the first position, his pigs were level, even, with capital heads. Mr. James H. Ikin's were level and even, with depth, but not quite so blooming. Mr. Alfred Brown took third with fine, heavy pigs, that slacked a bit whilst standing. Mr. N. Benjafield was reserved here also. In the older class Mr. Arthur Hiscock won with strong, deep pigs, but they would have hard lines had Mr. Fricker's seconds been so good as a pair as one of them would have been as a single. Mr. A. C. Twentyman was a good third. Messrs. Green's had length and weight. It was a good class. The class for any other pure or cross bred brought out the usual asssembly of mixtures Mr. J. A. Fricker took first with a middlewhite Berkshire cross, the result was lengthy, deep-level pigs. Mr. N. Benjafield was second with a large black and small black cross sire, dam small white, this resulted in massive pure white pigs. Mr. W. E. Shuker's thirds, large white and black Devons, rendered his otherwise excellent pigs a trifle heavy forward. Mr. R. R Rothwell's large black-large white cross was reserved, the double crossbreds did not come out so well as the first crosses. There were twenty-seven entries in the butchers' class, Mr. N. Benjafield taking first here with a lengthy, firm-handling pig. Miss Ida Chamberlain secured her first agricultural victory with a fine pair of Tamworths, long, deep, and good quality, the reserve went to a pair of Mr. Arthur Hiscock's Berkshires. This year there were less comments made as to the placings than for many years past, and it was got over in capital time.

CORN.

The galleries as usual provided accommodation for a good show of corn, roots and other necessities for feeding animals and farming products. There were sixty-three entries of corn, which made a good show, but as at all other exhibitions this year they showed traces of the trying season through which we have passed. Mr. Preece, of Shrewsbury, won in the malting barley class from Mr. S. Champion, the commended winner at the Brewers' Exhibition, and commended went to the late Colonel McCalmont, and an he to Mr. L. J. Smith, of Newent, Gloucestershire.

The two classes for wheat produced a fair entry in the white class, first prize was won by Mr. F. A. Horwood, of Maidenhead, and second money to Mr. F. A. Smith, of Steventon. Mr. F. J. Folley got a he for a sample grown in Buckinghamshire, and a c went to Mr. F. A. Horwood. In the red class Mr. Horwood won from Mr. T. H. Phelps, and a he was given to the sample of Mr. W. Purser.

There were two large and good classes of oats, and here a Gloucestershire sample was the best, Mr. L. J. Smith winning, with Mr. W. Dicken, of Shifnal, in the second place, other cards going to Mr. E. F. Bellamy and Mr. J. R. West. For black oats, Mr. T. Frith and Mr. C. Harrison secured the money prizes in the order named, and Mr. Horwood and Mr. Shakeshaft the minor awards.

Beans and peas were only small classes, but the samples were excellent. Mr. D. H. Wells won with a Warwickshire—first for beans—with Mr. J. H. R. Horwood second, these being the only competitors. Peas found Mr F. A. Horwood to the front, with Mr. J. H. R. Horwood second, and a reserve card going to Mr. J. W. Parrott, who farms in Berkshire.

ROOTS.

There was a nice collection of roots, and, considering the season, the specimens were excellent. They were all on the small side, but what they lacked in proportions they made up in feeding value.

Class 1.—A silver cup, value 6 guineas, offered by Messrs. Proctor and Ryland. Collection: Long mangold wurzel, globe mangold wurzel, and swedes—six roots of each to be shown for this prize alone.—1, Mr. J. Bowden, Sherfield, Basingstoke; r, Mr. John Perry, Oswaldkirk, York.

Class 2.—Webb's mammoth long red mangold (new and improved selection).—1, Mr. Alfred Franklin, Worminghall, Thame, Oxon; r, Mr. Leonard J. Smith, Newent, Glos.

Class 3. Webb's mangolds—namely, New Champion Yellow Globe, Yellow Intermediate or Yellow-fleshed Tankard: 1, Leonard J. Smith, Newent, Glos.; r, Alfred Franklin, Worminghall, Thame, Oxon.; hc, Mr. John Perry, The Grange, Oswaldkirk, York; Frank Hargreaves, Gamlingay, Cambs.

Class 4.—Long mangold wurzel.—1, Lady Wantage, Lockinge House, Wantage; 2, Mr. P. Le Feuvre, Morville House, St. Owen's, Jersey; r, Mr. P. Le Feuvre, Morville House, St. Owens, Jersey; hc, Borough of Reigate, Reigate, Surrey, Mr. Alfred Franklin, Worminghall, Thame, Oxon: c, Mr. T. Chettle, Manor Farm, Reading, Mr. Ernest F. Bellamy, The Moat, Newent, Glos.

Class 5.—Globe and intermediate varieties of Mangold Wurzel: 1, Mr. Thomas Simpson, Plumbley, Knutsford; 2, Mr. James Smith, Town Hall, Buckingham; r, Borough of Reigate, Reigate, Surrey; hc, Mr. T. Chettle, Manor Farm, Reading; Mr. P. Le Feuvre, St. Owens, Jersey (3); c, Mr. James Smith, Buckingham.

Class 6.—Kohl Rabi: 1, Mr. T. Chettle, Reading; Mrs. Dring, Little Island, Cork; r, Walthamstow Urban District Council, Walthamstow; hc, Mr. John Perry, Oswaldkirk, York.

Class 7.—Swedes, Webb and Sons': 1, Mr. Charles Edington, Bladon, Woodstock; r, Mr. G. H. Morris, Severn Stoke, Worcester.

Class 8.—Swedes of any Variety: 1, Mr. George Bonner Hill Top, Tenbury; 2, Mr. G. H. Morris, Severn Stoke, Worcester; r, Mr. Leonard J. Smith, Newent, Gloucestershire; hc, Mr. H. Bulford, Water Eaton, near Oxford; Mr. J. H Wilkinson, Saughall Massie, near Birkenhead; Mr. Charles Edgington, Bladon, Woodstock; Mr. Ernest F. Bellamy, The Moat, Nowent, Glos.; Mr. J. Shakeshaft, Lymm, Warrington.

Class 9.—Common Turnips, White flesh: 1, Mr. W. Watts, Sheep Court, Bonvilstone, Cardiff; 2, Mrs. Dring, Little Island, Cork; r, the Earl of Dartmouth, Patshull Farm, Wolverhampton; hc, the Duke of Portland, Norton Cuckney, Mansfield (2).

Class 10.—Common turnips, yellow flesh: 1, Mr. Jas. Cook, Arniston, Gorebridge, N.B.; 2, Mr. John Gerrard, Upper Inglston, Keith Hall, Inverurie, N.B.; r, Mrs. Dring, Little Island Cork; hc, Mr James Cook and Mr. John Gerrard.

Class 11.—Carrots, White Belgian: 1, Mrs. Dring, Little Island, Cork; 2 and r, Mr. Alfred Franklin, Worminghall, Thame, Oxon.

Class 12.—Carrots, any other variety: 1, Mrs. Dring, Little Island, Cork; 2 and r, Mr. Alfred Franklin, Worminghall, Thame, Oxon.

Class 13. Ox Cabbage: 1, The Lady Wantage, Lockinge House, Wantage; 2, Mrs. McIntosh, Havering Park, Romford.

POTATOES.

There was only a smallish entry of potatoes, the total numbering thirty-nine, but competition was keen in the majority of classes.

Class 14.—Twelve varieties, distinct: 1, Mr. J W. Needham, Wildsworth, Gainsborough, Lincs; 2, Mr. Thomas Bannister, Malthouse Farm, Marston Green, Birmingham; 3, Mr. Benjamin Parker, Scotforth, Lancaster.

Class 15.—Six varieties, distinct: 1, Mr. Thos. Bannister, Marston Green, Birmingham; 2, Mr. J. W. Needham, Wildsworth, Gainsborough, Lincs; 3, Mr. Benjamin Parker, Scotforth, Lancaster.

Class 16.—Four varieties, distinct, two white and two coloured (of each 12 tubers): 1, Mr. Thomas Bannister, Marston Green, Birmingham.

Class 17.—Four varieties, distinct, most suitable for field or farm culture (of each twelve tubers): 1 and 2, Mr. J. W. Needham, Wildsworth, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire; 3, Mr. Thomas Bannister, Malthouse Farm, Marston Green, Birmingham

Class 18.—Two varieties, distinct, long or kidney shaped (of each twelve tubers): 1, Mr. Thomas Bannister, Marston Green, Birmingham; 2, Mr. Benjamin Parker, Scotforth, Lancaster; 3, Mr. J. W. Needham, Gainsborough, Lincs.

Class 19.—Two varieties, distinct, round (of each twelve tubers): 1, Mr. Thomas Bannister, Marston Green, Birmingham; 2, Mr. Benjamin Parker, Scotforth, Lancaster.

Class 20.—One variety, long or kidney shaped (twelve tubers): 1, Mr. Thoms Bannister, Marston Green. Birmingham; 2, Mr. J. W. Needham, Wildsworth, Gainsborough, Lincs.

Class 21.—One variety, round (twelve tubers): 1, Mr. J. W. Needham, Wildsworth, Gainsborough, Lincs.; 2, Mr. Thomas Bannister, Marston Green, Birmingham.

Class 22.—The most handsome dish, any variety (twelve tubers): 1 and 2, Mr. Thomas Bannister, Marston Green, Birmingham.

Class 23.—The best new variety, not yet offered in commerce (twelve tubers): 1, Mr. Thomas Bannister, Marston Green, Birmingham; 2, Duke of Portland, Norton Cuckney, Mansfield.

CHAMPION AND SPECIAL PRIZES.

CATTLE.

Breeders' Champion Prize of £25 for the best animal.—Sir J. R. G. Cotterell's Hereford steer; r, Miss A. de Rothschild's crossbred steer Waddesdon Starlight.

Elkington Challenge Cup, for the best animal the property of the exhibitor since January 1 last.—Sir J. R. G. Cotterell's Hereford steer; r, Miss A. de Rothschild's Waddesdon Starlight.

Thorley Challenge Cup for the best animal.—Mr. Peter Dunn's Shorthorn steer Gentleman John; r, Sir John Cotterell's Hereford steer.

Webb's Challenge Cup, for the best animal bred by exhibitor.—Sir J. R. G. Cotterell's Hereford steer; r, Miss Alice de Rothschild's Waddesdon Starlight.

Birmingham Daily Post Cup, for the best animal under two years old.—Miss A. De Rothschild's Waddesdon Starlight: r, Mr. R. Phipps's Hereford Steer Favourite.

Maisemore Park Challenge Cup for the best Aberdeen-Angus.—Mr. J. J. Cridlan's heifer Elegance of Maisemore; r, Mr. R. W. Hudson's steer Danesfield Waterman.

The heaviest beast in the Show.—Mr. W. H. Parson's crossbred (22 cwt. 3 qr. 0 lb.).

Best Hereford.—Sir J. R. G. Cotterell's steer; r, Mr. R. Phipps's Favourite

Best Shorthorn.—Mr. Peter Dunn's steer Gentleman John; r, Sir Oswald Mosley's steer.

Best Devon.—Mr. J. J. Cridlan's steer Model; r, Lord Rosebery's steer.

Best Scot.—Mr. J. J. Cridlan's Elegance of Maisemore; r, Mr. R. W. Hudson's Danesfield Waterman.

Best Welsh.—The Coed Coch Trustees' steer Pedr; r, Hon. F. G. Wynn's steer Glyn Commodore.

Best Crossbred.—Miss A. de Rothschild's steer Waddesdon Starlight; r, Miss Rothschild's heifer Waddesdon Silvio.

SHEEP.

Cooper Challenge Cup for the best pen of sheep.—Mr. T. F. Buxton's Hampshire lambs; r, Exors. of Colonel McCalmont, Southdown wethers.

Best pen of Shropshires.—Sir R. P. Cooper's wethers.

Best pen of Cross-breds.—Mr. T. Rush's lambs.

Heaviest pen of lambs.—Mr. T. Rush (6 cwt. 1 qr. 3 lb.).

PIGS.

Best pen of pigs.—The Earl of Ellesmere's Large Whites; r, Mr. Alfred Brown's Berkshires.

JUDGES.

CATTLE.

Herefords, Devons, Welsh, Kerries, and Extra Stock.—Mr. F. W. Shuker, Scorrier, Cornwall; Mr. J. H. Yeomans, Withington, Hereford.

Shorthorns, Scots, and Crosses.—Mr. W. S. Ferguson, Pictstonhill, Perth, N.B.; Mr. H. W. Woods, Ivydene, St. Andrew's Road, St. Anne's-on-Sea.

SHEEP.

Mr. A. Bradburne, Streethay House, near Lichfield; Mr. Cary Coles, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury; G. F. Hempson, Estate Office, Gatton Park, Reigate.

PIGS.

Mr. T. S. Minton, Montford, Shrewsbury.

CORN.

Mr. Frank B. Ludlow, Holt Street, Birmingham; Mr. J. Edwin Mitchell, Cape Hill, Birmingham.

ROOTS.

Mr. John Myatt, Lynn House, near Walsall; Mr. Thomas Palmer, Hampton Lodge, Warwick.

POTATOES.

Mr. W. Halliday, Patshull Gardens, Wolverhampton.



Tinker, winner of Second Prize in the Class for Irish-bred Ox or Steer not exceeding three years old fed in Norfolk, and the Special Prize for the Best Beast exhibited by a Norfolk farmer, at the Norwich Fat Stock Show. Exhibited by Mr. W. A. Starling, Lingwood, Norwich.

Edgworth Agricultural Society.

Anyone attending the annual dinner of the Edgworth and District Agricultural Society for the first time would be in doubt as to whether he had not by some mistake got into the wrong place and was participating in a hunt dinner, for ever since the institution of the dinner a meet of the Holcombe Hunt at Turton Hall has been held on the same day as the dinner, and after the joys of the runs the gentlemen of the hunt put in an appearance at the dinner, and such a show of scarlet at an agricultural society's dinner it would be difficult to find elsewhere. There is the utmost cordiality and good friendship between members of the hunt and the farmers of the district, and the dinner is an event worth travelling a long way for. Of course, there are the usual toasts and speeches, but controversial subjects are left alone as much as possible, so that nothing but goodwill marks the proceedings, the enjoyment of which is considerably added to by the music and songs interspersed throughout the toast list. That the members of both the hunt and the society can join in a hearty song was proved at this year's dinner, notably in the chorus of "Do ye ken John Peel?" and "The Farmer's Boy," another combination of hunting and farming which is the predominating feature of the dinner, and one wishes that the example was copied extensively in other parts of the country.

With so many speakers and lack of space to give all we must confine our report to a few of the outstanding remarks. First of all Sir Lees Knowles, M.P., the popular president of the society, who was in the chair, gave the loyal toasts and subsequently "The Clergy," whilst he had to respond to the "Naval and Military Forces," and in doing so remarked that it was a remarkable coincidence that Lord Stanley, who occupied the chair last year, and he who now presided should have been brought side by side as the chairman of the two Territorial Associations for West and East Lancashire. He added that they were called upon in the eastern division to form a military division composed of 20,000 men and 7,600 horses, and he hoped the pounds, shillings, and pence for the latter would flow through the association of East Lancashire into the pockets of the farmers of the division.

Mr. J. R. Barlow proposed what might be called the toast of the evening, viz, "Success to the Edgworth Agricultural Society," and in doing so made some interesting suggestions. For instance, he asked the committee of the society if there was anything they could do in the way of getting efficient, technical, and scientific help for the farmers of the district that it had not done already. He knew that the County Council and the Board of Agriculture was doing a great deal. The latter authority had never had a more zealous president than the Earl of Carrington.

Sir Lees Knowles said he agreed with Mr. Barlow as to the importance of agricultural societies practically encouraging good farming. The Royal did that, and a tenant of his at Glazebury had the honour of taking one of the Royal prizes some years ago. What was done on a large scale their society could do on a smaller, and the suggestion was one worthy of their consideration.

The society's popular vice-chairman, in responding to the toast of the officers and committee, asked permission to say a few words in reply to Mr. J. R. Barlow's splendid speech that evening. He as a practical dairy farmer had of late kept a very strict account of his thirty head of dairy cattle, and he was sorry to say that owing to the great advance in the price of provender and the great reduction in the price of beef he found he had a loss of 1½d. per cow per week, nothing being recorded for the cost of keep, &c., for his two horses and two men. His milk was sold at 3d. per quart.

Mr. W. S. Nuttall also spoke on this matter, telling how a young married couple he knew trying farming when provender was 25 per cent. below the present prices. The couple were determined to keep a correct record of every penny spent or received, and after doing so for three years, the balance being on the wrong side every year, it was a question with them whether to give up farming or to try a year without keeping accounts. The consequences are that they are still farming. The mistake they made when keeping accounts was in their making a charge for wages the same as they would have earned if working at a mill.

Mr. A. F. Greenheagh, Bolton, in proposing the toast of "The Trade of Bolton and District," said that knowing as he did that the cotton, iron, and coal industries were all good he had felt doubtful about the farming industries being good until he heard Mr. Barlow's speech. Since then they had heard a most practical speech from Mr. Horner, after which he now came to the conclusion that tenant farmers would be delighted to change places with cotton manufacturers. He thought dairy farmers were very foolish in keeping on supplying milk at 3d. per quart.

Other toasts followed, and a most enjoyable evening was brought to a close in the usual manner.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Fruit Spraying.

SIR,—We have received reports from all parts of the country expressing the greatest interest in the coloured supplement which you have just issued, and in a large number of cases it appears that our correspondents were unable to obtain from the bookstalls the issue containing it.

We should be glad to know if you would be disposed to re issue the supplement at an early date, with an explanation that the matter has created so much interest that the first issue was quite inadequate to supply the demand for it.

If this suggestion commends itself to you, we shall be pleased to supply the necessary number of plates.

We shall be glad to hear from you by return on this matter.—Yours, &c,

WILLIAM COOPER AND NEPHEWS.

Chemical Works, Berkhamsted,
November 26, 1907.

[*** The above letter from Messrs. Cooper and Nephews bears testimony to the interest evoked by our coloured supplement showing the ravages of apple scab and the advantages of winter spraying. We have a few of the coloured plates yet in hand, and shall be pleased to send a copy post free to any of our readers on receipt of a post card stating they would like to have same.—ED.]

SIR,—The publication by the MARK LANE EXPRESS of photographs from actual fruit in my orchard from sprayed and unsprayed fruit trees, showing the results of my experiments last year with the V1 Fluid, has brought such a flood of letters that it is impossible for me to reply to them all personally.

I hope my fellow fruitgrowers will pardon me if I ask them to excuse a personal reply, and to take this announcement in substitution.

The benefits of the V1 Fluid were simply marvellous. The trees sprayed with it were clean, free from insect pests and from all mosses and lichens, the foliage was beautiful, and fruit as perfect as I can ever expect to grow it, while on the unsprayed trees the condition both of the foliage and the fruit was so inferior that one could hardly believe the fruit was grown in the same orchard.

I am quite sure that the V1 and V2 Fluid manufactured by Messrs. Cooper, of Berkhamsted, are a very long way ahead of anything which has ever before been introduced to the fruitgrower.—Yours, &c., W. EDMONDS.

Rede Court Farm, Strood, Rochester,
November 26, 1907.

Profit from Wheat Growing.

SIR,—In my opinion your correspondent of November 7, "Son of the Soil," has given a very fair detailed account of the balance-sheet of an acre of wheat grown by him, the only difference between his account and that of "A. J. R." being, the former values his straw at spending price, thus allowing for the requirements of the land, and the latter at market value, thereby impoverishing the same. He seems to have an exceptionally good market to realise 65s. to 70s. per ton, and to make as much as £15 per acre with wheat at 30s per qr. sounds like a very large order, for he must have had an enormous crop of both.

It would be interesting to know how often "A J. R." could do this on the same acre of ground, and the balance-sheet that this would entail, otherwise this would be calculated to mislead, and no wonder some landlords, who would think this practical, should seek to rise rents.—Yours, &c., GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

November 21, 1901.

Tariff Reform and Agricultural Interests.

SIR,—I have read Mr. Percival C. Reid's letter in your issue of November 25, and, without any desire to enter into a long controversy on the subject, I can only say, first, Heaven help the farmers of this country if they know so little about Mr. Chamberlain's and Mr. Balfour's Tariff Reform proposals as Mr. Reid apparently knows. It is disappointing, to say the least of it, to read such a letter as that alluded to.—Yours, &c.,

J. L. GREEN, Secretary.

Rural Labourers' League,
November 27, 1907.

SIR,—In reference to the discussion in your paper on Tariff Reform and the Agricultural Interest, may I ask for space for the following remarks:—Farmers, that is those who are dependent on the land they till for a living, must be practical. Now as practical men we are dependent on the weather conditions as to the time and way we carry out our farming operations. No practical farmer carries hay when it is raining. Now in the same way it seems that we are dependent on the will of the majority in these islands as to the conditions under which our products compete with products from abroad. As practical men we must recognise the fact that the majority of the people desire free trade conditions, and are likely to continue to desire them. Therefore I think we are unpractical if we allow ourselves to be fooled by tales of what might happen if we had protection. I largely agree with "Lobbyist" as to any benefit that is likely to accrue to the British agriculturist from Colonial preference. Do not let us be fooled by that either.

I am inclined to think that the cry that our British soil will not pay for cultivation is fallacious. The demand for land for small holdings may soon prove that there are sufficient people anxious and willing to till our soil. And that being so, we may be sure that the fact will not escape the notice of those who are opposed to any duties on food stuffs, and will still further incline the people to the view, already largely held, that many of the owners of the land do not want it cultivated, but want it for a game preserve and private pleasure park, and that cultivators, whether farmers or labourers, are a nuisance. But in the words of Kipling:—

"Will your kept cock pheasant keep you?
He is master of many a shire."

In conclusion, I should like to urge farmers to stand up for their own trade, and first to insist that their raw material, the land, shall, like other raw materials, not be taxed; and second, that all land withheld from use for pleasure purposes be taxed to its full productive value, which would bring land into the market for agricultural use and largely increase the productive power and trade of these islands.—Yours, &c.,

ARTHUR E. CHAPMAN.

St. Ives Farm, Hartfield, Sussex,
November 27, 1907.

SIR,—Mr. Reid relates in yours of November 25 the grounds on which he changed from being a Tariff Reformer to a Free Trader; to me they do not seem to be so convincing as they appear to have been to him. I think he may have overestimated what the "extra cost of living, extra demand for rent, and extra wages for his labourers" would be. As what may be his in an unknown future, it is perhaps better to deal with the known past. The past fifteen years gives a good opportunity as to what has actually occurred, as during that period wheat has gone up 100 per cent. or more. Mr. Reid sees trouble with only a 10 per cent. rise. Has he asked himself what the trouble has been to himself during this short period whilst wheat has risen ten times 10 per cent. Having told us by what means he arrived at the fact that he would be £100 better on his sales side under Tariff Reform, will he kindly tell us how he arrived at the conclusion that he was going to be a loser in the long run; at present he has only told us that he got there.

I would suggest a table as follows, showing us how the price of wheat has influenced his actual outgoings in rent and labour, whilst wheat has more than doubled in price—

	Price of wheat.	Rent of land per acre.	Labourers' wages per week
1893			
1900			
1907			

I think if Mr. Reid makes a very great difference in his outgoings he will have done differently to most others. However, if Mr. Reid will give his actual figures, and if others interested will give their actual figures, I think that it will be seen that there is not such a very big sum to be dealt with. Remember that sum will be arrived at on 100 per cent. increase and will have to be divided by ten to bring it to the 10 per cent. which produced fear in Mr. Reid's mind. One expects a material rise in wages during the shortage of labour during the South African War period. Personally, I think wages should, as far as possible, bear relationship to the rise in price.

I hold that Mr. Reid misguages the situation when he urges that after it is decided what duty will be placed on the several articles of farm produce, "let every farmer take his last year's accounts and add to the value of his sales the amount of duty which they would bear if imported, and to the amount of his purchases a similar duty, and he will clearly see to what extent he will be better off, &c." If that is all that he sees in it, it is not surprising, particularly if he be a stock raiser on a large scale, that he wants to remain as he is; but he overlooks the enhanced value of his animals. I take it that a Tariff Reform means an all round adjustment, in which meat would not come in free, and therefore farm stock would be dearer. Surely this implies a profit which is not shown in the basis of calculation on

"last year's accounts" or prices, upon which Mr. Reid would have us sum up the question, and that it is wrong to that extent or in ratio to it.—Yours, &c, W. J. MALDEN.

Where is the Flail Still in Use?

SIR,—The flail is used in this part of Essex for threshing beans. I generally have one going during the winter months, and on wet days two or three.—Yours, &c, G. HOCK.

The Poplar, Stebbing, Chelmsford,
November 26, 1907.

SIR,—I have recently given up a holding upon which the flail was in use until I rented it five years ago; and I saw it in use only last week upon another farm in this district.—Yours, &c.,

Uckfield, Sussex, J. W. HURST.
November 26, 1907.

DAIRY.

Preston Cheese Fair.

Some unusually high prices for Lancashire cheese were realised at the annual Christmas Cheese Show and Fair held at Preston last week. The pitch consisted of 183 lots, comprising 2,828 cheeses, an increase of 35 lots, and 583 cheeses compared with the corresponding fair of last year.

The dairy which secured Lord Derby's championship prize for Mr. G. Whitaker, Kirkland Hall, Garstang, brought spirited competition, ultimately changing hands at 100s per cwt., the second prize cheese of Messrs. Williamson and Sons, Mowbreck Hall, realising 87s 6d.; and the third prize lot of Mr. John Bee, of Goosnargh, finding a purchaser at 76s.

In the class for occupiers of farms not exceeding 80 acres, Mr. H. Almond, who held the premier position, sold his cheese at 90s. per cwt.; the second prize lot of Mr. Sudell, Solwick, making 80s., and the third prize lot of Mr. L. Bailey, Lea, 75s.

The 12 lb. cheese of Mr. L. Bailey, who secured the first card, sold at the rate of 120s. per cwt., or just 1s. per lb., while Mr. G. Whitaker's second prize fetched at the rate of 100s. per cwt.

Other competitive cheese made 70s. to 73s. 6d. The prices for the usual fair cheeses ranged from 67s. 6d. to 70s. per cwt.

Chester Cheese Fair.

At Chester Cheese Fair on Wednesday there was a pitch of about 60 tons, and a fair attendance of buyers. Some of the finest lots, for which there was medium inquiry, made 68s. to 72s., one or two special dairies going above that price. Medium lots made 62s. to 65s., and lower grades 58s.

Market Drayton Cheese Fair.

The last of the present year's cheese fairs at Market Drayton was held in the Town Hall on Thursday, when there was a pitch of about 26 tons, this being considerably larger than anticipated. There was a large company of buyers present, and very satisfactory prices were realised. Best qualities of cheese made from 67s. to 70s., and medium grades from 60s. to 67s. per cwt.

Peterborough Agricultural Society.

The annual meeting of the Peterborough Agricultural Society was held on Wednesday, when Mr. James Hornsby, J.P., of Laxton Park, Stamford, was unanimously elected president of the society for the ensuing year.

The council in their report congratulated the members on the better conditions prevailing in the agricultural interest. The price of wheat at the present moment was about 10s. per qr. better than it was this time last year. This, with the help of the good harvest that had been experienced in this district this year, enabled farmers to feel that their staple crop had once more been grown at a profit. The better yields of other crops, the clean bill of health amongst live stock (except for ever present swine fever), and with somewhat better prices for all kinds of meat, had also helped to brighten the outlook in the farming world.

The council reviewed the various branches of work carried out by the society during the year, and expressed regret at the loss the society had sustained by the death of Lord Chesham, who was president of the society in 1894, and thanked the retiring president, Mr. G. C. W. Fitzwilliam.

Mr. Swallow's financial statement showed the total receipts on the year to have been £2,823 13s., as against £3,060 6s. 6d. in 1906. The summer show registered a decrease of £256 18s. 5d, due to the wet. The payments for the year amounted to £2,946 3s. 11d., against £3,070 3s. in 1906. The balance of payments in excess of receipts was £122 10s. 3d. A vote of condolence was ordered to be forwarded to Lady Chesham.



Hop Growers' Conference at Wye College.

A large number of planters from nearly all our districts attended the conference held in the gymnasium of the college on Wednesday last, which was presided over by E. Lister-Kay, Esq., of Godmersham. About 120 gentlemen accepted the invitations of the governors, and of these the great majority was present. The proceedings were opened at 11.15 by a brief speech by the chairman, who ruled that all reference to politics or any other matters outside the subjects named in the agenda should be avoided.

The Value of the Male Hop.

Mr. E. S. Salmon, of the College staff, then read his paper "On the value of the Male Hop." Careful investigations had been made into the causes which hindered the complete development of the cones, or their fully growing out. They were constructed of petals, divided into bracts and bracteoles, in the proportion of two of the latter to one of the former, the bracts being sterile and the bracteoles carrying seeds at their bases. There must be a sufficient number of petals to complete a properly developed cone, otherwise it was undersized, as was seen in small Belgian hops which, with twenty-two petals, only attained the length of three-quarters of an inch. There were, of course, other sources of weakness of growth, such as weather conditions, but excluding those, it was found that frequently, when sufficient petals were produced, the growing out of the cones was not satisfactory. Their full perfection only seemed to be attained when seeds were duly developed.

To accomplish that result the flowers must be fertilised by the pollen of the male plant, which must not be confounded with lupulin, that valuable product being only found in the female flower or burr. The pollen was usually carried by the wind to the burr, and by their observation they had been enabled to establish two facts:—

1. That if no pollen came into contact with the female flower, there were no seeds, and no perfect growth.

2. That the more complete the fertilisation, the larger the production of seeds and the more perfect the development of the cones.

Those conclusions had been proved by the enclosure in paper bags of certain branches of burr, so that no pollen could be communicated to them, and it had also been observed that fertilised burr made rapid progress, and that the critical stage of the growth was thus rapidly passed, and the safety of the crop more certainly secured. The risks of mould, to which the plant in this transition period was more liable, were also lessened. With more seeds, larger, stronger hops and a heavier crop resulted.

By quantitative analysis it had been ascertained that the length of the cones and the number of seed contents were proportionate to each other; thus while a cone of only three-quarters of an inch in length contained only four seeds, one measuring one and a quarter inch would contain twelve to fourteen seeds. Further investigation showed that the number of bracteoles and the number of seeds corresponded in a greater or less degree. Cones having sixteen bracteoles, and without seeds, measured only five-tenths of an inch, and similar cones having nine to twelve seeds had grown out to nearly one and a quarter inch. Similar results were found in other cones in which the number of bracteoles ranged from twenty to thirty-six bracteoles, the lengths of the cones and their seed contents increased in due proportion, until they arrived at nearly two inches of length and twenty to twenty-five seeds. Such was the evidence they had found with respect to Golding hops, but it was also seen that in the case of Fuggles the absence of seeds did not appear so important, as they grew out fully with a much smaller proportion of seeds.

In the College garden during last season the plants appeared to be healthy, and in July there was a good show of bine and burr, but the hops only grew out in two parts of the ground, which were in close proximity to two male plants. The prevalent winds prevented the general distribution of pollen, except to the plants in the immediate neighbourhood of the males. The results were marked, the fertilised burr growing out well, the unfertilised giving very poor results. They had measured one-seventh of an acre in each part of the garden, the results showing that the fertilised portion had produced a crop equal to nearly 9 cwt. per acre, the unfertilised portion being only productive to the extent of under 5 cwt. per acre.

As to the selling value of the seeded and unseeded hops, the former had been priced by a Borough factor at 84s. to 95s., and the latter at 54s. to 70s., so that they were able to calculate that fertilisation and seed development had added value to their product at £24 10s. per acre.

It had been urged upon English growers that they should follow the example of their Bavarian competitors and grow their hops without seeds, and thus increase their brewing qualities and consequently their market value. That was impossible, unless English growers adopted similar sorts of hops to those grown in Bavaria, where the cones contained as many as forty-four bracteoles in contrast with the average English hops containing twenty-seven or twenty-eight. The larger number in German hops were more closely packed within the smaller cones, and were more favourable for the production of lupulin, seeds being more or less unnecessary to the perfection of the cones.

Mr. Salmon quoted the opinions of various European and American authorities on the comparative value to the brewer of seeded and seedless hops, and concluded by observing that although they did not advise growers to aim at increasing the quantity of seeds, they certainly recommended the continuance of fertilisation by the influence of the male plant, as it was distinctly advantageous to all concerned that hops should be fully grown out, and that could only be accomplished when seeds were present.

The paper was copiously illustrated by lantern slides, which rendered the instructive details comprehensible to the audience, and added much interest to Mr. Salmon's lucid discourse.

Discussion upon the subject followed, in which Lieutenant-Colonel Honeyball and several other planters took part, the general consensus of opinion, summed up by the chairman, confirming the views of Mr. Salmon that seeded hops were desirable.

Mr. Arthur Amos, a former student at the College, and now on the staff, then read a paper on

The Raising of New Varieties of Hops.

in which he urged the necessity of the study of the matter of growing seedlings by scientific selection. He pointed out that during many years only two new sorts had been introduced, and those had resulted from accidental circumstances. Only one of those had survived the test of time. The Fuggle hop, named after its first grower, had proved its vigour and hardiness, giving large cones with little seed. That was an example they well might follow. The advantage of such selection and experiments had been seen in the sugar-cane industry in the West Indies, also in America in melon growing, and at home in the improvement of potatoes.

They had not yet succeeded in tracing the actual quality of the male hop plants, therefore in crossing breeds they were not certain as to the ultimate results. That was a matter that required further investigation, and the attention of the College was being given to it. But observation and selection, and experimental growth were open to all, and he trusted they would not lose any opportunity of improving their crops both by personal attention, and by availing themselves of the resources of the College which were freely placed at their disposal.

Arsenic in Hops.

After a brief discussion the conference was adjourned for luncheon, which was served in the grand mediæval refectory of the ancient monastery.

The renewed session was opened at 2.30 by the principal of the College, Mr. M. J. R. Dunstan, M.A., reading his paper on "Arsenic in Hops," prefacing his remarks on the subject in its practical aspect by observing that he had been exercised in mind by the receipt of letters from growers recommending him to abstain from any reference to the matter. After full consideration, he had concluded that, as much misconception existed, it was advisable to remove it by dealing with the question openly, and he would then propose to leave it to the conference to decide whether his paper should be made public or be limited to their discussion within those walls.

The arsenic scare, Mr. Dunstan reminded his audience, originated in Lancashire a few years back, and was caused by the discovery that many persons who were habitual consumers of beer were seriously affected in certain districts, and several deaths resulted. A Royal Commission was appointed to inquire into the circumstances, and the evil was traced distinctly to the sugar used by certain brewers, which, upon analysis, was found to be dangerously charged with arsenic. The glucose supplied to the brewery had been manufactured with sulphuric acid, extracted from pyrites instead of brimstone, and it resulted in the communication of three-quarters of a grain of arsenic to each gallon of beer, whereas one-

twentieth of a grain per gallon was dangerous. The Royal Commission extenden their inquiries into other materials used in beer, and the presence of arsenic was also traced to malt that had been dried with gas coke, the fumes from which deposited arsenic in some quantity upon the malt. No suspicion was then attached to hops, which were pronounced practically free from any contamination.

Perhaps it was not generally known that arsenic is the most widely diffused of any of Nature's elements. It is found in all food in minute proportions, and therefore appeared to be necessary to both animal and vegetable life. It existed in all soils, but the amount taken up by plants from the soil was negligible. Manures did not increase the supply to the plant, and there was no risk of communication of arsenic to hops from that source. Neither was there any possibility of contamination by any material used in washing hops for the destruction of blight or mould. It might, therefore, be safely accepted that green hops when picked were practically free from any trace of arsenic.

It was only in the oast that any danger could be found. Therein arose the possibility of contamination, especially when open fires were used, if the fuel was not very carefully tested. The purest anthracite coal was practically free from danger, as it did not contain more than a negligible trace of any deleterious constituent. But growers must remember that as arsenical pyrites is not equally distributed in coal, analyses, unless conducted with extreme care, were sometimes deceptive. There were, therefore, some risks in the exposure of hops to the products of the combustion of all fuel. As the passage of those products through the hops did not enhance their value, it appeared desirable that it should be avoided if possible. But the cost of installation of pure hot air systems stood in the way of their universal adoption. Old cockle oasts had their advantages in that respect, and there were fans, and other modern inventions, by means of which growers could avoid any shadow of risk of contamination of their products.

He (Mr. Dunstan) considered that it was almost impossible to completely avoid all risk with open fires. The crux of the matter was in the fuel and in the condensation of the fumes during their passage through the hops. Lime had been recommended to be mixed with the coal, and while there was a possibility that the lime would neutralise the arsenious acid, it would be difficult to maintain sufficient heat with such a mixture.

Another scheme that had been suggested was the hanging of a screen over the fire to intercept and catch the dangerous fumes, but that was hardly practicable. They had found that the dust collected on the beams of the oast after the drying was very rich in arsenic, therefore he advised careful cleansing of the oast periodically, also lime washing of the interior, and especially the avoidance of the too common practice of sweeping the hair cloth and putting the sweepings into the last pocket.

The analysis of hops for arsenic was most difficult and delicate, and harassing to the grower, inasmuch as different samples from the same pocket might easily show very various results. Mr. Dunstan, assisted by Dr. Goodwin, explained the process of analysis, by which it was seen that the results were determined by sight alone, the quantities being so minute as to be beyond the test of the balance. A substance containing a known quantity of arsenic is first tested, the staining of a small glass tube being adopted as the standard of comparison. The material to be analysed is then put through the same process, and the proportion of arsenic present is determined by comparing the density of its stain with that of the standard. It is thus clear that there is ample room for doubt when these tests are subject to the unaided human eye, and that it must be almost impossible to pronounce with any degree of certainty when the readings denote such minute fractions of a grain.

Mr. Dunstan therefore made clear to his audience the reason why analysts frequently differ in their pronouncements, and proceeded to urge that the present standard of purity (the 100th of a grain per lb.) is too minute for practical purposes. He observed that such a small quantity with the use of 2 oz. of hops per gallon of beer meant that each gallon of beer would only contain the 1600th of a grain of arsenic, and such an infinitesimal proportion could not harm a human being even if he consumed 20 gallons of beer per day for many days in succession.

Therefore it might be concluded that any danger arising from arsenic communicated by hops to beer was absolutely impossible, and might be dismissed as absurd. If the health authorities still considered that a standard of purity was necessary the recommendation of Mr. Lawrence Briant, the eminent expert in such matters, might be adopted. He advised that the fiftieth of a grain was practicable, and sufficiently protective, at the same time urging care in the selection of fuel, and the regular cleansing of the kilns.

At the conclusion of the Principal's address the chairman put to the conference the question of publication or privacy, the former being voted by a substantial majority.

During the short discussion that followed, the opinion was generally expressed that the alarm that had been raised was entirely baseless, and that it was probably more a question of trade than of the public health. The thanks of the industry were, however, due to the College for ventilating the subject so openly and exhaustively.

Mr. Theobald's paper on

Eel Worms in Hops

was read, being illustrated by some drawings enlarged from the microscopic examination of these tiny pests. The professor's description of their life history and habits was most lucid and interesting, but being entirely technical, it is more than difficult to translate it into plain print without the assistance of the drawings. I must therefore reluctantly leave the subject, with the remark that the details given could not fail to be serviceable to the growers who listened to the paper with close attention.

I have had the pleasure of attending all the conferences that have been held at Wye since the College was opened, and think I may safely say that I have not been present at one that was better arranged or more instructive than that we have been considering to-day.

The conference closed with the usual vote of thanks to the chairman, which he fully deserved, and a refreshing cup of tea in the room of assembly.

Sir J. R. G. Cotterell (Lord Lieutenant of the county) presided over a meeting of the Herefordshire Chamber of Agriculture on Wednesday, when the chief topic of discussion was the Small Holdings and Allotments Act of 1907. Sir James Rankin said nothing would please him more than to see a great number of small holders, but it would be a very sorry measure to put upon small holdings persons who were in no way qualified to work them. Every care should be exercised in the method of selection. Mr. Bulmer replied that character, experience, and capital were essential, otherwise the results would be disastrous. Captain Percy Clive said farmers need not be afraid of their best fields being seized. Agricultural labourers in the past—years ago—had perhaps the best hope of advancement in life of almost any class. The wages of an agricultural labourer now, however, were practically a fixed sum, and there was little chance of promotion.

Questions and Answers.

FARMING.

Seaweed.—Would you give me your opinion of the value of seaweed as a manure for vegetable garden? The garden in question is a good loam. I have available plenty of stable manure, and could get the seaweed for the leading. When would be the most suitable time to apply it and how to apply it?—R. H.

ANSWER: Seaweed is an excellent fertiliser, especially for crops of a maritime nature, such as cabbages, potatoes, seakale, celery, etc. Make a good big heap, mixing some sand or light soil with it, if possible, and let it lie for about three months, when it will have become nicely decayed, and may be worked in the ground in the same manner as manure.

Fattening a Cow.—Will you kindly give me advice on fattening a cow for the butcher? she is a stripper, calved last April, ten years coming spring, medium size. I think she must be a kind of Shorthorn breed, giving about eight quarts of milk per day; in good condition to be milking. I have plenty of cabbages, turnips, oats, and beans, oat and bean straw, which I can chaff and mix with the meals; also good hay. I could buy either linseed or cottoncake. This is my first attempt at fattening, and would be very grateful for your valuable advice on what quantities of each to give and how often to feed per day. My idea is she will milk and fatten together, but I know it will take longer time. Thanking you for past answers to my queries, and for particulars in this case.—SMALL FARMER.

ANSWER: You may give your cow about two bushels of cut turnips, or an equal weight of cabbages, per day, and if you have an abundance of such food you may give 2½ bushels per day. Sell your oats and beans, and give the cow about 5 lbs. of good linseed cake per day, or give 2½ lbs. linseed cake and 2½ lbs. cotton cake. Let her have as much long hay as she can eat, if you have plenty of it; if not, give her about 10 lbs. per day and also let her have as much oat straw and bean straw as she will eat. She will not eat much straw if she is allowed as much hay as she will take, but you might give straw in the morning and hay in the evening. I doubt whether it will pay you to chaff your oat straw, but if you are short of hay, you may chaff some oat straw, and give as much of it mixed with the oilcake as she will clean up.

VETERINARY.

Husk in Heifers.—I have some heifers, [illegible] months old, Shorthorns, in good condition which are troubled with husk, but not badly as yet. Would you kindly tell me how to treat them? Until this last fortnight they have been pastured in a low lying meadow, close to a river. I mowed the grass for hay, but they were in good keep. I have now moved them to higher ground, and give them each about 4 lbs. of cotton cake every day.—J. S.

ANSWER: It is a step in the right direction to move heifers suffering from "husk" out of meadows that are low-lying and close to a river, where they will have contracted the disease, to higher and drier ground, but it would have been better to have brought them under cover, or at least to have made arrangements for their lying in at night. It is a good plan, too, to give "husking" calves and lambs dry food, but I doubt if 4 lbs. of cotton cake is quite the best form for it to take, and, personally, I should much prefer in these circumstances to provide linseed cake. The importance of dry food and shelter, and their superiority over medicine, in the treatment of husk is generally acknowledged. If you think the heifers want medicine, give to each animal a drench of: Oil of turpentine, 1 oz.; tincture of assafœtida, ½ oz.; oil of cloves, 10 drops; linseed oil, ½ pint. If necessary, repeat in a week, but provide linseed, or corn and hay, in preference to such big doses of cotton cake, and endeavour to make arrangements for sheltering during the night, and keep the animals in until the sun has dried the grass in the morning.—M.R.C.V.S.

Pony with Worms.—I have a pony infested with worms similar to those enclosed. I have been giving him sulphate of iron daily, with quassia injections, but I find he still harbours the pests. I have previously had two packets of powders from the vet. to no purpose. Could you advise as to treatment, and oblige.—G. T.

ANSWER: The parasites sent for identification are specimens of the common "whip" worm of the horse, Oxyuris curvula. It is called the "whip" worm on account of its long, thin tail—like the lash of a whip—but by some it is known as the "maw" worm. A favourite habitat is the rectum, and it is often seen projecting from the anus, to the margin of which it clings. It is credited with causing local irritation, and no doubt it does so, and gives rise to those troublesome cases of rubbing the tail, of which we get so many complaints. We are not at all sure that we can suggest any improvement on your treatment, which is usually practised in such cases, especially the employment of injections of infusion of quassia. Enemas of turpentine, and big clysters of salt and water, are sometimes employed, but we do not find them any more effective than quassia and soap, &c.—M.C.V.S.

Pony Going Lame.—My six-year-old pony has lately developed lameness, in near fore leg chiefly. He was worked fairly hard during the summer, during which time his staple diet was old oats; but this last six weeks work was light, and, for a change, not being able to get old oats locally, have been giving him maize germ meal, half a peck a day in two feeds, mixed with good hay chaff (damped mid-day) and rack up feed long hay and carrots whole. The lameness has developed since change of food, and have been told the maize is sending fever into his feet: they certainly feel warmer above the hoofs than I think they should. Will you please say whether maize does this, and give some advice for future feeding and treatment?—H. E. A.

ANSWER: When anything happens to a horse in the shape of lameness, swelling of the legs, or disease of the skin after maize has been introduced into the diet, it is pretty sure to be attributed to the change of food, and yet it is an undoubted fact that there are thousands of horses in this country whose regular food is maize and beans instead of oats, and who are perfectly healthy. There is nothing to show that the pony suffers from fever in the feet, or that the maize meal has anything to do with the lameness. It is not at all impossible, if the pony is examined by a veterinary surgeon (which is the best thing to be done), that the lameness will be found to be due to navicular disease.—M.R.C.V.S.

Trouble with Heifer (V. L.).—Of your two questions the last is by far the easiest to answer, because "what would be best to do?" is obvious, while "what is the disease?" is doubtful. Many cases of vaginal discharge depend on tumours, which may be of a fatty, epithelial, or cancerous character, and vaginal tumours varying in size from a marble to a goose's egg are not uncommon in cattle. Yours may be a case of this kind; but, on the other hand, the trouble may be chronic inversion of the vagina, in which the lining membrane of the organ has become indurated, and perhaps ulcerated. Chronic inversion of the vagina, showing as a red tumour hanging from the vulval opening, and especially prominent during the passing of urine or when the animal is recumbent, is often mistaken by the owner for a morbid growth. It would, in the absence of a minutely detailed description of the lesion, be impossible to determine its exact character without a personal examination. In any case your course is clear, and what would be "best to do" is to call in the local veterinary surgeon and get him to examine the heifer with a view to determining the character of the lesion. The case is clearly not one in which you can do anything for yourself, whether it is a tumour or prolapse of the vagina, because a tumour will need to be removed, or the everted vagina replaced, and the passage antiseptically treated.

LEGAL.

Farm Agreement.—"Inquirer" desires to know if, when a person has an agreement on taking a farm, he ought not to possess a copy of the agreement. "I have," he says, "been told that the landlord only should have a copy."

ANSWER: The landlord would have an original, and the tenant might have a counterpart in the case of a lease, and in the case of an agreement a copy. The whole question is one of arrangement. No doubt you could have a copy now if you paid for it. "Inquirer" should have stipulated for a copy when he took the farm.

Freehold Property.—My wife owns a freeh 11 house and land, and our children are all girls. If my wife died without making a will, could her brother claim it?—S. F.

ANSWER: If the house and land is freehold, her brother could not claim it. The children (girls) would be entitled to it as co-heiresses. But why does not your wife make a will? There can surely be no objection on her part to take this step. She, as the property is her separate estate, can do so.

POULTRY.

Worms in Fowls.—I should be very glad of your advice re Minorca fowl. Its comb is very blue, appetite ravenous, yet very weak, and to-day I noticed some of its droppings, and it appeared as if alive with tiny worms, but could not distinguish them with the naked eye. READER.

ANSWER: This bird appears to be suffering from intestinal worms, and we should advise you to give it a complete fast of twenty four hours and then mix into a crumbly paste a teaspoonful of roup powder, and a small quantity (say two tablespoonfuls) of middlings with a few drops of water and feed to the bird, and then an hour afterwards give it a good feed of hot soft food. This will cause the worms to pass, as the roup powder kills them. A dose of castor oil the next day is advisable. You would do well to see that the grit you are giving your birds is both hard and sharp.

Northern Notes.

A COUNTY councillor informed me this week that he had received four personal applications for small holdings. This was in Yorkshire. He is a member of a county allotments committee, and is of opinion that a genuine demand for holdings of various sizes exists. He would like to see the country dotted over with more dwellings, which he thinks would relieve the monotony of the bare landscape in some of our bleak districts.

THE one great difficulty in regard to the extension of cultivation on a small scale is the lack of quick transit and housing accommodation.

SMALL holdings will be wanted in villages where the small tradesman has leisure upon his hands and sufficient buildings behind his shop—as most of them have—where he can stall his cows, stable a horse, and rear his corn and haystack.

THE tendency of late years has been for landowners to encourage their tenants with sufficient capital to take a group of farms, or to make two farms into one. Instances are not uncommon of big farm houses that are used only by the hinds, and perhaps only half the house is furnished. Where two families lived on the proceeds of cultivation there is only one now. If the balance can be restored, so much the better; but still better if the farms are split up and more houses built. This would bring more people on to the land, and stem the tide of emigration to Canada.

A SMALL holder has had a letter from a friend in Canada, who had sufficient money to have set up at home, but because he could not get the land he went out, and after many hardships in land hunting he pitched his tent twenty miles from the nearest place where he could buy a pennyworth of yeast. That emigrant wrote back: "If you know anyone that wants to come out, if they have a crust at home, tell them to stay." This experience coincides with another that has come under the writer's personal notice. A man of fine physique sold out his small stock and booked for Canada, and after a good look round he did not fancy the country. He has returned a wiser but much poorer man. He could have done well—was, in fact, prosperous—at home.

HOW can small holdings pay? This is a query one sometimes hears. Well, I heard a practical man say he had grown £10 worth of produce on a third of an acre; another, an owner of a few acres of market garden land, said he could produce on a square yard sufficient strawberries to cover the value of the square, and then have the runners remaining as a further asset. That high rents are charged for small holdings is a matter of notoriety. Some of these go up to over £3 per acre. A North Yorkshire tenant for his 30-acre farm pays £120 a year in rent and rates. Such a figure seems almost like a fairy tale; but the holder of this precious bit of soil makes a very comfortable living out of it. He had remarkable crops this year. He should have every year, to keep things going.

DO you know of a good farm to let? There is an outcry for farms of 200 to 400 acres, and the inquirers do not meet with anything satisfactory. Grass farms and mixed farms are run after by people other than practical men, and the warnings issued from time to time in the agricultural Press are highly necessary. Now that farming is profitable, retired tradesmen think a nice homestead surrounded by land and the fields studded with cattle, sheep, and horses, will be a lucrative investment. Alas! how many have come to grief with such folly.

WITH the exception of one very hard frost this week, which attacked the out-of door pumps, the weather has favoured the root crops, and the late sown ones have improved wonderfully. The open weather has been to the advantage of farmers, who have saved considerably in fodder. The earliest snowfall was on Tuesday. We were hoping to be clear of snow till after Christmas, for the winter seems to have got a good start when we are thus fortunate. The land is very sodden, and makes turnip-pulling an unpleasant occupation. Some good crops are to be seen, and a good crop of roots invariably bespeaks a liberal return in the following crop of corn.

THE Driffield hirings are, perhaps, the most important of all the "statutes," as they are called in Yorkshire, and there is no diminution in their popularity as compared with this year of grace and the year 1857. A report is before us of the same hirings held fifty years ago, and it bears a strong family likeness to those which appear in the papers to-day. We have still the "cheap Jacks," "quack" doctors, and ballad singers, though probably the latter were much more musical in the last century. The modern innovations are the steam horses and the motor cars, the latter being steam driven on a switchback arrangement, and are proving a great attraction at the fairs all over Yorkshire.

THE fairs this week were attended by all classes of agriculturists in great numbers, and hiring was everywhere brisk. Farmers were assisted by their foremen in making a selection of hands to complete their staffs. Young hands were most in request, as there are serious arrears of ploughing to be overtaken, some farmers having as much as three weeks of plough work to do.

IN some parts of the Northern counties the amount of edible grass in the pastures is astonishing, and the cattle are doing well; they get a relishing and stimulating bite with the addition of a few turnips scattered in the fields, in addition to their ration of dry food. Mutton prices are hardening. At Hull, some "culls" sent by a Leicester breeder who is showing at Smithfield, sold for 77s. apiece. Feeders are not anticipating any fancy prices for fat cattle at the Christmas markets, except for the most prominent of the prize-takers.

November 29, 1907.

Nottinghamshire Notes.

MICHAELMAS statute hirings were held in front of the Nottingham Exchange on Wednesday, when there was a fair attendance of both farmers and labourers. The wages offered and accepted were on the whole slightly below last year's rates. Ploughboys obtained from £9 to £14; second waggoners, £14 to £18: and head waggoners up to £25. Where milking was one of the specified duties both men and boys obtained fully £2 per year more money than they otherwise would have done. Very few female servants were about, and young girls who sought fresh situations asked and obtained higher wages.

LORD BELPER is taking a keen interest in the question of small holdings, and as he is one of our local landlords and chairman of the Notts County Council, supporters of the new Act about to come into force are elated at his activity in the matter. I notice his lordship was chairman at a meeting of the County Councils Associations held in the Guildhall, Westminster on Wednesday, where it was stated by Lord Carrington that a Bill consolidating the Small Holdings Act to the Allotments Act was being prepared.

WE already possess a large number of small holdings in various parts of the county, more especially near the lace city, where there is such a good demand for milk. But I am told that the rents in many instances are excessively high, working out at about 50s. an acre. County Councillors H. Heath and J. T. Farr are working assiduously just now making inquiries as to where a demand actually exists for small holdings, and I am told that they will have much of interest to report at the next meeting of the county council.

SIR SAMUEL JOHNSON, the town clerk of Nottingham, will recommend at the next meeting of the city council that the Small Holdings and Allotments Act should be referred to the Estates Committee to exercise the powers conferred on the council, but that the committee should report its proceedings to the council, and shall not purchase and lease land for the purposes of the Act without the approval of the council.

MUCH good work can be done by village schoolmasters towards creating interest in agriculture among their pupils. I have often been surprised to find in village schools so little attention is devoted to the main industry of rural districts, especially when half of the boys in the school were to gain their livelihood as sons of the soil.

HOWEVER, the county of Notts possesses an enthusiastic amateur gardener as schoolmaster at Sturton-en-le-Steeple, not far from Gainsborough. For some time he has done the youth of the district yeoman service by instructing and giving them practical lessons in the art of growing garden produce and the cultivation of various flowers.

TWICE each week he conducts open-air classes (weather permitting) on a plot of land adjoining the schoolhouse, and gives demonstrations on planting, sowing, treatment of soil, bedding out, &c. The lads take a keen interest in this new form of education, and several of them have attained such a stage of efficiency that they are capable at the age of fourteen and fifteen to look after a garden plot or an allotment with much more skill and far greater success than many of their parents.

EDUCATION of this description is greatly to be preferred in agricultural districts to the learning of algebra and latin. What I have often urged in the public Press is that boys in country districts, where five out of six are intended for farmers or workmen on farms, should be instructed how to measure land, the value and constituents of fertilisers and feeding stuffs, and how to use joinery and other tools for rough work. In towns and cities instruction is given to boys and girls which will be of service to them in the staple industry of the district, chiefly at evening continuation schools. Why cannot something of this sort be done in villages?

ON Saturday last I had a long and interesting chat with Mr. Ralph Cowing, who is steward for Sir Charles Seely, Bart., on his farms at Arnold and Sheerwood. Mr. Cowing confessed that he scarcely dare think of what would happen regarding the supply of farm labourers when the old men died off. "There are plenty of young men on farms," continued Mr. Cowing, "but they are no good at their work. They think they know how to do everything on a farm they are put to." Such a statement from a practical man like Mr. Cowing, who looks after seven farms, is worthy of consideration by our educationalists.

VERY heavy rains have fallen in this district during the present week, and a large quantity of land near the River Trent is flooded. Wheat sowing has been stopped for the present, but where it was got in early there appears to be a good plant. I am afraid that this deluge will prevent many farmers from sowing as much wheat as they had intended, and it is questionable if a larger acreage will be devoted to this cereal in Nottinghamshire than was the case last year.

WE are threatened with a plague of rats in this part of the country, for I am told it is many years since there were so many of these destructive rodents. The wet weather of the past summer has been greatly in their favour, and now that the homesteads are full of stacks the rats have quickly left the fields and drains. Several farmers have remarked to me as to the large number of rats seen in the stacks on threshing days, and I am afraid that long before spring arrives they will have done a great deal of damage unless got rid of in the meantime.

I HAVE this week been over the large farm owned and occupied by Mr. R. Millington Knowles, at Colston Bassett, and hope to give a few particulars of what I saw in next week's issue of the MARK LANE EXPRESS. The farm is nearly 1,000 acres in extent, and is so managed that the balance-sheet at the end of the year always shows a substantial profit, which speaks well for the capable management of Mr. G. H. Elliot, who is the steward for Mr. Knowles.

INTERESTING particulars are to hand relative to the career of Mr. J. A. S. Best, of Aliwal North, Cape Colony, who is a farmer. Born in Nottingham in 1834, Mr. Best was first apprenticed in the lace city to a mechanic. This scarcely suited his tastes, so he joined the army and took part in the Crimean War, and later in the Indian Mutiny. In 1859 he went to South Africa and settled down in Cape Colony as a farmer and threshing machine owner. He travelled with these machines all over the then Orange Free State, threshing the grain of the Boer farmers.

HIS training of how to handle the rifle came in useful, for he took part in all the native wars, and also the last Boer War, although he was in his sixty-sixth year when the latter broke out. His knowledge of the country was of great service, and he held several important positions under General Brabant. Four of his sons also went through the campaign from start to finish, and met with no serious disaster.

MR. BEST'S record, so far as his domestic life is concerned, is rather unique. He has been married twice, and only last year his second wife presented him with his thirty-first child! What is more, two of the old veteran's sons are now grandfathers. Mr. Best is maternal uncle of Mr. W. S. Allen, who resides at Newark-on-Trent, and naturally we are all proud of possessing so worthy a man claiming Notts as the county of his birth.

November 29, 1907. R. K.

A little Colman's Mustard given to hens in their morning food will make them lay more eggs.

(*See "The Field," Feb. 6, 1906.*)

This is a recent discovery of a gamekeeper who announced it in the paper above-mentioned, and was tried last winter by many poultry raisers with surprising results.

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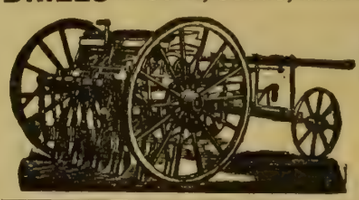
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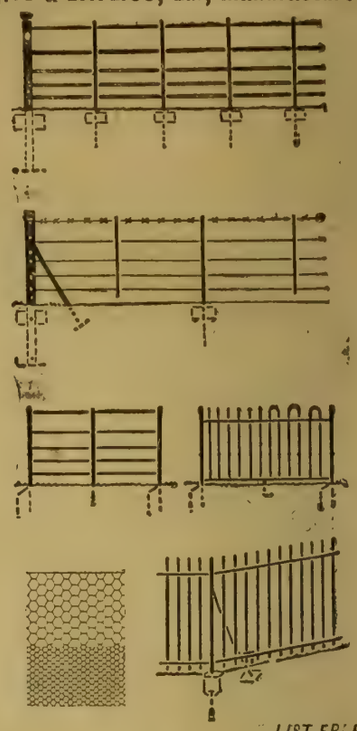
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POULTRY.

Utility Poultry Club's Four Months Laying Competition.

The results of the laying during the first month (twenty-eight days) of the four months laying competition have now come to hand. This competition is under the management of Miss Galbraith, at The Folly, Bagshot, Surrey, and began on October 21. A pen consists of four pure-bred pullets.

The manager reports that the weather has been very bad. The first ten days there were heavy storms every day, and subsequently there has been almost continuous fog. On only five days has any sunshine been recorded. The birds are in good health, but a large number of them are moulting.

Below are given the official records :—

Order.	No. of Pens.	Breed.	Total Eggs.	Pts.	Remarks.
1	3	Black Leghorns ..	19	110	1 laying.
2	1	White Orpingtons	20	100	2 laying.
3	5	Buff Orpingtons ..	17	93	1 laying, 1 moulting.
4	19	White Leghorns ..	17	90	2 laying, 2 moulting.
5	17	White Wyandottes	14	77	1 laying.
6	16	Buff Orpingtons ..	13	70	1 laying.
7	10	White Wyandottes	12	66	2 laying.
8	22	White Wyandottes	10	51	2 laying.
9	9	Buff Orpingtons ..	7	39	1 laying.
10	20	Barred Rocks	7	36	1 laying.
11	24	Buff Orpingtons ..	6	32	1 laying.
12	15	White Wyandottes	5	25	1 laying.
13	13	White Leghorns ..	4	19	1 laying, 2 moulting.
14	18	Silver Wyandottes	3	15	1 laying, 1 moulting.

Eggs 2 oz. in weight, score 6 points; eggs $1\frac{3}{4}$ oz. in weight, score 5 points; eggs under $1\frac{3}{4}$ oz. in weight, score 4 points. Shell-less eggs are disqualified. The remaining ten pens have not laid an egg. Of these the following birds are moulting:—In pen 4, White Wyandottes, two; in pen 7, White Wyandottes, four; in pen 8, Barred Plymouth Rocks, one; in pen 11, Silver Wyandottes, one.

Experiments in Housing and Feeding of Poultry.

In connection with the experiments now being conducted by University College, Reading, on the college poultry farm, Theale, re'ating to (1) the colony house system of poultry-keeping, and (2) the hopper method of feeding, we beg to present records for the third quarter. Full particulars as to arrangements, feeding, &c., were given in the first report published in May last, and the details of the second three months were issued in August. These will be reprinted when the complete record is issued.

Experiment No. 1.—Colony System of Housing.

The third period was from July 16 to October 15, and for fifty Buff Orpingtons—namely, two cocks and forty-eight hens. As in the previous quarter, owing to the plentiful supply of grass and natural food, the grain, mangolds, and green bone were omitted, and the birds had only dry mash provided, kept constantly before them in hoppers. The albuminoid ratio of the food is 1 : 3·4, and the cost is 9s. per cwt.

Of the food thus supplied the total weight consumed was 889 lb. (7 cwt. 3. qr. 21 lb.), as against 1,827 lb. (of which 484 lb. were mangolds) in the first quarter, and 1,211 lb. in the second quarter. This reduction is partly explainable by an arrangement adopted to prevent waste. It was found that a considerable quantity of dry mash was scattered upon the ground. By the adoption of a box below the hopper trough the scattered food is caught, and in this way the saving is nearly 25 per cent.—a very important consideration. The total cost of food for the three months is £3 11s. 6d., as against £6 10s. in the first quarter, and £4 14s. 8d. in the second three months. This works out at 1s. 5·16d. per bird for the entire quarter, or 9·33d. per diem for the fifty birds, or 1·32d. per bird per week—rates which may alter our ideas as to the cost of hopper feeding, the full effect of which is yet not fully seen, as the change was only made on August 29.

The egg production fell off considerably—as might be expected from the season of the year, so many of the birds commencing to moult—and was as follows :—

July (16 days)	188 eggs.
August (31 days).....	173 ,,
September (30 days)	24 ,,
October (15 days)	10 ,,
Total.....	395 eggs

The highest number of eggs produced on any one day in July was eighteen, and the lowest six; in August, highest fourteen, lowest two; in September, highest four—on seventeen days no eggs laid; in October, highest three, and on eight days no eggs laid. The average production of eggs for the three months was 8·23, divided as follows :—July (sixteen days), 3·92; August (thirty-one days), 3·6; September (thirty days), 0·5; October (fifteen days), 0·21.

Experiment No. 2.—Hopper v. Ordinary Feeding.

As previously stated, in this experiment one lot each of White Wyandottes (I.) and Buff Orpingtons (II.) are fed on the hopper system, and one lot each of White Wyandottes (III.) and Buff Orpingtons (IV.) are fed in the ordinary manner on soft food and grain in litter. Particulars of the food supplied were given in the first quarterly report. As grass was so abundant no roots were given, and in Lots I. and II. all grain was omitted as in the previous quarter. The dry mash for Lots I. and II. was the same as in experiment No. 1; while the soft food given to Lots III. and IV. had an albuminoid ratio of 1 : 4·6, and cost 7s. 6d. per cwt. This experiment extended from June 1 to August 31. The box additions to hoppers were supplied on August 19.

During the three months ending August 31, although the cost in respect to hopper feeding is considerably reduced from the previous quarters, it is still nearly 33 per cent. greater than where ordinary food was supplied. The ordinary fed hens produced fourteen eggs more in the three months; the White Wyandottes laid thirty-two eggs more than the Buff Orpingtons. The fertility was greater in the White Wyandottes by 0·88 per cent., and the hatching percentage in the Buff Orpington eggs was greater by 1·67 per cent. than in the White Wyandottes. The percentage of fertility was greater in eggs from the hopper fed birds by 6·51 per cent., and the percentage of hatching was greater in eggs from the ordinary fed birds.

E. AND W. BROWN.

A private catalogue of the first-class herd of pure-bred Shorthorn cattle belonging to Mr. T. Holford, of Castle Hill, Buckland Newton, Dorchester, shows that the herd now consists of thirty-three cows and heifers and three bulls, all of which have good blood in their veins, tracing back as they do to many well-known animals.

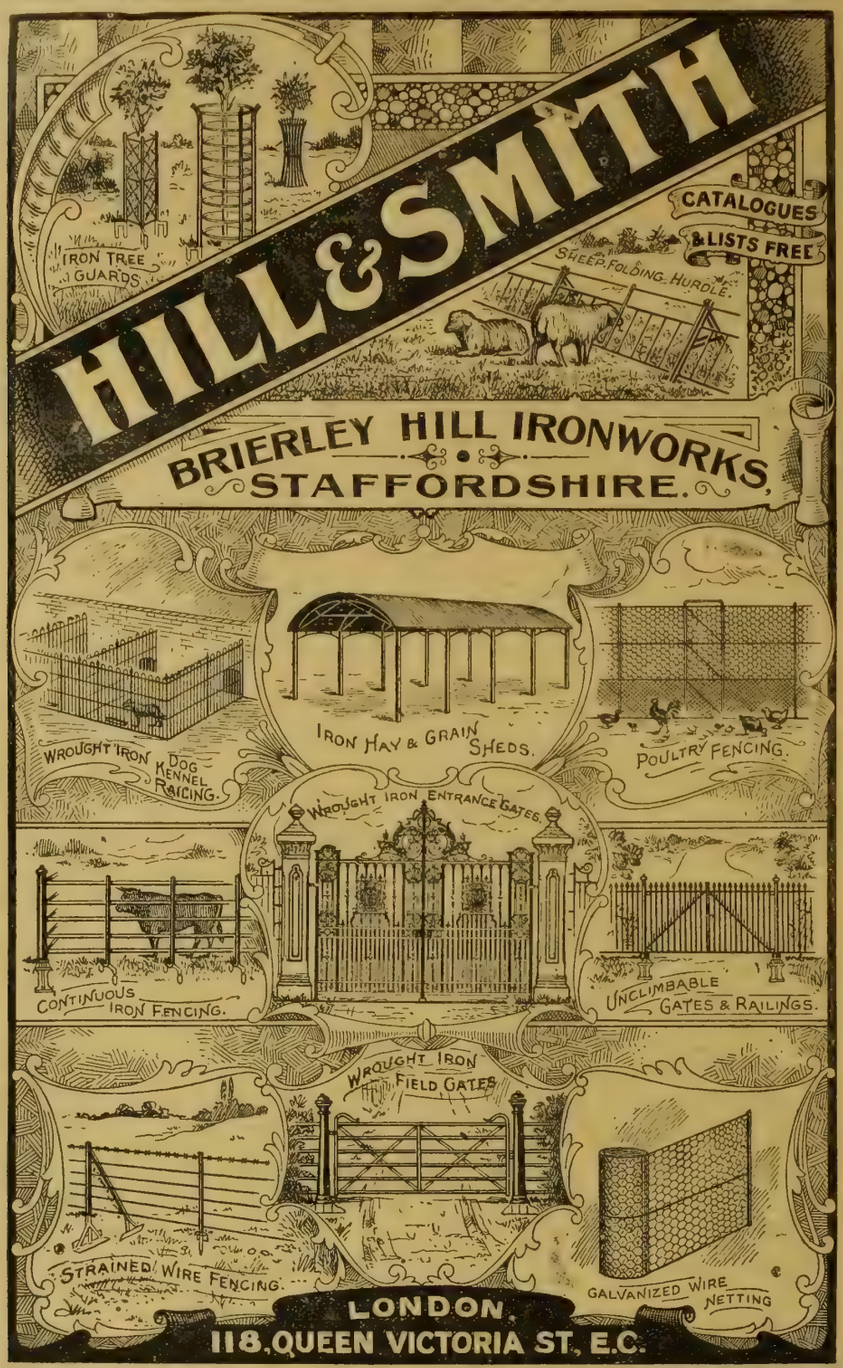
PICTURES TAKEN AT THE UTILITY POULTRY CLUB'S FOUR MONTHS' LAYING COMPETITION.



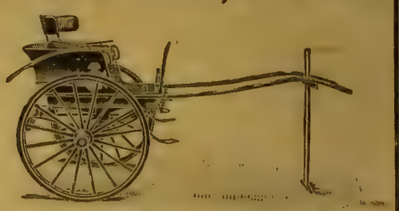
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Every buyer of basic slag receives offers of different grades, and has to use his judgment as to their respective merits and suitability for his purpose.

The Armstrong College authorities made a trial, with the object of comparing the results on hay of low and high grade, applied to two plots for the three years 1904, 1905, and 1906, of dressings of—

1. Basic slag (low grade) 400 lb. (50 lb. phosphoric acid) and 100 lb. muriate of potash.

2. Basic slag (high grade) 224 lb. (50 lb. phosphoric acid) and the same quantity of potash.

The yields of hay are recorded as—

	1904.	1905.	1906.
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
1.	20	15¾	29¾
2.	19½	14½	28¼

The cost of the two applications would be practically the same, and it will be noticed that the low grade slag produced results slightly better than the higher grade.

In order to ascertain the reason for this result, we may with advantage look at the percentages of the important constituents in the two grades.

	Low grade per cent.	High grade per cent.
Total phosphate of lime	27·50	44·92
Phosphate soluble in 2 per cent. citric acid solution	21·91	31·45
Percentage of phosphoric acid soluble in citric acid solution	79·62	69·90
Total lime	38·02	46·81
Lime soluble in 2 per cent. citric acid	32·50	31·68
Free lime	20·63	14·62
Fineness of grinding	85	83

It will be noticed that the lower grade has the higher percentage of soluble phosphate, and also that the amount of lime in the lower grade is considerably more. To these two advantages may be attributed the better results produced by the low grade, and it seems to show that in buying basic slag farmers should attach more importance to the quantity of phosphate of lime soluble in the recognised citric acid solution than to the total quantity of phosphate of lime.

In the case before us the lower grade was relatively the better quality, but in other cases the higher grade may be relatively higher. Buyers should consider offers on their merits, without allowing themselves to be prejudiced beforehand against one or the other grade.

Another point to be noticed in the quality of the two slags is that the lower grade gave the better results in spite of the fact that its grinding was not so good, being 85 against 88 per cent. in the higher grade. This confirms still more strongly that the most important thing in slag is the solubility in citric acid.

Protection of Seed against Rooks.

Where these birds exist in large numbers they are a source of serious injury to cereal crops, although, on the other hand, they are very useful in exterminating insect pests.

In a comparison made of the calculated season's operations of a number of rooks it was estimated, while they were destructive to the extent of some 42,000 grains, they compensated for this injury by killing at least 43,000 insects harmful to agriculture, and the scientific man who made this calculation came to the conclusion that "the extermination of rooks is under no circumstances justifiable, for it is clearly proved that they destroy most pests harmful to crops, including those which are with difficulty reached by artificial means."

It may be remarked that what the writer of that passage protests against is "extermination," and in so far most of us will agree with him, while we remain of the opinion that we can sometimes have too much of a good thing, and in cases where the birds are numerous a judicious thinning of them can be recommended.

At the same time measures should be adopted to protect the seed from the depredations of the birds.

The Board of Agriculture suggest treating the seed with a solution composed of 2½ oz. of coal tar and 2½ oz. of petroleum mixed with one quart of water per bushel of seed, or, it is said that treating the seed with coal tar at the rate of 1 quart of tar to 1 qr. of wheat is a successful means of protecting grain against rooks.

As a scarecrow, it has been observed that cutting up a dead rook and putting the pieces about the field deters the birds from pitching on it much more than putting whole birds on the ground.

It is reported that large orders have been sent to South America from India for nitrate of soda for use on the cotton fields.

Comparative Effect of Nitrate of Soda and Sulphate of Ammonia.

For some years a number of experiments have been conducted at various experimental stations in Germany to test the relative fertilising efficacy of nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia. The results are discussed in an article in the Journal of the German National Agricultural Society.

At Darmstadt, as the result of thirty-four series of tests, comprising 1,800 separate experments, it was proved that, putting the efficacy of nitrate of soda at 100, the corresponding value of ammonia as nitrogen was 94, or that it was necessary to apply 106 units nitrogen in the form of ammonia to get equal results to 100 units nitrogen in nitrate of soda.

This was the result arrived at scientifically, but in field practice the difference between the relative efficacy of the two fertilisers was found to be still greater and the average effect in ordinary farming seemed to be that while 60 parts out of every 100 parts nitrogen in nitrate of soda was taken up by the crop, not more than 45 parts of the nitrogen as ammonia in sulphate of ammonia was so utilised.

In order to obtain an extra yield of 5 bushels of wheat it may be considered necessary to apply ¾ cwt. of nitrate of soda, and according to the results obtained in the various trials the same quantity of sulphate of ammonia would have to be employed.

Why does the ammonia in sulphate of ammonia exercise on the crops a less relative effect? The chief reason would seem to be that part of the ammonia in the course of its conversion in the soil into nitrogen is lost by evaporation. It would appear also that when sulphate of ammonia is applied to heavy clay soils, a small portion of the ammonia enters into combination in the soil of such a character that it becomes not available as plant food for some time. This point requires further elucidation, and experiments are being made to throw light upon it.

How should nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia be applied so as to obtain the best results? On this subject the results obtained have led to the following recommendations :—

Oats.—Sulphate of ammonia should be applied in one dose at time of sowing. Nitrate of soda should also be broadcasted at time of sowing, if only 1½ cwt. per acre is applied; if a larger quantity, then half at time of sowing and half about four weeks later.

Barley.—When the application of sulphate of ammonia or nitrate of soda is small, as it generally should be for this crop, say about 1 cwt. per acre, it should be applied at the time of sowing. If, for any reason, larger quantities are applied, half at time of sowing and half about four weeks later.

Wheat.—Autumn-sown wheat should not receive applications of artificial nitrogen unless the land is very poor, and then only about 1 cwt. to the acre. In spring the dressing should be, as a rule, about 1½ cwt. nitrate of soda to the acre in one application. Larger quantities should be applied in two dressings.

Potatoes.—The nitrogen should be applied in one dose at time of planting, or, if the soil is very light, in two dressings, the first at time of sowing and the second when the plants are hoed for the first time.

Roots should receive the nitrogen at the time of sowing, except when the soil is very light, when it should be applied in two dressings, half at time of planting and half at first hoeing.

The operation of top dressing with nitrogen salts should take place in dry weather, when rain may be expected, and midday after the dew has dried off, so that the salt does not stick to the leaves. Both nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia give better results if they are ground fine before application and mixed with sand or dry earth, so that the distribution may be more even. If sulphate of ammonia is applied to land rich in lime, or which has been recently limed, it should be quickly ploughed or harrowed in, otherwise loss of nitrogen will arise through the formation of volatile carbonate of ammonia.

What effect have nitrogen salts on the quality of the crop product?

On this point there is a mass of statistics and reports, and the following conclusion may be drawn. Applications of nitrogen increase to a small extent the percentage of nitrogenous substance in grain, roots, and potatoes. A similar, though still smaller effort has been noted in the straw and leaves of the crops. But other factors, such as soil, weather, climate variety, have far more influence in this respect than small applications of nitrogen.

How much nitrogen does the soil yield to the crops?

On an average the surface soil to a depth of 10 in. is calculated to contain about 2,900 lb. per acre, and the crops—root crops included—are calculated to extract 46 lb. per acre per year. Thus it may be estimated that out of every 100 parts nitrogen in the soil 1·57 parts are extracted per year and per acre by the crops on an average.

Manures for Pastures.

Tested by Live-Weight Increase.

For the period of nine years from 1897 to 1905 a set of experiments, arranged by Dr. Somerville, was conducted at Cockle Park by the Northumberland County Council with the object of testing the effects of manurial and other treatment of the land, as shown by the live-weight increase of mutton grown on the different plots during a specified number of weeks each season.

The soil is described as a poor clay and clay loam throughout, practically lying on a subsoil of poor yellow boulder clay. It was under cultivation, and grew wheat crops frequently till about forty years ago, since when it has been lying under pasture, which was poor and peaty, and worth only about 2s. 6d. per acre.

The series of experiments after the ninth year was considered as complete, and the results may be regarded as forming a valuable guide for the treatment of similar old pastures throughout the country.

The following table gives a brief summary of the results, calculated out per acre :—

Plot.	Treatment and cost for nine seasons.	Average of nine years. Cost during nine seasons.	Live-weight increase per sheep over untreated plot.	Annual gain or loss.
		s. d.		s. d.
1	Decorticated cotton cake, total 597 lb., fed on plot. (Four seasons).	116 0	69¾	profit 8 11
2	Common lime, 4 tons .... (1897 and 1903).	100 0	12¾	loss 7 3
3	Basic slag, 10 cwt ..... (1907).	23 6	79¾	profit 22 3
4	Basic slag, 5 cwt. 1897, 5 cwt. 1900.	23 6	66	profit 18 0
5	Superphosphate, 7 cwt. 1897, 7 cwt. 1900 (28 per cent).	36 0	57	profit 13 9
6	Untreated throughout....	—	—	—
7	Superphosphate, as plot 5, and sulphate potash 100 lb. (1897, 1899, 1903.)	62 0	67	profit 13 8
8	Superphosphate as plot 5 and ground lime 10 cwt. (1897, 1899, 1903).	70 0	79¼	profit 17 0
9	Superphosphate as plot 5, and sulphur ammonia, 84 lb. (1897, 1899, 1900, 1903).	75 0	54	profit 8 7
10	Dissolved bones, 6 cwt. .. (1897, 1900).	66 0	61¼	profit 11 11

Mineral Fertilisers.

The enhanced prices and possible scarcity in the future of mineral plant food, especially of phosphate of lime and high-class feeding stuffs, are beginning to attract more attention among the agricultural societies.

It is remarked that their use is increasing at a rapid rate from year to year, and there is a feeling of anxiety that the supplies, especially of phosphoric acid, may not always be sufficient, an event which would certainly arise if by any unforeseen circumstance the imports of concentrated feeding stuffs should be interrupted. Through the medium of concentrated cattle foods large quantities of both phosphoric acid and potash are restored to the soil.

As regards potash salts the position seems satisfactory, because the mines in Germany can supply all requirements for many years, but with phosphate of lime it is somewhat different. During recent years the imports of raw phosphate from different parts of the world have barely sufficed to meet the ever-growing demand for superphosphate, and the supplies of basic slag, important as they are, may fall short of the requirements of agriculture. The purchases of slag through one important agricultural society in Germany have increased during the last ten years from 37,000 tons to 83,000 tons, and will continue to grow.

It is recognised that in order to improve the quality and quantity of the crops more mineral manures will be used every year, and in view of the facts commented upon above, it is suggested that each individual farmer should more carefully study the requirements of his soil and crops, so as not to waste any plant food, and to get the very best results from their use.

Nitrate of Soda and its Competitors.

The annual meetings of nitrate of soda companies are pleasant functions at the present time, and very different from what they were some years ago when the price of nitrate was below the cost of production and shipment.

The dividends for the year are most satisfactory for the shareholders, and the prospects for the coming season, if not quite so rosy, are fairly good.

Sir Robert Harvey presided on the 26th ult. at the ordinary general meeting of the Lagunas Syndicate (Limited), and congratulated the shareholders upon the satisfactory position that the company enjoyed and the increased profits that it had made during the past year compared with the previous one. Their oficina had manufactured the full amount of nitrate allowed the company as its quota under the combination. He had received from a shareholder the following communication:—"I suggest that the chairman, when speaking of future prospects, should deal with the allegations in a trade paper as to large accumulations of stock in Chili. Also that he might express an opinion as regards the alleged production of nitrogen in Sweden from the atmosphere, stated to be able to compete on favourable terms with the natural deposits in Chili." His reply to that was that the accumulation of stocks of nitrate in Chili was to be attributed to the want of sufficient shipping to export the nitrate. As to the other point, it was a matter which had been inquired into very particularly by the Permanent Nitrate Committee in London, and he could assure the shareholders that they had no cause to fear this Swedish product as a serious competitor to nitrate. In a very short time the nitrogen produced from the atmosphere turned into water again. It became quite deliquescent in the course of a few weeks, and therefore need not be seriously considered as affecting them. With respect to the new nitrate grounds that the company possessed, they had not yet had to work them. Their cost was £81,000, which was provided for out of the working capital of the company, and from that they had now written off a sum of £64,000. He had every reason to be satisfied with the position and prospects of both the nitrate industry and their own company, and expressed the belief that the directors would be able to present a very satisfactory balance-sheet for the current year. Mr. Collier expressed the hope that if the directors were to pay an interim dividend next year it would be accompanied by an interim report of the position, as twelve months was a long time to wait for news in a nitrate company. The chairman said that the directors saw no need to issue an interim report, which was not customary, but all information desired would be given at the office on application. The report was adopted.

Phosphatic Enrichment of the Soil.

With reference to the remarks in our issue of October 21 on "Storing up Phosphoric Acid in the Soil," we have since come across a report, published in the Journal of the Chamber of Agriculture for Silesia, which bears on the same subject. It is the report of Mr. von Prittwitz on the result of experiments carried out by him during the years 1905-1907, with the view of ascertaining how far increased applications of phosphate would be profitable.

All the fields on the farm on which the experiments were carried out received the customary annual dressing per acre of 3¼ cwt. basic slag and 3¼ cwt. kainit, supplemented by moderate dressings of nitrate of soda if the crop required nitrogen. In 1905 two plots, each measuring 6¼ acres, received an extra application of 3¼ cwt. basic slag per acre, which in that year increased the crop of sugar-beet by 1 ton 10 cwt, and the crop of potatoes by 11 cwt 1 qr. In order to ascertain whether an enrichment of the soil with phosphoric acid in the following year would also prove profitable, the experiments were continued on the same plots in 1906 and 1007. The sugar-beet was followed by flax in 1906 and by rye in 1907, the potatoes by oats in 1906 and by rye in 1907. The three years' results are recorded in detail in a table, which may be summarised as follows:—

The experiments were made in two fields, No. 1 land No. 2, and on two plots in eah field:—

Field No. 1.

		Profit due to additional supply of phosphate.
1905.....	Sugar-beet	19s. 6d.
1906.....	Flax .....loss	8s. 0d.
1907.....	Rye .....profit	16s. 9d.

Thus the total profit for the three years owing to extra supply of phosphate was 28s. 3d.

Field No. 2.

		Profit due to additional supply of phosphate.
1905.....	Potatoes	8s. 10d.
1906.....	Oats	8s. 0d.
1907.....	Rye	50s. 6d.

Thus for the three years £3 7s. 4d. per acre.

Prices of Fertilisers.

The fertiliser market is now very quiet, as the autumn season being over the demand is now limited to basic slag and kainit. After the turn of the year it is anticipated that orders will be booked freely; a big season is expected, and prices are generally very firm.

	£ s. d.
Nitrate of soda	11 5 0
Sulphate of ammonia	12 0 0
Peruvian guano	according to analysis
Superphosphate, 26 per cent.	2 10 0
,, 35 ,,	3 6 3
Pure dissolved bones	5 7 6
Bone compound, ordinary	3 8 9
Bone Meal	5 10 0
Ground hoofs, 15 per cent.	9 10 0
Fish guano, first quality, scarce & dear	7 10 0
Kainit	2 7 0
Sulphate of potash	10 0 0
Muriate of potash	9 0 6

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a nom de plume, *in the paper.*

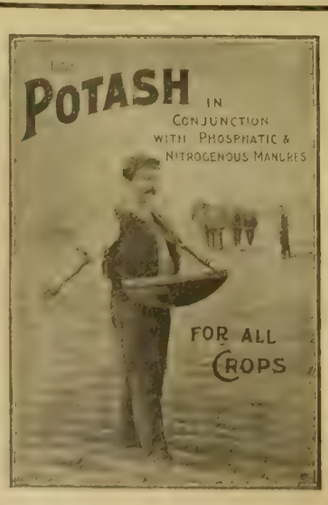
USEFUL INFORMATION FOR FARMERS WHEN BUYING.

Approximate Unit Cost of Fertilising Constituents.

It is necessary for guidance in the economical use of fertilisers, and especially in the purchase of Complete and Special Manures, that the relative unit cost of the principal fertilising constituents should be studied: the subjoined table affords information on the subject. By multiplying the guaranteed minimum percentages of a fertiliser by the unit costs given in the table, the buyer will get a good idea of the commercial value of any chemical manure offered to him. The unit values are subject to variations from time to time, and in this respect we shall endeavour to keep the table up to date besides which, buyers living in remote districts may have to pay a little more for heavier cost of delivery. If credit is required, this will also add to the cost.

	Peruvian Guano.			Nitrate of Soda.	Sulphate of Ammonia.	Bone Meal.	Superphosphate.	Basic Slag.	Bone Compounds.	Special Manures.	Kainit.	Sulphate of Potash.	Muriate of Potash.
	Raw or Equalised.	Phosphatic.	Dissolved (soluble).										
Ammonia, organic as in Guano and Bones	s. d. 17 6	s. d. 12 6	s. d. 15 0	s. d. —	s. d. —	s. d. 12 6	s. d. —	s. d. —	s. d. 15 0	s. d. 15 0	s. d. —	s. d. —	s. d. —
,, in Sulphate of Ammonia ...	—	—	—	—	10 6	—	—	—	—	12 6	—	—	—
,, calculated from Nitrogen in Nitrate of Soda ...	—	—	—	13 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phosphate soluble in water	—	—	2 0	—	—	—	2 0	—	2 0	2 0	—	—	—
,, assimilable...	1 6	1 2	1 3	—	—	1 2	—	—	1 3	1 3	—	—	—
,, insoluble	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 3	—	—	—	—	—
Potash (pure)	4 0	4 0	4 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 0	3 10	4 0	3 10

N.B.—The above table is based on the commercial cost of the fertilising constituents. Agricultural value is not always synonymous with the commercial cost, and every farmer must exercise his judgment, while considering the cost, which fertiliser may be expected to give the most profitable return on his soil and for his crops. This is the cheapest manure for him.



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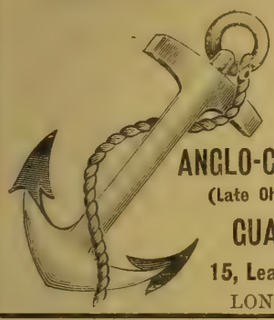
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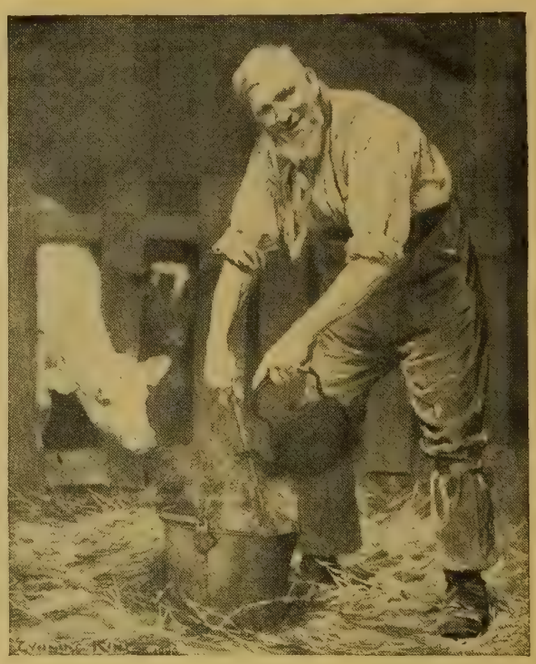
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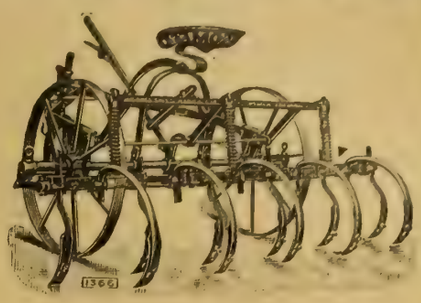
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FAT STOCK SHOWS.

We naturally begin to think of Christmas when the fat stock shows open, and now that they have commenced—Norwich leading the way—much interest will be absorbed in these gatherings for the next few weeks. There are the great shows like Smithfield and Birmingham which we have a habit of associating, through long experience, with gloom and semi-darkness, fog, slush, and discomfort, but none of these adverse conditions have the power to damp the enthusiastic spirit that prevails at a big fat stock show.

At these big events one sees the cream of Christmas beef, and as loyal Britons we feel proud that there is none equal to it in the world, but there are other shows besides those of the Birmingham and Smithfield order, for of late years it has become the custom for almost every local Christmas market to be also a fat stock show, and the prizes offered at these gatherings by auctioneers and patrons of agriculture in the district are keenly competed for by local cattle-feeders. It is not too much to say that these competitions have been, and are, the means of improving local Christmas markets, both in the way of getting better stock and attracting buyers.

Healthy competition is always good, and it is well that the farmers who cannot aspire to the greater events should have a chance of winning honours at local shows.

MILK PRICES.

The rise in milk prices, referred to in our Midland Notes of last week, is the cause of a very pretty little triangular controversy between dealers, farmers, and the aggrieved consuming public. One dealer's letter to a Birmingham evening paper is interesting by reason of its unusal frankness; he says:—

"I am one of those who are paying 8¾d. per gallon for milk. I charge my customer who has to deliver it 9½d; he sells it at 3½d. per quart. I am satisfied, so is he. I have been circularised by a dairymen's association of which I was once a prominent member, asking me if I will raise my price to 10½d. to the milkman and 4d. to the retail customer. I have replied promptly, No! It is nothing in the world but gross imposition to attempt to raise the price. In a word, the reason milk is scarce in some places is because they will not pay a fair price for it. I have plenty, and if I wanted more my sender would buy more cows at once, and if he asked me the other farthing I would pay it, because I know it would be worth my while. If they raise the price to 4d. per quart this means a rise of 4d. per gallon since September 29, and the farmer will not benefit one farthing! I once got up at a meeting called to raise the price of milk, and suggested that we should give our senders half the benefit, but I was ostracised by all my fellow-members, so I promptly resigned my membership."

Milch cows nowadays are not cheap in local markets, so in one respect this letter may be over-sanguine. Meanwhile, the secretary to the "Birmingham and District Dairymen's Association"—a retailers' concern—explains that farmers "secured an advance last winter, given voluntarily in many cases by milk dealers," and that the supply under autumn contracts has fallen off "through being excessive in the summer months." Having overloaded the market in summer producers, it seems, have now left the poor dealers in the lurch, so that the latter have to buy "large supplies at enhanced prices from creameries without any compensation from those farmers who are vending inadequate quantities."

In other words, the supplies are enough to go round, but the large creameries have cornered them—and the retail trade is aggrieved because the farmers are not suffering the loss.

At Selby hirings on Monday there was a good attendance, and though in some cases engagements were made at a slight reduction on last year, the wages, generally speaking, were the same as in 1906. Young lads obtained £8 to £11, third hands £13 to £16, good seconders £18 to £22, and farm foremen £27 to £30 per annum. Female servants were difficult to obtain, and where business was transacted young girls secured £9 to £12, and ordinary domestics £15 to £18, and some £20, while other hands asked from £24 to higher figures.

Notes of the Week.

The first touch of winter came in the course of last week in the shape of sharp night frosts, with snow in some parts of the country.

The change in the weather was accompanied by a freak of Nature's forces in Kent. A whirlwind swept over the eastern part of the county and did much damage.

Many of our readers who have dined at the historic Crosby Hall in Bishopsgate Street, London, will regret that the efforts to save it from the operations of the housebreaker have failed.

The Kaiser has been doing some spade work in Hampshire. It is not reported that he took off his coat and rolled up his Imperial shirt sleeves, but he took off his gloves, planted a tree, and shovelled the soil in with a spade.

"There is some strange and admirable power in our soil and climate which puts a stronger fibre and a more enduring stamp of excellence into the live stock bred in our islands than are found in the same breed and species in any other part of the world," says the *Times*.

Hurrah for Old England, roast beef and plum pudding!

"Little and good" is a saying which is applicable to roots as well as to other things This comes to mind when our eye rests upon the large specimens exhibited at the shows.

The percentage of dry substance in a crop of roots is the real factor of its feeding value.

In the 14th century the wage of haymakers was 1d. per day, and reapers in August got 3d. per day. But at that period a fat ox could be bought for 16s, and a gallon of beer cost only 1d.

This country imported from Canada last year nearly 10,000 tons of butter, valued at more than £980,000.

So the recent export of butter from Ireland to Toronto comes as a surprise. It may indicate that the Canadian butter competition in our markets will rapidly diminish.

The project to make separate main roads for the use of motors will be welcomed; of course, motorists must bear all the cost.

Those playful leviathans of the road, motor cars, have been on the rampage in North London during the week.

In one district they succeeded during the foggy weather in knocking down three different garden walls, tearing up the lawn and nearly dashing into the houses.

The Germans are great smokers, and grow most of their own tobacco. There are 40,000 acres devoted to the cultivation of the fragrant leaf.

It is a small holders' crop, requiring a lot of attention. About 35,000 small farmers are occupied with tobacco cultivation.

Farmers' logic according to *Punch*:—

First Farmer: And wot do 'ee give yur pigs?

Second Farmer: Oh, I gies 'em plenty o' straw.

First Farmer: Ah, but 'ow do 'ee goo on when it's a bad year for straw?

Second Farmer: Well, when it's a bad year for straw, and there ain't much straw about, well, there ye be!

First Farmer: Ay, that's right enough.

Second Farmer: But when it's a good year for straw, and there's plenty of straw about, well, there ye be agen!

First Farmer: Ay, that's right enough, that is!

Note for vegetarians!

"When the lion eats an antelope he is only devouring glorified grass."

Says Dr. Andrew Wilson.

Weight-guessing competitions at agricultural shows are quite fashionable. They help to educate the eye and appeal to what is called the gambling instinct of mankind.

"Who was Potiphar?" was the question asked by a Sunday-school teacher, and the answer surprised her: "This is a kind of potted meat which his brother gave in exchange for his birthright"

The largest horse in the world is said by Americans to be Nebraska Queen, a mare on a breeding farm at Falls City.

Are wool prices going to mark a fresh advance or show a tendency to decline?

This question will be answered by the result of the important Colonial wool sales to be held in London during this week and next. Nearly 130,000 bales will be put up for sale.

A prompt reply:—

"The Scotch," says Mr. Wilson, of the Department of Agriculture, "are certainly a witty people. Now there was a visitor in the little town of Aughnacloy who, on looking about, saw no children, but only grown men and women. He wondered at this, and, finally, meeting a weazened old man on the street, inquired, 'How often are children born in this town?'

"'Only once,' the man replied, as he proceeded on his way."

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3.—Birmingham Fat Stock Show, third day—Tonbridge Fat Stock Show, second day—Cattle Fairs at Stockport, Ipswich, and Lynn—Cowbridge Fat Stock Show—York Fat Stock Show, first day—Maidstone Horse Sale

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4.—Birmingham Fat Stock Show, fourth day—York Fat Stock Show, second day—Redhill Show, first day—Wadhurst Fat Stock Show, first day—Helston Great Fair—Manley's Special Horse Sale, Crewe—Edinburgh Fat Stock Show, first day—Special Sale at Folkestone of Horses.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5.—York Fat Stock Show, third day—Redhill Show, second day—Bungay Fair—Birmingham Fat Stock Show, last day—Edinburgh Fat Stock Show, second day—Manley's Special Sale of Heavy Horses, Crewe—Wadhurst Fat Stock Show, second day—Great Sale of Store Cattle, Dublin—Agricultural and Poultry Sale at Okehurst, first day.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6.—Sale of Dairy Cows at Preston—Rothenfield Farm Sale—Agricultural and Poultry Sale at Okehurst, second day—Agricultural Fairs at Bodmin, Coleford, Northwich, Newark, and Skipton.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7.—Fairs at Leigh, Wells, Derby, and Clitheroe—Shingleton Farm, Eastry: Special Sale.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9.—Smithfield Show opens at Islington—Fairs at Reigate, Ross, and Bradford—Lynn Fat Stock Show—Pembroke Fat Stock Show—Farmers' Club Annual Meeting, 6 p.m.; Mr. Mansell on "The Value of Live Stock," at the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Metropole—Farmers' Club House Dinner, 8 p.m., No. 2, Whitehall Court.

An Agricultural Party.

The proposed formation of an Independent Agricultural Party forms the chief topic of discussion at the meetings of agricultural societies, &c, now being held, and, as was only to be expected, there is a variety of opinions on the subject.

Sir Alexander Acland-Hood, Chief Opposition Whip, who is president of the West Somerset Farmers' Club, was unable to attend a meeting of that association held at Taunton on the 23rd ult., to consider the subject mentioned above, but he wrote:—"I think the main reason why agriculture has not hitherto received all the attention in Parliament that it should do is because we agriculturists have never yet agreed on a united policy for the welfare of our industry. Till we all unite on common ground for the benefit of all concerned in the industry—owners, tenants, labourers, and the tradesmen and artisans in our rural districts whose interests are so bound up in the welfare of agriculture—I do not think our voice will be heard as it might be. I am not sure that if we combined in this way we should not carry more weight in Parliament than could be done by a small group of plucky agricultural members."

After discussion, the club decided heartily to support the proposal of the Organisation Committee of the Central Chamber of Agriculture, and the members pledged themselves to a levy of one shilling per member and to collect any other obtainable subscriptions for the proposed central fund for the formation of an independent agricultural party. It was also suggested that in a division where the prominent vote was Liberal a candidate acceptable to the Liberals should be chosen, and conversely in the case of a Conservative constituency. The club further decided to urge on the Central Chamber the necessity of using all its influence in bringing those members of Parliament who represented agricultural constituencies into line, apart from party politics, on all questions entirely affecting the interests of agriculture.

A number of speakers at the last meeting of the Tunbridge Wells Farmers' Club deplored the lack of unity among farmers even on broad principles, and it was urged that they must have some great question on which all would combine before the establishment of a party could successfully be tackled. The essential need of a party cry was also advanced. Tribute was paid to the work done for agriculture by local M.P.'s, and Mr. G. L. Courthope wrote stating that his greatest desire was to see agriculture properly represented. Farmers' clubs and agricultural associations, he suggested, should make it known that they would support candidates whose chief interest lay in agriculture.

The Wadhurst Farmers' Club have passed a resolution in favour of forming a separate Agricultural Party; they, however, realise the importance, in the first place, of forming a thoroughly representative organisation, including all classes interested in agriculture.

Lord Barnard presided at a meeting of the Darlington Chamber of Agriculture on Monday to consider the suggestions of the Central Chamber of Agriculture towards the formation of an Agricultural Parliamentary Party, and in the course of a speech remarked that he thought an attempt to form an Agricultural Party was bound to end in failure. Even if it did not end in failure it would be practically useless. Parliament was charged with the interests of the United Kingdom and of the Empire, and not with the interests of a section of the community. He moved, and the resolution was adopted, "that while every step should be taken to impress upon Parliament and the Government the views of those interested in agriculture, the Chamber was of opinion that the formation of an Agricultural Party is not practicable or advisable; and further expressing the opinion that every encouragement should be given to farmers' clubs and other organisations."

The members of the Cirencester Chamber of Agriculture have unanimously adopted the following resolution:—"That this Chamber, while concurring in the opinion that the representation of the agricultural interest in Parliament should be made more effective, is not in favour of the formation of an independent political Agricultural Party; and considers that the remedy is to be found—at all events for the present—in strengthening and consolidating existing agricultural organisations, and by the formation of others in unorganised districts."

On Tuesday the East Suffolk Chamber of Agriculture considered the subject at some length, and a resolution to the effect that an Independent Agricultural Party is absolutely necessary was lost by only one vote.

Mr. Ulric Stanley presiding at a meeting of the North Cotswold Farmers' Association at Campden on Wednesday evening, said if farmers had been enthusiastic and energetic, and supported the proposals of the Central Chamber as they ought to have done, they would not have asked for an Agricultural Party in Parliament. He complained of the apathy of members of that association. There was a certain class of farmers who would quickly take up anything new, but whose interest quickly subsided.

Mr. S. Stanley spoke in favour of an Agricultural Party in Parliament, and said he had always had to choose between a Tory and a Radical. Often the questions concerned wars and other matters he was not interested in—things that did not affect him. He had to choose between two evils, and vote for one or the other. He hoped he should have the opportunity of voting for a representative of agriculture. He moved, and it was unanimously carried, "That it is the opinion of this association that the time has arrived when agriculture should be represented in Parliament irrespective of parties."

Mr. G. Lane Fox, M.P., speaking at the annual dinner of the Sherburn Agricultural Society on Thursday, said he did not think an Agricultural Party in the House of Commons would be of any use to agriculturists, owing to the expense of electioneering in rural districts, though no doubt it was a disadvantage to farmers to be represented by men who had no practical knowledge of farming.

At the Newcastle Stones Fair, on Wednesday, the quality of the store cattle shown was good, especially for three-year-olds, but trade was slow. Irish three-year-olds made from £12 15s. to £16s.; two-year-olds, £11 15s. to £13 5s.; yearlings, £6 to £10; English two-year-olds, £11 to £15. There were very few yearlings, and prices ranged from £8 to £11 10s. Very little trade was done in the horses, and there were not so many animals as was expected. Prices ranged from £10 to £50.



Open Produce Stakes for Shorthorns and Jerseys.

Breeders of Shorthorns and Jerseys are reminded that the entries for the first half of the open produce stakes of 10s. each, arranged by the Tunbridge Wells and South-Eastern Counties Agricultural Society, close on the 31st inst.

The stakes, it may be recalled, are for cows or heifers to be entered and their produce to be shown at the society's 1909 show. The stakes will be divided as follows—between the produce of the entered cows or heifers which shall be born :—

1st half, between January 1 and June 30, 1908, inclusive, and the entry for this half of the stakes, as already stated, closes on December 31.

2nd half, between July 1 and December 31, 1908, inclusive, and the entry for this half closes on March 31, 1909.

If there are sufficient entries bulls and heifers will not compete against each other, and separate classification will be provided for each sex. The money will be divided *pro rata* between the two sexes, less the entrance fee when shown, and will be awarded to the absolutely best of either sex.

Separate stakes are provided for the two breeds —Shorthorn and Jerseys—and the conditions and rules are as follow :—

Any number of cows or heifers, the property of the same owner, may be entered for the stake.

Cows or heifers shall only be eligible for entry in respect to produce, to be born between the above-mentioned dates. Entries may be made at any time before the closing of the stake.

One entry shall only cover one calf.

Within six weeks from the birth of the calf of any cow or heifer entered for the stake, the owner shall forward to the secretary of the Tunbridge Wells and South-Eastern Counties Agricultural Society, a certificate, signed by himself and one witness, stating the date of birth, exact markings, sex, with name (and number if entered) of the dam and sire—but the acceptance of such description shall be left to the discretion of the council or their representatives, and every owner must prove the correctness of his entry to the satisfaction of the council, if called upon to do so.

Entrance fee, 10s , to be paid on entering the cow or heifer, the only liability in case of forfeit ; the remaining £1 to become due and to be paid if and when the owner accepts by nominating for the stake, the date for which will be in 1909, and announced.

A calf is eligible to compete under one subscription, provided that, if the breeder shall have sold or otherwise parted from it, no other person shall accept by nominating for the stakes, unless he also pay £1 for such acceptance, and forward to the secretary a certificate from the late owner, properly identifying, with exact markings and colour, to the satisfaction of the secretary or the council, the produce in question.

Notice of and nominating the produce for competition will be sent at the proper time to all who have entered cows or heifers, and when the acceptances have come in the premiums or prizes (cash) will be allocated in the two divisions by the representatives of the Tunbridge Wells and South-Eastern Counties Agricultural Society and the Shorthorn Herd Book Society, and should there be any difference of opinion on the subject between them, the final decision would be left to the president of the Tunbridge Wells and South-Eastern Counties Agricultural Society of 1907.

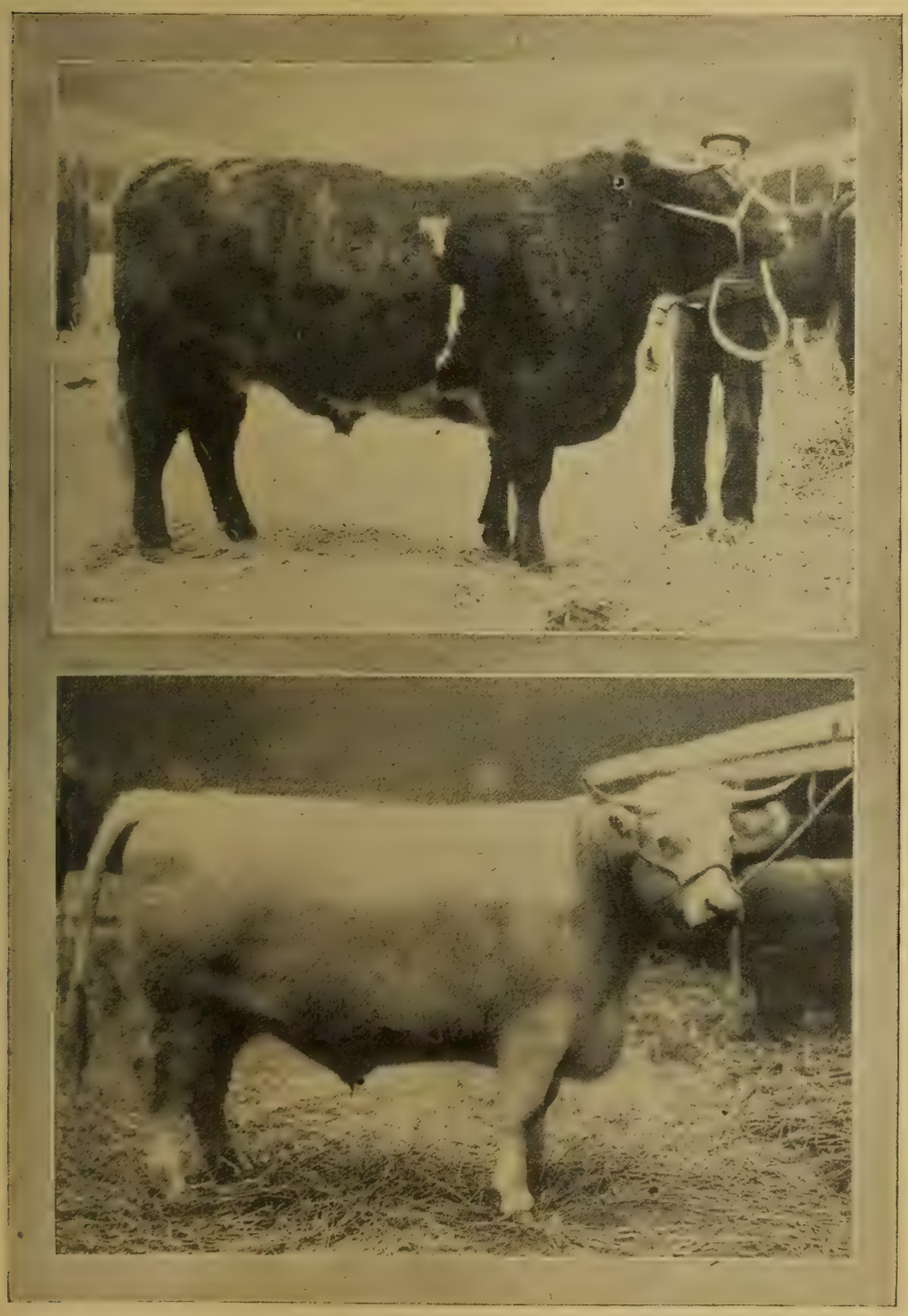
If a cow or heifer entered for the stake be sold or otherwise parted with before the calf is born the new owner shall forward to the secretary a certificate of the fact, signed by the late owner, and shall in all respects comply with the rules hereinbefore set out.

Anyone failing to comply with the above rules respecting certificates may be refused permission to accept for and nominate the produce for the stakes.

All matters of doubt or dispute arising under these rules and conditions, or otherwise, respecting the stake, shall be settled by the council of the Tunbridge Wells and South-Eastern Counties Agricultural Society, or whoever they may appoint, and their decision shall be final.

Any of the produce shown for this stake will be able to compete also in their respective classes at the show for which they are eligible, by paying the usual fee for such class or classes, and it will therefore be seen that an animal could carry away a considerable amount in money and prizes, and these stakes must very materially add to the value and importance of the animals entered.

All applications should be made to Mr. W. Roper, secretary, Tunbridge Wells and South-Eastern Counties Agricultural Society, Kentish Buildings, Tunbridge Wells, from whom all particulars can be obtained.



H.M. THE KING'S FIRST PRIZE SHORTHORN STEERS AT THE NORWICH FAT STOCK SHOW.

1. The winner in the Class for Steer of Any Breed, bred and fed in Norfolk, above two years and not over three years old. Sire Traveller, dam Constance ; age 2 years 9 months 1 week 5 days ; weight 18 cwt. 0 qr. 9 lb.
2. The winner of the Special Prize for the Best Beast in the Show bred and fed in Norfolk, and First in the Class for Shorthorn Steers over two years and not above three years old. Sire Royal Carlisle, dam Squall ; age 2 years 8 months 3 weeks 4 days ; weight 15 cwt. 2 qr. 19 lb.

Transactions in Store Stock.

(*Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.*)

At Kell's Fair, co. Meath, held on November 26, there was a very small supply of cattle ; demand good, polled bullocks selling better than in recent fairs. Yearlings, 1st class, £8 10s. to £9 ; 2nd class, £7 7s. 6d. to £7 10s. ; two-year-olds, 1st class, £12 to £131 5s. ; 2nd class, £10 to £12 ; three-year-old, 1st class, £14 10s. to £16 ; 2nd class, £12 5s. to £13 10s. ; Springers, 1st class, £15 to £16 15s. ; 2nd class, £12 15s.

The second hirings at Driffield took place on Monday and were largely attended, and a goodly number of transactions took place. Foremen obtained £26 to £30, shepherds £24 to £28, waggoners £18 to £24, beastmen £16 to £23, third lads £12 to £17, and young lads £7 to £12 per year. Female servants were scarce. Cooks £20 to £22, housemaids and generals £16 to £18, kitchen girls £12 to £16, and nursemaids £10 to £12.

At Thirsk hirings on Monday there was a decided improvement in the attendance from the previous Monday. Owing to the fact that farmers are backward with their work a slight advance in wages was in most cases asked, but by far the greater part of the contracts which were made were at the old rates. In many instances employers had waited until to-day before hiring, and consequently a good deal of business was done. Female labour was as usual scarce, and the supply did not equal the demand, and good wages were obtained by likely hands. Hinds, with cottage, garden, and the usual allowances, made from 18s. to 21s., and good managing hinds, 24s. to 27s. per week. Capable farm foremen, £25 to £30 ; plough lads, £9 to £11 ; farm boys, £6 to £8 ; head lads and horsemen, £17 to £18 10s. ; cooks for town places, £18 10s. to £23 ; general servants, £13 to £15 ; housemaids and chambermaids, £11 10s. to £15 ; nurse girls, £8 10s. to £11 ; young girls for farm houses, £7 10s. to £10 10s. ; second hands, £15 to £16 ; head girls, £19 to £21.



Notes and Jottings.

AN English breeder who is visiting New Zealand has furnished some interesting details in connection with his impressions upon the flocks he has seen in that Colony. First and foremost stands the grand quality of the wool grown there, and from what one can gather from the letters seen, it is evident that the breeders in those Colonies have given the wool a great deal of attention. They have, indeed, by selection and care, improved the uniformity of their fleeces to a remarkable degree, with the result that their fleeces when offered for sale realised a higher average price than would be the case if they were not of that uniformity of type and character.

TO write upon wool at this time when the indications of the market show a decline in the prices made is not so pleasing as it would be if the prices were rising. However, it occurs to the writer, after perusing the letters mentioned in the previous paragraph, that it would be of general benefit if it were possible to induce the British wool growers to devote more attention to the fleece than they have done in the immediate past.

ONE matter is quite clear—*i.e.*, that the better the quality of the wool the more even its staple and character, the better the price it realises in the wholesale market, and the larger the demand.

THE other day in Kent some four or five flockmasters met together to inspect a flock of sheep. At the luncheon the subject of the price of wool was discussed. Said one: "I cannot see how it is managed, but I know for a fact that a certain lot of wool—a small lot, indifferent in quality, and not approaching the cleanliness, &c., of another lot grown side by side, made exactly the same price. What I want to know is why this should be." This is a position one has discussed time after time, and, unfortunately, it is a general one, and it must and will remain so until the time arrives when the middleman or the collector, if one may so term him, of the local growths of wool is done away with, and the whole of the wool sent to be sold at one or other of the great wool markets, where each clip would then be sold at its true value.

DURING the past week or so flockmasters have been much troubled by the continuous rainy weather. Those who are folding find it most awkward, particularly on the heavier land, to keep their sheep in the fold. Such sheep are not doing their best; it is only natural that this should be the case, for no animal can do well and thrive when penned up on wet clay or mud. It is against the practice, and many experienced flockmasters deprecate doing so, but one cannot help thinking it would, in the long run, be to the advantage of both the owner and the sheep if in extremely wet weather, such sheep were removed to dry land, or even pastures.

ANOTHER danger, and one that is very apparent to those who move amongst flocks and sheep, is that foot rot will become very prevalent unless we have a change from the present wet weather. Several cases have recently come under the writer's notice in which flocks are becoming generally infected with it.

IT was told the writer the other day, when he called attention to the fact that the majority of sheep in a certain flock were lame, "Well, we always have it at this time of the year." This may be so, but if it be so, it points clearly to the fact that that flock is not under proper management and control. No flockmaster can prevent his sheep breaking down lame at some time or the other, but every flockmaster can, if he takes due precaution, prevent his flock becoming infected with it.

IT is most difficult to make flock owners and shepherds also realise the fact that a lame sheep neglected means a lame flock in the course of a very short time.

FLOCKS that have been under proper control and management are rarely, if ever, found to contain many lame sheep. Why is this? It is simply because those who are in control no sooner see a lame sheep than that sheep is taken out, isolated, and cured, before being allowed to run again with the flock.

WITHOUT discussing the question as to whether or not foot-rot or any other kind of lameness is contagious, one can say, without fear of contradiction, that once allow any lame sheep to run about with the flock the lameness very soon spreads amongst many others.

THE absence of sale reports from the Argentine at this period of the year indicates, and confirms, too, the fact that the sales being held in that country are not giving any remarkable series of prices. In fact, the information conveyed by the reports seen in the Argentine papers all indicate that the stud ram market in Buenos Ayres, particularly of the Lincoln sheep, is over supplied.

THE more thoughtful British breeders will not be surprised at this condition of affairs. In fact, it is what many of them have been anticipating for some considerable time past. That this should be so is a matter of regret. Not only does it mean that those who have exported sheep there will get little or nothing for their trouble, but it lowers the standard rate of price for sometime afterwards, and the effect of a slump in the trade, such as has been taking place in that market during the past two months, will take sometime to be forgotten, and materially affect the prices next season.

ON the other hand we note that the New Zealand breeders and those in Australia also have been selling their home bred rams at very satisfactory prices. In New Zealand the trade has been exceptionally good, and the effect of this has been that the New Zealand demand for British stud sheep, notably of the Romney Marsh breed, which has been good all this season, is continuing so right through until the present time, and from information with which we have been favoured we are able to state that several important consignments of sheep have recently left this country for New Zealand.

THE English flockmaster has great need to keep a watchful eye upon his fellow breeders in New Zealand, for these are making great efforts to secure a footing in the Argentine market. They claim that they can supply the Argentine market with typical specimens of the British breeds of sheep at a much lower rate, and more suitable for that country than the home breeder.

NO one will question that they are able to supply them at a lower rate, but it is evident that the lower rate will only purchase sheep from flocks which are in need of renovating and strengthening by the importation of stud sheep from Great Britain.

THIS is shown by the fact that New Zealand breeders themselves have been during the past year larger purchasers of British stud sheep than has been the case for many years past, and it needs no great amount of thought to prove to the Argentine importer that it must be cheaper and better for him to import direct from the fountain head than to do it through the New Zealand flock, which has to go for its stud sires to the same source.

LINCOLN breeders will note with satisfaction that Mr. F. Miller's champion ram at the Lincoln Royal Show has been sold privately to one of the leading Argentine estancieros, Mr. J. B. Iraizoz. It would be interesting to know the price at which this ram has been sold. Doubtless a high price, for the ram to him at the Royal Show realised, as our readers know, 900 guineas at Mr. Dudding's sale last July.

At a well attended meeting of the Wadhurst Farmers' Club—a body embracing a large district engaged in the hop industry in East Sussex—the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—"The members of the Wadhurst Farmers' Club, in view of the large amount of capital invested, and the large number of persons—both in country and town—employed, directly or indirectly, with the growing of hops in Kent and other hop growing counties, do earnestly press upon the Government to impose a duty of 40s. per cwt. on all foreign hops landed in this country. They especially desire to point out that the free importation of hops is causing ruin to the growers of hops in England, and driving whole families from the hop districts into the towns or to the workhouses; whereas, if a duty on foreign hops were imposed, it would bring prosperity to the hop districts, and take many of the unemployed from congested centres, and no one would suffer, as there is plenty of land in England to grow all the hops our brewers require."



Notes and Jottings.

Size.

THE modern idea of horse-breeding, or, to be accurate, one great object of modern horse breeders is size. The question which never seems to have been thoroughly thrashed out, or which, at all events, is practically ignored by modern theorists is, how far size in itself is an advantage. Of course, in horses for draught size and weight are essential, but when we come to lighter breeds it is, at any rate, open to argument whether increased size, by which in the first place I mean increased weight, is worth what it costs us. Experience has shown us that in increasing the height of light breeds we frequently—too frequently—sacrifice characteristics which are of much greater importance. Height often means legginess, which in itself is a sign of weakness, and it is a fact that big, fine horses are more liable to go wrong in the wind than smaller and more compact horses. There is an old saying that a "good big one is better than a good little one," and the truth of such a saying seems self-evident on the face of it. But, like many sayings and proverbs, it will scarcely bear strict examination. An old huntsman once said in my presence that "a good big horse might be better than a good little one till he tried; but that in his experience it was the comparatively little horses that stood their work best, and came home most cheerfully after a hard day."

The Happy Medium.

OF course, a little horse would be no use for a 15 stone man in a flying country. He would never get over the fences. But a medium sized horse will in nine cases out of ten carry a heavy weight better than the tall 16 hands 2 in. or 16 hands 3 in. horse which is so fashionable. Some twenty years ago a writer of wide experience gave it as his opinion that a weight-carrying Hunter increased in value till he got to 16 hands, and that his value decreased after he passed that standard. There is a great deal of sense in the remark, though, like all generalisations, it is open to exception. But I think that if we were to adopt 16 hands as the standard to aim at, we should find that our weight-carrying Hunters would be more serviceable than they are at present. Speaking from my own experience, which has been a pretty wide one, the horses which I remember as the best have, with one exception, been under rather than over 16 hands, and perhaps the best and hardest was a well-bred horse that was just short of 15 hands 3 in. I have had horses perhaps that went as brilliantly in a fast forty minutes—one in particular, and he standing 16 hands 1½ in. might perhaps be considered better for the time. But when it came to a really hard day, and one hard day after another, the little one was the better horse of the two. When I bought him he was nine years old, and though all the clever people said he was not up to my weight, he carried me for nine seasons an average of nearly three days a fortnight, and I never saw him sick or sorry.

Bone.

GOOD bone is, of course, necessary. If a horse has not good bone he is of little use. But opinions differ as to what good bone is. Big bone is by no means always good bone, and frequently in the endeavour to get big bone we sacrifice something which is of much greater importance. Writing in the *Sportsman* the other day a man who has lived all his life amongst horses, and whose experience is not confined to England, emphasises this fact in words which cannot be too strongly impressed upon breeders: "A horse with 9 in. of bone has not necessarily better bone than a horse with only 8 in. It is the quality and texture of the bone, not the inches, that count. In my humble opinion, the bones hold a very lowly position compared with the rest of the animal organisation; they are the frame or skeleton on which are laid the marvellously delicate machinery of tendons, muscles, and nerves. It is this delicate machinery which turns trainers' hair grey." If this opinion were acted on by breeders we should have fewer moderate horses. The horse mentioned above had only 7¾ in. of bone, but his sinew was like whipcord. His breakdown when eighteen years old was

caused from over-jumping himself, getting into the rut on a cart road with his forelegs and cutting his sinew. If it had not been for this accident he would have lasted another two seasons well.

American Opinion.

OUR American cousins do not attach so much importance to bone as we do, and some of the horses which they sent over to Olympia last year were sadly deficient. From our standpoint—indeed, even from the standpoint of those who have not the prevalent somewhat exaggerated opinions on the merits of big bone—the American horsemen carry their theory to the other extreme. But at the same time it must be pointed out that the Americans are a thoroughly practical people, and they do not keep their horses to look at.

Forcing.

THE shortcomings of our Hunter stock also owe much to the pernicious system of early forcing for the show ring, of which many instances have just come to my notice during my travels round the country during the last few weeks. I have seen a lot of young horses that were much talked about and written about in the early part of the year. On referring to notes made about them then I find that there is only one that has fulfilled the promise they showed. One horse in particular I noticed and was disappointed with. He is a yearling, and is quite as big as he ought to be at three years old. Another, a three-year-old, looked to be fully 16 hands 1 in , and several three-year-olds I have seen were over 16 hands. I was asked whether I did not think 15 hands 3 in. the maximum height for a three-year-old, and I certainly think it quite high enough. One gentleman as we looked over a lot of two-year-olds made the remark that one could pick a road team out from them, and with an exception, or perhaps two, a road team would have been easier selected than a Hunter found. Mind, I do not say we are all wrong, but I must insist that we are running into considerable danger by the undue importance we attach to height and the early forcing for shows.

The Hackney Horse Society's Prize Schedule.

THE prize schedule of the Hackney Horse Society is the first of the great London show schedules that has been issued. As has been the case many times, it shows considerable development, and the amount given in prizes has been largely increased. Additional prizes have been offered in no fewer than twenty classes, which is a move in the right direction, and of more importance than the addition of new classes, for at a show of such importance additional prizes in each class bring an increase of entries. Men like to take something in the shape of a prize when their horses are fourth or fifth in a big class, and I might respectfully suggest that if the money which is given in new classes had been used to augment the prizes in the other classes it would have been more judiciously spent, and would have been attended with better results to the show. For there were quite as many classes last spring as could be judged in the four days, and how next year's programme with its three new classes and four new competitions for medals, cups, &c., is going to be got through is a puzzle. Last March several classes were judged by artificial light, which means that they were judged in the dark. It was quite impossible to see the horses at all from the stands, and how the judges could see the horses is a wonder.

By Electric Light.

IT is sincerely to be hoped that we shall not have an "evening sitting" after the fashion of Olympia. That was bad enough in all conscience, but it would be much worse at the Agricultural Hall. In the first place the hall is not so well lighted, nor are the seats so placed as spectators can see to the greatest advantage when the hall is lighted. But more important still, the Hackney Horse Society's Show is above all things a breeder's show. Everything shown is, or should be, shown from the breeder's standpoint, and judging breeding classes in semi-darkness will not appeal to the exhibitors of Hackneys. I have heard many protests against this, and several men have said they would not show again if their horses have to be judged in the dark. Of course these threats may be taken for what they are worth. Men threaten a long time before they carry their threats into execution. But common justice demands that valuable breeding animals should be judged in daylight. It is unfair not only to the exhibitors but to the public and to the judges if they are judged in the dark.

Soundness.

THERE is a change in the conditions as to veterinary examinations, and in the harness classes little irregularities which would disqualify a stallion or brood mare are to be looked over—that is to say, that a gelding or mare in harness will not be disqualified for a small "trade mark:" At the same time, it is to be hoped that there will not be two standards of soundness set up. By which I mean that I hope horses with spavins or curbs, even if they go sound, or horses unsound in their wind, will not be allowed to take prizes in the harness classes.

THE LOOKER-ON.



The Polo Pony Stallion Spanish Hero was Champion at both the Royal Show at Lincoln and the Polo and Riding Pony Society's Show this year. It was foaled in 1898, sire Kilwarlin, dam Spanish Maiden, and was bred by Mr. J. G. Mosenthal, but is the property of Mr. S. Mumford, Stud Farm, Moreton Morrell, Warwick.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

Account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended November 23, 1907, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year (the figures for 1906 are in parentheses):—

Animals, living:—Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves (11,577), 8,945; sheep and lambs (995), 2,711; horses (187), 190.

Fresh meat:—Beef (57,083 cwts.), 85,549; mutton (50,197), 61,668; pork (14,722), 11,927.

Salted or preserved meat:—Bacon (90,984 cwt.), 97,503; beef (1,904), 1,740; hams (13,946), 23,130; pork (2,993), 4,446; meat (10,873), fresh, 11,835, salted, 1,078; meat, preserved (1,342), 10,750.

Dairy produce and substitutes:—Butter (68,205 cwt.), 69,856; margarine (27,368), 16,694; cheese (43,462), 39,590; milk, cream (60), 62; milk, condensed (13,209), 17,174; milk, preserved, other kinds (257), 260.

Eggs (great hundreds):—(372,423), 394,717; poultry (value £8,612), £5,371; game (value £5,268), £3,879; rabbits, dead (not tinned), (7,698 cwt.), 18,711; lard (32,232 cwt.), 47,800.

Corn, grain, meal, and flour:—Wheat (1,743,200 cwt.), 2,178,200; wheat, meal and flour (296,100), 308,500; barley (445,900), 785,800; oats (443,700), 245,000; peas (26,670), 71,130; beans (7,890), 7,000; maize or Indian corn (723,000), 987,600.

Fruit (raw):—Apples (196,081 cwt.), 235,901; grapes (16,280 cwt.), 36,215; pears (6,825 cwt.), 5,818; plums (397 cwt.), 394.

Hay (2,077 tons), 1,444; straw (511 tons), 1,645; moss litter (1,917 tons), 1,577; hops (9,577 cwt.), 8,666; locust beans (— cwt.), 5,246.

Vegetables, Raw:—Onions (231,612 bushels), 160,581; potatoes, (51,959 cwt.), 368,070; tomatoes, (9,052 cwt), 19,784.

Whirlwind in Kent.—Extraordinary damage was done in East Kent on Monday by a violent whirlwind, which wrecked farms at Sholden and Deal, three men being badly injured by the wreckage. The centre of the disturbance appears to have been at Sholden, about ten miles from Deal, where the effect of the whirlwind is of the most surprising and extensive character. At Wellard's farm practically everything was levelled by the terrific force of the wind. A massive slated barn was smashed up as if it were of cardboard, huge sections of corrugated iron forming the roofs of farm buildings were found in fields quite half a mile away from the buildings from which they were stripped, the stacks were demolished, and straw and hay from them carried as far as a mile and a-half from the farm, whilst two farm labourers at work were caught beneath heavy wreckage from the farm buildings and pinned down, one of the men being badly hurt.

The special hirings at Market Weighton on Wednesday were well attended. Female servants were in demand, young girls obtaining £9 to £12; general domestics, £14 to £19; young lads, £6 to £9; third lads, £10 to £12; waggoners, £15 to £18; and foremen, £25 to £29 for the year.

SHOWS.

Smithfield Show: Details.

The annual exhibition of this ancient Club will be held at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, on December 9 and four following days, Mr. James Hornsby, Laxton Park, Stamford, being the president for the year. A most satisfactory entry of stock has been received for this, the 109th show of the Club.

The entries, which include exhibits from all the principal feeders in the United Kingdom, comprise 281 head of cattle, 158 pens of sheep, and 150 pens of pigs. Prizes amounting to £4,113 are offered, including the magnificent Challenge Cups presented by his Majesty the King, for cattle; H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., for sheep; and H.R.H. Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, K.G., for pigs, the winners of which also receive the Club's gold medal. For these handsome prizes all the best animals in the three kingdoms compete, the champions from Norwich, Birmingham, and Edinburgh meeting in friendly rivalry at this show.

The champion beast may win £260 and the King's Challenge Cup, the champion pen of sheep £110 and the Prince of Wales's Challenge Cup, and the champion pen of pigs £70 and the Prince Christian's Challenge Cup. The carcase competition at this show, and for which separate entries are made, is as popular as ever, the entries comprising thirty-three cattle, sixty-five sheep, and thirty-four pigs. These animals are exhibited alive on Monday, and their carcases on the Wednesday of the show. In addition to the prizes offered by the club, valuable challenge cups are offered by the Butchers' Company of London in each section of this competition, the holders of which also receive the club's silver medals. In the table poultry section 220 entries have been received for prizes amounting to upwards of £120.

The implement department of the show will be larger than usual. For some years there has been a demand for increased accommodation for several of the exhibitors held at the Royal Agricultural Hall, and in consequence the company have at very great expense acquired additional property adjoining, and built upon it a capacious hall measuring 234 ft. by 152 ft., which will be used for the first time by the Smithfield Club. This new addition will be named the Gilbey Hall, after the chairman of the company, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart. This hall which can be entered from Barford Street, or the Great Hall, will be a most valuable adjunct to the various exhibitions which are so successfully carried out here, and being self-contained can be used independently from the remaining part of the premises.

In this new hall in addition to a large collection of agricultural machinery, will be found exhibits of leather belting, tarpaulins, and waterproof goods, which with the usual varied and complete collections of steam-engines, road locomotives and agricultural machinery, roots, seeds, feeding-stuffs, veterinary medicines, and appliances exhibited in the Great Hall, King Edward's Hall, and in the galleries, form a complete museum of the requirements of agriculturists.

Lord Tredegar's Show.

The annual show promoted by Lord Tredegar took place at Newport on Tuesday and Wednesday last, and the popularity of the fixture was strikingly shown by the good attendance on the first day despite the most wretched weather which prevailed. On the second day, however, the climatic conditions were much more favourable, and another large company of visitors put in an appearance. The entries of Shorthorn and Hereford cattle were generally considered superior to those of former years, while the Shire horses and Hunters, as well as the pig, sheep, and poultry classes were quite up to the usual high standard, and the show was altogether one of the best of the long series.

The judging of the championship honours for cattle was watched with great interest, the competition between the Herefords and Shorthorns being particularly keen. The contest for the Corporation of Newport Plate for bulls in the end lay between the claims of Mr. R. R. Rothwell's roan, Lord Brilliant, which so well won the Shorthorn young bull class, and Mr. P. Coats's old Hereford bull winner, Endale, the decision being in favour of the younger competitor. The Shorthorn entry which led in the cow in-calf or in-milk class, also from the herd of Mr. R. R. Rothwell, defeated Mr. A. E. Hughes's Hereford yearling heifer, Leinster plum. So, whilst like last year both championships fell to the Shorthorns, it was a more remarkable achievement this year, seeing that both of the champions were shown by one exhibitor, Mr. R. R. Rothwell, Moss Farm, Much Hoole, Preston.

There was a very nice show of sheep. In the Shortwool sheep Mr. H. Bridgman, Cleve Hill Farm, Downend, showed a splendid pen of three shearling rams, aged 1 year and 10 months, defeating even such a notable exhibitor as Sir A. Henderson, Bart., of Buscot Park, Berks. The class for ram lambs was, however, headed by the baronet, the reserve being Mr. J. Matthews, of Winterbourne, who, however, held first prize for his three fat wether lambs. Pigs, though not particularly numerous, were of high quality, as will be imagined when it is stated that the prize-winners included Mr. J. Jefferson, Chester, and Earl Manvers.

The horses were judged in the large ring on the second day. There were twenty-one classes, and the entries numbered 144, as compared with 114 last year. Lord Winterstoke and Sir P. A. Muntz had entered cart mares in foal, but did not exhibit. The Keynsham Stud Company (Monmouth) won premier honours with Dunsmore Patriarch. The two-year old cart colts were small, but Mr. H. Oakley's Dewstow Rex was easily the best. The cart mares in foal were decidedly the best class in this section. Raby Violet, the property of Mr. J. B. Brooks, of Bromsgrove, Worcester, was a decidedly well-developed animal, but was closely followed by Mr. P. Coats's Duchess of York. The two-year-old cart fillies were of exceptional quality, and Lord Winterstoke took the prize with Rickford Ladybird. Mr. W. J. Tatem, of St. Fagans, Cardiff, gained the awards in the hack class with Penylau Perfection, and in the three-year-old colt for hunting purposes with Penylau Docker. The brood mares were fully up to the average Mr. A. M. Pilliner's Miss Tattersall took first honours, whilst Red Hat, owned by Viscount Tredegar, added yet another to his long list of successes.

Chippenham.

The Chippenham Agricultural Association's seventy-second annual exhibition was held last week, and it was satisfactory to find a marked increase in the cattle classes and keen competition in all but the sheep classes, which, as usual, were somewhat weakly represented. The entries, numbering 497, were:—Cattle, 73; sheep, 5; horses, 16; pigs, 18; cheese, 27; butter, 25; poultry, 332. The quality all round was good, and the display creditable to both the society and exhibitors.

Woodbridge Horse Show.

The Woodbridge Horse Show Society met on Thursday afternoon, under the presidency of the Marquis of Graham, to revise the prize schedule for the annual show, to be held on Easter Monday. With reference to the Suffolk classes, considerable discussion took place as to the retention of the yearling class. Mr. R. Eaton White considered it was best not to show at that age, and proposed that the class should be deleted. This was seconded by Mr. Peter Hay, who said it was detrimental to the animals, as they were often fatted up for the show ring, and afterwards suffered from the effects of it. The motion, however, was lost by a large majority, and it was eventually resolved that the Suffolk and Shire classes should remain as last year, with the same prize-money.

The only alteration in the Hunter and Hackney classes was that the class for best Hunter that has been regularly hunted with an established pack of hounds in the county of Suffolk should be open, and not confined to the county. It was also decided that the entry fee in the Hackney classes should be reduced from 15s. to 10s.

SHOW GOSSIP.

The fourteenth annual Doncaster Christmas Fat Stock Show will be held in the Cattle Market, Doncaster, on Tuesday, the 17th inst., and the prize list has now been issued. It consists of twenty-three classes, ten for cattle, eight for sheep, and five for pigs, the class prizes ranging up to £5, while there are some champion cups for each section. Entries close on Tuesday, December 10, with the secretary, Mr. F. H. Chafer, 9, Market Place, Doncaster, from whom prize lists and entry forms can be obtained.

A meeting was recently held at Kidderminster Town Hall to take steps for preparing for the visit of the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Agricultural Society's show to Kidderminster next year. The Mayor (Mr. Rowland Hill), who presided, remarked that in 1893 the Herefordshire Society held its show at Kidderminster. It was from the circumstances of the show being held there that the idea, which was afterwards carried out, of the two societies amalgamating originated. The same land at Blakebrook as was used for the last show would again be available. A large committee was appointed, representative of the district which Kidderminster serves as a market town, and also including all the members of the Kidderminster Town Council.

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SHIRES.

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CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

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JOHNSON, WALTER, Hatfield, Doncaster. Stud Horse, Lambton King 16757; Stallions for hire; weighty young Stallions, Mares, and Fillies on Sale.

MUNTZ, FREDERICK ERNEST, Umberslade, Hockley Heath, Warwickshire. Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, prize-winners.—Particulars from Mr. JOHN T. B. HARTLEY, Estate Office.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby. — SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

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PEARSON, E. E., Brickendonbury, Hertford. Shire Stallions, Mares and Stock for service and sale; prize winners. Stations: Hertford, Great Eastern and Great Northern.—Apply Estate Office, Brickendonbury, Hertford.

ROWELL, JOHN, Bury, Huntingdon. Breeder Shires and Hackneys; Stallions for sale, hire, or service at home; mares and fillies for sale.

WHITEHEAD, Robert, Fashionably bred mares and fillies in natural condition on Sale. Stallions, Bodenham King 17177, Whitestone Prince Alfred 22930.—Apply J. M. JOHNSTONE, Hargate Hall, Buxton. Station, and telegrams, Millers Dale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

BENSON, ALFRED, Upper Gatton Park, Merstham, Surrey. Hackney Stallions: Copper King 7764, reserve champion, London Hackney Shows, 1905 and 1906; yearling Colts and Fillies by Copper King and other well-known Stallions for sale. For particulars, pedigrees, &c., apply to T. Hyett.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

SMITH, THOMAS, Shirley Stud, Hall Green, Birmingham Breeder of Pedigree Hackneys and Ponies. Owner Hackney Stallion, "Viscount Hopwood" 8686; Pony Stallions, "Pinderfields Horace" 7952, "Shirley King Horace" 9882. Prize winners on sale.

WHITWORTH, ROBERT, Warley Stud, Halifax, and Londesboro' Stud, Market Weighton. Hackney Stallions: Polonius, Edemynag, Beckingham Squire 8078. Hackneys and Harness Horses always on sale. Matched pairs a speciality.

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BEALE, Mrs. A. J., Cacketts, Cudham, Kent. Prize-bred Pedigree Shetlands for sale; three grand Stallions at stud.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

BELL, CHARLES, Norley Hall, Norley, Cheshire. Shorthorn Bulls for sale, from Kirklevington, Red Rose, Barrington, and Cruickshank tribes. Telegrams "Norley"; railway stations, Acton Bridge and Delamere.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

MOSLEY, Sir OSWALD.—High-class Shorthorns. Home Farm, Rolleston Hall. Bulls and Heifers on sale.—Apply A. E. Beck, Rolleston, Burton-on-Trent.

CATTLE—*continued.*

SHORTHORNS—*continued.*

PREECE, JOHN ADNEY, Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston, Northampton.—Herd of 250 Shorthorns, best Bates and Scotch blood; stock Bulls, Duke of Barrington 70th, Primrose Earl 89641, and Royal Baron 93192; Bulls and Heifers for sale.

PUDDING, MR. HY., Ruby Grove, Great Grimsby, has for inspection and sale the largest pure herd of SHORTHORNS in the county, which comprise the best Bates, Booth, Cruikshank and Scotch blood. The prize bulls recently used and now in service are Prince Alastair 89647, a noted winner, and sold at the Ruby Sale, 1906, for 1,000 gs.; Scottish Daisy Duke 79916, Merry Squire 5th 85626, Stratton Squire 80062, Bapton Favourite 76080, Wanderer's Chief 80210, Royal Pearl 89059, President Pierrepont 92846, Aberdeen 87764, Scottish Standard 97058, and Strowan Butterfly 23rd. In July of last year 51 Shorthorns and 56 Lincoln Rams were sold to average 125 gs. each, realising a total of nearly £14,000. In July this year 53 Shorthorns and 48 Rams averaged over 90 gs. each, with a total of nearly £10,000. Numerous prizes have been won at the leading shows in England by the Ruby Shorthorns and Lincoln Sheep. Telegrams: "Dudding, Keelby."

ROTHWELL, R. R., Much Hoole, near Preston. Pedigree Shorthorns, chiefly Scotch blood. Stock bull Strowan Marquis 13th, winner of many prizes. Young bulls and heifers always on sale.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

SUSSEX.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath, Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Sussex Cattle (descended from the oldest and best strains of blood), unrivalled for their early maturity, the production of the best beef and working oxen, and ability to thrive in all weathers on the roughest fare. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for Sale.

HEREFORDS.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for Sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

PULLEY, CHARLES THORNTON, Lower Eaton, Hereford.—Noted prize-winning herd of HEREFORD CATTLE. First prize Royal winners, Protector 19660, 1900; Eaton Champion 21351, 1903; and Ashleaf 3rd, 1905. This herd is headed by Eaton Champion and Glendower 2nd 22196, also a Royal winner. Bulls and Heifers for sale. Also prize-winning Shropshire Sheep.—Apply Mr. HEDLEY JONES, Lower Eaton Estate Office, Hereford.

DEVONS.

BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton Williton, Taunton. Breeder of Pedigree Devon Cattle. A speciality for large size, with quality and robust constitutions; colour dark red. Sent to all parts of the world. Prices moderate.

SKINNER, ALFRED C., Pound, Bishops-Lydeard, Somerset. Pedigree Devons, constitution, quality, size, milk; 600 prizes principal shows, many champions; exports most successful; bulls and heifers for sale. Inspection invited.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

BRIDGES, J. H.—This old-established herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle of the leading families can be seen at Langshott Home Farm, Horley, Surrey (near Horley Station, L.B. & S.C.R.), and catalogues obtained on application to Mr. Albert Pulling.

CRIDLAN, J. J., Maisemore Park, Gloucester, Erica, Pride of Aberdeen, Lady Ida and other noted tribes. Stock Bulls, Wizard of Maisemore (21,465), Champion and winner of gold medals, 1905; Everwise (24,436), Champion and medal winner, 1907; Bengal of Ballindalloch, prize winner, 1906.

HURSLEY PARK HERD OF ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE, the property of Sir George Cooper, Bart., comprising Erica, Pride, Miss Burgess, Lady Ida, Matilda, Jemima of Morlich families. Prizes won during 1906: 7 firsts, 3 seconds, 3 reserves, 1 challenge cup, 2 silver medals, 3 reserve champions. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.—Catalogues on application to J. E. Thorold, Estate Office, Hursley Park, Winchester.

THE ROCKLIFFE PARK HERD of Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, Ericas and Prides. Stock Bull, Pundit of Preston (17,156), Champion at Highland Show, 1904.—Apply, R. C. SWAN, Rockliffe Park, Darlington.

AYRSHIRES.

WALLACE, JAMES, J.P., Auchenbainzie, Thornhill, Dumfriesshire, Scotland. Breeder of pedigree prize-winning Ayrshire Cattle; hardy, healthy, good milkers; bred for dairy purposes, beauty and style. Bulls and Heifers for sale.

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably, from his prize-winning herd of Red Polls, Bulls, Cows, Heifers, from good milkers.—Apply C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

CARY-ELWES, V., Billing Hall, Northampton. Breeder of Jersey cattle.

CATTLE—*continued.*

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS—*continued.*

FOWLER, P. T., Importer, Watford, Herts. A choice selection of pedigree Jersey and Guernsey Cows, Heifers and young Bulls from prize herds of the Islands; particulars forwarded; inspection invited.

JERSEYS, and Alderney Guernseys, fresh calved and near calving. Prices, particulars.—R. WHEADON, Ilminster.

MERTON GRANGE GUERNSEYS.—Property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. This Herd contains Champion Bull, 1906; also Bull Royal Governor, winner of seven Firsts, and unbeaten 1907. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of best Breeding for Sale.—Telegrams and particulars, W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay.

STERN, Sir E. D., Fan Court, Chertsey, Surrey. Herd of pedigree Jersey Cattle. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for sale.

TICHBORNE PARK, GUERNSEY.—Yearling Bulls and Heifers for sale.—Apply, D. MICHIE, Estate Office, Tichborne, Alresford, Hants.

GALLOWAYS.

GRAHAM, ROBERT, Auchengassel, Twynholm, breeder fashionable Galloway Cattle, winners at Royal and Highland Societies Shows. Pedigree Bulls, Cows, and Heifers, also Blue-greys for feeding, for sale. Commissions carefully executed.

KERRIES & DEXTER KERRIES.

CORY, Sir CLIFFORD JOHN, Bart., M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows.—Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

RATTRAY, DAVID, Gortnaskehy, Ballybunion, Co. Kerry. Pedigree Prize-winning Herd of Kerries and Dexters. 156 Prizes and Honours won by Cattle from this Herd past three years. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

THE DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE'S PRIZE-WINNING DEXTER HERD.—During 1904 and 1905 this Herd won more prizes than any other three Dexter Herds combined, including both first and second milking prizes Royal, 1905, and first London Dairy Show, 1906, Bulls, Cows, and Heifers generally for Sale.—CHILD, Compton Place, Eastbourne.

DUTCH.

BROWN, JOHN, Marden Farm, Hertford. Dutch, the best Dairy Cattle in the world. Over 200 head kept. Record, one cow gave 1,615 gallons of milk in 52 weeks. Bulls for sale.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

ANDERSON, JOHN, Barton-on-Humber.—The old Barton Flock of Pure-bred LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP, Flock Book 106. This flock is noted for hard constitutions and fine, lustrous wool. Inspection invited. Telegrams as above.

ATKINSON, T., & SON, North Kelsey, Lincoln. Old-established flock of pure Lincoln Longwools. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Noted for great size and long lustrous wool. Have given great satisfaction at home and abroad. Inspection invited

BROCKLEBANK, JOHN, Bassingham, Lincoln (Flock 24). Pure-bred Lincoln Longwool Rams and Ewes. This old flock has been carefully bred for 100 years. Telegrams: Bassingham.

BROOKS, W. J., Stowe Lodge, Weedon, Northants (Registered Flock 165), has for sale Rams and Ewes of best blood.

DRAKES, Wm., Tealby, Market Rasen. Flock No. 72 of Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs of best blood for sale. Lincoln Red Shorthorns. Prices moderate.

DUDDING, MR. HY., Ruby Grove, Great Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale the largest flock of pure Lincoln Longwool Sheep in the county, and many prize-winners. They are famous for great size, fine wool, and 150 years' good breeding, and at the home Sales have made the highest prices on record. In July, 1906, 51 shearling rams sold to average £151 each, the record price being made for a single ram, namely, 1,450 gs., and on two other occasions have rams made 1,000 gs. The wonderful success of the Ruby sheep at the Royal Show, Lincoln, 1907, and at the Home Sale in July when 48 rams averaged over £94 each, proves that the Ruby blood leads the way. Champion and premier prizes have been secured in all the leading exhibitions throughout the world. Telegrams "Dudding, Keelby."

MONEY, FRED, Silk Willoughby, Sleaford. Flock 323; established over a century. Four Rams from this flock fetched over £1,300 in the Argentine, February, 1903, one making £700, the record for a single ram in Buenos Ayres. Rams for sale. Inspection invited.

SMITH, HENRY, jun., Cropwell Butler, Nottingham. Lincoln Longwool Flock No. 7, winner of £2,361 in prizes. Champion pen Lincolns, Smithfield Show, 1896; Association Championship, Leicester, 1897; Association Championship for pen of 3 Shearling Rams, Yorkshire, 1900; Championship, Rutland, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, and 1906. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.

(Continued on page 688.)

SHEEP—*continued.*

LEICESTERS.

SIMPSON BROS., Pilmoor House, Hunmanby, Yorkshire, Breeders of Leicesters (Flock No. 2 in Leicester Book), have always for inspection or sale Rams and Ewes. These Sheep are of great size with heavy fleeces, and include Royal Winners.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

THE CHILMARK FLOCK OF REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—Owner JAMES FLOWER, Chilwark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records. Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, out of 11 years competing, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" won eight times, thrice second, with pens of 8 ram lambs; a marvellous record. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 13 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05-06. At the Royal at Derby, 1906, every First Prize, two Seconds, and the Champion were won; an unequalled success!! Champions Birmingham, 1905, over all breeds, Reserve in 1906. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Short-wools, Smithfield, 1904-05-06. Highest average past 13 years. Bridford Fair, Aug. 12, 100 Ram Lambs, annual sale. Selections for Sale.

COLES, CARY, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1907.—Extraordinary records: Twin ram lambs let for 205 and 120 guineas. Ninety averaged £21 10s. Selections always for Sale.

DIBBEN, JOHN HERBERT, Bishopstone, Salisbury. Breeder of Pure Hampshires. Annual Sale in August, at Salisbury, of 100 Rams and Ram Lambs. Flock consists of 800 Ewes.

OVEY, R. L., Hernes, Henley-on-Thames.—Pedigree HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK, Reg. Vol. IV. Prize-winners leading shows last five years.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. The Cholderton flock is individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded in the Hampshire Down Flock Book. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury.

OXFORD DOWNS.

ADAMS, GEORGE, Royal Prize Farm Flock, Faringdon, Berks. Pure Oxford Down Sheep, Shearling Rams, Ram Lambs, Ewes and Ewe Lambs for Sale. Special arrangements with foreign buyers. Many first prizes at R.A.S.E. and other shows during past 25 years, including 2 first, 2 second, and 4 other prizes, World's Fair, Chicago, and 7 firsts, 4 seconds and champion at Royal Bath and West, Royal Counties, etc., this year.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

HOUGHTON, J. H., Western Farm, Asfordby, Melton Mowbray. 300 Ewe Flock of Pedigree Registered Oxfords. Sales Sept., at Nottingham, Melton, Edinburgh, &c. Ewes and Rams privately in autumn. Many prizes. Inspection invited.

STILGOE, H. W., Adderbury, Banbury. Annual Ram Sale at Oxford. Others on Sale privately; also Ewes. Many First and Champion prizes.

TREADWELL, JOHN, Upper Winchendon, Aylesbury.—Oxford Down Sheep. Annual Ram Sales first Wednesday in August. Prizes won at R.A.S.E. 24 years in succession. Ewes for Sale.

WHITE, JOHN, Ham Court Farm, Bampton, R.S.O., Oxon. Pedigree Oxford Down Sheep of best and purest strains for Sale. Foreign and home buyers invited to inspect.

SOUTHDOWNS.

COOPER, ALLAN, Norton, Bishopstone, Lewes. Registered Southdown Flock, No. 70; trade marked; hardy constitution and good wool. This flock of 520 ewes is kept on its native hills. Rams, ewes and lambs for sale.

SHROPSHIRES.

CORBET, Sir WALTER, Bart.—Registered flock of Shropshires of oldest and purest strains. Noted for true type and first-rate wool. Have won numerous prizes at Bath and West, Shropshire and West Midland, Royal Lancashire, Wirral and Birkenhead, etc. Can be seen at any time on application to Reginald Astley, Acton Reynold, Shrewsbury.

NOCK, EDWARD, Harrington Hall, Shifnal. Salop, owner of the old Sutton Maddock Pedigree Shropshire Flock. Founded 1832. Winner of prizes at most of the leading shows in England, U.S.A., and Canada.

WENSLEYDALES.

UNDERLEY WENSLEYDALES (Blue-faced) from the best blood obtainable. Successfully exhibited.—Apply, G. G. ROBINSON, Bailiff, Underley Farm, Kirkby Lonsdale.

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

CHARLES SPENCER, having taken over the Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts, herd of Large and Middle White Pigs, which won 12 prizes and reserves with 14 exhibits at Derby Royal, will price any of them.

FULWOOD HERD LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES, property R. R. Rothwell. 200 head bred from winners at leading shows.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for Sale at moderate prices.

PIGS—*continued.*

LARGE WHITES—*continued.*

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse Station, G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices.—J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM. Herd of Large White Pigs. The oldest and largest Herd in Notts County. Over 100 Breeding Sows kept. Upwards of 600 to select from. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—Apply ARTHUR A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale—FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

SHELBOURNE HERD OF PEDIGREE LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES.—All registered parents of prize-winning early-maturing strains. Youngsters from £1 1s. Send for Guide to Pig-Keeping (free).—HERDSMAN, Mount Cottage Farm, Shirley, Birmingham.

SPALDING HERD of Pedigree Large Whites, young stock and in-pig Gilts for Sale. All bred from great winners.—ALFRED W. WHITE, "Hillegom," Spalding.

STRAGGLETHORPE HERD OF PEDIGREE LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts of fashionable blood at moderate prices.—JOHN ARCHER, Straggletherpe, Nottingham.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 100 to choose from. Correspondence invited. Grand young breeding stock always on Sale.—Apply R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts (15 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—Apply to Mr. W. BAINBRIDGE, Walton House, Warrington.

WHERRY, W. H. and E., Bourne, Lincs.—Breeders of Pedigree Large White Pigs from noted prize-winners of the best blood. Speciality: Young Boars just ready for service and In-pig Gilts for Sale at moderate prices. Inspection invited.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

THE CATTON HERD of Prize-winning MIDDLE WHITE PIGS, property of J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stock Boar Castlecroft Mikado, 1st Park Royal, 1st Bath and West. Gelts and Boars on Sale. Prices moderate.—Apply BAILIFF, Raddle Farm, Edingale, Tamworth.

LARGE BLACKS.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath. Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Large Black Pigs of the best strains of blood, noted or their docility and for the production of a large proportion of lean meat. Good selection of Boars, unrelated Gilts, and in-pig Sows for Sale at reasonable prices.

CATTON HERD OF PRIZE-WINNING LARGE BLACK PIGS.—Stock Boar Trevisquite Excelsior 1487, 1st Devon County, 2nd and Reserve Champion Royal Show, 1906; pigs kept in hardy natural condition; gelts and boars always on sale.—Apply, J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stations: Croxall, 2½ miles (M.R.); Alrewas, 3½ miles (L.N.W.).

HASKETON CHAMPION PRIZE HERD OF LARGE BLACK PIGS.—This herd has won the Royal championship three out of four times, and is the only herd having won the breed challenge cup. Record: 47 firsts, 37 seconds, 11 thirds, 126 prize-winning cards; the herd this year being the winners of 14 firsts, 6 seconds, 2 thirds, championship and silver cup in five shows. Gelts and Boars at moderate prices consistent with quality. Exportation a speciality.—Apply, C. F. MARRINER, Hasketon, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS.—Select Herd-bred from choice Prize Winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale, moderate prices.—H. J. CLARKE, The Slade, Roughley, Sutton Coldfield.

WHEN Breeding, breed from the best Pedigree Large Black Prize-winning Pigs. TREVEGLOS HOPEFUL II., winner of First prizes and R.A.S.E. Silver Challenge Cup, 1907, beating all other Cup winners; also 1st Prize Bath and West, Newport; 1st Royal Counties, Maidenhead; 1st Royal Cornwall, Liskeard; 1st Devon County, Bideford; also 1st prize at the Royal Show, Lincoln, for Boar and Reserve for Champion prize. Boars and Sows for Sale of the above strain at moderate prices.—Apply to JOHN WARNE, Treveglos Farm, St. Mabyn, R.S.O., Cornwall.

BERKSHIRES.

BRAND, Admiral the Hon. T. S.—Large Pedigree Herd. Young Boars and Gelts from choicest strains for sale.—Particulars from Thos. W. Pickard, Home Farm, Glynde, Lewes.

CALTHORPE, The Rt. Hon Lord.—Berkshire Herd. Young Boars and Gelts for sale.—Apply, A. D. Bruce, Estate Office, Elvetham Park, Winchfield, Hants.

CARNARVON, the Earl of.—Prize winning Pedigree Herd. BOARS and GELTS, eligible Herd Book. Prices moderate.—Apply W. T. HALL, Highclere Farm, Newbury.

PIGS—*continued.*

BERKSHIRES—*continued.*

CHEVELEY PARK HERD OF PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS, the property of the Executors of the late Col. H. McCalmont (established 1894). Young stock always for sale at reasonable prices.—Apply, Fred. C. Paine, Crockfords, Newmarket, Cambs.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

CURRIE, LAURENCE, Minley Manor, Farnborough, Hants. Pedigree Berkshire Pigs for sale.—Apply, W. Musson, Minley Farm, Farnborough, Hants.

FOR HIGH-CLASS PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS at moderate prices, apply J. Jefferson, Peel Hall, Chester.

HALL, A. C., Great Rollright Manor, Chipping Norton. Pedigree Berkshire Pigs of best strains. Young Boars and Gilts for sale.

HENDERSON, Sir ALEXANDER, Bart., Buscot Park, Faringdon, Berks. Pedigree Berkshire Pigs from noted prize-winning strains. Young Boars for sale.—Mr. Walter Crosland, Estate Office, Buscot Park, Faringdon, Berks.

READING CORPORATION.—150 Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, leading prize-winning strains, from son of Champion Mikado 10433 and prize-winner Domino 11328; inspection invited.—Apply, Mr. T. Chettle, Manor Farm, Reading, Berks.

STALL PITTS HERD OF PEDIGREE BERKSHIRES. One of the Oldest Herds. Unsurpassed for true character, size, and quality. Choice selection of Boars and Sows on offer at moderate prices.—J. LAWRENCE, Stall Pitts, Shrivenham, Berks.

TAMWORTHS.

MORANT, EDWARD J.—Pedigree Tamworth Pigs, best strains. Boars and Gilts always for sale at all prices. Breeds kept on separate farms.—Apply, Mr. CECIL SUTTON, The Estate Office, Brokenhurst, Hants.

OSMASTON MANOR HERD OF TAMWORTH (Pedigree Red) PIGS.—Young Boars and Gilts from this herd for sale; out of prizewinners.—Apply, Estate Office, Osmaston Manor, Derby.

PEDIGREE TAMWORTHS.—A few good young Sows, Boars, and Gilts for sale. At the Smithfield Show, 1903, all the first and second prize-winners in the Tamworth classes were either by boars or out of sows bred in this herd.—Farm Bailiff, Middlewood Hall, Barnsley.

PEDIGREE TAMWORTHS, the property of C. HOWARD TAYLOR, Middlewood Hall; a few good young Boars and Gilts for sale.—Apply, Hampole Priory, Doncaster.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury, has upwards of 100 Boars, Gelts, and In-pig Sows for sale, all bred from Royal, Bath and West, Royal Counties, and Norfolk prize-winners. Boars in use in the herd:—Knowle Forester (5369), Whitacre Bounder (7511), Grand Duke (7463). Prices moderate.—Apply, Jas. G. Kerr, Cholderton, Salisbury.

BORROWFIELD & COLSTON HERDS.

The property of R. MILLINGTON-KNOWLES
Colston Bassett Hall, Notts.

LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES.

The following First Prizes, Championships, and Medals have been obtained by pigs **BRED** in these Herds in 1907:
1st and Champion, Gold Medal, R.A.S.E., Lincoln.
1st & Champion, President's Medal, Highland, Edinburgh.
1st Welsh National, Aberystwyth.
1st Bath and West Newport; 1st Royal Counties,
1st Nottingham; 1st Suffolk; 1st Norfolk.
1st Derby.
1st Hereford and Worcester; Special Prize Lincoln Agricultural Society; 1st Great Yorkshire; 1st Newark.

A number of additional Firsts and other Prizes have also been gained at the above Shows.

At the St. Louis Exposition, U.S.A., in 1904, the Champion Boar, and the Grand Champion of the Exposition were bred at Colston Bassett.

The Foreign and Home trade has largely increased during 1907.—GILBERT H. ELLIOT, Estate Office, Colston Bassett, Notts.

For Sale.
PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.
Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.
GEORGE HOYLES,
Skidby Manor, near Hull.

GEORGE HOYLES
SKIDBY MANOR, HULL.
Breeder of Pure Lincoln Long Wool Sheep.
Lustrous Fleeces. Good Constitutions.
SUITABLE FOR HOME AND ABROAD. STOCK FOR SALE.

SOCIETIES.

Scottish Chamber of Agriculture.

A meeting of directors of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture will be held at 5, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, on Wednesday next the 4th inst, at 10.30 a.m, the business being as follows:—

1. Motion by Mr. W. Bell: "Remit to a committee to draw up and submit a report to the directors for the purpose of showing the feasibility and advantages of dealing with the small holdings question in Scotland on a purchase basis."

2. Letter from the secretary of the Rural Labourers' League regarding Mr. Jesse Collins's purchase of land bill, &c.

3. Report by chairman's committee regarding (*a*) agricultural education in rural schools; (*b*) proposal that district societies should have right to elect directors; (*c*) railway rates on perishables, including rabbits.

4 Admission of new members.

5. Any other competent business.

Royal Lancashire.

The annual meeting of the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society was held at the Guildhall, Preston, on Wednesday, Mr. H. L. Storey, of Lancaster, presiding, in the absence, through indisposition, of Mr. John White.

The Mayor of Preston having extended a welcome to the society,

The chairman said the society owed much to Bolton for the warmth of the welcome extended to the society last summer. A local fund of £2,457 was amassed, and in addition to a free site, with gas and water laid on without charge, the very handsome sum of £2,252 was contributed towards the prize list and general expenses of the show. This was a handsome contribution to the funds of the society, and the general balance in its favour now stood at £15,202, as compared with £12,101 at the corresponding date last year. In December the hon. life vice-president membership of the society would be conferred on the Mayor of Bolton, Alderman T. B. Tong, J P., and Mr. C. E. Linaker, F.S.I., the latter having for twenty-eight consecutive years undertaken the arduous work connected with the annual exhibitions as chief steward of the finance department. The transfer of the offices from the Miller Arcade to the society's new headquarters, Derby House, Winckley Square, Preston, had now been accomplished, and all business would be transacted there in a fortnight's time. For the first time for many years his Majesty was an exhibitor at the Bolton show, and they hoped that in the future he would be a regular exhibitor at their annual shows.

Mr. Hale, in moving the adoption of the report, said that on no previous occasion had it been so highly satisfactory, though the reports had generally been of a pleasing nature. This was due in a large degree to the fact that a few years ago the council decided to erect its own showground and take the catering into its own hands, the latter having proved beneficial not only to the society but to the public at large. A more important factor, however, was the friendly feeling which existed between the great towns of Lancashire and the agriculturists. It was all very well to say that agriculturists could do without the town, and that agricultural societies could be a success without the multitude. The towns, thanks to the foreign productions, might no doubt be able to do without agriculturists, but agriculturists could not do without the towns and so long as this friendly feeling was fostered between town and country the society would prove as successful in the future as in the past.

The council would do its best in the future to further the interests of farmers generally, and he called the attention of pure agriculturists to the surprising fact that of the present membership 1,500 only three hundred were agriculturists or farmers. Therefore they owed a debt of gratitude to the members not connected with agriculture for the support accorded to the society. At the present moment there were in Lancashire something like 20,000 agriculturists farming 20 acres and over, and he impressed on them the necessity of the agricultural members interesting themselves in the work of the society, and of stirring up their neighbours and impressing on them the great benefits which accrued from the society.

Mr. Philip Park seconded, and the report was adopted.

The dates of next year's show at Manchester were fixed for July 30 and 31 and August 1 and 3, the latter being Bank Holiday.

On the motion of Mr. Kenworthy, the Right Hon. the Earl of Egerton was unanimously elected president for the ensuing year.

The secretary (Mr. Bohne) read a letter from the president elect accepting the honour and thanking the council. Mr. Kenworthy said Manchester was situated in close proximity to Cheshire, and they could not have a better president.

Shropshire and West Midland.

It was stated at the annual meeting of the Shropshire and West Midland Agricultural Society that despite the extremely bad weather experienced for their last show, there resulted a profit of £70, which, under the circumstances, was eminently satisfactory.

Mr. Darby, of Little Ness, was unanimously elected president for the ensuing year, and in acknowledging the honour, said he believed he had been on the council of the society from its beginning; he had always taken a great interest in it, and he trusted that during his year of office the society would prosper, and with an addition of new members still further strengthen its position.

The mayor of Shrewsbury (Mr. Scoltock Hughes) was elected vice-president; Major Lloyd was with acclamation re elected hon. director, whilst Mr. Whitfield was unanimously re-elected secretary, it being agreed that in him they had a secretary who not only knew his work, but did it.

Mr. Whitfield, in reply, said he was optimistic in regard to the prospects of the society, although in the past he had had much to contend with in the matter of bad weather—it had rained at seven out of his nine shows. Still, he hoped the financial results would improve, and with that end in view he would ask that each individual member should take up the work of getting others to join—he had had in that way no less than thirty nominations last week.

Mr. Highway Jones moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Thomas Corbett for his services as vice-president during the past year. They all, he said, knew Mr. Corbett's invaluable services to the society from its beginning in 1875. Throughout its whole career, Mr. Corbett had done his utmost to make it a success, not only by his own large donations, but by his work for some years as managing director and in other ways. During the past year, owing to the absence of the president, Mr. Corbett had presided at their meetings, and by his kindness and courtesy had proved himself an able chairman.

Mr. H. C Austin seconded the motion, which was carried.

Mr. Corbett, in replying, said it had, owing to the absence of the president, been his lot to occupy the proud position of president without being elected to it, that, he thought, had seldom fallen to the lot of any of the vice-presidents of the society.

At the close a number of votes of thanks were passed, amongst them one to the county council for its grant of £25 for dairy work.

Cheshire.

Sir Gilbert Greenall presided over the annual meeting of the Cheshire Agricultural Society on Tuesday, when a membership of 416 was reported, and a balance in hand of £119, or £54 more than last year.

On the motion of Mr. J. R Newton, Mr. Harry Barnston, J P., of Crewe Hill, Farndon, was unanimously elected president for the ensuing year, and it was decided to hold next year's show on the last Wednesday in August.

Mr. Rowe Morris, Chester, raised the question of holding a two-days' show in 1909, and after discussion the executive committee, on the proposition of Mr. W. H. Denson, was instructed to consider the question.

Glasgow Hiring Fair.—The first of the November half-yearly hiring markets for farm servants at Glasgow took place on Wednesday, and was largely attended. There was a good supply of ploughmen, but the better class women servants were scarce. Wages ruled as follows:—First-class house women, £11 to £12 per half-year; dairy-women, £10 to £11; ploughmen £17 to £18; and married men, 20s. to 22s. per week.

An interesting case to both farmers and cyclists was decided in the Birmingham County Court on Tuesday. Thomas Hewey Warren claimed £3 for damage to a bicycle caused by a farmer's horse, which was being driven with others to pasture, turning across a country road in front of him and causing a smash. Two farm servants were walking behind, and it was urged for the plaintiff that they were guilty of negligence in not leading the horses or having them under control. The registrar, to whom the case had been referred by consent, said it was common knowledge that horses working on a farm were frequently to be seen going along country roads without halters, either unattended or attended by men following. Cyclists who liked to ride by at ordinary speed, did so in safety, except in rare instances, and this was one of them. In the present case, if the cyclist had slackened speed he would have been able to dismount. Judgment was given for defendant.



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Lincolnshire Notes.

IT may be vile weather so far as the towns are concerned, but they are finding it very useful on the farm. Good progress is being made all round, and the late harvest with its arrears of work are almost forgotten. The drilling of wheat proceeds apace, whilst the conditions of the root crops promise a fair average of winter keeping.

THE Spalding district has obtained little enough favour from the powers that are in regard to the swine fever restrictions. The existing state of swine fever in the locality, says the Board of Agriculture, would not justify them in withdrawing, or even in modifying the Order. This, apparently, is the prime reason:—They are advised by their veterinary officers that breeding swine are more likely than perhaps any other class of swine to be the means of spreading swine fever, for the reason that whereas young swine usually reveal clinical symptoms of the disease at an early stage and die from it, these older animals do not.

IT may be true but it will take a stronger reason to convince Spaldonians who are suffering from the effects of the restrictions, and who are getting very dissatisfied with their continuance. However, some modification of the regulations has been obtained from the Holland County Council. Under the conditions of the Board of Agriculture's interdict the Cattle Diseases Executive Committee have power to licence the markets under certain conditions for the sale of both fat and store pigs. When the order came into force, the committee, ever loyal, decided to authorise only the sale of fat pigs for slaughter, and the markets were kept closed absolutely as against store pigs, but the continued strain has been too much. The committee has now decided to license the markets for store pigs also.

INTERNAL differences have somewhat weakened the force of the Lincolnshire Hay Dealers' Association. The chairman, Mr. W. C. J. Bullen, Newark, and the secretary, Mr. Brown, of Raskington, have fallen out, and the matter culminated in a critical meeting held on Friday, at which Mr. Bullen resigned. Mr. Brown complained that Mr. Bullen had held him up to ridicule in the press, and whilst entering into the merits of the difference between them, there was some justice in his allegation. Mr. Bullen certainly very severely chaffed the association in a letter to the press. He accused the secretary of "running the show himself," and the association, through its secretary, of trying to puff itself out to the size of a larger and better organisation. Mr. Bullen's complaint is that the association is trying to settle its dispute with the railway companies single-handed, instead of combining with the stronger organisations in the big fight with the railway companies, and he threatened to resign his position if the policy were persisted.

MR. BROWN took prompt steps to assert himself. He called a meeting of the association, at which he complained of the action of the chairman in writing to the press The upshot was that Mr. Bullen resigned his chairmanship, and he was replaced by Mr. G. H. Walker, of Lincoln. The action of the secretary was apparently justified by the subsequent proceedings, for the new chairman stated that the representatives of the railway company had met the committee in the pleasantest possible manner, and that the companies are willing to consider any reasonable suggestions from the trade. The committee formulated the proposals. The association is hopeful of an early settlement.

LORD WILLOUGHBY D'ERESBY, the member for the Horncastle division, also makes his contribution to the discussion on small holdings. His criticism of the Act is that the £200,000 a year which is allowed to the county councils will be "thrown away in travelling expenses, and preliminary expenses to officials, and would not help the small holder at all." His suggestion is that £2,000 be granted yearly to each of the fifty county councils to start small holdings straight off. This he thinks would do far more good than all the Bill put together.

THE will of one of the wealthier Lincolnshire farmers has just been proved. Mr. Tom Bletcher, of Owston Hall, who died on May 20, at the age of forty-three left estate of the gross value of £16,888, his net personalty being £13,572.

A FEW weeks ago I made reference in this column to the death of Mr. Coates Sharpley, of Kelstern Hall, near Louth, who was the largest farmer in England. I understand that two or three of his farms are to be offered for sale by auction next spring, and that the whole of his holdings are to be given up during next year.

November 29, 1907.

LINCOLNSHIRE FARMERS' UNION.

STAMFORD BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the Stamford Branch of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union was held on the 22nd ult. (Mr. J. Thurlby presiding), and was very largely attended.

The first business was the election of officers, and, Mr. Thurlby having vacated the chair, Mr. Mawby was appointed in his place *pro tem.* The last named said they all knew the able manner in which Mr. Thurlby had carried out his duties, and he had no hesitation in saying he would do the same in the future. He had great pleasure in proposing his re-election.

Mr. Mountain seconded.

Mr. Thurlby said he thanked the proposer and seconder for the kind expressions and the members for the way they had received the motion, but he felt they should elect someone who would be able to give more attention to the meetings of the Executive Committee. It was unfortunate that the Executive Committee usually met the same day as the market was held at Stamford, and living on the south side of the county where they had not the best of railway accommodation, he found he was unable to devote the time to the meetings he should do.

The meeting, however, declined to accept this plea, and Mr. Thurlby said if they were satisfied with his small services he should be pleased to act again. He thanked the members for their co-operation in dealing with matters of interest to the farmers, and expressed a hope that in future he would always have their support. They had a good working branch capable of doing something for the benefit of their industry, and it was to their advantage to keep the organisation up to its proper standard.

Mr. J. Woolhouse was re-elected vice-chairman, Mr. John Turner hon. secretary, and Messrs. G. H. Hudson and W. Pick (Collyweston) assistant secretaries. Mr. William Tyler (Preston) was appointed an additional assistant secretary. The old committee was re-elected, and the names of Messrs. Nidd and Robinson added.

Damage by Motors.

The question of motor traffic and the roads came under discussion, and Mr. Robinson, who said he farmed near the Great North Road, complained that motorists had run over his stock while being taken along the road. His sheep had been killed, and he had not received a halfpenny compensation. On one occasion a motor car ran over a valuable sheep dog. In the car were two gentlemen riding in front and two ladies behind. He hailed them, and the ladies looked round, but no further notice was taken. There were many things he could mention for which he had cause for serious complaint. He could not trust anything to be taken on the road unless he went himself. It was not safe for spirited horses to be on the road. Only a short time ago a motor car, running at a fast speed, ran into a trap coming round cross-roads. The motorist pretended to be very indignant, and shouted to the farmer, "You farmers only wake up once a week." The trap was badly damaged and the occupants had a miraculous escape. The owner sent in a bill to the motorist, but the latter replied by sending in a bill for £50 for damage to his motor, demanding a check by the next post. The farmer's solicitor, however, put the motorist into court, and he soon climbed down and paid.

Mr. Lawrence said it seemed that fines did no good. The only thing to do was to send the offenders to gaol. They appeared to think the roads belonged to them.

Mr. Briggs remarked that these people who used the roads in this way should be made to pay; instead of that those who occupied land on each side had to suffer.

The chairman said he was sure they all sympathised with Mr. Robinson. The farmers were in no way friendly disposed to motor traffic, but he was afraid it had come to stay. The only thing they could do was to protect the farmers as much as possible. A Bill which was about to be introduced to Parliament proposed that cars should be taxed according to the horse power, and that appeared to be the only way motorists could be made to pay. The damage to the main roads was a very serious matter, and instead of reconsolidating these roads once in ten years, they had now to be seen to once in every four or five years.

Mr. Clark said if they were going to tax motor cars on their horse-power, there was one thing he should like to see enforced, namely, that maintenance and taxation should be linked together. At the present time all the taxes went to the Imperial Exchequer. What they wanted to do was to make the maintenance of main roads a national charge. He moved that the local representatives in Parliament be requested to support the Bill which would shortly come before the House of Commons dealing with motor traffic, and that they be asked to make some effort towards creating a national charge for the maintenance of main roads.

Mr. Robinson seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

The Organisation Committee of the Central Chamber wrote asking the branch to consider a proposal to form an independent agricultural Parliamentary party; and after discussion the matter was deferred to the next meeting.

To increase the Membership.

Mr. Mawby spoke upon the need of some special effort being made to increase the membership of the Union, and contended that farmers should join without having to be badgered about it on every market day. They were in a unique position in Stamford, and they should have one of the best branches in the kingdom. He suggested meetings should be held in the villages once a fortnight during the winter. The membership had not increased to the extent he wished, and he could not understand why there were so many farmers apathetic to their own interests. It was to their own advantage to join the Union.

The chairman explained that the secretary of the Union was arranging to form a branch either at Oakham or Uppingham

Mr. Lilley said his experience was the same as Mr. Mawby's; there seemed to be a lot of indifference among the farmers. He did not think that the Union went the right way to work to get members.

It was ultimately resolved to ask the secretary of the Union to convene a meeting to be held at Uppingham or Oakham at an early date.

The chairman invoked the members to do their best to make the branch stronger. The other day he asked a gentleman why he did not attend their meetings, and he replied, "Fiscal reform is what we need." He (the chairman) looked at him and said, "Can you give me the policy or programme?" Whether they were to have fiscal reform or not, whatever their position might be, when it was introduced it was necessary they should be thoroughly organised or else they might get left out in the cold. At present they did not know on what lines the readjustment of taxation would be taken, and when the proper time came to discuss the matter, it was to their interests they should speak as one collective body.

The secretary announced that the branch had now sufficient members to elect an extra *ex officio* member of the Executive Council. The meeting thereupon appointed Mr. R. Mawby.

Mr. Clark suggested that the Central Committee should be moveable, and meetings should be held at Grantham and Stamford. It was an injustice to expect them to go to Lincoln for every meeting.

The members of the Executive Committee promised to call the attention of the Central Committee to this suggestion.

A MEETING AT EAGLE.

A large and enthusiastic meeting in connection with the Union was held in the Village Hall, Eagle, on Wedne day, Mr. G. Bartholomew in the chair, and a good number of subscriptions were received. Mr. M. Sheldon, who was first called upon by the chairman, said he was one of the original nine who started the Union, and he was amazed at the progress that had been made. Mr. Henry Rawding spoke at some length, his remarks on the organisation being well received.

The secretary (Mr. H. W. Palmer) instanced the direct and indirect benefits conferred by the Union, which already far more than justified its existence. Mr. W. T. Brown and the vicar of Eagle (Rev. C. H. Kirk, M.A.), also spoke in support of the Union's programme, and a vote of thanks to Mr. W. B. Fenton for organising the meeting, concluded the proceedings.

BOURNE BRANCH.

At the annual meeting of the Bourne branch of the Union the following officers were elected:—Chairman, Mr. A. Saul; vice-chairman, Mr. T. C. Ellis; hon. secretary, Mr. J. Whattoff; assistant secretaries, Messrs. T. Rickard and F. Caswell. Messrs. J. S. Mills, C. Wilson, and G. Franks were added to the committee.

Mr. J. Thurlby commented upon the useful work that the Union had already performed, and stated that its object was to assist the farmer in every way.

Mr. A. Saul emphasised the excellent work that the Union was doing, and at the same time urged that motorists ought to pay a fair share towards the cost of the maintenance of the roads.

Mr. Palmer, the secretary of the Union, commented on the benefits that had already accrued to the farmers through the influence of the Union and said that the membership was largely increasing every year. He suggested that the branch should adopt the system in vogue in the Grantham district, viz., to go into the villages and enrol members on the spot. He mentioned that the Union was preparing a scheme of insurance to present to the general meeting in January, whereby the members, as well as the Union as a body, would obtain a substantial benefit.



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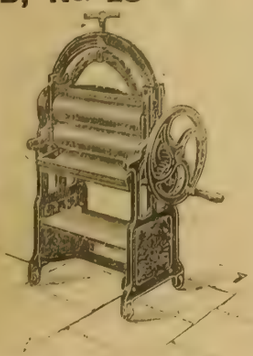
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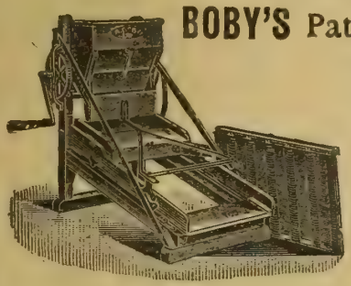
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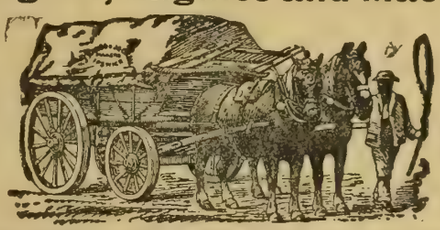
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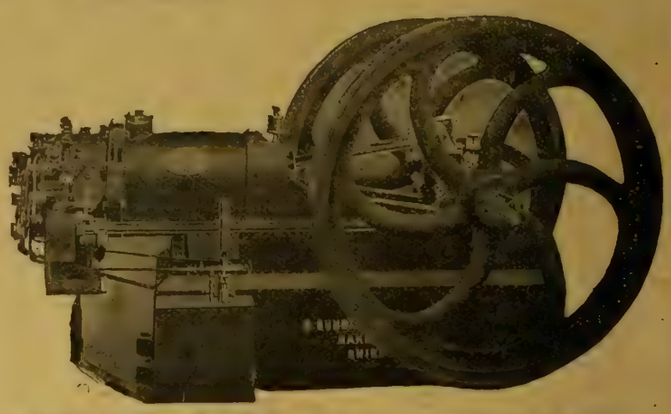
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LONDON, MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1907.

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Seasonable Topics.

"MARK LANE EXPRESS" STAND AT THE CATTLE SHOW.

The "Mark Lane Express" Stand at the Smithfield Show this week is at No. 104 in the Main Gallery, where we shall be pleased to see all our friends and readers visiting the Show.

The Waning Year.

WE are now well into December, Christmas is in sight, fat stock forms a topic of general conversation wherever farmers congregate, and 1907 is drawing to its end. The season, by the way, seems determined to keep up its reputation for moisture to the finish, as we are getting little else but rain and slush, and cultural operations, particularly on stiff land, drag along very slowly. Some farmers are happy in the satisfaction that they have got all their autumn sowing done, but these individuals are in the minority, and a good deal of wheat that is all ready for the ground will not make the acquaintance of Mother Earth before 1908. The prophecies of those who foretold that wheat would reach 50s. per qr. before Christmas are not fulfilled, and, on the other hand, the movement of late has had a downward tendency. December is usually a dull month in point of weather, but what we should like to see now, in view of Christmas trade, is a few weeks of bright, crisp weather. Butchers and poulterers, above all other people, will doubtless re-echo this wish.

Pig and Stye Competitions.

WE have before us some particulars regarding a local competition which, we think, is worthy of favourable comment. It gives an account of prizes being offered in a village district for the best pigs, and also for the cleanest and best-kept styes. It is needless for us to add how much competitions have done to arouse interest and bring about improvements in many branches of agriculture, and we are glad to see a case in which cottagers are being encouraged to improve their methods of pig keeping. A pig, by the way, means something to the rural cottager, and may be treated as a profitable institution, as it helps to pay the rent, provides the household with bacon, and makes manure for the garden and allotment. It is questionable, however, whether due attention, generally speaking, is paid to keeping the best and most profitable kinds of pigs, and so far as styes are concerned there is room for a good deal of improvement. Competitions of the kind referred to should do something to bring about the improvement by encouraging cottagers to take a pride in the pig and see that the conditions under which it is kept are clean and comfortable, for piggie gives the best returns to its owner when these matters receive proper attention. Village horticultural societies give prizes for the best-kept gardens, and in some cases the cleanest cottages. There is a chance for another departure—establish classes for pigs and pig-styes.

Precocious Plants.

HOW little one has to do sometimes to become famous, and what is true about men in this respect may also be applied to plants. A strawberry plant or a raspberry cane which offers a few ripe (need we add tasteless?) fruits in late November is a sufficiently novel occurrence for the fact to be recorded in the daily press; and sometimes at the bottom of a column dealing with important affairs of state one's eyes fall on a little paragraph telling of some precocious primrose or other plant that is growing in some out-of-the-way spot, and has thought well to do a little blossoming out of season. We hardly remember an autumn, by the way, when this kind of thing has not happened, and we have got so used to the facts being made known in the public Press that we look for them, amongst the regular events of the year. Of course, we are not writing in any spirit of complaint, but it is curious how many people, when they come across little out-of-the common events like a plant blooming out of season, seem seized with a desire to let the whole world know of it.

Potato Leaf Curl.

THIS peculiar disease in potatoes has slowly and gradually but surely spread itself all over the country until now there are few districts where it is not known and few growers who are not puzzled over it, for it really is a puzzling matter. It is also a serious one, and we do not exaggerate in saying that this year we have seen acres of potatoes, both in fields, gardens, and allotments that would never pay for the trouble of digging on account of the leaf curl trouble. The Board of Agriculture publishes a leaflet about it, and in a recent issue we made reference to an article on the subject in the Board's journal, but no literature we have seen yet does much to help growers in this difficulty. So far as our experience goes the best preventive is to plant Scotch or Irish seed, and by doing this we have had little trouble with leaf curl, but in saving seed from a previous crop, particularly in case of early varieties, risks are always taken. In 1906 we grew an early potato for the first time, and were so pleased with it that we decided to try it again. We saved seed, which was wintered and planted in good condition; but, alas! not one plant in ten developed and produced a crop. There were the weakly stems and curled leaves and the seed tubers in the ground, which were decayed. A clear case of leaf curl, but it is very puzzling, and a discussion in these columns might throw some light on the cause and prevention of the trouble.

Rats.

SO far as we know farmers of every generation have been troubled with rats, and though we try to believe that every living creature serves some useful purpose in the world, it is hard to realise it where rats are concerned. It is characteristic of human nature to experience a feeling of repulsion when in the presence of a live rat, and you are seized with an intense desire to kill it. But in spite of persecution rats, like the poor, are always with us, and they defy all efforts made to exterminate them. In short, the struggle with rats is a fight without a finish, because it must always go on. Let the farmer who has rats on his place (and who has not?) relax his efforts, and he can keep nothing, but by persistency he can keep the population of rodents within reasonable bounds, and fortify the places where he stores his grain and feeding-stuffs, and thus keep the enemy at bay. Professional rat-catchers and poisoners reduce the rat population, but they do not obliterate—and, of course, if they did their occupation would be gone—and useful institutions which help to keep down the rodents are the rat and sparrow clubs which exist in some villages. In fact we think that if there were more of these clubs working with the one object we should hear less about the damage done by the repulsive rodents.

High Hedges and Motor Traffic.

THE untimely death of Sir Henry Colvile through his motor cycle colliding with a motor car has revived the discussion as to the desirability of high hedges near to cross roads being lowered, so as to enable travellers to get a better view of approaching traffic, and naturally opinions are varied on the point. The coroner at the inquest on Sir Henry Colvile saw no reason for reducing the height of hedges, and expressed the view that accidents occurred through people driving or riding carelessly without thought as to the possibility of meeting with anything. There is logic in this, and of course the point was never raised before the introduction of motor cars. With the increase of motor traffic on the roads, the matter will doubtless have to be dealt with; but the point at present is whether local authorities have power to lop trees and lower hedges that merely obstruct the view at cross and side roads. To cut trees and hedges that exclude sun and wind from the roads to the damage of the same is another matter; but, whatever is done, accidents are sure to happen if people will travel round corners at an excessive rate of speed.

Asparagus Land.

ADVOCATES of small holdings, when discussing their possibilities, point to this or that crop which may be grown to profit by the small holder of the future. Just so; but we would point out that Nature will not be dictated to, and because a crop flourishes in one district and is profitable, it does not follow that it will do the same in another. The thing is, let Nature indicate the district in which any particular crop will flourish, and then push its culture in that locality. As a case in point, we have asparagus; and in many places where beds are formed to provide "grass" for household purposes what preparation, nursing, and coddling are required to effect this purpose. Yet in travelling on the north borders of Gloucestershire and through the Evesham district of Worcester one sees asparagus flourishing under field cultivation and asking for no special care such as it needs in the average garden. And where asparagus grows well it is profitable, perhaps as profitable as any crop that is grown, and in the district referred to there are possibilities for greater development, but to attempt the culture of this crop on Worcestershire lines outside the area which is naturally adapted to it would spell ruin.

Gateways on Farms.

ONE needs strong boots and protective leggings in getting about farm land at this time of the year, but to pass safely through some of the gateways one should be furnished with something in the shape of a portable bridge. By a curious arrangement of affairs gateways are often fixed in low places where the water cannot get away, and there being no made road underneath, the cattle passing backwards and forwards plough up the ground until it becomes a veritable quagmire of mud. Of course, one looks for wet and dirt on a farm at this time of the year, but in many cases the condition of roads at gateways where animal traffic is frequent might be improved by carting rough stones, brick ends, gas lime, and other waste material, and effecting the dual purpose of raising the road in the middle and getting a firm foundation for traffic.

Tidy Farmers and Otherwise.

TIDINESS is a faculty which some farmers do not possess. This does not necessarily imply that they are bad farmers, for, on the other hand, they may be good cultivators, get the most out of the land and make the farm pay, but they have little or no personal pride in the homestead and its surroundings. In short, these men are untidy, and they will tell you that they have no time to look after the garden and keep the bit of front lawn in order, with the result that the immediate surroundings of the homestead presents an uncared-for and rough appearance. The evidence of no time might stand good if the tidy farmer did not exist, the man, by the way, who cultivates as well or better, and takes a personal pride in the neat appearance of his stackyard, farmstead, garden, and general surroundings. It is altogether a question of habit and character, and the fact remains that the man who possesses the bump of tidiness can generally manage to keep the immediate surroundings of the homestead presentable without the rest of the farm in any way being the sufferer.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Of course, no reply is necessary from me to Mr. W. J. Malden in the Free Trade controversy. I am in the position of being little more than an interloper—a poor enough part, in all sooth. However, I may be allowed to remind Mr. Malden of one fact. The argument as I initiated it is not whether Free Trade is a wise policy. The question is whether the Chamberlainite policy is calculated to benefit agriculture. If we invoke a considerable colonial competition without seriously rebuking our foreign rival—and never forget that Mr. Balfour has declared not merely for a small import duty against the foreigner, but for the smallest of all possible duties on the necessities of the workers; that is, on the foreign products which enter into competition with ourselves in the markets of the United Kingdom—how will the British farmer advantage? Putting the natural patriotic instinct which throbs in the heart of each one of us aside, what does it matter to the British farmer whether the competition which kills him is of colonial origin or of foreign origin? Will it reconcile him to his fate to be told that his doom has been a great influence in cementing the Imperial fabric? The colonist does not disguise his anxiety. "I desire," quoths he, "to capture the British mart, and to supply from my own illimitable fertility and inexhaustible natural resources the markets of Great Britain." He does not pretend any affection for the British farmer—he simply confesses his anxiety to oust him from his own natural sphere. This is the position, and no sophistry in the world can distort or confuse it.

* * *

Of course nobody would pay much attention to Mr. Green's letter. After all, it is so easy to say that you are ashamed of a man's article. The better way is to answer the article. That Mr. Green does not do, and would never do. With this remark I leave Mr. Green.

* * *

Lord Carrington is wise in his desire to build up the agriculture into a portion of the fabric of the State. I saw his lordship recently, and I perceive that he is absolutely in harmony with Mr. John Burns in the desire to establish a Ministry for health.

* * *

The Agricultural at this moment is a weak and anæmic Department. It does little for the farmer and does less for the State. Lord Carrington, as the head of a Ministry for health, would have an opportunity for which his fine brains, practical intelligence, and kindly heart would have expression.

* * *

I do not think that the ordinary farmer is wise in his opposition to the anxiety for the establishment of an Agricultural Party. Primarily that party should express every desire that belongs to agriculture. At this moment there is no party of the House that acts in a co-operative and disciplined method for the agrarian interest. I remember that when Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes sought to get a Dogs Bill and a Butter Bill through the House he had no support from his leader. Lord Carrington has introduced a new system into the State. Lord Carrington has done what no other Minister of Agriculture has done. He has made agriculture an evidence and an existence in the State.

* * *

The Agricultural Party is bound to come. The fact that the North of England farmers are enthusiastically in favour of this makes the organisation certain. I was last week talking with the chairman of a Midland Chamber of Agriculture. Mr. Bowen assured me that it was not possible for agriculture to become an organised factor in the House of Commons. I declared to him that he was indifferent to the forces which make up for influences in Parliament. I also saw an influential person in the West of England, and I assured him that agriculture could be organised in Parliament as well as the ordinary labour could be organised. This gentleman said that if this could be done he would be absolutely with him in my desire. What, said he, is Mr. Acland Hood going to do? I said I know not, but you may take it from me that Whitley is so enthusiastically agrarian that he will do whatever the ordinary farmer desires.

SMITHFIELD CATTLE SHOW,

ISLINGTON,

December 9 to 13, 1907.

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OBITUARY.

Sir G. Macpherson Grant.

We regret to announce the death of Sir George Macpherson Grant, Bart., of Ballindalloch, the famous breeder of Aberdeen-Angus cattle, and one of the foremost agriculturists in Scotland.

Sir George, who was in the Scottish capital in connection with the National Fat Stock Show, had been ill for some time, but the fatal termination on Thursday afternoon was quite sudden and unexpected. Sir George Macpherson Grant was born on August 12, 1839, and succeeded his father, Sir John, as third baronet in 1850. In the agricultural life of Scotland, Sir George's name will always figure prominently, and more particularly as the owner of a herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle whose fame has become world-wide, so much so that Ballindalloch has been known as the Warlaby of the Polled herd.

It was in 1861 that Sir George journeyed to Kinnaird Castle, and there purchased at one of Lord Southesk's sales for 50 guineas the cow Erica! Never was a purchase more fortunate. It became the foundress of the premier family of the breed, and its members have won fame in the showyards of every country. The Lady Fannys, the Miss Burgesses, the Nosegays, the Coquettes, the Rachels, the Jilts, the Prides, the Lady Idas, all found a home in the Ballindalloch herd, the history of which, when it comes to be written in detail, will form one of the most interesting documents, and one, too, in which Sir George's work will be perpetuated in the way he perhaps would have liked best, for he loved his herd. His interest in it never ceased, and its fortunes and those of members sold out of it he followed with assiduity. It is gratifying to be able to record that Sir George's successes in the showfield were continued to the end; for he carried off the premier honours in the class and the breed cup at the Scottish National Fat Stock Show in Edinburgh the day before his death.

Sir George was a life governor of the Polled Cattle Society, and for two terms of two years each he was its president. In the work of the Highland and Agricultural Society he took a great interest, and was president in 1892.

Small Holdings on Crown Lands.

The most interesting feature of the eighty-fifth report of the Commissioners of Woods and Forests, which was issued last week, relates to the efforts of the President of the Board of Agriculture to let available properties for the purpose of small holdings. The methods adopted have already been made known, through official notices and speeches of Lord Carrington, but it is here stated that the extent of the demand is indicated by the fact that, leaving out of consideration the numerous applications from men who do not specify at all the locality in which they desire land, or the quantity desired, Lord Carrington has in his possession at the present time applications for nearly 10,000 acres of land.

That the demand is fairly general is shown by the fact that 4,518 acres are desired in Lincolnshire, 2,347 acres in Yorkshire, 1,074 acres in Cheshire, 690 acres in Oxfordshire, 248 acres in Bedfordshire, 175 acres in Wiltshire, 123 acres in Norfolk, and 105 acres in Kent.

It must necessarily be a gradual process to satisfy this demand, in view of the necessity of avoiding any undue interference with the existing tenants, but it is hoped that by next Michaelmas upwards of 2,000 acres will have been let in different parts of the country in small holdings, and the process will be continued as opportunity offers wherever it is practicable.

The December hiring fair at Ayr, known as "Dud's Day," was held on Tuesday in very fine weather and was largely attended, whilst many engagements were made. Single ploughmen obtained from £16 to £17 for the half-year; byremen, £12 to £15; boys, £7 to £9 10s.; women servants, for which there was great demand, were getting from £10 to £12.

As there is a great deal of distress and a large number of unemployed men in Newcastle-on-Tyne it was agreed at a meeting last week, presided over by the Lord Mayor, that the ground for the Royal Agricultural Show of next year should be levelled and prepared by the unemployed. The previous resolution advertising for tenders to level the show ground being rescinded.

At a meeting of delegates representing six northern farmers' societies held at Inverness to consider the question of the destruction of crops by wood pigeons, replies were read from a large number of northern proprietors stating that they would be pleased to do everything in their power to keep down the pigeons, and stating that they had given instructions to their gamekeepers to do so. It was agreed to recommend that, with the consent of the proprietors, two consecutive days should be set apart in the various districts to shoot down the pigeons. The dates agreed upon were December 26 and 27.

FAT STOCK SHOWS.

Tonbridge.

The twenty-first show of fat stock at Tonbridge, Kent, took place on Monday and Tuesday, and was a successful show all through, for the entries in each of its sections were fully up to the average, and although there have been shows at which the general average of some of the classes, in point of merit, may have been higher, there have been few, if any, in which the quality of the leading winners was better.

Messrs. P. M. Collard and D. Swaffer were judges in the cattle section. The first division consisted of four classes for Sussex, the old steer, the young steer, and the corresponding classes for the heifers. The Earl of Derby was a very successful exhibitor in these classes, and his well-known Sussex herd came very deservedly to the fore.

In the old steer class a well-fed and ripe steer won first honours, and subsequently was made champion of the show. In the younger steer class the leading position was thoroughly well filled by a very handsome and promising steer owned by the exors. of Mr. L. Huth.

The winner in the older heifer class was a magnificent specimen of its breed; its width and depth of flesh were remarkable, and the quality of it left little room for criticism. This animal was owned by Mr. W. Cattley, and was bred by the late Earl of Winterton. Closely following it came a very good heifer, owned by the Earl of Derby; and this breeder provided from his well-known herd the first-prize winner in the younger class, a very choice heifer indeed, level and well finished.

Amongst the other successful exhibitors in these classes may be mentioned Mr. Hubble and Mrs Montefiore.

The other section was for any other breed, and had the same number of classes given it, and amongst the entries in these four classes were some particularly good Aberdeen-Angus cattle, probably some of the best that have been exhibited at the Tonbridge Show since its institution.

Mr. T. Wotton came out with flying colours in the older steer class. He well deserved his position, for seldom has any breeder sent forward three better animals of his own breeding than those three which won first, second, and rn for Mr. Wotton. The leading animal of this trio was made reserve champion. He might have gone a notch higher many thought, and he will doubtless be heard of again. Mr. W. W. Berry was third with a Scotch bred Aberdeen-Angus.

In the younger steer class a particularly handsome and well-brought out Shorthorn steer, owned by Messrs. Denny, was first, a position to which the quality and merit of this steer fully entitled it.

The winning animal in the older heifer class was a grand type of a cross-bred Aberdeen-Angus. This type predominated in the heifer's appearance, and the fine quality of her flesh and the evenness of her carcase will make her a dangerous competitor in any subsequent competition.

The pure bred Aberdeen-Angus won first and second in the younger heifer class, the respective owners being Messrs. W. W. Berry and G. Drummond.

In that class, which is peculiar almost to Kent and Sussex, for calves under twelve months of age, not fed expressly for slaughter, there were found a particularly good lot of youngsters. The Earl of Derby was first for both steers and heifers. His winning calves were strikingly good specimens of their breed. Second honours in these two classes went to the Sussex also. They were owned by Mr. A. J. Hickman and Mr. O. E. d'Avigdor Goldsmid.

There was a good entry of Southdown sheep, Mrs. Montefiore winning first and champion with her lambs. The Duke of Devonshire, who was second in the lamb class, took first and second for a very fine pen of wethers. Mr. W. M. Cazalet and Count A. Munster were also successful exhibitors.

The leading pen in the other sheep classes was a pen of cross-bred Southdown Kent wether lambs sent by Sir H. E. Dering. It was a pen of remarkably good quality and very good in their flesh.

There was a capital entry of pigs, Mr. E. Ascherson, the Duchess of Devonshire, and Mr. O. E. d'Avigdor Goldsmid were the three leading winners, the first named winning with a grand Berkshire just under 12 months of age, to which also champion honours went.

The exhibition of roots, hops, butter, poultry, and fruit was fully up to the high average of former years.

Redhill.

On Wednesday and Thursday last the annual show of fat stock at Redhill took place, and the wide support it has again secured proved without doubt the popularity of the show and its management, whilst the attendance confirmed the generous support that it receives from Redhill and Reigate.

The cattle section opened with four classes for breeds other than Sussex. The leading winner in the older steer class was a good Aberdeen-Angus steer owned by Mr. W. W. Berry, followed by another of the same breed owned by Mr. B. W. Parsons; both of these came to hand well, and were typical Christmas beasts. Third honours went to Mr. W. Levett, and rn to Mr. J. Weston.

In the younger steer class, Mr. B. W. Parson's winner was another of Mr. Bridges' breeding, a very promising steer. The same may also be said of that fine Shorthorn steer owned by Sir J. Colman, Bart., that was second. Another of Mr. Bridges' breeding, exhibited by Mr. A. Langridge, took third; the breeder of the last-mentioned exhibit thoroughly well deserved his success in the older heifer class with Barbarine 4th, and it was hard luck that fate decreed that this grand, beautifully handling heifer should have just missed champion honours, and had to be content with rn. Mr. W. Cattley's good-fleshed handsome cross-bred was second, and Mr. A. Palmer third.

In the younger heifer class three of the four leading animals were Aberdeen Angus, Messrs. W. W. Berry and G. Drummond owning the first and second winners, and Mr. W. D. Fladgate the reserve number. This was bred by Mr. G. F. Stanford, who himself took third honours with a neat and well-fed crossbred.

The Sussex classes lacked somewhat of the usual interest, because in them steers and heifers had to compete together. The females led in the older class. This was quite one of the best specimens of a fat stock show heifer we have seen out at the local shows this year, but her type as a Sussex was open to exception. However, there was no question as to the correctness of the award in placing her first in the class, and eventually making her champion of the show, although one readily admits it was but by the narrowest of margins this honour was secured from that equally good heifer that won first for Mr. Bridges in the other section of the Cattle Show. Mr. W. D. Fladgate claimed second honours with a steer thoroughly typical of its breed and well brought out. Mr. W. Cattley was third with a heifer bred by the late Earl Winterton, and Mr. S. Agate rn.

In the younger class the Exors. of L. Huth were first, followed by Mr S. Agate and W. Cattley in the order named.

There was a capital class for pairs of grass-fed steers, in which Mr. H. Bell won; a small class for Dexters and Kerrys, in which the Duchess of Devonshire took first honours. The classes for tenant farmers were well supported and contained, we are pleased to note, a very fine collection of typical Christmas beasts. Messrs. A. Langridge W. Clifton, G. F. Young, F. L. Crow, Harker were the principal winners.



Shorthorn Steer Gentleman John, winner of First Prize, the Special for the Best Shorthorn, and the Thorley Challenge Cup for the Breeder of the Best Animal at the Birmingham Fat Stock Show last week. It was bred by Mr. J. Ross, Millcraig, Alness, its sire being Ajax and its dam Lassie; but is the property of Mr. Peter Dunn, Pasture House, Sigglesthorne, Hull. Its age last week was 2 years 8 months 3 weeks 2 days, and its weight 16 cwt. 1 qr. 27 lb.

The sheep section was a very fine one indeed, equally good in respect to number of entries, and to its average of merit. In the untrimmed class of lambs, Sir E. Loder, Bart., was clearly first with a thoroughly typical pen of Southdowns. Messrs. W. Clifton and Still were second and third. In the trimmed class of lambs the Duke of Devonshire won first honours and also championship, with a well brought out pen of Southdowns. Mr. Thomson took second honours, Sir E. Loder third, this was a particularly good and choice pen. Mrs. Montefiore was rn.

The pig classes were very good indeed. The principal winners in them were the Earlswood Asylum, Redhill, Messrs. G. Riddle, J. Tichener, A. Palmer, and R. Morton.

The section for dead poultry was quite one of the best exhibits we have seen this season of its kind. The large number of competitors and the wide area they covered indicates its popularity. The number of entries in the live poultry classes were smaller than usual, this was owing to the date of the show clashing with several other important fixtures.

The other sections of the show for roots, butter, hay, corn, &c., were supported in a very satisfactory manner, and the quality of the exhibits were good.

Ipswich.

The annual show of the Suffolk Fat Cattle Club took place at Ipswich on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, and was in every respect a successful display of stock, being large and of first-rate quality, whilst the numerous other attractions drew large attendances of visitors, thus testifying to the popularity of this fixture. The experiment of having a third day seems to have been justified, for the attendance for the whole of the show was 19,000, whereas last year the number was 10,905 as compared with the record of 11,242 in 1905.

The cattle classes were all round good, but the feature of the section was the remarkable success of Mr. R. J. Thurman, Dairy Farm, Semer, who, with a crossbred heifer bred by Mr. E. G. Pretyman, Orwell Park, cleared the board of championships. He won outright two challenge cups, each valued at 25 guineas, having taken them in two preceding years, and also two special prizes—one given by the president, Mr. Kenneth M. Clark, for the best beast in the show, over three years old, and the other for the best beast over two years, grazed by an owner whose principal income is derived from farming. Further, the Red Poll steer with which he obtained the championship for the breed at Norwich now took first prize in its class, the challenge cup, presented by Messrs. Barclay and Co., for the best beast in the show, under two years old, grazed in Suffolk, and two other champion prizes, not to mention a reserve or two. The beast which gained these honours is well grown, level, a good handler, and exceptionally heavy for its age, 14 cwt. 2 qr. 14 lb. at 1 year 11 months 3 days. It was protested against, as at Norwich, on the ground that no pedigree was produced to prove it of the Red Poll breed, and "that it has a large slug horn stump on either side of the head," which suggests that it is cross-bred, but the committee over-ruled both objections.

The reserve for the championship was the first prize winner in the class for steers or heifers of any pure or cross-breed under three years old, viz, the Shorthorn, shown by Sir Walter Corbet, which ran the King's prize-winner so close at Norwich.

The show of sheep was somewhat small, but the quality was excellent. Sir Thomas Gooch, Bart, sent a nice pen of Southdown wethers, but they could not hold their own against two pens from Mr. Herbert Smith, Walton Grange. The class for pen of three Suffolk wethers was a strong one, in fact the entries were so good that the judges had a difficult task, and they could only do justice by mentioning every entry. Here, again, Mr. Herbert Smith carried everything before him, and his three entries carried off the chief prizes.

Pigs made one of the best shows ever seen here, Large Whites, Large Blacks, and cross-breds being well represented. The first-named breed secured the championship, the fortunate exhibitor being Mr. Russell Walker, Marlesford, Wickham Market, with a very fine pair, winners in the class for pigs best suited for bacon purposes. Mr. John Goddard, of Turnstall, had the distinction of taking the premier place with Large Blacks, which subsequently came in for more honours, winning Thorley's special and reserve for the championship.

The feature of the corn section was, as usual, the display of barley, but wheat and oats were both well represented, whilst other good sections of an attractive show were those for roots and vegetables, dairy produce, and poultry.

The carcase competition proved a very attractive one. The first class in the swine carcase competition was for one bacon pig, live weight not under 190 lb. Mr. Charles Spencer, Holywell Manor, won first honours with a Large White, whose carcase excited general admiration; whilst in the class for one bacon pig, live weight exceeding 220 lb. and not more than 280 lb., the chief award went to Mr. E. Ward Snell, Darmsden. The coveted honour in this department of the exhibition was the silver tankard presented by Messrs. Charles and Thomas Harris and Co., Ltd, Calne, Wilts, regarded as the champion prize, and the winner was Mr. William Woodgate, White House, Badingham. The handsome pair of pigs were both Mr. Woodgate's own breeding, and here the excellent cross, Large Black boar and Large White sow, prevailed.

On the second day there was a sale of a large number of the animals exhibited at the show, and with a large attendance of buyers some good prices were realised. The best price for the cattle was £36, given by Mr. Webber, Felixstowe, for Mr. S. Dawson's third prize cross-bred steer. Other cattle sold at prices ranging from £20 to £33.

A large number of sheep were sold. The Southdown wethers, belonging to Sir Thomas Gooch, Benacre Hall, which were reserved, made 70s. and 67s. 6d. (2); Mr. Herbert E. Smith's wethers, which won first and second prizes, realised from 97s. 6d. to 85s.; whilst the best of Mr. D. A. Green's Suffolk wether lambs, which won fourth prize, made 80s., the others going for 77s. 6d. and 75s. Mr. Spencer Dawson's Suffolk lambs, second prize winners, made 75s., 70s., and 72s. 6d., while another three shown by the same exhibitor fetched 55s. each.

The chief sales of pigs were as follows:—Mr. K. M. Clark's reserved Large Blacks (average 3 cwt. 3 qr. 2 lb.), £5 15s. each; one of Mr. Walter Reeve's cross-breds (3 cwt. 2 qr. 4 lb.), which won a special and second prize, £6 12s. 6d.; Mr. John Symonds's third prize cross-breds (3 cwt. 2 qr. 17 lb.), £6 5s. and £6 17s. 6d.; Mr. John Goddard's first prize cross-breds (3 cwt. 0 qr. 10 lb.) £5 17s. 6d.; Mr. G. Gooderham's Executors' first prize cross-breds (3 qr. 20 lb.), five at 40s.; Mr. John Goddard's first prize cross-breds (2 cwt. 0 qr. 12 lb.), £4 2s. 6d. and £4 7s. 6d.; Mr. W. Scopes' third prize winners (2 cwt. 2 qr. 21 lb.), £4 12s. 6d. and £4 17s. 6d.; Mr. H. H. Turner's second prize winners (3 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lb.), £6 2s. 6d. and £6 15s.; Mr. Russell Walker's champion pair, £10 and £10 5s.; Mr. R. Walker's first prize winner (weight competition animal) £7.

Birmingham.

The fifty-ninth annual fat stock show at Bingley Hall, Birmingham, a full description of which appeared in our last issue, came to a conclusion on Thursday evening, and, it is satisfactory to record, was as successful from a financial point of view as it was from the show standard. The admissions for the five days numbered 43,442, as compared with 42,112 last year, an increase of 1,330; and the total amount of the receipts was £1,270 12s., an advance of £43 9s. over twelve months ago. During the week 205 pens of poultry were sold for £520 5s. 6d., which is a little less than last year, for then, as compared, 232 pens were disposed of for £535 5s., but it will be seen that some better prices were obtained, one of the best being £52 10s. for a white Orpington cockerel.

Details of the receipts and admissions for each day together with the corresponding figures for 1906, 1905, and 1904 are appended:—

RECEIPTS.

1907.	1906.	1905.	1904.
Second Day.			
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
228 0 0	219 12 0	233 16 0	216 17 0
Third Day.			
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
286 4 0	290 12 0	282 5 0	287 1 0
Fourth Day.			
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
435 17 0	437 2 0	491 5 0	451 12 6
Fifth Day.			
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
320 5 0	279 17 0	285 9 0	298 1 6
1,270 12 0	1,227 3 0	1,292 15 0	1,253 12 0

ADMISSIONS.

	1907.	1906.	1905.	1904.
Second Day.				
Subscribers' tickets	6,426	6,417	6,480	6,495
Five shillings each	493	507	568	517
One shilling each	2,101	1,857	1,836	1,752
Third Day.				
By ticket	1,749	1,762	1,785	1,781
One shilling each	5,724	5,812	5,645	5,741
Fourth Day.				
By ticket	3,090	3,111	3,077	3,093
One shilling each	4,991	5,057	5,485	5,062
Sixpence each	7,452	7,370	8,680	7,941
Fifth Day.				
By ticket	2,591	2,612	2,530	2,501
One shilling each	3,895	3,587	3,793	3,792
Sixpence each	4,840	4,020	3,832	4,339
	43,442	42,112	43,711	43,014

York.

The fifty-first annual show of the Yorkshire Society for the Christmas Exhibition of Fat Stock, Poultry, and Roots, held at York last week, the entries were somewhat less than last year in all the sections except pigeons, but the quality was, if anything, better than ever, thus making good the deficiency in quantity. There were 93 entries of cattle, a decrease of 12 on last year: sheep numbered 39 or 26 less, and pigs 51 as against 90 in 1906; pigeons, on the other hand, showed an increase of 373, and thus brought the aggregate for the whole show to a higher level than last year, the respective figures being 2,650 and 2,544.

In a useful class of Shorthorn steers, the best animal which has been seen at York for some time was shown by Mr. J. M. Strickland, Easingwold, and it won fairly comfortably. In the corresponding class for heifers there were only three entries, and Messrs. R. and J. Davison, Malton, won. The class for three-year-old cross-bred steers was a good one, the winner being Mr. C. Emmerson, Darlington, with a Black polled animal, which subsequently was amongst the selected for the championship. The heifers only numbered four, Mr. R. Stubbs, Baldersby, being the pick. In the class for two-year-old Shorthorn steers, Sir John Swinburne was the winner. Mr. Emmerson took first and second awards in the class for bullocks of any breed or cross except Shorthorns, and in the class for the best heifer, irrespective of breed, under two years old, the award went to Mr. J. McIntyre, with a black Aberdeen-Angus. In three strong classes of Irish cattle the premier award went to Messrs. W. and T. Dale, Buttercrambe, York, whilst Mr. B. Carlton, Crockey Hill, York, scored in both the classes open to tenant farmers only.

The champion beast was found in a class of four oxen suitable for butchering purposes. This was a massive three-year old beast, and turned the scale at 1 ton 5 stones. The exhibitor was Mr. D. Lund, Flaxton, for whom it won not only the championship cup, value 50 guineas, and the prize in its class, but also the president's special prize of £20 and the York and District Butchers' silver challenge plate, value 50 guineas, the latter at sight. In the second class of heifers for butchering purposes, Mr. Edward Harley scored with a Blue Polled crossbred. Three classes of Scotch cattle had only a poor entry, and the Earl of Durham won in each.

A pen of three Whitefaced Down sheep won the championship (the Moscrop Plate) in the sheep classes. They belonged to Messrs. R. and J. Davison, of Malton, and, scaling 67 stones, made a fine show. The reserve card went to Mr. W. Robinson, of Helmsley, for three of the Scotch-cross variety. Despite reduced numbers, the sheep were of good quality all round, both in the district and open classes. Nor can less be said of the pigs, which in several classes called forth extra commendation from the judges. Mr. Leopold C. Paget, of Harewood, had the distinction of winning Capt. Behrens' special prize and the reserve ticket with two grand specimens of the White breed. The champion, though huge, and tipping the beam at 55 stones, was even beaten in weight by the reserve pig, which scaled no less than 69 stones.

The show of poultry and pigeons was one of remarkable excellence, and in the latter department exhibitors came from all parts; whilst the butter-making competition, an innovation, proved most attractive.

A large number of head of fat stock which had been exhibited at the York Fat Stock Show were disposed of in the show yard on Thursday. There was a large attendance of buyers, and a very good trade all round. Beef sold exceptionally well, and several of the prize-winning cattle made exceptional prices. The highest was £72 for the champion beast of the show, Great Scott, a blue-grey three-year-old weighing 165 stone, exhibited by Mr. D. Lund, Flaxton, the purchaser being Mr. Whitford, Hull. Sheep also sold well, quite a number realising over 70s., the best prices being 86s., 84s., 80s., and 78s.

Scottish National.

The eleventh annual show of the Scottish National Fat Stock Club held in the Waverley Market, Edinburgh, last week, proved one of the best of the series taken all round, and that the show maintains its popularity with spectators was proved by the large attendances. Cattle entries totalled 172, a slight increase on those of last year; sheep, with an entry of eighty-three pens, ten pens down, but pigs show an improvement with twenty-three pens against sixteen, but seeds and roots which last year had the great entry of 468 were down to about 350—still a good entry.

Shorthorns did not make quite such a good display as we have seen at this show, but nevertheless were a highly creditable lot. There has possibly never been a better display of Aberdeen-Angus cattle at any fat stock show in Scotland. His Majesty the King showed two animals in the two-year-old steer class, both bred at the Royal herd at Abergeldie, but they were defeated by Colonel M'Inroy's Beltane, an evenly-fleshed, very thick animal, which handled well, and was ultimately placed reserve for the championship of the breed. His Majesty was second with a nicely-finished bullock of good quality, but rather narrow in his hindquarters.

Some good types of Galloways were forward, and Highland cattle were as usual a strong and picturesque lot, whilst the cross-breds were perhaps the most interesting feature of the section.

The £20 cup for best steer in the show fell to Mr. Robert Turner's first prize two-year-old cross-bred, Colonel M'Inroy's young Angus steer being reserve. The corresponding cup for the best heifer went again to a cross-bred, the winner being Mr. M'William's two-year-old, the reserve in this case falling to the Ballindalloch Evie. Then came the final test, the £50 for best animal in the show. Mr. M'William having practically cleared the course, won, and Mr. Turner had the reserve with his steer. The Webb Challenge Cup for best animal bred by exhibitor fell to the Ballindalloch heifer, and Colonel M'Inroy's young steer was reserve. Sir James Sivewright Cup for the best animal in the show bred and shown by a tenant farmer attracted fair competition, and here Messrs. Ross won and also took reserve position. Mr. M'William further won the President's prize and the Strathmore Challenge Cup, and Col. M'Inroy had the Ardross Cup for the best young Angus steer.

Although in the sheep section there was a falling off in numbers, it was generally acknowledged that the quality of the exhibits was equal to the average of former years, the best section being that for Cheviots. Mr. Dowall had the best lot of Cheviot lambs and also wedders, and he had no difficulty in taking the Breed Cup. In the cross-bred section Mr. Duncan, of Coupar-Angus, took the breed cup with a pen of three cross hoggs of magnificent proportions, and though the animals were young, their condition was such that the award was never very much in doubt. Mr. Duncan also scored with his cross-bred lambs. The extra classes saw some good competition, and here again Mr. Duncan was seen to wonderful advantage with a pen of lambs by a Suffolk tup out of Leicester ewes. These lambs took the championship of the sheep section, the reserve being the Montrave first prize Blackfaced lambs.

There was a very creditable display of pigs, the champion cup for which was gained by Mr. William Newbigging, Gogar Mains, with a pair of the white breed, which weighed 12cwt. 64 lb., whilst the reserve card was placed upon a pair of blacks, weighing 9 cwt. 81 lb., shown by Mr. Gavin Jack, North Gyle.

SHOW GOSSIP.

The seventy-second annual show of the Huntingdonshire Agricultural Society will be held at Ramsey on Thursday, June 18, 1908, entries closing May 28, or at late fees on June 4. Mr. A. G. Dilley, Market Hill, Huntingdon, is the secretary.

The entries for the Ashford Fat Stock Show, to be held on the 16th and 17th inst., number 363, this total being a little above last year's record. The increase in the live stock classes is the most marked, for there are 140 entries against 134 in 1888, which held the record until this year. There are 100 entries of roots, 31 of corn, 49 of hops, 28 of wool, 14 of butter, and 11 of bread, while the carcase competition has attracted a dozen competitors. The chief exhibitors of live stock include many well-known breeders, some of whom have not shown at Ashford before.

The Norfolk Agricultural Association announce that their spring show of stallions will be held in the Agricultural Hall, Norwich, on Saturday, March 21, 1908, entries closing March 14; whilst their summer show will be held at Great Yarmouth on June 17 and 18, entries closing for live stock and implements on May 11.

At the monthly meeting of the Aston Town Council held on Wednesday, a letter was read from the secretary of the Warwickshire Agricultural Society inquiring whether it was desired that the show of 1908 should be held in the town of Aston. The town clerk said the Birmingham Baths and Parks Committee had been communicated with, and had replied to the effect that they would have much pleasure in placing the whole or a portion of Aston Park at the disposal of the agricultural society for their annual show, if the lower portion of the park was suitable. They suggested that application be made in due course, the arrangements to be left in the hands of the Aston Park Joint Advisory Committee to carry out, and the consent to be subject to such conditions as might be determined for the protection of the corporation property. He (the town clerk) pointed out that if the Aston Council decided to invite the society to hold the show at Aston, other questions would have to be considered. A sum of £300 would have to be raised by private subscription or otherwise, but not out of the rates. After some discussion the question was referred to a Special Committee to consider and report to the council.

At a well-attended public conference held at Maidstone on Tuesday afternoon, a County Association for Kent, to facilitate the working of the Small Holdings and Allotments Act, 1907, was formed.

MIDLAND FARMERS AT HOME

No. 1.

MR. R. MILLINGTON KNOWLES, Colston Bassett.

Resident in the Midlands are many farmers about whom the agricultural world knows but little, with the exception of occasionally seeing their names among the prize-winners at various shows. I hope, however, to give in the MARK LANE EXPRESS a few particulars concerning the farms and stock, and the districts in which some of the leading men of Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Lincolnshire, and Leicestershire reside, which cannot fail to prove of interest to readers of this journal. It is impossible in the limited space at my disposal to deal fully with many matters of interest, but the chief characteristics of the various holdings will be touched upon.

Colston Bassett, a quaint old Nottinghamshire village, some five miles to the south-west of Bingham, possesses many historical associations, and is owned by Mr. R. Millington Knowles, D.L., J.P., C.C., who resides at the Hall. It is recorded that in 1604 many of the inhabitants were carried off by a terrible plague, and the fine old church of St. Mary, situate in the park near to the hall, dates from 1293, but is now in ruins. Mr. Knowles in addition to being the owner farms nearly 1,000 acres in the parish, and the state of the arable land bears testimony to the steward, Mr. Gilbert H. Elliott for not only have enormous crops been



MR. GILBERT H. ELLIOT,
Agent to R. Millington Knowles, Esq., Colston Bassett Hall.

harvested, but there is practically a total absence of twitch and rubbish. The soil for the greater part is of a strong clayey character, with a subsoil of clay, the chief crops grown being wheat, oats, beans, and barley, while the large fodder stacks prove conclusively that clover also does well. It is very heavy land, and requires four good horses to a plough. I noticed a field of swedes, cabbage, and mangolds which demonstrated to the full that roots can be grown successfully, though so far as eating turnips on the land by sheep it is practically useless.

The farm buildings are admirably arranged, being some distance from the highway, the steward's house being in close proximity to them. The crewyards are covered in, which is admittedly conducive to stock doing much better than in the open, and prevents the manure from being washed by the rain, and thereby losing much of its value. The cowsheds, horse stables, and pig styes are designed not only for the well-being of the animals housed therein, but also with a view to convenience for those whose immediate duty it is to attend to their requirements. By the aid of steam the corn can be ground, turnips, &c., pulped, cake broken, and many other operations performed. The buildings are not by any means of that character to be met with in towns—nothing is of the "jerry" order, all having been erected with a view to standing a good many years to come. What is more they are kept sweet and clean by liberal and frequent applications of limewash. In the yard Dutch barns abound in profusion, and I believe Mr. Knowles was one of the first gentlemen in the neighbourhood to realise the value of this class of erection. Certain it is that one has done service for nearly twenty years, and considering the amount of thatching it has saved, and the way fodder and corn have been preserved, it has more than paid for the outlay. The other Dutch barns are of a more recent pattern, and at the present time are filled with corn and fodder, while ten or a dozen stacks jotted around the homestead speak more than words of the plenteous harvest that has favoured Colston Bassett this year. Though there is such an extensive range of buildings, they are already totally inadequate for the growing demands of an increasing herd of Shorthorns and Large White Yorkshire pigs. A new set of piggeries are now being built away from the homestead on an elaborate scale. They are planned on the very latest principles, and will combine large yards with concrete floors for exercising the porcine animals, while the styes will be heated throughout by means of hot water pipes.

Large White Yorkshire pigs have brought fame to Mr. Knowles and Colston Bassett, for I believe I am correct in stating that this year animals from this herd have carried off the champion prize at the Royal, Highland, and Welsh National Shows, which is a record to be proud of. There are some very fine pigs—both boars and sows—at present in the styes at Colston Bassett. They possess plenty of length, depth in the body, well-sprung ribs, wide and square in their quarters, wide loins, and hams that almost reach down to their feet. Almost without exception they possess good straight legs, and well-placed, while they have good heads and necks. Altogether there are now housed at Colston Bassett 300 pigs, and I understand that the present year has proved a record for numbers sold, not only for export abroad, but also in England. It is admitted that the herd of pigs is one of the finest in the country, but a new departure is being made by Mr Knowles, who is now taking up the breeding of Shorthorns with vigour. During the present year animals of the most fashionable breeds have been purchased at many of the leading sales, and I noticed a number of promising youngsters in the crews which will doubtless be seen in the show ring another season. In the park near the Hall, there were a number of animals which were a picture to gaze upon, being a Galloway-Shorthorn cross, and seemed most suitable to roam near a country gentleman's mansion. On the farm there are something like 150 head of horned stock.

There is a very fine flock of sheep, numbering between 400 and 500, being a cross of pure-bred Lincoln-Longwool ewes, upon which are used a Hampshire ram, and then bred on again. That this is a good cross for mutton was proved at last Goose Fair, and also the year previous, when lambs from the flock averaged 2 guineas apiece. Several young horses were running out in grass fields, and looked tolerably well, one or two giving promise of turning out something above the ordinary, possessing plenty of bone and hair, and rare quality. The working horses are an admirable set, of the true Shire character, and able to pull a load of goodly dimensions. There are also two good home-bred stallions—one by Menestrel, and the other by Cœur-de-Lion—and their foals are a credit to those who had the good fortune to use these sires.

As I have previously stated, the arable land is very clean and free from rubbish of all kinds. This is rather surprising, for Mr. Elliot (the steward) does not believe in a bare fallow. His system of rotation is roots, oats, beans, wheat, and barley. The soil favours beans, and some enormous crops have been secured this year. To obtain good quality barley it has been found from long experience that the best class grain is secured when sown on wheat stubbles. The yield suffers somewhat, but this is more than made up by the better quality, though the Chevalier variety never does well at Colston Bassett.

Very little corn is sold, most of it being consumed by the stock, which is all home-bred, with the exception of a few pedigree Shorthorns. Being some distance from the mining districts Mr. Elliot experiences no trouble in obtaining plenty of labour, and carpenters and bricklayers are employed as regular hands, there being ample work for them to do on various parts of the estate. Mr. Knowles has built a number of model cottages for his labourers which could with truth be termed villas, for they are roomy, and possess ample gardens and a good water supply. It is frequently asserted that farming cannot be made to pay, but I understand that, after all expenses have been met, a fair amount allowed for rent and depreciation, there is always a good profit from this farm at Colston, which is all the more creditable when it is remembered the heavy charges incurred through exhibiting stock at various shows throughout England, Scotland, and Wales. It clearly proves that where a farm is well managed a living can still be secured by an agriculturist.

R. K.



Market Information.

London.

I have allowed a fortnight to elapse since my last business report, in the hope that I might be able to tell a better story to-day. But unfortunately neither the present position nor the future prospect show any sign of early improvement. A merchant's circular lately issued refers to some increase in the demand, caused by the reduced prices, and a few days ago it appeared as if a more active trade was possible. But this week it has again collapsed, and as holders are generally desirous to realise, values are quoted lower. The condition of affairs is almost inexplicable, for we may reasonably suppose that the present absurdly low prices would certainly induce business under ordinary circumstances. There must be some reason, as yet undiscovered, to account for the abnormal stagnation now prevailing. Yet, unpromising as is the outlook, I cannot avoid the conviction that prices have touched bottom, and that we must have a reactionary movement before long. Whether we shall be able to discern its commencement before Christmas is uncertain, but I am convinced it must come sooner or later, and for the sake of my country friends I heartily trust it will not be delayed much longer.

Nuremberg.

During the past fortnight the approach of winter has been signalised by the first fall of snow, the colder weather having a further depressing effect upon the hop trade. Sales, both for home consumption and export, have fallen off, and stocks which are estimated at 16,000 to 18,000 bales are gradually increasing. There is some demand from America for the better grades, but as these are scarce, only a small amount of business has been done. Values remain without any perceptible change, but the tendency is downward except for choice samples. The arrivals for the last fourteen days, ending November 27, were 4,800 bales, and the sales for the same period 4,350 bales.

Brussels.

Certain uncovered contracts for delivery this month have imparted a little animation to the markets, inquiries for disposable hops being rather more frequent lately; but the general trade remains very quiet, and values are unchanged. The tendency is, however, rather in favour of lower prices, and quotations for December-January deliveries are from 2 to 4 francs lower than the present currency.

America.

My cable message this week speaks of the market being dull, with a downward tendency, and adds that no improvement in the near fature is anticipated. I have also received a letter from my correspondent on the Pacific Coast, dated November 15, from which I make the following extracts:—"The choicest Oregon hops can be bought to-day at 7 cents, and we doubt if there are any orders at this price. Some business has been done recently at 5½ to 6 cents, but the demand is very limited. It is almost a certainty that the best grades will be bought within the next thirty days at 5 cents. Some speculators are actually gambling upon short sales, on the basis of purchasing next summer as low as 3 and 4 cents per lb. The financial situation does not improve, and there is a prospect of a continuance of present conditions for many months. The unsold stock in this country is exceptionally large. As nearly as we can ascertain the stocks in growers' hands amount to at least 200,000 bales, and besides there is a goodly quantity held by dealers, and approximately 35,000 to 40,000 of 1906 hops still on the market. It seems as if a very low ebb of prices will prevail next summer. While growers are suffering frightful losses on present sales, we cannot see where there will be any ploughing up of hops in the large growing centres."

The Hop Conference at Wye.

My report of the interesting proceedings last week occupied so much space that I had no opportunity for comments, which appear to me desirable, especially on the subject of "the value of the male plant," so ably handled by Mr. Salmon. This appears to me to be of sufficient importance to demand further inquiry, and my apology for venturing to criticise it may be therefore offered on that ground.

While I fully recognise Mr. Salmon's painstaking industry in his elucidation of the details he so carefully brought under our notice, I may be excused in pointing out that there is comparatively little novelty in his statements. Other investigators have long ago arrived at the same conclusions. I have a record by Schroder, who made a quantitative analysis of over 200 hop cones some fifteen years back, by which he ascertained that while fertilised hops contained an average of twenty-two seeds, unfertilised hops grown under identical conditions contained less than four seeds per cone. But he ascertained at the same time that the lupulinic contents were less than 9 per cent in the fertilised, and nearly 13 per cent. in the unfertilised. Consequently, he concluded that the brewer must use, under equal conditions, 116 lb. of fertilised cones in place of 100 lb. of cones which remained sterile. Mr. Salmon's paper did not touch this aspect of the question, as he confined himself to the growing out of the hops, and the consequent results in the weight of the crop.

In view of expert opinions recently expressed as to the decadence in the quality of English hops, and the consequent failure of the industry in remuneration to the grower, it appears to be rather unfortunate that the authority of Wye College should be used to induce planters to fix their attention rather upon bulk than quality.

I do not hesitate to say that this point was the main feature in the otherwise instructive paper referred to. I have the support of the late Professor Cheshire, formerly of Swanley College, who made the fertilisation of plants and its effect his special study, and who wrote to me as follows:—

"I am decidedly of opinion that the encouragement of the male hop is in every way a mistake, except in the special case of attempting to raise seedling varieties. Every grower should be aware of the fact that the quality of his crop almost exclusively depends upon the condition of the numerous yellow glands with which the bracteoles of the female flowers are dotted. That these suffer after fertilisation, according to a general botanic law cannot be for a moment doubted. This botanic law may be thus briefly expressed. The energies of a plant in flower before fertilisation, are concentrated on those portions of the inflorescence which are most essential in leading up to fertilisation; but after this has taken place, the means to the end are deprived of nutrition in order that the nutrition may be diverted to the building up of the fertilised ovules until mature seeds result."

He further says:—"It is clear that the scientific evidence is all on one side, viz., that for the production of a hop containing the largest percentage of lupulin, fertilisation should be prevented by the suppression of the male plant. But as a set-off against this, fertilisation which directs the energies of the plant to the maturation of its seed, and so absorbs a very large part of the store of nutritive materials at its disposal, increases the actual weight of the crop by about 10 per cent., but analysis at once shows that the increase in weight is accompanied by a considerable percentage of decrease in lupulin and aroma, the very matters for which the hop is grown. If the planter grows for market he has to determine whether quality or bulk will bring the larger return; but of one point we ought not to lose sight, as intelligence increases and proper methods and judgment come to be employed, quality will undoubtedly secure the higher monetary remuneration." The Professor confirms his statement by the analogy of many other plants, and concludes that in the long run hops will grow more luxuriantly and retain their vigour better when they are not allowed to produce seeds.

Such testimony as this, reliable as it is, might perhaps be ignored if it were not supported by the well-known practice of our Continental competitors, who have adopted as an axiom that "a hop garden should resemble a nunnery, all males being excluded." Why have they done this? Growers have found that their brewers estimate the value of hops according to the presence or absence of seeds, as they know that in seeded hops they receive an inferior quantity of utilisable material per unit of weight, and also that, although lupulin is not the sole criterion of quality, it is recognised that the larger the proportion of lupulin and the consequent more agreeable aroma, the more valuable is the sample for brewing purposes.

Therefore, we find that in the districts of Bavaria and Bohemia, where the choicest hops are produced, they are practically seedless, and proportionately richer in their most precious constituents. Some years ago the Belgian Government, desirous to improve the quality of their hops, appointed a commission to inquire into the culture in other countries, and after an exhaustive examination, the results were published, concluding with certain recommendations, of which the most emphatic was—"Banish strictly all male plants from your hop-yards." The Belgian growers did not accept this recommendation, preferring to aim at larger crops of an inferior quality. We see the results to day in the lower prices they command, and the small esteem in which they are held by brewers.

It is true that American growers favour the production of seeded hops, although one of their chief authorities on the subject admits that "the continuous ripening of seed is one of the most serious drains on the vitality of hop roots." I suppose they are somewhat indifferent as to this, as the rich virgin soils on the Pacific Coast, enabling them to dispense with manures and the extensive lands at their disposal for replanting, induce them to ignore the possibility of exhaustion.

But I cannot accept the dictum of a trans-Atlantic grower, quoted, I think, by Mr. Salmon, at Wye, when he says, "if brewers expect a good, solid, bright coloured, well matured hop, well filled with lupulin, they must also expect to see the hop well filled with good, large, purple seed." This absolutely contradicts all European investigation, and also, methinks, betrays the grower's want of knowledge, and his inability to judge how much lupulin the hop actually carries. There is no doubt that proportionately to the lupulinic contents of the cones is the resin percentage in all hops.

Mr. Meacham, who, in conjunction with the eminent chemist, Mr. Lawrence Briant, has done so much to ascertain the functions of hops in the brewery, has written: "It is not bulk of hops, but preservative resin, that the brewer wishes to purchase, and for which he will be prepared to pay more money. It is on this point of resin that the battle between English and foreign hops is to be fought. In softness and clearness of bitter, and delicacy of flavour, English growers have little to fear, but from the point of view of resin percentage foreigners thus far have the advantage."

The published remarks of some acknowledged experts in our brewing industry go to prove that English hops are deteriorating in quality, that is, their lupulin and their preservative resins are decreasing.

As it seems to be clear that this loss of position is due mainly to the ambition to grow heavy crops, enhanced by the plentiful presence of seeds, we hope that, in their own interests, our growers will consider the matter, and endeavour to make such alterations in their methods of culture as will be advantageous to themselves, and without too much regard to former prejudices.

Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes and an Agricultural Party.

The Hon A. E. Fellowes, ex-President of the Board of Agriculture, in suppo ting a resolution in favour of the formation of an Independent Agricultural Party at the meeting of the Norfolk Chamber of Agriculture at Norwich on Saturday stated that, while he thought the proposal most excellent in theory, he had very many doubts as to whether it was really practicable. Independent parties were not popular either with the country or in Parliament. An Independent Agricultural Party would represent three classes—landowners, occupiers, and labourers—and they knew how difficult it was to get even the farmers to agree among themselves. Questions like Tariff Reform and the importation of store cattle would present difficulties to an Independent Agricultural Party. However, if the formation of the party could do any good, he would do his best to promote its success. The motion was carried with two dissentients.

Eight patent maltings, the property of Messrs. H. A. and D. Taylor, at Bishop's Stortford, were totally destroyed by fire on Monday last. The conflagration put the whole town in jeopardy, as the maltings adjoin the gasworks. The Great Eastern Railway Company ran special trains with fire engines from Liverpool Street, Cambridge, and Broxbourne, and the local brigade had the assistance also of the brigades from Ware and Sawbridgeworth. The damage is estimated at about £200,000.

Christmas Parcels Traffic.—In connection with the Christmas and New Year traffic the Midland Railway Company have made the most complete arrangements for the collection, quick transit, and quick delivery of parcels in London and the many provincial towns on their system. Frequent collections will be made from the receiving offices, and in addition to through vans being attached to the principal express and mail trains, special trains will be run to accommodate the traffic. In the case of parcels for short distances, the rates, with one or two exceptions, are less than those by parcels post, whilst for longer distances the rates for parcels above 1 lb. do not exceed the parcels post rates In the interests of prompt transit, all parcels should be fully and legibly addressed, and the address labels firmly attached. As an extra precaution, a duplicate label should be enclosed in each package, so that the name of the consignee may be ascertained in the event of the outside address becoming detached or defaced.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Railway Rates—Deputation to the Board of Trade.

SIR,—The Board of Trade have appointed Thursday, December 12, at 3 p.m., at their offices in Whitehall, for a meeting of a deputation of agriculturists, agricultural traders, and manufacturers of agricultural produce, with the railway companies serving Lincolnshire and the Midland Counties, for the purpose of discussing complaints as to the excessive rates in those districts in comparison with those obtaining in the North, East, and South of England.

Grain in East Anglia is conveyed in four-ton lots 40 miles for 5s. 5d. per ton, 80 miles for 6s. 8d., 120 miles for 7s. 1d. per ton. In this district the corresponding rates are:—40 miles, 6s. 7d.; 80 miles, 9s. 11d.; and 120 miles, 12s. 6d. per ton.

Hay and straw is conveyed on the London and South Western Railway, 40 miles for 6s. 10d. per ton, 80 miles for 9s. 10d., and 120 miles for 12s. 2d. The corresponding rates in this district are:—40 miles, 8s. 9d.; 80 miles, 12s. 3d.; and 120 miles, 16s. 7d.

In addition to this large excess in the rates above-mentioned, a circular has been recently issued by a combination of eight of the local railways, completely disorganising the local trade in hay and straw, by requiring farmers and traders to pay 30s. per week for the temporary storage of hay or straw on trucks, which costs the railway companies not more than 5s per week, a profit of 500 per cent.

It is generally agreed that it is in the interests of the nation and the railways alike that agriculture and its allied trades should be fairly treated.

The Great Eastern, the North Eastern, and the London and South Western Railway Companies, under the management of such leaders in the railway world as Lord Claude Hamilton (chairman also of the Clearing House Committee and of the Railway Companies' Association), Sir Charles Owens, and Sir George Gibb, have found it possible to be just to agriculture and at the same time pay a fair dividend to their shareholders. The deputation desire that this policy, which has been so successful elsewhere, should be applied to Lincolnshire and the Midland Counties.

It is most desirable that the deputation should be as weighty and efficient as possible, and it is earnestly hoped that every interest concerned will contribute its quota on the above date.

I shall be glad to receive the names of those who propose to attend, not later than Monday next.—Yours, &c.,

E. J. BULLEN,
Hon. Sec. the Midland Corn and Agricultural Trades Association, Ltd.

Castlegate, Newark,
December 3, 1907.

The Outlook in West Suffolk.

SIR,—Wheat sowing is practically over by this time—not much more than an average acreage has been got in. October was not a propitious month and wet having again set in, very little more is likely to be sown. Early sowings look well, and have come up evenly, thanks to the mild weather; we have only had three white frosts as yet. Mangels are a good average crop, and will all be safely stacked by the end of the month, although many farmers have been tempted to leave them out later than usual, as they would have kept on growing so long as the mild weather lasted; in fact, I do not ever remember to have seen them ripen so slowly. Swedes and turnips are a good crop, and with plenty of second-class hay and straw, keep prospects for the winter are good.

Very little demand for small holdings is met with around here; most of the replies to questions on the subject from the district council stating that there is very little land available and no demand for it.

Fat stock and root shows are the order of the day, every market around here having a show; it is a pity that a number of the smaller ones cannot amalgamate into one strong association and hold one show with regulations that would exclude the professional pot hunter, and that would give the tenant farmer a chance to win with a good butcher's beast. Possibly the same society might offer acreage prizes for roots, hold a ploughing match, have classes for corn, wool, butter, dead poultry, and long employment; all of which would do much more good than the present waste of money over mammoth roots grown on the site of an old mixen.—Yours, &c., H. W. D.

December 5, 1907.

Feeding Value of Mangolds in November and April.

SIR,—I should much like the opinion of some of your practical correspondents on the comparative feeding values of mangolds in, say the months of November and April.

Most of my farmer friends tell me (indeed, I have always been taught) that mangolds are of little or no use whatever until the new year comes in.

But my own experience does not point to this. On the other hand, I have proved the contrary, so far as regards giving them to dairy cows.

Take last year for instance. Early in October I began using the leaves, as many as we could tread on a cart every day, as my pastures were absolutely bare owing to the drought. On November 1, having finished the leaves, I was in full swing with the bulbs, giving from 50 to 60 lb. per day per cow. I had to do this or my milk would have gone down to vanishing point. And it is much the same this year. Towards the end of October my milk began rapidly to decrease, so much so that although in three weeks I had seven cows calve, I had no more milk at the end than at the beginning of that period. Consequently I must do something to stay this; so I began my mangolds, about 40 lb. at first, gradually increasing a little every day until they reached their maximum 60 lb., and this had the desired effect.

I might add that during the whole of this time this year I have had abundance of grass, but it seemed of no avail to stem the decrease taking place in the quantity of milk.

Now, what I want to know is this: Why, if mangolds have double the virtue as food in the spring as compared with the autumn, why do I not get more milk then?

The conditions are and have been in past years exactly the same in every respect. I never vary my feed, except to some particular cow. It consists throughout the winter of 14 lb. hay per day in two feeds, 60 lb. mangolds carted on to the grass which they cut themselves (for I never cut any unless for a cow with no teeth), and 5lb. undecorticated cotton cake, of this latter some more, some less, according to the period of lactation.

But I get not one pint more milk in April than

Questions and Answers.

FARMING.

Rations for Dairy Cattle.—The only food I have on hand is hay, which is produced on my farm. I have everything else to buy. I object to crushed oats, as these pass through the animal undigested. At present I am giving equal parts of maize and bean meal. I think I have seen it stated in your columns that maize meal and wheat meal in equal proportions make a good ration for dairy cows.—J. W.

ANSWER: I have always found that well crushed oats are perfectly digested by dairy cows. I do not remember seeing anyone advise in these columns a mixture of equal parts of maize meal and wheat meal as a good ration for dairy cows, and I do not think such would be a good ration. A good many people advise maize meal, but I do not know that maize meal is a suitable milk food; maize germ meal is decidedly better. I should advise you to use about three pounds of undecorticated cotton cake, three pounds of bean meal, three pounds of crushed oats, and about three pounds of bran, and also about ten pounds of straw, of which half may be given long, and half chaffed and mixed with the cake and meals. If however, straw (oat straw) cannot be obtained on satisfactory terms, and you must give hay freely instead, you should reduce the bean meal to two pounds per day, and give hay *ad libitum*. If, however, straw can be obtained, as advised, you need only give about half a stone of hay per day, and I should give it the last thing at night, and the meals and cake in the morning and in the afternoon.

Soot for Grass Land.—Will you kindly inform me, through the weekly news, the best time to sow soot on grass land for hay next year? Would it do to sow it now, or would it be better to wait till spring?—F. G.

ANSWER: Soot is not used to the same extent as a fertiliser for grass land as for arable crops, but it is good for the above purpose nevertheless, as it contains some salts of ammonia and encourages quick growth. The best time to apply it would be in the early spring, before the growth of the grass commences, and from thirty to forty bushels to the acre would be a good dressing.—RUSTICUS.

VETERINARY.

Horse with Grease.—I have a six-year-old mare that has cut rings of greasy heels. It began at fore de first and now is partly over up leaving a scar, but it has begun at the back of two more feet, one forefoot. She eats all right, and is not lame; sometimes a little swelling, not much, and not heated as in some greasy legs. Perhaps you can advise as to keeping and other remedies.—B. A.

ANSWER: There are various degrees or manifestations of grease, because there are several grades of inflammation of the skin of the heel, but your case looks somewhat serious in that the fore extremities are involved, which are not so commonly affected as the hind heels. This suggests a constitutional or breed tendency. Animals of this class require very careful management, particularly in winter, or there is pretty sure to be trouble. Keep the legs as dry as possible, and provide a good clean bed in a well-drained stable. Do not clip the legs, and never wash them. When the horse comes in from work wet and muddy, remove the thick of the dirt with a scraper, and wrap the legs in flannel bandages until they are dry. Whether this will be effected before next morning depends, of course, whether the work is finished early or late, and to some extent on the circulation of the animal, but when dry brush out the dirt with a dandy brush, and apply a lotion of ½ oz each of acetate of lead and sulphate of zinc, dissolved in 1½ pints of rain water.—M.R.C.V.S.

A Shying Cob.—I have a bay cob, rising seven years, which I bought at a fair about three months ago. I bought him of a stranger, and the man said he was quiet. I find that he is a nervous pony; he shies at bicycles, and sometimes at perambulators; of course, he does not like motors, but this I expect; but I do not like the idea of shying at bicycles. He does not kick, nor bolt, but simply rushes across the road. He is quiet at other times, and has no vices. Can you give me any advice so as to try to break him of this? I have never tried ill-usage, but the other way. I might sell him, and without a loss, but do not care to be horse-dealing every day, and the pony is free and fast, and would try to keep him if I could.—J. C.

ANSWER: "Simply rushes across the road" we should consider to be quite enough, for it is a most dangerous manifestation of the habit or vice of shying, because, in the sudden rush, there may be a collision with another horse or vehicle, or if the road is clear, there is sometimes an upset from the trap running one wheel up the bank, or into the ditch. Shying proceeds from one or two causes—a nervous disposition, or defective eyesight, and the first named is the most common. In your case, seeing that the animal only shies at particular objects, it is not likely to be due to defective vision, and we assume that it is quite apart from "fulness of beans," "shortness of work," or love of displaying power which causes some horses to "play up" in the hands of inexperienced horsemen. We may take it, therefore, to be a genuine case of nervousness; or exhibition of extreme watchfulness in what the cob conceives to be a dangerous situation. The only thing to do under the circumstances is to educate the animal up to understand the bicycle. It may be useful to get some cycling friend to assist in breaking the animal to bicycles. Walk him up to the machine, and round it a few times, have it ridden past him at various speeds while he is standing still, and drive him past and alongside it. This exercise should, of course, be carried out where there is plenty of room.—M.R.C.V.S.

Pig Meal.—Will you please analyse enclosed sample of pig meal (purchased recently). Since using it I have lost one pig, and am in doubt whether to attribute the loss to the pig meal.—ANXIOUS.

ANSWER: On page 612 of the issue of the MARK LANE EXPRESS for November 18th, in the section devoted to Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs, there appeared a most useful article, headed "So-called Cheap Pig Food," to which you are advised to refer, and study. It contains a timely warning against the danger of a cheap pig food, consisting largely of cotton seed hulls, the waste product in the manufacture of decorticated cotton cake and meal, which is now being boomed on the market. A superficial examination of the sample you send shows it to consist largely of these seed shells, with a considerable proportion of grain husk. The material is, we should say, highly indigestible, and, although we cannot say, in the absence of any account of the symptoms, that it caused the death of the pig, you can draw your own conclusions.—M.R.C.V.S.

POULTRY.

Cross for Orpingtons.—I shall be glad to know best cock to mate with Orpington hens (buff). I prefer one that produces most eggs. Would a Plymouth Rock do? Are they good layers? Mine seem to be lazy. Can they be over-fed and get too fat? I give as much as they can eat morning and afternoon; soft food in the morning and corn afternoon. Shall be grateful for reliable advice.—STIBBARD.

ANSWER: We should not advise you to use a Plymouth Rock cockerel, as the progeny would be altogether too heavy and inclined to internal fatness. A Houdan cockerel would be the most profitable bird to use. The hens should be provided with plenty of scratching exercise, as this will lessen their tendency to internal fatness.

LEGAL.

Tenant's Notice.—A man hires a plot of land at a yearly rental; the owner tells him to take possession at once as the time is short to prepare the ground, and promises to come over and bring agreement for signing. The man is to fence in, owner finding materials. Owner writes he is laid up and cannot come over at present. Man takes possession, digs the ground, but no landlord comes; plants, and puts up a hut, so that he can protect his things growing by having someone staying there to look after the ground as cattle run about there. Landlord sells the land, giving the man no notice of his doing so. The buyer steps in and claims the hut and everything. Has the man any claim on the landlord?—PITSEA.

ANSWER: The hirer of the plot of ground was a yearly tenant, and the tenancy was in existence when the land was sold. Therefore the tenant is entitled to a proper notice from the new owner. The test is as follows: B, the tenant, enters into possession at the request of the landlord, and does acts which are referable only to the occupation as a tenant of the land. If the landlord declined to sign the agreement he could have brought an action for specific performance against him. Whether he could or could not have brought such an action is the test.

Tenants and the Agricultural Holdings Act.—If a landlord gives his present tenants notice to quit in view of the Agricultural Holdings Act, which comes into force on January 1, 1909, in order to bring them under a new agreement, how do those tenants stand affected under the provisions of the Act?—A READER.

ANSWER: The only section of the Act that appears likely or could have a retrospective operation is Section 4, the one you write about. Section 9 provides that the Act shall come into operation on the first day of January, 1909. Therefore nothing done in the way of terminating tenancies could possibly be affected by the Act. If the tenancy terminates at Christmas, 1908, the tenant would have a right to claim the benefits conferred by Sect. 4 in respect of additional compensation. The question is not clear if the notice given terminates a tenancy and such tenancy comes to an end after January 1, 1909, although I am of the opinion that such a case would not fall within the Act for the object aimed at in postponing the operation of the Act was to enable landlords to make fresh agreements with their tenants.

November, and if the theory quoted above is correct, surely I ought to do. As, however, I do not, I feel strongly inclined to say it should be knocked on the head altogether.

One other little matter in connection with mangolds came under my notice last year. Owing to the very late spring in this locality, I had to buy mangolds, and a neighbour having a sale, I bought 12 tons of, I think, "Golden Tankard"—anyhow, what were catalogued in the seed list as the "Dairy farmers' mangold."

My cows went on to them the day after they had finished my own (which were ordinary "Yellow Globe"), in exactly the same proportions, but they made not one iota difference in the quantity of the milk.

Now, I wonder much what I shall hear in reply to this letter.—Yours, &c.,

J. G SELLING.

Wadhurst, Sussex, December 3.

Basic Slag Analyses.

SIR,—On page 677 of your issue of the 2nd, it is stated that a sample of low grade slag, showing 27·50 per cent. of phosphate of lime, contained as much as 20·63 per cent. of free lime.

Surely this must be a mistake, as the presence of so large a quantity free—that is to say, caustic—lime would indicate a most wasteful method of manufacture, for lime is only added in sufficient quantity to remove the phosphorous and silica existing in the original iron ore. The lime therefore present in slag exists as phosphate and silicate of lime, and only 2 or 3 per cent. at the most is free or caustic lime.—Yours, &c.,

JOHN HUGHES, F.I.C.,
Agricultural Analyst.

Analytical Laboratory, 79, Mark Lane,
December 4, 1907.

*** Mr. Hughes will find the full detailed analyses of the two qualities of basic slag in Bulletin No. 10 of the Guide to Experiments for 1907, published by the County of Northumberland Education Committee.

Perhaps the analyst at the college, who made the analyses, may see Mr. Hughes' letter and favour us with a reply for publication.—ED.

Profits from Wheat Growing.

SIR,—Your correspondent "Gloucestershire" objects to the market value of the straw being included in estimating the returns from a crop of wheat, and suggests that 65s. per ton is a fictitious price for it, though this estimate of its value is borne out by the report on page viii. of the Market Supplement of your issue this week, which gives wheat straw in Derby market as being worth 60s. to 70s. per ton, and market price is a true estimate of the value either of straw or anything else. To use the word "impoverishing" in connection with land that has grown 6 qr. of wheat to the acre, and has had applied to it for the succeeding crop (roots) 25 tons dung made by cattle eating corn and cake, 5 cwt. bones, and 2 cwt. nitrate of soda per acre, is absurd. Your correspondent would be interested to know how often I am able to grow wheat on the same acre of ground.

My rotation of cropping is wheat, roots, barley, seeds, oats, wheat; and my contention is, that in a grass country, where straw is valuable, wheat is as paying a crop to grow as any other; and a knowledge of this fact is less likely to mislead, than is an attempt to prove that farmers continue to grow wheat at a loss, which neither I nor anyone else believes they either would or could do.

As I stated in the first half of my former letter on this subject, farming is not a paying occupation as things have been the last twenty years; and no class knows this better than landlords, who know that the circumstances of the majority of their tenants would not permit them to pay higher rents, even if they were willing to try to go on farming at an increased rent.

It is a mistake for farmers to try to make out out that every crop they raise is grown at a loss; but this has been the cry for so long that it has become the general belief that a farmer should not make any profit, and if he can be got to admit that his balance-sheet shows a few pounds to the right, his rent must be increased at once, so that he may be restored to a position that gives him the privilege of lamenting his losses. "Gloucestershire" insinuates that it is not practicable to grow 6 qr. of corn and 2 tons of straw on an acre of wheat, but many readers of your paper will know that this has been done on exceptional occasions. I myself have had the yield twice in my time—once in the year 1891 and again in 1905—but of course such a crop cannot be expected to be got very often.

No matter how well the land may be farmed or the crop managed, more than 4 qr. of wheat per acre cannot be relied upon.

It is possible to force a big crop of straw any year if you have enough plant; but if this is overdone the crop will be laid, and the quantity and quality of the grain decreased, while the cost of cutting will be increased.

Four quarters of wheat at 35s. would be £7, and the straw from an acre of average wheat would be worth £5 to sell here, and therefore should be valued at that price if kept; for unless the owner wanted it either for thatch or bedding, he would not think of keeping it for its manurial value alone, because he could buy something far more valuable for that purpose with the money.—Yours, &c., A. J. R.

December 4, 1907.

Where is the Flail still in Use?

SIR,—Thanks to your valuable paper I have received replies from Essex, Sussex, and Devon on the subject, in each case the answer being in the affirmative. Would some of your readers in other counties give me the result of their knowledge.—Yours, &c., H. W. LEWER.

Priors, Loughton, Essex, December 5, 1907.

Midland Notes.

WE have had our first taste of genuine wintry weather. Warwickshire has seen but a thin powdering of snow, and that not universal; but the North Stafford and Shropshire hill country has been thickly covered. Here, in the centre of England, the trouble is with floods. It is impossible to say how many square miles are under water or are just now emerging as the waters subside; but I can answer for big tracts of land beside the Avon, between Warwick and Brandon, and for much low-lying land in the Leam and Sowe valleys. Round about Hunningham, Bubbenhall, and Kenilworth many cattle have had to be removed from flooded fields—sometimes not without difficulty.

IT is only by good fortune that no loss of human life has to be recorded. A Coleshill farmer (Mr. Johnson) had an extremely unpleasant experience lately, when the horse he was riding was carried off its feet by the torrent when crossing what is usually a very trifling ford; and a labourer from Spernal, near Studley, fared worse when both the horse he was driving and the milk float behind were swept away down the brook near Studley Station. In this case a rescue was effected with difficulty.

IF it be found possible to bring the 1908 Warwickshire Show to Aston Park—as is proposed—the fixture ought to be assured of popular success. Aston, to all intents and purposes, is still part of Birmingham, although it has nowadays a mayor and corporation of its own; and the park stands in the midst of a thickly-crowded urban and suburban population, to whom anything in the nature of an agricultural show will have all the fascination of an entire novelty.

THE only difficulty in the way is that of raising the necessary fund of some £300. But there are so many wealthy manufacturers, shopkeepers, and professional men in the district, many of whom stand to gain by any large incursion of visitors from other parts, that this should present no serious obstacle.

EVESHAM fruit-growers (as was foreshadowed in this column recently) have their desire. The order for the burning of mildewed gooseberry bushes is to be withdrawn, and another order substituted, requiring only spraying and cutting back. Let us hope that with the change the last has been heard for the present of a pest which has caused more trouble, anxiety, and general uncertainty than anything for many years past. Let us hope also that Worcestershire may not have to pay in the future more heavily than ever for the concession to local feeling. For if entire destruction of affected bushes were justifiable when the disease was thought a new and very rare one, is it not paradoxical to adopt gentler measures now that it is known to be well established and fairly common? Destruction without hope of compensation, however, would have been ruinous to many small men.

THERE was an echo of the hopping season at the last meeting of the Staffordshire Education Committee. That body, it seems, is not content with the provision commonly made for Black Country hop-pickers in the gardens of Worcester and Hereford. It sent a superintendent of school attendance officers to make investigations, and that gentleman has reported that he found the sleeping accommodation and sanitary arrangements primitive; also that children not engaged in picking were discovered "rolling about among the vines," probably enjoying the experience as thoroughly as middle-class children enjoy rolling about the sands of the seashore.

ACTING, however, upon this report, the committee has decided not to adjust the holidays to fit in with the picking season. It will therefore go on, as in the past, losing grants because the parents will insist upon the customary country outing, and duly prosecuting them for carrying the youngsters with them.

KIDDERMINSTER has begun well in preparing for next year's visit of the Hereford and Worcester Show. The local committee, which has just been formed, is a strong one, with Messrs. Joseland and C. Lawley as secretaries, and Mr. Michael Tomkinson as treasurer. The Hereford Society held its show at Kidderminster in 1893, and it was from the circumstance of the fixture being held there that the idea of amalgamating the two county societies originated.

December 5, 1907.

Northern Notes.

MUCH misconception exists about the Small Holdings Act. An agricultural labourer who had saved a bit of money went into a lawyer's office and said he wanted a small holding, fully expecting to be supplied with a bit of land almost immediately. Why should there be any delay, he argued, when there was an Act of Parliament which says a man is entitled to a small farm if he only asks for it? This is the sort of ignorance with which the councils have to deal.

TO clear the air of wrong notions, and to bring the knowledge of the people up to date, the member for the Buckrose Division of Yorkshire has been asked by a parish council, and he has consented, to give an address on the Small Holdings Act in a public hall, and he will no doubt, as he did (before entering Parliament) in 1894, carry his lecture to other places in his widely-scattered and purely agricultural constituency.

I HAVE heard that in all parts of Yorkshire there will be a big demand for small holdings. In a North Yorkshire district, whenever a small farm is to let, the applications for it are very numerous. A correspondent, giving his experiences of what has happened in the northern part of this county, says he saw in a moorland district several large farms that were partially gone out of cultivation. Forty years ago he had seen on one of these farms after harvest a very large stackyard of oats and barley; this year he saw but two small round stacks, some of the buildings were down, and looked almost deserted. He passed three or four such places in the same deserted state, and one of them was a farm on which, as a lad, he had helped to thrash with the steamer for four days at a stretch, but not a stack was to be seen and scarcely a building.

THE remedy for this state of affairs may perhaps be found in splitting up the land into small lots. At one time it was said the owners of these half-derelict lands were too poor to build. Now the same correspondent thinks they are too rich, as they are planting everywhere, and fast turning it into a game forest. Some of this same land used to grow 7 to 9 qr. of oats to the acre. Bad roads and steep are a drawback, as well as the distance from a railway. But county councils and landlords combined could work wonders in effecting a transformation.

MANY North Country people will be "in town" this week for the Smithfield Show, and they would do well to take advantage of Earl Carrington's "At Home" at the Board of Agriculture on Wednesday and Thursday. The President has always shown a lively interest in the work of his department, and he has won the confidence of those engaged on the land; and having a thoroughly practical knowledge of what is wanted, the farmers who visit him this week in London, and who have not previously made his acquaintance, are sure to be charmed with his personality. He is a West Yorkshire farmer, and "a right good fellow!"

A PHASE of the small holdings question that seems to have escaped particular notice is of special interest to large farmers. I allude to the possibility of the best among the foremen desiring to cultivate a bit of land on their own account, and, as the services of first-class foremen are not always obtainable, the point is a serious one for farmers who naturally regard with some degree of apprehension, the working of an Act that may, they think, prove inimical to their interests. Our rural district councils are largely made up of the farming element, and uncertainty as to the future and the effects of farming on a small scale have not conduced to eagerness of inquiry on their part whether the demand for small holdings has or has not a tangible existence. At any rate, the rural councillors are not willing advocates of small holdings.

December 6, 1907.

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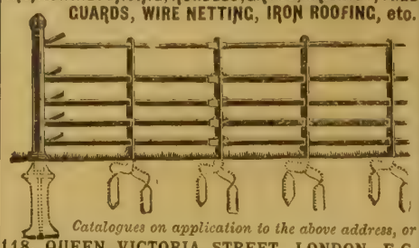
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POULTRY.

Turkeys: Fattening for Christmas Markets.

As Christmas fare the turkey has gradually been ousting all other kinds of poultry from public favour, and it now stands alone as the most highly appreciated dish of the festive season. Everybody who can afford to buy a turkey will have one on Christmas Day, and the goose, which at one time was the universal dish, has taken a back seat. The result of this change of taste is that the price of turkeys has gone up steadily, and there is no doubt that turkey raising is now one of the most profitable branches of the poultry industry. With the exception of a few big farms, where turkeys are raised by men, the industry is almost exclusively in the hands of the women of the British Islands, and so well are the various processes, from the mating up of the breeding-pens to the hatching of the poults and the fattening and killing of them, carried out, that there is no danger that anybody who wants a turkey at Christmas will have to do without it—if he can pay the price.

From Stubbles to Sheds.

The time is now at hand when turkeys must be put through a special course of fattening, with the object of bringing them up to the greatest possible weight, by furnishing their large frames with meat of the best quality that a judicious system of feeding can produce. For corn growers the year has been a bad one, and on almost every farm there is a large quantity of damaged corn, but this is all in favour of the turkey raiser, and by liberal feeding now farmers who have a large flock of turkeys may make up for some of the loss occasioned by a wretched harvest. There seems to be a shortage in the turkey crop as compared with past years, but it is noticeable that the birds are particularly well grown and in better condition than they have been in mid-November of other years, and this is due to the liberal stubble feeding which they have enjoyed. But the stubbles are now practically cleared of grain, and in order that turkeys may lose nothing of the condition which they have gained they should be moved at once to the fattening sheds. Whilst being fattened turkeys must be confined to a house or shed, and as there are few farmers who have a special house for this purpose, it is generally necessary to make use of any farm building that can be spared for a few weeks. These birds will not thrive in a close atmosphere, and ordinary fowl-houses are too small and stuffy for their comfort, but if there is a large open barn, cow-shed, wood-shed, or some building of this kind, it can be temporarily converted into a fattening-shed. Plenty of ventilation is what they want, and if one side of the house is open, it is all the better for turkeys, and they can be fenced in by means of wire netting, but as they are restless when there is too much light passing into the house, it is advisable to cover the netting with an awning of thin canvas, or the opening may be closed by canvas alone. Houses which are not open on one side, but which have large windows, may be made suitable by taking out the windows and substituting netting or very thin canvas. The floor of the house should be well littered with straw, and it is not a bad plan to put in a few low perches.

First Fortnight's Fattening.

For the first two weeks or so after turkeys have been first confined they will eat freely without being crammed, provided that their foods are palatably prepared and that they are allowed out of doors for their meals. I have found it advisable to have a yard attached to the house and to let the birds into this morning and evening for an hour or so. In the morning they are fed mash in troughs, and are also supplied with a tub of milk to drink from, and plenty of grit and charcoal in a corner of the yard. Mash made up of the following stuffs has been found quite suitable:—Three parts barley-meal, three parts maizemeal, three parts ground oats, five parts boiled potatoes, five parts boiled turnips, and one part linseed meal containing 12 per cent. of oil. Let the whole be mixed dry and then moistened to a crumbly consistency by the addition of skim-milk. The evening meal may also be fed in troughs, and may consist of grains of various sorts, cracked or rolled and fed dry. Oats, maize, barley, and wheat are suitable, but I consider a mixture of equal parts barley and oats best, as these grains yield flesh of fine and firm quality, which is an important consideration.

Cramming with Pellets.

It is generally observed that, after a couple of weeks' feeding in confinement, turkeys lose appetite, and it then becomes necessary to finish them by cramming. A system largely in vogue amongst farmers' wives is cramming with pellets, and the process may be described thus:—The food consists of finely ground barley and oats with about 10 per cent. of melted tallow or fat, mixed with skim milk to form a stiff paste. The food is kneaded into pellets by the feeder, who is generally a woman, and she sits on a low stool, with a pailful of the food and a large bowl of milk by her side. The turkey is taken between the knees, its mouth is opened, and the pellets are dipped in the milk and slipped down the gullet. The pellets are made about the size of a finger, and a cock turkey will take from 1 lb. to 1½ lb. of them at a meal, whilst a hen may take ¾ lb. Turkeys are crammed in this way twice a day for about a fortnight, and enormous increases in weight are made by large-framed, healthy birds.

Cramming by Machine.

This process is very similar to the "Sussex" method of cramming chickens, and the same machine may be used for both purposes, although it is usual to have a longer nozzle for turkeys. The birds are confined to a house as in the methods described, and having been fed in the natural way for a fortnight, they are crammed for the remainder of the time until fat. I have known cocks to gain 6 lb. each in a fortnight by this process, and hens have increased by 4 lb., and although the cramming of turkeys by machines is not commonly practised, I have no doubt that it is the most satisfactory and profitable method. The birds must be crammed twice a day, filling the crop at each meal, and then returning them to their shed, which should be kept nearly dark. The food must be semi-liquid, in order to pass through the nozzle, and may consist as before of barley meal, finely-ground oats, and skim-milk, with tallow at the rate of 2 to 3 oz. for each bird per day—not per meal, as has sometimes been recommended. When large turkeys are to be crammed, a wooden stand or table should be made, upon which they may be placed to raise them level with the machine, as they can hardly be taken under the arm, as fowls and small turkeys are held. The flesh of turkeys crammed with semi-liquid food is said to be superior in quality to that of turkeys crammed by any other process.

H. DE COURCY.



Photo by] A FIRST PRIZE PARTRIDGE COCHIN COCK. *[Clarke and Hyde.*

Winter Eggs.

"Eggs are eggs" now, and it should be the aim of everyone who keeps fowls to endeavour to produce them at this season. Of course, it is easier said than done; but, nevertheless, there are many who are doing it. In the first place, the birds must be housed comfortably—that is to say, there must not be too many crowded together so that the house is stuffy, otherwise the birds will feel a great change when leaving the house on cold, damp mornings; there should be, however, an efficient system of ventilation, so planned above the heads of the birds as to avoid draughts; clean nest boxes, with some soft hay, and a dummy egg must be provided.

All the early pullets and those hens which were the first to moult should be selected and separated from the later pullets and hens. Good food, with a proportion of meat, a mixture of good biscuit meal and meat, should be prepared with hot water, not enough to make it pasty, but just as much as the meal will absorb. This should be allowed to stand about half an hour, and then dried off with barley meal or thirds, so as to make a crumbly mixture, fed warm, as much as the birds will clear up in about five minutes, in the early morn, and a feed of sound oats or wheat, one handful per bird, in the afternoon about 4 p.m., is sufficient for birds on free range (this being a farmers' journal, it is assumed that the majority of birds have free run).

The houses should have a southerly or south-easterly aspect, so that the full benefit of the sun may be obtained, and, where possible, the position should be sheltered by hedges or banks from north and east winds.

H. C. C.

Sitting Hens and Strange Nests.

When fowls are set in a strange nest it is best to put them on their new nest at night unless very tame. They should never be forced or hurried, and should be placed in front of the nest they are to occupy, with a few common eggs in it, when they will generally take to it at once, and if not disturbed again too soon they will stick to it and sit well.

One way of making hens sit is to take the bird and let her stand in front of the nest, holding her in front of the breast by one hand, and then stroking her gently with the other from head to tail, just as one would stroke a cat or dog, then place the left hand in the same position as the right one with which the bird was held, and draw the fingers of the right hand underneath the beak and down the neck. Nothing else will tame broody hens half as much as this treatment.

Hens that have travelled a journey or been removed should be put into a coop and fed well with hard corn and water. They should then be placed on the nest like this in the evening and covered in so that they are partly in the dark, and should be allowed to remain on the nest all the next day and taken off the day after. This ensures that they will be well settled down before being disturbed. For the first few days they should be fed in a coop or other small place; if not, they become very wild, and will not go back to the nest.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

The Functions of Fertilisers.

It may be taken for granted that every farmer knows that the essential ingredients to be replaced in the soil as plant food, to restore those extracted by the crop, are nitrogen, phosphoric acid, lime, and potash, or ammonia, phosphate of lime, and potash, according to the nomenclature generally adopted in this country.

The part which each of these ingredients fulfils in the organism of plants, and the interdependence of one ingredient with another, are not exactly known, and the object of continued investigation, but, generally speaking, the following functions are attributed to them :—

Nitrogen is indispensable and enters into the composition of all the organs of a plant. It is nitrogen which gives to vegetable products, thus to cereals, those nutritive qualities which have rendered them valuable as nourishment for man and animal from time immemorial. It is nitrogen that produces the albuminoids in hay, the flesh of animals, and the caseine in milk. It is the want of this ingredient that causes the leaves of corn in the spring to be yellow, a sure indication that a dose of nitrate of soda should be prescribed.

Phosphoric Acid is found in every part of plants, but accumulates more especially in the seed. It is the principal constituent in the bone formation of man and animals, and where it is wanting in the soil plants grow feebly and animals do not thrive. In some parts of Europe where the character of the soil is granitic and deficient in phosphoric acid, both horses and cattle remain small in statue and feeble. Their bones are so weak and brittle that they possess no resisting power, and have been known to break from a mere blow. In such districts the liberal use of basic slag and superphosphate will gradually make an enormous change.

Potash.—Potash is always abundant in the ash of plants. When this constituent is deficient the plant cannot grow vigorously, because in the absence of a sufficient supply of potash the green matter of the plant is not able to elaborate those substances which are indispensable for the formation of new organs.

Lime plays an important rôle in the soil in causing the decomposition of animal and vegetable matter, in promoting nitrification, in rendering the soil potash soluble, &c. It is also utilised to a small extent by the plant as plant-food, but its principal advantage is more in the way of its action on other ingredients in the soil.

Now if one or other of the elements is naturally abundant in an available condition in the soil, it would be waste to apply further quantities in the form of artificials ; but, on the other hand, if one is deficient, the plant cannot make proper use of the others.

The crop is then governed by what is termed the "law of the minimum" ; it can grow only up to the limit of the ingredient present in insufficient quantity.

In this respect plants may be compared to a stone mason, who with different materials, sand, lime, and water, compounds mortar. But of what use to him would be a big heap of sand if he had no lime. He could only make as much mortar as the lime would suffice for, and similarly with the other materials if one was lacking.

In the same way a plant requires all the constituents for its growth ; if one is present in insufficient quantity, its growth is arrested when that limited quantity is used up.

Are Phosphate and Potash washed out of the Soil?

It is said that the best time to apply basic slag and kainit is in the autumn or early winter, as by this early application the phosphoric acid in the slag becomes available for the plants in the spring, when they start growing, and the potash in the kainit improves in condition, having parted during the winter months with the proportion of chlorides which are not desirable for the crop.

But the question is often asked whether, with such early application, there is not a great risk of loss of the valuable constituents from being washed out during the heavy winter rains, especially in meadows and pastures which are subject to being flooded, or, if not washed away, washed too deeply into the soil.

It might naturally be assumed that this would be the case, but experience shows that there is not much ground for such apprehension, especially if the heavy rain does not come directly after the application of the manures. Certainly with basic slag there is no danger. It is not in a water soluble condition. Both its valuable constituents—phosphoric acid and lime—are absorbed so quickly and intimately by the soil, and, moreover, the slag, in consequence of its weight, lies so near to the soil that it could not be washed away.

With regard to the kainit, we cannot speak with the same certainty ; it is possible that in case of heavy floods a portion of the potash may be washed away or washed too deeply in the soil. The potash being soluble may be lost, but it may also be assumed that a large proportion of the kainit is retained by the soil.

Experiments indicate that this is the case, because meadows to which kainit has been applied in the autumn have shown great benefit from the application, even although the autumn and winter were subject to heavy rain.

It may, however, be prudent not to apply kainit to low-lying meadow in the autumn, but to give them a dressing of sulphate of potash in the spring ; the application of kainit to meadows in the spring is not to be recommended, as the chlorides act unfavourably on the quality of the herbage.

Potato Culture.

The results of trials with fertilisers on potatoes have shown conclusively that potash is of supreme importance for the crop, and that the best artificial form in which it can be applied is sulphate of potash.

The summary of the results obtained in the field trials of the Midland Agricultural Institute affords useful information. It was as follows :—

1. Where farmyard manure alone is applied to the potato crop, moderately heavy dressings (up to 20 tons per acre) may profitably be given.

2. The largest profit was realised on the plot where a small dressing of dung was supplemented with a moderate dressing of artificials, as follows :—

10 tons farmyard manure.
2 cwt. nitrate of soda.
4 cwt superphosphate.
1½ cwt. sulphate of potash.

3. Artificials alone give considerable profit when applied in moderately large dressings, but are not so good as artificials and dung together.

4. The dressing of artificials only, which gave the best results, was the following :—

1½ cwt. sulphate of ammonia.
4 cwt. superphosphate.
1½ cwt. sulphate of potash.

5. It pays better to supply nitrogen to the potato crop, in the form of sulphate of ammonia, than as nitrate of soda.

6. Dissolved bones do not give such good results as when the same amount of phosphoric acid is applied in the form of superphosphate

7. When equal amounts of potash are used, sulphate of potash has a more beneficial effect upon the potato crop than either muriate or kainit.

8. Very heavy dressings of artificials may give a heavier crop, but are not so profitable as moderately large applications, and are, therefore, not to be recommended.

It may be noted that the dressing of artificials mentioned in paragraph 4 as giving the best results was equal to 7 cwt. per acre of a fertiliser with an analysis of :—

5 to 7 per cent ammonia.
15 to 17 ,, ,, soluble phosphate.
10 to 11 ,, ,, potash.

and would cost at to-day's prices somewhere about £6 10s. per ton.

Importance of Nitrogen.

In a soil of medium quality, poor in nitrogen and phosphoric acid, the supply of nitrogen in fertilisers plays a *rôle* four times as important from the point of view of crop increase, as that of phosphoric acid or potash, according to the report of Professor Grandeau, on the result of his experiments.

The results, obtained in the course of his experiments conducted over a series of years, explain the excellent and, in deed, sometimes extraordinary effect produced by the application of nitrate of soda to the soil. In spite of the high price of the fertiliser, its use, according to the opinion of the professor, is profitable. Its consumption throughout the world continues to increase yearly to such an extent that its exhaustion within a number of years not very remote is looked forward to with some anxiety, although within recent years science has unlocked the door to supplies from other sources which will be plentiful and, it may be hoped, cheap long before the nitrate deposits in Chili have been entirely exhausted.

Correspondence dealing with Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs appears in the regular correspondence columns of the paper. We think it unnecessary to publish the table of unit values in each issue. It will be published in an early issue of each month.

Result of an Analysis.

Compound Feeding Cake of an Inferior Quality.

To the Editor of the MARK LANE EXPRESS.

DEAR SIR,—I send you a piece of compound cake which I have purchased — 4 tons — to feed young stock during winter along with crushed oats. They don't seem to care about the cake, but eat the oats. Being a constant reader of your paper, I send sample of the cake to you so that you can publish its percentages and feeding qualities, &c. Invoiced as 8 per cent. oil and 24 per cent. albuminoids ; price per ton £6 15s.

ANXIOUS.

Result of Analysis.

Moisture	14·25
Oil	6 07
Albuminoids	20·37
Carbohydrates	39·74
Indigestible fibre	11·87
*Mineral matter	7 70
	100 00
*Containing sand	2 30

The sample is much below the guarantee ; moreover it contains a very large amount of sand, and consequently is not fit for young stock. They show their good sense in preferring the oats.

Compound Fertilisers.

Should a farmer buy the ingredients of a complete fertiliser separately and mix them himself, or should he buy the complete fertiliser ready made from a manufacturer ?

We are of opinion, for reasons given more than once in these columns, that the latter course is the best, so long as the buyer gets the manure from a good firm and stipulates for a guaranteed analysis. He can also stipulate from what sources the ingredients are to be derived.

On this subject the remarks of an American agricultural paper seem applicable. The term "complete" fertiliser, writes the paper, covers a great many forms of plant food. A fertiliser may be complete for one crop or on a certain soil, yet be incomplete for some other crop, or under other conditions.

The real complete fertiliser is that which is intimately mixed by special machinery at a factory, and under the supervision of those who fully understand how to perform the work.

One of the greatest injuries done to the American farmer is that of inducing him to suppose that the raw materials can be mixed on a barn floor with a shovel and a sand screen. The impossibility of even experienced handlers of fertilisers performing such work with the aid of crude appliances should be considered.

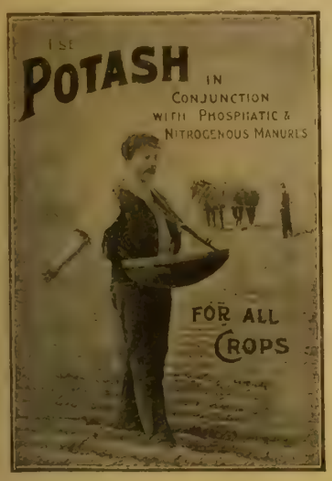
That farmers, who do not understand fully the requirements of their soils and crops, and who should have their plant foods in the finest possible condition for use, should be advised to mix raw materials on a barn floor, it is to be deplored, as such farmers will not thus procure fertilisers at the lowest cost, they will be disappointed in results and they will suffer a loss which could be avoided by using a complete and thoroughly mixed plant food.

Those who have advocated home-mixing in years past have exposed their lack of information of factory methods, for it is a fact that in order to render raw materials fine, dry, and have them intimately mixed so that the crops can receive food uniformly it may be necessary under some circumstances to run the materials through the machinery a second time, sometimes depending upon the weather and the nature of the material. The strongest crushers and grinders, the most complete screening arrangement, and the most improved mixers must be resorted to, in order to put upon the market products sufficiently uniform to permit of samples being taken for analysis. A hundred samples might be taken from a ton of home-mixed fertiliser and no two of them would be even nearly alike, for the reason that it is impossible to perform such mixing without the machinery for so doing.

Potatoes for Cows.

It has been observed that when potatoes in a raw state are supplied in any quantity to cows, they act injuriously on the quality of the milk and the butter made from it. The fat contents of the milk are diminished, and the milk acquires a bitter flavour, which becomes more marked as the supply of potatoes is increased.

In order to obviate these defects the potatoes should be steamed. They can then be given without the fear of unfavourable results, and their use can be recommended. Care must, however, be taken that only sound potatoes are employed. Diseased or frost-bitten tubers act very injuriously on the health of the cows, and consequently on the yield and quality of the milk.



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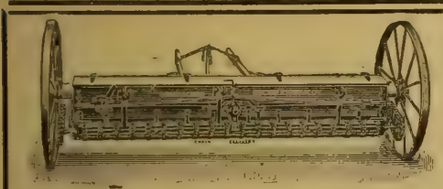
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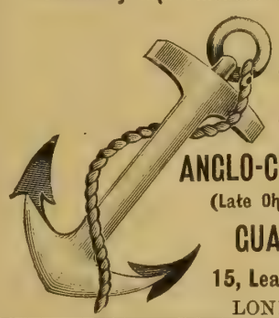
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FEEDING VALUE **is the OTHER SIDE of the question,**

AND

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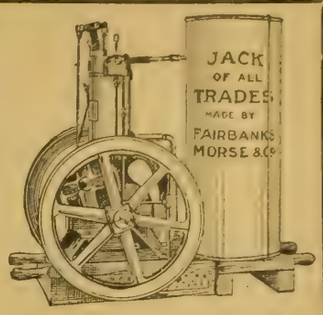


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Mark Lane Express
Agricultural Journal
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DECEMBER 9, 1907.

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Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "Mark Lane Express," 8, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

THE CATTLE SHOW.

The 109th show of the Smithfield Club, which opened this morning in the Agricultural Hall, Islington, worthily maintains the high standard achieved by previous exhibitions. A most satisfactory entry was obtained. Exhibits from all the principal feeders in the United Kingdom, comprising 281 head of cattle, 158 pens of sheep, and 150 pens of pigs, are on view.

The prize money, as compared with 1906, shows several alterations, and the first is a reduction in the total amount offered. This year the sum is £4,113 16s. 6d., as compared with £4,152 6s. 2d. last year, so that there is a decrease of £38 9s. 8d. The amount, however, still allows of handsome prizes in all sections, and there is no actual reduction in the class prizes or specials, which remain at the same amount as last year. The cause of the reduced total is the elimination of one or two classes which have not met with sufficient support, and have as a result been allowed to drop out.

A notable example of this is that Cotswold sheep, which used to have, like other breeds, a section to themselves with a special breed award, have gradually dwindled, until this year they are swallowed up in the section for Devons or any other long-woolled breed. This section now also includes the South Devons, which last year only numbered one. Cheviots only totalled two in two classes, so that exhibitors of these particular breeds have only themselves to blame for the loss of a section at the premier Christmas show of Great Britain.

There is another omission to note in the sheep section; this is that the section for Dorset sheep has only one class this year, it being for lambs under twelve months old, and none for wethers.

Last year the section for Small White or Black pigs failed to attract an entry, and the result is the section does not figure in the Agricultural Hall to-day. On the other hand, the porker class suitable for the London trade was so successful last year that two more classes have been added.

The champion beast may win £260 and the King's Challenge Cup, the champion pen of sheep £110 and the Prince of Wales's Challenge Cup, and the champion pen of pigs £70 and the Prince Christian's Challenge Cup.

The carcase competitions, for which separate entries are made, is as popular as ever, the entries comprising thirty-three cattle, sixty-five sheep, and thirty-four pigs. These animals are exhibited alive on Monday, and their carcases on the Wednesday of the show. In addition to the prizes offered by the Club, valuable challenge cups are offered by the Butchers' Company of London in each section of this competition, the holders of which also receive the Club's silver medals.

LANCASHIRE CHEESE.

Some time ago in this Journal reference was made to the progress of cheese-making in Lancashire, and the cultivation of the public taste for this famous product of the farms in the Red Rose county. Preston has just had a great dairy show and cheese fair, and a very imposing display was made in the public hall, on the lines of the great show at Chester.

Few people appear to have heard of Lancashire cheese outside of the county, nor is Cheshire cheese so well-known as it might be in some parts of the four northern counties. Both Lancashire and Cheshire produce an article of very fine quality—second to none in the opinion of many connoisseurs. A description of Lancashire cheese is summed up in these words: "The mildest, the meatiest, and the sweetest in the Kingdom." The chief foreign supplies have filled most of

the shops of South Lancashire towns and cities for many years; but lately the praises of the home manufactured article have been sounded far and near, and there appears to be a well-assured future before the producers.

The Earl of Derby is president of the new society, and he is backed by a very influential committee, who are likely to make it a great power for usefulness. There were nearly 150 entries in the cheese classes alone. The opening day was brilliantly fine, and the sun shone down into the hall in glorious effulgence, showing to the best advantage the pyramids of golden-hued Lancashire cheese. The cheese was wonderful for appearance, texture, and flavour, and in a season not of the best, reflected the greatest credit upon the farmers. If anybody in these days has a good article to sell, all the publicity possible should be given to it.

Lancashire, already famous by reason of its cotton industry and its own "Royal" show, may establish another claim to notoriety through its cheese.

Notes of the Week.

Norwich and Birmingham Fat Stock Shows being over, the centre of agricultural interest is now the London Smithfield Show.

Founded in 1789, it has always been the most important, and this year will fully main its reputation.

Many important agricultural meetings take place during the week.

Lord Carrington will be "at home" at his official residence on Wednesday and Thursday to all farmers.

And he will be present at the annual dinner of the Farmers' Club and Central Chambers of Agriculture on the 10th inst.

Rust disease in wheat is said to cause an annual loss of over £100,000,000 in the world's crop.

But "Trusts" disease probably causes a good deal more.

The Meat Trust disease—Chicagoensis ma'odoura—is now invading this country.

Nearly 80 per cent. of the meat consumed in London comes from abroad.

What is a "downer"? It is, in Chicago phrase, a bullock too weak and ill to stand up.

It is, as they say over there, rustled over to the slaughterhouse to save its life!

What is a "canner"? It is a diseased bullock slaughtered and canned for consumption.

What are "spread-bells," "lumpy jaws," and "animated skeletons," which, according to American report, find their way to the slaughter-houses.

This year such trash is said to be abnormally plentiful.

Our Fat Show Stock forms a pleasant contrast.

The moral is, buy British bred and British fed meat.

Motorists request that owners of hedges along country roads and lanes will cut them down, so that the view may not be obstructed.

Motorists show so much consideration for others that the proprietors will promptly spoil the beauty of their hedges to oblige them.

It may be noted that there is a Bill before the Belgian Parliament to tax motors for the up keep of the roads.

The tax will vary from 8s. on motor cycles to over £8 on big motor cars.

We were startled the other day to note that a woman, in giving evidence, told the judge that her husband was a highwayman.

It turned out that he did not belong to what was known as "the profession of the road," but was simply employed in the prosaic occupation of a road-mender.

The collection of fruit at the Royal Horticultural Society's Show was worth a visit.

It contained specimens of the best fruit grown in different parts of the British Empire, from the luscious and curious fruits of the tropics to the fruit grown far north in Canada.

What are bananas? asked the teacher. A group of islands in the West Indies was the reply.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10.—First Shilling Day at the Smithfield Club's Show at Islington, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.—Annual Dinner of the Farmers' Club and Central Chamber of Agriculture, 7 p.m. at the Criterion, Lord Desborough in the Chair; Lord Carrington to reply for Agriculture—Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes addresses the Leicestershire Chamber of Agriculture at Melton Mowbray—Leeds Fat Stock Market, first day—Special Sales of Fat Stock at Ipswich, Lynn, and Hull—Farmers' Christmas Fat Stock Show and Sale at Preston—Fat Stock Sale at Hitchin—Cattle Fairs at Bath, Melton Mowbray, Haverfordwest, Knaresborough, and Rugeley.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11.—Smithfield Show at Islington continued—Lord Carrington At Home, 4, Whitehall Place, noon—Special Meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society at Islington, 2 p.m.—Denbigh Great Pig Fair—Show of Table Poultry at Islington, first day—Great Horse Sale at Peterborough—Annual Dinner of the Estate Agents' Institute, 6.30 p.m. at De Keyser's Hotel—Leeds Fat Stock Market, second day—Barnstaple Fat Stock Show—Edenbridge Fat Stock Show—Aylesbury Fat Stock Show—Dublin Fat Stock Show—Malmesbury Annual Fat Stock Market; and Teagle's Sale of Shorthorns—Council Meeting of the Central Chamber of Agriculture—Middlesex Fat Stock Show at Southall—The Lord Mayor opens the Meat Market Abattoirs at Islington, 3 p.m.—Brackley Sheep Fair—Cattle Fairs at Gloucester, Ringwood, Narberth, Baldwood, Petersfield, Boston, and Abingdon.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12.—Smithfield Show at Islington continued—Lord Carrington At Home, 4, Whitehall Place, noon—Leeds Fat Stock Market, third day—Show of Table Poultry at Islington, second day—Maidstone Annual Fat Stock Show—Maidstone Annual Agricultural Dinner, Lord Castlereagh, M.P., in the Chair—Hunters Improvement Society's Meeting, 12, Hanover Square—Plymouth Fat Stock and Poultry Show—Romsey Show—Cattle Fairs at St. Neots and Retford.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13.—Smithfield Show at Islington, last day—Leicester Agricultural Fair—Cattle Fairs at Leyburn, Kimbolton, and Leominster—Great Horse Sale at Derby—Pony Society's Meeting, 12, Hanover Square—Fat Stock Show at Yeovil.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14.—Norwich Christmas Market—Kingston Christmas Market—Buckingham Great Fair.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16.—Ashford Cattle Show, first day—Bridgnorth Great Fair—Cattle Fairs at York, Bedale, Warwick, and Welshpool.

Royal Agricultural Society's Annual Report.

The annual general meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society will be held in the Club Room at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, on Wednesday next, the 11th inst., at 2 p.m.

The report of the council to be presented at this meeting is a very lengthy one, covering the whole of the work of the society during the past year, but the details have already been made public in the report of the various meetings held, so that we need only give one or two points not previously dealt with. Of these the chief, perhaps, is that dealing with

The Membership,

for it is recorded that, despite the fact that 629 governors and members joined the society during the year, the net increase was only seventy, owing to the losses through deaths, resignations, &c., having been the large one of 659. The cause of the loss is as follows:—Deaths, 3 governors, 92 life members, 154 annual members, and 1 honorary member; 31 members have been struck off the books under By-law 12, owing to absence of addresses; 61 under By-law 13, for arrears of subscription; and 1 governor and 216 annual members have resigned.

The total number of governors and members now on the register is 9,690, divided as follows:—One foundation life governor, 171 annual governors, 91 life governors, 6,308 annual members, 3,090 life members, 29 honorary members.

The Lincoln Show.

The show of Lincoln and the arrangements for next year's exhibition at Newcastle naturally received a good deal of attention. As regards Lincoln it is reported that the number of visitors—133,006—is the largest since the Cardiff meeting in 1901, when the attendance was 167,423, whilst as to the financial success of the Lincoln Show, it is estimated that the profit will be £5,056, in addition to which there will be the contribution of £2,000 from the ordinary funds of the society to the show account.

Prizes at Newcastle.

Coming to the Newcastle Show, it is pointed out that the date fixed is Tuesday, June 30, to Saturday, July 4, and that the prize sheet to be issued early in the New Year will be of the same comprehensive nature as that provided at Lincoln this year. Towards the prizes to be offered £5,000 will be contributed by the Royal Agricultural Society from its own funds, £2,000 by the Newcastle Local Committee, and £300 by the Northumberland and Durham Agricultural Societies, whilst, in addition, offers of champion and other prizes have been received from numerous agricultural and breed societies.

The first prizes in the most important classes for horses will be increased from £15 to £20, and in the classes for cattle, sheep, and pigs, third, fourth, and fifth prizes will be offered in cases where the exhibitors exceed a certain number in a class.

Prizes, amounting in all to £260, are offered by the Newcastle Local Committee for the best managed farms in Northumberland and Durham, and entries for these close on Tuesday, the 31st inst. Applications for forms should be addressed to the secretary of the society, at 16, Bedford Square, W.C. The entry fee to members of the Royal Agricultural Society or of the Northumberland or Durham Agricultural Societies will be £1, and, to non-members of these societies, £2.

An offer of prizes of the value of £50 and £25 has been accepted for plans of farm buildings, and the detailed conditions of competition are now under consideration, whilst prizes of gold and bronze medals will be offered in two classes for manure distributors for (*a*) artificial manure and (*b*) farmyard manure.

The site of the Newcastle Show is on the Town Moor, where the 1887 meeting was held. It is about one mile distant from the Central Railway Station, and is reached by two routes of electric tramways.

Prize Winners at Birmingham.

The first of our three illustrations on page 713 is of the pen of Shropshire lambs with which Sir R. P. Cooper, Bart., Shenstone Court, near Lichfield, won the first prize for three fat wether lambs lambed in 1907. They are nine months old, and weigh 4 cwt. 2 qrs. 5 lb.

The pen of Berkshire pigs is that which won first prize in the class for two fat pigs exceeding nine and not exceeding twelve months old, and were reserve for the Hotel and Innkeepers' Challenge Cup for the best pen of pigs in the show. They were bred and exhibited by Mr. Alfred Brown, Hill Farm, Southampton; their age last week was 11 months and 2 weeks.

Our third illustration is of the prize winners of the sheep championship, viz., Mr. T. Fowell Buxton's Hampshire Down wether lamds, first in their class and winners of the Cooper Challenge Cup for the best pen of sheep. They were bred by Mr. Buxton at Waters Place, Ware, Herts, were 10 months and 1 week old, and weighed 5 cwt. 2 qr. 5 lb.

In view of the increase in gooseberry mildew the Board of Agriculture has issued an order prohibiting the landing in Great Britain of any gooseberry bush or currant bush brought from any place out of Great Britain. The order will not apply to the landing of any bush on or before January 31, if a licence authorising such landing has previously been obtained from the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, and is produced if so required by any officer of customs when the bush is landed. Bush includes a cutting, stock, or seedling, and any part of a bush except the fruit. The penalty for contravention of the Order, which comes into force on the 14th inst., is not exceeding £10.



Notes and Jottings.

SMITHFIELD Show stands without equal in the showyard world, either at home or abroad, in respect to its exhibition of live stock, but its importance in this respect has been many times increased since. Mainly through the efforts of the London butchers, this great annual show became one in which sheep fed expressly for exhibition alive, and those fed, or which ought to be fed, expressly for exhibition in the carcase, are exhibited side by side.

IT is not proposed to discuss in these notes the main objects that induce breeders to prepare the excellent specimens of their breeds for exhibition alive, nor to go into full details in respect to the preparation of those exhibited dead, but it is desired to call the attention of flockmasters as a whole to the important results that careful observation of the two sections of this show should convey.

IT has sometimes been said that the Christmas shows have not any particular interest to that section of the live stock world which is generally included under the term of "Stud Stock Breeders" The contrary, however, is the case, for at these exhibitions the result of their care and thought, and in fact the result of their labour in endeavouring to breed thoroughly good specimens of their several breeds, is seen to a greater advantage than at any other show.

THE stud stock breeder looks at the perfected specimens of the several breeds exhibited as actual examples of the work he and his predecessors have been able to accomplish in the improvement of the formation of the carcase, the earlier development of it, and the elimination therefrom of all the coarser and wasteful portions of it. Look at it how one may, no one will gainsay that the work of our stud stock breeders during the past half century has been a wonderful one. The formation of the carcase of the sheep, the improvement and the development of the more valuable parts of that carcase, and also the improvement of the lesser valuable parts that has been accomplished during the period mentioned, are certainly stupendous.

IN another direction the value of Smithfield Show to the breeders of stud sheep is perhaps not so fully realised as it might be, *i.e.*, in connection with the value of the use of pure-bred sires in the production of crossbred sheep.

THE cross-bred section of this show is one of the best examples that our breeders can have to prove the value of the pure-bred sheep of this country. It is true that the ordinary breeder and feeder of sheep does not so generally as might be the case enter into competition in these classes at this show, but there are thousands of flockmasters scattered all through their own country and the other mutton-producing countries of the world that in their ordinary routine are constantly and continually using pure-bred sires for the production of mutton.

THE first cross between any two pure breeds is generally admitted to be a very profitable cross indeed. It is said to be the most profitable one any feeder can have. Be this so or not, the perfected specimens of the cross-bred sheep which will be seen at Smithfield Show this week, prove how true this contention is. There are no classes in the whole of the show that contain more instruction or information as to the value of the stud sheep of this country than those mentioned above.

IN years gone by Smithfield Show was an event that interested but few outside our own country. Now the contrary is the case; all over the world reference is made to the results obtained by the feeders at Smithfield Show in respect to the average daily gain, which means, in other words, to the earlier development of the carcase, and full notice is also taken of the excellence or otherwise of the exhibits of sheep in the carcase test classes.

THESE classes, by the way, are full of instruction to every feeder of sheep. It is true they show, by the awards given, the particular

PRIZE WINNERS AT BIRMINGHAM.







SIR RICHARD COOPER'S FIRST PRIZE SHROPSHIRE LAMBS.
MR. A. BROWN'S PEN OF BERKSHIRE PIGS, RESERVE CHAMPIONS.
MR. T. FOWELL BUXTON'S HAMPSHIRE DOWN LAMBS, THE CHAMPION SHEEP.

(*Full details are given on page 712.*)

class of mutton that is most in demand for the metropolitan market; and, if one might suggest it, it probably would be an improvement if sometimes the judges for these classes were to be selected from some one or other of the large provincial towns, so that it might be possible to have an indication as to the requirements of the mutton consumers in other places, instead of always being limited to the metropolis.

ONE of the most striking lessons conveyed by these interesting and instructive competitions is that the butchers do not favour an over-abundant quantity of fat, or, in other words, they, by their awards, have shown to the feeder that it is very easy indeed to over-feed the sheep, or make them too fat for the best-class trade.

ANOTHER point that has come prominently to the notice of the writer when inspecting the carcases is that as a rule the awards given indicate a clear preference for deep-fleshed sheep, with plenty of lean and a well-formed carcase. This latter point is one to which the ordinary breeder should give greater attention than he does at the present time. It is quite certain that if this merit is to be secured it can only be done by using sheep for breeding purposes that have the same merit. The ordinary flocks of this country doubtless contain many breeding ewes which have not that well formed carcase so much desired by the higher class of butchers, but it is possible by careful selection of sires used in such flocks to secure a nearer approach than is often done. Far too many of our ordinary sheep breeders are content to take an ill-formed ram for stud purposes, without any thought as to what its progeny may be, simply because it appears cheaper, or, in other words, because it can be purchased at less money than a better-formed or more symmetrical sheep.

SUCH a procedure is very costly indeed, for right away through it works against the best interests of the breeder. His lambs, if he sells them as such, are not so taking to the eye, and to the careful observer not so valuable, because when finished their carcases will not have the same good appearance, nor the different joints of them be so well formed as they would have been had better and more symmetrical sires been used.

AGAIN, Smithfield Show, taken as a whole, forms one of the best object-lessons to the young beginner; let him, first of all, examine carefully those specimens that win the leading honours in the live stock section, and then betake himself to the carcase classes, and make the same careful examination there, and on returning home carefully think out the various leading points in connection with the awards in both sections, and apply them to his own everyday course of flock management. If this be done thoroughly and carefully, there will doubtless be many a young breeder who will gather from this unique exhibition of mutton sheep lessons of incalculable value and worth to him in the course of his business.

National Sheep Breeders' Association.

The annual general meeting of the National Sheep Breeders' Association will take place (by permission of the Smithfield Club) in the Prince's Saloon, situated at the end of the Arcade Gallery of the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, to-morrow (Tuesday), at 3 p.m, the agenda being as follows:—

1. Read minutes of previous meeting.
2. To receive hon. treasurer's report and statement of accounts for the past year.
3. To receive and consider annual report (copy follows).
4. To elect officials for 1908:—(*a*) President-elect; (*b*) executive committee; (*c*) hon. treasurer; (*d*) hon. auditor; (*e*) secretary; (*f*) representatives on the council of the Mansion House Association on Railway and Canal Traffic.
5. To consider the following resolution, moved by Mr. A. Amos:—"That the Board of Agriculture be asked to amend the Sheep Scab Order so that no sheep shall be sent to any public market or sale after they have been shorn (or in the case of their not being shorn, after Aug. 1) until they have been dipped; or in the case of fat sheep or fat lambs for slaughter, they shall only be excepted provided there is a tiver mark down the back and across the loin signifying that they are to be slaughtered within ten days."
6. To receive and consider correspondence, including replies to letters written by direction of the last council meeting.
7. To do or transact any other urgent or important business.

Shropshire Sheep Breeders' Association.

The report presented at the annual meeting of the Shropshire Sheep Breeders' Association and Flock Book Society, held at Birmingham on Monday, stated that the present numerical strength of the society was 229 life members and 165 annual members, making a total of 394, and the total worth of the association was £1,469, as compared with £1,467 last year. High prices had ruled for mutton and wool throughout the year, and so far as Shropshires were concerned, the shipments had been on a huge scale; in fact, it was a record year. Amongst the most important markets were North America and Canada, South America, Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand, where the breed was making good headway and the Shropshire ram was becoming more popular than ever for crossing purposes. The total number of Shropshire sheep exported during the year was 2,314, as compared with 1,902 in the previous year and 1,032 in 1905. Of the grand total, considerably more than half—namely, 1,427—were sent to the United States and Canada, against 1,057 in the preceding year; 569 went to South America, against 657; 212 to Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand, against 82; 45 to South Africa, Algiers, Algoa Bay, &c., against 52; and 61 to Russia, Germany, France, Spain, Denmark, Sweden, Hungary, Jamaica, Finland, &c., as compared with 54 a year ago.

There was no doubt, the report added, that breeders who had the right stamp of Shropshires would meet an ever-increasing demand. Size, pink skins, and dense wool of good long staple were the main features to keep in view. The sheep stock of the whole world showed a great diminution in numbers, and there was an inclination the world over to take up more vigorously the breeding of sheep, and that alone would help to keep up prices.

The council recommended that next season a sum not exceeding £100 (including £20 for an auction class, £30 for pens of five shearling rams, and £15 for two shear rams at the Royal Show at Newcastle-on-Tyne) should be set apart for the purpose of promoting the interests of Shropshire sheep breeders and making more widely known the special attributes of the breed.

The chairman, Mr. J. Bowen Jones, in moving the adoption of the report, congratulated the members on the great increase which had taken place in the shipments of sheep. Last year a record number was exported, and since the report was drawn up 650 more had been sent abroad.

Sir R. P. Cooper seconded the resolution, remarking that in all breeds pedigrees should be correctly kept, as foreign buyers were now very particular in that matter. He always did his utmost to advance the interests of the Shropshire breed, and that day he was exhibiting Shropshires in every class at the Chicago Fat Stock Show.

The resolution was carried.

Does Lucerne Blow Sheep?

An interesting discussion on the above question took place at a recent meeting of the East Sussex Farmers' Club, the matter arising out of a paper on "Lucerne as Forage," read by Mr. Southworth of Uckfield Agricultural College. Mr. Southworth during his remarks stated that lucerne as a green meat was splendid forage for horses, cattle, and sheep, and this was the statement that raised the discussion.

Mr. Wallis said he quite agreed that lucerne was a capital thing to give cattle and horses, but he could not agree that it was beneficial for sheep. He had had some experience of feeding sheep on lucerne, and all he could say was that he would never put sheep upon it again. They were sure to "blow" upon it.

The vice-chairman of the club, Mr. A. Wadman, agreed with Mr. Wallis. He had never, he said, seen anything in his life that would "blow" sheep like it if they were put upon it in an unfavourable stage of growth. Sheep would almost "blow" as they walked over some crops, but this was not the case with every crop.

Mr. Southworth remarked that at the College they had never experienced any difficulty in feeding sheep on lucerne, but, of course, they had only a small farm, and the feeding was not carried out to any great extent.

Mr. J. Kenward's opinion was that sheep could be fed on lucerne provided they were not put upon it with empty stomachs. He contended that if they were put on lucerne "full," they could take it without "blowing." Sheep would "blow" on clover if they were given it without being fed on anything else previously.

The vice-chairman said there was no doubt but what Mr. Kenward said was perfectly true. To his mind they should be very careful not to allow it to go forth that sheep could not be fed on lucerne without it "blowing" them. At certain times and at certain stages sheep could no doubt feed upon it beneficially, but at the same time it was well that the point should be made clear that there was a danger in some instances to fold sheep on lucerne. The position was to his mind that they did not want it to go forth that sheep could not be fed on lucerne, but along with that people should understand that they could not feed sheep on lucerne with impunity, and that if they did they would very likely lose their flock.



Farmers and Swine Fever.

A reply has been received from the Board of Agriculture in response to a petition from farmers and others in the Spalding district, asking for the removal of the swine fever restrictions now in force, and under which the markets at Spalding, Holbeach, Long Sutton, and Donington are at present closed.

In reply, the Board regret that the existing position of the county with regard to swine fever would not justify them in withdrawing the restrictions at the present time, but the district was being closely watched, and the restrictions would not be maintained longer than was absolutely necessary to effect the object in view—namely, to prevent the disease from spreading to other parts of the country, and to secure its eradication from the district itself

The Board had considered representations made with regard to the movement of swine for breeding purposes, but they could not see their way to make any modification of the regulations in the direction suggested.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Dec. 3, 1907:—

Period	Anthrax. Animals Attacked.	Anthrax. Outbreaks.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Animals Attacked.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Outbreaks.	Glanders (including Farcy). Animals Attacked.	Glanders (including Farcy). Outbreaks.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Other Animals.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Dogs.	Sheep Scab. Outbreaks Reported.	Swine Fever. Outbreaks.	Swine Fever. Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Week ended Nov. 30, 1907	31	22	...	...	18	11	...	...	31	30	161
Corresponding week 1906	31	28	...	...	33	18	...	...	31	33	231
Corresponding week 1905	11	9	...	...	24	16	...	...	23	15	110
Corresponding week 1904	19	16	...	...	32	22	...	...	24	15	39
Total for 47 weeks, 1907	1,340	995	...	...	1,791	787	...	...	543	2,229	10,684
Corresponding period 1906	1,214	861	...	...	1,915	1,012	...	...	425	1,128	6,517
Corresponding period 1905	1,208	888	...	...	1,929	1,128	...	...	801	740	3,386
Corresponding period 1904	1,397	933	...	...	2,501	1,425	...	...	1,193	1,140	5,343

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

We have received from Messrs. F. C. Southwell and Co, Ltd., a copy of the second edition of the International Stock Book, which contains a full description of the International Stock Food, with copious illustrations of the various animals found on a farm and valuable hints as to treating them in case of illness. International stock food is a purely vegetable preparation composed of roots, herbs, barks, seeds, &c, and is fed to stock in small quantities in addition to the regular grain ration or cake for the purpose of aiding digestion and ensuring perfect assimilation. The following are a few of the reasons claimed why the stock food should be used:—Because it is economical—"six feeds for a penny; it saves 20 per cent. of the corn feed, fattens stock in thirty days' less time, cures and prevents many diseases, increases the quantity of milk 15 to 20 per cent., stimulates and strengthens the entire system, and gives perfect digestion and complete assimilation. A copy of this interesting book can be had on application to Messrs. F. C. Southwell and Co., Ltd, 75, Southwark Street, London.

CATTLE.

THE VALUE OF LIVE STOCK ON THE FARM.

The paper fixed to be read at to-day's meeting of the Farmers' Club at the Whitehall Rooms was entitled "The Value of the Live Stock of the Farm," by Mr. Alfred Mansell, of the well-known firm of live stock exporters, &c., Shrewsbury. As usual, we have been favoured with an advance proof of the paper, extracts from which we give below.

At the outset Mr. Mansell gives a large number of figures in order to show "that the British farmer's main income is now derived from live stock and animal products, and that this market is seriously assailed from outside; and, in the second place, the figures, if intelligently followed, should be the means of guiding his efforts into profitable channels."

In finishing with the figures, Mr. Mansell remarks:—"The continually increasing business in the export of pedigree stock is most encouraging, and there can be no doubt that so long as we maintain our supremacy in this particular line, we shall enjoy the world's patronge on an ever-expanding scale; and if ever the general farmer fully realises the value of a well bred sire as compared with a scrub, the breeder of pedigree stock should have a ready sale for all his male animals."

Mr. Mansell continues: The value of the live stock of the farm on any particular holding is in direct proportion to how far the tenant has gauged his idiosyncrasies and propensities, and has the judgment and knowledge to select a suitable farm for his special purpose. Some men are born breeders; they possess the patience, powers of observation, and all the other great qualities that go to make a breeder: it may be of cattle, sheep, or horses, for it by no means follows that a successful breeder of cattle can prove himself a shepherd of the first order or possess an eye for a horse.

Others, again, of a more commercial spirit prefer buying in and feeding on an extensive scale, and to be successful in this particular line requires much care in selecting the right class of store animal—one that has all the indications of good breeding and has not been stunted in its growth.

The ultimate result depends so much upon the skill and judgment the buyer is possessed of, not only in knowing the sorts to buy, but how to feel the pulse of the seller and make a bargain.

A Point in Fattening.

It is too often ignored that an inferior, badly-bred animal requires more time, and consequently more food, to fatten than a well-bred one, and that the finished article is worth several shillings less per cwt. (live weight) than first quality.

I would recommend anyone who is sceptical as to the truth of the foregoing statement to select two typical animals (the well-bred and the exact opposite) and feed and treat them in precisely the same way, and put them every fortnight or so on the weighbridge and ascertain the gain in live weight. Nothing will be more convincing than this test if carefully carried out. It will prove beyond a doubt that the feeding of second and third-rate cattle is a financial loss to the feeder.

Again, another man may have an inclination to dairying, and possess no special aptitude as a breeder or feeder; but no matter what course is decided upon, it is better to follow one's natural bent and inclination, and, if possible, let the class of stock you propose to keep be suitable for their environment.

Need of Care in Starting.

I would counsel the utmost care in making a start, and I assume without question that at the outset only animals of high individual merit have been selected.

A sire is a most valuable asset, and a bull, according to the old saying, is *half the herd*; but the benefit to be obtained from a high-class sire is greatly minimised and the grading-up retarded when the foundation stock is of an indifferent character. In some cases under my own observation it has taken years to eradicate the bad points possessed by the foundation stock, and the offspring is never entirely free from this back taint.

Speaking of environment, I do not think this is sufficiently studied on all occasions. I have seen men trying to breed Shire horses on land only suitable for hill sheep; in other cases running a flock of sheep on lowlying meadows. Some farms are essentially adapted for feeding, whilst others lend themselves more to breeding and dairying, and all these points should be fully considered if the best results are to be obtained.



The subject of our illustration above is the Devon Yearling Heifer Beauty 12th, with which Mr. J. Surridge, Manor Farm, Brompton Ralph, Wiveliscombe, won a First Prize at the Dunster Summer Show this year.

Speaking generally, it may be taken as an accepted fact that there is more room for a grading-up of the quality in

Home-fed Beef,

in contradistinction to mutton, and this may be accounted for largely owing to the fact that there are more bad, scrubby bulls available than inferior rams and ram lambs.

In the case of bulls, no end of farmers fail to castrate all their calves, with the result that a large number of these mongrels (being cheap and nasty) actually do service as sires. Small wonder the country is so full of cattle which compare most unfavourably with the general run of export cattle that reach us in the shape of dead meat.

If it could be brought home to the general farmer that the consistent use of a well-bred sire, not necessarily an expensive one, would give him better annual returns, and at the same time increase the capital value of his stock, a great national problem would be solved. We should then eliminate "*inferior quality*" from our returns, and first quality would assume its *proper proportions*.

In other ways, the value of the live stock of the farm can be largely augmented by

Strict Attention to Details,

and taking every possible precaution to prevent losses.

The master's eye should ever be ready to detect a weak link in the management on the part of any of his stockmen, not in any captious spirit, but rather in a kind and friendly way, which all good men would appreciate and in no way resent.

With this object in view, cultivate the powers of observation to its fullest extent, and you will then be able in many cases to prevent serious losses by taking the necessary preventive measures at the initial stage.

What Landlords can do.

Landlords can and do, in numerous instances everything in their power to increase their tenants' returns with live stock, and the following may be cited as distinct aids in that direction:—

(*a*) To provide well-ventilated and conveniently arranged buildings and covered yards for the comfortable accommodation of stock adequate for the farm, and properly conserve the farmyard manure.

(*b*) The erection of cheap, roomy sheds on some of the soundest pasture fields for the wintering of stock.

(*c*) The provision of a proper supply of good cottages necessary for the farm, it being most important to secure zealous, careful, and skilful men in the feeding and management of live stock.

The Legislature can Aid Stock Farmers.

(*a*) By maintaining in their integrity the present regulations on the import of live stock, so that the health of our herds and flocks is in no way seriously jeopardised.

(*b*) By making such regulations as to prevent as far as possible the fraudulent sale of imported meat as English.

(*c*) By taking more drastic steps to eradicate sheep scab, which is practically unknown amongst pedigree flocks, but is ever a source of danger to the man who buys in and feeds.

In conclusion, I would say there is only

One Road to Success

in the breeding of pedigree or, in fact, commercial stock, and that is to use the best sires within your reach, and not to be tempted to sell your best young females, except upon very rare occasions; and in the case of cattle and sheep, do not let your females degenerate into a lot of old crones. This can be avoided by keeping your best females annually and letting the older ones go before they have put on too much age.

With commercial stock the British farmer must be up-to-date, and carefully watch the trend of the markets. Quality, early maturity and desirable weights should be studied. There are more buyers for fat cattle not exceeding 680 lb., sheep 70 lb., and pigs 200-240 lb. than the heavier weights which found favour some years ago.

Summarising, it is perfectly clear that the ordinary farmer, to be successful, must

Breed or Feed the Very Best.

That the breeder of pedigree stock will always have a good foreign demand, as, no matter how much the pedigree stock of the world is improved, they will always have to come to the old country to maintain the character and high quality of the respective breeds.

That there is no doubt the type and character of English breeds in other countries sooner or later undergoes a change and new blood is required. This practically gives us a monopoly in supplying the world at large with pedigree stock, and, in addition to the foreign market, the home demand for the general run of serviceable male animals must improve as the ordinary farmer becomes fully alive to the better results to be obtained by the use of well-bred sires.

Shrewsbury Store Stock Sales.

Mr. W. Everall's final store stock sale of the year took place in Shrewsbury Smithfield on November 29, when he had a good entry of upwards of 1,000 cattle of all ages, which sold readily at improved prices. Buyers were numerous and attended from the principal winter feeding counties in England, and practically all the cattle changed hands. The principal entry was from Mr. R. Smith, Kilmarnham, who sent forty-four beautiful Angus and Shorthorn Polly bullocks and heifers, which made £14 10s., £13 10s., and £11 15s. (32s. per cwt.); Mr. O'Connell sent nineteen Angus and Shorthorn bullocks, which made £16, £15 5s., and £14 10s. (33s. per cwt.); Mr. Kiernan sent twenty Shorthorn heifers, making £13 17s. 6d. (31s. per cwt.); Mr. P. Webb a lot of Hereford Shorthorn cross bullocks, which made £13 10s. (33s. per cwt); Mr. A. C. Smith, Polled Shorthorn yearlings, £8 2s. 6d.; Mr. C. D. Crowle, Shorthorn heifers, £11 10s.; Mr. James Lyons, Polly bullocks, £12 10s. Amongst the principal lots of home-bred cattle were two lots of Angus cross bullocks from Colonel Bulkeley, C.B., which readily sold up to £12 15s.; Mr. T. Jones (Hurst), Hereford bullocks, £12 10s.; Mr. Morris (Kinton), Shorthorn heifers, £8 7s. 6d. Other prices were the following:—Herefords, £15 5s., £11 17s. 6d., £14 10s., &c.; Shorthorns, £13 17s. 6d., £12 10s., £12 5s., £12 2s. 6d., £11 10s., £10 10s., £9 7s. 6d.

HORSES.

After-Dinner Oratory—Government Inaction—Keeping the Mares—Can Anything be Done?—Contagious Diseases—Glanders—Influenza.

After-dinner Oratory.

AT a public dinner where sportsmen and horsemen congregate there is pretty sure to be, amongst the numerous speeches made, some more or less practical suggestions respecting horse breeding and horse management. Men somehow, without intending, begin to give expression to their theories, and occasionally some excellent advice is given, which is far-reaching in its effects. It is to be hoped that this will be the case with some of the remarks made at the recent Gimcrack dinner. Before, however, proceeding to notice these in detail, I would point out that wherever horsemen congregate, they are like the Irishman on a desert island, they are "agin the Government." It has become monotonous—I had nearly said tiresome—to hear the attacks made on Government after Government for their indifference to what is undoubtedly one of the great economical questions of the day—horsebreeding.

Government Inaction.

"ALL they do is to find a few thousands for King's Premiums, and what is that?" Such is the chorus that we hear time after time at all dinners and gatherings of horsemen. And, curiously enough, though we have plenty of grumbling at Government inaction, and though there are men who advocate the formation of Government studs, the idea of the latter is not popular amongst the rank and file of breeders, who, rightly or wrongly, seem to think they would be placed at a disadvantage by the Government undertaking to breed horses. But there are many ways in which the horse-breeding industry could be encouraged without copying the example of foreign Governments. Many men seem to be of opinion that stallions of other breeds should have an opportunity of contending for Premiums on something like the same lines as Thoroughbreds do, and that the system of King's Premiums should be extended and developed. There seems every reason to think that some such development would be attended with good results. There can be no doubt that the King's Premiums have done a great deal of good, quite sufficient, indeed, to warrant a considerable extension of the principle, and we have a right to ask for some further development in this direction.

Keeping the Mares.

A SPEAKER at the Gimcrack dinner on Tuesday evening suggested that there should be an export duty on mares. Whether such a thing would be within the range of practical politics this is not the place to discuss, but some attempt should be made to stop the drain upon the country which is going on every day, and which seems rather to increase than otherwise. If one looks down the list of buyers at any big sale, it is the foreigner who buys the best mares. This has been the case at the Newmarket sales; it is the case equally when good Hackneys are in the market. Indeed, no breed escapes them, and we let our mares go with a complacency that is surprising. A curious instance of our apathy came to my notice last week. A man was inveighing bitterly against the indiscriminate exporting of mares, and urging the necessity of stopping it by some means. Now, no man does more in the way of sending mares out of the country, or has sent more mares out of the country of late years than the gentleman in question, and his reason for urging the necessity of stopping export of mares in some way was that he found increasing difficulty in carrying on his own export business. It was not a very logical position to take up it is true, but it was a perfectly natural one. He was hampered in his efforts to make money by the very thing he was making his money by, and selfish trade interest made him blind to the fact that he was himself a chief offender.

Can Anything be Done?

WHETHER anything can be done by legislation to stop this drain upon the horse-breeding resources of the country is open to question. An *ad valorem* export duty on mares might be levied, but would it stop the drain? Would the man, for example, who gives 2,000 guineas for a mare be deterred by an *ad valorem* duty of 5 per cent. or even 10 or 15 per cent.? I think not. And on the rank-and-file of the good half-bred, Hackney and other mares that leave the country, a large *ad valorem* duty would have no effect on the man who knew the value of what he was getting. I am of opinion that until the men who own the mares recognise of themselves the importance of keeping their mares quite as much as the foreign customers do the importance of buying them at practically any price, the export will go on, and that it cannot be perceptibly checked by any export duty that can be levied.

Contagious Diseases.

COLONEL HALL WALKER drew attention in his speech to the prevalence of glanders and distemper or influenza, or by whatever name it may be called, and he pointed out that no systematic attempt has been made to stamp out those two scourges of horse breeding. The losses which accrue from these diseases are very great, much greater than anyone who is not in close touch with horse breeding could be led to believe, and especially are the losses which proceed from influenza heavy. Some one in conversation said that if these diseases plagued cattle they would have been stamped out years ago, and there certainly seems to be some grounds for the statement.

Glanders.

THERE is no more dangerous or insidious disease to which the live stock of the country is liable than glanders, and happily it does not prevail to the extent which it once did. Indeed, I question if there are many glandered horses to be found out of the big towns in these days. I have heard people talk of glandered horses, and on the moors between Guisborough and Whitby there is a practically unfathomable bog, which is known as the glandered horse hole, and in which glandered horses used to be buried; but I have never heard of any serious outbreak of the disease in the country. But it would be a mistake to say that no cases are known in the country. One came under my own notice within the last twenty years. A relative of mine was riding his cob home, and he found he was not quite right, so he got off him and proceeded to lead him. He had not gone very far when a terrible discharge took place from the horse's nose, and some of it went on to his coat. In his younger days my relative had had some experience of glanders, and at once knew what was the matter. He was luckily close at home, and to kill the horse and burn his coat was the work of not many moments. One of the worst things about glanders is that the disease sometimes lays dormant for a considerable time, and obviously this is a great danger. The case I have mentioned is the only one that has come under my notice; but it is well enough known that there are many cases every year in the big towns. And the fact that glanders is mostly found in big towns makes it all the easier to deal with. There should not be, one would think, any difficulty in stamping out the disease altogether, if a systematic attempt were made.

Influenza.

INFLUENZA, though not such a virulent disease, is from its prevalence and its far-reaching consequences a more important one from the standpoint of the ordinary horse-breeder. What the losses from it amount to in a year it is impossible to tell. How many disappointed breeders will tell you that several of the best horses they have bred have gone roarers or whistlers after an attack of this disease. Now it stands to reason that the average profit derived from horse breeding must be seriously affected by such a state of things. We all know that the proportion of high-class horses that are bred is only small, and when a small breeder has two or three of his best go wrong and bring a few pounds instead of from £150 to £200 he is naturally discouraged. And there is little reason to doubt that the roaring and whistling are hereditary, that at any rate a large percentage of the wind trouble which exists is due to distemper. How, then, is this disease to be stamped out? Plenty of people will tell you that it is impossible. It certainly is impossible unless an attempt is made. The self and same argument was used upwards of twenty years ago, when an attempt was made to stamp out foot-and-mouth disease. "We've always had it, and we always will have it," was the argument used by the sceptics. But the attempt was made, and with the results which we all know. And so far as the lay mind can see, there is no reason why distemper should not be stamped out. At any rate, the question is one which calls for an exhaustive inquiry, and until the Government endeavours to deal with this disease and glanders, or proves satisfactorily that nothing can be done, any move in other directions seems to be superfluous.

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SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL, Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

GRIFFIN, F. W., Boro' Fen, Peterboro'. Shire Stallions, Mares, and Fillies for sale, in natural condition; 40 pedigree mares kept for breeding; every facility to foreign buyers.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Hereford. Stud Horses: Lockinge Lord of Misrule and Lockinge Bonny Lad, both by Lockinge Forester, full brother to Lockinge Forest King. Colts and Fillies for Sale.

JOHNSON, WALTER, Hatfield, Doncaster. Stud Horse, Lambton King 16757; Stallions for hire; weighty young Stallions, Mares, and Fillies on Sale.

MUNTZ, FREDERICK ERNEST, Umberslade, Hockley Heath, Warwickshire. Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, prize-winners.—Particulars from Mr. JOHN T. B. HARTLEY, Estate Office.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners, on Sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

PEARSON, E. E., Brickendonbury, Hertford. Shire Stallions, Mares and Stock for service and sale; prize winners. Stations: Hertford, Great Eastern and Great Northern.—Apply Estate Office, Brickendonbury, Hertford.

ROWELL, JOHN, Bury, Huntingdon. Breeder Shires and Hackneys; Stallions for sale, hire, or service at home; mares and fillies for sale.

WHITEHEAD, Robert, Fashionably bred mares and fillies in natural condition on Sale. Stallion, Bodenham King 17177.—Apply J. M. JOHNSTONE, Hargate Hall, Buxton. Station, and telegrams, Millers Dale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

BENSON, ALFRED, Upper Gatton Park, Merstham, Surrey. Hackney Stallions: Copper King 7764, reserve champion, London Hackney Shows, 1905 and 1906; yearling Colts and Fillies by Copper King and other well-known Stallions for sale. For particulars, pedigrees, &c., apply to T. Hyett.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

SMITH, THOMAS, Shirley Stud, Hall Green, Birmingham. Breeder of Pedigree Hackneys and Ponies. Owner Hackney Stallion, "Viscount Hopwood" 8686; Pony Stallions, "Pinderfields Horace" 7952, "Shirley King Horace" 9882. Prize winners on sale.

WHITWORTH, ROBERT, Warley Stud, Halifax, and Londesboro' Stud, Market Weighton. Hackney Stallions: Polonius, Edemynag, Beckingham Squire 8078. Hackneys and Harness Horses always on sale. Matched pairs a speciality.

PONIES.

BEALE, Mrs. A. J., Cacketts, Cudham, Kent. Prize-bred Pedigree Shetlands for sale; three grand Stallions at stud.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

BELL, CHARLES, Norley Hall, Norley, Cheshire. Shorthorn Bulls for sale, from Kirklevington, Red Rose, Barrington, and Cruickshank tribes. Telegrams "Norley"; railway stations, Acton Bridge and Delamere.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

MOSLEY, Sir OSWALD.—High-class Shorthorns. Home Farm, Rolleston Hall. Bulls and Heifers on sale.—Apply A. E. Beck, Rolleston, Burton-on-Trent.

CATTLE—*continued.*

SHORTHORNS—*continued.*

PREECE, JOHN ADNEY, Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston, Northampton.—Herd of 250 Shorthorns, best Bates and Scotch blood; stock Bulls, Duke of Barrington 70th, Primrose Earl 89641, and Royal Baron 93192; Bulls and Heifers for sale.

DUDDING, MR. HY., Riby Grove, Great Grimsby, has for inspection and sale the largest pure herd of SHORTHORNS in the county, which comprise the best Bates, Booth, Cruikshank and Scotch blood. The prize bulls recently used and now in service are Prince Alastair 89647, a noted winner, and sold at the Riby Sale, 1906, for 1,000 gs.; Scottish Daisy Duke 79916, Merry Squire 5th 85626, Stratton Squire 80062, Bapton Favourite 76080, Wanderer's Chief 80210, Royal Pearl 89959, President Pierrepont 92846, Aberdeen 87764, Scottish Standard 97058, and Strowan Butterfly 23rd. In July of last year 51 Shorthorns and 56 Lincoln Rams were sold to average 125 gs. each, realising a total of nearly £14,000. In July this year 53 Shorthorns and 48 Rams averaged over 90 gs. each, with a total of nearly £10,000. Numerous prizes have been won at the leading shows in England by the Riby Shorthorns and Lincoln Sheep. Telegrams: "Dudding, Keelby."

ROTHWELL, R. R., Much Hoole, near Preston. Pedigree Shorthorns, chiefly Scotch blood. Stock bull Strowan Marquis 13th, winner of many prizes. Young bulls and heifers always on sale.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

SUSSEX.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath, Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Sussex Cattle (descended from the oldest and best strains of blood), unrivalled for their early maturity, the production of the best beef and working oxen, and ability to thrive in all weathers on the roughest fare. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for Sale.

HEREFORDS.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for Sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

PULLEY, CHARLES THORNTON, Lower Eaton, Hereford.—Noted prize-winning herd of HEREFORD CATTLE. First prize Royal winners, Protector 19660, 1900; Eaton Champion 21351, 1903; and Ashleaf 3rd, 1905. This herd is headed by Eaton Champion and Glendower 2nd 22196, also a Royal winner. Bulls and Heifers for sale. Also prize-winning Shropshire Sheep.—Apply Mr. HEDLEY JONES, Lower Eaton Estate Office, Hereford.

DEVONS.

BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton Williton, Taunton. Breeder of Pedigree Devon Cattle. A speciality for large size, with quality and robust constitutions; colour dark red. Sent to all parts of the world. Prices moderate.

SKINNER, ALFRED C., Pound, Bishops-Lydeard, Somerset. Pedigree Devons, constitution, quality, size, milk; 600 prizes principal shows, many champions; exports most successful; bulls and heifers for sale. Inspection invited.

TRIBLE, ABRAHAM, Halsdon, Holsworthy, North Devon.—Large old-established Herd of big size, strong constitutioned, good milking Devon Cattle. Winners of numerous First and Champion Prizes, R.A.S.E. Champion twice; many exports, all successful. Prices moderate. Tuberculin Test Certificates.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

BRIDGES, J. H.—This old-established herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle of the leading families can be seen at Langshott Home Farm, Horley, Surrey (near Horley Station, L.B. & S.C.R.), and catalogues obtained on application to Mr. Albert Pulling.

CRIDLAN, J. J., Maisemore Park, Gloucester, Erica, Pride of Aberdeen, Lady Ida and other noted tribes. Stock Bulls, Wizard of Maisemore (21,465), Champion and winner of gold medals, 1905; Everwise (24,436), Champion and medal winner, 1907; Bengal of Ballindalloch, prize winner, 1906.

HURSLEY PARK HERD OF ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE, the property of Sir George Cooper, Bart., comprising Erica, Pride, Miss Burgess, Lady Ida, Matilda, Jemima of Morlich families. Prizes won during 1906: 7 firsts, 3 seconds, 3 reserves, 1 challenge cup, 2 silver medals, 3 reserve champions. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.—Catalogues on application to J. E. Thorold, Estate Office, Hursley Park, Winchester.

THE ROCKLIFFE PARK HERD of Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, Ericas and Prides. Stock Bull, Pundit of Preston (17,156), Champion at Highland Show, 1904.—Apply, R. C. SWAN, Rockliffe Park, Darlington.

AYRSHIRES.

WALLACE, JAMES, J.P., Auchenbainzie, Thornhill, Dumfriesshire, Scotland. Breeder of pedigree prize-winning Ayrshire Cattle; hardy, healthy, good milkers; bred for dairy purposes, beauty and style. Bulls and Heifers for sale.

CATTLE—*continued.*

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably (from his excellent milking prize RED POLLS, including Champions, both male and female) grand young Bulls, Cows Heifers.—Apply, C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford, England.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

CARY-ELWES, V., Billing Hall, Northampton. Breeder of Jersey cattle.

FOWLER, P. T., Importer, Watford, Herts. A choice selection of pedigree Jersey and Guernsey Cows, Heifers and young Bulls from prize herds of the Islands; particulars forwarded; inspection invited.

JERSEYS, and Alderney Guernseys, fresh calved and near calving. Prices, particulars.—R. WHEADON, Ilminster.

MERTON GRANGE GUERNSEYS.—Property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. This Herd contains Champion Bull, 1906; also Bull Royal Governor, winner of seven Firsts, and unbeaten 1907. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of best Breeding for Sale.—Telegrams and particulars, W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay.

STERN, Sir E. D., Fan Court, Chertsey, Surrey. Herd of pedigree Jersey Cattle. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for sale.

TICHBORNE PARK, GUERNSEY.—Yearling Bulls and Heifers for sale.—Apply, D. MICHIE, Estate Office, Tichborne, Alresford, Hants.

GALLOWAYS.

GRAHAM, ROBERT, Auchengassel, Twynholm, breeder fashionable Galloway Cattle, winners at Royal and Highland Societies Shows. Pedigree Bulls, Cows, and Heifers, also Blue-greys for feeding, for sale. Commissions carefully executed.

KERRIES & DEXTER KERRIES.

CORY, Sir CLIFFORD JOHN, Bart., M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows.—Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

RATTRAY, DAVID, Gortnaskehy, Ballybunion, Co. Kerry. Pedigree Prize-winning Herd of Kerries and Dexters. 155 Prizes and Honours won by Cattle from this Herd past three years. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

THE DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE'S PRIZE-WINNING DEXTER HERD.—During 1904 and 1905 this Herd won more prizes than any other three Dexter Herds combined, including both first and second milking prizes Royal, 1905, and first London Dairy Show, 1906, Bulls, Cows, and Heifers generally for Sale.—CHILD, Compton Place, Eastbourne.

DUTCH.

BROWN, JOHN, Marden Farm, Hertford. Dutch, the best Dairy Cattle in the world. Over 200 head kept. Record, one cow gave 1,615 gallons of milk in 52 weeks. Bulls for sale.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

ANDERSON, JOHN, Barton-on-Humber.—The old Barton Flock of Pure-bred LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP, Flock Book 106. This flock is noted for hard constitutions and fine, lustrous wool. Inspection invited. Telegrams as above.

ATKINSON, T., & SON, North Kelsey, Lincoln. Old-established flock of pure Lincoln Longwools. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Noted for great size and long lustrous wool. Have given great satisfaction at home and abroad. Inspection invited

BROCKLEBANK, JOHN, Bassingham, Lincoln (Flock 24). Pure-bred Lincoln Longwool Rams and Ewes. This old flock has been carefully bred for 100 years. Telegrams: Bassingham.

BROOKS, W. J., Stowe Lodge, Weedon, Northants (Registered Flock 165), has for sale Rams and Ewes of best blood.

DRAKES, Wm., Tealby, Market Rasen. Flock No. 72 of Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs of best blood for sale. Lincoln Red Shorthorns. Prices moderate.

DUDDING, MR. HY., Riby Grove, Great Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale the largest flock of pure Lincoln Longwool Sheep in the county, and many prize-winners. They are famous for great size, fine wool, and 150 years' good breeding, and at the home Sales have made the highest prices on record. In July, 1906, 51 shearling rams sold to average £151 each, the record price being made for a single ram, namely, 1,450 gs., and on two other occasions have rams made 1,000 gs. The wonderful success of the Riby sheep at the Royal Show, Lincoln, 1907, and at the Home Sale in July when 48 rams averaged over £94 each, proves that the Riby blood leads the way Champion and premier prizes have been secured in all the leading exhibitions throughout the world. Telegrams "Dudding, Keelby."

MONEY, FRED, Silk Willoughby, Sleaford. Flock 323; established over a century. Four Rams from this flock fetched over £1,300 in the Argentine, February, 1903, one making £700, the record for a single ram in Buenos Ayres. Rams for sale. Inspection invited.

(Continued on page 718.)

SHEEP—*continued.*

LINCOLN LONGWOOL—*continued.*

SMITH, HENRY, jun., Cropwell Butler, Nottingham. Lincoln Longwool Flock No. 7, winner of £2,361 in prizes. Champion pen Lincolns, Smithfield Show, 1896; Association Championship, Leicester, 1897; Association Championship for pen of 3 Shearling Rams, Yorkshire, 1900; Championship, Rutland, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, and 1906. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.

LEICESTERS.

SIMPSON BROS., Pilmoor House, Hunmanby, Yorkshire, Breeders of Leicesters (Flock No. 2 in Leicester Book), have always for inspection or sale Rams and Ewes. These Sheep are of great size with heavy fleeces, and include Royal Winners.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

THE CHILMARK FLOCK OF REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—Owner JAMES FLOWER, Chilwark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records. Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, out of 11 years competing, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" won eight times, thrice second, with pens of 8 ram lambs; a marvellous record. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 13 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05-06. At the Royal at Derby, 1906, every First Prize, two Seconds, and the Champion were won; an unequalled success!! Champions Birmingham, 1905, over all breeds, Reserve in 1906. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Short-wools, Smithfield, 1904-05-06. Highest average past 13 years. Bridford Fair, Aug. 12, 100 Ram Lambs, annual sale. Selections for Sale.

COLES, CARY, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1907.—Extraordinary records: Twin ram lambs let for 205 and 120 guineas. Ninety averaged £21 10s. Selections always for Sale.

DIBBEN, JOHN HERBERT, Bishopstone, Salisbury. Breeder of Pure Hampshires. Annual Sale in August, at Salisbury, of 100 Rams and Ram Lambs. Flock consists of 800 Ewes.

OVEY, R. L., Hernes, Henley-on-Thames.—Pedigree HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK, Reg. Vol. IV. Prize-winners leading shows last five years.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. The Cholderton flock is individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded in the Hampshire Down Flock Book. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cho'derton, Salisbury.

OXFORD DOWNS.

ADAMS, GEORGE, Royal Prize Farm Flock, Faringdon, Berks. Pure Oxford Down Sheep, Shearling Rams, Ram Lambs, Ewes and Ewe Lambs for Sale. Special arrangements with foreign buyers. Many first prizes at R.A.S.E. and other shows during past 25 years, including 2 first, 2 second, and 4 other prizes, World's Fair, Chicago, and 7 firsts, 4 seconds and champion at Royal Bath and West, Royal Counties, etc., this year.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

HOUGHTON, J. H., Western Farm, Asfordby, Melton Mowbray. 300 Ewe Flock of Pedigree Registered Oxfords. Sales Sept., at Nottingham, Melton, Edinburgh, &c. Ewes and Rams privately in autumn. Many prizes. Inspection invited.

STILGOE, H. W., Adderbury, Banbury. Annual Ram Sale at Oxford. Others on Sale privately; also Ewes. Many First and Champion prizes.

TREADWELL, JOHN, Upper Winchendon, Aylesbury.—Oxford Down Sheep. Annual Ram Sales first Wednesday in August. Prizes won at R.A.S.E. 24 years in succession. Ewes for Sale.

WHITE, JOHN, Ham Court Farm, Bampton, R.S.O., Oxon. Pedigree Oxford Down Sheep of best and purest strains for Sale. Foreign and home buyers invited to inspect.

SOUTHDOWNS.

COOPER, ALLAN, Norton, Bishopstone, Lewes. Registered Southdown Flock, No. 70; trade marked; hardy constitution and good wool. This flock of 520 ewes is kept on its native hills. Rams, ewes and lambs for sale.

SHROPSHIRES.

CORBET, Sir WALTER, Bart.—Registered flock of Shropshires of oldest and purest strains. Noted for true type and first-rate wool. Have won numerous prizes at Bath and West, Shropshire and West Midland, Royal Lancashire, Wirral and Birkenhead, etc. Can be seen at any time on application to Reginald Astley, Acton Reynold, Shrewsbury.

NOCK, EDWARD, Harrington Hall, Shifnal. Salop, owner of the old Sutton Maddock Pedigree Shropshire Flock. Founded 1852. Winner of prizes at most of the leading shows in England, U.S.A., and Canada.

WENSLEYDALES.

UNDERLEY WENSLEYDALES (Blue-faced) from the best blood obtainable. Successfully exhibited.—Apply, G. G. ROBINSON, Bailiff, Underley Farm, Kirkby Lonsdale.

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

CHARLES SPENCER, having taken over the Rothwell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts, herd of Large and Middle White Pigs, which won 12 prizes and reserves with 11 exhibited at Royal will price any of them.

FULWOOD HERD LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES, property of R. B. Rothwell. 200 head bred from winners at leading shows.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

PIGS—*continued.*

LARGE WHITES—*continued.*

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for Sale at moderate prices.

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse Station, G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices.—J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM. Herd of Large White Pigs. The oldest and largest Herd in Notts County. Over 100 Breeding Sows kept. Upwards of 600 to select from. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—Apply ARTHUR A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster

SPALDING HERD of Pedigree Large Whites, young stock and in-pig Gilts for Sale. All bred from great winners.—ALFRED W. WHITE, "Hillegom," Spalding.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 100 to choose from. Correspondence invited. Grand young breeding stock always on Sale.—Apply R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts (15 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—Apply to Mr. W. BAINBRIDGE, Walton House, Warrington.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

THE CATTON HERD of Prize-winning MIDDLE WHITE PIGS, property of J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stock Boar Castlecroft Mikado, 1st Park Royal, 1st Bath and West. Gelts and Boars on Sale. Prices moderate.—Apply BAILIFF, Raddle Farm, Edingale, Tamworth.

LARGE BLACKS.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath, Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Large Black Pigs of the best strains of blood, noted or their docility and for the production of a large proportion of lean meat. Good selection of Boars, unrelated Gilts, and in-pig Sows for Sale at reasonable prices.

BRENT HERD PEDIGREE LARGE BLACK PIGS.—Winners of numerous first prizes, R.A.S.E., Bath and West, Royal Counties, Smithfield, &c.; also the two Champion Prizes Royal Show of Australia, 1906; export orders carefully executed; inspection cordially invited.—KINGWELL, Great Aisb, Brent, Devon.

CATTON HERD OF PRIZE-WINNING LARGE BLACK PIGS.—Stock Boar Trevisquite Excelsior 1487, 1st Devon County, 2nd and Reserve Champion Royal Show, 1906; pigs kept in hardy natural condition; gelts and boars always on sale.—Apply, J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stations: Croxall, 2½ miles (M.R.); Alrewas, 3½ miles (L.N.W.).

FOR HIGH-CLASS PRIZE-WINNING PEDIGREE LARGE BLACK PIGS at moderate prices, apply, JOHN WARNE, Treveglos, St. Mabyn, R.S.O., Cornwall.

GOODAMEAVY PRIZE-WINNING HERD. Stock Boar, Goodameavy Storm Fiend 1457. Prizes 1st Devon County, Bath and West and other Shows. Young Boars and Gilts always on sale.—OSCAR MUNTZ, Goodameavy, Yelverton, Devon.

HASKETON CHAMPION PRIZE HERD OF LARGE BLACK PIGS.—This herd has won the Royal championship three out of four times, and is the only herd having won the breed challenge cup. Record: 47 firsts, 37 seconds, 11 thirds, 126 prize-winning cards; the herd this year being the winners of 14 firsts, 6 seconds, 2 thirds, championship and silver cup in five shows. Gelts and Boars at moderate prices consistent with quality. Exportation a speciality.—Apply, C. F. MARRINER, Hasketon, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

MOUBRAY, J. M., Iford, Lewes, Sussex. Very large herd of Royal and other winners. Catalogues free.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS.—Select Herd-bred from choice Prize Winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale, moderate prices.—H. J. CLARKE, The Slade, Roughley, Sutton Coldfield.

PEDIGREE Large Black Pigs for Sale; Boars and Gilts, also young ones, cheap.—LILL, Martindales, Lincoln.

WHEN Breeding, breed from the best Pedigree Large Black Prize-winning Pigs. TREVEGLOS HOPEFUL II., winner of First prizes and R.A.S.E. Silver Challenge Cup, 1907, beating all other Cup winners; also 1st Prize Bath and West, Newport; 1st Royal Counties, Maidenhead; 1st Royal Cornwall, Liskeard; 1st Devon County, Bideford; also 1st prize at the Royal Show, Lincoln, for Boar and Reserve for Champion prize. Boars and Sows for Sale of the above grand at moderate prices.—Apply to JOHN WARNE, Treveglos Farm, St. Mabyn, R.S.O., Cornwall.

PIGS—*continued.*

BERKSHIRES.

CARNARVON, the Earl of.—Prize-winning Pedigree Herd. BOARS and GELTS, eligible Herd Book. Prices moderate.—Apply W. T. HALL, Highclere Farm, Newbury.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

HIGHAM, D. E.—Choice herd of pure-bred Berkshire Pigs, descended from fashionable strains, of good size, sound quality, and hardy constitution. Young stock for sale at reasonable prices.—Apply, JAMES MCMONIES, Coombelands, Addlestone, Surrey.

HOLMAN, F. A., Dunley Manor, Whitchurch, Hants. Pedigree Boars and Gilts of the best strains for sale.—Apply J. NOTLEY, Eggbury, St. Marybourne, Andover.

HUDSON, R. W., Danesfield, Marlow, Bucks. Pedigree Berkshire Pigs of the best strains. Good Boars and Gilts at reasonable prices. Prizes won: Over 150 firsts, seconds and championships, including Smithfield, Royal Show, Bath and West, Royal Counties and several County Societies.—Apply, Mr. COLIN CAMPBELL, Estate Office, Danesfield, Marlow.

INMAN, G. TALFOURD, Highmoor Hall, near Henley-on-Thames, Oxon. Prize-winning Herd of Pedigree Berkshire Pigs; Boars and Sows, all ages, on sale.—Apply, Mr. T. BRYANT, Highmoor Farm, near Henley-on-Thames, Oxon.

MORANT, EDWARD J.—Pedigree Berkshire Pigs. Good strains, bred from prize-winners. Boars and Gelts always for sale.—Apply, Mr. CECIL SUTTON, The Estate Office, Brokenhurst, Hants.

PORTMAN, Honble. CLAUD B., Goldicote, Stratford-on-Avon. Prize-winning pedigree herd; pigs of all ages always for sale at moderate prices; second highest average secured at sale in March, 1906.—Apply as above.

RANSOME, C. W., Yoxford, Suffolk. Pedigree Berkshires, size and quality; in-pig sows and young stock a speciality.

READING CORPORATION.—150 Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, leading prize-winning strains, from son of Champion Mikado 10433 and prize-winner Domino 11323; inspection invited.—Apply, Mr. T. Chettle, Manor Farm, Reading, Berks.

SMITH, C. C., Kingstone Common, Wantage, Berks. Large, choice selection Pedigree Berkshire Boars and Sows, all ages, on offer.

STALL PITTS HERD OF PEDIGREE BERKSHIRES. One of the Oldest Herds. Unsurpassed for true character size, and quality. Choice selection of Boars and Sows on offer at moderate prices.—J. LAWRENCE, Stall Pitts, Shrivenham, Berks.

SWAYLANDS BERKSHIRE PIGS, the property of Mr. George Drummond. Young Sows and Boars always on sale, from prize-winning strains.—Apply, W. E. ROGERS, Bowens, Penshurst, Kent.

TAMWORTHS.

PEDIGREE TAMWORTHS, the property of C. HOWARD TAYLOR, Middlewood Hall; a few good young Boars and Gilts for sale.—Apply, Hampole Priory, Doncaster.

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Colston Bassett Hall, Notts.

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The following First Prizes, Championships, and Medals have been obtained by pigs **BRED** in these Herds in 1907:
1st and Champion, Gold Medal, R.A.S.E., Lincoln.
1st & Champion, President's Medal, Highland, Edinburgh.
1st Welsh National, Aberystwyth.
1st Bath and West Newport; 1st Royal Counties,
1st Nottingham; 1st Suffolk; 1st Norfolk.
1st Derby.
1st Hereford and Worcester; Special Prize Lincoln Agricultural Society; 1st Great Yorkshire; 1st Newark.
A number of additional Firsts and other Prizes have also been gained at the above Shows.
At the St. Louis Exposition, U.S.A., in 1904, the Champion Boar, and the Grand Champion of the Exposition were bred at Colston Bassett.
The Foreign and Home trade has largely increased during 1907.—GILBERT H. ELLIOT, Estate Office, Colston Bassett, Notts.

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Lincolnshire Notes.

ONCE more the burning question of railway rates in Lincolnshire is coming to the fighting point. The Board of Trade have intervened, and as a preliminary step are endeavouring to bring the parties together. A conference will be held at the Board of Trade Office on Thursday next. The parties on one side of the dispute will be all the representatives and all the associations representative of the industry of agriculture, and the sale of or manufacture of agricultural produce. On the one hand there will be the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union, the Notts and Derbyshire Millers' Association, the Midland Corn and Agricultural Trades' Association, Ltd., the Lincoln Chamber of Agriculture, the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce, the maltsters and the Midland Farmers' Co-operative Society; on the other the railway companies which serve at such a high price the county of Lincolnshire and the Midland Counties.

THIS is not the first attempt that has been made to bring the dispute to a head. A conference was held at Newark in 1906, but without satisfactory result. That the Lincolnshire farmer has a grievance the following figures will show:—Grain in East Anglia is conveyed in four ton lots 40 miles for 5s. 5d. per ton, 80 miles for 6s. 8d, 120 miles for 7s. 1d. per ton. In this district the corresponding rates are:—40 miles, 6s. 7d.; 80 miles, 7s. 11d.; and 120 miles, 12s. 6d. per ton. Hay and straw is conveyed on the London and South Western Railway 40 miles for 6s. 10d. per ton, 80 miles for 9s. 10d., and 120 miles for 12s. 2d. The corresponding rates in this district are:—40 miles, 8s. 9d.; 80 miles, 12s. 3d.; and 120 miles, 16s. 7d. In addition to this large excess, a circular has been recently issued by a combination of eight of the local railways, completely disorganising the local trade in hay and straw, by requiring farmers and traders to pay 30s. per week for the temporary storage of hay or straw on trucks, which costs the railway companies not more than 5s. per week, a profit of 500 per cent. The agriculturists of Lincolnshire think it is time they began to act as well as grumble.

AT the annual meeting of its Hereford branch, the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union rejoined the crusade against the motor car. A resolution was sent to the Central Committee declaring that the new method of locomotion demands new legislation in regard to the matter of road management. The roads, the Lincolnshire farmer thinks, should be less a local charge than they are now. At any rate, an additional Government grant should be made towards the cost of their repair. There is reason in the argument. It seems to me the users of motors should themselves be the first to see it.

THE reopening by the chairman of the Holland County Council of the local markets for the sale of store pigs does something to relieve the situation caused by the prolonged embargo of the Board of Agriculture. But the district is beginning to seriously protest against the restrictions. The *Spalding Free Press* pretty well expresses the local feeling. "It is high time, says that journal in a leading article, that the markets were declared absolutely free. "It is unreasonable to expect that swine fever, any more than any other complaint amongst animals or human beings, can be extinguished for all time. It is absurd to become unduly concerned, and to impose harassing restrictions, every time a pig is found to be suffering from the disease. The supervision of the authorities should be strict, and the utmost care should be exercised by pig breeders, feeders, and butchers; but surely there is no need to go into a panic whenever a few cases occur." I agree so far with the article as to say that the panic should not be needlessly prolonged. It should be relieved at the very first available opportunity.

FRUIT growers in some parts of South Lincolnshire are having to grapple with a serious blight known as the gooseberry mildew. Acres upon acres of the best shrubs have been affected. A week ago a representative of the Board of Agriculture met the Diseases of Animals Committee at Spalding, and urged that some action of a preventive character should be taken in the county of Holland. He recommends that a first-class gardener should be appointed, who should receive special instruction in the matter, in order to go round the district where the disease had already made its appearance. The committee, however, decided to do nothing beyond drawing attention to the Board of Agriculture's Order. Let us hope some more determined association will take up the responsibility.

MR. HENRY CHAPLIN is braving the lion in his den. He is criticising Earl Carrington's model small holdings scheme. At a meeting at Scarborough on Friday week he said that on Lord Carrington's Spalding estate, where 650 acres are

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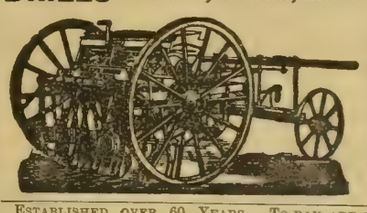
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devoted to small holdings, his lordship established the practice of letting his land, not directly to the people who were to occupy it, but through a middleman—a system which, in his opinion, ought to be strictly avoided. There was also upon the estate a most lamentable lack of cottage accommodation. He was, indeed, surprised on reading the evidence, to find how much this was the case on the estate, but it was a fact that the whole of the estate, which was let for a very good rent as far as Lord Carrington was concerned, was let to a syndicate, without any restrictions whatever as to the rents which they might charge to tenants, or the covenants which they might make.

MR CHAPLIN qualified his observations. He did not mean to say for a moment that evil would happen, or that the association would behave in a manner that would revive the evils of middlemen in the olden days, but what he objected to was the re-establishment of the principle which gave them absolute power to do whatever they pleased. In this case, with regard to cottage accommodation, he found that on the estate there were over 200 tenants, and the majority of them, according to the agent, had to walk on an average six miles a day to and from the work on which they were employed. In support of this, Mr. Chaplin quoted the evidence of Lord Carrington's agent, and added that if the majority of the tenants on any other estate that he knew of had to walk that distance, most of the landlords he was acquainted with would consider that they had been singularly lacking in the performance of their duty. That the subject will not go unanswered, we may pretty fairly trust the energetic association which controls the small holdings of South Lincolnshire.

THE extent of the demand for small holdings is known at last. Earl Carrington has in his possession applications for 10,000 acres of land, and out of this Lincolnshire is asking for nearly half, or 4,518 acres. That is a genuine demand enough, surely.

December 5, 1907.

Ripon Farmers and Sugar Beet Growing.

Members of the Ripon Agricultural Association recently undertook to experiment in the growing of sugar beet. From a report prepared on the result it seems that though in some instances part of the crop has run to seed owing to the rain and absence of sun in the earlier part of the season, yet on the whole it is fairly satisfactory, and would average 13 to 16 tons per acre.

Samples from four farms near Ripon were submitted to Professor Sigmund Stein, sugar expert of Liverpool, who gives an analysis in comparison with roots grown in Germany and analysed by Mr. Licht, of Magdeburg. Professor Stein adds that he considers the result satisfactory. The weight of the Ripon roots exceeds that of the German roots, being nearly twice the size. The saccharine contents of the Ripon roots he also considers to be very satisfactory.

Professor Stein is an advocate for the cultivation of sugar beet in this country, but the members of the Ripon Agricultural Association express the opinion that owing to the attitude of the present Government towards the admission of bounty-fed sugar the attempt to create a sugar industry in this country must be abandoned.

DAIRY.

Sir Edward Strachey and the Butter Bill.

Sir Edward Strachey, M.P., who represents the Board of Agriculture in the House of Commons, presided at Martock (Somerset) Fat Stock Christmas Market dinner, and in the course of a speech made some interesting remarks concerning the Butter and Margarine Act.

Legislation dealing with the adulteration of butter was not, he said, so simple a matter as it would seem. Any Bill must interfere with certain powerful interests, and to pass a Bill was no easy matter. It was due to this that the late Government had introduced and withdrawn four Butter Bills and had been unable to appoint a Select Committee of the House of Commons to inquire into the butter trade, though they promised the Central Chamber of Agriculture to do so in 1905. As soon as the Liberal Government came into office he moved for a Select Committee of the House of Commons to consider butter adulteration. This committee was appointed at the beginning of the Session of 1905, and reported before its close. The report of that committee was practically unanimous, and upon that report he founded and carried the Butter and Margarine Act through Parliament last Session. What was the principal object of the Bill? It was to stop adulteration of butter at its source by means of inspection and registration of all butter factories. Further, no adulterants could in the future be stored in these factories.

In the past it had been very difficult to stop the sale of adulterated butter from abroad. For as the law had been the foreign adulterator had been protected from the difficulty of proving that foreign butter was unadulterated. Mere suspicion of adulteration of butter submitted, of samples taken at the ports for the Government analyst, was not enough. It was necessary for Somerset House to prove up to the hilt that the butter was adulterated. Now under the new Act it would be the other way about. The foreign butter, if suspected by the Government analyst of being adulterated, would have to be proved by the foreign importer to be pure genuine butter. It was only fair that the onus of proof should rest upon the importer, as we in this country had no power to stop adulteration in factories abroad by inspection, as could be done in this country.

The Select Committee did not recommend the prohibition of the sale of milk-blended butter or of margarine, nor did the Act prohibit its sale. So long as milk-blended butter was not sold under that name or by any other name connected with the dairy interest it could be sold as a butter substitute. So, too, could margarine be sold so long as fancy names—such as butterfat—were not used, and the word margarine appeared wherever the fancy name was placed on the wrapper.

The Act, while it did not prohibit the sale of any butter substitute, did prohibit the use of the farmer's trade-mark of butter being used for such substitutes. He knew some of his agricultural friends would have liked the prohibition of all butter substitutes, but that was impossible, as the poor, who could not buy butter owing to its price, must be able to buy butter substitutes, so long as they were not sold under the name of butter to the detriment of the producer as well as the consumer.

The Price of Milk in the North.

A large meeting of Cumberland and Westmorland dairy farmers was held at Carlisle on the 30th ult. to consider a couple of resolutions which had been passed by the Eden Valley and Penrith District Farmers' and Dairymen's Association, expressing the desirability of increasing the price of milk and the rearrangement of milk contracts, and suggesting that representatives of the association confer with the principal dairy companies to see if they will agree to an increase, and if they do not agree that they be informed that the association will commence milk depôts in the towns, for the benefit of its own members.

Mr. G. Dixon, Easton, who presided, said it would be well if all the farmers pulled together. The heavy prices for dairy cows, the great cost of feeding stuffs, and the small price which dairymen gave for the milk, made the farmer's work altogether unremunerative. The middleman was now buying his milk at 7d. and 9d. a gallon, and was getting 1s. 4d. for it; and he had not the risk, the expense, and the labour of keeping cows.

Mr. Irving said it would be of no use for Cumberland and Westmorland farmers to take action unless they could get Scotch farmers to join them. A great part of the Newcastle milk supply came from across the Border. Scotch farmers were coming into Cumberland, getting all the farms they could, and stocking them with Ayrshire cows.

Mr. Soulsby said the Cumbrians had an advantage over the Scotsmen, by reason of the facilities they had for milk carriage on Sundays.

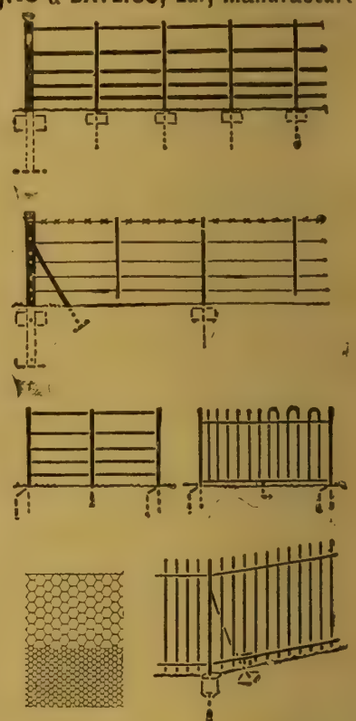
After another speech a resolution was passed supporting that of the Eden Valley Association, and it was decided to ask the middlemen to pay 7½d. in summer and 9½d. in winter for the milk. A resolution was also agreed to that should any member of the association undersell his milk, he be fined two guineas, to go to the funds of the association.

At a largely attended meeting of farmers and milk kitters of Preston and the Fylde held at Preston on Wednesday, it was decided to increase the price of milk by 1d. per gallon, to charge casual customers 2d. per pint, and dispense with the "long pull." Each farmer present resolved to sign an undertaking to pay on demand to the committee of the association £5 in case of violation of the agreement.

It was further decided to join the Lancashire Farmers' Association, it being urged that success could be achieved by taking advantage of its powerful organisation.

Ownership of Roadside Growth.—An interesting case dealing with the question of ownership of roadside growth was recently heard by his Honour Judge Templer at Barnard Castle County Court, the plaintiff being a farmer named Joseph Willis, who sought to recover from Anthony Coulthard, a roadman, £1 damages, alleged to have been sustained through the defendant cutting rushes on the side of the road adjoining the plaintiff's allotment. For the plaintiff, who was represented by counsel instructed by the Farmers' Protection Association, Darlington, it was stated that at the side of the road next to plaintiff's land grew a number of very tall rushes, which were very valuable in the district for thatching stacks. For thirty years plaintiff had cut these rushes for the purpose of thatching his stacks. One day defendant cut the rushes and led them away. A great deal of evidence was given for both sides, but in the end his honour gave judgment for plaintiff for £1 and costs. In doing so he remarked that he thought that, so far as herbage was concerned, it belonged to the adjoining owner. They must infer that the road for the purposes of the road was a public highway, but for the purpose of the herbage and so on it belonged to the persons most interested, and that was the person next door. That was confirmed by the action of the tenant himself, who in that case must be taken as the agent of the landlord. For a long period of years he had used that right. Therefore, he thought, that in that case they must presume that it really did not belong to any ordinary highway, and that it belonged to Miss Wilson, the owner of the adjoining land, and her tenants.

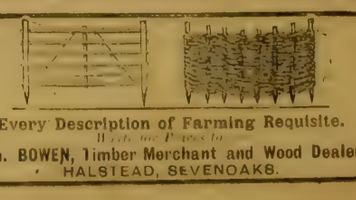
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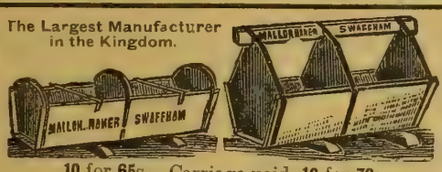
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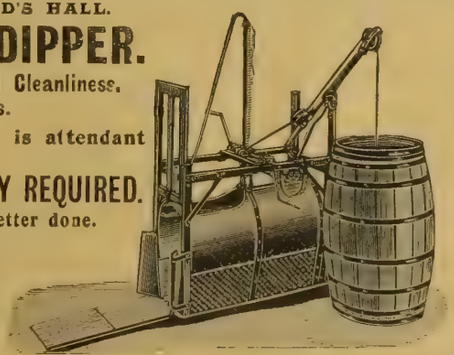
WALLACE'S NEW PATENT SHEEP DIPPER.

Efficiency with Expedition. Economy with Safety and Cleanliness.
No Rough Handling or abuse of in-lamb Ewes.

No risk of Blood-poisoning or discomfort, such as is attendant on the usual laborious, dirty method.

A DISTINCT SAVING OF LABOUR. TWO MEN ONLY REQUIRED.

200 Heavy Sheep can be dipped per hour, and the work is better done.





The Testimonials received concerning these Machines will convince you they are labour-savers.

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WALLACE'S PATENT UNIVERSAL MANURE DISTRIBUTOR

will sow Grain, Ground Lime, Basic Slag, Superphosphate, Ground Bones, Guano, Soot, Nitrate of Soda, Sulphate of Ammonia, Kainit, &c., without any possibility of clogging or choking, from 10 feet to 15 feet wide, according to material, in any quantity from 1 cwt. to a ton per acre without changing wheels.

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which was awarded a SILVER MEDAL by the R.A.S.E. after extended trials at Bedfordshire County Agricultural Institute.

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Are you troubled with them?

If so, you can easily exterminate them by using **The Pasteur Vaccine Co.'s** well-known **Rat Virus.** Rats and Mice eating bread charged with the Virus are affected by a microbic disease fatal only to the Rodents. The Virus is **Absolutely Harmless to Poultry, Dogs, &c., and Human Beings. The Rats and Mice die in the open.** Price per tube, 2/6. Large Tube, equal to 3 tubes, 5/-

Prepared by The Pasteur Vaccine Co., Ltd., Paris, New York, &c., &c.

Sole British Agents (to whom all communications should be addressed):

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12, Red Lion Square, London, W.C.

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Telephone No.: 4039 Central.

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You will get a supply of Eggs from your Hens and Pullets in Autumn and Winter by feeding them each morning upon

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Numerous unsolicited Testimonials.

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Poultry Food Factory, NORWICH.

MISCELLANEOUS.

GALVANISED CORRUGATED SHEETS, best quality, 24 gauge, 14s.; 26 gauge, 15s. 6d. per cwt.; second quality, 24 gauge, 18s.; 26 gauge, 14s. per cwt. BARBED WIRE, English make, 16s; foreign, 14s. per cwt. Wrought Iron Standards, 6ft. 6in. long, 1s. 3d. each. Roofing Felt, Wire Netting, Black Varnish, Red Oxide Nails, Bolts, Nuts, Screws and Washers.—M Dept. BUTLER, Bell Works, Wolverhampton. Established 1828.

OIL ENGINES.—Simple and reliable. Prices from 10 guineas. No lamps after starting. Lists free; no fancy prices.—CLIFFE OIL ENGINE WORKS, Morton Bingley.

RABBIT CATCHERS, Bird Catchers, Farmers' Sportsman Nets, Traps, Snares, Decoys. Every description Ropes, Tarpaulins, Rick Cloths. Illustrated Catalogue 1d. —YOUNG (M L.E.), Net Trap Manufacturer, Crewkerne, Somerset.

TRACTION ENGINES and WAGONS, Portable, Ploughing, and Fixed Engines, Thrashing Machines, &c., second-hand, for Sale, cheap, or to be Let on Hire-purchase. Full list free. Inquiries for all classes of Machinery solicited. Largest stock in England to be seen at our Works as below. We are also buyers of good modern Engines at all times, for cash. Large stock of Beltings, Oils, and Engineers' Requisites of all descriptions.—HENRY LEWIS & SONS, Thames Bank Iron Works, Reading.

10,000 YARDS Strained Wire Fencing. Improved Steel Bulb Tee Standards. Low prices.—W. J. MULLINGS, St. Agnes Ironworks, Bristol.

MEDICUS NON-BLISTERING OIL for Spavins, Splints, Sprains, Rheumatism, Swollen Joints, and all Lameness in horse and cattle. Use it and have a sound stud. Well recommended. Pint tins, post free, 4s. each.—WADDELL, Carnarvon Street, Glasgow.

BASIC SLAG, highest quality; guaranteed analysis 42 per cent. phosphates, 85 per cent. fine meal.—For full particulars and prices of this and other fertilizers apply THE SILICATE CO., LTD., Hemel Hempstead.

SACKS.—Sound, clean, once used, 280 lbs., 6½d.; 224 lbs, 5½d.; 140 lbs., 3d. each. Carriage paid on 50 lots. Special Pig Meal, 12s., 240 lbs. Send for sample.—G. T. MURRAY, Green Lane, Stoneycroft, Liverpool.

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BREWERS' GRAINS. — Dairy Farmers supplied by contract or otherwise. — Write for price to GEO. CRUTCHER, 195, Queen's Road, Peckham.

GALVANISED Iron Mangers from 5s. each. Write for prices of stable fittings. — T. CHARLES, 10, Albert Embankment, London, S.E.

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Wire Netting.—Best Galvanised. Reduced prices per roll of 50 yds. 3 in. mesh, 2 ft., 4s.; 3 ft., 5s. 5d.; 4 ft., 7s. 2d.; 2 in. mesh, 2 ft., 5s. 1d.; 3 ft., 6s. 10½.; 4 ft., 9s. 2d.; 1 in. mesh, 2 ft., 8s. 5d.; 3 ft., 12s.; 4 ft., 16s. BEST GALVANISED SHEEP NETTING.—50 yard rolls, 3 ft. wide, 4 in. mesh, and centre strand, strong, 9s. 2d.; medium, 8s. 2d. per 50 yard roll. Strong Stakes, 6s. per dozen. Carriage paid on lots, nettingor stakes, 70s. value.

Iron and Steel Hurdles, Fences, Gates.—Excellent quality; 6 ft. hurdles, 4 rails, 33s. per doz.; 5 bars, 36s. Steel fencing wire, 11s. per cwt.; galvanised wire strand, 16s. 6d. cwt.; galvanised barbed wire, 11s. cwt., 500 yards Challenge field gates, 9 ft. by 4 ft., 22s. each. Carriage paid on six gates. Strong sheep fencing, five steel wires, and iron posts, 8d. per yard.

Splendid Galvanised Roofing. Perfect quality; 5 ft., 1s. 5d.; 6 ft., 1s. 8½d.; 7 ft., 2s.; 8 ft., 2s. 3½d.; 9 ft., 2s. 8d.; 10 ft., 3s. Ridging, 2½d. per ft. Wire Nails, 11s. cwt Roofing Felt, 2s. 30 sq. feet.

Galvanised Cisterns, corrugated steel, 20 gals., 9s.; 50 gals., 18s. 3d.; 100 gals., 21s. Corn Bins; Sheep, Pig, and Cattle Troughs at very low prices. Lists free.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

WROT IRON FENCING.—Hurdles, Gates, Wire, &c. Illustrated catalogues free.—DAVID & Co., Dept. E, Taff Vale Iron Works, Cardiff.

FARMERS' OIL COATS, 8/11; Sou'westers, 1/9; Overall Leggings, 2/9; Tarpaulin Sheets, 9 by 7, 12/6; Gig Rugs, 10/6; Army Leggings, 2/4. Carriage paid. Price List.—CARLISLE RUBBER COMPANY, Carlisle.

TRY DANIEL GILES for Farm Carts, Waggons, Lurries, &c. Best Workmanship only. — Station Street, Bromsgrove.

"PITTSBURGH PERFECT" Electrically Welded Fencer. Made only from well galvanized steel wire. Suitable for field, park, and garden. The strongest, cheapest, and most elegant wire fences in the world. —THOS. PAGE, Bottesford, Nottingham.

POTATO BAGS, Second-hand, to hold one cwt, 3d. each.—FIRMIN & Co., Handford Works, Ipswich.

BASIC SLAG. — Phosphates and fineness guaranteed. Write us to-day for pamphlet and special quotation. Autumn and spring delivery. CANNOCK AGRICULTURAL CO., LTD., Cannock, Staffs.

LAITA.—The best Milk Substitute for Calves and best results. Popular prices, 12s. 6d. per cwt., carriage paid. Send 12s. 6d. for sample bag to—R. J. NELL & Co., LTD., Spiced Food Mills, Louth, Lincs.

RATS! RATS!!—A Truro Farmer writes:—"After using a 1/- Pot of HARRISON'S 'RELIABLE' RAT POISON, I picked up 150 dead rats." Equally good for Rats, Mice, or Moles. Dogs or cats won't touch it. Price 6d., 1s., 2s. 3d., 3s. 8d. Postage 2d.—M. L. HARRISON, Chemist, Broad Street, Reading.

BASIC SLAG, all grades.—Kainit, Supers., Boiled and Dissolved Bones, etc. State quantities required and station, when prices, analyses, etc., will be sent by return of post.—CLEMENT SWAFFIELD, Derby.

NO RATS SEEN since using DANYSZ VIRUS six months ago; see testimonials; single tubes 2s. 6d., three tubes 5s. Post free from DANYSZ VIRUS, LTD., Box N, 52, Leadenhall Street, London, E.C. Harmless to other animals.

SHEEP HAY CAGES for Sale; well made, from last season's wood; ready for delivery at once; £1 per doz. on rail Cosham, Havant, Petersfield.—Apply E. A. EDNEY, Five Heads Farm, Horndean, Hants.

T. SCHOLEY, Eastnor, Ledbury.—Patent Fastener for Hunting and other Gates, Doors, etc.

FOR SALE.—Fencing Wire, new, all gauges, 8s. cwt., £7 per ton. —Ross Works, Berksland Street, Bradford.

WATERPROOF COVERS and Handsewn Sacks for farm and estate use. Enquiries solicited.—FIRMIN & Co., Ipswich.

BASIC SLAG Distributor, best and cheapest machine to sow, 7 ft., £9.—Catalogue from T. A. MEGGESON, Southlands Chelmsford.

LADDERS, with wood sides, galvanised tube round, from 6d. per round, carriage paid.—JONES & Co., Sedgley.

RAIN WATER BUTTS.—Gilpin's Teak and other Butts will last a life-time, 50 to 500 gallons. Also TUBS for cattle feeding, sheep dipping, pig scalding, &c. 500 SHALLOW TUBS suitable for poultry feeding, 26 in. diameter 4 in. deep. Price 2s. 6d. each. Send for full detailed price list.—J. GILPIN, Bread Street, Bristol.

NOSEBAG SUSPENDERS greatly comfort animals and prevent Waste of Forage; fifty sold to one firm: 3s. 11d. CHILES, G. P., Ladywood Road, Birmingham.

POWDER for DESTROYING LICE in CATTLE and HORSES, and FLEAS and LICE in DOGS and POULTRY. Sure remedy; simply sprinkled on, no washing; quite harmless. 1s. per lb., over 8 lbs. post free. E. RUMSEY & CO., Rhuddallt Fawr, Carnarvon.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BLACK WATERPROOF DRESSING for Oilskins, Capes, Covers. Durable. Will not crack, stick or peel. Post free, 1s. 3d.; Gallon, 7s. 6d. —VIX OIL "E" COMPANY, 10, Basinghall Street, London.

TENDER.

ST. PANCRAS BOROUGH COUNCIL.

THE HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE of the ST. PANCRAS BOROUGH COUNCIL invite TENDERS for the SUPPLY of HORSE FORAGE and LITTER, to be delivered to the Council's Stables, 6 & 7, Whitcher Place, Rochester Road, N.W., for a period of three or six months from the 1st day of January, 1908. A form of Contract and Schedule of the material required can be obtained on application to the Borough Engineer at the Town Hall, Pancras Road, N.W.

Tenders, endorsed "Tender for Forage," to be delivered to the Borough Engineer not later than NOON on THURSDAY the 12th day of December, 1907, from whom also further particulars may be obtained.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

By Order,
C. H. F. BARRETT,
Town Clerk.

Town Hall, Pancras Road, N.W.
December 3, 1907.

FARMS, BUSINESSES, &c., TO BE SOLD OR LET.

BAXTER, PAYNE, & LEPPER, LAND & ESTATE AGENTS, AGRICULTURAL VALUERS, SURVEYORS, & AUCTIONEERS. Special Agents for DAIRY, FRUIT, STOCK AND MARKET GARDEN FARMS. Particulars on application.

All applicants stating details of requirements will have a selected list of Farms answering thereto forwarded free of charge.

MESSRS. BAXTER, PAYNE & LEPPER'S AGENCY has proved a valuable medium for Owners and others to secure substantial Tenants for FARMS, ESTATES & COUNTRY PROPERTIES.

Landed Estates managed and owners advised upon the best method of dealing with Farms to meet the circumstances of present times, and so protect interest and income.

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MESSRS. SNOW & HAWKES, Surveyors and Land Agents, Pocklington's Walk, Leicester, Publish printed LIST of FARMS and SMALL HOLDINGS for SALE in Leicestershire and adjoining Counties. Free on application to above address. No charge for insertion.

AUCTIONEERS. — WANTED, a COUNTRY BUSINESS, Partnership or otherwise. The advertiser, who is a good salesman, well connected, and recently completed his articles with well-known firm of Agricultural Auctioneers, desires an Engagement with a view to Partnership, or is open to purchase the whole or a share in a good, sound, well-established business. —Address WARE, care of J. W. Vickers and Co., 5, Nicholas Lane, E.C.

FARM.—Wanted to Rent, with option of Purchase, a first-class mixed FARM of not less than 300 acres with good residence and outbuildings near a large town on main line of railway.—Send full particulars to Mr. JAMES, Canons, Ware, Herts.

EDUCATIONAL.

EDINBURGH AND EAST OF SCOTLAND COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE.

AGRICULTURAL LECTURER wanted for the County Work Department. Commencing salary, £200 per annum. Applications to be made to the Secretary, 13, George Square, Edinburgh, not later than 14th December.

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF ENGLAND.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, in accordance with the Society's Supplemental Charter of 1905, and the By-Laws made thereunder, the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of Governors and Members of the Royal Agricultural Society of England will be held at the ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON, on WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1907, at 2 p.m., to consider the balance-sheet, and the reports of the Council and of the Auditors; to elect a President and Trustees, Vice-Presidents, and Auditors, to hold office until the next ensuing Annual General Meeting; and to take cognizance of the election of ordinary Members of Council made by Divisions pursuant to the By-Laws.

By Order of the Council,
THOMAS McROW,
Secretary.

16, Bedford Square,
London, W.C.

SMITHFIELD CLUB CATTLE SHOW. — Patron: His Most Gracious Majesty the King. President: James Hornsby, Esq.

AT THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON. Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Implements, Roots, &c. THIS DAY (Monday), December 9, at 2 p.m. Close at 8 p.m. Admission: Five Shillings.

TO-MORROW, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, and FRIDAY, December 10, 11, 12, and 13. Open at 9 a.m. Close at 9 p.m. Admission: One Shilling. CARCASE & TABLE POULTRY SHOW on Wednesday and Thursday.

BANK & INSURANCE.

BIRKBECK BANK.
Established 1851.
Southampton Buildings,
High Holborn, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on Deposit Accounts.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book
All general Banking Business transacted. ALMANAC, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

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PHŒNIX FIRE OFFICE,
19, Lombard Street,
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FIRE.
WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION.
BURGLARY. PERSONAL ACCIDENT.
FIDELITY GUARANTEE.

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS.
EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY,
SICKNESS,
BURGLARY and FIDELITY GUARANTEE RISKS
Insured against by the
RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE Co.
Capital (fully subscribed) £1,000,000.
Claims paid £5,000,000.
A. VIAN, *Secretary*
64, Cornhill, London.

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LARGEST AND OLDEST LIVE STOCK AGENCY. ESTABLISHED 1878.
Practical Farmers in 57 Counties (whose Testimonials will be sent on application) TESTIFY THEIR COMPLETE SATISFACTION with the LIVE STOCK with which they have been supplied by
E. GOODWIN PREECE, who buys on Commission CATTLE & SHEEP of all breeds and classes for FEEDING, DAIRY, or BREEDING.
Satisfaction Guaranteed. Personal Buying.

Ewes, from 35s. to 55s., according to breed and age.	
Welsh Ewes, 18s. to 25s.	Cattle, 2 years and over, £10 to £15.
Cheviots, 20s. to 35s.	Milch Cows, from £17 to £23.
Yearling Wethers, 45s. to 50s.	Dairy-bred Heifers for bulling, £8 to £10
Lambs, from 27s to 35s.	12 West Highland Bullocks, 2 years, £8 10s.
Rams (any breed), 5 to 10 gs.	
Yearling Cattle, from £7 to £10.	
11 West Highlanders, £7 10s.	

CROSS HILL, near SHREWSBURY.

LEGAL NOTICE.

In the High Court of Justice,
Chancery Division,
Mr. Justice PICTON.
In the matter of
THE AVONVALE BREAD COMPANY, LIMITED, EVESHAM.

THE Receiver and Manager, appointed by the Chancery Court, is desirous of disposing of the business carried on by the above Company, as a going concern.

The Freehold property is situate in the centre of the Vale of Evesham, and close to the Midland and Great Western Railways, and on the banks of the river, which is navigable to Gloucester, and contains in the whole an area of about 3a. 1r. 2p., comprising Mill Buildings, large Four-Storey Building known as "The Factory," connected with the Mill by covered girder bridge and a substantial Dwelling House known as the "Mill House," with good garden, which is let at a nominal rental of £30. Also Foreman's Cottage and Offices, and a productive Orchard known as "The Island."

The Machinery consists of a 5 (Bag) Plant (4 bus.) on Simon's System, with Wheat Cleaning Machinery, Wheat Washer, &c., driven by two Turbines ("Simon's Action"), Provender Plant, consisting of two Pairs Stones with necessary adjuncts driven by a large undershot Wheel, one high and low pressure Condensing Steam Engine (18in. Cylinder), Electric Lighting Plant, &c.

Being situated in the centre of a Feeding District there is a large local demand at full prices for offals, horse corn and provender, &c., which is of considerable benefit to the Company.

Fishing rights connected with the River (Avon), of about one mile in extent, are let at a nominal rent of £6 10s. per annum.

There is ample accommodation for a considerable increase of Plant

The Stock in Trade can be purchased at a valuation.

Goodwill includes all books and papers, together with valuable connection acquired by the Company.

Further particulars and cards to view can be obtained from Messrs. GEOFFREY NEW & ODGERS, Solicitors, Evesham; or the Receiver and Manager, Mr. H. J. PEART; of Messrs. SHARP, PARSONS & Co., Chartered Accountants, 120, Colmore Row, Birmingham.

POULTRY.

MARSH & CO., Billingsgate, London, require Larks, Blackbirds, Thrushes, Woodcocks, Snipe, Plover and Wild Duck in any quantity. Top prices paid. Cash daily. Bankers, Martins' Bank.

IMPORTANT.—Have you any live old hens for disposal? If so, communicate with MARSH & Co., the Live Poultry Salesmen, Billingsgate, London.

IMPORTANT.—Everybody having old hens for disposal should communicate with GEEN & Co., Smithfield Market, London, the largest Poultry Buyers in England.

COCKERELS. —For Sale or Exchange, pure-bred Buff Orpingtons, White and Brown Leghorns. Moderate prices.—MIRRLEES, Chequer House, near Retford.

AMERICAN BRONZE TURKEYS. —Grand stock birds, bred from heaviest and purest strains living over 25 years.—POWELL, Hardwick Court, Clifford, Hereford.

TURKEYS.—Splendid birds, ready for stock or exhibition; heaviest strain living; stock bought from us now winning. — LILL, Martindales, Lincoln.

TOULOUSE GEESE, Bygott's strain, fine massive birds. Ganders, £1 1s.; geese, 15s.; only a few left.—R. MAW, Jun., The Curlews, Crowle, Doncaster.

SEEDS, PLANTS, POTATOES, ETC.

SELECTED SEED POTATOES. 31st Season. List free. — T. KEME, Marcham-le-Fen, Boston, Lincs.

SEED POTATOES. —King Edwards, Dates, Evergoods, and other varieties, twice grown from Scotland.—Apply WM. HOGG & Co., Scunthorpe, Doncaster.

BLACK CURRANTS, French, some thousands very strong 2-year-old bushes, free from big bud. Price moderate.—W. ARNOLD, "Nickle," Chartham, Canterbury.

CABBAGE Plants, Eclipse Earliest and Larger Hearts, for Spring cutting; Early Rainham, 2s. per 1,000; Cattle Cabbage Plants, 2s. 1,000; 5 ton Sharp Express Seed Potatoes for Sale. —H. S. LANE, Plant Grower, Cliffe, Rochester, Kent.

FOR SALE.—Bedfordshire Champion Strawberry Plants. The latest Variety brought out, and believed to be the largest and best in cultivation. Also Paxton's, well-rooted, trimmed and ready for planting, prices according to quantities required, if unsold.—Apply, HIGGS, Farnboro', Kent.

POTATOES! POTATOES!! —EDWARD ENGLAND, Cardiff, Ltd., Importers and Exporters of Potatoes. Head Office, West Dock, Cardiff; also Bath Street, Bristol, and North Dock, Swansea.

EDWARD ENGLAND, Cardiff, Limited, are always buyers of good English Potatoes, for cash on rails.—Address, Head Office, West Dock, Cardiff.

SEED POTATOES.—Duke of York, Express, Puritans, &c., off silt land. State wants — A. LIGHTON, Junr., Kirton, Boston.

100,000 SUPERLATIVE RASPBERRY CANES 5s. 100; 20-. 1,000. Hornet, 5s. 100; 25s. 1,000. Perfection, 6s. 100; Norwich Wonder, 15s. 1,000. Carter's Prolific, 20s. 1,000. —W. HORNE & SONS, Cliffe, near Rochester, Kent.

PUBLICATIONS.

JUNIOR COUNTRY READERS. By H. B. M. Buchanan, B.A., and R. R. C. Gregory. Gl. 8vo. I. True Animal Stories, 128 pages, 25 illustrations, 1s.; II. More True Animal Stories, 172 pages, 29 illustrations. 1s. 2d.; III. Talks on Country Life. 190 pages, 67 illustrations, 1s. 4d. SENIOR COUNTRY READERS. By H. B. M. Buchanan, B.A., Gl. 8vo, I. 256 pages, 65 illustrations, 1s. 6d.; II. 242 pages, 84 illustrations, 1s. 6d., III. 302 pages, 143 illustrations, 2s. LESSONS ON COUNTRY LIFE, 342 pages, 175 illustrations, Gl. 8vo, 3s. 6d. THE OBJECT OF THE READERS. —While the interest and simplicity of the reading matter fixes the attention of boys and girls unconsciously to themselves, they learn a great deal of accurate knowledge concerning life and work in the country, and at the same time there is aroused in their minds a desire to go outside and observe things for themselves.—London: MACMILLAN & Co., LTD., St. Martin's Street, W.C.

THE NEW ZEALAND FARMER. Stock and Station Journal. An illustrated monthly publication, containing practical and scientific information on Farming, Stock Breeding, Cattle, Horses, Sheep, Dairying, Fruit Growing, &c. The only paper entirely devoted to Farming matters and circulating throughout the Colony. Price 1s. 1d., by post 1s. 4d. Proprietors, The Brett Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd., Auckland. London Manager, R. B. BRETT, 134, Fleet Street (over "The Standard" Offices), London, E.C.

"THE HORSEKEEPER'S HANDBOOK," 1s. 1d.; how to quickly fatten a horse for show or sale, how to manage vicious horses, kickers and shiers; vet.'s condition powders and numerous other recipes and secrets; hundreds of testimonials. — W. TURNER, 71, Grangemoor, Rhyl.

"ARTIFICIAL MANURES."—1/- post free, 1/2½.—W. A. MAY, "Mark Lane Express" Office, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, W.C.

AGENTS, SITUATIONS WANTED.

AGENTS WANTED for the Sale of NATIVE GUANO. The best and cheapest manure for all farm and garden crops. —THE NATIVE GUANO COMPANY, LTD., 29, New Bridge Street, Blackfriars, London, E.C.

WANTED, AGENTS for the SALE of NATURAL Ammoniacal and Phosphatic GUANOS and high-class Chemical Manures. All analyses and dry condition guaranteed.—Apply to DANIEL DE PASS & CO., 1, Fenchurch Buildings, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.

AGENTS WANTED. — Binder Twine. Season 1908. Agricultural Implement Dealers, Ironmongers, and other gentlemen in England doing business with Farmers are invited to apply for Agency for the Sale of our Rising Sun (registered brand) Manila and other descriptions of Binder Twine, either as buying or selling Agents; liberal commission. Our twine is level, and equal in strength and runnage to any on the market.—Address THE EDINBURGH ROPERIE & SAILCLOTH CO., LTD., Leith, Scotland.

RAILWAY ANNOUNCEMENT.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY. —Cheap Excursions to London (King's Cross) for SMITHFIELD CLUB CATTLE SHOW—at the AGRICULTURAL HALL, DECEMBER 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13—Monday, December 9, for 2, 3, 4, 5, or 8 days. Great Northern representatives will be at the Show each day, prepared to give information as to train service, &c., to exhibitors and others.—OLIVER BURY, General Manager, King's Cross Station, November. 1907.



Every rat knows that it is all UP with him when Sanford's Rat Poison is brought on the scene. Not one will live to tell the tale. 50 years' reputation as an infallible rat exterminator. In boxes from 6d. to 5s., of all chemists or post free direct from SANFORD AND SONS, Sandy, Beds.

Mole and Mice Poisons equally effective.

FOOT-ROT.



STRAWSON'S
CELEBRATED
FOOT-ROT OINTMENT.
Effectual—Speedy—Permanent.
Used by the chief Ram Breeders and Flock Masters in the Kingdom.
RECOMMENDS ITSELF. TRY IT.
May be had through any Chemist; or will be sent post free at the rate of 1s. per tin, 20s. per case of two dozen tins (not less than a case at the latter rate), by the Sole Proprietor, G. STRAWSON, Chemist, Bishop's Castle.

HOWARD
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PLOUGHS

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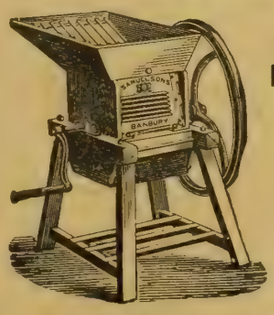
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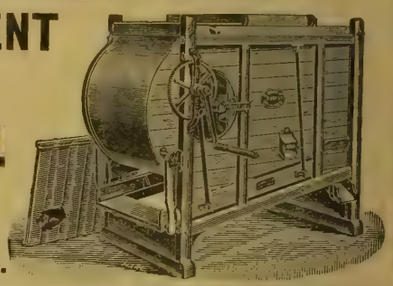
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Seasonable Topics.

Colonial Fruit.

THERE is no doubt about the fact that fruit culture in our colonies on the other side of the Atlantic is treated very seriously, and the growers are alive to the advantages of advertisement. A few weeks ago visitors at the Royal Horticultural Hall, Westminster, had the opportunity of feasting their eyes on a splendid and varied display of fruit, but the section of the exhibition which interested us most was that devoted to apples. The finest collection was the one from British Columbia, and a splendid advertisement it was for the province. The size and rich colouring of the fruit afforded evidence of the character of the climate, but when one realised that the apples had travelled some 6,000 miles by rail and steamer one willingly agreed that the growers are also masters of the art of grading and packing. Just so, and here perhaps we have the chief secret of the success of colonial fruit growers. They have set out to grow good apples on a systematic method, they know the varieties most suitable for export, and they spare no pains in grading and packing. In short, the thing is done well from beginning to end, and in the exhibition referred to English growers had opportunities of learning useful lessons. It is true that on this side we have not all the advantages enjoyed in the Western provinces, but that the old country can produce fine apples has been demonstrated more than once in the same hall, but we want to grow more of the best. It is our second-rate stuff that cannot compete with colonial produce.

The First of the Lambs.

WHEN young lambs make their appearance in a cold and dismal world before the old year has run its course, the occasion is not unfrequently celebrated by a paragraph in the local paper, which makes the fact known to all and sundry who may be interested. We have already seen several of these press notices, telling of lambs born before the end of November, and our sympathy has been with the lambs, which naturally at this time of the year run risks of succumbing to inclement weather. Still, the shepherd is drawn by a peculiar feeling of affection to the first lamb, particularly when it creates a record in point of earliness. He feels that it is a weakling, unable to battle with the adverse circumstances, so he treats it as a nursling, and spares himself no effort in order that he may be able to rear it, and if he is successful he feels that he has scored a triumph. A month hence, of course, young lambs will not be so much of a novelty, and just now the ewes that are due to lamb early must be kept in good condition and be fed with care. This is particularly essential with old ewes which have teeth troubles, where the object is to have fat lambs for the early market.

Sheep and Cattle on the Railway.

CONSIDERING the number of cattle and sheep that are moved about every week on the railway, comparatively few fatalities occur, though one never sees a number of beasts packed tightly in a cattle-truck and jostled together in the operations of shunting without thinking of the discomfort they must suffer, and how relieved they must be when the journey comes to an end. In the transfer of sheep and cattle railway companies have a good many hard things said about them, particularly when delays arise, and the man who is expecting stock at a certain time has to kick his heels in impatience for hours before they arrive. Still, we know that things cannot always run smoothly on a railway, particularly when fogs have to be dealt with, and credit must be given to the officials for doing their best. But in the transfer of cattle and sheep by rail it is most essential that the comfort of the animals should be considered and suffering be avoided; and bearing on this a case was reported quite recently of a number of sheep being packed in a railway truck, and when they reached their destination five were found to be dead and six more had to be killed.

The Farmers' Week.

AS we write the Smithfield Show is a great centre of attraction in London, and there are probably more members of the farming community in the metropolis than will be seen again for a year. In the first place, the most popular farmer in Great Britain was there, and the interest taken in the stock by his Majesty showed what a man of many parts the King is. One gets a little tired of hearing people rate about the overfed beasts at the Cattle Show, but as a rule the individuals who adopt this strain are not practical, and the big event loses none of its attractions for farmers who are. It is not alone the animals which bring agriculturists up to town in Cattle Show week, for the occasion is selected as being suitable for holding meetings in which members of the farming fraternity are interested; and lastly—tell it not in Gath?—our friends from the country enjoy a little turn round London once a year, and the Cattle Show comes at a season when time can best be spared. There is something about the typical farmer which marks him wherever he goes, and apart from his orthodox breeches-and-gaiter show attire, his stalwart figure and ruddy countenance distinguish him as he walks along the Strand from the native Londoner, and as a specimen of healthy humanity the comparison is in favour of the farmer. When these lines appear the farmers' week will be over, and our country friends will be back at home, but the events of the Smithfield Show will provide food for comment for a long time to come.

Water-Logged Land.

IN most districts work on the land has been brought to a complete standstill through the daily repetition of rain, rain, rain, and in lowlying parts fields are no longer fields, but huge lakes, while roads are flooded and traffic is hampered. We naturally expect a fair amount of wet at this time of the year, but have grown weary of the continual downpour, and the general wish is for a spell of dry frost for Christmas. To say that land, particularly where it is disposed on the side of stiffness, is water-logged is using a mild expression, and under the most favourable circumstances the only arable work possible between the storms is the ploughing of stubbles that are as yet undisturbed. When circumstances permit it is good to get on with this work as the turned-up ridges will be ready for the action of the frost which we naturally expect will come. By the way, the steam-cultivator people are having a bad time of it owing to the wet, for even if the implements could work it is almost impossible to get the ponderous engines in position in the fields.

The Lighting of Villages.

A good deal has been done of late years to brighten up rural villages, but many of them remain in darkness at night, and the adoption or otherwise of the Lighting Act is still the cause of much controversy and even bitter feeling. We happened to be in a little village a short time ago where it was thought by certain members of the community how nice it would be to cheer up the place at night by having lamps in the streets. The farmers and people who lived outside were quite agreeable so long as the villagers who derived most benefit from the lamps were willing to pay for them, but they disapproved of paying extra rates for the benefit of their neighbours. A public meeting was called to decide the matter; the outsiders turned up in great force, overthrew the resolution, and the village is in darkness, with more people at enmity with each other than was the case before. This is only one case in which the outside community has put the veto on the lighting of villages, and a certain amount of sympathy may be claimed by both sides. We agree with the desirability of lighting villages in the winter, as a few lamps about the streets make all the difference to cheerfulness and convenience; but, after all, there is something human about the man who lives at a solitary farm two miles away objecting to help to pay for a privilege from which he derives little or no benefit, and while village lighting remains a matter of local option the difficulties described will continue to exist.

The Value of Conferences.

THAT farmers are interested in discussion on matters concerning their industry is proved by the large number of practitioners who recently attended the Hop Growers' Conference at Wye College, and took active part in the proceedings. Just so, and in our opinion conferences of this kind need not be confined to hop growers, for in various other branches of farming they hold out possibilities of usefulness. There is no better means of education and the distribution of useful knowledge than by interchange of opinion amongst practical men, who when they meet together are afforded opportunities of relating their experiences under varying conditions. In the farming world of to-day there is no room for secrecy, nor is there any need for it, and in conference practical men can be of mutual assistance to each other. We contend that a farmer's education is never completed, and whatever branch a man may be most interested in he is well versed indeed if he can attend a conference without adding something to his store of knowledge. And apart from this it is a good thing for farmers to meet together in a spirit of good fellowship to exchange ideas and discuss matters of mutual interest and concern.

The Indifference of Farmers.

WHILE we freely admit that there is a section of the farming community who are well to the front in matters connected with the industry, and are doing their best to make its interest more powerful in the land, in many ways that need not be particularised, yet the fact remains that the efforts of the energetic and up to-date are sadly hampered by the apathy and indifference of another—and a large—section, who either will not move at all or are contented to sit on the fence and see what is going to happen before joining any movement that is started for their benefit. Even in a go-ahead county like Lincolnshire where the Farmers' Union is making its power felt, we observe that apathy and indifference are difficulties to be overcome, but it is a pity that this should be. There is no spirit of revolution moving, but it is in keeping with the times that farmers whose interests are mutual should stand together, and how can this be when one half are contented with seats on the fence?

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

The Fears of the "Times."

Many I assure my contemporary the *Times* that it has unduly alarmed itself over the action of the Central Chamber of Agriculture in accepting a resolution in favour of the formation of an Independent Agricultural Party. It has so inflamed its own vision that it already perceives on the floor of the House of Commons a band of agrarian Ishmaelites of the most extreme Keir-Hardie pattern, ever on the war-path, careless of traditions, heedless of patriotism, and unable to discipline itself in harmony, with imperial necessities. Fancy our old Somersetshire friend, Mr. Kidner, being the parent of a Parliamentary progeny of this kind. The *Times* can perceive no substantial result to be achieved by "the presence in Parliament of a group of half a dozen." Well, had such a group been present in Parliament in the last ten years we should not have had to wait so long for the Butter Act or the Dogs Act—we should not have had ten years of absolute legislative infertility so far as agriculture is concerned. The *Times*' Conservatism is really the source of the grissly fears with which it has influenced its o'er sensitive mind. Those fears are grotesquely overdone. After all, the word "independent" does not mean an antagonism towards all that is conventional and respectable. It does not mean the abandonment of ordinary partisan views and of all ambitions outside those affecting agriculture. It simply means the possession by a body of resolute-minded men of the determination that agriculture shall not merely not be neglected in Parliament, but that in this age when the Parliamentary victory goes to the best-organised and the most persistent section, Parliament shall not be left uninstructed in the evolving necessities of the nation's historic interest. This is not inconsistent with a real reverence for the Imperial structure, or with a readiness to make sacrifices on its behalf.

* * *

What Ministers Design.

I have been anticipating in this column that we should not in the next Session have so much heed paid to agrarianism as we had in the last two Sessions. But apparently I am mistaken. On re-conning the recent speeches of Mr. John Burns and Earl Carrington, I am simply appalled by the Gargantuan bill-of-fare which these two statesmen apparently intend to submit for Parliamentary digestion. Old age pensions—which, by the way, we must not forget was first suggested as a means of redeeming the lot of the agricultural labourer—are apparently inevitable. Mr. Burns has made such progress with his Housing Bill—which will have special clauses dealing with the rural situation—that, if my information be correct, it is actually ready for presentation to Parliament. This does not exhaust Mr. Burns's immediate anxieties. He has confessed that he shall not be satisfied—and he hopes to have received Parliamentary sanction for his purpose in the next session—until he has a million acres utilised in a disciplined scheme of afforestation. And Earl Carrington is every whit as ambitious. He hopes, in conjunction with Mr. Burns, to deal satisfactorily with the milk question—a generous anxiety in which every farmer sympathises with him. He is not without a belief that the horse-breeding problem will be grappled with. His lordship, too, is not without belief that agricultural land will be relieved of its terrible burden of rates as a sequel to the Valuation Bill. These are spendid anticipations in very truth. More power to your elbows, ye enthusiastic dignitaries of statesmanship. I am a little pessimistically inclined—I too well know how often the best-laid schemes of mice and men gang aft agley.

* * *

The Reticence of Mr. Chaplin.

I have secured through an admirable local newspaper, the *Salisbury and Winchester Journal*, a full report of the speeches Mr. Henry Chaplin recently delivered at Salisbury. Here was the avowed and accepted leader of the agrarian politicians speaking at a centre, every one of whose material interests is associated with the farming profession, and yet who deliberately refrained from dealing with the ominous question as to how, under a system of Protection in which antagonism to the British farmer in the markets of Great Britain is to be deliberately encouraged, British agriculture could possibly advantage. I use the word "deliberately" with malice aforethought. It would be absurd to suppose that a man who keeps himself so admirably abreast of rural thought as Mr. Chaplain does is not aware of the grim foreboding which the idea of the stimulated preference for Colonial agricultural preference—and that is what this new policy means—has inspired even in the minds of ardent Protectionists. It is a thousand pities that a statesman of the calibre of Mr. Chaplin should indulge in the dry husks of the ordinary platform orator when a matter of this grave omen to the interest of which he has been so long the friend and exponent perturbs the agrarian mind. I beseech Mr. Chaplin to abandon what I may describe as the pig-iron ethics of this neo-Protectionism, and to address himself to the explanation of the fears—they may be illusory—that possess so many men who regard him as their Parliamentary leader.

* * *

Is this Protection for the Farmer?

Now, let me take one sentence from Mr. Chaplin's tariff reform speech at Salisbury. "It was," said he, "no part of the policy advocated by Mr. Chamberlain or Mr. Balfour to increase the cost of food." Here, then, we have an authoritative exposition of the intention of the two great economic protagonists. Of course, this exposition—if not altogether in harmony with what the Chamberlain, *père et fils*, have said in the past—is simply an emphasis of Mr. Balfour's recent declaration. The tax on the foreigner is to be small; the infliction on the worker—the great consumer o our agrarian products—is to be infinitesimal to the extent of being almost non-existent. While this is so economic facilities of such a character are to be given to our Colonies—who can only dump into our markets products which must enter into grave competitive rivalry with English agrarian products—in their trading with Great Britain that those Colonies will gladly consent to purchase all the other necessities that they do not produce within their own borders from the Motherland. Should we hail the prospect with pleasure? The colonists say in effect: "We have with our virgin soil a remarkable fertility; let us supply your markets, and then we will buy everthing else we need from our island Motherland." From the point of view of the urban industrialist this is admirable—he is secured and assured a growing market, in which he sees energetic rivals brusquely rebuked, and he secures this advantage without any penalty to himself. But what of the farmer? I know that your excellent correspondent, Mr. Malden and those who think with him, indulge in visions of a differentiated import tax—of a heavy infliction for the foreigner and a small infliction for the colonist—and assume that the British farmer would under those conditions be able to still retain the home marts. This is not the intention of either home or colonial statecraft. There is to be no tax on food, mind you; Mr. Balfour insists that any tax shall be a small one. Is, I again ask Mr. Chaplin, this protection for the British farmer?

* * *

Agriculture and Health.

Now, this idea of the suggested Ministry for Health being affiliated to the Board of Agriculture is justified by precedent. The Ministry for Health is in more than one of our colonies the department which controls the economic destinies of agriculture. In the United States the Agricultural Department has charge of all the regulations affecting the food and beverages of the community. And, after all, there is method in the idea. Every food and practically every beverage is really a product of the soil. The farmer is the great food and drink producer of the country. To associate responsibility for the purity and wholesomeness of that food and drink with a department responsible for local government—for evolving order and rhythm out of a system necessarily intricate—is something worse than an anomaly. The Local Government Board, too, will in the coming day when the people are assured of an old-age pension, be so harassed with duties that a complete and vigilant oversight of regulations affecting food will be beyond its capacity. No new Ministry is, however, needed. The Board of Agriculture is the natural department wh should have control of these matters. I am anxious that the Board should be dowered with the duty, not because I wish to detach any of its interests from agriculturel proper, but because I wish to give it such a significance in the machinery of the State that it will possess resources which will enable it to do for agriculture that which everyone of its chieftains has lamented his inability to achieve. The Board of Agriculture, as the Ministry for Health, would be able to accomplish much for the farmer. Innocuous now, it would be powerful then.

* * *

Lord Carrington's At Home.

If there was one feature about Lord Carrington's at home which most delighted all who attended it that feature was its frank, genuine, and generous unconventionality. Frigid starchiness was entirely absent. It was a frank interchange of view between a Minister honestly anxious to get at the mind of the farmer and to persuade him of his anxiety to play the friendly and sympathetic part—to the extent to which the meagre resources allowed by a niggard State permitted him; and between farmers anxious to estimate the reality of the proposed sincerity of the Government and to comprehend how far that sincerity would operate to their further advantage. Of course, it could not but be that the existence of this mutual desire bred a happy spirit of fraternity and good-feeling. I dare aver that not a single visitor quitted the Board of Agriculture without being convinced that behind the breezy *bonhomie* of Earl Carrington is a close, zealous, intimate anxiety to benefit the lot of the farmer, and to do this as far as possible partisan sentiment being what it is—acting in harmony with the farmer himself.

THE SMITHFIELD SHOW.

PECULIAR CHAMPIONSHIP DECISIONS.

FULL CRITICAL REPORT.

THE 109th annual show of the Smithfield Club took place last week in the Agricultural Hall, Islington, and it was evident from the large number of visitors who paid at the entrances that the Cattle Show still maintains its popularity among all classes. The weather during the week was not of a most favourable character, rain falling persistently on several of the days. The opening of the new hall was a great improvement, and by a judicious redistribution of many of the stands the galleries were made more spacious and convenient for the large crowds visiting the Agricultural Hall.

On the first day of the show H.M. the King, the King of Norway, and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales visited the exhibition. It was generally hoped that the German Emperor would perhaps have accompanied the Royal visitors, but this was found to be impossible. His Majesty thoroughly inspected the prize-winning animals, but his fortune in the prize list was not so great as last year.

The Championships.

There was but one topic of conversation in connection with the Smithfield Show this week, and that was the extraordinary championship decision. The allocation of the champion prizes in the cattle section was carried out by Mr. Clement Stephenson, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and Mr. Hutchinson Catterick, Yorkshire.

Taking the special prizes as they fell to be decided by the judges, there came first the £25 cup for the best yearling steer. This honour fell to His Majesty's white Shorthorn, with Mr. Hudson's Aberdeen-Angus steer reserve.

Then followed the £50 cup for the best ox, and the judges again favoured the Shorthorns, the ticket going to Sir Oswald Mosley's two-year-old steer. The next move was to find a reserve for the steer championship, and in order to do this Mr. Peter Dunn's Shorthorn steer Gentleman John was brought before the judges, who almost at once preferred him to Sir Oswald Mosley's steer, and they would have liked to have revised their decision, which had been arrived at before seeing Mr. Dunn's animal. The stewards, however, intervened, and pointed out that, as the award had once been given, it could not be withdrawn by the judges.

The £50 cup for the best heifer was won by Lord Rosebery's two-year-old Aberdeen-Angus heifer Eloquent of Dalmeny 2nd, while Mr. Lean's two-year-old Shorthorn heifer was reserve.

Then came the rather unusual ending. The champion plate of 100 guineas forms the blue ribbon of the meeting, and the judges, confident in their judgment, entirely discarded the class allocations and gave the honour to Mr. Peter Dunn's second prize two-year-old Shorthorn steer. The course was an unusual one, and gave rise to great comment, but the judges were commended for their independent action, which placed as champion of the show an animal which was very popular round the ring, and their decision was undoubtedly the correct one. A reserve champion was found in Lord Rosebery's Aberdeen-Angus heifer, this being the second year his lordship has occupied this position. He, however, had the King's challenge cup for the best animal bred by exhibitor, Mr. Leon's Shorthorn heifer being reserve.

CATTLE.

Devons.

There was a very considerable difference between the Devon classes at Bingley Hall and those at Islington. At the latter one was very able to compare the varying characteristics of the breed. The Devons are given pride of place in the catalogue, and therefore were the first to be observed. But what a clashing of types these afforded. There was the small model, perfect in its symmetry and attractive to any eye; beside these stood a big fellow of the working ox type of days gone by, full of firm lean flesh, but so high on the leg as to make one consider whether the supply of gravy beef would be excessive; and then might be seen the modern type, the cross obtained from those before mentioned, and these naturally attracted the attention of the judges as being the modern ideal type of Devon so much sought after, but seldom has been in sufficient numbers to hold the sway, as it happily did on this occasion. When the young steers were first led out it was very evident that the Devon judge was going for type. There were nine of them. Here the judgment of Birmingham was confirmed, as Lord Rosebery was again placed first with a nice steer with grand back and loin with good butts; it was an easy winner in this class, and took reserve for the Breed Cup. The runner-up was His Majesty the King's steer, a very useful steer very typical of the breed, but hardly so weighty as the first, but by some considered to be the prettier. Mr. T. S. Morgan was third with his Whimple Model 2nd, another very level-backed bull with good sirloin, but not showing quite so well at the rump as in Birmingham; the same exhibitor's Marsh Mallow was highly commended, a large growing, somewhat plain steer, not quite so good over the rumps as Earl Cawdor's Curly, a good growing steer with a good back, but a trifle weak forrard, but likely to come on well for another year. Mr. Charles Morris and Viscount Portman were both commended with two good butcher's beasts. The older steers were not quite so attractive, and the prize-winners were not all of one type. As with the younger class, the types were so conflicting that it was easy to discern that the judges were not running well in double harness, and they ended their disagreement by calling in the referee, leaving him four animals which he was to place in their order of merit; this he did with satisfaction to himself, but not in the same order as either of the other judges would have. The first prize went to a big, heavy-fleshed steer, firm as a board, with plenty of quality, and it certainly showed itself better than some of the others, more so than the Earl of Rosebery's steer, bred by Mr. Thomas Yeo, Barnstaple. This is a nice thick steer, but a little gone on the back; however, she turned the tables on Mr. J. J. Cridlan's Birmingham winner, Model. It is a lovely quality steer, with grand sirloin and well finished, but it has an exceptionally short neck, and showed evidence of its travels by the weakening of the back, so it had to be third, though some might have reversed its position with the previous one. The reserve went to His Majesty the King's steer, a very fleshy one with good loin, but did not move freely. Mr. T. S. Morgan was highly commended with Whimple Favourite, a level, deep steer, hardly so weighty as the others, and might have been better from the pin backwards. Mr. Charles Morris was highly commended with a heavy steer, deep-fleshed, rather coarse forward, and did not move out so well. Mr. W. D. Sanders



MR. PETER DUNN.

The Exhibitor of the Champion Beast at the Smithfield Show.



GENERAL VIEW OF THE AGRICULTURAL HALL

THE KING AND PRINCE OF WALES INSPECTING THE CHAMPION BEAST.

showed for a commended card only a Devon of the olden times, which scaled 18 cwt. 12 lb. It was a mass of firm, useful beef. The Breed Cup went to Mr. Sonning's exhibit in this class.

There was a very nice class indeed, or rather a quartette of females. Earl Cawdor here easily secured the lead with Stackpole Nally 4th, a nicely-finished heifer, very even and of good type; Mr. T. S. Morgan was second with Ruby, a nice quality heifer, but which had lost some of her Birmingham bloom; Viscount Portman was third with a small somewhat bunchy heifer with a lot of spine, Bryanston Gentile; his Majesty the King was reserved with Carolina of the model type, rather small.

South Devons.

It was evident that the South Devon men had at last realised the importance of being adequately represented as regards numbers, but some of those present would have been more fitting for the carcase competition than where they were; they neeeded more finish, and one was inclined to believe the statement of one exhibitor that he had only begun to feed his animal six weeks before the show. The breed now having made good their entry, it must be kept up, and thereby command extended qualification. The first prize went to Mr. W. M. Roberts, St. German's, Cornwall, with Erney; that two years and ten months was only a stone short of 19 cwt.; it was a level, good steer, with lots of boiling meat, but could have done with more furnish. Mr. J. Sparrow Wrath was second with Rob Roy, a big high steer that had not stood its journey; the same exhibitor's younger steer Sir Fred, which was placed third, might easily have been put second; though not so weighty as the other, it was more evenly made. It was a true, typical South Devon, and would make a grand animal next year. The reserve went to a very useful steer—Mr. N. Boon's Victor. Messrs. Whitley were highly commended with Primley Hero, a level straight steer showing a lot of daylight. Mr. J. Luscombe was commended with Coarswell Lad. All the representatives of this breed were noticed, and all named, which makes identification easy.

Herefords.

There was little change to note in the display of this breed at Islington as compared with Birmingham the previous week. Most of the animals had as a rule held their condition quite as well as could be expected, and gave a generally good account of themselves. In the junior class Mr. R. Phipps' steer Favourite by Locarno, that was first in the Midlands, held his position, and also obtained reserve for the breed cup of the White Faces.

Mr. James Edwards had a very neat steer second, by Carbineer, of Grove blood on the dam's side, and a very nicely built one, with quality. A second entry of Mr. Phipps, half brother to the winner, carried off the third prize, and a second entry of Mr. Edwards the reserve card and an hc.

The older class of steers made a very good display of beef, having generally been fed very evenly and got up to great weights. Sir J. R. G. Cotterell's bullock, the get of Rameses out of Sylph by Balfour, was pretty easily placed first, and also given the breed cup, thus repeating his honours of the previous week. His outline is very pleasing, and he is wealthy of flesh of the right kind. Sir Richard Cooper followed with another very good steer of Mr. H. F. Russell's breeding, whilst His Majesty's steer by Fire King was only able to hold the third place. Mr. G. Faber, from the south of England, contributed a very useful, level steer, which was reserve and highly commended, hc also being allotted to Mr. Richard Bright for another good-fleshed steer by Marmion.

As at Birmingham, the female class was small. There were only four entries catalogued. His Majesty the King's Prudence by Fire King was placed at the head of them, a position her depth and wealth of flesh well merited. Mr. W. Tudge's Princess Beatrice, another well-known heifer, filled the second place, whilst the Hon. F. G. Wynn, with Queenie, a deep-bodied heifer of his own breeding by Union Jack, was awarded third.

Shorthorns.

There was a considerably improved entry of Shorthorns at Islington as compared with Birmingham the previous week. There were not, however, as has sometimes been the case, any great additions from the Edinburgh and Northern shows. The general quality was very satisfactory, indeed much better than might have been anticipated when the great demand for breeding stock is taken into consideration.

Steers under two years old were seven in number, the first prize being once more accorded to the Royal white steer, which had been similarly placed the previous week at Birmingham. As was said of him at that exhibition, "he is a particularly neat, fine quality steer, well covered with a kindly coat of hair," but so far as substance is concerned he is not any too well developed. Messrs. Denny, from the south of England, provided a very good second with the right kind of back and flesh, a good coat, and shapely and substantial; he was bred by exhibitors and sired by Fitz William. Messrs. Ross, from the north, were honoured with the third prize for a good ribbed, short-legged roan by Sarasate out of an Ajax dam. A very useful white of Mr. E. S. Godsell's, of Messrs. Garne and Sons' breeding, a steer with a good deal to commend him, handling well, and got by Village Beau, was reserve and highly commended, beating by a place Sir Oswald Mosley's very smart young steer by Beauty's Pride from a Scottish Beau dam.

The older steer class held seven entries, the results of which have been already partially detailed. At the Midland Exhibition Mr. Peter Dunn's Gentleman John was pretty readily placed first in his class; he was bred by Mr. John Ross, sired by Ajax, dam Lassie by Champion. To him was placed second at the Midland Exhibition a big and level red and white steer of Sir Oswald Mosley's by Beauty's Pride. At Islington in the class-judging these decisions were reversed, the Rolleston steer being placed at the front; both are admirable steers but of considerably different type. The Rolleston steer, first in London, scales over 18 cwt., and is a lengthy, good fleshed and good coated beast, but as a show steer he certainly does not fill the eye so well as the second prize one, which is beautifully packed in the hind-quarters and along the top with the best quality of beef, and is capitally brought out; on the scales, however, he is nearly 2 cwt. behind the winner, which, as we have already seen, the championship judges reinstated. The third prize was accorded to His Majesty the King for a wonderfully mellow-fleshed white steer by Royal Carlisle, which is altogether a creditable specimen; he was first in his class at the Norfolk Show, where he also carried off the special prize as the best beast bred and fed in Norfolk. Sir Walter Corbet was honoured with the reserve card and an hc for a capitally ribbed steer, bred by Mr. John Ross and sired by Winning Count; he handles very ripe and has an extraordinarily good top of roasting beef. Shorthorn heifers were a stronger class, and were headed by Mr. H. S. Leon's well-known Silver Streak, which thus repeats her Norwich and Birmingham victories, and has held herself together wonderfully during the show campaign.

His Majesty the King came in for the second prize for another of Carlisle's famous whites, Molly, out of Meg by Pride Collynie. This heifer has a wonderful back and depth of body, and carries a great amount of good flesh. Third honour went to Mr. James McWilliam for Missie, a roan of Mr. Duthie's breeding sired by Bapton Favourite, a good-fleshed and shapely heifer for her position. His Majesty the King was accorded the reserve and hc for the Royal Chieftain heifer Eva, and Mr. J. B. Dimmock obtained a commended card for a very useful white Norfolk heifer.

Sussex.

The very large entry of this breed formed one of the most creditable sections in the hall. Not only has the breed improved vastly of late years, but it has become more uniform in breed character, and many of the older steers had attained upwards of 18 cwt. apiece. They are heavily-fleshed cattle, too, and they ripen in good time.

Earl Winterton, Mr. John Aungier, and the Exors. of the late Mr. L. Huth held the best animals in the class for junior steers, which was capitally filled. Older steers also made up a remarkable class, the winners in these being Mr. W. G. Fladgate, Mr. Gerald Warde, and Mr. Stephen Agate. Heifers were also an exceedingly good lot, though not so numerous as the steers. Mr. P. F. R. Saillard's first prize one was a remarkably wide and shapely heifer, carrying a great wealth of beef. Mr. Gerald Warde and the Earl of Derby carried off the other prizes.

Red Polls.

This breed were quite in a minority with respect to numbers, but it is not often that their quality was as high. Mr. R. J. Thurman and the Right Hon. A. E. Fellows divided the prizes for young steers in the order named, the first prize animal also being reserve for the breed cup. Two very ripe older steers were shown by Sir Walter Corbett and Mr. G. D. Smith, but the pick of the section and winner of the breed cup was Sir Walter Corbett's beautiful heifer Acton Beryl. Sir Richard Cooper and Mr. J. B. Dimmock were also well represented in the class.

Aberdeen-Angus.

The total entry of this breed was satisfactory from a numerical point of view, and there were a number of extraordinary good animals representing the breed, though we seldom recollect seeing them of such variable character. The junior steer class, as in the other sections, was the first to be dealt with, and eight very useful steers came before the judges. Mr. R. W. Hudson's Danesfield Waterman, a son of Danesfield Jester, is a steer of such superb quality and symmetry that he easily occupied the first position, after being similarly honoured at Norwich and Birmingham. Colonel Charles McInroy, from the North, came in second with a compact, level, good-fleshed steer by Ben Vrackie that followed pretty closely, and Mr. J. J. Cridlan was honoured with the third prize for his good steer Black Silk. The reserve and an hc to Mr. James McWilliam, and a c to Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., concluded the honours of the class.

The five older steers catalogued were several of them animals of great weight, running to close upon 18 cwt., and were wonderfully well-finished beef; notwithstanding this, however, none of these shared in the champion honours. Mr. James McWilliam was first with a ripe, good fleshed one by Alick of Abelour, and Mr. Thomas Wotton, from the south of England, carried off both the remaining prizes with steers of his own breeding sired by Ruthless Boy. Colonel McInroy could not get beyond the reserve and a hc for a very good but slightly younger steer sired by Edeyrn.

Coming to the female class, these must be called the pride of the section, holding seven good heifers. The first of these was the Earl of Rosebery's Eloquent of Dalmeny 2nd referred to in the championships. She is a heifer with great depth and room about her, though in the back she might come to hand considerably better than she does. She was, of course, accorded the Breed Cup of the blackskins. Mr. George Bruce, of Tochineal, with Lassie of Cullen, a very massive, heavy-fleshed, weighty heifer, bred by Sir John R. Gladstone, and sired by Earl Marshal filled the second place, Mr. J. H. Bridges providing the third winner in Barbarina 4th, a heifer with wonderful loin and fore end, but rather lacking in under line. She was sired by Lepanto of Careston. Mr. J. J. Cridlan's fine heifer Elegance of Maisemore, whose perfect symmetry and good finish won for her the championship of Norwich and also first in her class and the Scotch Cup at Birmingham, had to be content with the reserve number and an hc, very hard lines for so good a heifer. Colonel McInroy also obtained an hc for Belgaum, a level daughter of Ben Vrackie, Mr. George Young also being similarly honoured for a rather young heifer in Cadboll Nancy. This concluded the honours of the breed.

Galloways.

This breed were farly strong numerically, and there were a number of remarkably neat steers and heifers shown, presenting great improvement as compared with a few years ago. Mr. R. W. Hudson carried off the breed cup with a steer that had been winning at Norwich and Birmingham very deservedly. Mr. David Brown, Messrs. Bigger and Sons, Mr. Wallace, Mr. Robert Graham, Mr. C. R. Dudgeon, and Sir R. W. Buchanan Jardine were the other successful exhibitors.

Highland.

This was quite one of the leading sections in the hall, a more uniform and good quality lot have probably never been exhibited at Islington before. His Majesty the King's herd achieved great distinction here, carrying off three first prizes, two seconds, and the breed cup with quite a wonderful collection of steers and heifers. The season had evidently been well suited to these shaggy northern cattle. Other successful exhibitors were Sir W. Ogilvy Dalgleish, the Countess Dowager of Seafield, and Mr. W. J. Nimmo.

Kerries and Dexters.

These classes were not numerically strong, but so far as symmetry and quality were concerned, the leading animals could scarcely have been improved upon. Mr. R. W. Hudson, from Danesfield, has become quite invincible in this section of the show, and his entries upon the present occasion form quite a sensational display, carrying off all the leading class prizes as well as the breed cup. His Majesty the King, Mr. B. De Bertodano, W. Martin, J. Sutton, Sir Walter Gilby, and the Duchess of Devonshire were also successful exhibitors.

The small crossbred classes which followed were, if possible, more meritorious than the pure bred ones, the leading honours again falling to Mr. R. W. Hudson's entries. His Majesty the King, Mr. Douglas Fletcher, Mr. W. Westgate, Sir Walter Gilby, Mr. G. F. Stanford, and the Duchess of Newcastle, were also capitally represented and shared the honours.

The leading cows in this section were the Shorthorn and Aberdeen-Angus with the Dexters.

Crossbred.

It was a very interesting collection of animals of thoroughly good practical character that filled these classes; some of the older steers and heifers too were good weight, and almost without exception all were thoroughly ripe, shapely, and of high quality; quite the majority were of the Angus and Shorthorn cross. Still, there were a good number of the Galloway and Shorthorn crosses as well as North Devon and Angus crosses.

Most of the animals in the steer class under two years old were noticed by the judges. Included in this class was Miss Alice de Rothschild's blue roan and white Waddesdon Starlight by First Principal, a steer with great scale about him, depth of body, and capital flesh, laid on evenly. He was accounted good enough to take one of the breed cups. Messrs. Ross exhibited two very neat steers in the class by Gondolier that carried off second prize and reserve number, leaving the third prize to Mr. R. W. Hudson's

Danesfield Lordship, another level Angus and Shorthorn cross.

Of the old steers, Mr. William Dunn had the best in the very even-fleshed and ripe red Tochineal Charlie, a bullock of considerable size as well as the best quality of beef. Mr. Robert Turner came in second with a wonderfully well finished black, big on his top and handling well, and Mr. J. C. Williams was placed third with a Devon and Angus cross, quite of first-class quality and well put together. Minor honours consisted of r and hc to the Earl of Powis for a good Shorthorn and Galloway cross and hc to the Earl of Durham for another of similar breeding.

Messrs. Ross scored a great success in the heifer class under two years, carrying off both first and second prizes for a blue-grey and a black of very symmetrical build and full of quality. Mr. J. C. Williams again came in third with a very pretty heifer of the Devon and Angus cross that runs up very closely; a second entry from the same herd of similar breeding was also reserve and highly commended, whilst highly commendeds were given to Mr. James McWilliam and Mr. Thomas Kidner.

Miss Alice de Rothschild's herd scored another great success in the heifers over two and under three years of age, both first and second prizes being readily accorded to her exhibits. These very fine heifers were both bred at Waddesdon, and were of Angus and Shorthorn cross. The first prize heifer pulls up the beam at a good weight,

(Steers above 2 and not over 3 years old.)

1 Mr E Hobbs	1,054	1,841	1·74
2 Earl of Rosebery	998	1,593	1·59
3 Mr J J Cridlan (Model)	1,084	1,508	1·39

(Heifers not over 3 years old.)

1 Earl of Cawdor (Stackpole Nally 4th)	1,042	1,641	1·57
2 Mr T S Morgan (Ruby)	972	1,479	1·52
3 Viscount Portman (Bryanston Gentile)	956	1,310	1·37

SOUTH DEVONS.

(Steers not above 3 years old.)

1 Mr W M Roberts (Erney)	1,033	2,114	2·04
2 Mr J Sparrow Wroth (Rob Roy)	954	1,952	2·04
3 Mr J Sparrow Wroth (Sir Fred)	730	1,624	2·22

HEREFORDS.

(Steers not over 2 years old.)

1 Mr R Phipps (Favourite)	688	1,529	2·22
2 Mr J Edwards (Twyford Blocktest)	674	1,687	2·50
3 Mr R Phipps (Enchanter)	694	1,595	2·29

(Steers over 2 and not above 3 years old.)

1 Sir J R G Cotterell, Bart.	940	1,914	2·06
2 Sir R Cooper, Bart.	1,039	1,898	1·82
3 H.M. the King	1,070	1,784	1·66

(Heifers not over 3 years old.)

1 H.M. the King (Prudence)	1,077	1,657	1·53
2 Mr W B Tudge (Princess Beatrice)	1,038	1,972	1·89
3 The Hon F G Wynn (Queenie)	877	1,587	1·80

SHORTHORNS.

(Steers not over 2 years old.)

1 H.M. the King	689	1,454	2·11
2 Messrs F A and E H M Denny (Bright Duke)	702	1,539	2·19
3 Messrs J and A G Ross	699	1,479	2·11

(Steers over 2 and not above 3 years old.)

1 Sir O Mosley, Bart	1,014	2,032	2·00
2 Mr P Dunn (Gentleman John)	995	1,835	1·84
3 H.M. the King	1,008	1,820	1·80

(Heifers not over 3 years old.)

1 Mr H S Leon (Silver Streak)	1,062	1,806	1·70
2 H.M. the King (Molly)	898	1,686	1·87
3 Mr J McWilliam (Missie)	1,070	1,840	1·71
2 Sir R Cooper, Bart (Ashlyns Pitwood)	933	1,650	1·70
3 Mr J B Dimmock (Shotford Honey)	972	1,463	1·50

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

(Steers not over 2 years old.)

1 Mr R W Hudson (Danesfield Waterman)	[illegible]	[illegible]	2·07
2 Col C McInroy (Bellamy)	[illegible]	[illegible]	2·12
3 Mr J J Cridlan (Black Silk)	877	1,450	2·17

(Steers over 2 and not above 3 years old.)

1 Mr J McWilliam, JP	[illegible]	[illegible]	1·85
2 Mr T Wotton	1,040	1,916	1·84
3 Mr T Wotton	1,054	1,879	1·78

(Heifers not above 3 years old.)

1 Earl of Rosebery (Eloquent of Dalmeny 2nd)	[illegible]	1,787	[illegible]
2 Mr G Bruce (Lassie of Cullen)	[illegible]	[illegible]	1·46
3 Mr J H Bridges (Barbarina 4th)	1,074	1,670	[illegible]

GALLOWAYS.

(Steers not above 2 years old.)

1 Mr D Brown (Challenge of Stepford)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
2 Messrs T Biggar and Sons	704	1,448	1·77
3 Mr J A Wallace (Jim)	692	1,352	[illegible]

(Steers over 2 and not above 3 years old.)

1 Mr R W Hudson (Danesfield Challenger)	[illegible]	1,806	1·81
2 Mr R Graham (Andy)	988	1,658	[illegible]
3 Mr A Palmer (Dick)	1,029	1,526	1·48

(Heifers not above 3 years old.)

1 Mr C R Dudgeon (Dolores of Cargen)	1,063	1,355	1·27
2 Mr R Graham (Heather Bell)	1,046	1,400	1·33
3 Sir R W B Jardine, Bart. (Countess 4th of Castlemilk)	1,031	1,418	1·37

WELSH.

(Steers not above 2 years old.)

1 Hon F G Wynn (Glyn Commodore)	712	1,613	2·27
2 Mr R Hughes	712	1,389	1·95
3 University College of North Wales	704	1,545	2·19

(Steers above 2 and not over 3 years old.)

1 The Coed Côch Trustees (Pedr)	1,080	2,016	1·86
2 The Coed Côch Trustees (Glyn Fardd)	1,054	1,683	1·59
3 Mr R M Greaves (Wern Bounce)	1,077	1,842	1·71

(Heifers not over 3 years old.)

1 Hon F G Wynn (Lady Glyn)	1,054	1,586	1·50
2 Mr W Evans (Mesha)	610	1,448	2·37
3 The Coed Coch Trustees (Myfanwy)	1,070	1,702	1·59

HIGHLAND.

(Steers not above 3 years old.)

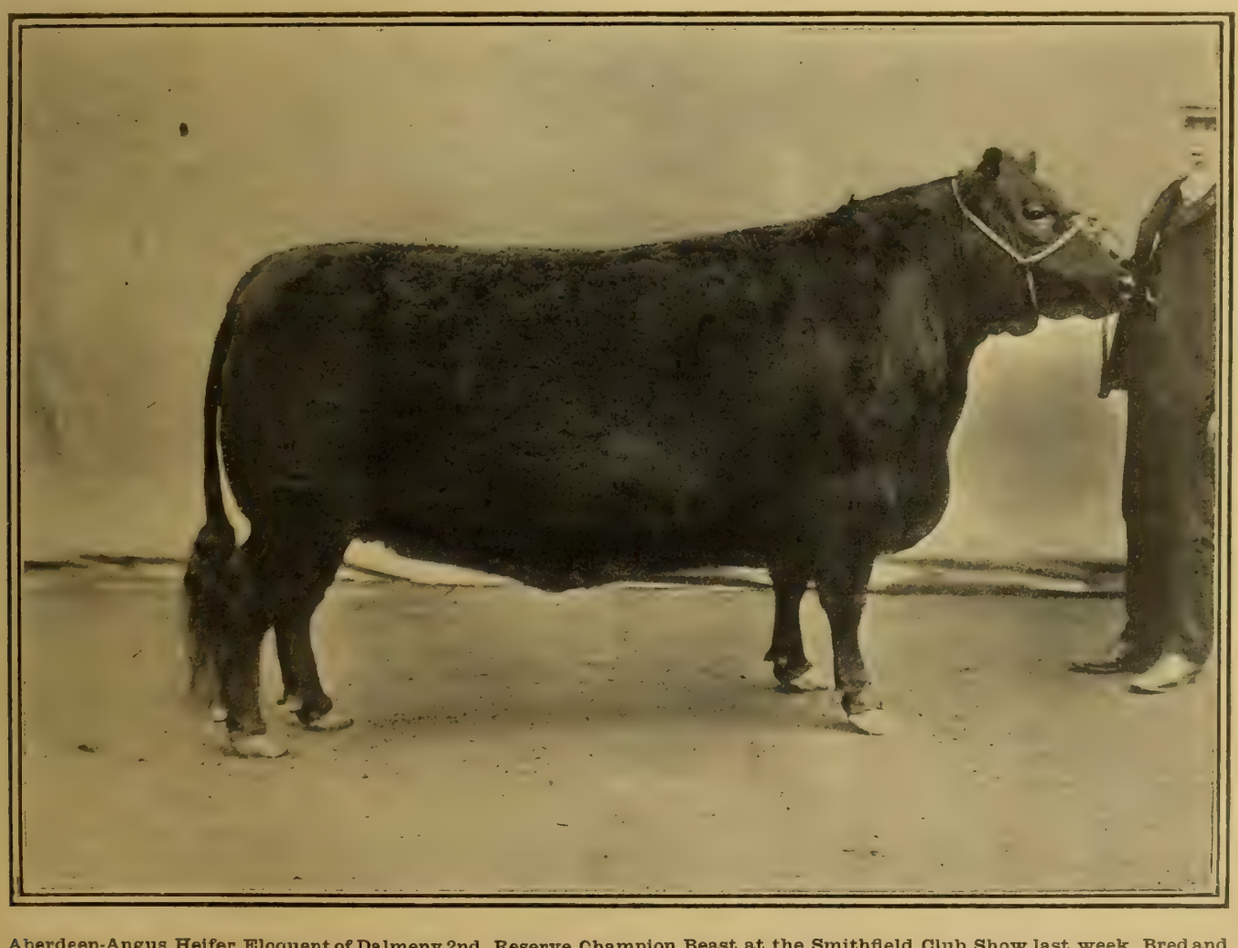
1 H.M. the King	930	1,492	1·60
2 H.M. the King	882	1,321	1·49
3 Sir W O Dalgleish, Bart. (Errol Candidate 6th)	956	1,415	1·42

(Steers or oxen above 3 years old.)

1 H.M. the King	1,330	1,978	1·48
2 H.M. the King	1,421	1,933	1·36
3 Sir W O Dalgleish, Bart (Earl Clansman)	1,316	1,704	1·29
4 Earl of Durham (Ross)	1,231	1,848	1·51

(Heifers not above 4 years old.)

1 H.M. the King (Phroiseaig 8th of Broadalbane)	1,043	1,560	1·49
2 Countess Dowager of Seafield (Empress Melinda)	1,365	1,491	1·09
3 Mr W J Nimmo	1,338	1,576	1·17



Aberdeen-Angus Heifer Eloquent of Dalmeny 2nd, Reserve Champion Beast at the Smithfield Club Show last week. Bred and exhibited by the Earl of Rosebery, K.G., Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh; sire Prometheus of Dalmeny, dam Eloquent; age 2 years 9 months 5 days; weight 16 cwt. 0 qr. 5 lb. In addition to being Reserve Champion, Eloquent of Dalmeny 2nd was the First Prize winner in the Class for Aberdeen-Angus Heifers, was awarded the Cup for the Best Aberdeen-Angus, the Silver Cup for the Best Heifer in the Cattle Classes, and the King's Challenge Cup for the Best Beast in the Show bred by the Exhibitor.

and is remarkably well filled with roasting beef both in the hindquarters and chine. Mr. R. J. Thurman, from the Eastern Counties, carried off the third prize with a very good Shorthorn and Angus cross, and Mr. James McWilliam was reserved and highly commended with a fairly young heifer of Mr. James Macdonald's breeding sired by Marksman of Culdrain. Lord Calthorpe had also a capital Devon and Angus heifer highly commended, which was certainly deserving of better things.

Below we give a table showing the average daily gain of the prize-winning cattle:—

Exhibitor and Breed.	Age. Days.	Weight. lbs.	Average Daily Gain. lbs.
DEVONS.			
(Steers not over 2 years old.)			
1 Earl of Rosebery	719	1,349	1·87
2 H.M. the King	607	1,196	1·97
3 Mr T S Morgan	698	1,165	1·67

SUSSEX.

(Steers not over 3 years old.)

1 Earl Winterton	698	1,542	2·20
2 Mr J Amgier	687	1,519	2·21
3 Exors late Mr L Huth (Jack)	648	1,427	2·20

(Steers over 2 and not above 3 years old.)

1 Mr W G Fladgate (Apsley Sam)	1,024	1,982	1·93
2 Mr G Warde (Tutsham Ensign)	1,053	1,997	1·89
3 Mr S Agate	1,071	2,012	1·87

(Heifers not over 3 years old.)

1 Mr P F R Saillard (Bewbush Evelyn)	1,059	1,774	1·64
2 Mr G. Warde (Lady Jayes 5th)	1,039	1,505	1·44
3 Earl of Derby (Flytrap)	1,037	1,615	1·55

RED POLLS.

(Steers not over 2 years old.)

1 Mr R J Thurman	701	1,641	2·34
2 Right Hon. A E Fellowes (Honingham Angus)	713	1,388	1·95
3 Right Hon. A E Fellowes, (Honingham Ashland	712	1,315	1·84

(Steers over 2 and above 3 years old.)

1 Sir W Corbet, Bart.	1,055	1,824	1·71
2 Mr G D Smith	1,050	1,662	1·58

(Heifers not over 3 years old.)

1 Sir W Corbet, Bart (Acton Beryl)	1,040	1,487	1·41

CROSS-BREDS. (Steers not over 2 years old.)			
1 Miss A de Rothschild (Waddesdon Starlight)	722	1,614	2·23
2 Messrs J and A G Ross	685	1,418	2·11
3 Mr R W Hudson (Danesfield Lordship)	719	1,564	2·17
(Steers above 2 and not over 3 years old.)			
1 Mr W Dunn (Tochineal Charlie)	1,081	1,930	1·81
2 Mr R Turner (Charlie)	1,005	1,865	1·85
3 Mr J C Williams	1,000	1,593	1·46
(Heifers not over 2 years old.)			
1 Messrs J and A G Ross	699	1,257	1·79
2 Messrs J and A G Ross	698	1,327	1·90
3 Mr J C Williams	730	1,189	1·56
(Heifers over 2 and not above 3 years old.)			
1 Miss A de Rothschild (Waddesdon Sylvia)	1,041	1,703	1·61
2 Miss A de Rothschild (Waddesdon Dinah)	1,041	1,643	1·62
3 Mr R J Thurman	835	1,747	2·09
KERRY AND DEXTER. (Steers not above 2 years old.)			
1 Mr R W. Hudson (Danesfield Nougat)	703	994	1·41
2 Mr B de Bertodano (Cowbridge Jim)	644	890	1·38
3 H.M. the King	610	965	1·58
(Steers above 2 and not over 3 years old.)			
1 Mr R W Hudson (Danesfield Dandy)	1,086	1,263	1·16
2 H.M. the King (Robin Hood)	1,033	1,137	1·10
3 Mr M J. Sutton (Holme Park)	1,042	900	0·86
(Heifers not over 3 years old.)			
1 Mr R W Hudson (Danesfield Marjorie)	969	994	1·02
2 Sir W Gilbey, Bart (Mauchla May)	776	813	1·04
SMALL CROSSBREDS. (Steers not over 2 years old.)			
1 Mr R W Hudson (Danesfield Little Archie)	611	1,008	1·64
2 Mr B de Bertodano (Cowbridge Sambo)	602	865	1·43
3 Duchess of Devonshire (Compton Jim)	630	951	1·48
4 Mr W Westgate (Tommy Topweight)	638	840	1·31
(Steers above 2 and not over 3 years old.)			
1 Mr R W Hudson (Danesfield Sweet William)	1,084	1,146	1·05
(Heifers not above 3 years old.)			
1 Mr R W Hudson (Danesfield Sincerity 2nd)	954	1,242	1·30
Mr R W Hudson (Danesfie'd Mystery)	725	1,135	1·56
Mr C F Stanford (Pretty Polly)	942	1,220	1·29

SHEEP.

The Smithfield Sheep Show this year is one that cannot be otherwise than satisfactory to those who are engaged in this industry. It was a very excellent entry indeed, and a matter of satisfaction to observe that there were few, if any, exhibits that could be classed otherwise than of good merit and typical specimens of their breed.

Championships.

Great interest naturally centred round the contests for the champion cups. The first of these to come up for decision was that of the Long Woolled breed, in which Mr. E. F. Jordan's particularly fine pen of Leicester wether sheep was made winner. It is now a considerable time since Mr. Jordan, or indeed any Leicester breeder, won this honour. The last occasion was in 1896, when the same breeder won. The rn for the Champion Long Woolled Cup went to Mr. W. B. Swallow for his particularly handsome pen of Lincoln wether lambs, that were rn for the breed cup of that breed—a decision that caused considerable comment, and one certainly not supported by precedence.

The contest for the Short-woolled championship resulted in one of the best pens of Southdown lambs, owned by Mr. C. Adeene, being made winners that we have seen exhibited for many years. Mr. James Flower, as has been the case for several years past, once again had to be content with the rn for this honour.

The Prince of Wales' Challenge Cup for the best pen of sheep in the show went to Mr. Adeane's beautiful pen of Southdown wether lambs. The last and only previous occasion upon which this honour has been won by Southdown wether lambs was in 1884, when Mr. W. Toop was successful. Mr. E. F. Jordan took the rn with his champion pen of Long-woolled Leicesters.

Leicesters, or Border Leicesters.

The entries in these classes were all of the Leicester breed. The competitors in them were two, Mr. E. F. Jordan and Mrs. S. Perry Herrick. Mr. Jordan's exhibits were invincible, taking first and second in each class, the breed cup and its reserve. The breed cup winning pen referred to in the champion contest was of very high merit indeed, and the same remark is applicable to that excellent pen of lambs that led in its class for the same owner. Mrs. S. Perry Herrick, with typical specimens of the breed, but not quite forward enough in condition for Smithfield, was third and reserve in each class.

Lincolns.

It is a matter of regret that more breeders do not enter at Smithfield, and thus take fuller advantage of the great opportunity this show offers them for the exhibition of their breed.

The lamb class was a particularly good one. Mr. W. B. Swallow's high-class, fine, lengthy, and good pen of lambs were its winners, and subsequently were made rn for the breed cup, and obtained that unique distinction of being placed above the breed cup winners in the champion contest by reason of being selected as the second best pen of Longwoolled sheep in the show. A shorter but equally good-fleshed pen from Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons was made second, followed by that well brought out and matched pen owned by Mr. H. Dudding, that were third.

As has been the case in the four previous years, Messrs. Dean and Sons won in the wether class. A remarkably big, massive, and well-fed pen of wethers these were, and they won without question the first honours, their greater weight undoubtedly scoring heavily in their favour. Mr. Dudding's second prize pen was a choice one in all respects, whilst the third prize pen, owned by Mr. W. B. Swallow, was from a breed point of view excellent, but hardly handled so well as the winners. Mr. F. Ward's rn pen is deserving of notice, on the ground of general good merit and quality.

Kent or Romney Marsh.

No set of breeders have made greater strides in the development of their breed than these. The lamb class was one of the best classes of its age in the Long-woolled section; a grand pen, with plenty of scale and size, owned by Mr. T. Wotton, was correctly placed first, and secured the reserve number for the breed cup. A second entry from this flock was hc. Sir H. E. Dering's second prize pen were of great merit. They were of good scale, well grown, and fine lambs. Mr. F. Neame's equally good pen, with rather more depth of flesh, were third; and Mr. Henry Rigden's well-matched trio of well-grown lambs rn.

The winning pen of wethers owned by Mr. C. Gordon Neame, which were made breed cup winners, also proved themselves to be, when carefully examined, a particularly handsome and good pen of sheep. We have seldom come across a pen of Kent wethers showing the same depth of flesh, well developed, and fine backs. In Mr. T. Wotton's two entries, which were second and r, there were some very choice specimens of the breed. The second prize pen were hardly so well matched as the winning pen, for had they been so, it would have been a very close shave between them. The reserve number pen was a very good one too, and some thought that one if not more of these sheep might have been substituted for others in the leading pen of this flock. Mr. J. E. Quested's well-matched pen took third honours, and Messrs. H. Rigden, F. Neame, and C. Gordon Neame, for his second entry, were commended.

Cotswolds, Devons, or any other Long Woolled Breeds.

There was no entry in either of these classes, and it is a matter of regret that this should be so, but not of surprise, for nowadays breeders of pure-bred sheep are very much averse to exhibiting their sheep in classes in which they compete directly with other pure breeds.

Cheviots.

A small entry, but one of superior merit and quality, represented this popular North Country breed of sheep. Mr. John McDowall won first and reserve in the lamb class with two specially good pens. The winners were run very close indeed, with a beautifully-finished pen that had been fed by Messrs. Denny in Kent.

In the wether class the competition was keener than usual. Despite this, however, Mr. John McDowall was able once again, with choicely-fed and finished sheep, to secure first and second honours, together with the breed cup and its rn. Mr. J. D. Fletcher was third with a neat, well-matched pen, and Mr. S. Linton rn.

Mountain Breeds, other than Welsh.

The highly satisfactory entry was made in this class, and the competition was very keen indeed. Sir J. Gilmour won first and rn in the lamb class; the winning pen were remarkably good specimens of the breed, and handled well. The second prize pen was owned by Mr. John McDowall, an excellent pen of very superior merit, leaving third honours to Mr. S. Linton, and Mr. J. Howison took the c.

In the class for wethers an interesting competition took place, occasioned by the entry of two pens of Kerry hill sheep. These were owned by Mr. L. Moore, and their high merit and quality was such that they rendered the final placing of the awards uncertain until the very last, when the decision was given in favour of Mr. John McDowall's Blackfaced Mountain pen, a grand pen of wether sheep, deep and good in the flesh. Mr. Moore's two pens were second and rn, and they were of that merit and quality which certainly attracted attention to their breed. Sir J. Gilmour was third with a very handsome pen of Blackfaced Mountain sheep.

Welsh Mountain Breed.

There was only one class for this breed—*i.e.*, for wethers, but it was one of grand quality and merit throughout. The University College of North Wales took first and third, the leading pen being of high quality. Messrs. E. Nicholas and Sons were second, another choice pen of mutton sheep, and Mr. W. Conwy Bell took rn.

Southdowns.

The largest, and we think it can be said without fear of contradiction, the best entry of any breed at this year's show, was made by the Southdown sheep. The class for wether lambs was a remarkably good one, and it is seldom that a better or more typical pen of its breed has been selected for the leading honour. This pen came from Mr. C. Adeane's flock, its choice quality of flesh, and the depth of it, together with its fine conformation, made it a remarkably good pen. The flock mates in the other pen entered in the class were fourth. The Exors. of Colonel McCalmont were also represented by two pens; second and hc were the awards they won. A very specially good pen indeed, with grand hindquarters, back and loin, was the leading pen of these two, their close attendants were a beautifully matched and even trio of choice quality lambs from the Duke of Devonshire's flock. Then came another grand lot of lambs, i.e., the double entry owned by Sir J. Wernehr; they were made rn and hc. The touch and quality of the flesh of these sheep was very good indeed, and few better in respect to type and character were seen in the class. A pen, bred by Mr. John Langmead and exhibited by Mr. James Toop, was commended.

The wether class was a very strong one indeed, numbering twelve entries present, all of which were included in the award list, an indication of the high opinion in which the exhibits were held

THE CARCASE CLASSES—CATTLE.

Class 88. STEER not exceeding 2 years old.

	Live Weight.			Carcase Weight.	Suet, Caul. Reed	Fat, Gut Fat, Trimmings.	Tongue, Tail.	Head. Feet.	Heart, Liver. Lights.	Trips, Feck Reed.	Hide.	Intestines.	Placed by Judges alive.	Carcase Award.
	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.	st (3 lbs.)	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.		
Duchess of Newcastle, Aberdeen-Angus	9	1	23	88	7	17	35	9	42	28	75	57	13	3rd	2nd
Mr J Sparrow, Wroth, South Devon	13	1	20	117	7	17	39	11	61	41	139	113	22	2nd	4th
Mr G Young, Crossbred	11	0	6	99	7	15	27	10	53	30	128	70	15	1st	
Mr W A Sandeman, Aberdeen-Angus	9	1	26	86	7	14	26	10	47	33	78	82	16	5th	
Mr E E Braby, Sussex	11	3	25	111	7	17	34	11	57	34	97	98	14	4th	H.C.
Mr L Phillips, Welsh	12	0	0	109	1	28	42	12	56	45	96	73	23		R.
Mr J D Fletcher, Aberdeen-Angus	11	1	14	108	0	20	32	11	51	32	86	77	13		1st & Champ.
University Coll. of N. Wales, Welsh	12	0	0	126	0	23	47	11	58	37	117	90	19		3rd

Class 89. STEER above 2 and not exceeding 3 years old.

Sir W Gilbey, Crossbred	12	1	20	113	0	21	44	10	57	35	127	77	17	1st	
Mr J Sparrow, Wroth, South Devon	14	0	8	125	6	26	59	12	65	47	130	93	22	4th	
Mr R M Greaves, Welsh	11	0	27	100	4	29	57	10	53	29	75	90	17		5th
Mr L Phillips, Crossbred	11	3	0	109	1	25	15	12	53	40	80	79	18		4th
Mr J D Fletcher, Crossbred	11	0	6	103	1	28	46	11	47	28	76	78	17	5th	3rd
Mr G Young, Crossbred	12	2	25	114	1	22	33	11	58	35	132	94	17	2nd	1st
Mr R Hughes, Welsh	12	0	23	111	1	22	41	10	59	34	93	90	22		2nd

Class 90. HEIFER not exceeding 3 years old.

Sir W Gilbey, Crossbred	10	2	11	95	1	27	48	10	15	32	108	82	18	1st	4th
Sir W Gilbey, Crossbred	10	0	15	92	3	15	29	9	46	31	90	72	17	4th	5th
Duchess of Newcastle, Aberdeen-Angus	9	1	1	84	7	13	24	7	38	31	89	56	16		H.C
Mr C J Lucas, Crossbred	12	1	26	117	4	23	50	10	47	34	104	84	19	3rd	1st & R. Champ.
Mr W A Sandeman, Crossbred	10	1	17	94	7	19	31	9	44	33	105	70	16	5th	
Mr J Hornsby, Crossbred	12	0	8	114	2	24	50	12	47	32	70	71	18	2nd	3rd
Mr J S Clark, Aberdeen-Angus	9	2	1	87	2	14	26	9	41	25	106	67	15		2nd

by the judges. First and fourth honours in this grand class went to two remarkably good pens of beautifully formed wethers, having a great depth of flesh and fine touch, owned by the Exors. of Colonel H. McCalmont. Second and commended were the honours won by Sir J. Wernher for his two entries in the class. The second prize pen bore inspection well, and although there was some question as to the correctness of this award, it is only fair to add that it secured general support, though at the same time there is no question but that the high merit and the quality of the flesh of the entry from the Duke of Devonshire, that was placed third, made them dangerous competitors for the higher honour. H.M. the King was rn and c for two pens of very high class sheep. Sir T. Gooch, Mrs. Montefiore, and Mr. W. Cazalet were hc and the Duke of Richmond c for two choice pens of high quality sheep, which somehow or the other did not appeal successfully to the judges.

Hampshire Downs.

Although somewhat smaller in the number of entries than used to be the case, this breed was represented by a notably fine collection of lambs and wethers. In the lamb class that remarkable depth of flesh for which Mr. T. F. Buxton's flock was so noted, was shown to a marked degree of perfection in the particularly handsome pen of lambs that won first honours for him, and which were subsequently placed as rn for the Breed Cup. They were remarkably good in all respects so far as regards flesh and conformation. Their flock mates, a pen of rather smaller scale, were fourth. Second and hc went to Mr. James Flower. His second pen was a notably good one, of very high merit and quality, but hardly so ripe as the leading pen. The Exors. of Sir W. G. Pearce owned the third and rn pen; these were well-grown lambs of high merit and grand quality. Mr. S. Darling was c for his two entries.

The wether class had for its winners a pen of outstanding quality, type, and merit, owned by Mr. James Flower, well fed, ripe, and good in flesh; this pen well deserved its position, and were made breed cup winners. A good, deep-fleshed and well-brought out pen, owned by Mr. T. F. Buxton, took second honours, leaving the third prize and rn to the Exors. of Sir W. G. Pearce, Bart., two pens of fine and well-grown typical sheep of their breed.

Suffolks.

The competition in the lamb class was much more satisfactory this year, because there were more entries and more competitors. Mr. H. E. Smith won first honours with a remarkably good and well-grown pen of lambs; they were made breed cup winners. His second entry, equally well grown, was placed third. The better pen of two choicely-bred and well-fed pens, owned by Mr. D. Abbot Green, was made second, and the other placed rn. The merit and quality of Sir A. G. Hazlerigg's pen fully entitled it to the commendation it won.

In the wether class Mr. H. E. Smith was the only competitor. First and second honours went to his fine exhibits, the leading pen taking the Breed Cup.

Shropshires.

In the lamb class Sir Richard Cooper was an easy winner with a capitally-matched and well-fed trio. Lady Rothschild's two pens followed as second and rn. These were well brought out and good in their flesh. Mrs. W. F. Inge took hc.

In the wether class two pens from Sir Richard Cooper were first and second, and the quality, type, and character of the leading pen which won also the Breed Cup, was as good as one has seen for some considerable time. They were a well-grown lot. Mr. A. S. Berry was rn with another fine lot of sheep, and Mrs W. F. Inge hc.

Oxford Downs.

The increased number of entries and also of competitors in these two classes is a matter of very great satisfaction, and it is hoped that such will continue to be the case in future years. The first prize and rn for Breed Cup went to a remarkably good pen of lambs with plenty of scale and good flesh, owned by Mr. James Horlick. Mr. John Hazell's success in taking the second prize was well deserved, whilst Mr. J. T. Hobbs, who had upon this occasion to be content with third and hc for his two pens, has the satisfaction of knowing that the increased competition of the present year is to some considerable extent due to his and other leading breeders' efforts in making the breed more popular by the exhibition of their sheep at the summer shows. Mr. H. Baker was rn.

In the wether class, Mr. James Horlick again went to the front, and with this particularly good and well-fed pen was made Breed Cup winner, his second entry taking the rn. Mr. J. T. Hobbs was second, beaten by the decision of the judges, but it was one of those decisions that others might willingly have altered, for this pen was remarkably good in respect to quality of flesh and touch. Miss Alice de Rothschild was made third winner, with a well-finished and typical pen of the breed.

Ryelands.

Only two pens, but both of them fine pens, represented this breed. They came from Mr. W. T. Barnoby's well-known flock. They were choice in quality and excellent in merit, and won first and second prizes.

Dorset Horns.

Like the previous breed there was only one class for it—*i.e.*, for wether lambs. The winners here were Mr. James Toop's beautifully-moulded, thick, and deep-carcased lambs. They were easy winners in the class, and also took the Breed Cup offered for this breed and the Ryelands together. Mr. Troyte-Chafyn-Grove owned the other two pens, and they were placed second and rn.

Crossbred.

A most interesting section of the show, for it is in these classes that one comes across the result of the cross-breeding between two pure breeds of sheep. In the lamb class for English breeds the Oxford Down Hampshire cross, as exhibited by Mr. T. Rush, secured the preference of the judges, and won first and rn in the class, the leading pen taking also the Breed Cup. It was a very fine pen of mutton sheep, so also were those two particularly handsome and good backed pens of the Dorset Horn Southdown cross, exhibited by Mr. James Toop.



At the Smithfield Club Show last week the Pen of Southdown Lambs shown above won the Prince of Wales's Challenge Cup for the Best Pen of Three Sheep or Lambs in the Show bred by Exhibitor, The Championship of the Short-woolled Sheep section, and the First Prize for Southdown Lambs, and the £15 Cup for the Best Pen of Southdowns. They were bred and exhibited by Mr. C. R. W. Adeane, Babraham Hall, Cambridge. Age about 10 months; weight 3 cwt. 3 qr. 10 lb.

In the wether class there were only two entries present, both owned by Mr. T. Rush, and they were placed first and second. The winning pen took also the rn for the Breed Cup.

It is seldom we have seen a better, larger, or closer competition in the Scotch Cross-bred Lamb class than upon the present occasion. Mr. S. Linton won first with a beautifully-finished pen; Mr. J. R. Sim took second honours, closely pressed for this position by the pen owned by Messrs. Denny, who were third and hc, leaving the rn to Mr John McDowall, a breeder who made the keenest of fights for the leading position in the corresponding wether class, where, however, he had to be content with second and third awards, leaving the premier position to Mr. S. Linton, jun., for a remarkably good pen of the Border Leicester Cheviot cross. Mr. J. R. Sim took the rn with a well-grown pen of the Leicester-Blackfaced cross.

Below we give a table showing the average daily gain of the prize-winning sheep:—

Breed and Owner.	Age. Days.	Weight. lbs.	Average Daily Gain. lbs.
LEICESTERS OR BORDER LEICESTERS. (Under 12 months old.)			
1 Mr E F Jordan	273	508	1

2 Mr E F Jordan	273	498	1·82
3 Mrs S Perry Herrick	256	470	1·83
(Over 12 and under 24 months old)			
1 Mr E F Jordan	638	890	1·39
2 Mr E F Jordan	638	841	1·31
3 Mrs S Perry Herrick	621	738	1·18
LINCOLNS.			
(Under 12 months old.)			
1 Mr W B Swallow	303	597	1·97
2 Messrs S E Dean and Sons	307	650	2·11
3 Mr H Dudding	310	601	1·97
(Over 12 and under 24 months old.)			
1 Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons	663	1,126	1·69
2 Mr H Dudding	645	1,008	1·56
3 Mr W B Swallow	675	975	1·44
KENTISH OR ROMNEY MARSH.			
(Under 12 months old.)			
1 Mr T Wotton	256	506	1·97
2 Sir H E Dering, Bart.	273	498	1·82
3 Mr F Neame	233	498	2·13
(Over 12 and under 24 months old.)			
1 Mr C G Neame	621	818	1·31
2 Mr T Wotton	614	842	1·37
3 Mr Egerton Quested	621	788	1·26
CHEVIOTS.			
(Under 12 months old.)			
1 Mr J McDowall	242	433	1·78
2 Messrs F A and E H M Denny	233	406	1·74
(Over 12 months old.)			
1 Mr J McDowall	607	711	1·16
2 Mr J McDowall	697	673	1·17
3 Mr J D Fletcher	591	631	1·06
MOUNTAIN BREEDS (OTHER THAN WELSH).			
(Under 12 months old.)			
1 Sir J Gilmour, Bart.	242	414	1·75
2 Mr J McDowall	242	387	1·64
3 Mr S Linton, jun.	226	397	1·75
(Over 12 months old.)			
1 Mr J McDowall	607	615	1·01
2 Mr L Moore	621	643	1·03
3 Sir J Gilmour, Bart	607	648	1·06
WELSH MOUNTAIN.			
(Any age.)			
1 University College of North Wales	587	441	0·75
2 Messrs E Nicholas and Son	1,346	511	0·38
University College of North Wales	587	406	0·69
SOUTHDOWNS.			
(Under 12 months old.)			
Mr C R W Adeane	303	430	1·41
2 The Exors of the late Colonel McCalmont	287	486	1·69
3 The Duke of Devonshire	303	479	1·58
4 Mr C R W Adeane	303	441	1·45
(Over 12 and under 24 months old.)			
1 Exors of the late Colonel McCalmont	652	645	0·98
2 Sir J Wernher, Bart.	655	628	0·95
3 The Duke of Devonshire	652	634	0·97
4 Exors of the late Colonel McCalmont	638	641	1·02
HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.			
(Under 12 months o'd.)			
1 Mr T Fowell Buxton	310	710	2·29
2 Mr J Flower	310	651	2·10
3 Exors of Sir W G Pearce, Bart.	312	649	2·08
4 Mr T Fowell Buxton	303	615	2·02
(Over 12 and under 24 months old.)			
1 Mr J Flower	675	946	1·40
2 Mr T Fowell Buxton	682	856	1·38
3 Exors of Sir W G Pearce, Bart.	677	917	1·35
SUFFOLKS.			
(Under 12 months old.)			
1 Mr H E Smith	294	674	2·29
2 Mr D Abbott Green	274	579	2·12
3 Mr H E Smith	287	627	2·18
(Over 12 and under 24 months old.)			
1 Mr H E Smith	668	857	1·28
2 Mr H E Smith	668	815	1·22
SHROPSHIRES.			
(Under 12 months old.)			
1 Sir R Cooper, Bart	273	494	1·80
2 Lady de Rothschild	287	498	1·73
(Over 12 and under 24 months old.)			
1 Sir R Cooper, Bart	638	804	1·25
2 Sir R Cooper, Bart	638	776	1·21
OXFORD DOWNS.			
1 Mr J Horlick	294	632	2·14
2 Mr J Hazell	287	691	2·40
3 Mr J T Hobbs	287	598	2·08
(Over 12 and under 24 months old.)			
1 Mr J Horlick	659	963	1·46
2 Mr J T Hobbs	652	928	1·40
3 Miss A de Rothschild	682	816	1·19
RYELAND.			
(Over 12 and under 21 months old.)			
1 Mr W T Barnsley	614	629	1·00
2 Mr W T Barnsley	614	584	0·95
DORSET.			
(Under 12 months old.)			
1 Mr J Toop	347	611	1·85
2 Mr G Troyte-Chafyn-Grove	347	646	1·86
CROSS-BRED.			
(Under 12 months old.)			
1 Mr T Rush	303	689	2·27
2 Mr J Toop	294	603	2·05
3 Mr J Toop	294	542	1·84
(Over 12 and under 24 months old.)			
1 Mr T Rush	663	895	1·33
2 Mr T Rush	638	844	1·26
FIRST CROSS FROM CHEVIOT, SCOTCH, AND MOUNTAIN BREDS.			
(Under 12 months old.)			
1 Mr S Linton	242	506	2·09
2 Mr J R Sim	219	461	2·10
3 Messrs F A and E H M Denny	242	435	1·79
(Over 12 and under 24 months old.)			
1 Mr S Linton, Junr.	598	796	1·33
2 Mr J McDowall	607	802	1·32
3 Mr J McDowall	607	797	1·31

THE CARCASE CLASSES—SHEEP.

Class 91.—ONE PURE LONG-WOOLLED WETHER LAMB not exceeding 12 months old.

	Live Weight.	Carcase Weight.	Fat.	Pluck.	Skin.	Placed by Judges alive.	Carcase Award.
	cwt. qrs. lbs.	stones (8 lbs.) lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.		
Mr J McDowall, Cheviot	0 3 4	7 3	5	3	9	2nd	No award.
Mr J E Quested, Kent or Romney Marsh	1 0 13	9 6	6½	4½	14	1st	

Class 92.—ONE PURE LONG-WOOLLED WETHER SHEEP above 12 and not exceeding 24 months old.

Sir J Gilmour, Blackfaced	1 2 3	13 7	15	4	20	1st	
Mr R M Greaves, Welsh	0 3 25	8 7	8	3	11	3rd	3rd
Mr W C Bell, Welsh	1 0 20	10 4	12	4	14	2nd	2nd
University College of N. Wales, Welsh Mountain	0 3 27	9 4	10	3	9	4th	
Mr J D Fletcher, Cheviot	1 0 24	11 7	8	4	13		1st & Champion

Class 93.—ONE PURE SHORT-WOOLLED WETHER LAMB not exceeding 12 months old.

Mr H E Smith, Suffolk	1 1 25	13 6	12	5	11	3rd	2nd
Mr C Arnold, Suffolk	1 1 6	11 4	9	5	14	5th	5th
Mr T Goodchild, Suffolk	1 1 4	11 4	8	5	14		1st
Mr D A Green, Suffolk	1 1 23	13 2	12	5	14	1st	
Sir A G Hazlerigg, Leicester	1 0 27	10 5	13	4½	10	4th	
Earl of Onslow, Suffolk	1 1 17	13 2	11	5	13	2nd	4 h
Mr G T Chafyn-Grove, Dorset Horn	1 1 5	11 6	8	4	12		3rd

Class 94.—ONE PURE SHORT-WOOLLED WETHER SHEEP above 12 and not exceeding 24 months old.

Exors. of late Col H McCalmont, Norfolk	1 1 11	12 4	11	4	12	3rd	
Mr H E Smith, Suffolk	1 3 12	16 5	12	6	14	4th	1st
Mr W Kennedy, Suffolk	1 1 20	12 6	10	5	13		2nd
Messrs W Vivers and Sons, Suffolk	1 0 25	11 3	8½	4	9	5th	
Sir R W Buchanan Jardine, Suffolk	1 2 20	16 5	12	5½	13	2nd	
Capt R P Croft, Southdown	1 1 23	13 7	11	4			4th
Mrs Lowe, Suffolk	1 1 23	12 6	10½	5	12	1st	
Mr G T Chafyn-Grove, Dorset	1 2 3	13 7	14	6			3rd

Class 95.—ONE CROSS-BRED WETHER LAMB not exceeding 12 months old.

Exors. of late Col H McCalmont, Southd'wn-Norf'lk	0 3 27	9 0	5	3½	8	4th	1st
Mr S Barrow, Suffolk-Cheviot	1 0 5	8 7	7	4	14	3rd	2nd
Messrs W Vivers and Sons, Suffolk-Cheviot	0 3 17	7 4	5	4½	11	2nd	
Messrs Bell, Mixed Bred	1 0 26	10 6	4	5	12	1st	

Class 96.—ONE CROSS-BRED WETHER SHEEP above 12 and not exceeding 24 months old.

Mr J R Sim, Leicester Blackfaced	1 3 26	19 3	6	6½	23½	3rd	
Mr W Kennedy, Suffolk-Cheviot	1 1 3	12 1	8½	4	13		1st & R.Champion
Messrs W Vivers and Sons, Suffolk-Cheviot	1 1 15	12 7	10	4½	13	1st	2nd
Messrs Bell, Mixed Bred	1 1 21	12 5	10	5	17	4th	
Mr D W Critchen, Suffolk-Cheviot	1 1 15	12 4	10	4½	14	2nd	

PIGS.

Class 97.—ONE PIG not exceeding 100 lbs. live weight.

	Live Weight.	Carcase Weight.	Pluck.	Placed by Judges alive.	Carcase Award.
	cwt. qrs. lbs.	stones (8 lbs.) lbs.	lbs.		
Duchess of Devonshire, Berkshire	0 2 27	8 1	5	1st	2nd
Earl of Ellesmere, Large White	0 2 26	7 7	5		R. & H.C.
Mr G Attkins, Crossbred	0 2 27	7 5	5	H.C.	3rd
Visiting Com'tee of Middlx. County Asyl., Berkshire	0 2 23	7 7	4½	2nd	1st & R.Champion
Mr N Benjafield, Berkshire	0 3 16	9 6	5	3rd	
Mr A Brown, Berkshire	0 3 1	7 6	5½	4th	4th
Mr K M Clark, Berkshire	0 1 29	5 0	3½		C.
Messrs W H and E Wherry, Berkshire	0 2 27	7 6	4½	H.C.	

Class 98.—ONE PIG, not exceeding 9 months old, above 100 lbs. and not exceeding 220 lbs. live weight.

Duchess of Devonshire, Berkshire	1 3 5	10 4	10½	4th	2nd
Earl of Ellesmere, Large White	1 3 20	12 6	9½		R. & H.C.
Mr G Attkins, Crossbred	1 2 27	10 6	9	1st	
Mr J D Fletcher, Middle White	1 2 19	10 7	8		C.
Mr J Goddard, Crossbred	1 1 14	15 0	10		4th
Mr J Henson, Large White	1 2 25	19 8	9½	3rd	3rd
Visiting Com'tee of Middlx. County Asyl., Berkshire	1 2 22	10 6	9½	2nd	1st & Champion
Mr K M Clark, Large Black	1 2 21	10 0	8½	H.C.	

Class 99.—ONE PIG, not exceeding 12 months old, above 220 lbs. and not exceeding 300 lbs. live weight.

Duchess of Devonshire, Berkshire	2 2 24	32 1	16	4th	
Earl of Ellesmere, Crossbred	2 2 2	29 3	12	H.C.	
Mr J Attkins, Crossbred	2 2 5	30 0	12	3rd	2nd
Sir A G Hazlerigg, Crossbred	2 2 8	25 4	13		1st
Mr K M Clark, Large Black	2 0 15	23 3	11½	2nd	3rd

PIGS.

This year the pigs were given more room in the large new hall, and they could be more readily inspected, and the result of this inspection was to disclose the fact that some of the sections were not up to average merit; there were none of those outstanding specimens that so readily command attention, and it is more than evident that grass feeding does not pay even for Smithfield. The Middle Whites were of average merit. In the younger section Mr. Charles Spencer was an easy first and second with pigs sired by Holywell Rosario, dam Holywell Royal Rose, they were very matchy and good; Mr. Alfred Brown's pen being reserved. In the older class there was a much keener contest. Mr. Julius A. Fricker being first and breed cup with two rather lengthy, very deep, compact pigs, with nice hams. Mr. George Hayter ran him rather close with two pens containing Holywell blood. Mr. Arthur Hiscock was reserved with strong, deep pigs. The reserve for the breed cup went to Mr. C. Spencer's young pen.

The classes of the pig section were undoubtedly the Large Whites. There were a number of outstanding specimens here that could not fail to claim attention. The classes were good. Mr. Thomas Henson was first with a matching pair with good backs and loins in the younger section, Mr. Alfred Brown being a close second here, although his pigs had not quite the bloom of the others. The Earl of Rosebery was well represented by a couple of the get of Cicero of Dalmeny. Mr. R. R. Rothwell's reserve were not quite matchy, especially when outside the pens. The Earl of Ellesmere's pen was commended only. However, his herd had its opportunity in the older class of the get of Worsley Eclipse 9th, dam Hope of Worsley. These were the champions of the show, and they also took Prince Christian's Challenge Cup, as being bred by the exhibitor. They were long, and yet not too long, with depth, grand loins, and full of quality. The Earl of Rosebery had a very choice pen to follow, as they showed a lot of character. Mr. Arthur Hiscock would have been a strong runner for second place had his pigs been a little stronger in the hams. They showed a lot of breeding, but were not so weighty as the others. Messrs. Wherry's reserve pen, attracted a lot of attention. The breed cup went to the Earl of Ellesmere's pen, Earl Rosebery's pen being reserve for the same.

The Large Blacks were most noticeable for the apathy displayed by the Western breeders, and those who came up did not find much encouragement either. There were only few entrants in the younger section. Mr. Kenneth M. Clark had practically a walk over in the younger class with his two pens by Sudbourne Surprise by different dams. They were very compact, and excellently shown. Mr. C. F. Marriner's reserve pen did not show the weight of the others. This breed was seen at its best in the older class, Mr. Kenneth M. Clark coming in here with a very fine pen with good backs and neat heads and excellent hams, and thus secured the Breed Cup. Second to them was Sir A. G. Hazlerigg's pair, very coaty, nice quality, but rather small ears. These were placed reserve for the cup. Mr. John Goddard was third with lengthy pigs, rather thin in the coat. Mr. Knight was reserved with some very pretty and useful baconers. Mr. John Warne's commended lot were in their coats.

The Berkshires this year were remarkably even and not quite so blaring as we have seen them as to marking, but there was an absence of leaders. All were noticed in the younger class. The Visiting Committee, Middlesex County Asylum, appear to have got hold of a remarkably good strain of blood, and they know how to handle it to the best advantage. Their pen was shown in the pink of condition, and were very even and sizable. They had nice backs, deep sides, and well-turned hams, and were placed reserve for the Breed Cup. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales sent a very choice pen from Sandringham, but they had been just too well done. Although they were the weightiest pen in the class, the judge could not but put them second. The Duchess of Devonshire had a useful pen indeed for third position, and the reserve pen also came from the same herd, Mr. J. Fricker getting a highly commended for his Fightable F. B. The merit was more broken up in the older class, the judges soon returning quite a number to their

pens. Here Mr. A. J. Fricker came out on top with two of the most typical specimens of the breed in the show. They were nicely fed and bred, and were easy winners. The Duchess of Devonshire had a very matching pair, whilst the contest was keen between Mr. Alfred Brown's and Mr. N. Benjafield's pens for third and fourth positions, the Visiting Committee Middlesex Asylum and Prince Christian being alike highly commended.

The Tamworths made a very neat show, and it is evident that the dark grisly colours are fading into the golden one that has now become so fashionable. In the younger section Lord Hastings appeared upon the scene to upset the Birmingham calculations by taking first and second, with two straight and even pens by Warwickshire Boy, Mr. D. W. Philip being second and reserve, his pigs being scarcely so forward as the others in the first instance and with the reserve not quite a pair. There was a good class of older ones, Mr. Ibbetson now upsetting Mr. Philips' Birmingham lead by taking first with nice thick pigs and third with another pen, thus sandwiching Mr. Philips' lengthy pigs. Sir Peter C. Walker's pen were reserved. The cup went to Lord Hastings' pen, Mr. Ibbotson's being reserved.

The Crossbreds were decidedly weak. Usually rather the better of the two. Mr. J. A. Fricker here came an easy first with his Berkshires, Mr. Arthur Hiscock's second being of the same breed. In fact, all the prizes and mentions in this class went to the Berkshires.

The cross-breds made better porkers than baconers, Mr. A. Brown winning with a Berkshire middle and Berkshire cross. Mr. N. Benjafield had a pair of neat porkers of Berkshire White cross. Mr. J. Goddard took third with Large White-Large Black cross; the Earl of Ellesmere's reserve being Large White-Large Black cross; the Duchess of Devonshire's highly commended pen being of the Somersetshire breed; Mr. A. Hiscock's commended, Berkshire Middle White.

The single pigs made a useful show in the class for Whites. Messrs. Wherry were first, and the Earl of Ellesmere second with the heaviest pig—4 cwt. 3 qr. 5 lb—just under eleven months old. Mr. John Neaverson's Large White was reserved. In the Black class there was not such a large entry. Sir A. G. Hazlerigg was first with a Large Black which scaled 4 cwt. 1 qr. 17 lb, Mr. K. Clark's Large Black being second.

The Berkshire singles were best, Mr. J. A. Fricker took first and single champion, H.R.H. Prince Christian being second and reserve for



The Champion Pen of Two Pigs at the Smithfield Club Show last week—Large Whites, bred and exhibited by the Earl of Ellesmere, Worsley, Manchester. Their sire was Worsley Eclipse 9th, dam Hope of Worsley; age 10 months 3 weeks 6 days; weight 10 cwt. 3 qr. 22 lb. In addition to the Championship, they won the First Prize for Large Whites over 9 and not above 12 months old, the Cup for the Best Pen of Large White Pigs, and Prince Christian's Challenge Cup for the Best Pen of Two Pigs in the Show bred by Exhibitor.

they constitute one of the strongest, if not the strongest, features in the show. The first prize in the young class went to Mr. R. R. Rothwell's Large Black-Large White Cross. This produced a very weighty pair of fair quality; they took the breed cup. Mr. Alfred Brown came in second and reserve for cup with Middle White Berkshire; these were rather thick but good meat. Mr. N. Benjafield's third lot, a cross Berkshire on Middle White, did not show as much black as the others, though they were very useful bacon pigs. The Earl of Ellesmere's reserve was Large Black-Large White Cross; whilst Mr. George Atkins' highly commended was a Large White-Berkshire cross. The Duchess of Devonshire was commended with a breed that promises to become more recognised in the showyards in the near future, the Old Gloster Spots and Somersetshire breed. There was only a useful class in the older section. Mr. A. Brown took the lead with his Middle White Berkshire cross, Mr. Nathaniel Benjafield having brought a very useful pair from Large White on a cross, dam Small Black and Small White; Mr. George Hayter was third with a Middle White Berkshire cross, Mr. Arthur Hiscock's reserve being Large White, dam Berkshire. Mr. Arthur Briant's highly commended being a Large White on cross, dam Berkshire Middle White. The porker classes were not so interesting as might be expected. In the class for Whites not exceeding 100 lb. weight, Mr. Arthur Hiscock was first with some nice porkers of the Large White breed. Messrs. Wherry's second being also Large Whites, and the thirds going to Mr. Alfred Braun's Middles, Mr. R. A. Ayres' Large Whites being reserved. The class for Berkshire or Blacks was single champion. Mr. Robert Ibbotson had the best Tamworths being first and second.

In the cross-breds Mr. N. Benjafield came out on top with Large White, Small Black, and Small White Cross. Mr. George Austin's being second with Large White and Berkshire cross.

This year the small breeds vanished from the Hall, as prizes were offered not for either Small Blacks or Small Whites.

The tendency of the pig section as a whole was towards more meat less fat.

CHAMPION AND SPECIAL PRIZES.

CATTLE.

Champion Plate, value 100 guineas, for the best beast in the show.—1, Mr Peter Dunn, Pasture House, Sigglesthorne, Hull, Shorthorn Steer Gentleman John; r, Earl of Rosebery, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh, Aberdeen-Angus heifer Eloquent of Dalmeny 2nd.

The King's Challenge Cup for the best beast in the show, bred by exhibitor.—1, Earl of Rosebery, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh, Aberdeen-Angus heifer Eloquent of Dalmeny 2nd; r, Mr H S Leon, Bletchley Park, Bletchley, Bucks, Shorthorn heifer Silver Streak.

Silver Cup, value £25, for the best beast in the show, not exceeding two years old.—1, H.M. the King, Royal Farms, Windsor, Shorthorn steer; r, Mr R W Hudson, Danesfield, Marlow, Aberdeen-Angus steer Danesfield Waterman.

Silver cup, value £50, for the best steer or ox.—Sir Oswald Mosley, Rolleston Hall, Burton-on-Trent, Shorthorn steer; r, Mr Peter Dunn, Pasture House, Sigglesthorne, Hull, Shorthorn steer Gentleman John.

Silver cup, value £50, for the best heifer, The Earl of Rosebery, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh, Aberdeen-Angus heifer Eloquent of Dalmeny 2nd; r, Mr H S Leon, Bletchley Park, Bletchley, Bucks, Shorthorn heifer Silver Streak.

Breed Cups.

Devon.—Mr Edmund Hobbs, Sonning Farm, Reading, steer; r, Earl of Rosebery, Mentmore, Leighton Buzzard, steer.

Hereford.—Sir J R G Cotterell, Garnons, Herefordshire, steer; r, Mr R Phipps, Buckenhill, Bromyard, steer Favourite.

Shorthorn.—Sir O Mosley, Rolleston Hall, Burton-on-Trent, steer; r, Mr Peter Dunn, Pasture House, Sigglesthorne, Hull, steer Gentleman John.

Sussex.—Mr W G Gladgate, Apsley, Thakeham, Pulborough, steer, Apsley Sam; r, Mr P F R Saillard Buchan Hill, Crawley, heifer, Bewbush Evelyn.

Red Poll.—Sir W Cornet, Acton Reynold, Shrewsbury, heifer, Acton Beryl; r, Mr R J Thurman, Dairy Farm, Semer, Ipswich, steer.

Aberdeen-Angus.—Earl of Rosebery, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh, heifer, Eloquent of Dalmeny 2nd: r, Mr G Bruce, Tochineal, Cullen, Banffshire, heifer, Lassie of Cullen.

Galloway.—Mr R W Hudson, Danesfield, Marlow, Bucks, steer, Danesfield Challenger: r Mr D Brown, Stepford, Dunscore, Dumfriesshire, steer, Challenge of Stepford.

Welsh.—The Coed Coch Trustees, Llawrcoed Coed Farm, Abergele, steer, Pedr; r, Hon F G Wynn, Glynllivon Park, Carnarvon, heifer, Lady Glyn.

Highland.—H M the King, Sandringham, steer; r, H M the King, Sandringham, heifer.

Cross-bred.—Miss A de Rothschild, Waddesdon Manor, Aylesbury, steer, Waddesdon Starlight; r, Mr W Dunn, Catfoss House, Sigglesthorne, Hull, steer, Tochineal Charlie.

Kerry or Dexter.—Mr R W Hudson, Danesfield, Marlow, heifer, Danesfield Marjorie; r, Mr R W Hudson, Danesfield, Marlow, steer, Danesfield Dandy.

Small Cross-bred.—Mr R W Hudson, Danesfield, Marlow, heifer, Danesfield Sincerity 2nd; r, Mr R W Hudson, Danesfield, Marlow, Danesfield Sweet William.

SHEEP.

Plates and Cups.

Prince of Wales's Challenge Cup for best pen of three sheep or lambs bred by exhibitor.—1, Mr C R W Adeane, Babraham Hall, Cambridge, Southdown lambs; r, Mr E F Jordan, Eastburn, Driffield Leicester sheep.

Plate value £50 for the best pen of three longwoolled sheep or lambs.—1, Mr E F Jordan, Eastburn, Driffield, Leicester sheep; r, Mr W B Swallow, Wootton Lawn, Ulceby, Lincs, Lincoln lambs.

Plate, value £50, for the best pen of three short-woolled sheep or lambs.—1, Mr C W R Adeane, Babraham Hall, Cambridge, Southdown lambs: r, Mr J Flower, Chilmark, Salisbury, Hampshire Down sheep.

Breed Cups.

Leicesters.—Mr E F Jordan, Eastburn, Driffield, sheep; r, ditto, lambs.

Lincolns.—Messrs S E Dean and Sons, Dowsby Hall, Bourne, Lincs, sheep; r, Mr W B Swallow, Wootton Lawn, Ulceby, Lincs, lambs.

Kent or Romney Marsh.—C J Neame, Copton Manor, Faversham, sheep; r, Mr T Wotton, Tile Lodge, Sturry, Canterbury, lambs.

Cheviots.—Mr J McDowall, Girdstingwood, Kirkcudbright, sheep; r, ditto, sheep.

Mountain.—Mr J McDowall, Girdstingwood, Kirkcudbright, sheep; r, Sir J Gilmour, Leven, Fife, lambs.

Southdowns.—Mr C R W Adeane, Babraham Hall, Cambridge, lambs; r, Exors of late Colonel H McCalmont, Cheveley Park, Newmarket, sheep.

Hampshire Downs.—Mr J Flower, Chilmark, Salisbury, sheep; r, Mr T F Buxton, Waters Place, Ware, Herts, lambs.

Suffolks.—Mr H E Smith, The Grange, Walton, Ipswich, lambs; r, ditto, lambs.

Shropshires.—Sir R Cooper, Ashlyns Hall, Berkhamsted, sheep; r, ditto, sheep.

Oxford Downs.—Mr J Horlick, Cowley Manor, Cheltenham, sheep; r, ditto, lambs.

Ryelands or Dorsets.—Mr J Toop, Bosham, Chichester, Dorset lambs; r, Mr W T Barneby, Saltmarshe, Castle Bromyard, Ryeland sheep.

Crossbreds.—Mr T Rush, Mitchells, Saffron Walden, lambs: r, ditto, sheep.

PIGS.

Cups and Plates.

Prince Christian's Challenge Cup for the best pen of two pigs bred by exhibitors.—1, Earl of Ellesmere, Worsley, Manchester, Large White pigs; r, Visiting Committee of the Middlesex County Asylum, Tooting, S.W., Berkshire pigs.

Plate value £10 for the best pen of two pigs.—1, Earl of Ellesmere, Worsley, Manchester, Large White pigs; r, Visiting Committee of the Middlesex County Asylum, Tooting, S.W., Berkshire pigs.

Plate value £5 for the best single pig.—1, Mr J A Fricker, Suddon Grange, Wincanton, Somerset, Berkshire pig; r, Prince Christian, Cumberland Lodge, Windsor, Berkshire pig.

Breed Cups.

Middle White.—Mr J A Fricker, Suddon Grange, Wincanton, Somerset; r, Mr C Spencer, Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts.

Large White.—Earl of Ellesmere, Worsley, Manchester; r, Earl of Rosebery, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

Large Black.—Mr K M Clark, Sudbourne Hall, Orford, S.O., Suffolk; r, Sir A G Hazlerigg, Noseley Hall, Billesdon, Leicester.

Berkshire.—Mr J A Fricker, Suddon Grange, Wincanton, Somerset; r, Visiting Committee of the Middlesex County Asylum, Tooting, S.W.

Tamworth.—Lord Hastings, Melton Constable, Norfolk; r, Mr W R Ibbotson, The Hawthorns, Knowle, Warwickshire.

Any distinct or cross breed.—Mr A Brown, Hill Farm, Southampton; r, Mr R Benjafield, Short's Green Farm, Motcombe, Shaftesbury.

JUDGES.

CATTLE.

Devons, South Devons, and Sussex.—Mr Chas L Hancock, Cothelstone, Bishops Lydeard, Taunton; Mr Ernest E Braby, Rudgwick, Horsham.

Herefords and Red-Polled.—Mr A P Turner, Pembridge, Herefordshire; Mr Herbert Blofield, Wymondham, Norfolk.

Shorthorns and Cross-Breds.—Mr Henry Dudding, Riby Grove, Stallingboro', Lincs; Mr George C Terry, Weedon Hill, Aylesbury.

Aberdeen-Angus and Galloways.—Mr George J Walker, Portlethen, Aberdeen; Mr Robert Shennan, Balig, Kirkcudbright.

Welsh and Highland.—Mr John Vaughan, Llyssun, Llanerfyl, Welshpool; Mr H Macdiarmid, Tiree, Oban.

Kerry, Dexter, and Small Cross-bred Cattle.—Mr R Tait Robertson, La Mancha, Malahide, co. Dublin; Mr F Turrill, Brookhampton, Wallingford, Berks.

£25 Cup, £50 Cups, Champion Plate, and King's Challenge Cup.—Mr T H Hutchinson, Catterick, Yorks; Mr Clement Stephenson, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

SHEEP.

Leicesters, Border Leicesters, and Lincolns.—Mr John Twentyman, Sparsholt, Winchester; Mr Robert Fisher, Leconfield, Beverly.

Cotswolds, Kentish or Romney Marsh, and Devons.—Mr Robert Jacobs, Burford, Oxon; Mr Arthur Finn, Lydd, Kent.

Cheviots and Mountain.—Mr A Douglas, Riccalton, Jedburgh; Mr Owen Price, Nantyrharn Cray, Brecon.

Southdowns and Shropshires.—Mr Herbert Padwick, West Thorney, Emsworth; Mr Alfred Tanner, Shrawardine, Shrewsbury.

Hampshire Downs and Suffolks.—Mr John Pain, Borough, Micheldever; Mr S R Sherwood, Playford, Ipswich.

Oxford Downs and Cross-breds.—Mr John Bryan, Southleigh, Witney; Mr James Burbidge, Reading.

Ryeland and Dorset.—Mr David Price, Bulwark House,

Brecon; Mr W A Johnson, Stafford Park, Piddletown, Dorchester.

Champion Plates for Long and Shortwoolled Sheep, and Prince of Wales's Challenge Cup.—Mr Hugh Penfold, La Bagatelle, The Grove Blackheath; Mr Benjamin Painter, Cow Close Farm, Burley-on-the-Hill, Oakham.

PIGS.

Middle and Large Whites.—Mr Walter J. Henman, Reading; Colonel F Walker-Jones, Burton, Westmorland.

Large Blacks and Berkshires.—Mr H W Packard, Shotley, Ipswich; Mr James Lawrence, Shrivenham, Berks.

Tamworths and Cross-Breds.—Mr W H Mitchell, Elmdene, Kenilworth; Mr H W Bishop, Pendley, Tring.

Champion Plates, and Prince Christian's Challenge Cup.—Mr A S Gibson, Ruddington, Nottingham; Mr J W Kimber, Fyfield Wick, Abingdon.

CARCASE COMPETITION.

Cattle and Sheep.—Mr Robert R Alden, the Market, Oxford; Mr J G Randall, the Broadway, Crouch End, N.

Pigs.—Mr T Sack, Caledonian Road, Holloway; Mr R T Venner, Reading.

Champion Prizes and Challenge Cups.—Mr Percy Scarlett-Smout, 30, Mount Street, W.

Annual Meeting of the Smithfield Club.

The annual general meeting of the Smithfield Club was held on Tuesday, when, in the absence of the president (Mr. James Hornsby), the president-elect (the Duke of Richmond and Gordon) took the chair.

In moving the adoption of the annual report the Duke of Richmond referred with regret to the death of Earl Winterton. He thought they might be satisfied with the present show, the general average of which was very good. They must also not forget the almost unique case in their history, that they were honoured on the previous day by the visit of two Kings in addition to the Prince of Wales. They were always glad to welcome His Majesty. They sympathised with him since his place in the prize list was not quite equal to what it was last year, but it had given some others a look in.

Mr. George Adams seconded the motion.

Mr. Davis Brown expressed regret that the council had not adopted the resolution of the National Sheep Breeders' Association that

> "Where a flock-book is issued all sheep competing for any prizes should be entered, or be eligible for entry, in the flock-book belonging to that breed."

The breeds exhibited, he said, should have the hall-mark upon them. As an instance of how this worked out an animal had been shown at that show in the Red-polled classes which was not a pure bred Red-polled. This animal had been before six judges at different shows, and had won each time. This show was the only time it had come before a judge of the Red-polled breed, and he would have thrown it out. He had seen another animal which was by an Aberdeen-Angus out of a Shorthorn. It had very slight "slugs." With their present rules they might perfectly well have been shown as a Red-polled. He did not suppose Shorthorn men would care to give a prize to an animal without horns, and they, as Red-polled men, did not care to have a prize given in Red-polled classes to an animal with horns. He hoped that in the course of time the council of the club would see its way to adopt such regulation.

The report and balance sheet were adopted.

The Earl of Coventry moved the election of the Duke of Richmond as president, and this proposal was carried.

The Duke of Richmond, in reply, referred to the connection of his forefathers with the show, and said that for the last three generations they and their tenants had existed as a happy family.

The Earl of Derby was elected president for 1909, the vice-presidents were re-appointed, and a cordial vote of thanks was passed to the retiring president (Mr. J. Hornsby).

The Herdsmen's Club.

The Herdsmen's Smithfield Club held their business meeting on the Saturday under the presidency of Mr. J. Hallas. The balance-sheet presented by Mr. George Sinclair was a most satisfactory one, the total receipts for the year, including last year's balance amounting to £170 9s. 4d. Of this sum £61 15s had been paid to herdsmen, and £19 1s. 5d. in various accounts, leaving a balance of £89 12s. 11d. A ballot has been taken during the year as to whether the club shall continue on the old foundation lines, or converted into one more of a benefit form. Rather divergent views are taken as regards this, and this was very observable at the social dinner on Monday evening at Reggieria's Restaurant. There was not such a large crowd as usual. In the absence of Mr. Hallas the chair was taken by Mr. J. Horley. After the loyal toasts had been honoured the chairman made a spirited speech in favour of the club, and remarked that it would be a pity for it to be wrecked by divergent opinions, and invited suggestions from those present. Mr. C. Macdonald thought that much more benefit would be obtained from a 5s. subscription than the present half-crown. Mr. E. Bohane, secretary of the Royal Lancashire Society, suggested the appointment of a special committee, with a few outsiders who had the interest of the club at heart, to restore unanimity. Mr. Frank Webb Shenstone was unanimously elected president for the ensuing year. Subsequently a most enjoyable entertainment was provided by Messrs. Thorley, Mr. Fred Snachell being a capital master of ceremonies.

SHOWS.

King's Lynn.

The eighteenth annual Christmas Fat Stock Show at Lynn, held on Monday, was most successful, being favoured with fine weather, a large entry of excellent animals, and a good attendance from the town and district. The entries were more numerous than on any previous occasion, and totalled 153 against 122 last year. It was in the cattle classes that the increase in the number of competitors was chiefly seen, the sheep classes being rather small in some instances, but the pigs were up to the average. As regards quality, the bullocks were a wonderfully fine lot, sheep, despite their small numbers, were of excellent quality, and the porkers contributed to make the show one of all-round merit.

The King again sent animals from Sandringham, but His Majesty was not so successful as on some former occasions. He was represented in four of the cattle classes, and won the silver cup for the best pair of steers of any age or breed. As His Majesty generally hands his cups on, the trophy will probably go to Mr. W. W. Ringer, of Titchwell, who was second in the class. In the class for the best heifer, His Majesty was reserve with a red Shorthorn, but a white Shorthorn from Sandringham in the same section was passed. More fortunate was the King in the heifer class, where the stipulation "bred by exhibitor" was not imposed, and here he was awarded third prize with a nice compact red Scot, scaling only 11 cwt. 1 qr. In the well-filled class for the best fat beast, open to the county of Norfolk, the King was highly commended with the red and white steer which assisted in winning the silver cup in the pair class. Among the sheep, his Majesty was represented among the short-woolled shearling wethers, pens for three lambs of any kind with Southdowns, and Southdown wethers and lambs, but failed to gain the judge's eye. The Prince of Wales exhibited some black Berkshire pigs, but was an unsuccessful competitor.

The championship prize of 10 guineas, given by the King as patron, was won by Colonel J. E. Groom, of Ashwicken, with his roan heifer, which was first in its class and reserve in the county competition. Mr. H. Tallent was reserve for the championship with the blue grey which was second to Mr. Groom's beast in the heifer class.

In the sheep classes, Mr. J. Hunter was most successful with Hampshire Downs, he taking the first prizes and the championship.

Leeds.

At the forty-eighth annual show of the Leeds Smithfield Club held last week the entries numbered 2,317 as against 1,874 last year; but the increase was almost solely due to the poultry section being nearly double the size of some former years, for with the exception of butter, entries of which numbered 14 against 11 last year, the other sections all denoted slight decreases. Quality, however, was well maintained, and the show all round was a highly creditable one.

In the Shorthorn classes His Majesty the King was an exhibitor, and his red-and-white ox was successful in the class under three years of age. It was a nice heavy beast, with good back and thighs, and handled well. It also received the Leeds Tradesmen's Plate, presentod for the best animal in the Shorthorn classes. An animal belonging to Mr. J. M. Strickland, Easingwold, placed second, did not handle so firmly as the ox shown by the King. In the next class for cows of any age or heifers under three years, a white heifer owned by Mr. Thomas Atkinson, Bury, the only animal shown, obtained the first award, and was reserve for the Leeds Tradesmen's Plate.

The polled Scots and Scots cross-bred cattle made an excellent feature of the show, and among the former the champion was found—namely, the Aberdeen-Angus steer, Joe, exhibited in the class for oxen under three years, and the property of the Earl of Durham, Lambton Castle. It was a fine firm, level animal, with good back and thighs. In its class it stood first, and afterwards was awarded the Leeds Smithfield Club's challenge trophy, value 50 guineas, and the President's Special prize, value 10 guineas, as the champion beast in the show, and the Leeds City Corporation prize offered for best animal in the polled Scots classes. In the class for polled cows of any age or heifers under four years, a nice symmetrical heifer, owned by Mr. Brigham Carlton, York, obtained the premier position. It was rather light, and but for that the champion would have had a strong rival. The Earl of Durham was also successful with his steer Hector and his heifer Mary in the classes for horned Highland oxen and horned Highland cows or heifers respectively, the latter being a good typical beast.

Among the Scots cross-bred oxen, an animal of excellent quality, shown by Mr. Charles Emmerson, Darlington, was a favourite of the judges. In addition to the first award in its class it secured the Leeds Smithfield Club's challenge trophy for the best beast exhibited by a tenant-farmer, the Leeds Butchers' Challenge Trophy for the best Scots cross-bred ox, cow, or heifer; the Leeds Licensed Victuallers' Plate for the best animal in the show, the property of a tenant-farmer; and the Leeds Tradesmen's Plate for the best animal among the cross-breds. It was also reserve for the champion position, but did not handle so firmly as Lord Durham's Aberdeen-Angus steer.

Sheep were few, the section having at no time been a great attraction to sheep breeders. Sixteen pens constituted the department, and this in spite of the fact that the committee endeavoured to meet the needs of breeders by a rearrangement of classes. No more than four pens were seen in any one class; in two there were only a couple of pens, while there was not a single entry of Leicester or Longwool sheep—a repetition of last year's experience that suggests the advisability of permanently cancelling the class. The few sheep that were here, however, were thoroughly representative of their different breeds. Again Messrs. R. and J. Davison, of York, secured Messrs. Goodall and Backhouse's cup, and as this was their third win it became their absolute property. Pigs made a good show, and in this section Mr. L. C. Paget, of Harewood, for the second time gained Mr. Joshua Sheldon's champion trophy and the Leeds Tradesmen's Plate.

Sale of His Majesty the King's Fat Stock.

On Tuesday Messrs. Buckland and Sons offered at the Cattle Market, Slough, His Majesty the King's Christmas fat stock from the Royal farms. This year the order of sale was somewhat altered, as it commenced with the pigs; there were 131 of these offered. The first, a very heavy Berkshire hog, was purchased by Mr. Harding, Slough, at £10, Mr. Kirkpatrick, Dumfries, taking the next at a similar figure. There were buyers from Sheffield, Doncaster, and elsewhere for these singles, the lowest value of which was £6. There was quite as good demand for the pairs, the top price reached here being £13, and they gradually came down to £7 10s. per pair. For the porkers there was quite as keen a demand. The first three of these made £10 10s.; the last four made £11 5s. The 131 pigs made £563 17s. 6d. There were thirty-five fat bullocks offered—twenty-five Devons and ten Blue Greys. The first of the Devons was purchased for the Principality by Mr. Watkins, Port Talbot, at £37. Several more went in the same direction, Mr. Skidmore, Pontypridd, taking one Devon at £39, and a Blue Grey at £17. Mr. Williams, Merthyr Tydvil, bought two Devons, one £36, the other at £18. Mr. Willis, Sheffield, as usual, bought the highest one at £43. There were only four of the Devons sold under £30 each—two at £27, one £25, one £18. The Blue Greys did not reach such values. Two of these realised £22 10s. from Mr. Sanders, Maidenhead, and Mr. Coleman, Teddington. The others went as follows:—£21 10s., two £21, £20, £19, and £17. The thirty-five beasts made £1,044. There was not such a demand for heavy mutton as there has been in some previous years; a couple of pens of heavy Hampshire Down wethers went to Messrs. Mattock and Willis, Sheffield, at £18 15s. per pen. Mr. Waud, Manchester, gave the highest price, £21 5s., the prices gradually declined to £17. More interest was taken in the Hampshire Down tegs, the best pen of these made £20 15s., Mr. Crutchley, Birmingham, being the purchaser. Prices lowered to £13 10s., at which only one pen was sold. The Southdown tegs found two pens of five each making £11 10s. per pen, the lowest being £10. The 340 sheep made £1,046 15s. The total of the sale was £2,654 12s. 6d.

OBITUARY.

Mr. William Hornsby.

We regret to announce that Mr. William Hornsby, of Grantham, died at his North Lincolnshire residence, Burwell Park, near Louth, on Tuesday, aged sixty-nine years. He was the youngest son of the late Mr. Richard Hornsby, the founder of the well-known firm of agricultural engineers at Grantham, and after receiving his education at Wesley College, Sheffield, entered the firm, of which he became a director. He was a magistrate for the county parts of Lindsey and Kesteven, and also for the borough of Grantham, a Deputy-Lieutenant of Lincolnshire, and was High Sheriff of that county in 1898, whilst in 1902 he was unanimously elected Mayor of Grantham. He was Lord of the Manor of Burwell, and patron of that living.

THE FARMERS' DINNER.

The annual Farmers' Dinner, held in conjunction by the Central Chamber of Agriculture and the Farmers' Club, took place on Tuesday at the Criterion Restaurant. Lord Desborough was in the chair, and the guest of the evening was Earl Carrington (President of the Board of Agriculture), the other visitors including the Earl of Onslow, Mr. Abel H. Smith, M.P., Mr. E. B. Barnard, M.P., Mr. G. L. Courthope, M.P., Sir G. Greenall, Mr. R. L. Everett, M.P., Mr. Martin J. Sutton, Mr. C. Pell Hall (president of the Land Agents' Society), Mr. J. Harold Howard (chairman of the Farmers' Club), Sir John Macfadyean (president of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons), Colonel H. Le Roy Lewis, Dr. J. A. Voelcker, and others.

After the loyal toasts had been honoured, Lord Onslow, in proposing "Success to Agriculture," said he was afraid in the memory of many of them agriculture had not been a success, but rather a failure. In the past year, however, he thought things had assumed a rather more rosy and favourable aspect, at any rate prices were better. He had never taken a despairing view of British agriculture, because he knew that the produce of the soil could be turned out better in this country than in any country in the world. As to the future, they were hanging upon the lips of the President of the Board of Agriculture to know what legislation was in store for them. In the House of Lords an undertaking had been given that the law on the subject of agricultural holdings and small holdings was to be consolidated into one Act, and he hoped Lord Carrington would fulfil his promise. The moment had come when all parties should join in an endeavour to strengthen the Chamber of Agriculture.

Earl Carrington, replying to the toast, said Mr. Disraeli once remarked that "one of the worst things men had to endure was anticipation of catastrophes, which never come to pass." There has been no catastrophe in England or Wales this year, and he could congratulate them on a good harvest, though Scotland had not been so fortunate. Potatoes were poor, but roots were a good crop, and hops just below the average. Wheat, barley, beans, and hay were within reasonable distance of a record, and oats actually beyond the previous record. Corn, too, was fetching a much higher price now than it did this time last year, and comparing the average prices for last week with the similar period of last year, he found that wheat had gone up 8s. 6d. a quarter, barley 3s., and oats 1s. 2d. The first question to be dealt with when he took office two years ago was that of Canadian cattle. Breeders were against, and graziers and Imperialists who thought that no risk or sacrifice was too great to secure the loyalty of our colonies were in favour, of a change in the existing law. He could reassure the fears of the latter, as he was informed on the very highest authority that the decision either way would be cheerfully and loyally accepted. Meat in this country was neither dearer nor scarcer in consequence of those regulations, and recognising the terrible risk of disease and infection which a change in the law might involve, he was not prepared to advise or to sanction it. In his Department nine Acts of Parliament had been carried through in two years, and he had endeavoured to carry out Leonie Leon's advice to Gambetta, "Offend as few as possible—when you have thought out your policy, stick to it, and let it be a policy of results," but in legislation they must consider what was practicable as well as what was desirable. As regards swine fever, he was not quite satisfied. The Department hoped to revise the regulations, and remove some hardships. He was consulting Mr. Burns in reference to the milk question. The decline in horse breeding was a serious national question, and they hoped to devise a scheme more beneficial than the one now adopted. An interim report on the subject would be presented before long. He recognised that there was one subject above all others on which farmers felt that they had a legitimate grievance—viz., the unfair burden of the rates on agricultural land. As Minister of Agriculture it was his duty to impress on his colleagues the just claims of the agricultural interest for some measure of relief, and he thought he might say that the Government were fully alive to the urgent importance of dealing with the whole question of local taxation on broad and comprehensive lines. They proposed to take the first step in that direction by the introduction of a Valuation Bill next year. The Government's land proposals did not go as far as they could have wished. During the consideration of that matter it was proposed that there should be a Court of Conciliation between landlord and tenant, if there was any difference of opinion about what the rent should be. That plan had worked admirably on his own estates, and he hoped to be able to bring it into practice on the Crown Estates. The important provisions of the Land Tenure Act of 1906 were the freedom of cropping, compensation for damage done by winged game, and compensation for disturbance when estates were forcibly sold in the market by mortgagees. The Bill would be of much use to tenant farmers when notice to quit was given all over the estate.

His Lordship went on to say that he hardly hazarded an opinion as to the creation of an Agricultural Party, but he gladly welcomed Associations and Unions. As to the Small Holdings Bill, he said it had been questioned by Lord Lansdowne and others whether there was any real demand for land. The movement was still in its infancy, but the returns supplied to him were surprising and most encouraging. A Berkshire Association had received applications for 800 acres. In North Dorset another Association had received applications for 2,000 acres, the Cambridge County Council for 3,400 acres, and the Huntingdon County Council for 5,000 acres. On the Crown lands he had received application for 10,000 acres in Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, Cheshire, Oxfordshire, Bedfordshire, Wiltshire, Norfolk, and Kent, and the secretary of the Co-operative Small Holdings Society wrote that a correspondent in Bedfordshire had remarked:—"We hope nothing more will be done at present, as we think that the whole county is applied for." He (Earl Carrington) thought no one need have any anxiety in the matter—the interests of landowners, farmers, and labourers were all safeguarded. In his small way he had been able to put over 3,000 small tenants on his estate, and in forty years on 23,000 acres of land he had only lost nineteen farm tenants of their own free will, so he could not have upset them much. On the Crown lands this year he had let off 3,494 acres. In addition to only forty-four small holdings in existence twelve months ago, they now had 3,000 acres farmed by small tenants. He hoped and believed that the scheme could be, and would be, carried through in its entirety on safe lines, and that they would to some extent be able to stop the rural depopulation without any injustice to the landlords or to the labourers, and without depriving any tenant farmer of his livelihood or his home.

Mr. E. B. Barnard, M.P., who was responsible in a rousing speech for the toast of "The Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture and the Farmers' Club," dealt at length with the suggested formation of an Agricultural Party. It was not for him to say whether it was practicable or not, but it was certainly advisable that something should be done for agriculture, which at present was sacrificed by both parties to urban interests.

The chairman and Mr. Harold Howard having responded on behalf of their respective bodies,

Mr. Martin J. Sutton submitted the "Agricultural Societies of the United Kingdom." Even those who see signs of decadence in other British industries admit that British agriculture holds its own, and that the foreigner has to come to England to see the best crops of corn and roots the most perfect breeds of horses and cattle, sheep and pigs, and the finest and most durable agricultural machinery. There are doubtless many causes for this pre-eminence of British agriculture, but you will agree that agricultural societies and shows have had no little to do with it, and certainly without the shows the foreign buyers could not have been brought in touch with English breeders of stock and English makers of implements, as they have been during the past half century. We are proud of our great national societies—the R.A.S.E. (which we rejoice to know has taken a new lease of life), the Highland Society (which, with its huge reserve fund, seems beyond the reach of adversity), and the Royal Dublin Society (which possesses in Ball's Bridge an absolutely unique show asset). Two organisations have already had a toast to themselves, so that I am precluded from referring further to our hosts to-day—the Farmers' Club and the Central and Associated Chambers. It would be difficult, however, to name any bodies which have done more for agriculture—the Farmers' Club by means of its invaluable discussions and practical papers, the Chambers, by representing and focussing agricultural opinion on subjects demanding legislative action. They, with the Smithfield Club, and the oldest society of all, the Bath and West and Southern Counties Association, and many others represented here to-day, have done a grand work. One invaluable service of our great societies is their affording a common ground of meeting for men of all politics and every shade of thought. It is of the utmost importance that agriculture should not be tied to the chariot wheels of either of the great political parties, and although, as some of you are aware, I am not personally in favour of the project of forming a distinct Agricultural Party or group in the House of Commons. I do believe that agriculturists should, when important questions arise, involving the welfare of the rural population, be willing to sink mere party politics and vote for that candidate who, while supporting national interests generally, is prepared to specially further the success of agriculture, our greatest national industry. Agriculture is as popular as ever. It is kept up to its high point of development by the splendid scientific and practical work of our great societies, and enabled to show its excellence to all the world through the shows and exhibitions those societies organise.

In reply to which Sir Gilbert Greenall, hon. director of the Royal Agricultural Society, said that although he was privileged to speak on behalf of the premier society, he thought that the efforts of the local societies should not be overlooked, and deserved encouragement.

Mr. John Treadwell was responsible for "The Visitors," which was briefly replied to by Mr. C. Pell Hall, and a more than usually successful evening came to a termination.

The Farmers' Club.

The sixty-fifth annual meeting of the Farmers' Club was held at the Whitehall Rooms on Monday under the chairmanship of Mr. Howard, and among those present was the President of the Board of Agriculture. The report presented was very encouraging, for it stated that the progress of the club had been maintained during the past year. Sixty-eight members had been lost either by death or resignation, and eighty-two new members had joined. The total membership stood at 921, as compared with 907 a year ago. The surplus of assets over liabilities was lower than last year, but stood at the handsome amount of £1,684 2s. 1d.

Dr. Voelcker's election as chairman for 1908 was announced, and Mr W. D. Little was elected vice-chairman.

Mr. Alfred Mansell, of Shrewsbury, then read his paper, "The Value of the Live Stock of the Farm," interesting extracts from which we gave in our last issue.

In the course of the discussion, Mr. Kidner expressed the hope that the new sheep scab regulations would greatly limit the disease, though it might not be effectually stamped out.

Mr. O. D. Johnston (Suffolk) considered the sheep scab regulations should be considerably modified in places free from the disease.

Mr. Alfred Amos (Wye) urged that it should be made a punishable offence to send to the public market sheep visibly affected with foot-rot.

Mr. B. St. John Ackers (Gloucester) thought farmers should insist that those in authority should help them to stamp out every disease possible.

Professor J. F. Lloyd, F.C.S., was surprised that nothing had been said about tuberculosis, the most serious matter stock breeders had to consider. Medical men were clamouring for the destruction of infected animals.

In spite of several appeals, Earl Carrington declined to speak, remarking that he had attended as a listener.

Replying to the discussion, Mr. Mansell advised stock breeders to buy few animals at first, but let those be of the right sort. It would be better to have indifferent animals of the best stock than the best from an inferior class. The spread of sheep scab he considered a disgrace. People who came from abroad were astounded at its extent. He advised caution in the treatment of tuberculosis. If drastic measures were taken, very few milking cows would be left in the country.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

Account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended December 7, 1907, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year (the figures for 1906 are in parentheses):—

Animals, living:—Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves (11,749), 10,800; sheep and lambs (927), 3,777; horses (219), 97.

Fresh meat:—Beef (106,775 cwts.), 94,064; mutton (92,905), 105,664; pork (14,397), 13,550.

Salted or preserved meat:—Bacon (99,197 cwt.), 101,691; beef (1,015), 2,606; hams (20,546), 24,935; pork (1,989), 4,634; meat (11,823), fresh, 11,867, salted, 1,595; meat, preserved (3,134), 9,431.

Dairy produce and substitutes:—Butter (73,789 cwt.), 74,965; margarine (19,265), 15,539; cheese (32,841), 76,371; milk, cream (104), 162; milk, condensed (11,858), 19,724; milk, preserved, other kinds (591), 610.

Eggs (great hundreds):—(372,005), 439,888; poultry (value £14,546), £22,058; game (value £1,567), £3,922; rabbits, dead (not tinned), (4,421 cwt.), 18,112; lard (43,492 cwt.), 51,403.

Corn, grain, meal, and flour:—Wheat (1,656,100 cwt.), 1,336,400; wheat, meal and flour (321,000), 414,500; barley (318,000), 462,300; oats (209,300), 422,000; peas (29,740), 51,590; beans (10,880), 24,880; maize or Indian corn ((849,500), 670,500.

Fruit (raw):—Apples (130,450 cwt.), 283,252; grapes (3,061 cwt.), 16,360; pears (2,042 cwt.), 2,366.

AN AGRICULTURAL PARTY.

Central Chamber's Decision.

The outstanding feature of the meeting of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture, held at the Whitehall Rooms on Wednesday, was the discussion on the desirability of forming an independent Agricultural Parliamentary Party. It may be recalled that at the meeting of the council in November the report of the Organising Committee favouring the formation of an independent agricultural party in the House of Commons was fully discussed, and it was resolved to forward copies of the report to the various Associated Chambers for consideration. The views of some fifty-three chambers had since been recorded, and of these forty chambers approved of and seven opposed the formation of an independent party. Six chambers, although not opposed to the formation of such a party, considered it impracticable at present.

On Wednesday the subject was brought before the meeting by Mr. S. Kidner (Taunton) moving the following resolution:—"That in the opinion of the council an Independent Agricultural Parliamentary Party should be formed, and that with this object in view immediate steps should be taken to appoint a committee to consider the matter and report to the council."

He said that whatever view some gentlemen might take of the subject, he thought they would agree that it was absolutely imperative to them to go forward with the work. (Hear, hear.) It had been said that the scheme would be impossible if they had to work those 150 constituencies which were supposed to be agricultural. He did not think anyone contemplated such a thing. It was simply suggested that they ought to have more support from these constituencies, and ought to be able to rely on the members representing them more than they had been able to do in the past. (Hear, hear.) Even if they only had one member on whom they would absolutely rely they would have someone to go to in a case of necessity. Behind the proposition there was a supplemental one, that they should try and move those gentlemen supposed to represent agricultural constituencies, a little more than at present, and the adoption of the scheme of an agricultural party in no way diminished the importance of whipping those other members into line. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Lathom (Oxfordshire) seconded, and expressed the hope that the motion would be passed unanimously.

Mr. G. L. Courthope, M.P., proposed, by way of amendment, to insert after "formed" the words "and other steps taken to strengthen the representation of agriculture in Parliament." His object, he said, was to bring the resolution more into keeping with Mr. Kidner's ideas by securing that the steps to be taken should not be confined solely to the formation of an independent party, but that support should be enlisted from representatives of those seats where it was impossible to run an independent candidate of their own.

Mr. Kidner intimated his willingness to accept the amendment.

Mr. R. L. Everett, M.P. (South-East Suffolk), regretted that such a movement should be set on foot. He could not remember any time when there was less occasion for a movement of the kind. (Cries of dissent.) The agricultural position was more hopeful to-day than it had been for many years past. ("Oh.") Last year and this year conditions had improved, and their prospects were more hopeful than they had been for a quarrer of a century past. (A Voice: "How about hops?") I have no practical knowledge of hops, continued the speaker, but it is a very small part of the whole agricultural position. They had excellent agricultural organisation now. They had in the Chamber of Agriculture, a perfect representation of the land-owning and land-occupying classes. They had a Parliament more sympathetic towards agriculture — [Mr. Everett was unable to continue for some minutes owing to an outbreak of laughter. Finally he repeated his words amid renewed laughter and "booing."] It was more sympathetic, he said, than any Parliament existing in his time. (A Voice: "Hear, hear.") It had passed in two years more agricultural measures than any Parliament existing in his time. (A Voice: "And they are thrown out by the House of Lords." (Laughter.) They had no great agricultural grievances at the present time. (A Voice: "How about the rates?") The rates did not constitute an agricultural question. It was a national question. (A Voice, derisively: "I beg your pardon.") It was a grievance of the ratepayers throughout the country, and if they wanted anything done specially for themselves at the expense of their fellow countrymen—well, they might want it, and they would not get it. (A Voice: "No one wants it.") They had a Parliament willing to listen to any reasonable request made to it. (Cries of "No.") They had a number of members in sympathy with agriculture willing to join together—Conservative and Radical alike—to remedy any distinctly defined agricultural grievance, and he could not see why they should want to form an independent Agricultural Party. They could not do it, and if they did it would only mean the weakening of the party they already had.

Mr. Herman Biddell (Ipswich) said up to a certain point he agreed with Mr. Everett, but it was not very far in his speech before he had to dissent. (Laughter.) He wished to entirely dissociate himself from the reasons Mr. Everett had given for the course he wanted to take. They had an admirable association to represent agriculture in that Chamber, but they wanted to extend its usefulness by securing additional members, and by inducing the great body of agriculturists to join the local Chambers. He was anxious to have the luke-warm agriculturists secured as members of the local associations. As for Mr. Everett's statement that everything in regard to agriculture was satisfactory, it was remarked that he did not carry the room. (Laughter.) He was afraid, if the resolution ever came into effect, it would weaken the Chambers of Agriculture all over the kingdom. If they could but strengthen the local associations, they could do without the party that was now asked for.

Mr. Orlebar, twitting Mr. Everett with the fact that agriculturists had no special grievance, said it was curious, if that was so, six deputations should have decided upon going from that Chamber to the Board of Agriculture. Four were not received, while at the other two the President of the Board of Agriculture did not attend. (Laughter.) They would have to start an agricultural organisation on the same lines as the Conservatives and Liberals had theirs. They had never let an election pass without making their influence felt through their association.

Mr. Laurence Hardy, M.P. (Kent), moved the omission of the word "independent" from the resolution in order that the committee should not be hampered from considering alternatives to the formation of an independent party. He believed that the formation of an independent party on the lines of the Labour party and the Nationalist party was impracticable.

Mr. L. Wrigley (Monmouth) seconded the amendment.

Mr. W. Weston (Bucks) protested that the omission of the word "independent" would "spoil" the whole show. At present candidates of both parties were ready to promise anything at elections, and then left agriculture out in the cold.

Mr. E. B. Barnard, M.P. for Kidderminster, held that the word "independent" covered the whole position. There was an overwhelming consensus of opinion in favour of continuing the movement, and seeing whether the committee could devise machinery for giving effect to it.

Major Craigie, in supporting the amendment, said the difficulties in the way of an independent party were greater than some recognised. What they wanted in Parliament at the present time were a few men who knew the ropes, but he hoped the Chamber would pause before deciding to form an independent party. Parliament no longer occupied the place it did thirty yeare ago, and it had not the same influence, nor did it receive the same respect. Unless they could move the Press on their behalf, they would never move Parliament.

Mr. Kidner intimated that there was no intention to impose any restraint on the committee, which would be given an absolutely free hand in dealing with the matter, and would be free to suggest any alternative.

Mr. Laurance Hardy thereupon withdrew his amendment.

Mr. Martin Sutton moved the following amendment:—That in the opinion of this council the formation of an independent Parliamentary party, and other steps taken to ensure the better representation of agriculture in Parliament, are questions worthy of the most serious attention, and immediate steps should be taken to consider these objects and report to the council.

Mr. J. M. White seconded, but Mr. Sutton's amendment was finally lost by a large majority. All but four then voted in favour of the original motion as amended by Mr. Courthope.

On the proposition of Mr. Kidner, a committee was formed of the following gentlemen for the purpose of giving effect to the resolution:—Messrs. Dennis, C. Turner, Kidner, Balden, Latham, Simmons, Christian, Kendrick, Orlebar, Eve, and Davis. It was further decided that the committee should have power to add to its numbers to the extent of twenty members.

Replying to a vote of thanks, the chairman, Lord Desborough, said that there was no doubt but a great deal of the agricultural legislation originated from the Associated Chambers of Agriculture, and he belied that an increasing year of work for that chamber was about to begin. Attention was being directed to agriculture throughout the country, and his idea was that the way to influence it was to strengthen the present agricultural bodies and not duplicate authorities.

Other Business.

Prior to the above discussion the council considered their annual report, the adoption of which was moved from the chair clause by clause. On the question of the Butter and Margarine Act the council recorded that only twenty-two members of the House of Commons voted in favour of reducing the limit of moisture in mixtures, "notwithstanding the violent speeches which had been made in earlier discussions on the Bill against allowing 24 per cent."

Mr. Laurence Hardy, M.P., thought it was unfair to blame the members of Parliament who were supposed to represent agriculture in the House of Commons. It was impossible for them to take strong action, because those in charge of the Bill quoted the action of the central chamber against them.

The chairman (Lord Desborough) explained that the Chamber had been informed that if they carried the motion for a further reduction, it would mean the loss of the Bill, and agriculturists preferred to have the Bill without this amendment rather than no Bill at all. (Hear, hear.)

With regard to swine fever, the council expressed dissatisfaction with the policy of the Board of Agriculture in their efforts to stamp out the disease.

Mr. R. L. Everett, M.P., said it would be better for farmers to take their chance with swine fever than to have to put up with the present restrictions.

The other clauses were approved without comment, and the report was adopted.

The chairman intimated that, in view of the present condition of the industry, the Business Committee recommended that the question of the hop industry be considered at the next meeting of the council, and this was agreed to.

Resolutions by Local Societies.

At a largely-attended meeting of the Maidstone Farmers' Club the following resolution was carried at the suggestion of the secretary, Mr. G. Champion:—"That this meeting is strongly of opinion that the time has arrived when it is urgently necessary to secure proper representation of agriculture in Parliament, and that this result is more likely to be obtained by extending and strengthening the organisation of the central and provincial chambers than by seeking to establish a new party."

A special general meeting of the Lincolnshire Chamber of Agriculture, held at Lincoln on the 7th inst., to consider the proposal of the Central Chamber for the formation of an independent agricultural party in the House of Commons, passed a resolution approving of the formation of an independent party as an ideal, but suggesting in the meantime the formation of a joint agricultural committee in the House of Commons to work in the constituencies, and the adoption of Conservative or Liberal candidates in agricultural constituencies who would stand up for agriculture in the House of Commons.

The Worcestershire Chamber of Agriculture have by an almost unanimous vote expressed approval of the report of the Central Chamber of Agriculture's Organisation Committee, and pledged its assistance in carrying out the recommendations it contains; whilst the Warwickshire Chamber of Agriculture have passed a resolution to the effect "That the chamber is of opinion that agriculture should be more effectively represented in Parliament, and that the Central Chamber be asked to formulate a scheme to carry out this object."

On the other hand, the Shropshire Chamber has unanimously passed a resolution to the effect that the Chamber did not favour the creation of a separate agricultural party in Parliament, but strongly advocated the strengthening of the agricultural influence in the already existing organisations, and considered that candidates for agricultural constituencies throughout the country should be urged by Chambers of Agriculture to hold themselves, if elected, independent of the party whip on all questions affecting agriculture. It was thought there were in Parliament already too many of the delegate type of representative.

The Nantwich Farmers' Club discussed the matter on the 7th inst., and a resolution was passed unanimously that "while in the opinion of this club it is not deemed possible or opportune to form an Agricultural Party, yet it would gladly welcome and support any effort that can be made to secure more direct representation of agriculture." It was decided to send copies of the resolution to the Cheshire Chamber of Agriculture and the Central Chamber of Agriculture.

Whilst a licensed drover named Albert Harris, aged twenty-one years, was chasing a beast at the Metropolitan Cattle Market, Caledonian-road, Islington, on Wednesday morning, the animal crushed him against the railing of one of the pens.

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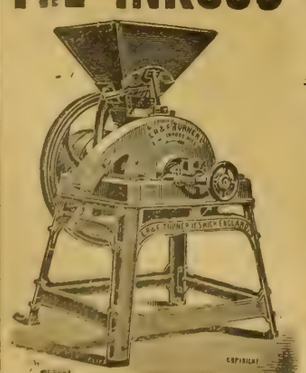
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The subscription for existing members, and all who join before December 31 next will continue at the latter figure. Subscriptions from new members will now be accepted for 1908.

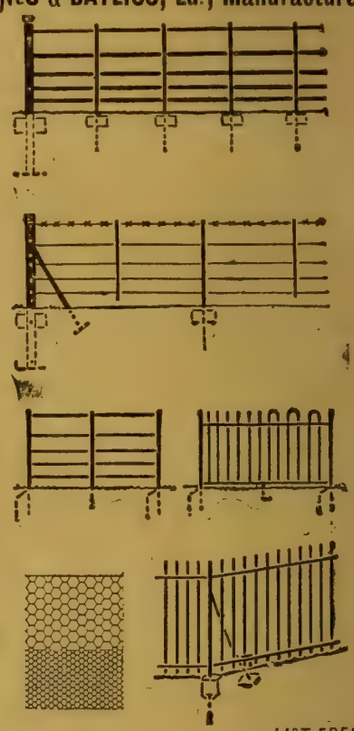
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POULTRY.

Testing Eggs.

Although it is not advisable to interfere with eggs undergoing the process of incubation more than absolutely necessary, it is desirable for several reasons that they should be examined and tested, principally in order to ascertain whether they contain the germ of life, and are fertile or otherwise.

All eggs that are being incubated, either by artificial or natural means, should be tested after seven days have elapsed, as at this period those that prove to be infertile, although useless for hatching, can be utilised for other purposes; in fact, many people consider such eggs suitable for cooking, but even if this is thought undesirable they can be used for feeding chickens, or be boiled hard and saved for feeding the forthcoming brood.

Testing eggs for fertility is not a difficult matter, and although there are many lamps and appliances specially designed and made for this purpose, and which no doubt are very useful and save a considerable amount of time where a large number of eggs are incubated and have to be tested, a simple arrangement that can be made by anyone will answer quite satisfactorily; in fact, it is possible to test eggs by the aid of nothing more than a bright light in a dark room.

Have a light as strong as possible, and hold each egg, one at a time, between the eye and the light, the fingers and hands being arranged round the egg in such a manner that they act as a screen to keep the direct light away from the eye, as shown in Fig. 1 of the accompanying sketches.

This method will answer all right, but a better practice is to take a stout piece of dark-coloured cardboard, or, if desired, a light-coloured piece can be painted black, size 9 in. or 10 in. square, and cut a hole in the centre the shape of an egg, as shown in Fig. 3, but a little smaller in size, the broad end of the egg, of coarse, being held upwards when testing. The eggs are placed against the hole one by one, and held up before a bright light in a dark room, with the result that the infertile eggs can at once be distinguished from the fertile.

If a fairly large number of eggs have to be tested several cardboards should be prepared with holes varying a little to take eggs of different sizes. A bull's eye or bicycle lamp will be found to give a satisfactory light for the purpose in question, and if a dark room is not available the eggs should be tested at night.

White-shelled eggs are easier to test than those with brown shells, the dark colour obstructing the light, and on this account such eggs are frequently tested on the eighth or ninth day of incubation instead of on the eleventh.

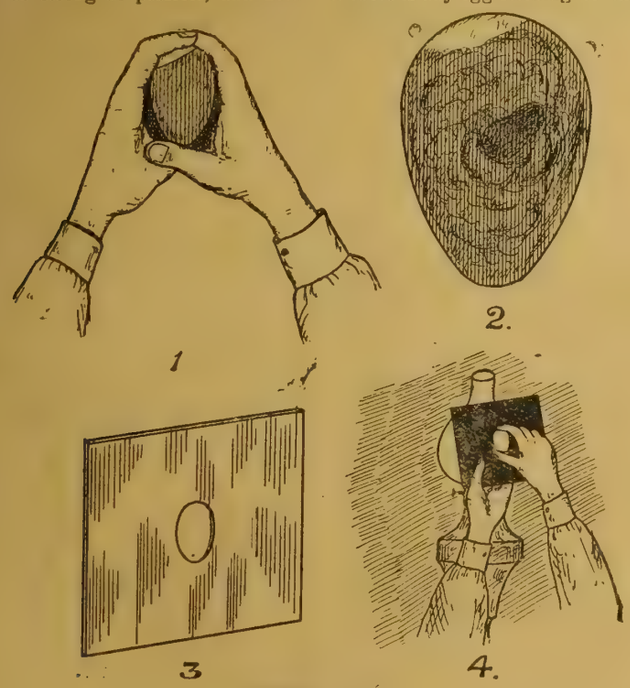
On being tested, infertile eggs will appear quite clear, as in Fig. 1, like those newly laid, whilst fertile eggs have a darkened centre surrounded by a clouded substance, very similar to Fig. 2, and if the light is very strong small blood vessels will probably be visible.

Powerful egg-testing apparatus can be obtained whereby it is possible to distinguish infertile from fertile eggs after four days' incubation, but being rather costly, such appliances are only in general use where a large number of eggs have to be dealt with.

The germless eggs should, of course, be removed from the nest or incubator, as not only will space be saved, but where two hens have been set the same day and the number of infertile eggs have proved to be numerous, all the fertile ones can be placed under one hen and the other either released from duty or provided with a fresh sitting.

Eggs should again be tested on the fourteenth day of incubation, and addled eggs, which are those in which germination has commenced, and from some cause or other been arrested and failed or died, should be removed and thrown away, as they are useless.

Not infrequently an egg gets broken in the nest through the hen treading on it or through some other accidental cause, and for this reason it is advisable that the sitting should be glanced at every morning when the hen is off for feeding. A broken egg should at once be removed, and any yolk or white adhering to the other eggs must be washed off, and soiled hay or straw removed also; if there is any egg sticking to the hen's feathers it must be washed off, or it would probably cause further breakage of eggs through their sticking to her feathers.



TESTING EGGS.

Utility Poultry Club's Twelve Months' Laying Competition.

We have now received the result of the first two months' of the Utility Poultry Club's twelve months' laying competition, which, it will be remembered, is being carried out at Stocks Farm, Rayne, Braintree, under the management of the hon. secretary of the club, Mr. E. W. Richardson. Each pen consists of six pure-bred pullets, hatched not earlier than January, 1907, and they have duplicate grass runs, and a scratching shelter is provided for each house.

At the end of two months the premier position was still held by a pen of White Wyandottes, but the pen which was third at the end of the first month—the pen which then held the best record now being second, with a total of 135 points, as against the first pen's record of 156; whilst the pen of Buff Rocks, which was second at the end of the first month, is now third, with a total of 131 points. It will thus be seen that there has not been a great deal of change in the position of the leading pens.

As regards individual effort, the largest number of first-grade eggs—*i.e.*, scaling 2 oz. or over—laid by one pullet during the second month was twenty-three, which is the record of one of the pullets in the pen of Buff Rocks third in the list, whereas in the first month a White Wyandotte had this honour with a total of twenty-five first-grade eggs, second coming one in the above-mentioned pen of Buff Rocks, with a similar total to that of the second month—viz., twenty-three. The records of the pens at the top of the list at the second month are shown in the following table:—

Breed.	1st Grade Eggs.	2nd Grade Eggs.	Uncalculable Eggs.	Eggs in Second Month.	Total
White Wyandottes ..	55	51	1	49	156
,, ,, ..	42	16	—	77	135
Buff Rocks	38	34	1	58	131
White Leghorns	40	50		41	131
White Wyandottes .	39	61	1	28	129
,, ,, ..	44	37	1	41	123
,, ,, ..	14	79	—	30	123
White La Bresse	17	80		18	115
Buff Rocks	42	5	1	31	79
White Wyandottes ..	24	30	—	24	78

The manager reports that the birds remain in good health. During the first half of the month the weather was fine, but during the third week heavy rains alternated with keen frosts. The Leghorns appear to have been upset by the weather, and are laying very moderately, several having gone into moult.

An inspector of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries has visited the scene of the competition, and having reported favourably thereon, the Board has made a grant in aid of the work now being carried on.

Spring Chicken.

No time should be lost in getting a good pen of birds mated up to produce the "early bird," for it is a well-known fact that early birds are worth twice as much as those hatched in March or April, although they may not be half as heavy, it must be understood that the title refers to table chicken. It is not necessary to get special birds to produce these chicks, hens should be selected that have good breasts, fleshy and straight boned, bright looking, active birds. These should be mated with an Old English Game or Houdan cockerell, they will throw quick-maturing, fleshy chicks, with small bone and white skin, the favourite colour with London salesmen. In some districts, however, yellow skin is not objected to.

Having mated up a pen—six or eight females should be the limit at this time of the season—they should be housed in a comfortable, well ventilated house (free from draught), and should have a warm mash of biscuit meal and thirds, or a mixture of barley meal, thirds, and a little granulated meat or fresh meat scraps. These should be mixed up with warm water and made to a fairly stiff, crumbly consistency, given in troughs (to prevent waste) as soon as the birds get about in the morning; another meal, wheat or good plump oats, just before roosting time will be sufficient if they have a free range, otherwise they will require a slight feed at midday. This should also be wheat or oats, and it is the best plan to scatter it among short straw, dead leaves, &c., to give the birds employment in scratching for the grains, and a supply of grit—sharp flint is best, failing this, broken china and crockery is a good substitute—and also a small box or dish should be placed within reach containing oyster-shell grit to give the hens the necessary lime for the formation of good shells. The grit should also be placed in a shallow box or dish so that the birds may help themselves. If there is not a stream of clean water at hand a fresh daily supply must be given.

Every available broody hen should be set, giving her from nine to twelve eggs, according to her size, the latter number being quite sufficient for a large hen early in the season. The sitting box should have a spadeful or two of soil placed in the bottom, and beaten into the shape of a nest with the hands, so that when it is finished with a lining of soft hay, the eggs will roll gently towards the centre. Place the box in a sheltered corner out of sight of other hens, in an outhouse if possible, and feed the hen on maize, as this will keep up the bodily heat better than other grain; give also a daily supply of water.

At hatching time, if the chicks are coming out all right, do not disturb them until the next day, as they will not require food till then, and will dry off better under the hen. The first feed may be bread crumbs, moistened with milk; afterwards scalded biscuit meal is the best food during the greater part of day, with occasional feeds of split groats, broken wheat, canary seed, &c.

If the coop containing chicks can be placed in an open shed facing the south that will be the best place, so that they can have a dry place to run. Feed them several times a day, but not much at a time, and do not forget the water. If fed well, kept clean and dry, they should make nice plump birds in March. C.

It has been decided to discontinue Huntingdon Wool Fair, which has been in existence for seventy-two years.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

Make the Most of Farm Produce.

If the production of milk and stock-rearing is to be conducted on the most profitable lines, the farmer must utilise to the fullest extent the produce of his own farm, and must try to limit his expenditure on foreign foods. Concentrated cattle foods are useful, and very convenient, but they cost a lot of money, and we should think they are emp'oyed in many cases to an unnecessary extent. They are not perfect foods; some of them act injuriously on the quality of the milk and butter; they are sometimes not free from admixture of weed seeds and other forms of adulteration, and the oil and albuminoids in them are expensive. The farmer might well grow more beans and peas for the use of his stock. These crops contain about 22 per cent. of albuminoids and 2 per cent. of oil, and thus constitute a pure concentrated food, which can take the place of some of the bought foods.

We know quite well that in intensive farming it is necessary to depend to a certain extent on cakes and other bought food stuffs, but we would like to direct attention to the point that, with the object of lessening his expenditure, farmers should aim at supplying from their own soil as much as possible and proportionately limit their purchases.

We import into this country feeding stuffs to the value of over £5,000,000 a year, an enormous sum out of our pockets, and we must confess that we should like to see it reduced.

The mangel crop is one which furnishes a very large quantity of nourishment, and its growth could be extended. With careful cultivation and the application of suitable fertilisers it may be made to yield as much as 40 tons of bulbs and 8 tons of leaves to the acre. These contain about 1,300 lb. of albuminoids, 160 lb. of oil, and 9,000 lb. of carbohydrates, which is considerably more than the yield of any other crop.

The big leaves of the plant absorb the carbonic acid from the atmosphere for the formation of sugar in the root, and in this way it may be said to form a contrast to the Leguminosæ which derive nitrogen from the air to enrich the soil.

Wheat Cultivation.

How to increase the yield of wheat per acre and to make more profit from the crop, was discussed at the seventh International Congress, and the following recommendations were agreed to:—

1. The cultivation of more prolific varieties, and in districts especially favoured by climatic and suitable conditions.

2. More careful selection of the seed, and the choice of the best local variety in localities where improved breeds are not found suitable.

3. A better system of soil cultivation and more complete destruction of weeds and parasites.

More careful treatment of farmyard manure in order to prevent loss and waste of nitrogen in it.

Extended employment of green-manuring with leguminous crops.

Growing Christmas Trees for Profit.

A speciality of forestry on the heathlands of Schleswig-Holstein is the cultivation of Christmas trees, an industry which increases from year to year. It has been found that the sandy heath soils can be turned to profit for this purpose, as there is a large demand towards the end of the year, and in spite of the increased production the trees fetch 3d. to 4d. each.

The Society for the Cultivation of Heathlands rather protest against the industry, as their object is to develop once more the fir forests that grew on the land, whereas the trees used for the universal German custom are ruthlessly cut down when about eight years old, and as many of the growers will not go to the expense of applying manure to the land, it is getting quite exhausted.

It can only be really recommended as an adjunct of proper tree planting, and as a means of covering the cost of the operations.

According to the experience of recent years the costs involved in planting an acre of such poor heathland.

	s.	d.
For purchase of the land	90	0
Digging	100	0
4,000	20	0
Planting	12	0
	222	0

Say £11 per acre.

This cost can be covered in the first seven to ten years in thinning out the little trees and disposing of them as Christmas trees.

It is an industry to which some of our small holders in districts where there is land of such a character might devote attention.

Farmyard Manure—Winter or Spring Application?

There is considerab'e difference of opinion as to the relative advantages of the application of farmyard manure to meadows for hay in winter or spring.

The result of experiments would seem to show that on an average the effect of the dressing on the first cutting is practically the same, but that for the aftermath the effect of the spring dressing is considerably greater.

Here are some results of first cutting confirming this opinion, the figures being ex racted from last year's report of the West of Scotland Agricultural College:—

1904.		1905.	
Plot 12.	Plot 13.	Plot 12.	Plot 13.
Applied in spring.	Applied in winter.	Applied in spring.	Applied in winter.
Average yield per acre. ton. cwt.	Average yield per acre. ton. cwt.	Average yield per acre. ton. cwt.	Average yield per acre. ton. cwt.
2 3¾	2 3¾	1 14½	1 14½

But when we come to the actual effect of the dressing on the "aftermath," we find that on every one of the farms and in both seasons there was a distinct superiority for the spring manured crop. The difference certainly was not great, but sufficient to turn the scale in favour of the spring application.

All the same, the results of the trials, based on the actual extra yield obtained from the dressing of farmyard manure, show once more that the application of farmyard manure by itself to the hay crop does not yield results commensurate to the expense.

If used for the hay crop, farmyard manure should be supplemented by artificials, or, really, it is better practice to apply artificials alone to the hay crop and reserve the farmyard manure for some other crop which would give a better return for it.

The Difference in Food Assimilation Between Cattle and Pigs.

Every farmer knows that some kinds of food are more suitable for fattening cattle and other kinds for pigs; for instance, hay and straw are excellently adapted for the larger animals, but not so suitable for pigs. The difference in the power of assimilating foods arises from the difference in the formation of the digestive arrangements of the animals.

Young grass is good for pigs, but when it gets old and fibrous they are not able to digest it properly.

Experiments show that red clover is digested up to 68 per cent. by cattle and 40 per cent. by pigs, although it may be remarked that pigs will eat rank grasses and weeds which cattle would not touch.

As regards concentrated foods, it is interesting to note that maize, peas, barley meal, cocoanut meal, according to trials made on the Continent, can be equally well utilised by both cattle and pigs. On the other hand, bean meal, palm nut cake, and bran are better for cattle. It appears that these foods are digested in the following proportions:—

	By cattle, per cent.	By pigs, per cent.
Bean meal	90	80
Palm nut cake	75	70
Bran	75	70

The bulky carbohydrates are assimilated in a greater degree by pigs, thus:—

	By cattle per cent.	By pigs per cent.
Potatoes	85	92
Mangels	88	90
Beet	87	95

Taken altogether, the loss of food in fattening pigs is less than in fattening cattle. After what may be called the "hunger" requirement has been satisfied in cattle, the additional nourishment is utilised up to 60 per cent. in putting on flesh and fat, whereas with pigs 70 to 80 per cent. of the surplus food is converted into fat.

It should be noted that the experiments were made on young pigs, whereas the cattle were fully grown, which seems to furnish another illustration of the advantage to be derived from fattening young animals.

Manuring of Seed Hay.

Phosphates and potash applied alone, and also in combination with nitrogen, have been remunerative. Their effect in preventing exhaustion of the soil and in improving the quality of the hay warrants their inclusion in any artificial dressing for the crop.

Relative Value of Cakes.

"G. H." asks us whether we can give him the feeding value of two cakes.

No. 1 analysis 10 per cent. oil
20 ,, albuminoids
40 ,, carbohydrates
Cost £6 15s. per ton.

No. 2 analysis 6 per cent. oil
18 ,, albuminoids
36 ,, carbohydrates
Cost £7 7s. 6d. per ton.

And their relative value compared with linseed cake and cotton cake.

*** The No. 1 cake contains, according to the analysis given, 115 total feeding units, and as it cost £6 15s., each feeding unit costs just about 1s. 2d.

No. 2 cake contains, according to the analysis given, 96 total feeding units, and as it cost £7 7s. 6d. per ton, each feeding unit costs about 1s. 6½d.

Thus of these two cakes upon the analyses the No. 1 cake is considerably cheaper.

As regards their relative feeding value as compared with linseed cake and cotton cake undecorticated, it may be mentioned that the cost of the feeding unit in linseed cake is to day about 1s. 3d., and in cotton cake 1s.

But without knowing what purpose our correspondent wants the cake for, and full particulars, it is impossible for us to express an opinion as to which may be most suitable and economical for the purpose he has in view.

The "Farmers' Red Book" contains a lot of useful information about cakes and feeding stuffs, and we would recommend "G. H." to study it.

Feeding Value of Mangels.

In our last issue attention was drawn to the large amount of nourishment contained in a good crop of mangels. Some experiments were made by the Department of Agriculture, Cambridge University, to ascertain the relative value with the "Long Red" and the "Yellow Globe." The two kinds were tested against one another for several years, and in this year's report we find the following conclusion arrived at as the result:—

1. Long Red mangels are superior to Yellow Globes for the purpose of fattening full-grown cattle, where the rations used are similar to those generally employed in the eastern counties. This superiority is doubtless due to the higher percentage of dry matter present in the first-named variety.

2. Yellow Globe mangels, although containing a smaller percentage of dry matter than Long Reds, are equal or even superior to the latter for the purposes of fattening yearling cattle, or for feeding store stock. For these purposes the dry matter of the Yellow mangel, probably because of the higher percentage of nitrogenous substance which it contains, is apparently better adapted than the dry matter of the Long Red variety.

Striking Example of Intensive Cultivation.

A few years ago there was a slump in the prices of coffee owing to the supply exceeding the demand, and the Brazilian Government decided to remove the evil of over-production in the country by enacting a law to prohibit the extension of the acreage under coffee.

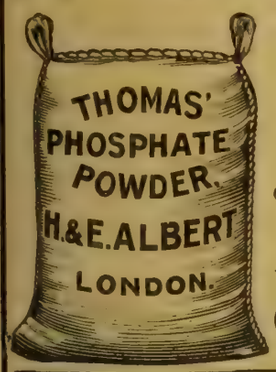
As the planters could not extend their estates, they directed all their energy to the improvement of the existing plantations. They replaced all old and broken trees with young and vigorous growths. With plough and spade they produced a fine state of tilth. They heavily fertilised the soil, and more or less shiftless and ineffective culture became intensive culture.

In the last season millions of young trees that had replaced the old stock came into full bearing. The plantations have produced far more coffee to the acre and better coffee from the same trees. The product in San Paulo, the greatest of the coffee states, was 120 per cent. larger than in the previous year, and more than 27 per cent. larger than in the banner year of 1901-2. The total crop of Brazil reached 20,409,180 bags, exceeding the largest crop ever raised before by 4,132,715 bags, or more than 25 per cent. Brazil's coffee lands have given a splendid illustration of the results of more thorough and intensive culture.

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a nom de plume, in the paper.

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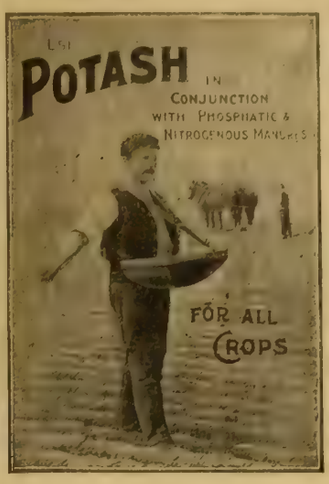
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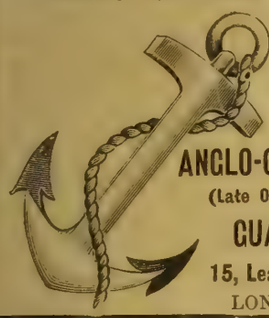
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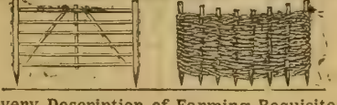
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FEEDING VALUE **is the OTHER SIDE of the question,**

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includes BOTH SIDES of the question.

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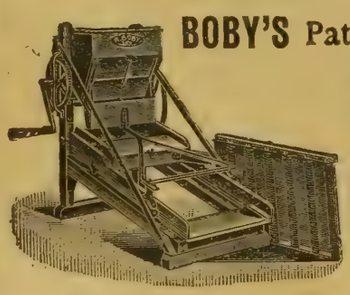
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13/- PER CWT.; OR, IN FOUR CWT. LOTS, 12/6 PER CWT.
Carriage paid to nearest Railway Station.

This Meal does not swell out so far as the "Milk Equivalent," but is much easier to prepare, and is recommended to those who do not personally see to proper preparation.

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This Meal swells out splendidly, but needs careful preparation. It is, however, a first-class Meal, and probably the most economic in use of all the Calf Meals in the Market.

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ESTABLISHED 1832.

DECEMBER 16, 1907.

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Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

SMITHFIELD WEEK.

The Smithfield Show week becomes an ever increasingly important one for all agriculturists. The show in itself is a host, but every year the number of meetings of societies and other agricultural bodies become more numerous.

The Cattle Show, as the exhibition of the Smithfield Club is more generally known, grows in popularity, and the Agricultural Hall, in spite of extended accommodation, was crowded with visitors from the country during the day, while in the evening Londoners took the opportunity to inspect the cattle and other agricultural produce. The show, as will be understood from the critical report which appears in our pages, was one worthy of the traditions of the Smithfield Club, and it is quite certain that this body has not lost its hold on the affections of the farmers, and continues to furnish a court of appeal from the other fat stock shows.

The Farmers' Dinner, which took place on Tuesday, was remarkable from the fact that not only was the present President of the Board of Agriculture there, but that Lord Onslow, who occupied that prominent position a few years ago in a Conservative Administration, was also a guest. The pronouncement of Lord Carrington on the agricultural programme of the Government seemed to meet with a favourable reception. Lord Carrington promised to look into the question of horse breeding, which implies that he will put what is now the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding on a sounder footing, and one which is more likely to be of assistance to horse breeders than the present

system of premiums for Thoroughbred stallions. The President of the Board in undertaking to inquire into the swine fever restrictions is taking a most popular step. It cannot be denied that the stringent measures which have been enforced by the Board of Agriculture have not met with the success that was anticipated, and Lord Carrington is doing quite the right thing in acknowledging their partial failure, and we hope that some scheme will be devised which will not bear too heavily on the careful and cleanly farmer, and will enable more attention to be paid to the keeping of pigs.

The Royal Agricultural Society also held their annual meeting during last week. An innovation was the holding of the meeting in the Agricultural Hall, and the departure seems to have met with the unanimous approval of the members of the society. The balance-sheet of the Lincoln Show disclosed a profit of over £5,000, and it was said at the meeting that the society's invested fund now amounts to £21,000. In the face of such pleasant circumstances it will be understood that the meeting passed off most smoothly, and it is satisfactory for all parties concerned to think that once again our national society has a reserve fund which can be relied upon in cases of emergency.

WHAT IS A CHAMPION?

The peculiar position that has arisen from the awarding of the special prizes for the best beast at the Smithfield Show leads one to ask the question as to what constitutes a champion?

Visitors have been very much misled during the week by the peculiar way in which the prizes have been allotted. Any rational mind has has no difficulty in understanding that a distinct set of judges may prefer the second prize to the first prize animal, and that there is a *bonâ fide* difference of opinion as to the merits of the beasts; but where the ridiculous part of the whole affair comes in is the fact that the best beast in the show is neither the best steer nor the best heifer, all of which awards were given by one set of judges.

We know that people in the inner ring are well aware as to how this apparently contradictory award came about, but to the ordinary visitor it savours somewhat of the nature of a Chinese puzzle. It is understood that the Smithfield Club will discuss the whole affair at their next council meeting, and it is said that they will introduce a rule prohibiting second-prize animals from coming before the cup judges.

We should be sorry to see this occur, as it does not need a great deal of imagination to think of a case where the second-prize animal in its class might easily be the second best in the show. Again, the independence of the judges in reversing the decision of the class judges does not tend to weaken the position of the Club, for it shows plainly that the exhibitor at Islington is perfectly sure of getting a true and unbiassed judgment of the merits of his exhibit.

There must be a difference in the awards of different judges, and we think that had it not been for the unfortunate misunderstanding in the allocation of the best steer and heifer and the supreme championship prizes, little would have been heard of the reversal of the class awards.

Notes of the Week.

There is a saying that "all roads lead to Rome." During last week all roads in this country seem to have led to the Agricultural Hall.

The hall was literally packed with visitors, so that it was difficult to get about.

During the first three days one rubbed shoulders with men from every part of the kingdom. Towardh the end of the week the Cockney element was mucs in evidence.

The show increases in popularity from year to year.

The announcements over many of the prize animals that they have been sold to Mr. So and So, butcher, awakens a pathetic feeling.

Poor beasts, bred in luxury, to come to such an untimely end.

The weather was exceptionally good for show week. We were not, as usual, half asphyxiated by a London fog.

How the show has developed since its humble origin in 1798, when it was founded as the "Smithfield Cattle and Sheep Society."

In 1802 the title of the society was changed to its present one—"The Smithfield Club."

In a little livery stable somewhere in Smithfield the first show took place in 1799, and the prizes distributed amounted to £52 in plate.

The Baker Street Bazaar was the scene of the show for some years.

From the beginning of the show our Royal family have taken an interest in it.

As the *Outlook* writes, "English kings for 700 years have been agriculturists; but it is safe to say that no model farms in history compare with Windsor, and that for knowledge of the national importance of stock breeding King Edward VII. excels all his predecessors."

Much sympathy is felt for Mr. James Hornsby, who was called from the show by the sad event of his brother's death.

Lord Carrington has led a strenuous life during the week. "At home" to farmers at his official residence, attending dinners and meetings, receiving deputations.

He must have sometimes wished that he was a small holder, leading the simple life so much talked about nowadays.

The smock-frock—beloved of artists—of the farm labourer is a thing of the past; but in the gallery of the Hall we noticed one old chap so attired. Somehow he did not look genuine, and we fear the old-fashioned dress may have been put on for the occasion.

The "Farmers' Red Book" is both useful and ornamental.

We were reminded by Mr. G. C. Phillips at the Surveyors' Institution that "nearly 2,000 years ago M. P. Cato, the Roman farmer-censor, propounded to the Italian farmers the following questions:—

First, "What is good tillage?" "to plough." "What is the second?" "to plough." "The third?" "to manure."

Truth is everlasting, and what Cato—we nearly wrote Cato, M.P.—said holds good—"yesterday, to-day, and to-morrow."

The "long pull" is to be dispensed with in the sale of milk by farmers in the neighbourhood of Preston and Fylde.

If the farmers join in "a long pull and a strong pull and a pull altogether," they may be successful in attaining their object.

Young men and maidens will be pleased to hear that large consignments of mistletoe are on their way to this country.

There is nothing fresh—not even the meat—about the meat trust menace. The arrangement is still in a state of incubation.

English housewives will find their plum-puddings dearer this year than usual. It is calculated that the puddings—much beloved by children—will cost nearly 5d. per lb. more.

The first dairy co-operative society was founded in Denmark in 1882. Now there are more than a thousand of such societies.

More than four fifths of all the farmers belong to such societies, and they own 80 per cent. of the cows.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17.—East Kent Agricultural Dinner at Ashford, 5 p.m., Mr. Hardy, M.P., in the Chair—Ashford Cattle Show and Jubilee Sale — Horse Sales at Leeds and Maidstone — Salisbury Christmas Market—Agricultural Fairs at York, Thirsk, and Carmarthen—Leighton Buzzard Fair — Martock Fat Stock Sale —Nottingham Horse Fair—Live and Fat Stock Sales at Langport, Castle Cary, Bicester, and Ipswich.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18.—Grantham Fat Stock Sale—Horse Sale at Crewe—Horse Sale at Doncaster — Buckingham Fair — Ringwood Fat Stock Sale — Malmesbury Cattle and Sheep Fair — Gloucester Fair—Frome Christmas Poultry Sale — Dorchester Great Christmas Market—Live Stock Sales at Wincanton, Sherborne, and Dorchester.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19.—Chester Horse Fair—Bedford Great Cattle Fair—Kettering Cattle and Sheep Fair—Blandford Market—Birmingham Horse Sale.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20.—York Great Annual Fair.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21.—Very little business will be done at the Saturday Markets of the 28th; some will be shut. Purchases this day will therefore, at all the chief Saturday Markets, be made for the most part to tide over the last ten days of the Old Year. Intending sellers should note this—Fairs at Stanhope, Macclesfield, and Penrhyn.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23.—Hampton-in-Arden Great Winter Horse Sale—A large attendance and trade at Mark Lane are expected, as after to-day the Corn Exchange will be shut until the 30th—Fairs at Newport Pagnell, Pickering, Saintfield, and Sleaford.

NOTES AND NEWS OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

The members of the Mid-Somerset Agricultural Society are to be congratulated on having had a most successful year, for whereas at the beginning of the year the deposit at the bank was £100, at the end it was £200, despite the fact that there had been an outlay of £30 on fittings. The most notable feature was the increase in the amount of entrance fees received, thus showing the growing popularity of the society's show; in fact, the whole year's record testifies to its increasing importance, and for its increased finance and general success it was generally agreed at the annual meeting that the society were indebted mainly to their indefatigable secretary, Mr. Ozzard.

The members of the Gloucestershire Chamber of Agriculture discussed the question of the desirability of forming an Independent Agricultural Parliamentary Party at their last meeting. The Hon. M. H. Hicks-Beach, M.P., said that no industry of equal importance was so badly organised as agriculture, but he thought it extremely doubtful whether, at the present moment, it would be possible to form an independent Agricultural Party, as when political questions were involved a good many members of such a Party might feel they were in a difficult position. He moved the following resolution:—"That this Chamber, while strongly in favour of steps being taken to organise agriculturists throughout the country, with a view to making their desires more distinctly felt in Parliament, deems it impracticable at present to form an Independent Agricultural Party." A rider was suggested to the effect that before any election specific promises should be obtained from candidates to support any measures in the interest of agriculture, and this was added to the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

At a well-attended meeting of the Somerset Chamber of Agriculture and South Somerset Farmers' Club, held at Yeovil to consider a report from the Organising Committee of the Central Chamber on the subject of an Agricultural Party in Parliament, the following resolution was carried unanimously:—That, in the opinion of this Chamber, it is desirable that an Independent Agricultural Party should be formed in the House of Commons on the lines recommended by the Organisation Committee of the Central Chamber.

HORSES.

Ancient Records—The General Stud Book—Thoroughbreds as a Basis for Breeding Theories—The Value of Mares in a Pedigree—Another Instance of Inbreeding to Mares—The Age of Brood Mares.

Ancient Records.

IT is a remarkable thing that the books about Horses and Horsemanship which were written in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries are both numerous and voluminous, and though there are many things amongst the wondrous remedies for equine diseases, and the remarkable statements about horses and their peculiarities, which go to show that our ancestors were practical horsemen, there is not any record of the breeding of the horses of the day. A few short sentences describe in a more or less vague fashion how it is advisable to mate mares in order to obtain a certain result, but generally a few pages, two or three at the most, are devoted to this important subject, and with the exception of a few remarkable horses—a very few—of whose exploits apocryphal histories are given, are all we have which can be classed as horse history. It was not till nearly the end of the eighteenth century that any attempt was made to collect or trace the pedigrees of horses on any regular system, and then only with reference to one breed—the Thoroughbred.

The General Stud Book.

IF it had not been for racing we should have groped on in the dark respecting the breeding of horses for many a year longer than we did. It was in 1791 that Mr. James Weatherby compiled "An Introduction to a General Stud Book," as his preface tells us, "with a view to correct the then increasing evil of false and inaccurate pedigrees." Racing had then been conducted on a regular system for quite three quarters of a century, the Jockey Club had been in existence for upwards of forty years, and the Gimcrack Club, to which I referred last week, had eaten twenty-five of those dinners which have since gone to the making of history before anyone thought it worth while—or perhaps it would be more accurate to say before anyone was industrious enough—to attempt to collect pedigrees. And notwithstanding the excellent example set by the Shorthorn Society in the beginning of the Nineteenth Century it was not until the early eighties that any attempt was made to collect the pedigrees of other breeds of horses.





Photos by (Anderson, Leighton Buzzard.

The first of the above illustrations depicts the Shire Stallion Lockinge Blagdon (22542), bay, 17 hands, foaled 1903, a winner of numerous prizes, and undoubtedly a coming sire. Below are three of his foals (Blagdon Royal Albert, Blagdon Ruby and Blagdon Delight), also prize winners; all are full of Shire character. Lockinge Blagdon is bred on similar lines to Lockinge Forest King, his dam being by Royal Albert, and on his sire's side he gets the Harold and Premier blood, but he is built on a large scale, which adds much to his value. He is the property of Mr. Clement Keevil, Billington, Leighton Buzzard.

Thoroughbreds as a Basis for Breeding Theories.

WE have therefore only the Thoroughbred Stud Book on which we can rely as a basis for founding theories of breeding. The records of half a century are not sufficient to base a theory upon, and it is very questionable whether there is any reliable information respecting the breeding of our horses, light or heavy, of older date than this, except, of course, in a few isolated cases, and then the information is not complete, and only two or three crosses are given instead of anything approaching a full pedigree. With the Thoroughbred, however, there are fairly reliable records going back for nearly 200 years, and it must be borne in mind that the early horses in the General Stud Book were horses of undoubted ancient lineage, for they had all "done something." Here, then, we find reliable data to go upon, and I make no doubt that if we had equally reliable data respecting our other breeds we should find breeding light horses especially a much easier and more profitable business than it is at present.

The Value of Mares in a Pedigree.

LAST week I had something to say about the value of mares in a pedigree, and I now proceed to give an instance of it. Perhaps Rosicrucian was the best horse Sir Joseph Hawley bred, though he never gained classic honours. He was running till he was six years old, and at the stud he was a very conspicuous success. The man, indeed, would be hard to please that would not be delighted to get one horse in a lifetime at all approaching in excellence to Rosicrucian. Now let us examine his pedigree closely. To begin with, and a rare beginning it is too, we have the names of the three sisters, Eleanor, Cressida, and Julia occurring in the pedigree no fewer than eight times, of which Julias occur five times, and Cressidas twice. These three great mares were by Whiskey—Young Giantess by Diomed, and were the dams of Muley (from Eleanor), Priam (from Cressida), and Phantom (from Julia). Then, again, take Diversion, the grandam of Rosicrucian. Penelope by Trumpetor, another great mare, appears in the pedigrees of her paternal grandsire and grandam. Then Web, the dam of Middleton, Diversion's grandsire, and an own brother to the famous Whalebone, appears twice in the pedigree. A horse in whose pedigree the blood of so many famous mares is to be found could scarcely fail to be great. He was, as it were, saturated with the blood of the three great sisters, and his record speaks for itself.

Another Instance of Inbreeding to Mares.

ANOTHER instance of inbreeding to mares that has come to my notice is that of Mr. John Welford's Cleveland Bays. Mr. John Welford is one of the most successful breeders of Cleveland Bays in the country, and his strain has been very much sought after. He has been more careful to keep records of his horses and their pedigrees than most men have, and his records reach a long way back—into the thirties or earlier. Now Mr. Welford has systematically inbred to his mares, and with the result that he has kept the peculiar characteristics of his strain in a remarkable manner. On some future occasion I shall give one or two of Mr. Welford's pedigrees, but I have not got them to hand as I am writing. Speaking from memory I should not say that the inbreeding is so pronounced as in the case of Rosicrucian, but then the records do not go so far back, and it is quite possible that Mr. Welford's Clevelands may be quite as inbred to a few mares as Sir Joseph Hawling's famous horse.

The Age of Brood Mares.

I WAS asked the other day whether I believe in breeding from very young mares. I certainly do not believe in breeding from very old ones, by which I mean that I do not think there is a reasonable prospect of success in breeding from a mare that is practically worn out with hard work before she is put to the stud. Yet curiously enough one never enunciated a theory on this subject without an instance being quoted in proof of its error. For example, one hears it said that first foals are never worth a great deal, or are seldom worth much; there is a strongly held opinion that first foals are inferior to those which are bred later. And yet Fandango was worth all the others that Castanette bred put together. Then, again, take

the theory of a hard worked and an old mare being an unsuccessful brood mare. No sooner does one give utterance to it than one is confronted with Alice Hawthorn, who was nine years old when she dropped her first foal, and who was nineteen when she foaled Thormanby, the best she ever bred. So all theories should be taken with a big grain of salt.

I DO not think it advisable to breed from immature mares. I frequently see three-year-old mares with foals at foot, and though I have occasionally known these foals to turn out very well indeed, breeding at such an early age must mean premature decay for the mares. It stands to reason that if a mare is only half grown the strain upon her involved by breeding will have a much more serious effect than when she is fully developed. But I do believe very strongly in beginning to breed from young mares, and I am of opinion that if a farmer were to take a foal off his young Hunter mare when she is five years old he would find it answer a very good purpose. The mare could be broken in and made handy when three years old, ridden about during the summer when she was four years old, and taken up and hunted about Christmas, after her foal was weaned. Then she would be at a marketable age, and would have earned her meat in the meantime. I have done something like this myself, and with an excellent result. I had a mare some seven years old that had been hard worked before she came into my hands, and had been hard hunted for some two or three seasons after I got her. Her fore-legs began to show signs of wear, so I laid her up for a year and took a foal off her—which, by the way, was the best she ever bred. The eighteen months' rest did her a lot of good, and she did a lot more good work before she finally went to the stud. She bred some fair horses, but was not a conspicuous success as a brood mare, and was an uncertain breeder. THE LOOKER-ON.

Royal Commission on Horse Breeding.

A meeting of the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding was held at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington on Monday, when, on the motion of the Duke of Portland, K.G., seconded by Lord Ribblesdale, it was unanimously agreed that the following resolution be forwarded by the chairman to the Earl Carrington, President of the Board of Agriculture:—

"That the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding desire to express their extreme disappointment at no official answer having been received in reply to the letter dated November 8, 1906, from Lord Sefton, late chairman of the Commission, and further to record their surprise that no official answer has been given to the suggestions made by the Royal Commissioners at the conference held at the Board of Agriculture Offices, 4, Whitehall Place, S.W., on October 31, 1906, at the express desire and invitation of the president of the Board of Agriculture."

Sir John Gilmour, Bart., had a resolution on the agenda concerning the management of future shows, but at his request this was withdrawn.

Shire Horse Society.

Mr. H. H. Smith Carington (president-elect) occupied the chair at the meeting of the council of the above society held on Tuesday, when nineteen new members were elected.

Mr. J. W. Kenworthy (vice-chairman of the Editing Committee) reported that the committee had that day considered applications for the following prefixes, all of which were granted.

Prefix.	*Applicant.*
Bexton	William Platt.
Quarrington	Walter Ward.
Raithby	C. S. and G. H. Upton.
Stone Park.....	J. Kendrick.
Willingham	D. Askew and Son.
Winsford	Arthur Dodd.

The proof of the 1907 Show Notes had been duly approved, and its insertion ordered in the forthcoming volume of the Stud Book.

Sir P. Albert Muntz, Bart., M.P. (Vice-chairman of the Horse Show Committee), reported that the schedule for the coming show had been finally considered and the committee recommended, in respect of the barren mare class, the addition of breeders' prizes for the first and second prize animals, while mares in this class would not be able to compete for the special prizes or cups. Exhibitors owning mares that had produced living foals in 1907 would have the option of entering for either this class or for the ordinary brood mare classes.

The conditions applying to sales held under the society's auspices had also been very carefully considered and the following clause adopted, to apply amongst others at the coming London Show, viz.: Any horse realising twenty guineas or over and found to be a shiverer, unless so stated at the time of sale, is returnable before removal from the place of sale. The auctioneers shall then appoint a veterinary surgeon to examine the horse, and his decision shall be final; the expenses of the examination to be borne by the unsuccessful side.

The committee recommended that the society should in conjunction with the other Horse Breeding Shows, provide canvas for the fronts of the horse boxes, a specimen being submitted and favourably commented upon. Each exhibitor would be at liberty to cover the top of his box, provided it did not hang over the society's canvas.

The committee recommended that the following rule should be added to the conditions and regulations of the prize schedule:—

"No person who shall have been shown to the satisfaction of the council to have been excluded from exhibiting for prizes at the exhibition of any society of good standing in consequence of having attempted to obtain a prize by giving a false certificate, or by other unfair means, and no person who is known to be under exclusion from any other society for fraudulent practices, shall be allowed to exhibit at this or any other show of the society."

This report was adopted.

The dates of the council meetings in 1908 were arranged as follows:—Tuesday, January 28; Thursday, February 27; Tuesday, March 31; Tuesday, June 2; Tuesday, November 3; Tuesday, December 8.

Importation of Horses.

Under an Order of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, entitled "The Glanders or Farcy Order of 1907," which comes into force on January 1, 1908, no horse, ass, or mule brought to Great Britain from any other country, except Ireland, the Channel Islands, or the Isle of Man, is to be landed in Great Britain unless it is accompanied by a certificate of a veterinary surgeon to the effect that he examined the animal immediately before it was embarked or whilst it was on board the vessel, as the case may be, and that he found that the animal did not show symptoms of glanders or farcy.

As regards importation into Ireland or the Channel Islands, intending exporters of animals from Great Britain should communicate in the first instance with (1) the secretary, Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland, Upper Merrion Street, Dublin; (2) the Piers and Harbours Committee of the States of Jersey, Greffe Office, Royal Square, St. Heliers, Jersey, or (3) the Supervisor, Guernsey, as the case may be, with a view to ascertain the steps to be taken to comply with the regulations of the Government concerned.



A Veterinary Inspector on Swine Fever.

At a meeting of the Lancashire Veterinary Medical Society in Manchester, Mr. J. S. Lloyd, chief veterinary inspector, Sheffield, read a paper on the subject of the control of swine fever. Mr. Lloyd was of the opinion that the disease has not been seriously grappled with, and he suggested some very stringent rules. Of course these would be resisted by many, and there would be a great outcry, but he said:—

No contagious disease of animals ever known has so far been eradicated without someone having to suffer—take, for example, rabies, the latest disease to be stamped out—and surely it is better to put up with some temporary inconvenience if there is any likelihood of deserving a permanent benefit thereby. The mistaken policy of the Board in the past seems to have arisen chiefly from the desire to please everybody. It cannot be done with success. The result during the last two years has been to increase the outbreaks of swine fever, and to decrease the number of pigs, at the same time spending yearly about £50,000 of public money.

Mr. Lloyd added that it should be borne in mind by farmers and small-holders and cottagers—for all are concerned—that though severe measures will press heavily on them at first they will be temporary, for they will eradicate the disease. The present un-method is "agony long drawn out," and apparently interminable.

British Berkshire Society.

A council meeting was held on December 11 at the Agricultural Hall, Islington. The president being unavoidably absent, the Hon. C. B. Portman was invited to take the chair.

After the minutes were read and approved, the adoption of the report from the finance and other committees was moved by Mr. J. P. King, seconded by Mr. Crosland, and carried. Included in this report was the recommendation to offer in prizes—to the Royal Agricultural Society—5 guineas for the best animal in the Berkshire single pig classes, and £18 for three prizes in the young boar class, special prizes of £5 each to the Royal Counties, Bath and West, and the Oxfordshire Societies, and of 3 guineas each to the Royal Lancashire, Suffolk, and Tring Agricultural Societies, and to any other society giving not less than £20 in prizes for pure-bred Berkshires, and conforming to our regulations, also the appointment of Mr. C. C. Smith on the list of judges.

The secretary's report had shown the present membership to be 190 against 163 last year, the current Herd Book had 50 more entries than the previous one, and 454 export certificates had been issued during the year, against 288 last year, 75 per cent. of the first number going to the Argentine. The bank balance was £131 and a further £100 was to be invested in consols.

A resolution, proposed by Mr. W. Crosland—viz., "That the registered prefix of Berkshire, Breeders be used for animals of their own breeding only"—was carried by a majority of four votes, and Mr. Crosland's second resolution—"That when a Berkshire pig has been entered in the Herd Book, the name cannot afterwards be altered"—was carried unanimously.

The following five members were reappointed on the Finance and General Purposes Committee for next year—viz., Messrs. Wm. A. Barnes, J. W. Kimber, J. P. King, Wm. T. Hall, and T. E. Hayter, the last three being also reappointed on the joint board of breed societies.

The next council meeting was fixed to take place at the Royal Counties Show at Southampton on the second day.

General Meeting.

The general meeting of members took place immediately afterwards, the Hon. C. B. Portman in the chair. After the minutes were read, Mr. Edward J. Morant of Brockenhurst Park, was unanimously elected as president for the year 1908. Mr. A. E. Preston was reappointed auditor. The report of the scrutineers showed that sixty-three papers were examined, and that Messrs. J. P. King, J. Lawrence, J. W. Kimber, and J. Jefferson, four of the retiring members, were re-elected, whilst Mr. Colin Campbell was elected in place of Mr. S. A. Leigh.

The Royal Statistical Society's second ordinary meeting of the present session will be held to-morrow (Tuesday), at 5 p.m., at the Society's Rooms, 9, Adelphi Terrace, Strand, W.C., London, when a paper entitled, "An Inquiry into the Rent of Agricultural Land in England and Wales during the 19th Century," will be read by Mr. Robert J. Thompson.

AUCTION SALES.

Auctioneers will favour us by sending in their advertisements as early in the week as possible.

Charges for announcements under this heading Six Shillings an inch.

By Messrs. IRELAND.

Norwich, Norfolk.—Ireland's Norwich Hill Auction Mart (established 50 years). Every Saturday. Fat Bullocks and Sheep, Store Sheep. Specia Spring and Autumn Store Cattle Sales.

MESSRS. IRELAND solicit consignments for these important weekly sales; best market value assured.

Cattle consigned to Ireland's, Norwich, will be properly fed and carefully attended to.

All cattle weighed upon entry to the sale ring if desired. Full particulars to be sent to—

IRELAND'S, Auctioneers.

Norwich, Norfolk.

By Messrs. C. B. HILLIARD & SON.

Peremptory Sale by Order of the Mortgagee.

ESSEX. LITTLE BADDOW & BOREHAM.

WITH IMMEDIATE POSSESSION.

G. B. HILLIARD AND SON will SELL by AUCTION, at the CORN EXCHANGE, CHELMSFORD, on FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1907, at Four o'clock, the valuable FREEHOLD MERCANTILE PREMISES, known as LITTLE BADDOW MILL, abutting upon the Chelmer and Blackwater Navigation Canal, in the above Parishes, and TWO PIECES OF GRASS-LAND, as previously advertised.

Particulars and Conditions of Sale may be obtained of Messrs. TATHAM and LONSADA, Solicitors, 16, Old Broad Street, London, E.C.; of Messrs. HAMPTON and SONS, 2 and 3, Cockspur Street, London, S.W.; and of the AUCTIONEERS, Chelmsford (Telephone No. 17).

SHEEP.

Notes and Jottings.

FLOCKMASTERS have, like all other live, stock breeders, passed through a very busy week at Smithfield. For all, the week must have been of great gratification, for at no period in our sheep breeding industry have the prospects been on the whole brighter than at the present day.

IT is true that our mutton feeders are faced with tremendous competition from the Colonies and abroad, but the manner in which they have met that competition hitherto proves that provided the same determination is continued, there is no apparent reason why those who breed and keep the best class of stock, and fit it properly for the market, should not receive full remuneration for their work.

WHAT a marvellous transformation has taken place in the sheep exhibits of Smithfield during the past thirty years. The heavy, coarse, over fed wether is non-existent; the fat ewe class, for which in those days there was so good a demand, has likewise gone, and in the place of them we find wethers of the choicest quality, well fed, but much improved in symmetry, and in the development of the more valuable parts of the carcase, fed to a degree of perfection that leaves little to be desired; and then, beyond this, we have those remarkable classes of lambs—such as was not thought possible, except in exceptional cases, at the date mentioned above to be secured.

IN many cases the wether lambs exhibited at the present time have attained a degree of development and weight, accompanied with the corresponding depth of flesh, that took at least double the time in ordinary feeding to secure.

THE report of the show is dealt with in full detail elsewhere, and the writer of these notes has no desire to infringe upon the work of your reporter, but he cannot omit calling attention to the points particularly mentioned above, for these points are the real secret of the great hopefulness of the sheep industry in the future.

THE demand at the present time is for perhaps a smaller joint than formerly, but the demand is equally keen now as in former years to secure the best-shaped joints, the best proportionate meat in respect to lean and fat and the highest quality of bone. These merits are the work of those breeders who have been and are at the present time continually working for the improvement of one or other of these points.

THE fine specimens of the several breeds exhibited at Smithfield (amongst which we regret to observe there were neither Cotswolds, Devon Long Wools, nor South Devon sheep) are specially selected for the purpose of showing to the breeder—home, foreign, and colonial—the ideal aimed at by the expert breeders of the present day. What, in effect, is this ideal? It is nothing more or less than the continued development and improvement of all the more valuable parts of the carcase, and the elimination of those that are of lesser value and are not desirable.

THE action of the championship judges in the Long Woolled champion contest, by which they gave preference to the rn Breed Cup pen of Lincolns over the Breed Cup winning pen of that breed by placing the former pen as rn for the champion honours, raises a most important question—*i.e.*, whether the judges, selected for their general knowledge of sheep-breeding to award champion honours, ought or ought not to have the power in effect to upset the awards of the class judges, who are specially selected as being experts in connection with their respective breeds.

IT was stated that this award was really of not much value, for it was merely an honorary position that was given to the Lincoln wether lamb pen by it, but this is not so. Admittedly there is no pecuniary value attached to the award, but there is a very great deal of *kudos*, and rightly so too; for any breeder who is able to produce that pen which according to the expert judge is the best specimen pen of that particular breed, has just cause to complain if any other set of judges choose to upset such award at the same show.

IT is not, of course, within the province of the writer to refer to the other portion of the show, but it is common knowledge that in the cattle section a second-prize steer was ultimately made champion of the show. The same principle is involved in connection with this section, and taken together, both point to the absolute need of one of two alternatives—either frankly to acknowledge that the championship judges have the right and power to sit in judgment upon the work of the experts specially selected for the class judging, or to frame such rules and regulations, if not already framed, and see that the officials entrusted with carrying them out do so, so as to prevent the unnecessary disappointment that was experienced during the past show.

A CONSIDERABLE number of meetings took place during the week, none probably of more importance to the general interest of sheep breeders than that of the National Sheep Breeders' Association. The main business, other than the election of the officials for the current year, which included Mr. Henry Dudding as president and Mr. Herbert Padwick as president-elect, was the discussion of that ever-recurring question, sheep scab.

THE discussion arose upon a resolution sent up by Mr. A. Amos, who suggested increased stringency in the administration of the Order, with certain conditions which had in the past proved most effective in his own district.

IT is true such restrictions might have caused trouble, but after all, the small amount of inconvenience caused by the regulations found necessary in dealing with this disease is infinitesimal in comparison with the trouble and loss the disease occasions.

THE result of this discussion, however, was somewhat different from that anticipated, for an amendment was carried by an overwhelming majority, "That in the opinion of the National Sheep Breeders' Association sheep scab will never be effectually eradicated until the owner of scabby sheep is penalised after due notice of the enactment of an order inflicting a penalty has been given." This resolution, which was very strongly supported, unquestionably brings us a decided step nearer to that condition of affairs which will more readily than any other aid in bringing about the eradication of this disease—*i.e.*, when the real culprit is made to pay for neglecting to cleanse his flock, as every flockmaster of this country could readily do if he were only so minded.

THERE can be no question but that sheep scab is a disease that can be got rid of, and effectually so, and also that it is a disease which continues to exist simply and solely because of the negligence of the careless flockmasters.

THE pure-bred flocks of this country are to all intents and purposes absolutely clear of the disease, and if the same means were adopted by every other flockmaster all the flocks would soon be in the same position, a position which would



The Pen of Leicester Sheep shown above were awarded the Longwoolled Sheep Championship and Reserve for the Prince of Wales's Challenge Cup for the Best Pen of Sheep bred by exhibitor at the Smithfield Club Show last week, as well as First Prize for Leicester or Border Leicester Sheep over 12 and under 24 months old, and the Breed Cup for the Best Pen of Leicesters or Border Leicesters. They were bred and exhibited by Mr. E. F. Jordan, Eastburn, Driffield; their age was 21 months, and their weight 7 cwt. 3 qr. 22 lb.

be most beneficial to their owners, and also to the country at large.

National Sheep Breeders' Association.

The annual meeting of the National Sheep Breeders' Association was held on Tuesday, Mr. James Flower in the chair. The report and balance-sheet, which were of a satisfactory nature, showed that the assets of the association amounted to £157. Mr. Herbert Padwick (Southdown Society) was appointed president-elect for the ensuing year.

Mr. A. Amos moved a resolution to the effect that the Board of Agriculture should be asked to amend the Sheep Scab Order, so "that no sheep shall be sent to any public market or sale after they have been shorn (or in the case of their not being shorn after August 1) until they have been dipped; or, in the case of fat sheep or fat lambs for slaughter, they shall only be accepted provided there is a tiver down the back and across the loins, signifying that they are to be slaughtered within ten days."

An amendment was moved in the following terms:—"That the National Sheep Breeders' Association is of opinion that sheep scab will not be effectively eradicated until the owner of scabby sheep is penalised after due notice of the enactment of the Order." One of the speakers pointed out that a great danger of taking sheep from this country to the colonies came from sheep scab.

Several members expressed themselves in favour of strong measures being taken so as to get rid of the disease, while others thought this penalty should be inflicted only after the owner had had due notice to get rid of the scab, and the amendment was carried.

CATTLE.

Tuberculosis in Cattle Conference.

The Earl of Northbrook presided on Wednesday over a large and influential meeting at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, which had been summoned for the purpose of forming a committee to watch over the interests of agriculture in view of possible legislation in connection with this important matter.

Amongst those present were 110 delegates from 51 different societies of the United Kingdom, and the following resolution was unanimously adopted on the motion of the Right Hon. Victor C. W. Cavendish, M.P., seconded by Lord Digby, "that a committee representative of the cattle, breed, dairy, and other societies be formed for the purpose of watching the interests of agriculture in view of possible legislation with regard to milk and meat supply," and that such committee be constituted as follows, with power to add to their number:—

The Earl of Northbrook, Hon. Cecil T. Parker, Mr. J. Bowen Jones, Mr. Richardson Carr, Mr. Ernest Mathews, Mr. C. M. S. Pilkington, Mr. Richard Stratton, Mr. George Taylor, Mr. C. R. W. Adeane, Lord Moreton, the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, K.G. (President of the Smithfield Club), Sir John MacFadyean (Principal of the Royal Veterinary College), four representatives of the Central Chamber of Agriculture, one representative of the British Dairy Farmers' Association, one representative of each of the Breed Societies.

The chairman stated that it would be the desire of those present that the committee should be as widely representative as possible, and that the proposed committee would form the nucleus of the larger body. The various societies interested would be at once communicated with, requesting them to nominate their representatives.

Considerable discussion ensued, and various recommendations were made for the consideration and guidance of the committee in carrying out the objects for which the committee had been appointed.

The Committee held a preliminary meeting on Thursday, the 12th inst., at which Lord Kenyon, the Right Hon. Victor Cavendish, M.P., and Mr. W. J. Norton were elected members.

Directions were given for letters to be written to various societies requesting them to appoint representatives on the committee, in anticipation of a further meeting to be held on Friday, January 3, 1908.

Sale of Stock at Gloucester.

At Messrs. Bruton Knowles and Co.'s Christmas sale of stock at Gloucester a large number of cattle, sheep, and pigs were offered. The trade generally with the cattle, though not good, was distinctly better than expected; there was a good attendance of buyers, and the competition was well maintained throughout the day. The following were the best averages so far as the cattle were concerned:—Mr. G. Greenwood, £31 2s. 6d. (2); Mr. H. Harvey, £25 10s. (6); the Duke of Beaufort, £23 15 (2); Mr. W. H. Butt, £23 6s. 6d. (10); Mr. G. F. Moore, £22 18s. 4d. (12); Mr. W. Goulding, £22 15s. (5); Mr. W. Browning, £22 13s. 9d. (4); Mr. S. Chandler, £22 1s. 3d. (4); Mr. G. Vines, £21 12s. 6d. (10); Mr. G. Shipton, £21 11s. (5); and Mr. J. Cave, £21 5s. (5).

The sheep were an exceptionally good lot, and all round a good trade was done at prices up to 74s., and 72s. paid for two yearling wethers of enormous size, belonging to Mr. Horlick, by Mr. Jones, Chepstow. They belonged to the same lot of wethers which took first prize at Smithfield the same day. Other prices range up to 64s. 6d. As regards pigs, a large number of baconers sold at from 5½s. to £5, whilst Mr. Summers' prize sow realised £18, and went to Cardiff; Mr. Dudfield's fetching £10 15s. (Mr. Summers), and Mr. C. Morse's £10 11s. (Mr. C. Jones, Gloucester). Mr. Rickards' heaviest pig in the sale went to Mr. Daniels at £10 2s. 6d.

New Slaughter Houses at Islington.

On Wednesday the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs visited in state the Metropolitan Cattle Market at Islington and opened the new public slaughter-houses, the foundation-stone of which was laid about a year ago. The buildings are intended to supersede the private slaughter-houses erected in the vicinity, of which the City Corporation are the landlords. They have been erected at a cost of £32,000; they are not calculated to prove an immediately remunerative undertaking, but are provided by the Corporation, as the market authority for the Metropolis in the interests of sanitation and the food supply.

These are the first public slaughter-houses to be provided in London, and have been so planned by Mr Sydney Perks, the City Surveyor, that they can be extended without serious structural alterations. The walls are lined with impervious glazed bricks, and the ventilation and sanitary arrangements are of the most modern kind. The animals will be lifted after killing by hoists worked by electricity, the first of their kind in England. The cooling room is 200 ft. long and 30 ft. broad, and provides accommodation for 720 sides of beef and 1,000 sheep.

In the pig slaughter-houses there are four killing styes with scalding and cooling tubs to each, and the cooling-room adjoining has hangings for 1,200 pigs. A special feature of the equipment is a system of overhead rails, by which carcases of animals can be moved without unnecessary handling.

Devon Cattle Breeders' Society.

In the course of the report to be presented at the annual meeting of the Devon Cattle Breeders' Society it is stated that a committee has been appointed to take steps to establish milking classes for Devon cows.

It has been arranged to give £34, in two classes, at the Bath and West Show, at Dorchester, in June, 1908. The council hope that these classes may be well filled. An effort is being made to increase the special prize fund. A few members have come forward with very handsome subscriptions, but a large majority have not responded. The council beg to appeal for assistance to those members who have not already promised subscriptions. The council have resolved to offer prizes at the show and sale to be held in Exeter on February 19, 1908, in two classes—for the best bull calved in the year 1906, and for the best bull calved in the year 1907.

Dairy Shorthorn Society.

The council of the Dairy Shorthorn (Coates's Herd Book) Association met on Tuesday, when Mr. C. E. Wodehouse drew attention to the existing judges' instructions at shows, and said there appeared to be a tendency to pay too much attention to milk and not sufficient attention to size, quality, and general excellence of the animal itself. He did not think the object of the association would be furthered by awarding their prizes to animals which had little to recommend them but their udders. An animal with milk alone was not much use to the breeder of pedigree cattle. Although he had always regarded milk as a *sine qua non* in his herd he was not a believer in the five or six gallon cow, with simply a milk record to recommend her. He thought that the prizes of the association should go to the four-and-a half gallon cow with a fine head, good horns, even flesh, and showing quality all over—an animal which would breed a bull, which was fit for export, and also to go into any herd at home.

Mr. Adeane suggested that they should add to the instructions to judges the words:

"Regard should also be paid to the type and character of pure-bred Shorthorns."

It was agreed that this suggestion should be considered at the next meeting of the council.

It was decided to give £90 in prizes at the forthcoming summer shows, as compared with £80 last year.

Transactions in Store Stock.

(Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

At Athlone Fair, co. Westmeath, held on December 10, there was a small fair; demand only moderate, and a good many young cattle remaining unsold. Good springers were in keen demand. Calves, 2nd class, £3 7s. 6d. to £4 10s.; yearlings, 1st class, £5 5s. to £9; 2nd class, £6 to £6 15s.; 3rd class, £4 10s. to £5 10s.; two years old, 1st class, £11 10s. to £12; 2nd class, £8 10s. to £10 10s.; 3rd class, £6 12s. 6d. to £7 10s.; three years old, 1st class, £13 10s. to £15; 2nd class, £10 10s. to £13; springers, 1st class, £17 to £17 15s.; 2nd class, £12 10s. to £15; 3rd class, £9 15s. to £10 10s. Very small supply of sheep, for which demand was by no means brisk. Lambs, 2nd class, 25s. to 29s.; one-year-old and over, 1st class, 49s.; 2nd class, 34s. 6d. to 42s.

Dogheda Fair, co. Louth, held on December 11.—Small fair; demand moderate, except for nice-conditioned polled bullocks, which were scarce and dear. Yearlings, 1st class, £8 2s. 6d. to £9; 2nd class, £7 5s. to £8; two-year-olds, 1st class, £12 5s. to £13 10s.; 2nd class, £10 5s. to £11 10s.; three-year-olds, 1st class, £14 15s. to £15 10s.; 2nd class, £12 5s. to £13 10s.; springers, 1st class, £17 10s. to £18 15s; 2nd class, £14 5s. to £15 15s; young pigs, eight to ten weeks olds, for which demand was bad, sold at from 15s. to 21s. each.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Dec. 10, 1907:—

Period		Anthrax. Animals Attacked.	Anthrax. Outbreaks.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Animals Attacked.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Outbreaks.	Glanders (including Farcy). Animals Attacked.	Glanders (including Farcy). Outbreaks.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Other Animals.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Dogs.	Sheep Scab. Outbreaks Reported.	Swine Fever. Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	Swine Fever. Outbreaks.
		No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Week ended Dec. 7, 1907		34	17	...	...	36	18	...	...	44	100	21
Corresponding week in	1906	17	10	...	...	37	21	...	...	22	160	35
	1905	26	22	...	...	32	18	...	...	25	132	25
	1904	34	17	...	...	25	15	...	...	30	59	13
Total for 49 weeks, 1907		1,374	1,012	...	...	1,827	805	...	...	585	10,784	2,250
Corresponding period in	1906	1,231	871	...	...	1,952	1,033	...	...	447	6,677	1,163
	1905	1,234	910	...	...	1,961	1,146	...	...	826	3,518	765
	1904	1,431	959	...	...	2,526	1,440	...	...	1,223	5,402	1,153

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

The Holbeach (Lincs.) Board of Guardians have adopted corn grinding as a task of work for vagrants, and during the past year they have ground 861 sacks of corn, which, at the amount charged—3d. per sack—brought in £10 15s. 3d. The profit was put at about half this amount and a proposal is made for introducing another mill.

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

**** The charge for Advertisements (if set in small type) under classified headings in this section is one penny per word each insertion.*

HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL, Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

GRIFFIN, F. W., Boro' Fen, Peterboro'. Shire Stallions, Mares, and Fillies for sale, in natural condition; 40 pedigree mares kept for breeding; every facility to foreign buyers.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Hereford. Stud Horses: Lockinge Lord of Misrule and Lockinge Bonny Lad, both by Lockinge Forester, full brother to Lockinge Forest King. Colts and Fillies for Sale.

JOHNSON, WALTER, Hatfield, Doncaster. Stud Horse, Lambton King 16757; Stallions for hire; weighty young Stallions, Mares, and Fillies on Sale.

MUNTZ, FREDERICK ERNEST, Umberslade, Hockley Heath, Warwickshire. Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, prize-winners.—Particulars from Mr. JOHN T. B. HARTLEY, Estate Office.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby. — SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners, on Sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

PEARSON, E. E., Brickendonbury, Hertford. Shire Stallions, Mares and Stock for service and sale; prize winners. Stations: Hertford, Great Eastern and Great Northern.—Apply Estate Office, Brickendonbury, Hertford.

ROWELL, JOHN, Bury, Huntingdon. Breeder of Shires and Hackneys; Stallions for sale, hire, or service at home; mares and fillies for sale.

WHITEHEAD, Robert, Fashionably bred mares and fillies in natural condition on Sale. Stallion, Bodenham King 17177.—Apply J. M. JOHNSTONE, Hargate Hall, Buxton. Station, and telegrams, Millers Dale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

BENSON, ALFRED, Upper Gatton Park, Merstham, Surrey. Hackney Stallions: Copper King 7764, reserve champion, London Hackney Shows, 1905 and 1906; yearling Colts and Fillies by Copper King and other well-known Stallions for sale. For particulars, pedigrees, &c., apply to T. Hyett.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

SMITH, THOMAS, Shirley Stud, Hall Green, Birmingham. Breeder of Pedigree Hackneys and Ponies. Owner Hackney Stallion, "Viscount Hopwood" 8686: Pony Stallions, "Pinderfields Horace" 7952, "Shirley King Horace" 9882. Prize winners on sale.

WHITWORTH, ROBERT, Warley Stud, Halifax, and Londesboro' Stud, Market Weighton. Hackney Stallions: Polonius, Edemynag, Beckingham Squire 8078. Hackneys and Harness Horses always on sale. Matched pairs a speciality.

PONIES.

BEALE, Mrs. A. J., Cacketts, Cudham, Kent. Prize-bred Pedigree Shetlands for sale; three grand Stallions at stud.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

BELL, CHARLES, Norley Hall, Norley, Cheshire. Shorthorn Bulls for sale, from Kirklevington, Red Rose, Barrington, and Cruickshank tribes. Telegrams "Norley"; railway stations, Acton Bridge and Delamere.

BRANDON HERD of Lincoln Red Shorthorns. Founded from the oldest herds in the county (including late Mr. James Martin's). First prizes won for years at the Royal and Lincolnshire Shows. Over 100 good-constitutioned, heavy-fleshed Heifers and young Bulls on sale. Inspection invited.—JOHN LANGHAM, J.P., Brandon Grange, Grantham.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

CATTLE—*continued.*

SHORTHORNS—*continued.*

DUDDING, MR. HY., Riby Grove, Great Grimsby, has for inspection and sale the largest pure herd of SHORTHORNS in the county, which comprise the best Bates, Booth, Cruikshank and Scotch blood. The prize bulls recently used and now in service are Prince Alastair 89647, a noted winner, and sold at the Riby Sale, 1906, for 1,000 gs.; Scottish Daisy Duke 70916, Merry Squire 5th 85626, Stratton Squire 80062, Bapton Favourite 76080, Wanderer's Chief 80210, Royal Pearl 8.959, President Pierrepont 92846, Aberdeen 87764, Scottish Standard 97058, and Strowan Butterfly 23rd. In July of last year 51 Shorthorns and 56 Lincoln Rams were sold to average 125 gs. each, realising a total of nearly £14,000. In July this year 53 Shorthorns and 48 Rams averaged over 90 gs. each, with a total of nearly £10,000. Numerous prizes have been won at the leading shows in England by the Riby Shorthorns and Lincoln Sheep. Telegrams: "Dudding, Keelby."

MOSLEY, Sir OSWALD.—High-class Shorthorns. Home Farm, Rolleston Hall. Bulls and Heifers on sale.—Apply A. E. Beck, Rolleston, Burton-on-Trent.

PREECE, JOHN ADNEY, Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston, Northampton.—Herd of 250 Shorthorns, best Bates and Scotch blood; stock Bulls, Duke of Barrington 70th, Primrose Earl 89641, and Royal Baron 93192; Bulls and Heifers for sale.

ROTHWELL, R. R., Much Hoole, near Preston. Pedigree Shorthorns, chiefly Scotch blood. Stock bull Strowan Marquis 13th, winner of many prizes. Young bulls and heifers always on sale.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

SUSSEX.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath, Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Sussex Cattle (descended from the oldest and best strains of blood), unrivalled for their early maturity, the production of the best beef and working oxen, and ability to thrive in all weathers on the roughest fare. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for Sale.

HEREFORDS.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for Sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

PULLEY, CHARLES THORNTON, Lower Eaton, Hereford.—Noted prize-winning herd of HEREFORD CATTLE. First prize Royal winners, Protector 19660, 1900; Eaton Champion 21351, 1903; and Ashleaf 3rd, 1905. This herd is headed by Eaton Champion and Glendower 2nd 22196, also a Royal winner. Bulls and Heifers for sale. Also prize-winning Shropshire Sheep.—Apply Mr. HEDLEY JONES, Lower Eaton Estate Office, Hereford.

DEVONS.

BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton Williton, Taunton, Breeder of Pedigree Devon Cattle. A speciality for large size, with quality and robust constitutions; colour dark red. Sent to all parts of the world. Prices moderate.

SKINNER, ALFRED C., Pound, Bishops-Lydeard, Somerset. Pedigree Devons, constitution, quality, size, milk; 600 prizes principal shows, many champions; exports most successful; bulls and heifers for sale. Inspection invited.

TRIBLE, ABRAHAM, Halsdon, Holsworthy, North Devon.—Large old-established Herd of big size, strong constitutioned, good milking Devon Cattle. Winners of numerous First and Champion Prizes, R.A.S.E. Champion twice; many exports, all successful. Prices moderate. Tuberculin Test Certificates.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

BRIDGES, J. H.—This old-established herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle of the leading families can be seen at Langshott Home Farm, Horley, Surrey (near Horley Station, L.B. & S.C.R.), and catalogues obtained on application to Mr. Albert Pulling.

CRIDLAN, J. J., Maisemore Park, Gloucester, Erica, Pride of Aberdeen, Lady Ida and other noted tribes. Stock Bulls, Wizard of Maisemore (21,465), Champion and winner of gold medals, 1905; Everwise (24,436), Champion and medal winner, 1907; Bengal of Ballindalloch prize winner, 1906.

HURSLEY PARK HERD OF ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE, the property of Sir George Cooper, Bart., comprising Erica, Pride, Miss Burgess, Lady Ida, Matilda, Jemima of Morlich families. Prizes won during 1906: 7 firsts, 3 seconds, 3 reserves, 1 challenge cup, 2 silver medals, 3 reserve champions. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.—Catalogues on application to J. E. Thorold, Estate Office, Hursley Park, Winchester.

THE ROCKLIFFE PARK HERD of Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, Ericas and Prides. Stock Bull, Pundit of Preston (17,156), Champion at Highland Show, 1904.—Apply, R. C. SWAN, Rockliffe Park, Darlington.

AYRSHIRES.

WALLACE, JAMES, J.P., Auchenbainzie, Thornhill, Dumfriesshire, Scotland. Breeder of pedigree prize-winning Ayrshire Cattle; hardy, healthy, good milkers; bred for dairy purposes, beauty and style. Bulls and Heifers for sale.

CATTLE—*continued.*

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers remarkably (from his excellent milking prize) RED POLLS including Champions, both male and female) grand young Bulls, Cows Heifers.—Apply, C. F. STABBING, Letton, Thetford, England

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

CARY-ELWES, V., Billing Hall, Northampton. Breeder of Jersey cattle.

FOWLER, P. T., Importer, Watford, Herts. A choice selection of pedigree Jersey and Guernsey Cows, Heifers and young Bulls from prize herds of the Islands; particulars forwarded; inspection invited.

JERSEYS, and Alderney Guernseys, fresh calved and near calving. Prices, particulars.—R. WHEADON, Ilminster.

MERTON GRANGE GUERNSEYS.—Property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. This Herd contains Champion Bull, 1906; also Bull Royal Governor, winner of seven Firsts, and unbeaten 1907. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of best Breeding for Sale.—Telegrams and particulars, W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay.

STERN, Sir E. D., Fan Court, Chertsey, Surrey. Herd of pedigree Jersey Cattle. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for sale.

TICHBORNE PARK, GUERNSEY.—Yearling Bulls and Heifers for sale.—Apply, D. MICHIE, Estate Office, Tichborne, Alresford, Hants.

GALLOWAYS.

GRAHAM, ROBERT, Auchengassel, Twynholm, breeder fashionable Galloway Cattle, winners at Royal and Highland Societies Shows. Pedigree Bulls, Cows, and Heifers, also Blue-greys for feeding, for sale. Commissions carefully executed.

KERRIES & DEXTER KERRIES.

CORY, Sir CLIFFORD JOHN, Bart, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows.—Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

RATTRAY, DAVID, Gortnaskehy, Ballybunion, Co. Kerry. Pedigree Prize-winning Herd of Kerries and Dexters. 153 Prizes and Honours won by Cattle from this Herd past three years. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

THE DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE'S PRIZE-WINNING DEXTER HERD.—During 1904 and 1905 this Herd won more prizes than any other three Dexter Herds combined, including both first and second milking prizes Royal, 1905, and first London Dairy Show, 1906, Bulls, Cows, and Heifers generally for Sale.—CHILD, Compton Place, Eastbourne.

DUTCH.

BROWN, JOHN, Marden Farm, Hertford. Dutch, the best Dairy Cattle in the world. Over 200 head kept. Record, one cow gave 1,615 gallons of milk in 52 weeks. Bulls for sale.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

ANDERSON, JOHN, Barton-on-Humber.—The old Barton Flock of Pure-bred LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP, Flock Book 106. This flock is noted for hard constitutions, and fine, lustrous wool. Inspection invited. Telegrams as above.

ATKINSON, T., & SON, North Kelsey, Lincoln. Old-established flock of pure Lincoln Longwools. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Noted for great size and long lustrous wool. Have given great satisfaction at home and abroad. Inspection invited

BROCKLEBANK, JOHN, Bassingham, Lincoln (Flock 24). Pure-bred Lincoln Longwool Rams and Ewes. This old flock has been carefully bred for 100 years. Telegrams: Bassingham.

BROOKS, W. J., Stowe Lodge, Weedon, Northants (Registered Flock 165), has for sale Rams and Ewes of best blood.

DRAKES, Wm., Tealby, Market Rasen. Flock No. 72 of Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs of best blood for sale. Lincoln Red Shorthorns. Prices moderate.

DUDDING, MR. HY., Riby Grove, Great Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale the largest flock of pure Lincoln Longwool Sheep in the county, and many prize-winners. They are famous for great size, fine wool, and 150 years' good breeding, and at the home Sales have made the highest prices on record. In July, 1906, 51 shearling rams sold to average £151 each, the record price being made for a single ram, namely, 1,450 gs., and on two other occasions have rams made 1,000 gs. The wonderful success of the Riby sheep at the Royal Show, Lincoln, 1907, and at the Home Sale in July when 48 rams averaged over £94 each, proves that the Riby blood leads the way Champion and premier prizes have been secured in all the leading exhibitions throughout the world. Telegrams "Dudding, Keelby."

MONEY, FRED, Silk Willoughby, Sleaford. Flock 323; established over a century. Four Rams from this flock fetched over £1,300 in the Argentine, February, 1903, one making £700, the record for a single ram in Buenos Ayres. Rams for sale. Inspection invited.

(Continued on page 750.)

SHEEP—*continued.*

LINCOLN LONGWOOL—*continued.*

SMITH, HENRY, jun., Cropwell Butler, Nottingham. Lincoln Longwool Flock No. 7, winner of £2,361 in prizes. Champion pen Lincolns, Smithfield Show, 1896; Association Championship, Leicester, 1897; Association Championship for pen of 3 Shearling Rams, Yorkshire, 1900; Championship, Rutland, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, and 1906. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.

LEICESTERS.

SIMPSON BROS., Pilmoor House, Hunmanby, Yorkshire, Breeders of Leicesters (Flock No. 2 in Leicester Book), have always for inspection or sale Rams and Ewes. These Sheep are of great size with heavy fleeces, and include Royal Winners.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

THE CHILMARK FLOCK OF REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—Owner JAMES FLOWER, Chilwark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records. Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, out of 11 years competing, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" won eight times, thrice second, with pens of 8 ram lambs; a marvellous record. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 13 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05-06. At the Royal at Derby, 1906, every First Prize, two Seconds, and the Champion wore won; an unequalled success!! Champions Birmingham, 1905, over all breeds, Reserve in 1906. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Short-wools, Smithfield, 1904-05-06. Highest average past 13 years. Bridford Fair, Aug. 12, 100 Ram Lambs, annual sale. Selections for Sale.

COLES, CARY, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1907.—Extraordinary records: Twin ram lambs let for 205 and 120 guineas. Ninety averaged £21 10s. Selections always for Sale.

DIBBEN, JOHN HERBERT, Bishopstone, Salisbury. Breeder of Pure Hampshires. Annual Sale in August, at Salisbury, of 100 Rams and Ram Lambs. Flock consists of 800 Ewes.

OVEY, R. L., Hernes, Henley-on-Thames.—Pedigree HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK, Reg. Vol. IV. Prize-winners leading shows last five years.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. The Cholderton flock is individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded in the Hampshire Down Flock Book. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury.

OXFORD DOWNS.

ADAMS, GEORGE, Royal Prize Farm Flock, Faringdon, Berks. Pure Oxford Down Sheep, Shearling Rams, Ram Lambs, Ewes and Ewe Lambs for Sale. Special arrangements with foreign buyers. Many first prizes at R.A.S.E. and other shows during past 25 years, including 2 first, 2 second, and 4 other prizes, World's Fair, Chicago, and 7 firsts, 4 seconds and champion at Royal Bath and West, Royal Counties, etc., this year.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

HOUGHTON, J. H., Western Farm, Asfordby, Melton Mowbray. 300 Ewe Flock of Pedigree Registered Oxfords. Sales Sept., at Nottingham, Melton, Edinburgh, &c. Ewes and Rams privately in autumn. Many prizes. Inspection invited.

STILGOE, H. W., Adderbury, Banbury. Annual Ram Sale at Oxford. Others on Sale privately; also Ewes. Many First and Champion prizes.

TREADWELL, JOHN, Upper Winchendon, Aylesbury.—Oxford Down Sheep. Annual Ram Sales first Wednesday in August. Prizes won at R.A.S.E. 24 years in succession. Ewes for Sale.

WHITE, JOHN, Ham Court Farm, Bampton, R.S.O., Oxon. Pedigree Oxford Down Sheep of best and purest strains for Sale. Foreign and home buyers invited to inspect.

SOUTHDOWNS.

COOPER, ALLAN, Norton, Bishopstone, Lewes. Registered Southdown Flock, No. 70; trade marked; hardy constitution and good wool. This flock of 520 ewes is kept on its native hills. Rams, ewes and lambs for sale.

SHROPSHIRES.

CORBET, Sir WALTER, Bart.—Registered flock of Shropshires of oldest and purest strains. Noted for true type and first-rate wool. Have won numerous prizes at Bath and West, Shropshire and West Midland, Royal Lancashire, Wirral and Birkenhead, etc. Can be seen at any time on application to Reginald Astley, Acton Reynold, Shrewsbury.

NOCK, EDWARD, Harrington Hall, Shifnal, Salop, owner of the old Sutton Maddock Pedigree Shropshire Flock. Founded 1832. Winner of prizes at most of the leading shows in England, U.S.A., and Canada.

SHEEP—*continued.*

WENSLEYDALES.

UNDERLEY WENSLEYDALES (Blue-faced) from the best blood obtainable. Successfully exhibited.—Apply, G. G. ROBINSON, Bailiff, Underley Farm, Kirkby Lonsdale.

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

CHARLES SPENCER, having taken over the Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts, herd of Large and Middle White Pigs, which won 12 prizes and reserves with 11 exhibits at Derby Royal, will price any of them.

FULWOOD HERD LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES, property R. R. Rothwell. 200 head bred from winners at leading shows.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for Sale at moderate prices.

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse Station, G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices.—J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM. Herd of Large White Pigs. The oldest and largest Herd in Notts County. Over 100 Breeding Sows kept. Upwards of 600 to select from. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—Apply ARTHUR A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale—FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

SPALDING HERD of Pedigree Large Whites, young stock and in-pig Gilts for Sale. All bred from great winners.—ALFRED W. WHITE, "Hillegom," Spalding.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 100 to choose from. Correspondence invited. Grand young breeding stock always on Sale.—Apply R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts (15 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—Apply to Mr. W. BAINBRIDGE, Walton House, Warrington.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

THE CATTON HERD of Prize-winning MIDDLE WHITE PIGS, property of J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stock Boar Castlecroft Mikado, 1st Park Royal, 1st Bath and West. Gelts and Boars on Sale. Prices moderate.—Apply BAILIFF, Raddle Farm, Edingale, Tamworth.

LARGE BLACKS.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath, Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Large Black Pigs of the best strains of blood, noted for their docility and for the production of a large proportion of lean meat. Good selection of Boars, unrelated Gilts, and in-pig Sows for Sale at reasonable prices.

CATTON HERD OF PRIZE-WINNING LARGE BLACK PIGS.—Stock Boar Trevisquite Excelsior 1427, 1st Devon County, 2nd and Reserve Champion Royal Show, 1906; pigs kept in hardy natural condition; gelts and boars always on sale.—Apply, J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stations: Croxall, 2½ miles (M.R.); Alrewas, 3½ miles (L.N.W.).

HASKETON CHAMPION PRIZE HERD OF LARGE BLACK PIGS.—This herd has won the Royal championship three out of four times, and is the only herd having won the breed challenge cup. Record: 47 firsts, 37 seconds, 11 thirds, 126 prize-winning cards; the herd this year being the winners of 14 firsts, 6 seconds, 2 thirds, championship and silver cup in five shows. Gelts and Boars at moderate prices consistent with quality. Exportation a speciality.—Apply, C. F. MARRINER, Hasketon, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

OLIVEY, Rev. E. S., Merryn, Cornwall. Breeder of Large Black Pigs, representing choicest selections from Messrs. Gimblett's, Warne's (2), Oscar Muntz's, W. Townsend's herds. All from registered stock. Strictly moderate prices.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS.—Select Herd-bred from choice Prize Winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale, moderate prices.—H. J. CLARKE, The Slade, Roughley, Sutton Coldfield.

PIGS—*continued.*

LARGE BLACKS—*continued.*

PEDIGREE Large Black Pigs for Sale; Boars and Gilts, also young ones, cheap.—LILL, Martindales, Lincoln.

ROBINSON, J. & H., Iford, Lewes, Sussex, owners of one of the oldest and largest registered herds, including Trescowe Pride, winner championship Royal Cornwall and many other prizes. Also Iford Colonel, 2nd prize Bath and West. Extremely prolific strain. All farrows by old stock boar averaging 12. Noted for great grazing capacity, hardiness, and size. Young Boars and Gilts of best quality and type for sale at moderate prices. Repeats for export to Colonies. Inspection.

ROBINSON, JOHN, Rings Hill Farm, Borstal, Rochester, two miles from station, where trap will meet customers by appointment. Pedigree Large Black Pigs of best strains of blood. Choice young Boars and Gelts for sale at reasonable prices. First Prize and Champion at R.A.S.E. 1904.

SUDBOURNE LARGE BLACK PIGS (the property of Kenneth M. Clark, Esq.).—Many prizes won at Royal and other shows. Boars and Gilts always for sale at reasonable prices. Testimonials have been received for pigs sent to Scotland, Ireland, Wales, Germany, Russia, Italy, France, Spain, Australia, and South Africa.—Apply, Manager, Home Farm, Sudbourne Hall, Orford, Suffolk.

WHEN Breeding, breed from the best Pedigree Large Black Prize-winning Pigs. TREVEGLOS HOPEFUL II., winner of First prizes and R.A.S.E. Silver Challenge Cup, 1907, beating all other Cup winners; also 1st Prize Bath and West, Newport; 1st Royal Counties, Maidenhead; 1st Royal Cornwall, Liskeard; 1st Devon County, Bideford; also 1st prize at the Royal Show, Lincoln, for Boar and Reserve for Champion prize. Boars and Sows for Sale of the above strain at moderate prices.—Apply to JOHN WARNE, Trevoglos Farm, St. Mabyn, R.S.O., Cornwall.

BERKSHIRES.

CARNARVON, the Earl of.—Prize-winning Pedigree Herd. BOARS and GELTS, eligible Herd Book. Prices moderate.—Apply W. T. HALL, Highclere Farm, Newbury.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

READING CORPORATION.—150 Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, leading prize-winning strains, from son of Champion Mikado 10433 and prize-winner Domino 11323; inspection invited.—Apply, Mr. T. Chettle, Manor Farm, Reading, Berks.

STALL PITTS HERD OF PEDIGREE BERKSHIRES. One of the Oldest Herds. Unsurpassed for true character, size, and quality. Choice selection of Boars and Sows on offer at moderate prices.—J. LAWRENCE, Stall Pitts, Shrivenham, Berks.

TAMWORTHS.

PEDIGREE TAMWORTHS, the property of C. HOWARD TAYLOR, Middlewood Hall; a few good young Boars and Gilts for sale.—Apply, Hampole Priory, Doncaster.

BORROWFIELD & COLSTON HERDS.

The property of R. MILLINGTON-KNOWLES
Colston Bassett Hall, Notts.

LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES.

The following First Prizes, Championships, and Medals have been obtained by pigs **BRED** in these Herds in 1907:
1st and Champion, Gold Medal, R.A.S.E., Lincoln.
1st & Champion, President's Medal, Highland, Edinburgh.
1st Welsh National, Aberystwyth.
1st Bath and West Newport; 1st Royal Counties,
1st Nottingham; 1st Suffolk; 1st Norfolk.
1st Derby.
1st Hereford and Worcester; Special Prize Lincoln Agricultural Society; 1st Great Yorkshire; 1st Newark.
A number of additional Firsts and other Prizes have also been gained at the above Shows.
At the St. Louis Exposition, U.S.A., in 1904, the Champion Boar, and the Grand Champion of the Exposition were bred at Colston Bassett.
The Foreign and Home trade has largely increased during 1907.—GILBERT H. ELLIOT, Estate Office, Colston Bassett, Notts.

For Sale.
PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.
Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.
GEORGE HOYLES,
Skidby Manor, near Hull.

GEORGE HOYLES
SKIDBY MANOR, HULL.
Breeder of Pure Lincoln Long Wool Sheep.
Lustrous Fleeces. Good Constitutions.
SUITABLE FOR HOME AND ABROAD. STOCK FOR SALE.

Sussex Society.

Mr. W. T. Ingram, chairman of the council, presided at the annual meeting of the Sussex County Agricultural Society, and in his annual statement referred to the invitation received from the City of Chichester to hold the next show there. The meeting at which the matter was discussed was, he said, the largest gathering of agriculturists ever held in Chichester, and the society was assured that they need have no fears on financial grounds. Comparing the accounts of the two last shows at Hastings, the chairman had some pleasant things to say, which showed the progress made by the show. The profit on the year was £153 4s., but the overdraft of £33 12s. and an account of £26 due to Brighton Corporation in respect of the previous year brought the net profit down to about £93. They had invested another £50 in Conso's, which brought their investments up to £473. He moved the adoption of the accounts, which was carried.

On the proposition of Mr. Stride, seconded by Mr. Hobgen, the Duke of Norfolk was elected patron, and the Duke of Richmond president for the year. Mr. S. S. Titt was re-elected hon. auditor and Mr. R. H. Powell hon. treasurer, and thanked for past services.

On the proposition of Mr. Chasemore, seconded by Mr. Braby, Mr. Dyer was reappointed secretary, and granted an increase of £25 in his salary, bringing the amount up to £125. Several members referred to the great increase which had taken place in the secretary's work.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society of England was held on Wednesday afternoon at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, when, owing to the absence through illness of the Earl of Yarborough, the chair was taken by Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis, one of the trustees.

The chairman expressed regret at the absence of the president, Lord Yarborough, owing to a serious illness of long duration. No one could have worked more zealously for the society than the president, and they all hoped Lord Yarborough would soon be back in this country enjoying perfect health. (Hear, hear.) He had received a letter from Lord Yarborough which stated that his illness had compelled him to go abroad for the winter, and containing an expression of his indebtedness to the staff for their valuable aid in the work of the society. It would be seen, he continued, that the financial accounts of the Lincoln Show were most interesting. The result of this most successful show, which had been honoured by a visit of the King, was to provide a credit balance of £5,056. (Cheers.) This amount of profit had been exceeded only on two previous occasions—first, in York, in 1883, and second, in Manchester, in 1869 In addition to this profit, a sum of £2,000 would be set aside from the ordinary funds of the society to the show account, thereby enabling a total of £7,056 to go to the reserve fund. (Cheers.) The recent experiments of combining with the local agricultural show authorities had proved to be most advantageous to both parties, and the society had received with gratification an expression to this effect from the council of the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society. The arrangements for the show at Newcastle next year were making most satisfactory progress, and every indication was forthcoming to lead the society to hope that the show would be one of the most successful ever held. The local committees had been most generous in their contribution to the prize fund, for they had intimated that they would subscribe a sum not exceeding £2,000. The society had accepted the invitation of Gloucester to hold the show there in 1909. The financial position of the society had much improved since the last annual meeting, and the reserve fund, including investments, stood at £14,000, which, with the £7,000 to be added shortly, would bring the reserve fund up to £21,000. (Cheers.) It was, however, a subject of regret that the total number of members on the books of the society was but seventy more than at the last meeting. Certainly the membership was not so large as it might well be. Though the suggestion that each member should try to obtain one new subscriber had produced some result, yet it had not been so generally adopted as it might have been. He impressed upon the members the duty of helping the council in this matter, because a large membership was the surest foundation on which the society could build. (Cheers.) Mr. J. B. Ellis moved the adoption of the annual report.

Mr. J. Evens, as a Lincolnshire tenant farmer, said he had great pleasure in seconding the motion. The Lincolnshire farmers were proud to receive a visit of the society, and to know that it had been productive of such splendid results. He regretted the slow increase in the membership, and expressed the hope that every member present would try to get a new recruit.

The report was adopted unanimously.

Sir Albert Muntz moved the election of Mr. Victor C. Cavendish, M.P., as president for the ensuing year. (Applause).

Mr. Joseph Martin seconded the motion, which was carried.

Mr. Cavendish, in reply, said that of all the positions an Englishman could occupy he thought that of the President of the Royal Agricultural Society was, indeed, one of the greatest. He knew it might be difficult to do much to increase the popularity and power of the society, but they had made so much advance during the last few years that he thought they had every encouragement to persevere. (Applause.)

The trustees, vice-presidents, and auditors were re elected.

The chairman then announced the election of the following ordinary members of the council who represent the several divisions in Group B and additional members elected under by-law 83.

Buckinghamshire: E. Mathews, Little Shardeloes, Amersham.

Devonshire) J. H. Hine, Pomphlett Farm, Plymstock, Plymouth.

Durham: C. Middleton, Vane Terrace, Darlington.

Essex: W. Nocton, Langham Hall, Colchester.

Herefordshire: A. P. Turner, The Leen, Pembridge.

Leicestershire: Sir H. F. de Trafford, Hill Crest, Market Harboro'.

Lincolnshire: C. W. Tindall, Wainfleet S.O.

London: H. Frank, 9, Conduit Street, W. W. A. May, 3, Wellington Street, Strand. J. Thornton, 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square.

Nottinghamshire: C. M. S. Pilkington, Woollaton, Nottingham.

Rutland: S. N. Bankart, Hallaton Hall, Uppingham.

Shropshire: T. S. Minton, Montford, Shrewsbury.

South Wales: C C. Rogers, Stanage Park, Brampton Bryan.

Staffordshire: R. G. Patterson, Acton Russell, Stafford.

Suffolk: Fred Smith, Woodbridge.

Surrey: E. A. Hamlyn, Oakdale, Ockley.

Wiltshire: H. H. Smith, Bowood, Calne.

Yorks (W.R): E. W. Stanyforth, Kirk Hammerton Hall, York.

The chairman inviting suggestions,

Mr. E. A Hamlyn (Ockley, Surrey) suggested that the council should have a proper recruiting committee of four or five members to attend specially to the membership. With regard to the importation of meat, he believed that the quantity of foreign meat coming into Deptford and Smithfield was something like 80 or 90 per cent. Yet no butcher would tell them that he sold anything but the primest English joints. He suggested that the council should consider whether it would not be advisable to again approach the Board of Agriculture, with the object that butchers should be compelled to exhibit descriptive labels when they sold foreign meat (Applause)

Mr. H. M. Simmons (Eastbourne) suggested that the judges should not know the names of the owners of the cattle they were judging. He also proposed that the men should not be allowed to bring their own cattle out. Let a Sussex man bring a Shorthorn out, and the Shorthorn man bring the Sussex out. He had noticed some shows where the judges judged the owners instead of the cattle. (Laughter.)

Mr. Eldred G. F. Walker, on behalf of the west country cider growers, urged that when cider was disqualified for not passing the tests of the chemists, the society should not be ashamed to put on the exhibits "disqualified for the use of preservatives." They also wanted two judges. They would be prepared to give a prize in the cider classes when the society came to Gloucester if they had two judges.

The chairman said the suggestions would all be carefully considered, and a vote of thanks to the chairman brought the meeting to a close.

COUNCIL MEETING.

A monthly Council was held at 16, Bedford Square, W.C., on Wednesday, Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis (trustee) in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting of the council having been taken as read and approved, the election of three governors and sixty members was proceeded with.

The reports of the various standing committees were then presented. and reported as below :—

Finance.

Mr. Adeane (chairman) reported that they had authorised the transference before the end of the the year, of the following amounts from the ordinary account to the reserve fund :—

Credit balance on the Lincoln Show ..	£5,056	0	18
Contributions from the ordinary funds to the show fund	2,000	0	0
Balance standing to the credit of the Harewood House (sinking fund) account	130	15	2
	£7,186	16	0

The secretary had laid upon the table the balance sheet of the Lincoln Show, which had been approved and certified by the auditors on the 20th ult. The committee recommended the appointment of the same gentlemen as stewarts of Finance at the forthcoming show at Newcastle as acted at Lincoln—viz., the Chairman (Mr. Adeane), Sir Richard Cooper, Bart., Mr. Aveling, and Mr. Richardson Carr.

The committee recommended that members of the Newcastle Flower Show who had paid an annual subscription of 10s. and upwards for the years 1907 and 1908 be granted a free ticket giving admission to the show each day, and those members being annual subscribers of 5s. a free day ticket admitting twice on each of the days on which the horticultural show is open to the public.

Mr. Adeane, in presenting this report, said he had now the pleasure to lay before the council the accounts of the Lincoln show, which had been duly audited. Printed copies were in the hands of all those present, and therefore he did not think it necessary to detain the council by going into the details very minutely. They had made two changes in the statement of accounts. For the first time, he believed, they had shown the gross amount of the prizes awarded at the show—namely, £7,844, instead of, as heretofore, only the net amount given by the Royal Agricultural Society. The gross amount, as they would see, included the sum of £3,898, which had been contributed by the various breed societies and the Lincoln local committee. They had thought it proper to do this, as the whole money given in prizes went through the accounts of the society. They had made one other alteration. In previous years, on the income side, a statement had been included showing the distribution of the prizes awarded. This statement they had thought it more proper to take out of the accounts and print on a separate page for the information of its members. The figures which he had been able to give them at their last meeting, showing an approximate profit of £5,056 at Lincoln, had proved to be correct. The profit on the Lincoln Show exceeded that on the Derby Show by no less than £3,028. He thought the council would appreciate the great saving which had been made in the erection of the showyard, which amounted to £1,099, and it was encouraging to find that the admissions of the Lincoln Showyard showed an increase of £1,971, proving that the extra half-crown day at Lincoln had resulted in a profit. He was sure they would all think the show accounts were really very satisfactory. The Lincoln Show was financially the third best that the society had ever held. As they had had such excellent results from the show, he would like to mention, before he sat down, one or two of the circumstances which had contributed to that success. Beyond everything, the visit of His Majesty the King to the Lincoln Show had increased the popularity of that event, and it was not only encouraging to the society, but to all agriculturists in the country. Then there was the warm and generous welcome they had received from the city and county, and, in connection with that, he thought they would like to acknowledge the great services rendered to the society by their president, Lord Yarborough, who, unfortunately, was unable to be present that day. He feared that Lord Yarborough had contracted his illness in the prosecution of his duties in the Lincoln Showyard. He thought that the names of the Mayors of Lincoln should be mentioned—Mr. Newsum, who had been Mayor when the Society had been approached in connection with the show of 1907, and Mr. Ruston, who had been Mayor during the time of the visit. The thanks of the society were also due to those gentlemen who had assisted in the county to entertain the society. He had also acknowledged the great help they had received from the Breed Societies, who were again supporting the society in the most unstinted manner in connection with the Newcastle Show. A successful show like that at Lincoln could not be held without a great deal of hard work and organisation, and the result depended enormously upon the honorary director, and he did not think the council could fully acknowledge the great services which Sir Gilbert Greenall had rendered to the society, nor express too much their admiration of his ability, and of the strenuous manner in which he had carried out his duties.

Lord Middleton said that the excellent account which Mr. Adeane had given them of the finances of the society was most pleasing, but, for all that, they should be very careful in the future, and keep a reserve fund, not only for a rainy day, but for the time when they visited some agricultural district where they would not have such a satisfactory financial result as in the more populous districts.

Stock Prizes.

Mr. Reynard (chairman) reported that the committee recommended the acceptance, with thanks, of the offers of champion and other prizes from the following Breed Societies :—

Polo and Riding Pony Society.
Hackney Horse Society.
Shetland Pony Stud Book Society.
Suffolk Horse Society.
Hereford Herd Book Society.
Devon Cattle Breeders' Society.
Galloway Cattle Society.
Ayrshire Cattle Herd Book Society.
English Guernsey Cattle Society.
Shropshire Sheep Breeders' Association.
Suffolk Sheep Society.
Lincoln Long-wool Sheep Breeders' Association.
Cotswold Sheep Society.
Cheviot Sheep Society.
National Pig Breeders' Association.
British Berkshire Society.
Lincolnshire Curly-Coated Pig Breeders' Association.
Poultry Club.

The Northumberland and Durham Agricultural Societies had offered £300 for special prizes to be awarded to members of those societies only in the open classes for horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs. Silver cups (value £25 each) had been offered through the Newcastle Local Committee (1) for the best Shorthorn animal bred in the county of Durham; (2) for the best Cheviot sheep bred in the county of Northumberland: and £500 for ploughing matches.

The following gentlemen had accepted the council's invitation to act as auctioneers in connection with the Newcastle Show :—Horses—Mr. Arthur C. Beck; cattle — Mr. John Thornton; sheep and pigs—Mr. Alfred Mansell.

Prizes for Farm Buildings.

A sub-committee had been appointed, consisting of the chairman, Sir Gilbert Greenall, and Sir Richard Cooper, to consider the arrangements and draw up conditions for prizes for plans for farm buildings. The committee gave final consideration to the prize sheet, which they recommended for the acceptance of the Council. The committee recommended that the chairman and the honorary director be requested to settle and accept any further offers of prizes for the Newcastle Show. The committee have met eight times and made eight reports.

Mr. Reynard (chairman), in moving the adoption of this report, said he would like to add his acknowledgments to those of the chairman of the Finance Committee of the very liberal support received from the Breed Societies. He would also like to add that Sir Richard Cooper had very generously offered to supplement the two prizes of £50 and £25, already offered by him for plans of farm buildings, by the addition of a third prize of £15, and a fourth prize of £10, making four prizes in all. It was anticipated that numerous entries would be attracted by these prizes.

The proprietors of the *Newcastle Daily Chronicle* had been good enough to place a sum not exceeding £500 at the disposal of the society, to be expended on ploughing matches throughout the counties of Northumberland and Durham, with a view to stimulating the interest of these counties in the forthcoming show.

Judges for Newcastle.

Mr. Reynard (chairman) reported that the following gentlemen invited to act as judges at the Newcastle Show had accepted office :—

HORSES.

Hunters and Polo Ponies: The Earl of Orkney, the Tythe House, Stewkley, near Leighton Buzzard, and Anthony F. Maude, Kilwarlin, Hillsborough, Ireland. Cleveland Bay and Coach Horse: W. Scarth Dixon, Fairlight, Luton, Beds. Hackney, Hackney Ponies, and Harness Horses: R. G. Heaton, The Ferry, Chatteris, and John Wrephitt, East Thorpe, Market Weighton. Shetland Ponies, Highland and Fell Ponies, Dale Ponies: John J. R. Meiklejohn, Raith, Kirkcaldy. Shire: Edward Green, The Moors, Welshpool, and Edmond Whinnerah, Warton, Carnforth. Clydesdale: J. P. Sleigh, St. John's Wells, Fyvie, and William Taylor, Park Mains, Renfrew. Suffolk: W. R. Hustler, Earl's Hall, Cockfield, R.S.O., Suffolk. Draught geldings: William Taylor, Park Mains, Renfrew, and Edmond Winnerah, Warton, Carnforth.

CATTLE.

Shorthorns: James Durno, Jack-town, Rothienorman, Aberdeenshire, and George Freeman, Sherborne, Northleach, R.S.O., Glos. Dairy Shorthorn cows and heifers: Robert Hobbs, jun., Kelmscott, Lechlade, Glos. Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn: C. Crawley, Hemington, Oundle. Hereford: Lawton Moore, Brampton Bryan, Herefordshire, and W. Thomas, The Hayes, Sully, Cardiff. Devon: W. J. Chick, Stratton, Dorchester. South Devon: J. M. Peeke, Hernaford, Totnes. Sussex: Gerald Warde, Tutsham Hall, West Farleigh, near Maidstone. Welsh: T. H. Vaughan, Sychtyn, Llanerfyl, Welshpool. Red Polled: A. D. Bruce, Estate Office, Elvetham Park, Winchfield Aberdeen Angus: George Cran, Moritch, Glenkindie, Aberdeenshire; James Whyte, Hayston, Glamis. Galloway: John McTurk, Ashley Bank, Castle Douglas. Highland: J. R. Campbell, Shinness, Lairg, Sutherland. Ayrshire: A. W. Montgomerie, Lessnessock, Ochiltree, Ayrshire. Jersey: Phillip J. Ahier, Seymour Farm, Gorey, Jersey; and W. Ashcroft, 13, The Waldrons, Croydon, Surrey. Guernsey: C. D. Mare, Ashwick Chelmarsh, Bridgnorth. Longhorns: John T. Oxley, Stowe, Buckingham. Kerry and Dexter: Colonel W. Stallard, St. John's House, Worcester, and F. N. Webb, Babraham, Cambridge. Special Milk Yield Prizes and Butter Tests: Awards made on Certificate of the Steward of Dairying.

SHEEP.

Oxford Down: Andrew S. Elliot, Hollybush, Galashiels; Shropshire: W. Barrs, Tempe Measham, Atherstone, and A. S. Gibson, Estate Office, Longford Hall, Stretford, Manchester. Southdown: Herbert Padwick, The Manor House, West Thorney, Emsworth, and Garrett Taylor, Trowse House, Norwich. Hampshire Down: Joseph Dean, Westwood, Wilton Road, Salisbury, and W. T. Hall, Highclere Farm, Newbury. Suffolk: J. R. Grimsey, St. Helena, Dunwich, Suffolk. Dorset Horn: W. J. Chick, Stratton, Dorchester. Ryeland: J. H. Yeomans, Withington, Hereford. Kerry Hill: George Macqueen, Tan-yr-Alt, Welshpool. Lincoln: Charles Clarke, Brookside, Scopwick, Lincoln, and William Wright, Scamblesby House, Horncastle. Leicester: J. J. Stamper, Highfield House, Nunnington, Yorkshire. Border Leicester: James Jeffrey, Denebrie, Prestonkirk, and Andrew Wood, Brockshaws, Stocksfield-on-Tyne. Cotswold: W. Thomas, The Hayes, Sully, Cardiff. Kent or Romney Marsh: C. J. G. Hulkes, Somerhill Estate Office, Tonbridge, Kent. Wensleydale: William Rhodes, Lundholme, Westhouse, Kirby, Lowndale, and J. O. Trotter, Scruton, Bedale. South Devon: J. M. Peeke, Hernaford, Totnes. Cheviot: Michael Johnstone, Alton, Moffat, and Thomas O. Thornton, Hyndlee, Hawick. Lonk: William S. Airy, Whalley, near Blackburn. Herdwick: John Nelson, Undercragg, Mungrisdale, Penrith. Welsh Mountain: T. H. Vaughan, Sychtyn, Llanerfyl, Welshpool. Black-faced Mountain: John Craig, Innergeldie, Comrie, Perthshire.

PIGS.

Large White: A. F. Nichol, Bradford, Belford, Northumberland. Middle White: Henry Smith, junr., The Cottage, Cropwell Butler, Nottingham. Tamworth: C. Howard Taylor, Hampole Priory, near Doncaster. Berkshire: R. E. Horwood, Drayton Beauchamp, Tring. Large Black: R. Beaumont Bond, The Red House, Sproughton, Ipswich. Lincolnshire Curly Coated: Henry Goodyear, Austerby, Bourne.

PRODUCE.

Butter: J. F. Blackshaw, Kingston, Derby. Cheese: C. W. Oubridge, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Cider and Perry: B. T. P. Barker, M.A., Long Ashton, near Bristol. Wool: F. C. Colling, 1, Drake Street, Cheapside, Bradford (Chief or judge to be appointed.)

Next Meeting.

After other business had been transacted the council adjourned until January 29, 1908.

DAIRY.

Legislation Affecting Milk Production.

The chief item of interest at the meeting of the British Dairy Farmers' Association on Tuesday was the discussion on legislation affecting milk production. As chairman of the Cattle Disease and Epidemic Committee, Mr. George Taylor reported that the committee had given anxious consideration to the question of proposed general legislation affecting the dairy industry, and especially in regard to milk production. They were in the main in accord with the views of the Central Chamber of Agriculture, but he indicated a few important exceptions.

The whole matter was then fully debated by the council, and finally it was resolved that no legislation on the subject would be satisfactory to those engaged in the dairy industry unless it provided as under :—

1. That the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Orders of 1885 and 1899 be consolidated and amended in such manner as shall be approved by the Board of Agriculture.

2. That adequate legislative steps shall be taken to secure the proper (*a*) lighting, (*b*) ventilation, (*c*) cleansing, (*d*) drainage, (*e*) water supply of such cowsheds in both urban and rural district areas; provision being also made for the proper cleansing of cows and premises adjoining the cowsheds.

3. That the question of air space in existing cowsheds shall not be dealt with by hard-and-fast regulations, but that regard must be had in all cases to the situation and surroundings, and any regulations dealing with this matter must be subject to the approval of the Board of Agriculture.

4. That every county council shall only register such premises as they may deem suitable, and when the premises to be occupied as a dairy or cowshed shall have been made so as to satisfy their requirements.

5. That all premises occupied for the purpose of milk selling within the meaning of the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Orders shall be inspected by the inspector to the county council not less than twice in each year.

6. That all cattle used for the purpose of milk selling shall be examined (especially for tuberculosis of the udder) by duly qualified veterinary surgeons appointed by the county council not less than twice in each year.

7. That every animal which appears to show symptoms of tuberculosis of the udder shall be isolated and the county council informed thereof.

That if considered by the council's veterinary surgeon to be so suffering the cow shall be slaughtered.

Previous to the slaughter the cow shall be valued as a milking cow by a public valuer appointed by the Board of Agriculture.

Immediately after slaughter the cow may, at the request of the owner, be examined either by an independent veterinary surgeon or by one appointed by the Board of Agriculture.

If free from tuberculosis of the udder the full value shall be paid to the owner (plus £2 to cover the loss sustained by dislocation of his business) out of the National Exchequer.

The county council to bear and pay any cost of any valuer or veternary surgeon employed for this purpose.

8. The Model Milk Clauses or any similar clauses to the same effect contained in all previous private Acts to be repealed.

9. That the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Orders of 1885 and 1899, as consolidated and amended, be made compulsory.

10. That any legislation when brought into effect shall be administered by the Board of Agriculture and the County Council.

At the same meeting it was decided that a silver medal of the association be offered at the Cornwall Dairy Show to be held at Truro next March for the best dairy cow, and a silver medal for the best milker.

The General Purposes Committee presented a return showing that there were no imports of fresh milk into the United Kingdom during the four weeks ended November 30. In that period, however, 1,129 cwt. of preserved milk were received from abroad, compared with 909 cwt. in the corresponding weeks of last year. Of cream the imports were 385 compared with 303 cwt.; and of condensed milk 74,549 against 59,037 cwt.

The next meeting of the council was fixed to be held on Wednesday, February 5.

It was reported at the annual meeting of the South Durham and North Yorks Horse and Dog Show Society that there had been a gratifying increase in the membership during the year, whilst the success of the show had resulted in a considerable addition to the reserve fund. The society has now an asset of £279, and a balance in the bank of £180. Sir J. Backhouse was re-elected president.

The Farmers' Red Book.

The "Agricultural Annual and Mark Lane Express Almanac" (more popularly known as the Farmers' Red Book) for 1908 has now made its appearance, and we think it will be generally admitted that it is the best of the series; it certainly is so far as size is concerned, and seeing that new features have been added whilst retaining all the old and popular ones, the 1908 edition of this Annual should extend the popularity of what may be termed *the* farmers' book of reference.

The articles, as usual, cater for all tastes, touching as they do on live stock of all descriptions, arable farming, dairying, poultry-keeping, hop-growing, cider-making, and that all-important question, wheat prices. The latter subject is dealt with by a well-known authority on the corn trade, and what he says will be read with interest by all who have anything to do with corn growing or selling. "Farming and Farmers in 1907" is an interesting record of the year, whilst the sales of live stock are all fully dealt with, a special article being devoted to each section—viz, horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs. Mention of this reminds us that the book itself is so arranged that all the articles dealing with horse matters are together, and the same with cattle, sheep, and pig subjects, an arrangement which we think will meet with general approval.

But to return to the articles. After the farming records we have an article by R. Kirk dealing with the spread of farmers' societies, and showing what is being done in Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire. This is followed by "Fungi Formed by Farmyard Manure," written and capitally illustrated by James Scott, who draws attention to a danger in farmyard manure which may not be known by a good many users of this excellent fertiliser. Then we come to the live stock section, with its reviews of the sales during 1907 interspersed with useful articles, such as "Two Bony Enlargements: Splint and Ringbone," by "M.R.C.V.S"; "The Bedding and Feeding of Cattle," by "Essex"; and "Management of Young Pigs," by "E.," whilst there is an entertaining article on "New Forest Ponies," another on "Some Old Types of Cart Horses," by W. Scarth Dixon, and W. J. Malden has something to say concerning how the breeds of sheep have improved.

The dairy deparment is represented by two articles—viz., "Salt in Butter, by "Lactissima," and "Cheddar Cheese," by "Mendip," whilst there are articles dealing with table fowls, hop growing in England, and cider making, and also what may be one of the most popular contributions of the lot—a chatty description, with a large number of illustrations, of that home of agricultural experiments, Rothamsted.

The "Yellow Supplement" of twenty pages, devoted entirely to feeding stuffs and fertiliser matters, which is again included, has been thoroughly revised and brought up to date, as has, in fact, the whole of the book. Further, there are one or two new features which add to the value of the work, and of these we may mention the list of the principal live-stock fairs to be held in 1908. This has never before been given in this Annual, but we think it is a feature that will be appreciated; at any rate, it has meant the addition of twelve pages, a net gain to the purchaser, for nothing has been sacrificed to make room for the fairs. Another welcome feature is the extension of those useful articles accompanied by diagrams, such as "How to Measure Manure Heaps," "Weight of Cattle by Measurement," "Methods of Tying up a Horse," "To Prevent Cows Kicking," "How to Cure Self-sucking Cows," &c. These are matters which farmers require to know, yet we have found that many do not know the rules, so that their inclusion in the "Farmers' Red Book" will be much appreciated.

The illustrations, typical of the various branches of farming, are on the excellent lines of previous years; the statistical tables and items of reference have all been brought up to date, as has the list of agricultural societies. Thus it will be seen that there is an abundance of interesting and useful reading in the "Farmers' Red Book," which, published at 1s., is wonderful value for money. It can be obtained of all booksellers, or can be had for 1s. 4d., post free, direct from the publishers, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

The 1908 show of the Northamptonshire Agricultural Society will be held at Northampton on Wednesday and Thursday, June 10 and 11, entries closing May 13, at double fees on May 18. The secretary is Mr. A. E Lovell, Harpole, Northampton.

At a well-attended meeting held at Felixstowe on Wednesday it was unanimously decided "That a committee representative of the town and district be elected to make all necessary arrangements to welcome the Suffolk Agricultural Society's Show to Felixstowe in June, 1908, to invite subscriptions or offers of special prizes as a local contribution to the prize fund, and to make such arrangements as shall induce visitors to attend the show and stay in the town."

CORRESPONDENCE.

Where is the Flail Still in Use?

SIR,—In answer to your correspondent of the flail, the ancient instrument is still used in several places I know for the purpose of threshing out seed beans, for which it is well adapted, as such can be more relied on to grow, not being broken or cracked, as some are by machines.—Yours, &c., GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

December 10, 1907.

An Old Stack of Wheat.

SIR,—I should like to draw your attention to the reference you made in one of your issues about my old stack of wheat. I think you said the reason I have kept it so long was because I had taken a vow not to sell it under a certain price; this is quite false, and I should be glad if you will take the trouble to contradict this statement in your paper.

I now keep it as a curiosity, and nothing else.—Yours, &c., P. SELBY.

Aisby, December 7, 1907.

Tariff Reform and Agricultural Interests.

SIR,—If your "Lobbyist" correspondent desires to impute to me statements at all, I respectfully desire he will be at least accurate in doing so. I did not say I was "ashamed" (as he makes out) of the letter written by Mr. P. Reid.

Again, I do not consider it part of my duty to answer in detail every person to whose statements I take an objection. This was the position I took up in regard to Mr. Reid, with the hope that possibly he and any others of the same way of thinking would examine Mr. Chamberlain's proposals carefully before expressing the sentiments that he did in regard to them. Your correspondent thinks that I ought to have "answered" Mr. Reid's article. I think it is incumbent both upon Mr Reid as well as upon your own correspondent, first to know what Mr. Chamberlain proposes, and then to state accurately what the probable bearing of the policy would be upon agriculture. This the former did not do; and as to the latter ("Lobbyist"), I have no wish to answer his flippancies in the way which is somewhat customary, I am sorry to say, with him when dealing with opponents. However, if your "Lobbyist" correspondent is willing to discuss the question of Tariff Reform in its bearing upon agriculture, I have no objection to meet him in a public debate before a representative body of farmers. He seems to think that anyone who differs from him or from anybody else is afraid of him. That is not my case; and if I go out of my way to make a challenge it is simply that farmers may see and find out who he is who so constantly carps at and criticises the efforts of others.—Yours, &c.,

J. L. GREEN, Secretary.

Rural Labourers' League, December 13, 1907.

Meat Trade in the West.

SIR,—I think it a great pity that the writer of your article on the "Meat Trade in the West" should not use a little more care in informing himself as to the state of trade.

He states that specially-finished "steers and heifers, to be kept on till wanted for the Christmas trade, are making not less than 13s to 14s. per score in many cases, and very seldom under 12s. 6d. to 13s. for ordinary runs."

Questions and Answers.

FARMING.

Dressing Seed Corn.—In your Dec. 2nd issue of your journal, I notice you give an account of treating seed corn to protect it from rooks—one is—2½ oz. coal tar, 2½ oz. petroleum mixed with one quart water per bushel. The other is—1 quart of tar to 1 qr. of wheat. I shall be pleased if you can tell me if this is absolutely harmless to the seed corn.—FARMER.

ANSWER: There is nothing in the ingredients named that can injure the germinating power of the seed. It may be useful if we give the whole passage on the subject from the Board of Agriculture's publication. "Treating seed wheat and barley with coal tar at the rate of 1 quart of tar to 1 quarter of wheat is also mentioned as a successful means of protecting grain against rooks. A little lime should be added to the seed the morning after treatment as a drier before drilling. A note on this subject appeared in this journal of December, 1904, in which two solutions are mentioned; viz., 2½ oz. of coal tar, 2½ oz. of petroleum mixed with 1 quart of water per bushel of seed; and 1¼ pints of coal tar, 5¾ pints of petroleum, 1¼ pints of carbolic acid to 5 quarters of seed. In making the latter mixture the coal tar should be made quite hot, the petroleum added and then the carbolic acid, the whole being well stirred: this should be poured on the grain at the rate of about 2 pints to 4 bushels. This must be stirred up quickly till each grain is blackened. In order to dry the grain about 2 pints of phosphate of lime must be mixed in afterwards."—ED.

VETERINARY.

Abscesses on Sheep's Feet.—I have a lot of sheep very lame they have abscesses on their feet, some break out just above the hoof and some between their claws, needless to say they are losing flesh rapidly, as some of them are unable to stand at all. They have recently been on turnips, but at present I have them fastened in a long shed. I should be glad if veterinary surgeon could give me any advice as to the cause of this, what it is, and the best treatment for them. I have been washing them out with Jeye's fluid.—H. M. A.

ANSWER: "Recently been on turnips" presumably means that they have been folded on the roots, and if so we can, in view of the filthy weather recently experienced, and still prevailing, appreciate the state of the folds, if the land is at all heavy. Probably this is the cause, but whether the abscess formation is due to maceration of the feet in mud and wet, or to blocking and inflammation of the interungulate canal, we are not in a position to determine. As many sheep are affected, and some of them so badly as to be unable to stand, we should strongly advise you to get the local veterinary surgeon to look at them.—M.R.C.V.S.

Grease in Horses (page 703).—As to keep, mare is kept very moderately, having so very little work; she gets good old hay—as much as she can eat—and perhaps a root or two occasionally, a little linseed cake and a little bran to keep her open. We have given her two tar balls, and a week after 2 ozs. of saltpetre, and she seems to have dried up a bit. She went out on grass at days rather late, but it did not seem to do any good. She is getting condition powders since the other medicines. My idea is that she wants inward treatment as well as outward. Her legs have the appearance in her hair of grease, yet not much enlarged, and nothing ailed her till she was over five years old. Her mother had the same appearance, except that she never broke out the same nor had any signs of being wrong, only a little crooked and rough in hair.—B. A.

ANSWER: Perhaps you are right in your idea that the case needs constitutional as well as local treatment. It certainly proves beneficial in many instances. Try the following balls:—Powdered resin and nitrate of potash, of each 1½ drachms; sulphate of copper, chlorate of potash and powdered gentian, of each 1 drachm; powdered nux vomica and powdered white hellbore, of each 10 grains; powdered Castile soap and Venice turpentine to form a 1oz ball. Get a dozen made up by a chemist, and give one each other night until exhausted. Do not neglect the local treatment advised, or to practise the system of management advocated.—M.R.C.V.S.

Calf with Fits.—I have a crossbred heifer calf, three months old, which the last fortnight has had several fits, which come on when it begins to drink its milk, and falls down. I rub it a few minutes and it gets better, but looks very strange for a time. It eats well between the fits, fed on a little green food, with a feed of mixed meal and bran twice a day. Any remedy or information as to cause would greatly oblige.—S. S.

ANSWER: Any sudden seizure in which there is temporary loss of consciousness and voluntary motor power is popularly called a "fit," and the term is a vague and most inexpressive term, that conveys very little that is definite to the outsider. A "fit" in a young animal occurring under the circumstances described is, however, almost sure to be due to either over or improper feeding, in your case probably the former, since there is no reason to find fault with the constituents of the diet. The brain and nerves are in intimate sympathy with the stomach, and such attacks as these from which your calf suffers are very common in young, newly-weaned pigs from over-feeding. Make such change in the diet of your calf as commonsense may suggest, and temporarily, at least, reduce the quantity of food. Give a purgative dose of Epsom salts, and assist its action by copious injections of warm soapy water, or water and oil. Exactly what the case will require by the time you see this reply we cannot possibly foresee, for the "fits" may have ceased, or the animal may have died in one of the attacks. Where they continue, bromide of potassium and chloral hydrate is a useful medicine to give, after the purgative and reduced diet.—M.R.C.V.S.

LEGAL.

Agriculturalist versus Employee.—On Feb. 16th last a man applied to us for a situation as waggoner. After stating to him particulars of the work required and wages given, an additional sum of one pound was promised upon completion of harvest. The applicant then asked if we would wait (one month) for him. His then employer would not release him earlier. This we agreed to do; and then asked him what notice he, on his part and we on our part, should accept or give to terminate the engagement. He at once replied, *one month*, this arangement being satisfactory to both parties. He entered our employ on March 18th last. On Sept. 13th he gave us two weeks' notice to leave our employ, and left our service on Sept. 27th. Being resident in the hop growing district, and our hop picking not being finished until Oct. 4th, we contend that our harvest was not completed until that date. Consequently we refused to pay the above-named sum. He is now taking action to recover this amount. We intend to contest the claim, and to counter-claim a sum in lieu of proper notice. Considering the foregoing is worthy the attention of all our agricultural friends and employers of labour, we solicit the opinions of the readers of your valuable paper. The terms mentioned were verbally given.—LOVERS OF JUSTICE.

ANSWER: The first point is to understand what the contract was. If it were a contract for the employment of the man's service by him till the completion of harvest, the £1 bonus would not be payable till the harvest was completed; that is, an additional inducement was offered for the man to stop on. If this is the true view of the contract you would be able both to defend the claim and successfully counter-claim. No doubt this is an important matter for many agriculturalists who employ labour for the harvest.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

A Fence Question.—Fence or hedge between our fields belongs to a neighbouring farmer. On his side he has an iron fence; he does no hedging nor ditching, and the hedge leans over my side and prevents me ploughing my headlands. I have sent to him twice asking him to trim his hedge, but he takes no notice. What am I to do with a man like this?—X. Y. Z.

ANSWER: If the hedge grows over your ground and interferes with your ploughing your headlands you are justified in cutting off so much of as intrudes on your ground. It has been decided in the House of Lords that a person is entitled to cut down boughs that overhang his ground. The same rule would apply to an overhanging hedge.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

Refusal to Purchase.—A farmer shows a sample of 100 qrs. of barley to a maltster at market. The maltster offers 28s. per qr., as the barley is of an inferior quality. The farmer accepts the offer, and remarks that the barley is out of condition. The maltster on taking the sample home tests it, and finds that it is heated and that a small percentage only grows. He then writes and refuses to receive the bulk. Is he legally justified in doing so? He refuses it on the ground that he bought it for malting purposes, and finds it is not suitable for that purpose. He also states that the farmer should have informed him that it was heated, and contends that in buying barley out of condition he was not buying heated barley. Can the farmer compel the maltster to accept delivery of the bulk?—READER.

ANSWER: The sale is of course a sale by sample. Section 15, subsection 1, of the Sale of Goods Act enacts that a contract for sale is a contract for sale by sample, where there is a term in the contract expressed or implied to that effect. Subsection 2: In the case of a contract for sale by sample, (*a*) there is an implied condition that the bulk shall correspond with the sample in quality; (*b*) there is an implied condition that the buyer shall have a reasonable opportunity of comparing the bulk with the sample, and (*c*) there is an implied condition that the goods shall be free from any defect rendering them unmerchantable, which would not be apparent on reasonable examination of the sample. Applying this section and subsection to the case in point, particularly Subsection (*c*), I think that the maltster could in all probability successfully defend his action by stating that if this were a fair sample of the bulk it would render the barley unmerchantable. I am not aware of the precise value to be attached to the heating of the barley from a maltster's point of view.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

Income Tax.—The rent of my farm is £170 per year. A small farm of which I am the owner is let at £74 per year. Can I claim exemption from income tax on the £74? If so, how should I proceed? Thanking you in anticipation.—R. W.

ANSWER: Your question does not enlighten me as to what your income is. The £74 is undoubtedly income; the £170 is the rent you pay the owner; from that rent you deduct the amount of the property tax, after having first paid it. If your total income from all sources does not exceed £160 you are entitled to obtain a certificate of exemption. You had better see the surveyor of taxes about this. The Finance Act of this year has made some important changes in the law.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

As to Tenancy.—I am tenant of a small farm in Lancashire, and am under notice to quit, which terminates for some of the land on the 2nd Feb., 1908, but the housing and outhousing, with outlet, on the 1st May, 1908. I am under *no* agreement of any kind, either verbally or otherwise. Can the landlord prevent me from removing anything, such as manure, hay, etc., after the 2nd Feb., 1908, if left till then, as I am occupying the outbuildings in the interval between Feb. and April 30th. I brought manure with me from last tenancy, and it is the custom here to sell or dispose of it when leaving. Also, could he prevent me from removing rose trees, raspberry, rhubarb, etc., if done before the 2nd Feb., 1908, when the other tenant takes possession of garden.—A. B.

ANSWER: According to the custom of Lancashire, an outgoing tenant professes to quit his land on Feb. 2nd, with the exception of a pasture field, called the "outlet for the cattle." The house-buildings and the outlet are given up on May 1st or May 12th, as the case may be. The tenant leaving his land therefore gets half the wheat up allowed him by the incoming tenant if it is after green crops, which is generally is; if it is after the summer fallow he gets two thirds of the wheat crop allowed him and that is all, with the exception of the allowance for clover or grass seeds which have been sown the previous year. The dung belongs to the farm, and the incoming tenant makes no payment for the manure he finds upon the premises, but in South Lancashire manure is sold by the outgoing tenant at full market price, whether made on the farm or carted to it from other places. I think the landlord could restrain you from moving anything off the land after Feb. 2nd. With reference to raspberry, rhubarb, etc., the property is in the landlord when once planted, except in the case of a holding, as to which, Section 3 of the Market Gardeners' Compensation Act, 1895, applies, but I do not understand that you are a market gardener, but a farmer.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

Employer's Liability.—I should be obliged if you would advise me as to what risk (if any) is attached to the employment of men over say 60 or 70 years of age. Our insurance policy intimates that it covers all risks under both Acts of Parliament. A reply in your next issue of MARK LANE EXPRESS will oblige.—R. G.

ANSWER: There is no risk in such a case as yours when you have an insurance policy, which covers all risks. The suggested reason against the employment of elderly men is that they would be likely to meet with more accidents than younger men by reason of their lack of quickness in dealing with machinery; but this, it must be remembered, is counterbalanced by the greater caution that elderly men usually exercise in keeping out of unnecessary danger.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

POULTRY.

Hens Coughing.—I have noticed some of my hens for some time past making a peculiar noise. The only thing I can liken it to is a sneeze or a hiccough. They all seem healthy. What is it? Have also noticed in their droppings flint grit. Should it pass through so quickly? It is not rounded as if it were old, useless grit.—T. D.

ANSWER: These birds have had bronchial colds, and should have a teaspoonful of warmed glycerine given to each of them daily before breakfast, and roup powder in the proportion of a teaspoonful to four birds should be added to their soft food daily, and last thing at night they should have some stewed linseed given to them. The fact of their passing the grit in this way proves that they are out of order, and a small dose of warmed castor oil each once a week would be helpful to them.

A Turkey Question.—I have five hens and two gobblers of one strain of Mammoth Bronze, and one hen and three gobblers of another strain (also Mammoth Bronze). I thought of keeping some to breed from, but fear that I cannot do this as they are all March, 1907, matched. What do you advise?—H. B.

ANSWER: By all means keep March-hatched turkeys for breeding purposes. Some of the finest youngsters are bred from birds of the previous years hatching when the turkey pullets and cockerel are entirely unrelated to each other and well matured. It would be well to keep the five pullets of the one strain and the best of the three cockerels of the other for mating with them, and dispose of the remainder.

Now this is one of the most glaring misstatements that has come under my notice for a very long time. I have attended several of the best markets in the west this last week, and in no one instance has anything been sold over 12s., and the great bulk of prime Christmas fed beef has made from 10s. 6d. to 11s., rarely reaching the latter figure. This, mind you, for the very best Devons. Many prime heifers and steers made less than 10s. per score.—Yours, &c.,

December 11, 1907. WEST SOMERSET.

The Season in Mid-Cumberland and North Westmorland.

SIR,—However far your numerous readers and correspondents may differ in their opinions as regards the prospects and condition of farmers for the current year, I think we shall agree that 1907 is near enough its end to justify its history being written, but I am quite sure that whoever undertakes that duty will find it a very difficult one to discharge with anything approaching perfect accuracy.

I am quite sure that in this district all will admit that this season has been a most capricious one; the changes have been so rapid, great, and frequent that it would almost have required the keeping of a daily record. There is one point, however, we shall agree upon—viz., that we have had most abundant of crops of all kinds of winter fodder, especially hay and straw, the former of which was generally well secured, and probably one-third of the latter; but the information we are daily receiving through the thrashing mills shows that quite as much loss has been sustained through heated corn sprouting, so that the marketable value is fully one-third below average. A large quantity of the straw is scarcely fit for anything but litter, but the good sale for store stock during autumn, which still continues, and improves if anything, shows that there is confidence that it will last for a fairly long winter.

It is the green crop that is the chief failure, especially turnips, which, although good where the soil was sufficiently good and dry to enable them to be sown at the farmer's pleasure, on the other hand there are hundreds of acres that never get sown owing to the extremely wet, cold weather that prevailed through the middle of summer, but in many breaks where sheep have been hurried on they are disappearing fast, and show small remnants.

There does not appear much chance of the farming community receiving any encouragement or relief from political centres. They are far too much interested in framing measures to catch votes, and with the Land Tenure Act, which is shortly to come into force, the wisest cannot foresee; but it is clear that new conditions must be drawn up to meet the altered circumstances, which is likely to prove a rich harvest for lawyers, and reduce that general confidence which at present exists between landlords and tenants, and that is of far more importance than all the Small Holdings Acts, which are so loudly proclaimed as the means by which land is to be repeopled, but will prove in practice nothing more than a delusion and a mockery. T. B.

December 12, 1907.

Profits from Wheat-Growing.

SIR,—May I be allowed to thank your correspondent, "A. J. R," for the very instructive and interesting account he gives with regard to wheat-growing. He misunderstands me in saying I object to the market value of the straw being included in estimating the returns of a crop of wheat, also that I suggested that 65s. per ton would be a fictitious price for straw.

To the first I contend that the straw should be the basis by which the ground should be refertilised, either by being sold and returned to the ground in an equivalent of artificial manure, or otherwise by being converted into manure.

I adhere to my previous statement that "Son of the Soil" gave a very fair detailed account of growing an acre of wheat, and that the only apparent difference of the two was in their respective statements as to the market value, and the spending price of the straw. The account of "Son of the Soil" could be relied on as an average and ordinary crop, whereas "A. J. R.'s" account is an exceptional and extraordinary crop, which he himself admits is not always to be relied on, he not having the yield but twice in his time. Then there is the favoured locality in which he farms, where he can make nearly as much of his two tons of straw per acre as "Son of the Soil" could make of his corn; this makes a very wide difference. Verily he lives in the land of Goshen for wheat-growing, and I think he should have his rent risen without delay, but peradventure he is a landlord.

Yet another sentence I must take exception to is that every crop farmers grow they try to make out is grown at a loss; but let us be charitable, and hope he did not mean it, that it was really a mistake on his part. Anyway, I will not give it such a hard name as insinuation, which he does not hesitate to attribute to me, in that he says I insinuate that it is not practicable to grow 6 qr. of corn and 2 tons of straw on an acre of ground. Here he again misunderstands for on the contrary, I have known 60 bushels on one occasion grown to the acre on a patch of six acres; but, as your correspondent truly says, such crops are not always to be relied on; and I have experienced some very disappointing and disastrous results from promising crops of this kind, which have been *seemingly* cruelly laid and twisted with the weather before it had time to fill, and the whole crop converted into about 25 to 30 bushels of cullings or chickens' food to an acre, an immense bulk of straw, almost rotten, and the cost of cutting from £1 to 25s. an acre. I can only describe such a crop as a misfortune for anyone to have; much better have one of "Son of the Soil's" average crops of stand-up wheat than seek to grow the large yield—it is infinitely better in the long run.—Yours, &c., GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

December 10, 1907.

Agricultural Politics.

SIR,—I have for years read with much interest and instruction the views expressed by "A Lobbyist," for he brings to bear an experience useful for farmers to have set before them, in a form which they would not get otherwise; and I am pleased I have been able to draw out from him more on the question of Protection. We meet the question with different experiences, and therefore we do not necessarily see everything from the same aspect. It seems to me that his experience in the Lobby has instilled into his mind, and embedded firmly, what Parliamentary representatives certainly act upon—the fact that the farmer can be safely ignored, because he is attached to no cohesive attacking or resistive body. He is provided with farmers' clubs and Chambers of Agriculture, where party politics are eschewed, and where a safety valve is supplied for the blowing off of excessive gas; and when that gas is blown off he is a quiescent animal, and ready to be pulled by the ear by the party to which in ordinary course he most naturally inclines. The result is the farmer gets patted on the back as a decent sort of chap, and that is all he gets. He says neither party seem to do him any good; and why on earth should it? He takes what he gets lying down. Now, it seems to me that "Lobbyist" is preaching this gospel of lying down. You have got Free Trade, which has ruined you, but do not put up a hand to save yourself or the wicked Mr. Balfour will be down on you and the Birmingham bogey will swallow you, or your carcase will be thrown to the Colonial wolves—seems to me to be the aspect in which he regards it farmers should view the situation Personally, I do not see that need of fear to act; the only thing is to act, and to hit hard enough.

"Lobbyist" insists on Protection; but insists on its being protection all round. I do not suppose that farmers, as a whole, mind particularly how they get it, if they get their industry regarded. "Lobbyist" would make a bogey of the Protection secured through Preference to the Colonies. I cannot see why "Lobbyist" should take it for granted that if Britain enters into business transactions with her Colonies she is bound to make a bad bargain. British diplomacy, as a rule, is generally a match for that to which it is opposed, and so it would be in treating with the Colonies. It is not the Colonial statesmen who are going to settle the matter; they will get what they can, but they will get only what we give. As a matter of fact, it is we who have the strong hand, because it is they who are anxious to come in.

What if the statecraft of the Dominion say they can supply the whole of the food necessities of the British people. If it can it can. It has not yet, and perhaps it will not. Probably before it can do this it will have a huge population of its own to support, and the United States population will require much of it. As years go on there will be proportionately less virgin soil to attack, and in course of a few years the virgin fertility of that now in cultivation will have been cleared out so far that the simple and inexpensive methods of cultivation of to-day will have to give way to far more expensive methods, and then probably Canada may not seem so attractive to the wheat grower as it now does. The long cold winter will always be a big handicap when more intensive cultivation is desired. But the world can supply us now, however undesirable it may be to let it do it altogether; and why not give Canada and other other Colonies which "illustrated the temper of the Colonies" in the South African War, a leg up in preference to those who oppose us not merely in peaceful industries, but keep us at heavy expense to resist them in times of peace and war. "The temper of the Colonies" as illustrated by the Australian Commonwealth, strikes me as not being antagonistic, but as a very serviceable means of showing that they have something to give in return. Some people have the idea that we are bound to have the colonial trade. The Australians adopted the best means of showing that those who thought so were wrong. If all the Colonies did the same, we should learn the lesson we have to learn more quickly. We want a weapon to make them reduce the wall they have set up, and we want the same weapon to make other countries knock the coping off the wall that they have set up, so that we can fire into them more easily. At present they are behind the wall pelting at us, while we are in the open to be shot at.

But "Lobbyist" urges that the farmer will have to pay the expense of all this. First of all, he cannot. Secondly, he would not have to. Contrary to what was for many years expressed, the people now recognise that the land of England is of value to the nation. No one gets up now and says it does not matter whether an acre of British land is productive or not; yet this used to be a common argument. Townspeople have recognised lately what those on the land foresaw for many years was inevitable, the breaking down of farming and the hurrying of the people from the land. The cry of the townsman is now back to the land. The occupation of the land in small lots is not going to make the remedy that theorists preach. There is no virtue in a small holding which is not possessed by the larger. What the larger farmer cannot do the smaller one will not. Some large farmers get a good living off the land—some do not. Some small holders exist on the land—some do not. Farming, ruined wholesale by Free Trade, will not be rescued retail by small holdings. When this seam of theory pervading small holdings has passed away, and the matter has been tested it will not be found that small holdings have solved the problem of the land, unless there is security given to the small holder that he has not to combat the foreigner on the terms at present existing.

Then the townsman who wishes to see the land—the many million acres which comprise British soil—prosperous will have to leave present theories to see his desires carried out. With a small amount of help this can be done, either by Preference or Protection. So far as the farmer in his business is concerned it does not matter "tuppence" which of the two it comes from. "Lobbyist" says it does. Lobbyist says "let it be Protection all round." What is there in it that there should not be Protection all round under Preference? It is what I urge: but do not put the Canadian on the same footing as the British farmer, he has not to pay the British taxes. If Canada is going to supply us with everything we want, as "Lobbyist" expects, then there is no need to have anything whatever from any country but Canada and the Colonies; therefore put up a big tax against the others.

"Lobbyist" suggests, in discussing the relative merits of Preference or Protection, that I confused the point he was arguing, and took it that he was arguing the point between Protection and Free Trade. I by no means lost sight of his point, but they are so closely related—it is the alternative between these two and Free Trade—that it is illogical to deal with them without regarding the cause for the need for change. After all, Preference is Protection. though Protection does not imply, necessarily, Preference. Supposing Canada and other Colonies are preferentially placed, then they become more active; but by hindering other countries an equivalent is supplied, and they are less active opponents to the British farmer. Canada, &c., are going to develop, whether Preference is given or not. As things are, we are to meet Canada &c., with no check. These Colonies could afford to send us wheat 10s. per quarter less than they have to just now, and they can afford to do it again.

To get advantage for the industries more money is to be raised at the ports, so that the British markets shall be more confined to British products. This, of course, means some rise all round, in which the workman will benefit in his wages, and be able to give more for his food: therefore if his food rises proportionately, he will be no worse off in respec to his food. Consequently Mr. Balfour's statement that "they shall not augment the proportion paid by the working man" means exactly what it says; but it does not mean that it will not be raised at all. "That they shall not touch raw material," which, without "dancing on the point of a needle," would reasonably mean those materials which affect the greater industries. Consequently, the working man is not likely to be cramped for want of work, and his output will be able to compete with the rest of the world, as it already does, and he will be benefited because the foreigner will be forced to make terms to allow English produce easier access to his market. At present the foreigner is the only one who has anything to do with making the bargain. "Lobbyist" says that in the bargain the British farmer is to be sacrificed, but Mr. Balfour says not; but, by analogy, that his produce shall be protected proportionately, and Mr. Balfour says this in what "Lobbyist" describes as distinct, clear, and emphatic declarations."

Now "Lobbyist" asks the quiescent farmer to lie more quiet for fear he may be hurt if he moves. I say if he lies still he is bound to be hurt, and there is a chance if he moves enough that he will get some benefit. With the farmer I include the labourer, and the many directly influenced by the produce of the land. The old chestnut of the big

loaf and the little loaf stuck on poles is not going to last for ever, for neither the farmer nor the labourer is such a stupid ass as *Punch* would have the world believe according to the quotation you gave from that paper in your "Notes of the Week" on December 2. If *Punch* has not moved from the ideas which it set forth forty years ago the British farmer has, if he was like that forty years ago, which I doubt. *Punch* will go to the Cattle Show this year and see nothing but fat farmers, and, according to that up-to-date paper, stupid ones. Whilst they do not fight for their own they are stupid, I will admit; but it is not the stupidity of fear, and at any rate their produce shown there could not be shown by any other country. Let them buck up, and not take other things lying down.—Yours, &c.,

W. S. MALDEN.

LINCOLNSHIRE FARMERS' UNION.

DONINGTON BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the Donington Branch of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union was held on the 6th inst. Mr. T. Harrison, who was elected chairman for the ensuing year, presided over a good attendance, and was supported by Mr. H. W. Palmer, the secretary of the Union, and Mr. C. Featherstone, a member of the Central Committee. The other officers elected for the year were:—Vice-chairman, Mr. F. Lumby; secretary, Mr. S. Hansard; the committee we re-elected *en bloc*, with the addition of Mr. Richman.

Mr. Featherstone spoke upon "Motor Traffic," which the Central Committee wished them to discuss. He said the motor traffic, they were all agreed, was a very serious question to the whole farming community. The farmers had to maintain the roads in good condition at their own expense, and in addition there was the damage done to crops, trees, &c., by the dust nuisance, and the danger to public life. Motorists liked a tar macadam road, but it was very dangerous for farmers' horses. Roads should not be kept up entirely for motorists, and they did not mean to take things lying down. Of course, they fully understood that motors had come to stay, but it was only fair that they should receive some redress in the way of compensation from the National Exchequer, or that the roads should be taken over. In conclusion, the speaker, referring to the high speed attained by motors, said farmers did not want to make a speed limit of ten miles an hour, as had been suggested.

Mr. J. Ouzman considered that it was only natural to expect that a motor travelling at its forty or fifty miles should do more damage to the roads than one going at a less speed. All motorists ought to pay a certain amount of tax, which should be divided between each local rate.

Mr. S. Hansard said he endorsed Mr. Featherstone's remarks. The high rate of speed endangered the lives of the public and those who were paying the rates.

The meeting unanimously decided, on the proposition of Mr. S. Hansard, seconded by Mr. J. Richman, to support the resolution of the Central Committee.

A resolution in support of the Insurance Company and Pure Beer Bill was passed.

The annual dinner of the branch was held subsequently, Captain Gleed presiding, and between fifty and sixty sat down. In the course of the toast list the Chairman gave "The Lincolnshire Farmers' Union," and Mr. Dean, who responded, urged upon those present who had not yet joined to lose no time in becoming members. Agriculture was the most important industry in the country, and yet they were practically unrepresented in Parliament.

RETFORD BRANCH.

A meeting of the Retford branch of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union was held on the 7th inst. Mr. Sam White, of South Leverton, who presided, said the Union had taken up the question of motor traffic. As far as he understood, the Motor Union were rather overridiug themselves, and were going so far as to prevent farmers from grazing their cattle on the road side. A great number of motor people were all right, but others considered that the road belonged to them, though they did not pay their fair share to the maintenance of the roads. It would be necessary to combat that notion, as the farmers were paying above their share, and it was not right for them to be imposed upon, either by motor people or anybody else. If people in the country were prevented from grazing their cattle on the road side it would certainly rob a good many of them of a livelihood. They ought to take action as soon as possible to prevent such an occurrence.

Mr. Parker (West Drayton) said motors made a great deal more work with the roads than anything else in the country.

Mr Skinner (Lound) said in the county of Notts, the motor traffic during the last two years had necessitated the expenditure of something like £3,000 on the county roads. Who was going to pay that money? The only answer he could give was that it would mainly come out of the farmers' pockets. A few weeks ago, during the removal of some cattle from one field to another, a motor car driven by a lady rushed into them with the result that three were badly lamed and were practically no use at all, but he understood no compensation had been given to the owner. The car nearly went into a ditch and someone had to help to push it on to the road again. When about a mile further up the road the car again stopped and the lady remarked, "The idea of a farmer keeping cattle on the road, when they are meant for motors and not farmers." It was about time they made a stir in the matter. (Hear, hear.) If the motorists required the roads they ought to get an Act of Parliament passed, and let the farmers have the roads they paid for. In Lound there were six miles of roads, three and a-half of which the farmers used every day, and had to maintain entirely, but the other portion, which they seldom used, they had to pay enormously for just the benefit of motorists.

Mr. Smalley (secretary) said in one case where a motor car ran into some sheep at night, the occupants said they wanted an Act of Parliament passed to prevent farmers having cattle or sheep on the roads after dusk.

After further discussion, a resolution was passed to the effect that in further legislation pressure should be brought on members of Parliament to represent the views of the Farmers' Union.

The meeting next discussed the advisability of registration of corn samples, and a resolution was passed in favour of the general principle of corn registration, so that either buyer or seller could register if they wished.

SLEAFORD BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the Sleaford branch of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union was held on Monday, Mr. S. E. Dean presiding, and he was supported by, amongst others, Mr. H. W. Palmer, secretary of the Union.

In acknowledging the honour of re-election to the presidency of the Sleaford branch, Mr. Dean said he thanked them for that renewed expression of their confidence, but he was sorry to see such a small gathering, though, generally speaking, when people were satisfied, they showed that satisfaction by staying away. They must take the small number present to mean there was no fault to be found with the work done during the past year, and he hoped they would have their continued support, for there never was a time when the need for organisation was greater than now.

On all sides of them they saw combinations of every trade and profession, and if farmers did not organise and keep themselves abreast of the movements they would be left far behind to their great detriment. They saw what had happened recently, and how the ex-Prime Minister had thrown in his lot with those who favoured Fiscal Reform. He did not offer an opinion on its feasibility, but he would remark that the working classes were Protectionists as far as their own interests were concerned, and they would like to put it on one side if it meant the slightest addition to the cost of their food. If they were to have a change in the fiscal policy of the country they must take care that agriculture was not excluded from the benefits which might be derived from it.

Such an organisation as theirs would be most useful if any attempt was made to do this, for it would be their policy to see the reform was carried out *in extenso*. They had been told over and over again that their only remedy was organisation, and they could not afford to ignore the views of men—leaders in the agricultural world—who gave them such advice, and who knew how much their organisation was needed.

They would all have noticed the proposal to form an independent Agricultural Party in the House of Commons, but he felt they wanted no fresh party, only more support for existing organisations. The Lincolnshire Farmers' Union was a non-political body, and was ready to support any one who would forward their interests. If the Union could only be extended throughout England, as it was extending in those counties, they would want nothing else to secure them what was just and right, and they would be able to form the party which the Chambers of Agriculture were seeking to form among themselves. As to representatives they needed, there were only two bodies of men from whom suitable candidates could be drawn for agricultural constituencies. He said nothing disrespectful of anyone when he said he did not think either brewers or lawyers were fit and proper persons to represent them.

He thought they ought to form a very strong agricultural party in England, and one of the duties of the privileged classes was to find suitable men to represent their interests as well as their own, for the interests of the landlord and the tenant were identical. They ought to impress on the landlords that they should become their representatives in the House, but if they failed, then it should be the duty of their own body to supply the deficiency. This would mean greater cohesion among them and a call for some slight financial assistance which, he thought, could be obtained.

In an agricultural district those connected with the land should represent it, and that would be one of the means by which they could restore agriculture to the position it held years ago.

It used to be supported by friends in both Houses, but such was not now the case, and they must try and secure the assistance of those who were interested in its welfare and held views more in accordance with their past traditions.

Mr. Powell proposed the election of Mr. E. J. Grummitt as vice-president, and Mr. Wilson seconded.

Mr. H. W. Palmer said he had to express the regret of their hon. secretary, Mr. Widdowson, at his inability to be present, and to state that he wished to resign the office.

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Widdowson for his past services, and nominated Mr. F. W. Sneath for the vacant office.

This was heartily carried.

Mr. Palmer stated that the Sleaford branch had an additional forty members, and was the second strongest branch in the Union.

Mr. Percy Brown was elected assistant hon. secretary, and Mr. E. J. Grummitt chosen to represent the branch on the Central Committee.

The whole of the committee were re elected.

The chairman stated that the Central Committee had requested their branch to give an expression of opinion on motor traffic and its effect on the roads.

Mr. Powell said they considered they wanted regulations to limit the speed to 20 miles an hour, and at the same time they thought the owners did not pay their share for the maintenance of the roads now there was this excessive wear and tear. He believed the great North road was kept on a ten years' basis, but now it only lasted four years, and they paid nothing more to its upkeep. So long as the motorists did not want all the road, and passing traffic could be safeguarded, and they helped to defray the increased cost of maintenance, farmers had no objections to offer.

Mr. Leedale observed that it was the outside motor which did the damage and travelled at an excessive speed.

In reply to a question, Mr. E. J. Grummitt said the licences taken out in a division helped that division's expenditure, but he suggested that all main roads in England should be kept by the Government.

Mr. Gibson said he knew the great North road as well as anyone present, and he was able to say from his own knowledge that the motor cars which did the most damage did not belong to Kesteven, and the local tax did not help them in regard to the maintenance of their roads. He would like to see the money for all these licences go to the Exchequer, and then the Government to maintain the roads.

The chairman said they did not approach this matter in a spirit of hostility to the owners of motor cars, and this new means of locomotion had come to stay, but it demanded new legislation from the Government, for no party had ever dreamt that motor-cars would be used in the manner they were. As a result, the old laws governing the highways had become obsolete. Their county surveyor told them that the through cars did most of the damage by their weight and pace, and roads which were supposed to last ten or twelve years were broken up long before the time, the damage done being enormous, and this called for special taxes to be placed on the owners of cars. He had always doubted whether any better plan had ever been devised for the maintenance of roads than the old turnpike system, or whether there had been a fairer one.

After further discussion it was decided that a resolution be forwarded to the Central Committee that the new form of locomotion on the roads demanded new legislation, and in view of the great amount of damage done, the Exchequer should make a larger grant for their maintenance.

Mr. Palmer afterwards reported that new branches had been established at Peterborough, Melton Mowbray, Doncaster, and Spalding.

NORTH SCARLE.

A meeting in connection with the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union was held at North Scarle on Wednesday evening, Mr. W. Slingsby presiding. There was only a moderate attendance, owing, no doubt, to the fact that the night was very wet and dark, making it impossible for anyone to attend from a distance.

The chairman, in opening the meeting, said he was rather disappointed to see so few farmers

present, as he thought the Union was taking a step in the right direction. It was obvious that they should be banded together, and do something to assist the farmers.

Mr. Colin Campbell, C.C., addressed the meeting, and pointed out the work the Union had done since its inception, and said there was a lot of work to be done when they were more fully developed. The strength of the Union at the present time was a membership of a little over 3,000, with twenty-six branches, comprising the area of Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, and part of Yorkshire, and as there are 11,000 farmers in Lincolnshire alone, he hoped they would soon increase their numbers. Mr. Campbell also referred to foreign meat, insurance, and railway rates, and gave instances showing that in some parts of England the rates were 25 per cent. lower than those in his own distict.

Mr. Sheldon, Mr. Rawding, and Mr. Brown also addressed the meeting, and urged upon those present to join the Union. A vote of thanks was accorded to the chairman for presiding, and at the close several members were enrolled.

Lincolnshire Notes.

THE question of the proposed agricultural party has now been pretty thoroughly ventilated, so far as this district is concerned. The ideal is generally approved. But there is no strong disposition to spend money on it. And, after all, it is quite soon enough to talk about a group of members specially elected by agriculturists' votes and money to specially influence the House of Commons in the interests of agriculture. A lot of water will have to flow down the rivers before that excellent ideal, if it is an excellent ideal, can be realised. The Lincoln Chamber of Commerce, like the Farmers' Union, wisely decided to proceed by steps. They will endeavour to secure their ends by such means as are immediately open to them, urging, in the meanwhile, the formation of a joint agricultural committee in the House of Commons to work in the constituencies, and the adoption of Conservative or Liberal candidates who will stand up for Agriculture in the House.

THE Chamber's action is discounted in some quarters. Very little, it is urged, is likely to be accomplished by the carrying out of these recommendations. But I am not at all sure. I am not convinced that Agriculture will be better able to achieve its ends by a group in the House of Commons than it would by a strong, well-instructed party in the country influencing the choice of candidates on both sides of politics and educating the constituencies. I should back the latter plan. Some day, when the central fund has assumed due proportions, and Agriculture has learned to be true to itself, we shall gladly welcome an Agrarian Party forming a strong wing in the House of Commons. But in the meantime Agriculture can make itself all-powerful by strong and thorough organisation. Let every agriculturist enrol in his Union, and he will not need to wait any longer than the next General Election to assert himself. He will find the whole House of Commons at his feet if he will only make himself necessary enough.

SO far the idea has met with every sympathy from politicians; but it meets with criticism with a vengeance from Mr. C. Royds, the Conservative candidate for the seat lost by Mr. Chaplin at Sleaford. Mr. Royds does not believe in members independent of party representing agricultural constituencies. They would be neither fish, flesh, fowl, nor good red herring. He is even suspicious of the motives of those who make the proposal. He thinks the cause of agriculture would be best served by persons allying themselves to one party or the other.

MR. KEYDS works the argument round very ingeniously into a word for his own party. What, he asked, was the cause of this suggestion? It was because they said the interests of agriculture had of late suffered; Parliament had not given sufficient attention to the real needs of agriculture. What was the cause of that? Let them look at the state of the country—who represented our agricultural constituencies. In former days, when they did not hear so much about agriculture being neglected, the counties and rural districts were practically all represented by gentlemen of the county, who thoroughly understood the needs of the county and of all classes engaged in agriculture. The remedy seemed to be that, instead of making a new departure and seeking for persons independent of either party to represent agricultural constituencies, they should revert to the old state of affairs and return for their counties Conservative members who understood their needs.

THIS is clever, but I fancy Agriculture will go its own way all the same. It has had enough of politics.

IN the death of Mr. William Hornsby, not only Lincolnshire, but the whole agricultural world has suffered a loss. Mr. Hornsby, who died at Burwell Park, a few miles from Louth at the age of sixty-one, was best known as a member of the well-known Grantham firm of agricultural implement makers. In 1878 he was High Sheriff of Lincolnshire, and he was also Deputy-Lieutenant of the county. Mr. Hornsby, in addition to a country seat at Burwell, also had a residence at Grantham. He lived a quiet life, and gave a goodly portion of his wealth to charitable objects, including a donation of 1,000 guineas to the Dr. Stephenson's Orphanage two years back.

A NEW labour-saving machine is on the market. Messrs. Marshall and Sons, of Gainsborough, the well-known engineering firm, have produced an agricultural motor. It has already successfully emerged from the rather severe experimental test of drawing a six-furrow plough continuously for twenty-four hours, in which time it ploughed twenty-two acres, and consumed forty-four gallons of paraffin for its motive power.

LINCOLN sheep had a successful time at Smithfield. The principal honours were secured by Mr. W. B. Swallow, Wootton Lawn, Ulceby, Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons, Dowsby Hall, Folkingham, and Mr. H. Dudding, Riby Grove, Stallingborough. In the class for pens of three fat wether lambs, under 12 months old, Mr. Swallow took the first prize of £15, Messrs. Dean and Sons the second of £10, and Mr. Dudding the third of £5. Messsrs. Dean and Sons won the first prize of £10 for the best pen of three fat wether sheep above 15 and under 24 months old, Mr. Dudding taking the second of £5, Mr. Swallow the third of £3, and Mr. F. Ward, of Quarrington, Sleaford, the reserve card. The £15 silver cup for the best pen of Lincolns was awarded to Messrs. Dean and Sons, Mr. W. B. Swallow taking the reserve number. Mr. Swallow's lambs were also reserved in the competition for the £50 champion plate for the best pen of three Longwoolled sheep or lambs, which went to Mr. E. F. Jordan's Leicester wethers.

THE King has enjoyed the royal sport of Lincolnshire this week. The Blankney preserves have found excellent occupation for his gun. Lady Londesborough has long been the favourite hostess of Royalty, and she is a keen sportswoman. Blankney Hall is in the midst of an ideal sporting country.

THE Earl of Ancaster, a big Lincolnshire landlord, and father of Lord Willoughby d'Eresby, M.P., gave his experience of small holdings on Saturday last. He expressed himself quite agreeable to the ambitions of the labourer who may require an allotment. He had always done his best to meet them. But, on the whole, he found about one-third of the allotments given up. He found also that except on the best land the expenses of building took away all the rent. He had no doubt that they would succeed where land was good, and where allotment holders could get employment other than cultivating their allotments. But what about hard times when they came? Well, hard times always come, and we have to meet them somehow. We must see if the benefits of keener cultivation of cheap land and cheap buildings combined with the strength of co-operation will not overcome all his lordship's objections.

THE Christmas fat-stock shows have begun. It is too soon to judge of the state of the market. There have been no fancy prices, but generally speaking the stock has sold well. The best market averages are being well maintained; and from the butchers' point of view the sales promise some of the best stuff for a good number of years.

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HOPS.

The Course of Business.

London.

In the days of my youth (I hardly care to say how many years ago) we sang with great vigour Charles Mackay's stirring chorus, "There's a good time coming, boys; there's a good time coming; wait a little longer." This should be the song for the Borough to-day if we could be sufficiently optimistic to work up some enthusiasm. But unhappily we are just now so much under the influence of the "doldrums" that we cannot enthuse, and have only the questionable comfort imparted by the closing words of my quotation. We must "wait a little longer." There is, however, a ray of light penetrating the clouds, as I am told on good authority that an increased demand is being felt, not only for selected healthy hops, but also for medium qualities of East and Mid-Kents. The very low prices at which these can be bought are apparently attracting attention, and I am pleased to know that my impressions of last week are being realised even to this limited extent. We must, of course, be prepared for the quietude of our trade which generally prevails during the heliday period now so near, but I have strong confidence that we shall experience a better demand as soon as we see the opening of the new year, and earnestly trust that my anticipations may be substantiated at an early date.

Nuremberg.

My latest intelligence from this centre shows that the market is firm for choice and coloury qualities, and somewhat weak for the inferior grades. The total sales for the week ending December 4 exactly equalled the arrivals. The business has been supported by the demand from America, with some moderate shipments to England. It is generally notable that trans-Atlantic buyers insist upon better qualities than those that are taken for our own brewers. The former are content to pay from 40s. to 55s. for good green samples, while the latter principally handle the ordinary market and Hallerdau hops ranging from 30s. to 40s. In contrast to these prices we find that the home brewers look for the choicer sorts, for which they are willing to pay at present 60s. to 75s., and will even go as high as 90s. to 95s. for selected lots.

America.

Recent cables from the other side inform me that business in hops is improving. The reduced quotations, resulting from the financial pressure, are evidently arousing some speculation, and important transactions have taken place within the last week. I do not hear anything more of the scheme for shipment on consignment to England of the large quantities recently proposed, and conclude that, although the growers might be willing to relieve their congested market in this manner, they now realise that the ultimate profit of such speculative proceedings is too questionable, and are wisely waiting further developments. In the meantime the shipments to our ports are only limited.

Our Foreign Trade.

The official returns for last month, just published, show that the influx of foreign hops increases in volume, in spite of the slow demand existing on our markets. During November we have received from the United States of America 9,931 cwt., and from other countries 19,104 cwt., making a total of 29,065 cwt., which is an advance upon the preceding month of nearly 5,000 cwt. There is, however, some satisfaction in the figures representing our export trade, as this has considerably improved. We shipped in November 3,126 cwt. of English and 2,213 cwt. of foreign hops, the total, 5,339 cwts., being much in excess of our monthly exports for a long time past. The balance against our market on the month is therefore reduced to 23,727 cwt.

Looking at the returns for the season, we find that we have received since September 1, 62,958 cwt., of which 19,126 cwt. have arrived from America, and 43,832 cwt. from the European Continent. For the moment it appears that Germany and Belgium are our chief competitors, and that the threatened American invasion has been checked. The total of our exports for the past three months—7,603 cwt.—surpasses the usual average. Of English growths we have shipped, principally to our colonies, 4,963 cwt., and of foreign produce 2,640 cwt.. Our net imports for the season consequently amount to 55,355 cwt. Judging by the available supplies of our own growths and the limited requirements thus far of British consumers, we could easily dispense with any assistance from abroad, unless the comparatively low average quality of our last crop is compelling our brewers to seek for richer hops elsewhere. It is, however, clear that our market is overburdened with hops of all kinds at present, and I trust as soon as the new year opens we shall see such a revival in demand as will give a stronger tone to our special business.

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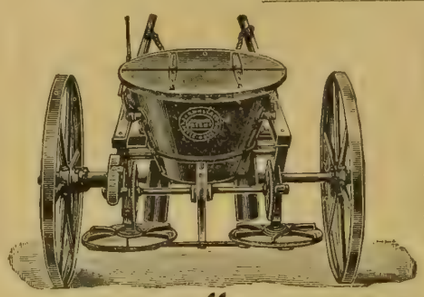
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LONDON, MONDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1907.

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Seasonable Topics.

Christmas Customs Then and Now. THERE is little fear of the memory of old-time Christmases passing entirely away, though this might have happened if Charles Dickens had never lived, for the great writer has left us records of Christmas customs, not only in the London which he knew and loved so well, but also in the country in his day when every village was a world in itself and celebrated Christmas in its own way. Railways, motors, and bicycles are amongst the modern improvements that have brought about changes in Christmas customs, and though we have no wish to return to the old order of things, still there is something about the memories of them that appeals to us. As we write thoughts wander back to Christmases spent in an old-fashioned farm house amongst farming folks who were proud to be called old-fashioned. They had traditions to keep up, and did it with open-handed generosity, which, by the way, is characteristic of the fraternity. For the time the old farm-house kitchen was liberty hall, and in turn they came—the carol singers, the morris dancers, bell-ringers, band, and groups of local youths who dressed themselves in grotesque costumes, and went through some peculiar theatrical performance which no one knew the meaning of, or the origin. But one and all were entertained, and now the scene has changed. The old-fashioned farmer has gone, another reigns in his stead, and more modern customs have taken the place of the ancient ones. The same kind of thing may be observed in most rural districts, and the one unchanging item is the spirit of Christmas, which prompts feelings of good-will and hospitality now as it did in the old days, and time has no effect in altering this.



A CAMBRIDGESHIRE FLOCK OF SHEEP.

Christmas Holidays. FOR some time past townspeople have been making arrangements for a long holiday this year, and many tradesmen and their employees will enjoy quite a good vacation, but country people are not so much concerned about these things. On the farm there is the necessary routine of work to be done Christmas or no Christmas, but after the stock is fed and cared for one may notice an easiness about other operations, which suggests that the farming fraternity is affected by the holiday spirit. For one thing there is no need for rush, as this is a slack season, and in some parts, notably dairying districts in the Midlands, it is customary for farm servants to change their places at Christmas. From Christmas morning to New Year's Day is their vacation, and what with the various pleasure and hiring fairs that are held in the meantime, to say nothing of other seasonable amusements, they manage to enjoy themselves. As a rule, however, the farmer's holiday at Christmas consists of entertaining, for many of the fraternity have friends and relatives in towns to whom Christmas in the country is a welcome change, and included amongst them are the sons and daughters of farmers who have left the family circle for the sake of other occupations in the busy haunts of men.

Charities. CHRISTMAS is a great time for the dispensation of charities, and the proceeds of property left by generous-minded persons in the past is distributed according to the wishes of the individual who adopted this means of keeping his memory green. Bread, clothes, coal, meat, and money are distributed by various local charities amongst persons who are supposed to be entitled to them, and though in some cases benefit is certainly derived, the dispensation of charities is often responsible for jealousies and heart-burnings. The conditions of many local charities are quaint and peculiar, and some are of very little real benefit to the people for whom they were intended. As a matter of fact, times and conditions have changed so much since many local charities were founded that they are of little or no benefit, but a trouble to the trustees who have to dispense them, and it seems a pity that the money cannot be devoted to public institutions which are beneficial to the whole community.

The Storage of Swedes. THE lifting and storing of swedes is one of the seasonable operations that has been much retarded by recent heavy rains and the soddened state of the ground. In many instances roots that were pulled several weeks ago have had to remain in heaps on the ground, for the simple reason that it was impossible to cart them off owing to the quagmire of mud. Speaking of swedes, is it best to trim the root, by topping and tailing, or should they be merely pulled up, put in heaps and be covered with soil just as they are? It is a point that affords food for argument, and while the last-named method is looked on by those who favour trimming as slovenly farming, there are many who favour it, and contend that the roots keep better. At any rate, it is a saving of time and labour, which counts for something in these days. Speaking as a whole, swedes are a much better crop than was at one time anticipated, but conditions for feeding sheep on the ground are as yet unfavourable, and where this is done the animals are in a sad plight.

Not a Bad Year. THE season of 1907 is now drawing to a close, and in a short time it will be packed away with the records of the past. The year 1907 will be remembered by farmers as one of the most extraordinary years they have passed through, and yet, to quote one of the fraternity, it has not been a bad one, for more than once, when the outlook was undoubtedly gloomy, and things seemed to be at their worst, the desired change came, and all was well. But not a bad year, this is the general expression, and when farmers admit so much, one

may take it that they have not done amiss. Some disappointment came at the end, for the prices that fat cattle fetched at Christmas markets were below the expectations of graziers; but in milk-producing districts cows and calves have been dear all through the autumn, with a keen demand for good animals. This is not altogether surprising, considering the milk that has to be provided now in the winter, and if the farmer has not the cows coming in to do it, he has to buy. A good many have been in this position of late.

Christmas Bills.

FARMERS need no reminding that all the envelopes which the postman brings at this time of the year do not contain cards of seasonable greetings, for some of them have an official cut about them, and on being opened are found to contain the inevitable bills which come with unfailing regularity at the close of the year. But what is there in Christmas bills to worry about? Nothing, of course, when one is expecting them and has got the means to pay; but otherwise the story reads quite differently, and bills without the money to settle them are naturally a source of worry. Pay cash and avoid the trouble of bills, suggests some one Just so, but farmers are not always in the happy position of being able to do this, because they have their produce to sell and often have to wait for a favourable market, not always getting cash down even then. There is bound to be some credit in the dealings of farmers, both in buying and selling; but the thing is to keep proper accounts, so that when the Christmas bills come in they are not unexpected, and there is the needful at hand to pay them. It is the forgotten and unrecorded accounts that give the trouble and worry.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Where Farmers Study their Own Weal.

There is one feature of the Mid-Devon bye-election which should be gratifying to those who desire to see farmers taking a more intensive interest in their own weal. Both candidates and constituents reflect this interest. Whilst the rivals disregard the flamboyant and turgid rhetoric loved alike by the Free Trader and Tariff Reformer and devote themselves to a clear, cogent and direct consideration of how the new economy would affect the farmer, the constituents ply them with questions having the same purpose of elucidation—questions which are characterised by an intelligence and force which betray at least common sense, knowledge, and a sane anxiety that the agricultural interest should not be penalised or sacrificed. There is no attempt on the part of any to obscure or distort the issue. That is made as luminous as the British language can make it. Will Tariff Reform, under which but a small duty is to be placed on foreign imports, and which duty, when those imports are the necessities of the working man, is to have the most infinitesimal character, seriously benefit the farmer? Will that policy benefit the farmer when, too, it is to be allied to a system of preference for the agrarian produce of the colonial farmers—men to whom rent, as we know it in England, is practically unknown; who are unafflicted by the burden of rates which hangs like a mill-stone around the neck of the British farmer; who cultivate, in many instances, a virgin soil of unequalled fertility; who enjoy every possible facility of cheap transit, and who live under a Government alertly anxious to secure them the most advantageous and profitable of the British markets?

* * *

Strange Indifference to Other Issues.

Of course these questions evoke a variety of replies—partisanism is so human a sentiment that even in Mid-Devon it ever and anon rides roughshod over the wise anxiety for personal advantage; but those replies are, on the whole, permeated by wise self-interest and by an admirable patriotic appreciation. What, however, has impressed me in reading the admirable reports in the two Plymouth daily papers is the indifference of both candidates and audiences to other issues of moment to the agricultural interest. True, the burden of taxation is obliquely and occasionally referred to. True, too, the economic possibilities on the fortunes of the rural districts of small holdings has a tepid and desultory consideration. True, again, the contrast between the Scottish land policy and the English land policy is made the theme of piquant adjectives. Though, however, Mid-Devon may be said to be within the radius of the Callington platform—and the Land Tenure Act sponsored by young Mr. Agar-Robartes is really but a reflection of the purpose of that platform—the possibilities of that legislation have not that I can see been even referred to. Even the Liberal champion has been apparently indifferent to the effect which legislation passed by this Government, like the Butter Act and the Dogs Act—measures avowedly designed for the direct protection of the farmer—may have on the agricultural interest. What is more, he has not seemed to comprehend how the Foods Regulation Act of Mr. John Burns—which will yet be a direct menace to the unhealthy and unwholesome privileges which organisations like the Yankee beef trust enjoy—may prove a direct boon to the great food-producing interest of Great Britain.

* * *

Obsessed by Tariff Reform.

Even the promises of the Government to initiate a great scheme of housing, to grapple with the horse-breeding problem, to deal with the milk question on lines which must be of direct benefit to the British farmer, and to relieve agricultural land of its terrible burden of rates have been passed by with faint recognition, or else deliberately unheeded. What is the moral deducible from these significant facts? Most assuredly it is not one that the invincible Free Trader can regard with complacence. It means that in a constituency which reveals a singularly alert sense of what is economically due its own industry, one question, and one question alone obsesses the electoral mind. The fact that this question is Tariff Reform imposes an enhanced responsibility on those of us who fear that in its suggested guise—the guise given it by Mr. Balfour, and apparently accepted by the Chamberlainites, the guise of a slightly-rebuffed foreign competition and a greatly-encouraged colonial competition—it may mean a grave penalty for British agriculture. We must seek with all our might to have the economic situation made clear. If dangers confront us we must not have them obscured. The mists of oratory must not be allowed to conceal the boulders which may beset our path. Will Mr. Chaplin, our accepted leader, dispel those mists?

* * *

A Lesson from Irish Politics—and a Moral.

Are we to find in the member for Kidderminster, Mr. Barnard, a reinforcement of the small band of Parliamentary Pro-Agrarians? I ask this question because of the excellent and forceful speeches the hon. member delivered in connection with the annual celebrations of the Central Chambers. Most assuredly Mr. Barnard provided a new justification for the initiation of an independent agricultural party. Why is it (I paraphrase one of his contentions) that the English Board of Agriculture is, as compared with the Irish department, a weak, anæmic, and comparatively innocuous body? Why is it that whilst in the last three years considerably over a million of money has been given by a bounteous State to the Irish Board of Agriculture, less than half of this sum has been given to the English department in the same period? Why is it that, estimating area and population, England has received less than one tenth of what has been conceded to Ireland? Mr. Barnard perceives the cause in the fact that Ireland has had an organised and disciplined body of Parliamentarians indifferent to the convenience and anxieties of Ministers, and playing the Ishmaelitish game with such assiduity as to make statecraft anxious to conciliate them by bribes. Heaven forfend, it be deemed that I desire the Independent Agricultural Party to repeat the tactics of the Irish Nationalists. I neither want roysterers nor blusterous or irreverencing swashbuckling Alsatians in the House as our representatives. I want a disciplined party behaving with dignity, and, if pursuing its own ends, never subserving the true interests of the empire and the kingdom to mere gloating selfishness. And, verily, I believe this to be the anxiety of the protagonists of the new movement.

* * *

Should we Fine Ourselves to Find Labour for the Towns?

Has not Mr. Barnard provided us with a new reason for praticalising our rural education—for giving a vital character to Mr. Jesse Collings's admirable, but, unfortunately, ill-supported, agitation? It is a lamentable reflection that the last Unionist Government resolutely resisted Mr. Collings's pathetic importunities to give our system of rural education such a character that instead of, as now, inspiring in the youth the longing for the life of the towns and its tawdry pleasures, it should be a preparation for a life of use in the village of his forbears. In Hertfordshire (Mr. Barnard's county) they pay an education rate of 10d. in the £ in order—heed this deplorable fact and perceive in it an injunction to seek reform—to provide the towns with muscular workers. The villages under this system are actually compelled to heavily fine themselves in order that they may denude themselves of the labour they need. They have to pay that they may be bereft. In one particular district of Hertfordshire no less than 1,450 of the 1,800 children who passed through the schools in the last ten years had, when manhood came to them, shaken the native dust from off their feet and sought their fortunes elsewhere. A human machine fashioned at local expense became an advantage only to the community which had borne none of the cost of completing the structure. Would an Independent Agricultural Party put an end to this anomaly, this reckless prodigality? Well, it might not. Who, however, but must agree that even half-a-dozen Parliamentarians, working on detached lines in a spirit of mutuality and definiteness, would have ere this brought this question within the pale of practical politics? Why the future control of our training-colleges and the like—the mere academic fringes of the education problem—has to-day an infinitely greater importance in the eyes of the professional educationists than this vital question of how to so practicalise our rural education that the scholar shall not merely be fitted for a rural career, but be possessed by an anxiety to follow it.

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Reply to a Chivalrous Critic.

I have, of course, to acknowledge the singularly courteous and wholesomely chivalrous reply of Mr. W. J. Malden to myself. Mr. Malden, as a controversialist, disdains the methods of your Dugald Dalgetys, and is honourably anxious to elucidate the point at issue. Certainly he has elevated the contention of the colonial preferenceites to a plane of logic I have never seen it before attain. I fear me, however, that Mr. Malden's Tariff Reform is not the Tariff Reform of Mr. Balfour and Lord Lansdowne, and, withal, that even then it regards the menace to the British farmer with too serene a mind. Why should we adopt the Kismet attitude of Mr. Malden? "If (says he in effect) Canada can supply all our necessities, nothing we can do can avoid the danger. Kismet—let us bow before our doom!" But should we? "However," proceeds Mr. Malden, "the British farmer is not to be sacrificed—Mr. Balfour says so; he is to be proportionately protected." When has Mr. Balfour said so? When has any reponsible leader of the new evangel said so? Mr. Balfour's contention—emphasised by Lord Lansdowne with a luminosity which prevents any possible misconception—is that the British farmer is not to be protected. "If," says Mr. Malden, "Canada is going to supply us with everything we want, as 'Lobbyist' expects, then there is no need to have anything whatever from any country but Canada and the colonies; therefore put up a big tax against the others." This, however, is what Mr. Balfour will not do—what Lord Lansdowne certainly will not do. They suggest not a big tax, but an infinitesimal tax on foreign imports. We come back then to the supreme fact. Colonial preference might possibly benefit the urban industrialists.

MIDLAND FARMERS AT HOME

No. II.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION'S BIG CONCERN.

How They Get Rid of the City's Sewage.

"Nothing but praise can be found for the appearance of everything on the farms."—Wilton Allsebrook, Official Valuer to the Nottingham Corporation.

The above extract is taken from the official valuer's report to the Nottingham Corporation relative to their sewage farms situate in the parishes of Stoke Bardolph, Burton Joyce, Bulcote, and Gunthorpe. It certainly speaks well for the ability of Mr. Arthur A. Avis, the farm manager, especially when it is remembered that he has under his charge no less than 1,894 acres 2 roods 4 poles, and is thus far and away the largest holding in the county of Notts. Of this about 1,400 acres have been prepared for the reception of sewage The soil for the most part is of a sandy character with a gravelly subsoil, and, being situate by the side of the Trent, there is a capital outlet for drainage.

The method adopted in the disposal of the sewage on the farms is that of broad irrigation, flowing from the city of Nottingham, five miles distant, by natural gravitation, although some portion of the effluent from the low-lying parts of the town have to be pumped into the main sewer at Sneinton through the agency of Gwynne's centrifugal pumps. No lime, chemicals, or mechanical devices are employed to extract the sludge and secure a proper effluent, the land providing ample means for filtration. This, of course, has demanded an elaborate system of underdraining. The main drains consist of 12 in. pipes, are two chains apart, and from 5 ft. 6 in. to 9 ft. below the surface. The smaller drains are of 4 in. pipes one chain apart, and from 4 ft. 6 in. to 5 ft. 6 in. deep. The underdraining has been carried out on the herring-bone principle, and acts admirably. From 10,000,000 to 12,000,000 gallons of sewage is dealt with every twenty-four hours, and the cost of preparing the land for its reception was between £50 and £60 an acre. The land—both arable and pasture—is treated for twelve hours a time, the effluent running into the fields from the sewers along grips, and allowed a round of the clock to drain away.

There are nearly 1,000 acres of arable land on the farms, and the principal crops grown are wheat, oats, rye, kohl rabi, and cabbage, some of the latter reaching enormous dimensions. Most of it can be ploughed with two horses, although a large area is cultivated up, the Corporation being owners of the necessary steam tackle. The land being so rich Mr. Avis does not allow much straw to be used in the crews, stables, and other buildings, preference being given to sawdust, as the production of manure is not studied—in fact, a good deal of the manure made by the stock is actually sold to go off the farm.

The wages bill is a very heavy item, amounting to something like £4,000 per annum. The number of men and boys employed on and about the farm total nearly 150, a large staff being constantly engaged in superintending the disposal of the sewage. A rather liberal scale of wages has been adopted by the Farm Committee, and provides for boys starting work as soon as the age limit allows being paid 6s. per week, with advances of 6d. as the lads become more useful. Farm labourers receive 17s. per week, their hours being from 6 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.—winter and summer. The milkmen receive slightly higher rates, rendered necessary consequent upon Sunday duty being an absolute necessity, amounting to 19s. weekly. Their hours are from 5 a.m. to 6 p.m., with half an hour for breakfast and one hour for the mid-day meal. Waggoners (in charge of four horses each) are paid at the rate of £1 per week, starting work at five o'clock and finishing at eight, after they have suppered up, though their actual day's toil concludes at six o'clock, the men returning for a few minutes shortly before eight to give the horses their final feed.

The men who drive the traction engines, of course, have to possess a certain amount of mechanical knowledge, which receives consideration in the wages sheet, their rate of pay being 25s. per week. The foremen over the labourers, milkmen, and waggoners receive remuneration at the rate of 26s. per week, and foremen engineers £2. These employees also possess the advantage of residing in houses belonging to the Corporation rent free, good gardens being attached. However, where it is impossible for the men to be accommodated in one of these municipal houses they are allowed 1s. per week extra.

Punctuality is strictly enforced in every department—labourer, mechanic, and clerk—all have to be at work promptly by 6 a.m. at the latest, and from what I was told Mr. Avis, the farm manager, is always in his office by that time, winter and summer. Despite the good wages paid to the men by the Corporation, there is great difficulty at times in securing an adequate supply of men for the work. This is attributed to the fact that the attractions of town life act as a magnet to many of the young men in the districts where the farms are situate, coupled with the high rate of pay that prevails at the collieries in the neighbourhood, and also the large locomotive sheds and coal sidings of the Great Northern Railway at Colwick, where the men enjoy the privilege of occasionally securing a half-day's relaxation from toil, which is highly appreciated, especially by those inclined towards football and cricket.

Mr. Arthur A. Avis was appointed manager of the Stoke Bardolph farm in October, 1897, on the death of his father, though he had been connected with its management for ten years previously. Mr. Avis, sen., was appointed the Corporation's first manager on September 17, 1878, and held the position until his decease. The feeding cakes are usually purchased in 100 to 200 ton lots, the prices then being at their lowest. At the last official valuation there were over 2,400 head of horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs on the farm, made up as follows:—Horses 132, cattle 862, sheep 933, and pigs 490. The value of the tenant right on the farms was then put down at £50,030 9s. 4d., being an increase in the twelve months of £3,212 6s. 4d.

An annual sale is held in March or April, and the amount realised at the last dispersal of fat and store stock was £4,495 5s. 6d. The amount spent last year on horse and cattle foods was £6,677 6s. 4d., and the total receipts from the sale of live stock £9,825 18s. 8d., and the sale of milk and butter



Mr. A. A. AVIS,
Manager of the Nottingham Corporation's Sewage Farms.

£4,473 9s. The rent paid for that portion of the farm which does not belong to the Corporation is about £800 a year. The annual turnover is about £23,000. All food, such as corn, cake, meal, &c., is weighed out so much for each animal, and a record kept.

In my next article relating to this great concern particulars will be given of the model farm buildings which the municipality have erected at Bulcote, and so far as I know are the finest in England, which is saying a great deal. R. K.

The annual December fair at Thirsk was held on Tuesday in fine weather, but there was only a moderate show of stock, and trade was dull. A fair trade was experienced for beasts well up in condition, which made up to £12 10s.; young beasts, £5 to £6; older, £6 10s. to £8 10s. Limited supply of dairy cows, which a met a good demand; for first-class animals £20 could be made; secondary £16 16s. to £17 17s.; ordinary to £14 15s. Sheep were only a small supply.

At a well-attended meeting of the East Sussex Farmers' Club, which took place at Lewes, the proposal that an Independent Agricultural Party should be established in the House of Commons was considered at some length. There was not that unanimity that has characterised discussions on the same subject in some other parts of the country, for while it was generally agreed that the objects of the proposal were good, it was felt that they were at present impracticable. However, a resolution in favour of the proposal was carried.

Lincolnshire Notes.

YET another critic of the Agricultural Party, and a downright one this time. Lord Willoughby d'Eresby, M.P., speaking to the farmers of Horncastle, described the idea as "all bosh." He did not believe it possible to formulate a programme on which landlords, farmers, and labourers would unite. The report says that his lordship found a considerable agreement amongst the assembled agriculturists. But I think the honourable member will prove himself wrong. There are many things upon which the three great units of the agricultural trinity are hopelessly divided. There are some on which they can unite, and the strength of their fighting force will depend on the extent of their unity.

THE excess of rainfall is causing no little delay on the farms. Much of the land in Lincolnshire is under water; the great majority of it is so sodden as to be unworkable. If, whilst they are about it, the powers might send us a white Christmas, we should get along all the better when the spring comes.

THERE are the best of reports from the fat stock shows. Prices have been well up, there has been the best of quality, and the supply has been up to the mark. It is going to be a prosperous Christmas so far as the dealers in stock are concerned.

I WAS quite sufficiently near the truth when I suggested that the Lincoln Royal Show had made a record. Thanks to its splendid success, the executive have been able to put £7,056 to the reserve fund. Only twice has this splendid result been beaten, at York in 1883, and at Manchester in 1869. These significant occasions can be quite taken out of account. Undoubtedly the best thing in the Royal Society's traditions to-day is the Lincoln Royal Show.

LINCOLNSHIRE will be well represented amongst the list of judges at the next Royal Show. Amongst those who have accepted the society's invitation are:—Hackneys, Mr. John Wreghitt, East Thorpe, Market Weighton; Leicester sheep, Mr. J. J. Stamper, Highfield House, Nunnington, York; Lincoln sheep, Mr. Charles Clarke, Brookside, Scopwick, Lincoln, and Mr. William Wright, Scamblesby House, Horncastle. Mr. F. Reynard, J.P., of Sunderlandwick, Driffield, is chairman of the Judges' Selection Committee.

A LARGE transaction in agricultural land is recorded. Mr. H. P. Carter, C.C., of Abbot's Manor, Holbeach, and Mr. A. H. Worth, of Holbeach Marsh, well-known farmers and potato growers, have recently purchased a very large estate known as the Eastville Estate, which lies on the north side of Boston. It comprises about 1,200 acres of agricultural land, and was the property of Messrs. Staniland, of Boston, and Langton Hall, near Spilsby, and is close to the Eastville station. It is rumoured that the purchase price was between £40,000 and £50,000. About a year ago Messrs. Carter and Worth purchased the Trustees Farm of about 500 acres, which adjoins their new acquisition, and they have introduced the go-ahead methods for which Holbeach Marsh farmers are noted. They are now the owners of about 1,700 acres of land in the north of Boston district, and it is understood, in course of time will occupy the whole of this large acreage.

SYMPATHY, but little else. The Lincolnshire deputation was not happy in its call upon the railway companies on the subject of railway rates. With curt politeness they were told that the railway companies cannot see their way to grant the concessions asked for. It was a keen disappointment. But, so far from killing the agitation, the decision will be the whip and spur which will renew its activity. Lincolnshire farmers will be very foolish indeed if they sit down under their real grievance. By their refusal to discuss the matter, the railway companies have admitted the weakness of their case. All that is now needed is a little doggedness and more light. Let the world know that if the companies' position is a weak, one the Lincolnshire agriculturists' is strong.

DOES Lincolnshire want small holdings? For instance, does South Lincolnshire? At the last meeting of the Small Holdings Committee of the Holland County Council the clerk reported that he had received applications for 598 acres of land as small holdings from the northern part of the division, and for 1,652 acres from the southern part. The districts in which there was the greatest demand were:—Crowland, 271 acres; Gedney, 239; Gedney Hill, 210; Whaplode Drove, 235; Quadring, 120; and Deeping, 111.

THE Board of Agriculture is hot on the track of the gooseberry mildew. A new order has

come into force which applies to this and several other counties conveying a number of necessary instructions. They are rather more than instructions, for failure to comply with them will involve a penalty of £10. It will be as well for gooseberry and current gardeners to make themselves acquainted with them.

THE late Mr. Coates Sharpley was not only a large occupier but the owner of several considerable estates. These have come under the hammer, and resulted in a considerable division of the property. The Brackenborough Hall estate, and over 500 acres of land, made £15,650, and was purchased by Mr. J. Bennett, J.P., of Louth. The Pye's Hall estate in Somercotes and Granthorpe, was withdrawn at £14,000; but a farm of 181 acres in Alvingham made £4,600, and went to Mr. H. W. Mason, of Louth. A small holding of 78 acres at Brackenborough realised £2,000, being knocked down to Mr. G. Langdale, of Market Stainton.

MR. JOHN EVENS, of Burton, near Lincoln, has just issued his annual statement of milk records of the cows in his famous herd of Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns that calved during the year 1906. The statement comprises the records of forty-eight cows, which gave a total yield of 385,261 lb. of milk, or an average of 802 gallons per animal. The average is thus slightly below that for the previous year, when it was 816 gallons, while in 1894 it reached 842 gallons. It is, however, well up to the average, as in the four years previous to 1894 it varied from 758 gallons to 785 gallons. The highest record was 889 gallons for forty-three head in 1896, and in the following year thirty-six averaged 881 gallons. On the whole, there is an appreciable improvement since the first return was made in 1890, when the average for thirty-one cows was 740 gallons. By a gradual process of selection, therefore, the herd has been graded up to a high standard, and the increase more than justifies the labour and expenditure entailed in effecting it.

December 20, 1907.

LINCOLNSHIRE FARMERS' UNION.

THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Central Committee of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union was held on Friday, Mr. T. Colin Campbell presiding, when the question of indemnity for the destruction of tuberculous cattle was considered, the matter arising out of a circular inviting the Union to send a representative to the meetings of the Royal Agricultural Society's Committee appointed to discuss the question.

The chairman characterised the matter as a very important one, and thought it should be ventilated and got to the bottom of. The first meeting was to be held on Friday, January 3.

The members first decided upon their delegate, and it was agreed that the chairman be appointed.

Mr. Harrison had given notice of a resolution to the effect that whereas the Butchers' Association had demanded indemnity for the loss of any carcase of beef bought by them in the Lincoln Cattle Market, and condemned as tuberculous, they (the Union) desired it to be known that they saw no reason why they should depart from the old custom of every owner being responsible for his own stock, and that any indemnity must be provided amongst themselves or by the authority who condemned them.

Mr. Mountain thought the matter was a national one, and as such the nation should pay the cost. It should be impressed upon the Government that the matter be taken up as a national one.

Mr. Blanshard agreed, and Mr. Searly asked, if they kept helping the butchers, whether the butchers would help themselves? Would the butchers put a strong memorial before the Government, the same as the Union?

Mr. Harrison thought if the farmer paid his sixpence to the indemnity fund it was an acknowledgment of their liability after the sale of their cattle, which was very bad business indeed. They were only debarring and injuring their object in delaying legislation in the matter.

Mr. Robinson thought the butchers' indemnity fund did not meet half the expenses, and said if the present Act was amended to include tuberculous cattle, it would cover the case.

In the end Mr. Harrison, at the suggestion of Mr. Bellwood, withdrew his motion, and it was decided that the delegate to the committee be asked to approach the matter from a national basis.

The Annual Dinner.

The annual dinner of the Union was fixed to take place in the County Assembly Rooms at Lincoln, on Friday, January 31, and the chairman announced that Lord Carrington and Lord Onslow had promised to attend.

The Corrupt Practices Act.

Mr. E. W. Howard referred to the Corrupt Practices Act, and said no people were more generous than the English, and they had been in the habit of sending out a great number of turkeys, geese, &c. This new Act had to a great extent stopped that, and he thought farmers were entitled to say the measure was entirely unnecessary, and was putting another burden on agriculture which it ought not to bear. He did not mean that farmers were in the habit of receiving these things, but those who sent them generally bought them from the farmers, who were affected a good deal.

The matter was not discussed.

Eligibility of Landlords.

Mr. Robinson inquired whether landlords were prohibited from membership of the Union, and the chairman replied that they could only be admitted as honorary members.

Mr. Robinson added that Lord Monson had told him that he understood that such as he were not wanted in the Union.

The chairman said the Union was not in any way against landlords, and the secretary intimated that the question had been raised at Brigg, and he gave them to understand that anyone was eligible who was carrying on the business of a farmer. If a man had the misfortune to own so many acres, he was not going to be prohibited simply on that ground.

NEWARK BRANCH.

There was a good attendance at the annual meeting of the Newark Branch of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union. Mr. E. J. Storm, who presided, was unanimously re-elected chairman of the branch, and in returning thanks, said the branch had not done a great deal of business, because none of their members brought any questions before them. He wished it to be understood that if they had any grievances the Union was willing to consider them and have them rectified without expense to the one who brought the grievance.

Mr. J. Pennington was also re-elected vice-chairman, and on responding he pointed out what good work the central body at Lincoln was doing for farmers in regard to disputes.

Mr. J. C. Fisher said he had been asked to propose a name as secretary for the ensuing year, and he had pleasure in doing so. They would all agree with him that unless they had confidence in their officers they would not do much good as a Union. They were pleased to say they had confidence in their officers, and that remark applied to Mr. Hopkinson, who had done the work of secretary for the last twelve months very well, and he therefore proposed his re-election.

Mr. A. Stretton, as the first chairman of this branch, spoke of Mr. Hopkinson's valuable service, and said he had much pleasure in seconding the resolution.

Mr. Hopkinson, in thanking them for his re-election, urged all farmers to join the Union, for without being united they could do nothing to improve their conditions.

The balance-sheet showed receipts £16 14s. 7d., expenditure £2 11s. 11d., balance £14 2s. 8d., which was considered highly satisfactory.

The next item on the agenda was "An Agricultural Party in Parliament."

Mr. E. J. Bullen said he thought it was very desirable that agriculturists as such should receive a very great deal more attention than they did, and it was a question as to the best way of bringing this about. He had seen the proposal to form an Agricultural Party, but he had his doubts as to whether it was possible. Parliament had not attended to the business of agriculture for the last twenty years like it ought to have done, and he was rather in favour of sending practical men to Parliament, men who really understood the practical side of agriculture. Other organisations, such as miners, schoolmasters, railway men, had their representatives in Parliament, and he considered the farmers of England ought to send eight or ten practical men to represent them. How were they going to be sent? Other Unions made a levy, and when they paid a man for his services, they valued those services more than if they obtained them on the cheap, and it was only in that way could they really have the practical element of agriculture represented in the House of Commons. Until they made the self-sacrifice required, they would not have the attention they ought to have and deserved to have.

The chairman said the time was not ripe yet, and it would be impossible to raise enough money to send eight or ten men to Parliament.

Mr. Stretton said the time was ripe, and it ought to be done, and the farmers should put their hands in their pockets to do it. He also complained of some members not paying their subscriptions to the Union when they were due, and appealed to everyone to put their shoulders to the wheel and send their own men to Parliament.

Mr. J. C. Fisher said he had been interested in this subject for the past fifteen or twenty years, and it was no new theory as far as he was concerned, and he had been steadily advocating a Parliamentary Party to represent the agricultural interests. He put forward that view as clearly as he possibly could some ten years ago in St. James's Hall in London, when there were something like two or three thousand people present, and he laid it down then that he believed agriculture would never rise to the position it ought to occupy unless they had true men who were not seeking office in the Cabinet, to represent the agricultural interest in the House of Commons. He was not going into the question whether it was possible or not; what they wanted to do was to establish a principle, and upon the principle itself he thought the Chairman would agree. The crux of the whole matter was that they wanted their grievances redressed. But the great difficulty was in finding men, who when they got into this position would stand true to their principles. What they wanted were men who would go to the House of Commons and support any Government and any party who would do something for agriculture. With regard to the finding of means, surely when they looked round and saw the vast interests that were at stake in the country, would it not be a shame for them to go away from that meeting and let it go out through the Press that the agriculturalists of England were so blinded to their own interests that they would not subscribe some small amount to send eight or ten men to the House of Commons? He believed if it was put in the right way they could easily send eight or ten men, and he hoped the day was not far distant when they would have a strong Agricultural Party in the House of Commons to look after their interests and remove the burden of local taxation under which they groaned to-day.

Mr. Bullen thereupon proposed that they recommend to the Central Committee that they should consider the desirability of selecting a suitable tenant farmer to represent them in Parliament and the making of a levy to support him.

Mr. Fisher seconded and the proposition was carried.

Mr. Hopkinson proposed, and Mr. Stretton seconded, the following resolution: — "The Newark Branch of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union, whose members are large ratepayers, viewed with alarm the great increase in the cost of county roads, and do not agree with the use of Tar Mac, which is detrimental to the highest interests, and excessively expensive."

Mr. J. C. Fisher said when they had the surveyor's report placed in their hands and read that no less than £400 per mile had been spent on a road between Grantham and Nottingham it was enough to make their blood boil, because they, as farmers, had to pay a very large proportion of the cost, and they meant to get that state of things altered. He strongly supported the resolution, which was carried.

WADDINGTON.

In spite of very unfavourably weather, a fair number attended a meeting of the local branch of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union held at Waddington. Mr. William Pate, Coleby, occupied the chair, and, in opening the meeting, said he felt sure that the audience, many of whom were members, would be satisfied with the good work the Union had done during the past year.

Mr. George Black spoke on the subject of the excessive railway rates charged on agricultural produce in this country, and urged that pressure should be brought to bear for the relief of the burden.

Mr. Ablewhite said that though not a farmer, he had probably had as much experience as any farmer there, and was sure that meetings of that sort to promote so great a cause as that of the Union should receive the support of all interested in agriculture.

The secretary of the Union (Mr. H. W. Palmer) reviewed the work of the Union, and spoke of the great increase in the number of branches and members. He also gave an account of the meetings in London during the week. Mr. Frank Norton likewise spoke in support of the objects of the Union.

At the close of the meeting a successful smoking concert was held.

At a meeting of the Small Holdings Committee of the Holland (Lincolnshire) County Council, held at Spalding on Wednesday, the committee resolved to recommend the County Council to accept an offer made by the Guy's Hospital trustees, to let the committee fifty-three acres of land at Sutton Bridge, with two cottages to be split up into small holdings. The clerk reported that he had received applications for 593 acres of land as small holdings from the northern part of the division, and for 1,652 acres from the southern part.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Agricultural Politics.

SIR,—I think it would be better if "Lobbyist" would be a little less one-sided, as I am in favour of absolute free trade, not the one-sided thing we have now, and I defy either him or any of your staff to say truthfully that agriculture has been prosperous for the last twenty-six years. Therefore agriculture has nothing to be afraid of in tariff reform and Colonial preferences.—Yours, &c.,

December 19, 1907. EDWARD BELCHER.

SIR,—Where does Lobbyist live; and how does he spend his nights? Is he on the staff of "Mr. Punch," or engaged in staging Parliamentary pantomimes? To his "open sesame" how readily the door of the latter opens, behind which Earl Carrington and Mr. John Burns are represented as designing marvellous acts for future representation. And having opened the door, he is appalled by the bill of fare which is being prepared for digestion—or indigestion.

Old age pensions to redeem the lot of the agricultural labourer—after he has left the country possibly. A Housing Bill, believed to be ready for representation. And, in addition, Mr. Burns not satisfied until he has 1,000,000 acres under a "disciplined" scheme of afforestation. If not too late, how would it be to plant with "bread-fruit" trees? And Earl Carrington, not a whit less ambitious! But, in conjunction with Mr. Burns, to deal with the British milk-pail and its contents. And then the horse-breeding problem to be grappled with—by somebody. A registration fee of a few shillings, and the horse when he is wanted. Is this the idea? And, as a final curtain-dropper, agricultural land to be relieved of the terrible burden of rates as a sequel to the Valuation Bill. A gorgeous representation admittedly, but has not "Lobbyist" given Earl Carrington, with Mr. John Burns, all the leading parts; and how will the rest of the company take it? And will it all work through before legitimate drama claims the Parliamentary boards again? A Gargantuan scale of transformation vividly drawn up, and so graphically brought to notice, that it might be anticipating too much to ask where the cave of gold is by which these reformations are to be gilded and made to pass to everyone's advantage. Will "Lobbyist," with his "open sesame," once more divulge further to to our edification?—Yours, &c, WAMBA.

December 19, 1907.

The Situation.

SIR,—With regard to the Agricultural Party, if they care for my advice, it is to chum with the Government, and get as much legislation as possible useful to the farmer. The Tariff Reformers are too busy arranging that no French boilers should be used for cooking potatoes for the pigs to give much attention to field operations.

Prices of grain are now higher than they have been for several years, and will increase if the policy of the growers is transparent instead of opaque.—Yours, &c., HOMESTEAD.

December 19, 1907.

Profits from Wheat Growing.

SIR,—I am sorry that I misunderstood some parts of your correspondent's letter. I can assure him that I had no wish to misconstrue any of his words intentionally. Of course, he will understand that the reason why wheat straw has so high a value here is that there is so very small a proportion of arable land that there is very little straw of any sort grown, so that instead of high-priced straw being an excuse for "raising my rent," as "Gloucestershire" (no doubt jokingly) suggests, the fact should have an opposite effect, because at the present time I am buying wheat straw at a big price to bed my horses with.

I still contend that farmers in the localities with which I am acquainted have acquired the habit of saying that their farming is carried on at a loss —*e.g.*, the balance sheet that initiated this correspondence states that wheat-growing at 35s. per qr. shows a loss of 8s. per acre, and if that is a fact, why do farmers continue to grow wheat at all?—for the straw, would be the answer of a farmer in this district. And so far as my command of the English language enabled me, I tried to explain that 4 qr. of corn and 30 cwt. of straw is reckoned an average crop of wheat in Derbyshire, though a good deal more has been grown on favourable years and conditions, and attempts to force these conditions often results in a laid crop more trouble than it is worth.

"Gloucestershire" may be sure that if for one reason farming is better in one locality than another, there will be some corresponding drawback to balance it.—Yours, &c., A. J. R.

December 18, 1907.

Does Lucerne blow Sheep?

SIR,—I was interested in your report of the East Sussex Farmers' Club meeting, as I have had considerable experience with lucerne. Mr. J. Kenward's remarks were worth all the others. Whenever sheep, especially lambs, are put on a fresh pasture, put them there when the forage is dry, and in the forenoon, then, if they get a full belly, they will not lie all night overgorged. The shepherd should without fail go round before evening to put them on their legs.

Of all food for lambs I have found nothing to equal lucerne, and I never remember losing a lamb on it.

One dry summer I grazed a lot of bullocks on lucerne. It is not lucerne that kills stock, unfortunately stock kill lucerne. I have found it safest for the plant to mow it twice and graze the last crop, but not to eat it down too closely.

Lucerne hay well got is the primest fodder for sheep in the winter. To get prime lucerne hay it must be cut when the first flower is seen, then with fair weather the leaf is kept on.—Yours, &c.,

December 19, 1907. SHEEP BREEDER.

The American Beef Trust.

SIR,—For some weeks a number of articles have appeared in the daily and other Press on the subject of the American Beef Trust, and it is particularly interesting to note that two of the London Free Trade dailies have given up considerable space in their columns to the *exposé* of what now appears to be a carefully-planned plot on the part of the American Beef Trust to monopolise not only the import and distribution of live and slaughtered bullocks imported from America, the Argentine, and even Australasia, but to render it impossible for the British farmer and feeder to grow beef and mutton at a profit in this country. The carefully thought-out scheme of this alien trust comprises a monopoly of the means of transport from the different countries mentioned for cattle, thereby rendering competition from outside shippers in these countries abortive; and by securing extraordinary privileges from such corporations as London, Liverpool, and Manchester, they have practically closed these markets to all but themselves.

Not content with this, they have by some means, creditable or otherwise, secured the co-operation of our British railways—railways, be it remembered, that have been built and are maintained by the capital of English people. By this co-operation they have succeeded already in securing preferential rates for the transit of their beef to all parts of the United Kingdom. One instance will be sufficient to demonstrate the foregoing.

At Glasgow, the centre of the American cattle trade in the North, the carcases are dispatched mostly to London, a distance of 444 miles, the freight upon which is 45s. per ton, whereas Scotch feeders and killers, shipping from Aberdeen, the great market for Scotch beef, have to pay 72s. per ton in freight to London, the latter being only seventy-nine miles further from Aberdeen than is Glasgow. The railway companies have not only given this enormous preference to the Americans, but they allow them to use their sidings all over the country, where the Beef Trust may, and does, send refrigerator cars containing American beef for distribution to the retailers in small towns, and these cars are allowed to remain in the sidings free of rent, rates, and taxes until their local agent has disposed of the beef, even should it take him a week or a fortnight to do so. The great hardship entailed upon local killers must be evident to all. The greater hardship being endured by our feeders and agriculturists is one that demands immediate remedy; it must be evident to all thinking men that the American Beef Trust are striking at the very roots of the prosperity of agriculture in this country, for I think it is admitted by those best able to judge that the climate of the United Kingdom is much more suitable to the growing of beef and mutton than to the growing of wheat and other cereals. The great hardship produced by the restrictive laws passed some years ago, whereby Canadian and other cattle are slaughtered immediately on arrival, has had a very detrimental effect upon the beef-growing industry in this country, for large numbers of the cattle, coming from Canada in poor condition, were formerly bought by feeders and taken home to their farms, where they enjoyed for three or four months the advantages of the superior class of English feeding, and thereby grew into bullocks of heavy weight and good quality, yielding to the farmer a generous return for his outlay. The same restrictions have made it impossible for the feeder to get his usual supply of store cattle outside of Ireland, with the result that the price of these has risen to such an extent that feeding has gradually become an unprofitable business; hence the very greatly reduced figures shown in the returns of the Board of Agriculture since the year 1902.

Surely the time has come when more attention should be paid by the Government, not only to the prosperity of the British feeder, but to the protection of those killers, manufacturers, and distributors who are dependent upon this trade for their daily bread; and the few extra thousands a year which might be necessary in order to secure a safe and sufficient examination of all animals shipped to this country at port of loading would be nothing as compared with the enormous loss which is at present going on owing to the want of proper and efficient arrangement, whereby the immunity of disease from our own herds can be readily secured.

The whole question is one that would appear to deserve the prompt and very serious consideration of our Legislature, and while private efforts are being made at the present time to secure the interest and influence of leading men all over the country to do away with this extraordinary state of matters, I think the Press of the country, be it Free Trade or Tariff Reform, should unite in bringing such pressure to bear upon the Board of Agriculture, and, through it, upon the present Government, as will, if necessary, force them out of their condition of *laissez faire*, requiring them to take immediate steps to render it impossible for this alien Beef Trust to succeed in their efforts to rob the taxpayers and ratepayers of this country of their legitimate rights, and so encourage our breeders and feeders to again adopt measures for largely increasing production of English beef and mutton. The imposition of a substantial import duty upon all the trust's beef, whether brought alive or dead to this country, for a period of, say, five years, would give a stimulus to our Canadian and Australasian colonies, as well as to our home feeders, and might be adopted as an experiment in Tariff Reform, which, at the worst, would increase our home and colonial supplies to the injury of the American Beef Trust and their repugnant methods.

That the old game of freezing out all competition is the object of the American Beef Trust must be evident to all, and, having once secured the remaining large distributing shops throughout the kingdom, a large number of which are already in their hands, the public will be required to pay the heavy premiums already given for these shops in the shape of a largely increased price for their meat.—Yours, &c., J. W. HOPE,

Director of Messrs. John Knight, Ltd.

An Agricultural Party: Lord Onslow's Suggestion.

An interesting letter on the Agricultural Party question, written by Lord Onslow, who it will be remembered was the last president of the Board of Agriculture, appeared in Tuesday's *Standard*. It was as follows:—

SIR,—At the recent meeting of the Central Chamber of Agriculture, the recommendation of the Organisation Committee, "that an independent Agricultural Party should be formed," was adopted, but with the addition of the words moved by Mr. Courthorpe, M.P., "and other steps taken to strengthen the representation of agriculture in Parliament."

I confess I see far more hope for the future of agriculture in Mr. Courthorpe's addition than in the original proposition.

It is unnecessary for me to take up your space with arguments against the group system of Parliamentary government; suffice it to say that it seems to me not to be a practical manner of dealing with the undoubted apathy of the rank and file of the House of Commons when agricultural subjects are, or ought to be, discussed in Parliament.

I prefer to strive for something which I believe to be attainable, and to follow—with some modifications—the lines of the proposals circulated to members of Parliament by Mr. Trustram Eve, the secretary of the Farmers' Club.

His proposals differ but slightly from those set forth by the Central Land Association, formed under the chairmanship of Mr. Walter Long, at 20, Arlington Street, in July last.

Briefly, the programme of that association is to strengthen existing agricultural associations, especially chambers of agriculture, by inviting its members, each in his own locality, to devote special attention to this work, and to endeavour to impress on Members of Parliament the wishes of the agricultural community, as focussed by the Central and Associated Chambers.

At election times to urge the adoption of the policy of the Central Chamber and the Central Land Association (which will doubtless be identical) on the candidates on both sides.

To educate the representatives of agricultural constituencies in all that concerns agriculture, and specially to instruct them as to all measures affecting agriculture as they come before Parliament.

The committee of the Central Land Association

embraces well-known men both on the Liberal and on the Unionist side in politics.

Even if, as I believe, the present proposals for a Parliamentary group independent of the party whips is impracticable, it is at least a healthy sign that the Central Chamber and agriculturists generally have awakened to the need for arousing greater interest in their affairs on the part of members of Parliament.

Everyone acquainted with the inner working of the parliamentary machine knows how great an influence is brought to bear by such associations as the Teachers' Union or the Shipping Federation on the legislation of Governments of either party, just as everyone knows that it was not to the Unionist opposition alone that we owe the material modification of the Land Tenure Bill, as it passed through the House of Commons.

It appears to me that, with impending legislation so deeply affecting agricultural interests as that of which we now hear, the moment is specially opportune for a combination of agriculturists.

One thing at least agricultural constituencies should demand: the discussion of the agricultural vote every year, and a black mark should be put against those members representing agricultural constituencies who, without good excuse, absent themselves from the divisions upon it.

I shall be glad to hear from any gentlemen who are willing to join the Central Land Association, with a view to carrying out its objects. The office address is 42, Palace Chambers, Westminster, S.W.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

ONSLOW.

7, Richmond Terrace, Whitehall, S.W.,
December 16.



General Notes.

The Borough.

I think we are all in better spirits this week, as during the past few days a more active demand has been manifested. Consumers have made their appearance, and others are expected, consequently merchants have bought to some extent, and as many growers, mindful, no doubt, of their early requirements, are not unwilling to sell, a fair amount of business has resulted. I wish I could say that values had proportionately advanced, but unfortunately this is not the case. It is the low prices that are tempting buyers, and our produce is changing hands at figures that must spell heavy losses to planters. But we may take heart, and look for an improved tone as soon as the holidays are over. I have great confidence that with the new year we shall be able to welcome the commencement of an upward movement. May this expectation add zest to the coming Christmas feast, and dispel the gloom that has too long obscured our industry.

Criticisms.

My editor has recently received a note from one of our esteemed subscribers, who writes:—"I very much appreciate your journal, with the exception of the hop reports, which in my estimation, during the month of August, were most detrimental to the growers' interests. I had suggested that some brewing firm must have unduly influenced your reporter." Being entirely responsible for the contents of this column, the complaint has been referred to me. Having carefully reviewed my reports for August, I must confess that I do not find any part of them that I should desire to correct in the light of subsequent experience. Possibly our friend may consider that I was too optimistic with respect to the then growing crop. Perhaps this may have been open to question at the beginning of the month, but I was guided therein by the information I gathered from many reliable sources. As time passed on, it will be seen that my views were modified, and on August 19 I ventured to predict that the crop would average from 8½ to 9 cwt., giving a total for the estimated area of 45,000 acres, of 380,000 to 400,000 cwt.

The official returns certainly do not come quite up to my lowest estimate, but the average per acre is declared to be 8·33 cwt., and methinks this is sufficiently near to absolve me from any charge of wilful exaggeration or interested motive. The suggestion that my reports are influenced by the interested opinions of brewers is too absurd to be worthy of notice, and I dismiss it without another word. But I desire to add, for the satisfaction of our friend, that it is my constant desire to speak the truth, as nearly as my inquiries from impartial informants will enable me to do so. "Malice will with joy the lie receive, report, and what it wishes true, believe." Whatever bias I have in this matter is in favour of growers with whose trials I have always had the deepest sympathy.

As far as possible I would support and assist our English industry, but I must deal with facts as they arise, and cannot believe that I shall be true to my readers or to myself, if I ignore facts for the sake of a pleasing story. When we come to consider I cannot pretend to be infallible, as I am as liable to error in this respect as any other man. But I trust that my present critic will now give me credit for good intentions, and if he will favour me with any definite objection to my reports I shall be only too glad to hear from him, and to reply to him to the best of my ability.

Hops at Ashford Show.

The hop competition at this show was an especially interesting feature, inasmuch as it included the challenge cup offered by Messrs. Le May to the whole of the hop-growing parishes of England for the best sample, irrespective of district or variety, and also a cup given by gentlemen connected with the hop trade in the Borough for the best-managed sample. For the former there were six, and for the latter ten competitors, including some of the most noted of the Kentish growers. Mr. E. G. Shew, of Bosbury, Hereford, the patentee of the economic hop-drying plant, previously noted in these columns, also entered the field, and, probably to the surprise of the experts, was awarded the honours in both competitions. I understand the rivalry was very keen, Mr. Rogers, who held Messrs. Le May's cup on two previous occasions, running up close. The judges were, however, compelled to give Mr. Shew the preference, not only on account of the excellence of the growth, but also for the splendid management in the kiln. This triumph speaks volumes in favour of the system by which the hops were cured, and I am informed that Mr. Shew's successes aroused much inquiry, and resulted in many orders for the new plant being given in readiness for next season.

The Continent.

There is no need to go into details concerning the recent hop trade in the European centres, as very little change has taken place since my last reports. Pending the near approach of the holidays, the business has been limited, and the general tendency of prices is downward, except for the choice selections, which appear to maintain their previous values.

America.

By a cable message to hand to-day, I am informed that growers are pressing their hops for sale, and are willing to accept very low prices to secure business. Buyers are taking advantage of the depression, which is accentuated by the prevailing scarcity of money, and have bought freely. But my correspondents do not anticipate any improvement in values as the result of these transactions, but, on the contrary, are inclined to predict still further lower prices in the early future. They also refer to large speculative consignments going forward to England without advances—that is, they will be necessarily "dumped" into this market to be sold at any price without reserve. All traders hope that the demand in the new year will be sufficient to grapple with the supplies and prevent the depressing effect they will otherwise produce.

DAIRY.

The Dairy Students' Union.

The first report of the Dairy Students' Union shows that the union has made most satisfactory progress during the nine months of its existence, which is the period covered by the report, it having been decided that owing to the annual general meeting being fixed at the time of the dairy show, in October of each year, the report, statement of finances, &c., should be drawn up to September 30 of each year. When the idea of this institution was first mooted, in December of last year, it was simply thought to form a past Students' Association, in connection with the British Dairy Institute; the promoters, however, after a good deal of consideration, wisely decided that, although originating from the British Dairy Institute, the membership should be thrown open to past dairy students of all dairy schools and dairy departments of colleges in the United Kingdom.

The latter policy was chiefly decided upon, as the dairy industry had no official representation, from the students' standpoint, and it was felt that to form a local body would cramp operations, and limit the result, more or less, to purely social intercourse; whereas sufficient scope presented itself for a society of greater dimensions to undertake work of a useful and educational character.

Subsequent events have fully justified both the formation of the Union and the lines upon which it was framed. The membership list, when first published, consisted of twenty-seven names all told; during the nine months ending September 30, 1907, the number of members increased steadily, and on the date named the total was 155. A most gratifying feature is that the membership includes representatives from all parts of the world, and from almost every dairy college in the British Isles.

A perusal of the statement of accounts shows the total income from all sources to be £30 7s. 6d. This, on the face of it, is quite satisfactory, but when the expenditure is considered, it will be seen that if, on the first year's working at any rate, the income from members' annual subscriptions was alone to be relied upon, the money question would present a real difficulty.

A pleasant feature, however, is that many members have come voluntarily to the rescue, and in view of this the committee is satisfied that the wisest course to pursue for the present is to keep the ordinary subscription at the nominal sum of 2s. 6d., and thus offer no financial obstacle to the enrolment of as large a number of members as possible.

On the whole, the financial position is satisfactory; for, after an expenditure of £28 8s. 2½d., there is a balance in hand of £1 19s. 3½d., in addition to the assets: the estimated value of which amounts to £3 11s. 6d.

It may be mentioned that the objects of the Union are:

(1) To promote social intercourse among dairy students by keeping them in touch with one another, and thus strengthening their interests in the dairying industry generally.

(2) To provide facilities for the discussion of subjects relating to dairying, and to furnish accounts of the doings of old students.

(3) To create and stimulate interest in scientific research and new inventions in the dairy world.

(4) To assist members by bringing under their notice vacancies occurring in different branches of dairying. For this purpose the secretary keeps an employment register, and any member is entitled to place his or her name upon it.

The aims have been fully carried out during the past year, thus making the union of great benefit to all dairy students. The President is Professor F. J. Lloyd, F.I.C.; the Chairman, Mr. C. W. Walker Tisdale; and the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Wilfrid Sadler, Old Basing, Basingstoke, Hants.

Cornwall Dairy Show.

The committee of Cornwall County Dairy Show met at Truro on Wednesday, the Hon. John Boscawen presiding, and revised the proposed prize list. They decided to have classes for Jersey, Guernsey, Shorthorn, and South Devon cows, to be milked and tested in the show; men and women milkers' contests; butter-making for students who have passed through the dairy school, for dairymaids employed in the county, for farmers' wives and daughters, for those not competing in the previous classes, and a champion class for first and second prize winners at the show. Butter-making competitions are also included for girls and boys not above sixteen years of age.

Other classes are for butter, cream, cream cheeses, cheese, bacon, and ham, as well as for goats to be milked and tested in the show and for female kids. It was suggested that there should be classes for poultry trussing and eggs, but it was stated that the accommodation was somewhat limited. However, the Finance Committee are to deal with the suggestion.

It was reported that about £200 had been promised in subscriptions.

Chester Cheese Fair.

Sixteen tons of good average quality cheese were pitched at Chester Cheese Fair, held on Wednesday, when demand was fairly brisk, and a complete clearance was made at the following quotations:—Fine Cheshire, 60s. to 70. per cwt.; medium, 62s. to 65s.; and lower grades, from 60s. upwards per cwt.

At the Poulton-le-Fylde Agricultural Society's annual meeting it was stated that though the entries and the merit of the stock at last year's show was the best recorded, owing to unfavourable weather the gate receipts were £170 less than in the preceding year, when the show was held at Blackpool. Since then members and friends had, however, assisted in giving the society a credit balance of over £41. Next year's show is to be held on August 12. A proposition from the revived Blackpool Society that the two shows should amalgamate was discussed, but no decision was reached.

POULTRY.

Poultry on the Farm.

Following the remarkable impetus given to popular interest in poultry keeping by the rise and extraordinary growth of what is termed "The Fancy," there has been a considerable movement in favour of utility poultry production. It is, however, noteworthy that both these influences have developed to extreme lengths, and that whilst fanciers have invented and perpetrated many curiosities in feathering and contour, appealing more or less to the æsthetical taste, utilitarians have in some directions (as for instance in record laying) allowed their primarily useful enthusiasm to carry them beyond the bounds of practical and profitable production.

There are, however, increasing evidences of a considerable revulsive tendency, and extravagant hopes and statements regarding the all-sufficient profitableness of poultry keeping are now generally giving place to saner ideas and counsels based upon practical experience. Such permanent increase in production for market as has resulted from awakened interest has been chiefly owing to an extension of operations on the part of those to whom these notes are addressed, and to the taking up of poultry keeping by those who have been already engaged in other rural and kindred pursuits. There is also another direction in which production has made a considerable advance, and one which often escapes serious consideration because the produce passes through no market, and its volume can scarcely be estimated even approximately. I refer to the production of poultry and eggs, particularly the latter, for the table of the producer. All such producers have made a very considerable advance, and although the extension of more exact scientific knowledge cannot leave one blind to the fact that their methods are capable of improvement in many particulars, yet one's faith in the general soundness of many of the broad principles of the farm rearer's system remains unshaken. The points of difference and the suggestions for improvement will be thrashed out as they arise.



A FIRST CLASS TURKEY.

Adaptability of Fowls.

Despite this general advance in production, there are many particular instances in which poultry production has been either abandoned altogether, or the fowls have been allowed to remain upon the unremunerative basis of the past. In most cases of this order a little common sense questioning usually elicits the fact that the farmer has not given that attention to the selection of a stock suitable for the situation, soil, and purpose that would naturally influence his selection regarding more important stocking and cropping. He may say that a hen is a hen, but he would not say, with the same inflection of voice and subtlety of meaning, that a cow is a cow; and yet there are differences as great in the one case as in the other, and perhaps greater if we carry analysis far enough.

The keeping of a breed or variety of fowl—not to mention strain—that may be profitable to me might quite conceivably result in a loss in the hands and upon the holding of a neighbour; but apart entirely from the important factor of management in relation to profit, it is very often insufficiently recognised that soil, climate, altitude, aspect, general surroundings, and such influences as unlimited range or confinement to a run or yard are among the conditions which make a particular description suitable or otherwise for the requirements of the individual. It is very well to generalise about breeds, but the breeder of any description of stock knows that it is insufficient for particular purposes, and if through inexperience or bad advice he has stocked (or cropped) ill advisedly, he seeks that which is better suited to his individual circumstances. And in the same way, if he make an unfortunate initial choice of poultry stock, he has learnt a lesson, but has by no means exhausted the resources of domestication in this matter.

Broadly speaking, the nature of fowls is of such a character that they are adaptable to many circumstances and surroundings, as is sufficiently shown in the wide variations observable in the different breeds which have emanated from the common primitive stock, and which has rendered possible their profitable keeping in vastly different climates and situations. Although there may be ideal conditions for poultry keeping, it would be easy to show how experience in selection and common sense in management may largely overcome apparent difficulties.

Limitation of Stock.

Before touching upon more directly seasonable topics, as is the partial intention regarding subsequent notes, something must be said about the custom of indiscriminate and miscellaneous stocking of all kinds of poultry, which is common on so many farms. There are, of course, many circumstances in which most feathered stock may be successfully bred, and if the proceedings are methodically conducted, the continuity of seasonable production materially assists the average profit; but there are many more circumstances in which the endeavour to keep "something of everything" entirely defeats the object by the general reduction (if not entire disappearance) of profit.

In the first place, and following upon the lines of the previous paragraph, it will be obvious on reflection that unless the farm affords the various more or less essential conditions it cannot profitably carry all descriptions of poultry, whose requirements are in many particulars almost diametrically opposed. Although they may adapt themselves to some extent, inequality of profit must accompany equality of conditions. A conglomeration of fowls, ducks, geese, and turkeys will never produce good average returns, although the conditions may be excellent for one description, and probably productive of much more than average results if others were excluded. If, therefore, the situation is found to be favourable for turkey breeding, turkeys should be the chief production, and ducks should be left alone or relegated to a more suitable site—if it exists. Where ducks will thrive, it is probable that fowls will not be kept so successfully, and geese will almost keep themselves where other sorts would starve or necessitate a disproportionate consumption of corn, and so on.

Moreover, apart from the impossibility of one piece of ground being equally suitable for the profitable keeping of birds of all descriptions, there are many evils attending the running together of a mixed stock which militate against the probability of good results from any or all. Watch such a mixed flock at feeding time, and the exhibition will furnish a concrete illustration of the elimination of the weak, if not of the survival of the fit—and the fit in such circumstances will never attain to their fittest condition. As regards breeding in such a crowd, the imperfect maturity is inevitably intensified in the progeny; eggs are not properly or vigorously fertilised, and each succeeding generation shows an increasing lack of vitality, and degeneracy proceeds apace. The habits of the various descriptions are so dissimilar in many ways that interference naturally follows their herding together; and in the above connection it is worthy of note that I have frequently watched a gander systematically prevent fertilisation in the case of fowls, to mention but one instance illustrative of the incompatibility of the mixed system.

Further than this, and apart from the limitations of the situation, there might in many cases be a stricter limit set upon the actual numbers run together in a flock, more particularly as regards the breeding and laying stock. There are very few farmers who might not advantageously eliminate a considerable number of their hens, and thus widen the margin of profit upon the remainder; but to do this successfully there must be an individual knowledge of the birds, such as should be acquired by the observation of the regular attendant upon the poultry. And in respect of fertility, it is not the best plan to run all the hens in one large flock, together with a more or less liberal admixture of cocks and cockerels. Even if the proportion of the sexes be approximately correct as regards the possibilities of fertilisation, the practical results will never square with the theory under such a system. If the flock cannot be easily divided, subdivided, and kept separate, there will be proportionately more profit by a much stricter limitation of the total number, the object of the farmer not being to unduly add to the labour and expense of the poultry department, but to secure the greatest possible profit with such fowls as can be easily managed in conjunction with the ordinary routine.

J. W. Hurst.

Government Aid for the Poultry Industry.

The Earl Carrington as President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries received at 4, Whitehall Place, on the 10th inst., a deputation from the Second National Poultry Conference, appointed for the purpose of submitting to his lordship five resolutions passed by that conference and which concerned his Department.

Col. Williams, M.P., in introducing the deputation, spoke as to the great importance of the National Poultry Conference, as in addition to the large numbers attending, was representative of all the leading societies connected with agriculture and poultry-keeping, and included a considerable number of Colonial and foreign delegates. This conference was the most important ever held in connection with the subject. As it was representative of every section, it could voice the claims and feelings of those concerned with what was becoming a great national industry. Col. Williams stated that the value of the eggs and poultry produced in the United Kingdom amounted to more than £11,000,000 sterling.

Professor Percival, M.A., of University College, Reading, seconded the resolution, and urged especially the value of experimental work in connection with poultry-keeping.

Mr. R. Orlebar, Mr. W. Reynolds (secretary of

the Street Depot), and Mr. B. W. Horne (vice-president of the Utility Poultry Club) also urged the necessity for Government assistance to the poultry industry.

Mr. Edward Brown, F.L.S., hon. secretary to the conference, brought forward a resolution asking that steps be taken for the granting of a national diploma in aviculture similar to those given for dairying, and a further resolution asking that the Board of Agriculture should include poultry in their annual returns as was already done in other countries.

Lord Carrington in his reply thanked the deputation for the clear way in which the various points had been brought forward, and spoke as to the very valuable work which had already been done in the development of the poultry industry by the National Poultry Organisation Society and the Utility Poultry Club, as well as other bodies. He called attention to the fact that there was sitting at the present time a Departmental Committee under the president, Lord Reay, which committee would deal with some of the points which had been submitted by the deputation, and he said that as soon as this committee had reported, he would then be in a better position to consider the matter more fully. He expressed his feeling that any development of poultry-keeping as suggested must necessarily be largely in conjunction with small holdings, and he felt that co operation, so far as the marketing of produce was concerned, was necessary to make such small holdings successful. A grant had been made of £100,000 to the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries for the development of small holdings, and he thought that, subject to the approval of the Treasury, some portion of this sum might be utilised to accomplish the objects the deputation had brought before him. He could not make any promise in this direction, but he assured the deputation that the matter should receive full consideration.

Northern Notes.

DOES it not behove the farming community to treat their labourers well at this critical time in the history of the English land question? Allotments and small holdings are going to be at the disposal of the people, apart from the caprice of landowners or the acquiescence of the large farmers.

THE latter are very often dependent—very greatly dependent—upon their skilled workers—foremen and shepherds and herdsmen—who have their heads screwed on the right way. In other words, these men are almost indispensable.

IN some instances they are absolutely indispensable to the farmer; and how will the latter fare, therefore, if, for want of tact and the display of a good tempered interest in his men, the pick of the lot should leave him and begin a small farm on their own behalf? It will be a sorry day for the so-called gentleman farmer should he lose his right-hand man. Married labourers and those serving in the capacity of hinds have in many instances a piece of land—say, an acre—and it is a piece of wisdom on the part of the master to encourage that man to cultivate it at a profit by lending him a horse and a plough for a few hours at a convenient time when work is not pressing on the farm.

THE help is appreciated, and the out-of-pocket cost to the farm is practically nil. Such a small service, ungrudgingly rendered, goes a long way to make a man contented with his lot, and is an inducement to him to remain on the land. A good labourer, shepherd, or foreman who will make his master's affairs of paramount importance is worth shillings a week more than one who simply does a certain amount of work for a certain wage. Such men would be more plentiful if masters were more considerate, and did not treat their labourers much in the same fashion as they would treat a dog.

NO doubt instances of long periods of tenure of one farm are to be met with all over the country. A notable one was referred to in these notes a fortnight since; another might be mentioned, that of Mr. H. Moore and his ancestors, who have lived on the Burn Butts farm for over 300 years. This is on the Londesborough estate. Mr. Moore owned Rufus and other notable Hackneys.

PERHAPS one of the most remarkable tenancies is that of Mr. John Jowett, senr., who died a short time since at Long Marston, Yorkshire, where his family had farmed for six generations, and the holding has now passed to the sons. The farm is situate within the area of Cromwell's and King Charles' operations when the Royalists suffered a signal defeat at Marston Moor. The farm is on the Ingmanthorpe estate. The deceased was a regular follower of hounds, and one of his most deeply-impressed recollections was the hunting accident at Newby Ferry in 1869, when Sir Charles Slingsby and other gentlemen were drowned in attempting to cross the river Ure in a ferry boat. Sir Charles' hunter became restive in mid-stream, and the boat, crowded with men and horses, was overturned.

THE police in the North are very punctilious in carrying out the Swine Fever Orders, and at one petty sessional court a batch of seven persons were fined for having failed to detain and isolate swine for a period of twenty-eight days. One of the defendants is an auctioneer. There is no doubt the Orders are evaded, and that only a minority of those who break the law are "brought to book."

MR. MANSTEAD, of the Brandsby Farmers' Association, successfully discussed the advisability of establishing a farmers' club at Redcar before a meeting of representative agriculturists. Steps were taken after his address to form a club. The Loftus Farmers' Association sent a deputation to the meeting, and it is highly probable that the new club will agree to a scheme of affiliation Thus the work of organisation is going on slowly but with ever-increasing impetus in the North of Yorkshire where the small thrifty farmers are realising the advantages that must accrue.

NATURALLY a good deal of pride is bounding in the hearts of the Leicester men in the North over the championship success at Smithfield, and Mr. E. F. Jordan, of Eastburn, has received many congratulatory epistles on his achievement. The flock has won premier honours there for Longwoolled sheep five times previously—in 1858 and 1859; then again in 1892, 1894, and 1896. Mr. Jordan's is one of the biggest of any pure-bred flock in the North, between 400 and 500 ewes and gimmer shearlings being put to the ram each season.

MR. JORDAN has just lost one of his landlords in Lord Hotham, of South Dalton Hall. We say "one of his landlords," for Eastburn has a dual ownership, the Hothams and the Bosvilles.

THE Leicester Sheep Society has lost one of its founders and original members by the death of Mr. Joseph Thompson, of Wauldby, whose annual sales on his 900-acre farm in the East Riding of Yorkshire always attracted goodly numbers of his neighbours and many friends and customers from distant parts. Mr. Thompson had an excellent flock, and he was also a breeder of high-class Shorthorns. He was the embodiment of geniality—a fine old English gentleman.

THE Driffield district, noted for its many Hackney breeders, provided the champion beast at Smithfield, as well as the champion Longwoolled sheep.

SOME parts of Yorkshire are in a much worse plight than the more northern counties as a result of the excessive rainfall. Streams are in flood, and large tracts of land were temporarily under water. Sheepfolds were transformed into lakes, and sheep had to be led off and put on grass. Shepherding is carried on with the maximum of discomfort. Swedes are backward, but are still growing. Store sheep are coming to market freely, and make as high as 50s. each. Pigs are a shockingly disappointing trade. Feeders are despondent, and stores are practically unsaleable. Pig feed is dear, and no margin of profit is left.

December 20, 1907.

Mr. James Flower has recently shipped for Chili eight exceptionally grand stud rams just under a year old—one of the best lots of the breed that have left this country for a long time, and they should make their mark in their new home and be a credit to the breed.

Poultry fanciers and gamekeepers will be interested in learning that mustard given to the hens in their morning food is productive of an increased quantity of eggs. The discovery was made nearly two years ago by a well-known gamekeeper, who published the results of his experiments, since which hundreds have tried the same plan with similar results. The mustard appears to warm and stimulate the ovary cells. It is, of course, important that good mustard should be used, and naturally Colman's D.S.F. Mustard is the best for this purpose.

West Country Notes

CHEDDAR is famous now for something besides cheese, and the railway returns just issued show how important the strawberry crop has become. From Cheddar itself nearly 300 tons of fruit were despatched during the year; whilst from the neighbouring station of Draycott, a village centre, sixty-five tons were sent off; and from the tiny township of Axbridge, on the other side of Cheddar, 147 tons were despatched by rail.

THIS is in addition to the great quantities which go by road to neighbouring towns, and those taken away by excursionists who make a day or half-day trip by the excursion trains in the hope of getting the fruit fresh from the gardens.

THERE is a prospect, and a good one, of another industry close akin to strawberry growing being developed. An old friend of mine, who succeeded in producing violets all the year round, said that if he could only get an acre or two of the slopes facing south there, he would not need to work very hard to secure a competency with violet growing for the London, Bath, and Bristol markets.

A HUNTING incident in Dorset was a curious one lately—the unearthing of three foxes and about a dozen rabbits from one hole.

QUITE a large crop of cases against farmers for apparently unwitting breaches of the sheep dipping order have been before the courts in the West within the past week or two; and the magistrates are beginning to impose heavier penalties in consequence, arguing that the orders have now been in force long enough to be well known.

A GREAT deal of interest is taken in the West generally in Lord Tredegar's annual show, and many of the best known horses that travel the district shows were to be found competing there.

WHILST little fault is to be found with the condition of the broccoli crops in the far west of the district, the prices ruling are so low, owing apparently to the general abundance of green food for the table, that the returns from the markets are not so profitable as had been hoped for.

OVERHAULING of the potato stocks, and setting out the early sorts of seed for planting with the coming of February, reveals a shortage of the best sorts, and a consequent enhancement of the prices for early seed potatoes.

THE result of the Christmas fat stock sales in the West has not been particularly promising in all cases, though in a few the prices secured have been fairly satisfactory. The weather has been rather against trade, being close and damp, so that things have not looked their best. The mutton trade has been better than that for beef. The next day or two will doubtless see some improvement, and it is earnestly hoped by the farmers who cater for the trade at Christmas time specially, that some fine, bright, cold weather will encourage buyers to purchase. Trade for stores is very dull.

THE chairman of the Berkeley Hunt Society, one of the most progressive in the West of England, had a proud boast to make at their annual meeting a fortnight ago. It was that the whole of the subscriptions, donations, and entrance fees had been returned in prizes. This he believed to be a record for any society in the kingdom, so far as he knew.

THE past season of the Berkeley Hunt has been a very successful one, and the society are not outdone by any in generosity. The forthcoming visit of the Royal to Gloucester in 1909 gave an opportunity for the display of this quality, and not only did the society vote £25 from their own funds, but numerous subscriptions were promised at the meeting by individual members towards the local fund.

ON the same day that the Berkeley Hunt meets, another of the bigger societies of the West—the Mid-Somerset—were meeting for their annual review of the business of the year, and the officials had a nice little surprise in store for the members in a considerably augmented reserve fund and balance in hand. It was anticipated that the year had been a good one, but as heavy expenditure had been undertaken with a view to future benefits accruing, it was not thought the balance would be very great on the year's work. It proved to be over £80, after meeting all charges.

ONE of the features of the meeting was the judging of the class of cheese kept over from

the show at the beginning of September in charge of the society. The report of the judge, Mr. F. Meade, of Langport, who had nothing to do with the original awards, showed that he placed the champions of September again first, though with a different lot of cheese to that which gained them the honour at the earlier show.

MR. MEADE stated:—"Considering the difficulties of the past season, and the cold stormy weather, which have made dairy work more than ordinarily difficult, I consider the cheese that have been before me a great tribute to the skill and technical ability of the various makers. The best Cheddar was never more appreciated than to-day, and it behoves all dairy people to see that more of the best is produced to meet the increasing demand."

HE had also a good word for a Scotch maker, Mr. R. Stevenson, of Boghead, Galston, Ayrshire, whom he congratulated on his success against some of the best English makers.

BY a curious coincidence the Yeovil Chamber of Agriculture were meeting on the same day as the two others, and at both the Somerset gatherings the formation of a strong Agricultural Party in the House of Commons was warmly advocated.

A RUNAWAY cow at Dorchester was the indirect cause of the fatal accident which has removed one of the best-known carriers of the district—Mr. Charles Tanswell, who was employed by Mr. Hammond, of Blandford. The accident will be much regretted by Tanswell's many friends, who are warm in their sympathy with his relatives.

NOTES AND NEWS OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

The report presented at the annual meeting of the Doncaster Agricultural Society showed that the finances were £28 less than last year, though the receipts had been 19s. 7d. more than in the previous year. The president, Mr. G. D. C. Yarborough, said the society got poorer and poorer. They still had a balance of £133, and that, he imagined, would justify them in holding the show for another year. Of course, if the time arrived when they had not sufficient in the bank to guarantee them against loss, it would not be safe or fair to anybody connected with the society to attempt to have a show.

At a recent meeting of the Staffordshire Chamber of Agriculture, Stafford, the following resolution was carried unanimously:—"That the Staffordshire Chamber of Agriculture have received with the greatest satisfaction the report of the Organising Committee of the Central Chamber, and respectfully submit the urgent necessity that a committee should be formed without loss of time to create and maintain an Independent Agricultural Parliamentary Party; and, further, the Chamber ask the Central Chamber at their next meeting to proceed at once to appoint a committee (irrespective of any political party) on the broadest possible basis, so as to embrace landlords, tenant farmers, and labourers in one compact body, and that the committee do proceed without delay to organise and maintain such a body."

At the annual meeting of the Barnstaple Union Agricultural Association a letter was read from Mr. R. M. Rowe (clerk) on behalf of Ilfracombe Urban District Council inviting the association to hold their 1908 show at Ilfracombe, where the council would place Hillsboro Park, and possibly an adjoining field, at the disposal of the association, besides the Alexandra Hall in the evening, but the Park could not be closed on a public holiday. Mr. R. B. Sanders mentioned that a committee had visited Ilfracombe to see what site would be available. When the show was established at Braunton, it was understood it would be held also at Barnstaple and Ilfracombe, but they had broken faith with the latter place in not having held it there. The committee considered the ground at Ilfracombe suitable, and were unanimous in recommending that the show be held at Ilfracombe next year. He proposed that the show be held there, and the resolution was carried unanimously. The balance-sheet for the past year showed receipts £466 4s. 6d., and a balance in hand of £32 5s. 8d. The refreshments, last year in the hands of the committee, showed a profit of £5 10s. 2d. Mr. R. Lake, of Ilfracombe, was elected president for the ensuing year.

Essex Notes.

ALTHOUGH we have had a considerable amount of rain this week, no one could wish for better weather than that for three weeks or a month previously. It is not an unusual occurrence to be quite unable to use the Cambridge roll—a capital implement—at all in December, but this year it could be employed capitally, after the plough, upon the clover lays or old grass lays. These latter some occupiers know little about because of the prejudicial feeling they entertain against them, and, as a consequence, will not leave them for a second year. Perhaps a few notes on the advisability or otherwise of leaving grass mixture or clover lays for two years may be useful.

THE best way will be, in my opinion, to give my own experience. [I shall be glad of comments in the MARK LANE EXPRESS from those whose experience has taught them differently.]

THIS last haysel I had more stover on the twelve acres of old lay than the previous year; then it was new, of course. Some may say it was because of the nice rains we had, which were very helpful for our light land. The rains helped considerably, of course, and so did the good coat of manure given about Christmas or January. Always manure both years if possible.

THREE or four years ago the same thing happened then. I had a better mow the second year than the first. Then it was trefoil (a small quantity only), red clover, and Pacey grass; last year the seed was a two-year lay mixture.

SO that my experience of two-year lays is an encouraging one.

THE difficulty of getting a plant of wheat after it is the question, some say. With wet weather there is a difficulty; unless the roll is kept going very often in the spring the plant goes off somewhat, or a good deal perhaps. After old layers are ploughed for wheat—some break them up first, while others leave them for spring oats—roll them well, and, after the drill, rib roll them both ways of the field.

A DRESSING of salt—preferably fish salt—is very helpful in destroying that nasty little fellow, the wireworm, who likes the undisturbed home he has thus had for two years.

A FARMER near me says he has left his fallow land entirely to get on with his sowing, and a very advisable way of going on in a late year, in my opinion.

"HIGHER prices, bigger rents!" I will not be a grumbler, but 36s. for the wheat and 30s. for the barley is not a gold mine by a long way. Oh! how I wish lots of those who talk so loudly about farmers' profits could be made to start in that business at once. If I had my way they should be compelled to give orders to their men the very next Monday that comes; before many months some hotel proprietor on the South Coast or elsewhere would be the better off for their sojourn there in search of health after undergoing the difficulties they knew not of. These folks are good fellows in their way no doubt, but I guarantee it will be a long while before they are anxious to come "back to the land" that did not answer them properly because they did not know how to talk to it. J. B. M.

Questions and Answers.

FARM.

How to Dress Grass Land.—I have two fields of 15 acres of land (heavy), and for the last five years have given it good dressings of horse manure. I mow every year, and allow some horses to run out during the autumn and winter. I do not consider the yields give a sufficient return, considering the amount of manure I put on the land. I cleaned out this autumn a large pool, which yielded six good loads of mud, &c.; I carted it by the side of the horse manure, and mixed it up with 2 tons of lime. Would you advise me to turn and mix all together—that is, the mud, lime, and stable manure; or put the mud and lime in one part of a field and rotten stable manure in another? Would the lime interfere with the stable manure? I may say I have one field of 7 acres left to manure Could you suggest an artificial manure that I could put on to advantage before the new grass begins to grow?—READER.

ANSWER: The manuring afforded by grazing horses in the autumn and winter will not be great. What becomes of the aftermath? Is it grazed by horses? As to the compost formed by mixing pond mud and lime in the proportion of three to one, this will form a valuable dressing, but will be insufficient for more than one, or one and a half, acres. It is never advisable to mix lime with dung, and I advise you not to mix the compost with dung, although there can be little doubt the lime is perfectly dead and has lost all its causticity. You may safely apply the compost and the dung on the same ground if desired, but I think I should apply separately and note the results. As to artificials, it seems to me that your land will probably be much benefited by an application of basic slag, and I should advise you to dress the whole of it with from 6 to 7 cwt. of basic slag to the acre. If any part receives neither dung nor compost, give that part, in addition to the slag, about 1 cwt. of nitrate of soda per acre in the beginning of April. Apply the slag as early as you can before Christmas if possible.

VETERINARY.

Heifer with Warts.—I have a yearling heifer which has got four growths under her belly about 1¾ in. diameter. I think they are what we call warts. They are only growing from the skin, and are not painful when you press them. If you could advise me how to remove them, and with as little suffering to the animal as possible, I should feel much obliged, as it spoils the look of her. And I think now would be a very good time to attend to her, as there are no flies to torment her at this season of the year.—C. H.

ANSWER: Thanks for your lucid description and sketch. We are able to confirm your suggestion that the excrescences are what are called "warts" sometimes "nanberries," "anberries" or "angleberries." Also that they are warts of the pedunculate variety—that is, growths having a narrow neck or attachment. This form of wart is the least difficult of any to deal with, because it lends itself so readily to removal by ligature. This acts by strangulating the growth, or cutting off the supply of blood by which it is nourished, causing it to atrophy, or die and drop off. The ligature material may consist of stout suture silk, button-hole twist, "flourishing" thread, wax-end, or whip cord. The best form of knot is the double-hitch or scaffolder's knot, with the ends left just long enough to take a pull at, as the ligature cuts into the neck of the excrescence. You are right as to the present being the best time to remove such growths, and you would do well to set about it at once.—M.R.C.V.S.

A Splint Question.—Happening to read something about splints in your paper, I thought I would mention a case which has come to my notice. A particular friend had a four-year-old cob which developed a splint at the age of three years. After it had been on about twelve months he got into conversation with a man who had formerly been in a trotting stable in America, and latterly was in the employ of an English trainer of trotters. He said he could take the splint off with a bottle he had. I was very sceptical, and advise I my friend not to let him tamper with it, for fear of causing permanent injury, especially as the cob was not lame; and was greatly surprised on meeting my friend some few weeks after to find the splint had entirely disappeared. I do not think it much improvement, as there is a blemish the size of a walnut, without hairs. The cob, however, is sound and working well.

ANSWER: Many thanks for your interesting note. There is really nothing in it contradictory of the remarks quoted from Fitzwygram's work, which, after stating that "a splint when once fully formed into bone cannot be removed," goes on to say: "The absorption of a portion of the deposit, especially when newly formed, may, however, be resisted and hastened by the use of artificial stimulants." It is not in the least likely that the whole of the deposit was absorbed in the case you describe, and the remains could probably have been detected by careful examination—certainly post-mortem. The sequel, however, is significant, and more than justifies Fitzwygram's caution that "blemishes more serious than the splint are often produced in attempts to remove it." You say: "I do not think it much improvement, as there is a blemish the size of a walnut, without hair." This would attract the attention of many whose notice the existence of a splint would escape.—M.R.C.V.S.

LEGAL.

Ditch Blocked.—I own my farm. I have a field with a 9-in. socket pipe right across this field, then goes under the road through a square culvert, which is full of mud and water, then into an open ditch down a wood, full same as culvert. This ditch has not been emptied for several years. It is filling my 9 in. pipe full of sand, and backing other drains that come into this pipe, and backing the whole lot up. Is it the surveyor of the road or the owner of the wood that I must complain to?—ANXIOUS.

ANSWER: Both the road authorities and the owner of the wood are bound to keep the ditch open, so that the effluent from your pipe can flow. It does not seem to me to make any difference to whom you complain. For preference, I should complain to the surveyor, as he is the more likely to move quickly.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

Roof Leaking.—I bought some cottages two years ago, and the roof of one of them is very feeble, and the tenant has complained. Should the roof fall in and do any damage, could the tenant claim any compensation Will you give me a copy of a notice? The agreement is give or take a quarter's notice on any quarter day; must the notice be given before quarter day, or would it be law on quarter day?—G. H.

ANSWER: Unless there was an agreement to keep the roof and outside walls in repair the tenant cannot claim for compensation. Notice should be given before quarter day as follows:—To Mr. ——, I hereby give you notice to quit and deliver up on the —— day of —— 190—, all that cottage and premises [describe the premises] situate at —— in the county of ——, which you now hold of me as tenant. Dated this —— day of ——, 190—, [Signature.]—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

POULTRY.

Three Fattening Questions.—Would you please tell me (1) if you agree with cockerels being shut up to fatten? (2) How long should they be shut up? (3) What ought they to be fed on?—A. E.

ANSWER: (1) It depends entirely on the age of the birds and whether they have been run on too long to make confinement in the coops of but little use. When cockerels have reached the age of from seven months upwards it is but very little use trying to fatten them, but if placed in fattening coops with a run attached a half to six months old, most excellent results are obtained. (2) They should be hand fed for about a fortnight, and after that crammed for from seven to ten days, but if they go off their food before the end of the fortnight—say at from seven to nine days—then they require a fortnight's cramming. (3) The birds should be fed on ground oats mixed with milk and prepared fat, made into a rather soft state then no water is required for drinking.

SHOWS.

Ashford Fat Stock Show.

With a history extending over half a century, there is much that might be written in connection with the Ashford fat stock show that would be full of interest to our present-day breeders. Many reminders of this unique record of the society were seen at the exhibition—its fiftieth annual show—held on Monday and Tuesday last. Amongst the more striking was the very handsome Jubilee Challenge Cup offered by the Association for the best bullock in the show, this cup being of the value of fifty guineas, and having to be won three times before becoming the absolute property of the winner. Naturally, there was a very keen desire on the part of not only the regular supporters of this show, but others also, to enter into competition for this and the other valuable prizes offered in celebration of its Jubilee.

Cattle.

We have not before us the history of this association in full detail, but it may pretty well be taken for granted that the breed of the champion bullock at this year's show, Mr. T. Wotton's grand Aberdeen-Angus steer, first in its class, &c , at the present show, was a breed not known in the district when the society was first inaugurated. The rn for this honour was, however, well known at that period, for it was a Sussex owned by the president of the association for the current year, Mr. Lawrence Hardy, M.P. The keenness and closeness of the competition for this honour was quite noticeable by reason of the time and care occupied by the judges in arriving at their decision.

Taking the classification in order of catalogue, the Sussex breed comes first, its entry and the number of competitors present was highly satisfactory, its breed cup winner referred to above was a specially good steer, as also were its herd mates that won the rn in the older steer class, and fourth honours in the younger steer class.

Another fine specimen of the breed, Mr. G. Ward's steer, was second in the older steer class. The Earl of Derby, with a very choice specimen, took third honours in this class, and following up this success his lordship's entries won first and breed cup in the older heifer class, first in the younger heifer class, first and second in the younger steer class, and rn in the calf class, a well deserved series of success. Second honours in the two heifer classes went to Mr. W. Cattley for animals bred respectively by the late Earl Winterton and Mr. J. Godman. Third honours in the younger steer class went to Mr. W. S. Horne, and first and second honours in the calf class to two very superior and choice steers owned by Messrs. D. Swaffer and A. J. Hickman.

In the Aberdeen-Angus and Galloway section Mr. T. Wotton's champion steer led in its class, followed by two of its herd mates as rn and hc, and Messrs. W. J. May and Sons' very choice and well-fed heifer as second. Mr. W. W. Berry took first and second honours in the younger class.

Amongst the entries in the four classes for any other pure breed or cross-bred not included in the other section, we found some particularly good Devons, a breed that won first honours in the older male and female class for Messrs. W. J. May and Sons, and second honours in the older male class for Mr. G. B. Cooper.

In the older heifer class the Shorthorns claimed second place with an excellent specimen owned by Mr. J. P. Barnes, and two other very fine animals of the same breed, owned by Sir H E Dering and Mr. R. W. Wood, won the leading position in the younger heifer class.

The calf class was an excellent one, three cross-breds of great promise, owned by Sir H. E. Dering, Messrs. W. W. Berry, and H. Hubble, occupying the three leading positions.

Sheep.

The Kent or Romney Marsh sheep came out in great force, the quality and merit of the entries being remarkably good. Mr. T. Wotton was first and second for wethers, and first and reserve for wether lambs, champion honour and its reserve going to the two leading pens. Mr. C. Gordon Neame was third and reserve for wethers, the Exors. of W. Elvy and the Hon. S. P. Tufton second and third for wether lambs.

In the ewe lamb class Sir H. E. Dering, Mr. C. Gordon Neame, and Lord Hothfield were placed in the order named.

An excellent class of wether lambs, in which the winners were the resultant produce of the Kent and Southdown breeds, afforded excellent examples of the value of the Romney Marsh sheep for cross-breeding purposes. Sir H. E. Dering was first and rn, followed by Messrs. R. Kenward and Rickards and Finn.

Mr. W. M. Cazalet was first and cup winner in the Southdown section for very choice sheep, his lamb entries taking first and second also. Second prize for wethers and rn for lambs went to the Wye Agricultural College.

Pigs.

The pig entry was not a large one, but its merit was good; Mr. E. Ascherson, Capt. S. Webb, Sir H. E. Dering, and Mr. S. Neame were amongst the leading winners.

Wool.

The exhibit of wool was one of the best we have seen for a very long time. Twenty-eight entries were to the fore, and champion honours in this strong contest, together with two first prizes, went to Messrs. L. H. and G. W. Finn. A first prize and r champion went to Mr. E. B. Dunster, two seconds to Mr. R. S. Strouts, and one to Mr. J. E. Quested. The other sections of the show secured full and good support.

Royal Dublin.

In common with shows on this side of the Channel, the entries at the Royal Dublin Society's winter show of cattle, sheep, butter, cheese, honey, grain, roots, and poultry, held at Balls Bridge recently, showed a falling off, for whereas last year's total was 2,030, last week the number was 1,848. Happily, however, there was a substantial increase in the most important of the sections. Fat cattle showed an increase of forty-five and sheep an increase of five, the falling away in entries being largest in the poultry section, which numbered 725 against 808. There was a reduction of eighty-one in the dairy-produce class, the number being 219 this year, as against 300 in 1906, whilst in field produce, including grain and roots, there was a decrease of sixty, the total this year being 549, as against 617 last year.

As to the cattle, the general tone of the animals was better, their being fewer weeds and more useful looking beef animals, but the style and finish of the champions and principal prize winners were hardly so choice or of such a high character as those which appeared for the leading winners during the last three years. If there was anything remarkable to be noted in the progress of fat cattle at this show, it was the ever-increasing influence for the improvement of beef by the Aberdeen-Angus breed.

Mr. M. Frank's in-fed aged Tulloch, which won the first place in its class, carried off the special Paul Vincent prize, as well as the Lord Lieutenant's gold medal, and the *Farmers' Gazette* Cup, the premium championships of the show. It was a fine, plump, deeply-fleshed Aberdeen-Angus, not so well finished in the quarters as winners of previous years, but with plenty of the best quality of meat. Another prominent animal among the in-feds was Mr. Nash's first prize-winner in the younger oxen class. A blue-grey cross-bred Angus. He was very thick and fully fleshed all over, but not so ripe, being younger in years than the champion, which beat him in the Paul Vincent prize, and thus prevented him appearing in the championship. In the younger heifer class for in-feds there was a strong tussle between Mr. Nash's Aberdeen-Angus and the same owner's Shorthorn. The latter ultimately won with his better figure, although the Aberdeen-Angus was by far the riper and plumper beast, and carried a better quality of flesh, if his lines were not so good. Mr. Nash's Shorthorn then appeared as reserve for the championship, and the *Farmers' Gazette* prizes to Mr. Frank's champion.

The Padiham Agricultural Society's next show will be held at Padiham on Thursday, August 13th, 1908.

Trade Notice.—Breeders who have been unfortunate enough to have had an outbreak of abortion in their herds will read with interest pamphlet on the Kynazon Treatment for the Prevention and Cure of Abortion in Cattle. The Kynazon treatment was the discovery of a well-known Scottish veterinary surgeon, who devoted the greater part of his life to the study of abortion. Impressed with the disastrous results to farmers through this dreaded scourge, and favoured with special opportunities for the pursuit of his researches, he made thorough and painstaking investigations in order that he might find out a cure that would be simple and economical, and at the same time certain in its results. The outcome of his labours have been tested in hundreds of cases in the most careful and complete manner, with unqualified success. The Kynazon treatment consists of the internal application of certain powders, thorough disinfecting by means of a liquid, which destroys the germs locally, and of a process of fumigation by means of which the animal inhales the germ-killing air into its lungs continuously, from whence it is taken into the blood, thus insuring complete eradication of the bacillus after a few weeks. This is an entire reversal of the old-fashioned method, the fundamental idea of which was at fault without a doubt. Complete extermination of the microbe is absolutely essential, and this is what the Kynazon treatment effects. The cost of treatment, which is by no means expensive, is given in the pamphlet mentioned, a copy of which can be had on application to Mr. J. J. Forbes, manufacturing veterinary chemist, Denny, N.B.

Judges for the Bath and West at Dorchester.

The following have accepted as judges for the society's meeting at Dorchester on May 27, 28, 29, 30, and June 1, 1908:—

HORSES.—Agricultural—J. T. C. Eadie, The Rock, Newton Solney, near Burton-on-Trent. Hunters—W. A. Harford, Petty France, Badminton. Hackneys—A. Rowell, West Rudham Hall, King's Lynn, Norfolk. Ponies—Rev. E. A. Milne, M.F.H., Chilfroome, Dorchester. Harness and Jumping—R. A. Sanders, Barwick House, Yeovil.

CATTLE.—Devon—C. L. Hancock, The Manor Farm, Cothelstone, Taunton. South Devon—J. Carpenter, Pengellys, Alphington, Exeter. Shorthorn and Dairy—J. T. Hobbs, Maisey Hampton, Fairford. Hereford—J. H. Yeomans, Withington, Hereford. Sussex—T. Bannister, Limehurst, Haywards Heath, Sussex. Aberdeen-Angus—C. W. Schroeter, Bella Vista, Haywards Heath, Sussex. Jersey—J. A. Perree, Oaklands, St. Saviour's, Jersey. Guernsey—J. D. Toogood Parsons, Manor View, Rusthall, Tunbridge Wells. Kerry and Dexter—F. A. Hordern, Buxted, Sussex.

SHEEP.—Cotswold—G. Freeman, Sherborne, Northleach, R.S.O., Gloucester. Devon Long Wool—E. R. Berry Torr, Instow, R.S.O, North Devon. Lincoln—R. Wright, Nocton Heath, Lincoln. Southdown—H. Penfold, La Bagatelle, The Grove, Blackheath. Hampshire Down—C. Stanford, Breamore, Salisbury. Shropshire—J. E. Farmer, Felton, Ludlow. Oxford Down—W. D. Little, Middleton Stoney, Bicester. Dorset Down—G. M. Roberts, Everley Farm, Blandford. Dorset Horn—C. B. Stiby, Bradford Peverell, Dorchester. Exmoor Horn—T. Crick, Great Ash, Winsford, Dulverton.

PIGS.—Berkshire—J. P. King, North Stoke, Wallingford. Large Black—J. Bastard, Tinten Manor, St. Tudge, R.S.O., Cornwall. Large and Middle White, Tamworth, and Any Breed—J. Hallas, Cliffe View, 18, Bedford Street, Stockton Heath, Warrington.

PRODUCE.—Cider—J. Bennett, Down House, Dursley, Glos. Cheese—E. Hill, Stratton House, Evercreech, S.O. Cream Cheese, Butter, and Cream—W. J. Grant, Pentonville, Newport, Mon.

COMPETITIONS.—Butter-Making—Professor Carroll, 1, Rostrevor Terrace, Rathgar, Dublin, and W. J. Grant, County Council Offices, Pentonville, Newport, Mon. Milking—R. Hoskins, Beard Hill, Shepton Mallett. Horse-Shoeing—Chas. Sheather, F.R.C.V.S., 50A, York Terrace, Regent's Park, London, N.W.

SHOW GOSSIP.

At the last meeting of the Royal Ulster Agricultural Society a draft prize list for the spring show of 1908 was submitted and adopted. The principal alterations and additions are as follow:—Classes for both Clydesdale and Shire geldings and fillies, three years old, to include animals four years old; class for three year old colts, geldings, or fillies, suitable for draught purposes and the property of Ulster farmers, to be open to animals two or three years old; and the class for two years old deleted, a class to be provided in the draught horses in gear section for Irish-bred clean-legged cart horses and lorries (Clydesdale and Shire horses not eligible to compete). It was resolved to delete the rule in this section requiring that all horses shall have been in the possession of the exhibitor at least two months previous to the show. It was also agreed to delete the rule prohibiting first prize-winners in single harness at the 1907 horse show competing at this show. It was decided to provide a new jumping competition for horses that had never won a first prize in any jumping competition.

In the cattle section it was agreed to give two classes for yearling Shorthorn heifers—one for those calved on or before March 31, 1907, and one for those calved on or after April 1, 1907. The milking trial class, for cows of any breed or cross-bred exceeding 900 lb. live weight, to be deleted, and a class for cows of any pure breed, entered in or eligible for entry in their respective herd-books, substituted. The Dudley Challenge Cup, value 100 guineas, to be offered for the best group of Aberdeen-Angus cattle, and the Queen Victoria Challenge Cup, value 50 guineas, for the best yearling Shorthorn bull bred in Ireland and the property of an Irish exhibitor. It was agreed to offer with these cups silver medals commemorative of the wins. It was resolved to delete the rule requiring all animals in milk, except those entered in the milking trials, to be clean milked out after six o'clock on the evening previous to the show, and also to cancel the rule that two-year-old Ayrshire heifers must not calve before January 1 succeeding the date of the show.

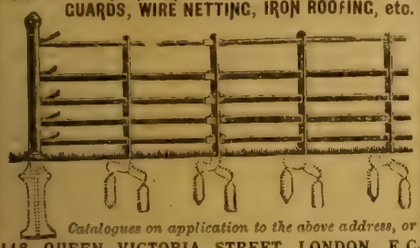
In the pig section, two classes to be allocated for Large White Ulster pigs—viz., boar, any age, and sow, any age, with prizes of £5, £4, and £1 in each. Animals entered in these classes must be entered previous to the date of the show in the society's register of the breed.

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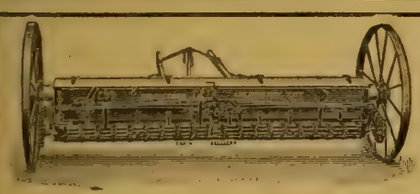
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Increase of Subscription to New Members joining after January 1, 1908.

THE Directors of the Country Gentlemen's Association, Ltd., have resolved that on and after January 1, 1908, the subscription for membership for new members shall be one guinea per annum, to include the "Country Gentleman's Estate Book" yearly, the "Estate Magazine" monthly, and all other members' privileges, instead of 10s. 6d. per annum as heretofore.

The subscription for existing members, and all who join before December 31 next will continue at the latter figure. Subscriptions from new members will now be accepted for 1908.

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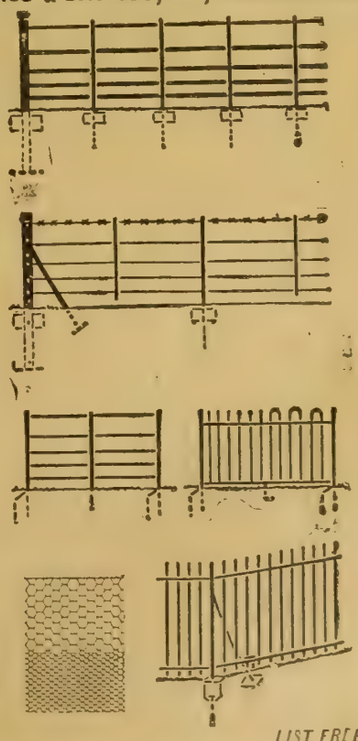
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Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

The Calculation of Equivalent Manurial Values.

There was a good attendance at the ordinary general meeting, held on the 9th inst., at the Surveyors' Institution in London, to hear Mr. George Cawkwell Phillips read his paper on this important subject.

Following the paper a discussion—all too short—took place, in which Mr. Langridge, Mr. Somerville, Mr. Ingram, Mr. Hughes, and others took part.

For tenant farmers it is important that the decisions of professional valuers should be framed on a uniform basis, which should be fair both to the outgoing and incoming tenants, whereas at present differences of method are prevalent.

The paper of Mr. Phillips is a valuable contribution to a subject bristling with difficulties, and will have served a good purpose if it helps to the formation of more uniform ideas.

After some preliminary remarks, Mr. Phillips said:—

The previous discussions on the subject have centred round two different methods of arriving at the value required:—(1) By taking a proportion of the cost price of the feeding stuffs purchased and used on the holding, and (2) by calculating the commercial value of three of the principal manurial elements contained in such food, and taking a proportion of their total value.

Both these methods are equally open to the allegation that they are in some respects haphazard and arbitrary in the way in which the proportions are arrived at. In taking a third, or a sixth, or a twelfth of the cost of the food, no one can assign a reason why, instead of these proportions, eleven-eighteenths or nineteen-thirtysixths or five-twelfths should not be allowed, except that, to the old-fashioned unscientific valuer, it is easier to divide by three or six or twelve.

If the figures be taken in Lawes and Gilbert's tables as revised by Voelcker and Hall, the same arbitrary element is introduced by only allowing half the value of the nitrogen and three-quarters of the phosphoric acid in the food used during the last year, and deducting half the total value for each previous year, in which a crop has been taken.

The merit of both methods is that each system affords a uniform basis for the valuer to work upon, and at least supplies a fixed starting point. But it seems to me that there is a strong and unavoidable element of approximation to the true value in both methods of calculation, which by the very nature of the subject can never be ascertained with the precision to which we are accustomed in dealing with mathematical certainties. Until the general body of valuers become better accustomed to the methods of science, I think it will be advisable to recognise a transition stage, and accord to opposing valuers the right to adopt which basis they deem best in the interest of their respective clients; and where the differences between them cannot be agreed upon, to leave the decision to an arbitrator, who would be free to adopt either basis, or having heard and checked the results obtained by each valuer, could at his own discretion award the amount of compensation on one or the other of the two bases, or on the generally recognised alternative basis of splitting the difference.

It is not like weighing up tea or sugar, gold or diamonds, in each of which operations some allowance has to be made for the turn of the scale; but in this matter, as Mr. Trustram Eve very truly says at the commencement of his paper, "We are dealing with an item of valuation which cannot be viewed, measured, or weighed," and in settling the amount of such valuation the judgment of an experienced valuer of good standing will always have to be relied upon as the final court of appeal—tables, chemists, analyses, and experiments notwithstanding. All these are no doubt valuable in their several places, and calculated to assist the valuer in arriving at his conclusions, but after all it is the well-balanced brain of an individual man that has to ascertain all the facts and in the end to decide the point at issue.

In order to illustrate the mental chaos which prevails at present with regard to the whole question of compensation for feeding stuffs purchased and consumed on the holding, I have tabulated the customary allowances adopted in twenty-eight counties, leaving my hearers to calculate out the money values in each case as compared with those obtained by adopting the basis of manurial value instead of cost of food.

I think the result will clearly prove the need of an act of compulsory uniformity and the establishment of a universal standard of value such as we have in the currency of the realm.

The exact sum to be paid to the outgoer in respect of the feeding stuffs which he has used on his holding is not, under the new Act, to be the cost, or any part of the cost, *qua* cost of what he bought, but it is to be the full value of "something" which he cannot take away with him; "something" which the law recognises to be his property, but which he is compelled to leave behind on quitting his holding.

It is assumed that the outgoer, if he remained on his holding, would be able to get the full benefit of this "something" himself in the growth of successive crops for which this "something" is useful; but because he has to leave the holding and some one else will farm the land, he is prevented from realising the value of his property himself, and the Act provides that the succeeding tenant or ingoer shall pay such a sum as this kind of improvement will be worth to him.

In other words, the outgoer is to be put into the same position, so far as regards this "something" which he leaves behind, as he would have been in had he remained on the holding long enough to exhaust the total value of the improvement himself.

The two questions to be answered are these:—

1. What is the nature of the "something" we are dealing with?

2. How is its money value to be ascertained?

The answer to the first question is that the "something" is a combination of certain chemical elements essential to the growth of plants, such as are usually produced on an agricultural holding.

These elements, combined with other matter, formerly existed in the food purchased by the outgoer and eaten by his live stock; part of the food went to increase the weight of the bullocks, sheep, or pigs which consumed it, and the outgoer had the benefit of this in the prices realised.

The Act does not touch this part of the purchased food. It only deals with that portion which has been transformed from a food form into farmyard manure, and is equivalent to so much artificial manure.

The cost of the food, whether cheap or dear, only affects the profit or loss on the live stock fed and sold by the outgoer. The value of the residue is alone contemplated by the Act as the subject of compensation for which the outgoer has a right to claim, and the ingoer is required to pay.

(To be continued.)

Norwegian Saltpetre.

(Nitrate of Lime.)

We are glad to hear that farmers in this country will have an opportunity of testing the value of the new fertiliser, nitrate of lime.

During the coming season it will be on offer only in small trial lots, but, according to information supplied to us, there will be regular supplies on a large scale in a few years.

For some time a fully-equipped factory has been at work in Norway manufacturing this new fertiliser. It is made by the direct process of burning the atmosphere in a special electric furnace and absorbing the nitrous fumes in water as nitric acid and combining the acid with lime to furnish a commercial product.

It contains about 13 per cent. of nitrogen, equal to about 16 per cent. of ammonia, and the manufacturers claim for it that it fully equals nitrate of soda as a nitrogenous manure, and in cases where the ground is deficient in lime has given even better results.

We may point out that this Norwegian saltpetre (nitrate of lime) is a different material to calcium cyanamide (lime nitrogen), which was introduced a couple of seasons ago on this market in small trial lots, and with regard to which we have several times reported the results of experiments made by different agricultural institutions. No doubt some time will elapse before these new nitrogenous commodities are regularly at the disposal of farmers, but we would recommend our readers who use nitrogenous fertilisers to give them a small trial if they have the opportunity, and to encourage their introduction in the market.

They will in time afford a healthy competition to nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia, and tend to keep down the prices of these articles.

Salmon as Fertiliser.

At the United States fishery on Battle Creek 23,000,000 salmon eggs have been taken, and at the Mill Creek fishery, near Tehama, the total take is 16,000,000. After the salmon have been stripped of their spawn the fish are given away, and great numbers are used by farmers as fertiliser for fruit trees.

We are willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

Cod Liver Oil Condiment.

To the Editor of the MARK LANE EXPRESS.

SIR,—I should feel obliged if you would kindly analyse enclosed sample of Cod Liver Oil Condiment.

I had some packets at first for trial, but the present lot seems to me too dry, with a mouldy sort of smell. The other had a nice fresh smell. Any information as to the same, &c., will oblige—

FAIR.

* Result of analysis:—

Fat	15·03
Nitrogen	2·03
(Equal to albuminoids)	12·69
*Mineral matter	7·80
*Containing sand	0·70

The sample is rich in fat and contains a fair quantity of albuminoids, and the sand is not too high.

Pig Food.

To the Editor of the MARK LANE EXPRESS.

SIR,—I have an offer of some "Pig Food" at £3 7s. 6d. per ton, said to contain

7 per cent. albuminoids.
3 ,, fat.

Carbohydrates not stated.

May I ask whether the whole of the

(*a*) Albuminoids is digestible?

(*b*) If not, what percentage is digestible?

(*c*) What percentage of carbohydrate it contains?

(*d*) The value of the food?

(*e*) Is it suitable for cow feeding?

WATCHFUL.

* Results of analysis:—

Moisture	10·70	per cent.
Oil (fat)	5·17	,,
Albuminoids	7·31	,,
Carbohydrates	39·44	,,
Indigestible fibre	34·53	,,
*Mineral matter	2·85	,,
	100·00	,,
*Containing sand	0·25	,,

The sample is up to the guarantee, but contains a large quantity of indigestible matter, and would need to be fed with care. The other questions put by "Watchful" can scarcely be answered except by very special analysis.

Variation in Quality of Linseed Cake.

When buying linseed cake it is desirable to note carefully the percentage of oil and albuminoid guaranteed by the seller, because the proportions of these valuable ingredients are subject to considerable variation, and affect the relative feeding value of different linseed cakes, even although both may be "pure." As Mr. Kirkham points out in his report, there has been a considerable falling off in the quality of linseed cakes during the past year, and to illusrrate this fact he gives the following analyses of average composition for three years:—

	1903-4.	1904-5.	1905-6.
Number of samples	20	17	23
Moisture	11·15	11·07	10·65
Oil	10·27	10·57	9·52
Albuminoids	32·56	31·90	28·89
Soluble carbohydrates	30·94	31·63	36·75
Fibre	8·81	8·85	7·59
Ash	6·27	5·98	6·60
	100·0	100·0	100·0
Food units	138·0	137·9	132·8

The average quality of the first two years is practically the same, but the supplies of the last year show a very serious diminution in both oil and albuminoids, and a consequent increase in the amount of carbohydrates, the result being that the cakes of the last year are worth about 6s. less money, calculated on their feeding value.

The cause of this deterioration is probably to be found in the increased value of the linseed oil, owing to the great demand for it, and consequent enhanced value.

The increase in the soluble carbohydrates points to the presence of starchy impurities, which the microscope has revealed to be the case in a large number of samples, and this fault is usually an indication of foreign manufacture.

Rice Meal.

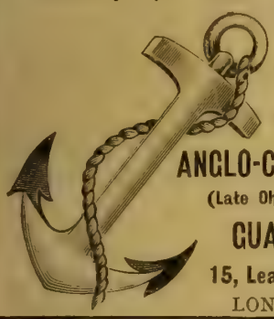
At its present market price rice meal is a cheap food. According to the report of the analyst of the County Technical Laboratories, Essex, rice meal (Burmese) of good quality is a very economical food, and suitably fed, is one which is worth the farmer's attention, but the quality should be guaranteed and buyers should have samples tested.

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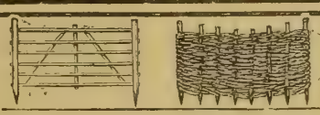
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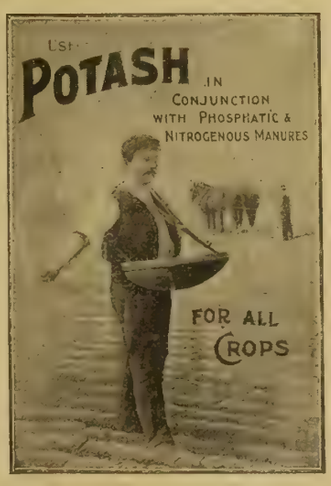
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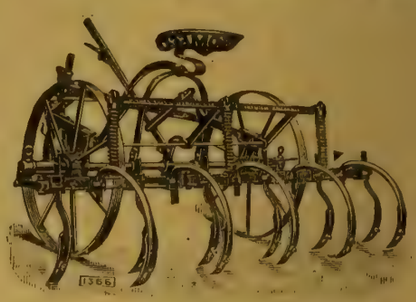
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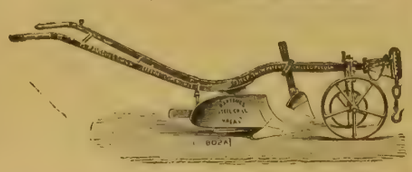
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Mark Lane Express
Agricultural Journal
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Live Stock Record.
ESTABLISHED 1832.

DECEMBER 23, 1907.

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CHRISTMAS.

A merry Christmas! Once again it is our privilege to express the old, old wish to readers one and all, and we do it in a spirit of goodwill and sincerity. Men come and men go, changes take place in the world around us, but the true spirit of Christmas remains unchanged and unchangeable as years and centuries roll along.

We have Scrooges amongst us, of course, just as they had at the time when Dickens immortalised the character, who deride the spirit of Christmas, and loving to be miserable themselves, they would like everybody else to share their feelings of discontent. Fortunately, however, their whinings fail to upset the spirit of Christmas, when old folks grow young again in the memory of the festive season in the years of long ago. There is little enough time in this age of commercial strife to give way to sentiment, but at Christmas the opportunity comes, and after a big rush in preparation for the Yuletide feast, busy men can afford to let themselves go for a bit and enjoy Christmas in that homely way which is characteristically British.

Some of us have friends and relatives abroad, helping, maybe, to build up agricultural colonies across the sea, and at Christmas they are with us in spirit, and in return our thoughts go out to them, thus keeping up a bond of union which will remain unbroken while the true spirit of Christmas exists.

In accordance with ancient traditions Christmas is a time of feasting, and for a long time beforehand people in different parts of the world are busy preparing for the event. Roast beef is inseparable with Christmas, and during the past few weeks shows and sales have been the order of the day. This is the British farmer's contribution, and though he is complaining a bit because in some cases prices have not been quite up to expectation, still they might have been worse, and he has the satisfaction of knowing that of all the beef in the world there is none equal to that of old England.

The turkey population is considerably less now than it was a few weeks ago, and the same may be said of all classes of poultry, both at home and abroad, for British farmers and poultry keepers do not supply the whole of these commodities for the Christmas fare. In the way of flesh foods we, being producers, receive foreign imports under protest, but stand with open hands to receive the fruits from tropical climates which play such an important part in Yuletide feastings. There is no question of competition where the fruits for the plum pudding, the oranges, bananas, &c., are concerned. So there are no heart burnings, and t may be said truthfully in summing up that the whole world contributes to the menu of a British Christmas dinner.

Notes of the Week.

"The Farmers' Week," as Smithfield Show week is not inappropriately called, is now an event of the past, but pleasant memories will linger round it for some months.

The show, the meetings of the different societies, the congratulations, the many friendly greetings, will remain in our thoughts for a long time.

What are the salient points that stand out?

First: That farmers in general are in a more hopeful frame of mind than has been the case for many years; The prospects are even described as being of a roseate hue.

Second: There is a pronounced feeling in favour of the formation of an Independent Party to represent agricultural interests in Parliament.

Third: That Unions of tenant farmers, on the lines of the successful and energetic Lincolnshire Union, are to be strongly advocated.

Every farmer should be a "unionist" in his district Farmers' Union.

If a sample of the air in the Agricultural Hall had been taken and analysed the chemist would have reported "this sample is adulterated with impurities and is injurious to health."

Questions connected with land tenure have caused difficulties from the beginning of civilisation.

Some Greek inscriptions have been found which, it is said, will throw light on the subject of land tenure in the year 1333 B.C.

It is reported that "the Squire" has taken a small house in the wilds of Dartmoor. Probably he is trying to get "protection" from visitors who dump themselves down at his door.

Or, is it simply a matter of preferential district.

War on the rat tribe has been declared, and the newspapers are clamouring for energetic action.

The difficulty of the campaign arises from the rapid multiplication of the enemy. Rats do not hold by the Malthusian doctrine; a single pair will increase and multiply to 650,000 in three years.

The stage pig in the new play "O'Gruntles" is in trouble, as the Board of Agriculture objects to its having board and lodging within forty yards of a dwelling house.

The Conservative van campaign created considerable interest in the suburbs of London as the numerous vans wended their devious ways to rural districts.

People who are willing to lead the simple life in vans travelling under the greenwood tree at this period of the year must have a keen sense of duty. They are the vanguard of the new enterprise.

More eggs are being exported from this country to America and Canada.

There is talk about an egg-trust. He would be a brave man who would put trust in "shop-uns."

A bullock, whose leg was broken in a railway accident, has been fitted up with a wooden substitute, and seems to be quite comfortable.

The medical students swear that the famous brown dog of Battersea shall not have any legs at all.

Shop Assistant to Old-time Farmer—"Do you prefer a shirt that opens in front or at the back?"
Farmer Giles—"I usually wear them as has one opening at the top and one at the bottom."

Considering the wet summer and the recent heavy rains, who would have thought that the year's rainfall had been below the average?

Yet so it is; the total rainfall this year is 19·04 in., which is 4·39 in. below the average.

The weather during the last few weeks has been trying hard to make up the deficiency.

By the time these lines appear in print, St. Thomas's Day, December 21, the shortest day of the year, will be over.

It's a day associated with curious customs in many parts of the country.

The old bellmen used to go round singing the following old-fashioned rhyme:—

"My masters, this is St. Thomas's Day,
And Christmas now can't be far off, you'll say.
And when you to the ward-motes do repair
I hope such good men will be chose there
As constables for the coming year,
As will not grudge the watchmen good strong beer."

The announcement of the death of the National Potato Society came as no surprise to us—our only wonder is that it lived the time it did.

Formed when the potato boom was at its height, it secured a fairly good number of members, but with the slump the society began to dwindle, and with no very strong aims to call forth support it has somewhat late come to an end.

Lord Durham and Agricultural Legislation.

In the course of a speech at the luncheon held in connection with his annual fat stock sale at Bowes House, Fencehouses (reported elsewhere), on Monday, Lord Durham said he had never posed as an expert on agricultural matters, but he had been studying what he supposed would be considered the best authority upon these matters. In order to be able to try to give them some opinion upon agricultural matters he had studied the words and utterances of Cabinet Ministers, and had noticed that the Minister for Ireland suggested that cattle-driving was not a very terrible performance, because it did no harm to the land, and that the Minister for Agriculture—a fortunate man who had been able to sell some of his land at a very high price to a syndicate who sublet the land for holdings—maintained that small holdings must be used and had all over the empire.

Then again the Minister for Scotland appeared to see no difference between a fat and fertile farm in the South Lowlands and a barren mountain in the Highlands. At the same time, he appeared to think that it required entirely different agricultural legislation for a farm on the north side of the Tweed and that required by one in North Northumberland.

Therefore these various authorities caused him some difficulty in arriving at a proper conclusion as to what ought to be and what ought not to be done for farmers. For his part, he thought he would get on very well without too much legislation. Because if they really were to accept all the statements of their eminent politicians, they could arrive at one conclusion and a very short one, that was not very complimentary to them nor to him. That conclusion was that all landlords and land agents were more or less cruel tyrants and that all farmers were damned fools.

On former occasions he had foolishly boasted that he had very good, intelligent, and friendly tenants, but he would have to withdraw these remarks, and if he was there next year would have to address them in a totally different style. Up to now they had got on very well together. He hoped they might all meet again next year, and during the intervening twelve months he would wish them two things—an absence of bad weather and of legislation; and two other things of a more practical kind—a merry Christmas and a happy deliverance from all their enemies.

Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester.

The winter term of this college closed on Wednesday, when the Principal, the Rev. J. B. McClellan, M.A., conferred the honours on the successful students. In the course of his report on the work of the term, the Principal detailed a list of successes gained by old students, especially mentioning the appointment of Mr. E. J. Cheney, a former diploma student and gold medallist, as one of the Commissioners under the Small Holdings Act of last session, this appointment having been made by the President of the Board of Agriculture. The Principal also made an important announcement as to the future of the college. He said it had for some time past become evident to the governing body and to himself that for the continued and increased usefulness to the college, in accordance with modern requirements, it must extend its system of operations, and that for that purpose it must have the financial assistance of one or more county councils and of the Board of Agriculture, and work in co-operation with those bodies. This would involve a thorough reorganisation of the work of the college and of its management, and though he in the main sympathised with the changes, he could not reasonably be asked to undertake them or expect to control them. He had, therefore, tendered his resignation of the office of Principal, which he had held for more than a quarter of a century, but at the request of the governing body he should continue to hold office to the end of next summer term. Following are the chief awards of the term's class list.

HONOUR DIPLOMA OF MEMBERSHIP.—Alfred Casey, Argentine Republic, 1,573.

SCHOLARSHIPS.—First scholarship, £25: Randle William Carr, Stancombe, Dursley, Glos, 3,516. Second and third scholarships, £10 each: William Girvan Wright, Dunard, Row, N.B, 3,471, Harnam Singh, B.A., Amritsar, Punjab, India, 3,445, equal. Honourable mention for scholarships (in order of merit): Margesson—Lal, H. R.—Peek—Gopal—Khan. Honourable mention for the term's work other than for scholarships (in order of merit): Casey, H.—Corbett—Gilbert—Holmes—Levenfeld—Maddocks—Sowerby—Stewart.

Presentation to Viscount Tredegar.

Viscount Tredegar, Lord Lieutenant of Monmouthshire, was entertained at luncheon at Newport on Tuesday, and presented with an oil painting of himself (a replica of which will be given to the Monmouthshire County Council), a handsome gold cup, an illuminated address, and an album containing the names of six thousand subscribers, whose donations totalled over £3,000. By Lord Tredegar's personal request the bulk of the money subscribed was handed over to Monmouthshire hospitals as permanent endowments.

Sir Henry Mather Jackson, who presided, supported by a distinguished company, said, in presenting the portrait, there was hardly a parish in Monmouthshire that had not provided subscribers to the fund. Lord Tredegar had not only taken part in the Charge of the Light Brigade, but for thirty years he had devoted his ability, time, and wealth to his countrymen.

The gold cup was presented by Mr. C. D. Phillips, and the address and album by Alderman Henry Bowen, of the Monmouthshire County Council.

Lord Tredegar, having briefly responded, presented the chairmen of all the Monmouthshire hospitals with cheques representing in all over £2,000. The presentation of Glamorgan and Breconshire testimonials to Lord Tredegar will take place later.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24.—Wednesday Corn Markets (except London, which will be altogether omitted) will be held this day and not on the Thursday—Bacon and Sons' Special Sale of Live Stock at Lynn—Sale of Live Stock and Horses at Maidstone

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25.—Christmas Day.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26.—Bank Holiday in England—Shrewsbury, Colne, Longton, and Ilkeston Horse Fairs.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27.—Mark Lane Corn Exchange Closed—The Baltic Club Closed—Term Market Closed—Rugby Cattle Fair—Nantwich Cattle Fair.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28.—The Baltic Club Closed—Term Market Closed—Norwich Great Agricultural Fair, Fat Stock and Stores Market—Ulverston Horse Fair—Leek Cattle Fair—Carlisle Annual Fair for Milch Kine and Stores.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 30.—Newtown Sheep and Pig Fair—Agricultural Fairs at Skipton, Rugeley, and Bridgnorth.

OBITUARY.

Mr. J. Braby.

The death is announced of Mr. James Braby, J.P., D.L., at his residence, Eaton Lodge, Cromwell Road, Hove, in his eighty-second year. The deceased gentleman was formerly a very prominent figure in the agricultural world, his large herd of Sussex cattle at Drungewick Manor, Rudgwick, near Horsham, supplying many prize winners at the Royal Agricultural, the Bath and West of England, the Royal Counties, and several other of the big shows. Mr. Braby was also the inventor of many improvements to agricultural machines, and for one of his inventions—a light traction engine for conveying corn to market and, to be used as a stationary engine for threshing, grinding, and doing the work of a traction and stationary engine combined—he was awarded a medal at the Inventions Exhibition in London in 1885. Mr. Braby, who was a Justice of the Peace for London and Surrey, and Deputy-Lieutenant for Surrey, also a Fellow of the Royal Statistical Society, had been living in retirement at Hove for some years.

CATTLE.

THE VITALITY OF LIVE STOCK.

Whatever may be the ultimate benefits accruing from agricultural associations, there is one feature of their work which is developing towards a state of matters which may defeat the ideal end of their origin. Competition and prize-taking has done a great deal towards improving and developing the breeds at the farm, but of late years the prize-taking craze is likely to make inroads on utility by the overfeeding of breeding stock trained for exhibition. Even around the show ring at fat shows we see specimens being out-prized for being overfed, but seldom do we see a similar decision affect the allocation of prizes at our summer shows, where such are offered for breeding stock, and where many overfed animals are seen. There are many overfed specimens in the breeding classes, especially those of immature years, of all kinds of live stock at agricultural exhibitions, but exhibitors know full well how little chance they would have in gaining the coveted place if they did not have the animals clothed with unnecessary flesh.

There appears to be very little difference between the management of the farmer who has his aim to produce baby beef, and the breeder who wishes to obtain prizes with his breeding flock. It is not surely necessary to exhibit the beefing type of a strain by feeding the young male or female set aside for reproduction to such a degree that endangers their vitality and lessens the chance of that reproduction. The breeding may be from the best strains, but so long as breeders of these animals had from their birth striven to put just as much weight into them at a tender age as possible, so long will degeneracy take place, even in the best and hardiest breeds in the land.

The precaution necessary to keep breeding stock in vigour need not deflect the energy spent in quickly feeding those set apart for the rapid production of beef and use the means which each climate, soil, or breed require. The breeding animal must be allowed, as near as possible, the natural conditions which have perpetuated the race, as domestication will admit. Animals removed from their natural conditions are greatly changed, and even though the change has been gradual it affects their whole stamina and their reproductive systems are more sensitive to change than any other. Scientists who have studied this matter tell us that though domestication induces sterility, it is independent of general health, and is often accompanied by excess of size and great luxuriance. Therefore it is not possible that undue inference may be drawn from general appearance, and the difficulties in stock breeding which some farmers have experienced may be an illustration of this truth. The breeders of young stock for spring sales of bulls and females have in many instances their chief aim in securing a good market; and, therefore, in harmony with the demand, rear and feed them for sale. Judgment of type and a knowledge of the points that give indication of an animal suitable for crossing or line breeding ought to be the buyer's guide, and an overfed animal should be left to the fat stock salesman.

This feeding of breeding stock without attention being paid to constitutional vigour is the tendency of the times, and one upon which a check in some way needs to be put; and no more useful work could be undertaken by our agricultural associations. These impotent males and females are found in every species of animal about the farm. An over supply of fat at an immature age means that the generative organs have been prevented from making full and perfect development. This catering to the demand of fat breeding prizes and the giving of prizes on the same lines will ultimately bear fruit, as loss of vitality, whatever may be the general appearance, gives decided chances to the inroads of disease, and may be one of the reasons which the bovine species are showing, meantime, in this tendency towards inherent disease.

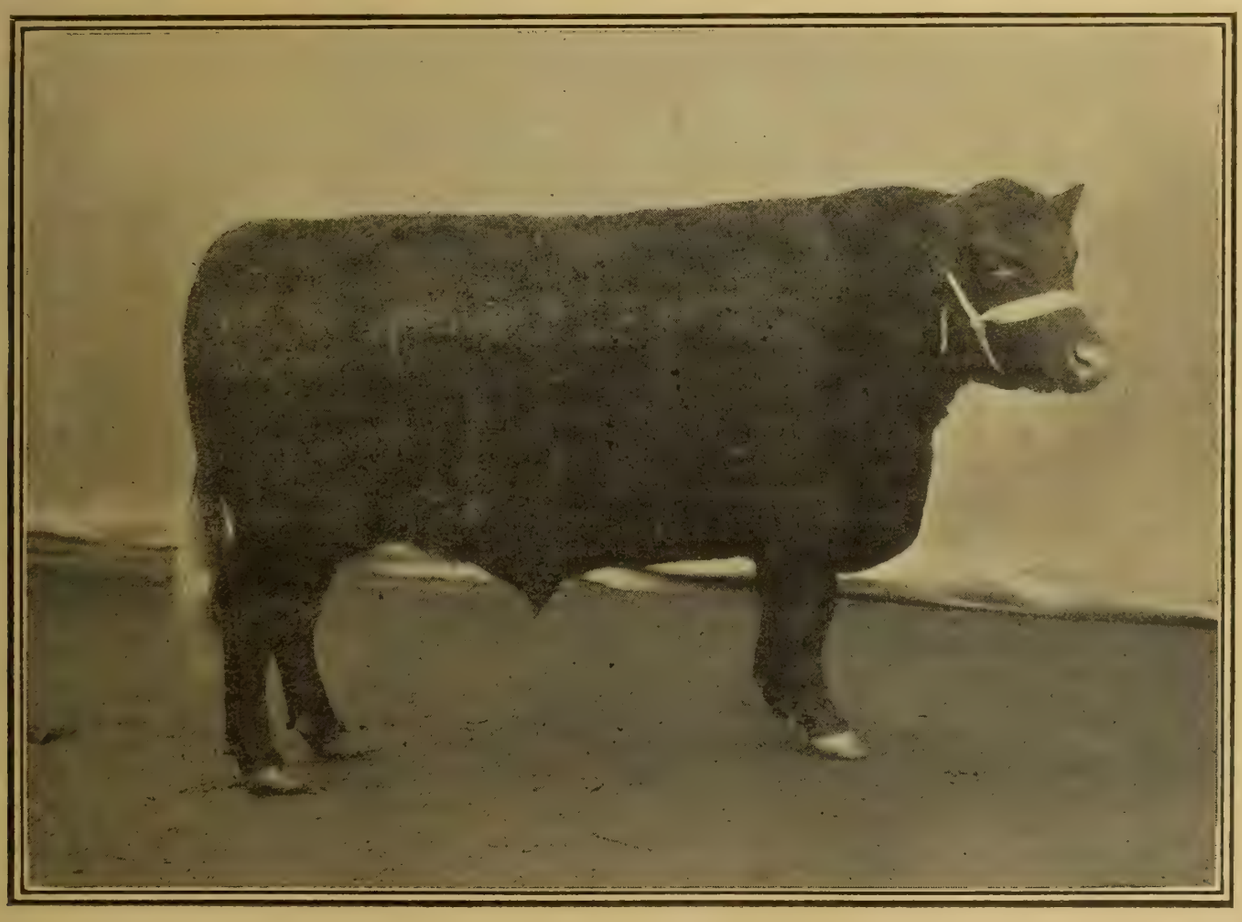
Abundant evidence can be gathered of the truth of this law in nature in the vegetable as well as the animal kingdom. Plants as well as animals are rendered impotent by the same unnatural conditions. A forced plant, like a forced animal, is weak in constitutional vigour, and Nature, though apparently cruel in her actions towards weaklings, gives many lessons to the farmer, and the necessity of maintaining vitality and robustness of health in the products of the farm is not the least. Horticulturists find that many species of plants, when highly cultivated in unnatural conditions, fail to flower, and therefore fail to reproduce themselves. They have to subject them to a treatment akin to the "survival of the fittest," as found in Nature, which has carried them down to us for our use.

Thus farmers and breeders in their desire to produce animals or plants for a special purpose, but more especially to meet public fancy and persist on the same lines, will one day be awakened by Nature interfering with the work in wiping out the weaklings.

It is obvious, then, that if undue attention is paid in regard to what might be termed the minor points in live stock—such as colour, style, or particular type, even to excessive milk production in cows—that the abounding vitality which Nature demands will be overlooked. Perhaps it may be necessary to breed to a certain extent in these lines in order that the farmer may take the needful revenue from the land, but when such extreme measures are extended to animals set apart for breeding, then Nature will lodge her protest. The overfed sire is, no doubt, one of the chief causes of unfertility among mares, and great loss is occasioned by the number who annually fail to become productive.

The poultry yard is not exempt from influences at work through the domestication of the species there. Hens bred up to producing record-laying strains are often of very low vitality. This is seen in striking contrast to the fertility of wild birds that rarely have an unfertile egg. Even a barnyard fowl, whose natural instinct leads her to seek a nest away from the noisy farmyard, will hatch her full complement of chicks, and they will be more robust in constitution than the well-nurtured in the artificial nest. Thus Nature's abundant storehouse will always yield up its riches to man if he adopts Nature's plan and studies the laws which have prolonged their existence to his benefit.

JAS. HENRY.



The Crossbred Steer Tochineal Charlie, winner of First Prize at the recent Smithfield and Birmingham Fat Stock Shows. It was exhibited by Mr. W. Dunn, Catfoss House, Sigglesthorne, Hull, but was bred by Mr. J. Robb, Cairnandrew, Banff, its sire being Loyalist and its dam Gammock. Its age on December 1st was 2 years 11 months 2 weeks 4 days, and it weighed at Birmingham 17 cwt. 1 qr. 12 lb., or 16 lb. less than at the Smithfield Show.

The Shorthorn Society's Prizes in 1908.

The chief item of interest at the last council meeting of the Shorthorn Society was the adoption of the General Purposes Committee's recommendation of offering the following prizes in 1908, the total value of which amounts to £1,010:—

Champion Prizes.

Royal Agricultural Society of England.—Two

champion prizes of £30 each for the best male and best female Shorthorn.

Highland and Agricultural Society.—Two champion prizes of £25 each for the best male and best female Shorthorn.

Royal Dublin Society.—A champion prize of £20 for the best yearling Shorthorn bull, bred in Ireland.

Bath and West of England and Southern Counties Society.—A champion prize of £10 for the best Shorthorn bull.

Welsh National Agricultural Society.—A champion prize of £10 for the best Shorthorn bull.

District Prizes.

For the best Shorthorn bull calved in 1907, located in the following districts:—

ENGLAND AND WALES.—Twenty-eight district prizes of £10 each. The names of the shows at which the prizes will be awarded are given in parentheses:—Beds., Herts, and Middlesex (Bedfordshire). Berks, Wilts, and Hants (Royal Counties), Cambridgeshire and Essex (Essex), Cheshire (Cheshire), Cornwall and Devon (Royal Cornwall), Cumberland (Cumberland), Derbyshire (Derbyshire), Durham (Durham), Gloucestershire and Monmouthshire (Gloucestershire), Herefordshire and Worcestershire (Herefordshire and Worcestershire), Isle of Man (Isle of Man), Lancashire (Royal Lancashire), Leicestershire and Rutland (Leicestershire), Lincolnshire (Lincolnshire), Norfolk and Suffolk (Suffolk), Northamptonshire and Hunts (Northamptonshire), Northumberland (Northumberland), Nottinghamshire (Nottinghamshire), Oxfordshire and Bucks (Oxfordshire), Shropshire (Shropshire and West Midland), Somerset and Dorset (Somersetshire), Staffordshire (Staffordshire), Surrey, Kent, and Sussex (Tunbridge Wells), North Wales (Denbighshire), South Wales (United Counties), Warwickshire (Warwickshire), Westmorland (Westmorland and Kendal), Yorkshire (Yorkshire).

SCOTLAND.—Four district prizes of £10 each:—Argyll, Perth, Fife, Kinross, Clackmannan, Stirling, Linlithgow, Dumbarton, and Renfrew (Stirlingshire Agricultural Society's Show) Ayr, Wigtown, Lanark, Dumfries, Kirkcudbright, Edinburgh. Haddington, Peebles, Berwick, Selkirk, and Roxburghshire (Border Union Agricultural Society's Show). Elgin, Banff, Aberdeen, Kincardine, and Forfarshire (Royal Northern Agricultural Society's Show). Inverness, Nairn, Ross, Sutherland, Caithness, and Orkney (Northern Counties Agricultural Society's Show).

IRELAND.—Four district prizes of £10 each:—Connaught (Hollymount Society's Show). Leinster (Royal Dublin Society's Show). Munster (County Cork Agricultural Society's Show). Ulster (Royal Ulster Agricultural Society's Show).

The regulations applying to bulls competing for the Shorthorn Society's district prizes are as follows:—

(1) All bulls competing for these prizes must be the *bona-fide* property of the exhibitor, residing in the district for which the prize is offered, and such bulls must be there located from the time of entry until the show, and entered in the special classes provided for these prizes, and in the ordinary classes for which they are eligible at the shows where the society's prize is awarded, and have been calved in the year 1907.

(2) All bulls must be eligible for and entered in Coates' Herd Book, with a registered number, or their pedigrees sent for such entry previous to the show. Note.—The entry as "produce under dam" will not be sufficient.

(3) No bull to be allowed to take more than one district prize offered by the Shorthorn Society.

Prizes for Pedigree Shorthorn Dairy Cows in milk.

At the shows of the undermentioned societies for the year 1908 a prize of £10 will be offered as a first prize in a special extra class for pedigree Shorthorn dairy cows in milk, four years old and upwards, the societies named to offer in such class a second prize of £5.

ENGLAND AND WALES.—Bath and West of England Agricultural Society, British Dairy Farmers' Association (in this case for best animal exhibited in pure-bred Shorthorn class gaining most points on inspection and milking), Cheshire Agricultural Society, Derbyshire Agricultural Society, Durham Agricultural Society, Royal Counties' Agricultural Society, Gloucestershire Agricultural Society, Hereford and Worcestershire Agricultural Society, Leicestershire Agricultural Society, Northumberland Agricultural Society, Penrith Agricultural Society, Royal and Central Bucks Agricultural Society, Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society, Shropshire and West Midland Agricultural Society, Somersetshire Agricultural Society, Staffordshire Agricultural Society, Norfolk Agricultural Society, Tunbridge Wells and Southern Counties' Agricultural Society, United Counties' Agricultural Society, Warwickshire Agricultural Society, Westmorland and Kendal Agricultural Society, Yorkshire Agricultural Society.

SCOTLAND.—Border Union Agricultural Society, Royal Northern Agricultural Society, Strathearn Agricultural Society.

IRELAND.—Royal Dublin Society (£15) (this society to offer a second prize of £10, and a third prize of £5), County Cork Agricultural Society, Hollymount Agricultural Society, North-West of Ireland Agricultural Society, Royal Ulster Agricultural Society.

The above prizes to be offered in a special extra class for pedigree Shorthorn dairy cows in milk, four years old and upwards on the date to which the ages are calculated for the show at which the prize is offered, eligible for, and entered in Coates's Herd Book, or pedigree sent for such entry previous to the show. Such cows to be clean milked to the satisfaction of the stewards at six o'clock on the previous evening, and to be milked in the ring on the first morning of the show in the presence of the judge, who shall see the milk weighed, and any cow that does not yield up to the following standard shall not be awarded a prize:—

Cows having calved within three calendar months of the first day of the show, 25 lb. of milk. If calved more than three calendar months from the first day of the show, 20 lb. of milk. No animal having once taken one of these prizes is eligible to compete again the same year.

The Royal Show.

The prizes for Shorthorn cattle offered by the Royal Agricultural Society in 1908 will be increased by the addition of the following prizes offered by the Shorthorn Society. Two extra classes for bulls with prizes £10, £6, £4 in each class. A class for Shorthorn heifers in milk, calved in 1905, with prizes £10, £6, and £4. Also two classes for pedigree Shorthorn dairy cows in milk, viz.: Cows in milk, four years old and upwards, &c., £10, £6, £4, and cow in milk, four years old, £10, £6, £4, such cows to be entered or eligible for entry in Coates's Herd Book; also £5 to the breeders of the first-prize animals in eleven Shorthorn classes. These prizes being in addition to the two champion prizes of £30 each, offered by the Shorthorn Society for the best male and best female Shorthorn exhibited.

At the same meeting a letter was read from the Royal Agricultural Society with reference to the Shorthorn group prizes, the conditions for which were settled at the last meeting of the council. The Royal Agricultural Society suggested that there should be two group classes, and if the Shorthorn Society agreed they would contribute £10 if the Shorthorn Society would contribute the other £10 for the extra class, and after considerable discussion it was resolved to have two group classes with the following conditions:—

(1) "Group class for a bull of any age (the property of, but not necessarily bred by, exhibitor) and three of his offspring, the property of the exhibitor, not less than six months old on the day of entry.

(2) "Cow (not necessarily bred by exhibitor) of any age, and three of her produce in direct line of descent on the female side, the property of the exhibitor."

Copies of these conditions were ordered to be sent to the Royal Agricultural Society.

Mr. Peter Dunn Gives up Exhibiting.

Mr. Peter Dunn, of Pasture House, Sigglesthorne, Hull, the veteran feeder and exhibitor of Christmas fat cattle, who, it will be remembered achieved the proud distinction of winning the championship at the London Smithfield Show with his Shorthorn steer Gentleman John, has informed a representative of the *Yorkshire Herald* that he does not intend to show again.

"I have reached the height of my ambition," said Mr. Dunn, "in winning the championship at London, and I don't intend to show again." This decision, as our contemporary remarks, will be learned with regret in the agricultural world, in which Mr. Dunn deservedly holds a high place, but it is to be hoped that, if he adheres to his intention, he will continue to take as keen an interest in the leading Christmas shows as hitherto, and figure in the ring, if not as an exhibitor, as a judge.

Sale of Christmas Cattle and Sheep at Penrith.

The annual Christmas two days' prize shows and sales of fat sheep and fat cattle held by the Farmers' Auction Co., Ltd., took place in the Agricultural Hall, Penrith, with the sale of sheep, and proved most successful. This is the first year prizes have been offered since the combination of auction mart proprietors in the county of Cumberland to discontinue prizes for fat stock at Christmas was entered into three years ago. This agreement expired at Martinmas last, and as it was not renewed prizes have been again offered. There was a record entry of prime sheep totalling nearly 7,000, which comprised the lots for the first day, and it is believed that this is also a record for a fat stock sale in Great Britain. All the available accommodation of the mart was taxed to the uttermost, and temporary pens were erected on any spare premises, and there was a magnificent display in all sections of the very choicest sheep suitable for Christmas requirements from some of the most noted feeders in the North of England. The work of judging was commenced at ten o'clock, and the awards were expeditiously made by the appointed judges. Though there was strong competition in all the classes the judging of the champion prize for the best pen of ten or more sheep in the show produced a keen struggle. Mr. John Gill showed a pen of tup hoggs, Mr. William Robinson, Moorhouses, a pen of Cheviot shearlings, and Messrs. T. Graham, Kirkby Thore Hall, T. Wilson, Old Hall, Plumpton, and Mr. Cowin, Brown Howe, each showed Greyfaced shearlings. Eventually the coveted ticket was awarded to Mr. Wilson, Plumpton, with Mr. Graham, Kirkby Thore, reserve. The champion pen was purchased by Mr. George Baxter, of Leeds, for 72s., and the reserve pen by Mr. A. Graham, Abbott Lodge, for 66s. 6d.

The market opened with the sale of ewes, but these, in accordance with anticipations, met a dragging trade. A change was experienced when the shearling sheep were on offer, trade for these being extremely good and the demand keen.

The Blackfaced and Herdwick wethers were rather hard to sell, and tup hoggs appeared good weight for the money, but half and threequarter-bred and Greyfaced hoggs were in great request, many local farmers being strongly in evidence buying for further keep on turnips, which have much improved during the last few weeks.

The sale concluded with the Blackfaced hoggs, which were, generally speaking, short of finish, but met with a fair demand.

The business was brought to a successful finish at six o'clock, thus concluding one of the most successful sales ever held at the Mart, and with only a very small proportion of unsold lots.

The awards and prices were as follows:—

Twenty Cheviot Ewes: 1, T. Heskett, 36s. 9d.; 2, S. Turner, 37s.; other entries sold at from 29s. to 31s. Twenty Blackfaced Ewes: 1 and 2, G. Lowis, 34s. 6d.; others 21s. 3d. to 27s. Twenty Herdwick Ewes: 1, J. Stephenson, 22s.; 2, T. Dixon, 23s. 9d.; others down to 17s. 3d. Twenty Ewes, any breed: 1, W. Robinson, 48s. 6d.; 2, H. Atkinson; others 21s. to 41s. 6d. Twenty Sheep, suitable for butchers' purposes: 1, Messrs. Elliott, 45s. 6d.; 2, W. Harrington, 44s. 6d.; others 37s to 45s. 6d. Twenty Cheviot Shearlings: 1, W. Robinson, 55s.; 2, C. Armstrong, 49s. 9d.; others 29s. 3d. to 44s. 9d. Ten Cross (Wensleydale or Leicestor) Shearlings from Blackfaced or Herdwick Ewes: 1 and champion, T. Wilson, 72s. and 60s.; 2, Mrs. Cowin, 51s. 6d.; others 32s. to 63s. Ten Shearlings, any breed: 1, T. Graham, 66s. 6d.; 2, T. Wilson, 60s. 6d.; others from 25s. 6d. to 32s. 6d. Thirty Herdwick Wethers: 1, H. Atkinson, 29s.; 2, the Earl of Lonsdale, 34s. Thirty Highland Blackfaced Wethers: 1, Colonel Markham, 36s. 6d.; 2, T. Hodgson, 35s.; others down to 29s. 6d. Thirty Cheviot Wethers: 1, T. Heskett, 42s.; 2, C. Tallentere, 37s. 3d. Thirty Wethers, any breed: 1, Messrs. Elliott, 49s.; J. Blackett, 48s. Twenty Tup Lambs: 1, J. Gill, 51s. 6d.; 2, Mrs. Bellas; others from 26s 6d. to 43s. 6d. Twenty Lambs, any breed (Wether or Gimmer): 1, T. Graham, 44s. 3d.; 2, W. Teasdale, 40s. 9d.; others from 26s. to 43s. Twenty Cross (Wensleydale or Leicester) Wether Lambs from Blackfaced or Herdwick Ewes: 1, J. Telford, 39s. 3d. Twenty Blackfaced Wether Lambs: 1, J. Slee, 26s.; 2, J. Blaylock, 22s. 3d.

The second day's sale was confined to fat cattle, 460 head being forward. The wet weather was against trade, and though bidding was brisk, prices were about £1 per head down from last year. There was a large attendance of buyers, and very few animals failed to find purchasers. The awards and chief prices were:—

Fat bull—1, W. Nicholson, Highgate, £29; 2, T, Lowthian, Winder Hall, £30; 3, T. Preston, Edenhall Grange, £24 10s.; others to £26 15s. Shorthorn cow—1, J. Kitchen, Temple Sowerby, £21 15s.; 2, W. Armstrong, Monk's House, £20 5s.; 3, P. W. Parkin, Sharrow Bay, £18 10s.; others to £23 12s. 6d. Cow or heifer of any breed other than Shorthorn—1, Messrs. Rawes, Stainton, £25; 2, the Earl of Lonsdale, Whale Farm, £23 5s.; 3, J. Millican, Johnby, £20 17s. 6d.; others to £20 7s. 6d. Shorthorn heifer—1 and 3, J. Nelson, Thornbarrow; 2, G. Bainbridge, How Hill. Shorthorn steer—1, Messrs. Lazonby, Plumpton; 2, R. H. Thompson, Nunwick Hall; 3, H. Turner, Tirril. Steer of any breed other than Shorthorn—1, J. Atkinson, Little Salkeld; 2, the Earl of Lonsdale, Lowther Castle; 3, J. Atkinson, Little Salkeld. Four heifers—1, W. Harrington, Kelbarrow; 2 and 3, J. Howe, Lingstubbs. Four steers of any age—1, J. Woof, Great Strickland; 2, Messrs. Elliott, Sewborwens; 3, A. Graham, Abbott Lodge. Four Irish cattle—1, W. R. Siddle, Honeypot.

The York Christmas Horse Fair was held last week, and a fair number of animals were disposed of, but the bulk of the trade is now passing into the auction sales, and few buyers are relying on the fair. Several strings of useful Irish Hunters were brought over by well-known breeders, and there was a fair demand for good Hunters, saddle horses, and half-bred hacks, which made up to 70 guineas, and in a few cases 80 guineas was reached. There was a good supply of town horses, and good, useful draught horses met with a fair demand at 30 to 60 guineas.

HORSES.

The Shire Horse Trade—Some Figures—Some Averages—A Reason for the Good Trade—The Foreign Trade—The Hunt Class at the International Show.

The Shire Horse Trade.

ONE of the facts which stands out as remarkable in the history of horses during the year which is fast drawing to a close is the development of the Shire horse trade. Last year's average for sales of high class horses was indeed a good one, but it almost sinks to insignificance when compared to that of the season which came to a close on the 7th of last month at Mr. Oakley's at Dewstow. At the eleven most important sales in 1906, 546 horses were sold at an average of £65 1s. 6d., the aggregate reached being £35,537 3s. At ten sales similar in character this year the aggregate was £51,945 17s. for 527 horses, or an average of £98 11s. 6d. An increase of £33 10s. in the average of high class sales is all the more noteworthy, following as it does on a year in which trade was good. For it must be remembered that though the average for 1906 fell short of that of 1905 by £7 2s. 6d., this was due to the exceptional number of foals which were sold that year at the autumn sales.

Some Figures.

THE highest price realised in 1906 was 510 guineas, which was given for Mr. Forshaw's Sussex Bluegown, the champion mare at the Shire Horse Show. Next to her in the price list was



The Shire Stallion Lymm Grey, winner of the First Prize for Yearling Stallions and the Cup for the Best Young Stallion at the Shire Horse Society's Show this year. Lymm Grey, whose sire was Severn Bradford, dam Darling, was bred by, and is the property of, Mr. J. Gould, Crouchley, Lymm, Cheshire.

Mr. R. W. Hudson's Danesfield Feathers, for which Mr. F. E. Muntz gave 450 guineas. Third place was occupied by Mr. Simpson Jay's Johnson Fairy Queen which realised 400 guineas, and then came Sir Alexander Henderson's Twilight, and the late Mr. P. Stubs' Blarsdon Barrier, which made 310 guineas each. The five highest priced Shires of 1906 made a total of 1,980 guineas, or an average of £415 16s. The highest price this year was made by his Majesty's Ravenspur, who, it will be remembered, was a London winner and who realised the handsome price of 825 guineas, the buyer being Lord Winterstoke. Second on the list is Mr. J. Measures' two-year-old colt by Tatton Friar, who was sold at the London sales for 660 guineas. Another colt, Mr. Hubbard's, by Lockinge Forest King brought 610 guineas, and Mr Holford's colt by Calwich Blend made 600 guineas, whilst Sir P. A. Muntz's well-known Dunsmore Fuchsia, who was the London Junior Champion in 1905 and 1906, brought 520 guineas, which is 10 guineas more than the top price of last year. Altogether the five made 3,215 guineas, or an average of £675 3s. It is noticeable that whilst only one stallion was in the list last year only one mare was in it this year, and she, good as she undoubtedly is, at the bottom of the list. There can be no surer sign of improving trade than the big prices made for stallions, and especially for young stallions, and this demand was especially noticeable in the sale season of the present year.

Some Averages.

PERHAPS the first sale one looks to for a comparison of averages is that held in the Agricultural Hall during the last two days of the Shire Horse Show. It is especially reliable as a guide, for a large number of stallions and mares are sent and those which are passed through the ring may be looked upon as fairly representative. And here we find a great improvement on last year, when the 110 lots sold realised an average of £93 6s., with the top price 510 guineas. This year ten more horses were sold, and the average increased to £106 11s., whilst the top price was 660 guineas. The highest average at a private sale in 1906 was made by Mr. Simpson Jay's stud, which was sold at Peterborough early in the year; the average was £116 8s. for ten lots, a handsome average enough, but far short of Sir P. A. Muntz's average in February last, which heads the list with £149. Other three private studs beat the three figures, viz., Mr. Everard's, which made an average of £141 5s. for thirty; His Majesty's, which made an average of £124 for forty-five; and Mr. R. W. Hudson's, which averaged £111 for twenty-seven lots. The same proportion is kept up if we look at the lowest averages in the most important sales of the year. That for 1906 was £35, which was made for Mr. E. N. Gooch's stud, which numbered thirty; the lowest average this year is Messrs. R. and F. Whitehead's—£54 for thirty-nine lots.

A Reason for the Good Trade.

SUCH a rise of prices in a time which may fairly be described as a period of prosperity naturally makes one look for a cause; and this time I think we have not far to seek before we find one. There can be little doubt but that the spirited action of His Majesty and Lord Rothschild in sending over to the great American shows some of their best horses has given a great fillip to the Shire horse trade in America. American breeders were given a chance of seeing a class of horse such as very seldom came in their way. Some few might see such horses on their visits to England, but to the great body of American breeders there can be but little doubt that the King's and Lord Rothschild's horses came as a revelation. The spirit of rivalry was stirred up; men were anxious to breed such horses, and the consequence has been that they have bought freely of the best that came in their way, provided that the best reached a high standard of merit. There is another element to be taken into consideration which may undoubtedly have an effect on the fluctuations which take place at the great auction sales from year to year. In one year there may be two or three exceptionally fashionable studs sold, studs of which some of the horses have recently taken the highest showyard honours; and, of course, at sales of this kind the competition is keener than at an ordinary weeding-out or dispersal sale. It may, perhaps, be argued that with such studs as His Majesty's Sir P. A. Muntz's, Mr. Everard's, and perhaps one or two others in the list, there was sure to be an increase in the average all round. But even if this be allowed it is not sufficient to account for the sharp rise in the price of Shire horses which has taken place during the present year. There is evidently a greater demand and a better market for high-class Shire horses, whatever may be the case with third and fourth rate heavy horses.

The Foreign Trade.

IT is the foreign demand, and more especially the American demand, which has had such an effect on the Shire Horse market, and should anything take place to reduce that demand we should soon have a shrinkage in prices, for it seems scarcely likely that any other country will take our Shire Horses to the extent that America has been doing during the present year. That there is any likelihood of a serious falling off in the trade with America in the immediate future I do not think. At any rate, if there is a falling off it will not be from the same cause as when the last boom came to such a sudden stop. Then, it will be remembered, indifferent horses were sold at not very reasonable prices, and when buyers were disappointed with the results of their purchases, the natural reaction took place. Both English breeders and American buyers have learnt a good deal since the eighties, and such a mistake is not likely to occur again. Of course, the brisk American trade makes English buyers keen, and keeps home prices up. At the same time it must not be forgotten that there is a certain amount of speculation in making special provision for the foreign market when prices rule as high as they do at present.

The Hunt Class at the International Show.

ALREADY the International Horse Show, which will be held during nine days in June, is exciting notice, and comment, and criticism, and there has been some hopes expressed that the leading English hunts will be represented in the class for the best three horses from one hunt establishment, to be ridden by the hunt servants. Everyone has a right to express his opinion, and I unhesitatingly hope that no English master of hounds will send his horses on such an errand. Masters of hounds have sufficient for their horses to do without sending them up to a show, which after all has a good deal of the circus element about it, and hunt servants ought to have plenty to do at home in June. In my opinion the class can well be done without—it does no good to breeding, and I am thankful that no English hunts were represented in it last year. We do not want to see our historic English hunts competing in such classes, and forming a spectacle for a gaping London crowd.

THE LOOKER-ON.

Horse Poisoning.

A very interesting article on "Horse Poisoning" recently appeared in the *Doncaster Gazette* over the *nom de plume* of "Free Lance," the writer advocating the view that horsemen should be educated out of, rather than punished for, the offence after it has been committed in ignorance. His remarks are worthy the attention of all horsekeepers, and we therefore append the salient points of the article.

The writer first mentions two recent instances of fatal horse poisoning in Lincolnshire, in which one man was sent to prison and the other was only saved from a similar fate by the intervention of his master, Mr. J. H. Dean, a member of the Lincolnshire Horse Poison Prevention Association. Mr. Dean has during the past two years lost six horses on his farm through poisoning, so that the ignorance of the men in his employ has had very serious consequences for Mr. Dean.

"Free Lance" then expresses the hope that Mr. Dean will be induced by his bitter experiences to turn his attention to the methods by which the Lincolnshire Horse Poison Prevention Association seeks to attain its objects, and he remarks:—

The fact must be perfectly clear to him by now that these methods are not of the right kind. Its aim is to prevent horse-poisoning; but its method is not one of prevention. Instead of removing the ignorance which underlies these disastrous cases of horse-poisoning, the Association contents

itself with securing the punishment of this ignorance.

The fact cannot be too clearly or too frequently stated, that the men who commit these serious acts are, in a sense, the most deserving men of their class. They are the men who are most ambitious to enhance the fame of their masters' stables. They are the men whose hearts are most completely in their work. Horsemen who take no interest in their work, and who are indifferent in regard to the appearance of their charges, never commit this crime of horse poisoning.

It cannot, of course, be said that the men who do commit this crime have no knowledge of the danger of their acts. But it can be said that they are entirely innocent of any intention to do harm. Those who, like the writer, have peered behind the scenes, know that the belief prevails amongst horsemen that dangerous poisons may be administered with beneficial effects to horses; and few farmers have any idea of the extent of the practice.

There is a very widespread secret traffic in recipes for the administration of these poisons; and the fewness of the fatal consequences of the practice is due almost entirely to the fact that the chemists who are asked to supply the poisons prescribed in these recipes deliberately deceive their patrons by supplying something very different to what is demanded. There cannot be very many chemists in agricultural districts who have not received orders from horsemen to make up doses of the most deadly description. It is, of course, a matter on which they cannot be expected to be very communicative. But the writer has fully ascertained the truth of what is here stated.

Horsemen are in the habit of asking chemists to make up deadly prescriptions. The chemists, instead of supplying what is asked for, make up mixtures that are harmless or even beneficial, and these mixtures are administered to horses with beneficial, or, at any rate, without harmful results. It is when horsemen secure possession of the poisons that they actually ask for, that mischief results. Believing that they have administered these poisons before with beneficial results, they administer the actual poisons with disastrous results. In one of the cases referred to above—that in which Mr. Dean was the victim—the offence was rather one of stealing and administering corn rather than poisons. The offender was possibly unaware of the fact that the seed wheat had been saturated with sulphate of copper. The practice of administering illicitly acquired corn is more general than that of administering poisons. The two forms of crime have, however, a common origin, in the ignorance of the perpetrators.

A very grave feature of these dangerous practices is this: the lives of the most valuable horses are the most seriously menaced. The most ambitious horsemen naturally gravitate to the best stables, and the least ambitious to the inferior stables. Obviously, the wisest course to pursue in the effort to prevent these poisoning occurrences would be to convince horsemen of the fallacy of their belief in the efficacy of deadly drugs in the art of horse-feeding. The various societies for the prevention of this form of crime go to work in the wrong way. What they do is to secure the punishment of the offenders; what they ought to do is to educate horsemen into a better understanding of their task. Let them convince this class that the administration of poisons has injurious effects upon the horse, and nothing but injurious effects, and the practice will speedily cease.

"Free Lance" concludes:—I have on various occasions urged county councils to make the education of horsemen in this matter their special care; but thus far the plea has not met with any response. The councils appear to consider it of greater importance to teach the rustics something which they do not need to know than the something which they do need to know. If the councils would pay veterinary surgeons to lecture in the rural districts on the art of horse feeding, it is certain that farmers would gladly co-operate, and ensure the lecturers audiences of the right character. Will the farmers who chance to read these lines call the attention of their representatives on the various county councils to the necessity of such instruction as is here advocated?

Hunters' Improvement Society.

Mr. Romer Williams (president) occupied the chair at a meeting of the council of the Hunters' Improvement Society held on the 12th inst., when six new members were elected.

Colonel G. C. Ricardo, chairman of the Finance Committee, presented the report of this committee, indicating a balance on the current account at the bank of £320 12s. 10d. Receipts since the last meeting, £68 11s. 11d.; arrears of subscriptions, £32 11s.; accounts for payment, £273 11s. 4d. The chairman, in presenting this report, commented upon the improved financial condition of the society, as owing to the increased membership and co-ordination of the society's work in London and at the country shows the council had been able this year to convert the debit balance of £200 at the commencement of 1907 into a satisfactory credit balance, while the greater part of the cost of publishing Volume III. had been met out of the current year's receipts. This report was adopted.

Mr. J. B. Kingscote, chairman of the Editing Committee, reported that the whole of the Stud Book was now in print and that the larger portion of it was already in pages, so that it was hoped to be able to put the book into the hands of members well in advance of the date of the closing of entries of the London Show. The committee recommended that a portion of the cost of publication be paid off by the Finance Committee. Other details connected with the Stud Book having also been dealt with, the report of the committee was then adopted.

Mr. Owen C. Wallis, chairman of the Horse Show Committee, reported that they had received replies from the Royal Agricultural Society of England, the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, and the Royal Dublin Society accepting with thanks the offer of the gold medals authorised by the council at the October meeting. A letter was read from the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding intimating that they unanimously accepted the invitation of the council to hold their 1908 show at the Royal Agricultural Hall in March next, and they were agreeable to the vetting yard and the ring being available for the purposes of the society's show on the Tuesday afternoon.

The revised schedule of prices, after slight amendments by the committee, was authorised for issue.

The committee considered the proposals of the Shire Horse Society to cover the front of the stud-boxes with canvas, and it was resolved to fall in with the proposal, provided certain details were introduced, and the matter was referred to the stewards. It was resolved to again offer the Winnipeg Industrial Fair a silver medal for the best Thoroughbred or registered Hunter stallion at their 1908 show.

This report having been adopted, it was decided, upon the motion of Mr. J. L. Nickisson, to give in the judges' books the months in which the yearlings exhibited at the 1908 show were foaled.

The dates of the council meetings in 1908 were then arranged:—Thursday, February 6; Tuesday, March 10 (at show); Thursday, April 9; Monday, June 1; Thursday, October 15; Thursday, December 10.

Suffolk Horse Society.

At a meeting of the council of the Suffolk Horse Society held at the Town Hall, Ipswich, on Tuesday, Sir Cuthbert Quilter, Bart., president, occupying the chair, the secretary reported that the entries had closed for Volume XVI. of the Stud Book, and that they were favourable in comparison with former volumes. Volume XV. contained 153 horses and 403 mares, making a total of 556, whereas there had been received for Volume XVI. 194 horses and 523 mares, a total of 717. With regard to the illustrations in the forthcoming volume, the president, Sir Cuthbert Quilter, kindly promised to supply photos of his champion horse, Harvester.

The secretary stated that a letter had been received from Mr. A. J. Morton, Sydney, Australia, in which he acknowledged the receipt of Volume XV. of the Suffolk Stud Book, adding: "The people of this Colony seem to take to the Suffolks to a large extent, as they consider them ideal farming horses, and very suitable for the get of gunners for the Indian Army."

The question of the support to be given to shows in 1908 was considered, and the secretary reported that owing to the assistance given to the Suffolk Horse Society, for in the classes for Suffolks at the Royal Show, to be held at Newcastle on June 30, the prizes would be substantially increased, and in all the classes they would be—first £20, second £10, and third £5, there would be an additional class for teams of Suffolks, in lorry or wagon, the prizes offered being—first £20 and second £10. It was also decided that those shows which had received support from the Suffolk Horse Society should again be recognised, and a hope was expressed that prizes would be offered in classes for other shows at which Suffolks had not hitherto competed.

Polo and Riding Pony Society.

Rev. D. B. Montefiore, chairman of the Editing Committee, reported at the meeting of the council of the Polo and Riding Pony Society on the 13th inst. that the committee had the previous day revised the proof sheets of the 1907 Supplement, which it was hoped to put into the hands of members early in the New Year. He added that the Editing Committee had compiled a private stud book which would meet the requirements of breeders, not only of Polo ponies but of every kind of horse. The register had been very carefully thought out, and would cover many details for which provision had not been previously made in other publications. They proposed to put this private stud register in the hands of members at cost price, and to charge non-members an enhanced fee to indemnify the society against the expenses of advertising and publishing.

The chairman hoped that breeders generally would write to the secretary for full particulars. The private stud book embodied many novel features, and he felt sure it would be found of great utility.

Mr. Tresham Gilbey, vice chairman of the Horse Show Committee, reported that the committee had received several letters from the conveners approving the allocation of the grants for Mountain and Moorland Ponies, and expressing their appreciation of the society's interest evinced by the increased prizes.

The special sub-committee appointed to re-draft the competitions had met, and their suggestions, introducing several novel competitions, such as "riding off," "figure of eight," &c., had been adopted by the Horse Show Committee. With a view to improving the bending competitions, of which they proposed there should be two, they suggested the following new conditions:—Competitors to gallop to the furthest post and return bending between the posts (8 yards apart), using one or both hands at option, and carrying a stick. A competitor would not be disqualified by knocking down a post, but two points would be given for each post successfully negotiated, and three points to the first competitor past the winning-post. The highest number of points to win the heat. The bending competition on the Saturday would be ridden barebacked.

The schedule of prizes had also been carefully considered, and a class for Eastern sires, for which the prizes (£20) had been contributed by sympathisers, added to the schedule, to be judged by a specially-selected judge. The entries in the young stock classes would require a pedigree qualification—viz., they would have to be by a registered or entered sire, or out of a registered or entered dam, similar wording applying to the Polo-bred riding classes. The produce class would be open to the best two animals from the same dam. Representations had been made to the committee with regard to the height of the stallions and mares not exceeding 14 hands. The committee did not see their way to frame the wording of these classes as in previous years—viz., 13 hands 2 in.; but they recommended that in the stallion classes the lower height applying to stallions three years old should be inserted. In deference to the representations from exhibitors, the condition of the 1907 show as to preference being given in the Shetland classes to ponies of the riding type would not be enforced in 1908. Mr. G. Norris Midwood had reported to the committee that he had engaged the Whitehall Rooms at the Hotel Metropole for the members' annual dinner, to take place on Friday, March 13.

This report was adopted.

The dates of the council meetings in 1908 were arranged as follows:—Friday, February 7; Friday, April 10; Thursday, June 4; Thursday, November 5; Friday, December 11.

Good Prices for Hunters.

A most successful sale of Hunters took place at the Leicester Repository on the 14th inst., high prices being paid for several really good lots. The highest average of the afternoon was £199 10s., paid for the stud of Mr. G. Cornwallis West, 300 guineas being paid for the bay gelding Exchange, 250 for Stag's Eye, and 150 for the weight-carrier King John. Mr. G. Sheppard's draft averaged £115, Moygaddy bringing in 160 guineas, Rosada 120, and Egypt 100; while Countess Wrangel's Robin Hood, well known with the V. W. H., Pytchley, and Mr. Fernie's hounds, realised 110 guineas. Mr. Broadley accepted 130 guineas for Golden Eagle, and Sir Nevill Gunter, who is not hunting this season, sold Lockwood for 75 guineas and Brilliant for 65 guineas.

It is reported that an Essex farmer has just received a gift of harness under somewhat unusual circumstances. He was driving near Chelmsford, when his horse shied at a passing motor car and broke its breeching and traces. It was no fault of the motorist, and the farmer did not even take the number of the car when it stopped and the occupants rendered him assistance. On arriving at Chelmsford, however, the owner pulled up at a harness maker's, and said the farmer had taken the incident in such a sportsmanlike manner that he should like to present him with a new set of harness, which he paid for there and then.

In view of the partial failure of the potato crop and the damage done to the oat crop by the prolonged wet, the Chief Secretary has decided to authorise boards of guardians to obtain supplies of seed potatoes and seed oats for sale to occupiers of holdings valued at and under £15. Money will be lent to the guardians for this purpose, and the price of the seed will be recoverable in two instalments, the first collectable with the rate for 1909, and the second with the rate for the following year. Notification to this effect was transmitted on Tuesday by the Local Government Board to the guardians of all unions where a possible shortage of seed has been reported.

SHEEP.

Notes and Jottings.

IT has been urged time after time that one of the most profitable sources of income for the occupiers of land in this country is the flock. Many have contended that sooner or later the profit derivable from the keeping of sheep will be very seriously diminished if not entirely taken away owing to the fact of the huge importations of mutton from abroad.

WE are told that statistics are dry and uninteresting matter, and do not appeal to the general reader. It is a pity that such is the case, for there is much information that would be of value and utility to the feeders and breeders of live stock if greater attention were given to the information that could be gathered from the statistics issued in connection with our live stock import trade.

OCCASION required the writer to refer to the importation of mutton, and on looking back through the records of previous years, he found that the quantity of mutton imported during the month of November, 1907, was 242,688 cwt., and thirteen years previously in the same month the quantity imported was 279,615 cwt. This shows that, despite all the increase in the area from whence our mutton supplies are derived during the past thirteen years, that the actual quantities received during the past month were some 37,000 cwt. less than thirteen years previously.

FACTS of this description should give confidence to the flockmaster. It may be that there will be an increase in the quantity supplied, but given that this does happen, the increased consumption of mutton that one knows takes place at the present time, coupled also with the fact of the increase of the population, there is certainly every indication that the flockmaster may look forward for some long time, at least, to fully remunerative prices for his mutton, particularly if he does that which he should do, properly finishes the same before sending it to the market.

BEFORE leaving the trade and navigation returns it will be of interest to note that during the past month, November, 1907, there were shipped from this country 1,822 sheep, the larger proportion of which breeders know full well were exported for stud purposes, but the whole of which the governmental authorities of this country persist in stating were sent abroad for food, realising the excellent average of £11 1s. per head, taking the declared value as the basis of calculation, the numbers exported being 4·65 per cent. in excess of those for the same period of the previous year.

THE Christmas fat stock shows have been dealt with very fully, and, taken as a whole, one cannot question but that the exhibition of sheep has been of advantage to many, if not all the breeds.

TAKING a retrospect of this year's fat stock shows enables one to offer some suggestions as to how such shows might be still further improved and made more valuable. In one respect this could be done by attracting by some means or the other, greater attention to the classes for cross-bred sheep. The breeders of pure-bred sheep at home have the greatest possible interest in seeing these classes made more prominent features at all the fat stock shows.

IT is possible that some may not agree with the suggestion, but in the writer's opinion no greater benefit could accrue to any particular breed than that which should be proved by actual results with that particular breed, by being used as one of the parents of the cross-bred sheep it was able to transmit to its progeny in a greater degree than any other its principal characteristics.

FOR instance, we have seen for years the result of the Oxford-Hampshire Down cross. That such a cross gives good sheep and satisfactory results no one will gainsay. Then we have that very fine cross exhibited this year, of the Dorset ram and Southdown ewe. Another cross, the Kent ram and the Southdown ewe, has been very prominently to the fore at some of the local shows, but so far as our reference to the showyard reports enables us, we have found no distinct reference to the produce resulting from the cross breeding of the Oxford Down on the Scotch ewes, the Lincoln on the Blackfaced ewes, and many other crosses that might be, with advantage, tested. One point that militates the popularity and increased competition in these classes is, that all kinds of cross-breeds have to compete together. Is it possible that some arrangements might be made whereby classes should be instituted for specially named crosses? If this were the case, there is no question but that many more competitors would be induced to take part in these competitions.

THE reason these Cross-bred classes are being advocated by the writer is that it is in such classes as these that are, in his opinion, of the greatest value to the pure breed sheep-breeders of this country, particularly so at the larger shows, such as Smithfield, the Birmingham, and the Norwich Christmas shows, because amongst the attendants at these shows one generally finds a considerable number of breeders and others who are interested in the production of mutton in other countries, and therefore no better opportunity could well be found to show these gentlemen the value of the pure-bred sire, in reference to the production of the cross-bred animal, than such classes as have been referred to above.

A REFERENCE to the Ashford Show report calls to mind the fact that flockmasters might be induced to give considerably more support to the Christmas fat-stock shows, if such fat-stock shows gave inducement and opportunity to exhibit their wool.

DOUBTLESS it would be stated that most of the wool, if not all of it, had been disposed of long before the Christmas fat stock shows come round, and therefore there is no likelihood that many competitors would keep over fleeces on purpose for exhibition at such shows.

THIS, however, was not the result found at Ashford this year; no less than twenty-eight entries were made in the three classes, and the result of that keen competition was most interesting to all who were connected with the great sheep industry of Kent.

THERE was full opportunity and ample time for the examination of these fleeces, and the marked difference in the uniformity of those that won and those that did not only goes to prove how essentially necessary it is that such exhibitions, not only for this, but for every other breed, should be encouraged and increased as much as possible.

THE value of the fleece in an important item in the receipts of all who are flockmasters, and



Our illustration above is of the Pen of Crossbred Longwool Sheep with which Mr. S Linton, junr., of Posso, Peebles, won a First Prize at the recent Smithfield Club Show. They were by a Border Leicester ram out of a Cheviot ewe, were 19 months 3 weeks old on December 1st, and weighed at the Smithfield Show 7 cwt. 12 lb.

if by care and selection the value of those fleeces can be increased, it means a greater chance of profit being realised.

IT is the same with wool as with mutton, and, in fact, with every other commodity, that the better the produce is the better is the price realised; and further, the prime quality of any commodity has always this other great advantage, that no matter how depressed the market for it may be, such quality always commands a readier and better sale than that which is ranked second grade, or inferior.

Hampshire Down Sheep Breeders' Association.

The report presented at the annual meeting of the Hampshire Down Sheep Breeders' Association stated that during the year 41 new members had been elected, making the total number of members (after allowing for withdrawals upon dispersion of flocks, deaths, &c.) 442, or a net increase of 20. The total number of sheep entered in Volume 18 was 237,377, viz.:—172,225 breeding ewes, 61,883 stock ewe tegs, 3,269 rams (975 of which were registered singly), making a total of 237,377. The number of new flocks registered was 43, and old flocks recorded 371, total 417, or a net increase of 14. The association still showed progression, both as regarded membership, which extended to 19 English counties and Ireland, and the number of sheep registered. The issue of export certificates during the year had increased, 541 having been issued in respect of animals for export to widely different foreign countries and colonies, a fact which testified to the increasing popularity of the Hampshire Down as an early maturity, good wool, and prime mutton-producing class of sheep.

The shepherds' prize competition for rearing the largest percentage of lambs and ewe tegs had again given very general satisfaction, the average breed of lambs in those flocks entered for competition being 115·35 per cent., with an average loss of 1·84 per cent., and the average percentage of loss on tegs entered in the competition only ·33. The flock prize competition, for which the sum of £60 was voted as prize money by the council, had not met with that support which the enterprise merited, the total entries in the three classes numbering only thirteen, and a portion of the prizes in each class had to be withheld for lack of sufficient entries under the rules.

The annual statement showed a net balance in hand of £187 4s. 9d., with no arrears whatever and no outstanding liabilities, and £900 invested in Consols, total £1,087 4s. 9d., as against £1,043 18s. 3d. in 1906.

The Colouring of Show Sheep.

The report and balance-sheet having been adopted, Mr. Notley proposed "That the present practice of colouring Hampshire Down sheep for exhibition purposes is highly detrimental to the best interests of the breed, and therefore ask the council to take immediate measures to put an end to the practice." He said it was generally recognised that stock should be sent to shows in such a condition that the judges might be able to judge them fairly. He did not think sheep should be artificially coloured so as to impede the judges in their decisions as regarded the quality of the stock. Perhaps he was going to make a rather strong assertion, but he should not make an assertion he could not prove, and he said that Hampshire Down sheep were put into the show ring so artificially coloured that it was literally almost impossible for a judge to tell the colour of a sheep's skin and the texture of the wool. Not only that, but the amount of powder colouring put on the back of a sheep materially interfered with the natural touch of the sheep. If anyone demurred to his remarks he would quote facts to prove them. The same thing applied to the sale ring. Their ram lambs at the present time were put into the sale ring so highly coloured from surface to skin, and so thickly powdered with colouring, that even some of their own ram breeders, and the association's authorised judges, had bought rams and had to discard them as useless. He thought they would all agree with him that the Hampshire Down Breeders' Association should alter this state of affairs, and that it was to the advantage of the breed that it should be altered. A system that allowed one of their own experts to be taken in ought to be abolished.

Mr. W. J. K. Waters seconded the resolution, and said he did so from a buyer's point of view. Unless they examined a ram before it came into the ring they were deceived. They often found dark wool about a ram, which they would not have had at any price. If the colour had not been put on the sheep they could have detected it with the naked eye.

Mr. Flower said, as one of those who had been exhibiting in the show ring for a long time, he thought he had a right to say something on this matter. He was sorry to hear Mr. Notley assert that anyone had been robbed. They had recently had this matter before the National Sheep Breeders' Association, of which he had been chairman during the past year. The matter of colouring show sheep was discussed, and it was decided that members, whoever they were, had a right to show their sheep in the way they thought best. A rider was added to the resolution to the effect that they deprecated, and he thought everyone did, excessive colouring. He thought they ought to be able to show their sheep as they liked, and he would ask Mr. Notley to go into the show and look at the cattle. Let him look at the Herefords. Was not the comb and the oil brush used?

Mr. Notley: They are not painted.

Mr. Flower said colouring was not painting sheep. The man who painted his sheep was a rogue, and he did not mind saying so. If they went to Shire horse shows they would see the animals covered with sawdust. They knew for what reason that was done, but it was not stopped. Let them go to pig shows. Were not pigs oiled?

Mr. Notley: We dare not colour them.

Mr. Flower: Do you oil them? One thing applies as well as another. Proceeding, Mr. Flower contended that they had a right to show their stock in the best way they could, and he did not believe that any of them wanted to take in a buyer. He saw a South American buyer that day—one of the best buyers he had got—and he told him (Mr Flower) that they liked to see sheep coloured, because it made them look uniform. He thought this motion required a good deal of consideration before it was carried.

Mr. Cary Coles said that this was not a new question. It came before them ten years ago, and it had since come before the National Sheep Breeders' Association. The broad principle which Hampshire Down breeders had gone on hitherto—and he thought that it was a right one—was that so long as a man coloured his sheep so as to show them to better advantage, and did nothing to defraud the public, he had a perfect right to do so. In every commercial undertaking a person who exposed his goods for sale was allowed to do so to the best advantage, but if they stopped the colouring of sheep they would prevent sheep breeders from showing their sheep to the best advantage. He was prepared to go with Mr. Notley if anyone put so much powder on the sheep so as to hide the dark wool. But was that general? If it was, he was happy in having had no experience of it. He should vote against the motion.

Mr. Kerr said he thought previous speakers had wandered a little beyond the subject. This resolution had nothing to do with the sale of sheep. It referred to the exhibition of sheep, and he should not for a minute support any action being taken which would interfere with the liberty of the individual. The individual farmer must colour his sheep if he liked, or leave them uncoloured. He thought the whole question was, was colour an aid to the judges in deciding which was the best sheep? Would any gentleman in that room conscientiously say that colouring was an aid to the judges in the discharge of their serious and at times very heavy duties? He said it was not, and therefore he thought the association should put a stop to the colouring of exhibition sheep. If they did so, he thought it would be doing a great deal of good to the breed. As representing a pretty extensive exhibitor of the Hampshire Downs, he was prepared to say that he should welcome the day when the colouring of sheep would be done away with. (Applause.)

The resolution was carried by 16 votes to 13.

The secretary said the resolution would now go before the council for consideration.

Ear Marking.

The president said the council had decided to adopt an official tattoo ear-mark, which would come into force in the early spring. In the first year the marking would be done at the expense of the association, but afterwards as might be decided.

Mr. W. J. K. Waters asked how many sheep they were going to mark, and the secretary replied the whole of the flock the first year, and afterwards the lambs of each year.

Mr. W. J. K. Waters: And have you considered who is to pay for the marking next year?

The Secretary: That is to be decided by the council later.

Various votes of thanks concluded the meeting.

At a council meeting prior to the annual meeting it was resolved to give prizes, as last year, at the Royal and Bath and West Shows, viz., £28 and £10 respectively.

The date for the next council meeting was fixed for Monday, January 13, at Salisbury.

Transactions in Store Stock.

(Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

At Clifden Fair, co. Galway, held on December 18, there was a smaller fair than usual; good demand for conditioned Polled cattle and a good all round clearance effected. Calves, 3rd class, £2 10s. to £3; yearlings, 3rd class, £4 15s. to £5 10s.; two-year-olds, 3rd class, £6 10s. to £7 7s. 6d.; three-year-olds, 3rd class, £7 10s. to £9; springers, 3rd class, £8 5s. to £11.

AUCTION SALES.

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Norwich, Norfolk.



The Joint Board of the Pig Breeders' Societies.

A meeting of the joint board of the Pig Breeders' Societies was held by permission of the Smithfield Club in the Stewards' Room, Agricultural Hall, Islington, when in the absence of the chairman Mr. Hayter presided. Mr. Chamberlain, from the Board of Agriculture, also attended.

The secretary stated that he forwarded the resolution passed at the last meeting, recommending an area of half a mile to be drawn round any outbreak of swine fever, and the movement of swine entirely prohibited in that area, and the communication had been acknowledged. It was pointed out to Mr. Chamberlain that the pedigree breeders were the greatest sufferers through the regulations, and that it was very rarely that swine fever broke out on their premises.

Mr. Chamberlain said that it was a difficult matter to make a given radius, as it might take a part of more than one petty sessional division. The matter was receiving the attention of the board, and he hoped that shortly considerable modifications would be made in the movement orders, and that there would be less difficulty in getting licences.

After some discussion and queries which Mr. Chamberlain replied to, a vote of thanks was given to him for attending, and to the council of the Smithfield Club for the use of the room.

National Pig Breeders' Association.

A meeting of the council of the above association was held by permission of the council of the Smithfield Club in the Prince's Saloon, Agricultural Hall, Islington, the president-elect, Mr. Frost, presiding. The Finance Committee reported that they had elected Mr. Howard Taylor chairman. The balance in hand is £62 9s. 2d., and subscriptions outstanding £10 10s. Accounts for payment to the end of the year amount to £36. It was resolved that the secretary be empowered to take steps for the collection of subscriptions outstanding after January 1, 1908.

The Editing Committee reported the election of Mr. Ibbotson as chairman. They had granted prefixes to Messrs. Briant, Carter, Scarth Combe, Harvey Foster, A. Johnson, and Measures. They recommend no alteration in the conditions of entry for Vol. XXV., and that the Herd Book for the coming year be again printed by the Wilts County Mirror Company. They arranged to meet at Derby on February 10, 1908, to receive the entries for Vol. 24. Report was adopted.

The council confirmed the resolution passed at the annual meeting that on and after January 1, 1908, the charge for registering a prefix and affix should be £1 0s.

With regard to the resolution for classes for boars under eighteen months, it was agreed to give the prize money for those classes, as the R.A.S.E was giving the prize money for the classes of the same age.

Nineteen new members were elected.

The report of the special meeting of the editing Committee, called to consider Sir Oswald Mosley's protest against the entry at several shows of Mr. F. W. Gilbert's boar, Mickleover Monster, was read. After hearing considerable evidence they were reluctantly compelled to decide that the protest was sustained.

The next meeting was arranged for Wednesday, March 4, 1908, at the Bingley Hall, Birmingham.

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

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HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL, Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL Catthorpe, Rugby.

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MUNTZ, FREDERICK ERNEST, Umberslade, Hockley Heath, Warwickshire. Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, prize-winners.—Particulars from Mr. JOHN T. B. HARTLEY, Estate Office.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby. — SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners, on Sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

PEARSON, E. E., Brickendonbury, Hertford. Shire Stallions, Mares and Stock for service and sale; prize winners. Stations: Hertford, Great Eastern and Great Northern.—Apply Estate Office, Brickendonbury, Hertford.

ROWELL, JOHN, Bury, Huntingdon. Breeder Shires and Hackneys; Stallions for sale, hire, or service at home; mares and fillies for sale.

WHITEHEAD, Robert, Fashionably bred mares and fillies in natural condition on Sale. Stallion, Bodenham King 17177.—Apply J. M. JOHNSTONE, Hargate Hall, Buxton. Station, and telegrams, Millers Dale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

BENSON, ALFRED, Upper Gatton Park, Merstham, Surrey. Hackney Stallions: Copper King 7714, reserve champion, London Hackney Shows, 1905 and 1906; yearling Colts and Fillies by Copper King and other well-known Stallions for sale. For particulars, pedigrees, &c., apply to T. Hyett.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

SMITH, THOMAS, Shirley Stud, Hall Green, Birmingham. Breeder of Pedigree Hackneys and Ponies. Owner Hackney Stallion, "Viscount Hopwood" 8686; Pony Stallions, "Finderfields Horace" 7052, "Shirley King Horace" 9882. Prize winners on sale.

WHITWORTH, ROBERT, Warley Stud, Halifax, and Londesboro' Stud, Market Weighton. Hackney Stallions: Polonius, Edenmyay, Beckingham Squire 8078. Hackneys and Harness Horses always on sale. Matched pairs a speciality.

PONIES.

BEALE, Mrs. A. J., Cacketts, Cudham, Kent. Prize-bred Pedigree Shetlands for sale; three grand Stallions at stud.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

BELL, CHARLES, Norley Hall, Norley, Cheshire. Shorthorn Bulls for sale, from Kirklevington, Red Rose, Barrington, and Cruickshank tribes. Telegrams "Norley"; railway stations, Acton Bridge and Hartford.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

MOSLEY, Sir OSWALD.—High-class Shorthorns. Home Farm, Rolleston Hall. Bulls and Heifers on sale.—Apply A. E. Beck, Rolleston, Burton-on-Trent.

CATTLE—*continued.*

SHORTHORNS—*continued.*

DUDDING, MR. HY., Riby Grove, Great Grimsby, has for inspection and sale the largest pure herd of SHORTHORNS in the county, which comprise the best Bates, Booth, Cruikshank and Scotch blood. The prize bulls recently used and now in service are Prince Alastair 89647, a noted winner, and sold at the Riby Sale, 1906, for 1,000 gs.; Scottish Daisy Duke 79916, Merry Squire 5th 85626, Stratton Squire 80092, Bapton Favourite 76089, Wanderer's Chief 80210, Royal Pearl 84959, President Pierrepont 92846, Aberdeen 87764, Scottish Standard 97058, and Strowan Butterfly 23rd. In July of last year 51 Shorthorns and 56 Lincoln Rams were sold to average 125 gs. each, realising a total of nearly £14,000. In July this year 53 Shorthorns and 48 Rams averaged over 90 gs. each, with a total of nearly £10,000. Numerous prizes have been won at the leading shows in England by the Riby Shorthorns and Lincoln Sheep. Telegrams: "Dudding, Keelby."

PREECE, JOHN ADNEY, Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston, Northampton.—Herd of 250 Shorthorns, best Bates and Scotch blood; stock Bulls, Duke of Barrington 70th, Primrose Earl 89641, and Royal Baron 93192; Bulls and Heifers for sale.

ROTHWELL, R. R., Much Hoole, near Preston. Pedigree Shorthorns, chiefly Scotch blood. Stock bull Strowan Marquis 13th, winner of many prizes. Young bulls and heifers always on sale.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

SUSSEX.

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HEREFORDS.

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PULLEY, CHARLES THORNTON, Lower Eaton, Hereford.—Noted prize-winning herd of HEREFORD CATTLE. First prize Royal winners, Protector 19660, 1900; Eaton Champion 21354, 1903; and Ashleaf 3rd, 1905. This herd is headed by Eaton Champion and Glendower 2nd 22196, also a Royal winner. Bulls and Heifers for sale. Also prize-winning Shropshire Sheep.—Apply Mr. HEDLEY JONES, Lower Eaton Estate Office, Hereford.

DEVONS.

BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton Williton, Taunton, Breeder of Pedigree Devon Cattle. A speciality for large size, with quality and robust constitutions; colour dark red. Sent to all parts of the world. Prices moderate

SKINNER, ALFRED C., Pound, Bishops-Lydeard, Somerset. Pedigree Devons, constitution, quality, size, milk; 600 prizes principal shows, many champions; exports most successful; bulls and heifers for sale. Inspection invited.

TRIBLE, ABRAHAM, Halsdon, Holsworthy, North Devon.—Large old-established Herd of big size, strong constitutioned, good milking Devon Cattle. Winners of numerous First and Champion Prizes, R.A.S.E. Champion twice; many exports, all successful. Prices moderate. Tuberculin Test Certificates.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

BRIDGES, J. H.—This old-established herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle of the leading families can be seen at Langshott Home Farm, Horley, Surrey (near Horley Station, L.B. & S.C.R.), and catalogues obtained on application to Mr. Albert Pulling

CRIDLAN, J. J., Maisemore Park, Gloucester, Erica, Pride of Aberdeen, Lady Ida and other noted tribes. Stock Bulls, Wizard of Maisemore (21,465), Champion and winner of gold medals, 1905; Everwise (24,436), Champion and medal winner, 1907; Bengal of Ballindalloch prize winner, 1906.

HURSLEY PARK HERD OF ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE, the property of Sir George Cooper, Bart., comprising Erica, Pride, Miss Burgess, Lady Ida, Matilda, Jemima of Morlich families. Prizes won during 1906: 7 firsts, 3 seconds, 3 reserves, 1 challenge cup, 2 silver medals, 3 reserve champions. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.—Catalogues on application to J. E. Thorold, Estate Office, Hursley Park, Winchester.

THE ROCKLIFFE PARK HERD of Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, Ericas and Prides. Stock Bull, Pundit of Preston (17,156), Champion at Highland Show, 1904.—Apply, R. C. SWAN, Rockliffe Park, Darlington.

AYRSHIRES.

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CATTLE—*continued*

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers Bulls (chiefly from his excellent milking prize RED POLLS, including Champions, both male and female) and young Bulls, Cows Heifers.—Apply, C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford, England

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FOWLER, P. T., Importer, Watford, Herts. A choice selection of pedigree Jersey and Guernsey Cows, Heifers and young Bulls from prize herds of the Islands; particulars forwarded; inspection invited.

JERSEYS, and Alderney Guernseys, fresh calved and near calving. Prices, particulars.—R. WHEADON, Minster.

MERTON GRANGE GUERNSEYS.—Property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. This Herd contains Champion Bull, 1906; also Bull Royal Governor, winner of seven Firsts, and unbeaten 1907. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of best Breeding for Sale. Telegrams and particulars, W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay.

STERN, Sir E. D., Fan Court, Chertsey, Surrey. Herd of pedigree Jersey Cattle. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for sale.

TICHBORNE PARK, GUERNSEY.—Yearling Bulls and Heifers for sale—Apply, D. MICHIE, Estate Office, Tichborne, Alresford, Hants.

GALLOWAYS.

GRAHAM, ROBERT, Auchengassel, Twynholm, breeder fashionable Galloway Cattle, winners at Royal and Highland Societies Shows. Pedigree Bulls, Cows, and Heifers, also Blue-greys for feeding, for sale. Commissions carefully executed.

KERRIES & DEXTER KERRIES.

CORY, Sir CLIFFORD JOHN, Bart., M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Champion-ship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows.—Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

RATTRAY, DAVID, Gortnaskehy, Ballybunion, Co. Kerry. Pedigree Prize-winning Herd of Kerries and Dexters. 155 Prizes and Honours won by Cattle from this Herd past three years. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

THE DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE'S PRIZE-WINNING DEXTER HERD.—During 1904 and 1905 this Herd won more prizes than any other three Dexter Herds combined, including both first and second milking prizes Royal, 1905, and first London Dairy Show, 1906, Bulls, Cows, and Heifers generally for Sale.—CHILD, Compton Place, Eastbourne.

DUTCH.

BROWN, JOHN, Marden Farm, Hertford. Dutch, the best Dairy Cattle in the world. Over 200 head kept. Record, one cow gave 1,615 gallons of milk in 52 weeks. Bulls for sale.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

ANDERSON, JOHN, Barton-on-Humber.—The old Barton Flock of Pure-bred LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP, Flock Book 105. This flock is noted for hard constitutions and fine, lustrous wool. Inspection invited. Telegrams as above.

ATKINSON, T., & SON, North Kelsey, Lincoln. Old-established flock of pure Lincoln Longwools. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Noted for great size and long lustrous wool. Have given great satisfaction at home and abroad. Inspection invited

BROCKLEBANK, JOHN, Bassingham, Lincoln (Flock 24). Pure-bred Lincoln Longwool Rams and Ewes. This old flock has been carefully bred for 100 years. Telegrams: Bassingham.

BROOKS, W. J., Stowe Lodge, Weedon, Northants (Registered Flock 166), has for sale Rams and Ewes of best blood.

DRAKES, Wm., Tealby, Market Rasen. Flock No. 72 of Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs of best blood for sale. Lincoln Red Shorthorns. Prices moderate.

DUDDING, MR. HY., Riby Grove, Great Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale the largest flock of pure Lincoln Longwool Sheep in the county, and many prize-winners. They are famous for great size, fine wool, and 150 years' good breeding, and at the home Sales have made the highest prices on record. In July, 1906, 51 shearling rams sold to average £151 each, the record price being made for a single ram, namely 1,050 gs., and on two other occasions have rams made 1,000 gs. The wonderful success of the Riby sheep at the Royal Show, Lincoln, 1907, and at the Home Sale held the week following, averaging £94 each, proves that the Riby blood leads the way. Champion and premier prizes have been secured at all the leading exhibitions throughout the world. Telegrams "Dudding, Keelby."

MONEY, FRED, Silk Willoughby, Sleaford. Flock established over a century. Prize Rams from this flock fetched over £1,000 in the Argentine Republic, 1903, one making £750, the highest price paid at a sale held in Buenos Ayres. Rams for sale. Inspection invited.

(*Continued on page* 784.)

SHEEP—*continued.*

LINCOLN LONGWOOL—*continued.*

SMITH, HENRY, jun., Cropwell Butler, Nottingham. Lincoln Longwool Flock No. 7, winner of £2,361 in prizes. Champion pen Lincolns, Smithfield Show, 1896; Association Championship, Leicester, 1897; Association Championship for pen of 3 Shearling Rams, Yorkshire, 1900; Championship, Rutland, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, and 1906. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.

LEICESTERS.

SIMPSON BROS., Pilmoor House, Hunmanby, Yorkshire, Breeders of Leicesters (Flock No. 2 in Leicester Book), have always for inspection or sale Rams and Ewes. These Sheep are of great size with heavy fleeces, and include Royal Winners.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

THE CHILMARK FLOCK OF REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—Owner JAMES FLOWER, Chilwark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records. Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, out of 11 years competing, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" won eight times, thrice second, with pens of 8 ram lambs; a marvellous record. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 13 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05-06. At the Royal at Derby, 1906, every First Prize, two Seconds, and the Champion were won; an unequalled success!! Champions Birmingham, 1905, over all breeds, Reserve in 1906. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Short-wools, Smithfield, 1904-05-06. Highest average past 18 years. Bridford Fair, Aug. 12, 100 Ram Lambs, annual sale. Selections for Sale.

COLES, CARY, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1907.—Extraordinary records: Twin ram lambs let for 205 and 120 guineas. Ninety averaged £21 10s. Selections always for Sale.

DIBBEN, JOHN HERBERT, Bishopstone, Salisbury. Breeder of Pure Hampshires. Annual Sale in August, at Salisbury, of 100 Rams and Ram Lambs. Flock consists of 800 Ewes.

OVEY, R. L., Hernes, Henley-on-Thames.—Pedigree HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK, Reg. Vol. IV. Prize-winners leading shows last five years.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. The Cholderton flock is individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded in the Hampshire Down Flock Book. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury

OXFORD DOWNS.

ADAMS, GEORGE, Royal Prize Farm Flock, Faringdon, Berks. Pure Oxford Down Sheep, Shearling Rams, Ram Lambs, Ewes and Ewe Lambs for Sale. Special arrangements with foreign buyers. Many first prizes at R.A.S.E. and other shows during past 25 years, including 2 first, 2 second, and 4 other prizes, World's Fair, Chicago, and 7 firsts, 4 seconds and champion at Royal Bath and West, Royal Counties, etc., this year.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

HOUGHTON, J. H., Western Farm, Asfordby, Melton Mowbray. 300 Ewe Flock of Pedigree Registered Oxfords. Sales Sept., at Nottingham, Melton, Edinburgh, &c. Ewes and Rams privately in autumn. Many prizes. Inspection invited.

STILGOE, H. W., Adderbury, Banbury. Annual Ram Sale at Oxford. Others on Sale privately; also Ewes. Many First and Champion prizes.

TREADWELL, JOHN, Upper Winchendon, Aylesbury.—Oxford Down Sheep. Annual Ram Sales first Wednesday in August. Prizes won at R.A.S.E. 24 years in succession. Ewes for Sale.

WHITE, JOHN, Ham Court Farm, Bampton, R.S.O., Oxon. Pedigree Oxford Down Sheep of best and purest strains for Sale. Foreign and home buyers invited to inspect.

SOUTHDOWNS.

COOPER, ALLAN, Norton, Bishopstone, Lewes. Registered Southdown Flock, No. 70; trade marked; hardy constitution and good wool. This flock of 520 ewes is kept on its native hills. Rams, ewes and lambs for sale.

SHROPSHIRES.

CORBET, Sir WALTER, Bart.—Registered flock of Shropshires of oldest and purest strains. Noted for true type and first rate wool. Have won numerous prizes at Bath and West, Shropshire and West Midland, Royal Lancashire, Wirral and Birkenhead, etc. Can be seen at any time on application to Reginald Astley, Acton Reynold, Shrewsbury.

SHEEP—*continued.*

SHROPSHIRES—*continued.*

NOCK, EDWARD, Harrington Hall, Shifnal. Salop, owner of the old Sutton Maddock Pedigree Shropshire Flock. Founded 1832. Winner of prizes at most of the leading shows in England, U.S.A., and Canada.

WENSLEYDALES.

UNDERLEY WENSLEYDALES (Blue-faced) from the best blood obtainable. Successfully exhibited.—Apply, G. G. ROBINSON, Bailiff, Underley Farm, Kirkby Lonsdale.

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

CHARLES SPENCER, having taken over the Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts, herd of Large and Middle White Pigs, which won 12 prizes and reserves with 11 exhibits at Derby Royal, will price any of them.

FULWOOD HERD LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES, property R. R. Rothwell. 200 head bred from winners at leading shows.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for Sale at moderate prices.

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse Station, G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices. —J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM. Herd of Large White Pigs. The oldest and largest Herd in Notts County. Over 100 Breeding Sows kept. Upwards of 600 to select from. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—Apply ARTHUR A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

SPALDING HERD of Pedigree Large Whites, young stock and in-pig Gilts for Sale. All bred from great winners.—ALFRED W. WHITE, "Hillegom," Spalding.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 100 to choose from. Correspondence invited. Grand young breeding stock always on Sale.—Apply R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts (15 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—Apply to Mr. W. BAINBRIDGE, Walton House, Warrington.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

THE CATTON HERD of Prize-winning MIDDLE WHITE PIGS, property of J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stock Boar Castlecroft Mikado, 1st Park Royal, 1st Bath and West. Gelts and Boars on Sale. Prices moderate.—Apply BAILIFF, Raddle Farm, Edingale, Tamworth.

LARGE BLACKS.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath. Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Large Black Pigs of the best strains of blood, noted for their docility and for the production of a large proportion of lean meat. Good selection of Boars, unrelated Gilts, and in-pig Sows for Sale at reasonable prices.

CATTON HERD OF PRIZE-WINNING LARGE BLACK PIGS.—Stock Boar Trevisquite Excelsior 1487, 1st Devon County, 2nd and Reserve Champion Royal Show, 1906; pigs kept in hardy natural condition; gelts and boars always on sale.—Apply, J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stations: Croxall, 2½ miles (M.R.); Alrewas, 3½ miles (L.N.W.).

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS.—Select Herd-bred from choice Prize Winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale, moderate prices.—H. J. CLARKE, The Slade, Roughley, Sutton Coldfield.

PIGS—*continued.*

LARGE BLACKS—*continued.*

HASKETON CHAMPION PRIZE HERD OF LARGE BLACK PIGS.—This herd has won the Royal championship three out of four times, and is the only herd having won the breed challenge cup. Record: 47 firsts, 37 seconds, 11 thirds, 126 prize-winning cards; the herd this year being the winners of 14 firsts, 6 seconds, 2 thirds, championship and silver cup in five shows. Gelts and Boars at moderate prices consistent with quality. Exportation a speciality.—Apply, C. F. MARRINER, Hasketon, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

PEDIGREE Large Black Pigs for Sale; Boars and Gilts, also young ones, cheap.—LILL, Martindales, Lincoln.

WHEN Breeding, breed from the best Pedigree Large Black Prize-winning Pigs. TREVEGLOS HOPEFUL II., winner of First prizes and R.A.S.E. Silver Challenge Cup, 1907, beating all other Cup winners; also 1st Prize Bath and West, Newport; 1st Royal Counties, Maidenhead; 1st Royal Cornwall, Liskeard; 1st Devon County, Bideford; also 1st prize at the Royal Show, Lincoln, for Boar and Reserve for Champion prize. Boars and Sows for Sale of the above strain at moderate prices.—Apply to JOHN WARNE, Treveglos Farm, St. Mabyn, R.S.O., Cornwall.

BERKSHIRES.

CARNARVON, the Earl of.—Prize winning Pedigree Herd. BOARS and GELTS, eligible Herd Book. Prices moderate.—Apply W. T. HALL, Highclere Farm, Newbury.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices

READING CORPORATION.—150 Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, leading prize-winning strains, from son of Champion Mikado 10433 and prize-winner Domino 11323; inspection invited.—Apply, Mr. T. Chettle, Manor Farm, Reading, Berks.

STALL PITTS HERD OF PEDIGREE BERKSHIRES. One of the Oldest Herds. Unsurpassed for true character, size, and quality. Choice selection of Boars and Sows on offer at moderate prices.—J. LAWRENCE, Stall Pitts, Shrivenham, Berks.

TAMWORTHS.

PEDIGREE TAMWORTHS, the property of C. HOWARD TAYLOR, Middlewood Hall; a few good young Boars and Gilts for sale.—Apply, Hampole Priory, Doncaster.

BORROWFIELD & COLSTON HERDS.

The property of R. MILLINGTON-KNOWLES
Colston Bassett Hall, Notts.

LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES.

The following First Prizes, Championships, and Medals have been obtained by pigs **BRED** in these Herds in 1907:
1st and Champion, Gold Medal, R.A.S.E., Lincoln.
1st & Champion, President's Medal, Highland, Edinburgh.
1st Welsh National, Aberystwyth.
1st Bath and West Newport; 1st Royal Counties.
1st Nottingham; 1st Suffolk; 1st Norfolk.
1st Derby.
1st Hereford and Worcester; Special Prize Lincoln Agricultural Society; 1st Great Yorkshire; 1st Newark.
A number of additional Firsts and other Prizes have also been gained at the above Shows.
At the St. Louis Exposition, U.S.A., in 1904, the Champion Boar, and the Grand Champion of the Exposition were bred at Colston Bassett.
The Foreign and Home trade has largely increased during 1907.—GILBERT H. ELLIOT, Estate Office, Colston Bassett, Notts.

For Sale.
PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.
Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.
GEORGE HOYLES,
Skidby Manor, near Hull.

GEORGE HOYLES
SKIDBY MANOR, HULL.

Breeder of Pure Lincoln Long Wool Sheep.
Lustrous Fleeces. Good Constitutions.
SUITABLE FOR HOME AND ABROAD. STOCK FOR SALE.

Sale of Lord Durham's Fat Stock.

The sale of the Earl of Durham's fat stock at Bowes House Farm, Fence Houses, near Durham, on Monday, attracted, as usual, a very large number of buyers, for his lordship's stock enjoys a reputation which long since established his sale amongst the front-rank gatherings of the kind in the North. The reputation was fully maintained, for a close and critical inspection of both cattle and sheep led to nothing but favourable comments on their condition from those best qualified to judge. Included in the cattle were four beasts which were shown by Lord Durham at the recent Christmas shows at York and Leeds, and all of which took honours in their class, and these were the objects of much admiration, followed later by spirited competition in the ring, where they brought the top prices of the sale.

There were West Highland steer and a black Angus steer, both of them first in their classes at York and Leeds, for which, after keen competition, the representative of the West Stanley Stores became the purchaser of both at £42 10s. and £45 respectively. Another prize-winner, a blue-grey heifer, was sold to the buyer of the Chester Stores for £30; whilst a fine black cross-bred steer, second in his class at York, was knocked down for £38 10s. to Mr. Graham, of Colliery Row, Fence Houses.

The Shorthorn steers numbered twenty-two, and were an all round useful lot, which varied in price from £27 15s. for a grand roan down to £20 5s. The total realised for the lot was £524 5s., which worked out at an average of £23 16s. 9d. Following these were ten Shorthorn heifers, a smaller lot, which brought £19 17s. 6d. all round, the total being £198 15s.

The blue greys, a lot of solid-looking "all-beef" animals, brought good average prices, both for steers and heifers. The steers, twenty-one in number, averaged £21 15s. 9d., and the heifers, a lot of twenty-four, a trifle over £22 8s. The "kylies," always a favourite section from their shaggy heads and solid looks, also did well, the steers averaging over £20 and the heifers over £18 each. The total for cattle, which excepting the special beasts, were computed to have brought from 8s. to 8s. 3d. a stone all round, was £2,332. The sheep brought capital prices all through, and it was estimated that the average price of mutton was about 9d. per lb. The grand total was £3,466 5s.

SOCIETIES.

The Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society's New Headquarters.

The new headquarters of the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society—Derby House, Winckley Square, Preston—were opened on Wednesday by the Earl of Derby in the presence of a large and representative gathering of agriculturists and others. Derby House is a substantial building, providing accommodation which was sadly needed for the secretarial staff, and it affords a becoming residence for the secretary, who is a tenant so far as his residential portion is concerned. There was a pleasant little ceremony at the opening. Mr. White presented the Earl of Derby with a gold key to admit the council and friends invited to the ceremony, and Lord Derby, in opening the door, wished the society success, expressing intense appreciation of the fact that the house was to be named Derby House.

Luncheon was then served in what will be the future council room, and about seventy sat down. These included the Earl of Derby, who presided, Sir Gilbert Greenall, the Lord Mayor of Liverpool, the Mayor of Preston, and the Mayor of Bolton.

After the loyal toasts had been honoured, Mr. Harcourt E. Clare submitted "The House of Stanley." Lord Derby had, he said, shown in the management of his estates an example to every landowner in the country. If the large estates of the land were managed like those of Lord Derby, and men in his position recognised their duties to the public as he and his family did, we should have heard very little of Socialism, which was the outcome of a deep sense of injustice at the abuse of power and the neglect of the wealthy to take their share in their responsibilities to the public, and to assist and alleviate the sufferings of the poor. With regard to Lord Derby's family's association with that society, an ancestor of his presided at a meeting in 1767 of a society from which the present society sprang.

The toast was drunk with enthusiasm.

Lord Derby, in acknowledgment, said that it had always been the hope of his family to be thoroughly identified with the interests of the great county with which they were associated. Referring to the red rose which had been presented to him, he remarked that the Red Rose was the tie which bound them together, and it was something nearer and dearer than a tie merely of interest or acquaintanceship. It was very well expressed by the remark of a farmer who welcomed him back on his return from Canada with the words, "For 200 years our families have been together, and never a scrap of paper." It was a homely expression and a sincere one.

His lordship spoke highly of Mr. Bohane's work for the society, and then brought to the meeting's notice the claims of the Royal Agricultural Society of England in Lancashire. He explained that owing to deaths and other causes the number of Lancashire members had been much diminished. He could understand that for a period not long ago there was hesitation to hold membership, but now the policy of reverting to the old country meetings had proved so successful he would ask Lancashire agriculturists to allow their names to be put forward as members of the Royal Agricultural Society, which carried with it many privileges, and would justify them in having delegates on the council who could claim the attention from the National Society which the county deserved and which, no doubt, it would receive from its most excellent representatives.

Mr. G. Norris Midwood proposed the "Town and Trade of Preston," to which the Mayor replied, and then followed the presentation by Lord Derby of the Honorary Life Vice-President membership of the society (enclosed in silver caskets) on the Mayor of Bolton and Mr. C. E. Linaker.

Mr. White proposed "The Visitors," and explained that the occupation of the new premises was really very little additional cost to the society. He expressed the universal regret at the absence of Mr. Windham Hale, and also of the Lord Mayor of Manchester, expressing the hope and belief that the society would have a successful show at Manchester next year. He coupled with the toast the names of the Lord Mayor of Liverpool and Sir Gilbert Greenall. Of the latter he said he had done much to improve the agriculture of the country, and had restored prosperity to the Royal Agricultural Society of England.

The Lord Mayor of Liverpool replied, and Sir Gilbert Greenall, who had quite a demonstration on rising to reply, paid a tribute to the great work, Mr. Bohane, the secretary of the Royal Lancashire Society, had accomplished. Referring to the Royal Agricultural Society and its success in such a purely rural district as Lincoln, he said it spoke volumes for the future of agriculture and the increasing interest taken in pedigree stock. When the Royal show visited that part of the world—which it desired to do in the near future, with their help—it hoped to put before the public such an exhibition as would outrival anything done in the annals of agricultural shows. That should be to the mutual advantage both of the Royal Lancashire and the Royal Society. There ought not to be a falling off in the membership of the Royal Society of England in a county like Lancashire. The Royal trusted that in its next visit the County Society would be at one with it, and that both would work together.

On the motion of the Earl of Derby, the health of the secretary, Mr. Bohane, was heartily drunk, and this concluded the proceedings.

Prior to the opening ceremony a meeting of the council of the society was held, at which the secretary announced the gift of an engraving of His Majesty the King, to which the Royal autograph had been graciously attached. The picture had been given by Mr. Philip Park, and was placed in the new permanent abode of the society behind what would be always the seat of the chairman. On either side of it are the portraits of the Earl of Derby and the late Earl of Lathom.

The business was mostly formal. Mr. John White was re-elected chairman, and Mr. Windham Hale, whose unavoidable absence was much regretted, vice-chairman of the council. Mr. Richard Webster, who has done yeoman service for the society in many capacities, and especially on the Showyard and Works Committee, was made deputy vice-chairman and ex-officio a member of all committees.

Glasgow.

The Glasgow Agricultural Society met some time ago to consider its financial position in view of a proposal to wind up its affairs. A scheme, as reported in these columns at the time, was then suggested by Colonel Mackenzie of getting the debenture-holders to waive all claims for past and future interest, on the understanding that the directors would pay as dividend from time to time what the society could afford. At a subsequent meeting Colonel Mackenzie reported that the great majority of the holders had fallen in with his scheme, and he asked a postponement to allow him to get into communication with those standing out. The adjourned meeting was held in Glasgow on Wednesday, when Mr. John Watson, the secretary, in the absence of Colonel Mackenzie, reported that all the debenture-holders, except those representing about £300, had agreed to the scheme. Only one holder, representing £100 of the total, had refused definitely to accept the scheme. Mr. James Rodger, Keir Mains, Dunblane, who presided, said that after hearing that report it would be inadvisable to rush into the idea of winding up the society. It was agreed to adjourn the meeting till January 8, when a further report will be submitted.

Thereafter the annual meeting of members was held. Mr. W. Watson Murray, Catter House, Drymen, presided. The annual report, which had been printed and circulated, dealt with the financial position, and the scheme discussed at the adjourned extraordinary general meeting, and contained the announcement that the annual stallion show had been fixed for February 4 and 5, and the summer show for May 6 and 7.

The chairman moved its adoption. Referring to the extraordinary general meeting, he said he thought Colonel Mackenzie's scheme would be carried through successfully. They had heard a great deal about the financial position of the society, but he was one of those who were extremely hopeful that the arrangements that had been almost completed with the debenture holders, would result in the affairs of the society being put upon a very much stronger financial footing.

The report was adopted. The Duke of Montrose was re-elected president, and Lord Newlands and Sir Hugh Shaw Stewart were appointed vice-presidents, whilst Mr. John Watson was re-elected secretary and treasurer.

Highland.

The 1908 show at Aberdeen was one of the chief topics discussed at the last meeting of the directors of the Highland and Agricultural Society. It was reported that the prize money offered from the society's funds for the show would be allocated as follows:—Cattle, £818; horses, £771; jumping, £149; sheep, £440; swine, £94; poultry, £170; dairy produce, £30; medals, &c., £20; forestry, £20; and Prince of Wales' gold medals; total, £2,512. This sum shows an increase over the Aberdeen 1902 show of £133, but a decrease from Edinburgh 1907 show of £493.

The committee recommended, and it was adopted, that the very highly and highly commended awards should remain as at present, but that the judges be allowed to give as many commended awards as they thought the classes deserved, thus bringing the awards into line with those of the Royal.

It was reported that the milk records committee had considered the movement in Ayrshire for the setting up of an independent body for conducting separate milk records among Ayrshire cattle. The proposal was to transfer the work to the Ayrshire Cattle Herd Book Society. The representatives of the Ayrshire Society had met the committee of the Highland and Agricultural Society, and the secretary of the latter (Mr. James Macdonald) had explained that it was an essential condition to the work being handed over that those breeders of Ayrshire who were not members of the Cattle Herd Book Society should be admitted to a voice in the management. That had been conceded very cordially. The proposa was agreed to.

Yorkshire.

The secretary, in presenting his annual report at the Yorkshire Agricultural Society's annual meeting, referred to the Barnsley Show and the local arrangements. He said that no better evidence of the goodwill and energy displayed by that local committee could be given than that Barnsley, with a population of only about 45,000 people, handed over to the society a local fund of £1,318 19s. 1d. The accounts had not yet been audited, but the estimated financial result is a profit of over £200. For the first time in the history of the society the show was held on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. The idea of keeping the show open on a Saturday was undoubtedly unpopular with exhibitors, but the council felt that owing to Barnsley being a mining district, and the railway communication inconvenient, they must largely depend on the local population, and they were advised that Saturday was the most convenient day. In justice to the railway companies it must be stated that no complaints have been received at the society's office with regard to the return of stock.

The thanks of the society, he added, were due to the Duke of Northumberland, who kindly allowed his interesting specimens of forestry exhibits to be sent. The loss on the sale of timber used in the construction of the buildings was 35 per cent., or 4 per cent. less than that of last year, but 2½ per cent. above the average. The council decided to carry over a part of the timber, of the value of £547 9s. 7d., less £109 10s. depreciation, which is now stored at Barnsley.

The secretary added that the council had decided to revert to the old practice at Halifax of holding the show on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. The council had also agreed to hold an exhibition of poultry.

The report was adopted.

Sir Savile Crossley was elected president for the ensuing year, whilst a cordial vote of thanks was accorded the retiring president, Lord Halifax, who was also elected a vice-president.

A letter was read from Mr. Alfred Rowntree, Field House Dairy, Kirkby Overblow, in which he said he wished the council to consider the weighing and testing of milk. "As you are aware," he wrote, "very valuable work is being done by the Highland and Agricultural Society and others in the south-west of Scotland in weighing and testing milk. We have a large number of dairy herds in Yorkshire, and I think the time has come for something of this sort to be done here if we are to face foreign competition successfully."

The secretary said the council were asked to do something in the same direction by the Agricultural Education Committee. The investigations now being made by the Highland Society as to the cost of the production of milk were of a very valuable and interesting character.

The matter was referred to the council for consideration.

Mr. George Scoby suggested that the council should arrange for a sale by auction of horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs on the second or third day of the show, as at the Royal, remarking that he believed it would prove of great benefit to exhibitors.

The Hon. H. W. Fitzwilliam regarded the suggestion as well worthy of consideration and believed the institution of such sales by the committee would prove very valuable.

The chairman, Lt.-Col. H. F. Dent, promised that the suggestion should receive the full consideration, of the committee, as should also a suggestion by Mr. Dixon, of Leeds, that exhibitors in the Yorkshire honey classes should not be limited in the number of hives shown.

Royal Cornwall.

At the last meeting of the council of the Royal Cornwall Agricultural Association it was decided to hold their next show at Helston on Wednesday and Thursday, June 11 and 12, 1908.

On the recommendation of the committee appointed to revise the schedule it was decided that on the entry forms provision should be made for certificates by exhibitors that the cattle exhibited are entered, or eligible for entry, in their respective herd-books. Viscount Falmouth is to be asked to alter the description in his special classes for Devon bulls so as to read "belonging to a resident Cornish tenant farmer," and in the heifer class "bred by and the property of a Cornish tenant farmer." The value of prizes for Guernsey and Jersey cows is to be increased.

In the sheep department there is to be a reduc-

tion of two classes for other Longwools than South Hams, those to remain being for rams of any age and pens of three yearling ewes. The prizes for yearling South Ham rams are to be advanced.

Regarding the offer of the president (the Duke of Leeds) to give £10 for special prizes, Mr. C. Rows moved, and it was carried, that this sum should be devoted to crossbred dairy cows or heifers, the property of Cornish tenant farmers. Seeing that the dairy industry had been given so much attention lately, and that it was one of the most remunerative departments of agriculture, they should do their best to encourage it.

In the horse department, the alterations included the addition of a class for two and three-year-old harness horses, to be led or shown in hand, and an addition was made to the prizes in the pig class for sows of the Black breed farrowed since 1904.

The regulations were altered to the effect that all animals exhibited must be the *bonâ-fide* property of the exhibitor at the date of entry, and it was also agreed that provision be made for weighing riders, there having been in the past, said Mr. J. de Cressy Treffry, considerable wrangling, a great deal of trouble about weight in some of the jumping competitions, and there had been unpleasantness between competitors on occasions because some had not carried the weight specified.

Regarding remounts, the committee recommended that there should be classes for cavalry horses, draught horses, and cobs on the second day of the show, and that the association should offer in prizes a similar amount to that which might be offered by the Government, who would probably offer from £5 to £9.

Mr. J. de Cressy Treffry said that the officer in charge of the Southern Command thought Cornwall would be a good recruiting ground for horses, and favoured the introduction of classes such as were recommended. The horses should be from four to six years of age, undocked ones would be preferred; but light, mealy-coloured horses were not required. Cobs should be able to carry 14 stone, cavalry horses 16 stone, and draught horses should be active, fit to carry a man postillion, trot with a load, and gallop upon favourable ground. Prizes would be withheld unless the total entries was ten. The remount officer attending the show might claim cavalry horses at prices not exceeding £40, draught horses £42, and cobs £30.

The Lancashire Federation

The annual meeting of the Lancashire Federation of Agricultural Societies, which now embraces thirty-three agricultural societies in Lancashire and the West of Yorkshire, took place on the 12th inst., when there were present the representatives of five important Cheshire societies, namely, Wirral and Birkenhead, the Cheshire, the Mid-Cheshire, Altrincham and Adlington Societies, and these are to be added to the federation if rules can be agreed on.

Sir Lees Knowles proposed that the above societies be accepted as members, but said that it was necessary, in order to have a complete federation of the societies of Lancashire and Cheshire, that the rules should be revised. They were at present framed on the one-day show system, and some of the societies that wished to join held two-day shows. The Cheshire and the Adlington societies had agreed to the rules, but Altrincham, Wirral, and Mid-Cheshire desired that certain amendments should be made. He proposed that the rules should be referred to a sub committee, consisting of two members of each of the five Cheshire societies and two of the Lancashire Federation. The committee would have to consider the question of proportionate representation and voting powers, according to number of members or the value of the money prizes awarded. It was also suggested that there should be the maximum representation on the Federation Council, and the societies' representatives should be nominated by name. Subject to an agreement the Cheshire societies were willing to join.

Mr. E. G. Parkes confirmed Sir Lees Knowles's statement.

Mr. Thompson suggested that the name of the Federation should be Lancashire, Cheshire, and Yorkshire. The Yorkshire societies joined without asking for any privileges, and conformed to the whole of the rules in force at the time.

Sir Lees Knowles thought that to add Yorkshire would be a large order at present. He moved the formation of the committee as indicated, and Mr. E. G. Parker seconded, and it was carried.

On the motion of Mr. Kenworthy, the Radcliffe May Day Society and the three Cheshire societies were elected members, the latter subject to the revision of the rules.

The name of the Federation was also changed to the Lancashire and Cheshire Federation of Agricultural Societies.

The annual report, presented by Mr. Birtwistle, was very satisfactory, and, on the motion of the chairman, it and the balance-sheet, which showed a nice credit balance, were adopted.

The Mayor of Bolton proposed the re-election of Sir Lees Knowles as president, and this was seconded by Mr. T. Thompson and carried with applause. Sir Lees acknowledged the honour of being elected president a second year in succession. The previous presidents had been the Earl of Derby, the Earl of Ellesmere, and Mr. Victor Cavendish.

Mr. Edward Boham, secretary of the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society, was re-elected vice-president; Mr. Hodgkinson, of Chorley, chairman; and Councillor Hargreaves Murphy, of Padiham, vice-chairman, whilst Mr. Birtwistle was re-elected secretary, and heartily thanked by the meeting for his devoted services.

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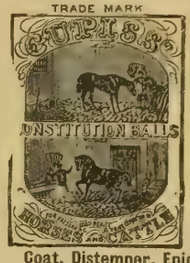
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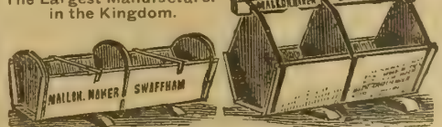
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LONDON, MONDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1907.

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Seasonable Topics.

Diaries. ON the table before us as we write there are two books—one full, and the other as yet unwritten in. They are diaries, and while one contains records of the daily events on the farm during the past year, the other is intended for the same purpose in 1908. The filled book is about to be put away on a shelf by the side of a number of others belonging to past years, but this does not mean to say that it has served its purpose and will be needed no more. On the other hand, these old diaries are extremely useful for the purpose of reference, and are frequently appealed to when points of argument need settlement. We know, of course, that many farmers keep no records of their work, and yet jog along all right, but we recommend a diary all the same, because apart from any utility value it is interesting to be able to turn up the records of past seasons and see how they compare with the one that is present. We strongly recommend young farmers to keep diaries, as it is a useful means of education. While one is a learner or probationer, there is someone else to organise and take the responsibility, but when the young farmer comes to have a place of his own, and has to think and act for himself, he will find no reference books more useful than the diaries he kept (if he did keep them) during the years that he occupied a position as a learner. The cost of a diary is trifling, the keeping of it is merely a matter of habit, and the facts that are recorded in the book from day to day may prove to be interesting, useful, perhaps even valuable in the future.

The Cost of Ploughing. ON one of the few fine days we have enjoyed of late we journeyed some miles through an arable country, and noticed the various ploughing operations as we passed along. Ploughing here, there, and everywhere; it would appear as if there was nothing else to do, but the general anxiety to be getting on with the work was evidence of the extent to which it has been delayed owing to the excess of moisture. In one field we noticed a couple of horses doing the work, nor did they appear at all distressed, but a little further on there were three drawing a plough of similar character, and they seemed to be working harder. Still further on, the ploughing teams consisted of four horses, and before the end of the day we discussed ploughing with a farmer who has to employ five horses for the operation. This was all within the limits of one county, and showed the various degrees of stiffness in regard to the soil; but, as the five-horse team man pointed out, how much more his arable crops cost him to the acre than in the case of the individual who can plough comfortably with a pair of horses. Just so, and it is well to allow for these differences when changing farms, and calculate accordingly, for the more horses that are required for ploughing and other cultural operations, the heavier, of course, is the labour bill. One may easily go wrong in overlooking these calculations and thinking that the stiff land farm can be worked with the same horseflesh as the one where the medium is more easily worked.

Drains. ONE thing that every farmer ought to know is just exactly where the drains are on his land, supposing the latter is drained, and it is a part of his duty to see that the mouths of the above are kept open and clear, so that they can properly perform the functions for which they are intended. In the first place, as to the location of drains, there are scores of cases in which no plan or record was ever kept when they were put in, and unless there happens to be an old labourer about who helped to put the pipes in, nobody knows anything at all about them. A case of this kind came before our notice recently, when the soddened state of a field known to be drained made it desirable that the pipes should be examined, but in the first place, they had to be found, and this object was effected after a considerable amount of guessing and the spending of time in digging useless holes that might have been avoided had a proper plan of the drains been kept. Then as regards attention to drains, this wet autumn has found out the defaulters. The pipes are out of sight; too often they are also out of mind until a time of excessive rain comes, and the water is not carried away. By keeping the mouths of main drains clear one can always tell whether there is any obstruction, but for the want of giving timely attention to the above matters, many drains have ceased to be of any use, and the farmer suffers through the ills that are the direct result of land being sour and waterlogged.



A WINTER WOODLAND SCENE.

A Sigh for Frost. IF there is any truth in the old adage that a green Christmas makes a fat churchyard then the sacred enclosure should stand a chance of "swelling wisibly," as Sam Weller would put it, but experience seems to show that churchyards are not affected much by the greenness or otherwise of Christmas. Nevertheless a spell of frost, if it were not too long and severe, would do a lot of good just now. It would clear the air and invigorate one's energies, for there can be no doubt that long spells of rain and gloom have depressing effects on human feelings. And apart from personal impressions yards are bunged up with manure which it is impossible to get out if one is unable to utilise the King's highway. Dung carting is essentially work for frosty weather, because under these conditions the strain on the horses is reduced to a minimum, and one has the satisfaction of knowing that roads and turf are not being ruined by the sinking of the wheels. Again farmers have stuck to the ploughing of stubbles, very often where natural conditions were most unfavourable, but with the hope that when frost came the turned up ridges would be exposed to its beneficial influences, and a good tilth for later sowing would be obtained. Just so, and now the land is ready we wait for the frost. We not unusually get a pinch in January, but even now our expectations are to be realised.

The Appearance of Wheat Crops. THE problem in the autumn was how to get the sowing done, and the calculations of many a farmer was upset by the perversity of the weather, but nevertheless, by hook or by crook many managed to get this sowing done, and considering the conditions under which a good deal of need went in, the results are so far better than one might have expected. We have seen a good many pieces of wheat of late where the seed germinated well, and there is a good plant now discernible in the rows. The growth looks very green and tender, but this appearance would be quickly changed if we happened to get a sharp pinch of frost. On the whole, however, those farmers who took advantage of their opportunities and were able to get their wheat in fairly early, have no

reason to complain of springing corn as it stands in the rows, and given fair conditions between now and the spring, the outlook is promising.

Starting Afresh.

DIFFERENT localities have different customs, and in that famous milk-producing district which comprises parts of Staffordshire and Derbyshire, farmers find themselves without servants from Christmas to New Year's Day, for this is the one week in the year that the lads and lasses claim as their own. Years have passed since we first knew the above district and the conditions of farming have almost entirely changed from cheesemaking to milk selling. Female labour in the homesteads is not half what it used to be, but true to the traditions of their forebears, the farm lads shoulder their bundles and trudge off on Christmas morning. Perhaps they are leaving and seeking service elsewhere, or they may be "stoppin' agen," which means that they have agreed to another year's service, but in any case Christmas week is their own to do as they like and spend in their own way. Nor does time hang heavily, for the holiday week is the season of "Gaby's Markets," as the hiring fairs are called, and though the actual hiring is small compared to what it used to be, the inevitable showman caters for the amusement of his clients and gets a fair share of the hard-earned money of the farm lads. On New Year's Day you see them going back to the old places or starting afresh at new ones, less merry than they were a week before, and lighter, of course, in pocket, but with a sense of satisfaction that they have had a good time and after another year on the mill the holiday week will come round again.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

A Fine Type of County M.P.

I do not know that Colonel Alan Gardner, the dead M.P. for South Herefordshire, can altogether be described as an agricultural politician—he did not definitely associate himself with the Pro-Agrarians. As, however, a brother of Lord Burghclere and a son-in-law of Lord Blythe, he had distinct affinities with the agricultural interest. With Lord Blythe's anxieties and ambitions he was known to be in close and intelligent sympathy. Between the two, indeed, there was a bond of generous personal comprehension that must deepen the heaviness of the affliction which has fallen upon his lordship. The colonel was—I am, however, not dealing with his political professions—an ideal county member. A sportsman—in this field he had a national reputation, loving the open air and all that belonged to it, knowing enough of farming to be able to interpret its purposes with practical sympathy, anxious to revive village life by associating with it an attractiveness which should prostrate the more lurid allurements of the town; he could play the *rôle* of the country gentleman with native grace and unaffected hospitality. Had the Liberal representation of the counties always this type of fine-hearted personality—you cannot, of course, always have so much picturesque and sporting hardihood in your politician—associated with it, not a few of those who now denounce it would be half reconciled to the faith. Colonel Alan Gardner was in many things the personal and political antithesis of not a few of those who wear the garb he carried with such personal distinction.

* * *

The Housing Bill and the Villages.

One of the unsatisfactory features of the political situation is the comparative indifference of the villages and of rural organisations to the forthcoming Housing Bill. This indifference is unhealthy. That that measure will vitally affect the villages is evident from two incidents. The first is that at the many conferences on housing which have been recently held under the auspices of pseudo-philanthropic (but really political) organisations, great stress has been placed on the necessity of the new policy applying to the villages. Ere Dr. Macnamara, the Secretary of the Local Government Board, accepted office, he made this one of two most insistant demands; and the Local Government Board will be the parent of the measure. The second incident is that Mr. John Burns, in seeking material on which to base his measure, has made frequent excursions into villages, where he has conducted investigations with his characteristic independence and keen-sightedness. How then will the villages be affected under the Bill? Will there be a coercive power, as in the case of the Small Holdings Act, brought to bear upon rural councils, district councils, and county councils, who, fearing the expense of the new policy, may hesitate to act? If there is to be a power, will it be invested in a bureaucratic executive, acting through the agency of travelling inspectors? Will those inspectors themselves be compelled to put themselves into motion if a few of the discontented villagers appeal to them? What are to be the powers of borrowing? Over what period is repayment to be extended? What will be the rate of interest? Will the rent demanded be of a practical and paying character, and relieve the local authority of the fear of the policy being a continuous burden on the rates? Will the cottager be allowed to pay a rent sufficient to finally yield him the destinction of ownership? These are questions of vital moment to the villages. I pray they be no longer neglected.

* * *

Small Holdings and the New Economy.

There is one point in Mr. W. J. Malden's excellently designed letter in your issue of December 16 to which I should like to recur. "Farming," quothed he, "ruined wholesale by Free Trade, will not be rescued retail by small holdings. When the seam of theory pervading small holdings has passed away, and the matter has been tested, it will not be found that small holdings have solved the problem of the land, unless there is security given to the small holder that he has not to combat the foreigner on the terms at present existing." Well, I am one of those who refuse to believe that under any conditions small holdings would be a universal agrarian panacea. We do not cure earthquakes with a Morrison's pill. We may be small holdingsites without believing they will banish economic pneumonia as well as economic gout. Is it, however, even pretended that this new scheme will enable "the small holder . . . to combat the foreigner on the terms at present existing?" The small holder will be a food-producer. "It is," undeniably declares Mr. Chaplin, "no part of the policy advocated by Mr. Chamberlain or Mr. Balfour to increase the price of food." But, will be the retort, the suggested import duty will not raise the price of food. Both the Chamberlains *père et fils* have, however, emphasised that this price-of-food fear is simply a bogey, and that, even if the new economy does raise the price of food, it will enable the worker to enjoy a higher standard of life because of his enhanced wages. Hence we have it that the new economy may raise the price of food. Mr. Balfour, however, bluntly says—and the Marquis of Lansdowne agrees—that any tax must be an infinitesimally small one, and that it must press with the least possible effect on the great army of food-consumers, the workers. Wherein, then, will there be such a security for the small-holder—the food producer whose food products will be in many cases raw material, which under Mr. Balfour's scheme is really to be un-taxed—as will enable him to successfully combat the foreigner?

* * *

Can We Compensate the Farmer?

The mere fact is that the Tariff Reform meditated by Mr. Balfour is not the Tariff Reform desired by its advocates among the farmers. Mr. Malden's letter—the most lucid exposition of the farmers' case which has yet appeared in the MARK LANE EXPRESS—is a significant illustration of this. "I do not suppose," says he, "that farmers, as a whole, mind particularly how they get it, if they get their industry to be regarded." But is their industry to be regarded? "I cannot see," pursues Mr. Malden, "why 'Lobbyist' should take it for granted that if Britain enters into business transactions with her colonies she is bound to make a bad bargain." Neither do I believe that *Britain* is bound to make a bad bargain. But a concession has to be given to the colonies, and that concession is to be at the expense of the agrarian industry. The colonies have to be bribed to give a favoured position to British industrialism in her markets; and the only possible bribe under existing conditions must be at the expense of the British food-producer. My objection is not to Protection as a principle. My objection is to the sacrifice of the British farmer in order to make a joyful holiday for urban industrialism. Is it possible to prevent even the possibility of this danger? Is it possible to so frame an economic scheme of Preference that the British farmer shall be placed under conditions which shall mean the safeguarding of his own markets? I put this last question—if the colonies can send us wheat at 10s. per qr. less than they do now, will it be any consolation to the ruined British wheat grower to be told that, after all, his foreign competitor has been rebuked? I am also not arguing—I beseech Mr. E. Belcher to heed this point—against Preference as a principle, I am arguing against Preference as a possible penalty of one class only, and that class the farming class.

* * *

Why Not a Separate Economic Concession?

Let us indulge to the full in our patriotic ideals of a welded Empire, but can we rid the realisation of this ideal of the prospect of a penalty to the farmers? Can we not if you will in some way compensate the farmer for his possible exploitation. I admit, to use Mr. Malden's phraseology, "it is not the colonial statesmen who are going to settle this matter; they will only get what we give." Let us not, however, forget that the recent brusque non-acceptance of the Colonial conditions has been denounced as unpatriotism, and that it has been propounded as a first duty of British statecraft to give the most sympathetic and maternal reception to those conditions. The first anxiety of maternity is sacrifice for its offsprings. And remember that the ambition of those offsprings is the possession of the British produce-markets. Can we wisely encourage our offsprings? Can we wisely rebuke the foreigner, whilst safeguarding ourselves? So far from asking the farmer to be acquiescent in modern conditions—to lie more quiet from fear lest he be hurt, I am asking him to see that those conditions are fair to be himself. A sacrifice may be necessary to save the colonial markets for British urban industrialism; but if it is to be the farmer, it is at the least the duty of friendly publicists to see that he only accepts the penalty with open eyes. If the penalty is inevitable cannot—this point I place before our prescient friend, Mr. Malden—the new economists consent to some compassionate compensating State-concession? Why should not the British farmer be regarded as deserving of distinctive treatment? This is not beyond the possibility of statesmanship. This distinctive treatment might remove all objection to a policy of tariff-reform based on a policy of colonial preference.

* * *

Is the Girding Necessary?

Frankly, I must confess that the promulgated intentions of the Government for the next session are Gargantuan in their character. Should, however, those intentions be sneered at and jeered at even by a critic who assumes the *nom-de-guerre* of "Wamba"? True, a gentleman adopting this description may deem himself entitled to wear the motley. Is it well, however, when the vital interest of the calling of which I am sure he is an honoured member, may be at stake? My epitome of the intentions of Earl Carrington and Mr. Burns was due to none of the mystic power possessed by a well-rubbed Aladdin's lamp. They were due to the statements made by these statesmen during the three or four days preceding the publication of my article. I suppose that the original "Wamba" hadn't the opportunity of reading newspapers. It is, however, unwise on the part of his descendant to simulate the ignorance of his forbear. And, after all, is the anxiety of Earl Carrington—I leave alone Mr. John Burns—to introduce a Milk Bill, to deal with the horse-breeding problem, and to relieve the burdens on agricultural land worthy this Wambaesque girding. "Wamba" may not agree with the Land Tenure Act; he may belabour the Small Holdings Act, though Mr. Chaplin thanked its author for it.

FARMING IN 1907.

Farmers have experienced distinctly better times during the past twelve months. The season climatically has not been a favourable one, but what is more important, prices for all descriptions of farming produce with the exception of beef have left a bigger margin for profit. The year opened very variable, and all farming operations were in a forward condition in the spring time. Easter itself was most remarkable for brilliant weather, but this foretaste of summer was extremely short, and wet and cold alternated until September, which at all events in the South of England did a good deal to redeem the harvest from total loss. In the North, however, crops were not secured in such good condition, and on high-lying farms much of it was rendered absolutely useless by rain and snow.

The Price of Wheat.

The salient feature of 1907 has been the continued and maintained increase in the price of wheat. The growth in values has not been confined to any particular variety, but has covered all milling sorts. The increase, which as far as one is able to judge will go on during the immediate future, is attributed to the increased consumption of bread and the growth in the population of bread-eating peoples, and here undoubtedly is the crux of the situation.

The area devoted to wheat it is true has been expanding, but its growth has not kept pace with the increase in the population of the world. The cause of the low prices which ruled during the nineties was the bringing into cultivation of the immense areas of virgin soil in the United States. These areas are now beginning to lose some of their accumulated fertility, and it is found necessary in order to maintain the bulk of their produce and a fair yield to adopt a system of farming more akin to that with which we are accustomed in this country, and to drop the plan of continuous wheat cropping which was the general practice a decade ago.

Another feature of the American situation is the enormous growth of the population in the United States. Many of the most reliable authorities in America state that within the next few years the United States will cease to be an exporting wheat nation. There are still large areas suitable for wheat growing in Canada to come under the plough; but, on the other hand, we are assured on reliable authority that the use of bread is spreading in the Far East to such an extent as is not realised in this country.

In Japan the use of wheaten bread has become popular during the past few years, and we understand, and the source of our information is the Chinese Embassy, that the way in which the Chinese are taking to wheaten bread is remarkable. In fact, the Chinese authorities are, we believe, making considerable inquiries on an experimental farm outside Pekin with a view of ascertaining the best varieties of wheat and other cereals to cultivate in their fertile alluvial soil.

The values of English wheat and flour have progressively grown during the year. At the end of last December the Imperial average price of English wheat per quarter was as low as 26s., and this discouraging figure was continued until May, when prices jumped up 2s. 9d. per qr. This figure continually increased until the beginning of November, when there was a slight relapse, due in great measure to causes outside the wheat market. The poor condition in which the corn reached the markets, together with the financial troubles all over the world, led to the depression of values, but this temporary relapse was foreseen by many in the trade, and it is the general opinion that the check is only a temporary one, and with the turn of the year we shall find that the market will again become stronger.

The figures relating to the price of flour are equally significant and eloquent of the rise in values. The basis upon which we have constructed our table is by taking the London top price for the end of each month, and it will be seen that there is an increase of 9s. per sack of 280 lb. during the past twelve months.

The table below will show the fluctuations during the year, and will serve as an excellent guide in forming an opinion as to the present state of the market.

Prices of English Wheat and Flour.

	Wheat, per qr.	Flour, London top price per sack of 280 lb.
	s. d.	s. d.
December, 1906	26 0	28 0
January, 1907	25 2	28 0
February ,,	26 10	28 0
March ,,	26 8	28 0
April ,,	26 10	28 0
May ,,	29 7	31 0
June ,,	31 2	31 0
July ,,	32 11	31 0
August ,,	33 10	31 0
September ,,	31 8	35 0
October ,,	35 9	38 0
November ,,	34 7	37 0

The future prospects in the wheat and flour trade are much brighter for the English farmer. On all hands it is pretty generally admitted that values are likely to go still higher, and that once again it is the turn of the arable farmer as compared with the live stock feeder. The low values of the nineties, as far as it is humanly possible to foresee, will never return. It may be that farming in England will again become a profitable industry, and the general increase in prices will put a stop to the outcry against rural depopulation. As to the effects of dearer bread on our great cities and towns we need not enter here, but the substantial increase in the price of food must greatly affect the industrial position during the next few years.

Crop Areas.

There has been a decrease of 22,645 acres in the area under crops and grass as compared with last year. The acreage under wheat continues to get smaller, and this year denotes a further shrinkage of no less than 130,208 acres; barley has been sown on 39,072 fewer acres than in 1906, and rye has decreased by 3,597 acres, but oats continue to grow in popularity and show the big increase of 80,010 acres.

Increased acres are to be noted in peas and beans, the latter being grown on 20,870 more acres than in 1906, whilst peas have increased by 12,159 acres; but there are big decreases in potatoes and turnips and swedes, potatoes being 17,000 acres less than in 1906, whilst the acreage under the other two crops has fallen away to the extent of 27,889 acres.

Mangolds, on the other hand, show an increase of 18,600 acres, and now cover 450,063 acres, whilst kohl rabi, cabbages, vetches and tares, and lucerne all show increases.

Clover and rotation grasses for hay occupy 2,250,371 acres, and not for hay 2,240 657, the former being an increase of 58,784 and the latter a decrease of 8,502 acres, whilst permanent grass covers for hay shows an increase of 151,928 acres, and not for hay a decrease of 118,419 acres when compared.

Produce of Crops.

The estimated yields of the various farm crops afford a very fair opportunity of forming an opinion as to the farming position. Wheat yielded rather less than a year ago on a substantially decreased acreage, but the estimated yield of 33⅜ bushels to the acre was about 2½ bushels over the decennial average. Barley was a slightly larger crop per acre than last year, and much better than the usual average, while the yield of oats is estimated at no less than 43 bushels to the acre, as against 40 last year, which in its turn was slightly over the average.

Beans yielded at about the usual rate, but the crop was a larger one owing to the increased area, but peas, on the other hand, whilst above the average, were hardly so good as last year.

Potatoes have proved a most disappointing crop in more ways than one; the keeping qualities of this year's tubers are poor, while the yield was not only less than last year, but considerably below the average.

The farm root crops have generally been favourable; roots are not very large, but their feeding qualities are excellent and above the average. Turnips and swedes have not yielded quite so heavily as last year, but they are distinctly above what is the usual crop. Mangels have done better, and show an improvement on last year and the ten years average, giving nearly 20 tons to the acre.

The hay crop, although variable, was generally a heavy one, and gave a much greater weight than a year ago; much of it was, however, of poor quality, and it will need other foods in addition to it to bring up its feeding value. Hay from permanent pasture is estimated to have yielded at the rate of 27¼ tons to the acre, which is over 3 tons above the expected weight, and altogether the excess of the hay crop from permanent pasture only is over 1,300,000 cwt. more than in 1906. Clover, sainfoin, hay, &c., gave nearly 33 tons to the acre, and was just about as much in excess as that previously mentioned; the all-round increase in this crop is estimated at over 500,000 cwt. The following table throws an interesting light on our crops, both as to area and produce:—

Acreage and Yield of Principal Crops.

	Acres.	Produce.	Yield per Acre.
		qr.	bushels.
Wheat	1,625,488	6,901,166	33·97
Barley	1,712,166	7,545,056	35·26
Oats	3,122,936	16,800,265	43·04
Beans	309,761	1,328,669	34·50
Peas	166,138	722,691	29·44
		tons.	tons.
Potatoes	548,921	2,977,910	5.43
Turnips and swedes	1,563,031	22,059,972	14·11
Mangels	450,063	8,935,456	19·85
		cwt.	cwt.
Hay from clover, &c.	2,250,371	3,703,621	32·97
,, ,, perm. grass	4,936,823	6,719,257	27·23

Numbers of Live Stock.

Among live stock, the most striking feature is the increasing popularity of sheep and pigs, for of the former there are 696,143 more than in 1906, and of pigs 313,347 more, but both horses and cattle show big declines, horses numbering 12,274 less than in 1906, and cattle a decrease of no less than 98,337 when compared with last year.

The official figures in 1907 and 1906 are appended, and afford some interesting details:—

	1907.	1906.	+ Increase − Decrease
Cattle	6,912,519	7,010,856	− 98,337
Horses	1,556,407	1,568,681	− 12,274
Sheep	26,116,503	25,420,360	+ 696,143
Pigs	2,636,808	2,323,461	+ 313,347

Meat Prices.

The increase in prices that has been so marked for agricultural produce has not extended to live stock. Throughout the year there has been plenty of grass, but owing to the wet season a great deal of it was only of poor quality. The keen competition from abroad both in chilled meat and cattle landed on the hoof in England prevents any improvement in values.

Beef has been a most disappointing trade throughout the year, and during the last few months, as will be seen from the figures below, prices have been barely maintained. While all other stock have been moving in the markets, beef has remained under a cloud.

Sheep have met with a buoyant trade throughout the year, and store ewes for grazing were eagerly sought after through August and September, and at the end of the latter month



Photo by THE SHEEP FOLD IN WINTER. [*J. T. Newman.*

Some of Sir R. Cooper's Shropshire Lambs Folded on Thousand Headed Kale.

practically every sheep or lamb was caught up with a keenness seldom seen at the fag end of the season at prices up to 5s. more than was prevalent a year ago. Mutton throughout the year generally maintained the level of prices, and feeders of sheep have had a much better season than those dealing with cattle.

The pig trade, almost without exception, throughout the year has been brisk. In the early spring there was a slight decline, and again during the last few weeks prices have been unsteady, but generally there has been good business at fair rates.

The following figures show the prices of beef and mutton at the Metropolitan Market at the end of each quarter, quotations per 8 lb., sinking the offal:—

	Beef.				Mutton.			
	1907.		1906.		1907.		1906.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
March	4	6	4	4	6	4	6	6
June.....	4	8	4	6	6	4	6	2
September.	4	8	4	6	6	0	6	0
Christmas Market...	5	0	5	2	6	2	6	6

Animal Diseases.

The health of all farm animals during 1907 as far as those diseases shown by the Board of Agriculture are concerned has been satisfactory. Foot-and-mouth disease, rabies, and pleuro-pneumonia have not made an appearance, and it is to be hoped that the spores of these diseases will not reach our stock by importation. Anthrax, unfortunately, has been rather more prevalent this year as regards the number of outbreaks, while glanders, which largely originates in the towns, spreads to and is the source of considerable loss in the country. Glanderous horses are only too frequently sent from the big towns to the country, and it is extremely difficult to prevent this very contagious disease from spreading. Sheep scab has been more troublesome than a year ago, but fortunately it is nothing like so rife as recently as 1904. Compulsory dipping will no doubt eventually very much lessen if not altogether eradicate the ravages of this troublesome pest.

Swine fever seems to be getting from bad to worse, and already this year there have been 2,250 outbreaks, in consequence of which 10,784 swine have been slaughtered as diseased or exposed to infection. These figures are nearly double the number of outbreaks which occurred last year, and 4,000 more swine are implicated. It is quite evident that the very stringent regulations introduced and carried out by the Board of Agriculture have not only failed to stem the tide of the disease, but have also pressed unduly upon the intelligent pig-keeper who considers cleanliness will do a great deal to ward off swine fever. Lord Carrington, speaking during the Smithfield week, said that he was giving the swine fever orders his personal attention, so that we may hope very shortly a revised code will come into operation which will place pig-keeping upon a different basis.

Pedigree Stock Sales: Cattle.

The demand for pedigree stock by home and foreign breeders has been well maintained this year, and generally good prices have been realised for stock intended for Argentina, Australia, and America.

The Shorthorn has worthily maintained its place as the national breed, and on three separate occasions 1,000 guineas has been made by auction for a bull—viz., at Birmingham, Perth, and Lincoln. First place in the average list falls to Mr. W. Duthie, whose record sale of seventeen bull calves for an average of £409 16s. 3d., with the top price of 700 guineas, will want a lot of beating. Lord Calthorpe at Elvetham secured £91 14s. for thirty-four head, 250 guineas being the top price. The annual series of Riby sales was continued, and Mr. H. Dudding's excellent average of £91 8s. 2d., with prices ranging from 370 guineas, shows how much his fine cattle were appreciated. An excellent average of £90 18s. 1d. was realised by Mr. J. Harris for forty-nine head, several animals making well over the century, and others reaching up to 200 guineas for bulls and 285 guineas for females. At the Earl of Northbrook's sale 325 guineas was made for a heifer, followed by other prices of almost as high a range, and the bulls ranged down from 200 guineas. Another notable sale of very high class cattle was that of Earl Manvers; here fifty-five made an average of £82 5s. 1d., a specially good average for so large a number, bulls ranging from 300 guineas and cows from 250 guineas. The joint sales have been very successful, and at the head of this section stands the sale at the Royal Show with a general average of £87 5s. for 115 head, bulls making up to 1,000 guineas and females to 210 guineas.

For Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns the best average of the year was Mr. R. Chatterton's £43 10s. 4d. for sixty-six head. Several of those sold at this sale went for export, some two or three going to South Africa. Of Aberdeen-Angus there have not been any considerable number of sales. Colonel G. Smith-Grant's average of £40 2s. 4d. for twenty-nine head was the best. The joint sales as a whole gave satisfactory results; at Aberdeen 300 guineas for a yearling heifer, 260 guineas for a two-year-old heifer, and 160 guineas for a bull was realised, and at the former yearling heifers made up to 500 guineas and cows to 200 guineas.

Herefords have experienced a fine demand for export. Mr. John Tudge heads the average list for home sales with one of £41 19s., bulls making 200 guineas and cows 70 guineas. At the March sale at Hereford 105 head averaged £36 15s., bulls making from 130 guineas, two-year-old bulls from 158 guineas, and yearling bulls from 125 guineas. The Devon cattle sales have been very good, Mr. Kidner's herd of fifty making an average of £42 17s. 6d., and Mr. E. Baldock's £27 for forty-eight head.

Among Jerseys, Dexters, and Ayrshires, Mr. Brutton realised the best home sale average of the year, £23 5s. 9d. for thirty-one head, bulls making 42 guineas and cows 64 guineas, the top-priced female of the year, but it was at Dr. Watney's sale where the top-priced bull of the season was found; this animal made 90 guineas. The Ayrshires sold well, as did also the Dexters and Kerries, cows making up to 60 guineas and bulls to 27 guineas.

Horses.

Shire horses have sold well throughout the year, and an encouraging feature is the likelihood of a good export trade developing with South America. The best average of the year was realised at Dunsmore by Sir P. A. Muntz; at this sale fifty-one head gave an average of £148 18s., and amongst the prices realised were 460 guineas for a two-year-old stallion, the top price of the age in 1907; brood mares, 520 guineas, likewise the top price of the year; whilst three-year-old fillies went to 400 guineas, two-year-old fillies to 240 guineas, and yearling fillies to 180 guineas. Mr. W. Everard, of Bardon Hill, took the second place in the average list with £137 15s. for thirty-one head. The top price of the sale—440 guineas for a three-year-old filly—was the best price of this age in 1907, as was also 400 guineas realised for a two-year-old filly and 230 guineas for a yearling filly, brood mares making up to 310 guineas and yearling stallions 210 guineas. Third in the average list stands that highly successful sale held on behalf of His Majesty the King. Here forty-five head averaged £124, and foremost amongst the individual prices made was 825 guineas, the top price of the year, for mature stallions, 290 guineas for yearling stallions, a price none other of its age equalled during the year. Mr. J. Morton's average for twenty-seven head was £111, brood mares making up to 270 guineas and stallions 260 guineas. Mr. L. Salomon's sale, at Norbury, for forty-five head gave an average of £89 15s. 9d., the two-year-old fillies making up to 400 guineas, brood mares 220 guineas, and yearling fillies 185 guineas.

Amongst the many excellent prices realised at the sale at the Shire Horse Show the top price was 660 guineas for two-year-old stallions, those a year older making up to 320 guineas, and mature stallions up to 310 guineas. The best price for mares was 200 guineas, for a four-year-old mare, others of this sex making from 150 guineas.

Clydesdales have sold well, for at a joint sale held at Perth a series of very satisfactory prices was realised, including 345 guineas for brood mares, 320 guineas for yearling stallions, 300 guineas for yearling fillies, 115 guineas for a filly foal, and 320 guineas for two-year-old stallions. The average for this important sale was an excellent one, £83 5s. 6d. for seventy-four head.

Hackneys have had a successful season, and amongst the leading prices there are many worthy of note. From these we select the following:—Stallions, 500 guineas, Mr. T. B. Sykes, the top price of the year. This breeder also occupied a similar place of distinction for two-year-old and yearling stallions, 120 guineas and 95 guineas. Mr. R. G. Heaton's sale gave 400 guineas for stallions, 450 guineas for brood mares, and 350 for three-year-old fillies, the latter two being top prices of the year. Messrs. F. J. Batchelor and A. Benson's joint sale gave top price of the year for the breed, 750 guineas for a two-year-old filly, whilst at Sir G. Greenall's sale 180 guineas, the best price of the year for yearling fillies, was realised.

Harness horses have been in large request. Amongst the leading prices were 250 guineas at Mr. A. Morton's and Mr. T. B. Sykes' sales, 200 guineas at Mr. J. Makeague's, 230 guineas at Mr. Burdett-Coutts', and 225 guineas at Mr. R. G. Heaton's.

Among the Hunter sales may be mentioned 460 guineas for Viscount Castlereagh, 400 guineas for Mr. C. B. Farmer and Captain the Hon. F. Guest. Quite a number made from 300 to 350 guineas. Polo ponies have been in demand, made ponies commanding very high prices. Amongst those noted were several ranging from 300 guineas. Ponies have been also in keen request. Amongst the prices secured for breeding ponies are 195 guineas for a brood mare at Sir G. Greenall's sale, the same breeder also making 135 guineas for another of the same description. Mr. P. Smith realised 200 guineas for a three-year-old filly, and Mr. J. Makeague 62 guineas for a stallion.

Sheep.

A good trade for pedigree sheep has been experienced throughout the year, and prices, although not of a record-breaking character, have been profitable. Taking the Down breeds first, for Oxford Downs the best sale of the year was Mr. J. Treadwell's fiftieth annual sale at Winchendon, where in addition to making the top price of the yearling rams of this breed for the season (150 guineas) he secured an average of £22 17s. for fifty-nine head; a second lot of thirty-five made £12 8s. 3d. at Kelso. Mr. H. W. Stilgoe's Oxford Fair average, £16 6s. 10d. for sixteen, with 41 guineas for top price, was a good sale, as were also Mr. Elliott's two Kelso sales, where averages of £15 1s. 7d. and £13 14s. for nineteen and twenty head respectively were realised. Mr. J. T. Hobbs' Maiseyhampton annual sale was very satisfactory, the fifty-nine gave an average of £14 1s. 7d., with 43 guineas for top price. The feature of the Southdown sale season was the two highly successful combination sales held at Chichester. Some of the best prices of the year were made at Mr. C. H. Berner's dispersal sale, £15 for four tooth ewes and £7 for flock ewes. The best average for yearling rams was that made by Sir J. Wernher at Chichester, 37 guineas, and the top price of the year was 42 guineas for one of Mr. Elmer Speed's at Chichester August sale. The Hampshire Down sale season has been in every respect thoroughly successful. At the Royal Show yearling rams went from 55 guineas downwards. Mr. James Flower headed clear ahead of all competitors the record for ram lambs set with £57 12s., top price 140 guineas, followed by Mr. A. F. T. Drake with an average of £36 15s., and top price of 100 guineas. The best price for ram lambs during the year was 210 guineas realised by the Marquis of Winchester, whose forty-six sold at that sale gave the excellent average of £19 7s., the only double-figure average of this section in 1907.

Longwool sheep have been in keen request. The Lincoln demand has not been in general so good as last year, but for the best sheep there was no falling off. Mr. Dudding's notable average of £94 12s. 3d. for forty-eight head, with a top price of 900 guineas, is a case in point; then at Lincoln came an average of £42 14s. for fifteen from Mr. C. E. Howard's, with 96 guineas as top price. Messrs. Dean's average was £37 5s. 6d. for fifty head, the top price being 300 guineas, another proof of the keen demand for the best. Mr. J. E. Casswell's Lincoln average was pretty close up, £32 17s. 3d. for twenty. Leicesters have experienced a larger export demand than has been the case for some time. The top price for rams was 96 guineas; Mr. Megginson, whose sale average (£8 18s. 3d.) is the best noted. Among Cotswold sales Mrs. Dixon's average at Heampton Green (£12 5s.) is the best for yearling rams; Mr. W. Houlton's 25 guineas was the top price for this age.

Among Shropshires the best ram sale of the year was at the Royal Show, where forty-one head gave an average of £30 2s. 3d., the best price being 100 guineas, the top sale price of the season; it was also at this sale that the best prices of the season for yearling ewes (22 guineas) and ewe lambs (10 guineas) were realised. Romney Marsh, Devon, South Devons, Dorset have all found buyers at good prices at about average values.

Pigs.

Large and Middle Whites have been well sought after. Sir Gilbert Greenall's first sale was the best of the season. At it 101 head gave the excellent average of £8 9s. 2d., the best price being 20 guineas. Another excellent sale was Mr. R. R. Rothwell's, at which an average of £8 5s. 6d. was realised for sixty-six head; the best price was 35 guineas for a boar, the top price of the season for a male of this breed. Two sales of the Middle White breed are worthy of note—Mr. A. Brown's, at which twenty-eight head realised an average of £8 10s. 11d., and the first one held in connection with the Royal Agricultural Show, at which a dozen head realised the average of £11 11s. 1d.

Berkshires have been more than usually successful. The first one held at the Royal Show, at which quite a number of the exhibits were purchased for abroad, gave the notably good average of £15 2s. 6d. for twenty-six head, boars making up to 53 guineas and sows up to 24 guineas. Of the home sales, Mr. G. T. Inman's was clear ahead of all others. Here not only was the best average of the year realised, £11 4s. for 112 head, but quite a number of individual prices seldom equalled before, such as 80 and 48 guineas for boars, 41 and 35 guineas for sows, and 20 guineas for gilts. Mr. A. Brown's sale gave an average of £7 14s. 6d. for eighty-eight head, with top prices of 33 and 30 guineas for boars and sows respectively. Lord Calthorpe's twenty-eight realised an average of £12 7s. 9d., the highest average of the year, with 28 and 25 guineas the top prices for boars and sows respectively.

Agricultural Shows.

The summer shows were only summer in name, the effect of the wet and broken weather being apparent on the agricultural shows of the past year. Generally speaking, those in the South of England suffered the most, from being held earlier than is customary in the North. The season opened with the meeting of the Oxfordshire Society at Banbury, and visitors to this fixture will long have recollections of the wet and mud experienced. The red soil around Banbury was churned up by the traffic and the persistent rain, and visitors took away with them a liberal coating on boots and clothes as a souvenir. The Somerset County Show, at Wells, opened on the second day of the Oxford fixture, and those whose business compelled them to visit both were agreeably surprised when they reached Somersetshire.

The following week was notable for no less than five county exhibitions, and, with the exception of the Devon County, wet and showery weather made things rather uncomfortable as well as affecting the gates. Subsequent to this, the Bath and West Show at Newport had a disastrous experience as regards the weather, but the attendance was of an average character, although had the weather been better the last day would probably have constituted a record. The showyard when the exhibition was opened to the public was veritably a sea of mud, and when H.R.H. the Prince of Wales visited the show on the second day the rain was pouring down in such a manner as we have been only too familiar with this summer.

The Royal Show at Lincoln has resulted in a further great success, and over £5,000 net profit has been added to the assets of the society. The exhibition, held as it was in the centre of the best agricultural district in England, was of a national character, and fortunately His Majesty, who is the patron of the society, brought with him fine weather, and during the week the gate money, as will be seen from the profit on the show, rolled in to the society's coffers in a most satisfactory manner. Among the extra attractions which were added to the show was a horticultural exhibition, which evidently hit the popular taste.

The Royal Lancashire Show at Bolton added another to the already long list of successes achieved by this society, while the Great Yorkshire Show at Barnsley, although somewhat ungetatable for exhibitors, was satisfactory in all other respects.

The International Horse Show, although not purely agricultural in the narrowest meaning of the word, was a remarkable success and achieved great popularity. It, too, gave a much-needed fillip to the horse trade just at a time when it was rather in the background in consequence of motor competition.

Items.

Barley and oats have both been dearer than a year ago, but the increase has been nothing like so great as in the case of wheat. Barley is approximately 3s. and oats 1s. 6d. up per qr.

The last three months of the year have been uncommonly wet, and interfered greatly with the harvest in Scotland. Potatoes were particularly affected by this unfortunate weather.

The wet season resulted in a particularly good milk yield, and the make of cheese was considerably above the average. Markets for dairy produce, however, were inclined to be easier.

The lambing season passed off successfully. The number of doubles were satisfactory, and there were not many losses among ewes. Wool continues to sell well, and prices, although less than a year ago, were far above those ruling within recent years.

In Parliament a number of Bills have been passed dealing with Agriculture. The most important is the Small Holdings Act, which in most peoples' opinion is somewhat of an experimental measure. The passing of the Butter Bill has put an end to the grievance which has long been felt by agriculturists, while the Dogs Act has also met agricultural necessities.

At a meeting of the Newcastle Farmers' Club held on the 21st inst. it was stated that the club proposed to give £40 in prizes, of which £33 had already been subscribed, at the Royal Show next year, the amount being raised by voluntary subscriptions. It was decided that the prize money be divided between Shorthorn cattle and Border-Leicester sheep, to be confined to tenant farmers in Northumberland and Durham. The prize will be awarded to the best animal in each of the two classes. At the same meeting it was agreed to send the following resolution to Lord Carrington, President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, and to the county councils of Northumberland and Durham:—"That the provisions of the Lighting of Vehicles Act are injurious to farmers, and so far as possible the by-laws of county councils should be framed so as to give all possible latitude to farmers within the vicinity of their own farms."

FARM.

The Rent of Agricultural Land during the Nineteenth Century.

At a recent meeting of the Royal Statistical Society an interesting paper, "An Inquiry into the Rent of Agricultural Land in England and Wales during the Nineteenth Century," was read by Mr. R. J. Thompson, assistant head of the Intelligence Branch of the Board of Agriculture. The paper was based on statements obtained for the purpose from a number of estates, as well as on other available records, and showed the average rent of 70,000 acres during each year of the nineteenth century, and 120,000 acres from 1816 to 1900. For more recent years a greater amount of information was procurable, and the rent of 400,000 acres was given from 1872 to 1900.

The figures brought together showed that the rent of farms in England and Wales advanced by probably 40 per cent. in the first twenty years of the nineteenth century. After 1820 a period of depression ensued, followed in 1840 by the beginning of an upward movement, which continued with little intermission till 1878. Several successive bad seasons, culminating in 1879, resulted in a serious depression, which was continued under the influence of a severe fall in prices until the close of the century.

A careful comparison of the records of rent with the income tax returns, and with prices, leads to the conclusion that the average rent of agricultural land in England and Wales in 1900 was 34 per cent. below the maximum of 1877, 30 per cent. below the level of 1872, and 13 per cent. below the figure of 1846. The average rent of farm land in 1900, said Mr. Thompson, appeared to be about 20s. per acre, and this was subject to charges for repairs, improvements, &c., and many other expenses, which amounted on the average to 35 per cent, so that the net rent after payment of charges, probably averaged some 13s. per acre. Moreover, besides a payment for the bare soil, rent represented a payment for the landlord's capital invested in the farm in the form of buildings, fences, drainage, &c. This, at a very moderate estimate, based on actual facts, averaged not less than £12 per acre. Interest on this at 3½ per cent. amounted to 8s. 5d., and when this was deducted from the net rent of 13s. per acre it left only 4s. 7d per acre as representing on the average the rent of the "natural and indestructible powers of the soil." This was probably a lower figure than at any time in the previous hundred years, and it would seem that the progress of agricultural knowledge, the development of the country, the increase in markets, and the better equipment of farms have not resulted, in the face of reduced prices, in obtaining as great a surplus as was got some seventy or eighty years earlier.

Mr. Thompson concluded by suggesting that it was in a return to the conditions of earlier times, to a more even distribution of the land in a larger number of holdings, that they might anticipate more profitable results from the utilisation of the soil. The medium farm, with a reasonable proportion of still smaller holdings, he said, favoured and encouraged the growth of products which could be produced as cheaply and as well in this country as abroad.

In milk, dairy produce, eggs, pigs, calves, poultry, vegetables, and fruit, the farmers of this country were at no disadvantage as regards climate or soil compared with their principal competitors, while they had the advantage of nearness to markets; and it was probably true that a greater proportion of the soil of Great Britain could be advantageously devoted to these products than was the case at present, without interfering with large farms which, from soil or situation, were especially suitable to the growth of grain, beef, mutton, or wool.

Mr. William Bravington, of Woburn Hill, Addlestone, a well-known Surrey agriculturist, died on Monday. For sixty-four years he was a member, and part of that time chairman, of the Chertsey Agricultural Association.

Trade Notice.—An embrocation which has won distinct success in the treatment of all skin diseases in horses, cattle, dogs, and all domestic animals, is "The Huntsman's Improved Lotion," manufactured by Messrs. C. Mitchell and Co., 14, Fetter Lane, London, E.C. It at once allays the irritation caused by mange, eczema, &c., and speedily effects a cure with little trouble, and at a small cost; a fact which is borne out by its extensive use in the principal training and livery stables, kennels, and on large farms in all parts of the kingdom, whilst it has proved a speedy healing specific for cuts, wounds, burns, &c. Horses affected with itching of legs and withers, sore shoulders, sore backs, chapped heels and treads, are said to quickly recover by the application of the Huntsman's Improved Lotion, which contains nothing of a deleterious nature, and is perfectly safe and simple to apply. Any of our readers who would like to try it can obtain a sample post-free from Messrs. Mitchell and Co. on forwarding them a P.O. for 1s. 6d.

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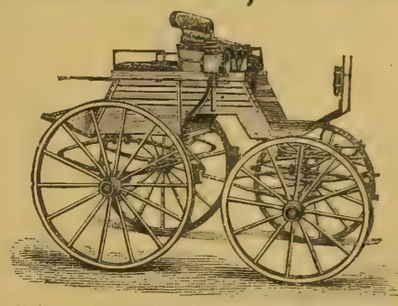
THE Directors of the Country Gentlemen's Association, Ltd., have resolved that on and after January 1, 1908, the subscription for membership for new members shall be one guinea per annum, to include the "Country Gentlemen's Estate Book" yearly, the "Estate Magazine" monthly, and all other members' privileges, instead of 10s. 6d. per annum as heretofore.

The subscription for existing members, and all who join before December 31 next will continue at the latter figure. Subscriptions from new members will now be accepted for 1908.

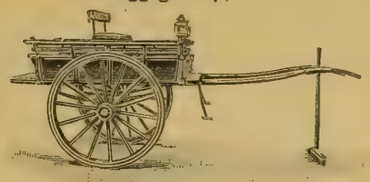
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Nottinghamshire Notes.

KING FOG reigned supreme in this district on Monday and Tuesday, but the weather on Christmas Day and Boxing Day was all that could be desired by holiday-makers, while it was also greatly appreciated by farmers. The air was clear and there were slight drying winds. Grave fears are being expressed by many tenant farmers respecting their crops of wheat. A large acreage was what might with truth be said to have been "mauled" in, and for two or three weeks it has rained almost every day. On strong clay land much of the seed has gone rotten and will have to be sown again. The high prices which wheats have commanded this back-end prompted many to make an extra effort to get a larger area sown with this cereal, but the constant rains have decreed otherwise, and from careful inquiries made in this county I find that there has actually been less wheat sown this autumn than was the case a year ago.

SIR JOHN and Lady Robinson, of Worksop Manor, have for the thirty-second consecutive year entertained to dinner in Nottingham 800 old men and about 700 aged women—all, in fact, being over sixty-five. Among those present on the platform along with Sir John Robinson to give the old folks a hearty welcome was Mr. Thomas Richardson, of Oxton, who is seventy-eight years of age, and looked as hale and hearty as a man of fifty.

MR. RICHARDSON at one time farmed over 1,000 acres, and his family between them for over twenty-five years cultivated about 10,000 acres. The old veteran is still able to hold the gun, and considers that he shoots even better now than he did thirty years back, especially at rabbits. During the whole of his life Mr. Richardson has abjured tea, and has rarely partaken of coffee, it being at least forty years since he tasted the latter beverage. For breakfast he still adheres to the English yeoman's tankard of ale—something over a pint—in an old-fashioned mounted "cup."

EXERCISE, plain and substantial food, fresh air, and a mind free from worry is what Mr. Richardson attributes his good health. He is the third of eleven brothers, the youngest of whom now alive is seventy years of age, while his father reached the great age of ninety.

MANSFIELD Agricultural Society have not had the best of luck this year, for I notice from their annual balance-sheet just issued that they have only £11 12s. 6d. in hand, against £78 19s. 9d. a year ago. The prize money awarded at the last show totalled £221 8s. 6d. It has been decided to hold the next exhibition at Mansfield on Whit Monday, while the secretary (Mr. George Cox) has been granted a honorarium of £20 for his services.

THE article in the "Mark Lane Express Annual" on the "Spread of Farmers' Societies" has aroused a good deal of interest, not only in this locality, but in several districts in England and Scotland. The reference to the Midland Farmers' Co-operative Society (Nottingham) has already brought several letters relative to how it is worked, and similar associations in other counties are likely to follow.

BY-THE-BY, I may say that a meeting is shortly to be held in Lincolnshire for the purpose of forming a branch of the Midland Farmers' Co operative Society. The place selected is Horncastle, and the president (Colonel L. Rolleston, D.S.O., Watnall Hall) informs me that he is confident of it becoming a large concern in the course of a few more months New members are constantly joining, and when the end of the first trading year is reached, I understand that the balance-sheet will be a surprise-packet to friend and foe alike.

THE next article in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, under the heading of "Midland Farmers at Home," will deal with the Nottingham Corporation's model farm buildings at Bulcote. Accompanying the article will be given a photograph of Alderman J. White, the chairman of the Nottingham City Council Farm Committee.

APPLICATIONS for land under the Small Holdings Act have exceeded all expectations in the county of Nottingham, and what at one time looked as though another useless Act had been placed on the Statute Book promises to be one of the greatest successes so far as agriculture is concerned—that has been known for many years. Several members of the Nottinghamshire County Council are working most assiduously in the interests of labourers and others who desire to become small holders, and I am told by one member that an interesting report will be presented at the next meeting of the council on the subject.

DURING the present month local horse breeders have done good business, many typical specimens of the Shire breed having been sold to foreign buyers at highly remunerative prices, as the following list will show:—Mr. G. Harrison, of Norwell, has sold a colt named Propeller by Four Hundred Bonny Boy for export to the Argentine; Mr. Dook, of Sutton-on-Trent, was the breeder of a bay two-year-old colt by Maximum called Duke of Lincoln, his new home being in the United States of America; Mr. Goulding, of East Leake, bred Tattlebrook Bouncing Girl by Kingston Royal Albert, which is going to America; Mr. Simpson, of Hawksworth, was the breeder of the colt named Dreadnought by Coalfield Tom and the filly Lioness by Lincoln Lion, both going to the U.S.A. Another colt by Lincoln Lion, the property of Mr. Todd, Kirkby Green, near Lincoln, named Lord Lyon is for the Argentine. Mr. Palmer, of Bollam, near Retford, has sold Brave Lion by Lincoln Lion for America; Mr. J. H. Marshall, of Marnham Hall, bred the colt Dapple Tom by Stroxton Tom, which has been sold to the Iowa State College, U.S.A.

THOUGH the above list is a fairly long one, I have received further particulars of other sales, viz.:—Mr. Davenport, of Knapthorpe, has sold the colt Caunton by Locomotion, its destination being the Argentine; Mr. Weightman, of Avesham, near Newark, Merry Lass, a four-year-old by Stroxton Tom; Mr. Gale, Kneesall, bred Bellfounder by Whitstone Ring of Bells; Mr. B. Farrow, of Hawton, near Newark, bred Yeoman Ben by Headon Yeoman; Mr. J. C. Fisher, Crow Park, near Sutton-on-Trent, bred Kingfisher by Matchless Waiter, and all these are for export to America Mr. Simpson, of Fledboro', bred Fortitude, which is for the Argentine. All these horses were purchased by Messrs. J. Forshaw and Sons, of Carlton-on-Trent, who in turn sold them to the foreign buyers. It shows clearly that we have some good Shires in the lace county, and it once more proves that it pays farmers to breed the best animals.

MR. HENRY SMITH, jun., of Cropwell Butler, has disposed of two Middle White boars by Holywell Vulcan for export to Buenos Ayres, and also fifteen Lincoln ram hoggs.

I UNDERSTAND that Mr. T. S. Morris, who for several years has been an assistant in the Newcastle Estate Offices at Worksop, has been appointed estate manager to Mr. W. E. and Lady Eleanor Dennison, Ossington Hall, near Newark, and will enter upon his new duties on Wednesday, January 1. R. K.

December 28, 1907.

Northern Notes.

A GREAT grievance is about to be removed in East Yorkshire—we refer to the withdrawal of the Movement of Swine Orders, which have been in force about two years. The Orders, Lord Carrington has stated, in a letter dated the 20th inst. to Mr. Luke White, M.P., will cease to be in force on January 5, and henceforth there will be no restrictions. Mr. White has been most persistent in pursuing the subject, and in conferring with the officials of the Board of Agriculture, and it was evident from the account he last gave of his interview with the president that some drastic alteration would shortly be made. For a long time in one of the most extensive pig-breeding districts of the North the trade has been harassed beyond measure. Buying and selling in the public markets is reduced to a minimum. The smaller dealers have suffered the most pecuniarily, while cottagers and drovers have been deprived in part of their weekly incomes, obtained in times past from the feeding and tending of swine. Whereas thousands of pigs used to pass through our markets, the numbers during the last two years represented but a fraction of the previous volume of trade. The anomaly of the situation is that while pigs could only be removed under licence from markets that were kept scrupulously clean with water and lime, inn yards where the conditions were dreadfully insanitary, were used promiscuously. The Board of Agriculture for years have attempted the impossible, for swine fever is no more eradicable than are measles in the human species.

THE proposal to form an Agricultural Parliamentary party was on the agenda of the Newcastle Farmers' Club at their meeting on the 21st. The secretary, in a statement he made on the subject, observed that all that could be done at present was to record a pious opinion on the matter. But that suggestion, mild as it was, does not appear to have been adopted. Mr. Carrick spoke to the effect that the formation of such a party was undesirable, and his opinion must have carried great weight, as no motion was apparently submitted to the meeting.

THE butchers in the North make a great display at Christmas-time, and it seems astounding where all the flesh meat goes, taking into account the vast quantities of game and poultry that are also provided to meet the special demands of customers. Even in small towns, where the purveyors have a country round (among the villages) the beasts and sheep slaughtered are so numerous as to be almost beyond belief, if we had not confidence in the veracity of the tradesmen.

ABNORMALLY fat animals are hardly anywhere to be seen. The miners who years ago would have nothing but the fattest of mutton, now distinctly favour small lean joints and beefsteak, and though butchers give heavy prices for a prize ox, their sole object is advertisement, they are bound to lose money over their purchase, as many stones of "blubber" are eventually deposited in the tallow candle-maker's vats. Much of this may afterwards be sold as rendered "suet." One knows a candle-maker who sends many hundredweights of this rendered fat to a wholesale house. It is bought in as tallow, and goes out in blocks of sweet suet. If purchasers of margarine and remade "butter" consumed nothing more objectionable, there could not be the slightest cause for complaint.

WHILE some farmers think Parliament does not initiate sufficient legislation in their interests, others hold a contrary opinion. The other day the farmers' representative of the Cleveland district—from whence splendid milk is obtained—were discussing a variety of questions, among them being that of Parliamentary representation. One speaker confessed that he hardly knew what to make of this topic, but thought when so many prominent agriculturists had supported the question, that it must in their opinion be necessary. His idea was, however, that farmers would be better left alone by legislators for a time.

THE question of an Agricultural Party has come to stay—at any rate, for a while; everybody concerned with farming is talking about it, and whenever so much thought is concentrated upon a question there is usually something in it of more than surface importance.

THE chief need of the British agriculturist today is to be placed upon fair competitive terms with the foreigner; and another very important point is that of combination in the mutual interest. Co-operation in purchase is growing, as the small farmers become educated in the principle of standing by their neighbours for their common good. They are "cutting out," as they call it, "the black-bag man," and sharing his expenses and profits among themselves.

THERE appears to be land hunger among the poor as well as among the small capitalists. Small holdings are in great demand in Lancashire and Yorkshire. Applications are pouring into the county councils "wholesale," and a wide change will be gradually effected in the greatest of our national industries. The settlement of thousands of people on the land in small farms will set many trades going, and cause money to be spent in channels where otherwise it would not be.

AS I write this last line the promise of a "green" Christmas is upset. The woods and fields are sparkling with rime which thickens as the day advances. None but the healthy youth desire an "old-fashioned" Christmas; the farmers do not desire frost and snow at the present juncture, they have been glad to escape the terrors of an early winter. For weeks they have been troubled with water-logged land and folds on which sheep could not be left over night, and some flocks have had to be removed entirely for a time.

December 26, 1907.

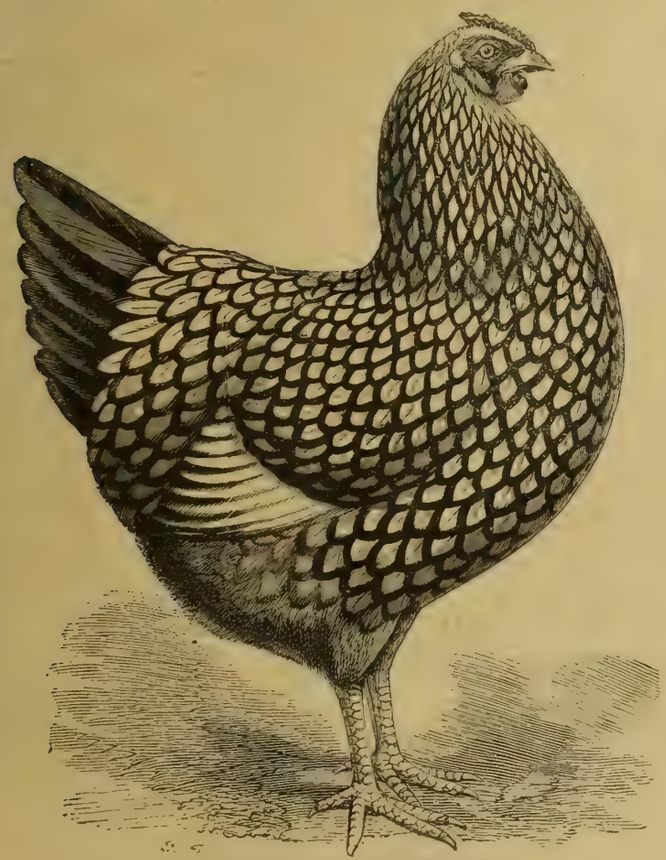
POULTRY.

The Silver-Laced Wyandotte.

The Wyandotte is the most popular of the American breeds we have in this country. They were first imported into England early in the eighties, and the first of the variety to reach our shores was the Silver-laced, the original Wyandottes. Since then many varieties of the Wyandotte have appeared, but the Silver-laced holds its own as one of the prettiest of fowls.

The Silver Wyandottes were "made" by judicious crossings of Silver-spangled Hamburghs and Light Brahmas, and it is interesting to note that one of the characteristics of the Brahmas has been transmitted in a very marked manner to all the progeny of these various matings, as the yellow skin is found in all the birds, and this favours the American point of view as one of the birds' particular features.

It is easy to see which was the stronger fowl used in its production by the results obtained, as the identity of the Brahma is strong in this direction, as seen by the size and shape of the present-day Wyandotte.



A SILVER WYANDOTTE HEN.

The breeding of high-class Laced Wyandottes is work for fanciers rather than for poultry keepers, as it requires much experience in their mating to produce birds of the highest standard of excellence. There are, however, many flocks of birds kept for egg production, and these give a good deal of pleasure to their owners, as they are very pretty fowls besides being capital layers.

The general characteristics of all varieties of the Wyandottes are the same, the broad short head being well defined. The rose comb is close fitting to the head, the spike or leader curving down at the back. The shape of the body is full and deep, but very "cobby," and they have short, strong, yellow legs.

The Wyandottes are the least broody of all the brown egg-laying breeds, and they have longer periods between wanting to sit, while some of them do not come broody at all. Their eggs are not above the average size, but they lay well in the winter months, when an egg, whether large or small, commands a good price. Eggs which have white shells always look smaller than they really are, while, on the other hand, brown-shelled and tinted eggs look larger, so that Wyandottes are classed as profitable egg producers.

How to Get Winter Eggs.

In order to compete with the foreigner and take his proper position in the egg market, the British farmer must be able to guarantee an all-the-year-round supply. The big shopkeeper will naturally accept only such contracts as will ensure regular and constant supplies, and if the home producer cannot do this for him he cannot be blamed for turning to the foreigner.

To obtain a proper footing in the home market, and to retain a fair proportion of the £6,750,000 sterling which is annually paid out of this country for Continental eggs, the question of winter egg production must be carefully studied. Breeding and feeding are the two essentials.

"Breeding for eggs" is no newspaper catch phrase, but is being successfully carried out by many keen-headed farmers who have grasped the importance of the situation. Each year the best layers are selected and reserved for stock purposes. There is no need to employ an elaborate system of trap-nesting. Intelligent observation will soon pick out the "business" hen. The breeding birds and the layers should be run in separate flocks, as each requires different management to obtain the required results. With the laying flock eggs must be fed for, but with the breeding stock fertility is of more consequence than quantity. For breeding purposes strong, healthy one-year-old hens mated with early-hatched, vigorous cockerels bring best results.

Good sound food, not too stimulating in nature, must be fed, together with a liberal daily ration of greenstuff. Cabbages and vegetables cut in halves and distributed over the fields for the hens to peck at will give them occupation and exercise, and so prevent moping and laziness. The lazy hen is not worth her keep—activity means fertility, and produces strong healthy chickens that are no trouble to rear.

The laying flock needs slightly different treatment. When eggs are the object in view, more stimulating diet is necessary. To produce layers the farmer must commence early and seek to build up in his growing chickens strong frames and healthy bodies. The pullets must not be allowed to lay too soon, or strength and development will be sacrificed. Should they show signs of laying too early, they can be retarded by being turned out on to a big grass range, fed on grain alone, and having their quarters shifted every now and again. By these means they can be brought to full maturity, and to a condition to stand a forcing diet and the strain of excessive egg-production.

When the pullets have reached this stage, feeding for eggs can be commenced. If we require the hen to lay out of her natural season, it is at once apparent we must supply artificially that which her nature is deficient in. In the summer, when insect life is abundant, the hen can find all the animal food she requires for the production of eggs, but during the winter, when no longer obtainable under natural conditions, animal food must be given in other ways.

Feed stuffs are found by analysis to contain three principal groups of elements—viz, albuminoids, carbohydrates (including fat), and mineral salts.

The first, which takes its name from albumen, derived from the Latin term for the white of an egg, builds up tissue and supplies waste; the second produces warmth, and the last-named helps to strengthen the frame and build up the bones.

The egg contains almost as much albuminoids as of fats, whereas wheat, oats, and their products contain, roughly speaking, only a proportion of one in four or five. From this it will be seen that some ingredient containing a high proportion of albuminoids must be added to the ordinary food in order to produce the necessary elements for the formation of eggs. Dry meat meal contains 71·2 per cent. of albuminoids, and thus supplies exactly what is required.

Green cut bone may also be fed with advantage, containing as it does a heavy percentage of albuminoids, and supplying also both fat and mineral salts for the shell. It does not take a great deal of green bone to make a full feeding for a flock of hens. A knuckle bone weighing 2½ lb. is sufficient for forty fowls, allowing 1 oz. per day for each bird. This will be given about noon, and will take the place of the same weight of grain, which will be deducted from the evening feed.

To sum up the feeding for the day the following programme will be found both economical and productive of a full egg-basket when the prices of eggs rate high.

In the morning as soon as it is light a soft mash, composed of five parts middlings, two parts bran, and one part meat meal. The constituents should be thoroughly mixed in a dry state, and then moistened to a crumbly consistency with warm water.

This must be fed with care in order to avoid over-feeding and consequent inactivity. A pinch of salt added to the mash will aid digestion and so prevent bowel troubles.

About 10 a.m. green food.

At noon, cut bone.

In the evening, about an hour before roosting time, a ration of wheat—a lady's handful for each fowl at a rough calculation—well scattered over the grass, so that every bird is obliged to hunt for its meal.

This treatment, backed up by warm, dry, clean roosting houses, a supply of grit, and pure water, will go a long way towards making the keeping of poultry as profitable as it undoubtedly should be.

B. F.

Some Important Points in Poultry Keeping.

It is well for everyone who has the management of fowls to observe habits of cleanliness in connection with all the utensils employed.

Fowls, to be profitable, require suitable food, sharp grit, plenty of exercise, and clean quarters.

Fowls will not relish a feed of soft food, however good it is, if it is fed to them in dirty troughs. It is essential that the drinking vessels are kept perfectly clean.

Although the water may be tipped out, and fresh water supplied every few days, the troughs will be found slimy if they are not thoroughly scrubbed out with a hard brush once a week. It is necessary that plain-shaped troughs should be used, so there will be no difficulty in scrubbing them out.

Where there are cases of colds in the runs, a little disinfectant should be added to the water used for scrubbing the troughs out.

Many cases of roup can be prevented by attention to this detail, as where fowls have bad colds they infect the drinking water by allowing saliva from their beaks to escape into the drinking water, then the next birds which take water from the trough are affected.

A piece of camphor about the size of a large walnut should be placed in each drinking vessel if there is any disease about the place. One piece answers for a fortnight if it is replaced in the vessel each time the water is renewed.

The General Committee of the newly-formed Blackpool Agricultural Society have decided that the show be held on July 22 and 23, and a deputation has been appointed to wait on the corporation as to the terms on which the New Road site for the show can be obtained.

Lincolnshire Notes.

ON the 20th I attended a meeting of the committee of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union. I was singularly impressed. We are often told that farmers are notoriously unbusinesslike. The committee of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union is making a reputation for real business capacity. It comprises some of the shrewdest and most intelligent men cultivating the soil of Lincolnshire to day, kept well informed by the most intelligent of secretaries, and presided over by a farmer who has learnt his lessons in many parts of the world, and who has no superior for the keenness of his insight, and I almost said the infallibility of his judgment. At any rate, I do not believe any body of men could have more sensibly disposed of the number of legal cases which came before the committee on that day. The F.U. must have saved its members many a bright sovereign in law costs since it took up the responsibility of giving them legal aid. It must be of the greatest value to be able to submit one's case to a party of the sharpest wits and the ripest experience in the agricultural community of the county.

AMONGST other matters which the Union discussed was that of tuberculosis in cattle. I have several times expressed my opinion that farmers or butchers have little hope of help from the Government in this most difficult of questions. I have urged that they have the remedy in their own hands by establishing an efficient indemnity fund, which the nation would of course pay in the increased price of meat. But they do not seem to see the matter in that light. The Lincoln and Boston butchers have an inefficient indemnity fund, which Mr. Robinson says is bankrupt again and again, and they are hoping with the aid of the farmers to hold on until the Government comes to the rescue. Well, it is another way out of it, but the slowest and the dearest way in my opinion.

EARL CARRINGTON has definitely promised to attend the annual dinner. It will be good news for many a Lincolnshire farmer who has longed through several disappointments for his lordship's advice and inspiration. No doubt the Ministers of Agriculture, both present and past—for Lord Onslow is coming too—will discuss all these thorny problems. If I might be allowed a suggestion, I hope they will also give us their advice on the subject of the registration of corn samples, which, in spite of its intrinsic virtue, seems to hang fire a little still.

WE want to know down in this part what to make of the following:—Last week there was a remarkable sale of growing crops of barley, oats, and wheat at Branston Fen, on the farm of Mr. Henry Berry. The crops were disposed of at the following rates to Mr. John Pocklington, of Heckington:—Nine acres of barley, £1 12s. 6d.; 6 acres of winter oats, £1 15s.; 10 acres of white oats, £3 5s.; 19 acres of white oats, £14; and 9 acres of wheat (part in stack), £14. The purchaser, Mr. Pocklington, is arranging to commence harvest operations as soon after Christmas as possible, and there is not the least doubt that most of the crops will be harvested in the year 1908. We want to know whether it should be described as an early harvest or a late one. Would the Mark Lane expert please enlighten us?

MR. WINFREY, M.P., last week replied to Mr. Chaplin's criticisms of Earl Carrington's small holdings estate in the Spalding district. Mr. Chaplin's complaint was as to the "lamentable lack" of cottage accommodation on the small holdings. Mr. Winfrey's reply is that he found that out of the total of 970 acres of land of Earl Carrington's there were no less than eighteen residences, so that if they divided the land into 50-acre holdings there would be a residence and buildings for every holder—which would bear very favourable comparison with any other estate in the Eastern Counties or even in the whole of England, so far as the number of residences to the amount of land were concerned. Mr. Chaplin, in advising the landlords not to follow Lord Carrington's example, told them that he spoke from no small experience. But he asked them, who was the superior landlord in the matter? Earl Carrington, who had made his estates so successful, or Mr. Chaplin, who was publicly declaring that owing to the agricultural depression he had gradually lost a great part of his estates. This criticism from Mr. Chaplin looked like "green-eyed jealousy."

MESSRS. DICKINSON, RIGGALL, AND DAVY, of Louth, have sold by private treaty to Mr. R. E. Caudwell, of Holbeach Marsh, the Pyes Hall estate of the late Mr. Coates, Sharpley, for £14,000.

TO all my readers a happy New Year. If it comes up to the splendid record of 1907, with all its threats and all its disappointments, 1908 will do well. It will do wonderfully well. We shall always remember how well September saved the situation and converted impending disaster into record prosperity.

December 27, 1907.

LINCOLNSHIRE FARMERS' UNION.

BRIGG.

An enthusiastic meeting in connection with the Brigg Branch of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union was held recently, Mr. T. Ford, of Redbourne, presiding. Mr. G. A. Bellwood, J.P., of Bishop Norton, vice-chairman of the Union, in a practical and earnest speech pointed out the necessity of combination amongst farmers, for they as a class had to contend with other organisations on their business side. Politically the necessity of farmers' unions was still greater. The late Lord Salisbury when Prime Minister had told them to "help themselves." He had nothing to say against either landlords or labourers, but any organisations they formed must be on the basis of the farmer. The Lincolnshire Union, although only three years old, had already a membership of 3,000. The Union rendered valuable services to its members. They had settled many cases, taking one even to the High Courts. At the recent General Election they had pressed their programme on the candidates, but they knew no party; they were farmers first and politicians afterwards.

The Union had seriously considered the question of insurance and excessive railway charges. In many cases Lincolnshire farmers had to pay 1s. a quarter more for carriage than some of the farmers in the other eastern counties. They intended to bring pressure to bear on railway companies, and were determined to be treated fairly. The General Election had taught them a severe lesson, for they saw "Labour" sending members to Parliament, yet the 11,000 Lincolnshire farmers, and the 250,000 farmers in England did not send one direct representative to the House of Commons. He hoped the farmers in the Brigg District would join them, for "Unity was Strength."

The Rev. T. Hamilton, vicar of Skellingthorpe, in an eloquent and earnest address, urged upon the farmers of the country to form one great Union, to which they could appeal for support and legal advice when necessary. The rev. gentleman also advocated agricultural technical schools and model farms, where practical farming could be taught to the sons of farmers. They should take a leaf out of the book of the Irish tenant farmers, and form a Parliamentary Party; they would then soon get what they wanted.

Mr. H. W. Palmer, secretary to the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union, in the course of his address, said the number of branches in connection with the Union had this year increased from sixteen to twenty-one, and they were already going outside the borders of their own county.

HORNCASTLE.

The annual general meeting of the Horncastle branch of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union was held on the 21st inst. Mr. H. Taylor Sharpe in the chair.

Mr. Howard came from the Central Committee in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Palmer (the general secretary) and addressed the meeting. He touched on the small membership of the Horncastle branch, and impressed upon those present the necessity of trying to persuade others to join the Union. In the course of an interesting address he alluded to the great benefit that several members had obtained in cases of dispute and damage from legal advice and aid given by the Union, and also referred to the suggested insurance scheme, the proposed agricultural party in the House of Commons, small holdings, and the rating question.

Mr. G. E. Read strongly advocated an insurance scheme for the Union.

Mr. Dunham asked if the Union could give any assistance towards inducing the railway authorities at Horncastle to give more help to farmers in loading and unloading goods at the station.

It was resolved that a letter be written by the secretary to the station-master at Horncastle asking that the desired help be given to farmers.

The following officers were re-elected:—Chairman, Mr. W. T. Sharpe; vice-chairman, Colonel Ellwood; hon. secretary, Mr. W. Searby.

BOSTON.

On Wednesday evening the members of the Boston Branch of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union held a dinner, followed by their annual meeting, and gave a hearty send-off to their late hon. assistant-secretary, Mr. T. A. Marris, who is leaving England on January 3 to devote himself to agriculture in Canada. The president of the Branch, Mr. Joseph Bowser, J.P., was in the chair, and when the officers for the ensuing year were chosen he was unanimously re-elected to the position he has so successfully occupied during the past year.

Mr. Crawford was unanimously elected secretary, and, in expressing his thanks, said he hoped that by this time next year the members would be numbered by their hundreds.

For the office of hon. assistant secretary in place of Mr. T. A. Marris, resigned, Mr. Sharp was unanimously elected, whilst the whole of the committee were re-elected.

At the dinner Mr. Hansard proposed the toast of "The Boston Branch," and said he had experienced the struggles and difficulties of farming in the past, and knew what it was to have two or three "downs" to one "up." Many remedies were suggested for the difficulties that farmers had to contend with, but the only remedy he believed in was to help themselves. (Applause.) He coupled the toast with the name of Mr. E. Crawford, secretary for the Boston Branch, and Mr. Crawford briefly replied.

The toast of "The Town and Trade of Boston," was proposed by Mr. F. Bowser, and acknowledged by the Mayor, who referred to the approaching departure of Mr. Marris. The latter had, he said, been for some years connected with Boston in various capacities, and belonged to a family the members of which were highly respected by the inhabitants. Continuing, he said that all present, whether professional men, merchants, or engaged in any kind of trade, sincerely desired that agricultural matters should be on the up-grade rather than on the down-grade. It was a matter of great satisfaction to them when they saw cheerful countenances instead of the gloomy ones to which they had been accustomed years ago (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Dennis proposed "The Lincolnshire Farmers' Union," of which he said the Boston branch was not the least, or the least progressive. The agricultural industry was the one upon which all other industries hung, and yet it had been a neglected industry, and had been sacrificed on the altars of the manufacturing industries from the repeal of the Corn Laws until the present day. But at last the farmers were coming to the conclusion that if they wanted help they must help themselves. If they intended to improve their position they must pledge their Members of Parliament representing agricultural districts to support the industry which benefited the people whom they represented. Combination was the only way. If they did not do something for themselves they need not look for legislation in their behalf. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Colin Campbell, chairman of the Union, whose name was coupled with the toast, referred in his speech to the proposed agricultural party, and said he thought personally that it would be impossible to form an independent agricultural party and send members into Parliament themselves. If they brought pressure to bear on the candidates before the General Election they might get them to do what they wanted. Their great strength lay in being independent of party politics. Mr. Campbell went on to speak of the forthcoming motor-car legislation. Speaking at a later stage with regard to the suggested scheme of mutualinsurance for the members of the Union, he said that those at headquarters did not consider such a scheme feasible. They had therefore gone to a tariff insurance office, and would soon be in a position to give every paying member a reduction of 5 per cent. on his insurance premium, while very substantial benefits would accrue to the Union itself. (Applause.)

The toast of the evening, the health of Mr. T. A. Marris, was proposed by the chairman, who said he was very sorry their late assistant secretary was going to leave them, but hoped it was for his benefit, and that he would make as many friends in the new country to which he was going as he had in this country. The speaker had only been associated with Mr. Marris in connection with that Union. He had been with him at large meetings, where he had found him most enthusiastic, and at small ones, where he had found him most encouraging. He hoped when he went to his new home he would find agriculture prosperous in that country. It had been intended to make Mr. Marris some presentation that evening, but owing to circumstances over which they had no control it had been impossible to finish it and present it that night, and it would be handed to him in due course by a small committee. (Applause.)

Mr. Sharp read the following testimonial, which had been drawn up to be signed by the chairman, and as many of the members as possible.

"We, the undersigned members of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union, desire to express our regret at the resignation of Mr. T. Arthur Marris, the honorary secretary of the Boston and District branch of this Union, which is rendered necessary by his decision to emigrate to Canada; and at the same time we wish to testify our appreciation of the value of the services he has rendered to the cause by his steady attention to the business of the Union, and the courtesy he has at all times ex-

tended to the members; and we hereby wish him success in the new career he has chosen.

"J. Bowser, Chairman of Boston Branch."

The toast was heartily drunk to the tune of "He's a jolly good fellow."

Mr. Marris, in reply, thanked the mayor, the chairman, and Mr. Caister for the kind things they had said about him. The services he had rendered to the Union had been very small, and he considered them a very great pleasure. He was sure Mr. Sharp would always find them the same so long as he had Mr. Crawford as a colleague and Mr. Bowser as a chairman. It was not without regret that he found himself obliged to sever his connection with the Union. It had always surprised him that such an organisation had not been started before, but since it had started it had been the death of auctioneers. (Laughter.) It was so very seldom that a farm was sold up that it had killed the auctioneers. (Laughter.) He did not complain; he had had a good time in Boston, and had always had nearly enough for his little wants, but he thought that by going to another country he might do better. (Applause.) They had to work out there, but if they did they got paid. He thanked them for the testimonial, and was sure that that testimonial, which was signed by men known all the world over, would be useful to him in his new venture. (Applause)

Mr. Nash proposed the toast of "The Chairman," and said he was sure the prosperity of the Boston Branch was due to the capable hands the business was in. (Hear, hear.)

In the course of his reply, Mr. Bowser referred to the burden of local taxation on the farmers, the desirability of corn registration, and the subject of small holdings, deprecating the idea of sending men on to the land who did not know anything about farming. Anything he could do for that Union, or for the benefit of agriculture in general he would always be pleased to do. (Applause.)

RETFORD.

The annual meeting of the Retford Branch of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union was held at Retford on the 21st inst. Mr. Samuel White, South Leverton, was unanimously re-elected chairman, and presided throughout. Mr. White said he should continue to do his best on behalf of the Union, and no one could do any more. He wished they were making faster progress, but it was not always the rush at first succeeded in the end. The Union appeared to be established on a firm basis, and he thought greater things would be acomplished in the future. Mr. W. Skinner, Lound, was appointed vice-chairman in the place of Mr. T. Bescoby, who expressed a wish to retire; Mr. J. C. Smalley was re-elected secretary, each speaker bearing testimony to the highly efficient manner in which he had discharged his duties.

The chairman said he wished to report that Sir Frederick Milner was in every way in agreement with the programme of the Union, and he was also glad to say that Mr. F. Newnes, M.P., was in favour of their objects, and desired to become a honorary member of the branch. This was most satisfactory in every way, and no one could find any fault with what they were doing. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Palmer gave a brief account of the progress of the Union in Lincolnshire and adjoining counties. It was impossible to tell one-quarter of what the Union was doing, but he mentioned a few cases of legal aid which had been of great benefit to members. The old branches were in a flourishing condition, and new ones had been started at Peterborough, Doncaster, Melton Mowbray, in the Isle of Axholme, and at Spalding. There was a strong move by the Central Chamber of Agriculture in regard to the independent agricultural party. That awakening had been brought about by the energy of the Union. The Central Chamber presented a report, which had been discussed by the Union, and the idea was to form an independent agricultural party. He hoped it would not be said they were opposed to it. Let them bring forward a tenant farmer for Parliament, who should keep together the party men on either side who represented agriculture, and let them know when anything relating to agriculture was coming up, and keep them to their pledge given to the agricultural programme. The Union had not been asleep, and whatever else might be said it could not be denied that they had awakened the country to the fact that there was such an industry as agriculture. (Applause.)

Mr. Smalley stated that during the year the membership of the Retford Branch of the Union had increased from 47 to 132, and good work had been done in the villages, four meetings having been held, which had resulted in an increased membership. He thanked the members of the committee for their assistance. He should like to receive more help from the members, as the district was too large for one man to get through in his spare time.

On the motion of Mr. Skinner, seconded by Mr. White, it was unanimously resolved: "That the Retford Branch of the L.F.U., whose members are large ratepayers, view with alarm the great increase in the cost of county roads, and do not agree with the use of tarmac, which is detrimental to the highest interests and excessively expensive."

It was decided to ask the Central Committee to press forward item three in the parliamentary programme:—"That large grants shall be paid by the Imperial Exchequer towards the maintenance of all public roads."

CORRESPONDENCE.

Agricultural Politics.

SIR,—Regarding your contributor Lobbyist's intricate arguments denouncing any alteration in the tariff system of the United Kingdom, I would like to ask him what *is his alternative?*

In her competition with powerful commercial rivals Great Britain can no longer afford to handicap herself by giving them 25 per cent start, and as they will not adopt Free Trade and join her at "scratch," why does not the British Empire unite against them, establish Free Trade between its different component parts, and impose a high tariff against all foreign competitors, each portion bearing its share of the defence of the Empire both in men and money? Otherwise, what good are our Colonies to the Mother Country, except that she prevents other nations from possessing them.

What all this has to do with farming is that agriculture cannot regain prosperity unless the other industries of the country are also prosperous, then farmers may demand fair treatment.

Any scheme to benefit the British farmer, or any other class, must be part and parcel of a plan to benefit the community.—Yours, &c.,

Christmas Day, 1907. A. J. R.

Out of Curiosity.

SIR,—Some time ago when you gave an illustration of what is probably the oldest stack of wheat in the world, and informed your readers that the stack had been kept intact because the owner had made a vow not to sell the corn under a certain price, your readers wondered what manner of man Mr. Selby must be; but his letter of December 16 makes one wonder still more, because he there says that the above statement is incorrect, and he keeps the stack as a curiosity and nothing else. Fancy keeping a corn stack as a curiosity! Not a very profitable one, I should say, and most people would prefer to sell the stack and invest its value at five per cent. But surely the ancient corn stack was not always a curiosity? In its early years, before it became famous on account of its age, there must have been reasons other than the one mentioned by your correspondent why it was not threshed out and utilised. Of course, if Mr. Selby came into possession of the stack after it had fame thrust upon it on account of its age, one can understand him keeping it as a curiosity; but if the statement made at the time the stack was illustrated is incorrect, it would be interesting to know the reason why it was not threshed out long before it got old and became a curiosity.—Yours, &c., LUX.

December 27, 1907.

Farming in North Lincolnshire.

SIR,—Things are going smoothly on the farm, if it be rather wet. We thrash barley when we can, and strange to say we have a fair yield, contrary to expectations, for does it not say in the text books that we cannot have corn without sun? Our opinions alter: solar heat is not required.

As to prices, wheat at 36s. and barley at 30s. is an improvement, though still a miserable price for the former. Beef at 7s per 14 lb. for Christmas quality is not enough, but the foreigner, who pays no rates and taxes, rules the market. Mutton is higher luckily, but we sell little at present.

Potatoes were scarce and dear, and then Continental caused a slump, since which it has been very difficult to move many.

Potato-land wheat was sown later than usual, and in a sodden soil. The latter rains have destroyed much in some districts; indeed, some fields are quite covered.

But to leave farming, I wish to let you know that it is Christmas up here, and our genial feelings supervene, and I wish the Editor of the MARK LANE EXPRESS a happy time and a prosperous New Year, and with you I couple your readers. NORTH LINDSEY.

During the last few weeks the estates of Lord Penrhyn and Mr. Assheton Smith, of Vaynol, in South Carnarvonshire, have been under the hammer, and they realised £150,000. In almost every instance the tenants, aided by grants from the county council, have purchased their farms, and now practically the whole of South Carnarvonshire belongs to tenant farmers. Both Lord Penrhyn and Mr. Assheton Smith gave the tenants every encouragement to buy their farms.

Questions and Answers.

FARM.

Manuring Grass Land.—I am hoping to use the manure from the house and stables (three horses and a pig) on my grass land. Should I add to this to increase its usefulness?—S. T.

ANSWER: You can utilise this manure from your house and stable by pouring it on the land with great advantage, as liquid manure is an excellent source of plant food, and there is nothing you need add to the liquid to increase its value. Indeed, if it is very strong it might be an advantage to dilute it somewhat with water, so as to make it cover a larger area. Whether the manure will be sufficient for the land depends on the extent of it, and also its condition, but, as a rule, something more than liquid manure is needed in order to get a good growth of grass. If the land is in good heart, and has been fairly well manured in recent years, probably the liquid manure, which is really a stimulant, would be sufficient to insure a good growth of grass; but if the herbage is thin and poor, we would suggest that you give in addition a dressing of basic slag at the rate of 5 or 6 cwt. to the acre.

VETERINARY.

Calves with Diarrhœa.—Can you please tell me the cause of newborn calves having diarrhœa, also a remedy for same? They are taken from the mothers as soon as born, and are fed with warm milk and water.—Reg.

ANSWER: We can tell you the cause, but you must separate the "diarrhœa in calves" from which your calves suffer from the diarrhœa associated with indigestion and the diarrhœa due to gastro-intestinal catarrh, and look on it as an infectious disease. It is one of a group of epizootic diseases due to pasteurella. When "scour" is present from birth, or the calves are practically born scouring, the pasteurella organisms gain access through the open umbilicus. There is no "remedy" in the sense you obviously understand it. It is of no use giving anything to the calves. The pharmacopœia has been racked for a remedy without success, and even if one were found the youngsters would be dead before it could be got to act. Years ago, long before the cause was discovered, this form of "white scour," which also affects foals, lambs, pigs, and puppies in about the order named, was known as infectious dysentery of young animals—dysenteria neonatorum—but shortly before his death the actual cause was elucidated by M. Nocard in Ireland. The only remedy is prevention, and this lies in absolute disinfection of the premises and perfect sterilisation of the navel at birth. Would you like to know more about it?—M.R.C.V.S.

LEGAL.

A Responsibility Question.—Can a man possessing a freehold house, leasehold property, &c., turn over all his possessions and responsibility to his wife?—T. H

ANSWER: You can get rid of all your possessions to your wife, but your responsibilities are quite a different matter. If you have creditors, notwithstanding the settlement of gift, they can sue you and make you bankrupt, and follow the property within certain limits of time. You will be also liable in respect of other responsibilities. The transfer of your possessions is quite an easy matter.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

Liability for Dilapidations.—We have some leasehold property, and on June 4 the solicitors of the ground landlord sent us in a list of things that were wanting to be done; painting the outsides was one, and that was done last year. It is weekly, and we hold the lease over seventy years. They gave us three calendar months. The two houses are in good repair and good tenants. Before the three months we wrote, as well as our builder, stating all was done but the painting of the outside, which was done last year. Only this week we got a lawyer's letter charging over £5, saying other little things are wanting to be done, but not saying what. If not paid a writ will be served forthwith. Please say if we are liable. We are paying for them through our building society. READER.

ANSWER: The solicitor, no doubt, sent you in a notice of dilapidations, which, I understand, you have practically complied with. How far you have done so I am unable to say, and I should be sorry to advise you unless I knew a great deal more of the facts. If you desire to contest the matter it would be advisable for you to obtain the services of a solicitor.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

POULTRY.

Scab on Ear Lobe.—I have a Black Minorca cockerel that has a kind of scab on ear lobe. Would you kindly tell me through your valuable paper the cause and how I could remove it as I want to show it [illegible] zine ointment, but that seems too drastic [illegible] it comes again.—M. L.

ANSWER: In all probability the scab is the result of a peck on the lobe. First of all, it should be moistened with [illegible] and after it is quite pliable, the whole can be carefully removed, when [illegible] with boric powder for a few days will restore the lobe to [illegible]. Minorcas which are [illegible] in the open merely have [illegible] as the weather affects them [illegible].

Mating Black Leghorns.—I have a cockerel and seven pullets (brother and sisters), seven months old, which I wish to mate together. I should be glad if you will let me know when to put cockerel with pullets, as I want [illegible]. One or two of the pullets are [illegible]. G. F.

ANSWER: It is a great mistake to mate brothers and sisters together [illegible] are required for [illegible], as the stamina of the produce is seriously affected. These pullets could be profitably mated at the end of this month with an unrelated cockerel.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

Basic Slag for Light Soils.

The special advantage of applying basic slag in liberal quantities to poor pastures on clay has been recognised from the time of the first use of the fertiliser.

The great improvement in the quality of the herbage that can be thus obtained is now so generally known as to need no comment, but a few words about the application of slag to the lighter class of soils may not be out of place.

In consequence of the result of numerous experiments and observations the use of slag has been gradually extending, and it is now being applied with marked benefit to hay lands and pasture on light soils, but on such soils it must be used in conjunction with potash salts. This is a point to be kept well in mind and acted upon.

Clay soils contain naturally an abundant supply of potash, which the free lime in the slag renders available, but in light soils potash is naturally deficient, and therefore in the treatment of such land it must be added, in order to enable the slag to act beneficially.

The two fertilisers co-operate and supplement one another in the encouragement of the clovers and fine grasses of pastures. On light lands slag without potash produces little effect, and similarly potash without phosphoric acid is of small avail.

The neglect of this consideration has been frequently the cause of disappointment with the results obtained.

The Calculation of Equivalent Manurial Values.

By George Cawkwell Phillips.

(*The first part of this address appeared in our last issue.*)

This value can only be assessed on the quantity of certain chemical elements possessing fertilising qualities equivalent to the same elements present in commercial manures of equal value, hence the term "full equivalent manurial value."

The problem which the valuer has to solve is this :—

What proportion of the total weight of the food used passes into the manure which the outgoer leaves behind ?

Chemical analyses and careful observation alone can give the solution.

Hence the need of the chemist and the necessity for tables which will inform the valuer on this point, and be accepted as of reliable authority.

It seems to be generally conceded that in this respect the revised table prepared by Messrs. Voelcker and Hall furnishes all that could be desired, having been compiled from the analyses of a great variety of feeding stuffs, the conducting of a number of practical experiments, and the ascertaining of the unit values of the three chief manurial constituents—viz., nitrogen, phosphoric acid, and potash—deduced from the average price of these elements in a large number of manures in ordinary use.

It should be distinctly understood that the prices per unit of the various constituents dealt with in the tables are not the prices of any one commercial commodity, but they are in each case abstract figures deduced from the price current of a great variety of commodities on the market, each of which contains a greater or less quantity of the chemical elements named in the table.

These figures will probably need revision from time to time, just as the bank rate controlled by the governors of the Bank of England rises or falls. This revision should not be made by individual valuers, but be controlled by some properly constituted governing body invested with Parliamentary powers and responsibilities.

In accepting Messrs. Voelcker and Hall's table as a standard of value *pro tem*, we must never lose sight of the fact that only half the full manurial value of the nitrogen and three-fourths of the phosphoric acid are taken as "the full equivalent manurial value" of such elements as go into the farmyard manure left on the holding, and from which no crop has been taken.

Where one crop has been taken the "full equivalent manurial value" is further reduced by taking one-half of the first half, and so on with each crop taken by the outgoer after the application of the farmyard manure.

In order to make this point perfectly clear, I have compiled an entirely new form of Voelcker and Hall's table. The figures are exactly the same as in their table, but by being differently arranged I venture to think that the valuable information supplied by them will appeal more clearly and forcibly to the average valuer, and more especially to those who are not continually occupied in this kind of work, or well acquainted with agricultural chemistry.

I have also added for comparison (1) the table of Lawes and Gilbert as originally published and revised by them; (2) the scale adopted by the Central Chamber of Agriculture; and finally, with the kind assistance of the Editor of the Mark Lane Express, (3) the prices current at the present time of the various feeding stuffs mentioned in the tables.

In this table each feeding stuff heads a vertical column which contains all the information relating to it, and as the valuer has to deal with only one food at a time he will find it much easier to run his eye down the one column than having to trace a number of figures along a horizontal line, and then refer for comparison to several other tables.

Another point for consideration is this :—The figures in the table do not give the sum of money which is to be awarded to the outgoer as the "full equivalent manurial value" of the feeding stuffs consumed on the holding, but only the calculated theoretical value. For instance, say that 10 tons of decorticated cotton cake had been consumed in the last year of the term, the table gives its theoretical value as under :—

	Total value.	Proportion of value in dung.
One ton contains—	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
6·90 per cent. nitrogen at 12s. .....=	4 2 10	
Half of this is left in the dung		2 1 5
3·10 per cent. phosphoric acid at 3s.....=	9 4	
Three-quarters of this is left in the dung		7 0
2·0 per cent. potash at 4s. =	8 0	
All this is left in the dung		8 0
		2 16 5
Multiply by tons of food used		10
Total theoretical value of 10 tons of decorticated cotton cake, in farmyard manure, on or in the holding, and from which no crop has been taken.....	£28 4 2	

If this quantity had been used in the year before the last and one crop taken afterwards the theoretical value would be one-half the above amount, viz :— £14 2 1

If two crops had been taken only ... £7 1 0

If three crops had been taken only £3 10 6

If ten tons had been used in each of the four last years the claim would be as under :—

	£ s. d.
In the last year.....	28 4 2
In the year before the last	14 2 1
Two years before the last	7 1 0
Three years before the last	3 10 6
Total claim for four years.....	£52 17 9

The Act requires that the full manurial value shall be paid to the outgoer, and if it be an ascertained fact based upon practical experiments made by reputable chemists that manures applied to land four years back give evidence of their presence in the soil, then I take it that the assigned values given to the third and fourth years before the last must be brought into the calculation, and local associations of valuers are acting *ultra vires* in ignoring them. This is why the word *full* is added to the words "equivalent manurial value."

(*To be continued.*)

When Experimental Stations Were Started.

In a quiet little German village the foundation for the first institution for agricultural research under direct Government control and aid was founded about fifty years ago. This was the experimental station organised at the village of Moerkern. At the present time there are in Germany upwards of seventy such stations, guiding and helping the farmers in every branch of agriculture.

It will be noted that the German Government, wise and far-seeing in agricultural questions, started and supported the institution, but in this country some years earlier the celebrated Rothamsted Experimental Station had been founded by the private enterprise and patriotic instinct of Mr. Lawes, afterwards Sir John Bennet Lawes. The Rothamsted station is the best known of all such institutions, and the reports of the results there obtained are carefully studied by scientific agriculturists all over the world.

Latterly a good many other experimental stations have been started in England, and receive grants of money from Government, but on a scale quite inadequate to the importance of the subject and insignificant compared with the amounts expended by other countries.

The first experimental institution in America was established in 1875, and has proved the pioneer of a movement which has advanced enormously the agricultural development of the country.

Within the short period of twenty-five years a number of institutions with similar aims and objects have sprung up and extended through nearly every State of the country. The small original staff of four has gradually increased until it now numbers nearly seven hundred, and the amount annually expended on the work has grown from a few thousand dollars to more than a million dollars, with an elaborate equipment which must represent a money value of millions

The American Government, like the German Government, have always acted on the wise principle that money judiciously expended on the advancement of agriculture was the wisest investment a country could make.

Essential Elements of Food.

In a recent issue we directed attention to the difference of the digestive powers of cattle and pigs, and this leads us to the remark that in feeding animals we should aim at giving such food as is suitable to the species of animal, and even to the individual animal. The food should have the proper digestibility and palatableness to which the species, through a series of generations, has become accustomed. The essential constituents must be present and in the proper ratio to suit the animal's needs.

If food be insufficient, the animal has to draw on its own fat and flesh, which are naturally digested in the body and sent into the blood-stream to make good the deficiency.

Overfeeding, when it exceeds what the animal can retain as fat and flesh, causes digestive disturbances.

In every animal a portion of the food remains undigested, and by its presence helps the bowels to perform their duties regularly. This undigested balance is sometimes called the ballast of the food and is essential to the health of the animal.

Professor Osborne, of the University of Melbourne, in referring to the usefulness of this bulk or ballast, points out that a rabbit fed on pure protein (albuminoids), carbohydrates, fat, salt, and water, will die of inflammation of the bowel, but will live if indigestible material (say, horn shavings) be added to its food. Carnivorous animals require little ballast, but that little is essential. Grazing animals eat enormous masses of material which escape digestion, and they have special digestive mechanisms to deal with this residue. The coarse fibres in fodders are only feebly digested and even the fine cellulose of vegetable cells only partially so. The silica of plants is also feebly absorbed. If a herbivorous animal be given a fodder poor in fibre or with fibres too finely chopped, digestion is impaired, the contents of the bowel tend to become stagnant and putrefaction by bacteria takes place, giving rise to poisonous products which are absorbed. This is well exemplified in cows that "lose their cud" when placed on a fodder too rich and digestible.

The Life of Trees.

The tree which has been calculated to have the longest life is the cypress, which is estimated to live for about 6,000 years. The cypresses at Oaxaca, in Mexico, are reported to be the oldest trees in the world.

The Yew tree is the next longest liver, attaining the age of 3,000 years.

Then comes the oak with 1,500 years.
The beech with 800 years.
The chestnut with 700 years.
The elm with 500 years.
The larch with 500 years.
The fir with 400 years.

Compound Feeding Cakes.

A good deal of prejudice exists in some minds against the use of compound feeding cakes, and this feeling is justified unless the buyer is careful to get his supplies from firms of reliability and to restrict his purchases to well-known brands; but when these precautions are taken, compound cakes are often a convenient and useful class of food. As the analyst to the Essex County Technical Laboratories remarked in his report, they are, as a rule, well combined and flavoured, and have a composition suitable for the purposes for which they are intended, although the price is often above their nutritive value.

When they can be bought at a fair price from trustworthy people, there is nothing to be said against their use.

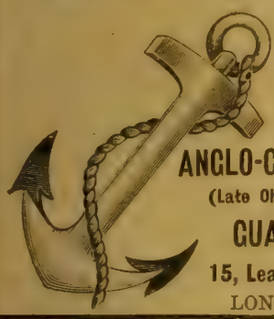
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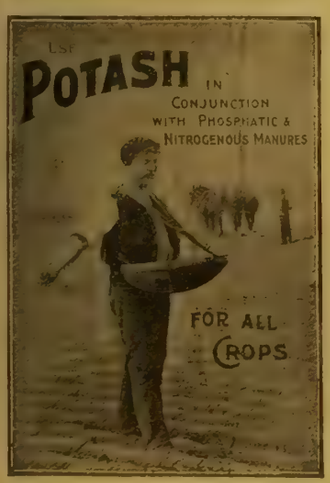
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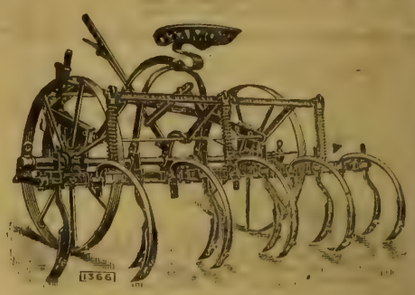
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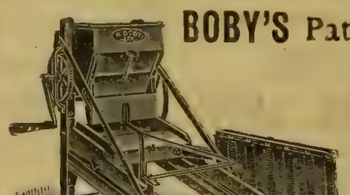
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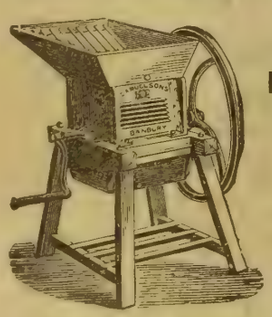
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Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

THE NEW YEAR.

It is our privilige once more to wish our readers a Happy New Year, and we do it in a spirit of sincerity and good fellowship, with an earnest desire that 1908 will turn out to be a year of success and prosperity to the whole of the agricultural fraternity.

As we write the sands are running out with 1907, the bells will soon be ringing out the old and ringing in the new, and the year which twelve months ago we ushered in is like the schoolboy's copybook, filled to the last page, and in turning over the records we find clean leaves and smudged leaves, and work done well side by side with mistakes and blunders.

It is a fair comparison—the past year's work and the filled copybook, and as the schoolboy begins on a new book, so we start in the New Year. It stretches out before us fresh and untried, and with one page open, but we cannot look beyond that. One thing it is well to do—trust the New Year. We are aware of its possibilities both for good and ill, but let us think of the words of Disraeli, and not give way to anticipation of catastrophes which may never come to pass. Our wish is for a Happy New Year, and let us begin then by looking for the happiness. We have enough of the trouble when it comes without anticipating it.

JANUARY CROPPINGS.

The conditions of soil and weather in the first month of the year generally forbid many croppings taking place in January, but occasionally

some soils have been found in a beautifully friable condition meet for barley sowing, and it would not be surprising to hear of some croppings during the month which commences on Wednesday. Some farmers hesitate to sow barley thus early, lest it be killed by the frost or destroyed by wireworm. Others, on the contrary, make it their rule to sow as soon as ever both soil and weather are found perfectly favourable to the operation. Certainly the Brewers' Exhibition competitions have proved that early-sown barley crops may be relied on to yield the best grain for malting, while it has often happened that if an early, favourable condition of things be not embraced, the more natural period for the operation turns out precarious, with perhaps a great difficult in getting the cropping done at all.

Wheat is another grain which has always been put in, more or less, in January, soil and weather being in fitting condition. Owing to the rise in value of that grain, a larger acreage than usual is believed to be in the ground, and possibly, should circumstances and conditions be at all fitting, some material additions may yet be made with spring wheat. The latter, like barley, can scarcely be put in too soon in the New Year if a good seed-bed be obtainable. But a barley crop is always on most soils likely to answer far better than one of spring wheat, unless there be high fertility or abundant manuring.

Where sheep are feeding off swedes and leave rich legacies of droppings behind them, spring wheat sown soon might perhaps be expected to yield satisfactorily. In other cases, of course, chemical fertilisers can be resorted to. But spring wheat has often been sown in the past without this necessary manuring on lands not at all calculated to yield well without it. Fertility must be imparted, if absent, as the condition of success. Past generations of farmers were accustomed to sow the Red Nursery or Talavera varieties when they put in wheat in the first two months of the year, but by cross fertilisation and selection these sorts have been improved upon, and still better kinds are now available for spring cropping.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31.—Glanville Wootton Great Sale of Live and Dead Stock and of Farm Machinery——Live Stock Sale at Lynn.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1 (NEW YEAR'S DAY).—All the Speculative Markets: The Baltic, The Atlantic, New York Produce Exchange, London and other Stock Exchanges, closed —— Great Annual Prize Barrener Sale at Wincanton —— Duke's Special Live Stock Sale at Dorchester—— Cheese Fair at Oswestry——Cattle Fairs at Congleton, Stockport, Chipping Norton, and Mold——Horse Fairs at Oswestry and Congleton.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2. — Birmingham Weekly Horse Sales resume——Horse Fairs at Lancaster, Dorking and Montgomery ——Cattle Fairs at Brecon and Montgomery——Sheep Fairs at Dorking and Montgomery.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 3.—Committee on Tuberculosis in Cattle resumes its Sittings——Cattle Fairs at Yeovil and Derby.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4.—Sheppard's Horse Sales at Leicester resume——Cattle Fairs at Buckingham and Carnarvon.

MONDAY, JANUARY 6.—Tattersall's Horse Sales resume——Cattle Fairs at Bodmin, Plympton, Market Harborough, Aberystwith, and Welshpool —— Horse Fairs at Aberystwith, Welshpool and Market Harborough.

Notes of the Week.

The weather has maintained its reputation for eccentricity right through the year.

A few days ago an acquaintance picked from a hedge near London a bunch of ripe blackberries.

To-day the temperature is like a refrigerator.

Good-bye, Old Year! Welcome, New Year!

Let us, then, be up and doing,
With a heart for any fate;
Still achieving, still pursuing,
Learn to labour and to wait.

Success in the New Year to the independent Agricultural Party.

This is a sunny Boxing Day. According to an old saying a sunny Boxing Day betokens a good financial year.

"Then gold shall be easy to get among the English."

Everyone must have noticed that crosses are a favourite mark on beer barrels. Why?

Because monks were the first brewers of beer, and used the form of a crucifix (a cross) as a sort of trade mark.

It was Bible and beer—and very good wholesome beer they brewed.

Nitro-bacterine is the name of the nitro-culture patented by Professor Bottomley.

Perhaps the Professor or Mr. Stead will explain in what it differs from other nitro-cultures.

"Mama," said little Willie, "we were up at Farmer Crosby's yard watching the eggs in his incubator."

"And did you see anything come out?"

"Oh, yes; Farmer Crosby came out and ran after us."

The British sparrow is a bold and enterprising colonist.

In Australia, says the *New South Wales Gazette*, it presents a problem which calls for immediate and continuous action.

In Nova Scotia there is a flourishing fox farm. It is not the brushes of the animals but the skins that are wanted.

Skins in the green condition are worth from £40 to £50 each.

In 1840 this country, says Sir W. Gilbey, imported 96,000,000 eggs. Last year the number had reached the enormous total of 2,265,000,000.

The labour bill of the English hop growers is over £1,500,000 a year.

If the industry is ruined by foreign importations or other causes, the unemployed problem in Kent will be accentuated in an acute fashion.

And it would be felt in thousands of homes in the East End of London.

In the New Forest pigs have the bad habit of lying down in the roads at night, so it sometimes happens that collisions occur between two kinds of road-hogs.

The animal road-hogs are acting within the legal rights of their owners who have rights of pasturage in the forest.

Berlin requires a quarter of a million Christmas trees to supply the demands of Santa Claus.

Midland Notes.

THIS, in the best of seasons, is usually a dead time, but it is more inactive this year than usual, and the outlook is less bright. Too many of us, instead of looking over more or less green fields, have only great expanses of water to gaze upon. Perhaps that is putting it too strongly; but really the floods this back-end have been very bad—how bad can only properly be realised by those who, like the writer, have had the opportunity of moving about from district to district.

WE expect the slow flowing Avon to be more or less over its low banks each winter. It is long, however, since so many meadows were under water. The Severn valley below Tewkesbury has fared hardly better; the Arrow has been contributing its share to the watery visitation; and the low-lying lands of the Soar Valley in Leicestershire have been looking like a great inland lake. Not only are the fields in this deplorable condition, but many outlying villages have practically been isolated—cut off from their market towns and thrown upon their own resources. You may take a horse or trap along a country road even when it is become a running stream—which indeed some of our most ancient cartways were in the first place—but to walk along it is more than any man can be expected to do. Hence at such times it is always the cottagers who suffer most; and even where the floods do not extend the land is thoroughly waterlogged, so that work in the fields is even less than usual at this time of year. But a touch of winter will change all this, for snow has fallen heavily in many districts.

THE farmers of Warwick and Worcester, Leicester and Stafford, who join to supply Birmingham with milk, will learn with no particular surprise of the city Health Committee's agitation for the closer inspection of cowsheds, &c., outside the urban area. We have heard the same schemes propounded before—not only from Birmingham, and so far the talk has ended in inaction.

ALL the same, this Birmingham movement is an exceedingly important one. The facts are worth recapitulation. The city medical officer—not at any time prone to the methods of the alarmist—reports that, after patient and prolonged investigations, he has found the living germs of tuberculosis in 14 per cent. of the milk sent into Birmingham. The Royal Commission, which has been sitting since 1901, declares that "there is no doubt but that in a certain number of cases the tuberculosis occurring in the human subject, especially in children, is the direct result of the introduction into the human body of the bacillus of bovine tuberculosis, and there can also be no doubt that in the majority at least of these cases the bacillus is introduced through cows' milk." That view is fully accepted by the city Health Committee and by the medical officer. It has been given prominence in the local Press (which exercises more influence in Birmingham than in many large cities), and so far the press has contained nothing on the other side of the question—no hint that the question even has another side.

IN the circumstances the result is inevitable. The public begins to feel itself in danger. It does not know the elementary medical fact that tuberculous germs only, as a rule, develop in an organism which is prepared by weakness to receive them; and it forgets that infinitely more mischief is caused to children by giving them too little milk than by giving them too much. In consequence, the movement for putting under the supervision of the city health inspectors all the cowsheds from which milk is sent into the city, steadily gathers force. And as Liverpool and Manchester, Sheffield and Leeds, have been approached already by the Birmingham authorities, it is extremely likely that the next movement for extended powers of inspection will be a joint one, promoted by these five great corporations, whose influence in Parliament it will difficult to resist.

IN the city of Birmingham itself the corporation veterinary inspector pays monthly visits to each cowshed—there are enough upon the urban area to provide 10 or 12 per cent. of the city's milk—and periodically examines every cow with a view to determining its freedom from disease. It can hardly be said that many rural councils are as thorough in their methods; and the Birmingham agitators find another weapon ready to hand in the latest report of the Local Government Board—a report which comments adversely on the remissness shown by rural councils in adopting and enforcing regulations under the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order of 1885. As country-people themselves, the members of such bodies are generally strongly of opinion that the regulations pressed upon their notice are more troublesome than useful. That, of course, is the reason for their slackness. But it may not be easy to convince a Parliamentary Committee of the correctness of that view.

THERE were one or two matters discussed by the Solihull (Warwickshire) District Council at their last meeting, which have rather more than local interest. One member of the council, it seems, wholly objects to that body cleaning out roadside ditches, on the ground that that duty—and expense—should devolve upon the landowners. As he has laid the facts before the Local Government Board, and objection to various items in the surveyors' accounts is threatened, the upshot of the affair will be awaited with some interest by other rural authorities who have occasionally set their roadmen to the same duty.

December 27, 1907.

HORSES.

Quality—A Definition—Prettiness—A Comparison—Breeding for Quality—Value of Quality—An Example—More Concerning Glanders.

Quality.

WHENEVER the conversation turns upon horses the word "quality" is not long before putting in an appearance. It is perhaps the most useful word in the somewhat limited vocabulary which is available for the description of horses. It is used indiscriminately for praising a horse or for crabbing him. "Look at his quality," says the admirer of some equine wonder, with any number of notes of admiration in his voice. "No quality," says the exponent of the noble art of crabbing, with a sneer which expresses finality.

A Definition.

THERE is no word in such common use amongst horsemen as quality is, yet I question very greatly whether the word means quite the same to any half-dozen men. The way it is used would make it appear that it does not, at any rate. Now, if we go to a dictionary for a definition we are told that quality is "that which makes a thing what it is; property, peculiar power, acquisition, character, rank, superior birth or character." At first sight there does not seem to be much to enlighten us here, though the germ of enlightenment is certainly there. "Superior birth or character" seems in a way to afford the foundation of a definition, though it scarcely goes far enough. Quality in a horse, I take it, is the superior character which, whilst marking its possessor as standing out from the rank and file of his breed, is still consistent with its general attributes. Let me give an illustration. If a heavy horse, such as a Shire or Suffolk Punch, for example, had a head like a Thoroughbred or a Hackney, it would, if my definition is a correct one, be an eyesore; and to say that the head of that horse showed quality would be incorrect, because the head would not be in keeping with the rest of the horse. It would be inconsistent with the rest of his shape and make, and, so to speak, out of drawing.

Prettiness.

QUALITY is not mere prettiness, though the two are often confused. A horse may have any amount of mere prettiness and be of very little value. If one wants to see what a pretty horse looks like there is plenty of opportunity in the drawings and paintings of artists who are not horsemen as well as artists. Their pictures show a weakly, effeminate head, a wonderfully curved neck, legs like those of a deer, and sundry other equine failings which make up a total that it would be difficult to find a market for. Yet there is no getting away from the fact that mere prettiness is what many people do mean by quality if they mean anything at all. And there are some people who are good customers and give good prices, who want in their horses a sort of meritricious prettiness, as well as all the sterling qualities which go to the making of a good horse. In endeavouring to supply the somewhat unreasonable demands of these worthy people there is a danger of missing the substance for the shadow.

A Comparison.

I CAME across a statement the other day which certainly deserves notice. It runs as follows:—"The Shire horse of to-day is, as a whole, deficient in quality, although there are prominent exceptions, but it possesses in a conspicuous degree the characteristic of size. The Clydesdale, on the other hand, is deficient in size, but abounds in quality, activity, and gaiety." I hold no brief for either breed, but I have seen a good deal of both breeds; I have bought and bred both Shires and Clydesdales, and it seems to me that the statement is uncalled for and the comparison between the two breeds unfair. Shire horses have a quality of their own, and if any attempt is made to alter that quality to a quality of another kind it can only be done at the expense of some of the best characteristics of the breed. And the same remark applies to any breed equally with the Shire.

Breeding for Quality.

IT will be within the recollection of many of my readers how a few years ago "mares' heads" predominated in the stallion classes of more than one breed. There was more than one reason for this. One reason for the name, no doubt, was that some stallions of both breeds, if they had not exactly effeminate heads, were at any rate rather weak about the head, and these stallions were so good in other respects that they won a great many prizes. The natural consequence was that they were mated with several of the best mares of the day, and the result was as I have already stated. And so we saw class after class of good-looking colts, a large proportion of which were sadly lacking in masculine character, and those who should have known better talked about their fine quality. A few good judges shook their heads—pointed out that the classes of mares were immeasurably superior to those of the stallions, and talked of the dangers which may happen to a breed if there are many stallions who sire good mares and weak stallions. Another reason of the effeminate stallions we saw was no doubt that, in order to meet a demand, some breeders were trying to breed more to "quality."

Value of Quality.

IT must not be supposed that quality is to be despised. There could scarcely be a greater mistake, for quality is one of the most important characteristics of a horse. What I wish to emphasise is that it is unfair to look for the quality of one breed in another, or to compare the quality of one breed of horses with another. When a comparison is made between a couple of breeds as in the instance quoted, and it is said that one breed shows more quality than another, the meaning really is that it is lighter. It will be noticed that in all cases where comparisons are made as to the quality that different breeds are possessed of, it is always the lighter breed that is said to have the more quality. If the definition of quality that has been given is a correct one, or even if it is approximately a correct one, such a conclusion is on the face of it absurd. The value of quality in a horse it is impossible to over-estimate, because it covers so many things. It is the opposite of coarseness which is always undesirable. And in this connection is to be found support for the definition of quality which I have given. The feather on the legs of a Shire horse or Clydesdale is not necessarily coarse; but if a Thoroughbred or Hackney could show, or did show, any amount of hair on his legs and about his fetlocks, he would at once be put down as lacking in quality.



Our illustration above is of the Pony Mare Ferniehurst Fortuna, winner of the First Prize in the Class for Pony Mares (barren) or Geldings, not over six years old and not exceeding 13 hands, at the Hackney Horse Society's Show this year. Ferniehurst Fortuna is a five-year-old by Sir Horace out of Good Luck, and was bred and exhibited by Mr. G. C. Waud, Ferniehurst, Baildon, Yorks.

An Example.

A LITTLE higher up attention has been drawn to the unfairness of comparing the quality of the Cleveland Bay with the quality of the Yorkshire Coach Horse. An instance of this came to my notice at one of the more important horse shows last year. A gentleman, well known in the horse world, was criticising a class of stallions, and amongst other things he found fault with was the head of a typical Cleveland Bay stallion. "Such a common horse is of no use nowadays," said he; "what we want is a horse with more quality. Our heavy haulage is done by power now. We want our harness horses to look pretty." And much more to the same effect, and he compared the quality of the Cleveland Bay with the quality of the Yorkshire Coach Horse, which, as everyone knows, is the Cleveland Bay with a strong infusion of Thoroughbred blood introduced. Now, setting aside the fact that there are such things as artillery and transport to be horsed, our friend went a little too far in saying there was no use for the Cleveland Bay in the twentieth century,

as he himself admitted somewhat later on. The friend he was talking to did not enter into any argument; he waited till the classes for Cleveland Bay mares and Cleveland Bay fillies came into the ring. The critic was enthusiastic in his praises of some of these mare and fillies. "They were the right sort to breed from" was the opinion he expressed. And then his friend pointed out to him that if it had not been for the stallions he had despised there would not have been the mares that he admired.

More Concerning Glanders.

COLONEL HALL WALKER has had some more to say about glanders, and there is some talk of bringing the prevalence of the disease before the House of Commons. Colonel Hall Walker, however, has perhaps gone a little too far in some of his statements. It was scarcely fair to say that veterinary surgeons do not notify the disease because they have no fee for so doing. Veterinary surgeons are well aware of the dangerous character of the disease, and I am sure that in case of any outbreak they would not fail to do their duty in informing the authorities about it. Colonel Hall Walker speaks as if there had been an outbreak amongst racehorses. I have never heard of such an outbreak, nor have I ever heard of any racehorse suffering from the disease. Of course, a racehorse is as liable as any other horse, and if glanders were to break out in a racing or hunting stable it is impossible to estimate the disaster which might ensue. Colonel Hall Walker has perhaps been rather sweeping in his statements, but he has done good service in calling attention to what is undoubtedly a serious danger, and the whole question of glanders, its nature, its habitat, and the best means of stamping it out, call for immediate inquiry. THE LOOKER-ON.

Major Fife on Horse Breeding.

A very interesting lecture on "Horses" was given by Major W. H. Fife at a recent and well-attended meeting held under the auspices of the Northallerton Agricultural Club. As is well known, Major Fife is a breeder of Thoroughbreds and a buyer of horses for the army, so that his remarks were chiefly devoted to light horses. Dealing first with

Hackneys,

he said there were a great many people who were rather fond of them, and who made a great deal of money out of them. They were usually big, heavy-going animals, and it was a very great pity that they were not better than they were. It was certain that they could be much improved, and if they were he might take an interest in them. He certainly would not breed them in the way they were now bred. He was in Newmarket last week, and saw a string of horses being paraded, but amongst the lot there was only one likely-looking chesnut mare which had natural knee action. In his opinion, if they wanted a horse of that sort they should put a good mare to one of the best Hackney stallions which could be procured, a horse with good shoulders and high stepping action, something like a horse called Chibaboo, which had splendid action. The result would be to breed an animal which would be possessed of skill and endurance, and there was no reason why it should lose its high stepping action, for it was highly important that a horse should have more freedom and less "slaving." The Hackneys that were bred in that way must necessarily have much more freedom.

He found that in buying horses for the Army the Hackneys were the greatest of all bogies that he had to keep clear of, because they were not animals that could get over hard ground and endure hardships in a country like South Africa. It was a great pity that more Thoroughbred blood from specially chosen Thoroughbreds was not more generously infused into the Hackney.

A few years ago he suggested to the Hackney Society that they should give special prizes at the Islington Show for the best and most suitable looking Thoroughbred entire horse with good bone and good shoulders, to mate with their Hackney mares, but his advice was not taken. He, however, believed that a class of this sort, where four or five of the best Thoroughbred stallions were chosen and registered in some form or other in the Hackney Stud Book, would have improved their Hackneys, and they could have bred again from the Thoroughbred cross, and made these foals eligible in their Stud Book.

But if they wanted to get horses with straight knees, then the first cross from a Thoroughbred horse with a Hackney mare would prove a valuable one. But unless the Hackney Society altered their rules, and admitted these cross-bred animals into their books, the horses which were so bred would not sell to the foreigner, because no foreigner would go outside their book to buy horses which were not entered in the book.

Ponies.

Passing on to ponies, Major Fife said that pony breeding was always a very unsatisfactory class of breeding, and was very unreliable, because they never knew what kind of a pony they were going to have. They might get a big horse out of a small pony. Some of them, perhaps, had tried to breed Hunters from ponies, but they were sometimes disappointed. He had seen a good weight-carrying Hunter bred out of a pony. Ponies, however, had come into great demand since the introduction of polo, and they fetched tremendous prices. Ponies which previously sold for £30 apiece were now worth £40, and others which were sold for £25 now made £35 apiece. (Hear, hear.) He had the pleasure in taking part in the first game of polo which was ever played in England. That was in 1871, when the 9th Lancers played a polo match against the 10th Hussars. At that time the game was in its infancy, and he and Mr. Ernest Willoughby—who was now so well known as a starter at race meetings—played in it with ponies which were 13 hands high, and with teams of eight aside. There was a tremendous lot of people to witness this great novelty match, amongst whom were their present King and Queen. Polo had made great progress since then.

A Point for Farmers.

There is one point, added Major Fife, which farmers ought to know, and that is as to the height of the pony they are able to play polo on. The rules state 14 hands 2. If you take him to a polo man he is sure to say he is too small or too large, or not good enough class; but never mind, if you know you have a really good, strong serviceable pony, even although he may be 15 hands, take him, the players know how to get him measured down to the regulation height! First, they will take his shoes off, then cut his feet, perhaps give him nothing to eat for twenty-four hours, and give him such a big gallop just before the measurer arrives, when he looks as dejected and drops his shoulders and bends his (the pony's) knees until down he comes to 14.2. He is registered then, and will never have to be measured again, so they at once proceed to feed the pony up again, put his shoes on, and get him into first-class condition! These "wrinkles" may help you farmers, should you breed polo ponies, to get better prices.

The Cart Horse Demand.

Major Fife next dealt with the breeding of Cleveland Bays and Coach horses, which, he remarked, used to be very much more profitable a great many years ago than it was now. He professed that he was a great admirer of the big cart horse, but of the Coach horse he did not profess to know much, as he had never been on his list. That cart horses were profitable to breed he did not deny—in fact, it was said to be one of the best lines in horse breeding. But with many of the omnibus companies using electric trams and motors it must affect breeders of small cart horses, consequently the supply would be diminished. There must be a much smaller demand for "vanners," or van horses, because a great many business men in London were now using motor vehicles to deliver their parcels, so that it was in every way likely that the demand for second-class horses would diminish. He wished to bring this to their notice, for they must admit that the days of light horses must be of the past.

If they had to breed the best horses, they would not have to spare a little expense in getting the best sires, and they must not spare "ten bob" in getting a horse which was in every way suitable to their mares, for there was a great deal in that. Was it better to get a Thoroughbred stallion for a big cart mare, or get a Thoroughbred mare and mate her with a carting stallion? They must study this question out for themselves. They ought to think carefully of the faults their mares had, also think of the faults that the entire horse had, and try if possible to counteract them. By a judicious selection they would be able to breed better animals than they would otherwise have done.

Hunters.

Coming to Hunters, he said Hunters were a line in which he had had as much experience as in anything else. He obtained his experience in breeding blood and half-bred stock when he resided at Crompton. He began with two Thoroughbred stallions, because in the Yeomanry, with which he was then connected, they had no suitable horses, and these two Thoroughbred stallions were placed in different parts of the country, but the experiment was so successful that seven or eight stallions were provided, and work was found for them all.

One point he was perfectly sure upon, and that was that there were no good results obtained by mating carting mares with Thoroughbred horses; and therefore he did not advise it. His experience of doing this was that invariably the foal bred was either a "trapper" or a "vanner." Once perhaps in a "blue moon" they might get a right going Hunter, but it was very rare. The best thing to do was to have a well bred mare and put her to a well bred Thoroughbred horse with an authentic pedigree; then they might look for good results.

He thought a great mistake was made at the Islington shows by choosing horses which were a great deal too small and quite unsuitable with mares such as he had described. If they took a mare which could carry 14 st. and put her to one of these blood-horses, there was a very great risk of the stock being on the small side, and it was breeding from these small horses which led people to breed from coarse mares. If farmers made up their minds to breed from those big, coarse mares, they were certain to get great, clumsy horses. But if they got speed and power and the best of blood they had a much better chance of breeding Hunters in that way as compared with the other. It was no use breeding secondary horses, because the foreign horses which were imported into the country interfered very much with their sale, as had also the introduction of motor cars, bicycles, and those sorts of pests.

He thought that breeding Hunters was to a certain extent very risky, especially if they did not come out at the top of the tree, but, as everyone knew, the breeding of a first-class Hunter paid very well. He thought there was going to be a great dearth of good horses, especially Hunters, as many more were required nowadays when not only the man hunted, but also his wife and daughters.

Mistakes in Feeding.

In the old days no one could make a horse a good Hunter unless he was a good rider, and knew how to train a horse to become a hunter. In the old way they used to have rough riders, and Lord Midleton produced all the Hunters which were used by the huntsmen at his kennels, so that they had to breed an enormous number of horses, and always had at least half-a-dozen foals under training.

It was a great mistake for a farmer to be in a great hurry to sell his Hunters when they were four-year-olds. There was a much better market for them when they were five-year-olds, and they cost less to keep than when they were foals.

The time to give a sack of corn was when they had young foals, and during their first winter they should be well looked after. Farmers made a great mistake in trying to develop them when they got two or three years old, because it was when they were foals and during their first winter, that they wanted the best food and attention that they could possibly get.

The System of Training

horses was very different from what it used to be. He learnt his first lesson from Professor Galvayne, at Middlesbrough, whose system of breaking in horses was to bring their heads round towards their tails with a halter, and the horse went round until he "gave in," and then anything could be done with him. The horse was allowed to have his kick out, and after that anything could be done with him. Then there was the simple way of fetching him down, which was an easy way of training horses. He remembered that the breaking in of cavalry chargers was a very slow process.

Breeding Blood Stocks.

In conclusion Major Fife said the most interesting thing of all was the breeding of blood stock, because a man could not only come in and cut his cake, but he could still have it. They could sell their blood yearlings and then have the pleasure of watching their career on the turf. If a man had luck, breeding blood stock paid very well, but if he had bad luck he could lose a lot of money. He had had some very rough years, and he had had some good ones, but results were altogether misleading.

AUCTION SALES.

Auctioneers will favour us by sending in their advertisements as early in the week as possible.

Charges for announcements under this heading Six Shillings an inch.

By Messrs. IRELAND.

Norwich, Norfolk.—Ireland's Norwich Hill Auction Mart (established 50 years). Every Saturday. Fat Bullocks and Sheep, Store Sheep. Special Spring and Autumn Store Cattle Sales.

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It is stated that a single ear of maize won for its grower £1,507 in prizes at the National Corn Exhibition at Chicago, it being adjudged to be the best and most perfect in a competition open to the world. The ear was of the Boone County white variety, and, including the cob, weighed 23 oz. and contained 1,251 grain seeds, all of good proportions. Rather than let such a production get into other hands, the exhibitor himself paid £50 for it at the auction sale, this price being a world's record.

SHEEP.

Notes and Jottings.

OUR notes and jottings this week make the concluding reference for the current year to the great industry specially represented by them. The good wishes that ushered in the year stand on record, the results of the year do so likewise, and a comparison between the two is easily made, and what is the result? Looking broadly at the year as a whole it can be said, without fear of contradiction, that the result must be put down as being one affording satisfaction alike to the breeder and feeder. Of course, some have made more money than others, some have been more successful than others, but taking the interest as a whole, there have been few years when the general result has come out more satisfactorily than that which has been placed upon record during the past year.

THE price for mutton throughout the year has been a good one, as has also been the price for lamb, and taking the general average price realised, it may be safely assumed that no sheep which has been properly kept has left a debit balance to its owner.

THE qualifying term used in the preceding sentence is used with the object of emphasising the fact that there are, and have been, many sheep sold that have not given a profit, but this has been brought about not by reason of the condition of the market, and the prices ruling there, but by sheer bad management, or want of proper care and attention on the part of the owner.

THIS reflection will probably be resented, but be that so or not, no one who moves amongst flock masters in any considerable way can but fail to observe instances in which neglect or careless management has caused heavy losses.

IT is all very well to say "We cannot help it," but it must be helped. For instance, a case of foot-rot in a flock came before the writer's notice not long ago, Practically every sheep in that flock was more or less lame, simply because due care and attention was not given to the first one that dropped lame. Flocks in this condition cannot possibly thrive and develop and make the proper return for the food consumed.

THE wool market of late has given indications of a decided drop in the price. Several flock masters with whom the writer has come into contact, are pulling very long faces and pointing out the fact that something like 2d. or 3d. per lb. fall in the price has taken place during the last few months. Such flockmasters are deserving of no pity, they might have, like many others, sold their wool earlier in the year, at the higher range of price, but instead of so doing they preferred to have what may be very well termed "a little private gamble" on their own account, their idea being that wool would go up in value. Therefore, they decided to risk it, and having come out on the wrong side it is no use grumbling about it.

LOSS, or rather, the reduction in the receipts from the flock by reason of the fall in the price of wool, has been occasioned not by the flock itself, but because the owner of the flock was not satisfied to take the current rates when his clip was ready for sale, but preferred to speculate, or in other words, he preferred to embark in another business, for his own business, in the first case, was a flock owner and not a wool speculator, but by keeping his wool after it was ready for the market, he added the latter business to his occupation.

THE Smithfield carcase test has been referred to in detail, but there is one point in connection with the sheep classes that deserves some further reference. The judges decided that none of the carcases in the Long-woolled Wether lamb class were of sufficient merit to be awarded a prize.

MANY of those who inspected these classes were astonished at the decision, and a great number questioned its correctness. The final court of appeal—*i.e.*, the Auction sale, we think—confirmed the opinion of those who questioned the correctness of the decision of the judges, and we find that one of these carcases that was not considered good enough to be awarded a prize, Messrs. W. Vivers' Cheviot, realised 5s. 2d. per stone. There was no distinction or prize to add to its attraction, or its value, and yet the expert who judged the class considered it unworthy of notice.

GOING on to the next lamb class—*i.e.*, for the short-woolled—we find that the second prize carcase there, having this additional value of being a prize winner, only realised 5*s.* 2d. Now, if a 5s. 2d. carcase in one class is worthy of the second prize, surely a carcase of the same value in another class must be worthy of some note or other, or, at any rate, cannot be so thoroughly bad as to merit the treatment given it by the judges.

THE object in calling attention the matter dealt with in the preceding paragraph is to bring out prominently the danger there is in judges taking so extreme a cause as in this particular case, particularly as they did so without giving any reason for their decision.

ON all hands it is admitted that the carcase test classes at Smithfield are most valuable and most instructive, and it is most desirable that exhibitors should be given every encouragement to continue to support those classes.



The Pen of Hampshire Down Lambs illustrated above is that with which Mr. T. Fowell Buxton, Waters Place, Ware, Herts, won at the recent Smithfield Club Show the First Prize for Hampshire Down Lambs under 12 months old, and was Reserve for the Cup for the best Hampshire Downs. On December 1 they were 10 months and 1 week old, and when shown weighed 6 cwt. 1 qr. 10 lbs.

LOOKING at the prices realised by this class, and comparing them to others of the same age, we find that most of them realised prices of good average value. Looking at them also in another light, we find that they gave a very satisfactory average daily gain alive, fully equal to the average of their breed, and that they actually dressed out at a higher percentage of carcase weight to live weight than did the cross-bred lambs, in which the first and second awards were given.

THE concluding weeks of the year have witnessed one or two important shipments for export; probably one of the best lots of Hampshire Down sheep that have been exported during the past twelve months was that which left Mr. James Flower's flock last week, numbering eight especially good ram tegs. This consignment is said by one who carefully inspected them to have been one of the best representative lots of Hampshire Down sheep that have ever been sent to Chili. That such should be the case there is no reason to doubt, as everyone knows the high merit and quality of the Cholderton flock.

A VERY fine lot of Kent or Romney Marsh sheep numbering thirty ewes and three rams

were despatched, in the same week, from Mr. Arthur Finn's flock at Westbroke. These were sent to a client in Concordia, Argentine, and are the second consignment of this breed that this gentleman has taken from the Westbroke flock, the first lot having given so good satisfaction that he has not only renewed his order, but has taken an increased number.

NUMEROUS other selections have been sent away to different countries beyond the seas from many of our flocks, but specified details of these shipments have not been given. Amongst them have been several from the well-known flock owned by Mr. H. Dudding in Lincoln, and other Lincoln breeders.

Dorset Down Sheep Breeders' Association.

At the second annual meeting of the above association, held at Dorchester, the president, Colonel R. Williams, M.P., submitted the accounts for the past year and the council's report, from which it appeared that there had been a steady increase of membership, the association now numbering over seventy flockmasters, owning nearly 40,000 sheep. The finances of the society were equally satisfactory; the first year closed with a deficit of £9 12s. 8d., and, after paying all expenses, this year closed with a credit balance of £34 10s. 8d., and it was pointed out that from the revenue of these two years the costs of incorporation, amounting to over £60, had been paid.

In moving the re-election of Colonel R. Williams as their president for the ensuing year, Mr. A. O. Symes alluded to the practical support Colonel Williams had always given the association from its commencement, which was only one of many instances in which he had shown his interest in the welfare of agriculture.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. G. Wood Homer, and carried unanimously.

Colonel Williams, in consenting to accept the presidency of the association for another year, thanked the members, and added it was an office he valued and appreciated.

Colonel W. E. Brymer, Colonel E. M. Mansel-Pleydell, and Mr. H. F. Frampton were re-elected vice-presidents, and, as Colonel Simonds (who rendered valuable help in the formation of the association) did not wish to be re-elected, feeling it was a position that should be occupied by a large landowner, it was resolved to ask the Earl of Ilchester if he would accept the office.

Mr. E. B. Duke, the secretary, who was re-elected, reported that four classes for Dorset Down sheep had been arranged at the Bath and West of England Show next year—namely, a class for three ewe lambs, one for three two-teeth ewes, one for three ram lambs, and another for one two-teeth ram, with prizes of £10, £5, and £2 in each class, the total prize money of £68 being raised by a handsome donation of £30 from Colonel Williams, £17 from the funds of the association, and £21 from the Bath and West of England Society. It was also decided to endeavour to obtain a class for three wether lambs at Smithfield, the necessary prize money being offered in the room.

The meeting closed with a hearty vote of thanks to Colonel Williams for presiding that day, and for his generous subscription, which had enabled four classes to be formed at the forthcoming show.

Shortcomings of English Wool Growers.

Speaking at the first annual meeting of the Home Wool Buyers' Association, Mr. F. Willey, president, said the work done had justified the formation of the association. Their object was to see if some means could be devised whereby buyers and sellers of wool could work in greater unison, and thus derive benefits which otherwise it would be impossible to obtain. Their primary object was to induce growers of wool to bring their produce to market in better condition for use by the manufacturer. If that were done growers would benefit by the better price paid for their produce. Already as a result of the action taken by that association he had had letters from Australia and various parts of this country asking his opinion on various phases of the subject. At their last meeting reference was made to some districts in this country which were much at fault because of the manner in which they marketed their wool, and both from personal observation and from reports by others he was glad to be able to say that there had been an improvement in those particular districts, especially the Yorkshire Wolds.

Home growers needed to remember that America was their best customer, and that they could not afford to pay a duty of 6d. per lb. on dirt, straw, and grease. If home grown wool could be sent to the United States of America in the best fashion there would be an increasing demand for it, and as a logical conclusion improved prices paid.

There had always been a desire to get rid of what they in the trade called "tar marks." The tar was used for branding sheep, but when the wool came to be manufactured tar, being an insoluble article, had a very injurious effect. If some device could be invented whereby the sheep could be marked with an effectual brand which would be soluble in water an inestimable benefit would be conferred upon both growers and consumers.

Mr. Alex Willison, president of the Scotch Wool Buyers' Association, said the subject of tar in wool was one of increasing importance in Scotland. The fact was farmers did as their fathers did before them. They pursued their present course not with the intention of deceiving, but because their fathers had done so. As a rule it was carelessness or ignorance of the description of the article they were dealing with. It was a remarkable fact that if there was one part of their business concerning which farmers were wholly indifferent it was with regard to their wool.

Alluding to the question of "daggings," Mr. Willison said that a farmer had been ordered to pay about £10 expenses for supplying a quantity of gray hog wool containing a large number of dags, and when that became more widely known an improvement was anticipated.

Mr. J. W. Collinson, alluding to the subject of tar in wool, said he had had submitted to him various samples of materials by way of substitution for tar for branding sheep, and he thought one of them would meet their requirements. It was a beautiful material, and could be applied by the ordinary means. It was made up in three colours—red, black, and blue—all of which were guaranteed to stand, and it seemed to him that both in its consistency and general character to be just about what they wanted. Experiments were still in progress, and he would report to them later.

CATTLE.

Notes and Jottings.

AT the time of writing we seldom recollect the weather so totally unseasonable, or, to express it in another way, so unsuitable to the season. All the leading fat stock markets and auctions have been filled to repletion with high-class supplies of Christmas beef which the butchers have been, practically, able to purchase at their own prices. Trade has certainly been most disappointing, and animals that are leaving any profit behind to the feeder are few and far between. Butchers have certainly got their premises stocked cheaply, but with the damp, muggy weather which prevailed they were at their wits' end how to proceed.

LOOKING through the various reports of the Christmas Cattle Market at Islington and comparing the numbers forward this year as compared with the past dead-meat days, the falling off in numbers is scarcely credible. However, this is all due to change of commercial principles, and is pretty certain to continue. In these reports there are two or three matters that strike one as needing some little explanation, the greatest of which is perhaps the quotations per stone of the different breeds. To begin with, the Aberdeen Scots are placed at the top, followed by the North Devon contingent, but we find in nearly every report that the majority of buyers in the market consider the Devons fully equal in every point. Why then there should be 4d. per stone difference in the quotations is a little mysterious.

IF you mention this matter to purveyors of Devon beef, they tell you at once that the price they have paid has been fully equal to the prices at which the Scotch are quoted; then we go further, and we find the Herefords and runts of the very best quality are given a still lower quotation; but perhaps the most mysterious comparison of them all is that at Deptford, we find the foreign cattle quoted at just the same figures; this is not as it should be with the best English produced meat. The weights of the different breeds may possibly affect these quotations in a measure, and the same may also be said in the matter of offals, as it is well known some breeds will offal twice the cash amount of others.

THE Royal Agricultural Society is bringing out an admirably comprehensive schedule for the Newcastle-on-Tyne Show, which there is little doubt will be as well patronised as Lincoln last year. It will be a very far cry for some of the breeds to be railed from Cornwall or Devon, or even the Sussex and Channel Island stock up to this northern ground, but breeders may take courage from the fact that there are good through lines from point to point, and by fast trains their animals will be conveyed such long journeys in a shorter time and with less discomfort than they would in a quarter that distance on cross country branches. Northern breeds are pretty certain to be represented, such as the Ayrshire, Highlander, Galloway, which have been but little exhibited from the south.

IF the demand for smalll holdings continues to increase at its present rate some of these breeds are pretty certain to have a good time of it. There are not many breeds better adapted to making a small holding profitable than is the Ayrshire. At all times a hardy and hearty doer, taking care of herself upon medium rations, she will yield pretty well a maximum profit either in milk, butter, or cheese, and she is a comely little cow withal to look at.

THE block test at Smithfield appears, on the whole, to have gone off more favourably than usual. The champion bullock, scaling just over 100 stones, and being of sufficient quality to realise 6s. per stone at this dull time, is proof that feeders are waking up to the art of producing the very best. It was very satisfactory that several different breeds came out almost as favourably as the winners; this is as it should be. It would be very interesting to know by what method of feeding or foods the champion was able to give such a good account.

AMERICA continues to send in enormous supplies to her leading markets; some of these are not the best of quality, indeed very few come under the denomination of "top notchers." It is more than probable that ere long a good market will open up for any of this class of animal on the Continent of Europe, where now an enormous quantity of horseflesh is consumed, and then much more wholesome food will be provided for the working classes.

VETERINARY.

Tetanus or Locked Jaw.

Recently a querist ("J. M.," page 557) wrote concerning a case in which "something like lock-jaw set in," and he concluded with the remark, "there are three others in the same house with it, and I have not removed them, as I did not think it anything infectious."

We need not stay to discuss here the particular malady from which the calf in question suffered, or whether it had locked jaw or not, our object being to show tetanus a specific disease in which direct contagion is possible.

There are very few owners of animals who have not heard of "lock-jaw," and the intense dread of it exhibited by the public generally at once stamps it as a most serious malady—a cut or injury to the thumb, or to the big toe, being sufficient to immediately conjure up visions of a permanent spasm of the voluntary muscles and obstinate fixing of the jaws, and put the injured one and his friends in a most unnecessary state of excitement as to the probable results. Thus tetanus is invariably associated in the popular mind with a wound, but beyond a hazy notion that in some way or another locked-jaw is more likely to supervene in a certain class of wound, or wounds of certain parts, than on others—which is in the main correct—popular knowledge of the disease does not seem to extend, and only very few outside the medical and veterinary professions appear to have grasped the fact that tetanus is a specific contagious disease, notwithstanding the many years that have elapsed since it was first thought that the symptoms resulted from specific blood intoxication, and that it is more than twenty years since the existence of a specific bacillus was demonstrated. It is the absence of any wound in a case of locked-jaw that seems to puzzle many owners of animals who are not exactly up-to-date concerning the etiology of tetanus.

It has always been recognised that locked-jaw was more rife in some districts than others, that there were parts of the country where it was quite unknown in either the traumatic or idiopathic forms into which it used to be divided; that in others it occurred only occasionally, usually in isolated cases traceable to wounds, while in other places tetanus of both varieties was extremely prevalent. The records of human surgery point in the same direction. In certain battles a large percentage of the wounded lying on the field, which used not to be cleared so rapidly in days before the Geneva Cross was so respected, have

(*Continued on page 808*).

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

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HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL, Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

GRIFFIN, F. W., Boro' Fen, Peterboro'. Shire Stallions, Mares, and Fillies for sale, in natural condition; 40 pedigree mares kept for breeding; every facility to foreign buyers.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Hereford. Stud Horses: Lockinge Lord of Misrule and Lockinge Bonny Lad, both by Lockinge Forester, full brother to Lockinge Forest King. Colts and Fillies for Sale.

JOHNSON, WALTER, Hatfield, Doncaster. Stud Horse, Lambton King 16757; Stallions for hire; weighty young Stallions, Mares, and Fillies on Sale.

MUNTZ, FREDERICK ERNEST, Umberslade, Hockley Heath, Warwickshire. Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, prize-winners.—Particulars from Mr. JOHN T. B. HARTLEY, Estate Office.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners, on Sale. Inspection invited, Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

PEARSON, E. E., Brickendonbury, Hertford. Shire Stallions, Mares and Stock for service and sale; prize winners. Stations: Hertford, Great Eastern and Great Northern.—Apply Estate Office, Brickendonbury, Hertford.

ROWELL, JOHN, Bury, Huntingdon. Breeder Shires and Hackneys; Stallions for sale, hire, or service at home; mares and fillies for sale.

WHITEHEAD, Robert, Fashionably bred mares and fillies in natural condition on Sale. Stallion, Bodenham King 17177.—Apply J. M. JOHNSTONE, Hargate Hall, Buxton. Station, and telegrams, Millers Dale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

BENSON, ALFRED, Upper Gatton Park, Merstham, Surrey. Hackney Stallions: Copper King 7764, reserve champion, London Hackney Shows, 1905 and 1906; yearling Colts and Fillies by Copper King and other well-known Stallions for sale. For particulars, pedigrees, &c., apply to T. Hyett.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

SMITH, THOMAS, Shirley Stud, Hall Green, Birmingham. Breeder of Pedigree Hackneys and Ponies. Owner Hackney Stallion, "Viscount Hopwood" 8686; Pony Stallions, "Pinderfields Horace" 7952, "Shirley King Horace" 9882. Prize winners on sale.

WHITWORTH, ROBERT, Warley Stud, Halifax, and Londesboro' Stud, Market Weighton. Hackney Stallions: Polonius, Edenmynag, Beckingham Squire 8078. Hackneys and Harness Horses always on sale. Matched pairs a speciality.

PONIES.

BEALE, Mrs. A. J., Cacketts, Cudham, Kent. Prize-bred Pedigree Shetlands for sale; three grand Stallions at stud.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

BELL, CHARLES, Norley Hall, Norley, Cheshire. Shorthorn Bulls for sale, from Kirklevington, Red Rose, Barrington, and Cruickshank tribes. Telegrams "Norley"; railway stations, Acton Bridge and Delamere.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

MOSLEY, Sir OSWALD.—High-class Shorthorns. Home Farm, Rolleston Hall. Bulls and Heifers on sale.—Apply A. E. Beck, Rolleston, Burton-on-Trent.

CATTLE—*continued.*

SHORTHORNS—*continued.*

DUDDING, MR. HY., Riby Grove, Great Grimsby, has for inspection and sale the largest pure herd of SHORTHORNS in the county, which comprise the best Bates, Booth, Cruikshank and Scotch blood. The prize bulls recently used and now in service are Prince Alastair 89647, a noted winner, and sold at the Riby Sale, 1906, for 1,000 gs.; Scottish Daisy Duke 79916, Merry Squire 5th 85626, Stratton Squire 80062, Bapton Favourite 76080, Wanderer's Chief 80210, Royal Pearl 89959, President Pierrepont 92846, Aberdeen 87764, Scottish Standard 97058, and Strowan Butterfly 23rd. In July of last year 51 Shorthorns and 56 Lincoln Rams were sold to average 125 gs. each, realising a total of nearly £14,000. In July this year 53 Shorthorns and 48 Rams averaged over 90 gs. each, with a total of nearly £10,000. Numerous prizes have been won at the leading shows in England by the Riby Shorthorns and Lincoln Sheep. Telegrams: "Dudding, Keelby."

PREECE, JOHN ADNEY, Drayton Home Farm, Thrapston, Northampton.—Herd of 250 Shorthorns, best Bates and Scotch blood; stock Bulls, Duke of Barrington 70th, Primrose Earl 89641, and Royal Baron 93192; Bulls and Heifers for sale.

ROTHWELL, R. R., Much Hoole, near Preston. Pedigree Shorthorns, chiefly Scotch blood. Stock bull Strowan Marquis 13th, winner of many prizes. Young bulls and heifers always on sale.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

SUSSEX.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath, Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Sussex Cattle (descended from the oldest and best strains of blood), unrivalled for their early maturity, the production of the best beef and working oxen, and ability to thrive in all weathers on the roughest fare. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for Sale.

HEREFORDS.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for Sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

PULLEY, CHARLES THORNTON, Lower Eaton, Hereford.—Noted prize-winning herd of HEREFORD CATTLE. First prize Royal winners, Protector 19660, 1900; Eaton Champion 21351, 1903; and Ashleaf 3rd, 1905. This herd is headed by Eaton Champion and Glendower 2nd 22196, also a Royal winner. Bulls and Heifers for sale. Also prize-winning Shropshire Sheep.—Apply Mr. HEDLEY JONES, Lower Eaton Estate Office, Hereford.

DEVONS.

BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton Williton, Taunton, Breeder of Pedigree Devon Cattle. A speciality for large size, with quality and robust constitutions; colour dark red. Sent to all parts of the world. Prices moderate.

SKINNER, ALFRED C., Pound, Bishops-Lydeard, Somerset. Pedigree Devons, constitution, quality, size, milk; 600 prizes principal shows, many champions; exports most successful; bulls and heifers for sale. Inspection invited.

TRIBLE, ABRAHAM, Halsdon, Holsworthy, North Devon.—Large old-established Herd of big size, strong constitutioned, good milking Devon Cattle. Winners of numerous First and Champion Prizes, R.A.S.E. Champion twice; many exports, all successful. Prices moderate. Tuberculin Test Certificates.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

BRIDGES, J. H.—This old-established herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle of the leading families can be seen at Langshott Home Farm, Horley, Surrey (near Horley Station, L.B. & S.C.R.), and catalogues obtained on application to Mr. Albert Pulling.

CRIDLAN, J. J., Maisemore Park, Gloucester, Erica, Pride of Aberdeen, Lady Ida and other noted tribes. Stock Bulls, Wizard of Maisemore (21,465), Champion and winner of gold medals, 1905; Everwise (24,436), Champion and medal winner, 1907; Bengal of Ballindalloch prize winner, 1906.

HURSLEY PARK HERD OF ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE, the property of Sir George Cooper, Bart., comprising Erica, Pride, Miss Burgess, Lady Ida, Matilda, Jemima of Morlich families. Prizes won during 1906: 7 firsts, 3 seconds, 3 reserves, 1 challenge cup, 2 silver medals, 3 reserve champions. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.—Catalogues on application to J. E. Thorold, Estate Office, Hursley Park, Winchester.

THE ROCKLIFFE PARK HERD of Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, Ericas and Prides. Stock Bull, Pundit of Preston (17,156), Champion at Highland Show, 1904.—Apply, R. C. SWAN, Rockliffe Park, Darlington.

AYRSHIRES.

WALLACE, JAMES, J.P., Auchenbainzie, Thornhill, Dumfriesshire, Scotland. Breeder of pedigree prize-winning Ayrshire Cattle; hardy, healthy, good milkers; bred for dairy purposes, beauty and style. Bulls and Heifers for sale.

CATTLE—*continued.*

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably (from his excellent milking prize RED POLLS, including Champions, both male and female) grand young Bulls, Cows Heifers.—Apply, C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford, England.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

CARY-ELWES, V., Billing Hall, Northampton. Breeder of Jersey cattle.

FOWLER, P. T., Importer, Watford, Herts. A choice selection of pedigree Jersey and Guernsey Cows, Heifers and young Bulls from prize herds of the Islands; particulars forwarded; inspection invited.

MERTON GRANGE GUERNSEYS.—Property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. This Herd contains Champion Bull, 1906; also Bull Royal Governor, winner of seven Firsts, and unbeaten 1907. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of best Breeding for Sale.—Telegrams and particulars, W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay.

STERN, Sir E. D., Fan Court, Chertsey, Surrey. Herd of pedigree Jersey Cattle. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for sale.

TICHBORNE PARK, GUERNSEY.—Yearling Bulls and Heifers for sale.—Apply, D. MICHIE, Estate Office, Tichborne, Alresford, Hants.

GALLOWAYS.

GRAHAM, ROBERT, Auchengassel, Twynholm, breeder fashionable Galloway Cattle, winners at Royal and Highland Societies Shows. Pedigree Bulls, Cows, and Heifers, also Blue-greys for feeding, for sale. Commissions carefully executed.

KERRIES & DEXTER KERRIES.

CORY, Sir CLIFFORD JOHN, Bart., M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows.—Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

RATTRAY, DAVID, Gortnaskehy, Ballybunion, Co. Kerry. Pedigree Prize-winning Herd of Kerries and Dexters. 155 Prizes and Honours won by Cattle from this Herd past three years. Bulls, Cows, and Heifers for sale.

THE DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE'S PRIZE-WINNING DEXTER HERD.—During 1904 and 1905 this Herd won more prizes than any other three Dexter Herds combined, including both first and second milking prizes Royal, 1905, and first London Dairy Show, 1906, Bulls, Cows, and Heifers generally for Sale.—CHILD, Compton Place, Eastbourne.

DUTCH.

BROWN, JOHN, Marden Farm, Hertford. Dutch, the best Dairy Cattle in the world. Over 200 head kept. Record, one cow gave 1,615 gallons of milk in 52 weeks. Bulls for sale.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

ANDERSON, JOHN, Barton-on-Humber.—The old Barton Flock of Pure-bred LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP, Flock Book 106. This flock is noted for hard constitutions and fine, lustrous wool. Inspection invited. Telegrams as above.

ATKINSON, T., & SON, North Kelsey, Lincoln. Old-established flock of pure Lincoln Longwools. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Noted for great size and long lustrous wool. Have given great satisfaction at home and abroad. Inspection invited

BROCKLEBANK, JOHN, Bassingham, Lincoln (Flock 24). Pure-bred Lincoln Longwool Rams and Ewes. This old flock has been carefully bred for 100 years. Telegrams: Bassingham.

BROOKS, W. J., Stowe Lodge, Weedon, Northants (Registered Flock 165), has for sale Rams and Ewes of best blood.

DRAKES, Wm., Tealby, Market Rasen. Flock No. 72 of Lincoln Longwool Sheep. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs of best blood for sale. Lincoln Red Shorthorns. Prices moderate.

DUDDING, MR. HY., Riby Grove, Great Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale the largest flock of pure Lincoln Longwool Sheep in the county, and many prize-winners. They are famous for great size, fine wool, and 150 years' good breeding, and at the home Sales have made the highest prices on record. In July, 1906, 51 shearling rams sold to average £151 each, the record price being made for a single ram, namely, 1,450 gs., and on two other occasions have rams made 1,000 gs. The wonderful success of the Riby sheep at the Royal Show, Lincoln, 1907, and at the Home Sale in July when 48 rams averaged over £94 each, proves that the Riby blood leads the way Champion and premier prizes have been secured in all the leading exhibitions throughout the world. Telegrams "Dudding, Keelby."

MONEY, FRED, Silk Willoughby, Sleaford. Flock 323; established over a century. Four Rams from this flock fetched over £1,300 in the Argentine, February, 1903, one making £700, the record for a single ram in Buenos Ayres. Rams for sale. Inspection invited.

(Continued on page 808.)

SHEEP—*continued.*

LINCOLN LONGWOOL—*continued.*

SMITH, HENRY, jun., Cropwell Butler, Nottingham. Lincoln Longwool Flock No. 7, winner of £2,361 in prizes. Champion pen Lincolns, Smithfield Show, 1896; Association Championship, Leicester, 1897; Association Championship for pen of 3 Shearling Rams, Yorkshire, 1900; Championship, Rutland, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, and 1906. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for sale. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.

LEICESTERS.

SIMPSON BROS., Pilmoor House, Hunmanby, Yorkshire, Breeders of Leicesters (Flock No. 2 in Leicester Book), have always for inspection or sale Rams and Ewes. These Sheep are of great size with heavy fleeces, and include Royal Winners.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

THE CHILMARK FLOCK OF REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—Owner JAMES FLOWER, Chilwark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records. Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, out of 11 years competing, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" won eight times, thrice second, with pens of 8 ram lambs; a marvellous record. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 13 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05-06. At the Royal at Derby, 1906, every First Prize, two Seconds, and the Champion were won; an unequalled success!! Champions Birmingham, 1905, over all breeds, Reserve in 1906. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Short-wools, Smithfield, 1904-05-06. Highest average past 13 years. Bridford Fair, Aug. 12, 100 Ram Lambs, annual sale. Selections for Sale.

COLES, CARY, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1907.—Extraordinary records: Twin ram lambs let for 205 and 120 guineas. Ninety averaged £21 10s. Selections always for Sale.

DIBBEN, JOHN HERBERT, Bishopstone, Salisbury. Breeder of Pure Hampshires. Annual Sale in August, at Salisbury, of 100 Rams and Ram Lambs. Flock consists of 800 Ewes.

OVEY, R. L., Hernes, Henley-on-Thames.—Pedigree HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK, Reg. Vol. IV. Prize-winners leading shows last five years.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. The Cholderton flock is individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded in the Hampshire Down Flock Book. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury.

OXFORD DOWNS.

ADAMS, GEORGE, Royal Prize Farm Flock, Faringdon, Berks. Pure Oxford Down Sheep, Shearling Rams, Ram Lambs, Ewes and Ewe Lambs for Sale. Special arrangements with foreign buyers. Many first prizes at R.A.S.E. and other shows during past 25 years, including 2 first, 2 second, and 4 other prizes, World's Fair, Chicago, and 7 firsts, 4 seconds and champion at Royal Bath and West, Royal Counties, etc., this year.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

HOUGHTON, J. H., Western Farm, Asfordby, Melton Mowbray. 300 Ewe Flock of Pedigree Registered Oxfords. Sales Sept., at Nottingham, Melton, Edinburgh, &c. Ewes and Rams privately in autumn. Many prizes. Inspection invited.

STILGOE, H. W., Adderbury, Banbury. Annual Ram Sale at Oxford. Others on Sale privately; also Ewes. Many First and Champion prizes.

TREADWELL, JOHN, Upper Winchendon, Aylesbury.—Oxford Down Sheep. Annual Ram Sales first Wednesday in August. Prizes won at R.A.S.E. 24 years in succession. Ewes for Sale.

WHITE, JOHN, Ham Court Farm, Bampton, R.S.O., Oxon. Pedigree Oxford Down Sheep of best and purest strains for Sale. Foreign and home buyers invited to inspect.

SOUTHDOWNS.

COOPER, ALLAN, Norton, Bishopstone, Lewes. Registered Southdown Flock, No. 70; trade marked; hardy constitution and good wool. This flock of 520 ewes is kept on its native hills. Rams, ewes and lambs for sale.

SHROPSHIRES.

CORBET, Sir WALTER, Bart.—Registered flock of Shropshires of oldest and purest strains. Noted for true type and first-rate wool. Have won numerous prizes at Bath and West, Shropshire and West Midland, Royal Lancashire, Wirral and Birkenhead, etc. Can be seen at any time on application to Reginald Astley, Acton Reynold, Shrewsbury.

SHEEP—*continued.*

SHROPSHIRES—*continued.*

NOCK, EDWARD, Harrington Hall, Shifnal. Salop, owner of the old Sutton Maddock Pedigree Shropshire Flock. Founded 1832. Winner of prizes at most of the leading shows in England, U.S.A., and Canada.

WENSLEYDALES.

UNDERLEY WENSLEYDALES (Blue-faced) from the best blood obtainable. Successfully exhibited.—Apply, G. G. ROBINSON, Bailiff, Underley Farm, Kirkby Lonsdale.

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

CHARLES SPENCER, having taken over the Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts, herd of Large and Middle White Pigs, which won 12 prizes and reserves with 11 exhibits at Derby Royal, will price any of them.

FULWOOD HERD LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES, property R. R. Rothwell. 200 head bred from winners at leading shows.—Apply to D. COLLYER, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for Sale at moderate prices.

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse Station, G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices.—J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, STOKE FARM. Herd of Large White Pigs. The oldest and largest Herd in Notts County. Over 100 Breeding Sows kept. Upwards of 600 to select from. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—Apply ARTHUR A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale—FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

SPALDING HERD of Pedigree Large Whites, young stock and in-pig Gilts for Sale. All bred from great winners.—ALFRED W. WHITE, "Hillegom," Spalding.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 100 to choose from. Correspondence invited. Grand young breeding stock always on Sale.—Apply R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts (15 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—Apply to Mr. W. BAINBRIDGE, Walton House, Warrington.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

THE CATTON HERD of Prize-winning MIDDLE WHITE PIGS, property of J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stock Boar Castlecroft Mikado, 1st Park Royal, 1st Bath and West. Gelts and Boars on Sale. Prices moderate.—Apply BAILIFF, Raddle Farm, Edingale, Tamworth.

LARGE BLACKS.

BANNISTER, T., Limehurst, Haywards Heath. Sussex (mile from Station, one hour from London). Pedigree Large Black Pigs of the best strains of blood, noted for their docility and for the production of a large proportion of lean meat. Good selection of Boars, unrelated Gilts, and in-pig Sows for Sale at reasonable prices.

CATTON HERD OF PRIZE-WINNING LARGE BLACK PIGS.—Stock Boar Trevisguite Excelsior 1487, 1st Devon County, 2nd and Reserve Champion Royal Show, 1906; pigs kept in hardy natural condition; gelts and boars always on sale.—Apply, J. E. Breeze, Edingale, Tamworth. Stations: Croxall, 2½ miles (M.R.); Alrewas, 3½ miles (L.N.W.).

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS.—Select Herd-bred from choice Prize Winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale, moderate prices.—H. J. CLARKE, The Slade, Roughley, Sutton Coldfield.

PIGS—*continued.*

LARGE BLACKS—*continued.*

HASKETON CHAMPION PRIZE HERD OF LARGE BLACK PIGS.—This herd has won the Royal championship three out of four times, and is the only herd having won the breed challenge cup. Record: 47 firsts, 37 seconds, 11 thirds, 126 prize-winning cards; the herd this year being the winners of 14 firsts, 6 seconds, 2 thirds, championship and silver cup in five shows. Gelts and Boars at moderate prices consistent with quality. Exportation a speciality.—Apply, C. F. MARRINER, Hasketon, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

WHEN Breeding, breed from the best Pedigree Large Black Prize-winning Pigs. TREVEGLOS HOPEFUL II., winner of First prizes and R.A.S.E. Silver Challenge Cup, 1907, beating all other Cup winners; also 1st Prize Bath and West, Newport; 1st Royal Counties, Maidenhead; 1st Royal Cornwall, Liskeard; 1st Devon County, Bideford; also 1st prize at the Royal Show, Lincoln, for Boar and Reserve for Champion prize. Boars and Sows for Sale of the above strain at moderate prices.—Apply to JOHN WARNE, Treveglos Farm, St. Mabyn, R.S.O., Cornwall.

BERKSHIRES.

CARNARVON, the Earl of.—Prize winning Pedigree Herd. BOARS and GELTS, eligible Herd Book. Prices moderate.—Apply W. T. HALL, Highclere Farm, Newbury.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge. Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

READING CORPORATION.—150 Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, leading prize-winning strains, from son of Champion Mikado 10433 and prize-winner Domino 11323; inspection invited.—Apply, Mr. T. Chettle, Manor Farm, Reading, Berks.

STALL PITTS HERD OF PEDIGREE BERKSHIRES. One of the Oldest Herds. Unsurpassed for true character, size, and quality. Choice selection of Boars and Sows on offer at moderate prices.—J. LAWRENCE, Stall Pitts, Shrivenham, Berks.

TAMWORTHS.

PEDIGREE TAMWORTHS, the property of C. HOWARD TAYLOR, Middlewood Hall; a few good young Boars and Gilts for sale.—Apply, Hampole Priory, Doncaster.

BORROWFIELD & COLSTON HERDS.

The property of R. MILLINGTON-KNOWLES
Colston Bassett Hall, Notts.

LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES.

The following First Prizes, Championships, and Medals have been obtained by pigs **BRED** in these Herds in 1907:
1st and Champion, Gold Medal, R.A.S.E., Lincoln.
1st & Champion, President's Medal, Highland, Edinburgh.
1st Welsh National, Aberystwyth.
1st Bath and West Newport; 1st Royal Counties.
1st Nottingham; 1st Suffolk; 1st Norfolk.
1st Derby.
1st Hereford and Worcester; Special Prize Lincoln Agricultural Society; 1st Great Yorkshire; 1st Newark.
A number of additional Firsts and other Prizes have also been gained at the above Shows.
At the St. Louis Exposition, U.S.A., in 1904, the Champion Boar, and the Grand Champion of the Exposition were bred at Colston Bassett.
The Foreign and Home trade has largely increased during 1907.—GILBERT H. ELLIOT, Estate Office, Colston Bassett, Notts.

For Sale.
PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.
Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.
GEORGE HOYLES,
Skidby Manor, near Hull.

GEORGE HOYLES
SKIDBY MANOR, HULL.
Breeder of Pure Lincoln Long Wool Sheep.
Lustrous Fleeces. Good Constitutions.
SUITABLE FOR HOME AND ABROAD. STOCK FOR SALE.

been found when visited to have tetanus in a severe form, and it has been noted that certain injuries in particular districts, especially wounds the result of crushing, and those contaminated with soil from cultivated lands, are liable to it. This soil association is important to the agriculturist, and perhaps explains the losses in certain districts of from 20 to 40 per cent. of newly-born animals, more especially lambs, from tetanus. The umbilicus at birth, and for some time after, is nothing more than an open wound, and if it admits the germs which set up specific arthritis or general blood poisoning, why not the bacillus of tetanus, if it is present in the soil? There are whole districts, not only in this but in Continental countries, where tetanus is very common from pricks in shoeing, "gathered" nails, quittors, and wounds of the limbs, and where it is often the sequel to surgical wounds, especially those inflicted in castration and docking, all of which point to a local prevalence of the germ. Smith ("Veterinary Hygiene") says:—"It is clearly proved that the organism which produces tetanus lives in the soil, and from the fact of its being an anærotic parasite it would appear to develop at some distance from the surface. The liability of equines to tetanus may depend entirely on the greater facilities for infection from the soil—as, for example, in wounds of the feet—than exists in man."

Tetanus used to be distinguished as traumatic and idiopathic-traumatic when associated with a palpable wound, and idiopathic when no wound could be found—and some to whom knowledge of the contagiousness of the disease has not penetrated still obstinately stick to these distinctions, although they are precisely alike in character, development, symptoms, and results. In by-gone times the case recorded by "J. M." would have been described as one of idiopathic tetanus, because there was no apparent wound or record of injury. The idiopathic form, not being associated with any wound or injury that could be detected, was attributed in the horse to hardship or excessive work, or, in the case of animals turned out, to exposure to inclement weather. There were always being met with cases in which none of these conditions prevailed, and when neither injury nor exposure could be held to account for it, then these first suggested the possibility of tetanus being specific in its character.

M.R.C.V.S.

(To be continued.)



Improvement of Quality.

The interest aroused at the recent conference at Wye College by the paper on the raising of new varieties, read by Mr. Arthur Amos, coupled with the evident desire of brewers to obtain hops richer in the necessary constituents than the average growths now available, induces me to present to my readers some extracts from a paper on "Improving the Quality of Hops" read at a meeting of the American Brewing Institute, New York, by Dr. W. W. Stockberger, of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. This gentleman, whose close attention to the matter is proved by his remarks previously quoted in these columns, has conferred a favour upon me by sending me, with his compliments, an advance copy of his address, from which the following paragraphs are taken :—

"The men of to-day are witnessing the passing of the widespread belief that the production of new and improved varieties of cultivated plants is a process accompanied by much mystery and to be accomplished only by those possessing some magical power over the laws of Nature. With the passing of this belief comes the knowledge that the laws of Nature governing the production of larger, stronger, and better varieties of plants, while as yet very imperfectly understood, are still capable of very successful application at the hands of every careful and thoughtful agriculturist. As evidence in support of this statement may be cited the improved strains of practically all the cereals, besides forage plants, fruits and vegetables which have been developed during recent years. But it must be frankly admitted that, with all this progress, the hop has been practically neglected. Although in value it ranks fourteenth in the list of agricultural crops of the United States, the attempts which have so far been made to improve it have either been sporadic in nature, or conducted on so small a scale that they have had no effective bearing on the industry at large. It is an optimism certainly justifiable which predicts that in the domain of hop culture as broad opportunities exist for development and improvement along the lines just indicated as in that of any other cultivated plant."

"The question of first importance in undertaking the amelioration of the hop plant is the establishment of an ideal—a criterion of quality or value which shall serve as a guide to the agriculturist in his efforts towards improvement. The lack of this is largely responsible for the prevailing loose and indefinite ideas among hop growers as to the characteristics of a hop of high quality. In a large measure the standards of the farmer have been derived from the dealers to whom he sold his crop, or from traditions existing in the community in which he lives."

The Question of a Uniform Standard.

"In determining the quality of marketable hops, each consumer has been a law unto himself, with the frequent result that individual preference instead of intrinsic value decides the choice. Thus it actually occurs that a hop rejected by one consumer will be readily purchased by another—a state of affairs which is directly responsible for the sentiment sometimes voiced among growers that, 'No matter how inferior the hops may be, someone will be found to buy them.' Also growers have justly complained that the man who did, by extra labour and expense, aim to produce a higher quality of hops, received no better price for them than the grower whose maxim apparently is, 'Quantity, not quality.'

"The knowledge that the real merits of his hops would be determined by standard methods of valuation would furnish the strongest incentive to the grower to strive to increase the worth of his product."

"This question of a uniform standard is by no means a new one, and as is well known, presents a series of difficult and unusual obstacles. Nevertheless, as it lies at the very beginning of progress in hop culture for both agriculturist and technologist, it must be solved, if only in a tentative manner; for under existing conditions it is not always easy to put analytical results obtained by one technologist in comparison with those of another, and it is usually difficult to draw from these results inferences which may serve as reliable guides to the agriculturist in so manipulating the culture of the plant that the undesirable characteristics will be diminished, and the desirable and useful ones augmented.

"The Society of Brewers' Chemists of the United States of America has fully discussed the subject of hop analysis, and an able committee has been appointed to investigate the methods of analysis and valuation, with a view to devising some efficient means of standardising hops. When this committee has made its report, another very important step will have been made in the development of the industry, for no one facter has so retarded progress in hop improvement as lack of agreement as to what constitutes quality, and what are the elements entering into the constitution of a superlative hop."

The Constituents of Hops for Brewing.

Dr. Stockberger foresees as the logical results of these inquiries a better understanding of the part played in brewing by each of the useful constituents of the hop. This knowledge will affect the questions of soil and fertilisers, and will probably throw light upon the question of the water used in the brewing copper, as it has been found that water containing carbonates of lime and magnesia extracts too much resin from the hops, imparting a coarse flavour to the beer. He goes on to say :—"We should also, by these investigations, have a more complete knowledge of the functions of the hop resins, bitter principles and volatile oils, in order that their relation to quality may be constantly considered during the process of drying or curing on the kiln. It is quite generally conceded that the so-called soft resins of the hop are alone valuable, the hard resins being worthless for brewing purposes, yet the average grower knows little or nothing of these resins, and frequently contrives to dry his hops at a temperature so high that a portion of the essential oil is volatilised, and a considerable quantity of the valuable soft resin is oxidised and converted into the hard, worthless form. There is here an opportunity for immediate improvement in the quality of hops, since these resins are of such signal importance; but until they are recognised in grading quality, so that the man who carefully dries his hops will realise a higher price for them, growers will be slow to try to increase the content of soft resins."

"The aroma of hops is regarded as residing in the volatile oils, the definite properties or qualities of which have not yet been subjected to thoroughgoing investigation. Different varieties of hops differ in aroma, but as yet no one has discovered the differences in chemical composition to which the variations in aroma are probably due. Since the volatile oil is not a simple substance, but rather a mixture of compounds, it is possible that the differences in aroma are due to the varying proportions in which the constituents of the oils are mingled. Some preliminary work on hop oils from different sources has yielded very promising results, and an extensive comparative study of the relations of the volatile oil to quality in hops of different geographical origin is now in progress. When we can say to the grower that a certain variety of hops produces a more desirable quality of bitter resin or oil than another, or that a certain fertiliser or method of culture will give a higher yield of these constituents, and hence make his product of greater value, both to himself and the consumer, then will we have sure and definite additional grounds for directing hop improvement."

"The prevalance of lice and mould in hops is a constant menace to the consumer, and the occurrence of these pests likewise entails great loss to the hop grower. Investigators have for some time devoted considerable attention to the cultivation of economic plants which are resistant to parasites and fungoid diseases. By analogy from many cases among other cultivated plants, we may expect to find certain individuals among the better varieties of hops, with constitutions resistant to the attacks of mould, and capable, further, of transmitting their immunity to their descendants. By careful and judicious selection, therefore, it seems probable that a race or strain of hops may be produced which will have a very high degree of resistance to mould and other attacks, and so ensure a crop in great measure, at least, free from these troubles.

Principles of Selection.

"The principles of selection can be applied for many other purposes than that of securing plants resistant to disease or other unfavourable growth conditions. Very important results may be obtained in improving both quality and productiveness of the hop plant by these means. Every hop yard contains some plants which bear more heavily than others. New plants produced by cuttings taken from the plants of superior productiveness retain this important characteristic which is transmitted unchanged to all the progeny of the first mother plant."

Dr. Stockberger confirms the truth of this doctrine by certain instances of the production of varieties, now well established, which have originated by apparent accident, and regrets that the significance of such possibilities of improvement is practically unrealised by growers.

He says further :—"A consideration of the advantages to be gained through the process of selection of superior individuals, must naturally take into account the important subject of the breeding of pure races with which it is closely allied. Because of certain natural characteristics, the hop is a plant particularly well adapted to the purposes of the plant breeder. The male and female flowers are borne on separate individuals, the latter alone forming the hops of commerce. The pollen from the male flowers is carried about by the wind or by insects, so that in a yard where both male and female plants occur, indiscriminate hybridising will take place naturally. The seeds produced as the result of this crossing will, when sown, give rise to seedlings strongly predisposed to variation; in fact, they manifest this tendency to so great a degree that the hop grower rarely resorts to seed propagation to secure new plants. Ordinarily, therefore, the hop is propagated vegetatively by root cuttings, by which means relative stability and uniformity of the new plants are secured, and the characteristics and qualities of the mother plant are transmitted with but little change."

Variations of Plants.

"Through the discoveries of Mendel, and the brilliant experiments of Dr. Vries, the laws of Nature respecting the variations of which plants are capable, are now in some measure understood, and their intelligent application is yearly increasing the importance and value of agricultural crops. The production of new races by hybridising or cross breeding, and the possibilities of improvement that lie therein, are beginning to receive the attention which their merit deserves. By this means a composite breeding can be effected, whereby the desirable qualities of two or more individuals may be united in one plant. Thus in the case of the hop there is no apparent reason why the quality of fine aroma may not be combined with that of heavy bearing, earliness of ripening, with richness of resins, or mild and pleasant bitter, good flavour and yield, with disease resistance. Some of the qualities are purely morphological, such as growth, yield, size of cones, &c., while others are more properly termed chemical.

"It is no doubt futile to attempt to produce a plant which shall have all these qualities developed to the highest degree, yet some of the most valuable of Burbank's productions have been secured by uniting in one plant, through repeated hybridizations, the superior points of a number of selected ancestors. Numerous other investigators have found that hybrids often excel both parents in the vigour of their growth and the abundance of their flowering. At all events the union of characters that are correlated—that is, those whose variation becomes the primary cause for the variation of another character—may be brought about within certain limits, and plants may be produced which will combine quality with quantity of production to a very favourable degree."

"It is very desirable to make a careful study of the suitability of each variety of hop for the various conditions of climate, soil, and culture in the various hop-producing areas, for not only do the varieties vary in adaptability to various localities, but strains and races within the variety show important differences in this respect. Frequently when cuttings are taken from one situation to another with different physical conditions, the new plants springing therefrom are so changed in appearance from the mother plants that their relationship would hardly be suspected. The characteristic time of ripening and the yield, however, remain practically unchanged. This indicates that these points are hereditary and transmittable, and that those which have been modified in the new situation are probably subject to change, whenever there is variation in the physical surroundings. That these factors have not been sufficiently considered in hop culture is evident from the current practice of indiscriminate distribution of cuttings without regard to variety, the conditions under which they were grown, or the suitability of the new surroundings for the development of strong and vigorous plants."

"There has now been pointed out in this paper the opportunity for improving hops by curing at lower temperatures, by a study of the nature and conditions of resin formation, by the breeding of disease-resistant types, by selection of the best and most productive varieties, and by the breeding of pure and pedigree races. The ground has been gone over already in a preliminary way, plans are formulated, and the foundations are laid for work along these lines. Its development in the future will depend upon the funds provided, and especially upon the co-operation and support offered by those whom the work is designed to benefit."

The concluding words of Dr. Stockberger's paper refer of course to the Bureau of Plant Industry over which he presides in the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Although the researches referred to will be applicable primarily to American hop growing, they will doubtless include many hints that will be useful to English planters.

SOCIETIES.

Essex.

The fiftieth annual report and balance sheet presented at the last meeting of the council of the Essex Agricultural Society proved most satisfactory. The report stated that the number of the members was now 792, as against 756 last year. The accounts showed gross receipts during the year (including balance of £507 8s. brought forward) to have been £5,450 15s. 9d., and the payments (including £500 invested in consols) £4,936 6s. 1d., leaving a balance on the society's current account of £514 9s. 8d.

The appeal from the council to the members to give increased subscriptions in order that the prize list for the Jubilee Show might be considerably augmented met with a most satisfactory response, a total sum of £460 19s. having been received in consequence.

As a result the council were in the happy position of being able to inform the members that as the show was such a financial success they have been able to invest a sum of £500 in consols, and thus strengthen the position of the society.

The receipts were:—Balance at bankers on current account, £107 8s; balance at bankers on deposit, £400; subscriptions, £841 7s.; donations, specials, and grants, £410 11s; value of cups and medals, £149 5s.; grant from L. Committee, £325 13s. 6d.; entry and shedding fees, £854 2s. 11d; horse boxes, £52; jubilee fund, £460 19s.; admission receipts, £1,154 6s. 6d.; grand stand receipts, £339 12s. 7d.; affiliation fee, £1 1s.; refreshment premium, 1906, £30; ditto, 1907, £35; luncheon tickets (per contra), £44 8s; sale of old shedding, £107 19s. 6d.; fire insurance bonus, £7 0s. 7d; sale of timber, £70; dividend on £948 5s. 7d. Consols, £22 10s. 4d.; interest on deposit, £13 14s. 7d.; miscellaneous, £23 16s. 3d. Total, £5,450 15s. 9d.

The expenditure was as follows:—Prizes, £1,962 7s.; medals for field trials, £22 9s.; hire of show ground and trial grounds, £122; show ground expenses, £1,202 9s. 2d.; advertising, printing, and stationery, £379 15s. 5d.; grants and affiliation fees, £38 3s.; police (pay, travelling expenses, and refreshments), £75 7s. 1d.; band and military display, £51; fares, transport, and expenses for the band, £30 19s. 9d.; refreshments, £97 10s. 9d.; Wright Brothers' 1906 account, £64 18s. 8d.; judges' accommodation and travelling expenses, £70 5s.; pig entry fees returned, £22 5s.; rent of field at Bishops Stortford, £5; purchase of £603 5s. 2d. consols, £500; secretary's petty disbursements, £86 19s. 6d.; miscellaneous, £24 11s. 9d.; auditors, £5 5s.; secretary's salary, £150; honorarium to secretary, £25; balance on current account, £114 9s. 8d.; balance on deposit, £400. Total, £5,450 15s. 9d. The secretary stated that several subscriptions had come in since the accounts were closed.

A letter was read from the Town Council of Colchester, stating that the corporation had unanimously passed a resolution that in their view the society should be invited to hold their show for 1908 at Colchester, and they had appointed a small committee to consider the preliminary arrangements. A further letter was read from the Mayor of Colchester (Mr. Wilson Marriage), stating that the committee had been successful in finding a very suitable site for the show on June 10 and 11, at Colchester. The mayor added that the society might be assured Colchester would do all it was possible to receive the society in a worthy manner.

The chairman, Mr. C. E. Ridley, proposed that the council had great pleasure in accepting the invitation to hold the 1908 show at Colchester, and the resolution was carried unanimously.

A further letter from Mr. Wilson Marriage suggested that it was the custom to invite the representative of the borough to act as president. The secretary said that Sir Weetman Pearson, M.P., had been written to, and had replied, stating he would have much pleasure in accepting the invitation.

The secretary said the Essex Master Bakers' Association, who had held bread competitions the last few years, were anxious something should be done to stimulate wheat-growing in the county. They suggested prizes should be offered for Essex wheat, that it should be milled on the ground, and made into bread, but he understood there would be a difficulty about the milling.

The chairman did not think the bread competitions they had had as a rule had done good to either the bakers, farmers, millers, or anybody. Perhaps the competitions increased interest in the show, and brought people there. He did not see why they should not give prizes for the best Essex wheat.

Mr. Geo. Courtauald did not see why they should confine a competition as suggested to Essex wheat only. Could they not extend the sphere of competition? It would be the greater glory if Essex wheat were pronounced to be better than wheat grown outside the county.

The chairman said that Essex wheat was now one of the best for certain goods.

Colonel W. N. Tufnell proposed that the society should give prizes for Essex grown wheat, and the motion was carried.

Annual Meeting.

The annual meeting was then held. Mr. Ridley again presided, and announced that the council had accepted an invitation to hold the 1908 show at Colchester, and he proposed that Sir Weetman Pearson, M.P., who was willing to act, should be elected president.

The Hon. James Round seconded the proposal, remarking he was quite sure it would give great satisfaction, not only to the people of Colchester, but especially to the Mayor of Colchester, who was taking a very great personal interest in the matter.

The resolution was carried.

Colonel W. N. Tufnell proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the retiring president, Sir Walter Gilbey, observing that Sir Walter took a great deal of interest in the show, which was the most successful they had had.

The chairman seconded, remarking that he knew it was a matter of great congratulation to Sir Walter that not only was the show a success so far as numbers was concerned, but he was much pleased with the quality. The motion was carried.

The report of the balance-sheet was adopted on the proposal of Colonel Tufnell.

The chairman thought the financial accounts were so satisfactory that there were very few remarks to make about them.

Mr. J. Christy considered that for some years they had been spending too much money in prizes. He thought they would get just as much money, and just as much competition, if they were a little more careful in prizes. He noticed in some of the open classes they gave double the amount of money compared with some county classes.

The secretary mentioned that it was only in one case that more money was given in the open classes, and that was a specific sum given for a certain purpose.

Mr. Vere W. Taylor remarked that whenever they increased their prize list they had added value to the show. It was the greatest mistake possible to cut down the prize list.

Mr. Christy: I do not mean to cut down the prize list. We keep on increasing.

Mr. Vere Taylor: And increase our show.

Devon.

At a meeting of the Devon Agricultural Association at Exeter, on the 13th inst., the report of the Site Sub-Committee, who visited Plymouth on November 21 and inspected the Mount Gold site, the greater part of which belongs to the mayor and corporation of Plymouth, was presented. It stated that was the only site offered them for the show, although another was suggested. Having regard to the hearty invitation which the Plymouth Corporation had given the society, the committee thought it would be an ill-compliment to the association to go and see another site, and they therefore were unanimous in recommending that the corporation's site should be accepted as being a very good one. The Plymouth people were evidently taking the matter up with great warmth, and they had every reason to believe that, weather permitting, they would have a good and profitable show. The report was adopted.

The Prize Sheet Committee reported that, having carefully gone through the prize-list, they suggested the following alterations should be adopted:—Thoroughbred agricultural stallions, prizes to be increased to £6, £4, and £2; stallion foaled before Jan. 1, 1905, entries to be confined to stallions registered in the county register; special prize of £8 for best stallion in the agricultural classes be omitted; an additional class to be added for agricultural mares, "for the best mare registered in the county register with foal at foot or within three months of foaling, served in 1907 by a registered stallion, prizes £8, £5, and £2." In the pony classes it was suggested that a class be provided for a mare or gelding, not exceeding 13 2 hands high, and that the class for a mare or gelding not exceeding 12½ hands high be omitted, as well as the jumping class for mare or gelding, the property of a tenant farmer farming not less than 50 acres in Devon. It was further proposed that consolation jumping prizes should be offered on the third day of the show.

The committee recommended that the offer of Captain Morrison-Bell be accepted, with thanks, for a five-guinea cup for the best South Devon or Devon Longwool ram in the show, to be won two years in succession by the same exhibitor to become his property, or three years at intervals; also that the offer of Mr. J. Bayly be accepted, with thanks, for a special prize of a silver cup for the best mounted non-commissioned officer, and a money prize of £2 for the best mounted private, open to the Royal 1st Devon Imperial Yeomanry and the Royal North Devon Hussars.

Mr. J. S. Ford said a meeting of the local Prize Sheet Committee was held at Plymouth on the previous day, when the question of offering local prizes was considered. Several cups had been promised, and the Finance Committee were prepared to devote a liberal sum for local prizes.

Colonel Moore Stevens urged that greater prominence should be given the Devon breed of cattle by giving prizes for good milking beasts as well as for good representatives of the breed.

Mr. Bond said what the local committee desired was suggestions as to how best to use the money which was available. In addition to money prizes, about £50 or £60 worth of cups had been offered.

Mr. Morgan said they wanted to establish in their milking herds quality as well as quantity, and the only way they could do it was by having separate classes.

It was eventually decided that the secretary should place himself in communication with the local committee at Plymouth, with the view to the local prizes being offered to the best advantage, and suggesting in particular that prizes should be offered for the best milking cow of North Devon and of South Devon.

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Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

So little summerlike has been the weather for the last four or five weeks that it seems almost incredible that we should have already reached the year's half-way house. Such is none the less the case, and we have a six months' weather record to consider.

1907.	Rainfall (inches)	Warmth (deg.).	Sunshine (hours).	Character of month
Jan....	1·01	39·0	40	Dry & cold
Feb....	1·02	42·0	55	Dry & cold
March	·81	48·0	152	Dry & sunny
April...	3·10	48·0	105	Wet & cold
May ...	2·5	51·0	151	Wet & cold
June ...	2·30	54·0	180	Damp & gloomy
Half yr.	10·74	47·0	683	Backward

The half-year figures are of course totals for rain and sun, and an average for the temperature. The rainfall has not been excessive for the whole period under notice, the temperature has, however, been below the mean and sunshine has been deficient, so that evaporation has been less than usual, and consequently the rainfall has had more than its customary effect on the surface of the land.

The final and definitive report of the Indian Office on the Indian wheat crop of 1907 puts the yield at 39,987,600 qr. of 480 lb. per qr., which, according to current rate of wants for food and seed, leaves 9,987,600 qr available for exportation. Of this total there have been already shipped 858,000 qr., leaving 9,129,600 qr. in hand and available for export in the remaining ten months of the Indian shipping year. The opinion of the Baltic and of Mark Lane is that the Government figures are about twice the truth—i.e., that for the remainder of the Indian shipping year 4½ to 4¾ million qr. may be expected to be shipped. Time will show which view is correct.

London averages for June have been :—

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
June 4	32 10	25 11	21 5
,, 11	31 2	25 6	22 1
,, 18	31 5	25 1	—
,, 25	32 7	—	20 6
June 1907.....	32 0	25 6	21 4
June 1906.....	31 2	23 7	20 11
Rise on the year	10	1 11	5

The June average for Household flour shows 6d. advance in May.

If we disregard the Board of Trade return of 36s. from Canterbury—which strikes us as obviously an error—the wheat gradient this week will be :—

Mark Lane.....	32s. 7d. per qr.
Peterborough ...	30s. 6d. ,,
Range.....	2s. 1d. per qr.

The range in barley has been small :—

Nottingham	25s. 8d. per qr.
Ipswich	24s. 1d. ,,
Range.....	1s. 7d. ,,

Oats exceed 20s. at all markets, and are in very good request for a Midsummer period :—

Doncaster	21s. 8d. per qr.
Salisbury	20s. 4d. ,,
Range.....	1s. 4d. ,,

The sales of English wheat at the statute markets since harvest have been as follows :—

This season... 2,532,000 qr., at 27s. 0d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 2,840,000 qr., at 28s. 6d. ,,

The comparatively small deliveries of this season are much remarked.

The sales of English barley have been :—

This season ... 3,363,000 qr., at 24s. 3d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 3,198,000 qr., at 24s. 5d. ,,

The barley season is over, but the old crop holds out better than it did last year.

The sales of English oats are :—

This season ... 1,149,000 qr. at 17s. 11d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 900,000 qr. at 18s. 4d. ,,

Imports last week into the United Kingdom were as follows :—

Wheat, 752,000 qr. : an enormous supply and nearly a record.

Flour, 119,000 sks. : a fair supply.

Barley, 13,000 qr. : one of the smallest weekly quantities recorded for many years.

Oats, 94,000 qr. : a very moderate arrival.

Maize, 158,000 qr. : two-thirds of an average.

Since September 1 arrivals from abroad have included 17,168,000 qr. of wheat, 90,460,000 qr. of maize, 4,900,000 qr. of barley, and 4,052,000 qr. of oats. The arrivals of foreign flour have been 4,555,000 sacks.

Rice remains steady at 8s. 6d. per cwt. for Bassein cargoes, which with wheat at 7s. 5d. per cwt. off stands, shows that the Asiatic product is now considerably the dearer food. The price of beet sugar has declined 2d. per cwt. on the week, and now stands at 9s. 9d. instead of 9s. 11d. Another article which has given way a little is linseed oil, for which £27 15s. per ton is quoted, against £28 a week ago.

The supply of wheat on passage shows a slight diminution on the week, and is as follows :—

Californian.....	240,000 qr.
American	290,000 ,,
Russian	265,000 ,,
Indian.....	363,000 ,,
Argentine	820,000 ,,
Australasian	800,000 ,,
Various	40,000 ,,
Total	2,818,000 qr.

Of flour, 210,000 sacks are on passage. The expectations of spring corn are as follows.—Barley, 175,000 qr. (of which 105,000 qr. are Roumanian); oats, 90,000 qr. (of which 65,000 qr. are Russian); maize, 925,000 qr. (of which 450,000 are American and 300,000 qr. (round corn); and linseed, 371,000 qr. (of which 215,000 qr. are Argentine).

Shipments last week were :—From America, 210,000 qr. of wheat, 125,000 qr. of maize, and 92,000 sacks of flour; from Argentina, 338,000 qr. of wheat, 209,000 qr. of maize, and 74,000 qr. of linseed; from Russia, 209,000 qr. of wheat, 88,000 qr. of barley, 42,000 qr. of oats; and 100,000 qr. of maize; from Roumania, 206,000 qr. wheat, 20,000 qr. of barley, 3,000 qr. of oats, and 470,000 qr. of maize; from India, 114,000 qr. of wheat, and 475,000 qr. of linseed; and from Australasia, 6,000 qr. of wheat.

The shipping period, August 1 to June 30, is complete, but the figures are not all to hand. Allowing the many items to come in at the rate of the preceding week, the total shipments of breadstuffs will work out as follows :—

From the United States ...	...	14,100,000 qr.
,,	Canada	2,970,000 ,,
,,	Argentine.....	11,000,000 ,,
,,	Russia	10,500,000 ,,
,,	Roumania	8,000,000 ,,
,,	Bulgaria & Turkey	1,500,000 ,,
,,	India	3,100,000 ,,
,,	Australasia	2,500,000 ,,
,,	Other Countries ...	1,000,000 ,,
Total ...		54,670,000 qr.

For the like period in the previous shipping season 55,550,000 qrs. of bread stuffs were shipped, so that no excess is to be charged to the present season. This is, in fact, the main point. The sources of supply whence increased quantities have been forthcoming are the United States, La Plata, and India, while Russia, Roumania, and Bulgaria show a decline. The figures for Australasia and Canada are without material change. The above totals include flour as wheat.

THE BALTIC.

The wheat cargo trade has recovered some little tone, and holders are less discouraged from a week ago. Transactions include Black Sea at 34s. 6d. per 492 lb., Azoff at 33s. per 492 lb.; Australian at 34s. 9d. per 480 lb., Argentine at 33s. 6d. per 480 lb., White Karachi at 34s. 3d. per 492 lb., Red Karachi at 33s. 9d. per 492 lb., No. Northern Manitoba at 35s 3d per 480 lb, and No. 2 Manitoba at 34s. 3d. per 480 lb.

Maize cargoes are 3d. dearer from their lowest point of reaction : 23s. 9d. is now paid for Argentine, 24s. 6d. for Odessa, and 23s. 6d. for American, all per 480 lb.

Other cargoes (except barley) include Smyrna beans at 34s per 480 lb., Argentine oats at 17s. 9d. per 304 lb., Manitoba oats at 19s. 6d. per 320 lb., and Saigon rice at 7s. 6d. per cwt.

On the trade in barley cargoes, which has been rather perplexing of late, *Beerbohm's List* sheds some useful light in the following remarks :—

"The demand for near cargoes of grinding barley continues to be good for the Continent, but United Kingdom buyers are not very numerous, owing to the high prices asked. The Continent has taken two steamers of Morocco barley loading and prompt at 23s. 9d United Kingdom price, and Hamburg has paid 23s. 6d. for a quantity of Kurachi June-July shipment, but for the United Kingdom little has transpired; 24s. is asked for six option cargoes June-July shipment, but 21s. has been accepted for July-August new crop shipments, and 20s. is the best actual bid for September-October shipment. The reports of greatly improved crop prospects in Russia, owing to the bountiful rainfall of the past fortnight have checked the disposition to speculate in these distant shipments at prices which are above the average of former years at the opening of a season. It should be remembered, in this connection, however, that the Russian crop was a very late sown one this year, and a late sown crop is seldom a good one. Old crop reserves, moreover, are evidently so exhausted that it will probably take some considerable period before what may be called a normal level of price is reached. Old Russian barley is, indeed, so scarce that there are only about 6,000 qr. now afloat for the U.K., Bristol being the destination. Persian f.a.q. ex ship is quoted at 22s. 9d. to 23s., Kurrachee at 24s. 6d. per 400 lb."

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—The trade has continued in a very dull and depressed condition. Fresh arrivals are not large, but with a heavy accumulation owing to slow clearance, supplies have been more than ample to meet the very poor demand. With the continued unsettled weather preventing haymaking, there is at present no signs of the short supply and sharper demand generally prevailing at this time, and it is hoped that a change for better weather will soon take place, as nothing taxes the selling power of salesmen so much as a quantity of badly got stuff, which, besides is as a rule, unprofitable both to grower and dealer.

We note the arrival of several lots of new lucernes and hays, which have been disposed of for about the nominal sum of 55s per ton. Prime mixtures and clovers are the only qualities which still manage to find ready buyers; but best hays being in fair supply, are a very poor trade, while middling and plainer sorts of all kinds are in large supply, and most difficult of sale. Straw is in good supply, and finds a quiet demand at about last week's values. In the foreign market business is at a standstill, and although importers are ready to meet buyers' views at lower prices, it is even then almost impossible to do business even at the reduction.

Prices ruling are about as follow:—English best meadow hay, 77s 6d per ton; good meadow hay, 70s to 73s per ton; plain hays, 62s 6d to 67s 6d per ton; best clovers 90s to 92s 6d per ton; good clovers, 80s to 87s 6d per ton; inferior clovers, 72s 6d to 77s 6d per ton; best mixtures, 92s 6d per ton; good mixtures, 80s to 87s 6d per ton; plain mixtures, 72s 6d to 77s 6d per ton; seconds hays, clovers, and mixtures, 55s to 60s per ton; wheat straw, 22s to 25s per load; oat straw, 25s per load; barley straw, 26s per load, all ex rail London. Foreign Canadian mixture, none; first quality Dutch hay, 60 to 65s per ton; second quality Dutch hay, 57s 6d; French and Dutch clovers, 80s per ton. These prices are by barge delivered alongside a London Thames wharf.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday. — Liberal arrivals of cheese, the floors being well covered. Cheddars, 56s to 58s; Dunlops, 55s to 57s per cwt. Canadian, June made cheese, are being offered, trade not disposed to buy, and in the meantime the price is 56s to 57s.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—There were 36 tons of cheese pitched, and all was cleared. Best Caerphilly dairies realised up to 46s 6d per ton, secondary dairies 44s to 45s, and other dairies 40s to 43s. A few inferior lots failed to reach 35s. Cheddars :—Prime old, from 67s to 73s; new ditto, 58s to 68s 6d; truckles, old and ripe, from 67s 6d to 69s; new ditto, 56s to 61s; doubles, 55s to 57s.

Newport, Wednesday.—About 8 tons pitched, a good attendance, and a brisk demand. Quotations :—Caerphillies, 30s to 44s per cwt; fancy dairies, 40s to 46s; Derbies, 60s to 62s; truckles, 56s to 63s; doubles, 60s.

Seven Years Grain Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 10d. per 480 lb.
Barley.....	25s. 4d. per 400 lb.
Oats.....	18s. 11d. per 312 lb.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English steady, but quiet, at late rates; supplies limited. Foreign firmly held at full prices, but only small business passing. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, held at 35s 6d; No. 2 at 34s 6d; No. 1 hard Manitoba at 36s 6d; choice white Karachi at 33s 3d; red Karachi at 33s; Persian, landed, at 31s 6d; River Plate at 35s to 36s 6d; Australians at 35s 9d. Flour firm, quiet. Maize dull, prices tending in buyers' favour. Mixed American, ex ship, to arrive, held at 23s 9d to 24s; Odessa, ex ship, at 23s 6d to 23s 9d; landed at 24s to 24s 3d. Barley firm, quiet. Danubian, landed, held at 26s; Persian, ex ship, at 22s 9d; landed at 23s 6d. Oats dull, easier tendency. River Plate quoted at 18s 6d to 18s 9d; South Russian, 38 lb, 18s 7½d. Arrivals:—June 22-25: Foreign wheat, 29,040 qr; oats, 85,360 qr; maize, 8,080 qr; flour, 31,600 sacks.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat: English firm on small supplies. Whites quoted at 34s, 36s; reds at 33s, 35s. Foreign firmly held at 3d to 6d advance, but not active. Northern Manitoba, ex ship, held at 36s 6d; No. 2 at 35s 6d; No. 1 hard Manitoba at 37s 6d; choice white Karachi at 53s 6d; red Karachi at 33s 3d; Australian, landed, at 36s; La Platas at 35s, 37s. Flour firm, but quiet. Hungarian quoted at 35s, 35s 6d; Minnesota Patents, at 27s, 28s. Maize firmly held at full prices. Odessa, ex ship, quoted at 22s 9d; mixed American, ex ship, at 24s, 24s 3d. Barley firm, quiet, supplies very small. Danubian, landed, quoted at 26s; Persian, ex ship, at 22s 9d, 23s; landed at 23s 6d, 23s 9d. Oats steady, quiet. 18 7½d asked River Plata, and 18s 6d South Russians (38 lb), both ex store.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade recovered from the temporary depression of a week ago, and wheats were again quoted at from 33s to 35s; very few samples were offered. Barley rather dearer at 27s to 29s. Maize also dearer, making 25s to 27s. Grinding barley, foreign, made 26s to 27s; Mazagan beans, 29s to 31s; white oats, 22s to 25s; black oats, 21s to 23s; tick beans, 32s to 33s; grey peas, 30s to 32s. Flour unchanged.

Banbury, Thursday. — Wheat, white (new), 31s to 32s per qr; red (new), 31s to 32s per qr; barley, 26s to 30s per qr; beans, 31s to 32s per qr; oats, 20s to 25s per qr; peas, 29s to 34s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday. — Small attendance, with little grain on offer. Trade all round unaltered.

Birmingham, Thursday. — There was not much business doing at the market, but there were more inquiries, which betoken a better trade in the near future. Quotations: Foreign wheats, No. 1 Northern Manitobas 36s 9d per 496 lb, Bristol; River Plate, 33s to 35s 6d per qr, and Russian, 32s 6d to 34s per qr at Sharpness. Both Bessarabian and Plate maize were offered at 25s per 480 lb at Sharpness; grinding barley, 25s 6d per 400 lb at Sharpness. English wheats were scarce, and made from 12s 9d to 13s per 186 lb, delivered; oats, 22s 6d to 23s per 312 lb; beans, 13s per bag (196 lb), delivered.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—A moderate supply of wheats on offer, and the trade was firm at last week's prices of 32s 6d to 33s per qr delivered. The last year's crop is getting near the end, and holders are very slow to part. Oats 22s to 24s per qr for fine qualities. Beans 30s to 31s. Linseed cakes a steady trade for forward sales. Middlings dear and scarce at £6 10s to £7, bran £4 15s to £4 17s 6d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Best 65 lb samples of English corn were selling to-day at 37s, an advance of 1s on the week. The range in values is now from 35s to 37s. English barley is firm at from 27s to 29s, but the business is not large; oats are very steady at from 20s to 25s; grey peas, 31s to 33s; tick beans, 31s to 34s. The oat crop is looking distinctly unsatisfactory, and the prospects of the cereal crops generally are not up to those of last year.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small supply of oats in our market to-day. Good demand at last week's prices, 24s per 336 lb.—Thomas Robinson.

Chester, Saturday.—English grain of all kinds fully maintained last week's values. Indian corn of prime quality not plentiful, and for such the prices quoted a week ago were repeated. New red and white wheat fetched from 4s 10d to 5s per 75 lb. Grinding barley, 3s 9d to 4s per 64 lb; old beans, 6s to 6s 6d, and new, 5s 6d to 5s 9d per 80 lb; old oats, 3s to 3s 4d, and new, 2s 10d to 3s per 46 lb; Indian corn, feeding, old, 13s 6d to 13s 9d, and new, 13s to 13s 3d per 240 lb; old round corn, 13s 6d to 14s.

Colchester, Saturday. — Wheat, small supply, at 1s advance.—Colin Taylor, King and Co., Ltd.

Coventry, Friday.—Wheat in only small supply, and prices showed an advance of about 6d per qr on last week's rates. Spring corn of all kinds was very scarce, and recent figures were easily realised. Quotations: Wheat, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 186 lb; barley, 28s to 34s per 448 lb; oats, 23s to 26s per 352 lb; beans, 12s 3d to 13s 6d; peas, 12s to 14s.

Derby, Friday.—The supply of wheat was exceedingly small, and business was done at the full prices of last week. New white wheat, 36s to 37s; new red, 34s to 35s; grinding barley, 23s to 24s; old beans, 36s to 37s; new, 34s to 36s; oats, 24s to 25s.

Devizes, Thursday.—The trade for wheat is firm at last week's prices, and there is no alteration in the price of other corn. Best wheat, 16s to 17s; secondary, 15s to 16s; malting barley, 24s to 30s; feeding, 22s to 24s; old oats, 20s to 24s; beans, 16s 6d to 18s; fine flour, 26s to 28s; extra fine, 30s to 34s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—English wheat was shown sparingly, and business was in small compass. Prices firm, and 3d per load dearer on the week. Foreign met with a steady trade, and all descriptions were 9d per qr dearer on the week. Oats firm, with a moderate trade. Maize and beans at fully late prices.

Dorchester, Saturday.—After a week of very cold, unsettled weather to day broke bright and fine, with a decidedly improved temperature. The result was that every one was soon busy in the hayfield, both with the scythe and the reaper, and, tedding operations proving so successful, a considerable quantity of hay—a good deal of which had been down quite a week—was got together, but not, of course, in the best of condition, a good deal of it being badly discoloured from long exposure in the rain. The attendance at the corn market was consequently very limited, and there was an equally short supply of samples. A very firm tone pervaded business, and holders of wheat generally asked an advance of 6d to 1s per qr., which was only in necessitous cases conceded. Grinding barley continues very scarce, and sellers demanded 1s more, which buyers, as a rule, declined to give. Oats ruled very firm, as did maize; and, with a steady demand, feeding stuffs were also sold for full values.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance. Wheat and flour steady at late rates. Maize and corn the turn dearer, and to-day's price shows an advance of 1½d per boll on both since last Wednesday. Barley unaltered—practically none on spot. Oats steady. Beans and pease unchanged. Bran and thirds unaltered on the week. Oatmeal quietly steady.—Gibson and Clark.

Gloucester, Saturday. — English wheat in nominal supply: Reds, 32s to 33s; whites, 33s to 34s. Foreign wheat firm; Plates, 34s 9d to 36s; Russians, 32s 6d to 34s. Plate maize, 25s 3d to 25s 6d; flat, 24s 3d; new, Bessarabian, 25s. Barley, 25s. Oats, 21s to 21s 6d.

Grantham, Saturday.—The Royal Show at Lincoln had an adverse effect upon the attendance. Wheat was rather dearer on the week, commanding 33s to 34s per qr; oats, 21s to 23s; beans, 32s to 33s per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Small attendance of buyers, and very few samples on offer. Wheats found reluctant buyers at 4s per bushel. Maize was quiet but steady. Nothing doing in barleys. Oats difficult to sell at recent rates. Wholesale quotations:—Wheat, 3s 10d to 4s per 62 lb; barley, 3s 3d to 3s 9d per 56 lb; oats, 2s 6d to 2s 10d per 40 lb; beans, 3s 9d to 3s 11d per 65½ lb; maize, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per 60 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Very little corn on offer. Wheat steady at late rates; reds, 32s to 33s per 504 lb. Maize 3d per qr dearer. Oats firm. Beans and peas unaltered.

Leeds, Tuesday.—We have to report a complete change in the wheat trade, which from depression has suddenly turned to firmness and activity, and prices have recovered quite 9d per qr from the rates current last Tuesday. There is an improved consumptive demand to-day, holders in many cases standing out for 1s per qr advance. Maize 3d to 6d; beans 3d dearer; oats rather easier.—Dunns and Co.

Leeds, Friday.—Although prices were against them on Tuesday, millers still bought sparingly. With more favourable reports of harvest weather conditions, no further advance for either English or foreign wheats took place. There was a fair demand at late rates, best runs closing at 30s. Maize was firmer, Plate making 25s and Odessa 24s. Foreign malting barely was dearer, closing at 30s. Other articles were unchanged.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair attendance of buyers and dealers, with moderate supplies of home-grown wheats, which met a slow sale. Red wheats, 33s to 35s per 36 stones; white, 34s to 36s per 36 stones; grinding barley, 29s to 31s per 32 stones; beans firm rates; fine oats, 22s to 24s per 24 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—A small attendance owing to the Royal Show, and trade practically at a standstill. Both English and foreign wheat quotably firm, the latter at an advance of 6d to 1s. Feeding stuffs firm and unaltered.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Small attendance and very little trade transacted. New white wheat 32s 6d to 33s 6d; new red ditto, 32s 6d to 33s 6d; grinding barley, 25s 9d to 26s 6d; oats, English, 19s to 23s; beans, 32s to 33s; maize, 23s 6d to 25s 6d, flour, 24s to 28s.

Manchester, Thursday.—Wheat: English, 6d per qr., and foreign, 1d to 2d per cental higher on the week. Flour unchanged. Indian corn shows a little change to occasionally ½d higher. Oats very firm. Barley: English scarce and practically cleared; beans and peas quiet and unchanged. Bran about 3d to 6d per load lower.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—We had a very quiet demand for wheat at our to-day's market. Prices, however, were firmly held at 6d per qr advance over last Saturday's quotations for foreign sorts. English qualities unchanged. Oats of all descriptions firm at late quotations. A slow demand for beans and peas; holders, however, were firm at fully late rates. Maize steady at last Saturday's prices; the demand, however, was not active.—Joseph Pollard and Co.

Newark, Wednesday. — Trade dull; prices stationary. Quotations: Red wheat, 33s to 33s 6d; grinding barley, 27s; white oats, 23s to 23s 6d; old beans, 33s per qr.

Newport, Wednesday. — Trade was quiet. Barley advanced 6d on the week. Oats, brown maize, and flour were unchanged. Flat maize dearer.

Northampton, Saturday.—The attendance, was below the average with a very small supply of corn on offer, prices of which were almost unchanged, wheat making an advance of 6d per qr. New wheat, 31s to 32s; barley, 26s to 29s; white oats, 24s to 25s; black oats, 23s to 24s; beans from 31s to 32s; peas, 30s to 32s; flour, 26s to 30s.

Norwich, Saturday.—The wheat supply continues very small, and there is little business passing. Foreign wheat is dearer to the extent of 6d to 1s per qr. Values, 33s to 33s 6d delivered. Averages: Wheat, 1,459, £1 11s 0¾d; barley, 44, 24s 1½d; oats, 207, 20s 3¼d.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat but little English offering, and held for 6d to 1s advance; foreign 6d dearer. Grinding barley firm. Oats and beans in small supply, values well supported. —Robt. Hubble.

Peterborough, Saturday.—The weather has been finer this last week, and farmers are busy amongst the hay, so we have had a very small market. Wheat making about 6d per qr more than last week. Oats firm but quiet. Wheat, 32s to 33s; oats, 22s to 23s; beans, 31s to 33s.—Thos. Hill and Son.

Preston, Saturday.—There was a fair attendance. Local grown wheat and other grain were scarce, and buyers were willing to pay a slight advance for what was offered. Flour firm. Quotations: Wheat, white,new, per windle of 220 lb, 13s 9d to 15s; ditto red, 13s 6d to 14s 6d; oats, old, per bushel, 3s 3d to 3s 4d; beans, per windle, 16s 6d to 17s.

Reading, Saturday.—The attendance was below the average, and there was but little disposition to trade. Prices: Wheat, 32s 6d to 34s; oats, 21s to 22s; English barley 28s; peas, 30s to 34s; beans, 31s to 36s; hay, 80s per ton; mangels, 16s per ton in place; oat straw, 42s per ton; barley straw, 38s per ton; flour, current rates.

Retford, Saturday.—Small supply of wheat, and a dull trade, at practically unaltered prices—32s to 33s per qr. All kinds of grain for feeding purposes dear, and values were well maintained, maize making 26s to 27s; English beans, 32s; black oats, 20s to 21s; and white ditto, up to 22s per qr.

Ripon, Thursday. — Wheat prices show an upward tendency. Small show of samples, and little business passing. Wheat, 30s to 32s; ditto foreign, 34s to 38s 6d; grinding barley, 25s to 26s; oats, 23s to 25s; round maize, 26s to 27s; flat ditto, 25s to 26s per qr

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Following the temporary decline of a fortnight ago, wheat has had a sharp upward turn through fear of a short crop caused by the late and cold spring. Various grades were quoted 9d to 1s per qr higher than last week. Maize firm at a slight increase over last Tuesday's rates. Beans, peas, and oats all firm, and without change. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 32s 6d to 33s; ditto red, new, 32s 6d to 33s per 504 lb; oats, black, 22s 6d to 23s; ditto white, 23s 6d to 24s per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 33s 6d to 34s; ditto blue, 75s to 90s per 504 lb; beans, English new, 35s 3d to 35s 6d per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 26s to 26s 6d; ditto malting, 28s to 32s per 448 lb;

Indian corn, small, 25s 9d to 26s; ditto Plate, 25s 9d to 26s; ditto flat, 25s to 28s per 480 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—Small attendance, of farmers owing to Royal Show, Quiet trade, no material alteration in prices. Wheat, 30s 6d to 31s; beans, at 31s 6d to 32s; oats, 21s to 22s; peas and barley scarce.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Practically no local wheat was showing, owing to unsettled weather. Foreign wheat market very firm, and making 9d to 1s advance on the week. Maize 3d and 6d dearer. Oats unchanged.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Limited supply of grain. Wheat held for rather more money. Spring corn unchanged. Arrivals coastwise.—Oats, 172 qr; beans, 118 qr; foreign, nil.—E. and F. Richardson.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday.—White wheat, 32s to 33s; red ditto, 31s to 32s; barley, 26s to 32s; grinding ditto, 23s to 25s; oats, English, 22s to 24s; rye, 24s to 25s; peas, 32s to 37s; beans, 32s to 37s; tares, 42s to 48s; maize, 22s 6d to 24s.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Small attendance at market. An odd sample or two of grain offering. Wheat firmly held for 1s. advance. Reds, 33s per 504 lb. Spring corn firm at late rates.—James Fletcher.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a fair attendance, but business was quiet, and here were no alterations in last week's rates.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Poor attendance. Moderate show of grain, which was firm at last week's prices. White wheat, 33s to 34s; red wheat, 32s 6d to 33s 6d; barley, 27s to 29s; white oats, 22s 6d to 24s; black oats, 21s 6d to 23s; maize, 26s to 27s 6d; beans, 34s to 36s per qr.

York, Saturday.—Wheat was scarce, and as advanced 6d per qr on the week. Fine white 32s to 33s, red and mixed 31s to 32s per qr of 36 stones; feeding barley, 27s to 28s per qr of 32 stones. Oats firm, without any change in price; White Tartary, 20s to 21s, ditto black, 21s to 22s 6d, white Garton, 22s 6d to 24s per qr of 24 stones; rye, 27s; beans, 32s per qr of 36 stones.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—During the early part of the week we had still cold, rainy, and stormy weather, but since yesterday it is more genial, reviving the hopes of farmers for the result of their crops. According to the official report, rye, barley, and oats look well in Germany, white wheat will be a deficient crop, and meadows are not so productive as last year. Potatoes look promising. Wheat was in fair demand, but closed quiet, 79 to 80 kg River Plate is offering at 32s to 33s; Australian at 33s 6d per 480 lb; Walla Walla, 33s 6d to 34s per 500 lb ex ship; 9 10 15 Odessa to Nicolaieff rye is offering at 32s to 32s 6d; fine American Northern at 33s per 480 lb ex ship. The growing crop of barley is making satisfactory progress. Stocks of malting are cleared. Offers of feeding barley continue scarce, and spot parcels of 60 to 61 kg. South Russian are selling at 25s to 25s 6d, August shipments are held at 20s 6d, September 19s 9d to 20s per 400 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg. Maize in fair demand; kiln-dried mixed American is selling at 24s 9d to 25s 3d; Danubian afloat at 22s 6d per 480 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg.—John Tatlock.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Prospects of our coming crop of malting barley remain quite satisfactory, and the reports from the principal districts in Germany are rather cheerful, but fine sunny days are now required, whilst the weather remains somewhat unsettled. In Austria and Hungary the weather has been far more favourable, and although the quantity will hardly reach an average, the quality will make this good if the present favourable weather continues, but harvest will probably be somewhat later than usual.—F. M. Th. Duhne.

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending June 29, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1903 to 1906:—

	WHEAT.			BARLEY.			OATS.		
	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.
1903	32,310	27	9	630	20	7	8,946	18	6
1904	21,475	26	4	527	18	8	5,699	17	1
1905	9,579	31	8	289	23	2	3,488	19	7
1906	14,858	30	3	78	24	3	2,200	20	1
1907	23,007	31	2	759	24	6	6,118	20	8

Seven Years' Tithe Rent Charges.

For 1907	£8	19	6
,, 1906	68	12	1
,, 1905	69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes.—Imports of foreign continue extremely light, but amply sufficient to meet the demand which is of the smallest possible description; at the same time, there is no indication of lower values, as both home manufacturers and shippers maintain a very firm attitude. Russian sell quietly at late rates. East India seed pures have been sold at 2s. 6d. less money. Fine seedy Calcuttas make last week's prices. London made find a dull sale although attractively offered. Cotton Cakes—Egyptian come to hand sparingly, and with only small stocks in warehouse, holders ask full prices, but English makes may be bought on slightly easier terms. Decorticated—London made pures meet a free sale, also Digestive meal, while American brands remain neglected. Rape Cakes quiet but firm. East India remain unchanged. Maize Germ Meal.—Nothing offered in white American, but English makes are held above the marked. Maize gluten meal is in good request. Rice Meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon are nominally quoted, while for shipment no fresh business of importance is reported. Locust beans make full prices. Dried brewers' grains are unaltered. Nitrate of soda is without change.

	Per ton. £ s. d.		£ s. d.
Linseed Cakes.			
Russian, in mats (ex dock)	7 0 0	to	7 5 0
,, in bags	7 7 6	to	7 10 0
East India	7 2 6	to	7 5 0
Calcutta	7 7 0	to	7 10 0
English (ex mill)	7 5 0	to	7 7 6
Cottonseed Cakes.			
Egyptian	4 16 3	to	4 17 6
English (ex mill)	4 15 0	to	4 16 3
Bombay	4 1 3		
Decorticated, London made	7 2 6	to	7 5 0
,, American	6 15 0		
,, Meal, American	6 12 6	to	7 0 0
Digestive Meal	5 0 0		
Rape Cakes.			
East India seed	5 0 0		
Maize.			
English	5 16 3	to	5 17 6
Maize Gluten Meal	5 15 0		
Ricemeal.			
Rangoon ex whf.	4 13 9	to	4 15 0
,, ex ship	4 10 0		
Locust Beans.			
Whole	5 5 0		
Kibbled	5 10 0		

—Pinnock Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

Liverpool, Friday.—The market for fertilisers and feeding stuffs are extremely quiet, in fact, all quotations are more or less nominal in the absence of business.

	Per ton. £ s d	£ s d
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (fair to good)	7 10 0	7 15 0
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime (soft)	7 12 6	7 15 0
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime	4 15 0	5 0 0
Cottonseed Cake, Bombay	4 5 0	4 7 6
Linseed Cake, American, thin oblong	7 5 0	7 10 0
,, ,, English, prime	7 15 0	8 0 0
,, ,, Foreign, Round	7 12 6	—
Palm Nut Cake	5 18 9	6 0 0
Maize Germ Meal	6 0 0	6 5 0
	Per qr., 416 lb.	
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2 10 0	2 12 0
	Per Gallon.	
Cod-liver Oil, cattle feeding	0 4 0	—
	Per Cwt.	
Treacle, feeding, good to prime	0 4 6	0 4 9
	Per ton.	
Nitrate of Soda	11 0 0	—
Kainit, prime	2 7 6	—
Bone Meal, prime	5 10 0	—
Bone Ash, fine and powdery	3 15 0	—
Basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed	Nominal.	
,, ,, ,,		
,, finest ,, ,,		
D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime*	2 5 0	2 7 0
,, ,, guaranteed*	2 10 0	2 12 0
,, ,, ,, *	3 1 3	3 3 3

* At depot inland.

—H. Jones Langar and Co.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed: Plate linseed weak and full 6d per qr lower, spot nominal 43s 9d, afloat and June-July 44s, July-August 44s 6d Duluth; 44s 6d June-July. Libau and for Riga steady, 44s 0d prompt and July, 44s October-November. Cottonseed: There is hardly any business to report in old Egyptian excepting a little spot, for which holders accepted £8 1s 3d, June £8 2s 6d, and July £8 5s the nominal values. November-January sold at £7s 3s 9d, but no buyers now at over £7 2s 6d. Oils.—Cottonseed oil: The market is dull. Linseed oil: 25s 9d spot, 24s 6d July-August, 23s 6d September-December. Cottonseed oil: 30s 6d spot, 30s June-August, 28s September-October, 24s November-April: Crude oil: 28s 6d spot, 28s July-August, 26s September-October, 22s 6d November-April. Rape, brown, Jamba naked, 32s 6d spot. Oilseed cakes: A steady market for all kinds at previous rates, but the demand is very quiet as is usual at this time of the year.—Kilgilley, Maxsted & Co.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Ample and varied supplies of fruit and greenstuffs on offer, the demand being fairly brisk. Quotations for English produce:—Grapes, 9d to 3s; cherries, 3s 6d to 7s 6d; gooseberries, 2s to 2s 6d per half-sieve; peaches, 2s 6d to 15s per dozen; green figs, 3s to 6s; nectarines, 2s to 12s 6d per dozen; tomatoes, 4s to 5s per 12 lb; strawberries (Southampton), 1s to 2s per basket; ditto (Kent) 2s to 4s per peck; mushrooms, 6s to 10s per 12 lb; green peas, 5s to 6s per bag; ditto, 3s to 4s 6d per bushel; English beans, 6d to 8d per lb; broad beans, 2s to 2s 6d per bushel; cabbage, 3s to 4s 6d per tally; spinach, 9d to 1s; beetroots, 1s 6d to 2s per bushel; spring onions, 1s to 1s 6d per dozen bunches; vegetable marrows, 4s to 6s; endive, 1s 6d to 1s 9d per dozen; cucumbers, 3s 6d to 5s per flat; cos lettuce, 6d to 9d per score; horse-radish, 10s to 15s per dozen bundles; mint, 1s to 1s 6d; leeks, 1s 6d to 2s; carrots, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; turnips, 2s 6d to 3s 6d per dozen bunches; potatoes, 5s 6d to 8s per cwt.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Fairly good supply and demand. Prices:—Surrey and Sussex fowls, 3s 6d to 5s 3d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 3s; Essex fowls, 2s to 3s; Irish fowls, 1s 8d to 2s 6d; goslings, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; country ducks, 2s 3d to 3s; Aylesbury ducks, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; quails, 6d to 1s; ptarmigan, 8d; feathered pigeons, 8d to 10d; Bordeaux pigeons, 11d to 1s 2d; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 4d; wild rabbits, 6d to 8d; live hens, 1s 6d to 2s each; Australian rabbits, 6s 6d to 7s 6d per doz.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £15 to £15 5s; half-bred hoggs, £13 10s to £14; ditto wethers, £13 to £13 15s; Kent fleeces, £12 5s to £13 5s; South Down ewes and wethers, £14 to £14 10s; Leicester ewes and wethers, £12 10s to £13. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., scoured super., 2s 2d to 2s 3d; scoured, good, 1s 11½d to 2s 1d; scoured, average, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 9½d to 1s 10½d; greasy, average, 1s to 1s 1d; S. Aus., greasy, average, 10d to 11d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; greasy, average, 11d to 11½d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9½d to 1s 10½d; fleece, average, 9½d to 10½d; greasy, average, 8½d to 9½d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5½d to 1s 6½d; greasy average, 8½d to 9d. Crossbreds—grs.—Vic., good to super., 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d; New Zealand fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; coarse, 10½d to 11½d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Factors continue to offer 11d to 11½d per lb for Kent fleeces, with lamb wool at 8d, but there is not much business resulting.

Halifax, Saturday.—For wool there is but a small business passing, chiefly to cover present needs, with little or no disposition to look far ahead. Home-grown wools are very quiet, and in some cases are not quite firm.

WET AND DRIED GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Wet Grains: Prices remain about the same, and business has been done at 12s and 13s ale, and 9s. to 9s 6d porter per ton. Pressed white distillery meal is firm at 32s 6d per ton on rail, London. Dried Grains.—The demand continues fairly brisk and prices are firm at—Distillers, 105s; ale, 92s 6d to 95s; mixed, 85s to 87s 6d; and the same prices for monthly deliveries, June to September, on rail, London. Calcutta rice meal, 85s; rice germ, 97s 6d; oat feed, 70s to 72s 6d; American cane treacle in good demand, 87s 6d per ton, on rail, London.—Hamlyn and Co.

SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—There is more movement on the market, on account of the unpropitious weather we are experiencing. Tares unchanged. Rye scarce. Mustard firm. Rape extraordinarily scarce and high in price. Peas rather more inquiry. Grass seeds firm. Clovers, more especially whites and trefoils, held for more money. Prospects of the new crops are against fine qualities.—John Picard and Co.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 p.m.

The market to-day was firmer from the close of June, and the poor crop reports from Canada and the United States of America, as well as the decline in French and German prospects, caused all holders, not actually pressed for cash, to take up a very confident position. The price of English wheat had a somewhat wider range than heretofore, as on the one hand good prices are eliciting special offers of fine grain, and on the other hand the excellent London demand for chicken wheat causes that type to reach the capital with more freedom than usual so late in the season. Maize was firm at currencies. Barley was dearer than ever for Russian, but English was neglected. Oats were against sellers of 304 lb. kinds, but were very firm for all heavy descriptions. Rye was firm at the recent rise; beans and peas also were a firm market.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off the Stands*).

July 1.

WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	32 — 35
Red	,,	30 — 34
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	30 — 32
Brewing	,,	28 — 29
Poultry	(per 448 lb.)	27 — 28
Distilling	(per 416 lb.)	None.
Winter	(per 400 lb.)	None.
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	None.
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34 — 36
Brown	,,	27 — 29
Black	,,	29 — 30
OATS, Storm Kings	,,	23 — 24
Abundance	,,	24 — 25
Waverleys	,,	24 — 25
Pioneers	,,	23 — 24
Black Tartary	,,	22 — 23
White Gartons	,,	23 — 25
Ordinary ,,	(per 320 lb.)	21 — 22
RYE, Essex	(per 480 lb.)	27 — 28
BEANS, Pigeon	(per 532 lb.)	42 — 44
Tick	(per 504 lb.)	34 — 35
Winter	,,	32 — 33
Spring	,,	31 — 32
Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	21 — 22
PEAS, Picke l Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	72 — 73
Unpicked ditto	,,	52 — 56
Maple (Old)	,,	36 — 37
,, (New)	,,	34 — 35
Dun (Old)	,,	32 — 36
,, (New)	,,	31 — 32
TARES (Winter)	(per 532 lb.)	40 — 44
(Spring)	,,	44 — 48
(English Gores)	,,	56 — 64
(Scotch Gores)	,,	68 — 72

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba	35	— 36	American	23	— 24
Red Winter	34	— 35	Argentine	24	— 25
Best Spring	35	— 36	Roumanian	23	— 24
Argentine	33	— 34	Russian	23	— 24
Australian	34	— 35	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Californian	35	— 36	Smyrna	34	— 35
Walla Walla	34	— 35	New Zealand	32	— 33
Saxonka	34	— 35	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Azima	33	— 34	Hungarian	62	— 64
Ghirka	32	— 33	Burmese	38	— 40
Roumanian	32	— 33	Chilian	56	— 64
Indian White	33	— 34	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb):		
,, Red	32	— 33	French	31	— 33
Turkish	31	— 32	Russian	27	— 28
Persian	30	— 31	Canadian	26	— 27
BARLEY:			PEAS (504 lb.):		
C'lifor'n (448 lb)	29	— 30	Dutch Crowns	55	— 57
Ouchak (448 lb)	28	— 32	Konigsberg	44	— 46
Smyrna (448 lb)	26	— 30	Russian White	35	— 36
Spanish (448 lb)	29	— 30	Indian White	35	— 36
Russian (400 lb)	26	— 27	Canadian White	35	— 36
Indian (400 lb)	25	— 26	New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 40
Gaza (400 lb)	24	— 25	Victoria Dun	32	— 33
Persian (400 lb)	23	— 24	MILLET (416 lb.):		
MALT (336 lb.):			White	42	— 44
Californian	33	— 36	Yellow	22	— 24
Smyrna	33	— 36	Sorghum	20	— 21
Ouchak	33	— 36	RICE (cwt.):		
RYE (480 lb.):			Java	16	— 22
Russian	24	— 25	Indian	17	— 20
OATS:			Japanese	16	— 17
Konigsbg (320 lb)	21	— 22	Burmese	10	— 11
Russian (304 lb)	18	— 19	Siamese	8	— 9
Canadian (320 lb)	20	— 21	DARI (480 lb.):		
Argentine (304 lb)	18	— 19	Smyrna	26	— 27
Swedish (320 lb)	21	— 22	Indian	22	— 23
New Z'l'n'd (384 lb)	26	— 27	Persian	21	— 22

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED WITH AN IMPROVED BUSINESS IN WHEAT.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 p.m.

London millers to-day took up a slimg position and the cash prices given below were, viz., strictly demanded. Country flour was quiet, but had a steady sale at the reduction allowed last week. American flour was quite as dear as at the June markets so, too, was Hungarian. Barley meal rather dearer on the week, and a small use was quoted on Rye flour and meal Rice bran and meal was in good supply, but the price was fully supported. Middlings pollard and bran were quite firm, and though the sales in July are never brisk, more business doing than at this time last year. The London position for foreign flour is considered to be strong as Liverpool prices for American and Hungarian are a good shilling per sack above what millers and importers in London are quoting. New York telegraphs flour at 21s. 6d. per sack for the ordinary sound type "spring wheat clears."

London Flour.

July 1.

Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	31/0 net
Town Whites	,,	28/6 ,,
,, Households	,,	25/6 ,,
No. 2	,,	23/6 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	23/6 ,,
,, No. 2	,,	21/6 ,,

Country Flour.

		s.	s.
Fine Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	24	— 26
Roller Whites	,,	23	— 24
All English	,,	23	— 24
Stone made	,,	21	— 22

Foreign Flour.

		s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents	(per s'ck of 280 lb.)	27	— 28
,, Second Patents	,,	24	— 25
,, First Bakers'	,,	22	— 23
,, Second Bakers'	,,	21	— 22
Milwaukee Patents	,,	26	— 27
,, Bakers'	,,	23	— 24
Canadian Best	,,	26	— 27
,, Ordinary	,,	24	— 25
Manitoba Patents	,,	26	— 27
,, Ordinary	,,	24	— 25
Kansas Patents	,,	24	— 25
,, Ordinary	,,	22	— 23
Hungarian	,,	35	— 36
Belgian	,,	31	— 33
French, Corbeil	,,	26	— 27
,, Renaux	,,	25	— 26
,, P.S.D.	,,	24	— 25
Australian	,,	24	— 25

Meal, &c.

Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	13	— 14
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	14	— 15
,, ,, Broad	,,	13	— 14
Pollard	,,	12	— 13
Biscuit Middlings	,,	16	— 17
Fine Middlings	,,	15	— 16
Coarse Middlings	,,	14	— 15
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	17	— 18
Farina Firsts	,,	28	— 29
,, Seconds	,,	26	— 27
Barley Meal	,,	21	— 22
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	25	— 26
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	30	— 33
Groats	,,	32	— 33
Oat Flour	,,	33	— 34
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	18	— 19
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	18	— 19
,, Germ Meal	,,	15	— 16
,, Cones	,,	18	— 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	15	— 16
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	24	— 25
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	22	— 23
Rye Bran	,,	20	— 21
Pea Meal	,,	23	— 24

THE BALTIC.

Monday, 1 p.m.

State of Trade.

Wheat buyers and sellers are somewhat at issue, but only about 6d separates them, so that a fair business for July looks like being done. Maize cargoes are steady. Barley is very firm. Cottonseed favours buyers for all dates, but linseed is fairly steady, and rapeseed continues both firm and dear.

Business Done.

Wheat.—Entre Rios, 35s per per per 480 lb, on passage; Buenos Ayres, 34s 6d per 480 lb, arrived; Baruso, 34s per 480 lb, on passage; Rosario, 34s 6 d per 480 lb, on passage; Barletta, 34s 9d per 480 lb, on passage; best Manitoba, 35s 3d per 480 lb, on passage; White Karachi, 34s 3d per 492 lb, July shipment; Red Karachi, 34s per 492 lb, July shipment; Red Karachi, 33s 9d per 492 lb, August shipment; Blue Stem, 35s per 500 lb, due in August; Walla Walla, 34s per 500 lb, due in August; Australian, 34s 6d per 480 lb, due.

Maize.—Argentine, 23 6d per 480 lb. on passage; American, 23s 6d per 480 lb, arrived; Galatz, 23s 9d per 480 lb, July shipment; Odessa, 23s 9d per 480 lb, July shipment.

Barley.—Azoff, 22s per 400 lb, July shipment; Azoff, 21s 3d per 400 lb, September shipment.

Oats.—No. 2 Manitoba, 19s 6d per 320 lb, prompt shipment; Petersburg, 18s 3d per 304 lb, prompt shipment.

Peas.—White Calcutta, 33s 9d per 504 lb, prompt shipment.

Linseed.—Calcutta, 44s 6d per 410 lb, prompt shipment.

Poppyseed.—Indian, 55s 3d per 377 lb, September shipment.

Cottonseed.—Bombay, 6s per cwt, prompt shipment.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

Flour.—The market has firmed up this week, and there is more business passing in flour. Grain—Both round and flat corn are scarce on spot, at 3d per boll advance. Manitoba oats very plentiful, but in good demand. Beans and pease rather firmer. Oatmeal very scarce. Mill Stuffs.—There is an excellent demand for bran and thirds. Winter wheat patents, 27s 6d to 28s per 280 lb; spring wheat patents, 28s to 28s 6d per 280 lb; American corn, 14s 1½d to 14s 3d per 280 lb; round corn, 14s 1½d to 14s 3d per 280 lb; grinding beans, 18s 7½d to 18s 9d per 280 lb; white pease, 18s 6d to 19s 6d per 280 lb; broad bran, 95s to 97s 6d per ton; medium bran, 87s 6d to 90s per ton; fine thirds, 120s to 122s 6d per ton; common thirds, 97s 6d to 100s per ton; American oilcake, 145s per ton.—McKinnon and McDonald (Glasgow).

Flour.—Trade continues quiet with only a moderate demand; there are indications however of greater firmness in prices.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Offals.—The demand for bran is rather quiet, no change however to report in prices.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Flour has been firm to-day at an advance of 3d to 6d on the week—T. S. Medill and Sons, Ltd.

Milling Offal.—The demand remains good and prices firm, with bran occasionally 2s. 6d. per ton dearer.—John Bawcomb and Co.

Moderate arrivals of wheat. Trade firm Manitoba 1s per qr higher. Flour firm. Barley unchanged. Oats and round 3d per qr lower.—Coventry and Shepbard.

TERM MARKET.

Wheat is firmer for future delivery. Maize unchanged. Latest prices are:—

Wheat, Red Winter, July delivery	7s. 0d.	per cental		
,, ,, Aug.	,,	7s. 1d.	,,	
,, ,, Sept.	,,	7s. 3d.	,,	
,, ,, Oct.	,,	7s. 4d.	,,	

Maize, Mixed American, July to Oct. delivery, 4s. 11d. per cental.

There are buyers of Canadian peas for August delivery at 6s. 7d. per cental; sellers at 6s. 8d. London Corn Trade Association prices for wheat cargoes to-day (on arrival) were 34s. 6d per 492 lb. for white Karachi, and 34s. for red Karachi.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals of bacon last week were:—From Ireland, 2,205 bales; and from foreign ports, 16,202 bales. The lower prices for bacon stimulated the demand, and the market closed steadier, quotations ranging—Irish, 56s to 60s up to 67s; Danish, 56s to 59s up to 64s; Canadian, 54s to 57s up to 61s. Butter.—The butter market was steady. French, 94s to 102s; Danish, 108s to 110s; Russian, 72s to 96s; Dutch, 98s to 100s; Irish, 88s to 103s; Victorian, 76s to 98s; New South Wales, 86s to 96s; Queensland, 76s to 92s; New Zealand, 94s to 100s. Lard.—Lard was a slow market. Irish, 46s to 58s; Danish, 47s to 50s; American, 42s 3d to 45s 6d.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—There is a rather better feeling on this market. Owing to the unkindly weather, the reports from the plantations are unfavourable.—W. H. and H. Le May.

Worcester, Saturday.—Hops make steady progress as a rule, although the bine is rather irregular and with apparently more blight which has to be kept in check. Holders still hold off their hops, or ask rather too much money which prevents business. There is enough doing to take up any lots on offer at late rates.—Charles Faram and Co.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The hop plant is backward, owing to the absence of sunshine.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—A moderate inquiry prevailed for the good supply Jersey, 7s to 7s 6d; Cherbourg 6s to 6s 6d; St. Malo, 7s; Teneriffe, 6s to 7s per cwt.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supply was small, and a quick clearance resulted. Old potatoes, 9d to 10d; new ditto, 1s to 1s 4d per stone.

Doncaster, Saturday.—New potatoes: St. Malo and Guernseys, 7s 6d to 8s 6d per cwt; retail, 10 lb and 12 lb for 1s. Old potatoes scarce, and late prices prevailed.

Goole, Wednesday.—The attendance was very small. The supply of old potatoes is about exhausted. Jersey new potatoes are firm. English potatoes will not be on the market for a few weeks.

Lancaster, Saturday.—There was a good supply, which met a ready sale at 6d to 9d per stone.

Manchester, Saturday.—Potatoes: Yorkshire, 18s; Cheshire, new, unwashed, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; washed, 18s to 21s; Lincolns, 16s to 18s per load; Irish, 7s to 7s 6d; Jersey, 8s to 8s 6d per cwt.

Preston, Saturday.—There were no old potatoes, and the first local new potatoes were on offer; 20s. to 22s. per load of 240 lb was about the average, although some sellers sold at 17s, while others commanded 25s.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Good supplies were in moderate request. Jersey, 7s to 7s 3d; St. Malo, 7s to 7s 6d; Cherbourg, 6s to 6s 6d; Teneriffe, 6s per cwt.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Old potatoes, £5 per ton; Jerseys, 8s 6d; 6s. per cwt.

Worksop, Wednesday.—No old potatoes on offer New potatoes, 8s 6d to 9s per cwt.

York, Saturday.—Practically no trade in old potatoes. New home grown potatoes made 2s per score pounds, or 2s per hamper.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply, trade quiet. Hay, £3 5s to £3 10s per ton; straw, 2s 4d per cwt.

Derby, Friday.—Best old clover, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; best old hay, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; second ditto, 65s to 70s; wheat straw, 60s to 70s; pressed ditto, 50s to 60s; chop straw, 55s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Trade in hay and straw very low indeed without quotable change in prices.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Meadow hay, 6d; clover, 6½d; wheat straw, 4½d; oat straw, 4d per stone.

Leeds, Tuesday.—There is a fair demand in the warehouses at the following prices:—Clover hay, 7½d; meadow hay, 7d; wheat straw, 5d; oat straw, 5d; and rye straw (retail) 7d to 8½d per stone; green clover, 3½d per bundle.

Lincoln, Friday.—Prime hay and seeds, £4; secondary ditto, £3 5s to £3 10s; straw about 40s per ton on the ground.

Manchester, Friday.—Old hay, 4½d to 6d; old clover, 5½d to 6½d; wheat straw, 3½d; oat, ditto, 3d to 3½d per stone of 14 lb.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Old land hay from £3 12s 6d to £4 4s per ton; new land hay from £4 5s to £4 7s 6d; wheat straw from £1 to £1 3s per load; oat straw, from £1 to £1 3s.

Sheffield Tuesday.—Moderate supplies, and a small attendance of farmers. Trade quiet at about late prices. Choice old seeds, £5 to £5 5s; ditto hay, £4 10s to £4 15s; straw, £2 15 to £5; green clover, 13s to 21s per ton.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Light arrivals received quiet support, at late rates: Best clover, 84s to 97s 6d; inferior ditto, 75s to 80s; specially-picked hay, 90s; good ditto, 80s to 87s 6d; inferior ditto, 65s to 70s; mixture and sainfoin, 82s 6d to 90s; straw, 28s to 34s per load.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Altrincham: 1s 1d to 1s 3d Appleby: 8½d to 10d. Barnstaple: 1s. Berwick: 6d to 11d. Birmingham: 1s to 1s 2d. Camelford: 10d and 11d. Carlisle: 10 to 11d. Chester: 1s 1d. Dartmouth: 10d to 1s. Devizes: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Doncaster: 11d to 1s. Dorchester: 9d to 1s. Evesham: 10d to 1s Kidderminster: Lancaster: 1s. to 1s 1d. Lincoln: 10d to 11d. Market Drayton: 11d to 1s. Otley: 1s 4d per 24 oz roll. Penrith: 8d to 11d. Penzance: 8½d to 10d. Retford: 1s. Ripon: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 10d to 1s. Shrewsbury: 10d to 1s. Spalding: 0d. Stamford: 11d to 1s. Stockport: 1s to 1s 2d. Stockton: 10d to 1s. Totnes: 10d to 11d. Truro: 8½d to 11d. Wellington (Salop): 11d to 1s. Worcester: 10d to 1s. Worksop: 11d to 1s. York: 9d to 11d.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, July 1, 1907. British.	Total.	Monday, July 2, 1906.
Beasts	750	750	610
Sheep and Lambs	6,600	6,600	7,460
Calves	10	10	10
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	35	35	30

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 6	3 8	4 8
Sheep	4 10	5 8	6 4
Lambs	5 8	6 4	7 0
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22 10s.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 251; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 459; Devon, 10; Ireland, 30.

We note a decrease of 100 head in the number of beasts offered for sale to-day compared with Monday last, the season for grass-fed cattle being now in full swing; the majority of the supplies consisted of this class of beasts. Trade throughout the day was of a slow nature, rates favouring the buyers to the extent of from 1d. to 2d. per 8 lb. in value. The Irish arrivals were considerably smaller, and consisted only of 30 Waterfords. These shared in the slow trade, but notwithstanding this in some cases a slight advance on last Monday's prices was obtained. Fat butchering cows and bulls were fairly steady both in regard to tone and value.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s d	s d	Monday, July 2, 1906. s d	s d
Scotch	—	—	—	—
Devons	4 6 to 4	8	—	—
Herefords	4 6 to 4	8	4 6 to 4	8
Norfolks	4 6 ex 4	8	4 2 to 4	4
Runts	—	—	—	—
Lincolns	4 2 to 4	4	3 10 to 4	0
Black Polled Dublins	—	—	—	—
Irish	4 2 to 4	4	—	—
Canadian	—	—	—	—
Fat cows	3 8 ex 3	10	3 4 to 3	6

There was a decrease of 520 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. Trade throughout the day ruled of a slow and dragging nature; nevertheless, late values were maintained for all grades of English sheep. Scotch descriptions, on the other hand, were 2d. per 8 lb. lower. For Irish sheep, the season for which has just commenced, prices were fairly steady. There was a limited inquiry for lambs, nevertheless no decline in value can be noted. The supply included 300 Scotch, 200 Irish, and 1,456 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, July 2, 1906. s. d.	s. d.
8 st. Scotch	5 10 to 6	0		
7½ to 8 st Downs	6 2 to 6	4	5 8 to 5	10
9 st. Downs	6 0 to 6	2	5 6 to 5	8
10 st Halfbreds	5 6 to 5	8	5 2 to 5	4
10 st Yorkshires	—		—	
12 st Lincolns	—		—	
10 st Irish	5 10 to 6	0	5 0 to 5	2
10 st Down Ewes	3 10 to 4	0	4 0 to 4	2
11 st Halfbred ditto	3 8 to 3	10	3 10 to 4	0
5 st Grass Lambs	6 10 to 7	0	7 0 to 7	2
6 st Halfbreds ditto	6 6 to 6	8	6 0 to 6	2

Calf trade not worth noting. No pigs on the market.

London (Central), Monday.—Supplies good; trade remains slow. Beef, English, 3s 9d to 4s; Scotch, 4s to 4s 8d; American, 3s 7d to 3s 10d; refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 8d to 4s. Mutton, English wethers, 4s 6d to 5s; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Lambs, 5s to 6s; Scotch tegs and wethers, 5s 6d to 5s 10d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d. Pork, 3s 4d to 3s 10d per stone.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—No market was held here to day. On Saturday, 1,950 beasts from the United States were offered for sale and met with a firm and steady trade at an advance in value. The best on offer were quoted at from 4s 3d to 4s 5d, ex 4s 6d; seconds, 4s to 4s 2d per 8 lb (offal given in).

Trade in the West.

As a consequence of keep being still so plentiful everywhere, only very moderate supplies of stores are just at present coming to hand, a good many finding it unnecessary to sell whilst they have so much surplus feed available. The effect of this is to keep trade buoyant for most things, milch beasts as well as barreners continuing to command outside values, particularly nice-class young heifers with a character for good milking properties, which are making just now from £17 to £21 10s. apiece for those having calves at their side, others of a plainer grade ranging from £12 10s. to £16 10s.; whilst in-calvers may be quoted from £14 to £11 10s.; yearlings, £5 to £7; and two-year-old heifers, £9 10s. to £11 5s. A few stock bulls are marketing at £7 5s. to £13 for anything of good promise. Barreners readily command the full rates lately current, those maturing early making up to £30 per pair and over down to £22 or £23, and others in less forward condition from £17 5s. to £21; old cows, £10 to £15 10s.

Sheep are keeping fairly steady at recent currencies, but although there has been no improvement in the supplies offering during the past week, we consider that prices are for some classes scarcely as buoyant as they have been of late; but at the same time we hardly feel justified in giving prices as quotably lower, which they can hardly be said to be, though there has been a little less animation in sales. The best Down ewes now make 46s. to 52s., ranging downwards to as low as 35s. or 36s. for distinctly ordinary grades, which every dealer is not exactly inclined to buy. But with the great summer sales of ewes now so soon to open, flockmasters are looking forward with every confidence not only to selling at the full prices now current, but even anticipate doing better at the later sales. This, however, will depend largely upon later harvest prospects, which largely affect the trade, and are by no means at present of an encouraging character; in fact,

Prices of fat stock all round, in spite of the distinctly bad outlook, keep steady, and as a rule are fairly well maintaintd, though we have no advance to quote either in beef or mutton. Some of the fat bullocks now coming to hand, particularly the steers and heifers, are of perfect finish, and the quality such as it would be diffieult to surpass. For animals of this stamp purveyors have to pay quite 12s. per score (or from £16 to £24 apiece); but secondary grades, in which we include fat cows, are obtainable on easier terms—10s. to 10s. 6d. or 10s. 9d. (or from £14 to £18 each); fat bulls selling rather quietly for coarse weights at 8s. 6d. to 9s. Calves rule firm up to 9d per lb. (from £5 10s. to £6 10s. being the top range now for best finished lots); seconds, 8d. to 8½d. some of the fat sheep now coming out, both ewes and wethers, are of considerable weight, and prices range for these from 50s. to 65s. apiece (or from 8d. to 8½d. per lb., shorn); aged ewes, 7d. to 7½d. Lamb meets a steady demand, especially for the best, which are making 42s. to 55s. apiece (or 11d. to 11½d. per lb.), and seconds, 32s. to 40s. (or 10d. to 10½d). Pigs are finding a very good inquiry, both for porkers and baconers, the former ranging this week from 42s. to 58s. (or 10s. 6d. to 11s.), and baconers 62s. to 95s. (or 9s. to 10s);

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Altrincham: 11 and 12. Appleby: 13. Barnstaple: 13 and 14. Berwick: 10d to 11d per doz. Birmingham: 11 and 13. Camelford: 16. Carlisle: 12 and 13. Chester: 11. Dartmouth: 11d to 1s 1d per doz. Derby: 12 and 13. Devizes: 15 to 17. Doncaster: 12 to 14. Dorchester: 9½d to 11d per doz. Evesham: 9½d to 11d per doz. Hereford: 13 to 15. Kidderminster: 13. Lancaster: 10 to 12. Lincoln: 13 and 14. Market Drayton: 12 and 13. Otley: 12. Penrith: 13 and 14. Penzance: 8½d to 10½d per doz. Retford: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per score. Ripon: 14 and 15. Scarborough: 12 and 13. Shrewsbury: 13 and 14. Spalding: 14. Stamford: 11 to 12. Stockport: 11 and 12. Stockton: 11 and 12. Totnes: 10d to 11d per doz. Truro: 9d to 10d per doz. Wellington (Salop): 13 to 14. Worcester: 12. Worksop: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per score. York: 12 and 13.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington cattle market on the chief market day of the week there was a decrease in the number of beasts offered for sale. For both prime and second quality fat cattle trade opened very slowly, and though no marked decline in value can be noted, concessions had to be made occasionally to effect sales. The majority of the supply still arrived from the Eastern counties. However, the numbers from the Midlands ran them very close on account of the grass-fed season having now commenced. The Irish consignment consisted of 18 Dublins (a few of which were choice black polled cattle) and 40 Waterfords. These latter shared in the poor trade experienced, and were quoted lower in number. Fat butchering cows and bulls were stronger in number, and met with less inquiry. Nevertheless, late rates governed most transactions. On Thursday sales were confined to fat butchering cows and bulls, trade for which was of a steady nature. A few fat beasts were held back in the lairs, but met with absolutely no inquiry.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, rates on the whole were fairly steady, the arrivals consisting of consignments from the United States and Canada. The total number on offer at both markets was 4,910, as against 4,372 during the previous week, consisting of 890 British (decrease 110) and 4,020 foreign (increase 648). The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 8d. ex 4s. 10d. ; 90 stone Norfolks, 4s. 8d. ex 4s. 10d. ; 100 stone Shorthorns, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d. ; 90 stone Dublin (Black Polled), 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d. ; 95 stone Waterfords, 4s. to 4s. 2d. ; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 8d. ex 3s. 10d.

The sheep trade at Islington on Monday, with an increase in the supply, ruled of an extremely slow and dragging nature, last week's values being impossible to realise, except in the case of ewes, all other grades being quoted at a decline of 2d. per 8 lb. On Thursday a further fall in value had to be accepted to effect sales in most cases. Lambs shared in the poor trade experienced, the choicest grass-fed descriptions making 4d. less than on the previous Monday, with a further fall of 2d. on Thursday ; 212 Canadian sheep were offered for sale at Deptford, but were not quotable. The total number penned at both markets was 9,182, as against 8,150 during the previous week, showing an increase of 1,032. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 6s. 2d. to 6s. 4d. ; 8 stone Scotch, 6s. to 6s. 2d. ; 9 stone Downs, 6s. to 6s. 2d. ; 10 stone ditto, 5s. 10d. to 6s. ; 10 stone Halfbreds, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d. ; 10 stone Down ewes, 3s. 10d. to 4s. ; 5 stone fat grass lambs, 6s. 10d. to 7s. ; 6 stone Half-bred ditto, 6s. 6d. to 6s. 8d.

Calves numbered 90 head, and met with a slow trade, only the very choicest making our top quotation ; the best on offer were quoted at from 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d. per 8lb. (offal given in).

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—There was a small market, and attendance limited. No bullocks were included in offerings, and trade of fat slaughtering cows and bulls, though steady, was slow. Fat cows ranged from 2s 8d to 3s 8d, and fat bulls from 2s 6d to 3s 4d. Trade for sheep ruled dull, and prices were disposed to favour buyers. Best Down tegs, 6s 2d to 6s 4d ; 10-st cross-breds, 5s 6d to 5s 8d ; large wethers, 5s 2d to 5s 4d ; small Down ewes, 3s 10d to 4s ; 11-st crossbreds, 3s 8d ; lambs, 7s for best kinds. There was a nominal market for milch cows. The clearance was slow for calves, and the best barely fetched 3s 8d per stone.

Central Market, Friday.—Fair supplies and bad trade. Prices will probably finish lower. English beef, 3s 10d to 4s ; Scotch sides, 4s to 4s 2d ; shorts, 4s 2d to 4s 6d ; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 7d to 3s 10d ; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 8d to 3s 10d ; ditto seconds, 3s 6d to 3s 7d ; ditto forequarters, 2s 4d to 2s 5d ; inferior beef, 2s 2d to 2s 10d ; mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s 4d to 5s 6d ; ditto tegs, 5s 8d ; ditto ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d ; English wethers, 4s 8d to 5s 4d ; ditto ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d ; Dutch sheep, 4s 8d to 5s ; South American sheep, Antwerp killed, 4s ; English lamb, 5s 8d to 6s 8d ; German lamb, 5s 8d to 6s 8d ; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d ; English pork, 3s 4d to 3s 8d ; Dutch ditto, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 8 lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef rather easier owing to large supply. Best, 4s 8d to 4s 10d ; secondary, 4s 4d to 4s 6d. Mutton again very dear ; Down wethers made 6s to 6s 6d ; Kent wethers, 5s 6d to 6s ; ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 6d Lamb made 8s to 9s. Veal, 5s to 5s 6d. Pork remained cheap.

Basingstoke, Wednesday. —At Raynbird and Sons' sale-yard there was a good attendance to meet a supply of 42 fat beasts, 81 calves, 447 fat sheep and lambs, 130 fat store pigs, and 130 head of dairy and store cattle, which realised the following prices :—For fat beasts there was a good trade, and every lot sold, two-year-old Shorthorn steers making up to £18, eighteen-moths old ditto, £14 5s to £16 15s ; heifers, £17 11s ; cows, £11 to £17 ; Devon steers to £22 10s ; two year-old ditto, £18 5s ; two-year-old Polled steers, £15 15s to £18 15s Milch cows of good class were inquired for, and high prices were realised for them, heifers and calves making from £10 5s to £21 15s ; cows and calves, £14 to £21 15s ; secondary sorts a dull trade. Store cattle sold well, most of the lots on offer changing hands at satisfactory prices. Fat calves met a brisk trade at late rates, the best realising from 60s to £5 12s 6d ; smaller do., 20s to 57s 6d ; Fat pigs a dull trade, it being difficult to dispose of the few taken on offer realising from 28s to 42s 6d. Store pigs were cleared with a fair demand, making up to 25s ; fat sheep and fat lambs met a good inquiry at late rates, the exception being a few pens of wethers which were held beyond the buyers' idea of value ; eighteen months old down wethers and ewes made from 54s to 61s 6d ; smaller, 46s to 52s ; Down ewes, 44s to 52s 6d ; old and inferior, 35s to 40s ; Shropshire ewes to 47s ; six months old Down lambs, 44s to 52s ; smallar, 36s to 42s ; three months' old sucking lambs, 34s to 40s ; cross-bred ditto to 35s 6d. Prime Devon beasts, 7d to 7½d ; Shorthorns, 6½d to 7d ; bulls, cows, and inferior, 5½d to 6d ; best sheep, 9d to 9½d ; second class, 8d to 8½d ; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 6½d to 7½d ; fat sucking lambs, 10d to 12d ; fat calves, 7d to 8½d per lb ; fat porkers, 8s to 9s per score.

Berwick, Saturday.—There was a substantial falling off in the numbers of cattle. Calves, £5 5s to £6 ; heifers, £7 15s to £10 ; stirks, £7 10s to £10 15s ; two-year-olds, £11 15s to £13 ; three-year-olds, £13 to £14 15s ; Shorthorn bulls, £11 10s.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Fair supply ; fair trade. Quotations : Beef, 5d to 6¾d per lb ; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb ; lamb, 9½d to 10d per lb ; veal, 7d to 8d per lb ; bacon pigs, 10s per score ; cutting pigs, 10s per score ; sows, 7s 8d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—To day beef was plentiful, but demand rather less than usual, and business dull at slightly less prices for best qualities, 60s to 62s per cwt values of secondary sorts, remaining at 58s. Mutton and lamb were in moderate supply, but trade quiet. Quotations were unchanged, except for lamb, which sold at 9½d to 10d. Pigs were more numerous than of late, and prices unaltered.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices of pigs :—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 1s. per pig extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. 10 lb to 8 sc. 10 lbs, 9s 6d per score ; 8 sc. 11 lb to 9 sc , 9s 6d per score ; 9 sc. 1 lb to 9 sc. 10 lb, 9s 3d ; 9 sc. 11 lb to 10 sc. 10 lb, 8s 9d. Pigs outside these limits at their value.—C. and T. Harris and Co., Ltd.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A fair offering of horned stock, some of which did not sell. Yearlings changed hands at from £6 to £9 ; two-year-olds up to £13 ; cows and calves, £14 to £18 5s. Only a few sheep were offered, wether tegs were quoted from 38s 6d to 45s 6d ; some old ewes made from 30s to 38s, and a lot of two-year-old wethers made 38s 6d.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Buyers were numerous, and a good demand was experienced. Small heifers £11 10s to £15 10s ; summering heifers, £11 10s to £15 10s ; heifers to £17 10s each.

Chester, Thursday.—Supplies exceeded the demand, and prices asked were too high to encourage a large business. Best lots sold readily, and the market was a dragging one, and many lots were left unsold at the close. Milch cows, £17 to £22 ; calvers, £15 to £20 ; barrens, £10 to £14 ; heifers, £9 to £15 ; stirks,, £5 to £9 each

Doncaster, Saturday. — Average supply of cattle and a moderate attendance, though trade was not brisk. Milch beasts, £18 to £22 ; bullocks, £12 to £17 ; heifers and drapes, £11 to £15 ; stirks, £9 to £11 ; young stores, £6 to £9 each. Fair supply of sheep, and trade slow. Prices from 44s to 50s each.

Dublin, Thursday.—Choicely finished cattle in brisk demand at last week's prices, other sorts, though not quotably lower, were difficult to place. Sheep of all grades met a fair trade and an early clearance effected. The unfavourable weather and large increase in lambs helped buyers to secure their lambs on better terms. Cattle—Live weight (best), 34s to 36s per cwt. Choice Angus crosses up to 38s per cwts. Secondary sorts, 30s to 33s 6d per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 6¾d to 8¾d per lb. Lambs, 25s to 44s each.—Ganly, Sons nd Co.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Owing to the season of the year sheep were in small numbers, very few sold ; cross hoggs, 31s to 33s 6d. Cows, stiff trade, Shorthorns, £28 to £26 15s ; cross, £18 to £25 ; Ayrshires, £13 10s to £20 5s. Cattle, fair trade, bullocks to £14 ; stirks to £12 ; bulls to £8 10s

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Average numbers of cattle marketed, and demand, although brisk, was a shade quieter ; prime handy sorts commanded most attention, and made good prices : —Top, 65s to 67s ; secondary, 62s to 63s per cwt. Good show of sheep and lambs, and demand ruled a shade slower ; ewes exposed in large numbers, consequently made less money. Best mutton, 10d to 10½d ; secondary, 9½d to 9¾d per lb ; lambs, 10d to 1s per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Store cattle went off slowly, but beef, a large supply, met with a firm brisk trade. Best quality bullocks and heifers realised 6d to 6¾d per lb., fat cows 5d to 5½d. Not so much demand for store calves, and veal was cheaper, ranging from 7d to 8d. Sheep sold somewhat lower, wethers at 8d to 8¾d, fat ewes 6d to 6½d. Fat lambs a firm trade, the choicest making nearly 10d, the average ranging from 8d to 9½d. Pork was selling Dell at 5½d to 6d. No bacons.

Leicester, Saturday.—Full consignments of home-bred stock. Buyers were well represented, but trade ruled sluggish, and many lots were left unsold. Choice milch cows, £18 to £19 ; good lots, £16 to £17 ; secondary, £14 to £15 ; Shorthorn cattle, £11 to £16 10s ; choice Irish cattle, £17 to £18 5s ; good medium lots, £12 10s to £14 10s ; Welsh cattle, £10 to £15 ; young stock, £5 to £8 each.

Lincoln, Friday.—A holiday market. Horned stock were in limited supply. Young beasts, £8 to £9 ; strong ditto, £10 to £12 ; milch cows, £17 to £21 each.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef : First class, 6½d ; second class, 5½d to 5¾d ; third class, 4½d to 4¾d. Mutton : First class Cheviots, Scotch, 9d ; others, 8½d ; second class, 7½d to 8½ ; third class, 6½d to 7d. Veal : First class, 7d ; second class, 6d to 6½d ; third class, 5d to 5½d. Lamb : First class, 9½d ; second class, 8½d to 9d per lb.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Trade for cattle was firmer all round, and prices were in favour of sellers by 3d to 6d per stone. Quotations :—Good medium weight cattle, 8s 9d to 9s ; strong heavy heifers, 8s 6d to 8s 9d ; strong heavy steers, 8s 6d to 8s 9d ; second-class heifers and steers, 8s to 8s 3d ; coarse and inferior, 6s 9d to 7s per stone, sinking the offal. The sheep trade was firmer, with prices ½d higher, except for rams, which were down ½d. Lambs were also quieter, and 1d down. Quotations :—Choice young sheep, 9½d to 9¾d ; strong heavy, 8¾d to 9¼d ; ewes, 6d to 6½d ; rams, 5d to 5½d ; lambs, 10d to 11d per lb. Trade for calves was quieter, with ½d drop ; veal, 5d to 7½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday. — A large supply of calves, sheep, and lambs. A good attendance of buyers, and there was a keen demand all round. Best beef, 6¾d to 7d per lb ; seconds, 6½d to 6¾d ; cows, 4¾d to 5¾d ; best wether mutton, 8¾d to 8¾d ; ewes, 6½d to 7d ; lamb, 9½d to 10d ; calves, 7d to 11d ; porker pigs, 10s 6d to 11s per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—Prices for best fat cattle remained unchanged at 8s, but other qualities were 3d per stone dearer. Veal calves, mostly of second quality, fetched 8s 6d per stone. The quality of sheep was fairly good, best mutton making 9d, and other qualities 7d to 8¾d per lb. There was a good show of fat pigs, but trade was slower, porkers making only 6s 3d, baconers 6s, and sows 5s per stone. Store cattle met a slow trade, being mostly small cattle of rather poor quality, three-year-olds made £15 to £16 10s, others £10 10s to £13, and yearlings £6 10s to £9 10s per head. Rearing calves were poor, and trade was slower at 20s to 40s per head. Store ewes were not very good quality, but some good lambs were shown, and trade for these was rather slow and dear. Shearlings made from 55s to 60s, others from 30s to 53s, and lambs from 25s to 39s per head. Trade for store pigs remained unchanged at 12s to 28s per head.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Shorter supply of stock, and trade was slow. Best in-calf cows made £17 10s to £21 ; heifers, £13 to £17 10s ; strong heifers and steers, about £15 10s each. Younger stock sold at about 5 guineas each, and calves, of which there was a small show, realised 55s each.

Preston, Wednesday.—Prices were well maintained, and supplies were good. Scotch heifers, 7¾d; Irish (grass), 7d; young cows, 6½d; young bulls, 6½d; secondary bulls and cows, 5½d to 5d. Hoggs, 9½to 9¾d; choice ewes, 8½d; heavy ewes and tups, 6¾d to 7½d; prime lambs, 10½d; secondary ditto, 10d; calves, 7½d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Fair inquiry for milch beasts of first class quality, which were scarce, and worth up to £20; secondary, £16 to £18; steers and heifers, £10 to £12; yearlings, £6 to £8; and calves, 35s to 45s per head.

Romford, Wednesday.—Fair supply of fat beasts; trade slow. Best animals, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in short supply; trade about the same at 5s 4d to 5s 6d per stone. Sheep in average supply; trade rather slow. Best small sheep, 5s 10d to 6s 4d; large, 5s 4d to 5s 8d per stone. Ewes in fair supply; trade slow, at 4s to 4s 4d per stone. Lambs in fair supply; trade slow at 6s 6d to 7s 2d per stone. No store beasts on offer. Slow trade for small milch cows. Good supply. Small supply of pigs; trade slow; small porkers, 3s 8d to 4s; large hogs, 2s 8d to 3s per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—A meagre supply of cattle, and a moderate business, the best milch beasts making up to £21; young stock £14 to £15 10s.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Small supply of store cattle, and usual quantity of fat stock. Store cattle and store pigs slow trade; otherwise trade good. Quotations:—Beef, 6½d to 7d per lb; mutton (wether), 9d per lb; ewes, 7d to 7½d per lb; lamb, 10d per lb; veal, 7½d to 8d per lb; porket pigs, 10s per score; bacons, 9s to 9s 6d per score.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Bbest cattle were a small supply, and trade was slow and firm at 8s 6d to 9s per stone, whilst secondary sorts sold at 6s 6d to 7s 6d per stone. Lambs made 10½d to 11d per lb; young sheep, 9½d; ewes, 6½d to 7d; tups, 6d to 6½d. The pig trade was quiet and steady, small porkers making 7s to 7s 6d per stone; mediums, 6s 6d to 7s; sows, 5s 9d to 6s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance very good, business fairly brisk. Fat bullocks, 56s to 60s per cwt; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £10 to £14 each; rearing calves, 20s to 37s 6d; wethers, 7½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d; lambs, 8d to 9d; pigs, 10s to 40s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8½d; amb, 9d to 10d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8½d; pork carcases, 5d to 5½d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Fair supply and trade. Beef 5½d to 7½ per lb; mutton, 6½d to 9d per lb; lamb, 9d to 9½d per lb; veal, 6½d to 8d per lb.

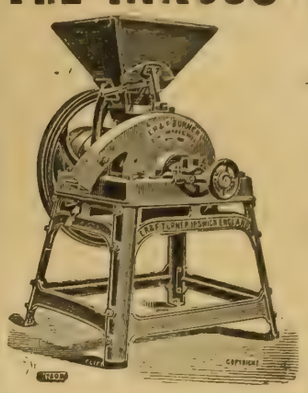
Worksop, Wednesday.—Small supply of stock. Beef met an active trade; best qualities to 8s 3d; secondary, 7s 3d to 7s 9d per stone; best Southdown wethers and cross-breds, to 9½d; ewes, 6½d to 7½d; veal, 8½d; lamb, 9½d to 10½d per lb.

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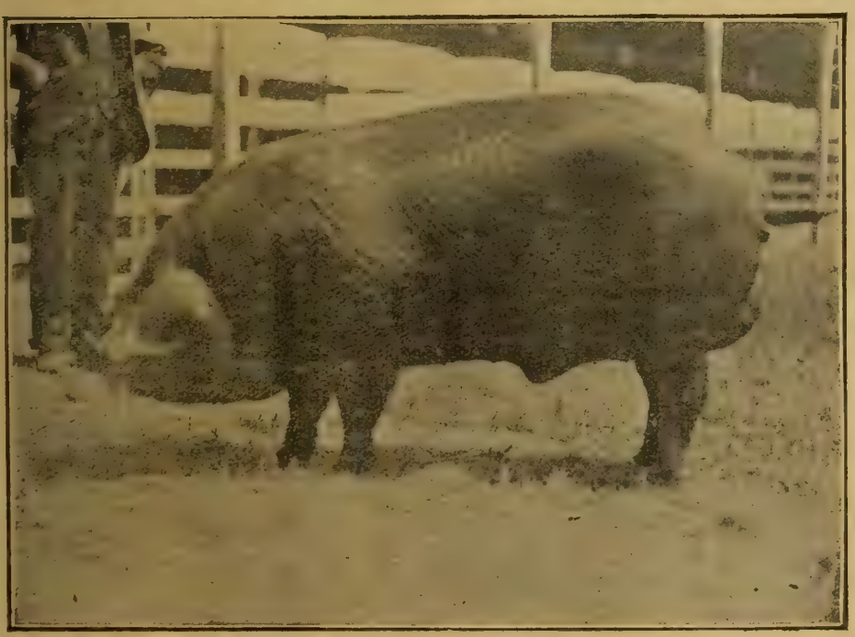


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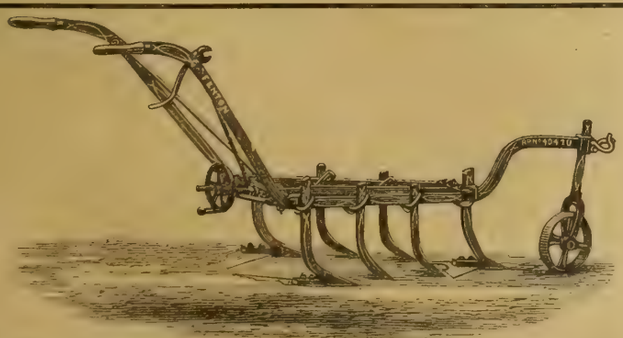


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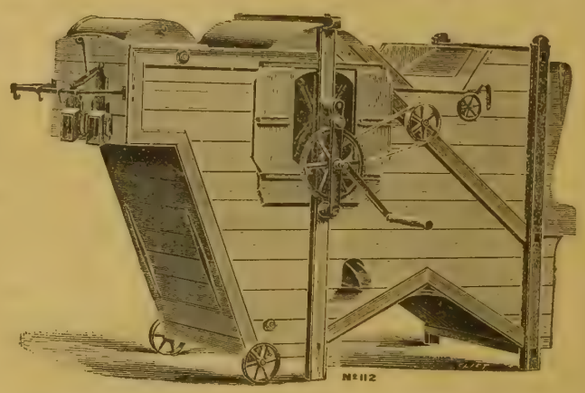
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Printed and Published by the Proprietors, at the Offices, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London W.C. July 1, 1907.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The promise of the growing wheat in England has not increased since July came in, but except in a few southern counties there is still time for a recovery. Kerning is a process which three successive weeks of sun and dry air will satisfactorily accomplish, and there is no reason as yet to despair of the cereal crops in this country. But with respect to France the situation is much more grave. The weather from the 1st to 5th inst. inclusive was marked by quite an exceptional depression of temperature, and with the wheat about a fortnight more advanced than it is in England, the nights with 46 deg. not exceeded, and the days which only reached 60 deg. of temperature, must have been most prejudicial. The German reports are much worse from a fortnight ago and then they were bad. The temperature in Berlin has been lower than in either London or Paris and there is little reason for supposing that rural Germany has had more genial weather than the capital. The Russian reports are of very poor promise in the chief wheat-producing regions.

The wheat gradient this week is as follows:—

Canterbury	35s. 8d.	per qr.
Doncaster	30s. 3d.	,,
Range	5s. 5d.	per qr.

We do not think Canterbury prices very trustworthy. London averaged 32s. 1d. per qr.

The barley gradient is as follows:—

Reading	26s. 0d.	per qr.
Cambridge	24s. 6d.	,,
Range	1s. 6d.	,,

This moderate gradient is much more in accord with recognised facts of current trade.

The gradient for oats is thus returned:—

Doncaster	21s. 10d.	per qr.
Chelmsford	19s. 3d.	,,
Range	2s. 7d.	,,

The price at Chelmsford is remarkably low for English oats at this juncture.

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets since September 1 have been below those of the preceding season. Prices have not been satisfactory, though since May they have been mending:—

This season ... 2,555,000 qr, at 26s. 11d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 2,855,000 qr., at 28s. 10d. ,,

The sales of British barley have been liberal, and the price, though moderate, an improvement on last season:—

This season ... 3,364,000 qr., at 24s. 3d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 3,193,000 qr., at 23s. 11d. ,,

The sales of British oats have been so large that the growers have had to accept a little less money

This season ... 1,155,000 qr. at 18s. 0d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 902,000 qr. at 18s. 4d. ,,

Imports last week were as follows:—
Wheat, 528,000 qr.: a large supply.
Flour, 118,000 sks.: a moderate supply.
Barley, 10,000 extremely small arrival.
Oats, 108,000 qr.: moderate imports.
Maize, 302,000 qr.: a full average supply.

With the publication on the evening of the 5th inst. of the always belated London granary returns we are able to take stock of the wheat holdings in the chief ports of the country at the mid-year. Stock returns from the various ports on July 1 compare as follows for the past three years:—

	July 1, 1907. Qr.	July 1, 1906. Qr.	July 1, 1905. Qr.
London	105,000	64,590	116,429
Liverpool	750,413	447,200	407,637
Manchester	133,616	85,708	56,770
Hull	104,984	204,434	194,299
Gloucester	149,631	98,070	131,067
Bristol	143,782	104,955	145,662
Tyne	75,993	106,571	73,845
Glasgow	4,667	10,849	34,992
Leith	120,000	131,448	130,700
Dublin	72,800	69,607	73,023
Belfast	4,600	23,300	18,500
Londonderry	4,000	4,700	5,500
Fleetwood	29,624	49,546	18,030
Limerick	90,000	75,000	40,000
Total	1,789,140	1,475,978	1,446,184

London returns of other staples than wheat thus compare with a year ago:—

	July 1, 1907.	July 1, 1906.
Flour sacks	134,000	310,000
Barley, qrs.	25,000	62,000
Oats ,,	284,000	358,000
Maize ,,	38,000	48,000
Linseed ,,	14,000	14,000
Beans ,,	6,000	6,780
Peas ,,	4,710	6,300

There are now on passage to the United Kingdom 2,808,000 qr. of wheat, a total of 308,000 qr. above the average, yet seeming very moderate when compared with the colossal quantities on passage in May. Details are as follows:—

Californian	240,000 qr.
American	265,000 ,,
Russian	239,000 ,,
Indian	429,000 ,,
Argentine	710,000 ,,
Australasian	800,060 ,,
Various	30,000 ,,
Total	2,813,000 qr.

Of flour only 192,000 sacks are on passage, of barley only 192,000 qr., and of oats only 810,000 qr. All these are very small quantities for the season. Of maize, on the other hand, a good quantity is in prospect:—

American	300,000 qr.
Argentine	400,000 ,,
Russian	275,000 ,,
Total	975,000 qr.

London arrivals for the first half of 1907 have been as follows, the figures in thousands—thus the first item, "270," is 270,000:—

1907.	Wheat. qr.	Barley. qr.	Oats. qr.	Maize. qr.	Flour. Sacks.
Jan.	270	95	209	182	257
Feb.	170	30	131	149	305
March	273	55	138	233	215
April	549	39	225	74	208
May	219	76	282	211	284
June	474	14	140	177	237
Half Year 1907	1915	309	1125	1026	1506
Half Year 1900	1734	364	1665	988	1807

The increase in wheat arrivals (at the expense of flour) is good for London millers. The decreased arrivals of oats and barley largely outweigh the very slight increase in maize.

American shipments last week were much below expectation, and the formidable visible supply of wheat, 804,900 qr. against 229,000 qr. a year ago, is very slow in getting into motion. The new winter wheat is on sale at the markets of Baltimore and New Orleans, St. Louis, and Charleston, but holders of the old crop stocks profess absolute confidence in the situation. The actual exports from Amreica last week were 185,000 qr. of wheat, 9,000 qr. of barley, 60,000 qr. of oats, 168,000 qr. of maize, and 180,000 sacks of flour.

Argentina sent off 120,000 qr. of wheat, 221,000 qr. of maize, 40,000 qr. of linseed, and 6,000 qr. of oats. Though these are not small totals, they seem modest compared with La Plata's exports in June.

Russia shipped 143,000 qr. of wheat, 36,000 qr. of barley, 40,000 qr. of oats, and 140,000 qr. of maize, while Roumania, Bulgaria, and European Turkey sent off 96,000 qr. of wheat, 16,000 qr. of barley, and 450,000 qr. of maize. India shipped 127,000 qr. of wheat and 69,000 qr. of linseed, Australasia 57,000 qr. of wheat

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—At last we have to report a great falling off in supplies, and trade in consequence is evincing a slightly better feeling; especially is this noticeable in prime qualities of all kinds, which are a good 2s. 6d. per ton dearer, middling and inferior sorts, however, still remain in poor demand at about previous quotations. It has been so far, with the stormy and unsettled weather, a most disastrous season for haymaking, and but little has been made in anything like a good condition, holders, therefore of stocks of good old stuff are very much firmer and are not disposed to sell unless at an advance on previous prices. What the after effect of a large crop of badly got hay will have is as yet unfathomable, but the large bulk, however it may be made, must tend to keep prices on a low level.

New stuff is not coming along very fast, values of fairly got lucernes and hay being about 55s per ton, but we hear of one or two lots of clover apparently secured in good condition, for which the very fair price of about 80s to 85s per ton has been realised. Straw is coming in much smaller quantities, and is in consequence finding a better trade at slightly higher values. In the foreign market the demand shows no improvement; shipments have not been over large, but importers find great difficulty in effecting sales, even at the present low prices.

Prices ruling are about as follow:—English best meadow hay, 80s to 82s 6d per ton; good meadow hay, 70s to 77s 6d per ton; plain hays, 62s 6d to 67s 6d per ton; best clovers, 92s 6d to 95s per ton; good clovers, 82s 6d to 90s per ton; inferior clovers, 72s 6d to 80s per ton; best mixtures, 92s 6d to 95s per ton; good mixtures, 80s to 87s 6d per ton; plain mixtures, 72s 6d to 77s 6d per ton; seconds hays, clovers, and mixtures, 55s to 62s 6d per ton; wheat straw, 24s to 26s per load; oat straw, 26s per load; barley straw, 26s per load, all ex rail London. Foreign: Canadian mixture, none; first quality Dutch hay, 60s to 65s per ton; second quality Dutch hay, 57s 6d per ton; French and Dutch clovers, 80s to 82s 6d per ton. These prices are by barge delivered alongside a London Thames wharf.

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes are held for an advance, but buyers are disinclined to accept the situation. Prices actually paid have included 36s. 3d. per 480 lb. for South Australian, 36s. 3d. per 480 lb. for Victorian, 35s. 6d. per 480 lb. for Argentine, 33s. per 492 lb. for Azof, 34s. per 492 lb. for Odessa Ghurka, and 36s. 3d. for per 480 lb. for No. 1 Northern Manitoba.

Maize cargoes are steady. Sales have included Odessa at 23s. 9d., Galatz at 23s. 3d., Argentine at 23s. 6d., and American at 23s., all per 480 lb.

Barley cargoes are cheaper for futures; 20s. 6d. per 400 lb. accepted for October shipment of Russian and 28s. 6d. per 448 lb. for September shipment of Californian. Other cargo sales include Smyrna beans at 33s per 480 lb., and for Ferozepore rapeseed at 53s. 9d per 416 lb..

East Indian Wheat.—Prices for cargoes arriving under the London Corn Trade Association are as follows (new and old terms), viz.:—Choice white Kurrachee 34s. 9d new terms, 34s old terms; soft red Kurrachee 34s. 3d new terms, 33s. 6d. old terms. The committee has decided to quote rejection prices for "old terms" up to and including July shipments, but not later.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports of call from June 30 to July 7 have been nine, as will be seen by the following table:—

Cargo.	Total.	Arg. Republic.	Australia.	Total Last Week.	Total since January 1, 1907.	Total same time, 1906.
Wheat	7	2	5	8	150	162
Maize	—	—	—	1	5	3
Barley	—	—	—	—	4	3
Linseed	2	2	—	2	9	19
Valonea	—	—	—	—	1	3
Sundries	—	—	—	—	—	2
Total	9	4	5	11	169	192

London Flour Millers' Association.

CREDIT AND DELIVERY. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1906.

	London Whites. s. d.		Town Households. s. d.	
September 1	(per sack)	26 9	(per sack)	23 9
October 8	,,	27 0	,,	24 0
,, 26	,,	27 6	,,	24 6
November 23	,,	27 0	,,	24 0
December 5	,,	27 3	,,	24 3
,, 19	,,	27 0	,,	24 0
February 20	,,	27 6	,,	24 6
March 1	,,	27 0	,,	24 0
April 24	,,	27 6	,,	24 6
May 15	,,	29 0	,,	26 0
,, 24	,,	30 0	,,	27 0
,, 31	,,	29 6	,,	26 6
June 5	,,	30 6	,,	27 6

(No change since last date given.)

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English firmly held at 6d advance. Whites quoted at 35s to 36s 6d; reds at 34s 6d to 36s. Foreign firm, and American held for 1s advance; other sorts 6d to 1s. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, held at 37s 6d; No. 2 at 36s 6d; No. 1 hard Manitobas at 37s; choice white Karachi at 34s; Australians landed, at 36s 6d; South Russians at 33s to 37s; La Plata, 35s to 36s. Flour firm, but quiet. Hungarian held at 35s to 36s; Minnesota patents at 27s 6d to 28s 6d; Iron Dukes at 22s 6d to 22s 9d. Maize firmly held at full prices. Mixed American, landed, held at 24s 6d; Odessa, landed, at 24s. Barley steady, quiet. Azoff-Black Sea, landed, quoted at 25s; Persian, ex ship, at 22s 9d, landed at 23s 3d to 23s 6d. Oats steady, inactive. La Plata held at 18s 3d to 18s 6d; South Russian, 38 lb, at 18s 3d to 18s 9d.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat: English held for 6d advance; whites quoted at 35s to 36s 6d; reds at 34s 6d to 36s. Foreign firmly held, with a fair business passing at 6d advance. No. 1 Northern Manitoba held at 38s; No. 2 at 37s; No. 1 hard Manitoba at 39s; choice white Karachi at 33s 9d to 34s; Australian, landed, at 36s 6d; South Russian at 33s to 37s; La Platas at 36s to 37s. Flour firm, and held for 6d advance, but quiet; Minnesota Patents quoted at 27s 6d to 28s 6d; Iron Dukes at 22s 9d to 23s. Maize firm, quiet; mixed American, ex quay, quoted at 24s 6d to 24s 9d; Odessa at 24s. Barley steady, quiet; Azoff-Black Sea, landed, quoted at 25s; Persian, ex ship, at 22s 9d; landed at 23s 3d. Oats steady, unchanged; La Platas and South Russians (38 lb), held at 18s 3d to 18s 6d, as per sample.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade was very quiet all round, farmers being busy haymaking, and moreover having mostly sold out. Wheats were, however, dearer, making 34s to 37s; barley, 27s to 29s; white oats, 22s to 25s; black oats, 21s to 23s; tick beans, 32s to 33s; Mazagan beans, 29s to 31s; maize, 25s to 27s; grey peas, 30s to 32s; foreign barley, 26s to 27s per qr.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, white, 31s to 32s per qr; red 31s to 32s per qr; barley, 26s to 30s per qr; beans, 31s to 32s per qr; oats, 20s to 25s per qr; peas, 29s to 34s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—A moderate attendance, with little grain on offer. Prices nominally unchanged.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Fair attendance, and a good inquiry for wheat and feeding stuffs. Foreign wheats were about 1s dearer on the week; English unchanged. Grinding barley 6d higher, maize firm, and oats and beans unaltered. Quotations: Foreign wheats, No. 1 Manitobas 37s 9d per qr, Bristol; River Plate, 35s to 37s 6d per qr, Sharpness; English wheat, 12s 6d to 13s 6d per bag; grinding barley, 25s 6d per qr, Sharpness; Odessa maize, 24s; Bessarabian maize, 24s 6d per qr; Liverpool prime fat maize, 5s 3½d per cental, Manchester; English oats, 23s to 24s per qr; English beans, 13s per bag.

Brighton, Thursday.—Slow trade at last week's prices. Small attendance. Barley, 28s to 32s; grinding ditto, 26s to 27s; oats, English, 20s to 23s; peas, 31s to 32s; beans, 33s to 34s.

Bristol, Thursday.—English wheat very scarce on our market to-day, 6d to 1s advance being asked. Foreign wheat very firm at 9d to 1s more money on the week. Maize slightly in favour of buyers. Barley strong, values fully maintained. Oats unchanged. There is more disposition to buy flour, and new contracts are being entered into.—Grace Brothers.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat: Farmers are holding on rigidly to what small stocks they have left, and are making full prices to millers, who find themselves out of stock. Useful reds made 33s to 33s 6d per qr on the line. Grinding barley very scarce and firm at 27s 6d to 28s 6d per qr. Oats in small supply and firm at 22s 6d to 24s per qr. Maize steady and unchanged: Odessa 25s to 25s 6d per qr. Other feeding corns firm.

Cambridge, Saturday.—There was a poor attendance, only a few wheats offering, which made up to 35s per 504 lb in the mill. Spring corn unchanged.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Not very much business doing, prices being high. Wheat supplies continue scarce, and the tendency is for a further advance. Some 64 lb wheat has changed hands at 36s 6d on rail, and an offer of 38s has been refused for an extra good sample; sales of 65 lb lots continue to be reported at 37s. English barley is still making from 27s to 29s; oats from 20s to 25s; grey peas are quoted from 31s to 33s; tick beans at 32s to 34s 6d dearer; Mazagans, 30 to 32s per qr.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small supply of oats in our market to-day. Good demand at last week's prices, 24s per 336 lb.—Thomas Robinson.

Chester, Saturday.—Since last week there has been an improved demand due to the weather and to a falling short in the pastures in many places. English wheat scarce at late rates. Beans and barley quiet at fully maintained prices, and oats 1d to 2d dearer. Quotations: Wheat, 4s 10d to 5s per 75 lb; grinding barley, 3s 9d to 4s per 64 lb; beans, new, 5s 6d to 5s 9d; old 6s to 6s 6d per 80 lb; oats, new, 2s 11d to 3s 2d; old, 3s 2d to 3s 6d per 46 lb; Indian corn, new, 13s to 13s 3d; old, 13s 6d to 13s 9d per 240 lb; round corn, old, 13s 6d to 14s per 240 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Good attendance, but little trade in grain, farmers being inclined to hold. A brisk business was done in feeding stuffs. New white wheat 32s to 33s 6d; new red ditto, 32s to 33s 6d; grinding barley, 25s 9d to 26s 6d; oats, English, 19s to 23s; beans, 32s to 33s; maize, 23s 6d to 25s 6d, flour, 24s to 28s.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat firm. Small supply of oats. Beans, no samples showing.—Colin Taylor, King and Co., Ltd.

Coventry, Friday.—Only a poor attendance. Scanty supply of wheat, and sellers were enabled to obtain about 6d per qr more money. There was scarcely any barley on offer at all. Beans and oats were in limited supply, and made quite extreme values. Wheat, 11s 9d to 12s 6d per 186 lb; barley, 28s to 34s per 448 lb; peas, 12s to 14s; new beans, 12s 3d to 13s 6d per 196 lb; oats, 24s to 26s 6d per 352 lb.

Exeter, Friday.—Fairly good attendance; trade not very brisk. English and foreign wheat remained dearer. English wheat, 4s to 4s 1½d; superfine flour, 25s to 27s; fine, 23s to 25s.

Gloucester, Saturday.—English wheat 1d per bushel dearer; reds, 4s 2d; whites, 4s 3d. Fair inquiry for foreign wheat at about 1s per qr advance. Plate maize 3d cheaper, at 25s; flat unchanged at 24s 3d; new Bessarabian unchanged at 25s. Barley unchanged at 26s per qr. Oats unchanged.

Derby, Friday.—Wheat continued in very limited supply, and prices were fully as high as last week. No alteration in the quotations for spring corn. Quotations: Wheat, new white, 36s to 37s; new red, 34s to 35s; barley, grinding, 23s to 24s; beans, old, 36s to 37s; new, 34s to 36s; oats, 24s to 25s.

Devizes, Thursday.—The trade for wheat during the past week has been very firm, and prices show a rise of 6d per sack. Best wheat, 16s to 18s; secondary, 15s to 16s; malting barley, 24s to 30s; feeding, 22s to 24s; old oats, 20s to 24s; beans, 16s 6d to 18s; fine flour, 26s to 28s; extra fine, 30s to 34s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Attendance very small. English wheat is nearly exhausted, very little being shown. Trade almost nil, and prices advanced 3d per load. Foreign was dearer all round. Indians 9d per qr higher, and Plate wheat 1s more. Oats firm at late rates, and a slow demand. Beans advance 1s 6d per qr, but little doing, and other things quiet and unchanged.

Dorchester, Saturday.—In consequence of the clashing of the sheep and wool fairs to-day there was a greatly restricted attendance at the Corn Exchange, and of the few who did look in they made but a brief stay, all being anxious to get away as quickly as possible so as to avail themselves of a fine day to get on with their hay, much of which in this part of the country has been badly damaged from the long exposure in the rain, a good deal of the crop being completely spoilt. Business to-day, owing to the unfavourable outlook for the corn crops, was very firm, especially for wheat, which was held for a still further advance of 6d per qr on home-grown and 1s on foreign. Oats were likewise held for extreme values, whilst grinding barley and also maize were worth from 3d to 6d more. All feeding stuffs were held at prices adverse to buyers. Flour steady and inactive.

Dublin, Friday.—Foreign wheat strong, and advancing; spot 6d to 9d dearer; good demand. Maize a fair inquiry, 3d to 6d rise. Irish wheat quiet. Oats firmly held; blacks 12s to 13s, whites 12s 6d to 13s 6d. Flour firm, with a higher tendency.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Wheat firm at 6d per qr dearer, average, 32s 3d. Barley unaltered, average, 27s 6d. Oats slow, average 25s 10d; 6d down. Flour prices raised 6d per sack.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Wheat the turn dearer. Flour unchanged on the week. Maize steady at late rates. Corn firm, with sellers holding for 1½d per boll advance since last Wednesday. Oats firm. Barley unchanged. Beans steady. Peas, 1½d per boll dearer. Bran and thirds nominally unaltered. Oatmeal quietly steady.

Glasgow, Friday.—Market quiet but steady, and prices nominally unaltered since Wednesday.

Grantham, Saturday.—Fair attendance. Supplies limited, and business quiet. Wheat quoted, 33s to 34s; oats, 22s to 23s; and beans, 32s per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Very small attendance of farmers. English wheats moved off slowly at last week's prices. English oats dull but firm. Maize from 6d lower to 6d higher, according to quality. Nothing doing in beans. Wholesale quotations:—Wheat, 3s 10d to 4s per 62 lb; barley, 3s 3d to 3s 9d per 56 lb; oats, 2s 6d to 2s 10d per 40 lb; beans, 3s 9d to 3s 11d per 65½ lb; maize, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per 60 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Very little wheat on offer; trade firm, and prices rather dearer. Reds, 33s to 33s 6d per 504 lb. Oats rather easier. Maize quiet. Beans 6d per qr cheaper. Peas unaltered.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The continued cool damp weather has its influence on the trade, which steadily gains strength, and only the large imports keep prices in check to a certain extent. With a decreasing quantity on passage, and reduced shipments, wheat ruled exceedingly firm to-day at 6d per qr advance on the week. Maize quiet and unchanged. Beans steady. Oats rather dearer.—Dunns and Co.

Leeds, Friday.—With the upward tendency in prices of wheat during the last fortnight, millers have abandoned their waiting policy in expectation of lower rates, and are placing orders freely for both English and foreign, finest qualities being the turn over Tuesday's quotations. There was a good demand for flour, at 29s to 30s per sack. Maize was firm, Plate making 25s and Odessa 24s. Other articles unchanged.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good average attendance of buyers and dealers, with small supplies of home-grown wheats, which met a dragging sale at firm rates. Red wheats, 34s to 35s; white wheats, 35s to 36s per 36 stones; barley, 29s to 31s per 32 stones; beans firm at 31s to 34s per 38 stones; oats, 23s to 25s per 24 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—Better attendance, and English wheat in improved demand at an advance of 1s per qr on the week. Foreign also 1s dearer. Oats firm and unchanged. Beans 3d dearer.

Maidstone, Thursday.—The very unsettled state of the weather seems to indicate the probability of a late harvest, so that stocks of wheat running low, holders obtained about 1s per qr advance from last week. Barley continues dear in comparison with the cost of it the last year or two, which necessarily makes a rise in the value of milling offals not agreeable to cattle feeders. Oats of English growth are at a high figure; foreign a slow sale except at a deduction which for the most part is resisted by dealers. Maize is firm, and buyers find it not easy to obtain at former rates. In all other grain a strong tone manifest.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat 1s per qr, and foreign 2d to 2½d per cental higher on the week. Flour firm to 6d per sack dearer. Indian corn 1d per cental higher. Beans and peas firm. Foreign barley 1d per bushel higher. Oats firm at full rates. Bran and thirds unchanged.

Newark, Wednesday.—Business was quiet; wheat firmer; other kinds about the same as last week. Quotations: Wheat, white and red, 33s to 34s; malting barley, 28s to 30s; grinding ditto, 26s to 27s; white oats, 22s to 23s; black ditto, 23s to 23s 6d; beans, 32s 6d to 34s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne. Saturday.—Wheat holders were firm at an advance of 6d per 504 lb; buyers, however, held off. Maize firm at late rates, with a fair consumptive demand. Oats steady, and last week's prices fully maintained. Beans and peas remain steady; demand, however, not active.—Joseph Pollard and Co.

Newport, Wednesday.—Trade was quiet. Barley, flat and brown maize, and oats, were unchanged on the week. Flour 6d per sack dearer. No English wheat on offer.

Northampton, Saturday.—Attendance was much below the average; prices remained firm, and scarcely any wheat was on offer. Oats and beans were unchanged. Prices: Wheat, 33s; barley, 26s to 29s; white oats, 21s to 23s; black oats, 20s to 22s; beans, 30s to 32s; peas, 29s to 31s; flour, 28s to 30s.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply was exceedingly small, and farmers were able to make an advance of 1s to 1s 6d per qr, values now being 33s delivered. Owing to haysel, no trade for feeding stuffs. Averages: Wheat, 867 qr, £1 10s 8½d; barley, 32 qr, £1 5s 0½d; oats, £1 0s 9½d.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Very few samples of English wheat offering, both it and foreign 1s higher. Grinding barley held for 6d advance. Oats and beans but few offering, and values supported.—Robt. Hubble.

Peterborough, Saturday.—The weather has been very showery all the week, and but little progress made with the hay crop. The little wheat at market to-day made from 6d to 1s more money. Oats and beans rather steadier. Wheat, 33s to 34s;

oats, 22s to 23s; beans, 31s to 33s.—Thos. Hill and Son.

Preston, Saturday.—Wheat prices have continued their upward tendency during the week, and prices have advanced 4d per cental. To-day's market was moderately attended, but nothing was brought forward by farmers. Quotations were rather better. Oats firm. Flour 6d per qr dearer. Quotations: Wheat, white, new, 13s 9d to 14s 6d per windle of 220 lb; ditto red, 13s 6d to 14s; oats, old, 3s to 3s 3d per bushel; beans, 16s to 16s 6d per windle of 220 lb.

Reading, Saturday.—The attendance was on the small side, and business was below the average. Wheat ranged from 33s to 36s per qr; barley, 26s to 28s; oats, 19s to 22s; beans, 34s to 37s; peas, 29s to 32s.

Retford, Saturday.—With about an average supply of wheat, and a fair attendance, trade was inactive at 32s to 35s per qr. Grain for feeding was scarce, but there was no life in the demand, and quotations showed no change.

Ripon, Thursday.—Small show of local samples, which made late rates. Business quiet. A moderate attendance of farmers. Prices:—Wheat, 30s to 32s; ditto foreign, 34s to 38s 6d; barley, grinding, 25s to 26s; oats, 23 to 25s; maize, round, 26s to 27s; ditto, flat, 25s to 26s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—With every prospect of a late harvest, both in America and this country, prices continue on the upward grade, and wheat gained a further 6d per qr on the week. Maize firm and unchanged from last week. Beans, peas, and oats maintain late rates. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 33s to 33s 6d; ditto red, new, 33s to 33s 6d per 504 lb; oats, black, 22s 6d to 23s; ditto white, 23s 6d to 24s per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 33s 6d to 34s; ditto blue, 75s to 90s per 504 lb; beans, English, new, 35s 3d to 35s 6d per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 26s to 26s 6d; ditto malting, 28s to 29s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 25s 9d to 26s; ditto Plate, 25s 9d to 26s; ditto flat, 25s to 28s per 480 lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Quotations:—New wheat, 14s 3d to 14s 6d per 225 lb; new oats, 14s to 15s per 225 lb; peas, 15s 6d to 16s per 225 lb; beans, 14s 6d to 15s per 240 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—The market was very thinly attended, and business was difficult to transact. Wheat advanced fully 1s per qr on the week, 33s 6d being the prevailing quotation, superior sample realising 34s per qr. Oats unchanged, at 21s 6d to 22s. Beans 31s 6d to 32s per qr. No inquiry for barley or peas.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Practically no English wheat showing. Foreign wheat better inquiry, and prices were quoted 6d and 9d dearer on the week. Oats steady. Maize unchanged on the week.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Little grain offering. Wheat sold at fully 1s per qr advance. Barley and oats rather firmer. Arrivals coastwise.—Wheat, 879 qr; foreign, nil. — E. and F. Richardson.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday. — Quotations; White wheat, 32s to 33s; red ditto, 31s to 32s: barley, 26s to 32s; grinding ditto, 23s to 25s; oats, English, 22s to 24s; rye, 24s to 25s; peas, 32s to 37s; beans, 32s to 37s; tares, 42s to 48s; maize, 22s 6d to 24s.

Warwick, Saturday.—Very few samples of grain offering, and buyers holding off. Prices unchanged.

Winchester, Saturday.—English and foreign wheat fully 6d dearer. Barley 6d, and maize occasionally 6d advance. Oats unaltered. Flour steady at late rates.—Fear, Colebrook and Co., Ltd.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A short supply of grain. Wheat advanced 6d per qr. Reds, 33s 6d per 504 lb. Oats very firm, 22s 6d to 23s per 336 lb. Beans, 32s to 34s per 532 lb.—James Fletcher.

Worksop, Wednesday. — Poor attendance. Small show of grain. White wheat, 33s to 34s; red wheat, 32s 6d to 33s 6d; barley, 27s to 29s; white oats, 23s 6d to 24s; black oats, 21s 6d to 23s; maize, 26s to 27s 6d; beans, 34s to 36s per qr.

Yeovil, Friday.—Home-grown wheat in small supply, and sold at 1s advance on last week. Foreign wheat made from 9d to 1s 3d more money, and grinding barley from 3d to 6d. Best English wheat, 32s 6d to 35s; secondary, 29s 6d to 31s 6d; foreign, 35s to 37s 9d; malting barley, 25s to 30s; feeding (English), 22s to 24s 6d; grinding (foreign), 26s to 26s 3d; English white oats, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; black, 21s 3d to 22s; winter beans, 31s 6d to 32s 6d; spring, 30s 6d to 31s 6d; rye, 25s 6d to 26s 6d; vetches, 7s 6d to 8s 6d per bushel. Fine flour sells at 26s 6d per sack, and other grades in proportion.

York, Saturday. — Wheat was very scarce, and made an advance of 1s on the week. Fine white 32s 6d to 33s 6d, red and mixed 32s to 32s per qr of 36 stones; feeding barley, 26s to 28s per qr of 32 stones. Oats firm, White Tartary, 20s to 21s, ditto black, 21s to 22s 6d, white Garton, 22s to 24s per qr; beans, 32s per qr of 36 stones.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday. — The unseasonable weather is causing anxiety for the growing crops; anyhow, harvest will be a late one. Market quiet. In view of lower prices for autumn deliveries, holders of rye, feeding barley, and oats get nervous, and buyers act with caution; prices tend in buyers' favour, while wheat remains firm in value, prices being considered comparatively low. 79 to 80 kg River Plate is selling at 32s 6d to 33s per 480 lb; Walla Walla is held at 34s 6d per 500 lb, ex ship here. 60 lb new Saale wheat, September-October delivery is quoted at 34s to 34s 6d per 504 lb., f.o.b. Rye less inquired after, 9 10/15 South Russian, afloat is offering at 31s 6d to 31s 9d; fine Taganrog, on the spot, at 32s 3d; Danubian, afloat, at 31s per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg; 9 10/15 South Russian, September-October shipment, 28s 3d to 28s 6d, c.i.f. The growing crop of barley looks promising in the Saale district, and only sunshine is now required to bring it to perfection. The same is reported from Bohemia and Moravia, where more land than in previous years was sown with barley. Feeding barley less inquired after; spot parcels, from scarcity, firm. 60 61 kg. South Russian afloat is offering at 24s 9d to 25s; July, 22s 6d; August, 19s; and September-October, 19s 6d per 400 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg. Danubian maize, afloat, is held at 22s 3d; Odessa, 22s 9d; American mixed, kiln-dried, 25s; River Plate, 23s 6d per 480 lb, c.i.f.—John Tatlock.

CORN STATISTICS

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, July 2, 1907:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.		Av. Price per qr £	s.	d.
Wheat ...	107	0 ...	171	9	6	...	1	12	1
Barley ...	79	1 ...	102	17	4	...	1	6	0
Oats	323	0 ...	344	5	0	...	1	1	4

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, July 6, 1907:—

Wheat	2,138,600 cwts.
Wheat-flour	206,600 ,,
Barley	198,000 ,,
Oats	134,800 ,,
Maize.....	1,299,500 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1906. Cwts.	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.
Wheat ...	3,082,200	2,365,300	1,541,200	1,669,661
Wheat-flour	284,900	119,500	147,700	394,170
Barley ...	236,400	155,700	330,400	823,876
Oats ...	467,100	752,400	336,400	527,888
Maize ...	1,349,000	961,300	1,010,600	1,886,836

Weekly Arrivals into London.

June 26 to July 3 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat.....	1,960	40,000	41,960
Barley.....	1,200	10	1,210
Malt.....	18,000	—	18,000
Oats.....	550	109,000	109,550
Rye	150	—	150
Beans	470	191	661
Peas	80	807	887
Dari	—	10,000	10,000
Maize	—	20,107	20,107
Tares	15	3	18
Linseed	—	28,000	28,000
Rapeseed	—	1,250	1,250
Cottonseed	—	10,000	10,000
Hempseed	—	1,366	1,366
Carraway	—	130	130
Flour .....sacks	19,286	44,118	63,404
Middlings ..... ,,	—	1,600	1,600
Ricemeal..... ,,	—	30,000	30,000

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending July 6, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1903 to 1906:—

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1903	19,775	28	1	893	19	11	3,657	18	3
1904	12,895	26	6	648	19	8	5,454	17	1
1905	7,854	32	1	375	22	11	2,532	19	6
1906	9,625	30	2	146	23	0	1,754	20	2
1907	20,795	31	3	432	24	8	4,303	20	11

Imperial Weekly Averages.

1906.	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
July 7	9,625	30	2	146	23	0	1,754	20	1
,, 14	8,242	30	5	101	23	8	1,360	20	4
,, 21	8,010	30	2	150	23	2	911	20	5
,, 28	8,015	30	5	95	22	4	1,146	20	2
Aug. 4	9,480	30	9	154	22	1	2,139	19	3
,, 11	6,924	30	5	300	23	0	4,512	17	11
,, 18	8,583	29	6	1,253	24	2	11,887	17	0
,, 25	26,545	27	9	2,508	25	0	14,673	16	10
Sept. 1	55,716	26	9	4,758	24	3	22,580	16	6
,, 8	78,579	26	4	19,448	24	9	32,679	16	3
,, 15	89,745	25	11	41,670	24	3	34,330	16	1
,, 22	90,292	25	9	76,130	24	3	37,120	16	0
,, 29	83,907	25	9	129,209	24	8	41,942	16	2
Oct. 6	87,200	26	1	183,145	25	0	35,724	16	3
,, 13	80,630	26	3	226,940	25	3	38,088	16	7
,, 20	71,352	26	6	230,636	24	10	35,636	16	8
,, 27	69,920	26	7	233,998	24	10	28,956	16	10
Nov. 3	64,404	26	7	229,015	24	8	32,527	16	11
,, 10	63,764	26	6	205,560	24	8	27,982	17	1
,, 17	58,059	26	4	167,441	24	4	20,389	17	2
,, 24	58,467	26	3	149,427	24	1	28,669	17	3
Dec. 1	60,299	26	1	160,173	24	1	34,743	17	2
,, 8	63,264	26	1	167,532	24	1	37,119	17	4
,, 15	70,332	26	1	135,513	23	11	36,175	17	3
,, 22	68,977	26	3	127,131	24	3	31,528	17	3
,, 29	49,637	26	0	97,796	24	1	29,124	17	3
1907.									
Jan. 5	24,559	26	0	31,733	23	11	14,773	17	3
,, 12	47,667	26	1	71,498	24	2	27,939	17	4
,, 19	75,207	26	1	104,417	24	1	37,413	17	8
,, 26	80,321	26	2	109,274	24	5	45,887	17	5
Feb. 2	84,370	26	3	86,031	24	4	38,928	17	7
,, 9	77,659	26	6	74,324	24	5	30,467	17	7
,, 16	84,514	26	7	69,221	24	1	38,725	17	9
,, 23	76,580	26	10	53,681	24	2	39,559	17	8
Mar. 2	64,923	26	9	40,398	24	2	32,965	17	9
,, 9	71,183	28	8	32,620	23	11	31,065	17	11
,, 16	69,340	26	10	29,274	24	2	28,017	18	0
,, 23	69,183	26	10	20,977	24	0	22,204	18	1
,, 30	49,202	26	8	15,929	23	9	18,412	18	2
April 6	28,757	26	9	6,539	24	3	10,296	18	3
,, 13	43,426	26	8	6,830	23	9	17,523	18	6
,, 20	54,965	26	8	6,032	23	3	21,389	18	7
,, 27	62,656	26	10	4,967	27	3	25,447	18	0
May 4	63,344	27	0	4,289	23	6	22,691	19	3
,, 11	53,080	27	6	3,375	24	0	18,392	19	7
,, 18	41,991	28	4	2,955	23	10	15,817	20	1
,, 25	37,963	29	7	1,977	24	3	12,803	20	7
June 1	28,070	31	4	1,998	24	7	10,478	20	5
,, 8	34,122	32	0	1,539	24	7	11,711	20	8
,, 15	38,008	31	10	1,152	24	7	7,668	20	11
,, 22	31,351	31	4	1,088	24	11	7,187	20	9
,, 29	23,007	31	2	759	24	6	6,118	20	8
July 6	20,795	31	3	432	24	8	4,303	20	11

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—There was a fair inquiry for the good quantity to hand. Quotations: New: English, 6s to 7s; Cherbourg 6s to 6s 6d; St. Malo, 7s; Jersey, 7s per cwt.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Fair supply and a good demand. Old potatoes, 10d; new ditto, 1s 4d to 1s 6d per stone.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Good supply and a brisk trade. Prices slightly easier, and 8s per cwt; 10 lb to 12 lb for 1s. No old potatoes

Goole, Wednesday. — Small attendance and practically no business was transacted. No new potatoes were shown.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Fair supply of new potatoes, and a ready retail trade at 1d to 2d per lb.

Manchester, Saturday. — Potatoes: Yorkshire, 18s; Cheshire, new, 12s to 14s; Lincoln, new, 16s to 18s per load; Irish, 7s to 7s 6d; Jersey, 7s 6d to 8s per cwt.

Preston, Saturday.—New potatoes came forward for sale with much more freedom, and though at the opening farmers obtained £1 per load of 240 lb, prices came down rapidly afterwards, and 14s to 16s 6d was the average. The continued closing of the "chip" potato shops was in a measure responsible for this.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Supply submitted was accorded moderate support. English, 6s to 6s 6d; St. Malo, 7s to 7s 6d; Jersey, 7s 6d; Cherbourg, 6s 6d per cwt.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Old potatoes, £6 per ton; Jerseys, 8s 6d; midds, 6s. per cwt.

Worksop, Wednesday.—New potatoes, 8s to 8s 9d per cwt.

York, Saturday.—No old potatoes on offer. New sorts met with a steady trade at 6s 6d to 7s per qr of 6 stones.

HOPS.

Worcester, Saturday.—The wet cool weather has not had a good effect on the hop plant, and in some places an increase of blight is reported. This had the effect of stiffening the pretensions of growers. There is rather more inquiry, but so far buyers do not care to give over late rates. Yearlings are also more in request.—Charles Faram and Co.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 p.m.

The crop prospects have deteriorated since the close of June, and holders of old grain are inclined to stand out for advanced prices. The rise in English wheat is 6d. to 1s., and for nearly all foreign sorts a full 1s. advance is required. The enormous imports of the last fortnight of June have been quietly absorbed. Rye is again 1s. dearer in this country as there is quite a rye famine on the continent.

Maize, barley, and oats are obtainable for the prices of Friday last, but there is not the least pressure on sale at these prices. Beans, peas, and tares rather favour sellers, but oilseeds, under the pressure of very heavy importations, are obtainable at some reduction. Of this we give a separate and detailed report elsewhere.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off the Stands*).

July 8.

WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	33 — 36
Red	,,	31 — 33
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	30 — 32
Brewing	,,	28 — 29
Poultry	(per 448 lb.)	27 — 28
Distilling	(per 416 lb.)	None.
Winter	(per 400 lb.)	None.
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	None.
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34 — 36
Brown	,,	27 — 29
Black	,,	29 — 30
OATS, Storm Kings	,,	23 — 24
Abundance	,,	24 — 25
Waverleys	,,	24 — 25
Pioneers	,,	23 — 24
Black Tartary	,,	22 — 23
White Gartons	,,	23 — 25
Ordinary ,,	(per 320 lb.)	21 — 22
RYE, Essex	(per 480 lb.)	28 — 29
BEANS, Pigeon	(per 532 lb.)	42 — 44
Tick	(per 504 lb.)	34 — 35
Winter	,,	32 — 33
Spring	,,	31 — 32
Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	21 — 22
PEAS, Picke l Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	72 — 73
Unpicked ditto	,,	52 — 56
Maple (Old)	,,	36 — 37
,, (New)	,,	34 — 35
Dun (Old)	,,	32 — 36
,, (New)	,,	31 — 32
TARES (Winter)	(per 532 lb.)	40 — 44
(Spring)	,,	44 — 48
(English Gores)	,,	56 — 64
(Scotch Gores)	,,	68 — 72

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba	36	37	American	23	24
Red Winter	35	36	Argentine	24	25
Best Spring	36	37	Roumanian	23	24
Argentine	34	35	Russian	23	24
Australian	35	36	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Californian	36	37	Smyrna	34	35
Walla Walla	35	36	New Zealand	32	33
Saxonka	35	36	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Azima	34	35	Hungarian	62	64
Ghirka	33	34	Burmese	38	40
Roumanian	33	34	Chilian	56	64
Indian White	34	35	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb):		
,, Red	33	34	French	31	33
Turkish	32	33	Russian	27	28
Persian	31	32	Canadian	26	27
BARLEY:			PEAS (504 lb.):		
C'lifor'n (448 lb)	29	30	Dutch Crowns	55	57
Ouchak (448 lb)	28	32	Konigsberg	44	46
Smyrna (448 lb)	26	30	Russian White	35	36
Spanish (448 lb)	29	30	Indian White	35	36
Russian (400 lb)	26	27	Canadian White	35	36
Indian (400 lb)	25	26	New Zeal'd Maple	39	40
Gaza (400 lb)	24	25	Victoria Dun.	32	33
Persian (400 lb)	23	24	MILLET (416 lb.):		
MALT (336 lb.):			White	42	44
Californian	33	36	Yellow	22	24
Smyrna	33	36	Sorghum	20	21
Ouchak	33	36	RICE (cwt.):		
RYE (480 lb.):			Java	16	22
Russian	24	25	Indian	17	20
OATS:			Japanese	16	17
Konigsbg (320 lb)	21	22	Burmese	10	11
Russian (304 lb)	18	19	Siamese	8	9
Canadian (320 lb)	20	21	DARI (480 lb.):		
Arg'tine (304 lb)	18	19	Smyrna	26	27
Swedish (320 lb)	21	22	Indian	22	23
New Z'l'n'd (384 lb)	26	27	Persian	21	22

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED DECIDEDLY FIRMER FOR ALL CEREALS; THE SEASON DOES NOT "PICK UP," AND APPREHENSIONS AS TO THE HARVEST ARE BECOMING REALLY SERIOUS.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 p.m.

The finest flour, whether London or Hungarian, is still obtainable at June's closing prices, but Town Whites and Town Households are held at some advance; which between those who ask 1s and those willing to sell at 6d more money we may arrange at 9d improvement on the week. Whole meal is firm, and with a good sale for the time of year; but the price is not raised.

Country flour is held for 1s. more money both for patents and for ordinary roller whites Nearly all the usual sales of foreign flour are held for 1s. more money than formerly. There is a firm trade for middlings, pollard, barley meal, and rice meal, while rye meal is 1s. per cwt. dearer from a fortnight ago. The market for oatmeal is quiet, but the consumption is rather larger than usual at a midsummer period.

London Flour.

July 8.

Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	31/0 net
Town Whites	,,	29/3 ,,
,, Households	,,	26/3 ,,
No. 2	,,	24/3 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	23/6 ,,
,, No. 2	,,	21/6 ,,

Country Flour.

		s.	s.
Fine Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	25	27
Roller Whites	,,	24	25
All English	,,	24	25
Stone made	,,	22	23

Foreign Flour.

		s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents	(per s'ck of 280 lb.)	28	29
,, Second Patents	,,	25	26
,, First Bakers'	,,	23	24
,, Second Bakers'	,,	22	23
Milwaukee Patents	,,	27	28
,, Bakers'	,,	24	25
Canadian Best	,,	27	28
,, Ordinary	,,	25	26
Manitoba Patents	,,	27	28
,, Ordinary	,,	25	26
Kansas Patents	,,	25	26
,, Ordinary	,,	23	24
Hungarian	,,	35	36
Belgian	,,	31	33
French, Corbeil	,,	26	27
,, Renaux	,,	25	26
,, P.S.D.	,,	24	25
Australian	,,	25	26

Meal, &c.

Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	13	14
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	14	15
,, ,, Broad	,,	13	14
Pollard	,,	12	13
Biscuit Middlings	,,	16	17
Fine Middlings	,,	15	16
Coarse Middlings	,,	14	15
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	17	18
Farina Firsts	,,	28	29
,, Seconds	,,	26	27
Barley Meal	,,	21	22
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	25	26
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	30	33
Groats	,,	32	33
Oat Flour	,,	33	34
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	18	19
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	18	19
,, Germ Meal	,,	15	16
,, Cones	,,	18	19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	15	16
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	25	26
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	23	24
Rye Bran	,,	21	22
Pea Meal	,,	23	24

THE BALTIC.

Monday, 1 p.m.

State of Trade.

Wheat cargoes are held for 6d. advance from Saturday, but buyers resist the rise. Maize is firmly held, but not quotably dearer. Cargoes of barley and cottonseed for autumn shipment are cheaper to buy. Oats are an uneven trade: anything near at hand commands a good price, rather dearer in fact from Saturday, but remoter futures are 3d. down.

Business Done.

Wheat.—Rosario, 36s per 480 lb, on passage; New South Wales, 36s 6d per 480 lb, on passage; No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 35s 9d per 480 lb, on passage, and 36s 6d August shipment; good Russian Azima, 35s 6d per 492 lb, prompt shipment; Red Karachi, 34s 9d per 492 lb, August shipment.

Maize.—Argentine, 23s 9d per 480 lb. August shipment.

Barley.—Karachi, 23s per 400 lb, August shipment.

Oats.—Baltic, 15s 3d per 304 lb, October shipment.

Linseed.—Duluth, 41s 6d per 416 lb, October shipment; Argentine, 42s 3d per 416 lb, arrived; Argentine, 42s 9d, August shipment; Riga, 43s, August shipment.

Rapeseed.—Brown Calcutta, 51s 6d, per 416 lb, August shipment.

Cottonseed.—Egyptian, £7 17s 6d per ton, due; Egyptian, £7 3s 9d per ton, November shipment; Indian, £5 17s 6d per ton, August shipment.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour. — Strong American markets have improved the flour market, and more business is passing at full prices to 6d per sack advance. Grain.—Round and flat maize are in sellers' favour. Scotch and Irish oats are unchanged, but Manitobas are 1½d to 3d per boll lower. Beans and peas very firm, although demand is small. There is a good inquiry for oatmeal. Mill Stuffs.—Bran and thirds firm with an upward tendency. Winter wheat patents, 27s 6d to 28s per 280 lb; spring wheat patents, 28s to 28s 6d per 280 lb; American corn, 14s 3d per 280 lb; round corn, 14s 1½d to 14s 3d per 280 lb; grinding beans, 18s 7½d to 18s 9d per 280 lb; white pease, 18s 9d to 20s per 280 lb; broad bran, 97s 6d per ton; medium bran, 90s per ton; fine thirds, 120s to 122s 6d per ton; common thirds, 100s per ton; American oilcake, 145s per ton.—McKinnon and McDonald (Glasgow).

Flour.—The demand continues steady, and for some qualities an advance of 6d to 1s per sack is being quoted.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Offals.—Prices for bran firm, and the demand fairly good.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Milling Offal.—There is a good all-round demand, especially for middlings, which are again 2s. 6d. per ton dearer. Bran and pollards unchanged.—John Bawcomb and Co.

Flour has met a quiet demand to-day at about late prices. Forward offers from America continue restricted and at prices beynd buyers' ideas—T. S. Medill and Sons, Ltd.

Wheat arrivals are liberal. The trade is steady, and prices are 1s per qr higher. Flour is 6d per sack dearer, Maize 3d, and oats 3d to 6d per qr dearer. Barley firm.—Coventry and Sheppard.

TERM MARKET.

There is no change in maize futures, which are freely offered for delivery any month from July to October at 5s. per cental, and for which there are bona-fide offers at 4s. 11d. The difference separating buyers and sellers is therefore slight.

Wheat futures show some excitement for next cereal year dates of delivery, and are as follows:—

Wheat, Red Winter, July delivery	7s. 5d.	per cental		
,, ,,	Aug.	,,	7s. 6d.	,,
,, ,,	Sept.	,,	7s. 7d.	,,
,, ,,	Oct.	,,	7s. 10d.	,,

The New York cable is as follows:—Red winter wheat, 35s 9d per qr; No. 1 Northern spring wheat, 39s 7d; maize, 23s 5 per qr; flour 21s 6d. per sack.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, July 8.—At last the effect of large arrivals in July cannot be denied, both linseed and cottonseed being decidedly cheaper on the week. Poppyseed, however, is 1s dearer, and rapeseed is quite firm.

Linseed. per 416 lb.	s.	s.
Bombay	45	46
Calcutta	44	45
Russian	43	44
Argentine re-cleaned	49	50
Argentine cleand	47	48
,, F.A.Q.	44	45
Argentine common	42	43
Dutch best	50	51
,, medium	45	48
Duluth	43	44
Canadian	44	45
Rapeseed. per 416 lb.		
English best	92	100
,, F.A.Q.	80	88
,, common	72	76
French F.A.Q.	66	68
Yellow Guzerat	57	59
Yellow Cawnpore	54	55
Brown ,,	53	54
Ferozepore	53	54
Rubsen. per 424 lb		
German	70	74
Poppyseed. per 377 lb.	s.	s.
Indian	56	57
Cottonseed. per ton.		
Egyptian	157	159
Indian	137	139
Sunflowerseed. per cwt.		
English, White	15	16
Russian, White	14	15
,, Black	13	14
Sesame. per cwt.		
Indian	17	18
Hempseed. per 336 lb.		
Russian	33	35

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply, trade quiet. Hay, £3 5s to £3 10s per ton; straw, no quotations.

Derby, Friday.—Clover, best old, 90s to 100s per ton; new, 80s to 90s; hay, best old, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; second new, 65s to 70s; straw, wheat, 60s to 70s; pressed, 50s to 60s; chop, 55s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Trade is stagnant, with values notquotably changed.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Meadow hay, 6d; clover, 6½d; wheat straw, 4½d; oat straw, 4d per stone.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Old hay is held for full prices, as the variable weather tends to check the progress of the in-gathering of the new crop. The following are the ruling quotations:—Clover hay, 7½d; meadow hay, 7d; wheat straw, 5d; oat straw, 5d; and rye straw (retail) 7d to 8½d per stone; green clover, 3½d per bundle.

Manchester, Friday. — Hay, 5d to 6½; clover, 5½d to 6½d; straw, wheat, 2½d; oats, 2¾d to 3d per stone.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Old land hay from £3 10s to £4 4s per ton; new land hay, £4 4s to £4 5s; wheat straw, £1 to £1 3s per load; barley straw, 19s; oat straw, £1 to £1 3s.

Nottingham, Wednesday. — Fair supply, which met with a good demand for best qualities. Quotations:—Inferior to good hay, 65s to 80s; prime dito, 90s to 100s; inferior to good clover, 75s to 85s; prime ditto, 95s to 100s; wheat straw, 45s to 55s per ton.

Sheffield Tuesday.—Trade continues slow at prices slightly in favour of buyers. Choice old seeds, £4 10 to £5; choice meadow hay, £4 5s to £4 10s; straw, £2 15 to £3; green fodder, 18s to 20s per ton.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—A small assortment to hand received fair support at current prices. Best clover, 84s to 97s 6d; inferior, 75s to 80s; specially picked hay, 90s; good, 80s to 87s 6d; inferior, 65s to 70s; mixture and sainfoin, 82s 6d to 90s; straw, 28s to 34s per load.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Altrincham: 1s 2d. Appleby: 8½d to 10d. Barnstaple: 11d. Berwick: 6d to 11d. Birmingham: 1s to 1s 2d. Camelford: 10d to 11d. Carlisle: 10 to 11d. Chester: 1s 1d. Dartmouth: 10d to 1s. Devizes: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Doncaster: 11d to 1s. Dorchester: 10½d to 1s 2d Evesham: 1s to 1s 2d Hereford: 11d to 1s 1d. Ipswich: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Kidderminster: 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s. to 1s 1d. Lincoln: 10d to 11d. Market Drayton: 11d to 1s. Penrith: 8d to 11d. Otley: 1s 4d per 24 oz roll. Penzance: 8½d to 10d. Plymouth: 1s to 1s 1d. Retford: 11d 1s. Ripon: 1s 2d to 1s 5d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 11d. Shrewsbury: 10d to 1s. Spalding: 11d. Stamford: 10d to 1s. Stockport: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Stockton: 10d to 1s 1d. Totnes: 10d to 11d. Truro: 8½d to 10d. Wellington (Salop): 11d to 1s. Worcester: 10d to 1s 1d. Worksop: 11d to 1s. York: 11d to 1s.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Altrincham: 10 and 11. Appleby: 13. Barnstaple: 14. Berwick: 10d to 1s per doz. Birmingham: 11 and 12. Camelford: 16. Carlisle: 12 and 13. Chester: 11 and 12. Dartmouth: 10d to 1s per doz. Derby: 12 and 13. Devizes: 14 and 16. Doncaster: 12 and 13. Dorchester: 10½d to 1s 1d per doz. Evesham: 11½d per doz. Hereford: 12 and 14. Ipswich: 12 to 14. Kidderminster: 13. Lancaster: 10 to 12. Lincoln: 12 and 13. Market Drayton: 12 and 13. Otley: 11 and 12. Penrith: 13 and 14. Penzance: 8½d to 10½d per doz. Plymouth: 13 and 14. Retford: 1s 8d per score. Ripon: 13 to 15. Scarborough: 13. Shrewsbury: 12 and 13. Spalding: 12 and 14. Stamford: 12 to 14. Stockport: 10 and 11. Stockton: 11. Totnes: 10d to 1½d per doz. Truro: 9d to 10d per doz. Wellington (Salop): 13 to 14. Worcester: 12. Worksop: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per score. York: 12 and 13.

WET AND DRIED GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Wet Grains: Prices remain about the same, with a slightly easier tendency, and business has been done at 11s 6d to 12s 6d ale, and 9s to 9s 6d porter, per ton. Pressed white distillery meal is firm at 32s 6d per ton on rail, London. Dried Grains.—The demand continues fairly brisk and prices are firm at—Distillers, 105s; ale, 92s 6d to 95s; and mixed, 85s to 87s 6d; and the same prices for monthly deliveries, June to September, on rail, London. Calcutta rice meal, 85s; rice germ, 97s 6d; oat feed, 70s to 72s 6d; American cane treacle in good demand, 87s 6d per ton, on rail, London.—Hamlyn and Co.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, July 8, 1907. British.	Total.	Monday, July 9, 1906.
Beasts	750	750	580
Sheep and Lambs	6,470	6,470	8,080
Calves	20	20	10
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	40	40	50

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 6	3 8	4 8
Sheep	4 8	5 6	6 2
Lambs	5 8	6 4	7 0
Calves	4 0	4 8	5 8
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £23.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 166; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 542; Devon, 10; Ireland, 32.

We note to-day precisely the same number of beasts as were offered for sale on Monday last, the majority of which, as usual at this season of the year, were consigned from the Midland counties. Trade opened and continued throughout the day of a slow nature. Nevertheless late values were fairly well maintained. The Irish consignment consisted entirely of Waterfords, to which also the foregoing remark applies. Fat butchering cows met with a limited demand from both town and country buyers, consequently a slight decline on last Monday's rates was inevitable. A clearance will not be made in this part of the market to-day.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s. d.	Monday, July 9, 1906. s. d.
Scotch	—	—
Devons	—	—
Herefords	4 6 to 4 8	4 4 to 4 6
Norfolks	4 6 ex 4 8	4 2 to 4 4
Runts	4 6 to 4 8	4 0 to 4 4
Lincolns	4 2 to 4 4	3 10 to 4 0
Irish	4 2 to 4 4	—
Canadian	—	—
Fat cows	3 8 ex 3 10	3 4 to 3 6

There was a decrease of 130 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last For all grades of both wethers and ewes a slow trade prevailed, with a decline in value for most of the former. Scotch sheep were in smaller numbers, and met with more inquiry, consequently sellers were able to both ask and obtain an advance of 2d. per 8 lb. on last week's currencies. Irish descriptions shared in the general decline. The lamb trade also ruled of a slow nature, nevertheless all sales were based on last Monday's prices. A clearance will not be made.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	Monday, July 9, 1906. s. d.
8 st. Scotch		
7½ to 8 st Downs	6 0 to 6 2	5 8 to 5 10
9 st. Downs	5 10 to 6 0	5 6 to 5 8
10 st Halfbreds	5 6 to 5 8	5 2 to 5 4
10 st Yorkshires	—	—
12 st Lincolns	—	—
10 st Irish	5 8 to 5 10	5 0 to 5 2
10 st Down Ewes	3 10 to 4 0	4 0 to 4 2
11 st Halfbred ditto	3 8 to 3 10	3 10 to 4 0
5 st Grass Lambs	6 10 to 7 0	6 10 to 7 0
6 st Halfbreds ditto	6 4 to 6 6	5 8 to 5 10

The calf trade with a small supply ruled of a slow nature, the best on offer being quoted at from 5s. 6d. per 8 lb. (offal given in). No pigs were offered for sale.

London (Central), Monday. — Slow but steady trade; offerings moderate. Beef, English, 3s 10d to 4s; Scotch, 4s to 4s 10d; American, 3s 8d to 4s; refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 5d to 3s 10d. Mutton, English wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d. Lambs, 5s to 6s; Scotch tags and wethers, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d. Veal, 3s 8d to 5s. Pork, 3s 6d to 3s 10d per stone.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 570. To-day's supply consisted of 450 beasts from the United States and 120 from Canada. Trade for which ruled of a firm and steady nature at late rates. The best States on offer were quoted at from 4s 4d to 4s 6d; seconds, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; Canadians, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; seconds, 4s to 4s 2d per 8 lb (offal given in). On Saturday 2,109 beasts from the United States were offered for sale and met with a fairly steady inquiry, late currencies governing all transactions. The best States on offer were quoted at 4s 4d to 4s 6d; seconds, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; Canadians, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; seconds, 4s to 4s 2d per 8 lb (offal given in).

SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—The continuance of the abnormal weather we are experiencing this summer is causing extreme firmness among holders of stocks held over. Tares without change. Rye scarce. Mustard firm. Rape practically exhausted. Peas continue in good demand. Grass seeds and clovers very firmly held. Sellers careless pending definite news of the new crops.—John Pickard and Co.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals of bacon last week were:—From Ireland, 1,827 bales; and from foreign ports, 15,623 bales. There was a good demand for bacon last week, and prices were advanced—Irish, some 2s to 3s; Danish, some 1s to 3s. Quotations ranged:—Irish, 61s to 63s up to 70s; Danish, 59s to 62s up to 65s; Canadian, 56s to 59s up to 61s. Butter was a quiet market. French, 94s to 102s; Danish, 108s to 110s; Russian, 74s to 96s; Irish, 86s to 103s; Victorian, 80s to 96s; New South Wales, 84s to 96s; Queensland, 80s to 92s; New Zealand, 94s to 100s. Lard.—Lard market was quiet. Irish, 46s to 58s; Danish, 47s to 50s; American, 43s to 45s.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—The market is quiet, in spite of the adverse conditions of the weather. The low temperature is now having a very prejudicial effect on the hop plant, its growth is checked, and the appearance very weak, especially in the Golding grounds on the rock and chalk in Mid and East Kent. The Fuggles on the clays in the Weald and Sussex are stronger. The aphis blight is giving some trouble in all districts, and at this period it is far more dangerous than May or June attacks. The imports of hops from September 1 to June 30, 1907, were 204,297 cwt.; for the previous corresponding period, 173,412 cwt. The exports of hops from September 1 to June 30, 1907, were 11,041 cwt.; for the previous corresponding period, 19,542 cwt. So the imports increase and the exports decrease; this is the result of our present so called free trade.—W. H. and H. Le May.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A little more business is passing, and prices tend to improve.

Cereal Years' Prices.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1905-6	28 9	24 2	18 5
1904-5	30 7	24 6	16 11
1903-4	27 2	21 11	16 4
1902-3	26 5	23 0	17 8
1901-2	28 4	26 0	20 4
1900-1	27 1	25 0	18 4
1899-1900	26 5	25 0	17 5
1898-9	26 1	26 1	17 4
1897-8	36 4	27 9	18 4
1896-7	28 8	23 2	16 9

Seven Years Grain Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat ..... 28s. 10d. per 480 lb.
Barley..... 25s. 4d. per 400 lb.
Oats..... 18s. 11d. per 312 lb.

Monthly Averages.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1906. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1907. Wheat	Barley	Oats
Jan.	28 6	24 9	18 5	26 1	24 2	17 4
Feb.	28 10	25 4	18 11	25 6	24 3	17 7
Mar.	28 5	24 8	18 11	26 9	23 11	18 0
April	29 1	24 2	19 1	26 9	23 8	18 10
May	30 2	24 0	20 0	28 5	24 0	19 10
June	30 4	23 4	20 2	31 6	24 6	20 9
July	30 4	23 1	20 4			
Aug.	29 6	23 7	17 9			
Sept.	26 1	24 5	16 2			
Oct.	26 5	25 0	16 7			
Nov.	26 5	24 5	17 1			
Dec.	26 2	24 1	17 3			

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

Notwithstanding a decrease in the number of beasts offered for sale on the first market day of the week, a slow trade was experienced, rates favouring the buyers to the extent of 2d. per 8lb. for most grades of both prime and second quality cattle. Irishdescriptions were slow of sale, but were slightly firmer in regard to value, the supplies from this country consisting entirely of Waterford cattle. The majority of the consignments consisted of grass fed beasts from the Midlands, the season for which is now fully established. Fat butchering cows ruled of a fairly steady nature, anything choice showing an upward tendency, whilst fat bulls were governed by late currencies. On Thursday, as usual, only fat cows and bulls were on offer, trade for which ruled of a steadyn ature at Monday's values.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, markets were held on Wednesday and Saturday only, trade ruled of a firm and steady nature with an upward tendency in value. The total number on offer at both markets was 3,552 as against 4,910 during the previous week, consisting of 790 British (decrease 100) and 2,762 foreign (decrease 1,258). The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 90 stone Norfolks, 4s. 6d. ex 4s. 8d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 95 stone Irish, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 90 stone States, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 95 stone Canadians, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.

The sheep trade at Islington on Monday, ruled of a slow and dragging nature for both wethers and ewes; however, no decline on late values was noticeable; on the other hand, Scotch descriptions were quoted 2d. per 8lb. lower. Irish sheep, the season for which has just commenced, though slow of sale, were steady in regard to prices. Lambs were in fair average supply, and met with a somewhat limited inquiry; nevertheless no decline in value can be quoted. On Thursday, for sheep, both wethers and ewes, Monday's prices governed all transactions, whilst the lamb trade was firmer with an advance of 2d. per 8 lb. in value. The total number on offer was 8,180, as against 9,182 during the preceding week. No sheep were offered for sale at Deptford. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (offal given in):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 6s. 2d. to 6s. 4d.; 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 10d. to 6s. 2d; 9 stone Downs, 6s. to 6s. 2d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 10 stone Halfbreds, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone ewes, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 5 stone at grass lambs, 6s. 10d. to 7s.; 6 stone Halfbred ditto, 6s. 6d. to 6s. 8d.

Calves numbered 70 head, and met with a slow trade, the best on offer being quoted at from 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d. per 8lb. (offal given in).

Trade in the West.

Store stock generally continues to command a good price, and with by no means excessive supplies glutting the market, as at some seasons, there is no immediate prospect of prices suffering any serious check—at least, as far as we can judge at present—this being almost a dead certainty as regards both milch beasts and barreners, the two chief classes of stock on which the attention of the public is generally centred. Dairy cows are only coming to hand in just sufficient quantity to cover the demand, and, with good class heifers anything but plentiful, there is every likelihood of buyers of this particular class of milchers having still for some time to pay the full rates now ruling—£17 10s. to £21 or £22 for young deep-milking heifers with calves at their side, whilst reliable cows with calves are making from £14 to £18, and occasionally even more. Of course there are cows to be bought for less, even as low as £11 or £12; but then this only applies to the very oldest and poorest class. Grazing cattle, as might be expected with keep everywhere so abundant, also keep very buoyant in price, especially young bullocks, and from what we have been able to glean from the most recent transactions, it seems that, where sold singly, graziers often make a better price than where sold in pairs; but this is by no means a general experience. The more serviceable grades of barreners—young animals in a forward condition—are making from about £23 or £24 up to £29 per pair, whilst in several cases where graziers have disposed of single bullocks they have made as much as £15 and even £16 apiece. There still continues to be an equally good inquiry for the younger class of stores both stirks and yearlings—for which full currencies are obtainable, and whilst pastures afford such abundant keep as is now the case, there is absolutely no reason to anticipate any decline in value.

The sheep trade just now is of all-absorbing interest, and the generally-recognised shortage that exists affords good ground for the belief that values, if they do not reach the standard some think they may do, will be well maintained, and that the prospect of any very great bargains in the coming sales is very remote indeed. This was amply demonstrated at Blandford on Thursday, when the first of the great Dorset sheep fairs followed on Saturday by a still larger one at Dorchester, was held, when in spite of continued unfavourable weather, keen competition ruled for the sheep, consisting of over 10,000 head, principally Hampshire Downs, with a sprinkling of the growingly-popular Dorset Downs, and a good trade was done, the best registered Hampshire ewes making 50s. to 58s. each, and seconds 43s. to 48s. 6d.; unregistered ewes, 45s. to 49s.; registered Dorset Down ewes, 44s. to 50s.; Hampshire Down wether lambs, 35s. to 41s.; mixed lambs, 33s. to 36s.; fat wether lambs, 45s. to 50s. 6d.; Southdown ewes, 40s. to 44s.; Southdown rams, 2 guineas to 4 guineas. Altogether business came up to best anticipations as a rule.

The fat stock markets continue to be fairly well supplied all round, though the deliveries are by no means excessive, or very rarely so. And, speaking generally, the quality and condition of present supplies, both of beef and mutton, as well as a good proportion of the lamb, leaves little better to be desired. Of course, there are the plainer qualities, but the demand for these is restricted to a very limited circle of purveyors. Good quality heifer and steer beef commands a high price—11s. 6d to 12s. per score (or from £17 to £26 apiece for nice Devons and Norfolks) realised at Wimborne on Tuesday; but fat cows only attract certain buyers for the poorer districts, for which they are paying quite 1s. to 2s. per score less than the better finished beasts; and there is a sufficiency of buyers to clear existing stocks. Mutton is rather easier for the ordinary runs, but choice wethers and tegs still make up to 8½d. and over out of their wool. Ewes of medium weight may be quoted up to 8d., but coarse old qualities are only making 7d. to 7½d. Calves meet a steady sale at unchanged rates—8½d. to 9d. Lambs, for the choicest grades, sell from 10½d. to 11½d. (or up to 63s. each). Pigs rule steady at practically unchanged values.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer has been rather larger, and while a considerable proportion were of good quality, some were too early sent to market. The best descriptions met an active trade at prices quite equal to the high quotations of the previous week, but some of the secondary cattle made the turn less money. Sheep have been shown in average numbers. Anything of a good class commanded previous rates. Ewes rather dearer, except for the very heavy weighted lots. An exceedingly large supply of lambs, the best class of which met a good trade, but secondary were about 2s. a head less. Calves a good show, and slightly dearer. Pigs also shown in larger numbers, and they met a better trade. Very few store sheep on offer, and of a very indifferent class all over, and these met a quiet trade. For the time of year there was a full average supply of cattle. Anything of good quality got fairly well sold without change in prices, but a considerable number of the secondary descriptions and stirks could not be cashed. Milch cows, except for the very best class, met a dull market at less money. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 43s. 9d.; current, 39s. 6d. to 41s.; mutton, 9½d. to 11d. per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Ltd.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday. — To day's supply of beasts consisted entirely of fat butchering cows and bulls, trade for which ruled fairly steady, all sales being governed by last Monday's values. Top prices paid per 8 lb: Fat cows, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; fat bulls, 2s 9d to 3s 3d. De rease of 270 in number penned in sheep market. Sheep trade ruled rather slow, but last Monday's prices governed all transactions. Lambs met rather more inquiry and made 2d per 8 lb more money. Best pens made per 8 lb as follows: 7½ stone to 8 stone Down sheep 6s 2d to 6s 4d; 9 stone ditto, 6s to 6s 2d; 10 stone half-breds, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10 stone Down ewes, 3s 10d to 4s; 5 stone fat grass lambs, 7s to 7s 2d; 6 stone half bred ditto, 6s 8d to 6s 10d. Calf trade slow, but steady at late rates. Quotations per 8 lb, sinking the offal: Beasts, 2s 9d to 3s 10d; sheep, 3s 10d to 6s 4d; calves, 4s to 5s 8d; lambs, 5s 10d to 7s 2d.

Central Market, Friday.—Fair supplies and trade slow but firm for best beef:—English beef, 3s 10d to 4s; Scotch sides, 4s to 4s 2d; shorts, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 8d to 4s; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; ditto seconds, 3s 5d to 3s 7d; ditto forequarters, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; inferior beef, 2s 2d to 3s; mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; ditto tegs, 5s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ditto ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; Dutch sheep, 4s 8d to 5s; English lamb, 5s to 6s; German lamb, 5s to 5s 4d; veal, 3s 8d to 5s; English pork, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; Dutch ditto, 3s 6d to 3s 10d per 8 lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef trade dull at a reduction of 2d per stone, best not exceeding 4s 8d. Mutton, too, was 2d cheaper. Down wethers making 6s to 6s 4d; small Kents, 5s 6d to 6s; and barrens, 4s to 4s 4d. Lambs made 7s to 8s; veal, 5s to 5s 4d. Pork cheap, best not exceeding 3s 8d.

Bath, Wednesday.—There was a fair supply and a good attendance, and prices ruled as follows:—Fat steers, £19 to £21 10s; heifers and calves, £12 to £17 15s; fat wethers, 57s 6d to 67s 6d; fat lambs, 40s to 42s; calves, 22s to 120s.

Berwick, Saturday.—Attendance of farmers and buyers small, and trade dull. Calves, £5 15s to £6 10s; heifers, £7 to £10 10s; stirks, £7 10s to £10 15s; two-year-olds, £12 to £13 10s; three-year-olds, £13 to £15; Shorthorn bulls, £9 to £11 10s.

Birmingham, Thursday. — Fair supply of beasts and sheep; small supply of pigs; trade slow for beasts and sheep, and fair for pigs. Quotations: Beef, 5½d to 7d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 9½d to 10d per lb; bacon pigs, 10s per score; cutting pigs, 10s per score; sows, 7s 8d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Beef was plentiful, but demand not brisk, and prices of secondary qualities fell to 57s per cwt. Good average business was done in mutton and lamb, which were offered in moderate quantity. Quotations: Ewes, 6d to 6½d per lb; lambs, 9d to 10d per lb. Pigs, were again scarce, and values unaltered.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices of pigs:—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 1s. per pig extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. 10 lb to 8 sc. 10 lbs, 9s 6d per score, 8 sc. 11 lb to 9 sc, 9s 6d per score; 9 sc. 1 lb to 9 sc. 10 lb, 9s 3d; 9 sc. 11 lb to 10 sc. 10 lb, 8s 9d. Pigs outside these limits at their value.—C. and T. Harris and Co., Ltd.

Canterbury, Saturday.—One lot of 100 tegs ranged from 36s 6d to 42s 6d, and another lot of 80 wether tegs, strong in condition, ranged from 40s to 46s 6d. Some broken-mouthed ewes, with lambs, sold as low as 29s 6d. Sussex steers were making from 10 guineas up to £15 5s.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small attendance of buyers, and a slow trade Cattle for wintering, £7 10s to £10 10s; ditto for feeding, £12 10s to £15 10s each.

Chester, Thursday. — Sharper inquiry all round, and a quick trade for best store and dairy cattle. Business slackened later, but on the whole trade showed some improvement on last week. A quiet inquiry for sheep. Quotations:—Milch cows, £17 to £22; calvers, £15 to £19; barrens, £10 to £14; heifers, £9 to £15; stirks, £5 to £9.

Chichester, Wednesday.—A good attendance of buyers, and trade for fat sheep was brisk at fully late rates. There was an exceedingly good supply, and prices were 2s to 3s per head lower. Fat cattle experienced a firm sale without change in values. The best dairy stock was in good demand, but secondary quality cows and heifers met a slow, dragging sale. There was a considerable falling off in the supply of store cattle, and the demand was limited. Quotations:—Prime Down lambs, 7s 6d to 8s 6d; prime Devon steers, 4s 8d

to 5s; Shorthorn steers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; prime Southdown mutton, 6s 6d to 6s 10d; West country ditto, 6s to 6s 6d; fat ewes, 4s 6d to 5s; veal, 5s to 5s 6d; fat porkers, 3s to 4s per stone; store pigs, 15s to 24s per head.

Colchester, Friday.—Beef made from 4s 6d to 5s—the first-named price being paid for an early consignment of grass-fed beef. Mutton sold at 6d per stone of 8 lb.

Derby, Tuesday.—A busy market. Prices again higher for best quality beasts and sheep, Beests 6d to 7d, calves 8d, sheep 7½d to 9d, lambs, 10d.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Large upply of cattle but buyers scarce and little doing. Milch beasts made £17 to £22; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers and drapes, £10 to £15; stirks, £9 to £10; and young stores, £6 to £9 each. Good supply of sheep, but trade dull, and no change in prices; hoggs made 46s to 59s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Supplies at the cattle market proper were considerably affected to-day by the fair, but the attendance was a good average one. Business ruled steady both at Messrs. Dukes' sale and also at Messrs. Symonds and Sampson's, and a good clearance was readily effected. Milch beasts continued to attract as much attention as ever, the best making £16 10s to £20 each, and others £11 to £15 10s, whilst gracing bullocks sold from £20 to £27 per pair for the more forward lots, and from £16 to £19 for others. Fat beasts met a firm trade at extreme values, some of the neater weights being worth a trifle more; choice steers realised £19 to £23 each, and heifers £17 to £22 (or 11s 6d to 12s per score); fat cows, £13 10s to £16 10s (or 10s to 10s 6d); and bulls, £10 to £14. Mutton trade firm, except in the case of ewes, which rather favoured buyers. Best qualities, 8d to 8½d; seconds, 7d to 7½d. Lamb made unchanged rates, 10d to 11d per lb.

Dublin, Thursday.—There was a much slower trade for beef, and prices for all qualities were on a lower level. Choice bullocks suffered least, but any cattle short of finish had to be sold at a substantial reduction in order to effect business. Best aged wethers and choice mountain sheep in fair request, though at easier prices. Ewes and shipping qualities favouring buyers. Lambs lower all round, especially heavy grades. Cattle—Live weight (best), 32s 6d to 34s 6d per cwt. Extra for choice Angus crosses up to 36s 6d per cwt. Secondary and inferior sorts, 29s to 31s 6d per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 6½d to 8¼d per lb.; extreme, 3½d per lb.—Ganly, Sons nd Co.

Exeter Friday.—Large supply of fat beasts; maiden heifers and steers, 11s 6d; cows, 10s, many unsold. Larger supply of fat sheep, dull trade; small hoggs, 9d; larger size, 8½d; young sheep sold out; fat ewes 6d, some unsold; fat lambs, 10d to 11d. No keeping sheep in the market and none wanted. Calves, 6d to 7d.

Gloucester.—Messrs. Bruton, Knowles, and Co. report their sales as follows:—Cows and calves, good supply, good trade. Store cattle, short supply, with very little inquiry.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A large supply of fat cattle, but not so many buyers, and prices not quite so firm. Best bullock and heifer beef ranged from 6d to 6½d, a few very prime reaching 6¾d, fat cows made 5d to 6d, fat bulls 4½d to 5d. Store cattle were few, and met with little inquiry. Store calves were fewer. Veal was slightly easier at 7d to 7½d per lb, exceptionally choice 8d. There were more sheep about, and prices were lower at 8d to 8½d per lb for wethers, and 3½d to 6½ for ewes. Fat lambs sold well at late rates, about 8½d to 9d. Porks, a small supply, were in good demand at 5½d to 6d.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report the supply of fat cattle was not quite as heavy, and consisted entirely of yard fed animals. A brisk trade was maintained up to 8s 6d per stone for well finished medium weights. South Coast and Midland counties buyers continue to purchase heavily. Grazing cattle were well represented, but met a slow trade at lower rates. Dairy stock were in fair demand, fresh-calved cows making up to £19 10s. Fat lambs sold freely to 51s, and fat sheep were well competed for, recent values being well maintained. Suffolk Shearlings, 64s to 58s. At the special sale of lambs, 1,600 Suffolks, Southdowns, and half-breds were penned. There was a large attendance of buyers, and a brisk trade at a substantial advance on the prices realised at the corresponding sale last year. Suffolk ewe lambs to 51s 6d, wethers to 38s 6d, half-bred ewe lambs to 39s 6d, wethers to 37s 6d, Southdown wether lambs to 31s 6d, ewes to 30s 6d. Fat and store swine changed hands freely, and recent values being well maintained,

Leicester, Saturday.—Large consignments of home-bred cattle, and buyers were well represented. The stock came to hand in excellent condition, but trade ruled irregular and many lots were left unsold. Choice milch cows, £20 to £22; good lots, £17 to £18; secondary, £14 to £16; three-polled Angus bullocks, £22; Shorthorn bullocks, £14 to £16 10s; Irish &ullocks, £14 to £17 15s; Welsh cattle, £9 to £13 10s; heifers, £8 £12 10s; calves, 20s to 40s each.

Lincoln, Friday. — A small show of horned stock, and a slow demand. Young beasts made £8 to £11; strong ditto, £12 to £13; and milch cows, £17 to £21 each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Rather large supply of store cattle; trade slow; £7 to £14 each. Fat beasts a fair trade, at 7s 6d to 8s per stone. Small supply of store sheep; trade about the same as of late, 36s to 45s; fat sheep slow trade, 9s to 10s per stone. A few store lambs were offered, and met a fair trade at 30s to 36s each.

Manchester, Friday. — Beef: Firsts, 6d; seconds, 5d to 5½d; thirds, 4d to 4½d. Mutton: Firsts, 8½d; seconds, 7½d to 8d; thirds, 6½d to 7d. Veal: Firsts, 7d; seconds, 6d to 6½d; thirds, 5d to 5½d. Lamb: Firsts, 8½d; seconds, 8d to 8½d.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—So far as medium weights, heifers, and steers were concerned, prices showed a drop of 3d per stone on the week. Medium weight animals made from 8s 6d to 8s 9d per stone, sinking the offal; strong heavy heifers, 8s 3d to 8s 6d; strong heavy steers, 8s 3d to 8s 6d; second-class steers, 8s to 8s 3d; and coarse and inferior, 6s 9d to 7s. Trade for sheep was quiet, and prices in favour of buyers. Choice young sheep, 9d to 9½d per lb; strong heavy sheep, 8½d to 9d; ewes, 6d to 6½d; rams, 5d to 5½d. Calves were in limited supply, 126 being offered, against 169. Veal was quoted at 5d to 7½d per lb.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was a smaller supply of fat cattle; the quality generally was fair and trade good, prices ranging from 0s to 8s. per stone. Veal made 9s per ftene. A good show of sheep met a slightly better trade, the best making up to 9½d, and others 8¼d to 7d per lb. Trade for pigs was a little better, porkers making 6s 6d; baconers, 6s to 6s 3d; and sows, 5s per stone. The best of the store cattle sold readily at from £15 to £16, but younger cattle met a bad trade at from £6 to £10. Rearing calves were cheaper, prices ranging from 18s to 48s. 4,480 sheep of good sheep were shown. The best ewes made from 52s to 63s; others, 42s to 48s; lambs, 28s to 42s. Pigs were of fair quality, and a clearance was effected at prices ranging from 12s to 27s

Nottingham, Saturday.—Smaller supply of stock, and trade was slower. Best milch cows, £16 to £19; heifers, £13 to £17; and calves, 25s to 40s.

Preston, Wednesday.—There were large supplies in all departments, and prices had a lower tendency. Quotations: — Scotch heifers, 7¼d; Irish heifers, 7d; choice young cows and bulls, 6¼d to 6½d; secondary ditto, 5d to 5¾d; hoggs, 9½d; prime ewes, 8d; heavy tups and ewes, 6½d to 7¼d; lambs, 10d; calves, 7¼d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—The actual sales were few, but the full rates of the previous Saturdry were maintained. Milch cows, £16 to £20; steers and heifers, £10 to £12; yearlings, £6 to £8; calves, 35s to 45s each.

Romford, Wednesd y.—Short supply of fat beasts; trade about the same. Best animals, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; middlings, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. Calves in average supply; trade a little slower at 5s 4d to 5s 6d per stone. Sheep in average supply; trade about the same. Best small sheep, 5s 8d to 6s; large sheep, 5s 4d to 5s 6d per stone. Ewes in large supply; trade slow, at 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. Lambs in average supply; trade slow at 6s 4d to 6s 8d per stone. A few store beasts on offer. Fair demand. Good supply of milch cows. Slow trade. Small supply of pigs; trade slow; small porkers, 3s 8d to 4s; large hogs, 2s 8d to 3s per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—A very small show of milch beasts, which changed hands at £18 to £20; young stock, £14 to £16.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Quotations:—Beef, 6¼d to 6¾d per lb; mutton (wether), 9d per lb; ewes, 7½d to 8d per lb; lamb, 9½d to 10½ per lb; veal, 7½d to 8d per lb; porket pigs, 9s 9d to 10s per score; bacons, 9s to 9s 3d per score.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Cattle trade was very slow, best qualities making 8s 6d to 8s 9d per stone, and rougher kinds 6s 6d to 7s 6d. Lambs sold at 10d to 11d per lb; young sheep, 9d; ewes, 7d; and tups, 6d. The pig trade was quiet, and prices showed a reduction of 3d per stone all round.

Thame, Tuesday.—It is quite evident this market is becoming one of the most important distributing centres of this wide agricultural district. Buyers were again in full attendance, many coming from long distances, no doubt on account of the wonderful choice selection of cattle and sheep which regularly come to this market. Beef was a brisk trade throughout, choice bullocks making up to 4s 6d per stone, and fat cows, of which there was a limited supply, met a slightly firmer trade. The sheep pens were again well filled, there being a large number of neat white-faced choice quality sheep penned, late rates were difficult to maintain, but Messrs. Bond and Burrows had a clearing trade, every lot being disposed of. This firm's sale comprised 75 fat beasts, 289 fat sheep, 83 fat and store pigs, and 51 fat and weaning calves. Fat oxen made from £18 to £22; fat heifers, £16 to £20 12s 6d; fat wethers, 50s to 61s; fat lambs, 36s to 48s; fat ewes, 42s to 59s 6d; fat calves, £3 10s to £4 10s; weaning cow calves, 28s to 55s; bull calves, 10s to 48s; bacon hogs, £3 10s to £4 10s; porkers, 28s to 32s; store pigs, 20s to 31s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance very good, business fairly brisk. Fat bullocks, 56s to 60s per cwt; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s per cwt; cows and calves, £10 to £14; rearing calves, 16s to 40s each; wethers, 7½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d; lambs, 8d to 9d; pigs, 10s 6d to 40s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8½d; lamb, 9d to 10d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8½d; pork carcases, 5d to 5½d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Slow trade all round; moderate supply. Beef, 5½d to 7½d per lb; mutton, 7d to 9d per lb; lamb, 9½d to 10d per lb; veal, 7d to 8½d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Moderate show of stock, with trade good, and very little variation in prices from last week. Best beef, 7s 6d to 8s; secondary qualities 7s to 7s 6d per stone; best Southdown wether and crossbreds 9d to 9½.; ewes, 6½d to 7½d.; veal to 9d.; lamb, 11d to 1s per lb.

Yeovil, Friday.—Fairly good entry which sold readily. Heifers and calves of good quality, £18 10s to £19 7s 6d; secondary, £12 10s to £17 10s; cows and calves, £11 10s to £18 10s; best quality barreners, £12 10s to £14 5s; secondary, £9 to £12; yearling heifers, £6 5s to £8; horn ewes, 43s to 47s 6d; horn wethers, 50s to 55s; horn lambs, 28s to 36s; Down ewes, 39s to 48s; Down wethers, 48s to 54s; Down lambs, 32s 6d to 35s; cross-bred lambs, 33s to 39s.

York, Thursday.—Very little business was done, and trade generally was very bad. What few sales were effected were at about late rates. Calving and milch cows were an average show, and trade for these was fairly good, but below the last market, which was exceptionally good. Some of the best cows made up to £21, the general run being from £15 to £18 10s. The supply of sheep was rather above the average, and a good trade resulted in nearly all the lots being sold. Best twice-crossed sheep made up to 50s, secondary sorts 45s, best Mashams up to 50s, secondary ditto 46s, other sorts about 40s each.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda values are firm, but the trade is quiet, and this likewise applies to all fertilisers. Feeding stuffs are less firmly held in some instances, with an extremely small consumptive demand passing, as is customary at this date.

	Per ton. £ s d	£ s d
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (fair to good)	7 10 0	7 15 0
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime (soft)	7 10 0	7 15 0
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime	4 15 0	5 0 0
Cottonseed Cake, Bombay	4 5 0	4 10 0
Linseed Cake, American, thin oblong	7 7 6	7 10 0
,, ,, English, prime	7 15 0	8 0 0
,, ,, River Plate	7 10 0	7 12 6
Palm Nut Cake	5 18 9	6 0 0
Maize Germ Meal	6 2 6	6 5 0
	Per qr., 416 lb.	
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2 10 0	2 12 0
	Per Gallon.	
Cod-liver Oil, cattle feeding	0 4 0	—
Treacle, feeding, good to prime	Per Cwt. 0 4 6	0 4 9
	Per ton.	
Nitrate of Soda	11 0 0	—
Kainit, prime	2 7 6	—
Bone Meal, prime	5 10 0	—
Bone Ash, fine and powdery	3 15 0	—
Basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed	Nominal.	
,, ,, finest ,, ,,		
D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime*	2 5 0	2 7 0
,, ,, guaranteed*	2 10 0	2 12 0
,, ,, ,, *	3 1 3	3 3 3

* At depot inland.

—H. Jones Langar and Co.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cake: The actual consumptive demand is exceptionally small, even for the time of year, but there is more disposition on the part of country dealers to go into stocks for autumn trade, and values in forward positions are fully as dear. Russian in warehouse sell quietly. East India seed pures are quoted unchanged. Fine seedy Calcuttas command full prices. London made attract rather more atten-

tion, being relatively cheaply offered. Cotton Cakes.—Egyptian are getting into a small compass, and with practically nothing available to come along, holders ask full prices, while English remain steady. Decorticated: London made pures meet a free sale, but American not much inquiry. Rape Cakes quiet. Maize Germ Meal.—White American does not offer at the moment, and London manufacturers demand comparatively high rates. Maize gluten meal is in continued good request for export. Rice Meal.—Parcels of Rangoon in warehouse move off slowly with second-hand sellers of steamer lots afloat at late rates. Locust beans are fully as strong. Dried brewers' grains remain quiet but firm. Nitrate of soda is without change.

	Per ton. £ s. d.		£ s. d.
Linseed Cakes.			
Russian, in mats (ex dock) ...	7 0 0	to	7 2 6
,, in bags	7 7 6	to	7 10 0
East India	7 3 9	to	7 5 0
Calcutta	7 7 0	to	7 10 0
English (ex mill)	7 5 0	to	7 7 6
Cottonseed Cakes.			
Egyptian	4 15 0	to	4 17 6
English (ex mill)	4 15 0	to	4 16 3
Bombay	4 1 3		
Decorticated, London made	7 2 6	to	7 5 0
,, American.....	6 15 0		
,, Meal, American	6 12 6	to	7 0 0
Digestive Meal	5 0 0		
Rape Cakes.			
East India seed.....	5 0 0		
Maize.			
English	5 15 0	to	5 17 6
Maize Gluten Meal	5 15 0		
Ricemeal.			
Rangoon .....ex whf.	4 13 9	to	4 15 0
,, ...ex ship	4 10 0	to	4 11 3
Locust Beans.			
Whole	5 5 0		
Kibbled	5 10 0		

—Pinnock Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday. — Good supply and good demand. Goslings, 4s 6d to 5s; country ducks, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Aylesbury ducks, 2s 6d to 3s 3d; Surrey and Sussex fowls, 3s 6d to 4s 9d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s 3d to 3s; Essex fowls, 2s to 3s; Irish fowls, 1s 9d to 2s 6d; ptarmigan, 8d; quails, 8d to 1s; feathered pigeons, 8d to 10d; Bordeaux pigeons, 1s to 1s 2d; tame rabbits, 1s to 1s 4d; wild rabbits, 6d to 8d; live hens, 1s 6d to 2s each; Australian rabbits, 6s to 7s 6d per doz.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—An average supply of fruit and vegetables at market, business being fairly brisk. Quotations for English produce:—Peaches, 2s to 12s per dozen; grapes, 9d to 3s; strawberries (Southampton), 9d to 1s 6d per basket; ditto (Kent), 1s 6d to 2s 6d per peck; nectarines, 1s 6d to 12s; green figs, 3s to 6s per dozen; gooseberries, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; cherries, 3s to 7s 6d; black currants, 4s to 5s 6d; red ditto, 5s to 6s per half-sieve; pine-apples, 2s to 4s each; tomatoes, 5s to 6s; broadbeans, 2s 6d to 3s per bushel; spinach, 1s; beetroots, 1s 6d to 2s per bushel; cabbage, 3s 6d to 4s 6d per tally; spring onions, 1s to 1s 6d per dozen bunches; green peas, 3s 6d to 5s per bag; ditto, 2s 6d to 3s 6d per bushel; green beans, 6d to 8d per lb; carrots, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; turnips, 2s to 3s; leeks, 1s 6d to 2s; mint, 1s to 1s 3d; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen bunches; endive, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per dozen; cos lettuce, 6d to 9d per score; vegetable marrows, 3s to 6s per dozen; mushrooms, 6s to 10s per 12 lb; horseradish, 10s to 14s per dozen bundles; greens, 1s to 1s 3d per bag; potatoes, 6s to 8s 6d per cwt.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £15 to £15 5s; half-bred hoggs, £13 10s to £14; ditto wethers, £13 to £13 15s; Kent fleeces, £12 5s to £13 5s; South Down ewes and wethers, £14 to £14 10s; Leicester ewes and wethers, £12 10s to £13. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., scoured super., 2s 2d to 2s 3d; scoured, good, 1s 11½d to 2s 1d; scoured, average, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 9½d to 1s 10½d; greasy, average, 1s to 1s 1d; S. Aus., greasy, average, 10d to 11d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; greasy, average, 11d to 11½d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9½d to 1s 10½d; fleece, average, 9½d to 10½d; greasy, average, 8½d to 9½d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5½d to 1s 6½d; greasy average, 8½d to 9d. Crossbreds—grs.—Vic., good to super., 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d; New Zealand fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; coarse, 10½d to 11½d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Prices offered for Kent wool continue very disappointing; only the best lots are making 11d, while 7d is all that is offered for lamb wool. Half-breds are quoted at 11d, and Downs at from 12½d to 13d per lb.

Halifax, Saturday.—Home-grown wools show a slightly improving position where there is any change, and there is a fairly good business in the Irish clip. As yet values of new wool have hardly settled down to a firm level, but the tone is good, and wool seems likely to be well held.

CHEESE.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—A good attendance of buyers, and all cleared. Best Caerphilly dairies realised up to 46s 6d per cwt.; secondary dairies, 44s to 46s; and other dairies 40s to 43s. A few inferior lots failed to reach 36s. Cheddars:—Prime old, from 67s to 71s; new ditto, 57s to 61s; truckles, old and ripe, from 68s to 70s; new ditto, 56s 6d to 59s; doubles, 55s to 58s 6d.

Newport, Wednesday.—Eight tons pitched, a good demand, and an average attendance. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 38s to 44s per cwt; fancy dairies, 45s to 47s; Derbies, 56s to 63s; truckles, 58s to 63s; doubles, 60s to 62s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The liberal supplies and the continued slow demand are causing stocks of cheese to accumulate. Buyers are tempted to hold off, as Canadians are coming cheaper. Current quotations, 54s to 59s per cwt.

Average Monthly Cash Prices of Town Households Flour.

	1907	1906.	1905.	1904.	1903.	1902.	1901.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan. ...	22 0	25 0	26 3	24 9	24 0	21 9	24 6
Feb. ...	22 0	24 9	26 9	25 6	24 3	22 0	24 0
March	21 9	24 3	26 6	25 9	23 9	21 9	23 9
April ...	22 3	24 6	26 0	25 3	23 9	23 0	24 0
May ...	25 0	24 0	25 9	24 9	24 0	23 6	23 6
June ...	25 6	23 9	25 6	24 3	24 3	23 0	23 0
July ...		23 6	25 0	25 0	24 3	23 0	22 3
August		23 0	25 0	26 6	24 9	22 9	22 3
Sept. ...		22 9	24 6	27 0	25 0	23 3	22 0
Oct. ...		22 6	25 0	27 0	24 9	22 9	21 6
Nov. ...		22 0	25 0	26 9	24 3	22 9	21 6
Dec. ...		21 9	25 0	26 9	24 3	23 3	21 9
Yrly. Avrg.		23 5	25 6	25 9	24 3	22 8	22 10

English Wheat, Barley & Oats in 1906.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley s. d.	Oats. s. d.
Highest of Year.....	30 4	25 4	20 4
Lowest of Year	26 1	23 1	16 2
Gradient	4 3	2 3	4 2
Mean of Year	28 4	24 3	18 7

A report issued by the Hungarian Minister of Agriculture, on July 1, shows a satisfactory yield of cereals, due to favourable weather. Reports have been received from only a few districts of damage to late winter crops by heat. Maize and potatoes are satisfactory, as is also sugar beet to a certain extent.

Mr. Henry Smith, jun., Cropwell Butler, Nottingham, purchased at the Royal Show from Mr. Leopold C. Paget, Harewood, Leeds, the Middle White boar, Wharfedale Vulcan, own brother to the reserve number young boar at Lincoln

A severe thunderstorm passed over South Lincolnshire on Tuesday afternoon, and lasted nearly two hours. A bullock belonging to Mr. Frank Cooke, of Torn End Manor, was killed by lightning at Spalding, while it was standing beneath a tree, which was stripped of its bark by lightning. Great hailstones fell in some parts of the fens, and damage was done to the crops. Rain fell in torrents at Spalding, and heavy storms prevailed in South Lincolnshire.

The Secretary to the Board of Agriculture, in reply to a resolution passed by the Nidderdale Agricultural Society respecting compensation under the Swine Fever Regulations, says: "I am to state for the information of the members that the power of the Board to pay compensation for swine slaughtered by their directions in connection with outbreaks or suspected outbreaks of swine fever is limited by statute. Section 16 of the Diseases of Animals Act, 1894, empowers the Board to pay as compensation only one half the value of an animal where it was infected with swine fever, but in other cases the compensation paid is the value of the animal immediately before it was slaughtered.

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1906.

			s.	d.
September	1	(per sack)	29	0
October	8	,,	28	0
May	13	,,	29	0
,,	24	,,	31	0
,,	31	,,	30	0
June	5	,,	31	0

(No change since last date given).

RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

On THURSDAY, JULY 18, 1907.

IMPORTANT SALE OF PURE-BRED SHORTHORN CATTLE, the property of J. Tetley Nickels, Esq., at THE DAY HOUSE, SHREWSBURY.

Two miles from Shrewsbury Station where conveyances meet the morning trains.

ALFRED MANSELL & CO. will SELL by AUCTION, as above,

60 HEAD of PURE-BRED SHORTHORN CATTLE, of fashionable breeding, consisting of a grand lot of Cows, beautiful Heifers, and 21 Bulls.

Sale after 12 o'clock Luncheon.

Catalogues from ALFRED MANSELL & CO., Auctioneers, College Hill, Shrewsbury.

Commissions faithfully executed.

THE SOUTH BRENT (12TH ANNUAL) SHOW, SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, 1907. For Dartmoor Ponies, Polo Pony Ball Race and Bending, Hunter Classes, Riding, Driving, Jumping, Butter, Cream, Honey, Cottagers' Vegetables and Children's Flowers.

Prizes to be given by the President (Miss Carew, of Marley), H. F. W. Prince, Esq., G. B. Collier Esq., and the Polo and Riding Pony Society. Entry Forms and schedules until July 20 from Secretary.—Mr. Wyndham Hull, South Brent.

DAIRY FARMERS.—Advertiser is open to pay cash for Railway Churns in good condition.—Holland, 307, Gray's Inn Road, London.

PEA BAGS.

WRITE FOR PRICES DIRECT TO SACK FACTORY.

LARGEST SECOND-HAND MERCHANTS IN THE WEST.

Telephone 1546. Telegrams: "Acorn, Bristol."

A. T. JAMES & CO.,

Clark Street, St Paul's, BRISTOL.

A SPICE THAT WILL SAVE YOUR DAMAGED HAY.

What in many parts of the country promised to be a record yield, has been endangered as to quality, if not also quantity, by the recent excessive rainfall.

That considerable damage has been done in many districts is already known by the orders which for several days past have been reaching the makers of "PHŒNIX" HAY SPICE, these being accompanied in most instances by an urgent appeal for quick despatch.

This Spice supplies the valuable aromatic flavouring principle of "prime" Hay, and when sown in the ricks imparts a much stronger fragrance, and a specially powerful, attractive, aromatic flavour. Besides this, it increases the value of all Hay, both for feeding and sale, quite 20s. per ton. It gives a pleasant aroma, and is unequalled as a condiment for damaged or inferior feeding stuff. It makes damaged Hay tempting and palatable, more digestible, and makes all animals eat it with a greater relish, and thrive faster on it. It also removes mustiness and all defects, and imparts a good tempting flavour and fragrant smell to "weathered" Hay (even when black and seemingly worthless), and makes cattle eat it as well as the best, and thrive on it admirably.

It is a really efficient Hay Spice, in which all waste is prevented, as it gives to the most inferior, coarse, or damaged Hay a fragrant, tempting smell, and an excellent and appetising taste. One cwt. will dress 20 tons of Hay at a cost of about 1s. per ton.

The "PHŒNIX" HAY SPICE is packed in bags of 112 lbs. each; the price being 20s. per cwt., carriage paid to buyer's station.

Sole Manufacturers:

THE PHŒNIX OIL MILL,

Branch of the British Oil and Cake Mills, Ltd.,

3, RUMFORD STREET, LIVERPOOL.

Printed and Published by the Proprietors, at the Offices, 8, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.—July 8, 1907.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

Wheat in Surrey was coming nicely into bloom on the 11th inst., and the two sorts, white and red, were coming into bloom coincidently. A field sown with Durum or Hard Manitoba wheat was not yet in bloom. The weather up to the 10th inst. was exceedingly unpropitious, and in the northern departments of France, where the wheat is in full bloom, thunderstorms on that and the three previous days are stated to have been of the gravest possible consequence. This may well have been so. In England the wheat is blooming under much more genial conditions, and the temperature is at last at a reasonable level for the time of year.

The American crop reports do not indicate very clearly what the yields are likely to turn out, but oats appear to have retrograded in promise, and the wheat is certainly much inferior to the yield of 1906. The fine promise of the growing maize on an increased area may give the United States a record crop of that cereal in October and November next, but August and September are the critical months for maize, and it is too early as yet to form any conclusions of value. The best judges of the wheat crop appear to put at 171,000,000 bushels less than the good yield of last season; that is to say at 565,000,000 bushels. This is not a grave deficiency. In 1904 the yield was 552,500,000 bushels.

The barley crop is put at 160,000,000 bushels, a quantity which is not likely to leave much for export. Rye is put at 320,000,000 bushels, and will also be too small a yield to allow of material exportation. The American hay crop, though smaller than last year, is still put at an enormous total; fifty million tons.

The wheat gradient last week was not at all a steep one, nearly all the markets averaging within a florin of one another:—

Mark Lane	32s. 10d.	per qr.
Norwich	30s. 8d.	,,
Range	2s. 2d.	,,

Barley is cheap in Yorkshire, but fetches a fair price in the Thames Valley:—

Reading	25s. 10d.	per qr.
Doncaster	22s. 4d.	,,
Range	3s. 6d.	per qr.

Oats are fetching fairly good prices at all markets:—

Markham	21s. 5d.	per qr.
Lincoln	20s. 0d.	,,
Range	1s. 5d.	,,

The sales of British wheat since harvest at the 190 statute markets have been rather below the average, but since May the weekly business done has been in excess of that in the like period of last year. Prices for two months past have been well above 30s., but the higher terms ruling from September to March cause the average for the whole period under review to be very unsatisfactory.

This season ... 2,575,000 qr., at 27s. 0d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 2,865,000 qr., at 28s. 7d. ,,

The sales of British barley have shown an increase on the year, while the price has been maintained.

This season ... 3,364,000 qr. at 24s. 4d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 3,199,000 qr. at 24s. 4d. ,,

The sales of British oats have been much larger than usual:—

This season .... 1,159,000 qr. at 18s. 5d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 904,000 ,, 18s. 1d. ,,

The imports of the United Kingdom since September 1 have been smaller than in the previous season with respect to all the leading staples except maize, which, without being in any huge supply, has come to hand to the extent of about 300,000 qr. more than in the former comparison. Last week's imports were as follows:—

Wheat, 500,000 qr.: a good supply.
Flour, 82,800 sks.: a small supply.
Barley, 56,000 qr.: half an average.
Oats, 50,000 qr.: less than half an average.
Maize, 304,000 qr.: a heavy arrival.

Supplies on passage thus compare with the like period of 1906:—

	Mid-July, 1907.	Mid-July, 1906.
Wheat, qr.	2,800,000	3,135,000
Flour sacks	192,000	302,000
Barley, qrs.	192,000	205,000
Oats ,,	81,000	266,000
Maize ,,	1,000,000	1,025,000
Linseed ,,	370,000	173,000
Cottonseed, tons	36,000	29,000
Rice ,,	61,000	35,000

It will be seen that of breadstuffs the probable imports between now and the end of the cereal year are likely to be smaller than last season.

Some leading staples when reduced to the common denomination of the ton show a different level of real value than might ordinarily have been guessed.

	£	s.	d.
Household flour	10	12	9
Country flour	9	10	0
Egyptian cottonseed	7	17	6
Decorticated cottonseed cake	7	13	9
Barley meal	7	10	0
English oats	7	9	5
Maize flour	7	9	0
English wheat	7	6	9
Russian barley	7	5	9
Canadian oats	7	2	4
Russian oats	7	0	0
English barley	6	18	0
Indian barley	6	17	0
Best middlings	6	10	0
Russian maize	5	13	9
American maize	5	12	6
Indian Dari	5	7	6
Feeding millet	5	3	10
Bean	5	0	0
Ricemeal	4	15	0
Brewers' Dried Grains	4	10	0
Malt screenings	3	0	0

American shipments last week were quite moderate. They included 132,000 qr. of wheat, 12,000 qr. of barley, 40,000 qr. of oats, 158,000 qr. of maize, and 106,000 sacks of flour.

Argentine shipments showed a falling off in maize and linseed, but were good for the time of year with respect to wheat. Quantities exported were:—Wheat, 130,000 qr.; maize, 172,000 qr.; and linseed, 16,000 qr.

Russian shipments were liberal of maize but smaller than usual of other staples, the actual totals being:—Wheat, 120,000 qr.; barley, 40,000 qr.; oats, 30,000 qr.; and maize, 135,000 qr.

Indian shipments were 151,000 qr. of wheat, 102,000 qr. of linseed, 10,000 tons of cottonseed, and 5,000 qr. of dari. The Roumanian telegram of shipments from Kustendje and the Lower Danube has not yet come to hand.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—There has been a great falling off in supplies during the last few days; at earlier part of week fair arrivals came to hand, but now, with better haymaking weather, farmers are evidently much too busy to think about getting any hay stuff along; trade in consequence is showing considerable firmness, with an all-round improvement in values. Hays are a good 2s. 6d. to 5s. per ton, clovers 2s. 6d. to 5s. per ton, and mixtures 2s. 6d. per ton better; clover also shares in the benefit of smaller arrivals, and are occasionally 1s. to 2s. per load more money. It is to be hoped that the short spell of fine weather will enable farmers to save a part, at least, of their crop in good condition, as nothing seems to depress the hay trade so much as a large bulk of badly got stuff.

A fair quantity of new hay and mixtures is coming to hand, and if in good condition about 53s to 60s a ton has been obtainable. Some new clover has also arrived, for which 80s to 85s per ton is asked, and buyers have been willing to pay this if in sound condition, but the majority is in such a sweated and damaged condition as to be almost unsaleable at any price. In the foreign market shipments have been fair, and with short supplies of English have found a much better demand at advancing prices.

Prices ruling are about as follow:—English best meadow hay, 82s 6d to 87s 6d per ton; good meadow hay, 72s 6d to 80s per ton; plain hays, 65s to 70s per ton; best clovers, 92s 6d to 97s 6d per ton; good clovers, 85s to 90s per ton; inferior clovers, 75s to 81s 6d per ton; best mixtures, 95s per ton; good mixtures, 82s 6d to 90s per ton; plain mixtures, 75s to 80s per ton; seconds hays, clovers, and mixtures, 57s 6d to 65s per ton; wheat straw, 24s to 27s per load; oat straw, 26s to 28s per load; barley straw, 26s to 28s per load, all ex rail London. Foreign: Canadian mixture, none; first quality Dutch hay, 65s to 67s 6d per ton; second quality Dutch hay, 60s to 62 6d per ton; French and Dutch clovers, 82s 6d per ton. These prices are by barge delivered alongside a London Thames wharf.

THE BALTIC.

The wheat cargo trade was firm on the 8th, 9th, 10th, and 11th inst., but on the 12th and 13th, lower prices being called from America, holders were more disposed to meet the views of buyers. Prices made have included No. 1 Northern Manitoba at 35s. 3d. per 480 lb., white Karachi at 34s. 3d. per 492 lb., red Karachi at 33s. 6d. per 492 lb., Argentine at 34s. 9d. per 480 lb., South Australian at 35s 6d per 480 lb., Blue Stem at 37s per 500 lb., Californian at 36s 9d per 500 lb., Walla Walla at 36s per 500 lb., and fine Russian Winter at 35s. per 492 lb.

Maize cargoes have made 23s. 6d. for Argentine, 23s. 9d. for Galatz, 24s. 3d. for Odessa, 24s 6d for Norokossisk, and 24s for Salonica, all per 480 lb. These prices indicate a very steady market, and the large supply on passage is not causing any apprehension, the current inquiry being fully equal to its assimilation as the cargoes arrive

Barley cargoes are dull, with next to nothing doing in 1906 crop. In Russian, for October shipment, about a guinea per 400 lb is obtainable, and Californian is offered at 28s. 6d. per 448lb. for September shipment. Other cargo sales of the week have comprised good Manitoba oats at 20s. 3d. per 320 lb.; Calcutta linseed at 43s 3d. per 410 lb.; Argentine linseed at 42s. 6d. per 516 lb.; Brown Cawnpore rapeseed at 52s. 9d. per 416 lb.; Ferozepore rapeseed at 53s. 6d. per 416 lb.; and Egytian cottonseed at £7 18s. 9d. per ton.

WOOL.

London, Tuesday.—The fourth series of Colonial wool sales were opened this afternoon before a very large attendance. The biddings were good, especially on the part of the home trade, though a fair proportion of the sales went to France and Germany. As regards prices, merinos were unaltered, the finer qualities showing considerable firmness. Fine crossbred were also unaltered, but the medium and coarse qualities were quoted par to 5 per cent. cheaper than the closing rates at the last series. Coarse short slips sold at a reduction of 7½ to 10 per cent. Capes were steady, not sufficient being offered to test the market. The following were the principal prices obtained:—New Zealand: Greasy, 4½d to 13½d; lambs, 7d to 11d; pieces, 6¾d to 10d; slipe, lambs, 8d to 1s 4½d; slipe, greasy, 6½d to 12d; scoured, 12d to 2s; pieces, 8½d to 2s. Queensland: Scoured, 1s 1½d; lambs, 10d to 12½d; pieces, 13d to 14d; slipe, lambs, 10d to 1s 4½d. Punta Arenas: Greasy, 8¼d to 12½d. River Plate: Slipe, 7d to 13½d per lb.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £14 to £15; half-bred hoggs, £13 to £13 10s; ditto wethers; £12 10s to £13; Kent fleeces, £12 5s to £12 10s; South Down ewes and wethers, £13 10s to £14; Leicester ewes and wethers, £12 to £12 10s. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., scoured super., 2s 2d to 2s 3d; scoured, good, 1s 11½d to 2s 1d; scoured, average, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 9½d to 1s 10½d; greasy, average, 1s to 1s 1d; S. Aus., greasy, average, 10d to 11d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; greasy, average, 11d to 11½d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9½d to 1s 10½d; fleece, average, 9½d to 10½d: greasy, average, 8½d to 9½d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5½d to 1s 6½d; greasy average, 8½d to 9d. Crossbreds—grs.—Vic., good to super., 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d; New Zealand fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s to 1s 1d; coarse, 10d to 11d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Prices remain as from 10½d to 11d for Kent fleeces, 7d for lamb wool, and 5d for locks. Half-bred fleeces are quoted at 11d, and Downs from 1½d to 13d.

Halifax, Saturday.—There is a very good tone about the wool market, and a substantial increase of business on the week. Home grown wools are being taken up freely at improving prices. Irish wools are especially in favour because of the quality, and are fully firm. The prices range from about 12½d for selected wethers up to 13½d for pick hoggs.

Seven Years Grain Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 10d. per 480 lb.
Barley	25s. 4d. per 400 lb.
Oats	18s. 11d. per 312 lb.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English firm, quiet Supplies very small. Whites quoted at 35s 6d to 37s 6d; reds at 35s to 37s. Foreign firmly held at Monday's full prices, but demand slow. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, quoted at 37s 6d; No. 2 at 36s 6d; No. 1 hard Manitoba at 38s; choice white Karachi at 34s 9d; Australian, landed, at 36s 6d to 37s; South Russian at 34s to 37s; La Plata at 35s 6d to 36s 6d. Flour firm, quiet. Hungarian held at 35s; Minnesota patents at 27s to 28s; Iron Dukes at 22s to 22s 6d. Maize firm but quiet. Mixed American, ex ship, quoted at 24s to 24s 3d, landed at 24s 6d; Odessa, ex ship, at 23s 9d to 24s; landed, at 24s 3d to 24s 6d. Barley firmer, but quiet. Azoff-Black Sea, landed, quoted at 25s; Persian, ex ship, at 22s 9d, landed at 23s 3d. Oats firm, quiet. La Plata held at 18s 6d; South Russian, 38 lb, at 18s 6d to 19s; No 2 white Manitoba, ex ship, to arrive, at 20s 7½d, with 20s 6d bidding.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat: English steady, quiet; whites quoted at 35s 6d to 31s 6d; reds, 35s to 37s. Foreign dull, and 3d to 6d lower for American; No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, held at 37s to 37s 3d; No. 2 at 36s 3d; No. 1 hard Manitoba at 37s 6d to 37s 9d; choice white Karachi, 34s 6d; La Plata, landed, 35s 6d to 36s 6d; Australian at 36s 3d; South Russian at 34s to 37s. Flour dull, easier tendency; Hungarian quoted at 35s; Minnesota Patent at 27s to 28s; Iron Dukes, ex ship, at 22s, landed at 22s 6d. Maize slow, unchanged; mixed American, landed, held at 24s 6d; Odessa at 24s 3d. Barley steady, quiet; Azoff-Black Sea, landed, quoted at 25s; Persian, ex ship, 22s 9d to 23s; landed, 23s 3d to 23s 6d. Oats slow, unchanged; River Plate held at 18s 6d to 18s 9d; South Russians (38 lb) at 18s 3d to 18s 6d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Very few samples of English wheat were on offer, and still fewer were sold. The tendency was firm, but prices did not advance, and in spite of the improved movement in London, flour also was unchanged. Wheat made, 35s to 37s; English barley, 28s to 29s; foreign grinding barley, 26s to 27s; Mazagan beans, 30s to 31s; tick beans, 33s to 34s; maize, 26s to 27s; white oats, 22s to 25s; black oats, 21s to 23s per qr.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, white, 32s 6d to 33s 6d per qr; red 32s to 33s 6d per qr; barley, 27s to 30s per qr; beans, 31s to 32s per qr; oats, 20s to 25s per qr; peas, 29s to 34s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—A moderate attendance, with little grain on offer. Prices nominally unchanged.

Birmingham, Thursday.—With a very small attendance there was not much business passing. Foreign wheats remained at last week's prices, excepting Plates, for which sellers asked 6d more money. English wheats were very scarce, dealers requiring from 13s to 13s 6d per 186lb. for same. Plate maize showed a decline of 6d. and Bessarabian 7½d, the latter being sold at 24s 4½d per 480lb at Sharpness. Grinding barley was 6d lower, beans, 13 per 196lb, oats 22s 6d to 23s per 312lb delivered, with a quiet demand.

Bristol, Thursday.—There was but a small attendance on our market to-day, farmers being busy haymaking. The weather is exceptionally fine to-day after the long period of wet. No English wheat offering; foreign firm and unaltered. Maize, barley, and oats unchanged. There has been a continued fair demand for flour at recent values.—Grace Brothers.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—There was only a poor attendance. Wheat was in very small supply, and firm at 34s to 34s 6d per qr for useful reds. Feeding corns, cakes, and offals were all firm at last week's prices.

Cambridge, Saturday.—With the improved weather, farmers are now busy with their hay. There was a small attendance, and most limited trade. A few samples of wheat on offer, and made the full prices of last week; 35s into the mill. Oats dull. Beans the turn dearer.

Canterbury, Saturday.—English corn continues to sell well. Choice wheats have again advanced a trifle, 65 lb samples changing hands at 37s 6d. Barley is firm at from 27s to 29s, and oat values are hardening. White samples, scaling 45 lb to the bushel, are making 25s 6d, and 38 lb blacks are worth 21s. Grey peas steady, at from 32s to 33s; and best tick beans are held for 36s per qr.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small supply of oats in our market to-day. Good demand at late prices; prices, 24s to 24 6d per 336 lb.—Thomas Robinson.

Chester, Saturday.—The demand during the week has been full maintained. All classes of English grain continue firm at last week's rates. No quotable change in mixed maize. Round corn 3d per sack lower. Offals scarce, and the turn dearer. Quotations: White and red wheat, 4s 10d to 5s per 75 lb; grinding barley, 3s 9d to 4s per 64 lb; old beans, 6s to 6s 6d, and new, 5s 6d to 5s 9d per 80 lb; old oats, 3s 2d to 3s 6d, and new, 2s 11d to 3s 2d per 46 lb; old Indian corn, 13s 6d to 13s 9d, and new, 13s to 13s 3d per 240 lb; round corn, 13s 3d to 13s 9d.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Small attendance, Very little on offer and practically no business. New white wheat 35s to 35s 6d; new red ditto, 35s to 35s 6d; grinding barley, 25s 9d; oats, English, 18s to 23s; beans, 32s to 33s; maize, 24s to 25s; flour, 24s to 28s.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat small supply at 36s.—Colin Taylor, King and Co., Ltd.

Coventry, Friday.—Farmers busy in the hayfields, and attendance poor. Few samples on offer, and prices remained practically the same as last week. Quotations: Wheat, 11s 9d to 12s 6d per 186 lb; barley, 28s to 34s per 448 lb; peas, 12s to 14s; beans, 12s to 13s 6d per 196 lb; oats, 24s to 26s 6d per 352 lb.

Derby, Friday.—Wheat was in very small supply, and quoted 1s dearer. Spring corn realised the extreme prices of last week. New white wheat, 36s to 37s; new red, 36s; grinding barley, 23s to 24s; old beans, 36s to 37s; new, 34s to 36s; new oats, 24s to 25s.

Devizes, Thursday.—Wheat continues to harden in value, was decidedly dearer. Other corn was unchanged. Best wheat, 16s to 18s; secondary, 16s to 16s 6d; malting barley, 24s to 30s; feeding, 22s to 24s; old oats, 20s to 24s; new beans, 15s 6d to 16s 6d; fine flour, 27s to 30s; extra fine, 32s to 36s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—The market was thinly attended, and a quiet business was passing. English wheat is very scarce, and very little changed hands, the top price being 12s 6d and 13s per load. Foreign wheat was a trifle firmer, with a fair demand. Very limited supply, and small sale for other things, prices being very firm.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Owing to the fair occurring so recently, coupled with the brilliantly fine weather which kept so many farmers at home, there was an exceptionally small attendance at to-day's market and very little business passing. English wheat, the supply of which is practically exhausted, met with very little enquiry at unchanged rates, whilst for foreign a trifle less money was accepted. Barley steady at late rates, and oats were firmly held, despite the easier terms quoted at Mark Lane.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Wheat firm, average 32s 6d. Oats slow at late rates, average, 25s 10d, the same as last week. There was no change for flour, which was raised last week 6d per sack.

Exeter, Friday.—Very small attendance; very little trade. Prices all round same as last week. English wheat, 4s 1½d to 4s 3d; superfine flour, 25s to 27s; fine, 23s to 25s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Usual attendance at market, business, however, still slow. Wheat and flour steady at late rates. Maize 1½d per boll easier, owing to fresh arrivals. Corn steady, and 1½d dearer on the week. Barley maintains a high price. Oats the turn dearer. Beans unchanged for feeders, but grinders held for 3d per boll advance. Pease steady. Bran and thirds dearer. Oatmeal steady. Other articles unaltered. Market closed until Wednesday next.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance at the market to-day. Business, however is still slow. Wheat and flour steady at late rates. Maize, 1½d per boll easier, owing to fresh arrivals. Corn steady, and 1½d per boll dearer on the week. Barley still maintains a high price. Oats the turn dearer. Beans unchanged for feeders, but grinders held for 3d per boll advance. Pease steady. Bran and thirds dearer. Oatmeal quietly steady. Other articles unaltered. Owing to fair holidays the market will be closed on Friday of this week and Monday of next.—Gibson and Clark.

Gloucester, Saturday.—No English wheat offering. Foreign wheat slow, but steady, with an easier tendency. Plates, 35s to 37s; Russians, 32s to 35s 6d; Manitobas, 37s 3d to 37s 9d. Plate maize unchanged at 25s; flat also unchanged at 24s 3d; Bessarabian 6d cheaper at 24s 6d. Barley unaltered at 26s per qr. Oats unchanged.

Grantham, Saturday.—Small attendance. Wheat was in good demand at 1s advance on the week, making 35s per qr. Trade was quiet in other departments, and very little business was done.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A very small attendance. English wheats moved slowly. English oats firm. Maize slow with a tendency to going 6d per qr lower. Wholesale quotations:—Wheat, 3s 10d to 4s per 62 lb; barley, 3s 3d to 3s 9d per 56 lb; oats, 2s 6d to 2s 10d per 40 lb; beans, 3s 9d to 3s 11d per 65½ lb; maize, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per 60 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Very little wheat on offer; trade firm at an advance of 6d per qr: Prices 33s to 34s; whites to 34s 6d per 504 lb. Grinding barley firm. Oats fully as dear. Beans and peas steady.

Leeds, Tuesday.—There is little improvement in the weather, warmth and sunshine still wanting, and complaints of the crops are increasing, a late harvest being now a certainty. The decline in America has checked the advance and also the demand for wheat, but values have been well maintained, prices being 6d to 9d dearer on the week for foreign, and quite 1s to 1s 3d per qr for English, the supply of which is now very small. Maize, beans, and oats all favour sellers. Flour is 1s per sack dearer on the week.—Dunns and Co.

Leeds, Friday.—With a falling off in arrivals of foreign wheat, shorter supplies of English, and late harvest conditions, Tuesday's advanced prices were fully realised, with a hardening tendency for choice lots. Flour was firmer, best descriptions making 28s to 31s. Maize was firmly held. Plate was firm at 24s to 25s, and Odessa 23s to 24s. Beans, peas, oats, and barley all showed a rising tendency.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good average attendance of buyers and dealers, with small supplies of home-grown wheats, which met a steady sale at firm rates. Red wheats, 35s 6d to 36s 6d; white wheats, 36s to 37s per 36 stones; feeding barley in fair request at firm rates; beans active; fine oats in good demand at 24s to 25s per 24 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—Very poor attendance, and scarcely sufficient English wheat on offer to test values; foreign slow at unaltered rates. Oats firm, and other feeding stuffs unchanged.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Rather a lull in the wheat trade to-day; the firm tone continues, but millers are very cautious buyers. To force sales a slight reduction would have to be conceded, but holders are not inclined to consent to any abatement in cost. Barley continues quite as dear as recently. Beans or peas are not at all plentiful; the demand for them is kept active, so they move off slowly at the full prices of last week. Oats are steady, as English are such a small stock, and the imports of foreign remarkably moderate. Maize is stiff in value, and fine sorts are dearer. There is no quotable change in other grain, nor in feeding stuffs generally.

Manchester, Thursday.—Wheat, English, 6d to 1s per qr, and foreign 1d per cental higher. Flour advanced 1s per sack on the week. Indian corn ½d to 1d per cental higher. Mixed American scarce on spot. Barley: Foreign steady and unchanged. Oats firm. Beans and peas had an upward tendency. Bran and thirds 6d per load higher.

Newark, Wednesday.—Fair attendance, slow trade; wheat and oats firm. Quotations: Wheat, white and red, 33s 6d to 34s 6d; barley, malting, 28s to 30s; grinding, 25s to 26s; oats, white, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; black, 22s to 23s; beans, 33s to 34s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A quiet demand for wheats of all descriptions, and prices slightly in the buyers' favour. Maize held for fully late rates. Oats remain steady at unaltered prices. Beans and peas remain firm, with a fair consumptive demand. Barley remains quiet and prices unaltered.—Joseph Pollard and Co.

Newport, Wednesday.—Trade was quiet. Maize 3d per qr dearer. Barley and oats were unchanged on the week. Flour held well at latest prices.

Northampton, Saturday.—A very small assembly, most farmers in the district being busy with hay harvest. Scarcely any show of grain, and prices hardly changed from last week. Wheat, 33s; barley, 26s to 29s; white oats, 21s to 23s; black oats, 20s to 22s; beans, 30s to 32s; peas, 29s to 31s; flour, 26s to 30s.

Norwich, Saturday.—There were only a few samples of wheat on offer to-day; farmers tried to make an advance on last week, but were unsuccessful; values, 35s per qr, delivered. Business in feeding stuff trade was of the usual summer character, and prices remained firm, especially maize, barley, and linseed and cotton cakes. Averages: Wheat, 439 qr, 30s 10d.

Nottingham, Saturday.—No English wheat offering; foreign held for advance. Grinding barley 3d higher. Beans and oats in very small supply, and held for full rates.—Robt. Hubbld.

Peterborough, Saturday.—We have again had a very small market. The few samples of wheat offering found buyers at about 6d per qr more money than last week. Spring corn unaltered. Wheat, 33s 6d to 34s 6d; oats, 22s to 23s; beans, 31s to 33s.—Thos. Hill and Son.

Preston, Saturday.—Attendance small, and not much business doing. No change in the quotations for locally grown wheat or oats. Quotations: Wheat, white, new, per windle of

220 lb, 13s 9d to 15s; ditto red, 13s 6d to 14s; oats, old, per bushel, 3s 3d to 3s 4d; beans, per windle of 220 lb, 16s 6d to 17s.

Reading, Saturday.—Haymaking operations are now in operation in Berkshire, which would account for a smaller attendance than usual. Business was, however, no worse than during the past few weeks. Prices:—Wheat, 34s to 37s; barley, 26s to 29s; oats, 19s to 23s; beans, 33s to 37s.

Retford, Saturday.—About the usual supply of wheat. Moderate attendance of buyers, and currencies practically the same as before. Maize selling at 26s to 27s; English beans, 32s; black oats, 20s to 21s; and white ditto 22s per qr.

Ripon, Thursday. — Small attendance of farmers and dealers, and little business passing with prices firm at an upward tendency. Prices:—Wheat, 32s to 34s; ditto foreign, 36s to 40s 6d; barley, grinding, 25s to 26s; oats, 23 to 25s; maize, round, 26s to 27s; ditto, flat, 26s to 27s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The market showed little change from last week. Foreign wheats are quoted 3d per qr less than their value last week end, but are in advance in price from that of last Tuesday. English wheat scarce, and 6d dearer. Maize unchanged. Beans, oats, and peas firmly held at late prices. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 33s 6d to 34s 6d; ditto red, new, 34s to 35s per 504 lb; oats, black, 22s 6d to 23s; ditto white, 23s 6d to 24s per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 33s 6d to 34s; ditto blue, 75s to 90s per 504 lb; beans, English, new, 35s 3d to 35s 6d per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 26s to 26s 6d; ditto malting, 28s to 32s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 25s 9d to 26s; ditto Plate, 25s 9d to 26s; ditto flat, 26s to 27s per 480 lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Quotations:—New wheat, 14s 3d to 14s 9d per 225 lb; new oats, 14s to 15s per 225 lb; peas, 15s 6d to 16s per 225 lb; beans, 14s 5d to 15s per 240 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—Small attendance, farmers being busy in the hayfields. Trade was quiet. Wheats advanced a further 1s on the week, making 34s 6d, oats 21s 6d to 22s, beans 31s 6d to 32s per qr. For barley and peas there was no inquiry.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Local wheat made 33s 6d to 34s per qr. Owing to the unsettled state of the weather foreign wheats were 6d to 9d dearer on the week. Maize steady. Oats very steady.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Grain in short supply. Wheat quiet at last week's prices. Spring corn unchanged. Arrivals nil. — E. and F. Richardson.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday. — Quotations: White wheat, 32s to 33s; red ditto, 31s to 32s: barley, 26s to 32s; grinding ditto, 23s to 25s; oats, English, 22s to 24s; rye, 24s to 25s; peas, 32s to 37s; beans, 32s to 37s; tares, 42s to 48s; maize, 22s 6d to 24s.

Warwick, Saturday. — There was a very meagre attendance at this market. Only a very small amount of business was transacted at prices ruling about the same as last week.

Winchester, Saturday.—English and foreign wheat 6d to 1s advance. Barley, oats, and maize unaltered. Flour steady trade, fully late rates. —Fear, Colebrook and Co., Ltd.

Wisbech, Saturday. — Scarcely any wheat offering from farmers. Needy millers pay 34s per 504 lb for fresh threshed reds. Oats firm, 22s 6d to 23s 336 lb.—James Fletcher.

Yeovil, Friday.—Trade was firm all round, and advances of from 6d to 1s per qr were made for wheat, barley, and oats. English wheat of best quality, 32s 6d to 35s; secondary, 30s to 32s; foreign, 35s 6d to 37s 9d; malting barley, 28s 6d to 31s; feeding (English), 23s to 25s; grinding (foreign), 26s to 26s 3d; Irish black oats, 19s to 20s; Irish white, 21s to 21s 6d; English black oats, 21s 6d to 22s 3d; English white, 23s to 23s 6d; maize, round, 24s 6d to 25s; maize, flat, 24s 3d to 24s 6d; winter beans, 31s 6d to 32s 6d; spring, 30s 6d to 31s 6d; rye, 27s 6d to 28s; vetches, 7s 6d to 8s 6d per bushel. A fairly good trade in flour at the full rates of last week. Meal and offals continue to sell well.

York, Saturday. — Wheat is nearly exhausted in this district, the little on offer selling at last week's prices. Fine white 33s 6d to 34s 6d, red and mixed 32s 6d to 33s 6d per qr of 36 stones; feeding barley, 26s to 28s per qr of 32 stones. Oats rather dearer, White Tartary, 21s to 22s, ditto black, 22s to 23s; white Garton, 23s to 24s per qr of 24 stones; beans, 32s to 33s per qr of 36 stones.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Cold and rainy weather continues, most unfavourable for the wheat plant in its present state and endangering all other crops, heavy rains having in many places laid the grain. Hay is spoiling. Market firm for all articles except rye, prices of which tend in buyers' favour. Offers of River Plate wheat are getting scarce. 79/80 kg. Barletta Russo is held at 33s 6d. Hungaro at 32s 6d; 72/73 kg. Danubian at 30s 3d per 480 lb ex ship here. Choice white Kurachee on the spot 32s 6d per 492 lb; 60 lb Saal wheat, September-October 33s 6d per 504 lb f.o.b.; 9 10/15 South Russian rye on the spot and afloat is offering at 30s 9d to 31s per 480 lb ex ship, without meeting much attention. The barley crop looks promising in most parts of Germany, also in Bohemia, Moravia, and North-Western Hungary, while from other parts of Hungary reports are conflicting. Grinding barley again in better demand; South Russian on the spot and near at hand is selling at 25s to 25s 6d; August shipments, 20s 3d to 20s 6d; September October, 19s 9d; Morocco prompt, 23s 3d to 23s 9d per 400 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg. Maize firm; kiln-dried mixed American, 24s 6d; Danubian, afloat, 22s 3d to 22s 6d; River Plate, 23s 6d per 480 lb c.i.f., Hamburg.—John Tatlock.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Barley Report:—The weather remains decidedly cool here, and although it has not rained in torrents lately, there has been some rain almost daily, whilst fine sunny days are urgently needed. So far there are no complaints from our principal barley growing districts, but if weather does not improve, quality is sure to suffer. There are quite cheerful reports from Bohemia, and also in Moravia the crop looks promising but complaint from Hungary does not cease, the quantity will be below the average, and with the present hot weather the quality will likely suffer and become thin.—F. M. Th. Duhne.

CORN STATISTICS

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, July 9, 1907:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Av. Price per qr £	s.	d.
Wheat	545	2 ...	895	14	2 ...	1	12	10
Barley ...	196	0 ...	249	7	10 ...	1	5	5
Oats ...	265	5 ...	283	19	0 ...	1	1	5

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, July 13, 1907:—

Wheat	2,536,600 cwts.
Wheat-flour	227,300 ,,
Barley	216,100 ,,
Oats	290,700 ,,
Maize	1,065,900 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1906. Cwts.	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.
Wheat ...	2,243,000	2,410,100	1,761,900	2,046,227
Wheat-flour	193,900	141,300	171,600	312,035
Barley ...	335,600	94,500	530,200	490,032
Oats ...	555,500	529,500	176,000	774,044
Maize ...	664,500	616,350	736,700	1,450,064

Weekly Arrivals into London.

July 3 to July 10 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	280	95,297	95,577
Barley	2,300	4,000	6,300
Malt	20,161	—	20,161
Oats	1,600	28,000	29,600
Rye	100	—	100
Beans	286	600	886
Peas	100	2,300	2,400
Lentils	—	3,500	3,500
Maize	—	41,902	41,902
Linseed	—	25,000	25,000
Rapeseed	50	—	50
Cottonseed	—	150,000	150,000
Hempseed	—	350	350
Buckwheat	15	300	315
Safflower	—	1,800	1,800
Flour sacks	21,351	23,460	44,811
Maizemeal ,,	—	1,062	1,062
Ryemeal ,,	—	1,500	1,500

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending July 13, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1903 to 1906:—

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1903	17,132	28	3	390	20	5	5,370	18	7
1904	14,160	26	10	665	18	9	6,320	17	6
1905	4,884	32	3	34	23	10	1,962	19	7
1906	8,242	30	5	101	23	8	1,360	20	4
1907	19,209	32	0	665	24	10	3,380	20	11

Imperial Weekly Averages.

1906.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
July 14	8,242	30	5	101	23	8	1,360	20	4
,, 21	8,010	30	2	150	23	2	911	20	5
,, 28	8,015	30	5	95	22	4	1,146	20	2
Aug. 4	9,480	30	9	154	22	1	2,139	19	3
,, 11	6,924	30	5	300	23	0	4,512	17	11
,, 18	8,583	29	0	1,253	24	2	11,887	17	0
,, 25	26,545	27	9	2,508	25	0	14,673	16	10
Sept. 1	55,716	26	9	4,758	24	3	22,580	16	6
,, 8	78,579	26	4	19,448	24	9	32,679	16	3
,, 15	89,745	25	11	41,670	24	3	34,330	16	1
,, 22	90,292	25	9	76,130	24	3	37,120	16	0
,, 29	83,907	25	9	129,209	24	8	41,942	16	2
Oct. 6	87,200	26	1	183,145	25	0	35,724	16	3
,, 13	80,630	26	3	226,940	25	3	38,088	16	7
,, 20	71,352	26	6	230,636	24	10	35,636	16	8
,, 27	69,920	26	7	233,998	24	10	28,956	16	10
Nov. 3	64,404	26	7	229,015	24	8	32,527	16	11
,, 10	63,764	26	6	205,560	24	8	27,982	17	1
,, 17	58,059	26	4	167,441	24	4	20,389	17	2
,, 24	58,467	26	3	149,427	24	1	28,669	17	3
Dec. 1	60,299	26	1	160,173	24	1	34,743	17	2
,, 8	63,264	26	1	167,532	24	1	37,119	17	4
,, 15	70,332	26	1	135,513	23	11	36,175	17	3
,, 22	68,977	26	3	127,131	24	3	31,528	17	3
,, 29	49,637	26	0	97,796	24	1	29,124	17	3
1907.									
Jan. 5	24,559	26	0	31,733	23	11	14,773	17	3
,, 12	47,667	26	1	71,498	24	2	27,939	17	4
,, 19	75,207	26	1	104,417	24	1	37,413	17	8
,, 26	80,321	26	2	109,274	24	5	45,887	17	5
Feb. 2	84,370	26	3	86,031	24	4	38,928	17	7
,, 9	77,659	26	6	74,324	24	5	30,467	17	7
,, 16	84,514	26	7	69,221	24	1	38,725	17	9
,, 23	76,580	26	10	53,681	24	2	39,559	17	9
Mar. 2	64,923	26	9	40,398	24	2	32,965	17	9
,, 9	71,183	28	8	32,620	23	11	31,065	17	11
,, 16	69,340	26	10	29,274	24	2	28,017	18	0
,, 23	69,183	26	10	20,977	24	0	22,204	18	1
,, 30	49,202	26	8	15,929	23	9	18,412	18	2
April 6	28,757	26	9	6,539	24	3	10,296	18	3
,, 13	43,426	26	8	6,830	23	9	17,523	18	6
,, 20	54,965	26	8	6,032	23	3	21,389	18	7
,, 27	62,656	26	10	4,967	27	3	25,447	18	0
May 4	63,344	27	0	4,289	23	6	22,691	19	3
,, 11	53,080	27	0	3,375	24	0	18,392	19	7
,, 18	41,991	28	4	2,955	23	10	15,817	20	1
,, 25	37,963	29	7	1,977	24	3	12,803	20	7
June 1	28,070	31	4	1,998	24	0	10,478	20	5
,, 8	34,122	32	0	1,539	24	7	11,711	20	8
,, 15	38,008	31	10	1,152	24	7	7,668	20	11
,, 22	31,351	31	4	1,088	24	11	7,187	20	9
,, 29	23,007	31	2	759	24	6	6,118	20	8
July 6	20,795	31	3	432	24	8	4,303	20	11
,, 13	19,209	32	0	665	24	10	3,380	20	11

London Flour Millers' Association.

Credit and Delivery. Official Prices.

Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1906.

	London Whites. s.	d.		Town Households. s.	d.
September 1	(per sack) 26	9	(per sack)	23	9
October 8	,, 27	0	,,	24	0
,, 26	,, 27	6	,,	24	6
November 23	,, 27	0	,,	24	0
December 5	,, 27	3	,,	24	3
,, 19	,, 27	0	,,	24	0
February 20	,, 27	6	,,	24	6
March 1	,, 27	0	,,	24	0
April 24	,, 27	6	,,	24	6
May 15	,, 29	0	,,	26	0
,, 24	,, 30	0	,,	27	0
,, 31	,, 29	6	,,	26	6
June 5	,, 30	6	,,	27	6
July 12	,, 31	0	,,	28	0

(No change since last date given.)

Average Monthly Prices of Fine Household Flour in Paris.

(*Converted into English money for sacks of* 280 *lb.*)

	1907. s.	d.	1906. s.	d.	1905. s.	d.	1904. s.	d.	1903. s.	d.	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.
Jan.	30	9	31	0	31	0	29	6	30	9	27	9	24	9
Feb.	30	0	31	6	31	6	30	0	31	6	26	3	25	9
March	29	9	31	3	30	3	31	0	31	6	27	0	24	0
April	30	0	31	6	30	9	29	0	34	0	27	3	24	6
May	33	3	30	9	31	9	28	0	33	3	27	6	25	6
June	32	9	31	0	30	3	28	3	34	0	30	9	26	3
July			31	6	30	0	29	4	31	9	29	9	28	0
August			29	9	29	3	30	0	30	0	27	6	27	6
Sept.			30	6	31	0	31	0	30	0	29	0	27	6
Oct.			31	0	31	6	31	6	30	0	30	0	27	6
Nov.			31	6	31	6	32	0	28	0	28	9	27	9
Dec.			30	0	31	0	31	3	28	6	29	6	28	3
Yrly. Avrg.			30	11	30	9	30	1	31	1	28	5	27	3

Other statistics will be found on page viii.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 p.m.

The holders of English wheat were as firm as ever, but foreign was not so easily placed as formerly. It must be noted that imported sorts are decidedly dear at present, and that a mid-summer slackness in demand has only been postponed by the cold weather of early July.

Maize to day was firm and barley was steady. Singularly little of the latter staple was to be had. Oats were firm and dearer for English and New Zealand, steady for Manitoba, but weaker for both Argentine and Russian. Beans were a better trade than peas, but in neither was much business done. There was a good sale for small pulse at previous prices.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off the Stands*).

July 15.

WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	34 — 35
Red	,,	32 — 34
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	None.
Brewing	,,	28 — 29
Poultry	(per 448 lb.)	27 — 28
Distilling	(per 416 lb.)	None.
Winter	(per 400 lb.)	None.
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	None.
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34 — 36
Brown	,,	27 — 29
Black	,,	29 — 30
OATS, Storm Kings	,,	23 — 24
Abundance	,,	24 — 25
Waverleys	,,	24 — 25
Pioneers	,,	23 — 24
Black Tartary	,,	22 — 23
White Gartons	,,	23 — 25
Ordinary ,,	(per 320 lb.)	21 — 22
RYE, Essex	(per 480 lb.)	28 — 29
BEANS, Pigeon	(per 532 lb.)	42 — 44
Tick	(per 504 lb.)	34 — 35
Winter	,,	32 — 33
Spring	,,	31 — 32
Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	21 — 22
PEAS, Picke l Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	72 — 73
Unpicked ditto	,,	52 — 56
Maple (Old)	,,	36 — 37
,, (New)	,,	34 — 35
Dun (Old)	,,	32 — 36
,, (New)	,,	31 — 32
TARES (Winter)	(per 532 lb.)	40 — 44
(Spring)	,,	44 — 48
(English Gores)	,,	56 — 64
(Scotch Gores)	,,	68 — 72

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba	37	38	American	23	24
Red Winter	36	37	Argentine	24	25
Best Spring	37	38	Roumanian	23	24
Argentine	35	36	Russian	23	24
Australian	35	36	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Californian	36	37	Smyrna	34	35
Walla Walla	35	36	New Zealand	32	33
Saxonka	35	36	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Azima	34	35	Hungarian	62	64
Ghirka	33	34	Burmese	38	40
Roumanian	33	34	Chilian	56	64
Indian White	34	35	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb):		
,, Red	33	34	French	31	33
Turkish	32	33	Russian	27	28
Persian	31	32	Canadian	26	27
BARLEY:			PEAS (504 lb.):		
C'lifor'n (448 lb)	29	30	Dutch Crowns	55	57
Ouchak (448 lb)	28	32	Konigsberg	44	46
Smyrna (448 lb)	26	30	Russian White	35	36
Spanish (448 lb)	29	30	Indian White	35	36
Russian (400 lb)	26	27	Canadian White	35	36
Indian (400 lb)	25	26	New Zeal'd Maple	39	40
Gaza (400 lb)	24	25	Victoria Dun	32	33
Persian (400 lb)	23	24	MILLET (416 lb.):		
MALT (336 lb.):			White	42	44
Californian	33	36	Yellow	22	24
Smyrna	33	36	Sorghum	20	21
Ouchak	33	36	RICE (cwt.):		
RYE (480 lb.):			Java	16	22
Russian	24	25	Indian	17	20
OATS:			Japanese	16	17
Konigsbg (320 lb)	21	22	Burmese	10	11
Russian (304 lb)	18	19	Siamese	8	9
Canadian (320 lb)	20	21	DARI (480 lb.):		
Arg'tine (304 lb)	18	19	Smyrna	26	27
Swedish (320 lb)	21	22	Indian	22	23
New Zn'd (384 lb)	26	27	Persian	21	22

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED RATHER AGAINST HOLDERS OF BREADSTUFFS, THE WEATHER BEING TRULY SUMMER-LIKE.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 p.m.

The attempt of London millers to put the price up seems to have had a bad effect on demand, and the market to-day is not so good as it was a week ago. The Millers' Convention at Exeter resulted in a very colourless resolution being passed. Nothing like a reasonable arrangement was arrived at, either with respect to the weekly output of the London mills or with regard to country consignments for sale in London.

The country flour at Mark Lane to-day was not dearer, the East Anglian firms not having instructed their representatives to endorse the 6d. advance quoted by the London millers. American flour was rather dearer on the week, but with a reduced sale. No decline in Hungarian occurred, and the very high prices asked for that kind seem justified by genuine scarcity. Millers' offals were firm at last week's rise, but sales were not so easily effected to-day as on the 8th and 10th inst.

Meal, &c.

Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	13 — 14
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	14 — 15
,, ,, Broad	,,	13 — 14
Pollard	,,	12 — 13
Biscuit Middlings	,,	16 — 17
Fine Middlings	,,	15 — 16
Coarse Middlings	,,	14 — 15
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	17 — 18
Farina Firsts	,,	28 — 29
,, Seconds	,,	26 — 27
Barley Meal	,,	21 — 22
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	25 — 26
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	30 — 33
Groats	,,	32 — 33
Oat Flour	,,	33 — 34
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	18 — 19
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	18 — 19
,, Germ Meal	,,	15 — 16
,, Cones	,,	18 — 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	15 — 16
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	25 — 26
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	23 — 24
Rye Bran	,,	21 — 22
Pea Meal	,,	23 — 24

London Flour.

July 15.

Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	31/0 net
Town Whites	,,	29/6 ,,
,, Households	,,	26/6 ,,
No. 2	,,	24/6 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	23/6 ,,
,, No. 2	,,	21/6 ,,

Country Flour.

		s.	s.
Fine Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	25	27
Roller Whites	,,	24	25
All English	,,	24	25
Stone made	,,	22	23

Foreign Flour.

		s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents (per s'ck of 280 lb.)		28	29
,, Second Patents	,,	25	26
,, First Bakers'	,,	23	24
,, Second Bakers'	,,	22	23
Milwaukee Patents	,,	27	28
,, Bakers'	,,	24	25
Canadian Best	,,	27	28
,, Ordinary	,,	25	26
Manitoba Patents	,,	27	28
,, Ordinary	,,	25	26
Kansas Patents	,,	25	26
,, Ordinary	,,	23	24
Hungarian	,,	35	36
Belgian	,,	31	33
French, Corbeil	,,	26	27
,, Renaux	,,	25	26
,, P.S.D.	,,	24	25
Australian	,,	25	26

THE BALTIC.

Monday, 1 p.m.

State of Trade.

Wheat cargoes are sometimes 3d. lower from Saturday, the trade being weakest for American and Indian relatively steady for Argentine and Russian. Barley and oat cargoes for autumn shipment are offered at exceedingly low prices. Maize is firm. Rapeseed and cottonseed cargoes are held for an advance from Saturday, but buyers resist this. Linseed cargoes are steadily held, but there are not many bids made.

Business Done.

Wheat.—White Karachi, 35s 3d per 492 lb, arrived; Red Karachi, 34s 9d per 492 lb, arrived; No. 1 Hard Manitoba, 36s 3d per 480 lb, August shipment; No. 2 Northern Manitoba, 34s 9d per 480 lb, August shipment; Azoff, 34s 6d per 492 lb, September shipment; Walla Walla, 36s per 500 lb, on passage; New South Wales, 38s 9d per 480 lb, on passage.

Maize.—Roumanian, 23s 480 lb, on passage; Argentine, 23s 3d per 480 lb, on passage; Odessa, 24s per 480 lb, on passage; American, 23s per 480 lb, prompt shipment.

Barley.—Azoff, 21s per 400 lb, September shipment.

Oats.—No. 2 Manitoba, 20s 3d per 320 lb, prompt shipment; Roumanian, 15s 9d per 304 lb, October shipment; Riga, 15s 6d per 304 lb, October shipment; White Libau, 15s 3d per 304 lb, October shipment.

Beans.—Panderma, 33s per 480 lb, August shipment.

Peas.—Indian White, 34s per 504 lb, August shipment.

Linseed.—Riga, 42s 3d per 416 lb, August shipment; Duluth, 43 6d per 416 lb, September shipment; Calcutta, 43s 9d per 410 lb, July shipment: Argentine, 42s per 416 lb, July shipment.

Rapeseed.—Yellow Cawnpore, 56s per 416 lb, July shipment.

Cottonseed.—Egyptian, £8 per 2,240 lb, July shipment.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour. — Stronger American markets have improved the value of flour about 6d per 280 lb., and there has been more passing. The smart drop, however, reported this morning checks sales. Grain.—Round and flat maize are in sellers' favour. Scotch and Irish oats are unchanged, but Manitobas are 1½d to 3d per boll lower. Beans and pease very firm, although demand is small. There is a good inquiry for oatmeal, which is scarce on spot. Mill Stuffs.—Bran and thirds firm, with an upward tendency. Winter wheat patents, 27s 6d to 29s per 280 lb; spring wheat patents, 28s to 29s per 280 lb; American corn, 14s 3d per 280 lb; round corn, 14s 1½d to 14s 3d per 280 lb; grinding beans, 18s 7½d to 18s 9d per 280 lb; white pease, 18s 9d to 20s per 280 lb; broad bran, 97s 6d per ton; medium bran, 90s per ton; fine thirds, 120s to 122s 6d per ton; common thirds, 103s 4d per ton; American oilcake, 145s per ton. —McKinnon and McDonald (Glasgow).

Flour.—Cross-Channel as well as Belfast millers are experiencing difficulties in making deliveries, owing to labour complications with steam boat owners and carters in Belfast. Prices for their makes of flour are in some cases 6d per sack higher than a week ago. American millers are quoting for shipment at more reasonable figures than has been the case for some time, some of them indicating for shipment prices below what is being asked for similar quality home-made manufacture on spot.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Milling Offal.—Everything is firm and scarce, especially middlings and pollards which must again be written 2s 6d per ton dearer.—John Bawcombe and Co.

Flour remains quiet, and at our market to-day a moderate trade only was done in spot parcels at last Monday's prices. For shipment offers are still out of range.—T. S. Medill and Sons, Ltd.

TERM MARKET.

The market in maize futures continues to be marked by extreme steadiness, but wheat futures are fluctuating daily with the advices from America. Latest prices are as follows:—

Red American wheat July delivery			7s. 1d.	per cental
,,	,,	Aug. ,,	7s. 2d.	,,
,,	,,	Sept. ,,	7s. 3d.	,,
,,	,,	Oct. ,,	7s. 4d.	,,
,,	,,	Nov. & Dec.	7s 5d.	,,
Mixed American maize delivery any month July to Oct. inclusive			5s. 0d.	,,

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Altrincham: 10 and 11. Appleby: 12 and 13. Barnstaple: 12 and 12 Berwick: 11d to 1s per doz. Birmingham: 11 and 12. Camelford: 16. Carlisle: 12. Chester: 11 and 12. Dartmouth: 1s to 1s 2d per doz. Derby: 11 and 12. Devizes: 14 to 16. Doncaster: 12. Dorchester: 11d. to 1s 0½d per doz. Evesham: 9½d to 1s per doz. Hereford: 12 to 15. Ipswich: 12 to 14. Kidderminster: 12. Lancaster: 12. Lincoln: 13. Market Drayton: 12 and 13. Otley: 11 and 12. Penzance: 8½d to 10½d per doz. Plymouth: 12. Retford: 1s 8d per score. Ripon: 15 and 16. Scarborough: 12. Shrewsbury: 12 and 13. Stamford: 13 to 15. Stockport: 10 and 11. Stockton: 11. Totnes: 11d to 1s per doz. Truro: 9d to 10d per doz. Wellington (Salop): 12 and 13. Worcester: 12. York: 12.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Altrincham: 1s 2d. to 1s 3d. Appleby: 8d to 10d. Barnstaple: 1s to 1s 1d. Berwick: 8d to 1s. Birmingham: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Camelford: 10d to

11d. Carlisle: 10 to 11d. Chester: 1s 1d. Dartmouth: 10d to 1s. Derby: 1s to 1s 1d. Devizes: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Doncaster: 11d to 1s. Dorchester: 10½d to 1s 1½d; Hereford: 11d to 1s 1d. Ipswich: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Kidderminster: 1s 1d. Lancaster: 1s to 1s 1d Lincoln: 10d to 1s. Market Drayton: 1s. Otley: 1s 4d per 24 oz roll. Penzance: 8½d to 10d. Plymouth: 11d to 1s. Retford: 1s. Ripon: 1s 3d to 1s 5d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s. Shrewsbury: 10d to 1s. Stamford: 10d to 1s. Stockport: 1s to 1s 2d. Stockton: 10d to 1s 1d. Totnes: 10d to 11d. Truro: 8½d to 10d. Wellington (Salop): 11d to 1s. Worcester: 10d to 1s 2d. York: 10d to 1s

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday. — Small supply; no quotations obtained.

Derby, Friday.—Clover, best old, 90s to 100s per ton; new, 80s to 90s; hay, best old, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; second new, 65s to 70s; straw, wheat, 60s to 70s; pressed, 50s to 60s; chop, 55s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Meadow hay, 6d; clover, 6½d; wheat straw, 4½d; oat straw, 4d per stone.

Manchester, Friday. — Clover, 6½d to 7d; straw, wheat, 3½d; oat, 3½d per stone.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Old land hay from £3 5s to £4 5s per ton; new land hay, £4 10s to £5 5s; wheat straw, £1 1s to £1 5s per load; oat straw, £1 to £1 3s.

Nottingham, Wednesday.—Market quiet at following rate:—Inferior to good hay, 70s to 80s; prime dito, 90s to 100s; inferior to good clover, 80s to 90s; prime ditto, 95s to 100s; wheat straw, 45s to 55s per ton.

Sheffield Tuesday.—An average attendance of farmers and fair supplies. Choice oldseeds, £4 15s to £5; choice meadow hay, £4 10s to £4 15s; straw, £2 15 to £3; green fodder, 18s to 19s per ton.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—A light supply met a fair sale at previous prires. Best clover, 84s to 97s 6d; inferior, 75s to 80s; specially picked hay, 90s; good, 80s to 87s 6d; inferior, 65s to 70s; mixture and sainfoin, 82s 6d to 90s; straw, 28s to 34s per load.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Good offerings were in good request. Early Puritans, 6s; Early Rose, 5s; St. Malo, 5s 6d; Cherbourg 4s 6d; Jersey, 5s 6d per cwt.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supply was small, and a brisk demand was experienced. Old potatoes, 9d to 10d; new ditto, 1s 4d to 1s 6d per stone.

Goole, Wednesday.—Few lots of potatoes were shown. New potatoes will not be ready for a week or so.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Potatoes, 1d per lb.

Malton, Saturday.—Fair show of new potatoes, which sold at 1s to 1s 4d per stone, and 10d to 1s for imported lots.

Manchester, Saturday.—Potatoes: Cheshire, new, 12s to 15s per load; Jersey, 7s 6d to 8s per cwt.

Preston, Saturday.—With the new crop of potatoes coming forward more readily, there was an easier tendency, and quotations were 14s to 15s per load of 240 lb.

Retford, Saturday.—New potatoes 1s per stone.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Trade proved generally quiet with supplies of English increasing. Early Rose, 4s 6d to 5s; early Puritans, 5s; British Queens, 5s to 5s 6d; St. Malo, 5s; Cherbourg, 3s 6d to 4s; Jersey, 5s per cwt.

York, Saturday.—New potatoes, 5s to 5s 6d per four score hamper, and 4½d per stone; smaller sorts rather cheaper.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were:—From Ireland, 2,167 bales, and from foreign ports, 16,377 bales. There was a steady trade for bacon last week, and prices for secondary Irish were advanced 2s, Danish, 1s to 2s. Quotations ranged:—Irish, 63s to 65s up to 70s; Danish, 61s to 63s up to 67s; Canadian, 57s to 59s up to 64s. Butter: The butter market was slow. French, 94s to 102s; Danish, 108s to 110s; Russian, 74s to 96s; Irish, 86s to 103s; Victorian, 84s to 98s; New South Wales, 84s to 96s; Queensland, 82s to 92s; New Zealand, 90s to 100s. Lard.—The lard market was slow. Irish, 46s to 55s; American, 42s 9d to 44s 9d; Danish, 44s to 50s.

SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—There is very little movement on the market as is usual at this time of the year. Tares unchanged. Rye quiet. Mustard firm. Rape scarce and high. Peas without movement. Grass and clover seeds in narrow compass and firmly held.—John Picard and Co.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday July 15, 1907. British.	Total.	Monday, July 16, 1906.
Beasts	730	730	810
Sheep and Lambs	6,140	6,140	7,130
Calves	10	10	20
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	40	40	40

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 6	3 8	4 8
Sheep	4 8	5 6	6 4
Lambs	5 8	6 4	7 0
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22 10s.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 10; Eastern Counties, 140; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 517; Devon, 10; Ireland, 53.

We note to-day a decrease of twenty head in the number of beasts offered for sale compared with Monday last, the majority of which consisted of grass-fed beasts from the Midland counties. For both prime and second quality English a slow trade prevailed at late currencies, a few choice beasts occasionally making an advance on our top quotation. The Irish consignment consisted of 32 Waterfords, these sharing in the slow trade prevailing, and 21 stores which were quoted at from £11 to £11 10s per head (two and a-half-year-old heifers). There was a limited country demand for fat cows and bulls, last week's values governing all transactions. A clearance will not be made.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s d		s d	Monday, July 16, 1906. s d		s d
Scotch	—		—	—		—
Devons	—		—	—		—
Herefords	4 6	to	4 8	4 6	to	4 8
Norfolks	—		—	4 2	to	4 4
Runts	4 6	to	4 8	4 0	to	4 4
Lincolns	4 2	to	4 4	3 10	to	4 0
Irish	4 2	to	4 4	—		—
Canadian	—		—	—		—
Fat cows	3 8	to	3 10	3 4	to	3 6

There was a decrease of 330 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Thursday last. Trade for all descriptions of both wethers and ewes was of an exceedingly dull and dragging nature, choice small weights only making late rates, heavier descriptions being very unsaleable. Scotch sheep were in fair average supply, and, being small handy weights, sold well at an advance of 2d. per 8 lb. On the contrary, Irish were in larger supply, and shared in the slow trade prevailing. Lambs also met with a sluggish inquiry, all sales being based on last week's currencies. The prospects of a clearance being effected is extremely doubtful. The supply included 300 Scotch, 500 Irish, and 792 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.		s. d.	Monday, July 16, 1906. s. d.		s. d.
8 st. Scotch	6 2	to	6 4	5 10	to	6 0
7½ to 8 st Downs	6 0	to	6 2	5 8	to	5 10
9 st. Downs	5 10	to	6 0	5 6	to	5 8
10 st Halfbreds	5 6	to	5 8	5 2	to	5 4
10 st Yorkshires	—			—		
12 st Lincolns, half-breds	—			4 10	to	5 0
10 st Irish	5 8	to	5 10	4 10	to	5 0
10 st Down Ewes	3 10	to	4 0	4 0	to	4 2
11 st Halfbred ditto	—			—		
5 st Down Lambs	6 10	to	7 0	7 0	to	7 2
6 st Halfbreds ditto	6 6	to	6 8	5 10	to	6 0

Calf trade not worth noting or quoting. No pigs on the market.

London (Central), Monday. — Moderate trade, supplies being fair. Beef, English, 3s 10d to 4s; Scotch, 4s 2d to 4s 8d; American, 3s 9d to 3s 11d; refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 10d to 4s. Mutton, English wethers, 4s 4d to 5s; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 10d. Lambs, 5s 4d to 5s 10d; Scotch tegs and wethers, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 10d. Veal, 3s 8d to 4s 8d. Pork, 3s 8d to 4s per stone.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—To-day's supply compared with Monday last showed an increase of 315 head, and consisted of 683 from the United States and 200 from Canada. Trade ruled of a fairly steady nature, however; sellers were obliged to accept a decline of 1d per 8 lb on last Saturday's currencies. Top prices paid per 8 lb are as follows (sinking the offal):—States, 4s 4d to 4s 6d seconds, 4s 1d to 4s 3d; Canadians, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; seconds, 3s 10d to 4s. On Saturday 1,800 beasts from the United States were offered for sale, and met with a firm and steady trade at an advance in value. Besides the above, 800 more were withheld. The best on offer were quoted at 4s 5d to 4s 7d; seconds, 4s 2d to 4s 4d.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London Monday.—Linseed Cakes. — Trade even for this time of year is pareicularly quiet, but there is still a fair business doing in cakes to store for the autumn demand in order to take advantage of the low spot prices at present ruling.

Cotton Cake: Stocks of Egyptian made are now getting small, and with no immediate prospects of fresh arrivals, are firmly held at full prices. London made unchanged.

Decorticated Cotton Cake and Meal: These both go slowly into consumption at last quotations.

Linseed: Market is a little higher on the week on account of smaller shipments.

English Linseed Cake,	ex mill	7	5	0	to 7	7	6
Indian Calcutta Linseed cake,	ex quay	7	7	6	to 7	10	0
Russian Oil Cake	ex quay	7	2	6	to 7	7	6
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6	15	0	to 7	7	6
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal	ex quay	6	15	0	7	0	0
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill...	4	16	3	4	17	6
Egyptian ,, Cake	(in bags)	4	16	3	4	18	9
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included)	on rail, Burton	4	15	0	—		
Duluth Linseed (in bulk per 416 lb	ex warehouse	2	5	6	—		
Calcutta Linseed (in bags), per 410 lb	ex warehouse	2	5	0	—		
La Plata Linseed per 416 lb.	ex warehouse	2	4	0	2	12	
Russian Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb	ex warehouse	2	5	6	—		

—Robt. & John Hewetson

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, July 15.—The quantity of linseed and cottonseed on passage is much larger than at this time last year, but the demand is good, and prices are kept up at a higher level than usual for July.

Linseed. per 416 lb.	s. s.
Bombay	45 to 46
Calcutta	44 to 45
Russian	43 to 44
Argentine re-cleaned	49 to 50
Argentine cleand	47 to 48
,, F.A.Q.	44 to 45
Argentine com-mon	42 to 43
Dutch best	50 to 51
,, medium	45 to 48
Duluth	43 to 44
Canadian	44 to 45
Rapeseed. per 416 lb.	
English best	92 to 100
,, F.A.Q.	80 to 88
,, common	72 to 76
French F.A.Q.	66 to 68
Yellow Guzerat	57 to 59

	s. s.
Yellow Cawn-pore	54 to 55
Brown ,,	53 to 54
Ferozepore	53 to 54
Rubsen. per 424 lb	
German	70 to 74
Poppyseed. per 377 lb.	
	s. s.
Indian	56 to 57
Cottonseed. per ton.	
Egyptian	157 to 159
Indian	137 to 139
Sunflowerseed. per cwt.	
English, White	15 to 16
Russian, White.	14 to 15
,, Black.	13 to 14
Sesame. per cwt.	
Indian	17 to 18
Hempseed. per 336 lb.	
Russian	33 to 35

WET AND DRIED GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Wet Grains: Prices remain about the same, with a slightly easier tendency due to warmer weather and haymaking, and business has been done at 11s to 12s ale, and 9s to 9s 6d porter per ton. Pressed white distillery meal is firm at 32s 6d per ton on rail, London. Dried Grains.—The demand continues fairly brisk and prices are firm at—Distillers, 105s; ale, 92s 6d to 95s; and mixed, 85s to 87s 6d; and the same prices for monthly deliveries, June to September, on rail, London. Calcutta rice meal, 80s; rice germ, 97s 6d; American cane treacle in good demand, 87s 6d per ton, on rail, London. Kiln dried sea-damaged Australian wheat from 20s per qr.—Hamlyn and Co.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—The reports from the plantations speak of an increase of vermin, but fine weather generally makes the market weak; consequently there is less inclination to do business to-day, but holders are firm, stocks being very small.—W. H. and H. Le May.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

The number of beasts on both market days at Islington was precisely the same as on the previous week. The supply on the first day was chiefly drawn from the Midland counties. The Irish arrivals were small, and consisted entirely of Waterfords. Trade for fat beasts was of a somewhat slow nature, though no alteration in regard to value can be noted. This remark also applies to the Irish trade. Fat butchering cows and bulls were in fair average numbers, and met with a limited inquiry from both town and country buyers, 2d. per 8 lb. decline in value having to be accepted to effect sales. On Thursday sales were confined to fat butchering cows and bulls, Monday's prices governing all transactions.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, rates on the whole, ruled of a firm and steady nature, as also was the trade. The supply consisted of shipments from the United States and Canada. The total number on offer at both markets was 3,803, as against 3,552 during the previous week, consisting of 700 British and 3,013 foreign (increase 251), these latter comprising 2,893 from the United States, and 120 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 90 stone Norfolks, 4s. 6d. ex 4s. 8d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 95 stone Irish 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 90 stone States, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 95 stone Canadians, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 8d., ex. 3s. 10d.

In the sheep market at Islington there was an increase in the supply, and meeting with no corresponding increase in the demand, trade ruled dull and heavy, and in many transactions a decline of 2d. per 8 lb. had to be accepted to effect sales. On the other hand, Scotch descriptions were in smaller numbers, and met with more inquiry, consequently an advance of 2d. per 8 lb. was asked and obtained. Irish sheep shared in the general decline. Lambs, though slow of sale, were firm in regard to value. On Thursday trade ruled of a quiet nature with a downward tendency in value though not sufficient to warrant our quoting any lower prices, whilst lambs were difficult to vend even at a decline of 4d. per 8 lb. The total number on offer was 8,420, as against 8,180 during the previous week, showing an increase of 240. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 6s. to 6s. 2d.; 8 stone Scotch, 6s. to 6s. 2d; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 10 stone Halfbreds, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 5 stone fat grass lambs, 6s. 10d. to 7s.; 6 stone Halfbred ditto, 6s. 4d. to 6s. 6d.

The calf trade ruled of a slow nature, and numbered 90 head, the best on offer were quoted at from 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d. per 8lb. (sinking the offal). No pigs were offered for sale.

Trade in the West.

Now that harvest time is getting within measurable distance, the precarious state of the weather is naturally giving rise to feelings of the gravest anxiety as to the growing crops in the minds of our agricultural friends, who are beginning to lose all hope of any improvement, this feeling being accentuated by much of the wheat showing signs of blight. The weather, however, underwent a great change for the better during Thursday. All the more forward-condition graziers—either heifers or steers—continue to find a ready sale at remunerative pricers to sellers in consequence of the good return fat bullocks are just now making—for these two special classes of beasts £24 to £31 or £32 being the range at present for anything like meaty bullocks, and graziers find some difficulty in getting their demands fully met. Young cows sell up to £17 or £18 for really serviceable milchers likely to do duty in the dairy for another season or two; older animals are less wanted, and can be acquired at any price ranging from £14 £15, down to as low as £10 or £11 for milked-out bullocks. Good class stirks also sell very freely from £9 or £10, up to £13 and £14 for very promising animals, whilst yearlings range from £6 up to £7 10s. Sheep, which in spite of so much wet, are keeping unusually sound, are just now attracting a good deal of attention on the part of buyers.

The fat stock markets show but little tendency to lower values. Beef, for one thing, is decidedly dearer than it was, and when we find steers, selling up to £27 apiece, for not particularly heavy bullocks, this rather savours of Christmas than of midsummer values. But such is a fact, and plenty of the ordinary runs of heifers and steers are now making from £20 up to £24 or £25 apiece (fully 12s. per score and more for the best weights) whilst the more ordinary runs sell from 11s to 11s 6d., and fat cows at 10s. to 10s. 6d.; there being nothing in the way of beef at all worthy of the name procurable under 10s. Wether mutton is exceedingly dear, but some classes of ewes rather favour buyers—that is, for coarse heavy weights. The choicest quality wethers now make 6s. to 6s. 6d. per stone, and the coarse weights 5s. 4d. to 5s. 10d. Well-finished lambs are meeting a steady sale at 6s. 10d. to 7s. per stone, and seconds 6s. 4d. to 6s. 8d. Calves from scarcity command fully late rates for the best finished animals; but plainer calves are a trifle lower. Pigs of the better class sell from 9s. 6d. up to 10s. 9d. per score; but coarse weights must not be quoted more than 8s. to 9s.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer has been rather larger. The best qualities made as nearly as possible previous prices, but a considerable proportion of those on offer, being short of quality, sold at from 10s. to 15s. per head less. Sheep in rather larger numbers. A steady demand was experienced for those adapted for shop purposes, and they made fair prices, but secondary were cheaper. Ewes were in fair demand, without change in price. An exceedingly large supply of lambs on offer, and they suffered an average fall of 2s. per head. There was the largest and best show of calves for a considerable time, and they were just the turn cheaper. Pigs a small show, and more money realised. Owing to the Highland Society Show there was only a small supply or store cattle. With a moderate attendance of buyers a dull trade was experienced, and a considerable number of those on offer were left over. Milch cows a fair show, and they met a good trade. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 42s. 6d.; current, 38s. to 40s.; mutton, 7d. to 9½d. per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Ltd.

Trade in Ireland

The supply of cattle and sheep at last Dublin's Thursday market was again very large, there being 2,946 cattle—an increase of 183 on the week—and 10,874 sheep, an increase of 1,770. The attendance of buyers, too, was large. In the cattle department really well-finished beasts maintained the late good currencies, but heifers were more difficult to dispose of, and a good many were returned unsold. The average tone of the market opened rather quietly, but improved somewhat as the day wore on. The average top run of prices ranged from 31s. to 34s. (live weight). The approximate dead weight prices would be:—Prime heifer and ox beef 57s. 6d. to 60s., and a few extra good lots 62s. to 64s. per cwt.; good second-class beef 52s. 6d. to 56s., and inferior beef 46s. to 50s. per cwt. Really well-finished bullocks commanded late prices, but heifers were more difficult to dispose of. Rough cattle hard to sell.

There was a fair trade done in wether mutton at from 7½d. to 8½d., and suitable ewes made from 7d. to 7½d., but owing to cautiousness of buyers it was difficult to maintain the prices of last week, and buying for the shipping trade was done at slightly cheaper prices. There was, however, a large trade done in sheep worth from 36s. to 56s. each. Early in the day large lambs sold very weak, good ewes at from 30s. to 38s., and large fat ones, 40s. to 42s. each. Thin, small sized lambs sold for 12s. each upwards. Veal of prime quality sold at from 8d. to 9d. per lb. freely; rough calves, from 4½d. per lb. upwards, but very slowly. Milch cows of good quality were in request, and strippers sold freely, where of good shape and make, from £17 to £20; new milch cows, from £15 to £17. Business for store cattle is still very good, and many sales were made at the weekly auction sale.

At the Pig Market there was a good attendance of both shipping and home buyers. For really good swine there was a decline of from 1s. to 2s. per cwt., while the reduction was more on lean kine. The clearance of unsuitable pigs was late and disappointing. Choice light-weight bacon pigs, 51s. to 53s. per cwt.; inferior pigs, 38s. to 40s. per cwt.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—To day's supply of beasts consisted entirely of fat butchering cows and bulls, which met a slow trade at Monday's values. Top prices paid per 8 lb: Fat cows, 3s 8d; extreme, 3s 10d; fat bulls, 2s 9d to 3s 3d. Trade for sheep ruled slow for both wethers and ewes, nevertheless, Monday's prices governed all transactions, whilst lambs, on the other hand, were difficult to vend, even at a decline of 4d per 8 lb. Best pens made per 8 lb as follows: 7½ to 8 stone Down sheep, 6s to 6s 2d; 9 stone ditto, 5s 10d to 6s; 10 stone ditto, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10 stone half-breds, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10 stone Down ewes, 3s 10d to 4s; 5 stone fat Down lambs, 6s 6d to 6s 8d. Calves were in full supply, and ruled slow at late currencies. Quotations per 8 lb, sinking the offal: Beasts, 2s 9d to 3s 10d; sheep, 3s 10d to 6s 2d; calves, 4s to 5s 8d; lambs, 5s 6d to 6s 8d.

Central Market, Friday.—Fair supplies and trade slow:—English beef, 3s 10d to 4s; Scotch sides, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; shorts, 4s 4d to 4s 8d, extreme, 4s 10d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 8d to 4s; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 9d to 3s 11d; ditto seconds, 3s 7d to 3s 8d; ditto forequarters, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; inferior beef, 2s 2d to 3s; mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; ditto tegs, 5s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; English wethers, 4s 10d to 5s 4d; ditto ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; Dutch sheep, 4s 8d to 5s; English lamb, 5s 8d to 6s 4d; veal, 3s 8d to 4s 8d; English pork, 3s 8d to 4s 8d; Dutch pork, 3s 6d to 3s 10d per 8 lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade dull, buyers being fewer. Good beef sold readily at 4s 8d to 4s 10d, but secondary was heavy. Mutton 2d per stone cheaper, Downs being quoted up to 6s 2d, and small neat Kent's to 5s 8d; while ewes ranged between 4s and 4s 4d. Veal made up to 5s 4d. Lamb and pork unchanged.

Berwick, Saturday.—Attendance of farmers and buyers very small, and trade quiet. Heifers, £8 10s; stirks, £7 10s to £10; two-year-olds, £11 10s; three-year-olds, £14 15s; Shorthorn bulls, £12.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Small supply of beasts sheep and pigs; trade good for pigs, but slow for beasts and sheep. Beef, 6½d to 6¾d, a few at 7d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 9d to 9½d per lb; bacon pigs, 10s per score; cutting pigs, 10s to 10s 3d per score; sows, 8s per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—At market beef was not so plentiful as usual, and with a limited demand trade was dull at highest prices of 62s per cwt for best qualities, and 58s for secondary. Mutton and lamb were offered in considerable quantity, and an average amount of business was transacted at increased values. Light Down wethers, 8¾d per lb; prime wethers, 8½d; heavy, 7¾d; ewes, 6d to 6½d; lambs, 9½d to 10d. Pigs were again scarce, porkers being firm at 10s 9d per score, and baconers advancing to 10s.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices of pigs:—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 1s. per pig extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. 10 lb to 8 sc. 10 lbs, 10s per score, 8 sc. 11 lb to 9 sc. 10 lb,, 9s 6d per score; 9 sc. 11 lb to 10 sc. 10 lb, 9s. Pigs outside these limits at their value.—C. and T. Harris and Co., Ltd.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The first of the store lambs are now being offered; some rough specimens were sold to-day at 16s per head. There was, otherwise, not much business doing. Yearling bullocks are making from £7 to £8, and cows and calves from £14 5s. to £16 10s per head.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small attendance of buyers, and a quiet trade. Wintering heifers made £6 10s to £10 10s, and feeding cattle to £15 each.

Chester, Thursday.—Trade was much quieter on the whole, though prices remained about the same as last week. Prices: Milch cows, £18 to £22; calvers, £15 to £19; barrens, £10 to £12; heifers, £9 to £14; stirks, £6 to £9; sheep, 18s to 32s.

Derby, Tuesday.—All classes of fat stock were dear. Beasts 6d to 7d, calves 8d, sheep 7½d to 9d lambs 10d. to 11d per lb.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Very small supply of cattle, and a poor attendance of buyers. Trade

ruled slow. Milch beasts, £17 to £22; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers and drapes, £11 to £15; stirks, £8 to £10; young stores, £7 to £8 each. Fair supply of sheep, but little doing at late rates. Hoggs 46s to 54s; lambs, 20s to 31s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—The cattle was a very small affair to-day, Messrs. Ensor and Son at their repository sale having a very light offer in all departments. Prices of what there was on sale ruled fairly firm, and we have nothing lower to report either for fat or store things. Store cattle met a very good sale, from £15 15s to £20 being the range for good class heifers, and £11 10s to £14 15s for cows. Grazing cattle may be quoted at about the same. In beef heifers ranged from £16 10s to £20 each (or 11s to 11s 6d per score), and cows from £13 10s to £15 15s (or 10s to 10s 6d). Mutton keeps very short, and prices, as a rule, are well maintained, more especially for the choicer grades. Lamb is practically unaltered in value.

Dublin, Thursday.—A quieter trade for all classes of cattle at a slight reduction all round, though demand was well sustained, and a fair clearance effected. Best suitable sheep for home use more difficult to place, shipping qualities favouring buyers. Lambs, owing to favourable weather, were in good demand, but in order to effect sales, sellers had to accept less money for all grades. Cattle—Live weight (best), 32s to 34s per cwt. Secondary and inferior sorts, 29s to 31s 6d per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 6d to 8d per lb; extreme, 8¼d per lb.—GANLY, SONS AND CO.

Exeter, Friday.—Very small supply of beasts, as farmers are haymaking. Steers and maiden heifers, 12s; cows, 10s 6d. Hoggs sold freely at 9d, and ewes very bad sale at 6d. Best quality lambs, 10d to 11d; calves, 7d.

Gloucester.—Messrs. Bruton, Knowles, and Co. report their sales as follows:—Cows and calves and store cattle very short supply all round with little demand.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Fair supply of fat cattle, but no alteration in the trade. Best bullock and heifer beef made from 6d to 6½d per lb, some prime animals reaching 6¾d, fat cows 5d to 5½d. Veal a large supply, and went a trifle cheaper at 7½d to 8d; store calves slow. Sheep a moderate supply, and trade fairly firm, wethers realising 8d to 8½d, fat ewes 6d to 7d. Fat lambs ranged from 8½d to 10d. Porks a short supply, and made 5d to 5½d easily.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report a heavy supply of fat cattle, all of which were yard fed. Trade was brisk, and prices firm up to 8s 6d per stone. South Coast buyers were present, and made considerable purchases. Grazing cattle were well represented. Those with condition were in good demand, but young animals were not so much in request, and prices ruled lower. Shorthorn heifers two years old to £12 12s; six home bred steers, 18 months, £10; twelve, £6 to £9 10s; roan North Country steers, 14 months, to £8 10s; yearlings and calves, £7; to £5 5s. At the special sale of dairy stock 55 cows and heifers were offered; those fresh calved or near were in fair demand; cows to £19 10s; heifers with calves to £17 5s; in calf to £15 10s; fat lambs dear to 49s; fat sheep were a good trade and values well maintained; Suffolk Shearlings to 63s 6d; half-breds to 60s; Southdowns, 51s; fat ewes to 60s; lambs and ewes sold freely; Suffolk ewe lambs to 42s 6d; wethers to 37s 6d; half-breds to 35s. Fat swine were short. Heavy pigs were sharply competed for, but medium weights were not so brisk.

Leicester, Saturday.—Moderate supplies of stock after the fair, and buyers were poorly represented. Trade quiet all round. Good milch cows, £18 to £20; secondary, £14 to £15; Shorthorn bullocks, £12 10s. to £16; Welsh cattle, £9 to £12; young stock, £4 10s to £7 10s each. Calves met a dull trade.

Lincoln, Friday.—Fair consignment of horned stock, and a moderate demand. Young beasts £7 to £9; strong ditto, £11 to £13; milch cows, £17 to £21 each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—An average show of fat beasts sold at late rates, from 7s to 7s 9d per stone. A few stores, with very little trade, making from £6 to £12 each. Fat sheep average show, and trade slow, making from 9s to 9s 6d per stone; a few stores met late rates, from 45s to 52s. Store lambs 28s to 33s; fat lambs 30s to 40s each.

Manchester, Friday. — Beef: First class, 5¾d; second class, 4¾d to 5¼d; third class, 3¾d to 4½d. Mutton: First classs, 8½d; second class, 7¾d to 8¼; thirds, 6¼d to 7d. Veal: First class, 7d; second class, 6d to 6¼d; third class, 5d to 5¼d. Lamb: First class, 8½d; second class, 7¾d to 8¼d per lb.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Cattle trade was a shade heavier, and prices declined 3d for all the better qualities. Prime cattle of medium weight made 8s 3d to 8s 6d; strong heavy heifers, 8s to 8s 3d; strong heavy steers, 8s to 8s 3d; second-class, 7s 9d to 8s; coarse and inferior, 6s 9d to 7s per stone, sinking the offal. Sheep trade was quiet, but prices were the same except for lambs, which were ½d to 1d down, and ewes fell ½d to ½d. Quotations:—Choice young sheep, 9d to 9½d; strong heavy sheep, 8½d to 9d; choice lambs, 9½d to 9¼d; second-class lambs, 8½d to 9d; ewes, 5½d to 6d; rams, 5d to 5½d per lb. Calves were a slightly larger supply, 141 compared with 126. Trade in veal was good at an advance of 1d, prices running from 6d to 7½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—A shorter supply of cattle, sheep, and lambs. A large supply of calves. A good attendance of buyers, and there was a rather better trade all round. Best beef, 6¾d to 7d per lb; seconds, 6½d to 6¾d; cows, 5d to 5½d; best wether mutton, 8¼ to 8¾d; ewes, 7d to 7½d; lamb, 9d to 9½d; calves, 7d to 8½d; porker pigs, 10s 6d to 11s per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—Fat cattle were in small supply, and the quality was poor. Grass-fed beasts made 8s per stone, and other qualities sold well at from 7s to 7s 9d. Veal calves, which were mostly of second quality, sold up to 9s per stone. A very small show of sheep, but the quality was good, all the best making over 9d per lb; other qualities from 7d to 8½d. Fat pigs were of good quality, and trade was brisker, all being sold. Bacon pigs made 6s 3d to 6s 6d; porkers 6s 7d; and sows, 5s 3d per stone. Small show of store cattle, principally of second quality. Trade was slow, prices ranging generally from £6 to £10 10s; one lot, however, made £16 per head. Calves were of better quality, and sold at from 20s to 50s per head. Sheep, ewes, and lambs were of good quality. Shearlings made from 55s to 65s; older animals from 30s to 52s; and lambs 25s to 40s per head. Pigs, which were mostly small, and of fairly good quality, made from 11s to 22s 6d each.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Average show of milking stock, trade for best cows being slow at £17 to £20, while in-calf heifers realised £13 to £17 each. Small supply of store beasts, which sold fairly briskly; strong heifers and steers realised £10 to £14, and younger beasts £6 to £9. Calves made 25s to 45s each.

Preston, Wednesday.—Excellent supplies of cattle, sheep, and calves. Prices for choice animals were well maintained. Scotch heifers made 7d, Irish ditto 7d, local ditto 7d to 7¼d, hogg sheep 9¼d, choice ewes 7¾d, heavy tups and ewes 6d to 7d, choice lambs 10d, secondary ditto 9¼d, calves 7d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—The value of milch beasts fully maintained the best selling at £18 to £20, and secondary £15 to £17 each. Young stock showed no material change, two year-old steers and heifers making £10 to £12; yearlings, £6 to £8; calves, 35s to 45s each.

Romford, Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts; trade slow. Best animals, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in average supply; trade about the same at 5s 4d to 5s 6d per stone. Sheep in large supply; trade slow. Best small sheep, 5s 8d to 6s; large, 5s 4d to 5s 6d per stone. Ewes in average supply; trade slow, at 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. Lambs in average supply; trade slow at 6s 4d to 6s 8d per stone. A few store beasts on offer. Slow demand. Good supply of milch cows. Slow trade. Small supply of pigs. Trade slow. Small porkers, 3s 8d to 4s; large hogs, 2s 8d to 3s per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—More milch beasts than last week, and a brisker trade. The best made £19 to £21 10s; younger beasts, £14 to £16 10s.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday. — Small supply of small stock, with a slow trade. Usual quantity of fat cattle, which met a good demand. Calves, sheep, and pigs usual trade. Quotations:—Beef, 6¾d to 7d per lb; mutton (wether), 9d to 10d per lb; ewes, 7d to 8d per lb; lamb, 9d to 10d per lb; veal, 7¼d to 8d per lb; porket pigs, 10s per score; bacons, 9s 3d to 9s 6d per score.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was about the usual supply of best cattle, which made 8s 3d to 8s 6d per stone, whilst rougher kinds sold at 6s 6d to 7s per stone. Lambs made 10d to 11d per lb; young sheep, 9d; ewes, 7d; and tups, 6d. The pig trade was dragging, but last week's prices were maintained, nice porker pigs making 7s 3d per stone; mediums, 6s 9d; and sows, 6s.

Thame, Wednesday.—There was again a splendid show of all description of stock, and it was by far the largest market, so far, held this season. The quality of the cattle was excellent, a great many bullocks being pitched, especially some crossbred Herefords from Mr. Frank Chowns, of Tetworth, which made up to £27 apiece. With a very full attendance of buyers, there was a selling trade throughout of all descriptions of beef, practically every lot changing hands at prices most satisfactory to the graziers. Sheep and lambs still continue to sell well. Bacon and pork in request, whilst there is a good demand for veal. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 112 fat beasts, 194 fat sheep, 70 fat and weaning calves, and 113 fat and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £16 to £27; fat heifers, £14 to £22; fat wethers, 45s to 60s; fat ewes, 42s to 54s; fat lambs, 36s to 45s; fat calves, £3 10s to £4 5s; weaning cow calves, 30s to 50s; bull calves, 10s to 42s; bacon hogs, £3 to £5; porkers, 30s to 48s; store pigs, 12s to 26s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance very good, business fairly brisk. Fat bullocks, 56s to 60s per cwt; barreners, 40s to 45s; store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £10 to £14 each; rearing calves, 16s to 38s; wethers, 7d to 7½d per lb; ewes, 5d to 5½d; lambs, 8d to 8½d; pigs, 9s 9d to 42s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8½d; lamb, 9d to 10d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8½d; pork carcases, 5d to 5½d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday. — Moderate supply. Fair trade for beasts; trade slow for sheep and lambs. Beef, 5½d to 7d per lb; mutton, 7d to 9d per lb; lamb, 9d to 9½d per lb; veal, 7d to 8d per lb.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Liverpool, Friday.—Fertilisers are as usual quiet. Feeding stuffs are in very limited demand, but there is a moderate inquiry the last few days, and values rule fairly steady.

	Per ton. £ s d	£ s d
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (fair to good)	7 10 0	7 15 0
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime (soft)	7 12 6	7 17 6
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime	4 15 0	5 0 0
Cottonseed Cake, Bombay	4 5 0	4 7 6
Linseed Cake, American, thin oblong	7 5 0	7 10 0
,, ,, English, prime	7 15 0	8 0 0
,, ,, River Plate	7 7 6	7 12 6
Palm Nut Cake	5 18 9	6 0 0
Maize Germ Meal	6 2 6	6 5 0
	Per 240 lb.	
Indian Meal, coarse to fine grinding	1 3 0	—
	Per ton.	
Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported	5 2 6	5 5 0
	Per qr., 416 lb.	
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2 10 0	2 12 0
	Per Gallon.	
Cod-liver Oil, cattle feeding	0 4 0	—
Treacle, feeding, good to prime	Per Cwt. 0 4 6	0 4 9
	Per ton.	
Nitrate of Soda	11 0 0	—
Kainit, prime	2 7 6	—
Bone Meal, prime	5 10 0	—
Bone Ash, fine and powdery	3 15 0	—
Basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed	—	—
,, ,, ,,		
,, finest ,, ,,		
D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime*	2 5 0	2 7 0
,, ,, guaranteed*	2 10 0	2 12 0
,, ,, ,, *	3 1 3	3 3 3

* At depot inland.

—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cake: The favourable change in the weather of the last few days kept the country busy, consequently the markets are poorly attended, and the demand purely of a retail character, values, however, are well maintained, and in some cases rather more money is asked. Russian are quiet and unchanged. East India seed pures are still quoted at late rates. London made sell rather more freely. Fine seedy Calcuttas are without alteration. Cotton Cake.—Stocks in warehouses are practically exhausted, but a small parcel just arrived can be had on slightly easier terms, while English remain unaltered. Decorticated: London made pures continue to sell freely, although American are little sought after. Rape cakes unchanged. Maize Germ Meal.—With no White American to be had, London manufacturers are able to hold their prices of last week, but little business is passing thereat. Maize gluten meal is very scarce, with ready buyers in any position. Rice Meal.—Values are unchanged, and parce's in warehouse still offer at last week's quotations, while passage lots are also unchanged. Locust Beans.—Scarce and very firm. Dried brewers' grains are rather more inquired after. Nitrate of soda is rather easier:—

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
Russian, in mats (ex dock)	7 0 0 to	7 2 6
,, in bags	7 5 0 to	7 7 6
East India	7 3 9 to	7 5 0
Calcutta	7 7 6 to	7 10 0
English (ex mill)	7 5 0 to	7 7 6
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian	4 13 9 to	4 16 3
English (ex mill)	4 15 0 to	4 17 6
Bombay	4 1 3	

Decorticated, London made	7	2	6	to 7	5	0
,, American	6	15	0			
,, Meal, American	6	12	6	to 7	0	0
Digestive Meal	5	0	0			
Rape Cakes.						
East India seed	5	0	0			
Maize.						
English	5	15	0	to 5	17	6
Maize Gluten Meal	5	15	0			
Ricemeal.						
Rangoon ex whf.	4	13	9	to 4	15	0
,, ex ship	4	10	0	to 4	11	3
Locust Beans.						
Whole	5	5	0			
Kibbled	5	10	0			
Dried Brewers' Grains.						
Ale	4	15	0			
Mixed	4	10	0			
Nitrate of soda	10	18	9	to 11	0	0

—Pinnock Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Fairly good supply and demand. Goslings, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; country ducks, 2s to 2s 6d; Aylesbury ducks, 2s 6d to 3s; Surrey and Sussex fowls, 3s to 4s 3d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 3s; Essex fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Irish fowls, 1s 8d to 2s 4d; quails, 1s; feathered pigeons, 8d to 10d; Bordeaux pigeons, 1s to 1s 2d; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 6d; wild rabbits, 5d to 8d; live hens, 1s 6d to 1s 9d each; Australian rabbits, 6s 6d to 7s 6d per doz.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—An improved demand for a good supply of fruit and vegetables. Quotations for English produce:—Grapes, 8d to 3s; strawberries (Southampton), 9d to 1s 6d per basket; ditto (Kent), 2s to 3s per peck; green figs, 3s to 5s; nectarines, 2s to 12s per dozen; gooseberries, 2s to 3s 6d; black currants, 4s 6d 6s; red ditto, 4s to 5s; cherries, 3s 6d to 7s 6d per half-sieve; peaches, 2s to 12s per dozen; raspberries, 5s to 6s per dozen punnets; tomatoes, 5s to 6s; vegetable marrows, 3s to 5s per dozen; spinach, 1s; beetroots, 1s 6d to 2s per bushel; cucumbers, 4s 6d to 5s 6d per flat; turnips, 2s 6d to 3s; carrots, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; mint, 1s to 1s 6d; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen bunches; endive, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per dozen; cabbage, 3s to 4s per tally; green peas, 3s to 4s per bag; ditto, 2s to 3s per bushel; onions, 5s to 6s per cwt; spring ditto, 1s to 1s 6d per dozen bunches; mushrooms, 6s to 10s per 12 lb; broad beans, 2s per bushel; horseradish, 10s to 15s per dozen bundles; potatoes, 5s 6d to 7s 6d per cwt.

HOPS.

Worcester, Saturday.—The last three days have been more suitable for hop growing, but have developed any latent vermin which will have to be washed away. There has been rather more enquiry, and some business has resulted at slightly improved prices, but buyers and sellers are reserved at present. Stocks of 1906 hops are now very much reduced. A few yearlings and older hops have also been sold.—Charles Faram and Co.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The bine is backward, but will be helped materially by the warmer weather should it continue. Meanwhile a rather more healthy demand is experienced on the market.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Arrivals more liberal, but only a moderate business passing, owing to the holidays, which begin this week end. Prices are unchanged.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—A good attendance of buyers, and all cleared. Best Caerphilly dairies realised up to 48s per cwt; secondary dairies, 45s 6d to 47s; and other dairies 42s to 44s. A few inferior lots failed to reach 40s. Cheddars:—Prime old, from 57s to 59s; truckles, old and ripe, from 68s to 70s; new ditto, 56s 6d to 59s; doubles, 54s to 57s.

Newport, Wednesday.—Eight to nine tons pitched, a good demand, and an average attendance. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 36s to 45s per cwt; fancy dairies, 46s to 48s; Derbies, 56s to 64s; truckles, 58s to 62s; doubles, 58s to 60s.

Cereal Years' Prices.

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
1905-6	28	9	24	2	18	5
1904-5	30	7	24	6	16	11
1903-4	27	2	21	11	16	4
1902-3	26	5	23	0	17	8
1901-2	28	4	26	0	20	4
1900-1	27	1	25	0	18	4
1899-1900	26	5	25	0	17	5
1898-9	26	1	26	1	17	4
1897-8	36	4	27	9	18	4
1896-7	28	8	23	2	16	9

Monthly Averages.
(190 Market Towns.)

	1906.			1907.		
	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Wheat	Barley	Oats
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan.	28 6	24 9	18 5	26 1	24 2	17 4
Feb.	28 10	25 4	18 11	26 6	24 3	17 7
Mar.	28 5	24 8	18 11	26 9	23 11	18 0
April	29 1	24 2	19 1	26 9	23 8	18 10
May	30 2	24 0	20 0	28 5	24 0	19 10
June	30 4	23 4	20 2	31 6	24 6	20 9
July	30 4	23 1	20 4			
Aug.	29 6	23 7	17 9			
Sept.	26 1	24 5	16 2			
Oct.	26 5	25 0	16 7			
Nov.	26 5	24 5	17 1			
Dec.	26 2	24 1	17 3			

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1906.

		s.	d.
September 1	(per sack)	29	0
October 8	,,	28	0
May 13	,,	29	0
,, 24	,,	31	0
,, 31	,,	30	0
June 5	,,	31	0

(No change since last date given).

Average Monthly Cash Prices of Town Households Flour.

	1907	1906.	1905.	1904.	1903.	1902.	1901.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan.	22 0	25 0	26 3	24 9	24 0	21 9	24 6
Feb.	22 0	24 9	26 9	25 6	24 3	22 0	24 0
March	21 9	24 3	26 6	25 0	23 9	21 9	23 9
April	22 3	24 6	26 0	25 3	23 9	23 0	24 0
May	25 0	24 0	25 9	24 9	24 0	23 6	23 6
June	25 6	23 9	25 6	24 3	24 3	23 0	23 0
July		23 6	25 0	25 0	24 3	23 0	22 3
August		23 0	25 0	26 6	24 9	22 9	22 3
Sept.		22 9	24 6	27 0	25 0	23 3	22 0
Oct.		22 6	25 0	27 0	24 9	22 9	21 6
Nov.		22 0	25 0	26 9	24 3	22 9	21 6
Dec.		21 9	25 0	26 9	24 3	23 3	21 9
Yrly. Avrg.		23 5	25 6	25 9	24 3	22 8	22 10

English Wheat, Barley & Oats in 1906.

	Wheat.		Barley		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Highest of Year	30	4	25	4	20	4
Lowest of Year	26	1	23	1	16	2
Gradient	4	3	2	3	4	2
Mean of Year	28	4	24	3	18	7

Yearly Averages (Official).

	Wheat.			Barley.			Oats.		
	s.	d.		s.	d.		s.	d.	
1890	31	9	per qr.	28	8	per qr.	18	7	per qr.
1891	37	1	,,	28	2	,,	20	0	,,
1892	30	4	,,	26	2	,,	19	11	,,
1893	26	4	,,	25	6	,,	18	9	,,
1894	22	10	,,	24	6	,,	17	1	,,
1895	23	1	,,	21	11	,,	14	6	,,
1896	26	2	,,	22	11	,,	14	9	,,
1897	30	2	,,	23	6	,,	16	11	,,
1898	34	0	,,	27	2	,,	18	5	,,
1899	25	8	,,	25	7	,,	17	0	,,
1900	26	11	,,	25	9	,,	17	9	,,
1901	26	9	,,	25	3	,,	18	5	,,
1902	28	0	,,	25	8	,,	20	2	,,
1903	26	9	,,	22	11	,,	17	2	,,
1904	28	4	,,	22	4	,,	16	4	,,
1905	29	9	,,	24	4	,,	17	4	,,
1906	28	4	,,	24	3	,,	18	7	,,

Seven Years' Tithe Rent Charges.

For 1907	£68	19	6
,, 1906	68	12	1
,, 1905	69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9

Mr. Frank Grainger, the well-known farmer and breeder, of Boston Spa, met with a nasty accident whilst at Peterborough Show on Thursday. He was standing behind a horse, which suddenly lashed out and knocked him down. He was attended to by the ambulance nurse and removed to Peterborough Infirmary, where it was found that he had received a compound fracture of the thigh. Happily he is going on as well as can be expected.

Dublin Store Cattle Sales.

Mr. Gavin Low sold over 1,000 head store cattle of the different breeds and ages, &c., on the 4th inst. at 50, Prussia Street, Dublin. The animals included many horned and Polly bullocks in forward condition, as were also Aberdeen-Angus and Hereford crosses, likewise a number of very choice young cattle. There was a fairly numerous attendance of buyers from this side of the Channel and from home counties. Trade throughout the sale ruled comparatively even, but prices were on a lower basis than at Mr. Low's recent sales to the extent of about 3s. per cwt. Forward Shorthorn crosses, two and a half and three years, realised from £12 2s. 6d. to £14; Pollies, same ages, £12 to £14 17s. 6d.; Aberdeen-Angus crosses, £11 15s. to £13 15s; Hereford crosses, £10 10s. to £15 5s.; yearlings from £6 10s. to £9 12s. 6d.

Transactions in Store Stock.

(Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

At the Macroom Fair, co Cork, held on July 9, there was a small supply of cattle; demand fair. Calves, 2nd class, £3 10s. to £4; yearlings, 1st class, £7 10s. to £8 5s.; 2nd class, £5 17s. 6d. to £7 2s. 6d.; 3rd class, £4 12s. 6d. to £5 10s.; two-year-olds, 1st class, £10 to £11; 2nd class, £7 15s. to £9 10s.; 3rd class, £6 5s. to £7 7s 6d.; springers, 1st class, £17 5s. to £17 15s.; 2nd class, £12 15s. to £14 10s.; 3rd class, £9 12s. 6d. to £11. Average supply of lambs; fair demand for any in condition. Lambs, 1st class, 27s. 6d. to 30s.; 2nd class, 22s. to 26s.

At O'Brien's Bridge Fair, co. Clare, held on July 8. Small supply of cattle; demand moderate. Springers scarce and selling well. Yearlings, 2nd class, £6 5s. to £7 15s.; two-year-olds, 1st class, £11 to £12 10s.; 2nd class, £8 15s. to £10 12s. 6d.; springers, 1st class, £16 to £17 10s.; 2nd class, £12 to £15 10s. Small sheep fair; demand good. Lambs, 1st class, 31s to 33s 9d; 2nd class, 27s 6d to 30s; one-year-old and over, 2nd class, 42s. to 45s.

The twenty-fifth annual convention of the Incorporated National Association of British and Irish Millers took place at Exeter last week, commencing on Thursday and extending until Friday, a well-arranged programme of both business and pleasure being carried out successfully. Mr. W. R. Mallett, of Exeter, the president of the association, in the course of his presidential address called attention to the chaotic condition of the trade, and the great decrease in the production of wheat in England, combined with the great increase in the consumption, and in the importation of foreign wheat, and he moved the following resolution:—"That concerted action to improve the trade be taken, and that national uniformity of flour sales contracts be attained as a first step thereto."

At the half-yearly meeting of the Eastern Counties Farmers' Co-operative Association held on Thursday at Ipswich, Mr. E. J. Cheney, chairman of the committee, reported that the Association's prospects had never looked more rosy, and it was the old story of unprecedented progress and success which he had to report to them. On December 31 last the membership was 452, the acreage concerned 143,900, the nominal capital £3,598 5s., and the sales for the twelve months £126,996 1s. To-day the membership was over 600, the nominal capital £4,600, the acreage concerned 184,000, and the sales for the six months ending 30th of last month came to over £84,500, or at the rate of approximately £170,000 a year. In the corresponding six months last year they amounted to £58,400, so that their trade showed an increase of some 44 per cent. over the like period of last year. The pig sales for the past six months amounted to some £31,350, and 112,768 had been sold in the first four months through the newly established egg depôt. They were still a long way off the time when they could ensure the regularity of supply which was absolutely essential if the producer and consumer were to be brought into direct touch with one another. That such a time would come, there was no possibility of doubt.

The prospectus of the Aberdeen and North of Scotland College of Agriculture for Session 1907-8, which will commence October 16 and last until March 18, has now been issued, and shows that a most comprehensive scheme of agricultural education is carried on at this college. The courses of study are arranged to enable students to gain (*a*) the degree of Bachelor of Science in Agriculture, (*b*) the University Diploma in Agriculture, and (*c*) the National Diploma in Agriculture. Full particulars of the courses, together with conditions of entry, fees, &c., are given in the prospectus, copies of which can be had on application to the secretary, Mr. G. Hendry, County Buildings, Aberdeen.

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Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The past five or six days have been all that the cereals could require, and the still, close air of days like Friday and Saturday was especially favourable to the deposit of pollen from the flowering plant upon the stigma which receives the fertilising dust. The growth of the straw is about completed, but a fortnight of steady sunshine is needed to harden the grain within the ear. There are a few farmers in East Kent and in Sussex under the Downs who hope to get a wheat field or so in sheaf before the Bank Holiday, but nearly all the harvest engagements which are being made in the home counties are for the week beginning the Monday from the Bank Holiday, i.e., August 12. Most East Anglian farms will begin wheat harvest on August 19, but north of the Humber matters are more backward. The few fields of rye in Essex and elsewhere will be ripe in a fortnight from now, and early sown winter oats may also be cut before July is out. The French wheat harvest is now in full swing all along the Loire, and in Germany it is in progress on both sides of the Rhine from Cologne to the Swiss frontier. In France hot and fine weather has prevailed since the 12th, but Germany has had a wonderful rainfall, seven inches in as many days; the great change in temperature west and north of Germany has apparently induced this violent precipitation of moisture. The crops have been much laid. It is clear that neither France nor Germany this year will have as much wheat as they had in 1906, but the extent of the diminution is not yet at all easily guessable.

In Hungary the harvest is nearly over, the estimated yield of wheat being as follows:—

1907	14,650,000 qr.
1906	23,950,000 ,,

These figures do not include Austria, the Tyrol, Bohemia, Croatia, or Bosnia, to which five regions fully 7,000,000 qr. may be assigned bringing up the total production under the sceptre of Francis Joseph to 21,650,000 qr.

The Roumanian wheat crop turns out to be gravely deficient, a fact which, however, had been foreseen since June. The estimated result is:—

1907	6,500,000 qr.
1906	13,750,000 ,,
Seven years' average	9,000,000 ,,

The Roumanian home wants do not exceed 4,000,000 qr., but the great surplus of 1906 will make the export surplus of the next twelve leading months appear very small by comparison.

A long and confused official telegram from Russia adds practically nothing to our knowledge of the wheat crop there, but the exportable surplus is put by trade estimates at 10,000,000 qr., against 12,000,000 qr. last year, 19,000,000 qr. in the preceding season, and 22,000,000 qr. in the bumper year 1904-5. The average surplus of Russia is put at 16,000,000 qr. for the last ten years.

The markets in England are naturally inclined to go back a bit under the genial sunshine, but the situation is one of considerable intrinsic firmness for wheat, and also for barley. The price of heavy oats should keep up, but Russia and Argentina are competing for the command of the market for 304 lb. qualities. Maize, with 1,110,000 qr. on passage, is naturally a little hard to maintain in price.

The wheat gradients are now small, as no markets report any sellers under 30s. per qr.:—

Mark Lane	33s.	10d. per qr.
Bridlington	30s.	10d. ,,
Range	3s.	0d. ,,

The barley gradients are even slighter than those of wheat:—

Reading	26s.	0d. per qr.
Salisbury	24s.	9d. ,,
Range	1s.	3d. per qr.

Oats continue to sell at remunerative prices in all parts of England:—

Mark Lane	25s.	1d. per qr.
Peterborough	20s.	5d. ,,
Range	1s.	0d. ,,

No rye average is published, but 28s. is about the mean of present values.

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets since harvest have been moderate, and if the Board of Agriculture estimate of the crop yield was right the surplus in farmers' hands must be larger than usual. There are, however, few farmers who admit any such surplus.

This season ... 2,595,000 qr., at 27s. 1d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 2,873,000 qr., at 28s. 8d. ,,

The sales of English barley have been liberal, and bear out the official estimate.

This season ... 3,365,000 qr. at 24s. 3d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 3,199,000 qr. at 24s. 4d. ,,

The sales of oats have much exceeded the average.

This season ..... 1,163,000 qr. at 18s. 1d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 905,000 ,, 18s. 5d. ,,

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 592,000 qr.: much above the average.
Flour, 90,100 sks.: less than usual.
Barley, 61,000 qr.: a very small supply.
Oats, 108,000 qr.: about an average.
Maize, 249,000 qr.: 25 per cent. above the mean.

The total imports of breadstuffs since September 1 have been:—

Wheat	18,797,000 qr.
Flour	4,031,000 ,,
Total	22,828,000 qr.

The supply of wheat on passage is about an average.

Californian	260,000 qr.
American	220,000 ,,
Russian	295,000 ,,
Indian	550,000 ,,
Argentine	540,000 ,,
Australasian	700,000 ,,
Various	30,000 ,,
Total	2,535,000 qr.

The quantity of flour on passage is only 162,000 sacks of spring corn, the chief expectations are as follows:—

	Maize.	Barley.	Oats.
	qrs.	qrs.	qrs.
From Russia	200,000	20,000	30,000
,, Roumania	215,000	25,000	10,000
,, America	300,000	40,000	5,000
,, Argentina	370,000	—	40,000
,, Various countries	30,000	30,000	12,000
	1,155,000	115,000	97,000

The expectations of maize are now considerable, and 25s. is a magnet powerful to draw supply from all quarters of the globe.

Other supplies on passage include 350,000 qr. of linseed, 49,000 qr. of rapeseed, 50,000 tons of cottonseed, and 62,000 tons of rice.

The American (New York) cable is as follows:—"Wheat, red winter, 34s. 3d. per qr.; spring, 38s. 7d. per qr.; flour, 21s. 9d. per sack; maize, 22s. 8d. per qr. Freights: London, 1s. 4d. per qr.; Liverpool, 1s. per qr." Paris on Saturday closed at 46s. per qr. for wheat, and 34s. 9d. per sack for flour, while Berlin quoted 43s. 10d. per qr. for wheat and 30s. 8d. per qr. for maize.

The shipments of North America last week were not at all heavy of any article, The items were:—wheat, 131,000 qr.; barley, 7,000 qr.; oats, 15,000 qr.; maize, 132,000 qr.; and flour, 95,000 sks.

The shipments of South America last week were large of maize but moderate of other articles, actual totals being:—Wheat, 129,000 qr.; maize, 345,000 qr.; linseed, 65,000 qr.; and oats, 42,000 qr.

Russia shipped largely of maize, otherwise this region did not do anything special:—Wheat, 135,000 qr.; barley, 190,000 qr.; oats, 22,000 qr.; and maize, 200,000 qr. Roumanian shipments last week were 125,000 qr. wheat, 34,000 qr. of barley, 10,000 qr. of oats, and 400,000 qr. of maize.

India was a free shipper, 162,000 qr. of wheat, 102,000 qr. of linseed, and 19,000 qr. of rapeseed being exported.

Australia shipped 17,000 qr. of wheat, New Zealand 5,000 qr. of oats, and Persia 10,000 qr. of barley. No shipments of cereals were by Egypt, Asia Minor, Chili, or Japan.

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes are well held considering how much the weather is against the trade. Sales include Californian at 36s. 6d. per 500 lb., Blue Stem at 36s. 3d. per 500 lb., La Plata at 34s. 9d. per 480 lb., South Australian at 35s 6d per 480 lb., Black Sea at 34s. 9d. per 492 lb., White Karachi at 35s. 3d. per 492 lb., and Red Karachi at 34s. 6d. per 492 lb.

Maize cargoes have been a little difficult to sell at old prices, and on Saturday a certain inclination to meet buyers' views resulted in 23s. 3d. being accepted for Yellow La Plata, 24s. 3d. for Novorossisk, and 23s. for American, all per 480 lb.

Barley cargoes are scarce. A solitary one from Karachi has made 24s. per 400 lb. For Oct. shipment more moderate prices prevail, 21s. 6d. being asked by Russian shippers, 21s. 3d. offered. Other cargo sales of the week included Manitoba oats at 20s. per 320 lb.; Bombay poppyseed at 56s. 3d. per 377 lb.; Calcutta linseed at 42s 9d. per 410 lb.; Panderma beans at 32s. 6d. per 480 lb; and White Calcutta peas at 33s. 9d. per 504 lb.

The London Corn Trade Association Executive has made up the following standards for April shipments, viz.:—

Wheat.—Choice White Kurrachee, Soft Red Kurrachee, Choice White Bombay.
Lentils.—Bombay.
Pease.—White Calcutta.
Barley.—Kurrachee.

The East Indian wheat rejections of the same association are as follows (new and old terms), viz.:—

Choice White Kurrachee, 35s. 6d., new terms, 4 per cent. barley; old terms, 34s. 9d.; soft Red Kurrachee, 35s., new terms 4 per cent. barley; old terms, 34s.

N.B.—The committee has decided to quote rejection prices for "old terms" up to and including July shipments, but not later.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 6 wheat (1 Buenos Aires, 1 Concepcion, 1 Port Wakefield, and 3 Sydney); 1 maize (Rosario); 1 linseed (Buenos Ayres); total, 8.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports-of-call for week were 9 wheat (3 Antwerp, 1 Belfast, 1 Cardiff, 1 Cork, 2 Dunkirk, and 1 North Shields); 2 maize (1 Southampton and 1 Tralee); total, 11.

Since January 1, 1907, the total arrivals have been 164 wheat, 1 flour and wheat, 3 barley and wheat, 3 barley, 6 maize and 10 linseed.—Total, 187.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 166 wheat, 2 barley and wheat, 1 barley, 3 maize, 1 locust beans, and 21 linseed.—Total, 194.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—The trade during the past week has presented a very firm appearance, with farmers taking every advantage of the spell of fine weather to secure every bit of hay possible. The markets have been almost bare of supplies, and in consequence there has been keen competition amongst buyers. Salesmen have been paying fancy prices for whatever has been on offer, contracts having to be kept supplied whatever the value of the stuff may be. In some instances a rise of 5s per ton has been easily obtainable, the trade, however, do not at present seem to be feeling much benefit of the high values, as it is almost impossible to do much fresh business with customers at the present increased rates.

A fair proportion of the arrivals are now consisting of new stuffs, and for new hay in good condition about 60s to 65s per ton is easily obtainable, new mixture making about 70s to 77s 6d, and new clover 80s to 87s 6d per ton. Straw is also coming along much slower, and finds a much better sale at bettter prices. In the foreign market shipments have been very short, and importers have been able to effect sales at slightly better figures.

Prices ruling are about as follow:—English best meadow hay, 85s to 90s per ton; good meadow hay, 75s to 82s 6d per ton; plain hays, 70s per ton; best clovers, 92s 6d to 100s per ton; good clovers, 85s to 90s per ton; inferior clovers, 80s to 82s per ton; best mixtures, 95s to 97s 6d per ton; good mixtures, 85s to 92s 6d per ton; plain mixtures, 80s per ton; seconds hays, clovers, and mixtures, 60s to 67s 6d per ton; wheat straw, 26s to 28s per load; oat straw, 28s per load; barley straw, 28s per load, all ex rail London. Foreign: Canadian mixture, none; first quality Dutch hay, 67s 6d per ton; second quality Dutch hay, 62s 6d per ton; French and Dutch clovers, 82s 6d to 85s per ton. These prices are by barge delivered alongside a London Thames wharf.

Seven Years Grain Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 10d. per 480 lb.
Barley	25s. 4d. per 400 lb.
Oats	18s. 11d. per 312 lb.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English steady, quiet at about late rates; supplies limited. Foreign held for Monday's closing prices, but demand very limited; No. 1 Northern ex ship held at 37s, No. 2 at 36s; La Plata landed at 35s 6d, 36s 6d; South Russian ex ship at 33s 6d, 37s, landed at 34s, 37s; Australian at 36s 6d to 37s. Flour steady quiet; Hungarian held at 35s; Minnesota patents at 27s, 28s; Australian at 24s, 24s 6d. Maize dull, easier tendency; Odessa landed quoted at 24s; Mixed American at 24s 3d, 24s 6d. Barley steady, quiet, supplies very small; Azoff-Black Sea landed held at 25s, 25 6d; Persian ex ship at 23s, landed at 23s 3d, 23s 6d. Oats dull, easier tendency; La Plata 18s 6d asked, 18s 3d would buy; 38 lb South Russian held at 18s 3d to 18s 6d as per sample.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat: English steady, quiet, supplies very limited; whites quoted at 35s 6d to 37s 6d; reds at 35s to 37s. Foreign steadily held at about late rates, but inactive; No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, quoted at 36s 9d to 37s; No. 2 at 36s to 36s 3d; choice white Karachi at 34s 6d; red Karachi at 34s; Australian, landed, at 36s 3d to 36s 6d; La Plata at 35s 6d to 36s 6d. Flour slow, unchanged; Kansas patents held at 25s to 26s 6d; Iron Dukes at 22s to 22s 6d. Maize dull, and in small request; mixed American quoted at 24s to 24s 6d; Odessa at 23s 9d to 24s 3d; Galatz-Foxanian, 23s to 23s 6d. Barley firm, quiet; Azoff-Black Sea quoted at 25s to 25s 6d; Persian at 22s 9d to 23s. Oats dull, easier tendency; La Plata quoted at 18s 6d; South Russians (38 lb) at 18s 3d to 18s 6d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade very quiet, and very little wheat offered by farmers, who are busy in hayfields. The general feeling was firm, and late quotations were maintained, wheats making 34s to 37s; English barley, 28s to 29s; foreign grinding barley, 26s to 27s; oats, black, 21s to 23s; ditto, 22s to 25s; grey peas, 32s to 33s; maize, 25s to 27s; Mazagan beans, 30s to 31s; tick beans, 33s to 34s per qr. Flour—White, 32s; seconds, 29s; scaling, 28s per sack

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, white, 32s 6d to 33s 6d per qr; red 32s to 33s 6d per qr; barley, 27s to 30s per qr; beans, 31s to 32s per qr; oats, 20s to 25s per qr; peas, 29s to 33s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—There was a large attendance, with few samples of grain. Wheat, 30s to 31s 6d; oats, 26s to 27s.

Birmingham, Thursday. — The attendance was a very thin one, and the amount of trade done was very limited. Foreign wheats were 6d easier, but buyers did not respond. English wheats were very scarce, and realised from 12s 6d to 13s per 186lb delivered. English oats and beans were unchanged in value, but were not much enquired for. Bessarabian maize was on offer at 24s 6d per 480 lb at Sharpness. Galatz-Foxanian at from 23s 6d to 23s 9d per qr at Bristol. Grinding barley was unaltered at from 25s 6d to 26s per 400 lb at Sharpness.

Brighton, Thursday.—Slow trade and small attendances. Prices as last week. Barley, 28s to 32s; grinding ditto, 26s to 27s; oats, English, 20s to 23s; peas, 30s to 31s; beans, 32s to 34s.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—A very small market and little doing. Wheats unaltered at 34s to 35s. Feeding stuffs slow at late rates.

Cambridge, Saturday. — The wheat trade during the week has been steady with values fully maintained. With splendid weather, farmers have now completed their hay harvest. In many places the crops have been very good. At this market there were a few more samples of wheat offering, which were a turn in sellers' favour. Wheat 35s per 504 lb into the mill. Spring corn dull.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Trade for the small supplies remaining continues very firm. English wheat, scaling 64 lb to the bushel, has been selling at 37s delivered in, and English barley is now quoted from 28s to 29s. Oats move off quietly at from 21s to 26s, and tick beans are making from 32s to 34s 6d, 67 lb lots being bid for 36s; Mazagans, 30s to 32s 6d per qr; and grey peas, 32s to 33s per qr.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Very small supply of oats in our market to-day. Good demand at top prices; 24s to 24 6d per 336 lb.—THOMAS [illegible].

Chester, Saturday.—There was a quiet market with a small attendance of farmers. A generally increasing demand is being experienced, due to the falling off in the condition of pastures. Prices for English grain were fully maintained. Wheat and barley were exceedingly scarce. Maize was 3d per sack dearer. Quotations: Red and white wheat, 4s 10d to 5s per 75 lb; new grinding barley, 3s 9d to 4s per 60 lb; old beans, 6s to 6s 6d, and new, 5s 6d to 5s 9d per 80 lb; old oats, 3s 2d to 3s 6d, and new, 2s 11d to 3s 2d per 46 lb; old Indian corn, 13s 6d to 13s 9d, and new, 12s 9d to 13s per 240 lb; round corn, 13s 3d to 13s 9d.

Chichester, Wednesday. — Fair attendance and slow trade. New white wheat, 35s to 35s 6d; new red ditto, 35s to 35s 6d; grinding barley, 25s 9d; oats, English, 18s to 23s; beans, 32s to 33s; maize, 24s to 25s; flour, 24s to 28s.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat and oats quiet, with small supply.—COLIN TAYLOR, KING AND CO., LTD.

Coventry, Friday.—Very few farmers at market, and the show of grain was practically nil. There was a general firmness of prices, with good demand for spring corn. Quotations: Wheat, 11s to 12s 6d per 186 lb; barley, 28s to 34s per 448 lb; peas, 12s to 14s; beans, 12s to 13s 6d per 196 lb; oats, 23s 6d to 26s 6d per 352 lb.

Derby, Friday.—Wheat in small supply, and sales were effected at rather reduced rates. Spring corn unaltered. Quotations: Wheat, new white, 36s to 37s; new red, 33s to 35s; grinding barley, 23s to 24s; beans, 34s to 36s; oats, 24s to 25s.

Devizes, Thursday.—The trade for wheat has again been firmly maintained during the week, and the full prices of last Thursday are easily realised. Other corn unchanged. Best wheat, 17s to 18s; secondary, 16s to 16s 6d; malting barley, 24s to 30s; feeding, 22s to 24s; old oats, 20s to 24s; new beans, 15s to 16s 6d; fine flour, 27s to 30s; extra fine, 32s to 36s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—The market was thinly attended. Little English wheat offered, and hardly sufficient to test prices, but still full rates of last week were made, English being 12s 6d per load. Foreign was also firm, and Indian spot wheat was 6d dearer owing to scarcity. Oats and beans also firm at a moderate demand.

Dorchester, Saturday.—The corn market was again very thinly attended as a result of farmers being still busily engaged with their hay, which is being made under exceptionally favourable conditions—far different to what agriculturists had made up their minds for. Home-grown wheat seems to be practically exhausted, as there was none offering to-day, whilst foreign was firmly held at late values. Both barley and oats, from shortness of supplies, commanded outside values—in fact, more money had in some cases to be paid for the former. Maize was well held for full prices. With keep everywhere plentiful, there was a falling off in the demand for feeding stuffs, values of which, however, remained practically unchanged.

Dublin, Friday.—Foreign wheat steady at late rates. Irish wheat quiet. Oats firm. Whites, 12s 6d to 13s 6d; blacks 12s to 13s.

Exeter, Friday.—Trade rather slow. Scarcely any English wheat, extreme prices being wanted; foreign, shade easier. Barley firm; maize, 6d cheaper; oats, unchanged; flour, steady. English wheat, 4s 3d to 4s 6d; superfine flour, 25s to 27s 6d; fine 24s to 26s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day, and a holiday feeling still prevails. Wheat quiet and unchanged on the week. Flour on spot not quotably altered in price. Spot stuff more difficult to sell, owing to easier quotations from the other side. Other articles of the trade quiet and unchanged.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Friday. — Wheat practically unchanged. Flour steady, with only retail business passing. Corn 1½d per 280 lb cheaper. Maize in good supply at 13s 10½d to 14s 1½d per boll. Other articles of the trade nominally unchanged.

Gloucester, Saturday. — Farmers are haymaking, and English wheat too scarce to test values. Foreign wheat neglected, occasionally 3d lower; Plates, 35s to 37s; Russians, 32s to 35s 6d; Manitobas, 37s 3d to 37s 9d. Plate maize, 3d down, 24s 9d; flat unchanged, 24s 3d; Bessarabian, 24s 6d. Barley unchanged, 26s. Oats—Black, 20s 6d to 21s; white, 22s to 23s.

Grantham, Saturday.—Owing to the hay harvest, the attendance was small, and very little corn was offered. Wheat was worth from 34s to 35s; oats made 22s to 23s; and beans 32s to 33s per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday.—No samples of English grain on offer. Foreign wheats were from 3d to 6d lower. English oats were steady, and maize was slightly dearer. Wholesale quotations:—Wheat, 3s 10d to 4s per 62 lb; barley, 3s 6d to 4s per 56 lb; oats, 2s 6d to 2s 10d per 40 lb; beans, 3s 10d to 4s per 65½ lb; maize, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per 60 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Very little wheat on offer; trade firm and fully as dear. Reds, 34s to 34s 6d; whites, T, 34sper 503 lb. Grinding barley firm and rather dearer. Oats quiet; maize steady; beans 3d per qr dearer.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The change to fine hot weather has its usual effect on the trade, and for the moment the damage sustained by the crops seems forgotten, notwithstanding the small shipments and reduced quantity on passage. With a limited consumptive demand foreign wheat of all descriptions is 3d to 6d lower on the week, English from scarcity maintaining full prices. Maize and other feeding stuffs unchanged.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—With better home harvest prospects and the American markets steadier, millers were again restricting orders to present requirements, both English and foreign wheats closing at Tuesday's prices, with an easier tendency. Flour was in fair demand, mostly for medium qualities, ranging from 24s to 28s. Maize was steady, choice Plate making 25s, and Odessa 24s. Foreign oats were rather dearer. Beans, peas, and barley were unchanged.

Leicester, Saturday.—Small attendance, with restricted supplies of home-grown wheats, which sold slowly at steady rates. Red wheats, 34s to 36s; white wheats, 36s to 37s per 36 stones; grinding barley steady; beans firm; fine oats, 24s to 25s per 24 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—Small attendance, farmers being busy in the hayfields. English wheat in small supply, not sufficient to test values coming forward; foreign wheat firm. Trade in feeding stuffs quiet and unaltered.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat quiet and unchanged; foreign very quiet, at about 1d per cental lower on last week. Flour unchanged. Indian corn: Prime sorts in better demand; mixed American, ½d per cental higher. Oats very firm at late rates. Barley dull and unchsnged. Beans and peas steady. Bran and feeding stuffs easier.

Newark, Wednesday. — Small attendance; farmers busy with hay. Wheat dearer; other prices firm. Quotations: Wheat, red and white, 34s 6d to 35s 6d; barley, malting, 28s to 30s; grinding, 25s 6d to 27s; oats, white, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; black, 22s to 23s; beans, 33s to 34s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday. — A slow demand for wheat at our to-day's market at last Saturday's quotations. Maize remains steady at late rates. Beans and peas firm, and in the favour of sellers. Oats remain unchanged in values; the demand, however, was slow.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newport, Wednesday.—Oats a trifle dearer. Maize and wheat unchanged. Flour, 26s 6d per sack. Sharps very firm, at £6 per ton, and bran £4 10s.

Norwich, Saturday.—The wheat supply is small, and prices are slightly higher, 35s 6d being made in one or two instances, but 35s is the general value. There is a quiet demand in the feeding stuff trade; prices are steady; linseed and cotton cakes are firm, and there is a very short supply. English oats at 22s to 22s 6d per qr.

Nottingham, Saturday.—English wheat about cleared; foreign held for 3d to 6d advance. Grinding barley firm. Oats and beans but few offering, and full rates maintained.—ROBT. HUBBLE.

Oxford, Saturday.—The attendance has been poor, and business was slow, wheat being quoted at 33s 6d to 34s on rail.

Preston, Saturday. — The change in the weather, which has been so long desired, has caused an easier tendency in values of wheat. Crops do not seem to have suffered as much as was feared from the continuous wet and cold weather. All kinds of cereals have been in demand during the week at last week's prices. To-day's market was sparsely attended, farmers being busy in the hayfields. Quotations: Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220 lb, 13s 9d to 15s; ditto red, 13s 6d to 14s; oats, old, per bushel, 3s 3d to 3s 4d; beans, per windle of 220 lb, 16s 6d to 17s.

Reading, Saturday.—There was a fair attendance, but hardly an average trade at the following prices:—Wheat, 33s to 35s; oats, 20s to 23s; barley, 25s to 29s; beans, 31s to 33s; peas, 30s to 32s; tares, 5s per bushel; best old hay, 90s per ton.

Retford, Saturday.—Thin attendance. Small supply and business limited. Wheat scarce and considerably dearer at 34s to 35s per qr. Grain for feeding purposes kept well up to the mark. Grinding barley quoted at 27s; maize, 26s to 27s; good white oats fully 24s; secondary, 22s.; and black oats, 21s to 23s.

Ripon, Thursday.—Owing to farmers being busy haymaking the market was almost deserted. Wheat, 32s to 34s; wheat, foreign, 36s to 40s 6d; barley, grinding, 25s to 26s; oats, 24s to 25s; maize, round, 26s to 27s; ditto, flat, 26s to 27s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The reaction in prices of wheat has not developed further, and quotations are firm at last week's rates, with a slight upward tendency. Plate maize 3d per qr easier, but other sorts continue unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 33s 6d to 34s 6d; ditto red, new, 34s to 35s per 504 lb; oats, black, 22s 6d to 23s; ditto white, 23s 6d to 24s per 336 lb; peas, grind-

ing, 33s 6d to 34s; ditto blue, 75s to 90s per 504 lb; beans, English, new, 35s 3d to 35s 6d per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 26s to 26s 6d; ditto malting, 28s to 32s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 25s 9d to 26s; ditto Plate, 25s 6d to 25s 9d; ditto flat, 26s to 27s per 480 lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—New wheat, 14s 3d to 14s 9d per 225 lb; new oats, 14s to 15s per 225 lb; peas, 15s 6d to 16s per 225 lb; beans, 14s 6d to 15s per 240 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—Fine weather for hay harvesting caused a small attendance of farmers. Wheats 34s 6d, oats 22s 6d to 23s, beans up to 32s 6d per qr.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Owing to haymaking there was no local wheat on offer. With finer weather the foreign wheat market had an easier tendency, and prices were 6d lower on the week. Oats steady, and maize 3d dearer on the week.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Little grain offering. Wheat steady and unchanged in value. Barley and oats quiet. Arrivals nil. — E. and F. Richardson.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday. — Quotations: White wheat, 32s to 33s; red ditto, 31s to 32s; barley, 26s to 32s; grinding ditto, 23s to 25s; oats, English, 22s to 24s; rye, 24s to 25s; peas, 32s to 37s; beans, 32s to 37s; tares, 42s to 48s; maize, 22s 6d to 24s.

Warwick, Saturday. — There was a very meagre attendance at this market. No English wheat was on offer. Feeding stuffs very slow. Prices very much the same as last week.

Winchester, Saturday.—English and foreign wheat quiet, but unchanged. Barley and oats unaltered. Round maize 6d easier. Flour steady at late rates.—Fear, Colebrook and Co., Ltd.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Small attendance at market. Little grain offering. Prices unchanged. Red wheat, 34s per 500 lb; oats 22s 6d to 23s per 336 lb; beans, 32s to 34s per 532 lb.—James Fletcher.

Worksop, Wednesday. — Small attendance. Trade slow. White wheat, 33s to 34s; red wheat, 32s 6d to 33s 6d; barley, 27s to 29s; white oats, 22s 6d to 24s; black oats, 21s 6d to 23s; maize, 26s to 27s 6d; beans, 34s to 36s per qr.

Yeovil, Friday.—Trade continues firm, with not much business passing. English wheat, best, 17s to 18s; secondary, 16s to 16s 6d; foreign, 3d to 6d per qr lower. Grinding barley (foreign), 25s to 26s 6d; feeding (English), 26s to 27s; malting, 31s to 32s; brewing, 27s 6d to 29s 6d. Oats, Irish black, 19s to 20s 3d; white, 21s to 21s 6d; English black, 22s 6d to 23s; white, 23s 6d to 24s; spring beans, 31s to 32s 6d; winter, 32s to 33s; rye, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; winter tares, 39s to 42s 6d; spring, 43s to 45s; round maize, 23s 3d to 24s; flat, 24s 3d. Flour, meals, and offals selling well at last week's rates.

York, Saturday.—Very small attendance, and little wheat was on offer, which made about late rates. Fine white quoted 33s 6d to 34s 6d, and mixed 32s 6d to 33s 6d per qr of 36 stones; feeding barley, 26s to 28s per qr of 32 stones. Oats firm at late rates. White Tartary made 21s to 22s, black, 22s to 23s; white Garton, 23s to 24s per qr of 24 stones; beans, 32s to 33s per qr of 36 stones.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Weather slightly improved, but a constant summer temperature is still wanting and, considering the local disasters in many districts of Germany caused by floods and hailstorms, a satisfactory result of the harvest cannot be expected. Offers of wheat being scarce, full prices must be granted. 79/80 ko. River Plate is held at 33s to 33s 9d.; 72/73 Ko Danubian at 30s 6d to 31s; Walla Walla and Australian at 33s to 34s per 480 lb. ex ship; 60 lb Saal wheat, September-October delivery, 32s to 33s. per 504 lb f.o.b. There is a little better demand for rye near at hand; 9 10/15 South Russian is selling at 31s to 31s 3d; No. 2 Northern American is held at 32 per 480 lb ex ship here. The crop of barley in Northern Germany is not likely to turn out the same good results as last year, and it remains to be seen what effect the late storms had on the crops in other parts of Germany and Austria-Hungary. Grinding barley firm, 60/61 ko South Russian on the spot is selling at 25s 3d; parcels afloat are held at 24s; Augusd, 20s 6d to 20s 9d; September-October, 20s; Morocco, 23s 3d to 24s per 400 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg. Maize quiet; Danubian and Odessa, afloat, 22s 3d; River Plate, 23s to 23 3d; kiln-dried mixed American, 23s 9d to 24s per 480 lb c.i.f., Hamburg.—John Tatlock.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Barley Report:—At last there is an improvement in the weather, and we have had little rain this week, but the temperature is ungenial and cool—no real summer weather. We receive continually satisfactory reports from our principal barley-growing districts, and also from Austria, principally Bohemia, they are quite cheerful, whilst from Hungary the reports are somewhat conflicting however. I have received the first samples of new mercantile barley, and these show really nice quality, tender in colour and good in corn, but Chevaliers will not be ready before a fortnight.—F. M. Th. Duhne.

CORN STATISTICS

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, July 16, 1907:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount £	s.	d.	Av. Price per qr £	s.	d.
Wheat	97	2	164	12	9	1	13	10
Barley	—	—	—			—		
Oats	107	5	115	0	0	1	1	4

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, July 20, 1907:—

Wheat	1,515,800 cwts.
Wheat-flour	179,600 ,,
Barley	121,700 ,,
Oats	180,700 ,,
Maize	1,289,900 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1906. Cwts.	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.
Wheat	1,851,900	2,658,600	1,509,600	2,160,992
Wheat-flour	219,400	158,900	191,000	300,998
Barley	29,500	76,100	281,900	394,495
Oats	271,400	495,800	311,700	727,555
Maize	717,900	612,700	729,500	1,108,365

Weekly Arrivals into London.

July 10 to July 17 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	5,700	71,000	76,700
Barley	800	820	1,620
Malt	19,132	—	19,132
Oats	1,200	47,000	48,200
Rye	50	800	850
Beans	480	1,013	1,493
Peas	58	569	627
Maize	—	26,093	26,093
Linseed	—	6,800	6,800
Rapeseed	20	2,145	2,165
Cottonseed	—	4,479	4,479
Coriander	—	1,200	1,200
Dari	—	1,400	1,400
Flour sacks	21,000	47,000	68,000
Middlings ,,	—	7,000	7,000
Ricemeal ,,	—	2,300	2,300

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending July 20, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1903 to 1906:—

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1903	17,224	28	7	558	20	10	5,385	18	5
1904	15,648	27	7	581	18	10	6,711	17	6
1905	6,558	32	2	52	23	7	2,434	18	11
1906	8,010	30	3	150	23	2	911	20	5
1907	15,915	32	6	259	24	6	4,447	21	1

Cereal Years' Prices.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1905-6	28	9	24	2	18	5
1904-5	30	7	24	6	16	11
1903-4	27	2	21	11	16	4
1902-3	26	5	23	0	17	8
1901-2	28	4	26	0	20	4
1900-1	27	1	25	0	18	4
1899-1900	26	5	25	0	17	5
1898-9	26	1	26	1	17	4
1897-8	36	4	27	9	18	4
1896-7	28	8	23	2	16	9

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1906.

		s.	d.
September	1 (per sack)	29	0
October	8 ,,	28	0
May	13 ,,	29	0
,,	24 ,,	31	0
,,	31 ,,	30	0
June	5 ,,	31	0

(No change since last date given).

Imperial Weekly Averages.

1906.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
July 21	8,010	30	2	150	23	2	911	20	5
,, 28	8,015	30	5	95	22	4	1,146	20	2
Aug. 4	9,480	30	9	154	22	1	2,139	19	3
,, 11	6,924	30	5	300	23	0	4,512	17	11
,, 18	8,583	29	0	1,253	24	2	11,887	17	0
,, 25	26,545	27	9	2,508	25	0	14,673	16	10
Sept. 1	55,716	26	9	4,758	24	3	22,580	16	6
,, 8	78,579	26	4	19,448	24	9	32,679	16	3
,, 15	89,745	25	11	41,670	24	3	34,330	16	1
,, 22	90,292	25	9	76,130	24	3	37,120	16	0
,, 29	83,907	25	9	129,209	24	8	41,942	16	2
Oct. 6	87,200	26	1	183,145	25	0	35,724	16	3
,, 13	80,630	26	3	226,940	25	3	38,088	16	7
,, 20	71,352	26	6	230,636	24	10	35,636	16	8
,, 27	69,920	26	7	233,998	24	10	28,956	16	10
Nov. 3	64,404	26	7	229,015	24	8	32,527	16	11
,, 10	63,764	26	6	205,560	24	8	27,982	17	1
,, 17	58,059	26	4	167,441	24	4	20,389	17	2
,, 24	58,467	26	3	149,427	24	1	28,669	17	3
Dec. 1	60,299	23	1	160,173	24	1	34,743	17	2
,, 8	63,264	26	1	167,532	24	1	37,119	17	4
,, 15	70,332	26	1	135,513	23	11	36,175	17	3
,, 22	68,977	26	3	127,131	24	3	31,528	17	3
,, 29	49,637	26	0	97,796	24	1	29,124	17	3
1907.									
Jan. 5	24,559	26	0	31,733	23	11	14,773	17	3
,, 12	47,667	26	1	71,498	24	2	27,939	17	4
,, 19	75,207	26	1	104,417	24	1	37,413	17	8
,, 26	80,321	26	2	109,274	24	5	45,887	17	5
Feb. 2	84,370	26	3	86,031	24	4	38,928	17	7
,, 9	77,659	26	6	74,324	24	5	30,467	17	7
,, 16	84,514	26	7	69,221	24	1	38,725	17	9
,, 23	76,580	26	10	53,681	24	2	39,559	17	9
Mar. 2	64,923	26	9	40,398	24	2	32,965	17	9
,, 9	71,183	28	8	32,620	23	11	31,065	17	11
,, 16	69,340	26	10	29,274	24	2	28,017	18	0
,, 23	69,183	26	10	20,977	24	0	22,204	18	1
,, 30	49,202	26	8	15,929	23	9	18,412	18	2
April 6	28,757	26	9	6,539	24	3	10,296	18	3
,, 13	43,426	26	8	6,830	23	9	17,523	18	6
,, 20	54,965	26	8	6,032	23	3	21,389	18	7
,, 27	62,656	26	10	4,967	27	3	25,447	18	0
May 4	63,344	27	0	4,289	23	6	22,691	19	3
,, 11	53,080	27	1	3,375	24	0	18,392	19	7
,, 18	41,991	28	4	2,955	23	10	15,817	20	1
,, 25	37,963	29	7	1,977	24	3	12,803	20	7
June 1	28,070	31	4	1,998	24	0	10,478	20	5
,, 8	34,122	32	0	1,539	24	7	11,711	20	8
,, 15	38,008	31	10	1,152	24	7	7,668	20	11
,, 22	31,351	31	4	1,088	24	11	7,187	20	9
,, 29	23,007	31	2	759	24	6	6,118	20	8
July 6	20,795	31	3	432	24	8	4,303	20	11
,, 13	19,209	32	0	665	24	10	3,380	20	11
,, 20	15,915	32	6	259	24	5	4,447	21	1

London Flour Millers' Association.

Credit and Delivery. Official Prices.

Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1906.

	London Whites. s.	d.		Town Households. s.	d.
September 1	(per sack) 26	9	(per sack)	23	9
October 8	,, 27	0	,,	24	0
,, 26	,, 27	6	,,	24	6
November 23	,, 27	0	,,	24	0
December 5	,, 27	3	,,	24	3
,, 19	,, 27	0	,,	24	0
February 20	,, 27	6	,,	24	6
March 1	,, 27	0	,,	24	0
April 24	,, 27	6	,,	24	6
May 15	,, 29	0	,,	26	0
,, 24	,, 30	0	,,	27	0
,, 31	,, 29	6	,,	26	6
June 5	,, 30	6	,,	27	6
July 12	,, 31	0	,,	28	0

(No change since last date given.)

Average Monthly Prices of Fine Household Flour in Paris.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1907. s.	d.	1906. s.	d.	1905. s.	d.	1904. s.	d.	1903. s.	d.	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.
Jan.	30	9	31	0	31	0	29	6	30	9	27	9	24	9
Feb.	30	0	31	6	31	6	30	0	31	6	26	3	25	9
March	29	9	31	3	30	3	31	0	31	6	27	0	24	0
April	30	0	31	6	30	9	29	0	34	0	27	3	24	6
May	33	3	30	9	31	9	28	0	33	3	27	6	25	6
June	32	9	31	0	30	3	28	3	34	0	30	9	26	3
July			31	6	30	0	29	4	31	9	29	9	28	0
August			29	9	29	3	30	0	30	0	27	6	27	6
Sept.			30	6	31	0	31	0	30	0	29	0	27	6
Oct.			31	0	31	0	31	6	30	0	30	0	27	6
Nov.			31	6	31	9	32	0	28	0	28	9	27	9
Dec.			30	0	31	0	31	3	28	6	29	6	28	3
Yrly. Avrg.			30	11	30	9	30	1	31	1	28	5	27	3

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 p.m.

The holders of English wheat made no concessions to-day, despite the fine weather having materially advanced crop propects. The small reserves of the old crop will all be wanted, and firm holding is fully justified. Foreign wheat was a little weak for Argentine, but quite firm, if dull, for most kinds. Maize was sometimes 3d. cheaper, but that was the extent of the decline. Foreign barley was hardly on offer, and English was practically off the market.

Oats were 3d. lower for all but fine heavy sorts, which by reason of their scarcity were quoted as dear as ever. Beans were dull, but steady. Indian peas rather favoured buyers. Factors are already beginning to take their holidays so as to be back in town by the time that new crop samples begin to arrive. Nothing, however, of any consequence is expected for a clear month from now.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off the Stands*).

July 22.

WHEAT,	White	(per 504 lb.)	34 — 35
	Red	,,	32 — 34
BARLEY,	Malting	(per 448 lb.)	None.
	Brewing	,,	28 — 29
	Poultry	(per 448 lb.)	27 — 28
	Distilling	(per 416 lb.)	None.
	Winter	(per 400 lb.)	None.
	Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	None.
MALT,	Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34 — 36
	Brown	,,	27 — 29
	Black	,,	29 — 30
OATS,	Storm Kings	,,	23 — 24
	Abundance	,,	None.
	Waverleys	,,	None.
	Pioneers	,,	23 — 24
	Black Tartary	,,	22 — 23
	White Gartons	,,	23 — 24
	Ordinary	,, (per 320 lb.)	21 — 22
RYE,	Essex	(per 480 lb.)	28 — 29
BEANS,	Pigeon	(per 532 lb.)	42 — 44
	Tick	(per 504 lb.)	34 — 35
	Winter	,,	32 — 33
	Spring	,,	31 — 32
	Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	21 — 22
PEAS,	Picke Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	72 — 73
	Unpicked ditto	,,	52 — 56
	Maple (Old)	,,	36 — 37
	,, (New)	,,	34 — 35
	Dun (Old)	,,	32 — 36
	,, (New)	,,	31 — 32
TARES	(Winter)	(per 532 lb.)	40 — 44
	(Spring)	,,	44 — 48
	(English Gores)	,,	56 — 64
	(Scotch Gores)	,,	68 — 72

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba	37	— 38	American	23	— 24
Red Winter	36	— 37	Argentine	24	— 25
Best Spring	37	— 38	Roumanian	23	— 24
Argentine	35	— 36	Russian	23	— 24
Australian	35	— 36	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Californian	36	— 37	Smyrna	34	— 35
Walla Walla	35	— 36	New Zealand	32	— 33
Saxonka	35	— 36	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Azima	34	— 35	Hungarian	62	— 64
Ghirka	33	— 34	Burmese	38	— 40
Roumanian	33	— 34	Chilian	56	— 64
Indian White	34	— 35	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb):		
,, Red	33	— 34	French	31	— 33
Turkish	32	— 33	Russian	27	— 28
Persian	31	— 32	Canadian	26	— 27
BARLEY:			PEAS (504 lb.):		
C'lifor'n (448 lb)	29	— 30	Dutch Crowns	55	— 57
Ouchak (448 lb)	28	— 32	Konigsberg	44	— 46
Smyrna (448 lb)	26	— 30	Russian White	35	— 36
Spanish (448 lb)	None.		Indian White	35	— 36
Russian (400lb)	26	— 27	CanadianWhite	35	— 36
Indian (400 lb)	25	— 26	NewZeal'dMaple	39	— 40
Gaza (400lb)	None.		Victoria Dun	32	— 33
Persian (400lb)	23	— 24	MILLET (416 lb.):		
MALT (336 lb.):			White	42	— 44
Californian	33	— 36	Yellow	22	— 24
Smyrna	33	— 36	Sorghum	20	— 21
Ouchak	33	— 36	RICE (cwt.):		
RYE (480 lb.):			Java	16	— 22
Russian	24	— 25	Indian	17	— 20
OATS:			Japanese	16	— 17
Konigsbg (320 lb)	21	— 22	Burmese	10	— 11
Russian (304 lb)	18	— 19	Siamese	8	— 9
Canadian (320 lb)	20	— 21	DARI (480 lb.):		
Arg'tine (304 lb)	18	— 19	Smyrna	26	— 27
Swedish (320 lb)	21	— 22	Indian	22	— 23
NewZl'n'd (384 lb)	25	— 26	Persian	21	— 22

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED VERY QUIETLY, BUT WITH ABSOLUTELY NO DISCOURAGEMENT AMONG THE LEADING HOLDERS.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 p.m.

The trade in London flour to-day was mainly of a cash description, as the prices were favourable to cash buyers, but unduly high for credit and delivery. Country flour was sometimes 6d cheaper on the week. Hungarian flour was not quite so dear as formerly, though very high prices are still asked for the favourite brands.

The holders of American flour showed rather more willingness to meet the ideas of bakers, but prices were not, as a rule, altered in quoted values and market circulars sent out by holders. The sale of pollard, bran, and middlings was decidedly good for a July market, and full prices were made; sometimes, indeed, exceeded, for the actual stock in hand is small, and where early delivery was requisite preferential prices had to be paid.

Meal, &c.		
Bran, London Broad (per sack of 280 lb.)	13	— 14
,, Country Flake Choice	,, 14	— 15
,, ,, Broad	,, 13	— 14
Pollard	,, 12	— 13
Biscuit Middlings	,, 16	— 17
Fine Middlings	,, 15	— 16
Coarse Middlings	,, 14	— 15
Wheat Germ Meal	,, 17	— 18
Farina Firsts	,, 28	— 29
,, Seconds	,, 26	— 27
Barley Meal	,, 21	— 22
Canadian Oatmeal	,, 25	— 26
Scotch Oatmeal	,, 30	— 33
Groats	,, 32	— 33
Oat Flour	,, 33	— 34
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,, 18	— 19
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,, 18	— 19
,, Germ Meal	,, 15	— 16
,, Cones	,, 18	— 19
,, Gluten Meal	,, 15	— 16
Rye Flour (Libau)	,, 25	— 26
,, (Konigsberg)	,, 23	— 24
Rye Bran	,, 21	— 22
Pea Meal	,, 23	— 24

London Flour.

July 22.

Top Price (per sack of 280 lb.)	31/0	net
Town Whites	,, 29/0	,,
,, Households	,, 26/0	,,
No. 2	,, 24/0	,,
Whole Meal No. 1	,, 23/0	,,
,, No. 2	,, 21/0	,,

Country Flour.	s.	s.
Fine Patents (per sack of 280 lb.)	25	— 26
Roller Whites	,, 24	— 25
All English	,, 24	— 25
Stone made	,, 22	— 23

Foreign Flour.	s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents (per s'ck of 280 lb.)	28	— 29
,, Second Patents	,, 25	— 26
,, First Bakers'	,, 23	— 24
,, Second Bakers'	,, 22	— 23
Milwaukee Patents	,, 27	— 28
,, Bakers'	,, 24	— 25
Canadian Best	,, 27	— 28
,, Ordinary	,, 25	— 26
Manitoba Patents	,, 27	— 28
,, Ordinary	,, 25	— 26
Kansas Patents	,, 25	— 26
,, Ordinary	,, 23	— 24
Hungarian	,, 35	— 36
Belgian	,, 31	— 33
French, Corbeil	,, 26	— 27
,, Renaux	,, 25	— 26
,, P.S.D.	,, 24	— 25
Australian	,, 25	— 26

THE BALTIC.

Monday, 1 p.m.

State of Trade.

The market is against sellers of barley and oat cargoes for autumn shipment, and it is definitely lower for cargoes both of linseed and rapeseed. On the other hand, it is dearer for cottonseed and poppyseed cargoes, and is steady both for wheat and for maize.

Business Done.

Wheat.—Rosario 34s 3d per 480 lb, on passage; Manitoba, 36s per 480 lb, August shipment; White Karachi, 35s per 492 lb, on passage; Black Sea, 34s per 492 lb, on passage.

Maize.—American, 23s per 480 lb, on passage; Galatz, 24s per 480 lb, August shipment; Argentine, 23s 6d per 480 lb, August shipment; Odessa, 23s 9d per 480 lb, on passage.

Barley.—Azoff, 21s 3d per 400 lb, October shipment; Karachi, 23s 9d per 400 lb, August shipment; Persian, 21s 3d per 400 lb, August shipment.

Oats.—Archangel, 17s 6d per 304 lb, July shipment; Manitoba, 20s 3d per 320 lb, on passage; Manitoba, 20s per 320 lb, prompt shipment; Manitoba, 19s 9d per 320 lb, September shipment; Roumanian, 15s 9d per 304 lb, September shipment; Roumanian, 15s 6d per 304 lb, October shipment; Baltic, 15s per 304 lb, October shipment.

Beans.—Smyrna, 32s 9d per 480 lb, August shipment.

Linseed.—Duluth, 42s 3d per 416 lb, Sept. shipment; Bombay, 47s per 416 lb, August shipment; Argentine, 42s 6d per 416 lb, arrived.

Rapeseed.—Ferozepore, 55s per 416 lb, on passage; Jamba, 41s 3d per 416 lb, Sept. shipment.

Cottonseed.—Egyptian, £8 5s per 2,240 lb, on passage.

Poppyseed.—Indian, 56s per 377 lb, Oct. shipment.

Sesame.—Indian, 58s 6d der 416 lb, Nov. shipment.

TERM MARKET.

The market in futures is firm for wheat, but uncertain for maize. The latest prices made are:

Wheat, 7s. 3d. per cental July delivery.
,, 7s. 4d. ,, Aug. and Sept. delivery.
,, 7s. 5d. ,, Dec. delivery.
Maize, 5s. 0d. ,, July ,,
,, 4s. 11d. ,, Sept. ,,

The wheat is Red American (winter), the maize American (flat), but other grades can be bought at parities as fixed by the Term Market executive. There were no sales of wheat for October and November delivery, or of maize for August delivery.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

Flour.—The smart drop in American wheat quotations has brought out some c.i.f. offers from America of New Crop Winters and Kansas at reasonable prices, but buyers here are difficult to find, the brilliant weather having also something to do with this. Grain.—Round and flat maize are in sellers' favour. Oats easier. Beans and pease firm with small demand. Oatmeal is still scarce on spot, and in good demand. Mill Stuffs.—Bran and thirds firm, with an upward tendency. Winter wheat patents, 28s to 29s per 280 lb; spring wheat patents, 27s 6d to 29s per 280 lb; American corn, 14s 1½d to 14s 3d per 280 lb; round corn, 13s 9d to 13s 10½d per 280 lb; grinding beans, 18s 7½d to 18s 9d per 280 lb; white pease, 18s 9d to 20s per 280 lb; broad bran, 97s 6d per ton; medium bran, 92s 6d per ton; fine thirds, 120s to 122s 6d per ton; common thirds, 103s 4d per ton; American oilcake, 145s per ton.—McKinnon and McDonald (Glasgow).

Flour.—With some slight fluctuations during the week, prices again stand pretty much the same as a week ago. By the continuance of the strike traders are much inconvenienced by the serious delays in the execution of orders.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Offals.—Demand for bran here has rather declined, influenced to some extent by the continuance of the strike.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Milling Offal.—The chief features are the scarcity and high prices obtainable, especially for middlings, which must be reckoned 5s per ton up on the week. Pollard 2s 6d per ton dearer. Bran unchanged.—John Bawcombe and Co.

Flour has been in limited request to-day with prices tending easier. American offers, though still beyond buyers' reach, are more reasonable than of late.—T. S. Medill and Sons, Ltd.

WET AND DRIED GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Wet Grains: Prices remain about the same, with a slightly easier tendency due to warmer weather and haymaking, and business has been done at 11s to 12s ale, and 9s to 9s 6d porter per ton. Pressed white distillery meal 32s 6d per ton on rail, London. Dried Grains.—The demand continues fairly brisk and prices are firm at—Distillers, 105s; ale, 92s 6d to 95s; mixed, 85s to 87s 6d; and the same prices for monthly deliveries, July to September, on rail, London. Calcutta rice meal, 80s; rice germ, 97s 6d; American cane treacle in good demand, 87s 6d per ton, on rail, London. Kiln dried sea-damaged Australian wheat from 20s per qr.—Hamlyn and Co.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—The market remains extremely firm, stocks being in such a small compass. The reports from the plantations speak of vermin being still troublesome, and washing is general.—W. H. and H. Le May.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Arrivals were on a good scale, and a fair demand prevailed. Early Rose, 5s; Puritans, 5s; Duke of Yorks, 4s 6d; British Queens, 4s 6d per cwt; Dutch, 4s per bag.

Carlisle, Saturday. — The supply of old potatoes was very small. Quiet trade at 9d to 10d; new potatoes, 1s 4d to 1s 6d per stone.

Doncaster, Saturday. Good supply, and fair inquiry at 5s to 5s 3d per cwt.

Goole, Wednesday.—Potatoes are not quite ready in this district. Selby potatoes are making 10s per load.

Lancaster, Saturday.—New local potatoes, 1d to 2d per lb.

Malton, Saturday.—Good show of new potatoes, imported making 9d and home-grown 1s 3d to 1s 6d per stone.

Manchester, Saturday.—Potatoes: Cheshire, new, 8s 6d to 11s per load; Bedford, 5s 6d to 6s per cwt; Jersey, 6s to 7s per cwt.

Preston, Saturday.—The supply of new potatoes are now coming forward more plentifully. The price realised was 15s per load of 240 lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Large supply at 10d per stone.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Heavy consignments received poor support. Early Rose, 4s; Epicure, 5s. per cwt; Early Puritans, 75s to 85s; British Queens, 90s to 100s per ton.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Lincolnshires, 6s 6d to 7s per cwt.; Midlands, 5s; St. Malos, 6s 6d; Dutch rounds, 5s to 5s 6d per cwt.

Whitby, Saturday.—Potatoes, home-grown, 1s 4d; Jersey, 1s per stone.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Good supply. Best potatoes, 13s 6d to 14s 6d per load of 18 stones.

York, Saturday.— Plentiful supply of new potatoes, with a fair demand at from 5s to 5s 6d per hamper of four score lb.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday. — Small supply of hay; no quotations obtained.

Derby, Friday.—Clover, best old, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; hay, best old, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; seconds, 65s to 70s; wheat straw, 60s to 70s; pressed straw, 50s to 60s; chop straw, 55s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Few transactions during the week at practically the same prices as during the last three months—viz, hay, 55s to 65s in stack, and straw, 30s to 35s in bulk.

Lancaster, Saturday. — Meadow hay, 6d; clover, 6½d; wheat straw, 4½d; oat straw, 4d per stone.

Leeds, Tuesday.—A steady trade is passing in the warehouses for hay and straw, fair supplies being on offer. The improvement in the weather has enabled farmers to proceed with the hay harvest, and the outlook is more satisfactory than recently. Quotations rule as follows:—Clover hay, 7½d; meadow hay, 7d; wheat straw, 5d; oat straw, 5d; and rye straw (retail), 7d to 8½d per stone; green clover, 3½d per bundle.

Lincoln, Friday.—Short supply of hay and straw, and a quiet trade. Best hay and seeds, £4 per ton on the ground; secondary ditto, £3 15s; straw, 35s per ton at the stack.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, 6½d to 6½d; clover, old, 7d; new, 5½d; straw, oat, 3½d per stone.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Old land hay from £3 10s to £4 7s 6d per ton; new land hay, £4 10s to £5 7s 6d; wheat straw, £1 3s to £1 4s per load.

Nottingham, Wednesday.—Fair supplies on offer, and trade quiet at the following rates:—Inferior to good hay, 75s to 85s; prime ditto, 90s to 100s; inferior to good clover, 75s to 85s; prime ditto, 95s to 100s; wheat straw, 45s to 55s per ton.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Small attendance of farmers, owing to haymaking, and small supplies. Seeds, choice, £4 15s to £5; meadow hay, £4 10s to £4 15s; straw, £2 15 to £3; green fodder, 17s to 18s per ton.

Whitechapel, Saturday. — Arrivals were small, and the demand proved fair, at recent rates. Best clover, 84s to 97s 6d; inferior ditto, 75s to 80s; specially picked hay, 90s; good ditto, 80s to 87s 6d; inferior ditto, 65s to 70s; mixture and sainfoin, 82s 6d to 90s; straw, 28s to 34s per load.

SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—The wonderful improvement in the weather is rapidly making up the lost leeway, and prospects of the new crops. Clovers, grasses, and trifolium are improving. Stocks held over being exceptionally light; prices are well maintained. Tares unchanged. Rye quiet. Mustard firm. Rape exceptionally scarce. Peas without movement.—John Picard and Co.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday July 22, 1907. British.	Total.	Monday, July 23, 1906.
Beasts	810	810	890
Sheep and Lambs	6,420	6,420	7,730
Calves	20	20	10
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	40	40	30

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 8	3 10	4 10
Sheep	4 6	5 4	6 4
Lambs	5 8	6 4	7 0
Calves	4 2	4 10	5 8
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £23.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 91; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 611; Devon, 10; Ireland, 98.

We note to-day an increase of 80 head in the number of beasts offered for sale compared with Monday last, due to larger consignments from the Midland counties and Ireland, these latter comprising 41 Dublins (some of which were choice Black-polled cattle), 36 Waterfords, and 21 stores, two and a-half year old heifers, which were quoted at from £11 to £11 10s. per head. Irish fat beasts were firm in regard to value. For both prime and second quality English beasts, a slow trade was experienced. Nevertheless, an upward tendency in value was noticeable in many cases. Fat butchering cows and bulls met with less country demand. Prices, however, were firm. A clearance will be made.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s. d.	Monday, July 23, 1906. s. d.
Scotch	—	—
Devons	—	4 6 to 4 8
Herefords	4 8 to 4 10	4 4 to 4 6
Norfolks	—	4 2 to 4 4
Runts	4 6 to 4 8	4 2 to 4 4
Lincolns	4 2 to 4 4	3 8 to 3 10
Irish	4 4 to 4 6	—
Canadian	—	—
Fat cows	3 8 to 3 10	3 4 to 3 6

There was an increase of 280 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. Trade opened and continued throughout the day of a slow and dragging nature partly due to the inclement weather experienced in the early morning, wether sheep ruling 2d. per 8 lb. lower in value than on Monday last; ewes, on the other hand, were in smaller supply, and met with more inquiry, consequently an advance of 2d. per 8 lb. was quotable. Both Irish and Scotch descriptions, though slow of sale, maintained late rates, this remark also applying to the lamb trade. A clearance is expected to be made. The supply included 200 Scotch, 480 Irish, and 879 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	Monday, July 23, 1906. s. d.
8 st. Scotch	6 2 to 6 4	5 10 to 6 0
7½ to 8 st Downs	5 10 to 6 0	5 6 to 5 8
9 st. Downs	5 8 to 5 10	5 4 to 5 6
10 st Halfbreds	5 4 to 5 6	5 0 to 5 2
10 st Yorkshires	—	—
12 st Lincolns, half-bred	—	—
10 st Irish	5 8 to 5 10	4 10 to 5 0
10 st Down Ewes	4 0 to 4 2	4 0 to 4 2
11 st Halfbred ditto	3 10 to 4 0	3 10 to 4 0
5 st Down Lambs	6 10 to 7 0	6 10 to 7 0
6 st Halfbreds ditto	6 6 to 6 8	5 10 to 6 0

The calf trade, with a small number on offer, ruled of a slow nature at late rates; the best on offer were quoted at from 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d. per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

No pigs on the market.

London (Central), Monday.—Slow trade, moderate supplies. Beef, English, 3s 8d to 4s; Scotch, 4s 2d to 4s 8d; American, 3s 7d to 3s 11d; refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 8d to 4s. Mutton, English wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Lambs, 5s to 6s; Scotch tegs and wethers, 5s 4d to 5s 8d. Veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d. Pork, 3s 4d to 3s 10d per stone.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts, 293; sheep and lambs, 2,356; pigs, 479; horses, 20. Fat and store cattle, fair trade; fat and store sheep, and pigs, good demand; milch cows, fair prices, £14 to £22. Prices:—Beef, 7s 6d to 8s 3d; mutton, 8s 2d to 10s 6d; lamb, 9s to 11s; pork, 6s 9d to 7s 6d.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts 545. To-day's supply compared with Monday last showed a decrease of 338 head, and consisted of shipments from the United States. Trade ruled of a fairly steady nature, only middling qualities cattle being consigned. The best on offer were quoted at from 4s 3d to 4s 5d; seconds, 4s to 4s 2d per 8 lb (offal given in). On Saturday 1,363 beasts from the United States and 237 from Canada were offered for sale. Trade ruled of a firm and steady nature at good money. The best States on offer were quoted at from 4s 4d to 4s 6d; seconds, 4s 1d 4s 3d. Canadians, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; seconds, 3s 10d to 4s 1d per 8 lb (offal given in). Besides the above 480 more were withheld from sale.

Liverpool, Monday.—Fewer cattle in market tofday. Good demand for best qualities at fully last week's rates. Middling sorts slightly lower. Sheep and lambs supply about same. Demand very slow for both, and to effect sales considerable reduction in values was accepted; beef, 6½d to 5d; mutton, 8½d to 6d; lamb, 9d to 8d. At market 916 cattle and 9,106 sheep

FEEDING STUFFS.

London Monday.—Linseed Cakes. — There is no particular change to report in the trade, though London made are tending a little dearear, and foreign in comparison continue too dear to find ready buyers for forward delivery.

Cotton Cake: Egyptian made remain scarce, and with London made are unchanged in price.

Decorticated Cotton Cake and Meal: Business continues slow at last week's quotations.

Linseed.—With heavy shipments from both Plate and Calcutta, market is weaker.]

English Linseed Cake, ex mill	7 2	6 to 7 7 6
Calcutta Linseed cake, ex quay	7 7	6 to 7 10 0
American Western Linseed Cake ex quay	—	—
American Western Linseed Cake ex quay	—	to arrive
Russian Oil Cake ex quay	7 2	6 to 7 5 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake ex quay	6 17	6 to 7 5 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal ex quay	6 15 0	6 17 6
London-made ,, Cake (best) ex mill	4 17 6	—
Egyptian ,, Cake (in bags)	4 17 6	4 18 9
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included) on rail, Burton	4 15 0	—
Molascuit (bags included) on rail, London	4 10 0	—
Duluth Linseed (in bulk per 416 lb ex warehouse	2 5 6	—
Calcutta Linseed (in bags), per 410 lb ex warehouse	2 5 6	—
La Plata Linseed per 416 lb. ex warehouse	2 3 0	2 11 0
Russian Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb ex warehouse	2 5 6	—

—Robt. & John Hewetson

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were:—From Ireland, 1,801 bales, and from foreign ports, 13,863 bales. There was a steady trade for bacon throughout the week, and certain brands of Irish and Danish were quoted somewhat dearer. Official quotations range:—Irish, 62s to 65s up to 67s; Danish, 63s to 65s up to 69s; Canadian, 58s to 62s up to 64s. Butter: The butter market was quiet. French, 94s to 102s; Danish, 108s to 110s; Russian, 74s to 96s; Dutch, 100s to 102s; Irish, 86s to 103s; Victorian, 84s to 98s; New South Wales, 81s to 96s; Queensland, 82s to 92s; New Zealand, 94s to 100s. Lard.—Lard was a steady market. Irish, 40s to 54s; Danish, 46s to 50s; American, 43s to 45s 3d.

Seven Years' Tithe Rent Charges.

For 1907	£68 19 6
,, 1906	68 12 1
,, 1905	69 12 0
,, 1904	69 19 6
,, 1903	69 7 5
,, 1902	67 3 9
,, 1901	66 10 9

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

The supply of beasts on the chief market day of the week at Islington was slightly smaller owing to shorter arrivals from the Midland counties, which consisted chiefly of Herefords, Runts, and Lincoln Shorthorn, this class of cattle always forming the majority of our supply at this season of the year. Trade for both prime and second quality English beasts ruled of a slow nature, nevertheless late currencies governed most transactions. The Irish consignment consisted of thirty-two Waterfords and twenty-one stores; these latter consisted entirely of two-and-a-half-year-old heifers, which were quoted at from £11 to £11 10s. per head; the former shared in the slow trade experienced, and were eventually disposed of at late values. A few choice quality English cattle made an advance on our top quotation.

On Thursday sales were confined to fat cows and rough cattle at Monday's prices. At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, on all three market days, with a fair supply, trade ruled of a firm and steady nature. The total number of offered for sale at bothmarkets was 3,533, as against 3,803 during the preceding week, comprising 770 British (decrease 20) and 2,763 foreign (decrease 250), these latter consisting of 2,326 from the United States, and 437 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 95 stone Irish 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 90 stone States, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 95 stone Canadians, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 8d., ex. 3s. 10d.

The sheep trade, as usual, was entirely confined to the Islington market: trade for both wethers and ewes was of a slow nature at late values, whilst Scotch descriptions met with more inquiry, and, being of neat, handy weights, sellers were able to obtain an advance of 2d. per 8 lb. Irish, on the other hand, were slow of sale at late currencies. Lambs were in average supply, but met with a somewhat limited demand; nevertheless sellers based all sales on last week's prices. On Thursday wether sheep ruled firm in regard to value, whilst lambs were difficult to vend at a decline of 4d. per 8 lb.

The total number penned was 8,070, as against 8,420 during the previous week. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 6s. to 6s. 2d.; 8 stone Scotch, 6s. 2d to 6s. 4d; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 10 stone Halfbreds, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 5 stone fat grass lambs, 6s. 10d. to 7s.; 6 stone Halfbred ditto, 6s. 6d. to 6s. 8d.

Calves numbered 70 and met with a slow trade, the best on offer being quoted at from 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d. per 8lb. (offal given in).

Trade in the West.

The change for the better which has taken place in the weather has come as a great relief to those agriculturists generally, who, after the "catching" time of which they have recently had such unpleasant experience, have put forth the most strenuous efforts to get in their hay, a large breadth of which, we are glad to know, has been stacked in even better condition than many ever thought would be the case. Milch beasts continue to be a good deal sought after, heifers particularly, for which we may quote from £16 10s. to £21 10s. as the range of present currencies, whilst cows sell at all prices from £16 down to as low as £8 or £8 for animals which in a very brief space will become barren. With plenty of pasture keep everywhere the supply of good class graziers hardly meets the demand, most people being now in want of this peculiar class of bullock, especially as the beef trade is keeping so good, consequently sellers are asking high rates for anything at all fresh, and from £22 up to £29, or £30 per pair is readily obtainable, with a quick sale at the price, though the plainer grades sell somewhat less freely at from £16 up to £20 or £21. All the younger grades of cattle likewise sell well, and prices are well maintained for anything showing the least sign of promise. Store sheep, as we previously hinted, are showing every sign of holding their own in point of price, which will be readily understood by the trade when we state that regular draft Down ewes are now making from 46s. to 52s. each, and secondary grades 33s. to 45s.; two-tooths, 46s. to 48s. 6d.; mixed ewes, 40s. 6d. to 42s.; grazing ewes, 34s. to 36s.; wether lambs, 32s. to 42s. 6d.; chilver lambs, 36s. 6d. to 40s.; and mixed lambs, 26s. 6d. to 38s. And all the sheep now coming out of any of the fairs and markets command a ready sale at the currencies above quoted, and, speaking generally, the market for all kinds of stores has seldom exhibited a healthier tone than is now the case.

And the fat stock business is exhibiting equally satisfactory features, one reason for which may be attributed to the by no means excessive supplies just at present coming to hand, particularly of mutton, which has seldom ever come so sparingly to hand at this season of the year. A good deal of the beef offering, especially the Devons and Norfolks, is of excellent finish, both steers and heifers, and this will account for the good prices ruling, Devons making £16 19s. to £26 each; Norfolks, £20 to £22 10s.; and cross-breds, from £20 10s. to £24 15s.; and fat cows, £13 to £18; for best qualities, from 4s. 8d. to 5s. per stone, and 4s. 2d. to 4s 6d. for seconds. Mutton, in spite of short supplies, has shown scarcely so much buoyant as of late, except for the choicer grades of wethers and tegs, which bring outside values—namely, 6s. to 6s. 6d. (or from 52s. to 62s. 6d. each); ewes, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 6d. (or from 48s. to 49s.); best Down lambs make rather more money—namely, 6s. 10d. to 7s. 2d., and occasionally more for special weights (or from 46s. to 55s. 6d.); other qualities, 6s. 4d. to 6s. 8d. Good veal calves meet a firm trade at the full rates lately current, the better-finished lots fetching rather more than has been the case of late.

Trade in Ireland

There was a very good attendance of buyers at last Dublin's Thursday market, but a still quieter feeling prevailed than at the previous market. The late hot and dry weather had a good deal to say to this. The cattle market opened tediously, and it was some time before any business at all was done, and then only a very moderate amount at a reduction of about 1s. per cwt. on last day's figures. In the general run cattle changed hands at from 32s. to 32s. 6d. for the general run of good cattle, but occasionally up to 34s. and 35s. per cwt. (live weight) for very choice animals. Ordinary beasts could be had at about 27s. per cwt. Business was slack generally, but a fair clearance was accomplished at a pretty early hour. There were 2,651 beasts on the market, being a falling off of nearly 300 on the week. Best heifer and ox beef was worth from 57s. 6d. to 60s., and extra quality up to 64s. per cwt.

The bulk of to-day's business was for export requirements. Sheep sold badly, owing to the hot weather, and the day's market being nearly 1,400 below that of last week, reduced the market to a moderate compass. For home requirements there was a slow and cautious trade, practically confined to light-weight sheep. Heavy sheep were difficult to dispose of.

There was a good inquiry for hoggets for London and southern English county districts, but the Manchester and Liverpool inquiry was cautious, on bad reports.

Prime wether mutton was worth from 7¼d. to 8d. per lb.; prime ewe, 6½d. to 7¼d.; and inferior mutton, about 6d. per lb. Hoggets, suitable for the English markets, sold at from 54s. to 66s. each for best heavy, and from 36s. to 48s. for small and medium-weight sheep. Large fat lambs were worth from 33s. to 44s. each, and small to middling ones from 24s. to 32s. each. Veal sold very well, choice bringing from 8d. to 9d., and other calves selling from 4½d upwards.

The Pig Market was not extensively supplied with stock, and with a good company of shippers and local pork butchers, a good business was done at fully 2s. per cwt. advance on the previous market, and the market was finished up at an early hour. Store pigs met with a particularly active inquiry at better rates. Light-weight baconers and porkers, 53s. to 54s. per cwt.; inferior pigs, from 35s. per cwt.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Fair supplies and trade very slow, with a drooping tendency in prices:—English beef, 3s 8d to 4s; Scotch sides, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; shorts, 4s 4d to 4s 8d, extreme, 4s 10d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 7d to 3s 11d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 10d to 4s; ditto seconds, 3s 8d to 3s 9d; ditto forequarters, 2s 7d to 2s 9d; inferior beef, 2s 8d to 3s; mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; ditto tegs, 5s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; English wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Dutch sheep, 4s 6d to 5s; English lamb, 5s to 6s; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d; English pork, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; Dutch ditto, 3s 4d to 3s 8d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday. — To day's supply of beasts consisted entirely of fat cows and bulls from the south-western counties, trade for which ruled fairly steady, last Monday's values governing all transactions. Top prices paid per 8 lb: Fat cows, 3s 8d; extreme, 3s 10d; fat bulls, 2s 9d to 3s 3d. Sheep trade, though slow, was firm in regard to value, with a slight upward tendency for wethers, though not quotably so. Lambs, however, were difficult to vend, even at 4d per 8 lb less money. Best pens made per 8 lb as follows: 7½ to 8 stone Down sheep, 6s to 6s 2d; 9 stone ditto, 5s 10d to 6s; 10 stone ditto, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10 stone half-breds, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10 stone Down ewes, 3s 10d to 4s; 5 stone fat grass lambs, 6s 6d to 6s 8d. Calf trade slow. Quotations per 8 lb, sinking the offal: Beasts, 2s 9d to 3s 10d; sheep, 3s 10d to 6s 2d; calves, 4s to 5s 8d; lambs, 4s 6d to 6s 8d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—There was a fair trade for beef at full rates, best animals making 4s 8d to 5s per stone. Mutton, however, was depressed, and all sheep 2d per stone cheaper; Downs sold up to 6s; small Kents to 5s 8d; large Kents to 5s; and ewes to 4s 4d. Lamb cheaper. Pork a little dearer.

Bath, Wednesday.—There was a small supply, and prices ruled as follows:—Fat ewes made 50s 6d to 33s; fat lambs, 47s 6d to 32s; fat steers, £21 10s to £19; fat heifers, £17 to £14 15s; fat calves, 90s downwards.

Berwick, Saturday.—The supply comprised 166 beasts—80 less than the previous week. Attendance of farmers and buyers small, and trade quiet. Heifers, £10 10s; stirks, £7 10s to £11.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Small supply of beasts, sheep, and pigs; trade slow for beasts and sheep. Quotations:—Beef, 5½d to 6½d, a few at 7d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 9d to 9½d per lb; bacon pigs, 10s to 10s 3d per score; cutting pigs, 10s 3d per score; sows, 8s to 8s 3d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—The market was rather smaller and less active than usual. Beef, which was in limited quantity, was in little request, and the price of best qualities fell slightly, the present quotation being 60s to 62s per cwt. Mutton and lamb were in good supply, and trade was quiet at about late rates, heavy wethers selling at 7½d per lb, compared with 7¾d last week. Pigs were more numerous than of late, and porkers were quoted at 10s 6d per score instead of 10s 9d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There was a further offering of store lambs at to-day's market, which met a fair inquiry. One run of exceptionally strong animals made from 24s 6d to 30s per head; others sold at from 15s 6d to 24s; and some half-breds changed hands at 25s 6d; useful wether tegs, 44s 6d; and young ewes and lambs, 45s per couple. There was only a small offering of horned stock; yearlings were quoted from £7 to £9, and cows and calves at from £14 10s to £19.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Very small supply of cattle on the Sands, numbering about 150. Small attendance of buyers, and a quiet trade. Wintering cattle £6 10s to £14 for heifers for finishing off.

Chester, Thursday. — Owing to the spell of fine harvest weather the attendance was very small, and the supplies of stock were considerably below the average. Trade was slow. Quotations:—Milch cows, £18 to £22; calvers, £15 to £18; barrens, £10 to £12; heifers, £9 to £14; stirks, £6 to £9; sheep, 18s to 32s each.

Chichester, Wednesday.—The supply of fat cattle was considerably lighter, and competition was keen at advanced prices. A very strong demand prevailed for the best class fresh calved cows and heifers, and prices rose fully 30s to 40s per head. There were more store cattle forward, but trade was dull and dragging. Quotations:—Prime Down lambs, 7s 6d to 8s 6d; prime Devon steers, 4s 8d to 5s; Shorthorn steers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; prime Southdown mutton, 6s 6d to 6s 10d;

West-country ditto, 6s to 6s 6d; fat ewes, 4s 6d to 5s; veal, 4s 8d to 5s 2d; fat pigs, 3s to 4s per stone; store pigs, 15s to 24s per head.

Colchester, Saturday.—Beef made from 4s 6d to 4s 8d, and mutton 6s per stone of 8 lb. Pork was dearer, and veal more moderate in price.

Derby, Tuesday.—A full supply of beasts and sheep, including many rough sorts. Choicest sorts again sold well. Beasts, 6d to 7d, calves, 8d, sheep, 7½d to 9d, lambs, 10d. to 10½d per lb.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Only a moderate supply of cattle and sheep, and a poor attendance of buyers. Prices unchanged except for milch beasts, which were £1 per head less than last week at £17 to £22; bullocks made £12 to £17; heifers and drapes, £11 to £15; stirks, £7 to £9; and hogg sheep, 44s to 50s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—The cattle was only moderately supplied to-day either at Messrs. Duke's sale or that of Messrs. Symonds and Sampson. The attendance was confined almost exclusively to those having business in the market, farmers in many cases being too busy at home in the hay field to come to market or even to send in their stock. As regards business, dairy beasts were scarce and dear, best heifers and calves selling from £17 to £20, and seconds, amongst which were many useful cows, £11 to £16 5s. Barreners in limited supply, and selling from £19 to £26 per pair. A good inquiry for fat beef, prices for the best of which showed some improvement, which can hardly be said to be the case with the rougher grades. Best heifers made £19 to £23 each, and steers £19 to £22 (or 11s 6d to 12s per score for the best weights); fat cows, £15 to £17 (or 10s to 11s); only the coarser weights affected by the heat. Mutton found a very short offer, and prices were practically unchanged, fat ewes selling from 44s to 47s 6d each (or 7d to 8d per lb); whilst a few lambs brought 34s 6d to 36s each (or 10d to 11d per lb).

Dublin, Thursday.—Demand for cattle was slow and hesitating, with prices moving rather in favour of buyers, particularly for unfinished beasts, some of which had to be returned to pastures. Handy, suitable sheep for home and export purposes in request at a shade less money; heavy qualities lower and difficult to place owing to extreme heat. Lambs of all grades, though in fair demand, had to be sold at prices favouring buyers. Cattle—Live weight (best), 32s to 34s per cwt; secondary and inferior sorts, 29s to 31s 6d per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 6½d to 8d per lb; lambs, 22s to 38s.—Ganly, Sons and Co.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Larger supply of cattle and sheep met a good demand at fair prices. Half-bred sheep sold to 44s; Cheviots, 38s; Black-faced hoggs, 27s; best polled bullocks sold to £17 10; horned cattle, £9 10s; smaller kinds to £10 15s; Ayrshire cows made up to £18; Irish cows £21 5s; Shorthorns, £25; black polled cows, £19 15s; crosses, £19 15s.

Exeter, Friday.—Smaller supply of fat cattle, owing to haymaking. Steers and maiden heifers, 12s; cows, 10s to 10s 6d. Very large supply of sheep and lambs. Small hoggs and shorn lambs, readily sold at 9d; ewes, sold out at 6d; fat lambs, in wool, 10½d to 11d; rams, 4½d to 5d; calves, 7d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Small show of cattle; demand good. Prime handy grades and other classes, owing to warm weather, met very slow sale. Top, 62s to 64s; secondary, 57s to 60s per cwt. Fair numbers of sheep penned, but owing to fair holidays trade ruled slow; prime hogs, fair inquiry; heavy ewes almost unsaleable. All classes of lambs met a fair inquiry; best mutton, 9¾d to 10½; secondary, 9½d to 9¾d per lb; lambs, 10d to 11d per lb.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Messrs. Bruton, Knowles and Co. report their sales as follows:—The supply in to-day's market was exceedingly short, farmers being busy with haymaking. A few cows and calves sold fairly well.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A quiet market, the supplies being moderate, and the demand small. Beef trade was the firmest of any, best bullock and heifer maintaining late rates up to 6¼d and 6¾d per lb, fat cows 5¼ to 5½d. Store calves a weak trade, and veal made less money at 7½d top. Sheep were in smaller supply, and easier at 8d to 8½d for wethers, fat ewes 6d to 7d, and fat lambs 8½d to 9d, a few perhaps realising 9½d. Porks were a small supply, and down in price.

Leicester, Saturday.—Moderate consignments of home-bred stock. Buyers were poorly represented, and trade ruled flat. Choice milch cows, £18 to £20; secondary sorts, £14 to £17; Shorthorn bullocks, £11 to £16; Irish bullocks, £12 10s to £18; Welsh cattle, £9 to £12; heifers, £10 to £14; young stock, £5 to £8 each.

Lincoln, Friday.—A small consignment of horned stock, and a slow trade. Young beasts, £8 to £11; milch cows, £17 to £21 each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Fat beasts average show, trade at late rates, 7s 6d to 8s per stone. Very few stores, trade slow, making from £6 to £14 each. Fat sheep average show, about 9s 6d to 10s per stone; few stores from 45s to 50s each. Store lambs made from 28s to 35s each; fat lambs from 30s to 40s each.

Manchester, Friday. — Beef: First class, 5¾d; second class, 4¾d to 5¼d; third class, 3¾d to 4¼d. Mutton: First classs, 8¼d; second class, 7¼d to 7¾d; third classs, 6¼d to 6¾d. Veal: First class, 6¼d; second class, 5¼d to 6d; third class, 4½d to 5d. Lamb: First class, 8¼d; second class, 7½d to 8d per lb.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Trade for cattle was firm, with prices unchanged. Prime medium weights made 8s 3d to 8s 6d; strong heavy heifers, 8s to 8s 3d; strong heavy steers, 8s to 8s 3d; second-class cattle, 7s 9d to 8s; coarse and inferior, 6s 9d to 7s per stone, sinking the offal. Sheep and lambs were a rather smaller supply. Trade was a shade firmer, with a ½d improvement for choice sheep and ½d for strong sheep. Quotations:—Choice young sheep, 9d to 9½d; strong heavy, 8¾d to 9¼d; choice lambs, 9¼d to 9½d; second-class lambs, 8¾d to 9d; ewes, 5½d to 6d; rams, 5d to 5½d per lb. Calves were a slightly smaller supply. Trade in veal was fair at 6d to 8d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—A medium supply of cattle, sheep, calves, and pigs. A good attendance of buyers, and there was a very good trade all round. Best beef, 6¾d to 7d per lb; seconds, 6¼d to 6½d; cows, 5d to 5¼d; best wether mutton, 8½d to 8¾d; ewes, 6¼d to 7d; lamb, 9d to 9¼d; calves, 7d to 8¼d; porker pigs, 10s 6d to 11s 6d per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—About 350 fat cattle were shown, of only fair quality; trade was good, the best animals making slightly more than 8s; second quality, 7s 9d; cows 7s per stone; and veal calves 8s per stone. 480 fat sheep of good quality shown; there was more life in the trade, first quality mutton making slightly over 9d, and other grades from 7d to 8¼d per lb. Fat pigs were quite a holiday market; good porkers made 6s 9d; baconers, 6s to 6s 6d; and sows, 5s per stone. There was a poor show of store cattle; one good lot made about £18, but the rest were small cattle, which only fetched from £6 to £11 10s. Rearing calves were few in number and of only fair quality; prices were down from last week, ranging from 20s to 40s per head. 4,470 store sheep on offer; trade was slow and dear, the best ewes making 66s, and others from 33s 6d to 56s 6d. Lambs were of good quality, but sold slowly at prices ranging from 28s to 40s. Store pigs were a small show, but of good quality, and sold at from 12s to 25s.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Small supply of stock, and not so many customers as usual. Prices were about the same as last week; best milking cows, £17 to £20; in-calf heifers, £13 to £17. There was a small supply of store beast, which sold fairly briskly; strong heifers and steers, £10 to £14; and younger beasts, £6 to £9. Calves made 25s to 45s each.

Preston, Wednesday.—Good supplies, but trade ruled rather slow, and prices were a shade easier. Irish heifers, 7d; local cattle, about 7d; prime young cows and bulls, 6¼; inferior, 5d to 5½d; hoggs, 9½d; young ewes, 8d; heavy ewes and tups, 6½d to 7d; choice lambs, 9¾d; coarse ditto, 9d; calves, 7d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Store cattle of first-class quality made good prices. Prime milch beasts were worth from £20 to £22; secondary, £16 to £18; two year-old steers and heifers, £10 to £13; yearlings, £6 to £8; and calves, 35s to 45s per head.

Romford, Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts; trade about the same. Best animals, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; middlings, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. Calves in average supply; business slower, at 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Sheep in large supply; trade slow. Best small sheep, 5s 8d to 6s; large, 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Ewes in average supply; trade slow, at 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. Lambs in short supply and dearer, at 6s 4d to 6s 8d per stone. A few store beasts on offer; slow demand. Better trade for milch cows; good supply. Small supply of pigs; trade slow. Small porkers, 3s 8d to 4s; large hogs, 2s 8d to 3s per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday. — A moderate show of milch cattle, which met with a fair sale, the best making £19 to £20; rougher lots, £15 to £16 10s.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday. — Small supplies, especially store cattle, farmers being with their hay. Good attendance of buyers. Trade in fat stock good. Quotations:—Beef, 6¼d to 7¼d per lb; mutton (wether), 9d to 9¼d per lb; ewes, 7¼d to 8d per lb; lamb, 9d to 9¼d per lb; veal, 7d to 8d per lb; porket pigs, 10s per score; bacons, 9s to 9s 3d per score.

Stockton, Wednesday.—A small show of the best cattle, which made 8s to 8s 6d per stone, trade being slow, whilst rougher kinds made 6s 6d to 7s per stone. Lambs sold at 10d per lb, young sheep 9d, and ewes 7d. The pig trade was quiet, small porkers making 7s 6d per stone, mediums 7s, and sows 6s 6d.

Thame, Tuesday.—No doubt on account of the fine weather many farmers did not attend this market on Tuesday last, and consequently the supply of stock was on a smaller scale. There was a very satisfactory attendance of buyers, but it was difficult to maintain late rates for cattle. Choice quality beef was cleared, but cows were in little demand. Trade showed a decided revival, and a choice consignment of store lambs from W. A. W. Musgrave, Esq., were eagerly sought after. Veal and pork continue to sell well. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 84 fat beasts, 219 fat sheep, 70 fat and weaning calves, and 85 fat and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £17 to £21 10s; fat heifers, £14 to £20 10s; fat wethers, 50s to 58s 6s; fat ewes, 45s to 55s 6d; fat lambs, 32s to 43s 6d; fat calves, £3 5s to £5; weaning cow calves, 30s to 52s; bull calves, 18s to 44s; bacon hogs, £3 5s to £4 4s; porkers, 30s to 42s; store pigs, 12s to 26s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance fair, business fairly brisk. Fat bullocks, 56s to 60s per cwt; barreners, 40s to 45s; store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £10 to £15 each; rearing calves, 16s to 37s 6d; wethers, 7½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5d to 5½d; lambs, 7½d to 8d; pigs, 10s to 45s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8½d; lamb, 8d to 9d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8½d.; pork (carcases), 5d to 5½d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Fair supply all round; trade slow. Beef, 5½d to 7d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 9d per lb; lamb, 9d to 9½d per lb; veal, 7d to 8d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Very small supply of stock, and a small attendance of farmers. Trade was good. Best beef, 8s to 8s 6d per stone; secondary, 7s 6d to 8s; best Southdown wether and crossbreds, 8½d to 9d; ewes, 6½d to 7d.; lamb, 10d to 11d; veal, 9d per lb.

Yeovil, Friday.— Heifers and calves made from £16 10s to £19 10s for best, and from £11 10s to £15 for secondary; cows and calves, £11 to £17 10s; barren heifers, £11 10s to £13 5s; stirk heifers, £9 10s to £10 10s; yearlings, £5 17s 6d upwards; wether sheep, 42s to 57s 6d; ewes, 40s to 51s; lambs, 28s 6d to 37s 6d.

York, Thursday.—The market was almost devoid of buyers, farmers taking advantage of the fine weather to get in their hay. Fully 1,200 sheep were penned, but there was a very slow demand, and the recent high prices were hardly maintained. Twice-crossed shearlings made up to 50s; best Mashams, 48s; secondary up to 44s; smaller sorts, 38s to 42s. There was a comparatively small show of English and Irish store cattle, but trade was slow, and prices were in favour of buyers. The few sales effected were at £1 to £2 per head less money.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Liverpool, Friday.—With the genial summer weather now prevalent, agriculturists are busy with the ingathering of the hay crop, and there is little or no demand for feeding stuffs; values are firm and are annexed.

	Per ton. £ s d	£ s d
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (fair to good)	7 10 0	7 15 0
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime (soft)	7 13 9	7 15 0
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime	4 15 0	5 0 0
Cottonseed Cake, Bombay	4 5 0	4 7 6
Linseed Cake, American, thin oblong	7 5 0	7 10 0
,, ,, English, prime	7 15 0	8 0 0
,, ,, River Plate	7 10 0	7 12 6
Palm Nut Cake	5 18 9	6 0 0
Maize Germ Meal	6 5 0	—
	Per 240 lb.	
Indian Meal, coarse to fine grinding	0 13 0	—
Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported	Per ton. 5 5 0	—
	Per qr., 416 lb.	
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2 10 0	2 12 0
	Per Gallon.	
Cod-liver Oil, cattle feeding	0 4 0	—
Treacle, feeding, good to prime	Per Cwt. 0 4 6	0 4 9
	Per ton.	
Nitrate of Soda	11 0 0	—
Kainit, prime	2 7 6	—
Bone Meal, prime	5 10 0	—
Bone Ash, fine and powdery	3 15 0	—
Basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed	—	—
,, ,, ,,		
,, finest ,, ,,		
D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate Lime*	2 5 0	2 7 0
,, ,, guaranteed*	2 10 0	2 12 0
,, ,, ,, *	3 1 3	3 3 3

* At depot inland.

—H. Jones Langar and Co.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes: With a continuance of fine weather, and farmers naturally very busy haymaking, markets are quite neglected for the moment, but values are firm and unchanged at last week's quotations. Russian can still be had at £7 to £7 2s. 6d. in mats and £7 5s. to £7 7s. 6d. in bags. East India seed pures are held at £7 3s. 9d. to £7 5s. Fine seedy Calcuttas, with little offering, command £7 7s. 6d. to £7 10s. London made are in more request at £7 5s. to £7 7s. 6d. Cotton Cakes.—With small stocks and little more inquiry, prices are well maintained at £4 13s. 9d. to £4 17s. 6d. for Egyptian in bags, while £4 15s. to £4 17s. 6d. is still asked for English makes, and Bombays at £4 1s. 3d. Decorticated: London-made pures move off freely at £7 2s. 6d. to £7 5s., and special digestive meal at £5, but American meet little inquiry at £6 15s. for cake and £6 12s. 6d. to £7 for meal, according to quality. Rape Cakes rather easier. East India, £4 15s. to £4 17s. 6d. Maize Germ Meal. — White American is still unobtainable on this market, English makes therefore maintain their prices of £5 15s. to £5 17s. 6d. with little business passing. Maize gluten meal is only obtainable in small lots, although there are ready buyers in any position at £5 15s. to £5 17s. 6d. Rice Meal.—Parcels in warehouse are still offered at £4 13s. 9d. to £4 15s., whilst a trifle less money would be accepted for lots on passage. Locust beans continue scarce and very firm at £5 10s. for whole, and £5 15s. for kibbled. Dried brewers' grains met a steady sale at £4 15s. for ale, and £4 10s for mixed. Nitrate of soda is the turn easier at £10 17s. 6d. to £11.

	Per ton. £ s. d.		£ s. d.
Linseed Cakes.			
Russian, in mats (ex dock)...	7 0 0	to	7 2 6
,, in bags ...	7 5 0	to	7 7 6
East India ...	7 3 9	to	7 5 0
Calcutta ...	7 7 6	to	7 10 0
English (ex mill) ...	7 5 0	to	7 7 6
Cottonseed Cakes.			
Egyptian ...	4 13 9	to	4 17 6
English (ex mill) ...	4 15 0	to	4 17 6
Bombay ...	4 1 3		
Decorticated, London made	7 2 6	to	7 5 0
,, American...	6 15 0		
,, Meal, American	6 12 6	to	7 0 0
Digestive Meal ...	5 0 0		
Rape Cakes.			
East India seed...	4 15 0	to	4 17 6
Maize.			
English ...	5 15 0	to	5 17 6
Maize Gluten Meal ...	5 15 0	to	5 17 6
Ricemeal.			
Rangoon ...ex whf.	4 13 9	to	4 15 0
,, ...ex ship	4 11 3	to	4 12 6
Locust Beans.			
Whole ...	5 5 0		
Kibbled ...	5 10 0		
Dried Brewers' Grains.			
Ale ...	4 15 0		
Mixed ...	4 10 0		
Nitrate of soda ...	10 18 9	to	11 0 0

—Pinnock Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—A holiday feeling still prevails, and business small at unaltered values. Demand for season much under average. Canadians still considered better value, as they arrive in good condition. Best home Cheddars, 57s to 60s; Dunlops, 55s to 59s; Canadians, 55s to 57s per cwt.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—There were 38 tons of cheese; a large attendance of buyers; a brisk trade, and all was cleared. Best Caerphilly dairies realised up to 51s per cwt.; secondary dairies, 47s 6d to 50s; and other dairies, 41s 6d to 44s. A few inferior lots failed to reach 40s. Cheddars:—51s 6d to 60s; truckles, 56s to 58s; doubles, 52s 5d to 54s 6d.

Newport, Wednesday. — About 10 tons pitched, a good demand, and a fair attendance. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 42s to 49s per cwt; fancy dairies, 49s to 50s; Derbies, 54s to 62s; truckles, 56s to 65s; doubles, 58s to 61s.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Altrincham: 10. Appleby: 12 and 13. Barnstaple: 14. Berwick: 1s to 1s 6d per doz. Birmingham: 11 and 12. Camelford: 14. Carlisle: 11 and 12. Chester: 11 and 12. Dartmouth: 1s to 1s 2d per doz. Derby: 10 and 11. Devizes: 14 to 16. Doncaster: 12 to 13. Dorchester: 11½d. to 1s 2d per doz. Evesham: 10d to 1s 0½d per doz. Hereford: 12 to 15. Ipswich: 12 to 14. Kidderminster: 11. Lancaster: 12. Lincoln: 12 and 13. Market Drayton: 12 and 13. Penrith: 12 and 13. Penzance: 8½d to 10½d per doz. Plymouth: 12. Retford: 1s 8d per score. Ripon: 11 to 13. Scarborough: 11. Shrewsbury: 12 and 13. Stamford: 12 to 14. Stockport: 10 and 11. Stockton: 11. Totnes: 1s to 1s 1d per doz. Truro: 9d to 10d per doz. Worcester: 12. Worksop: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per score. York: 12 and 13.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Altrincham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Appleby: 9d to 11d. Barnstaple: 1s to 1s 1d. Berwick: 9d to 1s. Birmingham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Camelford: 11d. Carlisle: 10d to 11d. Chester: 1s. Dartmouth: 10d to 1s. Derby: 1s to 1s 2d. Devizes: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Doncaster: 1s to 1s 1d. Dorchester: 9½d to 1s 1d. Evesham: 10d to 1s. Hereford: 11d to 1s 1d. Ipswich: 1s to 1s 2d. Kidderminster: 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s to 1s 1d Lincoln: 10d to 1s. Market Drayton: 1s. Penrith: 9d to 11d. Penzance: 8½d to 10d. Plymouth: 11d to 1s. Retford: 1s. Ripon: 1s 6d to 1s 9d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 1d. Shrewsbury: 11d to 1s. Spalding: 11d. Stamford: 10d to 1s. Stockport: 1s to 1s 2d. Stockton: 10d to 1s 1d. Totnes: 1s to 1s 1d. Truro: 8½d to 10d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 2d. Worksop: 11d to 1s 1d. York: 11d to 1s.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Plentiful supplies of fruit and vegetables on offer, the demand being brisk. Quotations for English produce:—Grapes, 8d to 3s; strawberries, 2s to 3s per peck; raspberries 5s to to 6s 6d per dozen punnets; peaches, 1s 6d to 10s 6d per dozen; nectarines, 1s 6d to 10s; green figs, 3s to 5s per dozen; cherries, 3s to 7s; black currants, 4s to 6s; red ditto, 3s 9d to 4s 6d per half-sieve; green beans, 6d to 7d per lb; tomatoes, 3s 6d to 4s 3d per 12 lb; onions, 5s to 6s per cwt; mushrooms, 6s to 8s per 12 lb; spinach, 9d; beetroots, 1s 6d to 2s per bushel; carrots, 3s to 3s 6d; turnips, 2s 6d to 3s; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s; mint, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per dozen bunches; endive, 1s 6d to 1s 9d per dozen; cos lettuce, 6d per score; cucumbers, 4s to 6s per flat; green peas, 3s to 4s per bag; broad beans, 1s to 1s 3d per bushel; horseradish, 10s 6d to 15s per dozen bundles; cabbage, 3s to 4s per tally; cauliflower, 2s to 3s per dozen; vegetable marrows, 3s to 5s per dozen; potatoes, 3s 6d to 6s 6d per cwt.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Fairly good supply and demand. Prices: Surrey and Sussex fowls, 3s to 4s 6d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 3s; Essex fowls, 1s 9d to 2s 9d; Irish fowls, 1s 6d to 2s 3d; quails, 1s; feathered pigeons, 8d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s 2d; goslings, 4s to 5s; country ducks, 2s to 2s 6d; Aylesbury ducks, 2s 3d to 3s; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 6d; wild rabbits, 6d to 8d; live hens, 1s 6d to 2s each; Australian rabbits, 6s to 7s 6d per doz.

WOOL.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Kent fleeces very firm, but no improvement in prices. Best lots 11d per lb.; lamb wool, 7d; locks, 5d; half-breds, 11d. Downs maintain improvement of a week ago, 12d to 13d per lb.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There is improvement in development of the bine, but nights continue none too warm. Fresh fly continually arriving, and washing is generally resorted to. Little business doing on hop market.

Yearly Averages (Official).

	Wheat. s. d.		Barley. s. d.		Oats. s. d.	
1890	31 9	per qr.	28 8	per qr.	18 7	per qr.
1891	37 1	,,	28 2	,,	20 0	,,
1892	30 4	,,	26 2	,,	19 11	,,
1893	26 4	,,	25 6	,,	18 9	,,
1894	22 10	,,	24 6	,,	17 1	,,
1895	23 1	,,	21 11	,,	14 6	,,
1896	26 2	,,	22 11	,,	14 9	,,
1897	30 2	,,	23 6	,,	16 11	,,
1898	34 0	,,	27 2	,,	18 5	,,
1899	25 8	,,	25 7	,,	17 0	,,
1900	26 11	,,	25 9	,,	17 9	,,
1901	26 9	,,	25 3	,,	18 5	,,
1902	28 0	,,	25 8	,,	20 2	,,
1903	26 9	,,	22 11	,,	17 2	,,
1904	28 4	,,	22 4	,,	16 4	,,
1905	29 9	,,	24 4	,,	17 4	,,
1906	28 4	,,	24 3	,,	18 7	,,

English Wheat, Barley & Oats in 1906.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley s. d.	Oats. s. d.
Highest of Year...	30 4	25 4	20 4
Lowest of Year ...	26 1	23 1	16 2
Gradient ...	4 3	2 3	4 2
Mean of Year ...	28 4	24 3	18 7

RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

TO HOP FACTORS.—Wanted Situation as TRAVELLER. —J. Selby, Fern Villa, Seal, Chart.

Lincolnshire Notes.

AT last! It may be the anticyclone, it may be a hot spell from the Atlantic, or it may be a new arrangement of sun spots. Who cares, so long as it is the summer. Long expected come at last; come just in time to save the harvest and to relieve our despair. No more we talk of finishing off the crops with a harvest oi watercress, no longer discuss the advantages of wet storage. We are too busy. The haymakers are at it for all they are worth, and if they have not done wonders during the last few days they are not worth much.

AMONGST other things the finer weather, if it stays, will give the bees a chance. It is a little they have had to bless themselves with this year so far. Wet weather, we are told, is fatal to the gathering of the honey. The rain washes the pollen from the flowers, and to some extent destroys the scent; it kills the energy of the bee, even if it does not drown him out of existence; and altogether we are told that this will be the worst season the Lincs beekeepers have had. That is, unless the busy buzzers can make up for lost time when the heather is in bloom. All this sounds very disheartening. Another profitable Lincs industry sacrificed to the Meteorological Moloch. But the sunshine is a great tonic. With a continuance of the Italian skies under which I am revelling just now, I should not be at all surprised if things do not come all right after all. They generally do somehow.

THE Lincolnshire Curly Coated pigs have jumped into fame, thanks to the brave show which they made at the Royal Society's exhibition at Lincoln, and to the favourable things which have been written of them both before and after the event. It is just possible they may lay the foundation of a great Colonial herd. A preliminary sale of pigs has been arranged to be held on August 28, at Boston, and another on October 9, and the association is applying for special classes at the next Royal Show. Judging by the opinions of the experts, there is a great future before the Lincolnshire Curly Coats.

THE two big county stock sales to which I made preliminary reference last week, were all the success that could possibly have been hoped from them. At Mr. Dudding's Riby Grove sale many handsome prices were realised, particularly for the animals that were secured for exportation. But whilst the Argentine secured the plums of the market, one was glad to see that the Royal Show winning ram remains in the county. Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons will make good use of him, I dare say, and will find a way of making him earn the 900 guineas which they gave for him, I doubt not. He is worth the money.

THE dispersal of the stock of Messrs Dean and Sons' Heath House farm at Nocton did not yield any such fancy prices. The top priced cow was 310 guineas Its purchaser again hailed from South America whither went a good many other fine bargains in cattle flesh. The average prices were not equal to Mr. Dudding's, but who will say that £72 for cows and £45 for bulls is not profitable breeding. The highest priced ram fetched 300 guineas, which was paid by Mr. F. G. Battle on behalf of Senor Ezcurri, of South America, and which was the champion in its class at the Royal. Mr. Dudding made two purchases at 100 guineas and 105 guineas, and Lincolnshire well held its own in the rest of the competition. Fifty-two rams made an average of £37, which again is good business. There is money in well-bred stock to-day if there never was.

STILL pursuing its busy propaganda, the Farmers' Union has three meetings booked for the next few weeks. To-day (Tuesday) it will be at Market Rasen, where Mr. C. Holdershaw, J.P., presides over a meeting to be addressed by Mr. E. W. Howard, the vice-chairman, and the Rev. T. Hamilton, the chaplain. The three subjects for discussion are—organisation in general, the Small Holdings Bill, and the Lighting Bill in particular. Doncaster is to be invaded on the 27th and Peterborough on the 10th August. The time is evidently coming to talk of many things, and amongst them the position and status of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union. It will have to think of a change of name. Its present one is getting too parochial.

MR JOHN EVENS, of Burton, whose noted herd is achieving world-wide fame, has received a tangible memorial of his successes at the Royal Show. His landlord is Lord Monson, who on Thursday celebrated the birth of a son and heir at Burton Hall. During the proceedings his lordship presented Mr. Evens with a silver tankard, a copy of the Georgian tankard which the tenantry gave his lordship and Lady Monson on the occa- of their marriage.

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Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The Government report on the growing crops indicates that wheat is below an average promise. Of barley, the information which is put before us from St. James's Square is very indecisive. Oats are regarded as a healthy and vigorous crop in East Anglia, and as an average in Sussex, Somerset, and Wales. On the other hand, North of England reports are not encouraging. The potato crop is said to promise well in East Anglia, Berks, Hants, Surrey, Dorset, and Shropshire, but the reports from Wales and North of England are adverse. We hear of bligh t in Kent, Sussex, and Cornwall, and of disease in Pembroke and Lincoln. The root crops, on the whole have done well, but there are considerable exceptions, including the whole west of Scotland, the English Lake District, and Devon. Hay is a big crop of very poor quality. Of fruit crops, plums promise the best yield; pears are regarded as a mediocre crop. Apple reports vary much; they are good from a few districts, but are bad from mid-Kent, Durham, Hereford, Worcester, and Devon.

Speaking of them generally, the Board of Agriculture reports suffer from vagueness. The wheat and barley crops promise a large yield of straw so far as we ourselves can see and learn, but are already somewhat badly lodged and are likely to be lacking in quality, wheat especially. Oats, with a fine August, will be the best of the white crops, but they are not able to do wholly without sun, and the weather continues to be largely lacking in that vital element. Beans, peas, and rye are better than the more important crops.

The French harvest has been terribly interfered with by storms of rain and wind, and in Germany the downpours have been torrential. It is certain that both these countries will be very considerable importers of wheat in the next cereal year. The French needs will not be on the scale of the German, but France is sometimes not a buyer at all, so that when she enters the arena her influence always seems to be much felt. Italy will need about 5,000,000 qr. of foreign wheat, for which she will look to Roumania in vain. She will, therefore, buy largely of Russia, and in doing so enter into competition with both England and France. These items in the Continental outlook cannot safely be ignored by the British markets.

The latest news from America points to a total wheat crop in the United States of about six hundred million bushels, which is just seventeen million quarters below the production of 1906. The American farmers are said to be forming an alliance to hold wheat for 32s. per quarter, but whether "dollar wheat," as the phrase goes, will be the rule in 1907-8 or not depends very materially on the railway companies transporting it to the seaboard. Into the hold which railway trusts in the States have on farmers we cannot now go, but we fear that the control is very considerable and wide-reaching.

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets since harvest have been as follows:—

This season ...	2,610,000 qr.,	at 27s. 3d. per qr.
Last ,, ...	2,881,000 qr.,	at 28s. 8d. ,,

The price should have been higher, not lower, than last season, for the offerings were less and quality most certainly not inferior.

The sales of British barley have been as follows:—

This season ...	3,365,000 qr.	at 24s. 3d. per qr.
Last ,, ...	3,199,500 qr.	at 24s. 4d. ,,

Barley holders have done better, proportionately speaking, than those of wheat.

The sales of British oats have much exceeded the average, and the price has been fairly satisfactory:—

This season	1,667,000 qr.	at 18s. 2d. per qr.
Last ,, ...	1,007,000 ,,	18s. 6d. ,,

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 354,000 qr.: a fair supply.
Flour, 72,000 sks.: a very small arrival.
Barley, 35,000 qr.: a third of an average.
Oats, 66,500 qr.: much less than usual.
Maize, 297,000 qr.: considerably more than usual.

The imports of breadstuffs since harvest have been:—

Wheat	19,140,000 qr.
Flour	4,091,000 ,,
Breadstuffs	23,231,000 qr.

Changes in prices since January 1 have not been unsatisfactory:—

Wheat, now.....	32s. 6d.	per qr.
,, then.....	26s. 0d.	,,
Rise	6s. 6d.	,,
Barley, now.....	24s. 6d.	per qr.
,, then.....	23s. 11d.	,,
Rise	0s. 7d.	,,
Oats, now.....	21s. 1d.	per qr.
,, then.....	17s. 3d.	,,
Rise	3s. 10d.	,,

The uniform advance is particularly a good feature. The low averages for the period September 1—July 27 will be seen to be a product of over-eager sales from September 1 to December 31, 1906. We hope this warning will not be lost upon farmers in September, October, November, and December of this year.

The wheat gradient this week is as follows:—

Mark Lane	34s. 5d. per qr.
Doncaster	31s. 10d. ,,
Range ...	2s. 7d. ,,

The London average is the best this year.

The barley gradient is:—

Mark Lane.....	27s. 6d. per qr.
Reading	24s. 9d. ,,
Range	2s. 9d. per qr.

Oats keep an excellent price in every county:—

Doncaster	22s. 1d. per qr.
Lincoln	20s. 6d. ,,
Range.....	1s. 7d. ,,

Our expectation of rice on passage having fallen to 41,000 tons, the spot market is firmer from a week ago. Total imports into the United Kingdom since January 1 have been 901,000 tons, against 923,000 tons last season. Stocks, therefore, are probably below the average.

Of wheat the quantity on passage is as follows:—

Californian.....	220,000 qr.
American	220,000 ,,
Russian	295,000 ,,
Indian.....	550,000 ,,
Argentine	540,000 ,,
Australian	690,000 ,,
Various	15,000 ,,
Total	2,530,000 qr.

This is almost exactly an average expectation.

Of flour 174,000 sacks are on passage.

Of barley the supply afloat is extremely small.

Russian	15,000 qr.
Roumanian	11,000 ,,
American	70,000 ,,
Asiatic	31,000 ,,
Total.....	127,000 qr.

Of oats only 79,000 qr. are on passage.

The quantity of maize in sight, however, is heavy, the details being as follow:—

American	275,000 qr.
Argentine	375,000 ,,
Russian	150,000 ,,
Roumanian.....	250,000 ,,
Turkish	90,000 ,,
Indian, &c.....	15,000 ,,
Total.....	1,155,000 qr.

Shipments from America last week were very moderate, the chief items being:—Wheat, 179,000 qr.; barley, 2,000 qr.; oats, 60,000 qr.; maize, 240,000 qr.; and flour, 107,500 sacks.

Argentina shipped 267,000 qr. of maize, 100,000 qr. of wheat, 29,000 qr. of linseed, but only 6,000 qr. of oats.

Russia sent off 161,000 qr. of wheat, 43,000 qr. of barley, 60,000 qr. of oats, and 101,000 qr. of maize. From Roumania 62,000 qr. of wheat and 307,000 qr. of maize were exported; from India 176,000 qr. of wheat and 46,000 qr. of linseed; and from Australia 29,000 qr. of wheat, 15,000 sacks of flour, and 5,000 qr. of peas.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—The general shortage of supplies from all sources still continues, and with stocks almost exhausted the trade presents a very firm appearance. There is apparently still a large quantity of hay to be saved, and until this is cleared up supplies must keep at a very low ebb. Although the market is very firm, prices show little or no change on last week's advance in values, but there is keen competition for whatever is on offer.

The arrivals of old crop seem to be dwindling fast, and we notice that a large proportion of the present supplies consist of this season's crop, for which very fair prices have been obtainable, new clovers in good condition realising about 80s to 85s per ton; new mixture, 75s to 80s per ton; new hay, 65s to 70s per ton. Considering the weather farmers had up to a fortnight ago, it is surprising to notice, how such a large quantity is arriving in an apparently sound condition. Straw is also coming along in very short supply, and prices here again show a small advance. In the foreign market shipments continue very short, and importers are finding a good trade at present values.

Prices ruling are about as follow:—English best meadow hay, 85s to 90s per ton; good meadow hay, 75s to 82s 6d per ton; plain hays, 70s per ton; best clovers, 95s to 100s per ton; good clovers, 85s to 90s per ton; inferior clovers, 80s to 82s 6d per ton; best mixtures, 95s to 97s 6d per ton; good mixtures, 87s 6d to 92s 6d per ton; plain mixtures, 80s to 85s per ton; seconds hays, clovers, and mixtures, 62s 6d to 70s per ton; wheat straw, 26s to 28s per load; oat straw, 26s to 28s per load; barley straw, 26s to 28s per load, all ex rail London. Foreign: Canadian mixture, none; first quality Dutch hay, 67s 6d; second quality Dutch hay, 62s 6d to 65s per ton; good French hay, 65s to 67s 6d per ton; French and Dutch clovers, 85s per ton. These prices are by barge load delivered alongside a London Thames wharf.

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes are in very small request, but holders are not disposed to take less money, the Continental crop reports being decidedly below the average, while the home crop is very late. Transactions include S.W. Russian (Bessarabian) at 34s. 6d. per 492 lb., Fine Azima at 35s. per per 492 lb., Blue Stem at 36s. per 500 lb., White Karachi at 34s. 6d. per 492 lb., Red Karachi at 34s. per 492 lb., Argentine at 33s 9d per 480 lb., No. 1 Hard Manitoba at 36s. 3d. per 480 lb. American Red Winter is held above buyers' ideas.

Maize cargoes are firmer, despite the large supply on passage. A cargo of mixed American sold on Saturday for 23s. 3d. per 480 lb., and one of Argentine for 22s. 9d. per 480 lb.

Barley for autumn shipment is offered at 6d. decline, 20s. 6d. per 400 lb. for Russian. Other cargo sales include black Libau oats at 17s. per 304 lb.; Panderma beans at 32s. 6d. per 480 lb.; white Calcutta peas at 33s. 9d. per 504 lb.; Calcutta linseed at 42s. 6d. per 410 lb.; brown Cawnpore rapeseed at 54s. 9d. per 416 lb.; and Egyptian cottonseed at £8 5s. per 2,240 lb.

The London Corn Trade Association c. f. and i. quotations, for the settlement of rejections and difference in weights on wheat under Rule No. 4 of the Association East Indian wheat contracts, are as follows, viâ Canal:—

Crop 1906.—Choice White Karachi, 35s. 6d.; Soft Red Karachi, 35s; new clean terms, but 4 per cent. barley.

Choice White Karachi 35s., soft red Karachi 34s. 3d., old terms.—July 26.

N.B.—The committee has decided to quote rejection prices for "old terms" up to and including July shipments, but not later.

WET AND DRIED GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Wet Grains: Prices remain about the same, with a slightly easier tendency, owing to heavier brewings, and business has been done at 11s to 12s ale, and 9s to 9s 6d porter per ton. Pressed white distillery meal 32s 6d per ton on rail, London. Dried Grains.—The demand continues fairly brisk and prices are firm at—Distillers, 105s; ale, 92s 6d to 95s; mixed, 85s to 87s 6d; and the same prices for monthly deliveries, July to September, on rail, London. Calcutta rice meal, 80s; rice germ, 97s 6d; American cane treacle in good demand, 87s 6d per ton, on rail, London. Kiln dried sea-damaged Australian wheat from 20s per qr.—Hamlyn and Co.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English steady, quiet, unchanged prices. Foreign steadily held, at Monday's prices, but demand very small. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, he'd at 37s; No. 2 at 36s; choice white Karachi at 34s 6d; red Karachi at 34s; Australian, landed, at 36s 6d; La Plata at 35s 6d to 36s 6d. Flour steady, quiet. Maize dull, easier tendency. Odessa, ex ship, quoted at 23s, landed at 23s 6d to 23s 9d; mixed, landed at 24s. Barley quiet. Azoff-Black Sea, landed, quoted at 24s 9d; Persian at 22s 6d to 23s. Oats dull, easier tendency. La Plata quoted at 18s; South Russian, 38 lb, 17s 6d to 18s.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat: English firm, but quiet. Foreign steadily held at late rates, but demand not active. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, quoted at 37s to 37s 3d; No. 2 at 36s; choice white Karachi at 34s 6d; red Karachi, 34s; Australian, landed, at 36s 6d; La Plata 35s 6d to 36s 6d. South Russian, 34s to 37s. Flour steady, quiet. Maize dull, easier tendency; Odessa, ex ship, quoted at 22s 9d to 23s; new La Plata, ex ship, due to-day, at 23s; mixed American, landed, at 24s. Barley steady, quiet; Azoff-Black Sea, landed, held at 23s 6d to 24s 9d; Persian, 22s 6d to 23s. Oats firmly held, but not active; La Plata quoted at 18s; South Russian (38 lb), 17s 6d to 18s.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—The attendance was limited, farmers having little corn to offer and being busy with their hay. Quotations were nominally unchanged, wheat making 34s to 37s; English barley, 28s to 29s; foreign grinding barley, 26s to 27s; tick beans, 33s to 34s; Mazagan beans, 30s to 31s; flat and round maize, 25s to 27s; white oats, 22s to 25s; black oats, 21s to 23s; grey peas, 32s to 33s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—Little or no grain on offer. Prices unchanged.

Birmingham, Thursday.—A very meagre attendance here, and trade exceptionally slow. Sellers of foreign wheats ask last week's prices, but would concede a little to force sales. There was very little English wheat on the market, which made from 12s 6d to 12s per 186 lb delivered. Feeding stuffs met with a feeble demand, prices favouring buyers. English oats and beans were unchanged in value.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week the wheat trade has been firm, at about the previous week's rates. At this market there were a few wheats offering, and prices favoured buyers by about 6d on the week—34s to 34s 6d per 504 lb on rail being bid. A few beans in farmers' hands.

Canterbury, Saturday.—This market remained fairly firm, but trade was by no means brisk; 65 lb wheat made 38s, an advance of 6d on the week. Barley ranged from 27s to 29s; 45 lb white oats, 25s 6d; 38 lb black oats, 21s; Mazagan beans, 30s to 32s; tick beans, 32s to 35s 6d; grey peas, 31s to 33s per qr.; tares in small supply, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per bushel.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat 6d cheaper. Oats and beans steady.—COLIN TAYLOR, KING AND CO., LTD.

Coventry, Friday.—Attendance small, and thin supply of wheat, last week's prices being fairly well maintained. Oats firm at late advance. Beans and peas quiet without change. Quotations: Wheat, 12s to 12s 9d per 186 lb; barley, 28s to 34s per 448 lb; peas, 12s to 14s; beans, 12s to 13s 6d per 196 lb; oats, 24s to 26s per 352 lb.

Derby, Friday.—A good supply and a moderate demand. White new wheat, 38s to 39s per 36 stones; red new wheat, 37s to 38s; malting barley, 31s to 32s per 32 stones; grinding ditto, 29s to 30s; old beans, 35s to 36s; new ditto, 35s to 36s; old oats, 25s to 26s per 24 stones; new ditto, 24s to 25s.

Devizes, Thursday.—There has been no alteration in the price of wheat during the week, but the trade is firm. Other corn unaltered. Best wheat, 17s to 18s; secondary, 16s to 16s 6d; malting barley, 24s to 30s; feeding, 22s to 24s; old oats, 20s to 24s; new beans, 15s to 16s 6d; fine flour, 27s to 30s; extra fine, 32s to 36s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Scarcely any English wheat on offer, but prices very firm and 3d per load dearer; top price 14s 6d per load. Foreign wheat continues firm, but met a slow trade. Oats were firm to 6d per qr. more, with a small show. Maize was a shade easier. Other feeding stuffs unchanged.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Only a limited attendance again to-day, haymaking operations still keeping many at home. Very small offer of corn, wheat supplies practically exhausted. Home grown, owing to shortage, has receded but little from recent currencies, but foreign rather favours buyers. Barley slightly easier, and both oats and maize were obtainable for less money. Beans and peas firm. Flour trade inactive at late currencies.

Exeter, Friday.—Fairly good attendance, trade very slow. Quotations: English wheat, 4s 3d to 4s 4d; superfine flour, 25s to 27s 6d; fine 24s to 25s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Wheat and flour quiet, and prices unchanged since last Wednesday. Indian corn is 1½d cheaper on the week, and maize is 1½d dearer. Foreign oats the turn in buyers' favour, owing to large arrivals. Other articles of the trade unchanged in price at late rates.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Friday.—Market quiet, and prices practically unchanged, with the exception of foreign oats, which are 1½d cheaper since Wednesday.

Gloucester, Saturday.—English wheat 6d cheaper. Reds, 33s to 33s 6d; whites, 33s 6d to 34s. Foreign wheat 3d cheaper: Plates, 35s 3d to 36s 3d; Russians, 33s to 35s. Plate maize, 9d down, at 24s; flat 3d cheaper, at 24s; Bessarabian 6d down, at 24s. Barley 3d cheaper, at 25s 9d. Oats 6d down; Black, 20s to 20s 6d; white, 22s to 22s 6d.

Grantham, Saturday.—A very small market, with prices about the same as last week. Wheat, 35s to 36s; oats, 22s to 23s 6d; beans 32s to 33s per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday.—No samples of English grain on offer, values nominally unchanged; foreign grain also dull. Quotations:—Wheat, 3s 10d to 4s per bushel of 62 lb; barley, 3s 3d to 3s 9d per 56 lb; oats, 2s 6d to 2s 10d per 40 lb; beans, 3s 9d to 3s 11d per 65½ lb; maize, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per 60 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Scarcely any wheat on offer; trade steady at late rates. Reds, 34s to 36s per 504 lb. Grinding barley firm and fully as dear. Maize rather easier. Oats steady. Beans and peas unaltered.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Weather again cool and less settled. The wheat trade throughout the past week has ruled inactive but very steady. Millers are buying from hand to mouth, and merchants are by no means anxious sellers. Crop reports from the Continent of Europe are far from favourable. Shipments continue moderate, and harvest will undoubtedly be late; all this tends to keep the trade firm. Maize, 3d to 6d lower; beans and oats quiet.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—English wheat was scarce and firmly held at Tuesday's highest quotations. Foreign was fairly plentiful, with an easier tendency. Flour was in good demand, mostly for medium qualities, up to 28s, best runs making 31s. Maize was lower. Plate and Odessa closed at 24s. Feeding malting barley favoured sellers, prices ranging from 28s to 31s. Feeding barley, 26s to 28s. Beans, peas, and oats were unchanged.

Leicester, Saturday.—Moderate attendance, very small supplies of home-grown wheat. Prices ruled firm, but trade was very slow. Red wheats, 35s to 36s; white wheat, 36s to 37s per 36 stones; feeding barley steady and firm; beans steady; fine oats in active demand at 24s to 25 per 24 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—A very moderate attendance, and trade correspondingly slow. Wheat an extremely small supply, and rates about the same as last week. English wheat about 35s delivered. No barley trade reported. Few oats on offer at about last week's rates, ranging from 22s to 24s.

Maidstone, Thursday.—The return of sunshine has had the usual effect on the trade, and although the show of wheat samples were but scanty, sales were not lively, and a reduction of 6d per qr where pressed was the result. Barley continues dear, as the supplies are remarkably short. The cost of English oats is unusually high, and they are very firm business. Foreign are weaker than recently. Beans and peas are not much in request, although so few on offer. Maize can be bought at rather under the figures of last week. Most descriptions of feeding stuffs move off at quite as much money as when last reported.

Manchester, Thursday.—English and foreign wheat practically unchanged and closed firm at last week's prices. Flour slow and unchanged. Indian corn showed little change generally, although European grades were occasionally 1½d more money. Cheshire oats 1d to 2d per bushel dearer and little done. Little barley was offered. Beans and peas steady. Bran and thirds easier.

Newark, Wednesday.—Very small attendance; prices firm, but little doing. Quotations: Wheat, red and white, 33s to 35s 6d; barley, malting, 28s to 30s; grinding, 25s to 26s; oats, white, 23s to 23s 6d; black, 22s to 22s 6d; beans, 33s to 34s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A very quiet trade prevailed at our to-day's market for wheat. White qualities favoured buyers. Red qualities, however, was firm at last Saturday's prices. Maize firm at late rates. Peas and beans remain firm at unchanged prices; demand, however, was limited. Oats steady; unchanged in values. Barley remains quiet at unchanged prices.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Northampton, Saturday.—Hardly any business was done by the very small attendance at the Exchange this morning. Prices remained firm and for the most part unchanged. Wheat, 34s to 34s 6d; barley, 28s 6d to 30s; white oats, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; black oats, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; beans, 31s to 33s; peas, 30s to 32s; flour, 26s to 30s.

Norwich, Saturday.—The market was a repetition of last week, there being a small supply. Values were about 35s per qr delivered, 35s 6d being paid in some instances. There was a very quiet demand in the feeding stuff trade, and prices were steady. Millers' offals, owing to scarcity, were 5s per ton dearer. Linseed and cotton cakes were firmer at last week's prices.

Nottingham, Saturday.—No English wheat offering. Foreign held for full rates. Grinding barley firm. Oats small supply, 6d higher. Beans firm.—ROBT. HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—The weather has been rather unsettled during the past week, and harvest comes only on slowly. Very little corn of any kind offering on our market to-day, and prices nominally remain as last quoted. Wheat, 33s 6d to 34s 6d; oats, 22s to 23s; beans, 31s to 33s.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Preston, Saturday.—The market for wheat has been featureless during the week, and values have been hardly so good. To-day's market was only sparsely attended, and no wheat or other grain was offering by farmers, who are busy in the hayfields. Wheat, white, new, 13s 9d to 15s per windle of 220 lb; ditto red, 13s 6d to 14s; oats, old, 3s 3d to 3s 4d per bushel; beans, 16s 6d to 17s per windle of 220 lb.

Reading, Saturday.—There was rather a better attendance, with a trifling improvement in trade prices. Wheat, 33s to 36s; barley, the trade in which is practically at a standstill, 28s to 30s; oats, 20s to 23s; peas, 29s to 31s; beans, 33s to 37s.

Retford, Saturday.—Scarcely any locally-grown wheat on offer, and prices kept firm, with a stiffening tendency, at 34s to 35s per qr. All kinds of grain for feeding purposes were higher in value, especially oats, best white selling at 24s to 25s; ditto black, 22s 6d to 23s; Indian corn, 26s to 27s; grinding barley, 28s; English beans, 32s to 33s. Beans, oats, and barley are looking well. Wheat generally only moderate.

Ripon, Thursday.—No local wheat on offer. Foreign wheat unchanged. Grinding barley firm at 6d per qr dearer. An average attendance. Wheat, 33s to 34s 6d; wheat, foreign, 36s to 40s 6d; barley, grinding, 26s to 27s; oats, 24s to 25s; maize, round, 26s to 27s; ditto, flat, 26s to 27s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Quiet market. English wheat and some classes of foreign are quoted 6d per qr higher, and the whole tone is firm. Maize quoted at last week's prices. Beans rather dearer. Peas, oats, and barley unchanged. Miller's offals in good demand at full prices. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 34s to 35s; ditto red, new, 34s 6d to 35s 6d per 504 lb; oats, black, 22s 6d to 23s; ditto white, 23s 6d to 24s per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 33s 6d to 34s; ditto blue, 75s to 90s per 504 lb; beans, English, 35s 6d to 36s 6d per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 26s to 26s 6d; ditto malting, 28s to 32s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 25s 9d to 26s; ditto Plate, 25s 6d to 25s 9d; ditto flat, 26s to 27s per 480 lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—New wheat, 14s 6d to 15s per 225 lb; new oats, 14s to 15s per 225 lb; peas, 15s 6d to 16s per 225 lb; beans, 14s 6d to 15s per 240 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—Business very limited. Small attendance. Wheat quoted 34s to 34s 6d, oats 22s to 22s 6d, and peas 32s to 32s 6d per qr. No change in peas and barley.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was no local wheat showing. Foreign wheat trade was slow, and prices unchanged from last week. Maize 3d to 6d easier, oats steady.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Farmers being busy with their hay, there was little business passing, and there is no change to note in the value of wheat, barley, and oats. Arrivals coastwise:—Oats, 207 qr.; foreign, nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Warwick, Saturday.—A very small amount of business was transacted. No English wheat was on offer, and the prices were similar to those of last week.

Winchester, Saturday.—English wheat scarce but quiet. Foreign unchanged. Barley easier for forward positions. Maize and oats unaltered. Flour steady at late rates.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LTD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Thin attendance and little doing at market. Prices firm generally.

Fresh thrashed wheat, 34s to 35s per 504 lb; oats, 22s to 23s per 336 lb; beans, 32s to 34s per 532 lb.—James Fletcher.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Very small attendance, and few samples of grain on offer. White wheat, 33s to 34s; red wheat, 32s 6d to 33s 6d; barley, 27s to 29s; white oats, 22s 6d to 24s; black oats, 21s 6d to 23s; maize, 26s to 27s 6d; beans, 34s to 36s per qr.

Yeovil, Friday.—Home-grown wheat sold at at from 17s 6d to 18s 3d; foreign, 3d dearer; English white oats, 23s to 24s; black ditto, 22s to 23s; Irish black, 19s 6d to 20s; ditto white, 21s to 21s 6d; malting barley, 30s to 32s; brewing, 27s 6d to 29s 6d; feeding (English), 26s 6d to 27s 6d; grinding (foreign), 25s 6d to 26s 6d; rye, 27s to 28s 6d; tares, winter, 39s 6d to 43s; ditto spring, 42s 6d to 46s; beans, spring, 30s to 32s 6d; winter, ditto, 31s 6d to 33s; maize, flat, 24s 6d; ditto round, 24s Flour values well maintained.

York, Saturday.—Wheat is nearly exhausted, and prices range from 34s to 35s per qr. of 36 stones. Feeding barley, 27s to 28s per qr of 32 stones. Oats firm at late rates. White Tartary, 2-0 to 21s; black, 21s to 22s 6d; and white Garton, 23s to 24s per qr of 24 stones. Beans, 32s 6d to 33s per qr of 36 stones.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—We have now mostly dry weather, but a higher temperature and more sunshine is desirable for the maturing of the crops. According to present opinions wheat will turn out 25 per cent. below an average, rye near an average, barley, oats, and potatoes full crops, if the weather does not again take an unfavourable turn. Market quiet for feeding barley and maize and lower, while wheat maintains its value; rye ready for shipment is in fair demand. Fine 79/80 ko. River Plate wheat is selling at 33s 3d to 33s 9d; 74/78 ko Danubian is held at 32s; Australian, at 33s to 33s 9d per 480 lb; new red Saal wheat, September-October delivery, is offering at 34s per 504 lb f.o b. South Russian rye on the spot is selling at 30s 9d to 31s 6d; Danubian is offering at 30s 9d to 31s per 480 lb ex ship here, 9 10/15. South Russian September-October shipment has been sold at 28s 3d per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Cutting of barley has commenced in Hungary, and promises to turn out a good crop in Slovakia, while in more southern districts dry weather has prevented a full development of the grain. From Austria and Germany reports continue satisfactory, though harvest will be two or three weeks later than usual. Grinding barley quiet and lower; 60 to 61 ko South Russian July shipment 23s 9d, August 19s 9d to 20s, September-October 19s 6d to 19s 9d, Marocco July shipment 23s 3d to 23s 6d per 400 lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Maize meets a slow sale; Danubian and Odessa, afloat, 21s 9d to 22s; River Plate, 22s 3d; mixed American, August, 23s 6d; kiln-dried, 23s to 23s 3d; per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg.—John Tatlock.

CORN STATISTICS

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, July 23, 1907:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £ s. d.	Av. Price per qr £ s. d.
Wheat	128	2	220 12 6	1 14 5
Barley	64	6	89 0 0	1 7 6
Oats	—	—	—	—

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, July 27, 1907:—

Wheat	2,522,900 cwts.
Wheat-flour	200,300 ,,
Barley	123,300 ,,
Oats	319,500 ,,
Maize	1,501,000 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1906. Cwts.	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.
Wheat	1,927,300	2,864,600	1,808,900	2,290,477
Wheat-flour	245,300	141,500	257,600	435,516
Barley	193,800	217,700	586,700	230,807
Oats	513,300	554,100	252,300	430,754
Maize	905,000	650,700	1,140,900	1,645,229

Seven Years' Tithe Rent Charges.

For 1907	£68 19 6
,, 1906	68 12 1
,, 1905	69 12 0
,, 1904	69 19 6
,, 1903	69 7 5
,, 1902	67 3 9
,, 1901	66 10 9

Imperial Weekly Averages.

1906.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats Qrs.	s.	d.
July 28	8,015	30	5	95	22	4	1,146	20	2
Aug. 4	9,480	30	9	154	22	1	2,139	19	3
,, 11	6,924	30	5	300	23	0	4,512	17	11
,, 18	8,583	29	0	1,253	24	2	11,887	17	0
,, 25	26,545	27	9	2,508	25	0	14,673	16	10
Sept. 1	55,716	26	9	4,758	24	3	22,580	16	6
,, 8	78,579	26	4	19,448	24	9	32,679	16	3
,, 15	89,745	25	11	41,670	24	3	34,330	16	1
,, 22	90,292	25	9	76,130	24	3	37,120	16	0
,, 29	83,907	25	9	129,209	24	8	41,942	16	2
Oct. 6	87,200	26	1	183,145	25	0	35,724	16	3
,, 13	80,630	26	3	226,940	25	3	38,088	16	7
,, 20	71,352	26	6	230,636	24	10	35,636	16	8
,, 27	69,920	26	7	233,998	24	10	28,956	16	10
Nov. 3	64,404	26	7	229,015	24	8	32,527	16	11
,, 10	63,764	26	6	205,560	24	8	27,982	17	1
,, 17	58,059	26	4	167,441	24	4	20,389	17	2
,, 24	58,467	26	3	149,427	24	1	28,669	17	3
Dec. 1	60,299	26	1	160,173	24	1	34,743	17	2
,, 8	63,264	26	1	167,532	24	1	37,119	17	4
,, 15	70,332	26	1	135,513	23	11	36,175	17	3
,, 22	68,977	26	3	127,131	24	3	31,528	17	3
,, 29	49,637	26	0	97,796	24	1	29,124	17	3
1907.									
Jan. 5	24,559	26	0	31,733	23	11	14,773	17	3
,, 12	47,637	26	1	71,498	24	2	27,939	17	4
,, 19	75,207	26	1	104,417	24	1	37,413	17	8
,, 26	80,321	26	2	109,274	24	5	45,887	17	5
Feb. 2	84,370	26	3	86,031	24	4	38,928	17	7
,, 9	77,659	26	6	74,324	24	5	30,467	17	7
,, 16	84,514	26	7	69,221	24	1	38,725	17	9
,, 23	76,580	26	10	53,681	24	2	39,559	17	9
Mar. 2	64,923	26	9	40,398	24	2	32,965	17	9
,, 9	71,183	28	8	32,620	23	11	31,065	17	11
,, 16	69,340	26	10	29,274	24	2	28,017	18	0
,, 23	69,183	26	10	20,977	24	0	22,204	18	1
,, 30	49,202	26	8	15,929	23	9	18,412	18	2
April 6	28,757	26	9	6,539	24	3	10,296	18	3
,, 13	43,426	26	8	6,830	23	9	17,523	18	6
,, 20	54,965	26	8	6,032	23	3	21,389	18	7
,, 27	62,656	23	10	4,967	27	3	25,447	18	0
May 4	63,344	27	0	4,289	23	6	22,691	19	3
,, 11	53,080	27	6	3,375	24	0	18,392	19	7
,, 18	41,991	28	4	2,955	23	10	15,817	20	1
,, 25	37,963	29	7	1,977	24	3	12,803	20	7
June 1	28,070	31	4	1,998	24	0	10,478	20	5
,, 8	34,122	32	0	1,539	24	7	11,711	20	8
,, 15	38,008	31	10	1,152	24	7	7,668	20	11
,, 22	31,351	31	4	1,088	24	11	7,187	20	9
,, 29	23,007	31	2	759	24	6	6,118	20	8
July 6	20,795	31	3	432	24	8	4,303	20	11
,, 13	19,209	32	0	665	24	10	3,380	20	11
,, 20	15,915	32	6	259	24	5	4,447	21	1
,, 27	16,867	32	11	3,324	27	3	3,533	20	8

Weekly Arrivals into London.

July 17 to July 24 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total
Wheat	1,846	29,049	30,895
Barley	1,500	12,000	13,500
Malt	17,190	—	17,190
Oats	500	33,400	33,900
Rye	30	785	815
Beans	200	40	240
Peas	102	1,100	1,202
Maize	—	70,744	70,744
Cottonseed	—	11,000	11,000
Linseed	—	35,000	35,000
Millet	—	90	90
Tares	50	66	116
Flour sacks	18,459	42,122	60,581
Middlings ,,	—	1,000	1,000
Maizemeal ,,	—	2,494	2,494
Oatmeal	—	1,500	1,500

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending July 27, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1903 to 1906:—

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1903	18,028	28	11	493	21	6	6,050	18	6
1904	21,778	28	0	509	19	9	8,046	17	10
1905	7,691	32	3	24	23	11	3,065	19	3
1906	8,015	30	5	95	22	4	1,146	20	2
1907	16,867	32	11	3,324	27	3	3,533	20	8

English Wheat, Barley & Oats in 1906.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
Highest of Year	30	4	25	4	20	4
Lowest of Year	26	1	23	1	16	2
Gradient	4	3	2	3	4	2
Mean of Year	28	4	24	3	18	7

Monthly Averages.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1906. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1907. Wheat	Barley	Oats
Jan.	28 6	24 9	18 5	26 1	24 2	17 4
Feb.	28 10	25 4	18 11	26 6	24 3	17 7
Mar.	28 5	24 8	18 11	26 9	23 11	18 0
April	29 1	24 2	19 1	26 9	23 8	18 10
May	30 2	24 0	20 0	28 5	24 0	19 10
June	30 4	23 4	20 2	31 0	24 6	20 9
July	30 4	23 1	20 4			
Aug.	29 6	23 7	17 9			
Sept.	26 1	24 5	16 2			
Oct.	26 5	25 0	16 7			
Nov.	26 5	24 5	17 1			
Dec.	26 2	24 1	17 3			

Average Monthly Cash Prices of Town Households Flour.

	1907 s.	d.	1906. s.	d.	1905. s.	d.	1904. s.	d.	1903. s.	d.	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.
Jan.	22	0	25	0	26	3	24	9	24	0	21	9	24	6
Feb.	22	0	24	9	26	9	25	6	24	3	22	0	24	0
March	21	9	24	3	26	6	25	9	23	9	21	9	23	9
April	22	3	24	6	26	0	25	3	23	9	23	0	24	0
May	25	0	24	0	25	9	24	9	24	0	23	6	23	6
June	25	6	23	9	25	6	24	3	24	3	23	0	23	0
July			23	6	25	0	25	0	24	3	23	0	22	3
August			23	0	25	0	26	6	24	9	22	9	22	3
Sept.			22	9	24	6	27	0	25	0	23	3	22	0
Oct.			22	6	25	0	27	0	24	9	22	9	21	6
Nov.			22	0	25	0	26	9	24	3	22	9	21	6
Dec.			21	9	25	0	26	9	24	3	23	3	21	9
Yrly. Avrg.			23	5	25	6	25	9	24	3	22	8	22	10

Cereal Years' Prices.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1905-6	28	9	24	2	18	5
1904-5	30	7	24	6	16	11
1903-4	27	2	21	11	16	4
1902-3	26	5	23	0	17	8
1901-2	28	4	26	0	20	4
1900-1	27	1	25	0	18	4
1899-1900	26	5	25	0	17	5
1898-9	26	1	26	1	17	4
1897-8	36	4	27	9	18	4
1896-7	28	8	23	2	16	9

London Flour Millers' Association.

Credit and Delivery. Official Prices.

Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1906.

	London Whites. s.	d.		Town Households. s.	d.
September 1	(per sack) 26	9	(per sack)	23	9
October 8	,, 27	0	,,	24	0
,, 26	,, 27	6	,,	24	6
November 23	,, 27	0	,,	24	0
December 5	,, 27	3	,,	24	3
,, 19	,, 27	0	,,	24	0
February 20	,, 27	6	,,	24	6
March 1	,, 27	0	,,	24	0
April 24	,, 27	6	,,	24	6
May 15	,, 29	0	,,	26	0
,, 24	,, 30	0	,,	27	0
,, 31	,, 29	6	,,	26	6
June 5	,, 30	6	,,	27	6
July 12	,, 31	0	,,	28	0

(No change since last date given.)

Yearly Averages (Official).

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1890	31	per qr.	28	8 per qr.	18	7 per qr.
1891	37	1 ,,	28	2 ,,	20	0 ,,
1892	30	4 ,,	26	2 ,,	19	11 ,,
1893	26	4 ,,	25	6 ,,	18	9 ,,
1894	22	10 ,,	24	0 ,,	17	1 ,,
1895	23	1 ,,	21	11 ,,	14	6 ,,
1896	26	2 ,,	22	11 ,,	14	9 ,,
1897	30	2 ,,	23	0 ,,	16	11 ,,
1898	34	0 ,,	27	2 ,,	18	5 ,,
1899	25	8 ,,	25	7 ,,	17	0 ,,
1900	26	11 ,,	25	9 ,,	17	9 ,,
1901	26	9 ,,	25	3 ,,	18	5 ,,
1902	28	0 ,,	25	8 ,,	20	2 ,,
1903	26	9 ,,	22	11 ,,	17	2 ,,
1904	28	4 ,,	22	4 ,,	16	4 ,,
1905	29	9 ,,	24	4 ,,	17	4 ,,
1906	28	4 ,,	24	3 ,,	18	7 ,,

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 p.m.

Wheat prices at the Exchange to-day were not changed for either English or imported descriptions. Millers are for the most part able to tide over for a fortnight, and by that time crop prospects will be giving a more decided lead one way or the other. Barley was so scarce that previous prices were obtained without difficulty, though the inquiry was small. Oats were 3d. cheaper for light foreign sorts, but not for English or other good types. Maize was maintained at the currencies of the 22nd.

The inquiry was good for the season, though the speculative element was almost entirely absent. Beans and rye are firm, and in sellers' favour. Peas were quiet, and rather cheaper for Indian. Carols were in some request at 10s. 6d. per ton for good Italian and Portuguese. Butter beans had buyers at 24s. per cwt., sorghum at a guinea per quarter, and good Dutch carraways at 34s. per cwt.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off the Stands*).

July 29.

WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	34 — 36
Red	,,	33 — 34
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	None.
Brewing	,,	28 — 29
Poultry	(per 448 lb.)	27 — 28
Distilling	(per 416 lb.)	None.
Winter	(per 400 lb.)	None.
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	None.
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34 — 36
Brown	,,	27 — 29
Black	,,	29 — 30
OATS, Storm Kings	,,	None.
Abundance	,,	None.
Waverleys	,,	None.
Pioneers	,,	23 — 24
Black Tartary	,,	22 — 23
White Gartons	,,	23 — 24
Ordinary ,,	(per 320 lb.)	21 — 22
RYE, Essex	(per 480 lb.)	28 — 29
BEANS, Pigeon	(per 532 lb.)	42 — 44
Tick	(per 504 lb.)	34 — 35
Winter	,,	32 — 33
Spring	,,	31 — 32
Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	21 — 22
PEAS, Picked Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	70 — 74
Unpicked ditto	,,	52 — 56
Maple (Old)	,,	36 — 37
,, (New)	,,	34 — 35
Dun (Old)	,,	32 — 36
,, (New)	,,	31 — 32
TARES (Winter)	(per 532 lb.)	40 — 44
(Spring)	,,	44 — 48
(English Gores)	,,	56 — 64
(Scotch Gores)	,,	68 — 72

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba	37	38	American	23	24
Red Winter	36	37	Argentine	24	25
Best Spring	37	38	Roumanian	23	24
Argentine	35	36	Russian	23	24
Australian	35	36	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Californian	36	37	Smyrna	34	35
Walla Walla	35	36	New Zealand	32	33
Saxonka	35	36	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Azima	34	35	Hungarian	62	64
Ghirka	33	34	Burmese	38	40
Roumanian	33	34	Chilian	56	64
Indian White	34	35	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb):		
,, Red	33	34	French	31	33
Turkish	32	33	Russian	27	28
Persian	32	33	Canadian	26	27
BARLEY:			PEAS (504 lb.):		
C'lifor'n (448 lb)	29	30	Dutch Crowns	55	57
Ouchak (448 lb)	28	32	Konigsberg	44	46
Smyrna (448 lb)	26	30	Russian White	35	36
Spanish (448 lb)	None.		Indian White	35	36
Russian (400 lb)	26	27	Canadian White	35	36
Indian (400 lb)	25	26	New Zeal'd Maple	39	40
Gaza (400 lb)	None.		Victoria Dun	32	33
Persian (400 lb)	23	24	MILLET (416 lb.):		
MALT (336 lb.):			White	42	44
Californian	33	36	Yellow	22	24
Smyrna	33	36	Sorghum	20	21
Ouchak	33	36	RICE (cwt.):		
RYE (480 lb.):			Java	16	22
Russian	24	25	Indian	17	20
OATS:			Japanese	16	17
Konigsberg (320 lb)	21	22	Burmese	10	11
Russian (304 lb)	18	19	Siamese	8	9
Canadian (320 lb)	20	21	DARI (480 lb.):		
Arg'tine (304 lb)	18	19	Smyrna	26	27
Swedish (320 lb)	21	22	Indian	22	23
New Zeal'd (384 lb)	25	26	Persian	21	22

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 p.m.

London makes were 3d. to 6d. cheaper on the week for cash, the inquiry being poor and millers busy desirous of effecting some clearance before August bank holiday. Country flour was 6d. cheaper for common sorts, but not for patents. Foreign flour was scarce, and prices were in consequence maintained, but holders' views are a good deal above those of bakers', who, accordingly, are confining nearly all their patronage to the London and country mills.

Locust bean meal sold steadily at 140s. for the very best, which might be rather called bean flour. Coarser ground was quoted 120s. to 130s. per ton. Rice middlings made 95s. to 96s. per ton. Ground rice 10s. to 12s. per cwt. For oatmeal there was less demand, and 2s. 6d. per ton was allowed off previous quotations. We may quote Aberdeen at £13 10s., and Calmila at £14. Brose meal was quiet at 30s. per sack, and American oat flour at £13 per ton.

Meal, &c.

Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	13 — 14
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	14 — 15
,, ,, Broad	,,	13 — 14
Pollard	,,	12 — 13
Biscuit Middlings	,,	16 — 17
Fine Middlings	,,	15 — 16
Coarse Middlings	,,	14 — 15
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	17 — 18
Farina Firsts	,,	28 — 29
,, Seconds	,,	26 — 27
Barley Meal	,,	21 — 22
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	25 — 26
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	30 — 33
Groats	,,	32 — 33
Oat Flour	,,	33 — 34
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	18 — 19
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	18 — 19
,, Germ Meal	,,	15 — 16
,, Cones	,,	18 — 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	15 — 16
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	25 — 26
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	23 — 24
Rye Bran	,,	21 — 22
Pea Meal	,,	23 — 24

London Flour.

July 29.

Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	31/0 net
Town Whites	,,	28/6 ,,
,, Households	,,	25/6 ,,
No. 2	,,	23/6 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	23/0 ,,
,, No. 2	,,	21/0 ,,

Country Flour.

	s.	s.
Fine Patents (per sack of 280 lb.)	25	26
Roller Whites ,,	24	24/6
All English ,,	24	24/6
Stone made ,,	22	22/6

Foreign Flour.

		s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents	(per s'ck of 280 lb.)	28	29
,, Second Patents	,,	25	26
,, First Bakers'	,,	23	24
,, Second Bakers'	,,	22	23
Milwaukee Patents	,,	27	28
,, Bakers'	,,	24	25
Canadian Best	,,	27	28
,, Ordinary	,,	25	26
Manitoba Patents	,,	27	28
,, Ordinary	,,	25	26
Kansas Patents	,,	25	26
,, Ordinary	,,	23	24
Hungarian	,,	35	36
Belgian	,,	31	33
French, Corbeil	,,	26	27
,, Renaux	,,	25	26
,, P.S.D.	,,	24	25
Australian	,,	25	26

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED VERY QUIETLY, BUT WITH FULL CONFIDENCE AMONG HOLDERS.

THE HOLIDAYS.

On Monday next the following markets will be closed:—Mark Lane, the "Baltic" (London), the "Atlantic" (Liverpool), the London and Liverpool Term Markets, the County Corn Exchanges of Sleaford, Ludlow, Darlington, Stamford, Camborne, Wendover, and St. Ives, and the London markets for hay, straw, and vegetable produce at Stratford, the Borough, and the railway depôts. But the August Holiday, unlike those of Easter and Christmas, is not prolonged. The London Saturday markets will not be shut, and business resumes at the "Baltic" and elsewhere on Tuesday morning.

THE BALTIC.

Monday, 1 p.m.

State of Trade.

The demand for cargoes is slack, and operators are not expected to do much before the Bank Holiday is over. The forward prices for barley and oats are in favour of purchasers, but wheat and maize futures reveal much intrinsic strength.

Business Done.

Wheat.—Northern Manitoban, 35s 3d per 480 lb, prompt shipment; Victorian, 35s per 480 lb, on passage; Victorian, 37s per 480 lb, September shipment; New South Wales, 34s 9d per 480 lb, on passage; Californian, 36s per 500 lb, prompt shipment; Rosario, 34s 3d per 480 lb, prompt shipment; Baruso, 35s per 480 lb, August shipment.

Maize.—American, 23s per 480 lb, on passage; Argentine, 22s 9d per 480 lb, on passage; Galatz, 23s 3d per 480 lb, on passage.

Barley.—Persian, 20s 9d per 400 lb, September shipment; Russian, 20s per 400 lb, October shipment.

Oats.—Black Liban, 16s per 304 lb, October shipment; Archangel, 17s per 304 lb, on passage; White Sea, 17s 3d per 304 lb, on passage; Manitoba, 19s 6d per 320 lb, August shipment.

Linseed.—Bombay, 44s per 416 lb, August shipment

Rapeseed.—Yellow Guzerat, 59s 3d per 416 lb, August shipment.

Cottonseed.—Egyptian, £7 3s 9d per 2,240 lb, January shipment, new crop.

TERM MARKET.

The prices quoted for futures are not materially changed from a week ago. Latest calls have been:—

Wheat.

American Red, 7s. 2d., per cental August delivery.
,, ,, 7s. 3d. ,, Sept. ,,
,, ,, 7s. 4d. ,, Oct. ,,
,, ,, 7s. 5d. ,, Nov. ,,

Maize.

American Mixed, 4s. 1d. per cental for any month's delivery August to November inclusive.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

Flour.—The declining American markets and fine weather here causes buyers to look on who do not require to purchase for immediate use. Grain.—America and European maize are the turn lower. Manitoba oats are plentiful, and pressed for sale. Beans and pease scarce and firm. Oat-still inquired for. Mill Stuffs.—Bran and thirds maintain full prices. Winter wheat patents, 28s to 29s per 280 lb; spring wheat patents, 27s 6d to 29s per 280 lb; American corn, 13s 10½d to 14s per 280 lb; round corn, 13s 10½d to 14s per 280 lb; grinding beans, 18s 9d per 280 lb; white pease, 19s to 19s 9d per 280 lb; broad bran, 97s 6d per ton; medium bran, 92s 6d per ton; fine thirds, 122s 6d per ton; common thirds, 102s 6d per ton; American oilcake, 142s 6d to 145s per ton.—McKinnon and McDonald (Glasgow).

Flour.—Trade upon the whole quiet, and prices rather easier. The continuance of the labour disputes is affecting the general trade of the city seriously, especially in the delivery of goods and in despatch to the interior. The settlement arranged up to the present is only of a partial nature.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Offals.—Demand for bran quiet, but prices continue firm. The labour disputes in the city have been partially settled, and it is hoped may be completed in course of a few days.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Milling Offal.—The present price of middlings, although very high, is easily obtainable, the demand exceeding the supply. Bran and pollard also scarce, with bran 2s 6d to 5s per ton dearer.—John Bawcomb and Co.

Flour.—There has been a rather better inquiry for flour to-day, but the scarcity of offers has made business disappointing. Prices show no change on the week.—T. S. Medill and Sons, Ltd.

Moderate arrivals of wheat, and a quiet trade at prices of last Monday. Flour steady. Maize unchanged. Barley and oats 3d. per qr. lower.—Coventry and Sheppard.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Fair supplies met with a good demand. Prices: Surrey and Sussex fowls, 3s to 4s; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 3s; Essex fowls, 2s to 3s; Irish fowls, 1s 8d to 2s 3d; goslings, 4s 6d to 5s; country ducks, 2s to 2s 6d; Aylesbury ducks, 2s 3d to 3s 9d; quails, 1s; feathered pigeons, 8d. to 10d; Bordeaux pigeons, 11d to 1s 2d; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 6d; wild rabbits, 6d to 7d; live hens, 1s 6d to 1s 9d each; Australian rabbits, 6s to 7s 6d per doz.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday. — Small supply of hay. Trade quiet. Old hay, £4 per ton; new hay, £3 5s per ton. Straw: no quotations.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Trade stagnant, and prices remain unaltered.

Lancaster, Saturday. — Meadow hay, 6d; clover, 6½d; wheat straw, 4½d; oat straw, 4d per stone.

Leeds, Tuesday.—A moderately active business in hay and straw is proceeding in the warehouses at steady prices. Fair progress was made with the ingathering of the new hay crop last week, but the recent thunder showers in various districts have rather checked operations in the hayfields. Quotations rule as follows:—Clover hay, 7½d; meadow hay, 7d; wheat straw, 5d; oat straw, 5d; and rye straw (retail), 7d to 8½d per stone; green clover, 3½d per bundle.

Lincoln, Friday.—Small supplies and a slow trade. Best old hay and seeds, £3 10s to £4 per ton on the ground; secondary ditto, £3; straw, £3 per ton at the stack.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, new, 4½d to 5½d; clover, old, 6¾d to 7¼d; new, 5½d to 5¾d; straw, wheat, 3½d to 3¾d; oat, 3d to 3½d per stone.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Old land hay, £3 10s to £4 10s per ton; new land hay, £4 10s to £5 7s 6d; wheat straw, £1 3s to £1 5s per load; oat straw, £1 4s to £1 5s.

Nottingham, Wednesday.—Small supplies on offer, and trade quiet at the following rates:—Inferior to good hay, 70s to 85s; prime ditto, 90s to 100s; inferior to good clover, 75s to 85s; prime ditto, 95s to 100s; wheat straw, 45s to 55s per ton.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Moderate supplies, and a fair trade. Choice old seeds, £5 to £5 10s; meadow hay (old), £4 to £4 10s. No straw on offer.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Lighter supplies available, experienced a good demand at current rates. Best clover, 84s to 97s 6d; inferior ditto, 75s to 80s; specially picked hay, 90s; good ditto, 80s to 87s 6d; inferior ditto, 65s to 70s; mixture and sainfoin, 82s 6d to 90s; straw, 28s to 34s per load.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Supplies were on a good scale, and business moved slowly. Early Rose, 80s; Puritans, 70s; Duke of Yorks, 60s to 70s; Epicures, 60s to 65s; British Queens, 60s to 65s per ton; Dutch, 2s 6d to 3s per cwt.

Berwick, Saturday.—There is a large supply of new potatoes, for which a evry brisk demand is being experienced, but as prices are so varied no fixed quotations can be given.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Fair supply and a steady demand at 1s 4d to 1s 6d per stone for new sorts.

Doncaster, Saturday. Good supply and a fair demand at 4s per cwt; retail, 14 lb to 16 lb for 1s.

Goole, Wednesday.—There are no local potatoes ready yet, but the supplies of Lincolnshires are very good. Lincolnshires made 7s 9d, and Selby 8s 9d per load of 250 lb.

Lancaster, Saturday. — Potatoes, 7d per stone.

Malton, Saturday.—Supplies too limited for definite wholesale quotations. Home-grown, 1s 2d to 1s 4d per stone; imported 10d to 1s.

Manchester, Saturday.—Potatoes: Cheshire, new, 5s 6d to 7s per load; Bedford, 5s to 6s per cwt.

Preston, Saturday.—New potatoes, 10s per load of 240 lb.

Retford, Saturday.—New potatoes, 8d per stone.

Spitalfields, Saturday. — A poor demand prevailed for the plentiful supplies. Early Rose, 70s; Early Puritans, 70s to 75s; British Queens, 70s to 85s; Duke of Yorks, 70s to 75s; Epicures, 70s per ton.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Lincolnshires, £5 10s per ton; St. Malo, 6s 6d; Dutch rounds, 4s 6d per cwt.

Whitby, Saturday.—Potatoes, home-grown, 1s 8d per stone.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Good supply. Best potatoes made 12s 6d to 13s 6d per load of 18 stones.

York, Saturday.—Large supply, which met with a firm demand at 4s 6d to 5s per hamper of four score lb.

SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Very little business passing in agricultural seeds. New French trifolium is easier; buyers here expect English to be quite as good and cheaper. Samples of new Bohemian white clover now offering are quite up to the average. Demand for rape and mustard seed small. Blue peas unchanged—John Pickard and Co.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday July 29, 1907. British.	Total.	Monday, July 30, 1906.
Beasts	680	680	1,090
Sheep and Lambs	5,010	5,010	7,790
Calves	20	20	20
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	30	30	30

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 10	4 0	5 0
Sheep	4 6	5 4	6 4
Lambs	5 8	6 4	7 0
Calves	3 10	4 2	5 0
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £23.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 81; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 547; Devon, 20; Ireland, 32.

We note to day a decrease of 130 head compared with Monday last, due to smaller arrivals from the Midland counties and Ireland. The supply from the latter country consisting entirely of Waterford cattle, for which a slow trade was experienced at late values. For both prime and second quality English beasts, trade ruled of a slow, but steady nature, last Monday's prices governing all transactions. A few Devons were included in the supply, and commanded our top quotation. Owing to there being so few country buyers present, fat butchering cows and bulls were difficult to vend, sellers being obliged to accept a decline of 2d. per 8 lb. in value. A clearance is not expected to be made.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s. d.	Monday, July 30, 1906. s. d.
Scotch	—	—
Devons	4 10 to 5 0	4 4 to 4 6
Herefords	4 8 to 4 10	4 4 to 4 6
Norfolks	—	4 2 to 4 4
Runts	4 6 to 4 8	4 2 to 4 4
Lincolns	4 2 to 4 4	4 4 to 4 6
Irish	4 2 to 4 4	4 4 to 4 6
Canadian	—	—
Fat cows	3 6 to 3 8	3 4 to 3 6

There was an decrease of 1,410 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. For all grades of wether sheep a firmer trade was experienced, with a rise in value to the extent of 2d. per 8 lb., whilst ewes were quoted at last Monday's rates. Both Scotch and Irish sheep were in fair average supply, and met with a steady trade. Lambs, on the other hand, met with less demand; nevertheless, late currencies governed all transactions. The supply included 200 Scotch, 420 Irish, and 856 from the Eastern Counties. A clearance is fully expected to be made in this part of the market.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	Monday, July 30, 1906. s. d.
8 st. Scotch	6 2 to 6	4 5 6 to 5 8
7½ to 8 st Downs	6 0 to 6	2 5 6 to 5 8
9 st. Downs	5 10 to 6	0 5 4 to 5 6
10 st Halfbreds	5 6 to 5	8 5 2 to 5 4
10 st Yorkshires	—	—
12st Lincolns, half-bred	5 6 to 5	8 4 10 to 5 0
10 st Irish	5 6 to 5	8 5 0 to 5 2
10 st Down Ewes	4 0 to 4	2 4 2 to 4 4
11 st Halfbred ditto	3 10 to 4	0 4 0 to 4 2
5 st Grass Lambs	6 10 to 7	0 7 2 to 7 4
6 st Halfbreds ditto	6 6 to 6	8 6 0 to 6 2

Calves were in small supply and met with a very poor trade; the best on offer being quoted at from 4s 10d to 5s per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

No pigs on the market.

London (Central), Monday. — Trade remained slow; offerings being liberal. Beef, English, 3s 8d to 4s; Scotch, 4s 2d to 4s 10d; American, 3s 6d to 3s 11d; refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 8d to 4s. Mutton, English wethers, 4s 8d to 5s 2d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 10d. Lambs, 5s 8d to 6s 4d; Scotch tegs and wethers, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 10d. Veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d. Pork, 3s 6d to 3s 10d per stone.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts 1,122. To-day's supply compared with Monday last showed an increase of 877 head, and consisted entirely of shipments from the United States. Trade ruled of a slow nature, at a decline of 1d per 8 lb in values. The best on offer were quoted at from 4s 2d to 4s 4d; seconds, 3s 10d to 4s per 8 lb (offal given in). On Saturday 1,720 beasts from the United States and 200 from Canada were offered for sale, and met with a slow trade at late rates. Besides the above 600 States beasts were withheld from sale. The best States on offer were quoted at from 4s 3d to 4s 5d; seconds, 4s to 4s 2d. Canadians, 4s to 4s 2d; seconds, 3s 10d to 4s. A consignment of Canadian sheep was received, numbering 740 head, 340 of which were offered for sale, but met with no demand.

Liverpool, Monday. — Larger supply of stock in market to-day. Demand better for cattle and prices firmer. Sheep and lambs met a firmer trade, particularly lambs, which recovered about 2s per head on last week's fall in values. Beef, 6¾d to 5d; mutton, 8½d to 6d; lamb, 9½d to 8½d. At market 105, 1,055 cattle and 9,853 sheep.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London Monday. — Linseed Cakes. — The market is without any fresh feature, remaining very firm for spot cakes, and the considerable premium asked or forward delivery checks business for that position.

Cotton Cake: Egyptian made remain very scarce and dear. London makes are unchanged.

Decorticated Cotton Cake and Meal: These both move off slowly at last week's prices.

Linseed.—Owing to liberal shipments values have receded, though market closes firmer on the week.

English Linseed Cake, ex mill	7 5 0	to	7 10 0
Calcutta Linseed cake, ex quay	7 7 6	to	7 10 0
American Western Linseed Cake.....ex quay	—		—
American Western Linseed Cake.....ex quay	—		to arrive
Russian Oil Cake ex quay	7 5 0	to	7 10 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake ex quay	7 2 6	to	7 7 6
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal ex quay	6 12 6		6 17 6
London-made ,, Cake (best) ex mill...	4 17 6		—
Egyptian ,, Cake (in bags)	4 16 3		4 17 6
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included) on rail, Burton	4 15 0		—
Molascuit (bags included) on rail, London	—		—
Duluth Linseed (in bulk per 416 lb ex warehouse	2 5 6		—
Calcutta Linseed (in bags), per 410 lb ex warehouse	2 4 0		—
La Plata Linseed per 416 lb. ex warehouse	2 3 6		—
Russian Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb ex warehouse	2 5 0		—

—Robt. & John Hewetson

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were:—From Ireland, 2,030 bales, and from foreign ports, 13,733 bales. There was a steady quiet trade for bacon last week, and prices ranged:—Irish, 64s to 65s up to 72s; Danish, 62s to 65s up to 69s; Canadian, 56s to 60s up to 64s. Butter: The butter market was seady. French, 94s to 102s; Danish, 110s to 114s; Russian, 74s to 98s; Dutch, 100s to 102s; Irish, 84s to 103s; Victorian, 84s to 98s; New South Wales, 84s to 98s; Queensland, 82s to 94s; New Zealand, 94s to 100s. Lard.—Lard was a slow market. Irish, 46s to 54s; Danish, 48s to 50s; American, 46s to 48s.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—There is a small consumptive trade doing, and prices are exceedingly firm. Stocks are in a very small compass. The reportsfrom the plantations all speak of a continuance of vermin, and washing is general. The bine has made fair progress during the past week. —W. H. and H. Le May.

Great Yorkshire Show at Barnsley.

The "Mark Lane Express" Stand will be No. 179, where we shall be pleased to see all our friends and readers attending the Show.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

The supply of beasts on the chief market day of the week at Islington was slightly larger owing to heavier arrivals from the Midland Counties, the majority; as usual at this season of the year, consisted of grass-fed beasts, chiefly Herefords and runts. Trade, taken as a whole, was of a slow nature, this being due to the heavy fall of rain, nevertheless prices showed a decided upward tendency. The Irish consignment consisted of 41 Dublins (amongst which were some choice black polled cattle), 36 Waterfords, and 21 store cattle. These latter consisted entirely of two and a-half year old heifers, and were quoted at from £11 to £11 10s. per head. Irish fat beasts were steady in regard to value, as also were fat butchering cows and bulls. On Thursday, Monday's prices goverued all transactions.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, the supplies were also larger, and on Wednesday consisted only of middling quality, these of course not making our top quotation. Trade taken as a whole throughout the week ruled firm and steady. The total number on offer at both markets was 4,225, as against 3,533 during the preceding week, consisting of 840 British (increase 70) and 3,385, comprising 3,185 from the United States, and 200 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 95 stone Irish (Dublins), 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 90 stone States, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 90 stone States, 4s. 3d. to 4s. 5d.; 95 stone Canadians, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.

In the sheep market at Islington there was an increase in the supply of wether sheep, and these meeting with no corresponding increase in the demand, consequently fell in value 2d. per 8 lb., ewes, on the other hand, were short in number and wanted, notwithstanding sellers asking an advance of 2d., all on offer cleared early. Scotch and Irish descriptiuns maintalned late currencies. There was a fair average supply of lambs, for which late currencies governed all transactions. On Thursday, for both wethers and ewes, all sales were based on late values. Lambs, on the other hand, ruled 4d. lower. A small consignment of Canadian sheep were offered for sale at Deptford, but met with no demand. The total number penned at both markets 8,450, as against 8,070 during the preceding week, the supply consisting of 8,110 British and 340 Canadian. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 8 stone Scotch, 6s. 2d to 6s. 4d; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone Halfbreds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 5 stone fat Down lambs, 6s. 10d. to 7s.; 6 stone Half-bred ditto, 6s. 6d. to 6s. 8d.

Calves numbered 70 and met with an extremely slow trade, the best on offer being quoted at from 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; a considerable fall was noticeable on Thursday, the best only making 5s. per 8 lb.

Trade in the West.

With a continuance of favourable weather, though somewhat broken by thunderstorms, business keeps fairly buoyant, and prices generally are well maintained for stores consequent on the comparatively limited supplies now coming out, both of milch beasts and grazing cattle, though the younger classes of stock—both stirks and heifers—are better represented at many markets than graziers for finishing off. The shortness in deliveries is attributed in some measures to stockowners, as a rule, having still plenty of keep on hand; but should there be a prolonged spell of hot, dry weather, as we are having at present, no doubt supplies would then soon become more plentiful from many being glad then to lessen their numbers. Milch beasts have within the last few days taken a slightly dearer turn, say to the extent of from 10s. to 20s. a head, the best now selling from £17 10s. to £20 10s. for young heifers of good character, secondary heifers and cows making £13 to £16 10s., and distinctly plain cows from as low as £9 to £12 15s. Barreners at all forward may be quoted up to £28 or £29 per pair, the fresher condition ones being a good deal in request, whilst more ordinary runs are making £18 to £22. Stirks command a good steady sale from £10 to £12, and yearlings from £6 to £8. Calves for rearing purposes are difficult to procure, and some of the most promising now make 35s. to 45s., and smaller animals 20s. to 32s. A good inquiry still prevails for all classes of store sheep, and, as the promise keeps good for roots of all kinds, this is a factor which will tend to keep prices buoyant, and this they undoubtedly are at present. Good class Down ewes sell up to 67s. a head for picked drafts, a more general run being from 48s. to 50s.; draft ewes selling from 42s. to 46s. or 47s.; wether lambs, 32s to 41s.; cheaper lambs, 34s. to 37s.; and mixed lambs, 28s. to 38s. Already a good number of ram lambs have been disposed of, despite the somewhat early character of the season, the current prices of the bulk being from 4 guineas to 10 guineas. The season of higher prices will no doubt be soon upon us; but so far sheep are selling well both for flock and stock purposes, and there is every prospect of the season finishing quite as auspiciously as it begun, the high prices ruling being all the more satisfactory in face of the decline in the value of wool.

Although the hot weather is not calculated to enhance the value of fat stock as a rule, especially the heavier weights, still we are glad to be able to report trade as in a particularly healthy condition, and, instead of receding, the price of the better-class beef has had a distinctly hardening tendency. Well-finished steers and heifers are just now claiming special attention at prices ranging from £16 up to £23 apiece for the best (or quite 11s. 6d. to 12s. per score); more ordinary runs and good class cows selling from 10s. to 11s.; but coarse heavy beasts are not quite so much in demand, the hot weather making buyers of this class of meat a little more cautious, and we must quote 8s. 6d. to 9s. 6d. as the present range of currencies. Neat handling calves meet a relatively better sale than the heavier weights at from 8½d. to 8¾d per lb.; coarse vealers quieter at 7d. to 7¾d. Mutton, in spite of short supplies, is not a particularly fast trade except in the case of tegs and wethers, which certainly command a good price—8¼d. to 8½d. out of the wool; but coarse heavy ewes cannot be quoted higher than 7d. to 7½d. The better class lambs attract plenty of buyers at from 41s. up to 60s. apiece (or 10d. to 1s. per lb.); secondary grades, 30s. to 39s. (or 10d. to 10½d). Small pigs are the most in demand, and porkers may be quoted as making 10s. to 10s. 6d. per score; baconers, 9s. to 9s. 6d.; and the coarser grades of old pigs, 7s. to 8s.

Trade in Scotland.

The numher of fat cattle on offer has been much under an average, and the general quality fairly good. An active trade has been experienced throughout, and prices have advanced from 10s. to 15s. over the previous week. Fat cows and bulls in short supply and very dear. Sheep and lambs have also been shown in small numbers. Owing to the short supply there has been a better demand at prices on an average 2s. per head higher, with an easy clearance. Fat calves a small show and dearer. Pigs also shown in moderate numbers, and prices fully maintained. There was a small supply of store sheep, and anything of a good class got fairly well sold at satisfactory prices. There was an exceedingly small show of store cattle, but the general quality good. A clearance of this description was effected at quite satisfactory prices. There was a large show of milch cows, and they met a bad trade. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 42s. 9d.; current, 39s. to 41s.; Irish, 36s. to 39s.; mutton, 6½d. to 9½d. per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Ltd.

Trade in Ireland

There was a large attendance of English buyers at last Thursday's Dublin market, besides a large number of home and Irish country buyers as well. Stock showed a good increase, there being sixty-six more cattle, and 882 more sheep than were exposed for sale on the previous Thursday. Business opened rather slowly, but improved as the day wore on to the extent of about 1s. per cwt. on beef of the best qualities, while trade in the plainer descriptions was also more satisfactory, For best beef the dead-weight price ranged from 57s. to 60s., and from 62s. to 64s for a few extra lots of very superior finish; second quality beef from 52s. to 56s., and inferior beef from 48s. to 50s. Coarse and lean cattle, too, sold easier than for some markets past. The top range value (live weight) was from 33s. to 34s., and a few lots up to 35s. per cwt. The beef trade in Dublin on Monday last was, on the whole, very satisfactory.

The sheep trade was not so satisfactory, a much larger market of sheep having a good deal to say to it. Sheep experience a slow trade generally, only good hoggets for export are suitable ewes for home trade being placed satisfactorily. Lambs were down about 2s. per head on the week. Heavy wethers were hard to cash. The best classes of hoggets were a fairly good trade. Best wether mutton sold at about 7d. to 8½d. per lb., best ewes, 6¾d. to 7½d., and coarse sheep about 6d. per lb. The lamb trade suffered from the effect of bad markets on the other side of the Channel, and the lambs bought for export generally sold at a drop of about 2s. per head. Choice home lambs were sold at from 32s. to 43s. each; other sorts at from 24s. to 30s. each.

Veal showed little if any change. The best fed veal was worth from 8d. to 9d. per lb.; coarse calves from 4½d to 7d per lb. Milch cows were worse in price this week, and only tip top milkers made late rates. Store cattle were in good demand at very satisfactory prices. Mr. Gavin Low held a sale of store cattle, which proved very satisfactory. English and home buyers turned up well at the sale, and bought well. The Aberdeen-Angus crosses came in for most competition. Two-and-a-half year olds realised from £11 2s. 6d. to £12 10s. each or about 33s. 6d. per cwt., and three-year-olds from £16 to £18 2s. 6d., or about 33s. 6d. per cwt. A handsome lot of Hereford crosses were sold by Captain Longworth Dames at £15 (or 34s. 6d. per cwt. live weight). Polled cattle of 2 to three years old made from £12 10s. to £15 15s each. For nice horned stock of from two and a half to three years prices ruled between £10 10s. and £14 10s. The sale terminated about 2 o'clock, and the next one will be held by Mr. Low on August 15.

The Dublin Pig Market on Thursday last was a tolerably large one as regarded buyers, but there was a disappointingly small number of pigs on offer. The consequence was that buyers had to pay an advanced price to secure a sufficiency of stock. The rates, however, must be considered artificially inflated, and prices will not last. Best light-weight pigs were worth from 55s. to 57s. 6d. per cwt.; heavy pigs from 50s. to 54s.; coarse, 46s. to 48s.; and stores sold at from 20s. to 60s. each.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Good supplies; slow demand; mutton and lamb firm. English beef, 3s 8d to 4s; Scotch side, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; shorts, 4s 4d to 4s 8d, extreme 4s 10d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 6d to 3s 11d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 10d to 4s; ditto seconds, 3s 8d to 3s 9d; ditto forequarters, 2s 6d to 2s 7d; inferior beef, 2s 6d to 3s; mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s 8d; ditto tegs, 5s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; English wethers, 4s 8d to 5s 2d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 10d; Dutch sheep, 4s 8d to 5s; English lamb, 5s 8d to 6s 4d; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d; English pork, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; Dutch ditto, 3s 6d to 3s 10d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Supplies consisted exclusively of fat slaughtering cows and bulls, for which there was a poor trade. The range of quotations was about the same as last Monday, but best prices were exceptional. Fat cows quoted from 3s 2d to 3s 10d; and fat bulls from 2s 8d to 3s 4d. Trade for sheep ruled dull with prices not fully maintained. Best Down tegs were quoted 5s 10d to 6s; 10 stone Downs, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10 stone crossbreds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; large wethers, 5s to 5s 2d; small Down ewes, 4s to 4s 2d; lambs, 6s 8d to 7s. Quotations for calves ranged from 4s 10d to 5s 8d per stone, trade being slow.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef sold slowly, at last week's rates, best ranging from 4s 8d to 5s. Mutton in large supply, and cheaper, Downs making 5s 6d to 6s; Kent wethers, 4s 8d to 5s 8d, according to size. Ewes made 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Veal made 5s to 5s 4d. Pork was dearer, roasters making 3s 8d to 4s 2d.

Berwick, Saturday.—The number of beasts penned showed a considerable falling off. Holiday market, very few beasts being sold.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Small supply of beasts, sheep, and pigs; trade slow. Quotations:—Beef, 5½d to 6¾d, per lb; Hereford, 7d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 8¾d to 9½d per lb; bacon pigs, 10s to10s 3d per score; cutting pigs, 10s to 10s 3d per score; sows, 8s per score.

Bristol, Thursday. — The market was not largely attended, farmers being busy on the land, and business was dull. Trade in beef, which was in limited supply and demand, was quiet at last week's prices. Mutton and lamb also were offered in smaller quantity, and were in less request than usual, late rates prevailing. Pigs were scarce, and quotations unchanged.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices of pigs:—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 1s. per pig extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. 10 lb to 8 sc. 10 lbs, 10s per score, 8 sc. 11 lb to 9 sc. 10 lb,, 9s 6d per score; 9 sc. 11 lb to 10 sc. 10 lb, 9s. Pigs outside these limits at their value.—C. and T. Harris and Co., Ltd.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There was a fairly large offering of ewes and lambs. The general range of prices was from 20s to 28s 6d, but an exceptionally fine lot of fat lambs made 39s. Broken-mouthed ewes made from 22s to 26s, and good useful animals from 36s to 42s. A few horned beasts were offered, but met with little demand.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Fair attendance of buyers, and a better trade. Large heifers ready for finishing off, £13 10s to £16 10s; smaller sorts, £7 10s to £9 10.

Colchester, Saturday.—There was a fair amount of stock, which changed hands at about last week's prices.

Derby, Tuesday.—Last week's prices were well maintained, choice beasts and sheep fetching high prices. Beasts, 5½d to 7d; calves, 8d; sheep, 7½d to 9d; lambs, 10d.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Moderate supply of cattle and sheep, and a poor attendance. Fair supply of milch beasts. Average demand, and prices firm. Milch beasts, £18 to £22; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers and drapes, £11 to £15; stirks, £9 to £11; and young stores, £6 to £9 each. Sheep were dear, and from 42s to 45s each. A few lambs made from 30s to 33s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Messrs. Ensor and Son had very short offers at their repository sale to-day, and these were confined entirely to cattle, mutton as a rule finding with no great sale at the week end market. The attendance was quite in keeping with the limited character of the supplies. Milch beasts met a fair trade from £16 to £19 10s for the best, and £13 10s to £15 for seconds. Barreners, which comprised only a very ordinary lot, ranged from £18 to £22 per pair; and a few store bulls found buyers at from £11 to £12 each. Fat bullocks ruled firm from £16 to £18 10s for heifers (or 11s to 11s 6d per score), and cows from £14 10s to £17 or 10s to 10s 6d.

Edinburgh, Wednesday. — Supplies much lighter. Cattle poor supplies, fair demand. Best polled bullocks, £12 10s to £16; cows, steady demand, best Shorthorns, £20 to £25 10s; Ayrshires, £13 to £18 5s; crosses from £18 to £24 10s. Sheep met a fair trade. Cheviot dinmonts, 30s to 37s; half-breds, 40s to 43s.

Exeter, Friday.—Large supply of fat beasts, and only best steers and heifers maintaining 12s. Cows, 10s to 10s 6d; some unsold. Large supply of sheep; small wethers and shorn lambs readily sold at 9d; large size, 8½d; fat ewes, 6d to 6½d; fat lambs, in wool, 10d to 11d. Very little demand for keeping lambs; few breeding ewes on offer, but not a good demand, at 44s to 48s. Few keeping sheep of the Dartmoor class sold; rams 5d, calves 7d.

Glasgow, Wednesday. — Small numbers of cattle marketed, and the demand for prime handy shop descriptions was sharp. Other sorts also experienced a firmer inquiry. Top, 64s to 66s; secondary, 58s to 61s per cwt. Shorter supply of sheep and lambs, consequently prices ruled higher. Prime hoggs and wethers in better request. Lambs also made more money. Best mutton, 10d to 10½d; secondary, 9½d to 9¾d per lb; finest lambs, 9½d to 11d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Large supply of beef, with dragging trade. Best qualities made 6¾d per lb, and secondary sorts 5d; veal, 9d. Small supply of sheep, trade firm. Wethers, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 6d to 7d; lambs, 9d to 10d. Porks, limited supply, 5d to 5½d. No bacons on offer. Slow trade for store stock.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good supplies of home-bred stock, which came to hand in excellent condition. Buyers were well represented, and trade ruled brisker. Choice milch cows, £19 to £21; good lots, £17 to £18; secondary, £14 to £16; Shorthorn bullocks, £14 to £16; Irish bullocks, £15 to £18 10s; Welsh cattle, £13 to £16 10s; heifers, £10 to £13 10s; young stock, £5 to £8 each. Calves met a slow trade.

Lincoln, Friday.—Horned stock were shown in fair numbers, and the demand was moderate. Young beasts, £7 to £10; and milch cows, £17 to £21; lambs made up to 33s, and drape ewes 32s each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—An average show of fat beasts experienced late rates, 7s 6d to 8s per stone. Stores very few shown, and trade very slow from £6 to £13 each. Fat lambs average show from 9s 6d to 10s per stone. Stores made from 45s to 50s each; several fat lambs realised from 35s to 40s. An average supply of stores made from 28s to 35s each.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: First class, 5¾d; second class, 4¾d to 5¼d; third class, 3¾d to 4¼d. Mutton: First classs (Cheviots Scotch) 8¼d; others, 8d; second class, 7d to 7¼d; third class, 6d to 6¾d. Veal: First class, 6¼d; second class, 5¼d to 6d; third class, 4¼d to 5d. Lamb: First class, 8¼d; second class, 7¾d to 8¼d per lb.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Cattle were in lighter supply, and trade was sharper all round, and prices advanced 3d for all except inferior beasts. Quotations:—Prime heifers, 8s 6d to 8s 9d; second class, 8s 3d to 8s 6d; prime steers, 8s 3d to 8s 6d; second class, 7s 9d to 8s; coarse and inferior, 6s 9d to 7s per stone, sinking the offal. Sheep and lambs were a short supply, and trade was much firmer all round, and prices advanced ½d for certain sorts of sheep to 1d for lambs. Quotations:—Choice shearling sheep, 9½d to 10d; strong heavy, 9d to 9½d; choice lambs, 10d to 10¾d; second class, 9½d to 10d; ewes, 6d to 7d; rams, 5½d to 6½d per lb. Calves were a similar supply to last week. Trade for veal was steady at 6d to 8d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—A large supply of cattle, sheep, lambs, calves, and pigs. Good attendance of buyers, and there was a brisk trade all round. Best beef, 6¾d to 7d per lb; seconds, 6¼d to 6½d; cows, 5d to 5½d; best wether mutton, 8½d to 8¾d; ewes, 6½d to 7d; lamb, 9d to 9½d; calves, 7d to 8½d; porker pigs, 10s to 11s per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—Trade for fat cattle was hardly so good as last week, the best making 8s, and secondary sorts and cows from 7s to 7s 6d per stone. Veal calves were not of good quality, but sold a little dearer at 7¾d per lb. A short supply of fat sheep, and quality was good, the best mutton selling well at 9½, and secondary at 8¼d, while ewes were cheaper at 6½ per lb. The fat pigs shown were mostly small; trade remained unaltered, all getting sold from 6s to 6s 8d per stone, while sows fetched 5s. The store cattle were all small, and of fair quality; trade was better at from £5 10s. to £12 per head. Rearing calves not as good, but these also met a better trade at from 20s to 50s. A small entry of store sheep; Black faced shearlings made from 58s to 70s, and others from 38s to 56s. Lambs were of a similar quality to last week, and trade remained unchanged at 25s to 40s per head. Store pigs were a small show, and met a sharper trade at from 12s to 26s.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Good supply. In-calf cows, £16 to £19; in-calf heifers, £12 to £13 10s. Small show of calves met with a better trade, making 25s to 45s each. A few store sheep changed hands at 25s to 35s each.

Preston, Wednesday.—Average supplies of stock, with prices a shade easier, except for choice lamb 13s, which were firm. Quotations:—Heifers, local, 7d; ditto, Irish, 6¾d; young cows and bulls, 6d; secondary ditto, 5d to 5½d; choice lambs, 10d; secondary ditto, 9d; hoggs, 8½d; choice ewes, 7¾d; secondary ewes and tups, 6½d to 7d; calves, 7d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Fully an average show of store stock, and an improved attendance. A fair amount of business was transacted at last Saturday's rates.

Romford, Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts; trade about the same. Best animals, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; middlings, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. Calves in average supply; prices lower, at 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Sheep in large supply; trade lower. Best small sheep, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; large, 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Ewes in average supply; trade about the same, at 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. Lambs in average supply; prices unchanged, at 6s 4d to 6s 8d per stone. Fair demand for store beasts. Milch cows in small supply; trade about the same. Pig trade slow. Small porkers, 3s 8d to 4s; large hogs, 2s 8d to 3s per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Average supply of milch beasts, which met with a good demand. Best cows, £18 to £22; secondary, £12 to £16.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Very little trade in store cattle, but fat stock met with a ready sale. Quotations: Beef, 6½d to 7¼d per lb; mutton (wether), 9d to 9½d per lb; ewes, 7d to 8d per lb; lamb, 9d to 10d per lb; veal, 7d to 8d per lb; porket pigs, 10s per score; bacons, 9s to 9s 3d per score.

Stockton, Wednesday.—An average show of the best quality cattle, which met a slow trade at 8s to 8s 6d per stone, rougher kinds making 6s 6d to 7s. Lambs sold at 10d per lb, young sheep 9d, ewes 7d and 7½d, and tups 6½d per lb. The pig trade was slow and steady, last week's prices being fully maintained.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a very large all-round entry of stock, it being the largest market held this season. Buyers attended in large numbers, Oxford and neighbourhood being well represented. Trade for cattle was firm, practically every beast changing hands. There was a strong demand for mutton, every pen, with the exception of two, were sold. Fat lamb and veal in demand. Bacon and pork selling steadily. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 82 fat beasts, 429 fat and store sheep and lambs, 77 fat and weaning calves, and 52 fat and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £16 to £23 12s 6d; fat heifers, £13 to £19 12s 6d; fat wethers, 48s to 58s 6d; fat ewes, 45s to 58s; fat lambs, 30s to 42s; fat calves, £3 to £5; weaning cow calves, 30s to 54s; bull calves, 15s to 45s; porkers, 28s to 52s; store pigs, 12s to 28s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance very good, business fairly brisk. Fat bullocks, 56s to 60s; barreners, 40s to 45s; store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £10 to £14; rearing calves, 12s 6d to 32s 6d; wethers, 7d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½ to 5¾d; lambs, 7d to 8d; pigs, 12s 6d to 42s 6d; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8½d; lamb, 8d to 9d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8½d; pork (carcases), 5d to 5½d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Fair supply; moderate trade all round. Beef, 5½d to 7d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 9d per lb; lamb, 9d to 9½d per lb; veal, 6½d to 9d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday. — Short supply of stock, but trade was good. Best beef, 8s to 8s 6d; secondary, 7s 3d to 8s; Southdown wether and crossbreds, 8½d to 9d; ewes, 6d to 7d per lb.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Liverpool, Friday.—Fertilisers are quiet and without change in value. Feeding stuffs slow of sale, but prices are firm, and with enquiries for decorticated cotton cakes and limited offerings of prime qualities holders are asking a slight advance.

	Per ton. £ s d	£ s d
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (good but irregular)	7 0 0	7 5 0
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime (soft)	7 15 0	7 17 6
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime	4 13 9	5 0 0
Cottonseed Cake, Bombay	4 6 3	4 8 9
Linseed Cake, American, thin oblong, prime but hard	7 5 0	7 7 6
,, ,, English, prime	7 15 0	8 0 0
,, ,, River Plate	7 10 0	7 12 6
Palm Nut Cake	5 18 9	6 0 0
Maize Germ Meal	6 2 6	6 5 0
	Per 240 lb.	
Indian Meal, coarse to fine grinding	0 13 0	—
	Per ton.	
Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported	5 2 6	5 5 0
	Per qr., 416 lb.	
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2 11 0	2 12 0
	Per Gallon.	
Cod-liver Oil, cattle feeding	0 4 0	—
Treacle, feeding, good to prime	Per Cwt. 0 4 9	—
	Per ton.	
Nitrate of Soda	11 0 0	—
Kainit, prime	2 7 6	—
Bone Meal, prime	5 10 0	—
Bone Ash, fine and powdery	3 15 0	—
Basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed		—
,, ,, ,, finest ,, ,,		—
D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime*	2 5 0	2 7 0
,, ,, guaranteed*	2 10 0	2 12 0
,, ,, ,, *	3 1 3	3 3 3

* At depot inland.

—H. Jones Langar and Co.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes: There is a considerably improved tone in the market, and country dealers assuming that prices have about reached lowest summer level are more inclined to go into stocks, and quotations in consequence have a firmer tendency. Russians are attractively offered at about late rates. East India seed pures make slightly more money. Fine seedy Calcuttas command full prices. Lon-

don made meet a comparatively ready sale. Cotton Cakes.—With only small stocks of Egyptian and the probability of light shipments for some time to come prices remain steady, while English find a dull sale. Decorticated: London-made pures are more inquired after, also digestive meal, with American still neglected. Rape Cakes.—Quiet but firm. Maize Germ Meal.—The market is bare of stocks of White American, but English makes are obtainable in limited quantity. Maize gluten meal is in good request at a slight advance. Rice Meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon are fully as dear, with autumn and winter shipments quoted 2s 6d dearer. Locust beans sell quietly. Dried brewers' grains are unchanged. Nitrate of soda is without alteration.

	Per ton. £ s. d.		£ s. d.
Linseed Cakes.			
Russian, in mats (ex dock)	7 2 6	to	7 3 9
,, in bags	7 5 0	to	7 7 6
East India	7 5 0	to	7 7 6
Calcutta	7 7 6	to	7 10 0
English (ex mill)	7 6 3	to	7 8 9
Cottonseed Cakes.			
Egyptian	4 13 9	to	4 16 3
English (ex mill)	4 15 0	to	4 17 6
Bombay	4 0 0		
Decorticated, London made	7 2 6	to	7 5 0
,, American	6 15 0		
,, Meal, American	6 15 0	to	7 0 0
Digestive Meal	5 0 0		
Rape Cakes.			
East India seed	4 17 6		
Maize.			
English	5 16 3	to	5 18 9
Maize Gluten Meal	5 17 6	to	6 0 0
Ricemeal.			
Rangoon ex whf.	4 16 3	to	4 17 6
,, ex ship	4 13 9	to	4 15 0
Locust Beans.			
Whole	5 5 0		
Kibbled	5 10 0		
Dried Brewers' Grains.			
Ale	4 15 0		
Mixed	4 10 0		
Manures.			
Nitrate of soda	11 0 0		

—Pinnock Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Altrincham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Appleby: 10d to 1s. Barnstaple: 1s. Berwick: 9d to 1s. Birmingham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Camelford: 11d. Carlisle: 1s. Chester: 1s to 1s 1d. Dartmouth: 1s to 1s 2d. Devizes: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Doncaster: 1s to 1s 1d. Dorchester: 10d to 1s 1d. Hereford: 1s to 1s 1d. Ipswich: 1s to 1s 2d. Kidderminster: 1s to 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s. Lincoln: 10d to 1s. Market Drayton: 11d to Otley: 1s 6d per 24 oz roll. Penrith: 9½d to 11d. Penzance: 8½d to 10d. Retford: 1s to 1s 1d. Ripon: 1s 5d to 1s 6d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s. Shrewsbury: 11d to 1s. Spalding: 11d. Stamford: 1s. Stockport: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Stockton: 10d to 1s. Totnes: 1s to 1s 1d. Truro: 8½d to 10d. Wellington (Salop): 11d to 1s. Worcester: 10d to 1s 2d. Worksop: 11d to 1s. York: 10d to 1s.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Altrincham: 10 and 11. Appleby: 12. Barnstaple: 13. Berwick: 1s to 1s 2d per doz. Birmingham: 11 and 12. Camelford: 14. Carlisle: 12. Chester: 10 and 11. Dartmouth: 1s to 1s 2d per doz. Devizes: 14 to 16. Doncaster: 12 and 13. Dorchester: 11d to 1s 2d per doz. Evesham: 11½d to 1s 1d per doz. Hereford: 12 to 14. Ipswich: 12 to 14. Kidderminster: 12. Lancaster: 7. Lincoln: 12 and 13. Market Drayton: 11 and 12. Otley 11. Penrith: 12 and 13. Penzance: 8½d to 10½d per doz. Retford: 1s 8d per score. Ripon: 11 and 12. Scarborough: 11. Shrewsbury: 11 and 12. Spalding: 13. Stamford: 11 and 12. Stockport: 10 and 11. Stockton: 10 and 11. Totnes: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per doz. Truro: 9d to 10d per doz. Wellington (Salop): 12 and 13. Worcester: 10 to 12. Worksop: 1s 10d per score. York: 12.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Arrivals large, but buyers few; prices steady; a holiday feeling still exists. Dunlops, 54s to 58s; Cheddars, 58s to 60s per cwt; Canadians in most request.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—A good attendance of buyers and a brisk competition. Best Caerphilly dairies realised up to 48s per cwt.; secondary dairies, 44s to 46s 6d; and other dairies, 38s to 42s. A few inferior lots failed to reach 35s. Cheddars:—53s 6d to 58s 6d; truckles, 55s to 60s; doubles, 52s 5d to 54s 6d.

Newport, Wednesday.—Between 9 and 10 tons pitched, a good demand, and a fair attendance. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 38s to 40s per cwt; fancy dairies, 46s to 47s; Derbies, 50s to 62s; truckles, 56s to 63s; doubles, 58s to 60s.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Ample and varied supplies of fruit and greenstuffs, for which there was a brisk demand. Quotations for English produce:—Peaches, 1s 6d to 10s per dozen; raspberries 3s to 4s per dozen punnets; greengages, 9d to 1s 3d per box; ditto, 6s 6d to 9s. per half-sieve; nectarines, 1s 3d to 10s; green figs, 1s 9d to 4s per dozen; peas, 3s to 4s per half-sieve; cherries, 3s to 8s; gooseberries, 2s 6d to 4s; red currants, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; black ditto, 4s to 5s per half-sieve; apricots, 2s to 3s per peck; tomatoes, 2s 6d to 4s per 12 lb; grapes, 8d to 2s 9d; broad beans, 1s; beetroots, 1s 6d to 2s per bushel; cabbage, 3s to 4s per tally; vegetable marrows, 3s to 4s; endive, 1s 6d to 1s 9d per dozen; green peas, 3s to 4s per bag; ditto, 1s 6d to 2s per bushel; cauliflowers, 2s to 3s per dozen; horseradish, 10s to 15s per dozen bundles; mushrooms, 6s to 10s per 12 lb; cucumbers, 5s to 6s per flat; onions, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per dozen bunches; cos lettuce, 6d to 8d per score; cabbage ditto, 1s 6d per bushel; green artichokes, 2s to 2s 6d per dozen; green beans, 6d per lb; turnips, 2s to 2s 6d; carrots, 2s to 2s 6d; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s; mint, 1s to 1s 3d per dozen bunches; potatoes, 70s to 100s per ton.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Fresh fly is reported. Mould has also made its appearance in many gardens. Prices have been very firm during week, and a good-sized lot changed hands at 80s, and several smaller parcels at 75s per cwt.

ADVERTISEMENTS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7, 1907.

BUSCOT PARK, BERKS.

Two miles from Faringdon Station, G.W.R.

Messrs. WATERS & RAWLENCE,

In conjunction with Messrs. FRANKLIN & GALE,

Are instructed by Sir ALEXANDER HENDERSON, Bart., to SELL by AUCTION, on the Premises at the Stud Farm, on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7, 1907,

50 RAM LAMBS

and

80 CHOICE EWES IN AGES,

from his well-known Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWN

BUSCOT PARK FLOCK.

Since being instructed to conduct the annual Sale of Ram Lambs, &c., from the Buscot Flock, Mr. Rawlence has paid a visit to the Estate, and is able to speak in the highest terms of the Lambs that will be offered; they are of great size, most symmetrical, and of excellent type and character, many of the leading lambs being exceptionally good. The Ewes included in the Sale should also form an additional attraction.

Luncheon at 12 o'clock and Sale after.

Conveyances will meet train at Faringdon Station.

Catalogues of Mr. W. Crosland, Estate Office, Buscot Park, Faringdon, Berks, and the Auctioneers, Salisbury & Wallingford.

Fodder Crops.

1s.

Post Free,

1s. 2½d.

W. A. MAY,

"Mark Lane Express" Offices,

3, Wellington Street, Strand, W.C.

By Messrs. SEXTON, GRIMWADE & BECK.

UNRESERVED SALE OF PEDIGREE HACKNEYS.

STUNTNEY HALL, ELY,

One mile from Ely Station, G.E.R.

FRIDAY NEXT, AUGUST 2.

SEXTON, GRIMWADE & BECK are instructed by Mr. Cole Ambrose to SELL BY AUCTION, WITHOUT RESERVE, his highly valuable Stud of

65 PEDIGREE HACKNEYS and HARNESS HORSES,

Including a large number of Piebald and Skewbald Horses, Bays, Chestnuts and Blacks, comprising—

30 MARES AND FOALS.

23 HARNESS MARES and GELDINGS.

11 FILLIES, TWO and THREE YEARS OLD.

1 STALLION.

The Horses are bred from the best old Norfolk strains, crossed with the most famous Yorkshire blood. Amongst those to be sold are several that can win in the showyard, and many suitable for harness. The stud can be seen previously to the Sale, and the horses tried in harness by appointment with Mr. Cole Ambrose.

Catalogues of the Auctioneers, Peterborough.

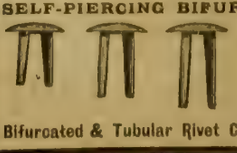
FRUIT RANCHING IN CANADA.

WANTED, a few superior young Britishers, with at least £20 each, to clear the land and earn their own 10-acre ranches. High wages, good society, and excellent climate.

Apply "Ranching," care of British E.T.C. Society, Newington, Liverpool.

Mr. Farmer,—One sees most trumpery efforts made by waggoners to patch up harness, such as piecing straps with boot-laces, and tieing loose buckles on with bits of string. Such attempts are only temporary at the best, and generally speaking risky. In fact, much damage to harness, horses, and carts can be traced to these gimcrack ways of effecting repairs. One cannot expect a farmer to be sending a set of harness to the shop every time a strap gets loose or a buckle comes off, and if the waggoner is anything of a handy man, and has a few Bifurcated Rivets, he can effect these simple repairs himself. The remedy is use

SELF-PIERCING BIFURCATED RIVETS.



Send us 1/- for Box, assorted, and Hand Tool if you are unable to obtain them from your Ironmonger.

Bifurcated & Tubular Rivet Co., Ltd., WARRINGTON.

Printed and Published by the Proprietors, at the Office, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.—July 29, 1907

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The rainfall of July exceeded the average, while the sunshine and warmth were deficient. This is not a good record, yet the splendid spell of perfect weather from the 15th to the 24th did much to advance the growth of the ripening cereals and to redeem the whole month from disaster. The commencement of harvest for wheat since the new century has been as follows:—1906, August 1; 1905, July 25; 1904, August 3; 1903, August 17; 1902, August 11; and 1901, August 6. This year it is probable that a regular commencement will be made on August 12 but not before. Of course a few isolated patches and even specially forward fields are reaped in advance of the general harvest beginning. The cutting of winter oats and of rye will take place in many parishes where they are grown from the 6th inst. In France the wheat harvest has now spread to the region round Paris, but in Normandy and Picardy will not be earlier than in Kent and Sussex. In Germany the harvest is proceeding with difficulty owing to frequent heavy rains. The temperature, however, is so low that there is little sprouting. In Italy the new wheat is not threshing out up to expectation; it looked a bulkier crop that it is turning out.

The Canadian wheat crops (including Manitoba and the North-West) have shown since 1904 a steady increase, the official figures of yesterday being:—

1904	8,500,000 qrs.
1905	13,500,000 ,,
1906	15,400,000 ,,

The present year will, it is to be feared, break this agreeable run of prosperity, but the backwardness of the spring in 1907 has been very exceptional, and the setback is not regarded as like to extend over more than a season. The area under wheat in the Dominion increases year by year when the spring allows time for sowings. Of course the wheat is practically a spring crop, though there is a not unimportant district in Alberta where the grain may safely be confided to the soil before the falling of the winter snows. The cultivation of wheat makes very little progress in British Columbia, possibly on account of the distance from the consuming centres.

The yield of wheat in the United States is thus estimated, and though the Bureau report of the 11th inst. is likely to be of considerable interest, it is not anticipated that it will make much difference in the estimates of the wheat yield. On the barley and oat yields it is expected to throw useful light, and also on the July progress of the maize. The wheat returns are as follows, reduced to English quarters of 480 lb.:—

	Qrs.		Qrs.
1907	76,000,000	1899	68,750,000
1906	91,000,000	1898	84,275,000
1905	85,000,000	1897	66,275,000
1904	66,000,000	1896	53,750 000
1903	77,000,000	1895	58,750,000
1902	85,000,000	1894	58,000,000
1901	93,500,000	1893	40,000,000
1900	65,500 000		

The acreage, of course, has varied, but no doubt is ordinarily felt, as to 1901 having been the busiest year of United States' wheat production.

The imperial wheat average for July shows 8d. advance on June, and is now on the right side of 32s. per quarter, which in America is what they know as "dollar wheat." We could do with dollar wheat as an established institution on this side of the "Herring Pond." The barley average for July is 3d. dearer from that of June, and there is 1d. advance in oats. The small improvement in the latter is due to the June average of 20s. 9d. being already fairly high.

The average price of household flour in London is 6d. dearer on the month, but the July good price of 26s., which is 2s. 6d. upon the year, is a little discounted by the market of 2nd August, at which 3d. decline was allowed. The Paris price for July was 34s. 6d., against 32s. 9d. for June, a price that does not speak at all well of wheat crop prospects in France. In 1903, for example, the price fell from 34s. in June to 31s. 9d. for July.

The average price of red winter wheat at New York for July was 33s. 3d. per quarter, against 27s. 7d. for last season. This is a significant advance. The average price for maize at New York was 29s. 4d., against 19s. 5d. last season.

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets since harvest thus compare with the present season:—

This season ... 2,627,000 qr., at 27s. 4d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 2,889,000 qr., at 28s. 9d. ,,

The sales of British barley show increased deliveries:—

This season ... 3,368,000 qr. at 24s. 4d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 3,199,800 qr. at 24s. 3d. ,,

The sales of British oats show a decided increase.

This season .... 1,170,090 qr. at 18s. 3d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 1,096,000 ,, 18s. 6d. ,,

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 589,000 qr.: a heavy supply.
Flour, 79,300 sks.: a small arrival.
Barley, 35,000 qr: a third of an average.
Oats, 118,500 qr: a full average.
Maize, 351,000 qr.: a very large supply.
Linseed, 35,000 qr.: a full supply.

The wheat gradient last week was as follows:—

Canterbury	37s. 0d. per qr.
Doncaster	32s. 2d. ,,
Range	4s. 10d. ,,

That for barley was more restricted:—

Mark Lane	27s 6d. per qr.
Peterborough	24s. 1d. ,,
Range	3s. 5d per qr.

Oats continue at good prices all over England.

Nottingham	21s. 10d. per qr.
Ipswich	19s. 9d. ,,
Range	2s. 1d. ,,

No averages are published for rye, but 30s. was made in London on July 31.

The supplies of grain, &c, on passage to the United Kingdom on August 1, 1907, 1906, and 1905 thus compare:—

	1907.	1906.	1905.
Wheat, qr.	2,542,000	2,320,000	2,370,000
Flour, sks.	174 000	170,000	90,000
Maize, qr.	1,080,000	1,060 000	1,140,000
Barley, qr.	190,000	170,000	175,000
Oats, qr.	90,000	266,000	350 000
Linseed, qr.	318 000	143,000	239,000
Rapeseed, qr.	21,000	26 000	15,000
Cotton-seed, sks.	47,000	23,000	25,000
Rice, qr.	46,000	20 000	30,000

It will be seen that the totals of wheat, maize, and barley show very little material change on the three years, but that there is a very great falling off in our expectations of oats, and that there is a marked increase on anticipated supplies of linseed, cottoncake and rice. The expectations of flour have been small for now three years in succession.

August shipments from the United States will need to show a marked increase on those of July if America is to resume her usual leading *rôle* in the export trade. In July the completed figures are as follows:—

Wheat	627,000 qr.
Barley	30,000 ,,
Oats	175,000 ,,
Maize	703,000 ,,
Flour	448,000 sks.

As compared with June there is an increase in oats and maize, but a decrease in both wheat and flour, the items in which increase had been anticipated.

The July shipments of Argentina were as follows:—

Wheat	434,000 qr.
Maize	1,053,000 ,,
Linseed	181,000 ,,
Oats	64,000 ,,

These items show a falling off with respect to exports of wheat, linseed, and oats, but of maize there is an increase.

July exports for Russian were as follows:—

Wheat	723,000 qr.
Barley	348,000 ,,
Oats	108,000 ,,
Maize	548,000 ,,

The shipments of maize exceeded anticipation, but in all the other cases exports were less than usual.

The July exports from Roumania are interesting.

Wheat	563,000 qrs.
Barley	58,000 ,,
Oats	23,000 ,,
Maize	1,672,000 ,,

These totals include Bulgaria, and also the Turkish ports on the Euxine, but even so, the total of maize is prodigious. On the other hand, the exports of barley and oats would be very small even if they were confined to Roumania proper.

July exports from the East were as follows:—

	India.	Australasia.
Wheat, qr.	600,000	121,000
Linseed ,,	359.000	—
Barley ,,	15,000	—
Oats ,,	—	18,000

Some minor July items are:—12,000 qr. of rye from Russia, 159,000 qr. of rapeseed from India 29,000 qr. of linseed from the United States and 15,000 tons of cottonseed from India.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Thursday.—There is a continuance of the general shortage of supplies from all sources, the trade however presents a quieter appearence. Prices of old stuffs are no lower, but there is nothing like the keen demand we have been experiencing for the last three weeks, doubtless the near approach of the holidays has somewhat affected the demand. There is still a fair inquiry for prime old stuff, supplies of which are especially short, and for which top prices are easily obtainable, lower qualities are, however, more difficult of sale. There are large arrivals of the new crop, and the demand has somewhat slackened off, sales being made at slightly lower figures than previously reported.

New clovers in good condition being obtainable at 77s 6d to 80s per ton, mixtures at about 70s to 75s per ton, and hays at 65s per ton. Anything, however, that is at all off in condition has to be sold at much under these quotations. Straw continues in fair demand at about previous rates. In the foreign market shipments are still short, and importers find no difficulty in effecting clearances at full prices.

Prices ruling are about as follow:—English best old meadow hay, 85s to 90s per ton; good old meadow hay, 75s to 82s 6d per ton; plain hays, 70s per ton; best old clovers, 95s to 100s per ton; good clovers, 85s to 90s per ton; inferior clovers, 80s to 82s 6d per ton; best old mixtures, 95s to 97s 6d per ton; good mixtures, 87s 6d to 92s 6d per ton; plain mixtures, 80s to 85s per ton; seconds hays, clovers, and mixtures, 62s 6d to 70s per ton; wheat straw, 26s to 28s per load; oat straw, 26s to 28s per load; barley straw, 26s to 28s per load. Foreign: Canadian mixture, none; first quality Dutch hay, 67s 6d per ton; second quality Dutch hay, 62s 6d to 65s per ton; good French hay, 65s to 67s 6d per ton; French and Dutch clovers, 85s per ton. These prices are by barge load delivered alongside a London Thames wharf.

WET AND DRIED GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wet Grains: Prices remain about the same, and business has been done at 11s to 12s ale, and 9s to 9s 6d porter per ton. Pressed white distillery meal 32s 6d per ton on rail, London. Dried Grains.—The demand continues brisk and prices have advanced to—Distillers, 107s 6d; ale, 95s to 97s 6d; mixed, 90s to 92s 6d per ton on rail, London, at which prices business has been done monthly up to October next. Calcutta rice meal 80s; rice germ, 100s; American cane treacle in good demand, 87s 6d per ton, on rail, London. Kiln dried sea-damaged Australian wheat from 20s per qr.—Hamlyn and Co.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Birmingham: 1s 3d to 1s 3d. Devizes: 1s 4d and 1s 5d. Evesham: 1s 2d to 1s 2½d. Hereford: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Kidderminster: 1s 1d. Market Drayton. 1s to 1s 1d. Penarth: 10½d to 1s. Penzance: 9½d to 10d. Plymouth: 1s to 1s 1d. Ripon: 1s 6d and 1s 8d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 2d. Spalding: 11d. Truro: 10d to 1s 1d. Wellington (Salop): 11d to 1s. Worksop: 11d.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Birmingham: 10 to 11. Devizes: 14 to 16. Evesham: 11d to 11½d per doz. Hereford: 12 to 14. Kidderminster: 11. Market Drayton: 11 to 13. Penrith: 11 and 12. Penzance: 8½d to 10½d per doz. Plymouth: 12. Ripon: 11 and 12. Scarborough: 10. Spalding: 12. Stockton: 10. Truro: 9d to 10d per doz. Wellington (Salop): 11 and 12. Worksop: 1s 8d per score.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English steady, quiet, unchanged prices. Foreign dull. Sellers ask Monday's rates, but demand very limited. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, held at 36s 9d; No. 2 at 35s 9d; No. 1 hard Manitoba at 37s 6d; choice white Karachi at 34s 9d; Australian, landed, at 37s. Flour dull, unchanged. Hungarian quoted at 35s 6d; Minnesota patents at 27s to 28s; Iron Dukes at 22s to 22s 6d. Maize slow, easier tendency. Odessa, ex ship, held at 22s 9d, landed at 23s 6d Galatz-Foxanian, ex ship, 22s 9d, landed at 23s 3d; mixed American, ex ship, at 33s 6d, landed at 24. Barley steady, quiet. Persian, ex ship, quoted at 22s 10½d; Azoff-Black Sea, landed, at 25s. Oats dull. 18s sellers, 17s 9d buyers, La Plata landed; 17s 9d sellers, 17s 6d buyers, South Russian 38 lb, landed.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Very little actual trade was done, but the tone of the market was very firm all round. Sales of wheat at 38s were reported, this being the highest figure reached for a long time. Barley made 28s to 29s; white oats, 22s to 25s; black oats, 21s to 24s; Mazagan beans, 30s to 31s; tick beans, 33s to 34s; maize, 25s to 26s 6d; foreign grinding barley, 26s to 27s per qr.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, white, 33s to 34s per qr; red, 33s to 34s per qr; barley, 28s to 30s per qr; beans, 31s to 32s 6d per qr; oats, 20s to 25s per qr; peas, 29s to 33s per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—The attendance at the market was a very small one, and the amount of trade done was very limited. Foreign wheats were practically unchanged on the week but the tendency was in buyers' favour. English wheats were very scarce, and made up to 13s 4½d. per 186 lb delivered. Bessarabian maize was 6d lower. Galatz-Foxanian was unchanged in value, as was also grinding barley. There was no change in the value of English oats or beans.

Chichester, Wednesday. — Few samples on offer, and not much trade. Fair attendance. New white wheat, 35s to 35s 6d; new red ditto, 35s to 35s 6d; grinding barley, 25s 9d; oats, English, 18s to 23s; beans, 32s to 33s; maize, 24s to 25s; flour, 24s to 28s.

Devizes, Thursday.—There has been very little alteration in the price of corn, all descriptions being about the same as last week. The wheat harvest is expected to commence in the district in about a fortnight. In some of the most forward districts of the county winter oats have been cut Best wheat, 17s to 18s; secondary, 16s to 16s 6d; malting barley, 24s to 30s; feeding, 22s to 24s; old oats, 20s to 24s; new beans, 15s 6d to 16s 6d; fine flour, 27s to 30s; extra fine, 32s to 36s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance at the market to-day. Wheat and flour unaltered. Maize and corn steady at late rates. Barley held for extreme prices. Oats pressed for sale, and price to-day shows a decline of 3d per boll. Beans and peas firmly held. Bran and thirds unchanged. Oatmeal steady. Other articles unchanged.—Gibson and Clark.

Hereford, Wednesday. — Small market. English grain unaltered; maize slightly in favour of buyers. Quotations:—Wheat, 3s 10d to 4s per bushel of 62 lb; barley, 3s 6d to 4s per 56 lb; oats, 2s 6d to 2s 10d per 40 lb; beans, 3s 10d to 3s per 65½ lb; maize, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per 60 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Scarcely any wheat on offer; trade firm at late rates. Reds, 35s to 35s 6d; whites to 36s 6d per 504 lb. Maize 6d per qr. lower. Oats quiet. Malting barley firm. Beans and peas unaltered.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The weather is warmer but showery, causing much delay to the gathering of the hay crop. We have to report another week of quietness in the wheat trade, with slight fluctuations in prices, valuations being practically unchanged on the week, the weather of the day ruling the market, the general tendency continuing firm and healthy. Shipments this week are again moderate and below current European requirements. Maize, 3d lower; beans rather dearer; oats unchanged.—Dunns and Co.

Manchester, Thursday. — English wheat about 6d per qr dearer, and foreign in better demand at full rates. Flour occasionally 6d per sack lower, and Indian corn 1½d to 1d dearer. Barley: Little done. Oats very firm for English, with foreign ½d to 1d higher on the week. English beans about 6d dearer. Peas steady and unchanged; bran and other articles unchanged.

Newark, Wednesday. — Quiet market; supplies again small; prices ruled firm. Quotations:—White and red wheat, , 35s to 36s; malting barley, 28s to 30s; grinding, 25s to 26s; white oats, 23s to 24s; black oats, 22s 6d to 23s; beans, 34s to 34s 6d per qr.

Newport, Wednesday.—Trade was quiet, and prices about the same as last week.

Ripon, Thursday. — Very little local wheat showing, and prices show no change. Round maize is making rather less money. A small attendance of farmers. Prices:—Wheat, 34s to 35s 6d; wheat, foreign, 36s to 40s 6d; barley, grinding, 26s to 27s; oats, 24s to 25s; maize, round, 26s to 26s 6d; maize, flat, 26s to 27s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The market was quiet, but prices continue to harden. English wheat and some classes of foreign are quoted 6d per qr higher. General tone is firm. Maize is quoted at last week's prices. Beans rather dearer. Prices:—Wheat, white, new, 34s 6d to 35s 6d; ditto red, new, 34s 6d to 35s 6d per 504 lb: oats, black, 22s 6d to 23s; ditto white, 23s 6d to 24s per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 33s 6d to 34s; ditto blue, 75s to 90s per 504 lb; beans, English, 36s to 36s 6d per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 26s to 26s 6d; ditto malting, 28s to 32s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 25s 9d to 26s; ditto Plate, 25s 6d to 25s 9d; ditto flat, 26s to 27s per 480 lb.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was no local wheat showing. Foreign wheat keeps very slow, and prices show no change on the week. Maize 3d to 6d lower.

Worksop, Wednesday. — Small attendance. Quite a holiday market, with few samples of grain on offer. White wheat, 33s to 34s; red wheat, 32s 6d to 33s 6d; barley, 27s to 29s; white oats, 22s 6d to 24s; black oats, 21s 6d to 23s; maize, 26s to 27s 6d; beans, 34s to 36s per qr.

HAY AND STRAW.

Hereford, Wednesday.—No quotable change in prices is reported.

Leeds, Tuesday. — A steady business is proceeding in old hay in the warehouses, and at present no new hay has been offered. The return of unfavourable weather and thunder showers continue to interfere with the ingathering of the new crop. Prices are firm all round at the following quotations:—Clover hay, 7½d; meadow hay, 7d; wheat straw, 5d; oat straw, 5d; and rye straw (retail), 7d to 8½d per stone; green clover, 3½d per bundle.

Newcastle, Tuesday. — Old land hay from £3 15s to £4 7s 6d per ton; new land hay, £4 10s to £5 7s 6d; wheat straw, £1 3s to £1 6s 6d per load.

Nottingham, Wednesday.—Fair supplies on offer, which met a steady trade at late rates. Quotations:—Inferior to good hay, 75s to 85s; prime ditto, 90s to 100s; inferior to good clover, 80s to 60s; prime ditto, 95s to 100s; wheat straw, 45s to 55s per ton.

Sheffield, Tuesday. — Fair supplies, with average attendance of farmers. Last week's prices were maintained. Choice old seeds, £4 15s to £5; secondary seeds, £4 10s. to £4 15s; green fodder, 18s to 19s per ton.

Whitechapel, Thursday.—A better supply met a good demand at recent rates. Best clover, 84s to 97s 6d; inferior ditto, 75s to 80s; specially picked hay, 90s; good ditto, 80s to 87s 6d; inferior ditto, 65s to 70s; mixture and sainfoin, 82s 6d to 90s; straw, 28s to 34s per load.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Thursday. — This day's quotations for English produce:—Apples, 2s to to 4s per half bushel; cherries, Napoleon 7s to 12s; black, 3s to 8s; cranberries, 7s 6d to 9s per case; red currants, 1s 6d to 2s 6d per peck; black ditto, 4s to 5s per half sieve; gooseberries, 2s to 3s per half sieve; green figs, 3s to 5s per dozen; melons, 1s to 2s each; nectarines, 1s 3d to 10s per dozen; peaches, 1s 6d to 10s per dozen; strawberries, 2s to 3s per peck; raspberries, 3s to 4s per dozen punnets; tomatoes, 3s to 3s 9d; onions, 1s to 1s 6d per dozen bunches; beetroots, 1s 4d to 1s 6d; carrots, 2s to 2s 6d per dozen bunches; spring cabbages, 3s to 4s per tally; turnips, 2s to 2s 6d per dozen bunches; green peas, 2s 6d per bag; dtto garden blues, 1s 6d to 2s; broad beans, 1s to 1s 3d per bushel; potatoes, 70s to 100s per ton.

Live Stock Trade in the West.

As haymaking operations, which are being extended over a more than usually prolonged period owing to the "catchy" nature of the weather, still continue to engage attention, stockowners are much too preoccupied for anything else, consequently stores of all kinds are being very much neglected for want of time to sort out those intended for market, and supplies of both milch beasts and barreners are suffering accordingly, another factor contributing to this being the abundance of keep everywhere, which renders the necessity to sell out much less urgent than is often the case, especially in periods of drought. And to these two causes must be assigned the present fairly buoyant state of the trade in stores, but for which prices might have taken a more unsatisfactory turn. Most of the stock now coming out is of a very ordinary stamp, and sellers therefore have all the more reason to be satisfied with the prices they are making. Only in very exceptional cases do really good heifers and calves reach £21, from £16 10s. to £20 being the best prices we can quote for this class of stock, cows with calves selling from £14 to £17 or a trifle over from anything specially recommended as a milcher. Barreners scarcely make such good prices as they have been doing of late; but this may be due in a measure to difference in the class of bullock now offering, many of them being hardly up to the stamp of those sold earlier in the season. Occasionally a few in distinctly fresh condition being from £24 to £28 per pair, but most of those now on the market only make £18 to £22 or £23, whilst many change hands on considerably lower terms. Both stirks and yearlings maintain their value on the market, and, with keep plentiful this class of stock is not at all likely to go a-begging. Sheep, too, continue to meet a ready demand, and, though harvest prospects are giving rise to some little anxiety, seeing the advanced character of the season and the backward condition of much of the corn, prices as yet remain unaffected; but another week or so of stormy weather is bound to tell on the trade, and may lead to a drop in values. But we sincerely hope this will not prove to be the case, though we are bound to admit we are rapidly approaching a critical period as regards the harvesting. Up to the present most of these sheep are realising an advance of from 2s. to 4s. as compared with last year, and this must be a particularly gratifying fact to flockmasters and sheepbreeders generally. Draft Down ewes now make from 40s. to 54s. 6d.; two-tooth ewes, 41s. to 55s. 6d.; four-tooths, 48s. to 53s. 6d.; six-tooths, 46s. to 50s.; grazing ewes, 33s. to 44s.; two-teeth wether sheep, 44s. to 55s.; wether lambs, 37s. to 49s. 6d.; chilver lambs, 30s. 6d. to 41s.; mixed lambs, 25s. to 42s. 6d.; working wether lambs, 33s. to 40s. Ram lambs for stock purposes are likewise selling very well, and the earlier sales now taking place seem to show that not only are last year's values being well supported, but also that breeders on the whole are getting a slightly better return for the outlay to which they have been put in their endeavour to still further improve the character of their sires.

Prices of fat stock have undergone no very great change since our last report. In beef, bullocks of a good class still attract buyers at full values, the best steers and heifers realising £17 up to £23 apiece (or from 11s. 6d. to 12s. per score for the choicest weights); more medium qualities 11s., and fat cows 10s. to 10s. 6d. and very little of what has been offered has remained over unsold. With cooler weather calves have met a slightly better demand at about previous currencies—8½d. to 9d. for the best weights, and 7d. to 8d. for the plainer grades. Mutton continues firm all round, and full prices are being realised, wethers selling up to 60s. each, and over (or 8½d. to 9d), and ewes to 59s. (or 7½d. to 8d). Lamb has been in good consumptive demand, wethers being particularly dear, some of the best drafts realising 46s. to 58s. each (or 11d. to 1s. per lb.), and seconds from 30s. to 43s. or 44s. (or 10d. to 10½d). The weather being also favourable to the pork trade, prices remain exceptionally buoyant at from 44s. to 60s. each (or 10s. 3d. to 10s. 9d. per score), and baconers from 65s. to 95s. (or 9s. 6d. to 10s.), heavier pigs also commanding more attention at 8s. to 9s.

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, July 30, 1907:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Av. Price per qr £	s.	d.
Wheat ..	711	3 ...	1,172	19	3	... 1	13	0
Barley ...	125	1 ...	173	7	6	... 1	7	9
Oats	—	...	—			...	—	

THE MARK LANE EXPRESS SUPPLEMENT FOR THE HOME

Conducted by "PEPITA"

THE NEWEST FASHIONS.

Now that the holiday season has commenced, there is a demand for travelling gowns. The smart gown illustrated in the sketch on this page is of striped Viyella flannel. This does not shrink, and will wash or clean beautifully. The design shewn is in a pale shade of green with white stripes. The collar and cuffs are of white silk edged with dark green flannel and give a very *chic* appearance to the costume.

* * *

Early in the summer and towards its close voiles and all light-weight silk fabrics are most in evidence, but August generally calls for gowns of lace, lingerie, mousseline de soie, point d'esprit, and all such textures that are so fascinatingly pretty and lend so much charm to any outdoor picture. Embroidered linens are also worn on all occasions, but for any formal receptions a linen gown must now be unusually handsome and effective, as linens, both white and coloured, have been worn so much in the morning of late years. The lingerie gowns must also be handsomer and more elaborately made up than ever before, for some change is always necessary from year to year, and the fine tucked, embroidered and lace trimmed batiste frocks have had an unwonted time of popularity, but nothing has yet been found sufficiently attractive to take their place. Once again these embroidered handkerchief linen gowns are being worn over foundations of light silk, and the soft colour underneath shows off the work upon the dress to excellent advantage. Over mauve, light green, pale blue or pink, a lingerie frock is now considered sufficiently handsome for any afternoon entertainment.

* * *

Needless to state, an all lace or an elaborately lace trimmed gown is as desirable a possession as ever; a thing that so evidently represents its true value cannot fail to be longed for. At the same time, there are more net and Marquisette gowns elaborately trimmed with Irish and Valenciennes lace than there are of the all lace costumes, and the reason for this is that lace really needs the contrast of some other material that is not quite so costly. Marquisette is about the most popular of the transparent materials to be combined with effective lace, but chiffon and mousseline de soie and even point d'esprit are also made use of. Point d'esprit trimmed and dotted Swiss, either one trimmed with point d'esprit lace, make a simple style of dress; they are exceedingly pretty, and especially so for rather elaborate morning dresses.

* * *

There is an infinite variety of new gauze textures, and these are all charming for driving, luncheons, etc. Stripe effects as well as checks, plaids, and figures are all noticeable among the transparent fabrics; two toned effects are seen, as well as a colour combination with white, and black and white, with some bright colour introduced in the trimming, is always smart, as well as being extremely serviceable and appropriate on all occasions. There must be more white than black in the material, however, for at this time of year all gowns must be as light and cool in effect as possible. A light green and white stripe is exceedingly attractive, and green is one of the happiest colours for summer, while artists contend that there is no shade more universally becoming. Certainly there is always a great field from which to select, and between the palest and the deepest tints there must surely be one shade for every one.

* * *

An afternoon gown must be long and, while exaggerated trains are not worn, there must be a graceful and becoming sweep of the material. As the season advances the Empire becomes more and more disguised, while the severely plain princess model has practically disappeared, although this does not mean that the one piece frock is out of favour—far from it. It has been proved far more satisfactory in dealing with delicate materials to join the bodice and skirt together by a band of embroidery or lace, even though it is to be hidden by a ribbon girdle. With heavier materials and those that are made up of a silk foundation the majority of gowns are now made with bodice and skirt separate, although many are joined together, but a fitted girdle generally hides the fact that they are joined together at the belt.

* * *

The drooping shoulder line and wide surplice falling well down over the sleeve continue to be as smart as ever, and practically all the gowns now being made up show this design. If not becoming, the sleeve can be built out by stiff silk ruffles at the shoulder, which will hold out the surplice, and, by doing away with the droop at the top of the sleeve, will give sufficient breadth across the shoulders. It is interesting to note the gradual lengthening of the sleeve. In shirt blouses and all tailor costumes, there is now a full length sleeve. For rather fussy cloth suits, a three-quarter length is most popular, and only for an elaborate afternoon dress do the elbow sleeves remain in favour, and these are generally finished off just below rather than at the elbow, or a trifle above it. Silk and lace wraps have some of them full length sleeves, but the handsomer ones are smarter in three-quarter length.

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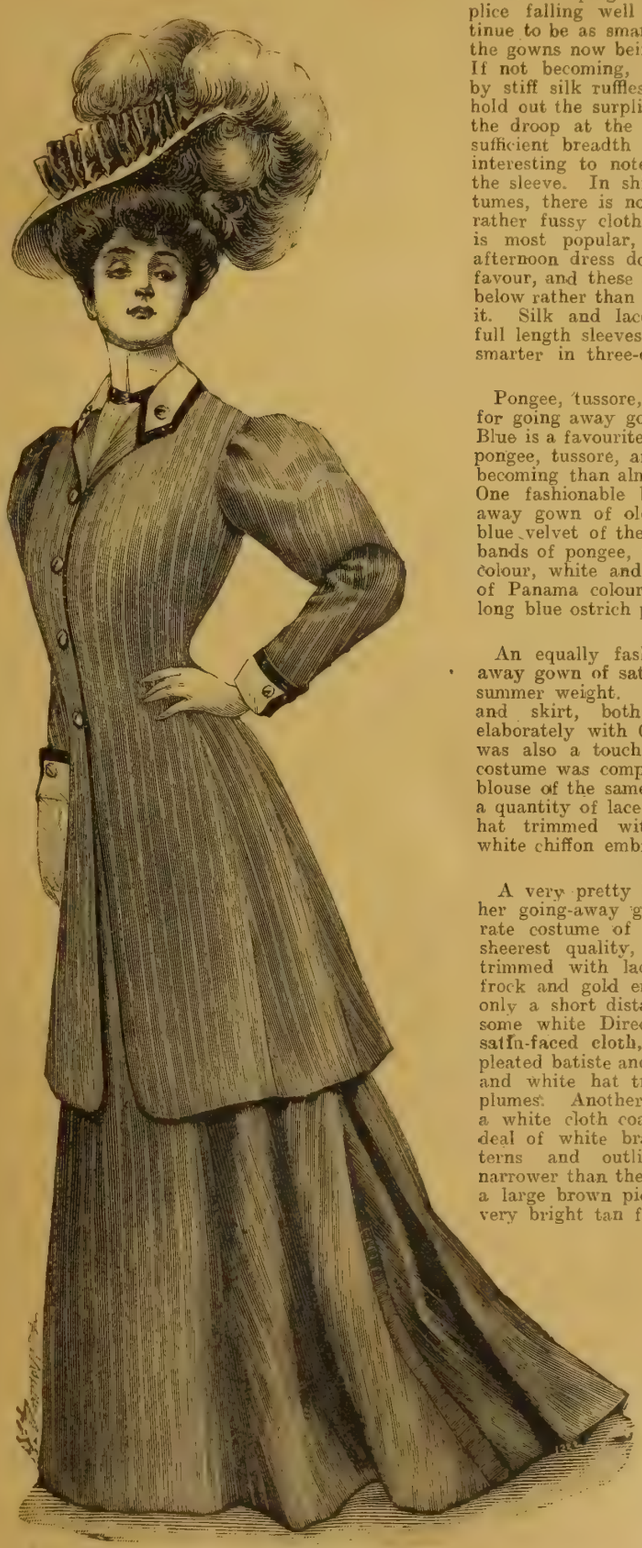
Pongee, tussore, and foulard are much used for going away gowns by this summer's brides. Blue is a favourite colour, if becoming, and blue pongee, tussore, and foulard are more generally becoming than almost any other known fabrics. One fashionable bride recently wore a going-away gown of old blue pongee, trimmed with blue velvet of the same shade and embroidered bands of pongee, the embroidery being in linen colour, white and a little dull pink. The hat, of Panama coloured crin, was trimmed with a long blue ostrich plume and velvet ribbon.

* * *

An equally fashionable bride wore a going-away gown of satin-faced cloth of the lightest summer weight. It was made with a box coat and skirt, both being trimmed somewhat elaborately with Cluny and Irish lace. There was also a touch of silver embroidery. The costume was completed by a handkerchief linen blouse of the same colour, which was made with a quantity of lace insertion. and a large leghorn hat trimmed with blue ostrich feathers and white chiffon embroidered in silver.

* * *

A very pretty bride of this season wore for her going-away gown a diaphanous and elaborate costume of tan voile in the finest and sheerest quality, made over grey silk and trimmed with lace of the same colour as the frock and gold embroidery. A bride who had only a short distance to go wore a very handsome white Directoire gown of light weight satin-faced cloth, with guimpe and sleeves of pleated batiste and Cluny lace. She had a black and white hat trimmed with net and ostrich plumes. Another striking white costume was a white cloth coat suit trimmed with a great deal of white braid put on in elaborate patterns and outlined with tan braid much narrower than the white. With this were worn a large brown picture hat with plumes and a very bright tan feather boa.



A SMART TRAVELLING GOWN.
Paper Pattern 1/6½, post free.

A Famous Song.

One of the most popular of modern songs, "Alice, where art thou?" was offered to several music publishers for a £5 note, and was refused. Imagine their chagrin when the song eventually attained a sale of between two and three hundred thousand copies. The case is, of course, not by any means the only instance of misguided judgment.

COOKERY.

Practical Recipes.

ALLEMANDE STEAK.

Take left-over roasted lamb, and put through the meat mincer with 6 sprigs of parsley and 2 stalks of celery; then add to 1 pint of this meat 3 tablespoonsful of bread-crumbs, 1 tablespoonful softened butter, ½ level teaspoonful of salt, ¼ teaspoonful of pepper, and 1 teaspoonful of minced green mint. Add enough cold water to make moist, and then beat in 1 egg and form into a steak on to a buttered pan; place in a moderate oven and roast for 25 minutes, basting every 10 minutes with melted butter and a little hot vinegar. Just before the last 5 minutes is up spread a generous layer of fine bread crumbs mixed with egg yolk over the top and sides and brown. Serve on a hot dish and garnish with sliced lemon and parsley.

TOMATOES AND MUSHROOMS.

Put on 1 pint of tomatoes in a saucepan and cook for 15 or 20 minutes until nearly all the water has evaporated, season with salt and pepper, add a generous tablespoonful of butter, 1 tablespoonful of bread crumbs, and ½ pint of fresh mushrooms chopped fine. Cook until the mushrooms are tender. Have some bread cut in nice slices, toasted and slightly moistened with warm milk. Pour the tomatoes and mushrooms over it and serve very hot.

CALF'S TONGUE WITH TOMATO SAUCE.

Take 2 calve's tongues, soak them in warm water for 1 hour; drain and parboil for 10 minutes; cool, pare, and scrape the white skin off. Into a saucepan put 1 tablespoonful of flour, stir into it gradually 1 cup of water. When it boils, add 1 wineglassful of vinegar, 1 bunch of parsley, and 1 onion, with 3 cloves stuck in it. Cover and cook slowly for 1 hour. Drain on a cloth; dish up and serve with tomato sauce over it. The tongue can be boiled the day before, and then re-heated for breakfast, and the tomato sauce made and poured over.



ONION SAUCE.

As a change from the tomato sauce usually served with breaded lamp chops, try an onion sauce made in this way:—Slice 2, or, if very small, 3 onions, and cook them in water for a few moments and drain. Put them into just enough boiling water to cover, add a little salt, and cook until tender. Cook together 2 tablespoonfuls each of flour and butter, and when perfectly smooth add ½ pint of stock 3 or 4 tablespoonfuls of cream and 1 saltspoonful each of salt and sugar and a dash of cayenne. When the onion is tender press it through a colander and add the water in which it has been cooked.

ROGNONS FARCIS.

Procure some kidneys, cut in halves, warm, with a chopped shalot, and then let them cool. Cook ½ lb. of liver with 3 oz. of fat bacon, 1 shalot, a few sprigs of parsley, and a bay-leaf. Season with salt, pepper, and a little powdered mace. When the liver is cooked, add a tablespoonful of breadcrumbs which have been soaked in a little boiling milk, and beaten up to a stiff paste; pound all the ingredients in a mortar, then pass them through a wire sieve, and spread on a plate to get quite cold. Take a small portion and fill half a kidney with it, shaping it into the shape of a cone. Proceed with each piece in the same way; dip them in egg, then cover thickly with fine crumbs, and fry in a wire basket. Serve with tomato sauce poured round the dish.

SAUSAGE CAKES.

These are rather more delicate than sausages served in the ordinary way, and certainly look much nicer. Season ½ lb. of sausage meat with salt, pepper, and a little powdered mace, take a dessertspoonful at a time, and form into a little round cake, brush over with beaten egg, and pass through sifted crumbs, fry until nicely browned, then dish up in a circle on a hot dish, with the centre filled in with chip potatoes.

LEMON CURD.

Half a pound of castor sugar, 3 eggs, leaving out the whites, 1 lb. of butter, 2 lemons; grate the rind of one; stir all together, and then boil until rather thick.

LEMON BUNS.

Rub together in a dry state three-parts of a pound of flour, 2 oz. of butter, three-parts of a pound of castor sugar, then add the juice and rind of 1 lemon and 2 eggs; mix well together with half a wineglassful of brandy, and make into small heaps, or place in tiny tins, previously buttered or larded; bake for about 20 minutes.

CHESHIRE BISCUITS.

One pound of flour, ½ lb. of butter, 10 oz. of castor sugar, 2 eggs; mix into a paste with the two eggs and a few dróps of essence of lemon; roll out moderately thin, and cut into small rounds with a pastry-cutter or thin wineglass. Bake for 15 minutes in a modern oven.

MULLIGATAWNY SOUP.

One quart of stock, 2 oz. of butter, 2 sliced tomatoes, 3 eggs, 1 onion, 2 tablespoonfuls of curry powder, 1 tablespoonful of curry paste. Slice the onion thinly, fry it in the butter, adding the tomatoes and curry paste, and 2 green chilies cut very small; then add the well-flavoured stock and boil 20 minutes, then skim well and let the soup cool; beat the eggs, crush and wash the shells, and add to the soup; stir over the fire till boiling, then strain through a tammy, add a squeeze of lemon juice, season with pepper and salt and the curry powder. Serve with boiled rice.

STUFFED STEAK.

Take a pound and a-half of well-hung steak, cut in one piece, and three-quarters of an inch thick. Lay it on a table, and spread upon it a thin layer of good veal stuffing. Roll it round, tie it with twine to keep it in shape, and fasten the ends securely. Dissolve in a stewpan a lump of butter, put in the steak, and turn it about until it is finely browned all over, then pour over it nearly a pint of beef stock, which may be made with beef extract, cover the saucepan closely, and let the steak stew gently until tender, then lay the meat on a hot dish and remove the twine. Thicken the gravy, pour it over the beef, and serve very hot. Great care must be taken that the meat is stewed very slowly, or it will be tough.

SARDINES A L'ITALIENNE.

Split the sardines in half, remove bones and tail, fry some bread in butter, pour the oil from sardine tin into frying-pan and fry sardines in it, sprinkle with pepper and parsley. Lay one on each crouton, lay on fancy paper, and serve hot.

Gardening in August.

PANSIES.—Although excellent plants can frequently be grown from pansy cuttings, recent experiences in growing from seeds have led me to prefer the latter method.

The pansy seeds I have planted this year have produced some most beautiful specimens of good strains, and these are now in full bloom, many of the flowers being exceptionally large, and brilliant in colour. They have grown very strong and have flowered freely. The seeds were sown in a moderately warm position at the end of January last. I therefore recommend amateurs to sow seeds in January in a moderate heat. Prick off as soon as ready, in April, and turn them out in the middle of May; good blooms will then be plentiful in August and September. Seeds may be sown now in a cold frame, and the seedlings allowed to make what growth they can till the spring, when, plant out in the early part of May for blooms in June and July. There is no need to mention any particular variety or colour, as a packet may contain some lovely pansies which a fancier might feel disposed to name if he should happen to drop on something entirely new.

CALCEOLARIA.—This is one of the most showy of greenhouse plants, and is easily raised from seed which should be sown at once in pots or small boxes, compost, being one part fine leaf mould, to about two parts good loam, and one part sand.

The seeds being small, they need careful handling. They should have the smallest possible sprinkling of soil laid upon them, and the box should be covered with glass. Do not let steam settle on the under-surface of the glass, and merely damp the soil. The brown and yellow varieties are certainly best grown from cuttings taken from this year's plants, and should be done as soon as one can spare time to devote to them. They should be planted to a depth of 1 inch, if the cuttings will admit, and soil of the mixture already stated should be used.

ANTIRRHINUMS.—The cuttings should now be obtained and treated in the same manner as the calceolaria.

POPPIES.—The blooms of these brilliantly-coloured garden flowers are now falling rapidly, and the seed pods are forming. These should be collected, and the seeds may be sown in the commencement of September. There are many perennial kinds, and they make a most showy display and are useful for cutting for house decoration.

WEEDS.—Continue the slaughter of weeds, and clean all dead and seedy-looking leaves from geraniums and other bedded plants.

LAWN.—This should be run over with a machine once a week and the edges neatly trimmed. It is unwise to remove dandelion and other roots at present, as this proceeding will make the lawn look patchy. The rooting-out of dandelions should be left till later in the year when grass seed can be sown over the bare patches.

G. W. THOMSON PRICE.

Growing Oak Trees in Glasses.

A young oak tree growing in a glass or vase of water is not only ornamental, but interesting. Place an acorn suspended by a thread within ½ in. of the surface of the water. Let it remain undisturbed for a couple of months, save for the filling up of the vessel to replace evaporation, and an occasional complete change of the water by a siphon. The acorn will throw a root down into the water, and upward will shoot a tender stem with glossy leaves. Hyacinth glasses are the best for the purpose.

A little charcoal at the bottom is needed to keep the water pure.

Summer Fragrance.

All through the winter you may have the fragrance of woods and fields about you if you will take the trouble to gather it during the summer months. This will be a delightful task for the children. Send them out with little baskets to pick clover blooms from the roadside and pastures. Dry them on the garret floor, turning them over daily until cured. Rose leaves, especially those of the wild rose that blooms so abundantly in the hedges, and lemon verbena are also excellent, as well as bay leaves, sweet fern, and wild thyme. These, when dried, should be mixed with common salt to keep out worms; add a few pot pourri spices, pack between layers of wool and into pillows.

To remove fly specks from varnished surfaces use equal parts of water and skim milk warmed.

MEXICAN POTTERY.

For many years before the conquest of Mexico by the Spaniards the inhabitants were skilled in a number of arts. If we can believe tradition and other evidence, these arts were the growth of the civilisation of at least two more or less civilised races, and probably a number of whose names perished before Mexican history began.

The Toltecs were great builders, farmers, and workers in gold, silver, and copper. Magnificent ruins of buildings erected by them still remain in Mexico to attest their skill as builders. So great was their superiority in building over the less civilised tribes that surrounded them that the word "Toltec" became, with the half-civilised Aztecs who followed and imitated them, synonymous with the art of building, and the Aztec builders were called "Toltecs," meaning builders.



MEXICAN POTTERY. WATER JUGS.

The art of building was preserved among the Aztecs after the Toltecs had left the country, as was also the working in metals and the making of all kinds of pottery. In this latter art the natives of Mexico excelled from very early times, as they do to-day. But the coming of the Spaniards destroyed many of the ancient arts of the Mexicans, because the civilisation of the former was in advance of that of the Aztecs. The avarice of the Spaniards swept from the country all the gold and silver work they could lay their hands upon, with the result that there remains very little to prove the skill of the Mexicans in the art of metal working. But even now isolated specimens turn up from time to time and find their way into the hands of curio dealers, who dispose of them at fabulous prices.

Pottery making was one of the distinctive arts of the Mexican people. It supplied all the articles of household use for the great majority of the nation. There was scarcely a town in Mexico in Aztec time where the potter did not find his home. Owing to the intelligence of the workmen and superior class of clay and facilities for marketing, certain districts naturally became more noted than others for the qualities of their wares.

Very early the pottery makers became a guild, and generally the son followed the profession of the father. Thus the art steadily improved as the workers became more skilful. As the Aztec nation became stronger, more civilised, and more wealthy, the potters who could conceive and work out the most beautiful and curious designs artistically, received more and more support and encouragement. Thus a few years before the conquest the art was brought to great perfection.

Most of the vessels used by the Aztec priests were of pottery, generally of symbolical design. Each god (and there were hundreds of them in Aztec Mexico) had his own particular symbolical designs; and every house in Aztecland, be it ever so humble, had at least one altar to its patron god. Thus the better class of potters spent much of their time in making vessels, curious and fantastic in form and ornamental in design, for the altars of the many gods and demi-gods of the nation. This influence of the Church told, just as it has told in all civilised countries, at some time in the history of each of them. Thus the curious and fantastic symbols became worked into the artistic designs of the potter. This accounts for the curious shapes that one sees in Mexican pottery to-day. The meaning of all these ancient symbols has been long lost, yet the inherent love of the fantastic engendered by the mysticism of the Aztec Church still remains.

Pottery is made, generally, where the best potter's clay is to be found. As already said, in Aztec and Toltec times pottery was made everywhere in Mexico, but necessarily the pottery of some districts was made very rude and of common make because the clay used was poor. Practically the places which were famous in Aztec times for their pottery are noted for the same thing to-day. This is because they have excellent clay to work with.

Counterfeit Works of Art.

A recent issue of the "Revue International des Falsifications", published in Paris, contains the first of a series of important papers by the editor, Charles Franche, on the manufacture of counterfeit works of art. Many of the general statements made by M. Franche with respect to the extent of this traffic are already familiar to all readers of the daily papers, but he adds to these statements a certain number of specific cases of fraudulent transactions which are of considerable interest to the public, and the Boston "Transcript" translates the interesting portions of his article. M. Franche avers that a number of establishments exist in Paris, where an army of copyists are employed in the manufacture of bogus pictures. He recalls the famous sale of the San Donato collection in 1870, at which, among other counterfeit works catalogued and sold as genuine pictures, three so-called examples of Paul Delaroche were disposed of for not less than £5,000. These three pictures were copies, two of which were



MEXICAN POTTERY. SYMBOLIC DESIGNS.

made by Mme. Varcollier, and the third by Bérenger; the copyists having been paid from £20 to £25, for each of the works. The vogue for the works of certain artists has attained such a degree of strength, that even the works of living painters are now counterfeited. Recently, a series of about twenty pictures, all bogus, and signed with the names of three living painters, were seized at the moment that they were being shipped to the United States by a Parisian picture dealer, who is very well known in the trade.



It is a matter of common knowledge that some twenty years ago, while the French school of 1830 was most in favour among buyers, the British markets were flooded with false pictures, bearing the signatures of Corot, Diaz, Daubigny, Dupré, Troyon, Rousseau, etc. M. Franche states that the majority of the dealers in these wares, then had in their employment a group of copyists, some of whom were at work in the forest of Fontainebleau, and others in their studios in Paris, who produced exceedingly plausible pastiches, many of which are to-day in private collections, where they figure as the works of the masters of 1830. One dealer in Paris, had obtained genuine pictures by Corot, Daubigny, Diaz, and Rousseau. He engaged a skilful copyist, who was lodged and cared for comfortably in a snug little country house, on a salary of £40 a month, in return for which he was required to turn out twenty-five copies of each of the originals, with certain slight changes, and this job he accomplished in ten months; the one hundred counterfeits were then exported to America, and sold as originals at high prices. Most of them are now ornamenting the private collections of American collectors, who buy pictures for the names of the men who are supposed to have painted them.

Other dealers have other methods. French portraits of the eighteenth century have been exploited on very much the same scale as the works of the school of 1830, and many of them have been successfully "landed" at fancy prices. Not only copies of old masters, but what are called in trade lingo "repainted restorations," have had a great run among certain classes of collectors. Adroit restorers are employed to make these "repainted restorations." Using ancient studies or sketches of relatively slight value as a base, the counterfeiters of this class of works, by retouching and working over the old canvasses, have manufactured Rembrandts, Ruysdaels, Hobbemas, Raphaels, Bouchers, and Watteaus. These pictures, which require time and a considerable expenditure of capital, cannot be handled by the small fry, but must be dealt in by big dealers.

Pyrography or Burnt Work.

For those who are interested in burnt work the following suggestions will prove useful:—

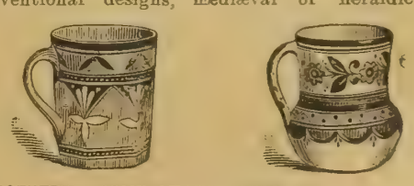
The tools, whether for wood or leather, consist of needles or points of different shapes and sizes, which are used to burn the lines of the design. These points look somewhat like a lead pencil, but are larger, and in place of the lead there is a hollow point of platinum, which is kept heated by means of a cautery. The points are round, pointed, and curved. The point, inserted in a holder, is connected by a rubber tube with the jar or receptacle in which the gas is generated. By this means the needle is kept at a steady heat, which may be increased by pressure on a bulb connected with the tube. It is used much as one would use a pen, making light or heavy strokes. A little practice will enable one to guide the point and make it respond at will. Of course, the first practice is upon outline work, and shading is taken up as proficiency is gained. Every line should have a meaning. Complete instructions for working are sold with the outfits, so that the work may be undertaken at home successfully, if one cannot have a teacher.

Burnt work is done upon articles from a chamois pen-wiper to chair seats and portières of heavy leather, and from the wooden paper-cutter to book shelves and cabinets.

The possibilities which the burnt work opens up in the way of gifts are unlimited. Especially is it adapted to gifts for men, and that fact alone makes it worthy of consideration.

Pipe racks, tobacco jars, thermometer mounts, whisk broom holders, folding book racks, photograph frames, and screens may be made of burnt wood, and den pillows, magazine covers, pocket cases for stamps, court plaster, photographs or cigars, table covers and bookcase hangings may be made out of burnt leather. A man's belongings should be substantial, and what materials could be more permanent than wood and leather?

The leather for burnt work should be carefully chosen, and skins selected that are soft, pliable, and unwrinkled. Among the favourite studies for pillows are classical heads. Bold conventional designs, mediæval or heraldic



MEXICAN POTTERY. SOME QUAINT MUGS.

motives are also appropriate. Handsome ovals for polished tables are made from leather, with a border of fruit or showy flowers burned and embellished in colours. The colours should be used with discrimination, however, for unless in perfect taste they are likely to destroy the rich character of the work rather than add to it.

———o———

Children should be accustomed as soon as possible to sleep in a dark room. Unless they have learned to be afraid of it, darkness is soothing to the nerves, and the rest is more profound and refreshing than when there is the unconscious stimulation of light.

Origin of Quaint Sayings.

So many quaint sayings in general use have become familiar that it rarely occurs to us to think of or inquire into their origin, how or whence they come into constant, everyday use. Should we do so, the result of our investigations could not fail, in most instances, to be very surprising.

Many of them can be traced back to people who lived hundreds of years ago. The tongues that uttered them have been silent for ages, yet we continue to use the same words and expressions that were a part of those lives so long since passed away!

"Don't count your chickens before they are hatched." This saying is generally supposed to come from the story of the milkmaid who was carrying eggs to market in a basket upon her head, and after thinking what a fine appearance she would make in the beautiful green silk dress purchased with the proceeds of her sale, and the imaginary lovers who should come flocking around her, tossed her head, upset the basket, broke the eggs, and lost all the bright dreams which had so upset her. This seems very probable, but there is a much older version of the same story. It is as follows:—

Sachulé, an East Indian, carried a jar of ghee on his head, a Sepoy following. "Now," said Sachulé, "with the money I get I shall buy a hen, and I shall sell the hen and her eggs, and with the money I get for them I will buy a goat, and then I will sell the goat, her milk and her hide, and buy a cow; I will sell her milk, then I will marry a wife, and some day my children will say to me, 'Father, will you have some rice?' and I shall say 'No,'" and as he said this down came the jar of ghee, spilled.

"Gone to the dogs" has a classic origin. The ace (or the dice) used by the Romans was called canis, a dog. Throwing three aces meant that the game was lost. It is not necessary to suggest an inference.

"There is no royal road to learning." This takes us back more than two thousand years. Euclid, the father of mathematics, taught this subject in the famous school at Alexandria (not the ancient town of Virginia). Being asked one day by the King of Egypt (Ptolemy Soter) whether he could not teach him the science in a shorter way, Euclid answered: "Sire, there is no royal road to learning."

"Axe to grind" comes from "Essays from the Desk of Poor Robert the Scribe," in an article called "Who'll turn the grindstones?" The author was C. Miner; the essays published at Hoylestown, Penn., in 1815.

It introduced a boy who was induced, by a clever fiction, to turn a grindstone for another person, to grind the other person's axe, and is spoken of those who appear to be generous, when only serving their own selfish ends. He says: "When I see a merchant over-polite to a customer, begging him to sample his liquors, and throwing half his goods on the counter, thinks I, that man has an axe to grind."

How many general readers know how the name "Tommy Atkins" came to be applied to a British private soldier? This was originally used in the instructions to non-commissioned officers for purpose of illustration, as "John Thomas" is often used on election forms.

Sample blank returns were shown to the recruiting officers to show how genuine ones should be made out, and "Thomas Atkins, private, Company B," was the fictitious name always used. Model reports were also signed "Thomas Atkins, X his mark."

When a recruit made his first appearance at a garrison he was always called "Thomas Atkins," until his real name was known. Finally "Tommy Atkins" became the sobriquet of the British soldier in every part of the world.

Good Looks.

Nothing ages the appearance of a woman more than lines on the face, and to avert these is the aim of all who desire to look young and retain their good looks. To keep the cheeks round—and the round cheek suggests youth—there is nothing like gentle massage. Place the palms of the hands on the cheeks, and then move the fingers in an outward direction, and then circle them round the cheeks over and over again. Couple the massage with good toilet cream—such as oatmeal cream or lanoline—and the treatment will be of double value. After passing over the cheeks, let the fingers travel up to the eyes, and rub gently beneath them, the tips of the fingers smeared with cream; and the treatment should also be passed up to the brow, where furrows are apt to make deep impressions. The face should afterward be wiped with a soft towel and bathed with warm water.

ROUND-ABOUT NOTES.

There are several dog cemeteries in England, but the largest and most beautiful animal cemetery is La Nécropole Zoölogique, in Paris, or rather in the suburb of Asnières. Here a large plot of ground is laid out for the interment of dogs and other animals, and here are erected monuments in every way as handsome as those over the graves of human beings in other cities of the dead. Some famous dogs have sculptures to mark their memories, and dog kennels in marble are favourite vaults. For about 10s., a grave is leased for three years, and this fee includes the services of a dog undertaker, uniformed and mounted on a tricycle. For £20, a grave may be leased in perpetuity, and between these extremes may be found prices to suit all purposes. The cemetery occupies an entire island in the Seine, and, apart from the rental of graves, the company owning the property makes a handsome profit out of the sale of admission tickets to visitors.

* * *

The pampered pet dog craze seems to be breaking out again pretty badly in Paris, where extravagance in this direction is carried to a pitch all but incredible. In the smart streets like the Rue de la Paix and the Boulevard des Capucines, there are regular "Dog's Toilet Clubs," where not only are pet poodles clipped in so artistic a fashion as to leave crests and coat of arms in the hair on their back, but there are also on sale gold and silver bangles set with precious stones, solid gold collars and leading chains, and chic little fur coats in mink, sable, ermine and seal. In fact, the pet dog of fashion is completely fitted out in these establishments, even to his visiting cards, pocket handkerchiefs and the ridiculous little umbrellas and sunshades, which are fastened around the body by a strap.

* * *

Pity the city child! A London doctor has recently declared that life in a big city makes young children quick, but not intelligent. He thinks it often destroys their chances of being clever, for it hastens the development of the brain unnaturally. It makes them superficial, alert, but not observant; excitable, but without one spark of enthusiasm. They are apt to grow blasé, fickle, discontented; they see more things than the country-bred child, but not such interesting things; they do not properly see anything, for they have neither the time nor the capacity to get at the root of all the bewildering objects that crowd themselves into their little lives.

* * *

Six ladies recently presented themselves as candidates for the difficult examination of house surgeon at one of the Paris hospitals. There were about 600 male candidates and 540 failed; but out of the six girls, two came brilliantly through the ordeal. Their names are Mlle. Jeanne Debat-Ponsan and Mlle. Landry. Mlle. Debat-Ponsan is the daughter of the celebrated painter, a well-known figure in society and a habitue of the opera, whose famous portrait of General Boulanger on his black horse will be remembered. Mlle. Landry is the daughter of a prominent barrister. These two young ladies, who had danced at the official receptions, and were known as charming and fascinating girls, have withdrawn from social pleasures, and are devoting themselves to hard study. They will be for four years house surgeons, and will then start as specialists. Mlle. Debat-Ponsan will devote herself to children's illnesses and gynæcology; Mlle. Landry to nervous diseases.

* * *

Every one knows that the heat of the sun will expand iron and steel. Stevenson's tubular bridge over the Menai Straits is 400 ft. long. The heaviest train passing over it bends it just half-an-inch, yet on a July day, after the sun has been shining on it for several hours, it is found to be bent an inch and a-half below its usual horizontal line. The heat of the sun acts on stone as well as metal, a fact which is proved by the Washington monument. It is 555 ft. high, but it will be found to be about two inches higher in the evening than in the morning of a sunny day. A strange effect of sunshine was noted at Plymouth, where to lay the foundations of a sea wall the workmen had to descend in a diving bell. These bells had stupidly been fitted with convex circular glasses at the top. The sea was very calm and the glasses so concentrated the rays of the sun that the clothes of one of the workmen were set on fire, and that at no less than 25 ft. below the surface of the water.

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LATEST MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Friday.

English wheat was scarce and dear; 36s. was obtained without difficulty for anything of good condition and weight. Foreign wheat was not pressed on sale, but the trade was inert. Maize was decidedly difficult to sell; buyers are temporarily surfeited. Barley and rye were extraordinarily scarce, so that such few buyers as there were had to pay special terms. Oats were dear for 320 lb. and 336 lb. sorts, but 304 lb oats tended to favour the purchaser. Turkish were offered at 17s. 6d. and Roumanian at 17s. 9d. per qr. Peas were steady for English.

Foreign were offered at 40s. for finest New Zealand, 56s. for Dutch Crowns, and 74s. for Dutch Imperials. Infolium seed of the new crop was offered at 23s. for English, and 20s. for French, in either case, per cwt. But there is as yet no quantity deliverable behind the samples, and buyers showed no dispsition to do business until after the holidays. Mustard seed at 96s. per cwt. had a small but still appreciable sale. Haricot beans made 60s. for fine hand picked Hungarian.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off the Stands*).

August 2.

WHEAT,	White	(per 504 lb.)	34 — 36
	Red	,,	34 — 35
BARLEY,	Malting	(per 448 lb.)	None.
	Brewing	,,	28 — 29
	Poultry	(per 448 lb.)	27 — 28
	Distilling	(per 416 lb.)	None.
	Winter	(per 400 lb.)	None.
	Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	None.
MALT,	Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34 — 36
	Brown	,,	27 — 29
	Black	,,	29 — 30
OATS,	Storm Kings	,,	None.
	Abundance	,,	None.
	Waverleys	,,	None.
	Pioneers	,,	23 — 24
	Black Tartary	,,	22 — 23
	White Gartons	,,	23 — 24
	Ordinary ,,	(per 320 lb.)	21 — 22
RYE,	Essex	(per 480 lb.)	29 — 31
BEANS,	Pigeon	(per 532 lb.)	42 — 44
	Tick	(per 504 lb.)	34 — 35
	Winter	,,	32 — 33
	Spring	,,	31 — 32
	Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	21 — 22
PEAS,	Picked Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	70 — 74
	Unpicked ditto	,,	52 — 56
	Maple (Old)	,,	36 — 37
	,, (New)	,,	34 — 35
	Dun (Old)	,,	32 — 36
	,, (New)	,,	31 — 32
TARES	(Winter)	(per 532 lb.)	40 — 44
	(Spring)	,,	44 — 48
	(English Gores)	,,	56 — 64
	(Scotch Gores)	,,	68 — 72

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba	37	38	American	23	24
Red Winter	36	37	Argentine	23	24
Best Spring	37	38	Roumanian	23	24
Argentine	35	36	Russian	23	24
Australian	35	36	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Californian	36	37	Smyrna	34	35
Walla Walla	35	36	New Zealand...	none	
Saxonka	35	36	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Azima	34	35	Hungarian	62	64
Ghirka	33	34	Burmese	38	40
Roumanian	33	34	Chilian	56	64
Indian White	34	35	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb):		
,, Red	33	34	French	31	33
Turkish	32	33	Russian	27	28
Persian	32	33	Canadian	26	27
BARLEY:			PEAS (504 lb.):		
C'lifor'n(448 lb)	none		Dutch Crowns	55	57
Ouchak (448 lb)	28	32	Konigsberg	44	46
Smyrna (448 lb)	26	30	Russian White	35	36
Spanish (448 lb)	None.		Indian White.	35	36
Russian (400 lb)	26	27	Canadian White	35	36
Indian(400 lb)	25	26	New Zeal'd Maple	39	40
Gaza (400 lb)	None.		Victoria Dun.	32	33
Persian (400 lb)	23	24	MILLET (416 lb.):		
MALT (336 lb.):			White	42	44
Californian	none		Yellow	22	24
Smyrna	33	36	Sorghum	20	21
Ouchak	33	36	RICE (cwt.):		
RYE (480 lb.):			Java	16	22
Russian	24	25	Indian	17	20
OATS:			Japanese	16	17
Konigsbg(320 lb)	21	22	Burmese	10	11
Russian (304 lb)	18	19	Siamese	8	9
Canadian(320 lb)	20	21	DARI (480 lb.):		
Arg'tine(304 lb)	18	19	Smyrna	26	27
Swedish (320 lb)	21	22	Indian	22	23
New Z'l'n'd(384 lb)	25	26	Persian	21	22

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Friday.

London makes were 3d. cheaper from Monday, and the price of the popular American grade or type, Iron Duke, was also reduced 3d. on the week. On the other hand Hungarian, through extreme scarcity, was held for 1s. advance. Belgian was fully as dear as formerly. Some Italian middlings were on offer at 130s. per ton, and some Argentine at 117s. 6d. per ton. The importation of offals is never a good sign.

Oatmeal made £14 per ton for Grampian and £12 10s. for Canadian, while oat flour fetched £16 12s. 6d. per ton for best Aberdeen, and brose meal realised 29s. 6d. per sack.

Rye flour was in small request at 29s. per sack for top grade, and 26s. for sound Russian.

America offers to ship Kansas flour from the new crop wheat at 26s. cost freight and insurance.

Meal, &c.

Bran, London Broad (per sack of 280 lb.)	13	14
,, Country Flake Choice	14	15
,, ,, Broad	13	14
Pollard	12	13
Biscuit Middlings	16	17
Fine Middlings	15	16
Coarse Middlings	14	15
Wheat Germ Meal	17	18
Farina Firsts	28	29
,, Seconds	26	27
Barley Meal	21	22
Canadian Oatmeal	25	26
Scotch Oatmeal	30	33
Groats	32	33
Oat Flour	33	34
American Feeding Wheat Flour	18	19
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	18	19
,, Germ Meal	15	16
,, Cones	18	19
,, Gluten Meal	15	16
Rye Flour (Libau)	25	26
,, (Konigsberg)	23	24
Rye Bran	21	22
Pea Meal	23	24

London Flour.

August 2.

Top Price (per sack of 280 lb.)	31/0 net	
Town Whites	28/6	,,
,, Households	25/6	,,
No. 2	23/6	,,
Whole Meal No. 1	23/0	,,
,, No. 2	21/0	,,

Country Flour.

	s.	s.
Fine Patents (per sack of 280 lb.)	25	26
Roller Whites ,,	23	24
All English ,,	23	24
Stone made ,,	22	23

Foreign Flour.

	s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents (per s'ck of 280 lb.)	27	28
,, Second Patents ,,	25	26
,, First Bakers' ,,	23	24
,, Second Bakers' ,,	22	23
Milwaukee Patents ,,	26	27
,, Bakers' ,,	24	25
Canadian Best ,,	26	27
,, Ordinary ,,	25	26
Manitoba Patents ,,	26	27
,, Ordinary ,,	25	26
Kansas Patents ,,	25	26
,, Ordinary ,,	23	24
Hungarian ,,	36	38
Belgian ,,	31	33
French, Corbeil ,,	26	27
,, Renaux ,,	25	26
,, P.S.D. ,,	24	25
Australian ,,	26	27

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED FIRMLY FOR ENGLISH WHEAT, FOR FOREIGN RED WHEAT, FOR BARLEY, FOR HEAVY OATS, AND FOR RYE, BUT RATHER IN BUYERS FAVOUR FOR FOREIGN WHITE WHEAT FOR LIGHT OATS, AND FOR MAIZE.

THE BALTIC.

Friday afternoon.

State of Trade.

Wheat cargoes are quietly held. American new crop is hardly offered. Maize cargoes are rather against holders Oats are neglected, and a few sellers are taking prices which argue downright depression in futures. These sellers, however, are confined to holders of, and operators, in 304 lb. sorts. Barley futures are a little firmer since the close of July.

Business Done.

Wheat.—Australian, 34s per 480 lb, arrived; Blue Stem, 35s 9d per 500 lb, October shipment; Argentine, 34s 9d per 480 lb, arrived; Roumanian, 34s 6d per 492 lb, September shipment; No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 35s per 480 lb, arrived; No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 34s 6d per 480 lb, on passage; White Karachi, 35s per 492 lb, on passage; Red Karachi, 34s 3d per 492 lb, August shipment.

Barley.—Russian, 19s 9d per 400 lb, October shipment; Azoff, 23s per 400 lb, on passage.

Oats.—Russian, 14s 9d per 304 lb, October shipment; Argentine, 16s 9d per 304 lb, August shipment; Argentine, 23s 3d per 480 lb, August shipment.

Maize.—Roumanian, 23s per 480 lb, August shipment; American, 22s 9d per 480 lb, August shipment.

Beans.—New Zealand, 30s. per 480 lb, August shipment.

Peas.—Canadian, 34s. per 504 lb., August shipment

Millet.—Indian, 15s. per 112 lb., August shipment.

Hempseed.—Russian, 32s. 6d. per 336 lb., August shipment.

Sorghum.—Argentine, 19s. per 416 lb., August shipment.

Haricots.—Rangoon, 32s. per 504 lb., August shipment.

Dari.—Indian, 22s. per 480 lb., August shipment.

TERM MARKET.

The speculation in maize is at a singularly low ebb. The price, 4s. 11d. per cental, is not a depressed one, but nobody cares to operate freely in the face of 1,000,000 qr. on passage. Wheat is in an interesting position, there being already buyers as far ahead as March next, a certain number of persons wishing to make their position secure over the whole winter. Latest prices paid for wheat, future delivery, are:—

Winter Wheat.

Red, American, 7s. 3d., per cental, Sept. delivery.
,, ,, 7s. 4d. ,, Nov. ,,
,, ,, 7s. 5d. ,, Jan. ,,
,, ,, 7s. 4d. ,, March ,,

Midwinter is therefore expected (and not unnaturally) to be the scarcest period.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, August 2.—The price of cotton-seed is a little lower from Monday. There are no other changes.

Linseed. per 416 lb.	s.	s.
Bombay	44	45
Calcutta	42	43
Russian	42	43
Argentine refined	46	47
Argentine cleand	45	46
,, F.A.Q.	43	44
Argentine common	41	42
Dutch best	50	51
,, medium	45	48
Duluth	42	43
Canadian	43	44
Rapeseed. per 416 lb.		
English best	100	104
,, F.A.Q.	88	90
,, common	76	80
French F.A.Q.	68	70
Yellow Guzerat	58	60

	s.	s.
Yellow Cawnpore	54	55
Brown ,,	53	54
Ferozepore	53	54
Rubsen. per 424 lb		
German	70	74
Poppyseed. per 377 lb.		
	s.	s.
Indian	56	57
Cottonseed. per ton.		
Egyptian	166	168
Indian	146	148
Sunflowerseed. per cwt.		
English, White	15	16
Russian, White.	14	15
,, Black.	13	14
Sesame. per cwt.		
Indian	17	18
Hempseed. per 336 lb.		
Russian	33	35

POTATOES.

Borough, Thursday.—Poor demand; good arrivals. Early Puritans, 60s to 70s; Early Rose, 60s to 70s; Duke of York, 60s to 70s; British Queens, 60s to 70s; Blacklands, 50s to 60s per ton.

Goole, Wednesday.—No local potatoes have been offered. Epicures were on sale at 6s to 7s per load.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Lincolnshires potatoes £5 per ton in barrels and £4 15s in bags; Dutch rounds, 4s 6d per cwt.

Worksop, Wednesday.—New potatoes, 9s to 10s per load of 18 stones.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Large arrivals, but condition only moderately good. Stocks are now somewhat heavy. Top qualities maintain their price, but others slow. Dunlops, 54s to 60s; Cheddars, 58s to 62s per cwt.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—A good attendance and clearance. Prime Caerphilly, 49s; seconds, 42s to 47s 6d; other offers taken from 35s to 40s. Prime Cheddar, 60s; seconds, 55s to 58s; lowest, 53s to 54s. Truckles in large supply—Primes to 58s 6d; seconds, 44s 6d to 56s 6d; doubles, 45s to 54s 6d.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

We note this week, so far as the British supply of beasts are concerned, a decrease in the number on offer, due to smaller arrivals from the Midland counties and Ireland. Trade ruled of a slow nature owing to retail butchers' requirements being somewhat limited on account of so many families being out of town; nevertheless, prices were well maintained. The Irish arrivals consisted entirely of Waterfords, for which a slow trade was experienced at late values. A few Devons were included in the supply, and commanded our top quotation. Fat butchering cows and bulls were in excess of the demand, consequently sellers had to concede 2d. per 8 lb. to effect sales. On Thursday all sales were governed by Monday's prices.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, trade ruled of a very slow nature, prices showing a downward tendency in value as the week advanced. The total number on offer at both markets up to the time of our going to press was 2,592, consisting of 720 British and 1,872 foreign, these latter comprising 1,584 from the United States and 288 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 stone Devons, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 95 stone Irish, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 90 stone States, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 1d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.

The sheep trade was entirely confined to the Islington market and opened on Monday with more life, all grades of English wether sheep being quoted 2d. per 8 lb. higher, the Scotch consignments numbered precisely the same as on the Monday of the previous week, whilst the Irish numbers were slightly smaller; both descriptions were steady in regard to value ewes met with less inquiry, no decline in value is, however, quotable. Lambs met with a slow, but steady demand at late currencies. On Thursday late rates governed all transactions for both wether and ewes whilst lambs on the other hand ruled 2d. per 8 lb. lower. The total number penned was 6,860, as against 8,450 during the preceding week. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 6s. to 6s. 2d.; 8 stone Scotch, 6s. 2d to 6s. 4d; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d; 10 stone Halfbreds, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 12 stone Lincoln Half-breds, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 5 stone fat Grass lambs, 6s. 10d. to 7s.; 6 stone Half-bred ditto, 6s. 6d. to 6s. 8d.

Calves numbered 70 and met with a very slow trade, the best on offer making from 4s. 10d. to 5s. per 8lb.

LONDON.

Central Market, Thursday.—Fair supplies; trade continues very slow; beef not so firm, probably finish lower. English beef, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; Scotch sides, 4s to 4s 2d; shorts, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; ditto seconds, 3s 5d to 3s 6d; ditto forequarters, 2s 4d to 2s 7d; inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 5d; ditto tegs, 5s 4d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 9d to 5s; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; Dutch sheep, 4s 8d to 5s; English lamb, 5s to 5s 8d; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d; English pork, 3s 6d to 4s; Dutch pork, 3s 6d to 3s 10d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—To day's supply compared with Thursday last showed an increase of ten head, and consisted almost entirely of fat butchering cows and bulls. Trade ruled of a slow but steady nature at late values. Top prices paid per 8 lb:—Fat cows, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; fat bulls, 2s 9d to 3s 3d. An increase of 160 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Thursday last. For both wethers and ewes a slow but firm trade was experienced at Monday's values. Lambs were in excess of the demand, sellers being obliged to accept a reduction of 2d to effect sales. Best pens made per 8 lb as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 6s to 6s 2d; 9 stone Downs, 5s 10d to 6s; 10 stone ditto, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10 stone halfbreds, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s to 4s 2d; 5 stone fat grass lambs, 6s 10d to 7s; 6 stone halfbred ditto, 6s 6d to 6s 8d. Calf trade ruled slow. Quotations per 8lb:—Sheep, 4s 6d to 6s 2d; calves, 3s 10d to 5s; lambs, 5s 6d to 6s 10d.

COUNTRY.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Small supply of beasts, sheep, and pigs; fair trade for pigs; slow trade for beasts and sheep. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; Herefords, 6¾d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 9d per lb; bacon pigs, 10s to 10s 3d per score; cutting pigs, 10s to 10s 3d per score; sows, 8s per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Beef was plentiful and trade active, a moderate amount of business being done, and best animals realising 62s per cwt, compared with 60s to 62s last week. There was also a large quantity of mutton and lamb, which were in average demand at last week's prices. Pigs were scarce, but not in much request, and values of porkers fell from 10s 6d to 10s 3d per score.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices of pigs:—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 1s. per pig extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. 10 lb to 8 sc. 10 lbs, 9s 6d per score, 8 sc. 11 lb to 9 sc 10 lb,, 9s per score; 9 sc. 11 lb to 10 sc. 10 lb, 8s 6d. Pigs outside these limits at their value.—C. and T. Harris and Co., Ltd.

Chester, Thursday.—The supply of cattle was smaller, but there were more sheep on offer. Trade was quiet owing to a smaller attendance of buyers, but prices were unchanged on the week. The inquiry for sheep was limited. Quotations:—Milch cows, £16 to £21; calvers, £16 to £19; heifers, £9 to £14; stirks, £6 to £10; sheep, 18s. to 35s each.

Dublin, Thursday.—Slightly weaker trade for cattle, probably due to increased number at market, and prices rather in favour of buyers. Firmer trade for best qualities of sheep and lambs at last week's full rates; other sorts easier sold. Cattle—Live weight (best), 31s to 33s per cwt; Augus crosses up to 35s per cwt; secondary and inferior sorts, 28s to 30s 6d per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 6½d to 7½d per lb; choice light weights touching 8d per lb.—Ganly, Sons and Co.

Preston, Wednesday.—Good local cattle were very scarce among a fair supply in all departments. Trade was dragging at the following quotations:—Choice home-fed heifers made quite 7d; choice Irish, 6¾d; young cows and bulls, 5d to 5½d; choice lambs, 9¾d; rough and heavy lambs, 9d; hoggs, 8½d; best ewes, 7½d; heavy ewes and tups, 6d to 6½d; and calves, 7½d per lb.

Stockton, Wednesday.—An average show of the best cattle, which made 8s to 8s 6d per stone, rougher kinds making 6s 6d to 7s. Sheep met a slow trade, lambs making 10d per lb, young sheep 9d, ewes 7½ and 7½d, and tups 6d per lb. Pigs were in less demand, and sold at quite 6d per stone decrease upon the previous week's prices.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was again a full attendance of buyers and a good entry of stock, although sheep were considerably scarcer than the previous week. The quality of the beef was not quite up to the high standard of recent markets, but there was a selling trade throughout, practically every lot changing hands at prices satisfactory to the grazier. Sheep, no doubt, on account of the small supply met a firm trade. Veal lower. Bacon and pork in great demand. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 97 fat beasts, 237 fat sheep, 50 fat and weaning calves, and 48 fat and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £16 to £22 2s 6d; fat heifers, £14 to £22; fat ewes, 48s to 58s 6d; fat wethers, 50s to 61s; fat lambs, 31s to 47s 6d; fat calves, £3 to £4 10s; weaning cow calves, 22s to 50s; bull calves, 10s to 38s; bacon hogs, £3 5s to £4 10s; porkers, 30s to 48s; store pigs, 12s to 28s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Fat bullocks, 54s to 56s per cwt; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £10 to £14 each; rearing calves, 15s to 30s; wethers, 7½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d; lambs, 7½d to 8d; large and small pigs and suckers, 10s to 60s each.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Moderate supply and trade except for calves. Beef, 5½d to 7d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 9d per lb; lamb, 8½d to 9½d per lb; veal, 6d to 7½d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Moderate show of stock. Sheep were in larger supply than for several weeks past. Best beef, 8s to 8s 6d; secondary qualities, 7s 3d to 8s; Southdown wethers and crossbreds, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 6d to 7d; lamb, to 9½d; veal, to 8½d per lb.

York, Thursday.—More than an average show of Irish store cattle, and a small show of English. A fair sprinkling of customers. The best animals changed hands, but a slow trade on the whole, with late rates fully maintained, but no appreciable advance. Best three-year-olds made up to £15 15s; and two-year-olds, £10 to £11 10s. No demand for stirks. A small show of calving and milch cows, but a very bad trade, trade never being worse at this time of the year, hardly any buyers being present, and more than half the cows remained unsold. The best made up to £20, the general run of prices being from £14 to £17. A very small show of all classes of sheep. Best twice-crossed shearlings made up to 48s, others 38s to 44s. About 500 twice-crossed lambs met with a good trade from 26s to 32s each.

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Printed and Published by the Proprietors, at the Office, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.—August 5, 1907

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

That the wheat crop will be rather better than was supposed a month ago is the dominant expectation to-day, as reports from the eastern and north-eastern counties show a general improvement since St. Swithin's, and the Scotch wheat crop will apparently be a full average. Barley is the crop of least promise, while oats are often very heavy yields, or should be so from their aspect. Seven-feet straw is a rarity in any season, but it is less of a rarity this year than for many years past. At the same time the irregularity of all the crops is a feature of 1907; thus trained observers are of opinion that in the West Riding of Yorkshire oats are over 10 per cent. superior to their aspect in the north of this great county. Barley, too, which looks fairly well in Lincoln, is of most unsatisfactory aspect in the Huntingdon fens, and wheat, which is much below the average in Berkshire, improves decidedly in aspect we travel south into Hampshire. The wheat promise is not at all regular, even in the little group of home counties with their close correspondence of situation and climate. Kent is decidedly more fortunate this year than Surrey and Sussex. There are wheat fields in West Middlesex which should yield fully five quarters to the acre.

The first fields of spring oats have been cut in South Hampshire, and, of course, both winter oats and rye are now falling before the machine. Wheat harvest commences to-day pretty generally in counties south of the Thames and east of Stonehenge. The south-west is as backward, however, as the east this year, and the harvest in these two regions will, as a rule, begin on the 19th for wheat, and on the 26th for barley. The hay crop all over England is now reckoned over an average; 30 cwt. to the acre is the calculation of many farmers. Beans are an average crop. Peas, as far as we have ourselves seen, decidedly above an average though "the leading journal" puts them at only 941 points of a total 1,000 constituting a full crop.

The French wheat crop was the subject on the 6th inst. of a report which was much more favourable than anything previously published. We fancy for ourselves that the 41,000,000 qr. estimate, which appears in Beerbohm's list for the 9th inst., is ample to allow, for the season has not been at all propitious, and the frequent thunderstorms of July were not attended by the forcing heat which often accompanies electrical weather. The great bulk of the straw impresses the crop estimators, and the Government may have its reasons, with the peasantry so dissatisfied, especially in the south, for representing the crops as much better than had been supposed. The deficiency in the German wheat harvest is admitted on all hands, and rye is also under an average crop.

The Russian authorities are taking, like the French, a more hopeful view of the wheat yield and the preliminary estimate of the two crops, winter and spring wheat, for all Russia is as follows:—

1907	70,000,000 qrs.
1906	63,000,000 ,,
1905	79,000,000 ,,
1904	82,000,000 ,,

The average production in Russia being estimated at 74,000,000 qr., the yield of 1907 is not at all gravely deficient; may say 5 per cent. The Russian figures, however, are worked out by the Statistical Bureau on the basis of the acreage of the previous crop, and the news from all the great shipping firms is that the area is not at all as large this year as last, The enormous area under cultivation, nearly fifty million acres, amply accounts for the delay in getting in returns of each season's area. The very unsettled state of the rural districts and the frequent "removal" of officials increases the difficulties of the task.

Owing to the holiday break and the absence of new grain supplies the markets from the 3rd to 10th inst. were singularly featureless. The tone of trade for maize is a little more buoyant from the beginning of August, while foreign oats and barley favour buyers. In wheat no change can be discerned, and flour is equally immobile.

Supplies of English wheat since September 1 have been moderate, but the price shows a small net decline upon the year.

This season ..... 2,644,000 qr. at 27s. 6d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 2,899,000 ,, 28s. 9d. ,,

The barley supplies have been liberal, so that a price 2d. up on the year is so far a matter for congratulation.

This season ... 3,369,000 qr. at 24s. 5d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 3,201,000 qr. at 24s. 3d. ,,

The supplies of oats have been large; the price has given way 4d. under the strain, but has not been below remuneration level.

This season ... 1,174,000 qr., at 18s. 4d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 910,000 qr., at 18s. 8d. ,,

The supplies of English rye are not officially published, but have been fair. Prices which are as low as 24s. from September to January, rose to 28s. in July, and are now at a full 30s. level.

The wheat gradients are not steep at the present time, as in all parts of the country a fair price is obtainable, while in no district is it apparently possible to make a further advance on the terms with which August opened:—

Chelmsford	34s. 2d. per qr.
Salisbury	30s. 6d. ,,
Range ...	3s. 8d. ,,

The vast majority of markets range between 32s. and 33s., including Norwich, 32s. 8d.; Peterborough, 32s. 2d.; Lincoln, 32s. 10d.; and Doncaster, 32s. 7d.

Barley averages are now few, for the great bulk of the markets are without samples.

Mark Lane.....	28s. 3d. per qr.
Reading	25s. 11d. ,,
Range	2s. 4d. per qr.

Oats range from 20s. 6d. accepted at Lincoln to 22s. 6d. averaged at Peterborough.

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were:—

Wheat, 441,000 qr.: a full supply.
Flour, 79,000 sacks: a small supply.
Maize, 287,000 qr.: above the average.
Barley, 47,000 qr.: very reduced arrivals.
Oats, 87,000 qr.: below the average.

Since harvest the imports have been:—

Wheat, 20,170,000 qr.: a fair average.
Flour, 5,061,750 sacks: below the mean.
Maize, 10,733,000 qr.: a good supply.
Barley, 5,141,000 qr.: mediocre arrivals.
Oats, 4,587,000 qr.: less than usual.

The supply of wheat on passage is now very close to the average of 2,500,000 qr.

Californian.....	230,000 qr.
American	310,000 ,,
Russian	145,000 ,,
Indian.....	730,000 ,,
Argentine	280,000 ,,
Australasian	520,000 ,,
Various	40,000 ,,
Total	2,255,000 qr.

Of flour only 168,000 sacks are now on passage; of barley 155,000 qr.; and of oats 79,000 qr. are afloat, both these totals being very much less than usual.

Of maize, expectations are as follows:—

American	[illegible] qr.
Argentine	300,000 ,,
Russian	100,000 ,,
Roumanian.....	310,000 ,,
Turkish, &c.	120,000 ,,
Total.....	1,030,000 qr.

This is 280,000 qr. above the average.

Of oilseeds, the expectations on 10th inst. were:—Linseed, 248,000 qr.; cottonseed, 40,000 tons; rapeseed, 280,000 qr.; and Poppyseed, 6,000 qr.

Shipments for the first week of August were:—From America, 200,000 qr. of wheat, 15,000 qr. of barley, 14,000 qr. of oats, 171,000 qr. of maize and 90,000 sacks of flour; from La Plata, 96,000 qr. of wheat, 100,000 qr. of maize, and 15,000 qr. of linseed, but no oats; from Russia, 172,000 qr. of wheat, 151,000 qr. of barley, 80,000 qr. of oats, and 113,000 qr. of maize; from Roumania and Bulgaria, 110,000 qr. of wheat, 10,000 qr. of barley, 3,000 qr. of oats, and 236,000 qr. of maize; from India, 203,000 qr. of wheat, 71,000 qr. of linseed, and 60,000 qr. of rapeseed; from Australasia, 21,000 qr. of wheat; from Egypt, 10,000 tons of cotton seed; and from Tunis, 15,000 qr. of barley.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—The trade has been of a holiday character during the past week, and with larger supplies (made up mostly of middling and inferior quality of old stuff, and also a large proportion of new crop) the market presents a much quieter appearance. The arrival of prime old stuff, however, continues on a very small scale, and with good demand for this class prices have ruled very firm at unchanged rates, but for the larger quantity of middling and inferior quality now coming to hand the inquiry has been of a very poor description, and to effect clearances lower values have been accepted.

For new crop, if of prime quality and in good, sound condition, the following prices are about obtainable:—Clovers, 77s 6d to 80s per ton; mixtures, 75s per ton; and hays, 65s to 70s per ton; but with the bigger arrivals the demand has ruled quieter, and it is only with difficulty these values have been upheld. Straw is coming along in fair supply, and finds a good sale at about last week's rates. In the foreign market, although shipments have been short, the demand has been very poor, values showing a lower tendency.

Prices ruling are about as follow:—English best old meadow hay, 85s to 90s per ton; good meadow hay, 75s to 82s 6d per ton; plain hays, 70s per ton; best clovers, 95s to 100s per ton; good clovers, 85s to 90s per ton; inferior clovers, 80s to 82s 6d per ton; best mixtures, 95s to 97s 6d per ton; good mixtures, 87s 6d to 92s 6d per ton; plain mixtures, 77s 6d to 85s per ton; seconds hays, clovers, and mixtures, 60s to 65s per ton (these quotations are for 1906 crop); wheat straw, 26s to 28s per load; oat straw, 26s to 28s per load; barley straw, 26s to 28s per load. All ex rail London. Foreign: Canadian mixture, none; first quality Dutch hay, 65s to 67s 6d per ton; second quality Dutch hay, 62s 6d per ton; good French hay, 62s 6d to 65s per ton; New French clover, 72s 6d to 75s per ton. These prices are by the barge load delivered alongside a London Thames wharf.

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes from the 3rd to the 10th inst. showed no appreciable change either on passage and for shipment. Transactions have included Rosario at 34s. 6d. per 480 lb., Blue Stem at 35s. 9d per 500 lb., S.W. Russian at 35s. 3d. per 492 lb., White Karachi at 35s. per 492 lb., No. 1 Hard Manitoba at 36s. per 480 lb., and No. 2 at 34s. 3d. per 480 lb.

Maize cargoes are well held despite the heavy supply on passage. The sales have embraced Galatz at 24s. 3d. per 480 lb., La Plata at 23s. 6d. per 480 lb., and American at 23s. 3d. per 480 lb.

Barley favours buyers for autumn shipment, Russia offering to ship her new crop in September at 20s. 3d. per 400 lb.

Oats have made 19s. 9d. per 320 lb. for Manitoba, 17s. per 304 lb. for black Libau, 17s. 3d. per 304 lb. for Vologda, and 16s. 9d. per 304 lb. for Turkish. These figures do not argue a stagnant market, but the prices are more favourable to buyers than were those of later July.

The secretary of the London Corn Trade Association announces that the following standards (May shipments) were made up on the 9th inst.:—Wheat.—Choice White Karachi, old crop, ditto new crop, Soft Red Krachi, old crop, ditto new crop, Choice White Bombay, new crop. Bombay lentils. Kurrachee barley. Kurrachee Dari. Calcutta white peas. A standard of Atbara wheat from Calcutta will be made up next month of May-June shipments. Atbara is a central Indian and North-West Province mixture of sound medium hard wheat.

The London Corn Trade Association C. F. and I. quotations, for the settlement of Rejections and Difference in Weights on Wheat under Rule No. 4 of the Association East Indian Wheat Contracts were settled on the 9th inst. as follows:—

Crop 1906.—Choice White Karachi 35s. 6d., soft Red Karachi 34s 9d.—New clean terms but 4 per cent. barley.

Choice white Karachi, 35s. 3d.; soft red Karachi, 34s. 6d., old terms, August 9.

The committee has decided to quote rejection prices for old terms, up to and including July shipments, but not later.

These terms remain in force until fresh ones are published by the Association Committee.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat:—English firm, unchanged. Supplies very small. Foreign steadily held at late rates, but demand limited, 36s 9d asked No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, 37s 6d landed; 36 ex ship No. 2 Northern Manitoba; South Russian, landed, 34s to 37s; La Plata, 35s 6d to 36s 6d. Flour quiet, unchanged. Iron Dukes quoted at 22s to 22s 6d; Minnesota patents at 27s to 28s. Maize firmly held at full rates to 3d advance, but not active. La Plata and Odessa, landed, quoted at 23s 6d; mixed American, ex ship, at 23s 9d; Odessa, ex ship, at 23s. Barley firm, and spot parcels very scarce. New Azoff-Black Sea, ex ship, to arrive, quoted at 22s. Oats steady, quiet. La Platas held at 17s 9d; South Russian (38 lb), 17s to 18s, as per sample.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat: English firm, quiet. Whites quoted at 35s to 37s; reds at 34s 6d to 36s 6d. Foreign steadily held at late rates, but inactive. No. 1 Northern, ex ship, quoted at 36s 9d, landed at 37s; No. 2 Northern, ex ship, at 36s; choice white Karachi at 35s; red Karachi at 36s. Flour slow, unchanged. Iron Dukes quoted at 22s to 22s 6d; Minnesota patents at 27s to 28s; Hungarians at 35s 6d to 36s. Maize steady, quiet. Mixed American, landed, quoted at 24s 3d; River Plate at 23s 6d; Odessa, ex ship, at 23s, landed, 23s 6d to 23s 9d. Barley steady, quiet; Azoff-Black Sea, new crop, ex ship, to arrive, quoted at 22s. Oats slow, nominally unchanged. La Plata held at 17s 6d to 17s 9d; South Russian (38 lb), 17s to 18s as per sample.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—The market presented a holiday appearance, very few buyers or sellers being present. Last week's prices were maintained, and a little more money would have been given for English wheat. Quotations:—Wheat, 34s to 37s; English barley, 28s to 29s; foreign grinding barley, 26s to 27s; tick beans, 33s to 34s; maize, 25s to 26s; white oats, 22s to 25s; black oats, 21s to 24s; mazagan beans, 30s to 31s.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red, 34s to 35s 6d per qr; barley, 30s to 32s per qr; beans, 32s to 33s 6d per qr; oats, 20s to 25s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—The market was thinly attended, with only a few samples of oats on offer, which sold at late rates.

Birmingham, Thursday.—The market was much of a holiday character, the attendance being small and orders very limited. Foreign wheats were generally 3d lower, the demand being slow. Only a small quantity of English wheats on market, for which dealers require fully late rates. Bessarabian maize was 3d dearer, Galatz-Foxanian being 3d cheaper. Grinding barley was unchanged at 25s 6d per 400lb at Sharpness. English oats and beans were unaltered in value.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Market thinly attended. Wheat in scanty supply, holders demanding 36s per qr., and making 34s 6d to 35s 6d. Oats firm at 22s to 24s per qr. Grinding barley 28s. to 30s per qr. Beans firm at 33s to 34s per qr. Maize firm at 24s 6d, old 25s per qr delivered.

Cambridge, Saturday.—The wheat trade remains steady. At Cambridge on Saturday wheat was in small supply. Sellers held for more money, buyers scarce; 35s per 504 lb on rail was offered. Beans in fair supply, making 32s to 23s 6d per 38 stones. Trade firm.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Owing to the late season no new wheats are expected at market this month; no new peas have yet arrived, but some new winter barley was offered to-day, 27s per qr being asked. Old corn continues to sell well; English wheat ranging up to 39s; barley to 29s; and oats up to 25s 6d. Grey peas are now making from 31s to 33s; tick beans, 32s; and Mazagans, 30s to 32s per qr.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Very small supply of oats again in our market. Good demand at last week's prices, 24s 9d per 336 lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—Small supplies of English grain at full prices. Offals scarce and again dearer. Mixed American maize firm at late rates. Round corn in fair demand at prices ruling last market day. Quotations: Barley, grinding, new 38 9d to 4s per 60 lb; beans, new, 5s 6d to 5s 9d; old, 6s to 6s 6d per 80 lb; oats, new, 2s 11d to 3s 2d; old, 3s 2d to 3s 6d per 16 lb; Indian corn, new, 13s to 13s 3d; old, 13s 6d to 13s 9d per 240 lb; round corn, old, 12s 9d to 14s per 240 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Fair attendance. Trade slow. New white wheat, 35s to 35s 6d; new red ditto, 35s to 35 6d; grinding barley, 25s 9d; oats, English, 18s to 23s; beans, 32s to 33s; maize, 24s to 25s; flour, 24s to 28s.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat fair trade at last week's price. Few samples winter oats, indifferent condition.—COLIN TAYLOR, KING AND CO., LTD.

Coventry, Friday.—Farmers were still busy in the hay field, and only a few attended. Wheats a good trade at last week's rates. Barley and beans changed hands at advanced prices. Quotations: Wheat, 12s to 12s 9d per 186 lb; barley, 30s to 34s per 448 lb; peas, 12s to 14s; beans, 13s to 13s 9d per 196 lb; oats, 24s to 26s per 352 lb.

Derby, Friday.—There was a small supply of wheat, for which prices were unchanged. No alteration in the value of spring corn. White wheat, 37s to 38s; grinding barley, 23s to 25s; beans, 34s to 36s; oats, 24s to 25s.

Devizes, Thursday.—All old English corn fully maintains its price, and sells readily. What the value of the new crop will be remains to be seen, but if the value of the old is any criterion prices should be much better than last year—given fine weather for the harvest. Wheat cutting is to commence in this district on Monday. Best wheat, 17s to 18s; secondary, 16s to 16s 6d; malting barley, 24s to 30s; feeding, 22s to 24s; old oats, 20s to 24s; new beans, 15s 6d to 16s 6d; fine flour, 27s to 30s; extra fine, 32s to 36s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—English wheat is very scarce, but where exchanges were made prices were very firm and steady, and ranged from 14s to 13s 6d per load. Foreign wheat still quiet, and though there were signs of a change, prices are slightly in favour of the buyer. Plate maize were a shade lower, whilst oats were firm, and a trifle dearer. Other things unchanged.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Farmers being still busy clearing up the remains of the hay crop, which is by no means got in yet, coupled with the fair earlier in the week, led to a small attendance, with a correspondingly limited offer of grain, stocks of which are now almost if not entirely exhausted. Wheat was held for late values, and on these terms what little was done resulted. Foreign unchanged. Barley steady, and values maintained. Oats rather weaker, from 3d to 6d per qr less being acceped in some cases. Beans and peas sold at late rates. Flour trade nominal.

Exeter, Friday.—Trade dull. Scarcely any English wheat offering. Foreign firm. Barley, oats, and flour unchanged. Maize rather dearer. English weat, 4s 3d to 4s 4d; superfine flour, 25s to 27s; fine, 24s to 25s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The trade during the week has been quiet. Prices of bread stuffs having declined in the earlier part of the week, have firmed somewhat, but little business is passing. Maize remains steady. Barley is exhausted on the spot, but there have been some forward sales of Black Sea at high prices. Oats have been depressed, Manitobas being pressed for sale to clear the quay. Other articles remain dull and unchanged. Attendance was moderate at to-day's market. Wheat unaltered. Flour meets with a better sale at late rates. Maize and corn steady at Monday's prices. Barley scarce and dear. Oats pressed for sale on quay, but for shipment the turn dearer. Beans and peas nominally unchanged. Bran 2s 6d per ton dearer, but thirds unaltered. Oatmeal quietly firm.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Friday.—Maize and corn steady, with a dearer tendency; other articles quiet and unchanged.

Gloucester, Saturday.—English wheat unchanged. Reds, 33s to 33s 6d; whites, 33s 6d to 34s. Foreign wheats steady: Plates, 35s to 36s 3d; Russians, 33s to 35s; Manitobas, 36s 9d. Plate and Bessarabian maize unchanged at 24s. Oats 6d dearer; black, 20s 6d to 21; white, 22s 6d to 23. Barley 3d cheaper, at 25s 6d.

Grantham, Saturday.—Small supplies in all departments. Wheat at 36s and 36s 6d was 6d per qr dearer. Oats firm at 22s to 24s; beans 33s, to 34s per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Small attendance. Wheat trade steady at last week's prices. Nothing doing in barleys. Oats firm without much demand. Beans steady. Maize 3d per qr dearer. Wholesale quotations:—Wheat, 4s to 4s 3d per 62 lb; barley, 3s 6d to 4s per 56 lb; oats, 2s 6d to 2s 10d per 40 lb; beans, 3s 10d to 4s per 65½ lb; maize, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per 60 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Very little wheat on offer; trade steady at late rates, 34s to 35s per 504 lb. Grinding barley easier. Maize 6d per qr lower. Oats slow. Beans and peas unaltered.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair attendance of buyers and dealers, with restricted supplies home-grown wheats, which met a slow dragging trade, and prices were not quite so firm. Red wheats, 35s to 36s; white wheats, 36s to 37s per 36 stones; Grinding barley steady at late quotations. A moderate demand for brans at firm prices. Fine oats in good demand at 24s to 25 per 24 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—A small attendance, and only one or two samples of English wheat on offer, which made the full prices of last week; foreign steady and unaltered. Oats and beans unchanged, and a fair inquiry for other feedings.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Small attendance to-day, the August vacation responsible thereof. Wheat business done in the wheat trade was at about the rates of last Thursday. No particular movement, millers only buying in small quantities, as they are looking to harvest supplies to please them. Barley continues dear, as its scarcity is remarkable. The cost of really good English oats is fully up to recent pitch, but foreign are neglected, late shipments coming to hand in "horsey" condition. Beans and peas firm and sound. Maize keeps well up. No change in other grain or feeding material.

Manchester, Thursday. — English wheat scarce, and nominally 6d higher. Foreign wheat rather variable. Flour slow and unchanged. Indian corn 1½d to 1d dearer on the week. English oats ½d higher, closing firm. Foreign feeding barley offered at 3s 8½d to 3s 9d. Beans and peas steady. Bran and thirds scarce, but quotably unchanged.

Newark, Wednesday.—Small attendance; supplies scarce; prices firm. Red and white wheat, 35s to 36s; malting barley, 28s to 30s; grinding, 26s to 27s; white oats, 23s to 24s; black oats, 22s 6d to 23s; beans, 34s to 35s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday. — A quiet demand prevailed at our to-day's market for wheat at last Saturday's quotations. A steady demand for perfect maize, and prices in favour of the seller; prices of last Saturday were maintained for oats with a fair consumptive demand. Peas and beans firm at last Saturday's prices; nothing doing in barley.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newport, Wednesday.—Barley forward for position 6d per qr dearer. Maize and wheat unchanged. Flour 28s 6d.

Northampton, Saturday.—Attendance very small; scarcity of cereals on offer, which changed hands at an advantage to sellers; not much business moving. Prices: Wheat, 34s to 35s; barley, 28s to 30s; white oats, 23s to 24s; black oats, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; beans, 31s to 33s; peas, 30s to 32s; flour, 26s to 30s.

Norwich, Saturday.—There were a few samples of wheat on offer to-day, for which farmers asked 36s per qr delivered; the demand was not very good; 35s 6d was about the value. Feeding stuffs trade quiet, prices generally being firm.

Nottingham, Saturday. — Wheat rather better supply of English, but the high prices asked by holders checks business. Grinding barley firm. Oats and beans but few offering, and full prices maintained.—ROBT. HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—The weather is somewhat unsettled. The market attendance is very small with little corn offering, which made about last week's prices.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Preston, Saturday.—There was only a small attendance, and nothing was offering from farmers. Flour remains unaltered. Quotations:—Wheat, white, per windle of 220 lb, 13s 9d to 15s; ditto red, 13s 6d to 14s; oats, old, per bushel, 3s 3d to 3s 4d; beans, per windle of 220 lb, 16s 6d to 17s.

Reading, Saturday.—The attendance was fair, but business was on the quiet side. A few parcels of wheat came to hand sparingly, sold at from 33s to 36s per qr; barley (for which practically there was no inquiry) was on offer at from 27s to 31s; oats were firm at 19s 6d to 23s; beans, realised 33s to 36s; and peas 29s to 31s.

Retford, Saturday.—Fairly good attendance, trade at a standstill. Wheat on the up grade, making 36s to 37s; oats, 23s to 24s; black ditto, 22s to 23s per qr. There was no barley on offer. Beans unchanged at 33s to 34s.

Ripon, Thursday. — Very little local wheat showing, and prices show no change. Round maize is making rather less money. A small attendance of farmers. Prices:—Wheat, 34s to 35s 6d; wheat, foreign, 36s. to 40s 6d; barley, grinding, 26s to 27s; oats, 24s to 25s; maize, round, 25s 6d to 26s 6d; maize, flat, 26s to 27s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—There was generally a tendency to harden. English and foreign wheat was 6d per qr higher. Beans were dearer, and oats, peas, and barley had a decided upward tendency. Prices:—Wheat, white, new, 35s to 36s; ditto red, new, 35s to 36s per 504 lb; oats, black, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; ditto white, 24s to 24s 6d per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 32s 6d to 33s 6d; ditto blue, 75s to 90s per 504 lb; beans, English, 35s to 36s 6d per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 27s 6d to 29s; ditto malting, 31s to 33s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 25s 9d to 26s; ditto Plate, 25s 6d to 25s 9d; ditto flat, 26s to 27s per 480 lb.

Shrewsbury, Friday.—New wheat, 14s 6d to 15s per 225 lb; peas, 15s 6d to 16s per 225 lb; beans, 14s 6d to 15s per 240 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—The attendance was about an average, but trade was very quiet. Wheat,

33s to 34s 6d; oats, 22s to 23s; barley, 27s; beans, 32s 6d to 33s per qr. Peas inactive.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was no farmers' wheat showing. The demand for foreign wheat was lighter at last week's prices. Oats unchanged. Maize lower.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Grain in small supply. Wheat steady and unchanged in value. Spring corn quiet. Arrivals nil.—E. and F. Richardson.

Winchester, Saturday.—Supply of English wheat practically exhausted. Foreign unaltered. Barley and oats unchanged. Maize 6d cheaper to arrive. Flour steady at late rates.—Fear, Colebrook and Co., Ltd.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A small market. Only one or two samples of grain offering. Fresh thrashed red wheat, 35s per 504 lb; oats, 22s to 23s per 336 lb.—James Fletcher.

Yeovil, Friday. — Business somewhat restricted. Numbers were inquiring for good samples of home-grown wheat for blending, and these made up to 35s per qr; secondary descriptions selling at from 30s to 32s 6d; foreign wheat made 34s to 36s; Irish black oats, 19s 3d to 19s 6d; ditto, white, 21s to 21s 6d; English white oats, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; black, 22s to 22s 6d; spring beans, 30s to 31s 6d; winter, 32s 6d to 35s; grinding barley (foreign), 25s 6d to 25s; home grown, 27s to 27s 6d; flat maize, 24s to 24s 3d; round, 23s 3d to 23s 9d; rye, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; tares, winter, 38s 6d to 43s; spring, 43s 6d to 46s 6d. Flour a quiet trade, bakers showing no anxiety to enter into fresh contracts pending the marketing of the new wheat crop. Fines mades 26s 6d per sack. Meals and offals continue a good market at values which favour sellers.

York, Saturday.—There was hardly a sample of wheat on offer, and prices were nominally unchanged. Fine new wheat made 35s to 36s, and red and mixed 34s to 35s per qr. of 36 stones; feeding barley, 26s to 28s per qr of 32 stones; oats firm at 22s to 24s per qr of 24 stones; rye, 30s; beans, 33s per qr of 36 stones.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Barley Report: The weather is more or less unsettled and cool; farmers have great difficulty to gather their crops, and although so far no complaints are heard about barley, the present weather can never do any good, and quality is sure to suffer, as the barley is ripe, and cutting has commenced. In Bohemia and Moravia the harvest is in full swing, and some really choice samples are appearing, but enormous prices are asked for such. In Hungary the harvest is completed, but the quality varies a good deal, and the market rules firm, with prices rather tending upwards.—F. M. T. Duhne.

Hamburg, Saturday.—We have still rainy weather; anxiety is increasing respecting the fate of the outstanding crops. Market firm for all articles, with a fair demand for present and later delivery; 60 lb new red Saal wheat, September-October shipment is held at 34s per 504 lb f.o b.; Hard Winter No. 2, new crop, August shipment, is selling at 32s 9d to 33s; Red Winter No. 2 is offering at 32s; 9/20 Ulka, August-September, 32s; 79/80 ko River Plate on the spot, 33s 6d to 34s per 480 lb c.i f. Hamburg. Rye in good demand; 9 15/20South Russian afloat is held at 31s 6d to 32s; 9 20/25 at 33s; 9 10/15 Aug.-Sept. at 28s 9d to 29s, c.i.f. Hamburg. Samples of malting barley received from Bohemia, Moravia, and Slovakia show good stout grain of varying colour; fine even and light-coloured parcels are scarce, and for such 38s 6d to 42s 6d is asked; good mellow, but rather discoloured parcels are held at 35s to 37s, at 448 lb f.o.b. The general opinion is that high prices are justified this season, as much barley in this country and the north will be spoilt by rain. Grinding barley firm; 60 to 61 kg South Russian on the spot is selling at 25s to 25s 6d; afloat, 23s 3d; July, old style, 20s 6d; August-September, 19s 9d per 400 lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Danubian maize is held at 22s 9d, Odessa at 22s 3d, mixed American at 23s 3d per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg.—John Tatlock.

CORN STATISTICS

Weekly Arrivals into London.

July 31 to August 7 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	130	68,000	68,130
Barley	125	7,400	7,525
Malt		No returns.	
Oats	—	30,600	30,600
Beans		No returns.	
Peas		No returns.	
Maize	—	34,380	34,380
Linseed	—	5,000	5,000
Rapeseed	—	250	250
Cottonseed	—	4,700	4,700
Flour ...sacks	15,000	19,240	34,250

Imperial Weekly Averages.

1906.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
Aug. 11	6,924	30	5	300	23	0	4,512	17	11
,, 18	8,583	29	0	1,253	24	2	11,887	17	0
,, 25	26,545	27	9	2,508	25	0	14,673	16	10
Sept. 1	55,716	26	9	4,758	24	3	22,580	16	6
,, 8	78,579	26	4	19,448	24	9	32,679	16	3
,, 15	89,745	25	11	41,670	24	3	34,330	16	1
,, 22	90,292	25	9	76,130	24	3	37,120	16	0
,, 29	83,907	25	9	129,209	24	8	41,942	16	2
Oct. 6	87,200	26	1	183,145	25	0	35,724	16	3
,, 13	80,630	26	3	226,940	25	3	38,088	16	7
,, 20	71,352	26	6	230,636	24	10	35,636	16	8
,, 27	69,920	26	7	233,998	24	10	28,956	16	10
Nov. 3	64,404	26	7	229,015	24	8	32,527	16	11
,, 10	63,764	26	6	205,560	24	8	27,982	17	1
,, 17	58,059	26	4	167,441	24	4	20,389	17	2
,, 24	58,467	26	3	149,427	24	1	28,669	17	3
Dec. 1	60,299	26	1	160,173	24	1	34,743	17	2
,, 8	63,264	26	1	167,532	24	1	37,119	17	4
,, 15	70,332	26	1	135,513	23	11	36,175	17	3
,, 22	68,977	26	3	127,131	24	3	31,528	17	3
,, 29	49,637	26	0	97,796	24	1	29,124	17	3
1907.									
Jan. 5	24,559	26	0	31,733	23	11	14,773	17	3
,, 12	47,667	26	1	71,498	24	2	27,939	17	4
,, 19	75,207	26	1	104,417	24	1	37,413	17	8
,, 26	80,321	26	2	109,274	24	5	45,887	17	5
Feb. 2	84,370	26	3	86,031	24	4	38,928	17	7
,, 9	77,659	26	6	74,324	24	5	30,467	17	7
,, 16	84,514	26	7	69,221	24	1	38,725	17	9
,, 23	76,580	26	10	53,681	24	2	39,559	17	9
Mar. 2	64,923	26	9	40,398	24	2	32,965	17	9
,, 9	71,183	28	8	32,620	23	11	31,065	17	11
,, 16	69,340	26	10	29,274	24	2	28,017	18	0
,, 23	69,183	26	10	20,977	24	0	22,204	18	1
,, 30	49,202	26	8	15,929	23	9	18,412	18	2
April 6	28,757	26	9	6,539	24	3	10,296	18	3
,, 13	43,426	26	8	6,330	23	9	17,523	18	6
,, 20	54,965	26	8	6,032	23	3	21,389	18	7
,, 27	62,656	26	10	4,967	27	3	25,447	18	0
May 4	63,344	27	0	4,289	23	6	22,691	19	3
,, 11	53,080	27	6	3,375	24	0	18,392	19	7
,, 18	41,991	28	4	2,955	23	10	15,817	20	1
,, 25	37,963	29	7	1,977	24	3	12,803	20	7
June 1	28,070	31	4	1,998	24	0	10,478	20	5
,, 8	34,122	32	0	1,539	24	7	11,711	20	8
,, 15	38,008	31	10	1,152	24	7	7,668	20	11
,, 22	31,351	31	4	1,088	24	11	7,187	20	9
,, 29	23,007	31	2	759	24	6	6,118	20	8
July 6	20,795	31	3	432	24	8	4,303	20	11
,, 13	19,209	32	0	665	24	10	3,380	20	11
,, 20	15,915	32	6	259	24	5	4,447	21	1
,, 27	16,867	32	11	3,324	27	3	3,533	20	8
Aug. 3	16,165	33	2	313	26	4	2,886	21	2
,, 10	18,510	33	5	322	26	6	3,459	21	3

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, August 10, 1907:—

Wheat	1,804,300 cwts.
Wheat-flour	198,800 ,,
Barley	52,100 ,,
Oats	368,900 ,,
Maize	1,154,900 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1906. Cwts.	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.
Wheat	2,304,100	2,186,000	1,584,200	1,861,610
Wheat-flour	209,800	141,800	316,000	337,349
Barley	170,400	152,600	614,500	348,273
Oats	300,800	408,600	326,800	407,166
Maize	1,183,600	828,800	821,700	806,318

Seven Years' Tithe Rent Charges.

	£	s.	d.
For 1907	68	19	6
,, 1906	68	12	1
,, 1905	69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, August 6, 1907:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Av. Price per qr £	s.	d.
Wheat	115	6	193	8	9	1	13	5
Barley	110	6	156	12	9	1	8	3
Oats	—	—	—			—		

Seven Years Grain Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 10d. per 480 lb.
Barley	25s. 4d. per 400 lb.
Oats	18s. 11d. per 312 lb.

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending August 10, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1903 to 1906:—

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1903	18,097	29	11	242	21	3	4,892	18	10
1904	16,784	28	4	468	19	9	8,117	17	7
1905	8,184	30	5	548	22	5	8,974	16	11
1906	6,924	30	5	300	23	0	4,512	17	11
1907	18,510	33	5	322	26	6	3,459	21	3

English Wheat, Barley & Oats in 1906.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley s.	d	Oats. s.	d.
Highest of Year	30	4	25	4	20	4
Lowest of Year	26	1	23	1	16	2
Gradient	4	3	2	3	4	2
Mean of Year	28	4	24	3	18	7

Yearly Averages (Official).

	Wheat. s.	d.		Barley. s.	d.		Oats. s.	d.	
1890	31	9	per qr.	28	8	per qr.	18	7	per qr.
1891	37	1	,,	28	2	,,	20	0	,,
1892	30	4	,,	26	2	,,	19	11	,,
1893	26	4	,,	25	6	,,	18	9	,,
1894	22	10	,,	24	6	,,	17	1	,,
1895	23	1	,,	21	11	,,	14	6	,,
1896	26	2	,,	22	11	,,	14	9	,,
1897	30	2	,,	23	6	,,	16	11	,,
1898	34	0	,,	27	2	,,	18	5	,,
1899	25	8	,,	25	7	,,	17	0	,,
1900	26	11	,,	25	9	,,	17	9	,,
1901	26	9	,,	25	3	,,	18	5	,,
1902	28	0	,,	25	8	,,	20	2	,,
1903	26	9	,,	22	11	,,	17	2	,,
1904	28	4	,,	22	4	,,	16	4	,,
1905	29	9	,,	24	4	,,	17	4	,,
1906	28	4	,,	24	3	,,	18	7	,,

Monthly Averages.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1906. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1907. Wheat	Barley	Oats
Jan.	28 6	24 9	18 5	26 1	24 2	17 4
Feb.	28 10	25 4	18 11	26 6	24 3	17 7
Mar.	28 5	24 8	18 11	26 9	23 11	18 0
April	29 1	24 2	19 1	26 9	23 8	18 10
May	30 2	24 0	20 0	28 5	24 0	19 10
June	30 4	23 4	20 2	31 6	24 6	20 9
July	30 4	23 1	20 4	32 2	24 11	20 10
Aug.	29 6	23 7	17 9			
Sept.	26 1	24 5	16 2			
Oct.	26 5	25 0	16 7			
Nov.	26 5	24 5	17 1			
Dec.	26 2	24 1	17 3			

Average Monthly Cash Prices of Town Households Flour.

	1907 s.	d.	1906. s.	d.	1905. s.	d.	1904. s.	d.	1903. s.	d.	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.
Jan.	22	0	25	0	26	3	24	9	24	0	21	9	24	6
Feb.	22	0	24	9	26	9	25	6	24	3	22	0	24	0
March	21	9	24	3	26	6	25	9	23	9	21	9	23	9
April	22	3	24	6	26	0	25	3	23	9	23	0	24	0
May	25	0	24	0	25	9	24	9	24	0	23	6	23	6
June	25	6	23	9	25	6	24	3	24	3	23	0	23	0
July	26	0	23	6	25	0	25	0	24	3	23	0	22	3
August			23	0	25	0	26	6	24	9	22	9	22	3
Sept.			22	9	24	6	27	0	25	0	23	3	22	0
Oct.			22	6	25	0	27	0	24	9	22	9	21	6
Nov.			22	0	25	0	26	9	24	3	22	9	21	6
Dec.			21	9	25	0	26	9	24	3	23	3	21	9
Yrly. Avrg.	23	5	25	6	25	9	24	3	22	8	22	10		

Cereal Years' Prices.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1905-6	28	9	24	2	18	5
1904-5	30	7	24	6	16	11
1903-4	27	2	21	11	16	4
1902-3	26	5	23	0	17	8
1901-2	28	4	26	0	20	4
1900-1	27	1	25	0	18	4
1899-1900	26	5	25	0	17	5
1898-9	26	1	26	1	17	4
1897-8	36	4	27	9	18	4
1896-7	28	8	23	2	16	9

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, 3 P.M.

The only new grain offering was a little rye of fine quality, for which 30s. was asked and 28s. bid. New wheat is not expected to be offered at all regularly before this day fortnight, though a few forward ears will be gathered this week and shown as a "rubbed-out sample." There was not a good inquiry for wheat at the London market to-day, but holders asked firmer prices for both home-grown and imported descriptions. Maize was in a firm position; the spot inquiry excellent for the time of year. It is surprising how firm this trade is, despite 1,030,000 qr. on passage and a big crop expected in the United States. Barley was quiet, with 24s. 3d. per 400 lb. accepted for Canadian and 22s. 9d. for Persian. For oats the market was divided, as anything over 312 lb. weight sold well, while 304 lb. sorts favoured buyers. Beans and peas also tended slightly in favour of buyers. New English trifolium seed made 23s. per cwt., while a guinea was paid for French.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off the Stands*).

August 12.

WHEAT,	White	(per 504 lb.)	34 — 36
	Red	,,	34 — 35
BARLEY, Malting		(per 448 lb.)	None.
	Brewing	,,	None.
	Poultry	(per 448 lb.)	27 — 28
	Distilling	(per 416 lb.)	None.
	Winter	(per 400 lb.)	None.
	Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	None.
MALT, Pale		(per 336 lb.)	34 — 36
	Brown	,,	27 — 29
	Black	,,	29 — 30
OATS, Storm Kings		,,	None.
	Abundance	,,	None.
	Waverleys	,,	None.
	Pioneers	,,	None.
	Black Tartary	,,	22 — 23
	White Gartons	,,	23 — 24
	Ordinary ,,	(per 320 lb.)	21 — 22
RYE, Essex		(per 480 lb.)	29 — 31
BEANS, Pigeon		(per 532 lb.)	42 — 44
	Tick	(per 504 lb.)	34 — 35
	Winter	,,	32 — 33
	Spring	,,	31 — 32
	Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	21 — 22
PEAS, Picked Marrowfat, New		(per 504 lb.)	90 — 100
,, ,,	Old	,,	70 — 72
	Unpicked (Old)	,,	52 — 56
	Maple (Old)	,,	36 — 37
	Dun (Old)	,,	32 — 34
TARES (Winter)		(per 532 lb.)	40 — 44
	(Spring)	,,	44 — 48
	(English Gores)	,,	56 — 64
	(Scotch Gores)	,,	68 — 72

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba	37	38	American	23	24
Red Winter	35	36	Argentine	23	24
Best Spring	37	38	Roumanian	23	24
Argentine	35	37	Russian	23	24
Australian	35	37	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Californian	36	37	Smyrna	34	35
Walla Walla	35	36	New Zealand	32	33
Saxonka	35	36	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Azima	34	35	Hungarian	62	64
Ghirka	33	34	Burmese	38	40
Roumanian	33	34	Chilian	56	64
Indian White	34	35	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb):		
,, Red	33	34	French	31	33
Turkish	32	33	Russian	27	28
Persian	32	33	Canadian	26	27
BARLEY:			PEAS (504 lb.):		
C'lifor'n (448 lb)	none		Dutch Crowns	55	57
Tunisian (448 lb)	30	31	Konigsberg	44	46
Ouchak (448 lb)	28	32	Russian White	35	36
Smyrna (448 lb)	26	30	Indian White	35	36
Spanish (448 lb)	None.		CanadianWhite	35	36
Russian (400 lb)	26	27	NewZeal'dMaple	39	40
Indian (400 lb)	25	26	Victoria Dun	32	33
Persian (400 lb)	23	24	MILLET (416 lb.):		
MALT (336 lb.):			White	42	44
Californian	none		Yellow	22	24
Smyrna	33	36	Sorghum	20	21
Ouchak	33	36	RICE (cwt.):		
RYE (480 lb.):			Java	16	22
Russian	24	25	Indian	17	20
OATS:			Japanese	16	17
Konigsbg (320 lb)	21	22	Burmese	10	11
Russian (304 lb)	18	19	Siamese	8	9
Canadian (320 lb)	20	21	DARI (480 lb.):		
Argentine (304 lb)	18	19	Smyrna	26	27
Swedish (320 lb)	21	22	Indian	22	23
NewZealand (336 lb)	25	26	Persian	21	22

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, 3 P.M.

The price of Town Whites and Town Households is a little firmer from the markets just preceding the Bank Holiday.

Owing to the supply of flour up from the country being less than usual, the market for it is fairly stiff, and prices are at least as good as on the 2nd inst.

American made 22s 6d to 22s 9d for Iron Duke, and was in small request for the finer grades, the prices for which are very high in proportion to the values of first bakers' types.

Australian flour sold fairly well at currencies.

Californian flour at 27s. per sack had a limited market.

Belgian takes a high place for quality, but the price is high also, and reduces inquiry to a narrow scope.

The dealers in Hungarian flour and would-be purchasers of the same are under an obligation to *Dornbusch's List* for a special telegram from Budapest, which gives the average price of wheat there on Saturday at 42s. 6d. per qr. This is 10s. dearer from a year ago, and shows the impossibility of flour being shipped at the prices to which buyers had become accustomed. At the same time, the 37s. asked to-day for fine Hungarian flour at Mark Lane struck us as being an extreme quotation.

There was a good demand for barleymeal, poultry mixture, and for ground oats, while the sale of bran, pollard, middlings, and ricemeal was rather larger than usual in August.

Meal, &c.

Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)		13 — 14
,, Country Flake Choice	...	,,	14 — 15
,, ,, Broad	...	,,	13 — 14
Pollard	...	,,	12 — 13
Biscuit Middlings	...	,,	16 — 17
Fine Middlings	...	,,	15 — 16
Coarse Middlings	...	,,	14 — 15
Wheat Germ Meal	...	,,	17 — 18
Farina Firsts	...	,,	28 — 29
,, Seconds	...	,,	26 — 27
Barley Meal	...	,,	21 — 22
Canadian Oatmeal	...	,,	25 — 26
Scotch Oatmeal	...	,,	30 — 33
Groats	...	,,	32 — 33
Oat Flour	...	,,	33 — 34
Ground Oats	...	,,	32 — 33
Poultry Meal	...	,,	34 — 36
American Feeding Wheat Flour	...	,,	18 — 19
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	...	,,	18 — 19
,, Germ Meal	...	,,	15 — 16
,, Cones	...	,,	18 — 19
,, Gluten Meal	...	,,	15 — 16
Rye Flour (Libau)	...	,,	25 — 26
,, (Konigsberg)	...	,,	23 — 24
Rye Bran	...	,,	21 — 22
Pea Meal	...	,,	23 — 24

London Flour.

August 12.

Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)		31/0 net
Town Whites	...	,,	28/9 ,,
,, Households	...	,,	25/9 ,,
No. 2	...	,,	23/9 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1	...	,,	23/0 ,,
,, No. 2	...	,,	21/0 ,,

Country Flour.

		s.	s.
Fine Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	25	26
Roller Whites	,,	23	24
All English	,,	23	24
Stone made	,,	22	23

Foreign Flour.

		s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents	(per s'ck of 280 lb.)	27	28
,, Second Patents	,,	25	26
,, First Bakers'	,,	23	24
,, Second Bakers'	,,	22	23
Milwaukee Patents	,,	26	27
,, Bakers'	,,	24	25
Canadian Best	,,	26	27
,, Ordinary	,,	25	26
Manitoba Patents	,,	26	27
,, Ordinary	,,	25	26
Kansas Patents	,,	25	26
,, Ordinary	,,	23	24
Californian	,,	26	28
Hungarian	,,	36	38
Belgian	,,	31	33
French, Corbeil	,,	26	27
,, Renaux	,,	25	26
,, P.S.D.	,,	24	25
Australian	,,	26	27

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED RATHER WEAKER FOR FOREIGN WHEAT AND FLOUR, FIRM BUT DULL FOR OATS AND BARLEY, FIRM AND FAIRLY ACTIVE FOR MAIZE.

THE BALTIC.

MONDAY, 1 P.M.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat cargoes opened rather dull in London, with Liverpool reported as in buyers' favour. Maize was steady for near sales and firm for remoter ones. Oats and beans were inclined to recede for cargoes for autumn shipment, but barley was firmer from the close of last week.

BUSINESS DONE.

Wheat.—No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 34s per 480 lb, September shipment; No. 2 Northern Manitoba, 33s 3d per 480 lb, September shipment; Red Karachi, 34s 6d per 492 lb, September shipment; best Russian Winter, 36s 6d per 492 lb, September shipment; Hard Tagonrog, 33s 6d per 492 lb, September shipment; No, 1 Californian, 36s per 500 lb, September shipment; Argentine, 34s 3d per 480 lb, on passage; Roumanian, 34s 6d per 492 lb, September shipment.

Barley.—Azoff, 20s 6d per 400 lb, September shipment; Californian, 30s per 448 lb, October shipment

Oats.—Petersburg, 15s 6d per 304 lb, October shipment; Argentine, 15s 3d per 304 lb, February shipment.

Maize.—Odessa, 23s 6d per 480 lb, September shipment; Argentine, 23s 6d per 480 lb, on passage; American, 23s per 480 lb, September shipment; Novokossisk, 24s 3d per 480 lb, September shipment.

Linseed.—Petersburg, 41s per 416 lb, arrived; Calcutta, 41s per 410 lb arrived.

Linseed.—Egyptian, £9 11s 3d per 2,240 lb, October shipment; Bombay, £5 15s per 2,240 lb, prompt shipments.

TERM MARKET.

Latest prices for future are as follow:—

Winter Wheat.

Red, American, 7s. 1d., per cental, Sept. delivery.
,, ,, 7s. 4d. ,, Dec. ,,
Mixed American Maize, 5s. per cental, Sept. delivery.

In addition to these prices made, 7s. 3d. is offered for March delivery of wheat, and 4s. 11d. for November, December, and January delivery of maize, but holders hesitate to accept these bids. The market is firm for both staples, but it is not active. Indian peas of the new crop are offered at 33s. 6d. for September delivery, at which price there are buyers. The weight is 504 lb.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour is unchanged this week. Grain.—Round and flat corn are held for 1½ per boll advance. Manitoba oats steadier at last week's prices. Pease in good demand at high prices. Beans unchanged. Oatmeal steady, but the demand is rather quieter. Mill Stuffs.—Bran and thirds continue in good demand and are again dearer. Winter wheat patents, 28s to 29s per 280 lb; spring wheat patents, 27s 6d to 29s per 280 lb; American corn, 14s per 280 lb; round corn, 13s 10½d to 14s per 280 lb; grinding Tears, 18s 9d per 280 lb; white pease, 19s 6d to 19s 9d per 280 lb; broad bran, 105s per ton; medium bran, 97s 6d to 100s per ton; fine thirds, 125s per ton; common thirds, 105s per ton; American oilcake, 145s per ton.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Flour. — Home made qualities are rather quieter; prices somewhat influenced in favour of buyers by lower quotations from America.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Offals —No change to report in bran; demand fairly good.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Milling Offal. — Everything exceedingly firm and scarce, the demand being far in excess of the supply.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

Flour.—Business in flour to-day has ruled very quiet, but prices remain unchanged on the week. —T. S. MEDILL AND SONS, LTD.

We have liberal arrivals of wheat. Trade is quiet, and prices are rather in favour of buyers. Flour unchanged. No change in value of maize and barley. Oats firm; fine qualities 1½d to 3d dearer.—COVENTRY AND SHEPPARD.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—There is no change to note in the market, but there are a few inquiries from consumers. The trade is depressed by the heavy imports, which again show an increase, the total imports from September 1 to July 31 being 220,546 cwt, against 187,661 cwt. for the previous corresponding period, whilst the exports are not much more than half what they were during the same period, viz., 11,522 cwt. against 20,327 cwt., the present fiscal policy of the country is killing the English hop industry.—W. H. AND H. LE MAY.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply; trade quiet. Hay, £4 per ton; straw, no quotations.

Darby, Friday.—Best old clover, 90s to 100s per ton; new, 80s to 90s; best old hay, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; seconds, 65s to 70s; wheat straw, 60s to 70s; pressed ditto, 50s to 60s; chop straw, 55s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s

Lancaster, Saturday.—Meadow hay. 6d; clover, 6½d; wheat straw, 4d; oat straw, 4d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—No definite prices are settled for new hay. Old hay was dearer at £4 to £4 10s per ton on the ground; seeds, £3 15s to £4; straw, £1 15s per ton at the stack.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, old, 5½d to 6d; clover, old, 6½d; new, 4½d to 6½d; straw, oat, 3½d to 3¾d per stone.

Nottingham, Wednesday.—Small supplies on offer, and trade quiet at following rates:—Inferior to good hay, 75s to 85s; prime ditto, 90s to 100s; inferior to good clover, 75s to 85s; prime ditto, 95s to 100s; wheat straw, 45s to 55s; new hay, 70s to 80s per ton.

Whitechapel, Thursday.—Fair supplies met a good demand at recent rates. Best clover, 84s to 97s 6d; inferior ditto, 75s to 80s; specially picked hay, 90s; good ditto, 80s to 87s 6d; inferior ditto, 65s to 70s; mixture and sainfoin, 82s 6d to 90s; straw, 28s to 34s per load.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Good supplies experienced a very quiet sale. Early Rose, 60s; Early Puritans, 60s to 70s; Epicures, 55s to 60s; Sharp's Express, 60s to 65s; British Queens, 55s to 65s; Blacklands: British Queens, 50s to 55s; and Epicures, 50s per ton.

Goole, Wednesday.—The attendance was small; business slow. Few locally grown potatoes were shown.

Lancaster, Saturday.—A large supply, which sold at 10s 6d to 11s per load; retail, 1d to 2d per lb.

Manchester, Saturday.—Potatoes: Cheshire, new, 5s to 6s 6d per load; Bedfords, 4s to 5s 6d per cwt.

Preston, Saturday.—New potatoes, 8s 6d to 10s per load of 240 lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Market well supplied. Home grown varieties very satisfactory, selling at 6d to 8d per stone.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—A very heavy quantity was delivered, and trade moved off slowly. Early Rose, 50s to 55s; Puritans, 55s to 65s; British Queens, 65s to 75s; Duke of Yorks, 60s to 65s; Sharp's Express, 65s to 70s; Epicures, 55s to 60s. Blacklands: Up-to-Dates, 60s; British Queens, 55s to 60s; Sharp's Express, 55s to 60s; Epicures, 50s to 55s per ton.

York, Saturday.—There was a fair supply of exceptionally good quality, which made up to 3s per hamper.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Altrincham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Appleby: 11d to 1s. Barnstaple: 1s 2d. Berwick: 11d to 1s 1d. Birmingham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Camelford: 11d. Carlisle: 1s. Chester: 1s 1d. Dartmouth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Derby: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Devizes: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Doncaster: 1s to 1s 1d. Dorchester: 10d to 1s 2d. Evesham: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Hereford: 1s to 1s 2d. Kidderminster: 1s. Lancaster: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Lincoln: 11d to 1s. Market Drayton: 1s to 1s 1d. Otley: 1s 7d per 24 oz roll. Penrith: 9½d to 1s. Retford: 1s to 1s 1d. Ripon: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 2d. Shrewsbury: 1s to 1s 1d. Spalding: 1s. Stamford: 11d to 1s 1d. Stockport: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Stockton: 11d to 1s 2d. Totnes: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Wellington (Salop): 1s to 1s 1d Worcester: 10d to 1s 2d. York: 1s to 1s 2d.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Altrincham: 9 and 10. Appleby: 10 and 11. Barnstaple: 11 and 12. Berwick: 1s to 1s 3d per doz. Birmingham: 10 and 11. Camelford: 14. Carlisle: 10 and 11. Chester: 11 and 12. Dartmouth: 1s 1d per doz. Devizes: 14 and 16. Doncaster: 12. Dorchester: 1s to 1s 3d per doz. Evesham: 1s 0½d to 1s 1d per doz. Hereford: 12 to 14. Kidderminster: 10. Lancaster: 9 to 11. Lincoln: 13 and 14. Market Drayton: 12. Otley: 10 and 11. Penrith: 10 and 11. Retford: 1s 8d per score. Ripon: 11 and 12. Scarborough: 10. Shrewsbury: 11 and 12. Spalding: 12 and 13. Stamford: 12 and 13. Stockport: 9 and 10. Stockton: 10. Totnes: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per doz. Wellington (Salop): 10 and 12. Worcester: 10 to 12. York: 10 and 12.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, August 12, 1907. British.	Total.	Monday, Aug. 13, 1906.
Beasts	750	750	1,000
Sheep and Lambs	5,060	5,060	6,450
Calves	10	10	20
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	30	30	30

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 10	3 10	4 8
Sheep	3 10	5 4	6 2
Lambs	5 2	5 10	7 0
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 43; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 632; Devon, 20; Ireland, 55.

We note to-day a increase of 260 head in the number of beasts offered for sale, compared with Monday last. For both prime and second quality fat beasts trade opened and continued throughout the day of an extremely slow nature, late currencies being difficult to maintain. The Irish supplies consisted of 24 Dublins and 31 Waterfords, these shared in the slow trade, but were quoted at late values. Fat butchering cows and bulls were difficult to vend, notwithstanding sellers being willing to accept a decline of 2d. per 8lb. on late currencies. A clearance will not be made.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s d	s d	Monday, Aug. 13, 1906. s d	s d
Scotch	—	—	—	—
Devons	—	—	—	—
Herefords	4 6 to 4 8		4 4 ex 4 6	
Norfolks	—	—	—	—
Runts	4 4 to 4 6		4 0 to 4 2	
Lincolns	4 0 to 4 2		3 8 to 3 10	
Irish	4 2 to 4 4		3 8 to 3 10	
Canadian	—	—	—	—
Fat cows	3 4 to 3 6		3 4 to 3 6	

There was an increase of 370 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. For both wethers and ewes a slightly firmer and steadier trade was experienced, sellers both asking and obtaining an advance of 2d. per 8 lb. in value for English descriptions. Scotch and Irish, on the other hand, met with a firm and steady inquiry; no higher rates, however, can be quoted for these, this remark also applies to the lamb trade. The supply included 90 Scotch, 693 Irish, and 600 from the Eastern Counties. There is very little prospect of a clearance being effected however.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, Aug. 13, 1906. s. d.	s. d.
8 st. Scotch	6 0 to 6	2	5 6 to 5	8
7½ to 8 st Downs	6 0 to 6	2	5 8 to 5	10
9 st. Downs	5 10 to 6	0	5 6 to 5	8
10 st Halfbreds	5 6 to 5	8	5 4 to 5	6
10 st Yorkshires	—		—	
12st Lincolns, half-bred	—		—	
10 st Irish	5 4 to 5	6	5 0 to 5	2
10 st Down Ewes	4 0 to 4	2	4 0 to 4	2
11 st Halfbred ditto	3 10 to 4	0	—	
5 st Down Lambs	6 10 to 7	0	7 0 to 7	2
6 st Halfbreds ditto	6 6 to 6	8	5 10 to 6	0

Calf trade not worth noting or quoting.

No pigs on the market.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts 1,278. To-day's supply consisted of 998 beasts from the United States and 280 from Canada. Trade ruled of a firm and steady nature, both in regard to tone and value. The best of the former on offer were quoted at from 4s 2d to 4s 4d; seconds, 4s to 4s 2d, and the latter 4s to 4s 2d; seconds, 3s 10d to 4s per 8 lb (offal given in). On Saturday 1,730 beasts from the United States and 400 from Canada were offered for sale. Trade ruled of a firm and steady nature at a slight advance in value. Best States were quoted at from 4s 2d to 4s 4d; seconds, 4s to 4s 2d. Canadians, 4s to 4s 2d; seconds, 3s 10d to to 4s per 8 lb (offal given in).

SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—The new trifolium is now appearing in the market, but dealers have started prices too high for current quality and for competition with foreign seed. New rape and rye are also opening at higher prices, with little business so far. Mustard unchanged, demand slow. Peas quiet.—John Pickard and Co.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, August 12.—There are few changes in oilseeds since 1st inst., but cottonseed is a little easier to buy.

	s. s.
Linseed.	per 416 lb.
English	None.
Bombay	None.
Calcutta	42 to 43
Russian	42 to 43
Argentine re-cleaned	46 to 47
Argentine cleand	45 to 46
,, F.A.Q.	43 to 44
Argentine comn.	41 to 42
Dutch best	50 to 51
,, medium	45 to 48
Duluth	42 to 43
Canadian	43 to 44
Rapeseed.	per 416 lb.
English best	None.
,, F.A.Q.	None.
,, common	None.
French F.A.Q.	68 to 70
Yellow Guzerat	58 to 60
Yellow Cawnpore	54 to 55
Brown ,,	53 to 54
Ferozepore	53 to 54
Rubsen.	per 424 lb
German	70 to 74
Poppyseed.	per 377 lb.
Indian	56 to 57
Cottonseed.	per ton.
Egyptian	165 to 167
Indian	145 to 147
Sunflowerseed.	per cwt.
English, White	15 to 16
Russian, White.	14 to 15
,, Black.	13 to
Sesame.	per cwt.
Indian	16 to 17
Hempseed.	per 336 lb.
Russian	33 to 35

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cake.—Though the general demand keeps quiet, any trade passing was principally in favour of London made, on account of their being offered relatively cheap compared with foreign. Home crushers are therefore now inclined to advance their prices.

Cotton Cake.—Business is slow for spot cakes, and the high price required for forward positions checks any trade.

Linseed.—Shipments have eased off all round, and values have consequently a tendency to harden.

English Linseed Cake, ex mill	7 7	6 to 7 10 0
Calcutta Linseed cake, ex quay	7 7	6 to 7 10 0
American Western Linseed Cake ex quay	—	—
American Western Linseed Cake ex quay	—	to arrive
Russian Oil Cake ex quay	7 2	6 to 7 5 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake ex quay	7 0	0 to 7 10 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal ex quay	6 17 6	—
London-made ,, Cake (best) ex mill	4 17 6	—
Egyptian ,, Cake (in bags)	4 15 0	4 17 6
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included) on rail, Burton	4 12 6	—
Duluth Linseed (in bulk per 416 lb ex warehouse	2 5 6	—
Calcutta Linseed (in bags), per 410 lb ex warehouse	2 3 6	—
La Plata Linseed per 416 lb. ex warehouse	2 4 0	2 10 0
Russian Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb (clean) ex warehouse	2 5 0	—

—Robt. & John Hewetson

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The braml ings are beginning to show hop, but the yield must be below average.

Worcester, Saturday.—There has been little trade this week owing to the holidays, but the market has opened with a fair enquiry. Growers do not report so favourably as a fortnight ago, and unless hot suitable weather comes at once, the probable crop will be less than expected.—Charles Faram and Co.

WET AND DRIED GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wet Grains: Prices remain about the same, and with haymaking over there is an increased demand, and business has been done at 12s ale, and 9s 6d porter per ton on rail, London. Dried Grains.—The demand continues improvingly strong, with every probability of an advance. Prices:—Distillers, 107s 6d; ale, 97s 6d: and mixed, 92s 6d per ton on rail, London. Ale grains for the winter months have been done at 105s. Calcutta rice meal 80s; rice germ, 100s; American cane treacle in good demand, 87s 6d per ton, on rail, London. Kiln-dried sea-damaged Australian wheat from 20s per qr.—Hamlyn and Co., 37 and 38, Mark Lane, London, E.C.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

Owing to the principal market day of the week falling on a Bank Holiday, there was a scarcity of buyers present, and this, combined with the fact that butchers' requirements are much smaller owing to so many families being out of town, brought about an extremely slow trade, sellers being obliged to accept a decline in value to effect sales. The majority of the supplies consisted of grass-fed beasts from the Midland Counties. The Irish arrivals comprised eighteen Dublins and fourteen Waterfords; these shared in the poor trade, but maintained late rates. Fat butchering cows and bulls were very little sought after by country buyers, these also showed a downward tendency, but were not quotably lower. On Thursday trade was confined to fat bulls and rough cattle at Monday's values.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, markets were held on Wednesday and Saturday, and were fairly well supplied with both States and Canadian beasts. Trade ruled of a firm and steady nature at late values. The total number of beasts on offer at both markets was 3631, as against 5067 during the preceding week, consisting of 530 British (decrease 190) and 3,101 foreign (decrease 1,246), comprising 2,555 from the United States and 546 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) :—90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 95 stone Irish, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 90 stone States, 4s. 1d. to 4s. 3d.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 11d. to 4s. 1d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 6d., ex. 3s. 8d.

In the sheep market at Islington there was also an extremely slow trade, rates ruling in favour of the buyer for all grades of both wethers and ewes. Scotch descriptions were in smaller supply and Irish in larger, both, however, shared in the generally lower rates which prevailed. On Thursday trade ruled of a slightly firmer nature. Monday's rates, however, governed all transactions. The same remark applies to the lamb trade. The total number penned was 6,140, as against 6,860 during the previous week. No sheep were offered for sale at Deptford. Best pens made per 8 lb. 7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 8 stone Scotch, 6s. to 6s. 2d.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d; 10 stone Halfbreds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 5 stone fat Grass lambs, 6s. 10d. to 7s.; 6 stone Half-bred ditto, 6s. 6d. to 6s. 8d.

Calves numbered 60 and met with a dull and dragging trade, the best on offer being quoted at from 4s. 10d. to 5s. per 8lb. (sinking the offal).

Only 5 pigs were offered for sale, consequently trade was not worth noting.

Trade in the West.

In the absence of any great demand for any particular class of stock, except milch beasts and store sheep, the moderate supplies just now on the market fully sufice to meet all requirements; and it is satisfactory to find that, with a somewhat restricted sale, prices are keeping up to such a satisfactory level, particularly for good class stock, which still continues to favour the seller, any little decline taking place only affecting the most ordinary grades, and about which would be purchasers are absolutely indifferent. Milch beasts have fully recovered the slight reaction which temporarily affected this class of stock a week or two since, and prices are once again touching their old level, especially heifers and calves, which are now realising from £17 to £21, and seconds £14 to £16 15s.; whilst deep-milking cows with calves by their side realise from £16 to £18 for the most serviceable, and older animals £12 to £15 10s. In-calf heifers now make £8 to £14, the latter for those of a particularly early date. Store bullocks all round still continue to attract very close attention, and there is every promise of their doing so whilst pasture keep continues as plentiful as is now the case. Best barreners, in high condition, sell from £24 to £28 per pair, and plainer animals £18 to £23. For two year-old steers dealers are now giving from £10 to £13; yearlings, £4 15s. to £11 10s.; and yearling heifers, £5 to £8 15s.

The sheep trade has lost but little, if any, of its former buoyancy, even if harvest prospects are not exactly everything that could be wished, and flockmasters continue to be very firm in their demands, this being fully reflected in the uniformly good prices which all classes of sheep, almost without exception, continue to bring, off-going ewes making an exceptionally keen demand, in spite of its being somewhat early in the season for purchases of this particular class of stock, which is generally associated more with September and the early part of October than the early days of a summer month. Still at Dorchester on Tuesday ewes of all classes were quite 2s. dearer than of late. A general range for offgoing ewes just now may be given is from 36s. up to 50s. each; other ewes, 40s. to 58s.; wether hogs, 38s. to 45s.; lambs, 28s. to 42s.

Now that the holidays are over there has been a little slackening in purveyors' demands, but not to sufficient extent to in any way adversely affect prices, which are generally well maintained for all classes of meat, the more medium weights either in bullocks, sheep, calves, or pigs continuing to find the greatest favour. Choice quality steers and heifers realise in round numbers from £16 up to £21 or £22 (this figure being now but seldom exceeded), at which price values work out at from 11s. 6d. to 12s for all ripest grades of beef, and from 10s. to 11s. for more ordinary runs (mainly for cows or coarse-weight heifers). Fat sheep rule equally firm for most qualities, but more especially for the better-class wethers, which are relatively dearer than ewes weight for weight, except for very young, well-finished ewes, which are also in some demand. The general range of currencies for wethers and tegs is from 8½d. to 9d. according to age and finish, and choice young ewes 8d. to 8½d.; heavier sheep sell from 7d. to 7½d., with a steady demand for particular districts; but the better class sheep sell readily almost everywhere. The best wethers range from 48s. to 60s. each; ewes, 40s. to 54s.; and lambs, best 42s. to 50s., seconds 30s. to 40s. Veal sells very well, but medium weights of good finish now find most favour at 8½d. to 9d., secondary qualities ranging from 7½d. to 8d. Pigs keep firm, and values generally are well maintained, small neat-handling porkers at 10s. to 10s. 9d. per score; baconers, 9s. to 9s. to 9s. 6d., or 9s. 9d.; and heavy weights, 8s. to 8s. 6d.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer has been nearly an average, but the general quality deficient. Anything of a good class met a fair inquiry at almost last week's prices, but secondary descriptions would suffer a fall of from 10s. to 15s. per head. Fat cows a small show, and they made rather more money. Sheep and lambs in full average supply, and although there was no quotable change in prices, quotations were with difficulty got. Fat calves dearer, while pigs also met a good inquiry. There was a good show of store cattle for the time of year, and those in condition got early and well sold out but inferior descriptions were entirely neglected. For store sheep and lambs there was a good demand at prices quite equal to expectations. Milch cows a large show, and they met a very slow trade. Quotations :—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 40s. 8d.; current, 36s. to 38s. 6d; mutton, 7d. to 9½d. per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Ltd.

Trade in Ireland

Dublin market on Thursday last was well supplied with cattle, there being 700 more than the previous week, which placed the aggregate very high for this time of the year. The total number of cattle offered for sale was 3,968. There was a rather lower price going for cattle, in consequence of the larger number on offer, the weaker tendency was particularly noticeable in secondary and half-finished cattle, and it was found impossible to effect a thorough clearance, though the attendance of buyers from all parts was large. Live weight prices ruled from 31s. to 35s. per cwt., chiefly for Aberdeen-Angus and Hereford crosses. Second quality beasts made 28s. to 30s. per cwt. Dead-weight prices were :—Best ox and heifer beef, 54s. to 57s. 6d., and some extra finished beasts up to 61s. 3d. per cwt.; good second-class beef, 50s. to 53s. 6d.; and coarse beef, 44s. to 48s. per cwt.

In the sheep department there was a shrinkage of 600 head, which made an improvement in the prices and in the sale. Trade with the London markets is still poor, but sheep for the Liverpool and Manchester markets sold freely at rather improved prices. Home buyers were forced to give better prices for mutton, owing to the scarcity. Coarse sheep continued to drag heavily. The inquiry for choice lambs was better, and higher prices were paid. Choice lambs paid from 36s. to 42s. apiece, and secondary lambs from 25s. to 34s. each. Wether mutton was from 7d. to 7½d. per lb.; ewe mutton 6½d. to 7d. and inferior mutton at from 6d. per lb. Best fed veal made from 8d to 9d per lb., and inferior veal sold from 6d. per lb. Prime veal calves were in good request. Hoggets of large size made from 54s. to 60s. each, while small to medium paid from 36s. to 48s. Rough and horny sheep were difficult to dispose of. Large and medium-sized lambs were in good request for export. Rough sheep were not selling so well as at last market. Butchers say that prices leave them a very small margin for profit. Milch cows are offered in large supply, but trade ruled quiet, prices being easy and irregular. Tip-top springers and choice newly-calved cows were worth from £17 to £20; other sorts much the same as previous market. There was a good demand for store cattle in nice condition and of good breeding. The auction sales were well attended, and good prices were paid. At country fairs these were in good demand at advanced prices.

Dublin Pig Market was small last Thursday, but buyers were in full strength, and trade ruled active, though buyers seemed a bit shy in the early morning. Choice light-weight pigs sold from 51s. to 54s. per cwt.; inferior pigs from 35s. to 42s. per cwt. Good store pigs sold well.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Fair supplies, and trade very slow. English beef, 3s 8d to 3s 9d; Scotch sides, 4s to 4s 2d; shorts, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; extreme, 4s 8d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 9d to 3s 11d; ditto seconds, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; ditto forequarters, 2s 2d to 2s 4d; inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; ditto tegs, 5s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 5s; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Dutch sheep, 4s 8d to 4s 10d; English lamb, 5s to 5s 8d; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d; English pork, 3s 6d to 4s; Dutch pork, 3s 6d to 3s 10d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—To-day's supply of beasts consisted entirely of fat butchering cows and bulls, which met with a slow trade at last Monday's values. Top prices paid per 8 lb as follows :—Fat cows, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; fat bulls, 2s 9d to 3s 3d. Trade for both sheep and lambs ruled firmer, with an upward tendency in values, though not quotably so. Best pens made per 8 lb as follows :—7½ to 8 stone Down sheep, 5s 10d to 6s; 9 stone ditto, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10 stone ditto, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10 stone halfbreds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10 stone Down ewes, 3s 10d to 4s; 5 stone fat grass lambs, 6s 10d to 7s; 6 stone halfbred ditto, 6s 6d to 6s 8d. Calf trade ruled very slow, at previous rates. Pig trade not worth noting. Quotations per 8lb, sinking the offal :—Beasts, 2s 9d to 3s 8d; sheep, 3s 10d to 5s; calves, 3s 6d to 5s; lambs, 5s 8d to 7s.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef sold rather slowly at about last week's rates, best arrivals making 4s 8d to 5s per stone. Mutton revived at the opening, but afterwards fell off; Down wethers made 5s 8d to 6s 2d, and Kents 5s 4d to 5s 8d. Pork rather neglected, but without reduction; best porkers fetching 3s 10d to 4s. Store sheep trade good, many lambs having been sold at 30s each.

Bath, Wednesday.—Fat steers, £19 15s to £23 10s; fat heifers, £17 15s to £21; cows and calves, £14 10s to £17; fat wethers, 50s to 57s; fat lambs, 35s 6d to 44s 6d; fat ewes, 44s 6d to 53s; fat calves, 90s to 109s; weaning calves, 36s to 63s.

Berwick, Saturday.—Calves, £5 10 to £6 10s; heifers, £7 to £9; stirks, £7 10s to £9 10s; two-year-olds, £10 10s to £12 10s; three-year-olds, 13 to £14 10s; Shorthorn bulls, £11.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Fair supply of pigs; small supply of beasts and sheep. Trade slow. Quotations:—Beef, 5½d to 6½d per lb; Herefords, 6¾d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8¼d per lb; lamb, 9d per lb; bacon pigs, 10s 3d per score; cutting pigs, 10s to 10s 3d per score; sows, 8s per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—At the market beef was plentiful, but demand was not brisk, and business quiet at last week's prices for best sorts, secondary qualities being quoted 1s higher. A large number of dairy cows, and mostly sold at 15 guineas to 20 guineas each. Mutton and lamb were in moderate supply, and ewes declining ½d per lb. Pigs were not numerous, and values were unchanged.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices of pigs:—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 1s. per pig extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. 10 lb to 8 sc. 10 lbs, 10s per score, 8 sc. 11 lb to 9 sc 10 lb,, 9s 6d per score; 9 sc. 11 lb to 10 sc. 10 lb. 9s. Pigs outside these limits at their value.—C. AND T. HARRIS AND CO, LTD.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Hibernod stock are drug on the market, but a good business continues to be done in lambs. Ewe lambs were making to-day from 18s to 31s 6d, and wethers from 21s to 32s 6d. One good run of wether lambs averaged 28s. Half-bred lambs were quoted from 24s 6d to 30s 6d; useful old ewes, 33s to 41s; and fat wether tegs, 45s 6d to 48s.

Carlisle, Saturday.—A fair demand for cattle was experienced. Wintering heifers, £7 to £7 10s; ditto stall-fed, £16 10s to £17 each.

Chester, Thursday.—Good supplies of cattle and sheep. The demand at first was brisk, and numerous lots were sold at satisfactory prices. Later business became very slow, and an unexpectedly large number of cattle, principally dairy stock, remained unsold. Milch cows made £17 to £22; calvers, £15 to £19; barrens, £10 to £13; heifers, £8 to £15; stirks, £5 to £9; bullocks, £12 to £14; sheep, 18s. to 33s. each.

Colchester, Saturday.—The market was dull, but fat and store lambs sold well. Beef 4s 8d to 4s 10d per stone of 8 lb, mutton at recent prices. Fat hogs made 9s per stone.

Doncaster, Saturday. Average supply of cattle and a fair supply of sheep, but only a moderate attendance of buyers trade ruling slow. Late prices were firm. Milch beasts, £17 to £23; bullocks, £12 to £18; heifers and drapes, £13 to £14; young stores, £7 to £10 each; gimmer sheep, 54s to 60s; drape ewes, 40s to 50s; and lambs, 34s to 40s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Messrs. Ensor and Son had only a limited offer of stock at their to-day's repository sale, but buyers were well represented, and a quick trade resulted throughout at generally enhanced sales, milch beasts in particular being very dear, the best selling up to £21, ranging down to £16 10s, whilst cows sold from £13 to £15 10. Barreners made £24 to £27 per pair, and stirks £6 10s to £8 10s. In fat beef heifers sold readily from £16 10s to £19 each (or 11s to 11s 9d per score); fat bulls £13 10s to £21 (or 9s 6d to 10s). Store bulls made from £6 10s to £9 10s. Mutton continues to come very sparingly to hand at the week-end market, and prices as a consequence rule very firm, and generally speaking against buyers.

Dublin, Thursday.—Better trade for all classes of cattle with prices about the same as last week, and an early clearance effected. Fair trade for sheep at last week's prices. Lambs, except the choicest qualities, not so easily placed at prices favouring buyers. Cattle—Live weight (best), 31s to 33s per cwt; Angus crosses up to 35s per cwt; secondary and inferior sorts, 28s to 30s 6d per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 6½d to 8d per lb.—GANLY, SONS AND CO.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Trade in cattle very stiff; polled bullocks brought to 16 guineas; black polled bullocks to £16; Shorthorned cows to £24. Sheep were a good show, season Cheviot dinmonts sold 33s to 38s; Oxford cross lambs, 30s to 35s.

Exeter Friday.—Immense supply of fat cattle, but only the choicest realised late prices; good many fat cows unsold. Large quantity of sheep, chiefly breeding ewes. Small shorn wethers and lambs 9d; lambs, in wool, 10d to 10½d.; ewes, 6½d; breeding ewes, 42s to 53s; all sold; numerous buyers; calves 7d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Larger supplies of cattle; for prime handy weights a good selling trade was experienced; secondary and heavy were easier; top, 64s to 67s per cwt; secondary, 58s to 60s. Sheep and lambs in large numbers, prices a shade easier; prime hogs and wethers in good request; secondary cheaper; lambs not a good inquiry; best mutton, 9¾d to 10d; secondary, 9d to 9½d; lambs, 9d to 10½d.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Moderate supply of beef; trade fairly firm; best quality bullock and heifer 6½d to 6¾d, and in some instances 7d; cow beef, 5d to 6d. Calves were a fair supply, veal being firm at 7d. Sheep were a short supply with brisk trade; best wether mutton, 8½d; ewe, 6d to 7d. Fat lambs fair trade at 10d per lb. Pig trade quiet, supply small; porkers, 5½d; store pigs cheap. Store cattle small supply and trade dull.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good average supplies of home-bred stock, buyers well represented, and trade was active for choice lots at high rates. Choice milch cows, £20 to £21; good lots, £17 to £18 10s; secondary, £14 to £16; Shorthorn bullocks, £14 to £16; Irish bullocks choice, £19 to £20; good lots, £15 to £17 10s; Welsh cattle, £10 to £15 10s; young stock, £5 to £8; calves, 20s to 40s each.

Lincoln, Friday.—A small consignment of horned stock, and business ruled dull. Young beasts, £9 to £13; milch cows, £17 to £21. The sheep trade was brisk. Drape ewes 40s; young ditto, 50s; and lambs, 36s to 41s each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—An average show of fat beasts met a firm trade, and made from 7s 6d to 8s per stone. Stores in larger supply experienced a slow trade, and realised from £6 to £16 each. Fat sheep in average numbers met a firm trade, realising from 9s 6d to 10s per stone, stores from 45s to 50s each. Fat lambs 36s to 40s; stores, 25s to 35s.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: Firsts, 5¾d; seconds, 4¾d to 5¼d; thirds, 3½d to 4½d. Mutton: Firsts, 7¾d; seconds, 6¾d to 7¼d; thirds, 5¾d to 6½d. Veal.: Firsts, 6½d; seconds, 5½d to 6d; third, 4½d to 5d. Lamb: Firsts, 8d; seconds, 7½d to 7¾d.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Cattle were a rather smaller supply, and trade was of a holiday nature, and slow all round, but prices remained unchanged. Quotations:—Prime heifers, 8s 3d to 8s 6d; second class, 7s 9d to 8s; prime steers, 8s to 8s 3d; second-class, 7s 6d to 7s 9d; coarse and inferior, 6s 6d to 7s per stone, sinking the offal. Sheep and lamb: Trade was slow, but the only change in prices was an advance of ¼d for ewes and rams. Quotations:—Choice young sheep, 9d to 9¼d; strong heavy, 8¾d to 9d; choice lambs, 9¾d to 10d; second-class, 9½d to 9¾d; ewes, 6d to 7¼d; rams, 5d to 6½d per lb. Trade in veal was steady at 6d to 7½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—Average supply of cattle. Very short supply of sheep and lambs. Fair number of calves. Good attendance of buyers. Exceptionally brisk trade in sheep and lambs owing to scarcity. Best beef, 6¾d to 7d per lb; seconds, 6½d to 6¾d; cows, 5d to 5½d; best wether mutton, 8½d to 8¾d; ewes, 7d to 7½d; lamb, 9d to 9½d; calves, 7d to 9d; porker pigs, 10s 3d to 11s per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—Trade for fat cattle unchanged, the best making from 7s to 8s 3d per 14 lb stone. Fat sheep met a good trade, last week's prices being fully maintained. Rather a small show of fat pigs, but the quality was good, and trade slightly better, both porkers and bacon pigs realising from 6s 3d to 6s 9d per stone, and sows 5s 3d. Store cattle were good, and the best met a good trade, smaller ones being slower to sell; three year-olds sold at from £15 10s to £20; two-year olds of secondary class, £12 10s; and smaller sorts from £5 10s to £10 10s per head. Good show of store calves which met a slow trade at from 18s to 45s per head. Store sheep were of good quality, shearling ewes making from 60s to 74s, two-year olds from 52s to 59s, and and others from 45s to 51. Lambs were of good quality, and sold dear at 31s to 44s per head. Small show of store pigs, but trade was better at from 13s to 25s per head.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Shorter supply of stock, but trade was slightly brisker. In-calf cows made £17 to £19 10s; and heifers, £13 10s to £15 10s. Calves, of which there was a smaller show, made about 45s. A few sheep sold as usual.

Preston, Wednesday.—Local-fed cattle were scarce and dear. Trade was slow at the following quotations:—Local-fed heifers, 7d; Irish heifers, 6¾d to 7d; young cows and bulls, 6¼d; secondary quality, 5d to 5¾d; lambs, prime quality, 9¼d; ditto coarse and inferior, 9d; hoggs, 8¾d; choice young ewes, 7d; rough ewes and tups, 6¼d; calves, 7¼d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Very small show and slow trade. Heifers made £11 to £14; cows, £14 to £17; drapes, £8 to £11; and calves, 30s to 35s each.

Romford, Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts; trade about the same. Best animals, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in average supply; trade slow at 5s to 5s 2d per stone. Sheep in average supply; trade better. Best small sheep, 5s 8d to 6s; large, 5s 4d to 5s 6d per stone. Ewes in average supply; trade slow at 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Lambs in short supply; trade a little better at 6s 8d to 7s per stone. A few store beasts on offer; slow demand. Good supply of milch cows; trade slow. Pigs in short supply; slow trade. Small porkers, 3s 8d to 4s; large hogs, 2s 8d to 3s per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Moderate supplies. Trade weak. Small attendance. Best milch beasts, £17 to £18 10s; young stock, £12 to £15.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday. Owing to the holidays and harvesting operations there was a small market. Quotations:—Beef, 6½d to 7d per lb; mutton (wether), 9d to 9½d per lb; ewes, 7½d to 8d per lb; lamb, 9½d to 10d per lb; veal, 7½d to 8d per lb; porket pigs, 9s 6d to 10s 6d per score.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Trade was slow for the best cattle, which made from 8s to 8s 6d per stone. Rougher kinds made 6s 6d to 7s per stone. Sheep met a slow trading, lambs selling at 10d per lb, young sheep, 9d and 9½d, ewes 7d to 7½d, and tups 6½d per lb. Porker pigs sold at about 7s per stone, and cows up to 6s per stone.

Thame, Tuesday.—For a holiday market there was a capital entry of stock and a fair attendance of buyers. Beef was in good demand and realised more money than the previous week, choice maiden heifers selling well. There was a limited supply of sheep, which made more money, but possibly on account of the smaller supply. Messrs. Bond and Burrows have a capital entry of stock for next Tuesday, some choice Vale fed cattle being already entered. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 77 fat beasts, 124 fat sheep, 50 fat and weaning calves, and 28 fat and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £16 to £22 5s; fat heifers, £14 to £20 2s 6d; fat ewes, 40s to 54s; fat wethers, 50s to 58s 6d; fat lambs, 32s to 46s; fat calves, £3 10s to £4 2s; weaning cow calves, 30s to 60s; bull calves, 15s to 48s; porkers, 36s to 42s; store pigs, 14s to 21s.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Fair supply with slow trade. Beef, 5½d to 7d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 9d per lb; lamb, 9d to 9½d per lb; veal, 6½d to 7½d per lb.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Liverpool, Friday.—Fertilisers all round are quiet on the spot, yet values are firm, and for forward deliveries some enquiries are experienced for phosphatic manures, The consumption demand for feeding stuffs is practically nil, yet values on the whole are fully maintained.

	£	s	d	£	s	d
	Per ton.					
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (good but irregular).	7	0	0	7	5	0
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime (soft) ...	7	15	0	7	17	6
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime	4	15	0	5	0	0
Cottonseed Cake, Bombay	4	5	0	4	7	6
Linseed Cake, American, thin oblong, prime but hard	7	5	0	7	7	6
,, ,, English, prime...	7	15	0	8	0	0
,, ,, River Plate	7	10	0	7	12	6
Palm Nut Cake	6	0	0	—		
Maize Germ Meal	6	5	0	—		
	Per ton.					
Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported	5	2	6	5	5	0
	Per qr., 416 lb.					
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2	12	0	—		
	Per Gallon.					
Cod-liver Oil, cattle feeding ...	0	4	0	—		
	Per Cwt.					
Treacle, feeding, American ...	0	4	9	—		
	Per ton.					
Nitrate of Soda.....	11	0	0	—		
Kainit, prime.....	2	7	6	—		
Bone Meal, prime.....	5	10	0	—		
Bone Ash, fine and powdery ...	3	15	0	—		
Basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed	—					
,, ,, ,, finest ,, ,,	—					
D.N.S. Superphosphate of Brand Lime*..... ...	2	5	0	2	7	0
,, ,, guaranteed*	2	10	0	2	12	0
,, ,, ,, *	3	1	3	3	3	3

* At depot inland.

—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes: The of the market is distinctly better, and already home manufacturers are disinclined to operate at the old figures, while both Russian and American shippers demand almost prohibitive prices in forward positions. Russians now in warehouse continue to find buyers at last week's quotations. East India seed pures move off readily. Fine seedy Calcuttas have changed hands at late rates. London made attract more attention. Cotton Cakes.—The trade has not yet recovered from the recent heavy arrivals, and there are still sellers at a shade under last week's prices, while English, on the other hand, are the turn dearer. Decorticated: London-made pure meet a free sale, as also does the special digestive meal, while American brands of cake and meal are neglected. Rape cakes are quiet but firm. Maize Germ Meal.—A small lot of White American is held above the market, but English makes are obtainable on fairly reasonable terms. Maize gluten meal is in good request. Rice Meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon go quietly into consumption at full prices; but some business

is reported at £4 13s 9d ex ship terms for afloat parcels. Locust beans are without change. Dried brewers' grains offer sparingly, and have an upward tendency. Nitrate of soda is unaltered.

	Per ton. £ s. d.		£ s. d.
Linseed Cakes.			
Russian, in mats (ex dock) ...	7 2 6	to	7 3 9
,, in bags	7 5 0	to	7 7 6
East India	7 5 0	to	7 7 6
Calcutta	7 7 6	to	7 10 0
English (ex mill)	7 6 3	to	7 8 9
Cottonseed Cakes.			
Egyptian	4 13 9	to	4 16 3
English (ex mill)	4 15 0	to	4 17 6
Bombay	4 0 0		
Decorticated, London made	7 2 6	to	7 5 0
,, American.....	6 15 0		
,, Meal, American	6 15 0	to	7 0 0
Digestive Meal	5 0 0		
Rape Cakes.			
East India seed.....	4 17 6		
Maize.			
English	5 16 3	to	5 18 9
Maize Gluten Meal	5 17 6	to	6 0 0
Ricemeal.			
Rangoon .....ex whf.	4 16 3	to	4 17 6
,, ...ex ship	4 13 9	to	4 15 0
Locust Beans.			
Whole	5 5 0		
Kibbled	5 10 0		
Dried Brewers' Grains.			
Ale	4 15 0		
Mixed	4 10 0		
Manures.			
Nitrate of soda	11 0 0		

—Pinnock Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £14 to £15; half-bred hoggs, £13 to £13 10s; ditto wethers; £12 10s to £13; Kent fleeces, £12 5s to £12 10s; South Down ewes and wethers, £13 10s to £14; Leicester ewes and wethers, £12 to £12 10s. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., scoured super., 2s 2d to 2s 3d; scoured, good, 1s 11½d to 2s 1d; scoured, average, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 9½d to 1s 10½d; greasy, average, 1s to 1s 1d; S. Aus., greasy, average, 10d to 11d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; greasy, average, 11d to 11½d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9½d to 1s 10½d; fleece, average, 9½d to 10½d; greasy, average, 8½d to 9½d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5½d to 1s 6½d; greasy average, 8½d to 9d. Crossbreds—grs.—Vic., good to super., 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d; New Zealand fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s to 1s 1d; coarse, 10d to 11d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Business is on a small scale. Kent fleeces, 10½d to 11d; lamb's wool, 7d; locks, 5d; half-bred fleeces are making 11d.; and Downs from 12d to 13d per lb.

Halifax, Saturday.—Business is rather quiet, in view of many local holidays. There is a fair inquiry for home-grown wools. Irish descriptions are now quite firm, and Down wools are improving, but, as a rule, there is no change in price on the week for other kinds.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Plentiful supplies of fruit and greenstuffs at market, the demand generally being brisk. Quotations for English produce:—Grapes, 6d to 2s; peaches, 1s 6d to 8s perdozen; green figs, 2s to 4s; nectarines, 1s 6d to 8s per dozen; melons, 9d to 2s each; pears, 3s to 5s per bushel; raspberries, 3s 6d to 4s per dozen punnets; apples, 2s 6d to 6s 6d per bushel; cherries, 2s 6d to 6s 6d; gooseberries, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; plums, 2s to 3s 6d per half sieve; tomatoes, 3s to 3s 6d per 12 lb; vegetable marrows, 1s 6d to 3s; endive, 1s 6d per dozen; cucumbers, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per flat; green peas, 3s to 4s 6d per bag; ditto, 1s 6d to 3s per bushel; beetroots, 1s 3d to 1s 6d; carrots, 2s to 2s 6d; turnips, 2s to 2s 6d; parsley, 1s 3d to 1s 6d; mint, 1s to 1s 3d per dozen bunches; cos lettuce, 6d per score; mushrooms, 7s 6d to 12s per 12 lb; broad beans, 1s per bushel; onions, 1s to 1s 6d per dozen bunches; horse radish, 10s 6d to 15s per dozen bundles; cabbage, 3s to 4s per tally; cauliflowers, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen; green artichokes, 2s per dozen; potatoes, 85s to 95s per ton.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Trade moderate for good supplies. Prices: Goslings, 4s to 5s; country ducks, 2s to 2s 9d; Aylesbury ducks, 2s 3d to 3s; Irish fowls, 1s 8d to 2s 3d; Essex fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Surrey fowls, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; Sussex fowls, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; quails, 6d to 2s 3d; feathered pigeons, 10d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s 2d; tame rabbits, 1s 3d to 1s 6d; wild rabbits, 6d to 8d; hares, 1s 6d to 1s 9d each; Australian rabbits, 6s 6d per doz.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Arrivals of home cheese moderate, with a quiet trade passing. Sellers are inclined to meet buyers. Cheddars, 56s to 60s per cwt. Dunlops, 54s to 58s. The latter are in chief request, especially for parcels which will come in at a retail 8d per lb. Cut Canadians stiffer.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—A fair attendance of buyers, and all cleared. Best Caerphilly dairies realised up to 48s per cwt.; secondary dairies, 44s to 46s 6d; and other dairies, 38s to 42s. A few inferior lots failed to reach 35s. Cheddars, 53s 6d to 56s; Truckles, 53s to 55s doubles, 50s to 53s.

Newport, Wednesday.—About ten tons were pitched. There was a fair demand, and an average attendance. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 35s to 45s per cwt; fancy dairies, 46s to 48s; Derbies, 50s to 60s; truckles, 58s to 62s; doubles, 56s to 58s.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending August 6, 1907:—

| | | |

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

Wheat harvest is now in progress, but the very unsettled weather causes frequent interruptions. There will be great irregularities in the yield. The French wheat crop is now for the most part secured, and the yield is a good deal better than many expected. It is probably up to a full average in quantity, though its unusually soft state for the most part causes a deficiency in supplies fit for milling. The German crops are disappointing, and much injured by the incessant rains. In the case of rye this is especially dangerous.

A feature of the past fortnight has been the fall in India of record rains, ninety three inches in the Bombay Presidency, and much above the mean in those of Madras and Bengal. Heavy floods have naturally resulted, but in the main the result should be favourable to Indian agriculture, and the sowings of wheat in September and October are likely to exceed an average, especially in the North-West.

Wheat growing in Eastern Bengal has been almost completely abandoned of recent years, other crops paying better, and the saving on freights causing the ports like Karachi, which look towards Europe, to have the pull over those like Calcutta which are turned to the Orient. The area under wheat in Eastern Bengal, which has Calcutta for its capital and chief port, has fallen to 156,000 acres, out of 8,342,000 acres diverted to agricultural crops. The yield for 1907 is put at 220,000 qr.

The American advices continue to show considerable intrinsic strength. The daily telegrams of fluctuations have little to do with the actual state of affairs. The average price of wheat at New York as cabled on Saturday thus compares with the like date in recent years:—

August 17, 1907	30s. 9d.	per qr.
,, 18, 1906	26s. 0d.	,,
,, 19, 1905	29s. 0d.	,,

The rise of 4s. 9d. on the year makes it difficult to ship new crop wheat at a profit, though very low freights probably render it just practicable.

Board of Agriculture averages for the month of July include the following returns of interest to the corn trade:—

Wheat at Mark Lane	33s. 3d.	per qr.
Barley ,,	26s. 3d.	,,
Oats ,,	21s. 4d.	,,
Wheat at Norwich	31s. 7d.	,,
Barley ,,	25s. 1d.	,,
Oats ,,	20s. 7d.	,,
Wheat at Peterborough	32s. 4d.	,,
Barley ,,	24s. 1d.	,,
Oats ,,	20s. 6d.	,,
Wheat at Paris	46s 6d.	,,
Barley at Paris	27s. 9d.	per qr.
Oats ,,	22s. 6d.	,,
Wheat at Breslau	44s. 4d.	,,
Barley ,,	2-s 4d.	,,
Oats ,,	25s. 8d.	,,

The Board of Agriculture is to be thanked for the Breslau returns, which are in many ways more representative of Germany than those of Berlin.

Wheat gradients last week were very moderate, as there are no cheap markets, and at the same time, no very dear ones. At Canterbury the price rose to 37s. before supplies of old corn dried up altogether.

Chichester	36s. 1d.	per qr.
Salisbury	32s. 11d.	,,
Range	3s. 2d.	per qr.

Barley has also had a moderate range:—

Mark Lane	28s. 3d.	per qr.
Chelmsford	24s. 2d.	,,
Range	4s. 1d.	per qr.

Oats have fetched good prices at nearly all the English markets, and quite fancy quotations have been realised in Scotland.

Doncaster	21s. 9d.	
Peterborough	20s 5d.	
Range	1s. 4d	per qr.

Sales of British wheat at the statute markets since harvest have been as follows:—

This season ... 2,662,000 qr. at 27s. 7d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 2,906,000 qr. at 28s. 10d. ,,

Sales of British barley have been larger than last season:—

This season ... 3,369,600 qr., at 24s. 5d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 3,202,500 qr., at 21s. 3d. ,,

Sales of British oats have been exceedingly heavy for forty-seven weeks out of the forty-nine, but for the last fortnight have fallen short even of the usual low figure for August.

This season 1,177,000 qr. at 18s. 4d. per qr.
Last ,, 914,000 ,, 18s. 6d. ,,

Imports last week into the United Kingdom were:—

Wheat, 421,500 qr.: a fairly good supply.
Flour, 79,300 sacks: very small arrivals.
Barley, 15,000 qr.: extremely small supplies.
Oats, 136,000 qr.: good imports.
Maize, 270,000 qr.: liberal arrivals.

Since September 1 arrivals from abroad have been:—

Wheat, 20,591,500 qr.: fairly good supply.
Flour, 5,143,300 sacks: less than usual.
Barley, 5,145,000 qr.: a mediocre supply.
Oats, 4,723,000 qr.: less than usual.
Maize, 11,003,000 qr.: a good supply, but not as it would seem in excess of the current inquiry.

In August, 1906, the receipts of foreign breadstuffs were in the following proportion:—

American	32	per cent.
Indian	26	,,
Russian	6	,,
Australasian	10	,,
Argentine	17	,,
Various	9	,,
Total	100	,,

It will be interesting to see how the proportions vary this year. Probably we shall have more Russian and Australian, less Indian and Argentime. The American item is a yet indeterminate, as vessels get across the Atlantic in less than a month.

The quantity of wheat on passage shows a slight decline on the week:—

Californian	234,000 qr.
American	335,000 ,,
Russian	75,000 ,,
Indian	741,000 ,,
Argentine	230,000 ,,
Australasian	505,000 ,,
Various	50,000 ,,
Total	2,170,000 qr.
A week ago	2,255,000 qr.

The quantity of flour has fallen on the week from 168,000 to 156,000 sacks, and of maize from 1,030,000 qr. to 940,000 qr., but the quantity of oats has increased from 80,000 qr. to 90,000 q., of barley from 155,000 qr. to 180,000 qr., and of linseed from 248,000 qr. to 253,000 qr.

Shipments last week were moderate from the United States of America, including 223,000 qr. of wheat, 73,000 sacks of flour, 112,000 qr. of maize, 14,000 qr. of oats, and 10,000 qr. of barley.

Shipments from Argentina were rather small, including 100,000 qr. of wheat, 130,000 qr. of maize, 19,500 qr. of linseed, and 2,950 qr. of oats

Shipments from Russia showed a large export of new barley. Total quantities were:—Wheat, 170,000 qr.; barley, 310,000 qr.; oats, 114,000 qr.; and maize, 91,000 qr.

Shipments from Roumania were:—65,000 qr. of wheat, 27,000 qr. of barley, 2,000 qr. of oats, and 190,000 qr. of maize.

Other shipments of the week have been 10,000 qr. of maize from Salonica, 86,000 qr. of wheat and 39,000 qr. of linseed from India, 15,000 qr. of wheat from Australia, and 5,000 qr. of wheat from New Zealand.

THE BALTIC.

The market for wheat cargoes is dull but steady, with prices about as follows:—

	On passage.	Sept. shipment.	Nov. shipment.
Red-winter, per 480 lbs.	—	34s. 6d.	35s. 6d.
Argentine, per 480 lb.	33s 9d.	33s. 6d.	33s. 6d.
White Karachi, per 492 lb.	35s. 0d.	34s. 6d.	34s. 6d.
Red Karachi, per 492 lb.	34s. 6d.	34s. 3d.	34s. 0d.
Best Russian winter, per 492 lb.	36s. 0d.	35s. 6d.	35s. 0d.
Odessa Ghurka, per 492 lb.	33s. 0d.	33s. 0d.	32s. 3d.
Best Californian, per 500 lb.	35s. 3d.	35s. 0d.	35s. 0d.
Best Australian, per 480 lb.	34s. 9d.	36s. 0d.	36s. 6d.

There are offers to ship fine Manitoba at 35s. 9d. per 480 lb, but the buyers at this price are not forthcoming, though at 35s. 6d. it is said that a little trade might pass.

Maize cargoes are quiet at 24s. for round, 22s. 9d. for yellow, and 23s. 9d. for flat, all per 480 lb. A cargo of Californian barley has made 30s. 6d. per 448 lb, and one of South Russia oats 15s. 9d. per 304 lb, both for prompt shipment.

With Germany bidding 31s. 6d. for Russian rye of the new crop, it is not likely that there will be consignments to the United Kingdom, where 30s. is not exceeded.

Several small cargoes of Indian peas have been placed for September shipment at 33s. to 34s. per qr. These are white peas weighing 504 lb.

Owing to the dearness of Egyptian cottonseed cargoes are being offered for September shipment Brazil at £6 10s. per ton. Brazil is also offering to ship cottonseed at 14s. per cwt. A cargo of Turkish canary seed was placed on Saturday at 38s. per qr.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Demand inactive; supplies good. Young grouse, 5s to 6s 6d; old grouse, 2s 6d to 3s per brace; Irish fowls, 1s 4d to 2s; Lincolnshire fowls, 1s 6d to 2s 9d; Essex fowls, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; Sussex fowls, 2s 6d to 3s; Surrey fowls, 3s 6d to 4s; country ducks, 2s to 2s 6d; Aylesbury ducks, 2s 3d to 2s 6d; goslings, 4s 6d to 5s; quails, 1s 6d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s; feathered pigeons, 9d; live hens, 1s 3d to 1s 9d; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 6d; wild rabbits, 6d to 8d each; Australian rabbits, 6s 6d per doz.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Plentiful supplies of fruit and green-stuffs, for which there was a steady demand. Quotations for English produce:—Grapes, 6d to 2s; nectarines, 2s to 10s; green figs, 1s 6d to 3s 6d per dozen; melons, 9d to 2s; peaches, 2s to 10s per dozen; apples, 2s to 7s per bushel; cherries, 3s to 7s; gooseberries, 1s 6d to 2s 6d per half sieve; tomatoes, 3s 6d to 4s; pears, 2s to 4s 6d per bushel; greengages, 2s to 6s 6d per half-sieve; ditto, 9d to 1s 6d per box; plums, 1s to 2s 6d per half sieve; filberts, 4s 6d to 5s per 12 lb; mushrooms, 8s 12s per 12 lb; cucumbers, 4s 6d to 6s per flat; onions, 4s 6d per dozen bunches; broad beans, 1s to 1s 6d; scarlet runners, 1s 9d to 2s 3d per bushel; cabbage, 3s to 4s; vegetable marrows, 3s to 4s per tally; turnips, 1s 6d to 2s 3d; carrots, 1s 6d to 2s; mint, 1s to 1s 3d; parsley, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per dozen bunches; endive, 1s 6d per dozen; cos lettuce, 6d per score; green peas, 3s to 4s 6d per bag; ditto, 2s to 4s per bushel; horse radish, 10s 6d to 15s per dozen rolls; green artichokes, 2s to 2s 6d per dozen; potatoes, 50s to 75s per ton.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £14 to £15; half-bred hoggs, £13 to £13 10s; ditto wethers, £12 10s to £13; Kent fleeces, £12 5s to £12 10s; South Down ewes and wethers, £13 10s to £14; Leicester ewes and wethers, £12 to £12 10s. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., scoured super., 2s 2d to 2s 3d; scoured, good, 1s 11½d to 2s 1d; scoured, average, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 9½d to 1s 10½d; greasy, average, 1s to 1s 1d; S. Aus., greasy, average, 10d to 11d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; greasy, average, 11d to 11½d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9½d to 1s 10½d; fleece, average, 9½d to 10½d; greasy, average, 8½d to 9½d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5½d to 1s 6½d; greasy average, 8½d to 9d. Crossbreds—grs.—Vic., good to super., 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d; New Zealand fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s to 1s 1d; coarse, 10d to 11d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Kent fleeces are still quoted at 11d, with lamb wool at 7d, and locks 5d; half-bred fleeces 11d, and Downs 13d to 13½d per lb.

Halifax, Saturday.—As the holiday season is drawing to a close, there is a renewal of activity, and a very confident feeling as to the future of business. The market for home-grown wools has been very favourably affected by the demand for America, chiefly for long wools; hence for some descriptions, including North hoggs, values are quoted ¼d up on the week.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English steady, quiet; whites quoted at 35s, 37s, reds at 34s 6d, 36s 6d. Foreign slow, unchanged. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, quoted at 36s 3d, landed at 36s 9d, 37s; No. 2 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, at 35s 6d; choice white Karachi, at 35s; red Karachi, at 34s 6d; Australian, landed, at 36s 6d, 37s; South Russian, 34s, 37s; La Plata, 36s, 37s. Flour dull, unaltered, Iron Dukes, ex ship, quoted at 22s; landed, at 22s 6d. Maize steady, quiet; mixed American, ex ship, to arrive, quoted at 24s 3d; landed, 24s 6d; Odessa, landed, at 23 6d; River Plate, landed, at 23s 6d. Barley steady, inactive; Azoff-Black Sea, ex ship, to arrive, quoted at 22s, 22s 9d as to position; Persian, ex ship, 22s 3d; landed, 22s 9d; Karachi, landed, at 23s 6d. Oats slow, unchanged; La Plata quoted at 17s 6d, 17s 9d; South Russian and Danubian, at 17s, 17s 6d.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat: English and foreign steady, but demand slow. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, held at 33s 3d; No. 2 at 35s 6d; No. 1 hard Manitoba at 37s; choice white Karachi at 35s; red Karachi at 34s 6d; South Russian, landed at 34s to 37s; La Plata at 35s 6d to 37s 6d; Australians at 36s 6d to 37s. Flour quiet, unchanged. Iron Dukes quoted at 22s to 22s 6d; Hungarians at 35s 6d to 36s; Minnesota patents at 27s to 28s. Maize steady, quiet. River Plate, landed, quoted at 23s 3d to 23s 6d; Odessa, at 23s 4½d; Galatz-Foxanian at 23s 6d. Barley quiet, unchanged; Azoff-Black Sea, ex ship, to arrive, held at 22s to 22s 6d, as per date of arrival; Persian, ex ship, to arrive, at 22s 3d; landed, at 22s 9d. Oats slow, unchanged. La Plata held at 17s 6d; South Russian (38 lb) at 17s to 17s 6d as per sample.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade very restricted, but tone firm. A few samples of winter barley and new peas were shown, but not sold. Wheats made 34s to 37s; English barley, 28s to 29s; foreign grinding barley, 26s to 27s; mazagan beans, 30s to 31s; tick beans, 33s to 34s; maize, 25s to 26s; white oats, 22s to 25s; black oats, 21s to 24s; grey peas, 32s to 33s.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, white, 33s 6d to 34s per qr; wheat, red, 33s 6d to 34s per qr; barley, old, 28s to 30s per qr; beans, old, 31s 6d to 32s per qr; oats, old, 17s 6d to 25s per qr; peas, old, 28s to 34s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—The market was thinly attended, with only a few samples of oats on offer, which sold at late rates.

Birmingham, Thursday.—The market was poorly attended, and trade drags slowly along, buyers being scarce. Quotations:—Foreign wheats, No. 1 Manitobas, 36s 3d per 496 lb, Bristol; River Plate, 34s 9d to 35s 6d; Russians, 33s to 34s per qr at Sharpness; Bessarabian maize, 23s 9d per 480 lb, Sharpness; Galatz-Foxanian, 23s per qr at Bristol; grinding barley was 6d lower at 25s per 400 lb, Sharpness. There was a scarcity of English wheats, top value for same being 13s 6d per 186 lb delivered. Oats a better trade at from 22s 6d to 23s per 312 lb; beans, 13s 3d per 196 lb, delivered.

Brighton, Thursday.—Quiet trade and small attendance. Prices as last week. Barley, 28s to 33s; grinding barley, 24s to 25s; oats, English, 20s to 23s; peas, 30s to 31s; beans, 33s to 34s.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat, with a very small supply, was quiet and without change at 34s to 35s per qr. Barley for grinding is very firm at 29s to 30s per qr. Oats firm and unchanged at 22s to 24s per qr. Beans slow at 31s to 31s 6d per qr. Maize unchanged. Galatz Foxanian, 25s; American flat, 26s per qr delivered. Other feeding corns, cakes, and offals firm at last week's prices.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There were but few samples of new corn on offer to-day, the wet weather having interfered with threshing. Some good grey peas changed hands at 30s 6d, and black winter oats, scaling 43 lb to the bushel, were selling at 20s 6d. Old corn is quite as dear, wheat making up to 38s and 39s, and barley from 27s to 29s. A good inquiry for old oats and peas continues, from 31s to 33s per qr.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Very small supply of oats in our market to-day. Good attendance of buyers, and quick sales at last week's prices—24s 6d to 24s 9d per 336 lb.—Thomas Robinson.

Chester, Saturday.—A good demand for all classes of feeding stuffs. English wheat exhausted. English oats firm, and occasionally dearer. Foreign barley continues firm, and bran and thirds a turn dearer. Quotations: Grinding barley, 3s 9d to 4s per 64 lb; beans, new, 5s 6d to 5s 9d; old, 6s to 6s 6d per 80 lb; oats, new, 2s 11d to 3s 2d; old, 3s 2d to 3s 6d per 46 lb; Indian corn, new, 13s to 13s 3d; old, 13s 6d to 13s 9d per 240 lb; round corn, old, 12s 9d to 14s per 240 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Small quantity of new oats on offer, which readily sold. Trade in general slow. Old white wheat, 36s to 36s 6d; old red wheat, 36s to 36s 6d; barley, 28s to 32s; grinding barley, 21s 9d to 22s 6d; oats, English, 18s to 24s; rye, 26s to 27s; maize, 23s 6d to 24s 6d.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat nominal price 36s. New oats small supply.—Colin Taylor, King and Co., Ltd.

Coventry, Friday.—Fair supply of wheat, which met a good demand at last week's figures. Practically no spring corn in farmer's hands. Nominally prices firm, without change. Quotations: Wheat, 12s 3d to 12s 9d per 186 lb; barley, 30s to 34s per 448 lb; peas, 12s to 14s; beans, 13s to 13s 9d per 196 lb; oats, 24s to 26s per 352 lb.

Derby, Friday.—Wheat in limited supply, and a firm trade at recent rates. Oats and beans showed an upward tendency. White wheat, 37s to 38s; grinding barley, 23s to 25s; beans, 35s to 37s; oats, 24s to 26s.

Devizes, Thursday.—No change reported in the value of corn, but last year's crop practically exhausted. Although no new samples have appeared here, there have been heavy sales at other West of England markets. New winter oats have been realising from 18s to 20s per qr, according to weight, and winter barley has made from 24s to 26 per qr. Best wheat, 17s to 18s; secondary, 16s to 16s 6d; malting barley, 24s to 30s; feeding, 22s to 24s; old oats, 20s to 24s; new beans, 15s 6d to 16s 6d; fine flour, 27s to 30s; extra fine, 32s to 36s.

Doncaster, Saturday. — Small attendance, and a poor supply of grain. English wheat, 13s 6d per load. Only a dull trade in foreign wheat. Other things unchanged.

Dublin, Friday.—Foreign wheat in fair demand at late rates. Maize 3d down. Irish wheat quiet. Oats firmly held, but a slow and limited demand. White, 13s 6d to 14s; black, 12s 3d to 13s 6d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance at the market to-day. Wheat the turn easier. Flour quiet, with prices nominally unaltered. Maize unchanged. Corn firm at 1½d per boll up on the week. Oats quiet, and in buyers' favour. Beans and pease steady. Barley unaltered. Bran and thirds 2s 6d per ton dearer. Oatmeal firmly held.—Gibson and Clark.

Glasgow, Friday.—Corn market quiet, with a slow sale passing, and prices nominally unchanged from Wednesday.

Gloucester, Saturday.—No English wheat offering; prices nominal. Foreign wheat firm, unchanged. Plates, 35s 9d to 36s; Russians, 32s 9d to 34s 9d. Plate maize, 23s 9d, Sharpness; flat, 24s; Avonmouth-Bessarabian, 24s, Sharpness. Barley, 25s 3d, Sharpness. Oats, 20s 6d to 21s (white), 22s 6dto 23 (black).

Grantham, Saturday.—Small supplies, and very little business doing. Wheat firm at 36s per qr; beans unchanged at 3s for best samples. No new oats on offer.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Hardly any samples on offer. English wheats maintained last week's prices. Oats were in rather better demand Maize slightly easier. Barley, nothing doing. Wholesale quotations:—Wheat, 4s to 4s 3d per 62 lb; barley, 3s 6d to 4s per 56 lb; oats, 2s 9d to 3s per 40 lb; beans, 4s to 4s 3d per 65½ lb; maize, 3s to 3s 3d per 60 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday. —Very little wheat on offer; trade quiet at last week's rates. Prices:—Reds, 34s to 35s; whites, to 35s 6d per 504 lb. Grinding barley firm. Oats rather dearer. Maize 6d per qr dearer. Beans and peas firm.

Leeds, Wednesday.—Though not of a forcing character, the weather has not been unfavourable during the past fortnight. Quietness still rules in the trade; it cannot be doubted, however, that the world's wheat crop is more or less deficient, and the recent decline in America and reflected to a less extent here is mainly due to financial troubles. Holders and shippers generally remain firm, prices being only slightly lower than two weeks ago. Maize rather easier. Beans and oats unchanged.

Leeds, Friday.—English wheat, owing to short supplies and unfavourable harvest prospects, was firmly held at an advance upon Tuesday's prices. There was no change in foreign wheat, except Indians, which were 3d cheaper. Flour was in good demand, mostly upon medium qualities, at prices ranging from 25s to 28s. Plate and Odessa maize was easier, closing at 23s. Foreign malting barley was dearer, at 28s to 32s. Beans, peas, and oats unchanged.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair average attendance of buyers and dealers, with small supplies of home-grown wheats, which met a slow trade at steady rates Red wheats, 35s to 36s; white wheats, 36s to 37s per 36 stones. Grinding barley steady at 30s to 32s per 32 stones; beans firm; fine oats a better trade owing to the damage to the growing crops, good samples making 24s to 25s per 24 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—A quiet market, characterised by an almost entire absence of English wheat, for which there was a fair demand at unaltered rates. Foreign in buyers' favour. Oats steady at late prices. Beans rather dearer.

Maidstone, Thursday.—We have experienced a variety of weather, but up to the present no intense summer heat to quickly ripen the corn, so that a later harvest than usual the result, and as the stock of old wheat is nearly exhausted, the display of samples at the market scanty. The reason, therefore, for the continued firm tone is obvious, and the full prices of last week were obtainable to-day, and an occasional advance of 6d per qr. Barley is remarkably firm, as the English is in low compass, and the foreign arrivals unusually moderate. Best English oats are dear, and but little display of them. The cost of foreign is a trifle less than recently, and much of it to hand in unsweet state produces considerable altercation between buyer and seller. Maize seems to hold its own well, especially good sound corn, though the faulty parcels are sold at a reduction to get rid of them. The few winter oats and rye of the new crop do not settle down to consolidated value at present.

Manchester, Thursday.—English and Indian wheat ruled firm, while Plate and Manitobas were about ½d lower on the week. Flour shows little change. Indian corn steady; Odessa dearer; fair quantities offering to arrive. English barley scarce; foreign firm. English oats unchanged; foreign, 1d to 1½d higher. Beans 3d per qr dearer. Peas steady. Bran, &c., about 6d per load higher.

Newark, Wednesday. — Fair attendance, hardly anything showing. Prices firm, but trade slow. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 36s to 37s; barley, malting, 29s to 30s; grinding, 26s 6d to 28s; oats, white, 23s to 24s; black, 22s 6d to 23s; beans, 34s to 35s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday. — A slow demand for wheat was experienced to-day at our market at last week's prices. A fair consumptive demand for maize at fully late rates. Oats of all kinds are dearer; buyers are forced to pay the advance. Beans and peas dearer by 6d per qr on the week. No barley offering. — Joseph Pollard and Co.

Northampton, Saturday.—Small attendance and very little on offer. No new corn in the market yet. Wheat, 34s to 35s; barley, 30s to 32s; white oats, 24s to 25s; black oats, 23s to 24s; beans, 31s to 32s; peas, 30s to 32s; flour, 26s to 30s.

Norwich, Saturday.—The wheat supply of the old crop is getting very small, and prices remained firm at last week's figures, 35s to 35s 6d delivered. No new wheat is expected for a fortnight. The feeding stuff trade was quiet, with steady prices. Maize was 25s to 25s 6d per qr, and grinding barley was scarce at 26s to 26s 6d per 400 lb. There was a short supply of English oats at 22s 6d.

Nottingham, Saturday.—The little English wheat on offer made full prices. Foreign but little doing. Grinding barley still held firmly. Oats and beans in small supply; prices in sellers' favour.—Robt. Hubble.

Peterborough, Saturday.—The weather still continues unsettled, and harvest operations scarcely commenced. Very little corn at market, and prices remain nominally as of late.—Thomas Hill and Son.

Plymouth, Thursday.—Fair attendance. Wheat quite unchanged. Barley, maize steady, late rates. Oats firm.—Orlando Davis.

Preston, Saturday.—The market during the week has been pervaded by a dull feeling, and only a moderate business has passed, buyers having a slight advantage. There was only a moderate attendance to-day, and prices were on a par with those of a week ago. Little wheat or other grain was offering by farmers, who are yet busy in the hay fields. Wheat, white, new 13s 9d to 15s per windle of 220 lb; ditto red, new 13s 6d to 14s; oats, old, 3s 3d to 3s 4d per bushel; beans, 16s 6d to 17s per windle of 220 lb.

Reading, Saturday.—The attendance was fair, but the business done was not large. There was a bettet inquiry for wheat, which ranged from 33s to 37s per qr, and several parcels of oats were disposed of at prices ranging from 19s to 22s 6d. Very little inquiry for barley, beans, and peas. Flour quiet at current rates.

Retford, Saturday.—Wheat was extremely scarce at this market, and again dearer, being worth 35s to 36s per qr. All kinds of grain for feeding purposes were also increased in value, and samples were few. Indian corn, 27s; grinding barley, 26s to 27s; English beans, 33s to 34s; black oats, 20s to 22s; white ditto, 22s to 24s per qr.

Ripon, Thursday.—Small attendance of farmers,

and very few samples showing. Maize, round, 6d per qr down. Prices:—Wheat, 34s to 35s 6d; foreign wheat, 36s to 40s 6d; grinding barley, 26s to 27s; oats, 24s to 25s; round maize, 25s to 26s; flat maize, 26s to 27s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—There was only a small attendance, and trade was quiet at late prices. Maize remains firm, whilst there is an advance of 6d in wheat. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 34s 6d to 35s 6d; ditto red, new, 34s 6d to 35s 6d per 504 lb; oats, black, 22s 6d to 23s; ditto white, 23s 6d to 24s per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 33s 6d to 34s; ditto blue, 75s to 90s per 504 lb; beans, English, 35s 6d to 36s 6d per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 26s to 26s 6d; ditto malting, 28s to 32s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 25s 9d to 26s; ditto Plate, 25s 6d to 25s 9d; ditto flat, 26s to 27s per 480 lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—New wheat, 14s to 15s per 225 lb; new oats, 14s to 15s per 225 lb; peas, 15s 6d to 16s per 225 lb; beans, 14s 6d to 15s per 240 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—Business was very quiet at to-day's market, and few transactions were recorded. Wheat, 34s 6d to 35s; oats, 22s to 22s 6d. No samples of barley are expected next week.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was no English wheat showing yesterday. Foreign wheat trade was slow at last week's prices. Oats very steady. Maize 3d lower. The first new sample was shown on the market, and some black oats grown at Billingham.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Nothing doing at this day's market, and there is no change to report in the value of wheat and spring corn.—E. and F. Richardson.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday. — Quotations: White wheat, 32s to 33s; red ditto, 31s to 32s; barley, 26s to 32s; grinding ditto, 23s to 25s; oats, English, 22s to 24s; rye, 24s to 25s; peas, 32s to 37s; beans, 32s to 37s; tares, 42s to 48s; maize, 22s 6d to 24s.

Warwick, Saturday.—Few samples of corn offering, but business of a more spirited character. Prices practically unchanged.

Winchester, Saturday. — English wheat scarce and dearer. Foreign unaltered. Maize 6d, and barley occasionally 6d cheaper. Oats unchanged. Flour a fair demand, late rates.—Fear, Colebrook and Co., Ltd.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Thin attendance at market. Very little wheat offering. Reds, 34s to 35s per 504 lb; oats, 22s to 26s per 336 lb. Stormy weather retards harvest production.—James Fletcher.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a poor attendance, and practically no business was transacted. Prices were unchanged.

Worksop, Wednesday. — Small attendance. White wheat, 33s to 34s; red wheat, 32s to 33s 6d; barley, 27s to 29s; white oats, 22s 6d to 24s 6d; black oats, 22s to 23s 6d; maize, 26s 6d to 28s; beans, 34s to 36s per qr.

Yeovil, Friday.—Millers were inquiring for home-grown wheat for grading purposes, but very little of this or any other last season's grain remains in growers' hands. Some few samples of the new crop of winter oats realised from 18s to 20s per qr, according to weight. English wheat maintained the full rates of last week, but foreign favoured buyers. Grinding barley, foreign, was likewise against sellers, being down 6d. Feeding barley, home grown, 22s to 24s; old oats, 20s to 24s; fresh white, 21s to 21s 6d; black, 19s to 19s 6d. Round maize made 23s to 23s 6d; flat ditto, 24s to 24s 3d; new beans, 15s 6d to 16s 6d. Flour favoured buyers to the extent of 6d per sack; fines quoted at 26s.

York, Saturday.—Very little wheat on offer, which remained firm. Fine white, 36s to 37s; red and mixed 35s to 36s per qr. of 36 stones; feeding barley, 28s per qr of 32 stones; hardly any offering. Oats firm; white Tartary, 21s to 22s; black, 22s to 23s; white Garton, 23s to 24s per qr of 24 stones. Beans, 32s per qr of 36 stones.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—We have had less rain this week, and a good quantity of rye was carried, most of it in rather soft condition. Cutting of wheat will commence shortly. There are some complaints about potato rot. There is some demand for hard winter wheat, No. 2 selling for August-September shipment at 32s 3d to 32s 6d; red winter No. 2 is held at 31s 9d; macaroni No. 1 at 29s 3d; 79/80 ko River Plate on the spot, 33s 6d to 34s per 480 lb ex-ship here; 60 lb new Saale wheat, August-September, 34s to 34s 6d per 504 lb f.o.b. South Russian rye near at hand is held at 31s 6d to 32s 6d; September-October at 29s per 480 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg. Barley in the Saale district turns out a full crop, stout grain and useful quality, while in the eastern parts of Germany it is not so good. An English brewery bought large quantities of fine Slovakian barley at 38s 6d to 40s, which caused a firm market. Good to fine Bohemian and Moravian to arrive per barge is offering at 35s 6d to 38s 6d per 448 lb f.o.b., but our maltsters so far show no inclination to pay more than about 32s. Grinding barley quiet; South Russian on the spot, 24s 9d; July, old style, 20s 3d; August, 19s 9d; September-October, 19s 6d to 19s 9d per 400 lb c.i.f. Maize little inquired after; Odessa and Danubian, 18s 3d to 18s 6d; mixed American, 19s 3d per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg.—John Tatlock.

CORN STATISTICS

Weekly Arrivals into London.

August 7 to 14 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	210	88,694	88,904
Barley	700	8,200	8,900
Malt	17,176	—	17,176
Oats	1,400	73,000	74,400
Beans	594	1,562	2,156
Peas	249	2,570	2,819
Maize	—	41,102	41,102
Linseed	—	40,000	40,000
Rapeseed	—	2,489	2,489
Canaryseed	—	2,000	2,000
Millet	—	6,162	6,162
Haricots	—	5,500	5,500
Flour sacks	16,000	26,000	42,000
Maizeflour ,,	—	5,000	5,000
Riceflour ,,	—	11,000	11,000

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, August 17, 1907:—

Wheat	2,247,600 cwts.
Wheat-flour	264,800 ,,
Barley	207,700 ,,
Oats	339,000 ,,
Maize	1,514,700 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1906. Cwts.	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.
Wheat	2,137,000	1,985,900	1,878,800	1,977,386
Wheat-flour	231,600	213,800	157,100	255,429
Barley	352,400	269,600	257,800	404,894
Oats	368,200	173,100	239,900	215,465
Maize	822,500	974,300	876,700	960,388

Average Monthly Cash Prices of Town Households Flour.

	1907		1906.		1905.		1904.		1903.		1902.		1901.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Jan.	22	0	25	0	26	3	24	9	24	0	21	9	24	6
Feb.	22	0	24	9	26	9	25	6	24	3	22	0	24	0
March	21	9	24	3	26	6	25	9	23	9	21	9	23	9
April	22	3	24	6	26	0	25	3	23	9	23	0	24	0
May	25	0	24	0	25	9	24	9	24	0	23	6	23	6
June	25	6	23	9	25	6	24	3	24	3	23	0	23	0
July	26	0	23	6	25	0	25	0	24	3	23	0	22	3
August			23	0	25	0	26	6	24	9	22	9	22	3
Sept.			22	9	24	6	27	0	25	0	23	3	22	0
Oct.			22	6	25	0	27	0	24	9	22	9	21	6
Nov.			22	0	25	0	26	9	24	3	22	9	21	6
Dec.			21	9	25	0	26	9	24	3	23	3	21	9
Yrly. Avrg.			23	5	25	6	25	9	24	3	22	8	22	10

Average Monthly Prices of Fine Household Flour in Paris.

(*Converted into English money for sacks of* 280 *lb.*)

	1907.		1906.		1905.		1904.		1903.		1902.		1901.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Jan.	30	9	31	0	31	0	29	6	30	9	27	9	24	9
Feb.	30	0	31	6	31	6	30	0	31	6	26	3	25	9
March	29	9	31	3	30	3	31	0	31	6	27	0	24	6
April	30	0	31	6	30	9	29	0	34	0	27	3	24	6
May	33	3	30	9	31	9	28	0	33	3	27	6	25	6
June	32	9	31	0	30	3	28	3	34	0	30	9	26	3
July	34	6	31	6	30	0	29	4	31	9	29	9	28	0
August			29	9	29	3	30	0	30	0	27	6	27	6
Sept.			30	6	31	0	31	0	30	0	29	0	27	6
Oct.			31	0	31	0	31	6	30	0	30	0	27	6
Nov.			31	6	31	0	32	0	28	0	28	9	27	9
Dec.			30	0	31	0	31	3	28	6	29	6	28	3
Yrly. Avrg.			30	11	30	9	30	1	31	1	28	5	27	3

Imperial Weekly Averages.

	Wheat.			Barley.			Oats.		
1906.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.
Aug. 18	8,583	29	0	1,253	24	2	11,887	17	0
,, 25	26,545	27	9	2,508	25	0	14,673	16	10
Sept. 1	55,716	26	9	4,758	24	3	22,580	16	6
,, 8	78,579	26	4	19,448	24	9	32,679	16	3
,, 15	89,745	25	11	41,670	24	3	34,330	16	1
,, 22	90,292	25	9	76,130	24	3	37,120	16	0
,, 29	83,907	25	9	129,209	24	8	41,942	16	2
Oct. 6	87,200	26	1	183,145	25	0	35,724	16	3
,, 13	80,630	26	3	226,940	25	3	38,088	16	7
,, 20	71,352	26	6	230,636	24	10	35,636	16	8
,, 27	69,920	26	7	233,998	24	10	28,956	16	10
Nov. 3	64,404	26	7	229,015	24	8	32,527	16	11
,, 10	63,764	26	6	205,560	24	8	27,982	17	1
,, 17	58,059	26	4	167,441	24	4	20,389	17	2
,, 24	58,467	26	3	149,427	24	1	28,669	17	3
Dec. 1	60,299	26	1	160,173	24	1	34,743	17	2
,, 8	63,264	26	1	167,532	24	1	37,119	17	4
,, 15	70,332	26	1	135,513	23	11	36,175	17	3
,, 22	68,977	26	3	127,131	24	3	31,528	17	3
,, 29	49,637	26	0	97,796	24	1	29,124	17	3
1907.									
Jan. 5	24,559	26	0	31,733	23	11	14,773	17	3
,, 12	47,667	26	1	71,498	24	2	27,939	17	4
,, 19	75,207	26	1	104,417	24	1	37,413	17	8
,, 26	80,321	26	2	109,274	24	5	45,887	17	5
Feb. 2	84,370	26	3	86,031	24	4	38,928	17	7
,, 9	77,659	26	6	74,324	24	5	30,467	17	7
,, 16	84,514	26	7	69,221	24	1	38,725	17	9
,, 23	76,580	26	10	53,681	24	2	39,559	17	9
Mar. 2	64,923	26	9	40,398	24	2	32,965	17	9
,, 9	71,183	28	8	32,620	23	11	31,065	17	11
,, 16	69,340	26	10	29,274	24	2	28,017	18	0
,, 23	69,183	26	10	20,977	24	0	22,204	18	1
,, 30	49,202	26	8	15,929	23	9	18,412	18	2
April 6	28,757	26	9	6,539	24	5	10,296	18	3
,, 13	43,426	26	8	6,830	23	9	17,523	18	6
,, 20	54,965	26	8	6,032	23	3	21,389	18	7
,, 27	62,656	26	10	4,967	27	3	25,447	18	0
May 4	63,344	27	0	4,289	23	6	22,691	19	3
,, 11	53,080	27	6	3,375	24	0	18,392	19	7
,, 18	41,991	28	4	2,955	23	10	15,817	20	1
,, 25	37,963	29	7	1,977	24	3	12,803	20	7
June 1	28,070	31	4	1,998	24	0	10,478	20	5
,, 8	34,122	32	0	1,539	24	7	11,711	20	8
,, 15	38,008	31	10	1,152	24	7	7,668	20	11
,, 22	31,351	31	4	1,088	24	11	7,187	20	9
,, 29	23,007	31	2	759	24	6	6,118	20	8
July 6	20,795	31	3	432	24	8	4,303	20	11
,, 13	19,209	32	0	665	24	10	3,380	20	11
,, 20	15,915	32	6	259	24	5	4,447	21	1
,, 27	16,867	32	11	3,324	27	3	3,533	20	8
Aug. 3	16,165	33	2	313	26	4	2,886	21	2
,, 10	18,510	33	5	322	26	6	3,459	21	3
,, 17	14,258	33	6	682	25	9	4,045	20	4

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending August 17, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1903 to 1906:—

	WHEAT.			BARLEY.			OATS.		
	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.
1903	17,541	29	9	813	20	4	9,287	18	6
1904	19,200	28	8	1,646	22	5	19,032	16	7
1905	32,715	28	5	1,758	23	4	13,656	16	4
1906	8,583	29	0	1,253	24	2	11,887	17	0
1907	14,258	33	6	682	25	9	4,045	20	4

English Wheat, Barley & Oats in 1906.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley s.	d	Oats. s.	d.
Highest of Year	30	4	25	4	20	4
Lowest of Year	26	1	23	1	16	2
Gradient	4	3	2	3	4	2
Mean of Year	28	4	24	3	18	7

Yearly Averages (Official).

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1890	31	9 per qr.	28	8 per qr.	18	7 per qr.
1891	37	1 ,,	28	2 ,,	20	0 ,,
1892	30	4 ,,	26	2 ,,	19	11 ,,
1893	26	4 ,,	25	6 ,,	18	9 ,,
1894	22	10 ,,	24	6 ,,	17	1 ,,
1895	23	1 ,,	21	11 ,,	14	6 ,,
1896	26	2 ,,	22	11 ,,	14	9 ,,
1897	30	2 ,,	23	6 ,,	16	11 ,,
1898	34	0 ,,	27	2 ,,	18	5 ,,
1899	25	8 ,,	25	7 ,,	17	0 ,,
1900	26	11 ,,	25	9 ,,	17	9 ,,
1901	26	9 ,,	25	3 ,,	18	5 ,,
1902	28	0 ,,	25	8 ,,	20	2 ,,
1903	26	9 ,,	22	11 ,,	17	2 ,,
1904	28	4 ,,	22	4 ,,	16	4 ,,
1905	29	9 ,,	24	4 ,,	17	4 ,,
1906	28	4 ,,	24	3 ,,	18	7 ,,

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 P.M.

There were a few samples of new white wheat from Kent shown, and a few of red from Essex, but prices were not quoted, there being as yet no supplies in any quantity deliverable. Condition was very soft, and the grains are very irregular, but they include some large and well formed ones.

Old English wheat was very scarce, and was held for the highest prices of the 12th inst.

Foreign wheat was firm, especially for Argentine and Russian.

Barley was unchanged. Scarcity made value stiff.

Some new winter oats were offered, and showed good quality. For 320 lb. Manitoba 3d. more money was paid, but the price of 304 lb. sorts from Argentina and Russia was in buyers' favour.

Maize was well held, and commanded a good steady inquiry, though purely of a business and non-speculative character.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off the Stands*).

August 19.

WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	34 — 36
Red	,,	34 — 35
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	None.
Brewing	,,	None.
Poultry	(per 448 lb.)	27 — 28
Distilling	(per 416 lb.)	None.
Old Winter	(per 400 lb.)	None.
New Winter	(per 400 lb.)	27 — 28
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	None.
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34 — 36
Brown	,,	27 — 29
Black	,,	29 — 30
OATS, Storm Kings	,,	None.
Abundance	,,	None.
Waverleys	,,	None.
Pioneers	,,	None.
Black Tartary	,,	22 — 23
White Gartons	,,	23 — 24
Ordinary ,,	(per 320 lb.)	21 — 22
RYE, Old	(per 480 lb.)	29 — 31
New	(per 480 lb.)	27 — 29
BEANS, Pigeon	(per 532 lb.)	42 — 44
Tick	(per 504 lb.)	34 — 35
Winter	,,	32 — 33
Spring	,,	31 — 32
Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	21 — 22
PEAS, Picked Marrowfat, New	(per 504 lb.)	90 — 100
,, ,, Old	,,	70 — 72
Unpicked (Old)	,,	52 — 56
Maple (Old)	,,	36 — 37
Dun (Old)	,,	32 — 34
TARES (Winter)	(per 532 lb.)	40 — 44
(Spring)	,,	44 — 48
(English Gores)	,,	56 — 64
(Scotch Gores)	,,	68 — 72

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba	37	38	American	23	24
Red Winter	35	36	Argentine	23	24
Best Spring	37	38	Roumanian	23	24
Argentine	35	37	Russian	23	24
Australian	35	37	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Californian	36	37	Smyrna	34	35
Walla Walla	35	36	New Zealand	32	33
Saxonka	35	36	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Azima	34	35	Hungarian	62	64
Ghirka	33	34	Burmese	38	40
Roumanian	33	34	Chilian	56	64
Indian White	34	35	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb):		
,, Red	33	34	French	31	33
Turkish	32	33	Russian	27	28
Persian	32	33	Canadian	26	27
BARLEY:			PEAS (504 lb.):		
C'lifor'n (448 lb)	none		Dutch Crowns	55	57
Tunisian (448 lb)	30	31	Konigsberg	44	46
Ouchak (448 lb)	28	32	Russian White	35	36
Smyrna (448 lb)	26	30	Indian White	35	36
Spanish (448 lb)	None.		Canadian White	35	36
Russian (400 lb)	26	27	New Zeal'd Maple	39	40
Indian (400 lb)	25	26	Victoria Dun	32	33
Persian (400 lb)	23	24	MILLET (416 lb.):		
MALT (336 lb.):			White	42	44
Californian	none		Yellow	22	24
Smyrna	33	36	Sorghum	20	21
Ouchak	33	36	RICE (cwt.):		
RYE (480 lb.):			Java	16	22
Russian	24	25	Indian	17	20
OATS:			Japanese	16	17
Konigsbg (320 lb)	21	22	Burmese	10	11
Russian (304 lb)	18	19	Siamese	8	9
Canadian (320 lb)	20	21	DARI (480 lb.):		
Arg'tine (304 lb)	18	19	Smyrna	26	27
Swedish (320 lb)	21	22	Indian	22	23
New Zealand (384 lb)	25	25	Persian	21	22

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 P.M.

The market was against sellers both of Town Whites and Town Households, which must each be quoted fully 3d. lower from the 12th. Whole meal is also 3d. per sack cheaper.

Country flour, on the other hand was firmer, and no new supplies for the next fortnight at least are expected to consist of flour made from new wheat. The old flour will be in request, and consequently is exceedingly well held. Bran, middlings and pollard may be associated with this branch of the trade in an extreme firmness for delivery at any date between this and the first week of September.

American flour of the best type was held above bakers' ideas, as was Hungarian above those of confectioners'. Belgian was 1s. dearer owing to the good inquiry for it as a substitute for Hungarian.

Rice flour, meal, and cones, of which there was a good supply freshly to hand, sold steadily at firmer prices.

There was a good inquiry for locust bean meal at 130s. per ton.

Meal, &c.

Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	13 — 14
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	14 — 15
,, ,, Broad	,,	13 — 14
Pollard	,,	12 — 13
Biscuit Middlings	,,	16 — 17
Fine Middlings	,,	15 — 16
Coarse Middlings	,,	14 — 15
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	17 — 18
Farina Firsts	,,	28 — 29
,, Seconds	,,	26 — 27
Barley Meal	,,	21 — 22
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	25 — 26
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	30 — 33
Groats	,,	32 — 33
Oat Flour	,,	33 — 34
Ground Oats	,,	32 — 33
Poultry Meal	,,	34 — 36
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	18 — 19
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	18 — 19
,, Germ Meal	,,	15 — 16
,, Cones	,,	18 — 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	15 — 16
Rye Flour	,,	24 — 26
Rye Bran	,,	21 — 22
Pea Meal	,,	23 — 24

London Flour.

August 19.

Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	31/0 net
Town Whites	,,	28/9 ,,
,, Households	,,	25/9 ,,
No. 2	,,	23/9 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	22/9 ,,
,, No. 2	,,	20/9 ,,

Country Flour.

		s.	s.
Fine Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	25	26
Roller Whites	,,	23	24
All English	,,	23	24
Stone made	,,	22	23

Foreign Flour.

		s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents	(per s'ck of 280 lb.)	27	28
,, Second Patents	,,	25	26
,, First Bakers'	,,	23	24
,, Second Bakers'	,,	22	23
Milwaukee Patents	,,	26	27
,, Bakers'	,,	24	25
Canadian Best	,,	26	27
,, Ordinary	,,	25	26
Manitoba Patents	,,	26	27
,, Ordinary	,,	25	26
Kansas Patents	,,	25	26
,, Ordinary	,,	23	24
Californian	,,	26	28
Hungarian	,,	36	38
Belgian	,,	31	33
French, Corbeil	,,	26	27
,, Renaux	,,	25	26
,, P.S.D.	,,	24	25
Australian	,,	26	27

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED RATHER DULL FOR BREADSTUFFS, BUT MAIZE WAS A TRIFLE DEARER, AND BARLEY WAS FIRM FOR ALL SORTS. OATS UNCHANGED.

THE BALTIC.

Monday, 1 P.M.

State of Trade.

Cargoes of barley, dari, and oats are firmer from Saturday; those of cottonseed are rather easier. Wheat, maize, linseed, and rapeseed cargoes command a slow but steady sale at Saturday's closing quotations.

Business Done.

Wheat.—Russian Winter (new crop), 36s 6d per 492 lb, prompt shipment; Argentine (new crop), 22s 9d per 480 lb, February shipment; White Karachi, 35s per 492 lb, prompt shipment; Red Karachi, 34s 6d per 492 lb, prompt shipment; Walla Walla, 33s 6d per 500 lb, on passage; White Stem, 35s 3d per 500 lb, September shipment; No. 1 Californian, 35s 9d per 500 lb, prompt shipment; Roumanian (old crop), 34s 6d per 492 lb, prompt shipment.

Maize.—Roumanian, 24s per 480 lb, prompt shipment; Odessa, 24s 6d per 480 lb, October shipment; Argentine, 23s 3d per 480 lb, October shipment; American, 23s 3d per 480 lb, arrived.

Barley.—Fine Californian (new crop), 31s per 448 lb, September shipment; Azoff, 20s 9d per 400 lb, September shipment; Persian, 20s 9d per 400 lb, on passage; Tunisian, 29s per 448 lb, prompt shipment.

Dari.—Karachi, 22s 6d per 480 lb, prompt shipment; Karachi, 22s 3d per 480 lb, September shipment.

Oats.—South Russian, 15s 6d per 304 lb, September shipment; North Russian, 15s per 304 lb, October shipment.

Linseed.—Calcutta, 40s 6d per 410 lb arrived.

Rapeseed.—Jamba, 41s 9d per 416 lb, October shipment.

Cottoneed.—Egyptian, £7 17s 3d per 220 lb, September shipment.

TERM MARKET.

The market for futures shows little change. The following are the latest prices made:—

Winter Wheat

Red, American, 7s. 1d., per cental, Sept. delivery.
,, ,, 7s. 4d. ,, Dec. ,,
,, ,, 7s. 4d. ,, March ,,

Mixed American Maize, 5s. per cental, Sept. delivery.

Other transactions include Indian gram for October delivery at 5s 9d per cental; locust beans for October delivery at £5 per ton (good Portuguese); and Argentine oats of the new crop for March delivery at 5s per cental. The latter is a decidedly "long future."

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

Flour.—Weaker American markets have reduced flour for shipment 6d per sack. Grain.—Flat corn is a slow sale. Round maize scarce on spot. Manitoba oats in good demand, but the supply is liberal. Beans quiet. Pease dull. Oatmeal is not quite so active. Mill Stuffs.—The demand and advancing prices of offal continue a feature of the trade. Winter wheat patents, 27s to 27s 6d per 280 lb; spring wheat patents, 27s 6d to 28s per 280 lb; American corn, 13s 10½d to 14s per 280 lb; round corn, 14s to 14s 1½d per 280 lb; grinding beans, 18s 9d per 280 lb; white pease, 19s 6d to 19s 9d per 280 lb; broad bran, 105s per ton; medium bran, 100s per ton; fine thirds, 125s per ton; common thirds, 105s per ton; American oil-cake, 145s per ton.—McKinnon and McDonald (Glasgow).

Flour.—The demand not quite so active, and quotations generally for American and home made qualities are both about 6d. per sack lower on the week.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Offals.—The demand for bran improving with greater firmness in prices.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Flour.—There has been a fair demand for flour to-day at about 3d. under the prices of this day week.—T. S. Medill and Sons, Ltd.

Milling Offal.—The trade remains exceedingly firm, with prices still very much against buyers. The great difficulty, especially with middlings, is to obtain anything like prompt delivery.—John Bawcomb and Co.

Arrivals of wheat are liberal. The trade is firm and prices are unchanged. Flour sells slowly at late prices. Maize and oats are 3d per qr dearer. Barley scarce and unchanged in value.—Coventry and Sheppard.

WET AND DRIED GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Saturday.—Wet Grains: Prices remain about the same, with a slightly firmer tendency, as with haymaking over, there is an increased demand, and business has been done at 12s ale, and 9s 6d porter per ton on rail, London. Dried Grains.—The demand continues improvingly strong, with every probability of an advance. Prices are:—Distillers, 107s 6d; ale, 97s 6d; and mixed, 92s 6d per ton on rail, London. Ale grains for the winter months have been done at 105s. Calcutta rice meal 82s 6d; rice germ, 102s 6d; American cane treacle in good demand, 87s 6d per ton, on rail, London. Kiln-dried sea-damaged Australian wheat from 20s per qr.—Hamlyn and Co., 37 and 38, Mark Lane, London, E.C.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply of hay; trade slow. Old hay, £4 per ton; new hay, £3 7s 6d per ton.

Derby, Friday.—Best old clover, 90s to 100s per ton; new, 80s to 90s; best old hay, 90s to 100s; seconds, 65s to 70s; wheat straw, 60s to 70s; pressed ditto, 50s to 60s; chop straw, 55s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s.

Lancaster, Saturday. — Meadow hay, 6d; clover, 6½d; wheat straw, 4d; oat straw, 4d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Hay and clover vary very much in quality. Fair samples selling at 50s per ton, while prime lots commanded ratner more money.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, new, 4½d to ¾4d; clover, old, 7½d to 7½d; new, 4¾d to 6½d; straw, wheat, 3½d to 4d; oat, 3½d to 3½d per stone.

Whitechapel, Saturday. — A good inquiry existed for the smaller arrivals, prices being steady. Best clover, 84s to 97s 6d; inferior, 75s to 80s; specially picked hay, 90s; good ditto, 80s to 87s 6d; inferior, 65s to 70s; mixture and sainfoin, 82s 6d 90s; straw, 28s to 34s per load.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—A good quantity was received, and trade proceeded slowly. Early Puritans, 60s; early Rose, 65s; British Queens, 60s to 65s; and Blacklands, 45s to 60s per ton.

Goole, Wednesday.—Small ttendance, but business was rather brisk. Local farmers have large quantities of potatoes to sell, and trade was especially good.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Potatoes, 10s to 11s per load; retail, 9d per stone.

Malton, Saturday.—Potatoes keep very firm, dealers quoting £3 10s per ton; retail 9d to 1s per stone.

Manchester, Saturday.—Potatoes: Cheshire, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; Lincolns, 3s 6d to 5s per cwt.

Preston, Saturday.—Good supply of new potatoes, which made 8s to 9s per load.

Retford, Saturday.—The market was well supplied with locally grown samples, which made 7s to 8s per load.

Spitalfields, Saturday. — Trade remained very quiet, arrivals exceeding the demand. Early Rose, 55s; Farly Puritans, 55s to 65s; British Queens, 65s to 70s; Epicures, 55s to 60s; Sharp's Express, 60s; Duke of Yorks, 55s to 60s; Blacklands: Up-to-Dates, 55s; British Queens, 50s to 55s; Sharp's Express, 50s to 55s; Epicures, 45s to 50s; and Dutch, 40s to 45s per ton.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Very large supply of locally-grown potatoes, which sold at 7s 6d to 8s per load of 18 stones.

York, Saturday.—An ample supply, with an easier tendency on the market, and prices likely to fall. Hampers of 6 stones make about 2s.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Altrincham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Appleby: 10d to 1s. Barnstaple: 1s 3d. Berwick: 11d to 1s 1d. Birmingham: 1s 2d½ to 1s 3½d. Camelford: 1s. Carlisle: 10d to 1s. Chester: 1s 1d. Dartmouth: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Derby: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Devizes: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Doncaster: 1s to 1s 2d. Dorchester: 10½d to 1s 1d. Evesham: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Hereford: 1s to 1s 2d. Kidderminster: 1s. Lancaster: 1s 1d½ to 1s 2½d Lincoln: 1s to 1s 1d. Market Drayton: 1s to 1s 1d. Otley: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per 24 oz roll. Penzance: 8½d to 10d. Plymouth: 1s to 1s 2d. Retford: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Ripon: 1s 5d to 1s 9d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 2d. Shrewsbury: 11d to 1s. Spalding: 1s. Stamford: 11d to 1s. Stockport: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Stockton: 11d to 1s 2d. Totnes: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Truro, 9d to 10d. Wellington (Salop): 1s to 1s 1d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 2d. Worksop: 11d to 1s. York: 1s to 1s 2d.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Altrincham: 9 and 10. Appleby: 10 and 12. Barnstaple: 8 and 10. Berwick: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per doz. Birmingham: 9 and 11. Camelford: 14. Carlisle: 10 and 11. Chester: 11. Dartmouth: 1s to 1s 3d per doz. Derby: 10 and 11. Devizes: 13 and 15. Doncaster: 11 to 12. Dorchester: 1s to 1s 3d per doz. Evesham: 10½d to 1s 0½d per doz. Hereford: 12 to 14. Kidderminster: 11. Lancaster: 9 and 10. Lincoln: 13 and 14. Market Drayton: 12. Otley: 10 and 11. Penzance: 10d to 11d per doz. Plymouth: 12. Retford: 1s 8d per score. Ripon: 11 and 12. Scarborough: 9. Shrewsbury: 11 and 12. Spalding: 13. Stamford: 12 and 13. Stockport: 9 and 10. Stockton: 9 and 10. Totnes: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Truro: 9d to 10d per doz. Wellington (Salop): 11 and 12. Worcester: 10 and 12. Worksop: 1s 3d to 1s 9d per score. York: 11 and 12.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, August 19, 1907. British.	Total.	Monday, Aug. 20, 1906.
Beasts	840	840	1,060
Sheep and Lambs	6,030	6,030	5,860
Calves	10	10	10
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	30	30	40

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 10	3 10	4 8
Sheep	3 10	5 4	6 2
Lambs	4 10	5 6	6 8
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 37; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 713; Devon, 10; Ireland, 80.

We note to-day an increase of 90 head in the number of beasts offered for sale, compared with Monday last. The majority of the supply, as usual at this season of the year, was drawn from the Midland counties, consisting principally of grass-fed Herefords and Runts. For both prime and second quality fat cattle trade ruled of a slow and dragging nature, last week's prices being difficult to maintain. The Irish arrivals consisted of 46 Dublins and 34 Waterfords, the former selling readily at good money. Fat butchering cows were difficult to vend even at the low rates quoted A clearance will not be made.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s d	s d	Monday, Aug. 20, 1906. s d	s d
Scotch	—	—	—	—
Devons	—	—	—	—
Herefords	4 6	ex 4 8	4 4	ex 4 6
Norfolks	—	—	—	—
Runts	4 4	to 4 6	4 0	to 4 2
Lincolns	4 0	to 4 2	3 8	to 3 10
Irish	4 4	to 4 6	—	—
Canadian	—	—	—	—
Fat cows	3 4	to 3 6	3 4	to 3 6

There was an increase of 970 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. Trade throughout the day for both wethers and ewes ruled of an extremely slow nature at late currencies; the same remark applies to the Scotch and Irish trade, both of which were in larger supply. Lambs were in excess of the requirements, consequently were difficult to vend even at a decline of 2d. to 4d. per 8 lb. in value. The supply included 200 Scotch, 795 Irish, and 399 from the Eastern Counties. A clearance is expected to be made.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, Aug. 20, 1906. s. d.	s. d.
8 st. Scotch	6 0	to 6 2	5 10	to 6 0
7½ to 8 st Downs	6 0	to 6 2	5 10	to 6 0
9 st. Downs	5 10	to 6 0	5 8	to 5 10
10 st Halfbreds	5 6	to 5 8	5 4	to 5 6
10 st Yorkshires	—		—	
12st Lincolns, half-bred	—		—	
10 st Irish	5 4	to 5 6	5 0	to 5 2
10 st Down Ewes	4 0	to 4 2	4 2	to 4 4
11 st Halfbred ditto	3 10	to 4 0	4 0	to 4 2
5 st Down Lambs	6 6	to 6 8	7 2	to 7 4
6 st Halfbreds ditto	6 2	to 6 4	6 2	to 6 4

London (Central), Monday. — Fair trade for good supplies. Beef, English, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; Scotch, 4s to 4s 8d; American, 3s 2d to 3s 8d; refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 9d to 4s. Mutton, English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 10d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d. Lambs, 4s 8d to 5s 4d; Scotch tegs and wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Veal, 3s to 4s 4d. Pork, 3s 8d to 4s 2d per stone.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts, 272; sheep and lambs, 1,954; pigs, 438; horses, 7. Fat and store cattle, fair trade; fat and store pigs, good demand; milch cows, £13 to £20. Prices:—Beef, 7s 3d to 7s 9d; mutton, 7s 7d to 9s 11d; lamb, 9s to 11s; pork, 6s 9d to 7s 3d.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts 980. To-day' supply, compared with Monday last, showed a decrease of 298 head, and consisted of 920 from the United States and 60 from Canada. Trade ruled of a fairly steady nature, at late currencies. The best States on offer were quoted at from 4s 1d to 4s 3d; seconds, 4s to 4s 1d; Canadians, 3s 10d to 4s; seconds, 3s 8d to 3s 10 per 8 lb (offal given in). On Saturday 1,833 beasts from the United States and 527 from Canada were offered for sale, trade ruled of a slow nature, with an upward tendency in value. The best on offer were quoted at from 4s 1d to 4s 3d; seconds, 4s to 4s 1d. Canadians, 3s 11d to 4s 1d; seconds, 3s 8d to 3s 10s per 8 lb (offal given in).

Liverpool, Monday.—Reduced supply of stock. Cattle trade slow, and last week's prices difficult to maintain. Sheep and lambs, although early trade promised fair, the demand fell off, and very little if any improvement in prices could be recorded. Beef, 6¾d to 5d; mutton, 8½d to 6d; lamb, 9d to 8d per lb. At market 1,031 cattle and 9,692 sheep.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday. — Linseed Cake. — Owing principally to harvesting operations the trade rules very quiet, though the firmness in prices is well maintained. London made are finding most favour at present values.

Cotton Cake.—One or two heavy arrivals of Egyptian made rather depressed prices, but home manufactured remain unchanged.

Linseed.—There was a better demand, especially for feeding purposes.

English Linseed Cake, ex mill	7	7	6	to 7	10 0
Calcutta Linseed cake, ex quay	7	7	6		—
American Western Linseed Cake ex quay		—		to arrive	
Russian Oil Cake ex quay	7	5	0	to 7	7 6
Decorticated Cotton Cake ex quay	7	0	0	to 7	5 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal ex quay	6	17	6		—
London-made ,, Cake (best) ex mill	5	0	0		—
Egyptian ,, Cake (in bags)	4	15	0	4	16 3
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included) on rail, Burton	4	15	0		—
Duluth Linseed (in bulk per 416 lb ex warehouse	2	5	6		—
Calcutta Linseed (in bags), per 410 lb ex warehouse	2	3	0		—
La Plata Linseed per 416 lb. ex warehouse	2	3	6	2	12 0
Russian Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb (clean) ex warehouse	2	5	0		—

—Robt. & John Hewetson

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, August 19.—There has been a marked fall in linseed since the 12th, but on the 17th the market was steadying itself again, and to-day the prices which were accepted on the 16th are firmly supported. Rapeseed is firm, and for poppyseed previous fullest value is obtained. Cottonseed is dull, but not cheaper.

Linseed. per 416 lb.	s.	s.
English	None.	
Bombay	None.	
Calcutta	41	to 42
Russian	41	to 42
Argentine re-cleaned	45	to 46
Argentine cleand	44	to 45
,, F.A.Q.	42	to 43
Argentine comn.	40	to 41
Dutch best	50	to 51
,, medium	45	to 48
Duluth	41	to 42
Canadian	42	to 43
Rapeseed. per 416 lb.		
English best	None.	
,, F.A.Q.	None.	
,, common	None.	
French F.A.Q.	68	to 70
Yellow Guzerat	58	to 60

Yellow Cawnpore	s.	s. to 55
Brown ,,	53	to 54
Ferozepore	53	to 54
Rubsen. per 424 lb		
German	70	to 74
Poppyseed. per 377 lb.	s.	s.
Indian	56	to 57
Cottonseed. per ton.		
Egyptian	165	to 167
Indian	145	to 147
Sunflowerseed. per cwt.		
English, White	15	to 16
Russian, White.	14	to 15
,, Black.	13	to 14
Sesame. per cwt.		
Indian	16	to 17
Hempseed. per 336 lb.		
Russian	33	to 35

SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—The new trifolium has now come down to reasonable prices, and more business passing. New rape in good demand in spite of the high opening prices. Mustard moving off, prices unchanged. Rye coming out slowly, demand steady. Peas quiet. In grasses, Italian now appearing; qualities various; prices full.—John Picard and Co.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—The market continues very quiet, only small consumptive orders are being executed. The crop progresses slowly, the plant is now in sound condition, the aphis blight has cleared off, and there is no mould, the development is slow, which will put condition into the cones.—W. H. and H. Le May.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington Cattle Market during the week a fair average supply of cattle were consigned, Herefords and Runts forming the majority, as is usual at this time of year. Trade opened of an extremely slow and dragging nature and continued so throughout the day, the downward tendency in regard to value being partly due to the fact that butchers' requirements are more limited, owing to the general exodus from town this month. The Irish supplies number 55 head, and consisted of 24 Dublins and 31 Waterfords (no store cattle being consigned), these shared in the slow trade experienced, sellers, however, were able to maintain late currencies. Owing to the small attendance of country buyers, fat butchering cows and bulls were also slow of sale, sellers finding them difficult to vend, even at a decline of 2d. per 8 lb. on late rates. On Thursday trade was confined to fat butchering cows and bulls, Monday's values governing all transactions.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, trade throughout the week was of a fairly steady nature, both in regard to tone and value. The total number of beasts on offer at both markets was 4,908, as against 3,631 during the preceding week, consisting of 780 British (increase 250) and 4,128 foreign, these latter comprising 3,006 from the United States and 1,122 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) :—90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d. ; 95 stone Runts, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d. ; 95 stone Dublins, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d. ; 100 stone Shorthorns, 4s. to 4s. 2d. ; 90 stone States, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d. ; 95 stone Canadians, 4s. to 4s. 2d. ; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.

At Islington the trade for wether sheep especially if of best quality, was firmer at an advance of 2d. per lb., ewes also improved in value to the same extent, whilst Scotch and Irish descriptions, on the other hand, only maintained late rates ; the same remark applies to the lamb trade, nevertheless the trade was decidedly brisker. On Thursday trade ruled of a slow but firm nature, Monday's prices ruling most transactions. The total number penned was 6,680, as against 6,140 during the previous week, showing an increase of 540. Best pens made per 8 lb. (sinking the offal), 7½ to 8 stone Downs, 6s. to 6s. 2d. ; 9 stone ditto, 5s. 10d. to 6s. ; 8 stone Scotch, 6s. to 6s. 2d. ; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 8d to 5s. 10d. ; 10 stone Halfbreds, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d. ; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d. ; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. to 4s. 2d. ; 5 stone fat grass lambs, 6s. 10d. to 7s. ; 6 stone Half-bred ditto, 6s. 6d. to 6s. 8d.

Calves numbered 30 head, and experienced a a very slow trade at late values, the best on offer being quoted at from 4s. 10d. to 5s. per 8lb. (offal given in).

Trade in the West.

With the harvest now fairly entered upon, though under conditions that are anything but encouraging at the time of writing, business in the stock markets is largely confined to sheep, of which some of the most important sales of the season are now taking place, and, owing to the abnormal scarcity that exists, are being attended with pre-eminently satisfactory results from the sellers' point of view, prices being more buoyant than has been known for years, with every prospect of a continuance, fortified as this is by the promise of a root crop such as can be seldom remembered. The demand is not confined to any one particular class of sheep, but is general, and we feel quite justified in quoting prices at the present time from 2s. to 3s. a head higher for stores, even if not more in the case of working lambs, than they have been any autumn for many seasons past. Poor class things, both ewes and lambs, command a relatively better price than those in higher condition, thus reversing the general order of things, which is somewhat inexplicable in the face of the good price young mutton continues to yield. But if the demand is somewhat limited for store cattle, this must not be construed as indicating a decline in values, which is certainly not the case, as milch beasts are selling readily up to their extreme values, plenty of good milk-producers, both heifers and cows with calves, realising from £16 up to £21 apiece, and in-calvers of early date are relatively just as dear. Perhaps just for the moment barreners fail to attract the same amount of attention as is sometimes the case, and prices may not reach the level they occasionally do at particular seasons.

A good healthy tone continues to pervade all branches of the fat stock business, and with weather on the whole favourable to purveyors, prices are being well maintained for all the bettermost qualities of meat. Fat bullocks, as a rule, come splendidly to hand, and seldom have they shown more uniform excellence, the heifers and steers being beautifully ripe, whilst some of the cows are equally well done. The best steers and heifers command a ready sale at 11s. to 12s. per score, and more ordinary runs 10s. to 10s. 6d., while heavy bulls may be quoted 9s. to 9s. 6d.. Calves are getting still scarcer, and consequently higher rates have to be paid for the best—9d. to 9½d.— and 7½d. to 8d. for the ordinary grades. Mutton keeps very firm, and whilst small deliveries continue to be the rule as at present, there is no great likelihood of prices falling below 7d. to 8d. for secondary qualities, whilst wethers will assuredly continue to command the full price they are now making—8½d to 9d., and occasionally more. Pigs are also in equally good demand, the smaller weights particularly so, these bringing up to 11s. per score, and are sought after at the price, and there is likewise a steady consumptive sale for baconers and heavy weights at prices that pay feeders very well—9s. 6d. to 10s. 3d. per score. Coarser weights, of course, are relatively lower in price.

Trade in Ireland

Dublin's Thursday market was a large one, and a good deal of business was done, though at a somewhat reduced rate, it being necessary to accept from 10s. to 20s. per cwt. less than previously recorded. Some of the choice cattle fetched previous rates, but generally stock were slightly down. The number of beasts in market was 4,020, being an increase of 112 on the previous week. The beef market was early astir, and all the choicest cattle were early sold off ; later on, however, buyers managed to get cattle on somewhat cheaper terms. The cattle market closed in a rather slumpy and disappointing manner. A general concession of about 10s. per head was to be noted, and rates may be reported to be about from 1s. to 1s. 6d. per cwt. (live weight) lower than the previous Thursday, and sales by hand from 10s. to 15s. lower, and in the case of thin cattle up to 20s. Beef ranged from 45s. to 62s. 6d. per cwt (live weight). In the mutton department prices were also slightly weaker.

There were 9,317 sheep and lambs offered for sale, being an increase of fifty-two on the previous week. Trade opened rather slowly, but buyers were obliged to give almost the previous week's rates for the better class of sheep, but for common mutton there was a fall of quite 1s. to 2s. per head. Lambs were cautiously bid for, but were in fair request at a fall of about a couple of shillings. The Manchester lamb trade was bad, it was said, and this had a depressing effect on Dublin. Prime home trade mutton and good shipping hoggets made practically late rates, but all others sold at a slight reduction. Mutton made for wether 7½d. to 8d. per lb., ewes 6½d. to 7d., and inferior mutton 6d. to 6½d. per lb. Large heavy hoggets were worth from 52s. to 62s. each, and smaller from 30s. to 48s. Lambs were lower in price ; small lambs selling at from 24s. to 28s., and best fat lambs making from 30s. to 42s. each. The common classes of sheep sold at a reduction of about 2s. per head.

Veal calves of prime quality made from 7½d. to 8½d. per lb , but coarse calves only made 4½d. per lb. upwards. Milch cattle a better trade, with good supply. Store cattle of the right sort are still in good request, but poor stock are not wanted.

Dublin Pig Market had a very small supply. The day being a holiday (Lady Day) made the supply small. Owners practically had matters in their own hands, and the result was a couple of shillings advance. Best light-weight hogs made from 53s. to 56s. per cwt. ; heavy hogs from 50s. to 53s. per cwt. Stores in good demand, and selling freely.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Fair supplies, and trade fairly firm for best beef and mutton. English beef, 3s 6d to 3s 9d ; Scotch sides, 4s ; shorts, 4s 4d to 4s 8d ; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 4d to 3s 8d ; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 10d to 4s ; ditto seconds, 3s 8d to 3s 9d ; ditto forequarters, 2s 4d to 2s 6d ; inferior beef, 2s 2d to 2s 8d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; ditto tegs, 5s 4d ; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d ; English wethers, 4s 6d to 4s 10d ; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d ; Dutch sheep, 4s 6d to 4s 8d ; English lamb, 5s 4d to 5s 8d ; veal, 3s 2d to 4s 4d ; English pork, 3s 8d to 4s ; Dutch pork, 3s 6d to 3s 10d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday. — To day's supply of beasts consisted entirely of fat butchering cows and bulls, trade for which was slow and steady. Top value :—Fat cows, 3s 6d to 3s 8d ; fat bulls, 2s 9d to 3s 2d. per 8 lb. Sheep trade ruled slow, and prices showed an upward tendency, whilst ewes made 2d per 8 lb more money. Lambs met a slow but steady trade at late rates. Best pens made per 8 lb as follows :—7½ to 8 stone Down sheep, 6s to 6s 2d; 9 stone ditto, 5s 10d to 6s ; 10 stone ditto, 5s 8d to 5s 10d ; 10 stone halfbreds, 5s 6d to 5s 8d ; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 4d ; 5 stone fat grass lambs, 6s 10d to 7s ; 6 stone halfbred ditto, 6s 6d to 6s 8d. Calves 2d per 8 lb dearer. Quotations per 8lb, sinking the offal :—Beasts, 2s 9d to 3s 8d ; sheep, 4s 2d to 6s 2 l ; calves, 3s 6d to 5s 2d ; lambs, 5s 2d to 7s.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—There was a fair attendance, but a slow trade. Best beef made 4s 10d to 5s, and secondary 4s 4d to 4s 8d ; Down mutton fetched 5s 6d to 6s ; Kent wethers, 5s 4d to 5s 8d ; barrens, 4s to 4s 4d ; veal a little cheaper, 5s to 5s 2d ; pork met rather better demand, roasters 3s 10d to 4s. A good trade for store lambs, prices high.

Berwick, Saturday.—Attendance of farmers and buyers small, and trade dull. Heifers, £7 10s to £18 15s ; stirks, £7 10s to £10 5s ; two year-olds, £4 10s ; Shorthorn bulls, £11 15s.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Small supply of beasts, sheep, and pigs, but slow trade for beasts and sheep. Beef made 5½d to 6½d per lb ; Herefords, 6¾d per lb ; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb ; lamb, 9d per lb ; bacon pigs, 10s 3d per score ; cutting pigs, 10s 3d per score ; sows, 8s 4d to 8s 6d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—There was a large supply of beef, and a moderate trade was done at last week's prices. Sheep and lambs were plentiful, and about the usual business was transacted. Prime wethers, which last week realised 8¼d per lb being quoted 8d to 8½d. Pigs were again scarce, and values unaltered.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices of pigs :—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 1s. per pig extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. 10 lb to 8 sc. 10 lbs, 10s per score, 8 sc. 11 lb to 9 sc. 10 lb,, 9s 6d per score ; 9 sc. 11 lb to 10 sc. 10 lb, 9s. Pigs outside these limits at their value.—C. and T. Harris and Co., Ltd.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A good inquiry continues for store stock, but the supply to-day was not so large. The range of prices for lambs in one lot of 150 was : Ewes, 18s 6d to 32s ; wethers, 19s to 29s. Another consignment ranged from 19s to 25s. 6d, and some good cross-breds sold at 27s 6d. Tegs were making 39s, and old ewes 28s 6d to 35s. A rather better inquiry for cows and calves.

Carlisle, Saturday.—There was a good supply of cattle, the bulk of the animals being heifers of good quality. Buyers were numerous, including many Northumberland farmers on the look out for strong cattle. This class of stock met a ready sale, but for smaller and less conditioned beasts trade was rather dragging. Quotations :—Small heifers, £6 10 to £8 10s ; wintering cattle, £8 10s to £10 10s ; heifers for figishing off, £14 to £16 10s each.

Chester, Thursday. — Good supply of cattle and sheep, and a brisk demand. Prices :—Milch cows, £17 to £22 ; calvers, £15 to £19 ; barrens, £10 to £13 ; heifers, £8 to £18 ; stirks, £5 to £9 ; bullocks, £12 to £14 ; sheep, 18s to 35s each.

Derby, Tuesday.—A fairly busy market, at which last week's prices again ruled. Best qualities firm. Beasts, 5½d to 7d ; calves, 8d ; sheep, 7½d to 9½d ; lambs, 10d per lb.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Exceedingly small supply of horned stock, and prices unchanged, except that dairy stock was rather worse to sell, making from £16 to £20 per head. Good supply of sheep. Lambs, 30s to 40s ewes, 45s to 55s per head.

Dublin, Thursday.—There was a change in the demeanour of buyers to-day, and helped by a

further increase in supplies a successful effort was made to reduce prices. Choice cattle were about 10s per head lower, and inferior sorts from 10s to 20s per head lower than last week's rates. Sheep a weaker trade, except for choicest qualities prices were in favour of buyers. Lambs, though in demand, had to be sold at less money in order to effect sales. Cattle—Live weight (best), 31s to 32s 6d per cwt; secondary and inferior, 27s to 29s 6d per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 6½d to 7½d per lb; extreme, 8d per lb—Ganly, Sons and Co.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Cows, moderate supply, stiff trade, except for best classes; Shorthorns sold to £23; secondaries to £19 5s. Sheep much larger show, slow trade; Cheviot dinmonts, 28s to 37s; half-bred lambs, 25s to 35s; Oxford cross lambs, 28s to 35s; Cheviot ewe lambs, 22s to 34s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Large show of cattle at market, consequently prices suffered slightly. Prime handy grades met a steady inquiry at a shade less money; inferior descriptions also showed decline in values. Top, 63s to 66s; secondary, 56s to 59s per cwt. Average number of sheep penned, and the demand was fair for all classes; lambs of quality sold dear; best quality of mutton, 9½d to 9¾d; secondary, 8¾d to 9½d; lambs, 8d to 10d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Trade was fairly firm for a fair supply of beef, at late quotations:—Best heifer and bullock at 6¾d to 7d; cow beef, 5d to 6d. A moderate supply of sheep, with firm trade; wether mutton, 8½d; ewe, mutton, 6d to 7d. Fat lambs dear and scarce. Store lambs dear, and in good demand. Veal, a medium supply; trade firm at 7d. Very few pigs on offer; porks made 5½d; store pigs cheaper. Store cattle trade: Nothing doing for a meagre supply.

Leicester, Saturday. — There were exceptionally good supplies of store stock for the season, and the bulk of the lots came to hand in good condition. Trade ruled active at high prices. Choice milch cows, £18 to £20; good lots, £16 to £17; secondary, £13 to £15; Shorthorn cattle, £14 to £16 10s; choice Irish bullocks £17 to to £18 10s; good lots, £14 to £16; heifers, £12 to £15 10s; Welsh cattle, £12 to £16 10s; young stock, £5 to £9; calves, 20s to 40s each.

Lincoln, Friday.—A small show of beasts and a slow trade. Young stock, £9 to £13; milch cows, £17 to £21 each. A fair number of sheep, and business ruled moderately brisk. Lambs made 32s to 44s, and young ewes 64s each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—An average show of fat beasts, with trade fair, made from 7s 6d to 8s per stone. Very few stores on offer, which experienced a slow trade, and realised from £7 to £14 each. Fat sheep were in average supply, and trade was about the same as last week, from 9s 6d to 10s per stone. No stores worth quoting; store lambs in average supply, made from 33s to 40s each.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Cattle in larger supply, and a much heavier trade. Prime heifers, 7s 9d to 8s; second-class animals, 7s 3d to 7s 6d; prime steers, 7s 6d to 7s 9d; second-class, 7s 3d to 7s 6d; coarse and inferior, 6s 6d to 6s 9d per stone. Larger supply of sheep and a quieter trade. Choice young sheep, 8½d to 9d per lb. Strong heavy, 8½d to 8¾d; choice lambs, 9d to 9¼d; second-class, 8¾d to 9d; ewes, 6d to 7¼d; rams, 5d to 6½d. Veal, 6d to 7¾d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—Plentiful supply of cattle, sheep, and lambs. Large attendance of buyers, and very good demand. Best beef, 6½d to 6¾d per lb; seconds, 6¼d; cows, 5d to 5½d; best wether mutton, 8¼d to 8¾d; ewes, 7d to 7½d; lamb, 9d; calves, 7d to 8¼d; porker pigs, 10s 3d to 11s per score.

Norwich, Saturday. — Trade for fat cattle hardly so good, the best making up to 8s; other qualities and cows from 7s to 7s 6d per stone of 14 lb. Veal calves were a small supply, and sold at 8d per lb. Fat sheep were of good quality, and trade was sharper, best sorts selling well at from 8½d to 9½d, and ewes and rough mutton at 6¾d per lb. A small show of fat pigs of good quality, the best of which made up to 6s 8d, and baconers and sows from 5s 6d to 6s 6d per stone. For store cattle, mostly small beasts, trade was slow and dull; best three-year-olds fetched from £16 to £17 10s.; two-year-olds, £14; and young cattle from £4 to £10 15s. A very short supply of calves, prices remaining unchanged at from 20s to 45s per head. Fewer store sheep, and quality and trade were unchanged, best blackfaced Suffolk ewes selling at from 58s to 72s; those from two to four years old at from 45s to 54s; and lambs, which were dear, at 32s to 43s 6d per head. Only a few store pigs offered, for which trade was better at from 13s 6d to 25s per head.

Nottingham, Saturday.—There was a smaller supply of stock, and trade, except for stuff of the best quality, was slow. Best milking cows sold at £17 to £22; heifers, £15 to £18; strong heifers and steers, £10 to £15; and smaller animals, £6 to £10. Calves changed owners at from 35s to 45s. each.

Retford, Saturday.—Small supply of store stock, thin attendance, and very little business transacted. Currencies generally remained about the same as before. Milch cows, £15 to £20; two-year-old steers and heifers, £11 to £12 10s; yearlings, £6 to £8; and calves, 35s to 45 per head.

Romford, Wednesday.—Fat beasts in average supply; trade about the same. Best animals, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. Calves in average supply; trade slow at 4s 10d to 5s per stone. Average supply of sheep; trade dear. Best small sheep, 5s 10d to 6s; large, 5s 4d to 5s 6d per stone. Ewes in larger supply; trade slow at 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. Lambs in average supply; trade fair at 6s 4d to 6s 8d per stone. A few store beasts on offer; fair demand. Large supply of milch cows; trade slow. Pigs in short supply; trade slow. Small porkers, 3s 8d to 4s; large hogs, 2s 8d to 3s per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—An average number of cattle shown. Trade ruled dull. Good milch cows made £18 to £20, and younger beasts £14 to £15 10s.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Good show of store cattle, which met a fair trade. Usual supply of fat cattle, calves, sheep, and pigs. Brisk trade for good cows with calves, highest price reaching £22 15s.; heifers, £15 15s; in-calvers, £15 to £16; good rearing calves up to 53s. Quotations:—Beef, 6d to 7d per lb; mutton (wether), 9d to 9½d per lb; ewes, 7d to 8d per lb; lamb, 9½d to 10d per lb; veal, 7½d to 8½d per lb; porket pigs, 10s 6d to 11s per score.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was a larger show of the best cattle, which met a slow trade at 8s to 8s 3d per stone, whilst rougher kinds made 6s to 7s per stone. Lambs realised 10d per lb, young sheep 9d, ewes 7d to 7½d per lb, and calves 8d to 9d per lb. Small porkers sold at 7s 3d per stone, mediums 7s, and sows 6s to 6s 3d.

Thame, Tuesday. — There was a grand entry of all descriptions of stock on Tuesday last, and in fact it was by far the largest market so far held this season. It was noticeable that beef was of excellent quality, maiden heifers and bullocks predominating. Purchasers attended from all the riverside and principal towns in the district, many buyers coming from long distances. There was a selling trade throughout, only six beast remaining unsold. A choice selection of sheep found eager buyers, and the trade was decidly firm in this respect, every pen being sold. Good demand for veal and bacon. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 140 fat beasts, 362 fat sheep, 79 fat and store pigs, and 61 fat and weaning calves. Fat oxen made from £16 10s to £22 15s; fat heifers, £14 to £22; fat wethers, 45s to 60s; fat ewes, 42s to 58s; fat lambs, 31s to 44s; fat calves, £3 to £4 10s; weaning cow calves, 28s to 60s; bull calves, 10s to 45s; bacon hogs, £3 10s to £5; porkers, 26s to 38s; store pigs, 15s to 22s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance very good; business fairly brisk. Bullocks, 45s to 50s per cwt; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £10 to £15 each; rearing calves, 15s to 36s; wethers, 7d to 7½ per lb; ewes, 5d to 5¼d; lambs, 7½d to 8d; pigs, 9s 6d to 100s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8½d; lamb, 8d to 9d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8½d; carcases, 5d to 5½d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday. — Moderate supply, slow trade. Beef, 5½d to 7d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 9d per lb; lamb, 9d to 9½d per lb; veal, 7d to 8d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small supply of stock. Trade fairly brisk, buyers being numerous and prices a little above late rates. Best beef, 8s to 8s 6d; secondary, 7s 4d to 7s 9d per stone; best Southdown wethers and cross breds, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 6½d to 7¼d; lamb, 9d to 9½d; veal, 8d to 9d per lb.

Yeovil, Saturday.—Heifers and calves made from £18 10s to £19 7s 6d; secondary, £12 5s to £17 5s; cows and calves, £11 5s to £18 15s; yearling heifers, £6 10s to £8 5s; best quality barreners, £12 5s to £14 10s; secondary, £9 5s to £11 15s. A number of rams averaged about £6 10s.

York, Thursday.—There was a good show of shearling sheep and lambs, which met with an improved demand. The best twice-crossed shearling sheep made up to 50s, and Masham shearlings 42s to 46s. A few exceptionally good lots of twice-crossed lambs made up to 40s, but the general prices was 28s to 33s, and a few smaller sorts made up to 26s. There was above an average show of Irish store cattle, and a light one of English. Trade continued slow at about late rates. Some of the best three-year olds made up to £15 10s, two-year-olds varied from £10 to £12. Poor demand for stirks, which made £6 to £8 each. About an average show of calving and milch cows, for which trade, though slightly improved, continued very bad. The very best animals could be bought for £20; the general run made £15 to £17 10s each.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Liverpool, Friday.—The trade in fertilisers for prompt delivery is trivial, but there is a fair inquiry for autumn deliveries of phosphates, and values are very firmly held, whilst nitrate of soda has advanced 5s. per ton. Feeding stuffs are only in quiet demand, but values on the whole are upheld.

	Per ton. £ s d	£ s d
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (good but irregular)	7 0 0	7 5 0
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime (soft)	7 15 0	7 17 6
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime	4 15 0	5 0 0
Cottonseed Cake, Bombay	4 5 0	4 7 6
Linseed Cake, American, thin oblong, prime but hard	7 5 0	7 7 6
,, ,, English, prime	7 15 0	8 0 0
,, ,, River Plate	7 7 6	7 12 6
Palm Nut Cake	6 5 0	—
Maize Germ Meal	6 2 6	6 5 0
Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported	Per ton. 5 2 6	5 5 0
Linseed, fine bold feeding	Per qr., 416 lb. —	—
Cod-liver Oil, cattle feeding	Per Gallon. 0 4 0	—
Treacle, feeding, American	Per Cwt. 0 4 9	—
Nitrate of Soda	Per ton. 11 5 0	—
Kainit, prime	2 7 6	—
Bone Meal, prime	5 10 0	—
Bone Ash, fine and powdery	3 15 0	—
Basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed		— —
,, ,, ,, finest ,, ,,		
D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime*	2 5 0	2 7 0
,, ,, guaranteed*	2 10 0	2 12 0
,, ,, ,, *	3 1 3	3 3 3

* At depot inland.

—H. Jones Langar and Co

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes: A. may be expected during harvest operations, there is only a moderate consumptive demand; nevertheless, values remain fully as dear, and in some instances a demand of 2s. 6d. per ton has been paid. Russian sell rather more freely. East India seed pures make last week's prices, Fine seedy Calcuttas command full values. London made are relatively cheaply offered. Cotton cake. —With the prospect of light shipment of Egyptian for some time to come, holders ask extreme prices, while English are firm. Decorticated: London made pures find a ready sale, also special digestive meal, but American brands are still neglected.—Rape cakes quiet. East India unchanged. No Ravison. Maize Germ Meal.—Nothing offering in White American, and English makes are held for rather more money. Maize gluten meal is in good request. Rice Meal.—Parcels of Rangoon in warehouse find buyers at a slight advance, while some business is reported for August-September steamer shipments. Locust beans are without change. Dried brewers' grains tend dearer. Nitrate of soda is unaltered.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
Linseed Cakes.		
Russian, in mats (ex dock)	7 2 6	to 7 3 9
,, in bags	7 5 0	to 7 7 6
East India	7 2 6	to 7 5 0
Calcutta	7 7 6	to 7 10 0
English (ex mill)	7 7 6	to 7 10 0
Cottonseed Cakes.		
Egyptian	4 13 9	to 4 16 3
English (ex mill)	4 17 6	to 4 18 9
Bombay	4 0 0	
Decorticated, London made	7 2 6	to 7 5 0
,, American	6 15 0	
,, Meal, American	6 15 0	to 7 0 0
Digestive Meal	5 0 0	
Rape Cakes.		
East India seed	4 17 6	
Maize.		
English	5 18 9	to 6 0 0
Maize Gluten Meal	6 0 0	
Ricemeal.		
Rangoon ex whf.	4 17 6	to 4 18 9
,, ex ship	4 15 0	
Locust Beans.		
Whole	5 5 0	
Kibbled	5 10 0	
Dried Brewers' Grains.		
Ale	4 17 6	
Mixed	4 12 6	
Manures.		
Nitrate of soda	11 2 6	

—Pinnock Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Arrivals of home cheese were larger. There was just sufficient business passing to enable sellers to keep up last week's prices. Cheddars were quoted 57s to 60s per cwt, and Dunlops, 54s to 58s. There has been a fair trade passing in Canadian cheese at steady prices; white Canadian 53s to 56s, and coloured 56s to 58s.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—A large attendance of buyers, and an advance of about 10s on the market, all being cleared. Best Caerphilly dairies realised up to 53s per cwt.; secondary dairies, 47s to 50s; and other dairies, 42s to 45s 6d. A few inferior lots failed to reach 40s. Cheddars, old, 75s; ditto, new 55s to 57s; Truckles, 54s to 58s 6d; doubles, 52s 6d to 54s 6d.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was a good attendance and brisk demand. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 38s to 40s per cwt; fancy dairies, 50s to 52s; Derbies, 54s to 60s; truckles, 58s to 62s; doubles, 52s to 54s.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Tuesday.—The demand for Australian and New Zealand butter continues good, and prices are well maintained, but business is in small compass. Canadian is now arriving in large quantities, but far less than the usual amount for the time of year. Since June 30 the receipts have been 11,357 cwt, against 39,400 cwt last rear. The price of foreign butter remains remarkably stationary, and is also very much below what it was last year at this time, when week by week the price advanced. There has been a fair trade in Canadian and New Zealand cheese this week, and owing to its extraordinary scarcity, coloured Canadian has made 58s per cwt. White is making 56s, and occasionally 57s. New Zealand is selling at 60s to 62s. Attempts are being made to force up prices of Canadian, but the trade here, although having only small supplies, are not to be tempted. Until prices fall to the region of 50s, buying will be from hand to mouth.—W. Weddel and Co.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The plantations look fairly well, and with favourable weather the crop should not be far below average.

Worcester, Saturday.—The reports from the plantations are variable, but all agree that plenty of hot sunny weather is necessary to develop the fruit. The hops grow out very slowly, and the picking will be late. A fair trade continues to be done at late rates.—Charles Faram and Co.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending August 13, 1907:—

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Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

There has been since the 21st inst. a welcome fall in the wind, which from the 14th to the 20th had been unseasonably blusterous, lodging and twisting the grain up badly. Harvest is proceeding in a desultory fashion: the stacking of the cut grain is hardly advisable in its exceedingly damp condition. The lack of warmth in the year in the south is unpleasant, but in the north it is absolutely disastrous, as many corn fields, especially of oats, can now hardly ripen at all. The Board of Agriculture issued on Saturday morning a report on the crops which strikes us as being too favourable with respect to wheat, barley, and oats, but as unduly pessimistic with regard to potatoes, apples, and pears The root crops will be satisfactory if we have a hot and fine September, but they need some sun; especially is this the case with mangels. The barley is admittedly better this year on light than heavy soil; from the former we hope for some rather good malting quality, though fine harvest weather is needed to assure perfect colour in the samples.

An interesting return compiled by the Board of Agriculture shows that from 1821 to 1829, the sales of British wheat at the statute markets varied from 1,582,000 to 2,771,060 qr. From 1830 to 1842 they were about 4,000,000 qr. annually, but for 1845 the record sales of 6,666,240 qr. were reported. Nothing like this has been seen since, though in 1865 the sales were 5,257,000 qr., and in 1859 were 5,449,000 qr. They had dropped by 1906 to 2,685,000 qr., and for 1907 will almost certainly be less than for 1906. The great difficulty of making "head or tail" of these figures has prevented the officials at St. James's Square from emphasising them, but we congratulate Mr. Rew on giving them full publicity. Let us know the truth and blame the bunglers who rob the facts of use. They will not be found at the Board of Agriculture, but at the Palace of Westminster. There are 500 markets (almost exactly) at which wheat is sold in England. In 1821 Parliament, in its wisdom, made 148 of these *statutory* markets, from which returns are *required*. In 1827 the number was fixed at 150, in 1842 at 290, in 1865 at 150, in 1883 at 187, in 1890 at 196, in 1901 at 190. Since 1901 four wheat markets have become voluntarily extinct, and the number is now 186. This diversity is extremely perplexing, but the truth can roughly be ascertained by bearing in mind the vagaries of our so-called wise men at Westminster. What of course common sense has always dictated is the choice between one of the alternatives, either to make the supply of returns the condition precedent to a market being legally a *market overt* for wheat, in which case we should have returns from *all* markets, or else (and this is what the trade has always suggested) taking a list of say 100 chief markets and confining returns to them. If a town wished to be reckoned one of the 100 chief markets, it could voluntarily collect and supply returns, and if for five years, let us say, they exceeded those of the smallest market on the Government list, the Board of Agriculture should have power to effect a substitution. The number of statutory markets should be fixed and the number of 100 has much to recommend it. The present list of 190 is too large. This may be said to be proved by the fact that four places have committed harikari and discontinued wheat sales. But what is there, otherwise than the purely misleading, in returns from Abergavenny, which only sells 177 qr. of wheat in a year? One may also note Ludlow 425 qr., Wareham 203 qr., Frome 72 qr., Bath 378 qr., Penrith 60 qr., and Alnwick 26 qr.

The wheat gradients of late have been very moderate; there is no cheap wheat, but with a constant influx of foreign samples the farmer has no chance of obtaining really high prices:—

Lincoln	34s. 6d. per qr.
Salisbury	32s. 9d. ,,
Range ...	1s. 9d. per qr.

The barley gradient is restricted, largely because the list of markets where barley is on sale is restricted also, and is likely to remain so until October.

Cambridge	26s. 11d. per qr.
Chelmsford	25s. 5d. ,,
Range ...	1s. 4d per qr.

Oats are cheaper in the south and south-west of England than in the other districts.

Doncaster	22s. per qr.
Salisbury	20s. ,,
Range	2s. per qr.

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets last week were very small as is usual for the time of year; nevertheless, they were 40 per cent. larger than in 1906. Since harvest, however, the sales have been smaller than in the preceding season, in spite of which, mean values have been lower:—

This season ... 2,676,000 qr. at 27s. 8d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 2,914,000 qr. at 28s. 10d. ,,

The sales of British barley have been larger than last season. This has been secured without a fall in price; on the other hand the acreage was already below 25s. per qr., and could scarcely undergo further decline without diminishing the area under cultivation:—

This season ... 3,371,000 qr., at 24s. 5d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 3,203,000 qr., at 24s. 3d. ,,

The sales of oats have been heavy.

This season 1,181,000 qr. at 18s. 4d. per qr.
Last ,, 926,000 ,, 18s. 6d. ,,

Imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 525,000 qr.: a large quantity.
Flour, 105,735 sacks: a moderate supply.
Maize, 354,000 qr.: nearly double an average.
Barley, 59,000 qr.: half an average.
Oats, 125,000 qr.: a full supply.

In fifty completed weeks of the cereal year imports have been as follows:—

Wheat	21,115,000 qr.
Flour	4,376,000 ,,
Breadstuffs	25,491,000 qr.
Maize	11,356,000 ,,
Barley	5,213,000 ,,
Oats	4,848,000 ,,

The receipts of foreign breadstuffs, of barley, and of oats have all been smaller than in the previous season, but of maize imports there has been an increase.

Supplies on passage on the 24th inst. show that of wheat our expectations are smaller than they have been for three years past. Of maize and barley they are fairly good, especially of the former:—

	1907.	1906.	1905.	1904.
	Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.
Wheat.	2,070,000	2,400,000	2,225,000	3,025,000
Maize ..	975,000	1,395,000	1,240,000	950,000
Barley .	375,000	178,000	260,000	375,000
Beans ..	1,000	1,000	5,000	37,000

Of oats, 100,000 qr., and of flour, 138,000 sacks, are on passage. It is unnecessary, in these cases, to give details of bygone years, as the whole are much below the average.

Of oil-seeds there are on passage 220,000 qr. of linseed, 40,000 qr. of rapeseed, 26,000 tons of cottonseed, and 6,000 qr. of poppyseed. These are liberal expectations of the respective types. The prices ruling for oilseeds in England are high and encourage shipments to our shores.

American shipments last week were fair of wheat and maize, but small of other article, the quantities being wheat, 270,000 qr.; barley, 43,000 qr.; oats, 22,000 qr.; maize, 180,000 qr.; and flour, 82,000 sacks.

Argentina shipped 145,000 qr. of wheat, 181,000 qr. of maize, and 20,000 qr. of linseed, but no oats.

Russia exported a very large quantity of barley of the new crop, over 200,000 qr. of this being for the United Kingdom. Total Russian shipments were:—Wheat, 80,000 qr.; barley, 474,000 qr.; oats, 45,000 qr.; and maize, 43,000 qr.

Roumania is not now a free shipper, but last week 40,000 qr. of wheat, 15,000 qr. of barley, 2,000 qr. of oats, and 84,000 qr. of maize cleared from her ports.

Other shipments of the week were 179,000 qr. of wheat and 37,000 qr. of linseed from India, 19,000 qr. of wheat from the Australasian colonies, and 30,000 qr. of wheat from Persia.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—This week has found the hay trade in a more or less nervous and slumpy condition, and large supplies of new crop are to hand, a great deal more than our market can deal with, and to effect clearances much lower prices have been taken, in fact, for badly got hays and mixtures as low as 45s. per ton has been accepted, and as the bulk of present supplies consists of these badly made and poor quality new stuffs of all kinds, the trading all round is of a most unprofitable description. For prime new hays, 62s 6d to 65s per ton; for clovers, 75s to 77s 6d per ton, and for mixtures 70s per ton is about top value, but for anything that is not altogether prime much lower prices have to be taken. Old stuffs being now almost exhausted continue in short supply, but with even the demand for these qualities weakening day by day, values show a lower tendency. Owing to harvest, straw is lately in such full supply, and is finding a fair trade at unchanged rates. With the larger supplies of English the demand for foreign importations seems almost to have fallan completely off, and although shipments are very short, and prices nominally unchanged, it is next to impossible to do fresh business. Prices ruling are about as follows:—

English 1906 crop. Best meadow hay, 85s per ton; good meadow hay, 72s 6d to 82s 6d per ton; plain hays, 67s to 70s per ton; best clovers, 95s to 97s 6d per ton; good clovers, 85s to 90s per ton; inferior clovers, 80s to 82s 6d per ton; prime mixtures, 95s per ton; good mixtures, 84s 6d to 90s per ton; plain mixtures, 75s to 80s per ton; seconds hays, clovers, and mixtures, 50s 6d to 62s 6d per ton; wheat straw, 26s to 28s per load; oat straw, 26s to 28s per load; barley straw, 26s to 28s per load. All ex rail London. Foreign: Canadian mixture, 80s to 82s 6d per ton; first quality Dutch hay, 65s per ton; second quality Dutch hay, 60s to 62s 6d per ton; New French clover, 75s per ton. These prices are by the barge load delivered alongside a London Thames wharf.

THE BALTIC.

Since the 21st or thereabouts the cargo trade has been assisting the spot market and adding to the ability of spot holders to obtain a slight advance in prices. Wheat cargoes have made 36s. per 480 lb. for Rosario, 36s. 3d. per 500 lb. for Blue Stem (also for No. 1 Californian), 37s. per 492 lb. for best Russian Winter, 36s. per 492 lb. for choice Karachi, 35s. per 480 lb. for No. 2 Manitoba, and 35s. per 492 lb. for new crop Roumanian. The demand at these prices has been good.

Maize cargoes have fetched 25s. 3d. per 480 lb. for South-West Russian, 24s. 6d. per 480 lb. for Galatz, 24s. 3d. per 480 lb. for Novokossisk, 23s. 9d. per 480 lb. for America, and 24s. per 480 lb. for Yellow La Plata. At these prices the demand is now not so good. Buyers are entitled of course to give full weight to the liberal supply on passage.

Barley cargoes have realised 22s. 9d. per 400 lb. for South Russian, 22s. per 400 lb. for Karachi, and 21s. per 400 lb. for Persian. Some good prices are mentioned in the trade for foreign malting barley, but as yet we are not in a position to quote them.

Oats are decidedly firmer. The Manitoba cargoes offered for prompt shipment at 20s. per 320 lb. have been taken up, and 20s. 6d. is now asked. On the other hand, white Lisbon oats are freely offered for October shipment at 15s. 3d. per 304 lb., so that the period of comparative dearness for foreign oats appears to have a termination well in sight. Other cargo sales of the week have included Smyrna beans at 32s. per 480 lb., white Calcutta peas at 34s. 3d. per 504 lb., Portuguese locust beans at 96s per ton, and Argentine linseed at 40s. 3d. per 416 lb.

The London Corn Trade Association C. F. and I. quotations for the settlement of rejections and difference in weights on wheat under Rule No. 4 of the Association East Indian Wheat Contracts are as follows, viz.:—via canal—

Crop 1906.—Choice White Karachi, 35s. 6d.; soft red Kerachi, 34s. 9d.; new clean terms but 4 per cent. barley.

Choice white Karachi, 35s. 3d.; soft red Karachi, 34s. 6d., old terms.

N.B.—The committe has decided to quote rejection prices for "Old Terms" up to and including July shipments, but not later.

These prices fixed on the 23rd remain in force until a fresh list is published.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports of call for the week were—8 wheat (1 Adelaide, 1 Bahia Blanca, 1 Port Germein, 1 Port Pirie, 3 Portland (O.), and 1 Rosario); 3 maize (2 San Nicholas and 1 Villa Constitucion)—total, 11.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English firm and dearer, supplies limited. Foreign—American held at 9d to 1s advance, other sorts 6d dearer. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, held at 37s 3d; No. 2 at 36s 6d; No. 1 Hard Manitoba at 38s; La Plata, landed, at 36s 6d, 37s 6d; white Karachi, at 35s 6d, 36s; red Karachi, at 35s, 35s 6d. Flour firm and dearer, not active. Iron Dukes held at 22s 6d, 23s. Maize firm and 3d to 6d dearer. La Plata and Odessa, ex ship, quoted at 24s, 24s 3d; mixed American at 24s 9d, 25s. Barley firmly held at 6d advance. Azoff-Black Sea, ex ship, to arrive, quoted at 23s 6d; Persian at 22s 6d, 23s. Oats firm, with values in sellers' favour. La Plata quoted at 17s 6d; Archangel at 17s 9d; Danubian at 17s, 17s 6d.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat: English wheat firm and scarce. Foreign firmly held at full prices, but not active. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, quoted at 37s 3d to 37s 6d; No. 2 at 36s 9d; choice white Karachi at 35s 6d to 35s 9d; red Karachi at 35s to 35s 3d. Flour firm, but quiet. Iron Dukes quoted at 22s 6d, ex ship; Minnesota patents, 27s 6d to 29s. Maize firm, and prices in sellers' favour. Mixed American, landed, quoted at 25s; River Plate and Odessa, at 24s 6d. Barley firm and rather dearer, with a moderate inquiry. Azoff-Black Sea, exship, to arrive, held at 23s 6d; Persian, 22s 6d to 23s. Oats firm, but quiet. La Plata quoted at 17s 6d; Archangel at 17s 9d; South Russian, 38 lb, at 17s 3d to 17s 9d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Several lots of new corn were on offer. New peas made 31s to 32s; new black winter oats, 20s to 21s 6d. The rainy weather has spoilt the colour of much of the cut corn. For old corn trade was slow at unchanged rates. Wheats made 34s to 37s; barley, 28s to 29s; oats, 21s to 25s; mazagan beans, 30s to 31s; tick beans, 33s to 34s; foreign barley, made 26s to 27s; and maize, 25s to 26s 6d.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, white, 33s 6d to 34s 6d per qr; wheat, red, 33s 6d to 34s 6d per qr; barley, old, 29s to 32s per qr; beans, old, 31s to 32s per qr; oats, old, 12s to 25s per qr; peas, old, 30s to 35s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—The market was thinly attended, with very few samples on offer. Prices remain unaltered.

Birmingham, Thursday.—There was a much improved trade at this market, wheats having taken an upward turn, and sellers reported a good demand at about 1s per qr advaace. Quotations:—No. 1 Northern Manitobas, 37s per 496 lb, Bristol; No. 2 Northern Manitobas, 36s 6d at Bristol; River Plates, 35s 9d to 36s 3d; Russians, 34s to 34s 9d per qr at Sharpness. Bessarabian maize was 9d dearer 24s 6d per 480 lb, Sharpness; Galatz-Foxanian was 1s 6d dearer at 24s 6d Bristol; grinding barley remained at 25s per 400 lb, Sharpness. There was scarcly any English wheat on the market. Oats made from 22s 6d to 23s per 312 lb, and beans from 13s to 13s 3d per 196 lb, delivered.

Brighton, Thursday. — Small attendance, slow trade at last week's prices. New English wheat beginning to make its appearance. Prices not yet settled. Barley, 28s to 33s; grinding barley, 25s to 27s; old oats, English, 21s to 23s; new winter oats, 19s to 20s (42 lb); peas, 30s to 31s; beans, 33s to 34s.

Canterbury, Saturday.—New corn offered is of very fair quality, but supplies so far are extremely limited, owing to the wet weather having delayed harvesting. Prices are starting fairly high, sales of new wheat of 64 lb weight being reported at 37s to 38s delivered. Some new white oats of 44 lb weight have been sold at 21s, and new peas at 30s. 6d. per qr. Supplies of old wheat are practically exhausted. Best white oats range up to 25s 6d, and barleys are worth from 27s to 29s per qr.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Much larger supply of oats in our market to-day. Slow sale owing to few buyers, at a little less money, 23s 6d to 24s 6d per 336 lb.—Thomas Robinson.

Chester, Saturday.—The demand continues good for all feeding stuffs at increased prices. American corn was 3d per sack dearer, and round 3d to 6d per sack. Oats advanced 1d, and offals scarce and dear all round. Quotations: Beans, new, 5s 6d to 5s 9d; old, 6s to 6s 6d per 80 lb; oats, old, 3s 1d to 3s 6d per 46 lb; Indian corn, new, 13s 3d to 13s 6d; old, 13s 9d per 240 lb; round corn, old, 13s 9d to 14s 6d per 240 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Small attendance. Samples of new oats and new wheat on offer were in bad condition. Quiet trade. Old white wheat, 36s to 36s 6d; old red ditto, 36s to 36s 6d; grinding ditto, 25s 6d to 25s 9d; oats, English, 18s to 23s; rye, 27s to 28s; maize, 24s to 25s.

Colchester, Saturday.—Few samples of wheat offering unfit for milling. New oats slow sale.—Colin Taylor, King and Co., Ltd.

Coventry, Friday.—Attendance small, and very few parcels of corn were offered. Wheat ruled at 1s per qr advance on the week. Barley very firm. Oats and beans a strong trade at below figures. Quotations: Wheat, 12s 9d to 13s 6d per 186 lb; barley, 30s to 34s per 448 lb; peas, 12s to 14s; beans, 13s to 13s 9d per 196 lb; oats, 24s 6d to 27s per 352 lb.

Derby, Friday.—There was a very limited supply of wheat, and trade was firm at unaltered prices. Oats and beans a shade dearer. White wheat, 37s to 38s; grinding barley, 23s to 25s; beans, 35s to 37s; oats, 24s to 26s.

Devizes, Thursday.—A small attendance, and prices show no alteration. New winter oats were offered in good condition. The value of them was said to be 18s per qr, 40 lb to the bushel. Wheat-cutting has become general this week, and there is reason to hope that the crop is better than some people anticipated. Best wheat, 17s to 18s; secondary, 16s to 17s 6d; malting barley, 24s to 30s; feeding, 23s to 26s; old oats, 20s to 24s; new beans, 16s 6d to 18s; fine flour, 27s to 30s; extra fine, 32s to 36s.

Doncaster, Saturday. — The market was thinly attended, principally by merchants and millers, farmers having no grain to offer. Prices were firm at last week's full rates. Foreign wheat 1s 6d per qr dearer on the week, and in good demand. A few new oats from the South, but prices not fixed.

Dorchester, Saturday.—The weather being brilliantly fine to-day, everybody was kept at home attending to the harvest; consequently but very little business was done at the corn market. Supplies of home-grown wheat are practically exhausted, and only foreign was on offer to-day, this making, where sales resulted, from 1s to 1s 6d more than at late markets. Barley for grinding purposes also took an upward turn, and where business was done from 9d to 1s per qr advance had to be paid. Maize was also much more firmly held, and an advance of 6d to 1s must be quoted. Several samples of the new season's crop were on offer, but the quality was very variable, and the condition not good enough just yet to tempt buyers. New oats, however, came to hand in better condition than anything else, the prices asked ruling from 16s to 18s per qr. The harvest in Dorset is now being pushed on with all possible despatch, and the prospect on Sunday was decidedly better than has yet been presented at any previous period of the season, brilliant sunshine having a wonderful effect in finishing off the corn in a far better condition than even the most sanguine could have wished for. As it is the colour of much of the corn is seriously affected, but the yield is exceedingly satisfactory.

Dublin, Friday.—Foreign wheat a strong market and held for advance. Maize dearer, with an upward tendency; demand moderate. Irish trade slow, small blacks, 12s 6d to 13s 6d; whites, 14s 6d. New shown flour held for more money.

Exeter Friday. — Fairly good attendance; trade very slow. No English wheat on offer; foreign 6d to 1s dearer. Barley very firm, and 6d to 1s dearer. Maize is dearer. Oats firm. Flour unchanged. Quotations:—English wheat, 4s 6d; superfine flour, 25s to 27s; fine, 23s to 25s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The trade during the week has rather improved in tone, with sellers asking slightly higher prices for wheat and maize. Barley to arrive is also the turn dearer; and Manitoba oats on spot are about 3d dearer on the week. Other articles remain firm and unaltered in price. Attendance was small at to-day's market. Wheat dearer to buy. Flour steady to 6d per sack higher over the week. Maize very scarce on the spot, with few sellers at higher prices. Corn firm at late rates. Barley unobtainable on spot. Oats very firm for shipment, and spot lots held for 6d per boll advance. Beans and pease quietly firm. Bran and thirds nominally unaltered from last week. Oatmeal dearer. Other articles unchanged.—Gibson and Clark.

Glasgow, Friday.—Wheat nominally unchanged. Flour held for 6d to 9d per sack advance. Maize and corn very steady and the turn dearer at 3d per boll for spot and 6d for forward shipment. Oats held for 3d more money. Other articles unaltered.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Practically no English wheat on offer: Reds, 33s 6d to 34s; whites, 34s to 34s 6d. Foreign wheat active: Plates, 35s 9d to 36s 3d; Russians, 34s 3d to 36s 6d (Sharpness); Plate maize, 24s 6d (Sharpness); flat, 24s 6d, (Bristol); Bessarabian, 24s 9d (Sharpness). Barley, new, on passage, 22s 6d. Oats, 21s to 23s.

Grantham, Saturday.—Harvest operations having commenced in the district, there was a small attendance, and there is very little old corn left for disposal. What few sales were effected were at last week's prices.

Hereford, Wednesday. — Small attendance. Nothing offering in old English grain, and in the absence of transactions values nominally unchanged. New oats were shown, and nominally quoted at 18s to £1 per qr. Maize experienced a sharp rise during the week of fully 1s per qr. Wholesale quotations:—Wheat, 4s to 4s 4d per 62 lb; oats, old, 2s 6d to 3s per 40 lb; new, 2s 3d to 2s 6d; beans, 4s to 4s 3d per 65½ lb; maize, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per 60 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday. — Small supply of old wheat; trade steady at late rates. Reds, 34s to 35s; whites, to 36s per 504 lb. Grinding barley steady. Oats rather easier. Maize firm. Beans and peas unaltered.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Although there is still a lack of animation in the trade, the tone has undoubtedly strengthened. Shipments continue much below the European requirements, with the result that stocks and supplies on passage are diminishing, offers for shipment are scarce, and prices above the level of values on this side. Holders of wheat, therefore, are not pressing sales. Prices on the week are the turn against buyers, and old English fetches fancy figures. Maize firm and slightly dearer. Beans and oats unchanged.—Dunns and Co.

Leeds, Wednesday.—English wheat was the turn dearer, owing to continued scarcity and uncertain harvest prospects. Foreign was firmly held, with a hardening tendency. Flour was in good supply at late prices, medium qualities making 26s to 28s. River Plate, American, and Russian maize averaged 23s to 24s, and foreign malting barley 28s to 32s. Beans, peas and oats were steady.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair average attendance of buyers and dealers, with moderate supplies of home-grown wheats, which met a slow sale. Red wheats, 35s to 36s per 36 stones; white wheats, 36s to 37s per 36 stones; grinding barley, 31s to 33s per 32 stones; beans steady; oats, 23s to 25s per 24 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—Only a few samples of English wheat came to hand, these making the full prices of last week; foreign was in fair request, and realised 1s per qr more than a week ago. One or two samples of new English barley were shown in fair condition, and made 28s. per qr. Feeding stuffs in demand, and firm in price. Maize is dearer.

Maidstone, Thursday.—No change in the value of wheat to-day; it remains firm, scarcely any new samples yet. Winter oats and rye—the former at about 19s, and the latter 26s, but not much passing in them. Barley is steady at fully former cost, and maize is rather on the upward grade, and most other grains strong position.

Manchester, Thursday. — English wheat nominal, and foreign dearer at 2d to 3d per cental, but the higher prices checked sales. Flour was about 6d per sack dearer. Indian corn 1d to 2d per cental higher, and closed firm. Oats: Both English and foreign, were dearer. Barley scarce, and held for full rates. Beans and peas firm. Bran and other articles were in sellers' favour.

Newark, Wednesday.—The attendance was a little better; prices nominally the same as last week. White and red wheat, 36s to 37s; malting barley, 29s to 30s; grinding, nil; white oats, 23s 6d to 24s 6d; black ditto, 23s to 23s 6d; beans, 35s to 36s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—We had a fair demand for wheat at our to-day's market at 1s per 504 lb over last week's prices. Maize firm, 6d dearer on the week with a fair consumptive demand. Beans and peas remain firm at late rates. A good demand for oats, and fine quality was fully 6d dearer since last Saturday. Barley very scarce on spot and dearer.—Pollard and Co.

Newport, Wednesday. — Good attendance. Brown maize 6d dearer; flat maize scarce. Oats, 3d advance. Forward barley, 9d dearer; spot barley unchanged. Flour, 6d advance.

Northampton, Saturday.—There was practically nothing doing at the Exchange this morning, all old corn being used up and no new corn yet being in. Prices remain as last week:—Wheat, 34s to 35s; barley, 28s to 30s; white oats, 23s to 24s; black oats, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; beans, 31s to 33s; peas, 30s to 32s; flour, 26s to 30s.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was no wheat at the market on Saturday, either old or new. Harvest generally commences this week.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Rather more old English wheat offering, but the high prices asked checks business. Foreign held for 1s advance. Grinding barley firm. Oats but few showing and 6d higher. Beans firm.—Robt. Hubble.

Oxford, Saturday.—The market was quiet, and only a small trade passed, buyers being poorly represented. New oats were offered at about 18s 6d per 336 lb. A few samples of new wheat were quoted at about 32s.

Peterborough, Saturday.—The weather has

been dull and damp, and harvest work is proceeding but slowly. The little old wheat found buyers at about 35s. A few samples of new barley at market; quality and prices various.—Thomas Hill and Son.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a fair attendance on our Exchange to-day. Maize, oats, 3d to 6d. dearer. Wheat 3d. dearer. Barley, none offering.—Orlando Davis and Co.

Preston, Saturday. — The unseasonable weather and late harvest have caused an advance in wheat values, and a large business has been done during the week at 3d to 4d per cental. increased. To-day's market was poorly attended, farmers' supplies of wheat and other grain being exhausted. Millers' offal and flour were 6d per pack dearer, with good demand. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220 lb., 14s 6d to 15s; ditto red, new, 13s 9d to 14s 3d; oats, old, per bushel, 3s 5d to 3s 6d beans, per windle of 220 lb, 16s 6d to 17s.

Reading, Saturday.—The attendance was small and trade was quiet. Prices: Wheat, 35s to 38s per qr; barley, 27s to 31s; oats, 19s 6d to 23s; beans, 33s to 36s; peas, 29s to 32s.

Ripon, Thursday.—A good attendance of farmers, and a fair business. Local wheat shows a downward tendency. Prices:—Wheat, 34s to 35s; ditto foreign, 36s to 40s 6d; barley, grinding, 26s to 27s; oats, 24s to 25s; maize, round, 25s to 26s; ditto, flat, 26s to 27s per qr.

Retford, Saturday.—Small supplies of wheat, and good prices ruled, running up to quite 36s per qr. All kinds of grain were scarce and dear, grinding barley making 27s; maize, 27s; English beans, 34s; black oats, 22s to 23s; and white ditto, 24s per qr. Harvest has only just commenced in this district, and not likely to be general for a week.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The market remains quiet, with a steady demand, and prices continue to rule high for English grain. Beans, oats, and barley all sell at about 6d. per qr. advance on the week. Flat maize firm at full prices. Oats steadier at rather more money. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 36s 6d to 37s 6d; ditto red, new, 36s 6d to 37s 6d per 504 lb; oats, black, 24s to 25s; ditto white, 24s to 25s per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 33s 6d to 34s; ditto blue, 75s to 90s per 504 lb; beans, English, 36s 3d to 36s 9d per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 27s 6d to 28s; ditto malting, 28s to 32s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 25s 9d to 26s; ditto Plate, 25s to 25s 6d: ditto flat, 26s to 27s per 480 lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Old wheat, 15s to 15s 6d per 225 lb; old oats, 15s 6d to 16s per 225 lb; old beans, 15s 6d to 16s 6d per 240 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—Quiet business, but late rates were upheld. Wheat, 34s 6d to 35s 6d; oats, 22s to 22s 6d; beans, 32s to 32s 6d per qr. The harvest has not yet commenced generally in the district, but in a few isolated cases cutting operations have started, and the yield and quality is satisfactory.

Stockton, Wednesday.—No local wheat showing. Foreign wheat trade steadier owing to unsettled weather, and prices ruled 5d to 6d dearer on the week. Old oats dearer, maize 3d to 6d per qr dearer.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Not much grain offering. Wheat must be quoted 1s per qr dearer. Oats and barley very firm. Arrivals nil.—E. and F. Richardson.

Warwick, Saturday.—Wheat, 12s 9d to 13s per bag. Feeding stuffs a turn dearer, especially barley and maize. Not many samples of grain on offer.

Winchester, Saturday.—Old English wheat scarce and dearer. Foreign 6d to 1s advance. Barley and oats unaltered. Maize 3d higher. Flour firm at late rates.—Fear, Colebrook and Co., Ltd.

Wisbech, Saturday.—At market to-day full prices obtained for the few odd samples of wheat and oats offering. The low temperature during the week, with occasional showers and little sunshine, makes harvesting very slow work.—James Fletcher.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday. — Business quiet. Quotations:—English oats, 14s 6d per 196 lb; English wheat, 14s 6d per 216 lb; English beans, 13s 6d per 196 lb; Indian corn, flat, 11s 6d per 196 lb; round, 11s 6d per 196 lb.

Worksop, Wednesday. — Holiday market. White wheat, 33s to 37s; red ditto, 32s to 36s; barley, 26s to 28s 6d; white oats, 23s to 24s 6d; black oats, 22s to 23s 6d; maize, 26s 6d to 28s; beans, 34s to 36s per qr.

Yeovil, Friday.—A few rubbed-out samples of the new wheat crop were shown, but no business passed. New oats on offer at 18s 6d to 19s 6d per qr. Old wheat (home grown) made about 35s per qr. Foreign wheat was up 1s per qr on last week's values, and maize a like sum. Old oats advanced from 3d to 6d, English white selling at 22s 6d to 24s; black, 20s to 22s; Irish white, 21s 3d to 21s 9d; black, 19s 3d to 19s 9d; grinding barley (foreign), 25s; feeding, English, 24s to 26s 6d; maize, flat, 24s 3d to 24s 9d; ditto, round, 24s to 25s 6d; new rye, 25s to 29s; new beans, 16s 6d to 18s. An improved demand for flour at last week's level of 26s per sack of fines. Meals and offals favour sellers.

York, Saturday.—There was a fair attendance, but very little business doing. Wheat, of which few samples were on offer, made 33s to 36s per qr. of 36 stones, whilst oats made 23s to 24s per qr of 32 stones. Beans, peas, and maize firmer.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday. — This week we had almost daily torrents of rain, which must have seriously damaged the outstanding crops. Our market was much excited, a speculative demand set in and prices of all articles advanced rapidly, particularly for wheat and rye, the crops of which are in a critical state. Complaints about potato disease are increasing. American hard winter wheat No. 2, August-September shipment, sold at 34s to 34s 3d; red winter No. 2, free from garlic, is held at 34s 6d; Bluestem at 35s 3d; 80 kg River Plate on the spot, 34s 9d per 480 lb ex-ship here. There is a great demand for dry rye, most of the German crop being unfit for immediate use. 9 10/15 South Russian afloat was sold at 32s 6d; September-October shipment at 30s 6d per 480 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg, and higher prices are now asked. Fine stout Bohemian malting barley is taken by our brewers at 36s to 38s; choice quality is held at 39s to 41s; Slovakian and Moravian of fine colour at 38s 6d to 42s per 448 lb, f.o.b. From the Saale, good coloured but not very stout barley is offering at 40s. From Denmark, Holstein, and Mecklenburg we are still without offers, Quality is not likely to be fine. Feeding barley again in good demand. Russian, August ½-September shipment selling at 21, August-October at 20s 9d per 400 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg. Maize firm. Odessa, August shipment, 23s 6d; Mixed American, 23s 9d to 24s; River Plate, on the spot, 23s to 23s 6d per 480 lb, ex ship here.—John Tatlock.

CORN STATISTICS

Weekly Arrivals into London.

August 14 to 21 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	36	85,000	85,036
Barley	1,200	9,300	10,500
Malt	21,392	—	21,392
Oats	300	97,000	97,300
Beans	442	164	606
Peas	81	13,000	1,381
Maize	—	55,325	55,325
Tares	14	2,000	2,014
Dari	—	1,263	1,263
Coriander	—	3,000	3,000
Linseed	—	12,700	12,700
Cottonseed	—	5,000	5,000
Flour sacks	14,000	33,000	47,000
Ryeflour	—	700	700
Maizemeal ,,	—	3,000	3,000
Riceflour ,,	—	6,000	6,000

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, August 24, 1907:—

Wheat	1,750,800 cwts.
Wheat-flour	150,000 ,,
Barley	166,700 ,,
Oats	349,000 ,,
Maize	1,578,900 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1906. Cwts.	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.
Wheat	1,793,900	2,239,700	2,408,400	1,937,300
Wheat-flour	108,100	147,300	201,900	365,085
Barley	236,800	278,600	477,600	363,400
Oats	211,600	321,500	289,000	221,900
Maize	1,460,000	1,475,200	863,900	794,700

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending August 24, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1903 to 1906:—

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1903	13,143	30	0	529	22	3	8,572	18	7
1904	31,432	29	5	4,701	23	2	26,042	16	5
1905	88,696	27	1	6,461	23	6	20,855	15	9
1906	26,545	27	9	2,508	25	0	14,673	16	10
1907	17,415	33	7	672	25	0	5,699	19	8

Imperial Weekly Averages.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1906.									
Aug. 25	26,545	27	9	2,508	25	0	14,673	16	10
Sept. 1	55,716	26	9	4,758	24	3	22,580	16	6
,, 8	78,579	26	4	19,448	24	9	32,679	16	3
,, 15	89,745	25	11	41,670	24	3	34,330	16	1
,, 22	90,292	25	9	76,130	24	3	37,120	16	0
,, 29	83,907	25	9	129,209	24	8	41,942	16	2
Oct. 6	87,200	26	1	183,145	25	0	35,724	16	3
,, 13	80,630	26	3	226,940	25	3	38,088	16	7
,, 20	71,352	26	6	230,636	24	10	33,636	16	8
,, 27	69,920	26	7	233,998	24	10	28,956	16	10
Nov. 3	64,404	26	7	229,015	24	8	32,527	16	11
,, 10	63,764	26	6	205,560	24	8	27,982	17	1
,, 17	58,059	26	4	167,441	24	4	20,389	17	2
,, 24	58,467	26	3	149,427	24	1	28,669	17	3
Dec. 1	60,299	26	1	160,173	24	1	34,743	17	2
,, 8	63,264	26	1	167,532	24	1	37,119	17	4
,, 15	70,332	26	1	135,513	23	11	36,175	17	3
,, 22	68,977	26	3	127,131	24	3	31,528	17	3
,, 29	49,637	26	0	97,796	24	1	29,124	17	3
1907.									
Jan. 5	24,559	26	0	31,733	23	11	14,773	17	3
,, 12	47,667	26	1	71,498	24	2	27,939	17	4
,, 19	75,207	26	1	104,417	24	1	37,413	17	8
,, 26	80,321	26	2	109,274	24	5	45,887	17	5
Feb. 2	84,370	26	3	86,031	24	4	38,928	17	7
,, 9	77,659	26	6	74,324	24	5	30,467	17	7
,, 16	84,514	26	7	69,221	24	1	38,725	17	9
,, 23	76,580	26	10	53,681	24	2	39,559	17	9
Mar. 2	64,923	26	9	40,398	24	2	32,965	17	9
,, 9	71,183	28	8	32,620	23	11	31,065	17	11
,, 16	69,340	26	10	29,274	24	2	28,017	18	0
,, 23	69,183	26	10	20,977	24	0	22,204	18	1
,, 30	49,202	26	8	15,929	23	9	18,412	18	2
April 6	28,757	26	9	6,539	24	3	10,296	18	3
,, 13	43,426	26	8	6,830	23	9	17,523	18	6
,, 20	54,965	26	8	6,032	23	3	21,389	18	7
,, 27	62,656	26	10	4,967	27	3	25,447	18	0
May 4	63,344	27	0	4,289	23	6	22,691	19	3
,, 11	53,080	27	6	3,375	24	0	18,392	19	7
,, 18	41,991	28	4	2,955	23	10	15,817	20	1
,, 25	37,963	29	7	1,977	24	3	12,803	20	7
June 1	28,070	31	4	1,998	24	0	10,478	20	5
,, 8	34,122	32	0	1,539	24	7	11,711	20	8
,, 15	38,008	31	10	1,152	24	7	7,668	20	11
,, 22	31,351	31	4	1,088	24	11	7,187	20	9
,, 29	23,007	31	2	759	24	6	6,118	20	8
July 6	20,795	31	3	432	24	8	4,303	20	11
,, 13	19,209	32	0	665	24	10	3,380	20	11
,, 20	15,915	32	6	259	24	5	4,447	21	1
,, 27	16,867	32	11	3,324	27	3	3,533	20	8
Aug. 3	16,165	33	2	313	26	4	2,886	21	2
,, 10	18,510	33	5	322	26	6	3,459	21	3
,, 17	14,258	33	6	682	25	9	4,042	20	4
,, 25	17,415	33	7	672	25	0	5,699	19	8

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, August 20, 1907:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Av. Price per qr £	s.	d.
Wheat	1,026	0	1,710	6	1	1	13	4
Barley	33	4	42	15	0	1	5	6
Oats	648	2	657	6	11	1	0	3

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1906.

		s.	d.
September 1	(per sack)	29	0
October 8	,,	28	0
May 13	,,	29	0
,, 24	,,	31	0
,, 31	,,	30	0
June 5	,,	31	0

(No change since last date given).

Yearly Averages (Official).

	Wheat. s.	d.		Barley. s.	d.		Oats. s.	d.	
1890	31	9	per qr.	28	8	per qr.	18	7	per qr.
1891	37	1	,,	28	2	,,	20	0	,,
1892	30	4	,,	26	2	,,	19	11	,,
1893	26	4	,,	25	6	,,	18	9	,,
1894	22	10	,,	24	6	,,	17	1	,,
1895	23	1	,,	21	11	,,	14	6	,,
1896	26	2	,,	22	11	,,	14	9	,,
1897	30	2	,,	23	6	,,	16	11	,,
1898	34	0	,,	27	2	,,	18	5	,,
1899	25	8	,,	25	7	,,	17	0	,,
1900	26	11	,,	25	9	,,	17	9	,,
1901	26	9	,,	25	3	,,	18	5	,,
1902	28	0	,,	25	8	,,	20	2	,,
1903	26	9	,,	22	11	,,	17	2	,,
1904	28	4	,,	22	4	,,	16	4	,,
1905	29	9	,,	24	4	,,	17	4	,,
1906	28	4	,,	24	3	,,	18	7	,,

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 p.m.

The market to-day was fairly well attended. There is very little new wheat on offer. Condition and quality vary greatly, and price varies accordingly—33s. to 37s. are terms mentioned. Old wheat is dearer, the exact extent varies. "Between the cereal years" the prices of old and new corn are necessarily more or less unfixed. This day fortnight we may hope for definite new season opening quotations. New winter barley at 27s. is in evidence and has some buyers, a solitary sample of new malting, February sown corn was shown, and 33s. was, we understand, paid for it. Feeding barley was quite celar, whether for English or Russian.

Indian and Persian at 23s. to 24s. sold well. New winter oats at 18s. to 19s. were in request, and some Swedish also met with a good inquiry. Argentine oats, on the other hand, met with little favour. Maize prices tend in sellers' favour, and to do prices for all sorts of beans and peas.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

August 26.

WHEAT, New White.....(per 504 lb.)	35	36
Old ,, ... ,,	36	37
New Red..... ,,	34	35
Old ,, ... ,,	35	36
BARLEY, Malting .....(per 448 lb.)	None.	
Brewing ..... ,,	None.	
Distilling, ...(per 416 lb.)	None.	
Old Winter ..... (per 400 lb.)	None.	
New Winter ... (per 400 lb.)	24	29
Feeding.....(per 400 lb.)	None.	
MALT, Pale .....(per 336 lb.)	34	36
Brown ..... ,,	27	29
Black ..... ,,	29	30
OATS, Storm Kings ..... ,,	None.	
Abundance ..... ,,	None.	
Waverleys..... ,,	None.	
Pioneers..... ,,	None.	
Black Tartary ..... ,,	22	23
White Gartons ..... ,,	23	24
New Winter ..... ,,	18	20
Ordinary Old ...(per 320 lb.)	21	22
RYE, Old .....(per 480 lb.)	29	31
New .....(per 480 lb.)	25	30
BEANS, Pigeon .....(per 532 lb.)	42	44
Tick .....(per 504 lb.)	34	35
Winter ..... ,,	32	33
Spring ..... ,,	31	32
Split Mazagan .....(per 320 lb.)	21	22
PEAS, Picked Marrowfat, New (per 504 lb.)	90	100
,, ,, Old ,,	70	72
Unpicked (Old) ..... ,,	52	56
Maple (Old) ..... ,,	36	37
Dun (Old) ..... ,,	32	34
TARES (Winter).....(per 532 lb.)	40	44
(Spring)..... ,,	44	48
(English Gores)..... ,,	56	64
(Scotch Gores) ..... ,,	68	72

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba	37	38	American	23	24
Red Winter ...	35	36	Argentine	23	24
Best Spring ...	37	38	Roumanian ...	23	24
Argentine	36	37	Russian	23	24
Australian ...	36	37	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Californian ...	36	37	Smyrna	34	35
Walla Walla	35	36	New Zealand...	32	33
Saxonka	35	36	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Azima	34	35	Hungarian	62	64
Ghirka	33	34	Burmese	38	40
Roumanian ...	33	34	Chilian	56	64
Indian White	34	35	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb):		
,, Red ...	33	34	French	31	33
Turkish	32	33	Russian	27	28
Persian	32	33	Canadian	26	27
BARLEY:			PEAS (504 lb.):		
C'lifor'n(448 lb)	none		Dutch Crowns	55	57
Tunisian(448 lb)	30	31	Konigsberg ...	44	46
Algerian (448 lb)	29	30	Russian White	35	36
Ouchak (448 lb)	28	32	Indian White.	35	36
Smyrna (448 lb)	26	30	Canadian White	35	36
Russian (400 lb)	26	27	New Zeal'd Maple	39	40
Indian(400 lb)...	24	25	Victoria Dun.	32	33
Persian (400 lb)	23	24	MILLET (416 lb.):		
MALT (336 lb.):			White	42	44
Californian ...	none		Yellow	22	24
Smyrna	33	36	Sorghum	20	21
Ouchak	33	36	RICE (cwt.):		
RYE (480 lb.):			Java	16	22
Russian	24	25	Indian	17	20
OATS:			Japanese	16	17
English (320 lb)	21	22	Burmese.....	10	11
Irish (320 lb)	15	18/3	Siamese	8	9
Canadian(320 lb)	20	21	DARI (480 lb.):		
Argentine (504 lb)	17/3	18	Smyrna	25	27
Swedish (320 lb)	21	22	Indian	22	23
New Zealand (448 lb)	25	25	Persian	21	22

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 p.m.

The market to-day was a little dearer, both for Town Whites and Town Households, and the inquiry better also. For country flour the prices asking are a little vague, pending the offer of flour from the new crop of wheat. American flour is dearer than ever, the supply on passage is barely half an average, and offers for September shipment are at prices which do not point to any large business being done.

Hungarian flour is hardly to be had, and the price is very high indeed. Even Belgian is well above 30s. per sack. French fails, as a rule, to find favour, and Australian is now practically off the market. Milling offals are scarce, and in consequence a slightly higher price has to be paid for them.

London Flour.

August 26.

Top Price.....(per sack of 280 lb.)	31/0	net
Town Whites ..... ,,	29/0	,,
,, Households ..... ,,	26/0	,,
No. 2..... ,,	24/0	,,
Whole Meal No. 1..... ,,	23/0	,,
,, No. 2..... ,,	21/0	,,

Country Flour.

	s.	s.
Fine Patents .....(per sack of 280 lb.)	25	26
Roller Whites ..... ,,	23	24
All English ..... ,,	23	24
Stone made ..... ,,	22	23

Foreign Flour.

	s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents (per s'ck of 280 lb.)	27	28
,, Second Patents ..... ,,	25	26
,, First Bakers' ..... ,,	22	23
,, Second Bakers' ..... ,,	21	22
Milwaukee Patents ..... ,,	26	27
,, Bakers' ..... ,,	23	24
Canadian Best ..... ,,	26	27
,, Ordinary ..... ,,	24	25
Manitoba Patents ..... ,,	26	27
,, Ordinary ..... ,,	24	25
Kansas Patents ..... ,,	25	26
,, Ordinary..... ,,	23	24
Californian ..... ,,	27	28
Hungarian ..... ,,	36	38
Belgian ..... ,,	31	33
French, Corbeil ..... ,,	26	27
,, Renaux..... ,,	25	26
,, P.S.D. ..... ,,	24	25

Meal, &c.

Bran, London Broad (per sack of 280 lb.)	13	14
,, Country Flake Choice ... ,,	14	15
,, ,, Broad ..... ,,	13	14
Pollard ..... ,,	12	13
Biscuit Middlings ..... ,,	16	17
Fine Middlings ..... ,,	15	16
Coarse Middlings ..... ,,	14	15
Wheat Germ Meal..... ,,	17	18
Farina Firsts ..... ,,	28	29
,, Seconds ..... ,,	26	27
Barley Meal..... ,,	21	22
Canadian Oatmeal..... ,,	25	26
Scotch Oatmeal ..... ,,	30	33
Groats ..... ,,	32	33
Oat Flour..... ,,	33	34
Ground Oats ..... ,,	32	33
Poultry Meal ..... ,,	34	36
American Feeding Wheat Flour ,,	18	19
Maize Flour "Cornflour" ..... ,,	18	19
,, Germ Meal ..... ,,	15	16
,, Cones ..... ,,	18	19
,, Gluten Meal ..... ,,	15	16
Rye Flour ..... ,,	24	26
Rye Bran..... ,,	21	22
Pea Meal..... ,,	23	24

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED DECIDEDLY DEARER FOR ALL STUFF WHICH COULD BE PROMISED FOR ACTUAL DELIVERY BEFORE THE CLOSE OF AUGUST. IN ALL SUCH STUFF PRICES GIVEN ABOVE MAY HAVE 1s. ADDED. THAT FOR FUTURE DELIVERIES—[illegible] IN SEPTEMBER, VALUES MAY STAND AS QUOTED; NOR WAS THERE A GOOD INQUIRE EVEN THEN. THE SUPPLY CRISIS IS OF A STRICTLY TEMPORARY CHARACTER.

THE BALTIC.

Monday, 1 p.m.

State of Trade.

Wheat cargoes are decidedly firm. Barley and maize cargoes are not so showy as on Saturday, but linseed and cottonseed are firmer. Rapeseed, with a large supply on passage, tends in buyers' favour. Oats are dearer for immediate futures but weak for later autumn.

Business Done.

Wheat.—Walla Walla, 35s 3d per 500 lb, on passage; Blue Stem, 36s 6d per 500 lb, on pasage; Australian, 36s 9d per 480 lb, on passage; No. 1 Manitoba, 35s 9d per 480 lb, September shipment; No. 1 Durum, 30s 3d per 480 lb, September shipment; White Karachi, 35s 6d per 492 lb, September shipment; Red Karachi, 35s per 492 lb, September shipment; Argentine, 35s per 480 lb, September shipment.

Maize.—Argentine, 24s 3d per 480 lb, September shipment; Odessa, 24s 9d per 480 lb, Septembar shipment.

Barley.—Persian, 20s per 400 lb, October shipment; Karachi, 22s. 6d per 400 lb, on passage; Oregon, 30s 6d per 448 lb, prompt shipment; Hungarian, 38s per 448 lb, prompt shipment (Trieste).

Oats.—Riga, 15s 3d per 304 lb, September shipment.

Linseed.—Indian, 41s 3d per 410 lb arrived; Duluth, 41s 6d per 416 lb, September shipment.

Rapeseed.—Ferozepore, 55s per 416 lb, on pas-Jamba, 42s per 416 lb, October shipment.

Cottoneed.—Egyptian, £8 per 2,240 lb, on passage; Brazilian, £7 per 2,240 lb, on passage.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

Flour.—The market for wheat has been strong this week, so sellers ask 6d per sack advance on flour. Grain.—Flat corn in improved demand at 6d advance. Round maize arrived held for 3d per boll advance. Manitoba oats much firmer, and in small supply. Beans quiet. Canadian pease 3d per boll dearer. The sale for oatmeal is lower. Mill Stuffs.—Continue to advance. Winter wheat patents, 27s 6d to 28s per 280 lb; spring wheat patents, 27s 6d to 28s per 280 lb; American corn, 14s 6d per 280 lb; round corn, 14s 3d to 14s 6d per 280 lb; grinding beans, 18s 9d per 280 lb; white pease, 19s 9d to 20s per 280 lb; broad bran, 107s 6d to 110s per 200 lb; medium bran, 100s to 102s 6d per 200 lb; fine thirds, 130s per ton; common thirds, 110s per ton; American oilcake, 145s per ton.—McKinnon and McDonald (Glasgow).

Flour.—There is an improvement in the demand, and quotations for American and home-made brands are both about 6d. per sack on last week's prices.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Offals.—Bran continues firm, and demand steady.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Milling Offal.—The extreme scarcity still continues, and as long as this prevails there can be no reduction from the high prices.—John Bawcomb and Co.

We have liberal supplies of wheat. The trade is firm, and prices are 1s. 6d. to 2s. per qr. higher. Flour 6d. per sack dearer. Maize 1s. 6d. Barley 3d. Oats 3d. and 6d. per qr. dearer.—Coventry and Sheppard.

Flour.—Trade to-day has been very strong with a good demand. Offers, however, are very scarce, and prices are really dearer on the week.—T. S. Medill and Sons, Ltd.

TERM MARKET.

The market for future delivery has hardened very perceptibly since the 19th, and the following prices are now obtainable, with more business doing at them than was at the lower level previously quoted:—

Winter Wheat.

Red, American,	7s. 5d.,	per cental,	Sept.	delivery.
,, ,,	7s. 6d.	,,	Oct.	,,
,, ,,	7s. 7d.	,,	Nov	,,
,, ,,	7s. 7d.	,,	Dec.	,,
,, ,,	7s. 7d.	,,	Jan.	,,
,, ,,	7s. 8d.	,,	Feb.	,,
,, ,,	7s 8d.	,,	March	,,
American mixed maize	5s. 2d.	,,	Sept.	,,
,, ,,	7s. 2d.	,,	Oct.	,,

No maize is offered on the speculative market at present for later than October delivery.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—There is a little more inquiry for 1906 hops. The crop still continues to progress very slowly, especially in the Golding grounds of East and West Kent, where many are still in the burr stage. This is causing the growers considerable anxiety. Some are doubtful whether they will ever get out into hop, and others fear the cones will be the smallest ever picked. The Fuggles on the clays are well out in hop, but they, like the Goldings, will be smaller than usual, but we think all will be very rich in lupulin.—W. H. and H. Le May.

Worcester, Saturday.—Our reports speak of very slow progress in development of the hops, and that hot weather is essential to bring them to maturity. The probable quantity still depends on the weather, especially in the more delicate sorts of hops. Business keeps quiet, and chiefly for present requirements.—Charles Faram and Co.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—A fair assortment was offered and a steady demand prevailed. Early Rose, 60s; Early Puritans, 60s; British Queen, 55s to 60s; Epicures, 50s; Blacklands, 60s to 65s per ton.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Good supply and a steady trade at 7d to 9d per stone

Doncaster, Saturday.—A good supply, which made 3s per cwt.

Goole, Wednesday.—Practically nothing doing in the potato market, and an exceedingly small supply of samples on sale. Late prices were maintained.

Malton, Saturday.—Prices are firmer at 5s per cwt. retail.

Manchester, Saturday.—Potatoes: Cheshire, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; Bedford, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; Cambridge, 4s to 4s 6d per cwt.

Preston, Saturday.—Prices were easier at 7s to 8s per load of 240 lb.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Better support was experienced for the somewhat smaller quantity marketed. Early Rose, 60s; Early Puritans, 60s to 65s; British Queens, 70s to 75s; Duke of Yorks, 60s; Epicures, 60 to 65s; Sharp's Express, 60s to 65s. Blacklands: Up-to-Dates, 60s; British Queens, 55s to 60s; Sharp's Express, 55s to 60s; Epicures, 50s to 55s per ton.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Lincolnshire potatoes £4 per ton.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Good supply of locally-grown potatoes, which made 7s to 8s per load of 18 stones.

York, Saturday.—Fair quantity, and good samples made 52s to 55s per ton.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply; trade quiet. Old hay, £4 per ton; new hay, £3 5s per ton; straw, 2s 3d per cwt.

Derby, Friday.—Quotations:—Clover, best old, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; hay, best old, 90s to 100s; second, 65s to 70s; straw, wheat, 60s to 70s; pressed, 50s to 60s; chop, 55s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A quiet trade in hay and straw al last week's quotations.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The hay harvest is practically over, but the new crop has not yet been offered in the warehouses. Old hay commands full prices, and straw is in demand for thatching purposes. A steady trade is passing at the following quotations:—Clover hay, 7½d; meadow hay, 7d; wheat straw, 5d; oat straw, 5d; and rye straw (retail), 7d to 8½d per stone; green clover, 3½d per bundle.

Lincoln, Friday.—A good supply of hay and seeds and a moderate demand. Best new hay and seeds, 50s to 55s; inferior ditto, 40s to 50s per ton on the ground. A fair amount of straw, and a poor demand at 55s per ton at the stack.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, old, 6d to 6½d; clover, 7½d; green, 4½d to 5½d; straw, oat, 3½d.

Newcastle, Tuesday. — Old land hay, from £3 15s to £4 7s 6d per ton; new land hay, £4 10s to £5 7s 6d; this year's growth, £4 10s; wheat straw, £1 2s to £1 5s per load; oat straw, £1 1s to £1 4s.

Nottingham, Wednesday.—Fair supplies on offer, which met with a quiet sale, except for best old. Quotations: Inferior to good hay, 70s to 80s; prime ditto, 90s to 100s; inferior to good clover, 80s to 90s; prime ditto, 95s to 105s; wheat straw, 45s to 55s; new hay, 70s to 80s; new seeds, 80s to 90s per ton.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Small supplies and moderate attendance of farmers. Choice old seeds, £4 15s to £5; choice hay, £4 10s to £4 15s; straw, £2 5s to £2 10s per ton.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Supplies were on a liberal scale and passed off quietly at late rates. Best clover, 84s to 95s; inferior, 72s to 80s; specially picked hay, 87s; good, 76s to 85s; inferior, 65s to 70s; mixture and sainfoin, 77s 6d to 87s 6d; straw, 28s to 34s per load.

WET AND DRIED GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Saturday.—Wet Grains: Prices rule a trifle higher, with a better trade and business has been done at 12s to 13s ale, and 9s 6d to 10s 6d porter per ton on rail, London. Dried Grains.—The demand continues improvingly strong, with every probability of a further advance. Prices are:—Distillers, 108s 9d; ale, 98s 9d; and mixed, 93s 6d per ton on rail, London. Ale grains for the winter months are offering at 105s. Rice germ, 102s 6d; American cane treacle, 87s 6d per ton, on rail, London Kiln-dried sea-damaged Australian wheat from 20s per qr.—Hamlyn and Co., 37 and 38, Mark Lane, London, E.C.

Seven Years Grain Averages.
(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 10d. per 480 lb.
Barley	25s. 4d. per 400 lb.
Oats	18s. 11d. per 312 lb.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.
Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, August 26, 1907. British.	Total.	Monday, Aug. 27, 1906.
Beasts	850	850	1,020
Sheep and Lambs	5,640	5,640	6,880
Calves	10	10	20
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	40	40	30

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beasts	2 10	3 10	4 8
Sheep	3 8	5 2	6 0
Lambs	4 10	5 6	6 8
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22 10s.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 30; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 732; Devon, 10; Ireland, 78.

We note to-day an increase of 10 head in the number of beasts offered for sale, compared with Monday last. The majority of the supply, consisted of Herefords and Runts from the Midland counties, trade for which ruled of a slow and dragging nature, with little prospect of a clearance being effected, owing to the inclement weather and the small attendance of buyers present. The Irish consignment consisted of 23 Dublins and 55 Waterfords (no store cattle being included), these shared in the slow trade and were quoted at 2d. per 8 lb. lower. Fats cows and bulls were in excess of the demand, late currencies, however, governed all transactions.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Monday, Aug. 20, 1906.
	s d	s d
Scotch	—	—
Devons	—	—
Herefords	4 6 ex 4 8	4 4 to 4 6 ex 4 6
Norfolks	—	—
Runts	4 4 to 4 6	4 0 to 4 2
Lincolns	4 0 to 4 2	3 8 to 3 10
Irish	4 2 to 4 4	—
Canadian	—	—
Fat cows	3 4 to 3 6	3 4 to 3 6

There was a decrease of 390 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. For both Scotch and English wether sheep a slow and dragging trade was experienced at a decline of 2d. per 8 lb. in value. Irish descriptions, on the other hand, maintained last week's prices, as also did ewes Notwithstanding low rates prevailing, lambs were difficult to vend owing to the scarcity of buyers present, retail butchers' requirements being naturally limited owing to so many families being out of town. A clearance will not be made. The supply included 200 Scotch, 653 Irish, and 263 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	Monday, Aug. 27, 1906.
	s. d.	s. d.
7½ to 8 st Downs	5 10 to 6 0	5 10 to 6 0
9 st. Downs	5 8 to 5 10	5 8 to 5 10
10 st Halfbreds	5 4 to 5 6	5 4 to 5 6
10 st Yorkshires	—	—
12st Lincolns, half-bred	—	—
10 st Irish	5 4 to 5 6	5 0 to 5 2
10 st Down Ewes	4 0 to 4 2	4 4 to 4 6
11 st Halfbred ditto	3 10 to 4 0	4 2 to 4 4
5 st Grass Lambs	6 6 to 6 8	7 0 to 7 2
6 st Halfbreds ditto	6 2 to 6 4	6 2 to 6 4

Calf trade not worth noting.

No pigs on the market.

London (Central), Monday.—Trade, quiet, offerings moderate. Beef, English, 3s 7d to 3s 10d; Scotch, 4s to 4s 6d; American, 3s 4d to 3s 9d: refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 9d to 4s. Mutton, English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 10d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Lambs, 4s 10d to 5s 4d; Scotch tegs and wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Veal, 3s to 4s 8d. Pork, 3s 8d to 4s 2d per stone.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts nil. No market held here to-day. On Saturday 1,197 beasts from the United States and 833 from Canada were offered for sale, and met with a firm trade at an advance of 2d per 8 lb. in value for the former and 3d for the latter. The best States on offer were quoted at from 4s 3d to 4s 5d; seconds, 4s 1d to 4s 3d. Canadians, 4s 1d to 4s 3d; seconds, 3s 10d to 4s per 8 lb (offal given in).

Liverpool, Monday.—Supply of stock larger. Cattle trade slow, and prices lower, especially for middling and inferior quilities. Sheep and lamb trade of dragging character, and although sheep were quotably little altered, lambs were 2s to 3s per head lower. Beef, 6½d to 5; mutton, 8½d to 6d; lamb, 8½d to 7¾d per lb.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday. — Linseed Cake. — The harvest operations being still in full swing, demand is moderate, though values are well maintained, and in some instances 2s 6d per ton more money is asked. Foreign markets offer very sparingly.

Cotton Cakes.—With no fresh arrivals or anticipated shipments for some time prices are inclined to harden for Egyptian made. English have advanced 2s 6d per ton.

Linseed.—Both Plate and Calcutta are falling off in the quantity shipped, which is giving the market an upward tendency.

English Linseed Cake, ex mill	7	7	6 to	7	10	0
American Calcutta Linseed cake ex quay	7	7	6 to	7	10	0
Russian Oil Cake ex quay	7	2	6 to	7	7	6
Decorticated Cotton Cake ex quay	7	0	0 to	7	5	0
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal ex quay	6	15	0	7	0	0
London-made ,, Cake (best) ex mill	4	18	9	5	0	0
Egyptian ,, Cake (in bags) ex quay	4	15	0	4	17	6
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included) on rail, Burton	4	15	0	—		
Duluth Linseed (in bulk per 416 lb ex warehouse	2	5	6	—		
Calcutta Linseed (in bags), per 410 lb ex warehouse	2	3	6	—		
La Plata Linseed per 416 lb. ex warehouse	2	3	6	2	10	0
Russian Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb (clean) ex warehouse	2	5	6	—		

—Robt. & John Hewetson

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, August 26. — There is some reduction in the price of cottonseed. Other oil seeds show little change.

Linseed. per 416 lb.	s. s.
English	None.
Bombay	None.
Calcutta	41 to 42
Russian 98°/₀	45 to 47
,, Ordin'y	42 to 43
Argentine recle'd	46 to 48
Argentine cleand	44 to 45
,, F.A.Q.	42 to 43
Argentine comn.	40 to 41
Dutch best	50 to 51
,, medium	45 to 48
Turkish	44 to 46
Duluth	41 to 42
Canadian	42 to 43
Rapeseed. per 416 lb.	
English best	None.
,, F.A.Q.	80 to 88
,, common	None.
French F.A.Q.	66 to 68

	s. s.
Yellow Guzerat	58 to 60
Yellow Cawnpre	54 to 55
Brown ,,	53 to 54
Ferozepore	53 to 54
Rubsen.	per 424 lb
German	71 to 75
Argentine	42 to 43
Poppyseed.	per 377 lb.
Indian	56 to 57
Cottonseed.	per ton.
Egyptian	160 to 162
Indian	142 to 144
Brazilian	130 to 150
Sunflowerseed.	pr cwt.
English, White	15 to 16
Russian, White.	14 to 15
,, Black.	13 to 14
Sesame.	per cwt.
Indian	16 to 17
Hempseed.	per 336 lb.
Russian	34 to 36

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were:—From Ireland, 1,492 bales, and from foreign ports, 14,357 bales. There was a very poor inquiry for bacon throughout the week, resulting in prices being generally easier:—Irish, 60s to 64s up to 71s; Danish, 57s to 63s up to 69s; Canadian, 56s to 59s up to 63s. Butter: Butter was a quiet market. French, 92s to 100s; Danish, 111s to 113s; Russian, 74s to 98s; Irish, 86s to 106s; Canadian, 104s to 106s; Victorian, 86s to 100s; New South Wales, 84s to 98s; Queensland, 84s to 96s; New Zealand, 96s to 108s. Lard.—There was a fair demand for lard. Irish, 50s to 58s; Danish, 48s to 52s; American, 44s 3d to 46s 3d.

SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—The new trifolium is now offering very freely, but the demand is limited. New rape not abundant, prices very firm. Mustard in steady demand, prices unchanged. Rye coming out slowly, condition various, demand steady. Peas quiet. In grasses, fine samples Italian find buyers. Perennial prospects unchanged.—John Pickard and Co.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington Cattle Market on the chief day of the week there was an increase in the number of beasts offered for sale. For both prime and second quality cattle trade opened very slowly, and though no marked decline in value can be noted, concessions had to be made occasionally to effect sales. The supply, as far as fat beasts were concerned, chiefly consisted of Herefords and Runts, no Scotch and only a few Devons being on offer. The Irish consignment consisted of 46 Dublins and 34 Waterfords, the former, though sharing in the slow trade prevailing, were slightly firmer in regard to value, whilst the latter were quoted at late rates. Fat butchering cows and bulls met with a limited inquiry from both town and country buyers, late currencies, however, governed all transactions. On Thursday no fat beasts were on the market, and all sales of rough cattle were governed by Monday's prices.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, markets were held on Monday and Saturday. Trade ruled of a fairly steady nature for both States and Canadian cattle. The total number on offer at both markets was 3,900, as against 4,908 during the previous week, consisting of 890 British (increase 110) and 3,010 foreign (decrease 1,118), these latter comprising 2,117 from the United States and 893 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb.(sinking the offal) :—90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 6d. ex 4s. 8d. ; 95 stone Runts, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d. ; 100 stone Shorthorns, 4s. to 4s. 2d. ; 95 stone Irish, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d. ; 90 stone States, 4s. 1d. to 4s. 3d. ; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 10d. to 4s. ; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.

The sheep trade at Islington on Monday, with an increase in the supply, ruled of a slow nature, nevertheless sellers were able to maintain late values in most cases. Both Scotch and Irish supplies were in larger numbers and experienced a slow but steady trade. Lambs, on the contrary, were difficult to vend, even at a decline of from 2d. to 4d. per 8 lb. in value. On Thursday a slow trade with a downward tendency in value was experienced for all descriptions.

No sheep were offered for sale at Deptford. The total number penned was 7,560, as against 6,680 during the preceding week, this showing an increase of 880. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal), 7½ to 8 stone Downs, 6s. to 6s. 2d. ; 8 stone Scotch, 6s. to 6s. 2d. ; 9 stone ditto, 5s. 10d. to 6s. ; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d. ; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d. ; 10 stone Half-breds, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d. ; 10 stone ewes, 4s. to 4s. 2d. ; 5 stone fat Downs, lambs, 6s. 6d. to 6s. 8d. ; 6 stone Halfbred ditto, 6s. 2d to 6s. 4d.

Calves numbered 40 head, and met with a slow trade, the best on offer being quoted at from 4s. 10d. to 5s. per 8lb. (offal given in). No pigs on the market.

Trade in the West.

The unfavourable weather has so far had but little adverse effect on the price of stores, but how long before this will be the case depends entirely upon how the harvest progresses. Store cattle are not likely to be affected in any way to the extent that sheep may be ; and up to this week both milch beasts and grazing cattle are selling as well almost as their owners could reasonably wish for, milkers in particular realising excellent prices—heifers from £16 to £22 5s., and cows for those of a useful stamp from £15 to £18 ; the more ordinary grades of milchers ranging downwards from £14 to as low as £11 or £12 for milked-out cows just on the eve of being drafted from the dairy, all the bettermost qualities being from 10s. to 20s. a head dearer than they were a fortnight since. Barreners show a corresponding improvement in value, the freshest-conditioned bullocks realising up to £28 or £29 per pair—almost beef prices—and the plainer grades that require more attention in the way of finishing off, from £18 to £22. The younger classes of stock, both stirks and yearlings, are likewise attracting considerably more attention than of late at steadily improving values, dealers finding there is little risk now in purchasing from abundance of pasture, keep being practically assured for some time longer.

The sheep sales in progress in many parts of the country continue to be attended with most satisfactory results, both in respect to the demand and the prices realised for keeping sheep of every class, store ewes for grazing being eagerly sought after at hardening values, as also are working lambs, the shortage of sheep everywhere continuing to operate strongly in keeping prices phenomenally high.

As a consequence of stockowners being just now so much otherwise engaged, only very moderate supplies of fat stock of any kind are being sent to market at present, and to this circumstance as much as anything must be ascribed the existing buoyancy in the trade all round, and, although we have no advance to quote in prices, values are fully maintained all round. Beef continues to show very good quality, both steers and heifers, the best of which sell readily up to 12s. per score (or from £16 to £23 each) ; but cows cannot be quoted more than 10s. to 10s. 6d. (or from £15 to £18 each) ; and for coarse heavy bulls, which are selling from £16 up to £21 or £22, 8s. to 9s. is a correct approximate of value. Mutton, which is the scarcest thing on the market, is correspondingly firm in price, best wethers selling from 48s. to 61s. or 62s. each (or 8½d. to 9d. per lb) ; the range for ewes being from 7½d. to 8d. (or 44s. to 58s.) ; lambs, which have now attained full weight, selling from 36s. to 54s. apiece (or 10d. to 11d., and occasionally for special weights, 1s.).

The veal trade is also characterised by considerable firmness, the ripest finding a quick sale at from £4 to £6 10s. each (or 8½d. to 9d. per lb.), and the more ordinary runs 1d. per lb. less money. Pigs are also in very general request, and some difficulty is experienced in meeting the call for neat porkers, which command a very quick sale at 10s. 6d. to 11s. per score, and 9s. 6d. to 10s. for baconers. Heavier weights also met a ready sale at their value.

Trade in Ireland

Dublin stock market on Thursday was very largely attended by buyers, both from across the Channel and at home. The quantity of stock penned was very large (4,302), being over 200 over the previous week. There was a very satisfactory inquiry from buyers in the afternoon, though in the early morning they seemed inclined to hold off a bit. Well-finished cattle were most in request, and they were rather limited in number ; coarse and lean cattle not much inquired for, and a clearance in such cattle could not be anything like done. The number of second rate cattle left unsold at the close of the day was very large. Live weight prices ruled from 30s. to 34s., and prices for dead weight were :—Best ox and heifer beef from 52s. 6d. to 59s. 6d. for existing claims ; good second class beef, 47s. 3d. to 50s. 9d., and inferior beef from 42s. to 46s. per cwt. Scondary and coarse beef decidedly harder to seek, and at a lower price.

Mutton was also in poor request, and with a very large market of sheep. Reports from England had a discouraging effect on buyers, and on the whole the mutton market was a disappointing one. A number of heavy sheep could not find purchasers, and had to be kept over unsold. Lambs also made a depressed market, and values generally favoured buyers, sometimes to the extent of from 1s. to 2s. per head ; small and thin sheep not wanted. Prime wether mutton was worth from 7½d. to 8d. per lb. ; prime ewe, 6½d. to 7½d. ; and inferior mutton from 6d. to 6½d, per lb. Heavy, well-fed hoggets paid from 52s. to 62s. each, and small to medium from 36s. to 48s. Best large fat lambs made from 30s. to 42s. each ; and small to medium, 22s. to 28s. each. Veal was a featureless trade ; choice calves worth 7½d. to 8d. per lb. ; other sorts from 4½d. per lb. upwards.

In the dairy market there were a lot of second-rate cows, which were met with a sluggish inquiry. Prime milchers met with a ready sale, and prime springers were in request. First-class cows suitable to English centres cleared easily at late rates. Prime milch cows were worth from £15 to £18 ; and prime springers, £18 to £19. Store cattle of good forward quality also sold fairly well.

Dublin Pig Market on Thursday had a large attendance of buyers, but, notwithstanding this fact, trade was of a slow, dragging nature all through, and buyers, taking advantage of the large supply of pigs, bought cautiously and slowly. Englishmen and shippers purchased only when factors gave way as much as 2s. per cwt. compared with last day's price. Choice porkers did not share so much in the general reduction as they were limited in number. It was said that the general reduction in Dublin market was as much as from 3s. to 4s. per cwt. ; but taking everything into consideration a fairly good clearance was made. Small choice bacon pigs were sold at from 50s. to 53s. per cwt. ; heavy ditto, 48s. to 50s. ; inferior pigs, 35s. to 40s. per cwt. Store pigs in good demand, and worth from 25s. to 55s. each, according to age, size, &c. ; a good inquiry at firm rates.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Fair supplies, and trade slow but firm for good meat. English beef, 3s 8d to 3s 10d ; Scotch sides, 4s to 4s 2d ; shorts, 4s 4d to 4s 6d ; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 4d to 3s 10d ; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 10d to 4s ; ditto seconds, 3s 7d to 3s 9d ; ditto forequarters, 2s 4d to 2s 6d ; inferior beef, 2s 2d to 2s 8d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; ditto tegs, 5s 4d ; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d ; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d ; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d ; Dutch sheep, 4s 4d to 4s 8d ; English lamb, 5s to 5s 4d ; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d ; English pork, 3s 8d to 4s ; Dutch pork, 3s 8d to 4s per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday. — To-day's supply of beasts consisted entirely of fat cows and bulls from the South-Western counties, trade for which ruled slow at Monday's values. Top prices paid per 8 lb :—Fat cows, 3s 4d to 3s 6d ; fat bulls, 2s 9d to 3s 2d. A decrease of 99 in the number penned in sheep market compared with Thursday last. Trade for both sheep and lambs ruled extremely slow, prices favouring buyers, but not sufficiently so to quote any lower rates. Best pens made per 8 lb as follows :—7½ to 8 stone Down sheep, 6s to 6s 2d ; 9 stone ditto, 5s 10d to 6s ; 10 stone halfbreds, 5s 6d to 5s 8d ; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s to 4s 2d ; 5 stone fat grass lambs, 6s 6d to 6s 8d ; 6 stone halfbred ditto, 6s 2d to 6s 4d. Calf trade ruled extremely slow at less money. Quotations per 8lb, sinking the offal :—Beasts, 2s 9d to 3s 6d ; sheep, 4s to 6s 2d ; calves, 4s to 5s ; lambs, 4s 10d to 6s 8d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade was rather slow, but prices were unaffected. Best beef made 4s 8d to 5s, and cows 3s 10d to 4s. Mutton sold slowly, best small Kents making up to 5s 8d. Veal rather better at 5s 4d to 5s 8d. Pork : A fair trade up to 4s. Store lambs continue to make very high prices.

Bath, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance. Beef made 60s to 68s per cwt, and lamb 9d per lb.

Berwick, Saturday.—Attendance of farmers and buyers fair, and trade dull. Calves, £5 10s to £6 15s ; heifers, £7 15s to £9 10s ; stirks, £8 to £11 10s each.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Fair supply of pigs ; small supply of beasts and sheep. Trade fair for bacon pigs, but slow for beasts and sheep. Quotations :—Beef, 5½d to 6½d per lb ; Herefords, 6¾d per lb ; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb ; lamb, 8¾d to 9d per lb ; bacon pigs, 10s to 10s 3d per score ; cutting pigs, 10s to 10s 3d per score ; sows, 8s to 8s 3d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—At Bristol market to-day beef was in moderate quantity, but in little request, and business was dull at last week's prices. Dairy cows were fairly numerous at late rates. Mutton was in fair supply, and trade steady at last week's quotations, except that prime wethers advanced a point to 8½d per lb. Lamb was plentiful and unchanged, whilst pigs were again scarce with values unaltered.

Calne, Saturday.—Prices of pigs :—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 1s. per pig extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. 10 lb to 8 sc. 10 lbs, 10s per score, 8 sc. 11 lb to 9 sc. 10 lb,, 9s 6d per score ; 9 sc. 11 lb to 10 sc. 10 lb, 9s. Pigs outside these limits at their value.—C. and T. Harris and Co., Ltd.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The trade for lambs was not so fast to-day, though fair prices were realised. Working lambs ranged from 20s to 25s, and better class up to 30s. An exceptionally good lot of wether lambs also changed hands at 38s, and some half-breds at 33s. There was a larger supply of breeding ewes ; some registered ewes made from 35s to 70s ; average runs of good-mouthed ewes from 40s to 44s, and others rather rough in the

tooth from 22s to 28s per head. Cows and calves, £11 to £15.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The recent bad weather had an adverse effect on trade, buyers being anything but numerous. Small heifers, £6 10 to £8 10s; better sorts, to £10 10s; heifers for stall feeding, £10 10s to £12 10s; exceptionally good sorts for figishing off, £16.

Chester, Thursday. — Good supply of cattle and sheep. The demand was brisk, and a good many lots were sold at satisfactory prices. Owing to the farmers getting in the corn there not a numerous attendance of buyers. Prices:—Milch cows, £17 to £22; calvers, £15 to £19; barrens, £10 to £13; heifers, £8 to £15; stirks, £5 to £9; and bullocks, £12 to £14; sheep, 18s to 35s.

Derby, Tuesday.—An average supply of beasts and sheep; prices for best qualities well maintained. Beasts, 5½d to 7d; calves, 8d; sheep, 7½d to 9d; lambs, 10d per lb.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Moderate supply of horned stock, mostly Irish stores, making £12 10s to £14. Dairy stock met a bad trade. The best in-calf or newly calved cows made up to £21. Large show of sheep, but not much trade. Lambs, 33s to 46s; ewes, 45s to 55s per head. Small supply of pigs.

Dorchester, Saturday. — Considering how busily engaged farmers are just at present with the harvest, there were quite as large supplies at Messrs. Ensor and Son's repository sale to-day as could have been expected, and buyers were also well represented. Everything at all serviceable found a quick sale at good prices all through, the milch beasts trade having lost none of its old buoyancy, heifers and calves, about which there was nothing very special, realising £14 to £17 5s, whilst cows with calves made £15 to £18 15; barreners, £20 to £24 per pair; store Devon steers, £21 per pair; yearling heifers, £6 17s 6d each; stock bulls up to £12 15s. Fat beef met a steady consumptive sale at 11s to 11s 6d per score for the best, heifers bringing £16 to £18 10s, whilst fat bulls sold up to £21 10s each (or 9s to 10s per score). Nothing doing in mutton.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market: Beasts 4,302, increase 222; sheep 10,670, increase 1,353; calves 32, increase 22. There was again a slow trade for cattle, with prices in favour of buyers. A few choice lots about touched last week's extreme, but the general run of beasts, and particularly those of an unfinished description, were from 5s to 10s per head lower. The large increase in sheep and lambs had a quietening effect on trade; the very choicest sheep barely bringing late rates. Other sorts not so easily placed. Buyers secured their lambs on better terms, the reduction being well marked on any but fancy lots. Cattle—Live weight (best), 31s to 32s 6d per cwt; secondary and inferior, 27s to 29s 6d per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 6½d to 7¾d per lb.—Ganly, Sons and Co.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Fair trade, with light supplies. Sheep in steady demand; half-bred sheep to 44s; Cheviot sheep to 39s; half-bred lambs to 32s; Cheviot lambs to 24s; Cheviot Dinmonts to 31s. Cattle: Bullocks sold from £14 to £15 10s. Cows improved trade; Ayrshires to £20; Shorthorns to £26; crosses to £24 10s.

Exeter, Friday.—Large supply of fat beasts. Steers and maiden heifers, 11s 6d; cows, 10s 6d per score; small wethers and shorn lambs, 9d; lambs in wool, 10d to 11d; ewes, 6½d per lb; breeding ewes, 42s to 43s; calves, 7½d per lb.

Glasgow, Wednesday. — Average show of cattle. The demand experienced was best for prime handy shop bullocks. Inferior sorts met slow sales, prices favouring buyers. Top, 62s to 65s; secondary, 56s to 59s per cwt. A fairly good number of sheep penned, and for best class of hogs and wethers a good inquiry was made. Finest mutton, 9¼d to 9½d; secondary, 8¾d to 9d per lb. Prime lambs being scarce, met a good trade from 8d to 9½d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A large supply of beef, for which trade was slack, best quality not making more than 6½d to 6¾d; cow beef, 5d. Calves were too large a supply, and trade was dull; veal, 6½d. A good supply of sheep; wether mutton, best quality, 8d to 8½d; ewe mutton, 7d. A lot of store ewes sold well. Fat and store lambs were dear. Pig trade firm, porks fetching from 5½d to 6d. Stores a trifle better trade. Store cattle a small supply, and trade dull.

Leicester, Saturday. — Exceptionally large consignments of home-bred bullocks, which came to hand in excellent condition. Buyers were well represented, and trade ruled active at high prices, pasturage being abundant. Choice milch cows, £19 to £21; good lots, £17 to £18; secondary, £14 to £16; Shorthorn bullocks, £15 to £17; choice Irish cattle, £18 to £19 10s; good lots, £14 10s to £17; Welsh cattle, £12 to £16 10s; heifers, £12 10s to £15 10s; calves, 20s to 40s each. Sheep firm.

Lincoln, Friday.—Average consignment of horned stock, and a good demand. Young beasts, £9 to £12; milch cows, £17 to £21. A fair supply sheep and a brisk trade. Young to ewes 56s; lambs, 36s to 42s,

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: Firsts, 5½d; seconds, 4½d to 5d; thirds, 3½d to 4d. Mutton: Firsts, 7½d; seconds, 6½d to 7d; thirds, 5½d to 6d. Veal: Firsts, 6½d; seconds, 5½d to 6d; thirds, 4½d to 5d. Lamb: Firsts, 7½d; seconds, 6½d to 7d; thirds, 5½d to 6d.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Prices for cattle were easier, and trade was slow. Prime heifers, 7s 6d to 7s 9d per stone; second class, 7s to 7s 3d; prime steers, 7s 3d to 7s 6d; second-class, 7s to 7s 3d; coarse and inferior, 6s 6d to 6s 9d. Sheep and lambs were a larger supply, and trade was heavy with drooping prices. Choice young sheep, 8¼d to 8½d per lb.; strong heavy, 8d to 8¼d; choice lambs, 9d to 9½d; second-class, 8½d to 9d; ewes, 6d to 7d; rams, 5d to 6d. Veal was quiet at 6d to 7d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—Average supply of stock, and a large attendance of buyers with a very brisk trade. Best beef, 6½d to 6¾d per lb; seconds, 6¼d; cows, 4¾d to 5¼d; best wether mutton, 8½d to 8¾d; ewes, 7d to 7½d; lamb, 9d; calves, 7d to 8½d; porker pigs, 10s 6d to 11s per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—Fat cattle prices were hardly so good, the best not making more than 7s 10d, medium sorts 7s 5d, and cows 6s 9d per stone of 14 lb. Veal calves were dearer at 8½d per lb. The best mutton remained unchanged at 11s, but other qualities were hardly so dear at 8s to 10s per stone. A small show of good quality fat pigs, which met a good trade, porkers making 7s, baconers 6s 3d to 6s 9d, and sows 5s 3d per stone. Trade for store cattle was rather slow and dear, best three-year-olds fetching up to £18 10s; two-year-olds to £13 10s; yearlings from £7 15s to £10 10s; and smaller ones from £5 10s to £7 per head. Rearing calves were in short supply, and sold dear at 26s to 52s. Store ewes were not so good as last week, but trade remained the same, best Suffolk yearlings making from 60s to 68s; cross breds, from 54s to 58s; others, from 40s to 50s; and lambs, from 32s to 43s 6d per head. Trade for store pigs was sharper at 14s to 26s.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Best milch cows, £17 10s to £21 10s; heifers, to £20; store stock, £10 10s to £13; small store beasts, £6 to £9 15s; calves, 30s to 45s each.

Preston, Wednesday.—Excellent supplies of stock in all departments, but trade ruled slow, and prices had a downward tendency. Quotations:—Local-fed heifers, 6¾d; Irish-fed ditto, 6¼d to 6¾d; choice young cows and bulls, 6d; secondary ditto, 5d to 5½d; lambs, 9d; hoggs, 9d; young ewes, 7d; heavy tups and ewes, 6¼d; calves, 7½d per lb.

Retford, Saturday. — Milch cows of good quality were saleable at £16 to £20; inferior sorts, £14 to £15. No change in the value of young stock, two-year-old steers and heifers making £10 to £13, and calves, 35s to 45s. each.

Romford, Wednesday.—Fat beasts in average supply; trade about the same. Best animals, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 3s 10d to 4s per stone. Calves in large supply; trade about the same at 5s to 5s 6d per stone. Sheep in large supply and dear. Best small sheep, 5s 8d to 6s; large sheep, 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Ewes also in large supply, but trade slow at 4s to 4s 2d per stone. The few lambs on offer met a firm trade at 6s 6d to 6s 8d per stone. No store beasts on offer. Milch cows in good supply; trade a little better. Small supply of pigs; trade slow. Small porkers, 3s 8d to 4s; large hogs, 2s 8d to 3s per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—A better show than last week, and trade slightly brisker. Good milch cows made £18 to £20, younger stock, £13 to £14 10s.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Good supply of store cattle, but short supply of fat cattle. Prices and demand good. Usual quantity of calves, sheep, and pigs. Fair trade all round. Quotations:—Beef, 6½d to 7d per lb; mutton (wether), 9d per lb; ewes, 8d per lb; lamb, 9d to 9½d per lb; veal, 7d to 8d per lb; porket pigs, 10s per score.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Numbers on offer: 107 cattle, 208 sheep, 517 lambs, and 133 pigs. A rather better show of the best cattle, which met with a slow trade at 7s 6d to 8s per stone, whilst rougher kinds sold at 6s 6d to 7s. Lambs sold at 10d per lb, young sheep 9d, ewes 7½d, and tups 6½d. Small porkers made 7s 6d per stone, m diums 7s, and sows 6s 3d to 6s 6d.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was again a capital entry of stock, although not quite so large as the previous week. Buyers were again in evidence, all the neighbouring towns being represented. Trade for beef was not quite so good, although a clearance was effected. Mutton was in great demand, every pen being disposed of. Small supply of bacon and pork, which met an excellent trade, many more could have found purchasers. Veal at late rates. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 101 fat beasts, 368 fat and store sheep, 65 fat and store pigs, and 81 fat and weaning calves. Fat oxen made from £16 to £22 5s; fat heifers, £14 10s to £19 10s; fat wethers sheep, 52s to 64s; fat ewes, 42s to 57s 6d; fat lambs, 35s to 47s 6d; fat calves, £3 to £4 10s; weaning cow calves, 30s to 62s; bull calves, 20s to 45s; bacon hogs, £3 5s to £4 10s; porkers, 28s to 42s; store pigs, 16s to 23s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance very good; business rather slow. Fat bullocks, 56s to 58s per cwt; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £10 to £14 each; rearing calves, 15s to 35s; wethers, 7d to 7½d per lb; ewes, 5d to 5½d; lambs, 7d to 8d; pigs, 9s 6d to 40s; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8½d; lamb, 8d to 9d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8½d; pork, carcases, 5d to 5½d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday. — Better supply; moderate demand. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 7½d; calves 7d to 8d; sheep, 7d to 9d per lb; lambs, 9½d per lb; bacon pigs, 10s 3d per score; porkets, 10s 10d per score; cows, 8s 3d per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small supply of stock, with a good trade for sheep. Beef down about 9d per stone. Best beef, 7s 6d to 7s 9d; cow beef, 6s 9d to 7s 3d per stone; best Southdown wethers and cross-breds, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 6d; veal, 7½d per lb.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed: On lighter shipments and a better oil market linseed has been more active, and prices have recovered about 6d per qr. Plate: Spot sold at 40s, after 39s 6d taken, August-September 41s nearest. Duluth; September-October 41s 3d wanted. Petersburgh: 41s to 41s 3d, according to position. Cottonseed: There has been a decline in Egyptian values during the week, and £8 accepted ex store, whereat sellers August shipment. New crop September offers at £7 17s 6d, a little November-January done at £7s 1s 3d, with further sellers. Trade for both linseed and cottonseed oils is quiet at following rates:—Linseed, 21s 9d spot, 21s 7½d August, 20s 10½d September-December. Cottonseed: 27s 9d spot, 26s 6d September-October, 23s 3d November-April. Oilseed Cakes:—Linseed: A rather firmer feeling, with good demand for time of year. Cotton: Best scarce and firm. Bombay rather firmer, with very good deliveries.—Keighley, Maxsted & Co.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda is quiet as usual at this date, and £11 to £11 5s. is quoted on the spot according to quality. In phosphatic manures some inquiries are experienced for autumn deliveries, and values are firm. Feeding stuffs are only a slow trade, but values are fairly maintained.

	Per ton. £	s	d	£	s	d
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (good but irregular).	7	0	0	7	5	0
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime (soft) ...	7	15	0	7	17	6
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime.....	4	15	0	5	0	0
Cottonseed Cake, Bombay.....	4	5	0	4	7	6
Cattonseed, crushed, 20 per cent. oil guaranteed.....	8	17	6		—	
Linseed Cake, American, thin oblong, prime but hard	7	5	0	7	10	0
,, ,, English, prime...	7	17	6	8	0	0
,, ,, River Plate	7	7	6	7	10	0
Palm Nut Cake	6	5	0		—	
Maize Germ Meal	6	5	0		—	
Indian Meal, soarse to fine grinding	Per 240 lb. 0	13	0		—	
Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported	Per ton. 5	2	6		—	
Linseed, fine bold feeding	Per qr., 416 lb. 2	12	0		—	
Cod-liver Oil, cattle feeding ...	Per Gallon. 0	4	0		—	
Treacle, feeding, American ...	Per Cwt. 0	4	9		—	
Nitrate of Soda.....	Per ton. 11	5	0		—	
Kainit, prime.....	2	7	6		—	
Bone Meal, prime.....	5	10	0		—	
Bone Ash, fine and powdery ...	3	15	0		—	
Basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed	1	14	0	1	15	0
,, ,, ,,	2	2	0	2	3	0
,, finest ,, ,,	2	6	0	2	7	0
D.N.S. Superphosphate of Brand Lime*..... ...	2	5	0	2	7	0
,, ,, guaranteed*	2	10	0	2	12	0
,, ,, ,, *	3	1	3	3	3	3

* At depot inland.

—H. Jones Langar and Co

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes: There is no actual improvement in the consumptive demand, but a general impression exists that values, in sympathy with other feeding stuffs, are likely to harden, and there are free speculative buyers at 2s 6d to 5s premium on spot prices for autumn and winter deliveries. Russians move move off quietly at £7 2s 6d to £7 5s. in mats,

and £7 7s 6d to £7 8s 9d for the better qualities in bags. East India seed pures make £7 5s to £7 7s 6d. Fine seedy Calcuttas command £7 7s 6d to £7 10s. London made meet a better inquiry being relatively the cheapest cake on the market at £7 7s 6d to £7 10s. Cotton cake.—A comparatively small quantity of Egyptian remains in warehouse, and with no further arrivals due for two or three weeks. Holders are firm at £4 15s to £4 16s 3d, while English makes continue scarce and fully as dear at £4 17s 6d to £5, and Bombays at £4 to £4 2s 6d. Decorticated.—London made pures meet a ready sale at £7 2s 6d to £7 5s, and special digestive meal at £5, with American meals quiet at £6 12s 6d to £7, as to quality. Rape cakes.—Nominal. East India, £4 17s 6d. Ravison none. Maize germ meal.—White American is not obtainable at the moment, and English manufacturers have again raised their limits and are now asking £6 to £6 2s 6d. Maize gluten meal is in good request at £6 5s. Rice meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon make £4 18s 9d to £5, but there are still some second-hand sellers of steamer parcels for shipment at £4 16s 3d to £4 17s 6d, ex ship terms. Locust beans are without change at £5 10s for whole and £5 15s for kibbled. Dried brewers' grains offer sparingly, at £4 15s for ale and £4 10s for mixed. Nitrate of soda is unaltered at £11 2s 6d ex quay. —Pinnock Bros.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Altrincham: 9 and 10. Appleby: 9 and 10. Barnstaple: 8 and 10. Berwick: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per doz. Birmingham: 9 and 10. Camelford: 14. Carlisle: 10 Chester: 10 and 11. Darmouth: 1s 1d to 1s 4d per doz. Derby: 10 and 11. Devizes: 13 and 15. Doncaster: 11 to 12. Dorchester: 1s to 1s 4d per doz. Evesham: 1s 1½d to 1s 2d per doz. Hereford: Kidderminster: 10. Lincoln: 13. Market Drayton: 12. Otley: 10. Penrith: 11and 12. Plymouth: 12. Retford: 1s 10d to 2s per score. Ripon: 10 and 11. Scarborough: 10 and 11. Shrewsbury: 11 and 12. Spalding: 13. Stamford: 13. Stockport: 9 and 10. Stockton: 9. Totnes: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per doz. Truro: 10d to 11d per doz. Wellington (Salop): 11 and 12. Worcester: 10 to 12. Worksop: 1s 9d to 2s per score. York: 10 and 12.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Altrincham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Appleby: 10½d to 1s. Barnstaple: 1s 4d. Berwick: 11d to 1s 2d. Birmingham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Camelford: 1s. Carlisle: 1s to 1s 1d. Chester: 1s 1d. Dartmouth: 1s 2d to 1s 5d. Derby: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Devizes: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Doncaster: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Dorchester: 10d to 1s 1d. Evesham: 8½d to 1s 2d. Hereford: 1s to 1s 2d. Kidderminster: 1s 1d. Lincoln: 1s to 1s 1d. Market Drayton: 1s to 1s 1d. Otley: 1s 7d per 24 oz roll. Penrith: 10½d to 1s. Plymouth: 1s to 1s 2d. Retford: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Ripon: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Shrewsbury: 1s to 1s 1d. Spalding: 1s. Stamford: 1s to 1s 2d. Stockport: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Stockton: 1s to 1s 2d. Totnes: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Truro: 9d to 10d. Wellington (Salop): 1s to 1s 1d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 2d. Worksop: 1s to 1s 1d. York: 1s to 1s 2d.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Tuesday.—The production of butter and cheese in the United Kingdom continues to be abnormally large. The demand for Australian and New Zealand butter has been about the same as last week, and prices remain unaltered. Canadian is still in small supply, but is making 104s and 108s per cwt. Foreign butters are slow of sale on this market, and in the North of England prices are easier. Cheese.—The demand for Canadian is hand-to-mouth, and prices on spot are unchanged from last week. Cables from Canada are slightly easier. — W. Weddel and Co.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Moderate arrivals of home cheese. The inquiry was limited for this period of the year. Values tend in favour of buyers. Cheddars, 57s to 61s per cwt; Dunlops, 54s to 59s. New Canadians are dull of sale, and are quoted off and on at 57s.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—A large attendance of buyers, a brisk competition, and all cleared. Best Caerphilly dairies realised up to 57s per cwt.; secondary dairies, 51s to 53s 6d; and other dairies, 47s to 50s. A few inferior lots failed to reach 40s. Cheddars, old, 72s; ditto, new, 56s to 60s; truckles, 53s to 58s 6d; doubles, 52s to 57s.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was an average attendance and a good demand. Caerphillies, 35s to 52s per cwt; fancy dairies, 53s to 56s; Derbies, 50s to 56s; truckles, 54s to 62s; Cheddars, 52s to 54s.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Large and varied supplies of fruit and greenstuffs at market, business being fairly brisk and prices moderate. Quotations for English produce:—Grapes, 6d to 2s 3d; pears, 2s 6d to 5s per bushel; apples, 2s 6d to 7s per bushel; plums, 2s to 3s green figs, 1s 6d to 4s; nectarines, 2s to 10s per doz; peaches, 2s to 10s per doz; greengages, 2s to 3s 6d; melons, 1s to 2s; filberts, 4s 6d to 5s per 12 lb; tomatoes, 3s to 3s 6d; cabbage, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; vegetable marrows, 2s 6d to 3s 6d per tally; scarlet runners, 1s to 2s; broad beans, 1s to 1s 6d per bushel; beetroot, 1s 3d to 1s 6d; mint, 1s to 1s 3d; parsley, 1s 6d; carrots, 1s 6d to 2s; turnips, 1s 6d to 2s 6d per dozen bundles; mushrooms, 6s to 10s per 12 lb; cucumbers, 4s 6d to 6s per flat; endive, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per dozen; green peas, 2s to 4s per bushel; cauliflowers, 1s to 1s 6d per dozen; potatoes, 50s to 70s per ton.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Supplies moderate; trade fairly good. Black game, 2s; quails, 1s 6d; feathered pigeons, 1s; Bordeaux pigeons, 1s to 1s 6d; live hens, 1s 6d to 2s; country ducks, 2s to 2s 6d; Aylesbury ducks, 2s 3d to 2s 6d; Irish fowls, 1s 4d to 2s; Essex fowls, 1s 6d to 2s 3d; Lincolnshire fowls, 1s 9d to 2s 6d; Sussex fowls, 2s 6d to 3s 3d; Surrey fowls, 3s to 3s 6d; goslings, 4s to 5s; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 4d; wild rabbits, 6d to 10d each; Australian rabbits, 6s to 7s per doz; young grouse, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; old grouse, 2s 3d to 3s 6d per brace.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £14 10s to £15; half-bred hoggs, £13 to £13 10s; ditto wethers, £12 10s to £13; Kent fleeces, £12 5s to £12 10s; South Down ewes and wethers, £13 10s to £14; Leicester ewes and wethers, £12 to £12 10s. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., scoured super., 2s 2d to 2s 3d; scoured, good, 1s 11½d to 2s 1d; scoured, average, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 9½d to 1s 10½d; greasy, average, 1s to 1s 1d; S. Aus., greasy, average, 10d to 11d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; greasy, average, 11d to 11½d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9½d to 1s 10½d; fleece, average, 9½d to 10½d; greasy, average, 8½d to 9½d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5½d to 1s 6½d; greasy average, 8½d to 9d. Crossbreds—grs.—Vic., good to super., 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d; New Zealand fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s to 1s 1d; coarse, 10d to 11d.

Halifax, Saturday.—Business following the various holidays, which are now nearing the end, is becoming very buoyant, and good prospects are assured in several directions. Home grown wools are in better demand, and prices, where they had not already been advanced, have been put up during the week, Lincoln and Irish among them.

A fire broke out on Sunday last on the premises of the Yorkshire Cake Mill, Hull, occupied by Messrs. Keighley and Co., and damage to the extent of several thousands of pounds was done. The building was 64 yards by 17 yards, two storeys high, and substantially built. When the Police Fire Brigade arrived the whole place was in flames. Several branches of hose were affixed, and there being a plentiful supply of water the fire was soon under control. The mill contained a large quantity of machinery and presses, and the warehouse was largely stocked with seed for cake making, the whole being destroyed, but a large portion of cake and the boiler-house was saved.

At a meeting of the Management Committee of the Birmingham Grocers' Association last week the chairman (Mr. G. Bolton) called attention to the Small Holdings Bill of the Government, and proposed the following resolution:—"That this association respectfully asks for the serious consideration of Clause 39 of the Small Holdings and Allotments Bill now before the House of Lords, feeling that it will be very unfair to shopkeepers generally, in that it will compel them to supply financial assistance through the rates to co-operative societies, which are in direct opposition to the shopkeepers." He said the measure affected not only grocers, but every retail trader in the United Kingdom. The promoters of the Bill appeared to think that the co-operative society was the only means of distributing the produce of the land to the public, but he failed to see that the private trader had lacked in his efforts in that direction. He rather thought it was the question of railway rates which the Government should tackle. If they wanted to give any assistance to the land that was the point which they should consider. The resolution was passed, and it was decided to forward copies to the House of Lords and the House of Commons, to the Grocers' Federation, and to the members of Parliament for Birmingham.

The first annual meeting of the Federation of Dairy Farmers' Associations for Scotland was held at Kilmarnock on the 9th inst. The report, which was adopted, showed that the federation had carried on much useful work. Milk prices were discussed, and the secretary instructed to issue lists of those obtained throughout the season to the secretaries of branches. The secretary was instructed to petition the Board of Agriculture to issue lists of milk prices during certain seasons, as such would be of great benefit to farmers.

Many well-known firms have taken space at the twenty-ninth Brewers', &c., Annual Exhibition and Market, to be held at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, N., on October 19 to 25, and the whole of the ground floor of the main building is now allotted, whilst but little space is available in the minor buildings. The exhibits of machinery at the forthcoming market promise to be the finest for many years.

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Mark Lane Express

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WHALLEY AGRICULTURAL SHOW (Lancashire Federation). SATURDAY, AUGUST 31. OPEN CLASSES and VALUABLE PRIZES for Hunters, Hackneys, Shires, Turn-outs, Leapers, Cattle, Sheep, etc. Entries close 10 a.m., Tuesday next. Schedules from J. M. Rawcliffe, Whalley, Blackburn.

POULTRY.—Special laying strains; White Leghorn, White Wyandotte Cockerels, 5/-, 7/6 each; also White Orpingtons. Many testimonials. —H. Creber, St. Germans, Cornwall.

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Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

Up to August 24 the rainfall, though spread over fourteen days, had not exceeded 1½in. The 26th, however, was very wet and added a full half inch. Since the 28th fine weather has prevailed in Southern England, though in Lancashire the 29th had eight hours' rain. Most of the English stations ended in showing an August rainfall of from 2 to 2½in. The low evaporation and the prevailing humidity of the atmosphere caused this rainfall, not excessive in itself, to delay harvest very seriously and to cause a general want of condition in the new samples. The progress made since the 28th, however, has been very rapid, and if the present weather continues, the completion of the harvest should not be postponed in England beyond the middle of September. In Scotland and Wales it will not, we, fear, be over before Michaelmas. Most observers are agreed in putting wheat at 30 bushels, but there will be no more than a usual proportion of tail corn. Foreign wheat harvests are now put at 41,000,000 qr. for France 20,000,000 qr. for Austria-Hungary, 14,000,000 qr. for Germany, 6,000,000 qr for Roumania, and 20,000,000 qr. for Italy. The yield in Russia is not yet at all accurately ascertained. The wheat crop of the United Kingdom is estimated at 6,250,000 qr. by *Dornbusch*, and at 5,400,000 qr. by *Beerbohm*, thus the great authorities of the shipping world are in fairly close agreement. The former puts the American wheat crop at 88,500,000 qr., including Canada, whereas last year the United States and Canada combined produced 105,500,000 qr. The production of wheat in Japan this year is stated to have been 10 per cent. below an average, whereas last year there was a 20 per cent. surplus. The next twelve months may easily see a steady demand by Japan for breadstuffs, which will probably be imported in the form of flour.

During the last six trading days of August foreign wheat was held for 1s. to 1s. 6d. advance on the chief British markets, as supplies of the new home crop were much below anticipation.

The wheat prices now ruling lie very generally between 33s. and 36s. per qr.

Nottingham	36s. 7d.	per qr.
Canterbury	32s. 11d.	,,
Range ...	3s. 8d.	per qr.

Barley averages are taken from very few markets as the new crop is not yet in evidence and the old is almost entirely exhausted.

Nottingham	26s. 9d.	per qr.
Salisbury	23s.	,,
Range ...	3s. 9d.	per qr.

Oats are becoming a little less scarce at the markets where home produce is officially quoted. The new deliveries of winter oats account for the comparatively low prices at Cambridge, Chelmsford, &c.

Nottingham.....	23s. 3d.	per qr.
Chelmsford	16s. 9d.	,,
Range	6s. 6d.	per qr.

The sales of English wheat at the statute markets for the fifty-one completed weeks of the cereal year are :—

This season ... 2,694,000 qr. at 27s. 10d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 2,847,000 qr. at 28s. 9d. ,,

Of English barley the sales show an increase on the fifty-one weeks :—

This season ... 3,370,000 qr., at 24s. 6d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 3,203,000 qr., at 24s. 3d. ,,

Of English oats the sales have been :—

This season 1,187,000 qr. at 18s. 5d. per qr.
Last ,, 940,000 ,, 18s. 6d. ,,

Imports into the United Kingdom last week were as follows :—

Wheat	409,000 qr.
Flour	50,000 ,,
Breadstuffs	459,000 qr.
Maize	369,000 ,,
Barley	47,000 ,,
Oats	129,000 ,,

The imports of flour are commonly reckoned as equal to 280,000 sacks. The total receipts of breadstuffs from abroad would be above needs for ten months out of the twelve, but just now, when old English wheat is exhausted and new is still a very scanty quantity, the demand is in excess of supply. Maize arrivals fully exceed current demand here when the small supply of foreign barley is considered. Imports of oats may be termed a full average.

The imports of the United Kingdom for the cereal year ended on Saturday last are not yet published, but the following figures will not be found to vary very materially from the eventual and exact returns.

Wheat	21,923,000 qr.
Flour	4,525,000 ,,
Breadstuffs	26,448 000 ,,
Maize	12,023,000 ,,
Barley	5,309,000 ,,
Oats	5,076,000 ,,

In the previous cereal twelvemonth imports of wheat, flour, barley, and oats were larger, but those of maize were materially smaller than in the cereal year just past. The maize doubtless has mainly gone to make up for the deficiency in grinding barley and in light oats.

American shipments last week were 290,000 qr. of wheat, 40,000 qr. of barley, 10,000 qr. of oats, 91,000 of maize, and 69,000 sacks of flour. The very small exports of flour are noticeable.

Argentine shipments are 20,000 qr. of wheat, 189,000 qr. of maize, 17,000 qr. of linseed, and 3,500 qr. of oats. This is the period of the year when Argentina is but a very moderate shipper.

Russia, on the other hand is usually beginning before August is over to make some exports of her new crops.

The present season is by no means an exception, and last week's shipments were 165,000 qr. of wheat, 395,000 qr. of barley, 135,000 qr. of oats, and 136,000 qr. of maize. Roumania supplemented these exports with 65,000 qr. of wheat, 30,000 qr. of barley, 7,000 qr. of oats, and 90,000 qr. of maize.

Other shipments last week were 96,000 qr. of wheat, 19,000 qr. of linseed, and 16,000 qr. of rapeseed from India, and 17,000 qr. of wheat from Australasia.

The quantity of wheat on passage on August 31 was 2,092,000 qr., whereof 390,000 qr. were American, 224,000 qr. Californian, 100,000 qr. Russian, 628,000 qr. Indian, 240,000 qr. Argentine, 500,000 qr. Australasian, and 10,000 qr. Persian. The total was 408,000 qr. below the average.

Of flour only 138,000 sacks were on passage, or 112,000 sacks below the average.

Of barley 390,000 qr. were on passage, including 270,000 qr. Russian, 60,000 qr. Asiatic, and a like quantity from the Amerian seaboards, Pacific and Atlantic. Of oats only 100,000 qr. were on passage.

Of maize 850,000 qr were on passage, whereof 450,000 qr were Russian, Roumanian, and Turkish, 230,000 qr were Argentine, and 170,000 qr were American. The total was 100,000 qr above an average.

Other quantities on passage were 69,000 tons of rice, 179,000 qr of linseed, 29,000 tons of cotton-seed, and 36,000 qr of rapeseed.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—Supplies are now coming along on a very much larger scale, and with the demand keeping of a very poor nature values are again easier. A very large portion of the arrivals consist of new stuffs in a very badly got and damaged condition, for which some very low prices have been accepted; if fact, for some very bad lots salesmen have only been too glad to get out of for 40s per ton. For really prime new hays about 62s 6d to 65s per ton; for best new clovers, 75s to 80s per ton, and for best new mixtures about 70s 6d per ton represent current values.

There seems to be little doubt that the hay trade is in for a very bad spell, as, although supplies of prime stuffs are short, the large arrivals of inferior quality of all kinds which have to be got rid of at any prices, give the market a feeling of all-round depression. Old hays hays, clovers, and mixtures, although coming along short, meet a poorer demand day by day, and in consequence are about 2s. 6d. per ton lower. Straw, owing to harvest operations limiting supplies, is inclined to go dearer, but for the moment previous quotations are about value. There is very little doing in the foreign market, with a weakening demand importations are falling off, and prices are nominally unaltered.

Prices ruling are about as follows :—English 1906 crop. Best meadow hay, 82s 6d per ton; good meadow hay, 70s to 80s per ton; plain hays, 66s to 67s 6d per ton; best clovers, 92s 6d to 95s per ton; good clovers, 82s 6d to 90s per ton; inferior clovers, 77s 6d to 80s per ton; prime mixtures, 92s 6d per ton; good mixtures, 80s to 90s per ton; plain mixtures, 72s 6d to 77s 6d per ton; seconds hays, clovers, and mixtures, 50s to to 60s per ton; wheat straw, 26s to 28s per load; oat straw, 26s to 28s per load; barley straw, 26s to 28s per load. All ex rail London. Foreign: Canadian mixture, 80s to 82s 6d per ton; first quality Dutch hay, 65s per ton; second quality Dutch hay, 60s per ton; New French first cut clover, 75s per ton. These prices are by the barge load delivered alongside a London Thames wharf.

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes advanced 6d. to 1s. per qr. from August 26 to 29, but on the 30th and 31st there was a pause. Prices made on Saturday included 36s. 3d. per 480 lb. for Argentine, 36s. 7d. per 500 lb. for Walla Walla, 37s. per 492 lb. for South American, 37s. 4½d. per 480 lb. for fine Manitoba, 36s. 6d. per 492 lb. for white Karachi, and 36s. per 492 lb. for Red Karachi.

Maize, despite a large supply on passage, has been very firm for all cargoes, and sales have included Odessa at 25s. per 480 lb., America at 25s. per 480 lb, and Argentine at 25s. per 480 lb. This exact agreement of these leading sorts is remarkable, and witnesses to the all-round inquiry.

Barley cargoes have advanced for heavy quality, but are easier for feeding. Prices made include 31s. 6d. per 400 lb. for Californian, 22s. per 400 lb. for South Russian, and 20s. 3d. per 400 lb. for Persian.

Other cargo sales on Friday and Saturday last included Calcutta linseed at 42s 9d. per 410 lb., brown Cawnpore rapeseed at 51s. 9d. per 416 lb., Sesame at 56s. 3d. per 384 lb., cottonseed (Bombay) at £5 16s. per ton, No 2 Manitoba oats at 20s. 6d. per 320 lb., white Libau oats at 15s. 3d. per 304 lb., Panderma beans at 31s 6d. per 480 lb., white Calcutta peas at 34s. per 504 lb., Syrian dari at 25s. per 480 lb., Canadian buckwheat at 30s. per 416 lb., Canadian oatmeal at 25s. per 240 lb., and Russian rapeseed oil at 31s. 10d. per ton.

N.B.—The committe has decided to quote rejection prices for "Old Terms" up to and including July shipments, but not later.

These prices will rule until a fresh list is published.

On the last day of the old cereal year (August 31) *Beerbohm's List* gives the following useful cablegram of American market prices for wheat :—

The London Corn Trade Association C. F. and I. quotations published on August 30, for the settlement of rejections and difference in weights on wheat under Rule No. 4 of the Association East Indian Wheat Contracts, are as follows (new and old terms), viz. :—

Choice White Kurrachee, 36s. 9d., new terms; 36s. 6d. old terms.

Soft Red Kurrrachee, 36s , new terms; 35s. 9d. old term.

New terms 4 per cent. on barley.

	1907. Per 480lb.	1906.
Minneapolis, No. 1 Northern	34s. 6d.	26s. 0d.
Daluth, No. 1 Northern	35s. 0d.	26s. 0d.
Chicago, No. 1 Northern	34s. 9d.	25s. 8d.
Winnipeg, No. 1 Northern	31s. 9d.	25s. 3d.
Kansas, No. 2 Hard	29s. 3d.	22s. 3d.

It will be seen that Winnipeg is much cheaper than Chicago just now, which may either imply that the Manitoba crop is better than anticipated or that Chicago has gone in for a *bull* speculative movement, while the Canadian sellers are content to offer at modest, though still remunerative rates.

SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—With the improvement in the weather there is more demand for trifolium; prices very reasonable. Rape firm at the high prices ruling. Mustard in fair demand, prices unchanged. Rye, good inquiry, priecs firm. Peas, more demand. New trefoil now appearing; English—finer quality than foreign—is readily marketed; crop much under medium. In grasses, fine Italians find ready buyers. Perennial prospects still unchanged.—John Picard and Co.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English firm, but quiet at late rates. Foreign firmly held at Monday's full price, but demand rather quieter. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, quoted at 37s 9d to 38s; No. 2 at 37s; No. 1 Hard Manitoba at 38s 6d; choice white Karachi at 35s 9d, 36s; reds at 35s; Australian, landed, at 37s, 38s; Persian at 33s 6d; South Russian at 35s, 38s. Flour firm but quiet. Iron Dukes quoted at 23s; Minnesota Patents at 28s 6d, 29s 6d. Maize firm and dearer, but not active. Odessa and La Plata landed at 25s 6d; mixed American at 26s, 26s 3d. Barley firm at full prices, 23s 3d wanted. Azoff-Black Sea, ex ship, to arrive, Persian quoted at 23s, 23s 6d. Oats firm, but quiet. La Plata held at 17s 6d; South Russian, 17s 7½d, 17s 9d.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat: English firm for old crop, irregular for new crop. Foreign: American firmly held at 3d advance; other sorts firm but quiet. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, held 38s 3d, with 38s refused; No. 2, ex ship, at 37s 3d to 37s 6d; No. 1 hard Manitoba at 39s; choice white Karachi at 36s; red Karachi at 35s 3d to 35s 6d; Australian, landed, at 37s to 38s; Persians, 33s 6d to 34s; South Russians, 35s to 38s. Flour firm and dearer, but not active. Hungarian quoted at 36s 6d to 37s; Minnesota patents at 28s 9d to 30s; Iron Dukes at 23s to 23s 6d. Maize firm, quiet. Mixed American, ex ship, quoted at 25s 6d, landed at 26s; Odessa and La Plata, landed at 25s 6d. Barley steady, quiet. Azoff-Black Sea and Odessa-Nicolaieff-Kherson, ex ship, held at 23s 3d. Oats dull, unchanged.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—The business done was small. One sample of new wheat sold at 36s, and new peas 31s and 32s, while black winter oats made 20s. Wheat, 34s to 37s; English barley, 28s to 29s; mazagan beans, 30s to 31s; tick beans, 33s to 34s; white oats, 22s to 25s.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, white, 33s 6d to 34s 6d per qr; wheat, red, 33s 6d to 34s 6d per qr; barley, old, 28s to 31s per qr; beans, old, 31s to 32s per qr; oats, old, 21s to 25s per qr; peas, old, 30s to 35s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—An average attendance, with only a few samples of oats on offer. Prices nominally unchanged.

Birmingham, Thursday. — The attendance here was rather a small one, and trade was somewhat steadier, doubtless due to the still advancing prices, values of wheat being about 1s per qr dearer than last market day. There were a few samples of local wheats (old) which made 13s per 186 lb., delivered. There were several samples of new oats showing, blacks being offered at 19s 6d, and whites at 20s per 312 lb, delivered. For old oats 23s were required. Beans, 13s 3d per 196 lb. Galatz-Foxanian maize was 6d dearer, and Bessarabian 9d. Odessa maize was on offer at 24s 9d per 480 lb, Bristol. Grinding barley was offering at 22s 9d per 400 lb, Bristol.

Brighton, Thursday.—Small attendance, but several lots of new corn offering which made good prices. New winter English oats from 19s. to 20s; new spring English oats, 18s 6d to 19s 6d. Foreign grain neglected at recent increased prices.

Bristol, Friday.—A few samples of new English wheat on offer, condition poor, millers not caring to buy. Foreign wheat very firm at 1s to 1s 6d dearer on the week with a fair trade doing. Barley 1s dearer for new crop positions. Maize 9d to 1s higher. Oats fully maintain recent prices. Flour active, good demand at fully 1s advance.—Grace Bros.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Moderate attendance. The few samples of new wheat on offer were in only moderate condition, and fetched 33s to 34s on rail. Old wheats firm at 36s, delivered into mill. A good flour trade at 1s advance, and some bit of forward buying in anticipation of further rise. Milling offals almost unobtainable at £6 15s to £7 for fine middlings, £6 to £6 5s for coarse, and £5 to £5 5s for bran. Maize, 26s per qr delivered.

Cambridge, Saturday. — To-day several samples of new wheat were offered, and prices ruled according to condition, ranging from 30s to 32s per 504 lb. into the mill. White oats scarce at 17s 6d to 18s; black winters, 17s to 17s 6d. Barley, according to quality, made 26s to 29s per 32 stone.

Canterbury, Saturday. — A much better supply of new corn, the dry weather having facilitated threshing. The quality generally is very fair, and quite up to expectations; 65 lb wheats have changed hands at 34s per qr on rail, while 61's have been sold at the same figure delivered. Oats meet a good inquiry, 42 lb whites selling at 19s, and 44 lb at 20s. Malting barley of medium quality is making 30s; grey peas, 30s to 30s 6d per qr.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Fair supply of oats in our market to-day. Slow sale at a little more money than last week, 24s to 24s 6d per 336 lb.—Thomas Robinson.

Chester, Saturday.—The demand for all feeding stuffs continues good at further enhanced prices. Quotations: oats, old, 3s 1d to 3s 6d per 46 lb; Indian corn, new, 13s 6d to 13s 9d; ditto, old, 13s per 240 lb; round corn, old, 14s to 14s 9d per 240 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday. — Fair attendance and good demand for new grain. Old white wheat, 36s to 36s 6d; old red ditto, 36s to 36s 6d; new white ditto, 32s to 33s; new red ditto, 32s to 33s; grinding ditto, 25s 6d to 25s 9d; oats, English, 18s to 23s; rye, 27s to 28s; maize, 24s to 25s.

Colchester, Saturday. — Wheat, various quality and condition, 30s to 33s; barley, 29s to 31s; oats, 18s to 20s.—Colin Taylor, King and Co., Ltd.

Coventry, Friday.—Only a meagre attendance. Flat wheat offered sparingly, but prices were obtainable. Some new oats of good quality changed hands; condition only tolerably good. Beans firm without change. Quotations: Wheat, 12s 9d to 13s 6d per 186 lb; barley, 30s to 34s per 448 lb; peas, 12s to 14s; beans, 13s to 13s 9d per 196 lb; oats, old, 24s 6d to 27s per 352 lb.; new, 21s 6d to 23s.

Devizes, Thursday.—A small supply and attendance. Old wheat the turn dearer on the week, and where new was offered it sold well. The crop is inferior in quality, but it will probably command a much higher price relatively than last year for some time to come. Winter oats, white Gartons, winter barley, and rye are offered, and and all command higher prices than last year. Best wheat, 17s 6d to 13s 6d; secondary, 16s 6d to 17s 6d; new wheat, 16s to 17s; winter barley, 26s to 28s 6d; old oats, 20s to 24s; winter oats, 17s 6d to 18s; white Garton oats (330lb), 18s to 19s; rye, 26s to 28s; new beans, 16s 6d to 18s; fine flour, 20s to 28s; extra fine, 32s to 36s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—No transactions in English wheat, which is now exhausted, but a good demand for foreign, which was dearer, Indian being 6d. per qr higher on the week, and other sorts fully 1s per qr more. There were a few samples of new black winter oats shown, which made 19s to 20s per qr. Old oats unchanged. Other things firm.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Owing to farmers being busily engaged in harvesting, coupled with the fact of to-dey's sheep fair being over at an early hour, there was again only a very limited attendance at to-day's corn market. Supplies also came sparingly to hand, there being evidently but little, if any, old wheat in the district. A quantity of new samples were shown, and much of it came to hand in greatly improved condition, wheat in particular being much harder than it was, and a few good lots of barley were shown, but both bore traces more or less of the rainstorms at the beginning of harvest. Oats make an excellent sample, and each week it becomes more apparent that this is the crop of the season.

Exeter Friday.—Business fair and generally firm. Foreign wheat 6d dearer on the week; new oats down 1s; barley and old oats firm; maize up 6d. English wheat, 3s 9d to 4s; superfine flour, 25s to 27s 6d; fine, 23s to 25s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Attendance was as usual at to day's market, with business the turn better. Wheat steadily held at 6d to 9d per qr advance. Flour 6d to 1s per sack dearer over the week. Maize and corn dearer, with prices for both 9d per boll up since last Wednesday. Barley 6d to 9d per boll dearer. Oats held in sellers' favour at 3d to 6d per boll more money. Beans and Pease steady. Bran and thirds in good demand at 2s 6d por ton more money for both. Oatmeal 1s per sack dearer on the week. Other articles steady at late rates.—Gibson and Clark.

Glasgow, Friday.—Market continues steady for all articles of the trade, without any quotable change since Wednesday.

Gloucester, Saturday.—English wheat: Few samples of new out of condition. Reds, new, 32s; old, 34 to 35s. Foreign wheat in good demand. River Plates, 36s 9d to 37s 6d; Russians, 35s 6d to 38s. River Plate maize, 25s; flat, 25s (Bristol); Bessarabian, 25s 3d. Barley, 22s 9d (Bristol). Oats: Few samples of new at 18s 3d; old, 23.

Grantham, Saturday.—Harvest now in full swing in the district, and there was only a small attendance at the market, and little business doing. A sample of new wheat made 33s 6d per qr, and several lots of new oats sold at 18s to 19s 6d per qr. Old oats unchanged.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A moderate attendance and rather more business doing than last week. Old wheats changed hands at 4s 3d per bushel. Values are nominally reported at 4s, if condition good. New black oats changed hands at 18s to 20s. No new white oats on offer. Old whites very firm to 3d per quarter dearer. Barleys nothing doing. Maize fully 1s per quarter higher than last Wednesday. Beans nothing doing. Wholesale quotations:—Wheat, 4s to 4s 3d per 62 lb; barley, 3s 6d to 4s per 63 lb; old oats, 2s 9d to 3s 3d per 40 lb; new oats, 2s 3d to 2s 6d per 40 lb; beans, 4s to 4s 6d per 65½ lb; maize, 3s 4d to 3s 8d per 60 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Very little old wheat on offer; trade firm, at an advance of 1s per qr: Reds, 35s to 36s; whites, to 37s per 504 lb. One or two samples of new wheat offering, but condition was not satisfactory; prices not yet fixed. Grinding barley, 6d per qr dearer; maize, 6d per qr dearer; oats steady; beans and peas unaltered.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The unfavourable weather for harvest in Europe, the disappointing result of the latter in large parts of the Continent, and the continued small shipments, have finally convinced the trade that a higher range of values is inevitable, consequently there has been an active speculative as well as consumptive demand, and prices for all kinds of wheat have advanced 1s 6d to 2s since last Tuesday. Offers for shipment continue scanty and at prices mostly above values on this side. Maize firm at 1s 3d to 1s 6d per qr advance. Beans 3d to 6d dearer. Oats unchanged.—Dunns and Co.

Leeds, Friday.—Harvest operations in Yorkshire were briskly proceeded with during the week, the quality and yield exceeding late anticipations. There was no further advance in English wheats, but foreign were the turn dearer. There was a good demand formedium qualities of flour at 26s. to 27s. Maize was still hardening, Plate, Russian, and American reaching 25s. New English oats, 19s to 20s. Beans, peas and barley were firmly held.

Leicester, Saturday.—Average attendance of buyers and dealers. Small supplies of old wheats, and very little new on offer. Trade ruled sharper at an advance of 6d to 1s per qr, with a strong tendency. New wheats firm, early districts made 35s to 38s per 36 stones; old wheats, 38s to 39s per 36 stones; old barley firm at late rates; new oats unsaleable, holders asking 20s to 22s per 24 stones; old oats firm at 24s to 28s per 24 stones; beans slow.

Lincoln, Friday.—Farmers being busy with the harvest, there was only a moderate attendance. Little, if any, old English wheat was on offer. A very dry sample of new wheat was shown, and made 34s per qr on rail. Foreign wheat firm. Some samples of new English barley realised from 27s to 28s per qr. Feeding stuffs very firm. New winter oats 18s 6d to 19s per qr.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Fine dry weather the last few days much appreciated. Samples of new wheat thrashed prior to the welcome atmospheric change not in first rate condition by any means, but those later on will, no doubt, display improvement. Not exactly settled value yet, but prices are firm for good quality. New rye and oats as quoted last week. Barley keeps up to former cost, and maize is sold at an advance of quite 6d to 1s per qr. All other grain very firm in tone.

Manchester, Thursday. — English wheat (new) was only offered in small quantity, but better condition and quality are expected later. Certain sorts of foreign were dearer. Indian corn was in very good request. American mixed 3d, and Cinquantina 6d. per cental higher. Barley: Both English and foreign showed no change. Oats also showed no change. Beans and peas unchanged. Bran and offals were scarce and dearer.

Newark, Wednesday.—Small attendance, farmers being busy with the harvest. Prices were a little firmer. Quotations: — White, 36s 6d to 37s 6d; malting barley, 29s to 30s; grinding, 27s to 28s; white oats, 24s to 25s; black ditto, 23s to to 24s; old beans, 24s to 35s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—We had a fair consumptive demand for wheat here to-day at 6d per qr advance on the week. Maize remain firm, and favouring sellers by 9d per 400 lb over last Saturday's quotation. Old oats firm at late rates, new 6d per qr lower to sell. For peas and beans we had only a limited demand, prices however remain firm at fully last week's quotations. No barley offering.—Pollard and Co.

Newport, Wednesday. — All feeding stuffs dearer. Barley meal and maize meal 10s and 5s per ton higher respectively on the week. Maize and barley firm and dearer. Flour showed an advance of 2s per sack since the last market.

Northampton, Saturday.—The few samples of new corn which were on offer, comprising wheat, barley, and oats, varied very much in quality; prices unsettled. Wheat, 34s to 35s; barley, 28s to 30s; white oats, 23s to 24s; black oats, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; beans, 31s to 33s; peas, 30s to 32s; flour, 26s to 30s.

Nottingham, Saturday. — Small attendance to-day. Few samples. New corn showing.

Wheat made 33s 6d, old wheats, 38s, new oats made 19s, old wheat made 38s, old oats 24s, old beans 35s. Fair demand all round.—Robt. Hubble.

Peterborough, Saturday.—We have had a nice fine week, and farmers have been busy with harvest work. The few samples of new wheat making about 32s to 33s according to condition. New barley from 26s; oats, 17s 6d to 19s 6d.—Thomas Hill and Son.

Preston, Saturday.—There was a fair attendance, but few samples of new grain were forthcoming. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220 lb., 14s 6d to 15s; ditto red, 13s 9d to 14s 6d; oats, old, per bushel, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; beans, per windle of 220 lb, 16s 6d to 17s.

Reading, Saturday.—Owing to harvest operations, the attendance again was a small one, and business was decidedly quiet, only a few sales being conducted at the following prices:—Wheat, old, 36s to 37s 6d; new, 32s to 34s; oats ranged from 18s to 23s 6d; practically nothing done in barley; beans realised 33s to 36s; and peas, 28s to 31s.

Retford, Saturday.—No new wheat offered. Old was scarce and dear, selling at 35s 6d to 36s 6d per qr. Two or three samples of new black winter oats were on offer at 18s 6d to 19s, but very trade was done; old white oats were quoted 25s to 26s; round maize, 26s 6d. No new English beans shown; old, 35s per qr.

Ripon, Thursday.—A good attendance of farmers, but trade was slow, prices having an upward tendency. No new wheat on offer. Prices:—Wheat, 35s to 36s; ditto foreign, 36s to 40s 6d; barley, grinding, 27s to 28s; oats, 24s to 26s; maize, round, 26s to 27s; ditto, flat, 26s to 27s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—In the absence of new corn prices are fully maintained at the recent high level. A further advance of 6d on wheat was supported by a sharp rise on imported wheats. Maize quoted at 1s 3d to 1s 6d per qr. advance on last week's prices for Plate and Odessa. American mixed also about 1s per qr dearer. Beans and peas 5d higher on the week. Oats and barley firm and unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 37s to 37s 6d; ditto red, new, 37s to 37s 6d per 504 lb; oats, black, 24s to 25s; ditto white, 24s 6d to 25s per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 34s to 34s 6d; ditto blue, 75s to 90s per 504 lb; beans, English, 36s 9d to 37s per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 27s 6d to 28s; ditto malting, 28s to 32s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 26s 3d to 26s 9d; ditto Plate, 26s to 26s 4d; ditto flat, 27s 6d to 27s 9d per 480 lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Old wheat, 15s to 15s 6d per 225 lb; old oats, 15s to 16s per 225 lb; old beans, 15s 6d to 16s 6d per 240 lb.

Stamford, Friday. — Small attendance, farmers taking advantage of fine weather for harvest operations. Several lots of new grain were offered. Quotations:—Wheat, 33s to 34s; oats, 18s 6d to 19s; barley, 26s to 29s; beans, 32s to 33s; peas, 50s to 60s per qr.

Stockton, Wednesday.—English wheat very scarce and very firm at 35s to 36s on the line. Foreign wheat 1s to 1s 6d per qr dearer, on account of crop reports and the weather. Flour advanced 1s, maize 1s dearer, oats also dearer. Few samples of local black winter oats were offered at 21s on the line.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Farmers stocks are about exhausted, and there was but little passing at to-day's market. All grain however is something dearer than last week. Arrivals nil.—E. and F. Richardson.

Warwick, Saturday.—Very little corn on offer, and business of a quiet character. Wheat and beans the same as last week. Another small advance in feeding stffs.

Winchester, Saturday.—A few lots of new English wheat offering, condition variable. Foreign fully 1s advance. Barley to arrive 6d, and maize 3d dearer. Oats unaltered. Flour a steady trade, 6d to 1s higher rates.—Fear, Colebrook and Co., Ltd.

Wisbech, Saturday.—After a week of favourable harvest weather, we have a few samples of new corn offering. New red wheat, if in good condition, sells at 33s per 504 lb; new oats, 18s to 18s 6d per 336 lb.—James Fletcher.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small attendance, and small show of grain, with one or two samples of new oats on offer. These were locally grown, and in good condition. White wheat, 36s to 38s; red wheat, 35s to 36s; grinding barley, 28s to 30s; English beans, 36s to 38s; maize, 26s 6d to 27s; new white oats, 20s to 22s; old ditto, 24s to 26s; new black oats, 20s to 22s; old ditto, 23s to 25s per qr.

Yeovil, Friday.—A number of samples of the new season's crops were on offer, but except a few were more or less out of condition and disappointing, particularly in the case of wheat. Under the circumstances the few lots of old wheat remaining were demand, and 36s per qr., the highest price of the year, was paid. The new wheat sold at from 30s to 33s 6d, which quotations, however, are several shillings in advance of the new crop last year. Foreign wheat 1s to 1s 6d advance on the week. More activity in the flour trade. For delivery forthwith millers accepted 26s 6d per sack for fines, and for forward delivery 27s. Meals and offals continue in good demand for the time of the year at full values.

York, Saturday.—The supply of old wheat is running very short, and consequently few samples were shown; prices remain practically unchanged. Feeding barley makes 26s to 28s per qr of 32 stones. Old oats are scarce and dear; white Tartary, 22s to 23s; black, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; short, 23s to 24s per qr. of 24 stones; old beans, 33s to 34s per qr of 36 stones.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—We had a few dry and sunny days, causing a quiet tone in our market, and top prices of last week are not now obtainable. New rye in the adjacent districts is mostly soft and of light weight. Wheat, barley, and oats are not yet carried, and no doubt were deteriorated by the inclemency of the weather. Potatoes are seriously affected by the disease. Wheat is not materially lower, there being no pressing sellers. For hard winter No. 2, August-September shipment, 34s 6d is being paid, and red winter No. 2 is held at 34s, free from garlic, at 34s 9d; Macaroni No. 1 at 32s; 10 pud Glirka Ulka at 34s 3d per 480 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg. New sale not yet offering. Rye quiet, 9 15/20 South Russian, August, old style, shipment, at 32s 6d; 9 10/15 Taganrog, afloat, at 34s; No. 2 American-Duluth, prompt, at 34s 3d per 480 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg. There is a demand for good German malting barley, but offers are scarce as yet; Saai of good colour is held at 40s to 42s; East Prussian, at 36s to 39s per 448 lb. Middling quality of Bohemian is selling at 35s 6d to 36s 6d; fine is held at 37s 6d to 40s; Moravian and Siorukian, at 40s to 42s 6d per 448 lb, f.o.b. Feeding barley quiet: 60/61 k.g. South Russian, August shipment, 20s 9d to 21s; September-October, 20s 6d per 400 lb at Hamburg. Maize less inquired after; Odessa, loading, 24s; River Plate, September-October, 24s 3d; mixed, 24s to 24s 3d per 480 lb, c.i.f.—John Tatlock.

Hamburg, Saturday.—We have still rather unsettled weather here with really cold nights. There is still a good deal of barley in the fields in the north of Germany, and quality is sure to suffer, but in the south the crop is practically completed, as also in Bohemia, Moravia, and Slavonia, and except some weathered parcels in Bohemia the quality has generally turned out fine, but for choice lots quite extreme prices are asked and actually paid to cover requirements; in Hungary trade has ruled quieter, at least for the common and more medium qualities, whilst finest Chevalier is scarce and held firm.—Francis M. Th. Duhne.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed trading during the week has been on a moderate scale, but values have been well maintained and at the close buyers show more disposition to operate. Plate: Spot and afloat, 40s 9d; August-September, 41s 3d; September-October, 41s 6d paid. Duluth: September-October, 41s 3d to 41s 6d. Petersburg sold at 41s to 41s 3d. Cottonseed.—The market declined further during last week, and £7 17s 6d accepted ex warehouse, also on passage and August shipment, but there has since been a smart recovery up to £8 5s being paid spot, £8 2s 6d afloat and to-day sellers ask 2s 6d more. A fair quantity September fayoumi done at £7 15s to £7 18s 9d, October made £7 7s 6d and after £7 taken, November-January £7 2s 6d paid with further buyers. Oils.—The market is firm. Linseed Oil: 22s spot, 22s August, 21s 6d September-December. Cottonseed Oil: 28s spot, 26s 9d September-October, 23s 9d to 23s 10½d November-April. Crude Oil: Nominal spot. Oilseed Cakes.—Linseed are 2s 6d per ton dearer on the week, with a firm market and good demand for time of year. Cotton: Best are dearer and scarce. Bombay have sold well at recent low prices, but to day sellers are satisfied with the sales effected and are holding for more money. Owing to the drop oil the tendency of cakes is strong.—Keighley, Maxsted & Co.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes: Values of all descriptions are inclined to harden in spite of a comparatively sluggish demand for present delivery, whilst both Hull and London crushers have advanced their prices fully 2s 6d per ton for winter contracts. Russian offer sparingly. East India seed pures make last week's prices. Fine seedy Calcuttas have changed hands at late rates. London made attract most attention, being relatively cheaply offered. Cotton cake.—The recent arrivals of Egyptians are almost absorbed, and with prospect of light shipment for the near future, quotations are again higher, while English are practically unchanged. Decorticated.—London made pures find a ready sale, also digestive meal, but American rule dull. Rape cakes.—Nominal. Maize germ meal.—No white American offers, and English manufacturers now ask an advance of 5s in consequence of a strong Continental demand. Maize gluten meal meets a good inquiry. Rice meal.—The market is bare of stocks, and second-hand sellers ask considerably more money for steamers to come along. Locust beans remain quiet but firm. Dried brewers' grains are the turn dearer. Nitrate of soda is without alteration.

	Per ton. £ s. d.		£ s. d.
Linseed Cakes.			
Russian, in mats (ex dock) ...	7 2 6	to	7 5 0
,, in bags ...	7 7 6	to	7 10 0
East India ...	7 5 0	to	7 7 6
Calcutta ...	7 7 6	to	7 10 0
London Made ...	7 7 6	to	7 10 0
Cottonseed Cakes.			
Egyptian ...	4 16 3	to	4 17 6
English (ex mill) ...	4 17 6	to	5 0 0
Bombay ...	4 0 0		
Decorticated, London made	7 2 6	to	7 5 0
,, American ...	6 15 0		
,, Meal, American	6 15 0	to	7 0 0
,, Meal, English ...	7 2 6	to	7 5 0
Special Digestive Meal ...	5 0 0		
Maize.			
American ...	—		
English ...	6 5 0		
Maize Gluten Meal ...	6 5 0		
Ricemeal.			
Rangoon ... ex ship	5 2 6	to	5 5 0
,, ... ex whf.	—		
Locust Beans.			
Whole ...	5 10 0		
Kibbled ...	5 17 6		
Dried Brewers' Grains.			
Ale ...	5 0 0		
Mixed ...	4 15 0		
Manures.			
Nitrate of soda ...	11 2 6		

—Pinnock Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda maintains late values; demand quiet. Other fertilisers unchanged. Feeding stuffs are very firm, and, with increased inquiry in some instances, have advanced in price. The following are the quotations:—

	Per ton. £ s d		£ s d
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (good but irregular).	7 0 0		7 5 0
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime (soft) ...	7 15 0		7 17 6
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime ...	4 15 0		5 0 0
Cottonseed Cake, Bombay ...	4 5 0		4 10 0
Cattonseed, crushed, 20 per cent. oil guaranteed ...	8 17 6		9 0 0
Linseed Cake, American, thin oblong, prime but hard ...	7 7 6		7 10 0
,, ,, English, prime...	7 17 6		8 0 0
,, ,, River Plate ...	7 10 0		7 12 6
Palm Nut Cake ...	—		—
Maize Germ Meal ...	6 5 0		6 10 0
Indian Meal, coarse to fine grinding ...	Per 240 lb. —		—
Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported ...	Per ton. 5 5 0		5 10 0
Linseed, fine bold feeding ...	Per qr., 416 lb. —		—
Cod-liver Oil, cattle feeding ...	Per Gallon. 0 4 0		—
Treacle, feeding, American ...	Per Cwt. 0 4 9		—
Nitrate of Soda ...	Per ton. 11 5 0		—
Kainit, prime ...	2 7 6		2 10 0
Bone Meal, prime ...	5 10 0		—
Bone Ash, fine and powdery ...	3 15 0		—
Basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed	1 14 0		1 15 0
,, ,, ,,	2 2 0		2 3 0
,, finest ,, ,,	2 6 0		2 7 0
D.N.S. Superphosphate of Brand Lime* ...	2 5 0		2 7 0
,, ,, guaranteed*	2 10 0		2 12 0
,, ,, ,, *	3 1 3		3 3 3

* At depot inland.

—H. Jones Langar and Co.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Good supplies were in moderate demand. Young grouse, 4s 6d to 5s; old, 2s to 2s 3d; black game, 3s per brace; goslings, 4s to 5s; country ducks, 2s to 2s 6d; Aylesbury ducks, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Surrey fowls, 3s to 3s 6d; Sussex fowls, 2s 6d to 3s; Essex fowls, 2s to 2s 6d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 6d; Irish fowls, 1s 4d to 1s 9d; quails, 9d to 1s; feathered pigeons, 8d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 1s to 1s 2d; tame rabbits, 1s 3d to 1s 6d; wild rabbits, 6d to 8d; live hens, 1s 6d to 2s each; Australian rabbits, 5s 6d to 7s per doz.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, 3 P.M.

The first market of a new cereal year commanded, as usual, a large attendance, and there was also a very decided increase in the number of new crop samples shown. Foreign wheat prices were fully 1s dearer on the week, but millers were slow buyers at the advance. New English was not in a state fit for immediate milling, but some of the samples were of excellent weight.

Barley was quoted 27s. or thereabouts for new winter. Foreign was very unsettled. The new Russian crop is likely to come on sale on arrival at 3s. below prices asked for the old ex granary. Californian and other fine foreign sorts sold at a high price. Oats have ceased to advance.

Buckwheat is eagerly sought for, and 36s. to 38s. is paid. New English rapeseed makes 72s. to 76s. per qr. Maize is comparatively dear, 1s. advance on the week may be quoted as obtained. Beans are 6d. dearer for old crop, and are firm for new.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

September 2.

WHEAT, New White.....(per 504 lb.)	35	— 36
Old ,, ... ,,	37	— 38
New Red..... ,,	34	— 35
Old ,, ... ,,	36	— 37
BARLEY, Malting .....(per 448 lb.)	None.	
Brewing ..... ,,	None.	
Distilling .....(per 416 lb.)	None.	
Old Winter..... (per 400 lb.)	None.	
New Winter ... (per 400 lb.)	25	— 28
Feeding.....(per 400 lb.)	None.	
MALT, Pale .....(per 336 lb.)	34	— 36
Brown ..... ,,	27	— 29
Black ..... ,,	29	— 30
OATS, Storm Kings ..... ,,	None.	
Abundance ..... ,,	None.	
Waverleys..... ,,	None.	
Pioneers..... ,,	None.	
Black Tartary ..... ,,	22	— 23
White Gartons ..... ,,	23	— 24
New Winter ..... ,,	18	— 19
Ordinary Old ...(per 320 lb.)	21	— 22
RYE, Old .....(per 480 lb.)	29	— 31
New.....(per 480 lb.)	26	— 28
BEANS, Pigeon .....(per 532 lb.)	42	— 44
Tick .....(per 504 lb.)	34	— 35
Winter ..... ,,	32	— 33
Spring ..... ,,	31	— 32
Split Mazagan .....(per 320 lb.)	21	— 22
PEAS, Picked Marrowfat, New (per 504 lb.)	90	— 100
Unpicked (Old) ..... ,,	52	— 56
Maple (Old)..... ,,	36	— 37
Dun (Old)..... ,,	32	— 34
TARES (Winter).....(per 532 lb.)	40	— 44
(Spring)..... ,,	44	— 48
(English Gores)..... ,,	56	— 64
(Scotch Gores) ..... ,,	68	— 72
BUCKWHEAT, ... (New per 416 lb)	36	— 37

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba	38	— 39	American	24	— 25
Red Winter ...	36	— 37	Argentine	24	— 25
Best Spring ...	38	— 39	Roumanian ...	24	— 25
Argentine	37	— 38	Russian	24	— 25
Australian ...	37	— 38	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Californian ...	37	— 38	Smyrna	34	— 35
Walla Walla	36	— 37	New Zealand...	32	— 33
Saxonka	36	— 37	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Azima	35	— 36	Hungarian	62	— 64
Ghirka	34	— 35	Burmese	38	— 40
Roumanian ...	34	— 35	Chilian	56	— 64
Indian White	35	— 36	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb):		
,, Red ...	34	— 35	French	37	— 39
Turkish	33	— 34	Russian	33	— 37
Persian	33	— 34	Canadian	36	— 38
BARLEY:			PEAS (504 lb.):		
C'lifor'n (448 lb)	31	— 32	Dutch Crowns	55	— 57
Tunisian (448 lb)	30	— 31	Konigsberg ...	44	— 46
Algerian (448 lb)	29	— 30	Russian White	35	— 36
Ouchak (448 lb)	28	— 32	Indian White.	35	— 36
Smyrna (448 lb)	26	— 30	Canadian White	35	— 36
Russian (400 lb)	26	— 27	New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 40
Indian (400 lb)...	24	— 25	Victoria Dun.	32	— 33
Persian (400 lb)	23	— 24	MILLET (416 lb.):		
MALT (336 lb.):			White	42	— 44
Californian ...	34	— 85	Yellow	22	— 24
Smyrna	33	— 36	Sorghum	20	— 21
Ouchak	33	— 36	RICE (cwt.):		
RYE (480 lb.):			Java	16	— 22
Russian	26	— 27	Indian	17	— 20
OATS:			Japanese	16	— 17
Konigsbg (320 lb)	21	— 22	Burmese.....	10	— 11
Russian (304 lb)	18	—18/3	Siamese	8	— 9
Canadian (320 lb)	20	— 21	DARI (480 lb.):		
Argentine (304 lb)	17/9	— 18	Smyrna	27	— 28
Swedish (320 lb)	21	— 22	Indian	23	— 24
New Zealand (384 lb)	25	—26	Persian	22	— 23

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, 3 P.M.

London flour to-day was decidedly dearer on the week. The new wheat comes forward so slowly that stocks of old flour will have to suffice to carry bakers over September for the most part. As imported flour is in less evidence than usual, and the price asked for the best sorts is almost prohibitive, London millers have full justification for the terms asked. It is not, of course, anticipated that they will be supported for long, but those who have prompt deliveries wherewith to meet a crisis are discovering their reward. All sorts of bran and middlings are 5s. per ton dearer on the week. Seldom, indeed, does a new cereal year start with no new flour to be had at all. Old country flour is wanted locally, and London would have a sharp, if short, flour famine but for the stocks in its own big mills.

London Flour.

September 2.

Top Price.....(per sack of 280 lb.)	32/0	net
Town Whites ..... ,,	31/0	,,
,, Households ..... ,,	28/0	,,
No. 2..... ,,	25/0	,,
Whole Meal No. 1..... ,,	24/0	,,
,, No. 2..... ,,	22/0	,,

Country Flour.	s.	s.
Fine Patents .....(per sack of 280 lb.)	26	— 28
Roller Whites ..... ,,	24	— 25
All English ..... ,,	24	— 25
Stone made ..... ,,	23	— 24

Foreign Flour.	s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents (per s'ck of 280 lb.)	28	— 29
,, Second Patents ..... ,,	26	— 27
,, First Bakers' ..... ,,	23	— 24
,, Second Bakers' ..... ,,	22	— 23
Milwaukee Patents ..... ,,	27	— 28
,, Bakers'..... ,,	24	— 25
Canadian Best..... ,,	27	— 28
,, Ordinary ..... ,,	25	— 26
Manitoba Patents ..... ,,	27	— 28
,, Ordinary ..... ,,	25	— 26
Kansas Patents ..... ,,	26	— 27
,, Ordinary..... ,,	24	— 25
Californian ..... ,,	28	— 29
Hungarian ..... ,,	37	— 39
Belgian ..... ,,	32	— 34
French, Corbeil ..... ,,	27	— 28
,, Renaux..... ,,	26	— 27
,, P.S.D. ..... ,,	25	— 26

Meal, &c.		
Bran, London Broad (per sack of 280 lb.)	14	— 15
,, Country Flake Choice ... ,,	15	— 16
,, ,, Broad ..... ,,	14	— 15
Pollard ..... ,,	13	— 14
Biscuit Middlings ..... ,,	17	— 18
Fine Middlings ..... ,,	16	— 17
Coarse Middlings ..... ,,	15	— 16
Wheat Germ Meal..... ,,	18	— 19
Farina Firsts ..... ,,	29	— 30
,, Seconds ..... ,,	27	— 28
Barley Meal..... ,,	24	— 25
Canadian Oatmeal..... ,,	25	— 26
Scotch Oatmeal ..... ,,	30	— 33
Groats ..... ,,	32	— 33
Oat Flour..... ,,	33	— 34
Ground Oats ..... ,,	32	— 33
Poultry Meal ..... ,,	34	— 36
American Feeding Wheat Flour ,,	18	— 19
Maize Flour "Cornflour" ..... ,,	18	— 19
,, Germ Meal ..... ,,	15	— 16
,, Cones ..... ,,	18	— 19
,, Gluten Meal ..... ,,	15	— 16
Rye Flour ..... ,,	24	— 26
Rye Bran..... ,,	21	— 22
Pea Meal ..... ,,	23	— 24

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED STRONGLY FOR WHEAT AND MAIZE. THE REPORTS OF THE AMERICAN GROWING CROP OF MAIZE ARE RATHER UNFAVOURABLE, AND THE PERIOD IS A CRITICAL ONE FOR THAT VERY IMPORTANT YIELD.

THE BALTIC.

MONDAY, 1 P.M.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat cargoes open firm for all sorts except American, which are a trifle easier. Maize cargoes are decidedly firm. Futures for oats and feeding barley are rather lower.

BUSINESS DONE.

Wheat.—American Red Winter, 7s 5d per cental, prompt shipment; best Russian Winter, 39s 3d per 492 lb, prompt shipment; Odessa Ghurka, 37s 3d per 492 lb, prompt shipment; Blue Stem (Pacific), 37s 3d per 500 lb, arrived; Australian, 37s 3d per 480 lb, arrived; Rosario, 37s 6d per 480 lb, prompt shipment; Red Karachi, 37s 9d per 492 lb, November shipment; Hard Manitoba, 37s 3d per 480 lb, October shipment; No. 1 Durum, 31s 3d per 480 lb, October shipment.

Barley.—Russian new crop, 21s per 400 lb, prompt shipment; Californian, 31s per 448 lb, prompt shipment; Cyprian, 24s per 400 lb, prompt shipment.

Oats.—Riga, 15s 6d per 304 lb, prompt shipment; Argentine, 15s 9d per 304 lb, February shipment.

Maize.—American Mixed, 5s 4d per cent., prompt shipment; Galatz, 25s 6d per 480 lb, on passage; Argentine, 25s per 480 lb, October shipment.

Beans.—Smyrna, 31s 6d per 480 lb, October shipment.

Teas.—Calcutta white, 34s per 504 lb, October shipment.

Dari.—Indian, 23s per 480 lb, October shipment.

Rice.—No. 2 Rangoon Cleaned, 11s 9d per cwt., October shipment.

Canaryseed.—Turkish, 37s per 464 lb, prompt shipment.

Linseed.—Argentine, 42s per 416 lb, arrived.

Poppyseed.—Indian, 59s per 377 lb, September shipment.

Sesame.—Indian, 56s 3d per 384 lb, February shipment.

Cottoneed.—Indian, £5 16s per 2,240 lb, October shipment.

TERM MARKET.

Speculation in futures is active, and prices indicate a decided belief in wheat prices rising as soon as the first rush of English new crop deliveries is over. Opinion with respect to maize is less certain. Few speculators will make bargains for 1908 delivery, as the next five weeks will practically determine the result of the American new crop, which in turn largely governs the trade for the first six months of the civil year. Latest prices quoted are:—

Winter Wheat.

Red, American, 7s. 6d., per cental, Sept. and Oct. delivery.

,, ,, 7s. 9d. ,, Dec. ,,

,, ,, 7s. 10d. ,, 1908 ,,

American maize 5s. 4d. ,, Sept. ,,

,, ,, 5s. 5d. ,, Oct. ,,

The Egyptian new crop of cottonseed is offered for December delivery in London at £7 per ton.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

Flour.—Advancing wheat markets all week have improved the demand for flour, buyers paying 6d per sack advance freely. Grain.—American corn is active at 6d per boll advance. Round maize has also improved 3d to 6d. Manitoba oats being well cleared from quay are in sellers' favour. Beans quiet. Canadian pease 3d per boll dearer. Buyers of oatmeal are holding off. Mill Stuffs.—Very strong. Winter wheat patents, 27s 6d to 28s per 280 lb; spring wheat patents, 28s to 28s 6d per 280 lb; American corn, 15s to 15s 1½d per 280 lb; round corn, 14s 10½d to 15s per 280 lb; grinding beans, 18s 7½d to 18s 9d per 280 lb; white pease, 19s to 20s per 280 lb; broad bran, 110s per ton; medium bran, 102s 6d per ton; fine thirds, 130s per ton; common thirds, 110s per ton; American oilcake, 145s per ton. —McKINNON AND McDONALD (Glasgow).

Offals.—The demand continues very active, and prices are still advancing.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour.—Prices are mostly 6d. per sack higher than last week. Home millers are somewhat irregular, quoting in some instances 1s. advance. There is a steady demand, the tendency of prices in both American and home-made being still upward.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Milling Offal.—Although the demand is slackening off, there is no difference in price, owing to mills being full of orders.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

Flour.—Market very strong at 6d to 1s advance on the week. Business is limited owing to scarcity of offers.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS, LTD.

Supplies of wheat continue liberal. We have a firm trade, and prices are 6d. and 1s. per qr. higher. Maize, 6d. per qr. dearer. Barley and oats unchanged in values.—COVENTRY AND SHEPPARD.

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, August 27, 1907:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Av. Price per qr. £	s.	d.
Wheat ...	356	6 ...	585	5	7	... 1	12	10
Barley ...	205	4 ...	273	6	7	... 1	6	7
Oats	1,991	1 ...	1,964	16	9	... 0	19	9

HAY AND STRAW.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Not much doing in the hay trade. Holders of old hay remain firm, but buyers do not purchase freely. New hay unsettled, sellers and buyers in some instances being rather wide apart. Straw very dull and the turn lower.

Lancaster, Saturday. — Better supply than for some time, with brisk trade. Meadow hay, 6d; clover ditto, 6½d; oat straw, 4d, ditto wheat, 4d per stone.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The new crop of hay has been sparingly offered in the warehouses, and prices have scarcely been tested. Straw is scarce and firm. Quotations:—Clover hay, 7½d; meadow hay, 7d; wheat straw, 5d; oat straw, 5d; and rye straw (retail), 7d to 8½d per stone; green clover, 3½d per bundle.

Lincoln, Friday.—A moderate demand for hay, which was in good supply. New hay and seeds, 50s to 55s per ton on the ground; old ditto, 70s to 80s; straw, 30s to 35s per ton on the ground.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, old, 5½d to 6½d; clover, old, 7½d; new, 4½d to 6d; straw, wheat, 4d; oat, 3½d to 4d per stone.

Newcastle, Tuesday. — Old land hay, from £3 10s to £4 5s per ton; new land hay, £4 10s to £5 7s 6d; this year's growth, £4 5s to £4 10s; wheat straw, £1 1s to £1 4s per load; oat straw, 18s to £1 4s.

Nottingham, Wednesday.—Fair supplies which met with a good demand for best qualities. Quotations:—Inferior to good hay, 75s to 90s; prime ditto, 95s to 105s; inferior to good clover, 80s to 90s; prime ditto, 95s to 105s; wheat straw, 45s to 55s; new hay, 70s to 80s; new seeds, 80s to 90s.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Better supplies than last week, and business showing a slight improvement. Choice seeds, £4 10s to £5; choice hay, £4 10s to £4 15s; straw, £1 2s 6d to £2 2s 5d; green fodder, 16s to 17s per ton.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Heavy arrivals sold quietly at previous rates. Best clover, 84s to 95s; inferior, 72s to 80s; specially picked hay, 87s; good, 76s to 85s; inferior, 65s to 70s; mixture and sainfoin, 77s 6d to 87s 6d; straw, 28s to 34s per load.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—The small quantity offered met a good sale. Early Rose, 60s to 70s; Early Puritans, 70s; British Queen, 65s to 70s; Blacklands, 60s to 65s per ton.

Berwick, Saturday.—This market is still very dull, little or no trade being done. No exact quotations can be given. A good deal of disease is reported in the potato crop on the Borderland.

Carlisle, Saturday.—There was a large supply at both the public retail markets, and a good demand at 7d to 9d per stone.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Good supply, of potatoes, which made 3s 6d per cwt.; retail 10d per peck, with a fair trade.

Goole, Wednesday.—The potato trade was very slow, and the attendance was small. A few lots changed hands at 50s to 55s per ton.

Hereford, Saturday.—The market was well supplied, and locally grown samples made from 6s to 7s per load.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Good supply, and a fair trade at 8d to 9d per stone.

Spitalfields, Saturday. — Restricted arrivals experienced good support. Early Rose, 65s to 70s; Puritans, 70s; British Queens, 75s to 80s; Epicures, 65 to 70s; Sharp's Express, 65s to 70s. Blacklands: Up-to-Dates, 65s; British Queens, 60s to 65s; Epicures, 55s to 60s; Sharp's Express, 60s to 65s per ton.

York, Saturday.—A somewhat scarce supply, owing to farmers being busy with harvest. Prices, which have an upward tendency, range from 57s 6d to 60s per ton.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday. —There is rather more enquiry from consumers, prices are nominally the same as those current the last month. The crop does not develop satisfactorily, the cones are exceedingly small although full if lupulin. The weight will be at least 1 cwt. less per acre than was estimated last week, and 2 cwt. less than the estimate of a fortnight since.—W. H. and H. Le May.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Warmer weather has added materially to quality of crop, but it has come too late to increase size of cones. Picking commences about middle of next week.

Worcester, Saturday.—Owing to more suitable weather hops have improved this week, and the picking will begin in ten days' time. There is no alteration to note on the market in 1906 hops. A fair trade continues to be done, and 1905's are selling rather more freely. One pocket new has been weighed this week.—Charles Faram and Co.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Sept. 2, 1907. British.	Total.	Monday, Sept. 3, 1906.
Beasts	920	920	930
Sheep and Lambs	5,340	5,340	5,950
Calves	10	10	10
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	40	40	30

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 10	3 10	4 8
Sheep	3 8	5 2	6 0
Lambs	4 10	5 6	6 8
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22 10s.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 40; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 756; Devon, 30; Ireland, 94.

We note to-day an increase of 70 head compared with Monday last, the supply including a slightly larger number of Devon cattle, these commanding our top quotation. Trade for both prime and second quality beasts ruled of a very slow and dragging nature, late values being difficult to maintain. The Irish consignment consisted of 36 Dublins and 58 Waterfords (no store cattle being included), all of which shared in the poor trade prevailing here to-day. Fat cows and bulls were also slow of sale at last Monday's prices. A clearance will not be effected in this part of the market to-day.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s. d.	Monday, Sept. 3, 1906. s. d.
Scotch	—	—
Devons	4 6	—
Herefords	4 6 ex 4 8	4 2
Norfolks	—	—
Runts	4 4 ex 4 6	4 0 to 4 2
Lincolns	4 0 to 4 2	3 8 to 3 10
Irish	4 2 to 4 4	4 2 to 4 3
Canadian	—	—
Fat cows	3 4 to 3 6	3 4 to 3 6

There was a decrease of 300 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. For all descriptions a slow and dragging trade was experienced, all sales being based on last Monday's prices—this remark also applies to both Scotch and Irish sheep, the latter being in larger numbers. Lambs though in smaller numbers were in excess of the requirements, consequently Thursday's slight advance was not maintained.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	Monday, Sept. 3, 1906. s. d.
8 st Scotch	5 10 to 6 0	—
7½ to 8 st Downs	5 10 to 6 0	5 10 to 6 0
9 st. Downs	5 8 to 5 10	5 8 to 5 10
10 st Halfbreds	5 4 to 5 6	5 4 to 5 6
10 st Yorkshires	—	—
12st Lincolns, half-bred	—	—
10 st Irish	5 4 to 5 6	5 2 to 5 4
10 st Down Ewes	4 0 to 4 2	4 4 to 4 6
11 st Halfbred ditto	3 10 to 4 0	4 2 to 4 4
5 st Down Lambs	6 6 to 6 8	6 10 to 7 0
6 st Halfbreds ditto	6 2 to 6 4	5 8 to 5 10

Only 10 calves on offer, trade, therefore, not worth noting.

No pigs on the market.

London (Central), Monday. — Moderate arrivals met slow demand Beef, English, 3s 9d to 3s 11d; Scotch, 4s to 4s 8d; American, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 8d to 4s 2d. Mutton, English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Lambs, 4s 8d to 5s; Scotch tegs and wethers, 4s 8d to 4s 10d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Veal, 3s 6d to 4s 8d. Pork, 3s 4d to 4s 2d per stone.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts 280. To-day's supply consisted entirely of Canadian cattle, trade for which ruled of firm and steady nature at late rates. The best on offer were quoted at from 4s 1d to 4s 3d; seconds, 3s 10d to 4s per 8 lb (offal given in). On Saturday 1,500 beasts from the United States and 610 from Canada were offered for sale, trade ruled of a firm and steady nature, the best of the former making from 4s 3d to 4s 5d; seconds, 4s to 4s 2d; and the latter, 4s 1d to 4s 3d; seconds, 3s 10d to 4s per 8 lb (sinking the offal).

WET AND DRIED GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Saturday.—Wet Grains: Prices have ruled a trifle higher on the past week, and business has been done at 12s to 13s ale, and 9s 6d to 10s 6d porter per ton on rail, London. Dried Grains.—The rise in prices has entirely stopped home trade, and dealers cannot find any orders, and with hay offering from 50s per ton there is not likely to be any demand, and even a reduction of 5s per ton would not be an aid to increase the consumption. Prices ex factory:—Distillers, 105s; ale, 92s 6d; and mixed, 86s 3d per ton. American cane treacle, 90s per ton, and Kiln-dried sea-damaged Australian wheat from 20s per qr.—Hamlyn and Co., 37 and 38, Mark Lane, London, E.C.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, September 2.—Prices are not much changed, but new English rapeseed is now on offer.

	s. s.
Linseed. per 416 lb.	
English	None.
Bombay	None.
Calcutta	41 to 42
Russian 98°/₀	45 to 47
,, Ordin'y	42 to 43
Argentine recle'd	46 to 48
Argentine cleand	44 to 45
,, F.A.Q.	42 to 43
Argentine comn.	40 to 41
Dutch best	50 to 51
,, medium	45 to 48
Turkish	44 to 46
Duluth	41 to 42
Canadian	42 to 43
Rapeseed. per 416 lb.	
English, Old	100 to 102
New	76 to 78
French F.A.Q.	66 to 68
Yellow Guzerat	58 to 60
Yellow Cawnpre	54 to 55
Brown ,,	53 to 54
Ferozepore	53 to 54
Rubsen.	per 424 lb
German	71 to 75
Poppyseed.	per 377 lb.
Indian	56 to 57
Cottonseed.	per ton.
Egyptian	160 to 162
Indian	142 to 144
Brazilian	130 to 150
Sunflowerseed.	per cwt.
English, White	15 to 16
Russian, White.	14 to 15
,, Black.	13 to 14
Sesame.	per cwt.
Indian	16 to 17
Hempseed.	per 336 lb.
Russian	36 to 38

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were:—From Ireland, 2,627 bales, and from foreign ports, 14,478 bales. There was an irregular market during the week, but it closed somewhat steadier, quotations ranging:—Irish, 60s to 64s up to 71s; Danish, 56s to 63s up to 69s; Canadian, 55s to 57s up to 62s. Butter: The Butter market was slow. French, 92s to 100s; Danish, 108s to 110s up to 111s; Russian, 76s to 98s; Irish, 84s to 105s; Canadian, 104s to 106s; Victorian, 86s to 100s; New South Wales, 86s to 100s; Queensland, 84s to 96s; New Zealand, 96s to 106s, exceptionally 108s. Lard.—Lard was a quiet market. Irish, 50s to 58s; Danish, 48s to 52s; American, 45s to 46s 9d.

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1906.

		s. d.
September 1	(per sack)	29 0
October 8	,,	28 0
May 13	,,	29 0
,, 24	,,	31 0
,, 31	,,	30 0
June 5	,,	31 0
Aug. 28	,,	32 0

(No change since last date given).

Yearly Averages (Official).

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1890	31 9 per qr.	28 8 per qr.	18 7 per qr.
1891	37 1 ,,	28 2 ,,	20 0 ,,
1892	30 4 ,,	26 2 ,,	19 11 ,,
1893	26 4 ,,	25 6 ,,	18 9 ,,
1894	22 10 ,,	24 6 ,,	17 1 ,,
1895	23 1 ,,	21 11 ,,	14 6 ,,
1896	26 2 ,,	22 11 ,,	14 9 ,,
1897	30 2 ,,	23 6 ,,	16 11 ,,
1898	34 0 ,,	27 2 ,,	18 5 ,,
1899	25 8 ,,	25 7 ,,	17 0 ,,
1900	26 11 ,,	25 9 ,,	17 9 ,,
1901	26 9 ,,	25 3 ,,	18 5 ,,
1902	28 0 ,,	25 8 ,,	20 2 ,,
1903	26 9 ,,	22 11 ,,	17 2 ,,
1904	28 4 ,,	22 4 ,,	16 4 ,,
1905	29 9 ,,	24 4 ,,	17 4 ,,
1906	28 4 ,,	24 3 ,,	18 7 ,,

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

The trade for fat beasts at Islington both in regard to prime quality on the chief market day of the week opened with an entire absence of life, partly due to the inclement weather which was experienced that day and the fact that the butchers' requirements are somewhat limited owing to the general exodus from town during this month; nevertheless, no lower rates can be recorded. The Irish consignment consisted of 23 Dublins and 55 Waterfords, these shared in the poor trade and were quoted 2d. per 8 lb. lower in value. No fat cattle were offered for sale on Thursday. On both market days fat cows and bulls were slightly in excess of demand, but were able in most cases to maintain late values.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, only one market was held during the week, namely, Saturday. Trade ruled of a firm and steady nature, best States beasts showing an upward tendency, whilst Canadian remained about the same. The total number on offer at both markets was 3,010, as against 3,900 during the preceding week, consisting of 890 British (increase 10) and 2,110 foreign (decrease 900), these comprising 1,500 from the United States and 610 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal): —90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 6d. ex 4s. 8d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 100 to 110 stone 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 95 stone Irish, 4s. 4d.; 90 stone States, 4s. 3d. to 4s. 5d.; 95 stone Canadians, 4s. to 4s. 3d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.

In the sheep market a slow trade was experienced throughout the week for all descriptions at a decline in value for wethers. Ewes, on the other hand, made late values, as also did Irish. Scotch were in excess of the requirements, consequently less money had to be accepted to effect sales. On Thursday Monday's values governed all transactions. Lambs were in fair average supply, but were difficult to vend, even at the extremely low rates prevailing. These brisked up on Thursday, and were quoted at 2d. to 4d. per 8 lb. more money. The total number penned was 6,960, as against 7,560 during the preceding week, this showing a decrease of 600. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows:—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone Half-breds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone ewes, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 5 stone fat Grass lambs, 6s. 6d. to 6s. 8d.; 6 stone Halfbred ditto, 6s. 2d to 6s. 4d.

Calves numbered 30, trade for which ruled of a slow nature, best on offer being quoted at from 4s. 10d. to 5s.

No pigs were offered for sale on either market day.

Trade in the West.

It is satisfactory to be able to state that the stock markets are keeping so exceptionally firm, milch beasts as well as barreners just at present bringing better prices than they have for a long time past, and sheep sales are being characterised by similar satisfactory results. Milch beasts are meeting an unusually keen demand, it being no unusual thing for good-class milchers to realise £22 and even more, though a more average range for heifers is from £17 to £21 apiece, and for secondary grades of heifers and cows from £14 up to £16 10s. In-calvers meet an equally good inquiry from £10 to £14 each; two-year-olds make £8 to £9 each; and yearlings £3 to £7 for the most promising. Barreners are a particularly fast trade, and, with keep plentiful and beef selling at high prices, this is little matter for surprise, graziers readily securing all the best lots now coming to market at from £24 up to £32 per pair, whilst there is also fair consumptive demand for the plainer grades at from £17 to £22 or £23.

Considerable numbers of breeding ewes with other sheep suitable for keeping on are being marketed at good prices, a general run for breeding ewes from 44s. to 48s., though for anything out of the common from 50s. to 52s. or 53s. is made for the younger ages; wethers, 43s. to 49s; store hogs, 35s. to 42s.; and lambs, 28s. (for small rough lots) to 44s. or 45s. for those of a better class. Although we can hardly quote prices as lower, we fancy we can detect a little less inclination on the part of buyers to buy as largely as they have been doing of late; and perhaps this is to be accounted for by the less favourable character of the harvest than was at one time the case.

Moderately good supplies of fat stock of all kinds excepting sheep are coming to hand at the generality of the markets, these proving ample to meet all requirements. Speaking generally of trade, we must quote business as steady throughout, with prices, as a rule, fairly well maintained, more particularly for all the choicer grades, which rule exceedingly firm. Some very good Devon and Shorthorn steers and heifers are included among the fat bullocks now being offered, for the best of which from 11s. 6d. to 12s. is the current quotation (or up to 24s. each for the heaviest); secondary grades and cows, 10s. 6d. to 11s.; and coarse heavy bullocks, 9s. to 9s. 6d. Calves still proved altogether inadequate to the demand, and this tends to keep prices very buoyant; best sells up to 8⅝d or 9d. per lb, and seconds 7½d. to 8d.

In spite of short supplies, mutton, both wether and ewe, is somewhat quieter than it was, but lower currencies cannot be quoted, wethers still selling up to 9d., and ewes, (which in one case this week reached 64s.), 7½d to 8d. Lamb trade temporarily favours buyers, the season being practically over, and what is now coming out may be more accurately described as young mutton, but should still be quoted 9½d. to 10½d. per lb. (only lot of Down wethers selling at Wimborne this week up to 58s. 6d. each), only small, half-finished lots selling for less money. Pigs retain all their old firmness both for neat-handling porkers as well as for heavier baconers, which are readily selling from 9s. to 10s. 6d. per score; coarse pigs, 8s. 6d.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer this week has been slightly smaller, and the general quality rather improved. A fair demand has been experienced at prices all through about 10s. per heed higher. A large and good show of fat cows and a small show of bulls, all of which met a dear trade. Sheep in full average numbers. These have met a moderate inquiry, and any change, more especially in secondary ewes, favoured buyers. Lambs in smaller numbers, and those of good quality met a better trade. Calves very dear, while pigs were also just the turn dearer.

There was a moderate supply of store cattle. Anything of a good class got sold out at fairly satisfactory prices, but rough cattle are still neglected and difficult to quit. Fewer store sheep and lambs on offer. Owing to the extremely bad weather this class of stock showed to disadvantage, and a slow inquiry was experienced at prices quite 1s. a head lower, a number of the inferior kinds being left unsold. An exceedingly large and good show of milch cows met a dear trade. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 39s. 9d.; current, 36s. to 38s.; mutton, 6½d. to 9½d. per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Ltd.

Trade in Ireland

As is generally the case in Dublin cattle market on the Thursday of horse show week, the supplies were very short, there being only 3,393 beasts (a decrease of nearly 1,000), and 8,697 sheep and lambs (a falling away of nearly 2,000 on the previous market). This decline brought offerings up considerably, that the nicer descriptions of cattle were about 10s. per head up, but sheep were not in demand, and business was dull and unsatisfactory. The cattle market opened very early, and business was fairly good, with a better demand than last day. There was a general improvement in all sorts of cattle.

The live-weight price for good cattle would average between 31s. 6d. and 33s. Dead-weight prices were:—Best ox and heifer beef, 57s. to 60s.; good second class beef, 47s. 6d. to 50s. 9d.; and inferior beef, 42s. to 46s. per cwt. The attendance of buyers from all centres was large, which is customary in horse show week, when so many strangers come to town. The shrinkage of close upon 1,000 head was however, mainly responsible for the increase in price, as it produced an increased demand from English and Scotch buyers. A large decrease in the number of stock in the market was also due to the fair being held in Mullingar on Thursday, and it was very largely attended and buying was good; this fair kept many of the North of Ireland buyers away. Two lots of very fine bullocks were sold from the stand of Messrs. Duffy, Mangan, and Butler, to Mr. Fisher, of Oldham, England, at £25 each. Second quality and coarse beef was much easier sold than at the preceding market.

The very wet day had a bad effect on the mutton department, the continuous rain having the effect of making many buyers leave earlier than they would otherwise have done. The market having a supply of practically 2,000 head as compared with last market, however, prevented any great fall in price. For choice lightweight Cheviots and hoggets, suitable to city buyers, there was really no fall to speak of, but for heavy wethers and ewes there was less money given. The shipping demand was only nominal. Lambs continued to meet with a good enquiry, as the season is practically closed. Wether mutton was worth 7½d. to 8d. per lb; ewe mutton, 6¾d. to 7½d.; and coarse sheep, 6d. to 6½d. per lb.

Choice fat lambs, 36s. to 40s. each; second quality, 26s. to 32s.; and inferior quality, 18s. to 24s. each. Prime well-fed veal was worth from 8d. to 9d. per lb.; inferior quality, 5d. to 6d. per lb. Good milch cows in fair demand, but other sorts very cautiously dealt with, best cows worth from £18 to £19 each; a lot of six newly-calved cows on Mr. Keogh's stall attracted a good deal of attention and were sold to go across channel at £20 each.

There was a large supply of pigs in the market on Wednesday, but the attendance of buyers was poor, and those present were very reserved and cautious in their transactions.

Prices were depressed, and many useful animals remained unsold at the close of the market. Lightweight pigs sold at from 50s. to 52s.; heavy pigs, 47s. to 50s.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Fairly good supplies and trade slow, but prices firm for good beef. English beef, 3s 9d to 3s 11d; Scotch sides, 4s to 4s 2d; shorts, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 10d to 4s 1d; ditto seconds, 3s 7d to 3s 9d; ditto forequarters, 2s 5d to 2s 7d; inferior beef, 2s to 3s; mutton, Scotch wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ditto tegs, 5s; ditto ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Dutch sheep, 3s 10d to 4s 2d; English lamb, 4s 8d to 5s; veal, 3s 8d to 4s 8d; English pork, 3s 6d to 4s; Dutch pork, 3s 4d to 3s 8d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday. — To day's supply of beasts consisted entirely of fat cows and bulls, which met a slow trade at last Monday's values. Top prices paid per 8 lb:—Fat cows, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 9d to 3s 2d. A decrease of 210 in the number penned in sheep market. Trade for both wethers and ewes ruled slow at last Monday's values. Lambs were in short supply and met with more inquiry, consequently sellers both asked and obtained an advance of 2d per 8 lb. Best pens made per 8 lb as follows:—7½ to 8 stone Down sheep, 5s 10d to 6s; 9 stone ditto, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10 stone ditto, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10 stone halfbreds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s to 4s 2d; 5 stone fat Down lambs, 6s 8d to 6s 10d; 6 stone halfbred ditto, 6s 2d to 6s 4d. Calves were in smaller numbers, but made no advance in values. Quotations per 8lb, sinking the offal:—Beasts, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; sheep, 4s to 6s; calves, 3s 10d to 5s; lambs, 5s to 6s 10d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Average attendance and a good trade at last week's prices for beef, mutton, and pork, but veal made more money. Best beef, 4s 7d to 5s; secondary, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; cows, 3s 9d to 4s. Mutton, small half-bred Downs, 5s 6d to 6s; small wethers, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; large wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; barrens, 4s to 4s 4d. Veal, 5s to 5s 6d. Lamb, 6s 6d to 7s. Pork, roasters, 3s 10d to 4s.

Aylesbury, Wednesday, — There was the usual supply of stock, consisting of 700 sheep and lambs and 120 beasts. Trade was slower in both departments, and prices showed a downward tendency. Wethers realised from 48s to 59s 6d; Cheviots, 35s 6d to 45s; owes, 41s 6d to 53s; lambs, 30s 6d to 41s; heifers £13 7s 6d to £19 7s 6d; and bullocks, £15 5s to £21 2s 6d.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At C. H. Raynbird and Son's sale yard there was a good attendance to meet a supply of 34 fat beasts, 67 calves, 89 fat and store pigs, 303 fat sheep and lambs, and 131 head of dairy and store cattle. The fat beasts

were all sold, and last week's figures well maintained, Devon steers making up to £19; heifers, £15 15s; Shorthorn steers reached £22 10s; heifers, £17 10s; cows, £10 to £17 10s; bulls, £11 to £16 5s. There was a good trade for the short supply of fat sheep and lambs, the best lambs and fat ewes making an advance, and other classes maintaining last week's figures. Twenty months' old Down ewes and wethers made from 52s to 57s; smaller, 46s to 50s; cross-bred Scotch, 46s 6d; Cheviots, 38s 6d; Down ewes, 48s to 57s; second-class, 40s to 46s; old Down ewes, 34s to 38s; Black-face Scotch ewes, 30s 6d; Down rams, 46s to 52s; Down ram lambs, 40s to 51s; eight months' old Down lambs, 46s to 51s 6d; second-class, 38s to 44s; three months' old sucking lambs, Downs, 40s to 42s; cross-bred Scotch, 32s. With an average supply of milch cows and heifers on offer a firm trade was found for all best class cattle, secondary sorts a dull trade; heifers and calves making from £10 10s to £16 10s; cows and calves, £11 5s to £20 10s. Store cattle moved off well with a good demand; fat calves met a slow trade at reduced prices, the best making from 60s to £5 2s 6d; smaller ditto, 20s to 57s 6d. The pig trade, both for fat porkers and store pigs, was firm with an upward tendency in prices; fat porkers making from 35s to 56s; stores to 24s. Ruling values:—Prime Devon beasts, 7d to 7½d; ditto Shorthorns, 6½d to 7d; bulls, cows, and inferior, 5d to 6d; best sheep and big lambs, 8¾d to 9¼d; second-class, 7½d to 8d; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 6d to 7d; choice sucking lambs, 9d to 10d; fat calves, 6d to 7½d per lb; fat porkers, 11s to 12s per score.

Berwick, Saturday.—Only ninety-three cattle were offered, and attendance of farmers and buyers small, with trade dull. Stirks, £8 to £10 10s; two-year-olds, £11 to £13; Shorthorn bulls £11 10s.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Small supply of beasts, sheep, and pigs; fair trade for pigs, slow trade for beasts and sheep. Beef, 5½d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 8½d to 9d per lb; bacon pigs, 10s 3d per score; cutting pigs, 10s 3d per score; sows, 8s to 8s 3d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Beef was in large supply and in fair request; moderate business passing at 62s. per cwt. best qualities and 57s. secondary. Mutton also was fairly plentiful, and demand fairly brisk, average trade being done at last week's values, though lamb declined to 9d per lb. Pigs were again scarce, and prices unchanged.

Calne, Friday.—Prices of pigs:—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 1s. per pig extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. 10 lb to 8 sc. 10 lbs, 9s 6d per score, 8 sc. 11 lb to 9 sc. 10 lb,, 9s per score; 9 sc. 11 lb to 10 sc. 10 lb, 8s 6d. Pigs outside these limits at their value.—C. AND T. HARRIS AND CO., LTD.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A fair trade; supplies not quite so much. Working lambs made from 18s to 21s, and the best up to 28s and 30s. Good registered ewes were selling at from 46s to 48s, and sound-toothed ordinary ones from 42s to 44s. One run of eighty five ewe and wether lambs ranged from 24s 6d to 29s. A number of two-year-old bullocks found purchasers at from £9 15s to £11, the average price being a little over £10 per head.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small attendance of buyers, and a quiet trade. Black polled bullocks and blue-greys, £6 10s to £10 10s; wintering heifers, £6 10s to £10 10s; and heifers for stall purposes to £16 10s.

Chester, Thursday.—A well-stocked market, but a small attendance. Prices remained unchanged from last week. The sheep supply comprised Clun ewes and Scotch and Irish wethers and lambs. Quotations:—Milch cows, £17 to £22; calvers, £15 to £19; barrens, £10 to £13; heifers, £9 to £16; and stirks, £6 to £10 each.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There were plenty of buyers for fat and store sheep and lambs, and a clearance was quickly effected, prices being fully as high as those realised of late. Trade for nice quality fat beasts of handy weights was firm at late rates, but heavy cattle and fat cows and bulls experienced a dragging sale at a reduction of fully 3d per stone. There was not quite so much inquiry for dairy cattle, and prices were 10s to 20s per head down. With the exception of a few lots of yearling Shorthorn heifers, which fetched from £7 to £9, the majority of store cattle were unsold. Fat pigs realised about late values, but stores were 2s to 3s per head easier. Quotations:—Prime Down lambs, 7s 6d to 8s 6d; prime Devon steers, 4s 8d to 5s; Shorthorn steers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; prime Southdown mutton, 6s 6d to 6s 10d; West Country ditto, 6s to 6s 6d; fat ewes, 4s 6d to 5s; veal, 4s 8d to 5s 2d; fat pigs, 3s to 4s per stone; store pigs, 15s to 24s per head.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Good supply of cattle, especially milch beasts, for which there was a better demand, and prices were firm. Milch £17 to £23, bullocks £12 to £18, heifers and drapes £11 to £15, stirks £9 to £11, young stores £7 to £9 each. Large supply of sheep, but trade was slow at late rates. Shearlings 45s to 50s, ewes 52s to 60s, gimmers to 60s, and lambs 34s to 44s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Owing to the sheep fair to day there was a larger attendance at the cattle market than usual, but only moderate deliveries of stock came to hand, principally milch beasts and barreners, the dairy stock including some exceptionally useful heifers and calves, and also cows with calves, those from the Isle of Purbeck attracting very close attention. There were some very choice fat bullocks, but the supply of mutton was very short. Dairy beasts again sold at extreme rates—heifers £16 to £20 10s for the best, and cows from £14 to £17 15s; very plain heifers and old cows, £11 to £13 15s; barreners, as a rule, fetched £19 to £27 per pair; and stirks from £9 to £11 10s each. Fat beef ruled firm at 11s to 11s 6d for the best steers and heifers (or from £16 10s to £22 each), and cows 10s to 10s 6d. Mutton met a steady, not to say fast, trade at 7½d to 8½d per lb; and lamb may be quoted 9½d to 10½d.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market: Beasts 3,393, decrease 909; sheep 8,679, decrease 1,973; calves 64, increase 32. Choice cattle were in good demand and made a shade more than last week's extreme prices. Secondary and inferior lots met rather more inquiry, and an early clearance was effected, though no improvement in quotations can be recorded. In the sheep classes there was a rather weaker tendency, and difficulty experienced in effecting sales. Lambs lower in price. Cattle—Live weight (best), 31s to 32s 6d per cwt; secondary and inferior, 27s to 29s 6d per cwt; choice Angus crosses up to 35s per cwt. Mutton, 7½d to 8¾d per lb.—GANLY, SONS AND CO.

Edinburgh, Thursday.—Market report says:—Cattle good demand, supplies more plentiful; polled cattle to £15; stirks to £7 5s; cows, fine show, Shorthorns, £23 10s; Ayrshires, £17; cross, £22 10s; Irish to £22. Sheep brisk trade, smaller supplies Cheviot sheep, 39s; Down lambs, 23s; half-bred gimmers to 40s; Cheviot Dinmonts to 39s; half-bred ewe lambs to 34s; half-bred wether lambs, 32s.

Exeter, Friday.—Large supply of fat sheep; fat lambs, up to 50s; fat wethers, 42s to 52s; fat hogs, 40s to 48s; breeding ewes, 40s to 49s; steers, up to £20 10s.; fat heifers, £12 10s to £18 17s 6d; rearing calves, 34s to 38s; store steers, £8 to £12.

Glasgow, Thursday.—Fair show of cattle, and for really prime grades and handy weights a good selling trade was experienced, but inferior sorts were the turn cheaper and harder to sell. Top, 62s to 65s; secondary, 56s to 59s per cwt. Sheep and lambs were marketed in very large numbers, consequently prices suffered all round; prime hoggs and wethers in fair demand; other grades slow; best mutton, 9d to 9¼d; secondary, 8¼d to 8¾d; lambs, 8d to 9d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A large supply of beef, but no improvement in trade. Best quality bullock and heifer beef made 6¼d to 6¾d per lb; cow beef, 5d. Sheep were a big supply, both mutton and store, which maintained a good trade right throughout, wether mutton making 8¾d, and fat ewes 6¼d to 7d. Several bunches of store ewes changed hands at satisfactory figures, A good supply of fat and store lambs, the former making 8d to 9d, and the latter experiencing a rather slower trade. There was a capital supply of calves, with trade about the same as last week, veal making 6¼d per lb. The pig trade was fairly firm, supply moderate. Porkers made 5½d to 6d. Store trade unchanged. A few good stores changed hands. Store cattle dull; supply fair.

Leicester, Saturday.—Heavy consignments of home-bred store stock. Buyers were well represented, and trade ruled brisker for all choice lots at 10s per head advance. Milch cows, £18 to £20 for good lots, and £14 to £16 10s for secondary; Shorthorn bullocks, £13 to £15 10s; Irish bullocks, choice, £16 to £17 10s; ditto, secondary, £12 10s to £15; Welsh cattle, £11 to £14 10s; heifers, £10 10s to £15 5s; young stock, £5 to £7 10s; calves, 15s to 35s each. Sheep were in fair supply and sold freely. Good lamb hoggs, 38s to 42s., ditto, secondary, 27s to 33s each.

Lincoln, Friday.—A small consignment of horned stock, and a slow trade. Young beasts, £9 to £12; milch cows, £17 to £20. The sheep pens were well filled, and business ruled dull. Lambs, 36s to 44s; breeding ewes to 64s; drape ditto, 36s to 42s each.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: Firsts, 5½d; seconds, 4½d to 5d; thirds, 3½d to 4d. Mutton: Firsts, 7¼d; seconds, 6½d to 7d; thirds, 5½d to 6d. Veal: Firsts, 6½d; seconds, 5½d to 6d; thirds, 4½d to 5d. Lamb: Firsts, 7¼d; seconds, 6½d to 7d; thirds, 5½d to 6d.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—The supply of cattle forward was smaller, and trade was slow, and prices unaltered. Quotations:—Prime heifers, 7s 6d to 7s 9d; second-class, 7s to 7s 3d; prime steers, 7s 3d to 7s 6d; second class, 7s to 7s 3d; coarse and inferior, 6s 6d to 6s 9d. per stone sinking the offal. Sheep and lambs were a slightly smaller supply, and trade was generally slow, and while second-class lambs showed a slight improvement, ewes dragged heavily, and were ½d. down. Quotations:—Choice young sheep, 8½d to 8½d; strong heavy, 8d to 8¼d; choice lambs, 9d to 9½d; second-class, 8½d to 9d; ewes, 6d to 6½d; rams, 5d to 6d per lb. Calves were a rather lighter supply, and trade was firmer, and prices improved ½d., veal making 6d to 7½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday. — Large supply of cattle, sheep, and lambs. Good attendance of buyers, and a good demand all round. Best beef, 6½d to 6¾d per lb; seconds, 6¼d; cows, 4½d to 5½d; best wether mutton, 8½d to 8¾d; ewes, 7d to 7½d; lamb, 9½d; calves, 7d to 8½d; porker pigs, 10s to 11s per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—With a good supply of fat beasts trade was not so good, at prices ranging from 7s to 7s 9d per 14 lb. There was a larger show of store cattle as compared with last week. The market was practically comprised of Irish stock, and the demand experienced was of a dull, dragging description, a clearance not being effected. Values ranged from £6 to 18 10s per head. There was but a very small supply of store sheep and lambs, and very little business was doing. There was practically no alteration in recent rates. Lambs figured at 35s to 42s per head, and breeding ewes made up to 65s each. Fat sheep were also penned in limited numbers, but the supply fully met the demand, and trade was a trifle easier at 10s to 10s 6d per stone. A small show of fat and store pigs met with a ready clearance. Fat averaged 6s 9d per stone for cutters, sows made 5s 6d per stone. Young store pigs ranged in price from 9s to 21s per head, and larger sizes made from 25s to 38s each.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Trade was a trifle brisker. Best milch cows realised 17 to 20 guineas, heifers, £16 to £18; store stock, £9 to £13, and calves, 30s to 45s. No sheep were shown. The official returns:—144 beasts and 61 calves.

Preston, Wednesday.—Good supplies in all departments, and a slow, dragging trade, recent rates not being maintained. Local-fed heifers, 6¾l; Irish ditto, 6¼d; young cows and bulls, 6d; inferior cows and bulls, 5d to 5½d; lambs, 9d; heavy and inferior ditto, 8d to 8½d; prime ewes, 7d; heavy ewes and tups, 6d to 6½d; hoggs, 8½d to 9d; calves, 7½d per lb.

Romford, Wednesday.—Short supply of fat beasts; trade a little better; best small, neat beasts, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; larger beasts, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. Calves in short supply; business rather better at 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Sheep in shorter supply; trade better: Best small sheep, 6s to 6s 2d; large sheep, 5s 8d to 6s per stone. Ewes in average supply, prices a little better at 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. Lambs in short supply, trading better at 6s 4d to 6s 8d per stone. A few store beasts on offer; slow demand. Large supply of milch cows; trade slow. Pig trade slow: Small porkers, 3s 8d to 4s; large hogs, 2s 8d to 3s per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Milch beasts fairly plentiful and a better tone in trade, good cattle making £20 to £21; younger cattle, £15 to £14 10s.

Stockton, Thursday.—An average show of the best cattle, which made 7s 3d to 7s 9d per stone, whilst rougher kinds made 6s 6d to 7s, trade being slow. Young sheep sold at 8½d to 9d per lb, lambs 9½d to 10d, ewes 7d to 7½d, and tups 6½d. Porkers made 7s to 7s 6d per stone, mediums 7s, and s ws 6s 6d.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Usual supply of fat and store cattle, but larger number of store sheep. Very steady trade all round. Quotations:—Beef, 6½d to 7d per lb; mutton (wether), 9d to 9½per lb; ewes, 7½d to 8d per lb; lamb, 9d to 9½d per lb; veal, 7d to 8d per lb; porket pigs, 10s to 10s 6d per score; bacons, 9s 6d to 10s per score

Thame, Tuesday.—There was again a very large entry of all descriptions of stock, sheep coming to hand in large numbers. Trade for beef showed no alteration, although for ripe fat cows there was a little more inquiry. Sheep continue to make satisfactory prices, practically every pen being disposed of. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 108 fat beasts, 390 fat and store sheep, 78 fat and weaning calves, and 90 fat and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £16 10s to £21 17s 6d; fat heifers, £15 5o £21; fat wether sheep, 48s to 60s 6d; fat ewes, 42s to 58s; fat lambs, 36s to 50s; fat calves, £3 to £5; weaning cow calves, 35s to 60; bull calves, 20s to 48s; bacon hogs, £3 10s to £5; porkers, 30s to 48s; store pigs, 16s to 32s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Business fairly brisk; attendance very good. Fat bullocks, 56s to 60s per cwt; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s per cwt; cows and calves, £10 to £15; rearing calves, 16s 6d to 45s each; wethers, 6½d to 7d per

lb; ewes, 5d to 5½d; lambs, 7d to 7½d; pigs, 9s 6d to 66s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8½d; lamb, 8d to 9d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8½d; pork, carcases, 5d to 5½d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Short supply and moderate trade. Quotations:—Beef, 5½d to 7½d; wether mutton, 8½ to 9d; lambs, 10½ to 11d; veal, 7d to 9d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s 6d to 10s; porkets, 10s to 10s 6d; cows, 7s to 8s per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small supply of stock, Trade for mutton was not so good, whilst beef sold at about late rates. Best beef, 7s 6d to 8s; secondary, 7s 3d to 7s 6d; cow beef, 6s 9d per stone; best Southdown wethers and cross-breds, 8½d to 9d; ewes were a bad trade at 5½d to 6d; veal, about 8d per lb.

Yeovil, Friday.—A fairly good entry. Best quality heifers and calves sold at from £16 10s to £20; secondary animals, £12 15s to £16; cows with calves or in-calf, £12 5s to £18 5s; barreners, £9 5s to £10; yearling heifers, £7 to £8 15s.

York, Thursday.—There was a very large show of Irish, and an average supply of English store stock, trade for which was almost at a standstill owing to the poor attendance of buyers. Prices were in favour of buyers, but less than a quarter of the cattle found purchasers. One lot of Irish strong cattle made up to £16 10s. A smaller show of calving and milch cows than usual, with very few customers, and a poor trade. A few good animals made up to £20, but the majority only fetched £16 to £17. A very large supply of shearling sheep and lambs, about 10,000 being penned. Trade ruled slow, at fully 2s. per head less money, while quite half remained unsold. The best Holderness and twice crossed lambs made up to 40s per head; secondary sorts, to 36s; and third class, 28s to 32s. Best shearling sheep made up to 50s, others 42s to 46s each.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Altrincham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Appleby: 10d to 1s. Barnstaple: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Berwick: 1s to 1s 2d. Birmingham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Camelford: 11d to 1s. Carlisle: 1s to 1s 2d. Chester: 1s 1d. Dartmouth: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Devizes: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Doncaster: 1s to 1s 1d. Dorchester: 10d to 1s 2d. Hereford: 1s to 1s 2d. Kidderminster: 1s 1d. Lancaster: 1s 1½d to 1s 2d½. Lincoln: 1s to 1s 1d. Market Drayton: 1s to 1s 1d. Otley: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per 24 oz roll. Penrith: 10d to 1s. Penzance: 9d to 1s 3d. Plymouth: 1s to 1s 2d. Retford: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Ripon: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Shrewsbury: 1s 1d. Stockport: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Stockton: 1s to 1s 1d. Totnes: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Truro: 9d to 10d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 2d. York: 1s to 1s 2d.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Altrincham: 9. Appleby: 11 to 13. Barnstaple: 10. Berwick: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per doz. Birmingham: 9 and 10. Camelford: 12. Carlisle: 1s to 1s 2d Chester: 10. Darmouth: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per doz. Devizes: 14 and 15. Doncaster: 10 and 11. Dorchester: 1s 1d to 1s 4d per doz. Evesham: 1s to 1s 1d per doz. Hereford: 11 to 13. Kidderminster: 10. Lancaster: 9. Lincoln: 12 and 13. Market Drayton: 12. Otley: 10 and 11. Penrith: 11 and 12. Penzance: 11d to 1s per doz. Plymouth: 12. Retford: 1s 10d to 2s per score. Ripon: 10 and 11. Scarborough: 8. Shrewsbury: 10 and 11. Stockport: 8 and 9. Stockton: 10. Totnes: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per doz. Truro: 10d to 11d per doz. Worcester: 10 to 12. Worksop: 2s 1d to 2s 3d per score. York: 10 and 11.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The arrivals of home cheese exceeded those of last week. Buyers were not disposed to operate at the firm prices asked for some lots. Cheddars were quoted 57s to 61s per cwt, and Dunlops 54s to 59s. Canadian parcels were slow of sale at about 67s per cwt.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—A large attendance of buyers, a brisk competition, and all cleared. Best Caerphilly dairies realised up to 64s per cwt.; secondary dairies, 60s to 62s; and other dairies, 55s to 58s. A few inferior lots failed to reach 50s. Cheddars, old, 70s to 73s; ditto, new, 54s to 56s 6d; truckles, 53s to 58s; doubles, 50s to 54s.

Newport, Wednesday.—Quotations:—Caerphillies, 45s to 58s per cwt; fancy dairies, 60s to 62s; Derbies, 58s to 60s; truckles, 56s to 65s; doubles, 54s to 56s. About 10 tons were pitched; and fair demand.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter.—The demand for Australian and New Zealand butter, especially for very best quality, continues fair, but supplies are in very small compass. Canadian arrivals, too, are small. The total arrivals of Colonial butter from July 1 this year to date are 1,321 tons, against 4,855 tons for the same period in 1906. Australian shaws a shortage of 2,287 tons, New Zealand a surplus of 619 tons, and Canada a deficiency of 1,866 tons, making a total deficit of 3,534 tons. Shipments from Australia this week consist of 2,000 boxes in the "Ortona," and 1,250 in the "Carpentaria." The Copenhagen official quotation was reduced yesterday by 3 kroner, which is most unusual in August. In fact, a reduction in August has taken place only four times in thirty-two years. The large production of home-made butter is the main cause of the low price of imported butter, which is fully 10s and 12s per cwt below this time last year. Cheese.—The market for spot business has been very quiet at 57s per cwt., and 58s for very best White and Coloured respectively.—W. Weddel and Co.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Good supplies of fruit and vegetables at market, trade being fairly brisk. Quotations for English produce:—Grapes, 6d to 2s; greengages, 2s to 4s; pears, 3s to 5s per bushel; plums (Victoria), 1s to 3s 6d; ditto (Orleans), 2s to 3s; ditto (Gisborne), 1s to 1s 3d per half sieve; apples, 2s 6d to 8s per bushel; peaches, 9s per doz; oranges (Jamaica), 12s to 15s per case; green figs, 1s 6d to 3s 6d; nectarines, 2s to 8s per doz; melons, 1s to 2s; ditto (Rock), 2s to 3s 6d each; filberts, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; cobnuts, 4s to 5s per 12 lb; tomatoes, 3s to 4s; scarlet runners, 1s to 2s per bushel; green peas, 4s to 6s per bag; ditto, 2s to 4s per bushel; vegetable marrows, 1s 6d to 3s; cabbage, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; cauliflowers, 4s to 5s per tally; onions (English), 1s 6d per dozen bunches; turnips, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; mint, 1s to 1s 3d; parsley, 1s 6d per dozen bunches; green artichokes, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen; cos lettuce, 6d to 8d per score; carrots, 2s to 2s 3d per bag; cucumbers, 4s to 6s per flat; potatoes, 50s to 75s per ton.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £14 10s to £15; half-bred hoggs, £13 to £13 10s; ditto wethers, £12 10s to £13; Kent fleeces, £12 5s to £12 10s; South Down ewes and wethers, £13 10s to £14; Leicester ewes and wethers, £12 to £12 10s. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., scoured super., 2s 2d to 2s 3d; scoured, good, 1s 11½d to 2s 1d; scoured, average, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 9½d to 1s 10½d; greasy, average, 1s to 1s 1d; S. Aus., greasy, average, 10d to 11d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; greasy, average, 11d to 11½d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9½d to 1s 10½d; fleece, average, 9½d to 10½d; greasy, average, 8½d to 9½d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5½d to 1s 6½d; greasy average, 8½d to 9d. Crossbreds—grs.—Vic., good to super., 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d; New Zealand fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s to 1s 1d; coarse, 10d to 11½d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Market very firm, and few transactions. Staplers bid 11d for Kent fleeces, 7d for lamb wool, and 5d per lb for locks.

Glasgow and Leith.—During the month of August a large weight of wool of all classes has changed hands, especially towards the end of the month. Half-breds particularly have been in demand, and at Leith auctions on 20th and 21st there was almost a complete clearance at prices fully ½d per lb above those of the previous sale. Crosses are practically cleared out. Cheviots remain out of favour and are now relatively the cheapest wool on the market. There has been rather more inquiry, especially for fine hoggs, but prices are unaltered. Blackfaced has been dealt in freely, both for American and home consumption, at current prices.—J. and W. Greig, Sept. 2.

Halifax, Saturday.—Business in wool rather languid, but tone good, and values well supported. Firmness in raw materials has strengthened position of spinners, and Botany makers report more transactions at better rates. Export trade rather werk.

CORN STATISTICS

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending August 31, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1903 to 1906:—

	WHEAT.			BARLEY.			OATS.		
	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.
1903...	9,267...	30	3	726...	22	5	8,095...	18	5
1904...	32,921..	30	2	12,370...	25	3	31,507...	16	3
1905...	92,630...	26	11	14,747...	23	5	24,090...	15	9
1906...	55,716...	26	9	4,758...	24	3	22,580...	16	6
1907...	11,847...	33	10	1,524...	24	6	10,395...	18	11

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, August 31, 1907:—

Wheat	1,988,000 cwts.
Wheat-flour	201,900 ,,
Barley	522,500 ,,
Oats	122,300 ,,
Maize	1,086,600 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1906. Cwts.	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.
Wheat ..	1,883,700	1,906,500	1,953,800	1,932,300
Wheat-flour	250,000	117,600	236,500	457,400
Barley ...	479,100	618,800	389,400	639,700
Oats ...	337,000	207,000	160,200	180,200
Maize ...	1,193,600	766,700	757,700	960,600

Weekly Arrivals into London.

August 21 to 28 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	254	87,546	87,800
Barley	1,000	7,205	8,205
Malt	20,025	—	20,025
Oats	885	76,000	76,885
Rye	50	—	50
Buckwheat	75	125	200
Beans	364	1,398	1762
Peas	45	1,952	1,997
Linseed	—	41,000	41,000
Rapeseed	150	750	900
Cottonseed	—	2,446	2,446
Maize	—	43,275	43,275
Tares	20	100	120
Dholl	—	575	575
Millet	—	400	400
Carraways	—	500	500
Flour ...sacks	19,428	19,672	39,100
Oatmeal ... ,,	—	5,000	5,000
Ricebran ... ,,	—	5,500	5,500

Seven Years Grain Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 10d. per 480 lb.
Barley	25s. 4d. per 400 lb.
Oats	18s. 11d. per 312 lb.

English Wheat, Barley & Oats in 1906.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley s. d	Oats s. d
Highest of Year	30 4	25 4	20 4
Lowest of Year	26 1	23 1	16 2
Gradient	4 3	2 3	4 2
Mean of Year	28 4	24 3	18 7

RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

ARMY CONTRACTS.

FORAGE, PEAT MOSS LITTER, AND PAILLASSE STRAW.

SEALED TENDERS for Military Services, during six months from the 1st NOVEMBER, 1907, will be received until 12 o'clock noon, on MONDAY, the 23rd day of September, 1907, by the General Officers Commanding the undermentioned Districts.

Aldershot Army-Corps Command.—Aldershot.
Eastern Command.—Dover District.—Dover; Colchester District.—Colchester; Woolwich District.—Woolwich; Thames and Medway Coast Defences.—Chatham.
Irish Command.—5th Division.—Curragh Camp; 5th Division.—Dublin; 6th Division.—Cork; Belfast District.—Belfast.
London District.—Horse Guards, Whitehall, S.W.
Northern Command.—York.
Scottish Command.—Edinburgh.
Southern Command.—3rd Division.—Tidworth Barracks, Andover; Plymouth Coast Defences.—Devonport; Portsmouth Coast Defences.—Portsmouth.
Western Command.—Chester.
Guernsey and Alderney District.—Guernsey.
Jersey District.—Jersey.

Forms of Tender and Conditions of Contract may be obtained on application at the above-named Head Quarter Offices, by letter addressed to the Officer Commanding, Army Service Corps, or in person between the hours of Ten and Four o'clock.

War Office, Whitehall, S.W,
September, 1907.

OILCAKE AGENTS to SELL celebrated Compound Cake to Farmers on commission; busy season just commencing.—Address, "Oilcake," C. A. G Browne, 53-54, Wych Street, Strand, W.C.

Printed and Published by the Proprietors, at the Offices, 8, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.—September 2, 1907.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The want of steady weather in which to complete the wheat harvest is a serious matter, and the higher temperature, which has been welcome to holiday-makers, is agriculturally disadvantageous; it is almost sure to lead to sprouting and the spread of fungoid troubles; with the air laden with moisture, it will also promote the spread of potato disease. Some large crops of mushrooms can hardly be regarded as an agricultural counterpoise! The mills are waiting to get to work on the new crop, and meanwhile milling offals are fetching prices which, while very agreeable to millers, are taking the heart out of those who have live stock to fatten. The Continental crop news is very difficult to arrange, for the last six days have brought information, in each case apparently of an authentic character, that the French wheat crop is threshing out decidedly better than last year, and that the yield in Russia has certainly been overestimated. The French crop is now put by farming, not milling, papers, at 44,000,000 qr again t 41,000,000 for the July estimate, while the Russian yield is given at about 68,000,000 qr., against 75,000,000 qr., the estimate published as recently as August 23. Austria-Hungary chiefly needs imports; as this country usually exports 2,230,000 qr. of wheat to Switzerland and industrial north Germany, and 500,000 sacks of flour to England, &c., the change in the situation is naturally beginning to attract notice. Indian crop shipments remaining very small despite the good prices offering, tend more and more to endorse our May and June protests against the absurdly optimistic estimates issued for Simla. The India Office not being responsible for the Indian estimates which it simply transmits to the Press, and India itself having no Parliament, inquiry appears to be completely burked.

London monthly arrivals of wheat for the cereal year have been approximately as follows. There are no official figures, but the trade will probably find our calculations near enough for most practical purposes:—

September,	1906	338,000 qr.
October	,,	315,000 ,,
November	,,	334,000 ,,
December	,,	273,000 ,,
January,	1907	270,000 ,,
February	,,	170,000 ,,
March	,,	273,000 ,,
April	,,	549,000 ,,
May	,,	219,000 ,,
June	,,	474,000 ,,
July	,,	400,000 ,,
August	,,	267,000 ,,
Total		3,882,000 qr.

The total is decidedly moderate. Certainly an average would not be less than four million quarters. The figures include English as well as imported wheat, but the English seldom exceeds 100,000 qr. During the past twelvemonth, however, the proportion of home produce has been somewhat increased, and although the specific decision is not before us we understand that about 115,000 qr. have been of home growth. The London average for May was 2s. above that of the shires, and even in January when depression, owing to a mild mid-winter, was serious. London was still 1s. 3d. better than the country markets. This naturally led to increased consignments.

Wheat averages for the cereal year show 10d. decline in wheat. 4d. advance in barley, and no change in oats. The prices averaged for August, however, showed 4s. 1d. advance on the previous August for wheat, 1s. 9d. advance for barley, and 2s. 8d. advance for oats.

Top-price flour opens the new cereal year at an advance of 3s. on the twelvemonth, while the rise in Household flour in England is 3s. 6d., and in France is 3s. 9d. per sack. The last-named fact should be specially noted, as a fall in French flour prices has been claimed as an argument for the bear party. The price of flour in France has in effect fallen 1s. on the month, but prices previously had been pushed up to a very high level owing to delay in harvesting the new wheat crop and consequent late start in the new seasons millings.

Supplies of British wheat for the cereal year ended August 31 last were not quite so heavy as those returned for the preceding season, but they could not be considered small in themselves:—

Cereal year ended August 31, 1907 .. 2,706,000 qr.
,, ,, 1906 .. 2,941,000 ,,

At the ordinary reckoning, 2,706,000 qr. sold at 186 wheat markets would be regarded as equivalent to total sales of 6,765,000 qr. for the whole country.

Supplies of British barley for the whole year have been as follows:—

Sept. 1, 1906, to Aug 31, 1907: 3,372,000 qr.
,, 1, 1905, to ,, 31, 1906: 3,203,000 ,,

The barley crop of 1906 threshed out well in bulk, but fine malting samples were always rare, and discolouration was more prevalent than usual despite a brilliant August and rapid harvest.

Supplies of British oats for the twelvemonth have been:—

Sept. 1, 1906, to Aug. 31, 1907: 1,197,000 qr.
,, 1, 1905, to ,, 31, 1906: 940,000 ,,

Imports of the leading staples last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 464,000 qr.: a good supply.
Flour, 80,775 qr.: less than usual.
Barley, 147,000 qr.: rather above the average.
Oats, 46,000 qr.: less than half an average.
Maize, 254,000 qr.: much above the average.

It certainly is not due to small supplies that maize is dear.

Corrected figures of imports for the cereal year are now available, and they show that while supplies of English breadstuffs have diminished imports of breadstuffs have not increased. This is a main cause of present firm markets. Imports both of barley and oats have fallen off, but this has been balanced by a marked increase in the importation of maize. That staple is apparently steadily regaining the popularity which it enjoyed seven years ago.

	Breadstuffs. (480 lb.)	Maize. (480 lb.)	Barley. (400 lb.)	Oats. (312 lb.)
1900-1	21,720,550	13,339,530	4,239,280	7,177,770
1901-2	23,716,720	12,917,600	5,237,200	7,896,000
1902-3	23,292,280	10,933,000	6,443 520	5,933,850
1903-4	25,811,950	9,882,300	7,187,830	5,925,950
1904-5	27,635,100	11,072,000	5,889,000	5,436,320
1905-6	26,728,316	10,861,386	5,725,944	5,812,100
1906-7	26,477,619	11,977,458	5,405,835	5,021,855

The total supplies of breadstuffs for the cereal year work out on the above basis as follows:—

Home crop sales	6,766,000 qr.
Importations.....	36,479,619 ,,
Total supplies.....	33,244,619 ,,

There being no official estimates of requirements, an extraordinary *lacuna* in the Board of Agriculture's information, the Press has to step into the gap, and for 1907 this journal has reckoned total needs, seed and food at 90,000 qr. per diem. This equals 32,850,000 qr. for the year, and appears to be as close an estimate as the trade either requires or is likely to obtain without official aid, and that powers of securing returns which official power denotes.

Supplies of flour on passage on 7th inst. were 180,000 sacks, or 42,000 sacks increase on the week. Wheat, however, showed a diminution from 2,092,000 to 1,931,000 qr., so that present comparatively high prices have not yet fulfilled their purpose of attracting increased shipments of breadstuffs. The wheat on passage is thus made up:—

Russian	70,000 qr.
Californian.....	15,500 ,,
American	410,000 ,,
Indian.....	711,000 ,,
Argentine	150,000 ,,
Australasian	415,000 ,,
Various	20,000 ,,
Total.....	1,931,000 qr.

The barley on passage amounts to 440,000 qr, of which 300,000 qr. are coming from the Black Sea. Other supplies on passage are 795,000 qr. of maize, 180,000 qr. of oats, 179,000 qr. of linseed, 49,000 tons of rice.

American shipments last week were good of wheat, but smaller of other staples: wheat, 301,000 qr.; flour, 70,000 sacks; barley, 40,000 qr.; oats, 15,000 qr.; and maize, 91,000 qr.

Argentina was a comparatively small shipper: wheat, 22,000 qr.; maize, 162,000 qr.; linseed, 16,000 qr.; and oats, 3,000.

Russia sent off a large supply of barley, but not more than average quantities of wheat, and less than had been expected of oats; wheat, 235,000 qr.; barley, 438,000 qr.; oats, 57,000 qr.; and maize, 55,000 qr. To these totals may be added Roumania's 55,000 qr. of wheat, 33,000 qr. of barley, 14,000 qr. of oats, and 47,000 qr. of maize.

India last week shipped 66,000 qr. of wheat, 36,000 qr. of linseed, and 19,000 qr. of rapeseed, but from Australasia exports were limited to 5,000 qr

THE BALTIC.

Cargo sales have been brisk, and there have been a good many resales. We can only note the following sales of wheat cargoes:—Australian at 37s. 3d. per 480 lb., Argentine at 36s. 6d. per per 480 lb., Walla Walla at 38s. 3d. per 500 lb., Azoff at 37s. per 492 lb., Siberian at 36s. per 496 lb., and Durum at 38s. per 480 lb.

Maize cargoes are very well held; 25s. has been paid for Danubian, 24s. 9d. for La Plata, 26s. 6d. for Novorossisk, and 25s. 6d. for American, and holders of the Danubian, Argentine, and American want 6d. more money than they paid. All maize sales have been per 480 lb.

Barley has fetched 22s. 6d. per 400 lb. for Kustendje, 22s. 9d. per 400 lb. for Morocco, 33s. per 480 lb. for Oregon, and 22s. 3d. per 400 lb. for Odessa.

Oats have not shared in the advance, but have sold more readily than before at old quotations. We note several Baltic cargoes—Lithuanian and Courland oats—sold for September and October shipment at 15s. 6d. per 304 lb, also two cargoes of South Russian at 16s. 3d per 304 lb., and four cargoes of Manitoba at 20s. 6d. per 320 lb.

Other cargo sales have included Marmora beans at 31s. 3d. per 400 lb., Karachi Dari at 23s. 6d. per 480 lb., Calcutta linseed at 43s. per 410 lb., and Argentine linseed at 42s. 9d. per 416 lb.

The London Corn Trade Association officials kindly inform us that the following standards, all at time of discharge, were recently made up for May shipments for use during September, &c. Plate wheat of the Province of Santa Fe, 61·15 lb.; Plate wheat of the Province of Santa Fe, 62·45 lb.; Plate wheat of the Province of Santa Fe, 63·45 lb.; Plate wheat of the Province of Santa Fe, 64·35 lb.; Bahia Blanca Barletta and/or Russo, 56·75 lb.; Bahia Blanca Barletta and/or Russo, 58·05 lb.; Bahia Blanca Barletta and/or Russo, 60·55 lb.; Bahia Blanca Barletta and/or Russo, 61·55 lb.; Bahia Blanca Barletta and/or Russo, 62·45 lb.; Bahia Blanca Barletta and/or Russo, 63·45 lb.; Hongrois wheat, 61·55 lb.; Hongrois wheat, 62·75 lb.; Buenos Aires Barletta wheat, 60·65 lb.; Buenos Aires Barletta wheat, 62·45 lb.; Buenos Aires Barletta wheat, 63·55 lb.; Buenos Aires Barletta wheat, 64·25 lb.; Frances wheat, 62·55 lb.; Entre-Rios wheat, 61·66 lb.; Candeal wheat, 62·15 lb.; yellow La Plata maize; f.a.q. Bahia Blanca oats; f.a.q. Buenos Aires oats. Also the following standards:—Basley: Taganoog, Nicolaieff, Berdianski, Novorossisk, Odessa, Danube, and Temruik. Maize: Gal./Fox., Danube, Bessarabian, yellow Dan./Cinq., red Dan./Cinq., Odessa, Novorossisk. All these standards may be seen at 26, St Mary Axe, and samples obtained on payment.

Cargo arrivals during August were:—Six wheat from Argentina, five from Oregon, and eleven from Australia, total 22. From Argentina seven maize cargoes arrived and three of linseed. These arrivals were at ports of call, and represent a more or less speculative trade. By far the larger number of cargoes come direct to the order of particular buyers.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Picking is fairly general. The crop comes down light, but the quality of much of it is good, and an average of 8 cwt per acre is anticipated.

Weekly Arrivals into London.

August 28 to September 4 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat.....	670	96,000	96,670
Barley.....	4,200	27,000	31,200
Malt.....	18,028	—	18,028
Oats.....	4,508	13,713	18,221
Rye	160	300	460
Beans	221	600	821
Peas.....	29	3,585	3,614
Maize	—	14,728	14,728
Linseed	—	19,000	19,000
Rapeseed.....	250	400	650
Cottonseed	—	30,000	30,000
Tares	50	150	200
Dari	—	3,474	3,474
Lentils.....	—	4,000	4,000
Flour..... sacks	14,291	33,562	47,853
Middlings	—	7,000	7,000
Pollard.....	—	1,900	1,900

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English firm, but quiet. Old whites quoted at 36s to 38s; old reds at 35s 6d to 37s 6d; new whites at 33s 6d to 35s 6d. Foreign firm, and held for 6d advance. No. 1 Northern, ex ship, held at 39s 6d; No. 2 at 38s 9d; No. 1 Hard Manitoba at 40s; choice white Karachi at 37s 3d; red Karachi at 36s 9d; La Plata, landed, at 39s; South Russians, 37s to 39s; Australians, 39s to 39s 6d. Flour firm, and held at higher prices, but not active. Hungarians quoted at 37s to 38s; Iron Dukes at 24s to 24s 6d. Maize firm and 3d dearer. Mixed American, landed, quoted at 25s 6d; River Plate, 25s to 25s 6d; Odessa, 25s 3d to 25s 6d. Barley firm, 3d dearer. Azoff-Black Sea and Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, held at 23s 6d. Oats firmer, and held at 1½d to 3d advance, with more inquiry—17s 7½d to 17s 9d wanted La Plata; 17s 9d St. Petersburg; 18s 6d Vologda.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat firmly held, full prices. Foreign held for 3d to 6d advance, which rather checks demand. No. 1 Northern ex ship quoted at 39s 9d to 40s; No. 2, at 39s to 39s 3d; No. 1 Duram, ex ship, at 34s; choice white Karachi at 37s 6d to 38s; Australian, landed, at 39s to 40s; La Plata at 39s 3d to 39s 6d; South Russian at 37s to 39s. Flour firm and dearer, little offering; Iron Dukes quoted at 24s to 24s 6d. Maize firm, and 3d dearer; Odessa, landed quoted at 25s 6d. to 25s 9d; mixed American and La Plata at 25s 6d to 26s 6d. Barley firm, little offering; Azoff-Black Sea, ex quay, quoted at 24s, ex ship 23s 9d. Oats firmer; South Russians held at 17s 9d to 18s; La Plata at 18s.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Fair attendance; trade quiet but firm. Most new samples of corn out of condition, damp and cold. New peas also out of condition. New wheat, 34s to 35s, sample, 58 lb. New barley was on offer at 32s. New grey winter oats, weighing 43 lb, made 21s 6d. Maize rose 1s on the week.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, white, 33s to 34s 6d per qr; wheat, red, 33s 6d to 34s 6d per qr; barley, old, 28s to 30s per qr; beans, old, 32s to 32s 6d per qr; oats, old, 21s to 24s 6d per qr; peas, old, 30s to 34s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—There was a small attendance withfew samples of grain on offer. One or two lots of new barley were shown, but prices are not fixed.

Birmingham, Thursday.—There was a fair muster at the market, and trade generally had a brisk tone. Foreign wheats met with a steady demand at the following quotations:—No. 1 Manitobas, 40s per 496 lb., No. 2 Manitobas 39s at Bristol, Russians 38s to 39s 6d, and River Plates 38s 6d to 39s 6d per qr at Sharpness. All descriptions of maize were 6d per qr dearer, and met with a ready sale, as did all feeding stuffs. Grinding barley was advanced 9d, sellers asking 23s 6d per 480 lb for same at Bristol. There were no samples of English wheat showing, either old or new. Several lots of new oats, in moderate condition, for which 19s to 20s per 312 lb was asked; old oats, 23s, and beans, 13s 3d per 196 lb, delivered.

Brighton, Thursday.—Wheat was in short supply. Prices very firm and buyers for all.

Bristol, Thursday.—The market was well attended to-day being the September Fair. English wheat very scarce, hardly sufficient to test value. Foreign very strong, fully 2s. dearer on week. Maize, 6d to 9d dearer; barley, 6d dearer; oats fully maintain value; flour, 2s dearer, fair business passing.—Grace Bros.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat: The supply was small, and only a small business was done, at 31s to 32s 6d per qr, according to quality, but the tone of the trade was distinctly firm, in face of the continued advance in foreign descriptions. Flour 1s per sack dearer, with a strong upward tendency. Feeding corns all firm, with maize 6d per qr up. Linseed cakes 5s per ton dearer, and milling offals all rather dearer.

Cambridge, Saturday.—The attendance was fair. The few samples of new wheat showing made 31s 6d to 33s per 504 lb, on rail. Barley ranged from 26s 6d to 30s per 32 stone. Oats scarce, whites making 18s 6d to 19s 6d per 24 stone.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Medium quality lots of malting barley are being offered at about 30s, but there is not much inquiry yet. Much of the wheat is old and out of condition, but for good dry 64 lb samples millers are paying 34s 6d on rail and 35s delivered. Oats are firm, black winters of 42 lb weight being worth 20s, and 42 lb white oats about 19s. Grey peas, 30s to 30s 6d per qr.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Fair supply of oats in our market to-day. Slow sale at fully last week's prices, 24s to 24s 9d per 336 lb. No new oats offered yet, very few yields cut in our district. Thomas Robinson.

Chester, Saturday.—Very few supplies of English grain offering. Feeding stuffs in brisk demand, market having a strong upward tendency. Thirds 6d to 9d per sack dearer. Indian corn 3d to 6d per sack dearer, and flour 6d per sack dearer. Quotations: oats, old, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per 46 lb; Indian corn, new, 13s 3d to 17s 9d; old, 14s to 14s 9d per 240 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Old white wheat, 36s to 38s 6d; old red ditto, 36s to 36s 6d; new white ditto, 30s to 32s; new red ditto, 30s to 32s; grinding ditto, 25s 6d to 25s 9d; oats, English, 18s to 23s; rye, 27s to 28s; maize, 24s to 25s. Fair attendance, but not much trade.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat, short supply favouring sellers. Oats firm. Beans, no samples showing.—Colin Taylor, King and Co., Ltd.

Coventry, Friday.—Poor attendance. Wheats scarce and prices ruled fully as dear as last week. Hardly any new corn on offer, but trade may be quoted firm for any samples in good condition. Quotations: Wheat, 12s 9d to 13s 6d per 186 lb; barley, 30s to 34s per 448 lb; peas, 12s to 14s; beans, 13s to 13s 9d per 196 lb; oats, old, 24s 6d to 27s per 352 lb.; new, 20s 6d to 23s.

Derby, Friday.—There was a scanty supply of corn, without any alteration of price. No change to report in the value of oats and beans. Wheat, 37s to 38s; grinding barley, 23s to 25s; beans, 35s to 37s; old oats, 24s to 26s; new oats, 18s to 20s.

Devizes, Thursday.—This has been another anxious, trying, and disappointing week for corn farmers. There were only very few sacks at to-day's market. There is practically no alteration in prices. Wheat is the turn dearer, and new oats the turn easer. Best wheat, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; secondary, 16s 6d to 17s 6d; new wheat, 15s to 17s; winter barley, 26s to 28s 6d; old oats, 20s to 24s; winter oats, 17s 6d to 18s; white oats (330lb), 18s to 19s; rye, 26s to 28s; new beans, 16s 6d to 18s; fine flour, 26s to 28s; extra fine, 32s to 36s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—There was no old wheat offered, but some samples of new wheat from the south was shown. It was in poor condition, and made up to 35s 3d per qr. Foreign wheat met with a good inquiry, and advanced 1s 6d per qr. New oats were shown, and made up to 19s per qr. Other things met with a quiet sale, maize being 1s per qr. dearer.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Although the morning opened wet and not at all favourable for the harvesting, it turned out much finer later in the day, and this kept many at home to do what they could with their corn, much of which has now been exposed in the fields almost for a week in continuous wet, which, of course, is seriously affecting the crops. As a consequence prices took an adverse turn to-day, and a general advance has to be noted, wheat in particular, despite the poor condition of the lots, showing the most marked rise, which ranged from 6d to 1s per qr. and over. Barley also took an upward turn, but 6d to 9d may be given as the general rise asked. Oats were likewise held for more money. as, in fact, were all other articles, the disastrous weather of the past week, which has led to an almost total suspension of harvesting operations throughout Dorset, having had a marked effect on values, farmers showing every inclination to recoup themselves, as far as they can, for the increased cost they have been put to in getting their harvesting done, quite irrespective of the general inferiority of much of the corn owing to its failing to properly mature through lack of sunshine.

Exeter Friday.—Fairly good attendance; trade quiet, but firm. Barley and maize 6d to 9d dearer. Oats unchanged. Flour 1s dearer. English wheat, 4s; superfine flour, 26s to 28s; fine, 25s to 27s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Attendance was good at to day's market. Wheat held for 6d to 1s more money. Flour 6d to 1s per sack dearer over the week. Maize steadily held at late rates. Corn shows a further advance, and to-day's price is 3d per boll up since last Wednesday. Barley firm at late rates. Oats slow in sale, but prices keep firm. Beans unaltered. Pease 1½d per boll dearer. Bran and thirds steady. Oatmeal quietly steady. Other articles unchanged.—Gibson and Clark.

Gloucester, Saturday.—English wheat in small supply: Reds, 33s for dry samples; whites, 34s. Foreign wheat, 2s 6d advance: Plates, 39s 6d to 40s. Plate maize, 25s 9d; flat, 26s (Bristol); Bessarabian, 26s. Barley, 23s 9d (Bristol). Oats: New, 18s to 18s 3d; old, 22s to 23s.

Grantham, Saturday.—There was only a moderate attendance at the Corn Exchange. The supply of new corn was limited, and only odd samples of wheat, barley, and oats were offered. Wheat changed hands at 32s to 33s per qr, but barley and oats were unquotable.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A moderate attendance. A few samples of English wheat on offer, showing variable conditions. Dry samples were in demand at about 4s. New white oats were very freely offered at about 17s to 18 per qr, but conditions in many instances left something to be desired. Barleys nothing doing. Old beans firm. Maize also firm. Wholesale quotations:—Wheat, old, 4s 2d to 4s 6d per 62 lb; new, 4s to 4s 3d; barley, 3s 6d to 4s per 56 lb; oats, old, 2s 9d to 3s 3d per 40 lb; new, 2s 3d to 2s 6d per 40 lb; beans, 4s to 4s 6d per 65½ lb; maize, 3s 4d to 3s 8d per 60 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Very little old wheat on offer; trade steady at late rates. Reds, 35s to 36s; whites, to 37s per 504 lb. A few samples of new on offer, for which 34s and 35s was asked. Grinding barley steady. A few samples of new barley were shown, quality and condition various. Oats dull. Beans and peas firm.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The weather continues unsettled, delaying harvest and endangering quality and condition. The trade continues exceedingly firm, and prices of wheat are steadily creeping up. Shipments are again moderate this week, and offers remain small; all this tends to strengthen the hands of holders, who, finding they cannot replace any sales they make, naturally try to make the most of what they have got. Wheat is fully 1s per qr dearer on the week. Maize and beans firm at late rates. Oats steady.—Dunns and Co.

Leeds, Friday.—The bad weather has retarded harvest operations, and prices of English wheat showed an advance. Foreign wheat was also dearer, closing at 6d above last Tuesday's prices. Maize was firmly held, Plate and other descriptions making 25s. Flour had a hardening tendency, finest runs closing at 31s. Foreign malting barley was quoted at 27s to 33s, and grinding at 26s. Other articles were unchanged.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good attendance of buyers and dealers, with small supplies of old wheats, and only a few samples of new from early districts. New wheats firm, and old advanced 2s. per qr. New wheats, 35s to 37s; old wheats, 37s to 30s per 36 stones. Small supplies of new barley, which made 28s to 31s per 32 stones; new oats 21s to 22s per 24 stones; old oats, 25s to 28s per 24 stones. Flour advanced 6d per sack.

Lincoln, Friday.—A fair attendance at the Corn Exchange, but very little wheat was on offer. The condition of the new samples was not of the best, but prices showed an advance of 6d to 1s per qr on the week, both for home and foreign wheats. A few samples of barley were shown, but there was little of the best quality, and prices ranged from 26s to 28s per qr. The supply of oats was limited, the moist weather of the past week interfering with threshing. A ready sale for oats at 18s per on rails.

Maidstone, Thursday.—The wheat trade continues very firm, and the price of new red about 34s to 35s. Although unusual at the harvest time all corn is on the advance, probably from short supply, which seems to be the position not only in the British Isles, but in foreign parts. Buyers must pay the higher prices or not "take on."

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat in small compass, unchanged; foreign, 2d to 3d dearer on the week. Flour 6d per sack dearer on the week. Indian corn in good demand, prime mixed American offering at 5s 8d to 5s 8½d; Cinquantina, 6s to 6s 1d per cental. Oats exceedingly firm; English, new, on rail, 2s 9d to 2s 10d; old, 3s 4½d to 3s 6d. Foreign also dearer. Beans and peas rather higher on the week. Bran and offals have a higher tendency, but not quotably so.

Newark, Wednesday.—Quiet market; trade dull; few samples of new oats showing. Quotations:—White and red wheats, 37s to 37s 6d; malting barley, 29s to 30s; grinding barley, 27s to 28s; old oats, 24s to 25s; new oats, 18s to 19s; old beans, 34s to 35s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Holders of wheat very firm this morning at 1s to 1s 6d dearer on the week. The demand, however, was not active. Maize again dearer at 9d per 480 lb. over last week's quotations. Fine old oats firm and in sellers' favour, whilst new sorts remain unchanged. Beans and pease all scarce, consequently holders are firm at last week's prices. No barley on offer.—Pollard and Co.

Newport, Wednesday.—Wheat 1s to 1s 6d dearer on the week. Barley very firm, and 3d dearer. Maize strong, at 6d advance. Flour, fines, 28s 6d per sack.

Northampton, Saturday.—Good attendance of dealers, but, owing to the wet weather preventing harvesting and thrashing, no new corn was available. There is much apprehension as to the condition and quality of the new grain. Wheat, 34s to 35s; barley, 28s to 30s; white oats, 23s to 24s; black oats, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; beans, 31s to 33s; peas, 30s to 32s; flour, 26s to 30s.

Norwich, Saturday.—Owing to the unfavour-

able weather the supply of wheat was small. The quality and condition of the samples on offer varied very much. Prices were steady, at 30s to 33s 6d per qr delivered. There were no quotable transactions in either new barley or oats. In feeding stuffs the market was of a very quiet character. Maize and grinding barley sold at 6d to 9d per qr advance on the week, and linseed and cotton cakes were 2s 6d dearer, but there was practically no demand. Averages: Wheat, 117 qr, £1 13s 2½d; barley, nil; oats, 495 qr, 17s 1½d.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Very small supply to-day, weather being showery. New wheat, 34s; oats, 19s. No barleys. Trade firm for new, and 6d dearer for old wheat.—Robt. Hubble.

Oxford, Saturday.—The attendance was poor, and there was very little grain on offer. The quality of wheat on the market was moderate, and changed hands at 30s to 33s. Oats are without material change.

Peterborough, Saturday. — The weather during the past week has been showery, and hindering harvest operations, consequently we have only had a small supply new corn. Wheat made from 31s to 33s, condition of most samples not being very good. Barley a quiet trade, prices ranging from 26s up to 30s. Oats, 17s to 19s.—Thomas Hill and Son.

Plymouth, Friday.—There was a very fair attendance on our market here to-day. Prices were all very much firmer. Wheat 2s 6d dearer. Maize, 1s dearer. Barley, 6d dearer. Old oats, 6d. dearer. No new oats offering.—Orlando Davis and Co.

Preston, Saturday.—There was only a moderate attendance, weather conditions restrained the appearance of new grain samples, and quotations were nominal. Millers' offals mode 6d per pack more. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 14s to 15s per windle of 220 lb.; ditto red, 13s 9d to 14s 6d; oats, old 3s 6d to 3s 8d per bushel; beans, 16s 6d to 17s per windle of 220 lb.

Reading, Saturday.—The attendance was hardly an average one; trade was firm. Prices:—Old wheat, 34s to 37s; new, 32s to 33s 6d; new grey winter oats, 18s 6d to 19s 6d; new black winters, 19s to 19s 6d per 420 lb; winter barley, 23s to 27s; rye, 24s to 26s; beans, 33s to 37s; hay, 80s to 95s; straw, 28s to 34s per load.

Retford, Saturday. — Thin attendance and small supply. New wheat was quoted at 32s to 33s, but there were only one or two samples on offer, and no old at all. Several lots of new oats were shown, for which there was a fair trade at 18s 6d to 19s per qr. for both white and black winters. Good old white oats were worth 25s 6d to 26s 6d, and maize 27s 6d, delivered here. Old English beans. 35s to 36s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Owing to the unfavourable weather for harvesting there was little new corn on the market. Prices are firm at top figures for everything but oats. These are offered in small quantities, and dry samples make a fair price for new corn. American flat maize about 1½d per cental dearer on the week; other descriptions unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 37s to 37s 6d; ditto red, new, 37s to 37s 6d per 504 lb; oats, black, 24s to 25s; ditto white, 24s 6d to 25s per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 34s to 34s 6d; ditto blue, 25s to 30s per 504 lb; beans, English, 36s 9d to 37s per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 27s 6d to 28s; ditto malting, 28s to 32s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 26s 3d to 26s 9d; ditto Plate, 26s to 26s 3d; ditto flat, 28s 6d to 28s 9d per 480 lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Old wheat, 15s to 15s 6d per 225 lb; old oats, 15s to 16s per 225 lb; old beans, 15s 6d to 16s 6d per 240 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—The sunny weather gave farmers an opportunity to get into the harvest fields, and few of them attended the market. The demand was sluggish. Wheats, 32s 6d to 34s; oats, 18s to 18s 6d; beans, 32s to 33s; new barley, 26s to 28s 6d; peas, 53s to 63s per qr.

Stockton, Wednesday. — No local wheat showing. Foreign wheat trade keeps very strong owing to advance in America, and unfavourable weather for the coming crops, and prices were 1s and 1s 6d dearer on the week. Maize 6d dearer. There were a few samples of new Yorkshire oats showing, which made 21s to 22s per qr delivered.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday. — New white wheat, 37s to 38s; new red ditto, 36s to 37s; old white ditto, 32s to 33s; old red ditto, 31s to 32s; barley, 26s to 32s; grinding ditto, 23s to 25s; oats, English, 19s to 23s; rye, 23s to 25s; peas, 32s to 37s; beans, 32s to 37s; tares, 42s to 48s; maize, 25s to 27s.

Warwick, Saturday.—Small supply of corn on offer, wheat making 11s 6d to 12s per bag dry samples; damp corn practically valueless. Feeding stuffs another turn dearer.

Wellington, Thursday.—Quotations:—Wheat, 15s 3d to 15s 6d per 225 lb; old oats, 13s 6d to 14s per 200 lb; barley, 4s 9d to 5s 3d per 70 lb.

Winchester, Saturday. — English wheat and dearer. Foreign 1s to 2s. advance. Barley and maize 6d higher. Oats unaltered. Flour a fair trade at about 1s more money.—Fear, Colebrook and Co., Ltd.

Wisbech, Saturday. — At market to-day samples of new grain mostly lack condition. Any good dry lots of wheat sell at 33s 6d to 34s per 504 lb. Soft samples neglected. Oats 18s to 18s 6d per 336 lb. Barley, 25s to 28s per 448 lb. —James Fletcher.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—The attendance was a harvest one, very few farmers being present. Very little business was transacted, but prices were stronger than a week ago

Worksop, Wednesday.—Poor attendance, and a small show of grain. Scarcely any wheat on offer. A few samples of new oats, grown locally, were shown in good condition, and met with a ready sale. White wheat, 36s to 37s; red ditto, 35s 6d to 36s; secondary barley, 28s; grinding barley, 26s; new white oats, 20s to 22s; new black ditto, 20s to 22s; old white oats, 24s to 27s; old black oats, 22s to 24s; flat maize, 26s; round maize, 26s to 27s per qr.

Yeovil, Friday.—A number of samples of the new crop came on offer. The wheat was of fair quality, but for the most part was out of condition and unfit for milling. Business which passed was at from 1s to 2s per qr above last week's rates, viz., 31s to 34s. Foreign wheat sold readily at an advance of 2s, prime samples making up to 40s 6d. New oats favoured buyers, winter oats selling at from 17s 6d to 18s; white, 18s to 19s; Irish white (old crop), 21s 6d to 22s; black 19s 6d to 20s; English white (old crop), 20s to 24s; new beans, 10s to 18s; malting barley, 25s to 30s; secondary, 20s to 24s; grinding barley, foreign, up 6d to 23s 6d. Maize advanced 1s, round making 25s 3d to 26s; ditto flat, 25s. Vetches, 4s to 5s 6d per bushel. A good demand for flour, with prices showing an advance of 2s to 2s 6d per sack, business passing on the basis of 23s to 28s 6d for fines.

York, Saturday.—Prices for wheat were purely nominal, the supply of old corn being quite exhausted, while there were no new samples to hand. Feeding barley met with a fair trade at 26s to 28s per qr of 32 stones; oats remained firm, old making 23s to 24s, and new 19s to 20s per qr. of 26 stones. Old rye made 28s, and new 25s per qr of 36 stones.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Weather unseasonably cool, and in some parts of Holstein there were night frosts, but on the whole the weather was less rainy than last week, and farmers are very busy carrying grain. Samples so far produced show poor quality of rye, better of wheat and barley. Oats may yet turn out a good crop. There was a brisk demand for wheat, and prices advanced materially. Hard winter No. 2, afloat, is now held at 36s 6d, red winter No. 2 free from garlic, at 36s 9d; 80 ko. Laplata-Russa at 37s; No. 1 Macaroni at 32s 3d per 480 lb, c i.f. Hamburg. Rye firm, offers are scarce, and South Russian buyers appeared in the market; 9-10/15 Taganrog near at hand is held at 35s 3d; 9 10/15 South Russian August-September, at 33s per 480 lb c i.f. Hamburg. The new German rye is mostly unfit for immediate use. Bohemian and Hungarian barley is held at 35s 6d to 42s; which with a duty of 2s per qr are very high prices for our malsters and brewers, therefore good German barley at 36s to 40s attracts more attention. The first samples of new Danish are of indifferent quality, while Holstein and Mecklenburg may yet produce useful barley; 60/61 ko. South Russian firm at 21s 6d per 480 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg. New white Holstein oats of fair quality are offering at 18s 6d to 19s 3d per 336 lb, f.o.b. There is a large crop, but not yet all secured. Maize firmer; Odessa and Danubian is selling at 24s 3d to 24s 6d per 480 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg.—John Tatlock

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday. — Linseed Cake. — With an improving demand and continued short supplies of foreign, quotations are fully 5s. per ton higher since last Monday, and there is a probability of a further hardening in prices on account of scarcity. Russian remain best value. East India seed pures may be bought at an advance of 2s 6d. Fine seedy Calcuttas have been sold at last week's prices. London made meet a steady sale at the advance. Cotton Cake.—The market is almost bare of Egyptian, while for arrival more money is now asked, with English selling at 5s. per ton more. Decorticated: London made pures move off freely, also Digestive Meal, with American brands only obtainable in limited quantity:—Rape Cakes do not offer. Maize Germ Meal.—White American is held at prohibitive prices, and needy buyers of English are compelled to pay full prices. Maize Gluten Meal is in good request. Rice Meal.—Recent arrivals of Rangoon are all cleared, and a large business is reported for September-December shipment. Locust Beans are relatively cheaply offered. Dried Brewers Grains make rather more money. Nitrate of Soda is without change.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
Linseed Cakes.		
Russian, in mats (ex dock)	7 5 0	to 7 6 3
,, in bags	7 7 6	to 7 10 0
East India	7 7 6	to 7 10 0
Calcutta	7 10 0	
London Made	7 10 0	to 7 12 6
Cottonseed Cakes.		
Egyptian (to arrive)	4 18 9	to 5 0 0
English (ex mill)	5 0 0	to 5 2 6
Bombay	4 5 0	
Decorticated, London made	7 2 6	to 7 5 0
,, American	6 15 0	
,, Meal, American	6 15 0	to 7 0 0
,, Meal, English	7 2 6	to 7 5 0
Special Digestive Meal	5 0 0	
Maize.		
American	—	
English	6 2 6	to 6 5 0
Maize Gluten Meal	6 5 0	
Ricemeal.		
Rangoon ex ship	5 1 3	to 5 2 6
,, ex whf.	—	
Locust Beans.		
Whole	5 10 0	
Kibbled	5 17 6	
Dried Brewers' Grains.		
Ale	5 0 0	
Mixed	4 15 0	
Manures.		
Nitrate of soda	11 2 6	

—Pinnock Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

Liverpool, Friday.—Fertilisers are firm all round, and there is a good inquiry for autumn deliveries of all phosphatic manures at an advance on the rates current last season. At auction to-day 1,400 tons bone phosphate and dissolved bone compound were withdrawn, offers being too low. There is now some inquiry for feeding stuffs, and higher prices are demanded in many instances consequent upon the increased cost of imported cakes, &c., and as regards home productions the higher prices paid for the materials, aided by the steady advance in corn. To-day's values are as follows:—

	Per ton. £ s d	£ s d
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (good but irregular)	7 2 6	7 5 0
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime (soft)	7 10 0	7 17 6
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime	4 15 0	5 0 0
Cottonseed Cake, Bombay	4 5 0	4 10 0
Cottonseed, crushed, 20 per cent. oil guaranteed	8 15 0	—
Linseed Cake, American, thin oblong, prime but hard	7 10 6	7 15 0
,, ,, English, prime	7 15 0	8 0 0
,, ,, River Plate	7 12 6	7 15 0
Palm Nut Cake	6 5 0	—
Corn Oil Cake	—	—
Maize Germ Meal	6 7 6	6 10 0
Indian Meal, coarse to fine grinding	Per 240 lb. —	—
Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported	Per ton. 5 12 6	5 15 0
Linseed, fine bold feeding	Per qr., 416 lb. —	—
Cod-liver Oil, cattle feeding	Per Gallon. 0 4 0	—
Treacle, feeding, American	Per Cwt. 0 4 9	—
Nitrate of Soda	Per ton. 11 5 0	—
Kainit, prime	2 7 6	2 10 0
Bone Meal, prime	5 7 6	5 10 0
Bone Ash, fine and powdery	3 15 0	—
Basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed	1 14 0	1 15 0
,, ,, ,,	2 2 0	2 3 0
,, finest ,, ,,	2 6 0	2 7 6
D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime*	2 5 0	2 7 0
,, ,, guaranteed*	2 10 0	2 10 0
,, ,, ,, *	3 1 3	3 3 3

* At depot inland.

—H. Jones Langar and Co.

WET AND DRIED GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Saturday.—Wet Grains: Prices have ruled a trifle higher on the past week, and business has been done at 13s to 14s ale, and 10s 6d to 11s 6d porter per ton on rail, London. Dried Grains.—The rise in prices has entirely stopped home trade, and dealers cannot find any orders, and with hay offering from 50s per ton there is not likely to be any demand, and even a reduction of 5s per ton would not be an aid to increase the home consumption. Prices ex factory:—Distillers, 105s; ale, 92s 6d; and mixed, 86s 3d per ton, in buyers' bags. American cane treacle, 90s per ton, and Kiln-dried sea-damaged Australian wheat from 20s per qr.—Hamlyn and Co., 37 and 38, Mark Lane, London, E.C.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 p.m.

The market's difficulties, although purely temporary, are rather severe. Holders of imports have the contest pending new crop deliveries, and the humid air of the last ten days has prevented the new wheat from being ground at the mills. The supplies of new winter barley and of new oats are increased from a week ago, but are not enough to exert any material influence, so that here, as in the wheat trade, merchants have the upper hand, and are charging high prices for prompt delivery of maize, feeding barley, and oats.

The trade in malting barley of the new crop has not yet begun in earnest, but some samples have been shown which showed better quality and colour than expected. They range in price from 33s. to 36s. per qr. Beans and peas profit by the general dearness of feedingstuffs, and are in improved request. The rise on the week is about 1s. in foreign wheat and maize, 6d. in oats, beans, and peas. This coming on top of last Monday's advance makes the total rise rather considerable.

Buyers, it need hardly be said, are not purchasing any more grain than they absolutely require for the fulfilment of contracts. There is a tendency to quote prices higher than they actually are, but much depends in a juncture like the present on when delivery is requisite, often as much as 1s per qr. price difference will subsist between an undertaking to deliver "as soon as reasonably possible," and a specific contract to deliver by Wednesday or Thursday.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

September 9.

WHEAT,	New White.....(per 504 lb.)	34	— 36
	Old ,, ... ,,	37	— 38
	New Red..... ,,	33	— 35
	Old ,, ... ,,	36	— 37
BARLEY, Malting	.....(per 448 lb.)	34	— 36
	Brewing ..... ,,	31	— 33
	Distilling .....(per 416 lb.)	28	— 29
	New Winter ... (per 400 lb.)	25	— 28
	Feeding.....(per 400 lb.)	24	— 25
MALT, Pale	.....(per 336 lb.)	34	— 36
	Brown ..... ,,	27	— 29
	Black ..... ,,	29	— 30
OATS, Good Old	..... ,,	21	— 23
	Good New..... ,,	19	— 20
	New Winter ..... ,,	18	— 19
	Ordinary Old ...(per 320 lb.)	20	— 21
RYE, New	.....(per 480 lb.)	26	— 28
BEANS, Pigeon	.....(per 532 lb.)	42	— 44
	Tick .....(per 504 lb.)	34	— 35
	Winter ..... ,,	32	— 33
	Spring ..... ,,	31	— 32
	Split Mazagan .....(per 320 lb.)	21	— 22
PEAS, Picked	Marrowfat, New (per 504 lb.)	90	—100
	Unpicked (Old) ..... ,,	52	— 56
	Maple (Old)..... ,,	36	— 37
	Dun (Old) ..... ,,	32	— 34
BUCKWHEAT,	.... (New per 416 lb)	36	— 37

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba	38	— 39	American	25	— 26
Red Winter ...	36	— 37	Argentine	25	— 26
Best Spring ...	38	— 39	Roumanian ...	25	— 26
Durum	32	— 34	Russian	25	— 26
Argentine	37	— 38	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Australian ...	37	— 38	Smyrna	34	— 35
Californian ...	37	— 38	New Zealand...	32	— 33
Walla Walla	36	— 37	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Azima	36	— 37	Hungarian	62	— 64
Ghirka	35	— 36	Burmese	38	— 40
Roumanian ...	35	— 36	Chilian	56	— 64
Indian White	36	— 37	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb):		
,, Red ...	35	— 36	French	37	— 39
Turkish	34	— 35	Russian	33	— 37
Persian	34	— 35	Canadian	36	— 38
BARLEY:			PEAS (504 lb.):		
C'lifor'n(448 lb)	31	— 32	Dutch Crowns	55	— 57
Tunisian(448 lb)	30	— 31	Konigsberg ...	44	— 46
Algerian (448 lb)	29	— 30	Russian White	35	— 36
Ouchak (448 lb)	28	— 32	Indian White.	35	— 36
Smyrna (448 lb)	26	— 30	Canadian White	35	— 36
Russian (400 lb)	24	— 25	New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 40
Indian(400 lb)...	23	— 24	Victoria Dun.	32	— 33
Persian (400 lb)	22	— 23	MILLET (416 lb.):		
MALT (336 lb.):			White	42	— 44
Californian ...	34	— 35	Yellow	22	— 24
Smyrna	33	— 36	Sorghum	20	— 21
Ouchak	33	— 36	RICE (cwt.):		
RYE (480 lb.):			Java	16	— 22
Russian	26	— 27	Indian	17	— 20
OATS:			Japanese	16	— 17
Konigsbg(320 lb)	21	— 22	Burmese...	10	— 11
Russian (304 lb)	18	—18/3	Siamese	8	— 9
Canadian(320 lb)	20	— 21	DARI (480 lb.):		
Arg'tine(304 lb)	17/9	—18	Smyrna	27	— 28
Swedish (320 lb)	21	— 22	Indian	23	— 24
New Zeal'd(384 lb)	25	—26	Persian	22	— 23

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 p.m.

London millers are getting good prices for their flour and extremely high prices for their middlings, bran, and pollard. The country supply of flour is only two-thirds of an average, and that of milling offals is quite insignificant. The price of offals high as it is would have been even higher but for imports. The latter, though welcome for the moment, are an economic loss to the nation. The price of Hungarian flour is not quite so dear as it was, prices were put up in later August to an extravagant extent. Nevertheless, Hungarian flour remains very dear, and is likely to remain so.

Not only are American flour importers asking 1s. advance on previous high prices, but for September shipment of Minnesota types 30s. 6d. c.i.f. is the price cabled. The price of Kansas patents is 27s. 6d. c.f.i. shipment within a month of order. The stringency in the flour markets looks at this rate as if it might be maintained longer than that in wheat is likely to endure. There was a good attendance of bakers, and a busy time for the next week is anticipated.

London Flour.

September 9.

Top Price.....(per sack of 280 lb.)		Nominal.	
Town Whites	,,	32/0	,,
,, Households	,,	29/0	,,
No. 2.....	,,	26/0	,,
Whole Meal No. 1.....	,,	25/0	,,
,, No. 2.....	,,	23/0	,,
Country Flour.		s.	s.
Fine Patents .....(per sack of 280 lb.)		29	— 30
Roller Whites	,,	26	— 25
All English	,,	26	— 25
Stone made	,,	25	— 24
Foreign Flour.		s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents (per s'ck of 280 lb.)		29	— 30
,, Second Patents	,,	27	— 28
,, First Bakers'	,,	24	— 25
,, Second Bakers'	,,	23	— 24
Milwaukee Patents	,,	28	— 29
,, Bakers'.....	,,	25	— 26
Canadian Best	,,	28	— 29
,, Ordinary	,,	26	— 27
Manitoba Patents	,,	28	— 29
,, Ordinary	,,	26	— 27
Kansas Patents	,,	27	— 28
,, Ordinary.....	,,	25	— 26
Californian	,,	28	— 29
Hungarian	,,	35	— 36
Belgian	,,	31	— 33
French, Corbeil	,,	27	— 28
,, Renaux.....	,,	26	— 27
,, P.S.D.	,,	25	— 26
Meal, &c.			
Bran, London Broad (per sack of 280 lb.)		15	— 16
,, Country Flake Choice ...	,,	16	— 17
,, ,, Broad	,,	15	— 16
Pollard	,,	14	— 15
Biscuit Middlings	,,	18	— 19
Fine Middlings	,,	17	— 18
Coarse Middlings	,,	16	— 17
Wheat Germ Meal.....	,,	18	— 19
Farina Firsts	,,	29	— 30
,, Seconds	,,	27	— 28
Barley Meal.....	,,	25	— 26
Canadian Oatmeal.....	,,	25	— 26
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	30	— 33
Groats	,,	32	— 33
Oat Flour.....	,,	33	— 34
Ground Oats	,,	32	— 33
Poultry Meal	,,	34	— 36
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	19	— 20
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	18	— 19
,, Germ Meal	,,	15	— 16
,, Cones	,,	18	— 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	15	— 16
Rye Flour	,,	25	— 27
Rye Bran.....	,,	22	— 23
Pea Meal	,,	24	— 25

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

SEPTEMBER SUNSHINE ALWAYS TENDS TO STOP ADVANCING MARKETS, AND MARK LANE CLOSED WITH ALTOGETHER LESS CONFIDENCE THAN IT OPENED. THE LEADING IMPORTERS, HOWEVER, REGARD THE GENERAL SITUATION AS STRONGLY IN THEIR FAVOUR.

THE BALTIC.

Monday, 1 p.m.

State of Trade.

Wheat and maize cargoes are held for 6d. above Saturday's prices, with buyers at previous full terms. Barley is surprisingly firm, considering the large shipments from Russia. Beans, peas, millet, and dari cargoes all show a hardening tendency. Linseed is firm, but cottonseed is weaker from Saturday.

Business Done.

Wheat.—Durum, 34s 6d per 480 lb, prompt shipment; No. 1 Manitoba, 40s per 480 lb, arrived; No. 1 Manitoba, 39s 6d. per 480 lb, on passage; fine Russian Winter, 40s per 492 lb, arrived; Odessa Ghurka, 38s 6d per 492 lb, arrived; White Karachi, 38s per 492 lb, due about the 14th; Australian, 40s 6d per 480 lb, arrived; Australian, 40s per 480 lb, due; Argentine, 40s per 496 lb, on passage; Argentine, 36s 6d per 480 lb, February shipment (new crop); Walla Walla, 38s per 500 lb, December shipment; Blue Stem, 38s 6d per 500 lb, December shipment; Red Winter, 36s 6d per 480 lb, September shipment; Hard Winter, 36s per 480 lb, September shipment.

Maize.—Galatz, 28s per 480 lb, prompt steamer shipmen; Argentine, 25s 6d per 480 lb, on passage; American, 25s 6d per 480 lb, prompt shipment.

Barley.—Karachi, 23s 3d per 400 lb, prompt shipment; Persian, 21s per 400 lb, November shipment; Odessa, 23s per 400 lb, October shipment.

Oats.—White Libau, 16s per 304 lb, October shipment.

Linseed.—Calcutta, 44s 3d per 410 lb, arrived.

Cottoneed.—Egyptian, £7 5s per 2,240 lb, October shipment.

Flour.—Trade to-day has been very firm, with a fair demand for flour in all positions. Prices shew an advance of about 1s on the week.—T. S. Medill and Sons, Ltd.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—The market is very strong, and values are 1s per sack higher on the week. Grain.—American corn has further improved 4½d per boll. Maize firm at 3d advance. Oats in good demand and 3d dearer. Beans firmer. Pease unchanged. Oatmeal steady. Oilcake quiet Mill Stuffs sell well at full prices. Winter wheat patents, 28s 6d to 29s per 280 lb; spring wheat patents, 29s to 30s; American corn, 15s 4½d to 15s 6d per 280 lb; round corn, 15s 1½d to 15s 3d per 280 lb; grinding beans, 18s 7½d to 18s 9d per 280 lb; white pease, 19s to 20s per 280 lb; broad bran, 110s to 112s 6d per ton; medium bran, 105s per ton; fine thirds, 130s per ton; common thirds, 110s per ton; American oilcake, 145s per ton.—McKinnon and McDonald (Glasgow).

Flour.—The demand scarcely so active. Buyers more disposed to work off recent purchases than to follow the course of the market, which is generally about 1s per sack higher than a week ago.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Offals.—The demand for bran continues active, and quotations are advancing about 2s 6d per ton.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Milling Offal.—Middlings have recovered the slight drop of last week, and prices are again well maintained. Bran and pollard very firm, with prices against buyers.—John Bawcomb and Co.

TERM MARKET.

Speculators are fairly busy, but the situation for futures has not that stringency which rules to-day in the market for grain of which delivery can be guaranteed by the 14th—that is to say, within the week. The following are the latest prices made, all, as usual, per cental (100 lb):—

Red, American, 7s. 8d., per cental, Sept. delivery.
,, ,, 7s. 11d. ,, Dec. ,,
American maize 5s. 6d. ,, Sept. ,,
,, ,, 5s. 7d. ,, Oct. ,,

There are buyers of wheat for October and November delivery at prices intermediate to those given above according to date when delivery is required, and there would be free buyers for 1908 delivery at 7s 11d, only speculators will not do business under 8s, and this stops the market. No speculation exists in maize for later than October delivery.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were:—From Ireland, 2,540 bales, and from foreign ports, 15,523 bales. There was a slow market for bacon throughout the week, resulting in prices being generally easier. Quotations range:—Irish, 58s to 62s up to 66s; Danish, 51s to 58s up to 64s; Canadian, 55s to 56s up to 60s. Butter: The Butter market was quiet. French, 92s to 100s; Danish, 109s to 111s up to 112s; Russian, 78s to 98s; Irish, 84s to 103s; Victorian, 86s to 98s; New South Wales, 86s to 93s; Queensland, 84s to 96s; New Zealand, 96s to 108s. Lard. The Lard market was quiet. Irish, 50s to 58s; American, 45s to 46s 9d; Danish, 48s to 52s.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply; trade quiet. Quotations:—Old hay, £4 to £4 2s 6d per ton; new hay, £3 7s 6d per ton; straw, no quotations.

Derby, Friday.—Quotations:—Best old clover, 90s to 100s; new ditto, 80s to 90s; best old hay, 90s to 100s; new ditto, 80s to 90s; second ditto, 65s to 70s; wheat straws, 60s to 70s; pressed ditto, 50s to 60s; chop ditto, 55s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Hay, meadow, 6d; ditto, clover, 6½d; wheat straw, 4d; ditto oat, 4d per stone.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The arrival of the new crop of hay is on a restricted scale. Quotations:—Clover hay, 7½d; meadow hay, 7d; wheat straw, 5d; oat straw, 5d; and rye straw (retail), 7d to 8½d per stone; green clover, 3½d per bundle

Lincoln, Friday.—Large supplies. New hay made 60s, and seeds 55s to 60s per ton on the ground. No new straw yet offered, old making 35s per ton on the ground.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, new, 4½d to 5d; clover, old, 7d to 7½d; new, 4½d to 6½d; straw, wheat, 4d; oat, 3½d to 3¾d per stone.

Nottingham, Wednesday.—Large supplies on offer, which met with a good demand for best qualities only. Quotations:—Inferior to good hay, 75s to 85s; prime ditto, 95s to 100s; inferior to good clover, 70s to 80s; prime ditto, 95s to 105s; wheat straw, 45s to 55s; new hay, 50s to 70s; new seeds, 75s to 85s per ton.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—A small supply, and a poor attendance of farmers. Choice old seeds, £5 to £5 5s; choice hay, £4 to £4 10s; straw, £2 15s to £3 per ton.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Arrivals were smaller, and a fair demand prevailed at steady prices. Best clover, 84s to 95s; inferior, 72s to 80s; specially picked hay, 87s; good, 76s to 85s; inferior, 65s to 70s; mixture and sainfoin, 77s 6d to 87s 6d; straw, 28s to 34s per load.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—The trade this week has again been in a very dull and depressed condition. There are large supplies of all kinds of new crop, the bulk of which, being of a very poor and inferior quality, forced sales have had to be made to effect clearances, some at ridiculously low prices; this is having a bad effect on better qualities, and makes values all round easier. The demand for old crop has also fallen off considerably, and it is now very difficult to do much business with this quality, as buyers do not like paying the extra difference of about 12s. to 15s. per ton, which exists between the value of best new and old, preferring to have the new at the lower price, which is now commencing to handle and dry and merchantable condition. Values of old crop are about as follows:—Best clovers, 90s per ton; best hays, 77s 6d to 80s per ton; best mixtures, 87s 6d to 90s per ton.

The straw trade, owing to harvest operations keeping supplies back, shows considerable firmness, prices being the turn higher. In the foreign market there is little or no demand, and it looks before long as if importations would cease altogether, prices therefore are but nominal ones.

Prices ruling for English 1907 crop are about as follows:—Best hays, 65s per ton; good hays, 57s 6d to 62s 6d per ton; plain hays, 53s per ton; best clovers, 77s 6d to 80s per ton; good clovers, 75s per ton; inferior clovers, 67s 6d to 72s 6d per ton; best mixtures, 75s per ton; good mixtures, 67s 6d to 72s 6d per ton; plain mixtures, 60s to 65s per ton; seconds hays, clovers, and mixtures, 40s to 55s per ton; wheat straw, 26s to 29s per load; oat straw, 26s to 28s per load; barley straw, 28s per load. All ex rail London. Foreign: Canadian mixture, 80s per ton; first quality Dutch hay, 62s 6d to 65s per ton; second quality Dutch hay, 53s to 60s per ton; New French first cut clover, 75s per ton. These prices are by the barge load delivered alongside a London Thames wharf.

SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday. — The demand still drags on for trifolium, prices favouring buyers. Rape keeps firm at present high prices. Mustard unchanged. Rye, good inquiry, prices firm. Winter tares moving freely, both new and yearling. Peas open high; little movement. New English trefoils tempt buyers; quality superior to foreign; prices reasonable; crop considerably under medium. In grasses fine Italians sell readily. Perennials unchanged.—John Picard and Co.

Seven Years Grain Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 10d. per 480 lb.
Barley	25s. 4d. per 400 lb.
Oats	18s. 11d. per 312 lb.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, Sept. 9, 1907. British.		Total.		Monday, Sept. 10, 1906.
Beasts	1,010	1,010		1,010
Sheep and Lambs	4,730	4,730		6,070
Calves	10	10		10
Pigs	—	—		—
Milch Cows	40	40		30

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.		Second. s. d.		First. s. d.
Beasts	2 10		3 10		4 8
Sheep	3 8		5 2		6 0
Lambs	4 10		5 6		6 8
Calves	—		—		—
Pigs	—		—		—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 33; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 844; Devon, 25; Ireland, 108.

We note to-day an increase of 90 head in the number of beasts compared with Monday last. Trade opened, and will continue throughout the day, of an extremely slow and dragging nature for all classes of cattle, partly owing to the overstocked state of the dead meat market, the tendency in regard to values being a downward one. The Irish arrivals consisted of 50 Dublins and 58 Waterfords, for which less money had to be accpted to force sales. Fat butchering cows and bulls met with a very small country demand, however, all transactions were governed by late rates.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s. d.		s. d.	Monday, Sept. 10, 1906. s. d.		s. d.
Scotch	—		—	—		—
Devons	4 6	to	4 8	4 4	to	4 6
Herefords	4 4	to	4 6	4 4	to	4 6
Norfolks	—		—	—		—
Runts	4 2	to	4 4	4 2	to	4 4
Lincolns	3 10	to	4 0	3 10	to	4 0
Irish	4 1	to	4 3	4 1	to	4 3
Canadian	—		—	—		—
Fat cows	3 4	to	3 6	3 4	to	3 6

There was a decrease of 610 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. Trade opened with an entire absence of life, however sellers were not willing to accept any lower rates for either wethers or ewes. Both Scotch and Irish descriptions shared in the poor trade, late currencies governing all transactions. Lambs were in smaller numbers, but were difficult to vend even at the low rates prevailing. A clearance will not be effected. The supply included 200 Scotch, 660 Irish, and 170 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.		s. d.	Monday, Sept. 10, 1906. s. d.		s. d.
7½ to 8 st Downs	5 10	to	6 0	5 10	to	6 0
9 st. Downs	5 8	to	5 10	5 8	to	5 10
10 st Halfbreds	5 4	to	5 6	5 4	to	5 6
10 st Yorkshires	—			—		
12st Lincolns, half-bred	—			—		
10 st Irish	5 4	to	5 6	5 4	to	5 6
10 st Down Ewes	4 0	to	4 2	4 4	to	4 6
11 st Halfbred ditto	3 10	to	4 0	4 2	to	4 4
5 st Down Lambs	6 6	to	6 8	6 8	to	6 10
6 st Halfbreds ditto	6 2	to	6 4	5 10	to	6 0

Calf trade not worth noting or quoting.

No pigs on the market.

London (Central), Monday. — Trade slow for liberal supplies. Beef, English, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; Scotch, 4s to 4s 6d; American, 3s 7d to 3s 9d; refrigerated hindquarters, 4s to 4s 3d. Mutton, English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Lambs, 4s 8d to 5s 4d; Scotch tegs and wethers, 4s 8d to 4s; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Veal, 3s 4d to 4s Pork, 3s 8d to 4s 4d per stone.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—No market was held here to-day. On Saturday 1,640 beasts from the United States and 280 from Canada were offered for sale. Trade ruled of a firm and steady nature, the tendency in regard to value being an upward one. The best States on offer were quoted at from 4s 4d to 4s 6d; seconds, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; Canadians 4s 1d to 4s 3d; seconds, 3s 10d to 4s per 8 lb (offal given in).

Liverpool, Monday.—Larger supply of cattle in market to-day. Demand good, although prices are not quotably higher. Small decrease in supply of sheep and lambs; demand slow, and notwithstanding that slightly lower rates were accepted a clearance could not be made. Beef, 6½d to 5d; mutton, 8½d to 6d; lamb, 8½d to 7½d per lb. At market, 1,530 cattle and 9,496 sheep.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday. — Linseed Cake: Owing principally to the advance in seed the market for cake has hardened 2s. 6d. to 5s. per ton. Foreign makes are sparingly offered for forward positions, and at rather prohibitive prices.

Cotton Cake: This is also dearer through seed market advancing, and Egyptians are most difficult to buy for shipment.

Linseed: With lighter shipments from all countries, the market is higher by 1s. to 1s. 6d. per qr.

English Linseed Cake, ex mill	7 12 6	to	7 15 0		
American Calcutta Linseed cake ex quay	7 10 0	to	7 12 6		
Russian Oil Cake ex quay	7 10 0		—		
Decorticated Cotton Cake ex quay	7 0 0	to	7 7 6		
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal ex quay	6 15 0	to	7 0 0		
London-made ,, Cake (best) ex mill	5 0 0	to	5 5 0		
Egyptian ,, Cake (in bags) ex quay	4 17 6	to	5 0 0		
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included) on rail, Burton	4 15 0		—		
Duluth Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb ex warehouse	—		—		
Dutch Linseed (in bags), per 416 lb ex warehouse	2 5 6		—		
Calcutta Linseed (in bags), per 410 lb ex warehouse	2 5 0		—		
La Plata Linseed per 416 lb. ex warehouse	2 5 0		2 10 0		
Russian Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb (clean) ex warehouse	2 5 6		—		

—Robt. & John Hewetson

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—The samples of the new hops that have arrived up to the present show more than usual good quality for early pickings, being full of lupulin, and may be classed as good copper hops, but the cones are very small, consequently the weight picked per acre is very disappointing, being at least 25 per cent. less than it was set at when the hops were in the burr state. —W. H. and H. Le May.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—A small supply was in quiet request. Early Rose, 65s to 70s; Early Puritans, 70s; British Queens, 60s to 65s; Blacklands, 60s per ton.

Berwick, Saturday.—Farmers are beginning to take up their potatoes, although in small quantities, and are meeting a fairly good trade at 60s to 66s per ton.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Large supply and a fair demand was met at 6d to 7d per stone.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Large supply and a fair demand all round; prices 3s to 3s6d per cwt; retail 1s per peck.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Good supply at 8d to 9d per stone.

Preston, Saturday.—Potatoes, 2s 6d to 10s per load of 240 lb

Retford, Saturday.—Potatoes plentiful at 6s 6d to 7s 6d per load; mushrooms, 4d to 6d per lb.

Spitalfields, Saturday. — Small arrivals experienced poor support. Early Puritans, 70s; Early Rose, 65s to 70s; British Queens, 75s to 80s; Epicures, 65s to 70s; Sharp's Express, 65s to 70s. Blacklands: Up-to-Dates, 65s; British Queens, 60s to 65s; Sharp's Express, 60s to 65s per ton.

Worksop, Wednesday.—A smaller supply than usual, with prices up 1s per load, best potatoes making 9s per load of 18 stones.

York, Saturday.—Trade was rather firmer from 57s 6d to 62s 6d per ton being made.

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

*Cereal Year commencing September 2nd, 1907.**

	s.	d.
September 2 ..... (per sack)	32	0

(No change since last date given).

* September 1st, 1907, was a Sunday.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

The trade for fat beasts at Islington both in regard to prime and second quality opened with an entire absence of life, consequently difficulty was experienced in upholding the previous week's currencies. The Irish arrivals consisted of 36 Dublins and 58 Waterfords, all of which shared in the poor trade prevailing. No store cattle were included in the consignments this week. Fat butchering cows and bulls were in shorter supply, but were more than sufficient for the demand, nevertheless late currencies governed all transactions. On Thursday sales were confined to fat cows and rough cattle, for which Monday's values were both asked and obtained.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, there was an increase in the supply compared with the previous week, the majority of the consignments consisting of States' cattle. Trade throughout the week ruled of a firm and steady nature with an upward tendency in regard to value. The total number on offer at both markets was 3,490, as against 3,010 during the previous week, consisting of 970 British (increase 70) and 2,520 foreign (increase 410), these latter comprising 1,860 from the United States and 660 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) :—80 to 90 stone Devons, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d. ; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 6d. ex 4s. 8d. ; 95 stone Runts, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d. ; 100 stone Shorthorns, 4s. to 4s. 2d. ; 95 stone Irish, 4s. to 4s. 4d. ; 90 stone States, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d. ; 95 stone Canadians, 4s. 1d. to 4s. 3d. ; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d to 3s. 6d.

The sheep trade, which was confined to the Islington market, ruled of a dull and dragging nature throughout the week for both wethers and ewes ; in fact on Thursday very little business was transacted owing to the scarcity of buyers present. Both Scotch and Irish descriptions shared in the poor trade. Lambs were in excess of the demand, consequently were difficult to vend, the previous week's slight advance having to be dropped to effect sales. The total number penned at both markets was 6,210, as against 6,960 during the preceding week, showing a decrease of 750. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows :—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s. ; 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 10d. to 6s. ; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d. ; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d. ; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 6d to 5s. 8d. ; 10 stone Half-breds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d. ; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. to 4s. 2d. ; 5 stonefat Grass lambs, 6s. 6d. to 6s. 8d. ; 6 stone Halfbred ditto, 6s. 2d to 6s. 4d.

Calves numbered 30, trade for which ruled of a slow nature, the best on offer being quoted at from 4s. 10d. to 5s. per 8 lb. offal given in.

Trade in the West.

The markets continue to be very shortly supplied all round, and at no previous period of the present season has this been more marked than during the past week. Dairy stock continues in active request at extreme prices, especially heifers and calves, which are selling readily from £17 up to £21 or £22 apiece ; and even these high rates do not in any way check sales, as many more could be disposed of if they were only available ; and even very plain heifers are readily caught up at from £14 to £16. Good cows with calves are likewise equally saleable, some of the heaviest milchers bringing from £17 to £18 apiece, and more ordinary grades £14 to £16, whilst the older classes of cows make £10 to £12 for animals likely soon to go off their milk. In-calvers of early date may be quoted as selling from £14 to £15 10s. for the most promising grades, and springers from £13 to £15 ; yearling heifers are also in demand at from £5 to £8 each. Good fresh barreners command plenty of custom at £22 to £29 per pair, ranging down to £18 to £20 for those not in quite such high condition. To this circumstance is also to be ascribed the general buoyancy which characterises the sheep trade, present currencies being quite 3s. in advance of those ruling at this time last year ; and those prices are not unlikely to continue until the close of the great sheep sales now in active progress in so many parts of the country.

Deliveries of fat stock have also been on a very limited scale, and, though the demand has been scarcely so strong as of late, yet prices have as a general rule been fairly well maintained, mutton, as a rule, being one of the weakest things on the market, though the drop, even on this, has scarcely been to any quotable extent, some of the choicest wethers still touching 8½d. per lb., whilst heavy grades of lamb—young mutton would be a more accurate description—is selling up to 9¼d. or 9½d. per lb. (or from 45s. to 52s. each), and choice suck lambs from 33s. to 43s. (or 10d. to 10½d.), poor class lambs being quoted 9d. Fat beef shows no decline in value, if anything steers or heifers are rather against the buyer, best quality animals realising 11s. 6d. to 12s. per score (or from £16 to £23 apiece), and fat meaty cows £14 to £17 (or 10s. to 10s. 6d.). Good veal keeps firm, though the sultry weather last week had a somewhat depreciating effect on heavy calves, buyers being very cautious not to purchase too extensively of this class of animal unless they knew exactly how to dispose of their purchases. Heavy calves of this class made 7½d. to 8d. per lb., but the neater-handling weights found a readier and more general sale at fully ½d. per lb. more, and no difficulty was experienced in getting off sticks. Pigs are firmer than ever and prices even higher, all the daintier weights of porkers—animals selling from 44s. up to about 58s. or 60s. each—realising from 11s. 6d. to 12s. per score, and baconers 9s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. ; coarse heavy pigs, 8s. 6d. to 9s.

Trade in Ireland

At Thursday's Dublin market there was a big increase of 1,200 head of cattle over the average supply for this time of the year, and there was also a big increase of nearly 3,000 head of sheep. Prime well-finished bullocks and heifers cleared at firm rates in spite of the increased supply, but ordinary cattle met with a slight fall of 6d. to 1s. per cwt. A good clearance, however, was made during the day (live weight). The number of beasts in the market was 4,430—being an increase of over 1,000 head on the corresponding weeks of 1905 and 1906. The average top live weight price was 32s. to 33s., but a few fancy beasts went at 35s. and 36s. per cwt. The approximate dead-weight prices would be :—Prime ox and heifer beef from 57s. to 61s. and 63s. for extra fed ; good milch beef, 53s. to 55s. ; and inferior 46s. to 49s. per cwt. Prices may be said to have touched the top level of last day's market. Secondary and half-meated animals were somewhat more difficult to get rid of. These (the secondary) formed the bulk of the offer on market. Sheep, though comparatively short in supply, met with a comparatively moderate sale, prices for the choicer qualities remaining unchanged however. Coarse sheep sold slowly at rather depressed values. Shipment trade was small, at rather depressed prices.

Prime wether mutton sold at from 7d. to 7½d., while some extra Mountain and Cheviot mutton went to 8d. ; prime ewe mutton was sold at 7d., and in some cases 7½d. ; other sorts 6d. per lb. Medium hoggets were worth from 36s. to 46s. each, and prime heavy hoggets from 50s. to 54s. each. Large fat lambs sold at from 40s. to 42s., and medium lambs at from 22s. to 28s. each.

Veal was in moderate request and irregular in value, except for such as were of very prime quality, which sold at from 7½d. to 8d. per lb. ; medium veal, 7½d. ; and coarse from 4½d. to 6d. per lb.

Milch cattle were in fair supply, but were chiefly of an ordinary type, there not being many of first-class quality. A good many medium cows sold at from £8 to £12 each ; some of good milking capacity made up to £17 each, and a few extra cows paid more. Store cattle, when of good breeding and quality, sold well, and were in good demand.

The Dublin pig market was rather limited in supplies, but buyers were in good attendance. There was good buying of pigs for shipping and also for the home trade, values being up perhaps from 1s. to 2s. per cwt. from last day. Store pigs in good request at late rates. Choice light-weight pigs sold from 49s. to 51s. per cwt., store pigs made from 21s. up to 55s. each.

Mr. Gavin Low held a large sale of sheep in the paddocks at Prussia Street on the evening of Thursday, when a large attendance of customers was attracted. The sheep offered for sale consisted of some nice lots of Oxford Downs, Lincoln, and Shropshire ewes which sold very well at from 50s. to 70s. apiece.

The rams, of which there were 400, also sold well, large numbers of gentlemen attending to pick up the choice animals offered for sale. The highest prices were paid for the Border-Leicester rams. A fine ram, belonging to Lord Barrymore (Cork), took the top price, and his other sheep made the best average of the day. A ram which took first at Malton and second at Cork, was sold to Messrs. Jeffers and Doran for 25 guineas. Some other very fine sheep also met with buyers at good prices.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Fair supplies, and trade very slow, prices closing with rather easier tendency : English beef, 3s 8d to 4s ; Scotch sides, 4s to 4s 2d ; shorts, 4s to 4s 8d ; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 6d to 3s 10d ; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 4s 1d to 4s 2d ; ditto seconds, 3s 9d to 3s 11d ; ditto forequarters, 2s 6d to 2s 8d ; inferior beef, 2s 2d to 3s ; mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 4d ; ditto tegs, 5s to 5s 4d ; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d ; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d ; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d ; Dutch sheep, 4s to 4s 4d ; English lamb, 5s to 5s 4d ; veal, 3s 8d to 4s 8d ; English pork, 3s 8d to 4s 4d ; Dutch pork, 3s 8d to 4s 2d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—The supply of beasts consisted entirely of fat butchering cows and bulls, which met a slow trade at last Monday's prices. Top value : Fat cows, 3s 4d to 3s 6d ; fat bulls, 2s 9d to 3s 2d per 8 lb. A decrease of 450 in the number penned in sheep market compared with Thursday last. Quotations remain unaltered from last Monday, notwithstanding that very few sales were recorded, owing to the absence of buyers ; the same remark applies to the lamb trade. Best pens made per 8 lb as follows :—7½ stone to 8 stone Down sheep, 5s 10d to 6s ; 9 stone ditto, 5s 8d to 5s 10d ; 10 stone ditto, 5s 6d to 5s 8d ; 10 stone halfbreds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d ; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s to 4s 2d ; 5 stone fat Down lambs, 6s 6d to 6s 8d ; 6 stone halfbred ditto, 6s 2d to 6s 4d. Calf trade ruled slow, at late quotations. Quotations per 8 lb, sinking the offal :—Beasts, 2s 9d to 3s 6d ; sheep, 4s to 6s ; calves, 3s 4d to 5s ; lambs, 4s 10d to 6s 8d. Total supply :—Beasts, 50 ; sheep and lambs, 870 ; calves, 20 ; milch cows, 5.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Fair demand for beef at old rates. Veal sold well. Average supply of pork and a good demand. Best beef, 4s 6d to 5s ; secondary, 4s 3d. Mutton, small Down wethers, 5s 6d to 6s ; small Kent wethers, 5s 6d ; larger, 4s 8d to 5s ; barrens, 4s to 4s 4d. Veal, 5s to 5s 4d. Lamb, 6s 6d to 7s. Pork, roasters, 3s 10d to 4s.

Aylesbury, Wednesday.—Sheep and lambs were a short supply, only 450 being penned. Beasts were an average consignment, and numbered 120. About 180 pigs were offered. A brisk trade prevailed in all departments at prices exceeding the previous week's sales, and practically everything was sold.

Berwick, Saturday.—Attendance of farmers and buyers very small, and trade quiet. Stirks, £7 10s to £9 10s ; two-year-olds, £10 10s. Shorthorn bulls £9 10s. There were no calves, heifers, or three-year-olds.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Small of supply beasts, sheep, and pigs ; trade slow. Quotations : —Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb ; mutton, 6d to 8½d per lb ; lamb, 8½d to 9d per lb ; bacon pigs, 10s to to 10s 3d per score ; cutting pigs, 10s to 10s 3d per score ; sows, 8s 4d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Fair supply of beef ; trade slow at a reduction of 2s per cwt on lowest limit for best qualities—viz., 60s to 62s. Sheep in fair numbers ; business slack ; prime wethers ½d cheaper at 9d. Few pigs ; baconers down 6d, at 9s 6d. 700 store cattle, not all sold, at late rates.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A fair supply of sheep and lambs, and prices are maintained. Useful ewes ranged from 38s to 44s for good-mouthed specimens, and a few very strong in condition made up to 49s. Registered South Down ram tegs sold at an average of 5 guineas each ; working lambs, 24s to 28s 6d ; and better class up to 32s. Two year-old heifers averaged a trifle over £10 each.

Carlisle, Saturday. — Supplies larger than usual ; fair number of buyers, and a steady trade. Small heifers, £7 10s to £10 10s ; better descriptions of wintering cattle, £11 10s to £13 15s ; heifers for fogging purposes, £14 to £16 10s each.

Colchester, Saturday.—Beef and mutton were

in fair supply, and moderate demand, finding a quiet sale at last week's prices.

Derby, Tuesday.—Full supply of fat stock, and a slow sale for inferior qualities. Beasts, 5½d to 6¾d; calves, 7½d; sheep, 7½d to 9d; lambs, 10d per lb.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Very small supply of cattle. Milch beasts were mostly in demand, prices being firm, and from £18 to £23, bullocks £12 to £18, heifers and drapes £12 to £16, stirks £10 to £11, young stores £7 to £10 each. A very large supply of sheep, and fair attendance of buyers, though trade was not particularly brisk. Ewes 54s to 60s, gimmers 60s to 70s each, lambs 40s to 44s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Supplies at Messrs. Ensor and Son's repository sale to-day consisted almost entirely of cattle, of which there was a full offer both of stores and fat beasts. Grazing cattle were in active request for the best grades at from £23 to £28 per pair, the top price being reached by a draft from West Dorset, seconds making £13 to £18 (mostly for cows). In milch beasts best heifers and calves commanded a free sale from £16 10s to £20 (from Purbeck); whilst two year-old heifers made £8 10s to £9 15s, and yearlings £3 5s to £5 5s. In fat beasts heifers ranged from £16 to £19 each, and steers £22 (or 11s 6d per score); fat cows, £13 to £16 (or 10s to 10s 6d. Mutton makes about late rates. Everything was readily cleared, there being a very keen demand for anything at all suitable for grazing purposes.

Dublin, Thursday.— Numbers considerably augmented, and, buyers being found in a cautious mood, trade ruled slow generally for cattle, with lower prices for all qualities. Better demand for sheep at last week's prices. Choice lambs easier sold; middling and inferior qualities still difficult to place. Cattle—Live weight (best), 31s 6d per cwt; secondary and inferior, 26s to 30s per cwt; Mutton (dead weight), 6½d to 7¾d per lb.—Ganly, Sons and Co.

Exeter, Friday.—Small supply of fat beasts. Small wethers and shorn lambs, 9d per lb; large size wethers, 8d to 8½d; breeding ewes, 42s to 46s; Bridgewater class sheep, 38s to 42s, all sold; small lambs in wool, 10d to 11d; rams, 5d; calves, 7d to 7½d.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A plentiful supply of beef, but trade none too brisk; best quality bullock and heifer 6¾d to 6¾d; cow 5d. There was a fair supply of calves, and trade was moderately firm for veal at 6½d to 7½d per lb. Sheep were a fair supply, and trade was firm; fat wethers, 8d to 8½d; fat ewes, 6d to 7d. Fat lambs in small supply, 8d to 8½d; store lambs dear. A large supply of porks and bacons, the former making 5½d to 6d., the latter 5½d. Store pigs a better trade. The supply of store cattle was over large, and trade was very quiet.

Gloucester, Saturday. — Messrs. Bruton, Knowles, and Co. report their sales as follows:—About 80 cows and calves and in-calvers, for which there was a good demand. A short supply of store cattle and fair trade.

Lancaster, Tuesday. — Average entry of calving cows, with good trade for the best sorts, but slow bidding for inferior beasts. Large show of fat cattle, sheep, and lambs. Beef trade quiet, with a fair demand for mutton. Quotations:—Calving cows, to £18 2s 6d each; heifers, 6d to 6½d; cows, 5d to 5½d; fat calves, 7d to 7½d; lambs, 8d to 8½d; shearlings, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 6d to 6½d per lb.

Leicester, Saturday. — Heavy consignments of home-bred bullocks. Trade ruled slower at 10s per head decline, and many lots were left unsold. Choice milch cows made £18 to £20, good lots £16 to £17, secondary £13 10s to £15, Shorthorn bullocks, £12 to £15; Irish bullocks, £13 to £16. Welsh cattle, £10 to £16; young stock, £5 to £8; heifers, £9 to £14 10s; calves, 25s to 40s each. Sheep were in good supply, and sold freely at high rates, good Oxford Downs making 55s to 57s 6d, and lamb hoggs, 28s to 37s each.

Lincoln, Friday.—A small market of store stock, farmers being fully occupied with the harvest. Milch cows were in fair show, and trade was slow at £16 to £21 each; young store beasts, £9 to £12. Fair show of sheep; ewes, 48s to 56s; drape ewes, 38s to 42s; gimmers, 60s to 65s; and lambs, 36s to 44s each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—An average supply of fat beasts, which made from 7s to 7s 9d per stone; few stores shown, with trade very slow, making from £6 to £14 each. Fat sheep, average show, and trade firm, from 9s 6d per stone; stores from 45s to 50s each; fat lambs, 30s to 40s each; store lambs, 30s to 38s each.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: Firsts, 5½d; seconds, 4½d to 5d; thirds, 3½d to 4d. Mutton: Firsts, 7½d; seconds, 6½d to 7d; thirds, 5½d to 6d. Veal: Firsts, 6½d; seconds, 5½d to 6d; thirds, 4½d to 5d. Bacon pigs: Firsts, 5½d; seconds, 4½d to 5d; thirds, 3½d to 4d. Porket pigs: Firsts, 6½d; seconds, 5¾d to 6d; thirds, 5¼d to 5½d

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Trade for cattle was quiet, and prices unaltered. Quotations:—Prime heifers, 7s 6d to 7s 9d; second class, 7s to 7s 3d; prime steers, 7s 3d to 7s 6d; second class, 7s to 7s 3d; coarse and inferior, 6s 6d to 6s 9d per stone sinking the offal. Sheep and lambs met a firmer trade all round, and showed an improvement of ½d to ½d per lb. Prime young sheep, 8½d to 8¾d; strong heavy, 8¼d to 8½d; choice lambs, 9d to 9¼d; second class, 8½d to 9d; ewes, 6d to 6¾d; rams, 5d to 6d per lb. Trade was firm, and prices improved a further ½d, making veal 6d to 7¾d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—An average supply of cattle, sheep, and calves; a large number of lambs. A good attendance of buyers, and a brisk trade all round. Best beef, 6½d to 6¾d per lb; seconds, 6¼d; cows, 4¾d to 5½d; best wether mutton, 8½d; ewes, 7d to 7½d; lamb, 9d; calves, 7d to 8½d; porker pigs, 10s 3d to 10s 6d per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—Average show of fat cattle, but the quality was hardly so good as last week, the best selling well at 8s per stone; other sorts met a slow trade at 7s 6d, while cows made 7s. Veal made 9s per stone. Small show of fat sheep; trade hardly so good, the best making 10s 6d per stone; other qualities, 9s 6d to 10s; and ewes 6s. Trade for fat pigs was unchanged; a total clearance was effected, bacons making from 6s to 6s 8d, porkers 7s, and sows 5s 3d per stone. Store cattle were a larger show, the quality was fairly good, and trade was slow and dear; three-year-olds made from £15 to £18, yearlings, £7 to £10 10s, and smaller cattle from £4 10s to £6 5s. Rearing calves were of good quality, and not so dear, prices ranging from 22s to 44s per head. The store sheep shown were mostly ewes, and the quality was hardly so good as usual, trade being slow and dear. Suffolk shearlings made from 58s to 63s, crossbreds from 55s to 60s, and others from 45s to 56s. Store pigs were a rather better trade, and all got sold at prices ranging from 12s to 22s.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Small show of milch beasts, with an improved trade. Best milch cows made £18 to £22, and in-calf heifers, £14 to £18. A small show of store beasts, and a good trade; strong heifers and steers realised £10 to £14, and younger beast £6 to £10. Calves brought 25s to 45s. There were no sheep, and only a few pigs, which met with a fair trade. Official returns:—104 beasts and 46 calves.

Preston, Wednesday.—There were good supplies in all departments of choice quality, but trade ruled slow, Quotations:—Choice quality local-fed heifers, 6½d; Irish ditto, 6¼d; young cows and bulls, 6d; secondary quality ditto, 5d to 5½d; choice hoggs and lambs to 8¾d; secondary ditto, 8d to 8½d.

Retford, Saturday.—Store stock scarce, but sufficient to meet all needs, for both milch cows and young cattle sold slowly, at no variation on the prices current last Saturday.

Romford, Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts; trade a little better; best animals, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; middlings, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. Calves in short supply; prices rather better at 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Average supply of sheep; trade about the same; best small sheep, 5s 8d to 6s; larger sheep, 5s 4d to 5s 6d per stone. Ewes in average supply, but dear at 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. Lambs in very short supply; trade about the same at 6s 4d to 6s 8d per stone. A few store beasts on offer; very slow demand. Milch cows in good supply; trade better Small supply of pigs, average trade: small porkers, 3s 8d to 4s; large hogs, 2s 8d to 3s per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—A fair show of milch cattle, with a moderate trade, and late prices were fully upheld, the best making £20 to £21, and younger sorts, £14 to £16.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Usual supplies of fat and store cattle, calves, and pigs. Larger number of store sheep, which met a good demand. Usual supply of pigs. Quotations:—Beef, 6d to 6¾d per lb; mutton (wether), 9d to 9¼d per lb; ewes, 7d to 8d per lb; lamb, 9d to 10d per lb; veal, 7d to 7½d per lb; porket pigs, 10s 3d to 10s 6d per score; bacons, 9s to 9s 9d per score. Numbers offered as follows:—Cattle, 711, sheep and lambs 2,729, calves 84, pigs 330.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Best cattle made 7s 8d to 7s 9d per stone, rougher kinds 6s 6d to 7s, lambs 9d to 10d, young sheep 8½d, ewes 7d to 7½d per lb.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a capital entry of all descriptions of stock, a choicer lot of cattle from the best grazing grounds being seldom seen. There was an exceptionally large attendance of buyers, all the principal towns being strongly represented. Beef was a spirited trade throughout, making slightly more money than the previous week, practically a clearance being effected. Sheep still continue in demand, and fully maintained late rates. We would remind buyers that a large number of pigs are coming to hand, the season having commenced earlier than usual. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 87 fat beasts, 244 fat sheep, 80 fat and weaning calves, and 157 fat and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £15 15s to £23 7s 6d; fat heifers, £14 to £20 12s 6d; fat wethers, 48s to 63s; fat ewes, 40s to 58s; fat lambs, 38s to 46s; fat calves, £3 to £4 17s 6d; weaning cow calves, 28s to 60s; bull calves, 20s to 50s; bacon hogs, £3 to £5; fat porkers, 28s to 44s; small pigs, 13s to 20s; strong store, 25s to 36s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Fat bullocks, 56s to 60s per cwt; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £10 to £15; rearing calves, 25s to 45s; breeding ewes, 40s to 42s; wethers, 7d to 7½d per lb; ewes, 5d to 5½d; lambs, 7d to 7½d; large pigs, smaller ditto, and suckers, 10s to 60s each.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday. — Moderate supply; slow trade. Beef, 5½d to 6¾d per lb; mutton, 8½ to 9d per lb; lamb, 9½ per lb; veal, 7½d to 8d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small show of stock, with trade dull, and very little variation in last week's prices. Best beef, 7s 3d to 7s 9d; secondary, 6s 9d to 7s 3d per stone; best Southdown wethers and cross-breds, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 5½d to 6½d per lb.

York, Thursday.—This was the first of the extra store cattle markets. There were no English store cattle on offer, with the exception of a few calving and milch cows, £20 being paid for the best of this class. The general run was £15 to £17. The show of Irish store stock was very fair for the "off" market, but very few buyers came forward, and what inquiry there was concerned the best fresh three-year-old bullocks, which made up to £13 10s. There was no inquiry for younger cattle. Aged sheep were a fair trade, prices having a downward tendency, from 1s to 2s per head less being made. A few shearling sheep met an average trade at 42s to 48s, twice-crossed shearling making in a few cases up to 49s. Lambs met a limited inquiry, and a fair lot remained unsold. Masham lambs made up to 28s, white-faced lambs 28s to 36s, and a few Masham ewes from 42s each.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Altrincham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Appleby: 10d to 1s. Barnstaple: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Berwick: 1s to 1s 2d. Birmingham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Camelford: 1s. Carlisle: 1s to 1s 1d. Chester: 1s 1d. Dartmouth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Derby: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Devizes: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Doncaster: 1s 1d. Dorchester: 10d to 1s 2d. Hereford: 1s to 1s 2d. Ipswich: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Kidderminster: 1s 1d. Lancaster: 1s 1½d to 1s 2d½. Market Drayton: 1s to 1s 2d Otley: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per 24 oz roll. Penrith: 10½d to 1s 1d. Penzance: 9d to 1s 3d. Preston: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Retford: 1s 2d. Ripon: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Shrewsbury: 1s. Spalding: 1s. Stamford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Stockport: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Stockton: 1s to 1s 2d. Totnes: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Truro: 9d to 10d. Wellington (Salop): 1s to 1s 1d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 1d. Worksop: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. York: 1s to 1s 2d.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Altrincham: 8 and 9. Appleby: 11 and 12. Barnstaple: 10 to 12. Berwick: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per doz. Birmingham: 9 and 10. Camelford: 12. Carlisle: 10 and 11. Chester: 10. Dartmouth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per doz. Derby: 10 and 11. Devizes: 12 to 14. Doncaster: 10 to 12. Dorchester: 1s to 1s 4d per doz. Hereford: 10 to 12. Ipswich: 10 to 12. Kidderminster: 10. Lancaster: 9. Market Drayton: 10 and 11. Otley: 10. Penrith: 11 to 12. Penzance: 11d to 1s per doz. Preston: 8 and 9. Retford: 2s to 2s 2d per score. Ripon: 10 and 11. Scarborough: 9. Shrewsbury: 10 and 11. Spalding: 12. Stamford: 11 and 12. Stockport: 8 and 9. Stockton: 9. Totnes: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per doz. Truro: 11. Wellington (Salop): 11 and 12. Worcester: 10 and 11. Worksop: 2s to 2s 2d per score. York: 10 and 11.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter.—The Colonial butter market remains quiet, buyers showing very little interest. Prices show no change. The demand for all classes of foreign butter continues slow. The supply of home made shows only a very slight reduction. Continental markets are of the same quiet character. The official quotation for Danish is unchanged. Cheese.—There is a complete absence of any speculation, buyers taking only sufficient for present requirements. The rise of 1s to 2s this week has had its usual effect of bringing a little more demand, but this is only temporary as the trade here does not believe present values will be long maintained. Prices in Canada, however, are steadily rising.

New Zealand is in too small supply to make a market quotation.—W. Weddel and Co.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Full demand experienced for a fair supply. Prices: Surrey fowls 2s 9d to 3s 6d; Sussex fowls, 2s 3d to 3s; Lincolnshire fowls, 1s 9d to 2s 9d; Irish fowls, 1s 4d to geese, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; country ducks, 1s 9d to 2s 6d; Aylesbury ducks, 2s to 2s 6d; wild ducks, 1s 3d; quails, 8d to 1s; feathered pigeons, 8d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s 2d; English hares, 2s 6d; leverets, 1s 3d; Scottish hares, 1s 3d; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 6d; wild rabbits, 6d to 10d; live hens, 1s 9d to 2s 3d each; Australian rabbits, 5s 6d to 7s per doz; young partridges, 5s to 6s; old, 2s to 2s 4d; young grouse, 6s 6d to 8s; old, 2s 3d to 2s 6d per brace.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Arrivals of home cheese were rather liberal, and the demand improved. Prices were firm, Cheddars being quoted 58s to 60s per cwt, and Dunlops 55s to 58s. There was also a better inquiry for Canadian parcels, which were 1s per cwt dearer at 58s.

Newport, Wednesday.—About 10 tons were pitched. There was an average attendance and a fair demand. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 45s to 56s per cwt; fancy dairies, 57s to 60s; Derbies, 58s to 60s; truckles, 56s to 64s; doubles, 54s to 56s.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Ample and varied supplies of fruit and vegetables on offer and business fairly brisk. Quotations for English produce:—Grapes, 6d to 2s; ditto (Guernsey), 6d to 9d; pears, 3s 6d to 5s 6d per bushel; apples, 2s 6d to 10s per bushel; melons, 1s to 2s; ditto (Rock), 2s to 4s each; green figs, 1s to 3s; nectarines, 2s 6d to 8s per doz; peaches, 2s 6d to 8s per dozen; cobnuts, 3s to 4s; filberts, 2s 6d to 3s 6d per 12 lb; damsons, 1s to 2s; plums, 1s to 2s 6d per half sieve; tomatoes (English), 2s 6d to 3s 6d; ditto (Channel Islands), 2s to 3s per 12lb; scarlet runners, 1s 6d to 2s 6d per bushel; peas, 4s to 6s per bag; ditto, 2s to 4s per bushel; endive, 1s to 1s 6d; cos lettuce, 4d to 8d per dozen; cucumbers, 4s to 5s 6d per flat; cabbages, 2s 6d to 3s; marrows, 1s 6d to 3s; cauliflowers, 4s to 5s 6d per tally; mushrooms, 6s to 9s per 12 lb; onions, 1s 6d per dozen bunches; ditto (Ports), 6s 6d to 7s 6d per case; turnips, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; parsley, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; mint, 1s to 1s 3d per dozen bunches; carrots, 2s to 2s 6d per bag; horseradish, 10s to 14s per dozen bundles; potatoes, 60s to 75s per ton.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £14 10s to £15; half-bred hoggs, £13 to £13 10s; ditto wethers, £12 10s to £13; Kent fleeces, £12 5s to £12 10s; South Down ewes and wethers, £13 10s to £14; Leicester ewes and wethers, £12 to £12 10s. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., scoured super., 2s 2d to 2s 3d; scoured, good, 1s 11½d to 2s 1d; scoured, average, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 9½d to 1s 10½d; greasy, average, 1s to 1s 1d; S. Aus., greasy, average, 10d to 11d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; greasy, average, 11d to 11½d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9½d to 1s 10½d; fleece, average, 9½d to 10½d; greasy, average, 8½d to 9½d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5½d to 1s 6½d; greasy average, 8½d to 9d. Crossbreds—grs.—Vic., good to super., 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d; New Zealand fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s to 1s 1d; coarse, 10d to 11d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Staplers continue to bid 11d for Kent fleeces, and 7d for lamb wool, but holders are indifferent at these figures.

Halifax, Saturday.—While business in wool is, on the whole, rather quiet, values remain exceedingly firm.

Worcester, Saturday.—A few growers at market to-day offering samples of the new growth, but practically no business was done. Consumers are not ready yet, and merchants prefer to wait for a larger supply. The samples were bright and healthy. The growing hops have not developed well this week. There has been so little sun, and it is feared the cones will run small. In this case, the quantity grown will be less than expected.—Charles Faram and Co.

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending September 7, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1903 to 1906:—

	WHEAT.			BARLEY.			OATS.		
	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.
1903	31,057	28	6	1,490	22	4	13,475	17	0
1904	46,115	30	0	22,400	24	10	31,336	16	1
1905	78,589	27	1	17,888	23	4	20,622	15	11
1906	78,579	26	4	19,448	24	9	32,679	16	3
1907	18,316	31	11	7,216	24	2	23,697	17	7

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, Sept 7, 1907:—

Wheat	1,812,800 cwts.
Wheat-flour	245,000 ,,
Barley	661,800 ,,
Oats	122,800 ,,
Maize	904,800 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1906.	1905.	1904.	1903.
	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Wheat	2,849,400	2,247,500	1,488,000	1,883,700
Wheat-flour	241,900	290,500	202,900	285,700
Barley	1,008,600	449,200	596,500	1,233,500
Oats	255,700	428,000	118,600	380,500
Maize	1,519,600	1,251,600	669,500	1,504,600

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, September 3rd, 1907:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Av. Price per Qr. £	s.	d.
Wheat	1,373	7	2,194	18	3	1	11	11
Barley	577	2	742	12	9	1	5	9
Oats	3,577	1	3,303	11	10	0	18	6

ADVERTISEMENTS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

Brewers', Maltsters', Distillers', and Allied Traders' 29th Annual Exhibition and Market,

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL,

LONDON, N.,

OCTOBER 19th to 25th next.

MALTING AND SEED BARLEY COMPETITION.

(ENTRIES CLOSE OCTOBER 9.)

The Directors, in addition to the CHAMPION and other valuable Prizes, are offering SPECIAL CUPS & MEDALS for the Counties of Cambridge, Essex, Lincoln, Norfolk, Suffolk, and Yorkshire.

It is possible for the CHAMPION SAMPLE to be awarded six Cups, two Gold and other Medals, several Diplomas, and upwards of £100 in cash.

HOP COMPETITION.

(ENTRIES CLOSE OCTOBER 5.)

CIDER AND PERRY COMPETITION.

(ENTRIES CLOSE SEPTEMBER 26.)

SCHEDULES OF ABOVE ON APPLICATION.

This Exhibition is the Best Market for Buyers of Grain-Cleaning Machinery and Seed Barley.

DALE, REYNOLDS & CO., Limited,

46, CANNON STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Fodder Crops.

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Post Free,

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W. A. MAY,

"Mark Lane Express" Offices,

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By A. T. & E. A. CROW.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT UNRESERVED SALE OF CLYDESDALE HORSES, HACKNEYS, and STORE CATTLE,

the property of the Seaham Harbour Stud, Ltd., will be held at the Stud Farm, Seaham Harbour, on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1907.

CLYDESDALES.

8 Filly Foals. 1 Two-year-old Colt.
12 Colt Foals. 6 Two-year-old Fillies.
4 Yearling Fillies. 6 Three-year-old Fillies.
1 Yearling Colt. 18 Brood Mares.
6 Two-year-old Geldings.

The above are a splendid lot of registered animals, including several prize animals with unbeaten records.

HACKNEYS.

6 Registered Brood Mares, Yearlings and Foals. Three of the above have won prizes.

CATTLE.

70 head. Consisting of choice Shorthorn Bullocks and Heifers, Polled Cross Angus and Hereford, Highland Heifers with calves at foot by Shorthorn Bull. Some of the above are fit for the butcher, and all are in forward condition.

Sale to commence at 11.30, with the cattle.

Luncheon on the ground.

Catalogues, with full pedigrees and particulars, may be obtained from the Auctioneers—

A. T. & E. A. Crow, Sunderland;
or R. Brydon,
The Dene, Seaham Harbour, Co. Durham.

By WENSLEYDALE LONGWOOL SHEEP-BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION.

WENSLEYDALE LONGWOOL SHEEP-BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION.

The ANNUAL SALE of Rams, Ram Lambs, Ewes, Shearling Ewes, and Ewe Lambs will be held at NORTHALLERTON on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25.

Sale to commence at 12 o'clock.

Catalogues free from

T. F. King, Hon. Sec.,
September, 1907. Wynbury, Leyburn.

206 Rams, 144 Ram Lambs, 145 Ewes and Shearling Ewes, and 46 Ewe Lambs are entered for this Sale.

Printed and Published by the Proprietors, at the Offices, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.—September 9, 1907.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

Fine weather has enabled farmers to secure a very large quantity of new wheat in much better state than seemed likely when August was drawing to a close in dark and damp. The ten past days of calm air and clear sunshine have been blessings of the very first order, and the heavy morning dews may have helped to mellow the barley. The potato crop is not turning out very well, but while some sorts have developed disease rather badly, others seem immune. That the bulk of the crop as a whole will be below average, however, seems certain, as of all varieties the tubers tend to run small. This reduced crop of potatoes will throw increased burden of supply on bakers, as potatoes among the masses are always the chief alternative to bread. The wheat markets, after advancing briskly, are now a little inclined to go back, but flour is still on the upward move. Maize and oats are firm, but barley is decidedly cheaper for inferior feeding descriptions.

The American wheat crop of 1907 is the subject of a detailed review in *Beerbohm's List* for the 13th inst. The shipping authority "anticipates excited times on the other side of the Atlantic." This is the more to be noted, as the great shipping organs of the "Baltic" are conducted with almost an excess of caution. The figures at which the *List* has arrived, figures leading to the anticipation quoted as follows:—

Area of winter wheat	38,132,000 acres.
,, spring ,,	16,465,000 ,,
Total area	44,497,000 ,,

This shows a decline of 2,708,000 acres in the area under cultivation, a fact not previously brought home at all clearly to English operators. The yield is put on this acreage as follows:—

Winter wheat	146 bushels on 10 acres.
Spring ,,	123 ,,
Average yield	134 ,,

Total yields in bushels work out thus:—

1907	615,000,000
1906	735,000,000
1905	704,000,000
1904	553,000,000
1903	638,000,000
1902	670,000,000
1901	749,000,000
1900	655,000,000
1899	658,000,000

The nine years average on these figures, which will be found in many ways more valuable than averages based on Nineteenth Century figures, is found to be 675,220,000 bushels, and the yield of 1907 to be 60,220,000 bushels below the average. The deficit as compared with the good year, 1906, is as much as 120,000,000 bushels.

The Russian wheat crop is the subject of a fresh estimate, and is now put semi-officially at not more than 590,000,000 qr. But this total, which would only leave 4,000,000 qr. for export, is obviously some 1,000,000 qr. out. The trade will do well to dismiss it from consideration. Full figures are promised in November.

The supplies of bread stuffs for the first completed week of the cereal year are ascertained to have been as follows:—

Imported wheat	423,000 qr.
,, flour	80,000 ,,
English wheat	37,000 ,,
Total	540,000 ,,

This enables us to give stocks as follows:—

Stocks, September 2, 1907	2,900,000 qr.
Supplies	540,000 ,,
	3,440,000 ,,
Wants	630,000 ,,
Stocks, September 9, 1907	2,810,000 qr.
,, ,, 1906	3,200,000 ,,
,, ,, 1905	2,865,000 ,,

In America, however, the wheat stocks are large:—

September 14, 1907	7,852,000 qr.
,, 1906	5,635,000 ,,
,, 1905	2,475,000 ,,

Imports of barley for the past week have been:—

1907	186,000 qr.
1906	283,000 ,,
1905	126,000 ,,

The arrivals since September 2 have been nearly all from Russia and Roumania, and of light grinding quality only.

Imports of oats have been:—

1907	46,000 qr.
1906	95,005 ,,
1905	58,000 ,,

The very small arrivals of oats are in very great contrast with two years ago, when a plethora of foreign sorts poured into London, Hull, and Edinburgh.

Imports of maize for the first completed week of a new cereal year have been as follows:—

1907	212,000 qr.
1906	355,000 ,,
1905	291,000 ,,

The supply at this period evidently tends to be large. The past week has received large supplies of linseed and of rice meal, but very small quantities only of beans, peas, buckwheat, tares, or rapeseed.

Shipments from America last week were 326,000 qr. of wheat, 20,000 qr. of barley, 27,000 qr. of oats, 55,000 qr. of maize, and 103,000 sacks of flour. There were also shipped 29,000 qr. of linseed, a somewhat unusual addition.

Shipments from Argentina were 37,000 qr. of wheat, 268,000 qr. of maize, 35,000 qr. of linseed, and 2,000 qr. of oats. A cable received the 14th inst spoke of the growing wheat and linseed crops as of very high promise.

Shipments from Russia were 504,000 qr. of barley, 199,000 qr. of wheat, 120,000 qr. of oats, and 40,000 qr. of maize; and there were also 102,000 qr. of rye shipped, though of this last item none was for Great Britain.

Shipments from Roumania were 80,000 qr. of wheat, 54,000 qr. of barley, 28,000 qr. of oats, and 94,000 qr. of maize; and Indian shipments were 175,000 qr. of wheat, 50,000 qr. of linseed. Australia sent off 30,000 qr. of wheat, and 5,000 sacks of flour; New Zealand 50,000 qr. of wheat and 30 000 qr. of oats.

The quantity of wheat on passage continues to diminish, a very remarkable circumstance when we consider that prices offering since September came in are the best the new century has seen. Present quantities afloat are as follows:—

Russian	35,000 qr.
Californian	120,000 ,,
American	420,000 ,,
Indian	570,000 ,,
Argentine	90,000 ,,
Australasian	380,000 ,,
Various	30,000 ,,
Total	1,645,000 qr.
A week ago	1,931,000 ,,
Ten years' average	2,500,000 ,,

These figures are important, and should arrest any declining tendency in wheat prices. Of flour, only 168,000 sacks are on passage as compared with 180,000 sacks a week ago.

The quantity of barley on passage is a little larger than a week ago, as Russia is still a very free shipper, and is sending a material portion of her exports to this country.

Russia	400,000 qr.
California	40,000 ,,
Atlantic Ports	20,000 ,,
Asiatic	60,000 ,,
Total	520,000 qr.
A week ago	440,000 qr.

The quantity of oats on passage, however, has fallen from 180,000 qr. to 150,000 qr., of maize from 795,000 qr. to 725,000 qr., of linseed from 179,000 qr. to 153,000, of rapeseed from 29,000 qr. to 15,000 qr., and of cottonseed from 36,000 to 28,000 tons. Barley is the only article which looks like being depressed in October, and even in this instance the pressure will be on grinding quality only. Of malting and brewing barley the imports in October and November can scarcely be other than small, nor is California shipping her new crop with any speed.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday. — With farmers busy taking advantage of the spell of fine weather to get forward with their harvest operations, little thought has been given by them to get their hay along, and in consequence we have to report a welcome break in the large supplies, in fact during the past few days our market has been almost denuded of arrivals, the trade in consequence shows a much firmer feeling, and prices are a good 2s. 6d. per ton better, in fact, at some points where the shortage has been scarcely felt, salesmen have been able to squeeze 5s. to 7s. 6d. per ton more money out of needy buyers; although the state of affairs can hardly be expected to last, it is doubly welcome after the very dull and slumpy trade we have been experiencing lately. Clovers show the most firmness, but hays and mixtures are a very good trade, and even plainer sorts of all kinds are more readier of sale. The small arrivals will also now give London holders an opportunity of clearing out the stocks of badly got and inferior new stuff which just lately has been such a drug in our market, and with the incubus got rid of, future trading should be on a more profitable basis.

There is little demand for old stuff. Best hays realising about 80s. per ton; best clovers, 90s to 92s. 6d per ton; best mixtures, 90s per ton. The straw trade also exhibits considerable firmness, and with short supplies prices are about 2s. per load higher. In the Foreign Market there is little or nothing doing, last week's nominal prices about representing value.

Prices ruling for English 1907 crop are about as follows:—Best hays, 65s to 70s per ton; good hays, 57s 6d to 62s 6d per ton; plain hays, 55s per ton; best clovers, 82s 6d per ton; good clovers, 77s 6d per ton; inferior clovers, 67s 6d to 75s per ton; best mixtures, 77s 6d per ton; good mixtures, 70s to 75s per ton; plain mixtures, 62s 6d to 67s 6d per ton; seconds hays, clovers, and mixtures, 40s to 53s per ton; wheat straw, 28s to 30s per load; barley straw, 28s to 30s per load; oat straw, 28s to 30s per load. All ex rail London. Foreign: Canadian mixture, 80s per ton; first quality Dutch hay, 62s 6d to 65s per ton; second quality Dutch hay, 53s to 60s per ton; New French first cut clover, 75s per ton. These prices are by the barge load delivered alongside wharf, London.

THE BALTIC.

The London Corn Trade Association quotes white Karachi wheat at 38s. per 492 lb, and red at 37s. 6d., arrived cargoes. For cargoes on passage the following prices have been made:—Australian, 38s. per 492 lb.; Blue Stem, 39s. per 500 lb.; Walla Walla, 38s. 3d. per 500 lb.; fine Russian winter, 40s. per 492 lb.; Odessa Ghirka, 38s. 6d. per 492 lb.; No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 38s. 6d. per 480 lb.; No. 1 Durum, 33s. per 480 lb.; and American red winter, 7s. 11d. per cental.

Maize cargoes have made 26s. 3d. per 480 lb. for Russian and 5s. 7d. per cental for American. For Argentine, 25s. 9d. per 480 lb. is asked, but buyers are not inclined to pay so much.

Barley is in large offer, and consequently buyers have a little the best of the market, 23s. 6d. being accepted for Indian, 21s. 6d. for Persian, and 22s. 6d. for Russian on passage. These prices are for 400 lb. grinding barley in every case. No trade is as yet doing in malting or brewing types.

Other cargo sales of the week have included White Libau oats at 16s. per 304 lb. for December shipment, and La Plata oats at 16s. 3d. per 304 lb. for February shipment. A cargo of Calcutta linseed made 44s. 3d. per 410 lb. on Saturday, and one of Egyptian cottonseed realised £7 per ton; the first was an arrival, the second a contract to ship in December.

The arrivals of grain and seed laden vessels at ports of call for the week were—1 wheat (Adelaide).

The sailings of grain and seed laden vessels from ports of call for the week were—9 wheat (1 Antwerp, 1 Belfast, 1 Birkenhead, 2 Dublin, 1 Gloucester, 1 Hull, 1 Limerick, and 1 Plymouth).

Since January 1, 1907, the total arrivals have been 223 wheat, 1 flour and wheat, 3 barley and wheat, 6 barley, 15 maize, and 15 linseed—total 263.

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

*Cereal Year commencing September 2nd, 1907.**

	s.	d.
September 2 (per sack)	32	0
,, 13 ,,	34	0

(No change since last date given).

* September 1st, 1907, was a Sunday.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English steady, quiet. Foreign dull, and 6d to 1s easier, but no pressure to sell. No. 1 Northern Manitoba ex ship, held at 40s; No. 2 at 38s 6d to 39s; choice white Karachi at 37s 6d to 38s; South Russian, landed, at 39s to 40s; Persian at 38s; La Plata, 39s 6d to 40s. Flour steady, unchanged. Hungarian held at 37s to 38s; Iron Dukes at 24s 6d to 25s. Maize dull, easier tendency. River Plate, landed, held at 25s 9d to 26s; Odessa, ex ship, at 24s 9d to 25s; Galatz Foxanian, ex ship, 25s 3d to 25s 6d. Barley quiet, and 3d lower to sell. Azoff-Black Sea and Odessa-Nicolaieff, exship, held at 23s 3d; Persian, 23s to 23s 6d. Oats steady, quiet. New white English quoted at 20s 6d to 21s 6d; new blacks, 20s to 21s; La Plata, 18s 3d to 18s 6d; South Russians, 38 lb, 18s to 18s 3d.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat: English firm, with foreign rather steadier not active. No. 1 Northern, ex ship, quoted at 39s 9d to 40s, as to position; No. 2 at 39s; No. 1 Durum, ex ship, at 35s; choice white Karachi at 38s; red Karachi 37s 6d. Flour firm, quiet; Iron Dukes quoted at 24s 6d to 25s; Kansas patents, 28s 6d to 29s. Maize dull, easier tendency; River Plate, landed, quoted at 20s; Odessa at 25s 9d to 26s 3d; Gal.-Fox., ex ship, to arrive, at 25s 6d. Barley firm, quiet; Azoff-Black Sea and Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted at 23s 6d. Oats firm, and in sellers' favour; La Plata quoted at 8s 6d; South Russains (38 lb), 18s 3d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—The market was very firm, especially for wheat and oats, but many wheat samples were out of condition. New barleys also sold well. There was no change in flour, but trade was firm. Wheats made, 34s to 35s; barleys, old, 28s to 30s; new, 26s to 30s; foreign grinding barley, 25s to 27s; new oats, 16s to 21s; Mazagan beans, 30s to 31s; tick beans, 34s to 36s; maize, 26s 6d to 27s 6d; new peas, 30s to 31s.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, white (new), 31s to 32s per qr; ditto (old), 33s to 34s per qr; wheat, red (new), 31s to 32s per qr; ditto (old), 33s to 34s per qr; barley, 27s to 38s per qr; beans (old), 32s to 33s per qr; oats (old), 21s 6d to 26s per qr; peas (old), 31s to 36s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—A slightly larger attendance. A considerable quantity of new barley on offer, which met a brisk demand. No new oats or wheat. Prices:—Barley, 27s 6d to 31s per qr.; old oats, 26s to 27s.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Small attendance. The demand for wheat this week is much quieter, although prices on the week are 6d up. Several lots of new English wheats in dealers' hands, for which 13s per 186 lb delivered is asked, condition improving on first samples. New oats make 19s per 312 lb delivered. Old beans 13s 6d per 196 lb. A good demand continues for feeding stuffs, all kinds of maize being 3d per qr dearer than last week. Grinding barley is again moving steadily upwards, the price being from 24s to 24s 6d per 400 lb at Sharpness.

Brighton, Thursday. — Small attendance. There was no old wheat on sale, and very little new. Oats and barley were very firm at last week's prices. New wheat, 32s to 34s per 504 lb; barley, 27s to 30s; grinding ditto, 24 to 26s; oats, English, 18s 6d to 20s; maize, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; flour, 28s to 32s.

Bristol, Thursday.—New English wheat still scantily offered, last week's full prices being easily obtainable. Foreign wheat has declined slightly, but still maintains a very firm undertone. Maize strong and unchanged. Barley 1s dearer, and very scarce on spot; old oats 6d to 9d dearer; new oats unaltered; flour firm at recent values.—Grace Bros.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—A small supply of wheat; some in fair condition, and some decidedly damp. Prices were unchanged at 32s to 33s for fair reds, and 31s for damp parcels. Oats and grinding barley firm, and in some cases dearer. Maize 6d per qr dearer on the week, at 27s to 27s 6d per qr delivered. Feeding stuffs all very firm at last week's full prices.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There was a larger supply on offer, and a little improvement in the condition of wheat; good dry samples sold from 31s to 34s 6d. The demand for malting barley has now opened, and there was a good inquiry, at from 28s to 32s per qr. Oats are limited in supply and firm in value, 42 lb black winters being worth 20s, and 42 lb whites about 19s, 44 lb whites 20s, and grey peas from 30s to 30s 6d per qr.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Very small supply at our market to-day; farmers busy cutting new oats. Good demand at full prices, 24s to 24s 9d per 336 lb. Several hand samples of new oats offering at 20s per 336 lb.—Thomas Robinson.

Chester, Saturday.—New samples of grain are commencing to make their appearance, and the quality so far is fair. Old grain in few hands, and holders command full rates. Feeding stuffs continue to advance, and there is a good demand. Thirds 6d per sack, and bran 3d per sack dearer. Indian corn 3d to 6d dearer. Quotations: oats, new, 2s 7d to 2s 8d; old, 3s to 3s 6d per 46 lb; Indian corn, old, 14s 6d to 15s per 240 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—A good attendance, but not a great deal of trade, and very little on offer. New white wheat, 33s to 34s; new red ditto, 33s to 34s; barley, 28s; grinding ditto, 24s to 25s; oats, English, 18s to 22s; rye, 26s to 28s; peas, 30s to 32s; beans, 31s to 33s; tares, 5s 6d to 6s 6d; maize, 23s 9d to 25s 6d; flour, 29s to 31s.

Colchester, Saturday.—Small supply, various quality. Wheat, 32s to 34s. Oats, 18s to 19s 6d. Barley, 27s to 28s 6d.—Colin Taylor, King and Co., Ltd.

Coventry, Friday.—Small attendance. Good supply of wheat at last week's prices. Quotations: Wheat, 12s 9d to 13s 6d per 186 lb; barley, 30s to 34s per 448 lb; peas, 12s to 14s; beans, 13s to 13s 9d per 196 lb; oats, old, 24s 6d to 27s per 352 lb.; new, 20s to 22s.

Derby, Friday.—New corn was in larger supply, and a moderate amount of business was done. Quotations: White wheat, 36s to 37s; new red, 33s to 35s; grinding barley, 23s to 25s; beans, 35s to 37s; old oats, 24s to 26s; new, 18s to 20s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—English wheat backward in being threshed, and no local grain offered. A few samples from the south made 35s to 36s per qr delivered. Maize unchanged. A few new oats offered, but prices very irregular, and not quotable. Market thinly attended and very quiet.

Dorchester, Saturday. — Considering that many were kept away from market to-day by the brilliant weather prevailing, which enabled the more belated to push forward with their harvesting operations, there was a fairly good attendance at to-day's corn market, and a much larger display of new samples, which the fine weather of the past week had been very helpful in getting into greatly improved condition, much of the wheat having lost the softness of character, which proved such a drawback to sales in the earlier parcels shown. Holders showed no great anxiety, in the absence of anything definite as to prices being arrived at, to sell except on their own terms, which were somewhat beyond buyers' ideas, and quite up to those ruling at the previous market, even if not in advance, and no great amount of business resulted. Barley and oats were both characterised by similar firmness, and generally we must prove rates fully as high if not in advance of the previous market, and this firmness generally applied all round.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Wheat the turn dearer, and prices are 3d to 6d per boll up on the week. Flour steady at 1s per sack advance since last Wednesday. Maize firm, but prices are 3d per boll dearer over the week. Corn very scarce on spot, and to-day's prices show an advance of 6d per boll. Barley firmly held at late rates. Oats quiet, but steady. Beans and pease firm. Bran steady at 2s 6d per ton advance. Thirds unaltered. Oatmeal unchanged, with trade slow. Other articles unaltered.—Gibson and Clark.

Glasgow, Friday.—Wheat the turn dearer. Flour firm, at late rates. Maize and corn steady and shaping dearer. Oats keep their price. Barley quoted higher. Beans and peas quiet. Other articles nominally unaltered.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Practically no old English wheat; new, 32s to 33s per qr. Plates wheat unchanged, at 39s 6d to 40s; Russian, 6d dearer, at 38s 6d to 40s. Maize unchanged. Plate at 25s 9d; flat, 26s; Bessarabian, 26s. Barley unchanged, 23s 9d to 24s. New oats 6d dearer: New, 18s 6d to 19s; old, 23s 6d to 24s per qr.

Grantham, Saturday.—A fair show of new grain, but prices as yet are variable. The following, however, were the quotations generally:—Wheat, 31s to 33s; barley, 26s to 30s; oats, 17s 6d to 19s; peas, 55s to 70s.

Hereford, Wednesday.—There were practically no farmers on the market, and therefore nothing doing in English grain. New English wheat remained nominally unchanged at about 4s for dry samples, while those in indifferent condition were quoted at 3s 9d to 3s 10d per bushel. No barley offering. New Englis oats met with a ready sale at 18s per qr. Quotations:—Wheat, old, 4s 3d to 4s 6d per 62 lb; new, 3s 10d to 4s 3d; barley, 3s 6d to 4s per 56 lb; oats, old, 2s 9d to 3s 3d per 40 lb; new, 2s 3d to 2s 6d per 40 lb; beans, 4s to 4s 6d per 65½ lb; maize, 3s 4d to 3s 8d per 60 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Moderate supply of new wheat; trade steady at late rates. Out of condition lots about 31s per qr, hard up to 34s. Grinding barley firm. Oats steady. Maize unaltered. Beans and peas firm.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Fine weather has favoured the harvest since Thursday, and the new wheats offering show better condition. There has been an active trade in wheat since last Tuesday, both speculative and consumptive, and prices are fully 1s per qr dearer, the finer weather to-day slightly checking demand. Shipments continue moderate, offers for shipment scarce, and at limits quite above the level of values on this side, so that the tone remains very strong. Maize 1s per qr dearer. Beans and oats quiet. Flour has been advanced 1s per sack.—Dunns and Co.

Leeds, Friday.—With another week's favourable harvest weather, and English wheats better in quantity and quality than had been anticipated, prices showed no further advance. Foreign wheats were firm at late advances. Flour was firmly held at Tuesday's full rates. Maize had a hardening tendency, Plate making 25s 6d and Odessa 25s. Odd foreign malting barley was the turn dearer. Beans, peas, and lentils unchanged.

Leicester, Saturday.—Moderate attendance of buyers and dealers, with very small supplies of new wheats from early districts. Trade ruled steady at 33s to 35s per 36 stones. No old wheat offering. Barley a short supply, and sold freely at 27s to 30s per 32 stones; new oats a quiet trade at 19s to 21s per 24 stones. Flour advanced to 28s, 31s, and 33s per 280 lb.

Lincoln, Friday.—Although the week has been so favourable for harvesting, few samples of English wheat came to hand, but these were in tolerably good condition as a rule, and made up to 34s per qr delivered. A few samples of barley were offered, but maltsters are not yet buying, and prices cannot be fixed. Oats firm, 18s to 19s 6d per qr. No beans showing.

Manchester, Thursday.—Attendance was comparatively small; finer weather has checked buying to some extent. English wheat offering at full rates, quality and yield better than expected; foreign easier. Flour unchanged. Indian corn easier, not obtaining the advances noted during the week. Beans and peas firm, English registering rather higher prices. Oats in smaller demand, and, if anything, lower. Bran and offals firm and scarce.

Newark, Wednesday.—A small attendance, farmers being busy with the harvest. A few samples of new grain showing; old corn firm; new easier to buy. Old wheat, 37s to 38s; new wheat, 33s to 34s. Malting barley, 29s to 30s; grinding, 26s to 27s. Old oats, 24s to 25s; new oats, 18s to 19s. Old beans, 35s to 36s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday. — Only a moderate demand for wheat at our market to-day at last Saturday's quotations. Meantime all qualities are very firm at fully 6d per qr advance on the week; a steady trade for fine old oats at fully late quotations. New qualities slightly in favour of the buyers. Beans and peas are scarce, and consequently dearer. No barley on offer.—Pollard and Co.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was an average attendance. Business was brisk, and prices were firm. Round and flat maize was 6d per qr dearer; barley 1s dearer; beans, 6d advance; flour, fines, 29s per sack.

Northampton, Saturday.—Meagre supply of new corn and also small attendance of farmers. Prices still remain firm and almost unchanged from last week:—Wheat, 34s to 35s; barley, 28s to 30s; white oats, 23s to 24s; black oats, 23s 6d to 24s 6d; beans, 31s to 33s; peas, 30s to 32s; flour, 28s to 32s. New: Wheat, 30s to 32s; barley, 25s to 30s; oats, 18s to 20s.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was a fair attendance at the market, but not much wheat on offer. The quality still varies considerably, prices for best quality delivered being 32s and 33s per qr. Owing to the harvest there is a very quiet demand for feeding stuffs, but prices remain firm.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Small show of new corn, with a fair demand at last week's prices. New wheat, 33s 6d to 34s; oats, 18s 6d to 20s; barley, 26s to 28s.—Robt. Hubble.

Peterborough, Saturday.—We have had a perfect week for harvest work, and great progress has been made. Only a fair supply of wheat at market to-day, which found buyers at from 32s to 33s. Barley trade steady, making from 26s to 32s. Oats, 17s 6d to 18s 6d.—Thomas Hill and Son.

Preston, Saturday.—A fairly good business has been done during the week at slightly reduced prices. To-day's market was poorly attended, and practically nothing was offering. A few samples of new oats were forward, but no new wheat. Flour unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220 lb., 14s to 15s; ditto red, 13s 9d to 14s 6d; oats, old, per bushel, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; ditso, new, 2s 11d to 3s; oatmeal, per load, of 240 lb, 27s 6d to 28s; beans, per windle of 220 lb, 16s 6d to 17s; bran, 12s to 12s 6d.

Reading, Saturday.—The attendance was

per, farmers not having completed harvest operations. Prices:—Old wheat, 37s to 39s; new, 33s 6d to 36s; winter barley, very dry for feeding purposes, 25s to 29s; grey winter oats, 40 lb bushel, 17s 6d; Garton oats, 42 lb bushel, 19s 6d; rye, 22s to 27s; tares, 6s 3d to 7s 6d per bushel.

Retford, Saturday.—Not many samples of new grain on offer. There were, however, a few lots of new wheat, those in good condition making 32s to 33s 6d, damp and inferior 30s to 31s, and old (of which there was scarcely any offered) 37s per qr. Malting barley was quoted at 26s to 29s; new white oats, 18s to 19s; black winters, 18s to 18s 6d; old oats, 26s; maize, 27s 6d; old English beans, 36s per qr.

Ripon, Thursday.—A good attendance of farmers, but only a light trade. English wheat and maize show an upward tendency. No new samples showing. Prices:—Wheat, 36s to 37s; ditto foreign, 38s to 41s; barley, grinding, 27s to 28s; oats, 24s to 26s; maize, round, 27s to 27s 6d; ditto, flat, 27s to 28s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—There was little new corn on the market, farmers taking advantage of the fine weather. Foreign wheats were quoted at 1s more than last Tuesday's prices. Maize, both flat and round, is quoted at 9d per qr advance. Prices of beans, oats, and barley respeated. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 37s to 37s 6d; ditto red, new, 37s to 37s 6d per 504 lb; oats, black, 24s to 25s; ditto white, 24s 6d to 25s per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 34s to 34s 6d; ditto blue, 75s to 90s per 504 lb; beans, English, 36s 9d to 37s per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 27s 6d to 28s; ditto malting, 28s to 32s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 26s 9d to 27s; ditto Plate, 26s 9d to 27s; ditto flat, 29s to 29s 6d per 480 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—Business was brisker, supplies of new corn being available. A good quantity of new wheat was offered at 32s to 32s 6d per qr. The supply of new barley was scarcely sufficient to adequately test values. White oats, 18s to 18s 6d; black winter oats, 18s per qr. Few peas and beans were offered.

Stockton, Wednesday. — There was no local wheat showing. Owing to the brilliant weather the demand for foreign wheat is quiet, and there was no change in price on the week. Maize 1s dearer on the week. Oats 6d higher.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday. — New white wheat, 34s to 35s; new red ditto, 33s to 33s 6d; old white ditto, 32s to 33s; old red ditto, 31s to 32s; barley, 25s to 32s; grinding ditto, 23s to 25s; oats, English, 18s to 24s; rye, 24s to 25s; peas, 32s to 37s; beans, 32s to 37s; tares, 42s to 48s; maize, 24s to 27s.

Wisbech, Saturday.—After a week of brilliant harvest weather we have a fair sprinkling of samples of the new crop offering, mostly in good condition. Wheat varies in quality. Best dry lots make 33s to 34s; secondary, 31s to 32s per 504 lb. Oats 18s to 18s 6d per 336 lb. Barley, 25s to 28s per 448 lb.—James Fletcher.

York, Saturday.—Old grain is exhausted, and as farmers are busy harvesting, very few samples of the new crop were on offer. Dry lots made 33s to 34s per qr of 36 stones. A few samples of new barley on sale at from 28s to 30s per qr of 32 stones; feeding sorts, 25s to 27s; new white, 19s to 20s; black, 18s to 19s per qr. of 24 stones. New rye, 25s to 26s; old beans, 33s to 34s per qr of 36 stones.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Liverpool, Friday.—Fertilisers are without change. For feeding stuffs there is a good inquiry at the late advance, and the market is firm and tends upwards.

	Per ton. £ s d	£ s d
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (good but hard)	7 2 6	7 7 6
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime (soft)	7 15 0	7 17 6
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime	4 15 0	5 0 0
Cottonseed, crushed, 20 per cent. oil guaranteed, scarce	8 15 0	—
Linseed Cake, American, thin oblong, prime but hard	7 10 0	7 12 6
,, ,, English, prime	7 17 6	8 0 0
,, ,, Foreign, round	7 12 6	7 15 0
Palm Nut Cake	6 5 0	—
Corn Oil Cake	—	—
Maize Germ Meal	6 10 6	6 12 6
Indian Meal, coarse to fine grinding	Per 240 lb. —	—
Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported	Per ton. 5 15 0	—
Linseed, fine bold feeding	Per qr., 416 lb. —	—
Cod-liver Oil, cattle feeding	Per Gallon. 0 4 0	—
Treacle, feeding, American	Per Cwt. 0 4 9	—

	Per ton.	
Nitrate of Soda	11 15 0	—
Kainit, prime	2 7 6	2 8 9
Bone Meal, prime	5 10 0	—
Bone Ash, fine and powdery	3 15 0	—
Basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed	1 14 0	1 15 0
,, ,, ,,	2 2 0	2 3 0
,, finest ,, ,,	2 6 0	2 7 6
D.N.S. Superphosphate of Lime*	2 5 0	2 7 0
Brand ,, ,, guaranteed*	2 10 0	2 12 0
,, ,, ,, *	3 1 3	3 3 3

* At depot inland.

—H. Jones Langar and Co.

Mark Lane, Monday. — Linseed Cake. — There is a continued absence of any consumptive demand, probably owing to the fact that farmers are still busy harvesting; at the same time country dealers in anticipation of higher rates, are more inclined to go into stocks, while in forward positions a substantial advance is demanded. Russians sell quietly at last Monday's prices. East India seed pures remain scarce and relatively dear. Fine seedy Calcuttas are fully 5s per ton higher on the week. London made pures command rather more attention and have a further hardening tendency. Cotton Cake. —The market is practically bare of stocks of Egyptian, but for early arrival there are sellers at £4 18s 9d to £5, while English are firm but without change, as also are Bombays. Decorticated London made pures are in good request at 2s 6d advance, but American brands of cake and meal continue a dragging trade. Rape Cakes do not offer. Maize Germ Meal.—White American is not available at the Moment, and English is quoted at prohibitive prices. Maize Gluten Meal finds a ready sale. Rice Meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon have now all been cleared, and shippers ask £5 5s. ex ship terms for steamer parcels to come along. Locust Beans are without alteration. Dried Brewers' Grains make full prices both for mixed ale and porter and ale. Nitrate of Soda is dull of sale and slightly easier forward.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
Linseed Cakes.		
Russian, in mats (ex dock)	7 5 0 to	7 7 6
,, in bags	7 8 9 to	7 10 0
East India	7 7 6 to	7 10 0
Calcutta	7 10 0	
London Made	7 12 6 to	7 15 0
Cottonseed Cakes.		
Egyptian (to arrive)	4 18 9 to	5 0 0
English (ex mill)	5 0 0 to	5 2 6
Bombay	4 5 0	
Decorticated, London made	7 2 6 to	7 5 0
,, American	6 17 6 to	7 0 0
,, Meal, American	6 15 0 to	7 0 0
,, Meal, English	7 2 6 to	7 5 0
Special Digestive Meal	5 0 0	
Maize.		
American	—	
English	6 7 6 to	6 10 0
Maize Gluten Meal	6 10 0	
Ricemeal.		
Rangoon ex ship	5 5 0	
,, ex whf.	—	
Locust Beans.		
Whole	5 10 0	
Kibbled	5 17 6	
Dried Brewers' Grains.		
Ale	5 0 0	
Mixed	4 15 0	
Manures.		
Nitrate of soda	11 2 6	

—Pinnock Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake: With the seed market strengthening and shortage of foreign supplies, home prices have advanced prices another 2s. 6d. to 5s. per ton.

Cotton Cake: There are hardly any stocks of Egyptian made remaining, and English are selling at 1s 3d to 2s 6d more money on the week.

Linseed: The market closes, steady with a fair trade doing in the feeding sorts.

English Linseed Cake, ex mill	7 12 6	to 7 15 0	
Calcutta Linseed cake, ex quay	7 12 6	—	
Russian Oil Cake ex quay	7 7 6	to 7 10 0	
Decorticated Cotton Cake ex quay	7 0 0	to 7 5 0	
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal ex quay	6 15 0	to 7 0 0	
London-made ,, Cake (best) ex mill	5 2 6	—	
Egyptian ,, Cake (in bags) ex quay	5 0 0	—	
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included) on rail, Burton	4 15 0	—	
Duluth Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb ex warehouse	2 6 0	—	
Calcutta Linseed (in bags), per 410 lb ex warehouse	2 5 0	—	
La Plata Linseed per 416 lb. ex warehouse	2 5 0	—	
Russian Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb ex warehouse	—	—	

—Robt. & John Hewetson

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Trade generally brisk, with ample supplies on offer. Quotations for English produce:—Apples, 2s 6d to 10s per bushel; pears (English hazels), 3s to 4s; ditto (Bergamots), 4s to 5s per bushel; ditto (Williams), 2s to 4s per half bushel; peaches, 3s to 15s per dozen; green figs, 1s to 3s; nectarines, 2s 6d to 12s per dozen; pineapples, 2s 6d to 4s each; melons, 9d to 2s; grapes, 6d to 3s; plums, 1s to 1s 9d; damsons, 1s to 1s 6d per half sieve; tomatoes, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; cobnuts, 3s to 4s; filberts, 2s 6d to 3s per 12 lb; horseradish, 12s to 15s per dozen bundles; cucumbers, 4s to 5s 6d per flat; endive, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per dozen; cos lettuce, 6d to 8d per score; cauliflowers, 4s to 5s 6d; marrows, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; cabbages, 2s 6d to 3s per tally; onions, 1s to 1s 6d per dozen bunches; green peas, 2s to 4s; scarlet runners, 1s 6d to 2s per bushel; mint, 1s to 1s 3d; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; turnips, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; carrots, 1s 6d to 2s; beetroots, 1s 6d per dozen bunches; mushrooms, 8s to 12s per 12 lb; celery, 8d to 1s per bundle; potatoes, 60s to 75s per ton.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Fairly good supply and demand. Prices: Surrey fowls, 3s to 3s 6d; Sussex fowls, 2s 6d to 3s; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Essex fowls, 2s to 2s 6d; Irish fowls, 1s 4d to 1s 9d; geese, 5s to 6s 6d; country ducks, 2s to 2s 9d; Aylesbury ducks, 2s to 2s 6d; wild ducks, 1s 2d to 1s 4d; quails, 8d to 1s; feathered pigeons, 8d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s 1d; English hares, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; Scottish hares, 1s 4d to 1s 6d; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 6d; wild rabbits, 6d to 9d; live hens, 1s 9d to 2s each; Australian rabbits, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per doz; young partridges, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; old, 2s to 2s 3d; young grouse, 5s to 6s; old, 2s 4d; black game, 3s per brace.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter.—The demand for Colonial butter has improved, and prices have advanced from 1s to 2s per cwt. on the week. Arrivals have, however, been small. Foreign butter is meeting a better demand, but supplies have been small for the last month, and prices are about 10s per cwt. below those of last year. The official quotation of Danish was yesterday raised 4s 6d per cwt, but French and Russian remain unchanged. Cheese.—Demand continues to be on a scale to meet only present requirements, and no speculative element can be detected. Prices on spot are firm, and c.i.f. quotations from Canada are higher. Appearances indicate that for the present it will strain the position to force values any higher.—W. Weddel and Co.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There were moderate arrivals of home cheese. The demand was fair at last week's prices. Buyers were not responding to the extreme prices asked for some lots. Cheddars, 58s to 62s per cwt; Dunlops, 56s to 60s; Canadian parcels firmer, with a moderate trade passing from 59s to 60s.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—There were 35 tons of cheese pitched and all was cleared, there being a brisk sale. Best Caerphilly dairies realised up to 58s per cwt.; secondary dairies, 54s to 56s 6d; and other dairies, 49s to 52s. A few inferior lots failed to reach 45s. Cheddars, 54s to 57s 6d; truckles, 53s to 56s 6d; doubles, 50s to 51s 6d.

Newport, Wednesday.—About 10 tons were pitched. There was a good attendance and a fair demand. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 45s to 56s per cwt; fancy dairies, 57s to 60s; Derbys, 59s to 60s; truckles, 50s to 60s; singles, 59s to 60s; Cheddars, 56s to 58s.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £14 10s to £15; half-bred hoggs, £13 to £13 10s; ditto wethers, £12 10s to £13; Kent fleeces, £12 5s to £12 10s; South Down ewes and wethers, £13 10s to £14; Leicester ewes and wethers, £12 to £12 10s. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., scoured super., 2s 2d to 2s 3d; scoured, good, 1s 11½d to 2s 1d; scoured, average, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 9½d to 1s 10½d; greasy, average, 1s to 1s 1d; S. Aus., greasy, average, 10d to 11d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; greasy, average, 11d to 11½d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9½d to 1s 10½d; fleece, average, 9½d to 10½d; greasy, average, 8½d to 9½d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5½d to 1s 6½d; greasy average, 8½d to 9d. Crossbreds—grs.—Vic., good to super., 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d; New Zealand fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s to 1s 1d coarse, 10d to 11d.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 P.M.

English wheat to-day is in good request, many of the new samples being much more dry than had been anticipated. The quality is fair, not up to that of a year ago, but at the same time not nearly so inferior as in later August had been apprehended. Foreign wheat is very dear, and importers are making a handsome profit.

Millers must have a proportion of dry foreign rich in gluten to mix with new English, and the firms which have had the foresight enabling them to meet this need are reaping their just reward. Barley favours buyers of cheap feeding sorts; in other types scarcely any business is yet doing.

Oats are in good supply of new English, which are a better average sample than had been looked for. Foreign oats are steady, but do not sell as freely as the English. Maize is still dear, and beans and peas are inclined to be a little dearer on the week. Buckwheat sells well.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

September 16.

WHEAT, New White.....(per 504 lb.)	33	— 35
Old ,, ... ,,	37	— 38
New Red..... ,,	32	— 34
Old ,, ... ,,	36	— 37
BARLEY, Malting .....(per 448 lb.)	34	— 36
Brewing ..... ,,	31	— 33
Distilling .....(per 416 lb.)	28	— 29
New Winter ... (per 400 lb.)	25	— 28
Feeding.....(per 400 lb.)	24	— 25
MALT, Pale .....(per 336 lb.)	34	— 36
Brown ..... ,,	27	— 29
Black ..... ,,	29	— 30
OATS, Good Old ..... ,,	21	— 23
Good New..... ,,	19	— 20
New Winter ..... ,,	18	— 19
Ordinary Old ...(per 320 lb.)	20	— 21
RYE, New .....(per 480 lb.)	26	— 28
BEANS, Pigeon .....(per 532 lb.)	42	— 44
Tick .....(per 504 lb.)	34	— 35
Winter ..... ,,	32	— 33
Spring ..... ,,	31	— 32
Split Mazagan .....(per 320 lb.)	21	— 22
PEAS, Picked Marrowfat, New (per 504 lb.)	88	— 96
Unpicked (Old) ..... ,,	52	— 56
Maple (Old)..... ,,	36	— 37
(New) ..... ,,	34	— 35
Dun (Old)..... ,,	32	— 34
(New) ..... ,,	31	— 33
BUCKWHEAT ..... (per 416 lb)	36	— 37

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba	39	— 40	American	25	— 26
Red Winter ...	37	— 38	Argentine	25	— 26
Best Spring ...	39	— 40	Roumanian ...	25	— 26
Durum	34	— 35	Russian	25	— 26
Argentine	38	— 39	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Australian ...	38	— 39	Smyrna	34	— 35
Californian ...	38	— 39	New Zealand...	32	— 33
Walla Walla	37	— 38	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Azima	37	— 38	Hungarian	62	— 64
Ghirka	36	— 37	Burmese	38	— 40
Roumanian ...	36	— 37	Chilian	56	— 64
Indian White	37	— 38	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb):		
,, Red ...	36	— 37	French	37	— 39
Turkish	35	— 36	Russian	33	— 37
Persian	35	— 36	Canadian	36	— 38
BARLEY:			PEAS (504 lb.):		
C'lifor'n(448 lb)	31	— 32	Dutch Crowns	55	— 57
Tunisian(448 lb)	30	— 31	Konigsberg ...	44	— 46
Algerian (448 lb)	29	— 30	Russian White	35	— 36
Ouchak (448 lb)	28	— 32	Indian White.	35	— 36
Smyrna (448 lb)	26	— 30	CanadianWhite	35	— 36
Russian (400 lb)	24	— 25	NewZeal'dMaple	39	— 40
Indian(400 lb)...	23	— 24	Victoria Dun.	32	— 33
Persian (400 lb)	22	— 23	MILLET (416 lb.):		
MALT (336 lb.):			White	42	— 44
Californian ...	34	— 85	Yellow	22	— 24
Smyrna	33	— 36	Sorghum	20	— 21
Ouchak	33	— 36	RICE (cwt.):		
RYE (480 lb.):			Java	16	— 22
Russian	None.		Indian	17	— 20
OATS:			Japanese	16	— 17
Konigsbg(320 lb)	21	— 22	Burmese.....	10	— 11
Russian (304 lb)	18	—18/3	Siamese	8	— 9
Canadian(320 lb)	20	— 21	DARI (480 lb.):		
Arg'tine(304 lb)	17/9	— 18	Smyrna	27	— 28
Swedish (320 lb)	21	— 22	Indian	23	— 24
NewZ'l'n'd(384 lb)	25	—26	Persian	22	— 23

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED FIRMLY FOR OATS. OTHER STAPLES NOT ALTERED FROM PREVIOUS REPORT.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 P.M.

The rise of 2s. per sack on top-price flour was justified by the dearness of Hungarian and Town Whites. Nevertheless 34s. for best London flour against 29s. a year ago is bound to attract attention, and bakers are resisting millers' demands with some spirit. This, the prolongation of the holidays and fine weather, with its reduction of retail demand, enables them to do for the time being, but with very little foreign flour on passage, the home millers are in the enjoyment of an intrinsically strong position. Household flour has settled down into a big non-speculative business at 28s. cash. Country flour is not in much request pending deliveries of the new wheat crop. American flour is 1s. dearer on the week, and French is also dearer. Hungarian is so high already that further advance was not to be thought of. Milling offals are not quite so dear as they were a week ago, but they are still a great deal higher than suits either live stock breeders or owners of poultry.

London Flour.

September 16.

Top Price.....(per sack of 280 lb.)	34/0	
Town Whites ..... ,,	31/0	
,, Households ..... ,,	28/0	
No. 2..... ,,	26/0	
Whole Meal No. 1..... ,,	25/0	
,, No. 2..... ,,	23/0	
Country Flour.	s.	s.
Fine Patents .....(per sack of 280 lb.)	26	— 28
Roller Whites ..... ,,	25	— 26
All English..... ,,	25	— 26
Stone made ..... ,,	24	— 25
Foreign Flour.	s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents (per s'ck of 280 lb.)	30	— 31
,, Second Patents ..... ,,	28	— 29
,, First Bakers' ..... ,,	25	— 26
,, Second Bakers' ..... ,,	24	— 25
Milwaukee Patents ..... ,,	29	— 30
,, Bakers'..... ,,	26	— 27
Canadian Best..... ,,	29	— 30
,, Ordinary ..... ,,	27	— 28
Manitoba Patents ..... ,,	29	— 30
,, Ordinary ..... ,,	27	— 28
Kansas Patents ..... ,,	27	— 28
,, Ordinary..... ,,	25	— 26
Californian ..... ,,	28	— 29
Hungarian ..... ,,	35	— 36
Belgian ..... ,,	31	— 33
French, Corbeil ..... ,,	27	— 28
,, Renaux..... ,,	26	— 27
,, P.S.D. ..... ,,	25	— 26
Meal, &c.		
Bran, London Broad (per sack of 280 lb.)	15	— 16
,, Country Flake Choice ... ,,	16	— 17
,, ,, Broad ..... ,,	15	— 16
Pollard ..... ,,	14	— 15
Biscuit Middlings ..... ,,	18	— 19
Fine Middlings ..... ,,	17	— 18
Coarse Middlings ..... ,,	16	— 17
Wheat Germ Meal..... ,,	18	— 19
Farina Firsts ..... ,,	29	— 30
,, Seconds ..... ,,	27	— 28
Barley Meal..... ,,	25	— 26
Canadian Oatmeal..... ,,	25	— 26
Scotch Oatmeal ..... ,,	30	— 33
Groats ..... ,,	32	— 33
Oat Flour..... ,,	33	— 34
Ground Oats ..... ,,	32	— 33
Poultry Meal ..... ,,	34	— 36
American Feeding Wheat Flour ,,	19	— 20
Maize Flour "Cornflour" ..... ,,	18	— 19
,, Germ Meal ..... ,,	15	— 16
,, Cones ..... ,,	18	— 19
,, Gluten Meal ..... ,,	15	— 16
Rye Flour ..... ,,	25	— 27
Rye Bran..... ,,	22	— 23
Pea Meal ..... ,,	24	— 25

TERM MARKET.

A week of some speculative excitement closed quietly. To-day the futures market opens with the following calls, all prices being, as usual, per cental (100 lb.), and no article being quoted except where 1,000 centals have been sold.

Red, American, 7s. 9d., per cental, Oct and Nov. delivery.

,, ,, 7s. 10d. ,, Dec. ,,

,, ,, 7s. 11d. ,, 1908 ,,

Mixed American maize, 5s 7d. per cental. Oct. and Nov. delivery.

There is no speculative offering of new American maize as yet. The crop is secured in October, but is not ripe to ship until later December.

THE BALTIC.

Monday, 1 P.M.

State of Trade.

Cargoes of wheat, maize, oats, and linseed, open in sellers' favour, while with respect to cargoes of barley and cottonseed the reverse is the case. Cargoes of rapeseed, beans, peas, and bart, are firm. "Parcels" of foreign oilcakes are dearer.

Business Done.

Wheat.—Argentine, 38s 9d per 480 lb, on passage; Blue Stem, 39s per 500 lb, on passage; Australian, 38s 6d per 480 lb, on passage; Western Red Winter, 37s per 480 lb, October shipment; White Karachi, 38s per 492 lb, October shipment; Red Karachi, 37s 6d per 492 lb, October shipment; Best Manitoba, 39s per 480 lb, October shipment; Best Russian, 41s 6d per 592 lb, October shipment.

Barley.—Odessa, 22s 6d per 400 lb, October shipment; Karachi, 23s 6d per 400 lb, October shipment.

Oats.—Riga 16s 6d per 304 lb, October shipment; Soueh Russian, 16s 9d per 304 lb, October shipmen.

Maize.—Galatz, 26s 6d per 480 lb, October shipment; Argentine, 25s 6d per 480 lb, October shipment; American, 25s 9d per 480 lb, October shipment; Bessarabian, 26s 3d per 480 lb, October shipment.

Linseed.—Argentine, 43s 6d per 416 lb, arrived Duluth, 43s 9d per 416 lb, November shipment.

Rapeseed.—Jamba, 42s per 416 lb, October shipment; Ferozepore, 53s per 416 lb, February shipment.

Cottoneed.—Egyptian, £8 per 2,240 lb, arrived Bombay, £5 17s 6d per 2,240 lb, February shipment.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

Flour.—The market during the week continued strong, and yesterday local millers advanced prices 6d per sack. Grain.—American corn is very scarce. Maize is plentiful, but held for full prices. Foreign oats quiet. New English oats are offered at lower prices. Beans 1s per boll dearer. Pease steady. Oatmeal unchanged. Oilcake in sellers' favour. Mill Stuffs.—Mills are behind with orders for thirds. Bran, good demand. Winter wheat patents, 28s 6d to 29s per 280 lb; spring wheat patents, 29s to 30s per 280 lb; American corn, 15s 10½d to 16s per 280 lb; round corn, 15s 4½d to 15s 6d per 280 lb; grinding beans, 8s 9d to 19s per 280 lb; white pease, 19s to 20s per 280 lb; broad bran, 112s 6d per ton; medium bran, 105s to 107s 6d per ton; fine thirds, 135s per ton; common thirds, 112s 6d per ton; American oilcake, 147s 6d to 150s per ton.—McKinnon and McDonald (Glasgow).

Offals.—Bran continues in good demand, and prices decidedly firmer. — Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Flour.—The demand has been rather quieter during the past few days, and in some instances there has been a slight decline in prices.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Milling Offal.—All offal continues to remain firm; last week's prices still obtainable. Deliveries from mill still very slow.—John Bawcomb and Co.

Flour.—Trade to-day has been quiet, but firm, and prices show no change since this day week.—F. L. Medill and Sons, Ltd.

Our market is steady for wheat. English is in better supply and improved condition, and arrivals of foreign are moderate. Manitobas are 3d to 6d higher. Flour firm and unchanged. Oats are firm and 6d up on the week. Maize and barley unchanged.—Coventry and Sheppard.

HOPS.

Worcester, Saturday.—There was an increased attendance of growers offering hops, but the business done was very small, both growers and merchants preferring to wait for the fair next Thursday. Most of the samples shown were "earlies," but there were some choice lots of Bramblings and Fuggles. These last were held for high figures, but commoner sorts were in little request. The cold nights and hot sun have caused some of the hops to ripen prematurely and lose colour.—Charles Faram and Co.

Borough, Monday.—The week opens with a considerable enquiry for the new English growth, the market is now supplied with a good selection of the new crop from all districts, and the better class hops that are now coming to hand show in most instances grand quality. From all parts we hear that the crop is coming down considerably less than the most conservative estimates, in some cases as much as 33 per cent. less than what they were put at by experts three weeks since.—W. H. and H. Le May.

English Wheat, Barley & Oats in 1906.

	Wheat.	Barley	Oats.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Highest of Year.....	30 4	25 4	20 4
Lowest of Year	26 1	23 1	16 2
Gradient	4 3	2 3	4 2
Mean of Year	28 4	24 3	18 7

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply; trade quiet. Quotations:—Old hay, £4 2s 6d per ton; new hay, £3 7s 6d per ton; straw, no quotations.

Derby, Friday.—Quotations:—Best old clover, 90s to 100s; new ditto, 80s to 90s; best old hay, 90s to 100s; new ditto, 80s to 90s; second ditto, 65s to 70s; wheat straw, 60s to 70s; pressed ditto, 55s to 60s; chop ditto, 55s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s.

Halifax, Saturday.—The market, though still not very active, is exhibiting a better tone, while values are either still very firm or further advancing.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Hay and straw met a very slack trade, with a slightly lower tendency in values. New straw from 20s to 31s per ton, old straw from 25s to 35s; new hay from 40s to 50s per ton in stack, old hay from 50s to 60s. in stack.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Meadow hay, 6d; clover, 6½d; wheat straw, 4d; oat straw, 4d per stone.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The supply of old is diminishing, and prices rule firm. New hay is coming on the market in variable condition Quotations:—Old clover hay, 7½d; ditto meadow hay, 7d; wheat straw, 5d; oat straw, 5d; and rye-straw (retail), 7d to 8½d per stone; green clover, 3½d per bundle.

Lincoln, Friday.—Large supplies of new hay, which made 60s; seeds 55s to 60s; straw, old, 35s per ton on the ground.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, old, 5½l; new 5l; clover, old, 7½d; new, 5½d to 6½d; straw oat, 3½d to 4½d per stone.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—There were forty-one carts of hay and seven carts of straw at market. Old land hay, £4 10s to £4 12s 6d per ton; new land hay, £5 to £5 2s 6d; this year's growth, £4 5s to £4 7s 6d; wheat straw, £1 3s to £1 5s per load; oat straw, £1 2s.

Nottingham, Wednesday.—Large supply, which met with a slow sale except for best qualities. Quotations:—Inferior to good hay, 50s to 65s; prime ditto, 75s to 85s; inferior to good clover, 60s to 70s; prime ditto, 75s to 85s; wheat straw, 45s to 55s; old hay, 90s to 100s; old seeds, 95s to 105s per ton.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—A small supply. Business was very quiet. Small attendance of farmers and dealers. Choice old seeds, £5 to £5 5s; ditto hay, £4 to £4 10s; straw, £2 15s to £3 per ton.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—A large quantity offered met slow support at recent rates:—Best clover, 84s to 95s; inferior, 72s to 80s; specially picked hay, 87s; good, 76s to 85s; inferior, 65s to 70s; mixture and sainfoin, 77s 6d to 87s 6d; straw, 28s to 34s per load.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—A fair supply was in quiet request. Early Puritans, 70s to 75s; Epicures, 60s to 65s; silts, 65s to 70s; Blacklands, 60s per ton.

Berwick, Saturday.—Few potatoes are yet being lifted, but those put forward are selling satisfactorily 65s per ton.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Fair supply and a good sale at 7d to 8d per stone.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Only a moderate supply, but a good demand, and prices firm at 3s 6d to 3s 9d per cwt

Lancaster, Saturday.—Good supply but a dead trade. Wholesale, 11s per load; retail, 10d per stone.

Malton, Saturday.—Potatoes in good supply. Trade mainly retail at 6d per stone.

Manchester, Saturday.—Potatoes: Cheshire, 8s 6d to 9s 6d; Bedford, 4s to 5s 6d; Norfolk, 4s to 5s 6d per cwt.

Preston, Saturday.—Potatoes, 10s 6d to 11s per load, an increase of 1s per load on the week.

Retford, Saturday.—Potato market was well supplied, and best lots of home-grown made 7s to 7s 6d per load.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—A good demand prevailed for the small offerings. Sharp's Express, 70s to 75s; Epicures, 70s; and Blacklands, 65s to 70s.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Potatoes £4 to £4 5s per ton.

Whitby, Saturday.—Potatoes, 1s per stone.

York, Saturday.—Supply was comparatively small, but a steady trade was done at 57s 6d to 62s 6d per ton.

Seven Years' Tithe Rent Charges.

For 1907	£68	19	6
,, 1906	68	12	1
,, 1905	69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
1901	66	10	9

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Sept. 16, 1907. British.	Total.	Monday, Sept. 17, 1906.
Beasts	970	970	1,080
Sheep and Lambs	4,840	4,840	5,310
Calves	10	10	10
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	40	40	60

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.	Inferior.	Second.	First.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beasts	2 10	3 10	4 10
Sheep	3 10	5 4	6 2
Lambs	4 10	5 6	6 8
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22 10s.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 60; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 781; Devon, 25; Ireland, 104.

We note to-day a decrease of 40 head in the number of beasts offered for sale compared with Monday last. Trade for both prime and second quality cattle ruled of a slightly firmer nature, occasionally an advance of 2d. per 8 lb. being both asked and obtained. The Irish arrivals consisted of 59 Dublins and 88 Waterfords, the former of which were quoted at 1d. per 8 lb. higher. No store cattle were included in the arrivals from that country. Fat cows and bulls met with a limited country demand, late rates governing all transactions. A clearance is not expected to be made in this part of the market to-day.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Monday, Sept. 17, 1906.
	s d	s d
Scotch	—	4 4 to 4 6
Devons	4 8 to 4 10	4 4 to 4 6
Herefords	4 6 ex 4 8	4 2 to 4 4
Norfolks	—	—
Runts	4 2 to 4 4	4 0 to 4 2
Lincolns	3 10 to 4 0	3 8 to 3 10
Irish	4 2 to 4 4	—
Canadian	—	—
Fat cows	3 4 to 3 6	3 4 to 3 6

There was an increase of 110in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. For all descriptions of both wethers and ewes, trade opened and continued throughout the day of a brisker nature, sellers both asking and obtaining in most cases an advance of 2d per 8 lb. on late currencies. Irish and Scotch sheep were in larger numbers, for which late values governed all transactions. Lambs were slow of sale throughout the day at last Monday's prices. The supply included 300 Scotch, 1,021 Irish, and 212 from the Eastern Counties. A clearance is expected to be made.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	Monday, Sept. 17, 1906.
	s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.
7½ to 8 st Downs	6 0 to 6 2	6 0 to 6 2
9 st. Downs	5 10 to 6 0	5 8 to 5 10
10 st Halfbreds	5 6 to 5 8	5 6 to 5 8
10 st Yorkshires	—	—
12st Lincolns	—	—
10 st Irish	5 4 to 5 6	5 2 to 5 4
10 st Down Ewes	4 2 to 4 4	4 4 to 4 6
11 st Halfbred ditto	4 0 to 4 2	4 2 to 4 4
5 st Down Lambs	6 6 to 6 8	6 10 to 7 0
6 st Halfbreds ditto	6 2 to 6 4	5 10 to 6 0

Calf trade not worth noting or quoting.

No pigs on the market.

London (Central), Monday.—Trade slow for moderate consignments. Beef, English, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; Scotch, 4s to 4s 8d; American, 3s 4d to 3s 7d: refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 8d to 4s 2d. Mutton, English wethers, 4s to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Lambs, 4s 8d to 5s; Scotch tegs and wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d. Pork, 3s 8d to 4s 2d per stone.

St Ives (Hunts) Monday.—Beasts, 186; sheep and lambs, 1,922; pigs, 496. Fat and store cattle fair; fat and store sheep in good demand; fat and store pigs a good trade. Prices: Beef, 7s 6d to 8s 6d; mutton, 8s 2d to 10s 6d; pork, 6s 9d to 7s 3d; milch cows, £14 to £21.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts 1,035. To-day's supply consisted of 617 from the United States and 418 from Canada. Trade ruled of a slow nature, with a slight downward tendency in regard to value for the former. Besides the above, 600 Canadians were withheld from sale. The best States were quoted at from 4s 3d to 4s 4d ex 4s 5d; seconds, 4s 1d to 4s 3d; Canadians, 4s to 4s 2d; seconds, 3s 10d to 4s per 8 lb. (offal given in). On Saturday 1,474 beasts from the United States and 326 from Canada were offered for sale. Trade ruled of a slow nature at from 4s 3d to 4s 5d per 8 lb for the former, and 4s to 4s 2d for the latter.

Liverpool, Monday.—Supply of cattle slightly larger. Demand good, but prices reduced except for very best qualities. Sheep and lambs were shown in smaller numbers. Trade of firmer tone for nice quality of both, though prices were quotably little altered. Beef, 6½d to 5½d; mutton, 8½d to 6d; lamb, 8½d to 7d per lb.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, September 16.—Linseed, despite large arrivals, is 1s dearer; but cottonseed is rather lower on the week.

	s.	s.
Linseed. per 416 lb.		
English	None.	
Bombay	None.	
Calcutta	45 to 47	
Russian 98°/₀	47 to 49	
,, Ordin'y	44 to 45	
Argentine recle'd	48 to 50	
Argentine cleand	46 to 47	
,, F.A.Q.	44 to 45	
Argentine comn.	42 to 43	
Dutch best	51 to 52	
,, medium	46 to 49	
Turkish	45 to 47	
Duluth	43 to 45	
Canadian	44 to 46	
Morocco	49 to 51	
Rapeseed. per 416 lb.		
English, Old	90 to 95	
New	70 to 75	
French F.A.Q.	64 to 66	
Yellow Guzerat		58 to 60
Yellow Cawnpre		54 to 55
Brown ,,		53 to 54
Ferozepore		53 to 54
Rubsen. per 424 lb		
German		71 to 75
Poppyseed. per 377 lb.		
Indian		59 to 60
Cottonseed. per ton.		
Egyptian		163 to 164
Indian		142 to 144
Brazilian		140 to 145
Sunflowerseed per cwt.		
English, White		15 to 16
Russian, White.		14 to 15
,, Black.		13 to 14
Sesame. per 384 lb.		
Indian		58 to 59
Hempseed. per 336 lb.		
Russian		40 to 42

SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—There is little demand for trifolium; prices unchanged. Rape very firm; though high in price. Mustard now coming out s fine samples, big yield. Rye, good inquiry, price firm. Winter tares moving freely, prices favouring buyers. Peas open high; few parcels on offer yet; acreage large. New English trefoils offering find buyers; prices unchanged. In grasses, both Italian and Perennials higher.—John Picard and Co.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were:—From Ireland, 2,075 bales, and from foreign ports, 14,966 bales. The bacon market closed slightly steadier, with Quotations ranging:—Irish, 58s to 62s up to 66s; Danish, 56s to 60s up to 64s; Canadian, 54s to 56s up to 60s. Butter: Butter was a steady market. French, 92s to 100s; Danish, 113s to 116s; Russian, 89s to 98s; Irish, 88s to 107s; Victorian, 86s to 98s; New South Wales, 86s to 93s; Queensland, 86s to 100s; New Zealand, 96s to 108s. Lard.—Lard was a quiet steady market. Irish, 50s to 53s; Danish, 48s to 52s; American, 46s to 47s.

London Flour Millers' Association.

Credit and Delivery. Official Prices.

*Cereal year commencing September 2nd, 1907.**

	London Whites.	Town Households.
	s. d.	s. d.
September 2 .. (per sack)	32 0	.. (per sack) 29 0
,, 4 .. ,,	33 0	... ,, 30 0

(No change since last date given.)

* September 1st, 1907, was a Sunday.

Yearly Averages (Official).

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1890	31 9 per qr.	28 8 per qr.	18 7 per qr.
1891	37 1 ,,	28 2 ,,	20 0 ,,
1892	30 4 ,,	26 2 ,,	19 11 ,,
1893	26 4 ,,	25 6 ,,	18 9 ,,
1894	22 10 ,,	24 6 ,,	17 1 ,,
1895	23 1 ,,	21 11 ,,	14 6 ,,
1896	26 2 ,,	22 11 ,,	14 9 ,,
1897	30 2 ,,	23 6 ,,	16 11 ,,
1898	34 0 ,,	27 2 ,,	18 5 ,,
1899	25 8 ,,	25 7 ,,	17 0 ,,
1900	26 11 ,,	25 9 ,,	17 9 ,,
1901	26 9 ,,	25 3 ,,	18 5 ,,
1902	28 0 ,,	25 8 ,,	20 2 ,,
1903	26 9 ,,	22 11 ,,	17 2 ,,
1904	28 4 ,,	22 4 ,,	16 4 ,,
1905	29 9 ,,	24 4 ,,	17 4 ,,
1906	28 4 ,,	24 3 ,,	18 7 ,,

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

For fat beasts of both prime and second quality trade was entirely confined to Monday, and for all descriptions was of an exceedingly slow nature; nevertheless, late currencies governed most transactions with regard to English cattle. Irish, on the other hand, met with a decline in value, the supply from that country consisting of 50 Dublins and 58 Waterfords. The consignments of English beasts consisted principally of grass-fed Herefords and runs from the Midland counties, with a slightly larger number of Devons, these latter commanding our top quotation. Fat butchering cows and bulls were in fair average supply, but met with a limited inquiry; last week's prices, however governed all transactions. On Thursday very few transactions were recorded; prices, however, remained the same.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, no market was held on Monday, but on Wednesday and Saturday a larger number of beasts were offered for sale than on the previous week, from both the United States and Canada, the consignment from the latter country including some Ranch cattle. The total number of beasts offered for sale at both markets was 4,000 as against 3,490 during the previous week, consisting of 1,050 British (increase 80) and 3,010 foreign, the latter comprising 2,274 from the United States and 736 from Canada, these latter including 320 Ranch cattle. The following were the top rates obtaineed per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) :—90 stone Devons, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; stone Shorthorns, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 95 stone Irish, 4s. 1d. to 4s. 3d.; 90 stone States, 4s. 3d. to 4s. 5d.; 95 stone Canadians, 4s. to 4s. 1d.; ranchers, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 10d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d 3s. 6d.

The sheep trade at Islington on both market days ruled of an exceedingly dull and dragging nature, however sellers were not willing to accept any decline on last week's values. Both Scotch and Irish descriptions shared in the poor trade, notwithstanding the supplies from the latter country being smaller; however, late currencies governed all transactions. Lambs were in fair average supply at late rates. No sheep were shown at Deptford. The total number penned at both markets was 5,390, as against 4,730 during the preceding week this showing a decrease of 820). Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (offal given in) :—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 6d to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone Halfbreds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 5 stone fat Grass lambs, 6s. 6d. to 6s. 8d.; 6 stone Half-bred ditto, 6s. 2d to 6s. 4d.

Calves numbered 20, the best on offer being quoted at from 4s. 10d. to 5s. per 8 lb. offal given in.

No pigs on the market.

Trade in the West.

The adverse character of the weather during the greater part of the past week, and the consequent serious interruptions in harvesting has, happily, up to the present, more especially as the elements have once again taken a much more propitious turn, exercised but little, if any, prejudicial effect on the price of any class of keeping stock, which in the face of the injury wrought to the harvest, is something to be really thankful for. Both cattle and sheep are now bringing an equally satifactory return, and with regard to the latter there seems every likelihood of prices hardening still further, despite the fact of a very considerable proportion of the sheep now being brought to market consisting of draft or "culled" lots. That sheep are badly wanted in many districts is becoming more and more strikingly evident at every fair or market now being held from the difficulty buyers experience in getting their demands met, and, whilst this is encouraging for flockmasters, it is scarcely so satisfactory for those who want sheep and are bound to get them. Speaking generally, at the present moment we must quote sheep quite 3s. a head dearer all round than they were at this time last year, best ewes just now making 52s. up to 68s. apiece for those of a distinct character and suitable for flock purposes, and others of a more ordinary run from 45s. or 46s. up to 50s. Chilver lambs make high prices, 38s. to 47s., and best wether lambs, 48s. to 52s. Grazing ewes sell from 34s. to 39s. each, and, there being still abundance of keep everywhere, sheep of this class are in particularly keen demand, the supply being in no way commensurate with what is wanted in any district. Store lambs are equally saleable at from 28s. (for very rough lots) to 36s. or 37s. (for better-condition drafts. Grazing cattle keep exceedingly firm in price, as is likely to be the case for some time, whilst keep prospects continue as favourable as is the case at present; and more especially as so many are now retaining their stock in hand and grazing them on their own account. The higher condition bullocks sell freely from £24 up to £30 per pair, and the plainer kinds at £15 or £16 up to £21 or £22. Milch beasts rule very firm indeed, prices during the past week being distinctly against buyers to the extent of 10s. to 20s. a head; but the advance is much more marked in the case of heifers and calves than that of cows with calves, it being the younger class of animal that is more generally wanted. Early in-calvers also sell freely from £11 up to £13 or £14; two-year-olds from £9 to £11; and yearling heifers £4 5s. to £6 5s. Calves for rearage are finding a good market up to £3 or £3 5s. each, and there is still an active sale for store pigs for turning out in the harvest field.

The fat-stock markets show but very trifling change from our last report. Beef, however, must be quoted as a distinctly better trade than mutton, the scarcity of the latter up to the present in no way enhancing its value, for, whilst 11s. 6d. to 12s. per score is readily obtainable for heifers and steers of good finish (or from £16 to £23 apiece), the best price for wethers and tegs is 8d. to 8½d., whilst ewes only bring 7d. to 7½d. (or a trifle more). Lamb, which now has generally developed into young mutton, is a much quieter trade than it was, the advent of the game season leading to a generally restricted demand; and from 9d. to 10d. must now be quoted as top value except on very special instances. Good-class veal, which is none too plentiful, commands a ready consumptive sale at 8d. to 9d. per lb. best, or 7d. to 7½d. for rougher animals. Fat pigs are still on the upward turn, best porkers realising up to 11s. 6d. score and over, and baconers 9s. 6d. to 10s. 3d. Heavier weights according to size and quality.

Trade in Ireland

Dublin market last Thursday was well supplied with stock, there being 4,364 cattle (being only sixty-six under the previous week) and 9,820 sheep (or an increase of 264 on the previous week). Trade was not satisfactory for sellers, as it was slow at lower prices, but through it all a large business was done. For best cattle from 29s. to 30s. 6d. was paid (liveweight), and in a few cases 31s. for very choice. Per head prices were considered about 10s. under the prices obtainable last week. Prices (dead-weight) per cwt. were :—Best ox and heifer beef, 50s. to 54s., and in a few cases up to 56s. for extra choice; second quality, 48s. to 50s.; inferior beef, 42s. to 46s. per cwt. There was a late finish to the market. Buyers turned up in good numbers from England and the North of Ireland. Business was tedious and dragging. The sheep trade was quiet, but with values down about 2s. per head a fairly good business was done. Best wethers, in a few cases, paid 7¾d. per lb, but most of these sold went at from 7d. to 7¼d.; ewe mutton sold at from 6½d. to 6¾d. per lb.; inferior mutton went at 5d. to 5½d. per lb., but was difficult to clear.

Lambs of prime quality were in demand for time of season. Best fat lambs were sold at 40s. to 42s. each, but other sorts could be got from 20s. to 30s. according to conditions and size. Most of the business for lamb was for North of Ireland and local requirements, these being very little inquiry for shipping. Heavy large hoggets sold at from 50s. to 60s. each, and light to medium ditto at from 36s. to 46s. each. Veal was plentiful, with a slow sale. Choice calves sold at from 7½d. to 8d. per lb.; other sorts at from 4½d. to 6d. per lb., only choice milk-fed calves brought top rate. Only a few really prime calves on market. Milch cows in good supply, and a fair trade done at late rates, best fresh cows worth from £15 to £20 each; prices for small cows varied a good deal, according to size and quality. Demand still active for choice milkers and springers, coarse cows hard to get rid of. The pig market opened exceptionally slow, in the absence of buyers who were attending country fairs. Buyers operated very cautiously, and factors, to make sales, had to reduce their prices from 2s. to 3s. a cwt. to effect sales. City pork butchers did not seem to require pigs, and bought at a good reduction—fully 3s. per cwt. Store pigs were in good request. Nice porkers made 50s. per cwt.; heavy pigs, 47s. to 49s.; and coarse heavy pigs from 36s. to 44s. per cwt. Messrs. Wilkinson and Messrs. Cuffe and Sons held large sales of store cattle in their private yards. These were well attended by buyers from England, Scotland, &c., as well as by those from country districts in Ireland. The bidding was good and well sustained, and all best lots found purchases at good prices. Mr. Gill, bullocks at £14 10s. each. Young cattle sold very well. A consignment of in-calf heifers belonging to the Earl of Howth, were also sold at from £12 5s. to £14 2s. 6d. each. Mr. Gavin Low (on the same day, Thursday) held a sale of pedigree cattle (Aberdeen-Angus and Herefords), including lots belonging to the Marquis of Waterford, Mr. R. Nash, &c.; bidding was spirited, and the auction was very successful. Lucan Earth was sold to Mr. Bland for 50 guineas; she is a three-and-a-half year old cow. Other prices ranged from 10 to 40 guineas.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—The supply of beast consisted entirely of fat cows and bulls from the South-Western Counties, trade for which ruled slow, though late rates governed all transactions. Top value: Fat cows, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 9d to 3s 2d per 8 lb. Decrease of 210 in the number penned in sheep market; trade for both wethers and ewes ruled extremely low, last Monday's currencies governing all transactions. Lamb trade also slow at rate rates. Quotations per 8 lb as follows :—7½ stone to 8 stone Down sheep, 5s 10d to 6s: 9 stone ditto, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10 stone ditto, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10 stone halfbreds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s to 4s 2d; 5 stone fat grass lambs, 6s 6d to 6s 8d; 6 stone half-bred ditto, 6s 2d to 6s 4d. Calf trade nominal. Quotations per 8 lb, sinking the offal:—Beasts, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; sheep, 4s to 6s; lambs, 4s 10d to 6s 8d. Total supply :—Beasts, 40; sheep and lambs, 660; calves, 10; milch cows, 5.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Average attendance and fair trade at recent rates for beef. Mutton a little easier; pork dearer. Bset beef made 4s 8d to 5s; cows, 3s 10d to 4s 2d; small Kent wethers, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; ewes, 3s 8d to 4s; veal, 5s to 5s 4d; roasting pigs, 3s 10d to 4s per stone.

Aylesbury, Wednesday.—The market here comprised 640 sheep and lambs, and 153 beasts. Trade was fair, and prices ruled about the same as those current last week. Wethers made to 61s, Cheviot to 44s, ewes to 57s 6d, lambs to 46s 6d, Cheviot and Welsh to 33s, heifers to £21 10s, and bullocks £22 12s 6d.

Berwick, Saturday. — Stirks made £7 to £9 15s; two-year-olds, £12 10s; Shorthorn bulls, £9.

Birmingham, Thursday. — Small supply of beasts, sheep, and pigs; trade fair for pigs, but slow for beasts and sheep. Quotations :—Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 9d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s 10d to 10s per score; cutting pigs, 10s to 10s 3d per score; sows, 8s 4d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Good supply of beef at market; trade quiet, secondary qualities up 1s at 58s. Moderate number of sheep. Prime wethers advanced ½d at 8½d. Pigs short in numbers; rates unchanged. Five hunpred store cattle, of which a number sold at late prices.

Calne, Friday.—Prices of pigs: — In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 1s. per pig extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. 10 lb to 8 sc. 10 lbs, 9s 6d per score, 8 sc. 11 lb to 9 sc. 10 lb,, 9s per score; 9 sc. 11 lb to 10 sc. 10 lb, 8s 6d Pigs outside these limits at their value.—C. and T. Harris and Co., Ltd.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There was a good offering of sheep and lambs, and trade generally showed an improvement on the previous week. Best quality breeding ewes made from 41s to 50s; superior lambs, from 32s to 36s; working lambs,

from 25s to 27s; old ewes, from 27s 6d to 39s; heifers and calves, from £12 to £15; and cows and calves, from £18 to £22 5s.

Carlisle, Saturday. — Fair Attendance of buyers, and a steady demand. The smaller cattle brought £7 10s to £9 10s; wintering beasts, to £11 10s; and heifers for short keep up to £16 10s a head.

Chester, Thursday. — A large show of all descriptions of stock, and increased attendance of buyers, with a quick demand for milking cattle. An excellent selection of sheep and lambs and a good trade was done at rather higher rates. Milch cows, £17 to £22; heifers, £10 to £15; calvers, £14 to £18; bulls, £11 to £15; heifers, £10 to £15; barrens, £10 to £13; stirks, £6 to £9; lambs, 18s to 30s; sheep, 25s to 50s each.

Chichester, Wednesday. – Good fat sheep realised fully late rates, and fat ewes advanced fully 3s per head. The demand for store lambs was not quite so brisk as it has been, although there was no alteration in prices. Prime fat cattle of handy size and weight sold readily, but secondary quality beasts and three parts fat cows met a dull sale. Fresh-calved heifers and cows with good stocks sold remarkably well at fully 20s per head more than last market day, but old cows and inferior heifers were difficult to dispose of. Quotations:—Prime Down lambs, 7s 6d to 8s 6d; prime Devon steers, 4s 8d to 5s; Shorthorn steers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; prime Southdown mutton, 6s 6d to 6s 10d; West Country ditto, 6s to 6s 6d; fat ewes, 4s 6d to 5s; veal, 4s 10d to 5s 6d; fat pigs, 3s to 4s per stone; store pigs, 15s to 24s per head.

Doncaster, Saturday.—A good show of cattle considering the time of the year, especially of milch beasts, which met with a fair demand, and made good prices. Milch beasts realised £17 to £23; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers, £11 to £16; drapes and stirks, £9 to £12; and young stores, £7 to £9 each. Large supply of sheep, though less than last week. Trade slow and prices unchanged. Lambs made 36s to 40s; Lincoln ewes, 48s to 55s; Southdown ewes, 40s to 46s; and rams, 4 guineas to 5 guineas each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—The cattle market was one of the fullest to-day we have had for some time past both as regards fat and store things, and there was a large attendance of buyers both at Messrs. Duke's and also at Messrs. Symonds and Sampson's sales. As regards the quality of the stock it is a long time since we have seen anything better, as regards either the fat bullocks or the grazing stock. With a very keen demand ruling throughout, high prices generally were realised. Barreners ranged from £22 to £30 per pair for the best; seconds, £17 to £21. Best milch beasts (heifers) sold from £16 to £20 each, and others (cows) from £11 to £15 15s; two-year-old in-calf heifers, £8 15s to £9 15s; barre yearling heifers, £6 10s. In fat bullocks there were some rare selections to choose from, steers bringing £7 10s to £22 10s, and heifers from £15 15s to £20 (or 11s 6d to 12s per score); fat cows, £13 to £17 (or 9s 6d to 10s 6d); fat bulls, £11 to £15 (or 8s 6d to 9s). Mutton is still coming out very sparingly, to-day's supply being particularly short. Best wethers sold from 46s 6d to 51s 6d (or 8d per lb), and ewes from 46s 6d to 54s (or 7½d to 8d).

Dublin, Thursday.—There was again a tendency on the part of buyers to reduce the prices of cattle, and with numbers and trade in their favour a further shrinkage in values must be recorded. Sheep a dragging trade, fancy light weights and cross-breds only maintaining late rates, wethers and ewes, owing to hot weather, not so easily placed at prices favouring buyers. Lambs unaltered in value. Cattle—Live weight (best), 29s to 31s per cwt; exceptional, 32s 6d; secondary and inferior sorts, 26s to 28s 6d per cwt. Mutton (dead weight), 6½d to 7¾d per lb.—GANLY, SONS AND CO.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Middling trade for sheep and cattle. Grey-faced sheep, to 39s; half-bred lambs, to 33s; black polled bullocks, £15 10s; polled bullocks, £15 10s; best Shorthorn cows, to £24; Irish, to £19; Ayrshires, £19 10s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Fewer cattle, and the demand for prime sorts of handy weights was good; inferior descriptions met a slow, dragging trade; top, 62s to 64s; secondary, 56s to 59s per cwt. Larger supplies of sheep and lambs, and trade slow for all classes; prime sheep met a quiet sale; while secondary moved off slowly; best mutton, 8¾d to 9d; secondary, 8d to 8¼d per lb.; lambs, 7d to 9d per lb.

Gloucester, Saturday. — Messrs. Bruton, Knowles, and Co. report their sales as follows:—Cows and calves: A large supply with good trade. Store cattle: A fair supply for which there was a better demand.

Hereford, Wednesday.—There was an ordinary supply of cattle, and trade was fairly firm for good quality beasts. Best heifer and bullock beef realised from 6½d to 6¾d per lb, not more, and cow beef about 5d to 6d. A large supply of sheep was available, but they were chiefly stores. There were few choice butchers' lots, and they sold dear, making up to 8½d to 9d per lb. Fat lambs were scarce, also fetching from 8½d to 9d per lb. The sheep trade generally was firm. A small supply of veal was on offer, the average price being from 6½d to 7d. Pork pigs a small supply, and trade was not quite so good as last week, the best went at 5½d. Bacon pigs were scarce, and the average price was 5d per lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report an average supply of fat cattle, first class qualities being scarce. There was a brisk trade throughout, well-finished yard-fed animals of medium weights making up to 9s per stone, others from 8s 6d to 7s 9d. A large entry of grazing cattle, including the first consignment of eighty north-country steers, which ranged from two years to sixteen months old, and these were well bred and in good condition. There was a fair attendance of buyers considering harvest operations, and all animals of good quality were disposed of. Secondary sorts were dull without alteration in values. Shorthhorn steers, two years old, £13 7s 6d to £12 10s; twenty months old, £11 7s 6d to £10; eighteen to sixteen months, £9 5s to £7 12s 6d; six Polled steers, two years old, £12; ten eighteen to sixteen months, £9 15s to £8; Irish calves, £5 10. Cows and heifers met a slow trade up to £17 10s for fresh calved Red Polls. Fat sheep were short and in strong demand. Half-bred shearlings, to 67s, Suffolks to 64s, Southdowns to 51s 6d. At the special sale of rams and ewes about 800 were penned. There was a large attendance of buyers, and all changed hands quickly at high prices. Lincoln ram lambs, 10 guineas to 6½ guineas; first cross ram lambs, 7 guineas to 4½ guineas; Suffolk shearling ewes, 68s to 63s 6d; full mouth, 52s 6d to 38s; Southdown shearlings, 55s to 54s 6d; two shear, 52s; three shear, 44s 6d to 41s 6d. Fat swine were short and dear.

Leicester, Saturday.—Very large consignments of home-bred stock in excellent condition; but buyers were not so well represented, and trade ruled irregular at a decline of 10s to 20s per head, many lots remaining unsold. Milch cows made £18 to £20 for choice lots; good useful cattle, £16 to £17; secondary, £14 to £15; Shorthorn bullocks, £12 10s to £15; Irish bullocks, £13 to £16. Welsh cattle, £9 to £13; heifers, £10 to £15; young stock, £6 to £8; and calves, 15s to 38s per head. Sheep were a large supply, and sold freely, breeding ewes making 50s to 58s, and lamb hoggs, 28s to 35s per head.

Lincoln, Friday.—A small consignment of horned stock, and a slow trade. Young beasts, £9 to £11; strong ditto, £12 to £14; milch cows, £16 to £21. A large number of sheep were on offer, and the demand was fair. Young ewes, 48s to 56s; gimmers, 50s to 60s; lambs, 34s to 45s each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Fat beasts in average supply, experienced late rates from 7s to 7s 9d per stone; few stores shown, and scarcely any trade, making from £6 to £12 each. Fat sheep, average show, and trade firm from 9s to 10s per stone; stores from 45s to 50s each; fat lambs about 30s to 40s; stores 30s to 35s each.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: First class, 5⅝d; seconds, 4½d to 5d; thirds, 3½d to 4d. Mutton: Firsts, 7½d; seconds, 6½d to 7d; thirds, 5½d to 6d. Veal: Firsts, 6d; seconds, 5d to 6½d; thirds, 4d to 4½d. Bacon pigs: Firsts, 5½d; seconds, 4½d to 5d; thirds, 3½d to 4d. Porket pigs: Firsts, 6½d; seconds, 5¾d to 6d; thirds, 5½d to 5¾d per lb.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Cattle were in slightly larger supply, and trade was much heavier, with prices drooping, a fall of 3d per stone being recorded for most classes. Quotations:—Prime heifers, 7s 3d to 7s 6d; second class, 7s to 7s 3d; prime steers, 7s to 7s 3d; second class, 6s 9d to 7s; coarse and inferior, 6s to 6s 6d per stone sinking the offal. Sheep and lambs were a much larger supply, and prices fell ½d to ½d per lb. Choice young sheep, 8d to 8½d; strong heavy, 7¾d to 8d; choice lambs, 8½d to 8¾d; second class, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 6d to 6¾d; rams, 5d to 6d per lb. Trade in veal was fair at 6d to 7¾d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—Good supply and fair demand. Best beef, 6½d to 6¾d per lb; seconds, 6d; wethers, 8d; ewes, 7d; lamb, 9d; veal, 8d; porker pigs, 10s 6d; large pigs, 9s 6d to 10s per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—Small show of fat cattle, trade good for all classes, small beasts making 8s 2d; large sorts, 7s 9d; and second quality animals and cows, 7s to 7s 8d per 14 lb stone. Fat sheep were a short supply, small mutton selling well at 9½d; large sorts from 8½d to 9d; and ewes, 6¾d per lb. Trade for fat pigs remained unchanged, mostly baconers being on offer, these made from 6s 3d to 6s 6d; the few porkers, 6s 9d; and sows, 5s 3d per stone. Larger show of store cattle of good quality. Trade was slow, large cattle getting sold in preference to small ones; three year-olds made from £15 to £18 10s; two-year-olds, from £11 to £14 10s; yearlings, £7 to £10; and others, £5 to £6 10s per head. The few store calves met a slightly better trade, at from 25s to 52s per head. Store sheep were principally ewes; trade slow and dear, Suffolks making 60s to 70s, and crossbreds 58s to 62s per head. Few lambs on offer, prices being 32s to 42s. Fair show of store pigs, and trade was brisk, at from 14s to 25s per head.

Nottingham, Saturday.—An average supply of stock. In-calf cows realised £18 to £20 each; in-calf heifers, £15 to £18; and calves, 25s to 45s apiece. 186 beasts, 66 calves, 74 sheep, and 9 horses offered.

Retford, Saturday. — Market only scantily supplied with store stock. Buyers were few, and trade generally inactive. Milch cows made £18 to £20; secondary qualities, £14 to £16; two-year-old steers and heifers, £10 to £12; yearlings, £6 to £8; and calves, 35s to 45s per head.

Romford, Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts; trade about the same: Best beasts, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; middling, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. Calves in average supply; trade slow, at 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Sheep in average supply; prices about the same: Best small sheep, 5s 8d to 6s; larger sheep, 5s 4d to 5s 6d per stone. Ewes in larger supply, ; trade about the same at 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. Lambs in short supply and dear, at 6s 4d to 6s 8d per stone. A few store beasts on offer; fair demand. Good supply of milch cows; trade better. Pigs in short supply; trade about the same: Small porkers, 3s 8d to 4s; large hogs, 2s 8d to 3s per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Fewer milch cattle than last week. Moderate business done. Little alteration from last week's prices. Good milch cows, £19 to £20; secondary, £15 to £16 10s.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Usual supplies of fat stock, but smaller of store cattle; moderate trade, owing to farmers being busy in the harvest. Store sheep a steady trade. Quotations:—Beef, 6½d to 7d per lb: mutton (wether), 9d to 9½d per lb; ewes, 7½d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 9d to 10d per lb; veal, 7½d to 8d per lb; porket pigs, 10s 6d to 11s per score; bacons, 9s 6d to 10s per score. Cows with calves a good supply and demand, several reaching £22 10s.

Stockton, Wednesday.—An average show of the best cattle, but with few customers trade was slow at 7s to 7s 6d per stone, whilst rougher kinds made 6s to 6s 8d. Lambs realised 9d per lb., young sheep 8½d, and ewes 6½ to 9d. There was a reduction of 3d per stone all round in pigs, small porkers selling at 7s to 7s 3d, mediums 6s 9d to 7s, sows 6s to 6s 6d.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was again a capital entry of stock, and not for many years have the cattle been coming off the grazing grounds in better condition. Buyers were not so numerous as the previous week, consequently trade was not so brisk; a practical clearance was effected. Fat cows were in slow demand. Mutton continues to sell well. Veal a slower trade. Bacon hogs and porkers in good demand. Store pigs selling well. Owing to farmers being at harvest weaning calves moved off slowly, but choice cow calves were eagerly sought after. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 110 fat beasts, 183 fat sheep, 81 fat and weaning calves, and 80 fat and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £16 to £22; fat heifers, £15 to £20; fat wethers, 51s to 60s; fat lambs, 36s to 51s; fat ewes, 40s to 56s; fat calves, £3 to £4; weaning bull calves, 20s to 50s; cow calves, 28s to 56s; bacon hogs, £3 to £5; porkers, 28s to 44s; store pigs, 16s to 28s. We would remind our readers that a large number of well-bred down calving heifers will be offered next Tuesday, and those requiring this class of stock would do well to attend the market.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance very good, and business fairly brisk. Fat bullocks, 55s. to 60s. per cwt; barreners and store bullocks, 49s to 45s; cows and calves, £10 to £15 each; rearing calves, 25s to 42s; ewes, 42s to 45s; wethers, 6½d to 7d per lb; ewes, 5d to 5½d; lambs, 7d to 7½d; large and small pigs and suckers, 9s 6d to 45s each.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Slow trade, with moderate supply. Quotations:—Beef, 5½d to 6¾d per lb; mutton, 6½ to 9d per lb; lamb, 8½d to 9½ per lb; veal, 6d to 7½d per lb.

York, Thursday.—Only a very poor trade in English grazing cattle, the bulk of the stores being Irish. Two-year-old bullocks made 7 guineas to 10 guineas, and strong three-year-olds up to £14 10s. Dairy cattle met with an advance of 10s to £1, secondary sorts remained at late rates. Best cows made £18 10s to £21; in exceptional cases up to £22 10s. A good show of English heifers, and prices remain at late rates—£13 10s to £16. Fully 12,000 sheep of all descriptions were penned, and met with a very bad trade. Best north country ewes made up to 52s, others from 46s to 50s; Masham ewes 40s to 46s, best twiced crossed lambs 38s, others from 30s to 35s,

Masham lambs 24s to 28s. A few southdown ewes were on offer, and made up to 45s.

WET AND DRIED GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Saturday.—Wet Grains: Prices have ruled a trifle higher on the past week, and business has been done at 14s to 15s ale, and 11s 6d to 12s 6d porter per ton on rail, London. Dried Grains.—The rise in prices has practically stopped home trade, and dealers cannot find orders, and with hay offering at from 50s per ton there is not likely to be much demand, and even a reduction of 5s per ton would not increase the home consumption. Prices ex factory:—Ale, 92s 6d; mixed, 86s 3d per ton, in buyers' bags. American cane treacle, 90s per ton, and Kiln-dried sea damaged Australian wheat from 20s per qr.—Hamlyn and Co., 37 and 38, Mark Lane.

CORN STATISTICS

Weekly Arrivals into London.

August 28 to September 4 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	670	96,000	96,670
Barley	4,200	27,000	31,200
Malt	18,028	—	18,028
Oats	4,508	13,713	18,221
Rye	160	300	460
Beans	221	600	821
Peas	29	3 585	3,614
Maize	—	14,728	14,728
Linseed	—	19,000	19,000
Rapeseed	250	400	650
Cottonseed	—	30,000	30,000
Tares	50	150	200
Dari	—	3,474	3,474
Lentils	—	4,000	4,000
Flour sacks	14,291	33,562	47,853
Middlings	—	7,000	7,000
Pollard	—	1,900	1,900

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, Sept. 14, 1907:—

Wheat	2,024,200 cwts.
Wheat-flour	223,500 ,,
Barley	301,500 ,,
Oats	60,700 ,,
Maize	1,248,900 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1906. Cwts.	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.
Wheat	2,125,500	2,354,900	2,854,900	2,086,000
Wheat-flour	311,300	337,500	171,100	435,000
Barley	651,300	690,600	590,400	1,063,400
Oats	204,600	290,800	233,900	224,700
Maize	1,032,300	1,538,400	813,800	1,225,000

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending September 14, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1903 to 1906:—

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1903	45,165	27	5	5,975	24	2	20,224	16	4
1904	51,889	29	7	45,918	24	9	37,554	15	11
1905	83,185	26	11	36,986	23	7	23,705	16	0
1906	89,745	25	11	41,670	24	3	34,330	16	1
1907	35,802	31	4	9,754	24	4	35,946	17	6

Seven Years Grain Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 10d. per 480 lb.
Barley	25s. 4d. per 400 lb.
Oats	18s. 11d per 312 lb.

Monthly Averages.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1906. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1907. Wheat	Barley	Oats
Jan.	28 6	24 9	18 5	26 1	24 2	17 4
Feb.	28 10	25 4	18 11	26 6	24 3	17 7
Mar.	28 5	24 8	18 11	26 9	23 11	18 0
April	29 1	24 2	19 1	26 9	23 8	18 10
May	30 2	24 0	20 0	28 5	24 0	19 10
June	30 4	23 4	20 2	31 6	24 6	20 9
July	30 4	23 1	20 4	32 2	24 11	20 10
Aug.	29 6	23 7	17 9	33 7	25 4	20 5
Sept.	26 1	21 5	16 2			
Oct.	26 5	25 0	16 7			
Nov.	26 5	24 5	17 1			
Dec.	26 2	24 1	17 3			

Imperial Weekly Averages.

1906.	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
Sept. 15	89,745	25	11	41,670	24	3	34,330	16	1
,, 22	90,292	25	9	76,130	24	3	37,120	16	0
,, 29	83,907	25	9	129,209	24	8	41,942	16	2
Oct. 6	87,200	26	1	183,145	25	0	35,724	16	3
,, 13	80,630	26	3	226,940	25	3	38,088	16	7
,, 20	71,352	26	6	230,636	24	10	33,636	16	8
,, 27	69,920	26	7	233,998	24	10	28,956	16	10
Nov. 3	64,404	26	7	229,015	24	8	32,527	16	11
,, 10	63,764	26	6	205,560	24	5	27,982	17	1
,, 17	58,059	26	4	167,441	24	4	20,389	17	2
,, 24	58,467	26	3	149,427	24	1	28,669	17	3
Dec. 1	60,299	26	1	160,173	24	1	34,743	17	2
,, 8	63,264	26	1	167,532	24	1	37,119	17	4
,, 15	70,332	26	1	135,513	23	11	36,175	17	3
,, 22	68,977	26	3	127,131	24	3	31,528	17	3
,, 29	49,637	26	0	97,796	24	1	29,124	17	3
1907.									
Jan. 5	24,559	26	0	31,733	23	11	14,773	17	3
,, 12	47,667	26	1	71,498	24	2	27,939	17	4
,, 19	75,207	26	1	104,417	24	1	37,413	17	8
,, 26	80,321	26	2	109,274	24	5	45,887	17	5
Feb. 2	84,370	26	3	86,031	24	4	38,928	17	7
,, 9	77,659	26	6	74,324	24	5	30,467	17	7
,, 16	84,514	26	7	69,221	24	1	38,725	17	9
,, 23	76,580	26	10	53,681	24	2	39,559	17	9
Mar. 2	64,923	26	9	40,398	24	2	32,965	17	9
,, 9	71,183	28	8	32,620	23	11	31,065	17	11
,, 16	69,340	26	10	29,274	24	2	28,017	18	0
,, 23	69,183	26	10	20,977	24	0	22,204	18	1
,, 30	49,202	26	8	15,929	23	9	18,412	18	2
April 6	28,757	26	9	6,539	24	3	10,296	18	3
,, 13	43,426	26	8	6,830	23	9	17,523	18	6
,, 20	54,965	26	8	6,032	23	3	21,389	18	7
,, 27	62,656	26	10	4,967	27	3	25,447	18	0
May 4	63,344	27	0	4,289	23	6	22,691	19	3
,, 11	53,080	27	6	3,375	24	0	18,392	19	7
,, 18	41,991	28	4	2,955	23	10	15,817	20	1
,, 25	37,963	29	7	1,977	24	3	12,803	20	7
June 1	28,070	31	4	1,998	24	0	10,478	20	5
,, 8	34,122	32	0	1,539	24	7	11,711	20	8
,, 15	38,008	31	10	1,152	24	7	7,668	20	11
,, 22	31,351	31	4	1,088	24	11	7,187	20	9
,, 29	23,007	31	2	759	24	6	6,118	20	8
July 6	20,795	31	3	432	24	8	4,303	20	11
,, 13	19,209	32	0	665	24	10	3,380	20	11
,, 20	15,915	32	6	259	24	5	4,447	21	1
,, 27	16,867	32	11	3,324	27	3	3,533	20	8
Aug. 3	16,165	33	2	313	26	4	2,886	21	2
,, 10	18,510	33	5	322	26	6	3,459	21	3
,, 17	14,258	33	6	682	25	9	4,045	20	4
,, 24	17,415	33	7	672	25	0	5,699	19	8
Aug. 31	11,847	33	10	1,524	24	6	10,395	18	11
Sept. 7	18,316	31	11	7,216	24	2	23,697	17	7
,, 14	35,802	31	4	9,754	24	4	35,946	17	6

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Altrincham: 8 and 9. Appleby: 10 and 11. Barnstaple: 10 to 11. Birmingham: 9 and 10. Camelford: 12. Carlisle: 9. Chester: 9. Dartmouth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per doz. Derby: 9 and 10. Doncaster: 9 and 10. Dorchester: 1s to 1s 2d. Evesham: 1s 2d per doz. Hereford: 10 to 12. Ipswich: 10 to 12. Kidderminster: 10. Lancaster: 8 and 9. Lincoln: 9 and 11. Market Drayton: 10 and 11. Otley: 9 and 10. Penrith: 10 and 11. Penzance: 11d to 1s per doz. Plymouth: 10 and 12. Preston: 8 and 9. Retford: 2s per score. Ripon: 9 and 10 Scarborough: 9. Shrewsbury: 10 and 11. Spalding: 12. Stamford: 10 and 12. Stockport: 8 and 9. Stockton: 9. Totnes: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per doz. Truro: 11d to 1s per dozen. Wellington (Salop): 10 and 11. Worcester: 10. York: 9.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Altrincham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Appleby: 10½d to 1s. Barnstaple: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Birmingham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Camelford: 1s. Carlisle: 1s to 1s 1d. Chester: 1s 1d. Dartmouth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Derby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Doncaster: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Dorchester: 10d to 1s 4d. Evesham: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Hereford: 1s to 1s 2d. Ipswich: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Kidderminster: 1s 1d. Lancaster: 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d. Lincoln: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Market Drayton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Otley: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per 24 oz roll. Penrith: 10½d to 1s 1d. Penzance: 10d to 1s 3d. Plymouth: 1s to 1s 2d. Preston: 1s 2d. Retford: 1s 2d. Ripon: 1s 5d to 1s 8d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Shrewsbury: 1s. Spalding: 1s. Stamford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Stockport: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Stockton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Totnes: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Truro: 9d to 10d. Wellington (Salop): 1s to 1s 1d. Worcester: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. York: 1s to 1s 2d.

HOPS.

Canterbury.—The yield is very much short of even the most conservative estimates. A few sales of small parcels of earlies have been reported at prices ranging from 30s to 70s per cwt.

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, September 10, 1907:—

	Imp. Quar. Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Av. Price per qr. £	s.	d.
Wheat	1,424 1 ...	2,320	18	6 ...	1	12	7
Barley	417 3 ...	524	12	4 ...	1	5	2
Oats	6,158 3 ...	5 689	12	6 ...	0	18	6

A fatal fire occured at Foreland's Farm, Bembridge, Isle of Wight, on Monday night, presumably as the result of a man named Brooks, a former Guardsman, smoking over the stable where he slept. When discovered the lower part of his body was burned to a cinder. He was found with his head reclining on his hand, as if asleep, and no doubt had been suffocated. Several horses were extricated uninjured, but the building was gutted.

Bristol Wool Fair.—There was a very good attendance at this fair held on Thursday. Down fleeces and matchings met with a brisk demand, and large quantities changed hands, which was in direct contrast with the state of affairs which prevailed twelve months ago, when prices ruled very high. Taking the average prices of fleeces, they were ½d. to ¾d. per lb. above those recently current. Downs made 1s. to 1s. 1d., half-breds 11½d. to 12½d., greasy Downs 8½d., Gloucesters about 10½d., Southdowns about 13d.

Lincoln September Ram Fair took place on Friday. A large number of rams and breeding sheep were offered by auction, and for the latter there was a good demand, but for rams it was somewhat unsatisfactory owing to the absence of foreign buyers. The highest price for rams was 16 guineas, given by Mr. Pears, Mere, for a shearling ram from the flock of Mr. J. Brocklebank, Bassingham. The best figure last year was 17½ guineas. Mr. J. H. Headland, Potterbanworth, topped the fair for ewes, a pen of six selling at 39s. each, whilst the best price for gimmers was secured by Mr. J. C. Mountain, of Welbourn, he obtaining 62s. to 67s. per head for thirty-five. The sheep sales were as follows:—Mr. J. Brocklebank, Bassingham, seventeen shearling rams, 5½ guineas to 16 guineas; fourteen shearlings belonging to Mr. J. Brocklebank, Carlton-le-Moorland, 6 guineas; Mr. L. W. Stephenson, South Thoresby, nine rams, 5½ guineas to 13½ guineas each; twenty-five rams belonging to Mr. J. Evens, Burton, 5½ guineas to 11 guineas each; Mr. C. S. Dickinson, Ashfield House, Branston, sixteen at 6½ guineas to 12 guineas; six rams from Mr. C. E. Howard, Nocton Rise, 7 guineas to 15 guineas; two from Messrs. R. and R. Hilton, Wellingore, 9 guineas to 11 guineas; six from Mr. C. Featherstone, Nocton Grange, 6 guineas to 12 guineas; and twenty from Mr. J. Pears, The Mere, 5½ guineas to 9 guineas. Twenty-five Hampshire Down rams, bred by Mr. E. W. B. Clift, Sherborne St. John, Basingstoke, made up to 8½ guineas each, and eleven Lincoln Long-wools, belonging to Mr. J. Cartwright, Dunston Pillan, 6 guineas to 9 guineas.

RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

RUGBY 10TH ANNUAL FOAL SHOW and SALE.

The above will be held on FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1907. £25 will be given in Prizes (open). For entry forms and full particulars apply to Howkins & Sons, Auctioneers, Rugby.

N.B.—At last year's sale colts made up to 141 guineas each. Fillies up to 90 guineas each.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

BLAISDON HALL ESTATE.

BRUTON, KNOWLES & CO. are instructed by Colin MacIver, Esq., to hold at THE SPOUT FARM, BLAISDON (two miles from Grange Court Station), on

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH, 1907,

at one o'clock most punctually,

THE IMPORTANT ANNUAL SALE OF

SURPLUS FARMING STOCK,

comprising 26 well-bred Shorthorn dairy cows, 18 fresh Shorthorn stirks, 20 very fresh three-year-old polled bullocks, 15 fresh two-year-old steers, 4 fat maiden heifers, 6 fat cows, and yearling Shorthorn bull; 49 cross-bred ewes, 56 cross-bred lambs, and 59 pigs (Large White Yorkshire breed). Luncheon by ticket at 12 o'clock.

Catalogues may be had at the Blaisdon Estate Office, Blaisdon, or of the Auctioneers, Albion Chambers, Gloucester.

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Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

It is not often that the weather takes so fine a turn as it has done this September, and the blessing that the dry spell has been to farmers engaged in harvesting needs no emphasising. The yields of 1907 will be far from that subject of general regret which was the feeling in later August. The winds, which have latterly acquired an easterly character, have added to the drying influences so much needed after the prevailing humidity of June, July, and August.

While the English farmer is rejoicing over a better harvest result than in August he could possibly have anticipated, the reports from abroad are not of a character to make us anticipate any marked depression. No practical doubt now exists as to Russia as well as the United States and Roumania, Austria-Hungary, and Germany having all of them under average wheat yields. If Canada is still a doubtful item, no great importance need be attached thereto, for the total deficiencies are vastly more than any Canadian yield could balance. The growing crops in the Southern Hemisphere are very promising in Argentina and Uruguay, but by no means so uniformly hopeful in Australia. The yields of Argentina and Australia cannot in any event influence the markets of Europe and England much before March, so that the campaign immediately before us has to be conducted on the lines laid down by the wheat harvests of the Northern Hemisphere.

The price of bread, according to the Board of Trade returns issued on Friday, is now 547 pence for 100 quartern loaves, against 523 pence at this date last year. The parts where bread is dearest are the North of Scotland, where it is cheapest is in the South and Midlands. It is rather curious that East Anglia, the "granary of England," should be decidedly dearer than the West, where the local production of wheat is always very small.

The flour averages are retuned at 10s. 5½d. per cent. for London, and 9s. 8½d. for imported. It is strange to find the official figures suggesting that th emarket is depressed by imported flour, whereas the flour market is in no way depressed, and the holders of foreign sorts are conspicuous for upholding a high level of value. The Board of Trade owe to the public an explanation of their reasons for asserting that the foreign flour supplies are depressing the home manufactured to the material extent of 9½d. per cwt. The London flour market, since the present month began, has been peculiarly firm, and even strong.

The American maize crop is the subject of the following semi-official statement:—

1907	2,500,000,000	bushels.
1906	2,928,000,000	,,
1905	2,708,000,000	,,
1904	2,468,000,000	,,
1903	2,244,000,000	,,
1902	2,523,000,000	,,
1901	1,523,000,000	,,

The area under maize this year is 1,200,000 acres larger than last year, yet the yield is expected to be 428,000,000 bushels less. It is clear that but for the increased area there would be a very marked deficiency, and even as things now are the indications of September may already be said to be that maize will be dearer for the new than it was for the old cereal year.

The visible supply of maize in the United States is as follows:—

September 19, 1907	828,000 qr.
,, 1909	729,000 ,,

Total maize shipments for the period January 1—August 31, corrected figures, prove to have been:—

From America	6,970,000 qr.
,, Argentina	3,490,000 ,,
,, Russia	3,050,000 ,,
,, Roumania	4,100,000 ,,
,, other countries	500,000 ,,
Total	18,110,080 ,,

Same period last season ... 18,120,000 ,,

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets since September 1 have been:—

This season... 55,000 qr. at 31s. 8d. per qr.
Last ,, 225,000 qr. at 25s. 10d. ,,

The much smaller deliveries are clearly in somewhat close relation to the very much higher price realised.

The sales of British barley at the statute markets for this and last season, since September 1, thus compare:—

This season... 17,000 qr. at 24s. 3d. per qr.
Last ,, 66,000 qr. at 24s. 5d. per qr.

English barley should be held for a higher price; so much appears to be demonstrated by the above comparison.

The sales of British oats at the statute markets since September 1 have been:—

This season... 60,000 qr. at 17s. 7d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 90,000 ,, 16s. 4d. ,,

Here, as with wheat, we discover a due proportion between moderate deliveries and a fairly good price made for them.

The wheat gradient last week was moderate:—

Doncaster	35s. 0d. per qr.
Cambridge ...	30s. 2d. ,,
Range	4s. 10d. ,,

Barley showed the following difference:—

Ipswich	28s. 8d. per qr.
Lincoln	23s. 10d. ,,
Range...	4s. 10d. per qr.

In oats the differences were rather remarkable, the demand for heavy old oats in some places being good, while other exchanges have been overdone with new oats in poor condition.

Chichester	24s. 5d. per qr.
Norwich	16s. 10d. ,,
Range...	7s. 7d. per qr.

Farmers in East Anglia would do well not to hurry their new oats to market, as the prices will certainly be better when the season has assumed a more autumnal character than the summer-like conditions of the past fortnight.

Imports last week were as follows:—
Wheat, 473,000 qr.: a good supply.
Flour, 89,410 qr.: a small supply.
Barley, 85,000 qr.: a small supply.
Oats, 22,000 qr.: One of the smallest weekly totals recorded for many seasons.
Maize, 292,000 qr.: a good supply, but probably all absorbed to make up for the practical failure in arrivals of foreign oats.

Supplies on passage thus compare with three preceding seasons:—

	1907.	1906.	1905.	1904.
Wheat, qr.	1,936,000	1,555,000	1,750,000	2,950,000
Flour, sks.	168,000	245,000	260,000	160,000
Maize, qr.	775,000	1,095,000	1,260,000	1,460,000
Barley, qr.	495,000	444,000	420,000	480,000

The sums paid by the United Kingdom for foreign cereals, &c., during the harvest year ended August 31, are officially returned as follows:—

	£
Wheat	33,644,000
Flour	6,287,000
Bread stuffs	39,931,000
Maize	13,073,000
Barley	5,837,000
Oats	3,373,000
Beans	253,000
Peas	612,000
Oatmeal	504,000
Maize meal	209,000
Milling offals	1,229,000
Potatoes	1,939,000

Items showing increased cost on the previous season are maize, barley, oatmeal, maize meal, and potatoes. On the other hand, we have reduced our expenditure on foreign breadstuffs and milling offals, and on foreign oats. Expenditure on pulse shows little change.

The shipments of America last week were 393,000 qr. of wheat, 138,000 sacks of flour, 86,000 qr. of maize, 25,000 qr. of linseed, 7,000 qr. of oats, and 20,000 qr. of barley.

Argentina shipped 20,000 qr. of wheat, 60,000 qr. of maize, and 10,000 qr. of linseed, but no oats or flour.

Russia shipped 150,000 qr. of wheat, 495,000 qr. of barley, 120,000 qr. of oats, and 30,000 qr. of maize. The very heavy shipments of barley are of course the feature of the week so far as Russia is concerned.

All Roumania's shipments were very moderate. India shipped 170,000 qr. of wheat, 37,000 qr. of linseed, 19,000 qr. of rapeseed, and 4,500 tons of cottonseed. Countries whence grain shipments were nil or too small to be worth cabling were Australia, New Zealand, Chili, and the Persian Gulf. It is probable that Turkey, Morocco, and Syria all shipped some barley, but the statistician has no honour in these lands.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday. — The continued fine weather giving farmers the opportunity of finishing harvesting, the supplies of hay have naturally continued on a very restricted scale, prices, however, show little or no change on last week's higher values, as although everything coming along has been quickly disposed of, the consumers have not followed the lead of those in the trade, business at the increased rates being mostly done amongst salesmen and dealers who, having contracts and orders to fulfil have been forced to satisfy their wants whatever the price. Anything of good quality finds a ready market, there is also a better trade for plainer sorts if sweet and clean; the larger proportion of supplies, however, consist of dusty and inferior kinds, which, although finding a better demand than of late, are more difficult of sale. The arrivals of old stuffs are now almost finished, values being about 80s. per ton for best old hays, 90s. per ton for best old mixtures, and 92s. 6d. per ton for best old clovers. Straw is still coming along in very short supply, and keeps a firm trade at about last week's values. The foreign market remains in a very quiet condition, shipments are very small, but with demand almost nil prices are nominally unchanged.

Prices ruling for English 1907 are about as follows:—Best hays, 67s 6d to 70s per ton; good hays, 57s 6d to 65s per ton; plain hays, 55s per ton; best clovers, 82s to 85s per ton; good clovers, 77s 6d to 80s per ton; inferior clovers, 70s to 75s per ton; best mixtures, 77s 6d to 80s per ton; good mixtures, 70s to 75s per ton; plain mixtures, 62s 6d to 67s 6d per ton; seconds hays, clovers, and mixtures, 40s to 55s per ton; wheat straw, 28s to 30s per load; barley straw, 28s to 30s per load; oat straw, 28s to 30s per load. All ex rail London.

Foreign: Canadian mixture, 80s per ton; first quality Dutch hay, 62s 6d to 65s per ton; second quality Dutch hay, 55s to 60s per ton; New French first and second cut clover, 75s per ton. These prices are by the barge load delivered alongside wharf, London.

THE BALTIC.

The wheat cargo trade after a little hesitation is again firm, and prices show about 6d. net advance upon the week. Recorded sales include Durum at 35s 6d per 480 lb., best Manitoba at 40s. 6d. per 480 lb., American Northern spring at 40s. per 480 lb., American red winter at 39s. per 480 lb., hard Kansas at 37s. per 480 lb., finest Russian Azima at 40s. per 492 lb., Odessa Ghurka at 38s. 9d. per 492 lb.; white Karachi at 38s. per 492 lb., red at 37s. 6d per 492 lb., and Australian at 38s. 6d per 480 lb,

Maize cargoes are well held. Prices made include 25s. 6d. for Argentine, 26s. for American, 26s. 3d. for Odessa, 26s. 9d. for Novorossisk, and 28s. for fine Cinquantina, all per 480 lb.

Sales of barley cargoes show that Russian supply in prospect is getting a little ahead of inquiry. The price making is 22s. 6d. per 400 lb. A Persian cargo made 21s. 6d. per 400 lb. on Thursday.

Sale of linseed cargoes admit of the following comparison:—

	Indian.		Argentine.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
16-21 Sept., 1907...	44 0 to 44 6	...	43 3 to 43 9	
,, 1906...	40 9 to 41 0	...	39 0 to 39 3	
,, 1905...	37 0 to 37 3	...	36 9 to 36 8	
,, 1904...	36 3 to 36 6	....	36 0 to 36 3	

The Indian weighs 410 lb., the Argentine 416 lb. to the qr. The oilseed cargo sales of the week have also included a cargo of brown Calcutta rapeseed at 53s. per 416 lb., and a cargo of Egyptian cottonseed at £8 per ton.

The Secretary of the London Corn Trade Association announces that the following standards for June shipments were made up on the 19th inst., and are now to be seen (and samples purchased) at the association's rooms in St. Mary Axe.

Wheat.—Choice White Kurrachee (crop 1906); ditto (crop 1907); Soft Red Kurrachee (crop 1906); ditto (crop 1907); Choice White Bombay (crop 1907); Atbara Wheat from Calcutta, May/June (crop 1907). Barley.—Kurrachee. Gram.—Kurrachee. Lentils.—Bombay. Pease.—White Bombay and Calcutta.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English steady quiet. New whites quoted at 34s to 37s; new reds, 33s 6d to 36s. Foreign firmly held at full prices to 3d advance. No. 1 Northern Manitoba ex ship, quoted at 41s, landed at 41s 6d; No. 2 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, at 40s 3d; No. 1 Durum, ex ship, at 35s 3d; No. 1 hard Manitoba, landed, 42s 3d; Australian, ex ship, 39s 9d, landed, at 41s 6d; La Plata, landed, at 40s to 40s 6d. Flour firm, quiet. Iron Dukes quoted at 24s 6d to 25s; Hungarians, at 37s to 38s. Maize steadily held but inactive. River Plate, landed, quoted at 26s; Odessa, ex ship, to arrive, at 25s 6d to 25s 9d, landed, 26s to 26s 3d. Barley firm but quiet. Azoff-Black Sea and Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, to arrive, held at 22s 6d to 22s 9d, landed, at 23s 9d; Persian, ex ship, at 22s 6d, landed, at 23s. Oats firm but inactive. South Russians held at 18s 6d to 18s 9d; River Plate, 18s 9d to 19s.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat: English firm, but not active. Whites quoted at 34s 6d to 37s 6d, reds at 34s to 36s 6d. Foreign firm, and Americans held at 1s advance; other sorts 6d dearer. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, held at 42s; No. 2 Northern Manitoba at 41s: choice white Karachi at 38s 6d to 39s; Australian, landed, at 41s 6d, ex ship at 40s. Flour firmer, but inactive; Iron Dukes quoted at 25s 6d, ex ship at 25s. Maize firm; Odessa, landed, held at 26s 6d, with 26s 3d paid; Plata, landed, 26s 6d asked. Barley firm, moderate inquiry; Odessa-Nicolaieff and Azoff-Black Sea, ex ship, held at 22s 9d to 23s, landed at 23s 9d to 24s. Oats firmer, more inquiry; River Plate held at 19s; South Russains, 18s 9d to 19s.

COUNTRY.

Appleby, Saturday.—A few samples of new oats showing. White oats worth 21s to 23s per 36 stone.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Contrary to expectations, the trade for wheat showed no improved tendency, sales taking place at last week's rates; flour, too, remained unaltered at 32s per sack for whites, 29s for seconds, and 27s for scaling corn. Prices:—Wheats, 34s to 35s; barley, English, 26s to 30s; barley, foreign, 25s to 27s; Mazaagan beans, old, 30s to 31s; tick beans, old, 34s to 36s; maize, 26s to 27s 6d; new peas, 30s to 31s; new white oats, 18s to 21s; black winter oats, 19s to 21s.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, white (new), 31s to 32s per qr; ditto (old), 34s to 35s per qr; barley, 26s to 30s per qr; beans (old), 32s to 33s per qr; oats, 17s to 20s per qr; oats (old), 21s to 25s per qr; peas (old), 30s to 35s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—Increased attendance. Larger supplies of new barley on offer. Finest quality sold readily at last week's price, others rather dull. No wheat or oats on offer. Barley made 27s to 30s.

Birmingham, Thursday.—There was a fair attendance at market, and trade was generally good all round, prices being in sellers' favour. Quotations:—Foreign wheat, No. 1 Manitoba 40s 6d., No. 2 40s, and No. 3 39s 6d per 496 lb at Bristol; Russian 39s to 40s 6d, Plate 40s 3d per qr at Sharpness. A fair quantity of new English wheats were offering, and made from 12s 9d to 13s 6d per 186 lb delivered; oats, 19s per 312 lb, black winter 19s 6d delivered; beans, new, 12s 9d, old 13s 6d per per 196 lb delivered; maize, Bessarabian 26s to 26s 3d, Odessa 25s 9d per 480 lb at Gloucester, Galatz-Foxanian 25s 9d per qr at Sharpness; barley, grinding, 24s per 400 lb at Sharpness.

Brighton, Thursday.—Wheat in short supply, and firm at late rates. Barley, 28s to 32s; grinding ditto, 25s to 26s; oats, English, 17s to 19s; beans, 33s to 34s.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—The attendance was small, and the o was only a limited quantity of wheat on offer. The trade is strong and dearer on the week; reds and whites in fair milling condition found free buyers at 32s 6d to 34s per qr; damp parcels, of course, did not make these prices. Flour also a strong trade at 6s to 7s per sack above the prices ruling in May last, and with a decided upward tendency. Oats firm at last week's advance. New white 18s to 19s 6d per qr. Old beans firm at 33s to 35s per qr. New peas steady at 32s to 32s 6d per qr. Grinding barley firm at 28s to 29s 6d per qr. Rye: A small business was done at 12s 6d to 13s 6d per qr. Maize, round, firm at 27s to 27s 6d per qr delivered. Maize germ 2s 6d per ton dearer, at £6 15s per ton. Feeding stuffs very firm, with an upward tendency.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There was a good all-round trade at to-day's market. Wheat an upward tendency in price, best 64 lb wheats making up to 34s, and lesser weights up to 31s per qr. Malting barley met with a little more demand at from 28s to 32s. Oats slightly dearer; 42 lb black winters sold at 20s 6d, and 44 lb whites at 21s 6d. Grey peas, 30s per qr.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small supply of oats (old) in our market to-day; good demand at full prices, 24s to 24s 6d per 336 lb. Only one lot of new oats shown in market. Very inferior quality sold at 18s per 336 lb. Poor attendance owing to farmers harvesting.—Thomas Robinson.

Chester, Saturday.—There has been a considerable advance in the price of American mixed corn since last market, due to scarcity. New wheat and oats are offering, and the condition is very good. Offals very scarce at increased prices. Quotations:—Wheat, new white, 5s per 75 lb; oats, new, 2s 6d to 2s 7d; old, 3s 1d to 3s 6d per 46 lb; Indian corn, old, 14s 9d to 15s per 240 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—A very good attendance, and market very firm. There was, however, little on offer, and everything sold readily. New white wheat, 33s to 33s 6d; new red ditto, 33s to 33s 6d; barley, 28s to 30s; grinding ditto, 23s 6d to 25s; oats, English, 17s to 23s; rye, 27s to 29s; peas, 31s to 32s; beans, 32s to 33s; tares, 5s 6d to 6s 6d; maize, 25s 6d to 26s 6d; flour, 29s to 31s.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat, 1s dearer. Oats and barley slightly dearer. Farmers firm in their demands.—Colin Taylor, King and Co., Ltd.

Coventry, Friday.—Poor attendance. Wheat was in rather small supply, and prices for good quality were about 6d per qr higher on the week. Beans and peas firm, but unchanged. Quotations: Wheat, new, 12s to 12s 6d, old 12s 9d to 13s 6d per 186 lb; barley, 30s to 34s per 448 lb; oats, old, 24s 6d to 27s, new 20s to 23s per 352 lb.; beans, 13s to 13s 9d per 196 lb; peas, 12s to 14s per 352 lb.

Derby, Friday.—A better supply of new corn than at the last market, and a fair trade done. Spring corn unchanged in value. Quotations:—Wheat, 36s to 37s; red, 34s to 35s; grinding barley, 23s to 25s; beans, 35s to 37s; old oats, 24s to 26s; new, 18s to 20s.

Devizes, Thursday.—There was again a small supply of corn, farmers having been too busy taking advantage of the fine weather to thresh. Prices fully maintained last week's rates for wheat, barley, and oats. Rye dearer, at 26s to 28s. Fine winter barley commands 24s to 28s per qr. Vetches scarce, and realise 6s 6d to 7s 6d a bushel. Best wheat, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; secondary, 16s 6d to 17s 6d; new wheat, 15s to 17s; winter barley, 26s to 28s; old oats, 20s to 24s; winter oats, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; white Garton oats (330lb), 18s to 19s; rye, 26s to 28s; new beans, 16s 6d to 18s; fine flour, 30s to 31s; extra fine, 32s to 36s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Small supplies of grain all round. Rather better supply of new wheat than last week, and the condition varied considerably, some of the samples being in good condition, but others were very poor, and the best samples made from 13s to 13s 6d per load. Foreign was exceedingly firm, and made an advance of fully 1s per qr. Short supply of new oats, which made from 18s to 20s per qr, being 3d dearer. Maize also advanced 3d. Some new barley was offered, but prices were irregular, but may be quoted from 26s to 30s 6d per qr.

Dorchester, Saturday.—The attendance at to-day's market was a little larger than of late, but no doubt the approaching Poundbury Fair kept many away. Wheat handled considerably better, but still, on the whole, it compared somewhat unfavourably with the ordinary run of samples. In spite of this holders were firm in their demands, which generally represented a rise of 6d to 9d per qr—a concession which had to be made where sales were forced. Barley, too, was equally firm; but most of what was shown was for grinding purposes, malting samples as yet being very scarce. Oats were also against buyers in price, as were beans and peas. Maize, though well held, cannot be recorded as quotably higher.

Dublin, Friday.—Foreign wheat was active and dearer. Maize was dearer and slow. Flour had a good demand, and was dearer. Irish wheat, few sales. New crop, 19s to 20s; prime samples held for 21s to 21s 6d. Oats: New crop was irregular; white plentiful. Sales made 10s to 11s. Indian meal was unchanged. Brand and pollard scarce and dearer.

Exeter Friday.—English and foreign wheat firm; trade good. Few samples of new English barley made 3s 6d to 4s; trade firm. Maize and oats unchanged. Flour, 1s 6d to 2s dearer. English wheat, 4s; superfine flour, 29s to 31s; fine, 27s to 29s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Prices still keep firm, and business is being checked by the advance. Wheat steadily held, with prices about 6d per boll dearer over the week. Flour firm at 3d to 6d per sack advance. Maize firm. Corn very scarce on spot, and held for extreme prices at 3d per boll more money since last Wednesday. Oats quiet in tone, but prices still maintain their firmness of last week. Barley shading dearer. Beans and pease nominally unchanged. Bran and thirds steady, but not quotably altered. Oatmeal quiet. New crops of both Scotch and Irish on the market, but very difficult to get on with sales. Other articles unaltered.—Gibson and Clark.

Glasgow, Friday.—Market continues firm, and practically no change in values. Business on the whole is quiet.

Gloucester, Saturday.—New English wheat 1d a bushel dearer, at 32s to 34s per qr. Foreign wheat: Plates, 9d to 1s dearer, at 40s 3d to 41s; Russian, 1s 6d dearer, at 40s to 41s 6d. Plate maize 3d up, at 26s; flat 3d dearer, at 26s 3d; Bessarabian unchanged, at 26s. Barley 2d dearer, at 43s 3d per qr. Oats unchanged.

Grantham, Saturday.—A few nice samples of new corn on offer. Quotations:—Wheat, 34s to 35s; barley, 26s to 30s; oats, 18s; and peas, 60s to 70s.

Hereford, Wednesday.—The general tone of the English wheat trade was steady with a fairly wide range of values, buyers pricing some samples at 3s 6d, while better grades occasionally realised a fraction under 4s. English oats met with fair inquiry at last week's prices. Nothing doing in barleys. Maize very firm at last week's prices. Wholesale quotations:—Wheat, new, 3s 6d to 4s per 62 lb; barley, 3s 6d to 4s per 56 lb; oats, old, 2s 2d to 3s 3d per 40 lb; new, 2s 3d to 2s 6d per 40 lb; beans, 4s to 4s 6d per 65½ lb; maize, 3s 4d to 3s 8d per 60 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Moderate supply of wheat; trade firm at last week's rates. Reds, 33s to 35s; whites, 33s to 36s per 504 lb. Few samples of dry barley on offer; they were rather high-coloured and coarse, and the few sold realised from 28s to 32s. Oats firm and fully as dear. Maize steady. Beans and peas unaltered.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The weather continues all that can be desired. The depression of the early part of last week was of very short duration. Since Thursday the trade has again gradually gained strength chiefly owing to the unfavourable crop reports from Canada, where a large portion of the wheat is frosted. Shipments and offers from Russia remain moderate, Australia wants rain, stocks in this country are decreasing, as also is the quantity on passage. The market consequently rules strong at 6d advance on the week. Maize, beans, and oats steady.—Dunns and Co.

Leeds, Friday.—With another week's splendid harvest weather, English wheats were rapidly secured, and as both quantity and quality exceeded anticipation, the recent upward tendency in prices was checked. Foreign wheats were firmly held at Tuesday's full prices. Flour was in good demand, especially medium qualities, which were from 26s to 28s. Maize was easier, Plate and Odessa closing at 25s. New English barley was in good condition at 27s to 30s.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good attendance, with better supplies of home-grown wheats, which came to hand in good condition; trade steady at very firm rates. Red wheats made 34s to 36s, and white wheats, 35s to 37s 6d per 36 stones; malting barley in steady request at 27s to 31s per 32 stones; good oats in better request 19s to 22s per 24 stones; flour, 28s, 31s, and 33s per 280 lb.

Lincoln, Friday.—Small supply of English wheat, which made 1s per qr more than last week. All classes of foreign wheat 1s per qr dearer on the week. Malting barley trade not yet started. Oats very firm.

Maidstone, Thursday.—The firm tone in the wheat trade continues, the supply of samples not large as the hop season engages the attention of many of the farmers. In a first class sample quite 6d per qr was the cost obtained last week. Barley keeps up in value, and maize continues to advance. Very little alteration in oats, and beans or peas much as recently. The stiffness in prices seems to indicate a general deficiency in harvest yield.

Newark, Wednesday.—Only a moderate attendance. More samples of new grain showing, and prices quite firm. Quotations:—Old wheat, 37s to 38s; new wheat, 33s to 34s. Malting barley, 29s to 30s; grinding, ditto, 25s to 26s. New white oats, 18s to 19s; black winter ditto, 18s to 18s 6d. Old beans, 35s to 36s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Wheat here-to-day was held for 1s per qr advance on the week; millers, however, were very reluctant in responding. Maize again dearer, demand, however, limited. Oats remain steady at last week's quotations. Beans remain firm at fully late rates. No peas offering. A few samples of new barley were shown; prices quoted were 27s to 29s; buyers, however, held off.—Pollard and Co.

Newport, Wednesday.—Trade fair; flour, 29s per sack; bran and sharps, 2s 6d high for the week, while barley showed an advance of 6d. Maize and peas unchanged.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was not a large

supply of wheat for the season; prices were dearer, and in sympathy with foreign markets, to the extent of 1s per qr: values, 34s to 34s 6d for good wheats. In feeding stuffs cotton cakes are 2s 6d to 5s dearer; maize, 6d to 9d per qr dearer; and grinding barley, 6d more.

Northampton, Saturday.—Better attendance, and improved business. Strong demand for wheat, which advanced 1s per qr. Old Wheat, 35s to 36s; new wheat, 31s to 33s; new barley, 26s to 30s; old white oats, 24s to 26s; new white oats, 18s to 20s; old black oats, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; new black oats, 18s to 19s; old beans, 31s to 33s; new beans, 30s to 32s; peas, 30s to 32s; flour, 27s to 32s.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat, small supply of the new crop, and prices advanced a further 6d to 1s per qr. Barley, a few samples of new offering of various qualities; prices irregular. Oats, both old new, 6d dearer. Beans firm.—ROBT. HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—Another fine week, and harvest nearly all in. Not a large supply of wheat which made fully 1s more than last week. Spring corn also tending upwards. Barley, 26s to 32s. Wheat, 33s to 34s. Oats, 18s to 19s.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a good attendance on our market here to-day. Wheat and barley 3d dearer. Maize and oats steady, unchanged.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Preston, Saturday.—The market was only moderately attended, and there was no new grain offering. Flour 1s per peck dearer. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 14s to 15s per windle of 220 lb., ditto red, 13s 9d to 14s 6d; oats, old, 3s 6d to 3s 8d per bushel, new, 2s 11d to 3s; oatmeal, 27s 6d to 28s per load of 240 lb; beans, 16s 6d to 17s per windle of 220 lb; bran, 12s 6d to 13s.

Reading, Saturday. — The attendance again was rather small, and there was not a lot doing. Prices:—wheat, 30s to 36s; winter barley, 26s 6d to 29s; malting barley, 26s to 33s: old oats, 21s to 23s; new, 17s to 20s; beans, 33s to 37s; pease, 29s to 31s.

Retford, Saturday.—The close of harvest affected the attendance here, which was thin, and the supply of grain small. New wheat fully 1s per qr dearer, and worth 34s to 35s; old extremely scarce. A few samples of malting barley were offered, for which there was a fair demand at 27s to 29s, and really tip top lots made up to 30s per qr, but prices still unsettled. Grain for feeding purposes kept well up to the mark in value, maize making 27s to 27s 6d; grinding barley, 27s; new oats, (of which there is a big yield in this district), 18s to 19s; and old oats, 25s per qr.

Ripon, Thursday.—A few samples of new grain on offer. Business quiet, light attendance. Old wheat made 36s to 37s; new wheat, 34s; wheat, foreign, 38s to 41s; barley, grinding, 27s to 28s; barley, malting, 28s to 30s; new oats, 20s; old oats, 24s to 26s; maize, round, 27s to 27s 6d; maize, flat, 27s to 28s per qr; bran, £5 to £5 5s per ton.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—New grain comes to market very slowly yet, and last week's prices are well maintained. New wheat in good condition finds a ready market, and foreign is quoted at about 6d per qr higher again. Maize, oats, and beans firm and unchanged. Barley slightly easier. Peas scarce, new blue peas making prices above usual values for new grain. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 36s 6d to 37s; ditto red, new, 36s 6d to 37s per 504 lb; oats, black, 24s to 25s; ditto white, 24s 6d to 25s per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 34s 6d to 35s; ditto blue, new, 55s to 75s per 504 lb; beans, English, 37s to 37s 6d per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 27s to 27s 6d; ditto malting, 28s to 32s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 26s 9d to 27s; ditto Plate, 26s 9d to 27s; ditto flat, 29s to 29s 6d per 480 lb; bran, 100s; fine sharps, 135s; broad bran, 110s per ton.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Old wheat, 15s to 15s 6d per 225 lb; new, 14s to 14s 6d; old oats, 15s to 16s per 225 lb, new 11s 2d to 12s per 200 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—Attendance very meagre. New corn was shown in surprisingly small quantity. New wheats were advanced to the extent of 1s per qr on the week, from 33s to 33s 6d per qr; new black winter oats made 18s; white ditto, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; lack of inquiry for barleys; new beans 31s, and old ditto 38s per qr. Peas in small supply, and were a drug on the market.

Stockton, Wednesday. — Old wheat made about 36s 6d per qr. The first sample of new wheat was shown. Foreign wheat keeps firm, but with the fine weather the demand was only very limited at last week's prices. Maize 3d lower on the week. Oats plentiful, and offered at lower prices.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday. — New white wheat, 32s to 34s; new red ditto, 30s to 32s; barley, 27s to 32s; grinding ditto, 24s to 25s; oats, English, 20s to 23s; rye, 24s to 26s; peas, 30s to 31s; beans, 31s to 34s; tares, 42s to 48s; maize, 23s to 25s.

Warwick, Saturday.—Fair supply of new grain on offer, making from 12s to 12s 3d per bag. Feeding stuffs another turn dearer.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A moderate supply of new grain at market. Wheat 1s per qr dearer on the week. Good dry reds, 34s to 35s per 504 lb. Oats dearer; 18s to 19s per 336 lb. Barley, 25s to 29s per 448 lb.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was only a moderate attendance of farmers and dealers, and prices were unchanged.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Moderate attendance, with larger show of grain. There were several samples of nice dry new wheat on offer, which made 34s to 34s 6d per qr.; also a few samples of new barley, in very good condition, which made 28s to 30s per qr. New white oats were a moderate show, at last week's prices. Prices:—White wheat (old), 37s to 38s; new ditto, 34s to 34s 6d; red wheat (old), 30s to 37s; new ditto, 32s to 34s; new malting barley, 28s to 30s; grinding barley, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; white oats (old), 25s to 26s; ditto (new), 18s to 20s; black oats (old), 24s to 25s; ditto (new), 18s to 20s; maize, 28s to 29s per qr. Flour, 1s 4d to 1s 7d per stone. Fine sharps, £7 to £7 10s; barley meal, £7 6s 8d to £7 15s; bran, £5 10s to £6 10s per ton.

Yeovil, Friday.—Millers were ready buyers of new wheat at 6d to 1s per qr above last week's rates, and foreign sold for a similar advance. Oats, barley, and maize firm, and without change, but rye and vetches were dearer. Best English white 35s to 37s; secondary, 30s to 34s; winter barley, 26s to 28s; grinding, foreign, 24s 3d to 24s 6d; maize, round, 25s 6d to 26s; flat, 26s 6d; oats, old, 20s to 24s; winter oats, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; white 18s to 19s; Irish black, old, 20s to 21s; white, 22s to 22s 6d; new beans, 35s to 36s; rye, 26s to 28s; vetches, 6s 6d to 7s 6d per bushel. Demand for flour good, business passing on the basis of 28s 6d for fines. Meals and offals continue in good request at increasing values.

York, Saturday.—Rather more new grain on offer. New wheat made 33s to 35s per qr of 36 stones. Barley, the quality of which varies very much, ranged in price from 26s to 30s per qr of 32 stones. Oats realised 19s to 21s per qr. of 24 stones. Beans, peas, and maize firm. Flour has advanced 1s per sack.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—The weather continues favourable for autumnal field work. Market animated, wheat, rye, and feeding barley being in brisk demand at rising prices. German wheat in scanty supply; dry lots are readily taken by our millers at prices equal to 37s to 39s 6d per 504 lb. f.o.b., duty deducted. American hard winter, No. 2, is selling at 38s; red winter, No. 2, at 37s to 37s 6d per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg; 79 ko. River Plate, February-March, 37s 6d. Rye firm in value; 9 10/15 Taganrog afloat is held 34s 6d; American Duluth No. 2 at 34s 9d per 480 lb, ex ship, Hamburg. Good Bohemian barley is taken by our brewers at 36s to 38s, Saale and East Prussian at 35s to 41s per 448 lb, Danish of common quality is held at 31s to 32s, fine Bohemian and Slooakian at 39s 6d to 43s 6d per 448 lb f.o.b., 60/61 ko. ko South Russian barley scarce and selling at 22s 9d to 33s per 400 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg. Fine white Holstein and Pomeranian oats are offering at 19s 6d to 20s 6d per 336 lb, c.i.f. Odessa and River Plate maize firm at 24s 6d to 24s 9d per 480 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cake: The tone of the market has generally improved during the past week, with a greater volume of business passing at advanced prices, and there are indications of even higher values as the demand increases, as it undoubtedly will do during the coming winter months. Russian remain scarce, and sparingly offered at £7 7s 6d to £7 8s 9d in mats, and £7 10s to £7 12s 6d in bags. East India seed pures are nominally quoted at £7 8s. 9d. to £7 10s. Fine seedy Calcuttas command £7 10s to £7 12s 6d. London made attract most attention, being relatively good value at £7 12s 6d to £7 15s. Cotton cake.—Only a limited quantity of Egyptian is available on spot, and needy buyers are compelled to pay full prices of £4 18s 9d to £5, while for shipment a fraction less would be accepted. English being in limited production maintain their values of £5 to £5 2s 6d, and Bombays at £4 5s. Decorticated.—London made pures meet a ready sale at £7 2s 6d to £7 5s, and special digestive meal at £5, with American brands of cake and meal quoted at £6 17s 6d to £7. Rape cakes do not offer. Maize germ meal.—White American is not obtainable for present delivery, and English manufacturers have again raised their prices, and are to-day asking £6 10s to £6 12s 6d. Maize gluten meal is in good request at £6 10s. Rice meal.—The market is bare of stocks of Rangoon, and shippers now quote £5 5s ex ship terms for autumn shipments. Locust beans remain excellent value at £5 10s for whole and £5 17s 6d for kibbled. Dried brewers' grains are the turn dearer at £5 to mix, and £5 5s for ale. Nitrate of soda is without change at £11 2s 6d ex quay.—Peruvian Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

Liverpool, Friday. Nitrate of soda values firm, but demand quiet. The autumn manuring season will soon be on, and there are inquiries for forward deliveries of kainit and phosphatic fertilisers at late values. Feeding stuffs are more inquired for, but the late advances somewhat check business. Indian corn, however, continues to steadily advance.

	Per ton. £	s	d	£	s	d
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (good but hard)	7	2	6	7	5	0
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime (soft)	7	15	0	7	17	6
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime	4	15	0	5	0	0
Cottonseed, crushed, 20 per cent. oil guaranteed, scarce	8	15	0		—	
Linseed Cake, American, thin oblong, prime but hard	7	10	0	7	12	6
,, ,, English, prime	7	17	6	8	0	0
,, ,, Foreign, round	7	12	6	7	15	0
Palm Nut Cake	6	5	0		—	
Corn Oil Cake		—			—	
Maize Germ Meal	6	12	6	6	15	0
Indian Meal, coarse to fine grinding	Per 240 lb. —				—	
Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported	Per ton. 5	12	6	5	15	0
Linseed, fine bold feeding	Per qr., 416 lb. —				—	
Cod-liver Oil, cattle feeding	Per Gallon. 0	4	0		—	
Treacle, feeding, American	Per Cwt. 0	4	9		—	
Nitrate of Soda	Per ton. 11	5	0		—	
Kainit, prime	2	7	6		—	
Bone Meal, prime	5	10	0		—	
Bone Ash, fine and powdery	3	15	0		—	
Basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed	1	14	0	1	15	0
,, ,, ,,	2	2	0	2	3	0
,, finest ,,	2	6	0	2	7	0
D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime*	2	5	0	2	7	0
,, ,, guaranteed*	2	10	0	2	12	0
,, ,, ,, *	3	1	3	3	3	3

* At depot inland.

—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £13 15s to £14 5s; half-bred hoggs, £13 to £13 10s; ditto wethers, £12 10s to £13; Kent fleeces, £12 5s to £12 10s; South Down ewes and wethers, £13 10s to £14; Leicester ewes and wethers, £12 to £12 10s. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., scoured super., 2s 2d to 2s 3d; scoured, good, 1s 11½d to 2s 1d; scoured, average, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 9½d to 1s 10½d; greasy, average, 1s to 1s 1d; S. Aus., greasy, average, 10d to 11d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; greasy, average, 11d to 11½d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9½d to 1s 10½d; fleece, average, 9½d to 10½d; greasy, average, 8½d to 9½d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5½d to 1s 6½d; greasy average, 8½d to 9d. Crossbreds—grs.—Vic., good to super., 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d; New Zealand fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s to 1s 1d coarse, 10d to 11d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There is little business doing. The quotations are:—Lamb wool, 7d; half-breds, 11d; Kent fleeces, 11d; Downs from 13d to 13½d per lb.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Fairly good supply and demand. Prices: Surrey fowls, 3s 3d to 3s 9d; Sussex fowls, 3s to 3s 6d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 3s; Essex fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Irish fowls, 1s 6d to 2s; geese, 4s 6d to 6s; country ducks, 2s 3d to 3s; Aylesbury ducks, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; wild ducks, 1s 2d; quails, 1s; feathered pigeons, 8d to 10d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s 2d; English hares, 2s 6d to 3s; Scottish hares, 1s 4d; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 6d; wild rabbits, 6d to 9d; live hens, 1s 8d to 2s each; Australian rabbits, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per doz; young partridges, 5s to 5s 6d; old, 2s 6d; young grouse, 5s 6d to 6s; old, 2s 6d per brace.

Seven Years Grain Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 10d.	per 480 lb.
Barley	25s. 4d.	per 400 lb.
Oats	18s 11d	per 312 lb.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 P.M.

The salient fact of to-day's market is that a full week of quite extraordinarily fine weather for the time of year has passed without causing depression. Sunshine for once has not taken the life out of Mark Lane, as it is commonly said to do. The supply of English wheat to-day showed a notable increase, but condition was much improved, and by the judicious admixture of strong old foreign sorts millers will be able to use a good deal more of it for October deliveries to bakers than seemed at all likely a fortnight ago. With improved quality and condition value was naturally firm, especially as foreign, after a period of hesitation, was again tending dearer. Barley recovered 3d of its recent fall in Russian, and was firm for all other kinds. Oats were rather cheaper for new English, but were firmer for foreign. Maize was 6d up for flat, 3d for round and yellow corn.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

September 23.

WHEAT, New White	(per 504 lb.)	33 — 36
Old ,,	,,	37 — 38
New Red	,,	31 — 35
Old ,,	,,	36 — 37
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	34 — 36
Brewing	,,	31 — 33
Distilling	(per 416 lb.)	28 — 29
New Winter	(per 400 lb.)	25 — 26
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	24 — 25
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34 — 36
Brown	,,	27 — 29
Black	,,	29 — 30
OATS, Good Old	,,	21 — 23
Good New	,,	19 — 20
New Winter	,,	18 — 19
Ordinary Old	(per 320 lb.)	20 — 21
Ordinary New	(per 320 lb.)	18 — 19
,, ,,	(per 312 lb.)	17 — 18
RYE, New	(per 480 lb.)	26 — 28
BEANS, Pigeon	(per 532 lb.)	42 — 44
Tick	(per 504 lb.)	34 — 35
Winter	,,	32 — 33
Spring	,,	31 — 32
Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	21 — 22
PEAS, Picked Marrowfat, New	(per 504 lb.)	88 — 92
Unpicked (Old)	,,	52 — 56
Maple (Old)	,,	36 — 37
(New)	,,	34 — 35
Dun (Old)	,,	32 — 34
(New)	,,	31 — 33
BUCKWHEAT	(per 416 lb)	36 — 37

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s. s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s. s.
Manitoba	40 — 41	American	26/0—26/3
Red Winter	38 — 39	Argentine	25/9—26/0
Best Spring	40 — 41	Roumanian	26/0—26/9
Durum	35 — 36	Russian	26/6—27/0
Argentine	38 — 39	BEANS (480 lb.):	
Australian	38 — 39	Smyrna	34 — 35
Californian	38 — 39	New Zealand	32 — 33
Walla Walla	37 — 38	HARICOTS (504 lb.):	
Azima	38 — 40	Hungarian	62 — 64
Ghirka	37 — 39	Burmese	38 — 40
Roumanian	37 — 39	Chilian	56 — 64
Indian White	38 — 39	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb):	
,, Red	37 — 38	French	37 — 39
Turkish	36 — 37	Russian	33 — 37
Persian	36 — 37	Canadian	36 — 38
BARLEY:		PEAS (504 lb.):	
C'lifor'n (448 lb)	31 — 32	Dutch Crowns	55 — 57
Tunisian (448 lb)	30 — 31	Konigsberg	44 — 46
Algerian (448 lb)	29 — 30	Russian White	35 — 36
Ouchak (448 lb)	28 — 32	Indian White	35 — 36
Smyrna (448 lb)	26 — 30	Canadian White	35 — 36
Russian (400 lb)	24 — 25	New Zeal'd Maple	39 — 40
Indian (400 lb)	23 — 24	Victoria Dun	32 — 33
Persian (400 lb)	22 — 23	MILLET (416 lb.):	
MALT (336 lb.):		White	42 — 44
Californian	34 — 35	Yellow	22 — 24
Smyrna	33 — 36	Sorghum	20 — 21
Ouchak	33 — 36	RICE (cwt.):	
RYE (480 lb.):		Java	16 — 22
Russian	28 — 29	Indian	17 — 20
OATS:		Japanese	16 — 17
Konigsbg (320 lb)	21 — 22	Burmese	10 — 11
Russian (304 lb)	18—18/3	Siamese	8 — 9
Canadian (320 lb)	20 — 21	DARI (480 lb.):	
Argentine (304 lb)	17/9 — 18	Smyrna	27 — 28
Swedish (320 lb)	21 — 22	Indian	23 — 24
New Zealand (448 lb)	25 — 26	Persian	22 — 23

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 P.M.

Top-price flour has settled down with a good steady trade at 33s. net cash. Owing to the scarcity of Hungarian and Belgian the trade in this ancient standard is better than it has been for years.

London household flour was firm to-day, and looked like going 6d to 1s dearer. We do not, however, quote that rise as obtained. There is a growing practice of putting up prices after the close of a market which enables the next market to open with a fixed and known value, and also operates as a premium upon the prompt giving of orders. Country flour was inclined to be dearer for all the chief sorts, and American was also on the upgrade.

Ricemeal was obtainable at a moderate price, but maizemeal and wheatmeal favoured sellers, and the values of bran, pollard, and middlings remain high.

London Flour.

September 23.

Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	33/0
Town Whites	,,	31/0
,, Households	,,	28/0
No. 2	,,	26/0
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	25/0
,, No. 2	,,	23/0
Country Flour.	s.	s.
Fine Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	26 — 28
Roller Whites	,,	25 — 26
All English	,,	25 — 26
Stone made	,,	24 — 25
Foreign Flour.	s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents	(per s'ck of 280 b.)	30 — 31
,, Second Patents	,,	28 — 29
,, First Bakers'	,,	25 — 26
,, Second Bakers'	,,	24 — 25
Milwaukee Patents	,,	29 — 30
,, Bakers'	,,	26 — 27
Canadian Best	,,	29 — 30
,, Ordinary	,,	27 — 28
Manitoba Patents	,,	29 — 30
,, Ordinary	,,	27 — 28
Kansas Patents	,,	27 — 28
,, Ordinary	,,	25 — 26
Californian	,,	29 — 31
Hungarian	,,	35 — 36
Belgian	,,	31 — 33
French, Corbeil	,,	27 — 28
,, Renaux	,,	26 — 27
,, P.S.D.	,,	25 — 26
Meal, &c.		
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	15 — 16
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	16 — 17
,, ,, Broad	,,	15 — 16
Pollard	,,	14 — 15
Biscuit Middlings	,,	18 — 19
Fine Middlings	,,	17 — 18
Coarse Middlings	,,	16 — 17
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	18 — 19
Farina Firsts	,,	29 — 30
,, Seconds	,,	27 — 28
Barley Meal	,,	25 — 26
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	25 — 26
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	30 — 33
Groats	,,	32 — 33
Oat Flour	,,	33 — 34
Ground Oats	,,	32 — 33
Poultry Meal	,,	34 — 36
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	19 — 20
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	18 — 19
,, Germ Meal	,,	15 — 16
,, Cones	,,	18 — 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	15 — 16
Rye Flour	,,	25 — 27
Rye Bran	,,	22 — 23
Pea Meal	,,	24 — 25

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED WITH INQUIRY GOOD, THOUGH NOT BUOYANT. THE FULL STRENGTH WOULD BE EXPRESSED BY ADDING 6D. TO THE ABOVE QUOTATIONS, BUT IT WOULD NOT BE ACCURATE TO SAY THAT THE EXTRA 6D. WAS ALWAYS OBTAINED.

THE BALTIC.

Monday, 1 P.M.

State of Trade.

The cargo market opened in sellers' favour for wheat, barley, oats, and maize; steady for beans, peas, linseed, and rapeseed; and in buyers' favour for cottonseed only.

Business Done.

Wheat.—Best Russian Winter, 42s 6d per 492 lb, October shipment; Roumanian, 39s 9d per 492 lb, October shipment; Australian, 40s 6d per 480 lb, on passage; Argentine, 40s 3d per 480 lb, prompt shipment; White Karachi, 39s 6d per 492 lb, prompt shipment; Red Karachi, 39s per 492 lb, prompt shipment; Best Manitoba, 41s 6d per 480 lb, October shipment.

Maize.—American, 27s per 480 lb, October shipment; Argentine, 26s 3d per 480 lb, October shipment; Russian, 27s 3d per 480 lb, October shipment; Cinquantina, 29s per 480 lb, October shipment.

Barley.—Russian, 23s 3d per 400 lb, October shipment; Californian, 32s per 448 lb, October shipment.

Oats.—Russian, 15s per 304 lb, October shipment.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—Very strong wheat markets have forced flour prices up another 6d per sack, with a fair demand. Grain.—American corn scarce on spot. Maize is 3d per boll dearer. The trade for foreign oats is now more limited, as home-grown oats are offered freely. Beans, none on quay, quiet to arrive. Pease, a retail trade at full rices. New oatmeal 1s to 2s per sack lower. Oilcake firm and inactive. Mill Stuffs.—The brisk demand continues. Winter wheat patents, 29s to 29s 6d per 280 lb; spring wheat patents, 31s to 31s per 280 lb; American corn, 16s to 16s 3d per 280 lb; round corn, 15s 4½d to 15s 6d per 280 lb; grinding beans, 18s 9d to 19s per 280 lb; white pease, 19s to 20s 3d per 280 lb; broad bran, 112s 6d per ton; medium bran, 105s to 107s 6d per ton; fine thirds, 135s per ton; common thirds, 112s 6d per ton; American oilcake, 147s 6d to 150s per ton.—McKinnon and McDonald (Glasgow).

Offals.—There is no change to report in bran. The demand continues steady, and prices are firm.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Flour.—In the past few days there is greater firmness in the flour trade, and a more active demand. Quotations are mostly 6d to 1s per sack higher, with tendency still upward.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Flour.—Trade to-day has been quiet but very firm, offers being scarce. Prices show a further rise of 6d to 9d on the week.—F. L. Medill and Sons, Ltd.

The trade remains firm, with prices still against buyers. Difficulty is experienced in getting delivery of middlings and pollard. Bran also scarce.—John Bawcomb and Co.

Arrivals of wheat are large. The trade is firm, and prices are 1s per qr higher since last Monday. Flour is 6d a sack higher. Maize 6d to 6d, barley 9d to 1s, and oats 6d per qr dearer.—Coventry and Sheppard.

TERM MARKET.

The market in futures to-day is rather excited, and quotations are difficult; 8s 1d per cental is asked for December delivery of red American winter wheat, and 8s is offered. There are holders who ask 8s 2d for delivery at any date in 1908. Maize is hardly quotable; nothing is offered for 1907 delivery under 27s per 480 lb., and for 1908 delivery there are no speculative sellers, the new crops in America and Russia being awaited before the winter business opens.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—The market opens this week with a good demand, and prices are fully 5s to 10s per cwt. in advance of those ruling last week for all good hops, and we also have to record a much better demand for the second qualities, which are finding buyers at prices that could not be obtained when the season opened. Choice hops are exceedingly scarce. The crop of Goldings is now practically picked and comes down lighter than all published estimates, and it is now certain that the crop will be only equal to 160,000 old duty.—W. H. and H. Le May.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were:—From Ireland, 2,557 bales, and from foreign ports, 13,889 bales. There was a steady, quiet market for bacon throughout the week. Quotations ranging:—Irish, 57s to 60s up to 66s; Danish, 52s to 60s up to 64s; Canadian, 54s to 56 up to 60s. Butter: There was a good demand for most descriptions of butter:—French, 94s to 106s; Danish, 115s to 119s; Russian, 80s to 100s; Dutch, 106s to 108s; Irish, 88s to 115s; Canadian, 108s to 110s; Victorian, 88s to 102s; New South Wales, 94s to 110s; Queensland, 86s to 102s; New Zealand, 106s to 110s. Lard.—Lard was a quiet market. Irish, 50s to 58s; Danish, 48s to 50s; American, 48s to 50s.

POTATOES.

Berwick, Saturday.—Ample supply, and a good trade at 65s per ton.

Borough, Saturday.—Good offerings met with fair support. Epicures, 70s; Blacklands, 70s; British Queens, 70s to 75s; and Up-to-Dates, 70s to 80s per ton. Dutch, 3s 3d per bag.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Fair supplies, and a steady demand at 7d to 8d per stone.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Good supply, and fair demand. Prices higher, and from 3s 6d to 4s per cwt.

Goole, Wednesday.—Attendance very small. Little business was passing. A few lots of Warps were making 65s to 70s per ton.

Malton, Saturday.—Little lifting has been done as yet, and supplies are small, and prices nominally unchanged. Retail good qualities, 8d to 9d per stone.

Manchester, Saturday.—Potatoes: Yorkshire, 10s to 11s; Cheshire, 7s 6d to 8s 6d; Lincoln, 9s to 10s: Bedford, 3s 6d to 5s per cwt.

Preston, Saturday.—Last week's prices of 10s 6d to 11s per load of 240 lb were again repeated.

Retford, Saturday.—The market was well supplied, and the best lots of home-grown made 7s 6d, secondary qualities 5s 6d to 6s 6d per load.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Trade quiet, arrivals being ample for requirements. Epicures, 70s; Sharp's Express, 75s to 80s; Blacklands, 70s to 75s; Up-to-Dates, 75s; British Queens, 75s to 80s per ton; French Beauvais, 3s 6d; Dutch, 3s 3d per bag.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Potatoes, £4 to £4 5s per ton.

Whitby, Saturday.—Potatoes, 10d per stone.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Good supply, which made 7s 6d to 8s per load of 18 stones.

York, Saturday.—Only a small supply. Trade steady, at 62s 6d to 65s per ton.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply; no quotations obtainable.

Derby, Friday.—Best old clover, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; best old hay, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; seconds, 65s to 70s; wheat straws, 60s to 70s; pressed straw, 50s to 60s; chop straw, 55s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Trade is fairly brisk for the limited supplies old hay now available at the warehouses. Quotations:—Old clover hay, 7½d; ditto meadow hay, 7d; wheat straw, 5d; oat straw, 5d; and rye straw (retail), 7d to 8½d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Best quality new hay and seeds, 55s to 60s; secondary ditto, 50s. per ton on the ground. Old hay scarce and dear, at 100s. per ton on the ground. Straw, 35s per ton at the stack.

Manchester, Friday.—Clover, old, 7d; new, 5½d to 6½d; straw, oat, 3½d to 4d per stone.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Old land hay, from £4 5s to £4 7s 6d per ton; new land hay, £5 5s to £5 7s 6d; this year's growth, £4 5s to £4 7s 6d; clover hay, £5 5s to £5 7s 6d; oat straw, £1 2s.

Nottingham, Wednesday. — Full market, which met with a slow sale. Quotations:—Inferior to good hay, 50s to 65s; prime ditto, 70s to 80s; inferior to good clover, 65s to 75s; prime ditto, 75s to 85s; wheat straw, 45s to 55s; swede turnips, 20s to 22s; old hay, 90s to 100s; old seeds, 95s to 105s per ton.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Smaller arrivals met a better demand at current rates:—Best clover, 84s to 95s; inferior, 72s to 80s; specially picked hay, 87s; good, 76s to 85s; inferior, 65s to 70s; mixture and sainfoin, 77s 6d to 87s 6d; straw, 28s to 34s per load.

WET AND DRIED GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Saturday.—Wet Grains: Prices have ruled a trifle higher on the past week, and business has been done at ale 15s, and porter 12s 6d per ton on rail, London. Dried Grains.—As reported in the last two or three weeks, the high prices stop consumptive trade, and prices remain at the same figures:—Ale, 92s 6d; mixed, 86s 3d per ton, in buyers' bags, ex factory; American cane treacle, 90s per ton; and kiln-dried sea-damaged Australian wheat from 20s per qr.—Hamlyn and Co., 37 and 38, Mark Lane.

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices to the Statute markets for the week ending September 21, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1903 to 1906:—

	WHEAT.			BARLEY.			OATS.		
	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.
1903	51,368	27	0	15,566	24	0	21,299	16	2
1904	53,304	29	10	89,597	25	10	42,524	15	9
1905	95,743	26	8	70,475	23	10	30,715	15	11
1906	90,292	25	9	76,130	24	3	37,120	16	0
07	66,074	31	5	24,626	25	0	44,624	17	6

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Sept. 23, 1907. British.	Total.	Monday, Sept. 24, 1906.
Beasts	1,050	1,050	1,220
Sheep and Lambs	5,270	5,270	5,700
Calves	10	10	10
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	50	50	35

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 8	3 6	4 8
Sheep	4 10	5 6	6 2
Lambs	5 4	6 0	6 8
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £23 10s.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 30; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 845; Devon, 25; Ireland, 150.

We note to-day an increase of 80 head compared with Monday last, the majority of the supplies being drawn from the Midland Counties and Ireland, these latter comprised 54 Dublins and 36 Waterfords, for which an extremely slow trade was experienced, sellers being obliged to accept a decline in value to effect sales. For both prime and second quality English cattle trade also ruled of a slow and steady nature (partly owing to the overstocked state of the Dead Meat Market) at a decline in value; whilst fat cows and bulls were slow of sale, but were able to maintain late currencies.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. d	s	d	Monday, Sept. 24, 1906. s	d	s	d
Scotch	—	—		—	—	—	
Devons	4	6	ex 4	8	4	4 to 4	6
Herefords	4	4 to 4	6		4	2 to 4	4
Norfolks	—	—			4	2 to 4	4
Runts	4	2 to 4	4		4	0 to 4	2
Lincolns	3	10 to 4	0		3	6 to 3	8
Irish	4	1 to 4	3		—	—	
Canadian	—	—			—	—	
Fat cows	3	4 to 3	6		3	4 to 3	6

There was an increase of 430 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. Trade opened of a firmer and steadier nature, and continued so throughout the day for all grades of English sheep, late currencies being well upheld. Scotch sheep numbering precisely the same as on Monday last, were slow of sale; however, no decline in value is noticeable, whilst Irish were in larger numbers and sold steadily, last week's currencies governing all transactions. With regard to lambs, the season for which is nearly at an end, the inquiry was very limited, the supply included 300 Scotch, 1,040 Irish, and 373 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, Sept. 24, 1906. s. d.	s. d.
8 st Scotch	5 10 to 6	0	5 10 to 6	0
7½ to 8 st Downs	6 0 to 6	2	5 6 to 5	8
9 st. Downs	5 10 to 6	0	5 6 to 5	8
10 st Halfbreds	5 6 to 5	8	5 4 to 5	6
10 st Yorkshires	—		—	
12st Lincolns	—		—	
10 st Irish	5 4 to 5	6	5 2 to 5	4
10 st Down Ewes	4 2 to 4	4	4 2 to 4	4
11 st Halfbred ditto	4 0 to 4	2	4 0 to 4	2
5 st Down Lambs	6 6 to 6	8	6 10 to 7	0
6 st Halfbred ditto	6 2 to 6	4	5 8 to 5	10

Calf trade not worth noting or quoting.

No pigs on offer.

N.B.—Just as our report was leaving a consignment of Irish stores were placed on the market, comprising two and a half-year-old heifers and bulls, also a few yearlings; the two former were quoted at £11 per head, and the latter £7 10s.

London (Central), Monday.—Moderate offerings, and trade quiet. Beef, English, 3s 6d to 3s 9d; Scotch, 4s to 4s 6d; American, 3s 4d to 3s 9d; refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 8d to 4s 2d. Mutton, English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 10d. Lambs, 4s 8d to 5s 4d; Scotch tegs and wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 10d. Veal, 3s 8d to 4s 8d. Pork, 3s 8d to 4s 4d per stone.

St. Ives (Hunts) Monday.—Fat and store cattle, sheep and pigs a good demand; milch cows a short supply, and in good demand. Prices: Beasts (392), 7s 3d to 7s 8d; sheep and lambs (1,584), 8s 2d to 10s 6d, and 9d to 10d; pigs (456), 6s 3d to 7s; milch cows, £13 to £21.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts 754. To-day's supply, compared with Monday last, showed a decrease of 281 head, the supply consisting entirely of shipments from the United States. Trade ruled of a fairly steady nature, at Saturday's values. The best on offer were quoted at from 4s 1d to 4s 3d ex 4s 4d; seconds, 3s 10d to 4s per 8 lb (offal given in). On Saturday 1,650 beasts from the United States and 150 from Canada were offered for sale. Trade ruled of a slow nature, with a downward tendency in value. Besides the above, 250 States and 300 Canadians were withheld from sale. The best States on offer were quoted at from 4s 1d to 4s 3d, ex 4s 4d; seconds, 3s 10d to 4s; Canadians, 3s 10d to 4s; seconds, 3s 8d to 3s 10d per 8 lb (offal given in).

Liverpool, Monday.—Smaller supply of cattle. Demand good for finished qualities, but late rates barely maintained. Rough and middling sorts in poor demand at lower prices. Sheep and lamb supply also smaller, demand fair, and prices slightly better for choice qualities; other sorts unchanged. Beef, 6½d to 5d per lb; mutton, 8½d to 6d; lamb, 8½d to 7d. At market 1,362 cattle and 8,590 sheep.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday. — Linseed Cake. — Supplies of foreign continue small. The market is firm, but not active. Decorticated Cotton Cake and Meal not much doing, the high prices preventing consumption. Ordinary Cotton Cake small supplies; rather dearer.

Linseed Cakes.	£ s. d.	Per ton. £ s. d.
English Linseed Cake, ex mill	7 12 6	to 7 17 0
American Linseed cake, ex quay	7 0 0	to 7 6 0
Russian Oil Cake ex quay	7 10 0	to 7 15 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake ex quay	7 0 0	to 7 5 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal ex quay	6 17 7	to 7 0 0
London-made ,, Cake (best) ex mill	5 2 6	to 5 5 0
Egyptian ,, Cake (in bags) ex quay	5 0 0	to 5 2 6
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included) on rail, Burton	4 15 0	—
Duluth Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb ex warehouse	—	—
Calcutta Linseed (in bags), per 410 lb ex warehouse	2 6 0	to 2 7 0
La Plata Linseed per 416 lb. ex warehouse	2 4 0	to 2 8 0
Russian Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb ex warehouse	2 5 0	—

—Robt. & John Hewetson

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, September 23.—Linseed is steady, but cottonseed is again cheaper.

Linseed. per 416 lb.	s. s.		s. s.
English	None.	Yellow Guzerat	58 to 60
Bombay	None.	Yellow Cawnpre	54 to 55
Calcutta	45 to 47	Brown ,,	53 to 54
Russian 98°/°	47 to 49	Ferozepore	53 to 54
,, Ordin'y	44 to 45	Rubsen. per 424 lb	
Argentine recle'd	48 to 50	German	71 to 75
Argentine cleand	46 to 47	Poppyseed. per 377 lb.	
,, F.A.Q.	44 to 45	Indian	59 to 60
Argentine comn.	42 to 43	Cottonseed. per ton.	
Dutch best	51 to 52	Egyptian	160 to 161
,, medium	46 to 49	Indian	140 to 141
Turkish	45 to 47	Brazilian	140 to 142
Duluth	43 to 45	Sunflowerseed per cwt.	
Canadian	44 to 46	English, White	15 to 16
Morocco	49 to 51	Russian, White.	14 to 15
Rapeseed. per 416 lb.		,, Black.	13 to 14
English, Old	90 to 95	Sesame. per 384 lb.	
New	70 to 75	Indian	58 to 59
French F.A.Q.	64 to 66	Hempseed. per 336 lb.	
		Russian	40 to 42

SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—The continued fine weather is improving the demand for trifolium, prices unchanged. Rape rising. Mustard, fine samples, useful prices. Rye in good demand, prices very firm. Winter tares moving freely, prices reasonable. Peas little more improvement, but prices unsettled. English trefoils firmly held. Foreign relatively dear. Alsika, white, and red clover firm. In grasses, Italian and Perennials higher.—John Picard and Co.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

The trade for fat beasts at Islington, both in regard to prime and second quality, opened with more life, and continued so throughout the day, the tendency in regard to value being in favour of the seller, occasionally an advance of 2d. per 8 lb. being both asked for and obtained. The Irish arrivals consisted of 59 Dublins and 88 Waterfords, the former of which were quoted 1d. per 8 lb. higher than the previous week. Fat butchering cows and bulls were in average numbers, all sales being governed by late rates. On Thursday the supply consisted as usual of fat cows and bulls from the south-western counties. Trade ruled of a slow nature, but no alteration in regard to value was noticeable.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, markets were held on Monday and Saturday; trade ruled of a slow nature, the tendency in regard to value ruling slightly in favour of the seller on Monday, with a fall in value on Saturday. The total number on offer at both markets was 3,865 as against 4,060 during the preceding week, consisting of 1,030 British (decrease 20) and 2,835 foreign, (decrease 175), these latter comprising 2,267 from the United States and 568 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) :—80 to 90 stone Devons, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 6d. ex 4s. 8d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 110 stone ditto, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 95 stone Irish, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 90 stone States, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d. ex 4s. 5d.; 95 stone Canadians, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d to 3s. 6d.

The sheep trade at Islington was of a firmer and steadier nature, with an advance of 2d. per 8 lb. in value for both English wethers and ewes. Scotch and Irish descriptions proved an exception to the foregoing remark, these being in larger supply and meeting with no corresponding increase in the demand, sellers were obliged to be content with late currencies. On Thursday all sales were governed by Monday's prices. Lambs were offered for sale on both days, but were somewhat difficult to vend, nevertheless no further decline in value can be quoted. No sheep were shown at Deptford. The total number of sheep penned at both markets was 5,410, as against 5,390 during the preceding week, this showing an increase of 20. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (offal given in) :—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 6s. to 6s. 2d.; 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 10 stone Halfbreds, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 5 stone fat Down lambs, 6s. 6d. to 6s. 8d.; 6 stone Half-bred ditto, 6s. 2d to 6s. 4d.

Calves numbered 30, and on Thursday were quoted 4d. per 8 lb. higher, the best on offer making from 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d. per 8 lb. (offal given in).

Trade in the West.

Grazing cattle, as might naturally be expected, are in very keen request everywhere, and not only for the fresher-condition bullocks, ready for finishing off, but equally so for younger stock—stirks and yearling heifers. The more forward kinds of graziers now command a free sale at £24 to £30 or £31 per pair, and, with fat beasts keeping up to their present level, they are not very likely to recede in value. With a keen enquiry for animals suitable for town milk walks, many of which are now making up their numbers for the winter trade, sellers are very firm in their demands, more particularly for heifers of a good class and also for cows of a reliable character, the range for which may now be given at from £17 to £21 or £22 (for the very best young heifers, and £15 to £17 or £18 for cows); the plainer kinds realising from £14 down to £11 or £12 for cows almost if not quite played out as milchers. In-calvers are also very saleable at from £12 up to £15 and over according to their seasons. The sheep trade is even more buoyant, the prices now ruling being some shillings in advance of the ordinary range of prices at this time of the year, the rise being quite 5s. at Beaminster on Thursday, with a quick trade at the advance. Ewes may be quoted as selling from 45s. up to 65s. apiece (made at Beaminster) for flock purposes; grazing sheep, 34s. to 44s.; chilver and wether lambs (for keeping on), 35s. to 45s.; mixed lambs, 35s. to 47s.; and culls from 24s. to 33s. 6d. And every sheep or lamb that can be bought is caught up with a keenness seldom witnessed almost at the fag end of a season, when as a rule most buyers have had their requirements met. Store pigs are difficult to procure despite the high prices buyers are prepared to pay.

Supplies of fat stock, either beasts or sheep, are by no means too plentiful at any of the markets, and this circumstance gives considerable tone to sales. Ripe fat steers and heifers readily make 11s. 6d. to 12s (or from £16 to £23 apiece); seconds, 11s.; fat cows, 9s. to 10s. (or £14 to £18); and coarse bulls, 8s. to 9s. Mutton seems to be getting scarcer and scarcer, and prices are becoming correspondingly dearer; wethers now sell up to 60s. apiece (or 8½d. to 9d. per lb.); ewes, best, 46s. to 58s. (or 7½d. to 8¼d); and lambs, heavy wethers, 46s. to 58s. (or 10d. to 11d. per lb.); smaller lambs of poorer finish, 9½d. Calves keep very scarce, and prices rule correspondingly high—9d. per lb. and over for best finished lots, and 8d. to 8½d. for seconds. The pig trade keeps firm at 10s. 6d. to 11s. for best porkers; 9s. 6d. to 10s. for baconers; and 8s. to 9s. for coarse weights.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer was much smaller, and the quality rather under an average. An active trade has been experienced, and prices have advanced from 20s. to 25s. per head over last week, with hardening prices at the close. Sheep have also been shown in fewer numbers. These have experienced a better trade, and have advanced nearly 2s. per head. Fat lambs were also in demand at a little rise. Fat calves considerably dearer, while pigs maintained previous prices. There was a fair supply of store cattle, but owing to the backward harvest farmers are not yet prepared to buy, and a quiet trade has been experienced at prices slightly favouring buyers. Store sheep of a good class met a good inquiry at previous prices, but secondary kinds were left. Milch cows a fair show, and they met a trade quite equal to that of last week. Quotations :—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 40s. 6d.; current, 35s. 6d. to 38s.; mutton, to 9½d. per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Ltd.

Trade in Ireland

There was a good attendance of buyers on Thursday last, and buying was more satisfactory, as reports from English markets were better. There was a decrease of 160 cattle and 760 sheep, there being 4,203 beasts and 9,066 sheep. The market opened better for useful descriptions of cattle, with a tendency against buyers. Bullocks and heifers made (liveweight) 29s. to 31s. per cwt., the approximate (dead-weight) prices for prime beef, from 51s. to 52s. 6d., with extra quality up to 54s.; medium beef, 48s. to 50s.; and inferior beef, from 44s. to 46s. per cwt. Sheep trade was confined to small or medium weights. Wethers were in fairly good request, making from 7d. to 7¾d.; good ewes making from 6½d. to 7d. per lb. Heavy sheep were a drag, and difficult to quote for; good fat lambs, were worth from 30s. to 40s.; while some of extra quality went up as far as 45s. each. Best veal was worth 8d. per lb.; second quality, 7d. to 7½d., and inferior veal very slow and cheap. A good show of milch cattle. But although there was a good attendance of buyers trade was quiet. Best fresh cows brought £15 to £20 each, and other descriptions in proportion.

Store cattle were not much dealt in on the open market, but a good deal was done at the auction sales. Small offering of pigs in the market, with a good attendance of buyers. Competition was keen for the better classes of hogs, and last week's depression was overcome, values showing an upward tendency. Choice light-weight pigs were from 52s. to 53s., and in a few cases 54s. per cwt. Heavy baconers, 48s. to 51s. per cwt.; coarse pigs, 36s. to 42s. 6d. per cwt.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Fair supplies, and trade continues slow., prices barely maintained for beef. English beef, 3s 6d to 3s 9d; Scotch sides, 4s to 4s 2d; shorts, 4s 4d to 4s 8d Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 4d to 3s 9d refrigerated hindquarters, best, 4s to 4s 2d; ditto seconds, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; ditto forequarters, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; inferior beef, 2s 2d to 2s 8d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; ditto tegs, 5s to 5s 4d; ditto ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; Dutch sheep, 4s to 4s 4d; English lamb, 4s 8d to 5s 2d; veal, 3s 8d to 4s 8d; English pork, 3s 8d to 4s 4d; Dutch pork, 3s 8d to 4s 2d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday. — Supply of beasts consisted entirely of fat cows and bulls, trade for which ruled slow, but fairly steady at last Monday's values Top prices paid per 8 lb as follows :—Fat cows, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 9d to 3s 2d. Decrease of 90 in number penned in sheep market compared with Thursday last. Sheep trade ruled steady, and last Monday's advance was well maintained. Lambs, however, were difficult to vend, even at the low rates quoted. Best pens made per 8 lb as follows :—7½ stone to 8 stone Down sheep, 6s to 6s 2d; 9 stone ditto, 5s 10d to 6s; 10 stone half-breds, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 4d 5 stone fat grass lambs, 6s 6d to 6s 8d; 6 stone half-bred ditto, 6s 2d to 6s 4d. Calves met slow trade, but were firmer in value. Quotations per 8 lb, sinking the offal :—Beasts, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; sheep, 4s 2d to 6s 2d; calves, best, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; lambs, 4s 10d to 6s 8d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef trade very slow, bulk of the supply making 4s to 4s 6d. Mutton trade also quiet, Downs quoted up to 6s, small Kents up to 5s 8d, and barrens 4s to 4s 4d. Pork sold rather more readily, roasters making 3s 10d to 4s, and large hogs about 3s 8d.

Aylesbury, Wednesday.—About 600 sheep and lambs and 150 beasts were on offer, and consisted of some excellent quality stock. Although prices showed no advance on previous week trade was fair, nearly everything changing hands. Wethers made from 37s 6d to 59s 6d; ewes, 35s 6d to 57s; lambs, 32s to 44s 6d; heifers, £14 10s to £22 10s; and bullocks, £16 5s to £22 10s.

Basingstoke, Wednesday. — Prime Devon beasts, 7d to 7½d; ditto Shorthorns, 6½d to 7d; bulls, cows, and inferior, 5d to 6d; best sheep and big lambs, 9d to 9½d; second-class sheep, 7½d to 8½d; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 6½d to 7d; choice sucking lambs, 9½d to 10½d; fat calves, 6d to 7½d per lb; fat porkers, 10s 6d to 11s 6d per score.

Birmingham, Thursday. — Good supply of pigs; small supply of beasts and sheep; trade slow. Quotations :—Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 8½d to 9d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s 6d to 9s 10d per score; cutting pigs, 9s 9d to 10s per score; sows, 7s 10d to 8s per score.

Bristol, Thursday. — Beef was in average supply, but demand not brisk and business slow, values receding to 60s per cwt. for best qualities and 57s for secondary. Sheep were less numerous than usual, and moderate business was done, prime wethers being reduced ½d per lb. Pigs were scarce, and prices unchanged.

Calne, Friday.—Prices of pigs: — In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 1s. per pig extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. 10 lb to 8 sc. 10 lbs, 9s 0d per score, 8 sc. 11 lb to 9 sc. 10 lb,, 8s 6d per score; 9 sc. 11 lb to 10 sc. 10 lb, 8s 0d Pigs outside these limits at their value.—C. and T. Harris and Co., Ltd.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Not quite an average market. A few cows and calves were offered, the average price being about £15. Good wether lambs sold at from 32s 6d to 31s 6d; good graft ewes, 33s to 34ss; good working lambs, from 24s 6d to 28s; and wether tegs, from 45s to 47s 6d.

Chester, Thursday.—Large supplies, and a good selection of stock. Demand again showed an improvement all round, and considerable business was done at very remunerative rates. Sheep market well stocked, trade being brisk, and prices again high. Quotations :—Milch cows, £17 to £22; calvers, £14 to £17; barrens, £10 to £13; heifers, £9 to £15; stirks, £6 to £10; sheep, 30s to 48s; lambs, 26s to 32s per head.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Messrs. Tucker and Son had fine supplies of everything except mutton at their Charles Street repository sale to-day, at which there was likewise a full attendance of buyers. Store cattle were in keen request, both for milk and grazing purposes, and a very firm trade resulted in outside values being paid all round. Dairy beasts, especially young heifers, of which some very good drafts were stalled, sold exceedingly well, and useful cows also found a free sale, the range for the former being from £16 up to £20 10s each, and for the latter from £14 to £17 5s for the best. From £24 to £28 may be given as a fair average

run for useful barreners in good condition; poorer class bullocks selling from £16 10s to £22 10s. Beef trade firm, ripe heifers making 11s 6d per score (or from £16 5s to £21 each); fat cows, 9s 6d to 10s 6d (or £14 to £17). Buyers of mutton found great difficulty in getting their wants supplied.

Dublin, Thursday.—A better selling market for cattle at last week's prices. Sheep a very slow trade, shipping hoggets and fancy light weights making late rates, heavy qualities favouring buyers, and in excess of requirements. Cattle—Live weight (best), 30s to 33s per cwt; secondary sorts, 26s to 28s per cwt. Mutton (dead weight), 6½d to 7¾d per lb.—Ganly, Sons and Co.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Trade was was dull, and supplies were middling in quality; half-bred lambs sold for 24s to 30s; Gray-faced, 20s to 22s; Cheviot ewes, 24s to 34s. Cattle short supply only. Quotations: Polled bullocks, £13 13s; Shorthorn cows sold at £21 to £26 5s; Ayrshires, £15 to £18 10s; crosses, £18 to £23.

Exeter, Friday.—Smaller supply of fat beasts; quiet trade. Steers and maiden heifers, 11s; cows, 9s 6d to 10s, many unsold. Much smaller supply of sheep; trade very quiet, only hoggs in demand, 9d; big wether sheep, 8d; ewes, 6½d. Less number of breeding ewes offered, and less demand, 40s to 45s; rams, 5d. Slackness of trade was due to unsatisfactory reports from the London dead meat market.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Average number of cattle marketed, and for prime sorts a sharper trade was experienced; secondary and inferior classes also met better inquiry; top, 63s to 66s; secondary, 58s to 61s per cwt. Sheep and lambs were penned in average numbers, and for the best descriptions a good demand was experienced; other classes also met good inquiry; finest mutton, 8¾d to 9d; secondary, 8d to 8½d per lb. Finest lambs, 7d to 9d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A large supply of beef with a dragging trade, only the best heifer and bullock being sought after, and that making from 6½d to 6¾d; cow beef a slow trade, making 5d. Calves were a good supply, with trade firmer, veal fetching 7d. A large supply of fat and store sheep, with trade fairly firm; wether mutton 8d and ewe 6½d. Fat lambs, a fair supply met with a good call at 8d. Store lambs were in good demand. Porks a large supply at 5½d to 6d. A few bacons passed hands at 5½d. The store trade was dull. Few store cattle were on offer, and they experienced a slow trade.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs Robert Bond and Sons report an average supply of fat cattle, with a scarcity of prime qualities; a few of the best realised 9s per stone, but other descriptions were rather lower on the week. A good show of grazing cattle, including several choice lots of roan Shorthorns bred in Cumberland and Westmoreland. There was a fair attendance of buyers, and prices ruled slightly in their favour, but a good clearance was effected. Two years old Shorthorns in good condition, £11 to £12 5s; twenty to eighteen months, £11 10s to £9 15s; young growing steers, £9 to £7 5s; roan Polled two-years-olds, £13 to £12 17s 6d; eighteen months, £10 5s to £9; Irish calves, £5 7s 6d to £5 5s. The trade for dairy stock was extremely slow, only young animals freshed calved or near being in any demand. Shorthorns with calves by sides to £20 10s; red polls to £19 10s. Fat sheep were short and sold freely. Half-bred shearlings, to 62s 6d, Suffolks to 62s, Southdowns to 56s 6d, fat ewes to 56s 6d, breeding and grazing sheep were scarce and dear. Fat swine in request, recent values being well maintained.

Lincoln, Friday.—A small consignment of horned stock, and a fair trade. Young beasts made £9 to £11; strong ditto, £12 to £14; and milch cows, £17 to £21 per head. The sheep pens were well filled, and business ruled dull. Gimmers made 65s, ewes 58s, and lambs 36s to 44s. Lincolnshire rams, 5 gs to 11 gs, and Hampshire ditto up to 4 gs per head.

Lynn, Tuesday.—An average show of fat beasts met a fair trade, and made from 7s to 7s 9d. Stores were in very small supply, and with trade very slow realised from £6 to £14 each. Fat sheep were offered in average numbers, and trade was about the average, from 9s to 10s per stone; stores from 45s to 50s each; fat lambs, 30s to 40s; stores 32s to 40s each.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: Firsts, 5½d; seconds, 4½d to 4¾d; thirds, 3½d to 3¾d. Mutton: Firsts, 7½d; seconds, 6½d to 6¾d; thirds, 5½d to 5¾d. Veal: Firsts, 6½d; seconds, 5½d to 5¾d; thirds, 4½d to 4¾d. Bacon pigs: Firsts, 5½d; seconds, 4½d to 5d; thirds, 3½d to 4d. Porket pigs: Firsts, 6½d; seconds, 6d to 6½d; thirds, 5½d to 5¾d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was a fair supply at this market, and moderately good business was done, prices being the same as last week.

Norwich, Saturday.—Fat cattle only fair, best making 7s 9d to 8s per 14 lb stone. Veal calves sold at 8s to 9s per stone. Fat sheep trade hardly so good, the best making 9d, second quality 8½d, and a few ewes 6¾d per lb. Pigs were in short supply, baconers fetching 6s to 6s 6d; porkers, 6s to 7s, and sows 5s per stone. Store cattle were mostly large beasts, and met a slow trade, best two and three-year-olds making £14 to £18; yearlings, £8 to £10 5s; and younger stock £3 10s to £6 10s per head. For store sheep trade was slow and dear, Suffolk shearlings made 50s to 64s; crossbreds 53s to 60s; and lambs, of which there were only two lots, 33s 6d to 44s. Store pigs were a small show, and met a good trade at 14s to 25s per head.

Nottingham, Saturday.—There was a fair show of stock, and trade for the best animals was good. In-calf cows made average prices, selling at £8 10s to £20 10s, and heifers, £15 to £18; calves made from 25s to 45s apiece. Sheep made average rates, there being a good show.

Preston, Wednesday.—Trade was slow for an average supply of stock, though prices were fairly well maintained. Local heifers were scarce. Local-fed heifers of choice quality realised 6½d to 6¾d; prime Irish, 6½d; young cows and bulls, 5¾d to 6d; heavy and secondary ditto, 5d to 5½d; choice hoggs and lambs, 8¾d; heavy and secondary ditto, 8d; prime ewes, 6½d; heavy ewes and tups, 5½d to 6d; and calves up to 7½d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—First class milch beasts sold very well at this market, realising from £18 to £21 10s; secondary qualities down to £15; two-year-old steers and heifers showed no variation in value, selling at £10 to £12; yearlings, £6 to £8; and calves, 35s to 40s per head.

Romford, Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts; trade very slow. Best animals, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in short supply; trade about the same: best small, 5s 8d to 6s; larger, 5s 4d to 5s 6d per stone. Ewes in short supply; trade a little better, at 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. Lambs in short supply; trade about the same, at 6s 4d to 6s 8d per stone. A few store beasts on offer; very slow demand. Large supply of milch cows; trade good. Pigs in average supply; trade unchanged.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—More milch beasts shown than last week, and a sharper demand for the pick, which made £21 to £22 10s; secondary quality making £16 to £17 10s. No sheep penned.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Usual supply of fat cattle, but smaller of store cattle, which had a slower trade. Good demand for fat stock, prices being well maintained. Store sheep a fair demand. Usual trade in calves and pigs. Quotations:—Beef, 6d to 6½d per lb; mutton (wether), 9d to 9½d per lb; ewes, 7½d to 8d per lb; lamb, 9d to 9½d per lb; veal, 7d to 7½d per lb; porket pigs, 10s to 10s 6d per score; bacons, 9s 6d to 9s 9d per score.

Stockton, Wednesday.—An average show of the best cattle, which, with few customers at the market, met with a slow trade at 7s 3d to 7s 6d per stone, rougher kinds selling at 6s to 6s 6d. Lambs made 9d per lb., young sheep 8½d, ewes 7d, and tups 6d to 6½d. There was no change in the pig trade, small porkers selling at 7s 3d per stone, mediums at 7s, and sows 6s to 6s 6d.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was again a very large entry of all descriptions of stock, including a large number of Down calving heifers. Trade for beef was not quite so brisk as the previous week, although a large number changed hands. Sheep still continue to sell well, a clearance being effected. Down calving heifers were in demand, and realised satisfactory prices. Bacon hogs and porkers eagerly sought after. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 135 fat beast and store cattle, 287 fat and store sheep, 91 fat and weaning calves, and 130 fat and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £16 to £20; fat heifers, £15 to £23 12s 6d; fat wethers, 52s to 60s; fat lambs, 36s to 52s; fat ewes, 48s to 60s 6d; fat calves, £3 to £3 17s 6d; weaning bull calves, 20s to 50s; cow calves, 26s to 58s; bacon hogs, £3 5s to £5 5s; porkers, 28s to 45s; small store pigs, 16s to 20s; large stores, 25s to 36s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance very good, and business fairly brisk. Fat bullocks, 56s. to 60s. per cwt; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £10 to £15 each; rearing calves, 25s to 40s; ewes, 42s to 48s; wethers, 7d per lb; ewes, 5d to 5½d; lambs, 7d; pigs, 8s to 38s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8½d; lamb, 8d to 9d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork 6d to 8½d; pork carcasses, 5d to 5½d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Trade slow all round; supply fair. Quotations:—Beef, 5½d to 6¾d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 9d per lb; lamb, 8½d to 9½ per lb; veal, 6d to 8d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Somewhat larger supply of stock, sheep in particular, with fair trade at about late rates, mutton alone being down at about ½d per lb. Best quality beef made 7s 6d to 8s, and secondary to 7s 6d per stone; South-down wether and cross-bred mutton, 8d to 8½d; best qualities and secondary, 7d to 8d per lb; ewes and other sorts, 6d to 6½d per lb. A few lambs made up to 9½d per lb.

York, Thursday.—Very few buyers were present owing to harvesting operations, and trade was very slow. The best of what few ewes were shown made up to 54s, and others from 48s to 52s. North Country gimmers, 48s to 54s; North Country lambs, 32s to 38s; best twice crossed lambs up to 37s; others 32s to 35s; and Masham lambs 23s to 26s each. A few Masham ewes were on offer, and made 40s to 48s. No English store cattle were shown, but there was a fair offer of Irish for an off-market. Buyers were, however, scarce, and only a few odd lots found purchasers. Small offer of newly calved cows, which met with a really sale at 17 to 20 guineas each.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Ample and varied supply; demand fairly brisk. Quotations for English produce:—Grapes, 6d to 3s; pears, 2s 6d to 4s per bushel; damsons, 1s to 1s 6d per half sieve; plums, 1s to 3s per half sieve; peaches, 3s to 12s per dozen; green figs, 1s to 3s per dozen; melons, 1s to 2s; cobnuts, 3s to 3s 6d; filberts, 2s 6d to 3s per 12 lb; apples, 2s 6d to 7s 6d per bushel; tomatoes, 3s to 3s 6d; scarlet runners, 1s 3d to 2s; green peas, 2s 6d to 4s per bushel; cauliflowers, 3s to 5s; cabbages, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; marrows, 2s 6d to 3s 6d per tally; cucumbers, 4s to 5s 6d per flat; endive, 1s 6d to 1s 9d per dozen; parsley, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; mint, 1s to 1s 3d; turnips, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; carrots, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen bunches; horseradish, 10s to 15s per dozen bundles; mushrooms, 7s 6d to 12s per 12 lb; cos lettuce, 6d to 8d per score; beetroots, 1s 6d per dozen bunches; potatoes, 60s to 75s per ton.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Altrincham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Appleby: 10½d to 1s. Barnstaple: 1s to 1s 3d. Birmingham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Camelford: 1s. Carlisle: 1s 1d. Chester: 1s 1d. Dartmouth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Derby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Devizes: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Doncaster: 1s 1d. Dorchester: 10d to 1s 2d. Evesham: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Hereford: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Kidderminster: 1s 1d. Lincoln: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Market Drayton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Otley: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per 24 oz roll. Penrith: 10½d to 1s 2d. Plymouth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Preston: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Retford: 1s 2d. Ripon: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Spalding: 11d. Stamford: 1s to 1s 3d. Stockport: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Totnes: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Truro: 10d to 11d. Wellington (Salop): 1s to 1s 1d. Worcester: 11d to 1s. York: 1s to 1s 2d.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Altrincham: 4 and 8. Appleby: 9 and 10. Barnstaple: 10. Birmingham: 8 and 10. Camelford: 12 and 14. Carlisle: 8. Chester: 8 and 9. Dartmouth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per doz. Derby: 9 and 10. Devizes: 10 and 12. Doncaster: 10 and 11. Dorchester: 1s to 1s 2½d per doz. Evesham: 1s 4d per doz. Hereford: 10 to 12. Kidderminster: 10. Lincoln: 9 and 11. Market Drayton: 9 and 10. Otley: 9 and 10. Penrith: 9 and 10. Plymouth: 11 and 12. Preston: 8. Retford: 2s to 2s 2d per score. Ripon: 8 and 9. Scarborough: 9. Spalding: 12. Stamford: 9 and 11. Stockport: 7 and 8. Totnes: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per doz. Truro: 1s to 1s 1d per dozen. Wellington (Salop): 10 and 11. Worcester: 9 and 12. York: 9.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There is little business doing, quotations ranging from 30s to 84s, with upward tendencies for all bright and coloury samples.

Halifax, Saturday.—Though inquiry is very plentiful just now, the amount of business done is restricted to rather small quantities, users awaiting the London sales, as to which, however, reduction in prices is not expected.

Worcester, Saturday.—Owing to the annual fair being held only last Thursday, there were not many growers at market to-day. Rather better prices were made, especially for anything with good colour, as it is seen what a small proportion there are of them. The foggy nights and hot sun during the day causing the hops still on the poles to lose colour. 1,339 pockets new hops have passed at public scales this week.—Charles Faram and Co.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Arrivals of home cheese were less this week. The floors are now well covered, and buyers are loth to respond to the extreme prices sought. Demand quiet, several lots of outstanding quality brought from 1s to 2s

above the quotations now given:—Cheddars, 58s o 62s per cwt; Dunlops, 56s to 60s. Canadians are quoted at 50s; demand slow.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—A rather dragging trade. A fair attendance of buyers, and ultimate clearance. Best Caerphilly dairies realised up to 54s 6d per cwt.; secondary dairies, 45s to 53s; and other dairies, 42s to 43s 6d. A few inferior lots failed to reach 39s. Cheddars, old, 54s to 75s; seconds and new, 66s to 72s; no doubles.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was an average attendance and a fair demand. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 42s to 50s per cwt; fancy dairies, 52s to 54s; Derbys, 60s to 63s; truckles, 58s to 60s; singles, 58s to 60s; Cheddars, 60s.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter.—All over Australia rain is needed, and if none should fall for another month the situation would become serious. On the other hand, if good rains fall in that time the whole aspect of affairs will be changed, and supplies of butter equal to last year will result. Foreign butter has advanced in price, Danish by 2s 3d per cwt, and French by 4s. The rise is due to the annual decline caused by the spring calving cows reaching the close of their lactation period, when their milk-giving powers are naturally at their lowest. Cheese.—The demand for Canadian has been slow and dragging, and holders for June and July cheese are more inclined to meet buyers than they were a week ago. August and September goods remain firm, but business in these lines is not by any means brisk.—W. Weddel and Co.

Weekly Arrivals into London.
September 11 to September 18 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	2,630	52,511	55,142
Barley	1,400	11,000	12,400
Malt	18,844	—	18,844
Oats	10,600	6,200	16,800
Beans	112	463	575
Peas	114	727	841
Maize	—	51,500	51,500
Tares	40	10	50
Linseed	—	7,101	7,101
Rapeseed	63	2,100	2,163
Cottonseed	—	4,000	4,000
Rye	140	—	140
Flour sacks	18,000	36,000	54,000
Meal	200	445	645

OBITUARY.

Mr. Frank Corbett.

The death is announced of Mr. Frank Corbett, Yesselcote, Chaddesley Corbett, which occurred somewhat suddenly from pneumonia. He had not been very well for some time, but the end was unexpected. The Corbett family have been associated with Chaddesley Corbett for several generations, and the firm of Joseph Corbett and Sons, of which the deceased was a member, are large employers of labour in the district. They carry on an extensive business as timber merchants, millers, and farmers, and their operations extend throughout the Midlands and other parts of the country.

Mr. Frank Corbett was the fourth son of the late Mr. Joseph Corbett, and was sixty-one years of age. He was born at Pleremore, and resided at Chaddesley Corbett all his life. He was an enthusiastic and experienced agriculturist, and a member of the Royal Agricultural Society, as well as an active member of the committee of the Chaddesley Corbett and District Farmers' Club, which did such good work in the district for so many years. He took a keen interest in all local affairs, and rendered generous help to all those movements which contribute to the pleasures of country life.

Mr. T. W. Stocker.

The death is announced of Mr. T. W. Stocker, a well-known Huntingdonshire agriculturist. The deceased, who was sixty-three years of age, had been ailing for some time past, but finally succumbed to a stroke attack early on Sunday morning last. Mr. Stocker for some years figured as the representative of Huntingdonshire to the Royal Agricultural Society, and locally was one of the prime movers in that county's annual exhibition.

Sale of Jersey Cattle and Berkshire Pigs at Dutchlands.

There was a good company at Dutchlands, Great Missenden, last Wednesday, when the herds of Jersey cattle and Berkshire pigs belonging to the Hon. Mrs. Cecil Howard, were sold. The Jerseys were a good, useful lot, but did not sell particularly well, Mr. F. F. Roothans purchasing Haltonia at 16 guineas, Mr. Clucas Habenaria at 16 guineas, and Mr. Lawrence Currie Hazleberry and Hymerocallis at 17 guineas each. Some good cows were also secured by Mr. Shuttleworth to go to Bicester, and several of the best heifers by Sir Robert Wilmot; whilst the yearling bull Horsechesnut went cheaply to Mrs. Watson's bid of 30 guineas, and goes into Norfolk.

The small herd of Berkshires of the old Dutchlands strain averaged £3 5s. all round, many of them being very young. Countess Highclere, with a choice litter of eight, went at £8 5s. to Mr. Young, with Lady Oxford 3rd at £6 10s. Mr. Macmonies purchased some good gilts; Mr. J. Reffell obtained the boar Master Dolly Oxford at 97s. 6d.

A number of Southdown ewes were also sold at prices up to 48s. (Col. Van de Weyer); Southdown lambs up to 35s. (Mr. J. Stimson); the average for 52s. being 30s., and fifty Cheviot lambs averaged 32s. 6d., Mr. W. Smith and Mr. A. Gee being the principal purchasers.

Worcester Fair.

Although known as Worcester Hop Fair, the annual fair at Worcester is not confined to hops, for horses, cattle, and sheep, cheese, &c., all figure in the proceedings. For instance, at the fair held on Thursday over 3,000 sheep and lambs were offered, and there was a good show of both horses and cheese, but hops were perhaps the feature. The supply was nothing like so large as last year, and merchants described business as very meagre and the quality of the crop somewhat disappointing.

In the sheep fair there were offered about 3,100 sheep and 200 rams. There was a good demand for the best stock, and all classes met with a ready sale. About 700 store lambs sold better than of late, making up to 40s. 6d. The ram trade was good. Some made up to 7½ guineas, and others 6½ guineas. Fifty Shropshire theaves made up to 62s. Messrs. Lythall and Walters (Birmingham) offered thirty Hampshire ram lambs, which sold from 4½ guineas.

The cattle entries were rather disappointing. Two hundred Irish animals came from a distance, but the local entries were poor, about twenty-six fat cattle being shown. In the horse yard the Welsh colts were prominent. Their number showed an increase on last year, being 200 compared with 181. Irish colts were not so numerous. The horse exhibits were of no special quality, and the reason was said to be that the autumn sales attracted the best. Not many colts were disposed of. In only one case did the amount exceed £60. The lowest sum paid was £5. There were about 100 pigs offered for sale, compared with a dozen or so last year.

Cheese prices were:—Cheddar, 60s. to 74s.; double Gloucester, 54s. to 60s.; single ditto, 48s. to 56s.; Canadian, 56s. to 62s.; American, 55s. to 60s.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

Account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended September 14, 1907, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year (the figures for 1906 are in parentheses):—

Animals, living:—Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves (10,795), 11,031; sheep and lambs (232), 1,210; horses (171), 418.

Fresh meat:—Beef (135,689 cwts.), 85,747; mutton (35,713), 42,698; pork (8,528), 9,980.

Salted or preserved meat:—Bacon (114,535 cwt.), 105,968; beef (2,979), 1,583; hams (21,568), 22,339; pork (3,823), 5,125; meat (7,997), fresh, 8,660; salted 916; meat, preserved (6,620), 4004.

Dairy produce and substitutes:—Butter (72,421 cwt.), 73,618; margarine (22,346), 1,6796; cheese (71,532), 56,444; milk, fresh in cans or drums (160), —; cream (92), 24; milk, condensed (21,577), 17,545; milk, preserved (240), 34.

Eggs (great hundreds):—(348,471), 408,880; poultry (value £2,377), £2,158; game (value £1,692), £2,587; rabbits, dead (not tinned), (69,432 cwt.), 38,696; lard (35,995 cwt.), 28,349.

Corn, grain, meal, and flour:—Wheat (2,125,500 cwt.), 2,024,200; wheat meal and flour (311,300), 223,500; barley (651,300), 301,500; oats (204,600), 60,700; peas (46,610), 20,350; beans (13,530) 3,560; maize or Indian corn (1,032,300), 1,248,900.

Fruit (raw):—Apples (14,595 cwt.), 13,741; grapes (21,835 cwt.), 33,225; pears (39,453 cwt.), 38,886; plums (70,955 cwt.), 11,323.

Hay (1,741 tons), 559; straw (2,235 tons), 1,919; moss litter (1,352 tons), 1,412; hops (1,039 cwt.), 1,718.

Vegetables (raw):—Onions (178,360 bushels), 237,576; potatoes (17,790 cwt.), 56,740; tomatoes (34,158), 19,459.

In the course of a speech at the Cosby (Cumberland) Agricultural Show, on Thursday, the Speaker of the House of Commons (Mr. J. W. Lowther) said the purpose of the Small Holdings Act had been briefly, but incorrectly, described as contained in the phrase, "back to the land." Everyone desired to see the country districts more thickly populated, but they possibly entertained doubts as to whether it would be possible to achieve this by legislative means. Fifty years ago this country decided to be a manufacturing country, and that policy had since been chiefly supported. The result was that agriculture, while not forced to the wall, had not occupied the centre of the stream of traffic. He felt sure that, whether they were landlords or county councillors, they would give the experiment their support. It was a bold but interesting experiment, and if successful they might see therein one solution of the many difficulties which surrounded them.

RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

HAY FOR SALE.—A quantity of first-class old mixture and meadow for sale.—H. M. Simmons, Amberstone Grange, Hailsham.

BASIC SLAG, all grades.—Kainit, Supers., Boiled and Dissolved Bones, etc. State quantities required and station, when prices, analyses, etc., will be sent by return of post.—Clement Swaffield, Derby.

15,000 BREEDING EWES.
8,000 LAMBS, &c.

COUNTY AUCTION MART, AYR.

GREAT TWO DAYS' SALE.

(FIRST DAY)—THURSDAY FIRST, 26th September, 1907.—FIRST GREAT ANNUAL SALE of BLACKFACED and CHEVIOT HILL EWES, Uncrossed and Guaranteed, and BLACKFACED GIMMERS, &c., when there will be exposed—

9,000 BLACKFACED EWES, direct off the Hill, uncrossed and guaranteed, of their mouths and udders, among which which will be the following well known lots;—Chirmorrie, Lochingerroch, Whiterue, Blackrue, Farden, Dochroyle, Brochloch (Carsphairn), Pencloe, Auldhouseburn Palgown, Gleckmulloch, Changue, Darneimow, Laggish, Garryhorn, Castlemaddie, Slintoch Moor, Craigcanhochie, Ardnamore, Corphin, Sannox, Glaister, Machrie, Knockdon (Waterhead Hirsel), Lochryan (Cairnmains and Brockloch Hirsels), Glenkiln, Shallochwell, Whiteclauchrie, Marbrack, Craigengillan, Drenandow (Nappers and Barclye Hirsels), Shiel, Glenmuick, Benwhat, Maneight, Meiklehill, Auchincloigh and Greenhill, Rankinstone, Smithstone, Carnavel, Knockguldron, Heidmark, Blackcraig, High Eldrig (Dervinnie and Dervauchlie Hirsels), Machriebeg, Amod, Barnhill, Waterhead, Pultadee (Fore and Back Hirsels), Barnvannoch, Darnaconnar, Pynannot, Strahanna, Ardnoe, Aldiona, Gass, Stroan, Carskeoch, Craigenrae and Carnfore, Dinmurchie (Ferter Hirsel), Blackclauchrie, Baing, Beoch (New Cummock), Knowe, &c., &c.

1,500 CHEVIOT HILL EWES, uncrossed and guaranteed, among which are the following lots:—Rhifail (Sutherlandshire, 400), Ulzieside, Morton Mains, Drumbuie Townfoot.

500 BLACKFACED GIMMERS.

Special attention is drawn to the above selection of Ewes, which will form the largest and finest displays ever seen in this market. They are drafted from the best stocks in South Ayrshire, and an excellent opportunity will be afforded for selecting Ewes possessed of a sound, hardy character, and which will prove well wherever they go.

Sale starts at 10 30 a.m. sharp.

(SECOND DAY)—FRIDAY FIRST, September 27th, 1907.—GREAT SPECIAL SALE of BLACKFACED and CHEVIOT CROSSED EWES, BLACKFACED THREE-YEAR-OLD WEDDERS, all Classes of LAMBS, BLACKFACED BORDER LEICESTER and YORKSHIRE RAMS and RAM LAMBS, when there will be exposed:—

4000 BLACKFACED EWES that have been crossed in the breeding, nearly all suitable for running another season.

4000 CROSS LAMBS, including many lots "Tops" well harvested.

3000 BLACKFACED EWE and WEDDER LAMBS.

1000 FEEDING SHEEP, chiefly Blackfaced Three Year Old Wedders.

150 RAMS and RAM LAMBS.

Sale will start with Rams at 10.30 sharp.

Further Entries should be made early.

Consignments respectfully solicited.

JAMES CRAIG LTD.,
Live Stock Salesmen.

Printed and Published by the Proprietors, at the Offices 8, Wellington Street, Strand, London W.C.—September 23, 1907.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The official view of this year's wheat crop is that it exceeds the mean by 1 per cent. on quantity, but is in quality not up to the average. There are some good yields in the Eastern Counties, and more rarely in South-east England, but the view held by the majority of farmers appears to be that wheat is slightly below an average. Barley slightly over it, and oats materially above it where fully matured, a very important exception, as large areas of this crop have never ripened. The yield of the four minor crops, rye, beans, peas, and tares, is probably a full average, and mustard seed, buckwheat and rapeseed have done well, the latter having surmounted the difficulties of July and August better than had been anticipated. The French wheat crop estimate is fully 3,700,000 qr. beyond what the trade regards as probably reaped —in other words, is 46,000,000 qr. against 43,000,000 qr. We do not believe for a moment that there is 5,700,000 qr. increase on the yield of 1906, but attribute the estimate to the political exigencies of an unpopular Government. The new crop in Germany is not an average, but deficiency had been exaggerated, so that with new grain being freely threshed, 2s. per qr. fall in prices is reported from Berlin and Breslau. Roumania is now credited with 20 per cent. below an average wheat yield, an estimate which, low as it is, is still 10 per cent. better than the official estimate of August. Hungary admits the finest wheat crop for many years.

The markets for foreign wheat are 1s. dearer on the week, and flour is often as much as 2s. up. An advancing tendency has prevailed in linseed, foreign feed barley, light oats from abroad, and in maize as well as in breadstuffs, but the trade has been strong, not excited. The speculator is, of course, at these times alert, but he is not an essential of the situation. The position of affairs is that of under-average supplies on passage, under average stocks on hand, and a retarded home harvesting. There never was a time when such conditions did not bring about firm markets. The chances of lower prices in October are twofold - the deliveries from farmers are now increasing at a rate which is indiscreet, and the shipments of foreign produce, attracted by higher prices, are beginning to mount. Of these two causes of possible reaction the first is far and away the most dangerous. The foreign shipments, though they show an increase, will all be required, and will probably go into use with the least possible delay after their arrival.

The sales of British wheat at the 186 statute markets since harvest have been as follows :—

This season...	122,000 qr. at 31s. 7d.	per qr.
Last ,,	315,000 qr. at 25s. 10d.	,,

The sales of British barley have been :—

This season...	42,000 qr. at 24s. 4d.	per qr.
Last ,,	140,000 qr. at 24s. 5d.	per qr.

Of oats the sales have been as follows :—

This season...	105,000 qr. at 17s. 6d.	per qr.
Last ,,	128,000 qr. at 18s. 3d.	per qr.

The advance on the twelvemonth will be seen to have been 5s. 9d. on wheat and 1s. 3d. on oats, but barley has had no share in the advance. This is not reasonable, and barley holders should stand their ground. There is nothing like an excess in the supply.

The wheat gradient is now very moderate, as none of the exchanges are above 34s., and none under 30s. for home produce :—

Canterbury ...	33s. 6d.	per qr.
Norwich	30s. 4d.	,,
Range	3s. 2d.	per qr.

Barley prices are more level than they were and with average :—

Nottingham ...	26s. 6d.	per qr.
Reading	24s. 2d.	,,
Range	2s. 4d.	per qr.

Oats are lower than the situation seems to warrant :

Canterbury ...	18s. 9d.	per qr.
Peterborough	16s. 9d.	,,
Range	2s. 0d.	per qr.

Imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows :—

Wheat, 580,000 qr. : liberal.
Flour, 96,500 sks. : moderate.
Barley, 187,000 qr. : liberal.
Oats, 21,000 qr. : extremely small.
Maize, 136,000 qr. : small.

Completed returns of the first three weeks of September are :—

Wheat, 1,475,000 qr. : fairly good.
Flour, 285,000 sks. : small.
Barley, 475,000 qr. : moderate.
Oats, 89,000 qr. : extremely small.
Maize, 636,000 qr. : an average.

Supplies on passage on the 28th were as follows of wheat :—

Russian	160,000 qr.
American.....	520,000 ,,
Californian	122,000 ,,
Indian	600,000 ,,
Argentine	100,000 ,,
Australasian	420,000 ,,
Various	30,000 ,,
Total.....	1,952,000 ,,
A year ago	1,345,000 ,,
Ten years average.....	2,500,000 ,,

The present total, therefore, while below the average by 548,000 qr., is larger than at this time last year, the higher prices stimulating shippers to increased efforts.

Of flour, 282,000 sacks are on passage against 296,000 sacks a year ago.

Of barley 465,000 qr. are on passage against 315,000 qr. a year ago, and 500,000 qr. on the ten years' average.

Of other articles the quantities afloat on 28th included :—Oats, 195,000 qr. ; maize, 945,000 qr. ; and linseed 144,000 qr.

American shipments last week were 395,000 qr. of wheat, 136,000 sacks of flour, 60,000 qr. of Indian corn, and 20,000 qr. of Californian barley. The short crop of oats leaves little margin for exportation.

Argentine shipments were 88,000 qr. of wheat, 139,000 qr. of maize, and 37,000 qr. of linseed, totals which were not in any way remarkable.

Russia shipped 274,200 qr. of wheat, 103,050 qr. of rye, 1,750 qr. of linseed, 374,200 qr. of barley, 68,315 qr. of oats, and 115,050 qr. of maize.

Other shipments of the week were : 240,000 qr. of wheat from Roumania, 40,000 qr. of wheat from Australia, 23,000 qr. of wheat from European Turkey (including Bulgaria), 17,000 qr. of barley from European Turkey, 15,000 qr. of barley from Persia, 10,000 qr. of barley from India, and 15,000 tons of cottonseed from Egypt.

THE BALTIC.

Prices for wheat cargoes have advanced 1s. to 1s. 6d. on the week, but on Saturday quietude had succeeded to firmness, and there was a rapid rise. We may quote 42s. 6d. per 492 lb. as made for the best Russian, 40s. for the common kinds, both for prompt shipment. Other cargo sales have included Blue stem at 40s. 6d. per 500 lb., Walla-Walla at 39s. 3d. per 500 lb., red Fife at 39s. 6d. per 500 lb., Victorian at 40s. 6d. per 480 lb., white Karachi at 39s. per 492 lb., No. 2 hard winter at at 38s. 3d. per 480 lb., No. 2 red winter at 37s. 9d. per 480 lb., and No. 1 Durum at 35s. 9d. per 480 lb.

Maize cargoes are 1s. dearer on the week ; 27s. 6d. per 480 lb. is paid for Odessa on passage, and 26s. 9d. for La Plata, same weight.

Other cargo sales of the week have ineluded Kusteridge barley at 25s. per 400 lb., Karachi barley at 24s. 3d. per 400 lb., Persian barley at 23s per 400 lb., Libau white oats at 17s. 6d. per 304 lb., Petersburg oats at 19s. per 320 lb., Indian gram at 29s. 3d. per 504 lb., Calcutta linseed at 45s. 6d. per 410 lb., and Egyptian cottonseed at £7 5s. per ton., the last named for shipment prior to October 15.

The arrivals of grain and seed laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 5 wheat (1 Melbourne, 2 Portland (O.), 1 Port Wakefield, 1 Wallaroo ; 1 linseed (Rosario)—total, 6.

The sailings of grain and seed laden vessels from ports-of-call for week were 4 wheat (1 Belfast, 1 Brake, 1 Dublin, 1 Limerick).

Since January 1, 1907, the total arrivals have been 230 wheat, 1 flour and wheat, 3 barley and wheat, 7 barley, 15 maize and 16 linseed—Total, 272.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 232 wheat, 2 barley and wheat, 3 barley, 5 maize, 1 locust beans and 27 linseed—Total, 270.

The London Corn Trade Association C. F. & I. quotations, for the settlement of rejections and Difference in Weights on Wheat under Rule No. 4 of the Association East Indian Wheat Contracts, are as follows, viz. :—*viâ* Canal.

Crop 1906.—Choice White Karachi 39s., Soft Red Karachi 38s. 6d.—New Clean Terms.

Choice White Karachi 38s. 9d., Soft Red Karachi 38s. 3d., Old Terms.

N.B.—The committee has decided to quote rejection prices for "Old Terms" up to and including July shipments, but not later.

The L.C.T.A. prices remain in force until a fresh list is published.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—With the continued fine weather farmers have had every opportunity of clearing up all their harvesting operations, and in consequence there has been a continuance of the short supplies, and the trade has remained in a very firm condition ; prices are unchanged, but demand has been good for whatever has come to hand. For forward delivery, however, buyers' ideas are for lower prices, and it is next to impossible to do much business at present values, but country dealers seem to have a better opinion of the trade than their London confreres, as we hear of them paying much above London parity for hay in stacks. Prime mixtures and clovers are the strongest trade, and best hays keep in good demand, and plain stuffs of all kinds if sweet and clean find a ready sale ; but for badly got and weathered qualities more difficulty is found in getting buyers. The straw trade is not so good, larger supplies are to hand and prices show a reduction of about 1s to 2s per load on previous quotations. It seems as if the foreign trade will be right out of it this season as our market will apparently be overdone with low class stuffs with which the foreigner has to compete, and which at present values he is unable to do.

Prices ruling for English 1907 crop are about as follows :—Best hays, 70s per ton ; good hays, 57s 6d to 67s 6d per ton ; plain hays, 65s per ton ; best clovers, 82s 6d to 85s per ton ; good clovers, 77s 6d to 80s per ton ; inferior clovers, 70s to 75s per ton ; best mixtures, 80s per ton ; good mixtures, 70s to 75s per ton ; plain mixtures, 62s 6d to 67s 6d per ton ; seconds hays, clovers, and mixtures, 40s to 55s per ton ; wheat straw, 25s to 28s per load ; barley straw, 26s to 28s per load oat straw, 26s to 28s per load. All ex rail London.

Foreign : Arrivals are very small, and prices quoted are nominally Canadian mixture, 80s per ton ; first quality Dutch hay, 62s 6d to 65s per ton ; second quality Dutch hay, 53s to 60s per ton ; New French first and second cut clover, 75s per ton. These prices are by the barge load delivered alongside wharf, London.

English Wheat, Barley & Oats in 1906.

	Wheat.	Barley	Oats.
	s. d.	s. d	s. d.
Highest of Year.....	30 4	25 4	20 4
Lowest of Year	26 1	23 1	16 2
Gradient	4 3	2 3	4 2
Mean of Year	28 4	24 3	18 7

Monthly Averages.
(190 Market Towns.)

	1906.			1907.		
	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Wheat	Barley	Oats
Jan.....	28 6	24 9	18 5	26 1	24 2	17 4
Feb.....	28 10	25 4	18 11	26 6	24 3	17 7
Mar. ...	28 5	24 8	18 11	26 9	23 11	18 0
April ...	29 1	24 2	19 1	26 9	23 8	18 10
May ...	30 2	24 0	20 0	28 5	24 0	19 10
June ...	30 4	23 4	20 2	31 6	24 6	20 9
July ...	30 4	23 1	20 4	32 2	24 11	20 10
Aug. ..	29 6	23 7	17 9	33 7	25 4	20 5
Sept. ...	26 1	24 5	16 2			
Oct.....	26 5	25 0	16 7			
Nov. ...	26 5	24 5	17 1			
Dec. ...	26 2	24 1	17 3			

Seven Years' Tithe Rent Charges.

For 1907	£68 19	6
,, 1906	68 12	1
,, 1905	69 12	0
,, 1904	69 19	6
,, 1903	69 7	5
,, 1902	67 3	9
1901	66 10	9

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English firm, unchanged prices. Foreign firmly held at late prices, but in slow demand. No. 1 Northern, ex ship, held at 42s 6d, landed at 42s 9d to 43s; No. 2 Northern, ex ship, at 41s 6d; No. 1 Durum, at 36s 6d; choice white Karachi, at 38s 9d; red Karachi, at 38s 6d; Australian, at 40s; South Russian, landed, 40s 6d to 43s 6d; La Plata, 40s to 42s. Flour firm, quiet. Iron Dukes quoted at 25s to 25s 6d; Hungarian, 37s to 37s 6d. Maize steady, inactive. Odessa, ex ship, held 26s 3d; Danubian and Galatz Foxanian, landed, at 26s 9d. Barley firm. Odessa-Nicolaieff and Azoff-Black Sea, ex ship, quoted at 24s to 24s 3d; landed at 24s 6d. Oats firm but quiet. River Plate held at 19s 3d to 19s 6d; South Russian (381b), 19s 3d to 19s 6d.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat: English firm, and 3d dearer, but not active. Foreign firmly held at full prices to 3d advance. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, held at 42s 9d; No. 2, at 41s 9d to 42s; No. 1 Durum at 36s 9d to 37s; choice white Karachi at 39s; red Karachi at 38s 9d. Flour firm and dearer Iron Dukes quoted at 26s, Hungarians, 37s 6d to 38s. Maize firm, and held for 3d advance. River Plate, Danubian, and Odessa, landed, quoted at 26s 9d to 27s as per sample. Barley firm. Odessa-Nicolaieff, landed, held at 24s 6d, ex ship, to arrive at 24s to 24s 3d. Oats firm and rather dearer, but not active. River Plate, landed, held at 19s 6d to 19s 9d; South Russains, 19s 6d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Wheat trade rather slower, and though best samples realised last week's rates, mediums fell slightly. Maize advanced fully 1s, and new white oats were also as much dearer; flour, too, was raised 2s a sack. Quotations:—Wheat, 33s to 35s; English barley, 27s to 30s; Mazagan beans, 30s to 31s; ticks, 34s to 36s; maize, 28s to 29s; winter oats, 20s to 21s; white oats, 19s to 22s per qr; flour, whites 34s, seconds 31s, scaling 29s per sack.

Banbury, Thursday. — Wheat, red (new), 33s 6d to 34s 6d per qr; ditto (old), 35s to 36s per qr; barley, 26s to 28s 6d per qr; beans (new), 30s 6d to 31s; ditto (old), 33s to 33s 6d per qr; oats, 17s to 20s 6d per qr; oats (old), 20s to 26s per qr; peas 30s to 33s; ditto (old), 33s to 35s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—Good attendance, with a large show of new barley. The quality was very variable; fine samples sold readily; secondary, dull. New oats in small supply. No wheat offering. Barley, 26s to 30s 6d; new oats, 22s to 23s per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—There was a larger attendance here than usual, doubtless due to being fair time. Trade in wheats was not brisk, buyers no doubt being supplied for the present. Foreign sorts have advanced 1s 6d per qr since last market day. English wheats are offering more freely, and made from 12s 6d to 13s 9d per 186 lb, according to condition. English oats are gradually increasing in value, and 20s per 312 lb is now required for either black or white. New beans made 12s 9d per 196 lb delivered. There was a good demand for all sorts of maize, Bessarabian being 6d dearer, while Galatz-Foxanian and Odessa made 9d more money. Grinding barley was 1s 3d per qr up on the week.

Brighton, Thursday. — Little business and average attendance. Wheat in short supply, dry samples 1s per qr advance. Barley, 29s to 33s; grinding ditto, 26s to 27s; oats, English, 17s to 20s; peas, 31s to 32s; beans, 33s to 34s.

Bristol, Thursday.—The market was fairly well attended. English wheat in larger supply, and obtained from 1s to 1s 6d per qr over last week. Foreign a fair trade, 1s 6d to 2s dearer. Grinding barley, 9d to 1s dearer. Maize, 1s advance. Oats firm, making 3d more money.—GRACE BROS.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat: Farmers are holding back supplies, and the trade is very firm at 1s per qr advance, and with a strong upward tendency. Flour a strong trade at a further 1s per sack advance. Malting barley trade not fairly commenced at present. A small business done at 28s to 33s per qr. The tone of the trade is firm. Feeding corns and stuffs all firm, and linseed cakes quoted at 5s per ton advance on the week.

Cambridge, Saturday.—Trade for wheat and spring corn continues very firm, with a slight upward tendency. There was an average attendance, and wheat was in good supply, and made up to 36s per 504 lb. Barley made from 26s 6d to 32s. Still a short supply of oats, and 6d more money had to be paid. Beans a trifle easier.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheats maintain recent prices, 62 lb. samples selling at 33s on rail, and 64 lb lots at 35s and 35s 6d. There is rather more business doing now in malting barley, at from 28s 6d to 32s. Oats are firm, ranging from 21s 6d per 44 lb, up to 23s for 47 lb; black winters of 44 lb weight 21s 6d to 22s. Grey peas are making from 30s to 31s per qr; and new tares from 5s to 6s per bushel.

Chester, Saturday.—English wheat and oats are being thrashed out freely and good samples are being offered at late rates. American mixed maize and River Plate corn show an advance on the week. Quotations:—Wheat, new, 5s 10d per 75 lb; oats, new, 2s 6d to 2s 7d; old, 3s 1d to 3s 6d per 46 lb; Indian corn, old, 14s 9d to 15s per 240 lb; round corn, old, 14s to 15s 3d per 240 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—A good attendance and fair trade, with wheat 1s dearer on the week. New white wheat, 33s 6d to 34s 6d; new red ditto, 33s 6d to 34s 6d; barley, 28s to 30s; grinding ditto, 23s 6d to 25s; oats, English, 17s to 23s; rye, 27s to 29s; peas, 31s to 32s; beans, 32s to 33s; tares, 5s 6d to 6s 6d; maize, 25s 6d to 26s 6d; flour, 29s to 31s.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat, firm, 35s 6d to 36s 6d. Oats firm, 19s 6d to 20s 6d. Beans and barley steady.—COLIN TAYLOR, KING AND CO., LTD.

Coventry, Friday. — Scarcely an average attendance, and very limited supply of wheat, which sold readily at fully 6d per qr advance. Fair trade in barley at the late quotations. Demand for oats in good condition was brisk, and extreme figures of last week were obtained. Beans and peas firm, without change. Quotations:—Wheat, new, 12s 6d to 13s 6d, old 13s to 13s 6d per 186 lb; barley, 30s to 34s per 448 lb; oats, old, 24s 6d to 27s, new 20s to 23s per 352 lb.; beans, 13s to 13s 9d per 196 lb; peas, 12s to 14s per 196 lb.

Derby, Friday.—A fair supply of wheat, which sold at the extreme prices of last week. There was no alteration in the value of spring corn. Wheat, white, 37s to 38s; red, 35s to 36s; grinding barley, 23s to 25s; beans, 35s to 36s; oats, old, 24s to 26s; new, 20s to 21s.

Devizes, Thursday.—There was an increased supply of corn. The trade for all descriptions was very firm, wheat and oats being the turn in favour of sellers. Barley at fully late rates. Best wheat, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; secondary, 16s 6d to 17s 6d; new wheat, 15s to 17s; winter barley, 26s to 28s; old oats, 20s to 24s; winter oats, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; white Garton oats (330lb), 18s to 19s; rye, 26s to 28s; new beans, 16s 6d to 18s; fine flour, 30s to 31s; extra fine, 32s to 36s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Better supply of English wheat, but it is still in variable condition, and made from 13s to 13s 6d per load. Fine samples met with a good sale at an advance of 3d to 6d per load, secondary quality being neglected. Foreign wheat was very firm at last week's prices. Some new barley was on offer, but malters did not buy freely. Old beans 6d per qr dearer. Oats firm to 3d per qr more money. Maize very firm, and 26s per qr on rail.

Dorchester, Saturday.—The attendance at to-day's market was adversely affected by the show on the previous day, following on Poundbury fair on Thursday; but there were plenty of new samples of most kinds of corn offering, all in considerably improved condition. The wheat trade opened very firmly, holders asking prices considerably in advance of factors' views; but at a later period sales were effected at 6d to 1s rise on the week's prices, and foreign still more, and a considerable amount of business was done on those lines. Barley likewise showed a rise, this ranging from 9d to 1s compared with recent values. Oats also took an upward turn, the rise, as a rule, ranging from 3d to 6d per qr; maize made 6d more, and beans and peas were both against buyers. Flour very firm, with prices tending to buyer.

Dublin, Friday.—Foreign wheat firm, and in good demand. Maize 6d dearer. Irish wheat dearer at 21s to 21s per barrel, with a fair demand. Oats firmar for distillers' samples; blacks, 10s 6d; whites, 11s 6d; extra, 12s. Barley in small supply, and sells at 15s 6d, market rates not being fixed yet. Flour steady. Oatmeal steady. Indian meal tending dearer. Bran firm. Pollard scarce.

Exeter Friday.—Good attendance. Wheat firm, and generally 1s dearer than last week, 4s to 4s 3d; superfine flour, 31s; fine, 29s. Barley not much offering, firm trade, 3s 6d to 4s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance at to-day's market. Wheat 6d per boll dearer. Flour firm. Maize steady at 1½d per boll advance. Corn steady at late rates. Barley held for extreme prices. Oats, quiet and unchanged for foreign, but home qualities the turn easier. Beans and peas firmly held. Bran and thirds steady. Oatmeal quiet.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Friday.—Wheat and flour firm at Wednesday's full rates. Maize steady. Corn firm, and shaping higher. Other articles steady. The market will be closed on Monday for the Glasgow autumn holiday.

Gloucester, Saturday.—English wheat 1d per bushel dearer at 33s to 34s 6d per qr. Foreign wheat unchanged: Plates, 40s 3d to 41s; Russian, 40s to 41s 6d. Maize, 9d dearer: Plate, 26s 9d; flat, 27s 9; and Bessarabian 26s 9d per qr. Barley 1s dearer at 25s 3d. New oats 6d to 1s dearer: White, 19s 6d to £1; black, 19s to 19s 6d; old white, 6d up, at 34s.

Grantham, Saturday.—There was a good supply of new grain, and a good trade was experienced. Wheat, 35s to 36s; barley, 26s to 32s; oats, 18s to 20s; beans, 30s to 32s; peas, 65s to 75s per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday.—More active business in English grain generally. Wheat in better condition at from 4s to 4s 3d per bushel. Barleys made from 3s 3d to 3s 9d. Oats steady at 2s 3d to to 2s 4½d. Old oats very firm at about 3s. New beans found bidders at 3s 9d, but few transactions took place. Maize 6d per qr dearer.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Moderate supply of wheat; trade firm at an advance of from 6d to 1s per qr. Reds, 34s to 35s 6d; whites to 36s 6d per 504 lb. Fair supply of barley, trade slow, prices ranging from 27s to 31s per qr. Oats rather dearer. Maize 6d per qr dearer. Beans and peas firm

Leeds, Tuesday.—Harvest is drawing to a close and rain will soon be welcome. We have to report another week of activity in the wheat trade at daily rising prices; since yesterday, however, with weaker American advices and large shipments, a quieter tone has prevailed. English wheats are only in moderate supply, and with a good demand from millers, as also for export to Germany, are fully 1s 6d per qr dearer on the week. Foreign irregular at a similar advance. Prices of malting barley are not yet settled; foreign mostly held above values on this side. Maize 1s dearer. Beans and oats firm.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—Although the bulk of English wheat has been secured, supplies continued scarce, and prices were very firm, Tuesday's advance being fully maintained. Foreign was also firmly held. Flour was in good demand, with a rising tendency, medium qualities making 26s to 28s, and finest runs 35s per sack of 20 st. Maize was dearer, Plate and Odessa closing at 26s odd. Malting and feeding barley had a hardening tendency.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good attendance of buyers and dealers, with larger supplies of home-grown wheats in rather variable condition. Trade was quiet, and fine samples firm. Red wheats, 33s to 35s; white wheats, 35s to 38s per 36 stones; bright samples of malting barley firm, secondary flat; prices 27s to 31s per 32 stones; fine oats in good demand at 19s to 22s per 24 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—There was a good attendance. Not a large supply of English wheat, for which there was abundant inquiry, quotations being 1s 6d per qr more than last week. Malting barley, as a week ago, prices not yet being fixed. Oats rather dearer. Beans scarce.

Newark, Wednesday.—A good attendance, it being the ram fair. Samples sparingly shown; prices 6d per qr dearer all round. Quotations:—Wheat, old, 37s to 38s; new, 34s 6d to 35s 6d. per qr. Barley, malting, 28s to 30s; grinding, 25s to 26s. per qr. Oats, white, 18s 6d to 19s 6d; black, 18s 6d to 19s per qr. Beans, old, 36s to 37s per qr.

Newport, Wednesday.—Maize and barley 9d to 1s dearer on the week. Flour, 30s per sack; Offals in very good request at advanced prices.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A steady trade for wheats at fully last week's quotations. Maize again dearer with a fair demand. Beans and peas met a fair sale, and prices fully maintained. Oats of all descriptions were in sellers' favour. Barley met a slow demand for malting purposes, prices not yet fixed.—POLLARD AND CO.

Northampton, Saturday.—Better attendance at Exchange, but wheat was still in small quantities and had advanced 6d per qr during the week. Larger supplies of oats and barley, which still remained firm. Wheat, 33s to 34s 6d; barley, 26s to 30s; white oats, 18s to 20s; black oats, 18s to 20s 6d; beans, 28s to 30s; flour, 29s to 33s.

Norwich, Saturday.—Wheat is in moderate supply, with a steady trade, prices being 6d per qr dearer than last week—34s to 35s delivered. Good supply of barley for the time of year; prices dearer in the feeding stuff trade, with a good demand.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Farmers being still busy but few parcels of wheat offering. Values advanced 6d to 1s per qr. A few samples of new barley showing, quality various, but condition good, prices irregular. New oats 6d higher, old very firm. Beans full rates.—ROBT. HUBBLE.

Oxford, Saturday.—The market was thinly

attended, and a fair trade was experienced. Wheat and oats were in limited supply, and a further 6d advance was demanded and obtained.

Peterborough, Saturday.—We have a fair supply of wheat at our market to-day. Wheat was fully 1s per qr dearer than last Saturday. Barley a steady trade at firmer prices. Oats come to market slowly, and made rather more money. Wheat, 34s to 35s Barley, 26s to 32s. Oats, 18s 6d to 19s 6d.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Preston, Saturday.—Wheat is well held, although splendid weather has checked the advance. There was a fairly good attendance New grain comes forward very sparingly, and only oats are yet on offer, prices varying according to condition. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 14s to 15s per windle of 220 lb.; oats, old, 3s 6d to 3s 8d per bushel, ditto new, 2s 11d to 3s; oatmeal, 27s 6d to 28s per load of 240 lb; beans, 16s 6d to 17s per windle of 220 lb.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a very good attendance on our market here to-day. Wheat firm, unchanged. Maize 9d dearer. Barley 1s dearer. Oats steady. English wheat making better prices.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—The attendance was again on the small side, and the business transacted was not heavy. The following may be taken as the prices of the parcels on offer:—wheat, 31s to 35s; barley, 25s to 31s; oats, 18s to 21s 6d; beans, 30s to 36s; peas, 28s to 32s.

Retford, Saturday.—Increased supply of new wheat, which sold well at the full prices of the previous Saturday—35s to 35s 6d per qr. Malting barley on offer, the best being worth 30s, and the general run of the market 27s to 29s per qr. Grinding barley made 26s. No new English beans on offer. Old made 35s, new black oats 18s to 18s 6d, white up to 19s, old oats 25s, and maize (dearer) 28s per qr.

Ripon, Thursday.—An excellent attendance of farmers, and a better business passing. Some good samples of new wheat on offer. Malting barley shows a downward tendency. New wheat made 34s to 35s; wheat, foreign, 40s to 42s; barley, grinding, 27s to 28s; barley, malting, 28s to 30s; new oats, 20s; old oats, 24s to 26s; maize, round, 28s; maize, flat, 28s; bran, £5 10s to £6 per ton.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The market continues strong for all descriptions of grain, and during the past week steady advances have been daily made until to day wheats are quoted from 1s to 2s per qr dearer on the week. Maize 9d per qr higher than a week ago. Beans, barley, and oats steady to 6d per qr more. Feeding stuffs in good demand at full rates. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 37s to 37s 6d; ditto red, new, 37s to 37s 6d per 504 lb; oats, black, 24s to 25s; ditto white, 24s 6d to 25s; ditto new, 20s 6d to 21s per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 34s 6d to 35s; ditto blue, new, 65s to 75s per 504 lb; beans, English, 37s to 37s 6d per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 27s to 27s 6d; ditto malting, 28s to 32s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 27s 6d to 28s; ditto Plate, 27s 6d to 28s; ditto flat, 30s to 30s 6d per 480 lb; bran, 105s; fine sharps, 140s; broad bran, 110s per ton.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Old wheat, 15s to 15s 6d per 225 lb; new, 14s to 14s 6d; old oats, 15s to 16s per 225 lb, new 11s 2d to 12s.

Stamford, Friday.—Farmers turned up in goodly numbers, and there was a little improvement in trade; market very firm. Wheat made 6d per qr more than last week; and there were indications of an upward tendency. Oats and barley firm at last week's quotations. Beans 30s to 30s 6d; peas, 60s to 66s.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were a few samples of new local wheat showing which made 33s 6d to 34s per qr. The foreign wheat trade was strong, and with a fair demand holders were asking 1s 6d per qr advance over last week. Maize was also firm, and about 1s per qr dearer on the week. Oats was quiet and unchanged.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday.—New white wheat, 32s to 35s; new red ditto, 30s to 32s; barley, 26s to 32s; grinding ditto, 23s to 25s; oats, English, 18s to 22s; rye, 24s to 25s; peas, 32s to 35s; beans, 32s to 35s; tares, 40s to 48s; maize, 23s to 32s.

Warwick, Saturday.—Fair supply of corn on offer. Wheat, 12s 6d to 12s 9d per bag; white oats, £1 1s per 9 score. Feeding stuffs about the same.

Winchester, Saturday.—English and foreign wheat steady trade, 6d to 1s advance. Barley and maize 6d dearer. Oats unaltered. Flour a fair demand at last week's full prices.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LTD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A limited supply of new grain at market. Wheat advanced 6d to 1s per qr. Best reds 35s to 36s per 504 lb. Oats very firm, 19s to 19s 6d per 336 lb. Barley, 25s to 30s per 448 lb.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—The market was fairly well attended, and last week's prices were sustained, and in some cases firmer.)

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small attendance and very few samples of wheat on offer. A good inquiry at last week's full prices. There were several samples of new barley in very good condition. Only a small show of oats. White wheat (new) made 35s to 36s; red ditto, 34s to 35s per qr. No old wheat on offer. Best malting barley made 28s to 38s; secondary and grinding barley, 27s to 28s; old white oats, 24s to 26s; new ditto, 18s to 20s; old black oats, 23s to 25s; new ditto, 17s to 19s per qr; maize, 28s to 29s; English beans, 37s to 39s per qr; flour, 1s 5d to 1s 8d per stone; fine sharps, £7 to £7 10s; barley meal, £7 10s to £8; bran, £5 15s to £6 10s per ton.

Yeovil, Friday.—Wheat was greatly improved in condition since the last market but it still lacks quality for milling purposes. Values were up 1s per qr on the week, foreign advancing 1s 6d to 2s. Oats made 3d more money, maize 6d to 1s, and grinding barley (foreign) 6d to 9d. Best quality home grown wheat, 33s to 34s; secondary, 30s to 32s 6d; winter barley, 26s to 28s 6d; imported barley, 25s to 25s 3d; old oats, 20s to 24s; winter oats, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; white, 18s to 19s; Irish black, 20s to 21s; ditto white, 22s to 22s 6d; new beans 33s to 35s; rye, 26s to 29s; round maize, 26s 6d to 27s; ditto, flat, 26s 9d; vetches, 6s 6d to 7s 6d per bushel Good consumptive demand for flour, at 29s 6d for fines. The trade in milling offals and meals continues good, with prices tending upwards.

York, Saturday.—There were a few samples of new wheat in moderate condition on offer, which made 33s to 35s per qr of 36 stones. A fair supply of malting barley sold well, fine samples making 28s to 30s, and good stuff 26s to 28s per qr of 32 stones. New oats fetched 18s to 19s, and old 24s per qr of 24 stones, while rye made 26s to 27s, and old beans 33s to 34s per qr of 36 stones.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cake: The actual consumptive demand is disappointing, but there is a continued good inquiry for winter delivery, and values of all descriptions are again the turn dearer. Russian only offer sparingly. East India make last week's full prices. Fine seedy Calcuttas are firmly held at a slight advance. London-made remain relatively good value, and attract considerable attention. Cotton Cakes.—Egyptian are scarce on spot, and holders ask full prices, while English rule quiet but steady. Decorticated.—London-made pures meet a free sale, also digestive meal, but American brands are a dull sale. Rape cakes do not offer. Maize germ meal.—White American is not obtainable on spot, and English are held at almost prohibitive prices. Maize gluten meal is in good request. Rice meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon have now been all cleared, and shippers demand full prices for steamer parcels to come along. Locust beans remain cheaply offered. Dried brewers' grains find a good Continental demand. Nitrate of soda is unchanged.—PINNOCK Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

Russian, in mats (ex dock) ...	7	7	6 to 7	8	9
,, in bags	7	8	9 to 7	10	0
East India	7	7	6 to 7	10	0
Calcutta	7	10	0 to 7	12	6
London Made.....	7	12	6 to 7	15	0
COTTONSEED CAKES.					
Egyptian	4	18	9 to 5	0	0
English (ex mill)	5	0	0 to 5	2	6
Bombay	4	5	0		
Decorticated, London made	7	5	0		
,, American.....	6	18	9 to 7	0	0
,, Meal, American	6	18	9 to 7	0	0
,, Meal, English...	7	5	0		
Special Digestive Meal	5	0	0		
MAIZE.					
American.....			—		
English	6	12	6 to 6	15	0
Maize Gluten Meal	6	15	0		
RICEMEAL.					
Rangoon .....ex ship	5	5	0		
,, ... ex wht.			—		
LOCUST BEANS.					
Whole	5	10	0		
Kibbled	5	17	6		
DRIED BREWERS' GRAINS.					
Ale	5	5	0		
Mixed	5	0	0		
MANURES.					
Nitrate of soda	11	2	6		

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda maintains late rates. Increased inquiry is experienced for all phosphates for autumn application, and sales are being freely booked for forward deliveries. Kainit, too, is inquired for, and importers advise advanced prices as likely to prevail shortly. The continued strong market and high prices prevalent for Indian corn adds firmness to the market for feeding stuffs, and though the consumptive demand is very limited, doubtless owing to the comparatively warm weather, holders generally look forward to higher values in the near future when the autumn and winter demand sets in.

	Per ton. £	s	d	£	s	d
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (good but hard)	7	2	6	7	5	0
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime (soft) ...	7	15	0	7	17	6
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime.....	4	15	0	5	0	0
Cottonseed, crushed, 20 per cent. oil guaranteed, scarce	8	15	0		—	
Linseed Cake, American, thin oblong, prime but hard	7	12	6	7	15	0
,, ,, English, prime...	7	17	6	8	2	6
,, ,, Foreign, round...	7	15	0		—	
Palm Nut Cake	6	5	0		—	
Corn Oil Cake		—			—	
Maize Germ Meal		—			—	
Indian Meal, coarse to fine grinding	Per 240 lb.	—			—	
Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported	Per ton.	—				
Linseed, fine bold feeding	Per qr., 416 lb.	—			—	
Cod-liver Oil, cattle feeding ...	Per Gallon. 0	4	0		—	
Treacle, feeding, American ...	Per Cwt. 0	4	9			
Nitrate of Soda.....	Per ton. 11	5	0		—	
Kainit, prime.....	2	7	6		—	
Bone Meal, prime.....	5	10	0		—	
Bone Ash, fine and powdery ...	3	15	0		—	
Basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed	1	14	0	1	15	0
,, ,, ,,	2	2	0	2	3	0
,, finest ,,	2	6	0	2	7	6
D.N.S. Superphosphate of Brand Lime*	2	5	0	2	7	0
,, ,, guaranteed*	2	10	0	2	12	0
,, ,, ,, *	3	1	3	3	3	3

* At depot inland.

—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

WOOL.

London, Tuesday.—The fifth series of London Colonial wool sales for the year commenced to-day, the quantities catalogued comprising a total of 8,341 bales, including 7,232 bales New Zealand, 267 West Australian, 312 Cape, 55 New South Wales, 39 Queensland, 34 Victorian, 14 South Australian, 338 River Plate. There was a large attendance of buyers and good competition. Merinos were a very small moiety of the offerings, but, as far as can be judged, ruled about 5 per cent. dearer than the closing rates of July. Crossbreds, largely represented by sliped sorts, show little change, with the exception of cross bred lambs' wool in grease, which may be quoted 5 per cent. dearer. The net available quantity for the present sales, arranged to terminate on October 4, adding 23,500 bales old stock, amounts to 91,013 bales; 3,100 bales Punta Arenas, 1,500 bales Falkland Islands, 1,500 bales River Plate, and 700 bales North Patagonian and Chilian will also be offered.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £13 15s to £14 5s; half-bred hoggs, £13 to £13 10s; ditto wethers, £12 10s to £13; Kent fleeces, £12 5s to £12 10s; South Down ewes and wethers, £13 10s to £14; Leicester ewes and wethers, £12 to £12 10s. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., scoured super., 2s 2d to 2s 3d; scoured, good, 2s to 2s 2d; scoured, average, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 2½d to 1s 3½d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 10½d to 1s 11½d; greasy, average, 1s to 1s 2d; S. Aus., greasy, average, 11d to 1s; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 11d to 2s; greasy, average, 11d to 11½d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 10d to 1s 11d; fleece, average, 9½d to 10½d; greasy, average, 8½d to 9½d; Natal, scoured, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; greasy average, 8½d to 9d. Crossbreds—grs.—Vic., good to super., 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d; New Zealand fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s to 1s 1d, coarse, 10d to 11d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Growers hold off steadily, while staplers are rather more anxious to do business Prices remain at 11d for Kent fleeces; lamb wool, 7d; half-bred fleeces, 11d. Downs have advanced 1d per lb.

Halifax, Saturday.—A little more inquiry for home-grown wools, which in some cases have risen slightly. Merinos, too, a little dearer. As to yarns spinners keep well employed, especially in Botany trade, and prices in that branch steadily improve. Continental demand of hand-to-mouth character. Spinners still press for deliveries.

Seven Years Grain Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 10d. per 480 lb.
Barley.....	25s. 4d. per 400 lb.
Oats...	18s. 11d per 312 lb

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 P.M.

The market to-day is quieter for foreign wheat, which was pushed up on the 25th and 27th to a price that meets with determined resistance. English wheat is extremely firm and sells as fast as it can reach the market. It is the best value going and undersells all imported descriptions. Barley is the turn dearer both for Russian feeding and for Californian brewing descriptions. English is worth more than is asked, but the supply is not yet sufficient really to test quotations.

Oats are very firmly held for all imported descriptions, but the sale is slow and attention is concentrated upon the new English crop, which, although often lacking in quality, is by no means always so; in fact several quite first-rate samples, 336 lb. to 344 lb. to the quarter, were on view to-day.

Maize is decidedly a strong market without being quotably dearer, both beans and peas tend in sellers' favour.

Some minor staples may be mentioned as follows, viz.:—Red Sorghum at a guinea per 416 lb, common white mustardseed at 88s. per qr., Dutch carraways at 31s. per cwt., Madagascar butter beans at 24s. 6d. per cwt., and fine Chilian haricots at 56s. 6d per qr.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

September 30.

WHEAT, New White	(per 504 lb.)	33 — 36
Old	,,	38 — 39
New Red	,,	31 — 35
Old	,,	37 — 38
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	34 — 36
Brewing	,,	31 — 33
Distilling	(per 416 lb.)	28 — 29
New Winter	(per 400 lb.)	25 — 26
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	24 — 25
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34 — 36
Brown	,,	27 — 29
Black	,,	29 — 30
OATS, Good Old	,,	21 — 23
Good New	,,	19 — 20
New Winter	,,	18 — 19
Ordinary Old	(per 320 lb.)	20 — 21
Ordinary New	(per 320 lb.)	18 — 19
,, ,,	(per 312 lb.)	17 — 18
RYE, New	(per 480 lb.)	26 — 28
BEANS, Pigeon	(per 532 lb.)	42 — 44
Tick	(per 504 lb.)	34 — 35
Winter	,,	32 — 33
Spring	,,	31 — 32
Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	21 — 22
PEAS, Picked Marrowfat, New	(per 504 lb.)	88 — 92
Unpicked (Old)	,,	52 — 56
Maple (Old)	,,	36 — 37
(New)	,,	34 — 35
Dun (Old)	,,	32 — 34
(New)	,,	31 — 33
BUCKWHEAT	(per 416 lb)	34 — 36

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba	42	43	American	26	27
Red Winter	40	41	Argentine	26	27
Best Spring	42	43	Roumanian	26	27
Durum	36	38	Russian	26	27
Argentine	40	42	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Australian	40	41	Smyrna	34	35
Californian	40	41	New Zealand	32	33
Walla Walla	39	40	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Azima	41	43	Hungarian	62	64
Ghirka	39	41	Burmese	38	40
Roumanian	40	41	Chilian	56	64
Indian White	40	41	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb):		
,, Red	39	40	French	37	39
Turkish	38	39	Russian	33	37
Persian	38	39	Canadian	36	38
BARLEY:			PEAS (504 lb.):		
C'lifor'n (448 lb)	31	32	Dutch Crowns	55	57
Tunisian (448 lb)	30	31	Konigsberg	44	46
Algerian (448 lb)	29	30	Russian White	35	36
Ouchak (448 lb)	28	32	Indian White	35	36
Smyrna (448 lb)	26	30	Canadian White	35	36
Russian (400 lb)	24	25	New Zeal'd Maple	39	40
Indian (400 lb)	23	24	Victoria Dun	32	33
Persian (400 lb)	22	23	MILLET (416 lb.):		
MALT (336 lb.):			White	42	44
Californian	34	35	Yellow	22	24
Smyrna	33	36	Sorghum	20	21
Ouchak	33	36	RICE (cwt.):		
RYE (480 lb.):			Java	16	22
Russian	28	29	Indian	17	20
OATS:			Japanese	16	17
Konigsbg (320 lb)	21	22	Burmese	10	11
Russian (304 lb)	18	19	Siamese	8	9
Canadian (320 lb)	20	21	DARI (480 lb.):		
Argentine (304 lb)	18	19	Smyrna	27	28
Swedish (320 lb)	21	22	Indian	23	24
New Zln'd (384 lb)	25	26	Persian	22	23

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 P.M.

High prices rule for London makes as the country supply is still lacking in condition (though much improved on the fortnight), and imports have now been below an average for some five or six successive weeks. The prices for London sales range from 29s. to 35s., for country from 26s. to 30s., and for American from 25s. to 31s., as a rule.

Hungarian flour is dearer than ever, and there has been 2s per sack rise in wheatmeal during the past fortnight. Miller's offals remain decidedly dear, with the finest middlings held for 7 guineas per ton, and bran for £5 10s per ton. Potato flour is making £9 to £10 per ton. Oatmeal makes £16 for Midlothian, £13 12s. 6d. for Aberdeen, £14 for Gilcomston, and £12 10s. for Canadian; all per ton.

Brose meal makes 30s. per sack, and oat flour commands £13 per ton for American, £16 12s. 6d. for Aberdeen. There seems to be no offerings of paste flour, of Russian, or of Argentine. Bakers are buying more sparingly to-day than on the 23rd, 25th, and 27th, but the position of the market remains one of considerable strength, and apparently nothing but large deliveries of new flour from the country can deprive the London trade of its advantage.

London Flour.

September 30.

Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	35/0
Town Whites	,,	33/0
,, Households	,,	30/0
No. 2	,,	28/0
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	27/0
,, No. 2	,,	25/0

Country Flour.		s.	s.
Fine Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	28	30
Roller Whites	,,	27	28
All English	,,	27	28
Stone made	,,	25	26

Foreign Flour.		s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents	(per s'ck of 280 lb.)	31	32
,, Second Patents	,,	29	30
,, First Bakers'	,,	26	27
,, Second Bakers'	,,	25	26
Milwaukee Patents	,,	30	31
,, Bakers'	,,	27	28
Canadian Best	,,	30	31
,, Ordinary	,,	28	29
Manitoba Patents	,,	30	31
,, Ordinary	,,	28	29
Kansas Patents	,,	28	29
,, Ordinary	,,	26	27
Californian	,,	30	32
Hungarian	,,	36	37
Belgian	,,	32	34
French, Corbeil	,,	28	29
,, Renaux	,,	27	28
,, P.S.D.	,,	26	27

Meal, &c.			
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	15	16
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	16	17
,, ,, Broad	,,	15	16
Pollard	,,	14	15
Biscuit Middlings	,,	18	19
Fine Middlings	,,	17	18
Coarse Middlings	,,	16	17
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	18	19
Farina Firsts	,,	29	30
,, Seconds	,,	27	28
Barley Meal	,,	25	26
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	25	26
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	30	33
Groats	,,	32	33
Oat Flour	,,	33	34
Ground Oats	,,	32	33
Poultry Meal	,,	34	36
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	19	20
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	18	19
,, Germ Meal	,,	15	16
,, Cones	,,	18	19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	15	16
Rye Flour	,,	25	27
Rye Bran	,,	22	23
Pea Meal	,,	24	25

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED WITH DECIDED FIRMNESS FOR ALL FEEDING STUFFS, BUT WHEAT WAS ONLY A QUIET TRADE.

THE BALTIC.

Monday, 1 P.M.

State of Trade.

Maize, barley, and linseed cargoes, open to-day with an upward tendency, but wheat is rather hesitating, and cottonseed is lower. Cargoes of rapeseed, beans, peas, and oats are steady at the prices whereat Saturday closed.

Business Done.

Wheat.—Best Manitoba, 40s 6d per 480 lb, October shipment; Argentine, 40s per 480 lb, October shipment; Blue Stem, 40s 3d per 500 lb, October shipment; Australian, 40s per 480 lb, due; White Karachi, 39s 6d per 492 lb, November shipment; Red Karachi, 38s 6d per 492 lb, October shipment; No. 2 Hard Winter, 36s 3d per 480 lb, November shipment.

Maize.—Argentine, 26s per 480 lb, October shipment; Argentine, 26s 6d per 480 lb, November shipment; American, 26s 9d per 480 lb, November shipment; Russian, 27s 9d per 480 lb, prompt shipment.

Barley.—Californian, 32s 6d per 400 lb, prompt shipment.

Oats.—Konigsberg, 19s per 320 lb, prompt shipment; White Libau, 17s 3d per 304 lb, November shipment; South Russian, 17s 6d per 304 lb, October shipment; New Zealand, 24s per 384 lb, prompt shipment.

Linseed.—Argentine, 43s 6d per 416 lb, prompt shipment; Bombay, 46s 9d per 416 lb, prompt shipment.

Rapseed.—Guzerat, 54s. 6d. per 416 lb., April shipment.

Sesame.—Indian, 61s. 6d. per 384 lb., December shipment.

Cottonseed, Indian, £9 per 2,240 lb., December shipment.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

Flour.—The recent quietness, with downward tendency in flour, has, during the past few days, been followed by decided firmness, and a further advance of 6d to 1s per sack.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Offals.—Bran continues firm, and in some instances advances are being quoted.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Flour.—The market continues to advance, prices being 6d. to 1s. per sack higher on the week. Grain.—The demand for American corn is small at 1½d per boll decline. Maize is firm but not active. Good demand for home and foreign oats. Beans scarce on spot, but pressed to arrive. Peas held for extreme prices. Oatmeal steady. Oilcake firm. Mill Stuffs. — Full prices are paid in all positions. Winter wheat patents, 29s to 29s 6d per 280 lb; spring wheat patents, 30s 6d to 31s 6d per 280 lb; American corn, 15s 10½d to 16s per 280 lb; round corn, 15s 4½d to 15s 6d per 280 lb; grinding beans, 18s 10½d to 19s per 280 lb; white pease, 19s 6d to 20s 6d; per 280 lb; broad bran, 112s 6d to 115s per ton; medium bran, 105s to 107s 6d per ton; fine thirds, 135s per ton; common thirds, 112s 6d per ton; American oilcake, 147s 6d to 150s per ton.—McKinnon and McDonald (Glasgow).

Flour.—Trade to-day has been firm, with a fair demand for flour in all positions. Prices are unchanged on the week.—F. L. Medill and Sons, Ltd.

The demand for milling offals continues good, with prices again dearer for coarse middlings and bran. Fine middlings and pollards firm, but unchanged.—John Bawcomb and Co.

Arrivals of wheat from abroad continue to be large. The trade is firm at full prices. Flour unchanged. Maize and barley are 3d to 6d dearer. Oats steady, prices unchanged.—Coventry, Sheppard, and Co.

SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—The autumn sowing demand is drawing to a close. Trifolium prices now tempting enough for holding over. Rape firm. Mustard unchanged. Rye in good demand—dearer. Winter tares moving freely, no change in price. Peas more movement, prices unsettled. English trefoil, Alsika, white, and red clovers, all firm. In grasses, Perennials and Italian higher.—John Picard and Co.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—The market opens this week with a good demand for all classes of English hops, choice colory hops of every description command more money, and all useful copper hops are taken at full rates, even low discoloured samples find buyers at very firm rates.—W. H. and H. Le May.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Good Weald of Kent hops sell 75s to to 84s, and Sussex up to 70s. Business in East and Mid-Kent growths has scarcely commenced, but 95s per cwt has been refused for a good lot. Yearlings, 56s to 65s per cwt.

Worcester, Saturday.—As picking is about over, there was a full attendance of growers, who asked higher prices, but when modified, buyers were found at a substantial advance on last week's prices, especially for good choice qualities. Many of the samples now lack colour but are richer in quality. 2,451 pockets have been weighed this week.—Charles Faram and Co.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply; trade quiet. Old hay, £4 per ton; new hay, £3 to £3 5s per ton; straw, no quotations.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Hay and straw steady, without change in values.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Meadow hay, 6d; clover ditto, 6½d to 7d; wheat straw, 4d; oat straw, 4d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Good supply, and fair demand. Best hay realised 55s to 60s, and seeds the same price; secondary sorts 50s per ton on the ground, and straw, 35s per ton at the stack.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, old, 5½d to 6d, new, 5d to 5½d; clover, new, 5½d to 6½d; straw, oat, 3½d to 4d per stone.

Nottingham, Wednesday.—Large supplies on offer, which met with a slow trade. Quotations:—Inferior to good hay, 50s to 60s; prime ditto, 75s to 85s; inferior to good clover, 60s to 70s; prime ditto, 75s to 85s; wheat straw, 50s to 55s; swede turnips, 20s to 21s; old hay, 90s to 100s; old seeds, 95s to 105s per ton.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Heavier supplies to hand sold lowly, hay being slightly easier. prices:—Bestclover, 84s to 95s; inferior, do., 72s to 80s; specially picked hay, 85s; good do., 75s to 82s; inferior do., 65s to 70s; mixture and sainfoin, 77s 6d to 87s 6d; straw, 28s to 33s per load.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Altrincham: 1s 1d. Appleby: 11d to 1s 1d Barnstaple: 1s 2d. Berwick 1s to 1s 2d. Birmingham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Camelford: 1s. Carlisle: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Chester: 1s 1d. Dartmouth: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Derby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Devizes: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Doncaster: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Dorchester: 11d to 1s 2d. Evesham: 1s 1½d to 1s 2d. Hereford: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Ipswich: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Kidderminster: 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Lincoln: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Market Drayton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Otley: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per 24 oz roll. Penrith: 11d to 1s 2d. Plymouth: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Preston: 1s 2½d to 1s 3d. Retford: 1s to 1s 2d. Ripon: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Spalding: 11d. Stockport: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Stockton: 1s to 1s 2d. Totnes: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Truro: 10d to 1s. Worcester: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. York: 1s,

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Altrincham: 8. Appleby: 8 and 9. Barnstaple: 10. Berwick: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Birmingham: 8 and 9. Camelford: 12. Carlisle: 7 and 8. Chester: 8 and 9. Dartmouth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per doz. Derby: 8 and 9. Devizes: 10 and 12. Doncaster: 10 and 11. Dorchester: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per doz. Evesham: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per doz. Hereford: 10 and 11. Ipswich: 10 and 12. Kidderminster: 10. Lancaster: 7 to 9. Lincoln: 10 and 11. Market Drayton: 8 to 10. Nottingham: 8. Otley: 9 and 10. Penrith: 8 and 9. Penzance: 11d to 1s per doz. Plymouth: 10 and 11. Preston: 7 and 8. Retford: 2s per score. Ripon: 8 and 9. Scarborough: 9. Spalding: 11. Stockport: 7 and 8. Stockton: 8. Totnes: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per doz. Truro: 1s to 1s 1d per dozen. Worcester: 8. York: 9 and 10.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday. — Linseed Cake. — Although nearly all feeding stuffs are high, this article has not shown much advance at present, but we expect higher prices during the winter months. Decorticated Cotton Cake and Meal in good demand. Cotton cake small supplies. Retail trade rather dearer.

		Per ton.
Linseed Cakes.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
English Linseed Cake, ex mill	7 12 6	to 7 15 0
American Linseed cake ex quay	7 5 0	to 7 9 6
Russian Oil Cake ex quay	7 7 6	to 7 10 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake ex quay	6 17 6	to 7 5 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal ex quay	6 17 6	to 7 0 0
London-made ,, Cake (best) ex mill	5 0 0	to 5 2 6
Egyptian ,, Cake (in bags) ex quay	5 0 0	to 5 2 6
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included) on rail, Burton	5 2 6	—
Calcutta Linseed (in bags), per 410 lb ex warehouse	2 6	0 to 2 7 0
La Plata Linseed per 416 lb. ex warehouse	2 5	0 to 2 10 0
Russian Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb ex warehouse	2 5	0 to 2 7 0

—Robt. & John Hewetson.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Sept. 30, 1907. British.	Total.	Monday, Oct. 1, 1906.
Beasts	970	970	1,210
Sheep and Lambs	5,260	5,260	5,800
Calves	10	10	20
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	40	40	40

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 8	3 6	4 8
Sheep	4 8	5 4	6 0
Lambs	5 4	6 0	6 8
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 67; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 779; Devon, 30; Ireland, 94.

We note to-day a decrease of 80 in the number of beasts offered for sale compared with Monday last, the majority of the supply consisted of grass-fed Herefords and Runts, with a slightly larger number of Devons. Trade for both prime and second quality was entirely devoid of life, partly owing to the late summer prolonging the holday season in consequence of which, butchers' requirements are somewhat limited, and the overstocked state of the Dead Meat Market. For all descriptions of English beasts, with the exception of Devons, a decline of 2d. per 8 lb. was noticeable. The Irish arrivals consisted of 33 Dublins and 61 Waterfords; these also ruled slow of sale at less money. Fat butchering cows and bulls were in average supply, and maintained late currencies.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. d	s d	Monday, Oct. 1, 1906. s d	s d
Scotch	—	—	—	—
Devons	4	6 to 4 8	4 4	to 4 6
Herefords	4	2 to 4 4	4 2	to 4 4
Norfolks	—	—	—	—
Runts	4	0 to 4 2	4 0	to 4 2
Lincolns	3	8 to 3 10	3 8	to 3 10
Irish	4	0 to 4 2	—	—
Canadian	—	—	—	—
Fat cows	3	4 to 3 6	3 4	to 3 6

There was a decrease of 10 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. Trade opened and continued throughout the day of an extremely slow and dragging nature, rates favouring the buyer to the extent of 2d. per 8 lb. for both wethers and ewes. Scotch and Irish descriptions were in smaller numbers, the former of which, although slow of sale, maintained late values, whilst the latter were quoted 1d per 8 lb lower. The lamb season being now practically at an end, only a small number were on offer, all scales of which were governed by last Monday's prices, the supply included 200 Scotch, 988 Irish, and 309 from the Eastern Counties. A clearance will not be made.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, Oct. 1, 1906. s. d.	s. d.
8 st Scotch	5 10 to 6	0	5 10 to 6	0
7½ to 8 st Downs	5 10 to 6	0	5 10 to 6	0
9 st. Downs	5 8 to 5	10	5 6 to 5	8
10 st Halfbreds	5 4 to 5	6	5 4 to 5	6
10 st Yorkshires	—		—	
12st Lincolns	—		—	
10 st Irish	5 2 to 5	4	5 4 to 5	6
10 st Down Ewes	4 0 to 4	2	4 0 to 4	2
11 st Halfbred ditto	3 10 to 4	0	3 10 to 4	0
5 st Down Lambs	6 6 to 6	8	—	
6 st Halfbred ditto	6 2 to 6	4	—	

Calf trade nominal.

No pigs on the market.

London (Central), Monday.—Slow trade, and supplies liberal. Beef, English, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 4d; American, 3s 2d to 3s 7d; refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 7d to 4s. Mutton, English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s 6d to 4s. Lambs, 5s to 5s 4d; Scotch tegs and wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; ewes, 3s 6d to 4s. Veal, 3s 8d to 4s 8d. Pork, 3s 6d to 4s per stone.

St. Ives (Hunts) Monday.—Fat and store cattle and pigs fair trade; fat and store sheep good demand; milch cows fair trade. Beasts, 570; sheep and lambs, 1,395; pigs, 536. Prices:—7s 3d to 8s; mutton, 7s 7d to 10s 6d; lamb, 9d to 10d; pork, 6s 3d to 6s 9d; milch cows, £12 to £20.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—No market was held here to-day, but 1,200 Canadian beasts and 100 sheep were held over for Wednesday's market. On Saturday 1,647 beasts from the United States and 403 from Canada were offered for sale. Trade was of a fairly steady nature. The whole consignment, however, consisted only of middling quality cattle, good beasts being very scarce, consequently prices were low. Besides the above, 300 States and 1,000 Canadians were withheld from sale. Also 150 Canadian sheep. The best States beasts on offer were quoted at from 4s 1d to 4s 3d, Canadians, 3s 10d to 4s per 8 lb (offal given in).

Liverpool, Monday.—Supply of cattle slightly larger. Demand slow, and prices lower except for very good extra quality. Sheep and lambs again shown in smaller numbers. Trade slow, only choice quaility of both maintaining last week's quotations. Middling and rough classes much lower. Beef, 6½d to 5d per lb; mutton, 8½d to 6d; lamb, 8½d to 7d. per lb. At market 1,436 cattle and 7,683 sheep.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, September 30.—The market for linseed has been tending in sellers', that for cottonseed in buyers' favour. Rapeseed and sesame are quite firm.

	s. s.		s. s.
Linseed. per 416 lb.		YellowCawnpre	54 to 55
English	None.	Brown ,,	53 to 54
Bombay	None.	Ferozepore	53 to 54
Calcutta	46 to 48	Rubsen. per 424 lb	
Russian 98%	48 to 50	German	71 to 75
,, Ordin'y	45 to 46	Poppyseed. per 377 lb.	
Argentine recle'd	49 to 51	Indian	59 to 60
Argentine cleand	47 to 48	Cottonseed. per ton.	
,, F.A.Q.	45 to 46	Egyptian	155 to 157
Argentine comn.	43 to 44	Indian	140 to 141
Dutch best	52 to 53	Brazilian	140 to 142
,, medium	47 to 50	Sunflowerseed.	
Turkish	46 to 48	per cwt.	
Duluth	44 to 46	English, White	15 to 16
Canadian	45 to 47	Russian, White.	14 to 15
Morocco	50 to 52	,, Black.	13 to 14
Rapeseed. per 416 lb.		Sesame. per 384 lb.	
English	72 to 74	Indian	56 to 60
French F.A.Q.	64 to 66	Hempseed. per 336 lb.	
Yellow Guzerat	58 to 60	Russian	40 to 42

WET AND DRIED GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Saturday.—Wet Grains: Business has been done for the winter months at ale 22s, and porter 19s per ton on rail, London. Dried Grains —A better Continental demand has been experienced, and stocks are considerably reduced, 100s ale and 95s mixed being paid ex factory, in buyers' bags At these prices same compare favourably with bran, pollard, &c. American cane treacle, 90s per ton; and kiln-dried sea-damaged wheat from 21s per qr.—Hamlyn and Co., 37 and 38, Mark Lane.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were:—From Ireland, 2,723 bales, and from foreign ports, 13,126 bales. There was a dull market for bacon throughout the week, resulting in prices generally being lower. Quotations:—Irish, 56s to 58s up to 62s; Danish, 52s to 56s up to 62s; Canadian, 54s to 57s up to 58s. Butter: The butter market was firm. French, 96s to 110s; Danish, 115s to 117s; Russian, 78s to 102s; Dutch, 110s; Irish, 90s to 112s; Canadian, 110s to 112s; Victorian, 88s to 114s; New South Wales, 88s to 112s; Queensland, 86s to 104s; New Zealand, 98s to 112s. Lard.—The lard market was slow. Irish, 50s to 58s; Danish, 48s to 50s; American, 46s 3d to 48s

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—A good assortment was in quiet request. Epicures, 65s; British Queens, 65s to 75s; Blacklands, 65s to 70s; Up-to-Dates, 70s to 80s; Sharp's Express, 70s to 80s per ton. French, 3s 3d; and Dutch, 3s 3d per bag.

Berwick, Saturday.—The market was fairly supplied, satisfactory business being done at 65s per ton.

Carlisle, Saturday.—A large supply and a rather slow sale, at 7d to 8d per stone.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Good supply, which sold at 10s 6d per load; retail, 9d per stone.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—A fair inquiry prevailed for the good quantity. Epicures, 65s; British Queens, 70s to 75s; Blacklands, 65s to 70s; Up-to-Dates, 70 to 75s; Sharp's Express, 65s to 70s per ton. Dutch, 3s 3d; French (Beauvais), 3s 6d per bag.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington Cattle Market during the week, with a rather larger supply, mostly consisting of consignments from the Midland and Home Counties, trade on both market days ruled of an extremely slow and dragging nature, with, for both prime and second quality, a downward tendency in regard to value, in some cases to the extent of 2d. per 8 lb. The arrivals from Ireland consisted of 54 Dublins and 36 Waterfords, also a consignment of 60 store cattle, comprising yearlings and two-and-a-half-year-old heifers; these met with very little demand and were quoted at £7 10s. and £11 per head respectively. There was an average supply of fat cows and bulls from the South-Western counties on both market days. These, however, ruled slow of sale at Monday's values. No fat beasts were offered for sale on Thursday as usual.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, no market was held on Wednesday, but on Monday and Saturday a fair trade was experienced, at a downward tendency in value, due to too many middling quality beasts being offered for sale. The total number on offer at both markets was 3,904, as against 3,865 during the preceding week, consisting of 1,100 British (increase 70) and 2,804 foreign (decrease 31), these latter comprising 2,401 from the United States and 403 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 stone Devons, 4s. 6d. ex 4s. 8d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 95 stone Irish, 4s. 1d. to 4s. 3d.; 90 stone States, 4s. 1d. to 4s. 3d. ex 4s. 4d.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d to 3s. 6d.

The sheep trade, which was confined to the Islington market, ruled of a firm and steady nature on Monday, late currencies being well maintained for all grades of English sheep. Scotch descriptions met with less inquiry, but nevertheless were able to uphold late values, whilst Irish, notwithstanding the large number on offer, sold very readily at good money. Lambs were in excess of the requirements, consequently a downward tendency was noticeable, but not sufficiently so to warrant our quoting any decline. On Thursday a very slow trade was experience at late values. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 6s. to 6s. 2d.; 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 10 stone Halfbreds, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 5 stone fat Down lambs, 6s. 6d. to 6s. 8d.; 6 stone Half-bred ditto, 6s. 2d to 6s. 4d.

The calf trade ruled of a slow nature, the total number consigned numbering 40 head, the best of which were quoted at from 4s. 10d. to 5s. per 8 lb. (offal given in).

Trade in the West.

The harvest throughout the West has now been brought to a successful termination, and everyone is well pleased with the result; and though the quality of the corn may not be exactly all that could be desired, still what is lacking in quality is more than compensated for by the bulk. And the fields being once again cleared, rain is now generally desired, as under the scorching influence of the past fortnight's brilliant sunshine the pastures are showing unmistakable evidence of languishing, and this, of course, means that without rain the grass lands, especially upon the hills, will be soon giving out, and a shortage of pasture will follow. In spite of such a probability, stores of all kinds keep unusually buoyant, nothing more so than sheep; but this feeling of confidence as to the future is largely inspired by the knowledge that the present season's root crop is one of exceptional promise, and after discounting all that we hear about the unsoundness of a good many of the roots, we believe that even the crop will come considerably above the average; and this is a matter of vital importance to the flockmasters, especially those keeping breeding flocks. Therefore it is little matter for surprise to find the prices of sheep keeping up as they are doing, and which there is every prospect of their still continuing to do unless something very unforeseen occurs. Of course the one chief factor responsible for this is the abnormal shortage of sheep in the country, and whilst this continues there is very little likelihood of sheep dropping back to the old unremunerative level to which in some seasons they have sunk before the scarcity made itself felt so keenly as it is doing at present. The existing condition of things affects all classes of store sheep and lambs in an equal degree, and nothing is at all likely to occasion a reaction whilst the demand continues as keen as it is at present, and there is the same difficulty experienced in meeting the demands of buyers, this being confined to no particular district, but is general all over the country, this being put by best judges at from 7s. to 10s. a head. Draft ewes are selling from 45s. to 58s. for Downs, and from 48s. to 65s. for horns; grazing ewes, 34s. 6d. to 46s.; and lambs from 28s. 6d. to 45s. And a similar buoyancy characterises transactions in keeping cattle, both barreners and young grazing stock bringing capital prices all round, high condition graziers making £22 or £23 per pair, up to £30 for young bullocks of a good stamp, and £17 to £22 for animals not so heavily fleshed. Stirks are also meeting with a very active demand at good prices, ranging from £6 15s. to £9 10s. each, and yearling heifers sell equally well. Milch beasts are a good deal sought after at varying prices, ranging from £14 (for plain animals) up to £22 for deep milking heifers, in-calvers ranging from £10 to £15 according to season; other store stock sell at equally good rates to those we have quoted.

In fat stock bullocks rule very firm indeed for the best quality steers or maiden heifers up to 12s. per score and over, Shorthorns, Devons, and Polled Angus all selling, if anything, at advanced rates; but anything of a distinctly secondary character is scarcely worth as much money, prices being very irregular, and ranging from 10s. up to 11s. per score. Best Devon steers are now making up to £25 each and heifers to £22 or £23, according to size. Mutton is still anything but plentiful, and prices for all the best weights rule very firm up to 9d. for best young mutton; seconds making 7½d. to 8d.; old ewes, 6½d. to 7d.; and choice sucking lamb up to 10½d., where the finish is not to be called into question. Calves still fail to meet the demand in point of supply, and sellers as a consequence show no disposition to give way in price, which cannot be quoted under 9d. for the best animals (or from £3 10s. to £6 15s. each); seconds, 7½d. to 8d. Pigs show no sign of lessening in value, this being especially the case with porkers, which cannot be quoted under 10s. 6d. to 11s. per score, and baconers from 9s. 6d. to 10s., anything under this value distinctly lacking in quality.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer has been larger, and the general quality a shade improved. A good steady demand has been experienced, and prices as nearly as possible similar to those of the preceding week. Fat cows made rather less money. There was a full average supply of sheep and lambs on offer, and the general quality was also better. A steady demand has been experienced, and previous prices rather improved upon. There was a good show of calves and a fair show of pigs, both of which with difficulty maintained previous prices. There was a considerable increase in the number of store sheep and lambs, but many of them of very indifferent class. For Cheviot ewes the demand has been decidedly quieter, and a fall of from 2s., to in some cases 5s. per head had to be accepted. A small supply of store cattle were sold out without change in value. Milch cows a good show, and they met a trade similar to last week. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 39s. 2d.; current, 36s. to 37s. 6d.; Irish, 32s. to 35s.; mutton, 6½d. to 9½d. per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Ltd.

Trade in Ireland

There was a good attendance of buyers in Dublin market on Thursday last, but buying was slow for stock not in very good condition. Choice cattle were from 10s. to 15s., and coarse beasts fully 20s. under the previous day's price. Heavy sheep were somewhat of a drug, but other classes were in fair request. There were over 4,000 beasts, a decrease of nearly 100, and 7,764 sheep, a decrease of over 1,300 on the previous week. A strong inquiry for A 1 lots of beasts was visible at the commencement of the market, but lasted only a short time, 29s. to 30s. per cwt. being the offer for good beasts. The market did not clear out well, middling and inferior cattle not selling. The choice dead-weight prices were for heifers and ox beef, from 52s. 6d. to 55s., with 56s. given in some cases for extra choice: medium beef, 47s. 6d. to 50s.; and inferior from 44s. to 46s. per cwt.

The sheep market was pervaded by an idle tone, heavy mutton did not sell well, best wethers were worth from 7d. to 7½d., and ewes from 6½d. to 7d. per lb., handy weight hoggets sold fairly well, also fat lambs, but as a rule these were considerably off in price. Veal was sold from 7½d. to 8d. for choice, and from 4½d. upwards per lb. for inferior classes. Dairy and store cattle sold fairly well, but badly bred and backward beasts were hard to part with. Dairy cows in the marked ranged much as before.

In the Dublin pig market supplies were large, and English and home buyers were in good attendance. Rates manifested a drop of 2s. to 3s. per cwt. on the good sorts, and from 3s. to 5s. on big coarse pigs, choice light-weight bacon pigs from 47s. 6d. to 50s. per cwt., and inferior pigs from 36s. to 38s. per cwt.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Good supplies, and trade very slow for beef, which finished lower; mutton and lamb firm. English beef, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 2d to 3s 7d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 10d to 4s 1d; ditto seconds, 3s 7d to 3s 9d; ditto forequarters, 2s to 2s 4d; inferior beef, 2s to 2s 8d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; ditto tegs, 5s; ditto ewes, 3s 8d to 4s; English wethers, 4s¾d to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 6d to 4s; Dutch sheep, 4s to 4s 4d; English lamb, 5s to 5s 4d; veal, 3s 8d to 4s 8d; English pork, 3s 6d to 4s; Dutch ditto, 3s 6d to 4s per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—To-day's supply of beasts consisted entirely of fat cows and bulls from South-Western counties; trade ruled slow at Monday's values. Top prices paid per 8 lb:—Fat cows, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 9d to 3s 2d. A decrease of 20 in the number penned in sheep market compared with Monday last. Sheep trade was slow and dragging for both wethers and ewes, so few buyers being present, but no quotable decline in value can be noted. Very little inquiry for lambs. Best pens made per 8 lb as follows:—7½ to 8 stone Down sheep, 6s to 6s 2d; 9 stone ditto, 5s 10d to 6s; 10 stone ditto, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10 stone half-breds, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; 5 stone fat grass lambs, 6s 6d to 6s 8d. Calf trade slow at a decline in value. Quotations per 8 lb, sinking the offal:—Beasts, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; sheep, 4s 2d to 6s 2d; calves, 3s 10d to 5s; lambs, 5s 4d to 6s 8d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef sold slowly at last week's rates, best making about 4s 8d. Mutton depressed, and 2d cheaper. Down wethers, 5s 4d to 5s 10d; best Kent wethers, 5s 2d to 5s 6d; ewes, 4s to 4s 2d. Veal, 5s to 5s 6d; roasting pigs dear, 4s to 4s 2d; large hogs, 2d cheaper.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—Best fat beasts, 6¾d to 7¼d; second-class ditto, 6d to 6½d; bulls, cows, and inferior, 5d to 5½d; best sheep, 9d to 9½d; second-class ditto, 7½d to 8½d; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 6½d to 7d; choice sucking lambs, 9½d to 10½d; fat calves, 6½d to 7½d per lb; fat porkers, 10s 6d to 11s 6d per score.

Berwick, Saturday.—Attendance of farmers and buyers very small, and trade rather better. Calves, £6 10s; heifers, £7 10s; stirks, £9 to £10 15s; two-year-olds, £12 12s.

Birmingham, Thursday. — Fair supply of pigs; small supply of beasts and sheep. Trade fair for pigs but slow for beasts and sheep. Quotations:—Beef, 5½d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 8½d to 9d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s 6d per score; cutting pigs, 9s 9d to 10s per score; sows, 7s 10d to 8s per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Fat cattle were plentiful, but demand was not brisk, and business was slow at last week's values. Sheep were numerous and trade was quiet, with prices unchanged. Pigs were again scarce, porkers realising 10s 3d per score, and baconers falling to 9s.

Calne, Friday.—Prices of pigs:—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 1s. per pig extra for delivery by road. Prime

stores, 6 sc. 10 lb to 8 sc. 10 lbs, 9s 0d per score, 8 sc. 11 lb to 9 sc. 10 lb,, 8s 6d per score; 9 sc. 11 lb to 10 sc. 10 lb, 8s 0d Pigs outside these limits at their value.—C. and T. Harris and Co., Ltd.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There was a large entry of stock, including a number of rams from the registered flock of Mr. F. Neame. They averaged about £10 5s per head, and ranged up to 22½ and 30 guineas. Good lambs were in request at from 29s to 36s, and occasionally 39s, and ewe tegs were selling at 44s to 50s, with a few exceptional pens at a trifle more money. Old sheep, 25s to 35s; and better class, 36s to 46s.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Few buyers attended, and a moderate trade was done. Small heifers, £8 10s to £10 10s, better description £12 10s, cattle for feeding-off purposes £15 10s.

Chester, Thursday.—Fair supplies of store and dairy cattle, sheep, and lambs. Buyers were numerous, and a large trade was done, though there was scarcely as good a clearance as last week. Quotations:—Milch cows, £17 to £22; calvers, £14 to £17; barrens, £10 to £13; heifers, £9 to £15; stirks, £6 to £10; sheep, 30s to 48s; and lambs, 26s to 32s per head.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was a large attendance of buyers, and a brisk demand prevailed for both fat and store sheep, and prices were fully up to those realised at recent sales. There was much more inquiry for store cattle, and practically every lot changed hands. Pigs met a steady trade at about last week's prices. Quotations:—Devon steers, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; Shorthorn steers, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; Southdown tegs, 6s 6d to 6s 8d; West Country ditto, 6s 2d to 6s 6d; West Down ewes, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; Southdown ewes, 4s 6d to 5s; fat calves, 5s to 5s 6d; porkers, 3s 10d to 4s 4d.

Colchester, Saturday.—Mutton was in short supply, and made 6s 4d per stone of 8 lb; beef, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; and pigs, 9s per score. There was a fair supply of grass beef.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Moderate supply of cattle, and a fair attendance of buyers. Milch beasts firm, but no change in prices. Milch beasts, £18 to £23; bullocks, £12 to £18; heifers, £11 to £15; drapes and stirks, £10 to £13; young stores, £7 to £10 each. Very large supply of sheep, over 2,000 in number, and a good demand for breeding sheep. Gimmers, 56s to 60s; ewes, 50s to 58s: lambs, 38s to 40s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—The trade market was well supplied, both with store cattle and fat bullocks, including some very ripe beasts from the Vale country, and many useful graziers from the best known stock-raising centres. Despite the fair and show occurring the two days previously there was a good attendances of buyers, and as everyone was confidently anticipating rain, this imported a very poor tone to business, and those who had stock on offer asked extreme rates. Best heifers and calves sold from £16 10s to £20 10s each, and cows from £13 to £18. Barreners ranged from £18 up to £27, and young stock—stirks and yearlings—from £5 up to £11. Fat beast showed a decline in value, the ripest animals realising fully 11s 6d to 12s per score, and seconds 10s to 11s. Very little passing in mutton, which may generally be quoted as making 7¼d to 8¼d per lb.

Dublin, Thursday.—A well-sustained demand for cattle at last week's prices, and a good clearance effected. No material alteration in price of sheep, though shipping hoggs and fancy light weights were easier sold, heavy sheep again difficult to place and in excess of requirements. Cattle—Live weight (best), 30s to 33s per cwt; secondary sorts, 26s to 28s per cwt. Mutton (dead weight), 6½d to 7¾d per lb.—Ganly, Sons and Co.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Sheep very poor trade, cattle and milch cows going good trade. Cheviot sheep to 35s; Cheviot ewes to 32s; half-bred lambs to 29s; greyfaced lambs to 21s; polled bullocks, £13 to £15; best Shorthorn cows to £26 10s; Ayrshires to £19

Exeter, Friday.—Small supply of fat cattle, lower tendency all round, top prices for steers and maiden heifers being 11s; cows, 9s 6d to 10s; best quality sold out. Remarkable falling off in the supply of sheep. Big lambs and small sheep, 9d; larger size, 8d; fat ewes, 6½d. Little inquiry for breeding ewes; rams, 5d; calves, 7d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Fair show of cattle at market, and for all classes good selling trade experienced. Prime bullocks scarce and dear; other sorts also in good demand; tops, 63s to 66s; secondary, 59s to 61s per cwt. Sheep and lambs penned in average numbers, and prime quality being very scarce sold dear; other descriptions also met fair demand; best mutton, 8¾d to 9¼d; secondary, 8d to 8½d per lb; finest lambs, 7d to 9¼d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A large supply of beef quite above the demand, the price for best quality bullock and heifer being from 6½d to 6¾d; cow beef, 5d. A fair supply of calves, with veal making 6½d to 7d. A good supply of sheep, with trade firm. Wether mutton made 8d, and ewe mutton 6½d to 7d. Several bunches of stock ewes changed hands at satisfactory prices. Lambs scarce, sold well, butchers' lambs making 8d. Store lambs dear; a larger supply, which made from 5½d to 6d. A few bacons from 5d to 5½d.

Leicester, Saturday.—Heavy consignments of home-bred bullocks. Buyers were well represented, but trade ruled irregular, and prices were fully 10s per head lower. Choice milch cows sold freely at £20 to £22; good lots, £16 to £17 10s; inferior, £14 to £15; Shorthorn bullocks, £12 to £15 10s; cross-bred Angus, £13 10s to £14 10s; Irish bullocks, £14 10s to £15; Welsh cattle, £9 to £13 10s; young stock, £6 to £7; and calves, 20s to 40s each. Sheep were in fair supply, and sold freely. Breeding ewes, 50s to 58s; lamb hogs, 25s to 39s; and rams, £3 3s to £5 10s each.

Lincoln, Friday.—A small consignment of horned stock, and business ruled fairly brisk. Young beasts realised £9 to £12, and milch cows, £17 to £22 per head. The sheep pens were well filled, and trade was steady. Gimmers sold at 66s to 69s, young ewes 50s to 60s, drape ewes 33s to 44s, and lambs 38s to 44s per head.

Lynn, Tuesday.—A rather smaller show of fat beasts met with trade at late rates, and realised from 7s to 7s 9d per stone. The few stores shown experienced a slow trade, and made from £6 to £15 each. Fat sheep in average supply met a slow trade, and fetched 9s to 10s per stone; stores, 45s to 50s each; fat lambs, 30s to 40s; store lambs, 36s to 45s.

Manchester, Friday. — Beef: Firsts, 5½d; seconds, 4d to 4½d.; thirds, 3d to 3½d. Mutton: Firsts, 7¼d; seconds, 6¼d to 6¾d; thirds, 5¼d to 5¾d. Veal: Firsts, 6d; seconds, 5d to 5½d; thirds, 4d to 4½d. Bacon pigs: Firsts, 5½d; seconds, 4¼d to 4¾d; thirds, 3¼d to 3¾d. Porket pigs: Firsts, 6½d; seconds, 6d to 6¼d; thirds, 5¼d to 5¾d per lb

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Trade was slow for cattle, but steady, and there was no change in prices. Quotations:—Prime heifers, 7s 3d to 7s 6d; second class, 6s 9d to 7s; prime steers, 7s to 7s 3d; second class, 6s 9d to 7s; coarse and inferior, 6s to 6s 6d per stone, sinking the offal. Trade for sheep was a shade heavier, but prices were similar. Quotations:—Choice young sheep, 8d to 8¾d; strong heavy, 7¾d to 8¼d; choice lambs, 8¼d to 9d; second class, 8¼d to 9d; ewes, 6d to 6¾d; rams, 5d to 6d per lb. Trade in veal was fair at unchanged prices of 6d to 7¼d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday. — Large supply of cattle, moderate supply of sheep and lambs, fair number of calves and pigs. Large attendance of buyers, and good demand all round. Best beef, 6½d to 6¾d; seconds, 6¼d; cows, 4¾d to 5¼d; best wether mutton, 6½d to 8¾d; lamb, 9d; calves, 6½d to 8d; porkers, 10s 3d to 10s 9d per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—A large show of fat cattle, the best of which sold up to 8s per 14 lb stone; the demand for middle-class bullocks, of which several were offered, was slow at from 7s 3d to 7s 6d; cows made 6s 9d. Small show of sheep; quality good; the best made 9d per lb; others, 8¼d; no ewes were offered. Pigs were of good quality, and a good trade was experienced, all being sold; baconers made from 6s to 6s 6d; sows, 5s 3d; and porkers, 6s 6d to 6s 9d per stone. A very slow trade was experienced for store cattle. Cattle with most condition sold best; two and three-year-olds ranged from £13 10s to £18; best yearlings, £10 15s; others, £3 10s to £7 10s. For store sheep trade slower, best shearlings making from 56s to 60s; other ages, 42s to 51s. Lambs were a little cheaper, at 33s to 42s. Sharp trade for any nice store pigs at from 11s to 25s. Fair show of calves, which met a slightly dearer trade at from 27s to 55s.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Short supply of stock, meeting with good trade. Best in-calf cows, £17 10s to £22; heifers, £14 to £17 10s. There were few store beasts shown, and met with an improved trade at £12 to £14 10s each. A better trade in calves, fetching up to 50s per head.

Preston, Wednesday. — Moderate supplies. Prices for the best quality well maintained, but middling and inferior qualities were difficult to sell. Quotations:—Choice local-fed heifers, 6¾d; ditto Irish, 6¼d; secondary ditto, 6d; choice cows and bulls, 5¾d; secondary ditto, 5d to 5¼d; best quality hoggs and lambs, 9d; heavy and inferior ditto, 8¼d; prime ewes, 6¾d; heavy tups and ewes, 5¼d to 6¼d; choice calves, 7d; secondary ditto, 6d to 6¼d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Supply small. Good milch cows scarce and dear at £20 to £22; secondary and inferior animals, down to £14; steers and heifers, £10 to £12; yearlings, £6 to £8; and calves, 40s to 45s per head.

Romford, Wednesday.—Fat beasts in average supply, trade slower. Best beasts 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in short supply, prices about the same at 4s 10d to 5s per stone. Sheep in short supply, trade about the same. Best small sheep, 5s 8d to 6s; larger sheep, 5s 4d to 5s 6d per stone. Ewes in short supply at 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. The quotations for lambs are discontinued. Milch cows in good supply, trade better. Pigs in larger supply, rather better trade: Small porkers, 4s to 4s 2d; large hogs, 3s 8d to 3s 10d per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—A small show of milch cattle. Business generally ruled very quiet, the best lots making £19 to £21, and secondary ditto £15 to £16 10s per head.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Usual supplies of fat and store cattle. Good trade in beef, store sheep, and pigs. Quotations:—Beef, 6½d to 7d per lb; mutton (wether), 9d to 10d per lb; ewes, 7d to 8d per lb; lamb, 9d to 9½d per lb; veal, 7d to 7½d per lb; porket pigs, 10s to 11s per score; bacons, 9s 3d to 9s 9d per score.

Stockton, Wednesday.—About an average show of the best cattle, and, with few customers, trade was slow at 7s 3d to 7s 6d per stone, rougher kinds making 6s 6d to 7s. Lambs sold at 9d per lb, shearlings at 8½d, ewes 7d, and tups 6d. The pig trade was very slow, prices being about the same as last week. Small porkers made up to 7s 6d, mediums, 7s, and sows from 5s 9d to 6s 6d per stone.

Thame, Tuesday.—One of the largest entries of cattle for many years were pitched in this market. The quality was excellent, and considering the large number entered, there was a selling trade throughout, although no alteration in prices upon previous weeks. Sheep still continue to sell well, a clearance being again effected. Fair trade for veal, with sharp demand for bacon and pork. Store pigs and weaning calves all finding purchasers. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 171 beasts, 266 fat sheep, 96 fat and weaning calves, and 198 fat and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £16 to £20 5s; fat heifers, £15 to £20; fat wethers, 49s to 65s 6d; fat ewes, 42s to 58s 6d; fat lambs, 35s to 46s; fat calves, £3 to £4 1s; weaning cow calves, 30s to 65s; bull calves, 20s to 50s; bacon hogs, £3 5s to £5 10s; porkers, 30s to 48s; store pigs, 16s to 32s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance fairly good, business brisk. Fat bullocks, 56s. to 58s per cwt; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s per cwt; cows and calves, £12 to £16; rearing calves, 20s to 40s each; ewes, 42s to 48s each; wethers, 6½d to 7d per lb; ewes, 5d to 5½d; lambs, 7d; pigs, 10s 9d to 35s; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8½d; lamb, 8d to 9d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork 6d to 8½d; pork (carcasses), 5d to 5½d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Trade very slow all round; moderate supply. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6¾d per lb; mutton, 7d to 9d per lb; veal, 6d to 7½d per lb; lamb, 8½d to 9¼d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Moderate supply of beef, with trade slow. Fair supply of mutton, with trade also very slow, prices being down for the latter nearly 1d per lb, whilst beef was about 6d per stone cheaper. Best quality beef made up to 7s 3d; secondary qualities, 6s 9d to 7s per stone; best Southdown wether and cross bred shearling mutton, 7½d to 8d; ewes, 4½d to 5d; lambs, 8½d per lb.

Yeovil, Friday.—Fairly heavy offer of stock, all of which sold readily. Best quality heifers and calves sold up to £20; secondary, £12 10s upwards; cows and calves to £19 5s for best quality, others selling at from £11 10s; best heifers, £12 to £15 10s; secondary, £9 to £11 5s; stirk heifers, £7 to £9.

York, Thursday.—There was a large show of store cattle. The attendance of buyers was small, and trade was very slow. Some of the best quality three-year-olds made up to £16, and two-year-olds up to £11 10s, whilst a few lots of fine English stirks made up to £9 10s. For calving and milch cows the trade was fairly steady. All the best young animals were sold at prices ranging up to £22, but the majority could be had at £16 to £18 10s. per head. The number of sheep penned was fully 30,000, including all classes, and trade was improved all round, particularly in respect of ewes. Best north country ewes made up to 58s, but the general run sold at from 48s to 54s, Cheviot ewes made 26s to 33s, best Masham ewes up to 50s, others 44s to 48s, south country ewes 38s to 48s, north country gimmers 46s to 55s; best north country lambs up to 40s, others 32s to 37s, best twice crossed lambs up to 40s, general run from 30s to 35s, Masham lambs 24s to 28s, and Masham shearlings 42s to 47s each. A fair supply of rams met a slow sale, making up to 7 guineas per head.

DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter.—The demand for Australian and New Zealand butter is necessarily small, the principal point of interest in the market being the arrival of new season's butter from Australia, which has brought from 110s to 112s per cwt for salt, and 114s to 116s for unsalted, while last season's New Zealand salted butter has

brought 108s, and exceptional quality even 110s per cwt. Canadian remains at last week's figures. The market for foreign butter, with the exception of French, has been rather quiet, and prices have been easier in tone. The Copenhagen official quotation remains unchanged at 99 kroner, which is 10 kroner below the corresponding week last year. French butter advanced this week 6d per dozen lb for rolls, 4s per cwt for fresh and salt baskets and firkins. A further rise of 6d for rolls and 5s for fresh and 4s for salt will take place on Monday next. CHEESE.—There has been a lack of life in the markets this week, although prices for the best goods remain firm, but anything a bit flavory is offered at more tempting prices.—W. WEDDEL AND Co.

CHEESE.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—A good attendance of buyers, a brisk sale, and all cleared. Best Caerphilly dairies realised up to 58s per cwt.; secondary dairies, 54s to 54s 6d; and other dairies, 50s to 52s. A few inferior lots failed to reach 44s. Cheddars, 60s to 61s; truckles, 54s to 60s; doubles. 48s to 52s.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was a good attendance and a brisk demand. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 42s to 52s per cwt; fancy dairies, 54s to 56s; Derbys, 60s to 62s; truckles, 58s to 60s; singles, 58s to 60s; Cheddars, 56s.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday. — Fairly good supply; steady demand. Quotations for English produce:—Grapes, 6d to 3s 9d; plums, 1s to 4s; damsons, 1s to 1s 6d per half sieve; apples, 3s to 9s per barrel; nectarines, 3s to 15s; green figs, 1s to 3s per dozen; melons, 1s to 2s; peaches, 3s to 12s per dozen; pears (Hazels), 2s 6d to 4s per bushel; ditto (Williams), 3s to 5s 6d per half bushel; cobnuts, 2s to 3s 6d; filberts, 2s 6d to 3s per 12 lb; tomatoes, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; scarlet runners, 1s to 1s 6d per bushel; marrows, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; cauliflowers, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; cabbages, 2s 6d to 3s per tally; cucumbers, 4s 6d to 5s 6d per flat; cos lettuce, 6d to 8d per score; turnips, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; carrots, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; mint, 1s to 1s 6d; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen bunches; green peas, 3s to 4s per bushel; horseradish, 10s to 15s per dozen bundles; shallots, 2s 6d per 12 lb; beetroots, 1s 4d to 1s 6d per dozen bunches; endive, 1s 6d to 1s 9d per dozen; potatoes, 70s to 85s per ton.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Good supplies, slow demand. Young grouse, 6s to 6s 6d; old, 2s 9d to 3s; young partridges, 5s to 5s 6d; old, 2s 3d per brace; geese, 5s 6d to 7s; country ducks, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Aylesbury ducks, 2s 6d to 3s; wild ducks, 1s 1d to 1s 3d; Surrey fowls, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; Sussex fowls, 2s 6d to 3s; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Essex fowls, 2s to 2s 6d; Irish fowls, 1s 8d to 2s; quails, 8d to 1s; feathered pigeons, 8d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 9d to 1s 1d; English hares, 2s 6d to 3s; Scottish hares, 1s 4d; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 6d; wild rabbits, 6d to 10d; live hens, 1s 6d to 2s each; Australian rabbits, 5s 6d to 6s 9d per dozen.

CORN STATISTICS

Weekly Arrivals into London.

September 18 to September 25 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	4,600	116,000	120,600
Barley	1,950	24,000	25,950
Malt	15,700	—	15,708
Oats	10,000	20,512	33,512
Beans	127	919	1,046
Peas	25	1,079	1,104
Maize	—	15,265	15,625
Tares	59	100	159
Linseed	—	12,000	12,000
Sunflowerseed	—	480	480
Millet	—	50	50
Flour sacks	19,796	31,977	51,773
Rice flour	—	7,000	7,000
Maizeflour	—	6,800	6,800

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending September 28, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1903 to 1906:—

	WHEAT.			BARLEY.			OATS.		
	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.
1903	57,499	26	3	41,730	23	9	34,054	15	9
1904	56,534	29	10	119,553	25	5	44,796	15	8
1905	100,984	26	9	123,125	24	3	12,067	16	1
1906	83,907	25	9	129,209	24	8	11,942	16	2
1907	84,438	31	8	53,699	25	3	55,435	17	8

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, Sept 28, 1907:—

Wheat	2,208,300 cwts.
Wheat-flour	421,700 ,,
Barley	903,800 ,,
Oats	73,600 ,,
Maize	1,749,600 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1906. Cwts.	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.
Wheat	1,660,100	2,039,100	2,033,200	1,682,900
Wheat-flour	319,500	238,900	160,600	570,300
Barley	573,700	793,000	870,000	688,000
Oats	225,800	241,700	284,400	329,500
Maize	1,048,000	1,027,600	1,438,400	1,565,100

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, September 24, 1907:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Av. Price per qr. £	s.	d.
Wheat	5,204	5	8,735	9	0	1	13	7
Barley	2,363	4	3,119	19	4	1	6	5
Oats	14,366	6	13,642	1	6	0	19	0

Average Monthly Cash Prices of Town Households Flour.

	1907		1906.		1905.		1904.		1903.		1902.		1901.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Jan.	22	0	25	0	26	3	24	9	24	0	21	9	24	6
Feb.	22	0	24	9	26	9	25	6	24	3	22	0	24	0
March	21	9	24	3	26	6	25	9	23	9	21	9	23	9
April	22	3	24	6	26	0	25	3	23	9	23	0	24	0
May	25	0	24	0	25	9	24	9	24	0	23	6	23	6
June	25	6	23	9	25	6	24	3	24	3	23	0	23	0
July	26	0	23	6	25	0	25	0	24	3	23	0	22	3
August	26	6	23	0	25	0	26	6	24	9	22	9	22	3
Sept.			22	9	24	6	27	0	25	0	23	3	22	0
Oct.			22	6	25	0	27	0	24	9	22	9	21	6
Nov.			22	0	25	0	26	9	24	3	22	9	21	6
Dec.			21	9	25	0	26	9	24	3	23	3	21	9
Yrly. Avrg.			23	5	25	6	25	9	24	3	22	8	22	10

Average Monthly Prices of Fine Household Flour in Paris.

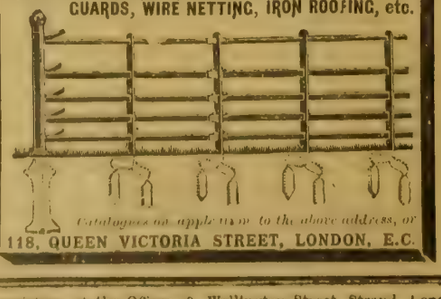
(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1907.		1906.		1905.		1904.		1903.		1902.		1901.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Jan.	30	9	31	0	31	0	29	6	30	9	27	9	24	9
Feb.	30	0	31	6	31	6	30	0	31	6	26	3	25	0
March	29	9	31	3	30	3	31	0	31	6	27	0	24	0
April	30	0	31	6	30	9	29	0	34	0	27	3	24	6
May	33	3	30	9	31	9	28	0	33	3	27	6	25	6
June	32	9	31	0	30	3	28	3	34	0	30	0	26	3
July	34	6	31	6	30	0	29	4	31	9	29	9	28	0
August	33	6	29	9	29	3	30	0	30	0	27	6	27	6
Sept.			30	6	31	0	31	0	30	0	29	0	27	6
Oct.			31	0	31	0	31	6	30	0	30	0	27	6
Nov.			31	6	31	0	32	0	28	0	28	9	27	9
Dec.			30	0	31	0	31	3	28	6	29	6	28	3
Yrly. Avrg.			30	11	30	9	30	1	31	1	28	5	27	3

HILL & SMITH, BRIERLEY HILL IRONWORKS, STAFFS.

MANUFACTURERS OF

IRON & WIRE FENCING, HURDLES, GATES, RAILINGS, TREE GUARDS, WIRE NETTING, IRON ROOFING, etc.



Catalogues on application to the above address, or

118, QUEEN VICTORIA STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Imperial Weekly Averages.

	WHEAT.			BARLEY.			OATS.		
1906.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.
Sept. 29	83,907	25	9	129,209	24	8	41,942	16	2
Oct. 6	87,200	26	1	183,145	25	0	35,724	16	3
,, 13	80,630	26	3	226,940	25	3	38,088	16	7
,, 20	71,352	26	6	230,636	24	10	33,636	16	8
,, 27	69,920	26	7	233,998	24	10	28,956	16	10
Nov. 3	64,404	26	7	229,015	24	8	32,527	16	11
,, 10	63,764	26	6	205,560	24	8	27,982	17	1
,, 17	58,059	26	4	167,441	24	4	20,389	17	2
,, 24	58,467	26	3	149,427	24	1	28,669	17	3
Dec. 1	60,299	26	1	160,173	24	1	34,743	17	2
,, 8	63,264	26	1	167,532	24	1	37,119	17	4
,, 15	70,332	26	1	135,513	23	11	36,175	17	3
,, 22	68,977	26	3	127,131	24	3	31,528	17	3
,, 29	49,637	26	0	97,796	24	1	29,124	17	3
1907.									
Jan. 5	24,559	26	0	31,733	23	11	14,773	17	3
,, 12	47,667	26	1	71,498	24	2	27,939	17	4
,, 19	75,207	26	1	104,417	24	1	37,413	17	8
,, 26	80,321	26	2	109,274	24	5	45,887	17	5
Feb. 2	84,370	26	3	86,031	24	4	38,928	17	7
,, 9	77,659	26	6	74,324	24	5	30,467	17	7
,, 16	84,514	26	7	69,221	24	1	38,725	17	9
,, 23	76,580	26	10	53,681	24	2	39,559	17	9
Mar. 2	64,923	26	9	40,398	24	2	32,965	17	9
,, 9	71,183	28	8	32,620	23	11	31,065	17	11
,, 16	69,340	26	10	29,274	24	2	28,017	18	0
,, 23	69,183	26	10	20,977	24	0	22,204	18	1
,, 30	49,202	26	8	15,929	23	9	18,412	18	2
April 6	28,757	26	9	6,539	24	3	10,296	18	3
,, 13	43,426	26	8	6,830	23	9	17,523	18	6
,, 20	54,965	26	8	6,032	23	3	21,389	18	7
,, 27	62,656	26	10	4,967	27	3	25,447	18	0
May 4	63,344	27	0	4,289	23	6	22,691	19	3
,, 11	53,080	27	6	3,375	24	0	18,392	19	7
,, 18	41,991	28	4	2,955	23	10	15,817	20	1
,, 25	37,963	29	7	1,977	24	3	12,803	20	7
June 1	28,070	31	4	1,998	24	0	10,478	20	5
,, 8	34,122	32	0	1,539	24	7	11,711	20	8
,, 15	38,008	31	10	1,152	24	7	7,668	20	11
,, 22	31,351	31	4	1,088	24	11	7,187	20	9
,, 29	23,007	31	2	759	24	6	6,118	20	8
July 6	20,795	31	3	432	24	8	4,303	20	11
,, 13	19,209	32	0	665	24	10	3,380	20	11
,, 20	15,915	32	6	259	24	5	4,447	21	1
,, 27	16,867	32	11	3,324	27	3	3,533	20	8
Aug. 3	16,165	33	2	313	26	4	2,886	21	2
,, 10	18,510	33	5	322	26	6	3,459	21	3
,, 17	14,258	33	6	682	25	9	4,045	20	4
,, 24	17,415	33	7	672	25	0	5,699	19	8
Aug. 31	11,847	33	10	1,524	24	6	10,395	18	11
Sept. 7	18,316	31	11	7,216	24	2	23,697	17	7
,, 14	35,802	31	4	9,754	24	4	35,946	17	6
,, 21	66,074	31	5	24,624	25	0	44,624	17	6
,, 28	84,438	31	8	53,699	25	3	55,435	17	8

Yearly Averages (Official).

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1890	31	0 per qr.	28	8 per qr.	18	7 per qr.
1891	37	1 ,,	28	2 ,,	20	0 ,,
1892	30	4 ,,	26	2 ,,	19	11 ,,
1893	26	4 ,,	25	0 ,,	18	9 ,,
1894	22	10 ,,	24	6 ,,	17	1 ,,
1895	23	1 ,,	21	11 ,,	14	6 ,,
1896	26	2 ,,	22	11 ,,	14	0 ,,
1897	30	2 ,,	23	5 ,,	16	11 ,,
1898	34	0 ,,	27	2 ,,	18	5 ,,
1899	25	8 ,,	25	7 ,,	17	0 ,,
1900	26	11 ,,	25	9 ,,	17	9 ,,
1901	26	9 ,,	25	3 ,,	18	5 ,,
1902	28	0 ,,	25	8 ,,	20	2 ,,
1903	26	9 ,,	22	11 ,,	17	2 ,,
1904	28	4 ,,	22	4 ,,	16	4 ,,
1905	29	9 ,,	24	4 ,,	17	4 ,,
1906	28	4 ,,	24	3 ,,	18	7 ,,

Cereal Years' Prices.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1906-7	27	11	24	6	18	5
1905-6	28	9	24	2	18	5
1904-5	30	7	24	6	16	11
1903-4	27	2	21	11	16	4
1902-3	26	5	23	0	17	8
1901-2	28	4	26	0	20	4
1900-1	27	1	25	0	18	4
1899-1900	26	5	25	0	17	5
1898-9	26	1	26	1	17	4
1897-8	36	4	27	9	18	4
1896-7	28	8	23	2	16	9

London Flour Millers' Association.

CREDIT AND DELIVERY. OFFICIAL PRICES.

*Cereal year commencing September 2nd, 1907.**

	London Whites. s.	d.	Town Households. s.	d.
September 2	(per sack) 32	0	(per sack) 29	0
,, 4	,, 33	0	,, 30	0
,, 27	,, 34	6	,, 31	6

(No change since last date given.)

* September 1st, 1907, was a Sunday.

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Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The weather since October came in has been almost exactly what farmers would have ordered. The southern and eastern counties have seen the drill at work, and some wheat for 1908 is already in the soil. For the most part, however, the plough is turning the land into a new tilth, farmyard manure is being carted on to the fields, and the labours of mid-October will this year be mainly those which a forward season sees in full progress by mid-September. In the north harvest is not yet completed, and thousands of fields of oats are in Scotland still uncut. We hear of farmers busy carrying oats in Wales, on Dartmoor, and in the Lake country. This crop is often a heavy one in these belated regions, but it is not for the most part ripe even yet. in other words, it will now never be really ripe. It was a surprise to hear at Mark Lane on Friday that large areas in the English Fenland had been cut perfectly green. The wheat threshings are giving good results, and some fine malting barley has already made a welcome appearance at the London Exchange.

Our weather record for September shows that the month was nearly as dry as March. Some of the daily papers give a very small fall of rain indeed, but this is due to the 30th having been wet, and the wish to get a record into the issues of October 1 led to the last day's figures being either omitted or averaged. Up to the 29th only ·60 of an inch had fallen, whereof ·35 had fallen on the 2nd. From the 3rd to the 26th there was a drought, which on the 22nd was broken by a short thunderstorm. The temperature was actually higher than for August, but this was due not to September heat but to August cold. The warmth of September was not remarkable; the month was dry, bracing, and genial, but not hot.

1907.	Rain. (inches.)	Sunshine. (hours.)	Warmth. (degrees.)
January	1·01	40	39·0
February	1·02	55	42·0
March	·81	152	48 0
April	3·10	105	48 0
May	2·50	151	51·0
June	23·0	180	54·0
July	1·80	162	59 6
August	1·90	160	57·5
September	·90	130	59 0

The markets since October came in have been decidedly strong, and prices are now remunerating the growers of wheat, rye, feeding and malting barley, and also of rapeseed, mustardseed, and tares. Articles which should in proportion be dearer are oats, beans, peas, and canaryseed, and these are accordingly, staples to which the judicious buyer will devote October attention.

London markets for September included 342,000 qr. of wheat, 126,000 qr. of barley, 133,000 qr. of oats, 172,000 qr. of maize, and 199,000 sacks of flour; these supplies left the following stocks on October 1, as compared with last season:—

	Oct. 1, 1907.	Oct. 1, 1906.
Wheat, qr.	73,000	150,000
Barley, ,,	32,400	61,000
Oats, ,,	165,500	336,000
Maize, ,,	56,500	47,600
Flour, sks.	143,500	290,500

The decline in holdings of breadstuffs shows that September advances in prices have not had the usual effect in increasing imports. Holdings of barley are smaller than the efforts of Russia to ship her new crop has led us to anticipate. Evidently the arrivals of Russian stuff have gone into prompt use in the mills for making barley meal. The reserves of oats are seen to be less than half what they were a year ago, a fact which Chelmsford sellers at 16s. 9d., and Cambridge sellers at 16s. 8d. would do well to "mark and inwardly digest."

Supplies on passage on 5th inst. included 1,860,000 qr. of wheat, 249,500 sacks of flour, 835,000 qr. of maize, 425,000 qr. of barley, 146,000 qr. of oats, 155,000 qr. of linseed, 7,000 qr. of rapeseed, 15,000 tons of cottonseed, and 40,000 tons of rice. There is not a single one of these items threatening our markets with large supplies between now and the end of November, and in the case of oats, rapeseed, cottonseed, and rice, the totals are much below the average. It includes 415,090 qr. of North American, but only 60,000 qr. of South American. India is represented by 643,000 qr., and Australasia by 380,000 qr.

The total reserves of cereals in the United Kingdom on October 1 are thus estimated:—

	Oct. 1, 1907.	Oct. 1, 1906.
Wheat, qr.	2,118,000	2,327,000
Barley ,,	184,000	240,000
Oats ,,	221,000	540,000
Beans ,,	34,000	29,000
Peas ,,	31,000	51,000
Maize ,,	555,000	551,000
Flour, sks.	423,000	654,000

The course of prices for British cereals in London during September was as follows:—

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
September 2—9	31 11	25 9	18 6
,, 9—16	32 7	25 2	18 6
,, 16—23	32 11	25 8	18 5
,, 23—30	33 7	26 5	19 0
September	32 9	25 7	18 8

The first of the month, it will be remembered, was a Sunday, so that the record is not a day short as at first would appear. Wheat will be seen to have advanced 1s. 8d. on the month, barley 1s. 6d., and oats 6d. These are small advances compared with the strong markets for imported produce. But the salient fact is that there was advance at all at a period when deliveries are increasing market by market, and the natural trend of events is in buyers', not sellers', favour.

The wheat gradient since October came in has been as follows:—

Mark Lane ...	34s. 4d.	per qr.
Chelmsford ...	30s. 8d.	,,
Range	3s. 8d.	per qr.

Barley prices remain literally uniform:—

Canterbury ...	26s. 5d.	per qr.
Peterborough.	24s. 5d.	,,
Range	2s. 0d.	per qr.

The value of oats is not as high as it should be:—

Mark Lane ...	19s. 3d.	per qr.
Cambridge ...	16s. 8d.	,,
Range	2s. 7d.	per qr.

The price of household flour in London rose 2s. per sack on the course of September, and is now 5s. 9d. dearer from a year ago. In Paris, household flour rose only 3d. on the month, and is only 3s. 3d. dearer from 1906. While this comparison argues that France is better off for breadstuffs than England, the fact that value is 3s. per sack up on the year, effectually contradicts the French official report of a bumper crop, and 3,700,000 qr. of wheat available for exportation.

The top price of flour in London has advanced 1s. per sack since October came in, and is now 36s., a price which warrants a 5½d. charge for the quartern loaf delivered, or 5d. on the counter. We have heard it said that a halfpenny for delivery is dear, but as a matter of fact, the baker would welcome a change to French customs, where the householder sends his servant or makes his own arrangements for shopping. The head of a well-known firm of bakers told the writer that he lost more customers over the delay and delinquencies of the men and lads employed to deliver the bread than over all other causes, including the vital ones of price and quality, put together.

Sales of British wheat since harvest have been less than usual, as threshings did not become liberal till late in September. Figures thus compare with 1906:—

This season ... 205,000 qr. at 31s. 7d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 399,000 ,, 25s. 10d. ,,

Sales of British barley since harvest have been remarkably small; the threshings are not yet at all heavy, and the harvest itself is not quite finished in the counties beyond the Humber and the Dee:—

This season ... 96,000 qr. at 24s. 9d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 272,000 ,, 24s. 5d. ,,

The sales of British oats have been much more liberal in proportion. Farmers will not take leases with restrictive covenants, and oats are more and more sold off the farm. The farmer himself is not always a gainer by this policy, but the free hand is undoubtedly a gain in itself:—

This season... 160,000 qr. at 17s. 7d. per qr.
Last season... 169,000 qr. at 16s. 3d. per qr.

The sales for the first month of the cereal year from 1901 to 1905 did not average more than 120,000 qr. of oats, so that since 1906 the increase in sales off the farm has become very marked.

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 516,000 qr.: large.
Flour, 168,100 sks.: good.
Maize, 409,000 qr.: extremely heavy.
Barley, 253,,000 qr.: ,, ,,
Oats, 27,500 qr.: extremely small.

September imports for the last two years have been as follows:—

September.	1907.	1906.
Wheat	1,990,000 qr.	1,991,000 qr.
Flour	377,000 ,,	415,000 ,,
Breadstuffs ...	2,367,000 qr.	2,406,000 qr.
Maize	1,047,000 ,,	1,043,000 ,,
Barley	710,000 ,,	769,000 ,,
Oats	116,000 ,,	333,000 ,,

The total for breadstuffs will be seen to agree very closely, and those for maize to be practically identical, but both barley and oats this year have thus far been in reduced supply. The want of foreign oats is so large as to be quite startling.

Shipments last week were:—From America, 362,000 qr. of wheat, 5,000 qr. of barley, 12,000 qr. of oats, 39,000 qr. of maize, and 127,000 sacks of flour; from Argentina, 80,000 qr. of wheat and 170,000 qr. of maize; from Russia, 195,000 qr. of wheat, 110,000 qr. of oats, 390,000 qr. of barley, and 25,000 qr. of maize; from Roumania, 20,000 qr. of wheat, 10,000 qr. of barley 11,000 qr. of oats, 60,000 qr. of maize, and 5,000 qr. of rapeseed; and from India 180,000 of wheat, 40,000 qr. of linseed, and 19,000 qr. of rapeseed.

THE BALTIC.

Cargoes have been an irregular trade, but on the whole have gone higher. Wheat cargoes have fetched from the 1st to the 5th inst. 42s. per 480 lb. for Manitoba, 37s. per 480 lb. for Durum, 40s. per 480 lb. for Australian, 40s. 9d. per 492 lb. for Black Sea, 40s. 3d. per 492 lb. for white Karachi, 37s. 3d. per 480 lb. for hard winter, 38s. 6d. per 480 lb. for Argentine, and 38s. per 480 lb. for Uruguayan.

Maize cargoes have fetched 26s. 3d. per 480 lb. for Argentine, 5s. 9d. per cental for American, and 27s. 3d. per 480 lb. for Black Sea.

Barley cargoes have realised 24s. 6d. per 400 lb. for Black Sea, 23s. per 400 lb. for Persian, and 32s. 6d. per 448 lb. for Californian.

Oats have fetched 18s. 6d. per 320 lb. for a cargo of Konigsberg, prompt shipment; 17s. 9d. for 404 lb. for White Libau, on passage; and 24s. per 384 lb. for New Zealand.

Other cargo sales have included Calcutta linseed at 46s. 3d. per 416 lb., Argentine linseed at 45s. 3d. per 416 lb., brown Calcutta rapeseed at 54s. per 416 lb., Jamba rapeseed at 43s. per 416 lb.; Egyptian cottonseed at £7 13s. 9d per ton, and Indian poppy seed at 57s. per 377 lb.

The London Corn Trade Association C. F. & I. quotations, for the settlement of Rejections and Difference in Weights on Wheat under Rule No. 4 of the Association East Indian Wheat Contracts, are as follows (new and old terms), viz.:—

Choice White Karachi, 40s. new terms; 39s. 6d., old terms. Soft Red Karachi, 39s. 6d., new terms; 39s. old terms.

N.B.—The committee has decided to quote rejection prices for "Old Terms" up to and including July shipments, but not later. These prices remain in force until a new list is issued.

Cottonseed and cottonseed cake interest farmers much at this time of year, so that the following special advices to *Beerbohm's List* are particularly worth noting.

"The total shipments of cottonseed from India from January 1 to date have amounted to 244,675 tons, against 149,680 tons in the corresponding period last year and 98,000 tons in 1905.

"The receipts at Bombay for the week ending September 12 amounts to 1,437 tons, against 1,704 tons same week last year, making the total since January 1 203,043 tons, against 134,466 tons in the same period last year:—

Tons.	This week.	Total to date.	Same time 1906.
London imports...	2,252	71,047	57,771
Hull imports	494	271,654	224,612

	Last week.	Last year.
Quantity afloat for U.K. (tons)	15,000	15,100

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English firm, unchanged. Whites quoted at 35s, 30s; reds at 34s 6d, 38s. Foreign firmly held at full prices, but not active. No. 1 Northern, ex ship, quoted at 42s 6d, 42s 9d; No. 2 at 41s 6d; choice white Karachi, at 38s 9d; red Karachi, 38s 6d; Australian, landed at 41s 6d; La Plata, 41s, 42s; Persian, 39s. Flour quiet, unchanged. Hungarian quoted at 37s, 37s 6d; Iron Dukes at 25s, 25s 6d. Maize steady, quiet. River Plate, landed, held at 26s 9d; Odessa, 27s; Danubian at 27s 3d. Barley steadily held, but inactive. Azoff-BlackSea and Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, to arrive, quoted at 24s, 24s 3d; Persian, ex ship, 22s 9d.; landed, 24s. Oats quiet at about late rates. South Russian held at 19s 6d; River Plate, 19s 6d to 19s 9d.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat: English firm, and held at 1s advance but not active. Whites quoted at 36s to 40s; reds, 35s 6d to 39s 6d. Foreign: American held at 1s to 1s 3d advance; other sorts 1s dearer, with a moderate inquiry. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, held at 44s; No. 2 at 43s: No. 1 Durum at 38s to 38s 6d; choice white Karachi at 39s 6d to 40s; Australian, landed, at 42s 6d, ex ship, to arrive, at 41s. Flour firmly held and little offering at 1s advance. Hungarians quoted at 37s 6d to 38s 6d; Iron Dukes at 26s to 26s 6d. Maize firm, but quiet. Odessa, ex ship, quoted at 26s 6d to 26s 9d, landed at 27s; River Plate, landed, at 26s 9d; Galatz-Foxanian, landed, at 27s. Barley firm. Odessa-Nicolaieff and Azoff-Black Sea held at 24s 6d, ex ship, to arrive, landed, 24s 9d. Oats steady, quiet. South Russians (38 lb) and River Plate held at 19s 6d.

COUNTRY.

Appleby, Saturday.—A few samples forward, and a fair trade. White oats (horse corn), 12s to 21s per 26 stones; barley, about 30s per qr of 32 stones.

Ashford, Tuesday.—The trade for wheat was firm, though, as local dealers seem well supplied, there was some difficulty in disposing of cold or out of condition samples. Good samples made 33s to 35s; English barley, 27s to 30s; foreign grinding barley, 25s to 27s; Mazagan beans, 30s to 31s; tick beans, 34s to 36s; maize, 28s to 29s; new peas, 30s to 31s; black oats, 20s to 21s; white oats, 19s to 22s per qr. Flour unchanged.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, white (new), 33s 6d to 34s per qr; ditto red (new) 33s to 34s per qr; barley, 27s to 32s per qr; beans (new), 30s 6d to 31s per qr; ditto (old), 33s to 33s 6d per qr; oats, 17s to 21s 6d per qr; oats (old), 24s to 25s per qr; peas 30s to 33s.

Berwick, Saturday.—Average attendance; considerable quantities of grain on offer. Fine barley in good demand at late rates. Oats, 21s 6d to 23s; barley, 23s to 30s 6d per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—The market was well attended, and trading was of a healthy character, prices being dearer inclined. Foreign wheat met with a fair demand at fully late rates. English wheat plentiful, and ranged from 12s 6d to 14s per 186 lb, delivered. Maize was 3d per qr dearer. Grinding barley was unchanged on the week. English oats made from 20s to 21s 6d per 312 lb. New beans 12s 6d, old 13s 6d per 196 lb, delivered.

Brighton, Thursday.—Small attendance, and little business doing. Prices firm. Wheat in good supply, and 1s per qr dearer. Barley, 30s to 35s; grinding ditto, 26s to 27s; oats, English, 18s to 20s; peas, 32s to 34s; beans, 30s to 33s.

Bristol, Thursday.—There was a good attendance at our market to-day. English wheat in only moderate supply, finding a ready sale at 6d to 1s above last week's level. Foreign wheat very firm and rather dearer. Maize and oats 3d to 6d advance. Barley firmly held at 3d dearer. Flour slow sale at the moment, bakers working on old stocks where possible; prices fully maintained.—Grace Bros.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat was in rather more liberal supply than last week, but with a steady demand, prices were well maintained at 34s 6d to 35s per qr for dry reds and whites, and 32s to 33s for samples out of condition. Barley: Maltsters have hardly commenced buying at present, and the business was small, with not many of the finer samples offering at present. Fair malting qualities sold at 28s 6d to 33s 6d per qr.

Cambridge, Saturday.—Wheat was in good supply, and 6d dearer on the week, reaching 36s 6d per qr into mill. Good supply of barley, which was rather dearer, from 27s to 34s. Small supply of oats; prices firm, and unchanged. A few samples of beans made 31s.

Canterbury, Saturday. — Best samples of wheat sell readily at full rates, ranging up to 36s per qr delivered, but many lots were out of condition. Inquiry for barley was scarcely so good as a week ago; prices from 28s 6d to 32s. Oats in fair demand, white samples making from 21s 6d to 23s, and black winters of 44 lb weight, 21s 6d to 22s. Peas firm, 30s to 31s; tick beans, 31s 6d; mazagans, 29s per qr.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Very small supply of oats in our market to-day; good demand at late prices. New, 18s to 19s per 336 lb; oats, 24s per 336 lb.—Thomas Robinson.

Chester, Saturday.—There was a slight advance in maize, and wheat and oats were firm at past quotations, with a better demand for the former. Offals scarce. Quotations:—Wheat, new, white, 5s to 5s 1d per 75 lb; oats, new, 2s 6d to 2s 7d; old, 3s 1d to 3s 6d per 46 lb; Indian corn, old, 14s 9d to 15s per 240 lb; round corn, old, 14s to 15s 3d per 240 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—A small attendance. Little on offer and trade firm. New white wheat, 33s 6d to 34s 6d; new red ditto, 33s 6d to 34s 6d; barley, 28s to 30s; grinding ditto, 23s 6d to 25s; oats, English, 17s to 23s; rye, 27s to 29s; peas, 31s to 32s; beans, 32s to 33s; tares, 5s 6d to 6s 6d; maize, 25s 6d to 26s 6d; flour, 29s to 31s.

Colchester, Saturday. — Wheat firm, 35s to 37s. Oats steady. Barley and beans unchanged. —Colin Taylor, King and Co., Ltd.

Coventry, Friday.—Market sparsely attended. A small supply of wheat met a good demand at prices somewhat in favour of sellers. Barley changed hands at fully recent quotations. Oats scarce, and a strong trade was done at top figures of last week. Beans and peas unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, 12s 3d to 13s; old, 13s to 13s 6d per 186 lb; barley, 30s to 34s per 448 lb; oats, old, 24s 6d to 27s; new, 20s to 23s per 352 lb.; beans, 13s to 13s 9d per 196 lb; peas, 12s to 14s per 196 lb.

Derby, Friday.—A moderate supply of wheat, which sold readily at full prices. There was no alteration to note with regard to spring corn. Wheat, 37s to 38s; red, 35s to 36s; grinding barley, 23s to 25s; beans, 35s to 36s; old oats, 24s to 26s; new, 20s to 21s.

Devizes, Thursday.—The quotations were as follow:—Best old wheat, 19s to 20s; secondary, 18s 6d to 19s; best new wheat, 17s to 18s; winter barley, 26s to 28s; old oats, 20s to 24s; winter oats (320 lb), 17s 6d to 18s 6d; white Garton oats (330lb), 18s to 19s; rye, 26s to 28s; beans, 16s 6d to 18s; fines flour, 31s to 32s; extras, 32s to 36s.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Fine weather having enabled threshing operations to be pretty generally proceeded with, the result was reflected in largely increased supplies at to-day's market. Buyers of wheat, however, held aloof in view of the advanced prices asked, and sales were on a much more limited scale than during the last week or so, speculators being somewhat apprehensive as to whether or not a "slump" may not occur a little later on after the inflated rates that have lately been ruling. Prices of home-grown wheat must still be quoted as very firm, and occasionally against buyers; and foreign also showed a distinct rise in values. Barley again favoured sellers, though the advance is to no material extent. Oats sold at unchanged rates; the maize, beans, and peas were each very firmly held, and full values were paid where sales resulted. But buyers generally were very cautious, and anything like hazardous speculation was altogether avoided.

Doncaster, Saturday.—English wheat rather scarce and trade slow, but prices firm, and 3d to 6d per load higher. A good demand for foreign wheat at an advance of 1s to 1s 6d per qr. Small supply of barley, which was dearer. Oats are scarce at an advance of 3d to 6d per qr. All feeding stuffs firm, with a fair inquiry.

Exeter, Friday.—Good attendance; trade slow. English wheat 1s dearer; foreign firm. English barley unchanged; grinding 3d dearer. Maize 6d dearer. Oats firm and unchanged. Quotations:—English wheat, 4s to 4s 1½d; English barley, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; superfine flour, 29s to 32s; fine, 27s to 29s.

Gloucester, Saturday.—English wheat 6d dearer for best quality, at 33s to 35s per qr. Foreign wheat fully 1s dearer: Plates, 41s 6d to 42s 6d; Russian, 41s 6d to 43s. Plate and Bessarabian maize unchanged at 26s 9d. Barley unchanged at 25s 3d. Oats 6d dearer; black, 19s to 20s; white, 20s to 20s 6d.

Grantham, Saturday.—Fair supply of corn, and a brisk trade was transacted. Wheat, 35s 6d to 36s 6d; barley, 26s to 33s; oats, 18s to 20s; blue peas, 65s to 72s; beans, 30s to 32s per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Moderate supplies of all kinds of English-grown grain. Wheats steady at last week's prices. Barleys little doing. Oats firm. Maize 3d to 6d per qr dearer. Quotations:—Wheat, 4s to 4s 3d per bushel; barley, 3s to 4s; oats (new), 2s 3d to 2s 6d; beans, 3s 9d to 4s; maize, 3s 6d to 3s 9d.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Moderate supply of wheat; trade firm at last week's rates:—Reds, 35s to 36s; whites to 37s per 504 lb. Fair supply of barley, trade steady, at prices ranging from 28s to 33s. Oats steady. Maize firm. Beans unaltered. Peas 1s per qr dearer.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Harvest may now be considered finished. The yield is well spoken of, quality and condition vary. Although some of the leading markets have ruled quiet and easier for wheat, owing to increased shipments and a less active demand, the trade, on the whole, continues very firm. Shippers' limits prove quite out of reach, the Continent outbidding the United Kingdom for all Black Sea varieties, while Indian shippers, owing to bad prospects for the next crop, show a disposition to buy back forward contracts. Prices on the week are rather higher, with a moderate demand. Malting barley in larger supply, fine lots making rather more money. Maize fully 6d dearer. Beans and oats firm.—Dunns and Co.

Leeds, Friday.—Although supplies of English and foreign wheats were arriving more freely, fully late prices were demanded, and there was a hardening tone upon Tuesday's quotations. Flour was in good demand, mostly for medium qualities, ranging from 26s to 28s. All descriptions of maize were dearer, finest Plate making 26s to 27s; Odessa about the same. Beans, peas, oats, and barley were firmer.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good attendance, with larger supplies of home-grown wheats, but while trade was sharper for extra fine samples, out of condition sorts were dragging. Red wheats, 34s to 37s; white wheats, 35s to 38s per 36 stones; bright samples of barley in fair request; common sorts flat; oats 19s to 22s per 24 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—A large show of English wheat, which met with a fair demand at last week's full prices, round about 36s per qr. Malting barleys in better demand, but quality of samples shown variable, prices ranging from 28s to 32s per qr. Oats and beans at full prices of last week.

Maidstone, Thursday.—We do not note any particular change to-day, the firm tone in the wheat continues, but millers do not manifest sufficient eagerness to purchase to prompt an advance except in the case of a really choice sample at 5d per qr over the last week's rate. Other grain is well up to previous cost, and for some inexplicable reason demand does not subside.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat was in fair request and unchanged on last week. Foreign was ½d to 2d per cental higher on the week, but no great quantity was offered. Flour ruled very firm at full rates. Indian corn was ½d to 1d per cental dearer. English barley very firm, and foreign 1d to 1½d per bushel dearer. Oats steady. Beans and peas firm. Bran and other articles were scarce, and occasionally dearer.

Newark, Wednesday.—Moderate attendance. More samples showing; prices easier. Red and white wheat, 34s 6d to 35s 6d; malting barley, 28s to 30s; grinding barley, 25s to 27s; white oats, 18s 6d to 19s 6d; black oats, 18s to 19s; old beans, 37s 6d to 36s 6d per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A steady trade prevailed for wheats at 1s to 1s 6d per qr advance over last Saturday's prices. Maize fully 6d dearer, with a good steady demand. Beans and peas firm and dearer. A good demand for oats, and last week's full prices were maintained. A few new barleys for malting purposes sold to-day at 25s to 28s 6d. according to qualities.—Joseph Pollard and Co.

Newport, Wednesday. — Rather a quiet market on the whole, but an exceptional trade was done in oats. Barley ruled unchanged. Wheat was rather firmer, maize 3d dearer, and oats also dearer. Flour, prices unchanged.

Northampton, Saturday. — Larger attendance, but limited supply. Wheat made 1s advance on the week. Good demand for best sorts. New wheat, 34s to 36s; new barley, 26s to 30s; old white oats, 24s to 26s; new white oats, 18s to 20s; old black oats, 22s to 23s 6d; new black oats, 18s to 19s; old beans, 31s to 33s; new beans, 30s to 32s; flour, 27s to 32s.

Norwich, Saturday.—Supply of native wheat small, and selling at 1s per qr advance—35s to 36s per qr delivered. Fair demand in feeding stuffs trade, which is very firm. There is an advance of 3d to 6d in the price of grinding barley and maize on last week. Linseed and cotton-cakes steady. English oats 19s to £1 per 336 lb. Big supply of barley, 26s to 34s per qr.

Nottingham, Saturday. — Wheat in better supply; prices advanced a further 6d per qr. But little barley offering, of middling quality; prices still irregular. Oats, old and new, selling at prices in holders' favour. Beans firm.—Robt. Hubble.

Oxford, Saturday. — Wheat was sparingly offered, and prices are against buyers to the extent of 1s. Barley and oats are quotably unaltered.

Peterborough, Saturday.—We have had a good supply of wheat, which found a ready sale at 1s. per qr more money than last week. Barley firm at late rates. Oats quiet at the extreme prices of last week Wheat, 35s to 36s. Barley, 27s to 32s. Oats, 19s to 20s.—Thomas Hill and Son.

Plymouth, Thursday.—English wheat 1s. dearer, foreign wheat rather firm. Maize 3d dearer. Barley 3d dearer. Oats 9d dearer.—Orlando Davis and Co.

Preston, Saturday.—A large business has been done in foreign wheat during the week at 2d per cental advance. There was a fairly good attendance at to-day's market, but no samples of new wheat forward. Some oats of good quality were offered at a slight improvement over the quotations of a week ago. Quotations: —Wheat, white, new, 14s 6d to 15s per windle of 220 lb.; ditto, red, 13s 9d to 14s 6d; oats, old, 3s 6d to 3s 8d per bushel, ditto new, 2s 11d to 3s; beans, 16s 6d to 17s per windle of 220 lb.

Reading, Saturday. — The attendance was again on the small side. Trade ruled firm, but lacked briskness. Prices of corn on offer:—Wheat, 33s to 36s; barley, 26s to 28s 6d; new oats, 17s to 20s. Beans sold at 31s to 34s, and peas realised from 29s to 32s. Flour showed an upward tendency.

Retford, Saturday.—There was not a large supply of new wheat, for which there was a good demand. Prices showed a further slight advance upon the week at 35s 6d to 36s 6d per qr. There was an increase in the supply of malting barley. Best qualities sold freely at 29s to 31s; secondary, 27s; and grinding, 26s per qr. Maize showed a strong upward tendency, and was worth 29s per qr delivered. New English beans 31s; new black oats, 18s to 18s 6d; new white ditto, 19s to 19s 6d; and old oats 25s per qr.

Ripon, Thursday.—A fair supply of samples, and a good attendance of farmers. Prices firm at late rates. New wheat, 34s to 35s; wheat, foreign, 40s to 42s; barley, grinding, 27s to 28s; barley, malting, 28s to 30s; new oats, 20s; old oats, 24s to 26s; maize, round, 28s; maize, flat, 28s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—New corn comes forward in limited quantities, and prices are well maintained. Wheats are quoted at late full prices. Beans and oats in sellers' favour. Mixed American maize 9d per qr dearer. Plate and Odessa corn firm to 3d per qr more. Offals unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 37s to 37s 6d; ditto red, new, 37s to 37s 6d per 504 lb; black oats, 24s to 25s; white ditto, 24s 6d to 25s; ditto new, 20s 6d to 21s per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 35s to 35s 6d; ditto blue, new, 65s to 75s per 504 lb; beans, English, 37s to 37s 6d; grinding barley, 27s to 27s 6d; malting ditto, 28s to 32s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 27s 6d to 28s; ditto Plate, 28s to 28s 8d; ditto flat, 30s 6d to 31s per 480 lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Old wheat, 15s to 15s 6d per 225 lb; new wheat, 14s 6d to 15s; old oats, 15s to 16s per 225 lb; new oats, 11s to 12s per 225 lb; barley, 16s to 19s per 280 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—A distinctly improved tone prevailed, and numerous samples of new grain were shown. There was a further advance of 6d per qr for wheat, which was quoted at 35s to 36s; oats, 18s 6d to 19s 6d; superior malting barley, to 34s per qr; grinding ditto, 26s to 27s; beans, 31s to 32s; peas, 60s to 65s per qr.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was a fair show of local wheat, some of which was in very bad condition, the best samples bringing about 35s per qr. Foreign wheat was firm, Indian being 6d dearer, and other kinds unchanged. Oats rather dearer. Maize unchanged.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday. — New white wheat, 36s to 37s; new red ditto, 35s to 36s; barley, 26s to 32s; grinding ditto, 23s to 25s; oats, English, 22s to 25s; rye, 24s to 26s; peas, 32s to 37s; beans, 32s to 37s; tares, 48s to 56s; maize, 24s to 26s.

Warwick, Saturday.—There was a large attendance, but very little corn on offer. farmers asking slightly more all round for English corn.

Winchester, Saturday.—English and foreign wheat fully 1s dearer. Barley and maize 3d to 6d advance. Oats also rather higher. Flour a steady trade at 6d more money.—Fear, Colebrook and Co., Ltd.

Wisbech, Saturday. — A moderate supply of grain at market. Wheat advanced 1s per qr. Best reds 36s per 504 lb. Oats very firm, 18s 6d to 20s per 336 lb. Barley, 26s to 30s per 448 lb. —James Fletcher.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—The market was well attended, and prices were slightly lower.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small attendance owing to Retford Fair. Good supply of grain, with wheat firm, barley in demand, and a good inquiry for oats. White wheat (new), 35s to 36s; red ditto, 34s to 35s; best malting barley, 28s to 30s; secondary and grinding barley, 27s to 28s; old white oats, 24s 6d to 26s 6d; new ditto, 18s 6d to 20s 6d; old black oats, 23s 6d to 25s; new ditto, 17s 6d to 19s 6d; maize, 28s to 29s; English beans, 37s to 39s per qr.

Yeovil, Friday.—Heavy offer of new season's grain, which generally proved of much better quality than had been expected. Wheat made 6d more money on the week, and oats 3d. Foreign wheat sold at 6d advance, and barley and round maize 3d. Best new wheat made up to 35s per qr; secondary, from 32s 6d; barley, malting, 25s to 28s; secondary, 20s to 24s; grinding barley (foreign), 25s 3d to 25s 6d; oats, good old, 21s to 23s; best quality new, 10s to 20s; secondary, 18s to 19s; Irish black, 20s to 21s; Irish white, 22s to 22s 6d; beans, 33s to 36s; round maize, 26s 6d to 27s; vetches, 4s to 5s 6d per bushel. Flour firm, fine making from 30s to 31s per sack, and extra fine 32s to 35s. Offals and meals a good trade, with values in holder's favour.

York, Saturday.—Very little wheat on offer, and prices remained firm, samples in a few cases being a little dearer. Fine white made 36s to 37s, and red and mixed 35s to 36s per qr of 36 stones. Good samples of fine malting barley fetched 29s to 30s, with a good demad, while good made 28s to 29s, and ordinary sorts 27s to 28s per qr of 32 stones. Oats were firm at 19s to 20s per qr of 24 stones, rye 26s to 27s, and beans 34s per qr of 36 stones.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday. — Fine weather continues. Market was quiet in the early part of the week, but towards the end a brisk demand set in, owing chiefly to small stocks and scanty arrivals of new grain. Fine 62 to 63 lb new Saale wheat is selling at 38s to 38s 6d, 59 to 60 lb Holstein and Mecklenburg at 35s 6d to 36s 6d per 504 lb f.o.b, hard winter, No. 2 is held at 38s 6d; red winter, No. 2, free of garlic at 38s, fine South Russian 29s 3d, 79 ko. River Plate Barletta, February-March, 38s 3d per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Rye firm and offers scarce, 9 10/15 Taganrog about due is held at 34s 6d per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Malting barley firm in value. Good useful Bohemian is offering at 36s, fine quality at 37s to 38s 6d; Moravian and Slovakian, 38s to 42s; Holstein, Mecklenburg, East Prussian, and Saale, 36s to 42s per 448 lb. Feeding barley very scarce; 60/61 kg. South Russian afloat is held at 23s 6d; November shipment at 24s per 400 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg. Fine white Holstein and Pomeranian oats, 19s 6d to 20s 6d per 320 lb, c.i.f. E.C. Maize firm. River Plate and Odessa, 26s 3d; mixed American, 27s 3d per 480 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg. —John Tatlock.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cake: The trade during the past week has been disappointing, there being very little consumptive demand, and country dealers already holding considerable stocks, and disinclined to enter into further contracts except for distant positions, for which an almost prohibitive premium is demanded. Russians come to hand sparingly, and are held above the market. East India seed pures make last week's prices. Fine seedy Calcuttas command late rates. London-made pures meet a dull sale, although relatively cheaply offered. Cotton Cakes.—With some fairly heavy arrivals of Egyptian values are barely as strong, while English remain quiet but firm. Decorticated.—London-made pures, in consequence of an increased demand are again dearer for both cake and meal, while American continue to find little response at late quotations. Rape cakes do not offer. Maize germ meal.—White American is not obtainable on spot, and English makes are firmly held up at last week's high prices. Maize gluten meal meets a free sale. Rice meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon have all been cleared, but some second-hand parcels for shipment have changed hands at £5 3s. 9d. to £5 . . Locust beans are without change. Dried brewers' grains make extreme prices. Nitrate of soda is unaltered.

Russian, in mats (ex dock) ...	7	8	9 to	7	10 0
,, in bags	7	10	0 to	7	12 6
East India	7	8	9 to	7	10 0
Calcutta	7	10	0 to	7	12 6
London Made.....	7	12	6 to	7	15 0
Cottonseed Cakes.					
Egyptian	4	17	6 to	4	18 9
English (ex mill)	5	0	0 to	5	2 6
Bombay	4	5	0		
Decorticated, London made	7	7	6 to	7	10 0
,, American.....	7	0	0 to	7	2 6
,, Meal, American	7	0	0 to	7	2 6
,, Meal, English...	7	7	6 to	7	10 0
Special Digestive Meal	5	0	0		
Maize.					
American			—		
English	6	12	6 to	6	15 0
Maize Gluten Meal	6	15	0		
Rice Meal.					
Rangoon ..... ex ship	5	3	9 to	5	5 0
,, ... ex whf.			—		
Locust Beans.					
Whole	5	10	0		
Kibbled	5	17	6		
Dried Brewers' Grains.					
Ale	5	10	0		
Mixed	5	5	0		
Manures.					
Nitrate of soda	11	2	6		

—Pinnock Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda is firm at the recent advance of 5s. per ton, and spot values are £11 5s. to £11 7s. 6d. Kainit firm, as also all phosphatic manures, and there are inquiries for autumn deliveries. The consumptive demand for feeding stuffs is only quiet, yet values all round have advanced since our last report, and especially does this apply to rice and germ meals, decorticated cotton cakes, and meat and linseed cakes; to-day's values are as below. Feeding treacle offers at moderate prices and is attracting some attention, and likewise semi-decorticated cotton-cake of English make, choice and really soft, at £7 per ton.

	£ s d	£ s d
	Per ton.	
Cottonseed Cake, English semi-dried, prime	7 0 0	
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (good but hard)	7 7 6	7 10
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime (soft) ...	8 0 0	8 5 0
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime.....	4 15 0	5 0 0
Cottonseed Cake, undecorticated Bombay	4 10 0	4 12 6
Cottonseed, crushed, 20 per cent. oil guaranteed, scarce	8 15 0	—
Linseed Cake, American, thin oblong, prime but hard	7 15 0	7 17 6
,, ,, English, prime...	8 0 0	8 5 0
,, ,, Foreign, round...	7 17 6	8 2 6
Palm Nut Cake	6 5 0	—
Corn Oil Cake	—	—
Maize Germ Meal	—	—
Indian Meal, coarse to fine grindin.	Per 240 lb. —	—
Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported	Per ton. —	—
	Per qr., 416 lb.	
Linseed, fine bold feeding	—	—
	Per Gallon.	
Cod-liver Oil, cattle feeding ...	0 4 0	—
	Per Cwt.	
Treacle, feeding, American ...	0 4 9	—
	Per ton.	
Nitrate of Soda.....	11 7 6	—
Kainit, prime.....	2 7 6	2 10 0
Bone Meal, prime.....	5 7 6	5 10 0
Bone Ash, fine and powdery ...	3 15 0	—
Basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed	1 14 0	1 15 0
,, ,,	2 2 0	2 3 0
,, finest ,,	2 6 0	2 7 6
D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime*..... ...	2 5 0	2 7 0
,, ,, guaranteed*	2 10 0	2 12 0
,, ,, ,, *	3 1 3	3 3 3

* At depot inland.

—H. Jones Langar and Co.

WOOL.

Canterbury, Saturday.—An improved tone on the market, but farmers are asking 1s per lb for Kent fleeces, and this staplers are, as yet, unable to pay. Lamb wool, 7d; half-breds, 11d; best Downs up to 14d per lb.

Halifax, Saturday. — A rather quiet tone characterises the local wool trade, but values are firm or hardening. Domestic wools are steady at late rates, with a moderate business. Other descriptions have not followed the rise in London fully, but merino tops have appreciated most.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £13 15s to £14 5s; half-bred hoggs, £13 to £13 10s; ditto wethers, £12 10s to £13; Kent fleeces, £12 5s to £12 10s; South Down ewes and wethers, £13 10s to £14; Leicester ewes and wethers, £12 to £12 10s. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., scoured super., 2s 3d to 2s 4d; scoured, good, 2s to 2s. 2d; scoured, average, 1s 10½d to 1s 11d½; greasy, average to fair, 1s 2½d to 1s 3½d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 10½d to 1s 11½d; greasy, average, 1s to 1s 2d; S. Aus., greasy, average, 11d to 1s; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 11d to 2s; greasy, average, 1 to 1s 1d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 10d to 1s 11d; fleece, average, 9½d to 10½d; greasy, average, 8½d to 9½d; Natal, scoured, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; greasy average, 8½d to 9d. Crossbreds — grs.—Vic., good to super., 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d; New Zealand fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s to 1s 1d, coarse, 10½d to 11d.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, 3 P.M.

The wheat market to-day is 6d. to 1s. dearer from the closing markets of September. The inquiry for foreign is checked by the high prices asked, but English sells as fast as it can be brought to market. The demand for barley is brisker from a week ago, and both English and foreign sorts may be quoted 6d. dearer on the week.

Oats sell very well and are 3d. to 6d. dearer for most descriptions, whether English or foreign. Maize is a strong trade, despite heavy arrivals; the scarcity of foreign oats is the reason probably why maize keeps up so stiffly to a 27s. or 27s. 6d. level. Beans and peas are a hardening market, and very decided firmness also exists in rye, tares, millet, and dari.

BRITISH GRAIN *(Off Stands).*

October 7.

WHEAT,	New White.....(per 504 lb.)	34	— 37
	Old ,, ... ,,	38	— 39
	New Red..... ,,	32	— 36
	Old ,, ... ,,	37	— 38
BARLEY,	Malting .....(per 448 lb.)	35	— 37
	Brewing ..... ,,	32	— 34
	Distilling .....(per 416 lb.)	29	— 30
	New Winter .. (per 400 lb.)	25	— 26
	Feeding.....(per 400 lb.)	24	— 25
MALT,	Pale .....(per 336 lb.)	34	— 36
	Brown ..... ,,	27	— 29
	Black ..... ,,	29	— 30
OATS,	Good Old ..... ,,	21	— 23
	Good New..... ,,	19	— 20
	New Winter ..... ,,	18	— 19
	Ordinary Old ...(per 320 lb.)	20	— 21
	Ordinary New ...(per 320 lb.)	18	— 19
	,, ,, ...(per 312 lb.)	17	— 18
RYE,	New .....(per 480 lb.)	26	— 28
BEANS,	Pigeon .....(per 532 lb.)	42	— 44
	Tick .....(per 504 lb.)	34	— 35
	Winter ..... ,,	32	— 33
	Spring ..... ,,	31	— 32
	Split Mazagan .....(per 320 lb.)	21	— 22
PEAS,	Picked Marrowfat, New (per 504 lb.)	88	— 92
	Unpicked (Old) ..... ,,	52	— 56
	Maple (Old)..... ,,	36	— 37
	(New) ..... ,,	34	— 35
	Dun (Old)..... ,,	32	— 34
	(New) ..... ,,	31	— 33
BUCKWHEAT	..... (per 416 lb)	34	— 36

FOREIGN GRAIN *(Ex-Granary).*

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba	42	— 43	American	27	— 28
Red Winter ...	40	— 41	Argentine	27	— 28
Best Spring ...	42	— 43	Roumanian.....	27	— 28
Durum	36	— 38	Russian	27	— 28
Argentine	40	— 42	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Australian ...	40	— 41	Smyrna	34	— 35
Californian ...	40	— 41	New Zealand...	32	— 33
Walla Walla	39	— 40	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Azima	41	— 43	Hungarian	62	— 64
Ghirka	39	— 41	Burmese	38	— 40
Roumanian ...	40	— 41	Chilian	56	— 64
Indian White	40	— 41	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb):		
,, Red ...	39	— 40	French	None.	
Turkish	38	— 39	Russian	32	— 34
Persian	38	— 39	Canadian	34	— 36
BARLEY:			PEAS (504 lb.):		
C'lifor'n(448 lb)	32	— 33	Dutch Crowns	55	— 57
Tunisian(448 lb)	30	— 31	Konigsberg ...	44	— 46
Algerian (448 lb)	29	— 30	Russian White	35	— 36
Ouchak (448 lb)	28	— 32	Indian White.	35	— 36
Smyrna (448 lb)	26	— 30	CanadianWhite	35	— 36
Russian (400 lb)	24	— 25	NewZeal'dMaple	39	— 40
Indian(400 lb)...	23	— 24	Victoria Dun.	32	— 33
Persian (400 lb)	23	— 24	MILLET (416 lb.):		
MALT (336 lb.):			White	42	— 44
Californian ...	34	— 85	Yellow	22	— 24
Smyrna	33	— 36	Sorghum	20	— 21
Ouchak	33	— 36	RICE (cwt.):		
RYE (480 lb.):			Java	16	— 22
Russian	28	— 29	Indian	17	— 20
OATS:			Japanese	16	— 17
Konigsbg(320 lb)	21	— 22	Burmese.....	10	— 11
Russian (304 lb)	18	— 19	Siamese	8	— 9
Canadian(320 lb)	20	— 21	DARI (480 lb.):		
Arg'tine (304 lb)	19	— 20	Smyrna	27	— 28
Swedish (320 lb)	21	— 22	Indian	23	— 24
NewZ'l'n'd(384 lb)	25	— 26	Persian	22	— 23

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED VERY FIRM, WITH 1s. ADVANCE ON ABOVE PRICES ASKED FOR WHEAT AND MAIZE; 6D. FOR BARLEY AND PULSE. OATS, THOUGH A STIFF MARKET, WERE NOT QUOTABLY DEARER.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, 3 P.M.

The advance on the top price to 36s. is justified by the very high rates asked for Hungarian. Sales are always small of this superfine grade, but they probably exceed the average even at the advance.

The price of Town Whites, Town Households, white meal and fine country flour is "6d. certain and 1s. tried for" better from a week ago. The demand is fair but not fast.

American flour does not get any cheaper, and thus the London and country millers have a clear field. Californian flour is 1s. dearer on the week, and several sorts of meal are also dearer. No change is to be quoted in Hungarian, Belgian, French, or Argentine flour; the latter, indeed, is hardly on offer. Bran, middlings, pollard, sharps, &c., are all firm, and sell fairly well. There is a good inquiry for barley meal.

London Flour.

October 7.

Top Price.....(per sack of 280 lb.)		36/0
Town Whites ..... ,,		33/6
,, Households ..... ,,		30/6
No. 2..... ,,		28/6
Whole Meal No. 1..... ,,		29/6
,, No. 2..... ,,		28/6
Country Flour.	s.	s.
Fine Patents .....(per sack of 280 lb.)	28	— 30
Roller Whites ..... ,,	27	— 28
All English ..... ,,	27	— 28
Stone made ..... ,,	25	— 26
Foreign Flour.	s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents (per s'ck of 280 lb.)	31	— 32
,, Second Patents ..... ,,	29	— 30
,, First Bakers' ..... ,,	26	— 27
,, Second Bakers' ..... ,,	25	— 26
Milwaukee Patents ..... ,,	30	— 31
,, Bakers'..... ,,	27	— 28
Canadian Best..... ,,	30	— 31
,, Ordinary ..... ,,	28	— 29
Manitoba Patents ..... ,,	30	— 31
,, Ordinary ..... ,,	28	— 29
Kansas Patents ..... ,,	28	— 29
,, Ordinary..... ,,	26	— 27
Californian ..... ,,	31	— 33
Hungarian ..... ,,	37	— 38
Belgian ..... ,,	32	— 34
French, Corbeil ..... ,,	28	— 29
,, Renaux..... ,,	27	— 28
,, P.S.D. ..... ,,	26	— 27
Meal, &c.		
Bran, London Broad (per sack of 280 lb.)	15	— 16
,, Country Flake Choice ... ,,	16	— 17
,, ,, Broad ..... ,,	15	— 16
Pollard..... ,,	14	— 15
Biscuit Middlings ..... ,,	18	— 19
Fine Middlings ..... ,,	17	— 18
Coarse Middlings ..... ,,	16	— 17
Wheat Germ Meal..... ,,	18	— 19
Farina Firsts ..... ,,	29	— 30
,, Seconds ..... ,,	27	— 28
Barley Meal..... ,,	26	— 27
Canadian Oatmeal..... ,,	26	— 27
Scotch Oatmeal ..... ,,	31	— 3
Groats ..... ,,	32	— 3
Oat Flour..... ,,	33	— 34
Ground Oats ..... ,,	32	— 33
Poultry Meal ..... ,,	34	— 36
American Feeding Wheat Flour ,,	19	— 20
Maize Flour "Cornflour" ..... ,,	18	— 19
,, Germ Meal ..... ,,	15	— 16
,, Cones ..... ,,	18	— 19
,, Gluten Meal ..... ,,	15	— 16
Rye Flour ..... ,,	25	— 27
Rye Bran..... ,,	22	— 23
Pea Meal..... ,,	24	— 25

THE BALTIC.

MONDAY, 1 P.M.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat cargoes open 6d. dearer from Friday and Saturday. Maize and oat cargoes 3d. dearer. Barley cargoes are well held despite the large Russian shipments. Argentine cables quote linseed 1s. dearer for October and November shipment. Rapeseed cargoes are 6d. dearer.

BUSINESS DONE.

Wheat.—Blue Stem, 40s 9d per 500 lb, prompt shipment; White Walla, 40s 3d per 500 lb, November shipment; Victorian, 42s 6d per 500 lb, November shipment; Manitoba, 42s per 480 lb, on passage; Red Karachi, 40s 3d per 492 lb, on passage; Argentine, 38s 9d per 480 lb, February shipment, new crop; No. 2 Hard Winter, 37s 9d per 480 lb, prompt shipment; Durum, 37s per 480 lb, prompt shipment.

Barley.—Azoff, 25s 3d per 400 lb, prompt shipment; Californian, 32s 6d per 448 lb, prompt shipment; Oregon, 33s 6d per 448 lb, prompt shipment; Kustendje, 26s 9dper 416 lb, prompt shipment.

Oats.—South Russian, 17s 6d per 304 lb, prompt shipment; North Russian, 18s per 304 lb, prompt shipment.

Maize.—Argentine, 27s 3d per 480 lb, prompt shipment; Odessa, 27s 3d per 480 lb, prompt shipment; American, 27s per 480 lb, prompt shipment (old crop); American, 25s 6d per 480 lb, January shipment (new crop).

Linseed.—Riga, 42s 6d per 416 lb, November shipment; Argentine, 45s per 416 lb, November shipment.

Rapeseed.—Guzerat, 55s 6d per 416 lb., April shipment (new crop).

Cottonseed, Egyptian, £7 5s per 2,240 lb., prompt shipment.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—Prices advanced 6d. per sack on the week. Grain.—The high price of flat and round corn has materially reduced the consumption. Foriegn oats being scarce, home oats are readily picked up. Beans steady. Pease strong and in sellers' favour. Oatmeal unchanged. Oilcake firm. Mill Stuffs.—As firm as ever. Winter wheat patents, 29s to 30s per 280 lb; spring wheat patents, 31s to 30s per 280 lb; American corn, 16s to 16s 1½d per 280 lb; round corn, 15s 4½d to 15s 6d per 280 lb; grinding beans, 18s 10½d to 19s per 280 lb; white pease, 20s to 21s 3d per 280 lb; broad bran, 115s per ton; medium bran, 107s 6d per ton; fine thirds, 135s per ton; common thirds, 115s per ton; American oilcake, 147s 6d to 150s per ton.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Offals.—Bran in good demand, and continues very firm in prices.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour.—The market has been somewhat unsettled since last week, occasioned mainly by fluctuations in America. Prices are again very firm, and quotations are now mostly advanced 1s per sack.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

We have liberal supplies of wheat. The trade is strong and prices are 1s 6d to 2s per qr higher. Flour has advanced 1s per sack. Maize and barley 3d to 6d higher. Oats firm, at prices of last Monday.—COVENTRY, SHEPPARD, AND CO.

Milling offals remain in good demand, with prices firm and unchanged from last week.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

Flour.—Trade to-day has been very firm, and prices show a further advance of 1s 6d since this day week.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS, LTD.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, October 7.—All oilseeds have been a quiet trade since October came in. Cottonseed is a little firmer for Egyptian, but the cheapest sorts are lower on the week.

LINSEED. per 416 lb.	s.	s.		s.	s.
Calcutta	46	to 47	Iamba	44	to 46
Russian 98°/₀ ...	48	to 50	Roumanian	43	to 44
,, Ordin'y	45	to 46	Russian	42	to 43
Argentine recle'd	48	to 50	RUBSEN. per 424 lb		
Argentine cleand	46	to 47	German	71	to 75
,, F.A.Q.	44	to 45	POPPYSEED. per 377 lb.		
Argentine comn.	43	to 44	Indian	58	to 59
Dutch best	52	to 53	COTTONSEED. per ton.		
,, medium	47	to 50	Egyptian.....	156	to 160
Turkish	46	to 48	Indian	136	to 140
Canadian	45	to 47	Brazilian	138	to 140
Morocco	50	to 52	SUNFLOWERSEED.		
RAPESEED. per 416 lb.				per cwt.	
English.....	72	to 74	English, White	14	to 15
French F.A.Q.	64	to 66	Russian, White.	13	to 14
Yellow Guzerat	60	to 61	,, Black.	12	to 13
YellowCawnpre	54	to 55	SESAME. per 384 lb.		
Brown ,,	53	to 54	Indian	56	to 60
Ferozepore	53	to 54	HEMPSEED. per 336 lb.		
			Russian	40	to 42

TERM MARKET.

The market in futures has developed fresh strength since the beginning of October. The present state of the trade is decidedly strong as may be seen from the latest calls, which are:—

(per cental).

Wheat, American Red	7s. 3d. Nov. & Dec. delivery.	
,, ,,	8s. 4d. Jan. & Feb.	,,
,, ,,	8s. 5d. Mar. & April	,,
,, ,,	8s. 3d. May & June	,,
Maize, American Flat	5s. 9d. Nov. & Dec.	,,
,, ,, ,,	6s. 6d. Jan. & Feb.	,,
,, ,, ,,	5s. 5d. Mar. & April	,,
,, Argentine, yellow	5s. 8d. Oct. & Nov.	,,
,, ,, ,,	5s. 7d. Dec. & Jan.	,,
,, ,, ,,	5s. 6d. Feb. & Mar.	,,

A few speculators are offering Egyptian cottonseed for January delivery at £6 17s. 6d. per ton.

POTATOES.

Berwick, Saturday.—Trade shows an improvement at 65s per ton.

Borough, Saturday.—A good quantity met a quiet demand. Epicures, 60s to 65s; Blacklands, 65s to 70s; British Queens, 70s to 75s; Up-to-Dates, 70s to 75s per ton. French and Dutch, 3s to 3s 3d per bag.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Large supply, and a fair sale at 7d to 8d per stone.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Good supply, and a fair demand at 3s 6d to 4s per cwt.

Goole, Wednesday.—There was a fair supply, which ranged from 65s to 70s per ton.

Lancaster, Saturday.—A good supply of potatoes, which sold at 9d per stone; wholesale, 10s 6d to 11s 6d per load.

Malton, Saturday.—Potatoes, wholesale, £3 10s to £3 15s, and up to £4 per ton for the best sound samples. Retail, 8d to 9d per stone. The yield is stated to be very limited.

Manchester, Saturday.—Potatoes: Yorkshire, 10s; Cheshire, 6s to 7s; Lincoln, 9s to 10s; Bedford, 4s to 5s per cwt.

Preston, Saturday.—Potatoes: 8s to 9s per load of 240 lb.

Retford, Saturday.—The potato market was well supplied. Best lots home-grown made 7s to 8s per load, other varieties 5s 6d to 6s per load.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Good offerings were in quiet request. Epicures, 60s to 65s; British Queens, 70s to 75s; Blacklands, 65s to 70s; Up-to-Dates, 70 to 75s; Sharp's Express, 70s per ton; Dutch, 3s; French (Beauvais), 3s 3d per bag.

York, Saturday.—A medium supply and a fair trade at 62s 6d to 65s per ton. A firmer tone prevailed.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday. — Fairly good supplies on offer, and business generally brisk. Quotations for English produce:—Apples, 3s to 8s 6d per bushel; pears (Williams), 2s 6d to 6s per half bushel; ditto (Hazels), 2s to 4s per bushel; damsons, 1s to 1s 6d per half sieve; peaches, 2s to 12s per dozen; green figs, 6d to 1s 3d per dozen; nectarines, 3s to 12s 6d per dozen; grapes, 6d to 3s; melons, 9d to 2s; tomatoes, 2s to 3s 6d; cobnuts, 3s to 4s; walnuts, 4s 6d to 5s 6d per 12 lb; cauliflowers, 3s to 4s 6d; marrows, 4s to 5s 6d; cabbages, 4s 6d to 6s 6d per tally; shallots, 2s to 2s 6d per 12 lb; beetroots, 1s 6d per dozen bunches; scarlet runners, 1s 6d to 2s 6d per bushel; cucumbers, 4s to 6s per flat; parsley, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; turnips, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; mint, 1s to 1s 3d; leeks, 1s to 2s per dozen bunches; mushrooms, 10d to 1s 6d per lb; horseradish, 10s to 15s per dozen bundles; carrots, 2s to 2s 3d per bag; endive, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen; onions, 1s 6d to 1s 9d per dozen bunches; celery, 8d to 1s per bundle; cos lettuce, 8d to 1s per score; potatoes, 70s to 85s per ton.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Fairly good supply and demand. Young grouse, 6s to 7s; old, 2s 9d to 3s; young partridges, 4s 6d to 5s; old, 2s to 2s 4d; pheasants, 6s 6d to 7s; black game, 3s to 3s 6d per brace; geese, 5s to 6s; country ducks, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; wild ducks, 1s 2d to 1s 4d; Sussex fowls, 2s 6d to 3s; Surrey fowls, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Irish fowls, 1s 6d to 2s; quails 9d to 1s; feathered pigeons, 8d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 9d to 1s; English hares, 2s 6d to 3s; Scottish hares, 1s 6d; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 6d; wild rabbits, 7d to 10d; live hens, 1s 4d each; Australian rabbits, 5s 6d to 6s 9d per dozen.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Fair supply; trade quiet. Hay made £3 12s 6d to £4 per ton; straw, no quotations.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Trade is dull, and there is no change recorded in prices.

Lincoln, Friday.—Best hay and seeds 55s; secondary quality, 50s; straw about 30s per ton on the ground.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, old, 4¾d to 6½d, new, 5½d to 6½d; clover, new, 5½d to 6½d; straw, wheat, 3½d; oat, 3½d per stone.

Derby, Friday.—Best old clover, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; hay, best old, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; second ditto, 65s to 70s; straw—wheat, 60s to 70s; pressed, 50s to 60s; chop, 55s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Meadow hay, 6d; clover ditto, 6½d to 7d; wheat straw, 4d; oat straw, 4d per stone.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Light arrivals met a fair demand at occasionally lower rates. Best clover, 84s to 95s; inferior, do., 72s to 80s; specially picked hay, 85s; good do., 68s to 78s; inferior do., 55s to 63s; mixture and sainfoin, 70s 6d to 82s 6d; straw, 28s to 33s per load.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Oct. 7, 1907. British.	Total.	Monday, Oct. 8, 1906.
Beasts	1,070	1,070	970
Sheep and Lambs	4,740	4,740	6,020
Calves	15	15	30
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	35	35	30

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 6	3 4	4 6
Sheep	4 8	5 4	6 0
Lambs	—	—	—
Calves	3 10	4 6	5 0
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £23

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 62; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 922; Devon, 25; Ireland, 61.

We note to-day an increase of 100 head in the number of beasts offered for sale compared with Monday last; as usual at this season of the year, the majority of the supply consisted of consignments from the Midland, Home, and Western counties. Trade for both prime and second quality was of a slow but steady nature, rates favouring the sellers in some cases to the extent of 2d. per 8 lb. The Irish arrivals consisted of 31 Dublins and 30 Waterfords (no store cattle being included), trade ruled of a slightly firmer nature for these also. Fat shed cows and bulls met with a limited inquiry, the former, however, maintained late values, whilst the latter were quoted 1d per 8 lb lower. A clearance is not expected to be made.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Monday, Oct. 8, 1906.
	d	s d
Scotch	—	—
Devons	—	4 4 to 4 6
Herefords	4 4 to 4 6	4 2 to 4 4
Norfolks	—	—
Runts	4 2 to 4 4	4 0 to 4 2
Lincolns	3 10 to 4 0	3 8 to 3 8
Irish	4 1 to 4 3	—
Canadian	—	—
Fat cows	3 4 to 3 6	2 10 to 3 4

There was a decrease of 520 in the number of sheep penned compared with Monday last. For all grades of both wethers and ewes an extremely slow trade was experienced, late currencies governing all transactions. Scotch sheep were in average supply and made late rates, whilst Irish were in larger numbers, and met with more inquiry, an advance in value being both asked and obtained. No lambs were offered for sale, the season being now at an end. The supply included 200 Scotch, 1,070 Irish, and 306 from the Eastern Counties. A clearance will not be made in this part of the market.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	Monday, Oct. 8, 1906.
	s. d.	s. d.
7½ to 8 st Downs	5 10 to 6 0	5 10 to 6 0
9 st. Downs	5 8 to 5 10	5 8 to 5 10
10 st Halfbreds	5 4 to 5 6	5 4 to 5 6
10 st Yorkshires	—	—
12st Lincolns	—	—
10 st Irish	5 4 to 5 6	5 2 to 5 4
10 st Down Ewes	4 0 to 4 2	4 2 to 4 4
11 st Halfbred ditto	3 10 to 4 0	4 0 to 4 2
5 st Down Lambs	—	—
6 st Halfbred ditto	—	—

A few calves were offered for sale and met with a slow trade, the best on offer being quoted at from 4s 10d to 5s per 8 lb. (offal given in).

No pigs were offered for sale.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—To-day's supply consisted of 702 beasts from the United States and 148 from Canada. Trade ruled of a firm and steady nature for States cattle at good money, whilst Canadian met with no inquiry, no sales having been effected when our report left. Besides the above, 750 more Canadian beasts were witheld from sale. The best States on offer were quoted at from 4s 2d to 4s 4d; seconds, 4s to 4s 2d per per 8 lb (offal given in). On Saturday 1,776 beasts from the United States were offered for sale, and with a firm and steady trade were quoted at from 4s to 4s 4d; seconds 4s to 4s 2d per 8 lb (offal given in).

Liverpool, Monday.—The supply of cattle was rather smaller than last week; demand fair, but prices unchanged. Sheep supply practically unaltered and improved; demand for all classes; small finished sorts readily made more money, but strong classes were not quotably altered in value. Prices:—Beef, 6½d to 4½d per lb; mutton, 9d to 6½d per lb. At market 1,316 cattle and 7,678 sheep.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cake.—The market remains very firm in all positions, and values are not likely to weaken, as seed is advancing rapidly. Russians in bags are best value at present. Cotton Cake.—Prices are well maintained for both London and Egyptian made. Linseed.—Market strong and dearer.

Linseed Cakes.	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d
English Linseed Cake, ex mill	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
American Linseed cake ex quay	7 12 6	—
Russian Oil Cake ex quay	7 7 6	to 7 15 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake ex quay	7 0 0	to 7 5 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal ex quay	6 17 6	—
London-made ,, Cake (best) ex mill...	5 0 0	to 5 2 6
Egyptian ,, Cake (in bags) ex quay	5 0 0	—
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included) on rail, Burton	5 0 0	—
Duluth Linseed (in bags), per 416 lb ex warehouse	2 7 0	—
Calcutta Linseed (in bags), per 410 lb ex warehouse	2 8 0	—
La Plata Linseed per 416 lb. ex warehouse	2 5 6	—
Russian Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb ex warehouse	—	—

—Robt. & John Hewetson.

WET AND DRIED GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Wet Grains: Business has been done during the week at prices between 16s 6d and 18s 6d ale, and 3s less for porter per ton on rail, London. Dried Grains.—A better Continental demand has been experienced, and stocks are considerably reduced, 100s ale and 95s mixed being paid ex factory, in buyers' bags. At these prices same compare favourably with millers' offals. American cane treacle, 90s per ton; and kiln-dried sea-damaged wheat from 21s per qr.—Hamlyn and Co., 37 and 38, Mark Lane.

SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—The autumn sowing demand drags along. The demand for trifolium has practically ceased. Rape keeps firm. Mustard unchanged. Rye still in good demand at the higher rates. Winter tares moving freely, though prices favour buyers. Seed wheat in active demand, prices firm. Peas more inquiry, but supplies backward. English trefoil, Alsika, white and red clovers firm, fair business passing. In grasses, Perennials and Italians still higher.—John Picard and Co.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—The market is strong for all classes of hops, the growths that are being opened show up the great scarcity of celery hops, these command more money, and the majority, which are good, sound, copper hops, are being taken freely at current rates, those that are off colour are finding buyers at full relative prices.—W. H. and H. Le May.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Business is in the main confined for the present to the best Weald of Kent and Sussex hops, and prices range from 58s to 80s. A few choice East Kents have been sold at 5 guineas per cwt.

Worcester, Saturday.—There was a good attendance at market to-day. Higher prices were asked and were given for bright, coloury parcels, and for good yellow hops. The business done was not large, as growers were indifferent sellers. Three thousand two hundred and fifty-seven pockets have been weighed this week, which makes with those previously weighed 7,065 to date.—Charles Faram and Co.

Seven Years Grain Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 10d. per 480 lb.
Barley	25s. 4d. per 400 lb.
Oats	18s. 11d. per 312 lb.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington Cattle Market on the chief market day of the week there was a decrease in the number of beasts offered for sale. For both prime and second quality fat cattle a very slow trade was experenced, sellers being obliged to accept a decline of 2d. per 8 lb. in value to effect sales; this state of trade is partly due to the prolonging of the holiday season owing to the late summer, consequently butchers' requirements are necessarily limited. The supply as far as fat beasts were concerned chiefly consisted of Herefords and Runts from the Midland Counties, and a slightly larger number of Devon cattle, these commanding our top quotations. The Irish arrivals consisted of 33 Dublins and 61 Waterfords; these shared in the poor trade, and fell in value. On Thursday no fat beasts were on the market, as usual. The supply was slightly larger than on the corresponding day of the previous week, and consisted almost entirely of fat cows and butchering bulls, for which an extremely slow trade was experienced at late values.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, no market was held on Monday, but on Wednesday and Saturday a fair average supply of both States and Canadian cattle were offered for sale, the consignments, however, from the latter country consisted of very poor quality in consequence of which no sales were effected. The total number on offer at both markets was 3,483, as against 3,904 during the preceding week, consisting of 1,030 British (decrease 70) and 2,453 foreign (decrease 371), these latter comprising 2,255 from the United States and 198 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 stone Devons, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 95 stone Irish, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 90 stone States, 4s. to 4s. 2d. ex 4s. 3d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d to 3s. 6d.

The sheep trade at Islington on both market days ruled of an extremely slow nature, notwithstanding the decrease in the supply. Both Scotch and Irish descriptions were in smaller numbers, and shared in the poor trade prevailing; however all sales of the former were transacted on late currencies, whilst the latter were quoted 2d. per 8 lb. lower. Lambs met with little inquiry, the season for these being practically over. On Thursday all sales were governed by Monday's prices. No sheep were offered for sale at Deptford. The total number penned at Islington was 5,750, as against 3,904 during the preceding week, showing a decrease of 70. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal): —7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 9 stone ditto, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone halfbreds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 5 stone fat Down lambs, 6s. 6d. to 6s. 8d.; 6 stone halfbred ditto, 6s. 2d. to 6s. 4d.

Calves numbered twenty five, and met with a slow trade. The best on offer were quoted at from 4s. 10d. to 5s. per 8 lb. (offal given in).

Trade in the West.

Great eagerness is shown in capturing almost every head of dairy stock that comes into the market—no matter whether the best class of heifer or indifferent quality cow—every one of which sells at good prices, deep-milking heifers frequently commanding £20, £21, £22, £23, and even as much as £24 for very special animals (one of which sold at this extreme price at Salisbury), and cows from £14 to £18. Of course, others make less money—from £11 to £13—but then, as a rule, they are almost, if not quite, played out as milchers, and are fit for little else but the strawyard after a little longer out door grazing, preparatory to being prepared for the butcher. This brings us next to another class of stock, almost if not quite in so much demand—grazing cattle—the youngest of which sell up to £30 per pair and over, ranging down to £18 or £19 for poor class bullocks with anything but age on their side. Stirks continue to find keen inquiry as do yearling heifers, whilst in-calvers find an exceptionally ready sale up to as high as £16 10s. for those coming into early profit, down to £10 or £11 for those of later dates. With pasture keep still fairly plentiful—though the grass lands in many places are badly burnt up—and the roots promising well, though some of those on the poorer lands are beginning to languish from want of moisture, the position of the flock-master, after the splendid rains with which we have been favoured, has seldom, if ever, been more encouraging than at present, and to this must be ascribed the extraordinary rise in the value of sheep almost everywhere, which cannot be placed, even at a moderate computation, at less than from 6s. to 10s. a head on the different classes of sheep, some of the best ewes at recent sales making from 62s. up to 73s. apiece, and seconds 48s. to 59s. or 60s., and ewe lambs to 53s. or 54s! Couples, too, have been in extraordinary request, those with good plump lambs which will be ready for market well before Christmas, commanding as much as 80s. for mothers with single lambs! And other stores are selling at correspondingly high figures.

As a corollary to these somewhat extravagant values, fat stock is selling very dear all round, and, although some of the markets quote fat bullocks as slightly favouring buyers, this, as far as our experience goes, only relates to secondary grades, choice ripe steers and heifers, which are bringing from £16 10s. to £22 or £23 apiece, not being quotable under 11s. 6d. to 12s. per score for the best finished lots, and 10s. 6d. to 11s. for seconds and cows; coarser beasts, 9s. to 9s. 6d. Veal keeps steady, and though we have no advance to quote, still we cannot give prices as lower than 8½d. to 9d. for good quality animals, and 7½d. to 8d. of not quite so good finish. Wether mutton, which now consists almost entirely of matured lambs, commands a ready sale up to 9d. per lb., and occasionally more, and young ewes make up to 8½d.; but aged sheep rather favour buyers, being a type of mutton that does not suit every class of buyers. Choice suck lamb makes full value—10d. to 10½d., seconds 9½d. Pigs retain all their old firmness on the market, the smaller weights in porkers selling up to 11s. 3d., and baconers of good finish and medium weight 9s. 6d. to 10s.; heavy sows, 8s. to 9s.

Trade in Ireland

There was a good attendance of cattle and sheep at the Dublin market on Thursday. Home traders were well in evidence and purchased pretty freely. The supplies of stock in Dublin market are, on an average, much larger than they have been at this time of the year for some seasons past. Business opened fairly briskly. There was a good demand for well-finished beasts, and the best of these changed hands quickly at from 30s. to 32s. (live weight) per cwt. Rough and unfinished sorts were hard to dispose of.

Dead-weight prices were:—Choice bullocks and heifers, from 52s. to 60s. per cwt. for very choice; second-class beef, 47s. to 50s; and inferior beef, 44s. to 46s. 6d. per cwt. Heifers were not so much wanted. There were over 4,200 beasts in market, an increase on the week of about 160.

Sheep were only brought to the extent of 7,490, a falling off of some 200 on the week. There was no demand for heavy sheep except for nice small light-weight sheep for the English districts. London and South of England trade was practically *nil*. Prime wether mutton was sold at 7d. to 7¾d. per lb.; ewe mutton at 6d. to 6¾d. per lb.; and inferior mutton at 5d. to 6d. per lb. Large heavy hoggets were worth from 50s. to 60s. each, and small to medium, ditto, from 36s. to 40s. each. Large fat lambs from 34s. to 44s., and smaller lambs from 24s. to 30s. each. Choice veal brought 7½d. to 8d. per lb., and other calves from 4½d. per lb.

A number of the usual attendants were at Ballinasloe Fair. Not nearly so many sheep were purchased, though many buyers were on the look-out for good sheep. It seems rather a strange thing to have buyers come short in Ballinasloe. Sheep only sold in hundreds, instead of thousands some years ago.

The Dublin pig market on Thursday was badly attended, and trade proved of a very disappointing sort. Prices were of a very uncertain type. Shippers did very little. Only from 42s. to 44s. was obtainable for very choice light weight hogs. Other pigs also fared badly.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Fair supplies, and firm trade for best meat. Quotations:—English beef, 3s 6d to 3s 9d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 4d to 3s 9d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 4s to 4s 2d; ditto seconds, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; ditto forequarters, 2s to 2s 4d; inferior beef, 2s to 2s 8d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; ditto tegs, 5s to 5s 4d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 10d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Dutch sheep, 4s to 4s 6d; English lamb, 5s to 5s 4d; veal, 3s 8d to 4s 8d; English pork, 3s 8d to 4s 4d; Dutch ditto, 3s 8d to 4s 4d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Supply of beasts consisted almost entirely of fat cows and bulls, for which a very poor inquiry was experienced, very few sales being recorded, though late values governed all transactions. Top prices paid per 8 lb:—Fat cows, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 9d to 3s 2d. Decrease of 60 in number penned in sheep market compared with Thursday last. Sheep trade ruled extremely dull, though Monday's values were maintained. The lamb season being practically over, very few transactions were recorded; Prices, however, remained about the same. Best pens made per 8 lb as follows:—7½ to 8 stone Down sheep, 5s 10d to 6s; 9 stone ditto, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10 stone ditto, 5s 6d to 5s 8d: 10 stone half-breds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s to 4s 2d; 5 stone fat Down lambs, 6s 6d to 6s 8d; 6 stone half-bred ditto, 6s 2d to 6s 4d. Calves met a slow trade. Quotations per 8 lb, sinking the offal:—Beasts, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; sheep, 4s to 6s; calves, 3s to 5s; lambs, 5s 4d to 6s 8d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef trade was quiet, though there was an average attendance. Best beasts made 4s 4d to 4s 8d. Mutton sold fairly well at a slight advance, Kent wethers going up to 5s 8d, and Downs and half-breds up to 5s 10d. Veal unchanged, 5s to 5s 6d. Pork cheaper, roasters selling at 3s 10d to 4s. Good trade for store cattle.

Aylesbury, Wednesday.—Trade was dull in both departments, and prices were decidedly in favour of buyers.

Bath, Wednesday.—The attendance was large, and business brisk. The following were the prices:—Fat steers, £18 5s to £20 10s; fat heifers, £15 5s to £21; fat cows, £15 to £18 5s; sturk heifers, £7 2s 6d to £9 12s 6d; heifers and calves, £16 to £18 5s; fat wethers, 50s to 54s 6d; fat ewes, 44s to 48s 6d; fat lambs, 40s to 46s 6d; fat calves, 76s to 109s; weaning calves, 32s to 50s.

Berwick, Saturday.—Better attendance of farmers and buyers, and trade sharper. Calves, £5 10s to £6 15s; heifers, £9; stirks, £8 to £10 15s; two-year olds, £11 to £13; Shorthorn bulls, £11 10s; milk cows, to £23.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Good supply of pigs; small supply of beasts and sheep, trade slow. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 8½d to 9d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s per score; cutting pigs, 9s 6d 10s per score; sows, 6s 10d to 7s per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Fat cattle were offered in about average number, but inquiry was not brisk, and trade quiet at lower quotations; best qualities 58s to 60s per cwt., secondary 55s. Sheep were not numerous, but moderate business passed, with prime and heavy wethers ½d per lb dearer. Pigs were scarce, and values unchanged.

Calne, Friday.—Prices of pigs:—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 1s. per pig extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. 10 lb to 8 sc. 10 lbs, 9s 0d per score, 8 sc. 11 lb to 9 sc. 10 lb,, 8s 6d per score; 9 sc. 11 lb to 10 sc. 10 lb, 8s 0d. Pigs outside these limits at their value.—C. and T. Harris and Co., Ltd.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There was a very large offering of sheep to-day, and a good trade prevailed. Good lambs ranged from 30s to 35s 6d, and extreme primes covered a range from 26s to 37s; wether tegs, 38s to 47s; rough old sheep, 25s to 35s; better class, 35s to 45s; and the best ewes up to 50s; ewe tegs, 40s to 54s 6d; Kent ram tegs were making from 2½ to 5½ guineas. Not much inquiry for horned stock. Useful yearlings made about £6 apiece.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Buyers were numerous, and a better trade was done. Smaller cattle, £8 10s to £10 10s; wintering beasts, £12 10s to £14; heifers for feeding off, to £16 each.

Chester, Thursday.—There were large supplies of stock, with numerous buyers, and a large trade was done. The demand affected all classes of cattle, and most of the best lots were cleared. The sheep market was well stocked, and there

was an active demand. Milch cows, £17 to £23; calves, £16 to £20; barrens, £10 to £13; heifers, £9 to £15; stirks, £6 to £10 each.

Derby, Tuesday.—Prices practically unchanged from last week. Beasts and sheep of best quality in demand. Beasts, 3½d to 6½d; calves, 7½d; sheep, 7½d to 9d; lamb, 9d.

Doncaster, Saturday. — Fully an average supply of cattle, and a good attendance of buyers. Moderate inquiry at late rates. Milch beasts made £18 to £23; bullocks, £12 to £18; heifers and drapes, £10 to £15; stirks, £8 to £10; and young stores, £7 to £10 each Large supply of sheep. Fair trade, and late prices ruled. Ewes made 44s to 56s; gimmers, 60s to 68s; and lambs, 35s to 40s each. Moderate supply of rams, which made £5 to £10 each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Messrs. T. Ensor and Sons' fortnightly sale at to-day's repository was in many respects a record one, both on account of the extensive character, particularly of milch beasts, which made a grand show, and also from the uniformly high prices ruled throughout, but more especially from dairy stock, which, owing to the presence of many buyers for town and other dairies, realised an advance of from £1 to £2 10s ahead, compared with late rates. For the best qualities of deep milking young heifers from £18 10s to £23 was paid, Mr. Groves, Charminster, making the top price; Mr. J. Braisby, Kimmeridge, £22; Mr. Dorey, Wool, £21 15s; Mr. Ford, Bucknowle, £19; Mr. F. Kent, Quarr Farm, £18 10s; and others showing clear £15 to £17 15s. In calvers ranged from £9 £10 10s. Barreners, after the recent welcome rainfall, which has proved of incalculable benefit to the pastures and roots alike, sold from £19 to £24 per pair. The beef trade ruled firm, and prices for all the riper qualities of heifers (of which more were wanted) were well maintained, quotations ranging from £15 to £18 15s (or 11s to 11s 6d per score for the best); fat bulls to £15 10s (or 9s 6d to 10s per score). A capital clearing trade all through.

Dublin, Thursday.—A teidous and slow moving market for cattle, with prices generally in favour of buyers, more particularly for second class and inferior beasts, a number of which remained unsold. Sheep in better request, and a fair clearance effected at last week's full prices. Lambs scarce and dearer, especially best qualities. Cattle—Live weight (best), 29s to 31s 6d per cwt; exceptional for choice Angus crosses, 33s. per cwt; secondary and inferior quality, 26s to 28s per cwt. Mutton (dead weight), 6½d to 7¾d per lb.—Ganly, Sons and Co.

Edinburgh, Wednesday. — Market report says: Cattle and sheep larger supply; cattle fair trade, clearance nearly effected. Polled bullocks to £15; horned bullocks, £14 15s.; Shorthorn cows, £26 10s; Ayrshires, £19 15s. Sheep slow trade. Half-bred lambs, 30s; half-bred ewes, 33s; greyfaced hoggs, 43s; hoggs, 39s,

Exeter, Friday.—Very quiet demand at usual prices, 11s being the top price for steers and maiden heifers; cows, 9s 6d to 10s, all sold. Larger supply of sheep, but slow trade; small size, 9d; larger size, 8½d; ewes, 6½d; rams, 5d; calves, 7d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Average numbers of cattle forward. For prime sorts a good demand was experienced. Secondary and heavy classes also met a steady inquiry. Top, 63s to 66s; secondary, 59s to 61s per cwt. Fewer sheep were penned, and the demand for prime hogs and wethers was good. Secondary showed no improvement in price. Lamb of quality sold well. Finest mutton, 9d to 9½d per lb; secondary, 8d to 8½d per lb; lambs, 7d to 9½d.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A large supply of beef, but not an over brisk trade, the top prices for the very best quality being 6½d to 6¾d, cow beef, 5d. Store cattle met with a better demand. There was a moderate supply of mutton, and it met with a ready sale at 8d per lb and upwards for best quality wethers and yearlings, ewes 6½d to 7d. Several lots of store sheep were brought, and the best lots found ready customers, inferior lots hanging on hand A larger supply of store lambs, and varied in price. Veal, a small supply, with firm trade at 6½d to 7d. Porks were in larger supply, and met with a good trade at 5½d to 6d. A few nice bacons made 5½d. Big stores sold well.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report the supply of yard-fed cattle was not so large and sold freely up to 9s. per stone; grass cattle from the Midlands were more numerous and met a dull trade at prices ruling in favour of buyers. At the special sale of grazing cattle over 400 were penned, including many choice lots of Cumberland and Westmoreland Shorthorns full of condition. There was a moderate attendance of buyers, and a slow trade prevailed at the lower range of prices noticed last week. Polled two-year-olds, forward in condition, £13 7s 6d to £12 10s; Shorthorn two years old, £12 17s 6d to £11 10s; eighteen months, £11 to £9 5s; roan Cumberland steers, sixteen months, £8 15s to £7 15s; Westmoreland steers of nice quality from 15 to 12 months old, £7 10s to £6 7s 6d. Cows and heifers were in better demand, those fresh calved or near advanced in values from 10s to 20s per head; Shorthorns with calves by sides, to £20 10s; polled, to £19 10s; heifers in calf, £16 to £11 10s; fat sheep were short, and values well maintained up to 64s 6d for half-bred shearlings; Suffolks, to 63s; breeding ewes sold slowly, first cross shearlings, to 55s 6d; full mouth Suffolks, to 45s; Suffolk wether lambs forward in condition, to 48s 6d. Fat swine were in good demand at high prices, and well bred stores were well competed for from 32s to 15s

Leicester, Saturday.—Good consignment of home-bred stock. Buyers were well represented, and trade ruled active at firm rates. Choice milch cows sold freely at £20 to £22; good lots, £18 to £19; secondary, £14 to £16; Shorthorn cattle, £12 to £16; choice Irish bullocks, £16 to £17 10s; secondary, £12 10s to £14 10s; Welsh cattle, £9 to £13 10s; young stock, £6 to £8; and calves, 20s to 40s each. Sheep sold freely at slightly easier rates; breeding ewes, 47s to 49s 6d and lamb hoggs, 24s to 34s each.

Lincoln, Friday.—Small show of horned stock, and a moderate demand. Young beasts, £9 to £12; milch cows, £17 to £22. An average consignment of sheep, and a fair trade. Gimmers, 50s to 67s, young ewes, 48s to 55s; and lambs, 30s to 44s each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Fat beasts average supply, trade at late rates, 7s to 7s 9d per stone. Few more stores than last week, and trade very slow, making from £6 to £18 each. Fat sheep in average supply, and trade good, from 9s to 10s per stone; stores, 45s to 50s each. Trade for fat lambs over; store lambs made from 30s to 38s each.

Manchester, Friday. — Beef: Firsts, 5½d; seconds, 4d to 4½d; thirds, 3d to 3½d. Mutton: Firsts, 7½d; seconds, 6½d to 7d; thirds, 5½d to 6d. Veal: Firsts, 6½d; seconds, 5½d to 6d; thirds, 4½d to 5d. Bacon pigs: Firsts, 5½d; seconds, 4½d to 4¾d; thirds, 3½d to 3¾d. Porket pigs: Firsts, 6¾d; seconds, 6½d to 6½d; thirds, 5½d to 6d per lb

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Cattle a rather larger supply, and trade slow and dragging, but prices unchanged. Quotations:—Prime heifers, 7s 3d to 7s 6d; second class, 6s 9d to 7s; prime steers, 7s to 7s 3d: second class, 6s 9d to 7s; coarse and inferior, 6s to 6s 6d per stone, sinking the offal. Sheep and lamb trade similar to last week, but strong, heavy sheep and prime lambs were a ½d up, and ewes a ½d down. Quotations:—Choice young sheep, 8d to 8¾d; strong heavy sheep, 7¾d to 8½d; choice lambs, 8½d to 9d; second class, 8½d to 8½d; ewes, 6d to 6½d; rams, 5d to 6d per lb. Trade in veal was rather heavier, but prices remained unchanged at 6d to 7½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday. — Large supply of cattle, sheep and lambs, and moderate supply of calves and pigs. Numerous attendance of buyers, and brisk demand for all classes of stock on offer. Quotations prevailing were as follows:—Best beef, 6½d to 6½d; second, 6d; cows, 4¾d to 5d; best wether mutton, 8½d to 8½d; ewes, 6½d to 7d; lamb, 9d to 9½d; calves, 6½d to 7½d per lb; porkers pigs, 10s to 10s 6d per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—Average supply of fat cattle, trade fairly good for best beasts, which made up to 8s per 14 lb stone; other qualities from 7s 3d to 7s 6d, and fat cows made 6s. Veal calves sold at 3d per lb. Small show of fat sheep; trade good, the best making up to 9½d per lb; and ewes 6½d to 7d. Trade for fat pigs was similar to last week, prices being from 6s to 6s 6d per stone. Store cattle were a good show, chiefly store beasts Trade was better, three year-olds making from £15 to £17 10s per head, two-year-olds from £11 to £12 10s, and yearlings from £5 to £9. Store sheep were in small supply, ewes made from 56s to 60s, and hoggets from 34s to 48s. Store pigs fetched from 16s to 30s.

Nottingham. Saturday.—There was a shorter supply of stock, with rather a better trade. Best milch cows were very dear, making £18 to £21 each, heifers realised £13 to £17 10s, and calves, which sold briskly, up to 50s. Sheep made the usual rates,

Preston, Wednesday.—The supplies of sheep and lambs were considerably smaller, and a better trade was done, especial for choice qualities. The beef trade was rather slow. Quotations:—Local-fed heifers, best quality, 6½d; secondary ditto, 6d; Irish ditto, 6d to 6½d; choice cows and bulls, 5¾d; heavy and secondary quality, 5d to 5½d; choice lambs, 9d; hoggs, 8½d; choice 6½d; heavy tups and ewes, 5d to 5½d; calves, 7d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—First-class bullocks and milch cows, which were very scarce, were quoted £18 to £22, secondary from £14; two-year-old steers and heifers unchanged, calves 35s to 45s each.

Romford, Wednesday.—Fair supply of fat beasts, trade rather slow. Best animals, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; middlings, 3s 10d to 4s per stone. Calves in short supply, trade slow at 4s 10d to 5s per stone. Sheep in large supply, trade about the same. Best Down wethers, 5s 8d to 6s; large sheep, 5s 4d to 5s 6d per stone. Ewes in large supply, trade much lower. Down ewes, 3s 10d to 4s; half-breds and Kents, 3s 9d to 3s 10d per stone. A few store beasts on offer; slow demand. Milch cows in good supply, trade better. Pigs in average supply, trade about the same. Small porkers, 4s to 4s 2d; large hogs, 3s 8d to 3s 10d per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—A small supply of cattle. A fair demand for good milch beasts, which made £18 to £21, with little doing in rougher descriptions.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Usual supplies of fat and store cattle, calves, and pigs, but smaller for store sheep. There was a fair attendance of buyers, but prices were slightly less than last week. Quotations:—Beef, 6d to 6½d per lb; mutton (wether), 9d to 9½d per lb; ewes, 7½d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 9d to 10d per lb; veal, 7d to 8d per lb; porket pigs, 9s to 9s 6d per score; bacons, 8s 6d to 9s per score.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was an average show of the best cattle, which met a slow trade at 7s 3d to 7s 6d per stone, whilst rougher kinds sold at 6s and 6s 6d. Lambs made 9d per lb; young sheep, 8½d; ewes, 6d; and calves 8d per lb. The pig trade was about the same as last week, small porkers making 7s to 7s 6d per stone; mediums, 7s; and sows, 6s to 6s 6d.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a considerable decrease in the number of beasts in this market on Tuesday last, and the trade showed no improvement on the previous week, although nearly all the cattle were disposed of. Sheep were decidedly firmer, and made more money than for several weeks past, a choice consignment of wether sheep fetching 64s. each. Large numbers of well-bred weaning calves are coming to hand, and it would be well worth while the attention of rearers of stock to note. The pig pens were also full. Capital entries have been received for next week's sales. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 91 fat beasts, 247 fat sheep, 126 fat and store pigs, and 141 fat and weaning calves. Fat oxen made from £16 to £20 10s; fat heifers, £14 to £19 5s; fat wether sheep, 54s to 65s 6d; fat ewes, 40s to 59s 6d; fat lambs, 38s to 54s; fat calves, £2 10s to £5; weaning cow calves, 30s to 68s; bull calves, 15s to 51s; bacon hogs, £3 10s to £5 10s; fat sows to £6 15s; porkets, 26s to 48s; store pigs, 12s to 36s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance very good, business fairly brisk. Fat bullocks, 54s to 56s per cwt; two-year-old steers and barreners, 40s to 45s per cwt; cows and calves, £12 to £16; rearing calves, 25s to 40s each; ewes. 42s to 46s each; wethers, 7d; ewes, 5d to 5½d; lambs, 7d to 7½d per lb; pigs, 6s 6d to 35s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8½d; lamb, 8d to 9d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8½d; pork (carcasses), 5d to 5½d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Trade very slow; fair for lambs. Supply moderate. Quotations:—Beef, 5½d to 6¾d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 9d per lb; lamb, 9d to 9½d per lb; veal, 6½d to 7d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Poor show of stock, with trade slow. Best beef, of which there was an exceptionally small supply, made 7s to 7s 3d per stone; secondary qualities, 6s 6d to 6s 9d. Best Southdown wether and cross-bred shearlings met a better trade, making 7½d to 8½d per lb; ewes, 5d to 5½d; lambs, 8½d per lb.

York, Thursday.—Trade for cattle was very inactive, dealers finding considerable difficulty in disposing of their stock. Good quality three-year-old bullocks made up to £17 10s, and two-year olds from £9 10s to £12 10s. Young beasts changed hands at £6 to £7 10s. Trade for sheep showed an improvement in this department, and sales were easily effected. Best ewes made up to 55s, others 46s, and Cheviot ewes realised 23s to 30s. There was an excellent inquiry for cross-bred lambs, which ranged in price from £1 to £1 8s.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—The position of the hay trade during the past week has been of an unsettled character. At earlier part of week very much larger supplies came to hand, and business showed a weakening tendency, but during the last few days the arrivals have dropped off considerably, and with a better demand in consequence, our market has somewhat steadied itself, and prices, on the whole, show little or no change on previous quotations. The present position of the London trade is a difficult one; with the season's crop well over average, consumers' ideas are for much lower prices, yet, at the same time, farmers and country holders are asking more money for stuff in stacks. No doubt with corn and all feeding stuffs at such

high figures more hay will be used as country feed than usual, and this, no doubt, makes farmers more indisposed to sell than in ordinary years. Best qualities of all kinds are a very firm trade. Mixtures being in very short supply are specially in demand, while best hays and clovers find a good inquiry; in fact, anything that can be guaranteed as sweet and clean is readily disposed of at top prices. Straw is in better supply, and is a quiet trade at about last week's values.

Prices ruling for English 1907 crop are about as follows:—Best hays, 70s per ton; good hays, 57s 6d to 67s 6d per ton; plain hays, 55s per ton; best clovers, 82s 6d to 85s per ton; good clovers, 77s 6d to 80s per ton; inferior clovers, 70s to 75s per ton; best mixtures, 80s to 82s 6d per ton; good mixtures, 70s to 75s per ton; plain mixtures, 62s 6d to 67s 6d per ton; seconds hays, clovers, and mixtures, 40s to 55s per ton; wheat straw, 26s to 28s per load; barley straw, 26s to 28s per load; oat straw, 28s per load. All ex rail London.

Foreign: Hardly anything doing, and prices are nominally unaltered. Canadian mixture, 80s per ton; first quality Dutch hay, 62s 6d per ton; second quality Dutch hay, 55s to 57s 6d per ton; New French first and second cut clover, 75s per ton. These prices are by the barge load delivered alongside wharf, London.

DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter.—The Continental butter markets show a continued rise in price, which is usual in October. Danish has risen one kroner this week in Copenhagen, against a fall of three kroner twelve months since, when the September prices had been abnormally high, and which produced a temporary reaction to lower values. In November prices again advanced. The recent rise of 12s per cwt. in French butter has been too much for the market, and buyers are now filling their requirements from other sources. Such sudden and large fluctuations are detrimental to all sound principles of commerce, and the sale of French butter has suffered severely for this large and sudden rise. Siberian butter continues to arrive in larger quantities than last year, the excess for the last four weeks being 2,600 cwt. over last year. Cheese.—There has been a fair demand for Canadian this week, and prices are well maintained. "Choicest" white makes 61s and coloured 62s, there being very little except tasty goods to be had below 60s. The large retail establishments all over the country have decided to raise the retail price of colonial cheese next week to 7½d per lb—W. Weddel and Co.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Altrincham: 8. Appleby: 7 and 8. Barnstaple: 10. Berwick: 1s 2d to 1s 3d doz. Birmingham: 8 and 9. Carlisle: 7 and 8. Chester: 8. Dartmouth: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per doz. Derby: 8 and 9. Doncaster: 10 and 11. Dorchester: 1s to 1s 3d per doz. Evesham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per doz. Hereford: 9 and 10. Ipswich: 9 and 10. Kidderminster: 10. Lancaster: 7 and 8. Lincoln: 10 and 11. Market Drayton: 8 snd 9. Otley: 9. Penrith: 8 and 9. Penzance: 1s to 1s 3d per doz. Plymouth: 10 and 11. Preston: 7 and 8. Retford: 2s 2d to 2s 3d per score. Ripon: 8 and 9. Scarborough: 9. Spalding: 11. Stockport: 7 and 8. Stockton: 8. Totnes: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per doz. Truro: 1s to 1s 1d per dozen. Wellington (Salop): 10 and 11. Worcester: 8. Worksop: 2s 2d to 2s 4d per score. York: 8 and 9.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Altrincham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Appleby: 11d to 1s 1d. Barnstaple: 1s 2d. Berwick: 1s to 1s 2d. Birmingham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Carlisle: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Chester: 1s 2d. Dartmouth: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Derby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d: Doncaster: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Dorchester: 10d to 1s 3d. Evesham: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Hereford: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Ipswich: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Kidderminster: 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s 2½d to 1s 3½d. Lincoln: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Market Drayton: 1s 2d. Otley: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per 24 oz roll. Penrith: 10½d to 1s 2d. Penzance: 10d to 1s 2d. Plymouth: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Preston: 1s 3d. Retford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Ripon: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Shrewsbury: 1s to 1s 2d. Spalding: 1s. Stockport: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Stockton: 1s to 1s 2d. Totnes: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Truro: 11d to 1s. Wellington (Salop): 1s to 1s 1d. Worcester: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Worksop: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. York: 1s 1d to 1s 2d.

CHEESE.

Highbridge, Tuesday. A good attendance of buyers, a brisk sale, and all cleared. Best Caerphilly dairies realised up to 56s per cwt.; secondary dairies, 53s 6d to 55s; and other dairies, 48s to 52s. A few inferior lots failed to reach 42s. Cheddars, 54s to 58s; truckles, 53s to 59s; doubles, 56s to 52s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The arrivals of cheese were small. There was a lack of life in the market. Values remained firm for high-class goods, but anything of a secondary nature was offered at more tempting prices. Cheddars, 59s to 63s; Dunlops, 58s to 61s; Canadians, 60s per cwt.

Newport, Wednesday.—The supply on offer was larger than usual. There was a moderate attendance of buyers, and a fair business was done. Ruling quotations:—Caerphillies, 40s to 53s; fancy dairies, 54s to 56s; Derbys, 63s; truckles, 56s to 63s; Cheddars, 60s to 63s.

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, October 1, 1907:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Av. Price per Qr £	s.	d.
Wheat	8,907	5	15,275	6	0	1	14	4
Barley	4,151	1	5,371	0	11	1	5	11
Oats	7,775	4	7,477	16	5	0	19	3

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending October 5, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1903 to 1906:—

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1903	56,620	25	10	58,717	23	8	31,189	15	6
1904	54,607	30	2	153,280	25	6	43,575	15	9
1905	89,579	26	9	147,570	24	9	31,190	16	3
1906	87,200	26	1	183,145	25	0	35,724	16	3
1907.	108,964	32	6	102 551	25	5	55,367	17	9

Weekly Arrivals into London.

September 26 to October 2 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	7,851	107,795	115,646
Barley	2,690	78,000	80,690
Malt	17,500	2,000	19,500
Oats	16,488	24,724	41,212
Beans	444	133	577
Peas	187	817	1,004
Maize	—	61,406	61,406
Dari	—	218	218
Canaryseed	—	2,000	2,000
Linseed	—	20,000	20,000
Flour	sacks 25,544	39,245	64,789
Middlings	—	2,500	2,500

ADVERTISEMENTS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

Something About Cattle Abortion.

If you have trouble with your Cattle in this way, the wisest thing to do is to apply the

Kynazon Treatment.

This system has been conclusively proved in hundreds of cases to be wonderfully successful.

It prevents Abortion in Cattle and permanently cures the tendency.

If YOU have trouble with your cattle in this way get particulars of the treatment that will end it, post free, from

John J. Forbes,
Veterinary Chemist,
Denny, N.B.

JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL STATISTICAL SOCIETY.

Vol. LXX. SEPTEMBER 30th,
Part 3. 1907.

Principal Contents:

Some Considerations relating to the Position of the Small Holding in the United Kingdom, by W. G. S. Adams, M.A.
Congress of the International Statistical Institute.
Note on the Mortality from Tuberculosis, 1851-1905 By R. Dudfield, M.A., M.B.
Meeting of the British Association. Discussion on Modern Methods of treating Observations.

London:
THE ROYAL STATISTICAL SOCIETY,
9, Adelphi Terrace, Strand, W.C.

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LOOK.—To poultry keepers, string netting, waterproof 1 in. mesh, for enclosing poultry runs, &c., 20 sq. yards, 1s., sent any width or length.—H. Robinson & Co., Net Works, Rye.

CORN and SEED BUSINESS for absolute SALE at Reigate. Genuine old established. Excellent neighbourhood. Central position. Price and particulars of Mr. James T. Peat, Estate Agent, Reigate, Surrey.

WHITE ORPINGTON COCKERELS (April, May), excellent laying strain, 5s. each; two, 9s.—H. Creber, St. Germans, Cornwall.

By Mr. GAVIN LOW.

COUNTY WESTMEATH.

SUBSCRIBER has been favoured with instructions from the Executrix of the late Scrope B. Rynd, Esq., to SELL BY AUCTION, in one or two Lots, at his PROPERTY SALEROOMS, 50, PRUSSIA STREET, DUBLIN, at 1 o'clock p.m., on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1907,

GORTMORE and LECADE,

containing 581a. 1r. 33p., statute, subject to £400 per annum, reducible at the end of each of the first three decades.

Lot 1—Gortmore, with House, Offices, Garden, &c., contains 273a. 1r. 16p., statute, and subject to £200 per annum, reducible at the end of each of the first three decades.

Lot 2—Gortmore (part of), and Lecade, containing 308a. 0r. 17p., statute, and subject to £200 per annum, reducible at the end of each of the first three decades.

The Land is all in grass, old pasture, a large proportion being of prime fattening quality, well watered, and suitably divided.

The House (a beautiful residence), Southern aspect, with greenhouse, pleasure grounds, and garden, contains entrance hall (with fireplace), three reception rooms, eight bedrooms, servants' hall, servants' rooms, kitchen, scullery, larder, pantry, dairy, storerooms, w.c.'s, &c.

It is approached by two avenues, front and back (with two gate lodges), through lawn well studded with ancient timber. There are ample out-offices, and a lock-up stable and coach-house, yard.

Gortmore is situated in the Westmeath hunting district, being two miles from Ballymore, four from Ballymahon, seven from Streamstown, nine from Athlone, and eight from Moate, where there is a Polo Club.

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By LLOYD & THOMAS.

RHYWFELEN, ABERGWILI,
CARMARTHEN.

LLOYD & THOMAS are instructed by Mr. J. Ll. Morgan to SELL by AUCTION on OCTOBER 10th, 1907, at Rhywfelen, three miles from Carmarthen Town, on the main line G.W.R., almost the entire prize-winning HERD of SHORTHORNS. The cows are a fine milking lot and in calf to the great stock bull Duke of Tyne 74425, winner of numerous prizes, and the sire of several winners, including the prize-winning bull and heifer calves at the last United Counties Show.

Catalogues of the Auctioneers, 5, Quay Street, Carmarthen.

Printed and Published by the Proprietors, at the Offices, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.—October 7, 1

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The wheat crop of the United Kingdom is now put by some good judges at 32 bushels against 30, which was the accepted estimate a month ago. Excellent threshing results from Kent and Northumberland have probably led to this optimism, and the area in question is so important that the earlier estimate really may need a slight increase. It is, however, unlikely that the high standard of four quarters to the acre has actually been attained for the three kingdoms. Scotland and Ireland have not fared as well as England, and there is not a single case before us of Welsh farmers claiming to have done well with this year's wheat. A very competent authority reckons September to have improved our wheat yield by a full 3 per cent., but this would only give us 31 bushels, not 32 bushels, as the eventual result. Barley is estimated to have gained nearly 4 per cent. by the fine September which is not improbable, seeing that it was the latest of the crops to mature that it gained most by the fair weather conditions, and that it is the crop which more than the others depends on the harvesting. Oats are a good yield this year, and the fine September has enabled fields to be retrieved which, on the feast of St. Partridge, appeared a lost cause. Beans are a better crop than peas this year. Rye thrashes out well, and so do tares. Potatoes are below an average very decidedly, and this will throw an increased strain upon the wheat supply. Roots have gone off since September 1 very materially, and the aftermath of hay is a great deal less than had been anticipated. These facts are a large discount off the farmers gains to the cereal and pulse crops. The rains, since October came in, have helped the start with autumn work, but have been inimical to the condition of a good deal of grain sent to market. Where the new wheat has been unfit for October milling, the flour trade has been placed in a difficulty, and foreign sorts being both very dear and very scarce, while absolutely necessary for mixing purposes. The price of flour has been advanced a full shilling per sack; in some instances, indeed, a florin.

The wheat gradient last week was moderate at the whole 190 statute markets (186 of which reported wheat sales) were in agreement in advancing values, and there had not previously been an especial disparity.

Mark Lane ...	35s.	0d. per qr.
Sailisbury ...	31s.	3d. ,,
Range	3s.	9d. per qr.

The range in the price of barley shows Kent to be the place where the value is at its highest:—

Canterbury ...	27s.	1d. per qr.
Nottingham...	21s.	8d. ,,
Range	2s.	5d. per qr.

The gradient in oats shows that 19s. is exceeded at Mark Lane, Reading, Canterbury, and a few other markets, and that no leading exchange is now below 17s. per qr.

Mark Lane	19s.	4d. per qr.
Nottingham...	17s.	0d. ,,
Range	2s.	4d. per qr.

The markets where oats have been cheapest have included, besides the Eastern-Midland centre, Peterborough, Salisbury, Norwich, Lincoln, Cambridge, and Ely.

The latest prices for leading staples thus compare with the lowest values within the year.

	Present Value.		Lowest Value.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
English wheat ...	32	6	26	0
Manitoba wheat...	46	0	33	0
Karachi wheat ...	41	0	33	0
Best flour	37	0	29	0
Household flour...	32	0	22	0
Mixed maize	28	0	20	0
Russian barley ...	25	6	20	6
,, oats	19	6	16	6
Indian linseed ...	47	0	41	0
,, rapeseed...	54	0	42	0

These ten prices show advance all along the line. An advance of 13s. in Manitoba wheat as compared with 6s. 6d. only in English is partly due to the greater firmness with which importers hold their grain, but must also be assigned in a very appreciable degree to the gross exaggeration of the Dominion crop by the Government representatives in later August and early September. When the truth leaked out a minor panic was set up, as those who had contracted for this special grade found themselves menaced by real difficulty in procuring it.

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets since harvest have been as follows:—

This season ... 314,000 qr. at 31s. 10d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 416,000 ,, 25s. 10d. ,,

Smaller supplies, higher prices. It is a quite natural state of affairs.

The sales of British barley thus compare:—

This season ... 193,000 qr. at 24s. 10d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 455,000 ,, 24s. 7d. ,,

The price of barley ought to be higher than it is.

Sales of British oats have been as follows:—

This season ... 216,000 qr. at 17s 8d. per qr.
Last season .. 205,000 qr. at 16s. 3d. per qr.

Considering the heavy sales off the farms—sales in excess of what we deem altogether prudent—the British farmer may regard himself as fairly lucky to get 1s. 5d. more money than he obtained in October last year.

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 422,000 qr.: a fairly large arrival.
Flour, 133,200 sks.: a moderate supply.
Barley, 133,000 qr.: a full average.
Oats, 55,000 qr.: barely half an average.
Maize, 205,000 qr.: a full average.

Since September 1 the imports of the United Kingdom have been:—

Wheat,.....	2,412,000 qr.
Flour, ...	487,000 ,,
Breadstuffs,	2,899,000 ,,
Maize.....	1,252,000 qr.
Barley	843,000 ,,
Oats	170,000 ,,

In no previous campaign since the new century have the imports of oats in five completed weeks been less than four hundred thousand quarters, so that the deficiency this season may fairly be called extraordinary.

The price of English oats, which works out at £6 6s. 6d. per ton, shows that that staple undersells wheat barley and rye, and is 13s. 4d. per ton cheaper than imported oats. The price of maize equals £6 10s. per ton, and is 3s. 6d. in favour of the buyer of English oats, so that the rise of 1s. 5d. on the year in the latter, in the face of large deliveries, is explained. None the less one feels that to get an advanced price when sending unwonted quantities to market is not a thing likely long to continue, and we therefore hope that English farmers will hold their oats with a little more confidence.

The quantity of wheat on passage on the 12th inst. was as follows:—

American	345,000 qrs.
Californian	100,000 ,,
Russian	265,000 ,,
Indian	700,000 ,,
Argentine	95,000 ,,
Australasian.....	435,000 ,,
Various	20,000 ,,
Total	1,960,000 ,,
A week ago	1,845,000 ,,

The quantity of flour on passage is 242,000 sks.; of barley the quantity on passage has increased to 570,000 qr., of which total 440,000 qr. are feeding and 130,000 qr. brewing quality. No first-class malting barley is known to be on passage.

The quantity of oats on passage is 160,000 qr.; of Maize, 960,000 qr.; of linseed, 143,000 qr.; of rapeseed, 9,000 qr.; and of cottonseed, 320,000 tons.

Shipments are increasing under the influence of the higher prices, and were above an average last week of wheat from America and Russia, of barley from Russia, and of maize from Russia. But there were no excessive shipments of oats from any country, and of flour the American exports were not large enough to balance the cessation in flour supply from all other foreign sources.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—The hay trade during the past week has presented a much firmer appearance, and prices in some instances are the turn higher, supplies, owing mainly perhaps to the very stormy and unsettled weather, have been much shorter and little difficulty has been found in effecting clearances at top values. The consumers are not as yet very eager buyers at any advance in prices, the present advance being paid mostly among those in the trade who had anticipated values, being on a much lower level after harvest, but the market, instead of going lower, has upset all calculations by being in fact dearer, very few purchases had been made for future deliveries, and in consequence salesmen are finding great difficulty in keeping their contracts supplied, there being keen competition among them for the very short arrival. Clovers and mixtures are a very firm trade, and slightly higher prices are obtainable. Best hays are in good demand, and all lots are easily disposed of. There is also a very fair inquiry for plain stuffs of all kinds. With farmers busy thrashing whenever possible, a large bulk of straw is finding its way to market, and prices in consequence are the turn easier. In the Foreign market there is very little doing, and prices are nominally unaltered.

Prices ruling are about as follows:—English 1907 crop. Best hays, 70s per ton; good hays, 60s to 67s 6d per ton; plain hays, 55s to 57s 6d per ton; best clovers, 82s 6d to 85s per ton; good clovers, 77s 6d to 80s per ton; inferior clovers, 70s to 75s per ton; best mixtures, 80s to 82s 6d per ton; good mixtures, 72s 6d to 77s 6d per ton; plain mixtures, 62s 6d to 70s per ton; seconds hays, clovers, and mixtures, 45s to 55s per ton; wheat straw, 25s to 27s per load; barley straw, 24s to 26s per load; oat straw 26s per load. All ex rail London.

Foreign: Canadian mixture, 80s per ton; first quality Dutch hay, 60s to 62s 6d per ton; second quality Dutch hay, 55s per ton. New French first and second cut clover, 75s per ton. These prices are by the barge load delivered alongside a London Thames wharf.

THE BALTIC.

The prices asked for wheat cargoes on Saturday were high, and sales were checked thereby. Nevertheless, the following transactions took place:—Odessa Ghirka, 46s. per 492 lb.; Roumanian, 43s. 9d. per 492 lb.; Blue stem, 43s. 3d. per 500 lb.; Walla Walla, 42s. 6d. per 500 lb.; Australian, 43s. 6d. per 480 lb.; and No. 1 Northern Manitoba, at 44s per 480 lb.

Maize cargoes were 6d. dearer, and the prices made included 27s. 9d. per 480 lb for Argentine, 28s. 6d. per 480 lb. for Russian, and 28s. per 480 lb. for American.

Barley cargoes also advanced 6d., and sales were effected at 26s. 9d. per 400 lb. for Russian, 27s. per 400 lb. for Roumanian, 28s. per 416 lb. for Kustendje, 24s. 9d. per 400 lb. for Persian, and 34s. 6d. per 448 lb. for Californian.

A cargo of oats fetched 18s. per 304 lb. for prompt shipment from Riga, and one of beans had a buyer at 32s. 9d. per 480 lb. for October shipment from Smyrna.

The London Corn Trade Association C. F. & I. quotations, for the settlement of Rejections and Difference in Weights on Wheat under Rule No. 4 of the Association East Indian Wheat Contracts, are as follows, viz.—via Canal:—

Crop 1906.—Choice White Karachi, 41s 6d; Soft Red Karachi, 42s—new clean terms.

These prices remain current until a new list is issued.

The secretary of the above association announces that the following standards were made up on the 11th inst. for July shipments, viz.:—

Wheat.—Choice White Kurrachee (crop 1906); ditto (crop 1907); Soft Red Kurrachee (crop 1907); Choice White Bombay (crop 1907).

Gram, Dari, and barley.—Kurrachee.

Pease.—White Calcutta.

Lentils.—Kurrachee and Bombay.

These standards can be inspected at the offices, 26, St. Mary Axe, and samples obtained on payment of a small fee.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The demand is a trifle better for the best hops, and a sale of a good lot of Kent Goldings is reported at £6 per cwt. Healthy brown hops sell fairly freely at from 45s to 56s per cwt.

Worcester, Saturday.—There was a good attendance of planters at market to-day and trade was good for choice bright samples at late rates. Good yellow hops also sold pretty well, but growers are still indifferent about selling. Two thousand five hundred and thirty-seven pockets passed the public scales this week, making with those previously weighed 9,602 to date.—Charles Faram and Co.

Seven Years Grain Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 10d.	per 480 lb.
Barley.....	25s. 4d.	per 400 lb.
Oats.....	18s. 11d.	per 312 lb.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English firm, but not active. Whites quoted at 37s 6d to 40s; reds at 37s 6d to 39s 6d. Foreign firmly held at 3d to 6d advance over Monday, but not active. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, held at 45s 3d, landed at 43s; No. 2 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, at 44s 6d to 44s 9d; No. 1 Durum, 40s; choice white Karachi at 41s 6d; red Karachi at 41s. Flour firm, and held at 6d advance, which checks business. Hungarian quoted at 37s 6d; Iron Dukes at 26s 6d to 27s. Maize firm, moderate inquiry at 3d over Monday. Odessa, ex ship, to arrive, quoted at 27s, landed at 27s 3d; Danubian, landed, at 27s 6d; Galatz-Foxanian, landed at 27s 3d. Barley firm and dearer; 25s asked Azoff-Black Sea, ex ship, to arrive; Persian, ex ship, 23s 6d, landed at 24s. Oats firm at fully late rates, but quiet. South Russian (38 lb), landed, held at 19s 3d to 19s 6d; La Plata, landed, at 19s 6d.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat: English firmly held at full prices. Whites quoted at 38s to 40s; reds at 38s to 39s 6d. Foreign firmly held for 9d over Wednesday, with a moderate trade passing. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, held at 46s; landed at 46s 6d; No. 2 Northern, ex ship, at 45s to 45s 3d; No. 1 Durum at 41s; choice white Karachi at 42s to 42s 6d; red Karachi at 41s 6d to 41s 9d. Flour firm and 6d to 9d dearer. Hungarians quoted at 38s to 38s 6d; Iron Dukes at 27s 6d. Maize firm; fair request at 9d advance. River Plate, Odessa, and Danubian landed held at 28s to 28s 3d. Barley firm, and 6d more money asked; 25s 6d asked Azoff-Black Sea and Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, to arrive; 26s landed; Persians, 23s 6d to 24s 6d. Oats firm but quiet. La Plata and South Russian (38 lb) held at 19s 3d to 19s 6d, ex quay.

COUNTRY.

Appleby, Saturday.—A fair number of samples forward, with a steady trade. White oats (horse corn), 20s to 21s per 26 stones

Ashford, Tuesday.—Wheat market firm and samples in good condition, dearer sales taking place up to 37s. Barley firm. Oats and maize slightly dearer. Flour 2s per sack dearer. Quotations: Wheat, 34s to 37s; best malting barley, 30s to 32s; secondary, 27s to 29s; Mazagan beans, 27s to 30s; tick beans, 33s to 35s; black oats, 20s to 22s; white oats, 19s to 22s; maize, 29s to 30s. Flour: Whites, 36s per sack; seconds, 33s; scaling, 31s.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, white (new), 34s 6d to 35s 6d per qr; ditto red (new) 34s 6d to 35s 6d per qr; barley, 27s 6d to 32s per qr; beans (new), 30s to 31s per qr; oats, 17s to 21s qr; peas, 30s to 33s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—There was a moderate attendance. The wet weather seriously interfered with threshing operations during the week, and there was a smaller show of grain. Fine barley firm at fully late rates. Oats and wheat scarce. Wheat, 23s to 31s; oats, 22s to 23s 6d per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Trade was fairly active in spite of big advances. Foreign wheats, since last market day, have advanced from 2s 6d to 3s per qr, and met with a fair demand at the advance; No. 1 Manitoba, 45s 3d per 496 lb; No. 2, 44s 6d; No. 3, 44s at Bristol; River Plate, 43s 6d; Russian, 42s 6d to 44s per qr at Sharpness. Best samples of English wheats made from 14s to 14s 6d per 186 lb, delivered. English oats were generally 6d dearer; beans, 12s 6d per bag (196 lb) delivered. Grinding barley and maize were 9d per qr up on the week.

Brighton, Thursday.—Little business and fair attendance. Wheat in short supply, 2s per qr dearer. Oats 3d to 6d dearer. Barley, 30s to 36s; grinding ditto, 27s to 28s; oats, English, 18s to 21s; peas, 32s to 33s; beans, 31s to 33s.

Bristol, Thursday.—A good attendance on market to-day. English wheat in moderate supply at 2s advance. Foreign wheat very firm, 3s to 4s dearer on the week. Maize and barley 1s dearer. Oats 6d advance. Flour strong and 1s 6d dearer with a good inquiry.—GRACE BROS.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat was in small supply, and, with holders reluctant to part, was firm at 1s per qr advance. Reds, 35s 6d to 37s; reverts, 35s to 36s per qr. Trade for barley was firm in tone, and business was done at 29s to 31s per qr. Oats a firm trade, at 19s to 20s per qr; old, 23s to 24s per qr. Beans sold at 31s to 32s; and peas at 32s to 34s per qr. Maize strong, at 28s 6d to 29s per qr, delivered. Other feeding corns, cakes, and offals firm, with an upward tendency.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week prices for wheat have considerably advanced. Although prices have now reached this high level, farmers do not bring out large supplies. At this market there was a fair supply of wheat making 38s to 39s per 504 lb. on rail, being an advance of about 2s 6d on the week. Good supply of barley, trade very firm. Oats in short supply, prices unchanged.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Many of the wheat samples continue to be out of condition, but for really dry lots values are advancing, samples of 64 lb weight making up to 39s per qr. There was a better supply of barley, and a good inquiry prevailed to-day for malting qualities at from 29s to 35s. Oats steady, 38 lb samples ranging up to 19s 6d and 44 lb lots to 22s per qr. Peas and beans scarce and firm. Good seed wheat is selling at 40s per qr.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small show of new in our market to-day, but large quantity of pocket samples shown, sale of which was good prices, 19s 6d to 20s 6d per 336 lb. Large trade in old oats, 24s to 25s per 336 lb. Several lots of fine quality barley sold at 28s to 29s 6d per 448 lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—There has been a general advance in all classes of grain since last market day. English wheat showed an improvement of 2d to 3d per bushel. Oats showed a similar advance for prime qualities. Few samples of barley offering. Offals scarce and dearer. Quotations:—White and red wheat, 5s 2d to 5s 3d per 75 lb; new grinding barley, 4s to 4s 3d per 64 lb; old oats, 3s 1d to 3s 6d; and new, 2s 7d to 2s 9d per 46 lb; Indian corn (feeding), 15s 3d to 15s 6d per 240 lb; round corn, 14s 6d to 15s 3d.

Chichester, Wednesday.—A good attendance and fair trade. Wheat and flour were each 1s dearer, and oats showed an advance of 6d. New white wheat, 34s 6d to 36s; new red ditto, 34s 6d to 36s; barley, 28s to 36s; grinding ditto, 23s 6d to 25s; oats, English, 17s 6d to 23s 6d; rye, 27s to 29s; peas, 31s to 32s; beans, 32s to 33s; tares, 5s 6d to 6s 6d; maize, 25s 6d to 26s 6d; flour, 30s to 32s.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat firm, full 2s per qr advance. Oats and beans firm trade, small supply.—COLIN TAYLOR, KING AND CO., LTD.

Coventry, Friday.—Only a small attendance. Supply of wheat poor, and met a good demand at about 1s 6d per qr advance on the week. Barley maintained top prices for good lots. Oats quite scarce, and may be called 6d per qr dearer. Beans and peas sold freely at full late quotations. Quotations:—Wheat, 13s to 14s; old, 13s to 13s 6d per 186 lb; barley, 30s to 34s per 448 lb; oats, old, 24s 6d to 27s; new, 21s to 22s 6d per 352 lb; beans, 13s to 13s 9d per 196 lb; peas, 12s 6d to 14s per 196 lb.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Despite the fact of threshing operations having had to be suspended owing to unfavourable weather, and samples as a consequence coming a little less freely to hand, still, taking these circumstances into consideration, there was by no means a scarcity of any kind of grain. Holders were very firm in their demands, little disposition to do business being evinced, except at a still further advance in wheat, which ranged from 6d to 1s, and farmers even then were not particularly anxious sellers; and we must quote the market as distinctly against buyers to the extent we have quoted above for English and foreign. Barley was likewise well held, and buyers had to pay extreme values where business resulted. Oats were about the same, but maize must be quoted 3d to 6d dearer, and all other articles made more money, the rise being from 6d to 1s.

Exeter, Friday.—Good attendance, good trade. English wheat 1s dearer on the week; foreign, 2s dearer. English barley unchanged; grinding barley, 6d to 9d dearer. Maize, 6d dearer. Oats firm. Flour, 1s dearer. Quotations:—English wheat, 4s to 4s 3d; English barley, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; superfine flour, 30s to 33s; fine, 28s to 31s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Wheat still advancing, and prices to-day show an advance of about 3d per boll over the week. Flour very firm and 1s per sack dearer. Maize steady, at 3d per boll advance from last Wednesday. Corn firmly held and shading dearer. Barley scarce, and dear for top qualities. Oats the turn in sellers' favour for both home but foreign. Beans steady. Pease scarce and held for full rates. Bran and thirds very firm. Oatmeal held for more money. Other articles unaltered.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Gloucester, Saturday. — English wheat 2s dearer at 34s to 37s per qr. Foreign wheat 2s dearer: Plates, 43s to 44s; Russian, 42s 6d to 45s. Maize, 1s 3d dearer; Plate and Bessarabian, 2s per qr. Grinding barley, 1s 6d dearer, at 26s 6d to 27s. Oats 6d to 1s dearer; black, 19s 6d to 20s 6d; white, 21s to 21s 6d.

Grantham, Saturday.—Fair show of new grain in all departments, and with numerous inquiries trade was decidedly brisk. Wheat advanced 1s to 2s per qr, whilst oats showed a slight upward tendency. Wheat made 37s to 38s 6d; barley, 26s to 33s; oats, 18s 6d to 21s; blue peas, up to 74s; and beans, 30s to 32s per qr.

Derby, Friday.—There was a small supply of wheat, which met with a ready sale at the extreme prices of last week. No alteration in the price of spring corn. Quotations:—Wheat, 37s to 38s; red, 35s to 37s; grinding barley, 25s to 27s; new beans, 35s to 36s; old oats, 24s to 26s; new, 20s to 21s.

Devizes, Thursday.—There was a moderate supply. Trade for all descriptions was very firm. Wheat was 6d per sack higher, old making up to 21s and new 18s per sack of 12 score 12 lb. Best old wheat, 19s to 21s; best new wheat, 17s to 18s 6d; secondary, 15s 6d to 16s 6d; malting barley, 27s to 32s; grinding barley, 24s to 26s; winter barley, 23s to 28s; old oats, 20s to 24s; winter oats, 18s to 19s; white Garton oats (330lb), 18s to 19s; black Tartar oats (320 lb), 17s to 19s; rye, 26s to 29s; new beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 31s to 33s; extra fine, 34s to 37s; vetches, 6s to 7s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—A moderate supply of English wheat, and a ready sale for best samples, prices being 2s per qr higher. Foreign wheat also met with a brisk demand at an advance of 2s 6d per qr on the week. Barley was very firm at an advance of 1s per qr, and made 29s to 33s. Barley is 3s to 4s dearer than it was at this time last year. Oats firm. Maize advanced 1s per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A good attendance, but only moderate trade. English wheats averaged 4s 3d, with an occasional 1d more for seed qualities. Barleys met with a good demand, transactions ranging chiefly around 28s per qr; oats, 18s 6d to 19s 6d. Beans quietly steady. Maize 3d per qr dearer.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Moderate supply of wheat; trade firm at an advance of 1s per qr. Reds, 36s to 37s; whites to 38s per 504 lb. Moderate supply of barley, trade firm for all descriptions, prices unaltered. Foreign oats rather easier. Maize steady. Beans and peas firm

Leeds, Friday. — Both English and foreign wheats were still advancing, Tuesday's closing prices being exceeded by a further rise of 6d. Owing to the arrivals of flour being below the average, and the active demand, recent advances were fully maintained, with a rising tendency. Maize was dearer, best qualities of Plate, Russian, and American making 27s. English and foreign malting barley was firmer, with a good demand. Beans, peas, and lentils all hardened.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good attendance of buyers and dealers, with fair supplies of home-grown wheats, which came to hand in rather variable condition. Trade steady at extreme quotations. Red wheats, 36s to 39s; white wheats, 38s to 40s per 36 stones; barley in variable condition, and good samples firm; fine oats in good request at 19s to 22s per 24 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—A fair attendance and a good inquiry for English wheat, which realised an advance of 2s to 2s 6d on the week. Malting barley a quiet trade, and making full prices of last week. Oats 3d to 6d dearer. Beans unaltered.

Maidstone, Thursday.—The attendance at the market to-day was more encouraging than of late, as outdoor operations do not so much engross the attention of farmers. Wheat continues to step up in price, and 6d to 1s per qr from last week may be registered. The infection seems to spread to all other grain, the cost for which is decidedly more than recently tabulated.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat was about 1s 6d per qr higher. Foreign has also advanced 4½ to 5d per cental. Flour 1s to 2s per sack higher. Indian corn was very firm. Oats: Cheshire about 1½d per bushel dearer, and foreign also in sellers' favour. Beans and peas steady. Bran, &c., scarce, with a higher tendency.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A strong market for wheats here to-day at 1s to 2s advance on the week. Maize also dearer at fully 6d advance since last Saturday. Beans and peas steady at full prices with a fair demand. A good demand for oats, prices in sellers' favour. Barley remains steady at last week's prices.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Northampton, Saturday.—Improved attendance at Exchange. Wheat is still rising, and is about 1s 6d dearer on the week. Good trade was done with oats and beans, whilst barley was also in better demand. Prices: Wheat, 36s 6d to 37s; barley, 26s to 30s; white oats, 18s to 20s; black oats, 18s to 20s; beans, 28s to 30s; flour, 32s to 36s.

Norwich, Saturday.—The upward tendency in the wheat market continues. With a very small supply, farmers being unwilling sellers, wheat was 2s per qr dearer, prices being 37s to 38s per qr delivered. There was a small show of barley, and with a firm trade values remained about the same as last week, viz., 28s to 34s per qr. There was a further advance in prices in feeding stuffs upon last week. Maize was worth 29s 6d to 30s per qr; grinding barley, 26s; and oats, 19s to 21s per qr. Linseed and cotton cakes were very firm. There was a quiet demand.

Nottingham, Saturday. — Small supply of wheat to-day, good demand for everything. Wheat, 38s 6d to 39s 6d; oats, 20s to 21s; beans, 33s to 34s; barley, 27s to 32s.—Robt. Hubble

Peterborough, Saturday.—Not a large supply of wheat at market to-day, and made 1s to 2s more than last week. Oats keep quite at about late rates. Barley firm but quiet. Wheat, 36s 6d to 37s 6d. Barley, 27s to 32s. Oats, 19s to 20s. —Thomas Hill and Son.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a very good attendance at our market here to-day. Wheat 1s dearer. Maize and barley 9d to 1s dearer. Oats 6d dearer.—Orlando Davis and Co.

Preston, Saturday.—The upward movement in foreign wheat has continued during the week, and prices have increased 6 per cent. To-day's market was fairly well attended. Farmers are holding supplies back, evidently in anticipation of better prices. Quotations: —Wheat white, new, 15s 6d to 16s per windle of 220 lb.; red, ditto, 14s 6d to 15s; oats, old, per bushel, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; ditto new, 2s 11d to 3s; beans, per windle of 220 lb. 13s to 13s 9d.

Reading, Saturday.—There was a much improved attendance and better trade. Parcels were on offer or sold at the following prices:—Wheat, 34s to 39s; barley, 28s to 35s; oats, 18s to 22s; beans 30s to 35s; peas, 29s to 32s; rye, per 480 lb, 26s to 28s; flour, per 280 lb, 28s to 35s.

Retford, Saturday.—Attendance good, and the supply of grain largely increased. Wheat was again 1s dearer on the week, at 38s to 39s, some few samples for seed making 40s per qr. Capital demand for malting barley, and the best changed hands at 29s to 32s, and common 22s 6d per qr. All kinds of grain for feeding purposes were on the up grade. Grinding barley was worth 28s to 28s 6d. Maize was scarce, and was quoted at 28s, delivered here. Blackats, 18s to 19s; white ditto, 18s 6d to 19s 6d; old oats, 26s; new English beans, 30s; old, 36s per qr.

Ripon, Thursday. — A good attendance of farmers, with business more active. New wheat made rather more money. Malting barley shows a firmer tone. Prices:—New wheat, 35s to 37s; wheat, foreign, 40s to 42s; barley, grinding, 27s to 28s; barley, malting, 28s to 30s; new oats, 20s; old oats, 24s to 26s; maize, round, 28s; maize, flat, 28s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—With daily advances in prices of foreign wheats during the past week the market to-day is very strong, and from 1s to 2s dearer for wheats on the week. Beans, oats, and barley in sellers' favour, and about 6d per qr dearer. Maize of all descriptions very firm and unchanged prices from last Tuesday. Offals in good demand at late rates. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 37s to 37s 6d; ditto red, new, 37s to 37s 6d per 504 lb; oats, black, 24s to 25s; ditto white, 24s 6d to 25s; ditto new, 20s 6d to 21s per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 35s to 35s 6d; ditto blue, new, 65s to 75s per 504 lb; beans, English, 35s 6d to 37s 6d per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 27s to 27s 6d; ditto, malting, 28s to 32s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 27s 6d to 28s; ditto Plate, 28s to 28s 3d; ditto flat, 30s 6d to 31s per 480 lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Wheat, 15s to 16s per 225 lb; oldoats, 15s to 16s per 225 lb; new oats, 11s to 12s per 225 lb; barley, 16s to 19s per 280 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—A firm tone in the market, and an upward tendency in prices. Wheat advanced 1s to 1s 6d per qr on the week. Farmers asked 37s to 38s per qr for superior samples of wheat, other sorts, 30s to 32s 6d. Barley was also on the rise, and few of the best dealers were disposed to treat at the rates demanded. Best Barley, 32s 6d to 33s; secondary quality, 25s to 29s; grinding barley, 24s to 26s 6d; beans, 31s 6d to 32s; oats, 18s 6d to 20s; peas, maple, 70s and upwards per qr.

Warwick, Saturday.—There was a moderate attendance at this market, but very little business was transacted. Wheat, 13s 6d; oats, 22s. Feeding stuffs a shade dearer than last week. A very small supply of grain of all kinds on offer.

Winchester, Saturday.—English and foreign wheat about 2s higher on the week. Barley, 1s. Maize 9d dearer. Oats very scarce, but unaltered. Flour a steady trade at 1s advance.—Fear, Colebrook and Co., Ltd.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A small supply of grain at market. Wheat advanced fully 2s per qr. on the week. Reds, 38s to 38s 6d per 504 lb. Oats dearer, 19s 6d to 20s 3d per 336 lb. Barley in demand, from 27s 6d to 30s per 448 lb.—James Fletcher.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a good attendance, and a fair amount of business was transacted. Quotations: English wheat, new, 15s per 216 lb; old, 16s per 216 lb; English oats, old, 15s per 196 lb; new, 12s per 196 lb; English beans, 14s per 196 lb; flat corn, 12s per 196 lb; round corn, 11s 9d per 196 lb; barley, 27s 6d to 32s per 448 lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Large attendance. Small show of wheat, which made about 6d per qr more money. White wheat (new), 35s 6d to 36s 6d; red ditto, 34s 6d to 35s 6d; best malting barley, 28s to 30s; secondary barley, 27s to 28s; grinding barley, 26s 6d to 27s 6d; old white oats, 24s 6d to 26s 6d; new ditto, 18s 6d to 20s 6d; old black oats, 23s 6d to 25s; new ditto, 17s 6d to 19s 6d; maize, 28s to 29s; English beans, 37s to 39s per qr.

Yeovil, Friday.—Farmers disp'ayed inclination to rush their new season's crop on the market. Trade was firm all round. English wheat advanced from 1s 6d to 2s per qr upon last week's prices, and foreign from 1s to 2s, whilst Canadian and Indian was up to 2s 6d. Barley (grinding) and maize were up 1s, and oats 6d. Best new wheat sold at from 35s to 37s per qr; secondary, 31s to 33s; malting barley, 27s to 32s; grinding, 24s to 26s; do. (imported), 26s 3d; winter barley, 26s to 28s; old oats, 20s to 24s; winter oats, 18s to 19s; Irish white, 22s to 22s 6d; Irish black, 20s to 21s; maize, 27s to 28s; rye, 26s to 29s; beans, 32s 6d to 36s; vetches, 6s to 7s per bushel. A firm trade in flour at 1s 6d per sack advance on last week, fine now selling at from 31s to 32s per sack. Offal and meal brisk, with advancing prices.

York, Saturday.—The wheat trade was somewhat excited, owing to the prospects of a scarcity, and prices ruled 1s per qr higher on the week. Fine white made 37s to 38s per qr of 36 stones. Good samples of malting barley are quite as dear, but inferior sorts sell at irregular prices; fine makes 29s to30s, good 28s to 29s, feeding 27s to2 8s perqr of 32 stones. Oats firm at 6d per qr advance, 1ss to 20s per qr of 24 stones; rye, 27s; old beans 34s per qr of 36 stones.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cake: With decreasing stocks of foreign and continued light shipments, values of all descriptions are inclined to harden, in spite of a very poor demand. Russians remain scarce and dear at £7 7s. 6d. to £7 8s. 9d. in mats, and £7 10s. to £7 12s 6d. in bags. East India seed pures have been sold at £7 7s. 6d. to £7 10s. ex ship. Fine seedy Calcuttas £7 10s. to £7 12s. 6d. London-made meet a dragging trade, although temptingly offered at £7 12s. 6d. to £7 15s. Cotton Cakes.—A fair business is passing, especially in Egyptian, which are relatively cheaply quoted at £4 17s. 6d. to £4 18s. 9d. English remain quiet at £5 to £5 2s. 6d. Decorticated.—London-made pures find a ready sale £7 10s. cake and meal, and £5 5s. for special digestive meal, while American brands are quiet at £7 2s. 6d. to £7 5s. Rape cakes steady. East India, £5 5s. Ravison none. Maize germ meal.—White American does not offer, but English makes are obtainable in limited quantity at £6 12s. 6d. to £6 15s. Maize gluten meal is in good request at £6 15s. Rice meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon have all been cleared, but some second-hand parcels for shipment have changed hands at £5 5s. ex ship terms. Locust beans are without change £5 10s. for whole and £5 15s. for kibbled. Dried brewers' grains make rather more money at £5 10s. for ale, and £5 5s. for porter. Nitrate of soda is unaltered at £11 2s. 6d. ex quay.

Russian, in mats (ex dock) ...	7	7	6	to	7	8	9
,, in bags ...	7	10	0	to	7	12	6
East India ...	7	7	6	to	7	10	0
Calcutta ...	7	10	0	to	7	12	6
London Made ...	7	12	6	to	7	15	0
Cottonseed Cakes.							
Egyptian ...	4	17	6	to	4	18	9
English (ex mill) ...	5	0	0	to	5	2	6
Bombay ...	4	5	0				
Decorticated, London made	7	10	0				
,, American ...	7	2	6	to	7	5	0
,, Meal, American	7	2	6	to	7	5	0
,, Meal, English ...	7	10	0				
Special Digestive Meal ...	5	0	0				
Rape Cakes.							
East India ...	5	5	0			—	
Ravison ...		—				—	
Maize.							
American ...		—					
English ...	6	12	6	to	6	15	0
Maize Gluten Meal ...	6	15	0				
Ricemeal.							
Rangoon ... ex ship	5	5	0			—	
,, ... ex whf.		—					
Locust Beans.							
Whole ...	5	10	0				
Kibbled ...	5	15	0				
Dried Brewers' Grains.							
Ale ...	5	10	0				
Mixed ...	5	5	0				
Manures.							
Nitrate of soda ...	11	2	6				

—Pinnock Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda is with out change, demand quiet. For fertilisers for autumn application there are inquiries and values are firm. The colder weather is inducing more inquiry for feeding stuffs, but there is only a small trade doing with needy buyers, yet values all round are well upheld and point to further improvements as not unlikely. Feeding treacle is cheap and in fairly active demand.

	Per ton. £	s	d	£	s	d
Cottonseed Cake, English semi-dried, prime ...	—			—		
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (good but hard) ...	7	7	6	7	12	6
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime (soft) ...	7	17	6	8	2	6
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime ...	4	15	0	5	0	0
Cottonseed Cake, undecorticated Egyptian ...	—			—		
Cottonseed, crushed, 20 per cent. oil guaranteed, scarce	8	15	0	—		
Linseed Cake, American, thin oblong, prime but hard ...	7	15	0	7	17	6
,, ,, English, prime...	8	0	0	8	5	0
,, ,, River Plate ...	8	0	0	8	2	6
Palm Nut Cake ...	6	5	0	—		
Corn Oil Cake ...	—			—		
Maize Germ Meal ...	—			—		
Indian Meal, coarse to fine grinding ...	Per 240 lb. —			—		
Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported ...	Per ton. —			—		
Linseed, fine bold feeding ...	Per qr., 416 lb. —			—		
Cod-liver Oil, cattle feeding ...	Per Gallon. 0	4	0	—		
Treacle, feeding, American ...	Per Cwt. 0	4	9	—		
Nitrate of Soda ...	Per ton. 11	5	0	11	7	6
Kainit, prime ...	2	7	6	—		
Bone Meal, prime ...	5	10	0	—		
Bone Ash, fine and powdery ...	3	15	0	—		
Basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed	1	14	0	1	15	0
,, ,,	2	2	0	2	3	0
,, finest ,,	2	6	0	2	7	6
D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime* ...	2	5	0	2	7	0
,, ,, guaranteed*	2	10	0	2	12	0
,, ,, ,, *	3	1	3	3	3	3

* At depot inland.

—H. Jones Langar and Co.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £13 15s to £14 5s; half-bred hoggs, £13 to £13 10s; ditto wethers, £12 10s to £13; Kent fleeces, £12 5s to £12 10s; South Down ewes and wethers, £13 10s to £14; Leicester ewes and wethers, £12 to £12 10s. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., scoured super., 2s 3d to 2s 4d; scoured, good, 2s to 2s 2d; scoured, average, 1s 10½d to 1s 11½d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 2½d to 1s 3½d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 10½d to 1s 11½d; greasy, average, 1s 1d. to 1s 2d; S. Aus., greasy, average, 11d to 1s; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 11d to 2s; greasy, average, 1s to 1s 1d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 10d to 1s 11d; fleece, average, 9½d to 10½d; greasy, average, 8½d to 9½d; Natal, scoured, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; greasy average, 8½d to 9d. Crossbreds — grs.—Vic., good to super., 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d; New Zealand fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s to 1s 1d; coarse, 10d to 11d.

Canterbury, Saturday. — Farmers are still holding out for 1s per lb for Kent fleeces, and as staplers decline to give this, the deadlock continues.

Halifax, Saturday.—There is a quieter tone about the market as consumers of raw materials are indisposed to follow the recent rise in London. For English and Irish wools business is very slow —hand to mouth—and there is no change in values to record. Merino tops are quoted at the recent full advance, which checks demand.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Fair supplies, moderate demand. Geese, 5s 6d to 7s; country ducks, 2s 6d to 3s 3d; wild ducks, 1s 4d to 1s 6d; Surrey fowls, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; Sussex fowls, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 3s; Essex fowls, 1s 8d to 2s 3d; Irish fowls, 1s 6d to 2s; quails, 8d to 1s; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s 1d; feathered pigeons, 8d to 9d; English hares, 2s 3d to 3s 9d; Scottish hares, 1s 4d to 1s 6d; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 6d; wild rabbits, 6d to 9d; live hens, 1s 6d to 1s 9d each; Australian rabbits, 5s to 6s 9d per dozen; pheasants, 7s to 8s; young grouse, 6s 6d to 7s 6d; old, 3s; young partridges, 3s 6d to 4s; old, 1s 9d to 2s; black game, 3s to 3s 6d per brace.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 P.M.

Prices to-day reached a higher position from a week ago. All sorts of wheat made fully 1s. more money, and 2s. advance was demanded in many cases. Barley was in improved supply, and some good English was offered at 37s. per qr. There was also a good supply of bold poultry barley. The "cheaper" foreign sorts are no longer cheap, but fancy prices have to be given in order to fulfil contracts.

For oats, values were 6d to 1s dearer in the case of English, but foreign types were hard to sell at 3d advance; they are, in fact, too dear. Maize was 1s up on the week, and nothing as a rule was parted with under 28s per qr. Beans were fully 6d, peas fully 1s dearer. For prompt delivery peas were very dear, as the supply on spot is unequal to the immediate demand. Dari, millet, sorgum, and rye were 1s up on the week.

BRITISH GRAIN *Off Stands*).

October 14.

WHEAT, New White.....(per 504 lb.)	36	— 38
Old ,, ... ,,	38	— 39
New Red..... ,,	34	— 37
Old ,, ... ,,	37	— 38
BARLEY, Malting .....(per 448 lb.)	35	— 37
Brewing ..... ,,	32	— 34
Distilling .....(per 416 lb.)	29	— 30
New Winter .. (per 400 lb.)	26	— 27
Feeding.....(per 400 lb.)	25	— 26
MALT, Pale .....(per 336 lb.)	34	— 36
Brown ..... ,,	27	— 29
Black ..... ,,	29	— 30
OATS, Good Old ..... ,,	21	— 23
Good New..... ,,	20	— 21
New Winter ..... ,,	19	— 20
Ordinary Old ...(per 320 lb.)	21	— 22
Ordinary New ...(per 320 lb.)	19	— 20
,, ,, ...(per 312 lb.)	18	— 19
RYE, New .....(per 480 lb.)	29	— 30
BEANS, Pigeon .....(per 532 lb.)	42	— 44
Tick .....(per 504 lb.)	34	— 35
Winter ..... ,,	33	— 34
Spring ..... ,,	32	— 33
Split Mazagan .....(per 320 lb.)	22	— 23
PEAS, Picked Marrowfat, New (per 504 lb.)	84	— 88
Unpicked (Old) ..... ,,	52	— 56
Maple (Old)..... ,,	36	— 37
(New) ..... ,,	35	— 36
Dun (Old)..... ,,	32	— 34
(New) ..... ,,	33	— 34
BUCKWHEAT ..... (per 416 lb)	34	— 36

FOREIGN GRAIN *(Ex-Granary)*.

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba	44	— 45	American ...	27/6	— 28
Red Winter ...	42	— 43	Argentine ...	27/6	— 28
Best Spring ...	44	— 45	Roumanian ...	27/6	— 28
Durum	38	— 40	Russian	27/6	— 28
Argentine	42	— 44	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Australian ...	42	— 43	Smyrna	34	— 35
Californian ...	42	— 43	New Zealand...	32	— 33
Walla Walla	41	— 42	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Azima	43	— 45	Hungarian	62	— 64
Ghirka	41	— 43	Burmese	37	— 39
Roumanian ...	42	— 43	Chilian	56	— 64
Indian White	42	— 43	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb):		
,, Red ...	41	— 42	French	31	— 33
Turkish	40	— 41	Russian	32	— 34
Persian	40	— 41	Canadian	34	— 36
BARLEY:			PEAS (504 lb.):		
C'lifor'n (448 lb)	34	— 35	Dutch Crowns	55	— 57
Tunisian (448 lb)	31	— 32	Konigsberg ...	44	— 46
Algerian (448 lb)	30	— 31	Russian White	35	— 36
Ouchak (448 lb)	29	— 33	Indian White.	35	— 36
Smyrna (448 lb)	27	— 31	Canadian White	35	— 36
Russian (400 lb)	25	— 26	New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 40
Indian (400 lb)...	24	— 25	Victoria Dun.	32	— 33
Persian (400 lb)	24	— 25	MILLET (416 lb.):		
MALT (336 lb.):			White	42	— 44
Californian ...	35	— 36	Yellow	22	— 24
Smyrna	34	— 36	Sorghum	20	— 21
Ouchak	35	— 37	RICE (cwt.):		
RYE (480 lb.):			Java	16	— 22
Russian	29	— 31	Indian	17	— 20
OATS:			Japanese	16	— 17
Konigsbg (320 lb)	21	— 22	Burmese.....	9	— 10
Russian (304 lb)	19	— 20	Siamese	8	— 9
Canadian (320 lb)	20	— 21	DARI (480 lb.):		
Arg'tine (304 lb)	21	— 22	Smyrna	28	— 29
Swedish (320 lb)	21	— 22	Indian	24	— 25
New Z'l'n'd (384 lb)	25	— 26	Persian	23	— 24

Seven Years' Tithe Rent Charges.

For 1907	£68	19	6
,, 1906	68	12	1
,, 1905	69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
1901	66	10	9

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 P.M.

The rise of 1s in the price is accompanied by an equal advance in town whites, in town households, in whole meal, in country flour, and in American flour. There is no advance in Hungarian, but a small trade passes at 37s net. Australian sorts are scarse; Argentine are not obtainable; Belgian and French are selling fairly well, at prices quoted.

All sorts of middlings, milling offals, and meal may be quoted about 6d per sack dearer on the week. For fine Midlothian oatmeal 40s 6d per sack is paid, but Irish is obtainable at 28s per 240 lb sack—40 lb less to the sack than the good Scotch. Indian corn meal at 14s 6d per 240 lb sack is in request.

London Flour.

October 14.

Top Price.....(per sack of 280 lb.)	37/0	
Town Whites ..... ,,	35/0	
,, Households ..... ,,	32/0	
No. 2..... ,,	30/0	
Whole Meal No. 1..... ,,	32/0	
,, No. 2..... ,,	30/0	

Country Flour.

	s.	s.
Fine Patents .....(per sack of 280 lb.)	29	— 31
Roller Whites ..... ,,	28	— 29
All English ..... ,,	28	— 29
Stone made ..... ,,	26	— 27

Foreign Flour.

	s.	s.
Best Hungarian .....(per sack of 280 lb.)	37 net.	
Minnesota First Patents ..... ,,	32	— 33
,, Second Patents ..... ,,	30	— 31
,, First Bakers' ..... ,,	27	— 28
,, Second Bakers' ..... ,,	26	— 27
Milwaukee Patents ..... ,,	31	— 32
,, Bakers'..... ,,	28	— 29
Canadian Best..... ,,	31	— 32
,, Ordinary ..... ,,	29	— 30
Manitoba Patents ..... ,,	31	— 32
,, Ordinary ..... ,,	29	— 30
Kansas Patents ..... ,,	29	— 30
,, Ordinary..... ,,	27	— 28
Californian ..... ,,	32	— 33
Belgian ..... ,,	33	— 35
French, Corbeil ..... ,,	29	— 30
,, Renaux..... ,,	28	— 29
,, P.S.D. ..... ,,	27	— 28

Meal, &c.

Bran, London Broad (per sack of 280 lb.)	16	— 17
,, Country Flake Choice ... ,,	17	— 18
,, ,, Broad ..... ,,	16	— 17
Pollard ..... ,,	15	— 16
Biscuit Middlings ..... ,,	19	— 20
Fine Middlings ..... ,,	18	— 19
Coarse Middlings ..... ,,	17	— 18
Wheat Germ Meal..... ,,	19	— 20
Farina Firsts ..... ,,	30	— 31
,, Seconds ..... ,,	28	— 29
Barley Meal..... ,,	27	— 28
Canadian Oatmeal..... ,,	27	— 28
Scotch Oatmeal ..... ,,	32	— 33
Groats ..... ,,	33	— 34
Oat Flour..... ,,	34	— 35
Ground Oats ..... ,,	33	— 34
Poultry Meal ..... ,,	35	— 37
American Feeding Wheat Flour ,,	20	— 21
Maize Flour "Cornflour" ..... ,,	19	— 20
,, Germ Meal ..... ,,	16	— 17
,, Cones ..... ,,	19	— 20
,, Gluten Meal ..... ,,	16	— 17
Rye Flour ..... ,,	26	— 28
Rye Bran..... ,,	23	— 24
Pea Meal..... ,,	25	— 26

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

PRICES WERE ADVANCED IN MANY CASES 1s. ABOVE THE PRICES PREVAILING UP TO 1.30 p.m., BUT THIS WAS REGARDED AS TAKING VALUES TO THE TOP OF THE MARKET. FOREIGN AS WELL AS BRITISH SUPPLIES ARE POURING IN AT THE ENHANCED RATES, AND BUYERS EXPECT THEIR INNINGS BEFORE OCTOBER IS OUT.

THE BALTIC.

Monday, 1 P.M.

State of Trade.

There is a rather general feeling that advance in wheat and maize has culminated. If, however, the Australian drought continues, the situation may be again strengthened for wheat. Barley and oat cargoes are now held above buyers' ideas. Linseed is 6d. dearer to-day for all futures, and cotton-seed cargoes have regained 1s. 3d. off their 10s. pes ton decline of last week!

Business Done.

Wheat.—Argentine, 40s per 480 lb, January shipment of new crop; Australian, 44s 6d per 480 lb, January shipment of new crop; Manitoba, 44s 3d per 480 lb, November shipment of new crop; Californian, 43s per 500 lb, November shipment of new crop.

Maize.—Argentine, 28s per 480 lb, November shipment of 1907 crop; American, 26s 9d per 480 lb, January shipment of 1907 crop; Odessa, 29s per 480 lb, November shipment of 1906 crop; Odessa, 27s per 480 lb, January shipment of 1907 crop.

Barley.—Persian, 24s 3d per 400 lb, November shipment of 1907 crop.

Oats.—Koingsbury, 20s 6d per 320 lb, November shipment of 1907.

Linseed.—Petersburg, 45s per 416 lb., November shipment of 1907 crop; Argentine, 46s 3d per 416 lb, arrived cargo.

Rapseed.—Ferozepore, 57s 6d per 416 lb, on passage.

Sesame.—Indian, 70s per 384 lb, on passage; Indian, 63s per 384 lb, December shipment; Indian, 62s per 384 lb, January shipment.

Cottonseed, Egyptian, £7 6s 3d per 2,240 lb., due.

TERM MARKET.

The market in futures has been very animated, and considerable quantities of wheat and maize have changed hands. The prices which are ruling this day (Monday) are about as follows:—

American Red Winter wheat	8s. 8d. Dec.	delivery.
,, ,, ,,	8s. 9d. Mar.	,,
,, ,, ,,	8s. 8d. May	,,
American Mixed Maize	5s. 11d. Nov.	,,
,, ,, ,,	5s. 9d. Jan.	,,
,, ,, ,,	5s. 7d. Mar.	,,
Argentine yellow ,,	5s. 7d. Nov.	,,
Odessa round ,,	5s. 9d.	,,
African white ,,	6s. 0d.	,,
Cinquantine small ,,	6s. 0d.	,,

All these prices are per cent. (100 lb.) and allrelate to transactions of not less than 5,000 cental tals (say 1,000 qr.). Small deals are not received at the Term Market but aae done at the Baltic if of fair dimensions, and if really small at Mark Lane.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—Demand steady, and prices fully 1s per sack higher. Quotations for forward delivery range from 1s to 1s 6d per sack advance upon those of last week.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Offals.—Demand for bran not quite so active; no change to report in prices.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Flour.—Prices have further advanced 1s. per sack on the week. Grain.—There has been a better demand for round and flat corn, with steadily advancing prices. Oats run after at 3d. to 6d. per boll advance. Grinding beans are dearer. Pease very scarce, and dearer. Oatmeal in sellers' favour. Oilcake more asked for. Mill Stuffs.—in brisk request. winter wheat patents, 31s to 31s 6d per 280 lb; spring wheat patents, 32s to 34s per 280 lb; American corn, 16s 9d to 17s per 280 lb; round corn, 16s 3d to 16s 6d per 280 lb; grinding beans, 18s 9d to 19s per 280 lb; white pease, 21s 6d to 22s per 280 lb; broad bran, 115s per ton; medium bran, 107s 6d per ton; fine thirds, 135s per ton; common thirds, 115s per ton; American oilcake, 147s 6d to 150s per ton.—McKinnon and McDonald (Glasgow).

Flour.—Trade to-day has been very firm, with a fair demand for flour in all positions. Prices are somewhat irregular at an advance of about 1s 6d to 2s on the week.—T. S. Medill and Sons, Ltd.

Milling offals.—Everything remains very scarce, and prices are again 2s 6d to 5s per ton dearer, with a good demand—John Bawcomb and Co.

Arrivals of wheat are moderate. Trade continues to be active, and prices are 1s 6d to 2s higher than last Honday. Flour is 1s per sack higher. Maize is 1s and barley 6d to 1s per qr dearer. Oats in moderate demand at full prices. —Coventry, Sheppard, and Co.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were:—From Ireland, 3,100 bales, and from foreign ports, 12,520 bales. There was a firm market for bacon throughout the week. Quotations ranged:—Irish, 57s to 60s up to 62s; Danish 55s to 60s up to 62s; Canadian, 54s to 56s up to 59s. Butter: There was a good demand for all butters with the exception of of Danish, which was quiet. French, 104s to 116s; Danish, 118s to 120s; Russian, 88s to 100s; Irish, 90s to 118s; Victorian, 94s to 116s; New South Wales, 98s to 114s; Qucensland, 94s to 112s; New Zealand, 104s to 116s. Lard.—The lard market was steady, American in strong demand. Irish, 50s to 58s; Danish, 48s to 50s; American, 47s to 48s 9d.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Fair supply; trade quiet. Quotations:—Hay, £3 5s to £4 per ton; straw, on quotations.

Derby, Friday.—Best old clover, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; hay, best old, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; seconds, 65s to 70s; straw—wheat, 60s to 70s; pressed, 50s to 60s; chop, 55s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s.

Hereford, Wednesday. — Very dull trade, without quotable change in last week's values—viz., straw 20s to 25s per ton in bulk, hay 50s to 60s per ton in stack.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Meadow hay, 6d; clover ditto, 6½d to 7d; wheat straw, 4d; oat straw, 4d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—A good show of hay and straw and an average trade. Best hay, 55s to 60s; inferior ditto, 45s to 55s; best clover, 55s to 60s; secondary ditto, 45s to 50s; straw, 30s per ton on the ground.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, new, 4d to 5d; clover, new, 5½d to 6½d; straw, wheat, 3½d; oat, 3d per stone.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Lighter supplies were in fair request at recent levels. Best clover, 84s to 95s; inferior ditto, 72s to 80s; specially picked hay, 85s; good ditto, 68s to 78s; inferior ditto, 55s to 63s; mixture and sainfoin, 70s to 82s 6d; straw, 28s to 33s per load.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Good supplies received steady support. Epicures, 65s; British Queens, 70s to 80s; Blacklands, 65s to 70s; Up-to-Dates, 80s; Sharp's Express, 80s per ton; French, 3s 3d Dutch, 3s to 3s 3d per bag.

Manchester, Saturday.—Potatoes: Yorkshire, 10s; Cheshire, 6s to 7s; Lincoln, 9s to 10s per 18st; Bedford, 4s to 5s per cwt.

Preston, Saturday.—Potatoes: 8s to 9s per load of 240 lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Market well supplied. Best lots home-grown made 7s to 8s per load, and secondary qualities 5s 6d to 6s per load.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Good supplies were in quiet request. Epicures, 65s; Blacklands, 70s; British Queens, 70s to 80s; Sharp's Express, 80s per ton; French, 3s 3d; Dutch, 3s 3d per bag.

Worksop, Wednesday. — Plentiful supply, with trade slow, but samples making 7s 6d to 8s per load of 18 stones.

York, Saturday.—Owing to the commencement of "pieing," prices were a little higher, ranging from 69s to 67s 6d per ton.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Altrincham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Appleby: 11d to 1s 1d. Barnstaple: 1s to 1s 2d. Berwick: 1s. Birmingham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Camelford: 1s, Carlisle: 1s 2d. Chester: 1s 2d.. Dartmouth: 1s to 1s 3d. Derby: 1s to 1s 3d. Devizes: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Doncaster: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Dorchester: 1s to 1s 4d. Evesham: 1s 3d to 1s 4½d. Hereford: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Ipswich: 1s 2½ to 1s 3d. Kidderminster: 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s 2d to 1s 3½d. Lincoln: 1s to 1s 2d. Market Drayton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d Otley: 1s 7d per 24 oz roll. Penrith: 11½d to 1s 2d. Penzance: 10d to 1s 2d. Preston: 1s 3d. Retford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Ripon: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Shrewsbury: 1s 1d to 1s 2½. Spalding: 1s. Stockport: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Stockton: 1s to 1s 2d. Totnes: 1s 1d to 1s 2½. Truro: 11d to 1s. Worcester: 11d to 1s 3d. Worksop: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Altrincham: 6. Appleby: 7 and 8. Barnstaple: 8. Berwick: 1s 4d to 1s 5d doz. Birmingham: 7 and 8. Camelford: 10. Carlisle: 7 and 8. Chester: 8. Dartmouth: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per doz. Derby: 7 and 8. Devizes: 9 and 10. Doncaster: 10 and 11. Dorchester: 1s 4d to 1s 6½d per doz. Evesham: 1s 4d to 1s 4½d per doz. Hereford: 9 to 11. Ipswich: 9 and 10. Kidderminster: 10 and 11. Lancaster: 6 and 7. Lincoln: 10 and 11. Market Drayton: 8 and 9. Otley: 10 and 11. Penrith: 8 and 9. Penzance: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per doz. Preston: 7. Retford: 2s 3d to 2s 4d per score. Ripon: 8 and 9. Scarborough: 9. Shrewsbury: 8 and 9. Spalding: 10. Stockport: 6 and 7. Stockton: 7 and 8. Totnes: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per doz. Truro: 1s to 1s 1d per dozen. Worcester: 8. Worksop: 2s 4d to 2s 6d per score.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—The Mid and East Kent growths are now being opened, and the fine lots taken freely at current rates, whilst the medium also find buyers at relative values. Choice Weald of Kent Fuggles are in good demand and command full rates, brown samples are taken at comparative values.—W. H. and H. Le May.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Oct. 14, 1907. British.	Total.	Monday, Oct. 15, 1906.
Beasts	1,050	1,050	960
Sheep and Lambs	4,210	4,210	4,530
Calves	20	20	10
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	50	50	40

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 4	3 6	4 8
Sheep	4 8	5 6	6 0
Lambs	—	6 0	6 8
Calves	3 10	4 10	5 4
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £23 10s.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 10; Eastern Counties, 60; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 861; Devon, 30; Ireland, 89.

We note to-day a decrease of 20 head in the number of beasts offered for sale compared with Monday last. The supply included a few Scotch and Devons, the former of which commanded our top quotations. For both prime and second quality fat beasts trade ruled of a brisker nature, with an upward tendency in regard to value, but hardly sufficient to warrant our quoting any higher rates, except in the case of Lincoln Shorthorns. The Irish arrivals consisted of 57 Dublins and 32 Waterfords. These shared in the better trade experienced; however, no advance on late values is noticeable. Fat cows and bulls met with a very limited demand, sellers being obliged to accept a decline on late rates to effect sales. There is every prospect of a clearance being effected in this part of the market.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s d	s d	Monday, Oct. 15, 1906. s d	s d
Scotch	4 6 to 4 8	...	—	—
Devons	4 4 to 4 6	...	—	—
Herefords	4 4 to 4 6	...	4 4 to 4 6	
Norfolks	—	—	—	—
Runts	4 2 to 4 4	...	4 4 to 4 6	
Lincolns	4 0 to 4 2	...	3 8 to 3 10	
Irish	4 2 to 4 4	...	3 8 to 3 10	
Canadian	—	—	—	—
Fat cows	3 4 ex 3 6	...	3 2 ex 3 6	

There was a decrease of 530 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. For both wethers and ewes a slow but steady trade was experienced, late values being easily maintained. Irish descriptions were in smaller supply, and met with more inquiry, consequently sellers were able both to ask and obtain an advance of 2d per 8 lb. Scotch sheep were in average supply, all sales of which were governed by late currencies. A few choice small lambs were offered for sale and cleared early at late rates. The supply included 200 Scotch, 950 Irish, and 243 from the Eastern Counties. A clearance is not expected to be made in this part of the market.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, Oct. 15, 1906. s. d.	s. d.
8 st Scotch	5 10 to 6	0	6	0 to 6 2
7½ to 8 st Downs	5 10 to 6	0	6	0 to 6 2
9 st. Downs	5 8 to 5	10	5	10 to 6 0
10 st Halfbreds	5 4 to 5	6	5	8 to 5 10
10 st Yorkshires	—		—	
12st Lincolns	—		—	
10 st Irish	5 6 to 5	8	5	2 to 5 4
10 st Down Ewes	4 0 to 4	2	4	4 to 4 6
11 st Halfbred ditto	3 10 to 4	0	—	
5 st Down Lambs	6 6 to 6	8	—	
6 st Halfbred ditto	—		—	

The calf trade ruled of a slow, but steady nature, the best on offer being quoted at from 5s to 5s 4d per 8 lb. (offal given in).

No pigs on the market.

London (Central), Monday.—Trade quiet, offerings liberal. Beef, English, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; Scotch, 4s 2d to 4s 10d; American, 3s 4d to 3s 9d; refrigerated hindquarters, 4s 2d to 4s 10d. Mutton, English wethers, 4s to 4s 6d; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d. Lambs, 4s 4d to 5s; Scotch tegs and wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 6d. Veal, 3s 4d to 4s 4d. Pork, 3s 8d to 4s 4d per stone.

St. Ives (Hunts) Monday.—Fat cattle fair, a good trade; good demand. Fat and store sheep and pigs a good trade; milch cows in good demand. Prices: Beef, 7s to 7s 6d; mutton, 8s 2d to 10s 6d; lamb, 9d to 10d; pork, 6s 3d to 7s; milch cows, £14 to £22. Beasts, 906; sheep and lambs, 1,185; pigs, 573.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 352 To-day's supply, compared with Monday last showed a decrease of 498 head, and consisted of 158 from the United States and 194 from Canada, these latter consisting entirely of ranch cattle. Trade ruled of a slow nature partly due to the fact that the consignments from the former country were of very inferior quality. Besides the above 700 Canadians were withheld from sale. The best States on offer were quoted at from 4s 1d to 4s 3d; seconds, 3s 10d to 4s; Canadian Ranchers, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per per 8 lb(offal given in). On Saturday 1,468 beasts from the United States and 200 from Canada were offered for sale, and met with a firm and steady trade, notwithstanding the fact that the States consignment were only middling quality cattle. The best States on offer were quoted at from 4s 3s to 4s 5d; seconds, 4s 1d to 4s 3d; Canadians, 4s to 4s 2d; seconds, 3s 10d to 4s per 8 lb (offal given in).

Liverpool, Monday.—The supply of cattle was larger, demand good, and prices for best qualities rather better; other sorts unchanged. Larger sheep supply, and for finished quality trade started better at a shade more money, though demand was not sustained. Last week's prices, however, governed most transactions; rough classes no better. Quotations:—Beef, 6½d to 4½d per lb; mutton, 9d to 6½d per lb. At market 1,414 cattle and 8,492 sheep.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cake.—The demand is poor, but no indication of any weakening in prices for either foreign or London made. Cotton Cake.—There is rather more enquiry, Egyptian and home made keep firm at last quotations. Decorticated Cotton Cake and Meal.—Demand for spot rules quiet, and very little business passing for forward delivery owing to prohibitive prices asked. Linseed.—A strong inquiry market, 1s. 6d. per qr. advance.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
Linseed Cakes.		
English Linseed Cake, ex mill	7 15 0 to	7 17 6
Calcutta Linseed cake ex quay	7 12 6	—
Russian Oil Cake ex quay	7 8 9 to	7 12 6
Decorticated Cotton Cake ex quay	7 7 6 to	7 10 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal ex quay	7 0 0	—
London-made ,, Cake (best) ex mill...	5 0 0 to	5 2 6
Egyptian ,, Cake (in bags) ex quay	4 18 9 to	5 0 0
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included) on rail, Burton	5 7 6	—
Duluth Linseed (in bags), per 416 lb ex warehouse	2 7 0	—
Calcutta Linseed (in bags), per 410 lb ex warehouse	2 7 6	—
La Plata Linseed per 416 lb. ex warehouse	2 7 0 to	2 12 0
Russian Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb ex warehouse	2 8 0	—

—Robt. & John Hewetson.

SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—There is still a sowing demand. Trifolium appears well cleared up. Rape firm. Mustard unchanged. Rye in good demand at the high prices ruling. Winter tares selling in buyer's favour. Seed wheats in active demand at rising prices. Peas good inquiry, but backward supply. English trefoil, Alsike, white and red clover all very firm, with good business passing In grasses a brisk trade in both Perennials and Italians, prices strong.—John Picard and Co.

WET AND DRIED GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Wet Grains: Business has been done during the week at prices between 16s 6d and 18s 6d ale, and 3s less for porter per ton on rail, London. Dried Grains.—Prices at home continue steady, lacking any upward tendency owing to slackness of Continental demand, 100s ale and 95s mixed are being paid ex factory, in buyers' bags. At these prices same compare favourably with millers' offals. American cane treacle, 90s per ton; and kiln-dried seadamaged wheat from 21s per qr.—Hamlyn and Co., 37 and 38, Mark Lane.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington Cattle Market during the week, with a rather larger supply, mostly consisting of consignments from the Midland and Home counties, trade ruled of a slow nature; however, transactions were in favour of the seller for all descriptions of English fat cattle, in some cases an advance of 2d. per 8 lb. being both asked and obtained. The Irish arrivals consisted of 31 Dublins and 30 Waterfords (no stores being included in this week's consignments); these also ruled slightly firmer in regard to value. On both market days fat butchering cows and bulls were slow of sale, late rates governing all transactions of the former whilst the latter showed a slight decline.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, markets were held on Monday and Saturday, and with a fair average supply, trade ruled of a firm and steady nature, notwithstanding the fact that Saturday's consignment from the United States consisted only of middling quality cattle. The total number on offer at both markets was 3,658, as against 3,483 during the preceding week, consisting of 1,140 British (increase 110) and 2,518 foreign (decrease 65), these latter comprising 2,170 from the United States and 348 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 stone Devons, [4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 4d. ex 4s. 6d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. 2d. ex 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 95 stone Irish, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 90 stone States, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 95 stone Canadian, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d to 3s. 6d.

The sheep trade, as usual of late, was confined to the Islington market, and opened on Monday of a slow nature, but firm in regard to value, both for wethers and ewes. Scotch descriptions numbered precisely the same as on the previous week, all sales of which were governed by late currencies. Irish sheep were in larger numbers, and experienced a slightly better trade, rates favouring the seller to the extent of 2d. per 8 lb. No lambs were included in this week's consignments, the season for which is now over. On Thursday all sales were governed by late currencies. The total number penned was 4,950, as against 5,750 during the previous week (this showing a decrease of 800). Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 4d. ex 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone halfbreds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. to 4s. 2d.

Calves numbered forty five, and met with a slow but steady trade at an advance in value. The best on offer were quoted at from 5s. to 5s. 4d. per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

Trade in the West.

The rain which has come so opportunely has already had a beneficial effect in stimulating business in all kinds of store stock, which flagged somewhat for a time as regards cattle whilst the drought was at its height. Now that this is once more at an end and stockowners are assured of a good bite of grass until the frost sets in, a more speculative spirit pervades business, and dealers show much greater disposition to buy at enhanced values than they were inclined to do whilst the keep prospects seemed involved in so much uncertainty. The most striking rise that has taken place since our last report has been in the price of dairy stock, both heifers and cows with calves, as well as in-calvers of early season, which have jumped up from £1 to nearly £3 per head in about a week, this being due very largely to the demand there is just at present for milchers of a useful class for town dairies, where many are wanted to fill the places of those already weeded out or in course of being so before the winter season sets in. Although milchers have been selling very well all along, the prices hitherto ruling fall considerably below those now being realised either for heifers or for cows, the former being readily bought up at from £17 or £18 apiece up to £23, and the latter from £15 to £18, whilst heifers coming into early profit make £9 10s. up to £14 or £15 according to season.

Store sheep continue to realise very high prices—Dorset Horns especially, as another paragraph details—and whilst the supplies keep as short as they have been at all the principal fairs and markets during the past week, there seems very little likelihood of any decline in values, and, despite the fact of many of those now being drafted out consisting mainly of "culls," they command almost if not quite as much money as the bettermost drafts sold earlier in the season. Good flock ewes, as now selling, may be quoted from 52s. to 62s. for Downs; grazing ewes, 38s. to 43s.; chilver lambs, 40s. to 48s.; wether lambs, 38s. to 56s. (for high-condition lots); and mixed lambs 37s. to 44s. Despite the lateness of the season, sheep are even dearer now than they were a fortnight since, and the demand is still equally as good. Horns have made up to 110s. each, and 165s. in another, and horn comes to 58s.

Respecting fat stock sales we scarcely consider the beef trade as good as it was, though the decline in value, so far, is only to an almost infinitesimal extent, and it is the plainer kinds that is affected more than better class grades, the choicest heifers and steers still command 11s. to 12s. per score (or up to £22 or just over for steers), but cows cannot be quoted higher than 10s. to 10s. 6d., and rough contract beasts 8s. 6d. to 9s. 6d. Mutton rules fairly steady as regards price, but sales are not particularly brisk. We may quote the best fat sheep as making from 46s. up to 58s., and occasionly 60s. for very heavy weights (or from 7½d. to 8½d. per lb.); coarse, heavy old ewes making ½d. to 1d. per lb. less than the values quoted. Choice wether tegs make from 51s. to 61s. apiece (or 9½d. to 10d.), and seconds 32s. to 48s. (or 9d.). Fat calves command fully late currencies up to 9d. per lb., and pigs, porkers in particular, still sell up to 10s. 9d., or 11s. per score for all the neater weights, and 9s. 6d. to 10s. for baconers. Business all round keeps fairly healthy and free from anything like a "slump" in any one particular branch.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer has been over an average. Trade has been just the turn quieter, at prices slightly under those ruling last week. The best class of fat cows sold fairly well, while bulls were without change. There was a large number of sheep and lambs on offer. Trade was steady, and as nearly as possible the prices of the previous week have been obtained, with the exception of ewes, which, being scarcer, made quite 2s. a head more money. Fat calves exceedingly dear, while pigs continue to sell at full prices. There was a very small supply of store cattle in Edinburgh, the bulk of them being held over till Linton Fair. A clearance was effected at prices quite as high as last week. There was a small show of store sheep, and mostly of a very secondary description. Anything good got fairly well sold, but a considerable number of the rougher classes were left over. A small show of milch cows met a stiff trade. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 37s. 7d.; current, 34s. to 35s. 6d.; mutton, 6d. to 9½d. per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Ltd.

Trade in Ireland

Dublin market on Thursday last showed an increase of over 100 head of cattle and a decrease of some 650 sheep, the numbers being 4,370 beasts and 6,851 sheep. Trade seemed inclined to be better in the early morning, but any improvement was spoiled by sellers standing out for better prices, which buyers refused to give. Eventually, however, prices became better, and something better figures were given for second quality, especially bullocks. Prices for "blacks" and for Herefords of best quality ranged from 30s. 6d. to 31s. 6d. per cwt. (dead weight), and 27s. and 28s. per cwt. for coarser animals. The live weight price for best beef ranged from 52s. to 54s. for best beef, to 56s. per cwt. for extra quality; second quality, 47s. to 50s.; and inferior quality, 44s. to 46s. per cwt. A good all-round clearance was made at these prices.

In the sheep department there was a better demand than the previous market. There was no quotable improvement in the price for best home trade mutton, best hoggets for the English markets were from 1s. to 2s. per cwt. better. A good clearance was made at an early hour. Lambs did not make much of a feature in the market. Prime wether mutton was worth from 7½d. to 8d. per lb.; good ewes, 6½d. to 7d. per lb.; and inferior mutton from 5d. to 6d. Small to medium hoggets sold at from 36s. to 56s. each, and large heavy hoggets brought from 50s. to 60s. each.

Best fed veal was inquired for, but coarse veal was hard to dispose of. Best veal sold at 7d. to 8d. per lb., and coarse veal from 4½d. per lb. upwards according to quality.

The Dublin pig market was fairly well supplied, and trade was much better, the depression of the former week's market seeming to have passed off. Choice heavy pigs for shipping sold well at a recovery of at least 2s. per cwt. Choice light weight pigs made from 48s. to 50s. per cwt., and coarse pigs from 36s. to 38s per cwt.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Good supplies, and trade very slow. Best beef firm, but mutton lower. Quotations:—English beef, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; Scotch sides, 4s to 4s 2d; shorts, 4s 4d to 4s 10d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ditto seconds, 3s 8d to 4s; ditto forequarters, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; inferior beef, 2s 2d to 2s 8d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ditto tegs, 4s 8d to 5s; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; Dutch sheep, 4s to 4s 4d; English lamb, 4s 4d to 5s; veal, 3s 8d to 4s 8d; English pork, 3s 8d to 4s 4d; Dutch ditto, 3s 8d to 4s 2d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Supply of beasts compared with Thursday last, consisted entirely of fat butchering cows and bulls, which met a very slow trade. Top value fat cows 3s 4d to 3s 6d, fat bulls 2s 9d to 3s per 8 lb. Decrease of 280 in number penned in sheep market compared with Thursday last. Trade for both wethers and ewes ruled dull and dragging, though sellers were not willing to accept any further decline in value. Best pens made per 8 lb as follows:—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s 10d to 6s; 9 stone ditto, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10 stone ditto, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10 stone half-breds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s to 4s 2d. Calf trade ruled dull but steady. Quotations per 8 lb, sinking the offal:—Beasts, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; sheep, 4s to 6s; best calves, 5s 2d to 5s 4d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef sold fairly well at last week's rates, best steers and heifers making 4s 4d to 4s 8d. Mutton was a slow trade, and prices for all but the best declined slightly, Down wethers making up to 5s 10d, and next Kents to 5s 8d. Veal and pork quiet. Several rams sold.

Aylesbury, Wednesday.—Small supply of sheep and lambs, only 470 being penned, and these met a steady trade. Beasts were numerous, numbering 170, and with the exception of a few choice quality animals, the dhmand was slow.

Barwick, Saturday.—Attendance of farmers and buyers fair, and trade better. Calves, £5 10s to £6 15s; heifers, £8; stirks, £8 10s to £11 10s; two-year-olds, £13 10s; Shorthorn bulls, £12 10s.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Small supply of beasts, sheep, and pigs; fair trade for pigs, but slow for beasts and sheep. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 8½d to 9d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s to 9s 2d per score; cutting pigs, 9s 6d per score; sows, 7s 3d to 7s 4d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Fat cattle were rather less numerous, and with small inquiry trade was dull, best qualities being quoted at 58s per cwt., against 58s to 60s last week. About the usual number of sheep, but demand not brisk, and business quiet at late rates. Pigs were again scarce and values unchanged.

Calne, Friday.—Prices of pigs:—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within [illegible] miles, 1s. per pig extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. 10 lb to 8 sc. 10 lbs, 9s 0d per score, 8 sc. 11 lb to 9 sc. 10 lb,, 8s 6d per score; 9 sc. 11 lb to 10 sc. 10 lb, 8s 0d. Pigs outside these limits at their value.—C. and T. Harris and Co., Ltd.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A considerable offering of sheep, the best of which met a good demand, though second quality dropped considerably. A few of the best ewe tegs made up to 31s, but a more general range was from about 36s to 45s. Good lambs were making from 28s to 34s, and old ewes from 29s 6d to 40s. A number of ram tegs changed hads at from £4 to £5 per head. Very little trade for horned stock.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Fair attendance of buyers, and a steady demand was experienced. Small

wintering heifers made £6 10s, and stall-feeding cattle up to £16 each.

Chester, Thursday.—There was a large and useful selection of store and dairy cattle, with a good attendance of buyers. A satisfactory trade was done in most classes. Quotations were well maintained throughout. The sheep pens were filled, mostly with wethers and lambs. The prices demanded were occasionally too high for intending purchasers. Quotations:—Milch cows, £17 to £23; calves, £16 to £20; barren cattle, £9 to £13; stirks, £6 to £10; lambs, 18s to 26s; and shdep, 21s to 40s each.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was a capital attendance, and a brisk demand prevailed for both fat and store sheep and lambs, and late prices were fully upheld. The best finished fat cattle met a firm sale, and fresh-calved cows and heifers and down-calvers met a remarkably good sale, all being sold. There was a fair inquiry for well-bred store cattle and forward condition beasts, but young stock and inferior bred cattle sold slowly. Quotations: — Devon steers, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; Shorthorn steers, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; Southdown tegs, 6s 6d to 6s 8d; West Country ditto, 6s 2d to 6s 6d; West Down ewes, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; Southdown ewes, 4s 6d to 5s; fat calves, 5s to 5s 6d; porkers, 3s 10d to 4s 4d.

Colchester, Saturday.—Beef made 4s 6d, and mutton 6s per stone of 8 lb; pork 8s per score. There was a fair supply of all classes of stock, and the pig market was rather overcrowded.

Derby, Tuesday.—About an average demand; prices unaltered from last week. Beasts, 5½d to 6½d; calves, 7½d; sheep, 7½d to 9d.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Good supply of cattle, and a fair trade, especially for milch beasts, and late prices ruled. Milch beasts £17 to £22; bullocks, £12 to £16; heifers and drapes, £11 to £15; stirks, £8 to £10 each. Large supply of sheep, but not up to the average at this time of the year. A steady demand at late rates. Ewes, 40s to 56s; shearling gimmers, 58s to 64s; draught ewes. 36s; and lambs, 40s to 44s each.

Dorhester, Saturday.—A full cattle market to-day, Messrs. Duke and Son having a rare lot of stock on offer at their sale, and Messrs. Symonds and Sampson were equally well supplied, the horned stock including some rare milch beasts from good districts, many useful barreners and some splendid quality fat steers and heifers, but mutton again only made a poor show. The rain having greatly improved the keep prospects as well as the root crops, store cattle met a very ready sale, milchers selling from £16 10s to £21 for the best, and £14 to £16 5s for others; young fresh barreners, £21 to £26; others, £16 to £19 10s. Fat bullocks sold from about £16 5s to £21 10s (or 11s to 11s 6d per score); secondary qualities, 9s 6d to 10s 6d. Mutton made about late rates—7½d to 8½d per lb for the best. A good clearance throughout.

Dublin, Thursday.—A better demand for choice cattle and last week's extreme prices more frequently realised. Secondary and inferior sorts were easier to place and an early clearance effected. Reduced numbers in the sheep department caused a firmer trade, fancy light weights favouring sellers, other sorts easier sold, and few, if any, remaining unsold. Cattle—Live weight (best), 29s to 31s 6d per cwt; exceptional for choice Angus crosses, 33s. per cwt; secondary and inferior qualities, 26s to 28s per cwt. Mutton (dead weight), 6½d to 7½d per lb.—Ganly, Sons and Co.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Smaller supplies; demand only fair. Sheep, owing to last night's storm, shown at a disadvantage, and slow to sell; half-bred lambs to 27s 6d; Cheviot lambs to 22s; half-bred Dinmonts to 40s; Cheviot ewes to 31s. Cattle, poor trade. Bullocks, £11 to £14 14s; cows, fair trade; Shorthorns to £24 10s; Ayrshires to £19; cross to £24.

Exeter, Friday.—Small supply of fat beasts, selling well, 11s to 11s 6d for steers and maiden heifers; cows, 10s to 10s 6d, all sold. Remarkably small supply of sheep, but good sale; small sheep, 9p to 9½d; larger size, 8½d to 9d; ewes, 6½d to 7d, all sold. Large number of keeping lambs, from 36s to 40s; breeding sheep, from 40s to 46s; rams, 5d; calves, 7½d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Fair supply of cattle at market, and for really choice finished bullocks a good selling trade was experienced; inferior descriptions in fair request; top quality, 63s to 66s; secondary, 57s to 59s per cwt. Sheep were penned in average numbers, and prices ruled fair for prime sorts; secondary again in quiet request; best mutton, 8¾d to 9½d per lb; secondary, 8d to 8½d per lb; lambs, 7d to 9½d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Large supply of beef, and not many buyers. Trade was quiet, although it revived towards the last. The top figure for bullock and heifer was not above 6½d, fat cows about 5d. The best store cattle were cleared off quickly. Calves a short supply, and prices were moderate, about 6½d to 7d. Sheep made a substantial display, and trade was fairly firm, the choicest wethers and yearling ewes making over 8d, fat ewes 6½d to 7d. Good store lambs sold readily at top figures, middling ones remained. A lot of porks, but not selling quite so well, the best about 5½d. Very few bacons.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair average supplies of home-bred bullocks. rade ruled rather slow after the heavy business at the fairs. Choice milch cows, £18 to £19; good lots, £14 10s to £16 10s; bullocks, £11 to £13 10s; young stock, £4 15s to £7; and calves, 20s to 40s each.

Lincoln, Friday. — An average number of horned stock, and a fair trade. Strong beasts, £14 to £16; yearlings, £8 to £10; milch cows, £17 to £21. Of sheep there was a moderate show, and the demand was brisk. Gimmers, 55s 6d to 65s; young ewes, 50s to 55s; lambs, 35s to 45s each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—A rather larger show of fat beasts met late rates, and made from 7s to 7s 9d per stone. Stores in larger supply experienced a slow trade, and realised from £6 to £19 each. Fat sheep in average supply met a firm trade, and fetched from 9s to 10s per stone. Stores, from 45s to 50s; trade firm. Store lambs made from 35s to 42s each.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: First-class, 5d; second-class, 4d to 4½d; third-class, 3d to 3½d per lb. Mutton: First-class, Cheviots, Irish, and others, 7½d; second-class, 6½d to 7d; third-class, 5½d to 6d per lb. Veal: First-class, 6½d; second-class, 5½d to 6d; third-class, 4½d to 5d per lb. Bacon pigs: First-class, 5½d; second-class, 4½d to 4¾d; third-class, 3½d to 3¾d. Porket pigs: First-class, 7d; second-class, 6½d to 6¾d; third-class, 6d to 6½d per lb

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Cattle were a very similar supply to last week, and trade was quiet and prices unaltered. Quotations:—Prime heifers, 7s 3d to 7s 6d; second class, 6s 9d to 7s; prime steers, 7s to 7s 3d; second class, 6s 9d to 7s; coarse and inferior, 6s to 6s 6d per stone, sinking the offal. Sheep and lambs were a smaller supply, and trade was a shade firmer, and prices improved generally ½d, rams being an exception. Quotations:—Choice shearling sheep, 8½d to 8¾d; strong heavy, 8d to 8½d; choice lambs, 8¾d to 9d; second class, 8½d to 8¾d; ewes, 6d to 6½d; rams, 5d to 6d per lb. Calves were a similar supply to last week Trade was quiet, and prices down ½d, veal bringing 5½d to 7½d per lb.

Norwich, Saturday. — There was a good supply of fat beasts for which a fair trade was experienced at 7s 3d to 7s 9d per stone of 14 lb. The show of store cattle was the largest this season, and, with the exception of a few good class English steers, consisted wholly of Irish stock. Except for best qualities the demand was by no means brisk; values ranged from £6 10s to £18 per head. Store sheep were in better supply than last week. Lambs met a fair inquiry, but for breeding ewes there was little demand. Lambs ranged in price from 40s to 48s; and ewes from 50s to 65s per head. Fat sheep were again a limited supply, and met with a firm trade at 10s to 11s per stone. For the small number of fat and store pigs penned there was a brisk demand, and all were sold. Fat pigs averaged 7s per stone for small qualities, and 6s 3d to 6s 6d for big pigs. Small stores made from 8s to 20s per head, and large sizes from 25s to 40s.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Larger supply of stock, with a fair trade. In-calf cows made £19 to £24, in-calf heifers £15 to £18, store stock £10 to £14, and calves 25s to 45s. A few sheep made the usual prices. Official returns—271 beasts, 72 calves, and 28 sheep.

Preston, Wednesday. — There was a fair attendance of buyers, and there were good supplies of average quality. Trade ruled quiet, and prices were a trifle weaker. Local fed heifers made up to 6¼d; Irish ditto, 6d to 6¼d; young cows and bulls, 5¾d; coarse and heavy ditto, 5d to 5¼d; choice hoggs, 8d to 8½d; prime lambs, 8¾d; coarse lambs, 8½d; choice ewes, 6¼d; inferior ditto, 5¾d; tups, 5½d; calves, 6¾d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Not a very large supply, but a fair trade, and milch cows of good quality were worth £20 to £22, and secondary down to £15 each; healthy young steers and heifers also found a market at £10 to £12; yearlings, £6 to £8; and calves 35s to 45s per head.

Romford, Wednesday.—Short supply of fat beasts, trade a little better. Best small, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in short supply, trade a little better at 4s 10d to 5s per stone. Sheep in short supply, trade better. Best small, 6s 2d to 6s 4d; larger, 5s 8d to 6s 10d per stone. Ewes in short supply, trade about the same at 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. Fair supply of milch cows, trade good. A few store beasts on offer, very slow demand. Small supply of pigs, trade dear. Small porkers, 3s 10d to 4s large hogs, 2s 8d to 3s per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—More milch beasts shown than last week, and a stronger tone in trade, the best qualities making £20 to £23; smaller lots, £17 to £19.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Large supplies all round. Good attendance of buyers, with a brisk trade. Quotations:—Beef, 5½d to 6½d per lb; mutton (wether), 8½d to 9d per lb; ewes, 7d to 8d per lb; lamb, 9d to 10d per lb; veal, 7d to 8d per lb; porket pigs, 9s 6d to 10s 3d per score; bacons, 8s to 9s per score.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance very good, business fairly brisk. Fat bullocks, 56s to 58s per cwt; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £12 to £17; rearing calves, 25s to 42s each; ewes, 40s to 48s; wethers, 7d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d; lambs, 7d to 7½d; pigs, up to 41s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 7d to 8½d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; pork (carcasses), 4½d to 5d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Trade very slow all round, and fair supply. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 9d per lb; lamb, 8½d to 9½d per lb; veal, 6d to 7½d per lb.

Yeovil, Friday.—The market was well supplied, and with a good demand prices ruled in sellers' favour. Best quality heifers and calves, £18 10s to £20 5s; secondary quality, £16 5s to £17 10s; cows and calves, £15 10s to £18 15s; in calf heifers, £15 15s to £18 15s; in-calf cows, £10 10s to £17 5s; barreners, £10 to £13 7s 6d; two-year-old heifers, £9 to £14; yearlings, £6 10s to £8 5s; steers, £13 to £15 10s; Down lambs, 37s 6d to 42s 6d.

York, Thursday.—The largest show of both English and Irish cattle this year; trade ruled very slow owing to the high prices asked. Some of the best three-year-old stirks made up to £14 10s, but the general run fetched £8 to £11. A small show of calving and milch cows, for which there was a brisk demand, some of the best making up to £23, the general prices being from £16 to £18. A very large show of sheep, fully 25,000 being penned. The best North country ewes made up to 58s, secondary sorts 50s to 55s. North country gimmers 54s, others up to 50s. North country lambs made 38s for the best sorts, and smaller sorts down to 34s. Best Masham ewes, 52s., seconds 44s to 47s, best twice-crossed lambs, 38s, others 30s to 34s, best Masham lambs 30s, others as low as 24s, one exceptionally good lot making 34s; Cheviot ewes made 23s to 28s, South country ewes 40s to 48s, South country lambs 33s to 38s. A number of rams were sold by auction, Oxford shearlings ranging from £3 10s and £6 15s. Lincoln longwool sheep met with a demand, prices ranging from £3 10 to £5 17s 6d.

DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter.—The demand for Australian butter this week has been very good, especially for secondary quality, which has risen about 6s per cwt. "Choicest" quality has made an advance of 2s per cwt, but is still 6s per cwt below last year's price. New Zealand supplies are very small, and "Choicest" is making the same price as Australian—viz, 112s to 114s per cwt. The butter markets on the Continent generally are stiffening, and the Danish official quotation has been raised 2 kroner. In Paris a slight reduction has taken place this week. The result of the recent rise in French is shown by a fall in the import last week of 1,000 cwts, equal to about 14 per cent. of the previous week's receipts. Russian prices are about 2s per cwt dearer on the week. Cheese.—There has been more buying this week, the trade having apparently made up its mind that values would not recede for some time to come. The raising of the retail price by the large retail firms has caused the smaller retailers to come on the market. Values in Canada and New Zealand are advancing in unison with our markets, and c.i.f. cables ask 65s for Canadian, and 62s for New Zealand for the season's output of best factories.—W. Weddel and Co.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday. — Arrivals of home cheese were small, mainly owing to the harvest operations not being completed. Moderate demand at last week's prices. Cheddars, 60s to 64s; Dunlops, 58s to 62s; Canadian quoted on spot at 61s to 62s, but forward price is firmer owing to the drought.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—A large attendance of buyers, a brisk sale, and all cleared. Best Caerphilly dairies realised up to 58s per cwt.; secondary dairies, 54s 6d to 56s; and other dairies, 50s to 52s 6d. A few inferior lots failed to reach 45s. Cheddars, 60s to 63s; truckles, 58s to 62s; doubles, 52s to 57s.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Business fairly brisk; good supplies. Quotations for English produce: — Grapes, 6d to 3s; ditto, Channel Islands, 5d to 1s per lb; peaches, 3s to 10s 6d per dozen; green figs, 6d to 1s 6d per dozen; melons, 9d to 2s; apples, 3s to 8s per bushel; pears

(Williams), 3s to 6s per half bushel; cobnuts, 3s to 4s per 12 lb; walnuts (Grenoble) 6s to 7s per bag; nectarines, 3s 6d to 12s 6d per dozen; tomatoes 2s to 3s; ditto (Channel Islands), 1s 6d to 2s 6d; per 12 lb; cos lettuce, 6d to 1s per score; endive, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen; celery, 6d to 10d per bundle; turnips, 1s 6d to 2s 6d per dozen bunches; ditto, 2s 6d to 3s per bag; pursley, 1s 6d to 2s; mint, 1s to 1s 3d; leeks, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen bunches; scarlet runners, 1s 9d to 2s 6d per bushel; cucumbers, 4s to 6s per flat; shallots, 2s 6d per 12 lb; cauliflowers, 3s to 5s; cabbages, 4s 6d to 6s per tally; onions, 1s 3d to 1s 9d per dozen bunches; horseradish, 10s to 15s per dozen bundles; carrots, 2s to 2s 3d per bag; beetroots, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per dozen bunches; potatoes, 60s to 75s per ton.

CORN STATISTICS

Maizemeal	—	1,700	1,700
Ricemeal	—	30,000	30,000

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, October 8, 1907:—

	Imp. Qrs.	Bls.	Total Amount. £ s. d.	Av. Price per qr. £ s. d.
Wheat	7,802	3	13,613 2 8	1 15 0
Barley	4,238	6	5,582 19 0	1 6 4
Oats	9 026	0	8,709 3 1	0 19 4

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending October 12, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1903 to 1906:—

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1903	48,270	25	8	87,204	23	9	30,094	15	8
1904	45,462	30	5	135,031	25	4	34,509	15	6
1905	85,449	26	11	192,044	24	10	28,354	16	5
1906	80,630	26	3	223,940	25	3	38,088	16	7
1907.	105,273	33	3	130,781	25	9	63,843	17	11

Weekly Arrivals into London.

October 2 to 9 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	7,149	72,000	80,149
Barley	4,200	10,000	14,200
Malt	17,000	—	17,000
Oats	16,500	40,000	56,500
Beans	992	2,189	3,181
Peas	415	120	535
Maize	—	30,886	30,886
Linseed	—	4,000	4,000
Rapseed	—	295	295
Cottonseed	—	10,000	10,000
Rye	150	1,100	1,250
Lentils	—	500	500
Flour sacks	26,451	36,924	63,075
Middlings	—	5,070	5,070
Oatmeal	—	7,072	7,072

Average Monthly Cash Prices of Town Households Flour.

	1907		1906.		1905.		1904.		1903.		1902.		1901.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Jan.	22	0	25	0	26	3	24	9	24	0	21	9	24	6
Feb.	22	0	24	9	26	9	25	6	24	3	22	0	24	0
March	21	9	24	3	26	6	25	9	23	9	21	9	23	9
April	22	3	24	6	26	0	25	3	23	9	23	0	24	0
May	25	0	24	0	25	9	24	9	24	0	23	6	23	6
June	25	6	23	9	25	6	24	3	24	3	23	0	23	0
July	26	0	23	6	25	0	25	0	24	3	23	0	22	3
August	26	6	23	0	25	0	26	6	24	9	22	9	22	3
Sept.	28	6	22	9	24	6	27	0	25	0	23	3	22	0
Oct.			22	6	25	0	27	0	24	9	22	9	21	6
Nov.			22	0	25	0	26	9	24	3	22	9	21	6
Dec.			21	9	25	0	26	9	24	3	23	3	21	9
Yrly. Avrg.			23	5	25	6	25	9	24	3	22	8	22	10

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

*Cereal Year commencing September 2nd, 1907.**

		s.	d.
September 2	(per sack)	32	0
,, 13	,,	34	0
,, 20	,,	33	0
,, 27	,,	35	0
October 2	,,	36	0
,, 9	,,	37	0

(No change since last date given).

* September 1st, 1907, was a Sunday.

Imperial Weekly Averages.

1906.	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
Oct. 13	80,630	26	3	226,940	25	3	38,088	16	7
,, 20	71,352	26	6	230,636	24	10	35,636	16	8
,, 27	69,920	26	7	233,998	24	10	28,956	16	10
Nov. 3	64,404	26	7	229,015	24	8	32,527	16	11
,, 10	63,764	26	6	205,560	24	8	27,982	17	1
,, 17	58,059	26	4	167,441	24	4	20,389	17	2
,, 24	58,467	26	3	149,427	24	1	28,669	17	3
Dec. 1	60,299	26	1	160,173	24	1	34,743	17	2
,, 8	63,264	26	1	167,532	24	1	37,119	17	4
,, 15	70,332	26	1	135,513	23	11	36,175	17	3
,, 22	68,977	26	3	127,131	24	3	31,528	17	3
,, 29	49,637	26	0	97,796	24	1	29,124	17	3
1907.									
Jan. 5	24,559	26	0	31,733	23	11	14,773	17	3
,, 12	47,667	26	1	71,498	24	2	27,939	17	4
,, 19	75,207	26	1	104,417	24	1	37,413	17	8
,, 26	80,321	26	2	109,274	24	5	45,887	17	5
Feb. 2	84,370	26	3	86,031	24	4	38,928	17	7
,, 9	77,659	26	6	74,324	24	5	30,467	17	7
,, 16	84,514	26	7	69,221	24	1	38,725	17	9
,, 23	76,580	26	10	53,681	24	2	39,559	17	9
Mar. 2	64,923	26	9	40,398	24	2	32,965	17	9
,, 9	71,183	28	8	32,620	23	11	31,065	17	11
,, 16	69,340	26	10	29,274	24	2	28,017	18	0
,, 23	69,183	26	10	20,977	24	0	22,204	18	1
,, 30	49,202	26	8	15,929	23	9	18,412	18	2
April 6	28,757	26	9	6,539	24	3	10,296	18	3
,, 13	43,426	26	8	6,830	23	9	17,523	18	6
,, 20	54,965	26	8	6,032	23	3	21,389	18	7
,, 27	62,656	26	10	4,967	27	3	25,447	18	0
May 4	63,344	27	0	4,289	23	6	22,691	19	3
,, 11	53,080	27	6	3,375	24	0	18,392	19	7
,, 18	41,991	28	4	2,955	23	10	15,817	20	1
,, 25	37,963	29	7	1,977	24	3	12,803	20	7
June 1	28,070	31	4	1,998	24	0	10,478	20	5
,, 8	34,122	32	0	1,539	24	7	11,711	20	8
,, 15	38,008	31	10	1,152	24	7	7,668	20	11
,, 22	31,351	31	4	1,088	24	11	7,187	20	9
,, 29	23,007	31	2	759	24	6	6,118	20	8
July 6	20,795	31	3	432	24	8	4,303	20	11
,, 13	19,209	32	0	665	24	10	3,380	20	11
,, 20	15,915	32	6	259	24	5	4,447	21	1
,, 27	16,867	32	11	3,324	27	3	3,533	20	8
Aug. 3	16,165	33	2	313	26	4	2,886	21	2
,, 10	18,510	33	5	322	26	6	3,459	21	3
,, 17	14,258	33	6	682	25	9	4,045	20	4
,, 24	17,415	33	7	672	25	0	5,699	19	8
Aug. 31	11,847	33	10	1,524	24	6	10,395	18	11
Sept. 7	18,316	31	11	7,216	24	2	23,697	17	7
,, 14	35,802	31	4	9,754	24	4	35,946	17	6
,, 21	66,074	31	1	24,624	25	0	44,624	17	6
,, 28	84,438	31	8	53,699	25	3	55,435	17	8
Oct. 5	108,964	32	6	102,551	25	5	55,367	17	9
,, 12	105,273	33	3	130,781	25	9	63,843	17	11

Average Monthly Prices of Fine Household Flour in Paris.

(*Converted into English money for sacks of* 280 *lb.*)

	1907.		1906.		1905.		1904.		1903.		1902.		1901.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Jan.	30	9	31	0	31	0	29	6	30	9	27	9	24	9
Feb.	30	0	31	6	31	6	30	0	31	6	26	3	25	9
March	29	9	31	3	30	3	31	0	31	6	27	0	24	0
April	30	0	31	6	30	9	29	0	34	0	27	3	24	6
May	33	3	30	9	31	9	28	0	33	3	27	6	25	6
June	32	9	31	0	30	3	28	3	34	0	30	9	26	3
July	34	6	31	6	30	0	29	4	31	9	29	9	28	0
August	33	6	29	9	29	3	30	0	30	0	27	6	27	6
Sept.	33	9	30	6	31	0	31	0	30	0	29	0	27	6
Oct.			31	0	31	0	31	6	30	0	30	0	27	6
Nov.			31	6	31	0	32	0	28	0	28	9	27	9
Dec.			30	0	31	0	31	3	28	6	29	6	28	3
Yrly. Avrg.			30	11	30	9	30	1	31	1	28	5	27	3

Yearly Averages (Official).

	Wheat. s.	d.		Barley. s.	d.		Oats. s.	d.	
1890	31	9	per qr.	28	8	per qr.	18	7	per qr.
1891	37	1	,,	28	2	,,	20	0	,,
1892	30	4	,,	26	2	,,	19	11	,,
1893	26	4	,,	25	6	,,	18	9	,,
1894	22	10	,,	24	6	,,	17	1	,,
1895	23	1	,,	21	11	,,	14	6	,,
1896	26	2	,,	22	11	,,	14	9	,,
1897	30	2	,,	23	6	,,	16	11	,,
1898	34	0	,,	27	2	,,	18	5	,,
1899	25	8	,,	25	7	,,	17	0	,,
1900	26	11	,,	25	9	,,	17	9	,,
1901	26	9	,,	25	3	,,	18	5	,,
1902	28	0	,,	25	8	,,	20	2	,,
1903	26	9	,,	22	11	,,	17	2	,,
1904	28	4	,,	22	4	,,	16	4	,,
1905	29	9	,,	24	4	,,	17	4	
1906	28	4	,,	24	3	,,	18	7	,,

Cereal Years' Prices.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1906-7	27	11	24	6	18	5
1905-6	28	9	24	2	18	5
1904-5	30	7	24	6	16	11
1903-4	27	2	21	11	16	4
1902-3	26	5	23	0	17	8
1901-2	28	4	26	0	20	4
1900-1	27	1	25	0	18	4
1899-1900	26	5	25	0	17	5
1898-9	26	1	26	1	17	4
1897-8	36	4	27	9	18	4
1896-7	28	8	23	2	16	9

London Flour Millers' Association.

CREDIT AND DELIVERY. OFFICIAL PRICES.

*Cereal year commencing September 2nd, 1907.**

	London Whites. s.	d.	Town Households. s.	d.
September 2	(per sack) 32	0	(per sack) 29	0
,, 4	,, 33	0	,, 30	0
,, 27	,, 34	6	,, 31	6
October 4	,, 35	6	,, 32	6
,, 11	,, 36	0	,, 33	0

(No change since last date given.)

* September 1st, 1907, was a Sunday.

Wisbech Mustard Market.

The annual market for the sale of this season's mustard seed grown in Lincolnshire, Cambridgeshire, Northamptonshire, and Norfolk was held on Saturday at Wisbech, and was largely attended by growers and merchants, all the leading firms being represented There was a very good show of brown seed, but both white and brown were described as raw and unmatured, and many lots in consequence not yet fit to thresh. The price obtained for brown seed was about the same as at the opening market last year—half a guinea per bushel as the best price, and for indifferent lots the price fell as low as 7s. per bushel. The top price realised for white was 8s. 6d. per bushel, but here again the worst feature was the unmatured state of the seed. White seed is about 1s. 6d. per bushel lower than at the opening market last year, and prices show a tendency to go lower.

There was only a small attendance at Barnsley Fair on Friday, and the importance of the event seems to be continually on the wane. The quality of the horses shown was distinctly poor. Sheep were a good show, and a fair sale resulted. A few Scotch breeds made full value, North Country animals from 50s. to 60s., and Cheviots about 35s. each. Milch cows were scarce, and there was a good inquiry, prices ranging from £16 to £20. Calves made from £3 to £6.

An unusual dispute has arisen at Chester between the butchers and farmers. The Chester Corporation are causing a thorough inspection of the meat supply to be made, and when a carcase is seized for tuberculosis the butchers have at present to bear the loss. Against this they protest, and they have addressed an ultimatum to the farmers attending Chester fairs demanding a guarantee against tuberculosis. They suggest that the farmers shall, through the auctioneer, insure approved beasts, and that when a butcher has a guaranteed carcase seized he shall be recouped to the extent of two-thirds of the purchase price. The butchers threaten to boycott beasts offered for auction without this guarantee. The farmers on Saturday held a crowded meeting to discuss the situation, and strong opinions were expressed that compensation should be paid for condemned carcases out of public money, and that the Legislature should be pressed to take action. It was resolved to call a mass meeting, and to request the Chester Chamber of Agriculture to do the same.

RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

LEEDS SMITHFIELD SHOW.

The 48th ANNUAL EXHIBITION will be held in the VICTORIA CATTLE MARKET HALL, December 10, 11, & 12, 1907.

Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Roots, Dressed Poultry, Butter, Poultry, Pigeons, and Rabbits.

Entries finally close Nov. 23, 1907. Prize List and entry forms may be had on application to the Sec., H. KITCHEN, 3, Wormald Row, Leeds.

PEDIGREE TAMWORTHS, the property of C. HOWARD TAYLOR, Middlewood Hall; a few good young Boars and Gilts for sale.—Apply, Hampole Priory, Doncaster.

EARLY SEED POTATOES.—Sharpe's Express, Early Puritan, Duke of York, May Queen, British Queen, Epicure, &c. List free.—T. KIME, Mareham-le-Fen, Boston, Lincolnshire.

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Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

October rainfall has already been liberal, and we could do well with ten fine days to end the month. The land is a little laden with surface moisture, but the subsoil being drier than usual all fields where there is drainage may be expected to get into condition rapidly and November work should be brisk. The fear of the average farmer is that frost should set in before he has got all his wheat sown, and there are many farms where the lifting and securing of the roots will hardly be practicable without taking hands away from the plough and the drill. Still, with a fine November and no frosts before Advent the situation six weeks hence should be healthy. The labour which farmers can reduce with advantage is that of threshing, which has lately been going on far too fast and has resulted in flooding many markets with stuff badly out of condition. The good prices made for dry sound milling wheat are far from reflecting uniform advantage to growers. In an autumn like the present the tendency is towards a very steep gradient in actual prices realised, the finest lots which have also escaped weather damage having to make a price to cover the loss on the other lots which have to go at damaged or tail corn prices. Thus, although we quote no English sound wheat in London under 37s. per qr. of 480 lb., or 38s. 6d. per 504 lb., the London average declared on Friday last was only 36s. 6d per 480 lb., or 38s. per 504 lb. Damaged wheat and tail corn is returned in the official figures, but is not quoted in market circulars which presuppose fit condition in produce offered.

News from abroad with respect to crops may very briefly be summarised. France: The barley and oat yields are heavy, and of both staples some surplus for exportation is disclosed. Germany: Widespread disease in the potato fields will throw an increased strain upon wheat and rye supplies. Germany will therefore be a very heavy importer of both these cereals during the next ten months. Roumania: The maize crop is probably below an average, thus completing the circle of Roumanian misfortune for 1907. Every one of the crops is below the mean, and wheat is as much as 40 per cent. deficient. Russia: Large autumn sowings of wheat are reported; the high prices ruling are very encouraging to the easily elated peasants, who take for granted that the values of October 1908 will be the values of October 1907. Canada: The last reports show that the wheat yield, though under an average, is not so gravely deficient as was rumoured early in October. India: Rain is needed in many districts, but the Bombay Presidency had a record fall in August, and the Punjab depends mainly on irrigation. Australia: Drought is seriously threatening the crop prospects in all the colonies. Argentina: a bumper crop of wheat is now regarded as assured, for the area under cultivation, at first regarded as stationary, is now reported to be increased. The usual conditions are found, that is to say, a certain replacing of corn land by cattle pastures in the older parts more than balanced by the large areas added to corn acreage in the newly opened-up districts. It is expected by shippers at Buenos Ayres, Rosario, and Bahia Blanca that Argentina, which sent to the United Kingdom 5 per cent. only of its wheat imports in 1901, but had raised the percentage to 20 in 1906, will for 1908 contribute as much as 25 per cent. of the total.

The markets of the United Kingdom advanced steadily last week, and value was higher on the Saturday than on the Monday at all centres. A remarkable change has, none the less, come over the feeling of the market, and there is now a strong current running in buyers' favour, the desire to unload on the part of importers being strengthened by the indiscreetly heavy deliveries of new English wheat, barley, and oats by farmers.

Flour has reached 34s. for household grade where credit and delivery are needed, 33s. being the latest net price ex mill. The cost of bread with flour at 33s. should be 5½d., for actual production; 5½d. with bakers' reasonable remuneration of 1d. on the quartern loaf and 5¾d. with bakers' profit, plus ¼d. charge for delivery to the customer. The Board of Trade returns of the 17th inst. showed the average price in London to be just 5¾d., and for the whole island to be 5·7d. The West End loaf, made of half town whites and half town households, is reasonably priced at 6d.

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets since harvest have been as follows:—

This season ... 419,000 qr. at 32s. 0d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 497,000 ,, 25s. 11d. ,,

The sales of British barley have been:—

This season ... 329,000 qr. at 25s. 0d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 682,000 ,, 24s. 8d. ,,

Of oats the sales off the farm have been heavier than appears to us to be prudent:—

This season ... 279,000 qr. at 17s. 8d. per qr.
Last season ... 243,000 qr. at 16s. 3d. ,,

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were:—

Wheat, 532,000 qr.: large.
Flour, 86,500 sks.: small.
Barley, 147,000 qr.: liberal.
Oats, 89,000 qr.: small.
Maize, 230,000 qr.: good.

The total supply of breadstuffs from abroad has since harvest exceeded the wants of the country, when farmers' deliveries were also added on.

We estimate the figures thus:—

British wheat.....	1,044,000 qr.
Foreign wheat	2,944,000 ,,
Foreign flour	560,000 ,,
Total supply.....	4,548,000 ,,
Total wants	3,780,000 ,,
Excess	768,000 ,,

This addition to millers' and bakers' holdings will enable them in all probability to recover a share in the control of the market.

The supplies on passage, however, are in sellers' favour; it is the large supplies from farmers which are really undermining the wheat trade. Average supplies of foreign wheat on passage are 2,500,000 and of foreign flour are a quarter of a million; quantities of 480 lb and 280 lb respectively. To-day's returns of supplies on passage are as follows:—Wheat, 195,000 qr.; flour, 246,000 sacks; barley, 700,000 qr.; oats, 180,000 qr.; maize, 935,000 qr.; linseed, 143,000 qr.; rapeseed, 12,000 qr.; cottonseed, 44,000 qr., and rice, 27,000 tons. The wheat, including 658,000 qr. Indian, 415,000 qr. Australasian, and 390,000 qr. American.

Shipments last week were as follows:—From America: wheat, 402,000 qr.; barley, 10,000 qr.; oats, 1,000 qr.; maize, 40,000 qr.; and flour, 123,000 sacks. New Argentina wheat, 87,000 qr.; maize, 192,000 qr.; linseed, 24,000 qr.; and oats, 15,000 qr. From Russia: wheat, 390,000 qr.; barley, 573,000 qr.; oats, 139,500 qr.; and maize, 63,000 qr. From Roumania and Bulgaria: wheat, 47,000 qr.; barley, 129,000 qr.; and maize, 54,000 qr. From India and Persia: wheat, 73,000 qr.; barley, 20,000 qr.; and linseed, 37,000 qr.; and from Australia and New Zealand: wheat, 50,000 qr.; flour, 20,000 sacks; and peas, 5,000 qr.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—With a continuance of wet and stormy weather, preventing farmers and senders getting anything on rail at country stations, the arrivals have been of a very sparse character, and our market presents a firm appearance. Demand has been far greater than the supply, and prices in consequence show an all round advance on last week's rates.

The different London stations have been almost denuded of stocks, and fancy prices have had to be paid by salesmen, who having contracts to keep supplied, must purchase whatever the cost. Although some of these inflated prices can hardly be quoted as market value, they make holders very firm, and until there is a change for the better in the weather there seems very little likelihood of a normal condition of trade. Clovers and mixtures show the largest advance, being 2s 6d to 5s per ton more money, and hays are a good 2s 6d per ton dearer. There is a strong inquiry for plain sorts of all kinds which make top values. Seconds are also the turn better. With the wet weather supplies of straw show a considerable falling off, and prices are 1s per load higher. Arrivals of foreign are on a very limited scale, with prices nominally unaltered.

Prices ruling are about as follows:—English 1907 crop. Best hays, 70s to 72s 6d per ton; good hays, 62s 6d to 67s 6d per ton; plain hays, 57s 6d to 60s per ton; best clovers, 85s per ton; good clovers, 80s 6d to 82s 6d per ton; inferior clovers, 72s 6d to 77s 6d per ton; best mixtures, 82s 6d to 85s per ton; good mixtures, 75s to 80s per ton; plain mixtures, 67s 6d to 72s 6d per ton; seconds hays, clovers, and mixtures, 45s to 60s per ton; wheat straw, 26s to 27s per load; barley straw, 26s to 27s per load; oat straw 26s to 27s per load. All ex rail London.

Foreign: Canadian mixture, 80s per ton; first quality Dutch hay, 60s to 62s 6d per ton; second quality Dutch hay, 55s per ton. New French first and second cut clover, 75s per ton. These prices are by the barge load delivered alongside a London Thames wharf.

THE BALTIC.

The position of the wheat cargo trade is probably hit off by *Beerbohm's List* when it says that the money crisis in America is the danger spot. The American merchant is so plucky a holder where prices appear to give him a fair chance that the London market has come to expect a backing from New York whenever disposed itself to make a move forward. It is more than a mere possibility, as the shippers' organ observes, that the American may be unable to hold his grain even if profit were fairly in sight. Prices made since the 14th include 40s. 6d. per 480 lb. for Argentine new crop for February shipment, 42s. 6d. per 480 lb. for Canadian for prompt shipment, and 47s. per 492 lb. for fine Russian winter. The market closed very dull.

Other cargo sales of the week include Argentine maize at 28s. 6d. per 480 lb., Russian barley at 25s. 3d. per 400 lb., Konigsberg oats at 18s. 6d. per 320 lb., Calcutta linseed at 46s. 3d. per 410 lb., and Egyptian cottonseed at £7 5s. per ton.

East Indian wheat rejections are:—Choice White Karachi 41s. 6d., Soft Red Karachi 41s. per 492 lb.

These are the prices at which Indian wheat differences under the association contracts will be adjusted until further notice.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports of call since last review have been six, as will be seen by the following table:—

Cargo	Total	Arg. Republ.	Chili and Oregon.	Australia.	Total Last Week.	Total since Jan. 1, 1907.	Total same time 1906.
Wheat....	5	—	1	4	8	244	245
Maize	1	1	—	—	—	17	5
Barley ..	—	—	—	—	—	5	5
Linseed ..	—	—	—	—	1	18	27
Valonea ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	3
Sundries..	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Total ..	6	—	1	4	4	288	287

Average Monthly Prices of Fine Household Flour in Paris.

(*Converted into English money for sacks of* 280 *lb.*)

	1907.	1906.	1905.	1904.	1903.	1902.	1901.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan. ..	30 9	31 0	31 0	29 6	30 9	27 9	24 9
Feb. ...	30 0	31 6	31 6	30 0	31 6	26 3	25 9
March	29 9	31 3	30 3	31 0	31 6	27 0	24 0
April ...	30 0	31 6	30 9	29 0	34 0	27 3	24 6
May ...	33 3	30 9	31 9	28 0	33 3	27 6	25 6
June ...	32 9	31 0	30 3	28 3	34 0	30 9	26 3
July ...	34 6	31 6	30 0	29 4	31 9	29 9	28 0
August	33 6	29 9	29 3	30 0	30 0	27 6	27 6
Sept. ...	33 9	30 6	31 0	31 0	30 0	29 0	27 6
Oct. ...		31 0	31 0	31 6	30 0	30 0	27 6
Nov. ...		31 6	31 0	32 0	28 0	28 9	27 9
Dec. ...		30 0	31 0	31 3	28 6	29 6	28 3
Yrly. Avrg.		30 11	30 9	30 1	31 1	28 5	27 3

Cereal Years' Prices.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1906-7	27 11	24 6	18 5
1905-6	28 9	24 2	18 5
1904-5	30 7	24 6	16 11
1903-4	27 2	21 11	16 4
1902-3	26 5	23 0	17 8
1901-2	28 4	26 0	20 4
1900-1	27 1	25 0	18 4
1899-1900	26 5	25 0	17 5
1898-9	26 1	26 1	17 4
1897-8	36 4	27 9	18 4
1896-7	28 8	23 2	16 9

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English firm held at full prices, but not active. Whites quoted at 39s to 42s; reds at 38s to 41s. Foreign firmly held at Monday's full prices, but demand less active. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, held at 46s 3d; No. 2 at 45s 6d; No. 1 Durum at 40s 6d; choice white Karachi at 42s 6d; reds at 41s 9d. Flour firm, but quiet. Hungarian quoted at 39s; Washburn gold medal at 34s to 34s 6d; Iron Dukes at 28s 6d to 29s 6d. Maize firm at full prices. Odessa-Danube and Galatz-Foxanian, landed, held at 29s; Odessa, ex ship, at 28s 6d. Barley firm at Monday's rates. Azoff-Black Sea and Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, held at 26s 3d to 26s 6d, landed at 26s 9d to 27s. Oats steady, quiet. River Plate, landed, held at 19s 3d; South Russian (38 lb), at 19s 3d to 19s 6d.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat: English steady, unchanged. Whites quoted at 39s to 42s; reds, at 38s to 41s. Foreign slow, and offered at 6d to 9d decline, with only limited business passing. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, held at 45s 6d; No. 2 at 44s 9d; No. 1 hard Manitoba at 47s 6d; choice white Karachi at 42s; red Karachi at 41s 6d. Flour held unchanged prices, but inactive. Hungarians quoted at 39s; Iron Dukes at 28s 6d to 29s. Maize dull, easier tendency. Odessa, ex ship, quoted at 27s 9d to 28s; Danubian and Galatz-Foxanian, landed, at 29s; La Plata, landed, at 28s 6d. Barley slow, and 3d lower to sell. Azoff-Black Sea and Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, to arrive, quoted at 25s 9d to 26s; Persian, ex ship, to arrive, at 24s 3d to 24s 6d. Oats steady, quiet. South Russian, 38 lb, held at 19s 3d to 19s 6d; La Plata, at 19s 3d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—A sharp rise in wheat, which made 3s per qr more than last week, best lots going above 40s. Barley and feeding corn also dearer, and flour 1s per sack higher. Quotations: Wheat, 37s to 40s 6d; English barley, best, 31s to 33s; and secondary, 27s to 29s; maize, 30s to 31s; peas, 32s to 33s; oats, 19s to 22s per qr; flour, whites, 37s; and seconds, 34s; scaling, 32s per sack

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, white (new), 37s 6d to 38s 6d per qr; ditto red (new) 37s 6d to 38s 6d per qr; barley, 28s 6d to 34s per qr; beans (new), 30s to 31s per qr; oats, 18s to 21s 6d qr; peas, 30s to 34s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—Small attendance, with fewer samples of grain on offer. Barley 6d to 1s per qr dearer. Oats scarce, and making more money. No wheat on offer. Barley, 25s to 31s; oats, 23s to 27s.

Birmingham, Thursday.—There was a much steadier tone about the business at the market, and transactions were small and few. Foreign wheats have advanced from 6d to 1s per qr since last market day, but the demand was very quiet. Plenty of English wheats in dealers hands, which made up to 14s 6d to 14s 9d per 186 lb delivered. Galatz-Foxanian maize was 1s per qr dearer at 28s 6d per 490 lb at Sharpness. Bessarabian was 1s 3d per qr up at 28s 9d Sharpness. For grinding barley 26s 9d per 400 lb at Sharpness was wanted. English oats dearer, whites making 21s 6d and blacks 21s per 312 lb. Beans were also dearer at 13s 3d per 196 lb delivered.

Brighton, Thursday.—Slow trade and small attendance. Wheat in short supply, the advanced prices asked checking the demand. New white white, 39s to 41s; new red ditto, 38s to 41s; barley, 30s to 35s; grinding ditto, 29s to 30s; oats, English, 19s to 21s; peas, 32s to 33s; beans, 32s to 34s.

Bristol, Thursday.—English wheat in small supply at 1s per qr advance on the week at our market to-day. Foreign wheat firm and unaltered. Maize 9d dearer. Barley unchanged. Oats 6d advance. Flour 6d higher, with a very good inquiry.—Grace Bros.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat, with a small supply, was 1s 6d per qr dearer on the week, but a very quiet trade at the advance. Reds, 38s to 39s 6d; revets, 37s to 38s per qr. Barley: supply moderate, with a firm trade at improved prices; fair malting sorts sold freely at 30s to 33s 6d, and fine parcels were inquired for at 34s to 38s per qr. Maize fully 1s per qr dearer, at 29s to 29s 6d per qr. All other feeding corns firm, and tending upwards. Linseed cakes firm at £8 5s, and cottons at £5 10s to £5 15s per ton. Milling stuffs advancing.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat is quoted at from 37s to 38s, with an occasional choice sample at 39s. Prices were a trifle higher than this earlier in the week, but they have since dropped, and business is dull. Barley slow of sale, at from 29s to 35s; and oats are making from 19s for 38 lb up to 22s for 44 lb. Peas and beans rather dearer, grey peas being quoted up to 32s, and tick beans to 33s per qr.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Larger supply of oats in market to-day. Quiet sale at 1s qr advance. Prices:—New oats, 20s to 22s per 336 lb; old oats, 25s to 26s per 336 lb. New wheat sold at 36s per 36 stone. Weather very bad this week for thrashing; good many oats in field yet.—Thomas Robinson.

Chester, Saturday.—A further advance in the price of wheat since last market day. Oats occasionally 1d per bushel dearer. Barley firm, and maize 3d per sack over last market day. Trade fair, and attendance good. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 5s 4d to 5s 6d per 75 lb; grinding barley, new, 4s to 4s 3d per 64 lb; oats, new, 2s 7d to 2s 9d; old, 3s 1d to 3s 6d per 46 lb; Indian corn, old, 15s 3d to 15s 6d per 240 lb; round corn, old, 14s 9d to 15s 9d per 240 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—A fair attendance, but not much trade. There was a rise of 1s on wheat, oats, barley, maize, and flour. New white wheat, 36s 6d to 40s; new red ditto, 36s 6d to 40s; barley, 29s to 37s; grinding ditto, 23s 6d to 25s; oats, English, 18s 6d to 24s 6d; rye, 27s to 29s; peas, 31s to 32s; beans, 32s to 33s; tares, 5s 6d to 6s 6d; maize, 26s 6d to 27s 6d; flour, 31s to 33s.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat, better supply at lower prices. Oats, beans, and barley steady. —Colin Taylor, King and Co, Ltd.

Coventry, Friday.—With only poor attendance, the supply of wheat was small, but demand was fair at about last week's prices. Very few samples of barley or oats on offer. Little change in figures, and such alteration as there was in buyers' favour. Quotations:—Wheat, 14s per bag (186 lb); barley, 30s to 34s per qr (448 lb); oats, old, 24s 6d to 27s per per 352 lb; new, 21s to 23s per 352 lb; beans, 13s to 13s 9d per 196 lb; peas, 12s 6d to 15s per 196 lb.

Derby, Friday.—There was only a small supply of wheat, which sold slowly at the extreme rates of last week. Spring corn unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, 37s to 38s; grinding barley, 25s to 27s; beans, 35s to 36s; oats, old, 24s to 26s; new, 20s to 21s.

Devizes, Thursday.—There was a small supply to-day, farmers being unable to thresh owing to wet weather. Prices again show a considerable advance. Wheat 1s per sack dearer. Barley very firm, and maintained last week's prices. Oats the turn dearer. Best wheats are worth 20s per sack, and oats 20s per qr, 40 lbs to the bushel. Best old wheat, 20s to 23s; best new wheat, 19s to 20s 6d; secondary, 16s 6d to 18s 6d; malting barley, 30s to 37s; grinding barley, 27s to 29s; winter barley, 26s to 30s; old oats, 22s to 24s 6d; winter oats, 18s to 19s; white Garton oats (330lb), 19s to 20s; black Tartar oats (320 lb), 10s to 20s; rye, 27s to 30s; new beans, 16s 6d to 18s; fine flour 32s to 34s; extra fine, 36s to 39s; vetches 5s 6d to 6s 6d.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Moderate supply of English wheat, but the condition was variable. There was a lull in the advance, prices having gone down to last week's figure. English wheat, 14s to 14s 6d per load. Foreign wheat was quoted at last week's rates, the advance being fully maintained. Maize declined 3d per qr. Oats and barley about unchanged.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Larger attendance than usual to-day owing to the barley show, but only a moderate offer of samples, the weather of the past week having completely put a stop to all threshing operations. Much of the excitement which has pervaded operations at the last two or three markets died out to-day, and, although holders took up a firm position, still there was an easier feeling abroad, and sales generally were effected on slightly easier terms, wheat being back quite 6d for both English and foreign, whilst barley was a trifle lower. Oats unchanged, but the tendency of sales was to lower rates, maize slightly easier. Beans and peas held for full values. Flour favoured buyers. On the whole we must characterise trade all round with a slightly declining tendency.

Dublin, Friday.—The market was moderately attended, and pervaded by a more cautious tone. Foreign wheat 3d lower. Flour weaker. Maize nominally unchanged. Irish grown cereals very stiff in price, and barley held for more money. Oatmeal strong. Milled stuffs scarce and dear.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Markets have been very excited over the week, and prices are still tending higher. Wheat held firm at 1s per boll more money, and flour, in sympathy, has advanced 1s to 1s 6d per sack since last Wednesday. Maize steady at an advance of fully 1s 3d per boll. Corn almost exhausted on spot, and for any lots on hand 2s per boll more money is being paid since last week. Oats firmly held at 1s per boll advance. Barley 3d per boll dearer. Beans firm at late rates. Pease scarce and dearer. Bran and thirds held for 2s 6d per ton advance. Oatmeal, in sympathy with oats, 1s 6d per sack dearer. Other articles firm.—Gibson and Clark.

Glasgow, Friday.—Wednesday's boom in wheat and flour gave way to-day to weakness, prices falling from 6d to 1s. Even at that fall buyers declined to purchase, as they anticipated that the Argentine crop, which is harvested in December, will make up for the shortage of America.

Gloucester, Saturday.—English wheat in small supply, and prices 1d to 2d per bushel cheaper. Foreign wheat inactive and quotations 6d to 1s per qr lower. Plate maize 6d, and Bessarabian 9d dearer at Sharpness. Barley and oats unchanged.

Grantham, Saturday.—Owing to the inclement weather there were only small supplies of grain. A brisk inquiry prevailed. Wheat, 37s to 38s per qr; barley, 26s to 34s; oats, 18s to 21s; beans, 30s to 32s; blue peas, 70s to 75s.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Moderate attendance, but not a large volume of business passing. Sellers were firm holders of wheat at about 3d per bushel better than last week's prices, full quotations ranging from 4s 6d to 4s 9d. Barley moved off at from 28s to 32s. Oats stood at about 20s per qr. Beans firmly held at recent rates. Maize 3d per qr dearer.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Fair supply of wheat; trade firm at from 38s to 40s per 504 lb. Moderate supply of barley, and the condition of the majority of the samples was not very good—runs made 29s to 31s, better qualities up to 33s. Maize and oats dearer. Beans and peas unaltered.

Leeds, Tuesday.—We have to record another week of active trading in wheat at daily rising prices, the advance in Kurrachees now reaching 14s per qr, and unless the drought in India and Australia is speedily broken, a further advance is quite on the cards. Millers have followed the upward movement somewhat reluctantly, hoping for a pause and large supplies of cheap English wheat. Farmers, however, have grasped the situation and are holding back their produce. Prices are irregular at 1s 6d to 2s 6d advance on the week. Malting barley unchanged, supply liberal. Maize 2s per qr dearer. Oats 6d up. Beans scarce.—Dunns and Co.

Leeds, Friday.—Both English and foreign wheats were still advancing, closing prices showing a further substantial rise upon Tuesday's full rates. Maize was 6d dearer, Plate, American, and Russian making over 28s. Flour, after several advances during the past few weeks, was firmly held, with a further hardening tendency, and English and foreign malting barley was in good demand at higher prices. Oats were fully 3d dearer, and beans and peas very firm.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good attendance of buyers and dealers, but short supplies of new home-grown wheats, samples being held back. Trade steady, the samples being very variable. Red wheats, 36s to 39s; white wheats, 37s to 40s per 36 stones; fine bright samples of barley in steady request at 28s to 32s per 32 stones; oats in good request at 19s to 22 per 24 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—Large attendance and good supply of English wheat, quotations showing an advance of 6d per qr on the week. Fair supply of barley, which realised 1s per qr more money. Oats: A good trade at 6d advance. Beans firm at late rates.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat quiet, and about 1s per qr dearer. Foreign, 1½d. to 2d per cental higher on the week. Flour 2s per sack dearer, and Indian corn varied from 2d to 3d dearer. Oats 1d, and foreign barley 2d to 2½d per bushel, and bran 6d a load higher on the week.

Newark, Wednesday.—Good attendance, with a fair show of samples, which continue very firm. Quotations: White wheat, 39s to 40s; red, 38s 6d to 39s 6d; malting barley, 28s to 31s; grinding, 26s 6d to 27s 6d; white oats, 19s 6d to 20s 6d; black, 19s to 20s; old beans, 36s to 37s; new, 30s to 32s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—The demand for wheat at our to-day's market was not so active; prices, however, were fully maintained. Maize was held for 6d advance, and buyers had no other option than to pay the advance, this article being scarce on spot. Beans and peas steady at late rate. Fine dry oats made slightly more than last week; common sorts, however, remain unchanged. Barley, slow sale at the moment.—Joseph Pollard and Co.

Newport, Wednesday.—Market very strong. Maize 2s higher on the week, present price from 29s to 29s 6d. Barley also dearer, 27s to 27s 6d. Very small supply of English oats, which were in very good demand at an advance in prices. Flour 32s 6d. Wheat offals in good request at advanced prices.

Northampton, Saturday.—There was a good attendance. Wheat was not much in demand and suffered a relapse in prices after further rise at the beginning of the week. Good demand for

barley and oats at unchanged prices. New wheat, 34s to 36s 6d; new barley, 26s to 32s; old white oats, 24s to 26s; new white oats, 18s 6d to 21s; new black oats, 18s to 19s; old beans, 31s to 33s; new beans, 31s to 33s; peas, 33s to 35s; flour, 32s to 36s.

Nottingham, Saturday. — Wheat in fair supply. Slow trade at late rates. Barley only moderate show, and 1s dearer. Oats but few offering, and 6d higher. Beans firm.—ROBT. HUBBLE.

Norwich, Saturday.—There is a relapse in the wheat trade, but farmers resist anything but a slight reduction in price. The supply is larger and values may be written about the same as last week, but lower than the mid-week markets. Values 38s per qr delivered, feeding stuffs demand quiet, maize and grinding barley slightly dearer, linseed and cotton cake steadier, English oats 19s to 20s per qr, barley firm trade and good supply, prices from 29s to 35s.

Peterborough, Saturday.—A fair supply of wheat which found a quiet trade at about last Saturday's prices. Oats quite at unchanged rates. Barley small supply and rather dearer. Wheat, 37s to 38s; barley, 27s to 32s; oats, 19s to 20s. —THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a very good attendance at our market here to-day. Wheat 1s 6d dearer. Maize 1s 6d dearer. Barley 6d dearer. Oats firmer. Flour very firm.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Preston, Saturday.—More favourable reports as to wheat crops have given a decided pause to the market, and during the week there has been a decline of 1½d to 2d per cental, the tendency being towards weakness. There was a moderate attendance at to-day's market, but farmers have not yet commenced seriously to offer any portion of the new crop. The prices obtainable were barely equal to those of last Saturday. Flour unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat white, new, per windle of 220 lb, 15s 6d to 16s; ditto red, 14s 6d to 15s; oats, old, per bushel, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; ditto new, 2s 11d to 3s; beans, per windle of 220 lb. 16s 6d to 17s.

Reading, Saturday.—Very good attendance. The advance in the price of wheat was maintained, and the following may be taken as a correct return of parcels held or sold:—Wheat, 36s to 42s; malting barley, 28s to 35s; grinding barley, 26s to 28s 6d; oats, 18s to 21s.

Retford, Saturday.—The upward tendency in wheat was checked here to-day, in sympathy with reports from abroad, and prices were 1s lower at 37s to 38s per qr. There was a good demand for malting barley, especially for the best lots, which were on the up grade, and worth 29s to 32s; secondary, 27s 6d to 28s; grinding barley, 27s. Maize was again dearer, and quoted at 30s to 31s delivered here. New oats 19s to 20s, and old ditto up to 25s and 26s per qr. Beans as before.

Ripon, Thursday. — A good attendance of farmers, and a fair trade. Prices show an advance all round. New wheat, 37s to 38s; foreign wheat, 46s to 48s; grinding barley, 27s to 28s; malting ditto 28s to 34s; new oats, 20s; old ditto, 24s to 26s; round maize, 30s; flat ditto, 30s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The market continues very strong, and all grain has had a further increase in price since a week ago. Wheats are sold at an advance of 1s to 1s 6d per qr on the week. Beans, oats, and barley quoted 6d to 1s per qr more. Maize very firm at 1s 6d to 2s per qr advance on the price current last Tuesday. Blue peas sparsely offered at several shillings per qr advance on early prices for new corn. Quotations:—New white wheat, 38s to 38s 6d; new red ditto, 38s to 38s 6d per 504 lb; black oats, 24s to 25s; white ditto, 24s 6d to 25s; ditto new ditto, 21s 6d to 21s per 336 lb; grinding peas, 35s to 35s 6d; new blue ditto, 75s to 90s per 504 lb; English beans, 35s 6d to 37s 6d per 532 lb; grinding barley, 27s to 27s 6d; malting ditto, 28s to 32s per 448 lb; Indian corn small, 30s to 30s 6d; Plate ditto, 29s 6d to 30s; flat ditto 31s to 31s 6d per 480 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—The sudden advances in the price of wheat experienced during the past week underwent a slight check to-day, and farmers were rather disappointed to find that the almost daily rise had not been maintained. There is still a belief that rates will be much higher, and farmers were not easily drawn to sell at less than 38s per qr, the majority declining to part at less than 39s. First-class barley was not very plentiful, and trade was quiet, those asking 34s for malting barley being persistent in their demands; a few lots were disposed of at 32s; grinding barley, 25s 6d to 26s 6d; oats, 19s to 19s 9d; maple peas, 70s and upwards; beans, 31s 6d to 32s 6d.

Stockton, Wednesday. — There were a few samples of English wheat, which made from 35s to 38s 6d per qr, and about 1s 6d advance over last week. Foreign wheat was steady at an advance of 1s 6d over last week. Maize 1s 6d per qr dearer on the week, and oats also dearer. Malting barley made 26s to 30s per qr according to quality. Farmers, however, were asking much more money, and this checked business.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday. — New white wheat, 38s to 40s; new red ditto, 37s to 38s; barley, 26s to 30s; grinding ditto, 24s to 25s; oats, English, 20s to 22s; rye, 26s to 28s; peas, 34s to 36s; beans, 34s to 36s; tares, 40s to 48s; maize, 28s to 32s.

Winchester, Saturday.—English and foreign wheat quiet but unchanged. Barley and maize 6d dearer. Oats scarce and unaltered. Flour a fair trade at late rates.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LTD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A small supply of grain at market. Wheat 1s to 2s lower. Reds, 37s to 38s 6d per 504 lb. Oats from 19s 6d to 20s 6d per 336 lb. Barley, 27s to 30s per 448 lb.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a fair attendance. Business was equal to that of late. Quotations: English oats, old, 15s; new, 12s per 190 lb; English wheat, 15s 6d per 216 lb; English beans, 14s per 196 lb; malting barley, 30s to 34s per 448 lb.

Worksop, Wednesday. — Large attendance but very little grain on offer, and not sufficient to meet requirements. Wheat, barley, and oats about 1s per qr dearer. White wheat, 36s to 37s; red wheat, 35s to 36s 6d; best malting barley, 29s to 31s; secondary barley, 27s to 28s 6d; grinding barley, 26s 6d to 27s 6d; old white oats, 25s to 27s; new white oats, 19s to 21s 6d; old black oats, 24s to 28s 6d; new black oats, 18s to 20s; maize, 28s to 29s; English beans, 37s to 39s per qr.

York, Saturday.—Excitement has gone out of the wheat trade, and prices are decidedly lower than during the week. Fine white wheat made 37s to 38s; red and mixed, 36s to 37s per qr of 36 stones. Malting barley was firm and in good demand, fine making 30s to 32s; good, 28s to 30s; and feeding barley, 26s to 28s per qr of 32 stones. Oats firm, and 6d dearer; white, 20s to 21s; black, 19s to 20s; and common, 18s to 19s per qr of 24 stones; old beans, 34s to 36s; and rye, 27s to 28s per qr of 36 stones.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda firm, as also phosphate manures; for the latter there is a moderate demand for autumn deliveries. For this time of the year the consumptive demand for feeding stuffs is very quiet, yet with moderate arrivals and the higher values prevalent at the ports of shipment abroad, prices on this market are well upheld and holders are firm. Feeding treacle, however, is moderately reasonable in value, and meets a fairly good demand from consumers.

	£ s d	£ s d
	Per ton.	
Cottonseed Cake, English semi-dried, prime	—	—
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (good but hard)	7 10 0	7 12 6
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime (soft)	7 17 6	8 2 6
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime	4 17 6	5 0 0
Cottonseed Cake, undecorticated Egyptian	—	—
Cottonseed, crushed, 20 per cent. oil guaranteed, scarce	8 15 0	—
Linseed Cake, American, thin oblong, prime but hard	7 17 6	8 0 0
,, ,, English, prime	8 0 0	8 5 0
,, ,, Foreign Round	8 0 0	8 2 6
Palm Nut Cake	6 5 0	—
Corn Oil Cake	—	—
Maize Germ Meal	—	—
Indian Meal, coarse to fine grinding	Per 240 lb. —	—
Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported	Per ton. —	—
	Per qr., 416 lb.	
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2 13 0	—
	Per Gallon.	
Cod-liver Oil, cattle feeding	0 4 0	—
	Per Cwt.	
Treacle, feeding, American	0 4 9	0 4 10½
	Per ton.	
Nitrate of Soda	11 7 6	—
Kainit, prime	2 7 6	—
Bone Meal, prime	5 10 0	—
Bone Ash, fine and powdery	3 15 0	—
Basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed	1 14 0	1 15 0
,, ,,	2 2 0	2 3 0
,, finest ,,	2 6 0	2 7 6
D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime*	2 5 0	2 7 0
,, ,, guaranteed*	2 10 0	2 12 0
,, ,, ,, *	3 1 3	3 3 3

* At depot inland.

—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cake: With only a limited quantity of foreign available, either in warehouse or for shipment. The bulk of the trade is forced on to home manufactures, and prices in consequence continue to harden, while Crushers have already advanced their limits fully 5s. per ton. Russian offer sparingly. East India seed pures make last week's prices for arrival. Calcuttas are still obtainable at late rates. London-made remain by far the best value on the market. Cotton Cake.—The recent arrivals of Egyptian have come to hand more or less out of condition, causing a better tone for good sound descriptions, for which holders ask full prices, while English are quiet but steady. Decorticated.—London-made pures command rather more money, also digestive meal, with American brands unchanged. Rape cakes nominal. East India and Ravison unchanged. Maize germ meal.—White American does not offer, but English brands are procurable on slightly easier terms, probably owing to lower value of maize. Maize gluten meal meets a free sale at 5s advance. Rice meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon are firmly held, while shippers have advanced their prices for steamer parcels to come. Locust beans are attractively offered. Dried brewers' grains remain scarce and dear. Nitrate of soda is unaltered.

Russian, in mats (ex dock)	7 8 9	to 7 10 0
,, in bags	7 12 6	to 7 15 0
East India	7 10 0	—
Calcutta	7 10 0	to 7 12 6
London Made	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian	4 17 6	to 4 18 9
English (ex mill)	5 0 0	to 5 2 6
Bombay	4 5 0	
Decorticated, London made	7 10 0	to 7 12 6
,, American	7 5 0	to 7 7 6
,, Meal, American	7 5 0	to 7 7 6
,, Meal, English	7 10 0	to 7 12 6
Special Digestive Meal	5 0 0	to 5 5 0
RAPE CAKES.		
East India	5 5 0	—
Ravison	5 5 0	—
MAIZE.		
American	—	
English	6 12 6	to 6 15 0
Maize Gluten Meal	7 0 0	—
RICEMEAL.		
Rangoon ex ship	5 10 0	—
,, ex whf.	5 12 6	to 5 15 0
LOCUST BEANS.		
Whole	5 10 0	
Kibbled	5 15 0	
DRIED BREWERS' GRAINS.		
Ale	5 10 0	
Mixed	5 5 0	
MANURES.		
Nitrate of soda	11 2 6	

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Fairly good supplies, but trade rather quiet. Quotations for English produce:—Grapes, 8d to 3s; peaches, 3s to 12s per dozen; apples, 3s 6d to 8s 6d per bushel; pomegranates, 7s to 11s per case; pears (Williams), 3s 6d to 6s per half bushel; green figs, 6d to 1s 6d per dozen; melons 9d to 2s; tomatoes 3s to 3s 6d; nuts, 3s to 4s per 12 lb; walnuts (Grenoble) 6s to 7s per lb; carrots, 30s to 35s per ton; ditto, 2s to 2s 3d per bag; shallots, 2s 6d per 12 lb; onions, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen bunches; cucumbers, 6s to 8s per flat; cauliflowers, 4s 6d to 6s; cabbages, 4s to 5s 6d per tally; scarlet runners, 3s to 4s 6d per bushel; endive, 1s 6d to 1s 9d per dozen; celery, 7d to 1s per bundle; horseradish, 10s to 15s per dozen bundles; turnips, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; mint, 1s to 1s 6d; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen bunches; cos lettuce, 6d to 1s per score; garlic, 2s 6d to 3s per 12 lb; beetroot, 1s 6d per dozen bunches; potatoes, 60s to 80s per ton.

DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—BUTTER.—The market for Colonial butter has been brisk, and prices for fresh landed newly-made butter have advanced fully 2s per cwt, and last year's stored butter 4s per cwt on the week. The market for foreign butter has been full of interest this week, the Siberian business has shown especial activity, and values have risen for this variety about 4s per cwt. Danish has advanced by 4s 6d per cwt and the market keeps firm. French salted butter has been advanced by 4s per cwt; "choicest" quality of salt is now selling at 116s to 120s per cwt. CHEESE.—The trade this week has been steady at last week's prices. It is believed that large stocks of English and Scotch cheese are now in farmers' hands, but must be placed on the market very shortly. The total imports of cheese from September 1 to October 12 were 3,500 tons less than in the same period of 1906.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 P.M.

English wheat to-day was an irregular market, with good dry samples worth over 40s., and with damp stuff pressed in sale at 1s. decline from a week ago. Foreign wheat touched 48s. for the very finest, and nothing was to be had under 41s., so that the mean average of value was distinctly higher than for English; New York was cabled at 38s. 6d. for prompt shipment of new wheat, which, with 1s. 6d. freight and 1s. other charges, makes a price of 41s. This is 3s. lower than the spot value, and was therefore against the market.

Barley, both English and foreign, was a brisk market, and there were many visitors from the country attracted by the Brewers' and Barley Exhibition, and putting in a couple of hours at Mark Lane *en route*. Prices ranged from 32s. to 38s. for good English malting. Oats were rather in buyers' favour; 19s. 6d. accepted for Vologda, 19s. 3d. for White Sea oats. Maize was held for 29s. per qr., but sales were difficult to effect, in fact this market looks like going back. On the other hand beans, peas, rye, buckwheat, and tares all show a somewhat hardening tendency.

BRITISH GRAIN *Off Stands*.

October 21.

WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	40 — 41
Red	,,	37 — 39
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	36 — 38
Brewing	,,	33 — 35
Distilling	(per 416 lb.)	31 — 32
New Winter	(per 400 lb.)	27 — 29
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	27 — 28
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34 — 36
Brown	,,	27 — 29
Black	,,	29 — 30
OATS, Good Old	,,	22 — 23
Good New	,,	21 — 22
New Winter	,,	20 — 21
Ordinary Old	(per 320 lb.)	21 — 22
Ordinary New	(per 320 lb.)	20 — 21
,, ,,	(per 312 lb.)	19 — 20
RYE, New	(per 480 lb.)	30 — 31
BEANS, Pigeon	(per 532 lb.)	42 — 44
Tick	(per 504 lb.)	34 — 35
Winter	,,	33 — 34
Spring	,,	32 — 33
Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	22 — 23
PEAS, Picked Marrowfat, New	(per 504 lb.)	84 — 88
Unpicked (Old)	,,	52 — 56
Maple (Old)	,,	36 — 37
(New)	,,	35 — 36
Dun (Old)	,,	32 — 34
(New)	,,	33 — 34
BUCKWHEAT	(per 416 lb)	32 — 34

FOREIGN GRAIN *(Ex-Granary)*.

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba	46	48	American	28/9	29
Red Winter	44	45	Argentine	28/6	29
Best Spring	46	47	Roumanian	28/6	29
Durum	40	41	Russian	28/6	29
Argentine	42	44	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Australian	42	43	Smyrna	34	35
Californian	42	43	New Zealand	32	33
Walla Walla	41	42	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Azima	43	45	Hungarian	62	64
Ghirka	41	43	Burmese	37	39
Roumanian	42	43	Chilian	56	64
Indian White	42	43	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb):		
,, Red	41	42	French	31	33
Turkish	40	41	Russian	32	34
Persian	40	41	Canadian	34	36
BARLEY:			PEAS (504 lb.):		
C'lifor'n (448 lb)	35	36	Dutch Crowns	56	58
Tunisian (448 lb)	33	34	Konigsberg	45	47
Algerian (448 lb)	32	33	Russian White	36	37
Ouchak (448 lb)	31	33	Indian White	36	37
Smyrna (448 lb)	31	32	Canadian White	36	37
Russian (400 lb)	25	26	New Zeal'd Maple	40	41
Indian (400 lb)	24	25	Victoria Dun.	33	34
Persian (400 lb)	24	25	MILLET (416 lb.):		
MALT (336 lb.):			White	42	44
Californian	35	36	Yellow	22	24
Smyrna	34	36	Sorghum	20	21
Ouchak	35	37	RICE (cwt.):		
RYE (480 lb.):			Java	16	22
Russian	30	31	Indian	17	20
OATS:			Japanese	16	17
Konigsbg (320 lb)	21	22	Burmese	9	10
Russian (304 lb)	19	20	Siamese	8	9
Canadian (320 lb)	21	22	DARI (480 lb.):		
Arg'tine (304 lb)	19	20	Smyrna	29	30
Swedish (320 lb)	21	22	Indian	25	26
New Zeal'd (384 lb)	25	26	Persian	24	25

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 P.M.

The flour market is dearer on the week, but since Friday it has tended to go back a little. Household grade has stopped at 33s. net, and though American sorts are all quoted at an advance, buyers thereat are comparative rarities. Many think that not only American but also Hungarian flour will go back a full shilling before November is with us.

The extreme firmness of wheat, middlings, bran, pollard, sharps, &c., is disconcerting to farmers, and makes the fattening of stock for the winter markets look as though it might be unprofitable. The large deliveries of new wheat into the mills, however, should tell on the prices of milling offals very shortly.

The prices quoted for maize and rice flour are moderate by the side of some of the other quotations, and as these two sorts tend to balance each other's effect in feeding, there may be an increased demand. Country flour is now arriving in London in good quantity, but there is great complaint concerning delays at the railway stations and the difficulty of getting country flour actually delivered into the bakery. This tends to keep up the favour with which bakers regard the produce of the town mills.

London Flour.

October 21.

Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	37/0
Town Whites	,,	36/0
,, Households	,,	33/0
No. 2	,,	31/0
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	33/0
,, No. 2	,,	31/0
Country Flour.	s.	s.
Fine Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	29 — 31
Roller Whites	,,	28 — 29
All English	,,	28 — 29
Stone made	,,	26 — 27
Foreign Flour.	s.	s.
Best Hungarian	(per sack of 280 lb.)	37 net.
Minnesota First Patents	,,	33 — 34
,, Second Patents	,,	31 — 32
,, First Bakers'	,,	28 — 29
,, Second Bakers'	,,	27 — 28
Milwaukee Patents	,,	32 — 33
,, Bakers'	,,	29 — 30
Canadian Best	,,	32 — 33
,, Ordinary	,,	30 — 31
Manitoba Patents	,,	32 — 33
,, Ordinary	,,	30 — 31
Kansas Patents	,,	31 — 32
,, Ordinary	,,	28 — 29
Californian	,,	33 — 35
Belgian	,,	33 — 35
French, Corbeil	,,	31 — 32
,, Renaux	,,	29 — 30
,, P.S.D.	,,	28 — 29
Meal, &c.		
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	17 — 18
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	18 — 19
,, ,, Broad	,,	17 — 18
Pollard	,,	16 — 17
Biscuit Middlings	,,	20 — 21
Fine Middlings	,,	19 — 20
Coarse Middlings	,,	18 — 19
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	20 — 21
Farina Firsts	,,	31 — 32
,, Seconds	,,	29 — 30
Barley Meal	,,	28 — 29
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	28 — 29
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	33 — 34
Groats	,,	34 — 35
Oat Flour	,,	35 — 36
Ground Oats	,,	34 — 35
Poultry Meal	,,	37 — 38
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	21 — 22
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	20 — 21
,, Germ Meal	,,	17 — 18
,, Cones	,,	20 — 21
,, Gluten Meal	,,	17 — 18
Rye Flour	,,	26 — 28
Rye Bran	,,	23 — 24
Pea Meal	,,	25 — 26

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED QUIETLY BUT FIRMLY FOR WHEAT. IN BARLEY A LARGE BUSINESS WAS DONE, BUT QUALITY WAS SOMEWHAT DISAPPOINTING, AND RATHER LOW PRICES WERE TAKEN FOR SAMPLES OUT OF CONDITION.

THE BALTIC.

Monday, 1 P.M.

State of Trade.

Russian wheat cargoes are very firm, Australian and Indian are steady, but both North and South American tend in buyers' favour. Maize cargoes are steady for Russian, but weaker for American. Barley cargoes are firm for Californian, but steady for Russian. Oat cargoes are in buyers' favour. Cotton-seed cargoes have recovered 2s. 6d. per ton from Saturday.

Business Done.

Wheat.—American Red Winter, 8s 5d per cental, November shipment; Argentine, new crop, 40s 6d per 480 lb, February shipment; No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 42s 6d per 480 lb, November shipment; Californian, 43s 6d per 500 lb, November shipment.

Barley.—Russian, 25s 6d. per 400 lb, December shipment; Persian, 23s 9d per 400 lb, December shipment.

Oats.—Russian, 17s 3d per 340 lb, November shipment; Argentine, 18s per 304 lb, February shipment.

Maize.—American, 6s per cental, November shipment; Argentine, 5s 9d per cental, November shipment; Odessa, 29s per 480 lb, November shipment; Galatz, 29s 3d per 480 lb, November shipment.

Linseed.—Argentine, 45s 3d per 416 lb, arrived; Riga, 43s 3d per 416 lb., prompt shipment; Bombay, 48s per 416 lb, prompt shipment; Calcutta, 46s 3d per 410 lb, prompt shipment.

Rapseed.—Calcutta, brown, 54s 9d per 416 lb, prompt shipment; Jamba, 44s 6d per 416 lb, prompt shipment; Ferozepore, 56s 9d per 416 lb, prompt shipment; Guzzrat, yellow, 61s per 416 lb, prompt shipment.

Cottonseed.—Egyptian, £7 8s 9d per ton, due; ditto, £7 6s 3d per ton, prompt shipment; ditto, £7 5s per ton, December shipment; Bombay, £6 2s 6d per ton, prompt shipment.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—There is no change to report in prices, though at the moment the tone of the market is somewhat quieter, and rather more in buyers' favour.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Offals.—The demand for bran continues active, and prices remain unchanged—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Flour.—Prices are lower in consequence of he drop in America. Grain.—Round and flat corn in fair demand, but prices are easier in sympathy with America. Grinding beans steady and in good demand. Pease very scarce and dearer. Oatmeal in sellers' favour. Oilcake in better request. Oats are firm. Mill stuffs in good demand at full prices. winter wheat patents, 30s 6d to 31s 6d per 280 lb; spring wheat patents, 32s 6d to 34s 6d per 280 lb; American corn, 17s 9d to 18s per 280 lb; round corn, 16s 6d to 16s 9d per 280 lb; grinding beans, 19s per 280 lb; white pease, 22s 6d to 23s per 280 lb; broad bran, 117s 6d to £6 per ton; medium bran, 112s 6d per ton; fine thirds, 137s 6d to 140s per ton; common thirds, 120s per ton; American oilcake, 150s 6d to 152s 6d per ton.—McKinnon and McDonald (Glasgow).

Milling offals.—A further advance of 2s 6d ton must be written on all offal with the demand in excess of supply.—John Bawcomb and Co.

Flour. — Trade to-day has been quiet but steady at last Monday's prices, the depression of the latter part of the week having been fully recovered.—T. S. Medill and Sons, Ltd.

Wheat in moderate supply; a quiet trade, at prices of last Monday. Flour unchanged. Maize firm. Barley 6d. and 9d. lower. Oats dull.—Coventry, Sheppard, and Co.

TERM MARKET.

The past week has been one of very busy markets, and a large number of transactions has been registered. We can only chronicle the latest prices paid for future delivery.

American Red Winter wheat	8s. 5d.	Nov. delivery.
,, ,, ,,	8s. 4d.	Dec. ,,
,, ,, ,,	8s. 5d.	Mar. ,,
,, ,, ,,	8s. 4d.	May ,,
American Mixed Maize	6s. 0d.	Nov. ,,
,, ,, ,,	5s. 11d.	Dec. ,,
,, ,, ,,	5s. 9d.	Jan. ,,
,, ,, ,,	5s. 8d.	Feb. ,,
Argentine yellow ,,	5s. 10d.	Oct. ,,
,, ,, ,,	5s. 9d.	Nov. ,,

SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—With little improvement in the weather, the sowing demand drags. Rape dearer. Mustard unchanged. Rye in good demand at present high prices. Winter tares would seem an extraordinary fine crop, still offering freely in buyers' favour. Seed wheats in fair demand; prices unchanged. Peas, more inquiry, but backward supply. English trefoil, white Alsike, and reds are all dearer, with good business passing. In grasses, Perennials and Irish Italians rather easier after the stiff rise experienced.—John Pickard and Co.

THE MARK LANE EXPRESS SUPPLEMENT FOR THE HOME

Conducted by "PEPITA"

THE NEWEST FASHIONS.

Purple is one of the reigning autumn and winter colours. The most marvellous purple headgear for the autumn is now appearing in many of the smart shops, and ribbon counters, veil counters, even suit departments and dress goods emporiums are all filled with a wealth of the rich purple shadings. In the millinery shops the use of purple in both hat and trimmings is most striking. The material employed to make some of the hats is a heavy satin, which is to be used for many early autumn hats. One shape is that of a modified mushroom, the brim both on top and underneath being covered with the satin put on quite plain. The crown is made of the satin, very full and soft, the material being guaged and gathered most effectively. The hat noticed was trimmed with purple coque feathers in the same shade as the satin and chous of purple maline.

* * *

Purple felt hats with facings of grey, black, or a varying shade of purple are also seen, and when the hat is thus faced with a different colour the feathers show both shades. A mingling of tan and purple, grey and purple, or two shades of purple in this fashion is most effective. Purple feathers are also introduced on hats of other colours in a way that is most effective. A pale green hat, which had darker green velvet trimmings, was made quite a dream of colour by the addition of a delicate lavender wing.

* * *

Whether an effort is to be made to supplant the useful brown veil with a purple one has not yet been determined, but the great abundance of purple veiling would suggest such a possibility. Of course, the purple veil looks well enough with the purple suit and hat, but when it comes to combining this veil with a costume of another hue those of conservative taste hesitate. The brown lace veil, like the brown hat, is more harmonious with a greater number of costumes than any other hue could possibly be, and beautiful as purple is on the rare occasions on which it is used well, certainly even its most devoted admirers cannot maintain that it is as universally becoming as the brown, which it is perhaps destined by the arbiters of fashion to replace.

* * *

There are many varieties of materials that are suitable and attractive for cool autumn days. It is possible, of course, to make any fabric heavy enough if the lining be warm, and certainly most taffeta silks are heavy and warm enough as linings to make even chiffon or thin voile seem like a lightweight cloth. But to the fastidious minded there is nothing that takes the place of materials in which there is wool. The lightweight cloths, those exquisite fabrics that are now woven, are especially well suited to autumn, besides which they have the added advantage that they will hang well and drape well in accordance with the soft, graceful outlines that fashion at the moment is demanding.

* * *

Most effective, becoming, and harmonious is a gown of lightweight mauve cloth, the skirt of which has no trimming, excepting perhaps a plain or embroidered band just around the hem. This skirt is tremendously wide and at the same time is so gored or cut that while it is pleated around the hips the pleats take up little if any room, and do not in any way add to the width of the hips. The bodice is draped to match the skirt, and while it has the kimono effect of sleeves the effect is tremendously modified, and is far more graceful than the original idea. The only trimming is on the sleeves and where the folds cross in the front of the bodice. These are outlined with plain embroidered bands. At the throat there is a fitted yoke and collar or chemisette of fine lace, and under the kimono sleeves are lace or chiffon ones. Just a touch of colour can be introduced into the buckle at the belt or in the knots of ribbon in the sleeves, but these are by no means necessary to the finish or appearance of the gown.

* * *

If so desired this model of a cloth gown can also be utilised for crêpe de Chine of the more expensive quality. The cheaper qualities do not look well when made up plain. And the moment embroidery is used, or embroidered trimmings, that moment the gown itself is changed from one of harmonious simplicity to the elaborate style that is not nearly so smart. This style of gown is perfectly possible and extremely attractive made in the soft Liberty satins, and also is effective made in velvet of the chiffon or panne variety, both in dark or light colours—not in black, however. In black velvet it would be heavy and ineffective. Oddly enough, it does not look bad in black cloth.

* * *

In choosing material to copy any of the models that are exhibited this autumn the greatest amount of care should be taken, because sometimes a model that looks well in one material would look very bad in another, and the same as to colours. This of necessity means spending considerable time and thought upon the mundane matter of dress. But it will be found well spent in the results that are obtained, for certainly it pays to have a gown satisfactory, and it is attention to these little details that makes good results. For instance, sometimes a plain design would look well in one model when a figured would look very bad, and *vice versa*.

* * *

The graceful gown shown in the sketch is of grey cloth, made with a semi-Empire corsage. It is trimmed with a scarf of Russian embroidery. The yoke and sleeves are of white silk.



A GRACEFUL GOWN.
PAPER PATTERN 1/6½. POST FREE.

The Human Figure.

The proportions of the human figure are strictly mathematical. The whole figure is six times the length of the foot. Whether the form be slender or plump, the rule holds good; any deviation from it is a departure from the highest beauty in proportion. The Greeks made all their statues according to this rule. The face, from the highest point of the forehead, where the hair begins, to the chin, is one-tenth of the whole stature. The hand, from the wrist to the tip of the middle finger, is the same. From the top of the chest to the highest point in the forehead is a seventh. If the length of the face, from the roots of the hair to the chin, be divided into three equal parts, the first division determines the place where the eyebrows meet, and the second the place of the nostrils. The height from the feet to the top of the head is the same as the distance from the extremity of the fingers when the arms are extended.

To Clean Glass.

Remove the chill from some clean, soft water, put a small piece of soda into it. If decanters are to be cleansed pour the water into them, add a few small shot, or brown paper cut into small pieces; shake them well. A hair bottle-washer, or slip of whalebone with a piece of sponge attached, should be used. When the dirt and stains are loosened, rinse in cold spring water, then put the decanters to drain. When dry, use powdered rotten stone for the outside, and wipe with a clean cloth; they will have a brilliant polish. The same directions may be followed for all kinds of glass manufacture. Ornamental parts may be cleaned with a tooth-brush. Glass, being expensive, as well as brittle, requires that it should be washed as soon as done with, and put away at once.

Decorating and Furnishing the Hall.

Of all the rooms in the house, the hall should be the most inviting. The appearance of the hall generally is the keynote of the house, and a cheerful entranceway should always greet the visitor and occupant alike.

Halls are of such different shapes and sizes that it is hard to lay down any rules for the arrangement of them. From the very small hallway of the two-storey and basement town house to the grand foyer of the country mansions, there is a great scope and a vast field in the possibility of decoration and colour schemes.

For the house of medium size and where the purse is somewhat limited, the following ideas can be carried out successfully by the housewife, with the aid of a carpenter and painter, or perhaps the older boys in the house can help in procuring the desired results.

In some halls there is but little wall space, for windows, doors, and staircase take up much of the room, but where there is a reasonable amount of space the following scheme may be carried out to good advantage:—

The woodwork should be in light-coloured paint or ivory enamel, the frieze in pale green with a stencilled design, somewhat on the Empire style. This design can be painted on the tinted or flat-papered frieze with fresco colours or a solid tint of old-red.

A picture moulding should be dropped twelve or fifteen inches from the ceiling, according to the height of the room, and below this the walls may be covered with an ingrain paper in old-red. This paper can be plain or ornamented with a very small and inconspicuous pattern running all through it.

Four feet from the floor a rail of wood two inches wide should be made fast, and similar rails should be attached in a vertical position, forming panels. These strips are to be nailed or screwed fast to the wall and finished all around the edge with small mouldings.

The panels can be finished in old-green, golden-brown, or dark red; it may be applied to the wall with heavy paste.

It is best always to have the floor of a hall varnished and polished. There are several good wax preparations made for floors, and the latter can be always kept bright and attractive by applying the wax once a week, and rubbing the floor with a woollen cloth. One large or several small rugs can be thrown down, and if the room is large enough some chairs and a table can be accommodated.

Another pretty scheme for the side wall is to begin with a light apple-green at the frieze, using a darker green behind the pictures, and a still darker shade of green burlap in the panels. The woodwork can be in natural wood or cream-coloured enamel, and the floor stained and polished.

All-red, all-green, or a gradation of golden-browns are always pleasing to the eye, and make cheerful colourings for a hall.

The scheme of pictures and hangings is to have all the mountings in passe-partout, with green, black, or dark red bindings. Three-quarter-inch harness rings are attached to the back of the pictures, and these are hung over nails driven in the wall. The rings and nails are blacked with a dead black paint, and the iron work of the lamp and other metal work in the hall is treated in the same manner. The black can be purchased or made by adding dry lamp-black to thin shellac, and applying it with a soft brush.

Umbrella stands, hat and coat racks and settles are most useful pieces of furniture for halls, and if there is room, a table on which a lamp can rest is convenient.

The umbrella stand shown in the drawing is made from four boards, each ten inches wide and thirty inches long. These boards are fastened together by lapping the edge of one over the end edge of another and making the joint fast with glue and screws. The boards are of pine, white wood, or other desirable woods, and are five-eighths of an inch thick. A bottom is made of wood seven-eighths of an inch thick, and a zinc tray two inches high is made by a tinsmith to fit in the bottom of the stand to catch the drippings from wet umbrellas.

The lower part of the stand is covered with dark green or red, and the edges bound with sheet lead painted black. It is held on with oval-headed upholsterer's tacks painted black and driven about one inch and a-half apart.

The ornament on the upper half of the sides is composed of parts cut from sheet lead and applied with slim, steel wire nails. The woodwork can be stained and varnished before the ornament is put on.

The hat and coat rack is an odd piece of furniture, constructed from pine or white wood rails two and three inches wide. It measures six feet and six inches high by twenty-four inches wide, and the base is fifteen inches out from the surbase.

The umbrella rail is thirty inches high from the floor, and projects out eight inches from the back. The side pieces that brace the base and back are cut from wood seven eighths of an inch in thickness with a compass-saw, and the projecting ends of uprights and cross pieces are cut with a compass-saw also. All the joints are lapped, half of the wood being cut

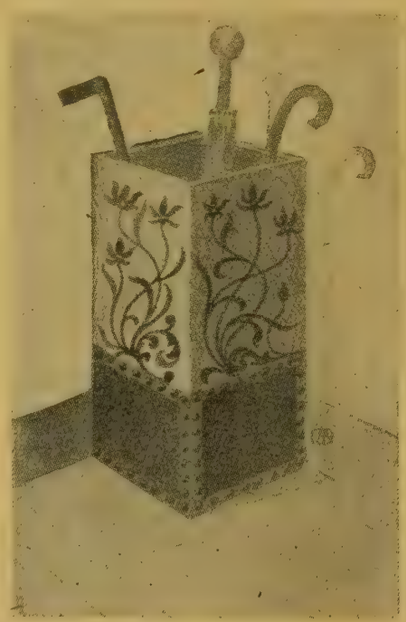


A COMMODIOUS HAT AND COAT RACK.

away in each strip, so when the parts are fitted together all surfaces will be flush.

This rack can be stained and varnished any colour to match the woodwork in the hall, or, if desired, it can be painted or enamelled.

A comfortable and convenient settle may be made by using as a foundation a box eighteen inches wide and high and forty inches long. The lid is arranged on hinges at the back so it can be raised, and divisions and pockets can



UMBRELLA STAND.

be made of holland and tacked at the inside to hold rubbers, dust-cloths, or other things of use on the lower floor.

If troubled with an excess of wax in the ears give them an occasional bath by dropping a little warm milk into them. The head must remain flat for about five minutes while the milk is allowed to rest in the cavity. Dry with a bit of absorbent cotton on the round end of a hairpin. Do not go out immediately after having given the ears this treatment.

ROUND-ABOUT NOTES.

The land of the Nile is beginning to educate its women, and has just welcomed its first girl graduate, the B.A. degree having been recently gained by a Moslem girl student. Within the last few years female education has made great strides in Egypt, which now boasts of seven Government schools for girls, the teachers of which have been trained in the Women's Normal School at Bonlak.

* * *

There are many anecdotes about Madame Adelina Patti, but one of the prettiest is the following:—She stopped one day at the door of a little cottage to drink a glass of milk, while the old lady of the house regaled her guest with fabulous stories of Madame Patti. Then the mistress of Craig-y-nos made herself known. "I am Madame Patti," she said. The rustic hostess was delighted, and with charming naiveté answered: "Oh, then, you will be kindly pleased to sing me a song?" "Very well," answered the other. "Shut the door, and I will sing." The door was shut, and Madame Patti sang "Home, Sweet Home." In other words, her glass of milk was paid for with notes to the value of about £100.

* * *

Mrs. William Astor has a wonderful snake ring which literally writhes in constant motion on her finger. It is constructed of flexible gold wire, each scale being represented by a loop of wire, in which a ruby, an emerald, or an amethyst is firmly set. The lightest movement of the fingers sets the wires quivering, and the ring scintillates and seems to go round and round the finger with a serpentine movement that has something weird about it. It was made in Egypt.

* * *

Sweden has doctors, but no doctors' bills If you have occasion to call in a physician, you will find him not only skilful, but a highly educated and most honourable gentleman. You will also have another proof of the honesty of the Swedes and their friendly confidence in each other. Swedish doctors send no bills to their patients. What you shall pay your physician is left entirely to your own choice. The rich pay him liberally, whether they have need of his services or not, if he has been once retained by them. The poor pay him a small sum, and the very poor pay him nothing. Yet he visits the poor as faithfully as he does the rich. On the last day of the year you put into an envelope, addressed to your physician, a sum of money which you think not only sufficient to compensate him, but in accordance with your position in life, and enclosing your card with the money, send the envelope by a servant to your doctor. The servant returns with the card of the doctor in a sealed envelope directed to you. This shows that he has received your money, and no word about the matter ever passes between you.

* * *

The ancient city of Rouen, France, owns the very earliest specimen of the larger varieties of the ancient clockmakers' triumphs. It was made by Johan de Felains, and was finished and set going in September, 1389. So perfect in construction is this ancient time-recording machine that, although it has been regularly striking the hours, halves, and quarters for more than a half-thousand years, it is still used as a regulator. The case of this early horological oddity is six feet eight inches in height by five inches broad. For 325 years it continued to run without a pendulum, being provided with what the old-time clockmakers called a "foliot."

* * *

When Americans visit Havana they are confronted with many peculiar customs. One of the most startling and revolting is that which prevails in regard to the dead. Colon Cemetery, a beautiful burial ground, laid out in romantic walks, arched with superb trees and adorned with costly monuments and classic cenotaphs, is the last home for all, grandee and peasant alike. The rainbow effects of the city's architecture are carried out here, as revealed in the various colours of the crosses which mark the graves; but suddenly, and without warning, the vision is astonished with a grotesque contrast truly a shocking commentary upon civilisation. It appears that the ground in this cemetery is leased, not sold, and if after a term of five years the renewal rent is not paid, the dead forfeit their resting-places. Their bodies are ruthlessly dug up and cast into a common heap, exposed to public view along with thousands of other skulls and bones of men, women, and children who can never be traced by posterity. "PEPITA."

NEEDLEWORK.

A New Method of Appliqué-work.

The artistic merit of appliqué-work is unquestioned, and the very satisfactory results that can be achieved with two or three simple colours will always make it a favourite means of refined feeling in the decoration of the home. The ordinary form of appliqué-work entails a considerable amount of somewhat tedious stitching, which, although it is time well spent on a piece of work which has to stand hard wear and frequent washing, yet will often deter us from executing many effective decorative articles which we should otherwise like to possess.



FIG. 1. DESIGN FOR CURTAIN BORDER.

This new form of the art is so simple and quickly done and the final effect so much more attractive than the old method, that although it will not allow of being washed, yet it will well repay the small amount of trouble expended, especially for such things as piano and mantel draperies, curtain borders, portieres and wall hangings.

The method of procedure is to affix the various pieces of coloured material forming the design to the background by means of an adhesive, such as corn-flour paste, and then to outline and complete the design with metallic paint.

Fig. 1 is a simple border design for curtains, which would be an excellent example for the beginner to attempt. It could be worked out in coloured linen, or art serge.

A complete drawing must first be made the full size required on heavy paper, and also a complete outline on the article to be decorated. In the case of a repeat-design such as this border, one drawing of the repeat will be sufficient on the paper, but the design must be drawn in its entirety on the fabric. The various parts of the design are now cut out of the paper and used as patterns to cut the coloured material to be applied. The cut paper patterns will also be found useful to trace the design on the background fabric. Ordinary coloured crayons will do excellently for this purpose, it being an easy matter to trace around the paper patterns with them. The curtain must be stretched on a flat table by means of thumb-tacks, a few old newspapers being spread beneath it to give a soft, even surface. The design being complete in outline and a sufficient number of the component parts being cut upon the contrasting material, all will be ready for making up the pattern. A paste is made from a teaspoonful of corn-flour wetted with water, to which is added a cupful of boiling water, it being used warm and applied with a stiff paste brush. The large heart-shaped pieces will be easiest to fix, so had better be done first. On the back of the first one spread an even, thin layer of paste with the brush and lay it in position on the background, and press it evenly and firmly with a warm iron to complete the adhesion. A piece of paper should be used between the iron and the fabric to prevent the latter taking a gloss, which is undesirable. The remaining pieces are all fixed in the same manner, and the design is then ready for outlining and completing with gold paint. Use a small, round, hog-hair brush for this purpose, and apply the paint evenly and with a bold touch. Other metallic colours can be used if desired, but the best effects seem always to be got with dull gold.

It will be found that the work can be done very quickly, and if a careful selection of harmonious colours is made the effect will be both artistic and pleasing.

The curtain border would look well on blue linen with the hearts and leaf-shaped pieces in dull green and the outlines in gold. This design has been also worked out in heavy art serge of a dull blue shade with the design in olive-green and gold. In such material the effect is somewhat rougher, but when done on a large scale is very rich in appearance.

Fig. 2 is a broad design suitable for a portiere border. Executed in coloured linen it would be excellent for a bedroom or dressing-room. A suitable scheme of colours would be pearl-grey for the background, with a pale neutral green for the circles, cream or pale pink for the blossoms, and a slightly darker shade of green than that used for the circles for the leaves, the whole being outlined with pale gold. The design should be placed about six inches from the bottom of the curtain and should be about eighteen inches in width.

Fig. 3 worked to a scale of about twenty inches square, would be suitable for a table centre, or about thirty or forty inches as a small table-cover. The *motif* of the design is the hydrangea, and a good background would be pale buff-coloured linen, with the trusses of blossom in pale pink, the leaves dull green, the outlining in gold. The bunches of blossom are to be cut out in one piece and the detail added after it is applied. As a table-cover it should be completed in somewhat thicker material, such as Roman satin or coloured felt, in which case darker shades for the whole thing would be more suitable.

Many uses for this work will suggest themselves to the reader, as it is adaptable to almost anything of a decorative nature. It would be a beautiful method for finishing a high four-fold screen in tones to harmonise with a room,

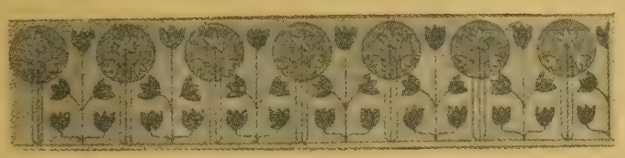


FIG. 2. DESIGN FOR PORTIÈRE BORDER.

in which case coarse canvas would be the best material to work with. Short lengths of canvas can often be bought very cheaply and of exquisite shades. These would be entirely suited for the purpose. Harmonious colouring and avoidance of any strong contrasts are the keynotes of success.

Wave Lace.

Cast on 26 stitches; knit across plain. 1st row: Slip 1, knit 5* (over, knit 2, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 3, narrow, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 5). 2nd row: Over, narrow, knit rest plain. 3rd row: Slip 1, knit 6, like first row from *. 4th row: Over, narrow, rest plain. 5th row: Slip 1, knit 7, like first from *. 6th row: Over, narrow, rest plain. 7th row: Slip 1, knit 8, like first from *. 8th row: Over, narrow, rest plain. 9th row: Slip 1, knit 9, like first from *. 10th row: Over, narrow, rest plain. 11th row: Slip 1, knit 10, like first from *. 12th row: Over, narrow, rest plain. 13th row: Slip 1, knit rest plain. 14th row: Over, narrow, knit 2, narrow, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit 3, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit 2, over, narrow, knit rest plain. 15th row: Slip 1, rest plain. 16th row: Like fourteenth. 17th row: Slip 1, rest plain. 18th row: Like fourteenth. 19th row: Slip 1, rest plain. 20th row: Like fourteenth. 21st row: Slip 1, rest plain. 22nd row: Like fourteenth. 23rd row: Slip 1, rest plain. 24th row: Like fourteenth. 25th row: Slip 1, rest plain. 26th row: Over, narrow, rest plain. Begin at first row.

Household Hints.

If ink is spilled on a carpet, pour milk over it immediately, without stopping to wipe up the ink. Then wipe up the whole thing, and the stain will almost disappear. The grease left by the milk may be removed by rubbing with soap and water.

Paraffin may be removed in an equally easy way by scattering oatmeal thickly over the spot and letting it remain overnight. It will entirely absorb the oil, and make the carpet even fresher and brighter.

Carafes of cut glass look best when cleaned with egg shells. Break up the shells, put a handful into hot soapsuds, and pour them into the carafe, shaking thoroughly. Use a second suds for rinsing, give them a final rinsing in clear water, and they will then look very bright and clean.

A Few Apple Recipes.

Baked Apples. The main point is the apple—the many variations in the baking being secondary. Lay it down as a fixed law in your kitchen that sour apples only are available for baking; the more sour the better. A tart apple will be passably good, but a downright sour one is better. To prepare apples for baking, wash, dry, and core them, or merely cut out the stem and blossom ends. Place them in a pie pan with a little water, and bake in a moderate oven. The core cavity may be filled with butter and sugar, if desired, or the apples basted with a light sugar syrup enriched with butter (brought to the boiling point) and flavoured with nutmeg or grated lemon peel.

Apple Sauce. Again use only tart or sour apples. No. 1. Pare, core, and quarter the apples, put them in an unburned granite saucepan, and less than half cover with water; cook, covered, until perfectly tender, remove without breaking, sprinkle well with sugar, sweeten the juice slightly, and pour over the sauce. Grate over the top a little nutmeg. No. 2. Pare, core, and quarter, sprinkle well with sugar, add a little water, and cook, covered, until tender. A little lemon peel is a nice addition. No. 3. Pare, core, and slice the apples; add a little water, cook until soft, sweeten to taste, and rub through a colander. Grate nutmeg over the top.

Scalloped Apples.—Cover the bottom of a baking dish with sliced sour apples, sprinkle well with sugar, grate over some nutmeg or dust with cinnamon, and cover with soft bread-crumbs moistened in melted butter; continue these layers until the dish is full, finishing with bread-crumbs; add half a cupful or less of water, and bake for half-an hour, covered; remove the cover, and bake until brown. Serve cold or hot, with cream.

Apple Pie.—If the apples are sufficiently sour there will be no question about their being perfectly soft when the pie is baked. Heap a pastry-lined pan well with apples, sprinkle heavily with sugar to which a teaspoonful of flour has been added and mixed through, dot with butter, dust well with allspice, add a little water, cover with a top crust, and bake.

Apple Souffle.—To a pint of apple sauce, unsweetened, made as in receipe No. 3, add two-thirds of a cupful of sugar, 3 beaten egg yolks, and the juice and grated peel of a small lemon. When cold add the beaten whites of the eggs, turn into a buttered baking dish, cover with soft bread-crumbs, moistened with melted butted, and bake 20 minutes. Serve with cream.

Apple Fritters.—Slice the apples very thin, not across, but lengthwise toward the core from the outside, and pour over them some brandy; there need not be enough to cover them, as they may be turned over from time to time. After soaking for 1 hour or longer, according to the degree of brandy flavour relished, add the apples to an equal bulk, or a little over, of batter. Sauté in a spider (2 tablespoonfuls to a fritter) or fry in deep fat. Lard and beef suet mixed make the best fat for frying.



FIG. 3. APPLIQUÉ CENTREPIECE.

Hard putty may be softened in a few minutes by a lye made of wood ashes.

Rowntree's Elect Cocoa

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POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday. — Fair supplies met a generally quiet demand. Epicures, 70s; Blacklands, 70s; Up-to-Dates, 80s; British Queens, 70s to 80s per ton; French, 3s 3d; Dutch, 3s 3d per bag.

Berwick, Saturday.—Owing to the unfavourable weather trade was sharper. Reports speak of disease in the Border crop.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supply was small, and met a fairly brisk demand at 7d to 8d per stone.

Doncaster, Saturday. — Potatoes rather scarce owing to the heavy rain, but a fair trade. Prices advanced 1s, being 8s to 8s 6d per load of 18 stones.

Goole, Wednesday.—The attendance was very good, but few lots of potatoes changed hands. Retail price about 7d per stone.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Potatoes, 9d per stone.

Malton, Saturday.—The very wet weather is causing disease to spread in the late crop of potatoes. Wholesale prices were irregular at 65s to 75s per ton picked. Good lots, retail, 4s per bag of 8 stones. British Queens seem to be selling the best.

Manchester, Saturday.—Potatoes: Yorkshire, 10s; Cheshire, 7s to 7s 6d; Lincoln, 9s to 10s per 18st.

Preston, Saturday.—Potatoes: 8s to 9s per load of 240 lb.

Retford, Saturday.—A small supply. Best home-grown made 7s 6d to 8s, and other sorts 7s per load.

Spitalfields, Saturday.— A moderate demand prevailed for the moderate assortment. Epicures, 70s; British Queens, 70s to 80s; Up-to-dates, 80s; Blacklands, 70s per ton; French and Dutch, 3s 6d per bag.

Whitby, Saturday.—Potatoes, 8d per store.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Plentiful supply of locally grown potatoes, and trade very slow, best samples making 7s 6d to 7s 9d per load of 18 stones.

York, Saturday.—There was a steady trade for potatoes, though few were offered, farmers being busy "pieing," and in many cases farmers are holding back supplies for a rise. Prices ranged from 67s 6d to 72s 6d per ton.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Altrincham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Appleby: 11½d to 1s 1d. Barnstaple: 1s 2d. Berwick: 1s. to 1s 2d. Birmingham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Camelford: 1s. Carlisle: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Dartmouth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Derby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Devizes: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Doncaster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Dorchester: 10d to 1s 4d. Evesham: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Hereford: 1s to 1s 3d. Kidderminster: 1s 1d. Lancaster: 1s 2½d to 1s 3½d. Lincoln: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Market Drayton: 1s 2d Otley: 1s 7d per 24 oz roll. Penrith: 1s to 1s 1d. Penzance: 10d to 1s 2d. Plymouth: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Preston: 1s 3d. Retford: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Ripon: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Shrewsbury: 1s 2d. Spalding: 1s. Stamford: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Totnes: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Truro: 11d to 1s. Worcester: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Worksop: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Altrincham: 5 and 6. Appleby: 7 and 8. Barnstaple: 8. Berwick: 1s 3d to 1s 4d doz. Birmingham: 6 to 8. Camelford: 10. Carlisle: 6 and 7. Dartmouth: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per doz. Derby: 7. Devizes: 9 and 10. Doncaster: 8 and 9. Dorchester: 1s 4d to 1s 6½d per doz. Evesham: 1s 2d to 1s 3½d per doz. Hereford: 8 to 10. Kidderminster: 10 and 11. Lancaster: 7 and 8. Lincoln: 9 and 10. Market Drayton: 6 to 7. Otley: 6 and 7. Penrith: 8 and 9. Penzance: 1s 3d to 1s 5d per doz. Plymouth: 7 and 8. Preston: 6. Retford: 2s 4d per score. Ripon: 7 and 8. Scarborough: 8. Shrewsbury: 7 and 8. Spalding: 10. Stamford: 9 and 10. Stockton: 6. Totnes: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per doz. Truro: 1s 2½ to 1s 3d per dozen Worcester: 7. Worksop: 2s 4d to 2s 6d per score. York: 8 and 9.

WET AND DRIED GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Wet Grains: With a steady trade prices have a firmer tendency, and business has been done during the week at 18s to 19s ale, 3s less for porter per ton on rail, London. Dried Grains.—Prices at home continue steady, lacking much upward tendency owing to slackness of Continental demand, 102s 6d ale and 97s 6d mixed are being paid ex factory, in buyers' bags. At these prices same compare favourably with millers' offals. American cane treacle, 95s per ton; and kiln-dried sea-damaged wheat from 22s per qr.—HAMLYN AND Co., 37 and 38, Mark Lane.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Oct. 21, 1907. British.	Total.	Monday, Oct. 22, 1906.
Beasts	1,240	1,240	1,180
Sheep and Lambs	4,490	4,490	4,730
Calves	10	10	10
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	40	40	50

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 4	3 6	4 10
Sheep	4 8	5 6	6 0
Lambs	—	6 0	6 8
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £23.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 10; Eastern Counties, 51; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 974; Devon, 50; Ireland, 155.

We note to-day an increase of 190 head in the number of beasts offered for sale compared with Monday last, the arrivals including a larger number of Devons, and a few cross-bred Scotch, the former, however, made our top quotations. For all grades of English cattle a slow trade was experienced with a downward tendency in regard to value. The Irish arrivals consisted of 66 Dublins, 69 Waterfords, these sharing in the poor trade experienced, and being quoted 2d. per 8 lb. lower in value, and 20 stones (one and two year old heifers), these latter meeting with very little inquiry. Fat cows and bulls met with a very limited inquiry, late currencies being difficult to maintain. A clearance will not be made to-day.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s d	s d	Monday, Oct. 22, 1906. s d	s d
Scotch	—	—	—	—
Devons	4 8 to 4 10		—	—
Herefords	4 4 ex 4 6		4 4 ex 4 6	
Norfolks	—	—	—	—
Runts	4 2 to 4 4		4 2 to 4 4	
Lincolns	3 10 to 4 0		3 6 to 3 8	
Irish	4 0 to 4 2		3 10 to 4 0	
Canadian	—	—	—	—
Fat cows	3 4 ex 3 6		3 4 ex 3 6	

There was an increase of 280 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. For all English descriptions of both wethers and ewes trade ruled of a very disappointing nature; however, late values governed all transactions. Scotch sheep were in average supply and sold well, sellers both asking and obtaining an advance of 2d per 8 lb in value, whilst Irish, on the other hand were in excess of the requirements and were difficult to vend. The few lambs that were offered for sale cleared early in the day at late values. The supply included 200 Scotch, 1,025 Irish, and 211 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, Oct. 22, 1906. s. d.	s. d.
7½ to 8 st Downs	5 10 to 6	0	6 0 to 6	2
9 st. Downs	5 8 to 5	10	5 10 to 6	0
10 st Halfbreds	5 4 to 5	6	5 6 to 5	8
10 st Yorkshires	—		—	
12 st Lincolns	—		—	
10 st Irish	5 6 to 5	8	5 2 to 5	4
10 st Down Ewes	4 0 to 4	2	4 4 to 4	6
11 st Halfbred ditto	3 10 to 4	0	4 2 to 4	4
5 st Down Lambs	6 6 to 6	8	—	
6 st Halfbred ditto	—		—	

The few calves on offer met with a very slow trade at less money.

St. Ives (Hunts) Monday.—Beasts, 801; sheep and lambs, 1,601; pigs, 552; horses, 4. Fat cattle fair; stores in good demand; fat and sheep and pigs good trade. Prices: Beef, 7s to 7s 6d; mutton, 8s 2d to 10s 6d; lamb, 9d to 10d; pork, 6s 3d to 7s; milch cows, £14 to £22.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 740. To-day's supply compared with Monday last showed an increase of 388 head, and consisted of 420 from the United States and 320 Canadian ranch cattle, these latter remained unsold. Trade ruled of a very slow nature, with a downward tendency in regard to value to the extent of 2d per 8 lb. The best States on offer were quoted at from 4s to 4s 2d; seconds, 3s 10d to 4s per per 8 lb (offal given in). On Saturday 2,000 beasts from the United States were offered for sale, and met with a slow trade, the best on offer being quoted at from 4s 2s to 4s 4d; seconds, 4s to 4s 2d per 8 lb (offal given in). Besides the above, 360 more were withheld from sale.

Liverpool, Monday.—The supply of cattle was larger than last week, demand fair for good quality at prices slightly in buyers favour; rough sorts unchanged. Sheep shown in reduced numberr, and trade good for handy finished weigots at about last week's quotations; middling and rough classes lower in value. Quotations:—Beef, 6½d to 4½d per lb; mutton, 9d to 6½d per lb. At market 1,687 cattle and 7,286 sheep.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday. — Linseed Cake.—Trade is not yet up to general expectation, though principally owing to the position of seed in the oil crushers have advanced prices for home made fully 2s 6d per ton. Foreign makes continue to be sparingly offered. Cotton Cake. — A fair business is passing in Egyptian made, but with one or two heavy arrivals values remain unchanged. Linseed.—The market dropped during the week, but is now steadying up again, and closes 6d to 9d dearer.

LINSEED CAKES.	£ s. d.	Per ton. £ s. d.
English Linseed Cake, ex mill	7 15 0	to 8 0 0
Russian Oil Cake ex quay	7 8 9	to 7 15 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake ex quay	7 5 0	—
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal ex quay	7 0 0	—
London-made ,, Cake (best) ex mill	5 2 6	—
Egyptian ,, Cake (in bags) ex quay	4 18 9	to 5 0 0
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains (bags included) on rail, Burton	5 8 0	—
Calcutta Linseed (in bags), per 410 lb ex warehouse	2 7 6	—
La Plata Linseed per 416 lb. ex warehouse	2 7 6	to 2 12 0
Russian Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb ex warehouse	—	—

—ROBT. & JOHN HEWETSON.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, October 21.—Linseed is firm, but cottonseed is 5s. per ton cheaper owing to good supply from Egypt. Rapeseed and hempseed are dearer on the week, while sesame and rubsen are unchanged.

LINSEED. per 416 lb.	s. s.	RUBSEN. per 424 lb	s. s.
Calcutta	48 to 49	German	71 to 75
Russian	46 to 49	POPPYSEED. per 377 lb.	
Argentine recle'd	50 to 52	Indian	58 to 59
Argentine cleand	48 to 49	COTTONSEED. per ton.	
Argentine comn.	45 to 46	Egyptian	144 to 146
Dutch best	54 to 55	Indian	124 to 126
Turkish	48 to 50	Brazilian	122 to 124
Canadian	47 to 49	SUNFLOWERSEED. per cwt.	
Morocco	52 to 54	English, White	14 to 15
RAPESEED. per 416 lb.		Russian, White.	13 to 14
English	80 to 84	,, Black.	12 to 13
French F.A.Q.	65 to 67	SESAME. per 384 lb.	
Yellow Guzerat	61 to 62	Indian	56 to 60
YellowCawnpre	55 to 56	HEMPSEED. per 336 lb.	
Brown ,,	54 to 55	Russian	42 to 44
Ferozepore	54 to 55		

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—The demand for choice qualities of every description is good, and prices for such have a hardening tendency, and there is more doing in the good medium hops, which are being taken for copper purposes; and there are buyers for the very brownest, if free from disease, at their full comparative value. The Board of Agriculture gives the quantity of hops grown this year as 374,129 cwt. The last Government return of the weight of hops used by the brewers, October 1, 1905, to September 30, 1906, was 571,008, now it add to this 50,000 cwt required by exporters, manufacturers of non-alcoholic drinks, yeast making, home brewers, &c., we have a total of 621,008 cwt. This leaves a shortage of 246,879 cwt.—W. H. AND H. LE MAY.

English Wheat, Barley & Oats in 1906.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley s. d	Oats. s. d.
Highest of Year	30 4	25 4	20 4
Lowest of Year	26 1	23 1	16 2
Gradient	4 3	2 3	4 2
Mean of Year	28 4	24 3	18 7

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

The trade for fat beasts at Islington, both in regard to prime and second quality, opened with a little more life, rates ruling slightly in favour of the seller. Our top quotation was commanded by a few Scotch beasts which were offered for sale, and cleared early in the day, these being the first consignment this season. The Irish arrivals consisted of 57 Dublins and 32 Waterfords, trade for which ruled of a slow but firm nature at late values. Fat butchering cows were in moderate supply, and met with very little inquiry from both town and country buyers; consequently a slight downward tendency was noticeable. Fat bulls were difficult to cash, and were quoted 2d. per 8 lb lower. On Thursday but few sales were recorded, and what business was transacted was governed by Monday's quotations.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, trade opened on Monday of a slow nature, but became firmer as the week advanced, the consignment of States' cattle on Monday being of rather inferior quality. The total number on offer at both markets was 4,052, as against 3,658 during the previous week, consisting of 1,090 British (decrease 50) and 2,962 foreign (increase 444), these latter comprising 2,768 from the United States and 194 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 Scotch, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 4s. to 4s. 2d; 95 stone Irish, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 90 stone States, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 95 stone Canadian Ranchers, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d. ex 3s. 6d.

The trade at Islington for small best quality sheep ruled of a slow but steady nature, heavy descriptions on the other hand were rather difficult to vend; the same remark applies to the ewe trade. Scotch descriptions were in average supply and were quoted at late values, whilst Irish sheep, being in smaller numbers and wanted, sellers were able to both ask and obtain 2d. per 8 lb. more money. A few choice small lambs were included in the supply on Monday and sold readily. On Thursday one of the markets was held here that has been known since the beginning of the year, however it was quite equal to the demand, the few sales recorded were based on Monday's prices. No sheep were offered for sale at Deptford. The total number penned at both markets was 4,240, as against 4,950 during the preceding week, showing a decrease of 710. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 9 stone ditto, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone halfbreds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 5 stone fat Down lambs, 6s. 6d. to 6s. 8d.

Calves numbered thirty, trade for which ruled of a slow but steady nature, the best on offer being quoted at from 5s. to 5s. 4d. per 8 lb. (offal given in).

Trade in the West.

With keep once more plentiful, stockowners are again holding over their supplies, which are by no means as plentiful as they were, and prices as a consequence are steadily hardening in value for all the more serviceable grades, fresh young barreners well on the road to beef finding a specially ready sale at good prices, ranging from £24 to £32 10s. per pair for the best, and from £18 to £22 or £23 for those showing less condition, the trade for these, however, being nothing like so fast. Stirks are also in more request at from £6 10s. to £10 per head. The milch beast trade has seldom, if ever, been better than at present, and as there is considerable difficulty in adequately meeting the requirements of buyers, exceptionally high prices are the rule, rather than the exception, this being due to the fact that there are many who just at present are bound to buy, no matter at what price demanded, to replace animals which are being weeded out, and, what is of still greater importance, to enable them to keep up their supplies, which in many instances it is incumbent upon them to do under the most stringent conditions. Therefore, it will be easily understood why buyers are giving from £18 to £23 10s. apiece for good heifers—the price many have been paying during the last few days at many of leading stock distributing centres; whilst even for the plainer grades of cows, &c., they are called upon to pay from £12 to £17 and over, simply for the reason that the supply is altogether, just for the present, inadequate to the demand.

In-calvers, especially those of early date, are equally dear, some of the cows selling up to £18 10s. apiece and over, ranging downwards to £9 or £10 for very old bullocks. The demand for store sheep shows no decline; on the contrary, business seems to improve as the season draws to a close, the past week having been quite a phenomenal one for the altogether exceptional prices that have ruled for flock sheep of good character. Of course £8 10s. apiece for Dorset Horn ewes can only be looked upon as a "fancy" price; but plenty of others have been fetching from 72s. up to 100s. apiece and over, and even the diminutive little Southdown has been commanding as much as 91s. and 102s., prices, of course, naturally suggesting a good time for the flockmaster. Of course, the more ordinary runs of sheep are scarcely fetching such figures as we have quoted above; but when ewes, as a general thing, sell from 56s. to 70s., and lambs from 40s. to 55s., things can hardly be otherwise than satisfactory for those who follow sheep culture as an occupation. And everything—what with the scarcity and the exceptional demand for sheep everywhere, despite the abnormal rains, which are causing much anxiety—points to a continuance of high prices for some time yet to come.

The fat stock trade has been characterised by a little less buoyancy than has prevailed for so long, and, though there has been no material drop in values, still we can hardly quote prices as high as they have been. Beef keeps fairly steady for steers and heifers at 11s. to 11s. 6d. per score, which is now an outside figure, but fat cows are distinctly easier, and cannot be quoted more than 9s. 6d. to 10s., except in the case of very young animals, which command another 6d. Veal remains one of the firmest things on the market at 8d. to 9d. per lb. Mutton is distinctly easier—ewes especially so—and we must now quote old to 8½d. as the top price for tegs and wethers, and 7d. to 7½d. for all classes of ewes. Mutton-lamb is not particularly brisk at 9½d. per lb.; but some lambs are much more saleable up to 10½d. for the choicest. Pigs are still firm, porkers especially, up to 10s. 6d. per score; baconers a fair trade at 9s. to 10s., and heavier pigs at their value according to quality and weight.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer has been a full average, but the general quality barely so good. A fair inquiry has been experienced, but prices on an average would suffer a fall of 10s. per head. A small supply of fat cows made rather more money. Sheep offered in full average numbers, and the general quality good. These met a rather slower trade, and in some case cases quite 1s. a head less had to be accepted. Lambs in smaller supply, and anything of good quality selling fairly well. Fat calves exceedingly dear, while pigs with difficulty maintained previous prices. There was a large supply of store sheep, generally of an inferior class. Owing to the bad change in the weather buyers acted with caution, and while lambs were in good demand, cheviot dinmonts, more especially those of secondary class, met a very bad trade. There was a good show of store cattle, the best class of which got well sold out at previous prices. Milch cows a small show, and they met a slow market. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 38s.; current, 34s. to 36s. 6d.; mutton, 6d. to 9d. per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Ltd.

Trade in Ireland

Dublin market on Thursday was very largely filled with cattle, there being 5,108, or an increase of nearly 1,000 head over the corresponding weeks of 1905 and 1906. In spite of this great increase of cattle the prices kept up well, and a good day's trading was well maintained. The Norwich contingent, of the Cross-Channel contingent, purchased very freely. Rough cattle were decidedly easier, the fall being from 10s. to 15s. per cwt. For the better descriptions of cattle there was very little difference in price. Sales of common and half-meated varieties were rather hard to make. The live weight prices for choice beef ranged from 30s. to 32s. 6d. per cwt. (live weight), and other good cattle in propoation; for half-finished beasts about from 1s. to 1s. 6d. would be the general reduction. The approximate dead weight prices would be:—Best heifer and bullock from 52s. to 52s. 6d. per cwt. for very choice; good medium beef, from 47s. 6d. to 50s.; and other sorts from 45s. to 46s. 6d. per cwt. The number of cattle offered at this market was the largest for a long time, but the large attendance of buyers kept buying all right.

Sheep numbered over 6,754, being a decrease of nearly 100 on the week. The best classes started well, and good sheep for home consumption (wethers), but ewes dropped 1s. to 2s. per head. Prime wether mutton, 7d. to 8d. per lb.; ewe mutton, 6d. to 6½d.; and inferior sheep, 5½d. to 6d. per lb. Large heavy hoggets sold at from 48s. to 60s. each, and small to medium hoggets from 36s. to 46s. each. The lamb trade was virtually over, but some large fat lambs were sold for from 34s. to 44s. each, and other sorts at 24s. to 30s. each. Choice veal sold freely at 7d. to 8d. per lb., and inferior calves from 4½d. per lb. The show of pigs in Dublin market on Thursday last was small; there was a good attendance of buyers. When the market opened prices quickly showed an improvement of from 1s. to 2s. over the previous Thursday's market. As the day advanced pigs began to come into the market, and prices went down somewhat. Best bacon pigs were worth from 47s. to 50s. per cwt.; heavy bacon pigs, 43s. to 47s.; and coarse bacon pigs from 32s. to 40s. per cwt.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Good supplies, and trade very slow, with drooping tendency in prices. English beef, 3s 6d to 3s 9d; Scotch sides, 4s to 4s 2d; shorts, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 6d to 3s 9d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 4s to 4s 3d; ditto seconds, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; ditto forequarters, 2s 2d to 2s 6d; inferior beef, 2s 2d to 2s 8d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ditto tegs, 4s 8d to 5s; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; Dutch sheep, 3s 8d to 4s; English lamb, 4s 4d to 5s; veal, 3s 8d to 4s 8d; English pork, 3s 8d to 4s 4d; Dutch ditto, 3s 8d to 4s 2d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Supply of beasts consisted entirely of fat butchering cows and bulls, which met an extremely slow trade, and top prices paid per 8 lb. were as follow:—Fat cows, 3s 4d to to 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 6d to 3s. Decrease of 160 in number penned in sheep market compared with last Thursday, supply being smallest for years, notwithstanding which very few sales were recorded, though sellers were not willing to accept any decline on late rates. Best pens made per 8 lb as follows:—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s 10d to 6s; 9 stone ditto, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10 stone ditto, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10 stone half-breds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s to 4s 2d. Calf trade nominal Quotations per 8 lb, sinking the offal:—Beasts, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; sheep, 4s to 6s.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—With a good attendance trade was very fair. Best beef made 4s 4d to 4s 8d per stone, and secondary 4s to 4s 2d. Mutton slightly dearer, Down wethers making 5s 6d to 5s 10d; small Kents, 4s 4d to 5s 8d; large Kents, 4s 8d to 5s. Veal made 5s to 5s 6d. Pork over supplied, only best made 4s.

Aylesbury, Wednesday.—The stock on offer at this market consisted of about 450 sheep and 130 beasts. There was an improved demand for sheep and lambs, and, being only a short supply, practically all changed hands, wethers realising from 41s to 63s, ewes 42s to 54s, and tegs 33s to 43s. A smaller consignment of beasts met a better inquiry, prices ranging from 4s to 4s 4d per stone for best quality maiden heifers and bullocks, and 3s 8d to 4s for cows.

Bath, Wednesday.—There was a large attendance at the fortnightly market, and a good supply. Fat steers made £19 to £22 10s; fat heifers, £17 15s to £20 5s; fat cows, £16 10s to £17 5s; cows and calves, £12 5s to £16; fat tegs, 48s to 54s; fat lambs, 43s to 45s; fat calves, 80s to 114s; weaning calves, 30s to 55s.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Fair supply of pigs; small supply of beasts and sheep; fair trade for pigs; trade slow for beasts and sheep.

Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; Hereford, 6½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 8d to 9d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s 2d per score; cutting pigs, 9s 6d per score; porkers, 10s per score; sows, 7s 4d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Beef was plentiful and in fair demand, best qualities (last week 58s per cwt.) being quoted from 58s to 60s, and secondary remaining 55s. Mutton was in limited supply, and ewes slightly advanced to 6½d per lb. Pigs were not numerous, and values unchanged.

Calne, Friday.—Prices of pigs:—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 1s. per pig extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. 10 lb to 8 sc. 10 lbs, 9s 0d per score, 8 sc. 11 lb to 9 sc. 10 lb,, 8s 6d per score; 9 sc. 11 lb to 10 sc. 10 lb, 8s 0d. Pigs outside these limits at their value.—C. AND T. HARRIS AND CO., LTD.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Not so sharp a demand for ram tegs, and prices lower. Good ewe lambs were selling to-day at from 26s 6d to 36s 6d; wether tegs, from 40s to 44s 6d; and ewe tegs, from 48s to 52s., with one extra good lot at 53s. Good-toothed three-lamb ewes are worth 34s to 44s 6d; two-lamb ewes, 46s to 48s 6d; and one-lamb ewes up to 54s.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Few buyers attended, and trade was quiet. Small wintering bullocks and heifers, £6 10s to £8 10s; better descriptions, £10 to £12 10s; stall-feeding cattle to £16; polled bullocks to £18 each.

Chester, Thursday.—A small supply owing to the inclement weather. Prices firm and unchanged from last week. There was a fair supply of Scotch and Irish wether lambs, for which the demand was slow, and many remained unsold. Milch cows, £17 to £22; calves, £15 to £20; barren cattle, £9 to £13; stirks, £6 to £10; lambs, 18s to 26s each

Derby, Tuesday.—A fairly busy market. Beasts and sheep unchanged. Beasts, 5½d to 6½d; calves, 7½d; sheep, 7½d to 9d.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Large supply of cattle, and a very large number of sheep, though less than usual at the time of the year. Moderate attendance of buyers, and a steady trade, especially for milch beasts, which were dearer, and made £18 to £23; bullocks, £14 to £18; heifers and drapes, £11 to £15; stirks, £9 to £11; young stores, £7 to £9 each; lambs, 40s to 44s; ewes, 50s to 53s; and shearlings, 50s to 56s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—After a drenching wet week the weather to day was fine, and all traces of the torrential rains had quite disappeared on the roads, though the low-lying lands were flooded in every direction. Stock came to hand in better condition than of late, and this had the effect of strengthening the demands of sellers, grazing cattle, for one thing, improving by the favourable conditions prevailing, and though the trade has been rather easier, anything fresh brought a good return to-day at prices ranging from £22 to £28 per pair for fresh-condition bullocks, and plain cattle £18 to £21. Milch beasts a very strong trade, best heifers making £16 15s to £21 apiece as a general run, and seconds £14 to £16 5s. Young stock commanded considerable attention, and keep being plentiful, prices ruled firm. Fat bullocks made £15 to £20 10s (or 10s 6d to 11s 6d per score). Mutton little doing.

Dublin, Thursday.—The market opened with brisk inquiry for choice cattle, but later, when the larger numbers became apparent, demand slackened off, and prices moved in favour of buyers. Middling and inferior descriptions were too numerous, and lower rates had to be accepted in order to do business. Choice light and medium sheep in fair request at last week's rates, heavy qualities not so easily placed. Lambs out of season. Cattle—Live weight (best), 29s to 31s per cwt; exceptional for choice Angus crosses, 33s. 6d per cwt; inferior qualities, down to 25s per cwt. Mutton (dead weight), 6½d to 7¾d per lb. —GANLY, SONS AND CO.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Trade in all departments unusually dull, but supplies plentiful; half-bred sheep to 46s; half-bred lambs to 28s; cross lambs to 24s; Cheviot lambs to 31s; Cheviot Dinmonts to 36s; black-polled cattle £14 14s; coloured polled to £14 10s; cows, best Shorthorns, to £25 10s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a good show of cattle at the market. Prime sorts, being again scarce, made good prices; other sorts met a quick demand at late rates. Top 62s to 65s; secondary, 55s to 59s per cwt. Good supply of sheep penned, and demand for prime hogs and wethers was firm. Secondary met slow inquiry. Best mutton, 8¾d to 9¼d per lb; secondary, 8d to 8½d per lb

Gloucester, Saturday.—Messrs. Bruton, Knowles, and Co. report their sales as follows:—Cows and calves a large supply, with fairly good trade. Store cattle a fair supply, with a slight falling off in the demand.

Hereford, Wednesday.—The price of beef showed a recovery on last week for bullock and heifer, the best of which realised 6d to 6½d per lb. The four best averaged £23 10s each. Prices for store cattle were rather firmer. Milking cows sold very well. Calves were very few, both store and fat. Veal made 6½d to 7d. The best wether sheep were going well at 8d to 9d per lb; fat ewes 6½d to 7d. The pig trade was quite a drug.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report an average supply of fat cattle and a good attendanceof buyers. Yard-fed animals were sharply competed for, and made up to 9s. per stone. At the special sale of grazing cattle about 500 were penned, including about 250 North Country Shorthorn steers bred in Cumberland and Westmoreland, in nice condition and first class quality; also some good lots of polled two-year-olds. There was a moderate attendance of buyers, prices not being so good as last week. Shorthorn steers, two-and-a-half years old, to £14; polled, to £13 7s 6d; Shorthorns, two years old, £13 to £11 10s; polled, £12 5s to £11 5s; North Country steers, 20 to 18 months, £11 5s to £9 10s; 100 roan Westmoreland steers, from 18 to 12 months old, made from £10 5s to £6 5s. Cows and heifers met a brisk trade; Dutch fresh calved to £24; Shorthorns to £22 10s; polled, to £19 10s. Fat sheep were short and dear, the best shearlings making from 65s to 58s. Lambs were fairly represented; Suffolk ewe lambs sold well at 54s 6d, but wethers were slow, and somewhat cheaper. Fat swine in larger supply, which changed hands freely at the lower prices now current.

Leicester, Saturday.—Smaller supplies of home-bred stock. Buyers were not well represented, and trade was irregular. Choice milch cows, £20 to £22 10s; good lots, £17 to £19; secondary ditto, £14 to £15; Welsh cattle, £9 to £13 10s; young stock, £5 to £7; and calves, 25s to 40s each.

Lincoln, Friday.—A fair supply of horned stock and a moderate demand. Young beasts, £9 to £10; strong ditto, £14 to £16. Young ewes made 48s to 55s; gimmers, 48s to 55s; and lambs, 30s to 48s each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Smaller show of fat beasts experienced late rates, viz., from 7s to 7s 9d; Stores in average supply at about late rates, making from £6 to £17 each; an average show of fat sheep met late rates, and made from 9s to 10s per stone Stores realised from 45s to 50s each. Store lambs from 38s to 45s each.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: First-class, 5½d; second-class, 4d to 4½d; third-class, 3d to 3½d per lb. Mutton: First-class Cheviots, Scotch, 7¾d; Irish, and others, 7½d; second class, 6½d to 7d; third-class, 4½d to 5d per lb. Veal: First-class, 6½d; second-class, 5½d to 6d; third-class, 4½d to 5d per lb. Bacon pigs: First-class, 5½d; second-class, 4½d to 4¾d; third-class, 3½d to 3¾d. Porket pigs: First-class, 7d; second-class, 6½d to 6¾d; third-class, 6d to 6½d per lb

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Cattle were a good supply. Quotations:—Prime heifers and medium weights, 7s 3d to 7s 6d; second class, 6s 9d to 7s; prime steers, 7s to 7s 3d; second class, 6s 9d to 7s; coarse and inferior, 6s to 6s 6d per stone, sinking the offal. Trade for sheep was a shade easier. Quotations:—Shearling sheep, 8½d to 8¾d; strong heavy, 8d to 8¼d; choice lambs, 8¾d to 9d; second class, 8½d to 8¾d; ewes, 6d to 6¾d; rams, 5d to 6d per lb. Trade for calves was quiet at unchanged prices; veal, 5½d to 7½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—Plentiful supply and a large attendance of buyers, and good demand all round. Best beef, 6½d; second, 6¼; cows, 4¾d to 5d; best wether mutton, 8½d to 8¾d; ewes, 6½d to 7d; lamb, 9d; calves, 7½d per lb; porker pigs, 10s 3d to 10s 9d per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—A rather larger supply of fat cattle, and the best sorts met a better trade, 8s being the average for prime beasts, while others made 7s 3d to 7s 6d per 14 lb stone. Fat cows were of very poor quality, and sold cheap. Sheep were an average show, and the demand was unchanged; small mutton made 9½d; large, 9d per lb; ewes, 6½d. Pigs were not quite so dear, baconers making 6s to 6s 6d, and porkers 9s 6d per 14 lb stone; sows, 5s. Veal calves sold at 9s per stone. Store cattle was a good lot, both as regards numbers and quality. Trade was slightly better. Two and three-year-olds made from £13 10s to £18 10s; yearlings, £8 to £11; smaller sorts, £4 10s to £7. Small show of sheep, chiefly hoggets, which met a good trade at from 34s to 46s each. Only a few ewes were offered; these sold at from 34s to 60s. Pigs were of secondary quality, and met a slow trade at from 10s to 17s per head. Rearing calves, although mostly of very poor quality, met a better trade, 15s to 50s being the general run of prices.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Fair show of dairy cows, with a good demand, especially for young cows; these made £18 to £23, while in-calf heifers realised £15 to £19. Small show of stores; strong heifers and steers, £1 to £14, and younger beasts £6 to £9. Calves, 25s to 40s. Sheep sold at late rates

Preston, Wednesday.—Trade was slow for good samples of stock, with beef prices a shade firmer for choice, but inferior difficult to sell. Quotations:—Local-fed heifers, 6½d; Irish ditto, 6d; choice cows and bulls, 5¾d; heavy ditto, 5d; hoggs, 8½d; prime lambs, 8¾d; coarse lambs, 8½d; choice ewes and tups, 6½d; calves, 6½d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—An average attendance, and about the usual supply of store stock. Really good bullocks and milch cows were worth £20 apiece, and in some cases up to £22; secondary, £14 to £16; steers and heifers, £10 to £12; yearlings, £6 to £8; and calves 40s to 45s per head.

Romford, Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts, trade a little better. Best, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in shorter supply, trade about the same, 5s to 5s 2d per stone. Sheep in large supply, trade slow. Best small, 6s to 6s 2d; larger, 5s 6d to 5s 8d per stone. Ewes in average supply, trade lower, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. A few store beats on offer, slow demand. Over 150 milch cows on offer, trade better. Average supply of pigs, trade about the same. Small porkers, 3s 10d to 4s; large hogs, 2s 8d to 3s per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—More milch beasts shown than last week, and a good demand experienced for the best qualities, which made £20 to £24; secondary and Irish cattle, £16 to £18.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was an average show of the best cattle, which met with a slow trade at 7s to 7s 6d per stone, whilst rougher kinds made 6s to 6s 6d per stone. Lambs and young sheep sold at 8½d per lb, ewes 7d, and tups 6d. The pig trade was of a similar character to that of last week, trade being slow. Small porkers made 7s 6d per stone, mediums 7s, and sows 6s to 6s 3d per stone.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a considerable increase in the supply of stock, and cattle decidedly a better lot than previous weeks. Fat oxen made from £17 to £21 7s 6d; fat heifers, £16 to £20 7s 6d; fat wethers, up to 67s; fat ewes, 40s to 46s; fat calves, £3 11s; bacon hogs to £6 17s 6d; porkers, 25s to 29s; store pigs up to 17s 6d.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance very good, business fairly brisk. Fat bullocks, 54s to 58s; barreners, 40s to 45s per cwt; store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £12 to £17 each; rearing calves, 20s to 42s; ewes, 38s to 45s; wethers, 7d per lb; ewes, 5d to 5½d; lambs, 7d to 7½d; pigs, 6s to 42s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 7d to 8½d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; pork (carcasses), 4½d to 5d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Trade moderate, and fair supply of bests. Quotations:—Beef, 6d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 9d per lb; lamb, 8¾d to 9½d per lb; veal, 6d to 7½d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Moderate supply of stock, and trade fairly good. Best beef, 7s 6d to 7s 9d; secondary qualities, 6s 9d to 7s 3d per stone, a decided improvement on late rates. Trade for sheep was good. Best Southdown wethers and cross-breds to 9d; lambs, 9d; ewes, 6d per lb.

York, Thursday.—Practically no English store cattle on offer, but a fair show of Irish beasts for the last market. A very slow trade, and what inquiry there was was chiefly for strong three-year-olds full of flesh, which made up to £15 10s for the best; two-year-olds, £13 10s. No demand for stirks, and no trade in dairy cattle. The best North-country ewes made up to 55s, ; others, 50s to 53s. : North-country lambs, 33s to 40s; Cheviot ewes, 22s to 28s; best twice-crossed lambs to 38s; others, 30s to 34s; Masham ewes, 42s to 48s; Masham lambs, 22s to 28s; A few South-country ewes made up to 45s.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £13 15s to £14 5s; half-bred hoggs, £13 to £13 10s; ditto wethers, £12 10s to £13; Kent fleeces, £12 5s to £12 10s; South Down ewes and wethers, £13 10s to £14; Leicester ewes and wethers, £12 to £12 10s. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., scoured super., 2s 3d to 2s 4d; scoured, good, 2s to 2s 2d; scoured, average, 1s 10½d to 1s 11½d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 2½d to 1s 3½d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 10½d to 1s 11½d; greasy, average, 1s 1d. to 1s 2d; S. Aus., greasy, average, 11d to 1s; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 11d to 2s; greasy, average, 1s to 1s 1d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 10d to 1s 11d; fleece, average, 9½d to 10½d; greasy, average, 8½d to 9½d; Natal, scoured, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; greasy average, 8½d to 9d. Crossbreds—grs.—Vic., good to super., 1s 3d to 1s 4½d; New Zealand fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s to 1s 1d; coarse, 10d to 11d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Elevenpence is freely offered for Kent fleeces, but this farmers decline to accept, and still hold out for 1s per lb.

Halifax, Saturday.—There is a lull in the market for wool, users abstaining from purchases in the expectation, apparently of securing more favourable terms later. At present there is no tendency in that direction, values being firm for all descriptions.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply of hay; trade slow. Hay, £2 15s to £3 15s per ton. No quotations for straw.

Derby, Friday.—Best old clover, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; hay, best old, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; seconds, 65s to 70s; straw—wheat, 60s to 70s; pressed, 50s to 60s; chop, 55s to 65s; peat moss, 36s to 40s.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Trade quite lifeless, with prices nominally unchanged:—Hay, 50s to 60s per ton; straw, 20s to 25s.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Meadow hay, 6d; clover, 6½d to 7d; wheat straw, 4d; oat straw, 4d per stone.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The supply of old hay is rather restricted, and prices rule firm in the warehouses. The new crop is steady at the quoted prices. Old clover hay, 7½d; ditto meadow hay, 7d; best new clover hay, 7d; ditto meadow, 6½d; wheat straw 5d; oat straw, 5d; and rye straw (retail), 7d to 8½d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—A fair amount of hay and straw offering, and trade was moderate. Best hay, 55s to 60s; inferior ditto, 45s to 50s; straw, 30s per ton on the ground.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, 4¾d to 5¼d; clover, 5½d to 6d per stone.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Old land hay, from £3 12s 6d to £4 7s 6d per ton; new land hay, from £4 10s to £5 7s 6d; this year's growth from £4 to £4 10s. Wheat straw from £1 4s per load; barley straw from £1 1s to £1 3s; oat straw from £1 2s to £1 4s.

Nottingham, Wednesday.—Large supplies which met with a good demand for best qualities. Quotations:—Inferior to good hay, 50s to 65s; prime ditto, 80s to 90s; inferior to good clover, 60s to 70s; prime ditto, 85s to 95s; wheat straw, 45s to 55s; old hay, 90s to 100s; old seeds, 95s to 105s per ton.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Moderate supplies, and a quiet trade passing. Choice old seeds, £5 to £5 5s; new ditto, £4 10s to £4 15s; prime old hay, £4 10s to £4 15s; new ditto, £4 5s to £4 10s; straw, £2 15s to £3 per ton.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—A small quantity available met a brisk demand at late prices: Best clover, 84s to 95s; inferior ditto, 72s to 80s; specially picked hay, 85s; good ditto, 68s to 78s; inferior ditto, 55s to 63s; mixture and sainfoin, 70s to 82s 6d; straw, 28s to 33s per load.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Fairly good supply and demand. Young grouse, 7s; old, 3s to 3s 6d; young partridges, 4s to 4s 6d; old, 1s 9d to 2s; pheasants, 8s; black game, 3s 6d per brace; geese, 5s to 6s 6d; country ducks, 2s 6d to 3s 3d; wild ducks, 1s 6d to 1s 0d; Surrey fowls, 3s to 5s; Sussex fowls, 2s 6d to 4s 6d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 6d; Essex fowls, 2s to 2s 6d; Irish fowls, 1s 8d to 2s 3d; quails, 8d to 1s; feathered pigeons, 7d to 8d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s 1d; English hares, 2s 6d to 3s; Scottish hares, 1s 6d; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 6d; wild rabbits, 6d to 10d; live hens, 1s 6d to 1s 9d each; Australian rabbits, 5s to 6s 9d per dozen.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A steady business, though not on a large scale. Some growths of East and Mid Kents were sold at £4 15s to £5 per cwt all round. Selected parcels of choice hops are making £6.

Worcester, Saturday.—There was a decided falling off in the attendance of planters at market to-day and it is evident a large portion of the crop has passed out of growers hands. Trade was brisk for any hops with bright colour, and sound yellow hops keep moxing off steadily at late rates. 3,187 pockets have been weighed this week, making with those previously weighed 12,789 to date. —Charles Faram and Co.

CHEESE.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was an average attendance of buyers, and a good demand. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 46s to 54s per cwt; fancy dairies, 55s to 58s; Derbys, 63s to 66s; truckles, 58s to 63s; Cheddars, 60s to 63s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Arrivals of home cheese were very light. The trade passing was small, with prices unchanged. Cheddars, 60s to 64s per cwt; Dunlops, 58s to 62s; Canadian also dull of sale, price 62s to 63s.

Seven Years Grain Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 10d. per 480 lb.
Barley	25s. 4d. per 400 lb.
Oats	18s. 11d. per 312 lb.

CORN STATISTICS

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, October 15, 1907:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Av. Price per qr £	s.	d.
Wheat	5,438	4	9,922	6	1	1	16	6
Barley	7,845	2	10,560	18	9	1	6	11
Oats	2,913	4	2,806	3	6	0	19	3

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending October 19, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1903 to 1906:—

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1903	40,256	25	10	99,029	23	7	26,249	15	8
1904	45,960	30	4	213,190	25	5	31,445	15	11
1905	90,548	27	1	224,530	25	0	24,635	16	7
1906	71,352	26	6	230,637	24	10	33,636	16	8
1907	91,292	34	4	162,674	26	3	50,445	18	0

Average Monthly Cash Prices of Town Households Flour.

	1907		1906.		1905.		1904.		1903.		1902.		1901.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Jan.	22	0	25	0	26	3	24	9	24	0	21	9	24	6
Feb.	22	0	24	9	26	9	25	6	24	3	22	0	24	0
March	21	9	24	3	26	6	25	9	23	9	21	9	23	9
April	22	3	24	6	26	0	25	3	23	9	23	0	24	0
May	25	0	24	0	25	9	24	9	24	0	23	6	23	6
June	25	6	23	9	25	6	24	3	24	3	23	0	23	0
July	26	0	23	6	25	0	25	0	24	3	23	0	22	3
August	26	6	23	0	25	0	26	6	24	9	22	9	22	3
Sept.	28	6	22	9	24	6	27	0	25	0	23	3	22	0
Oct.			22	6	25	0	27	0	24	9	22	9	21	6
Nov.			22	0	25	0	26	9	24	3	22	9	21	6
Dec.			21	9	25	0	26	9	24	3	23	3	21	9
Yrly. Avrg.			23	5	25	6	25	9	24	3	22	8	22	10

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

*Cereal Year commencing September 2nd, 1907.**

		s.	d.
September 2	(per sack)	32	0
,, 13	,,	34	0
,, 20	,,	33	0
,, 27	,,	35	0
October 2	,,	36	0
,, 9	,,	37	0

(No change since last date given).

* September 1st, 1907, was a Sunday.

London Flour Millers' Association.

Credit and Delivery. Official Prices.

*Cereal year commencing September 2nd, 1907.**

	London Whites.	s.	d.	Town Households.	s.	d.
September 2	(per sack)	32	0	(per sack)	29	0
,, 4	,,	33	0	,,	30	0
,, 27	,,	34	6	,,	31	6
October 4	,,	35	6	,,	32	6
,, 11	,,	36	0	,,	33	0
,, 18	,,	37	0	,,	34	0

(No change since last date given.)

* September 1st, 1907, was a Sunday.

Monthly Averages.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1906. Wheat		Barley		Oats		1907. Wheat		Barley		Oats	
Jan.	28	6	24	9	18	5	26	1	24	2	17	4
Feb.	28	10	25	4	18	11	26	6	24	3	17	7
Mar.	28	5	24	8	18	11	26	9	23	11	18	0
April	29	1	24	2	19	1	26	9	23	8	18	10
May	30	2	24	0	20	0	28	5	24	0	19	10
June	30	4	23	4	20	2	31	6	24	6	20	9
July	30	4	23	1	20	4	32	2	24	11	20	10
Aug.	29	6	23	7	17	9	33	7	25	4	20	5
Sept.	26	1	24	5	16	2	31	8	24	9	17	7
Oct.	26	5	25	0	16	7						
Nov.	26	5	24	5	17	1						
Dec.	26	2	24	1	17	3						

Seven Years' Tithe Rent Charges.

For 1907	£68	19	6
,, 1906	68	12	1
,, 1905	69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
1901	66	10	9

Sale of Shires at Buxton.

On Friday at Hargate Hall, near Buxton, a number of rare good specimens of Shire horses, the property of Mr. R. Whitehead, who succeeded Mr. Joseph Wainwright in possession of one of the best appointed breeding and rearing spots in England, were offered for sale by auction in the presence of about 400, the fact that Peak Dolly appeared in the catalogue being a big attraction. It was a melancholy coincidence that only on the morning before the sale the death of Mr. Joseph Wainwright should occur at Buxton. He did more to encourage improvement in the breed of Shires than almost any other man. He gave no less a sum than 2,500 guineas for Bury Victory Chief in order that Peakland farmers might have at their disposal the best (at that time) animal that ever was foaled.

As regards Friday's sale, the outstanding feature was the competition for Peak Dolly, and it was not until he bid 260 guineas that Sir P. A. Muntz was enabled to obtain this splendid specimen of the breed. The only other big price was 190 guineas, and as will be seen from the following list of the chief lots this sum was paid by Mr. Smith Carrington, who took some of the other choicest lots. The principal sales were as follows:—

		Gs.
Peak Dolly	Sir A Muntz	260
Peak Topsy		41
Peak Forest Queen, three-year-old filly	Mr Smith Carrington	84
Peak Barmaid	Mr Greaves	80
Forest Queen	Mr Smith Carrington	190
Peak Lottery	Earl Egerton	72
Four-year old stallion Whitstone Prince	Mr Ratcliffe	60
Brood mare Mayflower,	Mr Schwabe	80
Brood mare, Worsley Princess	Mr Blunt	48
Brood mare, Rokeby Valeria	Mr Blunt	43
Brood mare, Blackmore Belle	Mr Blunt	42
Brood mare, Calwick Lassie	Mr Leek	10
Peak Lilly, two-year-old filly	Mr Hardy	48
Peak Lilac, two-year old filly	Mr Smith Carrington	58
White Meadow, yearling filly	Mr Kearns	45

Devon Cattle Breeders' Society.

At a meeting of the Council of the Devon Cattle Breeders' Society held on Thursday at Taunton, the sub-committee of the society reported that at a meeting held on August 2 it was resolved to ask the Bath and West Society to provide two classses for pedigree Devon cows at their Dorchester meeting in 1908, one for milk dairy and one for inspection. The secretary wrote in accordance with this recommendation stating that if such classes were provided the Devon Society would be in a position to offer prizes and subscriptions. Mr. Plowman, secretary of the Bath and West Society, replied that the Stock Prizesheet Committee had resolved to recommend the acceptance of the proposal.

On the proposition of Mr. Kidner, seconded by Mr. C. L. Hancock, it was decided that a show and sale of Devon cattle be held at Exeter on or about February 19 next, and that the prizes be the same as last year.

Sir Gilbert Greenall, hon. director of the Royal Agricultural Society, wrote that they were preparing the schedule for their next show at Newcastle, and hoped the Devon breed would be represented.

A letter was also read from the Hon. E. W. B. Portman, of Hestercombe, Taunton, saying that he thought it would be well for the Devon Society to keep pegging away at the Royal for more classes for Devons and better prizes. He thought it most undesirable that two-year-old and yearling heifers should be exhibited in one class.

It was agreed that Mr. Risdon should write to the secretary of the Royal Society urging the desirability of having one class for male and one for female, and to express the opinion that it was not right that animals of mature and younger ages should be shown in the same class. It was also agreed that the Devon Society give the same champion prizes as before for the show at Newcastle.

RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

FOWLER, P. T., Importer, Watford, Herts. A choice selection of pedigree Jersey and Guernsey Cows, Heifers and young Bulls from prize herds of the Islands; particulars forwarded; inspection invited.

BELL, CHARLES, Norley Hall, Norley, Cheshire. Shorthorn Bulls for sale, from Kirklevington, Red Rose, Barrington, and Cruickshank tribes. Telegrams "Norley"; railway stations, Acton Bridge and Delamere.

BLACK CURRANT BUSHES. An extensive stock of strong fruiting bushes offered at very low prices. Naples, 3 and 4-year, £3 per 1,000. Naples (extra branched), 2-year, £2 10s. per 1,000. Send for samples. Our plantations are perfectly free from Mite.—E. W. Beaven, Fruitgrower, Holmer, Hereford.

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Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The season has become more favourable for autumn sowings, but the work on the farm is much in arrear. Wheat will be sown with freedom where the thing is practicable; it is a pity that the season is against a general desire to trust the approaching year. The markets have been weaker since the 21st, but no real reaction has to be chronicled, and the rush of supplies does not look as if it would continue for many weeks. Barley, of course, is king just at present, market sales exceeding those of wheat and oats combined. There is a large crop of second grade, and the price made for it, though not high, is just above remuneration level; farmers are not losing by the crop. Malting barley of the first quality is so scarce that fancy prices are mooted, in fact, 46s. is said to have been paid for finest Bohemian for prompt delivery. The new malt is not yet on sale, but is expected to touch 40s. for pale and be quoted about 36s. for brown.

A welcome exception to the general inefficiency of our consuls is the British Consul for the three "Pacific" States of Idaho, Washington, and Oregon. Would that California, which is about as important as the three put together, could be added to his charge! He tells us, in a report dated October, 1907, and just to hand, exactly the things that English farmers want to know:—

"The largest wheat farms are in Eastern Washington and Oregon, an average of twenty-two of the larger farms being 1,500 acres. The average yield in Idaho is 25·4 bushels winter wheat and 23·8 spring wheat per acre, the average farm value being 2s. 4d. per bushel; in Washington, 24·1 bushels winter wheat, and 19 bushels spring wheat, average value 2s. 5d.; and in Oregon, winter wheat 22·3 and 17·5 spring wheat wheat averaging 2s. 8d. Wheat can be grown on these large farms at about 1s. 1d. per bushel when there is an average crop. The yield of oats is, per acre, 42·3 bushels in Washington, 40·7 in Idaho, and 33·8 in Oregon, and the average farm values 1s. 8d. in Oregon and Idaho, and 1s. 7d. in Washington. The averages of barley are 41, 36·5 and 35 bushels per acre in Idaho, Washington, and Oregon respectively, and average values 2s. 1d. per bushel in Oregon, 2s. in Idaho, and 1s. 11d. in Washington."

Similar reports from the other forty-one States of the American Republic would be simply invaluable, and the officials of the Canadian districts of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta might do well to imitate the methods of Mr. Conul Laidlaw. The fine Oregon wheat, which fetches 21s. 4d. per qr. on the farm, costs 43s. in London; so that 21s. 8d. is swallowed up in charges of one sort and another. English farmers should note this, for it threatens severe competition whenever the American people get the upper hand of these Trusts. The Oregon barley, which the farmer sells for 16s. 8d. per qr., is now fetching 33s. per qr. at Mark Lane.

Some leading prices per ton are as follows. Where there is uniformity of weight comparison is facilitated:—

	£	s.	d.
English wheat	8	1	6
New Maple peas	8	0	0
Fine middlings	7	15	0
Egyptian cottonseed	7	8	9
English barley	7	6	9
English rye	7	1	3
Russian oats	7	0	0
Maize germ meal	6	18	9
American maize	6	10	0
English oats	6	9	0
Indian dari	6	6	8
Indian cottonseed	6	5	0
Good bran	5	15	0
Locust beans	5	10	0
Dried ale grains	5	5	0
Malt corms	4	5	0
,, screenings	2	17	6
Ground rice husks	2	15	0
Coffee husks	1	15	0

The sales of British wheat at the 186 statute markets since September 1 have been:—

This season ... 511,000 qr. at 32s. 4d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 568,000 ,, 26s. 0d. ,,

The smaller offerings have had, as will be seen, a most admirable effect on prices.

The sales of British barley thus compare:—

This season ... 492,000 qr. at 25s. 3d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 912,000 ,, 24s. 8d. ,,

Of British oats the sales have exceeded those of last season, without making the price unremunerative. This is a good feature of the present autumn.

This season .... 330,000 qr. at 17s 9d. per qr.
Last season .. 277,000 qr. at 16s. 4d. ,,

The price of English rye and buckwheat is also higher on the year, though no official figures are published.

The wheat gradient last week was as follows:—

Mark Lane	35s. 11d.	per qr.
Norwich	33s. 5d.	,,
Range	2s. 6d.	per qr.

The East Anglian markets are just now at the top of their supply.

The barley gradient has been:—

Mark Lane	29s. 2d.	per qr.
Doncaster	25s. 9d.	,,
Range	3s. 5d.	per qr.

At Chichester 29s. 1d. was averaged.

The averages for oats are nowhere up to a sovereign, but, on the other hand, no markets are below 17s., so that a fair profit is being made.

Mark Lane	19s. 9d.	per qr.
Salisbury	17s. 5d.	,,
Range	2s. 4d.	per qr.

Mark Lane will be seen to head the list for all three cereals, and the London trade is in a thoroughly healthy condition.

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were:—

Wheat, 355,000 qr.: fair.
Flour, 161,000 sks.: good.
Maize, 283,000 qr.: large.
Barley, 186,000 qr.: heavy.
Oats, 99,000 qr.: moderate.

Imports of breadstuffs since September have been as follows:—

Wheat	3,298,000 qr.
Flour	695,000 ,,
Total	3,993,000 ,,
Last season	4,142,000 ,,

It is significant that despite a rise of 6s. 4d. in the wheat average the importation of foreign wheat and flour on the twelvemonth has not been increased. Holders are warranted in taking up a very firm position.

The quantity of wheat on passage to the United Kingdom on the 26th inst. was smaller than on the 19th. This is a very important circumstance, as it would seem to limit reaction in wheat prices to what the Term Market calls "near futures." The figures may with advantage be studied in detail:—

	Oct. 19.	Oct. 26.
California	105,000 qr.	140,000 qr.
America	390,000 ,,	360,000 ,,
Russia	250,000 ,,	215,000 ,,
India	658,000 ,,	560,000 ,,
Argentina	85 000 ,,	100,000 ,,
Australasia	415,000 ,,	360,000 ,,
Various	50,000 ,,	40,000 ,,
	1,953,000 ,,	1,775,000 ,,

Flour figures support the same conclusions as those for wheat, there being on the 26th only 226,000 sacks on passage against 246,000 on the 19th.

Other supplies on passage on the 26th were as follows:—Barley, 780,000 qr.; oats, 150,000 qr.; maize, 1,010,000 qr.; linseed, 160,000 qr.; rapeseed, 10,000 qr.; cottonseed, 47,000 tons; and rice, 30,000 tons.

The shipments of grain from North America last week were 476,000 qr. of wheat, 15,000 qr. of barley, 71,000 qr. of maize, and 160,000 sacks of flour,.

South America sent off 40,000 qr. of wheat, 152,000 qr. of maize, 60,000 qr. of linseed, and 4,000 qr. of oats.

Russia was a very energetic shipper sending off 394,000 qr. of wheat, 470,000 qr. of barley, 90,000 qr. of oats, and 48,000 qr. of maize. Roumania shipped 174,000 qr. of wheat, 172,000 qr. of barley, 52,000 qr. of oats, and 144,000 qr. of maize, which are large quantities for a country afflicted with a short home harvest to spare. We cannot, however, accept the exports as correcting previous reports, for the rests this spring were due to autumn sales out of the country of grain required by a starving peasantry.

India last week shipped 80,000 qr. of wheat and 32,000 qr. of linseed, while Australasia exported 19,000 qr. of wheat, and Egypt 15,000 tons of cottonseed.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—Although the weather has been somewhat finer during the past week it has as yet made little difference on the supplies which continue on a very restricted scale, there being a general shortage of all kinds and qualities, and the trading has been of a very firm description. Values show little change over last week's rise, but occasionally more money has been paid for extra prime quality lots.

So far the season has been a bad one for the London trade; with a large crop much lower prices had been expected, and contracts have been taken at rates which show heavy losses, and now with the small arrivals it is found extremely difficult to keep them supplied, and to do fresh business is well nigh impossible; consumers will not pay the enhanced rates, and are allowing their stock to get well nigh exhausted before buying. Clovers are a very firm trade, and mixtures and hays find a very strong demand; in fact, whatever the quality, a ready sale is found. Straw continues in fair request at about previous rates. The foreign trade is almost a dead letter, supplies are short, and very little business doing in this class of stuff, prices being nominally unchanged.

Prices ruling are about as follows:—English 1907 crop. Best hays, 70s to 75s per ton; good hays, 62s 6d to 67s 6d per ton; plain hays, 57s 6d to 60s per ton; best clovers, 85s to 87s 6d per ton; good clovers, 80s to 82s 6d per ton; inferior clovers, 72s 6d to 77s 6d per ton; best mixtures, 82s 6d to 85s per ton; good mixtures, 75s to 80s per ton; plain mixtures, 67s 6d to 72s 6d per ton; seconds hays, clovers, and mixtures, 45s to 60s per ton; wheat straw, 26s to 27s per load; barley straw, 26s to 27s per load; oat straw, 26s to 27s per load. All ex rail London. Foreign: Canadian mixture, none; first quality Dutch hay, 60s to 62s 6d per ton; second quality Dutch hay, 55s per ton. New French clover, 75s per ton. These prices are by the barge load delivered alongside a London Thames wharf.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday. — Small supply. No quotations obtainable.

Derby, Friday. — Quotations:—Clover, best old, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; hay, best old, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; seconds, 65s to 70s; straw—wheat, 60s to 70s; pressed, 50s to 60s; chop, 55s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Hay and straw very dull at recent rates.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Meadow hay, 6d; clover, 7d; oat straw, 4d; wheat straw, 4d per stone.

Leeds, Tuesday.—A steady consumptive demand is passing in the warehouses, and the prices of old hay are firmly maintained. Quotations:—Old clover hay, 7½d; ditto meadow hay, 7d; best new clover hay, 7d; ditto meadow, 6½d; wheat straw 5d; oat straw, 5d; and rye straw (retail), 7d to 8½d per stone.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, 4½d to 5½d; clover, 5d to 6d; straw, wheat, 3½d; oat, 3d to 3½d per stone.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Old land hay, from £3 12s 6d to £4 7s 6d per ton; new land hay, from £4 10s to £5 5s; this year's growth from £4 to £4 10s. Barley straw from £1 to £1 2s per load; oat straw from £1 2s to £1 4s

Nottingham, Wednesday.—Large supplies on offer, which met with a slow sale. Quotations:—Inferior to good hay, 40s to 60s; prime ditto, 70s to 80s; inferior to good clover, 50s to 60s; prime ditto, 75s to 85s; wheat straw, 45s to 50s; old hay, 90s to 100s; old seeds, 90s to 100s per ton.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—A quiet market and moderate supplies, with very little alteration from late prices. Choice seeds, £5 to £5 5s; choice hay, £4 5s to £4 10s; straw, £2 10s to £2 15s per ton.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Good supplies met a fair demand at steady prices: Best clover, 84s to 95s; inferior ditto, 72s to 80s; specially-picked hay, 85s; good ditto, 68s to 78s; inferior ditto, 55s to 63s; mixture and sainfoin, 70s to 82s 6d; straw, 28s to 33s per load.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English steady, quiet, at about unchanged prices. Whites quoted at 39s to 42s; reds at 38s to 41s. Foreign slow and in poor demand at 1s decline since Monday. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, quoted at 45s and 44s 6d as to position; No. 2 at 44s; choice white Karachi at 41s 6d; red Karachi at 41s. Flour steady, quiet. Hungarians quoted at 39s; Iron Dukes at 28s 6d to 29s. Maize dull, with prices tending in buyers' favour. Odessa, ex ship, held at 27s 9d to 28s; landed at 28s to 28s 3d; Danubian and Galatz-Foxanian, landed, at at 28s 9d to 29s. Barley quiet, easier tendency. Azoff-Black Sea and Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship to arrive quoted at 25s 3d to 26s 6d. Oats slow and rather easier. La Plata and 38 lb South Russian held at 19s to 19s 3d as per sample.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat: English steady, quiet. Whites quoted 39s to 42s; reds at 38s to 41s. Foreign steady, but inactive at about Wednesday's prices. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, held at 45s; No. 2 at 44s; choice white Karachi at 41s; red Karachi at 40s 6d; No. 1 Durum at 40s 6d to 41s. Flour steady and held at late rates, but demand very poor. Hungarian held at 39s; Iron Dukes at 28s 6d to 29s; Kansas Patents at 31s to 32s. Maize slow, easier tendency. Odessa, ex ship, held at 27s 9d to 28s; landed at 28s to 28s 6d; Danubian and Galatz-Foxanian, landed, at 28s 9d to 29s. Barley slow, unchanged. Azoff-Black Sea and Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, held at 25s 6d; landed at 26s. Oats firm, quier. South Russian, 38 lb, quoted at 19s 3d to 19s 6d; La Plata, at 19s to 19s 3d.

COUNTRY.

Appleby, Saturday.—A light show. White oats (horse corn), 19s to 23s per 26 stones.

Ashford, Tuesday.—A reaction took place in the market for wheat, and sales were made at a reduction of 1s on the week, though transactions were very few. Other corn was firm. Prices:—Wheat, 36s to 39s; English barley, best, 31s to 33s; second quality, 27s to 29s; foreign grinding barley, 26s to 27s; Mazagan beans, 28s to 30s; ticks, 33s to 35s; maize, 30s to 31s; peas, 32s to 33s; black oats, 20s to 21s; white oats, 19s to 22s per qr.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, white (new), 36s to 37s per qr; ditto red (new) 36s to 37s per qr; barley, 28s to 33s per qr; beans (new), 31s to 32s per qr; oats, 19s to 22s per qr; peas, 29s to 33s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—Average attendance. The continued wet weather has prevented threshing operations, and there were few samples on offer. Barley in demand at 6d to 1s per qr over last week's prices. Oats again dearer, making up to 28s for finest. Barley, 25s to 32s; oats, 22s 6d to 28s per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Trade here was generally quiet, and prices have eased slightly from the top. Foreign wheats met with but slight inquiry, and were about 3d per qr cheaper. English wheats ranged from 13s to 14s 6d per 186 lb delivered. Oats were in demand, and made from 20s 6d to 21s per 312 lb delivered. Beans, 13s 3d per 196 lb delivered. Both Galatz-Foxanian and Bessarabian maize were on offer at 28s per 480 lb, the former being 6d and the latter 9d lower than last week. Grinding barley was 6d lower at 26s 3d per 400 lb at Sharpness.

Brighton, Thursday.—Quiet trade at about last week's prices. Wheat in better supply, and 1s to 2s per qr cheaper. Barley, 29s to 36s; grinding ditto, 28s to 29s; oats, English, 18s 6d to 21s; peas, 32s to 33s; beans, 33s to 34s.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat: There was a fair supply, but the condition of the samples was not very satisfactory. Dry reds made 38s to 39s 6d; damp parcels, 35s to 37s per qr. Barley in average supply, demand steady, and trade firm at 31s to 33s 6d for malting runs, and 34s to 36s for finer parcels. Oats 6d per qr dearer. Grinding barley firm at 28s to 29s 6d per qr. Maize steady at 30s per qr delivered.

Cambridge, Saturday.—Wheat has about maintained its price during the week. Spring corn is still offering in short supplies. At this market on Saturday there was a good supply of wheat, which made 38s to 39s into the mill. A few beans offering, making up to 33s; oats made £1; barley, 28s to 34s.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Recent top prices were not at all freely offered, and, as sellers for the most part decline a reduction, business was on a better scale. Samples scaling 63 lb to the bushel sold at 37s 6d, and others of 62 lb made 35s and 36s, fetched from the farm. Seed wheat was worth 40s. Oats are steady, with a short supply, ranging from 19s for 38 lb, up to about 22s for 44 lb lots. A quiet demand for barley, most of the transactions ranging between 30s and 33s; grey peas, 31s to 32s; tick beans, 31s 6d to 33s; and Mazagans, 29s to 30s per qr.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Very small supply of oats in our market to-day. Weather very bad, and good part of the corn still in fields. Good demand at more money, 20s 9d to 21s 6d per 336 lb new, 23s per 336 lb for old.—Thomas Robinson.

Chester, Saturday.—There was an easing off in the price of American maize, which was 3d per sack cheaper, and River Plate corn sustained a corresponding fall. English wheat was firm, and English corn showed an improvement in values. Offals are still obtaining full values. Quotations: White and red wheat, 5s 4d to 5s 6d per 75 lb; new grinding barley, 4s to 4s 3d per 64 lb; old oats, 3s 1d to 3s 6d; and new, 2s 10d to 3s per 46 lb; Indian corn (feeding), 15s 3d to 15s 6d per 240 lb; ground corn, 14s 6d to 15s 6d per 240 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—A good attendance, and trade firm without much alteration in last week's prices. New white wheat, 36s 6d to 40s; new red ditto, 36s 6d to 40s; barley, 29s to 37s; grinding ditto, 23s 6d to 25s; oats, English, 18s 6d to 24s 6d; rye, 27s to 29s; peas, 31s to 32s; beans, 32s to 33s; tares, 5s 6d to 6s 6d; maize, 26s 6d to 27s 6d; flour, 31s to 33s.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat, slight advance on last week. Oats and beans steady. Barley firm.—Colin Taylor, King and Co., Ltd.

Coventry, Friday.—Average attendance. Wheats in limited supply, and prices a trifle lower. Barley a quiet business at recent quotation. Oats firm, and few offering. Beans met a fair demand at full late rates for dry samples. Quotations:—Wheat, 13s to 14s per 186 lb; barley, 30s to 34s per 448 lb; old oats, 24s 6d to 27s per per 352 lb; new oats, 21s to 23s 6d per 352 lb; beans, 13s to 13s 9d per 196 lb; peas, 12s 6d to 15s per 196 lb.

Derby, Friday.—There was a limited supply of wheat, and prices showed an easier tendency. Barley firm at full rates. Oats in good demand at 6d to 1s dearer. Beans rather dearer. Quotations:—Wheat, 37s to 38s; red, 35s to 37s; grinding barley, 25s to 27s; new beans, 35s to 36s; oats, old, 25s to 27s; new, 21s to 22s.

Devizes, Thursday.—Trade for other corn was dull, at late rates. Best old wheat, 21s to 22s; best new wheat, 19s to 20s; secondary, 16s to 18s; malting barley, 30s to 35s; grinding barley, 27s to 29s; winter barley, 26s to 30s 6d; old oats, 22s to 24s 6d; winter oats, 18s to 19s 6d; white Garton oats (330lb), 19s to 20s; black Tartar oats (320 lb), 19s to 20s; rye, 27s to 30s; beans, 17s to 19s; fine flour, 32s to 34s; extra fine, 35s to 39s; vetches, 5s 3d to 6s 6d.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Small supply of English wheat. Trade was rather slow, but prices were firm at last week's rates. Foreign was steady at late rates, whilst forward wheat was 6d per qr dearer. Moderate supply of barley, which sold at an advance of 1s per qr, making up to 33s per qr. Oats were exceedingly firm, and in some cases advanced 6d per qr. Old beans dearer. Maize declined 1s per qr.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Although a favourable break in the weather has occurred to-day, the attendance was by no means large, owing to yesterday's fair, and there was only a moderate quantity of grain on offer, the almost continuous wet weather throughout the week having put a stop to threshing operations, and, in fact, to farm work in general. Holders showed but little inclination to accept less money for their wheat, and consequently the few transactions which resulted were practically at the previous week's currencies, many farmers showing a strong disposition to hold their corn back in anticipation of a further rise in values, which received somewhat of a check at some markets the day previous. Foreign may also be quoted at fully late currencies. Most other articles are steadily held, farmers declining to accept anything like a reduced price unless, as in some cases, a few needy sellers had special reasons for disposing of their corn. The flour trade closed strong and firm, factors asking outside vrlues for both fines and seconds.

Exeter, Friday.—Fairly good attendance, trade not very brisk. Wheat 6d to 1s easier. English barley unchanged; grinding barley 6d dearer. Maize, 6d to 9d cheaper. Oats 6d dearer. Flour unchanged. Quotations:—English wheat, 4s 3d to 4s 6d; English barley, 3s 9d to 4s 6d; superfine flour, 30s to 33s; fines, 29s to 31s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance at to-day's market. Wheat met with an easier tendency, with demand slow. Flour, in sympathy with wheat, is 6d per sack cheaper. Maize the turn easier for Plate, owing to a fresh arrival; but Danubian unaltered. Corn scarce and dearer. Barley firm at full rates. Oats held for 1s per boll advance for all qualities since last Wednesday. Beans steadily held. Peas, none on spot. Bran and thirds unaltered. Oatmeal 1s per sack dearer on the week. Other articles firm.—Gibson and Clark.

Glasgow, Friday.—Wheat and flour steady at the late decline. Maize and corn nominally unaltered. Oats on spot very scarce, and consequently held for a further advance. Barley dearer.

Grantham, Saturday.—There was a fair supply of corn, and a good inquiry prevailed at the following rates:—Wheat, 36s to 38s; barley, 25s to 35s; oats, 19s to 21s; beans, 31s to 33s; peas, up to 76s per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday.—English wheats were moderately offered, but met with disappointing trade at 2d or 3d less than last week for English wheats. English barleys were easier to sell, but English oats remain steady at last week's prices. Beans also firm at 4s. Maize 9d per qr easier.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Small supply of wheat, trade steady at about late rates for good condition lots; 38s to 39s for reds; whites to 41s per 504 lb; out of condition sorts, 36s to 37s. Not much barley on offer, trade steady at fully late rates. Oats dull. Maize steady. Beans and peas unaltered.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The sudden collapse of the American markets last week caused a rush of resellers to quit their holdings, with the result that momentarily prices suffered a set back of 1s 6d per qr. The position of the trade, however, is inherently strong, and in a single day practically the decline was recovered. The drought in India and Australia continues, the demand for wheat for the Continent is strong and active, and yesterday's American decline has no perceptible effect, the market to-day being firm at about last week's rates. Maize quiet and 3d easier. Beans and oats rather dearer.—Dunns and Co.

Leeds, Friday.—With fair arrivals, and an impression amongst buyers that prices of English and foreign wheats have reached their top limits, orders were placed cautiously, and there was no advance upon Tuesday's quotations. Flour was steady, medium qualities making 27s to 28s. English and foreign barley steady. Beans, peas, and oats unchanged. Maize easier. Plate, Russian, and American averaging 27s to 28s.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good average attendance of buyers and dealers, with moderate supplies of home-grown wheats, which came to hand in variable condition. Trade inclined to be slow. Red wheats, 33s to 38s 6d; white wheats, 36s to 40s per 36 stones; barley (bright samples) 27s to 32s per 32 stones; old beans, 36s to 40s per 38 stones; oats, 19s to 22s per 24 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—A good attendance, but a small supply of English wheat, in variable condition, and selling at a reduction of 1s per qr on the week. Foreign quiet, and prices easier. Barley, oats, and beans firm at late rates.

Maidstone, Thursday.—The trade to-day was slow. After the recent advance in wheat follows calm, and millers would only buy at a reduction of 1s per qr, but this was not generally conceded, as owners of bread-making grain are of opinion that rally will soon be accomplished. The quietude was observable in other products, and though the cost was very little less than last Thursday, the foregoing remark was applicable.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat was 1s lower, and in moderate demand. Foreign, fluctuatedly and closed about unchanged. Flour ruled firm. Maize: Mixed American, 1d to 1½d per cental lower; Plate and other sorts generally unchanged. Barley: English, 1s per qr higher; foreign, ¼d per bushel dearer on the week. Oats steady; English, 1d higher; foreign showed no change. Beans, &c., in good request at unchanged rates.

Newark, Wednesday.—Only a moderate attendance; samples not fairly shown; wheat easier kinds firm. White and red wheat, 37s 6d to 38s; malting barley, 29s to 32s; grinding ditto, 26s 6d to 28s; white oats, 19s to 20s; black, 18s 6d to 19s 6d; old beans, 35s to 36s; new ditto, 30s to 32s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—The demand for wheat at our to-day's market was quiet, holders, however, was firm at last Saturday's price, maize favouring sellers. Beans and peas remain steady at last week's full prices. Oats of all description dearer, fine quality 6d, common sorts 3d on the week. A fair trade in barley for fine dry qualities. Soft parcels, however, were neglected.—Joseph Pollard and Co.

Norwich, Saturday.—The wheat market is fairly well supplied, and firm at last week's values, 38s per qr delivered. Barley in larger supply, and prices firm. Trade very firm in feeding stuffs, though maize is slightly easier. Grinding barley made 30s, linseed cake 2s 6d to 5s per ton dearer, and cotton cake steadier at last week's prices.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat in fair supply, trade ruled slow at late rates in some instances for out of condition lots, holders gave

way 6d per qr. Barley not much offering, and full values maintained. Oats 6d per qr higher. Beans firm.—Robt. Hubble.

Newport, Wednesday.—Fair trade passing. Prices about the same as last week. Oats in good demand, with a hardening tendency. Flour steadily held.

Oxford, Saturday.—There was a fair attendance, and moderate trade at the market. Wheat sold at 6d reduction on previous rates, while barley was offering at last week's prices.

Peterborough, Saturday.—Not a large supply of wheat at market to-day, trade being quiet at about 6d less money than last week. Oats, small supply and rather dearer. Barley, a quiet trade at late rates. Wheat, 37s to 38s; barley, 28s to 32s; oats, 19s to 20s.—Thomas Hill and Son.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a very good attendance at our market here to-day. Wheat unchanged. Barley and maize 6d cheaper. Oats 3d dearer.—Orlando Davis and Co.

Preston, Saturday.—Business in foreign wheat has been slightly reduced during the week. Moderate attendance. The supply of new wheat is practically nil; last Saturday's rates were obtainable for anything offering. Flour 6d per peck dearer. Quotations: — Wheat white, new, per windle of 220 lb, 16s to 16s 6d; ditto red, 15s to 15s 6d; oats, old, per bushel, 3s 7d to 3s 8d; ditto new, 2s 11d to 3s; beans, per windle of 220 lb. 16s 6d to 17s.

Reading, Saturday.—A good attendance, and a very good trade was done; there was, however, not a lot of wheat on offer. Barley and oats were firm. Prices:—Wheat, 34s to 40s; malting barley, 30s to 35s 6d; grinding barley, 27s to 30s; oats, 18s to 21s; beans, 32s to 35s; peas, 31s to 33s; hay, specially picked, 85s; best clover, 80s to 95s; straw, 28s to 34s.

Retford, Saturday.—About the usual attendance, and a fair supply of grain. No change in quotations for wheat, which remains at 37s to 38s per qr, with a moderate demand. The best of the malting barley sold freely at 29s to 31s; secondary 27s 6d to 29s; and grinding, 25s to 27s. Grain for feeding purposes continued fully as dear, maize being quoted at 29s to 30s, delivered here. Black oats, 18s 6d to 19s; white up to 20s; and oldo ats 24s; new English bean, 30s to 32s; and old ditto, 35s to 36s per qr.

Ripon, Thursday.—Business was active, but the supply of samples was limited. Prices show an upward tendency. New wheat, 37s to 38s; wheat, foreign, 46s to 48s; barley, grinding, 27s to 28s; barley, malting, 28s to 32s; new oats, 20s to 20s 6d; old ditto, 26s; maize, round, 30s; maize, flat, 30s per qr.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Wheat, 15s to 16s 6d; oats, old, 16s to 17s per 225 lb; new, 12s 6d to 14s per 225 lb; barley, 18s to 20s.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—After weaker markets towards the close of last week, prices of wheats and maize have recovered, and values stand to day much as last Tuesday. Beans, oats, and barley make 1s and 1s 6d per qr more on the week. Peas scarcer, and dearer. Bran and sharps in good demand, bran being 5s per ton dearer. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 38s to 38s 6d; ditto, red, new, 38s to 38s 6d per 504 lb; oats, black, 24s to 25s; ditto white, 24s 6d to 25s; ditto new, 21s 6d to 22s per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 36s to 36s 6d; ditto blue, new, 75s to 90s per 504 lb; beans, English, 36s 6d to 37s per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 28s to 30s; ditto malting, 28s to 32s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 30s to 30s 6d; ditto Plate, 29s 6d to 30s; ditto flat, 31s 6d to 33s per 480 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—Fair attendance, and the tone of the market was rather easier. Wheats were depreciated to the extent of 1s to 1s 6d per qr on the week, making 36s 6d to 37s 6d, although 38s was freely asked. Oats were a slow trade at 19s to 19s 6d per qr. Beans were firmly held for recent currencies; barleys were increased 1s to 1s 6d per qr, making 32s 6d to 33s 6d for malting, and 26s 6d to 28s for grinding parcels.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was not much local wheat showing, which made 37s 6d to 38s per qr. Owing to the financial position in America, prices for foreign wheat have receded 6d to 1s per qr on the week, and the demand was very limited. Oats 3d to 6d dearer, and maize 2d per qr lower on the week. Malting barley was showing in small quantities, some in poor condition, and made from 17s to 31s per qr according to quality.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday. — New white wheat, 38s to 39s; new red ditto, 37s to 38s; barley, 29s to 32s; grinding ditto, 26s to 28s; oats, English, 20s to 22s; rye, 27s to 28s; peas, 34s to 38s; beans, 34s to 38s; tares, 40s to 48s; maize, 29s to 30s.

Warwick, Saturday.—A fair attendance, but few samples of corn on offer. Wheat a shade higher than last week. Feeding stuffs firm.

Winchester, Saturday.—English wheat, unchanged prices, condition variable. Foreign, occasionally 6d cheaper. Barley and maize 6d lower. Oats scarce and dearer. Flour a steady trade at late rates.—Fear, Colebrook and Co., Ltd.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A small supply of wheat at market, making 38s to 39s per 504 lb. Oats dearer, 20s per 336 lb. Barley from 28s to 31s per 448 lb.—James Fletcher.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a fair attendance, and business was brisk. Quotations: Beans, 13s 3d per 196 lb; oats, 12s per 196 lb; Indian corn, round, 13s per 196 lb; flat, 32s per 448 lb.

Worksop, Wednesday. — Good attendance and more grain on offer. Wheat easier at about late rates, and barley and oats about 6d per qr dearer. White wheat, 37s to 38s; red wheat, 36s to 37s; best malting barley, 30s to 31s 6d; secondary, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; grinding barley, 27s to 28s; old white oats, 25s 6d to 27s 6d; new ditto, 19s 6d to 22s; old black oats, 25s to 26s; new ditto 18s 6d to 21s; maize, 28s to 29s per qr.

Yeovil, Friday.—Farmers who have been holding back their grain in anticipation of record prices were to-day surprised to find the market all against them. Wheat (home-grown) was down 1s per qr.; foreign, 6d. Barley made from 3d to 6d less money, and maize 6d. Oats realised last week's rates. Best new wheat, 38s to 40s per qr; secondary, 32s to 34s; malting barley, 30s to 35s; grinding ditto, 27s to 29s; winter barley, 26s to 30s; foreign barley, 26s 3d; winter oats, 18s to 19s 6d; white gartons, 19s to 20s; black Tartars, 19s to 20s; Irish black, 19s; beans, 34s to 38s; rye, 27s to 30s; vetches, 6s to 7s 6d per bushel. Flour values gave way somewhat, fine selling at about 32s per sack, and extra fine 35s upwards. Offals and meals continue a firm trade, the demand being exceptionally good.

York, Saturday.—Farmers offered very little wheat, and prices remained without change. Fine white wheat made 38s to 39s; red and mixed, 37s to 38s per qr of 36 stones. Malting barley was rather dearer, fine fetching 31s to 32s; good, 30s to 31s; and common 28s to 29s per qr of 32 stones. Oats were very scarce; white Tartary, 19s to 20s; black ditto, 20s to 21s; and short oats, 20s to 21s per qr of 24 stones; rye, 28s to 29s; and old beans, 36s per qr of 36 stones.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cake: There is a slight improvement noticeable in the consumptive demand, and with continued light shipments of foreign and a firmer attitude on the part of home manufacturers, values have been forced up fully 5s per ton since last Monday. Russian offer sparingly at 3s 9d per ton more money. East Indian seed pures are quoted slightly dearer, to arrive. Fine seedy Calcuttas make an advance of 5s. London made attract most attention, being relatively offered at 2s 6d over last week's quotations. Cotton Cakes.—Only a limited quantity of Egyptian is available in warehouse, and for these full prices are demanded, but there are sellers for slightly less for early arrival. English move off quietly and without alteration. Decorticated.—London-made pures find a ready sale, while American brands are neglected. Rape Cakes.—Only nominally quoted. Maize Germ Meal.—Nothing offers in White American, and English makes are firmly held. Maize Gluten Meal continues in good request. Rice Meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon may still be bought at late rates, while for arrival quotations are also the same. Locust Beans remain good value. Dried Brewers' Grains are scarce and dear. Nitrate of soda is unchanged.

Russian, in mats (ex dock)	7 10 0	to 7 12	6
,, in bags	7 15 0	to 7 17	6
East India	7 10 0	to 7 12	6
Calcutta	7 15 0	—	
London Made	7 17 6	to 8 0	0
Cottonseed Cakes.			
Egyptian	4 18 9	to 5 0	0
English (ex mill)	5 0 0	to 5 2	6
Bombay	4 7 6		
Decorticated, London made	7 10 0	to 7 12	6
,, American	7 5 0	—	
,, Meal, American	7 5 0	—	
,, Meal, English	7 10 0	to 7 12	6
Special Digestive Meal	5 5 0	—	
Rape Cakes.			
East India	5 5 0	—	
Ravison	5 0 0	—	
Maize.			
American	—		
English	6 17 6	to 7 0	0
Maize Gluten Meal	7 0 0	—	
Ricemeal.			
Rangoon ex ship	5 10 0	—	
,, ex wht.	5 12 6	to 5 15	0
Locust Beans.			
Whole	5 10 0		
Kibbled	5 15 0		
Dried Brewers' Grains.			
Ale	5 10 0		
Mixed	5 5 0		

Manures.

Nitrate of soda 11 2 6

—Pinnock Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

Liverpool, Friday.—The tone of the nitrate of soda market is firm on the spot at £11 5s to £11 7s 6d per ton, according to quality. For kainit and phosphates for autumn deliveries there are inquiries, but business as yet is not very active at the advanced rates on last season. The colder and more seasonable weather should stimulate an increased demand for feeding stuffs, which up to the present has been most disappointing; with Indian corn at present high prices, however, and the small stock of foreign oilcakes and light shipments, there would seem no likelihood of easier prices ruling in the near future; but, on the contrary, holders are firm, anticipating the likehood of further advanced values. To-days prices are as follows:—

	Per ton. £ s d	£ s d
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (prime)	—	—
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime (soft)	8 7 6	8 10 0
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime	4 15 0	5 0 0
Cottonseed Cake, undecorticated Egyptian	—	—
Cottonseed, crushed, 20 per cent. oil guaranteed, scarce	8 15 0	—
Linseed Cake, American, thin oblong, prime but hard	7 15 0	8 0 0
,, ,, English, prime	8 0 0	8 7 6
,, ,, East Indian	8 0 0	—
Palm Nut Cake	6 5 0	—
Indian Meal, coarse to fine	Per 240 lb.	
grinding	—	—
Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported	Per ton. —	—
	Per qr., 416 lb.	
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2 12 6	2 15 0
	Per Gallon.	
Cod-liver Oil, cattle feeding	0 4 0	—
	Per Cwt.	
Treacle, feeding, American	0 4 9	—
	Per ton.	
Nitrate of Soda	11 7 6	—
Kainit, prime	2 10 0	—
Bone Meal, prime	5 10 0	—
Bone Ash, fine and powdery	3 15 0	—
Basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed	1 14 0	1 15 0
,, ,,	2 2 0	2 3 0
,, finest ,,	2 6 0	2 7 6
D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime*	2 5 0	2 7 0
,, ,, guaranteed*	2 10 0	2 12 0
,, ,, ,, *	3 1 3	3 3 3

* At depot inland.

—H. Jones Langar and Co.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £13 15s to £14 5s; half-bred hoggs, £13 to £13 10s; ditto wethers, £12 10s to £13; Kent fleeces, £12 5s to £12 10s; South Down ewes and wethers, £13 10s to £14; Leicester ewes and wethers, £12 to £12 10s. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., scoured super., 2s 3d to 2s 4d; scoured, good, 2s to 2s 2d; scoured, average, 1s 10½d to 1s 11½d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 2½d to 1s 3½d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 10½d to 1s 11½d; greasy, average, 1s 1d. to 1s 2d; S. Aus., greasy, average, 11d to 1s; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 11d to 2s; greasy, average, 1s to 1s 1d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 10d to 1s 11d; fleece, average, 9½d to 10½d; greasy, average, 8½d to 9½d; Natal, scoured, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; greasy average, 8½d to 9d. Crossbreds—grs.—Vic., good to super., 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d; New Zealand fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s to 1s 1d; coarse, 10d to 11d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Firm, but not much offering at present rates. Kent fleeces, 11d; lamb wool, 7d; half-bred fleeces, 11d; Downs, 13d to 14d per lb.

Halifax, Saturday.—Market quiet all round. Merinos very firm owing to light stocks. Crossbreds dull. Spinners still doing good business. Reports as to piece trade better. In certain branches of woollen trade overtime continues to be worked.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Choice Kent Goldings in good inquiry up to £6 per cwt, but supply very small.

Worcester, Saturday.—There was a further falling off in the attendance at market to-day owing to the growers having sold their growths. Fine hops were scarce and sold readily at late prices, but the trade generally was not fast as brewers are only buying sparingly as yet; 2,851 pockets have been weighed over this week, making with 12,789 pockets previously weighed, 15,640 pockets to date.—Charles Faram and Co.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 p.m.

Arrivals to 23rd inclusive, comprised 66,460 qr. of wheat, and since then over 100,000 qr., not yet officially checked, but known to exceed that figure, have arrived on the Thames. Naturally there is a halt in prices for breadstuffs. English wheat is in good request for all grades, and thus the price is well maintained. Maize and oats vary in proportion to the quantities of the fifteen chief types represented in the recent arrivals. Maize is inclined to fall for La Plata and Russian, but is firm for American.

Barley is a large business, with a good price readily obtainable for anything which itself is good. Oats are also a ready sale of English, but foreign have been held above a proportionate value, and consequently rather tend to decline. Beans and peas, tares and dari are on the upgrade. The market is a little cheaper for inferior grinding barley from Russia and Persia, but fair to good barley from North Africa and Asia Minor is rising steadily in appreciation.

BRITISH GRAIN *(Off Stands).*

October 28.

WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	39 — 42
Red	,,	36 — 40
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	36 — 38
Brewing	,,	33 — 35
Distilling	(per 416 lb.)	31 — 32
New Winter	(per 400 lb.)	27 — 29
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	27 — 28
MALT, Pale (Old)	(per 336 lb.)	34 — 36
Brown ,,	,,	31 — 32
Black ,,	,,	33 — 34
Pale (New) for early Dec. delivery; none offered earlier	,,	39 — 40
OATS, Good Old	,,	22 — 23
Good New	,,	21 — 22
New Winter	,,	20 — 21
Ordinary Old	(per 320 lb.)	21 — 22
Ordinary New	(per 320 lb.)	20 — 21
,, ,,	(per 312 lb.)	19 — 20
RYE, New	(per 480 lb.)	30 — 31
BEANS, Pigeon	(per 532 lb.)	42 — 44
Tick	(per 504 lb.)	34 — 35
Winter	,,	33 — 34
Spring	,,	32 — 33
Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	22 — 23
PEAS, Picked Marrowfat, New	(per 504 lb.)	84 — 88
Unpicked (Old)	,,	52 — 56
Maple (Old)	,,	36 — 37
(New)	,,	35 — 36
Dun (Old)	,,	32 — 34
(New)	,,	33 — 34
BUCKWHEAT	(per 416 lb)	32 — 34

FOREIGN GRAIN *(Ex-Granary).*

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba	45	47	American	28	29
Red Winter	44	45	Argentine	28	29
Best Spring	45	47	Roumanian	28	29
Durum	41	42	Russian	28	29
Argentine	44	45	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Australian	44	45	Smyrna	35	36
Californian	44	45	New Zealand	33	34
Walla Walla	43	44	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Azima	44	46	Hungarian	62	64
Ghirka	42	44	Burmese	37	39
Roumanian	43	44	Chilian	56	64
Indian White	43	44	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb):		
,, Red	42	43	French	31	33
Turkish	41	42	Russian	32	34
Persian	41	42	Canadian	34	36
BARLEY:			PEAS (504 lb.):		
C'lifor'n (448 lb)	36	37	Dutch Crowns	56	58
Tunisian (448 lb)	34	35	Konigsberg	45	47
Algerian (448 lb)	33	34	Russian White	36	37
Ouchak (448 lb)	32	34	Indian White	36	37
Smyrna (448 lb)	32	33	Canadian White	36	37
Russian (400 lb)	26	27	New Zeal'd Maple	40	41
Indian (400 lb)	25	26	Victoria Dun	33	34
Persian (400 lb)	25	26	MILLET (416 lb.):		
MALT (336 lb.):			White	44	46
Californian	37	38	Yellow	24	26
Smyrna	37	38	Sorghum	22	23
Ouchak	36	39	RICE (cwt.):		
RYE (480 lb.):			Java	16	22
Russian	30	31	Indian	17	20
OATS:			Japanese	16	17
Konigsbg (320 lb)	21	22	Burmese	9	10
Russian (304 lb)	19	20	Siamese	8	9
Canadian (320 lb)	21	22	DARI (480 lb.):		
Argentine (304 lb)	19	20	Smyrna	28	29
Swedish (320 lb)	21	22	Indian	25	26
New Z'l'd (384 lb)	25	26	Persian	24	25

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 p.m.

The top-price has been raised to 38s., and the finest Hungarian has to-day reached 40s. per sack. Town Whites and Town Households, on the other hand, are inclined to fall in price, though the quotations of the 21st still stand, rebates are, it is understood, being allowed to old customers, and so forth. Country flour is, if anything, a little firmer on the week, but American sorts are rather weaker, thus the flour market is very fluctuating as a whole, yet with considerable strength beneath the surface.

Milling offals are paying the miller very handsomely just now, but farmers who require them for fattening stock and poultry are gravely inconvenienced. Locust bean meal is commanding an unwonted sale, as it is appetising to cattle, and makes food rather lacking in flavour go down. Barley meal is selling well, and seems going rather higher in value. Oatmeal is decidedly firm.

London Flour.

October 28.

Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	38/0
Town Whites	,,	36/0
,, Households	,,	33/0
No. 2	,,	31/0
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	33/0
,, No. 2	,,	31/0
Country Flour.	s.	s.
Fine Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	29 — 31
Roller Whites	,,	28 — 29
All English	,,	28 — 29
Stone made	,,	26 — 27
Foreign Flour.	s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	34 — 35
,, Second Patents	,,	32 — 33
,, First Bakers'	,,	29 — 30
,, Second Bakers'	,,	28 — 29
Milwaukee Patents	,,	33 — 34
,, Bakers'	,,	30 — 31
Canadian Best	,,	33 — 34
,, Ordinary	,,	31 — 32
Manitoba Patents	,,	33 — 34
,, Ordinary	,,	31 — 32
Kansas Patents	,,	32 — 33
,, Ordinary	,,	31 — 32
Californian	,,	32 — 33
Belgian	,,	35 — 37
Hungarian (net prices)—		
Five Stars	,,	40/0
G.G.O.	,,	39/6
P.W.M.	,,	38/0
Six Anchors	,,	None
Meal, &c.		
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	17 — 18
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	18 — 19
,, ,, Broad	,,	17 — 18
Pollard	,,	16 — 17
Biscuit Middlings	,,	20 — 21
Fine Middlings	,,	19 — 20
Coarse Middlings	,,	18 — 19
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	20 — 21
Farina Firsts	,,	31 — 32
,, Seconds	,,	29 — 30
Barley Meal	,,	28 — 29
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	28 — 29
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	33 — 34
Groats	,,	34 — 35
Oat Flour	,,	5 — 36
Ground Oats	,,	34 — 35
Poultry Meal	,,	37 — 38
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	21 — 22
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	20 — 21
,, Germ Meal	,,	17 — 18
,, Cones	,,	20 — 21
,, Gluten Meal	,,	17 — 18
Rye Flour	,,	26 — 28
Rye Bran	,,	23 — 24
Pea Meal	,,	25 — 26

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED QUIETLY, BUT THERE IS NO LOSS OF ESSENTIAL STRENGTH IN THE HOLDING OF ENGLISH GRAIN, AND THE BETTER ADVICES FROM AMERICA HELP THE "BALTIC."

THE BALTIC.

Monday, 1 p.m.

State of Trade.

There is to-day an improved inquiry for wheat cargoes at full prices. Maize, oat, and barley cargoes open a little in buyers' favour. Cotton-seed cargoes are dearer on the week, but not quite so good to day as on Saturday. Other articles unchanged.

Business Done.

Wheat. — Californian, 42s 6d per 500 lb, prompt shipment; Walla Walla, 42s 3d per 500 lb, prompt shipment; Australian, 44s per 480 lb, on passage; Argentine, 40s per 480 lb, February shipment.

Barley.—Argentine, 26s 9d per 480 lb, November shipment; American, 27s per 480 lb, November shipment; American, 25s 6d per 480 lb, January shipment; Galatz, 29s 9d per 480 lb, due.

Barley.—Azof, 26s 3d per 400 lb, on passage; Persian, 23s 6d per 400 lb, November shipment.

Oats.—Petersburg, 18s 3d per 304 lb, October shipment; Libau, 17s 9d per 304 lb, October shipment; South Russian, 17s 9d per 304 lb, on passage; Argentine, 17s 9d per 304 lb, March shipment.

Linseed.—Argentine, 45s 9d per 416 lb, arrived.

Poppyseed.—Indian, 63s 3d per 387 lb, on passage.

Sesame.—Indian, 62s 6d per 384 lb, on passage.

Cottonseed.—Egyptian, £7 6s 3d per 2,240 lb, November shipment.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—The fluctuating markets in America, owing to financial difficulties, has had the effect of stopping sales of flour. Grain.—The price of American corn is well maintained owing to scarcity, but round maize is 6d per boll lower. Beans unchanged. Pease practically exhausted on spot. Oilcake firm. Oats in brisk demand, deliveries of home oats being very small. Oatmeal 1s per sack dearer. Millstuffs steady at full prices. Winter wheat patents, 31s to 31s 6d per 280 lb; spring wheat patents, 32s 6d to 34s 6d per 280 lb; American corn, 17s 9d to 18s per 280 lb; round corn, 16s 4½d to 16s 6d per 280 lb; grinding beans, 19s per 280 lb; broad bran, 117s 6d to £6 per ton; medium bran, 112s 6d per ton; fine thirds, 140s to 142s 6d per ton; common thirds, 120s per ton; American oilcake, 152s 6d to 155s per ton.—McKinnon and McDonald (Glasgow).

Offals.—Bran in good demand, and in some instances 2s 6d per ton advance is being obtained.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Flour.—Prices a few days ago were somewhat irregular, owing to conflicting advices from America. For the moment, however, the market is again steady, and prices not only firm, but tending upward.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

TERM MARKET.

The ups and downs of speculation have left quotations for futures as follows:—

Wheat—				
No. 2 Red Winter,	8s. 6d.	(per cental, Dec. delivery		
,, ,,	8s. 7d.	,,	Mar.	,,
,, ,,	8s. 6d.	,,	May	,,
Maize—				
Mixed American,	5s. 10d.	,,	Nov.	,,
,, ,,	5s. 9d.	,,	Dec.	,,
,, ,,	5s. 7d.	,,	Jan.	,,
,, ,,	5s. 6d.	,,	Feb.	,,
Maize—				
Argentine yellow	5s. 8d.	,,	Nov.	,,
,, ,,	5s. 9d.	,,	Dec.	,,

The forward market is strong for wheat for early 1908 delivery, but English farmers should note that by waiting into January they will probably be able to buy a good store of maize at 2s. per qr. under present prices.

WET AND DRIED GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Wet Grains: With a steady trade and owing to slack brewings, prices have advanced slightly during the week. Business has been done at 18s to 20s ale per ton, and porter 3s per ton less on rail, London. Dried Grains.—An upward tendency has set in with the approach of colder weather, and 105s ale and 100s porter mixed are the prevailing prices ex factory, in buyers' bags. American cane treacle 95s, and kiln-dried sea-damaged wheat from 22s per qr ex wharf.—Hamlyn and Co., 37 and 38, Mark Lane.

SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—More geneaal business passing. Rape very firm. Mustard unchanged. Rye scarce and firm. Winter tares still selling slowly at unchanged prices. Seed wheats in good demand; prices firm. Peas, more business, but supplies still backward. In clovers, whites and Alsikes firm. English reds dearer, dearer. In grasses, Perennials and Italians again higher, after the slight lull experienced.—John Pickard and Co.

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, October 22, 1907:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Av. Price per qr £	s.	d.
Wheat	2,533	0	4,549	7	3	1	15	11
Barley	4,223	5	6,160	1	3	1	9	2
Oats	3,321	2	3,272	16	6	0	19	9

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—A fair assortment met a fair inquiry. Epicures, 70s to 75s; Llewellyns, 80s to 85s; British Queens, 80s; Blacklands, 75s; Up-to-Dates, 80s to 90s per ton; French and Dutch, 3s 6d per bag.

Berwick, Saturday.—Potatoes are showing a rise in price, and in consequence trade is not so brisk. Very little disease is noted here. Price, 65s per ton.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Fairly large supply, and a good demand at 7d to 8d per stone.

Goole, Wednesday.—Good attendance, but few potatoes changed hands. Prices ruled firm at last week's rates.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Moderate deliveries were in fair request. Epicures, 75s to 80s; Blacklands, 75s to 80s; Up-to-dates, 90s to 95s; British Queens, 95s to 100s per ton. French, 3s 6d; Dutch, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per bag.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Potatoes £4 4s to £4 10s per ton.

Manchester, Saturday.—Potatoes: Yorkshire, 11s to 12s; Cheshire, 8s 6d to 9s; Lincoln, 10s to 11s per 18st.

Preston, Saturday.—Potatoes: 8s to 9s per load of 240 lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Potatoes were not shown in great quantities. Best home-grown lots made 7s 6d to 8s; other varieties, 7s per load.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Ample supply and a good trade, prices advancing to 8s to 9s per load of 18 stones; retail, 10d to 1s per peck.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Potatoes, 6d to 8d per stone.

Malton, Saturday.—Supplies small, and prices firm. Dealers' quotations ruled the same as last week, retail to 5s per cag.

Whitby, Saturday.—Potatoes, 8d per stone.

York, Saturday.—The market was rather more brisk, though few potatoes were offered. A firm trade took place at rates ranging from 80s to 85s per ton.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Altrincham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Appleby: 11½d to 1s 1d. Barnstaple: 1s 1d 1s 2d. Berwick: 1s. to 1s 2d. Camelford: 1s. Carlisle: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Dartmouth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Derby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Devizes: 1s 1d to 1s 5d. Doncaster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Dorchester: 1s to 1s 4d. Hereford: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Ipswich: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Lancaster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Lincoln: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Market Drayton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Otley: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per 24 oz roll. Penrith: 11½d to 1s 2d. Penzance: 10d to 1s 2d. Plymouth: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Preston: 1s 3d. Retford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Ripon: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Shrewsbury: 1s 2d. Spalding: 1s. Stamford: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Stockport: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Stockton: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Totnes: 1s to 1s. 1d. Truro: 1s to 1s 1d. Worcester: 1s 1d to 1s 4d. Worksop: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Altrincham: 5 and 6. Appleby: 7 and 8. Barnstaple: 7 and 8. Berwick: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per doz. Camelford: 10. Carlisle: 6. Dartmouth: 1s 6d to 1s 10d per doz. Derby: 7. Devizes: 9 and 10. Doncaster: 7 and 8. Dorchester: 1s 8d to 1s 9½d per doz. Hereford: 8 and 9. Ipswich: 8 and 10. Lancaster: 5 and 6. Lincoln: 9. Market Drayton: 7 and 8. Otley: 6. Penrith: 7 and 8. Penzance: 1s 4d to 1s 7d per dozen. Plymouth: 7 and 8. Preston: 5 and 6. Retford: 2s 6d per score. Ripon: 7 and 8 Scarborough: 8. Shrewsbury: 7 and 8. Spalding: 10. Stamford: 8 and 9. Stockport: 6. Stockton: 6. Totnes: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per doz. Truro: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per dozen. Worcester: 7. Worksop: 2s 4d to 2s 6d per score. York: 8.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Fruit and greenstuffs in good supply and steady demand. Quotations for English produce:—Apples, 4s to 9s per bushel; peaches, 3s to 12s per dozen; green figs, 6d to 2s 6d per dozen; pears (English Duchess), 2s to 2s 6d per dozen; ditto (Fertility), 4s to 5s per bushel; grapes, 8d to 3s 9d; pineapp'es 2s to 4s each; cranberries, 7s 6d to 10s per case; cobnuts, 4s to 4s 6d per 12 lb; walnuts, 4s to 4s 6d per half bushel; tomatoes, 3s to 4s 6d; melons, 1s to 2s; celery, 8d to 1s 3d per bundle; horseradish, 10s to 15s per dozen bundles; endive, 1s 6d to 1s 9d per dozen; cucumbers, 7s 6d to 10s per flat; cauliflowers, 4s 6d to 6s; cabbages, 3s 1d to 4s 6d per tally; onions, 4s 6d to 5s 6d per cwt; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s; leeks, 1s 6d to 2s; mint, 1s to 1s 4d; turnips, 1s 4d to 2s 6d per dozen bunches; carrots, 2s to 3s per bag; ditto, 30s to 35s per ton; cos lettuce, 9d to 1s 3d per score; shallots, 2s 6d per 12 lb; potatoes, 60s to 85s per ton.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Oct. 28, 1907. British.	Total.	Monday, Oct. 29, 1906.
Beasts	1,320	1,320	1,150
Sheep and Lambs	4,310	4,310	5,540
Calves	10	10	10
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	10	10	45

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 4	3 4	4 8
Sheep	4 8	5 6	6 2
Lambs	—	6 6	6 8
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £23.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 51; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 1,099; Devon, 40; Ireland, 130.

We note to-day an increase of 80 head in the number of beasts offered for sale compared with Monday last. For both prime and second quality English descriptions trade ruled of a very slow nature, however no sufficient fall in value was noticeable to warrant our quoting any lower rates. The Irish arrivals consisted of 65 Dublins and 65 Waterfords (no store cattle being included), these shared in the poor trade, but maintained late currencies. Fat butchering cows and bulls again met with a very slow trade owing to the scarcity of buyers present; however, all sales were based on last Monday's values. A clearance will not be made.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s d	s d	Monday, Oct. 29, 1906. s d	s d
Scotch	—	—	4 10 to 5	0
Devons	4 6 to 4	8	4 8 to 4	10
Herefords	4 4 ex 4	6	4 4 to 4	6
Norfolks	—	—	—	—
Runts	4 2 to 4	4	4 2 to 4	4
Lincolns	3 10 to 4	0	3 8 to 3	10
Irish	4 0 to 4	2	4 0 to 4	2
Canadian	—	—	—	—
Fat cows	3 4 ex 3	6	3 4 ex 3	8

There was a decrease of 180 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. For all descriptions of both wethers and ewes trade ruled of a brisker nature; however, not sufficient to enable the sellers to make any advance in value. Both Scotch and Irish descriptions shared in the better trade, notwithstanding the latter being in larger supply. A few lambs were offered for sale and were disposed of early in the day at last Monday's prices. The supply included 200 Scotch, 1,085 Irish, and 158 from the Eastern Counties. A clearance is expected to be made in this part of the market to-day.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, Oct. 29, 1906. s. d.	s. d.
7½ to 8 st Downs	5 10 to 6	0	6 2 to 6	4
9 st. Downs	5 8 to 5	10	6 0 to 6	2
10 st Halfbreds	5 4 to 5	6	5 8 to 5	10
10 st Yorkshires	—		—	
12 st Lincolns	—		—	
10 st Irish	5 6 to 5	8	5 4 to 5	6
10 st Down Ewes	4 0 to 4	2	4 4 to 4	6
11 st Halfbred ditto	3 10 to 4	0	4 2 to 4	4
5 st Down Lambs	6 6 to 6	8	—	
6 st Halfbred ditto	—		—	

A few calves and pigs were offered for sale, but not sufficient to note or quote.

London (Central), Monday.—Trade slow for fair supplies. Beef, English, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 6d; American, 3s 4d to 3s 9d; refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Mutton, English wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 6d. Lambs, 4s 8d to 5s; Scotch tegs and wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 6d. Veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d. Pork, 3s 6d to 4s 2d per stone.

FOREIGN.

St. Ives (Hunts) Monday.—Beasts, 764; sheep, 557; pigs, 499. Fat cattle fair; stores in good demand; fat and store sheep and pigs good trade. Prices: Beef, 7s to 7s 6d; mutton, 8s 2d to 10s 6d; pork, 6s 3d to 7s; milch cows, £14 to £22.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 480. To-day's supply compared with Monday last showed a decrease of 260 head, and consisted entirely of shipments from the United States, which were of rather poor quality. Trade ruled of a slow nature at less money. The best on offer were quoted at from 4s to 4s 2d; seconds, 3s 8d to 3s 10d per 8 lb (offal given in). On Saturday 1,210 beasts from the United States, 370 Canadians, and 490 Canadian Ranchers were offered for sale, and with a slow trade were quoted per 8 lb as follows:—States, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; seconds, 4s to 4s 2d; Canadians, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; ditto Ranchers, 3s 4d to 3s 6d.

Liverpool, Monday.—The supply of cattle was smaller than last week. Good qualities in demand at prices in sellers' favour. Middling and inferior sorts unchanged. Sheep supply also smaller. Trade slow for all classes, and although lower prices were accepted, a clearance could not be made. Beef, 6¼d to 4½d; mutton, 8½d to 6d per lb. At market 1,493 cattle and 6,048 sheep.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday. — Linseed Cake.—Consumers are beginning to realise that cake is, compared with other feeding stuffs, very good value, and there is now a better feeling in the trade with an advance of 2s 6d to 5s per ton. Foreign cakes continue to be sparingly offered.

Cotton Cake.—A fair trade doing in Egyptians at last quotations. Linseed.—There is a good business passing in the feeding sorts, and market closes 1s per qr dearer on the week.

Linseed Cakes.	£ s. d.	Per ton. £ s. d.
English Linseed Cake, ex mill	7 17 6 to 8	2 6
American Calcutta Linseed Cake ex quay	—	—
American Western Linseed ex quay	—	—
American Western Linseed	—	—
Russian Oil Cake ex quay	—	—
Decorticated Cotton Cake ex quay	7 10 0	7 15 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal ex quay	7 10 0 to 7	12 6
London-made ,, Cake (best) ex mill	7 10 0 to 7	12 6
Egyptian ,, Cake (in bags) ex quay	5 0 0 to 5	2 6
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains on rail, Burton	5 0 0	—
Duluth Linseed (in bags), per 416 lb ex warehouse	2 9 0	—
Calcutta Linseed (in bags), per 410 lb ex warehouse	2 8 6	—
La Plata Linseed per 416 lb. ex warehouse	2 9 6 to 2	12 6
Russian Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb ex warehouse	—	—

—Robt. & John Hewetson.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were:—From Ireland, 2,720 bales, and from foreign ports, 13,296 bales. There was a firm demand for bacon throughout the week, but the market closed quieter on Friday. Quotations ranged:—Irish, 61s to 63s up to 67s; Danish 56s to 62s up to 65s; Canadian, 62s to 63s. Butter: Butter was a firm market. French, 112s to 122s; Danish, 128s to 132s; Russian, 88s to 112s; Dutch, 120s; Irish, 94s to 124s; Victorian, 96s to 118s; New South Wales, 96s to 118s; Queensland, 96s to 116s; New Zealand, 106s to 120s. Lard.—Lard was a steady market. Irish, 50s to 58s; Danish, 46s 6d to 47s 9d; Danish 52s to 54s.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—The best and brightest samples still command the chief attention of buyers, and the good medium sound copper hops are also being entertained. Sound brown hops are finding buyers at good relative values.—W. H. and H. Le May.

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending October 26, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1903 to 1906:—

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s. d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s. d.	OATS. Qrs.	s. d.
1903	41,412	26 0	130,955	24 2	26,050	15 8
1904	47,947	30 6	221,044	24 11	29,704	15 10
1905	86,116	27 4	237,307	24 11	23,860	16 7
1906	69,920	26 7	233,898	24 10	28,956	16 10
1907	77,173	35 9	166,835	27 2	40,208	18 8

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington Cattle Market the trade for fat beasts of both prime and second quality was of a rather slow nature, especially for the latter. The supply included a large number of the Devon cattle and a few cross-bred Scotch; the former, however, commanded our top quotation. The Irish arrivals consisted of 66 Dublins, 69 Waterfords, and 20 stores (one and two-year-old heifers), for which there was very little inquiry. Irish fat beasts shared in the inactive trade that was experienced, and met with a fall in value. Fat butchering cows and bulls were also slow of sale owing to the scarcity of buyers present. However, last week's currencies governed all transactions. On Thursday only fat cows and bulls from the South-western Counties were offered for sale, very few transactions being recorded.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, there was a fair average supply of States cattle and a large number of Canadians, the supply including some Ranchers. Trade throughout the week ruled of a slow nature, however prices became firmer as the week advanced. The total number of beasts offered for sale at both markets was 4,970, as against 4,052 during the previous week, consisting of 1,290 British (increase 200) and 3,680 foreign (increase718), these latter comprising 1,680 from the United States and 1,820 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—90 stone Devons, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 4d. ex 4s. 6d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 95 stone Irish, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 90 stone States, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; ditto Ranchers, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d. ex 3s. 6d.

The sheep trade, as usual, was confined to the Islington market, and with an increase in the supply ruled of a slow but steady nature at the previous week's values for all grades of English sheep, both wethers and ewes. Scotch descriptions ruled firmer, enabling us to quote an advance of 2d. per lb. in value, whilst Irish were in larger supply and meeting with no corresponding increase in the demand, only succeeded in making late values. A few lambs were sold at late currencies. On Thursday trade ruled of an extremely slow nature at late values. The total number penned was 4,560, as against 4,240 during the preceding week, showing an increase of 320. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 8 stone Scotch, 6s. to 6s. 2d.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone halfbreds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 5 stone fat Down lambs, 6s. 6d. to 6s. 8d.

Only twenty calves were offered for sale throughout the week, trade for which ruled of a slow nature, the best on offer being quoted at from 4s. 10d. to 5s. per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

Trade in the West.

Now that all the principal fairs are over for the present season, supplies of most kinds of stock are coming to hand on a far less extensive scale, which, however, is quite sufficient to meet the present demand. The terribly wet weather experienced during the last fortnight, although of considerable benefit to the arable land preparatory to ploughing, has materially checked the demand for grazing cattle, as many in the low-lying districts have been at a loss what to do with their stock in the present water-logged condition of their pasture lands, especially where they are unable to move their stock to higher ground till the floods—in many parts of a serious character—have subsided. This drawback has had some effect on prices, which are scarcely as good as they were, except for graziers in a particularly forward condition, which are still selling up to £32 per pair for heavy-fleshed bullocks, distinctly plain poor-class lots favouring buyers to the extent of quite 10s. a head. Young stock, too, though meeting a strong sale, are not so anxiously sought after as they were, despite the fact that the pastures in many districts are full of keep. But if graziers have experienced a slight reaction, the same cannot be said of any kind of dairy stock, which has seldom ever met a better trade than at present, it being no uncommon thing for the best type of milcher to realise £23, £24, and £25 apiece, whilst at a sale in the famous Vale district this price was altogether eclipsed for a Shorthorn, though it is only fair to state that this particular herd has long enjoyed a a record reputation for its unequalled character as a milking dairy. More ordinary runs of milch beasts—both heifers and cows—are also selling very readily at from £16 to £20 or £21 apiece, the greatest difficulty having been experienced in getting a sufficiency of milchers to adequately cope with the demand from town dairies, who in many cases are unable to supply the wants of their customers owing to so much more milk being consumed at present than was formerly the case. In-calvers also continue to meet a very quick sale at uniformly good prices, the more especially those soon coming to the pail. Most flockmasters have, ere this, disposed of all their surplus sheep, the high prices ruling now for so long proving a strong inducement to sell, even to those who generally keep a few over for disposal at the fag end of the season; and all that now remain on any of the farms of which we have any knowledge are a few "culls" of the roughest possible type, some of which may yet be wanted where a flockmaster has not yet quite made up his numbers. And for these we believe a good price will be obtained, as long as a sheep remains over unsold.

The fat stock markets are generally a trifle easier, though there are a good few steers coming up which make from £22 to £24 5s. for the best weights, and heifers from £16 to £21 (or 11s. to 11s. 6d. for the ripest, and 10s. 3d. to 10s. 6d., for secondary qualities). Fat steers and heifers at all suitable for the Christmas trade are now being acquired for home feeding, consequently these commanded a good price. Fat cows may be quoted about 10s.; old animals can be bought at 6d. to 1s. less money. Fat tegs and wethers where of choice quality, command a good trade at from 52s. to 70s. apiece for heavy sheep, which we cannot quote under 9d. per lb., if not more; fat ewes are selling from 41s. to 60s., 7s. being made in one instance that came under our notice (or fully 8d. to 8½d.); whilst well-finished fat lambs command from 42s. to 52s. each (or 10d.), and smaller lambs of poorer quality from 31s. to 38s. (or 9d.). Fat meaty calves are in good request up to £7 apiece down to £3 for smaller weights (or 8½d to 9d per lb.). We consider pigs scarcely as dear as they were, only very special weights in porkers commanding 10s. per score, the great bulk of hogs selling at 8s. 6d. to 9s. 6d., and anything very weighty or coarse 8s. to 8s. 3d.

Trade in Ireland

On Thursday last the Dublin cattle market was held; it was well supplied and had a large attendance of buyers. The supplies all showed an increase (from a small one of six head on cattle to the large one of 1,230 on sheep for the week), the number being 5,114 for the former, and 7,980 for the latter. This shows an increase of more than 1,000 head of sheep on the corresponding week of 1905 and 1906, and a slight increase in the number of beasts. There was a big attendance of buyers, but a dull opening was made in the cattle market. In the early hours some very fancy lots of cattle were sold at prices nearly approaching the previous week's rates. Cattle, as a rule, with rare exceptions, gave way fully 10s. to 20s. per head, and even at this reduction a large number were left unsold.

Bad accounts from across the Channel made the market rather a poor one for prices. Best heifer and beef was worth from 50s. to 54s. 6d. for beasts of extra quality; second quality beef, 46s. to 50s.; and inferior quality beef from 42s. 6d. to 45s. per cwt.

The dead weight price of beef for very choice lots was for top lots 29s. to 29s. 6d. per cwt., as against 30s. to 31s. 6d. at the recent market. Really good beef averaged from 26s. 6d. to 28s. per cwt., and less taking beasts at lower figures. There was a sluggish demand all round for cattle, and a good many had to be held over unsold. Sheep, with a very large market, met with a reduction of from 2s. to 4s. per head. There were in fact a great deal of sheep on offer over what were required. Some of the nicer classes of Cheviots got pretty well placed, but at more or less of a discount ranging from 2s. to 4s. per head; but many good sheep were hardly looked at at all. Horned sheep were pretty largely in evidence, but were taken little notice of. Lambs met with a poor inquiry, as it is getting too late in the season for them. The best wether mutton sold at 7d. to 7½d. per lb.; do. ewe, 6d. to 6½d., and other sorts at from 5d. to 5½d. per lb.

Veal was rather down, in sympathy with the other branches of the market. Best veal made from 7d. to 8½d. per lb., while coarse veal went for from 4½d. to 6d. per lb.

There was a good market of fine dairy cows, but prices tend downward, and they are cautiously dealt in by intending buyers. Store cattle are not a very lively trade just at present, though at the country fairs people prefer waiting over for a little before buying. However, there is plenty of keep in the country, and no doubt farmers will buy freely as soon as they see what turn things will take, as the future of the grazing farmer in Ireland appears rather uncertain in this country just at present.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Fair supplies, and trade very slow, with lower tendency in prices. English beef, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 4s to 4s 3d; ditto seconds, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; ditto forequarters, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; inferior beef, 2s 2d to 2s 8d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ditto tegs, 4s 8d to 5s; ditto ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; Dutch sheep, 4s to 4s 8d; English lamb, 4s 8d to 5s; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d; English pork, 3s 8d to 4s; Dutch ditto, 3s 6d to 4s per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Supply of beasts consisted entirely of fat cows and bulls. Owing to few buyers being present, very few sales were recorded, though Monday's values governed all transactions. Top prices paid per 8 lb.:—Fat cows, 3s 4d; extreme, 6d; fat bulls, 2s 6d to 3s. Increase of 40 in number penned in sheep market compared with Thursday last. Trade for both wethers and ewes ruled extremely slow, Monday's rates governing all transactions. Best pens made per 8 lb, as follows:—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s 10d to 6s; 9 stone ditto, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10 stone ditto, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10 stone half-breds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s to 4s 2d. Calf trade not worth noting. Quotations per 8 lb, sinking the offal:—Beasts, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; sheep, 4s to 6s.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef unchanged, best making up to 4s 8d. Mutton rather dearer: Downs, 5s 10d to 6s; Kent wethers, small, 5s 6d to 5s 10d; ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; veal, 5s to 5s 6d. Roasting pork, 3s 8d to 4s; large hogs, 3s 2d to 3s 4d per stone.

Aylesbury, Wednesday.—There was an excellent show of cattle, 190 choice quality beasts being on offer. These met a fair trade, but no advance can be quoted on last week's rates. Bullocks made up to £21 12s 6d and heifers £21. 490 sheep were penned and met a good demand, being easily disposed of, wethers realising up to 61s, ewes 59s, and lambs 40s 6d.

Berwick, Saturday.—Attendance of farmers and buyers small, and trade slow. Calves, £5 10s to £6 10s; heifers, £9 10s; stirks, £8 10s to £11; two-year-olds, £11 10s to £13 10s; three-year-olds, £16; Shorthorn bulls, £12; cows, £1.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Fair supply of pigs; small supply of beasts and sheep; trade fair for pigs; but slow for beasts and sheep. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; Hereford, 6½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s 2d per score; cutting pigs, 9s 6d per score; porkers, 10s per score; sows, 7s 6d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Fat cattle were plentiful, but business was slower at rather weaker prices for best qualities, and 1s per cwt less for secondary. Sheep and lambs were in average supply. Trade quiet. The value of light Down wethers advanced to 8¾d per lb. Pigs, as usual, were scarce, and quotations unaltered.

Calne, Friday.—Prices of pigs:—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 1s. per pig extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. 10 lb to 8 sc. 10 lbs, 9s 0d per score, 8 sc. 11 lb to 9 sc. 10 lb., 8s 6d per score; 9 sc. 11 lb to 10 sc. 10 lb, 8s 0d. Pigs outside these limits at their value.—C. and T. Harris and Co., Ltd.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The attendance was small, and a quiet trade resulted. Small wintering heifers, £6 10s to £8 10s; better descriptions,

to £12 10s; stall-feeding cattle £16 10s; polled bullocks, £9 10s to £11 10s each.

Chester, Thursday.—Supplies of stock were large, but the quality was scarcely as good as usual. Buyers were numerous, and high prices were obtained for suitable lots. Cattle of inferior class were more difficult to sell. Sheep were scarce and in slow demand. Quotations:—Milch cows, £17 to £22; calvers, £16 to £20; barrens, £10 to £13; heifers, £8 to £15; bullocks, £9 to £14; and stirks, £6 to £10 each.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Trade for the best dairy cows and heifers was very good, but inferior animals were very hard to sell. Quotations:—Devon steers, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; Shorthorn steers, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; Southdown tegs, 6s 6d to 6s 8d; West Country tegs, 6s 2d to 6s 6d; West Down ewes, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; Southdown ewes, 4s 6d to 5s; fat calves, 5s to 5s 6d; porkers, 3s 10d to 4s 4d.

Derby, Tuesday.—A fairly busy market, and the demand for best beasts and sheep was well maintained. Beasts, 5½d to 6½d; sheep, 7d to 8½d.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Good supply of cattle and a moderate demand, especially for milch beasts, which were firm and made fully late rates; top price, £23. Bullocks realised £12 to £17; heifers, £11 to £16; drapes, £10 to £15; and stirks, £9 to £12 each. Plenty of sheep offered, but a smaller supply than for several weeks. Trade slow, and late prices ruled. Ewes made 44s to 52s; gimmers 50s to 55s; and lambs, 34s to 44s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Moderately good deliveries both of fat and store stock, excepting sheep, were on offer at both Messrs. Duke's and Messrs. Symonds and Sampson's sales at to-day's cattle market, the only effect of the fair on the previous day being the absence of a few of those who usually attend the market. The stores included many really good milch beasts, those from the Isle of Purbeck finding favour with buyers at from £17 5s to about £21 10s each, and other £13 to £16 15s make an equally ready sale, milk being still badly wanted in many parts. Grazing cattle in at all forward condition met a fairly good inquiry at from £20 to £26 per pair, but distinctly plain cattle made less money; stirks ranged from £9 to £11 each, and yearlings from £5 to £8 5s. Fat beef, which included some splendid vale-grazed heifers and steers, ruled fairly firm at 11s to 11s 6d per score for the ripest, but secondary qualities must be quoted at 9s 6d to 10s 6d. Mutton, for the little offering, sold at unchanged rates.

Dublin, Thursday.—Finished cattle were again in good demand at late quotations. The large number of secondary and inferior descriptions on offer helped to retard business for these classes, and lesser prices had to be accepted in order to accomplish sales. The large increase in sheep had a quieting effect on trade, all classes making less money and many lots remaining unsold. Cattle—Live weight (best), 29s to 31s per cwt; exceptional for choice Angus crosses, 33s. 6d per cwt; inferior qualities, 25s per cwt. Mutton (dead weight), 6½d to 7½d per lb.—Ganly, Sons and Co.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Larger supplies, dull trade. Sheep: Half-bred lambs to 31s 6d; Cheviot Dinmonts to 34s; Cheviot ewes, 22s to 27s. Cattle: Black Polled bullocks, £12 10s to £13 10s; coloured, £11 to £15; stirks, £9 to £11 5s; horned bullocks, £12 5s to £15 15s. Cows: Readier demand; Shorthorns to £28; Irish to £21 10s; Ayr-hires to £19.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Large show of cattle, and for prime quality a fair demand was experienced. Secondary classes were cheaper owing to the sluggish state of trade generally. Top 62s to 65s; secondary, 55s to 58s per cwt. A fair number of sheep were penned, and for prime hogs and wethers a good steady trade was given. Other classes were hard to sell and were cheaper. Ewes only met a fair inquiry. Best mutton, 8¾d to 9¼d; secondary, 7¾d to 8¼d per lb.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Messrs. Bruton, Knowles, and Co. report their sales as follows:—Cows and calves: A very large supply of cows and calves, which met an excellent trade. Store cattle: A large supply of store cattle of good quality, for which there was a good demand.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Fair supply of beef, but no alteration in trade. Best quality beef and bullock not more than 6½d to 6¾d per lb, cow beef 5s. Small supply of calves; trade fairly good; veal 7d. Short supply of sheep; good demand for best wethers at 8d to 8½d; fat ewes, 6d to 7d. Lambs, both fat and store, met with a brisk trade; fat 8d to 8½d; stores made 38s to 39s each. Pigs were a large supply, with slight recovery on the trade. Porkers made 6d, bacons 5½d to 6d. Old stores met with a fair demand; small stores very slow. Poor trade in store cattle.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report an average supply of fat cattle. The best yard-fed animals made up to 9s per stone, grass cattle were slow and prices weak. Over 300 grazing steers were penned, more than half of which were North Country steers in good condition and of first-class quality. There were rather more buyers present, and a better clearance was effected without any improvement in price. Roan Westmoreland calves, about 10 months old, £4 17s 6d to £5 10s; North Country steers, from 14 to 16 months, £6 15s to £8 2s 6d; 18 months to two years, £8 15s to £11; polled Irish, £10 15s to £9 7s 6d; Shorthorn heifers, two years old, in calf, £13 10s to £13. Irish calves, £6 to £5 10s each.

Leicester, Saturday.—Large consignments of home-bred stock, fair attendance, and prices firm. Choice milch cows, £21 to £24 10s; good lots, £17 to £19; inferior, £14 to £15; Irish £13 to £15 10s; Welsh cattle, £9 to £15; young stock, £5 to £7 10s; heifers, £8 to £11 10s; and calves, 20 to 40s each. Sheep sold freely at 48s to 55s for breeding ewes, lamb hoggs 20s to 39s each.

Lincoln, Friday.—A fair supply of horned stock, and a slow demand. Young beasts, £8 to £10; strong ditto, £12 to £15; milch cows, £17 to £22, drape ewes, 35s to 40s; gimmers, 50s to 55s; and lambs, 30s to 44s per head.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Fat beasts were in average supply, and trade was not so firm as last week, making from 7s to 7s 6d per stone. Stores were in larger supply, and with a slow trade made from £6 to £17 each. A small show offat sheep experienced late rates, and made from 9s to 10s per stone. Stores about 45s to 50s each. Store lambs 35s to 44s each.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: First-class, 5d; second-class, 4d to 4½d; third-class, 3d to 3½d per lb. Mutton: First-class, 7¾d; second class, 6¾d to 7¼d; third-class, 5¾d to 6¼d. Veal: First-class, 6½d; second-class, 5½d to 6d; third-class, 4½d to 5d per lb. Bacon pigs: First-class, 5¼d; second-class, 4¼d to 4¾d; third-class, 3½d to 3¾d. Porket pigs: First-class, 7d; second-class, 6½d to 6¾d; third-class, 6d to 6¼d per lb

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Trade was very similar to last week with prices unaltered. Quotations:—Prime heifers, 7s 3d to 7s 6d; second class, 6s 9d to 7s; prime steers, 7s to 7s 3d; second class, 6s 9d to 7s; coarse and inferior, 6s to 6s 6d per stone, sinking the offal. Sheep and lambs were a slightly smaller supply, and trade was very similar to last week, but choice sheep improved ½d. Quotations:—Prime shearling sheep, 8½d to 8¾d; strong heavy, 8d to 8¼d; choice lambs, 8¾d to 9d; second class, 8½d to 8¾d; ewes, 6d to 6¾d; rams, 5d to 6d per lb. Calves were smaller supply, and trade in veal was rather firmer, although prices did not improve, quotations running from 5½d to 7½d.

Newport, Wednesday.—Plentiful supply of cattle, sheep, and lambs. Moderate supply of calves and pigs. Large attendance of buyers and good trade all round. Best beef, 6½d to 9d; seconds, 6d; cows, 4¾d to 5½d; best wether mutton, 8½d to 8¾d; ewes, 6½d to 7d; lambs, 9½d; calves, 7d; porker pigs, 10s 3d to 10s 9d per score.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Shorter supply of stock, which met with a rather slower trade. Best in-calf cows made £18 to £21; heifers, £15 to £17 10s. and calves to 45s. Numbers—214 beasts and 72 calves.

Preston, Wednesday.—Good samples of cattle, but trade was slow, with a general weakening in prices. Choice local heifers, 6½d; best Irish heifers, 6d; prime young cows and bulls, 5¾d; secondary cows and bulls, 5d; choice lambs, 8¾d; coarse ditto, 8½d; hoggs, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 6½d; coarse and heavy tups and ewes, 5½d to 6d; calves, 6¾d per lb.

Retford, Saturday. — Bullocks and milch beasts of good quality found customers without difficulty at £18 to £21 each, and secondary, £14 to £17. Only a slow trade for two-year-olds at £10 to £12; yearlings, £6 to £8; and calves 35s to 45s per head.

Romford, Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts, trade about the same. Best, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in short supply, trade a little better, at 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Sheep in larger supply, trade slow. Best small, 5s 8d to 6s; larger, 5s 6d to 5s 8d per stone. Ewes in average supply, trade slow, at 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. A few store beasts on offer, very slow demand. Average supply of milch cows, trade good. Pigs in small supply, trade about the same. Small porkers, 3s 10d to 4s; large hogs, 2s 8d to 3s per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—An average attendance and a fair supply of beasts, good milch cows making £20 to £22: secondary lots, £15 to £16; steers and heifers, £11 to £12 10s.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Quotations:—Beef, 6d to 6½d per lb; mutton (wether), 9d to 9¾d per lb; ewes, 8d per lb; lamb, 9¾d per lb; veal, 8d to 8¾d per lb; porket pigs, 10s per score; bacons, 9s 3d to 9s 6d per score.

Stockton, Wednesday.—A larger show of the best cattle, which met with a slow trade at 7s to 7s 6d per stone, whilst rougher kinds made 6s to 6s 6d per stone. Lambs and young sheep made 8½d per lb, ewes 6½d, and tups 6d. The pig trade was very dragging, small porkers making 7s 6d per stone, mediums, 6s 9d to 7s, and sows 6s to 6s 3d per stone.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was again a capital entry of stock, but buyers were in shorter attendance than is usual at this time of year. Beef was a dragging trade throughout, a great many cattle coming to hand not ripe enough, although the best quality beef made slightly more money. Sheep were a decidedly better trade, making higher prices than for some time past. Veal in demand. Fat pigs easier.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance very good, business fairly brisk. Fat bullocks, 54s to 58s; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s per cwt; cows and calves, £11 to £15 each; rearing calves, 20s to 37s 6d; ewes, 40s to 45s; wethers, 7d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d; lambs, 7½d; pigs, 5s 6d to 42s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 7d to 8d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, (carcasses) 4½d to 5d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Trade slow all round; supply large. Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; a few best, 6¾d; mutton, 6½d to 9d per lb; veal, 6d to 7½d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Moderate supply of stock, and trade fairly good. Best beef, 7s to 7s 6d; secondary 6s 6d to 7s per stone. Best Southdown wethers and cross-breds to 8¾d; ewes, 6d to 7d per lb.

York, Thursday.—Trade in all departments showed a marked improvement, and good prices were realised. The numbers were exceptionally good for the time of year, and prices ruled much about the same as last week—£18 for three-year-olds, and £14 for two-year-olds of good quality. Prices for sheep showed an improvement. North-country ewes made up to 60s for the best qualities, others making up to 55s; North-country lambs averaged 33s, and Cheviot ewes ranged from 24s to 30s. Other breeds showed a similar improvement, 38s to 30s being given for twice-crossed lambs; secondary sorts running 4s to 5s less. Masham ewes made 48s; lambs, 28s; and South-country ewes 40s to 45s each.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Arrivals of home cheese were light, owing to the harvest operations not being completed. The trade was very small, with prices unchanged. Cheddars, 60s to 64s; Dunlops, 50s to 62s; Canadian cheese slow, and price 62s to 63s per cwt.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—A good attendance of buyers, a general advance in prices, and all cleared. Best Caerphilly dairies realised up to 59s 6d per cwt.; secondary dairies, 56s to 57s 6d; and other dairies, 51s to 53s. A few inferior lots failed to reach 45s. Cheddars, 60s to 63s; truckles, 57s to 63s 6d; doubles, 51s to 54s.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was a good attendance of buyers, and a brisk demand. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 46s to 54s per cwt; fancy dairies, 56s to 58s; Derbys, 63s to 66s; truckles, 60s to 65s; Cheddars, 62s to 63s.

DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter.—The temperature is gradually partaking of a wintry character, and the rainfall continues much above the average. The demand for Australian and New Zealand butter continues very good, especially for new season's Australian, which, when "choicest" makes 120s to 122s per cwt., while cold stored New Zealand brings 110s to 116s, fresh arrivals 116s to 120s. The arrivals during the week consists of 3,123 boxes in the *Ormuz* from Australia, and 3,300 in the *Athenic* from New Zealand. Shipments this week from Australia comprise 12,500 boxes in the *Orotavia*, and 11,000 in the *Surrey*. Cheese.—The market is very quiet and cables from Canada are coming easier, but spot prices remain firm at last week's prices.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Fair supplies were in poor request. Prices:—Cock turkeys, 9½d per lb.; hen turkeys, 4s 6d to 5s 6d each; pheasants, 6s to 7s; young grouse, 6s 6d to 7s; old, 3s to 3s 6d; young partridges, 4s to 4s 6d; old, 1s 9d to 2s per brace; geese, 4s 6d to 6s; country ducks, 2s 3d to 3s; wild ducks, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; Surrey fowls, 3s to 3s 6d; Sussex fowls, 2s 9d to 3s 3d: Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Essex fowls, 2s to 2s 6d; Irish fowls, 1s 8d to 2s 3d: quails, 8d to 1s; feathered pigeons, 7d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s 1d; English hares, 2s 6d to 3s; Scottish hares, 1s 4d to 1s 6d; tame rabbits, 1s 3d to 1s 6d; wild rabbits, 6d to 10d; live hens, 1s 4d to 1s 6d each Australian rabbits, 5s to 6s 9d per dozen.

NORTH COUNTRY FARMERS IN CONFERENCE.

Earl Carrington and Small Holdings.

Three years ago, as the result of a concerted movement on the part of the three largest agricultural associations in the north eastern counties —the Darlington Farmers' Protection Association, the Northumberland and Durham Dairy Farmers' Association, and the Newcastle Farmers' Club—the North-Eastern Agricultural Federation was formed at a very large and representative gathering at Darlington, and the third annual conference was held at Northallerton, Yorkshire, on Friday. Practically all the associations working in the interests of agriculture from Newcastle and Hexham on the north to Selby and Wethorby in the south are affiliated to the federation, which has now become firmly established and promises to make itself felt in the district. The conference is a "movable feast." The federation was launched in Darlington, last year's conference was held at Newcastle, and for two years Northallerton was selected. The president was Mr. J O Trotter, a member of the North Riding County Council, and a prominent tenant farmer, and with him on the platform were Lord Carrington. Sir Henry Beresford-Peirse, Bart., Mr. F. Dyke Acland, M.P., Mr. Herbert Samuel, M.P., Colonel Godman, C.B , Mr. John Hutton (chairman of the North Riding County Council), the Hon. A. G. Orde-Pow'ett, Professor Gilchrist (of the Armstrong College), and the presidents and secretaries of the various associations affiliated to the federation.

The work accomplished by the executive committee during the year was set out in detail in the annual report, from which it appeared that special attention had been paid to rural education, tuberculosis, and the Municipal Milk Depôts Bill.

It was agreed that the next conference be held at Hexham, and that Mr. Angus (president of the Hexham Tenant Farmers' Federation) be the president.

In extending a cordial welcome to Lord Carrington, the president said they appreciated very much the kindness of the president of the Board of Agriculture in attending the conference two years in succession. The aim of the federation was to try and safeguard the interests of owner, occupier, and labourer, and therefore they thought that they deserved the support of all concerned.

The Milk and Meat Supply.

The first resolution was moved by Mr. C. Marshall, of the Northumberland and Durham Tenant Farmers' Association, and it read "That sectional legislation promoted by local authorities which touches the interests of farmers be opposed, and that the Government be requested to deal with the milk and meat supply on national and uniform bases at the earliest possible date." They objected, he said, to certain legislation because it was confusing. They had one town or city getting legislation to do certain things, and they had another getting legislation to do the same things in different ways, with the result that the farmer who happened to be in the area between hardly knew what to do. He was inclined to think that greater control over the meat and milk supply of the country was desirable, but he did not go so far as to say every man who had a fad should be allowed to promote legislation in the interests of any particular town—it should be in the interests of the general public, of whom the farmers were a very important part. The control of the meat and milk supply should be in the hands of a Government department. The curious thing was that the towns where the inspection was most severe had the highest death-rates. Very rightly medical officers of health insisted on as much cleanliness, air space, and purity of water supply as possible, but the moment a town began to talk about a municipal milk supply they at once looked to the sewage farm as the source from whence they could get it. At Nottingham, on one occasion, he went over the sewage farms and saw the cows eating the sludge grass and wading ankle deep among the sewage, and that milk was being taken back by the municipal authorities into Nottingham and distributed to the hospitals, the gaol, and other public places.

In seconding the proposal Mr. T. B Bainbridge, of the Stockton Chamber of Agriculture, said he considered they should adopt largely the same measures to get rid of tuberculosis in cattle that they did to get rid of consumption in the human being, and that was to provide them with a pure, healthy atmosphere to breathe in. He was told only last week by the secretary of a northern butchers' association that as many bullocks and heifers were rejected with tuberculosis as cows. That he thought was due to the unhealthy conditions under which calves were reared on many farms.

Mr. Sandler, of the Cheshire Dairy Farmers' Association, urged Lord Carrington to institute the fullest possible inquiries before he began to legislate or assist in legislating on that most important question.

Professor Gilchrist said his experience was that where a herd of cows were reared in the open from their youth and given plenty of pure fresh air, there was no tuberculosis.

Earl Carrington replied on the discussion, and said that the Government were convinced that early legislation on uniform lines was absolutely necessary. The position at the present moment was that the Local Government Board were formulating their proposals for legislation which would be discussed with his lordship's deputation before a Bill was introduced, and they hoped that legislation would be introduced and carried next year. It seemed to him that the Government Bill ought to conform to two principles—viz., first it must contain full and adequate provisions to safeguard the purity of the milk when delivered to the consumer, and secondly the restrictions imposed should be only those which were really essential to carry out the first object.

Allotments and Small Holdings.

In introducing this question, Mr. J. W. Wilkinson, of the Hexham Farmers' Protection Association, moved:—"That whilst giving general approval to the system of allotments and small holdings, this federation strongly objects to any additional charge being placed upon local rates through the provision of the same, and to any farmer being dispossessed of his land without ample compensation." They had not, he said, a general objection to small holdings, but the small holders already existing in the country were working under bad conditions. He doubted the competence of county councils to deal with agriculture. With regard to Durham and Northumberland, how could they expect checkweighmen to deal with matters affecting the land? If they were to make small holdings successful they would have to get home produce conveyed quickly and cheaply, instead of which English trains of agricultural produce were often at present shunted into sidings to let trains of foreign produce pass.

Mr. W. Parlour, of the Darlington Chamber of Agriculture, seconded the proposal, and urged that provision should have been made for local bodies to confer with landlords, for by that means land that was required might be got on more reasonable terms than it was procured by compulsion. They welcomed the small holder, but if they were to have the best land in the best districts, and if their rents were to be paid by the county councils out of the rates, then he could speak for the farmers present, and say they did not want them.

Earl Carrington observed that the fears of an increased charge on the rates, or the wanton eviction of sitting tenants were altogether unwarranted. The county councils who had provided pravided small holdings under the Act of 1892 had in no single case found it necessary to impose any charge on the rates, and they believed that the new Act had very seriously diminished any such possibility. His lordship then quoted at length from the Act in support of his contention, and pointed out that if any charge should fall upon the rates, it was limited to a penny in the £. With regard to the protection of the sitting tenant, he thought they might be sure that the Government, which, in the teeth of much opposition passed the Land Tenure Act last year, giving compensation for unreasonable evictions, would not do anything at variance with the principles they then professed. The provisions made by the Government seemed to afford ample protection to the farmer, and, moreover, it must be assumed that the county councils and the Board would act as reasonable human beings. It was probable that sufficient land would be readily obtainable without any undue disturbance of existing tenants, as land was constantly available owing to the death or voluntary removal of tenants. The two Commissioners who had been appointed under the Act were men who had a lifelong experience of estate management and farming, and had been singularly successful in obtaining the confidence of farmers in the districts where they had worked, and he had no hesitation in saying that neither they nor the Board over which he presided would fail to safeguard in every possible way the interests of sitting tenants who were farming their land well The Commissioners would certainly not be employed to manufacture an artificial demand for small holdings, and they had no intention of taking land away from good farmers to give it to men from the towns who had no agricultural experience.

Land Taxation.

The third and last subject was the taxation of agricultural land, and this was introduced by Major Hedley, of the Newcastle Farmers' Club. The resolution read:—"That agricultural land should be relieved from a large portion of the burthen of local taxation, a burthen which is out of all proportion to the benefits derived by it from the huge and rapidly-expanding outlay on sanitation, education, poor, police, roads, and other local purposes." The speaker contended that the produce of local taxation was not to any large extent applied for the needs of rural districts, nor was it spent under the control of the rural taxpayer. The roads were being rapidly taken from them, or the use of them seriously restricted by motors cars or wagons, which enabled the town tradesman to starve out the village shopkeepers. What could be expected from a legislature whose discussion of the new Agricultural Holdings Acts, with a few notable exceptions, was beneath contempt, and for crass ignorance of the difficulties farmers have to contend with was monumental. Last year Lord Carrington asked them to tell him in plain English what they wanted. He hoped there was no vagueness in their resolution on local taxation. In conclusion he would like to give them a few words of advice if they wanted relief from the unjust incidence and application from local taxation they must fight for it. They had object lessons each session of Parliament. The Irish Party were alternately feared or cajoled, the Nonconformists were a power in the land, the teetotaller must be considered, and, above all, the Labour-Socialists were making themselves heard. It was for them as farmers to go and do likewise. So long as they were Radicals, Liberals, or Conservatives, so long would they be but mere atoms in parties who had other matters to attend to than their wrongs.

Mr. J. T. Wilson, Stockton-on-Tees Chamber of Agriculture, seconded the proposal, and, in supporting, Mr. R. C. Pearce, of the Darlington Chamber of Agriculture, said he desired to draw Lord Carrington's attention to the state they were in at present in the north country owing to the very backward state of the harvest.

Earl Carrington said that last year, when replying on the same subject, he told them that the Government were pledged to deal with the question which they regarded as of the first importance. To that declaration he adhered, and he could add that the first step had been taken by the Government to deal with the question. In his Budget speech this year Mr. Asquith said that he proposed as from next year to abolish altogether the present system by which imperial taxes, such as the local taxation licences, the beer and spirits duty, and the probate duty were paid to the local taxation account, instead of going into the Imperial Exchequer. Mr. Asquith proposed in their place to pay to the local authorities in aid of rates a sum from the Consolidated Fund equal to what they at present received from the assigned revenues, and his object in making this change was "to clear the ground for a future resettlement on equitable terms of the whole relation between the central authority and the local authorities. The Government further proposed next year to introduce a Bill to simplify the present system of valuation, which was a necessary preliminary of any reform of local taxation, and they intended to include in that Bill provisions designed to obtain a larger contribution towards the rates from land in the neighbourhood of towns which was at present assessed at very much less than its real value. He thought that almost all of those who had studied the question were agreed that agricultural land bore an undue proportion of local rates, whether estimated by ability to pay or benefits received, and it was very desirable that concrete instances should be given to put before the public to show how large a proportion of the profits of agriculture went in local rates.

The usual votes of thanks concluded the proceedings.

A Norfolk farmer was on Monday fined £4 2 (including costs) by the Tenningham magistrates for contravening the Swine Fever Order by allowing his diseased pigs to stray on to an adjoining farm.

RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

CHIPPENHAM AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

THE Annual Show of Cattle, Horses, Poultry, etc., in connection with this Association, will be held at Chippenham on the 28th and 29th November, entries closing on the 15th November.

For Schedules, apply to—
C. J. Hibbard, Chippenham.

GUARANTEED CURE FOR FOOT ROT.—Best in the World. Cure in seven days. Sold in pots, 3s. 6d.—W. A. Padfield, New Barn, Appledram, Chichester.

SACKS. Sound, clean, once used, 280 lbs., 6½d.; 224 lbs., 5½ d.; 140 lb., 3d. each, carriage paid. Special Pig Meal, 12s. 240 lb., send for sample.—G. T. Murray, Green Lane, Stoneycroft, Liverpool.

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Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The total rainfall of the ten months ended October 31 was 4·41 in.; almost an ideal. But the distribution was extremely uneven, as the following return will show. October was not ungenial as a month despite the very frequent heavy showers. The last few days were favourable to field work and November finds farmers extremely busy :—

1907.	Rain (inches)	Sun (hours)	Warmth (degrees)
January	1·01	40	39·0
February	1·02	55	42·0
March	·81	152	48·0
April	3·10	105	48·0
May	2·50	151	51·0
June	2·30	180	54·0
July	1·80	162	59·6
August	1·90	160	57·5
September	·90	130	59·0
October	3·51	90	53·0

Autumn sowings of wheat on the Continent are of importance as giving us some clue to what production will be in 1908. It is clear that France, Germany, Italy, and Spain are likely to keep up to full figures, great efforts having been made to sow wheat. On the other hand the area under wheat in Austria-Hungary, Roumania, Russia, and Poland cannot now be up to that of last year, and it is only in the last two regions that spring sowings have a chance of making up the deficiency.

The wheat gradient is not steep; all quotations continue well on the right side of 30s :—

Salisbury	37s.	4d. per qr.
Chichester	34s.	0d. ,,
Range	3s.	4d. per qr.

Barley is selling well in Kent, but prices are low in the north :—

Canterbury	31s.	0d. per qr.
Bridlington	25s.	2d. ,,
Range	5s.	10d. per qr.

Oats show much uniformity of value; there are no very cheap markets and no very dear ones :—

Mark Lane	19s.	9d. per qr.
Fakenham	17s.	7d. ,,
Range	2s.	2d. per qr.

Sales of wheat at the statute markets since harvest have been :—

This season ... 583,000 qr. at 32s. 10d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 638,000 ,, 26s. 1d. ,,

The advance is therefore 6s. 9d. on the year.

Sales of barley have similarly been :—

This season ... 659,000 qr. at 25s. 5d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 1,146,000 ,, 24s. 8d. ,,

The barley price has not been satisfactory, but is now amending.

Sales of oats have been :—

This season ... 370,000 qr. at 17s. 10d. per qr.
Last season .. 306,000 qr. at 16s. 5d. ,,

The advance of 1s. 5d., in spite of increased supplies, witnesses to an exceedingly good demand.

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were :—

Wheat, 575,000 qr. : a good supply.
Flour, 91,600 sks. . a moderate supp'y.
Barley, 235,000 qr. : a good supply.
Oats, 98,000 qr. . rather less than usual.
Maize, 278,000 qr. : heavy arrivals.

Supplies of breadstuffs since harvest have been as follows :—

Wheat	3,873,000 qr.
Flour	765,000 ,,
Breadstuffs	4,638,000 ,,
Last season	4,542,000 ,,

We are now deriving our breadstuffs, where imported, from foreign regions in the following proportions :—

North America	42 per cent.
South America	20 ,,
New World : Total	62 ,,
Russia	11 ,,
India	13 ,,
Australasia	7 ,,
Various	7 ,,
Old World : Total	38 ,,

Another and suggestive division is as follows :—

British Empire :	
Canada	12 ,,
India	13 ,,
Australasia	7 ,,
Empire : Total	32 ,,
Foreign Powers :	
U.S.A.	30 ,,
Russia	11 ,,
Argentine	20 ,,
Various	7 ,,
Foreigners ; Total	68 ,,

The 7 per cent. of "various sources" includes Turkey, Bulgaria, Russia, and Chili, but the latter is now hardly a shipper, home requirements having overtaned production. Egypt, from being a wheat exporter, has become an importer, and Cape Colony is also now dependent to some degree upon imports.

We endeavoured last week to enable readers to compare prices on the uniform level of the ton. In contrast to this wholesale quantity we now offer a comparison of mean values per cental, or "true hundredweight" of 100 lb.

	per cental s.	d.
Top-price flour	13	9
Indian linseed	11	6
Household flour	11	3
No. Californian wheat	9	0
Russian winter wheat	8	10
Argentine wheat	8	8
No. 2 Red winter wheat	8	6
Beet sugar	8	3
English wheat	8	0
Best middlings	7	2
English barley	7	0
Russian oats	6	4
Russian barley	6	3
English oats	6	1
German barley	6	0
Odessa round maize	5	11
Mixed American maize	5	10
Yellow Argentine maize	5	8
Asia Minor dari	5	5
Argentine sorghum	5	3
Locust beans	4	11
Rice meal	4	10

Of course the prices have to be somewhat roughly averaged, but the comparisons are none the less significant. We should say that rice meal, locust beans, and dari were all decidedly worth buying, and that English oats are the next best thing going. The price of maize is almost certain to fall 2d. to 3d. per cental when the big new American crop gets into motion, and it will therefore be wise to pursue a hand-to-month policy in buying for the next seven or eight weeks.

We notice that autumn trade in farm seeds is now passing at 60s. to 80s. per cwt. for English red cloverseed; at 75s. to 85s. for Alsyke; at 60s. to 66s. for Provence lucerne; at 10s. to 15s. for ribgrass; at 22s. to 28s. for Timothy; and at 54s. to 62s. for New Zealand cocksfoot. The price of ryegrass varies greatly, and is governed mainly by the weight per bushel; anything over 29 lb. fetches about 30s, but light perennial grass, say, 18 lb. to the bushel, is obtainable at 18s. Very roughly speaking, therefore, the price is 1s. per lb. Coriander is quoted at 15s. to 16s. per cwt.

The supplies on passage on November 1 were as follows :—Wheat, 1,718,000 qr.; flour, 270,000 sacks; barley, 780,000 qr.; oats 160,000 qr.; maize, 950,000 qr.; linseed, 160,000 qr.; rapeseed, 23,000 qr.; and cottonseed, 44,000 tons. The wheat was thus divided :—

Californian	210,000 qr.
American	305,000 ,,
Argentina	105,000 ,,
New World	620,000 ,,
Russian	125,000 qr.
Indian	583,000 ,,
Australasian	370,000 ,,
Turkish	20,000 ,,
Persian	10,000 ,,
Old World	1,108,000 ,,

The "Westward tide of Empire" does not set so strongly as it once did in the wheat trade, and the older regions are now producing nearly two-thirds of the supply. The barley on passage is inclusive of 410,000 qr. from the Euxine, the maize of 400,000 qr. of round corn. All the cotton-seed is Egyptian.

America last week shipped 400,000 qr. of wheat, 167,000 sacks of flour, and 106,000 qr. of maize. Total shipments of barley for October were 190,000 qr., of which 14,000 qr. were from the Pacific seaboard.

Argentina last week shipped 88,000 qr. of wheat, 114,000 qr. of maize, and 19,000 qr. of linseed, but oats are apparently played out pending the reaping of a new crop in January.

Russia shipped 315,000 qr. of wheat, 386,000 qr. of barley, 72,000 qr. of oats, and 122,000 qr. of maize; on the whole, Russia is a free shipper just now.

Roumania sent off 128,000 qr. of wheat, 105,000 qr. of barley, 17,000 qr. of oats, and 16,000 qr. of maize, while 146,000 qr. of wheat were shipped from India and Persia, and 26,000 qr. of wheat from Australia and New Zealand.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—There is hardly such a shortage in arrivals as last week, but the supplies are still on a very moderate scale, the demand shows a slight falling off, and the feeling seems to be of a weakening nature; prices, however, are about unchanged. Although the London trade is inclined to be a trifle easier, values in the country are very firm, and farmers are not disposed to give way in price; in fact, they are now actually asking more money for stuff in stacks than a few weeks ago. No doubt as they have and are making more money of their corn than for years past, they are in more of a position than usual to hold their hays for a better market.

Of the present arrivals the bulk consists of middling and inferior qualities which are very difficult of sale, prime sorts which come along very sparingly continue, and a very firm trade at full prices, and strange to say there is a momentary shortage of very rough qualities of all kinds. It seems this season, when almost everything has been got in a more or less bad condition, that senders are not troubling much about sorting out best from seconds when cutting out at stacks, but are forwarding to market just as the hay is bound out. Straw comes along in a fair supply, and is a quiet trade at previous rates.

Prices ruling are about as follows :—English Best hays, 70s to 75s per ton; good hays, 62s 6d to 67s 6d per ton; plain hays, 57s 6d to 60s per ton; best clovers, 85s to 87s 6d per ton; good clovers, 80s to 82s 6d per ton; inferior clovers, 72s 6d to 77s 6d per ton; best mixtures, 82s 6d to 85s per ton; good mixtures, 75s to 80s per ton; plain mixtures, 67s 6d to 72s 6d per ton; seconds hays, clovers, and mixtures, 45s to 60s per ton; wheat straw, 26s to 27s per load; barley straw, 26s to 27s per load; oat straw, 26s to 27s per load. All ex rail London. Foreign : Canadian mixture, none; first quality Dutch hay, 60s to 62s 6d per ton; second quality Dutch hay, 55s per ton. French clover, 75s per ton. These prices are by the barge load delivered alongside a London Thames wharf.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Good supplies in moderate request. Cock turkeys, 9d per lb.; hen turkeys, 4s to 5s 6d geese, 4s 6d to 6s; country ducks, 2s 6d to 3s 3d; wild ducks, 1s 6d to 2s; Surrey fowls, 3s to 3s 6d; Sussex fowls, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Essex fowls, 2s to 2s 6d; Irish fowls, 1s 8d to 2s 3d; quails, 8d to 1s; feathered pigeons, 8d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s 1d; English hares, 2s 6d to 3s; Scottish hares, 1s 6d; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 6d; wild rabbits, 6d to 9d; live hens, 1s 6d to 1s 9d each; Australian rabbits 5s to 6s 9d per dozen; pheasants, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; young grouse, 6s to 7s; old, 2s 9d; young partridges, 4s 6d to 5s; old, 1s 9d to 2s per brace.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Fairly good supply and steady demand. Quotations for English produce :—Grapes, 8d to 3s 6d; peaches, 3s to 12s per dozen; apples, 2s to 6s per half bushel; cranberries, 9s to 10s 6d per case; pears (Pitmaston Duchesse), 1s 9d to 2s 6d; cobnuts (Kent), 4s to 4s 6d per 12 lb; walnuts (Grenoble), 6s 6d to 8s per bag; chestnuts (Redan), 8s to 15s per bag; green figs, 9d to 2s per dozen; celery, 7s 6d to 12s 6d per dozen rolls; cabbages, 3s to 4s 6d; cauliflowers, 4s to 6s per tally; onions, 4s 6d to 5s 6d per cwt; horseradish, 10s to 15s per dozen bundles; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English steady, quiet, at about late rates. Whites quoted at 39s to 42s; reds at 38s to 41s. Foreign sellers maintain late prices, but demand limited. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, quoted at 45s 6d; No. 2 at 44s 6d; choice white Karachi at 42s 6d; reds at 41s 9d.; Australian, landed, at 45s; No. 1 hard Manitoba at 46s 9d; South Russians at 43s to 46s 6d. Flour firm, but quiet. Hungarians quoted at 39s; Kansas patents at 31s to 32s; Iron Dukes at 28s 6d to 29s. Maize dull, unchanged. Odessa, ex ship, held at 27s 3d; landed at 28s; Danubian and Galatz-Foxanian, landed, 28s 3d; River Plate, landed, at 28s. Barley easier and very slow sale, especially for Persian to arrive. Azoff-Black Sea and Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, held at 25s to 25s 3d; Persian, ex ship, 22s 9d to 23s 3d, as to position. Oats slow, unchanged. South Russians (38 lb) held at 19s to 19s 3d; La Plata at 19s; Danubian, 18s to 18s 6d.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat: English dull, easier tendency: whites quoted 39s to 42s; reds at 38s to 41s. Foreign slow, and offered at 3d to 6d decline; No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, held at 44s 6d to 45s; No. 2 at 44s; choice white Karachi at 40s 6d to 41s; No. 1 Durum at 40s; South Russian, landed, at 43s to 46s; Persian, 40s to 43s 6d. Flour steadily held, but inactive; Iron Dukes held at 28s 6d to 29s; Hungarian at 39s; Kansas Patents at 31s to 32s. Maize dull, and 3d easier for all kinds; Odessa, ex ship, held at 27s; Danubian and Galatz-Foxanian, landed, at 27s 9d. Barley slow, and 3d to 6d easier; Azoff-Black Sea and Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, held at 24s 6d to 24s 9d; Persian, at 22s 9d. to 23s Oats slow, easier tendency; South Russian, 38 lb, held at 18s 9d to 19s 3d; Danubian, 18s; River Plate, 19s.

COUNTRY.

Appleby, Saturday. — There was no grain offering. White oats (horse corn), are worth 19s to 22s 6d per 26 stones.

Ashford, Tuesday. — Business was rather quieter, and there were few sales of wheat, millers holding off for the present. Nothing was quoted above 38s, except a small lot of seed which made 40s. Quotations:—Wheat, 36s to 38s; English barley, 31s to 33s; secondary, 27s to 29s; foreign barley, 26s to 27s; oats, 19s to 22s; Mazagan beans, 28s to 30s; tick beans, 33s to 35s; new peas, 32s to 33s; maize, 30s to 31s.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, white (new), 35s to 36s per qr; ditto red (new) 35s to 36s 6d per qr; barley, 28s to 34s per qr; beans (new), 30s to 32s 6d per qr; oats, 19s to 22s per qr; peas, 30s to 34s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday. — Larger attendance. More grain on offer. Barley of all kinds met with a good demand. Fine oats continue to make full prices; secondary and weathered sorts rather easier. Barley, 24s 6d to 33s; oats, 23s to 28s 6d.

Brighton, Thursday. — Small attendance. Wheat in less supply. Trade slow and prices unchanged for dry parcels. New white wheat, 38s to 40s; new red ditto, 37s to 39s; barley, 29s to 35s; grinding ditto, 28s to 29s; oats, English, 18s 6d to 22s; peas, 32s to 33s; beans, 33s to 34s.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat in average supply; trade quiet, at about last week's quotations; Reds or whites, dry, 38s to 38s 6d; ditto, damp, 36s to 37s per qr; revets, 36s to 37s 6d per qr. Barley in good supply, with a steady demand and a considerable business doing, at 31s to 34s for fair malting runs, and 35s to 37s for fine parcels. Oats firm at last week's advance. Maize, 29s to 29s 6d per qr, delivered. Other feeding corns firm at last week's prices.

Cambridge, Saturday. — Wheat trade has been inanimate and lost a clear 1s per qr on the week. At this market on Saturday there was only a moderate supply of wheat, making 37s to 37s 6d on rail. There were only a few buyers. Oats sparsely offering; white made up to 20s 6d, winter £1. Fair supply of beans, 32s to 33s per 38 stone on rail, according to condition.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Valuhs of both wheat and barley are lower, the drop in the case of the latter ranging from 1s to 2s per qr for medium-grade samples. Most of the business in barley was transacted at between 29s 6d and 32s. Millers were buying wheats of 63 lb weight at 38s, delivered in, but in a few cases 37s 6d was paid for this weight to be fetched from the farm. Seed qualities, 40s per qr. Oats prices are fairly steady, 42 lb white oats making 20s 6d, 43 lb 21s, and 45 lb 22s per qr. Grey peas unchanged, at from 31s to 32s; and tick beans, 31s 6d to 33s per qr.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Very small show of oats in our market to-day at fully 1s per qr advance on week. New oats, 20s to 23s per 336 lb; old oats, 25s to 27s per 336 lb. Big show of pocket samples of new oats of inferior quality made 19s per qr. Wheats for seed sold at 42s per qr.—Thomas Robinson.

Chester, Saturday.—The decline this week in foreign grain has been reflected to some extent in English grain, and only occasional lots realise the full prices quoted. Indian corn is 6d per sack lower owing to heavy arrivals. Quotations: Wheat, white and red, 5s 3d to 5s 6d per 75 lb; grinding barley, 4s to 4s 3d per 64 lb; oats, new, 2s 9d to 3s; old, 3s 1d to 3s 6d per 46 lb; Indian corn, old, 14s 9d to 15s; round corn, 14s 3d to 15s 6d per 240 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—A small attendance; fair quantity on offer, and firm trade. New white wheat, 38s to 40s; new red ditto, 38s to 40s; barley, 29s to 37s; grinding ditto, 23s 6d to 25s; oats, English, 18s 6d to 24s 6d; rye, 27s to 29s; peas, 31s to 32s; beans, 32s to 33s; tares, 5s 6d to 6s 6d; maize, 26s 6d to 27s 6d; flour, 31s to 33s.

Colchester, Saturday. — Wheat in buyers' favour; average supply. Barley steady. Oats unchahged—Colin Taylor, King and Co, Ltd.

Coventry, Friday.—There was only an average attendance. Wheats were in fairly good supply, and the tendency was in favour of buyers. Spring corn was in fair demand. Quotations:—Wheat, 13s to 14s per 186 lb; barley, 30s to 34s per 448 lb; oats, old, 24s 6d to 27s per per 352 lb; new, 21s to 23s 6d; beans, 13s to 13s 9d per 196 lb; peas, 12s 6d to 15s per 196 lb.

Derby, Friday.—Wheat in moderate supply; trade dull, with a lower tendency. Barley firmer and without change. Oats fully as dear. Quotations:—Wheat, 37s to 38s; red, 35s to 37s; barley, malting, 29s to 32s; grinding, 25s to 27s; beans, new, 35s to 36s; oats, old, 24s to 26s; new, 21s to 22s.

Devizes, Thursday.—Wheat a slow sale, and less money had to be accepted. Barley also the turn in favour of the buyer. Oats, on the other hand, were very firm, and commanded fully late rates. Best old wheat, 21s to 22s; best new wheat, 19s to 20s; secondary, 16s to 18s; malting barley, 30s to 36s; grinding barley, 27s to 29s; winter barley, 26s to 30s 6d; old oats, 22s to 24s 6d; winter oats, 18s to 19s 6d; white Garton oats (330lb), 19s to 20s; black Tartar oats, (320 lb), 19s to 20s; rye, 27s to 30s; beans, 17s to 19s; fine flour, 32s to 34s; extra fine, 35s to 39s.

Doncaster, Saturday. — Good attendance. The weather during the past week has been against threshing, and there was a short supply of English wheat. Trade ruled slow at a decrease of 3d to 6d per load of three bushels. Prices from 14s to 14s 6d per load. Foreign wheat slow at a reduction of 6d to 9d per qr. Better show of barley. Common sorts slightly easier, but fine samples fully maintained late rates, and made 33s 6d to 34s per qr. Small supply of oats. Prices firm. Old beans in good request at 6d per qr advance. Maize 6d per qr less.

Dorchester, Saturday.—With more favourable weather some part of the week samples came a little more freely to hand at to-day's corn market, at which, with a fine day, there was also an improved attendance. But business was anything but fast; would-be buyers held aloof except where concessions were made, which were by no means general, most farmers holding their wheat back in anticipation of a still further advance to justify; in fact, dealers declined to buy except on their own terms, which generally represented lower terms of from 3d to 6d under those recently ruling; foreign being more affected by the easier tone prevailing than home-grown wheats. Barley for feeding remained practically unchanged; good malting parcels, which are very scarce, brought extreme rates. No alteration to note in maize; but oats rather favoured buyers. Beans and peas sold at full prices. Flour trade a little less active than of late.

Dublin, Friday.—Foreign wheat easier and quiet. Maize slow and 3d easier. Irish wheat unchanged at 19s 6d to 22s. Oats, prime firmly held, white 11s 6d to 13s; blacks, 11s to 12s. Barley, choice held for extreme rates, malting, 15s to 16s. Flour in fair consumptive demand at unchanged rates. Oatmeal 20s dearer. Indian meal unaltered.

Exeter, Friday. — Fairly good attendance, trade slow; English wheat weaker; foreign unchanged; barley 6d cheaper; maize unchanged; oats firm; flour very quiet. Quotations:—English wheat, 4s 1½d to 4s 6d; English barley, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; superfine flour, 30s to 33s; fines, 29s to 31s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a good attendance at to-day's market. Wheat quiet and practically unaltered on the week. Flour the turn easier to 6d per sack. Maize dull. Corn quiet. Oats steady, and for any good lots offering, full prices are being paid. Barley firmer. Beans steadily held. Pease, none offering. Bran and thirds firm. Oatmeal steady.—Gibson and Clark.

Glasgow, Friday.—Wheat steady but easier. Flour quiet and unaltered. Maize and corn 3d per boll dearer since Wednesday. Other articles firm.

Gloucester, Saturday.—English wheat in better supply, and 1s per qr lower. Foreign wheat dull, and 3d easier: Plates, 43s to 44s; Russian, 42s 9d to 43s 6d. Plate maize 6d cheaper at 27s 9d; Bessarabian, 3d down, at 27s 9d. Grinding barley 3d lower, at 25s 6d. Oats unchanged: Black, 19s 6d to 21s 6d; white, 21s to 22s 6d per qr.

Grantham, Saturday.—Fair supply of corn, and the attendance was large. Wheat was fully 1s per qr down on the week, and the same applies to barley of inferior quality, though best samples maintained their value. Wheat, 35s to 37s; barley, 26s to 34s; oats, 19s to 21s; beans, 30s to 32s; and blue peas, up to 75s

Hereford, Wednesday.—Very dull trade. English wheats against sellers, 4s 6d being about the best obtainable for good reds. Barleys 6d per qr lower. Oats firm, in quieter demand. Maize 6d per qr easier. Beans unchanged.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Moderate supply of wheat; trade slow at last week's rates:—Reds, 39s per 504 lb. Moderate supply of barley; trade firm, at from 30s to 32s for runs, and up to 34s for finer sorts. Oats firm, at late rates. Maize rather easier. Beans and peas firm.

Leeds, Friday.—There was little doing in either English or foreign wheats, although prices were easier than on Tuesday. Flour was less active at barley late rates. Maize was dull, 27s being top price for Plate, American, and Russian. Beans, peas, oats, and barley, both feeding and malting, were unchanged.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good average attendance, with smaller supplies of home-grown wheats, and the samples came to hand in variable condition. Trade quiet. Red wheat, 33s to 38s per 36 stones; white wheats, 36s to 39s per 36 stones. Fine bright samples of barley were in fair demand at 29s to 32s per 32 stones; fine oats, 19s to 22s per 24 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—Large attendance of farmers and factors, but moderate supply of English wheat, which sold slowly at last week's prices, or about 38s per qr on line. Foreign wheat quiet and in favour of buyers. Malting barleys met with a good demand at last week's full prices. Oats and beans very firm at unaltered rates. Maize slightly cheaper.

Maidstone, Thursday.—General quietude in the trade. To press sales of wheat 1s per qr less than recently; but owners of that grain do not press sales, but prefer to await a rally, which is quite expected. The natural pause from recent excitement is observable in other grain, and less cost for each description, if sellers are eager to quit.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat 6d and occasionally 1s per qr down on the week. Foreign in slow demand at about last week's rates. Flour easy, and quotations unchanged. Indian corn 1½d to 1d lower on the week, with dull trade. Foreign barley was a shade easier, but not quotably lower; English 1s per qr dearer. English oats in fair demand at 1½d to 1d higher; foreign unchanged. English beans 1s per qr higher. Peas were in sellers' favour. Bran and offals scarce, and late rates maintained.

Newark, Wednesday. — A fair attendance. Moderate supply of samples showing; trade slow at last week's prices. Quotations:—White and red wheat, 37s to 38s; malting barley, 29s to 32s; grinding ditto, 27s to 28s; white oats, 20s to 21s; black, 19s 6d to 20s 6d; old beans, 35s to 36s; ditto, new, 31s to 32s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne. Saturday.—A quiet trade for wheat at our to-day's market, prices in favour of the buyer. A fair demand for maize at last week's full prices for mixed American. Plate and European, however, favoured buyers. Beans scarce and dearer. Oats keeps firm, and a good demand for fine dry qualities, parcels in soft condition, however, neglected. Local malting barley making 29s to 30s. with a fair demand.—Joseph Pollard and Co.

Newport, Wednesday. —Moderate trade: prices ruled comparatively high, and were practically the same as last week.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat, fair supply; trade ruled slow at previous rates. Barley, small show, and 1s higher. Oats 6d dearer. Beans firm.—Robt. Hubble.

Northampton, Saturday.—The drop in prices continues, despite small supplies. Oats and barley, however, remained unchanged. New wheat, 35s to 37s; barley, 26s to 32s; old white oats, 24s to 26s; new white oats, 18s 6d to 21s; old beans, 34s to 36s; new beans, 31s to 33s; peas, 33s to 35s; flour, 32s to 36s.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of wheat on Saturday was considerably larger than has been the case lately, but farmers were most unwilling sellers at much reduction. Values might be quoted at 36s 6d to 37s per qr delivered, this being 1s per

qr cheaper on the week. Barley was in small supply, and prices ranged from 14s to 16s 6d per coomb. Maize was 6d to 7d per qr cheaper. Grinding barley was scarce at 6d per qr less money. Linseed and cotton cakes were very firm, although the demand was not brisk.

Oxford, Saturday.—The supplies of wheat were on a small scale, and last week's prices are repeated. Barley freely offering, and slightly in buyers' favour.

Peterborough, Saturday.—Only a moderate supply of wheat at market, trade being quiet at 6d to 1s less money. Oats in small supply and rather dearer. Barley firm at late rates. Wheat, 36s 6d to 37s 6d; barley, 29s to 34s; oats, 19s to 21s.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—The Plymouth market was quiet to-day at last week's rates.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Preston, Saturday.—There was but a meagre attendance, and demand was only moderate for farmers' wheat and other grain, with quotations not nearly so good as last Saturday. Flour unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 15s 6d to 16s per windle of 220 lb; ditto red, 15s to 15s 6d; oats, old, 3s 7d to 3s 8d per bushel; ditto new, 2s 11d to 3s 1d; beans, 16s 6d to 17s per windle of 220 lb.

Reading, Saturday.—There was a fair attendance, but trade was dull. Prices:—Wheat, 36s to 40s; barley, malting, 28s to 38s; grinding, 26s to 30s; oats (scarce and dear), 19s to 23s; peas, 32s to 34s; beans, new, 30s to 34s; old, 36s to 40s.

Retford, Saturday.—Wheat was easier, and 6d per qr lower on the week, making 37s 6d to 38s. There was a good demand for malting barley at fully late rates, the best selling at 30s to 32s; medium 29s; and grinding, 27s 6d to 28s per qr. Maize maintained its value, and was quoted at 29s delivered at Retford; new English beans, 30s to 31s; old ditto, 35s; black oats, 19s; white ditto, 20s; old oats, 25s per qr.

Ripon, Thursday.—Business was fairly active, whilst prices showed little change. A good show of samples. Prices:—New wheat, 37s to 38s; foreign ditto, 40s to 45s; grinding barley, 27s to 28s; malting ditto, 28s to 32s; new oats, 19s to 21s; old ditto, 26s; round maize, 29s; flat ditto, 32s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Influenced to some extent by the financial situation in America and unsettled markets there, the prices of wheat and maize have been irregular during the past week, but are now steady and firm at about 1s per qr from the highest. Beans, oats, and barley 6d per qr dearer. Peas firm at top prices. Offals firm and unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 38s to 38s 6d; ditto red, new, 38s to 38s 6d per 504 lb; oats, black, 24s to 25s; ditto white, 24s 6d to 25s; ditto new, 21s 6d to 22s per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 36s to 36s 6d; ditto blue, new, 75s to 90s per 504 lb; beans, English, 36s 6d to 37s per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 28s to 30s; ditto malting, 28s to 32s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 30s to 30s 6d; ditto Plate, 29s 6d to 30s; ditto flat, 31s 6d to 32s per 480 lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Wheat, 15s 9d to 16s per 225 lb; old oats, 16s to 17s per 225 lb; new oats, 12s 6d to 14s per 225 lb; barley, 18s to 20s per 280 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—Large attendance, and a fairly brisk inquiry. Wheats made 37s to 37s 6d, delivered in; barleys of good grinding quality commanded 26s to 27s 6d, malting parcels selling at 31s 6d to 34s per qr; white oats, 20s to 22s; and black ditto, 18s to 20s per qr.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was a fair show of local wheat, which made up to 39s per qr. The foreign wheat trade was quiet owing to the financial position in America, and showed a reduction of 6d to 9d per qr on the week. Oats 3d to 6d per qr dearer. Maize 6d lower. A fair show of malting barley, best qualities making 1s per qr dearer, and common qualities bad to sell.

Warwick, Saturday.—Wheat trade very bad, though a fair quantity offering. Peas making 13s 6d per bag. Very little trade passing.

Winchester, Saturday.—English and foreign wheat quiet and rather easier. Barley 6d and maize 3d cheaper. Oats scarce and dearer. Flour a fair trade at late rates.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LTD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A fair attendance at market. Wheat in short supply, 37s per 504 lb. Barley, very little offering, 29s to 31s per 448 lb. Oats dearer, 20s to 21s per 336 lb.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Small attendance, the business passing was quiet. Quotations: English oats, new, 12s 6d; old, 15s per 196 lb; English wheat, 16s per 215 lb; English beans, new, 13s 6d; old, 14s 6d per 196 lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Good attendance and small show of grain, farmers being unable to thrash. Wheat was a trifle easier. White wheat, 37s to 38s; red ditto, 35s 6d to 37s; best malting barley, 30s to 31s 6d; secondary, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; grinding ditto, 27s to 28s; old white oats, 25s 6d to 27s 6d; new ditto, 19s 6d to 20s; old black oats, 25s to 26s; new ditto 18s 6d to 21s; maize, 28s to 29s per qr.

Yeovil, Friday.—Wheat was a slow trade at from 6d to 1s per qr less money. Barley also favoured buyers, grinding being 6d cheaper. Oats firm at last week's full rates. Maize, round, down 3d. Best quality home-grown wheat made 38s to 39s per qr; secondary, 32s to 36s 6d; grinding barley, foreign, 25s 6d; malting, 30s to 35s; grinding, home grown, 27s to 29s; winter barley, 26s to 30s; old oats, 22s to 24s 6d; winter oats, 18s to 19s 6d; white gartons, 19s to 20s; black Tartars, 19s 6d to 20s 6d; Irish black, 19s; beans, 35s to 38s; rye, 27s to 30s; maize, round, 28s 3d; vetches, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per bushel. Not much doing in flour, but for immediate delivery values were somewhat easier, fines selling at from 31s 6d to 32s per sack. The demand for offals and meals continues good at firm prices.

York, Saturday.—There was very little wheat on offer, farmers having been unable to thresh on account of the wet weather. Prices were 6d to 1s lower on the week. White wheat, 37s to 38s; red and mixed, 36s to 37s per qr of 36 stones. Malting barley without change; fine, 30s to 32s; good, 28s to 30s; ordinary, 26s to 28s per qr of 32 stones. Oats firm and scarce; white Tartary, 19s to 20s; black ditto, 20s to 21s; Garton oats, 20s to 21s per qr of 24 stones; rye, 28s to 29s per qr; old beans, 36s to 37s per qr of 36 stones.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—The weather continues favourable for field work. Market quiet, but prices not materially lower except for feeding barley, considerable quantities of which have arrived, and the low state of water in our rivers prevents a quick disposal. Fine German wheat continues scarce at 38s 6d to 39s 9d. Soft lots are selling at 35s to 37s per 504 lb, duty deducted. American hard winter, No. 2 is held at 39s 9d; red winter No. 2 at 39s 6d, Maccaroni No. 1 at 38s 6d, River Plate and February-March, 39s 9d per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Rye quiet, 9/10/15 South Russian, afloat, is offering at 34s 9d to 35s per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Malting barley firm in value. Holstein and Mecklenburg is selling at 36s to 39s; Oderbruck and Silesian at 37s to 41s; Bohemian and and Slovakian at 36s to 40s, excluding duty; Danish at 31s to 43s per 448 lb.; 60/61 kg. South Russian barley on the spot is offering at 22s 6d to 23s 3d; November shipment at 24s 6d per 400 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg white Holstein and Pomeranian oats are selling at 19s 6d to 19s 9d per 336 lb, f.o.b. Mixed American maize is held 27s 6d, Odessa at 26s 6d, River Plate 26s 6d per 480 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda is without change. As yet the autumn deliveries of potassic and phosphatic fertilisers are on a small scale, which may be ascribed to a certain extent to the late harvest; as November is usually a busy month for top dressing grass and corn, doubtless during the next few weeks there will be much activity, and it would be to the interests of users not to overlook the fact that during the height of the season delays in deliveries of basic slag not infrequently occur through pressure of orders at the producing centres, and occasionally the imports of kainit are somewhat interfered with by frosts in Germany. There is an improvement, though slight, in the consumptive demand for feeding stuffs. Oilcakes are very firm at late rates, and as regards American dried cotton cakes there is very little procurable. Rice meal is easier in all positions, but buyers' and sellers' idea of values are too wide apart to result in business. Feeding treacle meets a fair consumptive demand.

	£ s d	£ s d
	Per ton.	
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (good but hard)	7 10 0	7 15 0
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime (soft)	8 0 0	8 7 6
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime	4 15 0	5 0 0
Cottonseed Cake, undecorticated Egyptian	—	—
Cottonseed, crushed, 20 per cent. oil guaranteed, scarce	8 15 0	—
Linseed Cake, American, thin oblong, prime	7 17 6	8 0 0
,, ,, English, prime	8 5 0	8 10 0
,, ,, East Indian	—	—
Palm Nut Cake	6 5 0	—
Indian Meal, coarse to fine grinding	Per 240 lb. —	—
Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported	Per ton. —	—
	Per qr., 416 lb.	
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2 12 6	2 15 0

	Per Gallon.
Cod-liver Oil, cattle feeding	0 4 0 —
	Per Cwt.
Treacle, feeding, American	0 4 9 —
	Per ton.
Nitrate of Soda	11 7 0 —
Kainit, prime	2 10 0 —
Bone Meal, prime	5 7 6 5 10 0
Basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed	1 14 0 1 15 0
,, ,,	2 2 0 2 3 0
,, finest ,,	2 6 0 2 7 6
D.N.S. Brand { Superphosphate of Lime*	2 5 0 2 7 0
,, ,, guaranteed*	2 10 0 2 12 0
,, ,, ,, *	3 1 3 3 3 3

* At depot inland.

—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cake: In spite of the recent advance values are still lower than at the same period last year, and the farmers are beginning to realise that cake is by far the cheapest article on the market, which is causing an increased consumptive demand, with the probability of a higher range in values in the near future. Russian offer at a relatively low figure. East India seed pures may be bought at late rates. Fine seedy Calcuttas command full prices. London made continue in moderate request. Cotton Cake.—Egyptian remain fairly plentiful on spot, but with a good country inquiry quotations are firmly held up, while English make full prices. Decorticated.—London made pures find a ready sale; American brands dull and unchanged. Rape Cakes.—Nominal. East India and Ravison unaltered. Maize Germ Meal.—Some recent arrivals of White African have found buyers at £7 2s 6d to £7 5s, but English makes are obtainable at late values. Maize Gluten Meal moves off freely. Rice Meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon are available in limited quantity at last week's prices, but for early arrival there are sellers at slightly less money. Locust Beans are without alteration. Dried Brewers' Grains are scarce and dear. Nitrate of soda is quiet.

Russian, in mats (ex dock)	7 12 6	to 7 13 9
,, in bags	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
East India	7 12 6	—
Calcutta	7 15 0	—
London Made	7 17 6	to 8 0 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian	4 17 6	to 4 18 9
English (ex mill)	5 0 0	to 5 2 6
Bombay	4 10 0	
Decorticated, London made	7 10 0	—
,, American	7 5 0	to 7 7 6
,, Meal, American	7 5 0	to 7 7 6
,, Meal, English	7 10 0	—
Special Digestive Meal	5 5 0	—
RAPE CAKES.		
East India	5 5 0	—
Ravison	5 0 0	—
MAIZE.		
African	7 2 6	to 7 5 0
English	6 17 6	to 7 0 0
Maize Gluten Meal	7 0 0	—
RICEMEAL.		
Rangoon ex ship	5 8 9	to 5 10 0
,, ex whf.	5 12 6	to 5 15 0
LOCUST BEANS.		
Whole	5 10 0	
Kibbled	5 15 0	
DRIED BREWERS' GRAINS.		
Ale	5 10 0	
Mixed	5 5 0	
MANURES.		
Nitrate of soda	11 2 6	

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Arrivals of home cheese were smaller, with a quiet trade, buyers having supplied their wants at Kilmarnock Cheese Show. Prices remain firm but unchanged. Quotations:—Cheddars, 62s to 66s; Dunlops, 60s to 63s per cwt.; October made Canadians are inclined to ease. Price 62s to 62s 6d; demand slow.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was a good attendance of buyers, and a fair demand. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 48s to 58s per cwt; fancy dairies, 57s to 59s; Derbys, 61s to 66s; truckles, 62s to 65s; Cheddars, 60s to 64s; doubles, 61s.

HOPS.

Worcester, Saturday.—Only a few growers at market to day, those who have not sold preferring to wait till prices are better. Trade was slow except for the best coloured hops which are scarce. Business has been rather interfered with by the bad weather this last week. Brewers have bought sparingly so far, and there will be a considerable trade to be done before stocks are completed. Only 558 pockets have been weighed this week, making 16,198 to date.—CHARLES FARAM AND CO.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 P.M.

The market to-day was weaker for all sorts of wheat, the buying element having for the time being satisfied its needs while fresh supplies continue freely to be poured in. Depression is not, however, likely to last very long, for the supplies on passage, out of which December wants will have very largely to be met, are 35 per cent. below the average.

The price of common feeding barley fell 6d, but good malting was quite as dear as formerly, and even ordinary brewing types remained in steady request. Maize tended to go decidedly lower, but may rally between now and the American new crop arrivals in January. Beans, peas, rye, and canaryseed were held for rather more money, but foreign oats were 6d more to sell, and English, with large offers, were not very easy to dispose of at October full quotations.

BRITISH GRAIN *Off Stands*).

November 4.

WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	38 — 41
Red	,,	36 — 40
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	36 — 38
Brewing	,,	33 — 35
Distilling	(per 416 lb.)	31 — 32
New Winter	(per 400 lb.)	27 — 29
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	27 — 28
MALT, Pale (Old)	(per 336 lb.)	34 — 36
Brown ,,	,,	31 — 32
Black ,,	,,	33 — 34
Pale (New) for early Dec. delivery; none offered earlier	,,	39 — 40
OATS, Good Old	,,	22 — 23
Good New	,,	21 — 22
New Winter	,,	20 — 21
Ordinary Old	(per 320 lb.)	21 — 22
Ordinary New	(per 320 lb.)	20 — 21
,, ,,	(per 312 lb.)	19 — 20
RYE, New	(per 480 lb.)	30 — 32
BEANS, Pigeon	(per 532 lb.)	42 — 44
Tick	(per 504 lb.)	35 — 36
Winter	,,	34 — 35
Spring	,,	33 — 34
Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	23 — 24
PEAS, Picked Marrowfat, New	(per 504 lb.)	84 — 88
Unpicked (Old)	,,	52 — 56
Maple (Old)	,,	37 — 38
(New)	,,	36 — 37
Dun (Old)	,,	33 — 35
(New)	,,	34 — 35

FOREIGN GRAIN *(Ex-Granary)*.

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba	45	47	American	28	29
Red Winter	44	45	Argentine	28	29
Best Spring	45	47	Roumanian	28	29
Durum	41	42	Russian	28	29
Argentine	44	45	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Australian	44	45	Smyrna	37	38
Californian	44	45	New Zealand	35	36
Walla Walla	43	44	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Azima	44	46	Hungarian	62	64
Ghirka	42	44	Burmese	37	39
Roumanian	43	44	Chilian	56	64
Indian White	43	44	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb):		
,, Red	42	43	French	31	33
Turkish	41	42	Russian	32	34
Persian	41	42	Canadian	34	36
BARLEY:			PEAS (504 lb.):		
C'lifor'n (448 lb)	36	37	Dutch Crowns	56	58
Tunisian (448 lb)	34	35	Konigsberg	45	47
Algerian (448 lb)	33	34	Russian White	37	38
Ouchak (448 lb)	33	35	Indian White	37	38
Smyrna (448 lb)	34	36	Canadian White	37	38
Russian (400 lb)	26	27	New Zeal'd Maple	41	42
Indian (400 lb)	25	26	Victoria Dun	34	35
Persian (400 lb)	25	26	MILLET (416 lb.):		
MALT (336 lb.):			White	44	46
Californian	37	38	Yellow	24	26
Smyrna	37	38	Sorghum	22	23
Ouchak	36	39	RICE (cwt.):		
RYE (480 lb.):			Java	16	22
Russian	31	33	Indian	17	20
OATS:			Japanese	16	17
Konigsbg (320 lb)	21	22	Burmese	9	10
Russian (304 lb)	19	20	Siamese	8	9
Canadian (320 lb)	21	22	DARI (480 lb.):		
Arg'tine (304 lb)	19	20	Smyrna	28	29
Swedish (320 lb)	21	22	Indian	25	26
New Z'l'n'd (384 lb)	25	26	Persian	24	25

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED RATHER WORSE THAN IT OPENED, AS WITH THE FURTHER RISE IN THE BANK RATE WAS ONLY TO BE EXPECTED. THERE WAS A LARGE BUSINESS DONE IN BARLEY OUTSIDE THE REGULAR MARKET.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 P.M.

The demand for flour is not so good as it was a week ago, though bread has been put up a halfpenny from the close of October at many of the chief shops. Town household flour to-day was reduced 6d. per sack, and country flour was also lower; but these modifications did not affect American, which was steady, or Hungarian and Belgian, which, if anything, were dearer on the week.

The very high prices making for any sort of meal are a great trouble to farmers and stockowners, and also are prejudicial to the poultry interest. Millers, however, are well satisfied, and speak with increased respect of the "by-products" of the mill. There is a great scarcity of Californian and Australian flour, and both Russia and Argentina have withdrawn from the flour market.

London Flour.

November 4.

Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	38/0
Town Whites	,,	35/6
,, Households	,,	32/6
No. 2	,,	31/0
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	33/3
,, No. 2	,,	31/3

Country Flour.	s.	s.
Fine Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	30 — 32
Roller Whites	,,	29 — 30
All English	,,	29 — 30
Stone made	,,	27 — 28

Foreign Flour.	s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	34 — 35
,, Second Patents	,,	32 — 33
,, First Bakers'	,,	29 — 30
,, Second Bakers'	,,	28 — 29
Milwaukee Patents	,,	33 — 34
,, Bakers'	,,	30 — 31
Canadian Best	,,	33 — 34
,, Ordinary	,,	31 — 32
Manitoba Patents	,,	33 — 34
,, Ordinary	,,	31 — 32
Kansas Patents	,,	32 — 33
,, Ordinary	,,	31 — 32
Californian	,,	33 — 34
Belgian	,,	37 — 38
Hungarian (net prices)—		
Five Stars	,,	40/0
G.G.O.	,,	39/6
P.W.M.	,,	38/6
Six Anchors	,,	None

Meal, &c.		
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	17 — 18
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	18 — 19
,, ,, Broad	,,	17 — 18
Pollard	,,	16 — 17
Biscuit Middlings	,,	20 — 21
Fine Middlings	,,	19 — 20
Coarse Middlings	,,	18 — 19
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	20 — 21
Farina Firsts	,,	31 — 32
,, Seconds	,,	29 — 30
Barley Meal	,,	28 — 29
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	28 — 29
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	33 — 34
Groats	,,	34 — 35
Oat Flour	,,	34 — 35
Ground Oats	,,	33 — 34
Poultry Meal	,,	37 — 38
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	21 — 22
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	20 — 21
,, Germ Meal	,,	17 — 18
,, Cones	,,	20 — 21
,, Gluten Meal	,,	17 — 18
Rye Flour	,,	26 — 28
Rye Bran	,,	23 — 24
Pea Meal	,,	25 — 26

THE BALTIC.

Cargo arrivals on sale off coast from January 1 to October 31 were 247 wheat, 10 barley, 18 maize, and 16 linseed, against 241 wheat, 4 barley, 5 maize, and 29 linseed in the like period of last year. Speculation therefore haa been more active for cereals, less active for oilseeds, on a comparison of the two periods of ten months.

The cargo trade on the 1st was weaker from October, and it is clear that the supply has for the moment outrun the demand, the sales on the 1st and 2nd included wheat: Victorian at 43s. 6d. per 480 lb., Russian Winter at 45s. per 492 lb., Russian Spring at 44s. per 492 lb., Hard Taganrog at 43s. per 492 lb., Californian at 42s. 6d. per 500 lb., Argentine at 42s. 9d. per 480 lb., and No. 1 Durum at 37s. 9d. per 480 lb. Maize: Argentine at 26s. 6d. per 480 lb., Galatz at 28s. 3d. per 480 lb., American at 27s. 3d. per 480 lb., and Odessa 27s. per 480 lb. Barley: Kustenidje at 27s. 6d. per 416 lb., Persian at 22s. per 400 lb., Russian at 24s. 3d. per 400 lb., and Cyprian 26s. per 400 lb. Oats: Konigsberg at 18s. 3d. per 320 lb., and Russian at 17s. per 304 lb.

Operators in cargoes of Argentine produce, especially wheat and maize, will be interested to note that Mr. Russell Smith, who is now in London, announces that he has arranged to retire from the business of inspection of grain in the Argentine Republic, and to transfer the same to Mr. E. Gigy O'Farrell, as from December 31, 1907.

Mr. O'Farrell, who has been his general manager for the last six years, will continue the above business thereafter for his own account and in his own name.

Mr. Russell Smith proposes to settle in London, and to continue his connection with the inspection of grain in the Argentine Republic in so far as acting in an advisory capacity, and will shortly open an office for the purpose of answering inquiries.

Monday, 1 P.M.

State of Trade.

There is an anxiety to unload at the profits which October's closing prices showed that is defeating its own aim and making those prices impossible to get. This desire to realise gains in cash has been precipitated by the increased stringency of the money market in London and very notably, of course, in New York.

Business Done.

Wheat.—Argentine, 40s per 480 lb, February shipment, new crop; Californian, 42s 6d per 500 lb, prompt shipment; White Karachi, 44s per 492 lb, prompt shipment; Red Karachi, 43s per 492 lb, prompt shipment; No. Durum, 37s 9d per 480 lb, prompt shipment; No. 2 Northern Manitoba, 41s 9d per 480 lb, prompt shipment; Australian, 43s 6d per 480 lb, February shipment, new crop; Russian Winter, 45s 3d per 492 lb, arrived.

Barley.—Azof, 26s per 400 lb, November shipment; Persian, 22s per 400 lb, November shipment; Morocco, 25s 6d per 400 lb, November shipment; Tunisian, 31s per 448 lb, November shipment; Smyrna, 33s per 448 lb, November shipment; Anatolian best, 36s per 448 lb, November shipment; Anatolian ordinary, 32s per 448 lb, November shipment; French fine, 35s 6d per 448 lb, November shipment.

Oats.—South Russian, 17s 6d per 304 lb, November shipment; Black Irish, 18s 9d per 304 lb, November shipment; Argentine, 16s 9d per 304 lb, February shipment, new crop; New Zealand, 24s per 384 lb, prompt shipment.

Maize.—American, 25s 6d per 480 lb, January shipment, new crop; American, 25s 3d per 480 lb, February shipment, new crop.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Offals.—Bran in good demand, and very firm, prices tending upward.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Flour.—The trade during the past few days has not been quite so active. There is no material change to report in prices, though the tone of the market has been somewhat easier than of late.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Flour.—With weaker American markets sales of flour are few and far between. Grain.—American corn is more plentiful, and value is 1s per boll lower on the week. Round maize weak. Beans dull. Pease finished. Oilcake in better demand. Good oats maintain their price. Mill stuffs quiet. Winter wheat patents, 31s to 31s 6d per 280 lb; spring wheat patents, 32s 6d to 33s 6d per 280 lb; American corn, 16s 6d to 16s 9d per 280 lb; round corn, 16s to 16s 3d per 280 lb; grinding beans, 18s 10½d to 19s per 280 lb; broad bran, 117s 6d to £6 per ton; medium bran, 112s 6d per ton; fine thirds, 140s to 142s 6d per ton; common thirds, 115s to 117s 6d per ton; American oilcake, 152s 6d to 155s per ton.—McKinnon and McDonald

Flour. — Trade to-day has been quiet at about 6d. decline on the week.—T. S. Medill and Sons, Ltd.

Milling offals.—Everything remains very scarce and in good demand, and full prices are still obtainable.—John Bawcomb and Co.

TERM MARKET.

Speculation has has taken a bearish turn, the American money crisis and the rise in the English bank rate being alleged as the reasons. Latest futures are as follows:—

Red Winter Whea,	8s. 3d.	per cental,	Nov. and Dec delivery
,, ,,	8s. 4d.	,,	Jan. and Feb. delivery.
Maize—				
Mixed American,	5s. 9d.	,,	Nov.	,,
,, ,,	5s. 7d.	,,	Jan.	,,
,, ,,	5s. 6d.	,,	Feb.	,,
Maize—				
Argentine yellow	5s. 6d.	,,	Nov.	,,
,, ,,	5s. 7d.	,,	Dec.	,,
,, ,,	5s. 8d.	,,	Jan.	,,

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply; trade quiet. Quotations: Hay, £3 5s to £3 15s per ton; straw, no quotations.

Derby, Friday.—Clover, best old, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; hay, best old, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; seconds, 65s to 70s; straw—wheat, 60s to 70s; pressed, 50s to 60s; chop, 55s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Hay and straw very depressed, and disappointing trade without quotable change in figures.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Meadow hay, 6d; clover, 7d; wheat straw, 3½d to 4d; oat straw, 4d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Best hay made 60s, and secondary 50s to 55s; best seeds, 55s to 60s, and inferior 50s; straw, 30s per ton on the ground.

Nottingham, Wednesday.—Large supplies which met with a bad trade. Quotations:—Inferior to good hay, 40s to 60s; prime ditto, 60s to 80s; inferior to good clover, 45s to 65s; prime ditto, 75s to 85s; wheat straw, 45s to 55s; old hay, 90s to 100s; old seeds, 90s to 100s per ton.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Moderate supply, and a quiet trade. Choice old seeds, £4 15s to £5 5s; meadow hay, £4 5s to £4 10s; straw, £2 10s to £3 per ton.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Limited arrivals were in good request, prices being steady:—Best clover, 84s to 95s; inferior ditto, 72s to 80s; specially-picked hay, 85s; good ditto, 68s to 78s; inferior ditto, 55s to 63s; mixture and sainfoin, 70s to 82s 6d; straw, 28s to 33s per load.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Altrincham: 1s 3d. Appleby: 1s to 1s 2d. Barnstaple: 1s 1d 1s 2d. Berwick: 9d to 11d. Birmingham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Camelford: 11d. Chester: 1s 2d. Dartmouth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Derby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Devizes: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Doncaster 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Dorchester: 1s to 1s 3d. Evesham: 11d to 1s 2d. Hereford: 1s to 1s 3d. Kidderminster: 1s 2d. Lincoln: 1s 2d. Market Drayton: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Otley: 1s 8d per 24 oz roll. Penzance: 10½d to 1s 2d. Plymouth: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Preston: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Retford: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Ripon: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Shrewsbury: 1s 3d. Spalding: 1s. Stamford: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Stockport: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Stockton: 1s 1d to 1s 4d. Totnes: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Truro: 11d to 1s. Wellington (Salop): 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Worksop: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Altrincham: 5 and 6. Appleby: 6 and 7. Barnstaple: 7. Berwick: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per doz. Birmingham: 6 and 7. Camelford: 10. Chester: 7. Dartmouth: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per doz. Derby: 6 and 7. Devizes: 8 and 9. Doncaster: 7 and 8. Dorchester: 1s 4d to 1s 10d per doz. Evesham: 1s 4½d to 1s 6½d per doz. Lincoln: 8 and 9. Market Drayton: 7 and 8. Otley: 6. Penzance: 1s 6d to 1s 10d per dozen. Plymouth: 6. Preston: 5 and 6. Retford: 2s 6d to 2s 8d per score. Ripon: 7 and 8. Scarborough: 8. Shrewsbury: 6. Spalding: 8. Stamford: 8 to 10. Stockport: 5 and 6. Stockton: 6. Totnes: 1s 9d to 1s 10d per doz. Truro: 1s 5d to 1s 6d per dozen. Wellington (Salop): 7 and 8. Worksop: 2s 4d to 2s 6d per score. York: 6 and 7.

POTATOES

Berwick, Saturday.—The potato market is now very dull. Disease is appearing in the crops. Prices made to 80s per ton.

Borough, Saturday.—Good arrivals experienced, and fair demand. Epicures, 70s to 80s; Blacklands, 80s; best silts, 90s to 100s; British Queens, 80s to 90s; Llewellyns, 90s to 100s per ton; French and Dutch, 3s 6d per bag.

Goole, Wednesday—Busy market, and a fair supply. Best King Edwards made 11s to 11s 3d; Dates, 10s to 10s 3d; and Imperators, 9s 6d to 10s.

Lancaster, Saturday. — Potatoes, 9d per stone.

Manchester, Saturday. — Potatoes: Yorkshire, 11s 6d to 12s 6d; Cheshire, 9s to 10s; Lincoln, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 18 st; Irish, 5s per cwt.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Fair arrivals experienced fair support. Epicures, 75s to 80s; Blacklands, 80s to 85s; Up-to-dates, 85s to 95s; British Queens, 90s to 100s per ton. French, 3s 6d; Dutch, 3s 6d per bag.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Potatoes £4 10s to £4 15s per ton.

York, Saturday.—A moderate supply met with a steady trade at prices ranging from 80s to 85s per ton.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Nov. 4, 1907. British.	Total.	Monday, Nov. 5, 1906.
Beasts	1,230	1,230	1,600
Sheep and Lambs	4,460	4,460	5,230
Calves	10	10	10
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	40	40	50

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 6	3 4	4 8
Sheep	4 8	5 4	6 2
Lambs	—	6 0	6 8
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £23.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 20; Eastern Counties, 36; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 1,000; Devon, 20; Ireland, 154.

We note to-day a decrease of 90 in the number of beasts offered for sale compared with Monday last. Trade for both prime and second quality English cattle ruled of a slow and dragging nature throughout the day; however, last week's values governed most transactions. A few Cross-bred Scotch made our top quotation, whilst Devons ruled slightly lower in value. The arrivals from Ireland consisted of 66 Dublins, 48 Waterfords, and 20 Stores (two-year-old heifers), these were quoted at from £9 10s. to £10 per head. Irish fat beasts met with very little inquiry, late rates, however, were maintained. Fat butchering cows and bulls were also slow of sale at last Monday's prices. A clearance will not be made.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s d	Monday, Nov. 5, 1906. s d
Scotch Cross-breds	4 6 to 4 8	4 8 to 4 10
Devons	4 4 to 4 6	4 4 to 4 6
Herefords	4 4 to 4 6	4 4 to 4 6
Norfolks	— —	— —
Runts	4 2 to 4 4	4 2 to 4 4
Lincolns	3 10 to 4 0	3 8 to 3 10
Irish	4 0 to 4 2	4 0 to 4 2
Canadian	— —	— —
Fat cows	3 4 ex 3 6	3 4 ex 3 8

There was an increase of 150 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. For both wethers and ewes salesmen experienced a somewhat disappointing trade; however, not sufficiently so to warrant our quoting a general decline. Scotch sheep were in larger numbers, and met with more inquiry; consequently these ruled firm in regard to value, whilst Irish descriptions met with very little demand, sellers being willing to accept 2d. per 8 lb. less to effect sales. The few lambs on offer cleared at late currencies. The supply included 300 Scotch, 971 Irish, and 220 from the Eastern Counties. There is very little prospect of a clearance being made.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	Monday, Nov. 5, 1906. s. d.
8 st. Scotch	6 0 to 6 2	—
7½ to 8 st Downs	5 10 to 6 0	6 0 to 6 2
9 st. Downs	5 8 to 5 10	5 10 to 6 0
10 st Halfbreds	5 4 to 5 6	5 8 to 5 10
10 st Yorkshires	—	—
12 st Lincolns	—	—
10 st Irish	5 4 to 5 6	5 4 to 5 6
10 st Down Ewes	4 0 to 4 2	4 2 to 4 4
11 st Halfbred ditto	3 10 to 4 0	4 0 to 4 2
5 st Down Lambs	6 6 to 6 8	—
6 st Halfbred ditto	—	—

Calf trade nominal. No pigs on the market.

London (Central), Monday.—Trade dull for moderate offerings. Beef, English, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 6d; American, 3s 2d to 3s 8d: refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Mutton, English wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s to 3s 6d. Lambs, 4s 8d to 5s; Scotch tegs wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ewes, 3s to 3s 6d. Veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d. Pork, 3s 4d to 4s per stone.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—To-day's supply compared with Monday last showed an increase of 335 head, and consisted of 350 States, 209 Western cattle, and 256 Canadian Ranchers; these latter were of inferior quality, consequeutly ruled lower in regard to value. Trade for all descriptions was of a slow nature at a decline in value. The best States on offer were quoted at from 3s 10d to 4s; seconds, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; Westerns, 3s to 3s 8d; and Canadian Ranchers 3s to 3s 2d per 8 lb (offal given in). On Saturday 1,926 beasts from the United States, and 181 Canadian Ranchers were offered for sale. These latter met with no inquiry, consequently no prices can be given. The former met with a very slow trade; however, a slight advance in value was noticeable. The best States on offer were quoted from 4s to 4s 2d ex 4s 3d; seconds, 3s 10d to 4s per 8 lb (offal given in).

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, November 4. Linseed is steady in price, though not in brisk demand. For Indian Rapeseed 1s. to 2s advance is made. Cottonseed on the other hand is 5s. per ton cheaper, the large arrivals from Egypt being too much for the market.

Linseed. per 416 lb.	s. s
Calcutta	47 to 48
Russian	46 to 49
Argentine recle'd	50 to 51
Argentine cleand	48 to 49
Argentine comn.	46 to 47
Dutch	51 to 53
Turkish	48 to 50
Canadian	47 to 49
Morocco	52 to 54
Rapeseed. per 416 lb.	
English	80 to 84
French F.A.Q.	65 to 67
Yellow Guzerat	61 to 62
Yellow Cawnpre	59 to 60
Brown ,,	57 to 58
Ferozepore	56 to 57

Rubsen. per 424 lb	s. s.
German	71 to 75
Poppyseed. per 377 lb.	
Indian	58 to 59
Cottonseed. per ton.	
Egyptian	144 to 146
Indian	130 to 132
Brazilian	128 to 130
Sunflowerseed. per cwt.	
English, White	14 to 15
Russian, White.	13 to 14
,, Black.	12 to 13
Sesame. per 384 lb.	
Indian	59 to 61
Hempseed. per 336 lb.	
Russian	42 to 44

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were:—From Ireland, 2,853 bales, and from foreign ports, 13,682 bales. There was a quiet demand for bacon throughout last week, and prices generally were reduced some 2s to 4s. Quotations ranged:—Irish, 58s to 66s up to 54s; Danish 58s to 59s up to 63s; Canadian, 59s to 60s. Butter: Butter was a firm market. French, 112s to 122s; Danish, 128s to 130s; Russian, 90s to 116s; Irish, 96s to 124s; Victorian, 96s to 124s; New South Wales, 96s to 122s; Queensland, 96s to 118s; New Zealand, 112s to 124s. Lard.—Lard was a steady market. Irish, 50s to 58s; Danish, 52s to 54s; American, 46s 6d to 48s.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—There is a little more general inquiry for all classes, the rates now ruling for good sound medium hops are tempting some consumers to buy what they require for copper purposes.—W. H. and H. Le May.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There is again rather more inquiry for East and Mid-Kent hops. Values remain unchanged.

WET AND DRIED GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Wet Grains: With an increased demand and supplies being short, prices have ruled higher during the week. Business has been done at 19s to 21s ale, and porter 3s per ton less on rail, London. Prices are now firmer. Dried Grains.—Prices continue firm with an upward tendency, due to the higher prices of wet grains and the colder weather, 106s 3d and 101s 3d per ton are being asked for ale and mixed, respectively, in buyers' bags ex factory. Best Java Molasses.—Concrete, 70 per cent. sugar, a very handy feed in baskets, 80s per ton, and kiln dried sea-damaged wheat from 22s 6d per qr, on rail, London and elsewhere.—Hamlyn and Co., 37 and 38, Mark Lane.

SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Good general business passing. Rape firm. Mustard unchanged. Rye scarce and higher. Winter tare quiet. Seed wheats still moving: prices firm. Peas steady but small supplies. In clovers, more movement in whites and Alsikes. Lively business in reds and trefoils; prices higher. In grasses, Perennials and Italians more steadily.—John Picard and Co.

Seven Years Grain Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 10d. per 480 lb.
Barley	25s. 4d. per 400 lb.
Oats	18s. 11d. per 312 lb.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington Cattle Market during the week, with a rather larger supply mostly consisting of consignments from the Midland, Home, and Western Counties, trade opened and continued of a slow and dragging nature; as usual, all sales of fat cattle were confined to Monday. A few were held over in the market lairs for Thursday, but met with no demand. Our top quotation on Monday was commanded by the Devon breed, these being in fair average supply; other grades, though slow of sale, were quoted at late currencies. The Irish arrivals consisted of 65 Dublins and 65 Waterfords, to which also the foregoing remark applies: No store cattle were included in the consignments from this country. For fat butchering cows and bulls on both market days there was a limited demand from both town and country buyers. Last week's prices, however, governed all transactions.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, markets were held on Monday and Saturday, trade on both days ruling of a slow nature, with a downward tendency in value. Saturday's prices were firmer, better quality cattle being offered for sale. The total number on offer at both markets was 3,977, as against 4,970 during the previous week, consisting of 1,390 British (increase 100) and 2,587 foreign (decrease 1903), these latter comprising 2,406 from the United States and 181 Canadian. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 stone Devons, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 4d. ex 4s. 6d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 95 stone Irish, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 90 stone States, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d. ex 3s. 6d.

The sheep trade for both wethers and ewes as usual of late was confined to the Islington market, and opened on Monday of a slightly firmer nature, although not sufficient to warrant our quoting any advance in value. Both Scotch and Irish descriptions shared in the brisker trade, notwithstanding the fact that the latter were in larger supply, late rates governed all transactions. On Thursday all sales were based on Monday's values, with a dull trade. The few lambs that were offered for sale cleared early in the day. The total number penned was 4,370, as against 4,560 during the preceding week, showing a decrease of 190. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 8 stone Scotch, 6s. to 6s. 2d.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone halfbreds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 5 stone fat Down lambs, 6s. 6d. to 6s. 8d.

Calves numbered twenty and pigs ten. Trade for the latter not worth noting. The best on offer of the former were quoted at from 4s. 10d. to 5s. per 8 lb.

Trade in the West.

Despite the continuous rains, which were badly wanted in many parts, though scarcely in the torrential character we have been experiencing, the store stock trade has suffered but little, and once the rains abate we expect much greater activity in grazing cattle than has prevailed of late, though many buyers are already securing, where they can get the class of animal they want, their grazing cattle for wintering, although this is somewhat early in the season for doing so. But, excepting for the somewhat prolonged spell of wet weather, the conditions are fairly favourable for the purchaser, and speculators are by no means slow to avail themselves when the opportunity presents. The best class of graziers are no doubt being kept in reserve for later sales, but still some very fair bullocks are already to be met with both in Devons and Shorthorns, with occasionally a few good cross breds, some of which are in quite as fresh condition as those generally to be met with three weeks or a month later on owing to the abundance of keep there has been almost everywhere, as the result of a peculiarly favourable autumn, after one of the most exceptional summers of recent years. With plenty on the look out for this particular class of stock—particularly all the better class grades of barreners, in which condition is a greater essential than breed—prices, after the recent slump, have taken a slightly favourable turn for all really fresh-condition cattle of promise, the best making £24 to £30 per pair, and others, with a much more restricted demand, from £14 to £16 for old cows (which have gone back much in value) up to from £17 to £23 for secondary grades of heifers. But *the* business of the season just at present is the milch beast trade, which has never been so good for years as it is now, and of which there is every likelihood of a continuance whilst the demand for milk is so abnormally large as it is to-day, as the outcome of growing habits of temperance all over the country. A good many of the best milchers have been changing hands during the past week at from £18 up to £23, and even £24 apiece for the heaviest class of milchers, whilst more ordinary runs sell from £15 to £17 10s.; there being likewise a market for distinctly plain cows at from £15 down to as low as £10 or £11. In-calves are equally saleable at from £10 to £15 or £16 apiece. Stirks attract considerable attention from £9 to £10 or £11 apiece, and heifers from £5 to £7. The sheep trade, despite its being the "fag end" of the season, is exceptionally strong, the year closing with sheep and lambs from 4s. up to 9s. or 10s. a head dearer than this time last year; in fact, flock-masters generally recognise this as a record season for uniformly high prices not only for keeping sheep, but equally so for the butcher. Some Dorset horns sold in West Dorset as recently as Monday by Messrs. Ensor made 77s., and lambs to 62s. apiece.

Coming to fat stock, we may report the trade as fairly buoyant all round. True, prices may not be quite up to the level of those recently prevailing, still there is very little which the seller can find *bonâ fide* fault with. Where the quality is right these outside values are to be depended upon, it being only on secondary grades on which a drop is to be quoted. The choicest steers and heifers still realise 11s. to 12s. per score (or from £18 up to £25 each), whilst the more ordinary grades ranging in value from £14 to £17 (mostly for cows and bulls) must be quoted at 9s., for very coarse weights up to 10s. or 10s. 6d. for medium qualities. Fat sheep, especially the best class of tegs and wethers (which are none too plentiful), meet a very firm trade at from 8½d. to 9½d. per lb. (or from 48s. to 65s. apiece); but ewes, old sheep more particularly, scarcely maintain their value. Best lamb sells up to 10d., and seconds 9d. to 9½d. Small weights in pigs firm up to 10s. 6d. per score; heavier, 9s. to 9s. 6d.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle this week has been rather under an average, and the general quality only moderate. A much better demand has been experienced, and prices on an average have advanced quite 20s. per head. Rather more fat cows on offer, and they also met a slightly improved demand. Fat sheep and lambs have been shown in rather smaller numbers. Trade as nearly as possible without change, with the exception of ewes, which being rather less plentiful made 1s. a head more. Fat calves and pigs selling at very full prices. There was a large and good show of store cattle. Owing to the exceedingly bad weather, and the immense amount of grain still lying out in the country buyers acted with caution, and to effect sales a reduction of 10s. per head had to be taken, while rough cattle are almost entirely neglected. Store sheep and lambs again a large show, but nearly all of a very indifferent class. Trade exceedingly dull, and prices suffered a reduction of fully 1s. per head, with a large number of the secondary descriptions left over. Milch cows a small show, and they met a dear trade. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 39s.; current, 34s. to 36s. 6d.; mutton, 6d. to fully 9d. per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Ltd.

Trade in Ireland

Dublin market last Thursday was not so well supplied with stock as some of the markets lately, there being a big decline in both cattle and sheep, a decline of over 700 in cattle and 2,500 in sheep, the numbers being cattle, 4,402, and sheep 5,384. There was a very good attendance of both home and cross-Channel buyers, but the considerable falling off in supplies made a sounder and better selling market. Trade was good in the cattle market for the better class of bullocks and heifers at firm values. Fancy lots made from 31s. to 32s. per cwt. (live weight), and a lot of nice bullocks were sold by hand for 28s. per cwt. Beasts valued below this price were not much wanted, but towards the close of the market, were pretty well taken by buyers. Business with England and Scotland was much restricted owing to the heavy arrivals of frozen meat during the week. Over 150,000 cwt. were imported last week as against about 80,000 cwt. in the corresponding week of last year. Of course, such a vast quantity of extra meat must have a bad effect on home markets. Choice heavy-weight bullocks and heifers changed hands freely at late rates, but there was a prevailing depression on secondary beef and half-meated beasts, owing chiefly to the fact that English buyers are buying less and less of this sort each week now. A large English buyer said that he had bought fully 130 beasts less this week than in the corresponding week of 1906. However, a very good all-round clearance was made. The dead-weight prices were as follows:—

Best heifer and ox beef, 50s. to 53s. up to 56s. per cwt. for beasts of extra quality; good second-class beef, 46s. to 50s., and inferior beef from 42s. to 45s. per cwt.

The short supply of mutton greatly helped that market. Home buyers had some difficulty in securing a sufficiency of mutton suitable for their trade. Hoggets for shipping to Liverpool, Manchester for market were wanted, and sold well at prices slightly in favour of the seller. The London trade was only nominal, there being little or no trade just at present. Best wether mutton was worth from 7d. to 7½d. per lb.; ewe mutton, 6d. to 6½d., and inferior mutton sold at from 5d. to 5½d. per lb. Large heavy hoggets made from 46s. to 58s. each, according to size, and small to middling hoggets brought from 36s. to 44s. each. Some lambs were offered for sale: large fat ones sold at from 34s. to 44s. each, and small to medium at from 24s. to 30s. each.

A moderate supply of dairy cows were offered for sale. Values were slightly firmer and demand good. Prime milch cows sold at from £17 to £21, and other sorts at from £9 to £16, according to quality, &c. Not much doing in store cattle just now.

Dublin pig market was well supplied. Trade was of a dragging nature, and prices declined 2s. to 3s. per cwt. as compared with last day's market. Prospects for the future rather gloomy. Best light weight pigs, 46s. to 48s. per cwt; heavy pigs, 34s. to 42s. per cwt.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Good supplies, and a very quiet trade. English beef, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s 2d to 4s 8d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 2d to 3s 8d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 4s to 4s 4d; ditto seconds, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; ditto forequarters, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; inferior beef, 2s 2d to 2s 8d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ditto tegs, 4s 8d to 5s; ditto ewes, 3s to 3s 6d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s to 3s 6d; Dutch sheep, 3s 10d to 4s 6d; English lamb, 4s 8d to 5s; veal, 3s 8d to 4s 8d; English pork, 3s 6d to 4s; Dutch ditto, 3s 6d to 3s 10d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—To-day's supply of beasts consisted almost entirely of fat butchering cows and bulls, for which trade ruled slow, at Monday's values. A few fat beasts left over from Monday were offered, but met with no inquiry. Top prices paid per 8 lb.:—Fat cows, 3s 4d; extreme, 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 6d to 3s. A decrease of 10 in number penned in sheep market compared with Thursday last. Sheep trade ruled slow for both wethers and ewes, though no decline in value is noticeable. The few lambs offered met with no demand. Best pens made per 8 lb, as follows:—7½ to 8 stone Down sheep, 5s 10d to 6s; 9 stone ditto, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10 stone ditto, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10 stone half-breds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s to 4s 2d. Calf trade not worth noting. Quotations per 8 lb, sinking the offal:—Beasts, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; sheep, 4s to 6s.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Fair trade for beef, at 4s 4d to 4s 8d for best beasts, and 4s to 4s 4d for secondary. Mutton sold rather better. Small Downs made up to 6s; small Kents, up to 5s 10d; and large Kents, up to 5s 4d. Veal rather cheaper.

Roasting pigs sold well up to 4s, but larger hogs were neglected.

Aylesbury, Wednesday.—There was a very large consignment of beasts, numbering 200 head. Trade was slow, only choice quality animals changing hands. Nearly 500 sheep were penned, and the demand was hardly so brisk as the previous week, although a clearance was effected. Buyers were in small attendance. Wethers made up to 67s; ewes, 50s; tegs, 45s 6d; heifers, £20 17s 6d; and bullocks, £20 12s 6d.

Berwick, Saturday.—The supply of cattle was good. Calves, £5 10s to £6 10s; heifers, £15; stirks, £8 10s to £11 15s; two-year-olds, £11 10s to £14; three-year-olds, £13 15s to £15 10s; Shorthorn bulls, £12 10s; cows, £20.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Fair supply of pigs; small supply of beasts and sheep; trade slow. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s to 9s 2d per score; cutting pigs, 9s 3d to 9s 9d per score; sows, 7s 6d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Fat cattle were numerous but in little request, and business was dull, last week's values being scarcely maintained. Sheep, also, were plentiful, but trade was quiet. Down wethers being reduced to 8½d. Pigs, as usual, were scarce, and quotations unchanged.

Calne, Friday.—Prices of pigs:—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 1s. per pig extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. 10 lb to 8 sc. 10 lbs, 9s 0d per score, 8 sc. 11 lb to 9 sc. 10 lb., 8s 6d per score; 9 sc. 11 lb to 10 sc. 10 lb, 8s 0d. Pigs outside these limits at their value.—C. AND T. HARRIS AND CO., LTD.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The sheep trade is nearly over for the season, but there were a few lots offered. Useful ewe made from 42s to 49s, and rough sheep from 22s to 32s. A few pens of rough lambs made from 13s to 19s per head. A useful lot of Irish stock found customers, mostly late in the day. Useful yearlings were quoted from £6 5s to £7 15s, and finest up to £10; two-year-olds, £10 to £13. One very fine lot of Shorthorn steers averaged £15. Rather more demand for horned stock, but not a fast trade.

Chester, Thursday.—Good supplies of cattle, with a numerous attendance of buyers. The inquiry for store stock was poor, but dairy cattle met a brisk trade, the supply being short of the requirements of the market. Scotch and Irish horned sheep realised last week's rates. Quotations:—Milch cows, £16 to £23; calving cows, £15 to £20; barrens, £10 to £13; heifers, £9 to £14; bullocks, £8 to £14; stirks, £5 to £9 each.

Colchester, Saturday.—There was a short supply of mutton, which sold at 6s 4d per stone of 8 lb. Grass beef was plentiful, but no stall-fed beasts were on offer. Beef averaged 4s 6d per stone. Pork was plentiful, but little in demand, selling at 8s per score.

Derby, Tuesday.—A fair supply. Beasts coarse and half furnished were not in demand; beasts, 5½d to 6½d; calves, 7½d to 8d; sheep, 7½d to 9d.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Small supply of milch beasts, but a large supply of bullocks. Milch beasts were dearer, and made up to £23; bullocks £12 to £17; heifers and drapes, £10 to £15; stirks, £8 to £10; young stores, £7 to £8 each. Moderate supply of sheep and trade rather slow, but prices firm. Shearlings, 45s to 52s; lambs, 34s to 40s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—By no means excessive supplies came to hand at Messrs. T. Ensor and Son's repository sale to-day, but there was a good attendance of buyers. Milch beasts were again a good deal sought after, especially animals of good repute as deep milchers, which commanded a ready sale at from £17 10s up to about £21 apiece, and the more ordinary grades from £14 up to £17 (principally for cows). Good class grazing cattle were a trifle better sale than of late, at from £20 to £26 per pair, at which the bulk were sold, plainer bullocks a quieter sale at from £17 up to £19 10s. Young stock found a steady consumptive demand, the abundant keep in the pastures operating as a strong inducement to speculators to acquire anything at all useful. Fat bullocks remained a fairly firm trade at recent values, all the riper grades selling freely at 11s to 11s 6d per score for the best weights, and seconds from 10s to 10s 6d; rough course animals, 9s to 9s 6d. Mutton, which is as scarce as ever at the week-end market, may be quoted 7½d to 8½d.

Dublin, Thursday.—The demand for best cattle was well sustained at firmer prices, and all other sorts easier sold. Best suitable sheep of light and medium weights in request at late rates, heavy qualities not so easily placed. Cattle—Live weight (best), 29s to 31s per cwt; cross-bred Angus, 32s to 33s per cwt; secondary qualities, 26s to 28s per cwt. Mutton (dead weight), 6½d to 7½d per lb; extreme, 7¾d per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Market report says trade continued dull, but supplies plentiful. Half-bred lambs to 33s; cross lambs to 26s; Cheviot ewes, 23s; Cheviot sheep to 33s; polled cattle to £14 5s.; stirks, to £11 11s. Cows: Best Shorthorns to £25; secondary to £21; Ayrshires to £19 10s.

Exeter, Friday.—Small supply of fat beasts. Best steers and maiden heifers maintained late prices, 11s to 11s 3d; cows, 10s; very bad sale. Large market of sheep, but not generally of good quality; small lambs, 9d; hogs, 8½d; large size wethers, 8d; extra supply of fat ewes from 6d to 6½d; lambs for turnips, 32s to 36s. Several lots of the Bridgwater class sheep sold at 42s to 44s; calves, 7d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—An average show of cattle, and, prime quality being scarce, made fairly good prices. Secondary classes met with a rather quiet demand. Top 62s to 64s; secondary, 54s to 57s per cwt. A fairly good number of sheep were penned, and for prime hoggs and wethers a sharper inquiry was made at firmer prices. Ewes were also in demand. Best mutton, 8½d to 9d; secondary, 7¾d to 8d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A large supply of beef met with a dragging trade, best quality bullock and heifer not making more than 6d to 6½d, cow beef 4½d to 5d. Calves a very slow trade, veal realising only 6d. Sheep in small supply, and very few of good quality. Wether mutton made 8d; ewe, 6½d to 7d. Lambs in short supply; fat ones, 8d per lb. Porkers, large supply, fetched 5½d to 6d, and bacons about same figure. Store pigs dear. Store cattle were a large supply, but experienced a dull trade.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report: Fat cattle showed a falling off in numbers owing to shorter supplies of Midland Counties cattle; yard-fed animals were sharply competed for, and all well-finished medium weights made 9s per stone. Grazing cattle were well represented, including several consignments of Cumberland and Westmorland steers in good condition and first-class quality. There were more buyers present, and a good clearance was effected at late rates. Two-year-old Shorthorns, £13 7s 6d to £12 10s; 18 months, £11 to £8 15s; 16 to 12 months, £8 10s to £5 10s; Westmoreland calves from 10 to 8 months, £6 to £4 17s 6d; Polled Irish in good condition, £12 7s 6d to £10 10s. Several cows and heifers were penned; the best were wanted, and made good prices up to £21 10s, but secondary sorts were dull and cheap. Fat sheep were short and dear, the best hoggets making high prices. Grazing lambs sold freely at from 47s to 38s.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good supplies of store stock in good condition; fair attendance of buyers. Choice milch cows, £20 to £22; good lots, £17 to £19; secondary, £14 to £16; heifers, £9 to £12; Irish bullocks, £13 to £15 Welsh cattle, £9 to £13 10s; young stock, £6 to £8; calves, 20s to 35s per head. Sheep sold freely at firm rates.

Lincoln, Friday.—A small consignment of horned stock, and fair trade. Yearling beasts, £8 to £9; strong ditto, £14 to £16; milch cows, £17 to £23 each. Lambs sold at 36s to 44s each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Average supply, with trade at about late rates, from 7s to 7s 9d per stone. A large supply of stores met last week's rates from £6 to £18 each. Fat sheep were in average supply, and experienced a firm trade, making from 9s to 10s per stone. Stores from 45s to 50s each. Store lambs realised from 35s to 45s each.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: First-class, 5d; second-class, 4d to 4½d; third-class, 3d to 3½d per lb. Mutton: Firsts, Cheviots, Scotch, 7¾d; others, 7½d; seconds, 6½d to 7d; thirds, 5½d to 6d. Veal: Firsts, 6½d; seconds, 5½d to 6d; thirds 4½d to 5d. per lb. Bacon pigs: Firsts, 5½d; seconds, 4½d to 4¾d; thirds, 3½d to 3¾d. Porket pigs: Firsts, 6¾d; seconds, 6½d to 6¾d; thirds, 5¾d to 6d per lb

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Trade for cattle was very similar to last week, with prices unaltered. Quotations:—Prime heifers, 7s 3d to 7s 6d; second class, 6s 9d to 7s; prime steers, 7s to 7s 3d; second class, 6s 9d to 7s; coarse and inferior, 6s to 6s 6d per stone, sinking the offal. Trade was firm for sheep, but prices for choice shearling sheep were down ½d. Quotations:—Choice shearling sheep, 8½d to 8¾d; strong heavy, 8d to 8½d; choice lambs, 8¾d to 9d; second class, 8½d to 8¾d; ewes, 6d to 6¾d; rams, 5d to 6d per lb. Trade in veal was very quiet at 6d to 7½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was a moderate supply of cattle, sheep, lambs and pigs, but calves were somewhat scarce. Large attendance of buyers and better trade all round. The quotations were:—Best beef, 6½d; seconds, 6d; cows, 4¾d to 5½d; best wether mutton, 8½d; ewes, 6½d to 7d; lambs, 9½d; calves, 7d; porker pigs, 10s 3d to 10s 9d per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—Average show of fat cattle. Good beasts sold well at 8s per 14 lb stone, but other qualities met a slower trade at from 7s to 7s 3d. Fat cows made 6s 6d. A good show of sheep, but prices were slightly lower, the best making up to 9½d per lb; large mutton, 8¾d to 9d; ewes, 6½d. Very small show of pigs, but the quality was good and trade improved, porkers making 7s per stone; baconers, 6s 3d to 6s 6d; and sows, 5s 6d. A large show of store cattle, consisting principally of big animals of good quality; trade ruled slower, the best lots of two and three-year-old mixed making from £14 10s to £17 10s; yearlings, £8 10s to £10 10s; and younger sorts, £4 to £6 10s per head. Rearing calves were of poor quality and not so dear, prices being from 20s to 45s. Small show of store sheep; demand slow, hoggets making from 35s to 50s per head. No ewes on offer.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Good show of milch beasts, which met with a good trade, especially best milch cows, which made £19 to £23. In-calf heifers realised £15 to £19 10s. A fair show of store beasts, with trade rather improved. Strong heifers and steers, £11 to £15, and younger beasts £6 to £10. Calves realised 25s to 50s. Official returns:—266 beasts, 94 calves.

Preston, Wednesday.—The supplies were rather small, but quality was good. Late rates, especially for sheep, were barely maintained, except for choice qualities. Quotations:—Choice Irish and local fed heifers, 6½d; secondary ditto, 5½d; choice young cows and bulls, 5¾d; inferior ditto, 5d to 5½d; choice lambs, 8¾d; hoggs, 8½d; heavy and coarse hoggs, 8d; choice ewes, 6d; heavy ewes and tups, 5½d; calves, 6½d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—The trade for store stock was slow, and barely last Saturday's currencies were realised. Milch cows, £15 to £20; calves, 35s to 45s each.

Romford, Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts, trade slow. Best beasts, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in short supply; prices a little better at 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Sheep in short supply; trade about the same. Best small sheep, 5s 8d to 6s; larger sheep, 5s 6d to 5s 8d per stone. Ewes an average supply; trade slow at 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. A few store beasts on offer; slow demand. Large supply of milch cows; trade bad. Pigs in average supply; prices about the same. Small porkers, 3s 8d to 4s; large hoggs, 2s 8d to 3s per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Good milch beasts scarcer than last week. The best sold at £19 to £22; younger lots, £14 to £15 10s.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Usual supplies and attendance of buyers; trade good. Quotations:—Beef, 6d to 6¾d per lb; mutton (wether), 9d to 9½d per lb; ewes, 8d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 9½d per lb; veal, 8d to 8½d per lb; porket pigs, 10s to 10s 6d per score; bacons, 9s 6d to 10s per score.

Stockton, Wednesday.—An average show of the best cattle, which met with a slow trade at 7s to 7s 6d per stone, whilst rougher kinds made 6s to 6s 6d. Young sheep realised 8½d per lb, ewes 6½d, and tups 6d. The pig trade was very dragging, small porkers selling at 7s 6d; mediums, 7s; sows, 6s 3d to 6s 6d; and rough sows, 5s 9d.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance fair and business fair. Fat bullocks, 54s to 58s per cwt; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £10 to £15 each; rearing calves, 20s to 35s; ewes, 40s to 45s; wethers, 7d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d; lambs, 7d; large and small pigs and suckers, 5s 6d to 36s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 7d to 8d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; pork carcases, 4¾d to 5d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Trade moderate; fair supply all round. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; a few, 6¾d; mutton, 6½d to 9d per lb: veal, 6d to 7½d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small supply of stock, with trade brisk, beef being about 3d. per stone dearer. Best beef, 7s 3d to 7s 9d; secondary qualities, 6s 9d to 7s per stone. Best Southdown and cross-breds up to 9d; ewes, 6d per lb. Store lambs, 25s to 32s each.

York, Thursday.—There was only a light show of Irish cattle at this, the last of the extra markets. Very few English stores on offer. Several sales were effected, but the drenching rain militated against the trade, which was otherwise good, quite late rates being obtained. Best three-year-olds made up to £15 10s, two-year-olds up to £12, but the general run for smaller animals was £7 to £11, according to size and quality. A few good newly calven cows made high prices, as much as £22 being paid in one case. A very poor trade for sheep, of which there was a small show. All classes of sheep fell fully 1s per head on the week, shearling sheep making 35s to 45s, twice-crossed lambs 30s to 38s, Masham ewes 48s; and Masham lambs, 27s each

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £13 15s to £14 5s; half-bred hoggs, £13 to £13 10s; ditto wethers,

£12 10s to £13; Kent fleeces, £12 5s to £12 10s; South Down ewes and wethers, £13 10s to £14; Leicester ewes and wethers, £12 to £12 10s. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., scoured super., 2s 3d to 2s 4d; scoured, good, 2s to 2s 2d; scoured, average, 1s 10½d to 1s 11½d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 2½d to 1s 3½d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 10½d to 1s 11½d; greasy, average, 1s 1d. to 1s 2d; S. Aus., greasy, average, 11d to 1s; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 11d to 2s; greasy, average, 1s to 1s 1d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 10d to 1s 11d; fleece, average, 9½d to 10½d; greasy, average, 8½d to 9½d; Natal, scoured, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; greasy average, 8½d to 9d. Crossbreds — grs.—Vic., good to super., 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d; New Zealand fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s to 1s 1d; coarse, 10d to 11d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Growers still decline to accept less than 1s for Kent fleeces, and there is little business doing. Other quotations are lamb wool 7d, half-breds 11d, Downs 13d to 14d per lb.

Glasgow and Leith.—The Scotch wool trade during October has been moderately active. At the Leith sales held on the 15th and 16th ult., half-breds and crosses ruled rather in buyers' favour, but the selection was below the average. Stocks of this class are now well reduced. Cheviots, during the month, have experienced a better demand, and a considerable quantity has exchanged hands at firm prices. Blackfaced has been dealt in to some extent, both for the home trade and for shipment. The month closes with a quiet feeling with prices unchanged.—J. and W. Greig.

Halifax, Saturday.—There is a quiet tendency about the market for wool, and reports as to home-grown descriptions are a little conflicting. While holders are quoting full rates, some concessions have lately been obtained in certain Yorkshire, Lincoln, and Notts classes of wool.

CORN STATISTICS

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, November 2, 1907:—

Wheat	1,615,700 cwts.
Wheat-flour	446,6 0 ,,
Barley	861,900 ,,
Oats	270,200 ,,
Maize	1,127,600 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1906. Cwts.	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.
Wheat	1,004,200	1,628,500	2,229,200	2,350,800
Wheat-flour	314,500	316,600	209,200	609,200
Barley	759,900	869,500	906,900	1,142,300
Oats	327,100	166,700	233,700	332,100
Maize	677,800	451,200	1,017,300	1,504,200

Monthly Averages.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1906. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1907. Wheat	Barley	Oats
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan.	28 6	24 9	18 5	26 1	24 2	17 4
Feb.	28 10	25 4	18 11	25 6	24 3	17 7
Mar.	28 5	24 8	18 11	26 9	23 11	18 0
April	29 1	24 2	19 1	26 9	23 8	18 10
May	30 2	24 0	20 0	28 5	24 0	19 10
June	30 4	23 4	20 2	31 6	24 6	20 9
July	30 4	23 1	20 4	32 2	24 11	20 10
Aug.	29 6	23 7	17 9	33 7	25 4	20 5
Sept.	26 1	24 5	16 2	31 8	24 9	17 7
Oct.	26 5	25 0	16 7	33 11	26 2	18 1
Nov.	26 5	24 5	17 1			
Dec.	26 2	24 1	17 3			

Average Monthly Cash Prices of Town Households Flour.

	1907	1906.	1905.	1904.	1903.	1902.	1901.
	s. d	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan.	22 0	25 0	26 3	24 9	24 0	21 9	24 6
Feb.	22 0	24 9	26 9	25 6	24 3	22 0	24 0
March	21 9	24 3	26 6	25 9	23 9	21 9	23 9
April	22 3	24 6	26 0	25 3	23 9	23 0	24 0
May	25 0	24 0	25 9	24 9	24 0	23 6	23 6
June	25 6	23 9	25 6	24 3	24 3	23 0	23 0
July	26 0	23 6	25 0	25 0	24 3	23 0	22 3
August	26 6	23 0	25 0	26 6	24 9	22 9	22 3
Sept.	28 6	22 9	24 6	27 0	25 0	23 3	22 0
Oct.	32 0	22 6	25 0	27 0	24 9	22 9	21 6
Nov.		22 0	25 0	26 9	24 3	22 9	21 6
Dec.		21 9	25 0	26 9	24 3	23 3	21 9
Yrly. Avrg.	23 5	25 6	25 9	24 3	22 8	22 10	

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, October 29, 1907:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Av. Price per qr £	s.	d.
Wheat	9,068	3	17,254	17	9	1	18	1
Barley	4,298	2	6,431	9	3	1	9	11
Oats	6,168	7	6,033	11	11	0	19	7

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending November 2, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1903 to 1906:—

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1903	41,897	26	4	160,241	24	3	22,245	15	9
1904	43,313	30	6	205,816	25	0	35,145	16	0
1905	80,360	27	10	231,869	24	9	28,424	17	1
1906	64,404	26	7	229,015	24	8	32,527	16	11
1907	80,019	36	3	176,845	27	7	46,480	18	10

Imperial Weekly Averages.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS Qrs.	s.	d.
1906.									
Nov. 3	64,404	26	7	229,015	24	8	32,527	16	11
,, 10	63,764	26	6	205,560	24	8	27,982	17	1
,, 17	58,059	26	4	167,441	24	4	20,389	17	2
,, 24	58,467	26	3	149,427	24	1	28,669	17	3
Dec. 1	60,299	26	1	160,173	24	1	34,743	17	2
,, 8	63,264	26	1	167,532	24	1	37,119	17	4
,, 15	70,332	26	1	135,513	23	11	36,175	17	3
,, 22	68,977	26	3	127,131	24	3	31,528	17	3
,, 29	49,637	26	0	97,796	24	1	29,124	17	3
1907.									
Jan. 5	24,559	26	0	31,733	23	11	14,773	17	3
,, 12	47,667	26	1	71,498	24	2	27,939	17	4
,, 19	75,207	26	1	104,417	24	1	37,413	17	8
,, 26	80,321	26	2	109,274	24	5	45,887	17	5
Feb. 2	84,370	26	3	86,031	24	4	38,928	17	7
,, 9	77,659	26	6	74,324	24	5	30,467	17	7
,, 16	84,514	26	7	69,221	24	1	38,725	17	9
,, 23	76,580	26	10	53,681	24	2	39,559	17	9
Mar. 2	64,923	26	9	40,398	24	2	32,965	17	9
,, 9	71,183	28	8	32,620	23	11	31,065	17	11
,, 16	69,340	26	10	29,274	24	2	28,017	18	0
,, 23	69,183	26	10	20,977	24	0	22,204	18	1
,, 30	49,202	26	8	15,929	23	9	18,412	18	2
April 6	28,757	26	9	6,539	24	3	10,296	18	3
,, 13	43,426	26	8	6,830	23	9	17,523	18	6
,, 20	54,965	26	8	6,032	23	3	21,389	18	7
,, 27	62,656	26	10	4,967	27	3	25,447	18	0
May 4	63,344	27	0	4,289	23	6	22,691	19	3
,, 11	53,080	27	6	3,375	24	0	18,392	19	7
,, 18	41,991	28	4	2,955	23	10	15,817	20	1
,, 25	37,963	29	7	1,977	24	3	12,803	20	7
June 1	28,070	31	4	1,998	24	0	10,478	20	5
,, 8	31,122	32	0	1,539	24	7	11,711	20	8
,, 15	38,008	31	10	1,152	24	7	7,668	20	11
,, 22	31,351	31	4	1,088	24	11	7,187	20	9
,, 29	23,007	31	2	759	24	6	6,118	20	8
July 6	20,795	31	3	432	24	8	4,303	20	11
,, 13	19,209	32	0	665	24	10	3,380	20	11
,, 20	15,915	32	6	259	24	5	4,447	21	1
,, 27	16,867	32	11	3,324	27	3	3,533	20	8
Aug. 3	16,165	33	2	313	26	4	2,886	21	2
,, 10	18,510	33	5	322	26	6	3,459	21	3
,, 17	14,258	33	6	652	25	9	4,045	20	4
,, 24	17,415	33	7	672	25	0	5,699	19	8
Aug. 31	11,847	33	10	1,524	24	6	10,395	18	11
Sept. 7	18,316	31	11	7,216	24	2	23,697	17	7
,, 14	35,802	31	4	9,754	24	4	35,946	17	6
,, 21	66,074	31	5	24,624	25	0	44,624	17	8
,, 28	84,438	31	8	53,699	25	3	55,435	17	8
Oct. 5	108,964	32	6	102,551	25	5	55,367	17	9
,, 12	105,273	33	3	130,781	25	9	63,843	17	11
,, 19	91,292	34	4	162,674	26	3	50,445	18	0
,, 26	77,173	35	9	166,835	27	2	40,208	18	7
Nov. 2	80,019	36	3	176,845	27	7	46,480	18	10

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

*Cereal Year commencing September 2nd, 1907.**

		s.	d.
September 2	(per sack)	32	0
,, 13	,,	34	0
,, 20	,,	33	0
,, 27	,,	35	0
October 2	,,	36	0
,, 9	,,	37	0
,, 21	,,	38	0

(No change since last date given).

* September 1st, 1907, was a Sunday.

Seven Years' Tithe Rent Charges.

For 1907	£68 19 6
,, 1906	68 12 1
,, 1905	69 12 0
,, 1904	69 19 6
,, 1903	69 7 5
,, 1902	67 3 9
1901	66 10 9

Weekly Arrivals into London.

October 23 to 30 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	2,484	168,997	171,481
Barley	2,500	56,000	58,500
Malt	17,150	39	17,189
Oats	9,500	72,000	81,500
Rye	250	100	350
Beans	1,512	4,217	5,729
Peas	800	1,000	1,800
Tares	128	80	208
Lentils	—	250	250
Haricots	—	4,227	4,227
Linseed	—	10,913	10,913
Rapeseed	—	2,730	2,730
Cottonseed	—	22,328	22,328
Dholl	—	316	316
Maize	—	32,666	32,666
Flour sacks	28,295	32,000	60,295
Middlings ,,	—	3,000	3,000
Oatmeal ,,	—	1,000	1,000

Average Monthly Prices of Fine Household Flour in Paris.

(*Converted into English money for sacks of* 280 *lb.*)

	1907.	1906.	1905.	1904.	1903.	1902.	1901.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan.	30 9	31 0	31 0	29 6	30 9	27 9	24 9
Feb.	30 0	31 6	31 6	30 0	31 6	26 3	25 9
March	29 9	31 3	30 3	31 0	31 6	27 0	24 0
April	30 0	31 6	30 9	29 0	34 0	27 3	24 6
May	33 3	30 9	31 9	28 0	33 3	27 6	25 6
June	32 9	31 0	30 3	28 3	34 0	30 9	26 3
July	34 6	31 6	30 0	29 4	31 9	29 9	28 0
August	33 6	29 9	29 3	30 0	30 0	27 6	27 6
Sept.	33 9	30 6	31 0	31 0	30 0	29 0	27 6
Oct.		31 0	31 0	31 6	30 0	30 0	27 6
Nov.		31 6	31 0	32 0	28 0	28 9	27 9
Dec.		30 0	31 0	31 3	28 6	29 6	28 3
Yrly. Avrg.		30 11	30 9	30 1	31 1	28 5	27 3

Cereal Years' Prices.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1906-7	27	11	24	6	18	5
1905-6	28	9	24	2	18	5
1904-5	30	7	24	6	16	11
1903-4	27	2	21	11	16	4
1902-3	26	5	23	0	17	8
1901-2	28	4	26	0	20	4
1900-1	27	1	25	0	18	4
1899-1900	26	5	25	0	17	5
1898-9	26	1	26	1	17	4
1897-8	36	4	27	9	18	4
1896-7	28	8	23	2	16	9

Speaking on "Electric Plant Culture" at the annual meeting of the Women's Agricultural and Horticultural International Union last week, Mr. W. Thwaite, C.E., said that experiments in energising plants by electric currents drawn from the atmosphere had resulted in an increased weight of 37 to 40 per cent. with strawberries, of 40·7 per cent. and upwards with oats, and 90·5 per cent. and upwards with rye.

The half-yearly fair for the sale of horses and cattle at Morpeth was held on Monday. The most powerful draughts were only few in number, and high prices were asked, running up to £60, and for some others £50, which was about the average figure That sum was also asked for Hunters and light road horses. Other draughts ranged from £28 to £40, and from £15 to £23. Iceland ponies were to be had for from £8 to £10. About 100 head of cattle were offered in the cattle market. Stirks made up to £8 10s, two-year old heifers to £11, and bullocks to £13 10s.

The Farmers' Club.—The annual general meeting of the Farmers' Club has been fixed to take place as usual during the week of the Smithfield Cattle Show, and will be held at the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Metropole, S.W., on Monday, December 9, at 6 p.m., when Mr. Alfred Mansell, of Shrewsbury, will read a paper entitled "The Value of Live Stock on the Farm." The annual dinner will be held, in conjunction with the Central Chamber of Agriculture, on Tuesday, December 10, at the Criterion Restaurant, Piccadilly, W.

RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

MONEY, FRED, Silk Willoughby, Sleaford. Flock 323; established over a century. Four Rams from this flock fetched over £1,300 in the Argentine, February, 1903, one making £700, the record for a single Ram in Buenos Ayres. Rams for sale. Inspection invited.

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Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

Ideal weather for field work has marked the first nine days of November, and arrears are being overhauled with all possible speed. The early sown wheat looks exceedingly strong and healthy; unhappily there is very little of it. The talk about sowing nursery wheat may be left until 1908 is here; if we have a mild period from now to Christmas the area needed will have been put under autumn types. The threshings of 1907 wheat continue to give good results to the acre, but there is more bran than usual on milling, and this will mean less flour. The serious deficiency in the area sown to wheat this autumn in Austria-Hungary, Servia Roumania, and Bulgaria is attracting notice, but we do not see why efforts should not be made there as here to overtake arrears. These districts have not Russia's trouble of frost, which on the first of the month had already reached the Sea of Azoff, and probably at the present moment makes ploughing out of the question all over the Empire. Australia has a good rainfall at last, but the rains come too late to make the wheat harvest anything like a good one.

London averages in shillings for the ten completed months of 1907 are as follows:—

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
January	27·4	24·1	18 2
February	27 8	24 5	18 6
March	28 1	23 7	18·11
April	27 7	23·11	19·10
May	30·5	24 11	21·2
June	32·0	25·6	21 4
July	33·5	26·7	21 4
August	33·2	26 9	20·5
September	32 9	25 7	18·8
October	35·11	27·8	19·6
Net advance	8 7	3·7	1·4

The advance all along the line is what is most encouraging to the operator, and the wheat price now ruling in London will stimulate endeavours to send wheat up to town. We hope the railway companies will help both by more moderate rates and by additional facilities for prompt delivery to purchasers. Millers in October were sometimes forced to buy foreign wheat ex ship because they could not secure delivery of English wheat at the railway stations.

The estimated reserves of foreign wheat on November 1 in the United Kingdom were as follows:—

Stocks, October 1	2,218,000 qr.
October supplies	3,222,000 ,,
	5,440 000 ,,
October wants	2,790,000 ,,
Stocks, November 1	2,650,000 ,,

The October supplies of breadstuffs were thus made up:—

British wheat	955 000 qr.
Foreign wheat	1,883,000 ,,
British flour	384,000 ,,
Total	3,222,000 ,,

The total for October, 1906, was 2,388,000 qr., thus made up:—

British wheat	771,000 qr.
Foreign ,,	1,191,000 ,,
,, flour	426,000 ,,
Total	2,388,000 ,,

It is exceedingly note worthy that the rise of 6s. 6d. to 9s. 9d. per sack on flour on the twelvemonth has not prevented a falling off in the receipts from abroad. The British miller is more than holding his own.

Some extremely remarkable flour prices are presented by the October returns:—

	London.	Paris.
	s. d.	s. d.
October, 1907	32 0	32 0
,, 1906	22 6	31 0
Rise	9 6	1 0

The 10s. per sack duty on foreign flour which is imported into France does not seem to have raised the price at all. We have before this called attention to the remarkable figures of London and Paris, which confute with astonishing impartiality now the English free trader, and now the Tariff Reformer. In 1906, out of 10s duty, the Frenchmen apparently paid 8s 6d., the foreigner only 1s. 6d., but in 1907 the foreigner appears to be bearing the whole of the duty.

London and Paris wheat averages thus compare:—

Paris	40s. 4d	per qr.
London	36s. 9d.	,,
Difference	3s. 7d.	per qr.

The duty is thus apparently divided:—

Paid by the foreigner	8s. 8d. per qr.
,, Frenchmen	3s. 7d. ,,
Total duty	12s. 3d. per qr.

The sales of British produce at the 186 statute markets since harvest have been:—

Wheat	668,000 qr.	at 33s. 2d. per qr.
Barley	835,000 ,,	25s. 8d. ,,
Oats	416,000 ,,	17s. 11d. ,,

Wheat imports last week were 377,000 qr., and the imports of flour were 177,000 sacks. Of spring corn the imports were: maize, 264,000 qr.; barley, 242,000 qr.; and oats, 100,000 qr.

The wheat gradient is as follows:—

Chichester	37s. 1d. per qr.
Reading	35s. 1d. ,,
Range	2s. 0d. ,,

This is a good deal less of a variation than usual.

The gradient for barley is:—

Chichester	31s. 6d. per qr.
Doncaster	26s. 8d. ,,
Range	4s. 10d. ,,

For oats the gradient is:—

Mark Lane	19s. 10d.
Cambridge	18s. 6d.
Range	1s. 4d.

Barley averages 30s. 5d. in London, but no markets exceed 20s. for oats, though 19s 8d. at Ipswich, 19s. 5d. at Reading, and 19s. 7d. a Chichester are, with the London average of 19s. 10d., encouraging approximations to the level sovereign.

London sales of breadstuffs since the new cereal year show that October trade was heavy, and an increase on September in all five sections. The present November quietude is natural, though the very high bank rate is producing some trouble by forcing holders who are short of capital to press grain on an unwilling and temporarily congested market:—

	September.	October.
Wheat, qr.	342,000	480,000
Barley ,,	126,000	148,000
Oats ,,	133,000	350,000
Maize ,,	172,000	180,000
Flour, sacks	199,000	292,000

The supplies of wheat on passage on 9th inst. were as follows:—

Californian	265,000 qr.
American	300,000 ,,
Argentina	110,000 ,,
Russian	110,000 ,,
Indian	567,000 ,,
Australasian	385,000 ,,
Various	50,000 ,,
Total	1,787.000 ,,

The quantity of flour on passage is 264,000 sacks.

Expectations of spring corn, &c., as compared with a month ago, are as follows:—

Barley, 68,000 qr.; or 100,000 qr. decrease.
Oats, 125,000 qr.; or 35.000 qr. decrease.
Maize, 93,000 qr.; or 30,000 qr. increase.
Linseed, 126,000 qr.; or 19,000 qr. decrease.
Rapeseed, 28,000 qr.; or 5,000 qr. increase.
Cottonseed, 46,000 tons; or 2,008 tons increase.
Rice, 19,000 tons; or 6,000 tons decrease.

The above figures are encouraging to spot holders of rice and oats, but point to lower prices in December for maize and feeding barley, cottonseed, and probably rapeseed. The linseed total afloat is small, and by itself would point to an advance before 1907 was out, but the formidable offers of both cottonseed and rapeseed in December appear likely to check any upward tendency. Oil has fallen in price 5s. per ton on the week.

Last week's shipments from America were very good of wheat but small of spring corn, quantities being wheat, 434,000 qr.; maize, 6,000 qr.; and flour, 152,000 sacks. No barley or oats were exported. Argentina shipped 131,000 qr. of maize, but only 24,000 qr. of wheat. The Argentina shipments of linseed and oats were insignificent.

Old World efforts were rather considerable, and may thus be summarised:—

Qrs.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Maize.
Russia	310,000	367,000	52 000	66,000
Roumania	104,000	45,000	10,000	56,000
India	146,000	10,000	—	—
Australia	10,000	—	—	—
Turkey	15,000	15,000	5,000	30,000
Persia	—	20,000	—	—
Total	593,000	457,000	67,000	52,000

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—The hay trade during the past week has presented a much quieter appearance; supplies have been much larger, with values of clovers and mixtures the turn lower, and hay about unchanged. Prices in country are still maintained at a much higher figure than their London parity, although now and again we hear of holders who are more amenable to current values. So far this season the hay trade has gone quite contrary to all expectations; with the large crop, one of over average, it was anticipated that long before now prices would have gone down to a very low level, instead of which they are actually higher than at harvest time. Doubtless having made much better prices of their corn, farmers have been in more of a position to hold their stacks than in other seasons; and another factor in the London trade maintaining prices is that for the last two or three months supplies of foreign have dropped away considerably, shipments just now not being much more than a third of last year, this also helping to keep values of home grown stuffs up to their present level.

Prices ruling are about as follows:—English Best hays, 70s to 75s per ton; good hays, 62s 6d to 67s 6d per ton; plain hays, 60s per ton; best clovers, 85s per ton; good clovers, 80s to 82s 6d per ton; inferior clovers, 72s 6d to 77s 6d per ton; best mixtures, 82s 6d per ton; good mixtures, 75s to 80s per ton; plain mixtures, 67s 6d to 72s 6d per ton; seconds hays, clovers, and mixtures, 50s to 60s per ton; wheat straw, 25s to 27s per load; barley straw, 26s to 27s per load; oat straw, 26s to 27s per load. All ex rail London. Foreign: Canadian mixture, none; first quality Dutch hay, 60s to 62s 6d per ton; second quality Dutch hay, 55s per ton. French clover, 75s per ton. These prices are by the barge load delivered alongside a London Thames wharf.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Fair supplies were brought forward, which met a slow demand. Blacklands, 80s; Up to-Dates, 90s to 100s; Llewellyns, 90s per ton; French and Dutch, 3s 6d per bag.

Berwick, Saturday.—Trade was very dull at prices to 75s per ton.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The potato market was well supplied, and a steady demand was experienced at 7d to 8d per stone.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Short supply, and a fair trade. Prices were higher, and from 10s to 11s per load of 18 stones.

Goole, Wednesday—Fair supply, and a good attendance of farmers. Imperators are selling at 9s to 9s 3d, Up to Dates 10s, and King Edwards 10s 3d to 10s 6d per load. Prices are easier than those of last week, on account of the heavy arrivals of foreign potatoes.

Malton, Saturday.—Increased supplies, but prices are firm at £4 5s to £4 10s per ton wholesale, and £3 17s to £4 unpicked; retail, 8½d to 9½d per stone.

Manchester, Saturday.—Potatoes: Yorkshire, 11s 6d to 12s 6d; Cheshire, 9s to 10s; Lincoln, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 18 st; Irish, 5s per cwt.

Preston, Saturday.—Potatoes made 8s 6d to 9s per load of 240 lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Short supply, and home-grown lots made 8s. and other varieties 6s 6d to 7s per load.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Trade proved quiet, and arrivals of foreign were heavy, English, however, being in restricted supply. Blacklands, 75s to 80s; Llewellyns, 85s to 90s; Up to-Dates, 95s to 100s per ton; French, 3s 6d to 3s 9d; Dutch, 3s 6d per bag.

York, Saturday.—More potatoes on offer, German and foreign supplies having come to hand. Trade was quiet at slightly lower rates, best Sands making from 75s to 80s per ton.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English steady, quiet. Whites quoted at 37s to 41s; reds at 36s 6d to 39s 6d. Foreign steady, at about late rates, but demand limited. No. 1 Northern, ex ship, held at 44s 3d to 45s 6d; landed at 45s; No. 2, ex ship, at 43s 6d to 43s 9d; No. 1 hard Manitoba, landed, at 45s 9d; No. 1 Durum, ex ship, at 39s 6d; choice white Karach at 39s 9d. Flour steady, quiet. Hungarians held at 37s 6d to 38s 6d; Kansas patents at 31s to 31s 6d. Maize rather steadier, but quiet. Odessa, ex ship, quoted at 25s 3d; landed at 26s 6d. Barley slow. Azoff-Black Sea and Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, held at 23s 6d to 23s 9d; Persian, ex ship, 22s. Oats slow, easier tendency. La Plata held at 18s 9d to 19s; South Russians (38 lb) at 18s 6d; Danubian, 18s to 18s 3d.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat: English dull, easier tendency; whites quoted 36s to 40s; reds at 35s 6d to 38s 6d. Foreign in poor demand and fully 6d lower than Wednesday. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, quoted at 43s to 43s 6d, as to position; choice white Karachi at 38s 6d; No. 2 Northern Manitoba at 42s 6d; No. 1 Durum at 38s 6d. Flour dull, easier tendency. Kansas Patents held at 31s; Iron Dukes, 27s to 28s. Maize dull, prices tending in buyers' favour. Odessa, ex ship, quoted at 25s 6d; landed, at 26s; River Plate, landed, at 26s 6d. Barley dull, and 3d easier. Odessa-Nicolaieff and Azoff-Black Sea, ex ship, quoted at 23s 3d; landed at 23s 6d. Oats slow, and 3d to 6d easier. South Russian, 38 lb, quoted at 18s 3d to 18s 6d; La Plata landed at 18s 6d.

COUNTRY.

Appleby, Saturday.—White oats (horse corn), worth about 19s to 22s per 26 stones.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade was not so good as last week, though the attendance was normal. Wheats were quoted 1s lower, best samples not exceeding 38s; flour dull but not reduced. Quotations:—Wheat, 36s to 38s; best English barley, 31s to 33s; secondary, 27s to 29s; foreign barley, 26s to 27s; Mazagan beans, 28s to 30s; tick beans, 33s to 35s; maize, 30s to 31s; oats, 19s to 22s per qr.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, white (new), 36s to 37s per qr; wheat, red (new) 36s to 37s per qr; barley, 27s to 32s per qr; beans (new), 30s to 32s 6d per qr; oats, 19s to 22s per qr; peas, 29s to 34s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday. — Average attendance. Barley continues to meet a firm trade for all qualities. Finest oats unchanged; secondary oats cheaper. Barley, 25s to 33s; oats, 18s to 28s per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—There was a good attendance at the market, but trade was decidedly slow. Foreign wheats were from 1s to 1s 6d per qr lower on the week, and English 6d per bag easier, Bessarabian maize was 6d down, and Galatz-Foxanian 9d. Grinding barley was also 9d per qr. lower. English oats made 20s 6d to 21s per 312 lb. black winters 21s delivered. Beans, 13s 3d per 196 lb.

Brighton, Thursday. — Small attendance. Oats, 6d cheaper. Grinding barley 9d cheaper. Wheat 1s per qr. cheaper, with a good supply and quiet trade. New white wheat, 35s to 37s; new red ditto, 36s to 38s; barley, 28s to 34s; grinding ditto, 26s to 28s; oats, English, 18s to 21s; peas, 32s to 33s; beans, 33s to 34s.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat, with a moderate supply, was a quiet trade, at 6d per qr less money. Reds or whites, 36s to 37s; revets, 36s to 37s per qr. Barley in average supply. Trade steady, with a fair business passing at 31s to 33s 6d for fair malting, and 34s to 35s 6d for fine parcels. Oats and grinding barley firm. Maize 6d per qr lower at 28s 3d per qr delivered.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small supply of oats in our market to-day owing to half year term; good demand at, several fine hand samples made up to 24s per 336 lb; inferior oats, 21s to 23s per 336 lb; new oats at 26s per 24 stones.—Thomas Robinson.

Cambridge, Saturday.—The price of wheat has declined a further 2s during the week. The recent damp has affected the condition. At this market to-day there was a moderate supply of wheat, which made up to 36s per 504 lb into the mill. Spring corn in small supply. Barley, beans, and oats a turn easier.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Millers are holding off, and business for wheat has to be done at from about 35s to 37s, a decline of from 3s to 3s 6d per qr on recent top prices. Oats are fairly steady, 38 lb blacks selling at 19s, and 44 lb whites up to 21s 6d. A quiet trade for malting barley, but best qualities are fairly steady at from 29s to 32s 6d; feeding qualities, 27s to 28s, the latter for 56 lb weight. Grey peas remain at from 31s to 32s; tick beans make up to 33s; and tares from 5s to 5s 6d per bushel.

Chester, Saturday.—There has been a further reduction in prices of foreign wheat and maize since last market, and English grain is suffering in consequence. Both English wheat and oats are 1d to 2d per bushel lower. Barley firm; maize about 3d per sack down. Offals scarce and firm. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 5s 2d to 5s 4d per 75 lb; grinding barley, new, 4s to 4s 3d per 64 lb; oats, new, 2s 9d to 3s; old, 3s 1d to 3s 6d per 46 lb; Indian corn, old, 14s 6d to 15s per 240 lb; round corn, old, 14s 3d to 15s 6d per 240 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was a reduction of 1s on wheat and 2s on grinding barley and maize. A good attendance and fair trade. New white wheat, 37s to 38s 6d; new red ditto, 37s 6d to 38s 6d; barley, 29s to 35s; grinding ditto, 24s 6d to 25s 6d; oats, English, 19s to 22s; peas, 34s to 35s; beans, 33s to 34s; tares, 5s to 5s 6d; maize, 25s to 27s; flour, 28s to 32s.

Colchester, Saturday. — Wheat full, 1s; lower on week. Oats and malting barley unchahged—Colin Taylor, King and Co, Ltd.

Coventry, Friday. — Wheats offered more freely, and trade ruled quiet at fully 1s per qr under last week. Barley met a slow demand. Oats scarcely so high. Beans in dry condition maintained recent quotations, damp samples being neglected and lower. Quotations:—Wheat, 13s to 14s per 186 lb; barley, 30s to 34s per 448 lb; oats, old, 24s 6d to 27s per per 352 lb; new, 21s to 23s 6d; beans, 13s to 13s 9d per 196 lb; peas, 12s 6d to 15s per 196 lb.

Derby, Friday.—Wheat in moderate supply; and trade dull, without any change in prices. Quotations:—Wheat, 37s to 38s; red, 35s to 37s; barley, malting, 29s to 32s; grinding, 25s to 27s; beans, old, 39s; new, 35s to 36s; oats, old 24s to 25; new, 21s to 22s.

Devizes, Thursday.—There was again only a moderate supply. Prices continue to fall, and to-day wheat and barley must be quoted 1s per qr lower. Oats, on the other hand, made late rates. Best old wheat, 21s to 22s; best new wheat, 18s 6d to 19s 6d; secondary, 16s to 18s; malting barley, 29s to 34s; grinding barley, 26s to 28s; old oats, 22s to 24s 6d; winter oats, 18s to 19s 6d; white Garton oats 320 lb), 19s to 20s; black Tartar oats (320 lb), 19s to 20s; rye, 27s to 30s; beans, 17s to 19s; fine flour, 31s to 32s; extra fine, 33s to 35s; vetches, 5s 6d to 6s 6d.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Much more favourable weather throughout the week proved helpful in enabling farmers to get on with their threshing, and consequently samples were more plentiful, but torrential rain in the morning, coupled with unpleasant weather for the greater part of the day, kept many away from the exchange. Business was by no means brisk in any department, and whilst many wanted outside values for new wheat factors declined to buy unless very considerable concessions were made, these extending from 6d to 1s per qr on home grown, and about the same on foreign, but no great amount of business followed. Barley was also back 6d per qr for feeding kinds, but good malting parcels, where they were to be met with, realised fully late rates; ordinary runs not much wanted. Oats and maize were both easier, but beans and peas were firmly held. Flour trade inactive at lower rates.

Exeter, Friday.—Small attendance; trade slow. English wheat unchanged. Flour easier. Barley and maize 3d to 6d cheaper. Oats firm. English wheat, 4s 3d to 4s 6d; English barley, 3s 6d to 4s; superfine flour, 31s to 33s; fine, 29s to 31s.

Glasgow, Friday.—Wheat in sympathy with cables from the other side, is the turn lower. Flour, practically little or nothing doing. Maize and corn quiet, and pressed for sale, with prices 1½d down for the former, and 3d for the latter. Barley steady. Oats nominally unchanged.

Gloucester, Saturday.—English wheat, 1s to 1s 6d lower, at 35s to 36s for reds, and 36s to 37s for white. Foreign wheat about 1s 6d cheaper; Plates, 41s 6d to 42s 6d; Russians, 41s to 42s. Plate maize 9d cheaper at 27s; Bessarabian, 6d down, at 27s 3d. Grinding barley 3d lower, at 25s 3d. Oats 6d cheaper.

Grantham, Saturday.—A better show of corn, though some of it was very much out of condition. Wheat, 30s to 36s; barley, 25s to 33s; oats, 19s to 21s; beans, 27s to 32s; and blue peas up to 75s per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Wheats were difficult to sell, unless at a reduction of from 2d to 3d per bushel since last week. Barleys were a turn in favour of buyers. Oats met with very little demand, the tendency of values being lower. Maize was 6d per qr lower. Beans steady.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Moderate supply of wheat; trade quiet at about late rates:—Reds, 38s to 39s; whites to 40s per 504 lb. Fair supply of barley; trade for all descriptions steady; prices unaltered. Finer samples, 33s to 35s; runs, 30s to 36s. Oats quiet. Maize 1s per qr cheaper. Beans and peas quiet.

Leeds, Friday.—The lowering tendency of wheat prices continued, English undergoing a further decline of 3d to 6d, and foreign about the same. Holders of flour also found a slow sale, and were willing to do business in medium qualities at 1s per sack reduction. Maize was easier, Plate, Odessa, and American closing at barely 26s. Beans, peas, oats, and barley were steady.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good average attendanceof buyers and dealers, with small supplies of home-grown wheats, threshing having been practically suspended. Trade flat. White wheats, 35s to 39s per 36 stones; red wheat, 33s to 36s per 36 stones; fine bright malting barley, 29s to 32s per 32 stones; beans firm; fine oats, 19s to 24s per 24 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—Good attendance, and a large supply of English wheat, which experienced a dragging trade at 1s per qr less money than last week, making 36s per qr on rails. Large show of barley, and fair inquiry; malting barley, 28s to 36s.; ditto grinding, 26s to 28s per qr; oats unchanged; beans, out of condition, 30s to 31s per qr. Maize 6d to 1s per qr easier on the week.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat 1s to 1s 6d per qr lower on the week, and foreign generally 2d per cental lower. Trade ruled dull. Maize was 2d per cental lower, and flour 1s per sack lower. Oats unchanged. English barley 3d to 6d dearer, but foreign ruled quiet. Bran and offals nominal. The higher Bank Rate checked business.

Newark, Wednesday.—A moderate attendance. The samples shown were in poor condition; prices again easier. White and red wheat, 36s to 37s; malting barley, 29s to 31s; grinding barley, 26s to 28s; white oats, 20s to 20s 6d; black oats, 19s to 20s; old beans, 35s to 36s; new beans, 30s to 31s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A quiet trade at our to-day's market prevailed for wheat, and to effect sales 1s to 1s 6d per 504 lb less had to be accepted. American maize steady at last Saturday's prices, River Plate favouring buyers. A fair demand for fine oats at 6d per qr advance, common sorts unaltered. Beans remain firm; prices in the favour of sellers. A steady demand for fine barleys at fully last Saturday's prices.—Joseph Pollard and Co.

Newport, Wednesday.—Trade was quiet, and prices were unaltered from last week.

Northampton, Saturday.—Improved attendance at the exchange, but all grains were generally on a decline in price as well as quality, wheat being 2s per qr lower on the week, whilst flour showed a decrease of 1s. New wheat, 34s to 35s 6d; barley, 26s to 32s; old white oats, 24s to 26s; new white oats, 18s 6d to 21s; old beans, 34s to 36s; new beans, 31s to 33s; peas, 33s to 35s; flour, 31s to 35s.

Norwich, Saturday.—The crisis in the American money market caused a depression in the wheat trade, and buyers were scarce. A few transactions took place at a reduction of 1s 6d per qr; values, 35s delvered. Among feeding stuffs, maize and barley were reduced 6d to 9d per qr. Linseed and cotton cakes still remained firm at a slow trade. There was a good supply of barley, but trade was quiet; prices ranged from 29s to 36s per qr.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat in small supply, but prices receded 1s per qr. Best samples of barley held for full rates. Inferior lots a shade easier. Oats but few offering, and values maintained. Beans firm.—Robt. Hubble.

Peterborough, Saturday.—A fair supply of wheat at market to-day, for which trade was very quiet at from 1s to 1s 6d less money. Barley quiet at late rates. Oats small supply, and keep very firm. Wheat, 35s to 36s; barley, 28s to 34s; oats, 19s to 21s.—Thomas Hill and Son.

Plymouth, Thursday. There was a very good attendance on our market here to-day, but trade slow. Wheat was from 6d to 1s down on the week. Maize and barley 6d per qr easier. Oats remain firm, but in quieter demand. The flour trade was a little less active than of late.—Orlando Davis and Co

Preston, Saturday.—The market was fairly well attended, but there was not much grain offering from farmers. Oats made last Saturday's full prices, but wheat was 6d to 1s per windle cheaper, with poor demand. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220 lb, 15s 6d to 16s; ditto red, 14s 6d to 15s; oats, old, per bushel, 3s 8d to 3s 9d; ditto new, 3s 1d to 3s 2d; beans, per windle of 220 lb., 16s 6d to 17s.

Reading, Saturday. — The attendance was hardly up to the average, and trade was again on the dull side, the prices which governed the transactions of the previous Saturday being quoted. The following may be quoted as representative:—

Wheat, 34s to 39s; malting barley, 27s to 36s; grinding, 25s to 30s; oats, 18s to 22s 6d; beans, 34s to 37s; peas, 31s to 33s

Retford, Saturday.—A fair attendance, and an average supply of grain. Wheat 6d to 1s easier on the week at 35s to 36s per qr. Malting barley rather a slow sale, except for the best sorts, which were worth 31s to 32s: secondary lots, 28s to 30s: and samples slightly heated or damp, 26s to 27s per qr. Grain for feeding purposes about as usual. Maize quoted 29s; old English beans, 35s to 36s; new ditto, 28s to 30s; black oats, 19s to 19s 6d; white ditto, 20s to 20s 6d per qr.

Ripon, Thursday.—A good attendance of farmers, and a fair show of samples, but business was slow. Round maize shows a downward tendency. Prices:—New wheat, 37s to 38s; foreign ditto, 46s to 48s; grinding barley, 27s to 28s; malting ditto, 28s to 32s; new oats, 19s to 21s; old oat, 26s; round maize, 29s; flat ditto, 32s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—With buyers falling off the trade has quietened down, and to-day there was a small business passing at much the same prices as last week. Wheat slightly easier than a week ago, but with a steadier feeling. Maize 6d per qr lower on the week. Beans, peas, oats, and barley sold at prices favouring sellers, and showed an upward tendency. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 38s to 38s 6d; ditto red, new, 38s to 38s 6d per 504 lb; oats, black, 24s to 25s; ditto white, 24s 6d to 25s; ditto new, 21s 6d to 22s per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 36s to 36s 6d: ditto blue, new, 75s to 90s per 504 lb; beans, English, 36s 6d to 37s per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 28s to 30s; ditto malting, 28s to 32s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 28s to 26s 6d; ditto Plate, 28s to 28s 6d; ditto flat, 31s to 32s 6d per 480 lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Quotations: Wheat, 15s to 15s 6d; old oats, 16s to 17s per 225 lb; new oats, 12s 6d to 14s; barley, 18s to 20s per 280 lb.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday. — New white wheat, 39s to 39s 6d; new red ditto, 38s to 38s 6d; barley, 33s to 36s; grinding ditto, 24s to 25s; oats, English, 21s to 23s; rye, 28s to 29s; peas, 34s to 36s; beans, 34s to 36s; tares, 40s to 48s; maize, 28s to 39s.

Warwick, Saturday.—Very little grain of all kinds on offer. Trade very flat, and prices depreciating accordingly. Wheat 12s 6d per bag; barley, 26s to 32s per qr; beans, 12s per bag. All feeding stuffs easier.

Winchester, Saturday.—English and foreign wheat dull, 1s to 2s cheaper. Barley 6d. Maize 9d easier. Oats unaltered. Flour quiet trade, 1s lower rates.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LTD.

Wisbech. Saturday.—A small supply of wheat at market. Reds, 36s to 36s 6d per 504 lb Barley, 28s 6d to 31s per 448 lb Oats, 19s 6d to 20s 6d per 336 lb.. —JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a good attendance, and brisk business was recorded, but prices were unaltered.

Worksop, Wednesday. — Good attendance with fair show of wheat Wheat sold at a shade under last week's rates, and trade for barley and oats was slow. White wheat, 37s 6d to 38s 6d; red ditto, 36s 6d to 37s 6d; best barley, 31s to 33s; secondary barley, 29s to 31s; grinding barley, 27s to 28s; white oats, 19s to 21s; black oats, 18s to 20s; maize, 28s 6d to 30s; old beans, 40s to 41s, new beans, 35s to 37s per qr.

Yeovil, Friday.—Wheat and barley were both down a further 1s. Oats maintained late rates, but maize sold at 6d per qr less money. Home-grown wheat of best quality, 37s 6d to 38s 6d per qr: secondary, 32s to 36s; malting barley, 29s to 34s: secondary, 24s to 26s; grinding, foreign, 25s; old oats, 22s to 24s 6d; winter oats, 18s to 19s 6d; black Tartary, 19s 6d to 21s; white gartons, 19s to 20s; Irish black, 19s; round maize, 28s; rye, 27s to 30s; beans, 35s to 38s; vetches, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per bushel. Flour prices easier. For immediate delivery 31s 6d per sack accepted for fines. Meals and offals continue a good market at firm rates

York, Saturday.—Very little wheat offering, and dry samples sold slowly at a reduction of 1s per qr. Most of the samples fell short of condition. Fine white, 37s to 38s; red and mixed, 36s to 37s per qr. of 36 stones Any but the best qualities of barley were lower in price; fine, 30s to 32s; good, 28s to 30s; feeding, 26s to 28s per qr of 32 stones. Oats scarce and firm, and from 20s to 22s per qr of 24 stones. Rye, about 29s, and old beans 30s per qr of 36 stones.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Liverpool, Friday. — Nitrate of soda is £11 3s. 9d to £11 5s. per ton on the spot. The late harvest and wet weather has delayed farm work, but as soon as climatic conditions are favourable it will stimulate the demand for autumn fertilisers. There is a slight improvement in the demand for basic slag and other phosphates, and there are inquiries for kainit the last few days. In feeding stuffs there is a very trade slow, and this can be ascribed to the wonderful grass season, especially in Ireland, and the mild open weather so far enabling farmers to use only sparingly of artificial foodstuffs, values of which at the present time rule fairly high in most instances. In American decorticated cotton-cake there is practically no stock on this market or likely to be until the new season's arrivals in December, meantime these buyers are diverting their orders to English make Rice meal values are too high to lead to much business, and the tendency is to decline. Feeding treacle is moderately cheap and meets a fair demand from consumers.

	Per ton. £ s d	£ s d
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (good but hard)	—	—
Cottonseed Cake Meal	—	7 15 0
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime (soft)	8 2 6	8 7 6
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime	4 15 0	5 0 0
Cottonseed Cake, undecorticated Egyptian	—	—
Cottonseed, crushed, 20 per cent. oil guaranteed,	8 15 0	—
Linseed Cake, American, thin oblong, prime	7 15 0	7 18 9
,, ,, English, prime	8 5 0	8 10 0
,, ,, East Indian	—	—
Linseed Meal (crushed seed)	15 0 0	—
Palm Nut Cake	6 5 0	—
Maize Germ Meal	7 2 6	7 5 0
Indian Meal, coarse to fine grinding	Per 240 lb. —	—
Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported	Per ton. —	—
Linseed, fine bold feeding	Per qr., 416 lb. 2 12 6	2 15 0
Cod-liver Oil, cattle feeding	Per Gallon. 0 4 0	—
Treacle, feeding, American	Per Cwt. 0 4 9	—
Nitrate of Soda	Per ton. 11 5 0	—
Kainit, prime	2 7 6	—
Bone Meal, prime	5 7 6	—
Basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed	1 14 0	1 15 0
,, ,,	2 2 0	2 3 0
,, finest ,,	2 6 0	2 7 6
D.N.S. Superphosphate of Lime*	2 5 0	2 7 0
Brand ,, guaranteed*	2 10 0	2 12 0
,, ,, *	3 1 3	3 3 3

* At depot inland.

—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cake: The recent advance in prices has caused a lull in the demand, buyers being content to fill their immediate requirements, and with holders anxious to realise their profits, quotations are barely as strong. Russian remain by far the best value, East India and Calcuttas unchanged. London made remain in moderate request. Cotton Cake.—Egyptian offer rather more freely, and with only a poor inquiry values are, is anything, the turn easier, with English selling quietly. Decorticated.—London made pures find a ready sale at 5s. per ton advance, with American unchanged. Rape Cakes.—Nominal. Maize Germ Meal.—A limited quantity of White African meal is available, and English makes are to be had on slightly lower terms. Maize Gluten Meal meets a good export trade. Rice Meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon command last week's full prices, but there are sellers of steamer parcels afloat at less money. Locust Beans are without change Dried Brewers' Grains are scarce and dear. Nitrate of soda is unaltered.

Russian, in mats (ex dock)	7 12 6 to 7 13 9
,, in bags	7 15 0 to 7 17 6
East India	7 12 6 —
Calcutta	7 15 0 to 7 17 6
London Made	7 17 6 to 8 0 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.	
Egyptian	4 16 3 to 4 17 6
English (ex mill)	4 18 9 to 5 0 0
Bombay	4 10 0
Decorticated, London made	7 15 0 —
,, American	7 5 0 to 7 10 0
,, Meal, American	7 5 0 to 7 10 0
,, Meal, English	7 15 0 —
Special Digestive Meal	5 5 0 —
RAPE CAKES.	
East India	—
Ravison	5 0 0 —
MAIZE.	
African	7 5 0 —
English	6 6 3 to 6 17 6
Maize Gluten Meal	7 5 0 —
RICEMEAL.	
Rangoon ex ship	5 6 3 to 5 7 6
,, ex whf.	5 12 6 to 5 15 0
LOCUST BEANS.	
Whole	5 10 0
Kibbled	5 15 0
DRIED BREWERS' GRAINS.	
Ale	5 10 0
Mixed	5 5 0
MANURES.	
Nitrate of soda	11 2 6

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £13 15s to £14 5s; half-bred hoggs, £13 to £13 10s; ditto wethers, £12 10s to £13; Kent fleeces, £12 5s to £12 10s; South Down ewes and wethers, £13 10s to £14; Leicester ewes and wethers, £12 to £12 10s. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., scoured super., 2s 3d to 2s 4d; scoured, good, 2s to 2s 2d; scoured, average, 1s 10½d to 1s 11½d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 2½d to 1s 3½d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 10½d to 1s 11½d; greasy, average, 1s 1d. to 1s 2d; S. Aus., greasy, average, 11d to 1s; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 11d to 2s; greasy, average, 1s to 1s 1d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 10d to 1s 11d; fleece, average, 9½d to 10½d; greasy, average, 8½d to 9½d; Natal, scoured, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; greasy average, 8½d to 9d. Cross-breds—grs.—Vic., good to super., 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d; New Zealand fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s to 1s 1d; coarse, 10d to 11d.

Canterbury, Saturday. — Little business doing. Market still very firm, but staplers' offers do not exceed 11d for Kent fleeces, and 7d per lb for lamb wool.

Halifax, Saturday.—Business at rather low ebb; with exceptions, prices generally upheld. As to yarns, little doing for export, but spinners have no lack of business; price of raw material has become a serious factor in botany trade. Looms well employed, but export trade to America drooping.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Good supply and steady demand. Quotations for English produce: Apples, 4s to 10s 6d per bushel; peaches, 3s to 12s per dozen; grapes, 8d to 3s 6d; green figs, 9d to 3s per dozen; cranberries, 9s to 10s 6d per case; medlals, 3s to 3s 6d per crate; cobnuts, 4s to 4s 6d per 12 lb; chestnuts (Redan), 7s 6d to 12s 6d; walnuts (Grenoble), 6s to 7s 6d per bag; tomatoes, 4s to 5s; horseradish, 10s to 15s; sprue, 8s to 10s per dozen bundles; celery, 7s 6d to 12s 6d per dozen rolls; cucumbers, 3s to 4s per dozen; cauliflowers, 4s 6d to 8s 6d; cabbage, 3s 6d to 6s per tally; onions, 4s 6d to 5s 6d per cwt; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s; beetroots, 1s 6d per dozen bunches; shallots, 3s to 6s per bushel; sprouts, 2s to 3s per bushel; turnips, 1s 6d to 2s 6d per dozen bunches; potatoes, 75s to 100s per ton.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Supplies were plentiful, and a fair demand prevailed Quotations:—Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 6d to 3s; Boston, 2s to 2s 9d; Essex, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; Surrey, 3s 6d to 3s 9d; Sussex, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; Welsh, 2s to 2s 3d; Irish, 1s 6d to 1s 9d: turkeys (hen), 4s 6d to 5s 6d; geese, 4s 9d to 5s 6d; country ducks, 2s 6d to 3s; Aylesbury ducklings, 2s 6d to 3s 3d; quails, 7d to 10d: Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s 1d; feathered ditto 7d to 9d; wild rabbits, 6d to 9d; tame ditto, 1s 3d to 1s 6d each: Australian rabbits, 6s 3d to 8s per dozen; pheasants, 3s 9d to 4s; young partridges, 4s to 5s; old ditto, 1s 8d; young grouse, 4s to 5s; old ditto, 2s 6d: English hares, 2s to 2s 9d: Scottish hares, 1s 4d to 1s 6d: leverets, 1s 6d to 1s 9d: wild ducks, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; pintail, 1s 2d to 1s 4d: widgeon, 10d to 1s 1d; teal, 8d to 10d; woodcock, 1s 8d to 2s 3d; snipe, 6d to 9d; golden plover, 8d to 10d; black 5d to 6d each.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The arrivals of home cheese were smaller. There was a moderate trade. Prices were practically unchanged Cheddars, 62s to 65s per cwt., extra fancy 66s: Dunlops, 60s to 63s; Canadian slow, with September made cheese 63s. October made 61s

Highbridge, Tuesday. — A good attendance of buyers, a brisk sale, and all cleared Best Caerphilly dairies realised up to 57s per cwt. secondary dairies, 54s to 56s: and other dairies, 50s to 53s 6d. A few inferior lots failed to reach 44s. Cheddars, 58s to 61s; truckles, 57s 6d to 62s; doubles, 52s to 54s.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was a good demand and average attendances. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 46s to 54s per cwt: fancy dairies, 56s to 58s; Derbys, 61s to —s; truckles, 64s to 66s; Cheddars, 61s to 65s

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 P.M.

English wheat to-day was 1s. lower to sell, but there was no pressure to dispose of grain Foreign wheat was very irregular, Russian, Roumanian, and Australian not cheaper, Californian Walla Walla and Blue Stem scarcely cheaper, Durum 2s. cheaper, Red Winter 1s. 6d., and American Spring 1s. cheaper. Indian was a most unsettled market, some selling at 2s. decline, others comparatively firm. Maize has declined 8 full 1s. since November came in. Oats made full prices for English, Scotch, and New Zealand, but declined at least 6d for German, Russian, and Turkish.

The barley market was active at full prices for English, Californian, and Anatolian For Russian and Persian less money, however, was accepted. The price of beans, peas, and locust beans was fully supported, and dari was a little dearer. Haricots and lentils in good supply, and the turn lower. Linseed oil (naked) declined to £22 2s. 6d. per ton, a fall of 17s. 6d. on the week. This promises, we hope, cheaper linseed cake, which would be, indeed, a boon to farmers at the present time.

BRITISH GRAIN *(Off Stands).*

November 11.

WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	37	— 40
Red	,,	35	— 39
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	36	— 38
Brewing	,,	33	— 35
Distilling	(per 416 lb.)	31	— 32
New Winter	(per 400 lb.)	27	— 29
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	27	— 28
MALT, Pale (Old)	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 36
Brown ,,	,,	31	— 32
Black ,,	,,	33	— 34
Pale (New) for early Dec. delivery; none offered earlier	,,	39	— 40
OATS, Good Old	,,	22	— 23
Good New	,,	21	— 22
New Winter	,,	20	— 21
Ordinary Old	(per 320 lb.)	21	— 22
Ordinary New	(per 320 lb.)	20	— 21
,, ,,	(per 312 lb.)	19	— 20
RYE, New	(per 480 lb.)	30	— 32
BEANS, Pigeon	(per 532 lb.)	42	— 44
Tick	(per 504 lb.)	35	— 36
Winter	,,	34	— 35
Spring	,,	33	— 34
Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	23	— 24
PEAS, Picked Marrowfat, New	(per 504 lb.)	84	— 88
Unpicked (Old)	,,	52	— 56
Maple (Old)	,,	37	— 38
(New)	,,	36	— 37
Dun (Old)	,,	33	— 35
(New)	,,	34	— 35

FOREIGN GRAIN *(Ex-Granary).*

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba	44	— 45	American	27	— 28
Red Winter	41	— 42	Argentine	26	— 27
Best Spring	44	— 45	Roumanian	26	— 27
Durum	38	— 39	Russian	26	— 27
Argentine	42	— 43	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Australian	43	— 45	Smyrna	37	— 38
Californian	44	— 45	New Zealand	35	— 36
Walla Walla	43	— 44	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Azima	44	— 46	Hungarian	62	— 64
Ghirka	42	— 44	Burmese	37	— 39
Roumanian	43	— 44	Chilian	56	— 64
Indian White	41	— 42	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb):		
,, Red	40	— 41	French	31	— 33
Turkish	39	— 40	Russian	32	— 34
Persian	38	— 39	Canadian	34	— 36
BARLEY:			PEAS (504 lb.):		
Clifor'n (448 lb)	33	— 37	Dutch Crowns	56	— 58
Tunisian (448 lb)	34	— 35	Konigsberg	45	— 47
Algerian (448 lb)	33	— 34	Russian White	37	— 38
Onchak (448 lb)	33	— 35	Indian White	37	— 38
Smyrna (448 lb)	34	— 35	Canadian White	37	— 38
Russian (400 lb)	24	— 25	New Zeal'd Maple	41	— 42
Indian (400 lb)	23	— 24	Victoria Dun	34	— 35
Persian (400 lb)	22	— 23	MILLET (416 lb.):		
MALT (336 lb.):			White	44	— 46
Californian	37	— 38	Yellow	24	— 26
Smyrna	37	— 38	Sorghum	22	— 23
Onchak	36	— 39	RICE (cwt.):		
RYE (480 lb.):			Java	16	— 22
Russian	31	— 33	Indian	17	— 20
OATS:			Japanese	16	— 17
Konigsbg (320 lb)	21	— 22	Burmese	9	— 10
Russian (304 lb)	18	— 19	Siamese	8	— 9
Canadian (320 lb)	21	— 22	DARI (480 lb.):		
Arg'tine (304 lb)	18	— 19	Smyrna	30	— 31
Swedish (320 lb)	21	— 22	Indian	26	— 27
New Zl'd (384 lb)	25	— 26	Persian	24	— 25

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 P.M.

Best London flour is 1s. cheaper on the week, while Town Whites, Town Households, No. 2, and whole meal are all obtainable at a reduction. The country flour arrivals have been above the average, and have told heavily against value. All freight sorts may be quoted 1s. lower to sell from the 4th inst., but they are held more steadily on the whole than are the London and country sorts, which compete severely with each other.

Bran, pollard, and middlings remain dear, but the market is not quite so difficult for buyers as it was a week ago. Large arrivals of rice, flour, meal, and bran are reported, and are offered at a slight reduction in order to effect a prompt clearance.

London Flour.

November 11.

Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	37/0
Town Whites	,,	34/0
,, Households	,,	31/0
No. 2	,,	30/0
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	32/0
,, No. 2	,,	30/0

Country Flour.		s.	s.
Fine Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	29	— 30
Roller Whites	,,	27	— 28
All English	,,	26	— 29
Stone made	,,	25	— 26

Foreign Flour.		s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	33	— 34
,, Second Patents	,,	31	— 32
,, First Bakers'	,,	28	— 29
,, Second Bakers'	,,	27	— 28
Milwaukee Patents	,,	32	— 33
,, Bakers'	,,	29	— 30
Canadian Best	,,	32	— 33
,, Ordinary	,,	30	— 31
Manitoba Patents	,,	32	— 33
,, Ordinary	,,	30	— 31
Kansas Patents	,,	31	— 32
,, Ordinary	,,	30	— 31
Californian	,,	32	— 33
Belgian	,,	36	— 37
Hungarian (net prices)—			
Five Stars	,,	39/0	
G.G.O.	,,	38/6	
P.W.M.	,,	37/6	
Six Anchors	,,	None	

Meal, &c.			
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	17	— 18
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	18	— 19
,, ,, Broad	,,	17	— 18
Pollard	,,	16	— 17
Biscuit Middlings	,,	20	— 21
Fine Middlings	,,	19	— 20
Coarse Middlings	,,	18	— 19
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	20	— 21
Farina Firsts	,,	31	— 32
,, Seconds	,,	29	— 30
Barley Meal	,,	28	— 29
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	28	— 29
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	33	— 34
Groats	,,	34	— 35
Oat Flour	,,	34	— 35
Ground Oats	,,	33	— 34
Poultry Meal	,,	37	— 38
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	21	— 22
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	20	— 21
,, Germ Meal	,,	17	— 18
,, Cones	,,	20	— 21
,, Gluten Meal	,,	17	— 18
Rye Flour	,,	26	— 28
Rye Bran	,,	23	— 24
Pea Meal	,,	25	— 26

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED AT THE DECLINE IN PRICES ABOVE GIVEN. A LITTLE INCREASE IN RETAIL BUSINESS IS INDUCED BY THE SHARPER WEATHER.

THE BALTIC.

A "fire" injured the telephone apparatus and temporarily put the lift out of action at this Club the other day. The affair was trivial, and very few members knew anything about it until they saw a placard of "Alarming Fire in St. Mary Axe." The Club, it may be mentioned, has a well of its own on the premises and could, if necessary, be deluged in a few minutes. The need for further cold water to be thrown upon its proceedings has not, however, been perceived by members of the Club who have been altogether quite sufficiently damped and depressed by the 7 per cent. Bank rate and the consequent desire of many holders to turn their grain into cash. The sales of the week show lower prices ruling for almost articles except Dari rice and pulse. The following are among the cargo sales recorded. Wheat: Argentine 38s. 6d. per 480 lb., Blue Stem 42s. per 500 lb., South Australian 43s. 3d. per 480 lb., White Karachi 42s. 6d. per 492 lb., Red Karachi 42s. per 492 lb., Manitoba No. 1 Northern 39s. 6d. per 480 lb., and No. 2 Hard Winter 37s. 3d. per 480 lb. Maize: Argentine 27s. 6d. per 480 lb., Odessa 26s. per 480 lb., and American 25s. 9d. per 480 lb. Barley: Kustenidje 26s. per 416 lb., and Azoff 25s. 6d. per 400 lb. Oats: Petersburg 17s. 3d. per 304 lb, and Konigsberg 18s. 6d. per 320 lb. Beans: Asia Minor 32s 9d. per 480 lb. Linseed: Argentine 40s. 6d. per 416 lb.

The London Corn Trade Association officials inform us that the following standards may now be inspected:—Gal. Fox, maize, Danube maize, Bessarabian maize, Danube Cinq. maize, Red Danube Cinq. maize, Odessa maize, Novorossisk maize, barley from Taganrog, barley from Nicolaieff, barley from Novorossisk, barley from Cherson, barley from Temruik, barley from Odessa, barley from Marianople, barley from Ghenighesk, all August shipment; barley from Theodosia, August shipment; barley from Kertch, August shipment; Persian barley, July shipment; barley from Casablanca, July-August shipment; barley from Mazagan, June-July shipment; barley from Saffi; July-August shipment; barley from Oram, July-August shipment; barley from Tunis, August shipment; barley from Algiers, August shipment.

Monday, 1 P.M.

State of Trade.

Russian, Californian, and Australian wheat cargoes are firm, but American and Indian are lower. Maize is against holders, irrespective of type. Barley has ceased to decline for feeding sorts, and malting is extremely scarce. Oats are 3d. lower from Saturday. Linseed cargoes are 6d. cheaper from Saturday, but Cottonseed is steady at last week's concession, and there is a fair sale for small cargoes or "parcels" of Sesame and Poppyseed.

Business Done.

Wheat.—Durum, 35s 9d per 480 lb, on passage; Red Karachi, 38s 3d per 492 lb, on passage; Red Karachi, 38s per 492 lb, arrived; Red Karachi, 39s 6d per 492 lb, January shipment; White Karachi, 40s 3d per 492 lb, January shipment; Argentine, 37s per 480 lb, February shipment, new crop; Russian Best Winter, 45s 6d per 492 lb, on passage; Russian Odessa Ghirka, 43s 6d per 492 lb, on passage; Walla Walla, 41s 3d per 500 lb, on passage; Californian, 41s 9d per 500 lb, on passage.

Maize.—Argentine, 25s 6d per 480 lb, arrived; American, 25s 3d per 480 lb, January shipmen (new crop).

Barley.—Californian, 38s per 448 lb, prompt shipment; French, 37s per 448 lb, prompt shipment; Anatolian, 33s per 448 lb, prompt shipment; Orzoida, 32s per 448 lb, prompt shipment; Tunisian, 32s per 448 lb, prompt shipment; Cyprian, 26s per 400 lb, prompt shipment; Russian, 25s per 400 lb, prompt shipment; Persian, 22s 9d per 400 lb, prompt shipment.

Oats.—Turkish, 17s per 304 lb, prompt shipment; North German, 19s per 320 lb, prompt shipment

Linseed.—Calcutta, 45s 6d per 410 lb, arrived; Duluth, 44s 6d per 416 lb, prompt shipment.

Rapeseed —Ferozepore, 54s 6d per 416 lb, March shipment; Jamba, 45s per 416 lb, prompt shipment.

Sesame, Indian, 62s 9d per 384 lb, prompt shipment.

Poppyseed, Indian, 60s per 377 lb, April shipment, new crop.

Cottonseed, Egyptian, 7s per cwt, on passage.

TERM MARKET.

Speculation is inert, but delivery can be obtained of wheat and maize at the following prices per cental (100 lb).

Red Winter Wheat	7s. 11d.	per cental,	November	delivery
,, ,,	8s. 0d.	,,	December	delivery.
,, ,,	7s 11d.	,,	1908	delivery
Maize—				
Mixed American,	5s. 8d.	,,	Nov.	,,
,, ,,	5s. 7d.	,,	Dec.	,,
,, ,,	5s. 6d.	,,	1906	,,
Maize—				
Argentine yellow	5s. 5d.	,,	Nov.	,,

SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—The phenomenal rise in the Bank Rate seems to have checked business for the moment. Rape is firm. Mustard unchanged. Peas a steady business. Rye scarce. Winter tare quiet. In clovers, whites and Alsikes firm; reds and trefoils rising. In grasses good business passing. Prices very firm for Italians and Perennials.—John Pickard and Co.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply; trade quiet. Quotations: Hay, £3 to £3 15s per ton; straw, no quotations.

Derby, Friday.—Clover, best old, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; hay, best old, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; seconds, 65s to 70s; straw—wheat, 60s to 70s; pressed, 50s to 60s; chop, 55s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s.

Hereford, Wednesday. — A dull trade. Quotations:—Hay, 50s to 55s per ton (in stack); straw, 25s to 30s (in bulk).

Lancaster, Saturday.—Meadow hay, 6d; clover, 7d; wheat straw, 3½d to 4d; oat straw, 4d per stone.

Leeds, Tuesday. — A good selling trade is passing in the warehouses for hay and straw at the following firm and unchanged quotations:—Old clover hay, 7½d; ditto meadow hay, 7d; best new clover hay, 7d; ditto meadow, 6½d; wheat straw 5d; oat straw, 5d; and rye straw (retail), 7d to 8½d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—A good supply and moderate demand. Best hay and seeds, 55s to 60s; ditto secondary, 45s to 50s per ton on the ground; straw, 30s per ton at the stack.

Manchester, Friday. — Hay, 5d to 5½d; clover, 5d to 6½d; clover, Lincoln, 7d; straw, wheat, 2½d to 2¾d; oat, 2¾d to 3¼d per stone.

Nottingham, Wednesday.—Large supplies which met with a slow trade Quotations:—Inferior to good hay, 40s to 60s; prime ditto, 70s to 80s; inferior to good clover, 40s to 60s; prime ditto, 75s to 85s; wheat straw, 45s to 50s; swede turnips, 19s to 20s; old hay, 95s to 100s; old seeds, 95s to 100s per ton.

Sheffield, Tuesday. — Moderate supplies. Seeds, choice, £4 5s to £4 15s; meadow hay, £3 15s to £4 5s; straw, £2 10s to £3; turnips, 22s; ditto, common, 20s per ton.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Small arrivals met a good demand at late prices: Best clover, 84s to 95s; inferior ditto, 72s to 80s; specially-picked hay, 85s; good ditto, 68s to 78s; inferior ditto, 55s to 63s; mixture and sainfoin, 70s to 82s 6d; straw, 28s to 33s per load.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Altrincham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Appleby: 1s to 1s 2d. Barnstaple: 1s 1d. Berwick: 8d to 1s. Birmingham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Camelford: 11d. Carlisle: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Chester: 1s 2d. Dartmouth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Derby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Devizes: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Doncaster 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Dorchester: 1s to 1s 3d. Evesham: 1s to 1s 4d. Hereford: 1s to 1s 3d. Ipswich: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Kidderminster: 1s 2d. Lincoln: 1s to 1s 1d. Market Drayton: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Otley: 1s 8d per 24 oz roll. Penrith: 1s to 1s 3d. Penzance: 1s to 1s 2d. Plymouth: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Preston: 1s 3d. Retford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Ripon: 1s 8d to 1s 9d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Spalding: 1s. Stamford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Stockport: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Stockton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Totnes: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Truro: 10d to 1s. Wellington (Salop): 1s 1d to 1s 2d Worcester: 11d to 1s 3d. Worksop: 1s 3d to 1s 5d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Altrincham: 5 and 6. Appleby: 6 and 7. Barnstaple: 7. Berwick: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per doz. Birmingham: 6 and 7. Camelford: 8 Carlisle: 5. Chester: 7. Dartmouth: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per doz. Derby: 6 and 7. Devizes: 7 and 8. Doncaster: 6 and 7. Dorchester: 1s 9d to 1s 11d per doz. Evesham: 1s to 1s 4d per doz. Hereford: 7 and 8. Ipswich: 8. Kidderminster. 7. Lancaster: 5 and 5. Lincoln: 8 and 9. Market Drayton: 7 to 8 Otley: 6. Penrith: 5 to 6. Penzance: 1s 9d to 1s 10d per dozen. Plymouth: 6. Preston: 5 and 6. Retford: 2s 7d to 2s 8d per score. Ripon: 7 and 8. Scarborough: 7. Spalding: 8. Stamford: 8 and 9. Stockport: 5 and 6. Stockton: 5 to 6. Totnes: 5 and 6. Truro: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per dozen. Wellington (Salop): 6 to 8. Worcester: Worksop: 2s 5d to 2s 7d per score. York: 6 and 7.

WET AND DRIED GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Wet Grains: With a good trade, prices show a further advance during the week. Business has been done at 21s to 22s 6d ale, and porter 3s per ton less, on rail, London. Present slack brewings may cause a further advance. Dried Grains.—Prices continue firm with an upward tendency, due to the higher prices of wet grains and the colder weather, prices, 110s and 105s for ale and mixed respectively, free on rail London, bags, 6d each. Best Java Molasses.—Concrete, 70 per cent. sugar, in baskets, 85s per ton, and kiln dried sea-damaged wheat from 22s 6d per qr, on rail, London and elsewhere.—Hamlyn and Co.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Nov. 11, 1907. British.	Total.	Monday, Nov. 12, 1906.
Beasts	1,190	1,190	1,390
Sheep and Lambs	3,840	3,840	4,660
Calves	10	10	20
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	30	30	40

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 6	3 4	4 8
Sheep	4 8	5 4	6 2
Lambs	—	6 0	6 8
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £23.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 10; Eastern Counties, 36; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 1,024; Devon, 20; Ireland, 100.

We note to-day a decrease of 40 in the number of beasts offered for sale compared with Monday last, the majority of which arrived from the Midland Counties and Ireland. Our top quotation was reached by a few cross-bred Scotch cattle. For both prime and second quality English beasts trade ruled of a slow nature, but steady in regard to value. The Irish consignment consisted of 61 Dublins, and 39 Waterfords, the latter meeting with more inquiry at an advance on last week's currencies. Fat butchering cows and bulls again met with a limited demand at late rates. A clearance will be made in this part of the market to day.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s d	s d	Monday, Nov. 12, 1906. s d	s d
Scotch Cross-breds	4 6 to 4 8	...	4 10 to 5 0	
Devons	4 4 to 4 6	...	4 4 to 4 6	
Herefords	4 4 to 4 6	...	4 4 to 4 6	
Norfolks	— —	...	— —	
Ruots	4 2 to 4 4	...	4 0 to 4 4	
Lincolns	3 10 to 4 0	...	3 8 to 3 10	
Irish	4 0 to 4 2	...	3 10 to 4 2	
Canadian	— —	...	— —	
Fat cows	3 4 ex 3 6	...	2 10 to 3 6	

There was a decrease of 620 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. For all grades of English wethers and ewes trade ruled of a slow nature, all sales being based on last Monday's currencies Scotch descriptions numbered precisely the same, and experienced no alteration in regard to value, whilst Irish sheep were 2d. per 8 lb. higher for anything small and choice. A few lambs were disposed of at late rates. The supply included 300 Scotch, 770 Irish, and 312 from the Eastern Counties. A clearance is expected to be made.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, Nov. 12, 1906. s. d.	s. d.
8 st. Scotch	6 0 to 6	2	6 2 to 6	4
7½ to 8 st Downs	5 10 to 6	0	6 2 to 6	4
9 st. Downs	5 8 to 5	10	5 10 to 6	0
10 st Halfbreds	5 4 to 5	6	5 8 to 5	10
10 st Yorkshires	—		—	
12 st Lincolns	—		—	
10 st Irish	5 4 to 5	6	5 2 to 5	4
10 st Down Ewes	4 0 to 4	2	4 2 to 4	4
11 st Halfbred ditto	3 10 to 4	0	4 0 to 4	2
5 st Down Lambs	6 6 to 6	8	—	
6 st Halfbred ditto	—		—	

Calf trade not worth noting or quoting. No pigs on the market.

St. Ives (Hunts) Monday.—Beasts, 829; sheep, 433; pigs, 468; horses 41. Fat and store cattle a fair trade; fat and store sheep sharp trade; fat and store pigs fair; milch cows a fair show and in good demand. Prices: Beef, 7s to 7s 9d; mutton, 8s 2d to 11s 1d; pork, 6s 3d to7s; milch cows, £14 to £23.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—To-day's supply showed a decrease of 72 head, and consisted of 230 from the United States, 105 Westerns, 108 Canadians, and 300 Canadian ranch cattle. Trade ruled of a firm and steady nature both in regard to tone and value. The best States on offer were quoted at from 4s 3d to 4s 4d; seconds, 4s to 4s 2d; Westerns, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; seconds, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; Canadian fat cattle, 3s 11d to 4s 1d; seconds 3s 8d to 3s 10d; Ranchers, 3s 2d to 3s 4d per 8 lb (offal given in). On Saturday 1,271 beasts from the United States, and 353 from Canadian (118 of which were ranch cattle) were offered for sale. Trade rule of a firm and steady nature at an advance in value. Best States on offer made from 4s 2d to 4s 4d; seconds, 4s to 4s 2d; Canadians, 3s 11d to 4s 1d; seconds, 3s 7d to 3s 9d. The Canadian ranch cattle were not sold. Besides the above 500 States and 600 Canadians were withheld from sale.

Liverpool, Monday.—There was a smaller supply of cattle and demand slow, best prices generally unchanged. Small increase in number of sheep on offer, and trade slow with last week's advance difficult to sustain, tendency being to Easter. Prices:—Beef, 6¾d to 4½d; mutton, 9d to 6d per lb. At market 1,388 cattle and 5,472 sheep. Christmas market will be held Monday, December 16.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday. — Linseed Cake.—Trade is quiet, and prices are barely as firm, though there are no signs of weakening on the part of home crushers. Foreign makes offer sparingly.

Cotton Cake.—A fair business doing in Egyptian-made, and the one or two recent heavy arrivals have been worked off considerately. London-made are without change.

Linseed —Owing principally to the monetary situation and favourable reports from the Plate the market eased at about 1s. per qr. during the past week.

Linseed Cakes.	£ s. d.	Per ton. £ s. d.
English Linseed Cake, ex mill	7 17 6 to 8	0 0
Calcutta Linseed Cake, ex quay	7 17 6	—
Western Linseed, ex quay	—	—
Western Linseed ex quay	—	—
Russian Oil Cake ex quay	7 15 6 to 7	17 6
Decorticated Cotton Cake ex quay	7 7 6	7 15 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal ex quay	7 7 6	—
London-made ,, Cake (best) ex mill...	5 2 6	—
Egyptian ,, Cake (in bags) ex quay	4 18 9 to 5	0 0
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains on rail, Burton	5 7 6	—
Duluth Linseed (in bags), per 416 lb ex warehouse	2 9 0	—
Calcutta Linseed (in bags), per 410 lb ex warehouse	2 8 0	—
La Plata Linseed per 416 lb. ex warehouse	2 7 6 to 2	13 0
Russian Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb ex warehouse	2 8 0	—

—Robt. & John Hewetson.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were:—From Ireland, 3,013 bales, and from foreign ports, 15,096 bales. At the general reduction in prices on Friday there was a steadier tone in the market. Quotations ranged:—Irish, 56s to 58s up to 61s; Danish, 54s to 57s up to 61s; Canadian, 56s to 58s. Butter: The butter market was quiet. French, 108s to 110s; Danish, 124s to 126s; Russian, 90s to 114s; Irish, 97s to 121s; Victorian, 94s to 122s; New South Wales, 94s to 122s; Queensland, 90s to 120s; New Zealand, 112s to 122s. Lard.—Lard was a steady market. Irish, 50s to 58s; Danish, 51s to 53s; American, 46s 6d to 47s 9d.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

Offals.—Bran continues in fair demand; no change to report in prices.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Flour.—Not much doing; demand slow. Prices generally, as compared with last week, 6d to 1s per sack in buyers' favour.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Flour.—Markets are so unsettled that the business doing is extremely limited. Grain.—Round and flat corn in poor demand at prices in buyers' favour. Beans the turn lower. No pease here. Oilcake quiet. Oats of inferior quality very plentiful and difficult to sell. Oatmeal 6d lower. Mill stuffs in lessened demand, but unchanged in price. Winter wheat patents, 30s 6d to 31s per 280 lb; spring wheat patents, 32s 6d to 33s per 280 lb; American corn, 16s 3d to 16s 4½d per 280 lb; round corn, 15s 10½d to 16s per 280 lb; grinding beans, 18s 9d to 19s per 280 lb; broad bran, 117s 6d to £6 per ton; medium bran, 112s 6d per ton; common thirds, 115s to 117s 6d per ton; fine thirds, 140s to 142s 6d per ton; American oilcake, 150s to 152s 6d per ton.—McKinnon and McDonald (Glasgow).

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington Cattle Market on Monday there was a slight decrease in the number of beasts on offer, consisting chiefly of consignments from the Midland, Home, and Western Counties, with a few Scotch and Devons, the former of which commanded our top quotations, whilst the latter experienced a fall in value. All other grades of both prime and second quality fat beasts met with a slow trade, but salesmen were able to maintain late rates in most cases. The Irish arrivals consisted of 66 Dublins, 48 Waterfords, and 20 store cattle (two-year-old heifers), which were quoted at from £9 10s. to £10 per head, but met with little inquiry. The former were also difficult to vend; however, no lower rates are quotable. All sales of fat butchering cows and bulls were governed by late currencies. On Thursday, with a short number of beasts on offer, trade was very dull, but no alteration in value can be recorded.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, on all three market days, a fair average number of cattle were offered for sale, some of which were of rather inferior quality, trade throughout the week ruled of a slow nature at a decline in value. The total number on offer at both markets was 3,939, as against 3,977 during the preceding week, consisting of 1,300 British (decrease 90) and 2,639 foreign (decrease 64), comprising 1,821 from the United States, 209 Western, and 609 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 stone Scotch cross-breds, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 4d. ex 4s. 6d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 95 stone Irish, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 90 stone States, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 7d. to 3s. 9d.; ranchers, 3s. to 3s. 2d.; Western, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d. ex 3s. 6d.

The sheep trade, as usual of late, was confined to the Islington market, and opened on Monday of an extremely slow nature, both for wethers and ewes; however, late rates governed most transactions. Scotch descriptions sold well, late values being easy to maintain, whilst Irish were difficult to vend, even at a decline of 2d. per 8 lb. A few lambs were offered for sale on Monday and cleared early in the day. On Thursday all sales were based on Monday's prices. The total number penned at both markets was 4,490, as against 4,370 during the previous week, showing an increase of 120. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 8 stone Scotch, 6s. to 6s. 2d.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone halfbreds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 5 stone fat Down lambs, 6s. 6d. to 6s. 8d.

Only 15 calves on the market; trade nominal. No pigs on offer.

Trade in the West.

Only very moderate deliveries of any kind of stores have come to hand at the leading centres since our last report, due, no doubt, to the fact that keep being again very plentiful stockowners are keeping supplies back, especially of graziers, to feed down pastures which otherwise could not be turned to profitable account. Another thing is that the barrener season has scarcely yet begun, although where anything at all suitable for wintering has been available buyers have by no means been slow to seize the opportunity. In these cases young cattle of good promise have brought exceedingly good prices, and we must quote bullocks of this class — whether Devons, shorthorns or cross-breds — as showing an advance of from £1 to £2 a head on prices recently current, which is generally considered satisfactory in view of the prices recently ruling for beef. The present mild weather, coupled with the absence of frost to any serious extent, is no doubt a factor largely influencing present purchases, as there is still a superabundance of feed on most farms for all outlying stock, which is only necessary to be supplemented by a few roots for stock kept for dairying purposes solely. There has been no falling off during the week in the demand for milch beasts, the supply of which still continues altogether inadequate. As regards prices, sellers still continue to get the best of all transactions, more especially in the case of heifers in their prime as milchers, these bringing £17 up to £23 and £24 apiece for anything out of the common and at all suitable for town milk walks, in many of which the "weeding-out" process is still in operation, indifferent milchers being replaced by others of the best possible type. There is likewise a good inquiry for the plainer class of dairy stock, which sell readily from £16 10s. down to £13 or £14, and some for even less; in fact, the present is one of the very best periods we ever remember for milch beasts, taken all through; and, while the consumption of milk continues to grow as it does there seems very little prospect of anything at all suitable for dairy purposes becoming even in the slightest degree cheaper—at least, that is the view of all who claim to have any practical knowledge of the subject.

The sheep sales for the season, with one or two unimportant exceptions, are now practically at an end, and 1907 will undoubtedly long stand out as a record one in many respects, not only as regards the abnormal demand, but still more so—largely the result of the shortage of sheep in the country—for the exceptionally high prices which have ruled, and for which there is no parallel in recent years. A still more remarkable feature is to be found in the fact that the season closed with a much firmer tone and even better prices for culled sheep than were realised at the beginning of the season for full drafts—the pick of the flock. A general run for very plain ewes at present is from 45s. to 58s.; Chilver lambs, 42s. to 55s.; wether lambs, 38s. up to 57s. for high condition lots; couples, 63s. to 70s.

There is nothing very noteworthy to record concerning the market for fat stock, the general conditions of which are characterised by uniform steadiness as regards demand, whilst in regard to prices we must quote all the bettermost qualities as quite holding their own, whilst secondary grades slighly favour the buyer, though this is hardly to an extent to justify quoting a lower currency. The most noticeable feature is an absence of that robustness which often characterises operations in the fat stock market, this applying alike to beef and mutton. Amongst the beef now coming out is to be found a few Devons, Shorthorns, and Norfolks of really good finish, for the best of which sellers are making 11s. to 12s. per score, with a fairly quick sale at the price; but the ordinary runs of cows are slower of sale at 10s. to 10s. 6d. for the best grades, and 9s. to 9s. 6d. for anything distinctly rough. Veal, which is none too plentiful, is a good steady trade at 8½d. to 9d. per lb., nothing but plain calves selling for less money. Mutton just now includes some exceptionally good tegs and wethers of nice finish, which sell up to 9d. per lb. and over; ewes must be quoted at 7d. to 8d; sucking lamb sells well up to 10d., and heavy young mutton at 9d. to 9½d. Pigs steady trade at prices rather favouring buyers.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer has been just about an average, and the quality slightly improved. An active trade has been experienced, and prices on an average 15s. per head higher. A small supply of fat cows also met a slightly better market. Sheep and lambs have been shown in fair numbers. These have met a good inquiry at a rise of from 1s. to nearly 2s. per head. Fat calves very dear, while pigs just maintain previous prices. There was a much smaller supply of store sheep on offer, principally of a very secondary class. A clearance was effected without any quotable change in prices. "Hallow Fair" being next week the supply of store cattle was much smaller. There was a fair demand, and although trade was slow, a good clearance was effected at prices just the turn higher. Milch cows a small show, and very dear. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 40s.; current, 35s. to 37s.; mutton, 6d. to quite 9½d. per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Ltd.

Trade in Ireland

There was a large attendance of home and cross-Channel buyers in the Dublin market on Tuesday last, and the offerings of both cattle and sheep were better than at the market of the previous week. However, the number of stock shown were not up to the usual average at this time of the year. A tolerably healthy tone pervaded the beef market, and choice stock more than maintained the prices got last week. Good medium and second-grade descriptions of beasts also held their own well, but coarse and lean cattle were hard to dispose of. The top price for choice cattle was about from 31s. to 32s. per cwt. (live weight). The dead weight price of best beef ranged from 50s. to 53s., and 54s. to 55s. per cwt. for very choice, 46s. to 50s. for second quality, and from 42s. to 45s. per cwt. The highest price (£22 5s each) was got by Messrs. Duffy, Mangan, and Butler, for a lot of very fine bullocks which were bought by an English buyer. They were fed at Ratsath, co. Meath, by Mr. M'Cabe.

There was a slow sale in the mutton market, especially in the heavy and coarse classes. Choice handy weight sheep about maintained their price, hoggets sold very disappointingly. Big shipments of Irelandand Dutch sheepto England pretty well spoiled the Irish trade. Horned sheep were largely in evidence in Dublin market, but did not sell well. Prime wether mutton was sold at from 7d. to 7½d. per lb, ewe mutton at from 6d. to 6½d.; and inferior sheep at from 5d. upward per lb. Heavy hoggets sold at from 46s. to 56s. each, and small to medium ditto at from 34s. to 44s. each. Not many lambs on sale, as the season is now over. Best fat lambs made from 34s. to 44s. each; other sorts from 24s. to 30s., according to size and quality.

Veal calves were a poor lot, and did not attract much attention. A few choice calves made from 7½d. to 8½d. per lb.; other calves were sold from 4½d. per lb. upwards.

There was a tolerably big supply in the pig market on Thursday, and English buyers were more numerous than at the market held that day week. In the early hours trade was more encouraging than the previous market day, but, unfortunately, the stir fell away as the day wore on, and buying became very slumpy, and a drop of from 1s. to 2s. per cwt. took place, and later on was 2s. to 3s. worse on the day. The local demand was very slow and cautious, and both pork butchers and curers were very slow in their purchases. Best light-weight pigs made 46s. to 47s. 6d. per cwt., heavy pigs from 44s. to 46s., and coarse pigs from 40s. to 42s. per cwt. The local markets do not give much encouragement to feeders at present.

The dairy cow supply was fully equal to the demand, and trade was slow as compared with late markets. First-class milch cows, however, sold fairly well bringing from £16 to £20 each. Mr. Gavan Low had a large sale, the catalogue containing over 1,200 head. They sold well considering the state of the cattle market at present.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday — Fair supplies and trade slow, but prices fairly firm for best meat. English beef, 3s 4d to 3s 7d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 2d to 3s 7d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 4s to 4s 4d; ditto, seconds, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; ditto, forequarters, 2s 2d to 2s 6d; inferior beef, 2s 2d to 2s 8d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s; ditto, tegs, 5s; ditto, ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; Dutch sheep, 4s to 4s 4d; English lamb, 4s 8d to 5s; veal, 3s 8d to 4s 8d; English pork, 3s 8d to 4s 4d; Dutch ditto, 3s 8d to 4s 2d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—To day's supply of beasts consisted entirely of fat cows, bulls, and and rough cattle from South-Western counties, for which a very slow trade was experienced. Top values per 8 lb:—3s 4d, extreme 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 6d to 3s. A decrease of 30 in the number penned in sheep market compared with Thursday last. Both wethers and ewes met a very limited demand, sellers, however, were not willing to accept any decline on late rates. Best pens made per 8 lb as follows:—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s 10d to 6s; 9 stone ditto, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10 stone ditto, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10 stone half-breds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s to 4s 2d. Calf trade not worth noting. Quotations per 8 lb, sinking the offal:—Beasts, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; sheep, 4s to 6s.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef sold slowly at late rates, the best and heifers making up to 4s 8d, and secondary 4s to 4s 2d. Mutton rather sparingly offered, and full prices given; small Downs up to 6s; neat Kents to 5s 10d; barrens to 4s per stone. Veal: Good demand and dearer, 5s to 5s 8d. Roasting pigs dearer, best making 4s to 4s 2d.

Aylesbury, Wednesday.—Good supplies of stock come to hand consisting of 435 fat sheep and 480 fat beasts. Trade was slow in both departments, and prices ruled in favour of buyers. Ripe bullocks and heifers met a fair inquiry, but for secondary sorts there was practically no competition. Wethers realised up to 50s 6d; ewes, 40s; tegs, 44s 6d; heifers, £18 2s 6d; and bullocks, £23 10s.

Bath, Wednesday.—There was a moderate attendance, and the supply of sheep was good. Fat cows, £16 10s to £20; fat heifers, £14 10s to £19 5s; fat calves, 40s to 81s; fat tegs, 46s 6d to 69s; fat ewes, 40s to 43s.

Berwick, Saturday.—Attendance of farmers and buyers fair, and a steady trade. Calves, £5 10s to £6 15s; heifers, £7 to £10 10s; stirks, £9 to £12; two-year-olds, £12 to £13 15s; three-year-olds, £13 to £14 15s

Birmingham, Thursday.—Good supply of pigs; small supply of beasts and sheep; trade slow. Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; Herefords, 6½d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8½d per lb; bacon pigs, 8s 9d to 8s 10d per score; cutting pigs, 9s to 9s 6d per score; sows, 7s per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Beef was plentiful, but demand limited, and trade slow at last week's prices. Mutton and lamb were offered in moderate quantity, and a fair amount of business passed at recent quotations. Pigs were not numerous, and value of porkers declined 9d. to 10s per score.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There was a fair offering of horned stock to-day; average yearling bullocks were sold at from £7 to £8, and good two-year-old heifers, £8 5s to £10 15s. There was a fair but not particularly fast demand. Good toothed ewes were making from 31s to 36s 6d, and rougher lots from 22s to 30s; lambs, 25s 6d to 35s; wether tegs, from 33s to 45s 6d per head.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small attendance of buyers, and a slow trade. Wintering heifers, £6 to £8 10s; better descriptions, to £10 10s; stall-feeding cattle, £12 10s to £14 10s; polled bullocks, £5 to £6 10s; and better descriptions to £12 10s each.

Chester, Thursday.—A good supply of stock, with fair attendance of dealers. Store stock was in limited demand, but dairy cattle again met a brisk trade, the supply still being short of market requirements. Quotations:—Milch cows, £16 to £23; calvers, £15 to £20; barrens, £10 to £13; heifers, £9 to £14; bullocks, £8 to £14, and stirks, £6 to £9 each.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Trade for fat sheep was steady at about late rates, There was a very good trade for working lambs, but three-parts fat lambs were easier. For well finished cattle there was plenty of inquiry at firm values, but half-fat cattle and rough cows met a very dragging sale. Good fresh-colved cows and heifers fully maintained late rates, but there was very little demand for inferior animals. Quotations:—Devon steers, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; Shorthorn steers, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; Southdown tegs, 6s 6d to 6s 8d; West Country tegs, 6s 2d to 6s 6d; West Down ewes, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; Southdown ewes, 4s 6d to 5s; fat calves, 5s to 5s 6d; porkers, 3s 10d to 4s 4d.

Colchester, Saturday.—Beef sold at 4s 6d, and mutton 6s per stone of 8lb. Pork was cheaper, selling at 7s 6d per score.

Derby, Tuesday.—A good attendance. Prices of best beasts unchanged. Sheep h d a higher tendency. Beasts, 5½d to 6½d; calves, 7½d; sheep, 7½d to 9d.

Doncaster, Saturday. — Large supply of cattle, but the bulk were Irish stores. A good attendance of buyers, and a moderate trade, but prices unchanged, though firm. Milch beasts, £17 to £23; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers and drapes, £12 to £16; stirks, £9 to £11; young stock, £7 to £9 each. Sheep trade slower, the supply being less and prices a little easier. Ewes, 44s to 53s; lambs, 40s to 46s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Very good deliveries of stock, more particularly of fat and store cattle, were made at to-day's market both at Messrs. Duke's and also at Messrs. Symonds and Sampson's sales, at each of which were many useful milch beasts and graziers, as well as fat bullocks. The weather was scarcely of a character to stimulate business, but all the more useful descriptions sold readily at extremely good prices, especially milch beasts, which ranged from £17 10s up to about £21, for the more serviceable grades, which were in eager request; plainer grades (mostly cows) sold from £13 up to £17; in-calvers, £10 to £15 10. Young barreners in fresh condition made £22 to £26 per pair, and others £16 to £21. Fat beasts, of which there were some rare steers and heifers on offer, sold readily from £16 10s to about £22 each (or 11s to 11s 6d per score), seconds, principally cows, ranging from 9s 6d to 10s 6d. Mutton trade slow at late values, anything of good finish, either in the way of tegs or wethers, being still quoted at 8½d to 9d, and ewes 7d to 8d.

Dublin, Thursday.—Firmer trade for best cattle, all other sorts easier sold, and a fair clearance effected. Choice suitable sheep for home and export purposes made last week's prices. Ewes and heavy qualities a weaker trade, and not so easily placed. Horneys neglected. Cattle—Live weight (best), 29s to 31s per cwt; cross-bred Angus, 32s to 33s per cwt; secondary qualities, 26s to 28s per cwt. Mutton (dead weight), 6½d to 7½d per lb; extreme, 7¾d per lb.—Ganly, Sons, and Co.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Fair trade but very small supplies. Sheep: Cheviot Dinmonts to 28s; Cheviot ewes to 28s 6d; half-bred sheep to 41s; half-bred ewes to 30s; half-bred lambs to 26s; Cheviot lambs to 27s. Polled cattle to £14; horned cattle to £13; stirks, to £10 10s. Cows: Shorthorns to £26; Irish to £19 10s: Ayrshires to £18 18s.

Exeter, Friday.—Small supply of fat beasts. Best quality steers and maiden heifers, 11s to 11s 3d per score; cows, 10s; some unsold. Immense supply of sheep of all kinds; small size wethers, 9d per lb; large size, 8½d; old wethers, 8d; good supply of ewes, but poor demand, general price, 6½d, nearly all sold. Still a large number of lambs for turnips, sold from 34s to 36s each. Calves, 7d per lb.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Fewer cattle marketed, and demand experienced for prime handy quality was firm, prices realised being higher. Secondary classes also met sharper inquiry. Top, 63s to 65s; secondary, 56s to 58s per cwt. Smaller numbers of sheep penned. Young sheep were scarce, consequently sold dear. Wethers of quality met active demand. Prime ewes scarce and dear. Best mutton, 9d to 9½d; secondary, 8d to 8½d per lb.

Gloucester, Saturday. — Messrs. Bruton, Knowles, and Co. report their sales as follows:—Cows and calves: There was a large supply of cows and calves, which met an excellent trade, some of the prices being £23 15s, £23 10s, £23, £22 10s, £22 5s, £22, £21 15s, &c. Store cattle: Again a good supply of store cattle, with trade quite as good as last week.

Hereford, Wednesday.—There were nearly half as many cattle brought as were wanted, and with the exception of some prime bullocks under the hammer which made 6½d per lb, there was no beef higher than 6d. Calves were a short supply, and had a quiet trade; veal about 6d. The sheep trade also was not quite so firm, quality varying very much. Wethers and tegs made hardly 8d, fat ewes 6½d. Pigs were down in price all round. Little stores plentiful and cheap.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report an average supply of fat cattle, the best yard-fed animals realising 9s per stone. A large show of grazing cattle consisting of North country Shorthorns, Polled Irish, Cumberland heifers and Blue Greys. Buyers were well represented, and a fair selling trade was experienced at rather lower prices, but a good clearance was effected. North country heifers suitable for breeding made from £12 7s 6d to £8 15s; Shorthorn steers, 20 months old, £12 to £10 10s; 18 to 16 months, £10 to £7 10s; yearlings, £7 5s to £6 2s 6d; Westmoreland calves, £4 to £6; Polled Scots, £10 10s. Good cows and heifers were in demand up to £23, but secondary sorts were dull. Fat sheep sold freely, good hoggets being scarce and dear. Grazing sheep in fair request, half-bred lambs to 45s, Suffolks to 42s. Fat swine dearer.

Leicester, Saturday.—Smaller consignments of home-bred stock. Trade ruled quiet. Choice milch cows, £20 to £22; good lots, £18 to £19; secondary, £14 to £16; heifers, £9 to £17; Shorthorn bullocks, £10 to £13 10s; Welsh cattle, £10 to £14; young stock, £5 to £7; and calves, 20s to 38s each. Sheep sold freely at 50s to 54s for ewes, and 28s to 34s for hoggs.

Lincoln, Friday.—A fair consignment of horned stock, and a ready trade. Young beasts, £9 to £12; strong ditto, £14 to £18; milch cows, £17 to £23 each. The sheep pens were poorly filled, and business ruled brisk. Young ewes, 34s to 40s; lambs, 34s to 44s each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—A rather smaller show of fat beasts than last week, and trade at late rates, 7s to 7s 9d per stone; stores were an average supply, and met slow trade, making from £6 to £18 each. Small show of fat sheep experienced a slow trade, and fetched late rates, 9s to 10s per stone, and some made 10s 6d. A few stores 45s to 50s, store lambs 35s each.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: First-class, 5d; second-class, 4d to 4½d; third-class, 3d to 3½d per lb. Mutton: Firsts, 7¾d; seconds, 6¾d to 7¼d; thirds, 5¾d to 6¼d. Veal: Firsts, 6¾d; seconds, 5¾d to 6¼d; thirds, 4¾d to 5¼d per lb. Bacon pigs: Firsts, 5d; seconds, 4d to 4½d; thirds, 3d to 3½d. Porket pigs: Firsts, 6¾d; seconds, 6½d to 6½d; thirds, 5¾d to 6d per lb

Newcastle, Tuesday.—The supply of cattle was very good, and trade was a shade firmer, but prices were not quotably altered. Quotations:—Prime heifers, 7s 3d to 7s 6d; second class, 6s 9d to 7s; prime steers, 7s to 7s 3d; second class, 6s 9d to 7s; coarse and inferior, 6s to 6s 6d per stone, sinking the offal. Sheep and lambs were a slightly smaller supply, but trade was a shade firmer at an advance of ½d for choice qualities. Quotations:—Choice young sheep, 8½d to 9d; strong heavy, 8d to 8½d; choice hoggs, 8¾d to 9d; second class, 8½d to 8¾d; ewes, 6d to 6¾d; rams, 5d to 6d per lb. Calves were a small supply. Veal was rather firmer at ½d advance, bringing 5½d to 7¾d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—Plentiful supply of cattle. Short supply of sheep, lambs, and calves. Large attendance and good trade. The quotations were:—Best beef, 6½d; seconds, 6d; cows, 4¾d to 5d; best wether mutton, 8½d to 8¾d; ewes, 7d; lambs, 9½d; calves, 7½d; porker pigs, 10s 3d to 10s 9d per score; baconers, 9s.

Norwich, Saturday.—Fat cattle were shown in larger numbers, and for all the best stall-fed beasts there was a good trade at 8s per stone; grass-fed cattle made 7s 9d, while secondary qualities made better prices than last week, 7s to 7s 6d. A small show of sheep, and trade was about the same as last week; some hoggets made 9½d per lb, but the general run was for from 9d to 9¼d; no secondary or inferior sorts on offer. Pigs were a good show; baconers were lower at 6s to 6s 3d per stone, while porkers made from 6s 6d and sows 5s 3d. There were 1,000 fewer store cattle exposed; trade was slower. The best two and three-year-olds made from £14 10s to £17; yearlings, £8 to £10 10s; and younger cattle £5 to £7. Rearing calves were dearer, prices ranging from 20s to 60s per head. Sheep were a small show; trade was slow and dear, prices ranging from 31s to 50s. Pigs were a good show, and trade was unchanged at from 10s to 25s per head. Numbers in open market: Cattle, 4,956; sheep, 760.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Good supply of stock, trade fairly brisk. In-calf cows, £18 to £23 each; in-calf heifers £14 to £18 10s; and calves, 25s to 55s. Official returns:—283 beasts and 63 calves.

Preston, Wednesday.—The show of stock was smaller than last week, but was of fairly good quality, and prices were a trifle firmer in all departments. Quotations:—Choice heifers made up to 6½d; secondary, 6d; choice cows and bulls, 5¾d; secondary, 4¾d to 5d; choice lambs, 9d; secondary, 8d to 8½d; choice hoggs, 8¾d; young ewes, 6¾d; heavy tups and ewes, 5½d to 6d; calves, 7d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Store stock about an average supply, and with a full attendance. A fair amount of business done at the previous Saturday's currencies. Milch cows made £15 to £20; two-year-old steers and heifers, £10 to £12; yearlings, £6 to £8; and calves, 35s to 45s each.

Romford, Wednesday.—About an average supply of fat beasts; trade about the same. Best animals, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in shorter supply and dear, at 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Sheep in short supply; trade better. Best small sheep, 6s to 6s 4d; larger sheep, 5s 8d to 5s 10d per stone. Ewes in short supply; prices a little better at 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. A few store beasts on offer; very slow demand. Good supply of milch cows; trade fair. Pigs in larger supply; average trade. Small porkers, 3s 8d to 4s; large hogs, 3s 4d to 3s 8d per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Good milch cows scarce, and making £20 to £23. Young stock and secondary qualities made £15 to £17 10s.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Quotations:—Good supply of store cattle, which met a good demand. Cows with calves a brisk trade; highest price £26 5s. Beef, 6d to 6½d per lb; mutton (wether), 9d to 9½d per lb; ewes, 7½d to 8d per lb; lamb, 9d to 9½d per lb; veal, 7½d to 8d per lb; porket pigs, 9s 6d to 9s 9d per score; bacons, 8s 9d to 9s per score.

Stockton, Wednesday.—An average show of the best cattle, which made 7s to 7s 6d per stone, whilst rougher kinds made 6s to 6s 6d per stone. Lambs and young sheep sold at 8½d per lb; ewes at 6½d to 7d; and tups 6d per lb. Small porkers sold 7s 6d per stone; mediums, 6s 9d to 7s; and sows 6s to 6s 3d.

Thame, Tuesday.—A capital supply of cattle, and the quality was again fully up to the high standard this market is renowned for. There was a large attendance of buyers, and trade was brisk throughout, although we do not think the cattle realised any higher prices than the previous week, a practical clearance being effected. Sheep

still continue to come to market in very short numbers, and are selling remarkably well. Messrs Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 95 fat beasts, 102 fat sheep, 81 fat and weaning calves, 180 bacon hogs, porkers, and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £17 to £21 5s; fat heifers, £15 to £19 2s 6d; fat wethers, 55s to 62s; fat ewes, 45s to 58s; fat calves, £3 to £4; Devon weaning cow calves, 30s to 68s; bull calves, 10s to 40s; bacon hogs, £3 5s to £3 5s; fat sows, to £7 7s; porkers, 34s to 56s; store pigs, 10s to 25s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance fairly good, business fairly brisk. Fat bullocks, 50s to 56s per cwt; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £11 to £15 each; rearing calves, 20s to 35s; wethers, 7d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d; lambs, 7d; pigs, 5s to 40s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 7d to 8d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; pork carcases, 4¾d to 5d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Trade slow; supply fair. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6¼d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 9d per lb; veal, 6½d to 8d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small show of stock. Beef met a very poor trade, making 7s per stone best qualities, a drop of 9d per stone on last week; best shearlings, wethers, and cross-breds, 9d per lb. Ewes were a bad trade, making no more than 6d per lb.

Yeovil, Friday.—Milking animals were in request, and sold well, best quality heifers and calves making from £18 10s to £20 5s; secondary, £13 5s to £17 10s; cows and calves, £17 15s to £21; secondary, £12 to £16 10s; grazing steers, £8 10s to £11; three-year-old in calf heifers, £10 10s to £12 15s; barreners, £8 10s to £13 15s.

York, Thursday.—The supply of both English and Irish store cattle was largely in excess of the demand, and trade was slow and dragging. Some of the best three year olds made up to £16, two-year-olds £10 to £12, stirks £7 to £9. A very small show of calving and milch cows, for which there was a very good demand, some of the best making up to £22 10s, the general run of prices being from £16 to £19. A good show of all classes of sheep, but an extremely slow trade, and lambs, which formed the bulk of the supply, were fully 3s per head down on the week. North-country ewes, owing to the lateness of the season, met with a very bad trade at 40s to 46. A few Cheviot ewes were on offer, and made up to 24s. The best Masham shearlings made up to 48s, others 42s to 45s; Masham ewes, 42s to 46s; best three-parts bred lambs to 42s, others 30s to 36s; Masham lambs 20s to 24s. About 300 North-country lambs were on offer, and met with a very slow trade up to 35s each.

CORN STATISTICS

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, November 9, 1907:—

Wheat	1,298,700 cwts.
Wheat-flour	324,200 ,,
Barley	626,700 ,,
Oats	369,200 ,,
Maize	1,239,500 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1906. Cwts.	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.
Wheat ..	1,239,000	1,558,700	2,332,400	1,747,300
Wheat-flour	304,100	259,600	193,800	443,325
Barley ...	660.300	459,400	509,900	827,080
Oats ...	285,700	129,700	219,200	514,860
Maize ...	941,500	547,400	824,800	1,482,270

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, November 5, 1907:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Av. Price per qr. £	s.	d.
Wheat ..	2,336	4 ...	4,294	7	0 ...	1	16	9
Barley ...	2,474	0 ...	3,761	12	3 ...	1	10	5
Oats	1,214	6 ...	1,204	6	6 ...	0	19	10

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending November 9, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1903 to 1906:—

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1903	43,045	26	6	172,879	24	6	23,074	15	9
1904	43,740	30	3	204,446	24	6	32,320	15	11
1905	78,276	28	3	209,509	24	10	28,346	17	4
1906	63,764	26	6	205,560	24	8	27,982	17	1
1907	77,721	35	10	221,857	27	8	39,849	18	10

Seven Years' Tithe Rent Charges.

For 1907	£68	19	6
,, 1906	68	12	1
,, 1905	69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
1901	66	10	9

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Several sales of good-class hops have taken place during the present week, and the general tone of the market shows little improvement. Business is chiefly confined to the best hops, and prices for these remain very firm. Not much inquiry for copper hops.

Worcester, Saturday.—There is no alternation to report. As before, few farmers at market, and hops with fine colour sold readily. There was also a steady trade for good yellow hops; 1906's are selling better, but are scarce; 765 pockets passed the public scales this week, making 16,963 to date.—Charles Faram and Co.

The annual general meeting and dinner of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union will be held on Friday, January 31, when Earl Carrington has promised to be present.

Representation having been made to the West Suffolk County Council that there was a demand for small holdings and allotments in Mildenhall, a meeting was called for the purpose of holding an inquiry with a view to ascertaining the nature and extent of the demand, and the possibility of acquiring land. All persons interested were invited, and there was a large attendance. At the conclusion of the proceedings, the clerk announced that he had been through the applications made, both personally and by letter, and the applicants numbered 105, and he estimated the acreage required would be approximately 482.

Alnwick Hirings.—The annual hirings for single servants in the Alnwick district was held at Alnwick on the 2nd inst., and although this was the first hiring in the neighbourhood the attendance was most disappointing. The demand was principally for women workers, and many farmers were not suited at the close of the hiring. Where engagements were effected women got from £6 to £8, girls to £6, lads from £5 to £8, and men from £7 to £12 for the half year.

The Chester farmers and butchers' dispute was settled on Tuesday evening, the parties arriving at an amicable basis of agreement in regard to the butchers' demand that all beasts bought by them at local sales shall be guaranteed against tuberculosis. It was decided to promote a joint insurance guarantee fund, the seller and the purchaser each to pay as premium to the auctioneer 9d. per head on bullocks and heifers sold, and 1s. 6d. per head on cows sold. Out of the fund thus provided will be met the loss occasioned by seizure of any beast subsequently found to be affected by tuberculosis.

ADVERTISEMENTS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

SHREWSBURY, FRIDAY NEXT, NOVEMBER 15.
Not 22nd, as previously arranged.
1,250 STORE CATTLE (all breeds and ages),
300 STORE SHEEP.
Sale at 11.30.
Apply for Catalogues to the Auctioneer, who acts solely as Agent.
William Everall,
Auctioneer, Shrewsbury.

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IN THESE PAGES WILL GREATLY OBLIGE AND ASSIST US BY MENTIONING THE
"MARK LANE EXPRESS"
WHEN WRITING TO OUR ADVERTISERS.

RASPBERRY CANES.—Superlatives and Hornets, 3s. 6d 100, 30s. 1,000, true to name, the two finest raspberries grown. Whinham's Industry Gooseberry Trees, two years old, 10s. 100.—Fred Joyce, Somersham, Huntingdonshire.

SEED WHEAT.—Carter's Standup White and Webb's New Standard Red, two of the best yielding Wheats in cultivation, 20s. 18 stone on rail.—H. G. Walne, Kettlebargh Hall, Wickham Market, Suffolk.

PEDIGREE HERD OF LARGE BLACK PIGS



The Property of H. J. CLARKE,
THE SLADE, ROUGHLEY, SUTTON COLDFIELD.

This herd has been bred from the choicest prize-winning strains. None but the best sires have been used since its commencement, and the high quality of the young stock evidences the close attention that has been devoted to its development. The points successfully aimed at have been lean flesh, size, constitution and true type. Inspection of the herd at any time by appointment is invited.

PRIZES WON:

1st, Royal Cornwall, 1905; 1st, Launceston; 3rd, Bath and West, 1905; 2nd, Wadebridge; Reserve, West Midland Show; Shrewsbury, 1906.

YOUNG BOARS & SOWS FOR SALE AT MODERATE PRICES.

Export orders carefully executed and all arrangements made for shipment and insurance.

Full particulars of the Stock now for Sale on application to

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Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The weather has been all that farmers could desire for the prosecution of field work, and the dryer air has also been helpful to the condition of market samples. The exchanges are steadier from a week ago, and the sowings of wheat, if frost does not become too hard for the land to be sown, should be above the average. It is clear that October, with its extremely heavy rainfall, saw hardly any wheat in the soil west of Oxford, but the East Anglian farmer was not particularly inconvenienced, and planting of October-sown fields are now up in Kent and Surrey, the regular lines of keen green being very encouraging, and showing that the plant has germinated both uniformly and well. The French farmers have had perfect weather since November 1, and are working with might and main to overtake arrears; but October, 1907, was the wettest on record in France, 7 in. being recorded in the north and west, and 15 in. falling in the south. Russia and Roumania are now under frost, and the wheat sowings are believed to be as much as 20 per cent. less than usual. Austria-Hungary is said to have reduced its wheat sowings, and the only regions where full autumn sowings have been accomplished seem to be Italy and Spain.

The Canadian export surplus of wheat is thus estimated, the figures for 1905-6 and 1906-7 being those of actual quantities shipped. This deficiency of 2,150,000 qr. on storing wheat will inconvenience millers.

1907-8	3,000,000 qr.
1906-7	5,150,000 ,,
1905-6	5,750,000 ,,

Another Colony which in 1908 will not be able to play up to 1907 standard is Australia, to which a very competent authority assigns the following surpluses of wheat:—

1908	1,500,000 qr.
1907	4,000,000 ,,
1906	4,000,000 ,,

The 1906 figures are fully ascertained; those of 1907 are based on the ascertained exports of ten completed months.

The trade in maize seems steadily on the increase. The total shipments for the year ended October 31 show an advance on previous seasons, for which in turn the advance had been remarkably progressive and sustained:—

Nov. 1, 1906—Oct. 31, 1907			28,125,000 qr.
,, 1905—	,,	1906	26,600,000 ,,
,, 1904—	,,	1905	24,575,000 ,,
,, 1903—	,,	1904	31,165,000 ,,

These figures, useful as they are, would not be of much practical service but for the figures supplied by *Beerbohm's List*, which gives the weekly average shipments from all foreign countries, *for British ports*, for the four seasons. These weekly averages are:—

1906-7	235,000 qr.
1905-6	200,000 ,,
1904-5	205,000 ,,
1903-4	200,000 ,,

Last week's imports of 290,000 qr., judged by this standard, were 55,000 qr. in excess of what was wanted, but ordinary reckonings have put the weekly wants at 200,000 qr. only, the total of four years ago.

American maize yields per acre are thus given in the official report of the 12th inst., telegraphic resumés of which are to hand:—

1907	26·0	bushels per acre.
1906	30·2	,,
1905	29·0	,,
1904	26·8	,,
1903	25·5	,,
1902	26·8	,,
1901	21·0	,,

The average is about 26 bushels, but this year the area under cultivation is very large, so that a merely average yield per acre represents a total crop of 319,000,000 qr. This is a good deal beyond the mean produce of the first seven years.

The yield of potatoes in the United States of America for 1907 is called at 292,427,000 bushels, against 303,298,000 bushels last year, and that of buckwheat at 12,911,000 bushels, against 13,688,000 bushels last year. The yields of wheat, barley, oats, and rye had been the subject of earlier official reports, with the gist of which we have made our readers familiar as they appeared.

Summarising the whole harvest year in the United States we have two average crops, wheat and maize; three crops slightly under average, potatoes, rye, and buckwheat; and two crops seriously deficient, barley and oats. No white crop in America this year exceeded an average.

The wheat gradient last week was slight, the chief markets clinging closely to 36s. as a mean level.

Chichester	36s. 9d.	per qr.
Lincoln	34s. 11d.	,,
Range	1s. 10d.	,,

Barley fetches a good price in East Kent, Berkshire, and parts of Somerset, where malting quality is attained, but is cheaper in the regions where feeding types predominate.

Canterbury	31s. 4d.	per qr.
Norwich	27s. 6d.	,,
Range	3s. 10d.	,,

Oats are nowhere fetching a clear sovereign as an average, but no great depression is recorded anywhere. In Kent a good deal of inferior stuff appears to be reaching the markets just now, but this is exceptional to the general experience.

Reading	19s. 10d.	per qr.
Canterbury	16s. 7d.	,,
Range	3s. 3d.	,,

English rye is 1s. cheaper on the week, the supply at 30s. being adequate, and buyers therefore having no longer occasion to pay the 31s. of October.

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets since harvest have been as follows:—

This season	746,000 qr.	at 33s. 5d.	per qr.
Last ,,	766,000 ,,	26s. 2d.	,,

The sales last week were heavy for the time of year.

The sales of British barley at the statute markets have for the period since September 1 been:—

This season	1,057,000 qr.	at 25s. 11d.	per qr.
Last ,,	1,581,000 ,,	24s. 8d.	,,

Business is now fairly brisk, and some effort is being made to overtake arrears.

The sales of British oats have been heavy:—

This season	456,000 qr.	at 18s. 1d.	per qr.
Last ,,	338,000 ,,	16s. 5d.	,,

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were:—

Wheat, 304,000 qr.; moderate.
Flour, 129,700 qr.; fair.
Barley, 176,000 qr.; large.
Oats, 137,000 qr.; good.
Maize, 290,000 qr.; considerable.

The supplies on passage on the 16th inst. included 1,829,000 qr. of wheat thus divided:—

Californian	325,000 qr.
American	385,000 ,,
Russian	90,000 ,,
Indian	527,000 ,,
Argentine	105,000 ,,
Australasian	357,000 ,,
Various	40,000 ,,
Total	1,829,000 ,,

This is 691,000 qr. below the average, and shows that prices, though a good deal higher on the year, are not high enough to cause any rush to ship. Flour on passage is returned at 222,000 sacks, or 28,000 sacks below the average.

Expectations of barley are thus divided:—

Russian feeding	300,000 qr.
Californian brewing	210,000 ,,
American feeding	20,000 ,,
Asiatic brewing	90,000 ,,
,, feeding	40,000 ,,
Total	660,000 qr.

Of oats 179,000 qr. are on passage.

Of maize the expectations are:—

Round corn	230,000 qr.
Yellow ,,	220,000 ,,
Flat ,,	280,000 ,,
Total	790,000 ,,

Other expectations are 98,000 qr. of linseed, 25,000 qr. of rapeseed, 6,000 qr. of poppyseed, 4,000 qr. of sesame, 45,000 tons of cottonseed, and 17,560 tons of rice.

The shipments of America last week were good of wheat but small of all other articles. The items were:—Wheat, 410,000 qr.; barley, 48,000 qr.; maize, 44,000 qr.; and flour 108,000 sk. Of the barley 40,000 qr. were Californian and Oregon.

The shipments of Argentina are at their lowest in November, but last week 14,000 qr. of wheat and 1,000 qr. of maize, 10,000 qr. of linseed and 9,000 qr. of oats were shipped.

The Russian shipments continue liberal of wheat and very large of barley, but of oats they are below the average. Last week's totals were:—Wheat 324,000 qr., barley 401,000 qr., oats 103,000 qr., and maize 40,000 qr. Roumania supplemented the efforts of her gigantic neighbour by shipping 90,000 qr. of wheat 80,000 qr. of barley, and 108,000 qr. of maize, but is unable to ship oats.

India shipped 114,000 qr. of wheat and 11,000 qr. of linseed, while 10,000 qr. of wheat were exported by Australia and 15,000 tons of cottonseed by Egypt.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—Much larger supplies are to hand during the past week, and the trade on the whole has been of a quieter and slower character. It is noticeable that a large proportion of the present arrivals are now consisting of best clovers and mixtures, and, in consequence, prices of these qualities again show a lower tendency. Best hays, although not coming along so plentifully, are also a very quiet trade at about previous rates.

Strange to say there is now almost a shortage of plain hays and mixtures the kinds which are used so extensively by the different London 'bus companies and large consumers, the demand for these qualities has been very keen among contractors, who are finding their wants difficult to fulfil. The dearth of this class of stuff reflects itself in the inquiry for foreign hay, and we hear that importers of Dutch hay have at last this season been able to effect a few sales which show a margin of profit, but other kinds of foreign hay meet with poor support, and are a very dull trade at previous nominal values. Straw is coming along in fair supply, and finds a quiet trade at about previous rates.

Prices ruling are about as follows:—English Best hays, 70s to 72s 6d per ton; good hays, 62s 6d to 67s 6d per ton; plain hays, 60s to 62s 6d per ton; best clovers, 82s 6d per ton; good clovers, 77s 6d to 80s per ton; inferior clovers, 72s 6d to 75s 6d per ton; best mixtures, 80s to 82s 6d per ton; good mixtures, 75s to 77s 6d per ton; plain mixtures, 67s 6d to 72s 6d per ton; seconds hays, clovers, and mixtures, 50s to 60s per ton; wheat straw, 25s to 27s per load; barley straw, 25s to 27s per load; oat straw, 25s to 27s per load. All ex rail London. Foreign: Canadian mixture, none; first quality Dutch hay, 61s to 62s 6d per ton; second quality Dutch hay, 57s 6d per ton. French clover, 75s per ton. These prices are by the barge load delivered alongside a London Thames wharf.

THE BALTIC.

Saturday, 2 p.m.

The wheat cargo trade was weak on the 12th, 13th, and 14th, but regained steadiness on the 15th, and was quietly firm to-day. Sales included fine Russian winter at 45s. 6d. per 492 lb., Odessa-Ghurka at 43s 6d. per 492 lb., Argentine at 39s. 9d. per 480 lb., Northern Manitoba, at 42s. per 480 lb., No. 1 Durum at 36s. 3d. per 480 lb., and Australian at 43s. 6d. per 480 lb.

The maize cargo is quoted at 27s. 3d. per 480 lb. for Argentine, 26s. per 480 lb. for Roumanian, and 26s. 9d. per 480 lb. for American. Spot values for the three chief sorts of maize are pretty much the same, but the cargo trade for future supply varies according to the amount of each specific kind, which appears to be practically available.

Barley cargoes are limited, so far as the open market is concerned, to feeding quality, as anything that reaches brewing standard is hardly offered. The sales have included Persian at 22s. per 400 lb.; South Russian at 2s. 3d. per 400 lb.; Kustendje at 26s. 3d. per 416 lb. Other cargo sales have comprised Karachi grain at 32s. per 504; Smyrna beans at 22s. 9d. per 480 lb.; and White Libau (Baltic) oats at 17s. 3d. per 304 lb. The London Corn Trade Association's secretary announces that the following standards of August shipments have been made up:—

Wheat.—Choice White Kurrachee (crop 1907); Soft Red Kurrachee (crop 1907).

Barley, Gram, and Dari.—Kurrachee.

The East Indian wheat rejections of this Association under Rule No. 4 of the Association East Indian Wheat Contracts are as follows, viz., *via* Canal:—

Crop 1907.—Choice White Karachi, 39s. 6d.; Soft Red Karachi, 39s. 3d. per qr. of 492 lb.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English steady, quiet, at about late rates. Whites quoted at 36s to 39s; reds at 36s to 39s. Foreign firmly held, at 6d to 9d advance, but not active. No. 1 Northern, ex ship, held at 43s 6d to 43s 9d; No. 2, at 42s 6d; No. 1 Durum, at 37s 6d to 38s; choice white Karachi at 38s 6d to 38s 9d; Australian, landed, at 46s. Flour steady, quiet. Hungarians held at 38s 6d to 40s; Kansas patents, 30s to 30s 6d; Iron Dukes at 27s to 27s 6d. Maize firm, but quiet. River Plate, ex ship, held at 25s 6d; landed at 26s; white Natal, landed, at 27s; Odessa, ex ship, at 25s 6d; landed at 26s. Barley rather steadier, but quiet. Azoff-Black Sea and Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, held at 23s 6d; landed at 24s. Oats steady, unchanged. River Plate quoted at 18s 9d; South Russian, 17s 9d to 18s 3d; Danubian, 17s 9d to 18s.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat, English firm, unchanged. Whites quoted at 36s 6d to 40s 6d; reds at 36s to 39s. Foreign firm, and American held at 9d to 1s advance. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, quoted at 44s 6d; No. 2 at 43s 6d to 44s; choice white Karachi at 39s 3d; No. 1 Durum at 38s 6d to 39s. Flour firm, but quiet. Iron Dukes quoted at 27s 6d to 28s; Hungarians, 39s to 40s 6d; Kansas Patents at 30s 6d to 31s. Maize firm and rather dearer. La Plata, ex ship, held at 25s 9d; landed, at 26s 3d; Odessa, landed, at 26s 9d. Barley rather firmer. Odessa-Nicolaieff ex ship, held at 23s 9d; landed at 24s 3d; Persian, ex ship, at 22s to 22s 3d. Oats steadier, but inactive. River Plate held at 18s 6d. to 18s 9d; South Russian, 17s 9d to 18s 3d; Archangel, 19s to 19s 6d

COUNTRY.

Appleby, Saturday.—White oats (horse corn), worth about 19s to 22s per 26 stones.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Business was very slow, millers holding off, and few sales of wheat taking place; those which did showed a decline of 2s a quarter. Barley and oats dull, at late rates; beans cheaper; flour 1s a sack down. Quotations:—Wheat, 34s to 36s; best malting barley, 31s to 33s; tick beans, 32s to 34s; Mazagans, 28s to 30s; maize, 30s to 31s; oats, 18s to 22s per qr; flour, whites, 36s; second, 33s; scaling, 31s per sack.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, white (new), 35s to 36s per qr; wheat, red (new) 35s to 36s per qr; barley, 27s to 32s per qr; beans (new), 30s to 31s 6d per qr; oats, 17s 6d to 22s per qr; peas, 30s to 34s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—Good attendance, with larger supplies of grain. Fine barleys in good demand, and rather dearer; medium qualities firm; inferior sorts met a slow sale at less money. Fine oats sold at late rates; other sorts dull and lower. Barley, 22s to 33s 6d; oats, 18s to 23s per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—There was a large attendance, and a good trade was done at the full prices of last week, both for English and foreign wheats, which are again on the upward grade. Both Bessarabian and Galatz-Foxanian maize were on offer at 26s 6d per 480 lb at Sharpness, being 9d and 6d per qr respectively under last week's figures. Grinding barley remained at 25s per 400 lb at Sharpness. Oats were 6d lower and beans unchanged at 13s 3d per 196 lb.

Brighton, Thursday.—Quiet trade at about last week's price. Wheat in fair supply; slow trade and prices unchanged. New white wheat, 35s to 37s; new red ditto, 36s to 38s; barley, 28s to 35s; grinding ditto, 26s to 27s; oats, English, 18s 6d to 21s; peas, 33s to 34s; beans, 33s to 34s.

Bristol, Thursday.—There was a good attendance to day's market. English wheat is making 35s 6d to 36s, being a slight advance on the week. Foreign wheat has improved 9d to 1s from the lowest point. Maize dull, 6d lower. Barley easier, owing to heavy arrivals. Oats firm and unaltered. Flour, after three weeks' quietness, is in better demand.—Grace Bros.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat in small supply, trade firm at last week's reduction. Reds or whites, in fair milling condition, 35s 6d to 36s 6d per qr. Barley in average supply. The demand continues to be active, and prices for all sorts are maintained at 31s to 33s for fair malting, and 33s 6d to 36s for fine malting samples. Beans rather better at 32s 6d to 33s 6d per qr. Peas steady, at 32s to 33s 6d per qr. Maize quiet, at 28s per qr, and oats firm at 19s 6d to 22s per qr.

Cambridge, Saturday.—There was only a fair supply of wheat, which sold readily at 1s advance, the price being 36s per 504 lb, on rail. Barley unchanged. A rather better supply of oats, making up to £1.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Trade rather slower than usual, especially for barleys, but prices remain at the reduction of a week ago. Wheat, in fair supply, made 35s for 62 lb lots and 36s 6d for 64 lb, fetched from the farm; seed wheat up to 40s. Really choice barleys are difficult to find; best malting qualities are quoted from 28s to 32s and grinding from 27s to 28s. Oats sold fairly well, 40 lb whites making 20s, 43 lb blacks 21s 6d, and 44 lb samples 22s. Grey peas, 31s to 32s; blue peas, 62s 6d; tick beans, 31s 6d to 33s; and mazagans, 29s to 30s per qr. Tares are quoted at from 5s to 5s 6d per bushel.

Chester, Saturday.—There was little change in prices since last market. Wheat was in fair demand, without advancing. Beans and barley quiet. Maize unaltered from last week, round favouring buyers. Quotations:—Wheat, new white and red, 5s 2d to 5s 4d per 75 lb; grinding barley, new, 4s to 4s 3d per 64 lb; oats, new, 2s 8d to 3s; old, 3s 1d to 3s 6d per 46 lb; Indian corn, old, 14s 6d to 15s per 240 lb; round corn, 14s 3d to 15s 6d per 240 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Wheat, of which there was little on offer, was 1s 6d cheaper than last week. A small attendance and not very brisk. New white wheat, 36s to 37s; new red ditto, 36s to 37s; barley, 29s to 35s; grinding ditto, 24s 6d to 25s 6d; oats, English, 19s to 22s; peas, 31s to 35s; beans, 33s to 34s; tares, 5s to 5s 6d; maize, 25s to 27s; flour, 28s to 32s.

Colchester, Saturday. — Wheat steady at 6d advance, small supply. Oats quiet, unchanged. —Colin Taylor, King and Co., Ltd.

Coventry, Friday. — There was about at average attendance. The supply of wheat was not large, and trade was firm at last week's extreme prices. Barley offered more freely, and prices were slightly in buyers' favour except for very prime samples, which were scarce. Oats maintained their recent quotations. Beans not much inquired for. Quotations:—Wheat, 13s to 14s per 186 lb; barley, 30s to 34s per 448 lb; oats, old, 24s 6d to 27s per 352 lb; new, 21s to 23s 6d; beans, old, 13s 6d to 14s; new, 12s 3d to 13s 3d per 196 lb; peas, 12s 6d to 15s per 196 lb.

Devizes, Thursday.—There was a moderate supply. Wheat maintained last week's price, but barley was 1s and oats 6d per qr lower. Best old wheat, 20s to 21s; best new wheat, 18s to 19s; secondary, 16s to 18s; malting barley, 29s to 33s; grinding barley, 26s to 28s; old oats, 22s to 24s 6d; winter oats, 18s to 19s 6d; white Garton oats (320 lb), 18s 6d to 19s 6d; black Tartar oats (320 lb), 19s 6d to 20s 6d; rye, 27s to 30s; beans, 17s to 18s; fine flour, 31s to 32s; extra fine, 33s to 35s; vetches, 5s 6d to 6s 6d.

Derby, Friday.—Little or no white wheat; prices as last week, but a better tone on the advices from Liverpool. Wheat, red, 34s to 35s; oats, 20s to 21s 6d; barley, grinding, 28s to 29s; malting, 30s to 33s; beans, old, 40s; new, 30s to 37s per qr.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Moderate supply of English wheat; both English and foreign were unchanged, with a slow sale. Barley was more plentiful, and fine samples made fully last week's prices, but secondary qualities were neglected at a reduction of 6d to 1s per qr, prices for the best being from 28s to 32s 6d per qr. Oats quiet, and unaltered. Maize advanced 3d per qr.

Dorchester, Saturday.—With finer though much colder weather to-day, there was a better attendance and a larger offer of grain, the past week having on the whole been favourable for threshing operations. Factors, however, showed no disposition to operate except to cover hand-to-mouth requirements, and as many held out for higher prices for their wheat than buyers felt inclined to give, the business done was on a very limited scale, and prices showed a considerable decline as compared with recent currencies, generally 1s per qr on the week if not more. Colder weather, however, made holders more hopeful, though many incline to the belief that, once the American crisis is surmounted, and stocks which are now locked up get released, lower values will rule, not only for wheat, but for other articles as well. Barley made less money, both for feeding and malting, the only exception being in the case of very choice malting samples, which, from their scarcity, command extreme prices, and are likely to do so. Maize generally is inactive, with a slightly downward tendency; and the same may be said of oats, which are back 3d to 6d. Beans and peas still continue firm at full prices. Flour trade inactive at drooping currencies.

Dublin, Friday.—Foreign wheat was dearer, and maize was quiet at unchanged rates. There was a fair inquiry for barley at 15s 6d to 16s, extreme prices being asked for prime samples. Black oats were quoted at 10s 6d to 12s 6d, and whites at 10s 5d to 13s. Choice lots very firmly held. Oatmeal was dearer, but Indian meal remained unchanged. Bran and pollard was very firm.

Exeter, Friday.—Good attendance; better trade. English wheat firm; foreign shade dearer. Barley and maize 3d to 6d cheaper. Oats unchanged. Flour quiet. Quotations:—English wheat, 4s 4½d; English barley, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; superfine flour, 31s to 33s; fines, 29s to 31.

Glasgow, Wednesday. — Attendance was moderate at to-day's market. Wheat irregular in price, but steady. Flour a slow sale at late rates. Maize and corn still pressed for sale, and prices are 3d to 4½d per boll easier for both. Barley firmly held for foreign, but home qualities irregular in quality and price. Oats meet with a small demand; foreign qualities unchanged at late rates, but, owing to so many inferior lots of local oats coming into the market, home qualities are the turn easier. Beans and pease unchanged. Bran and thirds steady at last week's quotations. Oatmeal steady, but quiet.—Gibson and Clark.

Glasgow, Friday.—Wheat steady at 3d per boll advance. Flour quiet and nominally unchanged. Maize and corn quiet, and pressed for sale on spot. Oats quiet and favouring buyers. Barley steady. Beans a shade easier. Other articles held at Wednesday's prices.

Gloucester, Saturday. — English wheat in moderate supply, prices unchanged: Reds 35s to 36s; whites, 36s to 37s per qr. Foreign wheat dull and occasionally 6d dearer: Plates, 42s to 43s 6d; Russians, 42s 9d to 43s 6d. Plate maize 9d down at 26s 3d; flat 6d lower at 27s 6d; Bessarabian 9d cheaper at 26s 6d. Barley 6d down at 24s 9d. Oats 6d cheaper.

Grantham, Saturday.—A fair supply of grain, and a good inquiry. Wheat, 34s to 36s; barley (1s lower), 26s to 33s; oats, 19s to 21s; beans, 26s to 32s; blue peas up to 80s per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A moderate supply of English wheats, which were reluctantly dealt in by buyers at 4s 3d to 4s 6d. Barleys were also moderately offered, but met with but little inquiry. On the week values appear about 1s per qr lower. Oats plentiful, but not much demand, and a decline of about 2d per bushel since last week. Beans firm. Maize about 6d per qr lower than last week.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Moderate supply of wheat; trade quiet; good condition lots, 35s to 36s per 504 lb. Good supply of barley, but a quiet trade; samples in request at from 33s to 35s; medium runs, 25s to 31s. Oats slow and rather easier. Maize 6d per qr cheaper. Beans 6d per qr cheaper. Peas firm, and fully as dear.

Leeds, Friday.—With larger arrival of English wheat and prices lower at the principal Yorkshire market during the week, Tuesday's closing quotations were with difficulty maintained. Foreign wheat was steady, except Indian and American, which favoured buyers. Lower and medium runs of flour were the turn easier. Plate, American, and Odessa maize closed at 26s. Both feeding and malting barley, English and foreign, were firmer. Oats were 3d cheaper, but beans and peas remained unchanged.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good attendance of buyers and dealers, with small supplies of home-grown wheats, which came to hand in variable condition. Trade steady for good samples, secondary flat. Red wheat, 33s to 37s; white wheats, 34s to 38s per 36 stones; fine malting, 29s to 32s per 32 stones; beans firm; good oats, 19s to 21s per 24 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—Only a small show of English wheat, which sold at last week's full prices, quotations being from 36s to 37s per qr, according to condition; foreign firmer than a week ago. Large supply of barley, prices being a trifle easier. Oats a slow trade at barely late rates. Maize a little dearer.

Maidstone, Thursday. — Business at the market to day was not brisk, as, while owners of wheat will not give way, the millers want a reduction. For best samples a firm trade at former cost, as the depression of a few days has passed over; 6d per qr for choice lots over last Tuesday realised. Barley is slightly cheaper, also maize and oats, but the decline is trifling.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat in better demand at about last week's prices. Foreign wheat about 2d per cental dearer on the week, and demand slow. Flour unchanged. Indian corn about ½d per cental lower. English barley unchanged, and foreign rather lower. Oats showed little change. Bran and offals continue scarce.

Newark, Wednesday.—A good attendance; trade slow. Prices again easier. White and red wheat, 35s 6d to 36s 6d; malting barley, 29s to 31s; grinding barley, 27s to 28s; white oats, 19s 6d to 21s; black oats, 19s to 20s; old beans, 35s to 36s; new beans, 30s to 32s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A very quiet demand for all classes of grain at our market to-day. Wheat, to make rates, 1s. per qr reduction on the week had to be accepted. Oats remain steady for fine qualities; common sorts, however, neglected. Maize steady at late rates. Beans slightly in buyers' favour. No peas

on offer. A steady demand for malting barleys at fully last week's quotations.—Joseph Pollard and Co.

Newport, Wednesday.—Trade was quiet, the market being affected by the American financial position. Not much business doing, but a tendency to firmer prices all round.

Northampton, Saturday.—There was a good attendance and wheat was firmer at 1s more, whilst trade in barley, oats, and beans was very slack. Flour was not in much demand at 6d less than last week. Prices: Wheat, 35s to 36s; barley, 26s to 32s; white oats, 18s to 21s; black oats, 18s to 20s; beans, 30s to 32s; flour, 31s 6d to 35s 6d.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was an exceedingly small supply of wheat at this market. Prices were somewhat better than the previous week, dry wheats selling at 36s per qr. delivered. The supply of barley was slightly smaller, but prices were a little easier.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Small show of wheat at 6d more money, making 35s. to 36s. Oats easier, making 19s to 21s. Barley prices in favour of the buyer, making 27s to 32s.—Robt. Hubble.

Oxford, Saturday.—Wheat in better demand at about late rates. Barley in buyers' favour to the extent of 1s, and freely offered thereat.

Peterborough, Saturday.—Not a large supply at market to-day, wheat being a little firmer than last Saturday. Barley very quiet and a shade easier. Oats firm at late rates. Wheat, 35s to 36s; barley, 28s to 34s.; oats, 19s to 21s.—Thomas Hill and Son.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a very good attendance on our market here to-day. Wheat sellers are asking more money, but buyers do not respond. Feeding stuffs very quiet; demand nominally last week's rates. Flour, only a little business doing.—Orlando Davis and Co

Preston, Saturday.—There was a fairly good attendance, prices being nominally unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220 lb, 15s 6d to 16s; ditto red, 14s 6d to 15s; oats, old, per bushel, 3s 8d to 3s 9d; ditto new, 3s 1d to 3s 2d; beans, per windle of 220 lb, 16s 6d to 17s.

Reading, Saturday.—The attendance was up to the average, but business was again rather on the quiet side. Wheat was in fairly good supply, and sold at 33s to 38s, whilst malting barley realised from 27s to 35s, and grinding 24s to 29s. Oats were again firm, and sold at 18s to 22s, whilst beans fetched from 33s to 36s, and peas 31s to 33s.

Retford, Saturday.—An average supply, but demand limited, 35s 6d to 36s 6d per qr. A fair trade for malting barley at fully late rates, the best making 30s to 32s; secondary 28s to 30s; and grinding, 27s to 28s per qr. Oats were lower, black making 18s to 19s; white ditto, 19s to 20s: and old oats, 25s. New English beans, 30s., and old ditto, 36s to 36s 6d per qr.

Ripon, Thursday. — Good attendance of farmers, and business easier. Wheat and barley show a reduction in price on the week. New wheat, 36s to 37s; wheat, foreign, 46s to 48s; barley, grinding, 26s to 27s; barley, malting, 28s to 32s; new oats, 19s to 21s; old oats, 26s; maize, round, 28s; flat ditto, 32s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—There is an improved tone in the market, and prices are experiencing a slight rally from the depression of last week. Foreign wheats quoted 3d to 6d per qr dearer. English unchanged from last week's prices. Maize 3d per qr higher towards the close of the market. Beans, oats, and barley unchanged at varying prices according to condition. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 38s to 38s 6d; ditto red, new, 38s to 38s 6d per 504 lb; oats, black, 24s to 25s; ditto white, 24s 6d to 25s; ditto new, 21s 6d to 22s per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 36s to 36s 6d; ditto blue, new, 75s to 90s per 504 lb; beans, English, 36s 6d to 37s per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 28s to 30s; ditto malting, 28s to 32s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 27s 9d to 28s; ditto Plate, 27s 9d to 28s 3d; ditto flat, 30s to 36s 6d per 480 lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Quotations: Wheat, 15s to 16s per 225 lb; oats, 16s 6d to 17s per 225 lb; new 12s to 14s per 225 lb; barley, 18s to 20s per 280 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—The attendance was not quite so large as usual, but a fair trade was done. Wheat made 35s to 36s; oats, 19s to 20s; beans, 28s 6d to 30s; peas unchanged. Few samples of barley were offered; best malting, 30s to 32s; ditto grinding, 25s to 26s 6d per qr.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Local wheat was down and made 36s to 37s per qr. Foreign wheat quiet, and 6d to 1s lower on the week. Oats and maize steady. Grinding barley made 25s to 28s per qr, common malting barley 28s to 30s. and best malting barley 30s to 32s per qr.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday. — New white wheat, 37s to 38s; new red ditto, 36s to 36s 6d; barley, 36s to 37s; grinding ditto, 26s to 27s; oats, English, 19s to 22s; rye, 31s to 32s; peas, 34s to 35s; beans, 34s to 36s; tares, 40s to 48s; maize, 28s to 29s.

Warwick, Saturday.—Very small attendance, and little offering. Trade very depressed and values easing. Wheat, 12s to 13s per bag; barley, 27s upwards per qr; oats, 21s per nine score. Feeding stuffs easier.

Winchester, Saturday.—English and foreign wheat about 1s dearer on the week. Barley, oats, and maize unchanged. Flour a steady trade at 6d higher rates.—Fear, Colebrook and Co., Ltd.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A fair attendance at market, but few samples offering. Wheat sold at 36s to 36s 6d per 504 lb. Barley, 28s to 31s per 448 lb. Oats, 19s 6d to 20s 6d per 336 lb.—James Fletcher.

Worksop, Wednesday. — Poor attendance, and a fair show of grain, with late rates practically unaltered, wheat excepted, being down about 1s per qr. White wheat, 37s to 38s; red ditto, 36s to 37s; best barley, 31s to 33s; secondary barley, 29s to 31s; grinding barley, 27s to 28s; white oats, 19s to 21s; black oats, 18s to 20s; maize, 28s 6d to 30s; old beans, 40s to 41s, new beans, 35s to 37s per qr.

Yeovil, Friday.—Fair amount of business. Wheat favoured sellers, but barley and oats showed a decline of 1s and 6d per qr respectively. Best quality home-grown wheat made from 36s to 38s per qr; secondary, from 32s 6d to 35s; foreign wheat in better inquiry at late rates. Barley, malting, 29s to 33s; grinding (home-grown), 26s to 28s; ditto, foreign, 25s; winter oats, 18s 6d to 19s 6d; white (Garton) oats, 18s 6d to 19s 6d; black Tartar oats, 18s 6d to 19s 6d; Irish black oats, 18s 18s 9d.; rye, 27s to 30s; beans, 35s to 36s; vetches, 6s to 7s 6d per bushel. For prompt delivery flour is selling at from 31s to 31s 6d for fines, and at this price a fair trade is passing. Meals and offals continue a good market at remunerative rates.

York, Saturday.—Wheat was in rather better condition, and sold firmly at last week's prices. Fine white, 37s to 38s; red and mixed, 36s to 37s per qr. of 36 stones. Malting barley slow, and sometimes rather cheaper, especially for inferior sorts; fine, 30s to 32s; good, 28s to 30s; other sorts, 26s to 28s per qr of 32 stones. Oats firm, and from 20s to 22s per qr of 24 stones. Rye, 28s to 29s per qr of 36 stones; old beans, 1s. per stone.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda slightly easier since last report. Improved climatic conditions enable farm work to be pushed forward—sadly in arrears in most districts—and good drying winds would be much appreciated by agriculturists. There is a decided improvement in the demand for autumn top-dressing this week, and it is to the interest of users not to delay their purchases to avoid delays in deliveries, which invariably take place this month in basic slag. There is no change in superphosphate prices, but higher values prevail for other phosphates, and likewise kainit. Feeding stuffs continue very slow of sale, yet on the whole values are upheld. For feeding treacle there is a fair demand, and prices are reasonable. The market is bare of American decorticated cottoncakes and English makes command £8 to £8 5s., whilst semi-decorticated is procurable at £7 per ton—a comparatively very moderate price.

	Per ton. £ s d	£ s d
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (prime)	—	—
Cottonseed Cake Meal	—	7 16 3
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime (soft)	8 0 0	8 7 6
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime	4 16 6	5 0 0
Cottonseed Cake, undecorticated Egyptian	—	—
Cottonseed, crushed, 20 per cent. oil guaranteed	8 15 0	—
Linseed Cake, American, thin oblong, prime	7 15 0	7 17 6
,, ,, English, prime	8 5 0	8 10 0
,, ,, East Indian	—	—
Linseed Meal (crushed seed)	—	—
Palm Nut Cake	6 5 0	—
Maize Germ Meal	7 2 6	7 5 0
Indian Meal, coarse to fine grinding	Per 240 lb. —	—
Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported	Per ton. 5 17 6	5 18 9
Linseed, fine bold feeding	Per qr., 416 lb. 2 12 6	2 15 0
Cod-liver Oil, cattle feeding	Per Gallon. 0 4 0	—
Treacle, feeding, American	Per Cwt. 0 4 9	—
Nitrate of Soda	Per ton. 11 2 6	11 5 0
Kainit, prime	2 7 6	—
Bone Meal, prime	5 7 6	5 10 0
Bone Ash	3 15 0	—
Basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed	1 14 0	1 15 0
,, ,,	2 2 0	2 3 0
,, finest ,,	2 6 0	2 7 6
D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime*	2 5 0	2 7 0
,, ,, guaranteed*	2 10 0	2 12 0
,, ,, ,, *	3 1 3	3 3 3

* At depot inland.

—H. Jones Langar and Co.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cake: The continued open weather is no doubt primarily the cause of the small consumptive demand, and with almost a total absence of any speculative inquiry, values are with difficulty maintained, Russian remain best value. East India seed pures and Calcuttas unaltered. London made pures meet a dull sale. Cotton Cake.—A fair quantity of Egyptian is available in warehouse, and with a further steamer parcel nearly due the market is barely as strong, with English unchanged. Decorticated.—London made pures find free buyers, with American quoted unchanged. Rape Cakes do not offer. Maize Germ Meal.—A limited quantity of White African meal is obtainable, but English makes offer rather more freely. Maize Gluten Meal is in good request. Rice Meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon are firmly held, while some second-hand steamer parcels afloat may be bought at late rates. Locust Beans are attractively offered. Dried Brewers' Grains remain scarce and dear. Nitrate of soda is without alteration.

Russian, in mats (ex dock)	7 12 6	to 7 13 9
,, in bags	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
East India	7 12 6	—
Calcutta	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
London Made	7 17 6	to 8 0 0
Cottonseed Cakes.		
Egyptian	4 16 3	to 4 17 6
English (ex mill)	4 18 9	to 5 0 0
Bombay	4 7 6	
Decorticated, London made	7 15 0	—
,, American	7 5 0	to 7 10 0
,, Meal, American	7 5 0	to 7 10 0
,, Meal, English	7 15 0	—
Special Digestive Meal	5 5 0	—
Rape Cakes.		
East India	—	—
Ravison	—	—
Maize.		
African	7 0 0	to 7 2 6
English	6 17 6	to 6 18 9
Maize Gluten Meal	7 5 0	—
Ricemeal.		
Rangoon ex ship	5 6 3	to 5 7 6
,, ex whf.	5 12 6	to 5 15 0
Locust Beans.		
Whole	5 10 0	
Kibbled	5 15 0	
Dried Brewers' Grains.		
Ale	5 10 0	
Mixed	5 5 0	
Manures.		
Nitrate of soda	11 2 6	

—Pinnock Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb —Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £13 15s to £14 5s; half-bred hoggs, £12 10s to £13; ditto wethers, £12 to £12 1s; Kent fleeces, £12 0s to £12 5s; South Down ewes and wethers, £13 10s to £14; Leicester ewes and wethers, £11 10s to £12. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., scoured super., 2s 3d to 2s 4d; scoured, good, 2s to 2s 2d; scoured, average, 1s 10½d to 1s 11½d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 2½d to 1s 3½d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 10½d to 1s 11½d; greasy, average, 1s 1d. to 1s 2d; S. Aus., greasy, average, 11d to 1s; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 11d to 2s; greasy, average, 1s to 1s 1d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 10d to 1s 11d; fleece, average, 9½d to 10½d; greasy, average, 8½d to 9½d; Natal, scoured, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; greasy average, 8½d to 9d. Crossbreds—grs.—Vic., good to super., 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d; New Zealand fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s to 1s 1d; coarse, 10d to 11d.

Canterbury, Saturday. — Kent fleeces remain at 11d per lb, with lamb wool at 7d.

Halifax, Saturday.—Business here is a little flatter, and transactions in wool are of very moderate extent, as there is some anticipation, owing to the position in Australia and New Zealand, of prices somewhat declining. English and Irish wools are very quiet,

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A fair business has been done in the big growths, but the general trade is slow; £5 per cwt has been refused for a good parcel of East Kent hops, and a sale of Mid-Kent goldings at £5 10s per cwt is reported.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 P.M.

There was an improved inquiry to-day for English wheat, and the depression of the first half of the month appears already to have passed. Foreign wheat was held for 1s. and under on the lowest prices accepted on the 11th, but sales were slow and values somewhat unsettled.

For English malting barley of good quality there was an eager inquiry, and demand was above the average for any sort which was of serviceable brewing grade. Prices ranged from 31s. to 38s. or thereabouts.

Feeding barley was dull but very steady. Russia ships largely, but the grain is held by the purchasers with great tenacity. Californian brewing barley is 2s. dearer on the fortnight, and Anatolian is also decidedly on the up-grade. Malt tends to rise in price, and oats to-day are dull for foreign, steady for English.

Maize was a quiet trade. Farmers and other buyers will not purchase freely till the large new crop of American is in evidence.

Various sales included Portuguese locust beans at 110s. per ton. English mustard seed at 10s. per bushel, and Coriander at 15s. per cwt. Beans, peas, and tares were unchanged in value.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

November 18.

WHEAT,	White	(per 504 lb.)	37 — 40
	Red	,,	35 — 39
BARLEY,	Malting	(per 448 lb.)	36 — 38
	Brewing	,,	33 — 35
	Distilling	(per 416 lb.)	31 — 32
	New Winter	(per 400 lb.)	27 — 29
	Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	27 — 28
MALT,	Pale (Old)	(per 336 lb.)	34 — 36
	Brown ,,	,,	31 — 32
	Black ,,	,,	33 — 34
	Pale (New) for early Dec. delivery; none offered earlier	,,	39 — 40
OATS,	Good Old	,,	22 — 23
	Good New	,,	21 — 22
	New Winter	,,	20 — 21
	Ordinary Old	(per 320 lb.)	21 — 22
	Ordinary New	(per 320 lb.)	20 — 21
	,, ,,	(per 312 lb.)	19 — 20
RYE, New		(per 480 lb.)	30 — 31
BEANS,	Pigeon	(per 532 lb.)	42 — 44
	Tick	(per 504 lb.)	35 — 36
	Winter	,,	34 — 35
	Spring	,,	33 — 34
	Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	23 — 24
PEAS,	Picked Marrowfat, New	(per 504 lb.)	84 — 88
	Unpicked (Old)	,,	52 — 56
	Maple (Old)	,,	37 — 38
	(New)	,,	36 — 37
	Dun (Old)	,,	33 — 35
	(New)	,,	34 — 35

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba	44	45	American	26/9	27
Red Winter	41	42	Argentine	26/9	27
Best Spring	44	45	Roumanian	26 9	27
Durum	38	39	Russian	26/9	27
Argentine	42	43	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Australian	43	45	Smyrna	37	38
Californian	44	45	New Zealand	35	36
Walla Walla	43	44	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Azima	44	45	Hungarian	62	64
Ghirka	42	43	Burmese	37	39
Roumanian	42	43	Chilian	56	64
Indian White	41	42	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb):		
,, Red	40	41	French	31	33
Turkish	39	40	Russian	32	34
Persian	38	39	Canadian	34	36
BARLEY:			PEAS (504 lb.):		
C'lifor'n (448 lb)	39	40	Dutch Crowns	56	58
Tunisian (448 lb)	35	36	Konigsberg	45	47
Algerian (448 lb)	34	35	Russian White	37	38
Ouchak (448 lb)	34	36	Indian White	37	38
Smyrna (448 lb)	35	37	Canadian White	37	38
Russian (400 lb)	24	25	New Zeal'd Maple	41	42
Indian (400 lb)	23	24	Victoria Dun	34	35
Persian (400 lb)	22	23	MILLET (416 lb.):		
MALT (336 lb.):			White	44	46
Californian	37	38	Yellow	24	26
Smyrna	37	38	Sorghum	22	23
Ouchak	36	39	RICE (cwt.):		
RYE (480 lb.):			Java	16	22
Russian	31	33	Indian	17	20
OATS:			Japanese	16	17
Konigsbg (320 lb)	21	22	Burmese	9	10
Russian (304 lb)	18	19	Siamese	8	9
Canadian (320 lb)	21	22	DARI (480 lb.):		
Arg'tine (304 lb)	18	19	Smyrna	30	31
Swedish (320 lb)	21	22	Indian	28	29
New Z'l'n'd (384 lb)	25	26	Persian	24	25

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 P.M.

The prices made for flour are not quite so high as a week ago, and are decidely lower on the fortnight, but the business doing is larger and the trade more confident.

Country sorts are very much in evidence, and while over 30s. is paid for the mixture recommended by those, or that well-known East Anglian firm and called their "patent," the ordinary roller whites are obtainable at 28s. 6d. to 29s., and stone-made flour for 1s. less than the flour that has been put between the modern rollers.

American forward quotations come 6d dearer, but this does not prevent a little spot concession being made in certain types which had previously been held too high.

Hungarian is rather dearer on the week, and good prices are also obtainable for Belgian.

Bran, middlings, and pollard are firm; barley meal at 8s per cwt is in request, and maize germ meal is fetching £6 10s per ton cash.

London Flour.

November 18.

Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)		37/0
Town Whites		,,	34/0
,, Households		,,	31/0
No. 2		,,	30/0
Whole Meal No. 1		,,	32/0
,, No. 2		,,	30/0
Country Flour.		s.	s.
Fine Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	29	30
Roller Whites	,,	27	28
All English	,,	27	28
Stone made	,,	25	27
Foreign Flour.		s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	32	33
,, Second Patents	,,	31	32
,, First Bakers'	,,	28	29
,, Second Bakers'	,,	27	28
Milwaukee Patents	,,	31	32
,, Bakers'	,,	28	29
Canadian Best	,,	32	33
,, Ordinary	,,	30	31
Manitoba Patents	,,	32	33
,, Ordinary	,,	30	31
Kansas Patents	,,	30	31
,, Ordinary	,,	29	30
Californian	,,	31	32
Belgian	,,	36	37
Hungarian (net prices)—			
Five Stars	,,	40/0	
G.G.O.	,,	39/0	
P.W.M.	,,	37/6	
Six Anchors	,,	None	
Meal, &c.			
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	17	18
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	18	19
,, ,, Broad	,,	17	18
Pollard	,,	16	17
Biscuit Middlings	,,	20	21
Fine Middlings	,,	19	20
Coarse Middlings	,,	18	19
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	20	21
Farina Firsts	,,	31	32
,, Seconds	,,	29	30
Barley Meal	,,	28	29
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	28	29
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	33	34
Groats	,,	34	35
Oat Flour	,,	34	35
Ground Oats	,,	33	34
Poultry Meal	,,	37	38
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	21	22
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	20	21
,, Germ Meal	,,	17	18
,, Cones	,,	20	21
,, Gluten Meal	,,	17	18
Rye Flour	,,	26	28
Rye Bran	,,	23	24
Pea Meal	,,	25	26

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE WRETCHED WEATHER AFFECTED THE ATTENDANCE, A GOOD MANY OPERATORS FAILING TO PUT IN AN APPEARANCE. THE LIGHT WAS VERY BAD, AND THE OLD FASHIONED YELLOW GAS FLAMES GIVE A FALSE VIEW OF THE COLOUR OF SAMPLES. CONSIDERING ALL THINGS THE MARKET WAS NOT DULL

THE BALTIC.

Monday, 1 P.M.

State of Trade.

Wheat and barley cargoes are not quite so easy of sale as they were at the close of last week. A good steady trade at currencies is doing in cargoes of maize and oilseeds.

Business Done.

Wheat.—White Karachi, 41s 9d per 492 lb, prompt shipment; Red Karachi, 41s 3d per 492 lb, prompt shipment; Argentine, 39s 3d per 480 lb, February shipment; Californian, 42s 6d per 500 lb, prompt shipment; Blue Stem, 42s 9d per 500 lb, prompt shipment; Australian, 43s 6d per 480 lb, on passage; Duluth, 41s 3d per 480 lb, January shipment; No. 2 Hard Winter, 38s 6d per 480 lb, December shipment.

Maize.—Argentine, 27s per 480 lb, December shipment; American, 26 6d per 480 lb, on passage; American 25s 6d per 480 lb, January shipment; Odessa, 27s per 480 lb, on passage.

Barley.—Novorossisk, 25s 6d per 480 lb, on on passage; Temriuk, 25s 3d per 400 lb, on passage.

Oats.—Salonica, 17s per 304 lb, December shipment; New Zealand, 25s per 384 lb, December shipment.

Canaryseed.—Turkish, 36s 6d per 464 lb, September shipment.

Linseed.—Calcutta, 45s 9d per 410 lb, September shipment; Argetine, 41s 3d per 410 lb, September shipment.

Cottonseed, Egyptian, £6 17s 6d per 2,240 lb, September shipment.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

Offals.—Demand for bran fairly good; prices remain unchanged.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Flour.—After the recent period of quietness the market is again advancing, and prices are mostly 6d per sack higher than last week.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Flour.—Business is of a very retail character, although early in the week there was more inclination to buy, but to-day with lower wheat markets buyers hold off. Grain.—The demand for round and flat corn continues inactive at drooping prices. Beans in poor demand. Fine oats bring full prices, but poor qualities are difficult to sell. Oatmeal rather lower. Oilcake dull. Mill stuffs, unchanged but quiet. Winter wheat patents, 30s 6d to 31s per 280 lb; spring wheat patents, 32s 6d to 33s per 280 lb; American corn, 16s to 16s 1½d per 280 lb; round corn, 15s 6d to 15s 7½d per 280 lb; grinding beans, 18s 9d to 19s per 280 lb; broad bran, 117s 6d to £6 per ton; medium bran, 112s 6d per ton; common thirds, 115s to 117s 6d per ton; fine thirds, 137s 6d to 140s per ton; American oilcake, 150s to 152s 6d per ton.—McKinnon and McDonald (Glasgow).

Milling offals.—The trade remains firm, with prices unchanged from last week.—John Bawcomb and Co.

Arrivals of wheat the past week have been liberal. The trade is steady, and prices are 1s to 1s 6d per qr higher than last Monday. Flour 6d to 1s per sack higher. Maize 3d to 6d, and barley 3d per qr dearer. Oats firm, prices unchanged.—Coventry, Sheppard, and Co.

Flour.—Notwithstanding the firmness in the wheat market, buyers show very little disposition to trade in flour. Offers are not plentiful, and prices must be written a shade higher on the week.—T. S. Medill and Sons, Ltd.

TERM MARKET.

The tone on the speculative market is more hopeful from a week ago. The following are the latest offers accepted:—

Red Winter Wheat, No. 2,
8s. 2d. per cental, December delivery
,, ,, 8s. 3d. ,, January delivery.
,, ,, 8s 4d. ,, February delivery

Maize—
Mixed American, 5s. 9d. ,, Dec. ,,
,, ,, 5s. 6d. ,, Jan. ,,
,, ,, 5s. 5d. ,, Feb. ,,

Maize—
Argentine yellow 5s. 5d. ,, Dec. ,,

No offers of La Plata for 1908 delivery.

WET AND DRIED GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Wet Grains: Prices remain about the same with an easy tendency. Business has been done during the week at 22s ale, and porter 3s per ton less on rail London. Slack brewings will cause prices to be firmer. Dried Grains.—Prices continue firm with a steady tendency at 110s per ton for ale and 105s for mixed, bags 6d. each. Best Java Molasses.—Concrete 70 per cent. sugar, in baskets, 85s per ton, and kiln dried sea damaged wheat from 22s per qr, on rail, London and elsewhere.—Hamlyn and Co.

THE MARK LANE EXPRESS SUPPLEMENT FOR THE HOME

Conducted by PEPITA

THE NEWEST FASHIONS.

In many of the newest gowns the long slope of the shoulder has disappeared to give place to a long, close sleeve, which reaches well down over the hand. This sleeve is furnished with a small puff just at the top, and the effect is narrow and high-shouldered in comparison with the wide, sloping Japanese modes. This is, perhaps, the most important note among the various changes the autumn has ushered in.

* * *

Just at this season, when dressmakers vie with each other in turning out original designs, the greatest care should be exercised, and the sensible woman should pause a little for consideration, that she may choose correctly for herself amidst the great diversity and variety of modes that are offered. The question of personality should never be forgotten, for it is common-sense to be eclectic in matters of dress as well as in other things. Too many rush pell-mell into a fashion which, in many cases, is entirely unsuitable; and it is thus we see the absurd travesties on a style which, if used with discretion, has real beauty and value in itself. This season, however, there is enough variety in the modes to provide artistically for everyone.

* * *

With the English woman, the tailor suit occupies a place of great importance; and it is here one is less apt to make mistakes of selection than in gowns of another character. The main thing is to keep to the simpler styles, where one cannot go far wrong, for most simple tailor suits are good. The short, pleated tailor skirt of last spring bids fair to continue its vogue, though it is to be hoped a more becoming length will be adopted than the very short models of a few months ago. The proper length for a walking suit is from two-and-a-half to three inches from the ground, while some of the spring skirts were all of two or three inches shorter than this.

* * *

Tucks and folds hold their own, too, though there may be observed some change both in the width of the tuck or fold, and in its position. On some of the models I have just seen there is a hem of not more than three inches, while the bottom of the lowest tuck falls directly above this hem. This tuck may be six or seven inches in width; and the second tuck, of the same width, is placed so high upon the skirt as to give the effect of a short pleated tunic. Folds and tucks play an important part in the gowns of a different sort—the long gowns; and here again, the distinguishing feature is the width of the tuck, which quite exceeds anything seen before. Of course this is one of the modes that must be used with the utmost discretion, both in the long gowns and the short tailor suits.

* * *

Jacket styles to two-piece suits are so numerous as to defy enumeration, though one of the most sensible is the plain little well-tailored affair of long or short hip-length, well supplied with masculine pockets, little "patch" or inset. These jackets are rarely quite tight-fitting, the smartest being quite easy at the waist line, a style becoming to all figures, whether stout or slender. The quaint little short-waisted coat of uncertain cut is becoming to youthful figures, and, as it has the advantage of being novel and very feminine, it is likely to prove an autumn and winter favourite. A number of striped materials are again seen in tailor suits as well as in other kinds of gowns, though, of course, the tones are darker than those exploited in the spring and summer.

* * *

An interesting feature of many of the new gowns is the clever manner in which a striped material is cut and employed to effective advantage. The skirt of such a striped gown will often be trimmed with three false tucks, these cut on the bias and so placed as to gain a variety and effect; the middle tuck with its lines running diagonally to the right, the other two with their stripes running to the left. Again, a gown of striped material may have a circular skirt with a cleverly cut front panel, the sides and panel being cut different ways of the goods, and this arrangement will be repeated in some manner in the bodice, with an effect that, in the ensemble, is charming.



AN ARTISTIC HAT.

* * *

A pretty little striped house gown I have recently seen had a white ground with narrow black stripes. The skirt was made with many bias flounces edged with black around the hem. The elbow sleeves were composed of several ruffles also treated with the black edge, while the square opening of the yoke was finished in the same way. The gown was intended for a tall woman, and it was most effective.

* * *

Some entirely new hats have put in an appearance, together with some models that reproduce the absurdities of the past few months, with their extravagant brims and their excessive trimming. One of the newest shapes is the "Huguenot," with a high crown and a rather narrow brim. Most of the hats are over-trimmed, some being topped with enormous bows of ribbon or velvet, and others being crowded with plumes of a most elegant and expensive variety. Again, birds and wings are seen, but always to an exaggerated extent; some hats having as many as six large-sized wings starting from a chou in front and overhanging both crown and brim. The hat with the wide brim turned up shapely in front, is also seen; and, usually, this hat has its brim smartly faced with black moire, silk, or satin in a coming way.

* * *

The charming and artistic hat shown in the sketch is a Paris model. The hat is of cinnamon brown velvet, trimmed with pheasants tail feathers and autumn leaves.

Removing Spots and Stains.

Grease or oil stains may be readily removed from wall paper, painted walls, or floors by covering with a paste made of pipe clay, borax, and cold water; and from carpets or rugs by applying powdered borax. Spots made by food, greasy in their character, should be washed out immediately with warm borax water. Blood stains require cold water and a little soaking before rubbing out.

Ink spots require prompt treatment, for, if allowed to dry, they are difficult to remove. Fresh ink, if wiped up as dry as possible, and then covered with a mixture of borax and salt, will leave no stain on carpets, floors, or upon garments upon which it has been spilled. Iron rust and mildew are well-known annoyances with bed and table linens, and require special attention at the hands of the laundress before being put in the tub. A paste made of citric acid, French chalk, powdered borax, and cold water, spread over the spots and dried in the sun, will usually be found effective. If the first application fail, it should be repeated.

The brown stains on baking dishes and porcelain lining of cooking utensils are best taken off with muriatic acid, but should be well rinsed with borax water to prevent injurious action on the surface. White spots on polished tables made by hot dishes will readily yield to an application of sweet oil. Fruit stains on table cloths, napkins, or wearing apparel should always be removed before putting in the wash, as hot water and soap will set them, so that it will be impossible to take them out. White articles may be wetted in acids with excellent results, but coloured fabrics require more care to prevent discolouring. If held over a basin, and very hot water, to which powdered borax is added, is poured over the spots, they will come out without fading or injuring the most delicate colours.

Troublesome coal dirt spots in winter, and dust spots in summer, often disfigure woollen gowns, and, if washed out with soap, leave an ugly stain. To remove them, first cover with French chalk, then brush off, and rinse in a little tepid borax water, and hang in the shade. When dry, the spots will have entirely disappeared.

Longhead: "Madam, I wish to draw your attention to the sad case of a poor family. The father is too old to work, the mother is bedridden, and the five little children are crying for bread. To cap all, the poor little creatures are about to be turned out into the street, unless someone pays their arrears of rent, amounting to £5."

Mrs. Kindheart: "How terrible! Here is the money for the rent. By the way, may I ask who you are?"

Longhead (as he disappears): "Certainly, madam; I am the landlord."

GARDENING IN NOVEMBER.—Second Paper.

When closing my last article on gardening in November, I promised to refer to the cultivation of the chrysanthemum, and hope that readers have given the matter their consideration and prepared their pots.

The most useful and best pots to use for single cuttings are those 2½ inches in diameter, They should be scrupulously clean, both inside and out, if old pots are used; if new, then the best plan is to stand them in water for a night.

The dirty pot should be condemned, as it is unpleasant to handle, besides being unsightly and against the young plants when the day arrives to transfer to a larger size. The young roots are sure to penetrate the soil, and reach the interior of the potsides, and will be found on examination to have adhered, and may have to be torn away, or the pot smashed to enable the ball of soil to be released. I make it a point to choose the most finished pots with a nice smooth surface. Smaller pots, even than the one mentioned, may be utilised for cuttings, and I think it is generally admitted that the smaller the pot the better it is made.

The season most usually agreed upon as the safest for taking cuttings is about the end of December. Some very successful growers will extend the time and continue to take their cuttings as late as the end of January. I have had no experience in this very late operation, as I certainly favour the middle of December. The flowering growth of the old plants should be shortened, as soon as possible after the blooms are over, to about 4 in., and removed to a cool house or a place which is quite free from frost, but plenty of air and light should be allowed.

It is advisable to encourage the young shoots to come along, so that healthy and strong cuttings may be obtained. I always take my cuttings, as soon as they are sufficiently advanced, direct from the base as low down as possible, as they are stronger and take root much quicker. Of course, good cuttings may be had from stems, but they do not, as a rule, make such vigorous plants as those got from the base. It is important to see that cuttings obtained from stems do not throw out buds during propagation. Cut them off if they do.

Stem cuttings should be obtained with a keen knife just below a joint. The length of them should not exceed 4 in. Some varieties of this popular flower throw up a goodly number of shoots from the base, and amateurs are apt to take advantage of them all if the plants happen to be of some very special favourite colour. This is entirely wrong, and it is much better to reduce them in favour of the strongest, and secure a few good plants. It is much better to have strong, healthy stuff that will give you pleasure to feed than to cultivate half-starved, weakly, drooping stock. I do not recommend the stem cuttings to anyone. A sweet sandy soil should be used, but this is not always available, and almost any soil with leaf loam and some clean, sharp sand will suffice. The parts mostly used are two parts leaf-soil, two of loam, and one of sand. Rub it well through the hands in order to mix the proportions. When placing the cutting in the soil, press it moderately firm, give a good watering and very little more will be required till rooted. The cuttings should be placed in a cool greenhouse, or a frame upon ash bottom.

Amateurs cannot do better than attend some of the large chrysanthemum shows held at this time of the year, and take note of the best special varieties. There are a number of nurserymen who would be willing to book orders for plants or cuttings. The latter are ready for potting, and have been carefully selected and prepared from any selections made at the shows. The cost is about one-half the sum charged for rooted plants, and they may be had from growers as late as the end of February. In the event of our own cuttings being a failure, this is a means by which our stock may be replenished, and the cost is well worth the outlay, as no greenhouse should be without this floral display. I understand there are many new varieties this year on exhibition.

I have already given some information in a recent article regarding the treatment of bulbs. My readers may be interested in the accompanying photograph which shows a lily grown under careful treatment. This is the Lilium Lancifolium (Speciosum). This very graceful and highly perfumed lily is quite hardy, and may be grown by any amateur in a good loam. Peat is preferable for pot culture. Sandy peat, well mixed, will generally produce the best plant. It is not, however, absolutely essential to obtain peat in order to ensure success, as very fine specimens have been cultivated in a nice light soil, such as would be used for the growing of geraniums, fuchsias, and other similar plants. When planting the bulb it is advisable to place it in the soil about 2 in. below the surface, and from time to time transfer to larger pots. The roots should be very carefully covered when finally potted, as they come from the base of the stem at the crown of the bulb, and these are the main support of the flowers we look forward to.

A watchful eye must be kept on the plants, as it is important to be careful not to re-pot after the flowering buds make their appearance. It is scarcely necessary to mention this fact, but I do so in order that it will not be overlooked. Give plenty of water during growing and flowering season, but moderately afterwards. This plant is easily managed, and does not need a high temperature. It is a most useful plant as the flowers are fine for decoration in either conservatories, greenhouse, or the drawing-room. For pot culture



LILIUM SPECIOSUM.

this lily and Lilium Auratum are strongly recommended. They vary in colour, flower freely, and are very fragrant.

G. W. Thomson-Price.

Care of Lamps.

The light of oil lamps is so much softer and less injurious for the eyes than flickering gas, or even electricity, that it really should be used instead of these in all nurseries and children's rooms, and the only drawback about lamps is that they require such careful tending to keep them in a safe and bright condition. But given a conscientious nurse or a mistress who undertakes their management herself, all will be well. One very necessary thing in lamps is that the oil reservoir be kept scrupulously clean inside. No oil is so pure that it does not leave a sediment, and if this sediment be allowed to accumulate the succeeding oil fails to burn brightly.

Lamp reservoirs should be washed out once a week with hot water and pearl-ash and be allowed to thoroughly drain and dry before new oil be added. The burner should also be frequently cleaned once a day, in fact- and every orifice should be thoroughly cleaned out. The wick should be wiped at the top with a piece of soft rag to remove the charred edges, and if it should be found to burn rather cloudily it may be necessary to remove it next morning and soak it for an hour or two in vinegar and water. It should be quite dry before being again placed in the burner.

COOKERY.

Rice in Varied Forms.

A competent authority says that to gain the best results rice must be thoroughly washed, and the grains rubbed between the hands to get rid of the floury coating, in order that the rice may not stick together when cooked.

Into a deep saucepan, two-thirds full of salted, boiling water, put the washed and drained rice, gradually, so as not to stop the boiling, and let it cook for twenty minutes undisturbed. Put a colander over another saucepan, turn the rice into it, cover the colander, and leave the saucepan by the fire. In this way the rice will both drain and steam. Three things must be remembered: The water must be boiling, the rice must not be disturbed during the cooking, and it must be thoroughly drained.

The Japanese use a cooking pot with a close-fitting cover, and put in just water enough to keep the rice from sticking. They steam it over a moderate fire till nearly done, then take off the cover to let the steam and moisture escape.

To cook rice as it is done in India, to be eaten as a vegetable with meat: Take half a pound of washed rice and boil it in one quart of milk until tender, chop one clove of garlic fine, add it to the cooked rice with one tablespoonful of onion, one teaspoonful of parsley, and three of green pepper, all finely chopped, two tablespoonsful of Parmesan cheese, two beaten eggs, and a small cup of milk. Thoroughly mix these ingredients with the rice before turning the whole into a buttered baking dish, put some bits of butter over the top, place the dish in the oven, and bake until the top is a nice rich brown.

For a breakfast cereal, or to be eaten as a plain dessert with cream and sugar or sauce: Wash one cup of rice, and put it into a saucepan or kettle that has a tightly-fitted cover; add one cup of milk, two cups of water, and a saltspoonful of salt. Cover the vessel and put at the side of the fire, where the rice cannot burn, but will simmer until it is tender and all the liquid has been absorbed by the rice. This is richer and more nourishing than when cooked with water alone. When raisins are desired with boiled rice, add a cupful to the rice when preparing it to put over the fire.

Baked Rice.—Put one small cup of washed rice in one quart of milk, half a teaspoonful of salt, a dash of pepper, and a little chopped parsley, if it is liked. Butter a pudding dish and put in the rice and milk, drop a few bits of butter over the milk and place the dish in a slow oven and bake two hours. If it browns too fast cover the dish until nearly done. Serve very hot with a meat course.

Parched Rice.—This is nice with broiled meats. Boil the rice in water and drain it well. Put it on a dish, and when it is cold, separate the grains carefully with a fork. Put into a spider enough butter to cover the bottom of it when melted. When the butter is hot, put in a little of the rice at a time, cook it a delicate brown, tossing it lightly with a fork, so as not to break the grains. Drain on brown paper at the mouth of the oven, heap it in the centre of a small dish, sprinkle a little chopped parsley on the top and serve.

Coral Rice.—Put into a saucepan one and one-half cups of stock, one cup of stewing and strained tomatoes, and one cup of washed rice, cover and cook for thirty minutes. Take off the cover, set the pan at the back of the stove, to let the moisture escape, for twenty minutes. Heap the rice in a mound in the middle of a hot dish, and put broiled chops around it, or put meats in the centre, and mould the rice for a border.

Rice Omelet.—Mix one tablespoonful of butter with one of flour and cook them over the fire until smooth; then stir in two-thirds of a cup of milk, and set one side until cold, before adding half a cup of boiled rice and the beaten yolks of four eggs. The last thing stir in lightly the beaten whites of the eggs and turn the mixture into a buttered dish. Stand the dish in a pan of hot water and bake fifteen minutes. This omelet must be seved as soon as it is taken from the oven. Serve with a sauce made by beating the whites of three eggs stiff; add to them one cup of powdered sugar, and just before sending to the table, stir in the juice from two oranges and half a lemon.

Rice Balls with Fried Chicken.—Stir into cold boiled rice a little melted butter and some milk until you have a thick paste; add some salt and a little chopped parsley; blend together with a beaten egg. Roll these into balls with the palms of the hands. Fry the balls in hot fat. Place them around the edge of the dish on which the chicken has been arranged, and alternate each ball with a slice of crisp bacon.

KNITTED DERBY COAT.

Fashions in knitted jackets change almost as readily as in other garments for feminine wear, and along the same lines. The pony coat of cloth or fur has its prototype in the knitted Derby or Norfolk coat, and the effect is so satisfactory that the bloused jersey is practically retired, for the present at least. There is a smart, outdoor look to the jacket that the blouse never possessed, and that characteristic, at least, will appeal to many. The Derby coat illustrated is, in a simple stitch, readily followed. The double ribbing makes it shape in to the figure at the waist-line without the necessity for narrowing in the knitting, an arrangement that is calculated to give a more satisfactory garment. A knitted



PATTERN THAT RESEMBLES PLEATING.

jacket has stretching qualities not possessed by those made of cloth, and if a definite waist-line is made in the knitting, it necessitates careful measuring in the making and equal care in the adjustment when worn, to avoid the danger of a "short-waisted" effect in the back. The detailed illustration of the jacket, spread out to show the shape, before the under-arm seams are joined or the border added, will be found useful as a model for reference in shaping, no matter what "stitch pattern" may be employed. The outline of the armhole is particularly good, preserving a straight line across the shoulder, like that of a well-tailored coat, as may be seen in the illustration of the completed jacket. No. 4 bone needles were used, and in moderately tight knitting, 7 stitches make an inch. In calculating the number of stitches required, multiply the bust measure by the number of stitches to the inch, and give a trifle over one-third of these stitches to the back. The absolute number cast on must be decided by the number of stitches in each group of the "pattern" of the knitting, and if there is, as in this coat, a pattern enclosed between stripes of ribbing, both sides must be finished alike, necessitating the use of only a portion of the "pattern" at one side.

This coat was made for size 42 bust, and



PATTERN STITCH USED IN KNITTING DERBY COAT.

it will be a simple matter to calculate for a smaller size. The materials required are 1½ lbs. of yarn, 1 pair No. 4 bone knitting needles, 1 medium-size crochet hook, 6 pearl buttons, and 2 yards of ribbon for facing the fronts and the straps that fasten across the front. The coat is begun at the lower edge of the back, and 116 stitches are cast on.

First row: K. 2, p. 2, k. 2, p. 4 to end of needle, finishing with k. 2, p. 2, k. 2.

Second row: P. 2, k. 2, p. 2, k. 4 to end of needle, finishing with p. 2, k. 2, p. 2.

Third row: Repeat first row.

Fourth row: Repeat second row.

Fifth row: Repeat first row.

Sixth row: K. 2, * p. 2, k. 8. * Repeat from star to star to end of needle, finishing with p. 2. k. 2.

Seventh row: P. 2, * k. 2, p. 8. Repeat from star to star to end of row, finishing with k. 2, p. 2.

Eighth row: Repeat sixth row.

Ninth row: Repeat seventh row.

Tenth row: Repeat sixth row. This completes the pattern.

Knit until the back is 17 inches deep, then bind off six stitches at each end of the needle for the under-part of the armhole. Now make the curve by decreasing 1 stitch in every other row, on both ends of the needle, until 4 more stitches are decreased on each side. There are now 96 stitches on the needle; knit until the back is 24 inches long, then divide into three equal parts for the neck and the shoulders. Slip the first 32 stitches on a thread to hold them until ready to knit them. Bind off the next 32 for the neck and continue knitting for the left shoulder on the last 32 stitches. Continue the pattern and add, at the neck side, 1 stitch on every other row until there have been added 32 stitches. When 25 stitches have been added, begin to increase at the arm size at the armhole side, adding 1 stitch on every other row until 16 stitches have been added. There are now 80 stitches on the needle; knit until the front under-arm seam is the same length as that of the back, then on the next row (beginning at the front edge) knit the first 68 stitches, leave the remaining 12 on the left-hand needle, turn and knit back to the front. The next row leave 4 more stitches unknitted,



KNITTED DERBY COAT.

making 16 on the left-hand needle; turn and knit back. Repeat five times, leaving 4 stitches unknitted each time, then bind off. The edge will have a becoming "dip" line toward the front. Take up the 32 stitches at the right shoulder and knit to correspond with the left side.

For the sleeve, cast on 20 stitches; add 3 stitches at each end of the needle on every other row until there are 119 stitches. Knit on these for 3 inches, then decrease 1 stitch at each end of the needle every time the "pattern" is reversed, until the seam is 10 inches long; bind off.

For the pocket, cast on 32 stitches; knit the "pattern" for 4 inches and bind off. For the strap, cast on 2 stitches, knit the pattern (beginning in the middle of the block), increase 1 stitch at beginning of every row until there are 8 stitches; this omits one row of the ribbing at each side. Make strap 6 blocks long, decreasing to a point at the end to correspond with the beginning. Make a buttonhole at one end by binding off 4 stitches in the second block, then casting them on again on the return row.

Overhand the seams of the jacket and sleeves. Work 9 rows of single crochet around the coat, widening at the corners at the neck edge and bottom of the front, to preserve the outline and make a sharp turn. Work 9 rows of single crochet on each sleeve; 4 rows across each pocket-piece and two rows around each strap. Sew on the pockets and sew in the sleeves, placing the sleeve seam 1 inch in front of the under-arm seam and arranging the fulness across the top. Underface the front edges and the straps with ribbon, cut the buttonholes in the ribbon and work, knitted edge and ribbon together, with buttonhole twist. Sew each strap on with a button, and sew buttons on the opposite side of the front. A detail of the pattern stitch is illustrated.

The last illustration is a pattern that has the effect of pleats or fluting. It is composed of blocks that are each 8 rows deep and 9 stitches wide, and divided across diagonally by purling and knitting in the following manner:—

First row: P. 8. k. 1; repeat to end of row.

Second row: P. 2, k. 7; repeat to end of row.

Third row: P. 6, k. 3; repeat.

Fourth row: P. 4, k. 5; repeat.

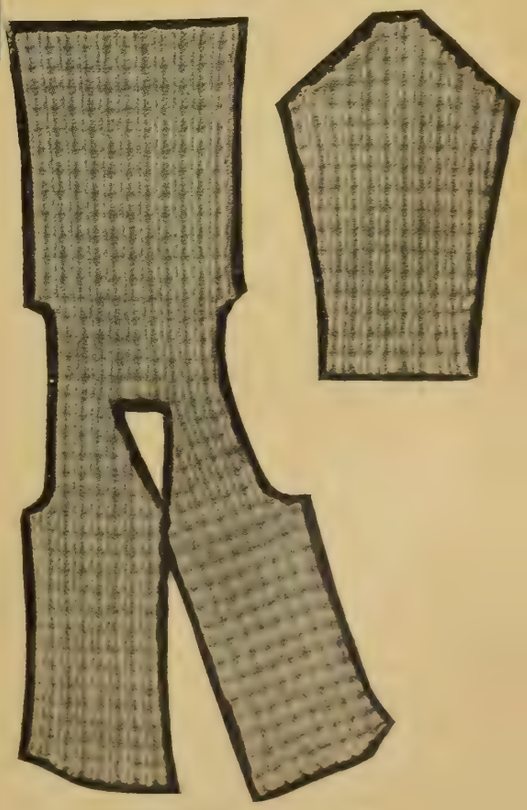
Fifth row: P. 4, k. 5; repeat.

Sixth row: P. 6, k. 3; repeat.

Seventh row: P. 2, k. 7; repeat.

Eighth row: P. 8, k. 4; repeat.

To knit the Derby coat in this stitch, 117 stitches should be cast on for the back, as that number is divisible by 9, the number of stitches in the pattern and widen the fronts to 81 stitches instead of 80.



SHAPE OF COAT AND SLEEVE.

ROUND ABOUT NOTES.

Miss Grace Jean Crocker, the clever American humourist gave an entertaining recital at the Steinway Hall on the 11th inst., and a crowded audience evidenced a keen appreciation of her admirable rendering of several humourous pieces including "The Christening," "Dat Weddin' o' Mandy Stubbiefields," and some recitations of child-life. Her dramatic power was shown in her exposition of "All the World's a Stage," and the pathetic poem by James W. Riley, "'Mongst the Hills of Somerset." Mr. Denis O'Sullivan gave several Irish songs in excellent style.

* * *

A novel game of draughts was recently played in Rangoon, one of the players being a local expert. In place of the usual black and white draughtsmen, the novice used rupees and the champion used sovereigns, the understanding being that the draughts captured on either side should be the property of the captor.

* * *

Miss Kerstin Hisselgren has been appointed by the Swedish Government sanitary inspector in Stockholm. This is a new departure. Miss Hisselgren was sent to England by the Government and the Frederika Bremer Association of Women to study hygiene and public health. She took the course of scientific hygiene at Bedford College for Women.

"PEPIT."

The Virtues of Distilled Water.

It is a matter of regret that the virtues of distilled water are not more widely known. Persons living in country districts are content, through want of knowledge of the superior merits of distilled water, to drink water teeming with impurities and laden with mineral matter of an objectionable kind.

Well water is frequently not only impure, but of an exceedingly hard nature, and when this is the case, it is exceedingly injurious, especially for persons in whom there is any tendency to dyspepsia, rheumatism, gout, kidney trouble, or liver complaints. Dr. de Lacey Evans says:—"The combinations of lime held in solution in the water we drink, when taken into the stomach, are soon distributed throughout the system and deposited in all the tissues, exactly as they are precipitated and form incrustations on the bottoms of kettles in which water is boiled. The result is general induration, partial, and often in some organs and tissues complete, ossification. The bones become brittle, the joints and muscles stiff and rheumatic, gravel and stones form in the bladder, the kidneys, liver, heart, nerves and brain become indurated and sluggish in their action; all the bodily functions are impaired."

It is also now known that many diseases, notably, typhoid fever, cholera, dysentery, and similar affections, are frequently originated by drinking impure water. Whenever there is reason to believe that the drinking-water of any district is not perfectly pure, distilled water should be substituted for it.

The Medical Congress of Brussels passed the following resolution:—"Waters that are hard or contain mineral matters form with the chyle an abnormal medium for hematosis (formation of blood), and they fatigue the kidneys, whose duty is to eliminate them unceasingly, and they incrust the articulations."

The powerful solvent properties of distilled water are well known. As carbonate of lime exists in nearly all drinking water, the careful distillation eliminates this harmful element. As a beverage, distilled water is rapidly absorbed into the blood; it keeps soluble those salts already in the blood and facilitates their excretion, thus preventing their undue deposit. The daily use of distilled water is, after middle life, one of the most important means of preventing secretions and the derangement of health.

Filtering water or boiling it are processes which are almost useless. Filters remove nothing but sedimentary matter, and frequently become so impregnated with germs that they are a source of danger rather than of purification.



The process of boiling may kill the germs of a particular disease, yet, in reality, it renders the water more impure than it was before, because by the very death of these germs, dead matter is allowed to remain in the water, which it pollutes by putrification.

The only practical method of obtaining absolutely pure water is by distillation. This has long been agreed by the best authorities. Many difficulties have, however, stood in the way of the general adoption of this process for domestic purposes. Ordinary stills are laboratory appliances, requiring skill to work. They are also costly, and a licence must be paid to Government to be allowed to use them. Distilled water can generally be bought in cities from the chemists, but at a high price—as much as 1s. per gallon. The water so produced is quite as flat and unpalatable a beverage as boiled water. Only an overpowering sense of duty or fear will lead to its constant use. In the country it is usually very difficult to procure at all.

These objections have been removed by an invention which has now come into extensive use where distilled water is a necessity. It is almost automatic in action, and produces distilled aërated water in such quantities and so cheaply that it can be freely used, not only for drinking, but for toilet purposes, and there is no finer cosmetic for the complexion. It will prevent untimely wrinkles and keep the skin smooth and soft as velvet. The use of distilled water greatly improves the flavour of tea, coffee, and other beverages.

The action of the still is exceedingly simple and almost automatic. All the attention it requires is to keep the upper reservoir supplied with water and to draw off the distilled water from time to time. Any ordinary servant or child can work it. Complete instructions for use are sent with each still, which is securely packed in a neat wooden case. Placed on the kitchen range the still takes little more room than a kettle, and a regular supply of hot water can always be obtained from it. The cost of the distilled water while on a range is inappreciable, but if a gas fire or oil stove be used, the cost will be from 1d. to 1½d. per gallon. As the still lasts for years, with ordinary care, it will be seen that it will pay for itself many times over if the ordinary price of distilled water be taken as a basis.

The accompanying sketch shows the interior mechanism of the still. It is obtainable for two guineas from Mdme. Gilbert, 186, Regent Street, London, W.C. Its construction makes it impracticable for it to be used for the distillation of spirits. It is consequently exempt from the necessity of paying a licence to the authorities.

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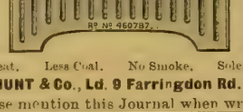
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7in. ,,	2/-	8in. ,,	2/8
10in. ,,	2/6	9in. ,,	3/-
12in. ,,	3/3		

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London:

WILLIAM A. MAY, "Farm, Field & Fireside" Office, 3, Wellington Street, Strand.

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POTATOES

Borough, Saturday. — A good quantity marketed experienced quiet support. Blacklands, 75s to 80s; Up-to-Dates, 90s to 100s; Royal kidneys, 80 to 90s per ton; French, 3s 3d to 3s 6d; Dutch, 3s to 3s 6d; German, 3s 6d to 4s per bag.

Berwick, Saturday.—Prices are falling owing to the large arivals of foreign potatoes, and the ruling price was 75s per ton.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Large supply, and a fair trade at 7d to 8d per stone.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Plenty of potatoes on offer and a fair inquiry. Prices, which were slightly easier, ruled from 9s to 10s 6d per load of 18 stones.

Goole, Wednesday—A large supply. Imperators, 9s, Up-to-Dates, 9s 6d; and King Edwards, 10s per load. Heavy arrival of German Up-to-dates caused prices to have a downward tendency.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Potatoes 9d to 10d per stone.

Manchester, Saturday. — Potatoes: Yorkshire, 11s 6d to 12s 6d; Cheshire, 8s 6d to 9s 6d; Lincoln, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 18 st; Irish, 5s; German, 4s 6d to 5s per cwt.

Malton, Saturday. —The wholesale potatoe trade was less firm in tone at about 78s to 86s per ton, and 8d per stone retail.

Preston, Saturday.—Potatoes, 8s 6d to 9s 6d per load of 240 lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Good supplies. Home-grown lots made 8s, and other varieties 7s to 7s 6d per load.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—A slow demand prevailed for the heavier deliveries. Blacklands, 80s to 85s; Up-to-Dates, 90s to 100s; Royal Kidneys, 85s to 90s; Scotch grey soil, 90 to 95s per ton. German, 4s; Dutch, 3s 3d to 3s 6d; French, 3s 6d per bag.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Fair supply, which were firm at late rates. Best samples made 9s to 10s per load of 18 stones.

York, Saturday.—A fairly large supply of potatoes, the imports of foreigners having greatly eased the market. Trade was quiet, prices ranging from 72s 6d to 80s per ton.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Altrincham: 5. Appleby: 5 and 6. Barnstaple: 6 and 7. Berwick: 10d to 1s per doz. Birmingham: 6 and 7. Camelford: 8. Carlisle: 5. Chester: 6. Dartmouth: 5 and 6. Devizes: 7 and 8. Doncaster: 6 and 7. Dorchester: 6 to 8. Evesham: 1s 11d to 2s 1d per doz. Kidderminster. 7 and 8. Lincoln: 7 and 8. Market Drayton: 6 and 7. Otley: 5. Penrith: 5 to 6. Penzance: 1s 7d to 1s 10½ per dozen. Plymouth: 6. Preston: 5. Retford: 3s per score. Ripon: 6 and 7. Scarborough: 7. Spalding: 7 and 8. Stamford: 8 and 9. Stockport: 5. Stockton: 5. Totnes: 5 and 6. Truro: 1s 7d to 1s 9d per dozen. Wellington (Salop): 7 to 8. Worcester: 6. Worksop: 2s 4d to 2s 6d per score. York: 6 and 7.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Altrincham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Appleby: 1s to 1s 3d. Barnstaple: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Berwick: 1s 6d to 1s 7d. Birmingham: 1s 3½ to 1s 4½. Camelford: 11d. Carlisle: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Chester: 1s 3½ to 1s 4d. Dartmouth: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Devizes: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Doncaster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Dorchester: 1s to 1s 5d. Evesham: 1s to 1s 3½d. Hereford: 1s to 1s 3d. Kidderminster: 1s 1d. Lancaster: 1s to 1s 2d. Lincoln: 1s 1d to 1s 2d Market Drayton: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Otley: 1s 8d per 24 oz roll. Penrith: 1s to 1s 2d. Penzance: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Plymouth: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Preston: 1s 4d. Retford: 1s 3d to 1s 5d. Ripon: 1s 9d to 1s 10d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Shrewsbury: 1s 2d to 1s 3½. Spalding: 1s 1d. Stamford: 1s 3d. Stockport: 1s 2d to 1s 3½. Stockton: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Totnes: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Truro: 10d to 1s. Wellington (Salop): 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Worcester: 11d to 1s 3d. Worksop: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 4d.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were:—From Ireland, 3,455 bales, and from foreign ports, 15,566 bales. There was a steady but slow market for bacon throughout the week. Prices ranged:—Irish, 56s to 58s up to 61s; Danish, 54s to 57s up to 61s; Canadian, 56s to 56s up to 58s. Butter: Butter was a quiet market. French, 108s to 118s; Danish, 121s to 123s; Russian, 88s to 114s; Irish, 96s to 122s; Victorian, 90s to 120s; New South Wales, 94s to 118s; Queensland, 90s to 116s; New Zealand, 11s 0 to 118s. Lard.—Lard was a steady market. Irish, 50s to 58s; Danish, 49s to 54s; American, 46s 6d to 47s 9d.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Nov. 18, 1907. British.	Total.	Monday, Nov. 19, 1906.
Beasts	1,470	1,470	1,410
Sheep and Lambs	4,390	4,390	4,530
Calves	10	10	20
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	40	40	50

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 6	3 4	4 6
Sheep	4 10	5 6	6 4
Lambs	—	6 0	6 8
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £23, ex £24.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 29; Eastern Counties, 42; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 1,221; Devon, 20; Ireland, 158.

We note to-day an increase of 280 head compared with Monday last, the majority of the supply being drawn from the Midland Counties and Ireland. For all descriptions of English a very slow trade prevailed, the over-stocked state of Dead Meat Market being partly accountable for this; however, late values governed most transactions. A few Scotch cross-breds were offered for sale, and were quoted at 2d. per 8 lb. lower than on Monday last. The arrivals from Ireland consisted of 93 Dublins (amongst which were a few Black Polled beasts), and 65 Waterfords, the former making 2d. per 8 lb. more money. Fat cows met with slightly more inquiry and showed an upward tendency, whilst fat bulls made late rates. A clearance will not be made.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s. d.	Monday, Nov. 19, 1906. s. d.
Scotch Cross-breds	4 4 to 4 6	— to —
Devons	— to —	4 4 to 4 6
Herefords	4 4 to 4 6	4 4 to 4 6
Norfolks	— —	— —
Runts	4 2 to 4 4	4 2 to 4 4
Lincolns	3 10 to 4 0	3 8 to 3 10
Irish	4 0 to 4 2	3 10 to 4 0
Black Polled Dublins	4 2 to 4 4	— —
Fat cows	3 4 to 3 6	3 4 to 3 6

There was an increase of 550 in the number penned in the sheep market compared with Monday last. For all grades of English sheep trade, though of a slow nature owing to the bad weather, ruled firmer in regard to value. There was a large supply of both Scotch and Irish descriptions, the former meeting with a good demand at 2d. per 8 lb. more money, whilst all sales of the latter were governed by last Monday's prices. The few lambs on offer cleared early at late values. The supply included 400 Scotch, 800 Irish, and 2,328 from the Midland Counties. There is very little prospect of a clearance being effected to-day.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, Nov. 19, 1906. s. d.	s. d.
8 st. Scotch	6 2 to 6 4	6 2 to 6 4		
7½ to 8 st Down Tegs	6 2 to 6 5	5 6 2 to 6 4		
9 st. Down Tegs	6 0 to 6 2	5 10 to 6 0		
10 st Halfbreds	5 6 to 5 8	5 6 to 5 8		
10 st Yorkshires	—	—		
12 st Lincolns	—	—		
10 st Irish	5 2 to 5 4	5 2 to 5 4		
10 st Down Ewes	4 2 to 4 4	4 2 to 4 4		
11 st Halfbred ditto	4 0 to 4 2	4 0 to 4 2		
5 st Down Lambs	6 6 to 6 8	—		
6 st Halfbred ditto	—	—		

Calf trade not worth noting or quoting. No pigs on the market

London (Central), Monday.—Trade slow; supplies moderate. Beef, English, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 8d; American, 3s to 3s 6d; refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Mutton, English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Scotch tegs and wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Veal, 3s 8d to 5s. Pork, 3s 8d to 4s 4d per stone.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—To-day's supply, compared with Monday last, showed an increase of 196 head, and consisted of 314 from the United States and 625 from Canada (325 of which were ranch cattle). Trade taken as a whole was of a slow nature, both in regard to tone and value, the former, viz., States cattle being of an inferior quality. The best on offer were quoted at from 4s to 4s 2d; Canadians, 3s 8½d to 3s 10½d; ditto Ranchers, 3s 4d to 3s 6d. Besides the above 300 States and Canadian cattle were withheld from sale.

Liverpool, Monday.—Supply of stock practically unaltered. Demand good for cattle and prices better for all descriptions. Sheep trade of firmer tone for all classes; finished medium weights about 2s dearer; strong and rough sorts also in sellers' favour. Prices:—Beef, 6¼d to 4¼d; mutton, 9d to 9½d per lb. At market 1,334 cattle and 5,472 sheep.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday. — Linseed Cake.—Demand is exceedingly slow, especially considering time of year; price, however, continuing to keep firm for both home and foreign made.

Cotton Cake.—Egyptians are offered somewhat freely, and prices have eased for those and London makes.

Decorticated Cotton Cake and Meal.—Cake is a little scarce on spot, and meal meets with as slow sale.

Linseed markets keep firm, and the feeding sorts find a ready demand.

Linseed Cakes.	£ s. d.	Per ton. £ s. d.
English Linseed Cake, ex mill	7 17 6 to 8	0 0
Calcutta Linseed Cake, ex quay	7 15 0	—
Russian Oil Cake ex quay	7 12 6 to 7	15 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake ex quay	7 7 6	7 12 6
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal ex quay	7 5 0 to 7	10 0
London-made ,, Cake (best) ex mill	5 0 0	—
Egyptian ,, Cake (in bags) ex quay	4 17 6 to 4	18 9
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains on rail, Burton	5 7 6	—
Calcutta Linseed (in bags), per 410 lb ex warehouse	2 7 0 to 2	9 0
La Plata Linseed per 416 lb. ex warehouse	2 7 0 to 2	12 0
Russian Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb ex warehouse	—	—

—Robt. & John Hewetson.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, November 18.—Linseed and rapeseed are steady, but 2s. 6d. per ton decline in cottonseed is recorded.

Linseed. per 416 lb.	s. s.
Calcutta	47 to 48
Russian	46 to 49
Argentine recle'd	50 to 51
Argentine cleand	48 to 49
Argentine comn.	46 to 47
Dutch	51 to 53
Turkish	48 to 50
Canadian	47 to 49
Morocco	52 to 54
Rapeseed. per 416 lb.	
English	81 to 85
French F.A.Q.	65 to 67
Yellow Guzerat	61 to 63
Yellow Cawnpre	59 to 60
Brown ,,	57 to 58
Ferozepore	56 to 57

Rubsen. per 424 lb.	s. s.
German	71 to 75
Poppyseed. per 377 lb.	
Indian	58 to 59
Cottonseed. per ton.	
Egyptian	142 to 144
Indian	132 to 134
Sunflowerseed. per cwt.	
English, White	14 to 15
,, Black	13 to 14
Russian, White.	13 to 14
,, Black.	12 to 13
Sesame. per 384 lb.	
Indian	59 to 61
Hempseed. per 336 lb.	
Russian	42 to 44

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—There is little or nothing fresh to report on this market. The passing trade is limited to consumptive orders at nominal rates current.—W. H. and H. Le May.

Worcester, Saturday.—Trade continues about the same—that is, there is a steady demand for all classes of hops at late rates, but fine hops are the most saleable and hard to find. Only a sprinkling of growers at market to-day, those who have not sold preferring to wait in hope of better prices. Only 117 pockets weighed this week, making 17,030 to date.—Charles Faram and Co.

SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—There is more movement in the market. Rape firm. Mustard unchanged. Rye firm, but scarce. Peas move freely, but supplies still limited. In clovers, more business in whites and Alsikes, prices firm. Trefoils and reds: Good business in English seeds at rising prices. In grasses, Perennials and Italians selling freely; prices unchanged.—John Pickard and Co.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington Cattle Market on Monday trade for fat beasts of both prime and second quality, notwithstanding a smaller supply, opened of a slow nature, and continued so throughout the day; however, best beasts upheld the previous week's values, whilst middling quality cattle ruled slightly easier. A few cross-bred Scotch made our top quotations, and were soon disposed of. The arrivals from Ireland were smaller, and consisted of 61 Dublins and 39 Waterfords (no store cattle being included); trade for the latter ruled firmer, in some cases sellers being able to make an advance in values. We again have to note a very limited inquiry from both town and country buyers for fat butchering cows and bulls; however, sellers were not willing to accept any further decline. On Thursday a slightly larger number of beasts were offered for sale, the supply consisting entirely of fat cows, bulls, and rough cattle, all sales of which were governed by late currencies.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, with a fair average supply of both States and Canadians, trade ruled of a firm and steady nature, prices becoming firmer as the week advanced. Only two markets were held during the week, viz., Monday and Saturday. The total number of beasts on offer at both markets was 3,699, as against 3,939 during the preceding week, consisting of 1,270 British (decrease 30) and 2,429 foreign (decrease 210). The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 stone Scotch cross-breds, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 95 stone Irish, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 90 stone States, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 90 stone Western States, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 11d. to 4s. 1d.; ranchers, 3s. 2d to 3s. 4d.

The sheep trade at Islington was confined to Monday, and opened of a slow nature, but steady in regard to value for both wethers and ewes. Scotch descriptions ruled firmer, but not sufficient to warrant our quoting any higher rates, whilst Irish sheep, on the other hand, for anything small and choice made an advance of 2d per 8 lb. in value. A few met with buyers at late currencies. No sheep were offered for sale at Deptford. The total number on offer was 3,840, as against 4,490 during the preceding week, showing a decrease of 650. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 8 stone Scotch, 6s. to 6s. 2d.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone half-breds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 5 stone fat Down lambs, 6s. 6d. to 6s. 8d.

Only 15 calves on offer, trade for which ruled of a slow nature the best being quoted at from 4s. 10d. to 5s. per 8lb. (offal given in).

Trade in the West.

Cattle are once again able to move about on the land without the discomfort of being ankle-deep in mud and slush, and sheep at the same time with dry fleeces—to which they have been strangers for some weeks—and, as there is abundance of keep everywhere, which the few slight frosts we have had have in no way seriously affected, stock generally are thriving pretty well. There is, however, scarcely so good a demand for grazing beasts at the present moment as we have found in some previous years. In proof of this we may quote £30 as an outside figure for the best young graziers, a more general range being from £24 to £28 10s.; plainer sorts and cows, which are by no means as easy to dispose of, selling from as low as £11 up to £22 or £23; stirk heifers bringing from £8 to £11 per head for the more serviceable classes. Milch beasts continued to meet as ready a sale as they have been doing all along, and, despite the large numbers that have been bought up in the district, many more are still wanted. Good deep-milking heifers sold readily from £18 to £23 10s., and plainer grades £15 to £17. Cows to be depended upon for their milk are also very dear for the best, some of which sell up to £18 for especially good milchers, though a more average price is from £13 or £14 to £17, those selling at lower rates being of little further use for dairy purposes. The demand for milk, however, seems as difficult to meet as ever, and whilst this continues to be so every reliable milcher brought to market can be relied upon to bring its owner a good return. And precisely the same is the case with in-calvers, those calving down speedily selling from £14 to £16, and others of later date from £10 up to £13 or so. As regards store sheep values have in no respect undergone the slightest modification—rather the reverse. Extraordinarily high prices are being realised at the closing fairs for the few sheep yet remaining to be disposed of, and where we find ewes still making from 46s. up to 71s. apiece at this time of the year, where, as a rule, only the refuse of the farm is being offered—chilver lambs to 56s., wether lambs to 52s., and couples from 65s. to 70s. for singles, and to 110s. for doubles—it must be admitted that a better season for sheep has seldom, if ever, been known; in fact, it beats all past records.

The fat stock markets have hardly been marked by such satisfactory features all round, there having been a drooping tendency in prices in one or two rather important respects. Good class fat beasts—ripe steers and heifers—must not be included in this category, as the prices of these have been well maintained, the best weights selling up to 12s. per score; but the plainer kinds are distinctly lower in value, without at the same time attracting anything like the demand there is for better class bullocks; second-grade beasts only make 9s. 6d. to 10s. 6d., this being principally for cows. Best steers and heifers may be quoted from £15 (for small heifers) up to £23 10s for weighty steers; fat cows, £13 10s. to £19 10s. for good meaty animals. Fat calves show no decline in value, and whilst the demand continues so greatly in excess of supplies there is very little likelikood of values being appreciably lower. Best calves now sell from £3 10s. up to £7 apiece (generally computed to range from 8½d. to quite 9d. per lb. for the best-finished calves); seconds, which may be quoted from 50s. to 66s. (7½d. to 8d.). In mutton there are some exceptionally well-finished tegs and others coming to market, the best of which are selling from 48s. up to 63s. apiece (or only 9d. per lb.); ewes making 42s. to 54s. (or 7½d. to 8¾d.). Pigs are no dearer than they were, and in some cases we must quote values somewhat easier, especially for coarse weights, which have dropped back to 8s. and even less, baconers making 9s. 6d. to 10s., and choice young porkers up to 10s. 9d. for the neatest weights, and 10s. 6d. for ordinary runs.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer was considerably larger, and a better show as to quality. These met a steady trade at prices just the turn higher, but without quotable advance. Secondary cattle met a very dull, dragging trade, and a fall of something like 15s. per head had to be accepted. Sheep and lambs in full average numbers. A good inquiry has been got, and a clearance effected at satisfactory prices. Fat calves exceedingly dear, while pigs were without change. This being "Hallow Fair" week, there was a large supply of store cattle. Buyers were fairly numerous, and a good demand was met at higher prices than those current two weeks ago. An entire clearance was effected, except a few small rough cattle. Store sheep in moderate numbers, and generally of an indifferent class, and they met a slow, dull market. Milch cows a small show, and they met a dear trade. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 39s. 2d; current, 36s. to 38s. 6d.; mutton, 6d. to 9¼d. per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Ltd.

Trade in Ireland

Dublin market on Thursday last had a slightly better supply of stock, and buying was perhaps somewhat better than the last day. Still, however, things were not good, and the bad markets, which have been the rule lately in London, Liverpool, Manchester, and other English towns, are being felt very much over here. The Dublin market was well supplied with beef, there being 4,664 beasts penned. A good number of cattle had been secured at Mullingar Fair, which made buyers less anxious to get more at Dublin. Buying was very slow in the early morning owing to the stiffness of sellers, who were holding out for better terms. Although there were no determined stiffer prices, yet tendencies for first-class cattle were slightly upward. A very fine lot of Aberdeen-Angus crosses were sold to a London buyer at 34s. per cwt. (live weight) by Mr. Gavin Low for Mr. Purdon. Sales generally were more easily effected than the last market. Half-meated and coarse dairy cows hard to dispose of. Best ox and heifer beef sold at from 49s. to very choice lots at 54s. per cwt.; good second-class beef, 43s. to 47s. 6d.; coarse beef at from 38s. to 42s. 6d. per cwt. Medium-weight heifers sold freely at the opening hours of the market, but settled back to worse prices towards the close.

Sheep were a larger market than last day by some hundreds. Heavy ewes were not wanted, and a good number were left over unsold. The continued arrivals of Dutch sheep still continue, and make the sheep dull of sale on this side of the Channel. A large number of heavy ewes in Dublin market were practically neglected. At this cattle market the only class of sheep that changed hands freely was choice Cheviots, which sold freely, and medium weight aged wethers also sold well. Coarse grades of sheep did not clear. Choice wether mutton made from 7d. to 7¾d. per lb. (Cheviots worth 1s. 2d. per lb. more), ewe mutton, choice ewe mutton for 6½d., inferior sheep from 5d. to 6d. per cwt.

Prime veal was scarce and dear, but coarse calves were not looked after and were only worth from 8d. per lb., prime veal was worth 7d. and 8d. per lb.

Milch cows were in moderate supply, and a slow demand; it was found difficult to maintain late rates. First-class cows made from £18 to £20 each; second quality, £10 to £16; and inferior, from £8 upward.

A large sale of store cattle was held by Messrs Wilkinson, and was very successful. The pig market was well attended. Prime bacon sold at 48s. to 50s. for choice light bacon pigs; coarse pigs from 36s. to 40s. per cwt.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday. — Fair supplies and trade continues very slow. English beef, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s to 3s 7d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 4s 2d to 4s 3d; ditto, seconds, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; ditto, forequarters, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; inferior beef, 2s 2d to 2s 8d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 4s 10d to 5s; ditto, tegs, 4s 8d to 5s; ditto, ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Dutch sheep, 4s to 4s 4d; veal, 3s 8d to 5s; English pork, 3s 8d to 4s 4d; Dutch ditto, 3s 8d to 4s 2d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—To-day's supply of beasts consisted entirely of fat cows and bulls from the South-Western counties, for which trade ruled slow owing to so few buyers being present, but late currencies governed all transactions. Top prices paid per 8 lb.:—Fat cows, 3s 4d; extreme, 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 6d to 3s; extreme, 3s 2d. No sheep offered for sale. Calf trade not worth noting.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef sold slowly at late rates, best making up to 4s 8d. Mutton trade also rather dull; best Down sheep made up to 6s, and small Kents 5s 6d to 5s 10d, with ewes 4s 2d to 4s 10d. Veal sold better, making up to 5s 8d for best calves. Pork a better trade at 3s 4d to 4s.

Aylesbury, Wednesday.—The stock at market comprised 320 fat sheep and 150 very choice quality beasts. There was a slight improvement in the trade in both departments, and practically all were cleared at last week's quotations.

Berwick, Saturday.—The supply numbered 384 cattle, 112 less than the previous week. Attendance of farmers and buyers fair, and a steady trade. Calves, £5 15s to £6 10s; heifers, £7 10s to £10 10s; stirks, £9 10s to £12 10s; two-year-olds, £13 to £14 10s; Shorthorn bulls, £12; cows, £16 to £23.

Birmingham, Thursday. — Fair supply of pigs; small supply of beasts and sheep. Fair trade for pigs; beasts and sheep slow. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6¼d per lb; Herefords, 6¼d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8¾d per lb, a few 8¾d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s per score; cutting pigs, 9s 3d to 9s 6d per score; porkets, 10s 3d to 10s 6d per score; sows, 7s to 7s 4d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—At the market to-day there was an abundant supply of fat cattle, but

the demand was slow and trade quiet, quotations falling to 56s per cwt, and secondary to 53s. Sheep and lambs were offered in smaller numbers than usual, and with moderate demand values hardened, best wethers being quoted at 8½d per lb, prime wethers at 8¼d, heavy wethers at 7¾d, and ewes at 6½d. The supply of pigs was limited, and the price of baconers fell to 8s 6d.

Calne, Friday.—Prices of pigs:—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 1s. per pig extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. 10 lb to 8 sc. 10 lbs, 8s 6d per score; 8 sc. 11 lb to 9 sc. 0 lb., 8s 6d per score; 9 sc. 1 lb to 9 sc. 10 lb, 8s 3d; 9 sc. 11 lb to 10 sc. 10 lb, 8s 0d. Pigs outside these limits at their value.—C. and T. Harris and Co.,

Canterbury, Saturday.—To-day's market was well supplied with Irish horned stock, but trade was not particularly fast. The best yearlings were making from 8 to 10 guineas, with second quality animals at from £6 to £8; two-year-old heifers, £11 10s to £13 10s; and steers up to £15. There were very few sheep on offer.

Carlisle, Saturday.—About 300 Irish cattle were on the Sands. Fair attendance of buyers, and a better trade was experienced. Wintering heifers, £8 10s to £11 10s; stall-feeding ditto to £14 10s; polled bullocks, £8 10s to £11 10s.

Chester, Thursday.—There was a good supply of store and dairy stock, but no sheep or fat cattle were on offer. The demand was good, especially for the best dairy cattle, and trade was satisfactory to sellers. Prices:—Milch cows, £18 to £23; barren cattle, £9 to £10; stirks, £8 to £10, and heifers, £9 to £15.

Derby, Tuesday.—Fair attendance, and prices steady at late rates, with the tendency of anything being towards higher prices. Beasts, 5½d to 6¼d; calves, 7½d; sheep, 7½d to 9d per lb.

Doncaster, Saturday. — Good supply of cattle, which included plenty of Irish stores; but milch beasts were rather scarce and dear. Milch beasts, £17 to £23; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers and drapes, £11 to £14 10s; stirks, £10 to £11; young stock, £7 to £10 each. Very restricted supply of sheep, but sufficient for all needs, trade being slow at about late prices, which ranged from 40s to 48s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Only limited offers of stock were on sale at Messrs. Ensor's repository to-day, and, with a good steady inquiry for all the more serviceable grades of stock, milchers especially, a ready clearance was with very little difficulty effected. Grazing cattle, although there is abundance of keep almost everywhere, was not a fast trade, except for the best, which made very satisfactory prices, ranging from £22 to £26 or £27 per pair for the youngest and freshest condition beasts—those soon coming into beef—plainer kinds meeting a much slower sale at from £16 10s to £21. Milchers were very dear, heifers of highest class being now much sought after at prices ranging from £17 10s to £21 or £22, and plainer kinds from £13 10s up to £17. Young stock brings slightly enhanced values. Fat bullocks ruled firm, with a good consumptive demand at 11s to 12s for really ripe heifers and steers; fat cows less, and all sold at 10s to 10s 6d. Little doing in mutton, but rates keep firm.

Dublin, Thursday.—Finished cattle were in good demand at slightly better rates. Secondary and inferior sorts easier to exchange, but prices show no improvement on late quotations. Choice light weight sheep and suitable hogs for home and export purposes were easier sold. Ewes and heavy wethers showed no advance on late rates. Cattle—Live weight (best), 29s 6d to 31s 6d per cwt; secondary and inferior sorts, 26s to 29s per cwt. Mutton (dead weight), 6½d to 7½d per lb: extreme, 7¾d per lb.—Ganly, Sons, and Co.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Plentiful supplies. Cattle: Steady demand; horned bullocks to £16 15s, polled bullocks to £14 10s, black polled cattle to £13 15s; stirks to £11 15s. Sheep: Quiet inquiry; Cheviot ewes to 31s; lambs, 21s; half-bred lambs to 28s 6d; half-bred ewes to 40s; Cows: Fair demand; Shorthorns to £25 15s; Ayrshire to £20; crosses to £24 10s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Fair show of cattle; prime bullocks scarce and sold dear; secondary sort also met healthy inquiry at late quotations. Top, 63s to 65s; secondary, 56s to 58s per cwt. Average numbers of sheep penned, and for prime young sheep a good inquiry was made. Ewes also were in demand at slightly firmer prices. Best mutton, 9d to 9¼d; secondary, 8¼d to 8¾d per lb.

Gloucester, Saturday. — Messrs. Bruton, Knowles, and Co. report their sales as follows:—Cows and calves: A large supply with an extremely good trade, the best prices being £24, £23 10s, £23 5s, £23, £22 12s 6d, &c. Store cattle: A large supply of store cattle, with a keen demand for best qualities.

Hereford, Wednesday.—The trade continued slow for beef, of which there was a fair supply, the very choicest quality bullock and heifer making 6d to 6½d, fat cows 5d. Useful store cattle found ready customers. Calves were a small supply, and trade was brisker for fat ones at 6d to 6½d per lb, A small supply of mutton met very firm trade, wethers making 8d, ewes 6d, tegs 8½d. Store lambs few. Trade was fairly firm for a large supply of pigs, porkers 5½d to 6d, nice quality bacons 5½d to 6d.

Leicester, Saturday.—With larger consignments of home-bred store stock and a better attendance of buyers and dealers, trade showed an improvement, although a large number failed to find buyers. Choice milch cows, £20 to £23; good lots, £18 to £19; secondary, £14 to £16; Shorthorn bullocks, £10 10s to £13 10s; Irish cattle, £11 10s to £15; Welsh cattle, £9 to £14; young stock, £5 to £7 10s; and calves, 20s to 40s each.

Lincoln, Friday.—A good consignment of horned stock, and a fair demand. Young beasts, £9 to £11; strong ditto, £13 to £15; milch cows, £17 to £23. Lambs made 36s to 44s each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—An average show of fat beasts met late rates, except for very best stall-fed, which made 8s, others 7s to 8s. Only average show of stores for the annual fair, and trade slow, £6 to £17 each. Small show of fat sheep; average trade. Store sheep, 45s to 48s each. Store lambs realised from 36s to 45s each.

Manchester, Friday. — Beef: Firsts, 5d; seconds, 4d to 4½d; thirds, 3d to 3½d per lb. Mutton: Firsts, Cheviots, Scotch, 7¾d; others, 7½d; seconds, 6¾d to 7d; thirds, 5½d to 6d. Veal: Firsts, 7d; seconds, 6d to 6½d; thirds, 5d to 5½d. Bacon pigs: Firsts, 5d; seconds, 4d to 4¾d; thirds, 3d to 3¾d. Porket pigs: Firsts, 6¾d; seconds, 6½d to 6¾d; thirds, 5¾d to 6d.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—The supply of cattle was rather smaller, but trade firmer for prime heifers and stores, and prices were up 3d, other sorts being steady but unaltered. Quotations:—Prime heifers, 7s 6d to 7s 9d; second class, 6s 9d to 7s; prime steers, 7s to 7s 6d; second class, 6s 9d to 7s; coarse and inferior, 6s to 6s 6d per stone, sinking the offal. Sheep were a rather larger supply, with trade firm, but no quotable alteration in price. Quotations:—Choice shearling sheep, 8½d to 9d; strong heavy, 8d to 8½d; choice hoggs, 8¾d to 9d; second class, 8½d to 8¾d; ewes, 6d to 6¾d; rams, 5d to 6d per lb. Trade in veal was firm at ¼d per lb advance, making 5d to 8d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday. — Large supply of cattle, sheep, and lambs. Short supply of calves and pigs. Large attendance of buyers, and good, brisk trade all round. The quotations were:—Best beef, 6d to 6½d; seconds, 5¾d; cows, 4½d to 5d; best wether mutton, 8½d to 8¾d; ewes, 6¾d to 7¼d; lambs, 9½d; calves, 7d; porker pigs, 10s 3d to 10s 9d per score; baconers, 9s 3d.

Norwich, Saturday.—Fat cattle were a small show, and consisted mostly of second-quality animals, which met a slow trade at 6s 9d to 7s 3d; best cattle were no cheaper than last week, and made about 8s per stone of 14 lb. A small supply of sheep, which were dear, hoggets making 9½d, and shearlings 9d to 9½d per lb Trade was a little better for porkers at 6s 9d; baconers remained unchanged at 6s to 6s 3d; and sows made 5s 6d per stone. A much smaller show of store cattle, and quality not so good, but trade was much sharper, and most of the animals were sold. Some mixed lots of two and three-year olds made from £13 to £17; yearlings, £9 to £11; and a few small ones shown made £4 to £6 10s per head. Rearing calves were cheaper, at 25s to 50s each. Not many store sheep on offer, but there was more demand, and they met a fair trade at prices ranging from 42s to 50s. Pigs were a better trade at 12s to 25s each.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Smaller show of milking beasts, and trade brisk. The best cows realised £19 to £23, and in-calf heifers £15 to £19. There was a shorter supply of store stock. These met with a fair trade; strong heifers and steers, £11 to £15, and younger beasts, £6 to £10. Calves, 25s to 45s.

Preston, Wednesday.—The supply of cattle and sheep was below the average both in regard to number and quality. Choice sorts were scarce. Local fed heifers made up to 6½d; secondary ditto and Irish, 6d; prime young cows and bulls, 5½d to 5¾d; coarse ditto, 4½d to 5d; choice lambs and hoggs, 9d; secondary ditto, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 6¾d; secondary ewes, and tups, 5½d to 6½d; calves, 7d to 7½d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Not a very large show of store stock. A thin attendance of buyers, and a fair trade at barley late rates. Milch cows made £15 to £20; young stock as before, and calves, 35s to 45s each.

Romford, Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts; trade a little better. Best beasts, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in short supply; prices better, at 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Sheep in short supply; trade rather better. Best small sheep, 6s 2d to 6s 4d; larger sheep, 5s 6d to 5s 8d per stone. Ewes in average supply; trade a little better at 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. No store beasts on offer. Fair supply of milch cows; trade rather better. Larger supply of pigs; trade better. Small porkers, 3s 10d to 4s; large hogs, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Small show and little business done. Good milch beasts, £22 to £24; ditto secondary, £15 to £17 10s.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday. — Smaller supply of store cattle, with a very slow trade. Fair show of milking stock. Highest prices for cows with calves was £25 10s. Quotations:—Beef, 6d to 6½d per lb; mutton (wether), 9d to 9¼d per lb; ewes, 7½d to 8d per lb; lamb, 9d to 10d per lb; veal, 7½d to 8d per lb; porket pigs, 9s 6d to 9s 9d per score; bacons, 8s 9d to 9s per score.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was about the usual show of best quality cattle, which met with a slow trade at 7s 6d to 7s 9d per stone, prices being firm. Rougher kinds sold at 6s to 6s 6d per stone. Young sheep and lambs made 9d per lb; ewes, 6½d; and tups 6d. There was a reduction of 3d per stone all round in pigs, small porkers making 7s 3d to 7s 6d per stone; mediums, 6s 9d; and sows 5s 9d to 6s.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was again a capital entry of stock, although not quite so large as the previous week. Best beef continues to make a satisfactory price, but unfinished and middling cattle are most unsaleable. Sheep continue scarce and dear. Tegs off the ploughing being in great demand. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 83 fat beasts, 112 fat sheep, 78 fat and weaning calves, and 113 fat and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £16 10s to £20; fat heifers, £14 to £19; fat wethers, 49s to 55s 6d; fat ewes, 40s to 52s 6d; fat calves, £3 to £5; weaning cow calves, 30s to 60s; bull calves, 15s to 43s; bacon hogs, 70s to 99s; porkets, 28s to £5; store pigs, 14s to 22s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance fair, business fairly brisk. Fat bullocks, 53s to 58s per cwt; barreners, 49s to 45s; store bullocks, 40s to 45; cows and calves, £11 to £15; rearing calves, 20s to 40s; wethers, 7d to 7¼d per lb; ewes, 5d to 5¼d; lambs, 7d to 7½d; pigs, 4s 6d to 6s 5s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 7d to 8d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; pork carcases, 4¾d to 5d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Trade fair; supply shorter. Beef, 5d to 6¼d per lb; mutton, 6¼d to 9d per lb; veal, 7d to 8½d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small supply of fat stock. Beef to 7s 9d per stone, an advance of 6d per stone; Southdown wether and cross-bred shearlings to 9¼ per lb; ewes, 6½d to 7d per lb.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The arrivals of home cheese were small, and trade was limited. Prices are practically unchanged from last week. Cheddars, 62s to 66s per cwt.; Dunlops, 60s to 63s. Demand slow for Canadian; October made cheese 61s per cwt.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was a fair demand and average attendance. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 48s to 56s per cwt; fancy dairies, 57s to 58s; Derbys, 66s to 68s; truckles, 63s to 66s; Cheddars, 61s to 65s.

DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter.—The demand for Australian butter has been slow this week, and prices are down from 2s to 3s per cwt. "Choicest" saltless brings 120s, and salted 118s, with an exceptional 120s. Foreign butter feels the dulness in our markets, and the Danish quotation is down 2 kroner, which makes it 2 kroner below the corresponding week of last year. Other varieties are also on the downward tendency. Siberian arrivals are shrinking, and it is reported they will still further diminish in the near future. Cheese.—There has been a slightly better demand this week, although cables are coming easier, arising no doubt from the financial situation on the other side of the Atlantic.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply of hay. No quotations obtainable.

Hereford, Wednesday. — Very dull trade in hay and straw, without quotable change in value.

Leeds, Tuesday. — Hay and straw in the warehouses moves steadily into consumption and prices are firm all round. Old clover hay, 7½d; ditto meadow hay, 7d; best new clover hay, 7d; ditto meadow, 6½d; wheat straw 5d; oat straw, 5d; and rye straw (retail), 7d to 8½d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Good supply of hay and seeds, and a fair trade. Best hay, 55s to 60s; inferior ditto, 50s to 55s per ton on the ground; straw, 30s per ton at the stack.

Manchester, Friday. — Hay, 5½d; clover, 5d to 6½d; straw, wheat, 2½d to 2¾d; oat, 2¼d to 2½d per stone.

Nottingham, Wednesday.—Large supplies on offer, which met with a slow sale, except for

best qualities. Quotations:—Inferior to good hay, 40s to 60s; prime ditto, 80s to 90s; inferior to good clover, 45s to 60s; prime ditto, 85s to 95s; wheat straw, 45s to 55s; old hay, 90s to 100s; old seeds, 95s to 100s per ton.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—A good supply and a fair trade at late rates. Choice seeds, £4 5s to £4 10s; choice hay, £3 15s to £4 5s; straw, £2 10s to £3.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Good supply and steady demand. Quotations for English produce: Grapes, 8d to 4s; peaches, 3s to 12s per dozen; cranberries, 9s 6d to 11s per case; pears (English Pitmaston), 1s 6d to 3s per dozen; med ars, 3s to 3s 6d per crate; apples, 4s to 12s 6d per bushel; tomatoes, 4s to 4s 6d; chestnuts (Redan), 7s to 12s; walnuts (Grenoble), 6s to 7s 6d; sprouts, 1s 6d to 2s; spinach, 2s to 2s 6d; beetroots, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per bushel; cucumbers, 2s 6d to 4s; endive, 1s to 1s 3d per dozen; celery, 7s 6d to 12s 6d per dozen rolls; horseradish, 10s to 15s; sprue, 8s to 10s per dozen bundles; cabbages, 3s 6d to 5s; cauliflowers, 4s to 6s per tally; onions, 3s 6d to 4s per cwt.; seakale, 9s to 12s per dozen punnets; mushrooms, 6d to 1s per lb: potatoes, 75s to 100s per ton.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Good supplies slow demand. Pheasants, 4s to 5s; young partridges, 4s 6d to 5s; old, 2s; young grouse, 5s to 6s; old, 3s; black game, 3s 6d to 4s per brace; geese, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; country ducks, 2s 6d to 3s 3d; wild ducks, 1s 9d to 2s; Surrey fowls, 3s to 3s 9d; Sussex fowls, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 3s; Essex fowls, 2s to 2s 6d; Irish fowls, 1s 6d to 2s; quails, 9d to 1s; feathered pigeons, 7d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s 1d; English hares, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; Scottish hares, 1s 4d to 1s 6d; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 6d; wild rabbits, 6d to 10d; live hens, 1s 4d to 1s 8d each; Australian rabbits, 5s 6d to 7s per dozen; cock turkeys, 8d per lb; hen turkeys, 3s 6d to 4s 6d each.

CORN STATISTICS

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, Nov. 16, 1907:—

Wheat	1,801,100 cwts.
Wheat-flour	186,200 ,,
Barley	693,800 ,,
Oats	272,400 ,,
Maize	1,547,700 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1906. Cwts.	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.
Wheat	2,159,200	1,678,400	2,046,300	2,577,400
Wheat-flour	255,600	407,200	321,300	568,400
Barley	744,000	665,700	472,500	1,082,900
Oats	209,000	386,500	402,700	516,400
Maize	643,800	254,400	446,900	676,600

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, November 12, 1907:—

	Imp. Qtrs.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Av. Price per qr £	s.	d.
Wheat	4,331	6	7,850	1	9	1	16	3
Barley	1,882	5	2,670	1	0	1	8	4
Oats	1,725	6	1,695	9	1	0	19	8

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending November 16, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1903 to 1906:—

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1903	50,771	26	9	182,891	24	3	29,260	15	10
1904	41,025	30	2	173,529	24	5	31,299	16	0
1905	87,001	28	7	209,520	24	6	32,382	17	8
1906	58,059	26	4	187,441	24	4	20,389	17	2
1907	68,844	35	1	231,649	27	8	43,846	18	8

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

*Cereal Year commencing September 2nd, 1907.**

		s.	d.
September 2	(per sack)	32	0
,, 13	,,	34	0
,, 20	,,	33	0
,, 27	,,	35	0
October 2	,,	36	0
,, 9	,,	37	0
,, 21	,,	38	0
November 6	,,	37	0

(No change since last date given).

* September 1st, 1907, was a Sunday.

RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

HOUGHTON, J. H., Western Farm, Asfordby, Melton Mowbray. 350 Ewe Flock of Pedigree Registered Oxfords. Sales Sept., at Nottingham, Melton, Edinburgh, &c. Ewes and Rams privately in autumn. Many prizes. Inspection invited.

POTATOES! POTATOES!!—Edward England, Cardiff, Ltd., Importers and Exporters of Potatoes. Head Office, West Dock, Cardiff; also Bath Street, Bristol, and North Dock, Swansea.

EDWARD ENGLAND, Cardiff, Limited, are always buyers of good English Potatoes, for cash on rails.—Address, Head Office, West Dock, Cardiff.

WHITE ORPINGTON and White Wyandotte Cockerels, winter-laying strains; 5s. each.—Creber, St. Germans, Cornwall.

Weekly Arrivals into London.

November 6 to 13 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	4,007	103,206	107,213
Barley	4,500	47,000	51,500
Malt	17,701	—	17,701
Oats	6,200	71,000	77,200
Rye	170	600	770
Beans	1,575	2,123	3,638
Peas	1,000	1,269	2,269
Maize	—	67,541	67,541
Buckwheat	150	7,000	7,150
Lentils	—	2,400	2,400
Cottonseed tons	—	7,500	7,500
Flour sacks	23,605	49,439	73,044
Oatmeal ,,	—	2,500	2,500
Riceflour ,,	—	12,000	12,000
Beanmeal ,,	—	330	330

Average Monthly Cash Prices of Town Households Flour.

	1907 s.	d.	1906. s.	d.	1905. s.	d.	1904. s.	d.	1903. s.	d.	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.
Jan.	22	0	25	0	26	3	24	9	24	0	21	9	24	6
Feb.	22	0	24	9	26	9	25	6	24	3	22	0	24	0
March	21	9	24	3	26	6	25	9	23	9	21	9	23	9
April	22	3	24	6	26	0	25	3	23	9	23	0	24	0
May	25	0	24	0	25	9	24	9	24	0	23	6	23	6
June	25	6	23	9	25	6	24	3	24	3	23	0	23	0
July	26	0	23	6	25	0	25	0	24	3	23	0	22	3
August	26	6	23	0	25	0	26	6	24	0	22	9	22	3
Sept.	28	6	22	9	24	6	27	0	25	0	23	3	22	0
Oct.	32	0	22	6	25	0	27	0	24	9	22	9	21	6
Nov.			22	0	25	0	26	9	24	3	22	9	21	6
Dec.			21	9	25	0	26	9	24	3	23	3	21	9
Yrly. Avrg.			23	5	25	6	25	9	24	3	22	8	22	10

Monthly Averages.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1906. Wheat	s.	d.	Barley	s.	d.	Oats	s.	d.	1907. Wheat	s.	d.	Barley	s.	d.	Oats	s.	d.
Jan.	28	6		24	9		18	5		26	1		24	2		17	4	
Feb.	28	10		25	4		18	11		26	6		24	3		17	7	
Mar.	28	5		24	8		18	11		26	9		23	11		18	0	
April	29	1		24	2		19	1		26	0		23	8		18	10	
May	30	2		24	0		20	0		28	5		24	0		19	10	
June	30	4		23	4		20	2		31	0		24	6		20	9	
July	30	4		23	1		20	4		32	2		24	11		20	10	
Aug.	29	6		23	7		17	9		33	7		25	4		20	5	
Sept.	26	1		24	5		16	2		31	8		24	9		17	7	
Oct.	26	5		25	0		16	7		33	11		26	2		18	1	
Nov.	26	5		24	5		17	1										
Dec.	26	2		24	1		17	3										

COMPARATIVE RESULTS

REGISTERED TRADE MARK

WALTER VOSS & CO. LTD. NICOTYL

MANUFACTURING CHEMISTS.

BY USING THE BEST FERTILIZERS & INSECTICIDES



STRONG HEALTHY GROWTH & HEAVY CROPS GOOD PRICES

WINTER WASHES FOR FRUIT TREES

(As recommended by the BOARD OF AGRICULTURE and other authorities).

FRUIT TREE BANDING GREASE,

TO CAPTURE THE WINTER MOTHS.

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DISEASED & POOR CROPS BAD PRICES

THE CHEAPEST HOUSE

MILLWALL LONDON E.

IN THE TRADE

Printed and Published by the Proprietors, at the Offices, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.—November 18, 1907.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The agricultural position continues to be fairly satisfactory, the ordinary labours of the season proceeding steadily, though the very short days are reduced still further by the mists which are seldom off the fields before ten in the morning and rise once more from the soil not long after four has struck. The farmer, however, will recall the fact that we are now within less than a month of the shortest day.

The publication on Thursday last of the Board of Agriculture crop estimates was an agreeable surprise, as it has hitherto been regarded as expeditious if the figures were available by Smithfield week. The general view taken of the 1907 harvests at St. James's Square is optimistic, and the actual yields in Great Britain are put at the following totals:—

Wheat	6,901,166 qr.
Barley	7,545,066 ,,
Oats	16,800,285 ,,
Beans	1,328,669 ,,
Peas	592,091 ,,

As compared with the average yield per acre, the following surpluses are disclosed:—

Wheat	2·75 bushels over averaged.
Barley	2·12 ,, ,,
Oats	3·75 ,, ,,
Beans	5·00 ,, ,,
Peas	2·34 ,, ,,

If these are the results of a bitter May, a wet June, a cold July, and a broken August, it is clear that the relations between weather and crops hitherto assumed in text books will require considerable revision. The wheat is thick in the skin, and runs to bran rather than flour in all too many instances, while really top-grade malting barley is the greatest of rareties. On the other hand, oats are undoubtedly a very large crop, and of very fair average weight, while beans and peas show very good quality, and rye, considering the character of the summer, is most surprisingly good. It is most difficult to say how far the official views are in excess of fact; we must guard ourselves against misconception over weather influences. A perfectly abominable summer has given both England and France the lowest death-rate for the hot months ever chronicled, and the French Minister of Agriculture assumes the French cereal yields to be above average. At the same time, one is forced to ask oneself, "Can all the world be wrong?" A chilly, damp, and windy summer may give us 10,430,000 tons of hay—that we can very well believe—but can it give us not merely average but superabundant yields of the white and golden crops which are peculiarly the products of the sun? Do other lands whose summers are damp and chilly and cloudy devote themselves to cereals?

The yield of hay is put at about 4 cwt. per acre above the average, but the whole Government idea of a good hay crop will strike many of our readers as extremely moderate. Permanent grass in an ordinary season is credited by the Government with a yield of not quite 24 cwt. to the acre; clover, according to the same authority, should give 29¼ cwt. to the acre. The returns for potatoes, mangolds, swedes, and turnips are not yet available, and will be generally accepted as accurate if not collected until farmers have not only raised the last of the crops in the soil, but also begun to send their potatoes into full sale and put their roots at the disposal of the cattle-feeding side of the farm. The potato crop in Great Britain in an ordinary year averages 6 tons to the acre, swedes and turnips averaging 16 tons, and mangolds 20 tons.

The markets since the 18th have been in a quandary. Of themselves they are fairly strong, but the cloud on general finance lifts very slowly, and the stringency of the money market causes the number of weak holders of imported produce gradually to increase in number. There are a good many firm holders at Mark Lane and the other leading exchanges, but the refusal of Smith and Brown to take a penny less for their corn than when the month was young does not prevent the buyer closing with Jones and Robinson, who are willing to make some reduction now that the month is old. Moreover, the market reporter must needs chronicle the business which is done, and not that which fails to pass.

This needs, however, to be mentioned, otherwise the real position of trade would be misunderstood.

On Thursday the Turkish Government prohibited the export of barley from both the European and Asiatic provinces of that Empire. This will tend to rob us of the very useful steeping and brewing qualities which are produced in that part of Asia Minor familiar to the West mainly as the region of the Seven Churches of Laodicea, Pergamos, and so forth. The Turkish province of Ouchak and the antique part of Smyrna have given these names to the chief supplies of these sorts of barley, but a good deal is shipped from the Sea of Marmora and the historic neighbourhood of Troy. European Turkey produces feeding barley of light weight, and about equal in market value to good Persian.

The New American maize crop is now secured, and probably reaches the high total of 320,000,000 qr. It is damp and needs more time than usual to dry, but the earlier districts bordering on the Gulf of Florida will probably be able to ship 1,000,000 qr. before the middle of January, by which time Charleston, Newport-News, Baltimore, &c., will be in a position to take up the running.

Supplies on passage thus compare with a year ago:—

	1907.	1906
Wheat, qr.	1,776,000	1,755,000
Flour, sks.	222,000	209,000
Barley, qr.	610,000	710,000
Oats, ,,	200,000	390,000
Maize, ,,	862,000	920,000

Wheat shipments last week from the leading export towns were as follows:—

From America	501,000 qr.
,, Argentina	12,000 ,,
,, Russai	310,000 ,,
,, Roumania	90,000 ,,
,, India	20,000 ,,
,, Australia	10,000 ,,
Total	943,000 ,,

To this must be added 128,000 sacks of flour shipped by the United States. Of barley, Russia shipped 401,000 qr., and of oats 108,000 qr., while maize shipments were 100,000 qr. from Roumania, 30,000 qr. from Russia, 80,000 qr. from Argentina, and 109,000 qr. from America.

Some wheat markets are now below 35s., but the majority keep at rather above that level. The week's gradient is:—

Mark Lane	36s 3d. per qr.
Chichester	34s. 4d. ,,
Range	1s. 11d. ,,

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets since harvest have not been very large, but it is, of course, within a very recent recollection that the ingathering was late beyond the average:—

This season	814,000 qr. at	33s. 7d. per qr.
Last ,,	824,000 ,,	26s. 2d. ,,

Barley has a wider range of value:—

Chichester	33s. 9d. per qr.
Peterborough	26s. 10d. ,,
Range	6s. 11d. ,,

Canterbury quoted 31s. 4d. per qr.

Oats had the following range:—

Reading	19s. 10d. per qr.
Cambridge	18s. 5d. ,,
Range	1s. 5d. ,,

These prices for oats are by no means unsatisfactory. Nineteen shillings was exceeded not only at Reading, as above, but also at Mark Lane, Chichester, and Nottingham.

The sales of British barley are much below the average, and even allowing for the late harvest make it a little difficult to credit the Goverment's estimate of the yield. However, we shall see what December, January, and February have to sell, and the sales of last week, compared with those of the previous ten weeks, are on the side of the official figures of yield:—

This season	1,289,000 qr. at	26s. 1d. per qr.
Last ,,	1,748,000 ,,	24s. 9d. ,,

The sales of British oats have been very large, and last week were twice those of an ordinary season. Since September 1 they have been as follows:—

This season	501,000 qr. at	18s. 1d. per qr.
Last ,,	386,000 ,,	16s. 7d. ,,

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were:—

Wheat, 421,000 qr.: a good supply.
Flour, 75,000 sks.: a small arrival.
Barley, 195,000 qr.: a large supply.
Oats, 101,000 qr.: a bare average.
Maize, 362,000 qr.: extremely heavy imports.

Since September 1 imports have been as follows:—

Wheat, 4,975,000 qr.: more than last season.
Flour, 1,300,900 sks.: less ,, ,,
Barley, 2,050,000 qr.: ,, ,, ,,
Oats, 790,000 qr.: ,, ,, ,,
Maize, 2,955,000 qr.: more ,, ,,

Thus wheat and maize have been in large supply; the other three staples in less than usual supply. The figures for barley are good in themselves, but were exceeded in 1906, and in September, October, and November Russian new crop shipments are apt to give us high totals.

Flour, although a little cheaper from a week ago, shows an advance of 8d. to 1s. 3d. per cwt. on the monthly returns of the Board of Trade. Bread has advanced on the month ½d. per lb. at Bolton, Gateshead, Hull, Ipswich, Manchester, Newcastle, Norwich, Dundee, and Dublin. As compared with this time last year the advance on the quartern loaf is 1d. at Bolton, Bristol, Cardiff, Hull, Ipswich, Leeds, Leicester, Manchester, Plymouth, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Belfast, but does not exceed ½d. in London, or at Birmingham, Derby, Gateshead, Liverpool, Portsmouth, or Aberdeen. These discrepancies in bread prices continue to puzzle the trade, and the Ministers of Trade and Agriculture respectively observe a determined silence concerning them. The mean price of bread for the whole of Great Britain is now 4s. 10d. for ten loaves, as compared with exactly 4s. 2d. for ten loaves at this time last year.

THE BALTIC.

Saturday, 2 p.m.

We are informed that the London Corn Trade Association has placed certain restrictions on the sale of standard samples. This seems a pity. Mr. R. A. Patterson, the president of the association, has addressed the following letter to Messrs. Allatini Bros and Messrs. Dewar and Webb, and wishes its insertion in the Press:—"Dear Sirs,—Referring to the extraordinary and unjustifiable demand made, that, although holding clean bills of lading for parcels of wheat per s.s. *Ryall*, you should pay dead freight on balance of cargo not shipped. I have brought the matter before my executive committee, and am requested to inform you that believing this is a matter of the greatest interest and importance to the whole grain trade, the association is prepared to assist you in fighting the case and resisting this most inequitable claim. Yours truly, R. A. Patterson."

The demand for wheat cargoes is much checked by the Bank rate. Its rise to 7 per cent. did not excite great attention on this exchange as it was expected to come down again very shortly. But this idea seems now abandoned, and increased caution in operating is induced. Sales of the week have, however, included Argentine at 39s. per 480 lb., Azima at 42s. 6d. per 492 lb., Odessa-Ghurka at 41s. 6d. per 492 lb., White Walla at 41s. 6d. per 500 lb., Blue Stem at 42s. 6d. per 500 lb., Australian at 43s. 6d. per 480 lb., No. 1 Northern Duluth 41s. 9d. per 480 lb, White Karachi at 40s. 3d. per 492 lb., and Red Karachi at 39s. 9d. per 492 lb.

Barley cargoes were dull up to Thursday, when the news of Turkey having prohibited exports made holders firmer. Sales have included Persian at 21s. 9d. per 400 lb.; Kustendjé at 27s. per 416 lb.; Russian at 24s. 6d. per 400 lb.; and fine Oregon at 41s. per 448 lb.

Oats made on Friday 17s. 9d. per 304 lb. for February shipment of Argentine new crop. Other cargo sales have been:—Roumanian maize at 26s. per 480 lb.; Calcutta linseed at 45s. 6d. per 410 lb.; yellow Guzerat rapeseed at 61s. 6d. per 316 lb.; Egyptian cottonseed at 7s. per cwt.; rough feeding rice (from Rangoon) at 8s. per cwt.; and locust beans (from Italy) at 107s. 6d. per ton.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Only a moderate business passing, but a little more disposition is shown to purchase at the recent reduction in prices.

Worcester, Saturday.—Trade has been rather better this week in good medium hops in the absence of choicest qualities, which are not forthcoming to any extent. Few growers at market today, and prices were unchanged. 784 pockets passed the public scales this week, making 17,804 to date.—Charles Faram and Co.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English steady, quiet, late rates; whites quoted at 36s 6d to 39s 6d, reds at 36s to 38s 6d. Foreign steadily held at Monday's prices, but demand poor; No. 1 Northern, ex ship, quoted at 44s, No. 2 at 43s 3d to 43s 6d; choice white Karachi at 38s 6d, reds at 38s; Australian landed at 46s; South Russian at 42s to 46s. Flour firm, but quiet; Iron Dukes held at 27s to 28s; Hungarians at 38s 6d to 40s; Kansas patents at 30s 6d to 31s; Maize steady, unchanged; mixed American, ex ship, quoted at 26s 3d to 26s 6d; River Plate, 25s 6d; Odessa at 26s 3d; white Natal, landed, at 27s; Barley rather dearer, but not active; Azoff-Black Sea and Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship to arrive, held at 23s 6d; landed at 24s 3d to 24s 6d; Persian, 21s 9d to 22s, ex ship. Oats steady, but not active; La Plata held at 18s 9d; South Russians, 17s 9d to 18s 3d; Archangels, 19s to 19s 6d.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat, English firm, unchanged. Whites quoted at 36s 6d to 40s; reds at 36s to 38s 6d. Foreign firmly held, but demand not active. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, held at 44s to 44s 3d; No. 2 at 43s 6d; choice white Karachi at 39s; Australian, landed, at 46s; Persian at 39s 3d to 42s 6d; South Russian at 43s to 46s. Flour steady, but quiet. Hungarian held at 39s to 40s 6d; Iron Dukes at 27s to 28s. Maize firm, but quiet. Odessa, ex ship, quoted at 26s 3d, landed, 26s 6d; Danubian and Galatz-Foxanian, landed, at 26s 3d. Barley steadily held at full rates, but not active. Azoff-Black Sea, ex ship, quoted at 23s 6d, landed at 24s; Persian, ex ship, at 21s 9d to 22s. Oats, slow sale, at about late prices. La Plata quoted at 18s 9d; South Russian, 17s 9d to 18s.

COUNTRY.

Appleby, Saturday. — Very little offering. White oats (horse corn), 20s to 23s 6d per 26 stones.

Ashford, Tuesday. — Good attendance, but quiet trade all round; wheats, contrary to expectation, showing no improvement. Oats and other feeding corn were firm at late rates. Quotations: —Wheat, 34s to 36s; best home-grown barley, 31s to 33s; secondary, 28s to 30s; foreign grinding barley, 26s to 27s; Mazagan beans, 28s to 30s; tick beans, 32s to 34s; maize, 30s to 31s; peas, 32s to 33s; black amber oats, 20s to 22s; grey amber oats, 19s to 21s; white oats, 18s to 22s. per qr.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, white (new), 35s to 36s per qr; wheat, red (new) 35s to 36s per qr; barley, 27s to 31s per qr; beans (new), 29s to 32s per qr; oats, 18s to 22s per qr; peas, 30s to 34s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—Larger attendance, with increased supplies of grain. Fine barley in good demand, and maintained last week's prices. Secondary met a dearer trade. Oats slow, except for finest qualities. Barley, 18s 6d to 28s; oats, 21s to 33s 6d per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—The attendance at this market was a thin one, and the volume of trade was small. Quotations:—Foreign wheat, No. 1 Manitoba, 44s 6d per 496 lb.; No. 2, 44s at Bristol; Russian, 41s 6d to 42s 3d at Sharpness. English wheat made from 13s to 13s 9d per 186 lb delivered. Oats 20s 6d per 312 lb, and beans 13s 3d per 196 lb delivered. Bessarabian maize was offered at 26s 3d per 480 lb, Galatz-Foxanian at 26s Sharpness. Grinding barley was 9d per qr lower at 24s 3d per 400 lb Sharpness.

Brighton, Thursday.—Small attendance and quiet trade. Wheat in better supply; 6d per qr dearer. New white wheat, 35s to 37s; new red ditto, 35s to 38s; barley, 28s to 35s; grinding ditto, 26s to 27s; oats, English, 18s 6d to 21s; peas, 33s to 34s; beans, 34s to 35s.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat supply below average Trade firm at a slight advance on the week. Reds or whites, 36s to 37s; revets, 35s to 35s 6d per qr. Barley a rather slow trade; the supply was about average, and low-grade samples were hard to sell at last week's prices of 30s to 31s 6d per qr; better sorts were somewhat quiet at 32s to 35s per qr. Feeding corns generally firm at last week's quotations.

Cambridge, Saturday.—Wheat was in small supply, which sold at last week's rates, 36s per 504 lbs on rail near stations. Barley in moderate supply, prices unchanged. Rather larger supply of oats; prices firm, about 20s on rail. Small supply of beans, making from 30s to 32s, according to conditions, some samples being very soft.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Choice barleys about maintain values, but second quality are from 1s to 2s lower, prices ranging from 29s to 32s per qr. Wheat is also a trifle easier, the demand being very slow. Seed wheats still range up to 40s, but for milling purposes 63 lb lots were selling at 35s fetched from the farm, and 64 lb at 35s 6d. Oats about steady, 39 lb blacks making 19s 6d, and 44 lb 21s 6d. Grey peas, 31s to 32s; and tick beans up to 33s per qr.

Carlisle, Saturday.—There was a small show of oats in market to-day, poor quality. Prices from 22s to 24s per 336 lb; several pocket samples oats made from 23s to 24s per 336 lb. Wheat in good condition made 43s per 504 lb. The oats in our district are thrashing in very poor condition as a rule.—Thomas Robinson.

Chester, Saturday.—The market again shows an easier tendency. Mixed maize occasionally 1½d per sack cheaper. Round corn the same as last market day; wheat and oats favoured buyers. Barley and beans quiet. Quotations:— Wheat, white and red, 5s 2d to 5s 4d per 75 lb; grinding barley, 4s to 4s 3d per 64 lb; oats, new, 2s 8d to 3s; old, 3s 1d to 3s 6d per 46 lb; Indian corn, old, 14s 6d to 15s per 240 lb; round corn, 14s 3d to 15s 6d per 240 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—A good attendance and fair trade, with no alteration in prices. New white wheat, 36s to 37s; new red ditto, 36s to 37s; barley, 29s to 35s; grinding ditto, 24s 6d to 25s 6d; oats, English, 19s to 22s; peas, 34s to 35s; beans, 33s to 34s; tares, 5s to 5s 6d; maize, 25s to 27s; flour, 28s to 32s.

Colchester, Saturday. — Wheat firm trade, at 37s to 37s 6d, small supply; barley dull, fair supply; oats steady.—Colin Taylor, King and Co., Ltd.

Coventry, Friday.—No alteration in prices. The attendance was only small. Although the supply of wheat was only limited, demand was quiet at rather less money. No special feature in other grain. Fair supply of barley, which sold slowly at barely late rates. Quotations:—Wheat, 13s to 14s per 186 lb; barley, 30s to 34s per 448 lb; oats, old, 24s 6d to 27s per 352 lb; new, 21s to 23s 6d; beans, old, 13s 3d to 14s; new, 12s 3d to 13s 3d per 196 lb; peas, 12s 6d to 15s per 196 lb.

Derby, Friday.—Wheat in fair supply and prices about the same as last week; spring corn unaltered. Quotations: Wheat, 36s to 37s; red wheat, 35s to 37s; malting barley, 29s to 32s; grinding barley, 25s to 27s; new beans, 35s to 38s; old oats, 24s to 26s; new oats, 21s to 22s.

Devizes, Thursday. — Wheat to-day maintained the full prices of last week, but barley and oats again the turn in favour of buyers. Best old wheat, 20s to 21s; best new wheat, 18s to 19s; secondary, 16s to 18s; malting barley, 29s to 33s; grinding barley, 26s to 28s; old oats, 22s to 24s; winter oats, 18s to 19s; white Garton oats (330 lb), 18s 6d to 19s 6d; black Tartar oats (320 lb), 18s 6d to 19s 6d; rye, 27s to 30s; beans, 17s to 18s; fine flour, 31s to 32s; extra fine, 33s to 38s; vetches, 5s 6d to 6s 6d.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Only a moderate supply of English wheat, which was in a variable condition, and though there was a fair trade prices declined 3d per load, whilst foreign only met with a limited sale at a reduction of 6d per qr. Oats in moderate request at 6d per qr less money. Barley slow. Fine samples were unchanged, but secondary sold at a slight reduction.

Dorchester, Saturday.—The corn market was a little better attended to-day than at some recent markets, a fine morning having attracted business men into the town, though later in the day it became very inclement, a heavy hailstorm, accompanied by sleet, giving the first taste of winter. Farmers having been busily engaged with the threshing machine, ample evidence of this was apparent in the largely augmented supplies on offer, the trade for which, however, was very inactive, and late values were only with difficulty maintained, factors rather holding off from speculating and farmers showing but little disposition to make concessions. Foreign, too, was about the same, and we must quote prices as practically unaltered from previous market. Malting barley, where at all suitable, commanded a firm trade at full prices; feeding descriptions the turn lower, as was maize. Beans and peas still held on outside prices. Flour very inactive, but not quotably lower.

Exeter, Friday.—Fairly good attendance; trade slow. English wheat firm and rather dearer. Flour 1s dearer. Barley and maize quiet at a decline of 3d. English oats very firm, other sorts a shade easier. Quotations:—English wheat 4s 4½d to 4s 6d; English barley, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; superfine flour, 32s to 34s; fines, 29s to 32s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a moderate attendance. Business during the week has been very quiet. Wheat and flour irregular in prices, but if anything the turn easier. Maize and corn, owing to large arrivals and small consumptive demand, prices have receded 3d per boll for the former and 6d per boll for the latter. Oats quiet, and the turn in buyers' favour. Barley irregular in quality and price. Beans 3d per boll cheaper. Peas—none on the spot. Bran steady, but thirds the turn easier. Oatmeal quietly steady. —Gibson and Clark.

Gloucester, Saturday. — English wheat 1d per bushel cheaper: Reds, 34s 6d to 35s 6d; whites, 36s to 36s 6d per qr. Foreign wheat about unchanged: Plates, 42s to 43s; Russians, 41s 6d to 42s. Plate maize unchanged 26s 3d; flat 6d cheaper, 27s; Bessarabian 3d down, 26s 3d. Barley 6d cheaper, 24s 3d. Oats 6d down: Black, 18s 6d to 19s 6d; whites, £1 to £1 1s.

Grantham, Saturday.—Fair supply, and a small attendance. For best samples of wheat up to 36s per qr was paid, common sorts being lower in price A big show of barley, which was quoted at 26s to 32s; oats, 19s to 21s; beans, 28s to 30s; peas to 30s per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday.—English grain of all kinds was more freely offered. Wheats were unchanged on the week at 4s 3d to 4s 6d. Barleys dull, with drooping tendency. Oats fully 1s per qr down since last week Maize 3d per qr lower.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Moderate supply of wheat; trade steady at fully last week's rates. Reds, 36s to 37s; whites to 38s per 504 lb. Good supply of barley; trade poor; all descriptions steady at late rates. Best, 33s to 35s; runs, 30s to 32s. Oats firm and fully as dear. Maize steady. Beans and peas unaltered.

Leeds, Friday.—Wheat was in fair supply, but the limited demand checked any further advance upon the prices of Tuesday. Foreign wheat was firmly held, but little was doing, buyers anticipating easier prices with the improved crop reports from the Argentine and other foreign centres. Flour was more active, as is usual before the Christmas demand, and late rates were maintained. Maize was steady. Plate, Odessa, and American averaged 26s. Beans, peas, oats, and barley were without change.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good attendance of buyers and dealers, with fair supplies of home-grown wheats, but the condition was variable. Dry samples in fair request; damp sorts flat. Red wheat, 33s to 37s; white wheats, 35s to 39s per 36 stones; malting barley in fair request at 27s to 32s per 32 stones; oats, 19s to 22s per 24 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—There was a good attendance, but a dragging trade. Wheat was fairly firm at last week's rates. Barley made a good show, but trade was slow at 1s less on the week. Oats were hard to sell at 19s to 20s. Peas were firm at full rates. Beans 6d to 1s less, being out of condition.

Maidstone, Thursday.—If any alteration in cost of grain at the market to-day it was but slight. Owners of wheat quite disinclined to allow any abatement. Millers reticent in buying make the trade slow for that article. Other descriptions of corn could be obtained at some reduction from the previous quotations. The news from America of a financial description, as elsewhere, exercising its influence on Kentish factors. The weather is also responsible to a certain extent, as a gloomy atmosphere and frequent fogs do not induce business activity. Indulgence in hope for a speedy rally has taken possession of not a few minds.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat firm and occasionally in sellers' favour. Foreign ruled quiet, but firm. Flour showed little change. Indian corn 1d to 1½d per cental lower on the week generally. Foreign barley has declined 1½d per bushel, and English is also lower. In oats there was little done, and prices were in buyers' favour. English peas firm. Beans unchanged. Bran very firm.

Newark, Wednesday.—A fair attendance; trade slow: prices easy all round. Quotations: White and red wheat, 35s 6d to 36s 6d; malting barley, 29s to 31s; grinding ditto, 27s to 28s; white oats, 20s to 20s 6d; black ditto, 19s to 20s; old beans, 36s to 37s; new ditto, 30s to 32s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A very quiet demand for wheat at our market to-day, and to do business 6d per 504 lb less had to be accepted. Maize remains steady at last week's prices. Fine oats are very firm; common sorts, however, are difficult to dispose of at 6d decline. Beans and pease remain firm at late rates. The demand for barley is only slow.—Joseph Pollard and Co.

Newport, Wednesday.—Rather better inquiry; quiet trade at last week's prices.

Northampton, Saturday.—Small attendance and very little wheat or oats showing, but plenty of barley, with which very little trade was done, whilst prices of other cereals remain unchanged. New wheat, 34s to 36s; barley, 25s to 32s; old white oats, 24s to 26s; new white oats, 19s to 21s; old beans, 34s to 36s; new beans, 31s to 33s; peas, 33s to 35s; flour, 31s to 35s.

Norwich, Saturday.—Wheat in small supply, and through scarcity sells at an advance of 6d to 1s per qr. Dry samples make 37s, delivered.

Barley in large supply, without alteration. Foodstuffs very quiet; prices the same as last week.

Nottingham, Saturday. — Wheat, a fair quantity offering, trade slow at late rates; barley, finest samples make full prices; secondary sorts in buyers' favour. Oats, small supply, values unchanged. Beans firm.—Robt. Hubble.

Peterborough, Saturday.—We have again had a small supply at market to-day. Wheat found a quiet trade at prices slightly higher than last week. Oats quiet, but no lower. Barley trade about the same. Wheat, 35s 6d to 36s 6d; barley, 29s to 34s.; oats, 19s to 21s.—Thomas Hill and Son.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a very fair attendance on our market here to-day. Wheat firm at late rates. Feeding stuffs very little doing, but 6d lower on week.—Orlando Davis and Co

Preston, Saturday.—Good attendance, though business was not brisk. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220 lb, 15s 6d to 16s; ditto red, 14s 6d to 15s; oats, old, per bushel, 3s 8d to 3s 9d; ditto, new, 3s 1d to 3s 2d; beans, per windle of 220 lb, 16s 6d to 17s.

Reading, Saturday.—There was a fair attendance and a show of briskness about the business transacted. The following prices represented sales effected, and of some parcels held. Wheat, 35s to 40s; barley, 27s to 36s; oats (scarce and very firm), 18s to 23s; beans, new, 30s to 34s; old, 35s to 39s; peas, 31s to 35s; toppings, 10s 6d to 11s; bran, £5 15s to £6 5s per ton; flour very firm at last week's prices.

Retford, Saturday.—Wheat a slow trade, and 6d lower on the week, at 35s to 36s per qr. Poor show of malting barley. The best sold readily at fully late rates of 31s to 33s. Secondary were 1s cheaper at 28s to 29s 6d, and grinding 27s per qr. Oats were on the down grade, black making 18s to 19s; white ditto, 19s to 20s; old oats, 25s, maize, 29s; new English beans, 41s; old ditto, 38s to 40s; peas, 30s per qr.

Ripon, Thursday.—Small supply of grain, business dull. Grinding barley shows a downward tendency. Prices:—New wheat, 36s to 37s; wheat, foreign, 46s to 48s; barley, grinding, 25s to 26s; barley, malting, 28s to 32s; new oats, 19s to 21s; old oats, 26s; maize, round, 28s; flat 32s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Trade continues quiet, but prices are steady. Wheat and maize unchanged. Lower class barleys show a slight weakness. Beans, oats, and peas unaltered. Offals scarce, and unchanged in price. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 38s to 38s 6d; ditto red, new, 38s to 38s 6d per 504 lb; oats, black, 24s to 25s; ditto white, 24s 6d to 25s; ditto new, 21s 6d to 22s per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 36s to 36s 6d; ditto blue, new, 75s to 90s per 504 lb; beans, English, 36s 6d to 37s per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 28s to 30s; ditto malting, 28s to 32s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 27s 9d to 28s; ditto Plate, 27s 9d to 28s 3d; ditto flat, 30s to 30s 6d per 480 lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Quotations: Wheat, 15s to 15s 6d per 225 lb; old oats, 16s to 17s per 225 lb; new oats, 12s 6d to 14s; barley, 18s to 20s per 280 lb.

Stamford, Friday. — Average trade among farmers and dealers. Prices practically unchanged. Wheats, 35s to 36s; oats, 19s to 20s; malting barley, 29s to 32s; grinding barley, 25s 6d to 26s 6d; beans, 30s to 31s. Samples came to hand in poor condition. Peas made late prices.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was a fair quantity of English wheat showing, which made from 36s to 37s per qr. The foreign wheat trade keeps steady with fair demand, at last week's prices. Oats and maize quiet, at unaltered rates. There was fairly good supply of English barley, malting descriptions making 28s 6d to 30s per qr, and inferior qualities, 21s to 25s.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday. — New white wheat, 36s to 37s; new red ditto, 35s to 36s; barley, 36s to 37s; grinding ditto, 26s to 27s; oats, English, 19s to 22s; rye, 31s to 32s; peas, 34s to 35s; beans, 34s to 36s; tares, 40s to 48s; maize, 28s to 29s.

Warwick, Saturday.—Fair attendance; trade still very inactive, and prices depreciating. Small quantity of grain on offer. Barley, 26s upwards per qr; wheat, 12s upwards per bag; oats, 21s per 360 lb; beans, 11s to 12s per bag.

Winchester, Saturday.—English wheat in small supply, last week's prices maintained. Foreign unaltered. Barley 3d cheaper. Maize and oats unchanged. Flour a steady trade at late rates.—Fear, Colebrook and Co., Ltd.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Few samples of grain offering. Dry wheat sold at 36s per 504 lb. Barley, 28s to 31s per 448 lb. Oats, 19s 6d to 20s 6d per 336 lb.—James Fletcher.

Worksop, Wednesday. — Fair attendance, and moderate show of grain, with wheat about 6d per qr lower. White wheat, 36s 6d to 37s 6d; red ditto, 35s 6d to 36s 6d; best malting barley, 31s to 33s; secondary qualities, 29s to 31s; grinding barley, 27s to 28s; white oats, 19s to 21s; black oats, 18s to 20s; maize, 28s 6d to 30s; old beans, 40s to 41s; new beans, 35s to 37s per qr.

Yeovil, Friday.—Foreign wheat was 3d per qr dearer, but maize favoured buyers to a like extent. Best quality English wheat sold at from 36s to 39s per qr, a few lots of old making from 40s to 42s; secondary, 34s 6d to 36s; malting barley, 29s to 31s; secondary, 26s to 28s; grinding barley, 24s 6d to 25s.; oats, winter, 18s 6d to 19s 6d; black Tartar, 18s 6d to 19s 6d; white (Garton), 18s 6d to 19s 6d; Irish black oats, 18s 9d; beans, 33s to 37s 6d; rye, 27s to 30s; maize, round, 26s 6d; ditto flat, 27s 6d; vetches, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per bushel. Flour 6d per sack easier, fine new selling at 31s. Offals and meals firm.

York, Saturday.—There is very little grain on offer, due chiefly to the Martinmas hirings. Dry samples of wheat sell quietly at last week's prices; fine white, 37s to 38s; red and mixed, 36s to 37s per qr. of 36 stones. Good qualities of malting barley maintained late rates, but a large quantity has been spoiled by the wet, and was offering very cheaply; fine malting, 30s to 32s; good, 28s to 30s; ordinary, 26s to 28s; damaged samples down to 20s per qr of 32 stones. Oats steady at 20s to 21s per qr of 24 stones; old beans, 36s; rye, 29s per qr of 36 stones.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda is still quoted on the spot at £11 to £11 2s. 6d. Kainit is slightly inquired for, but there is a good demand for all phosphates—values unchanged. Feeding stuffs are a disappointing trade, and in some instances values rather favour buyers, yet they only purchase sparingly, there being such a large amount of damaged grain, especially in Scotland and Ireland, fit only for feeding purposes. Feeding treacle meets a fair demand, and is reasonable in price.

	Per ton. £ s d	£ s d
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (prime)	—	—
Cottonseed Cake Meal	7 15 0	—
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime (soft)	8 2 6	8 5 0
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime	4 16 3	5 0 0
Cottonseed Cake, undecorticated Egyptian	—	—
Cottonseed, crushed, 20 per cent. oil guaranteed	8 10 0	—
Linseed Cake, American, thin oblong, prime	7 15 0	7 17 6
,, ,, English, prime	8 5 0	8 10 0
,, ,, Foreign Round	8 0 0	—
Linseed Meal (crushed seed)	—	—
Palm Nut Cake	6 5 0	—
Maize Germ Meal	7 0 0	7 2 6
Indian Meal, coarse to fine grinding	Per 240 lb. —	—
Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported	Per ton. 5 17 6	—
Linseed, fine bold feeding	Per qr., 416 lb. 2 12 6	2 15 0
Cod-liver Oil, cattle feeding	Per Gallon. 0 4 0	—
Treacle, feeding, American	Per Cwt. 0 4 9	—
Nitrate of Soda	Per ton. 11 2 6	11 5 0
Kainit, prime	2 7 6	—
Bone Meal, prime	5 7 6	5 10 0
Bone Ash	3 15 0	—
Basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed	1 14 0	1 15 0
,, ,, finest ,,	2 2 0	2 3 0
	2 6 0	2 7 6
D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime*	2 5 0	2 7 0
,, ,, guaranteed*	2 10 0	2 12 0
,, ,, ,, *	3 1 3	3 3 3

* At depots inland.

—H. Jones Langar and Co.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cake: The markets during the past week have been poorly attended, with practically no new business of importance passing, and values are barely as strong, more especially by reason of secondhand sellers endeavouring to realise their profits. Russian remain cheaply offered. East India seed pures may be bought at a slight reduction. Fine seedy Calcuttas command most attention. London made meet a dull sale. Cotton Cakes.—Egyptian continue to come along in considerable quantity, and with only a moderate consumptive demand, prices are with difficulty held up, while English and Bombays move off quietly. Decorticated.—London made pures find a ready market, with American brands unchanged. Rape Cakes do not offer. Maize Germ Meal.—Both American and African white meals are offered c.i.f., London, and English makes are fully 5s. per ton cheaper. Maize Gluten Meal is in good request. Rice Meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon make late prices, and there are free buyers of parcels afloat. Locust Beans offer at a relatively low figure. Dried Brewers' Grains are still quoted at a high rate. Nitrate of soda is without change.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Russian, in mats (ex dock)	7 12 6	to 7 13 9
,, in bags	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
East India	7 10 0	—
Calcutta	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
London Made	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
Cottonseed Cakes.		
Egyptian	4 15 0	to 4 17 6
English (ex mill)	4 16 3	to 4 18 9
Bombay	4 7 6	
Decorticated, London made	7 15 0	—
,, American	7 5 0	to 7 10 0
,, Meal, American	7 5 0	to 7 10 0
,, Meal, English	7 15 0	—
Special Digestive Meal	5 5 0	—
Rape Cakes.		
East India	—	—
Ravison	—	—
Maize.		
African c.i.f.	6 12 6	to 6 15 0
English	6 13 9	to 6 16 3
Maize Gluten Meal	7 0 0	—
Ricemeal.		
Rangoon ex ship	5 6 3	to 5 7 6
,, ex whf.	5 12 6	to 5 15 0
Locust Beans.		
Whole	5 10 0	
Kibbled	5 15 0	
Dried Brewers' Grains.		
Ale	5 15 0	
Mixed	5 10 0	
Manures.		
Nitrate of soda	11 2 6	

—Pinnock Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Good supplies: fairly good demand. Prices: Pheasants, 4s to 5s; young grouse, 6s; old, 3s; young partridges, 4s 6d to 5s; old, 2s; black game, 3s 6d per brace; geese, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; country ducks, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; wild ducks, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; Surrey fowls, 3s to 3s 9d; Sussex fowls, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Essex fowls, 2s to 2s 6d; Irish fowls, 1s 8d to 2s; quails, 1s to 1s 3d; feathered pigeons, 7d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s 1d; English hares, 2s 6d to 3s; leverets, 1s 9d; Scottish hares, 1s 4d to 1s 6d; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 6d; wild rabbits, 6d to 9d; live hens, 1s 8d to 2s each; cock turkeys, 8½d to 9d per lb; hen turkeys, 3s 6d to 5s each.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Trade fairly brisk, with good supplies on offer Quotations for English produce:—Grapes, 8d to 4s; peaches, 3s to 12s per dozen; medlars, 3s to 3s 6d per crate; lychees, 1s 6d per box; figs, 1s to 4s per dozen; pears (English Pitmaston), 1s 6d to 2s 6d per dozen; ditto (Beurre Hardy), 3s to 4s per half bushel; apples, 4s to 12s 6d per bushel; cranberries, 10s 6d to 12s 6d per case; pineapples, 2s 6d to 4s each; cobnuts, 4s 6d to 5s per 12 lb; walnuts (Grenoble), 6s to 8s per bag; chestnuts (Redon), 7s to 12s per bag; tomatoes, 4s to 5s per 12 lb; sprue, 8s to 9s per dozen bundles; turnips, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; parsley, 1s 3d to 1s 6d; leeks, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen bunches; onions, 3s 6d to 4s per cwt; mushrooms, 10s to 12s 6d per 12 lb; spinach, 1s 6d to 2s; beetroots, 1s 6d; sprouts, 2s to 2s 6d per bushel; cucumbers, 3s to 4s; endive, 1s to 1s 3d; cabbage lettuce, 10d to 1s per dozen; seakale, 10s to 12s per dozen punnets; parsnips, 2s to 2s 6d per bag; horseradish, 10s to 15s per dozen bundles; celery, 7s to 12s 6d per dozen rolls; broccoli (Cornish), 7s to 8s 6d per crate; cauliflowers, 4s to 6s per tally; potatoes, 75s to 100s per ton.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The arrivals of home cheese were small. Values were unchanged; Cheddars, 62s to 66s; Dunlops, 60s to 63s. October made Canadian parcels still slow; price 61s.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—A good attendance of buyers, a brisk trade, and all cleared. Best Caerphilly dairies realised up to 57s per cwt; secondary dairies, 54s to 56s 6d; and other dairies, 60s to 53s 6d. A few infeior lots failed to reach 44s. Cheddars, 60s to 64s; truckles, 59s to 64s; doubles, 52s to 56s.

Newport, Wednesday. — Good supply and demand, with average attendance. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 48s to 56s per cwt; fancy dairies 57s to 59s; Derbys, 67s to 68s; truckles, 62s to 65s; Cheddars, 62s to 64s.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 P.M.

There was not a very good attendance to-day, and prices for English wheat were not quite so good as on the 15th. Foreign wheat was difficult to quote at any specific decline, but firms who asked high prices a week ago were to day willing to sell at more average rates. With nothing but macaroni wheat and the poorest quality of Indian and Persian to be had for less than 40s. it is exaggerating matters to write of the market as depressed.

But the scarcity of cash makes holding difficult, and a minority of weak holders can undermine the position rather seriously. Barley was steady, the tendency with large supplies to hand was naturally downward, but the prohibition of exports from Turkey restored the equilibrium. Oats sold very slowly at former quotations. There was not much doing in maize. Beans sold fairly well; they are fully worth their quoted values by comparison with other concentrated feeding stuffs.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

November 25.

WHEAT,	White	(per 504 lb.)	36 — 39
	Red	,,	35 — 3
BARLEY, Malting		(per 448 lb.)	36 — 38
	Brewing	,,	33 — 35
	Distilling	(per 416 lb.)	31 — 32
	New Winter	(per 400 lb.)	27 — 29
	Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	27 — 28
MALT, Pale (New)		(per 336 lb.)	39 — 41
	Brown ,,	,,	33 — 34
	Black ,,	,,	34 — 36
OATS, Good Old		,,	22 — 23
	Good New	,,	21 — 22
	New Winter	,,	20 — 21
	Ordinary Old	(per 320 lb.)	21 — 22
	Ordinary New	(per 320 lb.)	20 — 21
	,, ,,	(per 312 lb.)	19 — 20
RYE, New		(per 480 lb.)	30 — 31
BEANS, Pigeon		(per 532 lb.)	42 — 44
	Tick	(per 504 lb.)	35 — 36
	Winter	,,	34 — 35
	Spring	,,	33 — 34
	Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	23 — 24
PEAS, Picked Marrowfat, New		(per 504 lb.)	84 — 88
	Unpicked (Old)	,,	52 — 56
	Maple (Old)	,,	37 — 38
	(New)	,,	36 — 37
	Dun (Old)	,,	33 — 35
	(New)	,,	34 — 35

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba	44	— 45	American	26/9	—27/0
Red Winter	41	— 42	Argentine	26/3	—26/6
Best Spring	44	— 45	Roumanian	26/3	—26/6
Durum	38	— 39	Russian	26/0	—26/3
Argentine	42	— 43	Cinquantina	27/0	—28/0
Australian	43	— 45	South African	26/0	—27/0
Californian	44	— 45	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Walla Walla	43	— 44	Smyrna	37	— 38
Azima	44	— 45	New Zealand	35	— 36
Ghirka	42	— 43	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Roumanian	42	— 43	Hungarian	62	— 64
Indian White	41	— 42	Burmese	37	— 39
,, Red	40	— 41	Chilian	56	— 64
Turkish	39	— 40	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb):		
Persian	38	— 39	French	31	— 33
BARLEY:			Russian	32	— 34
Clifor'n (448 lb)	39	— 40	Canadian	34	— 36
Tunisian (448 lb)	35	— 36	PEAS (504 lb.):		
Algerian (448 lb)	34	— 35	Dutch Crowns	56	— 58
Ouchak (448 lb)	36	— 37	Konigsberg	45	— 47
Smyrna (448 lb)	37	— 38	Russian White	37	— 38
Russian (400 lb)	24	— 25	Indian White	37	— 38
Indian (400 lb)	23	— 24	Canadian White	37	— 38
Persian (400 lb)	22	— 23	New Zeal'd Maple	41	— 42
MALT (336 lb.):			Victoria Dun	34	— 35
Californian	38	— 39	MILLET (416 lb.):		
Smyrna	40	— 41	White	44	— 46
Ouchak	39	— 40	Yellow	24	— 26
RYE (480 lb.):			Sorghum	22	— 23
Russian	30	— 31	RICE (cwt.):		
OATS:			Java	16	— 22
Konigsbg (320 lb)	21	— 22	Indian	17	— 20
Russian (304 lb)	18	— 19	Burmese	9	— 10
Canadian (320 lb)	21	— 22	Siamese	8	— 9
Argtine (304 lb)	18	— 19	DARI (480 lb.):		
Swedish (320 lb)	21	— 22	Indian	28	— 29
New Zeal'd (384 lb)	25	—26	Persian	24	— 25

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 P.M.

The price of London top grade to-day was unchanged, but town whites and town households fell 6d. per sack.

Country flour was the turn cheaper, but a fair trade was done wherever bakers' views were met by the seller.

American flour was irregular, but on the whole a little cheaper to buy, especially for all makes from winter wheat.

Hungarian and Belgian high quality grades commanded high prices, but are not in such good request as formerly.

Milling offals were occasionally 7s 6d per ton cheaper on the week, to the gratification of farmers who have stock to fatten. The excessively high prices asked of late, not merely for middlings, but even for bran, have driven the farmer to look far afield for supplies.

London Flour.

November 25.

Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	37/0
Town Whites	,,	33/6
,, Households	,,	30/6
No. 2	,,	29/6
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	31/6
,, No. 2	,,	29/6

Country Flour.	s.	s.
Fine Patents (per sack of 280 lb.)	29	— 30
Roller Whites ,,	27	— 28
All English ,,	27	— 28
Stone made ,,	26	— 27

Foreign Flour.	s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents (per sack of 280 lb.)	32	— 33
,, Second Patents ,,	31	— 32
,, First Bakers' ,,	27	— 28
,, Second Bakers' ,,	26	— 27
Milwaukee Patents ,,	31	— 32
,, Bakers' ,,	26	— 28
Canadian Best ,,	32	— 33
,, Ordinary ,,	30	— 31
Manitoba Patents ,,	32	— 33
,, Ordinary ,,	30	— 31
Kansas Patents ,,	30	— 31
,, Ordinary ,,	28	— 29
Californian ,,	31	— 32
Belgian ,,	36	— 37
Hungarian (net prices)—		
Five Stars ,,	40/0	
G.G.O. ,,	39/0	
P.W.M. ,,	37/6	
Six Anchors ,,	None	

Meal, &c.			
Bran, London Broad (per sack of 280 lb.)		17	— 18
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	18	— 19
,, ,, Broad	,,	17	— 18
Pollard	,,	16	— 17
Biscuit Middlings	,,	20	— 21
Fine Middlings	,,	19	— 20
Coarse Middlings	,,	18	— 19
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	20	— 21
Farina Firsts	,,	31	— 32
,, Seconds	,,	29	— 30
Barley Meal	,,	28	— 29
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	28	— 29
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	33	— 34
Groats	,,	34	— 35
Oat Flour	,,	34	— 35
Ground Oats	,,	33	— 34
Poultry Meal	,,	37	— 38
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	21	— 22
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	20	— 21
,, Germ Meal	,,	17	— 18
,, Cones	,,	20	— 21
,, Gluten Meal	,,	17	— 18
Rye Flour	,,	26	— 28
Rye Bran	,,	23	— 24
Pea Meal	,,	25	— 26

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED WITH QUIETUDE BUT WITHOUT DEPRESSION.

THE BALTIC.

Monday, 1 P.M.

State of Trade.

Wheat, maize, and oat cargoes all opened 3d lower from Saturday, and cottonseed is also cheaper from then. Holders of barley, linseed, and rapeseed cargoes show steadiness, and peas are rather in request.

Business Done.

Wheat.—White Karachi, 39s 6d per 492 lb, on passage; Red Karachi, 39s 3d per 492 lb,, on passage; Argentine, 39s 3d per 480 lb, on passage; Argentine, 38s 3d per 480 lb., new crop, February shipment; White Walla, 41s 9d per 500 lb, on passage; Australian, 43s 6d per 480 lb, on passage; No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 42s per 480 lb, on passage; No 2 Hard Winter, 37s 9d prompt shipment.

Maize.—Argentine, 26s per 480 lb, prompt shipment; American, 24 6d per 480 lb, new crop, shipment before Jan. 15.

Barley.—Persian, 21s 9d per 400 lb, arrived; Azoff, 24s per 400 lb, arrived; Californian, 40s per 448 lb, December shipment.

Oats.—Konigsberg, 18s 3d per 320 lb., on passage; Danubian, 17s 3d per 304 lb; No. 2 Manitoba, 22s per 320 lb, on passage; Baltic, 17s 6d per 304 lb, arrived.

Peas.—Tasmanian Maple, 34s. per 504 lb, arrived; Canadian White, 7s 10d per cental, on passage

Linseed.—Argetine, 40s per 410 lb, arrived.

Cottonseed, Egyptian, £6 17s 6d per 2,240 lb, arrived.

Sesame.—Bombay, 61s 6d per 384 lb, December shipment.

Poppyseed.—Bombay, 64s per 377 lb., December shipment.

Locust Beans.—Portuguese, 96s per 2,240 lb, Deceember shipment.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—The market is idle, buyers and sellers being quite apart owing to the irregularity of the American wheat markets. Grain.—There is no improvement in the demand for round and flat corn, and there is consequently considerable pressure to sell on spot. Beans dull. There is a demand for fine qualities of Scotch barley and oats, but off grades are very unsaleable. Oatmeal unchanged. Oilcake a slow sale. Mill stuffs.—The turn lower. Winter wheat patents, 30s to 31s per 280 lb; spring wheat patents, 31s 6d to 33s per 280 lb; American corn, 15s 7½d to 15s 9d per 280 lb; round corn, 15s 3d to 15s 6d per 280 lb; grinding beans, 18s 9d to 19s per 280 lb; broad bran, 115s to 117s 6d per ton; medium bran, 110s to 112s 6d per ton; common thirds, 112s 6d to 115s per ton; fine thirds, 137s 6d to 140s per ton; American oilcake, 150s to 152s 6d per ton.—McKinnon and McDonald (Glasgow).

We have liberal supplies of wheat, and our market was quiet at about last Monday's prices. Flour is quiet at late rates. Oats and maize are the turn easier, and barley 6d lower on the week. —Coventry, Sheppard, and Co.

Milling offals.—The trade is not quite so good, but prices remain about the same.—John Bawcomb and Co.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, November 25.—The market for oil-seeds is quiet, and in some instances slightly in favour of buyers. The London arrivals of linseed and cottonseed since the middle of November have exceeded the average.

Linseed. per 416 lb.	s.	s.	Rubsen. per 424 lb.	s.	s.
Calcutta	47	to 48	German	71	to 75
Russian	46	to 49	Poppyseed. per 377 lb.		
Argentine cleand	48	to 49	Indian	58	to 59
Argentine comn.	46	to 47	Cottonseed. per ton.		
Dutch	51	to 53	Egyptian	141	to 143
Turkish	48	to 50	Indian	120	to 124
Canadian	47	to 49	Sunflowerseed. per cwt.		
Morocco	52	to 54			
Rapeseed. per 416 lb.			English, White	14	to 15
English	81	to 85	,, Black	13	to 14
French F.A.Q.	65	to 67	Russian, White.	13	to 14
Yellow Guzerat	61	to 62	,, Black.	12	to 13
Yellow Cawnpre	59	to 60	Sesame. per 384 lb.		
Brown ,,	56	to 57	Indian	59	to 61
Ferozepore	56	to 57	Hempseed. per 336 lb.		
Jamba	46	to 47	Russian	42	to 44

Weekly Arrivals into London.

November 13 to 20 inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	5,300	90,000	95,300
Barley	4,600	35,000	39,600
Malt	18,000	—	18,000
Oats	3,700	56,000	59,700
Beans	824	678	1,502
Peas	819	1,000	1,819
Haricots	—	5,200	5,200
Maize	—	41,680	41,680
Linseed	—	12,000	12,000
Rapeseed	100	150	250
Cottonseed	—	14,000	14,000
Sunflowerseed	—	250	250
Canaryseed	—	1,500	1,500
Carraways	—	140	140
Flour sacks	23,354	19,495	42,849
Ricebran ,,	—	15,000	15,000
Oatmeal ,,	—	3,000	3,000

THE MARK LANE EXPRESS SUPPLEMENT FOR THE HOME

Conducted by PEGITA

THE COLLECTORS' GUIDE.

Dwight's Ware.

By H. W. Lewer.

"Of Dwight's stone ware it would be impossible to speak in terms of too high appreciation. His works possess the charm at once of extreme rarity and absolute originality." Hodgkin.

It was little more than a decade from the time (as Evelyn records in his diary) that "His Majestie King Charles II, came to London after a sad and long exile and calamitous suffering," to the date of the patent granted to John Dwight, in the petition of which to the King he stated "he had discovered the mistery of transparent earthenware, commonly known by the names of porcelaine, or china, and Persian ware; and that he designed to introduce a manufacture of the said wares into our Kingdome of Englande, where they have not hitherto been wrought or made."

To whom the credit of founding the factory at Fulham, with which his name is connected, is a little uncertain, although most ceramic authorities name John Dwight; yet two writers of repute, Joseph Marryat and Albert Jaquemart, seem rather dubious as to his early connection with the pottery, and Jaquemart asks the question, "Is it to the Dutch that we must give the honour of the stone and other wares executed in this place?" We will answer this by another question, "May the pottery not have been financed and under Dwight's advisory control in its early days?"

We know from Dr. Stot's "History of Oxfordshire," published in 1677, "that the ingenious John Dwight, formerly M.A. of Christ Church College, Oxon., hath discovered the mystery of the stone, or Cologne, wares (such as d'Alva bottles, jugs, noggins), made heretofore only in Germany, and by the Dutch brought over to England in great quantities; and hath set up a manufacture of the same."

The fascination of the fictile art must have taken hold of Dwight early in life, and like Dr. Wall, of Worcester, he appears to have interested himself from early days in experimenting with clay and other products for the making of pottery. The history of these experiments has never been recorded, and we find no mention of his connection with pottery till we reach the year 1671, when we find him petitioning for his first patent, which we have already mentioned.

When studying at Oxford he had always an interest for natural science, and Burton, in his "English Earthenware and Stoneware," thinks "that some chance or other turned his attention to the congenial pursuits of the mysteries of China and Cologne ware."

Dwight, on leaving Oxford, was for some years secretary to successive Bishops of Chester, but the date of his resigning this office and going to Fulham is so obscure that much must be left to conjecture. In 1684, John Dwight obtained a renewal of his patent, with the addition of making "opaceous redd and darke coloured porcelaine"; he also produced "a mouse-coloured porcelaine with white specks," and a "blew porcelaine clay."

The British Museum contains a fine specimen of a jug of the so-called "mouse-coloured porcelaine," with marbled bands, and ornaments in relief; the ornamentation taking the form of cranes in flight, and the figure of an Oriental with parasol.

At first the production consisted of grey-beards, jugs, mugs, and butter pots. These were followed by figures, statuettes, busts, etc. The stoneware used for the grey-beards was of an exceedingly hard texture, usually grey in colour, and ornamented with an enamel blue colour, this decoration taking the form of bands, or leaves. The jugs are generally spherical in shape, with a straight neck, raised medallions in the front, often with initials, such as C. R.

The making of this type of jug continued long after the death of Dwight, which occurred in 1703.

Dwight's fame will always largely rest on the statuettes, busts, and figures, which were produced at Fulham. They are finely modelled, well proportioned, and of great artistic excellence. These figures vary in colour from a waxy white to bronze. Our illustration gives a fair representation of a bust, in which may be noted the characteristic modelling of the Fulham factory.

Among the figures which he produced, one of the most pathetic is the recumbent figure of Lydia Dwight, the potter's daughter. Solon, in his "Art of the Old English Potter," referring to this half-length figure, writes "In this beautiful and touching memorial of a beloved child we trace the loving care of the bereaved father in the reproduction of the features, and the minute perfection with which the accessories, such as flowers, are treated."

Many minor vessels were also made, and teapots made of a red ware have been assigned to Fulham of this date. Tea drinking at this



BUST MEDALLION OF SHAKESPEARE.
BY JOHN DWIGHT.

period was just coming into vogue, at a little later date to become most fashionable.

Dwight was evidently familiar with the use of the lathe; also, as Professor Church points out, with the application of small ornaments formed by metal stamps. Several of these stamps, which are made of brass, are now in the British Museum.

In 1866, a walled-up chamber was discovered at Fulham, and in it were found some grey-beards and fragments of stoneware.

Lady Charlotte Schreiber, whose collection of earthenware and porcelain is at South Kensington, had some of the contents given her by Mr. Bailey, the proprietor, in 1870, which included a fine cruche of mottled stoneware, with Bellarmine decoration, bearing the badge of the fleur-de-lys, surmounted by the Royal Crown, and initials C. R. This proves beyond doubt that these cruches, grey-beards, or Bellarmines, were made at the factory, and not imported, as sometimes has been said.

When we consider the total absence of any high form of the fictile art in this country at the time John Dwight was producing not only vessels of fine form and decoration, but statuettes, figures, and groups which "are undoubtedly the most original productions of any English potter," we cannot but wonder at the great perfection to which he had brought the potter's art. Whence came the inspiration, the accurate knowledge, the spirit of the artist? This we know not, and can only say with the historian, Dr. Stot, that "He had so far advanced the art plastic, that 'tis dubious whether any man since Prometheus ever excelled him."

Although with his decease the art lay almost dormant for nearly another century, there is little doubt he planted the seed from which so abundant a harvest was garnered during the latter portion of the eighteenth century.

CAREERS FOR GIRLS.

Black-and-White Work and Fashion Drawing.

By Josephine Bullen.

A few years ago black-and-white work of all kinds held out strong inducements to the artistic girl seeking a career. There were then few workers in this field, and the prizes to be obtained were worth having. Some of the most successful black-and-white artists make £1,000 a year in their profession. And although things are altered now, and competitors swarm thickly in this, as every other sphere, the career still has a great fascination, and it is still possible, with industry and luck, to make an income of from £300 to £700 a year at it.

The work is interesting and full of variety, keeping the artist in touch with the movements of the day. Talent and originality always come to the front in it eventually, if they are combined with push and perseverance, and the other qualities that make for success.

Only, it should be remembered, this particular profession has the drawback of depending upon the taste of the public, and is, therefore, more uncertain than most.

There are several branches of it open to the girl taking it up, some requiring more talent than others, but the training in the main is similar for them all. A thoroughly good foundation in drawing and painting is essential. This may be had at most good schools nowadays, but will in any case need to be supplemented by a course at an art school, either in London or in the provinces. Figure-drawing should receive special attention, as this is necessary in all kinds of black-and-white work; and for book illustrating, costume, landscape, and animal drawing, and composition should also be carefully studied.

This course finished, the student must have instruction in reproduction in her particular medium. Of this she must have a complete mastery, for her success will depend largely upon her quickness in putting her ideas on paper, at any rate, in journalistic work. There are several schools where she can learn this technique of black-and-white work. Many of them make a feature of introducing students' work to editors and publishers, and these introductions are, of course, invaluable to the beginner. They also offer the advantage of an immediate entrance, no preliminary examinations being required from would-be students. It should be understood, at the same time, that the more thorough the previous training has been, the better and quicker will the pupil get through this special course.

As regards the cost of training, it is difficult to speak definitely. The fees at a London "black-and-white" school run from £16 to £20 per annum; at a provincial one from £9 to £10. But, though more expensive, the London school is preferable, for a beginner has much a better chance of getting into touch with editors in town than in the provinces.

It should be mentioned, perhaps, that the actual "method" of black-and-white work can be learned in a short time, if the foregoing art training has been complete.

As for the latter, the sum required varies with the art school chosen, and the length of training needed. Speaking generally, fees at an art school range from six to eighteen guineas a year. These include all branches of drawing and painting and designing, and, in some instances black-and-white work also. One can hardly lay down a hard and fast line as to the length of training required, this depending a good deal on the student's talent and industry.

On the whole, however, the preparation for this career is not to be considered amongst the costliest.

Once trained, the Press artist has to choose which branch of the work she will take up. Book illustration is the highest form of the art, and demands the most talent in those adopting it. It is also, perhaps, the most interesting, giving plenty of scope for the exercise of imagination and originality of ideas. To succeed in it the artist must be thoroughly conversant with figure-drawing from the life, and with historical costumes, furniture, architecture, etc. A special study of history and literature would certainly help to give her work value and individuality. And, of course, she must have a practised knowledge of her medium.

To illustrate books well the artist needs the gift of literary appreciation, and a vivid imagination. She ought to be able to get in touch with the spirit of a book so as to picture its people and scenes in a way convincing to the general reader. The work asks a good deal of her, and not every aspirant should attempt it. But, as I have just said, it surpasses the others in interest, and offers the great advantage of helping an artist to develop her talent instead of stunting it, as the more mechanical kinds of Press work are sometimes held to do.

For this branch the beginner should use her sketch book largely, always keeping on the look-out for figures, groups, picturesque "bits," incidents, and so on, that will come in usefully afterwards.

The payment for book illustration is fair, a set of drawings for a book receiving not less than £5, and as much as the artist's fame and the merit of the work can command. Single designs bring from 2s. 6d. to two guineas each To make a start in it, a beginner should try to get introductions to editors and publishers, and also to authors, for literary people often have their own illustrators, whom they introduce to their publishers.

Another and more lucrative branch of this career is poster and advertisement designing. This is, perhaps, the most promising to take up, for the demand for this kind of illustration continues to grow, and is well paid. There is, in addition—at any rate, in poster designing—ample opportunity for the exercise of artistic skill, as well as for the exhibition of striking ideas. The tendency of the modern poster is to become more and more a thing of beauty, as a comparison (for instance) of some of those lately issued by various railway companies with their old-style ones will show. Boldness, picturesque charm, "impressionism," all have their share in them, for they are not only decorative, but expressive, and allow the artist full utterance of his individuality.

Probably the competitions for posters and advertisements (which are very good openings for the beginner) organised by the *Studio* have much to do with this. Designing the front covers of catalogues, and devising catchy showcards, is another part of this subject, for which training can be had at most schools of design.

In this connection it is possible for a student to take a post with some firm, working only for it. The salary paid her would range from £150 to £450 a year. The advantages of this regular work are obvious; but it has a serious drawback. If, at any time, the firm tires of her style, the artist may find that her work is looked upon by other firms to whom she applies as not sufficiently novel or up-to-date for their requirements. The only way to guard against this catastrophe is to keep always in touch with new ideas and methods, and to try constantly to freshen one's output by change of thought and surroundings.

Fashion drawing is, to most outsiders, quite the most important kind of Press drawing, and although in this career incomes have diminished in proportion as the number of women adopting it has increased, it is still true that the profession offers a better chance of a good income than do most of the others for which the training is equally inexpensive. Only, it exacts enthusiasm, industry, enter[illegible] and cleverness from its followers. Novelty is the great point wanted in fashion drawing. The artist must almost anticipate the changes of fashion; she must be very rapid in sketching, and she must have plenty of physical endurance. At special seasons, when a great many shops and workrooms have to be visited in hasty succession, and hurried drawings made in each, the work becomes a heavy strain.

A fashion artist may either take a staff appointment on a paper at a fixed salary, and be sent by her editor to different functions, shops, places, etc., at his pleasure; or she may work entirely as a free lance. The latter way is, perhaps, less strenuous, but it is also more uncertain.

As to special training, a girl must learn fashion drawing quite satisfactorily in a special school, of which there are many; but, perhaps, her best plan would be to enter herself as a pupil in a successful fashion artist's studio, where she would not only have plenty of practice, but would get a peep behind the scenes, which would prove very useful to her when starting on her own account. The premium in this case would vary from £10 to £100, and it would probably be regained after some time as salary, if the student made good progress.

JOSEPHINE BULLEN.



READY FOR THE PARTY.

IN THE NURSERY.

How to Treat Croup.

One of the most justly dreaded and dreadful complaints to which little children are subject is croup, and it very rarely occurs after seven years old, though there is no rule without an exception. It comes on very rapidly, and a terrible hoarse, short cough or bark announces a sound which no one who has ever heard it is likely to mistake for any other. No time should be lost when the first symptom of croup appears, for a quarter of an hour's delay may cost the child's life. Cold, is always in some way the disposing cause. Sometimes it comes on after a cold has developed, sometimes it is caused by damp, and where there is a slate or a tile off the roof and water drips through the ceiling on to a child's bed a state of things not unusual in stormy weather, where the night nursery is on the top floor croup almost always makes its appearance. Sometimes it causes a spasm of the upper part of the throat, and this is called spasmodic croup, but the true, or membranous croup is too often associated with diphtheria; or, again, what appears to be croup may prove to be the earliest exhibition of inherited asthma. The first thing to be done is to wring a strip of flannel out of hot water, put it round the little neck, and cover with two or three thicknesses of dry flannel. The flannels for croup and sore throat should always be ready in every nursery; indeed, it is well in every family, whether there are children or no, to have a box of coarse flannel ready for emergencies. They are wanted in case of pleurisy and internal inflammation of many kinds. The way to wring a flannel out of hot water is not to put it in sprawling, as a housemaid does the flannel she is cleaning with, and get it out anyhow, but have the scalding water in a tall, narrow jug, fold the flannel in a long roll, dip in first one end, and then the other, and with the hands protected by a pair of washing gloves, to take these two ends, and wring the flannel over a basin, so that most of the water comes out, though most of the heat remains in the flannel. Another plan is to lay the roll on a Turkish towel directly it is taken out of the jug, roll rapidly up, and wring out the superfluous water by holding and twisting the two ends of the towel.

As soon as the hot flannel is applied to the neck, and covered up, put the child into a hot bath, so that the water comes right up to the neck, and keep a can of hot water close by, so as to add a little as the bath cools. The temperature at which one can hold the hand in it comfortably is a very safe rule for the heat of the water, and this should be always ascertained by the mother, for young children sometimes suffer terribly from baths and poultices hot enough to scald them, given by careless and inexperienced nurses.

Keep the child in this warm bath for a quarter of an hour, then take it out, dry rapidly, and wrap in a blanket. Meanwhile, the doctor will naturally have been sent for, as croup is not a complaint for amateur home treatment, though there are cases where a doctor will leave powders for a croupy child, and advise the mother to give them if the symptoms recur, and then if relief is given the attack may stand off.

COOKERY.

Practical Recipes.

BENGALESE HASH.—Cut into slices any cold meat to be used, removing all skin, bone, and fat. Mix a dessertspoonful of mixed mustard with a dessertspoonful of brown sugar, a teaspoonful of salt, and half a teaspoonful of pepper. Chop an onion, and let it cook till tender in a small saucepan, with half a teacupful of ketchup and a third of a gill of vinegar. When the onion is tender, stir in the other mixture (mustard, sugar, etc.), a teacupful of claret and one of stock, and a teaspoonful each of chutney and of red-currant jelly. Thicken with 1 oz. of browned flour. Put in the slices of meat and let them heat in the sauce. Serve very hot.

ROBIN HOOD'S SOUP.—Beat two eggs well. Bring a quart of clear soup to the boil, and strain in the eggs through a strainer. Do not let the soup boil again, or it will curdle.

DRAUGHT GINGERBEER.—For this allow 1 lb. of loaf sugar, 1 oz. of root ginger, and half a lemon to each gallon of water (if lemons are scarce, use a tablespoonful of citric acid and a small teaspoonful of essence of lemon). Slice the lemons and pour the water, boiling, on the above ingredients, let it stand a little to cool, then put in enough yeast to make it work well (about one tablespoonful to each two gallons of liquid), and let it stand for twelve hours at least, after which it should by rights be bottled.

ALMOND FLAVOUR.—Take of the essential oil of almonds, 2 drachms; best spirits of wine, half a pint; simple syrup, 2 lbs. Mix well together, and it is fit for use. Note: Simple syrup is made by boiling together 2 lbs. of lump sugar and one pint of water, clarifying it with the yolk of an egg. When great brightness is desirable, filter the syrup, when cold, through filtering paper.

PICKLE FOR BEEF, PORK, HAMS, AND TONGUES.—Water, 32 quarts; bay salt, 6 lbs.; brown sugar, 2 lbs.; nitre, 2½ ozs.; boil all the ingredients together in a clean pot, skimming off very carefully everything that floats on the surface, and keep boiling for twenty minutes. When cold, pour the liquid over the meat, taking care it well covers it. If the meat be long in the pickle it is necessary, at the expiration of two months, to boil the pickle as before, and add of brown sugar half a pound, salt 2 lbs.

PORTUGUESE METHOD OF DRESSING A LOIN OF PORK.—Steep it during an entire week in red wine (claret is the one they use and prefer), with a strong infusion of garlic and a little spice; then sprinkle it with fine herbs, envelop it in bay leaves, and bake it along with Seville oranges *piquées de giroste*.

THE NEWEST FASHIONS.

This is to be a season of long coats and cloaks, with graceful lines and flowing draperies, and for afternoon and evening alike will these same characteristics predominate. It must be admitted that the new models are almost universally becoming, so that both stout and slender women can take advantage of them. At the same time there is more of subtle intricacy in the apparently simplest design than is realised at first glance, and a stout woman cannot buy rashly a garment that is only suitable for a slender figure, deluded into the belief that these same flowing, loose lines are all that is required to disguise too much avoirdupois.

* * *

Cloaks are more fashionable than last season, but the long coats with loose sleeves are by far the smartest and the most popular. The wide, flowing sleeve, rather a modification of the kimono, is a favourite style, and the exaggeratedly long shoulder seam which forms part of the sleeve has been most cleverly treated, so that the fashion is generally becoming, whereas originally it was a most trying style to the majority of women. There is an immense amount of skill and taste requisite always in the arrangement of the sleeves and shoulders in every coat. The sloping shoulder considered so artistic is one of those attributes of real beauty that cannot easily be made, and in the attempt to secure it there is always danger that an effect of narrowness be given, and that is apt to be extremely unbecoming. But modern dressmaking has attained almost to a science, and while the sleeves must droop down from the shoulder they do not droop too suddenly nor with too much of a slant, but give the desired effect of breadth, while the long flowing sleeves fall down like extra capes over the hands.

* * *

There are no collars on these new coats, the collarless effect having apparently come to stay, and the flat band around the neck and down the front provides an excellent opportunity for the embroidery that is still considered so essential to the finish of every garment. The embroidery must be well done, and if it is of different colour than the material of the coat a much more charming colour scheme can be carried out. Gold and silver embroidery, rich passementerie, excepting when the question of economy must be considered, is very fashionable on long coats and is worked on velvet silk, cloth of gold and a silver cloth; or, if the cloak be of cloth, then a lighter shade is often used in preference to any other material.

* * *

Cloth is a favourite material for coats and cloaks this winter, and the light colours are more popular than the dark; in fact, the dark cloths are not smart enough for the evening, the one exception being black, which, with coloured embroidery, is certainly effective enough for a theatre wrap. Silk—the heavy ribbed quality—satin, and velvet are all materials that are considered smart for evening wraps of all kinds, but cloth is more generally used, and is possible for both simple and elaborate models of wraps. All the different shades and white, in which are included champagne colour, light grey and tan, pale pastel shades of blue, mauve, yellow, and pink, are considered smart, and there is an astonishing variety to be found in the same colour.

* * *

These coats are not long enough to touch the ground, but are long enough to completely cover the gowns over which they are worn; but as many women prefer a rather shorter length of coat, fashion has kindly decreed that there shall be a length that does not reach to the hem of the skirt. While the loose-back model is no longer new, and the semi-fitting coats are the most popular, fashion demands considerable width in the lower part, so that there shall not be any appearance of the garment being tight fitting. It must, to a certain extent, follow the lines of the figure and yet be loose.

* * *

Braiding, embroidery, clasps, buckles and tassels are all to be noticed on the new coats. Persian embroidery as facing, embroidered lace, and the most elaborate braided design are extremely popular, and the combining of different widths of braid provide opportunities for a great variety of effects, while the choice of colouring that is obtainable renders the task of choosing unusual and becoming colours much less difficult than when Fashion simply issues her commands that only certain colours shall be worn, regardless of whether the wearer be blond or brunette, short or tall.

* * *

Our sketch this week shows a Paris model tailor-made costume of myrtle-green cloth of very fine quality. The Kimono-sleeved coat is lined with white satin, and a smart lace jabot adds a pretty effect. The hat worn with this costume is of myrtle-green felt trimmed with velvet of the same shade.



A PARIS MODEL COSTUME.

Reticella Embroidery.

Scrim as a foundation for fancy stitching has long held its own in the needlework world, and numerous forms of embroidery have been dedicated to its enrichment. One of the latest is reticella embroidery. Its results are highly gratifying, and at the same time easily obtained, for there are no new stitches to be mastered, no intricate processes to be carried out, no close, sight-destroying application needed to accomplish the work, as it is perfectly simple, and so nearly mechanical that even a tyro in needlework may undertake it without hesitancy.

The working thread required should be of sufficient weight to show up nicely on the scrim background. The mercerised or lustre cottons therefore answer, though silk floss will, of course, give a richer appearance. The work may be carried out in colours, or all white. Scrim is obtainable in white and cream, and if it is considered desirable may be dyed to match any particular shade. For ordinary use the white or cream is most satisfactory, owing to their good laundering qualities.

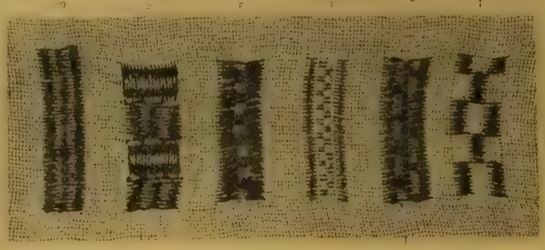
Curtains, bedspreads, dresser, sideboard, and stand covers, collars, cuffs, belts, aprons, and the like, are decorated with reticella embroidery, and in some instances bands of the embroidery have been inserted in other materials as trimmings. It is possible also to do this work on materials similar to scrim, such as square meshed nets, grenalines, veils, and veilings.

Reticella embroidery has the effect of drawn-work when finished, but no threads are drawn. It is seldom necessary to use a pattern, as the design may readily be followed by occasionally counting the threads. The work is mostly done in the well-known satin stitch, a simple over-and-over stitch to form solid embroidery.

The scrim should be held in frames, for its beauty depends largely on the evenness of the embroidery. After deciding on a design, work over and over a certain number of threads forming the scrim in either direction, two or more threads being covered, owing to the pattern. Draw the working thread rather tightly each time a stitch is taken, so that drawn spaces will appear at either side. Be sure to take all stitches through the meshes only, never splitting the mesh threads.

No. 1 on the samples shown has three rows, each over four-mesh threads. This forms a very simple border, and the rows may be increased to any desired number, or be made wider if preferred.

In the next sample, three rows over six threads are made for a short distance in one direction, alternating with two rows over six threads in the opposite direction. This scheme may be varied to suit the individual worker, and forms an effective border.



SOME OF THE STITCHES IN RETICELLA EMBROIDERY.

No. 3 shows two rows over eight threads, run across the scrim, while at regular intervals connecting rows over three threads appear.

No. 4 is an especially dainty decoration for collars and cuffs. Two rows over three threads are made, leaving six plain threads between. Groups of two stitches over two threads are then worked on this space, zigzag fashion.

Rows of the embroidery are interspersed with alternating French knots at No. 5. Bars of the embroidery may be substituted for the knots if preferred.

No. 6 shows two rows of five threads, with five left plain between, alternating with one row on these central threads.

A great variety of patterns will readily suggest themselves to the interested worker, and the work will prove to be an agreeable pastime as well as a simple method of providing handsome borders for decorative purposes.

Crocheted Bed Socks.

Half a pound 4-ply fleecy wool, and a wooden tricot hook (size No. 1) will be required. Make 50 chain stitches, and afterwards work in ordinary tricot stitch backwards and forwards, until the work measures 12 in. in depth (this will probably be when there are about 28 rows), then fold it in halves, and, without breaking off the wool, join the two edges together with single crochet; finally, take up every loop at one end, draw them tightly together, and fasten off firmly, thus forming a straight bag about 17 in. long. Although there is no particular shape in these night socks, when the feet are inserted they will be found to fit very snugly, and to reach nearly to the knee. They are really a great boon on cold winter's nights, and in certain cases I have known of, they decidedly insured a good night's rest, for I think everyone will admit that it is impossible to sleep well if the feet are cold, and many people have an objection to hot-water bottles, owing to the popular idea that they cause chilblains and tenderness in the feet.

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7in ,, 2/-	8in. ,, 2/8
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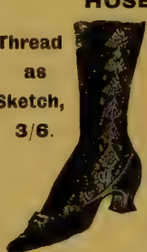
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POTATOES.

Appleby, Saturday.—Moderate supply in the district. Wholesale, 75s to 90s per ton; retail, 9d to 10d per stone.

Berwick, Saturday.—Trade was rather slower, and prices a little easier. Up-to-Dates, 75s to 77s 6d per ton.

Borough, Saturday. — A good quantity experienced a poor demand. Blacklands, 75s; best Up-to-Dates, 90s to 100s; Royal kidneys, 80s; Scottish grey soil, 90s to 100s per ton; French, 3s 3d to 3s 6d; Dutch, 3s to 3s 3d; German, 3s 6d to 3s 9d per bag.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supplies were small, and met a steady demand at 7d to 8d per stone.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Plenty of potatoes, and a fair demand. Prices easier, at 9s to 10s per load of 18 stones.

Goole, Wednesday—The market was a little asier. Not many samples were shown owing to Martinmas week. Imperators, 9s; Dates, 10s; King Edwards, 10s per load. Not much business was done in foreign potatoes.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Potatoes 9d per stone.

Malton, Saturday. — The wholesale potato trade still keeps firm at 80s to 85s for the best qualities, and 75s to 80s general runs. At the auction sales potatoes 4s 6d to 4s 9d per bag of eight stones for Up-to-Dates of good quality.

Manchester, Saturday. —Potatoes: Yorkshire, 11s 6d to 12s 6d; Cheshire, 8s 6d to 9s 6d; Lincoln, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 18 st; Irish, 5s; German, 4s 6d to 5s per cwt.

Preston, Saturday.—Potatoes, 9s to 10s per load of 240 lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Potatoes plentiful. Home-grown lots made 8s 6d to 9s 6d, and other sorts 6s to 7s per load.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Potatoes £4 15s and £5 per ton.

Spitalfields, Saturday. — Deliveries were heavy, and business proceeded slowly. Langworthys, 100s to 110s; Up-to-Dates, 90s to 100s; Blacklands, 80s to 85s; Royal Kidneys, 80s to 90s; Scottish grey soil, 90s to 95s per ton. French, 3s 3d to 3s 6d; Dutch, 3s to 3s 3d; German, 3s 6d per bag.

Whitby, Saturday.—Potatoes, 8d per stone.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Best potatoes 9s to 9s 6d per load of 18 stones.

York, Saturday.—The Martinmas hirings have largely interfered with trade, and there is very little doing. A few sales were effected at late rates—7s 6d to 8s per ton.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply; trade quiet. Hay made £3 5s to £3 17s 6d per ton; straw no quotation.

Derby, Friday.—Best old clover, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; best old hay, 90s to 100s; new, 50s to 70s; seconds, 40s to 50s; wheat straw, 60s to 70s; pressed straw, 50s to 60s; chop straw, 55s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A moderate business passing in hay at recent prices. Nothing doing in straw.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Meadow hay, 6d; clover, 7d; oat straw, 4d; wheat straw, 3½d to 4d per stone.

Leeds, Tuesday.—A good business is passing in the warehouses, and the prices of hay and straw are firmly maintained. Quotations:—Old clover hay, 7½d; ditto meadow hay, 7d; best new clover hay, 7d; ditto meadow, 6½d; wheat straw 5d; oat straw, 5d; and rye straw (retail), 7d to 8½d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Good supplies of hay and seeds, with a moderate demand. Best quality made £3, and inferior £2 10s per ton on the ground. Plenty of straw, and business ruled fairly brisk at 30s per ton on the ground.

Manchester, Friday. — Hay, 5d; clover, 5½d to 6½d; straw, oat, 2½d to 3d per stone.

Newcastle, Tuesday, Old land hay, from £3 10s to £4 4s per ton; new land hay, £4 10s to £5 5s; this year's growth, £4 to £4 15s; wheat straw, £1 4s to £1 6s per load; barley straw, £1 2s to £1 3s; oat straw, £1 3s to £1 4s.

Nottingham, Wednesday.—Large supplies on offer, which met with a slow sale. Quotations:—Inferior to good hay, 35s to 55s; prime ditto, 70s to 80s; inferior to good clover, 45s to 65s; prime ditto, 80s to 90s; wheat straw, 45s to 55s; old hay, 90s to 100s; old seeds, 95s to 100s per ton.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Moderate supplies, with a quiet trade. Choice seeds, £4 5s to £4 15s; choice hay, £3 15s to £4 5s; straw, £2 10s to £3.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—A moderate quantity available met a good demand, prices being steady. Best clover, 84s to 95s; inferior ditto, 72s to 80s; specially-picked hay, 85s; good ditto, 68s to 78s; inferior ditto, 55s to 63s; mixture and sainfoin, 70s to 82s 6d; straw, 28s to 33s per load.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Nov. 25, 1907. British.	Total.	Monday, Nov. 26, 1906.
Beasts	1,480	1,480	1,120
Sheep and Lambs	3,450	3,450	5,370
Calves	10	10	20
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	40	40	50

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 6	3 4	4 6
Sheep	4 10	5 6	6 4
Lambs	—	6 0	6 8
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £23 10s, ex £24.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland. 10; Eastern Counties, 79; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 1,176; Devon, 40; Ireland, 175.

We note to-day an increase of 10 head in the number of beasts offered for sale compared with Monday last, the majority of the supply, as is usually the case at this season of the year, being drawn from the Midland Counties and Ireland. Trade for all grades of English cattle ruled of a slow nature, in the case of Herefords and Runts prices favouring the buyer to the extent of 2d per 8 lb. The Irish consignments consisted to-day of 90 Dublins and 85 Waterfords, amongst the former being a few choice Black Polled cattle, these were easily disposed of, whilst all other grades shared in the general depression. The inquiry for fat cows and bulls was also of a very slow nature at last Monday's values. There is very little prospect of a clearance being effected in this part of the market to-day.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s d	s d	Monday, Nov. 26, 1906. s d	s d
Scotch Cross-breds	—	—	—	—
Devons	4 4 to 4 6		4 10 to 5 0	
Herefords	4 2 to 4 4		4 4 to 4 6	
Norfolks	4 4 to 4 6		4 6 to 4 8	
Runts	4 0 to 4 2		4 2 to 4 4	
Lincolns	3 10 to 4 0		3 8 to 3 10	
Irish	4 2 ex 4 4		4 0 to 4 2	
Canadian	—	—	—	—
Fat cows	3 4 to 3 6		3 4 to 3 6	

There was a decrease of 910 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. Trade opened and continued throughout the day of a slow and dragging nature; however, sellers were not willing to accept any decline on late values. Scotch sheep were more sought after, whilst Irish, on the other hand, were slow of sale. A few lambs were placed on the market and disposed of in the early morning. The supply included 400 Scotch, 820 Irish, and 835 from the Eastern Counties. Notwithstanding the general depression a clearance is expected to be made.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, Nov. 26, 1906. s. d.	s. d.
8 st. Scotch Tegs	6	2 to 6	4 6	2 to 6 4
7½ to 8 st Down Tegs	6	2 to 6	4 6	0 to 6 2
9 st. Down Tegs	6	0 to 6	2 5	10 to 6 0
10 st Halfbreds	5	8 to 5	10 5	8 to 5 10
10 st Yorkshires		—		—
12 st Lincolns		—		—
10 st Irish	5	2 to 5	4 5	2 to 5 4
10 st Down Ewes	4	2 to 4	4 4	2 to 4 4
11 st Halfbred ditto	4	0 to 4	2 4	0 to 4 2
5 st Down Lambs	6	6 to 6	8	—
6 st Halfbred ditto		—		—

London (Central), Monday.—Trade quiet for fair supplies. Beef, English, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 6d; American, 3s 2d to 3s 8d: refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 10d to 4s 4d. Mutton, English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Scotch tegs and wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Veal, 3s 8d to 5s. Pork, 3s 8d to 4s 4d per stone.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 1,678. To-day's supply, compared with Monday last, showed an increase of 739 head, and consisted of 766 from the United States and 912 from Canada (these on the whole ruled of a fairly steady nature, at an latter consisting entirely of ranch cattle). Trade advance of 2d per 8 lb in value for the former. The best States on offer were quoted at from 4s 3d to 4s 5d; seconds, 4s to 4s 2d; Canadian ranchers, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; seconds, 3s to 3s 2d. On Saturday 517 beasts from the United States, 207 Westerns, and 461 Canadians were offered for sale. Trade ruled of a slow nature, partly due to the fact that the States consignments only consisted of middling quality cattle. Besides the above, 600 Canadian beasts were withheld from sale. The best States on offer were quoted at from 4s 1d to 4s 3½; Westerns, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; Canadian ranchers, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 8lb (offal given in). 300 Canadian sheep were withheld from sale.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday. — Linseed Cake.—The mild open weather is no doubt contributing to the somewhat poor demand for the period of the year, London-made continues to find most favour at present values.

Cotton Cake.—Parcels of Egyptian-made are arriving pretty freely, and home makes being plentiful, prices close barely as strong as last week.

Linseed.—A good trade in the qualities for feeding purposes, but with good crop reports from the Plate values tend lower.

Linseed Cakes.	£ s. d.	Per ton. £ s. d.
English Linseed Cake, ex mill	7 17 6	to 8 0 0
Calcutta Linseed Cake, ex quay	7 15 0	—
Russian Oil Cake ex quay	7 12 6	to 7 17 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake ex quay	7 7 6	—
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal ex quay	7 5 0	—
London-made ,, Cake (best) ex mill...	4 17 6	to 5 0 0
Egyptian ,, Cake (in bags) ex quay	4 17 6	to 4 18 9
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains on rail, Burton	5 8 0	—
Calcutta Linseed (in bags), per 410 lb (bold) ex warehouse	2 9 0	—
La Plata Linseed per 416 lb. ex warehouse	2 7 0	to 2 12 6
Duluth Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb ex warehouse	2 9 0	—

—Robt. & John Hewetson.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were:—From Ireland, 3,377 bales, and from foreign ports, 13,808 bales. There was a quiet market for bacon last week, and prices generally were reduced. Quotations ranged:—Irish, 52s to 54s up to 58s; Danish, 51s to 53s up to 57s; Canadian, 50s to 52s up to 54s. Butter: The butter market was steady. French, 104s to 118s; Danish, 121s to 124s; Russian, 88s to 112s; Irish, 96s to 120s; Victorian, 94s to 118s; New South Wales, 94s to 118s; Queensland, 90s to 114s; New Zealand, 110s to 120s; Argentine, 116s to 120s. Lard.—Lard was a slow market. Irish, 48s to 58s; Danish, 50s to 55s; American, 46s to 47s 9d.

WET AND DRIED GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Wet Grains: Prices remain about the same with an easy tendency. Business has been done during the week at 21s 6d ale, and porter 3s per ton less on rail London. Slack brewings will cause prices to be firmer. Dried Grains.—Prices continue firm with a steady tendency at 110s per ton for ale and 105s for mixed, bags 6d. each. Best Java Molasses.—Concrete 70 per cent. sugar, in baskets, 85s per ton. Kiln dried sea-damaged wheat from 22s per qr, on rail, London and elsewhere.—Hamlyn and Co.

SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—There is considerable business passing in spring sowing seeds, in spite of the high prices ruling in general. Rape continues firm Mustard unchanged. Rye scarce and firm. Peas moving freely, supplies still limited. In clovers, more movement in Whites and Alsikes, prices unchanged. English reds and Trefoils selling freely, prices tending upwards. In grasses, Perennials and Italians sell readily at rising prices.—John Picard and Co.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—The trade continues quiet, the few parcels that are being taken for consumption have changed hands at prices which must be quoted in buyers' favour.—W. H. and H. Le May.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington Cattle Market on the chief day of the week there was an increase in the number of beasts offered for sale. For both prime and second quality trade throughout the day ruled of an extremely slow nature owing to the very inclement weather experienced and the overstocked state of the Dead Meat Market; however, most sales were governed by late values, Scotch descriptions alone being the exception to this remark. The supplies from this country only consisted of a few cross-bred cattle. The majority of the arrivals were consigned from the Midland Counties and Ireland, these latter consisting of 93 Dublins and 65 Waterfords; amongst the former were a few Black-Polled cattle, these making an advance of 2d. per 8 lb. on our top Irish quotation. Fat butchering cows were slow of sale, but inclined to be a little firmer in regard to value, whilst fat bulls met with less inquiry and barely maintained late rates. On Thursday trade was confined to fat butchering cows and bulls, as usual, Monday's prices governing all transactions.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, markets were held on Monday and Saturday, the supply on the former day consisting of somewhat inferior cattle as far as States beasts were concerned, consequently low prices prevailed. On the other hand, Canadians ruled firmer. The total number on offer at both markets was 3,664, as against 3,699 during the preceding week, consisting of 1,540 British (increase 270), and 2,124 foreign (decrease 305), these latter comprising 1,038 from the United States and 1,086 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 stone Scotch cross-breds, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 95 stone Irish, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; Black Polled ditto 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 90 stone States, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 95 stone ranchers, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.

The sheep trade at Islington was again confined to Monday, and, taken as a whole, ruled of a decidedly firmer nature. For all grades of English and Scotch tegs, notwithstanding the latter being in large numbers, an advance in value was both asked for and obtained. Irish descriptions only succeeded in making late values; however, these were fairly well sought after. A few lambs were placed on the market, and found buyers at late currencies. No sheep were offered for sale at Deptford. Total number penned was 4,390, as against 3,840, showing an increase of 550. Best pens made per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Down tegs, 6s. 2d. to 6s. 4d.; 8 stone Scotch tegs, 6s. 2d to 6s. 4d.; 9 stone Down tegs, 6s. to 6s. 2d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 10 stone Down tegs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 10 stone half-breds, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 5 stone fat Down lambs, 6s. 6d. to 6s. 8d.

Calves numbered 20, trade for which ruled of a slow nature on both market days, the best on offer being quoted at from 4s. 10d. to 5s. per 8lb. (offal given in).

No pigs were placed on the market.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer this week has been large, and the general quality decidedly improved. There was a good demand throughout at prices all over the turn higher. Fat cows also a large show, and they met a trade equal to last week. Small supplies of fat sheep on offer, which met a better inquiry at an average rise of 1s. per head, with the exception of ewes, which made less money. Calves dear, while pigs suffered a slight reduction. There was a large and good show of store cattle, for which there was a fair demand, and a good clearance effected at prices similar to those ruling last week. There was a small supply of store sheep, and anything of a good class got readily and well sold. Milch cows a large and good show, and they met a dear market. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 40s.; current, 35s. to 37s. 6d.; mutton, to fully 9¼d. per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Ltd.

Trade in Ireland.

The supply of stock in Dublin Cattle Market on Thursday was large, and the attendance of buyers, both home and cross-Channel, was also on the big side. The number of cattle was 400 over previous Thursday's supply, and sheep were also in excess by nearly 500. Even with this large market there was a good steady demand for all sorts of stock in the early hours. For good cattle a steady demand was maintained nearly all day, but rough cattle were rather hard to get rid of late in the day. Cattle of a good type, which would take some more feeding, sold very freely. The market opened with a strong demand for good heifers and bullocks, and at the start it looked as if prices were going to increase a little, but it was afterwards found impossible to do any better than last day, and towards the close of the day buying got slower and worse than the morning, still a good clearance was accomplished. Prime beef was worth from 53s. to 56s. (for very choice), good medium beef from 47s. to 50s., and other sorts from 44s. to 45s. per cwt. The number of cattle in market was 5,083. The attendance of English buyers was large, and they seemed in a better mood for buying. Dublin buyers had to exert a good deal of energy to secure what meat they required. The unsettled state of markets in America has a good deal of effect on the home markets here. The quantity of beef landed in British ports during the week amounted to only 5,748 cattle and 63,236 quarters, as against 8,411 beasts and 125,710 quarters in the corresponding week for last year.

There was a good inquiry for sheep, shipping hoggets especially, due to the fact that the Irish season is now nearly over. Good aged wethers made 60s. each very frequently, and hoggets also sold well. Cheviots were in demand, as they were scarce and wanted. Sheep of moderate weight were in most demand, very weighty sheep not being wanted by butchers. Ewes and inferior sheep were hard to dispose of. Best wethers sold at from 7d. to 7¾d. per lb.; best ewe mutton, 6d. to 6½d., and coarse qualities of mutton from 5d. to 5½d. per lb. Veal calves in small supply, but good demand for prime. Choice vealers made from 7½d. to 8½d. per lb. Other sorts from 4½d. per lb. upwards.

There was a fair demand in the market for choice dairy cows; the inquiry for first-class springers was better, and values firmer, cross-Channel buyers operating freely at good prices. Coarse cows sold slowly. Prime cows made up to £21 each, but good cows could be got from £16 to £18 each; second grades from £8 10s. to £15 15s. Messrs. Cuffe and Sons and Messrs. Ganly, Sons, and Co. had large and successful sales of store stock.

In the pig market there was a good attendance of home and cross-Channel buyers, but buying was not too good and a bit slumpy. Prices may be said to have been down from 1s. to 2s. per cwt. on best qualities. A clearance difficult to accomplish. Choice light-weight pigs from 48s. to 50s. per cwt.; heavy pigs, 44s. to 48s.; and coarse pigs from 35s. to 40s. per cwt.

LONDON.

Central Market, Thursday.—Fair supplies and trade very slow. English beef, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; extreme, 4s 8d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 3d to 3s 8d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; ditto, seconds, 3s 10d to 4s; ditto, forequarters, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; inferior beef, 2s 2d to 2s 8d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s; ditto, tegs, 5s; ditto, ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Dutch sheep, 4s to 4s 6d; veal, 3s 8d to 5s; English pork, 3s 8d to 4s 4d; Dutch ditto, 3s 8d to 4s 2d per 8 lb.

Central Market, Friday.—Fair supplies, and trade continues slow, there being very little demand. English beef, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 2d to 3s 8d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; ditto, seconds, 3s 10d to 4s; ditto, forequarters, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; inferior beef, 2s 2d to 2s 8d. Mutton, Scotch wethers, 4s 8d to 4s 10d; ditto tegs, 4s 10d to 5s; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Dutch sheep, 4s to 4s 4d; veal, 3s 8d to 5s; English pork, 3s 8d to 4s 2d; choice, small, 4s 4d; Dutch ditto, 3s 8d to 4s per 8 lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade not quite so good, though there was a fair attendance. Best beef made up to 4s 8d, and secondary up to 4s 4d. Mutton in poor demand, best Downs making up to 5s 10d, and Kent wethers to 5s 8d. Veal sold well at 5s to 5s 8d, but pork was rather cheaper, the best making 4s.

Aylesbury, Wednesday. — Very moderate supplies of stock were at market, consisting of 250 fat sheep and 150 good quality beasts. In consequence of this shortage trade was rather brisk in both departments, late rates being maintained, fat wethers realising 59s 6d, fat ewes 53s, fat tegs 53s 6d, fat heifers £19, and fat oxen £19 12s 6d per head.

Bath, Wednesday.—There was a large attendance, and the trade was good. Fat steers, £18 15s to £21; fat heifers, £16 5s to £18 5s; fat cows, £15 10s to £17 5s; fat tegs, 52s 6d to 53s; fat wethers, 60s 6d to 62s; fat ewes, 46s to 50s; fat calves, 68s to 90s; weaning calves, 33s to 48s.

Berwick, Saturday.—Attendance rather better, and trade fairly good. Calves, £4 10s to £6; stirks, £8 10s to £11 15s; two-year-olds, £12 10s to £14; three year-olds, £14 10s to £16 15s; cows, £20.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Good supply of pigs; small supply of beasts and sheep. Trade fair for pigs, but slow for beasts and sheep. Prices:—Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s per score; cutting pigs, 9s 3d to 9s 6d per score; sows, 7s 2d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—There was a large supply of beef, but higher prices checked business, and trade was slow at 58s per cwt for best sorts and 54s for secondary. Mutton was plentiful, and in fair demand at about last week's prices. Pork was scarce, and quotations were unaltered.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices of pigs:—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 1s. per pig extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. 10 lb to 8 sc. 10 lbs, 9s per score; 8 sc. 11 lb to 9 sc. 10 lb., 8s 6d per score; 9 sc. 11 lb to 10 sc. 10 lb, 8s 0d per score Pigs outside these limits at their value.—C. and T. Harris and Co.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Sheep maintained about recent values, a run of 200 wether tegs ranging from 41s 6d to 48s 6d. Store bullocks in slower demand, and the trade is nearly over. Second quality yearlings are quoted at from £6 to £8, and the best up to ten guineas; two-year-old heifers, £11 10s to £13 10s.

Carlisle, Saturday.—A fair number of buyers attended, and a brisk trade was done. Wintering heifers, £7 10s to £12 10s; stall-fed heifers of superior class to £16 10s; polled bullocks, £8 10s to £11 10s; horned bullocks, £9 to £12 each.

Chester, Thursday.—Fair supplies of dairy cattle, and a satisfactory business was done for the best. A few pens of horned sheep were on offer, but trade for store sheep has practically ended for this year. Prices:—Milch cows, £18 to £23; lying-off cows, £15 to £20; barren cattle, £9 to £13; stirks, £6 to £10, and heifers, £9 to £15 each.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was a good attendance, and trade for both fat and store sheep was firm at about late rates. Good quality fat cattle met a sharp trade, and prices showed a hardening tendency, but store cattle were in more request, and were, with few exceptions, all sold. Quotations:—Prime Devon beasts, 4s 6d to 4s 9d per stone; prime Shorthorn ditto, 4s 3d to 4s 8d; prime Southdown tegs, 6s 6d to 7s; prime West Country ditto, 6s to 6s 9d; fat ewes, 5s to 5s 4d; fat calves, 5s to 5s 6d; fat pigs, 3s 6d to 4s 3d; sucker calves, 15s to 30s per head; store pigs, 8s to 20s per head.

Derby, Tuesday.—A dull day, but a fairly busy market. Prices firm at last week's rates. Beasts, 5½d to 6½d; calves, 7½d; sheep, 7½d to 9d per lb.

Doncaster, Saturday. — Good supply of cattle, especially stores, and a better demand at slightly improved rates. Milch beasts made £18 to £23; bullocks, £13 to £17; heifers £12 to £15; drapes, £11 to £14; stirks, £10 to £12; and young stock, £7 to £10 each. Average supply of sheep, and a moderate demand at late rates. Shearlings fetched 40s to 50s, and lambs, 40s to 45s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Both Messrs. Duke and Son and Messrs. Symonds and Sampson had large offers of stock, both fat and store, at to-day's cattle market, but mutton was as scarce as ever. Attention was largely centered in milch beasts, of which there were some rare lots offering both of heifers and cows. A keen competition ruled for everything at all serviceable at from £14 (for plain animals) up to £21 for deep milking heifers. Stirks and yearlings not in much request. Good meaty barreners, of which there was a nice selection offering, sold freely from £22 to £28 per pair, but plainer grades were much slower of sale at

from £16 to £20 or £21. The beef trade, except for the best finished animals, was scarcely as buoyant as it has been, at from £16 to £21 for best animals (or 11s to 11s 6d per score and over); secondary grades (cows, &c), 10s 6d. Fat sheep of nice quality still make 9d per lb and over, only very plain animals selling under this quotation.

Dublin, Thursday.—A sharper demand for choicely-finished bullocks and heifers at improved prices. Secondary and inferior sorts easier to dispose of at late currencies. All classes of sheep, except heavy ewes in better request and easier sold at last week's full prices. Cattle—Live weight (best), 29s 6d to 32s 6d per cwt; secondary and inferior sorts, 26s to 29s per cwt. Mutton (dead weight), 6½d to 7½d per lb; extreme, 7⅝d per lb.—Ganly, Sons, and Co.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Sheep and cattle lighter supplies, fair trade at last week's prices; best bullocks to £15 5s, and smaller kinds to £11 5s. Half-bred lambs made up to 33s; Cheviot dinmonts, 30s; greyfaced lambs, 31s; cross Oxfords, 33s 6d. Very bad trade experienced for cows, few being sold. Irish cows realised £18 10s.

Exeter, Friday.—Large supply of beasts, and quieter demand, best steers and maiden heifers making 11s; cows, 10s; some unsold. Very large supply of sheep, largely made up of lambs for turnip, and which made from 32s to 36s, slower sale at lower prices; wethers sold well at 9d for the best; 8½d second clas, and 8d for old ones; ewes sold at 6½d, with a better demand.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Large show of cattle, and, for bullocks of really choice quality and finish, a good demand was experienced, other descriptions only met a quiet trade; top, 63s to 65s; secondary, 56s to 58s per cwt. A good supply of sheep market, and for prime hoggs and wethers a sharp inquiry was experienced. Ewes of quality sold well, secondary were slow to sell and cheaper.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Messrs. Bruton, Knowles, and Co. report their sales as follows:—Cows and calves: A very large supply (110) with excellent trade for the best quality, the highest prices being £23 10s, £23 (3), £22 10s, £22 5s, £21 15s, £21 10s, &c. Store cattle: A large supply with fair trade.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A large supply of beef in the market, with slow trade and no improvement in prices. Best quality heifer and bullock beef fetched 6½d to 6¾d; cow, 4½d to 5d. Calves small supply but better trade; nice quality veal made 6½d to 7d. Rearing calves were dearer. Sheep a short supply, but firmer trade; best wethers, 8d to 8½d; ewe mutton, 6d to 7d; fat lambs, 8d to 8½d. Store lambs were dear. A larger supply of porks and bacons; porks, 5½d to 6d; baconers, 5d to 6d. There was a better demand for large stores; small stores went cheap.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good average consignments of home-bred stock. Fair attendance, and trade steady at firm rates. Choice milch cows, £20 to £22; good lots, £17 to £19; secondary, £14 to £16; Shorthorn bullocks, £11 to £14; Irish cattle, £13 to £15; Welsh cattle, £9 to £12 10s; heifers, £9 to £11; young stock, £5 to £7 10s; and calves, 20s to 35s each.

Lincoln, Friday.—Poor supply of horned stock, and a medium trade. Young beasts, £9 to £11; strong ditto, £12 to £15; milch cows, £17 to £23 each. Hogg sheep made 40s each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—An average show of fat beasts met a good trade for the best, which made 8s, others 7s per stone. Stores in small supply, with very slow trade, from £6 to £15 each. Fat sheep in small supply, with average trade up to 10s per stone, smalls 10s 6d; stores, few shown from about 45s to 48s each. Store lambs made from 35s to 45s per head.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: Firsts, 5½d; seconds, 4d to 4½d; thirds, 3d to 3½d per lb. Mutton: Firsts, Cheviots, Scotch, 7¼d; others, 7½d; seconds, 6½d to 7d; thirds, 5½d to 6d. Veal: Firsts, 7¼d; seconds, 6½d to 6⅞d; thirds, 5½d to 5⅞d. Bacon pigs: Firsts, 5d; seconds, 4d to 4½d; thirds, 3d to 3½d. Porket pigs: Firsts, 6⅛d; seconds, 6d to 6½d; thirds, 5½d to 5⅞d.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—The supply of cattle was a trifle larger than last week, and trade was fair but quiet, only being firm for prime heifers and steers, with prices unaltered. Quotations:—Prime heifers, 7s 6d to 7s 9d; second class, 6s 9d to 7s; prime steers, 7s to 7s 6d; second class, 6s 9d to 7s; coarse and inferior, 6s to 6s 6d per stone, sinking the offal. Sheep were a rather smaller supply, and trade was firm, with an advance of ½d for young sheep. Quotations:—Choice young sheep 8½d to 9d; strong heavy, 8d to 8½d; choice hoggs, 8½d to 9d; second class, 8½d to 8⅝d; ewes, 6d to 6¾d; rams, 5d to 6d per lb. Calves were a slightly smaller supply. Trade in veal was fair at ½d advance, making 5½d to 8d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—Plentiful supply of cattle and sheep, short supply of lambs, and moderate lot of calves and pigs. There was a large attendance and good trade all round. The quotations were:—Best beef, 6d to 6½d; seconds, 5⅝d; cows, 4½d to 5d; best wether mutton, 8½d; ewes, 7d to 7½d; lambs, 9½d; calves, 7½d; porker pigs, 10s 3d to 10s 9d per score; baconers, 9s to 9s 6d.

Norwich, Saturday. — Smaller show of fat cattle, but of better quality, and an improved trade all round, the best beasts making 8s 3d per 14 lb stone, and nothing lower than 7s. Sheep forward in larger numbers, trade not so fast, prices being 6d per stone lower, the best making from 8½d to 9½d per lb. Average show of pigs, trade slow, baconers making up to 6s 2d and porkers to 6s 6d per stone. Store cattle were forward in about the same numbers as last week, but the quality shows a falling off; the bad weather affected trade, which was slow. Three-year-olds made from £13 to £15 10s; younger beasts from £5 to £10. Sheep consisted of a small show of hoggets, which about maintained last week's prices, a clearance being effected at 42s to 50s each. Pigs were cheaper at 10s to 22s per head, but rearing calves, which were a smaller show, made rather more money.

Nottingham, Saturday. — Smaller supply, with a good trade. Best in-calf cows, £18 to £22; heifers, £16 to £18. Smaller show of stores; strong heifers and steers up to £15, and younger ditto, £7 to £9 10s. Calves made up to 45s each.

Preston, Wednesday. — There was a fair supply of cattle, when a good level of quality was maintained. Prices had a hardening tendency. Good local fed heifers made up to 6½d; inferior, 5d to 6¼d; prime Irish quality, 6¼d; young cows and bulls, 5⅝d; and coarse and inferior, 5d per lb. Prime hoggs and lambs made 9d; heavy and inferior, 8d; prime young ewes and tups, 6¾d; heavy and inferior, 6d; and calves, 7½d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Very few store cattle shown. Attendance small, and no change in quotations.

Romford, Wednesday.—About an average supply of fat beasts; trade very slow. Best beasts, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in short supply; trade a little better at 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Sheep in average supply; prices about the same. Best small sheep, 6s 2d to 6s 4d; larger sheep, 5s 8d to 6s per stone. Ewes in fair supply; trade a little better at 4s 4d to 4s 6d per stone. A few store beasts on offer; slow demand. Good supply of milch cows; trade better. Average supply of pigs, prices about the same. Small porkers, 3s 10d to 4s; large hogs, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—A small supply. Good milch beasts scarce and dear, the best qualities making up to £23, second class £16 to £18.

Shrawsbury, Tuesday.—Usual supplies of fat and store cattle. Beef trade a shade better than last week. Quotations:—Beef, 6¼d to 6¾d per lb; mutton (wether), 9d to 9½d per lb; ewes, 7d to 8d per lb; veal, 7½d to 8½d per lb; porket pigs, 9s to 9s 6d per score; bacons, 8s 6d to 9s per score.

Stockton, Wednesday.—An average supply of the best cattle, which, as customers were scarce, met with a slow trade at 7s 6d to 7s 9d per stone, whilst rougher kinds made 6s to 7s. Young sheep and lambs, 9d per lb; ewes, 7d; and tups, 6d. The pig trade was quiet, small porkers making 7s to 7s 6d per stone; mediums, 6s 9d; and sows, 6s.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a larger entry than usual at this time of year, and it is not for a long time that such a choice lot of cattle have been offered, amongst them were a number of stall-fed beast. Trade for best quality was brisk throughout, choice heifers making up to 4s. 6d. per stone, but unfinished cattle and cows continue difficult to dispose of. Sheep are scarce and dear, very few being disposed of. Good demand for veal. Bacon hogs and porkers changing hands. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 110 fat beasts, 80 fat and weaning calves, and 145 fat and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £17 to £23 15s; fat heifers, £15 to £19 15s; fat ewes, 48s to 60s; fat tegs, 50s to 58s 6d; fat calves, £3 to £5 10s; weaning cow calves, 30s to 56s; bull calves, 15s to 50s; bacon hogs, £3 5s to £4 9s; porkers, 28s to 42s; store pigs, 10s to 21s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance very good; business fairly brisk and good. Fat bullocks, 56s to 60s per cwt; barreners, 40s to 45s; store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £11 to £15 each; rearing calves, 25s to 40s; wethers, 7d. to 7½d per lb; ewes, 5d to 5½d; pigs, 7s 6d to 42s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 7d to 8d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; pork carcases, 4⅝d to 5d.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Improved market, with more sheep, but trade not quite so good. Best beef to 7s 6d per stone; secondary qualities, 6s 6d to 7s; best Southdown and cross-bred shearlings 7½d to 8½d per lb; ewes, 6d per lb.

Yeovil, Friday.—Heifers with calves sold at from £18 to £20 10s; secondary animals, £13 10s to £17 10s; in-calf heifers, £12 15s to £17 5s; cows with calves, £17 to £19; secondary, £11 5s to £16; barreners, £11 10s to £14 5s; yearling heifers, £5 5s to £6 10s; store heifers, £7 15s. to £8 10s.

York, Thursday.—A smaller show of store cattle; late rates were fully maintained, whilst in a few cases a slight advance was made. Some of the best three-year-olds made up to £16, two-year olds £10 to £12. South-country buyers were present for English stirks, many of which made from £7 10s to £9. About an average supply of calving and milch cows, for which trade continues fairly good, late rates being fully maintained. Some of the very best made up to £22 10s., others £15 to £18. There was a good demand for sheep, and the best shearlings made up to 50s, others 44s to 48s; best twice crossed lambs to 40s; smaller ones, 28s to 34s. Masham lambs, for which the season is getting late, met with a very slow trade up to 24s each. A few North-country lambs were on offer, and made up to 36s each.

WOOL.

Canterbury, Saturday. — For the present Kent wool values are:—Feeces, 11d; lamb wool, 7d per lb; a slightly better demand for half-bred wool at 11½d; downs, 14d per lb.

Halifax, Saturday.—The state of business is not so good as a week ago. In home grown wools there is practically no change, late prices being upheld, with a small inquiry. Other descriptions on a limited scale are also fairly firm.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £13 15s to £14 5s; half-bred hoggs, £12 10s to £13; ditto wethers, £12 to £12 10s; Kent fleeces, £12 0s to £12 5s; South Down ewes and wethers, £13 10s to £14; Leicester ewes and wethers, £11 10s to £12. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., scoured super., 2s 3d to 2s 4d; scoured, good, 2s to 2s 2d; scoured, average, 1s 10½d to 1s 11½d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 2½d to 1s 3½d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 10½d to 1s 11½d; greasy, average, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; S. Aus., greasy, average, 11d to 1s; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 11d to 2s; greasy, average, 1s to 1s 1d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 10d to 1s 11d; fleece, average, 9½d to 10½d; greasy, average, 8½d to 9½d; Natal, scoured, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; greasy average, 8½d to 9d. Crossbreds—grs.—Vic., good to super., 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d; New Zealand fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s to 1s 1d; coarse, 10d to 11d.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—Supplies have been coming forward in much larger and increasing quantities both by rail and water during the week, and with the demand falling off, our market is showing considerable weakness. Prime clovers and mixtures seem about the only qualities which about maintain their value, but for anything that is not absolutely best less money has to be accepted. Best hays are in much poorer request than for some time past, and here and there a reduction of 2s 6d per ton has had to be made to effect business; plain and common hays, which are now coming along very abundantly, however, show the largest shrinkage in value and prices are a good 2s 6d to 5s per ton lower; after having been in such short supply for the last few weeks the increase in the arrivals of these plain stuffs is very noticeable.

Straw is now coming along in much shorter supply, and in consequence with demand firming up. Prices are 1s to 2s per load higher. With the weaker trade for English the demand for foreign has again fallen away, and although prices are nominally unchanged there is little or no business passing.

Prices ruling are about as follows:—Best hays, 70s per ton; good hays, 62s 6d to 67s 6d per ton; plain hays, 55s to 60s per ton; best clovers, 82s 6d per ton; good clovers, 75s to 80s per ton; inferior clovers, 70s to 72s 6d per ton; best mixtures, 80s to 82s 6d per ton; good mixtures, 75s to 77s 6d per ton; plain mixtures, 65s to 72s 6d per ton; seconds hays, clovers, and mixtures, 45s to 55s per ton; wheat straw, 26s to 28s per load; barley straw, 25s to 27s per load; oat straw, 26s to 27s per load. All ex rail London. Foreign: Canadian mixture, none; first quality Dutch hay, 60s to 62s 6d per ton; second quality Dutch hay, 55s to 57s 6d per ton. French clover, 75s per ton. These prices are by the barge load delivered alongside a London Thames wharf.

DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter.—We cannot report any improvement in the weather during week under review. It has been much colder and very foggy. The demand for Australian butter has shown a decided improvement, but values show no change. Cheese.—There has been a fair demand, but values are without change.—W. Weddel and Co.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Altrincham: 5. Appleby: 5 to 7. Barnstaple: 6. Berwick: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per doz. Birmingham: 6. Camelford: 8. Carlisle: 5. Chester: 6. Dartmouth: 1s 10d per doz. Derby: 6 and 7. Devizes: 7 and 8. Doncaster: 7 and 8. Dorchester: 1s 6d to 2s. Evesham: 1s 11d to 2s 2d per doz. Hereford: 6 to 8. Kidderminster. 6. Lancaster: 6 Lincoln: 6 and 7. Market Drayton: 6 and 7. Otley: 5. Penrith: 5 and 6. Penzance: 1s 7d to 1s 10d per dozen. Preston: 5. Retford: 2s 10d to 3s per score. Ripon: 6 and 7. Shrewsbury: 6. Spalding: 7. Stamford: 8. Stockport: 5. Stockton: 5. Totnes: 1s 10d to 2s per dozen. Truro: 1s 7d to 1s 9d per dozen. Wellington (Salop): 7 and 8. Worcester: 7. Worksop: 2s 4d to 2s 6d per score. York: 6 and 7.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Altrincham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Appleby: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Barnstaple: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Berwick: 10d to 1s. Birmingham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Camelford: 11d. Carlisle: 1s 3d. Chester: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Dartmouth: 1s 3d to 1s 5d. Derby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Devizes: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Doncaster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Dorchester: 1s to 1s 5d. Hereford: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Kidderminster: 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s to 1s 3d. Lincoln: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Market Drayton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Otley: 1s 9d to 1s 10d per 24 oz roll. Penrith: 1s to 1s 4d. Penzance: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Preston: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Retford: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Ripon: 1s 10d to 2s per 24 oz roll. Shrewsbury: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Spalding: 1s 1d. Stamford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Stockport: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Stockton: 1s 3d. Totnes: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Truro: 9½d to 1s. Wellington (Salop): 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Worcester: 11d to 1s 2d. Worksop: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 4d.

CORN STATISTICS

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, Nov. 23, 1907:—

Wheat	2,178,200 cwts.
Wheat-flour	308,5 0 ,,
Barley	785,800 ,,
Oats	245,000 ,,
Maize	987,600 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1906. Cwts.	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.
Wheat	1,743,200	1,552,800	2,111,900	1,876,200
Wheat-flour	296,100	350,800	207,700	466,700
Barley	445 900	595,300	507,600	522,200
Oats	413,700	238,700	287,800	583,800
Maize	723,000	501,600	439,800	1,178,200

Yearly Averages (Official).

	Wheat. s.	d.		Barley. s.	d.		Oats. s.	d.	
1890	31	9	per qr.	28	8	per qr.	18	7	per qr.
1891	37	1	,,	28	2	,,	20	0	,,
1892	30	4	,,	26	2	,,	19	11	,,
1893	26	4	,,	25	6	,,	18	9	,,
1894	22	10	,,	24	6	,,	17	1	,,
1895	23	1	,,	21	11	,,	14	6	,,
1896	26	2	,,	22	11	,,	14	9	,,
1897	30	2	,,	23	6	,,	16	11	,,
1898	34	0	,,	27	2	,,	18	5	,,
1899	25	8	,,	25	7	,,	17	0	,,
1900	26	11	,,	25	9	,,	17	9	,,
1901	26	9	,,	25	3	,,	18	5	,,
1902	28	0	,,	25	8	,,	20	2	,,
1903	26	9	,,	22	11	,,	17	2	,,
1904	28	4	,,	22	4	,,	16	4	,,
1905	29	9	,,	24	4	,,	17	4	
1906	28	4	,,	24	3	,,	18	7	,,

Seven Years' Tithe Rent Charges.

For 1907	£68	19	6
,, 1906	68	12	1
,, 1905	69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
1901	66	10	9

London Flour Millers' Association.

Credit and Delivery. Official Prices.

*Cereal year commencing September 2nd, 1907.**

	London Whites. s.	d.		Town Households. s.	d.
September 2	(per sack) 32	0	(per sack)	29	0
,, 4	,, 33	0	,,	30	0
,, 27	,, 34	6	,,	31	6
October 4	,, 35	6	,,	32	6
,, 11	,, 36	0	,,	33	0
,, 18	,, 37	0	,,	34	0
November 11	,, 36	0	,,	33	0

(No change since last date given.)

* September 1st, 1907, was a Sunday.

Average Monthly Cash Prices of Town Households Flour.

	1907 s.	d.	1906. s.	d.	1905. s.	d.	1904. s.	d.	1903. s.	d.	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.
Jan.	22	0	25	0	26	3	24	9	24	0	21	9	24	6
Feb.	22	0	24	9	26	9	25	6	24	3	22	0	24	0
March	21	9	24	3	26	6	25	9	23	9	21	9	23	9
April	22	3	24	6	26	0	25	3	23	9	23	0	24	0
May	25	0	24	0	25	9	24	9	24	0	23	6	23	6
June	25	6	23	9	25	6	24	3	24	3	23	0	23	0
July	26	0	23	6	25	0	25	0	24	3	23	0	22	3
August	26	6	23	0	25	0	26	6	24	9	22	9	22	3
Sept.	28	6	22	9	24	6	27	0	25	0	23	3	22	0
Oct.	32	0	22	6	25	0	27	0	24	9	22	9	21	6
Nov.			22	0	25	0	26	9	24	3	22	9	21	6
Dec.			21	9	25	0	26	9	24	3	23	3	21	9
Yrly. Avrg.			23	5	25	6	25	9	24	3	22	8	22	10

Monthly Averages.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1906. Wheat s.	d.	Barley s.	d.	Oats s.	d.	1907. Wheat s.	d.	Barley s.	d.	Oats s.	d.
Jan.	28	6	24	9	18	5	26	1	24	2	17	4
Feb	28	10	25	4	18	11	26	6	24	3	17	7
Mar.	28	5	24	8	18	11	26	9	23	11	18	0
April	29	1	24	2	19	1	26	9	23	8	18	10
May	30	2	24	0	20	0	28	5	24	0	19	10
June	30	4	23	4	20	2	31	6	24	6	20	9
July	30	4	23	1	20	4	32	2	24	11	20	10
Aug.	29	6	23	7	17	9	33	7	25	4	20	5
Sept.	26	1	24	5	16	2	31	8	24	9	17	7
Oct.	26	5	25	0	16	7	33	11	26	2	18	1
Nov.	26	5	24	5	17	1						
Dec.	26	2	24	1	17	3						

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, November 19, 1907:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bls.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Av. Price per qr. £	s.	d.
Wheat	1,290	6	2,302	11	0	1	15	8
Barley	770	4	1,034	10	0	1	6	10
Oats	1,373	0	1,348	6	9	0	19	8

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending November 23, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1903 to 1906:—

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1903	55,276	26	6	201,953	23	11	28,851	15	11
1904	41,350	30	5	177,969	24	4	34,774	16	1
1905	77,168	28	5	97,662	24	6	25,433	17	9
1906	58,467	26	3	149,427	24	1	28,666	17	3
1907	67,444	34	7	231,096	27	5	42,632	18	9

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

*Cereal Year commencing September 2nd, 1907.**

		s.	d.
September 2	(per sack)	32	0
,, 13	,,	34	0
,, 20	,,	33	0
,, 27	,,	35	0
October 2	,,	36	0
,, 9	,,	37	0
,, 21	,,	38	0
November 6	,,	37	0

(No change since last date given).

* September 1st, 1907, was a Sunday.

Cereal Years' Prices.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1906-7	27	11	24	6	18	5
1905-6	28	9	24	2	18	5
1904-5	30	7	24	6	16	11
1903-4	27	2	21	11	16	4
1902-3	26	5	23	0	17	8
1901-2	28	4	26	0	20	4
1900-1	27	1	25	0	18	4
1899-1900	26	5	25	0	17	5
1898-9	26	1	26	1	17	4
1897-8	36	4	27	9	18	4
1896-7	28	8	23	2	16	9

Imperial Weekly Averages.

1906.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
Nov. 24	58,467	26	3	149,427	24	1	28,669	17	3
Dec. 1	60,299	26	1	150,173	24	1	34,743	17	2
,, 8	63,264	26	1	167,532	24	1	37,119	17	4
,, 15	70,332	26	1	135,513	23	11	36,175	17	3
,, 22	68,977	26	3	127,131	24	3	31,528	17	3
,, 29	49,637	26	0	97,796	24	1	29,124	17	3
1907.									
Jan. 5	24,559	26	0	31,733	23	11	14,773	17	3
,, 12	47,667	26	1	71,498	24	2	27,939	17	4
,, 19	75,207	26	1	104,417	24	1	37,413	17	8
,, 26	80,321	26	2	109,274	24	5	45,887	17	5
Feb. 2	84,370	26	3	86,031	24	4	38,928	17	7
,, 9	77,659	26	6	74,324	24	5	30,467	17	7
,, 16	84,514	26	7	69,221	24	1	38,725	17	9
,, 23	76,580	26	10	53,681	24	2	39,559	17	9
Mar. 2	64,923	26	9	40,398	24	2	32,965	17	9
,, 9	71,183	28	8	32,620	23	11	31,065	17	11
,, 16	69,340	26	10	29,274	24	2	28,017	18	0
,, 23	69,183	26	10	20,977	24	0	22,204	18	1
,, 30	49,202	26	8	15,929	23	9	18,412	18	2
April 6	28,757	26	9	6,539	24	3	10,296	18	3
,, 13	43,426	26	8	6,830	23	9	17,523	18	6
,, 20	54,965	26	8	6,032	23	3	21,389	18	7
,, 27	62,656	26	10	4,967	27	3	25,447	18	0
May 4	63,344	27	0	4,289	23	6	22,691	19	3
,, 11	53,080	27	6	3,375	24	0	18,392	19	7
,, 18	41,991	28	4	2,955	23	10	15,817	20	1
,, 25	37,963	29	7	1,977	24	3	12,803	20	7
June 1	28,070	31	4	1,998	24	0	10,478	20	5
,, 8	34,122	32	0	1,539	24	7	11,711	20	8
,, 15	38,008	31	10	1,152	24	7	7,668	20	11
,, 22	31,351	31	4	1,088	24	11	7,187	20	9
,, 29	23,007	31	2	759	24	6	6,118	20	8
July 6	20,795	31	3	432	24	8	4,303	20	11
,, 13	19,209	32	0	665	24	10	3,380	20	11
,, 20	15,915	32	6	259	24	5	4,447	21	1
,, 27	16,867	32	11	3,324	27	3	3,533	20	8
Aug. 3	16,165	33	2	313	26	4	2,886	21	2
,, 10	18,510	33	5	322	26	6	3,459	21	3
,, 17	14,258	33	6	682	25	9	4,045	20	4
,, 24	17,415	33	7	672	25	0	5,699	19	8
Aug. 31	11,847	33	10	1,524	24	6	10,395	18	11
Sept. 7	18,316	31	11	7,216	24	2	23,697	17	7
,, 14	35,802	31	4	9,754	24	1	35,946	17	6
,, 21	66,074	31	5	24,624	25	0	44,624	17	6
,, 28	84,438	31	8	53,699	25	3	55,435	17	8
Oct. 5	108,964	32	6	102,551	25	5	55,367	17	9
,, 12	105,273	33	3	130,781	25	9	63,843	17	11
,, 19	91,292	34	4	162,674	26	3	50,445	18	0
,, 26	77,173	35	9	166,835	27	2	40,208	18	7
Nov. 2	80,019	36	3	176,845	27	7	46,480	18	10
,, 9	77,721	35	10	221,857	27	8	39,849	18	10
,, 16	68,844	35	1	231,649	27	8	43,846	18	8
,, 23	67,444	34	7	231,096	27	5	42,632	18	9

Average Monthly Prices of Fine Household Flour in Paris.

(*Converted into English money for sacks of* 280 *lb.*)

	1907. s.	d.	1906. s.	d.	1905. s.	d.	1904. s.	d.	1903. s.	d.	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.
Jan.	30	9	31	0	31	0	29	6	30	9	27	9	24	9
Feb.	30	0	31	6	31	6	30	0	31	6	26	3	25	9
March	29	9	31	3	30	3	31	0	31	6	27	0	24	0
April	30	0	31	6	30	9	29	0	34	0	27	3	24	6
May	33	3	30	9	31	9	28	0	33	3	27	6	25	6
June	32	9	31	0	30	3	28	3	34	0	30	9	26	3
July	34	6	31	6	30	0	29	4	31	9	29	9	28	0
August	33	6	29	9	29	3	30	0	30	0	27	6	27	6
Sept.	33	9	30	6	31	0	31	0	30	0	29	0	27	6
Oct.	32	0	31	0	31	0	31	6	30	0	30	0	27	6
Nov.			31	6	31	0	32	0	28	0	28	9	27	9
Dec.			30	0	31	0	31	3	28	6	29	6	28	3
Yrly. Avrg.			30	11	30	9	30	1	31	1	28	5	27	3

Sale of Red Polls at Ipswich.

At the Drill Hall, Ipswich, on Friday, there was brought under the hammer about sixty head of pure bred Red Polled cattle belonging to Mr. Alfred J. Smith, whose famous Rendlesham and Eyke herds have been established upwards of thirty-three years. Among the animals were descendants from winners at the Royal, County, and London Dairy Shows, and the whole consignment, especially the twenty-two heifers and their calves, were exceptionally good, having regard to the known milking qualities of the herds. There was a good attendance and also good demand, but prices did not rule particularly high, the top figure being 34 guineas obtained for one of the heifers, Badingham Doll. Other chief prices for heifers were 31 guineas, 30½, 30, and 29½, the cows with calves made from 18½ guineas to 25½, and the bulls up to 30 guineas.

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Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The autumn-sown wheat where up is of very promising appearance, germination having been very regular and the early growth decidedly lusty. In France the promise is likewise good. An increased area has been sown to wheat and an reduced acreage given to rye. This tendency to grow wheat rather than rye is general in the more progressive parts of the Continent. Sharp frost now rules Europe east of Rhine and Rhone, and the ice blockade of the Russian rivers has begun. The Baltic and the Danube are still open, though ice is forming. The heavy rains in the north of Africa, from Tangiers to Tunis, are considered extraordinarily fortunate, and may give this once-famous grain-producing littoral a good harvest of wheat, barley, and beans in 1908.

Heavy rains have also fallen in Australia and will add to the wheat yield in the south, which, under the Southern Cross, is of course the backward part of the country. Australia, however, cannot now produce as large a wheat crop as last year.

The Russian Government published on the 29th inst. a revised account of the wheat crop in that country. The final figures are as follows :—

1907	61,600,000 qr.
1906	63,115,900 ,,
1905	75,000,000 ,,
1904	84,000,000 ,,
1903	72,000,000 ,,
1902	60,500,000 ,,
1901	51,000,000 ,,

The wheat trade is said to be looking for a lead, but the clue to the markets from now to February is to be found in a source where nothing like a lead is even to be looked for. The clerk of the weather is master of the immediate situation, and he is chiefly remarkable, in this country, for not knowing his own mind. The end of January will probably see the Argentine question settled one way or the other, Argentina a holder for full prices (as we suspect) or else, of course, "bearing" the market. But between now and then the winterly or open character of the season, as the case may be, will weigh very largely with the markets. The price of 36s. quoted in London as an average on Friday seems reasonable under the circumstances, but there is no motive for taking less than 35s. since even chicken wheat fetches that price. The whole tone of trade would be mended by a fortnight of frosty air and clear skies, but these gifts of recent years have come with January rather than with December.

The wheat gradient lies at present principally between the home counties and the rest of England :—

Reading	35s. 9d. per qr.
Doncaster	33s. 8d. ,,
Range	2s. 1d. ,,

London, Canterbury, and Chichester, all home county markets, agree with Reading in a quotation of over 35s. while less than 34s. is averaged in the midlands as well as the north.

The barley gradient is as follows :—

Canterbury	31s. 3d. per qr.
Peterborough	26s. 7d. ,,
Range	4s. 8d. ,,

Oats show the following gradient :—

Mark Lane	19s. 8d. per qr.
Lincoln	18s. 2d. ,,
Range	1s. 6d. ,,

The variation in the prices made for oats is very slight. We note 19s. 3d. made at Canterbury, 19s. 4d. at Chichester, 19s. 3d. at Ipswich, 19s. 1d. at Reading, and 19s. at Salisbury, together with 18s. 7d. accepted at Cambridge and Doncaster, 18s. 4d. at Peterborough, and 18s. 8d. at Norwich.

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets last week were large, but the total sales since September 1 have been only moderate :—

This season	882,000 qr. at 33s. 8d. per qr.
Last ,,	883,000 qr. at 26s. 2d. ,,

The sales of British barley has been heavy since November came in, but September and October totals were so much below the average that the total for the period since September 1 is a good deal below the mean :—

This season	1,520,000 qr. at 26s. 2d. per qr.
Last ,,	1,898,000 ,, 24s. 8d. ,,

The sales of British oats have been large ever since the new crop was secured :—

This season	543,000 qr. at 18s. 2d. per qr.
Last ,,	415,000 ,, 16s. 7d. ,,

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows :—

Wheat, 509,000 qr. : a large supply.
Flour, 126,000 sks. : a moderate supply.
Barley, 220,000 qr. : a large importation.
Oats, 90,000 qr. : less than usual.
Maize, 230,000 qr. : more than usual.

The imports of maize since September 1 have been 3,186,000 qr. against 2,899,000 qr. last season.

The supply of wheat on passage remains moderate and about 30 per cent. below the mean of the past ten years. This is very significant, and indicates the failure of the October and November rise in prices to call forth any specially large shipments. The present total is as follows :—

Californian	440,000 qr.
American	420,000 ,,
Argentine	75,000 ,,
New World	935,000 ,,
Russian	80,000 ,,
Indian	450,000 ,,
Australian	360,000 ,,
Turkish	30,000 ,,
Old world	920,000 ,,

In all 1,855,000 qr. The distribution of the wheat between old and new world sources is unusually equal.

Of flour 254,000 sacks are on passage.

The imports of breadstuffs since harvest are thus returned :—

Wheat	5,481,000 qr.
Flour	1,187,000 ,,
Breadstuffs	6,668,000 ,,
Last season	6,366,400 ,,

Expectations of spring corn are as follows :—

Qr.	Barley.	Oats.	Maize.
Russian	275,000	105,000	240,000
Asiatic	75,000	——	10,000
Californian	200,000	——	——
American	10,000	——	200,000
Argentine	——	15,000	210,000
Various	30,000	5,000	10,000
Total	585,000	125,000	670,000

Of linseed 94,000 qr., of rapeseed 12,000 qr., of cottonseed 44,000 tons, and of rice 21,000 tons are on passage.

Latest American shipments were 545,000 qr. of wheat (the heaviest this year), 128,000 sacks of flour, and 81,000 qr. of maize.

Argentina last week shipped 70,000 qr. of wheat, 141,000 qr. of maize, and 14,000 qr. of linseed.

Russia exported 285,000 qr. of wheat, 102,000 qr. of rye, 253,000 qr. of barley, 94,000 qr. of oats, and 135,000 qr. of maize; while Roumania sent off 70,000 qr. of wheat, 64,000 qr. of barley, and 5,000 qr. of maize.

India sent off 84,000 qr. of wheat and 34,000 qr. of linseed, while Australian exports at the fag end of the season were reduced to 8,000 qr. of wheat.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—Again we have to report the London hay trade in a very dull and quiet condition, with values showing a weakening tendency, although the weather at earlier part of week was of a most unsettled description the supplies show very little signs of falling off, and are more than ample for all requirements. Best clovers and mixtures are in much quieter demand and barely maintain their previous values, while plain and inferior kinds are if anything the turn lower. Best hays are in fair supply and find a very quiet trade, but plain and common hays, of which kinds there is such an abundance, are most difficult of sale, even at the present very low range of prices, the demand for these sorts at the moment being specially slow. It looks now that with corn and other feeding stuffs getting down to a lower level—as if farmers and holders are more inclined to realise on their hay stuffs; at any rate, prices in the country are getting more on a line with our London market, and supplies of necessity getting larger here. Straw is coming along in middling supply, and finds a fair demand at about previous quotations.

Prices ruling are about as follows: — Best hays, 70s per ton; good hays, 62s 6d to 67s 6d per ton; plain hays, 53s to 60s per ton; best clovers, 8s to 82s 6d per ton; good clovers, 75s to 77s 6d per ton; inferior clovers, 70s to 72s 6d per ton; best mixtures, 80s to 82s 6d per ton; good mixtures, 75s to 77s 6d per ton; plain mixtures, 65s to 72s 6d per ton; seconds hays, clovers, and mixtures, 45s to 55s per ton; wheat straw, 26s to 28s per load; barley straw, 26s to 27s per load; oat straw, 26s to 27s per load. All ex rail London. Foreign: Canadian mixture, none; first quality Dutch hay, 60s to 62s 6d per ton; second quality Dutch hay, 53s to 57s 6d per ton. French clover, 75s per ton. These prices are by the barge load delivered alongside a London Thames wharf.

THE BALTIC.

Saturday, 2 p m.

Wheat cargoes have been dull, and there is little inclination to operate. London Corn Trade Association contracts have been entered into on a basis of 39s 6d per 492 lb. for White Karachi and 39s 3d. Red, while Produce Exchange contracts in American Red Winter wheat have been at 8s. per cental (38s. 5d. per 480 lb.). The other recorded transactions have comprised Australian at 42s. 6d. per 480 lb., Rosa Fé at 39s. per 480 lb., Entre Rios at 40s. per 480 lb., No. 1 Northern Manitoba at 43s. 3d. per 480 lb., Durum at 36s. 3d. per 480 lb., and Duluth 41s. 3d. per 480 lb.

Barley cargoes have favoured buyers of Russian, for which 23s. 9d. per 400 lb. is accepted. But Oregon is held for 35s. per 448 lb., and scarcely anything above this good brewing grade is to be had from abroad. The very great difficulty in procuring malting barley of fine colour should encourage English farmers to make every effort to increase the production.

Oats are 6d. cheaper on the week, 16s 6d. being accepted for prompt shipment of 304 lb. Russian. Other cargoes sales include Argentine maize at 25s. 9d. per 480 lb.; Smyrna beans at 32s. per 480 lb.; Locust beans at 96s. per ton; Ferozepore rapeseed at 53s. per 416 lb., and Egyptian cotton-seed at £6 15s. per ton.

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, November 26, 1907 :—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Av. Price per qr £	s.	d.
Wheat	4,158	3	7,483	6	9	1	16	0
Barley	420	0	581	15	0	1	7	8
Oats	1,849	2	1,799	13	6	0	19	6

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending November 30, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1903 to 1906 :—

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1903	51,695	26	8	187,585	23	9	28,574	15	9
1904	45,942	30	4	166,809	24	6	35,831	16	2
1905	93,509	28	8	177,368	24	6	29,859	17	11
1906	60,299	26	1	160,173	24	1	34,743	17	2
1907	62,995	34	7	264,704	27	5	42,072	18	7

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, Nov. 30, 1907 :—

Wheat	1,033,100 cwts.
Wheat-flour	282,500 ,,
Barley	519,700 ,,
Oats	214,600 ,,
Maize	1,051,200 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz. :—

	1906. Cwts.	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.
Wheat	1,615,800	1,813,000	1,808,600	1,098,300
Wheat-flour	226,400	334,500	360,700	453,200
Barley	447,800	653,800	536,000	483,803
Oats	100,000	204,000	317,000	277,100
Maize	1,096,100	658,300	658,300	618,000

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English firm, with an upward tendency for dry samples; whites quoted at 36s to 40s, reds at 35s to 38s 6d. Foreign firm, and held for 6d to 1s advance over Monday, but not active; No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship to arrive, held at 44s to 44s 6d, landed at 45s; No. 2 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, at 43s 6d; No. 1 Durum, at 37s 6d to 37s 9d; choice white Karachi at 39s, Flour firm, but quiet; Hungarian quoted at 30s 6d to 40s 6d; Iron Dukes at 27s 6d to 28s. Maize steadily held, but inactive; Odessa landed held at 26s 3d; La Plata at 25s 9d. Barley slow, easier tendency; Odessa-Nicolaieff and Azoff-Black Sea, ex ship, quoted at 23s 2d to 23s 6d; Persian at 21s 6d to 22s. Oats slow, unchanged; South Russian quoted at 17s 0d to 18s 3d; River Plate at 18s 3d.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat, English steady, quiet, at about late rates; whites quoted at 36s to 40s; reds at 35s to 38s 6d. Foreign firmly held, but not active; No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, held at 44s 3d to 44s 6d; No. 2 at 43s 6d; No. 3 at 42s 6d; No. 1 Durum at 38s; Australian, landed, at 46s; choice white Karachi, ex ship, at 38s 6d. Flour firm, but quiet; Iron Dukes held at 27s 6d to 28s. Maize slow, easier tendency; mixed American, ex ship, held at 26s to 26s 3d; La Plata, landed, at 25s 9d to 26s; Odessa, ex ship, 25s 9d, landed 26s 3d. Barley dull, unaltered; Azoff-Black Sea, ex ship, held at 23s 3d; Persian, ex ship, at 21s 9d, landed at 22s. Oats dull, at unchanged prices; La Plata held at 18s 3d; South Russian at 17s 9d to 18s 3d.

COUNTRY.

Appleby, Saturday.—Moderate supply. White oats (horse corn), 20s to 21s 6d per 26 stones.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade generally was dull, but wheat prices remained unchanged at 34s to 36s. Barley fell from 1s to 2s; best samples made 30s to 31s; secondary 28s to 29s. Beans were mostly soft and out of condition; Magazans made 27s to 29s; ticks 32s to 34s. Maize 1s cheaper, making 29s to 30s. Grey peas also 1s lower, at 31s to 32s. Flour unchanged.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, white (new), 35s to 36s per qr; wheat, red (new) 35s to 36s per qr; barley, 25s to 32s per qr; beans (new), 29s to 32s per qr; oats, 18s to 22s per qr; peas, 30s to 35s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—Average attendance. Full supplies of barley. Wheat and oats little offering; fine qualities firm; secondary sorts dull. Barley of all qualities met a ready demand. Barley, 21s to 33s 6d; oats, 17s to 28s per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Trading at this market was of very small dimensions, buyers being difficult to find. Manitoba wheat made 3d per qr more money, other sorts being unchanged in value. English wheat ranged from 13s to 13s 9d per 186 lb delivered. English oats were easier inclined, and made from 19s 6d to 20s per 312 lb, delivered. Beans, 13s per 196 lb. There was no change in the price of maize, Bessarabian being offered at 26s 3d, and Galatz-Foxanian at 26s per 480 lb at Sharpness. Grinding barley remained at at 24s 3d per 400 lb Sharpness.

Brighton, Thursday.—Quiet trade and small attendance. Wheat in good supply and irregular condition. New white wheat, 35s 6d to 37s 6d; new red ditto, 35s to 37s; barley, 28s to 35s; grinding ditto, 26s to 27s; oats, English, 18s 6d to 21s; peas, 33s to 34s; beans, 32s to 34s.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat supply below average, and trade firm at 36s to 37s per qr for reds, and 35s to 35s per qr for revets. Barley in good average supply; lower descriptions the turn lower at 30s to 31s 6d per qr, but finer sorts inquired for and firm at 32s to 35s 6d per qr. Oats steady at 20s to 21s 6d per qr. Beans, new, slow, at 32s; old firm at 34s 6d to 35s 6d per qr. Maize 6d per qr lower, at 27s to 27s 6d delivered. Other feeding corns firm.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Oat prices remain steady, with only a small supply at the market, 38 lb samples making 18s 6d, and 43 lb whites up to 21s per qr. A slow trade for wheat, but prices are about the same as a week ago; 63 lb lots sell at 35s, and 64 lb at 35s 6d fetched from the farm, Prime barleys are still making about 34s, but secondary qualities range from 27s 6d to 30s per qr. Grey peas a trifle lower, at from 30s to 31s; tick beans, 31s to 32s; and Mazagans, 29s to 30s per qr. Tares, 4s 6d to 5s per bushel.

Cambridge, Saturday.—Wheat was in short supply, making a good 6d advance on the week, the price being about 37s 504 lbs on rail. Oats in better supply, prices ranging from 19s 6d to 20s. Splitting beans up to 32s per 532 lb, and feeding beans about 30s. Barley in moderate supply; prices unchanged.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small show of oats in market to-day, prices for fine quality 24s per 336 lb; several lots inferior quality made from 20s 6d to 22s 6d per 336 lb. Wheat a good trade at 40s per qr 504 lb. Barley sold at 30s, fine quality; 28s for feeding quality. Bran grains and pollards dearer and in good demand. Very wet weather here the past week.—Thomas Robinson.

Chester, Saturday.—There was little change in values since last market day; wheat and oats quiet at recent prices. Mixed maize favoured buyers, but River Plate fully maintained last week's prices. Barley slow. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 5s 2d to 5s 4d per 75 lb; grinding barley, 4s to 4s 3d per 64 lb; oats, new, 2s 8d to 3s; old, 3s 1d to 3s 6d per 46 lb; Indian corn, old, 14s 6d to 14s 9d per 240 lb; round corn, old, 14s 3d to 15s 6d per 240 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—A fair attendance, Small quantity on offer, and not much trade. Prices unchanged. New white wheat, 36s to 37s; new red ditto, 36s to 37s; barley, 29s to 35s; grinding ditto, 24s 6d to 25s 6d; oats, English, 19s to 22s; peas, 34s to 35s; beans, 33s to 34s; tares, 5s to 5s 6d; maize, 25s to 27s; flour, 28s to 32s.

Colchester, Saturday. — Wheat firm, short supply. Barley, oats, and beans, quiet trade — Colin Taylor, King and Co, Ltd.

Coventry, Friday. — Attendance was fairly good. Supply of wheat not large, and prices were about as last week. Oats scarcely sold so well, and were fairly plentiful. Barley neglected, and demand very slack. Quotations:—Wheat, 13s to 14s per 186 lb; barley, 30s to 34s per 448 lb; oats, old, 24s 6d to 27s per 352 lb; new, 21s to 23s 6d; beans, old, 13s 3d to 14s; new, 12s 3d to 13s 6d per 196 lb; peas, 12s 6d to 15s per 193 lb.

Derby, Friday.—There was a fair supply of wheat, the prices of which, as well as of spring corn, were unchanged. Quotations: Wheat, white, 36s to 37s; red, 35s to 36s; barley, malting, 29s to 32s; grinding, 25s to 27s; beans, new, 35s to 36s; oats, old, 24s to 26s; new, 21s to 22s.

Devizes, Thursday. — Wheat is decidedly dearer, 12 score 12 lb of good quality in dry condition being worth 19s. Barley is depressed, and tending lower. Oats the turn in favour of the buyers. Best old wheat, 20s to 21s; best new wheat, 18s to 19s; secondary, 16s to 18s; malting barley, 29s to 33s; grinding barley, 26s to 28s; old oats, 22s to 24s; winter oats, 18s to 19s; white Garton oats (330 lb), 18s 6d to 19s 6d; black Tartar oats (320 lb), 18s 6d to 19s 6d; beans, 17s to 18s; fine flour, 31s to 32s; extra fine, 33s to 34s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Rather small supply of English wheat, which was shown in variable condition, the bulk being rather inferior, and only making 12s to 13s per load, but fine samples realised 14s to 14s 6d. Prices fairly firm. Foreign met with a slow sale at late rates, though there was an easier tendency. Quiet trade for barley, which made up to 32s 6d per qr. Small supply of oats, and only a slow sale at late rates. Maize was a shade lower. Other things unchanged.

Dorchester, Saturday.—With finer and much more seasonable weather to-day a larger number of farmers were induced to offer their samples, but no great disposition was evinced by factors to operate, except where they could do so to their own advantage. Farmers, on the other hand, were equally chary about parting with their corn, wheat especially; and circumstances somewhat militated against business, which generally ruled inactive at practically unchanged values, there being at the same time little alteration to note in foreign. Malting barley of a choice description is still exceedingly scarce, and where a really good sample is offered it is readily caught up at extreme values; inferior very much neglected except at a price; grinding about the same. Oats are occasionally a little easier for light parcels, but good qualities fetched late rates. Maize practically as last quoted. Beans and peas firm. Flour inactive, and purchases only made to meet hand-to-mouth requirements.

Dublin, Friday.—Foreign wheat quiet and unaltered in price. Maize in small inquiry, with prices unchanged. Irish wheat easier, at 20s to 22s. Oats: Best, very firm; second qualities neglected; black, 11s 6d to 12s; white, 12s to 13s; barley, malting, 15s 6d to 16s 3d, very firm, and a small supply.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Moderate attendance at to-day's market. Wheat steady, and closing dearer. Flour steady, in sympathy with wheat, though quiet in tone. Maize and corn in slow demand, prices 3d per bull down for the former and 6d per bull down for the latter. Oats quiet, and in buyers' favour. Barley steadily held. Beans and peas firmly held at late rates. Oatmeal quiet. Bran and thirds quiet, and unchanged.—Gibson and Clark.

Glasgow, Friday.—Market quiet, and a slow sale passing for all articles at nominally unchanged prices since Wednesday.

Gloucester, Saturday.—English wheat practically unchanged: Reds, 34s 6d to 35s 6d; whites, 36s to 36s 6d. Foreign wheat unchanged: Plates, 42s to 43s; Russians, 41s 6d to 42s 6d. Plate maize 3d lower at 26s; flat 3d down at 26s 9d; Bessarabian unchanged at 26s 3d. Barley unchanged at 24s 3d. Oats 3d to 6d easier: Blacks, 18s to 19s 6d; whites, 19s 6d to 21s.

Grantham, Saturday.—Small show of wheat and a fair supply in other departments. Wheat, 35s to 36s; barley, 26s to 33s; oats, 19s to 21s; beans, 29s to 32s; blue peas up to 80s per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Good supply of all kinds of grain. Wheats steady at last week's prices—4s 3d to 4s 6d. Barleys less easy to sell, and lower grades 1s to 1s 6d per qr down on the week. Oats 6d to 1s per qr easier. Beans steady. Maize a turn in favour of buyers.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Small supply of wheat; trade steady at about last week's rates. Reds, 36s to 37s 6d; whites to 38s per 504 lb. Moderate supply of barley; trade steady; prices unaltered. Best, 32s to 33s; runs, 30s to 31s. Small supply of oats; trade firm at late rates. Maize 6d per qr lower. Beans and peas unaltered.

Leeds, Friday.—Although the foggy weather interfered with the arrivals of wheat, supplies were equal to the dull demand, without change from Tuesday's prices, either for English or foreign, and best flour was firmly held. Inferior kinds favoured buyers. Maize was quiet, Plate, Odessa, and American making from 25s to 26s. English and foreign barley was in better demand at firm prices. Beans, peas, and oats were unchanged.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good attendance, with only moderate supplies of home grown wheats. A large proportion of the samples were in variable and faulty condition. Red wheats, 33s to 35s; white wheats, 36s to 39s per 36 stones; barley, 29s to 32s per 32 stones; oats, 19s to 22s per 24 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—Fair attendance, but only small supply of English wheat, with good demand for best qualities at an advance of 6d per qr on the week, or 36s to 37s per qr on line. Foreign slightly higher. Malting barley in fair supply, and unchanged. Oats and beans as last week.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat ruled rather scarce, and 6d per qr higher. Foreign ruled unchanged on the week, but closed firm. Flour unchanged and quiet. Indian corn met a rather better inquiry, but was not quotably unchanged. English and foreign barley easier. Oats in sellers' favour for both English and foreign. Beans and peas firm. Bran a little easier, but not quotably so.

Newark, Thursday.—A good attendance and prices about the same as last week. Wheat steady; other kinds easy. Quotations: Red and white wheat, 35s 6d to 36s; malting barley, 29s to 31s; grinding barley, 27s to 28s; white oats, 19s 6d to 20s; black ditto, 19s to 19s 6d; old beans, 36s to 37s; new ditto, 30s to 31s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A very quiet demand for wheat here to-day, and to do business millers had practically their own way. Maize easier on the week. Oats of good dry quality firm; common sorts, however, were neglected. Beans and pease remain steady at late rates. The supply of barley was limited, prices ranging from 22s up to 30s, according to quality.—Joseph Pollard and Co.

Newport, Wednesday.—Small attendance. Trade was rather better in tone, and prices were about the same as last week. The price of fines (flour) were quoted at 32s per sack.

Northampton, Saturday.—There was again a small attendance and not much corn showing, the wretched weather having prevented threshing operations being carried out. A very slow trade for wheat, barley, and oats, all of which are down 1s, while other prices remained unchanged. New wheat, 34s to 36s; barley, 25s to 32s; white oats, 19s to 21s; black oats, 18s to 21s; old beans, 34s to 36s; new beans, 31s to 33s; peas, 33s to 35s; flour, 31s to 35s.

Norwich, Saturday.—Wheat is exceedingly scarce and difficult to buy, except at an advance of 6d per qr on last week's values. Prices now 37s to 37s 6d delivered. Barley in good supply, no alteration in price. In feeding stuffs there is not a brisk demand, but prices remain steady. English oats are not in large supply, averaging 20s to 20s 6d per qr. Maize was slightly easier, also cotton cakes; linseed cakes steady.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat but little offering, and values well supported. Barley in less supply; best samples held for higher prices. Oats steady at previous rates. Beans firm.—Robt. Hubble.

Peterborough, Saturday.—We have had a moderate supply of wheat at market to-day, and found a good trade at 6d advance on last week's prices. Barley a quiet trade at late rates. The

few oats showing made last week's prices; wheat, 36s to 37s; barley, 28s to 34s; oats, 19s to 21s.—Thomas Hill and Son.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a very good attendance on our market here to-day. Maize, barley, and wheat at last week's prices. Oats 3d and 6d cheaper.—Orlando Davis and Co

Preston, Saturday.—A fair attendance and samples of new grain came forward slowly, but there was a poor inquiry, and no improvement was obtained on price of a week ago. Flour unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220 lb, 15s 6d to 16s; ditto red, 14s 6d to 15s; oats, old, per bushel, 3s 8d to 3s 9d; ditto, new, 3s 2d to 3s 3d; beans, per windle of 220 lb, 16s 6d to 17s.

Reading, Saturday.—There was a fair attendance and a slightly better trade at the following prices:—Wheat, 33s to 38s; barley, 27s to 32s; oats, 17s to 22s; peas, 30s to 32s; beans, 33s to 33s.

Retford, Saturday.—A fair inquiry for dry wheat, which was scarce and worth 36s to 36s 6d per qr, but lots which were out of condition were more difficult to sell at 33s 6d to 36s. A quiet trade for malting barley, and not many samples showing. Quotations were 28s to 32s, and grinding 26s to 27s per qr. Oats were distinctly lower, black winters selling at 18s 6d to 19s 6d; white, 19s to 20s; and old, 26s per qr. English beans in really good condition were not easy to meet with, and rates were 32s to 34s; peas, 28s to 30s; and maize (a trifle easier), 28s 6d per qr.

Ripon, Thursday.—Market quiet, with prices downward. For new oats and round maize rather less money had to be taken. Prices:—New wheat, 36s to 37s; foreign wheat, 46s to 48s; grinding barley, 25s. to 26s; ditto malting, 28s to 32s; new oats, 19s to 20s 6d; old oats, 26s; round maize, 27s to 26s 6d; ditto flat 32s per qr.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Quotations: Wheat, 15s to 15s 6d per 225 lb; old oats, 16s to 17s per 225 lb; new oats, 12s 6d to 14s; barley, 18s to 20s per 280 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—Large attendance, but trade showed no improvement. Wheat, 35s 6d to 36s 6d; barley fully 1s per qr lower on the week, making 28s to 32s; grinding barley, 25s to 26s 6d; oats, 19s to 20s; blue peas, 70s to 80s; beans, 30s to 31s per qr.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was very little wheat showing, which made from 36s to 37s per qr. The foreign wheat trade was steadily held at last week's prices. Oats rather lower. Maize quiet, at 6d per qr lower on the week. Very little barley showing, and this was mostly out of condition. Common qualities made less money, but best kinds were slightly dearer.

Wakefield, Friday. — Small supplies of English wheat, but only best qualities sought after at 35s to 36s 6d per qr. Foreign had an upward tendency. Malting barley trade quiet at 27s to 32s per qr. Beans and oats of good quality only inquired after, but without change in value. Other feeding stuffs firm.

Warwick, Saturday. — Small attendance, values about as last week, with the exception of barley, which is depreciating owing to lack of demand, and many brewers having finished their purchases for the season. Feeding stuffs a shade easier.

Winchester, Saturday.—English wheat dull trade, condition variable. Foreign, 6d to 1s advance. Barley, 6d cheaper to arrive. Maize and oats unaltered. Flour in steady demand, late rates.—Feae, Colebrook, and Co., Ltd.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Very few samples of grain offering. Only fine dry lots of wheat sell at 36s 6d to 37s per 504 lb; secondary neglected. Barley, 28s to 30s per 448 lb. Oats, 19s 6d to 20s per 336 lb.—James Fletcher.

York, Saturday.—A small show of wheat, which was generally in poor condition, any samples at all dry selling last week's prices. Fine white, 37s to 38s; red and mixed, 36s to 37s per qr. of 36 stones. Good samples of malting barley sold quite as well as at the last market, Fine, 30s to 32s; good, 28s to 30s; other sorts, 26s to 28sper qr of 32 stones. Oats were rather cheaper: whites, 20s to 21s; blacks, 19s to 20 per qr of 24 stones; old beans, 36s per qr of 36 stones.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cake: As is usual at the time of year the trade is more or less of a hand to mouth description, but values remain fairly steady in spite of general inactivity. Russian move off quietly. East India seed pures and fine seedy Calcuttas are both unchanged. London made although attractively offered find a dull sale. Cotton Cakes.—The market is rather over burdened with stocks of Egyptian and consequently quotations are barely as firm, while English are if anything the turn easier. Decorticated.—London made pures find a free sale with American brands quiet. Rape cakes do not offer. Maize Germ Meal.—Some white African and American meals may be had at late rates, while English manufacturers are willing to submit to a slight reduction. Maize Gluten Feed is in good request. Rice Meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon maintain their prices, but for early arrival rather less money would be accepted, with second-hand parcels pressing. Locust Beans.—An exceptionally low figure is mentioned for Algerians, which should find a ready market, while Kibbled are fully as dear. Dried Brewers' Grains are scarce and dear. Nitrate of soda is unchanged:—

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Russian, in mats (ex dock)...	7 11 3	to	7 12 6
,, in bags	7 13 9	to	7 15 0
East India	7 10 0		—
Calcutta	7 15 0		—
London Made.....	7 15 0	to	7 17 6
Cottonseed Cakes.			
Egyptian	4 15 0	to	4 16 3
English (ex mill)	4 15 0	to	4 17 6
Bombay	4 7 6		
Decorticated, London made	7 15 0		—
,, American.....	7 5 0	to	7 10 0
,, Meal, American	7 5 0	to	7 10 0
,, Meal, English...	7 15 0		—
Special Digestive Meal	5 5 0		—
Rape Cakes.			
East India	—		—
Ravison	—		—
Maize.			
African.....c.i.f.	6 12	to	6 15 0
English	6 13 9	to	6 16 3
Maize Gluten Meal	7 0 0		—
Ricemeal.			
,, ... ex whf.	5 12 6	to	5 15 0
Rangoon .....ex ship	5 2 6	to	5 5 0
Locust Beans.			
Whole, Algerian	4 15 0		
Kibbled	5 15 0		
Dried Brewers' Grains.			
Ale	5 15 0		
Mixed	5 10 0		
Manures.			
Nitrate of soda	11 2 6		

—Pinnock Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda is without change. Kainit rather quiet, and likewise there is a pause in the demand for basic slag, which is to be ascribed to the wet weather of the past ten days retarding operations on the land; but as soon as climatic conditions improve a brisk demand is expected; values unchanged. Feeding stuffs all round are less firm, and there is a slow consumptive demand, users considering prices too high in many instances. The following are the current prices:—

	Per ton. £ s d		£ s d
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (prime)	—		—
Cottonseed Cake Meal.....	7 15 0		—
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, soft (poor colour).....	8 0 0		8 5 0
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime.....	4 16 3		5 0 0
Cottonseed Cake, undecorticated Egyptian	—		—
Cottonseed, crushed, 20 per cent. oil guaranteed	8 10 0		—
Linseed Cake, American, thin oblong, prime	7 15 0		—
,, ,, English	8 5 0		8 10 0
,, ,, Foreign Round (soft)	7 17 6		8 0 0
Palm Nut Cake	6 5 0		—
Maize Germ Meal.....	7 0 0		7 2 6
Indian Meal, coarse to fine grinding	Per 240 lb. —		—
Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported	Per ton. 5 17 6		—
Linseed, fine bold feeding	Per qr., 416 lb. 2 12 6		2 15 0
Cod-liver Oil, cattle feeding ...	Per Gallon. 0 4 0		—
Treacle, feeding, American ...	Per Cwt. 0 4 9		0 4 10½
Nitrate of Soda.....	Per ton. 11 2 6		11 5 0
Kainit, prime.....	2 7 6		—
Bone Meal, prime.....	5 7 6		5 10 0
Bone Ash.....	3 15 0		—
Basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed	1 14 0		1 15 0
,, ,,	2 2 0		2 3 0
,, finest ,,	2 6 0		2 7 6
D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime*	2 5 0		2 7 0
,, ,, guaranteed*	2 10 0		2 12 0
,, ,, ,, *	3 1 3		3 3 3

* At depots inland.

—H. Jones Langar and Co.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Fairly good supply and demand. Prices: Pheasants, 4s 6d to 5s; young grouse, 5s 6d to 6s; old, 3s; young partridges, 4s 6d to 5s; old, 2s; black game, 3s 6d per brace; geese, 5s to 6s 6d; country ducks, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; wild ducks, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; Surrey fowls, 3s 3d to 4s; Sussex fowls, 3s to 3s 6d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s 3d to 3s; Essex fowls, 2s to 2s 6d; Irish fowls, 1s 9d to 2s 3d; quails, 1s to 1s 6d; feathered pigeons, 7d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s 2d; English hares, 2s 6d to 3s; leverets, 1s 9d; Scottish hares, 1s 4d to 1s 6d; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 6d; wild rabbits, 6d to 9d; live hens, 1s 8d to 2s each; Australian rabbits, 5s 6d to 6s 9d per dozen; cock turkeys, 8d to 8½d per lb; hen turkeys, 4s 6d to 5s each.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Fruit in good supply, but greenstuffs rather short. Quotations for English produce:—Grapes, 8d to 4s 6d; peaches, 3s to 12s per dozen; cranberries, 9s 6d to 10s 6d per case; apples, 4s to 12s 6d per bushel; tomatoes, 4s to 5s per 12 lb; cobnuts, 4s 6d to 5s 6d per 12 lb; walnuts (Grenoble), 6s to 8s 6d; chestnuts (Redon), 7s to 12s per bag; sprue, 8s to 10s per dozen bundles; celery, 5s to 12s per dozen rolls; parsnips, 2s to 2s 6d; greens, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per bag; spinach, 2s to 2s 6d; beetroot, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; sprouts, 2s to 2s 6d per bushel; leeks, 1s 6d to 2s; parsley, 1s 3d to 1s 6d; turnips, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; cucumbers, 3s to 4s 6d; endive, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per dozen; onions, 3s 6d to 4s per cwt; seakale, 12s to 15s per dozen punnets; potatoes, 75s to 105s per ton.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Trade at market is very quiet. Where sales are pressed prices must be quoted in buyers' favour.

Worcester, Saturday.—Trade continues on the same lines, but with the crop practically sold out, it is difficult to meet with buyers' requirements, especially if the inquiry is for fine coloured hops. One hundred and twenty-three pockets have been weighed this week, making with those previously weighed 17,987 pockets to date.—Charles Faram and Co.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £13 15s to £14 5s; half-bred hoggs, £12 10s to £13; ditto wethers, £12 to £12 10s; Kent fleeces, £12 0s to £12 5s; South Down ewes and wethers, £13 10s to £14; Leicester ewes and wethers, £11 10s to £12. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., scoured super., 2s to 2s 2d; scoured, good, 1s 10d to 2s; scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average, 1s to 1s 1d; S. Aus., greasy, average, 10d to 11d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; greasy, average, 11d to 1s; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9d to 1s 10d; fleece, average, 9d to 10d; greasy, average, 8d to 8½d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy average, 8d to 8½d. Crossbreds—grs.—Vic., good to super., 1s 2d to 1s 3d; New Zealand fine, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; medium, 11d to 1s; coarse, 9d to 10d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The drop in competing qualities at the Colonial wool sales has further depressed business in Kent fleeces. The general price is now 10½, and 11d is very hard to get.

Glasgow and Leith.—The Scotch wool trade during November has been extremely quiet. The financial crisis in America and the high bank rate here have practically caused a cessation of buying in the meantime, except for immediate requirements. Consumers of all classes are, however, fairly busy, and when their present stocks of wool get depleted buying will be more general. The auction of East India wools held at Liverpool towards the close of the month and the Colonial sales at present being held in London have recorded a lower range of values, and consequently any little business passing here has been at prices in buyers' favour. There are now signs of improvement in the financial situation, and the indications are that buying will gradually be resumed in the near future.—J. and W. Greig.

Halifax, Saturday.—The wool trade is rather inanimate at present. Prices rather tend to weakness, which is attributed chiefly to the financial position, as consumption is in no way diminished.

Seven Years Grain Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 10d. per 480 lb.
Barley.....	25s. 4d. per 400 lb.
Oats.....	18s. 11d. per 312 lb.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 P.M.

The large arrivals of strong wheat from Canada and the United States have been welcomed by millers, and these new supplies facilitating good mixtures have incidentally improved the sale of English wheat. The prices ruling to-day were not lower from the close of November, and for Australian wheat were if anything higher. Maize was a little cheaper to buy for all sorts, some arrivals from Natal sold at 26s. to 26s. 9d. per qr. Barley was 6d. cheaper for 400 lb. sorts, but firm for 448 lb. descriptions.

There was a steady trade done in new English of good secondary grade. Malt sold well at 40s. for new pale, 37s. to 38s. for new brown. Oats were firm, and perhaps the turn dearer for Manitoba and for good English, but declined 3d. for light Russian. Beans were cheap; some fine new English, weighing 532 lb., being offered as low as 34s. per qr. Peas were firm at full prices. Good arrivals of lentils and haricots made those staples rather cheaper to buy. Rye was firm.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

December 2.

WHEAT,	White	(per 504 lb.)	36 — 39
	Red	,,	35 — 38
BARLEY,	Malting	(per 448 lb.)	35 — 37
	Brewing	,,	33 — 35
	Distilling	(per 416 lb.)	31 — 32
	New Winter	(per 400 lb.)	27 — 29
	Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	27 — 28
MALT,	Pale (New)	(per 336 lb.)	39 — 41
	Brown ,,	,,	33 — 34
	Black ,,	,,	34 — 36
OATS,	Good Old	,,	22 — 23
	Good New	,,	21 — 22
	New Winter	,,	20 — 21
	Ordinary Old	(per 320 lb.)	21 — 22
	Ordinary New	(per 320 lb.)	20 — 21
	,, ,,	(per 312 lb.)	19 — 20
RYE, New		(per 480 lb.)	30 — 31
BEANS,	Pigeon	(per 532 lb.)	42 — 44
	Tick	(per 504 lb.)	35 — 36
	Winter	,,	34 — 35
	Spring	,,	33 — 34
	Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	23 — 24
PEAS,	Picked Marrowfat, New	(per 504 lb.)	84 — 88
	Unpicked (Old)	,,	52 — 56
	Maple (Old)	,,	37 — 38
	(New)	,,	36 — 37
	Dun (Old)	,,	33 — 35
	(New)	,,	34 — 35

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba	43	44	American	26/3	26/6
Red Winter	41	42	Argentine	25/9	26/0
Best Spring	43	44	Roumanian	25/9	26/0
Durum	38	39	Russian	25/6	25/9
Argentine	42	43	Cinquantina	26/6	27/6
Australian	44	46	South African	26/0	26/6
Californian	44	45	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Walla Walla	43	44	Smyrna	37	38
Azima	44	45	New Zealand	35	36
Ghirka	42	43	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Roumanian	42	43	Hungarian	62	64
Indian White	41	42	Burmese	37	39
,, Red	40	41	Chilian	56	64
Turkish	39	40	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb):		
Persian	38	39	French	31	33
BARLEY:			Russian	32	34
C'lifor'n (448 lb)	39	40	Canadian	34	36
Tunisian (448 lb)	35	36	PEAS (504 lb.):		
Algerian (448 lb)	34	35	Dutch Crowns	56	58
Russian (400 lb)	24	25	Konigsberg	45	47
Indian (400 lb)	23	24	Russian White	37	38
Persian (400 lb)	22	23	Indian White	37	38
MALT (336 lb.):			Canadian White	37	38
Californian	38	39	Victoria Dun	34	35
Smyrna	40	41	MILLET (416 lb.):		
Ouchak	39	40	White	44	46
RYE (480 lb.):			Yellow	24	26
Russian	30	31	Sorghum	22	23
OATS:			RICE (cwt.):		
Konigsbg (320 lb)	21	22	Indian	17	20
Russian (304 lb)	18	19	Burmese	9	10
Canadian (320 lb)	21	22	Siamese	8	9
Arg'tine (304 lb)	18	19	DARI (480 lb.):		
Swedish (320 lb)	21	22	Indian	28	29
New Zealand (384 lb)	25	26	Persian	24	25

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED WITH A BETTER FEELING FOR BREADSTUFFS, AND FURTHER IMPROVEMENT IN TONE IS EXPECTED NEXT MONDAY.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 P.M.

No changes in London makes were reported, but a fair trade passed at November's closing quotations. Country flour being in large supply and not very good condition, the tendency was to meet bakers' views a little. American spring patents were more often offered at 31s to 32s than in November when 32s to 33s was stood out for. But with patents quotations are difficult, as each proprietor telegraphs his individual instructions.

Hungarian flour was as dear as ever. There is a great and *bona fide* scarcity of the type. No alterations were made in the prices of French, Australian, or Belgian. No Argentine or Russian flour was offered. Bran, pollard and middlings were not quite so dear as in November, but the prices are still higher than farmers find convenient. The sale of proprietary fattening meal of various recognised brands has been very large of late, and these makes have undoubtedly relieved the stringency of supply. Rice bran has also had a large and steady sale.

London Flour.

December 2.

Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	37/0
Town Whites	,,	33/6
,, Households	,,	30/6
No. 2	,,	29/6
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	31/6
,, No. 2	,,	29/6

Country Flour.		s.	s.
Fine Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	29	30
Roller Whites	,,	27	28
All English	,,	27	28
Stone made	,,	26	27

Foreign Flour.		s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	32	33
,, Second Patents	,,	31	32
,, First Bakers'	,,	27	28
,, Second Bakers'	,,	26	27
Milwaukee Patents	,,	31	32
,, Bakers'	,,	26	28
Canadian Best	,,	32	33
,, Ordinary	,,	30	31
Manitoba Patents	,,	32	33
,, Ordinary	,,	30	31
Kansas Patents	,,	30	31
,, Ordinary	,,	28	29
Californian	,,	31	32
Belgian	,,	36	37
Hungarian (net prices)—			
Five Stars	,,	40/0	
G.G.O.	,,	39/0	
P.W.M.	,,	37/6	
Six Anchors	,,	None	

Meal, &c.			
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	17	18
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	18	19
,, ,, Broad	,,	17	18
Pollard	,,	16	17
Biscuit Middlings	,,	20	21
Fine Middlings	,,	19	20
Coarse Middlings	,,	18	19
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	20	21
Farina Firsts	,,	31	32
,, Seconds	,,	29	30
Barley Meal	,,	28	29
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	28	29
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	33	34
Groats	,,	34	35
Oat Flour	,,	34	35
Ground Oats	,,	33	34
Poultry Meal	,,	37	38
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	21	22
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	20	21
,, Germ Meal	,,	17	18
,, Cones	,,	20	21
,, Gluten Meal	,,	17	18
Rye Flour	,,	26	28
Rye Bran	,,	23	24
Pea Meal	,,	25	26

THE BALTIC.

Monday, 1 P.M.

State of Trade.

Wheat, maize, and barley cargoes are without change. Linseed and rapeseed cargoes are steady, sesame firmer, but cottonseed favours buyers. Oats are cheaper both for Russian for prompt shipment and for Argentine new crop February to April shipment. Canaryseed cargoes are cheap and are attracting special attention.

Business Done.

Wheat.—Rosa Fé (fair average quality Argentine), 38s 6d per 480 lb, February shipment (six cargoes sold); Barletta, 38s 3d per 480 lb., April shipment (two cargoes); Victorian, 42s 6d per 480 lb, on passage; Blue Stem (Oregon), 42s 3d per 500 lb, on passage; Walla Walla, 40s 6d per 500 lb, prompt shipment; Red Walla, 40s 3d per 500 lb, prompt shipment; Red Winter, 38s 3d per 480 lb, December shipment; Red Winter, 38s 9d per 480 lb, January shipment.

Barley.—Russian, 23s 9d per 400 lb, arrived; Persian, 21s 9d per 400 lb, on passage.

Oats.—Argentine, 16s per 304 lb March shipment; South Russian, 16s 6d per 304 lb., prompt shipment.

Maize.—Roumanian, 26s per 480 lb, prompt shipment; Galatz, 26s 3d per 480 lb, on passage; Novorossisk, 26s per 480 lb, on passage American, 26s 3d per 480 lb, on passage; American 25s 3d per 480 lb January shipment; American, 24s 9d per 480 February shipment.

Beans.—Morocco, 31s 3d per 480 lb, on passage.

Dari.—Persian, 23s per 480 lb, December shipment.

Cloverseed.—Red Chili, 75s per cwt, prompt shipment.

Linseed.—Argentine, 39s 3d per 416 lb, January shipment; Bombay, 45s 6d per 416 lb, January shipment; Calcutta, 46s 3d per 410 lb, arrived.

Rapeseed.—Brown Calcutta, 53s 6d per 416 lb, arrived; Yellow Gujerat, 58s per 416 lb, April shipment; Jumba, 45s per 416 lb, arrived.

Cottonseed, Peruvian, £6 10s per ton, January shipment; Bombay, £5 18s 9d per ton, January shipment; Egyptian, £6 15s per ton, January shipment..

Canaryseed.—Algerian, 38s per 464 lb, prompt shipment; Argentine, 27s per 464 lb, prompt shipment; Turkish, 37s 9d per 464 lb, prompt shipment.

Sesame.—Howri, 66s per 384 lb, prompt shipment; Bombay, 63s per 384 lb, prompt shipment.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—The market is idle, buyers and sellers being quite apart owing to the irregularity of the American wheat markets. Grain.—There is some improvement in the demand for round and flat corn, and prices are firmer. Beans dull. There is a demand for fine qualities of Scotch barley and oats, but off grades are very unsaleable. Oatmeal unchanged. Oilcake a slow sale. Mill stuffs.—The turn lower. Winter wheat patents, 30s to 30s 6d per 280 lb; spring wheat patents, 31s to 33s 6d per 280 lb; American corn, 15s 6d to 15s 9d per 280 lb; round corn, 15s 4½d to 15s 6d per 280 lb; grinding beans, 18s 9d to 19s per 280 lb; broad bran, 115s to 117s 6d per ton; medium bran, 110s to 112s 6d per ton; common thirds, 112s 6d to 115s per ton; fine thirds, 137s 6d to 140s per ton; American oilcake, 150s to 152s 6d per ton.—McKinnon and McDonald (Glasgow).

The arrivals of wheat are moderate. Trade is firm, and prices are 3d to 6d higher than last Monday. Flour unchanged. Maize, barley, and oats a quiet trade at late prices.—Coventry, Sheppard, and Co.

Flour.—Trade to day has been quiet, but firm on the whole. Prices for near at hand parcels have eased a little, owing to heavy arrivals, but forward prices show no sign of yielding, and are unchanged to 3d. dearer on the week.—T. S. Medill and Sons, Ltd.

Milling offals.—The trade is not so good, although London prices are unchanged, but apparently country prices are a little easier.—John Bawcomb and Co.

TERM MARKET.

Latest prices on the speculative market are as follows in in centals, 100 lb., for future delivery:—

Red winter wheat—
- 8s. per cental, December delivery.
- 8s. 1d. per cental, January delivery.
- 8s 2d. per cental, February delivery.
- 8s. 3d per cental, March delivery.

Mixed American maize—
- 5s 7d per cental, December delivery.
- 5s 4d per cental, January delivery.

Argentine maize—
- 5s 5d per cental, January delivery.

Argentine oats—
- 3s 3d per cental, March delivery.

WET AND DRIED GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Wet Grains: Prices remain about the same with a slightly firmer tendency, and business has been done during the week at 21s to 22s ale, and porter 3s per ton less on rail London. Slack brewings cause prices to advance. Dried Grains.—Prices continue firm with a steady tendency at 110s per ton for ale and 105s for mixed, bags 6d. each. Best Java Molasses.—Concrete 70 per cent. sugar, in baskets, 85s per ton. Kiln-dried sea damaged wheat from 22s 6d per qr, on rail, London and elsewhere.—Hamlyn and Co.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

POTATOES.

Berwick, Saturday.—The potato market is well stocked with home and foreign produce, which is selling at 75 per ton.

Borough, Saturday. — Arrivals were large, and trade moved off slowly. Langworthys, 80s to 100s; Up-to-Dates, 90s to 100s; Blacklands, 75s to 80s; Royal Kidneys, 80s; Sottish (grey soil), 90s to 100s per ton; Germans, 3s 6d to 4s; Dutch, 3s; French, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per bag.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supplies were smaller than usual, and met a brisk demand at 7d to 8d per stone.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Fair supply and an average demand, but prices slight lower 8s 8d to 9s 6d per load of 18 stones.

Goole, Wednesday—A fair supply were shown, and met with a fair demand. Imperators, 9s; King Edwards, 10s; and Dates, 10s per load.

Lancaster, Saturday. — Smaller supplies, which sold at 9d to 10d per stone.

Malton, Saturday.—Potatoes, 4s 3d to 4s 9d per bag of eight stones.

Manchester, Saturday. — Potatoes: Yorkshire, 11s 6d to 12s 6d; Cheshire, 8s 6d to 9s 6d; Lincoln, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per load; Irish, 5s; German, 4s 6d to 5s per cwt.

Preston, Saturday.—Potatoes, 9s to 10s per load of 240 lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Market was well supplied. Best home-grown lots made 9s 6d per load, and other kinds 7s to 8s,

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Trade proved very slow, arrivals being heavy. Langworthys, 100s to 110s; Up-to-Dates, 90s to 100s; Blacklands, 80s to 85s; Royal Kidneys, 80s to 85s; British Queens, 90 to 95s; Scottish grey soil, 90s to 95s per ton; Dutch, 3s to 3s 3d; French, 3s 3d to 3s 6d; German, 3s 6d to 4s per bag.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Potatoes £1 15s to £5 per ton.

Whitby, Saturday.—Potatoes, 8d per stone.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Good supply, and trade slow. Best potatoes, 8s 6d to 9s 6d per load of 18 stones.

York, Saturday.—A fair supply met a steady trade, at prices ranging from 75s to 80s per ton.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Altrincham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Appleby: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Barnstaple: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Berwick: 9d to 11d. Birmingham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Camelford: 11d. Carlisle: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Dartmouth: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Derby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Devizes: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Doncaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Dorchester: 1s 2d to 1s 6d. Evensham: 1s 8d to 1s 11d. Hereford: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Ipswich: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Kidderminster: 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Lincoln: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Market Drayton: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Otley: 1s 10d per 24 oz roll. Penrith: 1s to 1s 3d. Plymouth: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Preston: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Retford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Ripon: 2s to 2s 2d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Shrewsbury: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Spalding: 1s 1d. Stamford: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Stockport: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Stockton: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Totnes: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Truro: 10d to 1s. Wellington (Salop): 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Worcester: 1s to 1s 3d. Worksop: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 4d.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Altrincham: 5. Appleby: 6 and 7. Barnstaple: 6. Berwick: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per doz. Birmingham: 6. Camelford: 7. Carlisle: 5. Dartmouth: 1s 10d to 2s per doz. Derby: 6 and 7. Devizes: 8 and 9. Doncaster: 6 and 7. Dorchester: 1s 8d to 2s per doz. Evesham: 1s 4d to 1s 9½d per doz. Hereford: 6 to 8. Kidderminster: 7. Lancaster: 5 and 6. Lincoln: 6 and 7. Market Drayton: 6. Otley: 5. Penrith: 5 to 7. Plymouth: 6. Preston: 5 and 6. Retford: 2s 10d per score. Ripon: 6. Scarborough: 6. Shrewsbury: 6. Spalding: 7. Stamford: 6 and 7. Stockport: 5. Stockton: 5. Totnes: 1s 9d to 1s 11d per dozen. Truro: 1s 7d to 1s 9d per dozen. Wellington (Salop): 6 and 7. Worcester: 6. Worksop: 2s 10d to 3s per score. York: 6 and 7.

London Flour Millers' Association.

Credit and Delivery. Official Prices.

*Cereal year commencing September 2nd, 1907.**

	London Whites.		Town Households.	
	s. d		s. d.	
September 2	(per sack) 32	0	(per sack) 29	0
,, 4	,, 33	0	,, 30	0
,, 27	,, 34	6	,, 31	6
October 4	,, 35	6	,, 32	6
,, 11	,, 36	0	,, 33	0
,, 18	,, 37	0	,, 34	0
November 11	,, 36	0	,, 33	0

(No change since last date given.)

* September 1st, 1907, was a Sunday.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Dec. 2, 1907. British.	Total.	Monday, Dec. 3, 1906.
Beasts	1,430	1,430	1,070
Sheep and Lambs	4,970	4,970	4,620
Calves	10	10	10
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	50	50	50

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beasts	2 6	3 4	4 6
Sheep	4 10	5 6	6 4
Lambs	—	6 0	6 8
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £24.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland. 16; Eastern Counties, 77; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 1,155; Devon, 40; Ireland, 142.

We note to-day a decrease of 50 head in the number of beasts offered for sale compared with Monday last. For both prime and second quality fat cattle the inquiry was a slow one, owing to the overstocked state of the Dead Meat market. However, all sales were based on last week's currencies. The majority of the supply, was drawn from the Midland Counties and Ireland, with a sprinkling of Scotch and Devons; these two latter made our top quotation. The Irish consignment consisted of 80 Dublins (a few of which were Black Polled cattle) and 62 Waterfords, both of which shared in the slow trade, the former being quoted 1d. per 8 lb. lower. There was a small attendance of buyers for fat cows and bulls; however, late rates were maintained. A clearance is expected to be made.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Monday, Dec. 3, 1906.
	s d s d	s d s d
Scotch	4 4 to 4 6	4 8 to 4 10
Devons	4 4 to 4 6	4 4 to 4 6
Herefords	4 2 to 4 4	4 2 to 4 4
Norfolks	4 4 to 4 6	4 4 to 4 6
Runts	4 0 to 4 2	4 0 to 4 4
Lincolns	3 10 to 4 0	3 8 to 3 10
Irish	4 0 to 4 3	3 10 to 4 2
Canadian	— —	— —
Fat cows	3 4 to 3 6	3 4 ex 3 6

There was a increase of 1,520 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. Trade throughout the day ruled of a very slow and dragging nature, at a decline in value in the majority of cases, only a few choice small things making late currencies, this remark appyling to both wethers and ewes. Scotch and Irish descriptions were in rather smaller supply, these shared in the slow trade, but maintained late rates. A few lambs were placed on the market, and found buyers at last week's prices. A clearance is not expected to be made in this part of the market to-day. The supply included 300 Scotch, 630 Irish, and 817 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	Monday, Dec. 3, 1906.
	s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.
8 st. Scotch Tegs	—	—
7½ to 8 st Down Tegs	6 0 to 6 2	6 2 to 6 4
9 st. Down Tegs	5 10 to 6 0	6 0 to 6 2
10 st Halfbreds	5 6 to 5 8	5 8 to 5 10
10 st Yorkshires	—	—
12 st Lincolns	—	—
10 st Irish	5 2 to 5 4	5 0 to 5 2
10 st Down Ewes	4 0 to 4 2	4 2 to 4 4
11 st Halfbred ditto	3 10 to 4 0	4 0 to 4 2
5 st Down Lambs	6 6 to 6 8	—
6 st Halfbred ditto	—	—

Calf trade not worth noting.

No pigs on the market.

London (Central), Monday.—Trade quiet, supplies being moderate. Beef, English, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 4d; American, 3s to 3s 6d: refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 8d to 4s 2d. Mutton, English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Scotch tegs and wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Veal, 3s 8d to 5s. Pork, 3s 6d to 4s.

St. Ives (Hunts) Monday.—Beasts, 471; sheep, 463; pigs, 478; fat and store cattle a fair trade; fat and store sheep and pigs good demand. Milch cows a fair show and trade. Prices: Beef, 7s to 7s 9d; sheep, 8s 2d to 11s 1d; pigs, 6s 3d to 7s; milch cows, £14 to £22.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 528. To-day's supply, compared with Monday last, showed a decrease of 1,150, consisting of 180 from the United States, and 348 from Canada. Trade ruled of a fairly steady nature at about late rates. The best States on offer were quoted at from 4s 1d to 4s 3d; exceptional 4s 4d; Canadians, 3s 10d to 4s; seconds, 3s 7d to 3s 9d per 8lb (offal given in). On Saturday 1,450 beasts from the United States, and 570 Canadian ranch cattle were offered for sale, and with a fair trade were quoted as follows:—States, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; seconds, 4s to 4s 2d; Canadian ranchers, 3s 2d to 3s 4d per 8lb (offal given in). Besides the above 200 States and 200 Canadians were withheld from sale.

Liverpool, Monday.—Smaller supply of cattle. Demand good for best qualities, but slow for middling sorts at late rates. Sheep supply practically unaltered. Trade slow. Finished handyweights barely maintained the quotation. Strong sheep much lower, while rough classes were difficult to cash. Prices:—Beef, 6¼d to 4½d; mutton, 9d to 6½d per lb. At market 1,639 cattle and 4,180 sheep.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, December 2.—Indian linseed is rather dearer, Argentine rather cheaper, on the week. Rapeseed and cottonseed are favourable to buyers, but bad crop reports make sesame firm. The demand for seed oils is steady, and prices are maintained.

Linseed.	per 416 lb.	Rubsen.	per 424 lb.
	s. s.		s. s.
Calcutta	47 to 48	German	71 to 75
Russian	46 to 49	Poppyseed.	per 377 lb.
Argentine cleand	47 to 48	Indian	58 to 59
Argentine comn.	45 to 46	Cottonseed.	per ton.
Dutch	51 to 53	Egyptian	138 to 140
Turkish	48 to 50	Indian	120 to 124
Canadian	47 to 49	Sunflowerseed.	
Morocco	52 to 54		per cwt.
Rapeseed.	per 416 lb.	English, White	14 to 15
English	80 to 84	,, Black	13 to 14
French F.A.Q.	64 to 66	Russian, White.	13 to 14
Yellow Guzerat	60 to 61	,, Black.	12 to 13
Yellow Cawnpre	58 to 59	Sesame.	per 384 lb.
Brown ,,	55 to 56	Indian	61 to 62
Ferozepore	55 to 56	Hempseed.	per 336 lb.
Jamba	46 to 47	Russian	42 to 44

SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Spring sowing seeds show considerable movement; prices generally high. In clovers, Alsikes and Whites keep firm. Reds and Trefoils move freely at rising prices in English seed. In grasses, Perennials and Italians show brisk business at still rising prices. Rape keeps firm. Rye scarce. Peas, fair business passing; supplies more plentiful. — John Picard and Co.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday. — There was decidedly more business dosng at the end of last week, and several parcels were sold. The lower prices now ruling are evidently tempting brewers to stock up. —W. H. and H. Le May.

Weekly Arrivals into London.

November 21 to 28 inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat qrs.	5,500	93,000	98,500
Barley	2,800	39,000	41,800
Malt	16,000	100	16,100
Oats	4,700	46,000	50,700
Beans	1,050	919	1,969
Lentils	—	7,000	7,000
Peas	1,111	1,866	2,977
Haricots	—	5,000	5,000
Maize	—	45,905	45,905
Linseed	—	30,000	30,000
Rapeseed	—	5,000	5,000
Dholl	—	506	506
Dari	—	1,200	1,200
Flour sacks	24,000	18,000	42,000
Ricemeal	—	1,700	1,700
Oatmeal	—	500	500
Ryemeal	—	10	10

Seven Years' Tithe Rent Charges.

For 1907	£68	19	6
,, 1906	68	12	1
,, 1905	69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
1901	66	10	9

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

The number of beasts on the chief market day of the week at Islington was slightly larger, the supply consisting chiefly of consignments from the Midland Counties and Ireland, with a few Devons. Trade for both prime and second quality fat beasts ruled of a slow nature, the tendency in regard to value being a downward one, especially was this noticeable with regard to Herefords and Runts, these being quoted 2d. per 8lb. lower. The consignment from Ireland consisted of 90 Dublins (amongst which were a few black polled beasts) and 85 Waterfords. For this class of cattle, sellers were both able to ask and obtain late currencies. Fat butchering cows and bulls were steady in price but slow of sale, whilst rough cattle were difficult to vend.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, markets were held on Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday, the supply of States cattle being of rather better quality than the previous week, slightly higher rates were both asked and obtained, whilst other descriptions remained about the same. The total number of beasts on offer at both markets was 6,508, as against 3,664 during the preceding week, consisting of 1,560 British (increase 20), and 4,948 foreign (increase 2,824), these latter comprising 2,666 from the United States and 2,282 Canadians, 1,482 of which were Ranch cattle. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 stone Devons, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 90 stone Norfolks, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 95 stone Irish, 4s. 2d. ex 4s. 4d.; 90 stone States, 4s. 3d. to 4s. 5d.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; ditto ranchers, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.

The sheep trade at Islington was confined to Monday. Trade for all descriptions of English wethers and ewes ruled of a somewhat slow nature, late currencies governing all transactions. Irish sheep shared in the general depression, whilst Scotch met with a fairly steady inquiry; however, no advance can be quoted for these. A few lambs met with buyers at late rates. At Deptford a few Canadian sheep were consigned, but met with no buyers. The total number penned at both markets was 3,750, as against 4,390 during the preceding week, comprising 3,450 British (decrease 490) and 300 Canadians. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Down tegs, 6s. 2d. to 6s. 4d.; 8 stone Scotch ditto, 6s. 2d to 6s. 4d.; 9 stone Down ditto, 6s. to 6s. 2d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 10 stone half-breds, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 11 stone Hampshires, 5s. 8d to 5s. 10d.; 5 stone fat Down lambs, 6s. 6d. to 6s. 8d.

Only 20 calves were offered for sale, the best of which were quoted at from 5s. to 5s. 2d. per 8lb.

Trade in the West.

Supplies of store stock are coming pretty freely to hand, especially of barreners, of which very considerable numbers are being disposed of at the annual winter sales now in progress at the principal centres in this part of the country. As a rule the great bulk of the supply is in excellent condition, the result of the generally favourable season this has been for grazing stock, and which still continues to be the case, and although there has been a few sharp frosts the pastures have suffered but little, and are as full of keep as is often the case in the spring. But the trade is not particularly fast, as a rule, for graziers, except for the very best, owing to the reaction in the beef trade, which, however, is only thought to be of a temporary character, and will speedily right itself. The quietness in trade in no way applies to the better class of barreners, those morally affected being the distinctly plain or rough descriptions, which are certainly a very dragging trade, and a distinct contrast to the more serviceable grades, which are meeting a very ready sale for young, meaty bullocks at very satisfactory prices as far as the seller is concerned, animals coming in this category realising £24 up to £34 per pair for good class. Devons, Shorthorns, or cross-breds, which will speedily be available for market; less useful kinds, cows, &c., are not so easy to cash at greatly varying prices, ranging from £21 or £22 down to as low as £16 or even less for anything very old. Milch beasts fully maintain their old buoyancy, and with best heifers still selling from £16 up to £23 15s, there is a great difficulty in meeting the demand, despite the high prices ruling, plain cows and heifers also finding an equally ready market, at from £13 to £15 10s. Young stock, too, is by no means selling as well as it was, the present high prices of feeding stuffs, with the prospect of becoming still dearer in the event of our having a snap of cold weather, making buyers very cautious about speculating in this class of stock, despite the fact of the pastures being almost as verdant as ever, and also of there being such an excellent stock of roots. For the first time for several months past store sheep have experienced a slight reaction, and the trade, which has ruled so phenomenally buoyant now for so long, has at last assumed a somewhat quieter tone, which, coming so late in the season, is a matter of little importance, seeing that sheep sales for the present season are practically at an end, the closing fair of the year for Dorset being that of Martinstown, on Monday, when, despite the fact of the great bulk of the sheep penned consisting largely of final drafts, which flockmasters are discarding for the winter, and therefore of a generally plain stamp, good prices were realised; and, on the whole, the present may be looked upon by stock owners as presenting many extraordinary features, more especially in regard to the uniformly high prices which all classes of stock have been making, and which most agriculturists would only be too glad to experience again in the coming year.

The markets for fat stock keep fairly steady, but, as far as one can judge, mutton is making a better trade than beef, though the choice grades of the latter still realise high prices, some of the best Devons, Shorthorns, and Norfolks bringing their 12s. per score and over, it being the plainer grades that are mostly affected by the decline in values, some of the coarser qualities barely reaching 9s. 6d. and secondary grades not more than 10s. to 10s. 6d., without even then attracting a ready sale. Of course, a good deal of the beef now coming out is of a distinctly plain character, graziers being anxious to get rid of beasts of this class so as to devote closer attention to the reserves they have in hand preparing for the festive season now so near at hand. The veal trade keeps steady and prices firm, the calves now offering being almost entirely small animals of a poor class, for which, however, present values range from 8d. to 8¾d. per lb. for the best, and 7½d. to 7¾d. for poor calves. Fat wethers and tegs are very dear, many of the best realising 9d. to 9½d. per lb., and occasionally more, whilst ordinary runs of fat sheep sell from 7½d. to 8½d., and very little under, except in the case of coarse old rams and the like. Excepting a few suck lambs, there is little doing in lambs at present, but those being marketed sell up to 10d. per lb. Pigs keep steady, but prices generally have a slightly easier tendency than otherwise.

Trade in Ireland.

The market in Dublin on Thursday last was much the same as on the previous Thursday for cattle, there being a decrease of only three head on the week, but a decrease of nearly 400 sheep. The numbers were:—5,080 cattle and 6,406 sheep. There was a good attendance of buyers from across Channel, and home buyers were well represented. The morning was cold and wet and seriously interfered with good business. Still really tip-top beasts, which were very scarce, were somewhat dearer, it was thought. Rough cattle were a worse trade than on the previous week, they sold very irregularly, and a large number had to be driven out unsold at the end of the day. The live-weight quotation was about from 30s. to 31s. per cwt., but some very superior lots went up to 33s.; good heavy cattle sold between 26s. and 28s. per cwt. live weight. For anything lower than this, the trade was very slack at from 22s. to 24s. per cwt. Approximate dead-weight prices would be:—Best heifer and ox beef, 54s. to 56s. per cwt., good second quality beef, 48s. to 50s.; and coarse beef about 44s. per cwt. Bad English markets had a bad effect on the Dublin market.

Trade was slow for sheep, which were in much larger supply for this time of the year than in 1905 or 1906, the supply being nearly 1,000 advance of both years. A fair business was done for nice hoggets worth between 40s. and 50s. each, which sold very freely. Ewes and rough sheep were much neglected. A large number of pens failed to clear. Best wether mutton brought from 7d. to 7¾d. per lb.; prime ewe mutton, 6d. to 6½d, and inferior mutton, 5d. per lb.

Large heavy hoggets sold at from 46s. to 56s. each, and small to medium ditto at from 36s. to 44s. each. There was still a fair inquiry for lambs, which are still being brought pretty plentifully in the market. Veal of choice quality in request, but scarce; inferior calves were neglected. Choice calves sold at 7½d to 8¼d per lb, and inferior ran from 4½d per lb. upwards. Milch cows were in moderate demand, and made a good clearance. Heavy springers in good request and dear, making up to £20 and £22 each for choice beasts; ordinary cows sold at from £10 to £14.

Store cattle still selling well. Mr. Gavin Low held a large sale of about 1,000 beasts, which brought good prices and attracted a large crowd of buyers to the sale rooms. The beasts offered for sale were of very choice description, and good bidding was made for them, though the demand was hardly as strong or prices as good as they were a couple of months ago.

The popularity of Mr. Low's sales is a fact which has been very marked this season. Shorthorn three-year-old crosses sold from £13 to £14 each; two-and-a-half-year-old ditto, £10 17s. 6d. to £12 5s.; and one-and-a-half to two-year-olds, £7 12s. 6d. to £11 15s.; two and two-and-a-half Aberdeen-Angus classes made from £9 to £13 12s. 6d; and Herefords of the same age similar prices.

The Dublin pig market had a full attendance of cross-Channel buyers and home pork butchers. Business opened slowly, but a good business was concluded, at slightly lower rates, at an early hour. Good shipping pigs sold at from 44s. to 46s. per cwt. Choice porkers made from 47s. to 48s. per cwt. Coarse pigs not in much demand.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Good supplies and and a bad trade, there being practically no demand. English beef, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s to 3s 7d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 4s to 4s 2d; ditto, seconds, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; ditto, forequarters, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; inferior beef, 2s 2d to 2s 8d. Mutton, Scotch wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ditto tegs, 5s; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Dutch sheep, 4s to 4s 4d; veal, 3s 8d to 5s; English pork, 3s 8d to 4s 4d; Dutch ditto, 3s 8d to 4s per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—To-day's suppy of beasts consisted of fat butchering cows, bulls, and rough cattle, trade for which was slightly brisker, though not sufficient to quote any advance in value. Top prices paid per 8 lb.:—Fat cows, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 8d to 3s. No sheep offered for sale to-day. A few calves offered met with buyers at late currencies, the best being quoted at 4s 10d to 5s per 8 lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Rough weather affected the attendance of buyers, and trade was slow; best beef, however, maintained last week's rates, selling at 4s 4d to 4s 8d. Mutton, though rather slow of sale, made late prices; Southdown tegs being quoted up to 6s, and West Kents up to 5s 10d. Veal and pork were unchanged on the week, the former making 5s to 5s 8d, and the latter up to 4s.

Aylesbury, Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts on offer, numbering 154. With the exception of best quality heifers and bullocks, for which there was a good inquiry, realising £24 15s and £22 10s respectively, trade was fairly good at about late rates. A moderate consignment of sheep, only 323 penned, and these sold well, fat wethers realising 57s; fat tegs, 46s 6d; and fat ewes, 51s per head.

Berwick, Saturday.—Attendance of farmers and buyers fair, and trade better. Calves, £5 10s to £6 10s; heifers, £8 10s to £10 10s; stirks, £9 10s to £12; two-year-olds, £12 10s to £14 10s;

three-year-olds, £14 to £16; Shorthorn bulls, £12; cows, £18 10s to £22.

Birmingham, Thursday. — Good supply of pigs; small supply of beasts and sheep; trade slow. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s per score; cutting pigs, 9s 3d to 9s 6d per score; porkets, 10s per score; sows, 7s 2d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Beef was plentiful, but not in much request, and business was slow, the price of secondary qualities falling to 53s per cwt. Mutton, which was in less quantity than usual, was in moderate demand, and with a fair amount of trade passing values were well maintained. There were more pigs than lately, and trade was steady, the quotation for baconers advancing to 9s per score.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices of pigs:—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 1s. per pig extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. 10 lb to 8 sc. 10 lbs, 9s per score; 8 sc. 11 lb to 9 sc. 10 lb., 8s 6d per score; 9 sc. 11 lb to 10 sc. 10 lb, 8s 0d per score. Pigs outside these limits at their value.—C. and T. Harris and Co.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The store stock trade is nearly over for this season. Irish horned stock was mainly offered to-day, but the demand was not at all brisk. Some of the best lots changed hands; two-year-old heifers ranged up to £13 10s; yearlings from £6 to £8, and the best ten guineas; Calves, £4 10s to £5 15s per head.

Carlisle, Saturday.—There was a smaller supply and fair attendance of buyers, and a firm trade Wintering heifers, £7 10s to £10 10s; stall feeding heifers to £15 10s; polled bullocks, £8 10s to £10 10s.

Chester, Thursday.—A good market in regard to quality, demand and prices. There was an especially quiet trade for dairy cattle, and for promising store stock, and on the whole quotations tended upwards. Milch cows, £17 to £22; calves, £15 to £19; barren cattle, £10 to £13; heifers, £9 to £15; and stirks, £6 to £10.

Colchester, Saturday.—There was little but little but grass-fed beef on offer, and this averaged 4s 4d per stone of 8lb; mutton, 6s. There seemed a glut of pork in the market, and it was sold at 8s per score.

Derby, Tuesday.—A wretched day. No alteration in the value of best beasts, but sheep of choice quality much sought after. Beasts, 5¼d to 6¼d; calves, 7¼d; sheep, 8d to 9½d per lb.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Good average supply of cattle, and a fair sprinkling of milch beasts. Steady trade for best, and milch beasts firm; others unchanged. Young stores made £7 to £10, drapes, £11 to £14; heifers £12 to £15; bullocks, £12 to £16 10s; and milch beasts, £17 to £23 each. Moderate supply of sheep, and a quiet trade, but no change. Lambs realised 34s to 40s, and breeding ewes, 42 to 47s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—There was an exceptionally busy time at the cattle market to-day, the occasion being the annual great barrener sale of Messrs. T. Ensor and Son, to which all the best-known farmers and graziers in the county contribute. The result was that over 300 head of barreners were stalled, independent of many head of milch beasts and other horned stock. The weather being favourable a large company of buyers was attracted from all parts of the west of England, including many who make a point of regularly selecting their barreners at this particular mart in consequence of the general excellence of those usually offered here, and which this year proved no exception to the rule, the great bulk being of splendid character and such as would be sure to give satisfaction to the grazier. In consequence there was an exceedingly keen competition for all the bettermost grades of Devons, Shorthorns, and Herefords, and also of cross-breds, which brought prices even higher than have been realised at this important market at previous sales. Many excellent beasts were contributed by such well-known agriculturists as Messrs. Tory, Chick. Allen, Ford, Rowles, Lawrie, Phillips, &c. A general range for crossbreds was from £18 to £31 10s; Herefords, £24 to £32; best Devons, £25 to £36 per pair; singles making up to £21 apiece. An equally good trade ruled for heifers and calves, which were again very dear, making £16 to £23; cows and calves, £15 to £22 10s. Altogether a better trade has not been experienced for years, the most convincing testimony of which is the fact that the whole of the 400 head of beasts were disposed of by four o'clock, a contrast to some sales, when the business has had to be finished in semi-darkness.

Dublin, Thursday.—Choicely finished cattle were in good demand, but prices did not reach last week's levels. Secondary and inferior sorts more difficult to move at lower quotations, and a clearance not effected. Though demand was fair for sheep, prices were in buyers' favour. Ewes and rough qualities difficult to place. Cattle—Live weight, 29s 6d to 32s per cwt; other descriptions, 26s to 28s 6d per cwt. Mutton (dead weight), 6½d to 7¼d per lb; exceptional, 7¾d per lb.—Ganly, Sons, and Co.

Edinburgh, Wednesday. — Cattle: Larger supply, fair selling trade; best polled bullocks sold to £16; horned bullocks to £15 10s; black polled £14; stirks, £11 15s. Cows: Smaller supply, fair demand; Shorthorns realised £25 10s; crosses, £24 5s; Ayrshires, £19. Sheep also down in numbers; half-bred hoggs made to 33s; greyfaced hoggets, 28s 6d; Cheviot dinmonts, 30s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Good show of cattle, and for prime quality a healthy demand was experienced at about late quotations: Secondary and inferior sorts sold cheaper; top, 63s to 65s; secondary, 55s to 58s per cwt. Average number of sheep penned, and trade in this department ruled firmer for finest descriptions; inferior classes slow to sell; finest mutton, 9d to 9½d; secondary, 8½d to 8¾d per lb.

Gloucester, Saturday. — Messrs. Bruton, Knowles, and Co. report their sales as follows:—Cows and calves: Fairly good supply, the best selling at high prices (£25, £23 10s, £23, £22 15s, £22 5s, £22, &c.), but the trade for inferior quality was dull. Store cattle: A large supply with animated trade.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A good supply of beef, with trade, if anything, a trifle firmer. There was no alteration in prices, but best quality bullock and heifer beef made from 6½d to 6¾d; cow beef, 5d. A short supply of calves, with trade firm, veal making all 9d. Very few sheep on offer, and trade was firm; best wether mutton at 8d to 8½d; ewe, 7d. Lambs scarce and dear at 8½d; store lambs dear. Porks and bacons a large supply, the former at 5½d to 6d; bacons, 5d to 5½d; small stores cheap; big stores in better demand. There was a dull trade in store cattle, of which there was a fairly large supply.

Leicester, Saturday.—Full consignments of home-bred bullocks. Buyers were well represented, the demand being mainly for the best lots. Choice milch cows, £22 to £23 10s; good lots, £17 to £19; secondary, £14 to £16; heifers, £10 to £13; Shorthorn bullocks, £12 to £14 10s; Irish cattle, £13 to £16 10s; Welsh stock, £9 to £13; young stock, £5 to £7 10s; and calves, 13s to 35s each.

Lincoln, Friday.—An average supply of horned stock, and a slow demand. Young beasts, £9 to £11; strong ditto, £13 to £15; and milch cows, £17 to £23. The sheep pens were poorly filled, and the demand moderate. Hogg, 38s to 44s; in-lamb ewes, 48s to 50s each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Fat beasts were in average supply, and trade was at late rates, from 7s to 8s per stone. Stores met a very slow trade, and were an average supply, making from £6 to £14 each. A small show of fat sheep experienced unchanged prices, from 9s to 10s, smalls 10s 6d. No store sheep. Store lambs realised from 36s to 45s each.

Manchester, Friday. — Beef: First-class, 5½d; second-class, 4d to 4½d; third-class, 3d to 3½d. Mutton: First-class, 7¾d; second-class, 6¾d to 7¼d; third-class, 5¾d to 6¼d. Veal: First-class, 7¾d; second-class, 6¾d to 7¼d; third-class, 5¾d to 6¼d. Bacon pigs: First-class, 5d; second-class, 4d to 4½d; third-class, 3d. Porket pigs: First-class, 6½d; second-class, 6d to 6½d; third-class, 5½d to 5¾d per lb.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Trade for cattle was rather easier except for the very choicest qualities, but the only change in price was a fall of 3d for prime steers. Quotations:—Prime heifers, 7s 6d to 7s 9d; second class, 6s 9d to 7s; prime steers, 7s to 7s 6d; second class, 6s 9d to 7s; coarse and inferior, 6s to 6s 6d per stone, sinking the offal. Sheep were a considerably larger supply, and trade was rather easier, and in several classes prices were down ½d. Quotations:—Choice young sheep 8½d to 8¾d; strong heavy, 8d to 8½d; choice hoggs, 8¾d to 9d; second class, 8½d to 8¾d; ewes, 6d to 6½d; rams, 5d to 6d per lb. Trade for calves was fair, prices remaining unchanged; veal, 5d to 8½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance, and little business was done. Prices were practically the same as last week. The quotations were:—Best beef, 6d to 6½d; seconds, 5¾d; cows, 4½d to 5d; best wether mutton, 8d; ewes, 7d to 7½d; lambs, 9½d; calves, 7½d; porker pigs, 10s 3d to 10s 9d per score; baconers, 9s to 9s 6d.

Norwich, Saturday.—Fat cattle were shown in rather larger numbers. Trade for the best heavy-weights was not so good, these making 7s 10d per 14 lb stone; best small-weights, 8s; and good cows, 7s. Veal calves in small supply, and fetched 8s 9d. A good show of fat sheep, all hoggets. Trade unchanged for all descriptions, the best making 9½d per lb, and secondary sorts, of which there were very few, 8¾d. A good show of pigs, with a slight rise in price, porkers making from 6s 5d to 6s 8d; baconers, 6s to 6s 3d; and sows 5s 6d per stone. Store cattle were a very good show for the time of year, and the quality was rather better. There was hardly any trade. The best made from £14 to £16 10s per head; yearlings, £8 15s to £10 5s; and others, £4 to £6 10s. Calves were a better trade at 20s to 55s. Store sheep, which were shown in small numbers, met a very good demand at from 41s to 52s 6d. Store pigs met a very slow trade, but all were sold at from 10s to 22s per head.

Nottingham, Saturday. — Smaller supply, trade being pretty good. The best in-calf cows, £18 to £22; and heifers, £14 to £18 each. Larger show of stores; strong heifers and steers selling selling at £13 to £14 each, and younger beasts £7 to £9. A small show of calves sold slower than lately, realising 40s per head.

Preston, Wednesday.—There were fair supplies of stock, and trade ruled about the same as last week. Quotations:—Local fed heifers made up to 6½d; Irish ditto, 6d to 6¼d; young cows and bulls, 5¾d; inferior cows and bulls, 4¾d to 5¼d; choice hoggs and lambs, 9d; heavy and inferior ditto, 8½d; choice ewes, 7d; heavy tups and ewes, 6¼d; calves, 7¼d to 7¾d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—A better attendance than usual, and an improved supply of all kinds of stock. With an average demand fully late currencies were maintained, the best milch cows selling at £18 to £22; secondary, £14 to £17; two-year-old steers and heifers, £10 to £12; yearlings, £6 to £8; and calves, 35s to 45s per head.

Romford, Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts, trade about the same. Best beasts, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in short supply and dearer at 5s 4d to 5s 6d per stone. Sheep in short supply; prices about the same; best small sheep, 6s to 6s 4d; larger sheep, 5s 8d to 6s per stone. Ewes in shorter supply at 4s to 4s 4d per stone. A few store beasts on offer, slow demand. Large supply of milch cows; trade slower. Pigs in average supply; trade about the same; small porkers, 3s 10d to 4s; large hogs, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—A poor supply and a small business done, the best milch beasts making £19 to £21 10s, and rough beasts £15 to £17.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Owing to the inclement weather there was only a small supply of store sheep and pigs, but usual number of fat cattle. Small attendance of buyers, with a moderate trade. Quotations:—Beef, 6d to 6½d per lb; mutton (wether), 9d to 9½d per lb; ewes, 8d per lb; veal, 7¼d to 9d per lb; pork pigs, 9s 6d to 10s per score; bacons, 9s to 9s 6d per score,

Stockton, Wednesday.—The show of best cattle was well up to the average, and prices ranged from 7s 6d to 7s 9d per stone. Rougher kinds sold at 6s to 7s per stone. Young sheep made 9d per lb; ewes, 7d; and tups, 6½d. The pig trade was very steady, and last week's prices were maintained, small porkers making 7s to 7s 6d per stone; mediums, 6s 9d to 7s; and sows, 5s 9d to 6s.

Thame, Tuesday.—The supply of stock was not so large as has been the case lately, but the quality of the cattle was exceptionally good. Buyers were in large attendance, all the principal towns being represented. Best quality beef was in demand and met a brisk trade, late improved rates being maintained. Second quality and unfinished cattle are, however, difficult to move. Sheep still continue very scarce, some choice tegs off the ploughing selling remarkably well. Bacon, pork and veal are in good demand. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 75 fat beasts, 83 fat sheep, 55 fat and store pigs, and 76 fat and weaning calves. Fat oxen made from £17 to £22 15s; fat heifers, £16 to £23 7s 6d; fat tegs, 54s to 58s 6d; fat wethers, 53s to 58s at calves, £3 10s to £5; weaning cow calves, 30s to 70s; bull calves, 10s to 40s; bacon hogs, £3 10s to £5 15s; porkers, 30s to 41s; store pigs, 10s to 20s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance very good; business fairly brisk. Fat bullocks, 56s to 60s; barreners, 40s to 45s per cwt; store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £10 to £16; rearing calves, 25s to 40s; wethers, 7d to 7½d per lb; ewes, 5d to 5½d; pigs, 8s 6d to 38s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 7d to 8d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; pork carcases, 4½d to 5d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Trade slow beasts, fair for sheep; supply fair. Quotations:—Beef, 5½d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 9d per lb; veal, 6½d to 8½d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Good average attendance, and trade brisk, especially for beef, which made about 3d per stone more than last week. Best beef, 7s to 7s 6d per stone; best Southdown wethers and cross-breds to 9d; secondary qualities, 8d; and ewes, 6d per lb.

DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter.—The demand for Australian butter has been somewhat disappointing this week, and to facilitate sales holders

have had to make some concessions. With the present high c.i.f. values this dulness may prove to be only temporary. Shipments this week are about 30,000 boxes. There has been a good demand for New Zealand, the larger portion of ss. *Corinthic* shipment having been sold at 118s landed terms, with an occasional 120s for special lines of saltless. Foreign butter shown a decided improvement upon last week, particularly Siberian, which, owing to the small arrivals, has kept very firm. There has been a good demand for Danish, but the official quotation remains unchanged. Cheese.—The demand has been quiet, although values have been well maintained at 62s to 63s for best. The *Corinthic* shipment of new season's cheese is on the whole satisfactory, being more matured than has been the case in past seasons.—W. Weddel and Co.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply; no quotations obtainable,

Derby, Friday.—Best old clover, 90s to 100s; new ditto, 80s to 90s; best old hay, 90s to 100s; new ditto, 60s to 70s; wheat straw, 60s to 70s; pressed ditto, 50s to 60s; chop ditto, 55s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Hay and straw very slow trade, without quotable change in values. Hay, 45s to 55s per ton in stack; straw, 25s to 30s in bulk.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Hay and straw in the warehouses moves actively into consumption, the wintry weather having improved business and strengthened prices. Old clover hay, 7½d; ditto meadow hay, 7d; best new clover hay, 7d; ditto meadow, 6½d; wheat straw 5d; oat straw, 5d; and rye straw (retail), 7d to 8½d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Good supplies, and a rather slow trade. Best hay and seeds 60s, inferior ditto 50s per ton on the ground, straw 30s per ton on the stack.

Manchester, Friday. — Hay, 5d to 5½d; clover, 5d to 6½d; straw, wheat, 3d; oat, 3d to 3½d per stone.

Newcastle, Tuesday, Old land hay, from £3 10s to £4 4s per ton; new land hay, £4 10s to £5 5s; this year's growth, £4 to £4 15s; wheat straw, £1 4s to £1 6s per load; barley straw, £1 1s to £1 4s; oat straw, £1 4s to £1 6s.

Nottingham, Wednesday.—Small supplies on offer, which met with a slow sale. Quotations:—Inferior to good hay, 50s to 60s; prime ditto, 85s to 90s; inferior to good clover, 55s to 70s; prime ditto, 85s to 95s; wheat straw, 45s to 55s; old hay, 90s to 100s; old seeds, 95s to 100s per ton.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Small supply, and very few dealers in attendance. Seeds, choice, £4 10s to £4 15s; hay, £3 15s to £4 5s; straw, £2 10s to £3 per ton.

Whitechapel, Saturday. — Heavy arrivals met a slow sale, at generally easier prices. Best clover, 84s to 92s 6d; inferior ditto, 72s to 80s; specially picked hay, 82s 6d; good ditto, 65s to 75s; inferior ditto, 55s to 63s; mixture and sainfoin, 70s to 82s 6d; straw, 25s to 31s per load.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday. — Arrivals of cheese were light, and trade was slow, as dealers have fairly important stocks on hand. Values did not show any change; Cheddars, 62s to 66s; Dunlops, 53s to 63s per cwt. Business quiet in Canadian parcels. October make quoted at 61s to 61s 6d f.o.b.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—A large attendance of buyers, a brisk trade, and all cleared. Best Caerphilly dairies realised up to 61s per cwt; secondary dairies, 57s to 60s 0d; and other dairies, 53s to 53s 0d. A few inferior lots failed to reach 52s. Cheddars, 59s to 61s; truckles, 58s 6d to 62s; doubles, 58s 6d to 61s.

Newport, Wednesday. About 7 tons were pitched. There was a brisk demand and good attendance. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 52s to 58s per cwt; fancy dairies, 59s to 61s; Derbys, 68s to —; truckles, 60s to 62s; Cheddars, 62s to 65s.

Lord Carrington "At Home."

Lord Carrington will be "at home" to farmers at the offices of the Board of Agriculture, 4, Whitehall Place, S.W., on Wednesday, December 11, and Thursday, December 12, from 12 o'clock to 2 p.m., and from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.

It is impossible for him to accept all of the very numerous invitations he receives to attend agricultural gatherings in different parts of the country, and he hopes, therefore, that farmers who are in London for the Cattle Show, and who desire to see him, will do him the honour of calling upon him on the days mentioned.

Lord Carrington will visit the show of the Smithfield Club on Monday, December 9, and he has accepted an invitation to be present at the annual dinner of the Farmers' Club and the Central Chamber of Agriculture on December 10.

The annual hirings at Goole were held on Wednesday, when there was a large influx of farm servants. Foremen obtained £30; seconders, £25; and third men, £18; boys to £10; and girls were paid from £10 to £12 per annum.

The profound interest now being taken in Canada by the British working classes may be realised from the fact that 2,100,000 copies of a little pamphlet entitled "Work and Wages" have been sent out in the last five years in response to inquiries from the various offices of the Canadian Pacific Railway in this country. Of these, 935,000 have been sent out in the last eighteen months. This pamphlet is compiled with the assistance of the Canadian Provincial Governments, and gives a statement of wages current in the various trades throughout the Dominion.

At a meeting of the County Councils Association, held on Wednesday, it was decided to press the Government to bring in a Bill with regard to motor cars as soon as possible, and also to arrange for a deputation to the Chancellor of the Exchequer in favour of a special grant being given from the Exchequer, in consequence of the increased through traffic on the principal roads in the country, whilst the Highways Committee were instructed to confer with representatives of the Association of Municipal Corporations with a view to uniformity in the by-laws under the Lights on Vehicles Act.

100,000 SUPERLATIVE RASPBERRY CANES 5s. 100; 20s. 1,000. Hornet, 5s. 100; 25s. 1,000. Perfection, 6s. 100; Norwich Wonder, 15s. 1,000. Carter's Prolific, 20s. 1,000. —W. Horne & Sons, Cliffe, near Rochester, Kent.

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Printed and Published by the Proprietors, at the Offices, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.—December 2, 1907.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

We sincerely hope that the Meteorological Office will cease assuring us that this is a year of under-average rainfall, seeing that the more we meet with this assertion the wetter does the surface soil become, and the more difficult is it for farmers to get on the land. The Board of Agriculture published on Tuesday last an estimate of the potato crop, which shows a deficiency of 9,016,020 cwt., or say 18,000,000 bushels. This is a matter of importance not only to those who deal directly in or with the tuber, but to the wheat trade as well. Potatoes are very largely used for human consumption, occupying an interesting position between green crops and white crops and between vegetables and breadstuffs. If a deficiency of 18,000,000 bushels of potatoes is likely to entail an extra demand for, say, 9,000,000 bushels of wheat, the price of the latter in 1908 will be appreciably affected. The yield is only ·32 of a ton below average, but when under-production has to be added to the drawback of a reduced acreage the total resulting deficiency is apt to be considerable.

Foreign crop news is to the effect that autumn-sown wheat, where up, is decidedly promising in all the three Latin countries, also in Germany, but that it is mediocre in Central Europe, and in Roumania and Russia decidedly below the average. The area sown is believed to be a full average in France, Italy, and Spain, and an average in Germany, but is known to be less than an average in Austria-Hungary, Roumania, Servia, and Russia. The European yield of wheat in 1908 is therefore unlikely to equal that of 1907. As that of 1907 was inferior to that of 1906, English wheat growers should take heart.

The reports from India point to a decidedly small crop of wheat being reaped in April next, but the India Office after issuing in December, 1906, January and February, 1907, quite alarmist reports of the 1907 harvest prospects published in June last a return of a forty million quarters' yield, or a good deal above the average. Official advices from India are therefore to be received with caution.

The Argentine wheat crop now being reaped is semi-officially estimated at 21,500,000 qr. and an export surplus of 16,000,000 qr. is indicated. This is a moderate estimate, and probably is arrived at by reckoning the average yield per acre at the ordinary Argentine average rate of 5 cwt. to the acre. But the large area of virgin soil newly submitted to the plough will probably produce in its first year 10 or 12 cwt. to the acre at least, and it therefore may easily be that the eventual Argentine surplus will reach the total of eighteen million quarters.

These figures need not frighten English farmers; all the wheat will almost certainly be required, and the only thing to note is that Argentina, with so large a surplus to get rid of, will probably be forced for a couple of months at all events to play the part of a "bear" in the International Corn Trade. The price asked for fair average quality of the new crop for February shipment opened in November at 38s. 6d., and is still at that level. We could wish it higher, but we cannot label it "depression."

The English wheat gradient is not steep this week; in other words market opinion is more than usually uniform:—

Mark Lane	36s. 0d.	per qr.
Doncaster	33s. 7d.	,,
Range	2s. 5d.	,,

The gradient for barley is 4d. more than this, and some good quality is now coming to market in the South:—

Chichester	29s. 5d.	per qr.
Peterborough	26s. 8d.	,,
Range	2s. 9d.	,,

Oats show the following gradient:—

Canterbury	20s. 3d.	per qr.
Peterborough	18s. 1d.	,,
Range	2s. 2d.	,,

Of other English staples we may briefly note that though no official averages are published, maple peas may be averaged at 36s. per 504 lb., Dun peas at 33s. per 504 lb., rye at 29s. per 480 lb., and rapeseed at 80s. per 424 lb. at the chief country markets where they are to be had at all. None of these staple are common in the West or South-west of England, and rapeseed is rarely met with outside the circle of perhaps forty miles round Peterborough. At present prices, however, it should pay to grow.

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets last week were fairly good, and the total sales since September 1 now slightly exceed those of the like period last season. The price we are glad to say is a good deal better:—

This season ...	945,000 qr.	at 33s. 5d.	per qr.
Last ,, ...	943,000 ,,	26s. 2d.	,,

The sales of barley have been less than last season, the price higher, but not very satisfactory.

This season ...	1,785,000 qr.	at 26s. 3d.	per qr.
Last ,, ...	2,057,500 ,,	24s. 7d.	,,

Of oats the sales have been exceptionally heavy.

This season ...	585,000 qr.	at 18s. 2d.	per qr.
Last ,, ...	450,000 ,,	16s. 8d.	,,

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 242,000 qr.: small.
Flour, 113,900 sks.: fair.
Barley, 146,000 qr.: liberal.
Oats, 80,000 qr.: inadequate.
Maize, 246,000 qr.: liberal.

Total supplies since September 1 have been as follows:—

Wheat, 5,722,000 qr.: liberal.
Flour, 1,536,100 sks: moderate.
Barley, 2,416,000 qr.: liberal.
Oats, 960,000 qr.: very small.
Maize, 3,431,000 qr.: very large.

The imports of linseed and cottonseed have been liberal.

Supplies on passage have not changed much on the week, but there are to be noted certain not wholly insignificant reductions in our expectations of wheat, flour, maize, and cottonseed from abroad.

Actual quantities of wheat are:—

Californian	555,000 qr.
American	390,000 ,,
Russian	65,000 ,,
Indian	316,000 ,,
Argentine	70,000 ,,
Australian	300,000 ,,
Various	50,000 ,,
	1,746,000 ,,

Of barley 510,000 qr. are on passage, of oats 100,000 qr., of maize 610,000 qr., of linseed 80,000 qr., of rapeseed 11,000 qr., of cottonseed 40,000 tons, and of rice, 19,500 tons. There are scarcely any supplies of beans and peas in sight.

The American shipments last week were 452,000 qr. of wheat, 116,000 sacks of flour, and 121,000 qr. of maize. No shipments of oats or barley were reported.

The Argentine shipments were 19,000 qr. of wheat, 76,000 qr. of maize, 11,000 qr. of linseed, and 9,000 qr. of oats.

Russia is beginning to feel the nip of winter, but out of fifteen leading ports ten are still open, and from them were shipped 101,000 qr. of wheat, 37,000 qr. of rye, 211,000 qr. of barley, 95,000 qr. of oats, and 70,000 qr. of maize; to which may be added Roumania's exports of 92,000 qr. of wheat, 47,000 qr. of barley, and 80,000 qr. of maize.

India shipped 41,000 qr. of wheat and 22,000 qr. of linseed, but no wheat was exported by Australia, and other non-shippers were Chili, Persia, and Asia Minor. All barley shipments from the Turkish Empire are forbidden as the yield was decidedly short, and the local needs are expected to absorb all that has not already been exported.

THE BALTIC.

Saturday, 2 p.m.

Sale of wheat cargoes have been quiet, but the tone is not depressed. Recent days' transactions include White Karachi wheat at 38s. 3d. per 492 lb., Red at 38s. 3d. (this is rare, white usually is 6d. to 1s. dearer than red) same weight; Australian at 43s. per 480 lb., No. 2 Red Winter at 7s. 6d. per cental, No. 1 Northern Manitoba at 8s. 8d. per cental, No. 2 Hard Winter at 7s. 9d. per cental, La Plata at 38s. 6d. per 480 lb., and Odessa Ghurka at 42s. per 492 lb.

Sales of maize have been difficult, and the trade closed the week in buyers' favour. Prices made included 5s. 5d. per cental for American, 5s. 7d. for Cinquantina, 5s. 6d. for Novorossisk, and 5s. 4d. for White African. In Odessa 25s. 6d. per 480 lb. was paid, and 25s. per 480 lb. La Plata, but these prices would not have been obtainable had there been need of prompt resales.

Other cargo sales of the week have comprised Novorossisk barley at 25s. per 400 lb., Odessa barley at 25s. 3d. per 400 lb., Black Libau oats at 16s. 9d. per 304 lb., Argentine oats at 16s. 3d. per 288 lb., Larache beans at 31s. 6d. per 480 lb., brown Calcutta rapeseed at 51s. per 416 lb., Argentine linseed at 39s. 6d. per 4s. 6d. lb., and Egyptian cottonseed at £6 18s. 9d. per ton.

Arrivals of cargoes off coast from January 1 to December 7 were:—

	1907.	1906.
Wheat	253	251
Maize	28	5
Barley	8	6
Linseed	18	27

These are arrivals of whole and undivided cargoes, but there is an increasing tendency to ship mixed cargoes divided into convenient "parcels" of 200 to 1,000 tons.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—Once more we have to report a continuance of the very bad trade at all London points. It is not so much a matter of price as to do business holders are quite willing to make concessions, but there is almost an entire absence of demand. All classes and kinds of stuffs are in good supply, and values all round are a great deal weaker. Best clovers and mixtures have dropped away, and are now quoted 2s 6d ton lower. Best hays are also much weaker, while plain and common sorts of all kinds are a positive glut, and difficult to realise at any price.

It looks as if we are in for a spell of very bad trade, and the likelihood is that things will not improve until after the New Year, as there seems little hope of supplies diminishing until then, farmers being now more inclined to sell, and we hear of large consignments coming forward between now and Christmas. Straw, for the moment, is in rather shorter supply, and full prices are obtainable. The trade for foreign hays is almost dead; shipments keep dribbling in, and importers are at their wits' end to find customers, as demand for this class of stuff has fallen completely away.

Prices ruling are about as follows:—English: Best hays, 67s 6d to 70s per ton; good, 60s to 65s per ton; plain hays, 55s to 57s 6d per ton; best clovers, 80s per ton; good clovers, 75s to 77s 6d per ton; inferior clovers, 70s to 72s 6d per ton; best mixtures, 80s per ton; good mixtures, 75s to 77s 6d per ton; plain mixtures, 65s to 72s 6d per ton; seconds hays, clovers, and mixtures, 45s to 55s per ton; wheat straw, 26s to 28s per load; barley straw, 25s to 27s per load; oat straw, 26s to 27s per load. All ex rail London. Foreign: Canadian mixture, none; first quality Dutch hay, 60s per ton; second quality Dutch hay, 55s per ton. French clover, 75s per ton. These prices are by the barge load delivered alongside a London Thames wharf.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £13 15s to £14 5s; half-bred hoggs, £12 10s to £13; ditto wethers, £12 to £12 10s; Kent fleeces, £12 0s to £12 5s; South Down ewes and wethers, £13 10s to £14; Leicester ewes and wethers, £11 10s to £12. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., scoured super., 2s to 2s 2d; scoured, good, 1s 10d to 2s; scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average, 1s to 1s 1d; S. Aus., greasy, average, 10d to 11d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; greasy, average, 11d to 1s; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9d to 1s 10d; fleece, average, 9d to 10d; greasy, average, 8d to 8½d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy average, 8d to 8½d. Crossbreds—grs.—Vic., good to super., 1s 2d to 1s 3d; New Zealand fine, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; medium, 11d to 1s; coarse, 9d to 10d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Fall in prices has brought trade to a standstill. Staplers only offer 10½d for Kent fleeces, and growers disinclined to sell at this figure. Halfbreds and Downs in a little better demand at last week's rates.

Seven Years Grain Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 10d. per 480 lb.
Barley	25s. 4d. per 400 lb.
Oats	18s. 11d. per 312 lb.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English steady, quiet. Whites quoted 36s to 40s; reds, 35s to 38s 6d. Foreign slow sale at 3d to 6d decline. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, held at 43s 9d to 44s; No. 2 at 43s 6d; No. 1 Durum, 37s 3d; choice white Karachi at 38s 9d. Flour steady, quiet. Maize steadily held, but inactive. Mixed American, ex ship, held at 26s; white Natal, landed, at 26s 9d; River Plate, ex ship, at 25s; landed, 26s; Odessa, ex ship, to arrive, at 25s 3d; landed at 25s 9d. Barley slow, but quiet. Azoff-Black Sea and Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted at 23s 6d; landed at 24s; Persian, ex ship, 21s 6d; landed at 22s. Oats slow, with an easier tendency. River Plate, landed, quoted at 18s 3d; South Russian 17s 6d to 18s.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat: English steadily held at full prices, but demand slow; whites quoted at 36s to 40s; reds at 35s to 38s 6d. Foreign rather firmer tone, but only in small demand; No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, held at 44s 3d; No. 2 at 43s 6d; No. 1 Durum at 37s 6d; choice white Kurachi at 39s. Flour firm, but quiet; Hungarians quoted at 39s 6d to 40s 6d; Iron Dukes at 27s 6d to 28s. Maize dull; Odessa, ex ship, offered at 25s, landed at 25s 6d; mixed American, ex ship, held at quite 26s; River Plate, ex ship, at 25s; old crop landed at 26s. Barley rather steadier; Odessa-Nicolaieff and Azoff-Black Sea, ex ship, quoted at 23s 6d, landed at 24s. Oats firm, but quiet; River Plate held at 17s 9d to 18s; South Russian (38 lb) at 17s 6d to 18s.

COUNTRY.

Appleby, Saturday. — Inquiries for good samples. White oats (horse corn), 20s to 23s 6d per 26 stones.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade generally was rather firmer for most sorts of corn; heavy samples of wheat were out of condition, but the best were quoted as 34s to 37s; best English barley made 30s to 31s; secondary 28s to 29s; foreign grinding barley, 26s; mazagan beans, 28s to 29s; tick beans, 32s to 34s; maize rather cheapor, 28s to 29s; peas, 31s to 32s; black oats, 18s to 21s; white, 18s to 28s. Flour unchanged.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, white (new), 35s to 36s per qr; wheat, red (new), 35s to 36s per qr; barley, 25s to 30s per qr; beans (new), 29s to 31s per qr; oats, 18s to 22s per qr; peas, 30s to 34s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—Average attendance, with a good show of grain. Prices of barley and fine samples of oats remain unaltered; weathered and inferior oats lower. Barley, 21s to 33s 6d; oats, 17s to 28s per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Large attendance here; trade generally quiet. Foreign wheats were from 3d to 6d per qr lower on the week. English ranged from 13s to 14s per 186 lb delivered. Bessarabian maize 6d lower, and Galatz-Foxonian 3d. Grinding barley was 3d down at 24s per 400 lb at Sharpness. English oats made from 19s 6d to 20s 6d per 312 lb., and beans 13s per 196 lb delivered.

Brighton, Thursday.—Quiet trade and small attendance. Wheat in good supply and condition better; prices firm and unchanged. Barley, 28s to 33s; grinding ditto, 24s to 25s; oats, English, 18s to 21s; peas, 33s to 34s; beans, 32s to 33s.

Bristol, Thursday.—Our market was well attended to-day. English wheat was in moderate supply at about last week's prices. Foreign wheat 3d to 6d lower. Maize 3d down. Barley unchanged, with a rather better feeling prevailing. Oats 6d decline. Flour trade still dull, recent prices being maintained.—Grace Bros.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—A small attendance, and a smaller supply on offer. Wheats made late rates, and the same may be said of barleys, though the demand was slower, and the supply moderate. Ordinary samples made 30s to 32s, and good up to 34s. Feeding stuffs, &c., at about late rates.

Cambridge, Saturday.—Wheat was in small supply; price unaltered on the week, up to 37s 6d 504 lb into the mill. Beans a turn easier, making up to 31s 6d per 532 lb for splitters. Barley in fair supply; but prices are a little weaker. Oats in good supply, and prices unchanged.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Prices seem steadier, and there is a little more business doing. Wheat samples, seeding 64 lb to the bushel, are selling at 36s delivered and 35s 6d fetched from the farm. The values of barley range from 28s 6d to 32s. A fair inquiry for oats at 21s for 43 lb and 18s 6d for 39 lb; old oats up to 23s. Grey peas range from 30s to 31s, and up to 33s for extra choice quality. Tick beans, 31s to 32s; mazagans, 29s to 30s; and old beans, 30s per qr.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Usual supply of oats in our market to-day, rather worse trade for inferior quality. Good oats, 24s; secondary, 23s per 336 lb. Wheat slow trade, 39s per qr 504 lb. Several lots of inferior barley made 28s per 448 lb. Bran, grains, and pollards good trade. Weather not good for thrashing last week.—Thomas Robinson.

Chester, Saturday.—The demand for English grain is quiet, and prices favour buyers. Barley and beans sparingly offered, with little inquiry; mixed and round maize easier. Offals in better supply, with a tendency against sellers. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 5s 2d to 5s 4d per 75 lb; grinding barley, 3s 10d to 4s per 64 lb; oats, new, 2s 8d to 2s 10d; old, 3s 1d to 3s 6d per 46 lb; Indian corn, 14s 3d to 14s 6d per 240 lb; round corn, old, 14s to 15s 6d per 240 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—A good attendance and fair trade. New white wheat, 36s to 37s; new red ditto, 36s to 37s; barley, 29s to 35s; grinding ditto, 24s 6d to 25s 6d; oats, English, 19s to 22s 6d; peas, 34s to 35s; beans, 33s to 34s; tares, 5s to 5s 6d; maize, 25s to 27s; flour, 28s to 32s.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat firm on the week, 37s 6d to 38s. Oats and beans steady. Barley quiet. — Colin Taylor, King and Co., Ltd.

Coventry, Friday. — Attendance was fairly good. Wheat soown pretty freely, and prices may be quoted the same as last week. Oats were a shade lower. Beans about held late values. Barley quite neglected, and the turn in sellers' favour. Quotations:—Wheat, 13s to 14s per 186 lb; barley, 30s to 34s per 448 lb; oats, old, 24s 6d to 27s per 352 lb; new, 21s to 23s 6d; beans, old, 13s 3d to 14s; new, 12s 3d to 13s 3d per 196 lb; peas, 12s 6d to 15s per 196 lb.

Derby, Friday.—Wheat was in fair supply, and prices remain unchanged; spring corn sold at late rates. Wheat, 36s to 37s; red, 35s to 36s; barley, malting, 29s to 32s; grinding, 25s to 27s; beans, new, 35s to 36s; oats, old, 24s to 26s; new, 21s to 22s.

Devizes, Thursday.—Wheat again in small supply, and the condition of many of the samples was not good. Wheat and barley a slow trade at late rates. Black oats again cheaper, being 1s per qr down since they reached their highest point. White Gartons realise 1s more than blacks. Best old wheat, 20s to 21s; best new wheat, 18s to 19s; secondary, 16s to 18s; malting barley, 29s to 33s; grinding barley, 26s to 28s; old oats, 22s to 24s; winter oats, 18s to 19s; white Garton oats (330 lb), 18s 6d to 19s 6d; black Tartar oats (320 lb), 18s to 19s; beans, 17s to 18s; fine flour, 31s to 32s; extra fine, 33s to 38s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Very small supply of English wheat, and trade slow, though good and dry samples sold readily, and made fully last week's prices, fetching 13s 6d to 14s per load. A steadier tone marked the foreign trade, late rates prevailing. A fairly good show of barley, but prices were lower, and from 6d to 1s per qr down. Good supply of oats, and 6d to 1s per qr cheaper, prices ranging from 18s to 20s. For maize 3d per qr less had to be accepted.

Dorchester, Saturday.—There was a fairly good offer of samples at to-day's corn market, despite the unfavourable character of the weather for threshing the greater part of the week. However, it was fine and dry to-day and a little colder, and this gave some little tone to business, which, however, was generally inactive, with a tendency if anything to lower values, though hardly to a quotable extent, both English and foreign, as a rule, bringing last week's rates, though buyers bought very reluctantly just to cover hand-to-mouth requirements. Malting barley, if at all serviceable, realised recent rates; but feeding barley, as a rule, was 3d per qr dearer. Maize slow, and full values not easy to realise. Oats also rather favoured buyers. Beans and peas very firm as all through, scarcity keeping prices buoyant. Flour generally inactive, and late prices were only with difficulty obtainable.

Exeter, Friday.—Rather small attendance, and trade quiet. English wheat firm, foreign unchanged. Barley a shade easier. Maize 3d cheaper. A weak tendency for orts. Flour unchanged. English wheat, 4s 6d; English barley, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; superfine flour, 32s to 34s; fines, 30s to 32s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Moderate attendance at to-day's market. Wheat quiet, and easier. Flour in poor demand at nominally unchanged values. Maize and corn steady, and to day's prices show an advance of 3d per boll on both. Oats quiet, and favouring buyers for both home and foreign. Barley steady at late rates. Beans quiet, and cheaper. Pease, none on the spot. Bran and thirds unaltered. Oatmeal a very poor sale at reduced prices.—Gibson and Clark.

Gloucester, Saturday.—English wheat in fair supply, with a lower tendency: Reds, 34s 6d to 35s 6d; whites, 36s to 36s 6d per qr. Foreign wheat occasionally 6d cheaper: Plates, 42s to 43s; Russians, 41s 6d to 42s 6d. Maize 3d cheaper: Plates, 25s 6d; flat 26s 6d; Bessarabian, 26s. Barley unchanged at 24s 3d. Oats unchanged: Black, 18s to 19s 6d; white, 19s 6d to 21s.

Grantham, Saturday.—Small show of wheat, and an average supply in other departments. Wheat made 35s to 36s 6d; barley, 26s to 33s; oats, 19s to 21s; beans, 29s to 32s; blue peas up to 30s per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday. — A rather small attendance. Moderate supply of wheats, with trade dull, and in some cases 1d per bushel below last week. Barley a moderate supply, but buyers warily operate at reduced prices. Oats 1d per qr easier. Maize 3d to 6d per qr easier. Beans slow, without change in prices.

Ipswich, Tuesday. — Moderate supply of wheat; trade firm, at fully last week's prices. Reds, 36s to 37s; white to 38s per 504 lb. A large supply of barley, and trade for all descriptions quiet, at barely late rates. Oats rather easier. Maize quiet. Beans and peas unaltered.

Leeds, Friday.—With better supplies of English and foreign wheat, prices were steady at about Tuesday's rates. Flour was about 6d per bag easier, except for finest runs, which remained firm. Maize was steady, Plate making 25s to 26s, and Odessa and American a little under. Foreign malting barley was the turn dearer. English was at barely late prices. Peas, beans, and oats were unchanged.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good attendance of buyers and dealers with moderate supplies of home-grown wheats, which came to hand in valuable condition. Dry samples firm; inferior irregular. Red wheats, 33s to 38s; white wheats, 36s to 39s per 36 stones; bright samples of barley in fair demand at 28s to 32s per 32 stones; oats steady at 19s to 22s per 24 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—There was a moderate show of English wheat, trade firm at last week's full prices. Little inquiry for foreign. Barleys firm at lase rates, with a better inquiry for best qualities. Oats a slow trade, and 6d per qr easier.

Manchester, Thursday.—Market ruled slow. English wheat showed little change, and trade ruled dull. Foreign was about 1d per cental lower on the week. Foreign in poor demand. Maize about ½d per cental lower. Foreign barley easier. English oats about 1d per bushel lower. Beans and peas steady. Bran and offals scarce.

Newark, Wednesday.—A fair attendance; trade dull. Prices easy; more samples showing, many in damp condition. White and red wheat, 35s 6d to 36s; malting barley, 29s to 30s; grinding barley, 26s to 27s; white oats, 18s 6d to 19s 6d; black ditto, 18s to 19s 6d; old beans, 36s to 37s; new ditto, 39s to 31s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday. — A dull trade for wheat at our to-day's market at unchanged prices. A fair consumptive demand for maize at last Saturday's quotations. Oats slightly in the favour of buyers for good dry samples; soft qualities difficult to dispose of. Beans and peas steady with a fair inquiry. Barley was in fair demand at last week's prices.—Joseph Pollard and Co.

Newport, Wednesday.—Trade was rather quiet, and prices were unchanged.

Northampton, Saturday.—The attendance was again a moderate one, and the wheat trade was not very brisk, only a small supply being shown, which sold at last week's prices. Oats and bean trade very quiet, with prices unchanged, whilst barley was hardly ever asked for. Prices: Wheat, 35s to 36s; barley, 25s to 30s; white oats, 18s to 21s; black oats, 18s to 20s 6d; beans, 30s to 32s; flour, 31s to 35s 6d.

Norwich, Saturday. — Wheat continued to be offered very sparingly, and prices were 6d per qr dearer through scarcity, 38s delivered being paid. Barley was a fair supply, and there was no alteration in prices. There was a fair demand for feeding stuffs at unaltered prices.

Nottingham, Saturday. — Wheat, small supply from growers, mostly in poor condition; trade slow at previous rates. Inquiry for good barleys, which make full prices. Oats but few offering, values unchanged. Beans firm. —Robt. Hubble.

Peterborough, Saturday.—Only a small show of wheat again, and trade was quiet at late rates. Barley a slow trade. Oats more showing, and could be bought at a little less money. Wheat, 36s to 37s; barley, 27s to 34s; oats, 18s 6d to 20s.—Thomas Hill and Son.

Plymouth, Thursday. — There was a poor attendance on our market here to-day. Maize and barley unchanged. Oats 3d cheaper. Wheat 6d cheaper.—Orlando Davis and Co

Preston, Saturday.—Although there was a fairly good attendance, farmers' wheat and oats were neglected, and less money would have to be taken to do business. Flour unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 15s 6d to 16s per windle of 220 lb; ditto red, 14s 6d to 15s; oats,

old, 3s 8d to 3s 9d per bushel; ditto, new, 3s 2d to 3s 3d; beans, 16s 6d to 17s per windle of 220 lb.

Reading, Saturday.—The attendance was hardly up to average, with not a large disposition to trade. The following represent prices of sales or parcels held:—Wheat, 34s to 38s; malting barley, 27s to 34s; oats, new, 17s 6d to 22s; old ditto, 21s to 23s; peas, 30s to 32s; beans, 33s to 37s; specially-picked hay, 85s per ton; best clover, 80s to 85s; straw, 28s to 32s per load.

Retford, Saturday.—Wheat firm, and a good trade at 35s 6d per qr. Good malting barley sold at 30s to 31s; medium, 28s to 29s 6d; and grinding 27s per qr. Oats continued slow at 18s to 19s for black; white, 19s to 20s; and old oats, 25s per qr. Maize, 28s 6d; new English beans, 30s; old ditto, 38s; and peas, 30s per qr.

Ripon, Thursday.—Poor attendance of farmers. Both English and foreign wheat show a decline in price. No maize on offer. Prices:—New wheat, 35s to 36s; foreign wheat, 45s to 47s; barley, grinding, 25s. to 26s; ditto malting, 28s to 32s; new oats, 19s to 20s 6d; old oats, 26s; maize, round, 27s to 26s 6d per qr; bran, £5 15s to £6 5s per ton.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—With stocks of grain showing a considerable increase at the ports, buyers are holding back, and a small trade only is passing. Foreign wheats dull and slightly easier, but English was in good request at about 6d. per qr. improvement on the week. Maize, beans, oats, and barley all unchanged from last week's prices. Quotations: Wheat, white, new, 38s to 38s 6d; ditto red, new, 38s to 38s 6d per 504 lb; oats, new, 20s to 21s per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 36s to 36s 6d; ditto blue, new, 75s to 90s per 504 lb; beans, English, 36s 6d to 37s per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 28s to 30s; ditto malting, 28s to 32s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 27s 9d to 28s; ditto Plate, 27s 3d to 27s 6d; ditto flat, 30s to 30s 6d per 480 lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Wheat, 15s to 15s 6d per 225 lb; old oats, 16s to 17s per 225 lb; new oats, 12s 6d to 14s; barley, 18s to 20s per 280 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—No appreciable change in to-day's prices. Malting barley was in demand, and made up to 33s per qr; grinding barley, 25s to 26s; wheat, 35s to 35s 6d; oats, 18s 6d to 19s; beans, 30s to 31s per qr. Peas quiet.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Local wheat made 34s to 36s 6d per qr. A slow trade in foreign wheat, and prices showed a decline of 6d on the week. Oats and maize quiet and unchanged. Small show of malting barley; best qualities maintained their prices of last week, but common qualities were slightly lower.

Warwick, Saturday.—Moderate attendancee: little grain offering. Prices depreciating, and condition generally of grain very bad, especially beans and wheat. All grain about 6d per qr lower on the week. Feeding stuffs about the same.

Winchester, Saturday.—English wheat in short supply and last week's prices fully maintained. Foreign unaltered. Barley occasionally 6d cheaper. Oats and maize unchanged. Flour a steady trade, late rates.—FEAR, COLEBROOK, AND CO., LTD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Very small supplies of grain at market. Wheat, 36s 6d to 37s per 504 lb; barley, 28s to 30s per 448 lb; oats, 19s 6d to 20s 6d per 336 lb.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Very large attendance, and a moderate show of grain, except oats, which were a big supply. Wheat, 36s to 37s; red wheat, 35s 6d to 36s 6d; best malting barley, 31s to 33s; secondary qualities, 29s to 31s; grinding barley, 27s to 28s; white oats, 19s to 21s; black oats, 18s to 20s; maize, 28s 6d to 30s per qr.

Yeovil, Friday.—Prices for wheat tended lower, foreign being down 3d, but barley was firmly held. Oats sold at 3d per qr below last week, and maize also favoured buyers. A few parcels of old wheat made from 40s to 42s 6d per qr; new season's wheat of best quality, 37s to 38s; secondary, 32s 6d to 36s; grinding barley, foreign, 24s 6d to 25s; malting barley, 29s to 32s; secondary, 26s to 28s; grinding, home grown, 25s to 27s 6d; oats, Irish black, 18s to 18s 6d; black Tartary, 18s 6d to 19s 6d; white Gartons, 18s 6d to 19s 6d; old oats, 22s 6d to 24s; beans, 35s to 36s; round maize, 25s 3d to 26s 3d; ditto flat, 27s 6d; vetches, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per bushel. The trade in flour was firmer, fines makes selling at from 31s to 32s per sack; extra fine, 33s to 38s. Feeding stuffs continue to sell well at prices which favour sellers.

York, Saturday.—Dry samples of wheat sold slowly at last week's prices, and other sorts were difficult to sell. Fine white, 37s to 38s; red and mixed, 36s to 37s per qr. of 36 stones. Malting barley was firm for anything good, but there was too much common offering. Fine made 30s to 32s; good, 28s to 30s; and other sorts, 26s to 28s per qr of 32 stones. Oats were 6d lower, and not easy to dispose of. White Gartons, 20s to 20s 6d; black ditto, 19s 6d to 20 per qr of 24 stones. Rye, 28s to 29s; and old beans, 35s to 36s per qr of 36 stones.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday. — Weather mild and damp. Trade quiet, there being but little demand from the interior and prices of all articles tend slightly in buyers' favour. Light German wheat is offering at 32s to 35s, fine heavy at 37s to 38s per 504 lb.; American hard winter No. 2 has been taken for the North at 36s 9d to 37s; red winter No. 2 is offering at 37s 3d; Macaroni No. 1 at 35s 6d; 80 ko Barletta Russo Jan./Feb. from the River Plate at 36s 9d per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Rye quiet. 9 10/15 Taganrog on the spot is selling at 35s 3d to 35s 6d per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Offers of foreign rye are scarce, but native is coming forward more freely. Malting barley firm; Holstein, Mecklenburg, and Russian is selling at 36s to 41s including duty, Danish is held at 31s to 33s, Bohemian and Slovakian at 36s to 40s per 448 lb. Grinding barley quiet; 60/61 ko South Russian, December, 22s 9d; January-March, 23s 3d per 400 lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Dry white Holstein and Pomeranian oats are held at 20s 3d to 21s per 336 lb c.i.f. Odessa maize, January shipment, is offering at 24s 6d; River Plate, May-June, at 24s 3d; mixed American, January-March, at 24s 6d per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda is now quoted on the spot £11 2s. 6d. to £11 5s. Kainit and phosphates are in fair demand at late rates. The trade in feeding stuffs is a disappointing one, and no improvement in the consumptive demand has resulted from the reduced prices of the past week or so, nor likely to be so until the new year. Market continues bare of American decorticated cotton cake. Feeding treacle continues to meet a fair demand.

	£ s d	£ s d
	Per ton.	
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (prime)	—	—
Cottonseed Cake Meal	—	—
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, soft (poor colour)	8 0 0	8 5 0
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime	4 16 3	5 0 0
Cottonseed Cake, English, semi-decorticated, prime	7 0 0	—
Cottonseed, crushed, 20 per cent. oil guaranteed	8 10 0	—
Linseed Cake, American, thin oblong, prime	7 15 0	7 17 6
,, ,, English	8 5 0	8 10 0
,, ,, Foreign Round	7 17 6	8 0 0
Palm Nut Cake	6 5 0	—
Maize Germ Meal	—	—
Indian Meal, coarse to fine grinding	Per 240 lb. —	—
Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported	Per ton. —	—
	Per qr., 416 lb.	
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2 12 6	2 15 0
	Per Gallon.	
Cod-liver Oil, cattle feeding	0 4 0	—
	Per Cwt.	
Treacle, feeding, American	0 4 9	0 4 10½
	Per ton.	
Nitrate of Soda	11 5 0	—
Kainit, prime	2 7 6	—
Bone Meal, prime	5 7 6	5 10 0
Bone Ash	3 15 0	—
Basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed	1 14 0	1 15 0
,, ,,	2 2 0	2 3 0
,, finest ,,	2 6 0	2 7 6
D.N.S. Superphosphate of Brand Lime*	2 5 0	2 7 0
,, ,, guaranteed*	2 10 0	2 12 0
,, ,, ,, *	3 1 3	3 3 3

* At depots inland.

—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cake: There is a distinctly better feeling in the trade, and with an increased consumptive demand, values show signs of improving, while already home manufacturers have advanced their limits 2s 6d per ton. Russian meet a steady inquiry. East India seed pures to arrive are 2s 6d less money. Fine seedy Calcuttas command last week's prices. London made attract considerably more attention, being relatively cheaply offered. Cotton Cake.—The market is well supplied with shipments of Egyptian, which, however, find a dull sale even at the reduced price, while English remain quiet but steady. Decorticated.—London made pures continue in good request, with American brands unchanged. Rape cakes do not offer. Maize Germ Meal.—White African and American meals are quoted unaltered, but there are sellers of English makes at slightly less money for immediate removal. Maize Gluten Feed moves off freely. Rice Meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon command full prices, and second-hand steamer parcels afloat are available at a slight advance. Locust Beans remain good value. Dried Brewers' Grains are scarce and dear. Nitrate of soda is without alteration.

	£ s d	£ s d
Russian, in mats (ex dock)	7 11 3	to 7 12 6
,, in bags	7 13 9	to 7 15 0
East India	7 7 6	—
Calcutta	7 15 0	—
London Made	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian	4 13 9	to 4 15 0
English (ex mill)	4 15 0	to 4 17 6
Bombay	4 7 6	
Decorticated, London made	7 15 0	—
,, American	7 5 0	to 7 10 0
,, Meal, American	7 5 0	to 7 10 0
,, Meal, English	7 15 0	—
Special Digestive Meal	5 5 0	—
RAPE CAKES.		
East India	—	—
Ravison	—	—
MAIZE.		
African c.i.f.	6 12 6	to 6 15 0
English	6 13 9	to 6 16 3
Maize Gluten Meal	7 0 0	—
RICEMEAL.		
Rangoon ex whf.	5 10 0	to 5 12 6
,, ex ship	5 3 9	to 5 5 0
LOCUST BEANS.		
Whole	5 10 0	
Kibbled	5 15 0	
DRIED BREWERS' GRAINS.		
Ale	5 15 0	
Mixed	5 10 0	
MANURES.		
Nitrate of soda	11 2 6	

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Good supplies; in fair demand. Pheasants, 5s to 5s 6d; young grouse, 6s; old, 3s; young partridges, 5s; old, 2s 6d; black game, 3s to 3s 6d per brace; geese, 5s to 6s 6d; country ducks, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; wild ducks, 1s 6d to 2s; Surrey fowls, 3s to 4s 3d; Sussex fowls, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 3s; Essex fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Irish fowls, 1s 9d to 2s 3d; quails, 1s to 1s 8d; feathered pigeons, 7d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s 1d; English hares, 3s to 3s 6d; leverets, 2s; Scottish hares, 1s 6d; tame rabbits, 1s 4d to 1s 10d; wild rabbits, 6d to 10d; live hens, 1s 8d to 2s each; Australian rabbits, 5s to 6s 9d per dozen; turkeys, 7½d to 8d per lb.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Heavy supplies of imported fruit, demand being brisk and prices moderate. Vegetables in fairly good supply, at about late rates. Quotations for English produce:—Grapes, 10d to 5s; pears (English Comice), 2s to 4s per dozen; medlars, 3s to 3s 6d per crate; apples (Cox's orange), 4s to 9s per half bushel; ditto (Oregon Newtowns), 10s 6d to 13s; cranberries, 8s to 10s per case; peaches, 3s to 12s per dozen; tomatoes, 4s to 5s per 12 lb; cobnuts, 4s per 12 lb; Brazil nuts, 55s to 60s per cwt; chestnuts (Redon), 7s to 10s 6d per bag; walnuts (Grenoble), 4s to 8s per bag; spinach, 2s to 2s 6d; sprouts, 1s 9d to 2s; beetroot, 1s 6d per bushel; onions, 4s to 5s per cwt; cucumbers, 2s 6d to 4s 6d; endive, 1s to 1s 6d per dozen; celery, 5s to 12s; horseradish, 10s to 15s per dozen bundles; leeks, 1s 6d; potatoes, 75s to 110s per ton.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday. — Arrivals small, and trade limited. Holders were willing to make concessions to effect sales. Cheddars, 60s to 64s per cwt; Dunlops, 54s to 62s. Canadian cheese slow of sale; prices, 60s to 61s.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—A large attendance of buyers, general advance in prices, and all cleared. The whole of the cheese exhibited on the previous day was sold, and good prices obtained. Best Caerphilly dairies realised up to 63s 6d per cwt; secondary dairies, 61s 6d to 63s; and other dairies, 58s 6d to 60s. A few inferior lots failed to reach 53s. Cheddars, 67s to 70s 6d; truckles, 66s to 77s; doubles, 53s to 60s.

Newport, Wednesday.—Fair supply, good demand, average attendance. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 52s to 55s per cwt; fancy dairies, 62s to 63s; Derbys, 68s to —; truckles, 62s to 65s; Cheddars, 63s to 65s.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 p.m.

If Monday were a shilling day at Islington, Mark Lane, prior to the Smithfield opening at 2 p.m., would be thronged, indeed. Even as it is, "the five-shilling people" are not an insignificant addition to the Corn Exchange attendance, and the tone of business is improved, with a general increase of animation. Wheat to-day was the turn easier for American and Canadian sorts, which constituted the bulk of the new arrivals, but English, Russian, and Australian descriptions were firm at full prices. Argentine pending new crop shipments is hardly obtainable, and Californian, though a fair supply is on passage, is also scarce on spot.

Indian sorts slightly favoured buyers. Barley was a steady trade in English; 30s was about a medium quotation. Foreign was neglected. Oats were unchanged; the newly arrived South African made 17s 3d per qr; weight is light and the grade low. Some beans from Morocco sold as low as 29s, but supply is not enough to affect the chief sorts. Peas rather favoured sellers, but maize was 6d cheaper to buy, and not in much request even then.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

December 9.

WHEAT,	White .....(per 504 lb.)	36	— 39
	Red ..... ,,	35	— 38
BARLEY,	Malting .....(per 448 lb.)	35	— 37
	Brewing ..... ,,	33	— 35
	Distilling .....(per 416 lb.)	31	— 32
	New Winter .. (per 400 lb.)	27	— 29
	Feeding.....(per 400 lb.)	27	— 28
MALT,	Pale (New).....(per 336 lb.)	39	— 41
	Brown ,, ... ,,	33	— 34
	Black ,, ... ,,	34	— 36
OATS,	Good Old ..... ,,	22	— 23
	Good New..... ,,	21	— 22
	New Winter ..... ,,	20	— 21
	Ordinary Old ...(per 320 lb.)	21	— 22
	Ordinary New ...(per 320 lb.)	20	— 21
	,, ,, ...(per 312 lb.)	19	— 20
RYE, New	.....(per 480 lb.)	30	— 31
BEANS,	Pigeon .....(per 532 lb.)	42	— 44
	Tick .....(per 504 lb.)	35	— 36
	Winter ..... ,,	34	— 35
	Spring ..... ,,	33	— 34
	Split Mazagan .....(per 320 lb.)	23	— 24
PEAS,	Picked Marrowfat, New (per 504 lb.)	84	— 88
	Unpicked (Old) ..... ,,	52	— 56
	Maple (Old)..... ,,	37	— 38
	(New) ..... ,,	36	— 37
	Dun (Old)..... ,,	33	— 35
	(New) ..... ,,	34	— 35

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba	43	— 44	American ...	26/0	—26/3
Red Winter ...	41	— 42	Argentine ...	25/9	—26/0
Best Spring ...	43	— 44	Roumanian ...	25 9	—26/0
Durum	38	— 39	Russian	25/6	—25/9
Argentine	42	— 43	Cinquantina...	26/6	—27/6
Australian ...	44	— 46	South African.	26/6	—26/9
Californian ...	44	— 45	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Walla Walla	43	— 44	Smyrna	37	— 38
Azima	44	— 45	New Zealand...	35	— 36
Ghirka	42	— 43	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Roumanian ...	42	— 43	Hungarian	62	— 64
Indian White	40	— 41	Burmese	37	— 39
,, Red ...	39	— 40	Chilian	56	— 64
Turkish	38	— 39	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb):		
Persian	38	— 39	French	29	— 31
BARLEY:			Russian	31	— 32
C'lifor'n(448 lb)	None.		Canadian	33	— 34
Tunisian(448 lb)	35	— 36	PEAS (504 lb.):		
Algerian (448 lb)	34	— 35	Dutch Crowns	56	— 58
Russian (400 lb)	24	— 25	Konigsberg ...	45	— 47
Indian(400 lb)...	23	— 24	Russian White	37	— 38
Persian (400 lb)	22	— 23	Indian White.	37	— 38
MALT (336 lb.):			Canadian White	37	— 38
Californian ...	38	— 39	Victoria Dun.	34	— 35
Smyrna	40	— 41	MILLET (416 lb.):		
Ouchak	39	— 40	White	44	— 46
RYE (480 lb.):			Yellow	24	— 26
Russian	30	— 31	Sorghum	22	— 23
OATS:			RICE (cwt.):		
Konigsbg(320 lb)	21	— 22	Indian	17	— 20
Russian (304 lb)	18	— 19	Burmese.....	9	— 10
Canadian(320 lb)	21	— 22	Siamese	8	— 9
Argentine (304 lb)	18	— 19	DARI (480 lb.):		
Swedish (320 lb)	21	— 22	Indian	28	— 29
NewZ'l'n'd(384 lb)	25	—26	Persian	24	— 25

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 p.m

There are no changes to-day in the prices asked for the chief types of flour. A rather improved business is doing at the values of the 2nd inst.

Bran, middlings, and pollard show a slight inclination to favour buyers, and where concessions are made, purchasing is stimulated. Whole meal at 247s per ton for best has only a small sale.

Hungarian flour may be quoted as below for to-day, but it is possible that terms will be raised 1s. next Monday.

Potato flour sells steadily at £11 10s. per ton for finest.

Locust bean flour is rather in request at £7 5s. per ton.

Operators naturally comment on the fact that flour is now rather cheaper in Paris than in London despite an import duty of 10s. per sack on all foreign flour coming into France.

London Flour.

December 9.

Top Price.....(per sack of 280 lb.)	37/0	
Town Whites ..... ,,	33/6	
,, Households ..... ,,	30/6	
No. 2..... ,,	29/6	
Whole Meal No. 1..... ,,	31/6	
,, No. 2..... ,,	29/6	

Country Flour.	s.	s.
Fine Patents .....(per sack of 280 lb.)	29	— 30
Roller Whites ..... ,,	27	— 28
All English ..... ,,	27	— 28
Stone made ..... ,,	26	— 27

Foreign Flour.	s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents(per sack of 280 lb.)	32	— 33
,, Second Patents ..... ,,	31	— 32
,, First Bakers' ..... ,,	27	— 28
,, Second Bakers' ..... ,,	26	— 27
Milwaukee Patents ..... ,,	31	— 32
,, Bakers'..... ,,	26	— 28
Canadian Best..... ,,	32	— 33
,, Ordinary ..... ,,	30	— 31
Manitoba Patents ..... ,,	32	— 33
,, Ordinary ..... ,,	30	— 31
Kansas Patents ..... ,,	30	— 31
,, Ordinary..... ,,	28	— 29
Californian ..... ,,	31	— 32
Belgian ..... ,,	36	— 37
Hungarian (net prices)—		
Five Stars ..... ,,	40/0	
G.G.O. ..... ,,	39/0	
P.W.M..... ,,	37/6	
Six Anchors..... ,,	None	

Meal, &c.	s.	s.
Bran, London Broad (per sack of 280 lb.)	17	— 18
,, Country Flake Choice ... ,,	18	— 19
,, ,, Broad ..... ,,	17	— 18
Pollard ..... ,,	16	— 17
Biscuit Middlings ..... ,,	20	— 21
Fine Middlings ..... ,,	19	— 20
Coarse Middlings ..... ,,	18	— 19
Wheat Germ Meal..... ,,	20	— 21
Farina Firsts ..... ,,	31	— 32
,, Seconds ..... ,,	29	— 30
Barley Meal..... ,,	28	— 29
Canadian Oatmeal..... ,,	28	— 29
Scotch Oatmeal..... ,,	33	— 34
Groats ..... ,,	34	— 35
Oat Flour..... ,,	34	— 35
Ground Oats ..... ,,	33	— 34
Poultry Meal ..... ,,	37	— 38
American Feeding Wheat Flour ,,	21	— 22
Maize Flour "Cornflour" ..... ,,	20	— 21
,, Germ Meal ..... ,,	17	— 18
,, Cones ..... ,,	20	— 21
,, Gluten Meal ..... ,,	17	— 18
Rye Flour ..... ,,	26	— 28
Rye Bran..... ,,	23	— 24
Pea Meal..... ,,	25	— 26

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED WITH LESS CONFIDENCE AS THE WEATHER WAS EXTRAORDINARILY MILD AND OPEN FOR THE TIME OF YEAR.

THE BALTIC.

Monday, 1 p.m.

State of Trade.

Oilseed cargoes are firmer from last week. In cargoes of oats more is doing, but only at very moderate prices. Cargoes of wheat, barley, and maize are dull, and there is little inclination to operate.

Business Done.

Wheat.—Rosa Fé, 38s per 480 lb, February shipment; Entre Rios, 39s 3d per 480 lb., January shipment; Red Walla, 39s 6d per 500 lb, prompt shipment Odessa Glinka, 42s per 492 lb, on passage.

Maize.—Argentine, 25 3d per 480 lb, on passage; Bessarabian, 26s 9d per 480 lb, on passage; American, 24s 3d per 480 lb, January shipment; South African, 25s 9d per 480 lb, January shipment.

Barley.—Azoff, 25s per 400 lb, on passage.

Oats.—Black Euxine, 16s. 6d. per 304 lb., prompt shipment.; White Euxine, 17s. 3d. per 304 lb., prompt shipment; White Libau, 17s. per 304 lb, prompt shipment; Argentine, 15s. 6d. per 304 lb, April shipment; Salonica. 17s. per 304 lb, prompt shipment; Konigsberg, 18s. 6d. per 320 lb., prompt shipment.

Buckwheat.—Russian, 28s per 416 lb, prompt shipment.

Linseed.—Argentine, 39s 6d per 416 lb, prompt shipment.

Sesame.—Indian, 62s 3d per 384 lb prompt shipment.

TERM MARKET.

Speculation is irregular, but the following prices per cental may be quoted:—

Red winter wheat—
- 7s. 8d. per cental, December delivery.
- 7s. 9d. per cental, January delivery.
- 7s. 10d. per cental, February delivery.
- 7s. 11d per cental, March delivery.
- 8s. per cental, April delivery.
- 7s. 11d. per cental, May delivery.

Argentine—
- 8s per cental, March delivery.

Mixed American maize—
- 5s 4d per cental, January delivery.
- 52 2d per cental, February delivery.
- 5s 3d per cental, March delivery.

Argentine maize—
- 5s 3d per cental, January delivery.

Argentine oats—
- 5s 2d per cental March delivery.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—There is no improvement to report, buyers and sellers looking on. Grain.—The supplies are moderate, but the demand is likewise small. Prices are unchanged on the week. Beans weak. Foreign oats for shipment depressed by cheap offers of Plate oats. Oatmeal, 6d. to 1s. per sack lower. Oilcake only in small demand. Mill Stuffs.—Steady. Winter wheat patents, 30s to 30s 6d per 280 lb; spring wheat patents, 31s to 32s 6d per 280 lb; American corn, 15s 4½d to 15s 6d per 280 lb; round corn, 15s 4½d to 15s 6d per 280 lb; grinding beans, 18s 6d to 18s 9d per 280 lb; broad bran, 115s to 117s 6d per ton; medium bran, 110s to 112s 6d per ton; common thirds (sharps), 112s 6d to 115s per ton; fine thirds, 137s 6d to 140s per ton; American oilcake, 147s 6d to 150s per ton.—McKinnon and McDonald (Glasgow)

The demand for milling offals is not so good, and prices must be written 2s 6d per ton down on the week.—John Bawcomb and Co,

Arrivals of wheat and flour are very large. The trade is dull, and wheat is 3d per qr. lower. Flour unchanged. Maize 3d to 6d per qr lower. Oats a slow trade, and 3d per qr lower for common qualities.—Coventry, Sheppard, and Co.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were:—From Ireland, 3,434 bales, and from foreign ports, 12,957 bales. There was an improved market for bacon throughout the week and prices for Danish were quoted 1s to 2s dearer on Friday. Quotations ranged:—Irish, 54s to 55s up to 58s; Danish, 50s to 54s up to 56s; Canadian, 48s to 50s up to 52s. Butter: The butter market was steady. French, 104s to 120s; Danish, 122s to 124s; Russian, 90s to 110s; Irish, 96s to 120s; Victorian, 94s to 118s; New South Wales, 94s to 116s; Queensland, 90s to 114s; New Zealand, 110s to 120s; Argentine, 112s to 118s. Lard.—Lard was a quiet market. Irish, 46s to 58s; Danish, 47s to 54s; American, 44s to 46s 9d.

WET AND DRIED GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Wet Grains: With a good trade and owing to slack brewings prices have a firmer tendency, and business has been done during the week at 22s 6d to 23s 6d ale, and porter 3s per ton less on rail London. Dried Grains.—Prices continue firm with a steady tendency at 110s per ton for ale and 105s for mixed, bags 6d. each. Colder weather will probably cause a rise of 2s 6d per ton in the near future. Best Java Molasses.—Concrete 70 per cent. sugar, in baskets, 85s per ton. Kiln-dried sea damaged wheat from 21s per qr, on rail, London and elsewhere.—Hamlyn and Co.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Altrincham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Appleby: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Berwick: 9d to 10d. Birmingham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Camelford: 1s. Carlisle: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Chester: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Dartmouth: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Derby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Devizes: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Doncaster: 1s 3d. Dorchester: 1s to 1s 5½d. Ipswich: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Kidderminster: 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Lincoln: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Market Drayton: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Otley: 1s 10d to 2s per 24 oz roll. Penrith: 1s 0½d to 1s 3d. Penzance, 1s 2d to 1s 5d. Preston: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Retford: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Ripon: 2s to 2s 1d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Shrewsbury: 1s 3d. Spalding: 1s 1d. Stamford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Stockport: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Stockton: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Totnes: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Truro: 1s to 1s 2d. Wellington (Salop): 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Worcester: 1s to 1s 3d. Worksop: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 4d.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Altrincham: 5. Appleby: 6 and 7. Berwick: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per doz. Birmingham: 6. Camelford: 7. Carlisle: 5 and 6. Chester: 5 and 6. Dartmouth: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per doz. Derby: 6 and 7. Devizes: 8 and 9. Doncaster: 6 and 7. Dorchester: 1s 9d to 2s per doz. Evesham: 1s to 1s 8d per doz. Ipswich: 6 to 8. Kidderminster: 6. Lancaster: 5 and 6. Lincoln: 8. Market Drayton: 6. Otley: 5. Penrith: 5 and 6. Penzance: 1s 4d to 1s 8d per doz. Preston: 5. Retford: 2s 9d to 2s 10d per score. Ripon: 6 and 7. Scarborough: 6. Shrewsbury: 6 and 7. Spalding: 7. Stamford: 7 and 8. Stockport: 5 and 6. Stockton: 5. Totnes: 1s 9d to 1s 11d per dozen. Truro: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per dozen. Wellington (Salop): 6 and 7. Worcester: 6. Worksop: 3s to 3s 2d per score. York: 5 and 6.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—A quiet demand prevailed for the good arrivals. Langworthys, 80s to 90s; Up-to-Dates, 90s to 100s; Blacklands, 70s to 80s; Royal Kidneys, 80s; British Queens, 90s to 95s; Scottish (grey soil), 90s to 95s per ton; Germans, 3s 6d to 3s 9d; Dutch, 2s 6d to 3s; French, 3s 6d per bag.

Berwick, Saturday.—Owing to large arrivals of foreign potatoes, trade was rather dull at 75s to 80s per ton.

Goole, Wednesday.—There was a fair lot of potatoes on offer, and also a good company of farmers. The demand was moderate. Foreign trade quiet. Quotations:—King Edwards, 90s; Up-to-Dates, 85s; Imperators, 80s; and good kidneys, 80s per ton.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Potatoes 9d to 10d per stone.

Manchester, Saturday.—Potatoes: Yorkshire, 11s 6d to 12s 6d; Cheshire, 8s 6d to 9s 6d; Lincoln, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per load; Irish, 5s; German, 4s 6d to 5s per cwt.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—A slow demand prevailed for the heavy arrivals. Langworthys, 100s to 110s; Up-to-Dates, 90s to 100s; Blacklands, 80s to 85s; Royal Kidneys, 85s to 90s; British Queens, 90s to 95s; Scottish grey soil, 90s to 95s per ton; German, 3s 6d to 4s; Dutch, 3s to 3s 6d; French, 3s 6d per bag.

York, Saturday.—A moderate supply met a quiet trade at 75s to 80s. per ton.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply; trade quiet. Quotations: Hay, £3 5s to £3 12s 6d per ton. Straw no quotations.

Derby, Friday.—Best old clover, 90s to 100s; new ditto, 80s to 90s; best old hay, 90s to 100s; new ditto, 50s to 70s; second ditto, 40s to 50s; wheat straw, 60s to 70s; pressed ditto, 55s to 60s; chop ditto, 55s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s per ton.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Meadow hay, 6d; clover, 7d; wheat straw, 4d; oat straw, 3½d per stone.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Arrivals were heavier, but a better demand prevailed, prices being steadier. Best clover, 84s to 92s 6d; inferior ditto, 72s to 80s; specially-picked hay, 82s 6d; good ditto, 65s to 75s; inferior ditto, 55s to 63s; mixture and sainfoin, 70s to 82s 6d; straw, 25s to 31s per load.

SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Spring sowing seeds are moving freely in spite of the high prices ruling. In clovers, Alsikes are dearer. Whites unchanged. Reds and Trefoils still rising in both English and foreign seed. In grasses, French-Italian, Perennials, and Irish-Italian all rising. Rape keeps firm. Mustard unchanged. Rye scarce. Peas fair business; supplies more plentiful.—John Pickard and Co.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Dec. 9, 1907. British.	Total.	Monday, Dec. 10, 1906.
Beasts	1,420	1,420	1,340
Sheep and Lambs	4,700	4,700	4,740
Calves	20	20	20
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	40	40	40

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 6	4 0	4 10
Sheep	4 8	5 4	6 2
Lambs	—	—	—
Calves	4 0	4 8	5 2
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £24.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 16; Eastern Counties, 100; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 1,103; Devon, 77; Ireland, 124.

We note to-day a decrease of 10 head in the number of beasts offered for sale compared with Monday last, the supply including a large proportion of prime quality Scotch, Devon, and Norfolks. For best quality fat beasts, trade ruled of a slow nature; however rates were fairly steady, in some cases an advance in value being both asked and obtained. The Irish arrivals consisted of 60 Dublins and 64 Waterfords, these were slow of sale at a decline of 1d. per 8 lb for the former. Fat butchering cows and bulls were in excess of the demand; nevertheless, no decline is quotable. On Monday next will be held the great Christmas market. A clearance is not expected to be made in this part of the market to day.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s d	s d	Monday, Dec. 10, 1906. s d to s d
Scotch	4 8 ex	4 10	4 10 to 5 0
Devons	4 6 ex	4 8	4 6 to 4 8
Herefords	4 2 ex	4 4	4 2 to 4 4
Norfolks	4 4 ex	4 6	4 6 to 4 8
Runts	4 1 ex	4 3	4 0 to 4 4
Lincolns	3 10 ex	4 0	3 8 to 3 10
Irish	4 0 ex	4 2	3 10 to 4 2
Canadian	—	—	— —
Fat cows	3 4 ex	3 6	3 4 to 3 6

There was a decrease of 270 in the number of sheep penned compared with Monday last. Trade for all descriptions of English wethers was slow; neverth less late rates were maintained. Ewes were difficult to vend on account of the large supply at Deptford. Scotch sheep were in fuller supply and met with no correspon ling increase in the demand, consequently a decline of 2d. per 8 lb. in value was inevitable. Irish descriptions are now falling off in point of number, but maintained late rates. The supply included 500 Scotch, 353 Irish, and 900 from the Eastern Counties. A clearance is not expected to be made.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, Dec. 10, 1906. s. d.	s. d.
8 st. Scotch	6 0 to 6	2 6	4 to 6	6
7½ to 8 st Down Tegs	6 0 to 6	2 6	4 to 6	6
9 st. Down Tegs	5 10 to 6	0 6	0 to 6	2
10 st Halfbreds	5 6 to 5	8 5	10 to 6	0
10 st Yorkshires	—		—	
12 st Lincolns	—		—	
10 st Irish	5 2 to 5	4 5	2 to 5	4
10 st Down Ewes	4 0 to 4	2 4	4 to 4	6
11 st Halfbred ditto	3 10 to 4	0 4	2 to 4	4
5 st Down Lambs	—		—	
6 st Halfbred ditto	—		—	

The calf trade ruled of a slow nature, but steadily in regard to value, the best on offer being quoted at from 5s. to 5s. 2d per 8 lb. (offal given in).

London (Central), Monday.—Trade quiet for moderate supplies. Beef, English, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; Scotch, 4s to 4s 6d; American, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 10d to 4s 2d. Mutton, English wethers, 3s 10d to 4s; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d. Scotch tegs and wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 6d. Veal, 3s 6d to 4s 8d. Pork, 3s 4d to 4s per stone.

St. Ives (Hunts) Monday.—Beasts, 441; sheep, 324; pigs, 553; fat and store cattle fair demand; fat and store sheep good demand; and store pigs fair trade. Milch cows short, good demand. Prices: Beef, 7s to 7s 9d; mutton, 8s 2d to 10s 6d; pigs, 6s 3d to 7s; milch cows, £14 to £23.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 855. To-day's supply, compared with Monday last, showed an increase of 327 head, and consisted of 654 from the United States, and 201 from Canada (100 of which were ranch cattle of rather inferior quality). Trade ruled of a slow nature, rates favouring the buyer to the extent of 1d per 8 lb for States cattle, 3d for Canadians, and 2d for Ranchers. Besides the above, 600 States and 500 Canadians were withheld from sale. The best States on offer were quoted at from 4s 1d to 4s 3d; seconds, 3s 10d to 4s; Canadians, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; Ranch cattle, 2s 10d to 3s per 8lb (offal given in). On Saturday 1,312 beasts from the United States, and 806 from Canada (486 of which were ranch cattle) were offered for sale. Trade ruled of a fairly steady nature, the decline in value being due to the fact that the cattle were not of such good quality. Besides the above, 400 States and 600 Canadians were withheld from sale. The best States on offer were quoted at from 4s 2d to 4s 4d; seconds, 4s to 4s 2d; Canadians, 3s 7d to 3s 9d; Canadian ranchers, 3s to 3s 2d per 8 lb (offal given in); 1,231 Canadian ewes were consigned, and met with a fair trade at from 3s 10d to 4s per 8 lb.

Liverpool, Monday.—Smaller supply cattle, Demand slow, but prices practically unchanged. Increased supply sheep, trade of slow dragging character, with very limited demand. Small finished quality were not quotably lower, but strong and rough sorts were from 2s to 3s down. Beef, 6½d to 4½d; mutton, 9d to 6d per lb. At market 1,475 cattle and 5,338 sheep. Christmas market Monday next.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday. — Linseed Cake.—Though the trade is dull and disappointing considering the time of year, there is no weakening in values. Foreign makes continue to be sparingly offered, and home crushers hold for full prices.

Cotton Cake.—Egyptian have been arriving rather freely, and with fair quantities of London-made on the market, prices are 2s 6d per ton easier.

Decorticated Cotton Cake and Meal.—Both mee with a low sale, but there being only a small quantity of foreign here, last quotations are well maintained.

Linseed.—A good business is doing in the qualities suitable for feeding purposes.

	£ s. d.	Per ton. £ s. d.
Linseed Cakes.		
London made Linseed Cake ex mill	7 15 0	to 8 0 0
Calcutta Linseed Cake, ex quay	7 17 6	—
Russian Linseed Cake, ex quay	7 12 6	to 8 0 0
Cottonseed Cake.		
Decorticated Cotton Cake ex quay	7 7 6	to 7 15 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal ex quay	7 5 0	to 7 12 6
London-made ,, Cake (best) ex mill	5 0 0	—
Egyptian ,, Cake (in bags) ex quay	4 17 6	to 4 18 9
London-made Bombay Cotton-seed Cake ex mill	4 10 0	—
Linseed.		
La Plata Linseed per 416 lb. ex warehouse	2 7 0	to 2 12 0
Calcutta Linseed (in bags), per 416 lb (bold) ex warehouse	2 8 0	—
Duluth Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb ex warehouse	2 9 0	—
Rice Meal		
Rangoon ex warehouse	5 10 0	—
Sundries.		
Burton Dried Ale Grains on rail, Burton	5 2 6	—
Molascuit (Hughes' Patent) on rail, London	4 15 0	—

—Robt. & John Hewetson.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—The lower prices now being accepted is bringing about more business, consumers are availing themselves of the present favourable opportunity to stock up—W. H. and H. Le May.

Worcester, Saturday.—Trade has gone rather quiet and holders are not offering till the New Year. Some brewers are taking advantage of the lull in business to pick up anything that offers special value. Only 17 pockets have been weighed this week.—Charles Faram and Co.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington Cattle Market on Monday there was a slight decrease in the number of beasts on offer, consisting chiefly of consignments from the Midland counties, Scotland sending a short supply. Trade for fat beasts was of a slow nature, especially for any of middling description; however, sellers were not willing to accept any further decline. The Irish arrivals consisted of 80 Dublins, amongst which were a few black polled beasts, and 62 Waterfords, these shared in the slow trade, the former favouring the buyer to the extent of 1d. per 8 lb. Fat butchering cows and bulls were slow to vend, however, late values governed all transactions. On Thursday trade was again of a slow nature, the supply consisting entirely of fat butchering cows, bulls, and rough cattle, all sales being based on last Monday's values. A few fat beasts were held back in the market lairs.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, there was a smaller number of both States and Canadian beasts on offer. However, the supply was quite sufficient for the demand. Markets were held on Monday and Saturday, trade ruling of a fairly steady nature at about late rates. The total number on offer at both markets was 4,154, as against 6,503 during the preceding week, consisting of 1,510 British (decrease 50), and 2,644 foreign (decrease 2,304), comprising 1,490 from the United States, and 1,154 from Canida. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 stone Scotch, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 80 to 90 stone Devons, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 95 stone runts, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 90 stone Norfolks, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 100 stone Shorthorns. 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 95 stone Irish, 4s. 1d. to 4s. 3d.; 90 stone States, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; ditto ranchers, 3s. to 3s. 2d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d. to 3s 6d.

The sheep trade at Islington was again confined to the first market-day of the week, when a slow trade prevailed for all descriptions of English sheep, sellers being obliged to accept a decline of 2d. per 8 lb., in most cases for both wethers and ewes, only a few choice small sheep making the previous week's values. Irish and Scotch descriptions were in smaller numbers and maintained late rates, as also did the few lambs that were offered for sale. At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, a consignment of Canadian ewes were placed on the market and met with a fairly steady trade. The total number penned at both markets was 6,201, as against 3,750 during the preceding week, consisting of 4,970 British (increase 1,520) and 1,231 from Canada (increase 931). Best pens ma le per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Down tegs, 6s. to 6s. 2d.; 8 stone Scotch tegs, 6s. 2d to 6s. 4d.; 9 stone Down tegs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 10 stone Down tegs, 5s. 8d. to 5s 10d.; 10 stone half-breds, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 11 stone Hampshires, 5s. 8d to 5s. 10d.; 9 stone Canadian ewes, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 5 stone fat Down lambs, 6s. 6d. to 6s. 8d.

Calves numbered 15 and met with a slow trade at from 4s. 10d. to 5s. per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

Trade in the West.

Now that business in most classes of stores is almost—if not quite—practically over for a time, attention for the next fortnight or three weeks will naturally be absorbed by the fat stock sales in progress all over the country, some of which have already terminated. Though it is somewhat early as yet to predict very decisively what the results of these sales may be, yet, so far as we are able to glean from the business already transacted, there is, despite the depression which undoubtedly exists, a by no means bad prospect before the vendors of really choice fat beasts and sheep—we mean for animals of that special class for which there is always a keen demand at this particular season, if at no other throughout the year. And for this class of meat there are purveyors who readily pay fancy prices such as they would hesitate about giving at any other time, but for the reputation they have to maintain. At some of the earliest sales which have already taken place specially-finished steers and heifers (to be kept on till wanted for the Christmas trade) are making £18 (for very small weights) up to £36 10s. for heavier weights—not less than 13s. to 14s. per score in many cases, and very seldom under 12s. 6d. to 13s. for even ordinary runs. Other fat bullocks are still selling at 11s. to 11s. 6d. and 12s., but then they must be classed as ordinary—not exactly the kind of beef that appeals to the tastes of those who go in for something "prime" just for this once during the year, and would be very dissatisfied with their butcher if he sent them beef bought at 10s. to 10s. 6d. per score, of which there is plenty still obtainable on the market. But the general public is a little bit fastidious at this particular season, and it is to cater for this taste that butchers have now to lay themselves specially out. Whilst the bettermost qualities are finding a quick sale at the prices we have indicated, there is also a market for plain bullocks, and therefore the varying requirements of the public are, we feel confident from the sales in progress, being well met all round in regard to our home-grown beef, and at a price, too, fairly remunerative to graziers, whatever may be the case with foreign supplies. Mutton is even meeting a better sale than beef in regard to the prices ruling, plenty of the choicer grades of wethers and tegs specially prepared for the coming season's requirements making 10d. to 10½d. per lb. as sold in the pen, and sucking lambs wanted for show purposes 1s. and over. But these quotations refer to the pick of the mutton and lambs. The more ordinary runs are also meeting a good, steady, consumptive sale at lower rates—8d. to 9d.—only very coarse, old, rough sheep fetching lower prices. Therefore the outlook for the farmer with plenty of ripe, fat sheep to go out is equally satisfactory. Some very good calves are being marketed, but the supply of the best is somewhat restricted, the trade having been so good all through the season that there has been no special inducement to stockowners to hold over any at all fit for market, as is the case some years. The present value of ripe, well-finished vealers is from 9d. to 9½d. per lb., and 10d. in special cases, ordinary grades selling from 7d. to 8½d. per lb. Pigs have of late shown a slightly downward tendency, but once more small weights of porkers are again touching 10s. 6d. to 11s., and baconers 9s. to 10s. Coarser weights vary in price from 8s. to 8s. 6d., according to quality. Therefore, taken all round, purveyors of fat stock have every reason to be satisfied with the present outlook for the Christmas trade, which, it is thought, will compare favourably with bygone seasons.

The little business passing is confined almost exclusively to milch beasts and barreners, trade for both of which keeps exceedingly buoyant, there being the same difficulty in adequately meeting the demand for milk, as was the case earlier in the season, though buyers are still giving £17 up to £24 apiece for cows and heifers specially adapted for town milk walks, and from £20 up to £36 for anything serviceable in the barrener line, more being wanted than are on the market.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer was not quite so large, but the general quality was fully as good. A better demand has been experienced, and prices on an average from 10s. to 15s. per head higher. Fat sheep have been shown in full average numbers. A fairly steady trade was experienced at prices unchanged, except for ewes, which, being shown in large numbers, made about 2s. a head less money. Good-class calves dear; while pigs met rather a worse market at slightly lower prices. There was a fair supply of store cattle for the time of year, and, with plenty of buyers, a total clearance was effected at prices favouring sellers. Store sheep rather more plentiful, and they got nearly all sold out at fairly satisfactory prices. Milch cows a good show, the best class of which met a dear trade, while secondary were more difficult to sell. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 39s.; current, 35s. to 37s.; mutton, 6½d to 9½d. per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Ltd.

Trade in Ireland.

There was not so full an attendance of buyers at last Thursday's Dublin market as regards shippers, but home victuallers and dealers were well represented. There was a pretty large decrease of both cattle and sheep—cattle being 763 fewer, and sheep 558—as compared with the corresponding week of last year. Trade was strong for the better descriptions of cattle. Any slackness this week was probably due to Christmas being now so near and victuallers waiting to pick up their supply all in the one market. Thursday market in Dublin was about 10s. per head dearer on good beasts. There were a few good stall-fed beasts in the market, and for the best of these from 33s. to 34s. (live-weight) was got easily enough. Out-fed bullocks and heifers of superior quality found very good buyers at good rates. Best heifer and bullock beef was worth from 51s. 9d. to 55s., and for extra choice up to 59s. per cwt.; second quality beef from 46s. to 50s.; and inferior beef from 42s. to 45s. per cwt. The total number of beasts in market was 4,317.

In the sheep department, with a total of 8,848, there was a slow and dragging market. The exports were few; in fact, it was one of the worst markets for sheep met with this year. The export trade was very limited, and it was a bad home trade also. Nice light sheep worth about from 40s. to 56s. apiece sold fairly well, but there was very little demand for any other sort. The market for sheep made a very bad finish at cheaper and irregular prices. Best wether mutton was worth from 6⅝d. to 7½d. per lb.; best ewe mutton 6d. to 6½d.; and inferior mutton from 4½d. per lb. upwards.

Large heavy hoggets sold at from 46s. to 56s., and small to medium ditto at from 36s. to 44s. each.

Prime veal scarce, and sold well, choice calves making up to 8½d. per lb., inferior sorts selling from 4½d. per lb. upward. There was a decrease in veal, and it was easily cleared. There was a good demand for milch cows, which are always wanted about this time of year. Choice cows made between £16 and £20 each, and were hard to get; other sorts could be got at from £10 to £14 each. A fairly good clearance was made. Store cattle market was well supplied for this period of the year. Two auctions of stores were also held and were well attended, and met with a good sale at fair prices. The Dublin pig market was well attended by both home and shipping buyers. Owing to want of feed many are rushing their pigs on the market before they are fit.

The Christmas market will be held in Dublin on Friday, December 27, instead of Thursday, December 26.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Fair supplies and trade very slow, prices being difficult to maintain. English beef, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s 2d to 4s 6d, extreme 4s 8d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 2d to 3s 7d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 4s to 4s 2d; ditto, seconds, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; ditto, forequarters, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; inferior beef, 2s 2d to 2s 8d. Mutton, Scotch wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ditto tegs, 4s 8d to 5s; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Dutch sheep, 4s to 4s 4d; veal, 3s 8d to 4s 8d, extreme 5s; English pork, 3s 6d to 4s; Dutch ditto, 3s 6d to 3s 10d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—To-day's supply of beasts consisted entirely of fat cows and bulls from South-Western counties. Owing to the small attendance of buyers trade ruled slow, but at late values. Top prices paid per 8 lb. as follows:—Fat cows, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 6d to 3s. No sheep were placed on the market. Calf trade not worth noting.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade for beef and mutton was rather dull, though the supply was not large. Choice animals, however, made last week's rates, beef being quoted up to 4s 8d; small Downs up to 6s; next Kent wethers up to 5s 10d; barreners up to 4s 6d. Veal sold well up to 5s 8d, but pork was slow, 4s being top price.

Aylesbury, Wednesday.—A short supply of stock was on offer at this market, probably on account of the special Christmas show and sale being fixed for Wednesday next, December 11, for which a record entry has been made. The numbers penned were 345 fat sheep and 140 fat beasts, and trade in both departments remains about the same

as the previous week, good quality animals meeting a fair inquiry.

Bath, Wednesday.—There was a lage attendance, and the trade was good. Fat steers, £24 to £37 10s; fat heifers, £22 10s to £35 10s; fat cows, £20 10s to £30; fat tegs, 50s 6d to 84s; fat wethers, 68s 6d to 85s; fat lambs, 30s to 42s 6d.

Berwick, Saturday.—Attendance of farmers and buyers fair, and trade fair. Calves, £5 10s to £6 10s; heifers, £6 10s to £10; stirks, £10 to £12 5s; two-year-olds, £13 to £14 10s; three-year-olds, £14 to £16 10s; Shorthorn bulls, £12.

Birmingham, Thursday. — Good supply of pigs; small supply of beasts and sheep; trade slow. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8½d per lb; bacon pigs, 8s 10d to 9s per score; cutting pigs, 9s 2d to 9s 3d per score; porkets, 9s 6d per score; sows, 7s per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—At this market there was a fair supply of beef, and with less than an average demand, lower; quotations for best qualities, 56s to 58s per cwt. Mutton was less plentiful, and trade quiet at last week's values, except ewes, up to 6½d per lb. A small number of pigs at late rates.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices of pigs:—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 1s. per pig extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. 10 lb to 8 sc. 10 lbs, 9s per score; 8 sc. 11 lb to 9 sc. 10 lb., 8s 6d per score; 9 sc. 11 lb to 10 sc. 10 lb, 8s per score. Pigs outside these limits at their value.—C. and T. Harris and Co., Ltd.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A few sheep offered to-day, but the principal supply was that of Irish horned stock; the demand, however, is nearly over, and sales were few. Calves were quoted from 50s up to £3 12s, and stronger animals from £4 4s to £5 7s 6d; yearlings, £7 10s to £8 10s per head.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Few buyers were present, but a firm trade was done. Wintering heifers, £7 10s to £11 10s; stall-fed cattle, to £14 10s; polled bullocks, £8 10s to £10 10s each.

Chester, Thursday.—The supplies of stock were smaller than last week, and the demand for all descriptions except milch cows was quieter. Generally last week's prices were repeated. Milch cows, £17 to £22; calvers, £15 to £19; barrens, £10 to £13; heifers, £9 to £15; stirks, £6 to £10 each.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was a capital attendance of buyers. The supply of fat and store sheep was light, and all changed hands about late rates. The entry of fat cattle included a large number of fat cows, which met a dragging sale. Well finished stores and heifers made about late values. Competition for dairy cows and heifers was very brisk, and all were quickly sold at an advance of fully 30s per head. The best trade of the season was experienced for store cattle, and all were sold. Quotations:—Prime Devon beast, 4s 6d to 4s 9d per stone; prime Shorthorn ditto, 4s 3d to 4s 8d; prime Southdown tegs, 6s 6d to 7s; prime West Country ditto, 6s to 6s 6d; fat ewes, 5s to 5s 4d; fat calves, 5s to 5s 6d; fat pigs, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; suckler calves, 15s to 30s per head; store pigs, 8s to 20s per head.

Colchester, Saturday.—A dull market. Beef made from 4s to 4s 6d, and mutton 5s 8d to 6s per stone of 8 lb; pork, 7s 6d to 8s per score.

Derby, Tuesday.—A busy market, with rather better supplies of first-class beasts and sheep, which remained dear. Beasts, 5½d to 6½d; calves, 8d; sheep, 8d to 9½d.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Large supply of cattle, and a fair trade, especially for milch beasts, which were slightly dearer. Milch beasts, £18 to £23; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers £11 to £16; drapes, £10 to £14; stirks, £9 to £12; young stores, £7 to £9 each. Only a small supply of sheep, and trade slow, but late prices generally ruled. Hoggs, 40s to 46s; drape ewes, 35s to 37s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—A very full cattle market to-day, this being the first of the great Christmas fat stock sales. Messrs. Duke and Son had a very full entry of both fat and store things, especially of milch beasts, and Messrs. Symonds and Sampson's sale was equally well supplied, a feature of which was a magnificent lot of fat steers and heifers specially grazed for their sale, as well as some choice fat sheep and lambs, and for which Messrs. Symonds and Sampson offered a number of liberal prizes. The prize stock made a grand display, the beef, as at Messrs. Duke's sale, being exceedingly ripe, and had evidently been very carefully prepared for market. Buyers were largely represented from over a wide area, and the prize beasts excited keen competition at prices fully up to sellers' best expectations for the best weights both in steers and heifers, good-quality cows also finding a ready sale. The best Devon steers and maiden heifers ranged from £23 to £28 10s; and seconds, £18 to £22, small heifers ranging down to £6 each (or for best beef, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per score); cows, £16 to £26 (or 10s 6d to 11s; fat bulls, £19 (or 9s to 10s). The mutton was of excellent quality, ripe and well turned out of hands, especially the wethers, which sold up to 71s each (or 9½d to 10d per lb), ranging down for others to 48s 6d (or 8½d to 9d); fat ewes, 46s to 50s (or 8½d to 8¾d); and fat lambs, 40s to 44s. The trade in useful store things was equally satisfactory, milch beasts selling exceedingly well at from £18 to £23 for best heifers, others £13 to £16 10s; in-calvers, £9 10s to £14 each. Young fleshy barreners in demand at from £22 to £26 per pair; older beasts, £12 10s to £18 per pair, with a slower sale. But in spite of the extensive offer of stock very few things remained over unsold.

Dublin, Thursday.—A brisk demand for choicely finished bullocks and heifers at improved prices. Secondary sorts easier sold at late rates, and an early clearance effected. A quieter trade for sheep at prices favouring buyers, shippers being in bad form and local men operating with more caution. Cattle—Live weight (best), 30s to 33s per cwt; secondary and inferior qualities, 26s to 29s per cwt. Mutton (dead weight), 6d to 7½d per lb; extremes, 7¾d per lb.—Ganly, Sons, and Co.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Medium supplies and medium trade; half-bred lambs at 35s; Cheviot ewes, 28s; half-bred hoggs to 33s; Cheviot hoggs, 30s; cross-Down hogg, 33s; polled bullocks, £15; horned to £14; best Shorthorned cows to £24; Irish, £10 10s.

Exeter, Friday.—Small supply of beasts, and good demand for choice steers and maiden heifers at 11s 3d; plainer quality and cows, 10s; some unsold. Immense supply of sheep, but a small proportion of ripe mutton; small size, 9d; second clas, 8½d; ewes quiet at 6½d; extraordinary large number of hogs for turnips at lower prices, 34s to 36s; the best 38s. Calves, 7d. An unsatisfactory market to sellers generally.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Large show of cattle; prime sorts scarce and dear, while other classes met firmer inquiry; top, 63s to 65s; secondary, 57s to 59s per cwt. Large number of sheep penned, and demand for best hoggs good; inferior descriptions only met slow inquiry; ewes in good request but easier in price; best mutton, 9d to 9½d; secondary, 8½d to 8¾d per lb.

Gloucester, Saturday. — Messrs. Bruton, Knowles, and Co. report their sales as follows:—Cows and calves: A moderate supply with very good trade for the best qualities, the best prices being £24 15s (2), £24 5s, £24, £23 10s, £23, £22 12s 6d, &c. Store cattle: A short supply, all the lots being disposed of.

Hereford, Wednesday.—An oversupply of beef, and a dragging trade, the best bullock and heifer ranging from 6½d to 7d, and cow beef meeting with little demand. Store cattle experienced a dull trade. Sheep were a short supply. Wethers and fat lambs dear and scarce, fetching 8½d to 9d; store lambs also few. Calves were a short supply and dear; veal at 6½d to 7d per lb. There was a large quantity of pork and bacon at 5d to 5½d; sows, 4½d to 5d; stores cheap.

Leicester, Saturday.—Full consignments of store stock. Buyers were well represented, and choice lots sold steadily at high rates. The best milch cows made £22 to £24; good lots, £18 to £20; secondary, £15 to £17; Shorthorn bullocks, £13 to £16; Irish cattle, £12 to £15 10s; Welsh bullocks, £9 to £13 10s; young stock, £5 to £8; calves, 20s to 40s each.

Lincoln, Friday.—An good supply of beasts, and a slow demand. Young beasts, £9 to £11; strong ditto, £13 to £15; and milch cows, £17 to £23.

Lynn, Tuesday.—A larger show of fat beasts, and trade not quite so good as last week, from 7s to 7s 9d per stone. Stores average supply for time of year, trade very slow £6 to £15 each. Average show of fat sheep made more money from 9s to 10s per stone. No stores. A few store lambs fetched from 35s to 42s each.

Manchester, Friday. — Beef: First-class, 5½d; second-class, 4d to 4½d; third-class, 3d to 3½d per lb. Mutton: First-class, 7¾d; second-class, 6¾d to 7¼d; third-class, 5¾d to 6¼d per lb. Veal: First-class, 8d; second-class, 7d to 7½d; third-class, 6d to 6½d per lb. Bacon pigs: First-class, 5d; second-class, 4d to 4½d; third-class, 3d to 3½d. Porket pigs: First-class, 6½d; second-class, 6d to 6¼d; third class, 5½d to 5¾d per lb.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Trade was a fair trade for choice quality cattle; other sorts quiet. Quotations:—Choice heifers, 7s 6d to 7s 9d; second class, 6s 9d to 7s; prime steers, 7s to 7s 6d; second class, 6s 9d to 7s; coarse and inferior, 6s to 6s 6d per stone, sinking the offal. Sheep were a slightly larger supply, and trade was rather easier, and prices showed a fall of ¼d to ½d. Quotations:—Choice young sheep 8¼d to 8½d; strong heavy, 8d to 8¼d; choice hoggs, 8¼d to 8¾d; ewes, 6d to 6½d; rams, 5d to 5½d; rams, 5s to 5½d per lb. Calves were rather smaller supply, and trade was fair, but prices fell ½d, veal making 5d to 8½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—Large supply of cattle, sheep, and lambs. There was a good attendance of buyers, and brisk trade all round. The quotations were:—Best beef, 6½d; seconds, 6d; cows, 4½d to 5d; best wether mutton, 8½d; ewes, 7d to 7½d; lambs, 9½d; calves, 7½d; porker pigs, 10s 3d to 10s 9d per score; baconers, 9s to 9s 3d.

Norwich, Saturday.—Fat cattle not such a good show, the majority being of secondary quality. Trade was better, the best making 8s, others, 7s 6d to 7s 9d, and cows, 7s per 14 lb stone. Fewer fat sheep on offer, but the quality was unchanged; prices were ½d per lb lower, best sorts making from 8½d to 9d, and ewes 6½d per lb. Good supply of fat pigs, but trade was slow, bacons making from 5s 6d to 5s 9d; porkers, up to 6s 3d; and sows, 5s to 5s 3d per stone. Store cattle were quiet, 1,000 short of usual numbers; trade was very dull and slow, the quality not being so good; second quality, two and three year olds, mixed, made from £12 to £14 15s; yearlings, £8 10s. to £10 5s; younger cattle, £4 10s to £6. A clearance was not effected. Trade for rearing calves was slightly easier, prices ranging from 25s to 52s. Not many store sheep shown, and trade was slower by 1s to 2s per head, prices ranging from 38s to 48s. Good show of store pigs, which sold cheaply at from 10s to 21s per head.

Nottingham, Saturday. —A shorter supply of stock, which met with a brisk trade. Best cows made £24; heifers to £19 10s. Store beasts realised good prices; strong heifers and steers, up to £14; younger beasts, £7 to £9; and calves, about 45s each.

Preston, Wednesday.—There were large supplies, but trade was slow, and last week's rates were barely maintained. Quotations:—Best local heifers to 6½d; secondary, 6d to 6¼d; Irish ditto, 6d to 6½d; choice young cows and bulls, 5½d; coarse and inferior, 5d; sheep, hoggs, and lambs, 8¾d; secondary ditto, 8½d; choice ewes, 7½d; heavy tups and ewes, 6d to 6½d; calves, 7½d to 7¾d.

Retford, Saturday.—Fair attendance and a full average supply; the best qualities of milch beasts and bullocks realised £18 to £22, secondary down to £14, yearlings and two-year-olds as before; calves, 35s to 45s per head.

Romford, Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts, pricesabout the same. Best beasts, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in short supply and dearer at 5s 4d to 5s 6d per stone. Sheep in short supply; trade slow; best small sheep, 6s to 6s 4d; larger sheep, 5s 8d to 6s per stone. Ewes in average supply, trade slow at 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. No store beasts on offer. Milch cows in good supply, with a little better trade. Average supply of pigs, prices about the same. Large hogs, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; smal porkers, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. The swine fever restrictions have been removed except with regard to certain parishes.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Small supply of milch beasts, and a good demand for the best qualities, which sold at £20 to £23; secondary ditto, £16 to £18.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Small supply of store cattle, with a very quiet trade. Good number of fat cattle, which met with ready buyers at last week's prices. Small supply but good trade in sheep. Good number of fat pigs, which sold well, but store pigs was a sluggish trade. Quotations:—Beef, 6d to 6½d per lb; mutton (wether), 9d to 9½d per lb; ewes, 7½d to 8d per lb; veal, 7½d to 8½d per lb; pork pigs, 9s to 9s 6d per score; bacons, 8s 6d to 9s per score.

Stockton, Wednesday.—A smaller show of the best cattle. Trade was slow, but firm, at 7s 6d to 7s 9d per stone for the best; and 6s to 7s per stone for rougher kinds. Sheep were quoted at 8½ per lb; and tups and ewes, 6d to 7d, were a slow trade. The pig trade was also quiet, sows making about 5s 7d per stone; young pigs, 6s 6d; and porkers, 7s 6d per stone.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance very good; business fairly brisk. Fat bullocks, 54s to 58s; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £10 to £16 each; rearing calves, 25s to 40s; wethers, 7d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5d to 5½d; pigs, 6s to 35s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 7d to 8d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; pork carcases, 4½d to 5d per lb.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Trade very slow; supply moderate. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 9½d per lb; veal, 6d to 8d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday. — Fair supply of beasts and sheep, with trade fairly brisk. Best beef, 7s to 7s 6d per stone; secondary, 6s 9d to 7s 3d. Best Southdown wethers and cross-breds to 9d per lb; ewes, 6d per lb.

Yeovil, Friday.—Good supply, and trade inactive. Milkers were in request, heifers with calves making from £17 to £20 10s; secondary, £13 5s to £16 10s; cows with calves, £16 5s to £21; secondary, £11 10s to £15 15s; fresh

barreners to £29 10s per pair; store heifers, from £7 10s to £9 5s; yearling heifers, £5 5s to £7 5s; Down wethers, 46s to 53s; Down ewes, 41s to 46s; Down lambs, 45s to 40s; horn wethers, 47s 6d to 55s; horn ewes, 44s to 51s; horn lambs, 34s to 39s 6d.

York, Thursday.—A lighter show of English store cattle, and a very large one of Irish, considering the lateness of the season. A fair attendance of buyers, but trade ruled slow and dear, and in some cases there was a slight advance on late rates. Some of the best three-year-olds made up to £15 5s, two-year-olds from £9 10s to £12. The bulk of the English cattle was sold, but a good many Irish were left on hand. A small supply of Irish stirks, which South-country buyers picked up at from £7 to £9 each. A small show of calving and milch cows, with fewer customers and less brisk trade than of late. Fairly good prices were, however, still obtained. The best made up to £22, but the general run of prices was from £9 to £16. About 3,000 sheep were offered, and the best shearlings and lambs met with an improved demand at fully 2s per head advance. Best shearlings made up to 48s; others, 40s to 44s; best twice crossed lambs, up to 43s; others, from 32s to 38s. One or two good lots of Masham lambs made 30s, but the majority only commanded from 22s to 26s.

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, December 3, 1907:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Av. Price per qr £	s.	d.
Wheat	1,140	1	2,024	2	2	1	15	6
Barley	1,355	2	1,776	14	6	1	6	3
Oats	2,901	3	2,833	14	7	0	19	6

Five Years' Comparative Averages. (OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending December 7, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1903 to 1906:—

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1903	58,150	26	7	163,030	23	2	30,660	15	9
1904	50,718	30	4	165,257	24	4	36,635	16	2
1905	82,752	28	6	165,882	24	7	32,371	17	11
1906	63,264	26	1	167,532	24	1	37,119	17	4
1907	54,629	34	7	230,084	27	1	38,926	18	6

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, December 7, 1907:—

Wheat	1,336,400 cwts.
Wheat-flour	414,500 ,,
Barley	462,300 ,,
Oats	122,000 ,,
Maize	670,500 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1906. Cwts.	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.
Wheat	1,656,100	1,516,100	1,976,600	1,776,504
Wheat-flour	321,000	367,600	316,900	405,657
Barley	318,000	593,400	385,700	454,716
Oats	209,300	389,900	313,000	323,038
Maize	849,500	313,800	646,000	1,003,641

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

*Cereal Year commencing September 2nd, 1907.**

		s.	d.
September 2	(per sack)	32	0
,, 13	,,	34	0
,, 20	,,	33	0
,, 27	,,	35	0
October 2	,,	36	0
,, 9	,,	37	0
,, 21	,,	38	0
November 6	,,	37	0

(No change since last date given).

* September 1st, 1907, was a Sunday.

Cereal Years' Prices.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1906-7	27	11	24	6	18	5
1905-6	28	9	24	2	18	5
1904-5	30	7	24	6	16	11
1903-4	27	2	21	11	16	4
1902-3	26	5	23	0	17	8
1901-2	28	4	26	0	20	4
1900-1	27	1	25	0	18	4
1899 1900	26	5	25	0	17	5
1898 9	26	1	26	1	17	4
1897-8	36	4	27	9	18	4
1896-7	28	8	23	2	16	9

THE AGRICULTURAL ANNUAL AND MARK LANE EXPRESS ALMANAC FOR 1908.

The 1908 edition of the Agricultural Annual and Mark Lane Express Almanac, more popularly known as "The Farmers' Red Book," establishes a record for this publication as regards size, for there are 324 pages, a number considerably in excess of any previous year; and when it is mentioned that in the first issue there were only 150 pages, it will be seen how wonderfully the Annual has grown—more than doubled itself. A similar comparison might be made as regards the circulation, which has also increased every year, thus testifying to the popularity of the Farmers' Red Book, and the 1908 edition should still further enhance it in public favour.

All the well-known features are retained, such as the abundance of excellent illustrations, typical of the various branches of farming, the statistical tables and items of reference all brought up to date, the list of agricultural societies, and last, but by no means the least, a good number of readable articles on well-selected topics, which, whilst interesting, are instructive, and should prove useful to farmers throughout the coming year.

Further, there are one or two new features which add to the value of the work, and of these we may mention the list of the principal live stock fairs to be held in 1908. This has never before been given in this Annual, but we think it is a feature that will be appreciated; at any rate, it has meant the addition of twelve pages, a nett gain to the purchaser, for nothing has been sacrificed to make room for the fairs, but the necessary extra pages have been given in. Another welcome feature is the extension of those useful articles accompanied by diagrams, such as "How to Measure Manure Heaps," "Weight of Cattle by Measurement," "Methods of Tying up a Horse," "To Prevent Cows Kicking," "How to Cure Self-Sucking Cows," &c. These are matters which farmers require to know, yet we have found that many do not know the rules, so that their inclusion in the Farmers' Red Book will be much appreciated.

The Yellow Supplement of twenty pages devoted entirely to feeding stuffs and fertiliser matters, which is again included, has been thoroughly revised and brought up to date, as has in fact the whole of the book, which as a work of reference for farmers has a widespread reputation. Space does not permit of mention of the articles, but it may be stated that they cater for all tastes, touching as they do on live stock of all descriptions, arable farming, dairying, poultry keeping, hop growing, cider making, and that all-important question, wheat prices. Thus every class of agriculturist will find something to interest and be of use to him in the Farmers' Red Book, which, published at 1s., is wonderful value for money. It can be obtained of all booksellers, or can be had for 1s. 4d., post free, direct from the publishers, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

CORN and SEED BUSINESS for SALE. Has been established 50 years. Prominent position in market place. Good market town in Midlands. Owner retiring.—Write "Seeds," care of "Mark Lane Express."

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The Heaviest Cropping Field Roots of the Year.

The Purest and Best Grass Seeds for all Soils.

THE WORLD'S CHAMPION BARLEY, 1906.

THE KING'S SEEDSMEN, by Royal Sealed Warrant,

Coggeshall, Essex; also Reading, Berks.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

Account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended November 23, 1907, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year (the figures for 1906 are in parentheses):—

Animals, living:—Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves (11,054), 4,929; sheep and lambs (3,470), 1,546; horses (193), 144.

Fresh meat:—Beef (85,074 cwts.), 90,394; mutton (18,525), 76,037; pork (11,710), 14,900.

Salted or preserved meat:—Bacon (85,954 cwt.), 85,505; beef (3,289), 2,100; hams (17,655), 15,190; pork (3,004), 3,940; meat (8,515), fresh, 14,048, salted, 1,254; meat, preserved (5,975), 9,948.

Dairy produce and substitutes:—Butter (61,116 cwt.), 58,762; margarine (19,421), 17,792; cheese (55,374), 42,302; milk, cream (71), 119; milk, condensed (15,274), 18,454; milk, preserved, other kinds (150), 459.

Eggs (great hundreds):—(367,336), 418,451; poultry (value £10,223), £14,648; game (value £2,347), £3,922; rabbits, dead (not tinned), (7,543 cwt.), 10,546; lard (38,609 cwt.), 33,360.

Corn, grain, meal, and flour:—Wheat (1,615,800 cwt.), 1,033,100; wheat, meal and flour (226,400), 282,500; barley (447,800), 519,700; oats (100,000), 214,600; peas (33,890), 58,780; beans (10,420), 17,760; maize or Indian corn (1,096,100), 1,051,200.

Fruit (raw):—Apples (160,280 cwt.), 169,989; grapes (5,934 cwt.), 17,069; pears (5,070 cwt.), 6,035.

Hay (2,371 tons), 1,991; straw (1,216 tons), 1,281; moss litter (1,870 tons), 1,413; hops (13,028 cwt.), 6,283; locust beans (22,000 cwt.), 48,613.

Vegetables, Raw:—Onions (247,680 bushels), 119,728; potatoes, (35,725 cwt.), 202,805; tomatoes, (12,145 cwt.), 12,947.

The Value of Agriculture.

No growth of cities, no growth of wealth, can make up for any loss in either the number or the character of the farming population. We of the United States should realise this above almost all other peoples. We began our existence as a nation of farmers, and in every great crisis of the past a peculiar dependence has had to be placed on the farming population; and this dependence has hitherto been justified. But it cannot be justified in the future if agriculture is permitted to sink in the scale as compared with other employments. We must do all we can to render country conditions more easy and pleasant. The National Government, through the Department of Agriculture, should do all it can by joining with the State governments and with independent associations of farmers to encourage the growth in the open farming country of such institutional and social movements as will meet the demand of the best type of farmers, both for the improvement of their farms and for the betterment of the life itself. Farmers must co operate with one another and with the Government, and the Government can best give its aid through associations of farmers. —An Extract from President Roosevelt's Message to the United States Congress.

Weekly Arrivals into London.

November 28 to December 4 inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat qrs.	2,386	70,166	72,552
Barley	1,800	13,000	14,800
Malt	13,315	—	13,315
Oats	5,500	22,000	27,500
Beans	742	3,035	3,777
Peas	712	2,028	2,740
Lentils	—	197	197
Maize	—	20,762	20,762
Linseed	—	19,000	19,000
Cottonseed	—	6,600	6,600
Sesame	—	9,000	9,000
Sunflowerseed	—	300	300
Millet	—	370	370
Coriander	—	100	100
Flour sacks	18,798	28,171	46,969
Middlings	—	3,000	3,000
Cornflower	—	2,500	2,500

London Flour Millers' Association.

CREDIT AND DELIVERY. OFFICIAL PRICES.

*Cereal year commencing September 2nd, 1907.**

	London Whites. s.	d.	Town Households. s.	d.
September 2	(per sack) 32	0	(per sack) 29	0
,, 4	,, 33	0	,, 30	0
,, 27	,, 34	6	,, 31	6
October 4	,, 35	6	,, 32	6
,, 11	,, 36	0	,, 33	0
,, 18	,, 37	0	,, 34	0
November 11	,, 36	0	,, 33	0

(No change since last date given.)

* September 1st, 1907, was a Sunday.

Printed and Published by the Proprietors, at the Offices, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.—December 9, 1907.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The violent south-westerly gale of Saturday did a good deal of damage to stacks and barns, and it added to the trouble of the floods which now cover almost unprecedented meadow areas, and should convince even the Meteorological Office that the weather has been wet. We note, however, that up to Saturday the Powers that be at St. James's Park were unpenitent, and after a Friday when it rained for eight hours without a break reported that a third of an inch of rain had fallen. The wheat which was sown in October had obtained a good hold on the soil before the floods descended, but November sowings must have been injured. The state of the air, which is saturated with moisture, is utterly adverse to grain threshings and deliveries, and of the 1s. fall in prices reported from many markets for wheat, at least half must be attributed the damp state of the average samples offering.

The American cereal year is the subject of a special report by Mr. Secretary Wilson who in his annual review presented to the President and Congress on December 3 last, stated that the total cereal produce of the Republic in 1907 was 5 per cent. below the average. The rise in prices will, if maintained, not only wipe out this deficiency, but add 20 per cent. to the national wealth as compared with the cereal earnings of 1906. The wheat crop is put at 5 per cent. below an average, the price likely to be made at 5½ per cent. above an average. The identity of the wheat crop deficiency with the total cereal deficiency is a mere coincidence. The dairy produce is valued at £160,000,000, and the report ends —"Agricultural wealth is the backbone of our prosperity, and these figures certainly do not spell panic." The weak point in theory in the report is its assumption that present prices will be maintained, but in practice we fancy that they form a fairly safe basis on which to build the calculations of the Agricultural Department.

The "equal weight" remains an ideal beyond the abilities of our statesmen to obtain. But from time to time the press can mitigate the State confusion by giving leading articles of food, &c., in an equal weight, cental cwt. or ton. Comparative prices per ton include the following :—

	£	s.	d.
Pure crushed linseed	13	10	0
Aberdeen oatmeal	13	0	0
Potato flour (best)	11	0	0
Wheat flour (ordinary country)	11	0	0
Ground Linseed cake	8	10	0
Bean meal	8	2	6
English wheat	8	1	5
Rough feeding rice	8	0	0
Barley meal	7	15	0
English barley	7	10	4
Roumanian barley	7	7	6
Russian barley	7	5	9
Fine middlings	7	3	9
Persian barley	7	1	3
Russian oats	7	0	0
English oats	6	12	10
Coarse middlings	6	2	6
Bran (broad)	5	15	0
Dried ale grains	5	10	0
Bran (fine)	5	5	0
Malt Cooms	4	15	0
Oat husks	3	15	0

The fact that English oats are fastly underselling foreign is also to be noted. The dearest article on the list is by no means the dearest, value for value, as fattening material to strengthen other rations.

We note with interest the following editorial note in the *Miller* :—

"Durum Wheat.—This hybrid grain does not appeal to our judgment at 37s. for forward positions, and we trust our friends who are not as yet fairly well acquainted with it will not be tempted to use it at all freely."

This new type of Dacota, Minnesota, and Wyoming wheat—those are the States whence it is derived for the most part—has been much in evidence at Mark Lane of late. We should be glad to learn a little more of what millers really think of it in the mill. Apparently the trade journal in question has reason to advise caution in its purchase. It is not yet quoted in the ordinary journals, but from its first appearance at Mark Lane in quantity—some few months ago—it has been regularly quoted in our list of prices. We hold that readers are entitled to such knowledge, albeit the inclusion of any article in our list is not to be taken as any guarantee of its being a desirable purchase.

The wheat gradient last week showed that the best prices were being made in the Thames Valley, Kent, Essex, and Sussex, while the lowest terms were being accepted in East Anglia and Lincoln. The North is now accepting comparatively low prices, but the West is reasonably firm :—

Reading	35s. 6d. per qr.
Doncaster	33s. 4d. ,,
Range	2s. 2d. per qr.

Barley sells better in S.E. England than elsewhere.

Canterbury	29s. 10d. per qr.
Peterborough	26s. 4d. ,,
Range	3s. 6d. ,,

Oats sell better in the South than in the North.

Chichester	19s. 4d. per qr.
Lincoln	17s. 9d. ,,
Range	1s. 7d. ,,

Canterbury quoted 19s. 4d., as well as Chichester, and Chelmsford quoted 19s 2d., but 17s. 11d. was accepted at Doncaster, 18s. at Cambridge, and 18s. 1d. at Peterborough

Sales of British wheat at the statute markets have been for the period since harvest :—

This season .. 999,000 qr. at 33s. 10d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 1,006,000 ,, 26s. 2d. ,,

The close agreement in the total sales of the two seasons, thus far is interesting. The price happily shows a very merited improvement on the period.

Sales of British barley at the statute markets have been smaller than in the like period of last season, but a good business for the time of year has been done since December came in.

This season ... 2,015,000 qr. at 26s. 4d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 2,226,000 ,, 24s. 7d. ,,

The returns of sales of oats indicate a very special demand.

This season ... 624,000 qr. at 18s. 3d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 487,000 ,, 16s. 8d. ,,

There are no returns of other cereals, but English beans, peas, and rye, all sell steadily at a fair price.

Imports of the United Kingdom have been as follows. Latest returns, as received from the Custom House on Monday morning, will be found in the portion of the paper reserved for "Latest Intelligence" :—

Wheat, 312,000 qr. : a fair supply.
Flour, 165,700 sks. : a large supply.
Maize, 157,000 qr. : less than usual.
Barley, 130,000 qr. : a little above the average.
Oats, 45,000 qr. : an extremely small supply.

Total imports this season thus compare with 1906 :—

	1907.	1906.
Wheat, qr. ...	6,034,000 ...	5,817,000
Flour, sks. ...	1,742,000 ...	1,819,000
Maize, qr. ...	3,587,000 ...	3,351,000
Barley, qr. ...	2,545,000 ...	2,596,000
Oats, qr. ...	1,004,000 ...	1,357,000

We cannot recall a season when arrivals of oats were so small as those received from abroad since September 1. The English crop should be held with firmness.

The supplies on passage on the 14th inst. included the following quantities of wheat :—

Californian	620,000 qr.
American	300,000 ,,
Indian	322,000 ,,
Russian	60,000 ,,
Argentine	55,000 ,,
Australasian	305,000 ,,
Various	50,000 ,,
Total	1,712,000 ,,

This is 780,000 qr. below the average, and is an influence which should help materially in steadying the market. Flour, on passage, shows a total of 276,000 sacks, which, although 260,000 above the mean, is 30,000 sacks less than on the 7th inst.

The supplies of barley, on passage, are :—

Russian	215,000 qr.
Californian	210,000 ,,
American	10,000 ,,
Asiatic	100,000 ,,
Total	535,000 ,,

This is 35,000 qrs above an average. Of oats, however, only 115,000 qr. are on passage, which is 125,000 qr. below the mean. Of maize there are on passage :—

American	210,000 qr.
Russian	140,000 ,,
Argentine	120,000 ,,
Total	470,000 ,,

Other supplies on passage are 71,000 qr. of linseed, 120,000 qr. of rapeseed, 44,000 tons of cottonseed, and 19,000 tons of rice.

The shipments from America last week were very large of breadstuffs, but very small of other articles. Wheat, 457,000 qr.; flour, 158,000 sacks; maize, 68,000 qr.; barley, 5,000 qr.; oats, 2,000 qr. Argentine sent off 36,000 qr. of wheat, 138,000 qr. of maize, and 3,000 qr. of oats.

Russia is shipping well for a winter month, but of course is not represented anything like so fully as when all her ports were open in October and November. Totals exported were wheat, 167,000 qr.; barley, 147,000 qr.; oats, 52,000 qr.; and maize 16,000 qr. Roumania shipped 55,000 qr. of wheat, 70,000 qr. of barley, and 19,000 qr. of oats. Total maize exports from the Euxine and outside Russian returns come to the high total of 172,000 qr.; this includes Roumania, Bulgaria, and the Turkish district bordering on the Black Sea.

India shipped 35,000 qr. of wheat and 15,000 qr. of linseed, while Australia sent off 12,000 qr. of wheat.

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes are irregularly lower on the week, the feeling being very adverse to holders of American, Argentine, Indian, and Australian, but firm for Russian, Roumanian, and Canadian. Prices accepted have been inclusive of 40s. per 500 lb. for Blue Stem, 39s. per 500 lb. for Walla Walla, 39s. per 480 lb. for Australian, 35s. 9d. per 480 lb. for Rosa Fé, and 41s. 6d. per 480 lb. for No. 1 Northern Manitoba.

Maize cargoes have been weak. Prices accepted included 25s. per 480 lb. for Odessa and 24s. per 480 lb. for American.

Barley cargoes have made 21s. per 400 lb. for Persian (at which price there has been a desire to buy, and four cargoes have been placed), 23s. per 400 lb. for Azoff, and 35s. per 448 lb. for Oregon.

Oats have made 15s. 6d. per 304 lb. for new crop Argentine, and 20s. per 320 lb. for fine Konigsberg. Other cargo sales include Indian linseed at 43s. 3d. per 410 lb., Brown Cawnpore rapeseed at 51s. per 416 lb., and Egyptian cottonseed at £6 12s. 6d. per ton.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 2 maize (1 Kustendj and 1 La Plate).

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports-of-call for week were 1 maize (Durs kirk).

Since January 1, 1907, the total arrivals have been 253 wheat, 1 flour and wheat, 3 barley and wheat, 8 barley, 1 maize and wheat, 26 maize, 1 maize and barley, and 17 linseed; total, 310.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 244 wheat, 2 barley and wheat, 4 barley, 5 maize, 1 locust beans, and 28 linseed; total, 284.

The London Corn Trade Association executive announces that the following standards of September shipments have now been made up :—

Wheat.—Choice White Kurrachee; Soft Red Kurrachee; Choice White Bombay.

Barley.—Kurrachee.

Lentils.—Kurrachee; Bombay. Gram.—Kurrachee.

The East Indian wheat rejections of the same body are :—

Crop 1907.

Choice White Kurrachee	38s.
Soft Red Kurrachee	38s.

These prices are per 492 lb., and for cargoes arriving under the Association's contracts

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, December 10, 1907 :—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Av Price per qr £	s.	d.
Wheat ..	1,672	6 ...	2,996	10	7 ...	1	15	10
Barley ..	1,522	5 ...	2,110	13	6 ...	1	7	9
Oats	2,351	4 ...	2,294	9	7 ...	0	19	6

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English steady, quiet. Whites quoted at 36s to 40s; reds, 35s to 38s 6d. Foreign dull, with an easier tendency. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, quoted at 43s 9d to 44s; No. 2 at 43s 3d; No. 1 Durum at 36s 3d to 37s; choice white Karachi at 38s. Flour dull, and prices favour buyers. Iron Dukes quoted at 27s 6d to 28s; Hungarian at 39s 6d to 40s 6d. Maize dull at about 3d decline. Mixed American, ex ship, quoted at 25s 9d; River Plate, ex ship, at 24s 9d; Odessa, ex ship, at 24s 6d. Barley steady, but quiet. Odessa-Nicolaieff and Azoff-Black Sea, ex ship, quoted at 23s 3d; landed, 24s; Persian, ex ship, at 21s 9d; landed at 22s. Oats slow, unchanged. La Plata, landed, quoted at 17s 6d to 17s 9d; South Russian 16s 9d to 17s 3d.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat: English dull, unchanged; whites quoted at 36s to 40s; reds at 35s to 38s 6d. Foreign slow and 3d easier. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, quoted at 43s 6d to 43s 9d; No. 2 at 43s; No. 1 Durum, 36s 6d; choice white Karachi at 37s 6d to 38s. Flour dull, with an easier tendency; Kansas Patents quoted at 29s 6d to 30s; Iron Dukes at 27s to 27s 6d. Maize slow and 3d lower to sell; River Plate, landed, held at 24s 9d; Odessa, landed, at 24s 6d to 24s 9d. Barley dull and 3d easier. Azoff Black Sea and Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted at 22s 9d to 23s; landed at 23s 9d. Oats quiet; River Plate, landed, quoted at 17s 9d; South Russian (38 lb), landed at 17s to 17s 3d.

COUNTRY.

Appleby, Saturday.—Dry samples scarce, for which there are inquiries. White oats (horse corn), 20s to 2?s 6d per 26 stones.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade for wheat dull, and prices somewhat lower, English making 33s to 36s; best English barley made 30s to 31s; and secondary, with a slow demand, 27s to 28s. Maize is a little cheaper, and did not exceed 28s. Other corn was about on a par with the previous market, mazagan beans fetching 28s to 29s; tick beans, 32s to 34s; oats, 18s to 22s; and peas, 31s to 32s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—Good attendance, with full supplies of grain. Barley and oats quieter, except for finest samples. Barley, 20s to 34s; oats, 17s 6d to 28s per qr.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, white (new), 35s to 36s per qr; wheat, red (new), 35s to 36s per qr; barley, 25s to 30s per qr; beans (new), 30s to 31s per qr; oats, 17s 6d to 21s per qr; peas, 30s to 34s per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday. — The attendance at this market was small, and very little business was transacted. Foreign wheats were almost neglected, and were generally 3d per qr lower on the week. English wheat made from 12s 9d to 13s 6d per 186 lb delivered. Oats were easier to buy, making from 19s to 20s per 312 lb. Beans remained at 13s per 196 lb. Bessarabian maize was on offer at 25s 6d per 480 lb, and Galatz-Foxanian at 25s 3d at Sharpness. Grinding barley was 3d dearer at 24s 3d per 400 lb at Sharpness.

Brighton, Thursday.—Quiet trade and small attendance. English oats 6d cheaper. Wheat, except for the best samples, 6d cheaper. Very small supplies. Barley, 28s to 33s; grinding ditto, 24s to 26s; oats, English, 18s to 20s; peas, 33s to 34s; beans, 32s to 34s.

Bristol, Thursday.—English wheat in very small supply, continued wet weather preventing threshing. Values have declined 6d, and now stand at 34s 6d to 35s 6d per 496 lb. Foreign wheat the turn lower. Maize, 3d to 6d decline. Barley un changed. Oats ditto. Flour unaltered, with only a slow trade passing.—GRACE BROS.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat was in short supply, but the demand was quiet and trade slow at 36s to 36s 6d per qr for reds in good milling condition. Barley in average supply, with a fair inquiry at about last week's prices; ordinary malting samples, 30s to 32s; finer parcels at 33s to 35s per qr. Feeding corns steady, with oats at 19s 6d to 22s, and new beans at 31s to 32s per qr.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A fair amount of business doing, at recent rates. Barley ranged from 28s 6d up to 32s, and oats are firm at from 19s to 20s for 39 lb blacks, and 21s to 22s for heavier weights. Wheat meets a quiet sale, 62 lb lots being worth 34s fetched from the farm, and 63 lb and 64 lb samples making 36s delivered. Grey peas 30s to 31s, and up to 34s for seed; tick beans, 31s to 32s; mazagans, 29s to 30s per qr.

Carlisle, Saturday.—A ger show of oats in our market to day, slow trade. Finest quality oats made 23s to 24s per 336 lb.; second quality oats made 20s to 22s. Wheats made up to 40s per 504 lb. Good demand for bran, which has gone up 5s per ton. Dried grain good trade, 2s 6d advance. Very wet week.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—The demand for feeding stuffs was fair. There was, however, little change in prices since last market day, the tendency being easier. English grain a quiet trade, with small offerings; prices in buyers' favour. Quotations:—White and red wheat, 5s 2d to 5s 4d per 75 lb; new grinding barley, 3s 10d to 4s; Indian corn, 14s 3d to 14s 6d per 240 lb; round corn, 14s to 15s 6d; old beans, 18s 6d to 21s per 80 lb; old oats, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; and new, 2s 7d to 2s 9d per 46 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—A small attendance and very little business doing. New white wheat, 36s to 37s; new red ditto, 36s to 37s; barley, 29s to 35s; grinding ditto, 24s 6d to 25s 6d; oats, English, 19s to 22s 6d; peas, 34s to 35s; beans, 33s to 34s; tares, 5s to 5s 6d; maize, 25s to 27s; flour, 28s to 32s.

Colchester, Saturday. — Wheat in buyers' favour, 36s to 37s. Oats and beans short supply owing to bad weather, unchanged.—COLIN TAYLOR, KING AND CO., LTD.

Coventry, Friday.—The attendance was poor. Thinner show of wheat, but prices decidedly in buyers' favour. Oats plentifully offered, and must be quoted 6d per qr lower on the week. No change in other sorts Quotations:—Wheat, 12s 9d to 13s 8d per 186 lb; barley, 30s to 34s per 448 lb; oats, old, 24s 6d to 27s per 352 lb; new, 20s to 22s 6d; beans, old, 13s 3d to 14s; new, 12s 3d to 13s 3d per 196 lb; peas, 12s 6d to 15s per 196 lb.

Derby, Friday.—There was a small supply of wheat, and little trade doing at the prices of last week for all sorts of grain. Wheat, 36s to 37s; red, 35s to 36s; malting barley, 29s to 32s; grinding, 25s to 27s; beans, 35s to 36s; old oats, 24s to 26s; new, 21s to 22s.

Devizes, Thursday.—There was a very small supply, with prices about the same as last week, but trade was slow for both wheat, barley, and oats, although the barley trade seems steadier. Best old wheat, 20s to 21s; best new wheat, 18s to 19s; secondary, 16s to 18s; malting barley, 29s to 33s; grinding barley, 26s to 28s; old oats, 22s to 24s; winter oats, 18s to 19s; white Garton oats (330 lb), 18s 6d to 19s 6d; black Tartar oats (320 lb), 18s to 19s; beans, 17s to 18s; fine flour, 31s to 32s; extra fine, 33s to 38s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Short supply of grain, the weather having been against threshing, and only a poor attendance. Moderate trade. English repeated late rates, and made 14s per load. Foreign wheat unchanged. Quiet trade for barley, which made recent prices, though secondary qual ty made lower prices. Slow demand for oats, and only fine qualities realised recent rates; secondary kinds 6d per qr easier.

Dorchester, Saturday. — Only moderate supplies were on offer at to-day's market, the weather of the past week putting a stop altogether to all threshing operations. With no great demand in any deparment the supplies proved fully equal to every demand, as factors showed a general disinclination to buy, except in sufficient quantity to tide over Christmas requirements. Prices generally had a falling tendency, and factors declined all offers of wheat, except at a decline of from 3d to 6d per qr all round, the general impression being that once the American supplies are liberated and put on the market a still further decline will result. Good malting barley maintained late values, and feeding descriptions kept fairly steady, though where any alteration took place it favoured the buyer. Oats and maize were both easier to buy, holders having to accept less to do business. Flour trade very inactive.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance at to-day's market. Wheat quiet, but not quotably altered on the week. Flour quiet, and 6d per sack cheaper. Maize and corn quiet, with prices favouring buyers. Barley steady. Oats quiet and unchanged. Beans against holders. Pease scarce. Bran and thirds unaltered. Oatmeal 1s per sack cheaper for Scotch, other qualities unaltered.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Gloucester, Saturday.—English wheat about 6d per qr cheaper; reds, 34s to 35s; whites, 35s to 36s. Foreign wheat 1s lower on the week: Plates, 41s 6d to 42s; Russian, 40s 6d to 41s 6d. Feeders all 3d cheaper: Plate maize, 25s 6d; flat 6d cheaper; black, 18s to 19s; white, 19s to £1.

Grantham, Saturday.—Owing to wet weather there was only a small supply of grain at the Corn Exchange Wheat, oats, and blue peas were slightly lower. Wheat, 32s to 36s; barley, 26s to 33s; oats, 18s 6d to 20s; beans, 29s to 30s; blue peas, up to 75s per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday. — Moderate attendance, but not much corn on offer. English wheats met with reluctant buyers at last week's prices, 4s 3d to 4s 6d. Barleys very dull, and generally 1s per qr lower. Oats also 1s per qr lower. Maize 3d per qr lower. Beans very little doing.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Small supply of wheat; trade slow, at barely last week's rates. Reds, 36s to 37s; white to 38s per 504 lb. Good supply of barley, trade for all descriptions quiet; prices in buyers' favour. Oats rather easier. Maize 6d per qr cheaper. Beans and peas unaltered.

Leeds, Friday. — The demand for English wheat at 12s to 14s per load was very quiet. Inquiry for foreign was not so great, and the tone was easier. Best barley in fair demand, though inferior sorts were neglected. Feeding stuffs were firm, except oats, which were 6d lower.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good average attendance with fair supplies of home-grown wheats, but the samples came to hand in variable condition. Trade ruled flat, especially for lots out of condition. Red wheats, 33s to 38s; white wheats, 36s to 39s per 36 stones; bright barley in steady request at 28s to 31s per 32 stones; good oats a better trade at 19s to 22s per 24 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—For the time of the year there was a small show of wheat, which sold very slowly at a reduction of 6d per qr on the week. Barley firm at late rates. Oats 6d per qr dearer. Beans, owing to poor conditions, a slow trade at late rates.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat was 6d per qr lower, and foreign 2d per cental under last week. Flour extremely slow at 6d a sack down. Indian corn, ½d to 1d per cental lower. English barley easier. English oats declined 1d per bushel. Offals are generally 6d per load lower, although bran shows little change.

Newark, Wednesday.—Good attendance, but business quiet; prices slightly easier. Quotations:—Red and white wheat, 35s to 36s; malting barley, 28s to 30s; grinding barley, 25s to 27s; white oats, 18s 6d to 19s 6d; black oats, 18s to 19s; old beans, 36s 6d to 37s 6d; new beans, 29s to 31s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A quiet demand for wheat of all descriptions prevailed at our to day's market, and to do business lower prices had to be accepted. Maize in buyers' favour. Fine oats in dry condition remains fairly steady at last week's prices; parcels in soft condition, however, are bad to sell even at a reduction of 6d per qr. Barleys are only slow to move; prices, however, remain unchanged. Beans remain steady at last week's quotations.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newport, Wednesday.—Trade was quiet, and prices were unchanged. Flour, fines, in fair demand, at 31s 6d.

Northampton, Saturday.—Very poor attendance, and business was of a very quiet character for all grains, scarcely any wheat showing, the wretched weather having practically brought threshing operations to a standstill. Prices, which vary very little from last week's, are:—Wheat, 34s to 36s; barley, 25s to 32s; white oats, 19s to 21s; black oats, 18s to 20s; old beans, 34s to 36s; new beans, 31s to 33s; peas, 33s to 35s; flour, 31s to 35s.

Norwich, Saturday.—Market steady. The supply of wheat is slightly larger, and the extreme prices of last week are not touched; values, 37s 6d per qr delivered. Barley in smaller supply and rather cheaper. Feeding stuffs steady at last week's prices, with a fair demand.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat a fair supply, but poor condition; trade ruled slow at late rates. Barleys realised full prices, but other sorts 6d lower. Oats moderate supply, and values maintained Beans, owing to poor condition, were neglected.—ROBT. HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—The wet rough week has prevented threshing, so the supply at market was only moderate. Wheat found a slow trade at about 1s less than last week. Barley quiet. Oats quiet at 6d less money. Beans unaltered. Wheat, 35s to 36s; oats, 18s to 19s 6d; barley, 27s to 34s.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Saturday. —There was only a moderate attendance on our market to-day, due, no doubt, to the fact that the fat stock show is being held here. Wheat remains unchanged. Maize and barley were very quiet at last week's rates. Oats 3d cheaper.. — ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO

Preston, Saturday.—The market is still weak, and wheat holders have had to concede 2d per cental. To-day's market was moderately attended, farmers' wheat and other grain being in small demand at slightly reduced quotations. Flour 6d per peck lower. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new; per windle of 220 lb, 15s 6d to 16s; ditto red, 14s 6d to 15s; oats, old, per bushel, 3s 8d to 3s 9d; ditto, new, 3s 2d to 3s 3d; beans, per windle of 220 lb, 17s to 17s 6d.

Reading, Saturday.—The attendance was not large, and business was again on the quiet side, prices realised were:—Wheat, 32s to 38s;

barley, 26s to 34s; oats, 16s 6d to 21s 6d; peas, 29s to 32s; beans, 31s to 35s.

Retford, Saturday.—Wheat trade slow. Dry lots were very hard to find, and were worth 36s to 36s 6d per qr, out of condition samples made 32s to 34s 6d. Demand for malting barley sluggish. Qualities varied greatly, and quotations were 28s 6d to 32s; grinding samples, 27s; and maize, 28s per qr. Oats were again a dull trade, black making 18s to 19s; white, 19s to 20s; new English beans (if dry), 31s to 32s; and old ditto up to 40s per qr.

York, Saturday.—The supply of wheat was small, and mostly in poor condition. Prices were 6d per qr lower. Fine white, 36s 6d to 37s 6d; red and mixed, 35s 6d to 36s 6d per qr of 36 stones. Malting barley was firm at last week's prices. Fine, 30s to 32s; good, 28s to 30s; and feeding barley, 26s to to 28s per qr of 32 stones. Oats were steady. Tartarys, 18s to 19s; black, 19s to 20s; and short, 19s 6d to 20s per qr of 24 stones. Rye made 28s to 29s; and old beans, 36s per qr of 36 stones.

Ripon, Thursday.—Fair attendance of farmers, but a slow trade. New wheat, 35s to 36s; foreign wheat, 44s to 46s; barley, grinding, 24s to 26s; ditto malting, 28s to 32s; new oats, 19s to 20s 6d; maize, round, 27s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Wheat quiet; trade at last week's prices. Beans, oats, barley, and maize unchanged. Quotations: Wheat, white, new, 36s to 38s; ditto red, new, 36s to 38s per 504 lb; oats, white, old, 26s to 26s 6d; ditto, new, 20s to 21s 6d per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 32s 6d to 36s 6d per 504 lb; beans, English, new, 36s to 37s per 632 lb; barley, grinding, 28s 6d to 29s; ditto malting, 29s to 32s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 27s to 27s 6d; ditto Plate, 27s to 27s 6d per 448 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—Trade was very dull, and prices declined. Wheat was 6d per qr down on the week. Best malting barley, 31s to 32s; grinding sorts, 25s 6d to 26s 6d; beans, 29s 6d to 31s per qr. Oats firm, and peas were little inquired for.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was not much local wheat showing, which brought last week's prices. The foreign wheat trade keeps slow, owing to the stringency of the American money market, and prices were 3d to 6d lower. Maize and oats, 3d to 6d lower. Malting barley firm, 21s to 31s per qr.

Winchester, Saturday.—English and foreign wheat quiet and unaltered. Barley and oats unchanged. Maize 6d to 9d cheaper. Flour steady trade, but a shade lower rates.—Fear, Colebrook, and Co., Ltd.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Wheat small supply, 36s 504 lb. Barley no supply, 28s to 30s 448 lb. Oats, 19s to 20s 336 lb.—James Fletcher.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small attendance, slow trade, and very little grain on offer. White Wheat, 36s to 37s; red ditto, 35s 6d to 36s 6d; best malting barley, 31s to 33s; secondary qualities, 29s to 31s; grinding barley, 26s to 28s; white oats, 18s to 20s; red oats, 17s to 19s; maize, 28s to 29s per qr.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Liverpool, Friday.—Late rates are maintained for nitrate of soda. For kainit there is a fair demand and all phosphates are attracting more attention. Feeding stuffs continue in slow consumptive request, and there is an absence of North American decorticated cotton cake on the spot, with limited supplies of English, poor in colour, and high in price. Small arrivals of Peruvian semi-decorticated cotton cake have, however, been obtainable at comparatively moderate prices and are soft, and contain as much as 11 per cent. oil. Feeding treacle, too, is reasonable.

	Per ton. £ s d	£ s d
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (prime)	—	—
Cottonseed Cake Meal	—	7 15 0
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime (poor colour)	8 0 0	8 5 0
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime	4 16 3	5 0 0
Cottonseed Cake, Pesuvian, semi-decorticated, prime	6 17 6	7 0 0
Cottonseed, crushed, 20 per cent. oil guaranteed	8 10 0	—
Linseed Cake, American, thin oblong, prime	7 15 0	7 17 6
,, ,, English	8 5 0	8 10 0
,, ,, Foreign Round	7 17 6	8 0 0
Palm Nut Cake	6 5 0	—
Maize Germ Meal	7 0 0	7 2 6
Indian Meal, coarse to fine grinding	Per 240 lb. —	—
Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported	Per ton. —	—
Linseed, fine bold feeding	Per qr., 416 lb. 2 13 0	2 15 0

	Per Gallon.					
Cod-liver Oil, cattle feeding	0	4	0	—		
	Per Cwt.					
Treacle, feeding, American	0	4	9	0	4	10½
	Per ton.					
Nitrate of Soda	11	5	0	—		
Kainit, prime	2	7	6	—		
Bone Meal, prime	5	7	6	5	10	0
Bone Ash	3	15	0	—		
Basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed	1	14	0	1	15	0
,, ,,	2	2	0	2	3	0
,, finest ,,	2	6	0	2	7	6
D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime*	2	5	0	2	7	0
,, ,, guaranteed*	2	10	0	2	12	0
,, ,, ,, *	3	1	3	3	3	3

* At depots inland.

—H. Jones Langar and Co.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cake.—The improvement in the demand of last week is fairly well maintained, and country dealers anticipate higher rates after the turn of the year, and are more inclined to go into stocks again. Russians meet a better inquiry. East India seed pures and Calcuttas are unchanged. London made attract rather more attention.

Cotton Cake.—In spite of the prevailing low values, the trade is disappointing, and Egyptian in warehouse are only in moderate request. English find a quiet sale. Decorticated: London made pures move off more readily, and American brands are quoted the turn easier.

Rape cakes do not offer.

Maize Germ Meal.—Some recent arrivals of white African meal have changed hands at an advance, but English makes may still be bought at last week's quotations. Maize gluten meal is obtainable on slightly better terms.

Rice Meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon find buyers at an advance of 2s. 6d., with steamer parcels afloat, offering at late rates.

Locust beans are relatively cheaply offered.

Dried brewers' grain are scarce and dear.

Nitrate of soda is without change.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Russian, in mats (ex dock)	7 10 0	to 7 12 6
,, in bags	7 13 9	to 7 15 0
East India	7 7 6	to 7 10 0
Calcutta	7 12 6	to 7 15 0
London Made	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
Cottonseed Cakes.		
Egyptian	4 13 9	to 4 16 3
English (ex mill)	4 15 0	to 4 17 6
Bombay	4 7 6	
Decorticated, London made	7 15 0	—
,, American	7 2 6	to 7 7 6
,, Meal, American	7 2 6	to 7 7 6
,, Meal, English	7 15 0	—
Special Digestive Meal	5 5 0	—
Rape Cakes.		
East India	—	—
Ravison	—	—
Maize.		
African c.i.f.	6 17	6 to 7 0 0
English	6 12	6 to 6 15 0
Maize Gluten Meal	6 15 0	—
Ricemeal.		
Rangoon ex whf.	5 12 6	to 5 15 0
,, ex ship	5 5 0	—
Locust Beans.		
Whole	5 10 0	
Kibbled	5 15 0	
Dried Brewers' Grains.		
Ale	5 15 0	
Mixed	5 10 0	
Manures.		
Nitrate of soda	11 2 6	

—Pinnock Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Good supplies; fairly good demand. Pheasants, 5s to 6s; young grouse, 5s; old, 3s; young partridges, 5s; old, 2s 6d; black game, 3s 6d to 4s per brace; geese, 4s 6d to 6s 6d; country ducks, 3s to 4s 3d; wild ducks, 1s 6d to 2s; Surrey fowls, 3s to 5s; Sussex fowls, 3s to 3s 6d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 3s 3d; Essex fowls, 2s to 3s; Irish fowls, 1s 9d to 2s 3d; quails, 1s to 1s 6d; feathered pigeons, 8d to 10d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s 2d; English hares, 3s 6d to 4s; leverets, 2s; Scottish hares, 1s 8d; tame rabbits, 1s 3d to 1s 8d; wild rabbits, 6d to 10d; live hens, 1s 8d to 2s each; Australian rabbits, 5s 6d to 7s per dozen; cock turkeys, 8d to 10d per lb; hen turkeys, 4s 6d to 5s 6d each.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Fruit plentiful and in good demand. Greenstuff in moderate supply, at about late rates. Quotations for English produce:—Grapes, 8d to 5s; medlars, 3s and 3s 6d per crate; cranberries, 8s to 10s per case; apples, 2s 6d to 10s per half bushel; cobnuts, 4s to 4s 6d per 12 lb; tomatoes, 4s to 5s 6d per 12 lb; sprue, 8s to 10s; horseradish, 10s to 15s; celery, 6s to 12s per dozen bundles; cauliflowers, 6s to 10s; cabbage, 4s to 6s per tally; sprouts, 2s to 2s 6d; spinach, 2s to 2s 6d; beetroots, 1s 6d per bushel; shallots 2s to 2s 6d per 12 lb; onions, 4s to 5s per cwt; seakale, 12s to 15s per dozen punnets; endive, 1s to 2s; cucumbers, 7s 6d to 10s 6d per dozen; leeks, 1s 6d to 2s; parsley, 1s 3d to 1s 6d; turnips, 1s 6d to 2s 6d per dozen bunches; parsnips, 2s to 2s 6d; greens, 1s 6d per bag; potatoes, 70s to 100s per ton.

DAIRY PRODUCE.

Butter.—There is more animation in the market for Australian and New Zealand butter. A good demand has been experienced this week, and arrivals have been well cleared, especially those from New Zealand. Prices are very firm, and in some cases an advance of 1s to 2s per cwt has taken place. 116s to 118s having been made for "Superfine" Australian, and 118s to 120s for "Choicest" New Zealand, the latter figure being for brands that have a very good reputation. Cheese.—The demand for Canadian and New Zealand cheese is fair at an advance of 1s per cwt. The *Mumari*, which last week sailed from New Zealand, and is due in London on January 18, is carrying 900 tons of cheese, which is a record cargo from the Dominion of New Zealand.—W. Weddel and Co.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The arrivals of home cheese were larger than for the last month. There was a little more inquiry, especially for medium and cheaper qualities. Cheddars, 60s to 65s; Dunlops, 54s to 62s per cwt. A quiet business was passing in Canadians at 61s.

Newport, Wednesday.—A short supply, but a fair attendance and demand. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 60s to 67s per cwt; fancy dairies, 68s to 69s; Derbys, 68s; truckles, 62s to 66s; Cheddars, 62s to 65s.

WOOL.

London, Tuesday.—The sixth series of the Colonial wool sales was brought to a conclusion this afternoon. The result of the sales has been disappointing to wool growers, as competition throughout was hesitating and prices continued to decline. Merinos formed the bulk of the offering, and faulty scoured and all greasies except the best qualities were difficult of sale and generally 15 to 20 per cent. lower than in the September series. Lambs, however, sold best, but also marked a fall of 5 to 10 per cent. Only a moderate amount of crossbreds was brought forward, mainly consisting of slips, but they sold at a reduction of 7½ to 10 per cent. Capes show a falling off of 5 to 10 per cent. The next series will begin on January 21. The following are some of the principal prices obtained:—New Zealand: Greasy, 7½d to 9d; slipe, 7½d to 1s 3½d; pieces, 8d to 11½d. New South Wales: Greasy, 7½d to 12d; lambs, 6¾d to 11d; pieces, 6¾d to 9d; scoured, 11d to 1s 8½d; lambs, 1s 1½d to 1s 6½d; pieces, 11d to 1s 3d. Victoria: Greasy, 6½d to 1s 3d; lambs, 6d to 12d; pieces, 6½d to 10½d; scoured pieces, 10d to 1s 5½d. Cape and Natal: Greasy, 5½d to 10d. Queensland: Greasy, 9d to 13d; lambs, 10d to 11½d; scoured, 13d to 1s 10½d; lambs, 1s 5½d to to 1s 8½d; pieces, 6½d to 1s 8½d. South Australian: 6¾d to 9½d per lb.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The market for Kent fleeces continues very inactive. Staplers do not offer more than 10½d for the fleeces, and 7d for the lamb wool.

Halifax, Saturday.—All through the week business in wool has been very quiet. Offers for home-grown wools are, as a rule, too low for acceptance. But prices are weak, and Irish descriptions are ¼d lower, and indeed are lower for English and Scotch wools generally, with very little doing.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—East Kent growths are making from 56s to 65s per cwt, with choice up to 90s. Weald Fuggles 60 to 63s, and an occasional good lot up to 75s.

Worcester, Saturday.—Trade keeps pretty good for so near to Christmas, and here and there some fair sized lots are going into consumers' hands. The quantity offered by growers is very small, and merchants have to rely on their own stocks. Only 36 pockets weighed this week.—Charles Faram and Co.

Seven Years Grain Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 10d. per 480 lb.
Barley	25s. 4d. per 400 lb.
Oats	18s. 11d. per 312 lb.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 P.M.

Grain holders are somewhat discouraged but not dejected. The weather has been utterly against business, both in breadstuffs and feeding stuffs, and the money market throws an unusually heavy burden on those who have to hold over Christmas. The burden, however, will be borne by the majority of merchants, and the real state of trade can scarcely be gauged from the sacrifices forced on weak holders. Indian wheat was 1s lower to-day, and American sorts were in buyers' favour also.

English samples, if fairly dry, were not only firm but in request. Unfortunately the damp and unfit lots predominated; on these 6d. decline was allowed. The market for maize showed 6d. decline on African, and 3d. on other sorts; the buying is very limited. Oats were not quite so depressed as on the 9th for cheap foreign types, and English sold steadily at currencies. For barley, beans, and peas firmer prices were obtained, but sales were slow.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

December 16.

WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	36 — 39
Red	,,	35 — 38
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	35 — 37
Brewing	,,	33 — 35
Distilling	(per 416 lb.)	31 — 32
New Winter	(per 400 lb.)	27 — 29
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	27 — 28
MALT, Pale (New)	(per 336 lb.)	39 — 41
Brown ,,	,,	34 — 36
Black ,,	,,	36 — 37
OATS, Good Old	,,	22 — 23
Good New	,,	21 — 22
New Winter	,,	20 — 21
Ordinary Old	(per 320 lb.)	21 — 22
Ordinary New	(per 320 lb.)	20 — 21
,, ,,	(per 312 lb.)	19 — 20
RYE, New	(per 480 lb.)	30 — 31
BEANS, Pigeon	(per 532 lb.)	42 — 44
Tick	(per 504 lb.)	35 — 36
Winter	,,	34 — 35
Spring	,,	33 — 34
Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	23 — 24
PEAS, Picked Marrowfat, New	(per 504 lb.)	84 — 88
Unpicked (Old)	,,	52 — 56
Maple (Old)	,,	36 — 37
(New)	,,	35 — 36
Dun (Old)	,,	32 — 33
(New)	,,	33 — 34

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba	43	44	American	26/0	26/3
Red Winter	41	42	Argentine	25/9	26/0
Best Spring	43	44	Roumanian	25/9	26/0
Durum	37	38	Russian	25/6	25/9
Argentine	42	43	Cinquantina	26/6	27/6
Australian	45	46	South African	26/0	26/3
Californian	44	45	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Walla Walla	43	44	Smyrna	37	38
Azima	44	45	New Zealand	35	36
Ghirka	42	43	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Roumanian	42	43	Hungarian	62	64
Indian White	39	40	Burmese	37	39
,, Red	38	39	Chilian	56	64
Turkish	37	38	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb):		
Persian	37	38	French	29	31
BARLEY:			Russian	31	32
C'lifor'n (448 lb)	None.		Canadian	33	34
Tunisian (448 lb)	35	36	PEAS (504 lb.):		
Algerian (448 lb)	34	35	Dutch Crowns	56	58
Russian (400 lb)	24	25	Konigsberg	45	47
Indian (400 lb)	24	25	Russian White	37	38
Persian (400 lb)	22	23	Indian White.	37	38
MALT (336 lb.):			Canadian White	37	38
Californian	38	39	Victoria Dun.	34	35
Smyrna	40	41	MILLET (416 lb.):		
Ouchak	39	40	White	44	46
RYE (480 lb.):			Yellow	24	26
Russian	30	31	Sorghum	22	23
OATS:			RICE (cwt.):		
Konigsbg (320 lb)	21	22	Indian	17	20
Russian (304 lb)	18	19	Burmese	9	10
Canadian (320 lb)	21	22	Siamese	8	9
Arg'tine (304 lb)	18	19	DARI (480 lb.):		
Swedish (320 lb)	21	22	Indian	28	29
NewZ'l'n'd (384 lb)	25	26	Persian	24	25

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED WITH A BETTER FEELING FOR BOTH BREADSTUFFS AND FEEDING STUFFS, BUT THERE WAS NO REAL BRISKNESS IN TRADE, NOR IS THERE NOW LIKELY TO BE ON THIS SIDE OF CHRISTMAS.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 P.M.

The market for flour was 6d cheaper on the week for Town Whites, Town Households, American Patents, American Bakers' grades, and for the Canadian sorts which resemble the better type of American. For Whole Meal, 1s per sack less money was sometimes accepted, but the fall in milling offals, which occurred on the 9th, formed a basis for a fairly steady trade to-day.

Top-price London flour was firm at 37s. and Hungarian was advanced, owing to extreme scarcity, 1s. per sack. Belgian sorts were firm as their high quality is appreciated.

Oatmeal made 29s. per 240 lb. sack for fine Irish, and 29s. 3d. for Canadian.

Maize meal at 13s. to 13s. 6d. per 240 lb. sack was in moderate request. At 16s. per 240 lb. sack barley meal sold fairly well. The trade in other sorts of meal was quiet at the prices of the 9th inst.

London Flour.

December 16.

Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	37/0
Town Whites	,,	33/0
,, Households	,,	30/0
No. 2	,,	29/0
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	31/0
,, No. 2	,,	29/0

Country Flour.

		s.	s.
Fine Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	28	29
Roller Whites	,,	26	27
All English	,,	26	27
Stone made	,,	25	26

Foreign Flour.

		s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	32	33
,, Second Patents	,,	31	32
,, First Bakers'	,,	27	28
,, Second Bakers'	,,	26	27
Milwaukee Patents	,,	31	32
,, Bakers'	,,	26	28
Canadian Best	,,	32	33
,, Ordinary	,,	30	31
Manitoba Patents	,,	32	33
,, Ordinary	,,	30	31
Kansas Patents	,,	30	31
,, Ordinary	,,	28	29
Californian	,,	31	32
Belgian	,,	36	37
Hungarian (net prices)—			
Five Stars	,,	41/0	
G.G.O.	,,	40/0	
P.W.M.	,,	38/0	
Six Anchors	,,	41/0	

Meal, &c.

Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	16	17
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	17	18
,, ,, Broad	,,	16	17
Pollard	,,	15	16
Biscuit Middlings	,,	19	20
Fine Middlings	,,	18	19
Coarse Middlings	,,	17	18
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	19	20
Farina Firsts	,,	30	31
,, Seconds	,,	28	29
Barley Meal	,,	27	28
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	28	29
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	33	34
Groats	,,	34	35
Oat Flour	,,	34	35
Ground Oats	,,	33	34
Poultry Meal	,,	37	38
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	21	22
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	20	21
,, Germ Meal	,,	17	18
,, Cones	,,	20	21
,, Gluten Mea	,,	17	18
Rye Flour	,,	26	28
Rye Bran	,,	23	24
Pea Meal	,,	24	25

THE BALTIC.

Monday, 1 P.M.

State of Trade.

There is more business doing to-day from last week, the reduced prices tending to increased wish to purchase. The increased steadiness of trade is most noticeable in the case of oats and maize. The fall in Argentine wheat futures is the one disquieting feature in the sales of this morning.

Business Done.

Wheat.—No. 2 Western Winter, 7s 5d per 100 lb, January shipment; No. 2 Red Winter, 7s 6d per 100 lb, January shipment; No. 2 Hard Winter, 7s 9d per 100 lb, January shipment; Red Walla, 39s per 500 lb, on passage; Rosa Fé, 36s per 480 lb, February shipment; Barletta, 35s 9d per 480 lb, February shipment; Entre Rios, 38s 6d per 492 lb., February shipment; Russian Winter, 44s per 492 lb, on passage; Russian Spring, 41s per 492 lb, on passage; Australian, 39s per 480 lb, February shipment.

Maize.—Mixed American, 5s 3d per 100 lb, January shipment; white American, 5s 4d per 100 lb, Janaury shipment; Argentina, 5s 7d per 100 lb, January shipment; Odessa, 5s 6d per 100 lb, January shipment; Novo Rossisk, 5s 6d per 100 lb, January shipment; South African, 5s 3d per 100 lb, January shipment; Argentine, 5s 2d per 100 lb, January shipment; Argontine, 5s 3d per 100 lb, February shipment.

Barley.—Tunisian, 31s per 448 lb, December shipment; Karachi, 23s 3d per 400 lb, December shipment.

Oats.—Argentine, 15s 3d per 304 lb, February shipment; South Russian, 17s per 304 lb, on passage.

Beans.—Odessa, 34s per 480 lb, prompt shipment (if port open); Saida, 34s per 480 lb prompt shipment (if port open); Panderma, 32s per 480 lb, prompt shipment (if port open).

Peas.—New Zealand, 51s per 504 lb prompt shipment (if port open).

Linseed.—Duluth, 41s 6d per 416 lb, prompt shipment (if port open); Argentine, 39s per 416 lb, February shipment.

Rapeseed.—Ferozepore, 51s 6d per 416 lb, January shipment.

Cottonseed.—Egyptian. £6 11s 3d per 2,240 lb, January shipment; Bombay, £5 15s per 2,240 lb, January shipment; Peruvian, £6 per 2,240 lb, January shipment.

TERM MARKET.

At the lower prices generally accepted the business in futures shows an increased activity. Prices per cental are as follows:—

Red winter wheat—

7s. 8d. per cental (delivery any month as desired: January to May).

American flat maize—

5s 3d per cental, delivery any date in February, March, or April.

Argentine yellow maize—

5s 2d per cental, January delivery.

5s 3d per cental, February delivery.

Canadian White Peas—

7s 8d per cental, January delivery.

Argentine oats—

5s 2d per cental, March delivery.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—Dull, with little or nothing doing, unless where flour is offered at moderate prices for forward delivery. Grain.—Indian corn is in very small demand at drooping prices. Beans, 3d to 6d lower. Oats quiet and unchanged. Oatmeal again 6d to 1s per sack lower. Oilcake quiet. Mill Stuffs.—Rather against sellers. Spring wheat patents, 31s to 32s 6d per 280 lb; winter wheat patents, 30s to 30s 6d per 280 lb; American corn, 15s 1½d to 15s 3d per 280 lb; round corn, 15s 1½d to 15s 3d per 280 lb; grinding beans, 18s to 18s 3d per 280 lb; broad bran, 115s to 117s 6d per ton; medium bran, 110s to 112s 6d per ton; common thirds (sharps), 112s 6d to 115s per ton; fine thirds, 137s 6d to 140s per ton; American oilcake, 147s 6d to 150s per ton.—McKinnon and McDonald (Glasgow).

The trade remains unchanged from last week, with a fair demand.—John Bawcomb and Co.

Arrivals of wheat and flour are large. The trade has recovered from the depression of last week, and prices are unchanged. Prices of maize, barley, and oatsa are about as last Monday.—Coventry, Sheppard, and Co.

WET AND DRIED GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Wet Grains: With a good trade and owing to slack brewings prices have a firmer tendency, and business has been done during the week at 23s ale, and porter 3s per ton less on rail London. Dried Grains.—Prices continue firm with a steady tendency at 110s for ale and 105s for mixed, bags 6d each. Best Java Molasses.—Concrete 70 per cent. sugar, in baskets, 85s per ton. Kiln dried sea-damaged wheat from 21s per qr, on rail, London and elsewhere.—Hamlyn and Co.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were:—From Ireland, 3,506 bales, and from foreign ports, 13,962 bales. The market was steady last week, but closed a shade quiet on Friday. Quotations ranged:—Irish, 55s to 56s up to 60s; Danish, 53s to 56s up to 58s; Canadian, 50s to 52s up to 55s. Butter: The butter market was steady. French, 104s to 120s; Danish, 122s to 124s; Russian, 90s to 110s; Irish, 96s to 120s; Victorian, 96s to 118s; New South Wales, 96s to 118s; Queensland, 98s to 116s; New Zealand, 94s to 122s; Argentine, 114s to 118s; American Ladles, 94s to 96s.. Lard.—Lard was a quiet market. Irish, 46s to 58s; Danish, 47s to 54s; American, 43s 9d to 45s 9d.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

GREAT CHRISTMAS CATTLE MARKET.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Dec. 16, 1907. British.	Total.	Monday, Dec. 17, 1906.
Beasts	2,630	2,630	2,190
Sheep and Lambs	10,210	10,210	10,700
Calves	10	10	20
Pigs	30	30	—
Milch Cows	40	40	50

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 9	3 4	5 0
Sheep	3 6	5 4	6 2
Lambs	—	6 6	7 0
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	2 10	3 10	4 0

Milch cows, per head, £13 to £24.

British arrivals inelude as follows :—Scotland, 450; Eastern Counties, 570; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 1,370; Devon, 150; Ireland, 150.

The chief event of the year in connection with the cattle trade at Islington has been the holding to-day of the annual Christmas Market, commonly known as the "Great Day." The numbers exhibited showed but little variation from those of last year.

As a display it is quite as valuable as the Smithfield Club or Birmingham Shows inasmuch as, whilst the show cattle are in a great measure isolated specimens of what can be done in bringing cattle to perfection, the Christmas market gives a more general idea of the farmer's capabilities in producing herds which possess a general evenness of quality and condition. No falling off can be reported in the Scotch arrivals, but whilst Scotland retains its traditional position, it must not be supposed that the northern parts possess the monopoly. Closely vying with these are the Devon cattle, which in the estimate of many good judges, are fully equal to the former in all points. With regard to the quality of the Scotch breeds, these were well up to last year's standard, being compact in form, light in bone, and not carrying too much fat, consequently not producing so much waste to the butchers. The best of these were to be seen on the stands of Messrs. Bound and Son, Eve and Son, W. Haywood, G. Hill, W. Reid, the chief breeders and graziers being Messrs. A. Beddie, A. Ingram, (Cupar), G. Walker (Tillygreig), Young Bros., of Rothshire, and C. Leys (Aberdeen). There was also a fine show of the Devon breed, these comparing very favourably with the last "Great Day," Mr. T. Law (Parnell) and McTurk being the principal salesmen. The Irish consignments were much shorter and comprised 130 Dublins, 107 of which were seen on the stands of Mr. T. Oliver (of which 98 were choice Royal Dublin Society's show cattle) and 40 Waterfords, these latter being for sale on Mr. Fitzgerald's stand. Mr. McTurk also must be mentioned as having some very choice Polled Waterfords. Norfolks were in short supply, the majority, however, made up for the disparity in numbers by being fully up to last year's standard, both with regard to size and quality, no big awkward beasts being shown, greater number ranging from 90 to 110 stone. Some of the best specimens were seen on the stands of Messrs. E. and P. Chapman, W. Law, F. Syder, A. Allday, and T. Banner, the majority of which were consigned by E. Chapman, of Fakenham, Norfolk. Herefords were but a medium display, which is natural at this season of the year, whilst runts were fully up to, if not in advance of last year's standard, the best of which were shown on Messrs. B. Ashton and Sons' stand. Shorthorns consisted principally of consignments from Lincolnshire and Leicestershire, and were quite up to last year's quality, the principal holders of which were Messrs. Goodale and Stranks.

On Mr. Webb's stand were to be seen some very choice bulls and other cattle which were consigned to him by the following well-known senders and others. Shorthorns, Messrs. J. Wilson of Swindon, P. Kerr of Cheam. Devons by Messrs. E. Way and J. Elliott of Barnstaple. Herefords by J. Mitchell of Warwickshire and T. Maher of Maidenhead, the latter consigning a Hereford heifer from his Majesty's Farm, Windsor. On this stand there was also an old-fashioned Long-horned bull which had taken third prize at Gillingham Show: it is thought by some that it is a pity to allow this breed to become extinct, which it very nearly is, as they are a good hardy race of cattle, Mr. Webb never having known one to have tuberculosis.

Trade, owing to early fog, was very late in commencing, even when sales were beginning to be made they were very protracted, owing to buyers holding out for lower rates, which sellers after some time had to concede to for all descriptions from 2d. to 4d. per 8 lb. Fat cows were very little sought after; late currencies, however, governed all transactions.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb (sinking the offal) :—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, Dec. 17, 1906. s. d.	s. d.
Scotch	4 10 to 5	0	5 0 to 5	2
Devons	4 6 to 4	8	4 8 to 4	10
Herefords	4 4 to 4	6	4 4 to 4	6
Norfolks	4 4 to 4	6	4 8 to 4	10
Runts	4 2 to 4	4	4 4 to 4	6
Lincolns	3 10 to 4	0	3 2 to 4	4
Irish	4 2 to 4	4	4 2 to 4	4
Dublin show cattle	4 6 to 4	8	5 0 to 5	2
Fat cows	3 4 to 3	6	3 6 to 3	8

The following table shows the number of beasts offered for sale on each great market day for the last eleven years :—

Year.	Beasts.	s. d.	s. d.
1897	4,570	2 4 to 4	8
1898	3,940	2 6 to 4	10
1899	3,960	3 6 to 5	2
1900	3,020	3 0 to 4	10
1901	2,510	2 8 to 5	4
1902	3,660	2 10 to 5	6
1903	2,960	2 4 to 4	8
1904	2,250	2 10 to 5	2
1905	2,510	3 0 to 5	0
1906	2,190	2 9 to 5	2
1907			

Turning our attention to the sheep market the supplies were fully up to last year's standard in regard to quality, and were also numerically stronger. As usual, Downs and Halfbreds predomidated, some very choice Suffolk and Hampshire Down tegs being seen in the pens of Mr. R. Worboys, his principal senders being Messrs. Ward (Newnham), Cooper (Ashwell), Hunt (Guilder Moseler), and McLaren of Littington. Mr. F. Syder also had a choice collection, whilst in Mr. Woodward's pens were to be seen some fine quality Lincoln Halfbreds, some of which had taken 1st prize at the Peterborough Show.

Trade throughout the day was of a very slow nature at late values for all descriptions, partly due to the supply being in excess of the demand. Scotch descriptions were in fair average numbers, as also were Irish, both being governed by late currencies. The few lambs on offer were disposed of. A clearance is not expected to be made.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned :—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, Dec. 17, 1906. s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
7½ to 8 st Downs	6 0 to 6	2	6 4 to 6	6	
9 st. Down Tegs	5 10 to 6	0	6 0 to 6	2	
10 st Halfbreds	5 6 to 5	8	5 10 to 6	0	
10 st Yorkshires	—		—		
12 st Lincolns	—		4 4 to 4	6	
10 st Irish	5 2 to 5	4	5 6 to 5	8	
10 st Down Ewes	4 0 to 4	2	4 4 to 4	6	
11 st Halfbred ditto	3 10 to 4	0	4 2 to 4	4	
5 st Down Lambs	6 8 to 7	0	7 10 to 8	0	
6 st Halfbred ditto	—		7 0 to 7	4	

Calf trade not worth noting.

The following table shows the number of sheep and lambs penned each year since 1897, together with the current top rate :—

Year.	Sheep.	Top price. s. d.
1897	12,150	6 0
1898	10,850	5 10
1899	9,220	5 10
1900	10,560	6 0
1901	10,590	5 10
1902	10,600	6 0
1903	11,120	6 0
1904	11,550	6 0
1905	10,630	6 0
1906	10,700	6 6
1907		

London (Central), Monday.—Quiet trade for good supplies. Beef, English, 3s 4d to 3s 9d; Scotch, 4s to 4s 4d; American, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 4d to 3s 10d. Mutton, English wethers, 3s 8d to 4s 4d; ewes, 2s 10d to 3s 2d. Scotch tegs and wethers, 4s 6d to 5s; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d. Veal, 4s to 5s 8d. Pork, 3s 4d to 4s per stone.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—To-day's supply, compared with Monday last, showed a decrease of 385 head, and consisted entirely of shipments from the United States, trade for which ruled of a slow nature, the best on offer being quoted at from 4s 2d to 4s 4d; seconds, 4s to 4s 2d per 8 lb (offal given in). On Saturday 2,482 States and 758 Canadians were offered for sale. Trade ruled of a slow nature, States Christmas cattle being quoted at from 4s 4d to 4s 6d; Canadians, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; Ranch cattle were not sold. 940 Canadian ewes met a slow trade at from 3s 10d to 4s per 8 lb.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cake.—Demand keeps slow, and foreign makes are the turn weaker, but there is no change in value of London made. Cotton Cake.—Business is not very brisk. With continued arrivals of Egyptian market turn weaker. Decorticated Cotton Cake-Meal.—Stocks light, but there is little or no inquiry, so prices keep about the same. Linseed.—A good trade is doing in the feeding sorts.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
English Linseed Cake ex mill	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
Calcutta Linseed Cake, ex quay	7 13 9	to 7 15 0
Russian Oil Cake, ex quay	7 12 6	to 7 15 0
COTTONSEED CAKE.		
Decorticated Cotton Cake ex quay	7 7 6	to 7 12 6
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal ex quay	7 7 6	
London-made ,, Cake (best) ex mill	4 17 6	to 5 0 0
Egyptian ,, Cake (in bags) ex quay	4 15 0	to 4 16 3
SUNDRIES.		
Burton Desicated Ale Grains (bags included) rail, Burton	5 8 0	—
LINSEED.		
Dutch Linseed (in bage) per 416 lb ex warehouse	—	—
Calcutta Linseed (in bags), per 416 lb (bold) ex warehouse	2 8 0	—
La Plata Linseed per 416 lb. ex warehouse	2 6 0	to 2 12 0
Russian Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb ex warehouse	2 8 6	—

—ROBT. & JOHN HEWETSON.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, December 16.—Linseed and cottonseed are a little cheaper on the week, but rapeseed is firmer than ever, and both poppyseed and sesame are rather appreciating than otherwise.

LINSEED. per 416 lb.	s.	s.
Calcutta	46	to 47
Russian	45	to 48
Argentine cleand	46	to 47
Argentine comn.	44	to 45
Dutch	51	to 53
Turkish	48	to 50
Canadian	46	to 47
Morocco	50	to 51
RAPESEED. per 416 lb.		
English	82	to 84
French F.A.Q.	64	to 66
Yellow Guzerat	61	to 63
Yellow Cawnpre	58	to 59
Brown ,,	55	to 56
Ferozepore	55	to 56
Jamba	46	to 47

RUBSEN. per 424 lb.	s.	s.
German	71	to 75
POPPYSEED. per 377 lb.		
Indian	59	to 61
COTTONSEED. per ton.		
Egyptian	134	to 136
Indian	116	to 120
Peruvian	120	to 124
SUNFLOWERSEED. per cwt		
English, White	14	to 15
,, Black	13	to 14
Russian, White.	13	to 14
,, Black.	12	to 13
SESAME. per 384 lb.		
Indian	61	to 62
HEMPSEED. per 336 lb.		
Russian	42	to 44

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—The lower prices now being accepted for all grades is inducing consumers to cover their requirements, the rates now ruling being below the cost of production, such favourable conditions for buying cannot be expected to continue.—W. H. AND H. LE MAY.

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

*Cereal Year commencing September 2nd, 1907.**

		s.	d.
September 2	(per sack)	32	0
,, 13	,,	34	0
,, 20	,,	33	0
,, 27	,,	35	0
October 2	,,	36	0
,, 9	,,	37	0
,, 21	,,	38	0
November 6	,,	37	0

(No change since last date given).

* September 1st, 1907, was a Sunday.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

With a slight decrease in the number of beasts offered for sale on both market days, trade ruled of a slow nature. Nevertheless, on Monday prime quality fat cattle were firm in regard to values, in some cases sellers both asking and obtaining an advance on late rates. The arrivals were chiefly from the Midland counties, though some good Scotch, Devons, and Norfolks were included. As usual, the Polled Aberdeen cattle obtained our top quotation. The Irish arrivals consisted of 60 Dublins and 64 Waterfords, sellers of the former being obliged to accept 1d. per 8 lb. less money to effect sales. Fat butchering cows were less sought after by country buyers, consequently late values were somewhat difficult to maintain. On Thursday only fat cows, bulls, and rough cattle were offered for sale, Monday's values governing all transactions; 30 Polled Aberdeen beasts were consigned and withheld in the market lairs for Monday.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, trade on Monday and Saturday (no market being held on Wednesday) ruled of a slow but steady nature, prices being lower on Monday owing to the cattle being of somewhat inferior quality. The total number of beasts on offer at both markets was 5,585, as against 4,154 during the preceding week, consisting of 1,490 British (decrease 20), and 4,095 foreign (increase 1,451), these latter comprising 3,136 from the United States, and 959 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 stone Polled Aberdeens, 4s. 8d. ex 4s. 10d.; 90 stone Devons, 4s. 6d. ex 4s. 8d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 90 stone Norfolks, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 95 stone runts, 4s. 1d. to 4s. 3d.; 100 stone Shorthorns. 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 95 stone Irish, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 90 stone States, 4s. 1d. to 4s. 3d.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; Ranch cattle, 2s. 10d. to 3s.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d. to 3s 6d.

The sheep trade at Islington was practically fined to Monday, there being too few on offer on Thursday to note or quote. On Monday all grades of English sheep were governed by late currencies, with a slow trade. Irish descriptions showed a falling off in point of numbers, whilst Scotch, on the other hand, were in larger supply, but met with no corresponding increase in the demand, consequently sellers had to accept a decline of 2d. per 8 lb. in value to force sales; ewes were difficult to vend on account of the large supply at Deptford on the previous Saturday. At Deptford, another consignment of ewes were offered for sale on Saturday, numbering 940. The total number penned was 5,650, as against 6,201 during the preceding week, consisting of 4,710 British and 940 Canadians. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Down tegs, 6s. to 6s. 2d.; 8 stone Scotch 6s. to 6s. 2d.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 10 stone Down tegs, 5s. 8d. to 5s 10d.; 10 stone half-breds, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone ewes, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 11 stone Hampshires, 5s. 8d to 5s. 10d.; 8½ stone Canadian ewes, 3s. 10d. to 4s.

Calves numbered 40 head, and met with a slow trade, the best on offer being quoted at from 5s. to 5s. 2d per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

Trade in the West.

By the time these lines reach the eyes of our readers most of the stock required for the great national slaughter which will now in a few days be in progress all over the country will have been acquired, and from the generally excellent character of the supplies which have been on offer—no matter whether of beef, mutton, lamb, veal, or pork, leaving out of the question all kinds of poultry—purveyors have found very little difficulty, where prepared to pay a price for what wanted, in getting their requirements met. All the better-class Devon, Norfolk, Shorthorn and Polled-Angus sold during the past and present week have been readily making 12s. to 13s. per score (or from £16 for very small weights up to £38 for some of the heaviest bullocks which have been sent to market), and only very plain bullocks, such as cows, bulls, &c., have been purchasable under from 10s. to 11s., those selling at a lower figure being adapted for the very poorest class of trade. Fat sheep of choice quality have cost butchers, as a rule, dearly, tegs and wethers especially, as many of special finish have realised from 60s. up to 75s. apiece (or not less than 9½d. to 10d. if bought for the money); and young ewes have been very little cheaper, the best Downs and Cross-breds selling from 8½d. to 9d.; and old coarse sheep 7d. to 8d. Choice fat lamb has also realised fancy prices for specially finished lots, 11d. to 1s. being a general run for dainty weights, which make up to 63s. each, and 10d. to 10½d. for more ordinary runs, only poorly-finished animals being obtainable at 9d. to 9½d. Pigs are meeting a fairly steady trade, though last year's prices have not been reached, even for the daintiest porkers, 11s. being an outside figure against 11s. 6d. last season, and baconers are also correspondingly cheaper, 9s. 6d. to 10s. 3d., and heavy-weights 8s. 6d. to 9s. Despite the prevailing depression still affecting many of our industries, we are glad to be able to report a good clearing business in most departments of the fat stock trade at prices which must, on the whole, be fairly satisfactory to the seller, but hardly so to purveyors who, as a rule, have been called upon to pay a price which will quite preclude the possibility of their giving the public the benefit of very cheap meat this season, anxious and desirous as many of the more enterprising amongst our purveyors may be to do so.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer was under an average, but the general quality was fairly satisfactory. A very active trade was experienced, and prices advanced on an average fully £1 per head. Fat cows also participated in a like advance. Sheep have been shown in moderate supply. Owing to the severe fall in the price of skins trade was slow, and prices would be nearly 1s. a head lower than those of the previous week. Ewes, especially those of secondary descriptions, continue to sell at moderate prices. Fat calves generally of secondary quality. Anything good made full prices. A large show of pigs met a good trade without change in prices. For the time of year there was a large show of store cattle, and generally of good quality. There was a full attendance of buyers, and a nearly total clearance was effected at prices equal to those of the preceding week. There was a large supply of store sheep, many of them being of a secondary and inferior description. An exceedingly slow trade was met, and a large proportion of those on offer were left unsold at the finish. To effect sales, from 1s. to 1s. 6d. per head less had to be taken. A small show of milch cows met a stiff trade. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 41s.; current, 37s. to 38s. 6d; mutton, 6d to 9d. per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Ltd.

Trade in Ireland.

There was an increase of nearly 800 head of beasts and just 1,200 sheep at last Dublin's Thursday market over the previous week. These numbers (5,200 cattle and 7,021 sheep) supplies a record level, and were perhaps the record level for some years past. The large numbers of both cattle and sheep had a bad effect on the prices. The attendance of buyers was good, and some, as usual, bought choice lots of cattle and sheep at the winter show at Ballsbridge. Bullocks and heifers in good finish sold well, and were cleared off at an early hour, but the heavy supplies of really good average cattle kept ordinary prices down to a reasonable figure. Good stall-fed beasts were inquired for, which were taken largely at the price noted for last week—viz., 32s. to 34s. per cwt. (live weight). Some fancy bullocks from Navan made 35s. per cwt. (£23 each). All round prices were hardly as good as would be expected at this market. Strong cattle sold at about 28s. to 29s. per cwt., and were in fair demand.

The relative dead weight prices for beef were: Best ox and heifer beef from 52s. 6d. to 56s., and extra well-fed stall-fed from 57s. 9d. up to 62s. was given.

The demand was slack for sheep, and prices were cheaper and very irregular. Some fine pens of Cheviots sold very well. Messrs. Cuffe got the high price of £4 4s. each for a fine pen of Cheviot wethers. Medium and small hoggets sold fairly well, but heavy sheep—both wethers and ewes—were slack and hard to sell.

Prime wether mutton made from 7d. to 7½d. per lb., ewes 6d. to 6½d., and inferior sheep from 5d. to 6d. per lb. Large heavy sheep were very slow to sell, and cheaper. There were 5,200 cattle and 7,012 sheep exposed for sale in the market.

Veal was scarce, and only prime sorts wanted. Prime veal brought 8d. and 8½d. per lb., and inferior ditto little inquired for.

The demand for milch cows was quiet, and prices easier, though really good springers and newly-calved cows commanded satisfactory prices. Store cattle were selling fairly well, and those sold at an auction which took place in the evening brought good prices. The Dublin pig market was well attended by buyers. At the opening of the market they were rather difficult to approach, but as the day wore on higher prices were the rule. Choice light-weight hogs made 48s. and 49s. per cwt., and coarser hogs 38s. to 40s. Inferior hogs were sold from 36s. to 38s. per cwt.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Fair supplies and trade very slow, but mutton firmer. English beef, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s 2d; shorts, 4s 2d to 4s 6d, extreme 4s 8d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 2d to 3s 7d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 9d to 3s 11d; ditto, seconds, 3s 5d to 3s 7d; ditto, forequarters, 2s 4d to 3s 8d; inferior beef, 2s 2d to 2s 8d. Mutton, Scotch wethers, 4s 10d to 5s; ditto tegs, 5s to 5s 2d; ditto ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; Dutch sheep, 4s to 4s 6d; English lamb, 6s to 6s 8d; veal, 3s 8d to 4s 8d, extreme 5s; English pork, 3s 8d to 4s; Dutch ditto, 3s 6d to 3s 10d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—To-day's supply of beasts consisted entirely of fat cows and bulls, for which trade ruled slow at Monday's values. Top prices per 8 lb:—Fat cows, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 6d to 3s. Only ten sheep offered, trade consequently not worth noting. Calf trade slow; best quoted from 5s to 5s 2d per 8 lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef trade very quiet, awaiting the Christmas market next week. Best beasts made 4s 8d with difficulty, and mediums about 4s 2d. Mutton sold better, and small Downs were quoted up to 6s 6d; Kent wethers, 5s 6d to 6s; and good ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 6d. Pork trade very poor; best roasters did not reach 4s, and large hogs made 3s 2d.

Berwick, Saturday.—Attendance of farmers and buyers fair, and trade good. Calves, £5 2s 6d to £6 12s 6d; heifers, £9 10s to £12 10s; stirks, £8 10s to £11 15s; two-year-olds, £12 to £14 5s; three-year-olds, £13 15s to £15 5s; cows, £16 10s to £24 10s.

Birmingham, Thursday. — Good supply of pigs; small supply of beasts and sheep; trade slow. Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8½d per lb; bacon pigs, 8s 9d to 8s 10d per score; cutting pigs, 9s to 9s 3d per score; porkets, 9s 6d per score; sows, 7s 4d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—The Christmas cattle market was held to-day, and there was a plentiful supply of stock, but little demand, and business dull all round. Beef was quiet at 56s per cwt for best qualities and 60s for extra, whilst poorer sorts sold at 52s. Mutton was in moderate supply, but inquiry limited; extra quality realised 9d per lb, prime 8½d, heavy 8d, ewes 6d. Pigs were not numerous, and values unchanged.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices of pigs:—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 1s. per pig extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. 10 lb to 8 sc. 10 lbs, 9s per score; 8 sc. 11 lb to 9 sc. 10 lb., 8s 6d per score; 9 sc. 11 lb to 10 sc. 10 lb, 8s per score. Pigs outside these limits at their value.—C. and T. Harris and Co., Ltd.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A very small offering of lean stock, and scarcely any demand for the bullocks. Lambs are selling at from 31s 6d to 40s per head.

Carlisle, Saturday. — Buyers were not numerous, and a quiet trade resulted. Wintering heifers, £7 10s to £8 10s; and up to £10 10s stall-feding heifers, to £12 10s to £16 10s; geld cows, £8 10s to £10 10s; horned bullocks to £12 10s each.

Chester, Thursday.—Smaller supplies of stock, with a somewhat quieter demand. At the close a pretty good clearance had been made, prices being about the same as last week. Quotations:—Milch cows, £16 to £22; calvers, £15 to £18; barrens, £10 to £13; heifers, £9 to £15; stirks, £6 to £10; bulls, £11 to £15.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Owing to the storm there was only a small supply, though plenty of

Irish cattle were shown. Trade was slow, and cattle were slightly easier. Milch beasts, £17 to £22; bullocks, £12 to £16 10s; heifers £11 to £16; drapes and stirks, £8 to £12; young stores, £7 to £8 each. Only a few sheep, and prices were a shade lower.

Dorchester, Saturday.—A very full cattle market to-day, this being the second of the great Christmas fat stock sales, when Messrs. Ensor and Son offered a grand selection of prime fat beasts, besides a heavy supply of stores, as well as some choice mutton, at their agricultural repository, at which there was a large and representative attendance of well-known purveyors and graziers, many of whom were present from a distance. The beef, which consisted of only animals of moderate weights, met a very good demand, best heifers making 11s 6d to 12s per score, or from £16 10s to £23 each), and cows £14 to £18 15s (or 10s 6d to 11s); and fat bulls to £17 (or 10s to 10s 6d). Amongst the fat sheep were some nice-quality Down wethers, which made up to 55s each (or 9d per lb). Exmoor wethers 40s 6d to 43s 6d (or 8½d to 9d), and fat ewes to 46s (or 7½d to 8d). Everything suitable for the Christmas trade found buyers. Store stock met a very brisk inquiry, best young barreners realising £23 to £24 per pair, and others £20 to £22. Dairy beasts also commanded extreme rates, heifers and calves making £16 to £21 (from a good hard country), and cows and calves from £23 down to £10 10s each for old animals. In-calvers were likewise in request at about 10 guineas each. Despite the heavy floods and the difficulties stock-owners are put to in finding a dry place for their stock, everything in the same line changed hands.

Dublin, Thursday.—There was a much larger supply of cattle, and with buyers operating more cautiously no improvement in prices can be quoted. Rough beasts met a disappointing trade and many remained unsold. For a Christmas market the qurlity of the beef was not up to the expected standard. Some choice grass-fed heifers fed by Mr Cornwall made the extreme quotations, and the stall-feds consiged by Mr. Satchwell, of Craggs, were much admired, and brought relatively high prices. Sheep in excess of requirement, and in order to effect sales a further reduction had to be made on last week's prices, and even then a clearance could not be effected. Cattle—Live weight (best), 31s to 33s per cwt; exceptional, 35s per per cwt; other sorts, 26s to 30s per cwt. Mutton (dead weight), 6½d to 7½d per lb; fancy mountain wethers, 7¾d per lb.—Ganly, Sons, and Co.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Good demand for best cattle; polled bullocks to £15; horned bullocks to £15; stirks to £11; cows slow trade, shorthorns to £25 10s; crosses to £24; Ayrshires, £18 5s. Sheep fair trade; good supplies; Cheviot dinmonts to 38s; half-bred hoggs to 34s; grey-faced hoggs to 33s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a smaller show of cattle at the market, and the demand was good for all classes at slightly stiffer prices; top quality, 64s to 66s; secondary, 58s to 61s per cwt. Although rather fewer sheep were penned, trade ruled somewhat slow, while prices generally were nominally unaltered; best mutton, 9d to 9½d per lb; secondary, 8½d to 8¾d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—It was the Christmas fair, and there were large supplies of prime stock. Beef was a heavy supply, but met with a slightly firmer trade than of late. The top figures were £30 10s and £27 5s for the first prize pair of bullocks, fed by Mr. Peter Coats. Apart from the prize cattle, the top price for beef was 6½d. Some prize calves made 8d, others 6d to 7d. Sheep sold well, wethers and tegs 8½d, prizetakers 9d, ewes 6½d. Porks realised 5½d, but bacons went cheap at 4½d to 5d. Store pigs lower than ever. Store cattle dull trade.

Leicester, Saturday.—Small supplies of store stock, and business ruled flat. Good milch cows made £18 to £20; secondary qualities, £14 to £16; and bullocks, £12 to £13 each.

Lincoln, Friday.—An average supply of beasts and a fair trade. Young stock, £9 to £12; strong ditto, £13 to £15; milch cows, £17 to £22. Hogg sheep made 44s each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—The Christmas market was well attended, and prices were up to last year, and the quality of beef was quite as good. Fine show of fat beasts, very short, 9s; others, 7s 6d to 8s 6d per stone. Stores very slow, £6 to £13 each. Show of fat sheep good, and trade firm, from 9s to 10s 6d per stone; few store lambs, from 35s to 42s each.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: Firsts, 5¾d; seconds, 4½d to 5d; thirds, 3½d to 4d. Mutton: Scotch, 8d; others, 7¾d; seconds, 6¾d to 7½d; thirds, 5¾d to 6½d. Veal: Firsts, 7½d; seconds, 6½d to 7½d; thirds, 5½d to 6½d. Bacon Pigs: Firsts, 5d; seconds, 4d to 4½d; thirds, 3d to 3½d. Porket Pigs: Firsts, 6½d; seconds, 5½d to 6d; thirds, 5½d to 5¾d.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Trade for cattle was rather better, and prices for first-class cattle and medium weights were up 3d to 6d per stone, Quotations:—Prime heifers, 7s 9d to 8s; second-class, 7s 3d to 7s 6d; prime steers, 7s 6d to 7s 9d; second-class, 7s to 7s 3d; coarse and inferior, 6s to 6s 6d per stone, sinking the offal. Trade for sheep was firmer, and prices a ½d per lb higher, except for ewes and rams. Quotations:—Choice young sheep, 8½d to 8¾d; strong sheep, 8d to 8½d; choice hoggs, 8¾d to 9d; second-class, 8½d to 8¾d; ewes, 6d to 6½d; rams, 5d to 5½d per lb. Trade for calves was fair. Veal, 5d to 8d per lb, a fall of ½d.

Newport, Wednesday.—A very large supply of cattle, and most of the cattle were of the primest quality, and good prices were realised. There was a very large attendance of buyers, and a brisk demand. Quotations were:—Best beef, 6½d to 6¾ per lb; secondary, 6d; cows, 5d to 5½d; best wether mutton, 8½d to 9d; ewes, 7d to 7½d; lambs, 9d to 9½d; calves, 6d to 7d; porker pigs, 10s 3d to 10s 6d per score; baconers, 9s to 9s 6d.

Norwich, Saturday.—A splendid show of fat cattle, but quality was no better than expected. Trade was slow, especially for heavy cattle, nice small making 8s; others, 7s 6d to 7s 9d, and cows and rough sorts 6s 9d per stone of 14 lb. Veal calves sold at 8d to 8½ per lb. Fat sheep, all of best quality, were not a very good show, trade being dull at 8½d to 9d, and slow for ewes at 6d per lb A good show of fat pigs; heavy sorts met a slow trade at 5s 6d to 6s, smaller ones made up to 6s 8d, and sows 5s per stone. Store cattle were 600 short of last week, and mostly second quality beasts; trade was dull, two and three year olds made from £11 15s to £15 10s; yearlings, £8 5s to £9 10s; and smaller ones up to £5 15s per head. Rearing calves were a little dearer at 23s to 24s. An average show of store sheep, which were unchanged at 40s to 50s each. A slow demand for store pigs, and trade bad at 10s to 18s 9d.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Smaller show of stock, which met with a good trade. In-calf cows made £18 to £22; heifers, £15 to £18; and calves to 40s each. Smaller show of stores, strong heifers and steers realising about £14 each. Stronger beasts made about £9.

Preston, Wednesday.—The moderate supplies of beef and mutton proved more than sufficient to meet the demand. Trade was of a dragging nature. Prime heifers made up to 6½d; Irish heifers, 6d; young cows and bulls, 5¾d; heavy and inferior, 5d; prime hoggs and lambs, 8¾d; inferior ditto, 8½d; choice ewes, 7d; inferior ewes and tups, 6d; calves, 8d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—A smaller show and thinner attendance. Few sales were effected, and prices showed a decline on those of the previous Saturday.

Romford, Wednesday.—Large supply of fat beasts; trade good. Best beasts, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Cows in fair supply, slow at 3s 4d to 3s 6d per stone. Calves in short supply; prices a little better at 5s 4d to 5s 6d per stone. Sheep in large supply; slow trade; best small sheep, 5s 8d to 6s; larger sheep, 5s 4d to 5s 6d per stone. No store beasts on offer. Milch cows in good supply; prices unchanged. Pigs in large supply; trade better; small porkers, 4s to 4s 2d; large hogs, 3s 2d to 3s 4d per stone.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Owing to the bad weather there was a small supply and sluggish trade. Small attendance of buyers. Quotations:—Beef, 6d to 6½d per lb; mutton (wether), 9d to 9½d per lb; ewes, 8d per lb; veal, 7½d to 8d per lb; pork pigs, 9s per score; bacons, 8s 3d to 8s 6d per score.

Stockton, Wednesday.—It was the Christmas show of cattle, and some very good animals were on offer. Prices were firm, at 7s 9d to 8s for the best, while in a few exceptional cases 8s 3d was made; rougher kinds selling at 6s to 7s per stone. Hoggs and young sheep made 9d per lb, and ewes and tups 6½ per lb. The pig trade was very steady, small porkers selling at 7s 3d to 7s 6d per stone; mediums, 6s 9d to 7s per stone; strong pigs, 6s to 6s 3d; and sows, 5s 9d to 6s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance fair; business fairly brisk. Fat bullocks, 54s to 60s; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £10 to £16 each; rearing calves, 25s to 40s; wethers, 7d to 8½ per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d; pigs, 3s 9d to 4ls each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 7d to 8d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; pork carcases, 4½d to 5d per lb.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Trade slow; supply moderate. Quotations:—Beef made 5d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 9d per lb; veal, 6d to 7½d per lb.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply. No quotations obtainable.

Derby, Friday.—Best old clover, 90s to 100s; new ditto, 80s to 90s; best old hay, 90s to 100s; new ditto, 50s to 70s; second ditto, 40s to 50s; wheat straw, 60s to 70s; pressed 50s to 60s; chop straw, 55s to 65s; peat moss, 36s to 40s per ton.

Hereford, Wednesday. Good quality hay maintained its price, but seconds are very difficult to sell. Straw meets with practically no demand.

Leeds, Tuesday.—An active business is passing in the warehouses, hay and straw ruling firm at the following unchanged prices:—Old clover hay, 7½d; ditto meadow hay, 7d; best new clover hay, 7d; ditto meadow, 6½d; wheat straw 5d; oat straw, 5d; and rye straw (retail), 7d to 8½d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Good supply, but trade was slow, and prices slightly easier. Best hay and straw, £3; inferior ditto, £2 10s per ton on the ground; straw, £1 10s per ton at the stack.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, 4¾d to 5d; clover, 5½d to 6½d; straw, wheat, 2½d; oat, 2¾d to 3d per stone.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Old land hay, from £3 5s 6d to £4 4s; new land hay, £4 5s to £5 7s 6d; this year's growth, £3 15s to £4 10s per ton. Wheat straw, from £1 4s to £1 6s; barley straw, £1 1s to £1 2s 3d; oat straw, from £1 1s to £1 3s per load. There were 43 carts of hay and 3 carts of straw at market.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Large supplies were received and business ruled very quiet at recent prices. Best clover, 84s to 92s 6d; inferior ditto, 72s to 80s; specially-picked hay, 82s 6d; good ditto, 65s to 75s; inferior ditto, 55s to 63s; mixture and sainfoin, 70s to 82s 6d; straw, 25s to 31s per load.

SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Spring sowing seeds are now moving very freely. In clovers Alsikes are rising in Canadian seed. Whites unchanged. Reds and Trefoils dearer in both English and foreign seed. In grasses, French-Italian is higher, and Perennials and Irish-Italians are making more money. Rape keeps firm. Mustard unchanged. Rye scarce. Peas flat.—John Picard and Co.

POTATOES.

Berwick, Saturday.—Farmers are busy storing turnips, and there is little doing in the potato market. Trade was slow at 75s to 80s per ton.

Borough, Saturday.—Deliveries were of good extent, and a fair inquiry prevailed. Langworthys, 80s to 90s; Up-to-Dates, 90s to 100s; Blacklands, 70s to 80s; Royal Kidneys, 75s to 80s; British Queens, 90s to 100s per ton. French, 3s 3d to 3s 6d; Dutch, 2s 6d to 3s; Germans, 3s 6d to 4s per bag.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Fair supply and a steady demand at 7d to 8d per stone.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Good supply but only a moderate trade, and prices from 8s 6d to 9s 6d per load; top prices, 10s per load of 18 stones.

Goole, Wednesday.—There was a good attendance, and a fair quantity on offer. For the best lots there was a good demand, but a slow trade for inferior. Quotations:—King Edwards, 90s to 92s 6d; Up-to-Dates, 85s to 90s; and other kinds, 75s to 80 per ton.

Malton, Saturday.—Potatoes in small supply, wholesale rates ruling 3s 6d to 4s 3d per bag, retail 8d to 9d per stone.

Manchester, Saturday.—Potatoes: King Edwards, warps, 12s to 13s; ditto Sands 11s to 12s; Cheshire, 8s 6d to 9s 6d; Lincoln, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 18 stone; Irish, 5s; German, 4s 6d to 5s per cwt.

Preston, Saturday.—A good clearance was effected at 9s to 10s per load of 240 lb.

Retford—Saturday.—Potato market well supplied. Best home-grown lots made 9s, and other sorts 7s to 8s per load.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Potatoes £4 15s to £5 per ton.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—A poor demand prevailed, and supplies of English were again larger, foreign arrivals being smaller. Langworthys, 100s to 110s; Up-to-Dates, 90s to 100s; British Queens, 90s to 100s; Blacklands, 75s to 85s; Royal Kidneys, 85s to 85s; and Scottish (grey soil), 90s to 95s per ton. German, 3s 6d to 4s; French, 3s 6d; Dutch, 3s to 3s 3d per bag.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Fair supply, which made from 8s 6d to 9s 6d per load of 18 stones.

York, Saturday.—A fair supply met an unchanged trade, which was quiet at 75s to 80s per ton.

Seven Years' Tithe Rent Charges.

For 1907	£68	19	6
,, 1906	68	12	1
,, 1905	69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—There is no fresh feature to report in the London hay trade, supplies even with the unsettled weather have been coming along freely, although at end of week fresh arrivals have fallen away considerably, but with little or no demand business remains in a state of deadly dulness and depression, with prices nominally unaltered. Nothing seems wantcd, it is the same cry everywhere, and no good to force sales as the consumptive demand has fallen right away. Salesmen console themselves that markets will be better after Christmas, but in the meantime charges have to be avoided and stuff got clear somehow, and needless to say losses on present sales are all round being made To make matters still worse there have been much larger arrivals of foreign into London during the past few days, and as these are being got rid of at slaughtering prices, it makes the depressed feeling doubly bad. The only present redeeming feature of the trade is that straw, owing to the continued wet weather, is in strong request, and although large quantities have been coming to hand a good trade has been effected at top prices.

Prices ruling are about as follows:—English: Best hays, 67s 6d to 70s per ton; good, 60s to 65s per ton; plain hays, 55s to 57s 6d per ton; best clovers, 80s per ton; good clovers, 75s to 77s 6d per ton; inferior clovers, 70s to 72s 6d per ton; best mixtures, 80s per ton; good mixtures, 75s to 77s 6d per ton; plain mixtures, 65s to 72s 6d per ton; seconds hays, clovers, and mixtures, 45s to 55s per ton; wheat straw, 26s to 28s per load; barley straw, 25s to 27s per load; oat straw, 26s to 27s per load. All ex rail London. Foreign: Canadian mixture, none; first quality Dutch hay, 57s 6d to 60s per ton; second quality Dutch hay, 52s 6d per ton. French clover, 75s per ton. These prices are by the barge load delivered alongside a London Thames wharf.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Altrincham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Appleby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Barnstaple: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Berwick: 8d to 11d. Camelford: 1s to 1s 1d. Carlisle: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Chester: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Dartmouth: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Derby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Devizes: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Doncaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Dorchester: 1s 2d to 1s 6d. Evesham: 1s 2d to 1s 6d. Ipswich: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Kidderminster: 1s 2d. Lincoln: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Market Drayton: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Otley: 2s per 24 oz roll. Penrith: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Penzance, 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Preston: 1s 4d. Retford: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Ripon: 2s per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Shrewsbury: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Spalding: 1s 1d. Stamford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Stockport: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Stockton: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Totnes: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Truro: 1s 2d to 1s 8d. Wellington (Salop): 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Worcester: 1s 1d to 1s 4d. Worksop: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 4d.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Altrincham: 5. Appleby: 7 and 8. Barnstaple: 6. Berwick: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per doz. Camelford: 7. Carlisle: 6 and 7. Chester: 5. Dartmouth: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per doz. Derby: 6 and 7. Devizes: 8 and 9. Doncaster: 6 and 7. Dorchester: 1s 6d to 2s per doz. Evesham: 1s 8d to 1s 0½d per doz. Hereford: 7 and 8. Kidderminster: 7. Ipswich: 6 to 8. Lincoln: 7 and 8. Market Drayton: 6. Otley: 5 and 6. Penrith: 7 and 8. Penzance: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per doz. Preston: 6. Retford: 2s 5d to 2s 6d per score. Ripon; 6 and 7. Scarborough: 6. Shrewsbury: 6 and 7. Spalding: 7 and 8. Stamford: 6 and 7. Stockport: 5. Stockton: 5. Totnes: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per dozen. Truro: 1s 5d to 1s 6d per dozen. Wellington (Salop): 6 and 7. Worcester: 7. Worksop: 3s to 3s 2d per score. York: 5 and 6.

CORN STATISTICS

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, Dec. 14, 1907:—

Wheat	1,546,900 cwts.
Wheat-flour	269.100 ,,
Barley	675,500 ,,
Oats	161,900 ,,
Maize	1,073,000 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1906. Cwts.	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.
Wheat	1,252,200	2,078,300	1,551,400	1,730,990
Wheat-flour	276,800	218,600	262,200	397,500
Barley	667,900	415,700	508,800	736,800
Oats	168,400	145,000	104,000	293,700
Maize	783,800	1,193,800	469,600	540,700

Weekly Arrivals into London.

December 4 to 11 inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	2,953	63,001	65,954
Barley	3,400	18,000	21,400
Malt	16,422	—	16,422
Oats	7,750	26,000	33,750
Rye	500	—	500
Lentils	—	700	700
Linseed	—	5,906	5,906
Rapeseed	100	75	175
Cottonseed ..... tons	—	7.204	7,204
Canaryseed ... qrs.	—	3,500	3,500
Beans	913	749	1,662
Peas	689	1,212	1,901
Maize	—	10,547	10,547
Millet	—	186	186
Flour ..... sacks	26,420	94,310	120,730
Ricemeal	—	14,128	14,128
Middlings	—	4,000	4,000

London Flour Millers' Association.

Credit and Delivery. Official Prices.

*Cereal year commencing September 2nd, 1907.**

	London Whites.	Town Households.
	s. d.	s. d.
September 2 .. (per sack)	32 0	... (per sack) 29 0
,, 4... ,,	33 0	... ,, 30 0
,, 27... ,,	34 6	... ,, 31 6
October 4... ,,	35 6	... ,, 32 6
,, 11... ,,	36 0	.. ,, 33 0
,, 18... ,,	37 0	... ,, 34 0
November 11... ,,	36 0	... ,, 33 0

(No change since last date given.)

* September 1st, 1907, was a Sunday.

Yearly Averages (Official).

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1890	31 9 per qr.	28 8 per qr.	18 7 per qr.
1891	37 1 ,,	28 2 ,,	20 0 ,,
1892	30 4 ,,	26 2 ,,	19 11 ,,
1893	26 4 ,,	25 6 ,,	18 9 ,,
1894	22 10 ,,	24 6 ,,	17 1 ,,
1895	23 1 ,,	21 11 ,,	14 6 ,,
1896	26 2 ,,	22 11 ,,	14 9 ,,
1897	30 2 ,,	23 6 ,,	16 11 ,,
1898	34 0 ,,	27 2 ,,	18 5 ,,
1899	25 8 ,,	25 7 ,,	17 0 ,,
1900	26 11 ,,	25 9 ,,	17 9 ,,
1901	26 9 ,,	25 3 ,,	18 5 ,,
1902	28 0 ,,	25 8 ,,	20 2 ,,
1903	26 9 ,,	22 11 ,,	17 2 ,,
1904	28 4 ,,	22 4 ,,	16 4 ,,
1905	29 9 ,,	24 4 ,,	17 4
1906	28 4 ,,	24 3 ,,	18 7 ,,

Average Monthly Cash Prices of Town Households Flour.

	1907		1906.		1905.		1904.		1903.		1902.		1901.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Jan.	22	0	25	0	26	3	24	9	24	0	21	9	24	6
Feb.	22	0	24	9	26	9	25	6	24	3	22	0	24	0
March	21	9	24	3	26	6	25	9	23	9	21	9	23	9
April	22	3	24	6	26	0	25	3	23	9	23	0	24	0
May	25	0	24	0	25	9	24	9	24	0	23	6	23	6
June	25	6	23	9	25	6	24	3	24	3	23	0	23	0
July	26	0	23	6	25	0	25	0	24	3	23	0	22	3
August	26	6	23	0	25	0	26	6	24	9	22	9	22	3
Sept.	28	6	22	9	24	6	27	0	25	0	23	3	22	0
Oct.	32	0	22	6	25	0	27	0	24	9	22	9	21	6
Nov.	31	0	22	0	25	0	26	9	24	3	22	9	21	6
Dec.			21	9	25	0	26	9	24	3	23	3	21	9
Yrly. Avrg.			23	5	25	6	25	9	24	3	22	8	22	10

Monthly Averages.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1906.			1907.		
	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Wheat	Barley	Oats
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan.	28 6	24 9	18 5	26 1	24 2	17 4
Feb.	28 10	25 4	18 11	26 6	24 3	17 7
Mar.	28 5	24 8	18 11	26 9	23 11	18 0
April	29 1	24 2	19 1	26 9	23 8	18 10
May	30 2	24 0	20 0	28 5	24 0	19 10
June	30 4	23 4	20 2	31 5	24 6	20 9
July	30 4	23 1	20 4	32 2	24 11	20 10
Aug.	29 6	23 7	17 9	33 7	25 4	20 5
Sept.	26 1	24 5	16 2	31 8	24 9	17 7
Oct.	26 5	25 0	16 7	33 11	26 2	18 1
Nov.	26 5	24 5	17 1	35 3	27 7	18 8
Dec.	26 2	24 1	17 3			

Cereal Years' Prices.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1906-7	27 11	24 6	18 5
1905-6	28 9	24 2	18 5
1904-5	30 7	24 6	16 11
1903-4	27 2	21 11	16 4
1902-3	26 5	23 0	17 8
1901-2	28 4	26 0	20 4
1900-1	27 1	25 0	18 4
1899-1900	26 5	25 0	17 5
1898-9	26 1	26 1	17 4
1897-8	36 4	27 9	18 4
1896-7	28 8	23 2	16 9

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending December 14, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1903 to 1906:—

WHEAT. Qrs.	s. d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s. d.	OATS. Qrs.	s. d.
1903...53,397	26 9	151,873	23 0	30,707	15 7
1904...44,745	30 4	130,563	24 4	35,960	16 2
1905...80,567	28 5	135,925	24 5	34,878	17 11
1906...70,332	26 1	135,513	23 11	36,175	17 3
1907...56,407	34 8	202,509	27 0	43,275	18 5

Average Monthly Prices of Fine Household Flour in Paris.

(*Converted into English money for sacks of* 280 *lb.*)

	1907.		1906.		1905.		1904.		1903.		1902.		1901.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Jan.	30	9	31	0	31	0	29	6	30	9	27	9	24	9
Feb.	30	0	31	6	31	6	30	0	31	6	26	3	25	9
March	29	9	31	3	30	3	31	0	31	6	27	0	24	0
April	30	0	31	6	30	9	29	0	34	0	27	3	24	6
May	33	3	30	9	31	9	28	0	33	3	27	6	25	6
June	32	9	31	0	30	3	28	3	34	0	30	9	26	3
July	34	6	31	6	30	0	29	4	31	9	29	9	28	0
August	33	6	29	9	29	3	30	0	30	0	27	6	27	6
Sept.	33	9	30	6	31	0	31	0	30	0	29	0	27	6
Oct.	32	0	31	0	31	0	31	6	30	0	30	0	27	6
Nov.	30	6	31	6	31	9	32	0	28	0	28	9	27	9
Dec.			30	0	31	0	31	3	28	6	29	6	28	3
Yrly. Avrg.			30	11	30	9	30	1	31	1	28	5	27	3

On Wednesday afternoon a large and representative meeting, convened by the Mayor (Alderman F. Arnold), was held at the Town Hall, Great Yarmouth, to make preliminary arrangements in connection with the visit of the Norfolk Agricultural Association to Yarmouth, in June next. The Mayor, who presided, stated the Association's Summer Show would be held at Yarmouth on June 17 and 18, 1908. The corporation had granted the use of the new recreation ground for the purpose, and would do everything possible to make the undertaking a success. He was exceedingly glad to be able to hear that Sir Savile Crossley had accepted the presidency. Mr. Wm. Shipley was appointed honorary secretary, with the town clerk (Mr. W. E. Stephens), in conjunction; Mr. Chas. G. Orde accepted the position of treasurer, and a very large and influential general committee was formed.

RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

TRY DANIEL GILES for Farm Carts, Waggons, Lurries, &c. Best Workmanship only.—Station Street, Bromsgrove.

POTATOES! POTATOES!!—Edward England, Cardiff, Ltd., Importers and Exporters of Potatoes. Head Office, West Dock, Cardiff; also Bath Street, Bristol, and North Dock, Swansea.

EDWARD ENGLAND, Cardiff, Limited, are always buyers of good English Potatoes, for cash on rails.—Address, Head Office, West Dock, Cardiff.

RABBIT CATCHERS, Bird Catchers, Farmers' Sportsman Nets, Traps, Snares, Decoys. Every description Ropes, Tarpaulins, Rick Cloths. Illustrated Catalogue 1d.—Young (M.L.E.), Net Trap Manufacturer, Crewkerne, Somerset.

VACANCY in January for one or two PUPILS on 1,000 acre farm in the Midlands. Large pedigree Shorthorn herd; registered Oxford Down Flock and Shire horses; good hunting; premium; refs. exchanged.—Apply "A. B.," Office of Mark Lane Express

GRAND STOCK TURKEYS.—Heavy weights at reasonable rates; Lord Rothschild's strain.—George Gibbons, Tunley Farm, Bath.

Printed and Published by the Proprietors, at the Offices, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.—December 16, 1907.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The floods have subsided, but owing to the high temperature and saturated state of the atmosphere evaporation from the sodden surface soil is very slow, and the land is for the most part unworkable. In summer high temperature promotes rapidity of evaporation, and thunderrains usually do less harm than appears likely at the moment. In winter, however, cold drying winds are the chief aids to the removal of excessive moisture. These are now wanted round the stacks as much as across the leys and open meadowland. The ordinary autumn sowings of wheat are concluded, but we hear of farmers intending to sow Red Fife in February. If they get 3s. to 4s. per qr. above the average for it they can afford to grow a smaller yield to the acre or to apply a liberal top-dressing in May; it comes to very much the same thing, only the latter is the best policy if the farmer can only afford it. The manure which will raise a crop from 4 qr. per acre up to 5 qr.—*i.e.*, add 8 bushels to the result—never costs the market price of those 8 bushels. The manure merchants give fair credit, and as often as not the non-application of useful stimulants is due to the inability to spare regular labour and the inability promptly to find extra hands. Small proprietors would probably prove a blessing to farmers in this respect, as they would often be willing to lend a hand for a consideration, and would be intelligent workers. The small tenant holder belongs to a different category. Most of the applicants under the new Act are small tradesmen of the country towns and those who already occupy a rod or so of land as small market gardeners, fowl-keepers, and so forth.

The Russian Government has issued a revised report on the crops in that empire. It is the third revision since October, and is in contradiction to the other reports. The maize crop appears to be much more deficient than at first supposed, while wheat, oats, and potatoes are now said to have been equally under-estimated. The effect of these variations on trade is very bad.

The Canadian harvest has resulted in a larger yield per acre of wheat than at first was held likely, but the quality is the poorest for many years, and only a third of the whole is likely to grade up to shipping level.

The Argentine Minister of Agriculture returns the area under wheat at 13,920,000 acres, as compared with 13,340,000 acres last season.

The Board of Agriculture thus report some of our leading markets for wheat:—

London	9s. 0d.,	up on the year.
Norwich	8s. 5d.,	,, ,,
Peterborough	9s. 5d.,	,, ,,
Lincoln	9s. 1d.,	,, ,,
Doncaster	8s. 11d.,	,, ,,
Salisbury	8s. 10d.,	,, ,,

The advance is very uniform. Barley prices show the following changes on the twelvemonth:—

	s.	d.	
London	3	6	advance
Norwich	2	10	,,
Peterborough	3	6	,,
Lincoln	3	7	,,
Doncaster	3	10	,,
Salisbury	3	3	,,

In oats the changes from December to December have been as follows:—

London	1 7	advance.
Norwich	1 9	,,
Peterborough	1 9	,,
Lincoln	1 9	,,
Doncaster	1 11	,,
Salisbury	1 6	,,

The uniform improvement in oats is even more remarkable than that in wheat, though it is much less in extent.

The wheat gradient this week is steeper than it would otherwise be, owing to the fall at Nottingham, which is quite exceptional:—

Mark Lane	35s. 10d. per qr.
Nottingham	32s. 10d. ,,
Range	3s. 0d. per qr.

Over 35s. was made at Cambridge and Reading.

The barley gradient was as follows:—

Canterbury	27s. 10d. per qr.
Reading	25s. 1d. ,,
Range	2s. 9d. per qr.

Oats are the most uniform in price of the three chief cereals:—

Mark Lane	19s. 6d. per qr.
Lincoln	17s. 9d. ,,
Range	1s. 9d. per qr.

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets since harvest have been fair, the price not discouraging:—

This season...	1,056,000 qr. at	33s. 10d. per qr.
Last ,, ...	1,076,000 ,,	26s. 2d. ,,

The sales of British barley at the statute markets have been less than in the corresponding period of last season, the crop having been harvested later than in any year since 1888. Prices show some rise:—

This season ...	2,217,000 qr. at	26s. 4d. per qr.
Last ,, ...	2,361,000 ,,	24s. 6d. ,,

The sales of British oats at the statute markets have been as follows since harvest:—

This season ...	667,000 qr. at	18s. 3d. per qr.
Last ,, ...	523,000 ,,	16s. 9d. ,,

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were:—

Wheat, 361,000 qr.: a fair supply.
Flour, 108,000 sks.: a moderate supply.
Barley, 190,000 qr.: heavy arrivals.
Oats, 60,000 qr.: half an average.
Maize, 251,000 qr.: a large importation.

There have also been considerable receipts from abroad of linseed, of rice products, of haricots, and of miscellaneous dry foods, details of which will not be published officially until the usual completed returns for December.

The price of bread, according to the Board of Trade Returns issued on the 19th inst., is now 6d. the quartern loaf, being a rise of ½d. since the returns of November 19. The highest prices rule in Scotland and the North, in the South-East of England, and in East Anglia; the lowest prices are quoted in the West and South-West of England. No reason is given why bread should cost 1d. per quartern loaf (representing 8s. per quarter difference in the price of wheat) more at Bolton, Cardiff, Hull, Ipswich, Leeds, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Glasgow, and Belfast than at Huddersfield, Oldham, Stafford, and Wednesbury?

Official returns of flour prices are:—

English	12s. 6d.	per cwt.
Foreign	11s. 4d.	,,
Average ...	11s. 11d.	per cwt.

There is very little clue given to the foreign price, but we suppose that a question can be asked in February in the House of Commons. The Government average would not justify a charge of more than 5d. for the quartern loaf of a good half-and-half mixture, but we are bound to say that good American flour is now quoted at quite 13s. per cwt., while Hungarian has touched 16s. per cwt.

The supply of wheat on passage shows some little increase owing to the large shipments from the two American seaboards. But supplies in sight from all other sources show a diminution:—

Californian	755,000 qr.
American	365,000 ,,
Argentine	55,000 ,,
Russian	56,000 ,,
Indian	218,000 ,,
Australasian	300,000 ,,
Various	40,000 ,,
Total	1,809,000 ,,

Of flour 336,000 sacks are on passage, which is above the average. America is now unloading her new flour more freely than British millers like.

The supplies of barley on passage show little change, but those of maize are materially reduced on the week. The actual figures are:—

Maize	380,000 qr, or	140,000 qr	decline
Barley	510,000 qr, or	5,000 qr	increase
Oats	106,000 qr, or	9,000 qr	decline
Linseed	67,000 qr, or	4,000 qr	,,
Cottonseed	43,000 tons, or	1,000 tons	,,
Rapeseed	14,000 qr, or	2,000 qr	increase
Rice	19,000 tons, or	4,000 tons	decline

Shipments last week were large from America, but were practically confined to breadstuffs, actual details being:—Wheat, 523,000 qr.; flour, 172,000 sacks; maize, 76,000 qr. No barley or oats were shipped.

Shipments from Argentina were limited to 10,000 qr. of wheat and 82,000 qr. of maize. No oats or linseed were shipped.

Shipments from Russia were 79,000 qr. of wheat, 56 000 qr. of barley, 60,000 qr. of oats, and 7,000 qr. of maize. Roumania, Bulgaria, and European Turkey shipped 108,000 qr. of wheat, 10,000 qr. of oats, and 170,000 qr. of maize. Roumania shipped 71,000 qr. of barley, but no barley is allowed to be shipped from either Turkey or its dependencies.

India shipped 15,000 qr. of linseed but no wheat, and there were not any wheat shipments from Australasia.

THE BALTIC.

Holders of wheat cargoes are less depressed than they were for North and South American and for Indian, but Russian sorts are against sellers. Transactions have included No. 1 Northern Duluth at 40s. 9d. per 480 lb., Baruso at 36s. 9d. per 480 lb, No. 2 Northern Manitoba at 41s. 9d. per 480 lb., Blue Stem at 39s. 9d. per 500 lb, Red Walla at 38s. 9d. per 500 lb., Victorian at 40s. 9d. per 480 lb., and Odessa Ghurka at 40s. 6d. per 492 lb.

Maize cargoes are dull but not cheaper; on Saturday 24s. 6d. was paid for American, 23s. 3d. for Argentine, 26s. for Galatz, and 25s. 6d. for Bulgarian, all per 480 lb.

Barley cargoes have regained steadiness. Prices made have included Russian at 25s. 6d. per 400 lb., Californian at 36s. 3d. per 448 lb., and Persian 22s. 6d. per 400 lb.

Other cargo sales of the week have comprised white Libau oats at 17s. per 304 lb., Bombay linseed at 43s. 9d. per 416 lb., Argentine linseed at 39s. 6d. per 416 lb., Egyptian cottonseed at £6 13s. 9d. per ton, and Portuguese locust beans at £4 15s. per ton.

The secretary of the London Corn Trade Association announces that the following standards of September shipments have been made up, viz:—Wheat: Plate wheat of Province of Santa Fé, 60 35 lb. at time of discharge. Plate wheat of Province of Santa Fé, 62·65 lb. at time of discharge. Bahia Blanca, Barletta and/or Russo, 61·55 lb. at time of discharge. Buenos Aires Barletta and/or Russo, 62·85 lb. at time of discharge.

Maize.—Yellow La Plata.

The following Californian standards have also been adopted, viz.:—

Wheat.—No. 1 White, Choice Milling, No. 1 Milling.

Barley.—A Brewing, B Brewing, No. 1 Brewing, No. 1 Chevalier, No. 1 Feed (bright). Crop 1907.

The strike at Port Said of coalheavers will cause considerable delay for steamers in transit, and grain cargoes on passage from India and Australia are likely to be a good deal later in arrival than appeared probable a week ago.

The Liverpool Cargo Market, the "Atlantic," will be closed on the 24th, 25th, and 26th, but opens on the 27th. It will be shut on January 1, and so will the "Baltic."

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—Again we have to report the London hay trade in a condition of acute depression; supplies have been coming along very freely and a great deal larger than are required for the present very limited demands. The past few weeks seem at last to be feeling the weight of the season's crop. Doubtless the very unsettled weather all during the autumn helped to keep supplies back, yet it was a matter of comment, and set the trade wondering that demand and prices kept up so long and so well as they did, but now we are overburdened with the large quantities of badly got and weathered stuffs, which are more than difficult to get clear of, and although salesmen are willing to take a much reduced figure, there is an entire absence of anything of a demand, and until the present accumulation of stocks are considerably reduced, there seems but little chance of any improvement in the trade. The only redeeming feature is that straw keeps in good request, and top values are being obtained for the fair quantities which are coming to hand.

Prices ruling are about as follows:—English Best hays, 67s 6d to 70s per ton; good hays, 60s to 65s per ton; plain hays, 55s to 57s 6d per ton; best clovers, 77s 6d to 80s per ton; good clovers, 75s per ton; inferior clovers, 70s per ton; best mixtures, 77s 6d to 80s per ton; good mixtures, 75s per ton; plain mixtures, 62s 6d to 70s per ton; seconds hays, clovers, and mixtures, 45s to 55s per ton; wheat straw, 25s to 27s per load; barley straw, 25s to 27s per load; oat straw, 25s to 27s per load.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English firm, and held for 3d to 6d advance, but not active. Whites quoted at 36s to 39s 6d; reds at 35s to 38s 6d. Foreign firmly held at 6d over Monday, but buyers not anxious; 44s 6d to 44s 9d wanted for No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship to arrive; 44s No. 2; 36s 6d No. 1 Durum; 37s to 37s 6d choice white Karachi; 46s Australian landed; and 40s 6d South Australian. Flour firm, and 3d to 6d dearer, but inactive. Hungarians held at 40s to 41s; Iron Dukes at 28s. Maize firm and dearer. Mixed American landed held at 26s 9d; River Plate at 25s 6d; Odessa at 25s to 25s 3d ex ship, landed at 25s 9d. Barley firm, and 3d dearer. Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, held at 23s 6d to 23s 9d; landed at 24s. Oats firm, with an upward tendency. La Plata held at 17s 9d to 18s; South Russian at 17s 3d landed, 16s 9d ex ship.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat: English steady, quiet. Whites quoted at 36s to 39s; reds at 35s to 38s. Foreign firmly held at full prices, but demand limited. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, quoted at 44s 6d; No. 2 at 43s 9d; No. 1 Durum, 36s 6d; choice white Karachi at 37s to 37s 3d; South Russian, landed, 40s to 46s; Australian at 46s. Flour firm, quiet. Hungarian held at 40s to 41s; Pillsbury's best at 32s; Iron Dukes at 28s. Maize steady, quiet. Mixed American, ex quay, held at 26s 6d; River Plate, at 25s 3d; Odessa at 25s 3d; Danubian at 25s 6d. Barley firm, quiet. Odessa, landed, held at 24s; Azoff Black Sea, ex ship, at 23s 6d to 23s 9d; Persian, 21s 9d to 22s 3d. Oats steady, quiet. River Plate quoted at 17s 9d to 18s; South Russian, 17s to 17s 6d

COUNTRY.

Appleby, Saturday.—Inquiries for dry samples, which were scarce. White oats (horse corn), 21s to 25s per 26 stones.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Very small attendance and little trade. Quotations remained little affected:—Wheats, 33s to 36s; best English barley, 30s to 31s; secondary, 27s to 29s; foregn grinding barley, 26s; Mazagan beans, 28s to 29s; tick beans, 32s to 34s; maize, 28s; peas, 31s to 32s; oats, 18s to 22s per qr; flour, whites, 36s; seconds, 33s; scaling, 31s per sack.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, white (new), 35s to 35s 6d per qr; wheat, red (new), 35s to 35s 6d per qr; barley, 26s to 30s per qr; beans (new), 28s to 31s per qr; oats, 17s to 20s 6d per qr; peas, 30s to 34s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—Moderate attendance; rather smaller supplies of grain. Barley unchanged; oats dull trade, except for finest qualities. Barley, 20s to 33s 6d; oats, 17s 6d to 27s 6d per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—There was a fair muster at this market, but trading was of a retail character, purchases being small. Foreign wheat were 6d per qr dearer on the week. English wheats made from 12s 6d to 13s 6d per 186 lb delivered. Bessarabian maize and Galatz-Foxanian were offering at 25s 9d per 480 lb at Sharpness, being 3d to 6d per qr dearer respectively. Grinding barley was unchanged at 24s 3d per 400 lb Sharpness, English oats made 19s 6d per 312 lb, and beans 12s 6d per 196 lb delivered.

Brighton, Thursday.—Quiet trade. English oats 3d and 6d cheaper. Wheat trade slow. New red wheat, 36s to 36s 6d; barley, 28s to 33s; grinding ditto, 25s to 26s; oats, English, 17s 6d to 20s; peas, 33s to 34s; beans, 33s to 34s.

Bristol, Thursday.—English wheat in short supply, unchanged in value. Foreign 6d dearer. Maize 6d dearer. Barley, spot unaltered; forward 6d dearer. Oats unchanged. Rather more inquiry for flour.—Grace Bros.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—There was a dull market, with but little wheat on offer. The trade was quiet, but steady, at about last week's prices. Reds or whites, if in fair condition, 36s to 36s 6d; rivets, 35s to 35s 6d per qr. Barley was also a rather quiet trade, especially for the ordinary malting parcels at 30s to 31s 6d per qr; finer malting parcels 32s to 35s per qr. Oats firm at 20s to 22s; old, 23s to 23s 6d per qr. Maize slightly up at 27s for round, and 28s for flat. Feeding stuffs firm at last week's prices.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Trade is in a very healthy condition considering the nearness of the holidays, and best wheats have been making a trifle more money. Choice 64 lb. samples are now selling at 37s 6d, and 63 lb lots are quoted from 34s 6d to 36s per qr. Oats range from 21s for 43 lb. white samples down to 29s; barley from 28s 6d to 34s per qr; grey peas, 30s to 32s; and seed quality up to 34s; tick beans, 31s to 32s; mazagans, 28s to 29s per qr.

Chester, Saturday.—Trade good, and prices of corn dearer. Small supply of wheat offering at recent rates. Oats quiet at last week's prices. Barley dull. Oats favouring buyers. Quotations: Wheat, white and red new, 5s 2d to 5s 4d per 75 lb; grinding barley, new, 3s 10d to 4s per 64 lb; Indian corn, old, 14s 3d to 14s 6d per 240 lb; round corn, old, 14s to 15s 6d per 240 lb; oats, new, 2s 7d to 2s 9d; old, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 46 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—A fair attendance, but slow trade at prices unchanged. New white wheat, 36s to 37s; new red ditto, 36s to 37s; barley, 29s to 35s; grinding ditto, 24s 6d to 25s 6d; oats, English, 19s to 22s 6d; peas, 34s to 35s; beans, 33s to 34s; tares, 5s to 5s 6d; maize, 25s to 27s; flour, 28s to 32s.

Colchester, Saturday.—English wheat firm and a fair supply. Foreign, 6d to 1s advance. Barley, oats, and maize unaltered. Flour a steady trade, about 6d dearer.—Fear, Colebrook, and Co., Ltd.

Derby, Friday.—Wheat was again unchanged in value, but prices were firm at late rates. No alteration in spring corn. Quotations.—Wheat, 36s to 37s; red, 35s to 36s; malting barley, 29s to 32s; grinding, 25s to 27s; new beans, 35s to 37s; old oats, 24s to 26s; new oats, 21s to 22s.

Devizes, Thursday.—There was a very small supply. The prices for wheat and barley show very little change from those realised last week, but the trade is slow. Oats again the turn easier. Blacks weighed off at 40 lb per bushel are worth about 18s 6d per qr. White oats are sold more freely and do not show a corresponding fall in prices. Best old wheat, 20s to 21s; best new wheat, 18s to 19s; secondary, 16s to 18s; malting barley, 29s to 33s; grinding barley, 26s to 28s; old oats, 22s to 24s; winter oats, 18s to 19s; white Garton oats (330 lb), 18s 6d to 19s 6d; black Tartar oats (320 lb), 18s to 19s; beans, 17s to 18s; fine flour, 31s to 32s; extra fine, 33s to 38s.

Doncaster, Saturday. — Holiday market. Scarcely any English wheat was shown, threshing having been stopped by the weather, and last week's prices were repeated, top value being 14s per load. Foreign wheat was decidly firm, and was 6d to 9d per qr dearer on the week. Small show of barley; fine samples unchanged, but secondary neglected. Oats about the same. Maize advanced 3d to 6d per qr, whilst beans had an upward tendency.

Dorchester, Saturday. — Although the weather has been very unfavourable all through the week, and the flooding of the lowlands is being attended with serious consequences, it was bright and fine to-day, and there was a fair attendance at the market. Samples, however, were rather short owing to threshing operations having been totally checked; still, in the absence of anything like a demand, there was ample offering to meet all wants, business being generally very quieter. Prices of wheat a little weaker, but no decline can be quoted in values of either English or foreign. Feeding barley maintained, but oats rather favoured buyers, as did maize. Flour trade very inactive. The weather was again terribly wet on Sunday.

Dublin, Friday.—There was a holiday feeling in the Exchange. Forign wheat was firm, but little doing. Maize was steady, with an improved demand. Irish wheat, oats, and barley had a limited trade. Oatmeal was steady, and Indian meal unchanged. Bran and pollard were quiet at late rates. The Exchange will not open next week, owing to the holidays.

Exeter, Friday.—Small attendance, trade quiet. English wheat not very plentiful at last week's full prices. Foreign 6d dearer. Barley and maize unchanged. Oats rather firm. Flour firm. English wheat, [4s 4d to 4s 6d; English barley, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; superfine flour, 31s to 33s; fines, 29s to 31s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Moderate attendance at to-day's market. Wheat and flour steadily held at late rates, but trade quiet. Maize and corn firm at last week's prices. Barley unaltered. Oats the turn dearer, with a fair trade passing. Beans pressed for sale at reductions of 3d to 6d per boll on the week. Pease unchanged. Bran unaltered. Thirds 2s 6d per ton cheaper. Oatmeal quiet.—Gibson and Clark.

Glasgow, Friday.—Market quiet, but tending dearer. Prices nominally unaltered. There will not be any market held on Christmas Day.

Gloucester, Saturday.—English wheat firmer; reds, 34s to 35s; whites, 35s to 36s per qr. Foreign wheat 6d to 1s dearer; Plates, 41s to 42s 6d; Russian, 41s to 42s per qr. Plate maize unchanged at 25s 6d, flat 3d up at 26s 6d; Bessarabian unchanged at 25s 9d. Barley 3d dearer at 24s 3d to 24s 6d. Black oats 6d, white 3d easier.

Grantham, Saturday.—Holiday market, with supplies rather small, and prices practically unaltered. Wheat, 35s to 36s 6d; barley, 26s to 34s; oats, 18s to 20s; beans, 28s to 32s; blue peas, 70s to 80s per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday.—English wheats were dealt in solely in favour of buyers. Sellers of foreign wheats were firm, and in some cases asked a slight advance. Barleys very dull, and somewhat easier. Oats also very slow, and practically no buyers. Maize 6d per qr dearer since last week.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Small supply of wheat, trade steady at about last week's rates, 37s per 504 lb. Good supply of barley, fine samples fetched up to 35s; good runs, 32s to 33s; runs, 30s to 31s. A rather large supply of oats, trade dull at 6d per qr less money. Maize rather firm; beans and peas unaltered.

Leeds, Friday.—There was little doing at the market. English wheat was quoted 12s to 14s per load; foreign in better request at 9d to 1s dearer. Quiet trade in malting barley. Oats, 6d per qr cheaper. No change in feeding stuffs.

Leicester, Saturday. — Good attendance of buyers and dealers, with rather a short supply of home-grown wheats. The samples came to hand in irregular condition. Red wheats, 32s to 38s; white wheats, 36s to 39s per 36 stone. Barley in slow demand, except for bright malting qualities, which fetched 28s to 31s per 32 stone. Fine oats in fair demand at 19s to 22s per 24 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—Moderate attendance, and a small show of English wheat, which sold slowly at an advance of 6d per qr on the week; foreign met with an improved demand at 1s per qr advance. Oats and beans unchanged. No market next Friday.

Maidstone, Thursday.—As might be expected, lassitude is prevalent, the approach at Christmas tending to that indulgence. The cost of wheat, however, is equal to that of last Thursday, as recent depression does not continue so fully. The quotations must remain as before. Almost all other descriptions, though not at all in brisk demand, are at about recent rates.

Manchester, Thursday.—There were higher prices to note for both English and foreign wheat, the former having advanced 6d per qr, and the latter 3d to 4d per cental. Flour unchanged and steady. Indian corn (European) unchanged; American (mixed) advanced ½d higher. English and foreign barley unchanged. English beans and peas quiet. Oats slow at late rates. Bran, &c., scarce.

Newark, Wednesday.—Fair attendance, with prices about as last week, with a little more inquiry. White and red wheat, 35s to 36s; malting barley, 28s to 30s; grinding barley, 25s to 27s; white oats, 18s 6d to 20s; black oats, 18s to 19s; old beans, 37s to 38s; new beans, 29s to 31s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—No active demand for wheats at our to-day's market. Holders, however, were firm at rather over last week's quotations. Maize remains steady at late rates with a fair consumptive demand. Oats are in the favour of buyers. Beans and peas remain firm at late rates. Barleys remain steady at last week's prices.—Joseph Pollard and Co.

Newport, Wednesday.—Fair trade passing. Maize about 6d dearer on the week. Barley about the same. Oats quiet demand at late rates. Flour in fair request at about 31s 6d. Fair trade in offals. Bran, £5 15s per ton; sharps, £6 10s per ton.

Northampton, Saturday.—The attendance was very thin, and business was very slack, buyers not being inclined to purchase with New Year so close upon them. Prices remained as last week, barley and oats showing an easier tendency. A good quantity of out-of-condition wheat was sold at very low prices. New wheat, 34s to 36s; barley, 25s to 30s; white oats, 18s to 20s; black oats, 17s to 18s; beans, 30s to 31s; peas, 30s to 32s; flour, 27s 6d to 31s 6d.

Norwich, Saturday.—Wheat was in small supply, and the condition bad, but market 6d per qr dearer: 36s 6d to 38s delivered. Smaller supply; barley prices slightly easier; feeding stuffs demand was very quiet; prices much firmer. Maize and grinding barley 6d per qr advance. Linseed and cotton cakes at late rates.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat, small supply, prices in sellers' favour. Barley, better inquiry, and best samples commanded slightly higher rates. Oats about as last quoted. Beans out of condition, prices irregular.—Robt. Hubbard.

Peterborough, Saturday.—Quite a small market, the little offering made 6d per qr less than last week. Barley a quiet trade. Oats steady. Wheat, 35s 6d to 36s 6d; oats, 18s 6d to 19s 6d; barley, 27s to 34s.—Thomas Hill and Son.

Preston, Saturday.—An improved tone has been manifest in the wheat market duing the week, and prices are 2d to 3d per cental dearer on the week. There was a fair attendance at to-day's market, and prices for farmers' wheat and other grain were slightly exceeded, but there was very little business passing. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220 lb, 15s 6d to 16s; ditto red, 14s 6d to 15s; oats, old, per bushel,

3s 8d to 3s 9d; ditto, new, 3s 2d to 3s 3d; beans, per windle of 220 lb., 17s to 17s 6d.

Reading, Saturday.—There was a fair attendance at the Exchange, but trade was far from being brisk. The supply of grain was, however, pretty plentiful. Prices:—Wheat, 34s to 38s; malting barley, 27s to 34s; new oats, 17s to 22s; old ditto, 19s to 23s; beans, 33s to 37s; peas, 29s to 31s.

Retford, Saturday.—Average attendance, and a fair supply of grain. Wheat trade rather dull, but prices were no lower. Dry samples made 36s to 36s 6d per qr. Brisk demand for the best malting barley, which was scarce, and worth 29s to 32s; medium, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; grinding, 27s to 28s per qr; maize, 29s per qr delivered; new English beans, 30s to 31s; old ditto, 39s to 40s; black oats, 18s to 19s; white ditto, 19s to 20s; good old oats, 26s per qr.

Ripon, Thursday.—Good attendance of farmers, and a fair supply of samples. A quiet business at last week's values. New wheat, 35s to 36s; ditto, foreign, 44s to 46s; barley, grinding, 24s to 26s; ditto malting, 28s to 32s; new oats, 19s to 20s 6d; maize, round, 27s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—With the approach of the holidays buyers are limited in their purchases, and only a quiet trade is passing. Wheats show a distinct improvement, and are quoted 6d dearer for foreign qualities. Maize is firmer, and about 3d per qr more on the week. Beans, oats, and barley about unchanged. Millers' feeding stuffs slightly in buyers' favour. Wheat, white, new, 38s to 38s 6d; ditto red, new, 38s to 38s 6d per 504 lb; oats, new, 20s 6d to 21s per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 32s 6d to 36s 6d; ditto, blue, new, 70s to 90s per 504 lb; beans, English, 35s 6d to 36s per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 28s to 30s; ditto, malting, 28s to 32s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 27s to 28s; ditto Plate, 26s 6d to 26s 9d; ditto, flat, 29s to 29s 6d per 480 lb; bran, 110s; fine sharps, 110s; broad bran, 125s per ton.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Wheat, 15s to 15s 6d per 225 lb; old oats, 16s to 17s per 225 lb; new oats, 12s 6d to 13s 6d; brrley, 18s to 20s per 200 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—Attendance small, and trade quiet. Wheats, 35s 6d to 36s; oats, 18s 6d to 19s 6d; beans, 29s 6d to 30s; superior malting barleys, 29s 6d to 32s, but the general run was from 28s 6d to 30s 6d; grinding barleys, 26s to 27s 6d per qr.

Stockton, Wednesday.—English wheat made from 36s to 36s 6d per qr. There has been a steady improvement in the foreign wheat trade, and prices showed no change. Oats quiet. Maize dearer. Small show of malting barleys, soft grinding barley making 21s., and finest qualities up to 31s.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday. — New white wheat, 37s to 38s; new red ditto, 36s to 37s; barley, 36s to 37s; grinding ditto, 26s to 27s; oats, English, 20s to 22s; rye, 31s to 32s; peas, 34s to 35s; beans, 34s to 35s; tares, 40s to 48s; maize, 27s to 28s.

Warwick, Saturday.—Small supply of grain on offer. Prices about the same as last week, with slight hardening tendency.

Winchester, Saturday.—Wheat firm. Oats, beans, and barley quiet, fair supply, indifferent condition—Colin Taylor, King and Co., Ltd.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A very small supply of grain here to-day. Wheat firmer, 36s to 37s per 504 lb. Barley, 27s to 30s per 448 lb. Oats, 19s to 20s per 336 lb.—James Fletcher.

Worksop, Wednesday. —Small attendance, Fair supply of grain. Trade slow, with a firmer feeling. White wheat, 36s to 37s; red ditto, 35s to 36s 6d; best malting barley, 31s to 33s; secondary qualities, 29s to 31s; grinding barley, 26s to 28s; white oats, 18s to 20s; black oats, 17s to 19s; maize, 28s to 29s per qr.

Yeovil, Friday.—Home-grown wheat of best quality, 37s to 38s; secondary, 33s to 36s; grinding barley, foreign, 24s 6d to 25s; ditto, English, 25s 6d to 27s 6d; malting barley, 29s to 33s; old oats, 22s to 24s; winter oats, 18s to 19s; white Gartons, 18s 6d to 19s 6d; black Tartars, 18s to 19s; Irish black, 18s to 18s 6d; beans, 34s to 36s; flat maize, 27s; round, 25s 6d to 26s; vetches, 6s to 7s per bushel. Flour trade showed some improvement in demand, and on the basis of 30s to 30s 6d for fines. Offals and meals without material change.

York, Saturday.—Dry samples of wheat sell at quite last week's prices, most of the samples being soft. Fine white made 36s 6d to 37s 6d., and red and mixed 35s 6d to 36s 6d per qr of 36 stones. Malting barley was firm, with not much offering. Fine fetches 30s to 32s, good 28s to 30s, and inferior 26s to 28s per qr of 32 stones. Oats were firmer at 20s to 21s per qr of 24 stones. Rye makes 28s to 29s per qr of 36 stones, and old beans 1s a stone.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday. — Linseed Cake.—There is quite an average demand considering the time of year, and home manufacturers especially anticipating higher values in the near future are disinclined to enter into forward contracts except at an advance on ruling prices. Russian continue in moderate request. East India seed pures are cheaply quoted. Fine seedy Argentine of exceptionally good quality make full prices. London made attract rather more attention.

Cotton Cake.—The trade generally is disappointing, and with some fairly heavy arrivals of Egyptian, quotations remain quiet, while English are fully as dear. Decorticated: London made pures meet a ready sale, but American brands are neglected.

Rape Cakes.—Steady. East Indian unchanged. Ravison none.

Maize Germ Meal.—Good samples of white African meal command an advance on last week, but there are sellers of English on slightly easier terms. Maize gluten feed is in good request.

Rice Meal. — Landed lots of Rangoon are firmly held, with sellers ex-ship terms unchanged.

Locust beans sell quietly.

Dried brewers' grains remain scarce and dear.

Nitrate of soda is without alteration.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Russian, in mats (ex dock)...	7 10 0	to	7 11 3
,, in bags	7 12 6	to	7 15 0
East India	7 7 6		—
Argentine	8 0 0	to	8 5 0
London Made.....	7 15 0	to	7 17 0
Cottonseed Cakes.			
Egyptian	4 12 6	to	4 15 0
English (ex mill)	4 15 0	to	4 17 6
Bombay	4 7 6		
Decorticated, London made	7 15 0		—
,, American.....	—		7 10 0
,, Meal, American	—		7 10 0
,, Meal, English...	7 15 0		—
Special Digestive Meal	5 5 0		—
Rape Cakes.			
East India	5 5 0		—
Ravison	—		—
Maize.			
African.....	7 0 0	to	7 5 0
English	6 11 3	to	6 12 6
Maize Gluten Meal	6 15 0		—
Ricemeal.			
Rangoon ..... ex whf.	5 10 0	to	5 12 6
,, ...ex ship	5 5 0		—
Locust Beans.			
Whole	5 10 0		
Kibbled	5 15 0		
Dried Brewers' Grains.			
Ale	5 15 0		
Mixed	5 10 0		
Manures.			
Nitrate of soda	11 2 6		

—Pinnock Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

Liverpool, Friday. — Nitrate of soda is steady at late rates. The heavy rainfall has prevented ploughing and sowing in low-lying districts, and consequently retarded the demand for phosphates and kainit, and though there is a fair amount of business passing, it would be much more so were climatic conditions more favourable. Feeding stuffs meet an extremely slow consumption, and with the mild weather and the near approach of the Christmas holidays no improvement is anticipated before the New Year.

	Per ton. £ s d		£ s d
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (prime)	—		—
Cottonseed Cake Meal	7 15 0		—
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime (poor colour).....	8 0 0		8 2 6
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime.....	4 16 3		5 0 0
Cottonseed Cake, Egyptian, undecorticated, prime.....	—		—
Cottonseed, crushed, 20 per cent. oil guaranteed	8 10 0		—
Linseed Cake, American, thin oblong, prime	7 15 0		—
,, ,, English	8 5 0		8 10 0
,, ,, Foreign Round	8 0 0		—
Palm Nut Cake	6 5 0		—
Maize Germ Meal.....	6 12 6		—
Indian Meal, coarse to fine grinding	Per 240 lb. —		—
Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported	Per ton. —		—
Linseed, fine bold feeding	Per qr., 416 lb. 2 13 0		2 15 0
Cod-liver Oil, cattle feeding ...	Per Gallon. 0 4 0		—
Treacle, feeding, American ...	Per Cwt. 0 4 9	0	4 10½
Nitrate of Soda.....	Per ton. 11 5 0		—
Kainit, prime.....	2 7 6		—
Bone Meal, prime.....	5 7 6		
Bone Ash.....	3 15 0		—
Basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed		1 14 0	1 15 0
,, ,,		2 2 0	2 3 0
,, finest ,,		2 6 0	2 7 6
D.N.S. Brand { Superphosphate of Lime*.....		2 5 0	2 7 0
,, ,, guaranteed*		2 10 0	2 12 0
,, ,, ,, *		3 1 3	3 3 3

* At depots inland.

—H. Jones Langar and Co.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Fair supply of hay; trade slow. Hay, £3 to £3 10s per ton. No quotations for straw.

Derby, Friday.—Clover, best old, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; hay, best old, 90s to 100s; new, 50s to 70s; second, 40s to 50s; straw, wheat, 60s to 70s; pressed, 50s to 60s; chop, 55s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Both hay and straw sell slowly without quotable change in values.

Leeds, Tuesday.—A fair trade is passing in the warehouses in hay and straw at the following quotations:—Old clover hay, 7½d; ditto meadow hay, 7d; best new clover hay, 7d; ditto meadow, 6½d; wheat straw 5d; oat straw, 5d; and rye straw (retail), 7d to 8½d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Hay and seeds made rather less money, making from 55s to 60s; straw, 30s per ton on the ground.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, 4½d to 4½d; clover, 5½d to 6d; straw, wheat, 3d; oat, 2¾d to 3d per stone.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Old land hay, from £3 5s to £4 4s; new land hay, £4 5s to £5 5s; this year's growth, £4 to £4 15s. Wheat straw, from £1 6s to £1 8s per load; barley straw, £1 1s to £1 3s; oat straw, from £1 2s to £1 3s.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Moderate supplies on offer at to-day's market. Business on the quiet side at about late quotations, viz.:—Choice old seeds, £4 10s to £4 15s; choice hay, £3 15s to £4 5s; straw, £2 10s to £3 per ton; turnips, 20s to 22s.

Whitechapel, Saturday. — Good supplies were offered, and a good demand ensured at recent prices. Best clover, 84s to 92s 6d; inferior, 72s to 80s; specially-picked hay, 82s 6d; good, 65s to 75s; inferior, 55s to 63s; mixture and sainfoin, 70s to 82s 6d; straw, 25s to 31s per load.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The arrivals of home cheese were liberal, farmers expecting an extra demand for Christmas and New Year. The demand was improved, especially for Dunlops, and prices were the turn dearer. Cheddars were quoted 62s to 66s per cwt, and Dunlops, 58s to 62s. Canadians were slow at previous level.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—A large attendance of customers and a brisk trade. Best Caerphilly dairies realised up to 69s per cwt; secondary dairies, 63s to 67s; and other dairies, 60s to 62s. A few inferior lots failed to reach 54s. Cheddars, 60s to 64s; truckles, 58s to 62s 6d; doubles, 54s to 58s.

Newport, Wednesday.—A good supply, fair demand, and average attendance. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 54s to 65s per cwt; fancy dairies, 65s to 69s; Derbys, 68s to 70s; truckles, 62s to 66s; Cheddars, 63s to 65s.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Large supplies; demand fair. Surrey fowls, 3s to 5s; Sussex fowls, 3s to 4s 6d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 3s 6d; Essex fowls, 2s to 3s; Irish fowls, 2s to 2s 6d; quails, 10d to 1s 6d; geese, 5s to 8s 6d; country ducks, 3s to 4s 3d; wild ducks, 1s 9d to 2s; feathered pigeons, 7d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 11d to 1s 2d; English hares, 3s 6d to 4s; leverets, 2s; Scottish hares, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 6d; wild rabbits, 6d to 11d; live hens, 1s 8d to 2s each; Australian rabbits, 5s to 7s 6d per dozen; pheasants, 5s 6d to 6s 6d; young partridges, 4s 6d to 5s; old, 2s 6d; black game, 3s 6d to 4s per brace; cock turkeys, 8d to 1s 2d per lb; hen turkeys, 5s to 8s 6d each.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There has been a little more demand during the week, owing to the exceptionally low rates now prevailing.

Worcester, Saturday.—Business on the hop market has been quiet in anticipation of the holidays. Holders are firm, and do not offer freely, hoping for a better and improved trade in the New Year. Only 60 pockets have been weighed this week—Charles Faram and Co.

Seven Years Grain Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 10d. per 480 lb.
Barley.....	25s. 4d. per 400 lb.
Oats.....	18s. 11d. per 312 lb.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, 3 P.M.

There was not much doing in English wheat but he market was no worse from the 20th, and prices were fully maintained. American and Russian sales of wheat were the turn lower, and ndian were 6d. cheaper. Other imported descriptions were without change. Maize was well held for delivery between now and December 31. For dates in the New Year the advantage was not with holders.

Barley was an improved trade both for malting and grinding, but the approach of the holidays restricted speculation, and buyers satisfied retail needs at full prices. Oats were firm for English, but foreign sorts were in poor request.

The South African samples are offered at 18s 6d, with buyers at 17s 6d, so that a level of value is in process of being formed for a new supply. Some specially fine peas from Tasmania changed hands at 42s per qr. Beans and rye are steady with some prospect of a better market after Christmas.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

December 23.

WHEAT,	White	(per 504 lb.)	36 — 39
	Red	,,	35 — 38
BARLEY,	Malting	(per 448 lb.)	35 — 37
	Brewing	,,	33 — 35
	Distilling	(per 416 lb.)	31 — 32
	New Winter	(per 400 lb.)	26 — 28
	Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	26 — 27
MALT,	Pale (New)	(per 336 lb.)	39 — 41
	Brown ,,	,,	34 — 36
	Black ,,	,,	36 — 37
OATS,	Good Old	,,	22 — 23
	Good New	,,	21 — 22
	New Winter	,,	20 — 21
	Ordinary Old	(per 320 lb.)	21 — 22
	Ordinary New	(per 320 lb.)	20 — 21
	,, ,,	(per 312 lb.)	19 — 20
RYE, New		(per 480 lb.)	30 — 31
BEANS,	Pigeon	(per 532 lb.)	42 — 44
	Tick	(per 504 lb.)	35 — 36
	Winter	,,	34 — 35
	Spring	,,	33 — 34
	Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	23 — 24
PEAS,	Picked Marrowfat, New	(per 504 lb.)	84 — 88
	Unpicked (Old)	,,	52 — 56
	Maple (Old)	,,	36 — 37
	(New)	,,	35 — 36
	Dun (Old)	,,	32 — 33
	(New)	,,	33 — 34

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba	43	44	American	25/6	25/9
Red Winter	41	42	Argentine	25/3	25/6
Rast Spring	43	44	Roumanian	25,3	25/6
Durum	37	38	Russian	25/0	25/3
Argentine	42	43	Cinquantina	26/0	27/0
Australian	45	46	South African	25/6	25/9
Californian	44	45	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Walla Walla	43	44	Smyrna	37	38
Azima	44	45	New Zealand	35	36
Ghirka	42	43	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Roumanian	42	43	Hungarian	62	64
Indian White	39	40	Burmese	37	39
,, Red	38	39	Chilian	56	64
Turkish	37	38	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb):		
Persian	37	38	French	29	31
BARLEY:			Russian	31	32
C'lifor'n (448 lb)	None.		Canadian	33	34
Tunisian (448 lb)	35	36	PEAS (504 lb.):		
Algerian (448 lb)	34	35	Dutch Crowns	56	58
Russian (400 lb)	24	25	Konigsberg	45	47
Indian (400 lb)	24	25	Russian White	39	41
Persian (400 lb)	22	23	Indian White	39	41
MALT (336 lb.):			Canadian White	39	41
Californian	38	39	Victoria Dun	35	37
Smyrna	40	41	MILLET (416 lb.):		
Ouchak	39	40	White	44	46
RYE (480 lb.):			Yellow	24	26
Russian	30	31	Sorghum	22	23
OATS:			RICE (cwt.):		
Konigsbg (320 lb)	21	22	Indian	17	20
Russian (304 lb)	18	19	Burmese	9	10
Canadian (320 lb)	21	22	Siamese	8	9
Arg'tine (304 lb)	18	19	DARI (480 lb.):		
Swedish (320 lb)	21	22	Indian	28	29
New Zld (384 lb)	25	26	Persian	24	25

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED WITH FIRMNESS DESPITE THE EXTREMELY MILD WEATHER, WHICH OF COURSE WAS ALL AGAINST RETAIL DEMAND.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, 3 P.M

The tone of trade for London markets was rather firmer from a week ago. American and country sorts were a trifle easier. Hungarian remained scarce. No reductions were allowed in bran pollard or middlings.

Some prices made to-day included 37s. 6d. for English flour made by the Hungarian process, 35s. 6d. for No. 1 supers, 32s. 3d. for best Minneapolis, 31s. 3d. for the best whole meal, and 30s. 3d. for ordinary whole meal. There were no samples on offer so far as we could learn, of Belgian, Argentine, or Russian flour, so that the area of competition with home mills appears to be diminishing.

As Christmastide is a leading time in the oatmeal trade, we may mention that special Midlothian oatmeal was selling to-day at £17 per ton, Aberdeen at £13, Grampian at £13 10s., and Deeside at the same price as Gampian.

Rolled oats made £15 10s. per ton for best Aberdeen; oat flour, £19 10s.; best Midlothian cut groats, £13 10s. for December delivery; and brose meal 34s. 6d. per sack.

London Flour.

December 23.

Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	37/0
Town Whites	,,	33/0
,, Households	,,	30/0
No. 2	,,	29/0
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	31/0
,, No. 2	,,	29/0

Country Flour.

		s.	s.
Fine Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	28	29
Roller Whites	,,	26	27
All English	,,	26	27
Stone made	,,	25	26

Foreign Flour.

		s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	32	33
,, Second Patents	,,	31	32
,, First Bakers'	,,	27	28
,, Second Bakers'	,,	26	27
Milwaukee Patents	,,	31	32
,, Bakers'	,,	26	28
Canadian Best	,,	32	33
,, Ordinary	,,	30	31
Manitoba Patents	,,	32	33
,, Ordinary	,,	30	31
Kansas Patents	,,	30	31
,, Ordinary	,,	28	29
Californian	,,	31	32
Belgian	,,	36	37
Hungarian (net prices)—			
Five Stars	,,	41/0	
G.G.O.	,,	40/0	
P.W.M.	,,	38/0	
Six Anchors	,,	41/0	

Meal, &c.

Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	16	17
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	17	18
,, ,, Broad	,,	16	17
Pollard	,,	15	16
Biscuit Middlings	,,	19	20
Fine Middlings	,,	18	19
Coarse Middlings	,,	17	18
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	19	20
Farina Firsts	,,	30	31
,, Seconds	,,	28	29
Barley Meal	,,	27	28
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	28	29
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	33	34
Groats	,,	34	35
Oat Flour	,,	34	35
Ground Oats	,,	33	34
Poultry Meal	,,	37	38
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	21	22
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	20	21
,, Germ Meal	,,	17	18
,, Cones	,,	20	21
,, Gluten Meal	,,	17	18
Rye Flour	,,	26	28
Rye Bran	,,	23	24
Pea Meal	,,	24	25

THE BALTIC.

MONDAY, 1 P.M.

STATE OF TRADE.

There is not much doing to-day, the principal operators, in fact, will not be in town again for some little while. Oilseed cargoes are a little easier to buy from Saturday, but wheat, maize, and oats are steadily held, and barley cargoes favour sellers.

BUSINESS DONE.

Wheat.—No. 2 Hard Winter, 8s per cental, January shipment; No. 2 Red Winter, 7s 10d per cental, January shipment; White Karachi, 39s per 492 lb, arrived; Red Karachi, 39s 3d per 492 lb, arrived.

Barley.—Californian, 36s 6d. per 448 lb, on passage.

Oats.—Baltic, 17s per 304 lb, on passage.

Maize.—American flat, 5s 6d per cental, on passage; American white, 5s 7d per cental, on passage; Odessa kilndried, 5s 6d per cental, on passage; Argentine yellow, 5s 2d per cental, on passage; Sout African, 5s 2d per cental, on passage.

Linseed.—Argentine, 39s 3d. per 416 lb, on passage; Argentine, 38s 9d per 416 lb, February shipment.

Rapeseed.—Yellow Guzerat, 56s 6d per 460 lb, April shipment; Ferozepore, 52s 3d per 460 lb, February shipment.

Podpyseed.—Bombay, 62s 6d per 877 lb, prompt shipment.

Sesame.—Bombay, 61s per 384 lb, prompt shipment.

Cottonseed.—Bombay, £5 13s 9d per 2,240 lb, prompt shipment; Egyptian, £6 8s 9d per 2,240 lb, arrived.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—During the week flour has been firmer, but the near approach of the holidays interfered with business. Grain.—There is an improvement of 1½d per boll on maize and flat corn on the week. Grinding beans being pressed for sale are again easier. Oats and oatmeal are in buyers' favour. Oilcake unchanged. Mill Stuffs.—2s 6d per ton lower, except for fine thirds, which are scarce. spring wheat patents, 31s to 32s 6d per 280 lb; winter wheat patents, 30s to 30s 6d per 280 lb; American corn, 15s 3d per 280 lb; round corn, 15s 1½d to 15s 3d per 280 lb; grinding beans 17s 10½d to 18s per 280 lb; broad bran, 112s 6d to 115s per ton; medium bran, 117s 6d to 110s per ton; common thirds (sharps), 110s to 112s 6d per ton; fine thirds, 137s 6d to 140s per ton; American oilcake, 147s 6d to 150s per ton.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Arrivals of wheat have been small the past week. The trade is quiet, and prices are unchanged. Flour arrivals are large, and prices are supported. There is no change to be noted in maize, barley, and oats.—COVENTRY, SHEPPARD, AND CO.

Milling offal.—Holiday markets. Prices unchanged.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

Flour.—Trade to-day has been very quiet owing to the approaching holidays. Prices, however, are very firm, and must be written abont 6d dearer on the week.—T. S. MEDHILL AND SONS, LTD.

TERM MARKET.

Wheat stands at about 8s per cental; maize at about 5s 3d for 1908 deliveries. The latest prices quoted have been:—

Wheat—

7s. 8d. per cental January-February-March delivery.

8s. per cental, April, May, and June delivery.

Maize—

5s. 4d. per cental, January delivery.

5s. 3d. per cental, February delivery.

Both wheat and maize are American, but other sorts can be bought at proportionate differences.

Average Monthly Prices of Fine Household Flour in Paris.

(*Converted into English money for sacks of* 280 *lb.*)

	1907.		1906.		1905.		1904.		1903.		1902.		1901.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Jan.	30	9	31	0	31	0	29	6	30	9	27	9	24	9
Feb.	30	0	31	6	31	6	30	0	31	6	26	3	25	9
March	29	9	31	3	30	3	31	0	31	6	27	0	24	0
April	30	0	31	6	30	9	29	0	34	0	27	3	24	6
May	33	3	30	9	31	9	28	0	33	3	27	6	25	6
June	32	9	31	0	30	3	28	3	34	0	30	9	26	3
July	34	6	31	6	30	0	29	4	31	9	29	9	28	0
August	33	6	29	9	29	3	30	0	30	0	27	6	27	6
Sept.	33	9	30	6	31	0	31	0	30	0	29	0	27	6
Oct.	32	0	31	0	31	6	31	6	30	0	30	0	27	6
Nov.	30	6	31	6	31	9	32	0	28	0	28	9	27	9
Dec.			30	0	31	0	31	3	28	6	29	6	28	3
Yrly. Avrg.			30	11	30	9	30	1	31	1	28	5	27	3

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Altrincham: 5. Appleby: 7 and 8. Barnsteple: 7 and 9. Berwick: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per doz. Camelford: 1s 3d per doz. Carlisle: 6 and 7. Chester: 6. Dartmouth: 1s 5d to 1s 8d per doz. Derby: 6 and 7. Devizes: 8 and 9. Doncaster: 7. Dorchester: 6 to 8. Evesham: 1s 3½d to 1s 6d per doz. Hereford: 7 and 9. Kidderminster: 7. Lancaster: 6. Lincoln: 8. Market Drayton: 7 and 8. Otley: 6. Penrith: 6 and 7. Penzance: 1s 2d to 1s 6d per doz. Plymouth: 6. Preston: 6 and 7. Retford: 2s 6d per score. Ripon: 7. Scarborough: 6. Spalding: 8. Stamford: 7 and 8. Stockport: 5 and 6. Stockton: 6. Truro: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per dozen. Wellington (Salop): 7 and 8. Worcester: 7. Worksop: 3s to 3s 2d per score. York: 6.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Altrincham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Appleby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Barnstaple: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Berwick: 9d to 11d. Camelford: 1s 2d. Carlisle: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Chester: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Dartmouth: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Derby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Devizes: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Doncaster: 1s 4d. Dorchester: 1s 2d to 1s 6d. Evesham: 1s 1½d to 1s 5d. Hereford: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Kidderminster: 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Lincoln: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Market Drayton: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Otley: 2s to 2s 2d per 24 oz roll. Penrith: 1s 1d to 1s 4d. Penzance: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Plymouth: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Preston: 1s 4d. Retford: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Ripon: 1s 10d to 2s per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Spalding: 1s 1d. Stamford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Stockport: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Stockton: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Totnes: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Truro: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Wellington (Salop) 1s 2d 1 3d. Worcester: 1s to 1s 4d. Worksop: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. York: 1s 3d to 1s 4d.

POTATOES.

Berwick, Saturday.—The tendency of the potato trade is a little firmer. Up-to-dates, 80s; Langworthies, 85s to 87s per ton. On the borderland a considerable quantity of grey-soils are being railed at and around 75s per ton.

Borough, Saturday.—A fair demand prevailed for the good arrivals. Langworthys, 80s to 90s; Up-to-Dates, 90s to 100s; Blacklands, 75s to 80s; British Queens, 90s; Royal Kidneys, 80s to 90s; Scottish (grey soil), 95s to 100s per ton. Dutch, 2s 6d to 3s; French, 3s 3d to 3s 6d; German, 3s 9d to 4s per bag.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supply of potatoes was small, and a quick clearance was effected at 8d per stone.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Good supply but only a moderate trade. Prices unchanged from 8s 6d to 10s per load of 18 stones.

Goole, Wednesday. — Fair attendance of farmers and dealers, and plenty of potatoes on offer. Trade slow owing to the approaching holidays. Prices range from 9s to 10s per load.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Potatoes 9d per stone.

Malton, Saturday. — Potatoes show little change; best, £4 to £4 5s per ton, 4s 6d to 5s per bag.

Manchester, Saturday. — Potatoes: King Edwards, warps, 12s to 13s; ditto Sands 11s to 12s; Cheshire, 8s 6d to 9s 6d; Lincoln, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 18 stone; Irish, 5s; German, 4s 6d to 5s per cwt.

Preston, Saturday.—Potatoes made 8s to 9s per load of 240 lb.

Retford.—Saturday.—The potato market was well supplied; best local grown made up to 9s per load; others 7s to 7s 6d per load.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Good supplies of English were offered, but arrivals of foreign were smaller. Trade proved quiet. Langworthys, 100s to 110s; Up-to-Dates, 90s to 100s; British Queens, 90s to 95s; Royal Kidneys, 80s to 85s; Scottish (grey soil), 90s to 95s per ton. German, 3s 6d to 4s; French, 3s 6d; Dutch, 3s to 3s 3d per bag.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Potatoes £4 15s to £5 per ton.

Whitby, Saturday.—Potatoes 8d to 9d per stone.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Large supply, and very slow trade, with prices varying owing to the disease. Best potatoes, 8s 6d to 9s 6d per load of 18 stones.

York, Saturday.—A fair supply met a quiet trade, the market being of a holiday character. Prices range from 75s to 80s per ton.

Seven Years' Tithe Rent Charges.

For 1907	£68	19	6
,, 1906	68	12	1
,, 1905	69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Dec. 23, 1907. British.	Total.	Monday, Dec. 24, 1906.
Beasts	90	90	130
Sheep and Lambs	120	120	240
Calves	10	10	10
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	5	5	20

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	...	—	—
Sheep	3 4	5 2	6 0
Lambs	—	—	—
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £— to £—.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 14; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 76; Devon, nil; Ireland, nil.

We note to day a decrease of 2,540 head in the number of beasts offered for sale compared with Monday last; as usual, on the Monday preceding Christmas Day, buyers were conspicuous by their absence. The few beasts on offer awaited sales in the market lairs, which were very few and far between, therefore quotations are not worth recording.

There was a decrease of 10,090 in the number of sheep penned compared with Monday last. Trade ruled of a dull and dragging nature owing to the scarcity of buyers present, the few transactions made being governed by last Thursday's values. The supply included no Scotch or Irish, and only 20 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	Monday, Dec. 24, 1906. s. d.
7½ to 8 st Downs	5 10 to 6 0	—
9 st. Down Tegs	5 8 to 5 10	—
10 st Halfbreds	5 4 to 5 6	—
10 st Yorkshires	—	—
12 st Lincolns	—	—
10 st Irish	—	—
10 st Down Ewes	3 10 to 4 0	—
11 st Halfbred ditto	3 8 to 3 10	—
5 st Down Lambs	—	—
6 st Halfbred ditto	—	—

Calf trade not worth noting or quoting.

No pigs on the market.

London (Central), Monday.—Market dull, supplies moderate. Beef, English, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 6d; American, 3s 2d to 3s 8d; refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 4d to 3s 10d. Mutton, English wethers, 4s to 4s 6d; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d; lambs, 6s 4d to 6s 8d; Scotch tegs and wethers, 4s to 4s 10d; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d. Veal, 3s 8d to 5s. Pork, 3s 4d to 4s per stone.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts nil. No market was held here to-day. The next Deptford market will be held on Saturday, December 28.

Liverpool, Monday.—The sepply of cattle on offer was very small, though quite sufficient for the requirements of trade. The few cattle shown were mostly placed at about late rates for their class, while for mutton there was little or no inquiry. Beef, 6½d to 4½d per lb; mutton, 9d to 6½d. At market 533 cattle and 1,182 sheep.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, December 23.—Prices in the oil seed market remain substantially without change.

Linseed. per 416 lb.	s. s.	Rubsen. per 424 lb.	s. s.
Calcutta	46 to 47	German	71 to 75
Russian	45 to 48	Poppyseed. per 377 lb.	
Argentine cleand	46 to 47	Indian	59 to 61
Argentine comn.	44 to 45	Cottonseed. per ton.	
Dutch	51 to 53	Egyptian	134 to 136
Turkish	48 to 50	Indian	116 to 120
Canadian	46 to 47	Peruvian	120 to 124
Morocco	50 to 51	Sunflowerseed. per cwt	
Rapeseed. per 416 lb.		English, White	14 to 15
English	82 to 84	,, Black	13 to 14
French; F.A.Q.	64 to 66	Russian, White.	13 to 14
Yellow Guzerat	61 to 63	,, Black.	12 to 13
Yellow Cawnpre	58 to 59	Sesame. per 384 lb.	
Brown ,,	55 to 56	Indian	61 to 62
Ferozepore	55 to 56	Hempseed. per 336 lb.	
Jamba	46 to 47	Russian	42 to 44

WET AND DRIED GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Wet Grains: With a good trade and owing to slack brewings prices have a firmer tendency, and business has been done during the week at 23s ale, and porter 3s per ton less on rail London. Dried Grains.—Prices continue firm with a steady tendency at 110s for ale and 105s for mixed, bags 6d each. Best Java Molasses.—Concrete 70 per cent. sugar, in baskets, 85s per ton. Kiln-dried sea-damaged wheat from 21s per qr, on rail, London and elsewhere.—Hamlyn and Co.

SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—The spring sowing seed trade is now in full blast in spite of the proximity of the Christmas holidays. In clovers, Canadian Alsikes are still rising. Whites unchanged. Reds and Trefoils dearer in both English and foreign seed. In grasses, French-Italian is dearer, and Perennials, Irish-Italian, New Zealand Cocksfoot, and meadow fescue are realising more money. Rape keeps firm. Mustard unchanged. Rye scarce. Peas flat as is usual at this time of the year.—John Pickard and Co.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were:—From Ireland, 2,942 bales, and from foreign ports, 13,149 bales. There was a quiet trade for bacon throughout the week. Quotations ranged:—Irish, 51s to 55s up to 60s; Danish, 50s to 53s up to 58s; Canadian, 50s to 52s up to 55s. Butter: The butter market was firm. French, 104s to 120s; Danish, 123s to 125s; Russian, 94s to 112s; Irish, 98s to 120s; Victorian, 98s to 118s; New South Wales, 98s to 118s; Queensland, 98s to 118s; New Zealand, 100s to 120s; Argentine, 114s to 118s. Lard.—There was a slow market. Irish, 46s to 58s; Danish, 48s to 54s; American, 43s to 44s 6d.

Monthly Averages.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1906. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1907. Wheat	Barley	Oats
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan.	28 6	24 9	18 5	26 1	24 2	17 4
Feb.	28 10	25 4	18 11	26 6	24 3	17 7
Mar.	28 5	24 8	18 11	26 9	23 11	18 0
April	29 1	24 2	19 1	26 9	23 8	18 10
May	30 2	24 0	20 0	28 5	24 0	19 10
June	30 4	23 4	20 2	31 6	24 6	20 9
July	30 4	23 1	20 4	32 2	24 11	20 10
Aug.	29 6	23 7	17 9	33 7	25 4	20 5
Sept.	26 1	24 5	16 2	31 8	24 9	17 7
Oct.	26 5	25 0	16 7	33 11	26 2	18 1
Nov.	26 5	24 5	17 1	35 3	27 7	18 8
Dec.	26 2	24 1	17 3			

Average Monthly Cash Prices of Town Households Flour.

	1907	1906.	1905.	1904.	1903.	1902.	1901.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan.	22 0	25 0	26 3	24 9	24 0	21 9	24 6
Feb.	22 0	24 9	26 9	25 6	24 3	22 0	24 0
March	21 9	24 3	26 6	25 9	23 9	21 9	23 9
April	22 3	24 6	26 0	25 3	23 9	23 0	24 0
May	25 0	24 0	25 9	24 9	24 0	23 6	23 6
June	25 6	23 9	25 6	24 3	24 3	23 0	23 0
July	26 0	23 6	25 0	25 0	24 3	23 0	22 3
August	26 6	23 0	25 0	26 6	24 9	22 9	22 3
Sept.	28 6	22 9	24 6	27 0	25 0	23 3	22 0
Oct.	32 0	22 6	25 0	27 0	24 9	22 9	21 6
Nov.	31 0	22 0	25 0	26 9	24 3	22 9	21 6
Dec.	21	9	25 0	26 9	24 3	23 3	21 9
Yrly. Avrg.	23	5	25 6	25 9	24 3	22 8	22 10

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

*Cereal Year commencing September 2nd, 1907.**

		s.	d.
September 2	(per sack)	32	0
,, 13	,,	34	0
,, 20	,,	33	0
,, 27	,,	35	0
October 2	,,	36	0
,, 9	,,	37	0
,, 21	,,	38	0
November 6	,,	37	0

(No change since last date given).

* September 1st, 1907, was a Sunday.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

Our annual "Great Market Day" at Islington has again been held, this day being generally known as the "Scotch Day," consignments from this country being held back, at any rate the choicest and best for Christmas consumption. The arrivals this year were shorter in number, but the quality showed no decline in point of excellence. Devons, Norfolks, and Runts were all well up to the mark. Herefords, as usual, were in short supply, the season for these being practically at an end. Amongst the Irish arrivals were some of the famous Aberdeen-Angus breed, many of these being prize cattle from the Royal Dublin Show. Trade was very late in commencing owing to the dense fog which prevailed in the early morning, and throughout the day ruled of an extremely slow nature at a decline of 2d. per 8 lb. on last year's prices for Scotch and Devon cattle, whilst Irish in some cases were as much as 6d. per 8 lb. lower compared with last year. Thursday's trade for fat beasts also ruled of a slow nature at a further decline. Fat butchering cows and bulls on both market days shared in the generally slow trade experienced, amongst the latter some very choice cattle being seen.

At Deptford, markets were held Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday, the supply consisting entirely of consignments from the United States, for which trade ruled of a slow nature throughout the week. The total number of beasts on offer at both markets was 5,691, as against 5,585 during the preceding week, consisting of 2,850 British (increase 1,360) and 3,111 (decrease 984). The following were foreign rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—90 to 100 stone Scotch, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; 90 to 100 stone Devons, 4s. 6d., ex 4s. 8d.; 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 95-st. runts, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 90 stone Black Polled Norfolks, 4s. 4d to 4s. 6d.; 100 stone Dublin Show cattle, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 95 stone Irish, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Shorthorns 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 90 stone States, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.

The sheep trade on this day, as a rule, commences rather later, all attention at first being attracted to the beasts. For all grades of English sheep trade ruled of a slow and dragging nature, prices ruling in favour of the buyer. Scotch and Irish descriptions were also lower. Lambs were in light supply, and shared in the general depression. On Thursday a few sales were made at a further decline. No sheep were offered for sale at Deptford. The total number on offer was 10,530, as against 5,650 during the previous week, showing an increase of 4,880. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 6s. to 6s. 2d.; 8 stone Scotch, 6s. to 6s. 2d.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s 10d.; 10 stone half-breds, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 11 stone Hampshire ewes, 5s. 8d to 5s. 10d.; 5 stone fat Down lambs, 6s. 10d. to 7s.

Calves only numbered 20. Trade was not worth noting or quoting.

Pigs numbered 30, and met with a slow trade, the best on offer being quoted at from 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d. per 8 lb. (offal given in).

Trade in the West.

Once again the season of Christmas is at our very doors, and all the preparations for the celebration of the great festival are completed, very little remaining to be told of the business relating thereto, more particularly concerning the fat stock sales, that is not already fully known. Speaking generally of the prices realised for fat cattle, although all the better-most qualities have brought a very fair return — we mean for animals of the very best type—still it must be confessed that the price of secondary beasts has been somewhat disappointing, more so in respect to the price realised than from one of demand. Graziers are very well satisfied on the whole with the price they made for their best bullocks, most of which gave them a return of quite 12s. per score all round, some particularly neat weights touching 13s., which is not a bad price, though it must not be lost sight of that dealers had to pay pretty dearly for the barreners, which they have now for some time past been preparing for the Christmas trade, the best of which have brought them from £22 up to £37 apiece, which is about the outside figure we know to have been reached for anything disposed of in the Western markets. The most disappointing feature has been in respect to distinctly secondary beasts, which have scarcely paid graziers for the trouble taken in their preparation, some of them making only about half a guinea (or 11s. per score), which is hardly what graziers expect to get at this particular season for their beef, and much more has been sold for less. Still one consolation remains, and that is, that scarce any of the beef, whether of the choicer grades or the plainest quality has been left over unsold. Therefore graziers must be thankful for this if for nothing else. Speaking generally of the beef sales this Christmas, all agree that the closing sales of the past week have been attended with much less satisfactory results than those of the sales a week or a fortnight earlier, since which there has been a steady decline in values, due no doubt to the fact that many laid in their stocks at the first opportunity, and have consequently wanted to make but comparatively few purchases since. There has been no such variation in the mutton trade, prices having kept uniformly steady all through, and this has been especially the case with all the choicer grades of tegs and wethers, which have cost purveyors who went in for quality pretty dearly all through, tegs and wethers in some cases making 70s. and upwards for the heaviest, ranging down to 52s. or 53s. for smaller weights, and generally computed to be 9½d. per lb. and over, whilst young ewes have made up to 8½d. for animals of good finish. Older sheep, of coarse weights, have met a decidedly dragging trade at 6½d. to 7d. per lb., little of this being at all suitable for Christmas purposes except in particular districts. Lamb has sold steadily at trifling variation in value, prices, though fairly good, falling somewhat below what we have seen, except in a few special instances, one special lot realising 64s., at previous Christmas sales. Occasionally, when wanted for show purposes, 1s. per lb. (or up to 65s. each) has been realised; but most of what lamb has been wanted this Christmas has been bought at 10d. to 11d. per lb. Veal has kept its value well all through, and the extra demand just at present has forced prices still further up, some of the ripest animals bringing sellers as much as 10d. per lb. (or up to £7 apiece), though 8d. to 9d. is a more general range for the ordinary runs of veal. The pig trade has been nothing like as good as it is some Christmases —in fact, prices have not come up to those realised in the summer; and this is naturally a disappointment to feeders, especially in view of the high price they have had to pay for feeding stuffs. A general run for the best porkers has been 10s. 9d. to 11s. per score for very dainty weights, many selling at 10s. 6d. and even less, whilst bacon hogs range from 8s. 6d. up to 10s. in very special cases; whilst coarse weights sell at 7s. to 8s. Though the demand has, on the whole, been good, leading to a clearance, the trade all round compares somewhat unfavourably with that of last and other Christmases; whether the result of the general depression existing or some other cause we are not able to say.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer was very large. Trade throughout has been quieter, and prices on an average about £1 a head lower. Fat cows a very large show, and they participated in a like reduction. Bulls very plentiful and cheaper. There was an average supply of fat sheep, and the general quality satisfactory. There was a fair demand, and prices as nearly as possible without change from last week. Ewes, however, made more money. Fat calves, if of good quality, exceedingly dear, while no change can be quoted in the price of pigs. For the time of year there was a fair supply of store cattle. Anything of a good class got readily and fairly well sold, and at the close a nearly total clearance was effected. Store sheep a large supply. Trade very slow, but a much better clearance effected this week than last. Milch cows a small show, and they met a slow trade. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 38s. 6d.; current, 34s. to 36s.; mutton, 6d to 9d. per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Ltd.

Trade in Ireland.

As usual at this time of the year, trade assumed a holiday sort of character, as there was a decrease of over 2,000 head of cattle and the same number of sheep offered for sale on Thursday last. The trade done was of a very quiet character, and few of the export buyers were present, most of them having purchased their Christmas stock. The supplies of cattle and sheep showed a good reduction, but really there were quite enough, in fact too many, for what were required.

Really nicely-finished bullocks and heifers met with a fair inquiry at late rates, with a slight tendency against the buyer. Middling cattle were flat and not much doing in them. Best ox and heifer beef sold at from 50s. to 55s., and choice from 56s. to 59s. per cwt; second quality beef, 45s. to 50s., and inferior beef from 42s. to 43s. per cwt. Rough beasts, cows, &c., were practically unsaleable, and the bulk of such animals had to be held over by their owners. There were 2,889 beasts in the market—a large falling off from the usual number, but something about what is usually expected at this Christmas market, most of the purchases for the holiday taking place earlier in December.

There were very few shippers in the market, and these only looking for cheap bargains. There was comparatively little business done in the sheep section of the market. The bulk of the sheep sold at in and out prices to speculators. Some nice Cheviet wethers passed to local butchers at fairly satisfactory rates, and mountain hoggets sold well, but outside these things were flat. Prime wether mutton was worth from 7d. to 7½d. per lb.; prime ewe, 6d. to 6½d.; and inferior mutton about 5d. per lb. Large heavy hoggets sold at from 46s. to 56s. each, and small to medium hoggets, 30s. to 44s. each. Some nice lambs were sold, the best large fat ones making up to 44s. each. Veal was in rather slow request, but the best calves sold very freely at 7½d. to 8½d. per lb.; inferior calves brought from 5½d. per lb. upwards.

The Dublin pig market had only a limited supply of stock on offer. There was a full company of buyers, and things moved briskly at dearer rates. Nice seasonable pigs sold freely at better prices, and there was a good trade done in shippers. Pigs suitable for the Christmas market sold very freely, making up to 50s. per cwt. Good shipping hoggs made 46s. and 47s. per cwt. Dublin market next week will be held on Friday the 27th inst., Thursday being a Bank holiday. Buyers have intimated their intention of being present on that day.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—The supply of beasts compared with Thursday last showed an increase of 150 head, amongst which were a good many fat beasts left over from last Monday's market. Very few sales were transacted, so few buyers being present, consequently a fall in value ensued. Top prices paid per 8 lb. as follows:—80 stone to 90 stone Scotch, 4s 8d, extreme, 4s 10d; 90 stone Norfolks, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; 95 stone Runts, 4s to 4s 2d; 100 stone Shorthorns, 3s 8d to 3s 10d. Sheep: An increase of 310 in the number penned in market compared with previous week; here, as in the beast department, very few transactions were recorded, sales having to be forced at 2d per 8 lb less money. Leading pens were quoted per 8 lb as follows:—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s 10d to 6s; 9 stone ditto, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10 stone ditto, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10 stone half-breds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10 stone Down ewes, 3s 10d to 4s. Calf trade not worth noting. Quotations per 8 lb, sinking the offal: Beasts, 2s 6d to 4s 10d; sheep, 3s 10d to 6s. Total supply: Beasts, 220; sheep, 320; calves, 10; milch cows, 5.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—The Christmas market was extremely disappointing to sellers; beef sold very slowly, but animals in market making 4s 10d, and the cattle show 5s, as quite a top price, while many good animals went at 4s to 4s 2d; mutton sold slowly, best neat Kents ranging up to 6s; while over fat sheep in show sold at about 4s; pork trade improved, best roasters making up to 4s; but large hogs, 2s 8d to 3s 2d.

Berwick, Saturday.—Attendance of farmers and buyers fair, and trade fairly good. Calves, £5 to £Sheifers, £8 10s to £10; stirks, £8 10s to

£11 5s; two-year-olds, £13 10s; three year-olds, £14 5s; Shorthorn bulls, £12 10s.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Good supply of pigs; small supply of beasts and sheep. Trade fair for pigs, but slow for beasts and sheep. Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8½d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s per score; cutting pigs, 9s 3d to 9s 6d per score; sows, 7s to 7s 3d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Fat cattle were rather scarce, and demand limited, trade being quiet at last week's prices. Sheep also were not numerous, and business was dull, with values favouring buyers, for whilst Down wethers maintained 8½d per lb, prime wethers fell to 8d, and heavy to 7½d. Pigs were scarce and quotations unchanged.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices of pigs:—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 1s. per pig extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. 10 lb to 8 sc. 10 lbs, 9s per score; 8 sc. 11 lb to 9 sc. 10 lb., 8s 6d per score; 9 sc. 11 lb to 10 sc. 10 lb, 8s per score Pigs outside these limits at their value.—C. and T. Harris and Co., Ltd.

Canterbury, Saturday. — Graziers having satisfied their requirements, very few lean stock are now being offered. Business during the past week has been mainly in respect of the sales of Christmas cattle, the best of which have made good prices.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Good supplies. A fair demand. Small wintering heifers, £7 10s to £8 10s; better descriptions, to £10 10s; stall-fed cattle, to £14 10s; stripping cows, £8 10s to £11 10s; polled bullocks, £7 10s to £12 10s each.

Chester, Thursday.—Smaller supply of stock and fewer buyers. Business generally was quieter, though most of the lots were cleared before the close. Prices ruled about the same as last week. Quotations:—Milch cows, £16 to £22; barren cattle, £10 to £13; heifers, £8 to £14; stirks, £6 to £9.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was a fair attendance of buyers, and both fat and store sheep met a steady selling trade at about late rates Fat cattle of nice quality and handy size were in firm demand, but heavy beasts and rough cows met a dragging sale. Good fresh-calved cows and heifers were keenly competed for, and realised fully as good prices as at the last sale. There was only a small entry of store cattle, which changed hands without quotable alteration in prices. There was a good entry of fat pigs and a better trade. Store pigs met rather a better trade. Quotations: Prime Devon beasts, 4s 4d to 5s 4d per stone; prime Shorthorn ditto, 4s 3d to 4s 8d; prime Southdown tegs, 6s 6d to 7s; prime West Country ditto, 6s to 6s 6d; fat ewes, 5s to 5s 4d; fat calves, 5s to 5s 6d; fat pigs, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; sucking calves, 15s to 30s per head; store pigs, 8s to 20s per head.

Derby, Tuesday.—A good supply of fat beasts, but many of them were of inferior quality, and did not sell readily. A good demand for all choice animals. Beasts 6d to 7d; sheep, 8d to 10d; calves, 8d.

Doncaster, Saturday.—There was only a small supply of cattle, but sufficient for all needs. Milch beasts were cheaper, and stores sold slowly. Milch beasts, £17 to £22; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers £11 10s to £15; drapes and stirks, £10 to £14; young stores, £7 to £10 each. Sheep scarce, but not many inquiries; hoggs, 42s to 48s each.

Dorchester, Saturday —Very limited supplies were on offer of to-day's cattle, both at Messrs. Duke's sale and also at Messrs. Symonds and Sampson's, and largely consisted of stores, purveyors having laid in their stocks at earlier markets, and bought scarcely anything to-day. The beef consisted of a few very plain animals, mostly bulls. Milch beasts formed the chief attraction to buyers, the best of these selling freely from £16 to £21 10s each, and seconds from £15 10s down to £12. Barreners also sold steadily, the best making up to £28 per pair, ranging down to £16. Other things practically unchanged from previous markets. All the low-lying lands around the Dorchester district are terribly flooded, almost more so than for a similar period during the last twenty years.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers on offer considerably reduced, but supplies quite sufficient for requirements. Demand slow. Finished beasts did not realise last week's quotations; secondary and inferior sorts difficult to exchange at lower prices, and a clearance not effected. Choice medium and light weight sheep in fair request at last week's figures for home use. Ewes, shipping hoggs, and heavy wethers a dull trade at prices favouring buyers. Cattle—Live weight (best), 31s to 33s per cwt; secondary and inferior sorts, 26s to 30s per cwt. Mutton (dead weight), 6½d to 7½d per lb, fancy Mountain wethers touching 7¾d per lb.—Ganly, Sons, and Co.

Edinburgh, Wednesday. — Sheep larger supply; cattle considerably down in numbers. Cattle met fair trade at last week's prices; black polled bullocks to £15 10s, and coloured polled bullocks to £14 15s. Sheep were generally a slow demand; half-bred hoggs made to 38s; grey-faced hoggets to 34s; Cheviot Dinmonts to 35s Best Shorthorn cows realised £23 10s, and Irish cows £21 10s.

Exeter, Friday.—Scarcely any fat animals on offer; prices lower. No quotation for cattle, but fat ewes made 6½d, and calves 7d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Good show of cattle. Prime classes met good inqury at satisfactory prices; secondary and inferior descriptions in moderate request only. Top, 64s to 66s; secondary, 58s to 61s per cwt. Large numbers of sheep penned; prime young sheep in demand; wethers also sold dear; ewes slow to cash; prices favouring buyers. Best mutton, 9¼d to 9¾d per lb; secondary, 8½d to 9d per lb

Hereford, Wednesday.—The supply of beef was much in excess of the demand, although there was no falling off in the trade. Best quality heifer and bullock beef made from 6d to 6½d. Cow beef was in very little demand. Calves were very few, and good calves sold a bit dearer. Veal made throughout 7d. A short supply of sheep, with trade firm; young mutton made 8½d, and in some instances nice quality realised 9d. Fat lambs were scarce and sold dear. Store lambs were few, and were eagerly sought after. There was a very large supply of porks and bacons, but trade remained unaltered. Porks made from 5½d to 6d, and bacons from 4½d to 5d. Store cattle supply small, and trade dull.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair supplies of home-bred stock. Trade ruled irregular. Choice milch cows, £22 to £24; good lots, £18 to £20; secondary, £15 to £17; calves, 20s to 38s; Shorthorn bullocks, £11 10s to £14; Welsh cattle, £10 to £12 10s each. Sheep sold freely lamb hoggs making 27s 6d to 38s each.

Lincoln, Friday.—A small show of horned stock and a slow demand. Young beasts £9 to £12; milch cows, £17 to £23. Hogg sheep 36s each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Fat beasts in very small supply, and trade very slow. A fair supply of store cattle for the time of the year, and trade slow, from £6 10s to £12 each. No fat or store sheep on offer. A few store lambs realised up to 42s each.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: Firsts, 5¾d; seconds, 4¾d to 5d; thirds, 3½d to 4d. Mutton: Firsts, Cheviots, Scotch, 8½d; others, 8d; seconds, 7d to 7½d; thirds, 6d to 6½d. Veal: Firsts, 7¾d; seconds. 6¾d to 7¼d; thirds, 5¾d to 6¼d. Bacon Pigs: Firsts, 5½d; seconds, 4¾d to 4¾d; thirds, 3¾d to 3¾d. Porket pigs: Firsts, 6¼d; seconds, 6d to 6¼d; thirds, 5¼d to 5¾d.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—A Christmas show of fat stock, and a large attendance of buyers. Trade was steady, and prices up from 3d to 6d per stone. The old style of fat cattle were absent. Quotations:—Prime heifers, 7s 9d to 8s; second class, 7s 6d to 7s 9d; prime steers, 7s 9d to 8s; second class, 7s 3d to 7s 6d; coarse and inferior, 6s 3d to 6s 9d per stone, sinking the offal. Sheep were in larger supply, and trade was firm, but the only prices to show an improvement were for seconds, which went up ½d per lb. Quotations:—Choice young sheep, 8½d to 8¾d; strong heavy, 8d to 8½d; choice hoggs, 8¾d to 9d; second class, 8½d to 8¾d; ewes, 6d to 6½d; rams, 5d to 5½d per lb. Calves were a very small supply for a Christmas market, and trade was fair for veal at 5d to 8d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—Large supply of cattle, sheep, and lambs. Good attendance and a brisk demand all round. Quotations were:—Best beef, 6½d per lb; secondary, 6d; cows, 5d to 5½d; best wether mutton, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 7d to 7½d; lambs, 9d to 9½d; calves, 6d to 7d; porker pigs, 10s 3d to 10s 9d per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—Only a few fat cattle were shown, and these were chiefly secondary sorts and fat cows. Trade was not very good, prices ranging from 7s to 7s 6d per 14 lb stone; cows made 6s 9d. The small supply of sheep met an unchanged trade at 8½d to 9d per lb for the best, and 6d for rough mutton. Not many fat pigs, but quite enough for the demand. Trade unchanged. Baconers, from 5s 6d to 5s 9d, and porkers 5s to 6s 8d per stone. A much smaller show of store cattle, but good for the time of year; quality was rather inferior. Trade was slow and dull. Two and three-year-olds, from £11 2s 6d to £15; second quality yearlings, £8 5s; others, £4 15s to £6. Fairly good demand for rearing calves at 20s to 50s. A small show of store sheep met a ready sale at 43s 6d to 51s, and store pigs were a rather better trade at 12s to 22s.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Smaller show of stock. In-calf cows made £18 to £21, and in-calf heifers £13 to £17 10s. Calves, of which was a smaller show, made 30s to 42s each. No sheep were shown. Numbers:—144 beasts and 43 calves.

Preston, Wednesday.—Smaller supplies of cattle, but sheep were plentiful. Buyers were present in good numbers, and cattle met with a ready sale at prices showing a slight advance upon a week ago. The sheep trade was slow, with prices a shade easier. Quotations:—Prime beef, 6¾d; ditto Irish, 6d to 6½d; choice young cows and bulls, 6d; heavy and inferior, 5d to 5½d; prime hoggs and lambs, 8¾d; heavy and inferior sheep, 8¼d; choice ewes, 6¾d; ditto inferior, 6d; tups, 5d to 6d; calves, 8d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Fair supply of store stock, and a steady trade. Milch cows, £15 to £20; two-year-old steers and heifers, £10 to £12; yearlings, £6 to £8; calves, 35s to 45s each.

Romford, Wednesday.—The few fat beasts on offer met a slow demand. Best beasts, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in short supply and dear, at 5s 8d to 6s per stone. Sheep in short supply, trade slower; best small sheep, 5s 8d to 6s; larger sheep, 5s 4d to 5s 6d per stone. Ewes also in small supply, trade about the same, at 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. No store beasts on offer. Milch cows scarce, trade better. Pigs in average supply, trade about the same. Large hogs, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; small porkers, 4s to 4s 2d per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Only a limited number of milch beasts on offer, which met with a fairly good demand, the best lots making from £19 to £22; secondary lots, £15 to £18. No sheep.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Better supply and trade good. Milking cows reached up to £21 10s. Quotations:—Beef, 6d to 6½d per lb; mutton (wether), 9d to 9½d per lb; veal, 7d to 8d per lb; pork pigs, 9s 6d to 10s per score; bacons, 8s 6d to to 9s per score.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Best cattle were few in number, and the Christmas cattle were from 7s 9d to 8s per stone, trade being slow. Rougher kinds made 6s to 7s. Young sheep sold at 8½d to 9d per lb; ewes, 7d; and tups, 6d. There was a fair trade for small porkers at prices up to 7s 9d per stone, whilst mediums made 7s, and sows 6s.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a very small supply of stock, which has always been the case after the Great Christmas Market, but what came to hand realised very satisfactory prices. We would remind our readers that there will be no market here on Tuesday next, but the regular one on Tuesday, December 31, for which a number of entries have already been received. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 15 fat beasts, 37 fat sheep, 127 fat and store pigs, 75 fat and weaning calves. Fat heifers made from £16 to £18; fat oxen, £17 to £21 2s 6d; tegs to 58s 6d; and ewes to 54s 6d; fat calves, £3 5s to £5 5s; weaning cow calves, 30s to 61s; bull calves, 15s to 43s; bacon hoggs, £3 10s to £4 15s; porkets, 26s to 38s; store pigs, 10s to 22s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance very good; business fairly brisk. Fat bullocks, 54s to 58s per cwt; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £10 to £16 each; rearing calves. 20s to 40s; wethers, 7d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d; pigs, 6s 6d to 35s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 7d to 8d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; pork carcases, 4½d to 5d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Supply fair in open market. Trade moderate. Beef 5d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 9d per lb; veal, 6½d 8d per lb. No market will be held next week.

Yeovil, Friday.—Heifers with calves made from £17 10s to £21; secondary, £14 to £15 10s; cows with calves, £15 10s to £20 15s; secondary, £11 5s to £14 15s; store heifers, £6 15s to £9 10s; yearling heifers, £5 10s to £8; horn wethers, 48s to 54s; horn ewes, 43s 6d to 50s; horn lambs, 33s to 38s 6d; Down wethers, 45s to 52s; Down ewes, 40s to 47s 6d; Down lambs, 34s to 39s; cross-bred lambs, 34s to 38s.

York, Thursday.—Trade for cattle was very slow and dragging. Choice lots of cattle got sold, but prices slighly in favour of buyers. Some of the best three year-olds made up to £16, two-year-olds £10 to £12, and a few stirks about £7 10s. each. A small show of calving and milch cows, but trade was decidedly worse. A few exceptional lots made up to £22, the general run being between £16 and £18 10s. Two or three special lots of twice-crossed hoggs made up to 44s, but the greater number sold at 32s to 38s; Mashams sold up to 25s, but trade ruled very slow. Best shearlings realised 48s; others, 40s to 45s each.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £13 10s to £14; half-bred hoggs, £11 10s to £12; ditto wethers, £11 to £11 10s; Kent fleeces, £11 to £11 10s; South Down ewes and wethers, £13 to £13 10s; Leicester ewes and wethers, £11 to £11 5s. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., scoured super., 2s to 2s 2d; scoured, good, 1s 10d to 2s; scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average, 1s to 1s 1d; S. Aus., greasy, average, 10d to 11d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; greasy, average, 11d

to 1s ; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9d to 1s 10d; fleece, average, 9d to 10d ; greasy, average, 8d to 8½d ; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d ; greasy average, 8d to 8½d. Crossbreds — grs.—Vic., good to super., 1s 2d to 1s 3d ; New Zealand fine, 1s 2d to 1s 3d ; medium, 11d to 1s ; coarse, 9d to 10d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Kent fleeces nominally at 10½d, with lamb wool at 7d.

Halifax, Saturday.—Purchases of wool are restricted within the smallest possible limits, and the general tendency is still slightly downward.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Supplies plentiful and trade brisk. Quotations for English produce: — Grapes. 9d to 5s ; apples, 3s to 10s per half bushel ; cranberries, 9s to 10s per case ; tomatoes, 5s to 6s per 12 lb ; chestnuts (Redan), 7s to 10s ; cobnuts, 4s to 5s per 12 lb ; endive, 1s. to 2s. per dozen ; sprue, 8s to 10s ; horseradish, 10s to 15s per dozen bundles ; celery, 6s to 12s 6d per dozen rolls ; spinach, 2s to 2s 6d ; sprouts, 2s to 2s 6d ; beetroots, 1s 6d to 2s per bushel ; onions, 4s to 5s per cwt ; shallots 2s per 12 lb ; greens, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per bag ; cauliflowers, 6s to 8s per tally ; seakale, 12s to 15s per dozen punnets ; mushrooms, 1s to 1s 3d per lb ; leeks, 1s 6d to 2s ; turnips, 1s 6d to 2s ; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen bunches ; potatoes, 75s to 100s per ton.

CORN STATISTICS

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, Dec. 14, 1907 :—

Wheat	1,546,900 cwts.
Wheat-flour	269.100 ,,
Barley	675,500 ,,
Oats	161,900 ,,
Maize	1,073,000 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz. :—

	1906. Cwts.	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.
Wheat ...	1,252,200	2,078,300	1,551,400	1,730,990
Wheat-flour	276,800	218,600	262,200	397,500
Barley ...	667,900	415,700	508,800	736,800
Oats ...	168,400	145,000	104,000	293,700
Maize ...	783,800	1,193,800	469,600	540,700

Weekly Arrivals into London.

December 11 to 18 inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat.....qrs.	2,300	106,000	108,300
Barley.....	3,200	42,000	45,200
Malt	16,500	—	16,500
Oats	7,800	40 000	47,800
Beans.....	815	3,000	3,800
Peas	847	1,402	2,249
Maize	—	91,604	91,604
Tares	12	—	12
Dari	—	7,000	7,000
Dhurrah	—	681	681
Linseed	—	12,000	12,000
Rapeseed	—	4,000	4,000
Flour.....sacks	22,416	65,867	88,283
Maizemeal.....	—	2,627	2,627
Middlings	—	3,000	3,000
Ricemeal	—	12,000	12,000

London Flour Millers' Association.

Credit and Delivery. Official Prices.

*Cereal year commencing September 2nd, 1907.**

	London Whites.	Town Households.
	s. d.	s. d.
September 2	..(per sack) 32 0	...(per sack) 29 0
,, 4	... ,, 33 0	... ,, 30 0
,, 27	... ,, 34 6	... ,, 31 6
October 4	... ,, 35 6	... ,, 32 6
,, 11	... ,, 36 0	... ,, 33 0
,, 18	... ,, 37 0	... ,, 34 0
November 11	... ,, 36 0	... ,, 33 0

(No change since last date given.)

* September 1st, 1907, was a Sunday.

Cereal Years' Prices.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1906-7	27 11	24 6	18 5
1905-6	28 9	24 2	18 5
1904-5	30 7	24 6	16 11
1903-4	27 2	21 11	16 4
1902-3	26 5	23 0	17 8
1901-2	28 4	26 0	20 4
1900-1	27 1	25 0	18 4
1899-1900 ...	26 5	25 0	17 5
1898-9	26 1	26 1	17 4
1897-8	36 4	27 9	18 4
1896-7	28 8	23 2	16 9

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending December 21, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1903 to 1906 :—

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1903...	56,243	26	5	134,031	22	5	27,404	15	6
1904...	33,336	30	3	99,997	24	7	28,916	16	1
1905...	76,265	28	4	107.351	24	6	30,779	17	11
1906...	68,977	26	3	127,131	24	3	31,528	17	3
1907...	57,590	34	9	180,083	27	1	41,215	18	3

Imperial Weekly Averages.

1906	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS Qrs.	s.	d.
Dec. 22	68,977	26	3	127,131	24	3	31,528	17	3
,, 29	49,637	26	0	97,796	24	1	29,124	17	3
1907.									
Jan. 5	24,559	26	0	31,733	23	11	14,773	17	3
,, 12	47,667	26	1	71,498	24	2	27,939	17	4
,, 19	75,207	26	1	104,417	24	1	37,413	17	5
,, 26	80,321	26	2	109,274	24	5	45,887	17	5
Feb. 2	84,370	26	3	86,031	24	4	38,928	17	5
,, 9	77,659	26	6	74,324	24	5	30,467	17	7
,, 16	84,514	26	7	69,221	24	1	38,725	17	7
,, 23	76,580	26	10	53,681	24	2	39,559	17	9
Mar. 2	64,923	26	9	40,398	24	2	32,965	17	9
,, 9	71,183	26	8	32,620	23	11	31,065	17	11
,, 16	69,340	26	10	29,274	24	2	28,017	18	0
,, 23	69,183	26	10	20,977	24	0	22,204	18	1
,, 30	49,202	26	8	15,929	23	9	18,412	18	2
April 6	28,757	26	9	6,539	24	3	10,296	18	3
,, 13	43,426	26	8	6,830	23	9	17,523	18	6
,, 20	54,965	26	8	6,032	23	3	21,389	18	7
,, 27	62,656	26	10	4,967	23	3	25,447	18	9
May 4	63,344	27	0	4,289	23	6	22,691	19	3
,, 11	53,080	27	6	3,375	24	0	18,392	19	7
,, 18	41,991	28	4	2,955	23	10	15,817	20	1
,, 25	37,963	29	7	1,977	24	3	12,803	20	5
June 1	28,070	31	4	1,998	24	0	10,478	20	8
,, 8	34,122	32	0	1,539	24	7	11,711	20	7
,, 15	38,008	31	10	1,152	24	7	7,668	20	11
,, 22	31,351	31	4	1,088	24	11	7,187	20	9
,, 29	23,007	31	2	759	24	6	6,118	20	8
July 6	20,795	31	3	432	24	8	4,303	20	11
,, 13	19,209	32	0	665	24	10	3,380	20	11
,, 20	15,915	32	6	259	24	5	4,447	21	1
,, 27	16,867	32	11	3,324	27	3	3,533	20	8
Aug. 3	16,165	33	2	313	26	4	2,886	21	2
,, 10	18,510	33	5	322	26	6	3,459	21	3
,, 17	14,258	33	6	6?2	25	9	4,045	20	4
,, 24	17,415	33	7	672	25	0	5,699	19	8
Aug. 31	11,847	33	10	1,524	24	6	10,395	18	11
Sept. 7	18,316	31	11	7,216	24	2	23,697	17	7
,, 14	35,802	31	4	9,754	24	4	35,946	17	6
,, 21	66,074	31	5	24,624	25	0	44,624	17	6
,, 28	84,438	31	8	53,699	25	3	55,435	17	8
Oct. 5	108,964	32	6	102.551	25	5	55,367	17	9
,, 12	105,273	33	3	130,781	25	9	63,843	17	11
,, 19	91,292	34	4	162,674	26	3	50,445	18	0
,, 26	77,173	35	9	166,835	27	2	40.208	18	7
Nov. 2	80,019	36	3	176,845	27	7	46,480	18	10
,, 9	77,721	35	10	221,857	27	8	39,849	18	10
,, 16	68,844	35	1	231,649	27	8	43,846	18	8
,, 23	67,444	34	7	231,096	27	5	42,632	18	9
,, 30	62,995	34	7	264,704	27	5	42,072	18	7
Dec. 7	54,629	34	7	230,084	27	1	38,926	18	6
,, 14	56 407	34	8	202,509	27	0	43,275	18	5
,, 21	57,590	34	9	180,083	27	1	41,215	18	3

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, December 17, 1907 :—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Av. Price per qr £	s.	d.
Wheat ..	2,981	5 ...	5,318	3	9	... 1	15	8
Barley ...	2,941	5 ...	4,107	18	10	... 1	7	11
Oats	2,613	1 ...	2,528	10	3	... 0	19	4

Yearly Averages (Official).

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1890...	31 9 per qr.	...28 8 per qr.	...18 7 per qr.
1891...	37 1 ,,	...28 2 ,,	...20 0 ,,
1892...	30 4 ,,	.. 26 2 ,,	...19 11 ,,
1893...	26 4 ,,	...25 6 ,,	...18 9 ,,
1894...	22 10 ,,	...24 6 ,,	...17 1 ,,
1895...	23 1 ,,	...21 11 ,,	...14 6 ,,
1896...	26 2 ,,	...22 11 ,,	...14 9 ,,
1897...	30 2 ,,	...23 6 ,,	...16 11 ,,
1898...	34 0 ,,	...27 2 ,,	...18 5 ,,
1899...	25 8 ,,	...25 7 ,,	...17 0 ,,
1900...	26 11 ,,	...25 9 ,,	...17 9 ,,
1901...	26 9 ,,	...25 3 ,,	...18 5 ,,
1902...	28 0 ,,	.. 25 8 ,,	...20 2 ,,
1903...	26 9 ,,	...22 11 ,,	...17 2 ,,
1904...	28 4 ,,	...22 4 ,,	...16 4 ,,
1905...	29 9 ,,	.. 24 4 ,,	...17 4 ,,
1906...	28 4 ,,	.. 24 3 ,,	...18 7 ,,

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Dec. 17, 1907 :—

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Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

There is plenty of land for January to plough, if ploughing in January be deemed advisable, or if the ground be soft enough to allow of it. Ordinarily we must expect the usual hard and more or less frozen soil of mid-winter to prohibit ploughing on this side of Candlemas, in which case February will start with arrears to work off. The growing wheat has benefited by the sharper weather since Christmas Day, and farmere are not, on the whole, disposed to grumble about the season. Threshings are always small in the last fortnight of the year, but what grain has reached the Exchange has been in improved condition. The promise of the growing wheat in three Latin countries is very satisfactory, but it is doubted if in France and Italy the area sown is quite as large as last season. In France the wet October and November were very awkward for field work, while Italy deplores a continuous emigration from the rural districts and increasingly large areas of uncultivated arable.

In Central Europe the weather is the reverse of conditions west of the Rhine, the rains being very heavy from the Baltic to the Adriatic, and the mild Christmas being universally discussed. The Danube has thawed and is now open, and the frost which prevailed at Kustendje and other Euxine ports has given place to springlike conditions. In Russia the temperature is about zero as a night minimum, and say 12 degrees of frost at mid-day. This is cold according to our notions, but is not excessive in Russia, and keeps the snow hard, thereby affording the autumn-sown grain the needed protection.

The final report on the American crops gives the following yields per acre for 1907 :—

Wheat ...	14	bushels, or	1	bushel over average.
Barley ...	26·8	,,	·8	,, ,, ,,
Oats	23·7	,,	6·3	,, under ,,
Maize ...	26·0	,,	2	,, over ,,
Rye	16·4	,,	4	,, ,, ,,

These figures exceed expectation to some degree, but are modified for two crops by the following interesting and remarkable new detail :—

Wheat, average weight per qr. ... 464 lb.
Oats, ,, ,, ,, ... 236 lb.

If these figures are confirmed, and we see no reason to doubt them, then bad quality is probably indicated, for such wonderfully light weight has, so far as we know, never been associated with a fair level of quality. As nobody in England will buy wheat under the lowest recognised weight, which is 480 lb., American export figures will, so far as imports into England go, require to be multiplied by 464 but divided by 480 as the published figures, while oats would require to be multiplied by 236 but divided by 304. America, however, has not shipped any 1907 crop oats, and with a yield 6·3 bushels below the average is not very likely to do so.

Subject to the above important deductions, the United States crops are finally returned as follows :—

Wheat	634,087,000 bushels
Barley	153,317,000 ,,
Oats	754,443,000 ,,
Maize	2,592,000,000 ,,
Rye	31,566,000 ,,

As compared with last year, wheat, maize, oats, barley, and rye all show a decline in the total yield. Areas under cultivation show an increase for barley, oats, and maize, but a diminution for wheat and rye.

The wheat gradient last week was not steep, operators mostly taking the prices previously prevailing for granted, pending New Year developments :—

Mark Lane	35s. 8d.	per qr.
Doncaster	34s. 2d.	,,
Range	1s. 6d.	per qr.

The gradient for barley was more than this, but still quite moderate :—

Canterbury	29s. 7d.	per qr.
Peterborough	25s. 9d.	,,
Range	3s. 10d.	per qr.

Oats have as a rule fetched over 18s. per qr., but there are few exceptions :—

Mark Lane	19s. 4d.	per qr.
Lincoln	17s. 5d.	,,
Range	1s. 11d.	per qr.

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets last week were below the average even for the Christmas period of small supplies. Since harvest the total sales have been rather less than in the like period of last cereal year :—

This season... 1,113,000 qr. at 33s. 11d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 1,145,000 ,, 26s. 2d. ,,

Barley sales, unlike those of wheat, have been large since December came in, but the very small sales of October have caused the total sales since harvest to be a smaller total than in the corresponding period of last season :—

This season .... 2,397,000 qr. at 26s. 5d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 2,488,000 ,, 24s. 6d. ,,

Sales of oats have been as follows since September 1 :—

This season ... 708,000 qr. at 18s. 3d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 555,000 ,, 16s. 9d. ,,

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were below the average, but there was the holiday interruption to consider, and though a great effort is made to get into harbour just before Christmas the getting the grain unloaded is another story. The actual quantities were 308,000 qr. of wheat, 114,000 sacks of flour, 168,000 qr. of maize, 87,000 qr. of barley, 116,000 qr. of oats, and 29,000 qr. of linseed. The receipts since harvest from abroad thus compare :—

	1907.	1906.
Wheat	6,703,000 qr.	6,560,000 qr.
Flour	1,637,000 ,,	1,666,000 ,,
Breadstuffs	8,340,000 ,,	8,226,000 ,,

	1907.	1906.
Maize	4,005,000 ,,	3,779,000 qr.
Barley	2,820,000 ,,	2,909,000 ,,
Oats	1,170,000 ,,	1,497,000 ,,

The supply of wheat on passage is as follows :—

Californian	925,000 qr.
American	460,000 ,,
Russian	90,000 ,,
Indian	190,000 ,,
Argentine	50,000 ,,
Australasian	290,000 ,,
Various	30,000 ,,
Total	2,035,000 ,,
A week ago	1,809,000 ,,

The increase is noticeable, but the present total is still 465,000 qr. below the mean. Of flour, 318,000 sacks are on passage, or 68,000 sacks above the average.

Of maize only 390,000 qr. are on passage, of barley 460,000 qr., and of oats 150,000 qr. With respect to oilseeds, expectations show a notable diminution :—

	Dec. 27.	Dec. 20.
Linseed ..... qr.	55,000	67,000
Rapeseed ..... ,,	5,000	14,000
Cottonseed ..... tons	37,000	43,000

The market for oilseeds at the close of last week was inert, but the influence of these statistics is likely to exert itself as soon as we are in 1908. The Indian crop news is the least satisfactory for a good many successive Decembers.

American shipments last week were 613,000 qr. of wheat, 129,000 sacks of flour, and 111,000 qr. of maize. No barley or oats were shipped, but in their place 10,000 qr. of rye and 45,000 qr. of linseed were exported. The wheat shipments exceeded any previous record for four years, and were thus divided :—

Atlantic ports to U.K.	247,000 qr.
,, ,, Continent...	183,000 ,,
Pacific ports to U.K.	150,000 ,,
,, ,, Continent.....	33,000 ,,
Total	613,000 ,,

Argentina last week shipped 10,000 qr. of wheat, 127,000 qr. of maize, and 9,000 qr. of linseed.

Russia shipped 50,000 qr. of wheat, 56 000 qr. of barley, 60,000 qr. of oats, and 7,000 qr. of maize, while Roumania sent off 67,000 qr. of wheat, 68,000 qr. of barley, 2,000 qr. of oats, and 108,000 qr. of maize. The Roumanian figures include Bulgaria and European Turkey north of the Dardanelles, but do not embrace Salonica and ports on the Mediterranean.

India shipped 11,000 qr. of linseed last week, and Australia 15,000 qr. of wheat. India shipped no wheat last week, and Australia shipped no flour. Small shipments of barley, beans, and canaryseed were reported from Morocco.

THE BALTIC.

The sales of wheat cargoes have been few, as the holiday feeling is still on the market. Nevertheless, the following transactions have been recorded :—Best Russian Winter, 43s. per 4921b, ; Odessa Ghurka, 41s. per 492 1b. ; Hard Taganrog, 40s. per 492 lb. ; Blue Stem, 40s. per 500 lb ; Red Walla, 39s. per 500 lb. ; Victoria, 40s. 3d. per 480 lb. ; and Red Karachi, 39s. 6d. per 492 lb. The latter shows recovery of value. American wheat is freely offered, but buyers do not agree with sellers' views of value, and trade is therefore hardly to be reported. America is offering to ship feeding wheat for poultry at 33s. 9d. per 480 lb., but there are few bids.

Maize cargoes are inclined to favour sellers where delivery is likely to be possible on this side of January 15 or thereabouts. A cargo of Argentine due in a fortnight sold on Saturday for 25s. 9d. per 480 lb., and one of Odessa, also due in about that time, fetched 25s. 9d. also. The Argentine firms are already making offers to ship the new crop to be secured in April, their opening price being 23s. per 480 lb. for June shipment.

Other cargo sales since Christmas include Smyrna beans, at 30s. 6d. per 480 lb. ; Odessa barley, at 23s. 3d. per 400 lb. ; Calcutta linseed, at 45s. per 410 lb. ; and Egyptian cottonseed, at £6 12s. 6d. per ton.

Cargo arrivals at ports of call up to the 27th included 268 wheat, 12 barley, 29 maize, 17 linseed ; also one cargo of beans. These are the figures from January 1 to date.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—With an almost entire stoppage of trade owing to the Christmas holidays, the business doing has been of a most limited character ; the arrivals have been large, and owing to the very poor demand, stocks have accumulated to a heavy extent, while prices again show a lower tendency. It has been next to impossible to get trucks clear off rail ; and salesmen, to avoid demurrage charges, have only been too eager to accept values even much under current market quotations All classes and kinds of stuffs are a bad trade, and although prime and well got qualities are difficult to get hold of, the large bulk of inferior and badly got stuffs pull down the value of the better sorts and make business all round of a very difficult and disheartening character. Straw has been coming along in good supply, but here the demand of the last few weeks shows signs of slackening off, and although prices are quotably no lower the general feeling is more of a weakening nature.

Prices ruling are about as follows :—English : Best hays, 65s to 70s per ton ; good hays, 60s to 62s 6d per ton ; plain hays, 55s to 57s 6d per ton ; best clovers, 77s 6d to 80s per ton ; good clovers, 75s per ton ; inferior clovers, 67s 6d to 70s per ton ; best mixtures, 77s 6d per ton ; good mixtures, 72s 6d. to 75s per ton ; plain mixtures, 62s 6d to 70s per ton ; seconds hays, clovers, and mixtures, 45s to 55s per ton ; wheat straw, 25s to 27s per load ; barley straw, 25s per load ; oat straw, 25s per load. All ex rail London Foreign : 1st quality Dutch hay, 57s 6d to 60s per ton ; 2nd quality Dutch hay, 50s per ton ; French clover, 75s per ton. These prices are by the barge load delivered alongside a London Thames wharf.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday. — Fairly good supplies on offer, and demand steady. Quotations for English produce :—Apples 3s to 10s per half bushel ; cranberries, 10s to 11s per case ; grapes, 10d to 5s ; chestnuts (Redon), 7s 6d to 10s ; walnuts (Grenoble), 5s 6d to 8s per bag ; tomatoes, 4s 6d to 6s per 12 lb ; asparagus, 6s to 7s ; endive, 1s 3d to 2s per dozen ; beet-roots, 1s 6d to 2s per bushel ; horseradish, 10s to 15s per dozen bundles ; celery, 6s to 12s 6d per dozen rolls ; seakale, 12s to 15s per dozen punnets ; parsnips, 2s to 2s 6d per bag ; turnips, 2s to 2s 6d ; leeks, 1s 6d to 2s ; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen bunches ; shallots 2s per 12 lb ; sprouts, 2s to 2s 6d ; spinach, 2s to 2s 6d per bushel ; potatoes, 75s to 101s per ton.

Seven Years Grain Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 10d. per 480 lb.
Barley	25s. 4d. per 400 lb.
Oats	18s. 11d. per 312 lb.

CORN MARKETS.

COUNTRY.

Appleby, Saturday.—Good inquiries for dry samples, which were scarce. White oats (horse corn), 21s to 25s per 26 stones.

Berwick, Saturday.—Smaller attendance, with moderate supplies of grain. Barley prices practically unchanged. Oats were a little easier to buy, except for finest quality. Barley, 21s to 33s; oats, 16s to 28s per qr.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The level of value appears quite unchanged upon the corn market, though naturally the bulk of business in progress has been much reduced by the holidays. The choicest wheats are still held for 37s 6d per 63 lb; samples have been selling at 36s per qr, delivered. Good average malting barleys change hands at 30s, and the range is from 28s 6d to 32s; oats 19s to 21s; grey peas, 30s to 32s; mazagan beans, 28s to 29s per qr.

Chester, Saturday.—The market was of a holiday character, and the values of English grain remain as last quoted. Indian corn, with smaller shipments, has advanced 3d per sack. Quotations: Wheat, white and red, 5s 2d to 5s 6d per 75 lb; grinding barley, new, 3s 10d to 4s per 64 lb; Indian corn, old, 14s 6d to 14s 9d per 240 lb; round corn, old, 14s to 15s 6d per 240 lb; oats, new, 2s 7d to 2s 9d; old, 3s 4d to 3s 8d per 46 lb.

Colchester, Saturday.—Small supply of all grain at unchanged prices.—Colin Taylor, King, and Co, Ltd.

Derby, Friday. — There was little business done. White wheat was quite as dear as last week; other articles firm and unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, 36s to 37s; red, 35s to 36s; malting barley, 29s to 32s; grinding, 25s to 27s; beans, 35s to 37s; oats, old 24s to 26s; new oats, 21s to 22s.

Devizes, Tuesday.—There was comparatively little business transacted, and prices remain firm for all descriptions of corn. Best old wheat, 20s to 21s; best new wheat, 18s to 19s; secondary, 16s to 18s; malting barley, 29s to 33s; grinding barley, 26s to 28s; old oats, 22s to 24s; winter oats, 18s to 19s; white Garton oats (330 lb), 18s to 19s; black Tartar oats (320 lb), 17s 6d to 18s 6d; beans, 17s to 18s; fine flour, 31s to 32s; extra fine, 33s to 38s.

Doncaster, Saturday. — Holiday market. There was a scarcity of English wheat, but inquiries were few and trade slow. Prices firm, and up to 14s per load. Foreign wheat was also firm. Only a moderate supply of barley and oats, but sufficient for all needs, and no change. Maize was 3d per qr dearer.

Glasgow, Friday.—Holiday feeling pervaded the market, consequently there was little or no business passing to test values, which remain steady at about late rates.

Gloucester, Saturday.—The market was of a holiday character, and not much change in prices. English wheat was in fair supply, and prices were maintained. For foreign wheat there was a moderate inquiry, and prices were 3d to 6d lower. Feeding stuffs showed an advance of 3d. Plate maize, 25s 9d; flat, 26s 9d; Bessarabian, 26s; Barley, 24s 6d to 24s 9d per qr. Oats unchanged.

Grantham, Saturday.—Very small attendance, the market being a purely holiday one. There were a moderate number of inquiries in each department, but no changes in the quotations were noted from those of last week.

Leeds, Tuesday.—With better weather for the Argentine harvest, the trade has lost some of the improvement of the past week, in addition to which a holiday feeling has supervened. Shipments are moderate, and holders of both spot and forward wheats ask 6d to 1s advance on last Tuesdays rates, trading, however, is restricted. Maize, 3d to 6d dearer. Beans firm. Oats steady.—Dunns and Co.

Leeds, Friday.—Scarcely any business passing. English wheat was quoted at 12s to 14s per load; while foreign remained steady at late rates.

Leicester, Saturday. — Fair attendance of buyers and dealers, with small supplies of home-grown wheats in variable condition. Trade ruled sluggish; out of condition samples were neglected. Red wheats, 33s to 38s; white wheats, 36s to 38s per 36 stone. Malting barley of bright quality steady at 28s to 31s per 32 stone. Fine oats in fair request at 19s to 22s per 24 stones.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A very quiet market. Wheat holders are firm at fully late rates. Quotations of maize must be quoted at last Saturday's prices. Oats remain steady, and fine qualities slightly in the seller's favour. Beans and peas unchanged. Barley slow sale at unchanged prices.—Joseph Pollard and Co.

Northampton, Saturday — There was no improvement in attendance, it quite came up to expectations, following directly as it did upon the holidays. Business done was of very small dimensions, and not enough to test prices, which remain as last week. Wheat, 35s to 36s; barley, 25s to 30s; white oats, 18s to 21s; black oats, 18s to 20s 6d.; beans, 30s to 32s; peas, 31s 6d to 35s 6d.

Norwich, Saturday.—A very small supply. Wheat trade firm, at last week's prices, 37s 6d to 38s. Feeding stuffs—Holiday market; trade slow; very small supply. Barley—Prices unaltered.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Holiday market. Where sales are made last week's prices are taken for all grain.—Robt. Hubble.

Peterborough, Saturday.—We have had quite a small holiday market, and but little corn offering. Wheat firm at late rates. Spring corn quiet at unaltered prices. Wheat, 36s to 36s 6d; oats, 18s 6d to 19s 6d; barley, 27s to 34s.—Thomas Hill and Son.

Preston, Saturday.—A moderate attendance, with practically nothing offering from farmers. Prices of local-grown produce remain as last week. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220 lb, 15s 6d to 16s; ditto red, 14s 6d to 15s; oats, old, per bushel, 3s 8d to 3s 9d; ditto, new, 3s 2d to 3s 3d; beans, per windle of 220 lb, 17s to 17s 6d.

Reading, Saturday. — The attendance was scarcely an average one, and very little improvement was shown on the business of the previous Saturday. The following represent the prices of sales and parcels held:—Wheat, 34s to 38s; malting barley, 27s to 35s; new oats, 16s 6d to 21s 6d; old ditto, 19s to 23s; beans, 32s to 36s; peas, 29s to 31s.; flour, 26s to 29s; straw, 28s to 34s per load.

Retford, Saturday.—Thin attendance, and small supply of all kinds of grain. Rather a firmer trade for wheat, which was worth 36s to 35s per qr. Malting barley sold well, especially the best samples, which made 30s to 32s; secondary qualities, 28s; and grinding barley, 27s per qr; maize, 29s per qr delivered here; black oats, 18s; white ditto, 19s; and old oats, 26s; new English beans, 30s; and old ditto, 40s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Very little business passing. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 38s to 38s 6d; ditto red, new, 38s to 38s 6d per 504 lb; oats, new, 20s 6d to 21s per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 36s to 36s 6d; ditto, blue, new, 70s to 90s per 504 lb; beans, English, 35s 6d to 36s per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 28s to 30s; ditto, malting, 28s to 32s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; ditto Plate, 26s 6d to 26s 9d; ditto, flat, 29s to 29s 6d per 480 lb; bran, 110s; fine sharps, 140s; broad bran, 125s per ton.

Stockton, Tuesday.—There was no farmers' wheat showing. Foreign wheat steady and unchanged. Maize 3d dearer. Oats unchanged.

York, Saturday.—Not much wheat offering, but dry samples sold readily at last week's prices: Fine white, 36s 6d to 37s 6d; red and mixed, 35s 6d to 36s 6d per qr of 36 stones. Malting barley was without change; fine, 30s to 31s 6d; good, 28s 6d to 30s; and feeding barley, 26s to 27s per qr of 32 stones. Oats steady, and from 19s to 21s per qr of 24 stones. Old beans, 36s; rye, 29s to per qr of 36 stones.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday. — Linseed Cake.—There is little new business to report, the market having been closed during the past week. Nevertheless country orders show a slight improvement, and values are, if anything, inclined to harden. Russian remain cheaply quoted. East India seed pures may be bought to come along. Exceptionally fine quality Plate make last week's full prices. London continue in moderate request. Cotton Cakes.—The trade is disappointing, and although best Egyptian are obtainable at a relatively low figure, there is only a poor demand, while English sell slowly. Decorticated: London made pures move off freely, with American brands quiet. Rape Cakes. — Dull. East Indian unchanged. Ravison none. Maize Germ Meal.—White African meal is still available, but English makes are more reasonably offered. Maize gluten meal sells steadily. Rice Meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon are firmly held, while for arrival quotations are irregular. Locust beans are attractively offered. Dried brewers' grains remain scarce and dear.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Russian, in mats (ex dock) ..	7 10 0	to	7 11 3
,, in bags	7 12 6	to	7 15 0
East India	7 7 6		—
Argentine	8 0 0	to	8 5 0
London Made.....	7 15 0	to	7 17 6
Cottonseed Cakes.			
Egyptian	4 12 6	to	4 15 0
English (ex mill)	4 15 0	to	4 17 6
Bombay	4 7 6		
Decorticated, London made	7 15 0		—
,, American.....	—		7 10 0
,, Meal, American	—		7 10 0
,, Meal, English...	7 15 0		—
Special Digestive Meal	5 5 0		—
Rape Cakes.			
East India	5 5 0		—
Ravison	—		—
Maize.			
African.....	6 17 6	to	7 0 0
English	6 11 3	to	6 12 6
Maize Gluten Meal	6 15 0		—
Ricemeal.			
Rangoon ..... ex whf.	5 10 0		—
,, ...ex ship	—		—
Locust Beans.			
Whole	5 10 0		
Kibbled	5 15 0		
Dried Brewers' Grains.			
Ale	5 10 0		
Mixed	5 5 0		
Manures.			
Nitrate of soda	11 2 6		

—Pinnock Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed has been almost neglected. River Plate spot just arrived sold at 43s, December-January, 39s; January-February, 38s 9d sellers. Riga: Prompt shipment offers at 40s 6d. Cottonseed.—The market has shown little change during the past week and only a moderate business done at £6 8s 9d to £6 10s spot and afloat, £6 12s 6d to £6 13s 9d January, and £6 17s 6d February-March, which are to-day's values. Bombay on passage made £5 14s, and December-January done at £5 13s 9d. Oils.—The market is quiet. Linseed oil: 21s 7½d spot, 20s 6d January-April, 19s 6d May-August. Cottonseed oil: 19s 10½d spot, 20s 6d January-April. Crude oil: 18s 10½d spot. Rape: Brown Jamba, 31s spot. Oilseed cakes.—Linseed: Quiet, but steady. Cotton: Unchanged.—Keighley, Maxsted and Co.

Liverpool, Friday. — Nitrate of soda is unchanged in value and quiet in demand as usual at this date, and autumn fertilisers are only in moderate request. As usual at this holiday period, feeding stuffs are in slow demand, but, notwithstanding this, there is some inquiry, and should the present cold weather continue it will stimulate the consumption, which for some time past has been very limited in extent. English linseed cakes are firm, present values of cake and oil, in comparison with the price paid for seed, are reported to be unremunerative to the crushers, and Americans are dearer.

	Per ton. £ s d		£ s d
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (prime)	—		—
Cottonseed Cake Meal	7 15 0		—
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime.....	8 0 0		8 5 0
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime.....	4 17 6		5 0 0
Cottonseed Cake, Egyptian, undecorticated, prime.....	—		—
Cottonseed, crushed, 20 per cent. oil guaranteed	8 10 0		—
Linseed Cake, American, thin oblong, prime	7 15 0		7 17 6
,, ,, English	8 5 0		8 10 0
,, ,, Foreign Round	8 0 0		8 2 6
Palm Nut Cake	6 5 0		—
Maize Germ Meal	6 12 6		6 15 0
Indian Meal, coarse to fine grinding	Per 240 lb. —		—
Rice Meal, Rangoon, as imported	Per ton. 5 17 6		—
Linseed, fine bold feeding	Per qr., 416 lb. 2 13 0		2 15 0
Cod-liver Oil, cattle feeding ...	Per Gallon. 0 4 0		—
Treacle, feeding, American ...	Per Cwt. 0 4 9	0	4 10½
Nitrate of Soda, best quality...	Per ton. 11 5 0		—
Kainit, prime.....	2 7 6		—
Bone Meal	5 7 6		
Bone Ash, fine and powdery...	3 15 0		—
Basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed	1 14 0	1	15 0
,, ,,	2 2 0	2	3 0
,, finest ,,	2 6 0	2	7 6
D.N.S. Brand } Superphosphate of Lime*.....	2 5 0	2	7 0
,, ,, guaranteed*	2 10 0	2	12 0
,, ,, ,, *	3 1 3	3	3 3

* At depots inland.

—H. Jones Langar and Co.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Planters much discouraged by low rates offering for hops, and curtailment of acreage is proceeding on an exceptional scale. The low level of values is firmly maintained.

CORN STATISTICS

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, Dec. 28, 1907 :—

Wheat	1,135,700 cwts.
Wheat-flour	265,300 ,,
Barley	377,200 ,,
Oats	225,200 ,,
Maize	523,400 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz. :—

	1906.	1905.	1904.	1903.
	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Wheat	1,120,000	1,176,400	2,429,900	1,776,700
Wheat-flour	273,100	145,800	250,120	635,600
Barley	166,700	382,500	596,000	840,400
Oats	136,100	138,900	199,800	512,900
Maize	903,800	524,500	843,900	912,300

Weekly Arrivals into London.

December 18 to 25 inclusive.*

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	3,062	50,000	53,062
Barley	2,900	267	3,167
Malt	19,000	—	19,000
Oats	6,400	60,000	66,400
Rye	50	—	50
Beans	528	3,607	4,135
Peas	674	2,465	3,139
Maize	—	14,631	14,631
Buckwheat	—	1,500	1,500
Haricots	—	3,000	3,000
Lentils	—	3,732	3,732
Millet	—	70	70
Sunflowerseed	—	573	573
Hempseed	—	254	254
Linseed	—	28,000	28,000
Rapeseed	—	297	297
Flour ..... sacks	21,762	65,000	86,762
Ricemeal	—	3,000	3,000
Ryeflour	—	370	370
Maizeflour	—	300	300

* Five trading days only.

London Flour Millers' Association.

CREDIT AND DELIVERY. OFFICIAL PRICES.

*Cereal year commencing September 2nd, 1907.**

	London Whites.	Town Households.
	s. d.	s. d.
September 2	...(per sack) 32 0	...(per sack) 29 0
,, 4	,, 33 0	,, 30 0
,, 27	,, 34 6	,, 31 6
October 4	,, 35 6	,, 32 6
,, 11	,, 36 0	,, 33 0
,, 18	,, 37 0	,, 34 0
November 11	,, 36 0	,, 33 0
December 23	,, 35 6	,, 32 6

(No change since last date given.)

* September 1st, 1907, was a Sunday.

Cereal Years' Prices.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1906-7	27 11	24 6	18 5
1905-6	28 9	24 2	18 5
1904-5	30 7	24 6	16 11
1903-4	27 2	21 11	16 4
1902-3	26 5	23 0	17 8
1901-2	28 4	26 0	20 4
1900-1	27 1	25 0	18 4
1899-1900	26 5	25 0	17 5
1898-9	26 1	26 1	17 4
1897-8	36 4	27 9	18 4
1896-7	28 8	23 2	16 9

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending December 28, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1903 to 1906 :—

WHEAT.		BARLEY.		OATS.	
Qrs.	s. d.	Qrs.	s. d.	Qrs.	s. d.
1903...28,431	26 3	51,504	22 1	16,671	15 5
1904...21,163	30 4	60,817	24 8	18,106	16 2
1905...57,984	28 3	77,385	24 7	19,683	18 1
1906...49,637	26 0	97,796	24 1	29,124	17 3
1907...43,417	34 6	129,464	26 10	30,290	18 0

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, December 24, 1907 :—

	Imp. Quar. Bus.	Total Amount.	Av. Price per qr
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Wheat	1,102 5	1,934 18 1	1 15 1
Barley	435 5	538 19 0	1 4 9
Oats	1,318 5	1,271 7 1	0 19 3

Yearly Averages (Official).

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1890	31 9 per qr.	28 8 per qr.	18 7 per qr.
1891	37 1 ,,	28 2 ,,	20 0 ,,
1892	30 4 ,,	26 2 ,,	19 11 ,,
1893	26 4 ,,	25 6 ,,	18 9 ,,
1894	22 10 ,,	24 6 ,,	17 1 ,,
1895	23 1 ,,	21 11 ,,	14 6 ,,
1896	26 2 ,,	22 11 ,,	14 9 ,,
1897	30 2 ,,	23 6 ,,	16 11 ,,
1898	34 0 ,,	27 2 ,,	18 5 ,,
1899	25 8 ,,	25 7 ,,	17 0 ,,
1900	26 11 ,,	25 9 ,,	17 9 ,,
1901	26 9 ,,	25 3 ,,	18 5 ,,
1902	28 0 ,,	25 8 ,,	20 2 ,,
1903	26 9 ,,	22 11 ,,	17 2 ,,
1904	28 4 ,,	22 4 ,,	16 4 ,,
1905	29 0 ,,	24 4 ,,	17 4
1906	28 4 ,,	24 3 ,,	18 7 ,,

Average Monthly Prices of Fine Household Flour in Paris.

(*Converted into English money for sacks of* 280 *lb.*)

	1907.	1906.	1905.	1904.	1903.	1902.	1901.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan.	30 9	31 0	31 0	29 6	30 9	27 9	24 9
Feb.	30 0	31 6	31 6	30 0	31 6	26 3	25 9
March	29 9	31 3	30 3	31 0	31 6	27 0	24 0
April	30 0	31 6	30 9	29 0	34 0	27 3	24 6
May	33 3	30 9	31 9	28 0	33 3	27 6	25 6
June	32 9	31 0	30 3	28 3	34 0	30 9	26 3
July	34 6	31 6	30 0	29 4	31 9	29 9	28 0
August	33 6	29 9	29 3	30 0	30 0	27 6	27 6
Sept.	33 9	30 6	31 0	31 0	30 0	29 0	27 6
Oct.	32 0	31 0	31 0	31 6	30 0	30 0	27 6
Nov.	30 6	31 6	31 0	32 0	28 0	28 9	27 9
Dec.		30 0	31 0	31 3	28 6	29 6	28 3
Yrly. Avrg.		30 11	30 9	30 1	31 1	28 5	27 3

Imperial Weekly Averages.

	WHEAT.		BARLEY.		OATS	
1906	Qrs.	s. d.	Qrs.	s. d.	Qrs.	s. d.
Dec. 29	49,637	26 0	97,796	24 1	29,124	17 3
1907.						
Jan. 5	24,559	26 0	31,733	23 11	14,773	17 3
,, 12	47,667	26 1	71,498	24 2	27,939	17 4
,, 19	75,207	26 1	104,417	24 1	37,413	17 5
,, 26	80,321	26 2	109,274	24 5	45,887	17 5
Feb. 2	84,370	26 3	86,031	24 4	38,928	17 5
,, 9	77,659	26 6	74,324	24 5	30,467	17 7
,, 16	84,514	26 7	69,221	24 1	38,725	17 7
,, 23	76,580	26 10	53,681	24 2	39,559	17 9
Mar. 2	64,923	26 9	40,398	24 2	32,965	17 9
,, 9	71,183	26 8	32,620	23 11	31,065	17 11
,, 16	69,340	26 10	29,274	24 2	28,017	18 0
,, 23	69,183	26 10	20,977	24 0	22,204	18 1
,, 30	49,202	26 8	15,929	23 9	18,412	18 2
April 6	28,757	26 9	6,539	24 3	10,296	18 3
,, 13	43,426	26 8	6,830	23 9	17,523	18 6
,, 20	54,965	26 8	6,032	23 3	21,389	18 7
,, 27	62,656	26 10	4,967	23 3	25,447	18 9
May 4	63,344	27 0	4,289	23 6	22,691	19 3
,, 11	53,080	27 6	3,375	24 0	18,392	19 7
,, 18	41,991	28 4	2,955	23 10	15,817	20 1
,, 25	37,963	29 7	1,977	24 3	12,803	20 5
June 1	28,070	31 4	1,998	24 0	10,478	20 8
,, 8	34,122	32 0	1,539	24 7	11,711	20 7
,, 15	38,008	31 10	1,152	24 7	7,668	20 11
,, 22	31,351	31 4	1,088	24 11	7,187	20 9
,, 29	23,007	31 2	759	24 6	6,118	20 8
July 6	20,795	31 3	432	24 8	4,303	20 11
,, 13	19,209	32 0	665	24 10	3,380	20 11
,, 20	15,915	32 6	259	24 5	4,447	21 1
,, 27	16,867	32 11	3,324	27 3	3,533	20 8
Aug. 3	16,165	33 2	313	26 4	2,886	21 2
,, 10	18,510	33 5	322	26 6	3,459	21 3
,, 17	14,258	33 6	682	25 9	4,045	20 4
,, 24	17,415	33 7	672	25 0	5,699	19 8
Aug. 31	11,847	33 10	1,524	24 6	10,395	18 11
Sept. 7	18,316	31 11	7,216	24 2	23,697	17 7
,, 14	35,802	31 4	9,754	24 4	35,946	17 6
,, 21	66,074	31 5	24,624	25 0	44,624	17 6
,, 28	84,438	31 8	53,699	25 3	55,435	17 8
Oct. 5	108,964	32 6	102,551	25 5	55,367	17 9
,, 12	105,273	33 3	130,781	25 9	63,843	17 11
,, 19	91,292	34 4	162,674	26 3	50,445	18 0
,, 26	77,173	35 9	166,835	27 2	40,208	18 7
Nov. 2	80,019	36 3	176,845	27 7	46,480	18 10
,, 9	77,721	35 10	221,857	27 8	39,849	18 10
,, 16	68,844	35 1	231,649	27 8	43,846	18 8
,, 23	67,444	34 7	231,096	27 5	42,632	18 9
,, 30	62,995	34 7	264,704	27 5	42,072	18 7
Dec. 7	54,629	34 7	230,084	27 1	38,926	18 6
,, 14	56,407	34 8	202,509	27 0	43,275	18 5
,, 21	57,590	34 9	180,083	27 1	41,215	18 3
,, 28	43,417	34 6	129,464	26 10	30,290	18 0

Seven Years' Tithe Rent Charges.

For 1907	£68 19 6
,, 1906	68 12 1
,, 1905	69 12 0
,, 1904	69 19 6
,, 1903	69 7 5
,, 1902	67 3 9
1901	66 10 9

Monthly Averages.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1906.			1907.		
	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Wheat	Barley	Oats
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan.	28 6	24 9	18 5	26 1	24 2	17 4
Feb.	28 10	25 4	18 11	26 6	24 3	17 7
Mar.	28 5	24 8	18 11	26 9	23 11	18 0
April	29 1	24 2	19 1	26 9	23 8	18 10
May	30 2	24 0	20 0	28 5	24 0	19 10
June	30 4	23 4	20 2	31 6	24 6	20 9
July	30 4	23 1	20 4	32 2	24 11	20 10
Aug.	29 6	23 7	17 9	33 7	25 4	20 5
Sept.	26 1	24 5	16 2	31 8	24 9	17 7
Oct.	26 5	25 0	16 7	33 11	26 2	18 1
Nov.	26 5	24 5	17 1	35 3	27 7	18 8
Dec.	26 2	24 1	17 3			

Average Monthly Cash Prices of Town Households Flour.

	1907	1906.	1905.	1904.	1903.	1902.	1901.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan.	22 0	25 0	26 3	24 9	24 0	21 9	24 6
Feb.	22 0	24 9	26 9	25 0	24 3	22 0	24 0
March	21 9	24 3	26 6	25 9	23 9	21 9	23 9
April	22 3	24 6	26 0	25 3	23 9	23 0	24 0
May	25 0	24 0	25 9	24 9	24 0	23 6	23 6
June	25 6	23 9	25 6	24 3	24 3	23 0	23 0
July	26 0	23 6	25 0	25 0	24 3	23 0	22 3
August	26 6	23 0	25 0	26 6	24 0	22 9	22 3
Sept.	28 6	22 9	24 6	27 0	25 0	23 3	22 0
Oct.	32 0	22 6	25 0	27 0	24 9	22 9	21 6
Nov.	31 0	22 0	25 0	26 9	24 3	22 9	21 6
Dec.		21 9	25 0	26 9	24 3	23 3	21 9
Yrly. Avrg.		23 5	25 6	25 9	24 3	22 8	22 10

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Dec. 17, 1907 :—

			Week ended Dec. 14, 1907	Corresponding week 1906	Corresponding week 1905	Corresponding week 1904	Total for 50 weeks, 1907	Corresponding period 1906	Corresponding period 1905	Corresponding period 1904
Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	136	230	166	55	10,920	6,907	3,684	5,457
	Outbreaks.	No.	32	52	22	8	2,282	1,215	787	1,161
Sheep Scab.	Outbreaks Reported.	No.	63	30	30	42	647	477	856	1,265
Rabies.	Cases Confirmed. Other Animals.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Dogs.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Glanders (including Farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	31	15	38	36	1,858	1,967	1,999	2,562
	Outbreaks.	No.	20	12	22	23	825	1,045	1,168	1,463
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	40	28	39	39	1,414	1,259	1,273	1,470
	Outbreaks.	No.	29	20	24	25	1,041	891	934	975

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, 3 P.M.

There was not a large trade doing this morning, neither was there a large attendance, but the holders of English, Indian, and Australian wheat were very firm, and while American and Argentine were not so strong no price change was made. Maize was 6d. dearer from before Christmas, with a sound retail inquiry for all those of the leading sorts. The South African samples about hold their own with the better-known descriptions. Small white grain is preferred.

Barley was 6d. dearer for Persian, and a very steady trade both for English brewing and for Russian feeding descriptions. For oats former prices were not always to be made, but the sorts which showed some reduction were the light 304 lb. kinds which Russia and Argentina offer in keen competition with one another. Bucharest sold rather well, and beans, peas, and tares all experienced the freshening effect of the recent cold weather. The market for dari, dholl, and millet was strong, but canaryseed was offered at extremely reasonable prices.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

December 30.

WHEAT, White .....(per 504 lb.)	36	— 38
Red ..... ,,	34	— 37
BARLEY, Malting .....(per 448 lb.)	34	— 36
Brewing ..... ,,	32	— 33
Distilling .....(per 416 lb.)	30	— 31
Feeding.....(per 400 lb.)	26	— 27
MALT, Pale (New).....(per 336 lb.)	39	— 41
Brown ,, ... ,,	34	— 36
Black ,, ... ,,	36	— 37
OATS, Good Old ..... ,,	22	— 23
Good New..... ,,	21	— 22
New Winter ..... ,,	20	— 21
Ordinary Old ...(per 320 lb.)	21	— 22
Ordinary New ...(per 320 lb.)	20	— 21
,, ,, ...(per 312 lb.)	19	— 20
RYE, New .....(per 480 lb.)	30	— 31
BEANS, Pigeon .....(per 532 lb.)	42	— 44
Tick .....(per 504 lb.)	35	— 36
Winter ..... ,,	34	— 35
Spring ..... ,,	33	— 34
Split Mazagan .....(per 320 lb.)	23	— 24
PEAS, Picked Marrowfat, New (per 504 lb.)	84	— 88
Unpicked (Old) ..... ,,	52	— 56
Maple (Old) ..... ,,	36	— 37
(New) ..... ,,	35	— 36
Dun (Old)..... ,,	32	— 33
(New) ..... ,,	33	— 34
BUCKWHEAT (per 416 lb.)	32	— 33

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba	43	— 44	American ...	26/0	—26/3
Red Winter....	41/6	-42/6	Argentine ...	25/9	—26/0
Best Spring ...	43/6	-44/6	Roumanian ...	25/9	—26/0
Durum	37	— 38	Russian.....	25/6	—25/9
Argentine	42	— 43	Cinquantina...	26/6	—27/6
Australian.....	45	— 46	South African.	26/0	—26/3
Californian ...	44	— 45	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Walla Walla	43	— 44	Smyrna	37	— 38
Azima	44	— 45	New Zealand...	35	— 36
Ghirka	42	— 43	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Roumanian ...	42	— 43	Hungarian	62	— 64
Indian White	40	— 41	Burmese	37	— 39
,, Red ...	39	— 40	Chilian	56	— 64
Turkish	38	— 39	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb):		
Persian	38	— 39	French	30	— 32
BARLEY:			Russian	32	— 33
Tunisian(448lb)	35	— 36	Canadian	34	— 35
Algerian (448lb)	34	— 35	PEAS (504 lb.):		
Russian (400lb)	24	— 25	Konigsberg ...	45	— 47
Indian(400 lb)...	24	— 25	Russian White	39	— 41
Persian (400lb)	23	— 24	Indian White.	39	— 41
MALT (336 lb.):			Canadian White	39	— 41
Californian ...	38	— 39	Victoria Dun.	35	— 37
Smyrna	40	— 41	MILLET (416 lb.):		
RYE (480 lb.):			White	44	— 46
Russian	30	— 31	Yellow	24	— 26
OATS:			Sorghum	22	— 23
Konigsbg(320lb)	21	— 22	RICE (cwt.):		
Russian (304lb)	17/6	—18	Indian	17	— 20
Canadian(320lb)	21	— 22	Burmese.....	9	— 10
Arg'tine (304lb)	17/6	—18	DARI (480 lb.):		
Swedish (320 lb)	21	— 22	Indian	29	— 30
NewZ'l'n'd(384lb)	25	—26	Persian	25	— 26

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED FIRMLY, BUT POOR LIGHT WAS AGAINST BUSINESS.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, 3 P.M

After the close of the market on Monday last the London millers reduced the credit and delivery price of flour by 6d per sack. This usage is peculiar but convenient. It does not interfere with transactions actually booked on the Monday before the market closes at 3.15 p.m, but it governs business from the next morning, and enables such operations to be put through by telephone from office to office, from bakery to mill.

The cash prices which we quote herewith are of course unaffected by these credit terms. For country flour to-day rather more money was made, and American sorts maintained the prices of the 23rd. Nothing was done in Hungarian or Australian as far as we could learn. The extraordinary price of wheat in Hungary, 44s. or thereabouts, makes it unlikely that cheaper Hungarian flour will be in sight with the new year. Flour made in London of strong red wheat by the Hungarian processes is obtainable in small quantity at 38s. to 39s. per sack, but our labourers are said to dislike the work, and the supply of such flour is always trivial. The flour itself is, of course, mainly a confectionery requirement. The prices of meal were unchanged to-day, but sales were more frequent than a week ago.

London Flour.

December 30.

Top Price.....(per sack of 280 lb.)	37/0	
Town Whites ..... ,,	33/0	
,, Households ..... ,,	30/0	
No. 2..... ,,	29/0	
Whole Meal No. 1..... ,,	31/0	
,, No. 2..... ,,	29/0	

Country Flour.

	s.	s.
Fine Patents .....(per sack of 280 lb.)	29	— 30
Roller Whites ..... ,,	27	— 28
All English ..... ,,	27	— 28
Stone made ..... ,,	26	— 27

Foreign Flour.

	s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents(per sack of 280 lb.)	32	— 33
,, Second Patents ..... ,,	31	— 32
,, First Bakers' ..... ,,	27	— 28
,, Second Bakers' ..... ,,	26	— 27
Milwaukee Patents ..... ,,	31	— 32
,, Bakers'..... ,,	26	— 28
Canadian Best..... ,,	32	— 33
,, Ordinary ..... ,,	30	— 31
Manitoba Patents ..... ,,	32	— 33
,, Ordinary ..... ,,	30	— 31
Kansas Patents ..... ,,	30	— 31
,, Ordinary..... ,,	28	— 29
Californian ..... ,,	31	— 32
Belgian ..... ,,	36	— 37
Hungarian (net prices)—		
Five Stars ..... ,,	41/0	
G.G.O. ..... ,,	40/0	
P.W.M..... ,,	38/0	
Six Anchors..... ,,	41/0	

Meal, &c.

Bran, London Broad (per sack of 280 lb.)	16	— 17
,, Country Flake Choice ... ,,	17	— 18
,, ,, Broad ..... ,,	16	— 17
Pollard ..... ,,	15	— 16
Biscuit Middlings ..... ,,	19	— 20
Fine Middlings ..... ,,	18	— 19
Coarse Middlings ..... ,,	17	— 18
Wheat Germ Meal..... ,,	19	— 20
Farina Firsts ..... ,,	30	— 31
,, Seconds ..... ,,	28	— 29
Barley Meal..... ,,	27	— 28
Canadian Oatmeal..... ,,	28	— 29
Scotch Oatmeal ..... ,,	33	— 34
Groats ..... ,,	34	— 35
Oat Flour..... ,,	34	— 35
Ground Oats ..... ,,	33	— 34
Poultry Meal ..... ,,	37	— 38
American Feeding Wheat Flour ,,	21	— 22
Maize Flour "Cornflour" ..... ,,	20	— 21
,, Germ Meal ..... ,,	17	— 18
,, Cones ..... ,,	20	— 21
,, Gluten Mea ..... ,,	17	— 18
Rye Flour ..... ,,	26	— 28
Rye Bran..... ,,	23	— 24
Pea Meal ..... ,,	24	— 25

THE BALTIC.

MONDAY, 1 P.M.

STATE OF TRADE.

Although several leading operators do not return to town till Thursday, and demand is lethagic, the actual tone of cargo business is firmer from the close of last week.

BUSINESS DONE.

Wheat.—No. 3 Manitoba, 41s per 480 lb, February shipment; Australian, 39s 6d per 480 lb, prompt shipment; Argentine, 36s per 480 lb, February shipment; White Walla, 39s 6d per 500 lb, prompt shipment.

Maize.—American, 25s 6d per 480 lb, on passage; Roumanian, 26s 6d per 480 lb, on passage.

Barley.—Kustendje, 25s 3d per 400 lb, prompt shipment; Californian, 26s 6d. per 448 lb, prompt shipment.

Oats.—White Lisbon, 17s per 304 lb, prompt shipment; Black Lisbon, 16s 9d per 304 lb, prompt shipment; White Konigsberg, 18s per 320 lb, prompt shipment; South Russian, 16s 6d per 304 lb, prompt shipment.

Linseed.—Argentine, 38s 9d per 416 lb, January shipment; Riga, 40s 3d per 416 lb, January shipment; Libau, 40s per 416 lb, January shipment; Bombay, 44s 6d per 416 lb, February shipment.

Rapeseed.—Yellow Guzerat, 56s 6d per 416 lb, April shipment.

Cottonseed.—Egyptian, £6 11s 3d per ton, January shipment.

Sesame.—Indian, 61s per 384 lb, January shipment.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—The market keeps firm, but there is not much disposition to buy until after the holidays. Grain.—The slight improvement noted last week in prices of Indian corn and maize has not been maintained. Another arrival of beans enables buyers to meet their requirements on favourable terms. There is a poor sale for all kinds of oats, except fine Scotch. Barley full. Oilcake quiet. Mill Stuffs.—Bran and thirds steady. Spring wheat patents, 31s to 32s 6d per 280 lb; winter wheat patents, 30s 6d to 31s per 280 lb; American corn, 15s 3d to 15s 4½d per 280 lb; round corn, 14s 10½d to 15s per 280 lb; grinding beans 17s 10½d to 18s per 280 lb; broad bran, 115s per ton; medium bran, 107s 6d to 110s per ton; common thirds (sharps), 110s to 112s 6d per ton; fine thirds, 137s 6d to 140s per ton; American oilcake, 150s per ton.—McKINNON AND McDONALD (Glasgow).

Milling offal.—Colder weather make prices firmer.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

Wheat arrivals are small. Trade steady, prices unchanged. Flour dull at late prices. Maize 3d. dearer. Barley and oats unchanged.—COVENTRY, SHEPPARD, AND CO.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, December 30.—Prices will not be modified until about January 6, as the great operators are away. It is, however, fully anticipated that the very poor Indian prospects will induce a very firm opening of trade for 1908.

LINSEED. per 416 lb.	s.	s.	RUBSEN. per 424 lb.	s.	s.
Calcutta	46	to 47	German	71	to 75
Russian	45	to 48	POPPYSEED. per 377 lb.		
Argentine cleand	46	to 47	Indian	59	to 61
Argentine comn.	44	to 45	COTTONSEED. per ton.		
Dutch	51	to 53	Egyptian.....	134	to 136
Turkish	48	to 50	Indian	116	to 120
Canadian	46	to 47	Peruvian	120	to 124
Morocco	50	to 51	SUNFLOWERSEED. per cwt		
RAPESEED. per 416 lb.			English, White	14	to 15
English.....	82	to 84	,, Black	13	to 14
French ..... F.A.Q.	64	to 66	Russian, White.	13	to 14
Yellow Guzerat	61	to 63	,, Black.	12	to 13
Yellow Cawnpre	58	to 59	SESAME. per 384 lb.		
Brown ,,	55	to 56	Indian	61	to 62
Ferozepore	55	to 56	HEMPSEED. per 336 lb.		
Jamba	46	to 47	Russian	42	to 44

DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter.—The demand for Colonial butter from Australia and New Zealand continues good (shipments from Canada ceased two months ago), and prices remain firm. Shipments from Australia this week are 35,000 boxes in the *India* and 1,900 boxes in the *Star of Ireland*, so that Australian shipments are not increasing to the extent anticipated when the announcement of good rains were cabled. Arrivals from Australia this week total 24,678 boxes, and from New Zealand 26,242 boxes. The total imports of butter from all countries for the two weeks ending December 21 shows a deficit of 68,118 boxes, compared with the same period last year, of which shortage 61,066 belong to Colonial. The market for foreign butter remains strong, with a firmer tendency in prices. French butters are especially dear. Cheese.—The holidays have cast their influence over the market, and little business has been transacted. Prices remain unchanged.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

HAY AND STRAW.

Derby, Friday.—Clover, best old, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; hay, best old, 90s to 100s; new, 50s to 70s; seconds, 40s to 50s; straw, wheat, 60s to 70s; pressed, 50s to 60s; chopped straw, 55s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Meadow hay 6d, clover 7d, wheat straw 4d, oat straw 3½d per stone.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The approaching holidays and the cold and foggy weather have stimulated business in the warehouses, an active business being transacted in hay and straw at the following quotations:—Old clover hay, 7½d; ditto meadow hay, 7d; best new clover hay, 7d; ditto meadow, 6½d; wheat straw 5d; oat straw, 5d; and rye straw (retail), 7d to 8½d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Hay and seeds, 55s to 60s per ton on the ground; straw, 30s per ton at the stack.

Manchester, Friday.—Clover, 5½d to 6½d; straw, oat, 3d per stone.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Old land hay, from £3 7s 6d to £4 4s; new land hay, £4 10s to £5 5s per ton; this year's growth, £4 to £4 15s. per ton.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Very poor supplies, and small business. Choice seeds made £4 10s to £4 15s; secondary ditto, £4 to £4 5s; meadow hay, £3 15s to £4 5s; straw, £2 10s to £3.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Limited supplies were received, but trade ruled slow at current prices. Best clover, 84s to 92s 6d; inferior, 72s to 80s; specially-picked hay, 82s 6d; good, 65s to 75s; inferior, 55s to 63s; mixture and sainfoin, 70s to 82s 6d; straw, 25s to 31s per load.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Altrincham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Appleby: 1s 2½d to 1s 4d. Barnstaple: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Berwick: 8d to 11d. Camelford: 1s 2d. Carlisle: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Chester: 1s 3d. Dartmouth: 1s 5d to 1s 7d. Derby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Devizes: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Doncaster: 1s 4d. Kidderminster: 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Lincoln: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Otley: 2s per 24 oz roll. Preston: 1s 4d. Retford: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Shrewsbury: 1s 3d. Stockport: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Stockton: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Totnes: 1s 6d to 1s 7d. Worcester: 1s 1d to 1s 4d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 4d.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Altrincham: 5 to 6. Appleby: 8. Barnstaple: 8 and 9. Berwick: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per doz. Camelford: 1s 3d per doz. Carlisle: 7. Chester: 6 and 7. Dartmouth: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per doz. Derby: 6 and 7. Devizes: 8 to 10. Doncaster: 7 and 8. Kidderminster: 7. Lancaster: 5 to 7. Lincoln: 7 and 8. Otley: 7. Preston: 6 and 7. Retford: 2s 6d per score. Shrewsbury: 6. Stockport: 5 and 6. Stockton: 6. Totnes: 1s 7d to 1s 9d per doz. Worcester: 7. York: 6.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £13 10s to £14; half-bred hoggs, £11 10s to £12; ditto wethers, £11 to £11 10s; Kent fleeces, £11 to £11 10s; South Down ewes and wethers, £13 to £13 10s; Leicester ewes and wethers, £11 to £11 5s. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., scoured super., 2s to 2s 2d; scoured, good, 1s 10d to 2s; scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average, 1s to 1s 1d; S. Aus., greasy, average, 10d to 11d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; greasy, average, 11d to 1s; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9d to 1s 10d; fleece, average, 9d to 10d; greasy, average, 8d to 8½d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy average, 8d to 8½d. Crossbreds—grs.—Vic., good to super., 1s 2d to 1s 3d; New Zealand fine, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; medium, 11d to 1s; coarse, 9d to 10d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Growers still decline to sell at rates offered. Values remain nominally at 10½d for Kent fleeces, and 7d for lamb wool.

HOPS.

Borough.—The holidays having finished there is some business passing, chiefly in low-priced hops suitable for copper purposes, the current value of such being sufficiently tempting to induce some consumers to stock up.—W. H. and H. Le May.

Worcester, Saturday.—No business has been done this week owing to the holidays. The official return gives 18,115 pockets of 1907 hops weighed up to date, compared with 11,464 pockets weighed up to December 31 of 1906 crop.—Charles Faram and Co.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Dec. 30, 1907. British.	Total.	Monday, Dec. 31, 1906.
Beasts	780	780	1,000
Sheep and Lambs	4,040	4,040	5,750
Calves	10	10	5
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	30	30	40

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 10	3 6	4 10
Sheep	4 10	5 8	6 2
Lambs	—	—	—
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £23.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 20; Eastern Counties, 195; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 531; Devon, 10; Ireland, 24.

We note to day an increase of 690 head in the number of beasts offered for sale compared with Monday last, the majority of the supply being drawn from the Eastern Counties. Scotch descriptions, as usual, commanded our top quotations, amongst these being a few beasts that were left over from the Christmas market. For all grades of English fat cattle trade ruled of a firm and steady nature at good money. The supply from Ireland was a very small one, consisting entirely of Waterfords; these shared in the better trade experienced here to-day. Fat cows met with a steady demand, and were in small supply, consequently rates ruled 2d. per 8 lb. in favour of the seller. A clearance is expected to be made.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s d	s d	Monday, Dec. 31, 1906. s d	s d
Scotch	4 8	ex 4 10	4 8	to 4 10
Devons	4 6	ex 4 8	4 4	to 4 6
Herefords	4 4	to 4 6	4 2	to 4 4
Norfolks	4 4	to 4 6	4 4	to 4 6
Runts	4 2	to 4 4	4 2	to 4 4
Lincolns	4 0	to 4 2	3 10	to 4 0
Irish	4 1	to 4 3	3 10	to 4 0
Canadian	—	—	—	—
Fat cows	3 6	ex 3 8	3 4	to 3 6

There was an increase of 3,920 in the number of sheep penned compared with Monday last. For all descriptions of wethers a firm and steady trade ensued at fully late values, in a few cases an advance of 2d per 8 lb was obtained, ewes were also firm and steady. The Scotch and Irish season is now practically at an end, consequently no consignments were received at market from either country. Lambs were conspicuous by their absence. The supply included 1,517 from the Eastern Counties. The prospect of a clearance being made is somewhat doubtful.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, Dec. 31, 1906. s. d.	s. d.
7½ to 8st Down Tegs	6 0	ex 6 2	6 0	to 6 2
9 st. Downs	5 10	to 6 0	5 10	to 6 0
10 st Halfbreds	5 8	to 5 10	5 6	to 5 8
10 st Yorkshires	—	—	—	—
11 st Hampshires	5 8	to 5 10	5 8	to 5 10
10 st Irish	—	—	—	—
10 st Down Ewes	4 0	to 4 2	4 4	to 4 6
11 st Halfbred ditto	3 10	to 4 0	4 2	to 4 4
5 st Down Lambs	—	—	—	—
6 st Halfbred ditto	—	—	—	—

Calf trade not worth noting or quoting.

No pigs on the market.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts 1,245. To-day's supply consisted of 545 from the United States and 700 from Canada. Trade ruled of a firm and steady nature, the best States on offer being quoted at from 4s 2d to 4s 4d; seconds, 4s to 4s 2d; Canadians, 3s 6d to 3s 8d per 8 lb. (offal given in). 1,700 Canadian sheep were withheld from sale. On Saturday 1,124 beasts from the United States were offered for sale, and met with a firm and steady trade at from 4s 2d to 4s 4d per 8 lb.; seconds, 4s to 4s 2d.

Liverpool, Monday.—The supply of cattle was smaller than expected, the inclement weather in some degree accounting for it. Demand good, and prices rather higher. Sheep supply also very small; trade good, and an early clearance was effected at advanced rates. Beef, 6¾d to 4½d per lb; mutton, 9½d to 7d. At market 827 cattle and 2,365 sheep.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cake.—The holidays have interfered somewhat with the trade, but with the advent of present cold weather an improvement in the demand may be looked for. There is no chaage to report in prices. Cotton Cake.—Quiet and unchanged. Linseed.—The market has hardened during the past week, and a good trade doing in the feeding sorts:—

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
Linseed Cakes.		
English Linseed Cake ex mill	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
Calcutta Linseed Cake, ex quay	7 15 0	—
Russian Oil Cake, ex quay	7 11	3 to 7 15 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake ex quay	7 5 0	to 7 10 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal ex quay	7 5 0	
London-made ,, Cake (best) ex mill	4 17 6	to 4 18 9
Egyptian ,, Cake (in bags) ex quay	4 15 0	to 4 17 6
Burton Desicated Ale Grains (bags included) rail, Burton	5 8 0	—
Linseed.		
Duluth Linseed (in bage) per 416 lb ex warehouse	2 9 0	—
Calcutta Linseed (in bags), per 416 lb (bold) ex warehouse	2 9 0	—
La Plata Linseed per 416 lb. ex warehouse	2 6 0	to 2 12
Russian Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb ex warehouse	—	—

—Robt. & John Hewetson.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were:—From Ireland, 1,345 bales, and from foreign ports, 10,636 bales. The market was steady for bacon last week. Prices ranged:—Irish, 54s to 55s up to 60s; Danish, 50s to 55s up to 58s; Canadian, 49s to 51s up to 53s. Butter: The butter market was firm to-day. French, 104s to 122s; Danish, 123s to 125s; Russian, 100s to 112s; Irish (factory), 104s to 112s; Victorian, 98s to 118s; Queensland, 98s to 110s; New South Wales, 98s to 116s; New Zealand, 112s to 120s; Argentine, 112s to 119s. Lard.—There was a quiet market. Irish, 46s to 58s; Danish, 48s to 54s; American, 42s to 43s 9d.

SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—The Old Year is finishing up with a lively trade in spring sowing seeds at rising prices. In clover, reds and trefoils still creep up in price in both English and foreign seed. Canadian alsike is extremely firm. Whites unchanged. In grasses, French-Italian, perennials, Irish-Italian, New Zealand cocksfoot, and meadow fescue are all firm to rising. Rape keeps firm. Mustard unchanged. Rye scarce. Peas flat, as usual at this season.—John Picard and Co.

WET AND DRIED GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Wet Grains: Prices remain about the same with a slightly easier tendency owing to the holidays, and business has been done during the week at 22s ale, and porter 3s per ton less on rail London. Dried Grains.—Prices continue unchanged at 110s ale and 105s mixed per ton, bags 6d each, but the tendency is firm, and an advance is confidently anticipated for the New Year with the advent of colder weather. Best Java Molasses.—Concrete 70 per cent. sugar, in baskets, 85s per ton. Kiln-dried sea-damaged wheat from 21s per qr, on rail, London and elsewhere.—Hamlyn and Co.

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

*Cereal Year commencing September 2nd, 1907.**

		s. d.
September 2	(per sack)	32 0
,, 13	,,	34 0
,, 20	,,	33 0
,, 27	,,	35 0
October 2	,,	36 0
,, 9	,,	37 0
,, 21	,,	38 0
November 6	,,	37 0

(No change since last date given).

* September 1st, 1907, was a Sunday.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington Cattle Market during the week very little business was transacted; the principal market day, namely, Monday, fell very close to Christmas Day, consequently retail buyers were too busy to attend. The supply was an extremely small one, consequently neither trade nor quotations were worth noting. On Boxing Day a few cattle were held back in the lairs, but were not sold. At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, no market was held until Saturday, when a consignment of States beasts were offered for sale, and met a firm and steady trade at from 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d. per 8 lb. The total number on offer at both markets was 1,238, as against 5,961 during the preceding week, consisting of 114 British (decrease 2,736) and 1,124 foreign (decrease 1,987).

The sheep trade was confined to the Islington market, and was also a very limited one on both days. On Monday and Thursday a few sales were made at the previous week's values. The total number penned at Islington was 166, as against 10,530 during the preceding week, showing a decrease of 10,364. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 6d. to 5s 8d.; 10 stone half-breds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 3s. 10d. to 4s.

Calves numbered five; trade, therefore, not worth noting.

No pigs on offer.

Trade in Ireland.

The Christmas holidays interfered with the Dublin market, and it was not held until Friday, December 27, instead of on the previous day. The supply of stock was very limited, there being only 1,818 cattle and 1,898 sheep offered for sale. But local buyers attended in force and bought up the cattle very freely; there was not much demand for the sheep. The extreme rates were available for cattle of good quality, but middling and inferior beasts were very slow. Cows were not wanted. Well finished stall-fed bullocks and heifers sold well at from 33s. to 34s., and occasionally up to 35s. per cwt. (live weight); some grass-fed beef made from 29s. to 30s. per cwt. The approximate dead-weight price for beef was:—Best ox and heifer beef from 52s. to 56s., and for extra quality up to 59s. and 61s. 9d. per cwt.; good second-class beef, 47s. to 50s.; and inferior beef, 42s. 6d. to 45s. per cwt.

Trade for sheep was very slack, there being few buyers, and the bulk of the sheep on market did not suit the requirements of purchasers. The trade done was small, but limited as the supply was it was quite sufficient for the demand. Prime wether mutton sold from 7d. up to 7¼d. per lb.; good ewe mutton, 6d. to 6¾d. per lb. Veal very scarce. Store cattle a very short supply and wanted. Milch cows a limited supply and very slow trade.

Quite a holiday in the Dublin pig market; few sellers attending. Plenty of buyers, but not enough for them to buy. Good business, and early over. Choice light-weight pigs, from 46s. to 50s. per cwt.; coarse, 40s. to 44s. per cwt.

Trade in the West.

Business during the holiday interregnum is completely at a standstill, and consequently there is very little indeed to write about either in respect to fat or store stock, prices of which remain practically the same as those current before the country gave itself up to a week's feasting and holiday-making. Nearly every market of any importance has been temporarily suspended, and at the one or two that have been held during the holiday season the business transacted is not worth recording, buyers and sellers being both alike supremely indifferent what is passing just for the time being. Once the holiday feeling has again been shaken off, and the elements show a kindlier feeling towards stock-owners and agriculturists generally than they are doing at the present time, where almost every tract of land lying a bit low is submerged to an abnormal extent such as has not been experienced for the last fifteen or twenty years, we may expect to see a revival of activity in the stock markets greatly in contrast to the general inactivity now so conspicuously apparent all over the country.

The milch beast trade is almost, if not quite, the only one thing that remains unaffected by the national holiday making, this being conclusively demonstrated by the avidity shown wherever any dairy beasts are offered for sale, to acquire every milker possible—not only animals of the best type, for which they readily pay all prices, ranging from £17 or £18 apiece up to £23 or £24, but equally so the more ordinary runs at all prices, according to the quality and character of the animal ranging from as much as £16 down to £9 or £10 apiece for animals that are of very little further use except to turn out for grazing. In-calvers are an equally good trade at from £9 up to £15 or £16 apiece for heifers coming into early profit. Young stock for wintering in the open attract but little attention, the weather being hardly of the kind to stimulate sales.

With the opening of the New Year, and it is hoped, a favourable change in the weather, the barrener sales are beginning again, so that those who failed to get their requirements met in the autumn will have an opportunity of augmenting their stocks, as there are considerable numbers waiting for disposal once business is resumed, many of the drafts being of considerable promise and admirably calculated to meet the needs of graziers. Business in store sheep may be described as nil, as it may be said of equal truth of every other class of stock except that on which we have been commenting.

Purveyors bought so extensively preparatory to Christmas that they have found but little necessity for supplementing these purchases since; consequently butchering stock has been at a serious discount for some days past, the unfavourable weather being very detrimental to sales, and also making it bad for butchers, who, in many cases, have had to clear their stocks at a considerable sacrifice, or to incur the more serious risk of having their meat spoilt by keeping it too long. We fear, therefore, that this Christmas has been by no means a profitable one for the butcher, who, after having to pay a high price for his beef as well as other fat stock, has had to dispose of very considerable portions at considerably less value than he paid for it in the open market. The consumer, therefore, has been the gainer this time. Mutton has not been so seriously affected as beef, but veal and pork have both suffered from the effects of the "muggy" weather which interferes so seriously with the butcher's Christmas trade and often involves him in losses which it is extremely difficult to avoid, trade as carefully as a man may ever do. Happily many of our leading purveyors have made a fairly good price of most of their best joints. Still it has been anything but a season of big profits for the butchers as a class, as many of them will readily and honestly confess, the Christmas trade this year, bearing very unfavourable comparison with many of its predecessors when the air has been keen and frosty as the purveyor likes to see it, instead of the damp murky atmosphere which has hung like a pall over Christmas this season.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday. — Fair supplies and trade slow, but prices fairly well maintained. English beef, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 7d to 3s 10d; ditto, seconds, 3s 5d to 3s 6d; ditto, forequarters, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 4s 8d to 4s 10d; ditto, tegs, 5s to 5s 2d; ditto, ewes 3s to 3s 4d; English wethers, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; ditto ewes, 3s to 3s 4d; Dutch sheep, 4s to 4s 4d; veal, 3s 8d to 4s 8d; English pork, 3s 8d to 4s 4d; Dutch ditto, 3s 8d to 4s 2d per 8 lb.

COUNTRY.

Berwick, Saturday.—Attendance of farmers and buyers small, and trade dull. Calves, £5 to £6; heifers, £8 to £10 10s; stirks, £8 10s to £10 15s. Other kinds of animals were a blank.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices of pigs:—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 1s. per pig extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. 10 lb to 8 sc. 10 lbs, 9s per score; 8 sc. 11 lb to 9 sc. 10 lb., 8s 6d per score; 9 sc. 11 lb to 10 sc. 10 lb, 8s per score Pigs outside these limits at their value.—C. and T. Harris and Co., Ltd.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small supply of cattle, and buyers were scarce, and trade was practically at a standstill. Wintering heifers, £8 to £11 10s; geld cows, £8 10s to £10 10s each.

Doncaster, Saturday. — Exceedingly small supply of cattle, chiefly young stores, with a few milch cows. Moderate attendance, and not much trade done. Milch beasts, £18 to £22; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers and drapes, £10 to £15; stirks, £8 to £10; young stores, £6 to £8 each. No sheep.

Dublin, Friday.—Numbers in market: Beasts, 1,818 (decrease, 1,069); sheep, 1,898 (decrease, 2,966); calves, 8 (decrease, 13). Owing to the very large reduction in numbers of cattle trade ruled brisk at higher prices, especially for choice finish, and an early clearance was effected. The decrease in the number of sheep had little or no effect on prices, as the export demand was almost nil, and home wants very few, which left a large proportion unsold. Cattle—Live weight (best), 31s to 33s per cwt; Aberdeen-Angus crosses, 33s 6d to 34s 6d per cwt.; secondary sorts, 28s to 30s per cwt. Mutton (dead weight), 6½d to 7½d per lb.—Ganly, Sons, and Co.

Leicester, Saturday.—Small consignments of home-bred stock, and business ruled dragging. Choice milch cows were in active demand at £19 to £20; good medium lots, £17 to £18; ditto secondary, £14 to £16; calves met a slow sale at 15s to 35s each.

Lincoln, Friday.—Not sufficient horned stock on offer to test prices.

Lynn, Wednesday.—Quite a holiday market, with a very small show of store beasts. Other animals not sufficient to justify a quotation.

Manchester, Friday.— Beef: Firsts, 5¾d; seconds, 4¾d to 5¾d; thirds, 3¾d to 4¾d. Mutton: Firsts, 8d; seconds, 7d to 7½d; thirds, 6d to 6½d. Veal: Firsts, 7¾d; seconds, 6¾d to 7¼d; thirds, 5¾d to 6¼d. Bacon pigs: Firsts, 5¼d; seconds, 4¼d to 4¾d; thirds, 3½d to 3¾d. Porket pigs: Firsts, 7d; seconds, 6½d to 6¾d; thirds, 6d to 6¼ per lb.

Norwich, Saturday.—Not many fat cattle on offer. Quality was not very good, but trade was sharper, the best making 8s per 14 lb stone; heavy cattle from 7s to 7s 9d, and cows 7s. Fat sheep were a small show, and met an improved trade: Downs made 9½d, crossbreds 9d, and a few fat ewes 6½d per lb. Fat pigs were quite a holiday market, but trade wasbetter, porkers making from 6s 6d to 6s 9d, and heavy pigs 6s to 6s 6d per 14 stone. Store cattle, sheep, and pigs were unquotable. A few rearing calves were shown, and met a fairly good trade at from 20s 6d to 48s per head.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Short supply of stock, which met with an average trade. Best in-calf cows £18 to £22, and heifers £12 to £19 each. Small show of stores, realising rather less money than last week. Strong heifers and steers made up to about £13 10s, and younger animals to £8. Small show of calves, which sold slowly, and made about £2 each.

Preston, Friday.—There was a moderate supply of cattle, and trade was very quiet. Cows, £12 to £19; heifers, £11 to £15 10s.

Retford, Saturday.—Limited show of store stock, and a small attendance of buyers. Very little business done at recent quotations.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Quotations:—Beef, 6d to 6½d per lb; mutton (wether), 9d per lb; veal, 7d to 7½d per lb; pork pigs, 9s to 9s 6d per score; bacons, 8s to 9s per score..

Stockton, Tuesday.—A holiday market prevailed. There were forward 30 cattle, 17 sheep, and 150 pigs. Best cattle were quoted from 7s 9d to 8s per stone, and rougher kinds 6s to 7s. per stone. There was practically no demand for sheep, but pork pigs found a market at 3d per stone down, while others were 6d down on the week.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Short supplies were in fair request. Prices:—Pheasants, 5s to 6s; young partridges, 4s 6d; old, 2s per brace; geese, 5s to 6s 6d; country ducks, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; Surrey fowls, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; Sussex fowls, 3s to 3s 6d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s 6d to 3s 3d; Essex fowls, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Irish fowls, 2s to 2s 6d; wild ducks, 1s 9d to 2s; snipe, 8d to 9d; woodcock, 2s; quails, 1s to 1s 4d; feathered pigeons, 7d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 11d to 1s 2d; English hares, 3s 6d; leverets, 2s 6d; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 6d; wild rabbits, 8d to 10d each; cock turkeys, 9d per lb; hen turkeys, 4s 6d to 6s 6d each; Australian rabbits, 5s 6d to 7s per dozen.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday. — Good offerings were accorded fair support. Langworthys, 80s to 90s; Up-to-Dates, 90s to 95s; Blacklands, 80s; British Queens, 80s to 90s; Royal Kidneys, 80s to 90s; Scottish (grey soils), 95s to 100s per ton. French,

3s to 3s 6d; German, 4s; Dutch, 3s to 3s 6d per bag.

Berwick, Saturday.—Potato trade fairly good at 70s for Langworthys, and 75s to 80s per ton for Up-to-Dates. There is still a large amount of foreign potatoes on the market.

Carlisle, Saturday. — A fair supply, and a good demand was experienced at 8d to 9d per stone.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Good supply but only a quiet trade. Prices unchanged at 8s 6d to 9s 6d and up to 10s per load of 18 stones.

Goole, Tuesday.—Holiday market, and a small attendance. What little business was done in potatoes was at late rates—viz., 9s to 10s per load.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Potatoes 9d per stone.

Malton, Saturday.—Potato trade about the same as last week. Supplies small but equal to the demand. By auction potatoes brought from 2s 6d per bag upwards.

Manchester, Saturday. — Potatoes: King Edwards, warps, 12s to 13s; Sands 11s to 12s; Cheshire, 8s 6d to 9s 6d; Lincoln, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per load; Irish, 5s; German, 4s 6d to 5s per cwt.

Preston, Saturday.—Potatoes made 8s to 9s per load of 240 lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Market well supplied. Best locally grown lots made up to 9s, and other kinds 6s to 8s per load.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Consignments were somewhat smaller, but a quiet demand ensued. Langworthys, 100s to 110s; Up-to-Dates, 90s to 100s; B'acklands, 80s to 85s; British Queens, 90s to 95s; Royal Kidneys, 85s to 90s; per ton. French, 3s 6d to 3s. 9d; German, 3s 6d to 4s; Dutch, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per bag.

Whitby, Saturday.—Potatoes 9d per stone.

York, Saturday. — A somewhat improved demand. Common potatoes were about the same as last week, making 75s per ton; Up-to-Dates, 80s.

West Country Notes

GLANCING back over the past year, one cannot regard it as a bad one in all for the agricultural community. The seemingly perpetual dampness which characterised the summer over a great portion of the country, making the expenses of harvesting greater than usual, and causing a shortage in some crops, did good in other ways, and the balance is probably pretty even.

THE hay crop was a very heavy one, and those able to save it in anything of condition were fortunate in finding prices all right when—if they were able to sell off—the time came for its disposal.

THOSE who were bound to consume at home had no cause for dissatisfaction, and even where the quality was not tip-top, owing to the unfavourable conditions for harvesting, there was an abundance of second-rate produce for use at home.

THE open weather right up to Christmas day, with a late bite of grass, favoured the stock keeper, who found his cattle doing fairly well. The produce for dairy purposes was somewhat above the average, and the butter and milk trade showed no falling off but rather an enhanced value in many instances. Cheese prices were below the previous year's level, but the extra quantity made helped to compensate for this, even if it did not actually turn the scale on the advantage side, as we think it must have done in many instances.

GRAIN crops, by the more rosy results of the markets, helped to compensate in the same way for the many drawbacks.

THE potato crops worked out profitably at the start, and the slump that affected the second earlies did not last long enough to be serious, and where the late crops were gathered in all right they paid well. There was some loss from disease and the effects of the season; but though locally these were serious, they were not altogether general, we are glad to think.

GREEN crops for the markets were on the whole profitable and plentiful, though perhaps there was not enough of sunshine to bring out the best quality in all cases.

SOFT fruits suffered considerably, and the outlook at one time was really serious for those who ventured largely on this branch of culture; but even here there was some recovery, and the extension of the season made the deficit on the year a smaller one than anticipated.

APPLE growers were amongst the most hardly hit of any who go in for fruit, and the season's shortage affected the bulk of cider made, and this at rather a critical time, when it was important that the growing demand should be met by the continued production of a good article, and when the Board of Agriculture have taken those very wise and shrewd steps for the securing of purity of the beverage.

ONE pleasant feature about the cider incidents of the year is the exchange of courtesy between the colonies and the West of England. The New South Wales Government representatives sent down to the West of England cider show a sample of the make of the orchards from "down under," and the cider makers of the west reciprocated by forwarding to the Wagga orchard, where this sample was produced, a case of the prize ciders from their show. In the course of a few days these will, no doubt, be sampled with keen interest by the boys at Wagga.

PLUMS were remarkably prolific during the past season, and the growers of these were most fortunate in their trees and the returns they yielded. Probably never before has the production of this fruit been so great since the present facilities have been available for distribution, and therefore the returns should have been correspondingly good.

STOCK has well maintained its level in price during the year, and though at the Christmas markets the enormous prices which in a few exceptional cases prevailed in the past, were not equalled, the returns to the farmer were probably better, as with the smaller sizes demanded, the cost of production was proportionately reduced.

ONE curious result of the "wet season" was to be found in the almost uniform success which attended the agricultural gatherings of the year in the West. Nearly all the shows were favoured with dry weather, and the country folk being keen to secure what diversion they could out of doors, rallied to the shows in greater numbers even than was usual.

ANOTHER feature of the year has been the well-considered—and in many cases, so far, successful—attempts to resuscitate old fair fixtures, and to improve the market capacity of old agricultural centres. Especially has this been the case in Devonshire, and to almost equal extent in Cornwall. Some of these movements have been particularly interesting as showing a thorough appreciation of their agricultural neighbours' custom by the townspeople.

CO-OPERATIVE work amongst farmers is slowly advancing. The Western Counties' Association report that it has made considerable headway, and there are other works of like character for the distribution of goods raised on the land. For instance, poultry societies are moving ahead, and also fruit-producing and marketing associations, in some portions of the West.

ONE hesitates to call a natural product like peat an agricultural crop; yet after all there is little trouble taken to secure a good crop of the moss which turns to fuel and bedding material so readily. The rise in the price of coal has affected this commodity, and the dwellers and workers on the turbaries are a little the better off for the year's work, though at the present moment so much of their land is under water.

THE pony rearers of the moors of Devonshire are waking up to possibilities of enhanced profit by a little help given to Nature, and the forthcoming year will see developed a scheme to which a start has been given, which ought to have a far-reaching effect in improving the breed of the ponies.

CATTLE breeders in Devonshire are also advancing their interest, and at the forthcoming Bath and West particularly are calling attention to the good milking properties of the Devons, which it is claimed is apt to be overlooked from the general recognition of their special advantages as beef producers. They throw their net wide, do to these Devon breeders, and travel right to St. Albans for next year's president—Mr. Charles Morris.

DURING the year the Dominion of Canada has been welcoming various West of England visitors, with a view to bringing the agricultural advantages of that country under the notice of English rural dwellers. They made, however, the mistake in a good many instances of not seeing that these people (excellent men as they were) were in actual touch with the agricultural community. Probably in the future such an error, having been pointed out, will be avoided. They have also, in common with other Colonial Governments, been sending experts to the West to find out how things are managed at home, and where wrinkles can be picked up. Some of our Continental rivals have been doing the like, and in the latter cases I have noticed they have sent keen students, who will go back home and put into practice the knowledge they have gained.

December 27, 1907.

Lord Londonderry on Small Holdings.

In the course of a speech at the annual dinner of the Darlington, Durham, and North Riding Chamber of Agriculture on Monday, Lord Londonderry said he believed the Small Holdings and Allotments Act, if it carried out what it intended to do, would be a joy to everyone who had anything to do with it. He considered the Bill, in principle, not by any means a controversial matter. Being now the law of the land, he thought he might say a few words of warning with regard to its administration. They all hoped that the Bill would be the means of retaining on the land those who were racy of the soil, who had been bred and born agriculturists, and who, for reasons best known to themselves, had migrated to the towns, to the misfortune of agriculture.

He hoped that the question of small holdings might be taken up and induce many to return to the land. They should endeavour to impress upon the authorities that they should act with great caution, inquiring into the character of those whom they proposed to benefit under the Act. Let them make themselves sure that the men they benefit were in a position to understand how to make a small holding pay.

Let them also carefully consider whether it was wisdom to extract the eyes out of a farm owned by a substantial man, who thoroughly understood farming, and who had made a model farm, and done justice to it. It would be disastrous if this care was not taken. He was prepared to give every assistance to encourage small holdings, but he did think, in the interests of all three, landlord, tenant, and small-holder, and in the interests of agriculture itself, that precaution should be taken, and therefore he uttered these words of caution.

The balance-sheet presented at the annual meeting of the Mansfield Agricultural Society showed that financially the year had not been a very successful one, as the balance of £78 19s. 9d. had been reduced to £11 12s. 7d. Subscriptions amounted to £194 19s. 6d.; entry fees, £37 4s.; gate receipts, £93 14s.; stand, £15 5s.; rent, £22 10s., &c., making a total of £411 19s. 7d. The prize money totalled £221 8s. 6d. The assets of the society amounted to £71 3s. 7d. It was stated that the loss on the year, if the money spent on matters connected with the removal to a new ground were excluded, was £37. It was decided to hold the next show on Whit Monday.

RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

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THE CENTRAL CORNWALL FARMERS' MANURE ASSOCIATION invite TENDERS for the Supply of Manures for the coming season.

Tenders to be received before January 9, 1908. Particulars can be had from Secretary,

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THE MARK LANE EXPRESS SUPPLEMENT FOR THE HOME

Conducted by "PEPITA"

Danties for Tennis Teas.

At this season there is usually an unlimited call on country housewives for tea dainties for tennis players, and, whether it is at her own home or on the club ground, where a few lady members give a tea in turn, the same difficulty arises—that is, to provide variety without undue expense.

First, we will take sandwiches, as they are always appreciated—by the sterner sex, at any rate.

The self-evident ham, tongue, and chicken sandwiches are agreeably varied by:

Lettuce Sandwiches.—Cut thin white bread-and-butter, pull apart small lettuce leaves, dip them in a good mayonnaise, and place between the bread. These are very good.

Cucumber and Tomato Sandwiches, are prepared by slicing the same very thinly; add salt and pepper, and put them between long fingers of brown or white bread.

Mustard and Cress, can be made in the same way. It should be chopped very finely, add salt; if liked, use plain milk biscuits, buttered, instead of bread.

Hard-boiled Eggs thinly sliced or chopped and a little mustard, between rounds of Hovis bread, are liked by most people, or the pounded yolks of hard-boiled eggs, mixed with a little butter and anchovy.

If finely-chopped meat is to be used, the seasoning, sauce, and melted butter should be mixed, and spread all at once on the bread, as the flavour is so much better.

Cakes.

Tennis Cake.—6 oz. of butter, 6 oz. of sifted sugar, 1 oz. of flour, ½ lb. of raisins (stoned and chopped), 4 eggs, 2 oz. of candied peel, 2 oz. of blanched almonds (cut in small pieces), 4 oz. of currants, 1 teaspoonful of baking powder. Beat the butter to a cream, add the sugar, and then the eggs (well beaten), sprinkle in the flour, next add fruit, almonds, and peel. Beat all well and put into a tin lined with oiled paper.

Almond Sponge Cone.—1 teacupful of fine white sugar, 1 teacupful of flour, 1 teaspoonful of baking-powder, 4 oz. of chopped almonds, 4 eggs, and a pinch of salt. Beat together eggs, sugar, almonds, and salt for 20 minutes, then stir in flour and baking-powder. Put the mixture into a greased tin, dust a little sugar over, and bake for 20 minutes.

Iced Genoese Pastry.—4 oz. of butter, 4 oz. of sugar, 5 oz. of flour, 3 eggs, ½ a teaspoonful of baking-powder, 1 lemon-rind. Beat the butter to a cream, add sugar, beat well, and add eggs gradually; mix in flour, baking-powder, and lemon-rind. Turn into a tin lined with oiled paper, and bake in a moderate oven ½ an hour. Remove it from the tin, and when cold, ice with the following:—Whisk the whites of 2 eggs to a stiff froth, mix in icing sugar until quite stiff, spread over the top of the cake with a knife frequently dipped in boiling water. When nearly set, sprinkle with coloured hundreds and thousands.

Sweethearts.—Roll out some good pastry, to cover flat oven-sheet, spread with raspberry jam, and cover with another layer of pastry. Mark with a knife in narrow strips, then allow the cold water from tap to run over it (this prevents it rising in a blister), sprinkle thickly with sifted sugar, and bake. Divide into long fingers when dished.

Vanilla Cuts.—Take 2 strips of good pastry, alike in size and rather thin; make a custard with the yolks of four eggs and the white of 1 egg, 1 oz. of flour, 1 gill of milk; flavour with vanilla. When cool, spread half the pastry with the custard, lay the other half on the top, and ice with soft icing, and dry in a cool oven. Cut into narrow strips.

Soft Sugar Icing.—Strain the juice of a lemon into 2 tablespoonsful of water, and boil in an enamelled saucepan. When boiling, pour it over one pound of icing sugar. Mix with a wooden spoon till smooth, and spread over cakes while warm.

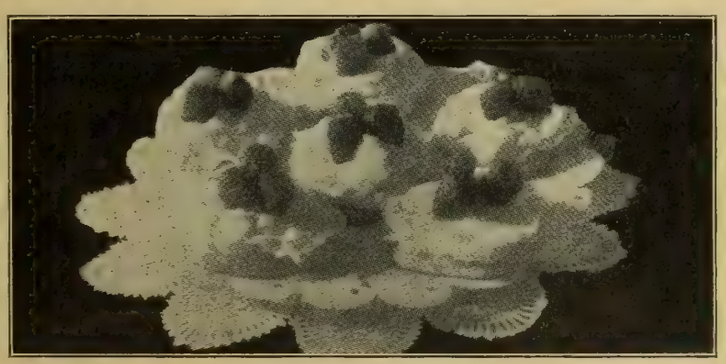
Cocoanut Macaroons.—½ lb. of prepared cocoanut, ½ lb. of castor sugar, 4 whites of eggs. Mix a little of the finest cocoanut to a paste with the sugar, and whites of 2 eggs, then add the remainder of cocoanut and eggs, mixed to a stiff froth. Line a well-oiled tin with wafer-paper, drop on the mixture, and bake for 20 minutes.

Queen Cakes.—2 oz. of butter, 2 oz. of sugar, 3 oz. of flour, 1 teaspoonful of baking-powder, 3 eggs. Beat the butter to a cream, add the sugar and 1 egg; beat a little, then add the other egg. Stir in lightly the flour, baking-powder, and lemon flavouring. Grease 8 small cake tins, sprinkle a few currants at the bottom of each, pour in the mixture and, bake in a quick oven for 10 minutes.

Pleasant drinks are always appreciated, and if served in small champagne tumblers, will go a long way.

Beverages.

Pineapple Cup.—Take a tinned pineapple, pour off the juice, cut the pine into small pieces into a punch bowl, pour over a quart of boiling water. When cold, add the juice, and sugar to taste, with 2 bottles of lemonade.



STRAWBERRY WHIP.

Summer Champagne.—To 4 parts of seltzer-water add 1 part of hock or Moselle; put a teaspoonful of powdered sugar into the glass, pour in the mixture. A change takes place, and you have an agreeable champagne.

Milk Lemonade.—Pour 1 pint of boiling water over ¾ lb. of loaf sugar; mix 1 gill of lemon juice and 1 gill of sherry, then add 3 gills of cold milk. Stir well, and strain.

Practical Recipes.

Strawberry Whip.

Cut sponge sandwich into small rounds; then heap strawberry whip on top, and in centre place large fully-ripe berries. For the whip, drop 1 egg white into a deep bowl and add 6 large berries, 1 cupful of sugar, and ¼ teaspoonful of salt; whip until the mixture will keep its shape when dropped from the whipper. If the berries are not tart, a few drops of lemon juice should be added while whipping.

Fried Whiting and Maitre D'Hotel Butter.

Fry the whitings in bread-crumbs, and serve with maître d'hôtel butter, made thus:—Mix 2 oz. of fresh butter with the juice of half a lemon, a dessert-spoonful of chopped parsley, a pinch of white pepper and half a saltspoonful of salt.

Eggs, with Mushrooms.

Poach the required number of eggs, place on squares of fried bread or toast, and pour over each a tablespoonful of sauce, made in the following manner:—Stew some small mushrooms in milk, and season with pepper and salt. Cut them into a coarse mince, and then stir in a tablespoonful of milk, with which a raw yolk of egg has been mixed.

Eggs, with Shrimp Cream.

Poach the eggs, and lay on slices of fried bread. Cover with a sauce made of ½ oz. of butter, ½ oz. of flour, and a little milk; stir in enough potted shrimps to thicken the sauce, and season with salt and black pepper.

Fried Fish a L'Indienne.

Fry the fish in a batter made as follows:—Beat up 2 raw eggs in ½ pint of milk, thicken with pea-flour, and a saltspoonful of turmeric, a saltspoonful of ground ginger, and the same of salt and white pepper, mixed.

Buttered Eggs, with Tomatoes.

Fry a finely-sliced large shallot in ½ oz. of butter, and when beginning to turn a golden colour, empty into it 6 sliced tomatoes, ½ teasponful of coarsely-ground black pepper, and a saltspoonful of salt. Continue stirring over the fire for about 10 minutes. Make a bed of these tomatoes on a hot dish, and spread the buttered eggs upon it.

Fish Fritters.

Make a batter with the yolks of 2 eggs, 2 tablespoonsful of beer, 1 tablespoonful of salad oil, and 5 tablespoonsful of water, and sufficient flour to bring the mixture to the consistency of cream. Mix with this the remains of any cold white fish, such as whiting, fresh haddock, cod, or plaice, etc. Fry in boiling fat, and serve very hot, garnished with half slices of lemon.

Eggs in Bread Sauce.

Make bread sauce by boiling a pint of milk with a chopped onion, then adding the breadcrumbs. Butter a large baking dish, and spread over it a layer of dry bread-crumbs, seasoned with salt, pepper, and pounded mace. Put the dish into the oven to heat, then take out, and break carefully on to it 6 eggs, place a thin dusting of bread-raspings over, and return to the oven just long enough for the eggs to set.

Whitings au Gratin.

Prepare some whiting to lie flat on the dish, not curled round in the manner generally adopted by the fishmongers. Butter a baking-dish, and spread over it a sprinkling of salt and white pepper, and about 2 tablespoonfuls of bread-raspings. Brush the whiting on one side with egg, and sprinkle some finely-minced mushrooms, then ½ oz. of melted butter, a layer of chopped parsley, and lastly a layer of raspings. Set in the oven for 10 or 12 minutes.

Fish Pudding, with Rice.

Take ½ lb. of any cold fish, and mix with it ¼ lb. of boiled rice, 1 hard-boiled egg, and seasoning of spiced pepper, salt. Moisten with any fish sauce, or milk, with 1 well-beaten egg. Put the mixture into a buttered mould, and steam for 40 minutes. A white sauce, flavoured with anchovy, makes a nice addition.

In cases of inflammation of the stomach and bowels, try cloths wrung out of hot water in which a tablespoonful of turpentine has been put.

Packing Case Furniture.

In the article on "Week-end Cottages" that appeared in our "Supplement" for May 13th, reference was made to furniture that could be economically arranged at home, by utilising boxes anl cases, that otherwise would probably be broken up for firewood

The following suggestions and illustrations will serve to show something of what may be done in this way, and to set the ingenuity of our readers, to work in devising other contrivances, for their special needs and fancies.

Fig. 1, represents a really roomy and commodious dressing-table, constructed of two Tate sugar-boxes, and a board for the top. Grocers, are generally glad to supply these boxes at 6d. or 8d. each, the covers should be secured, as they can be made into shelves, to divide the inside of each box in half, the boxes, of course, standing on end. It will be noted in Fig. 1, that a space is allowed in the middle, this is a most comfortable arrangement, giving room for the knees of anyone sitting at the toilet-table, but in a small cottage, such luxury might be dispensed with, and the sides fitted close together, in the centre. In this case, the top board would not be necessary, a covering of ordinary cheap oil-cloth, is quite sufficient to form a smooth surface for the toilet-cloth.

The rough boxes, must be covered in some way, firstly, to stop up cracks and holes that would admit dust, also to protect the hands from scratches, secondly, to give a smarter appearance. The insides require nothing stouter than paper, and brown paper, is as serviceable as may be desired. For the outsides, the very best thing, is American cloth, tacked on with brass-headed nails. What is known as "oil-baize", can be substituted for American cloth, it is cheaper, but does not wear so well, nor, is such a choice of colour available in it.

Two short brass-rods, curtains, of material matching other draperies of the room, fitted with rings to draw easily aside, finish the improvised toilet-table for all practical purposes.

As small cottages are not usually provided with a box-room, and the luggage of week-enders, has consequently to abide in the bedrooms, a contrivance to keep the portmanteau or hold-all off the floor, and yet to utilise the space taken up, is likely to be well appreciated.

Fig. 2 illustrates how the idea may be carried out, viz., by turning a box on its side, hinging a board, cut to fit the front, and make a door, thus forming a small cupboard to hold boots and shoes, straps and luggage, covers or other such odds and ends, that are apt to litter a small room hopelessly. The little cupboard will be quite presentable, if neatly covered in American cloth, of a suitable colour, and the door decorated with some simple design, in nail-work, as shown in the sketch.

GARDENING IN JULY.

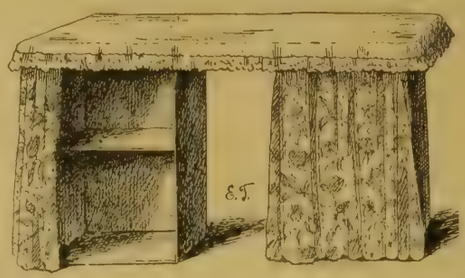
WEEDS.—The heavy downpour of rain all over the country, has been the cause of an abundance of weeds. No one seems to have found a cure for this undesirable intruder in our gardens, not even our cousins on the other side of the Atlantic. They are recognised as a wonderfully inventive people, but I fail to discover that they have been able to invent a weed killer, either in liquid or powder form.

The "Eureka" weed killer is considered the most satisfactory, and if applied to walks once or twice in the year, it will help to keep them clean. So far as my own experience goes, I have come across nothing better than Natures' plyers for this intolerable nuisance and labour producer. Pull them up by the roots before the bloom forms into seeds. It is a sure remedy, and a most effective safeguard against increasing labour.

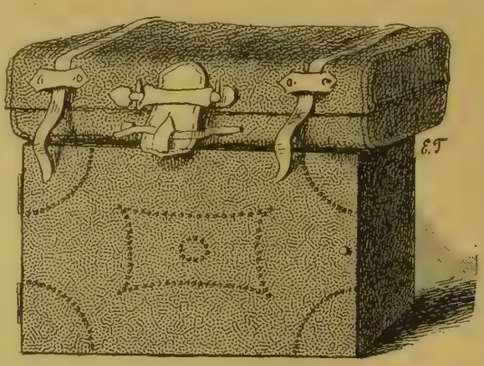
If you apply powders or poisonous liquids, there is the fear of tampering with flowers and vegetables we wish to save from the strangling convolvulus chick-weed and groundsel. When either of the above-mentioned weeds gets possession of a neglected garden, it takes years to clear the ground. Some gardeners suggest digging in to a depth of two feet. I examined only this week, a plot of land where the suggestion had been put to the test, but the result was deplorable, and the work rendered necessary to clean the ground, was heart breaking, as the buried seeds of former years must have remained in the earth, only waiting to receive light, to enable them to put forth life, and millions of all kinds of weeds have come up among a splendid crop of potatoes during the recent heavy rains.

It is useless to attempt moulding or earthing up until the weeds have been collected and thrown aside for the fire, when dried sufficiently to burn. When engaged on weeding in the vegetable garden, it is advisable to thin some of the potato tops by cutting them off, instead of pulling out some of the leaders. The roots are best not disturbed. This method was adopted by me over an acre of potatoes for four years, and my crops were abundant of the main-crop variety. I used the tops as poultry food, and the fowls devoured them as eagerly as they would have done young lettuce.

PRIVET HEDGES.—These should be well cut back and pruned into shapely form. The rapid growth should be checked, in order to give light to the lower parts and to encourage thickening. I only cut my privet once a year, generally in July, but recently I inspected a privet hedge in front of two town houses, which had been run over weekly for the last three months with a pair of large scissors. I may add that it only occupied 10 yards, but it interested me very much to notice the evenness and shapely form which had been brought about by this example of patience and perseverance. It was as close as a door mat, and presented a very neat appearance.



IVY ON WALLS.—I simply wish to draw attention to the golden leaf ivy as it is now to be seen at its best. Ivies thrive so well in towns, that I often wonder they are not more freely planted, as they have the advantage of being evergreens. The golden leaf is very pretty, and is a free grower. It should be planted in September or October. I have mentioned it now, because of the opportunity at this particular time to compare it with the common kinds. It is an error to suppose that ivy injures property by causing damp walls. This is pure prejudice. It protects property, produces a most pleasing effect, and hides and softens the bricky bareness of walls, besides adding to the beauty and improvements of the house.



There are many variegated varieties such as madareusis variegata, canariensis, japonica variegata, and if application were made to any of the noted nurseries, no doubt samples of the various variegated sorts would be sent gratis, when it would be seen what a decided advantage this climber has over other clinging plants, which are not evergreens.

VEGETABLE PEAS.—These may still be planted, and I would suggest Ne Plus Ultra for those who can afford tall stakes, and Stratagem. This is the best dwarf pea; it produces long pods well stocked, and of fine flavour. The present weather is favourable, and I think we may rely upon a late summer to ripen them in time for use in September. The late pea is quite as enjoyable as the early ones, so do not hesitate to plant a row at once.

ASPARAGUS.—Beds of asparagus which have been cut over up to the last fortnight, should be allowed to run to seed, and a dressing of well decayed manure should be applied in the early autumn.

G. W. THOMSON PRICE.

The Model Women of Fifty.

A society matron was in the police court, bringing a charge against her chauffeur.

"You are over twenty-one," said the officer politely, as he took down her name and address.

"I am forty-eight," retorted the lady with dignity, and something like pride—because forty-eight to-day is an enviable age instead of one to be ashamed of. The modern woman has at least upset all the old ideas about age.

The length of life is steadily increasing. The age of mental and physical maturity has advanced from five to seven years. Twenty-five used to be the full blossoming time of womanhood. Now it is conceded to be thirty and after.

It was only the very exceptional woman of fifty, who was ever heard of in the past. To-day the woman of fifty stands at the head of almost all the big educational and philanthropic movements of the time. Our greatest women artists have passed the boundaries of forty-five, and great woman philanthropists are also nearing the age, but it is in the ordinary, every-day, average woman that the greatest change can be seen.

Can you imagine your great-grandmother at the age of fifty, wearing anything but black or lavender, with a little bit of white lace or muslin? Can you picture her in a French Bonnet, with her grey or white, or brown curls beautifully dressed, and her well corseted figure moulded into the smartest of tailor-made suits? Our great-grandmothers at the age of fifty donned their caps and shawls, took to the great arm-chair, and for the most part, resigned themselves to old age and approaching death.

There is no such thing as old age, for the woman who feels and thinks herself young, no matter what the date in the family Bible may register.

The grandmother of to-day, has more leisure than her predecessor, and she puts it to better advantage. Her mental activity is greater than it ever was, and she does not hesitate to begin a new study, and to compete in art or science with younger women. If she has money, she studies the art of entertaining, making herself more interesting, than ever before, and she even follows the prevailing "fad"—whatever it may be.

Women who would once have been called middle-aged, are enthusiastic physical culturists, and owe their superb health to the fact, that they have studied the laws of hygiene, and know how to take care of their bodies.

"I have greater need of health and of personal charm, than any of those young people," said a matron, "because they all have the fascination of youth; but I find that age has its compensations, for I know and take heed of every one of my blessings, and am grateful for them all, while the young people scarcely know what they are enjoying."

This particular woman says that there is only one thing to remember, one thing to forget, if you want always to be young. The first, is the power of right thinking, which can rebuild and remodel one's life and character, and the things to forget are—"regrets." Nothing is so truly useless, or such a handicap as regrets of any kind, and it is the first thing one must learn to eliminate, if one wants to be fifty years young.

Alcohol will remove candle grease.

A pinch of salt added to the coffee will improve its aroma.

In a civil action on money matters, the plaintiff had stated that his financial position was always satisfactory. In cross-examination he was asked if he had ever been bankrupt. "No," was the answer. Next question was: "Now, be careful; did you ever stop payment?" "Yes," was the reply. "Ah," exclaimed the counsel, "I thought we should get it at last. When did that happen?" "After I paid all I owed," was the answer.

Moths do not like printer's ink, and there is no more secure way of disposing of the winter clothing than to pack it away in newspapers. The articles, whether woollen or fur, should be well beaten in the open air, to make sure that no egg is deposited already, then folded carefully and pasted closely in newspaper, so that there shall be no crack into which the insidious little insect may creep. By packing carefully in this way you will not need camphor, moth balls, pepper or tobacco, or any of the moth preventives so frequently recommended.

THE NEWEST FASHIONS.

This is the time of the year when the most fascinating of gowns make their appearance, and when dressmakers have the best oppertunities for the display of their taste and skill. Small wonder is it, then, that new styles make their début, new fashions pass in review, to be condemned or applauded, while even the most eccentric and startling of ideas can be most carefully considered, and dispassionately judged by contrast with the more conservative or better known effects.

* * *

It would seem as if this season any and every colour is popular, and that no one marked fashion holds supreme sway. One of the leading houses, one that has always advocated the extreme of Empire styles, still proclaims its belief in the fashion, and most exquisite examples of the period does it send forth. The long, drooping shoulder line, with the kimono sleeve effect, the full, graceful skirt falling in long, loose lines, and the general appearance of the entire gown, that of the most exaggeratedly artistic, can here be noted in full perfection, while the smartest and most severe of the tailor made costumes, according to the Parisian conception of the tailor made, is in delightful contrast.

* * *

This same tailor made costume that is at present thought so smart has either a pleated or circular skirt just short enough to clear the ground. The coat, three-quarter length, is on the same lines as a man's cutaway coat, fitted, and, like the new fad in men's coats, bound with braid. There is always a waistcoat, and the waistcoat is most elaborate, braided or made of richest brocade. With this is worn the simplest of shirt blouses, finished at the neck with a high linen collar, not a turned down one, with a plain, high, mannish shape. This is fastened with a jewelled collar button of large size, while another button holds it at the back of the neck. Charmingly incongruous with this collar, is the full jabot of lace fastened under the collar button, and long enough to fall down over the waistcoat. The correct hat to wear with this costume is a large, flat brimmed shape with quantities of flowers and ribbons. The mixture of the masculine and feminine in this outfit is charmingly attractive, but the danger is in the copying of the original model, for, as can readily be understood, the possibilities of exaggeration are many, and the pitfalls for the unwary are in consequence to be dreaded.

* * *

With the exception of these tailor finished costumes, which should be made in light weight cloth, serge or mixed cheviot, there is no hard and fast rule as to the materials to be worn for race costumes. The most costly of silks and laces are worn, while all sorts of novelties in materials here make their first appearance. The entire costume with coat to match and the finished gown with separate wrap are alike fashionable. Costumes of light weight cloth, and gowns of lingerie and laces are all in evidence, until one feels that the fashions for the entire year must surely be passing in review, so many and so varied are the models displayed.

* * *

Extremely graceful are most of this summer's gowns, and although the loose, semi-fitting effect given by the big shoulder seams and kimono sleeves was not in its first rendering becoming, except to the most slender of woman, a careful modification of the design has made it not only possible, but becoming to stout woman also. Voile, soft silk, and all thin materials are effective in these gowns, and plain, flowered, or striped designs are equally popular. Striped voiles and chiffons are considered extremely smart, and when black and white stripes are chosen, a touch of colour in the girdle is most effective, and very fashionable.

* * *

Bands of Liberty satin or taffeta are most popular this year as trimmings are used in all sorts of different fabrics. India silk and pongee gowns are immensely improved by bands of taffeta, whilst the lustre of Liberty satin bands on an embroidered or lace gown, or even on plain chiffon, is remarkably good. These bands are on the bias and must not be doubled, but left in the single fold, and are in graduated widths when put around the skirt. When put on in horizontal lines, they are so arranged as to be much narrower at the waist than at the foot of the skirt. Velvet ribbon bands are still to be noticed, but just at present, the satin folds are considered smarter.

The charming French model gown shewn in the illustration on this page can be carried out in pink and white striped voile. The pink is a very soft delicate shade. The smart bodice is trimmed with wine coloured velvet, and the vest and collar are of white embroidered muslin.



A SMART VOILE GOWN.

Despite all the arguments to the contrary, in nine cases out of ten a long coat, whether loose or fitted, is more becoming than a short, necessarily shapeless, jacket. Fashion may decree the Eton, bolero, blouse, or reefer, and, needless to state, her wishes will be followed out consistently through the season at least. But long jackets never seem to entirely disappear, even though they may not be pronounced openly to be the prevailing mode.

* * *

For afternoons, a cloth costume at this time of year is really better with a little fanciful bolero, than with a long fitted coat, which is bound to be uncomfortably heavy; and yet, the newest models for autumn designs, show unusually long fitted coats fastened all the way down the centre, with silk or braid frogs, the rest of the coat being sometimes quite plain, and again rather elaborately braided. All the boleros this year are decidedly elaborate, embroidery and braiding being the favorite mode of trimming. Last spring the fashion was introduced of wearing a wrap of some sort with every outdoor costume, whether a simple walking dress or an elaborate reception gown, and this year the idea has become firmly established, so that the ingenuity of all the leading modistes is being severely taxed, trying to invent some style of hot weather wrap, that will make an attractive finish to a gown without adding the slightest appreciable warmth. One of the best results, or rather solutions, of this question is seen in the long lace coats, and those formed of lace and net and ribbon, that are made up over a foundation of chiffon or mousseline de soie are delightfully light, most attractice, and give an exceedingly effective finish to any gown.

* * *

Already there are numberless different and totally unlike models from which to select in purchasing a loose lace coat, and as the fashion grows in popularity, new designs will be made up by the score. As yet, a long three-quarter length coat, hanging loose from the shoulders or from a fitted yoke, is one of the favorite models, but in a week from now some other design may be infinitely more popular, so fickle are the minds of fashion's followers. Some of these coats are well fitted into the figure in the back, others are half-fitted and loose in front, but all are mode up over a transparent foundation, so as to give clearly the good lines of the figure. A princess dress is best for this style of thin wrap, and an Empire model can also be smart if cleverly handled, but it is difficult to make a two piece gown, with its wide belt, to look as well and give as good lines under the coat, as a dress that more closely defines the natural lines of the figure. It must be remembered, that this lace coat is in no way a wrap that is intended to give warmth, but is designed wholly as a smart and effective finish for the gown with which it is to be worn. Lace wraps are also exceedingly fashionable, but they are made in a different style, and have a light lining—one that is intended to give real warmth and protection.

———o———

ROUND ABOUT NOTES.

Norway consumes the least alcohol *per capita* of any country in Europe, and Finland stands second.

* * *

Belgium does not let women vote, but Ghent has just appointed twelve women on the police force.

* * *

Any one in Denmark who pays the State £6 10s. when he is twenty-one is entitled to an annuity of £13 when he becomes sixty-five. But if he dies before that time, the State gets all the money.

* * *

A woman angler, Miss J. M. Wheeler, who lately gained a silver medal for landing a huge skate weighing 127 lbs., has just captured another monster of 144 lbs. at Ballycotton. It is believed to be the largest fish ever caught by a woman in the British Isles.

* * *

Madame Paderewski, wife of the famous pianist, is a great poultry-fancier. She is president of the Poultry Club of Switzerland. On her big poultry farm at Morges, by Lake Geneva, she keeps fourteen varieties of choice fowls.

* * *

Miss Margaret A. Hanna will be one of the attachés to accompany the United States delegates to the second Hague conference, the first woman, it is said, to hold such a position. Miss Hanna is private secretary to Second Assistant Secretary of State Adee, and has a wide knowledge of international law and precedents. Her appointment is a recognition of the ability she has displayed in handling diplomatic matters which have been assigned to her in the department of State.

* * *

An informing article of "Women Inspectors under the London Borough Councils" is the special feature of "Women's Employment" for June. The word "sanitary inspector," the writer points out, is very comprehensive. In London the woman inspector may, among other duties, visit workshops and workplaces, which include restaurant kitchens and laundries and offices where women and girls are employed. This latter inspection, by the way, only obtains at the present time in the City of London and in Kensington. She may inspect the homes of out-workers, tenement houses, and model dwellings, with a view to seeing that they are clean, sanitary, and not overcrowded. The investigation of the deaths of infants under one year and the visiting of infants after birth and giving advice to the mothers as to feeding and general arrangement may also be the work of the woman sanitary inspector.

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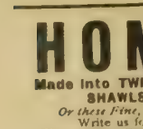
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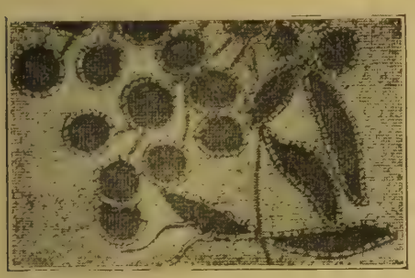
THE MARK LANE EXPRESS SUPPLEMENT FOR THE HOME

Conducted by "PEPITA"

Bullion Embroidery.

Fortunate indeed is the woman who has an heirloom in the shape of a Chatelaine top, for she can make a hand-bag at comparatively small cost if she be anything of a needlewoman. The bag is fashioned from a square of heavy black satin, having the corners cut off, so that two straight sides, when folded, will fit into the top, which will be gold plated or oxidised to be almost black. The decoration is cloth of gold appliqued on by gold bullion thread, as shown in the detail illustration, the stems being of the bullion couched on with sewing silk the same colour. The bag should be lined with a light-weight suede leather or heavy satin.

There is a revival of bullion embroidery,



DETAIL OF BULLION EMBROIDERY.

and the glittering thread is introduced into all sorts and styles of decoration. In the last illustration a most effective scroll design is given, which can be outlined by means of a large reel, for with the centre and circumference designated the intervening lines can be easily followed. The bullion thread should be carried through the material, and well fastened on the under side.

Infant's Crochetted Shoes.

Use spinning wheel yarn (one half skein makes a pair) and a bone hook.

First make a chain of 20 stitches.

1. One double in third stitch of chain, 1 double in each of the next 18 stitches, 3 doubles in last stitch down the other side of chain, the same, putting 3 doubles in last stitch, and fasten in the top of double with single, making 38 doubles in all.

2. Chain 2, 1 double in each double of previous row.

3. Same as second.

4. Same as third; break the yarn and fasten securely.

Piece for the Instep.

1. Chain 4, 1 single in each of the 4 stitches.

2. Chain, 1 single in chain 1, single in each of the 4 singles. Repeat 6 times, making 8 rows and 9 singles in the last one.

Now take the foot part; count 9 doubles each side of the one at the end, and crochet in the instep, leaving the fulness at the toe.

5. One double in each of the singles and doubles all the way around for the ribbon.

6. Pass 2 doubles, 6 doubles in next double, pass 2. 1 single in next double. Repeat all around, making 6 groups of doubles.

7. One single in top of 6 doubles, 6 doubles on single. Repeat all around.

Repeat seventh row 4 times, making 6 rows of shells. Complete by putting ribbon through the last row of doubles over the instep.

Origin of the Thimble.

The custom of wearing a thimble originates from Holland, the first one used for the protection of the finger being made as far back as 1684, and was presented to one Anna Van Weedy, the second wife of Killien Van Rensselaer, by Van Benscoten, who, in offering his usual gift, begged her "to accept this new covering for the protection of her diligent fingers, as a token of his esteem." Before that time the thimble was a thumb-bell, worn on the thumb.

Mosaic China Work.

This pretty but antiquated china patch-work looks really difficult, but in reality it is extremely easy, as well as fascinating, to those who are fond of making useful and pretty things out of next to nothing.

The first thing to be done is to collect all the dainty pieces of broken china, glass, etc. The easiest way to get a varied selection, is to ask your friends to save their broken ware for you. You can also ask the assistants of the china shop you usually patronise to put by bits for you, the owner of the shop will, no doubt, be only too glad to get rid of them. You must then decide what you intend making. Large drain pipes look famous for umbrella-stands, and for standing grasses in for the corner of a room, or to fill up an ugly corner in a staircase. Jars look very pretty for standing pots of ferns or flowers in. When you have chosen the article you mean to decorate, you must purchase some good, soft putty, and put a layer of it over the



BAG IN BULLION EMBROIDERY.

jar or drain pipe, about half an inch thick, then break your china up into small pieces in different shapes and sizes. Take one piece at a time, put it on the putty, and press the china into it; now choose another piece that matches fairly as regards colouring to the bit already stuck on, press it about a quarter of an inch away from the latter. When you have embedded it fairly well, give it a gentle push towards the other piece of china, a tiny smooth roll of putty will then stand up between the bits of ware; continue thus until you have completely covered the article in hand. Place it to dry where it will be free from dust for a week; then paint the little rolls of putty with some common yellow paint, leaving the china just as it is; when this is dry, cover the yellow paint with a coat of Judson's gold paint. The object of putting the common yellow paint first, is to keep the gold from sinking into the putty. When finished, you will be astonished to find your handiwork looks so well and costs such a small amount.

There are several things that can be made to look really well with a covering of china mosaic work.

Starching and Ironing a Shirt Blouse.

Careful attention to a few details will result in making a shirt-blouse as fresh and attractive as ever. If there are any unwashable buttons or trimmings, remove them, and throw the shirt into clear cold water for an hour. If afraid of the colour running, add a handful of salt. After washing in warm suds and drying it, make starch by dissolving a tablespoonful of dry starch in a quart of water. Thick cambric blouses should be starched only at the collar and cuffs and down the front hem. To the starch should be added half a teaspoonful of gum arabic, dissolved in water with a little borax. Wring the shirt dry out of the rinsing water, and hold it by the back of the neck. Gather up collar, cuffs, and front hem, and work in the starch, after which wring these parts in a towel, and rub thoroughly; roll up tightly, and leave them for half an hour, at the end of which they are ready for ironing.

In the case of gingham or any half-transparent material, dip the entire shirt into hot starch and wring it between a towel. Two tablespoonsful of raw starch into a quart of boiling water, with a dash of gum arabic, form the proper thickness. Use the starch as hot as possible, and when the shirt is wrung dry, clap it between the hands until it is thoroughly cleared of the starch. It must then be ironed as quickly as possible.

Select the oldest, smoothest, and cleanest iron, polish it well with a wax cloth, and test its heat with a piece of white paper before beginning to iron. First the yoke, then the collar, inside and outside, then the back, front, and last of all the sleeves and cuffs.

A shirt board and sleeve board are very helpful, and, indeed, the latter is a necessity. It should be half an inch thick, five inches wide, and graduated so that it may fit any sleeve. This should be covered all over with flannel and again covered with white muslin, sewn on firmly.

Catching Cold.

A great deal of lung trouble, consumption, and throat difficulties are chargeable directly to the habit of laughing and talking on going out from heated audience rooms. People sit for hours in warm rooms, then go out suddenly into the cold air. They are in high spirits, and naturally inclined to chatter and laugh, often keeping this up for a long time. The sudden reducing of the temperature of the lungs by the enormous inhalation of very cold air is productive of congestion and chills innumerable. It is declared by a physician who has made a study of this subject that if people could be induced to keep their mouths shut on going out of heated rooms into a cold atmosphere there would be fewer pulmonary and throat troubles and fewer colds and coughs. People should gradually accustom their lungs to the cold, rarely speaking for the first few minutes of their out-door trip. To the thoughtless this looks like a small matter, but on it may depend health, happiness, and long life.



A SCROLL DESIGN IN BULLION THREAD.

COOKERY.

Pickles and Preserves.

To town-dwellers pickling and preserving are fast becoming lost arts. So much is done by wholesale houses in this way, and often very well done, and storage room is often so limited that the general feeling seems to be "sufficient unto the day are the provisions thereof!" But in country districts more forethought is necessary. Shopping must be done not more than once or twice a week at most, and yet provision must be made for unexpected calls on the larder. And not only so, but in every well-stocked garden or farm there will be home-grown products, which may very profitably be preserved for home use, and the housewife's harvest must be garnered as well as the farmers'.

A Good Pickle for Red-Cabbage or Cauliflower.

Take 1 oz. black pepper-corns, ½ oz. of bruised ginger, ¼ oz. of all spice, and 1 qt. of vinegar. Boil well together, and let it get cold.

The cabbage should be thoroughly cleaned and cut into narrow shreds, strewn thickly with salt, and covered over. After 24 hours, drain the shreds thoroughly and shake in a soft cloth, place them in a deep jar, and pour the cold vinegar over them. Store in a dry place, but do not keep very long, or both colour and flavour will deteriorate. It will be ready for use in ten days.

The cauliflower when cleaned must be stripped of leaves, and broken into small pieces. Soak 48 hours in brine, dry, and pour the pickle over hot.

Shallots

when quite ripe should be peeled and immediately dropped into a perfectly dry jar and covered with cold vinegar, using 2 tablespoonsful of allspice and 3 teaspoonsful of whole black pepper to each quart of vinegar. Tie down with bladder. They will be ready for use in about three weeks' time.

Nasturtium Pickle to use instead of Capers.

Gather the young nasturtium seeds on a dry day and wipe clean. Place in a glass bottle with ½ pt. of vinegar, ½ oz. of salt, and 3 peppercorns. Cork firmly, and seal with bees' wax, and keep for 12 months before using.

To Bottle Fruit for Winter Use.

Gather the fruit in warm, bright weather when there is neither rain or dew on it. Take off the stalks, and place in clean and dry wide-necked bottles, put in some new corks, and place them in a copper with cold water up to the necks of the bottles. Hay should be twisted round the bottles to prevent them touching each other. Light the fire, and bring the water gradually to the boil, and keep it simmering about half an hour for gooseberries, currants, or raspberries, or about one hour for plums or greengages. Rake the fire out and leave the bottles in the water till quite cold. Then tie moistened bladders over the corks, or dip in hot resin—store in a dry place.

To Keep Mushrooms in Brine.

Take some button meadow mushrooms, wipe them with a piece of flannel, and measure after the stalks are removed. For each quart of mushrooms take 2 quarts of water, ½ lb. of common salt, a dessert-spoonful of peppercorns, 2 blades of mace, and a piece of bruised ginger, boil for 5 minutes, and take off the scum. Throw in the mushrooms, and boil gently for five minutes, pour them into well scalded wide-necked bottles, and let them get quite cold. Pour a little good salad oil on the top of each bottle, cork with new corks, and tie down with bladder. When wanted for use, soak in a little warm water to remove the brine.

Damson Jelly.

(Or may be made with any good red plum.)

Place the fruit to stew in a jar, either overnight in a cool oven or in a stew pan of water, till the juice is all extracted. To each pound of juice allow 1¼ lbs. of good apples, pared, cored, and sliced. Boil these together, for half an hour, stirring well. Add 14 ozs. of sugar (for each pound of juice), stir till dissolved, and boil for ten minutes more. Should be run into small moulds and turned out when wanted for use.

To Make Black Currant Jam.

To each pound of black currants allow 10 ozs. of sugar, but before adding this, boil the fruit for ten minutes, then take half the fruit out of the juice, draining it well through a colander to extract all the liquid portion, throwing away only the skins and pips. Add the sugar, and boil for another 15 minutes before placing in pots.

Black currant tea—made by pouring boiling water over jam, is an exceedingly useful drink for colds on the chest and sore throats, so that a good supply of the jam should always be made.



CREAMED ASPARAGUS.

Blackberry Wine.

As for all preserving, the berries must be gathered in dry weather and should be fully ripe. Put the fruit into a deep jar, and cover with boiling water. After it has cooled a little mash it well with a wooden spoon, cover it over, and let it stand for three or four days. Strain off the liquid and measure. To every gallon allow 1 lb. of sugar. Put it into a cask to work for about 10 days, being careful to keep the cask well filled, and take off carefully the scum that rises. When it has ceased to work, bung it down. In from 6 to 12 months the wine may be bottled.

Rhubarb and Blackberry Jam.

To each 2 lbs. of blackberries, allow 1 pint of water, and stew for 10 minutes. Mash thoroughly with a wooden spoon, and strain through a hair-sieve. To each pound of blackberries allow 1 lb. of rhubarb cut into very thin slices, over which sugar has been sprinkled, and allowed to lie over-night. To each ¾ pt. of juice and to each pound of rhubarb allow 1 lb. of sugar. Boil for 15 or 20 minutes (till it sets), and cover the jars after a few days. This will be found an excellent and most economic preserve.

Mary Lovell.

Creamed Asparagus.

After cooking the vegetable, drain it free from water, and arrange 6 stalks on toasted bread thinly buttered; then place a tablespoonful of sauce on top and cover with the sifted yolk of hard-boiled egg. For the sauce, place in a saucepan 2 level tablespoonsful of butter, and when melted stir into it 2 level tablespoonsful of flour; when incorporated, add 1 cupful of milk, ¼ teaspoonful of salt, ¼ teaspoonful of pepper; stir until creamy.

The Flower Garden.

Garden Paths.

When the after-dinner wit is dull, and conversation flags at country house-parties, the hostess is always able to fall back upon the topic of flowers, and the invitation to "come and see the garden" is always welcomed by the guests, who are delighted to leave the dining room for a wider space under the canopy of a resplendent evening sky. The lawn is perfectly even and true, as the turf has been recently mown. The flower beds are filled with exquisite plants, and the air is deliciously fragrant, as it is the month of July, when the perfume contributed by the flower in bloom should please the most fastidious person.

Unfortunately, owing to the heavy rain showers, the garden paths are soft and cloggy, and the pleasure of a visit out of doors is marred by reason of the mud which adheres to our "party" shoes. How necessary, therefore, it is to pay a little attention to the paths. The construction of garden paths is a subject which has been neglected, and I feel sure that readers will not be averse to a word of advice upon the question.

I wish it to be distinctly understood that I am writing from a personal experience of my own in this connection, and propose to give an exact description of the walks made by me in a garden where the subsoil was of a decidedly clayey nature. Nothing more than a few cinders had ever been applied by the former occupants of the house and grounds, and I was quite perplexed to know how to set about the construction of the paths. In wet weather they were always muddy, and when only partly dry were absolutely dangerous to walk upon on account of the greasiness of the surface; narrow escapes from falling were frequent, so I resolved to alter matters.

As soon as I had pegged out the directions of the paths, the subsoil was removed to a depth of one foot or more, and as a foundation I laid about six inches of clinkers. These I obtained from the gas works very cheaply, and covered them with a layer of ashes and crushed red sandstone rock.

After this had been well hammered down, I laid a further supply of fine sandstone again, and finished the job with a covering of about two inches of gravel. This was repeatedly rolled on wet days, the surface being kept true and even, like the lawn, as I do not consider it an advantage to neatly round walks with a foundation of the description given above. The surface is sufficiently porous to admit of surface percolation, and the drainage so often adopted is not needed at each side in order to carry away water. To my mind the garden paths should be level and as true and even as a bowling green, and my method proved most satisfactory; my paths were always admired. They became, in the course of time, solid, dry, and clean, and could be used in any weather.

I also made my fowl runs in the same way, but took the precaution at all times not to throw green food, such as cabbage leaves, etc., down for my poultry, but hung it up. I could sweep over my runs, and afterwards scatter a few shovelsful of oyster shells and sand over; the runs always looked well and clean, and my poultry was thoroughly healthy and profitable. Nothing creates a more unpleasant mud than fowls droppings, and decayed vegetable matter.

G. W. Thomson Price.

Household Hints.

An Excellent Iron-stand.—Use a clean fire-brick instead of the ordinary iron-stand, and your iron will retain its heat much longer. The usual iron-stand not only admits the air to the bottom of the iron, but it conducts the heat from it. The brick, being a non-conductor of heat, retains the heat in the iron much longer.

To Make Lime-water.—Put 2 oz. of freshly prepared slaked lime into a stoppered jar. Add 1 gall. of cold water, shake thoroughly, leave for several hours, then strain off carefully to keep free from sediment. Bottle and use as required.

RENOVATING OLD PETTICOATS.

The prevailing fashion that insists on a petticoat to match each costume, and of equal pretensions to style so that its harmonious blending may delight the critical eye when the dress skirt is daintily uplifted over muddy streets, is plunging all beruffled femininity into woeful expenditure, simply because the perplexing edict is met with the purse and not with the brain.

Women, as a multitude, are not intentionally extravagant, but the dress accumulations of the season generally end in the proverbial rag-bag after their time of usefulness is spent; yet deft fingers and a little ingenuity could evolve many dainty articles of apparel from figurative "scraps" and the despised remnant, did they possess the cunning.

Diversity in petticoats is more than one of fashion's essentials, for it is merely conforming to hygienic principles and the unwritten laws of cleanliness as to personal linen; but beyond some half-dozen selections in all, embracing the cambric ones of the summer-time and taffeta or practical sateen or moreen for winter's rigorous demands, the average woman cannot afford to acquire more, and one silk skirt generally has to suffice for "best" wear, no matter what the colouring of the gown it accompanies.

In wearing a petticoat, it is always the flounce which first exhibits the telling ravages of time, especially in the taffeta models. Then there is a natural dissolution at the seams next, where the silk stitching cuts through. If the petticoat be a dainty white one, which luxury is a prevailing midwinter as well as mid-summer style, associated with the cloth or velvet costume, it is the flounce, with its perishable embellishments of foamy lace and



EMBROIDERED FLOUNCE.

sheer transparencies of embroidery, which soils first, while the main body of the skirt is sufficiently fresh to stand repeated wearings.

Aside from the economy of equipping one petticoat with removable flounces that may be worn or discarded at will, and its practical argument, one can thus, at a purely nominal outlay, secure seemingly a distinctive, separate petticoat for every gown, and the accompanying illustrations show the intention of the skirt, in detail, with the overlap that conceals the attachment, which is made with buttons and buttonholes.

A discarded silk petticoat of a past twelvemonth, in any fair state of preservation, may, by a few minutes' application, be transformed into a garment of actual beauty that successfully vies with the bewildering creations of the shops, and the gratifying results more than reward one for the outlay of time and patience.

In remodelling a much-worn silk skirt, attention must be paid to the condition of the gores and the seams, for if the latter are worn and frayed, as generally is the case with the "ready-made" variety, do not make the mistake of ripping them, but cut along the seam with a sharp pair of scissors, closely following the edge of the stitching. Freshen the material by sponging with warm water, into which a few drops of ammonia water have been mixed, and press between newspapers, being careful not to allow the hot iron to come in contact with the silk, as it will destroy its natural qualities and body. Baste the gores in exact position, tape all seams, and stitch with cotton thread of the same colour. Silk thread should never be employed as a stitching for seams in silk, as it pierces the fabric and breaks the weave, where the cotton holds it securely. Finish the top with a casing run through with tape, and at the lower edge, which should be cut off in an even line below the knees, allowing for the depth of the flounce, sew on a fly provided with buttons, and complete the bottom of the petticoat with a hem that conceals it.

The foundation being in readiness, the subject of appropriate flounces must be considered, and the same treatment accorded the remodelling of a silk petticoat should be directed to those in sateen, or other material that requires refreshening. In white skirts, the upper portion is usually entire; if not, it would be a waste of labour to attempt to mend it for this purpose.

New goods throughout may be used, and if one is not limited in expense, this is per-



THE COMPLETED PETTICOAT.

haps the more commendable plan, as it insures a petticoat that will be in perfect condition for a stated period, at least. If the cost of a silk top is impossible, there are many pretty "near silk" substitutes available, at minimum prices, and if warmth and comfort enter into the requirements, French flannel or cashmere are recommended for their protective qualities, the latter textile being a favourite for the most charming underskirts, which allow a free indulgence of ribbons and lace. These woollens are much superior to the bulky, heavier goods formerly considered so necessary to health; and jersey tops or knitted designs may be employed also, as this portion is simply the invisible "body" of the petticoat, from which the graceful, elaborate, or plain flounce-appendages depend.

In these accessories, one is allowed unlimited latitude in the display of individual taste and originality, and a prodigal use of fancy



THE FOUNDATION.

stitches, French knots, lace braid or baby ribbon applied in the inimitable true-lovers' knot, so characteristic of the Watteau period, or any favourite embellishment may be summoned into requisition, and the result is more than gratifying.

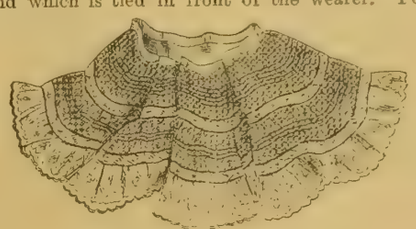
Colours that will not fade or readily show the dirt should be selected for the flounces of petticoats intended for practical street wear with sensible walking skirts; a wise suggestion is to select a plaid in one of the subdued Tartan patterns, or the familiar checked silks. Ruchings, tucks, cording, narrow ruffles, accordion-pleatings; these are many of the conceits that are alternated with baby velvet ribbon for the decorative device. There is more latitude permitted in flounces that are to be devoted to dress purposes, or the diaphanous summer frock or evening gown.

A pretty variation is the incomparable broderie Anglaise or English eyelet embroidery, according to its more familiar cognomen, and in deep flouncing, with a band of beading in a similar pattern employed as a finish at the top (and incidentally to cover the band underneath on which the buttonholes are worked for fastening the flounce to the skirt), it makes a beautiful adjunct for the white petticoat. Washing ribbons may be threaded through the openwork of the beading, and knotted in a graceful bow or rosette at the left side. An original conception would be in Persian lawn tucking applied in oval-shaped medallions on washable Brussels net, and frills of German Valenciennes lace would afford a fluffy decoration. Since the main object is bouffancy and the securing of an effective, pretty distention for the lower edge of the dress skirt, numerous artifices are resorted to for this result, one ingenious method of producing the needed fulness being obtained with ruchings of crinkled satin ribbon, applied in innumerable rows, and alternated with lace *entre deux*.

Lace bowknots introduced on a taffeta flounce in one of the pale evening tints—blush pink, baby blue, or hyacinth—infuses a Frenchy suggestion, that is modified to the proper degree by fringed ruchings applied in a fantastic circular design, the centre of which contains the lace motif. One idea of originating fanciful designs for thus perpetuating the flounce in silk and lace readily follows another, and their elaboration and inception will afford much entertainment for idle hours.

Jewellery for Girls.

The newest necklace for young girls is of seed pearls, the tiny strands being twisted together into a rope in a fashion that was popular many years ago. For older women, there has been revived the seed pearl rope, ending in tassels, and which is tied in front of the wearer. For



NET AND LACE FLOUNCE.

the young girls, however, this fashion is too elaborate. The seed pearl rope, which may be either quite heavy or very slender, is made into a short chain, which is worn without a pendant. Strands of tiny crystal beads are also twisted into these same slender ropes, as are also small pink or white coral beads. These must be very tiny, however, to be attractive, as otherwise a rope made of several strands would be too clumsy and conspicuous.

Gold beads are no longer very fashionable, but the single strands of pink, red or white coral, rather small turquoise beads, jade, lapis lazuli, and the pale green Amazon stone are very fashionable still, although they have been worn some time. Less becoming than these to most girls, but exceedingly popular and newer, are the strands of amber beads, in all sizes and many different shades. These may be considered the most fashionable necklaces for young girls just at present, after the seed pearls.

Fine gold charms are worn with pendants, and, as in the case of jewellery of all sorts just at present, the most fashionable styles are those which imitate the antique. Happy the girl who possesses a fine old-fashioned gold chain which was made by hand in the days when the goldsmith's work was a more finished art than it is to-day. These chains may be worn rather short, with small pendants. The pendants are frequently made over from old-fashioned earrings or small old-fashioned brooches. Little pieces of fine goldsmith's work, set with coral, small pearls or turquoises, are charming for this purpose. Small crosses in the semi-precious stones, and hearts in rose quartz, moonstone, jade, etc., are also popular. Gold tassels, old-fashioned trinkets or the imitations of these when finely made, are also very charming for pendants.

This completes the list of the young girl's permissible trinkets. Even such trinkets should be worn only when they are necessary to finish the costume. Bracelets are not becoming to a young girl, earrings are quite impossible, and the fewer rings, pins and chains she wears the better.

ROUND-ABOUT NOTES.

According to Consul J. C. Covert, of Lyon, the uses of soie de chardonnet, or artificial silk, are increasing. He states that several manufacturers in and around Lyon, are employing it in the manufacture of light goods for summer wear, and one company states that the exports to England, Belgium, and the United States, are holding their own, and in some countries are marked by an important augmentation. It is being used in some factories in combination with the natural silk. In mousseline de soie the warp is made of natural silk, and the woof of chardonnet. In some houses a thread of chardonnet and a thread of natural silk are passed alternately on two different shuttles.

* * *

A great difficulty that the manufacturers of goods from artificial silk have had to contend with, is that the stuff could not stand exposure to dampness or the least rain. I am told that in blending the artificial with the natural article, this difficulty is very largely overcome. It is also said that by combining a thread of chardonnet with a thread of natural silk, the former adds a very desirable brilliancy to the finished material, which adds to its value as used in laces, passementerie, mousselines, ribbons, gauzes and anything used in trimmings.

* * *

It is a great thing to possess the "saving grace" of humour. It lifts one so easily over the rough places in life. The unconscious humour of children, always appeals to me irresistibly, and I often think that an amusing handbook of jokes, might easily be compiled from the humorous sayings of the little ones. The little daughter of a friend of mine, has the habit of eating out the soft part of her bread and tucking the crust under the edge of her plate. The other evening she was detected in this, and her mother said: "Edith, how often have I told you about leaving your crusts? There may be a day you will be glad to get them." "Yes, mamma," replied Edith promptly, "that's what I'm savin' 'em for."

* * *

The birthstone suitable for those born between June 21 and July 22, say those who claim to know, is the diamond; others equally adept give the ruby, with the water lily as the flower. However one may regard the subject, it seems fitting that each individual should select as her favourite, some special gem, flower and perfume. It may be the lily, the rose, the violet, and the turquoise, the cornelian, the amethyst, or the opal. The latter, by the way is no longer considered to be the omen of ill-luck. English royalty has so declared, hence in Britain, it is once more the fashion.

* * *

Summer is the time to buy winter furs, because prices for furs are greatly reduced during the summer season. Never has there been so great a demand for fur garments as during the five past seasons, and as a result, prices in all departments of furs have gone up by leaps and bounds. It will astonish most of our readers, writes Agnes Laut, in a recent number of the "World's Work," to be told that on the American side of the Canada line, the volume of the fur trade is the largest ever known in the United States—greater than in the days when the buffalo and beaver had the whole continent as a stamping-ground. Buffalo as a fur yielder has been exterminated. Beaver in most of the States, is practically extinct. Sea otter, from yielding 100,000 pelts a year, now gives at the most, only 400, at the least 200, for the trade; and the fur seal is on the way to extermination, falling from 100,000 a year, to 10,000 and 11,000. But other furs have taken their place. There is more money going to trappers to-day for skunk and muskrat and fox, than was ever made out of beaver and sea otter and seal and the rare furs. The swamps of New Jersey and Delaware alone yield millions of muskrats a year.

* * *

In spite of the scientific progression of the twentieth century, it sometimes seems as if superstition is as rampant as in mediæval times. Charms, medals impregnated with virtue by ecclesiastical benediction, and so-called electric and galvanic belts, pads, rings, brushes and other appliances are sold by thousands, and patent panaceas, compounded of drugs brought from strange lands, or discovered in some unusual way, are brought and used by millions of credulous and afflicted persons in all parts of the world.

* * *

"Beauty as a means of health" was the subject of a lecture recently delivered to a Working Girls' Club by Doctor Louise Bryson. The doctor affirmed that systematic efforts to be beautiful will secure a fair degree of health. Proper breathing was the first thing to cultivate. The chest should be enlarged by full, deep breathing, and not by muscular action from without. "Inflate the lungs upward and outward," she said, "as if the inflation were about to lift the body from the ground. Hold the shoulders on the line with the hips, and stand so that the lips, chest, and toes come upon one line, the feet being turned out at an angle of 60 degrees." Tight shoes were condemned as impeding the circulation, and producing a bad complexion. The skin should be cared for by bathing, and the expression by preferring the higher thoughts to the lower. A good circulation is gained by proper pose and breathing and the care of the skin, and good blood by sunshine and open-air exercise, as well as by indoor work. Dr. Bryson sums up her gospel as follows:—Moderation in eating and drinking, short hours of labour and study, regularity in exercise, relaxation, and rest, cleanliness, equanimity of temper, and equability of temperature. "To be as good-looking as possible, and to be physically well, one must in general be happy."

"PEPITA."

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THE MARK LANE EXPRESS SUPPLEMENT FOR THE HOME

Conducted by "PEPITA"

THE NEWEST FASHIONS.

Shantung and pongee dresses are very much in evidence this year. The different grades and kinds of pongee—for rajah, Burmah and a number of other such weaves can be classed with pongee suitings—are all used for a great variety of purposes, from the simplest shirt blouse walking dress to the most elaborate afternoon gown of some light colour handsomely and expensively embroidered. For out of town wear, pongee is seen in attractive coat and skirt costumes in white, pale blue, mauve, pink, green, and in all the delicate shades so peculiarly appropriate to this time of year, while for the town three piece costumes are the most numerous, and these are seen in all shades, from black to palest pink or blue, depending upon the exact use to which the gown is to be put. A three piece pongee costume is an excellent possession. The dress may be made without any lining at all if such a style is becoming to the figure, and if not it may have a light lawn lining cut low at the neck and left out of the sleeves altogether, for a heavy sleeve is one of the most uncomfortable parts of a dress in warm weather. Then a reefer or bolero jacket for this dress will make it possible to do away with a cloth costume, even for travelling, when a jacket of some sort is sure to be necessary, but the lighter it is the better.

* * *

In the three piece costumes there are a great variety of models from which to select this year. Some are made on noticeably severe lines, with just a little lace at the neck and sleeves of the bodice, while one or two bias folds are considered all sufficient trimming for the skirt. The jacket is also decidedly simple finished off with an inconspicuous design in soutache braid and a soft silk tie at the neck. The long pongee coats have bands of embroidery or plain silk, with a touch of lace at the collar and cuffs. Pretty lingerie and lace collars and cuffs, however, are seldom seen this spring, although the fashion is such an exceedingly pretty one. Upon the simple costumes there can be expended very nearly as much time and money as the elaborate dress calls for, and as the simpler a model the more perfect it must be in detail, one can rarely save anything in the price of the costume, but there is always the consciousness of the innate worth of the gown, which is sure to be an unspeakable solace to any one who can afford to have expensive gowns, and to whom only severe lines and apparently simple designs are becoming.

* * * *

There is no material which so quickly shows good results from just a little embroidery as does pongee, and this year there is more handwork of this kind to be seen on the rajah and pongee dresses than on any of the other silk fabrics. Almost all the embroidery is placed upon the bodice and jacket, for trimmed skirts, while always to a certain extent fashionable, are certainly not obligatory in this year's fashions, and after all it does seem wiser to have the greater part of the trimming where it is going to show up to the best advantage, and assuredly this is not about the end of a skirt. Bands of embroidery sometimes worked upon another material, as silk or satin, instead of upon the pongee itself, are seen more than the embroidery direct upon the material, and to a certain extent this is the same on the coats, although the bolero embroidered all over in different tones of silk is far too effective to be considered out of fashion. The new style of bodice, with bodice and sleeve in one, formed by a wide surplice of silk or of the material itself bordered with silk, gives an excellent opportunity for an effective display of embroidery, and these flat bands of silk are also generally laid upon other parts of the bodice and sleeve.



A PRETTY WALKING GOWN.
Paper Pattern 1/6½ Post free.

Long coats of pongee are most of them quite loose and have considerable trimming of lace, embroidery and bands of silk. Over a reception gown of light-coloured pongee a long, loose wrap of the same shade and material not only saves the gown tremendously but makes an infinitely handsomer style of costume than when the dress has to depend upon itself alone.

* * *

Black and white and grey and white stripes are worn just now in various kinds of materials. The pretty walking gown in the illustration is made in woollen material of light weight and fine quality. In this case the stripes are light blue on a cream-coloured ground. The smart coatee is finished off with strapped bands and dark blue velvet ribbon.

o

Neatly Dressed.

There is an exquisite charm about a neatly-dressed woman. She does not wear her hair loose, as if it is just about to fall on her shoulders. Her gloves are not ripped at the seams, nor are any buttons missing from her boots. Her veil does not reveal a hole over her chin, nor does the binding of her skirt show ragged in places. Not many women show their tidiness in these details, but the well-groomed woman considers that neglect in those little things is full of shame to womankind. Note the well-dressed tailor-built woman. Her cloth gown fits her without a crease, and there is neither speck nor spot on it. Her linen collar and cuffs are snowy white, and remain properly fixed in their places. Her gloves do not wrinkle, but button smoothly over her wrists, her shoes are dainty and polished. Her bonnet or hat is pinned on straight, and her hair is neatness itself. She is the picture of delicate finish and wholesome order. Would that we could come across her somewhat oftener!

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Three Thousand Year Old Bank Note.

The oldest bank notes in the world are the "flying money," or convenient money, first issued in China in 2897 B.C. One writer tells that the ancient Chinese bank notes were in many respects similar to those of the present day, bearing the name of the bank, the date of issue, the number of the note, the signature of the official who issued it, and its value in both figures and words. On the top of these curious notes was the following philosophic injunction:—"Produce all you can: spend with economy." The note was printed in blue ink on paper made from the fibre of the mulberry tree. One of these notes, bearing the date 1390 B.C., is still preserved in the Asiatic Museum at St. Petersburg.

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Removing Stains.

Coffee.—Lay the stained portion of the the cloth over a bowl and pour boiling water through it.

Fruit.—Boiling water as above: if ineffectual, rub with a solution of oxalic acid, and rinse in warm water.

Ink.—Dip in boiling water, rub with salts of sorrel, and rinse well.

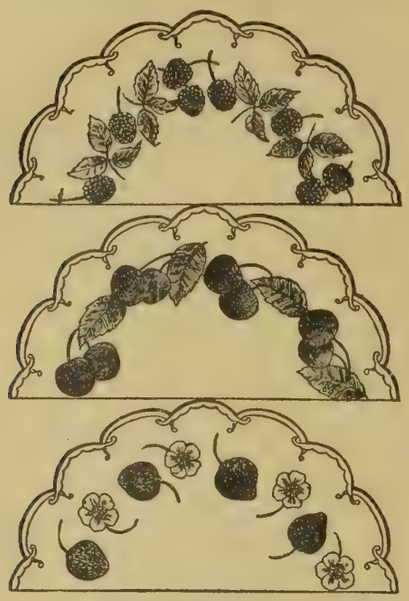
Blood.—Soak in cold water. For ticking and thick goods, make a thick paste of starch water; leave till dry, and brush off.

Scorch.—Dip in soapsuds and lay in sun; if fibres are not much injured, dip repeatedly in saturated solution of borax, and rinse.

Mildew.—Wet with soapsuds and lay in sun; spread with a paste of soap and powdered chalk and sun it; soak in buttermilk, and sun.

ARTISTIC EMBROIDERY.

The demand for artistic embroidery designs has led us to present this week a collection of special drawings, and we will give a description of colouring and working for each, as well as some useful hints in the art of embroidery.



DESIGNS FOR DOYLEYS.

The designs for fruit doilies are unique, and most appropriate for use under the finger glasses which should appear with the dessert, laid upon a fruit plate.

The great variety of shades of silk admits of very artistic work, and with care and a little exercise of good taste, embroidery can be made as attractive as other branches of art. The drawings are shaded to guide in a way the use of the different shades of silk. For strawberries, one needs at least three shades of red for successful shading, and they should be so grouped as to give a roundness to the berry, much as the light strikes objects, giving them light on one side or point, and shadow on the opposite. Many use a too brilliant yellow for the seeds of the strawberry, which are more of a straw colour, and should not be so prominent as the bright yellow makes them. Use a cool green for the stems and leaves, and do not attempt to vein the foliage.

The blackberries can be worked in knots, if one desires, but the flat work will be more beautiful, provided the needlewoman will use judgment in the colours. The necessary deep purples are obtainable in most silks.

Remember that all berries are not ripe, and it will be well to work a few sections of some of them in deep red and straw colour. This will give variety in colouring, and look less like the work of an amateur than working the berries all alike. It is a great mistake to stint your silk, as often it is most necessary, as in the case of the blackberry, to work the silk through on the back about as it is on the front of the work. This will have a tendency to raise the work a bit from the linen. Use three shades of cool green for the stems and foliage.

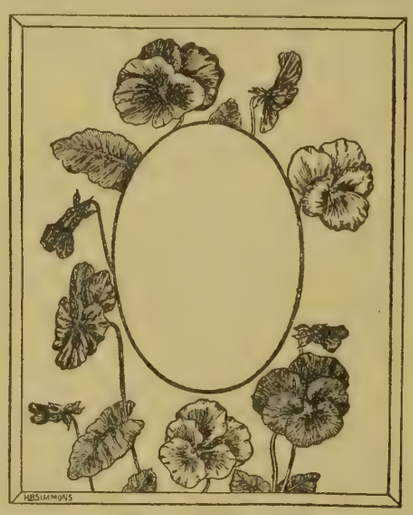
The cherry doily will be very brilliant if one is careful to select the rich, deep tones of the blackheart, or again the whiteheart cherries, which are in the yellows, with a red cheek, will be pleasing. Work the stems in the same greens as the other doilies. The borders of these doilies should be in cream white or a very pale shade of yellow. A very delicate green will also harmonise with the fruit.

The pansy picture frame is a most suitable gift, as all know that the sentiment of this flower is "thought." These beautiful flowers grow in such a great variety of colours that one cannot make a mistake in the working of the shades. We should advise working them in yellow, and violet shades, or they may be pink and yellow, or pink and violet.

A very satisfactory way is, to secure the natural flowers and match the shades to them, following as closely as possible their shading, when working. That is what one would do in paint, and there is no reason why it should not be done in embroidery. Think of your work as a piece of colour instead of a piece of needlework.

The poppy set consists of a small centrepiece and a frame. This popular flower grows in different colours, and may be either yellow, pink, or red. The brilliant red variety is very effective, and there are many rooms furnished in red at present. You shoud consult, in a way, the taste and surroundings of the persons to whom you intend making a gift, before working it. These frames sell well in shops, and can be so neatly made that they do not look in the least like home work, but quite professional.

There are forms sold at the shops all ready for covering with the linen. These are nine and three-quarters and seven and three-quarters in size. Dainty corners are supplied which slip over the back and glass, holding them



PHOTOGRAPH FRAME.

firmly together. Another very popular way of making the frames is in passe-partout style, which can be done at home as follows:—Cut two pieces of quite heavy pasteboard seven and three-quarters by nine and three-quarters inches in size. Out of one piece cut an oval the proper size to show a picture, then ask your glazier to cut a piece of clear white glass the same size as the pasteboards. It will perhaps be well to have the glass cut first, and conform the pasteboards to it. Next cut a slit in the back piece of pasteboard, to enable one to slip the picture into position.

This slit should be about three-fourths of an inch from the bottom of the frame. Now cut some strips of nice white paper the length of the frame and about one and one half inches in width, and bind the edges neatly with the strips, gluing them well. Start with the glass front first, laying the strips of paper evenly on the glass, as the front of the frame must show the same width of binding all round, then draw it over the back.

The poppies should be worked in at least three shades of colour, and the foliage should be worked in very cool greens. Poppy leaves have almost no yellow in them. Use the long and short stitch almost invariably for petals and leaves of flowers.

The border of the centrepiece should be in cream white or very pale green. One should be most careful to have a set of hasps tight enough to keep the linen from slipping during work. This is a very necessary adjunct to good work.

Everyone knows that embroidery must be carefully washed with the purest soap. Do not wring the embroidered linen to dry it, but lay it in a towel, and pull it into shape as you dry it with the towel. Never press the linen on the right side, but on the wrong; and this must be covered with a piece of clean white cloth before applying the iron, which should only be heated to a moderate temperature.

As a rule, filo is used for embroidery, as it gives a smoother effect than heavier silk. Embroidery is now running into large artistic pieces. The centrepieces are made twenty-four inches in diameter very often, and some thirty-three inches. We advise the study of flowers during the season, as one should be familiar with the flower she is embroidering to make it appear natural when finished.

This will serve as a pleasant pastime as well.

Borders are invariably finished with a buttonhole stitch on the edge, to prevent raveling, as almost all borders are irregular and require cutting out.

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Polishing Furniture.

It is a comparatively easy task to restore the mirror-like surface of old furniture and that of its metal trimmings if one has the proper materials. These are a bottle of the polish used in piano manufacturies for the wood, a brightener for the brass, some scouring material for the steel, and a half-dozen pieces of cloth. Soft old silk or cashmere are best, but cheese cloth will do.

The piano polish may be prepared by anyone. The formula given here was obtained from a dealer in old violins, and is the same as that used in piano warehouses, and will not injure the wood, but will rather preserve and beautify it. In a clean bottle put eight teaspoonsful of sweet oil, the same quantity of spirits of turpentine, two teaspoonsful of lemon juice, twenty drops of household ammonia, and a few drops of the oil of cloves to overcome the smell of the turpentine. Shake the mixture actively until the oil is cut, and always shake well before using.

Have the furniture to be polished free of dust. Apply with a bit of cloth; then with cloth No. 2 wipe away the extra polish, and with cloth No. 3 rub the surface briskly, when it will shine like a mirror.

When the wood is clean, the brass handles, railing, or other finishings will clamour for a going over. A teaspoonful of salt dissolved in two teaspoonsful of vinegar, applied with a cloth to the brasses, will remove verdigris and stains; a little whiting or silver polish briskly rubbed on will restore to brightness. If the trimmings are those known as gilt brasses, do not use the salt and vinegar, but use carefully silver polish only. Nickel trimmings may be brightened with silver polish.

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To clean decanters. Put a spoonful of salt in the decanter, moisten with vinegar, shake well, and rinse.

To clean plate-glass. A soft cloth wet in alcohol, is excellent to clean French plate-glass and mirrors.



CENTREPIECE AND PHOTOGRAPH FRAME.

THE COLLECTOR'S GUIDE.

Bow China.

(Figures.)

By H. W. Lewer.

"There were some clever men who modelled for the Bow concern, and they produced several spirited figures."—"Nollekens and his times."

The earliest porcelain factory in this country is ascribed to Bow, which dates back to 1741, if not earlier. The works, although named Bow, were in the parish of Stratford Langthorne, Essex, not in Bow, which is on the opposite side of the River Lea. The exact site of the factory was discovered in 1867, when excavations were being carried on, quantities of broken moulds and fragments of china being unearthed. These fragments have been of great service in assisting in the identification of many doubtful pieces of Bow china. Another name for the factory was "New Canton," as it was supposed to have been built from a model of a Canton factory, but this requires verification.

It is not known who were the first proprietors, but Edward Heylin, a merchant of Stratford-le-Bow, and Thomas Frye, a painter of West Ham, in Essex, had some interest in it; this information being gleaned from the patents taken out by them in 1744. Nothing definite is known as to the ownership till 1750, when Messrs. Weatherby & Crowther entered into partnership, and appointed Frye as manager of the works. Frye's individuality seems to have been lost or merged, as only a few pieces bear his initials, T. F., and even these have been disputed by some collectors. Heylin we hear of no more, except in the account books, where small amounts were occasionally entered up to him till 1758. From this date till the close of 1776 the factory had a chequered career. In the latter year the plant and moulds were sold to William Duesbury, the proprietor of the Derby China Works.

It is not necessary here to enter into the merits of the so-called artificial or soft paste porcelain and that of the true or hard paste china. The former was the pride of Bow, Chelsea, Derby, Worcester and others, and to the collector of English china its value has been as much appreciated as well as its praises have been sung. The true porcelain of the Oriental factories, and its imitators at Bristol and Plymouth, have indeed their merit, but cannot surpass the softness of tone, the brightness and adaptability of receiving the rich enamel colours which we notice in the paste of the artificial porcelain—forming its greatest charm and excellence.

The production of Bow china included the making of figures, and the fine modelling and colouring of these figures and statuettes have contributed to the difficulty of attempting to identify many pieces of Bow and Chelsea. The well-known figure of the actress, Kitty Clive, as the "Fine Lady in Lethe," was for many years attributed to Chelsea, but is now claimed as the production of Bow, is a case in point. Research work, the discovery of the moulds and fragments of porcelain in 1867, the business books of a John Bowcock, who was employed in the factory, having come to light by the assistance of Lady Charlotte Schreiber in 1869, have helped to a better knowledge of the fabrique that was produced at Bow. Although in the notices of the sale of Bow china no mention is made of "Figures" being for disposal till that inserted in the "Public Advertiser" of April 15th, 1757, yet there is every reason to believe that figures and groups were made from the commencement. The difference in the modelling of the early figures and the later productions is so marked that at least some period of time must have elapsed. It was a question of time and development which led to the finished figure of later date, rivalling in its excellence many of the best pieces of Chelsea.

The most conclusive proof as to the early making of these figures is an advertisement which was inserted in "Arrs's Birmingham Gazette" for November 5th, 1753, by the proprietors of the Bow factory, where it states "a person is wanted who can model small figures in clay neatly."

The first production of ware at Bow was in the white, and the early figures, groups, and statuettes were in the white, being followed by more ornate work. This is an exact parallel to that of Chelsea. These early figures were small not more than a few inches in height crude in execution, and the base on which they stood being little more than a lump of clay, square or round, so as to form a solid flat stand. Later, the figures were larger, reaching a height of a foot or eighteen inches, with rococo bases. It is interesting to note that the stand or base of many of the *later* Bow figures has a "hall-mark" of its own, which enables the collector to distinguish it at once from a Chelsea figure. The base has a heavier appearance, and is not so well modelled; it also shows signs of having what has been called "little feet" where the scrolls are carried down at the corners. Another distinction is the colouring of the *later* Bow figures. The three favourite pigments being a sealing-wax red, a brownish-red, and a blue of a cold, pale tint; and the dresses of the figures often have crimson or canary colour, with gold foliage. The effect of the rich enamel colours never appear to have been obtained at Bow as was



A BOW FIGURE.

the case at Chelsea, although both copied from each other, and both were inspired by the work of Continental factories.

Another little difference has been noticed by Mr. Burton, who records in his "English Porcelain" that Bow figures have "a little dab of red" in the middle of the cheek, while at Chelsea this "little dab of red has been softened off and stippled down to the white with the greatest care and nicety."

The figures produced at Bow included classical subjects, actors and actresses in their favourite characters, animals, birds, such subjects as a fiddler, sportsman, harlequin, Dutch dancer, Pierrot or clown, and toys of all sorts. Some of the small figures and groups had a square hole at the back of the base. These were utilised for the insertion of a metal stem to support nozzles for candles.

The factory at Bow had a short period of existence, but considering the little knowledge the pioneers had of the art of making porcelain we cannot but look with wonderment at the proficiency gained in a few years. Was it the work of our own countrymen, or were they assisted and inspired by workmen and artists who drifted to this country from Continental works On this point history is silent.

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To test nutmegs. Prick them with a pin, and if they are good, the oil will instantly spread around the puncture.

Domestic Pets.

Canaries.

By "Alba."

Song.—The "Hartz" canary is the singing bird *par excellence*, and, according to their mode of singing, the birds are divided into different classes. As much care seems to be taken in the training of canaries in Germany as in the case of a prima donna. The young birds, learning by imitation, sometimes acquire bad singing methods, and much time is devoted to breaking them of bad habits or correcting faults. The art of the breeder lies in his being able to discover the slumbering talent in the bird at an early age, and developing it to its highest pitch of perfection in its particular line.

For the information of amateurs Dr. Karl Russ, in his exhaustive book on "Canary Birds," gives a list of the technical terms current among breeders and connoisseurs for the indication of the separate melodies, and enumerates the inferior and finer turns which distinguish the pitiful screeching of the untrained songster from the masterly melody of the "noble" bird; but those who can appreciate the varieties of rolls, trills, glucks, and gurgles are few, and we need only record his opinion that, "as regards delicacy of the voice and a noble tone, the most proficient 'gurgirg-bird,' or a fine 'hollow-rolling' canary, surpasses every other songster of the air." Some birds show an especial talent for trilling, while others are remarkable for the beauty and variety of their "gurgles." They are divided into classes, and kept in separate rooms under proficient "teachers." Dr. Russ goes very minutely into the education or training of young birds by means of "models," and the means employed in the shape of singing cupboards or boxes and darkened cages, and those interested in the finer points of canary singing would do well to study this exhaustive work, which also deals with the training of nocturnal singers, speaking canaries, free-flying canaries, etc.

In a general way all noisy or chirping birds should be banished. Canaries, being of the finch order, are naturally prone to chirp like sparrows, and birds brought up within hearing of the "feathered rat" get into bad habits of imitating them. Bad habits seem as easily acquired by canaries as by bipeds, and where the old bird employed as a teacher for young ones is not an excellent singer the young learn nothing, but rather corrupt the old bird.

A darkened cage of small dimensions placed within hearing of a first-class songster, but out of sight, is the best method of education. Birds which are hung immediately below one another will mostly sing exactly alike.

The size of the cage influences singing, and, strangely enough, a narrow prison is most productive of music.

On the face of it there may appear a good deal of cruelty in confining the bird in such a narrow space, so that the bird cannot see others of his tribe, nor be deterred from "studying" by any absorbing influence, and many think there is, but Dr. Russ says that "a closer observance of the bird will show that the vocal artist is very comfortable, and devotes himself contentedly, nay, enthusiastically, to the perfecting of his song; in an uncovered cage, on the contrary, the young bird will often become a vociferous screamer instead of a delicate singer, and this will be particularly the case where many young birds are kept together." Canaries which warble popular airs are the latest novelty. The birds are taught by the aid of a musical box, which is made to repeat the same air day after day. Some trainers use a flute instead of the musical box, maintaining that birds so trained have a richer contralto note. At first the canary only listens, but after a few days it picks up the notes one or two at a time, and finally renders the tune perfectly.

As already stated, it by no means follows that the possessor of perfect points is also a good singer, and taste or fancy generally influences the choice between the two, while to the average canary keeper the bird is simply a pet on which a good deal of affection is centred, and feeding and management best calculated to preserve health are of more importance than show points and musical education or niceties of note.

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To keep cheese, wrap it in a clean, fresh cloth that has been wetted in vinegar and then wrung out as dry as possible; wrap it in a paper bag and put in a dry place. If prepared in this manner the cheese will not dry out or mould for a long time.

ROUND-ABOUT NOTES.

Here are two motor stories which, if not true, are at any rate *ben trovato*. A highwayman held up a motor car on the outskirts of Rome with a shot in the air. Then he ran forth from the tomb that had concealed him—the hold-up happened on the Appian Way—and found, to his surprise, only a woman in the little car. "Where, madam, is your husband?" he demanded sternly and suspiciously. "He's under the seat," she answered, flushing. "Then," said the highwayman, "I won't take anything. It's bad enough to have a husband like that without being robbed into the bargain." A stranger in London, was crossing a crowded street when he saw a big motor bearing down on him. He tried to get out of the way, by stepping to one side, but cars and carriages made the motor swerve towards him. He tried again, but once more it came for him. Finally he gave one last desperate effort and dived on the sidewalk, landing on his neck. The motor car sped on down the street, and the man slowly arose and brushed his clothes. When he had caught his breath again, he turned to a man near by and said: "It would seem that you have but two kinds of people in London." "What kinds do you refer to?" asked the other. "Why, the quick and the dead," was the man's reply. "A person has to be one or the other."

* * *

That a letter should have travelled more than one hundred miles in an hour long before railroads were built seems surprising. But the fact is chronicled, and has been told with a good deal of appreciation for the man who was clever enough to accomplish the feat without the aid of steam, electricity, automobiles or balloons. More than a century ago, two noblemen made a wager, one that he could arrange to have a letter travel one hundred miles in sixty minutes and the other that he could not. This is how he managed it, and won a handsome wager, the exact amount of which history has not recorded. He put his trust in twenty expert cricketers, whom he stationed at certain distances apart, to form a circle of one thousand yards circumference. Then he had the letter enclosed in a cricket ball, and the ball began its quick journey from one player to another around the circle, until it has passed a given man more than six hundred times. To be exact, the letter covered a distance of 120 miles inside of an hour.

* * *

Strangely enough, it is in America—the land of matter-of-fact commercial enterprise—where fads reign supreme, and one occasionally finds in the United States, as well as in secluded nooks of the Old World, regions in which superstitious medical practices, handed down from father to son for no one knows how many hundreds of years, not only survive, but also show an astonishing degree of vitality. Such a region, writes Dr. John Hawkins, in the "Popular Science Monthly," occurs in the central part of South Carolina. If the practice of the South Carolina "users" of the present day could be witnessed by Egyptian physicians of four thousand years ago, by Druid priests from the Gaul described by Caesar, and by American Indian medicine men from the time of Columbus, it would no doubt appear to all of them a perfectly natural and philosophical method of treatment, however unintelligible the language of the formulae might be.

* * *

There is everything in the angle of the hat. You can put your hat on to look rakish or to make you look sedate and stiff; you can wear it at an angle which deprives it of every bit of smartness with which the milliner originally endowed it, or you can perch it where it will impart a dash and youthfulness to your whole appearance, and you can tilt the brim so that years are added to your real age, and you will look as commonplace as though you never gave a thought to the impression your costume produces. In short, the hat can make or mar the *tout ensemble* of your toilet, and all by the way it is worn. Therefore if a woman has any desire to look her best and smartest (and who of them does not?), she considers the hat question one of paramount importance.

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Some women are helpless about knowing the best way to secure a hat on the head. They complain that no matter how many pins they use the hat will slip to one side or over the face, any way but the way it should go, and though they start out on a shopping tour or to make visits with every angle right and every ribbon bow or quill or flower in the position it ought to occupy, they are horrified a little later to find that they present a ludicrous and ridiculous appearance on account of a queer tilt their hat has assumed, and of which they have been wholly unaware until suddenly brought face to face with their mirrored reflection. This is no uncommon experience of the gentler sex, and it is one each, and all, would gladly forego. There is a way to keep the hat straight on the head, or anchored at the proper angle with a single hatpin. That is by thrusting the pin in from the middle of the back to the front on a straight line. If the pin is put in securely, it will prevent any tilting of the hat, and will keep it from sliding in any direction. To keep it doubly secure, however, in case of sudden gusts of wind or jostling in a crowd, it is wise to fortify the hat with a second pin struck through from one side to the other. When fastened on in this manner, it is absolutely impossible for a hat to get awry.

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To the plain woman who is a wife her want of beauty is sometimes a grief. She fancies she might have secured a more perfect allegiance if she had been like some more fortunate woman, dowered with beauty. She does not realise that the women who are most ardently and lastingly loved by men are seldom very beautiful women. Prettiness wins admiration; something much deeper and more suitable inspires and retains affection. No woman need be ugly. If there is a soul in her body it has but to begin betimes to show through. From her earliest girlhood the thought she thinks, the feelings to which she gives way, the tones she utters, the wishes she indulges, are sculpturing lines in her face, that are capable of making a beauty all her own—lines whose writing will remain when bloom fades and sparkle fails.

"PEPITA."

Home Hints for Warm Weather.

AROMATIC VINEGAR.—Dissolve 1 oz. of camphor in 1 lb. of the strongest acetic acid, and add 1 oz. of oil of cloves, 1 oz. of oil of lemon, and 1 oz. of oil of lavender.

MEAT, when slightly tainted, can be rendered safe, and the taint can be removed, by the use of common charcoal. Cover for a few hours, or put a few pieces of charcoal into the water in which it is boiled.

ECONOMICAL GINGER BEER.—1 lb. of cream of tartar, 1 oz. of sliced ginger, 2 lbs. of lump sugar. Put all together, pour on 2 gallons of boiling water. Let it stand for 6 hours, then add 2 spoonsful of yeast, and allow to stand for 6 hours more. At the end of that time, strain through a fine sieve, put into stone bottles, tie down the corks, and in 24 hours it will be ready for use.

COOLING DRAUGHTS.—Six drachms of carbonate of soda, 1 drachm of finely-powdered ginger, 1½ oz. of loaf sugar. Rub these well together, with 10 drops of essence of lemon, and divide the whole into 12 blue papers. Then divide ½ oz. of citric (not tartaric) acid, into 12 equal portions, to be folded in white papers. Keep in a dry place. For use, dissolve the large powder (blue paper) in ⅔ of a tumblerful of water, and when perfectly dissolved, add the acid. Stir smartly, and drink during the effervescence.

NICE LEMONADE, is made by adding the juice of 3 large lemons to a quart of water, and ½ lb. of loaf sugar, pieces of which have been rubbed on 2 lemons, until all the rind is rubbed off, and the sugar has absorbed all the oil from the lemons. When the sugar is perfectly dissolved, strain through a sieve, and add the white of an egg.

TO KILL FLIES.—Here are two efficient recipes:—(1) Add 2 oz. of ground pepper, and 4 oz. of brown sugar, to 1 pint of infusion of quassia. Quassia can be obtained from either herbalist or chemist, and is cheap. Mix well, and leave about in saucers. (2) Pour a little simple oxymel (to be obtained at the druggist's) into a common tumbler glass, and place in the glass a piece of paper, made into the shape of the upper part of a funnel, with a hole at the bottom, to admit the flies. Attracted by the smell, they readily swarm into the trap, and the goodly number collected, prove that they have not the wit or the disposition to return.

STEEL GRATES, and fireirons, if dusted over with unslaked lime after they are cleaned, will keep from rust during the summer months.

IT is a good plan to keep a dish of charcoal in the larder during hot weather, to keep food sweet and pure.



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THE MARK LANE EXPRESS SUPPLEMENT FOR THE HOME

Conducted by "PEPITA"

THE NEWEST FASHIONS.

The fashion so popular this summer of the silk coat or wrap is a most practical one, now that it is considered essential to have gowns made as thin and transparent as possible, for with the transparent yoke and sleeves there is not sufficient warmth to the gown excepting in excessively hot weather; consequently, the little wrap proves of the greatest service, as it affords all the protection needed, and at the same time gives a most charming finish to the costume. With a gown of transparent striped voile, two shades of grey, the skirt trimmed with bands of taffeta, the coat of taffeta is the daintiest and most becoming of garments, and has a touch of individuality about it that marks it instantly as the newest of models. There is no hard and fixed rule as to the model to be followed in these coats; in fact, they are always more or less distinctive, for even when there is a suggestion of the mundane pony coat it is most cleverly suggested rather than defined, while the lines are adapted to the individual wearer.

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Light and bright colours are extremely fashionable this season, and while all white gowns are considered very smart, the coloured linings are most popular, and not only are pink, blue, and such colours worn under the transparent white fabrics, but most dainty and fascinating tones of grey. With a coloured lining the belt and the trimming on the hat may carry out the same colour, and also the parasol. The plain chiffon gowns also afford a splendid opportunity for colour schemes, and the leading artists in dress-making have been quick to take advantage thereof. A bright pink chiffon with a sash of blue is an instance, while a pale blue with mauve girdle and a yellow with a bright blue sash are also instances of the contrasts in colour. In the description, these sound crude and startling, but, in reality, they are merely smart and effective to a most fascinating degree.

* * *

Black and white this year is especially fashionable, and the combinations thereof are endless. Besides the black and white striped materials there are the white lace and embroidered gowns with the black trimmings, while that most becoming of styles, the black hat with the white gown, has again been revived most successfully, and black gowns with white lace guimpe and sleeves have apparently taken a new lease of life, so varied are they in design. A touch of gold embroidered filet lace is introduced most cleverly, too, into the black gowns with white, and makes them look entirely different from anything that has been seen heretofore.

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Entire costumes of taffeta silk are absolutely new in design and colouring, and in most instances are extremely smart, while never before have there been so many different models of soft silk gowns with a satin finish; pongee also is to be noted in the rather vivid colours, while satin finished crêpe de Chine is made up in all light colours and an unlimited space for the exhibition of exquisite hand embroidery on the material itself. No gown, however, this year would be considered complete without some hand embroidery on it either in the bands that trim it or worked in the fabric or displayed on the waistcoat or fronts of the coat.

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Light weight cloth gowns in summer are not the most practical investments, but none the less are they absolutely requisite many a day, and a smart cloth costume is always in good style. The weight of cloth most fashionable is deliciously light and soft, and lends itself most perfectly to the present styles. The long plain skirt of circular design requires the skill of an artist at dressmaking to be turned out to perfection, but the result is so satisfactory that the cost of such service does not seem excessive. There is a suggestion of the princess and also a hint of the Empire in most of the cloth gowns, although the soft, draped folds on the bodice do away with the hard, crude lines of the princess gown in its accurate copy, and the influence of the Empire is revealed only in the short-waisted lines caused by the skirt coming so high above the true waist line.

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The pretty gown shown in our illustration this week is of Shantung silk, in a soft green shade; the loose bodice is trimmed with bullion embroidery. With this gown is worn a hat of burnt straw, trimmed with green silk rosettes and a black ostrich plume.



A GRACEFUL VISITING GOWN.

The Veil and How to Wear it.

By the time the English woman has learned the trick of adjusting her veil to bring out her good points and conceal any bad ones, and incidentally to put it on with as much grace as a Parisienne, then she may be said to have mastered one of the most important problems of the fashionable costume.

* * *

There is no habit that has a stronger hold on the fair sex than the one of wearing a veil. Young girls escape it, for their fresh, smooth skins and bright eyes require no toning down, no half concealing. Besides, young girls do not realise the possibilities of those delicate, web-like screens which have been an allurement of the sex ever since the wardrobe of womankind increased to several articles. But it is the woman who has found out for herself the multitude of defects a veil will hide, the power it has of enhancing her charms, and the confidence it gives to her that the veil becomes all important. And that being the case, why is it that few of them understand the art of adjusting it properly? About one out of every twenty—nay, fifty—wears her veil with an attempt at an artistic and neat effect. The other forty-nine twist it on the hat in a manner that proclaims loudly that very little time has been bestowed upon its arrangement. The result is that the veil is unbecoming, it suits neither the face nor the hat of the wearer, and it bulges and droops and sags and pulls and has loose ends, instead of being just right. You can always recognise a woman who dresses in a hurry. Her veil tells the story, for it is impossible to put on a veil properly in a few seconds.

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Before going into the details of adjusting the veil, it might not be amiss to say something on the subject of the various kinds of dots and meshes and styles of veils that are worn, and which are the ones for certain types to choose. The fashionable veil of the moment is the thin mesh close Chenille dotted veil. The fabric is, indeed, sprinkled bountifully with dots no larger than a good-sized pin head, and they are placed about half an inch apart. For the reason that fashion has approved this veil every woman, whether she be dark or fair, of brilliant colouring or pale, of striking or delicate features, insists upon wearing this kind of veil, and that is one of her greatest mistakes. What is becoming to one type of woman will not always be becoming to her opposite, despite the assurance of the suave shop-girl who holds the

mesh before her own face to let you see how much better it will look before your own.

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Good colouring is the one essential to the woman who wants to wear the closely dotted veil. It need not be brilliant colouring, for the veil has the happy faculty of enhancing the red of her lips and cheeks and the brightness of her eyes. A dark woman or one of medium complexion will find this veil exceedingly becoming, but her blonde sister—no. She should cling to more delicate meshes and dotted effects, those that do not help to conceal but rather reveal the fairness of her skin and hair and eyes.

* * *

Wrinkles disappear as if by magic when a fairly heavy veil is put on. A medium mesh and a close dot combine to save the appearance of many a woman who looks wonderfully attractive and young on the street. Apparently she has not a line or sign of age in her face, and if there are any grey hairs, a thing that few women possess nowadays, for there are many ways of keeping them hidden, they are completely concealed by the veil. A woman whose hair shows the first signs of turning grey should avoid wearing veils of white, or white and black mixed. This blending frequently gives a very grey tinge to the hair.

* * *

Lace veils with fancy spots and patterns should be selected with unusual care. They are as apt to make a woman look grotesque as *chic*, and unless they are adjusted with considerable art they will exaggerate a double chin, magnify wrinkles, and dull the brightest of eyes. The woman afflicted with a double chin has more than her share of trouble when it comes to wearing a veil. If she fastens it close under her chin and around her throat she enlarges its apparent size and circumference, while if she wears her veil so that it comes just to the top of her chin this particular feature seems to grow more prominent than ever. Her salvation lies in having her veil come just below the curve of the chin, so that the full part of the throat in front is thrown in shadow and partially obscured.

* * *

With the large hats that are fashionable now—the mushroom shapes—it is no easy task to adjust a veil. A yard and an eighth is required to go around the brim, and with the centre of the upper edge of this length held up against the centre of the front of the brim the ends should be brought to the back with both hands and pinned to the hat when the lower edge has been made to come to the desired depth over the chin. Many people make the mistake of trying to fasten the lower edge of the veil first, or, possibly, both ends together. After the upper sides of the ends are pinned securely to the brim in the back and a pin has been thrust in in front it is well to slip the veil up over the edge of the brim at the sides, where it is apt to come down too far. Then the lower ends are drawn to the back and up to the brim so that they come almost together over the hair. When they are carefully fastened in place the attention is directed to the veil at the sides, where it probably draws in under the brim, instead of making a very nearly straight line from brim to throat. This sag spoils the lines of the hat and imparts a slovenly look to a head that would otherwise appear smart. So in order to get rid of the sag the veil should be drawn up over the edge of the brim until it is taut and practically straight and then pinned again. The dip at the chin, which is another distinguishing mark of the carelessly veiled, can be got rid of by drawing the edge toward the back and fastening it to the hair with an invisible hairpin.

* * *

The way of wearing a veil is, however, always a fad of the moment, and there are certain little touches that can be acquired only by careful study of effect and by practice. Every woman has to try this for herself, and her individuality, or lack of it, shows itself in the way she puts on her veil just as much as it does in the way she carries her head or in her manner of speech.

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Silken Gowns of Long Ago.

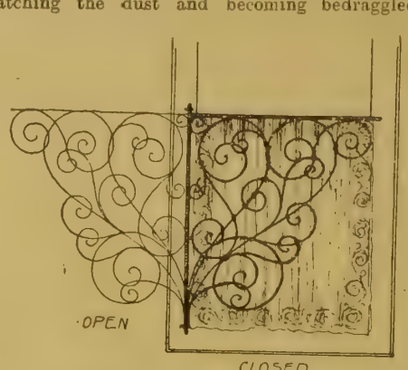
In the olden times silk was a sign and symbol of rank reserved for the nobles and the king; and the burgher's thrifty wife, in her decent coif and wimple, like Joan and Gammer, in their woollen skirts and close-fitting hoods, might wear none of it. Reserved for those in high places, it took rank with ermine and balas rubies, with golden ouches and sown 'broidery of seed-pearls. It was foremost among the catalogued bequests of rich proprietors to favourite inheritors; and silken garments passed from father to son, from mother to daughter, together with pictures by "Signor Rubens," or string of pearls and carcanets of diamonds.

The silken dresses of famous men and women in certain important moments of history were conscientiously recorded by grave chroniclers, just as now the daily press describes the ball gowns and bridal dresses of our fashionable ladies. But the difference between the stately gorgeousness of then and the more fleeting prettiness of now covers all the way between aristocratic exclusiveness and democratic catholicity. Where one great lord was celebrated for the splendour of his attire in the king's train or the queen's escort, the dress of 1,000 only semi-elect or wholly undistinguished ladies is minutely described to-day, to be forgotten to-morrow. But in all these records of the wardrobe, silk bears the most distinctive part, and precious jewels themselves are not chronicled with so much loving exactitude as were the colour and adornments of my lord's velvet pour point, or the cut and make of my lady's satin petticoat.

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A Curtain Holder.

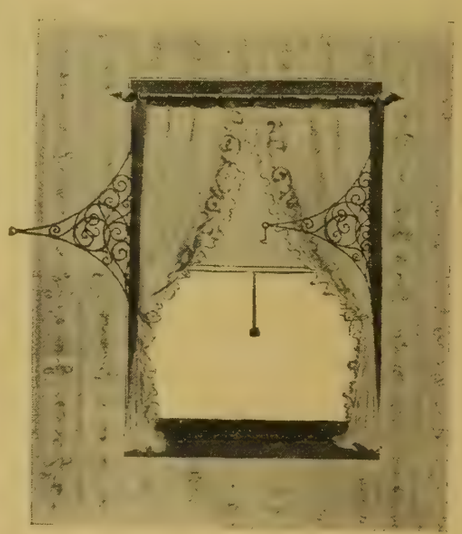
It is a great eyesore to a careful housewife to see pretty lace or sash curtains blowing out of the windows or against the screens, catching the dust and becoming bedraggled.



HOLDER FOR SASH CURTAIN.

And yet one must have open windows in warm weather and nearly all the year round, for ventilating purposes.

A clever home-made curtain holder is shown herewith, which will do away with all such annoyance, and which will prove exceedingly attractive as well. It is made of grilles or wire bent into scrolls with pliers and the fingers. As will be seen in the illustration,



A NOVEL CURTAIN HOLDER.

the curtain holder hooks together to keep the curtain in place.

This useful device may also be utilised for a sash curtain in a bath-room, where the window is narrow and it is desirable to fold the curtain back against the wall when the window is open.

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Quite a lucrative business, it seems, is done in Japan in the exportation of frog skins for purses. The works controlled by a Tokio merchant have exported as many as 130,000 skins in less than a year.

The Flower Garden.

Fuchsias.

Fuchsias are quite a striking feature among the other flowering plants to be seen at this time of the year in Hyde Park. The blooms are unusually large and almost all the best varieties are cultivated in the open, where the carpet bedding is laid out on Park Lane grass slopes.. At the Palm House, Sefton Park, Liverpool, fuchsias are grown under glass with a temperature of 50 to 60 degrees. The double varieties are not much in evidence, as they do not bloom so freely as the single varieties. This explains to some extent the reason the double fuchsias are not so often seen in displays at public collections, where a profusion of continuous flowers are a necessity. The ratepayer must have plenty for his money. The fuchsia is indispensable for greenhouse embellishment, and gives grace and beauty to every house.

The variation of colour at the Palm House is prettily arranged and the combination an education to an amateur possessing a greenhouse. Nurserymen are advocating the culture of the fuchsia, as these charming plants produce more bloom with a minimum of labour than any other flower. The fuchsia is easily grown from cuttings, and requires little attention. The soil should be a mixture of two parts loam, and one each of well-decayed manure and sand, placed near the glass and in a gentle heat. Syringe freely on bright days to induce growth and prevent insects.

As soon as rooted, reduce heat, and repot in same mixture of soil, pinch all side shoots till bushy plants have been secured. The single type is not so largely grown as the double form. This may arise from the fact, that the doubles are more attractive. The perfect flower is the single bloom, as in this we can invariably find the true and perfect formation. Double flowers are cramped, heavy, sometimes quite unnatural, and not by any means artistic.

There is a craze for new shapes and colours in flowers, and the perfect flower of plants in their original imported state has changed so much in recent years, that they no longer resemble their natural and artistic character. A great deal of the beauty of imported single flowers of every description is being lost sight of, and we are constantly introduced to novelties. Growers are getting enthusiastic in this direction, and if we were to try and trace the original forms, features and characteristics of some plant, it would be well nigh impossible to do so. Many of the favourite flowers of our forefathers have been forgotten, and we have to accept mongrels which are the outcome of ingenuity and propagation.

What is more pleasing to the eye than the single little wild hedge rose and honeysuckle? The former produces clusters of lovely little pink and white flowers, simplicity itself in form, and handsome buds when half open, beautifully scented. Its long branches carry abundance of bloom. They extend in every direction, unrestricted till the hedges are pruned. The child coming to the country sees no flower so sweet and dear to its heart as these wild roses. It gathers them eagerly and disregards the thorns which tear its frock and scratch its tiny arms and hands. Why, then, should we crave for double flowers? Visitors to such places as the Isle of Man and Wales often mention the wild fuchsia to be met with in the hedges, and they gather the bloom as readily as the child does the wild rose and honeysuckle.

G. W. Thomson-Price.

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The Sultan's Screen.

There is a story told of a famous and curious screen which occupies a prominent place in the menage of the Sultan of Turkey. It is made, so rumour hath it, of human skin, perfectly tanned and elaborately tooled and embossed, and it has been in the Royal quarters for more than two centuries. This remarkable screen is not an evidence of cruelty or barbarity on the part of Turkey's ruler two hundred years ago, but is a memorial to twelve faithful servants of a former Sultan. At one time during the Sultan's reign, two hundred years ago, a wing of the palace caught fire, and during the conflagration a much-loved member of the Sultan's family was rescued by twelve servants. The twelve servants perished, some of them dying later of their wounds and burns, so his Majesty had their skins removed by an expert and had them preserved in this touching though remarkable manner. The screen is now looked upon as a part of the ruler's inheritance, and it is said that every Sultan cherishes it almost as he would his own Royal skin.

THE COLLECTOR'S GUIDE.

Silver Lustre.

By H. W. Lewer.

"Intent on high designs, their fabrile souls
To shapes unfashioned now direct their tools;
With daring aims, irregularly great,
To raise their art from its degraded state."
—*Shaw.*

In many farmhouses during the latter years of the last century there could be seen varieties and forms of the old silver lustre so much prized in its time, and afterwards relegated, like the old oak coffers and chests, to the lumber-room, or disposed of to the cottager. Forgotten, untreasured, and overlooked by the collector till the last few years, these examples of the potter's art have once more come into "fashion"; so much so that the genuine article is now being imitated by modern additions from home, and from abroad. It is the curse of a craze, that although it increases the value of the object, it produces almost automatically the creator of forgeries, and in collecting silver lustre the wheat has carefully to be separated from the chaff.

The history of English silver lustre dates back to the middle of the eighteenth century, and its appearance coincides with the introduction of Sheffield plate. The uniting of copper and silver must have turned the potter's thoughts to considering whether some form of silverware could not be produced on the plastic clay. By experiments, Thomas Bolsover discovered the art of making the so-called Sheffield plate, in 1742. This being perfected, it was carried into practical effect at Sheffield some years later by one Joseph Hancock. Curiously enough it was a namesake—John Hancock—who was the inventor of silver lustre or earthenware.

The exact date of its introduction is not known, but it could not have been long after the first production of Sheffield plate. There has been much dispute as to the inventor of silver lustre, but John Hancock, in a letter to the "Staffordshire Mercury" (1846), written a year before his death, wrote to correct a statement that a Mr. John Booth was the introducer, and he emphatically states: "I was the original inventor of lustre . . . and I first put it into practice at Mr. Spode's manufactory for Messrs. Daniell & Brown." Shaw, in his history of "The Staffordshire Potteries," mentions that Hancock "appears to have made the process of lustring of little value to himself, for the recipe could be obtained from him by any person for a small sum of money."

No protection appears to have been granted for the use of lustre till 1810, when Peter Warburton, of the New Hall factory, was granted a patent for his "new invented method of decorating china, porcelain, earthenware, and glass, with native, pure, or adulterated gold, silver, platina, or other metals, fluxed or powered with lead or any other substance."

The manufacturing process of silver lustring was obtained by dissolving or melting silver or platinum, which was then applied to the earthenware as a glaze, by brush or by dipping—the latter, in all probability, was most common. The metal being in solution would cover a large surface, and be thinly applied. The body of the ware was of a deep cream, red, or chocolate colour. With regard to the fluted, pearl, and other ornamental designs, these must have been dipped, as a close inspection of an example shows that every detail has been evenly covered with the silver glaze. Early pieces of silver lustre were perfectly plain in shape. These were followed by more ornate examples, such as the fluted and pearl patterns, of which we have already spoken. The elaborate floral, fruit, birds, and other patterns were known as "Resist" lustre ware. These we trust to deal with in a separate article.

Nearly everything that could be produced in earthenware was adapted to the use of silver lustre, and included not only tea and coffee sets, jugs, goblets, and ewers, but even figures and busts were moulded, and coated with this silver glaze. In addition, for household service, there were salt-cellars, spice-boxes, toast-racks, mustard-pots, pepper-boxes, inkstands, candlesticks, tankards, etc. These were all made in imitation of the patterns of the silversmith's craft. Many of the best specimens were planed or turned, so as to give a more finished effect. Later pieces often show a blistered or pimpled appearance, and this decay of the art seems to have set in during the early years of the last century.

Most of the Staffordshire potters were makers of silver lustre, and the two who stand out prominently are Wedgwood and Spode, although the Ridgeways of Shelton must not be overlooked. The Spodes were noted for their tea and coffee services, plain and fluted; Wedgwood included the making of figures in addition to the services. A favourite pattern for these services was an imitation of Queen Anne silver, and the result is very pleasing and effective.



SILVER LUSTRE FLUTED TEAPOT

It is exceptional to find any mark impressed on this ware, but in some examples the potter's initials have been found.

The collector should be on his guard against modern imitation of silver lustre which is now for sale in many dealers shops. It is somewhat difficult to detect, but, roughly speaking, it has a heavy and coarse appearance, and when placed by the side of a genuine specimen the difference is at once noted. Garish, as this silver lustre is to some collectors, yet, like old pewter, it has a depth of colour and tone which silver



AN OLD ROMANY LAMP.

or Sheffield plate never attain. Especially is this so in the fluted patterns, where the charm of light and shade reflected on the surface is very effective.

Silver lustre should stand alone on a shelf or cupboard made of old oak or mahogany, but nowhere better is its presentment than on a high mantleshelf over an open hearth in some Tudor or Jacobean farmhouse or cottage. True, it is hard to find such a home where modern furniture, tawdry pictures, and hideous ornaments are not known, yet there are still left in this country some small dwellings where the inmates look with pride on the handwork of their fathers, and love with reverent care the simple heirlooms that have been handed down to them.

An Old Romany Lamp.

The old brass and iron lamp, shown in the illustration, called by some "Old Romany Lamp," was picked up in a cottage in Ireland. Going back, as it does, to a period before the days of the tallow dip, which flashed its brightness on the splendour of the "best room," it is interesting to note the steps from that time up to this, when by pressing a button the king of lights, electricity, is revealed.

Domestic Pets.

Canaries.

By "Alba."
(*Concluded.*)

Cages.—Opinions vary as to the merits of cages of different shapes. One authority says: "the shape of your birds' house is quite a matter of taste, but its size is a matter of principle," but Dr. Russ makes an exception in the case of round or "tower" cages, on the ground that all birds are uncomfortable in them, and many even become giddy and dazed. Moreover, these round cages are not easily hung up everywhere, especially against walls, so that the bird can only be hung in one place, and the song heard in immediate proximity.

With reference to size, the larger the dwelling, the less music will its occupant provide, and the bird will think more of skipping and jumping about than singing, particularly if things are quiet, and there is no rival near. On this point Dr. Russ says:—"Nothing is important for the well-being of each bird as its dwelling and the inner arrangements of the same, although, if we consider that in the shops of bird-sellers, young canaries may be kept well and healthy in the very small Hartz-cages (in which they are also transported, often hundreds of miles), we marvel at the pliant nature of these birds. Yet, a true friend of nature will not allow unfavourable conditions to develop into a system, but will, on the contrary, endeavour to arrange the dwellings of his pets as comfortably as may be feasible."

The canary may sing less vigorously in a roomy cage than in a pokey little prison, but it provides quality, if not quantity; and no one wants a bird to be singing from morning till night. This is often unpleasant, and sometimes positively unbearable. It is much more pleasurable to the average canary keeper to see its joyous skipping about than to listen to ear-splitting singing all day long, and it is fair to allow caged birds the use of their limits in return for the music of their throats.

The cage for the single canary should be from 12 to 20 inches high, 12 to 20 inches long, and from 8 to 11 inches deep. The most appropriate are those where everything is of metal except the perches—not of brass or painted wire, but of plain tinned wire or lacquered zinc. Brass cages are very handsome-looking, but the moisture which the bird spills while drinking or bathing affects the brass, and may easily produce verdigris, and thus cause poisoning.

Perches should be of wood that is not too hard, and should neither be too thin, nor too accurately rounded. A suitable thickness is about half an inch, so that the bird's foot can only just clasp it. A thin perch placed above and two thicker ones below, facing each other, is considered advisable.

The perches should be kept clean by scraping when the cage is cleaned out, and the floor covered with coarse sand. Facility as regards cleaning out should, however, be secondary to the provision of "grit" for the purpose of digestion.

The seed and water vessels should hang outside the cage, or there will be much waste of seed and splashing of water. These should be replenished daily, small quantities of seed being given at a time. About two teaspoonsful is sufficient for a day's consumption. That some is left over is not necessarily evidence that it does not want changing, but may be due to its being dead or dry, and not to the bird's liking. Give fresh water every day, and so arrange the drinking vessel that the bird is unable to use it for a bath. If the bird is tame, provide a bath outside the cage. This may be given every afternoon in summer when the sun is shining brightly, but at longer intervals in winter. A breakfast saucer makes a good bath, but in order to avoid a mess about the room, a small bathroom has been constructed for temporary attachment to the cage. The bath is more esteemed by the canary than the cadjer, but it should be denied to sitting hens and during moulting.

Cookery.

The Stock Pot.

One thing that makes an everyday housewife shun soup-making is, I think, that she fancies it involves a deal of labour, which is a mistaken idea that has grown perhaps from the perusal of elaborately concocted cookery books. A thorough knowledge of soups ought to be possessed by every capable housewife, whether her home is in the city or country. The first thing is to extract all the goodness and nourishing qualities from the meat, and having seasoned this extract properly, to serve it in its liquid form. This is what is called stock, and once made it will serve as a basis for half-a-dozen different sorts of soups. For instance, if you add to it bits of macaroni that have been boiled in salted water, then cut short, you have macaroni soup; if you add carrot, turnip, and other vegetables, you have a good Julien soup; a cupful of barley gives you barley soup, or if you want a good consomme, simply clear the stock and serve it plain. Do not buy a good bit of meat that is suitable for roasting or stewing to make soup of; choose the coarser, heavier parts, with a good deal of bone in them. The way to get all the strength from the meat is to put it, after cutting it in small pieces and cracking the bones, into a kettle, and covering it with cold water, let it stand a little while on the back of the stove, then bring it forward where it will heat slowly.

For a good stock, you will want the following ingredients:—Two pounds of the hind-shin of beef, 2 quarts of salt water, 6 whole cloves, 6 peppercorns, 1 bunch of sweet herbs, 1 blade of mace, 2 teaspoonfuls of salt, 1 small onion, ½ a carrot, ½ a turnip, and a sprig of parsley. Let this simmer for 5 or 6 hours, and when thoroughly cooked, strain it through a fine strainer into which you have laid a bit of strainer cloth. Then set the stock aside to cool. When you wish to use it, take off the hard cake of fat that has formed on top and you will find underneath a rich, thick jelly, which is the basis of any soup you choose to make.

How to Make Tea.

Compared to the unfermented green tea, the partially fermented black tea, while quite as rich in theine, the characteristic alkaloid constituent of the prepared leaf, and as charged with aromatic oils, contains, as a rule, somewhat less tannin. But according to the experts, the brew from either sort, after fresh boiling water has been poured over the leaves, should not be allowed to stand on the leaves more than two or three minutes. The time is enough to extract the theine and oils; further, steeping simply brings out more and more of the objectionable tannin, and makes the tea bitter and unwholesome. Once made, the infusion should be separated from the leaves by pouring into a fresh pot. Then the stimulating, quickening, uplifting effect of the theine upon the nervous energies and mental faculties, the gustatory and olfactory enjoyment of the flavour and bouquet of a properly made brew, can be had at their best.

How to Boil Rice.

Wash the rice and put it into a saucepan half-full of cold water, stir occasionally to prevent it sticking to the pan, and as soon as the water has boiled up, pour it off and put on the same quantity of cold water as before. When this has boiled pour off again, and for the third and last time fill up with cold water, and after watching it until it boils, rapidly pour the rice into a warm colander to drain; place a plate under the colander and another over the rice, and let it stand either in the oven (which should not be too hot) with the door open, or near the fire, until all the water has drained off the rice, when every grain will be found separate. It is necessary to let the water actually boil every time, otherwise it might be found that the rice was not quite cooked enough when the process is finished.

A Simple Strainer.

In order to strain jellies so as to ensure their being perfectly clear, muslin strainers are much handier, and more effective, than the ordinary flannel bag. They are cleaner, and from their perfect nicety, when properly kept, then cannot impair the most delicate flavour. They should be large, as it is often necessary to fold them to a quarter of their original size to make them sufficiently thick to clear juices or jellies. Before using a muslin strainer, lay it in hot water, and afterwards in cold water. This should be changed once or twice if, when wrung from it, the muslin is not absolutely transparent.

ROUND-ABOUT NOTES.

Giving evidence recently before the Select Committee of the House of Commons appointed to inquire into the conditions under which home-work is carried on, Mrs. Irwin, secretary of the Women's Council in Scotland, stated that the tendency was for wages to get lower, but the sanitary conditions under which the work was done was improving. Referring especially to Glasgow, she said that she had found that the average amount paid for the making of a dozen shirts was 1s. 2½d. to 1s. 5d. The rate paid per hour worked out at from 1d. to 1¾d., and in the trouser finishing trade she had even come across the case of a woman who had worked two hours for a halfpenny. Flannelette shirts were finished throughout for 8d. per dozen, and cotton shirts for 1s. 9d. a dozen.

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One of the most hopeful signs of improvement in the general taste for dress and ornamentation is found in the disappearance of costly jewels from the ordinary street attire of the lady of wealth and fashion. The blazing diamond ear-rings, pins, and bracelets, which formerly vied with the glory of the sun at noonday have been relegated to their proper place and use for my lady's evening and full dress toilettes, and although some of the most complete jewel caskets in the world are owned by wealthy women, no one sees their contents except those who frequent grand dinners, balls, receptions, and operas. Costly gems, like fine lace, add very much to the toilette of a matron, but are decidedly out of place on a young maiden, whose ears should be kept free from such barbaric splendours, and her hands reserved in the purity of exquisite care for the single engagement jewel, which is the accepted emblem of young love's coming fulfilment.

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The remarkable peculiarity of the moonstone is that, while in all other gems internal seams are called flaws, and detract from their value, in the moonstone they are called "magic mirrors," because those favoured mortals who are gifted with the illumination of the astral light are supposed to be able by its aid to read on those surfaces of milky white the reflections of the past and the promises of the future.

* * *

For an engagement ring from the wealthy lover the solitaire diamond will always remain in favour, but the suitor whose purse will not afford such a costly gem should avoid all garish designs, combining mock pearls and coloured stones, and content himself with offering the fair one of his choice a well-selected, simply-set moonstone—a stone which has from time immemorial been regarded as having talismanic virtues. The setting of this beautiful but inexpensive stone should be the same as that of a solitaire diamond, and its effect is chaste and pleasing.

* * *

To possess a single fine jewel many women would have to deny themselves nothing except the indulgence in numberless cheap and meaningless trinkets which, in a few years' time, aggregate a cost equal to that of a gem which would be a life-long and cherished possession. My advice to women is always to avoid what is cheap and showy in jewellery, and save, and still save the cost of the cheap articles which one is tempted from time to time to buy, until the means have been acquired to purchase a single satisfactory ornament. One never realises how many shillings are worse than thrown away in the purchase of trash until one has begun the system of resisting minor temptations for a special object.

* * *

Anyone who has spent a long enough time in the Hawaiian Islands to make friends among the foreign residents there is sure to be decorated in true Hawaiian style when she boards the steamer going home. It is a custom there to twine garlands and necklaces of flowers around the fair voyager's neck until she looks like a luxuriantly blooming tropical plant. These necklaces are long enough to reach almost to the feet, and, though they have a Hawaiian name, they suggest the growing and clinging lyiane, which is a native of the tropics and with its delicate embroidery joins tree after tree in its vinelike meshes. Flowers and shells, as well as bright coloured beans and seeds, are strung in these long chains, and wound round the passenger's throat, each necklace being strung with good wishes for a pleasant journey home and a return to the little island in the Pacific.

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THE MARK LANE EXPRESS SUPPLEMENT FOR THE HOME

Conducted by "PEGITA"

THE NEWEST FASHIONS.

Light weight cloth gowns are still in vogue, and there are many days in summer when a cloth gown is most comfortable to wear—cloth in these days having attained such a marvellous degree of perfection in weave that it is as light as linen or silk. Light shades of colour and white are the most in demand, and the different shades of white are many this season, so it is possible to have a variety of gowns in all white. Braiding is extremely effective on the white, the narrow soutache braid and the two widths of Hercules both being effective. Bands of tucked chiffon with medallions of lace, either Valenciennes or Cluny, are also thought an extremely smart trimming for cloth, and it gives so much lighter appearance than anything else.

* * *

Bands of lustrous silk or satin are also fashionable in trimming cloth gowns, and oddly enough the plain bands are for the moment preferred to the embroidered, for the braiding or embroidery is worked on the material itself. This does not for a moment imply that the bands of coloured embroidery are not in style, for they are still in demand. A most charming grey cloth gown is made with plain skirt, but the bodice is trimmed with the most exquisite bands of embroidery and has an embroidered waistcoat, embroidered in three or four delicate shades of blue, yellow, pink, and mauve combined in indescribably artistic fashion.

* * *

Velvet bands on lace or thin materials are fashionable this season, and a black lace or net gown made up over white or coloured lining is immensely improved by the band of black velvet, preferably ribbon, around the foot. As a rule the satin finish is used on cloth, and velvet on the transparent or thinner fabrics, but there is no hard and fixed rule that has to be followed. Velvet on silk is extremely effective, but combining two kinds of silk is smart, and perhaps more practical for summer. However, the practical element does not play a very large part in the clothes' question of the moment.

* * *

A pale mauve cloth in light weight is popular for gowns to be worn on cool summer days, while an exquisite shade of coral pink and one in blue are most effective. Olga cloth has come into notice again, for its satin finish and lustre make it extremely well adapted to the long, graceful lines that are a feature of this year's styles. The plain skirts that are so becoming show off to the best possible advantage any fine material, and the colours take a light and shade that are most artistic in the soft folds. These afternoon gowns for the summer season are in truth a delight to any one who loves clothes for clothes' sake. They are not the essentials of the wardrobe, but the luxuries that enable a woman to attain her ambition of being always correctly gowned.

* * *

The three charming gowns in the illustration were designed by a Parisian dressmaker.



PARIS MODEL GOWNS.

The one on the left is of pale green voile, with vest, sleeves, and insertion of canvas. The lace is heavy Guipure with tassels. The waist-belt is of dark green velvet. The lady in the centre is garbed in a chic gown, vieux-rose faced cloth of very fine quality. The bolero is of pastel cloth, beautifully embroidered with point lace, and edged with bands of the vieux-rose material. The gown on the right is of wedgwood blue cloth of very light weight. The skirt is perfectly plain, but the loose bodice is trimmed with bands of velvet of a slightly darker shade. A pretty lace blouse and jabot are worn with this gown. The designs have been specially obtained for the "Mark Lane Express Supplement."

Fashions in Bathing Caps.

Two things are required of a bathing cap—it should protect the hair, and it should be becoming. The first is easy to manage, now that shops are offering various kinds of rubber affairs which run the gamut of styles and, one must admit, of ugliness, for the ordinary bathing cap designed to fill the first requirement seldom fills the second.

* * *

Bathing caps, like bathers of the gentler sex, are divided into two classes—those that really go into the water and get wet, and those that are for merely dilettante bathers. For the latter any sort of a creation will suffice, and it need not be designed with any idea of water ever touching it. Usually hats are preferred by the dilettante. Hats provide shade, and a dislike for sunburn goes with this unwillingness to get wet and being active in the water. To this half of the bathing world the head covering problem is quite simple, and the very fact that it is so easily and often smartly solved is a thorn in the flesh of those who have not been able to make themselves look smart and get the full enjoyment of the sport.

* * *

For swimmers nothing has been found more satisfactory than the bandana. True, this kerchief, worn cornerwise, is not a new arrangement for the hair, but it has the advantage of being an excellent protection for the hair. Besides taking up little room either on or off the head, it fits so smoothly that there is no chance for the wind or water to play havoc with it and get it awry. One fault has always been found with the bathing bandana, and that is its smallness. Neither the silk nor cotton ones used to wind around the hair are large enough to make smart bows. This season, however, a new silk square, designed originally to be worn under a broad sailor collar, is serving in another rôle, and it has been found to exactly meet all requirements for bathing purposes. These squares are a full yard, and they are made of light weight silk in almost every colour. The scarlet, blue, white, and crimson are best liked. No matter how sober the bathing suit may be in its tone and trimming, there is a fancy for having a dash of brightness in the cap.

* * *

To adjust the silk square, it is first folded cornerwise and put around the head, so that the ends come to the front, where they may be knotted in any of a dozen or more ways. The simple sailor knot is less used, perhaps, than any other, for the reason that the new silk square is too large, or rather the ends are too long, for this kind of bow. An Alsatian knot is both jaunty and becoming, and even if the silk does get drenched with the spray and waves it does not lose all its prettiness. After the two broad loops are made they should be fastened down to the cap with two tiny safety pins, and then one need worry no more about one's headgear.

* * *

A gipsy knot which becomes certain types has been much admired at one of the fashionable beaches. It was originated by a slim, dark-haired girl whose sun-burned skin and dashing air were just the thing to set off the gipsy cap. A yard square piece of silk was used for the cap, and instead of having it brought to the front and tied, the corners were knotted one at the left side under the ear and the ends permitted to hang loose. Silk balls give a finish to the corners of some of these squares, and they are more serviceable than one would imagine.

* * *

Twin bows worn at either side of the head are original. The ordinary yard square piece of silk is a little cumbersome for this cap arrangement. A better way is to cut the handkerchief in two pieces diagonally and hem the raw edge, or else use a triangle of silk to match the trimming on the bathing suit. The piece of silk is folded around the head just as it would be for an ordinary bandana, and then the ends are crossed over the front and fastened in two knots above the ears. The easiest way to manage this kind of a cap, and to have it always ready to put on without any bother about getting the bows in their proper place, is to have the bows made and attached to the ends of the three-cornered piece of silk, and then have a hook on each with an eye sewed on the side of the cap where the knots come. In this way the cap is even simpler to adjust than the ordinary bandana. Very often this simplicity is an important factor with girls who have a limited time in which to take their daily swim, and who want to spend as much of it as possible in the water instead of in getting ready.

* * *

There are other styles of caps, many of them very popular, because they slip on without even the bother of tying, but the great objection to them lies in the fact that they are not as trim as the bandana arrangement, and the rubber bands which hold them close to the head soon lose their elasticity. Thus far few ready-made bathing caps have survived a second season among women who insist on having appropriate and becoming covering for their hair.

* * *

When silk suits are worn the cap is made of the same material, and usually matches it, though a striking colour contrast is always good against the deep blue of the sea and sky and the pale yellow sand. There is a fancy for bright reds and blues with any of the dark suits, and even when the blue or black mohair costume is trimmed with braid or bands of some other colour a contrasting cap is liked.

* * *

Under the bathing cap is worn a close-fitting rubber skull cap, which is water-tight. Various styles of rubber caps are to be found in the shops, ranging from a few pence upward, but the most practical are those which fit without any wrinkles or fulness. They cover the hair, and they do not interfere with the cap or bandana. Some of pleated crowns to accommodate more hair than the average woman possesses, make a bandana or silk cap bulge out around the crown of the head, and really spoil the effect of the arrangement. Before going in bathing it is a very good idea to put up the hair, especially for this occasion. Wire hairpins and combs are sure to puncture the thin silk rubber cap and then the hair gets wet. The best way to dispose of the hair is to plait it in two sections, starting at the crown of the head. Make the plaits very loose, and then coil them flat around the head, pinning them with a few hairpins having blunt ends.



EMBROIDERED COVER OF OLD PINK LINEN.



DETAIL FOR TABLE COVER.

Embroidered Table Covers.

Since the stand-table is finding its way into nearly every room of the house the problem of giving it a suitable covering is no small one, for its decoration must be in harmony with the other furnishings. When used in the hall the small table usually has a handsome though plain centrepiece laid over it to protect its polished surface from marring. In the living-room the cover is frequently of linen, embroidered in colours, as shown in the illustration, while in the library a mat of leather generally adorns the top. In the dining-room, as in the bedrooms, the table cover matches the other linen scarves, whether embellished with drawn work, lace, or embroidery. Some exquisite cloths are shown inset with Cluny lace. A fine quality of Torchon, set in above the hem, looks very pretty, and has the added attractiveness of practicality, since it launders well. For the dining-room, particularly, nothing wears quite so well (even with more than one significance to the word "wear") as all white, yet where one has several such covers it is a pretty fancy to have different colour schemes carried out in sideboards and buffet scarves, serving-table covers, and centrepieces. In the bedroom's furnishings one's fancy may have free rein, for sets can be had, not only in different colourings, but in a variety of material, from the sheer lawn done in coloured shadow work, or scrim worked in Bulgarian shadings, to outlined cretonne, which matches window and bed drapery. Very effective scarves have a simple braiding pattern outlined with coronation braid, and the newer embroidery consists in tracing the principal design with rick-rack braid and embroidering the lighter lines. For the woman who enjoys embroidery, however, there is no other style of needlework quite so fascinating as the working of a pretty pattern. The one on the cloth pictured, while very effective, is really quite easy of accomplishment, as shown by the detail. The leaves are filled in with a simple satin stitch and the edges finished with the outline stitch. The stems are covered with two rows of chain stitching. The pattern is very effective when worked in only one shade in dull blue, red, or green; but with careful manipulation of the shadings is much richer when developed in three, or even four shades of one colour. In the latter event the long lines should be of the dullest tint used.

As to the material which may be used for small table covers, a wide variety is possible. Linen in various weights and meshes, and both white and coloured, is, perhaps, with tapestry and velours, the most popular. A good medium quality of linen can be had in beautiful blues and old pinks; and a clever woman has perfected a process by which white linen may be toned to any tint desired, using several shades of one colour in a piece. Very dainty covers to match bureau and bed sets are constructed from four linen hem-stitched handkerchiefs embroidered, set together with lace beading. Of course, the handkerchiefs must be of the same pattern. Such a cover, however, usually has the lace edge omitted, unless the hems of the handkerchiefs are very narrow. In that case lace not less than three inches wide is used, and preferably wider. The lace is put on with just a suggestion of fulness, except at the corners, where sufficient must be used to prevent its drawing. As with other accessories, the important thing is to have the table cover in harmony with the other furnishings both as to material and colouring.

Exceedingly dainty lunch cloths are shown in the Japanese hand embroidery, one with delicate pink and white apple blossoms worked round designs of drawn thread being especially lovely. In plain white, shamrock and ribbon combine in a decorative device of exceptional charm.

(To be continued.)

Oriental Rugs.

"Oriental" is the name now given to rugs made in Persia, Turkey, India, and various contiguous countries. We first heard of Turkish rugs years ago when these famous foreign rugs began to be popular in England. They were then presumed by the uninitiated to be products of Turkey. Some were, and most were not. More of them, and the best, were made in Persia, but they reached this country by way of Constantinople, hence they were called by the general name of Turkish rugs. To-day the Persian rug is known as widely as the Turkish rug, and is perhaps even more popular. We often hear the name "antique" applied indiscriminately to all Oriental rugs, but this is a misuse of the term. A genuine antique rug is an Oriental rug that has been made a long time, and in quality, design, and colouring shows the work of generations ago. One reason why such a rug is prized is that its great age is a guarantee of its genuineness in fibre, colouring, and workmanship. It is an assurance that it was made by hand process, and that only the best of materials were used in it.

After Oriental rugs had been sent to this country and sold as Turkish rugs for a time, we began to hear of Smyrna rugs. But they were not all Smyrna made, any more than those sold as Turkish were made in Turkey. Smyrna rugs became very popular for a time, but the true Smyrna differs materially from the Persian or Turkish rug and fabrics of that general nature. Another reason for their decline in popularity as Smyrna rugs is that they have been imitated in this country in cheaper material and make, and have become so "common" as to lose much of their attraction to persons of means. The English Smyrnas are serviceable rugs often, and handsome in design and of good colours and lasting material. They are, however, of entirely different construction from the true Oriental rug.

We are not disposed in this brief article to enter upon a detail description of the numerous varieties of these Oriental rugs. To-day they are known by many names. There are numerous Persian rugs, such as Shiraz, Teheran, Tabriz, Shirvan, Ispahan, Sultanabad, Kirman, and many others equally well known, all deriving their names from the city or district where manufactured. North of Persia, in Turkestan, are made some of the best Oriental rugs of to-day, such as the Bokhara, Samac, and Khiva, and others. Back there in the mountains near the boundary lines between Russia in Asia, Turkestan, and Western China, nomadic tribes of men and women, wandering from place to place with their families, make rugs of the finest material and with pure dyes.

Two things are essential to a good rug. First, fine wool taken from live sheep; second, genuine vegetable dyes, carefully mixed. After these comes the consideration of workmanship. Given good wool and pure dyes, the question is how many knots to the square inch, and how firmly are they tied? In order that the reader may understand this, perhaps a few words on the peculiar construction of an Oriental rug are essential. They are not woven, as most modern fabrics are, from long threads, in and out between a warp. If you will examine an Oriental rug, say a Teheran specimen, you will find that the principal part of it is composed of short threads pushed up between the warp, one end of the thread on either side, and tied in a hard, firm knot. In other words, an Oriental rug is made of a series of little knots, with just enough of the nap or pile to give body to the rug. If you examine one of these rugs closely you will see that there is first, the warp and woof. The warp threads are made fast at either end to a rude frame, and drawn tight. If a Persian rug is being made, the weaver takes his different coloured threads and puts the ends up around the warp, one end on either side of it; draws them close and ties a knot on the upper side, and cuts the thread closely. This process is repeated until a knot has been tied around each thread of warp. Then a thread of woof, which may be of wool, linen, or camel's hair, is woven into the threads of warp, and pushed down close against those little knots to hold them in place. This form is repeated until the entire rug has been made.



ANATOLIAN PRAYER RUG.

Cookery.

Dainty Salads.

A crisp, appetising salad, daintily served, adds much to any meal.

Below are given a variety of salads, all of which are wholesome and easily prepared:—

Mayonnaise Dressing.

Put the yolks of 2 fresh eggs in a cold bowl and beat with an egg-beater. Add a small ½ teaspoon of salt, and ¼ teaspoon of mustard; beat again, and add a few drops of cider vinegar, beating constantly. Then add slowly, a few drops at a time, about ½ pint of salad oil, continuing to beat until it is thick; then add the juice of a small lemon and a dust of cayenne pepper.

Potato Salad.

Boil half a dozen potatoes until tender, but do not let them cook so they will fall to pieces. Boil 4 eggs for 5 minutes and drop them into cold water. When cold, peel and slice potatoes and eggs, and pour over them a mayonnaise dressing.

Tomato Salad.

Peel medium-sized tomatoes and chill them on the ice. Scoop out a little of the top and serve the tomatoes on lettuce leaves. Pour over the top of each a heaping teaspoonful of the following dressing:—

Beat the yolks of 2 eggs light, add ½ teaspoon of salt, ¼ teaspoon of mustard, 4 tablespoons of melted butter, and 6 tablespoons of vinegar very slowly, and all the time beating. Cook in a double boiler until it thickens; then add the well-beaten whites of 2 eggs and remove from the stove. Chill on ice, and before serving add 1 cup of whipped cream.

Egg Salad.

Boil hard 8 or 9 eggs, drop into cold water, and when thoroughly cool peel and cut in slices. Arrange so that the slices lap over on lettuce leaves in a pretty flat salad dish, and pour over them a thin French salad-dressing to which has been added a spoonful of chopped parsley.

French Dressing.

One tablespoon of Tarragon vinegar, 3 tablespoons of olive oil, ½ teaspoon of salt, and a dust of black pepper. Mix the salt and pepper and slowly add the oil, then the vinegar, and stir rapidly for 2 or 3 minutes.

Toilet Tips.

An Unrivalled Cosmetic.—If your skin is inclined to be rough and coarse in texture, or sallow in appearance, you cannot do better than use a cosmetic made from horseradish. Well scrape and wash some horseradish roots, cut into very thin slices, or scrape as if for horseradish sauce; pour over about half an ounce of the roots a pint of boiling milk, cover it closely, and leave to infuse until quite cold. Strain with pressure, and the decoction is fit to use. First wash the face with soft water and a good soap, rinse, and dry thoroughly, and then bathe the skin with the horseradish infusion. The process may be repeated two or three times a day.

A Rosemary Wash for Children's Hair.—Boil a double handful of the leaves and tops of rosemary for 10 minutes; strain, and add ½ a teaspoonful of Californian borax. This should not be used if the hair is naturally very dry.

A Remedy for Sunburn.—Often in exposed situations, as at the seaside, the skin may become not only sunburned, in the ordinary sense of the word, but irritable and inflamed. A cooling, sedative wash for the skin is then very needful. I have found the following preparation answer admirably in numerous cases:—Milk, 20 oz.; powdered borax, ½ oz.; glycerine, 1 oz. Another very good remedial wash is composed of oatmeal water, ½ a pint; buttermilk, ½ a pint; borax, ¼ oz. It is also necessary to use an emollient cream at night to soothe the heated surface of the skin, and heal any soreness which may result from its cracking or peeling. Toilet-cream for this purpose may be made from glycerine, 1 oz.; lanoline, ¾ oz.; white petrolatum, 2¼ oz. Mix the lanoline and petrolatum, and then incorporate the glycerine. Add a few drops of otto oil or ylangylang.

Keeping the Hair in Curl by the Seaside.—The continual limp state which most people's hair insists in retaining when at the seaside is one of the bugbears of holiday existence. However carefully the hair may be curled in the morning, a few sharp breezes from the "briny" generally succeed in reducing it to a straggling, moist, and almost perfectly straight condition. Some women's hair seems to defy the salt atmosphere, but in most cases this antagonistic attitude of one's tresses is a real trouble. The best plan for keeping the hair in curl is to employ a good curling fluid, taking care however, that the hair is thoroughly free from grease before applying it, as otherwise it will have no effect. An invisable net should also be rather tightly drawn over the fringe, and the veil may be adjusted over the hair inside the brim of the hat. The following recipe makes a very good curling fluid:—Californian borax, 2 oz.; gum arabic, 1 drachm; hot water (not boiling), 1 quart. Stir, and as soon as the ingredients are dissolved, add 3 table spoonsful of strong spirits of camphor. Wet the hair with this liquid every night before rolling up the curlers. I do not advise the constant use of curling fluids, as they are very apt to cause the hair to become dry and brittle, and to induce dandruff.

Beauty in Dress.

Many women dress as if the face were the only consideration, never heeding if they be tall or short, stout or slim.

Of course, the complexion is greatly to be studied if you would dress well.

The method to tone down any tint that is excessive in the face is to bring a strong colour of the same tone in close proximity to it, although even this rule is not always to be followed; for rules cannot always be relied upon, but they are a guide.

Pink and white seem only suited to the young and fair, yet how much white is used by even the old, whose complexions are often yellowed by time.

Blue suits the blonde and enriches her golden tresses, but it is apt to bring forward any tinge of yellow there may be in the skin. Now gold in some form will hide this, and while in contact with the face subdues the ill-effect of the blue, and preserves its good ones.

Fur is the most softening to every complexion of anything that can be worn.

Therapeutic Value of Pineapple Juice.

During the last few years we have been learning of the medicinal effects of fruit juices, particularly as aids to digestion. No fruit has more value for this purpose than the pine-apple, and many experiments with its juices prove it. A freshly-cut slice of the fruit laid on a piece of beefsteak will in surprisingly short time cause softening, swelling, and partial digestion of the meat for a considerable depth from the surface. It is stated that bromoline, the active principle of the pineapple, has been used in the preparation of the well known Masquera beef jelly.

The reputation of the pineapple has suffered because it has been eaten in too large quantities at a time, and the fibrous part has been swallowed with the juice. To obtain the full digestive value of the juice one quadrant of a slice half an inch thick is ample at one meal. It must not be cooked, and should be just ripe. The preserved fruit has practically no digestive power.

Another use other than digestive is in cases of diphtheria, for the juice has a strong solvent action upon plastic exudation, such as the diphtheria membrane. When it is applied to it on a swab or spray its time of contact is not enough to cause solution, but it is of material service in softening the sticky and stringy exudations so as to admit of its easy detachment. It also softens horny epidermis in the same way as, though more slowly than, salicylic acid. If a thin slice be kept in close contact with a corn for eight hours it will be softened so as to be readily removed.

Health Notes.

Inflammation of the throat may sometimes be cured by the steam from a lump of resin over which boiling water has been poured. Place a lump of resin the size of a walnut in an old teapot, pour boiling water over it, cover and place the spout to the mouth.

"Feed a cold and starve a fever," is an adage as old as time itself. A severe cold usually runs its course, though such simple treatments as hot lemonade at bedtime, or even hot broth, sipped before retiring, is often sufficient to break a cold.

When bread is given to children under a year and a-half old, it should be sliced very thinly, buttered lightly and given in small quantities.

If troubled with large, or varicose, veins in the lower limbs, do not stand much in one position, but move about or sit down whenever opportunity affords.

A thorough but gentle rubbing with a soft chamois skin will remove dust and dirt from the face, and this practice is better than numerous washings during a day.

To make oatmeal water place a tablespoonful of coarsely ground oatmeal in a pint of water; simmer gently for an hour; then add sufficient water to make it measure one pint again.

Don't neglect to take a ten minutes' rest during the day, with the feet raised. It gives the whole body a sense of repose and works wonders in smoothing out the lines on the face.

When there is excessive pain in the head or upper portion of the body, put the feet in a very hot bath to draw the blood down from the head. In case the patient is in bed, use the hot water bag at the feet.

Be sure that the hair is thoroughly dry after shampooing before dressing it, or a musty odour will result, and the hair will seem sticky and heavy. Headaches and backaches often result from doing up the hair before thoroughly dry.

When a child has swallowed any poisonous substance or liquid, the stomach should be emptied immediately. Ipecac is splendid to induce vomiting. The dose should be from a quarter to a teaspoonful, according to age of the child.

Light from Sugar.

A phenomenon, the cause of which has not yet been satisfactorily explained, was recently observed by a Government scientist during the course of certain experiments.

Disks of loaf sugar were mounted on a lathe and rapidly rotated while a hammer played lightly against them. An almost continuous radiation of light was thus produced from the sugar. It was shown that the light did not arise from heating of the sugar, and it is believed to have been caused by some change taking place in the sugar crystals. The act of crystallization is known to be sometimes accompanied by flashes of light. The practical bearing of these experiments is on the question of the possibility of obtaining artificial light by methods as yet untried.

ROUND-ABOUT NOTES.

Now that the holiday season has commenced, many people who suffer from "mal de mer" are seeking remedies for seasickness. Though seasickness has made voyagers miserable for centuries, the physicians have never been able to fathom the mystery of it and find an infallible cure. According to one authority, "Seasickness seems to be a functional disorder of the central nervous system. Those who attempt a more precise explanation usually experience that hopelessness which is the constant accompaniment of the disease." A noted French physician claims that the use of oxygen will effect a cure of this distressing disease. It is easily obtainable in compressed iron cylinders, and when taken in large quantities, say thirty pints, removes the strain from the breathing apparatus, and thus prevents the paroxysm. Another authority claims to have effected a cure by giving two grain powders of petroleum every ten minutes till three have been taken.

* * *

But the strangest remedy of all originated with the Italian Ambassador at Washington, Baron des Planches. Acting on the theory that seasickness is largely a complaint of the nerves, he swung a mirror over his face as he lay in his bunk, and by watching his reflection in the glass he became better and finally recovered, in spite of the fact that the voyage was a rough one. The explanation is that by gazing in the mirror the eye rests on an unchanging surface, and so the sense of motion gradually becomes less, and the brain is soothed and restored to its proper equilibrium.

* * *

It would hardly enter the head of a person looking at the tangled masses of seaweed which are washed up on the beach at the seashore that it could have any commercial value. On the British coast alone, however, four hundred thousand tons of this weed are collected each year. It is burned into kelp, from which chemists manufacture iodine and bromine, besides valuable chlorides and silicates. A great deal of it is carted inland and used for manure, hundreds of acres of cauliflower in Cornwall being grown yearly with no other fertiliser. Thousands of Japanese and Chinese live on seaweed. France collects eight million pounds of the alva yearly, and uses it for stiffening mattresses. On the Irish coast the carrageen moss affords a rich harvest to the poor peasants yearly, and is made by them into a valuable jelly. Bandoline and other preparations for the hair are also made from the same material, and a size essential to hat manufacturers in the making of straw hats is made from carrageen. Two million pounds weight is the yearly crop. Another valuable product of the seashore is shell. Wherever chalk is not naturally abundant the shells are collected and burned into lime for making mortar and cement, and are also used as valuable fertiliser for heavy clay soils. Certain shells are also burned into enamel and used for enamelling clock faces.

* * *

Though butterflies and moths are found widely distributed all over the globe, they are by far most abundant in the tropics. For instance, Brazil can show to the collector not less than 700 different species within an hour's walk of Para. There are not half as many in all Europe. In Britain there are 67 species, and in all Europe there are 390 different kinds. They are found as far north at Spitzbergen, on the Alps to a height of 9,000 feet, and on the Andes up to 18,000 feet. As there are some 200,000 species, it is easy to see why butterfly hunters are great travellers.

* * *

Mr. J. Collier is authority for the statement that there are no less than five thousand distinct languages spoken by mankind. The number of separate dialects is enormous. There are more than sixty distinct vocabularies in Brazil, and in Mexico the Nahua language has been broken up into seven hundred dialects. There are hundreds in Borneo. The complexities are beyond classification in Australia, and generally the number of dialects decreases with the intellectual culture of the population. If there is an average of fifty dialects to every language, we still have the enormous total of 250,000.

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THE MARK LANE EXPRESS SUPPLEMENT FOR THE HOME

Conducted by PEPITA

THE COLLECTORS' GUIDE.

Silver Lustre.

(Continued.)

"Resist" Pattern.

"For prettiest stuffs let Ireland first be named;
And for best fancied silks let France be famed;
Do thou, thrice happy England, still prepare
Thy clay, and build thy fame on Earthenware."

Hanbury Williams.

The introduction of the resist or pattern lustre is of a later date than ordinary silver lustre, and certainly was not manufactured before the later years of the eighteenth, or early years of the nineteenth century. As to the potter who introduced it, much controversy has arisen, but there is little doubt that Robert Wilson, of Hanley, somewhere between the years 1787 and 1793, began the manufacture of "resist" lustre ware, and more especially that branch of it called "platinum lustred ware." He also made copper and bronze lustre ware. Spode, Wood, Wedgwood, John Aynsley, and others, also were producers of lustre during the early years of the last century.

The method of manufacturing the so-called "resist" or pattern lustre apparently suggested the name by which the process has been called. It consisted in covering the body of the ware with a luscious glaze, on which the pattern was painted. This was done by a brush, with a solution of shellac; the piece was then coated with the metallic lustre of silver, copper, or bronze, as the case may be, and on being fired the pattern was destroyed, leaving the design. In some examples the design bears colour ornamentation under the glaze, a peculiar orange-red tint being a favourite colour. By some experts little differences in the process of manufacture can be noted, which enables them to state the county of their origin. An example with a thick glaze free from crazing is generally credited to Yorkshire, while those of a lighter glaze, with raised ornamentation, are "hall-marked" as Staffordshire. The process of manufacture was costly, and it must have been so when the so-called copper or bronze lustre owe their rich colouring not to copper, but to gold. In all cases, as Professor Church states, "the operation of lustring is based on what chemists call a 'reducing' action by which the metal concerned is set free from its combination."



TEAPOT OF "RESIST" LUSTRE WARE.

The film of precious metal was so thinly applied that its colour was affected by the hue of the earthenware beneath, which, as has already been stated, was of a reddish or yellow colour.

Judging from the dates on many pieces of "resist" lustre ware which are still extant, it appears as though the ware reached its height of prosperity between the years 1810 and 1825. Certainly, its manufacture was not carried on much later than 1830. The reason of this was the heavy cost of its manufacture, and the corresponding cost to the buyer. Few people could afford to pay the relatively large sum required for a piece of "resist" lustre ware, and when electro-plating came in a few years later, the need for it was gone.

The illustration is a good example of "resist" lustre ware. The teapot is of a dark copper lustre, with a band of blue enamel round it, on which, in relief, are full blown pink roses, with leaves and buds of copper lustre; the handle is decorated with a moulded dragon.

With the decadence of the art, slip or applied ornamentation was used, taking the form of so many of the Staffordshire patterns of that date. Roughly executed work of a child with a pet lamb, with the usual background of trees with red-brown spots, is one that may be mentioned out of many that come under the collector's notice. It may be taken as a general axiom in earthenware or porcelain that over-ornamentation is the last stage of its artistic existence. If the artist would only copy nature, and observe that the glorious autumn colouring of the trees is obtained not by the increased production of foliage, but got by the beauty of the deeper colouring and varied tints of the same leaves which came with the magic touch of spring.

In addition to the process described as "resist" work, the lustre pigment was utilised at many factories for the decoration of earthenware and china. The well-known Sunderland ware made use of the lustre as a minor decoration, and the Spodes, the Copelands, and others made a feature of it. Deep splashes of silver colour in the shape of vine leaves, grapes in purple, edgings of gold and silver to the cups and saucers of tea and coffee services. Even jugs with hunting scenes, or sportsmen with gun and dogs, were marked in lustre of copper and bronze, with the addition of other strong colours.

Few pieces of "resist" lustre ware were dated, and those that are extant bear dates from the early days of the nineteenth century down to 1825. By 1830, or a little later, as has already been stated, the industry was dead.

At the time lustre ware was being manufactured in this country, the art of making earthenware had become a large industry, and in Staffordshire alone there were nearly one hundred and fifty manufacturers in 1802, each endeavouring to excel in some particular form of production. Lustre ware was confined to a few potters, and the excellence of their products can be seen in the pieces that are now in museums and private collections. Despised as the silver and "resist" lustre ware was held in early and even later Victorian days, the beauty and variety of its form and decoration has once more been re-established, and to-day a collection of it is much prized. Its charming variety of designs, its rich colouring and wondrous beauty of metallic glaze is appreciated by the connoisseur, and the collectors of it are an ever increasing number.

Lustre ware bears no comparison with our English porcelain, but should be judged on its own merits, not forgetting to take into account the little knowledge many of the potters had of the technicalties of the art, and the want of what may be called the scientific side of its manufacture.

———o———

"Now, Thomas," said the bishop, solemnly, after taking his servant to task, "who is it that sees all we do and hears all we say and knows all we think, and regards even me in my bishop's robes as but a vile worm of the dust?" And Thomas replied, "The missus, sir!"

NOTES ON PRACTICAL GARDENING.

In my former notes upon cuttings, I dealt only with calceolaria, pansy, and antirrhinums, not mentioning the bedding geraniums as owing to the cold and unsettled state of the weather this summer, geraniums of every variety have practically made no progress since they were bedded out. Still, the question of cuttings of this plant must come under our special notice at the end of the month, if we are to obtain plants next year.

It will be a somewhat difficult matter to secure a sufficient quantity for stock. I would suggest that they be obtained by degrees and every available shoot taken as soon as they come along large enough to strike, placing them in a green house near the glass with a temperature of about 50 degrees. I have visited several nurseries, and find that all the best varieties have been dearer this summer than ever before, but it is quite possible that a higher price will prevail in 1908. The kind I would suggest as the most attractive are the following:—Henry Jacoby, Mrs. Leavers, Vesuvius, Scarlet King, Mrs. Pollock, King Edward VII., Queen of Whites, Marshall McMahon, Flower of Spring, West Brighton Gem. Those amateurs who do not possess these will be wise to purchase a few large plants and cut them away as far as possible. They may cost one shilling each, but then the expense of laying out beds next year will be minimised if cuttings are raised.

I am quite convinced that geraniums will be very scarce in the spring, and nurserymen will be able to command their own price for the best flowering and one of the most useful and needful of the amateur gardener's bedding plants. I shall procure one or two dozen of each sort mentioned above, with the hope of a nice display next year. The cuttings should be planted in a soil composed of a rich, sandy loam, with a good mixture of leaf mould, which should be well rotted, and a small quantity of turf loam, which will act as a stimulant. This should be well pressed round the cutting and carefully watered. To the lovers, or even to the admirers of flowers—and who may not be included in the latter category?—the season for propagation by cutting is of interest.

Carnations should at once be layered, using freshly-prepared soil into which only the strongest and healthiest shoots should be secured. I have personally examined every one of the following varieties this week:—Duchess Consuelo, this plant bears a soft canary yellow bloom, very large, and is without exception the finest yellow carnation at present cultivated; Enchantress, very fine white; Mrs. Leopold Rothschild, beautiful pale pink, good form; Prince and Princess of Wales, these are crimson scarlet, and showed lovely blooms, which attracted my attention at once. The Blush Malmaison, a white, lovely flower; Lord and Lady Rosebery, rich, rosy crimson, and very beautifully formed blooms; Lady Grimston, blush pink-marked bright rose, very large, beautifully scented flowers; Mrs. Trelawney, dark salmon; Trumpeters, very large dark crimson, sweetly scented; Florizel, a new shade to me of a distinct beautiful rose. It is very difficult to know which variety to leave unmentioned.

The flowers I have mentioned I inspected in a large palm house, so that as the plants were on exhibition I was able to learn the names and see the blooms to the very best advantage. The atmosphere was decidedly against the blooms, as carnations soon spoil and lose their attractiveness if the air is not dry and abundant ventilation is not at all times given to them. I raised a question with the caretaker as to the layered plants, and he kindly told me that all the kinds exhibited were from layered

plants; he was most emphatic in his views that layering was the best method of getting good strong carnations. They throw out a perfect thicket of shoots. This is the opinion of an intelligent person, and layering should be done at once. He mentioned that cuttings satisfactorily managed made good stuff, but do not produce more than two to three flowering stems, and consequently only a little grass.

Successful layering needs a good, sharp knife, and the cut should be just below the joint. Water them fairly well at first, and a little of the grass should be cut away. They should not be exposed to a hot sun for at least four to five weeks, after which time, give them as much sun and air as possible, and look forward to the coming year with bright hopes of a magnificent show of sweet and lovely flowers. I am rather inclined to think that gardeners who go in for cutting blooms for sale would do well to cultivate the carnation, as it stands well in a vase and brings sweet perfume into the house. The best variety of Malmaison blooms fetch 1s. to 1s. 6d. each in a London shop with a rich connection of customers.

G. W. Thomson Price.

Needlework.

Embroidered Table Covers.

(*Concluded.*)

A serviceable but handsome cloth, suitable for covering the dining table for occasions when it is desirable to remove the linen cloth, is shown decorated with the simple but effective Bulgarian work. When done in three shades of one colour, with the dot in black, it is very striking. For instance, on écru or natural colour linen three shades of dull red or blue are used, though when worked in four shades of wood browns (omitting the black) the effect is very pleasing. A heavier floss is used to outline the middle border line. When used for a library or hall cover the pattern may be worked in true Bulgarian fashion; that is, using all the colours mentioned in each figure. For instance, the two lower leaves will be light blue, the ones above dull green, the next ones red, and the centre one dark blue, with the dot black outlined with gold.

Where a washing cover is not specially desirable, one of broadcloth with the Bulgarian work is to be recommended.

Even when fashioned of washing material embroidered pieces should never be washed in hard water. Use lukewarm soft water with a pure white soap, making a lather before the goods are put in, as soap should never be rubbed on the piece. Wash but one piece at a time, lightly squeezing and lifting it through the water till clean. Do not twist and wring, but gently press the water out; rinse in two lukewarm waters, the last one very slightly blued. Dry by pinning over a sheet to the line (in the shade), or lay between thick, soft cloths, and roll up for ten minutes. Put a thick blanket over the ironing sheet, covered with a clean cloth, lay on the embroidered piece wrong side up, and stretch into proper shape. With a moderately hot iron begin to press in the centre, iron till perfectly dry.

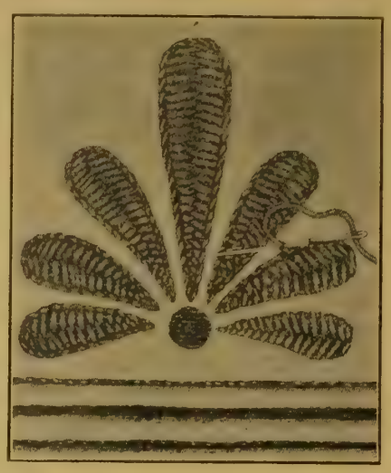
Cretonne is still much used for covers, but the cretonne of to-day is vastly different from that of even ten years ago, being made in lighter weight and a greater variety of designs. For many purposes, however, what is known as art linen is more in favour. This fabric is about the weight of cretonne, but has more of a twill shown. It is especially serviceable for cushion and upholstery covers, but lends itself equally well to straight casement curtains. For covering chests and boxes it is exceedingly smart, since colour effects can be well carried out by its use. Cretonne and art linen are taking the place of corduroy in covering window seats, whether the cushions alone are covered or if there is a flounce to hide the shelves underneath. A light weight of either cretonne or art linen is used to cover made-up articles such as letter, glove, kerchief, and tie boxes.

Clover Leaf Crochet Edging.

For this edging crochet as follows:—

1. *Twenty-one chain, 1 double on the sixteenth of these, 5 chain, 1 double on the last double; 5 chain, 1 double on the last double; fasten to the same stitch of the 21 chain on which the first double was crocheted, 1 single, 1 short double, 9 doubles, 1 short double, 1 single on the sixteenth to the twenty-first of the 21 chain, one single on each of the two following 5 chain, 1 short double, 9 doubles, 1 short double, 1 single, then 5 singles on the fifteenth to the eleventh of the 21 chain and repeat from*, but in every repetition fasten the middle of the 9 doubles crocheted on the sixteenth to the twenty-first chain to the middle of the 9 doubles of the preceding round which were worked last on 5 chain.

2. *One single on the middle double of the middle point on the next figure in the preceding round, 9 chain, 1 double on, the next vein in the hollow between 2 figures side by side, 9 chain. Repeat from*.



DETAIL OF BULGARIAN WORK.

3. Five singles on the next 9 chain in the preceding round, twice alternately 1 picot (consisting of 5 chain and 1 single on the first of these), 3 singles on the same 9 chain on which 5 singles have already been crocheted, then *twice alternately 3 singles, 1 picot on the next 9 chain, 5 singles on the same 9 chain on which the last singles were crocheted, 3 singles on the next 9 chain, 5 chain, fasten to the third of the 5 singles worked previously, 3 singles, 1 picot, 3 singles on the 5 chain worked last, 2 singles on the same 9 chain on which 3 singles were last worked, twice alternately 1 picot, 3 singles on the same 9 chain on which the last singles were worked. Repeat from*.



TABLE CLOTH IN BULGARIAN WORK.

4. (On the other side of the foundation). Always 1 single on each stitch of the first round.

5. Always alternately 1 double on every second stitch of the preceding round, with 1 chain between.

6. Always 1 single on each stitch in the preceding round.

Needlewook Designs from Nature.

A piece of embroidery will be doubly interesting and precious to the worker if she has designed, or rather drawn and composed the design in which it is worked, from nature. Dandelions in their various stages of growth, from bud to seed-puffs, are easily drawn, and the manner of their arrangement should be somewhat conventional; for instance, they may be drawn in a somewhat stiff, up growing row in their various stages of development. A few of the winged seeds floating off in space as if suggesting a faint breeze, give a very pretty result.

Summer Dishes.

Purée of Lettuce.

Blanch some lettuce, mince, and toss them in a little butter until tender, then add some good stock, in which a little flour and butter have been smoothly mixed; let it all boil up, then pass it through a sieve, adding enough stock to bring it to the proper consistency, flavour to taste, and re-heat the soup. Just before serving, the yolks of two eggs, strained and mixed with a little milk or cream, should be stirred into the soup. Serve with tiny *croutons*.

Currant Salad.

Pick over a pint of red currants and place them in the centre of a compote dish; then pick over a pint of white currants, and arrange them in a border round the red ones; outside of these arrange another border of black currants. Take a pint of good cream, sweeten, and add gradually a tablespoonful of brandy and one of curacoa. Pour the cream over the salad, and drop fresh raspberries all over each

Salt Fish.

Cut 4 or 5 onions into dice, fry them brown in a stewpan, add ¼ oz. of caralline pepper, 1½ oz. of creme de riz, a little thyme finely chopped, the juice of 2 lemons, ½ teaspoonful of extract of meat, and a pint of fish stock. Mix together, and bring to boiling point; then add 3 tomatoes, rubbed through a sieve; let all simmer until the onions are tender, and add some cold cooked salt fish, carefully removing skin and bones. Shrimps and oysters may be added, but are not absolute necessaries. Heat the fish in the sauce, and serve with boiled rice.

Hungarian Salad.

Take some small potatoes, boil them, peel them while still warm, slice very thin. To every pint of potatoes mince 1 small onion, 1 pickled beetroot, 1 fresh cucumber sliced, a Dutch herring, 4 sardines, and 1 spoonful of cold boiled ham. Mix all together and pour over it 1 teacupful of vinegar. Garnish with pickled walnuts.

Seasonable Recipes.

Damson Jelly

may be made now with advantage. Carefully pick the fruit; put into a stone jar, and set in the oven. Strain through a sieve, and to every pint of damson juice put a pound of loaf sugar. Boil it until it will set, and pour into jars. The fruit must be gathered when dry, and all that is unsound must be rejected.

Damson Cheese.

Gather the damsons when fully ripe and dry. Put into a jar with a quarter of a pound of loaf sugar to every pound of fruit. Bake in a moderate oven until quite soft, then rub through a hair sieve. To every pound of pulp add half a pound of loaf sugar, and boil on a slow fire, stirring all the time, for half an hour. Put into fancy shapes, and cover over until wanted. It is fit for use by Christmas.

Imitation Preserved Ginger

Use either garden rhubarb or the stalk of lettuces going to seed. Strip off the stringy part, and cut the stalks into pieces about two inches long. Put them into a saucepan with 5 pints of water, 1 lb. of sugar, and 2 tablespoonfuls of fresh ground ginger. Boil slowly for 20 minutes, set the preparation aside, and later on boil again half an hour, and repeat the process a third time. Make a thick syrup by boiling together 1 cupful of water, 1 lb. of loaf sugar, and 1½ ozs. of ginger for every pound of stalk, and when cold, put the preserve in jars, and cover closely. It will be ready for use in a fortnight. One pound of rhubarb will make one pound of preserve.

Damson Trifle

is a dainty little dish, and easily prepared. Stew 1 lb. of damsons with ¼ lb. of lump sugar until the fruit is soft. Place them in a glass dish, and pour over them a rich custard. Put some Savoy biscuits edgeways on the custard, and when ready to serve pile some whipped cream on the top, above which, at the last moment, sprinkle chopped almonds.

THE NEWEST FASHIONS.

Not only a hat for every gown, but a number of hats for each costume, to change the effect and give the appearance of great variety in the outfit, is to-day the accepted decree, and when it is taken into consideration what an all-important part of a costume is a smart and becoming hat it is not astonishing that each year it becomes necessary to have this part of the trousseau as generously supplied as the income will allow. Unfortunately the price demanded for smart millinery does not decrease proportionately with the increased number of hats sold per season, but rather the reverse; and whereas formerly it was considered in better taste to wear an inexpensive hat with a simple walking costume this is far from being the case to-day, and now frequently much of the style of the dress is left to depend upon the effectiveness of the hat; nor, comparatively speaking, is it possible to economize to any extent upon a hat.

* * *

There are astonishingly few women who can trim their own hats successfully, and unless one has a decided knack in that direction there is no use in attempting to obtain it. The chief difficulty in trimming a hat is in acquiring a good frame or shape, and for some unknown reason it is well-nigh impossible to get the newest shapes already made up. It is not difficult to make a good wire frame if one has really learned how to do it, and if one cares to take the trouble there are plenty of places where this art can be taught; then it is an easy matter to build a good shape on the wire frame. For summer hats it is less difficult to find a good Leghorn, crin or chip straw, and, trimmed simply with a wreath or clusters of flowers and rosettes of ribbon, a most attractive hat can be fashioned. A great many women can copy where they cannot create, and summer hats are infinitely easier and less intricate to put together than the velvet, fur and felt hats, so it is well to practise first on the straw shapes, and flowers for these trimmings are much less expensive—quite a considerable item.

* * *

The sailor shape is a very popular one, and this year is no exception to the rule. For boating, tennis, golf, etc., no style of hat is better than a plain sailor of rough straw, and black and white are about equally fashionable. White sailors change in size and height of crown and width of brim in accordance with the prevailing mode, still there is always enough variety in the shapes for one and all to be suited. It is true that the Panama hats, with their soft, wide brims and crush crowns, are so much more comfortable to wear than the sailors that they are perhaps more fashionable at present, but still the stiff brim looks so neat and trim that there is much to be said in its favour. For town, however, and for all times when a Panama cannot be worn—and the Panama and plain sailors are only appropriate with a shirt blouse and skirt costume; the so-called trimmed sailor is most useful. This sailor is often a decidedly elaborate affair, trimmed with flowers, ribbons, and wings, but its lines are kept severe, and the general style of the hat denotes that it is for a simple morning gown. The brim is not necessarily of even width, but at present is a trifle wider in the back and on the left side and is worn tilted up slightly on the left. The large cachepeigne of tulle or ribbon has disappeared, and frequently one sees this style of hat fitting down close to the hair, the brim not filled in at all.

* * *

An exceedingly smart model of this order was of white crin faced with black taffeta, the silk also making a narrow binding on the straw. The crown, which was of medium height in size, was encircled by a sort of wreath formed of soft white and black pigeon breasts, while on the left side was massed a large cluster of stiff white wings, which came out just a little beyond the edge of the brim. The hat was about even width all around and rested quite flat on the hair, an excellent model for a linen or silk shirt blouse or for a white serge or linen suit.

* * *

All lace hats are attractive, and many of them exceedingly pretty, but the lace must be of a fairly good quality, and is perhaps more effective if used over a white straw frame. One attractive model was in white straw, with a large Tam o' Shanter crown of white lace, a ruffle of which fell down over the straw brim. Wreaths of tiniest pink rosebuds were laid about the crown over the lace ruffle and at the back was a large pink bow, which fell down just a little over the brim. This last made a charming hat for a light summer gown of lace, lingerie, or flowered mousseline.

* * *

The pretty voile gown illustrated this week is in a pale shade of heliotrope, with narrow fancy ribbon of the same shade. The blouse is cream crèpe de chine with appliqué lace and the Kimono bodice is relieved with a waist belt and folded edge of purple velvet.



A PRETTY VOILE GOWN.

Secrets of Beauty.

Every woman is bound to make herself as presentable as possible. A great many physical defects can be remedied, or, at any rate, made less observable. You will often notice that those who have bad complexions never wear veils. Now, a pretty veil, with a small spot so placed as not to be dazzling, is often very becoming, and adds a general finish to the bonnet or hat. Marks on the neck or throat can be very effectively concealed by ruffles, and those who have scars of any kind on their skin should wear soft laces, chiffons, or some such becoming arrangements round the neck to hide the objectionable marks. Again, women with thin necks and long chins should always wear a soft frill or ruche, instead of the high, stiff collar, which has the effect of bringing into greater prominence their bad points. Hands, whether beautiful or ugly, should be well cared for; the nails should be nicely kept, and if the hand is very large and not of a pretty shape, gloves should fit especially well, and when possible be of a dark colour.

It was a Frenchman who said that a pretty woman with bad teeth was never lovely, and an ugly woman with good teeth was never plain. Teeth are more remarkable in some people than in others. Well-cared-for teeth add much to the good appearance of anyone. Well-arranged hair is always attractive. If it has come out from ill-health or other causes, then wear a little false hair. In these days all kinds of arrangements are made so that the dreaded wig is avoided, and even when indispensable it is now made much better than it used to be. Far better do this than offend the eye by patches of baldness.

Sunburn.

Sunburn may be treated by applying two or three times a day a sedative wash made in the following way:—Finely shave 3 drachms of curd soap and dissolve it with gentle heat in 8 ozs. of rose-water; add 2 drachms of powdered Californian borax. In another jar dissolve 3 drachms of white wax in 2½ ozs. of oil of sweet almonds by means of gentle heat. Mix the solutions and shake together, and when nearly cold add 12 ozs. of glycerine, 6 drachms of pure alcohol, and 2 ozs. of rose-water. Perfume with a few drops of otto of roses and shake well until cold. When finished it should be of the consistency of a thick cream, and should be kept in a well-corked bottle. It should be gently rubbed over the face with the hand twice a day. The proportions I have given are for a large quantity, but they can, of course, be reduced.

A preparation partaking more of the nature of a lotion than a cream is made from eau de Cologne, 1 oz., glycerine, 1 oz, borax, ½ drachm, elder-flower water, 4 ozs. Shake all well together.

A little pure rice powder may be dusted over the face after the application of the cream or lotion. The effect is most refreshing and cooling when the face is burning and scorched by the sun.

When the skin is hot and irritated from sunburn never wash the face in cold water, but bathe very carefully with warm—not hot—water, then dry with a soft towel.

The Earth's Future.

Project yourself into the future, if you can, and imagine this Earth as it will be some millions of years hence. At that remote period its mountains will have been levelled; its fertile areas will have shrivelled to arid deserts; its gases will partly have floated away, and its atmosphere will consequently have been impoverished and attenuated; its weather will have become so wearisomely unvaried, its skies so monotonously serene that the passage of a cloud will be chronicled by historians; its seas and its lakes will have dried up utterly; its oceans will have poured through cracks and caverns into its interior; and all the water that now covers four-fifths of its surface will have dwindled to a small plain of ice and snow deposited about each Pole. That image of the Earth's future plight may be considered a fairly accurate picture of the present condition of Mars, as it has been unfolded by the more recent discoveries.

On a planet so withered and aged that its water is confined to the frozen seas at its poles, the annual melting of the snow and ice would be an event of vital moment if its inhabitants would save themselves from certain extinction—so vital, indeed, that the one absorbing problem would be the task of leading the polar water to those thirsty regions about the Equator which would still blossom if properly nourished. In a word, irrigation on a stupendous scale would be attempted, involving not merely the few hundred thousand acres of an American alkali desert, but an entire planet.—THE WINDSOR MAGAZINE.

Hot Weather Health Hints.

Don't hurry; don't worry.
Dress lightly and loosely.
Do not over-eat.
Eat what your appetite calls for in the way of good vegetables.
Exert yourself as little as possible.
Avoid violent exercises in the sun, such as bicycling or tennis.
Do not drink iced water.
Do not stand or walk in the sunlight bareheaded if you can avoid it.
Above all, beware of alcholic beverages, such as beer, whiskey, ale or brandy.

Every season of the year has its special risks in the matter of health. Hot weather is quite as dangerous in its way as cold. To avoid overheating, a regular course of rules should be followed as far as possible.

We live in a rushing, hurrying age, everybody is on the fly, as it were. We are in a constant stew and bustle. We rush home for our meals, and hurry them through as fast as possible. In short, we live at a pace one-third or one-half faster than we should.

Therefore, the first hot-weather rule that we should follow is:—Don't hurry. Live as slowly and as calmly as you can.

Drink plenty of pure cool water, to make up for the loss occasioned by excessive perspiration. The evaporation of this perspiration tends to keep you cool, so do not quarrel with it.

It goes without saying that you should drink nothing containing alcohol. Such drinks cause engorgement of the heart. It works faster under the pressure of alcohol and raises the temperature to an uncomfortable degree.

Dress suitably to the day. Wear loose, thin clothes adapted for comfort, and avoid tight bands or collars about the throat, so that the blood may circulate freely.

Eat no food that has been exposed to the dust, and do not eat in excess of any kind of food.

Over-exertion, both physical and mental, is another fault to be avoided. It stops the natural secretions of the stomach and causes other functional troubles.

The drinking of iced water should be avoided. It drives the blood from the stomach. When the stomach recovers from the shock the blood rushes back, causing congestion.

To live regularly is another essential hot-weather rule. Eat regularly and sleep regularly, so that your strength may be maintained.

A Rubenstein Story.

An amusing story is told with reference to the great Rubenstein. Once he visited Marienbad, and, being asked to give a concert for the benefit of a hospital, he requested that a pianoforte should be brought to his room, at the hotel, in order to practise upon it. This he did at once, and so annoyed a certain countess whose apartments were exactly over his, that she wrote a peremptory note, remarking that if he would persist in practising, at least he might not play so many wrong notes. Rubenstein sent a courteous reply, and signed his name. The lady's consternation at learning the identity of the musician can be better understood than expressed.

The Sampler.

'Twas "Hannah Smith's—her sampler,"
She worked it long ago,
When bloomed the damask roses
Or fell the winter snow,
The alphabet in colours
Of faded red and blue,
Above a row of numbers
Now dim and dingy, too.

Within a cluttered window
Where antiques court the eye
It lies to wait the pleasure
Of any who will buy;
A chapter from the volume
Of long forgotten years,
It tells a simple story
Too short for sin or tears.

A patient little maiden
With hair of flaxen gold,
She stitched the tedious letters
In quiet days of old.
No doubt she pricked her fingers
And often wished to play
When birds and bees and blossoms
All beckoned her away.

The date is in the corner,
'Twas 1646;
Still in the final figure
A rusty needle sticks.
It points to vanished kingdoms,
Wrecked towers and ruined fanes,
While still the shabby sampler
Of Hannah Smith remains.

ROUND-ABOUT NOTES.

The Roumanian Department of Education is extending its field of warfare against the corset. Some time ago, it was decreed that none might attend the public schools who wore corsets. As might have been expected, there were loud protests, but the Minister of Education stood firm, and with the State to indorse his action he carried his point. Education is compulsory, and since none might attend the public schools who wore corsets, it resulted in the practical abandonment of this article of dress among the girls. Careful watch was kept upon the young women, and as the result of a table of statistics recently submitted, it has been declared that the standard of health among the school girls has been very materially improved. Now it has been ordered that all directors of private educational establishments must see to it that their pupils also eschew the corset, and a fresh discussion has been started, since the new decision sharply affects the children of the wealthy, who regard the corset as being essential to the production of a proper figure. The Minister of Education has announced his intention of seeing that his decree is rigidly enforced, and his inspectors are cautioned to pay particular attention to this decree.

* * *

The Japanese as a race are fearless. This is evidenced by the hazardous occupation of the little brown men who earn a living far from the rocky coast lines of the islands. One of the chief articles of diet in Japan is fish. To secure it for the market the Japanese go many miles from land in their tiny craft, which to those who do not understand their strength and buoyancy look as though any ordinary wave would capsize them. These Japanese go two and three hundred miles at sea to catch fish. Each year the shores of the islands are strewn with wreckage from the boats, while the sea gives up the bodies of the brave men who were caught in the fearful typhoons which sweep around this corner of the earth. Then, again, the ocean liners take the lives of many of these doughty Japanese. There is never a diminution in the numbers of the fleet.

* * *

In the Transvaal may now be seen many beggars who disdain to walk, and travel over the country on excellent bicycles. A Belgian writing from the Transvaal to a friend in Brussels, says:—"A certain proof that we are civilised here is the fact that our beggars ride on bicycles. I often see them alight from their wheels, which are of a high grade, and ask persons for alms in the coolest possible manner. The other day, a strong, healthy, good looking young woman about 20 years of age got off her bicycle as I was passing by and asked me for some money, telling me that her parents were very poor, and had 14 children, whom they found it very difficult to support."

* * *

Apropos of the heat wave, Death Valley in southern California is usually referred to as the hottest spot on earth, but it isn't quite that. This rather unpleasant distinction belongs to a portion of the shore of the Persian Gulf, at, and in the vicinity of Bahrin. Statistics prove that the mean annual temperature of the Persian Gulf furnace is 11 degrees higher than that of Death Valley, and the aridness of both places is about on a par. Yet, while Death Valley is inhabited by practically none, and permanent life there is deemed wellnigh impossible, Bahrin has a population of several thousand people, and has had an existence as a village for many centuries. Of course, the people are stunted mentally, and to a slightly less extent physically, a fact, due to the fearful conditions under which they live; but they do live there, and are probably the nearest approach to salamanders in the human family.

"PEPITA."

School for Aeronauts.

Arrangements have just been completed to establish at Chemnitz a training school for aeronauts and constructors of airships. A similar school has been in operation in Paris for a year past. The Chemnitz institution will be the second enterprise in the new pedagogical field. A one year's course is contemplated for the present, the school to be opened this month. This course, at the outset, is limited to the construction and use of balloons. It will be enlarged so as to include aeroplanes as soon as practical working types have been developed.





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THE MARK LANE EXPRESS SUPPLEMENT FOR THE HOME

Conducted by "PEPITA"

THE NEWEST FASHIONS.

The three-quarter half-fitting lace coat is an intensely becoming style to a tall, slender woman, and at the same time the lines can be satisfactorily adapted to a larger size; only care must be taken to have sufficient width at the sides. The modern corset, of course, aims and generally succeeds in banishing the exaggerated hip, but there can be no absolute doing away with all avoirdupois by the aid of mere corsets, and the hip measure of many a woman who is apparently rather slender is rather surprising. Consequently, there must be sufficient width in any semi-fitting coat to prevent the too clear defining of the hips. Most of the coat backs are curved in at the waist line, or perhaps it would be more strictly correct to say that many are so fashioned, for there is still a strong prejudice in favour of the charmingly becoming style that hangs loose from the shoulders, yet indicates a waist line by the imperceptible curve in at the sides. A coat of this order, but long enough to reach almost to the hem of the skirt, can be made of white or black lace or net or of embroidery, or, although this is not by any means so new, of pleated chiffon.

* * *

A thin lining of chiffon, mousseline de soie, or China silk is considered the correct lining for these coats, and there is really quite a little warmth in them, so that the protection they afford is by no means imaginary. One of the smartest, and incidentally the most costly, of these coats is made of the finest cut jet beads sewn into a network of black. A deep border of yellow lace appliqué finishes the coat around the hem, and the wide flowing sleeves and collarless neck are outlined with the same lace. This is a most fascinating and becoming garment, with the utmost simplicity of line that seems but to accentuate the beauty of the materials and the artistic draping.

* * *

Lace and braid are often combined as trimming on silk, linen or cloth, and this is shown to perfection in the coats. It would seem as though women might be satisfied with lace itself, beautiful in texture or design, but, on the contrary, it is considered most desirable to improve (?) upon the lace, to embroider it with silk work, and to outline it with braid in narrow lines beside the edge of the lace where it is sewn on to the material. Jetted, embroidered, and spangled laces seem really better suited to evening gowns than to any sort of wrap, and yet it must be confessed that as a trimming, provided too much of it is not used, bits of this trimming are remarkably effective, but, then, the workmanship must be of the best.

* * *

Irish lace coats with embroidered batiste medallions are not so new as the heavy embroidered linens and open-work embroidery combined with some one of the Cluny or heavy fancy laces that are to be had now in so many different patterns. The work on these coats, whether they be made short or long, is of the finest, and they certainly are a delightful possession for anyone.

* * *

The embroidered linens finished with just the edge of Irish lace are rather severe, but extremely smart, and the severe lines are quite done away with by the full jabot of lace and lawn that is still fashionable, while the transparent lace stock collar, worn with the lingerie blouse under the embroidered coat, also helps to make the wearer look well.

* * *

A fashion of long ago that is occasionally seen, put forward tentatively perhaps, is the three-quarter length fitted lace or embroidered coat with the half-fitting fronts. The lace is of the heavier quality, softened by lighter lace ruffles at the wrists and in the inevitable lace tie or jabot. These coats are certainly extremely smart, but require to be worn by a slender figure to have the desired lines, so that the fashion is not destined to become too popular, like the pony and box coats, which have been such a godsend to the world of women at large.

* * *

A most charming gown of white serge has an absolutely plain skirt, but so perfectly is it cut and does it hang that it challenges attention and admiration at a glance. The jacket has a loose back—indeed, is loose fitting back and front—and yet it is shaped to indicate the lines of the figure, and is in the sack coat order. Quite short, it yet hides the waist line, and is slashed at the side seams. It is trimmed elaborately with braid of the same colour, unless a dark colour like a dark blue be chosen for the gown, in which case the braiding can be in black. This model, however, looks best made up in white or some light or bright shade. The new reds are attractive, but the grays and different tones of white are the most fashionable of all. This model was originally made up in cloth, but has been copied both in silk and linen, and has been immensely successful in both. It is capital in linen, for so much braiding and lace insertion can be employed to make it more effective.

* * *

The illustration in this issue shows a chic gown in chiffon taffeta silk of golden brown, trimmed with appliqué lace. The hat is of brown crinoline, with cream ostrich feathers shading to golden brown.



A CHIFFON TAFFETA GOWN.

Moths.

Some Methods of Destroying Them

Name of dread to every housewife! Who does not recollect some choice treasured article, which had been put away for a time, that on being brought to the light and unfolded was found to have been eaten and spoiled by these infamous insects? The moth is a cowardly creature, as all of his work is done in the dark, and the first intimation one has of his presence comes from the discovery of his depredations.

It is a little difficult to say where the life of a moth begins or ends, or rather to get a starting point from which to give his history. He is hatched, generally speaking, about the first of June, and immediately begins to eat and make free with the choicest fabrics, woollen cloths and furs being his favourite articles of diet. If not discovered and punished for his habits (and he is so small as to be very hard to detect), he continues to eat his way through the summer and autumn, till cold weather comes on.

He then becomes torpid and harmless till spring, when he changes with the coming of warm weather into a chrysalis, and in about three weeks emerges with a pair of wings suited to the size of his reconstructed diminutive body. He—that is, she—flies about evenings, keeping out of sight during the day, till May or June, in various dark and obscure places, lays quantities of eggs, so small that they can only be discovered by the use of a microscope or the exercise of very sharp eyesight, then dies, having done quite enough mischief for one semi-visible pest.

There is no certain way of preventing the ravages of moths, or rather their entrance to a house, since they can so easily intrude themselves, and are so hard to detect. It should be remembered that they work only in darkness, and that where a flood of light can be admitted during the day they are not likely to appear. It is to the obscure nooks, therefore, that attention is to be directed—to the edges and corners of carpets, the contents of drawers, chests, and presses, the woollen felting of office desks, and the like.

All woollen goods which are in danger of being infested should be brushed and beaten, hung in the sun and air if practicable, then be carefully wrapped in thick, unbroken paper before being laid away. The moth miller cannot get inside the paper to lay her eggs, and the young moths cannot penetrate it after they are hatched.

The fumes of camphor, as is pretty generally known, are fatal to moths, and in putting away winter clothes and furs, wrapping with them, or placing in the enclosure, a small quantity of camphor gum, is a pretty certain preventive of moth ravages. Tar is also repugnant to them, but for manifest reasons it cannot be very extensively used. Tar paper for lining uses may sometimes be advantageously employed. Turpentine, insect powder, and finely-ground pepper are also fatal to the little pests, if they can be brought together.

One method of treating carpets, desk upholsteries and the like, which cannot be readily reached in any other way, may properly be called the steam bath. The process consists of wetting the goods supposed to be infected, then laying over them two or three thicknesses of cloth thoroughly wet, and going over the whole with a very hot flat-iron. As soon as the iron changes temperature sufficiently to render its work uncertain, another should be substituted. If this plan is thoroughly carried out, the destruction of both moths and eggs is certain.

———o———

Trout Fishing for Women.

The accomplished feminine follower of Izaak Walton is rarely found. Women do not generally fancy fishing. Why, it is difficult to state; perhaps it's the worms, or perhaps it's the death throes of the fish themselves. These reasons come to my mind because trout fishing among women has more followers than any other kind of angling, and as flies are substitutes for wriggling worms and the struggles of the trout are hidden in a covered basket, I draw my conclusions.

But of late fishing has found more feminine followers, and this summer it has become a sort of cult to go into the country and pursue the gamey trout in his favourite brooks and streams, and a more delightful, exciting, health-giving sport cannot be imagined. The sunny spring skies call sweetly, the little breezes allure, and the bursting freshness of all Nature sets one in an ecstasy of delight. The gurgling brooks, the song of birds, the perfume of tender wild flowers, the lights and shadows, all bring a peace and rest to the busy mind that is marvellously refreshing, and moreover trout fishing is the one form of sport that need not entail over fatigue. The fisherwoman can fish when she likes, have lunch when she likes, rest when she likes, and go home when she likes. The whole day and its doings are as much under her control as a day and its doings can be. And fancy the pride and delight of sending to one's friend a hamper of speckled beauties caught on one's own hook and fly! And, after all, fishing is so simple a matter, and the only grace needed is patience, for without that one may never hope to be an accomplished fisherwoman.

When one sets out for a well-stocked trout stream, let her carry the right things, so that her trip may prove as fruitful as possible. The rod should be a ten-foot greenheart rod, with not too much weight at the top. Do not permit the sporting goods man to inveigle you into buying a cane rod with bright nickel joints; that is the kind they invariably try to induce women to buy, for, although they look very smart and fetching, they make the fishes laugh, for those nickel joints cast betraying reflections in the water, and trout are very wise creatures, as the amateur fisher soon learns, and everything fanciful and decorative should be avoided.

The tapered trout line should be twenty-five or thirty yards long, and the tapered end must be wound last on the reel. A generous number of trout casts must be carried by beginners, and a lot of flies, and an experienced fisherman should give one instructions as to just how to tie them on, and be sure to soak the catgut in water before tying. It is well



TROUT FISHING FOR WOMEN.

to practice casting on the lawn without a hook before going a-fishing, as the inexperienced is apt to hook all parts of her own anatomy, to say nothing of the trees and shrubs, and anything else that may be near.

(To be continued.)

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Flowers for the Garden.

The Syringa.

In some private grounds in which I was walking recently, I came across a very beautiful specimen of the syringa tree The bloom was snow-white, and in abundance on every branch. The delicate fragrance of the plant was accentuated by the clearness of the air and a soft southern breeze from the sea and mountains of the locality. There are a great many varieties of this plant. The best known are P. Coronarius, P. Grandiflorus, P. Hirsutus, P. Lemonini, and P. Gordonianus. The finest is P. Grandiflorus, having pure white flowers resembling orange or bride's blossom. It is a native of the Southern States of America. The small branches or twigs of the syringa were at one time used for pipe stems. The pith or heart is easily removed, and it is from this that the name was derived. There are a great number of various flowering plants in this family. There seems to be no dividing line between the syringa and virburnum, although the habits of these two varieties differ considerably. The common species, Syringa Vulgaris, are vigorous, graceful shrubs, with large violet or lilac-coloured flowers. It is universal in gardens, and is well known by sight throughout the United Kingdom, but it is too powerfully odorous for many persons. It flowers from April to June, according to locality. It makes an excellent game cover, and is easily propagated from layers or cuttings. It is a native of Southern Europe, but is to be found flourishing in exposed gardens in the Northern Highlands of Scotland. In some parts of Scotland it is called the May Oak, because it flowers during that month.

The Syringa Alba Grandifloria is a splendid variety, with its pure white large trusses. It is not quite so hardy as the common sorts, although it is to be met with in nearly all ornamental grounds where it is not exposed.

White lilac (Syringa Alba), and other varieties too numerous to mention, are propagated by means of grafting on young stocks of lilac raised from seed, as they are less likely to send up suckers. Mode of grafting:—Shield budding with a dormant bud in July, and a pushing bud in April, ordinary relaying or cleft grafting in March, and with herbacious branches in June, close to the ground, or as a standard. When grafted on the ash or privet it does not live long. Every measure should be taken to prevent the growth of suckers by destroying the latent buds on the roots before planting. Should any spring up afterwards, clear away the soil around the root, and cut off at the base. The varieties with slender wood, such as S. Varin, S. Sanget, S. Persica, and Linenas Carnea, should be crown grafted on tall standards of common lilac or some vigorous kind by the intermediate process, while strong wooded kinds, such as S. de Trianon, Charles Glorie de Manlius, Carnea, Duplex, Ville de Troyes, Pilemon, these and many others may be grafted close to the ground. They soon shoot up and form a stem. The Philadelphus, or mock orange, is one of the finest garden and woodland flowering shrubs we have got in this country. Its cultivation is fairly general all over the British Isles, in parks and in private large gardens, but we seldom see it in small areas, although the flower is so sweet and useful for cutting. When laying out even small gardens of an acre in extent, there is ample room for this shrub.

G. W. Thomson Price.

———o———

Java's Bounteous Rice Table.

In Java, as in most really warm countries, it is customary to rise early and to take a cup of tea or coffee, together with a biscuit and some fruit, immediately on leaving one's bed. This is followed by a more substantial breakfast; but the first really serious meal is served at half-past twelve o'clock, and is the equivalent of the French "dejeûner à la fourchette," or the Anglo-Indian tiffin. This meal is called rice table—"rystafel"—from the principal dish, a very elaborate curry, in the preparation of which the Malay cooks are especially skilful.

The peculiarity of the rice table consists in the number and variety of dishes presented. From these dishes the guest has to select the materials which, together with the rice upon the soup plate before him, are to constitute his curry. It is also as well to know beforehand that one is not required to lunch solely on curry, but that the rice table is succeeded by courses of ordinary luncheon dishes. It is a case therefore of "embarras de richesses."

There are two dangers to be avoided. In the first place, it is quite possible, in spite of the number of the dishes presented singly, to say nothing of an octagonal tray containing a separate chutney in each of its nine compartments, to get no lunch at all. For nothing is easier than, after saying 'nein" to a succession of frivolous compounds, to dismiss the one solid and palatable dish capable of sustaining an Englishman until dinner time.

The second danger is that of making up one's curry "not wisely, but too well," and leaving neither appetite nor capacity for the beefsteak or for any of the other solid dishes which subsequently appear, and which under these circumstances only produce a feeling of mingled horror and consternation. It is then that one suddenly realises that the rice table is merely a sort of tremendous "hors d'œuvre."

Needlework.

A Collapsable Bag.

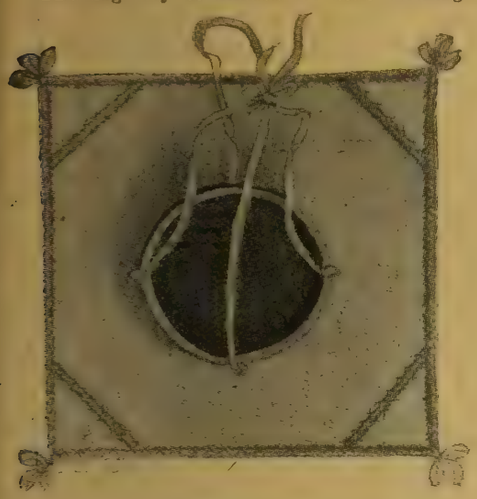
This bag is made of ticking, bound and trimmed with fancy tape and feather-stitching.

Cut two pieces of ticking twelve inches square, bind the four sides together with fancy tape, and put on with feather-stitching.

In the centre of one of the pieces cut an opening about five inches in diameter. Bind with tape and run in a whalebone. Fasten at four equal distances around the opening a piece of tape twelve or fifteen inches in length, and tie in a bow knot at the top.

Across each corner featherstitch tape, the same as around the sides. Decorate each corner with a knot of tape, also in the centre of back piece.

This bag may be utilised for dolls' clothing



A COLLAPSABLE BAG.—TOP WHEN FOLDED.

(or for any other purpose), and is most convenient in a nursery or sewing-room. It can be folded neatly in a square, and when opened out always looks fresh.

On leaving for the country on a summer holiday, the children can always be sure of a nice, convenient place to hold all their dolls' clothing when away, and not have it, as is so often the case, lying around the room. The ticking in this particular bag has been in use for over fifty years, a good bit of German ticking. A family brought it to this country on leaving Germany, and now good pieces of it are still left, and doing duty in ornamental as well as useful articles, such as this collapsable bag.

Ladies' Knitted Bed-shoes.

When finished they look like straight pieces up and down, but when pulled over the foot they look very nice.

One skein of white three-fold Saxony, 1 skein pink or blue three-fold Saxony, 1 pair of steel needles No. 13, 1 pair of steel needles No. 17, 1 fine bone crochet hook No. 1.

With colour cast 60 stitches on No. 13 steel needles, purl 1 row, knit 1 row, purl 1 row, knit 1 row. With white knit 1 row, purl 1 row.

Repeat from first to sixth row until there are 32 coloured ribs of purling and 32 white ribs of knitting.

For the toe:—With colour, 1 plain row, 1 purl row, 1 plain row, 1 purl row. Next row, narrow every fourth stitch, then knit 1 row, purl 1 row, knit 1 row. Next row, narrow every third stitch.

Knit 1 row, purl 1 row, next row narrow every second stitch. Purl 1 row.

Next row narrow every stitch and bind off. Then with white and No. 17 steel needles pick up 108 stitches along the side, picking up 2 stitches in coloured ribs and 1 in white ribs, knitting them as they are picked up narrowing in every other row at the toe to shape the toe, purl 1 row, knit plain 1 row.

With colour purl 1 row, knit plain 1 row.

With white purl 1 row, knit plain 1 row.

With colour purl 1 row, knit plain 1 row.

Leaving the stitches on the needle, pick up the same number of stitches on the other side, and knit in the same way. With colour bind off the stitches, taking 1 stitch off each needle; draw the wool through the stitches at the toe, draw together, break off wool and fasten on wrong side.

Around top of sock with colour make a row of double in every third stitch, with 1 chain between. Crochet a row of shells with white.

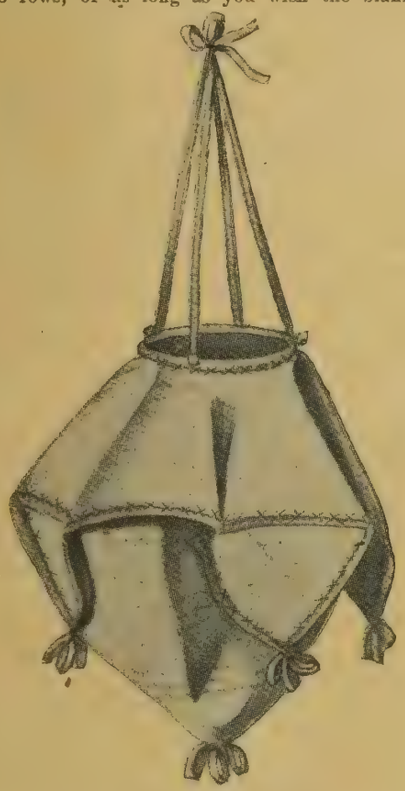
3rd. Row.—With colour 1 single in space between the double of shell; (*) chain 3, 1 single in next space, and repeat from (*) around top. Run in ribbon to tie top, and put on a bow at toe.

Knitted Blanket for Baby.

Instead of binding, knit a hem. Use Germantown wool for a bath blanket or Spanish yarn for a crib.

If Spanish yarn is used, one and a-half skeins of white and one of pink will be required. With the pink, knit 150 stitches on to medium-sized rubber needles. Knit and purl alternate rows for 9 rows.

10th Row.—Over, purl 2 together, repeat to end of row. Then knit and purl alternate rows for 9 rows. Hold the work through the open line so that the smooth side of the work will be the right side, and with each stitch on the needle, knit a stitch of the first row, thus forming a hem. Break off and put in white. Work next row by throwing yarn over needle and purling 2 together. Knit 27 rows of plain knitting, using the white yarn. Then put in the pink and in the next row throw yarn over and purl 2 together all across. Knit and purl across alternate rows for 9 rows, working so that the smooth side will be the right side. Break off the pink, and with white make a row of open work as before; then knit back and forth in plain knitting for 90 rows, or as long as you wish the blanket



A COLLAPSABLE BAG.

to be between the end borders. Knit a pink band with open work each side like the first end, then 27 rows of white, then another pink open work row, then 9 rows alternately knitted and purled, so that the smooth side is on the right side. Then another row of open work and 9 more rows alternately knitted and purled. With the last row knit 1 stitch for the first row of pink with each stitch on the needle, thus forming a hem; then bind off loosely.

Careers for Girls.

Government Inspectors and Health Visitors.

By Josephine Bullen.

One of the careers opened to women within the last 20 or 30 years is that of inspecting factories, workships, etc., under the Government or the Local Government Board; and closely connected with it is another to which the name of Health Visiting has been given.

The work of both appeals to women especially, for while one has to do with the care of those often powerless to aid themselves, the other aims at helping handicapped mothers to make their homes healthier and to bring up their children as well as possible under their difficult circumstances.

Women inspectors hold office under the Home Office, the Education Office, and the Local Government Board. At present there are about nine women amongst the 153 factory inspectors appointed by the Home Office, but there is little doubt that their numbers will increase in the future, for their work is acknowledged to be a great improvement in the administration of factory laws. Girls often will not complain to a man inspector of some inconvenience which is detrimental to their health; whilst a woman, with perhaps also quicker perception, will soon find out from them if anything is wrong.

The woman factory inspectors appointed by the Secretary of State for the Home Department are subject to a probation of two years. They are obliged to retire on reaching the age of 65, and, except under special circumstances, at marriage, and are entitled to pensions on Civil Service conditions.

The salaries paid them are higher than those in most other careers open to women. Beginning at £200 a year, for junior inspectors, they rise, by annual increments of £10, to £300, and senior inspectors begin at £300 and rise to £400; whilst the chief lady inspector earns from £400 to £500 per annum.

They are called upon to travel a good deal, but their travelling expenses are paid; they must live, too, in any part of the United Kingdom most convenient for their work.

The examination for a Government Inspectorship consists of English composition, arithmetic, sanitary science as it applies to factories and workshops, and the Factory Acts. In addition, one of the three following subjects must be taken, viz.:—

Elementary Physics and Mechanics; History of Industrial and Social Legislation in the United Kingdom; Chemistry, chiefly inorganic.

The work of a factory inspector is trying, and the incessant travelling necessary increases its hardships. No one lacking good health and physical strength should attempt it. But it is full of interest and variety, for all kinds of industries—from a fish-curing factory to a West End milliner's—come into its scope.

It should be remembered, however, that the qualities most needed for this post are those least capable of being acquired. Tact, sympathy, firmness, discretion; the completest grasp of factory legislation or sanitary science will not make up for an absence of these. The girl thinking of taking up this work should make sure that she is gifted in some measure at least with these important qualities.

Under the Education Office "a few" women are appointed as inspectors of schools. There is no definite regulations as to their appointment or qualifications, but a good degree is an essential. They have the same regulations for leave, sick leave, and pension as other higher division members of the Civil Service,



A COLLAPSABLE BAG. BOTTOM WHEN FOLDED.

and their salary begins at £200 and rises by £15 yearly to £400. They may be called upon to inspect elementary, secondary, or technical schools, or training colleges. Probably also here, in the future, an increasing number of women will find an opening.

By far the largest number of women inspectors hold office under the various local government boards or local authorities. They are usually termed sanitary inspectors, and their principal duties are the inspecting of factories and workshops, tenement houses, the houses of "home-workers," and hotels and restaurant kitchens and the investigation of infant deaths and cases of infectious disease.

Beyond reporting suspected defects in drainage to the medical officer of health, the woman inspector has nothing to do with the disagreeable part of sanitary work. Her duties lie in the direction of the cleanliness and ventilation of the places she has to inspect, and the provision made for the health of the women employed in them

She must, of course, know thoroughly all the requirements of the factory laws, and see that they are properly carried out; that each worker has her 250 cubic feet of air, that the rooms are cleaned at certain times, that there is proper sanitary accommodation for the women employed, etc. She must also keep a regulating eye on the dustbin and the drinking-water supply, and, in laundries, note whether the floors are adequately drained, and how the irons are heated.

She has a right of entry under the Public Healths Acts to the factories and houses she visits, and has the power to serve notice for abatement of any nuisance she finds in her visits. Should this notice be neglected and legal proceedings become necessary, she represents in the law courts the authority under which she holds office, and, as she often has to be her own counsel, clearness, decision, and firmness are qualities she should cultivate.

In visiting tenement houses the sanitary inspector has a very large scope for useful work. Not only has she to report upon the condition of the house and its degree of cleanliness, but she has also to investigate into cases of infant mortality. Hers is the responsibility, in cases of infectious disease, of seeing that, if notifiable, due notice of it is given to the authorities, and, if non-notifiable, that adequate measures are taken to prevent it spreading. Sometimes such diseases as phthisis, though not infectious, have to be visited by her, and the condition of the patient's surroundings advised on and reported.

A very large proportion of workers do their work in their own houses instead of at a factory, and there is urgent need of supervision of the conditions under which it is done. These "home-workers," as they are called, are therefore visited and reported upon by the sanitary inspector.

It is easy to see that such house-to-house visiting as the above duties entail calls for certain qualities in the inspector. She may quite unintentionally give offence, and create an antagonism that will make her task very difficult if she does not go about it in the right way. Therefore, tact and geniality are indispensable to her. Plenty of common-sense and observation, added to patience and cheerfulness and backed by real kindly interest, will help her not only to get through her work pleasantly, but to be of practical use to those she visits.

The necessary training for the career of sanitary inspector is neither expensive nor long. There is a preliminary examination held by the Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Board in English (writing, spelling, composition, and dictation), and arithmetic, including fractions, proportion, weights and measures, the metric system, and the mensuration of rectangles, etc. Candidates are exempted from this who have passed the Oxford or Cambridge Junior Local, the Third Class College of Preceptors, the Junior Certificate of the Central Welsh Board, the Local Examination of the National Union of Teachers, and other equivalent or higher examinations. This passed, the candidate must face the Technical Examination, which demands a certificate of instruction showing that she has attended at least 32 systematic lectures and demonstrations given by either the Royal Sanitary Institute, the National Health Society, Bedford College, or King's College.

The courses given are in the following subjects:—Building construction, municipal hygiene and duties of sanitary inspectors, elementary physics and chemistry, and are supplemented by interesting visits to water works, laundries, hospitals, factories, etc. In addition, the National Health Society gives courses of lectures on elementary anatomy and physiology, first aid nursing, and elocution, for which a diploma can be obtained; the latter is valuable to those candidates applying for lectureships under the County Council.

The salary of women sanitary inspectors under local boards starts at £80, and rises to £150—in some cases to £160 or £180.

The training mentioned above lasts, as a rule, three months, and costs twelve guineas. For the diploma three months longer, and three guineas extra are required. Books, etc., would be an additional outlay. At King's College and the Royal Sanitary Institute the cost of training would be less than the sum just quoted.

Health visitors, although working on much the same lines as sanitary inspectors with regard to house-to-house visiting, are on a different footing. They hold office only from a local authority, have no right of entry, and must only report nuisances to the sanitary inspector instead of themselves serving the notice for abatement.

Their salary also is lower, varying from £50 to £160 on the average, although in some towns they are paid £180 per annum.

ROUND-ABOUT NOTES.

There is a large profit coming into the Ceylon government from pearl fishing. As nearly every one knows, the gems that are gathered from the waters around this island are of great beauty and value, and pearl fishing has become an important industry there. It costs the government a little less than £15,000 for the lease and all expenditures incurred by the fishery last year, while the profits netted more than four times that amount.

* * *

What is believed to be the toughest wood in the world has been found recently in South-Western Australia. Until these late tests were made the yate tree was considered of no great value, but since it has been discovered that the wood is about as strong as cast-iron, some of it even equalling wrought iron in strength, the price promises to soar.

* * *

If report is true there are vast sums of money to be made in the cultivation of flowers in the Riviera. In one season alone £200,000 worth were shipped away to foreign countries, and, oddly enough, the majority were sent to England. It is a long journey for delicate blooms to make, but they are so perfectly packed and kept *en route* that they reach their destination in excellent condition to gladden the hearts of and adorn England's fairest women.

* * *

In Italy to grow straw employed in making hats the wheat is sown as thickly as possible, in order that the growth of the plant may be impoverished, as well as to produce a thin stalk having toward the end from the last knot the lightest and longest straw. The wheat blooms at the beginning of June, and is pulled up by the roots by hand when the grain is half developed. If allowed to remain in the ground a longer time the straw would become brittle. About five dozen uprooted branches, the size of the compass of two hands, are firmly tied together into little sheaves, and stowed away in barns. Then the straw is again spread out to catch the heavy summer dews and to bleach in the sun. After additional bleaching the straw is put into small bundles and classified. Finally, it is cut close above the first joint from the top, and again tied up in small bundles containing about sixty stalks each, and delivered to women in almost every private dwelling of the lower classes, whose chief livelihood is straw plaiting.

* * *

Since more boys than girls are born in the countries of Europe, the proportion being 1,040 to 1,060 boys to every 1,000 girls, how can we account for the fact that there are more women than men in these countries? To this question M. de Varigny, a French scientist, replies at length in a leading Paris paper. "Since there are more women, although more men are born," he says, "we must conclude that more men die than women because they are not as healthy. There is no other solution, and, moreover, all the obtainable facts point in the same direction. More boys are born than girls, yet there are almost always more girls alive than boys. Many persons think that the principal reason why more men die than women is because they lead intemperate lives, but, though there may be some truth in this, it cannot be the sole solution of the problem, as the mortality among males is greater during their early years, before they know what intemperance means."

* * *

For fourteen years women in France have been working to get married women the control of their earnings. A Bill to grant them this right has reached the second reading, and it is believed that success is in sight. As things are now, if a married woman earns a shilling in washing or five hundred pounds by writing a successful novel, every cent of it belongs to her husband. If she secures the money and puts it in the bank she cannot draw it out without an order from him, but he can draw it and spend it as he pleases. It is not very many years ago since a similar law was in force in England. The Married Women's Property Act of 1882, however, gave married women a legal right to their own money.

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THE MARK LANE EXPRESS SUPPLEMENT FOR THE HOME

Conducted by "PEPITA"

THE NEWEST FASHIONS.

For the cool days, of which we have had so many this summer, it is advisable to have in the outfit a medium weight gown of silk and crêpe de Chine, messaline or foulard which will look fresh and attractive, and while possessing some degree of warmth will still be appropriate to the time of the year. This is quite distinct from the costume intended for tennis matches that call forth so much interested enthusiasm at this season, and should be well classed among the house gowns for afternoon wear. White linen and muslin dresses are now so generally worn in the country from early spring until late autumn that it is a real relief to change to a light silk dress when one intends to spend the rest of the day at home, and, then, too, the evenings are cold enough to make a silk gown feel decidedly pleasant.

* * *

Foulard silk is an excellent weight texture for summer, and this season it is being made use of in all styles of costumes for morning and afternoon, from the simplest walking dress to a decidedly elaborate gown suitable for whatever afternoon entertainments there may be at this time of year. For a rather severe gown for home wear foulard is especially good, as it will stand any amount of wear, and while the dark shades seem to soil less readily than any other known silk, the light colours can be cleaned time after time, without becoming shabby and rubbed.

* * *

Just at this season it is possible to buy most attractive silks for remarkably low prices, and there is a great variety of both colours and qualities from which to select. A soft messaline is now one of the favourite silks both for trimming and for entire costumes. A plain colour always requires more trimming and elaboration than a striped or figured material, but this year there is very little trimming on the skirts, while the bodices are frequently formed entirely of lace, with just some bands of medallions of the silk to bring out the colour. Instead of all lace a figured, striped, or plain net or marquisette may be used, and this, finished with bands of the silk and relieved by a large lace jabot and lace ruchings in the sleeves, makes an exceedingly pretty bodice for a plain silk skirt.

* * *

Embroidered voiles and chiffons are much in vogue for a rather elaborate style of afternoon dress, and at present, embroidery is used so much on every kind and condition of dress that it is not considered inappropriate even for a shirt blouse dress which is fashioned with the sole end of simplicity. For a house gown, therefore, that may be fashioned in any way that most pleases the wearer, any amount of embroidery may be used, provided the dress does not turn out to be unsuitably handsome. The fine grades of voile and true nun's veiling are excellent for house gowns for this season of the year.

* * *

Figured, striped, check, and plain voiles are all used, the fancy surface being more in demand than the plain. A deep yellow voile, the bodice made with a little vest and jabot of lace, and a round collar of silk, with bands of the same colour as taffeta, forming revers and cuffs for the sleeves, and three bias strips of the silk laid about the skirt, which was otherwise full, but quite plain, made an attractive dress for informal wear. The dark voiles made up over white and the light shades laid on a silk of their own colour are all fashionable. If the dress is required to be really useful, then a dark green or a Japanese or navy blue made up over white is, of course, more serviceable than the light shades, which, however, are excellent if the trousseau can be fairly large. The striped voiles are exceedingly pretty, and a fine line of black and white made up on a while silk foundation is most attractive. A piping of pale blue on the bodice will make this last more youthful if that is desired, but black and white are no longer considered inappropriate, even for quite young girls.

* * *

Chiffon and all the gauze materials are even more in vogue than usual this season. Striped gauze in two tones of the one colour made up over silk, preferably of the lighter shade, is always attractive. Many of the very transparent materials have a satin or satin-finished foundation, and if it is desired to make either of the colours more prominent satin will show up much better than any dull silk.

* * *

One of the most popular of the transparent textures is crystalline, and this is seen in all shades from white to the deepest tones of pink, blue, and mauve. An exquisite crystalline gown was of deep watermelon pink, the bodice handsomely embroidered in different tones of pink, while the sleeves and tiny Dutch yoke were of white lace embroidered in gold. The skirt had wide bands of gold and pink embroidery running down each seam to within a few inches of the hem. There was a fitted girdle, with long sash ends finished off with sewing silk tassels for the dress, and this belt was of dull Japanese blue, a favourite combination this year, and one which if carried in just the right shade of the pink and blue is most artistic as well as being delightfully unusual. The exaggeratedly high, stiff collars which have lately been decreed have done much to bring back the collarless Dutch yokes, for where a high collar must be worn with every style of outdoor dress a comfortable collar or a collarless bodice is more than ever welcome in the house gown.

* * *

Not so very different in effect from the painted and printed chiffons are the figured mousseline, and for summer nothing can be prettier than a white French mousseline with a large rose pattern in deep pink, with just a little green in the leaves and stems. A white material is always best, made up over white, unless there is any rare embroidery that will show to better advantage over a colour. It has always been thought that pale shades require the added colour of a slip the exact shade of the material, but lately, there has been a number of chiffons, voiles, crystallines and mousselines in the pale, delicate shades that have a white silk lining and are most attractive, apparently, in consequence of this very thing.

* * *

A smart visiting gown is shown in the sketch on this page. It is made in Wedgewood blue-faced cloth with Kimona sleeves, and the bodice is hand-embroidered with blue silk and bullion gold cord. The hat is of cream straw trimmed with blue chiffon, and white and blue ostrich plumes.



A SMART VISITING GOWN.

The Growth of Corsets.

Corsets are not an invention of modern days, as many people fancy, but were adopted by the ancient Greeks and Romans, if in a slightly different style from those of the present period.

We hear of Mark Antony wearing a corsage to repress his tendency to stoutness, for in those days men wore them as well as women. The name "corsetus" began to be used about the time of the Renaissance, and Catherine de Medici is accredited with the first introduction of whalebone. From that period until the French Revolution the stiffest corsets were worn, but under the Empire a change was effected, and waists began to assume more natural proportions. As in all other customs, their use became abused for a while, until the novelty wore off, and the happy medium was reached, which fortunately prevails at the present moment.

Trout Fishing for Women.

(Concluded.)

As for the fishing basket, one may suit one's self, for there is a vast variety to choose from. But one generally makes a big catch when one has a small basket; this is Fate's idea of a joke—one of the few that are really amusing. Have a fly-book and a pair of small scissors, also a small tin to hold the casts, and a landing net, and the outfit is complete, although one may not be a "complete angler."

For the matter of dress, you must be very sensible indeed, and wear plain, sturdy clothes. To be sure, it is a great temptation to go fishing by the brooksides in a fetching hat with bows and flowers and a jaunty shirt blouse, but it is not practical, for such a garb scares the fish, and the feminine disciple of Walton soon learns that a garb of neutral tints is the thing for fishing. A woollen shirt blouse and a comfortable jacket or sweater should accompany the short wool skirt; top off with a dull-coloured cap and rubber or boiled-oil leather boots to the knees, for one has sometimes to wade, and besides in the spring the waysides and brook edges are damp and mucky.

And now for the real angling.

Of course, one must know that there really are trout in the stream, for all brooks are not trout brooks. Now stand a few feet from the edge of the stream (to stand too near may entail a fall and an ignominious rescue), take the rod in your right hand, and be careful that the line is free and not clasped too tightly to the rod. Cast with a short line at first, letting it out a little longer every time, until it is a suitable length. Never try too long a line, or you will get hopelessly muddled, the flies will catch round rod or line, and the terrible tangle created in a second will often take you half an hour of patient toil to undo.

You should remember that when casting, the first thing that should alight on the water is the fly, and not portions of the line, which in all probability will be the case at first, and the fly must alight in the same delicate way that a real fly would do—no splashing, no carelessness of any sort; and do not stand too near the edge. It is no use approaching the fish in an open, free and easy, hail-fellow-well-met fashion. Hide behind a friendly bush—stalk them, as it were; drop your fly gently, gently draw it through the water, and do not let it drift aimlessly, and do not swish it along. Perhaps you may rise a fish without being able to strike it; try another cast or two over the same spot, and, if you fail then, go on fishing higher up. Later on return to the same spot and you may be successful. Trout, especially the bigger ones, will stay in one spot for a very long time. You can see the same trout, or apparently the same trout, in the same place for days. If you succeed in landing him, the next day you will probably see another there. A big trout allows no interlopers, looks upon a certain spot of the river as his own, and very often stays there for a considerable period, unless he is ousted by a bigger one.

Do not over-fish any one particular spot, work slowly up stream if the wind is not too strong against you to make that impossible. With practice you will soon be able to see if you rise a fish, and you must strike quickly, but not so vigorously that you tear the hook out, nor so feebly that the fish gets off with a little wriggle. When first winding the line on the reel care should be taken that it is wound on in the way you would naturally turn the reel when winding in, and also be careful, when fixing the reel to the rod, that it is placed so that you can wind in with the hand most natural for you to use. Some people when they strike a fish change the rod to the left hand, and play and land their fish with the right. You will have found out by practising on the lawn which hand comes easiest for you to use.

Suppose now we imagine one has with luck or skill hooked a fish; it will probably be with luck at first, as with this meagre advice one's preliminary efforts will probably not be productive of much skill. As soon as one has struck a fish, it will most likely want to go straight up stream; let it go, do not hold on to the line and shout as a youthful beginner usually does. After the first mad rush, the fish will probably call a halt, when you can wind him in, as you must never allow any slack line, but let the line run out again as soon as he makes another determined dash for liberty—always keep the point of the rod well up, and do not be too hard on your fish, but tire him out, and finally draw him gently toward you, slip the landing net under him, and the fish is yours. Sometimes he is not yours, he gets off at the last second; but an occasion of this sort is far too serious to be spoken about lightly, better not mention it at all. In this often sad and gloomy world why dwell on the tragedies that can befall a sportswoman.

Of all sport, fishing is the one in which luck plays the smallest part; it is principally skill. That accounts for the agony of mind when a fish gets away, and, oh! the flatness of life when the line suddenly slackens and you wind in—nothing; the thrill of joy when you behold the gasping, shiny victim of your skill lying safely at your feet!

Nothing will make one a good fisherwoman unless one has the instinct that goes to the making of such. Experience, observation, and intuition will teach you the likeliest spot to get a rise. Do not be disheartened if the fish will not rise at first; they may not care for the flies. Change them, but give each change a fair chance. Sometimes fish will only feed during an hour or two in the day, but the sport afforded during this hour will make up for the "weary whipping of the water" that may have preceded or followed it. Take note of the predominating colour of the land through which the river runs, and use a fly of as much the same tone and colour as possible, that being what the fish are used to, and it is well to imitate nature as closely as possible. When you first go out you will probably hook a few trees, or an inquisitive cow or two. These little contretemps generally happen to beginners when fish are rising well, which induces a state of excitement bordering on insanity.

All this is meant only for beginners, for nowadays so little is written for them, and every one is supposed to know the rudiments of all sports. And there are so many women to whom a little trout-fishing would be beneficial. To take country walks in the pursuit of health accompanied by the thoughts and worries that have caused temporary ill-health and brain fatigue is a process not always calculated to restore nervous energy. With rod in hand, wandering by the side of a river, even though the result of a day's fishing be not evidenced by a basket of trout, the mind will be so occupied that all sorts of worry will be in abeyance, and, apart from sport, there is, by a river, so much to charm and hold the fancy, that the thoughts that fill the mind will be only the refreshing ones.



A GOOD CAST.

How to Mount Seaweeds.

People visiting the seaside invariably pass by the tangled bunches of seaweed that lie upon the sand. Surely there is no beauty in them as they lie there. Huddled together, twisted and torn, they present anything but a pleasing appearance. But take one of the bunches and place it in a basin of water; let it remain over night; and what a transformation in the morning! Each delicate frond is swaying gracefully in the water. A series of pleasing colours greet the eye. The hidden beauty reveals itself in all its glory.

Now procure some drawing paper, disentangle a piece of the weed, and place the paper under it in the water. Float the weed around in the water until each tiny branch is free, and carefully lifting the paper over the edge of the basin, you have it transferred to the paper in all its graceful outlines. By means of a needle the weed may be so picked apart as to resemble a piece of the finest lace. On some varieties the use of the needle may be prolonged indefinitely.

After having arranged the specimen, place face downward upon blotting-paper. When quite dry put between pieces of blotting-paper, and subject to pressure. An old book is good for this purpose. Put the specimen between the pages, and place a heavy weight upon the book. Some varieties will be thoroughly dried in a day; others will require more time.

To remove the seaweeds from the paper, a needle is used. Some dexterity must be exercised in doing this. Insert the needle under the main branch and carefully work out to the ends of the fronds. In some of the coarser varieties no needle is required. They may be easily removed with the fingers.

Sometimes the same paper upon which they are pressed is bound into a portfolio. But the paper usually is warped and discoloured from the water, and the specimens have a rather flat appearance. A more satisfactory way is to remove them from the paper to which they were transferred, and mount them upon other. In this way they may be gracefully grouped, the arrangement being entirely to suit the individual. A variety of pages is pleasing. Upon some put specimens of a feathery nature, upon others, coarser varieties, and upon others, combine the two. Very often a single piece will be found large enough to fill a page. If possible, beneath each specimen write the botanical name, place where found, and date.

There are several ways of attaching seaweeds to the pages of a portfolio. They may be sewn, pasted, or made to adhere by means of very narrow strips of gumpaper. The first process is not to be commended, because the reverse sides of the pages do not present a neat appearance. The second process is not entirely satisfactory, as the specimens cannot be removed in case the pages become discoloured with age, or an accident of some kind befalls the book. The third process is really the most satisfactory. If the strips are cut very narrow, they barely show. When it is desired to remove the seaweeds, all that is necessary to do is to cut the strips.

After having been pressed, one need not be so careful in handling seaweeds, as they are then quite tough. Of course, in the very fine varieties, handling is apt to break off the ends of the fronds, and they are robbed of much of their beauty.

A King Nine Times.

The most betitled monarch in the world is Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria. Without his imperial crown, which is the identical tiara of Charlemagne, he is nine times a king, twice a grand duke, once a grand prince, twice a prince, four times a margrave, and the multitude of his title as count and so forth is past enumeration.

The total of his titles of sovereignty and nobility exceeds a hundred. In addition, as King of Hungary, he bears the title of "Most Apostolic," which is one of the four honours bestowed by the Pope. Were the sovereigns of Europe to meet in a council, there is no doubt that the premier place would be conceded to Emperor Francis—alike by reason of his hereditary prestige and of his representation of the ancient Holy Roman Empire.

Cookery.

Some Fish Recipes.

Fish may be boiled (or steamed, which is superior to boiling), baked, broiled, fried, and stewed. The small fish termed pan fish are usually fried.

FRIED FISH.—Clean well, removing the head, and, if quite large, the backbone also. Slice the body crosswise in five or six pieces, season with salt and pepper. Dredge with flour, brush each piece with beaten egg, roll in breadcrumbs, and fry in hot lard or dripping. Be sure to have the fat hot, as it will not be absorbed so quickly. When the fish is browned, turn carefully, to avoid breaking, and brown the other side. Garnish with slices of lemon.

BROILED SALMON.—Cut slices 1 in. thick, dry them in cloth, season with salt and pepper, dredge with flour, and broil on a gridiron rubbed with suet. Serve with anchovy sauce, adding a few chopped herbs if desired.

BROILED HALIBUT.—Slice the fish, salt and pepper, and lay in melted butter one ½ hour, allowing 1 tablespoonful of the butter to 1 lb. of fish. Then roll in flour and broil for 20 minutes. Serve hot.

BAKED FISH.—A fish weighing 4 or 5 lbs. is a good size to bake, and should not be cut more than is necessary to clean nicely. Make a dressing of breadcrumbs, butter, salt, and a little salt pork, with chopped parsley and onions if desired. Mix the dressing with 1 beaten egg. Fill the body, sew it up, and place in a dripper, with some strips of salt pork for flavouring. Put one cup of water in the pan. Bake 1½ hours, basting frequently. Take up the fish and thicken the gravy remaining in the pan to pour over it. Serve hot.

STEAMED HALIBUT.—Take a 3-lb. piece of white halibut, cover it with a cloth, and place in a steamer. Set the steamer on a dish of fast-boiling water, steam for 2 hours, remove to a hot dish, garnish with parsley, and serve with egg sauce.

STEWED CODFISH.—Take a thick piece of the salt fish; lay it in cold water for a few minutes. Shred it in very small bits, put over the fire in a stewpan, with cold water, let it come to a boil, turn off the water and add 1 pint of rich milk to the fish. Place again over the fire and boil slowly for 5 minutes, add a piece of butter, a little pepper, and a thickening of flour in a little cold milk. Stew a little longer and stir in a well-beaten egg. Nice for breakfast.

SPICED MACKEREL.—Take one half-dozen small mackerel, nicely cleaned. Mix together 1 teaspoonful each of cinnamon, allspice, and cloves. Open the fish and sprinkle in the mixture, then sprinkle with salt and close tightly, place in an earthenware dish, cover with vinegar and bake 1 hour in a moderate oven.

BAKED SMELTS.—Wash thoroughly, dry in a cloth, arrange in a flat baking-dish, after buttering both fish and dish. Season with salt and pepper, and cover with breadcrumbs. Place a piece of butter on each side, and bake 20 minutes. Garnish with parsley and lemon.

Method of Making Beef Tea.

Beef-tea is one of the most important in the list of invalid dishes. It is used to stimulate and nourish when the system has need of quick recuperation. The first of the methods here given makes surely a genuine extract of beef, containing all the strengthening properties and the full nourishment of the meat. If the stomach of the invalid is quite weak this extract is not given in its full strength, but it is diluted with hot water until it is of the strength desired by the physician. In making this tea or extract, always select the juiciest part of the beef quite without regard to its tenderness. Indeed, the tenderer the meat is the less juicy it will be found. The lower part of the round is usually found to be the best for beef-tea. It must be absolutely free from fat, only the lean meat being available. Cut the beef into quarter-inch dice-shaped pieces, and put them into a wide-mouthed bottle, and set on a stand of some kind in a kettle of cold water. This is to raise the jar and let the water under it, so that the glass will not be on the hot bottom of the kettle, as it would almost to a certainty break unless it was thus protected. Set the kettle over the fire and heat it gradually. When it comes to a boil keep it gently simmering for several hours, until the meat is perfectly white, looking like pieces of india-rubber, all the juice being extracted. Then strain out the juice, press it all out from the pieces of meat, and season to the taste with salt. In making the tea this way, you see that you will get the actual juice of the beef and nothing else; every particle is extracted, so that the nourishing properties are all obtained.

But this is a slow way if you want the tea in a hurry, and there is a quicker way in which you may prepare it to use while the extract is in preparation. To make the tea more quickly, cut one ½ lb. of the juicy round freed from all fat into small pieces, season with a saltspoonful of salt press it with a wooden potato-masher, and let it stand in a covered bowl for ½ hour. Pour off the juice, and heat, but do not boil it. Serve it immediately without straining. The salt will draw out only a portion of the juice from the meat, so a beef-tea may be made from the meat after the juice has been poured off the first time by adding 1 cupful of cold water to it and letting it stand for 2 hours; then strain off the water, pressing the meat to get out all the juice; heat it, and you will have a very palatable cup of tea a little less strong than the first, but good notwithstanding.

Practical Recipes.

CINNAMON CAKE.

Cream, ½ cup butter, and 1½ cups sugar, then add 1 egg and beat until creamy; now add 1 teaspoonful cinnamon, ¼ teaspoonful each of cloves, allspice, and mace, 1 cupful stoned raisins, floured, 1 cupful sour milk, 2 cupfuls whole wheat flour, and ½ cup white pastry flour, into which sift ½ teaspoonful baking soda; beat thoroughly, and bake in a loaf about ½ hour. Decorate with iced almonds.



CINNAMON CAKE.

LAMB CUTLETS A LA FRANCAISE.

Trim the cutlets neatly, beat up an egg, mix some ham and parsley with breadcrumbs, and fry the cutlets after dipping them in the mixture. Put a tiny frill on each, arrange round a dish with sauté potatoes, piled up in centre.

SAUTE POTATOES.

Cut the potatoes like sippets of an orange, put them into cold water, bring to the boil, and drain. Fry a golden brown, sprinkle with parsley, a little pepper and salt.

MAYONNAISE SCALLOPS.

Cut meat into small dice. Boil an egg hard, then make a mayonnaise sauce. Fill in the shells of the egg with the mixture, decorate each with the yolk and white of egg, parsley, and a few capers.

CUCUMBER IN MILK.

This combination appears novel, after being accustomed to seeing cucumbers used only as a salad. It is, however, an appreciated dish by those who have given it a trial. Pare the cucumbers, cut them in small squares, and place in a saucepan over a slow fire. Add a little salt and water, and cook until tender, using only just enough water to keep the cucumbers from burning. Put a pint of milk on the fire, and when it boils add 2 tablespoonfuls of flour, which had been made into a smooth paste with some of the milk. When it has the consistency of cream, add the cucumbers, drained from their cooking. Sweeten slightly, and serve.

Bird and Flower Study.

This is just the season of the year when birds are at their best. Has any girl ever tried to study them and see how very interesting they are? I don't mean by that to sit down for two or three hours a day and learn about them, but at odd times when in the garden reading, or sewing, to make a point of noticing them.

A good plan is to get a good bird book and keep it in some handy place, so that if any birds catch your fancy you can look them up, and find out all about them. Their colour, when they migrate, the call in anger or pleasure and their little domestic traits, besides so many more things that it would be impossible to think of them all.

Another plan, to make them very tame, and also to be able to see them better, is to have a shallow dish of water at one end of the porch, and every morning dust some crumbs around for them to eat and you will see how they will come to this place, in spite of people sitting around and talking. In this way you can watch them close by. Two girls I know combined so many interesting things this way last summer. They started out to learn something about birds and soon got ten other girls interested in their scheme, which was to meet once a week for about an hour at different girl's homes and each girl had to tell some interesting thing she had learned about birds in the last week while the others did some sewing. You have no idea how entertaining it was, and how much they learned, besides accomplishing a great deal in the way of sewing, as most of the girls took this time in which to do their week's mending, and I can assure you their mothers quite approved of the plan.

At the end of the summer these girls were quite familiar with the different kinds of birds, and they could easily distinguish them by their song. Each girl that cared to, gave a shilling, and with the money they had little bird houses put up for the birds during the winter.

Another very nice thing for a girl is to have a flower garden. No matter how small a place you have, you can always have flowers, even if they are only in a wooden box, and they will always repay you in their beauty and fragrance for the trouble which you take with them.

Let the girl who has not much to do start out with the idea that the flowers around her cottage, or in her flower boxes, will be prettier than anyone else's. Flowers really need very little care; good earth, and water once a day is practically all. Flowers should never be watered while the sun is on them, as it shrivels them up. Sweet peas are always pretty and grow well; if they are planted now they will be in bloom about August, if not before. They are particularly good for window boxes, as they grow up to quite a good height, and if you put sticks for them to climb on, in about three weeks they will make a very pretty screen. Pansies also grow well, and transplant very easily; in fact, it is almost better to buy plants than seeds. Although seeds are very good, the beauty of pansies and sweet peas is that the more of them you pick, the more they grow. Nasturtiums are always effective, and need no care at all, as they are very hardy and grow in any place. If you happen to have an ugly rock or stone in your garden which you could not remove, plant some nasturtiums around it, and in less than no time you will never know there is a rock there, as they hide it so completely.

Lavender Sheafs.

A correspondent writes on the subject of pretty uses to which lavender may be put. She says:—"When I was a young girl I used to make wheatsheafs in lavender, in the following manner:—Take about nine pieces with good heads, each about 8 or 9 in. long; tie them with green cotton round the stalks, just under the flowers, and about 2 in. from the bottom; then tie a narrow sarsanet ribbon round, to hide the cotton. Three of these bundles make a wheatsheaf, and a pleasing variety is afforded by tying each little bunch with a different coloured ribbon, that will harmonise. Then tie the three bundles together in the centre, and pull them into the form of a wheatsheaf, the lower parts of the stems standing outwards. These sheafs make a pretty addition to a table, one placed at each corner, and are certainly a pleasing novelty."

Dainty Perfumes.

Sweet Scents.

It is pleasant to have all the accessories of the toilet daintily scented, and although very strong scents are not considered to be in good taste, it is perfectly permissible to have one's gowns, veils, gloves, etc., delicately perfumed. Peau d'Espagne is a lasting perfume, and may be obtained either in the form of the skin or leather for inserting in the linings of dresses, or in sachet-powder or essence.

How to Make Peau d'Espagne.

The peau d'Espagne is very expensive to buy, and only a very small piece can be obtained for five shillings, so that no doubt my readers will appreciate a very valuable recipe which has been in my possession many years, and which I am going to present to my friends. Take of oil of rose, oil of neroli, and oil of santal each half an ounce; oil of lavender, oil of verbena, and oil of bergamot each a quarter of an ounce; oil of cloves and oil of cinnamon, each two drachms; in this dissolve two ounces of gum benzoin. Now steep in this some good pieces of chamois leather for a day or two, and dry it over a line. Prepare a paste by rubbing in a mortar one drachm of civet musk with one drachm of grain musk, and enough gum tragacanth mucilage to give a proper consistence. The leather is cut into pieces about four inches square; two of these are pasted together with the above paste, placed between two pieces of paper, and weighted or pressed until dry. It gives off its odour for years.

The Montpelier Scented Cloth.

Another valuable recipe for scented cloth (which answers the same purpose as peau d'Espagne) has, I believe, never before found its way into print. You must take a good-sized piece of light woven linen cloth; wash the cloth in several waters, then spread it out to dry, and afterwards steep it for twenty-four hours in sweet-scented water—half angelica and half rose-water. On removing the cloth from the water, gently squeeze it, and hang it up to dry in the open air. Then prepare the following composition:—Orange-flowers, dried, ¼ lb.; roots of elecampane, ¼ lb.; florentine orris, ¼ lb.; yellow sanders, 2 oz.; residuum of angelica-water, 1 oz.; rose-wood and sweet flag, each ½ oz.; gum laudanum, ¼ oz.; cloves, ¼ oz.; cinnamon, 1 drachm. Grind all these ingredients into a powder, and make them into a paste with mucilage of gum tragacanth dissolved in angelica-water. With this paste rub your cloth hard on both sides, leaving on it the little bits that may adhere, because they render the surface more smooth. Afterwards hang up the cloth, and when half dry again rub with a sponge wetted with angelica-water, to render the cloth still more smooth; afterwards dry it thoroughly and fold it up. It should be enclosed in a covering of silk. It answers splendidly for lining veil, handkerchief, or glove sachets, or for lining the collars, yokes, and cuffs of dresses.

Scenting Gloves.

Would you like to know how to impart a lasting scent to your gloves? Then take ambergris, 1 drachm; civet, 1 drachm; orange-flower-water, ½ oz. Mix these, and rub well into the inside of the gloves with fine cotton wool, pressing the perfume into them. Another way is to take essence of roses, ½ oz.; oil of cloves, 1 drachm; oil of mace, 1 drachm; frankincense, ¼ oz. Mix them, and lay them in papers between your gloves. Being hard pressed, the gloves will take the scent in forty-eight hours, and retain it until they are worn out.

Scented Bags for the Pocket.

Half-a-dozen little scented bags for carrying in the pocket would make a charming present for your special friend. Of course, the bags should be made very nicely of good silk or satin, and the monogram should be artistically worked on them in coloured silks. When the bags are ready, prepare the composition for scenting them as follows:—Florentine orris, ½ lb.; rose wood, 3 oz.; calamus aromaticus, ½ lb.; yellow sanders, ¼ lb.; gum Benjamin, 1½ oz.; cloves, ¼ oz.; cinnamon, ½ oz. Grind all to a fine powder, mix thoroughly, fill the bags, and sew them up.

Persian Leather Scented Bags.

Persian leather scented bags, to be used for the same purpose as the silk ones, should be made of about four inches wide. Rub the insides slightly with a little civet, then fill them with coarse powder à la Maréchale, or any other odoriferous powder, to which may be added a few cloves, with a little yellow sander beaten small.

ROUND-ABOUT NOTES.

The preparations for London's great Costume Exhibition next year are well forward. All the leading London and Continental houses will be represented at the Dress Exhibition, which is to bring together the most dazzling display of millinery creations that has ever been grouped under one roof. The classic modistes of Paris and Vienna will vie with the smartest London and New York firms in moulding the season's fashions, and £100,000 will barely cover the cost of the trappings of this Temple of Femininity. The exhibition buildings at Earl's Court will in all probability be the venue of the international Dress Market. The exhibition will be open for a fortnight, and it is to be held in February next. If it is realises the exceptations of its promoters, it is to become an annual event.

* * *

A Woman's Mining and Stock Exchange was opened last month in Los Angeles, California, with twenty-eight members. The president, Mrs. Clara Shortridge Foltz, believes that in a city where so many women have made fortunes in business an organisation of those interested in mining will be of benefit. Mrs. Foltz, has been practising law in Los Angeles since she left San Francisco immediately after the earthquake. This new venture will not in any way interfere with her professional activities. She had the honour of being the first woman admitted to the bar on the Pacific coast, and was the first woman to serve as trustee of the State Normal School of California.

* * *

Two working men were discussing serious subjects. Quoth the younger, "I say, Bill, what are these 'ere joint-stock companies?"—"Well, I'll explain it to yer. You and Jim, and 'arf a dozen more of our mates, puts up a penny each and buys two ounces of 'bacca and a clay. Then I calls myself the managing director, and I sits down and smokes that pipe and that 'bacca. D'ye see?" "Yes, but where do we come in?" "Oh! you're the shareholders. You get the ash."

* * *

Among the varied uses of peat that for the production of gas is perhaps the least known. It has been used for this purpose, however, for the last thirty years in the steel works of Notala, in Sweden. From 13,000 to 16,000 cubic yards of peat are thus used yearly. It costs rather more than coal gas, but has the advantage of containing scarcely any sulphur or phosphorus. In several places in Europe, peat gas is used for heating and in glass melting furnaces.

* * *

The aigrette so often seen in a lady's hat is the crowning beauty of an egret mother. The collector seizes the bird while she is on her nest, with the young just hatched, and tears off her plumes and wings, leaving her to die beside her little ones, who, deprived of her fostering care, also die, victims to woman's vanity.

* * *

There is probably no other race in the world so enthusiastic over religion and who enter so heartily into its forms and ceremonies as the negroes. They seem to lose all thought of their surroundings and throw themselves body and soul into their own peculiar forms of worship. They are not content with modified observances, but must, in some countries, do things after their own fashion.

* * *

In Jamaica there is a very large religious sect called, after their leader, Benardites. Four times a year the followers of Bernard are baptized in the waters of the River Mona. Hundreds of these religious enthusiasts meet on the banks of the river before daybreak, and as many as 600 have been "dipped" in a single morning. The price of a dipping is 1s., so that the income to the leader and his church is a tidy little sum. After the baptism the freshly-cleansed and purified of sin form a line, and with gold embroidered banners and silken streamers waving above the long line of men and women, they march, singing, to the church, which is situated a short distance back from the river. Hundreds of these negroes make up the long swaying and winding procession, which sings as it moves and eventually enters the church doors or distributes itself outside near windows and doors.

"Pepita."

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THE MARK LANE EXPRESS SUPPLEMENT FOR THE HOME

Conducted by "PEPITA"

THE NEWEST FASHIONS.

In frocks for young girls this season there are a great many attractive materials to choose from among the thin fabrics, and chiffon net, gauze, marquisette, and all the novelties of the season furnish almost an unlimited choice, without mentioning the fascinating washing materials that are so extremely dainty. Crêpe de chine is also allowed for some frocks, and is without question a most valuable and economical investment, for it wears so well, but it is not for the moment so smart as something more perishable. The chiffon, plain, in all light shades, and also in white, is quite as much in demand in young girls' frocks as for older women's, and is trimmed and made up in very much the same styles. The most elaborate models have some embroidery on the material itself, but this is apt to make the frocks look rather old, and the tucked and pleated skirts with full soft bodices without any trimming excepting the lace guimpe and sleeves or a lace-edged fichu are far more youthful.

* * *

Accordion pleated skirts are so invariably becoming to young girls that it is not remarkable the style continues popular year after year. Bands of embroidery or lace entre-deux can break the monotony if so desired, but the pale colours in the pleats have so much that is attractive in effect that the extra trimming is by no means essential. The skirts this season are all full, and measure much more around the hem than last year, but the fulness is arranged rather differently, and the modern skirt is not so easy to accomplish as might be supposed, for it must look full and at the same time not have any unnecessary fulness over the hips, which result can only be obtained by a most careful fitting of the skirt. The embroidered robes present a snare to the unwary. Fortunately, there are few patterns that are simple enough for the young girl. These robes must be most carefully draped and hung, and gathers or pleats at the sides will be required to give the fashionable swing to the skirt. As a rule, the skirts of the pattern robes are so long that they can be lifted up, and this will give the right fulness.

* * *

Fichu effects are becoming to young girls, for the folds can be arranged to give either a wide or slender effect, and the breadth of shoulder makes the waist seem smaller. Too small a waist is not becoming, especially if it is attained by tight lacing, but with breadth across the shoulders and the belt a sash carefully fitted and the lines of it well arranged, the waist line will look one or two inches smaller than it is in reality. The baby bodice, as it has been known from time immemorial—the full bodice gathered around the shoulders and drawn in at the waist—still exists in the popular fashions of the day, is in fact one of the integral parts thereof. It can be made over a fitted or toned lining; it can be unlined if the wearer is slender, and it affords a basis for all sorts of trimming; the bertha or the fichu finishes it equally well; the square cut with bands over the shoulder and the guimpe, or yoke of lace, or not—all are possible with the baby bodice.

* * *

The batiste and lawn frocks with the entre-deux trimmings of fine embroidery of lace are most becoming to young girls, and are made in all pale colours as well as white. The underslips of batiste are considered more appropriate than when made of silk, and certainly do give a little more dainty effect. White frocks are, as a rule, more costly, for they apparently require more trimming, and yet there are some most attractive models that have little or no trimming except on the bodice.

* * *

Our illustration this week shows a smart demi-saison gown in a very fine quality of blue serge. It is trimmed simply with bands of braid and fancy braid buttons.



A PRETTY DEMI-SAISON GOWN.

From Falmouth.

By Eliza Turck.

Just off the narrow, tortuous, but busy main street of this interesting old Cornish town is a quiet, retired little court, wherein stands the fine seventeenth century house from which our illustration is taken. The granite pillars shown in the photograph support two projecting gables in a style that may be seen elsewhere in the delectable duchy, and also in Brittany. There is a notable example at Mousehole, near Penzance, dating from 1595, the pillars square and massive, the walls of the house of immense thickness, characteristic of the age in which it was built.

Although Bell's Court, the subject of our photograph (which, by the way, is unique, none other of this particular view being in existence), is unable to boast of such remote



BELL'S COURT.

antiquity, it possesses interests and attractions of its own, in a good staircase with well carved newels, a panelled room, two really fine mantelpieces, and a remarkably quaint and uncommon range. Fig. 2 represents one of these carved mantelpieces, and, it is hoped, should prove of use to amateurs of wood-carving as a suggestion of most effective treatment for a fireplace. Curiously enough, very little can be gleaned of the history of the house, neither the exact year when it was built nor the name of its founder are known; some brick chimneys on adjacent roofs, and evidently of the same period, bear the date 1679, and thus give the clue to its age. In 1747 George Bell inhabited the dwelling, and the whole Court has kept his name ever since. Those were the palmy days of the foreign packet service from Falmouth. Bell was the agent till 1775, and a personage of no small importance in the town. But the introduction of steamships caused the decline of Falmouth's prosperity, the old sailing packets were gradually discontinued, and by 1850 the mail service was entirely transferred to Liverpool and Southampton.

Bell's Court by degrees also descended from its high estate as the domicile of one of the most distinguished of the town's inhabitants. It is now the headquarters of the Working Men's Club, and modestly withdrawn from the stir and bustle of the one long street of this delightful watering-place, with its magnificent harbour, filled with yachts and craft of all sorts and conditions, and its three charming sea beaches. Falmouth may have lost much of its former prosperity as a port, but its attractions for visitors remain as fresh and bright as ever, and increase from year to year.

Space precludes more illustrations being included in this number of the supplement, but at some future time the second chimney-piece panel and the antique range shall be given.

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A Remedy for Cuts.—If you cut your finger badly and cannot stop the bleeding, try tying round it a piece of soft rag soaked in turpentine. This will at once stop the bleeding, and make a cut heal very quickly.

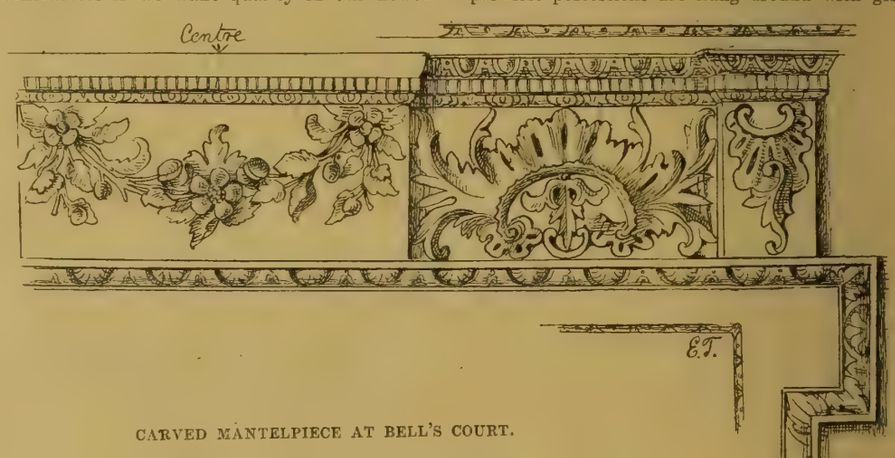
Gardening in September.

Early Chrysanthemums.

For whatever purpose chrysanthemums may be cultivated, they need our attention in the early part of September more than at any time. They should be removed to the greenhouse—the sooner the better if we wish to succeed with our plants, obtain early blooms, and make room for later varieties in November.

It is essential, too, that the sod be thoroughly ripened if good and perfect robust flowers are to embellish our houses when other plants are scarce. Be quite sure that the plants are not conveyed to the greenhouse when the leaves are wet, and also determine that no aphis or green fly invades the place where your plants are to complete their growth and display the blooms. Fumigate the structure thoroughly. You may fail to discern the fly with the naked eye, but the little demons are sure to be in hiding, and if they once creep into the opening bloom you will have endless trouble and vexation. Discontent will be stamped on your brow when you should be all smiles at the excellence of the plants you have watched and guarded so zealously all through the summer months in the open. You must pay strict attention to your hobby, and be careful not to overfeed, but to nurse them intelligently and build them up with just sufficient stimulants, moderately applied, so as to make your plants of solid stuff. No stimulants should be given till the buds have formed, but plants which are well rooted may be fed, and soot water used now and again, as this acts quickly on the foliage.

Remove surplus side shoots as soon as they appear. You must not allow them to make a fair growth and then vigorously attack them when they have starved your main leaders. This is like putting the bit into the colt's mouth when it has acquired the bad habits you wished to guard against. It is astounding how quickly plants run wild if they are neglected for even a day or two. It is to be hoped that the main stems have been carefully tied to stakes during the cold and wet weather in the open, as it has been against ripening wood. Sun and air are two benefactors if we want quality in our flowers and wish to show up well in October when chrysanthemums are needed for festivals.



CARVED MANTELPIECE AT BELL'S COURT.

Examine pots, and see that they do not get dry. Use your knuckles and tap the pots at the side, but do not water so freely as to cause the soil to get into a sodden state. But, of course, this will depend upon the manner and method you have adopted to allow a free drainage when potting for the last time.

G. W. Thomson Price.

———o———

Automobile Funerals.

Among so much that is becoming automobile, the funeral motorcar was bound to reach us sooner or later, and it was only fitting that an innovation so logical should come from Germany, where it is not the custom to do things by halves. The novelty is an automotive, which was recently submitted to the police perfecture of Berlin for approval. It is one of the approved lugubrious type, differing only from the ordinary funeral vehicle in not being horse drawn.

Hurry v. Longevity.

Not long ago, while travelling, I chanced to stop at a village on the River Rhine, where I found an astonishing number of old people. There were a dozen over one hundred years of age, and many from eighty years old up to the century mark, yet straight and vigorous. One woman nearly a hundred years old was earning her living by picking hops; her grandchildren were middle-aged.

It was quite wonderful. But there was no mystery about it; it was merely the effect of a simple life spent largely in the fields, with plain diet, consisting largely of a few vegetables and fruits, little meat, and native beer and wine for beverages.

Nothing can be more obvious than that the very complexity of our modern civilisation is shortening our lives. But of all the evils that afflict us the worse and most destructive are hurry and worry. Hurry drives the body machine beyond its capacity, while worry racks it inwardly. Of the two, worry is probably the worse.

This might, indeed, be called the age of worry. Because of the intense nervous strain to which we are subjected, we do vastly more worrying than did our forebears. The average man of to-day is continuously surrounded and pursued with phantom troubles, which, though few of them ever materialise into realities, haunt him continually, ruining his peace of mind and injuring his health.—Dr. J. V. Shoemaker, in "The Reader."

———o———

The World Growing Better.

Sometimes, when we pick up the daily paper and read of crimes and exposures, we feel that the world's anchor is dragging, and we wonder if it will soon be pounding hopelessly upon the rocks. We forget the antidote. We have no means of judging the future except by the past. Take, for instance, England in Goldsmith's time, the eighteenth century. In Forster's Life of Goldsmith, written in the middle of the last century, he discusses the Vicar of Wakefield and Doctor Primrose's adventures in prison.

"This prison," argues Doctor Primrose, "makes men guilty where it does not find them so; it encloses wretches for the commission of one crime, and returns them, if returned alive, fitted for the perpetration of thousands. With what consequence? New vices call for fresh restraints; penal laws, which are in the hands of the rich, are laid upon the poor; and all our paltriest possessions are hung around with gibbets." It scares men now to be told of what no men then heeded. Deliberate and foul murders were committed by the State. It was but four years after this that the government which had reduced a young wife to beggary by pressing her husband to sea, sentenced her to death for entering a draper's shop on Ludgate Hill taking some coarse linen off the counter, and laying it down again as the shopman gazed at her; listened unmoved to a defence which might have penetrated a stone, that inasmuch, since her husband was stolen from her, she had no bed to lie upon, nothing to clothe her two baby children with, nothing to give them to eat, "perhaps she might have done something wrong, for she hardly knew what she did;" and finally sent her to Tyburn, with her infant sucking at her breast, to be hanged.

The principal functions of government in those days seem to have been to collect money for the Court to spend riotously, to build navies and maintain armies, and to administer "justice" with an iron-gloved hand.

There are evils to-day but we must not forget the past, and the good that has developed year by year.

Bead Work.

The use of beads and jewels has become very popular, and many clever designs and decorations can be seen now. A favourite and charming combination is of macramé twine and brilliant coloured beads, arranged so as to make short blinds and curtains. These curtains are useful screens for an open door, such as a greenhouse or French window. Landing windows also are much improved when draped and covered with these bead blinds, the entire length and width being covered, hiding, perhaps, an untidy or dilapidated outlook. The beads should be chosen to harmonise with the room generally; the macramé can be had in all possible shades and sizes. For curtains a very strong thread is required, while the short blinds can be made with a much finer one; there is not the same amount of strain on the blind.

Brilliant and transparent beads have a much prettier effect, and last quite as long. The "reed" has always played an important part in bead fringes, but now the thread is *knotted* to keep the bead in position, and the effect is decidedly lighter. When a rich and striking appearance is desired, small beads are used to keep the large rounds and other different beads

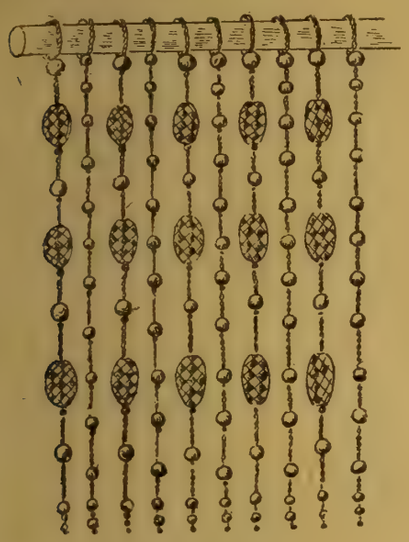


FIG. 1.—BEAD WORK.

at regular distances, the reed tends to make the effect heavy and clumsy.

A "bamboo rod" sufficiently strong to support the curtain or blind is required, and is securely fixed by means of strong hooks.

Illustration I. we have a deep fringe or blind suitable for a window or fanlight. Large loops are formed, and the strings are placed on at regular distances. Each string is separately made and finished; small knots are required to fix and keep in position the large beads; sometimes a small bead immediately beneath the large one looks well, and the knot below to keep the two in order finishes the design, then comes the short length of twine.

Alternate strings of different patterns give satisfaction, and is not so monotonous to work.

Illustration II. is somewhat similar, the heading in this case, however, differs from Illustration I. A narrow border is crocheted, and forms a band sufficiently wide to allow the beaded threads to be laced in and out. This band is securely fastened to a narrow wooden band by means of fine tin-tacks, then an extra band of wood or brass is arranged on the crochet border to hide all imperfections, etc. The fringe springs apparently from the flat rod with neatness and regularity.

Illustration III. Beads of the best quality and finest size are required for fringes of this character; here we have all the most brilliant colours imaginable with velvet pansies arranged as a border around the outer edge of the frame. From this outer edge the fine fringe is suspended; coarse silk should be used for stringing the beads, and each string is neatly sewn on a band of strong narrow or baby ribbon.

The top of the lamp screen is covered with a soft-coloured muslin or silk, and strings or ropes of beads radiate from the centre to the circumference. The top portion is arranged in like manner, and lined with a deeper tone than the lower.

Much depends upon skilful and artistic fingers in work of this description. Loud colouring with heavy drapery has a cruel effect, and never looks worth the labour bestowed.

All materials can be obtained at most art depôts, and general information as to beads and thread.

Dainty bows of ribbon should be arranged here and there they give a charming finished effect, and hide trouble, some defects, and joins.

How a Young Girl should Dress her Hair.

Neatness and youthfulness are the two points emphasised in dressing a young girl's head. After she has reached the age where the hair may properly be turned up the lines of her head are taken into account, and the hair dressed with a view to bringing out the best lines without verging on the elaborate.

* * *

No style of hair-dressing looks well or suits the young girl of to-day unless the hair itself is properly cared for. In fact, the whole charm of the youthful coiffure lies in its being well brushed and carefully tended. The maid gives it as much attention as she does the matron's head, and there is every reason to believe that when the young girl of to-day has grown into womanhood and has reached middle age she will have no need of false pieces, if false pieces are in vogue then. The daily treatment of the hair includes regular and thorough brushing. Every night and morning the hair is let down, and brushed briskly from fifty to one hundred times. This imparts to it a glossy look that no amount of beautificrs can bestow, and it gives the hair a softness and fluffiness that makes one feel well repaid for the extra time given to the hair each day. Besides the daily brushing, the hair is washed regularly and intelligently.

* * *

It is only by careful washing and thorough drying that most hair can be made attractive.

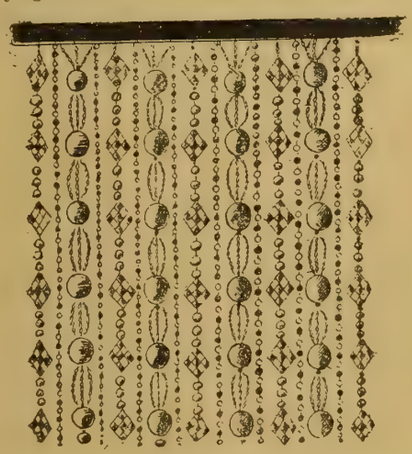


FIG. 2.—BEAD WORK.

Oil and dust will collect, especially when girls spend much of their time outdoors, and dust will spoil the lustre of hair, while oil makes it look darker and less fluffy. Particular attention is paid to the rinsing and drying of the hair, and naturally the very best soaps and tonics are used. Those who have made a study of shampooing know that the final result depends largely on the way the hair is treated after the shampoo is given, so that it is well to have the rinsing and drying done with the greatest care

* * *

Girls who have been out in society sometimes have their hair waved with the irons, but young girls never do this. The effect is too elaborate and old for one thing, and then the hot irons are apt to spoil and break the hair, and the girl who is still in her teens does not want to run the risk of injuring her hair in any way. Even though it is not waved artificially it does not fall straight around the face. On the contrary, it rolls back in soft, loose, slightly marked waves, which are, however, the result of careful training and treatment; that is, if the hair does not wave naturally.

* * *

Pompadours are not considered good style for young girls. Instead of following this fashion they bring the hair back with only a slight roll around the face, and to keep it in place and from looking too tight and severe they use side combs, which hold the hair at the sides and top and yet do not spoil the effect of the dressing. These combs are of shell to match the colour of the hair as nearly as possible, and the rims are not ornamented. The shell is simply polished, though the rims are heavy enough to give a smart finish to the coiffure. Above all things, a young girl's hair is never "roughed." The method of making it look thicker and much more abundant than it is has a decidedly bad effect on hair. "Roughing" it breaks it; it splits the ends and soon spoils a head of hair.

* * *

There are several styles of hair-dressing which are equally fashionable with smart young girls. They differ very slightly, one from another, and the general effect is the same in all. One of the favourite ways to put up the hair after a girl has been wearing it down is that of braiding it in a loose plait, starting low in the neck and then turning up the end until it comes just above the crown, where it is tucked in and fastened with shell pins. This is the highest dressing worn by girls of about sixteen, though it is really not a high coiffure at all. It is very becoming to girls of delicate features, and it emphasises that aristocratic air so widely copied by artists. Girls possessing good profiles find this way of dressing their hair admirably suited to them. A somewhat different effect with similar outlines is achieved by having the same kind of a braid begin at the top of the crown and pinning it down to the head very loosely with the end turning under low in the neck. At the sides, around the ears, the hair is allowed to wave in soft, loose and almost imperceptibly marked undulations.

* * *

Whatever the style followed in arranging the hair, the front and back are always separated, and each division is handled by itself, though when the dressing is done it looks as though the hair had been drawn together very simply either at the crown or at the neck and made into a loose plait. Thick hair is naturally much easier to work with, and it gives better results, as breadth instead of length of braid is the thing desired. It is partly on account of this much prized thickness that such excellent and assiduous care is given the hair in order to improve its condition and promote its growth.

* * *

A lower dressing and one much worn by young girls is where all the hair, after the front has been arranged in a full, soft and becoming effect, is brought in to the neck, where it is twisted into a wide and rather unusual coil, something like a figure eight laid in a horizontal position instead of in the more familiar vertical one. For a girl possessing striking and regular features this way of dressing the hair is particularly good, as it



FIG. 3.—BEAD WORK.

gives just a touch of individuality without being odd.

* * *

Girls between the ages of sixteen and eighteen are permitted to wear their hair dressed in a slightly more elaborate fashion, though it still follows the simple lines of the low coiffure already described. Instead of the wide, flat braid a series of twists or small puffs is laid across the back of the head and allowed to fill in the space at the neck. This may sound somewhat complicated for simple girlhood, but the effect is very little different from the other accepted styles.

* * *

Until a girl has budded into a débutante she does not wear ornaments in her hair. Ribbons tied in very simple bows are always good style for certain ages if they are becoming, but flowers, wreaths, and even plain shell ornaments, except combs, are reserved for her adornment after she has made her bow to society.

Practical Recipes.

STEWED MUTTON AND HARICOT BEANS.

Take 1½ lbs. of neck of mutton cut it into pieces, melt 1 oz. of dripping in a saucepan, then add to it 1 large onion sliced and the mutton. Stir it all together until slightly brown, then add ½ lb. haricot beans previously soaked in cold water for 24 hours, and a stick of celery. Add sufficient hot water to cover, and then simmer together until the meat and bones are cooked. Place the meat in the centre of the dish, and the beans round, slightly thicken the gravy, and add to it a little chopped parsley. Pour over all and serve.

SWEET ROLL.

Dry a tablespoonful of flour and mix it into the same quantity of castor sugar, add a teaspoonful of baking powder. Break 2 eggs into this and beat well together. Spread on a flat tin and bake in a quick oven for 5 to 7 minutes. Turn out on a paper, spread with lemon and curd roll. When cold cut in slices.

SAVOURY EGGS.

Mince very fine some cold meat or poultry, and add a little melted butter, chopped parsley, pepper, salt, and 2 eggs. Moisten with some stock and put into a saucepan to cook for about 8 minutes. Pile up on a dish, place sippets of toast around it, and on the top as many poached eggs as will be required for the number of persons at breakfast.

BEST WAY TO MAKE COFFEE.

Coffee should be fresh ground before each meal. It should never be allowed to boil and is best made in an earthenware jug; the proportion of 1 large teaspoonful of coffee to each person. Pour on it the boiling water, let it stand for a few minutes, then clear three times. Have the milk boiling in another saucepan. Pour the coffee into a coffee-pot made hot by standing boiling water in it for a few minutes, and send to table.

BEEF CROQUETTES.

This is a capital way of using up a joint when people are tired of cold meat. Chop the meat very fine, removing all fat, bone, and skin; add salt, pepper, a sprinkling of lemon thyme, some fine bread-crumbs, a small quantity of mashed potatoes, and 1 well-beaten egg to bind it together. Shape into oblong balls, roll in bread-crumbs, then flour, and fry in boiling lard until a pale golden colour.

PINEAPPLE PUDDING.

Butter a pudding-wish and line the bottom and sides with stale sponge cake or roll, pare and slice thin a large tinned pineapple; place in the dish first a layer of pineapple, then strew with sugar, then more pineapple until all is used. Pour over this a small teacupful of water, and cover with slices of cake or roll which have been dipped in water; cover the whole with a buttered plate, and bake slowly from 1½ to 2 hours.

GERMAN TOMATO SOUP.

Take 3 large tomatoes, 2 large French rolls, 1 onion, 3 ozs. of butter, and 1 quart of medium stock seasoned with pepper and salt. Peel and fry the onions in the butter, cut the tomatoes in 4 parts, and the roll in slices, and add with the seasoning a quart of water. Boil for 1½ hours, then strain, and add the stock boiling.

GREENGAGE JAM.

The fruit must be picked dry and sound. Divide them and remove the stones. Allow ¾ lb. of sugar to every pound of fruit, weighed before being stoned. Put the greengages into a preserving pan with water to cover the bottom; bring them to a boil, then add the sugar, and keep stirring until it is melted. Let it simmer, removing the scum as it rises. About 5 minutes before the jam is done, let it boil up rapidly. When cold, put into pots and cover with oiled papers; then plain note-paper, or tissue-paper, brushed over on both sides with the white of an egg.

CURRANT BUNS.

Mix together 1 lb. of flour and ½ teaspoonful each of tartaric acid and bicarbonate of soda; add 2 ozs. of butter, 2 ozs. of castor sugar, ½ lb. of currants or sultanas, and when well mixed make a hole in the middle and stir in ½ pint of new milk into which has been beaten 1 egg. Mix quickly, and set the dough in good-sized lumps on a baking-tin. Bake in a quick oven for about 20 minutes. When done, take out of the oven; slit them down and butter, returning to the oven for a minute to melt the butter.

ROUND-ABOUT NOTES.

Ida Lewis, better known throughout the United States as the Grace Darling of America, recently very quietly observed the fiftieth anniversary of her connection with the Lime Rock Lighthouse in Newport Harbour. Just half a century ago Miss Lewis went to the lighthouse to assist her father, who was the keeper. He became paralytic and the daughter attended to the work. After his death Miss Lewis, on account of her great work in saving lives from death by drowning, was made keeper of the lighthouse by a special act of Congress. As it will require another act of Congress to depose her, she will probably be connected with the Light until her death. During her 50 years at the lighthouse Miss Lewis has saved 18 persons from death by drowning. Five of the persons rescued were soldiers stationed at Fort Adams. Miss Lewis has been honoured by President Grant, General Sherman, and Admiral Dewey, and thousands of persons from all parts of the country have visited Lime Rock Lighthouse for the sole purpose of seeing its heroic keeper. Medals and trophies of all kinds have been awarded for her deeds of bravery. Miss Lewis is a native of Newport, and is about 75 years of age.

* * *

In the great Canadian North-West, where the erstwhile wilderness is waving with golden grain and towns are springing up overnight, not a few women have gone to seek their fortunes alone. A homestead grant of 160 acres is free, and any "head of a family," man or woman, may secure it on application to the Canadian Government. Usually, of course, the applicant is a man, but occasionally a woman essays to make her fortune on the prairies without masculine aid.

* * *

Miss Marie Gilroy of Saskatchewan is one of the most famous woman settlers of the West. She put her last shillings into a prairie farm and spent seven years in a hand-to-hand tussle with fortune, sitting on her own binder, cutting her own grain, handling the plough in the furrow, and doing stable duty. In 1906, her holding excited the admiration of a young Englishman, and Miss Gilroy was induced to hand over lock, stock and barrel to him for the round sum of £3,000. To-day Miss Gilroy is touring Europe on the proceeds.

* * *

Mrs. McGilvray, who came to the Canadian West twenty years ago with six small children, is another prominent woman farmer of Saskatchewan. Beginning almost penniless, her 160 acres of homestead have now grown to an eight hundred acre estate, and her children are settled round her in comfort and affluence.

* * *

Mrs. Ferros is known as the "woman farmer" of the Portage Plains. Left with a family of young children, she has managed her farm most successfully since the death of her husband. She comes from Belfast, Ireland, and when she arrived in Western Canada with her husband 32 years ago, they had no capital at all. She now has an estate of 760 acres, and her two sons are settled near at hand, each the owner of a section and-a-half of land—about 500 acres. Many women teachers, too, are found on the Canadian prairies, but they never remain long in the schools, though they do not leave the prairies.

* * *

The Countess of Warwick has the most charming garden in England, filled not so much with the fashionable flowers of to-day as with the old-fashioned favourites of long ago, that are allowed to grow in untrammelled luxuriance. One corner of this delightful spot she calls her Garden of Friendship, and there she plants all the flowers that are associated in her mind with friends, each blossom being fragrant with a memory. A sentimental idea, but certainly a very pretty one.

* * *

Sir Wilfrid Laurier was once on an electioneering tour in Ontario, and, as the elections were bitterly contested, every effort was made to stir up race and religious prejudice. One day a Quebec Liberal sent this telegram to Sir Wilfrid: "Report in circulation that your children have not been baptised. Telegraph denial." To this the Premier replied: "Sorry to say report is correct. I have no children."

"PEPITA."

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THE MARK LANE EXPRESS SUPPLEMENT FOR THE HOME

Conducted by "PEPITA"

The Collectors' Guide.

Delft China.

In giving prominence to blue Staffordshire, many collectors have overlooked the charms of Delft. The scarcity of old pieces partially accounts for this lack of enthusiasm, and the fact that good specimens are seldom found outside of antique shops. Yet the Dutch ware has a ceramic history, which, by comparison, makes the oldest blue Staffordshire seem a rank parvenue, a history into which is woven the commercial rise of Holland.

About the end of the sixteenth century, the Dutch, through trading with Japan, imported many pieces of oriental china, and it was their desire to reproduce or imitate these that led to the foundation of an industry destined to grow to immense proportions. Their ware was made from clay of Bruyelle, near Tournay, which was skilfully mixed with sand and very carefully potted. The sand made it hard and capable of being made into pieces for table use. To hide the coarseness of the surface and to come more approximately near the Oriental china it imitated, it was covered all over with smooth, bluish, opaque enamel, so at a short distance it was possible to mistake the one for the other. On this surface, artists of note copied first Oriental designs in blue, and afterwards more original creations both in blue and polychrome. The industry grew steadily, and did not begin to decline until the close of the eighteenth century. In addition to plaques, vases, statuettes, etc., the quaint forms of the Orient were copied.

The manufacturers were numerous, and each fabrique was distinguished by a sign such as "The Three Bells," "The Porcelain Hatchet," etc., which were all registered in the city archives, so it is possible to trace with much accuracy the development of the industry.

The clay was thrown or moulded in the ordinary way, and submitted to a first firing. The article was then dipped in a white liquid, which formed a coating to the body of the earthenware. The painting was effected on this white porous substance. The article was then covered with a transparent glaze and fired again. In the second firing, the white coating and the glaze were both fused, the former becoming a white enamel, generally of a milky tone, and the latter a thin layer of glass. Both firings took place in the same kiln, but a higher temperature was required on the second firing to fuse the enamel. The articles in their raw state were placed for their first firing at the top of the kiln, where the heat was less. The clay in its biscuit state was very absorbent, and when dipped in the liquid, rapidly drank in, so to speak, the water, leaving behind, upon the surface, a white coating of solid matter.

In order to paint upon this spongy substance, which may be compared to blotting paper, very great dexterity, as well as suppleness of hand, was required, which could only be obtained by early training and long practice. The difficulty was increased by the nature of the paints, which were formed of a mixture of the colouring matter, itself very fluid, with pure water, without the addition of gum or any other substance to give it cohesion. On account of the excessive thirstiness of the ground, and the very liquid character of the pigments, the artist had to manipulate his brush with great skill and quickness. It is clear, that painting executed upon so uncongenial a substance could not be very accurate or exact in detail, but the boldness and vigour imposed by the conditions, gave to the finished work a special character and charm which are quite its own.

Frederick Litchfield, an authority on furniture and china, says: "The old Dutch town of Delft, between The Hague and Rotterdam, belonging to a nation, which, at one time, was the only European power that the Japanese allowed an entrance into their ports, availed itself of the large importation of Eastern porcelain to attempt copies thereof. These resulted in a product known as Delft, which, though an earthenware in substance, has much of the feeling and colour of oriental porcelain, and in the fine colour and peculiar bluish white of the ground of some of the best specimens, is very closely assimilated to its original models. Like the term Majolica, 'Delft' is often carelessly applied to all sorts of glazed earthenware."

The marks on Delft are numerous, and puzzling. Potters often used their own initials without further indentification, and today, it is often impossible to assign a vast number of specimens. Some of the various devices are: The letter K within the letter G, used by Garret Kam in 1674; three crudely-drawn flowers, the mark of de Roos in 1671; a cipher of an L. and an I., meaning Janvon der Laen, 1675; a bold L. K., standing for Lucas Von Kessel, a six-pointed star used by de Witte Star in 1690; a shield bearing three stars and the name Gaal, the mark of John Gaal; C. K. and the date 1729, the mark of Carn von der Klopt; P. V., standing for Peter Vanburg, 1759; K. V. D., Kornelis von Dyke.



AN OLD DELFT PLATE.

A famous mark is the bird's claw De Klaauw, potter, 1764. Several potters used a variation of a claw or talon, and it is a mark frequently forged.

One of the most common of Delft decorations is that of the peacock, which was used as early as 1651. An early potter, D. Pauw by name, called his factory "The Peacock" founding, according to Jervis, a pottery which existed until the end of the eighteenth century. The products of this factory, always carefully executed, often bear as mark the letters of the name of the sign formed in a monogram. Pieter Parce, master potter, established in 1759, at Delft, at the sign of the "Metal Pot." The rare products of this pottery, during the directorship of P. Parce, are marked with a monogram formed by the initials of the sign.

Bookbinding at Home.

The home workman can bind papers and magazines at a very small expense with the aid of a few tools and appliances. You will need two or three wooden hand clamps 5 or 6 in. long, two thin strips of board 2 in. wide, and as long as the longest papers or magazines you have to bind, a bradawl, linen carpet thread, wax, coarse needles, glue, a sharp knife, if you are to trim the edges to the books yourself; but it is far better to get the trimming done at a job printing office, and it costs but a few pence.

If you want stiff covers for your books, use millboard, not common pasteboard, as that will warp. If you use bookbinder's muslin, get the plain holland, not the stamped muslin, as that is very hard to get on smoothly. For the back of the books use sheepskin, enamel cloth, or holland curtain cloth. This last I find gives me excellent satisfaction for covers, as well as backs and corners, and is very easy to work, either on stiff or flexible covers, and is all right for printing, writing, or painting on, so that it is easy to ornament the back or covers of your book with gold or silver paint. For flexible covers I use manilla stock cardboard, that is a little thicker than a postal card.

Now, to bind the books: First, arrange the periodicals in proper order. Second, remove the covers and advertising pages. If there is glue on the backs, scrape it off with a sharp knife. Third, remove the wire staples or twine that holds the sections together. Now knock the backs up even, and place on front and back two or three plain sheets of white paper. Clamp together between the two strips of board, leaving just sufficient space at the back to punch holes through with your bradawl, or, if your book is very thick, to bore through with a very small gimlet. Make the first two holes about an inch from top and bottom of book, and make two or more between. The longer and heavier the book the more sewing it needs. Thread two needles with double waxed linen, tie the thread together at the ends, and put one needle through the upper hole. In all other holes, except the bottom one, put both needles through, one up, one down. When all is sewn, tie the ends firmly. If you are going to have square backs and flexible covers have the edges trimmed all around; if rounded backs and stiff or flexible covers trim only the front edge, and have the ends trimmed after the back is rounded After the books are trimmed put them between the clamping boards. Two or more volumes may be clamped at one time if they are the same length and the clamps will hold them. Cover the backs with an even, but not too heavy, coat of thick, hot glue, and allow to dry.

To round the back requires time and patience. Lay the book on a solid bench or table, and with a large hammer pound first one side and then the other of the back, and it will be seen that it rounds out. Continue this hammering until the book assumes the desired shape, and then place the book between the clamping boards again and screw tight, allowing the back to project slightly. Hammer now on the back until the sections bend over on each side and form a shoulder. It will be seen here that the sections in each half of the book bend towards that side, and the more evenly this is done the better your book will open when finished. If the books are to be bound in stiff covers you will learn more by taking an old book and tearing it carefullly apart and examining the work than you can from printed directions.

As soon as each book is covered it must be put under heavy pressure until it is dry, or it will have warped covers.

The backs of books that have rounded backs and ffexible covers must be covered the same as those with stiff covers.

For square-back books first cut your manilla cardboard a little larger than you need for your book, back and all in one piece; then bend the cardboard over a straight-edge board, and so fit it to the back of the book; glue this on and let it dry; then trim the edges even with the book. Next cover with any material you choose, allowing the cloth to turn over inside the cover ½ in. I cover one side at a time, using a paste made of part flour, part powdered glue, and, with a quite hot smoothing iron, press until dry. The inside of the covers I finish the same as the ones with millboard covers.

COOKERY.

Treacle Balls.

Mix ½ cup lard, ½ cup brown sugar, ½ cup sour milk, 1 cupful treacle, 1 teaspoonful ginger, 1 level teaspoonful of soda dissolved in cold milk, and enough flour to keep the dough from adhering to the board. Tear off pieces the size of a roll into balls; set on greased pans, and bake. While hot roll in sugar and almonds.

Making Soup.

It will always happen, and especially in large families, that there are refuse bones and pieces of meat, which are left either in the dish or in the plates. Every scrap of these should be collected together, with any odds and ends of all kinds of animal food, such as heads and necks of poultry, trimmings of meat, etc. If these are not approved of for the house, they will, at all events, afford good useful soup for the poor, who will, many of them, be grateful for the broth or soup produced from them. Besides these, the boilings of all meat should be saved, and the strength increased by adding bones, scraps, etc. The liquor from salt meat is too salt, and part only must be mixed with more boilings or water to form the foundation of all sorts of soups, gravies, etc.; the liquid thus furnished being on this account called by the name "stock."

The Utensils.

These are:—1st, the digester; and 2nd, the stock-pot. The digester, usually named after its inventor, Pepin, is a strong iron vessel with a movable handle, by which it may be suspended over the fire. In the centre of the lid is a metal valve, which should always be attended to, as it might otherwise rust in its socket, and occasion the bursting of the pot. A little grease prevents this, but the greatest preventive is cleanliness. Besides this valve, which allows the steam to escape as soon as it rises with sufficient force to overcome the weight of the piece of metal, there is a peculiar adaptation of the lid, by which it is very securely closed. It is not only placed upon the top of the digester, but by a twist it is hooked under three projecting arms, and is consequently kept down closely, its under surface being ground to correspond with the upper edge of the pot. When, therefore, the bones, etc., are placed in the digester with water, and the lid adapted to it properly, the heat is raised considerably above 212 degrees, because the pressure is greater than that of the atmosphere by the weight of the valve. The consequence is that bones are compelled to give out their gelatine, and are left almost with nothing but their lime. This is the most economical of all cooking utensils, and is the means of saving an immense amount of nutritive matter; but it is of no use whatever unless the lid is securely adapted to the pot.

The stock-pot is merely a common saucepan with a well-fixed lid. It is intended for the slow boiling of meat in the liquor which has come out of the digester from the bones. Some people use the digester as a stock-pot, but it is better to put the bones in by themselves with any piece of gristle, as much more gelatine is dissolved by water than by a strong soup made from meat; besides which, the increased temperature in the digester is unfavourable to the solution of the meat. At all events, the bones should be first boiled, and the meat added afterwards; but the better plan is to boil the bones first, and extract everything from them; then pour off into the stock-pot, and add what meat or other soft bits it may be intended to use, stewing them for some hours very slowly.

Most soups will require from four to six hours' gentle boiling, and almost all should be prepared the day before they are to be used, by which plan they may be allowed to become cold, when the fat collected on the top, and become solid, may easily be separated.

In making the various sorts of soups, three different kinds of gelatinous solutions are alluded to: 1st, boilings, which mean the water in which meat has been boiled; 2nd, brown stock, which is soup made from beef, and cow-heels, or knuckle of veal, with or without the addition of any boilings; and 3rd, white stock, which is made from veal, or any white meat, as chickens, turkey boilings, etc.

To Make Good Stock.

Put whatever bones are at hand in the digester (previously breaking them in pieces); boil them for three or four hours at least, then pour off the liquor into the stock-pot, and add to each gallon the meat off a knuckle of veal, 1 lb. of lean beef, and 1 lb. of the lean of a gammon of bacon, all sliced, with 2 or 3 scraped carrots, 2 onions, 2 turnips, 2 heads of celery sliced, and 2 quarts of water. Stew the meat quite tender, but do not let it burn. When thus prepared it will serve either for soup, or brown or white gravy.

Pot-au-Feu.

The celebrated French Pot-au-Feu, according to the recognised authority of M. Soyer, consists of 6 lbs. of beef, 4 quarts of water, set near the fire and skimmed; when nearly boiling, add 1½ spoonsful of salt, ½ lb. of liver, 2 carrots, 4 turnips, 8 young or 2 old leeks, 1 head of celery, 2 onions (one of them burnt), with a clove in each, and a piece of parsnip. Skim again, and simmer four or five hours, adding a little cold water now and then; take off part of the fat put slices of bread into the tureen, lay half the vegetables over, and half the broth, and serve the meat (bouilli) separately with the other half of the vegetables.

French Soup.

This is very good and cheap. A sheep's head and pluck boiled gently in a gallon of water till reduced to half the quantity, a small teacupful of pearl-barley, 6 large onions, 1 turnip, 1 carrot, a bunch of sweet herbs, and a few cloves and peppercorns. Add a little mushroom ketchup, and thicken with some flour rolled in a lump of butter. It is better to boil it the day before it is wanted. Cut the meat off the head in slices as for hashed calf's head (taking it out for this purpose as soon as it is sufficiently tender), and then into small squares, which must be put into the soup again when it is warmed up for use. Finish it up with forcemeat, and little egg-balls, and a teacupful of white wine, which, with the addition of a little sugar, makes it nearly equal to mock-turtle.



TREACLE BALLS.

Mulligatawny Soup.

Take a knuckle of veal, 5 lbs. weight, put it on with enough water to cover it. When it is about half done take it off, cut the meat in slices, put it in a cool place till the next day, then take the fat off and fry the veal in a little butter, and put it in the soup with 4 dessert-spoonsful of curry powder, a little salt, and 4 onions sliced and fried in butter. Let all simmer together for two hours; if too thin, thicken it with flour and butter. Serve it up with rice in another dish. Another: Take 4 lbs. of beef, 1½ lbs. of scrag of mutton, 2 lbs. of ham, and a knuckle of veal; cut in small pieces, and put in a gallon of water; reduce to 2 quarts; add 2 onions, 4 turnips, and plenty of carrots. Strain it off, let it cool, take off the fat, and warm it up with 2 or 3 sticks of celery, and rub it through a sieve; put it back in the saucepan, and add walnut or mushroom ketchup, a tablespoonful of curry powder, a little cayenne pepper, and the juice of a lemon. Prepare rice as for curry to hand round with it.

Mock-Turtle Soup.

Half a calf's head, take out the brains, and put as much water as you wish to make soup, with sweet herbs, parsley, a few onions, and some lemon peel. Stew it gently until the meat is tender; then take it out and let it get cold; thicken the soup with a little flour and butter and strain it through a sieve. Add sherry, a little walnut and mushroom ketchup, pounded mace, and cayenne. Take the brains and beat them up with a little flour and 2 eggs into a light batter, adding pepper and salt, and some parsley chopped very fine; then take the yolks of 2 eggs and beat them up; make them into as many portions as you please, trying each in a bit of muslin, and boil them in little round balls: the batter made with the brains is to be fried into cakes a light brown.

When the head is cold it must be cut into small pieces and laid in the gravy, the cakes and eggs, with some forcemeat balls, to be laid on the top of the soup just before it is sent to table. Every particle of fat must be removed from the surface before warming the soup for the table.

The Toilet.

The Use of the Tooth-brush.

"It is but a little thing," says "The Hospital," "yet on its proper use depends much of the happiness of modern man. Why civilised teeth should be so rotten is a question which has often been debated, and probably the true answer is more complex than some would think. Many good mothers are content to put all toothache down to lollypops; but that sugar in itself is not responsible for bad teeth is proved by the splendid 'ivories' often possessed by negroes who practically live upon the sugar cane, and thrive upon it, too, during the whole of the season when it is in maturity. Dental decay is common enough, however, among negroes in towns, and it seems clear that the caries of the teeth, which is so common among most civilised races, is due not to any particular article of diet so much as to digestive and nutritive changes imposed upon us by our mode of life, and to some extent by the fact that by hook or by crook we do somehow manage to live, notwithstanding our bad teeth; whereas, in a state of nature, the toothless man soon dies. Recognising, then, that until the time arrives when some great social reformer either mends or ends our present social conditions, our teeth will tend to rot, and that, whatever the predisposing causes, the final act in the production of caries is the lodgment of microbes on and around the teeth, we see that for long to come the tooth-brush will be a necessity if the health is to be maintained. It is only by the frequent use of this little instrument that those minute accumulations can be removed which are at the root of so much mischief. A few elementary lessons in bacteriology would, we fancy, greatly startle many people, and certainly would show them the futility of trusting to one scrub a day. The fact is, that if people, instead of looking at the tooth-brush from an æsthetic point of view, and scrubbing away with tooth-powders (!) to make their front teeth white, would regard it merely as an aid to cleanliness, they would see that the time to use it is after meals and at night, not just in the morning only, when the *débris* left from the day before has been fermenting and brewing acid all night through. They would also see how inefficient an instrument the common tooth-brush is unless it is used with considerable judgment. One of the secondary advantages of spending a good deal of money on dentistry is that at least one learns the value of one's teeth. By the time we have got them dotted over with gold stoppings and gold crowns we learn to take care of them, even although that may involve the trouble of cleaning them more than once a day, and using perhaps more than one brush for the purpose."

Dark Brown Stain for Floors.—Soak ½ lb. of glue in water till soft, and when dissolved add to it ½ oz. of bicarbonate of potash and ¾ oz. of aniline brown, previously mixed in a quarter of a pint of water. An extra quantity of water, about a pint and three-quarters more, should be added afterwards. This stain should be applied when hot, and varnished when dry.

THE NEWEST FASHIONS.

Season after season, and year after year, short jackets, both plain and elaborate, are brought into vogue, and at first apparently succeed in winning Dame Fashion's heartiest approval, but just as regularly there is sure to be a reversion to the long fitted or box back coats that cannot fail to look smart, and are bound to be becoming to any figure, whether tall and slender or below average height and not as slight as the prevailing mode sanctions—for weight and height are governed by fashion's dictates just as much as are the correct models in hats, gowns, wraps, and the minor accessories of dress. Since these long, severely plain, tailor-made coats tend to give long and slender lines to any figure, it is not remarkable that this style of dress has such continuous popularity, and regularly returns to vogue by the middle of the season, even if at its commencement long coats are announced as completely out of fashion, and a reign of Eton, blouse, and bolero inaugurated.

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Nor has this year been any exception to the rule. Last autumn all the new models showed every conceivable design in short jackets—some fitted, others loose; the majority decidedly elaborate, but a number conspicuously unadorned—but by December long tailor jackets were again noticeable and continued to gain favour until the spring, when the introduction of summer costumes brought out light, cool, short jackets of silk, pongee, voile, and linen. But even these, with common-sense as a great point in their favour, have been forced to give way before the smart tailor-made costumes with three-quarter length half-fitted jacket, with long or sometimes three-quarter length sleeves, and quite short pleated skirt. Whether the costume be of serge or silk, of pongee or of rajah, a plain three-quarter length jacket is quite evidently preferred, whether the costume is intended for travelling or automobiling, yachting, sailing, or on any occasion calling for a smart coat skirt costume. Naturally the original model may be elaborated upon. Lace or lingerie collar and cuffs look nice at this time of the year, and do much to make the costume attractive and becoming, and stitched bands of the material or of silk or cloth give a nice finish.

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Dark blue is, perhaps, the most satisfactory of all shades for travelling, or for any occasion that necessitates a good, serviceable colour, but if the deeper shades are unbecoming there are any number of deeper tints from which to select, from a bright electric colour to a soft Japanese shade that is becoming to blonde and brunette alike. Bordering on the latter shade an exceedingly smart costume was made up with half-fitted cutaway jacket and full walking length skirt. The coat, which fell not quite to the knees, was but semi-fitted in the back, with loose box front, and instead of collar, revers or cuffs there were bands of embroidery finishing the coat, worked in the exact shade of linen thread. The loose kimono sleeves were in one piece with the coat itself and were, if anything, shorter than elbow length, and were finished off like the coat, with bands of embroidery worked direct upon the material. The skirt was a plain, but unusually full, circular model.

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The visiting gown illustrated this week is made in biscuit coloured cloth embroidered on the corsage with silk of the same shade.

Hints for the Laundry.

A little pipeclay, dissolved in the water employed in washing linen, cleans the dirtiest linen thoroughly, with about one-half the labour, and saving full one-half of the soap. The clothes will be improved in colour, equally as if they had been bleached.

Scald flannel before you make it up, as it shrinks in the first washing. Much of the shrinking arises from there being too much soap and the water being too cool. Never use soda for flannels.

A pailful of ley, with a piece of green copperas half as big as a hen's egg boiled in it, will be a fine nankeen dye, which will never wash out, and will be very useful for linings of furniture.

Skimmed milk and water, with a bit of glue in it, made scalding hot, is excellent to restore old rusty black Italian crape; if clapped and pulled dry, like muslin, it will look as well or better than new.

China crape scarfs, if the fabric be good, can be washed as frequently as may be required, and no diminution of their beauty will occur. Make a strong lather of boiling water, suffer it to cool; when cold, or nearly so, wash the scarf quickly and thoroughly, dip it immediately in cold, hard water in which a little salt has been thrown (to preserve the colours); rinse, squeeze, and hang it out to dry in the open air, when the more rapidly it dries the clearer it will be.

To wash chintz, take two pounds of rice, and boil it in two gallons of water until soft; then pour the whole into a tub; let it stand till about the warmth you in general use for coloured linens; then put the chintz in, and use the rice instead of soap, wash it in this until the dirt appears to be out; then boil the same quantity as above, but strain the rice from the water, and mix it in warm, clear water; wash it in this until quite clean.



A VISITING GOWN.

CAREERS FOR GIRLS.

Gardening.

"A garden," says Lord Bacon, "is the purest of all human pleasures." Perhaps that is why its care has so great an attraction for women, who, at all periods, have loved their gardens, and found delight in tending them. And it is quite in agreement with the practical spirit of the age that they should turn, what, in more leisurely times, was one of their favourite recreations into a means of livelihood.

Gardening as a career is attractive to most girls, but it is to be feared that many do not realise what it is when deciding to enter upon it. As a hobby it is pleasant and fairly easy. But things are different when one takes it up in earnest, intending to live by it. Hard work has to be done, all kinds of weather faced, unpicturesque things like draining, manuring, etc., to be studied, and a good many subjects gone into that the amateur gardener does not dream of connecting with her work.

Still, to a bright, active girl, the advantages of this profession are manifold. It is healthy and full of interest, yet not overcrowded; it offers fair remuneration, and its different branches give plenty of choice for specialising when trained.

The qualifications needed to make a successful woman gardener are, besides a taste for the work, intelligence, a fair amount of physical strength, good business capacity, the power of making others work as well as of working hard oneself, perseverance, order, and good taste.

Rather a long list, perhaps, for the girl aspirant to contemplate! Supposing that she has satisfied herself as to her own possession of them, she must not rush off in her teens to a Horticultural College. Twenty, is a good age for her to begin the college course, for this gives her time to get a thoroughly good general education, a fair idea of elementary botany, chemistry, physics, and perhaps geology and forestry, and a much needed year of practical work under a working gardener. The latter is greatly to be recommended, for without it, a student is at a disadvantage in college, and loses much of its teaching. Lectures on the chemistry of soils and manures will have but half their value for her if she has not practical experience to fit them in with, and she will waste time learning rudimentary things instead of bringing a ready-prepared mind in which the higher teaching can take root.

Her college training should last from two to three years, preferably the latter period, and will cost her from £200 to £500, including residence, travelling expenses, etc. Besides the Lady Warwick College at Studley Castle, Warwickshire, and the Horticultural College at Swanley, Kent, there are classes on gardening and its allied subjects arranged now by nearly all County Councils and Polytechnics, and some of the national gardens take women pupils for a longer or shorter period.

Besides lectures and study, students at these colleges have to do the ordinary work of a garden, such as trundling wheelbarrows about, pickaxing up paths, sweeping up dead leaves, and so on. In the Glynde School for lady gardeners, no men are employed at all, the whole work being done by the girl students; and at Swanley, the students are to be seen in the winter in their thick boots and leggings, digging, trenching, root-pruning, and doing all the menial work of gardening.

This is, of course, quite necessary, if a woman gardener is to know enough about her business to direct wisely those under her, but it is not the kind of work best suited to her. It may be taken as proved, that the higher branches of gardening are those in which woman excel. There are several of these for her to choose from. One of the least exacting is the teaching of cottage gardening and simple botany in country schools, in most of which practical work in these subjects is taking a recognised place. To girls fond of teaching it would prove interesting. The training necessary could be had at a Horticultural College by specialising in the subjects required.

A girl with a scientific turn would perhaps find her vocation in the higher side of gardening, viz:—Hybridisation, experimental work, and all the other branches needing care and thought. She might obtain a post on these lines with one of the large horticultural firms or in one of the national gardens. The salary to be had would probably depend a good deal on her own qualifications, but it would be safe to put it down as not less than £35, resident, or from £60 to £70, non-resident, to begin with.

One of the most interesting forms of the profession for a woman is landscape gardening, or the laying out of public and private grounds. This naturally requires taste and an eye for form; in fact, the girl who takes it up must

have some artistic talent to make her work of any value at all.

In preparing for it the course already detailed should be followed, with the addition of studying, at any rate to some extent, outside subjects bearing directly or indirectly upon the work, such as geology and architecture. Forestry is so important that the student might well devote the third year of her college course to it. As there are no schools of forestry in England, she would have to go to one of those under Government direction in France or Belgium, unless she could find a consulting forester in England or Scotland willing to take her as a pupil.

She should also get a thorough grasp of road-making, pondmaking, levelling, draining, embanking and rockwork, and be able to estimate the cost of such operations. Soils and manures should, of course, claim her attention also.

As in most other professions the "start" in this one is uncertain. Many municipal bodies are willing to employ women landscape gardeners, but there are not often vacant posts of this kind to step into. Architects also are often ready to engage capable women to work with them in this way.

The best course perhaps for a girl to take when she has finished her training would be to start on her own account, working up a connection by advertisement, and always keeping on the alert for the coveted appointment. Her income at first would be quite uncertain, the fee for consultation varying from one to five guineas according to the size of the work, and the amount charged for carrying out the scheme depending on her own plans and estimates.

For an energetic business-like girl, fruit and flower cultivation offers a promising opening. Capital is of course needed for this, and it is generally advisable for two or more women to start in the venture, as the work can be divided with profit. A town on a main line, with sufficient regular custom to give them something to count upon all the year round, should be near enough to their gardens to allow of easy transit. Or, if in the neighbourhood of London itself, the women gardeners would do well to get into touch with one or more of the large hotels, as they would be almost sufficient for them to depend on.

The training for this branch would cost from £200 to £300; there should be enough capital in hand, after starting, to keep on with for two or three years, as the garden will barely pay its way at first.

Still another line of gardening is open to the trained woman; that of "jobbing," and, undignified as it may sound, there are tempting possibilities in the idea. There seems to be a good opening in the suburbs of London and all large towns for a woman of taste and knowledge to keep small gardens in order for a fixed yearly sum. She would be a vast improvement on the usual jobbing gardener, who is a good deal more "jobbing" than gardener, and has about as much idea of making a pretty garden as skill to do it according to the owner's suggestion.

The woman "jobber" would undertake to have a well-planned show of flowers for each season, arranging an attractive colour scheme, and having all the necessary work done during the year for anything from £5 to £10, for ordinary sized suburban gardens.

It would be almost necessary for her to have a small nursery to grow the stock needed, as it would otherwise hardly pay well enough. Indeed, the partnership idea would come in here well, two or three by-industries, such as bee-keeping, being worked as well. One of the partners should certainly have a good business head, and a fair amount of capital would be required to start this business also.

The income would of course depend entirely on the "jobber's" energy, enterprise, and capability.

Other ways of utilising gardening knowledge and taste will probably suggest themselves to the girl thinking of this career, but enough has been said to show what possibilities lie in its direction for competent, hardworking women.

JOSEPHINE BULLEN.

To Prevent Lamp Chimneys Cracking.

Place the chimney in a pot filled with cold water and add a little cooking salt; allow it to boil well, then cool slowly. Chimneys become very durable by this process, which may be extended to crockery, stoneware, porcelain, china, etc. The process is simply one of annealing, and the slower the process, especially of cooling, the more effective will be the work. If the glass chimney of a lamp be cut with a diamond on the convex side, it will never crack, as the incision affords room for the expansion afforded by the heat.

ROUND-ABOUT NOTES.

Never before has there been such a call for ostrich feathers. Dame Fashion has decreed that all girls and women who make the smallest pretensions of following her inexorable ruling must have huge plumes plucked from the ostrich in their hats. For years back ostrich farming has been one of the staple businesses of South Africa, of which country the largest living bird is a native. Now there are large farms in Florida, where the winter climate is suitable to the birds, and others in the State of New York, where the ostriches enjoy summer quarters. The stock of these farms consists of more than two hundred adult birds ranging from seven to ten feet high, and weighing on an average three hundred pounds. Some of them tip the scale at more than four hundred.

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For a nest the ostrich merely scratches a hole in the sand about four feet in diameter and one foot deep. In this the hen lays one egg every other day until about fifteen have been deposited. The eggs each weigh from three to four pounds, and contain as much meat as about three dozen ordinary hen's eggs. The process and labour of hatching are shared by male and female alike. Up to the age of half a year the chicks grow at the rate of about a foot a month. Nothing grows so quickly as a healthy baby ostrich. After then the growth is much slower. Both sexes look alike, and are indistinguishable until about eighteen months old, when their feathers, which have been a mixture of grey and white, turn to dark drab in the female and black and white in the male.

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Every eight months the adult birds yield a crop of feathers. The small feathers are plucked out without pain to the birds, as they are ripe when extracted and would soon fall off. The heavy wing and tail feathers, which are the most valuable, are cut off with scissors, the stumps being left in the skin. In due time these drop out. While being plucked the bird is confined in a small enclosure, with a long, narrow bag placed over its head. Thus blindfolded, it rarely attempts to get away, but passively submits to the operation of being denuded of its feathers. The finest plumes come from the back of the wings and the tail. The male ostrich yields twenty-four fine feathers from each wing, and as many more from the tail.

* * *

The dolls of some famous women, says a writer in an American paper, let in many side-lights on the characters of their small owners. Charlotte and Emily Brontë dressed up ugly wooden images as men, and called their favourites the Duke of Wellington and Napoleon, had sham battles, and wrote plays for the dolls to act on a tiny stage. Charlotte also composed long poems in "Wellington's" honour, to which she compelled him to listen with his wooden ears. Jane Welsh Carlyle, as a child, loved only one doll. When it was time to translate Virgil, instead of playing, Jane made a pyre of various articles (including lead pencils, cinnamon stricks, and grated nutmeg!), pretended that the doll had stabbed itself, laid it on the pyre, and set fire to it. Childlike, she then snatched it from the flames, but too late. George Eliot's story of Maggie Tulliver's doll, Fetish, into the body of which nails were driven for poor Maggie's childish faults, was the true account of the writer's own early days.

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Jean Ingelow's favourite was a wax doll named Amelia, which met its end by a bath on a hot day, and was sorrowed for for many months. Anne Thackeray's dolls were taken when injured to her father, who pretended to carry them to the family doctor, but in reality took them to a toy shop for repairs—just what one can imagine Thackeray doing. George Sand, at fourteen, locked all her dolls into a closet, with farewell tears and hugs; then would sit outside the door every day, whispering words of comfort to the poor exiles. She kept her vow, however, of having no more to do with them. Florence Nightingale's many dolls were always sick and in need of close attention. She would frequently insist on sitting up all night with them, only dissuaded by promises of her mother and her nurse to take her place as watcher.

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THE MARK LANE EXPRESS SUPPLEMENT FOR THE HOME

Conducted by "PEPITA"

— COOKERY. —

Delicious Entrees.

Fricassee of Chicken.

Take the cold remains of one or two chickens (roast or boiled) and cut into joints and fairly big pieces. Put in a saucepan some milk, flour, and butter (the quantity, of course, depends on the amount of chicken), and rub down till there is not a lump, add the chicken, some nutmeg, pepper, and salt, and allow it to slowly boil up (stirring so that it does not burn) two or three times. Turn it out on a dish and serve with sippets of dry toast and rolled pieces of nicely fried bacon placed alternately round the dish. Cold veal can also be done up like this.

Mushroom Toast.

Prepare some mushrooms and put them in a frying-pan with some pepper, salt, a little water, plenty of butter, and a dash of Worcester sauce, and fry until quite crisp. Have ready some dry toast cut into pieces about three inches square. Put the mushrooms on these and send to the table very hot, and, if possible, on a silver dish.

German Eggs.

Boil 6 eggs for 10 or 15 minutes. Mix up in a saucepan a tablespoonful of flour with a piece of butter, add a little mace, pepper, salt, sugar, and nutmeg, and a teaspoonful each of finely-chopped onion and parsley; pour over it ½ pint of milk. Stir till it thickens and boils, then put in the eggs, shelled. When quite hot lay them on buttered toast and pour the sauce over.

Lamb Fritters.

Cut some strips from a cold leg of lamb, ½ in. thick and 3 in. long, dip them into a thick batter, and fry in boiling lard until they are a light brown. Put a pile of mashed potatoes on a dish, leaving a cavity in the middle of the potatoes to be filled with tomato sauce; arrange the fritters round the potatoes and beyond them a border of nicely boiled spinach. Serve quite hot.

Lamb Cutlets.

Take some nice lamb cutlets, lard, and with strips of truffle, braise them carefully. When cooked set them aside to press until cold, then cover with mayonnaise sauce. When quite set, trim them neatly and serve around some nicely boiled peas, tossed in mayonnaise sauce.

Breakfast Dishes.

Smoked Haddock Savoury.

Dip a smoked haddock into boiling water, take all the flesh from the bones, and pound flesh in a mortar. When thoroughly done, add a pinch of cayenne, a few drops of lemon juice, a piece of butter the size of a walnut, yolk of an egg, and a tablespoonful of milk or cream. Carefully stir all over the fire till it thickens, then serve as hot as possible on squares of hot buttered toast. The pounding and separating the flesh can, of course, be done the day before.

Beef Fritters.

These are very nice for breakfast. Chop pieces of steak or cold roast beef very fine. Make a batter of flour, milk, and an egg, and mix the meat with it. Put a lump of butter in a pan, let it melt, then drop the batter into it from a large spoon. Fry till brown; dish up, season with pepper and salt, and garnish with parsley.

Fish Balls.

A good and cheap breakfast dish is made from the following:—Cold boiled potatoes and any kind of cooked fish left from the previous day. Take any bits of bone from the fish, then mix well with the potatoes. When this has been done, beat up the fish with a fork into a smooth paste, season with pepper and salt, and, if liked, a little anchovy sauce. It is then ready for use. Fry the bread in boiling fat till golden brown. Keep hot, then into the remaining fat, put the prepared fish, and stir about until it is thoroughly hot, then spread on the slices of bread, and sprinkle with a little chopped parsley, and serve at once.

Kidgeree Haddock.

One smoked Finnan haddock, 1 teacupful boiled rice, 1 oz. butter, 1 teaspoonful of made mustard, 2 soft-boiled eggs; cayenne and salt to taste. Pick the fish carefully from the bones, and mix with the other ingredients, and serve very hot. Garnish, if wished, with hard-boiled egg cut in quarters. Cost, 7d.



JELLIED APPLES.

Scotch Tomatoes.

One pound rather small tomatoes, 1 lb. sausage meat, 1 dessert-spoonful finely chopped parsley, pinch powdered thyme. Little grated nutmeg, breadcrumbs, and egg. Take the sausage meat and parsley and seasoning, mix together, add sufficient breadcrumbs to make it into a paste that you can handle easily. Take a piece of this mixture, flatten it out on your hand, cover the tomato with it, as you would do an apple dumpling, flour it over with an egg, roll it in breadcrumbs, and fry in smoking hot fat a golden brown. Cut each one in half and dish it with watercresses and parsley. Sufficient for six persons.

Sausage-meat Cakes.

Ingredients: To 1 lb. of lean pork add ¾ lb. of fat bacon, ½ oz. of salt, 1 saltspoonful of pepper, ¼ teaspoonful of grated nutmeg, 1 teaspoonful of minced parsley. Mode: Remove from the pork all skin, gristle, and bone, and chop it finely with the bacon, add the remaining ingredients, and carefully mix all together, pound it well in a mortar, make it into convenient sized cakes, flour these, and fry them a nice brown for about 10 minutes.

A Practical Recipe.

Jellied Baked Apples.

Core tart apples, fill the cavities with chopped dates and grated maple-sugar, and bake, basting with water in which scraped maple-sugar has been dissolved, or thinned maple-syrup will do. Cool; then scrape all the jellied juice and pack into the core centres. Place an apple in a cup, and fill up with this jelly. Heat 1 pint of sweet cider, and add to it half a box of gelatin soaked in ½ cup of cold water for ½ hour; stir until the gelatin is dissolved in the hot liquid; set in a pan of ice-water and stir slowly until it begins to congeal, then fill the cups, and set on ice until firm; dip into hot water a second, slip out on to a chilled dish. Decorate with whipped cream.

A few Rules to follow in Washing Lace.

1.—Never pull the lace, but gently pat and squeeze it.

2.—In drying it, always stretch it evenly on a piece of clean linen or cotton which is pinned to some flat surface, bed or floor or table.

3.—If possible never iron lace, or if it must be ironed, always do it on the wrong side with a piece of thin muslin laid over it.

4.—Do not use strong soaps in washing lace. Use pure white or castile soap.

To Wash White Silk Lace and Blond Lace.

Cover a large bottle with linen or muslin and wind the lace around it, always covering the outer edge of the lace as you proceed. Place the bottle in a basin or bucket full of cold lather of white soap and very soft water. Let it stand in the sun, gently rubbing the suds into the lace. Change the lather every day for several days, always leaving the lace in the sun if possible. After several days, take the lace off the bottle, and without rinsing, pin it backward and forward on a large pillow covered with a clean, tight pillow-case. Every scallop should be pinned down with a small pin. When dry it will not be necessary to iron, press, or starch the lace. Lay it in loose folds in a pasteboard box.

To Wash Thread Lace.

Attach thread lace to a bottle in the same manner as the silk and blond lace. Saturate it thoroughly with good sweet oil. Fill the bottle with cold water to prevent its bursting and place it in a wash-pan of cold lather of clear water and white soap. Let the bottle boil in the suds until the lace is perfectly clean and white. Drain off and dry the bottle in the sun. When dry, remove the lace and roll on a smooth stick or block or fold evenly, wrap in tissue paper and press between two large books.

Moon Phases.

The phases of the moon may be explained by the fact that the moon is a dark spherical body which shines only by reflected light. The new moon, popularly so called, is seen only when the sky is sufficiently dark to present a complete outline of the disc. This illumination is due to the light which comes first from the sun, is reflected to the earth and back to the moon and thence to the earth. What we really see is the earth light shining on the moon.

Great Gamblers.

The greatest gamblers in the world are the Spaniards and their descendants. The Kanaka tribes of the South Seas, who push the hazard of gambling beyond the grave, stake their bones of a last throw of the cowrie shells which they use as dice. Among African tribes the Haussas are nearly as great at games of chance as the Chinese.

Compass Embroidery or "Thimble Work."

In looking over our grandmothers' keepsakes in the shape of lingerie we find the decorations, with few exceptions, made by hand;



FIG. 1.—COMPASS EMBROIDERY.

and the work most extensively used, and also most effective, is compass embroidery. When we consider that the design itself is so easily drawn, and can be used in a variety of ways, we do not wonder that its use has been revived and become so popular at the present time.

As the name implies, it is drawn with a compass, and consists of overlapping circles. It has also been given the name of "Thimble work," because it is frequently drawn with the aid of the thimble, which makes a nice size for dainty work. The circles, however, may be made any size desired to harmonise with the material and article upon which it is used.

The size of the floss used also depends upon the quality of the material. Filo silk is very appropriate for India linen and finer woollen goods, while the coarser silks commonly used for borders are better for heavier work, and the linen flosses make beautiful decorations for scarves, etc.

If a lining is used under the work, the floss is usually the same colour as the material, the lining being of a contrasting colour.

After the pattern is traced, there are three methods of procedure. The one formerly employed was to run each circle with very small stitches, then to carefully cut away the linen in the oval spaces, and buttonhole around these spaces. The other way is convenient for use on sunbonnet crowns, or where two thicknesses of material are required. It is to cut away the material, allowing the width of a tiny seam inside the space. Turn these to the inside and over and over.

The third, and one most convenient for large work, and especially the floral designs given later, is to buttonhole around the design, fill in the spaces with lace stitches, and then to cut material away.

Compass embroidery may be used alone or combined with lace stitches and drawn-work, or it may be used as insertings or headings, or as all-over embroidery for yokes and revers.

Floral Compass Embroidery.

A new interest is given to embroidering a piece designed by one's self, but it is very seldom we find a person attempting anything of the kind.

In the use of this new way of treating an old embroidery, it is made possible for a person, however unskilled in designing, to draw a design which, when worked, is unusually effective. This work may be used on articles of all sizes and materials. It is a good example of the rule that a little, simple design works out better than a close, elaborate one. It also gives a conventionalised effect, so greatly admired by many.

The accompanying illustrations will show how the compass forms are combined with lace and lace stitches to form flowers and foliage, sprigs, etc.

The centre of the daisies, Fig. 1, is one complete circle, while the petals are the ovals formed by quarters of circles. The green bud of the tulip, Fig. 2, is a circle. The green bud at the base of the thistle blossom, Fig. 3, is an oval, while the wheat grains are very small ovals.

In some flowers, as in the rose, the foliage may be made by small ovals arranged as rose leaves are. Other leaves may be worked with outline stitch in rows to form solid work. The latter way of making leaves harmonises with the compass flowers better than ordinary solid embroidery.

In drawing this work, different sizes of silk reels may be divided into quarters and used instead of compasses.

To Use up Scraps

I suppose every girl has a bag or drawer containing scraps left over from former work—bits of silk, ribbon, velvet, etc. If not, she could easily collect some among her friends as anyone knows how pieces accumulate, especially where dressmaking or millinery is done at home.

We will, in imagination, turn out the contents of such a scrap-bag. Here is about half a yard of some plain, dark material, left from last year's winter gown. The very thing for a work-bag or cosy lined with some soft-coloured sateen, which you probably have also. Of course, if the collection can contribute a piece of pongee silk, so much the better; but sateen is very nice. We will suppose it to be fawn-brown, and the dress material dark blue (though many other colours would do equally well). Cut out the shape of your bag or cosy, and lay the stuff on a flat table. Next choose some of your small scraps of silk, velvet, or bright cloth, and cut them into various fanciful shapes, such as hearts, diamonds, flowers, shamrocks, triangles, butterflies, etc. If you



FIG. 2.—COMPASS EMBROIDERY.

prefer, you can first draw the forms on stiff cardboard, and cut them out; then lay them on your scraps as a guide.

Do not use any large pieces, as they will come in for a purpose to be suggested later. When you have enough ready tack them lightly on your stuff, dotting them about carelessly without any particular method, but avoiding the juxtaposition of colours that "quarrel" too violently.

The next process will be to buttonhole them round with dull gold embroidery silk, thus making the edges neat and securing them to the material. Satin and silk pieces need to be worked thickly, lest they should fray out; and some of the forms—flower shapes, for instance—will be much improved by a few French knots or light stitches in the centre.

The quainter you make the work the more pleasing will be the effect. Any large pieces that you may have will come in for a variety of this work called "flower patchwork."

Suppose you possess a bit of dull pink velveteen—about a quarter of a yard. Make a cardboard model of a star-shaped blossom, lay it out on your velveteen, and cut out as many flowers as the piece will make.

Be careful to economise your stuff by beginning at one end and getting the long points of each star to fit in between those of the last one—a remark that you will at once comprehend when you have the work in your hand. A clever cutter will thus get many more flowers than one who carelessly began in the middle of her stuff, and chopped away at random. Now place the flowers at intervals on a dark material—say, olive green and buttonhole them with the gold silk, or with a paler green than the ground.

If you are clever enough to work a few leaves and stems to connect them all the better, but it is not necessary to do so.

FOR SCOURING DIRTY BOARDS, etc., there is nothing better than fine sand, used with a stiff scrubbing-brush, soap, and hot water.

The Care of Gloves.

When you are buying kid gloves, remember that there is such a thing as false economy. A good pair of gloves will wear out three pairs of inferior make, and will also pay for cleaning. If your purse is limited, do not indulge in light colours. Aim at securing gloves of good cut and quiet style. Examine them to see that the stitching is perfect. The kid should stretch easily to make a good fit and to wear well. Do not buy gloves that are too small. Nothing looks worse than to see a fat hand tightly enclosed in kid. The glove will not last long, and the wearer's circulation will suffer, to the detriment of her complexion.

When putting on new gloves, remember that haste is fatal to gloves and temper. Much depends on the way in which gloves are put on the hand the first time, and also on the manner in which they are removed, especially if the hand is hot. When putting them on, use gentle persuasion, and button the top button last. When removing, unbutton the lowest button first of all, and when all are undone, turn back the wrist part of the glove and ease it off the fingers gradually; then turn back, and pull the glove lengthwise gently into shape again.

HOW TO MEND GLOVES.—The first symptoms of a tear in a seam or kid should be attended to. If cotton be used to mend the rent, it will not cut the kid as readily as silk, and the repair will last. The best method of mending a small tear is to work a buttonhole-stitch round the edges, and then, if necessary, a second row of the same worked into the former. Then draw the edges carefully together. In some cases, a small piece of an old glove placed under a rent of this description is useful to give strength to the repair. Silk gloves should, of course, be mended with silk to match.

HOW TO CLEAN GLOVES.—Kid gloves, when dirty, may be cleaned at home in the following way:—Take a pint of pure benzoline spirit, and put it in a basin, far from fire and heat. Place a pair of soiled gloves in the spirit, and rub them, as though washing with soap and water. Pay special attention to the fingers. Rub any dirty spots till the dirt disappears. Gloves may also be cleaned by removing them from the spirit, stretching them on a clean soft cloth, and rubbing them all over with another soft cloth till they are dry. They occasionally need rinsing in a little fresh spirit. They should then be hung to dry in a cool place, where there is a current of air, so that all odour may be removed. They may be finally placed with a scent-sachet, to do away with any lingering trace of the benzoline. While drying, the fingers should be pulled into shape, so that they may not harden or stiffen. This quantity of spirit will cost about threepence, and will clean about three pairs of ordinary-sized gloves.

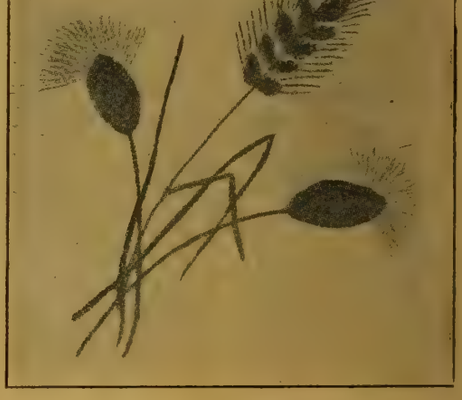


FIG. 3.—COMPASS EMBROIDERY.

Silk gloves should be washed in lukewarm, soapy water, rinsed, dried, and pressed with a warm iron.

Measurements of the Perfect Woman.

The ideal woman physically, according to the authority of the most eminent artists, who, however, insist that no such being has ever been created, will, when the quest for her has at last been successful, exhibit the following measurements:—

Height	5 feet 5 inches
Waist circumference	27 inches
Bust under the arms	34 inches
Bust outside the arms	43 inches
Upper arm circumference	13 inches
Wrist circumference	6 inches
Thigh circumference	25 inches
Calf of leg circumference	14½ inches
Ankle circumference	8 inches
Weight (at the outside)	142 pounds

THE NEWEST FASHIONS.

This year there is quite a distinct style of dress for the driving costume. This is made up of a light gown of silk, gauze, chiffon, or lace, according to the time of year and temperature of the day (not at all an analogous phrase), and has always a smart silk or lace wrap, although the gown is quite complete without the cloak. The wraps are exceedingly attractive, some of them fitted and others quite loose, but all being more or less trimmed or hand embroidered. A soft lace jabot at the throat is sure to be becoming, and this jabot is of white, cream, or ecru lace, whichever is most effective with the colour of the wrap. A bright coloured silk jacket with a plain white or cream coloured lace gown is no longer new, but does not suffer in effect for that reason. Little fantastic boleros in silk or soft satin, trimmed with lace and embroidery, are still seen, and these make an attractive finish to any gown, and are destined to remain in vogue for some little time yet. Long wraps are, however, more numerous than the shorter coats, and, of course, these have common sense on their side, for a bolero can afford no protection to a light gown, and certainly gives little or no warmth.

* * *

The long carriage wraps are all intended to be useful as well as ornamental, and, as is not always the case, they certainly accomplish well both purposes. Some of the new wraps are of gauze lined only with chiffon, and, while these can scarcely afford any appreciable warmth, a cloth gown can be worn underneath. A silk coat half fitted, a little more than three-quarters in length, and trimmed with a deep cape of Irish lace and soft Valenciennes ruffles on the sleeves and at the throat, makes a useful, pretty wrap, and whether carried out in all white or made up in a becoming soft or brilliant shade of silk brocade and flowered silks, has been popular now for no little time, though not quite as fashionable as the plain colours which are relieved by handsome lace and perhaps a narrow piping of some artistic contrasting colour. If one must order a costume with an eye to economy it is well to select a style of wrap that will be smart with a number of frocks, although designed primarily for the one gown.

* * *

Linen and all linen materials are still worn, but, a linen dress to be smart to-day must be fashioned on a truly elaborate plan, as the material is a favourite one for morning dresses and all simple walking costumes. Handsome lace generously used will, however, render any linen sufficiently handsome for all occasions, and when hand embroidery is combined with that lace the result is all that can be desired. White still continues the favourite but a light coloured hat and parasol relieve the plain effect. At the same time, coloured linens and taffeta batistes are much in demand, and are in a way more satisfactory than the all-white as against a coloured background. Embroidery and trimming of all kinds are doubly effective. Long and short lace coats are still much in vogue, and, while handsome and effective with any gown, are especially attractive worn over a handsome linen dress.

* * *

Embroidered and painted chiffons are at present fashionable for a very elaborate style of afternoon costume. The printed chiffons have lost none of their popularity by being so long in vogue, and are still among the favourite materials for dainty afternoon dress. Pink and mauve are the favourite shades just now, and then the colour is brought out more noticeably by bands of soft messaline the exact shade of the flower. One of these gowns was exceedingly attractive the chiffon was almost covered with a large design in deep pink roses, which naturally lost much of their colour, being made up over a white foundation, while the colour was brought out by three bands of pink messaline laid about the skirt. The lowest band of silk was somewhat wider than the other two, and was carried up on the skirt in six deep mitred points.

* * *

The bodice was made with a Dutch neck and transparent square yoke, below which fell a soft vest formed of ruffles of the lace. Over the shoulders was laid a wide surplice of the material, bordered on each side with the silk, while the sleeves, which fell from under the surplice, were composed simply of wide ruffles of lace and chiffon laid over a fitted undersleeve of the lace, which came just to the elbow. The ribbon girdle was carried up just a little at the back, with a suggestion of the Empire, and a soft rosette with short ends was attached just a little on one side. The back of the bodice was made just as the front, with square yoke and lace ruffles forming a sort of vest. The Dutch neck and collarless yoke are seen on a number of dresses, but are more popular for high dinner gowns and restaurant costumes.

* * *

Embroidered and figured crêpes of all kinds and varieties are in favour at present, and the lighter weight crêpe material make charming costumes for afternoon. Plain colours are always safe, but the fancy weaves and dotted and flowered patterns are attractive from year to year. Embroidered crêpe de Chine is effective in any colouring, and the comfort to be derived from a handsome crêpe de Chine gown is almost inestimable. One of the most delightful things about a crêpe de Chine gown is that it seems appropriate at any season of the year.

* * *

A very pretty gown is shown in the illustration. It is made in Reseda green cloth, the lapels of the corsage being hand embroidered. The folded belt is of green velvet.

To Clean Hair Brushes.

The best way in which to clean hair brushes is with spirits of ammonia and warm water. Take a tablespoonful of ammonia to one quart of water; dip the bristles up and down in the water without wetting the back; rinse in clean warm water; shake well and dry in the air, but not in the sun. Soap and soda softens the bristles, and will turn an ivory-backed brush yellow.



A SMART CLOTH DRESS.

The Cultivation of Grace.

How strangely the art of graceful gesture has been neglected of late years! While the muscular physique of our girls is undoubtedly improving, it almost seems as if graceful movements of the body were going out of fashion. At one time deportment was a very important item in the curriculum of education of girls' schools; girls were taught how to enter and leave a room, how to bow and courtesy gracefully, and, above all, how to walk correctly. The development of the muscles by physical exercise is, of course, widely recognised; but this is by no means all that is required. Some women have an inborn grace, and need no tuition in little refinements of movement and manner which add so much to personal charm; others are by nature awkward and nervous, and however pretty in feature a woman may be, she fails to attract if she is afflicted with gaucherie.

All young girls should be trained to walk correctly. A swinging gait should be avoided; the head should be held correct, and the arms should not be allowed to swing backwards and forwards like the pendulum of a clock. Girls who grow fast frequently develop the habit of stooping the shoulders and thrusting the head forward as they walk. Nothing can be more ungraceful than this, and the habit, once formed, is difficult to cure. The peasant women in most foreign countries early acquire a good carriage of the figure, as they are accustomed to carry baskets and other burdens upon the head, thus keeping the body well balanced. In walking, the head should be thrown well back, the shoulders should be kept down and well squared, and the leg should be thrown out from the hip, not from the knee. If you would see the poetry as well as the correct method of walking, watch a well-trained company of soldiers. Could anything in the way of walking be more beautiful? How they seem to move without effort, as the birds fly; and how gracefully and lightly each body is poised! It is perfectly possible for others besides military men to be trained—to train themselves—to good walking habits. A good walker plants the foot firmly on the ground, throwing some of the weight of the body upon the balls of the feet, and gently tossing it from one foot to the other by a small spring from the ball of the foot. A very little persevering practice will give you the trick of it, and you will be astounded to find how much farther it is possible to walk without feeling tired by this method than by the less scientific one. Do not try to use the calves of your legs; put your whole mind on the ball of the foot, and all the muscles elsewhere will swing into line of themselves.

Having given a few rules as to the correct method of walking, the next thing to be considered is what to avoid. Do not kick out your knees when you walk. Nothing is uglier than this. Neither must you mince or stride. Take a good dignified step, and give it the necessary spring as I have described. Practise it till you make it your own, by second nature at least. Remember that the walk is, to a very large extent, an indication of character. So if yours happens to be weak, mend it before the world has seen and criticised it.

Cultivate graceful gestures of the arms and hands. The girl or woman who does not know what to do with her hands is a pitiable object. If you hand a book or any other article to a friend do it gracefully, and with a pretty bow and smile. Avoid very quick movements of the head and neck, bend the neck gracefully a little forward when engaging in conversation with anyone, and be careful not to distort your features by such ugly tricks as suddenly and violently raising the eyebrows or showing the gums when smiling. All these details may sound very unimportant, but in reality they are not so. Knitting the brows, biting the lips, constant yawning, and other unpleasant habits of this kind are often fallen into almost unconsciously, and it is wonderful how quickly these tricks destroy the beauty and expression of the face. Be as cheerful as you please, and laugh as often as you may, but let your laugh be refined in tone, and your voice sweet and musical. A subdued, sweet voice (that excellent thing in woman) is one of the graces which every girl should try to cultivate; her laugh should be clear and bell-like, and free from all coarseness of tone. Nothing is more unpleasant or shows greater want of good breeding than a rough laugh. Learn, then, not only to [illegible], but to converse with grace. If you are beautiful these will be so many added charms to your personality; if you are [illegible] and attributes will go [illegible] others forget your defects of good looks, and you will have the [illegible] that if you are not a beautiful woman you are at least a refined and [illegible] one.

ROUND-ABOUT NOTES.

The wreath which graces the head of a bride on her wedding day has been sung of by more poets, even the great ones like Schiller, than any other chaplet of fame or honour. In the early days the Jews saw in the wreath the sign of what, for them, was most beautiful and precious—the promised land; and of the myrtle the bridal crown was woven. Later this myrtle wreath became the symbol of womanly purity, and as such is worn by every girl-bride in Germany. In many parts of Germany the sprigs from which the wreath shall be twined must be taken at a fixed hour of the night between certain holy days. And in both Denmark and Germany families possess myrtle trees which have, for quite a generation or more, furnished the bridal wreaths at family weddings. In Greece the myrtle and the rose were considered the favourite flowers of Venus, the twining of the two together signifying the union of love and virtue. In England, France, Poland, and in America, the orange blossom reigns supreme in wedding chaplets. In Italy the white rose has taken the place of the evergreen and fragrant myrtle wreath. In Spain it is the red, red rose that adorns a bride, and Portugal's wedding flower is the carnation.

* * *

One of the most important requisites for a happy home is self-control, especially a good command over temper and tongue. There are many occasions when the peace of a family might be preserved by a timely recollection of the proverb that "silence is golden." Many of the efforts necessary for the preservation of peace and happiness in the home circle are of a negative kind, and consist in refraining from the things that jar on others, such as rudeness, impatience, fault-finding, and other "lesser forces that spoil the vine." Yet this negative work is as important as the most energetic exertions of bustling activity, perhaps even more so.

* * *

It is of great importance that courtesy be strictly observed in the family circle. It is the lubricating oil that makes the jarring machinery of life go on smoothly. Insist on your children observing the rules of politeness towards each other as strictly as towards strangers. Above all, let husband and wife do this towards each other, and the children will easily and naturally imbibe the same spirit and form the same habit. Innocent amusements are one of the elements of a happy home, and none is more refining than music. We should cultivate as a fine art the habit of talking cheerfully and good-humouredly in the family circle—excluding harassing and depressing topics, except when it is absolutely necessary to introduce them.

* * *

A little social enjoyment is necessary in order to complete the circle of home happiness. It is not right always to seclude ourselves in the privacy of home. We should sometimes open the doors, and admit others to share its pleasures and comforts. In doing this we shall receive as much as we give, for it will enlarge the circle of our ideas, our affections, and our sympathies. Flower culture is a great addition to the happiness and general attractiveness of a home. Indeed, no place seems thoroughly homelike without lovely and fragrant forms of flowers. Being a pursuit that is carried on in the fresh air and sunshine, flower culture adds to our health, besides gratifying our taste and inclinations.

* * *

But when all is summed up, it seems to me that the great value of home life lies in something better than even happiness itself. It gives us the finest and best discipline life could possibly afford. It teaches—if we will receive its training aright—lessons of unselfish love, patience, forbearance, forgiveness, self abnegation, and other lovely virtues and graces, such as no other school on earth could possibly afford. In a high state of development, home life reminds me of a well-trained orchestra, in which the members, by dint of practising with each other, and tuning their instruments (*i.e.*, their dispositions) to accord with each other, learn to give forth a lovely and harmonious symphony.

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THE MARK LANE EXPRESS SUPPLEMENT FOR THE HOME

Conducted by "PEPITA"

THE NEWEST FASHIONS.

Princess styles, so wonderfully popular for every sort of dress this autumn, have invaded the ranks of wrappers and lounging robes with the prettiest imaginable results. Instead of loose, full things, perhaps tied with a broad ribbon into a faint semblance of shapeliness, tucks or row after row of guaging, arranged something in the form of a deep girdle, define the waist. Sometimes a ribbon is used to gather the fulness in still more closely, but it is unnecessary except, perhaps, as an added bit of beauty.

* * *

Every soft, lightweight material under the sun is impressed into service for these princess robes; the most satisfactory from a practical point of view, being French flannel, not too light in colour for service, nor so dark as to be prosaic. The French flannel, chosen for one particularly pretty wrapper, had a ground of soft blue—a little deeper and less strong in tone than the usual turquoise blue. On it were scattered tiny garlands of wee bright roses in all the cheery, beautiful rose pinks. The ground was so well covered with them, that at a little distance the general effect was of a rich Persian design.

* * *

Small tucks formed the shallow yoke and defined the waist, and the collar was a plain little stand-up affair, redeemed from actual severity of line by a frill of ruching. The sleeves were just simple, moderately full ones, finished with straight cuffs, two or three inches deep, each with its frill of ruching. Unless you are an exceptionally chilly mortal, though, dispense with a high collar. Those broad, rolling collars, coming out to the tops—or further—of the sleeves are a hundred times more becoming, and there is more rest in having your throat absolutely free when you are relaxing. Crêpe de chine makes the most exquisite of all the princess robes; crêpe de chine, plain or embroidered—that is the loveliest sort of all if you are making a trousseau. And it is not quite the extravagance it sounds, for it cleans and dyes and even washes indefinitely.

* * *

If you use crêpe, trim it with narrow frills of lace, preferably valenciennes. Those soft old blues are ideal, touched up with lace; and, by the way, old blue is a very serviceable colour. A mandarin's coat formed the model for one curious lounging robe. The sleeves, from quite small at the shoulder, fan out into wide cuffs, turned back in the broad, flat way charasteristic of a mandarin's coat. Pongee in a medium shade of blue is effective made up in this style, especially when trimmed with bands of Chinese embroidery, with storks and dragons and wonderful impossible flowers done in gay, bizarre combinations of colour.

* * *

Almost every style of robe and wrapper, with three marked exceptions, is made on more shapely lines this year. These three exceptions are kimonos (they are still flourishing), these new mandarin's robes, and bath robes, though bath robes only in a measure, for lots of them are being made with much more of an attempt at fitted lines than hitherto.

* * *

In dressing jackets there is no end to the innovations, although most of the new ideas are expressed in little ways. Sleeves are shorter, following dress styles, and embroidery, when a jacket is embroidered at all, is confined to yokes and the top of sleeves, instead of wandering at random all over the front of the jacket. Most of the new jackets are belted in, too, either with girdles that hold the fulness in, or by inset girdles.

* * *

The graceful gown illustrated on this page is made in Vicuna cloth in the new shade of purple. The bodice is prettily draped on the shoulders, and the folded velvet belt is of a darker shade of purple than the gown.



A GRACEFUL GOWN
PAPER PATTERN, 1 6½, POST FREE.

MILLINER'S BOWS.

It is an easy matter for girls with deft fingers to construct the numerous pretty bows that give the latest touch and style to hats.

A very attractive bow is called the "Princess Tam," and is to be worn in the front hat. Take one yard of stiff watered ribbon three inches wide, fold it over, making it one-half inch wide, and lay it in eight loops on the brim of the hat up against the crown. No knot is put in the centre, but the bow is caught down firmly to the hat with a two inch buckle. The eight loops are then pulled up to stand as stiffly as the ribbon will warrant.

Among the very latest bows is the "Fish-tail." Take ten pieces of stiff ribbon, each one inch in width and five inches long. Cut each V shape at one end. Hold them in a bunch and tightly wrap the square ends with a narrow piece of corresponding ribbon, one end cut to a V, which ties at the side and completes the bow. This tight wrapping makes the stiff ends stand apart from each other. The "Fishtail" is worn as a cockade.

To make a "Virot" bow take one yard of silk cut on the bias and three-eighths of a yard in width. The edges are well turned in and blind stitched. The two ends of the silk are sewn together so that the strip becomes a circle. It is folded into four loops, two on either side, the upper ones longer than the lower ones, and the lower edge of each loop drawn tighter than the upper edge. The loop should be held in place with the fingers; the left loops are turned over the right ones, and the whole tied into a tight knot. This knot completes the bow. Put a jet buckle over the knot or fasten to the hat with stick pins.

Butterfly bows are still in favour. They are made from silk or satin on the bias, and are attempted only with brimless hats. Take two pieces eight inches wide and five-eighths of a yard in length. Lay together and sew around the edges of the wrong side, then turn and pull the bias ends to a point; tie the strip into a double bow, leaving the ends quite long. Place at the back of the hat, run a stick pin through the centre of each loop so that it looks like two. Pull the knot in the centre, and draw the pointed ends down over the hair.

———o———

How to Treat Shock.

Shock is an accompaniment of many, indeed, of all, serious cases of poisoning, says a doctor in the "People's Friend." Its onset may be suspected when the patient either complains of chilliness or is actually cold to the touch. The extremities and face show this first. The skin is pale, beaded with cold sweat about the nose and brow, and the temperature falls. The breathing is very quiet; the pulse is weak and rather fast. The treatment for shock—quite apart from measures to counteract the poisoning—consists in endeavours to keep up the falling temperatures and strengthening the failing heart-beat. Blankets or other warm coverings must be tucked round the patient. Warm bottles—proper hot-water bottles or india-rubber bags, or any large bottles filled with hot water, or warm bricks or plates—may be wrapped in flannel and laid to the feet or alongside the trunk, or placed across the abdomen. A fire should be lighted in the room. Warm drinks may be administered. A teaspoonful of sal volatile mixed with these is helpful. And, because respiration is feeble, it is very important that the air supply should be pure and plentiful, hence windows must be opened, and the room cleared of all but one or two necessary occupants, and the patient's clothes at neck and chest and waist must in no way impede the breathing.

A Simple Lesson in Embroidery.

The first point to remember in putting the material in the frame or hoop is that it should be stretched tightly and evenly and not on the bias.

A hoop is not advised for work on materials not washable, as plush or velvet. These materials should be stretched on a small, square frame, like a quilting frame.

The Needle.

For neat and uniform work, the needle is of great importance, and care should be taken in its selection. The eye must be smooth, and not too long, and large enough to admit the thread. The needle should be large enough to make an opening through the cloth, to avoid roughing the silk, but not so large as to leave open and uneven work.

Simple Outline Stitch.

Detail A and B is made by inserting the needle at the end of the outline to be worked, and taking a simple back stitch, the next stitch is made in the same manner, but the needle must come out at the end of the preceding stitch.

There is no rule for the length of an outline stitch, which should be governed by the size of the thread and the nature of the design, but the length once established, it should remain the same throughout, except where the outline curves, here it must be shortened, and the sharper the curve the shorter the stitch. A medium length for outline stitch is about ⅜ of an inch.

Stem Outline.

Detail C and D is worked from left to right; start stitch on outline a short distance from the end of stem or vein, insert needle downward at end of outline, bring the needle up on the outline about ⅛ of an inch in advance of point where it first came up to form first stitch and downward beside the first stitch ¼ of an inch, put the point of the needle under the preceding stitch each time. Figure 1 D shows the stem partly worked with the needle in position; note how the point is covered by the thread of the preceding stitch.

Long and Short Stitch.

Skeleton or half solid embroidery is most effective for decorative designs; for this work the long and short stitch is most frequently used. This stitch, while apparently very simple, in reality offers some difficulty to the beginner, because the tendency invariably is to make the stitches all the same length; this is fatal to artistic results. The stitches must be as irregular as possible on the inner edge. The outer edge must be kept true, close and even. The length of the stitches depends on the size of the petals and size of the thread used, but in no case should a stitch be longer than ¾ of an inch. If a petal requires a deeper stitch effect put in two rows instead of one. To take the long and short stitch bring the needle up from the back of cloth on the stamped outline of surface to be worked (see "A"), pull thread through, and insert needle at point "b"; when thread is drawn through stitch is completed. This is the detail of making the stitch; one stitch, however, does not constitute long and short "stitch," but several stitches of unequal lengths placed side by side; how these stitches shall be taken, whether longer or shorter, straight or slanting, depends upon the outline of the surface being worked. For instance, to work a flower petal with the long and short stitch: Begin petal at middle part of stamped outline, and work long and short stitches to the left and down the side to the base of petal, return to starting point and work to the right, down the right side to the base of the petal. Where a second row of stitches is needed proceed as for the first row, placing the second row of stitches between the stitches of the first row, but instead of keeping the outer end even, be quite sure that both edges are very uneven, the upper part of the second row of stitches must fill in the broken uneven spaces left in the lower part of the first row, and this second row must be carried forward, in the broken irregular lengths, to form the inner edge of the long and short second row.

Satin Stitch.

Satin stitch used commonly in solid French embroidery is either a straight or slanting stitch reaching entirely across the figure to be covered. Each stitch placed exactly parallel and close beside the preceding stitch.

Solid Long and Short Stitch.

This stitch is a modification of the Kensington, and has superseded the latter. The difference between the two is in manner of working, and not in appearance. Solid long and short stitch is a succession of rows of stitches blended one into the other and conforming always to the outline of figure being worked. Figure 4 shows method of taking the stitches, as follows: Petal A shows first row, Petal B shows first row and second row part way across, Petal C shows third row, Petal D shows three rows completed and fourth row part way across, Petal E shows surface of petal filled to the base with solid long and short stitch. Each row is made to show clearly in the illustration by means of light, medium, and dark threads.

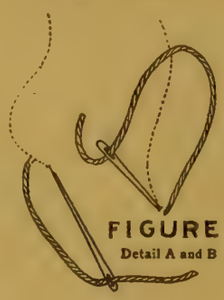


FIGURE 1
Detail A and B

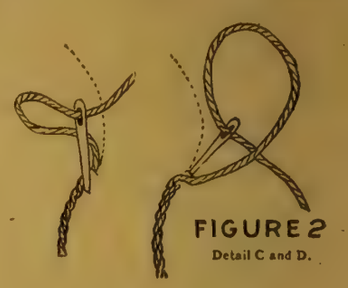


FIGURE 2
Detail C and D.

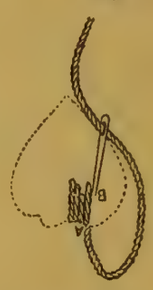


FIGURE 3
Long and Short Stitch.



FIGURE 4
Solid Long and Short Stitch

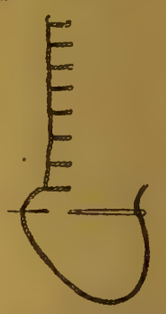


FIGURE 5
Simple Buttonhole Stitch.

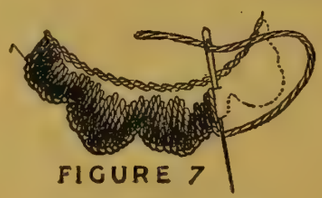


FIGURE 7
Long and Short Buttonhole Stitch

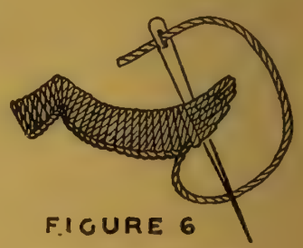


FIGURE 6
Simple Buttonhole Stitch

While the solid long and short stitch is merely a succession of rows of stitches, blended one into another, and taken in a direction that should conform to the outline being worked, yet there is a well-defined method for placing the stitches. For instance, the stitches forming the first row in the petal will be set close together, both on the outer and inner edge; the second row will be blended well back in the stitches of the first row but leaving a space the width of a stitch at their lower end. Into this space the stitches of the next row must be blended, and so on until the lower and narrower part of the petal is reached, where the stitches will be crowded closer together and no space can be left between (see Petal E).

Simple Buttonhole Stitch.

Work from left to right; insert needle in the upper line, bring point out on lower line, throw thread to the right to form loop; see that thread is under needle point, pull needle through. Repeat, setting the stitches close together to form a solid edge, or a short distance apart, as in Fig. 5. This is called blander stitch.

Fig. 6 illustrates simple buttonhole stitch worked over padding which is composed of stitches run into the fabric the long way of the scallop. The amount of padding used depends upon the taste of the worker.

Long and Short Buttonhole Stitch.

This stitch is used for ornamental borders in centre-pieces, doilies, dresser covers, etc. It is also used to work the outer edge of such parts of a design as form a portion of a border where the material is to be cut away. The scallop designed for this stitch need not be padded. A narrow border will not require more than one row of the long and short buttonhole stitches, but if the border is wide between the upper and lower edges, then another row of long and short stitches may be put in between the stitches forming the first row. Sometimes a third and fourth row will be needed, but only the first row should have the buttonhole edge. Be sure to have the inner edge of first and second rows very irregular. The scallop is not designed to be worked solid.

A Woman of the World.

When a person says she is a woman of the world, the phrase does not imply in the least that she is a worldly woman. Such an one enjoys only those delights that are essentially of the earth earthly. Pleasure is her aim, and fashion her god; but a "woman of the world" is an entirely different type altogether. She is, to give a concise definition, one who possesses a rare knowledge of the world, gained by a wide and varied personal experience.

A woman of the world is wise, and can sit in judgment on men and affairs, because she knows whereof she speaks, while a worldly woman, in many cases, has not a single sensible idea in her frivolous head.

A woman of the world is to be trusted. She is, as a rule, cool and calculating, with a discrimination worthy of a diplomat. She never reveals the secret of another, or tells anything of her own. She does more thinking than talking, but what she says always means something. She rarely condemns, for from her vast experience she knows that there is good in everyone, and that the motive for many a seemingly ill-advised action may be of the purest, though the thing itself seems grossly unconventional. The worldly woman, on the other hand, looks no deeper than the surface, and is influenced entirely by what society would say.

Sheet Lead Decorations for Doors.

No matter what kind of a cabinet, chest, or doorway you may have in the home, it will need hardware to complete it, and whether it be only a pair of strap hinges and a padlock or a more elaborate kind of ornamental fittings, it is still hardware, and one of the essential features in the complete object or piece of furniture.

Plain hinges and a lock will answer every purpose to swing a door or lid and lock it, but often on a nice chest or case it looks well to have some ornamental hinge straps, escutcheons, lock plates, or handles. All of these fixtures can be purchased at hardware



ESCUTCHEONS.

shops, but they are usually beyond the ability of the average person to make.

The accompanying illustrations and descriptions will enable anyone to make these fittings from sheet lead, and when given a coat of black paint it would be difficult to detect the difference between them and wrought-iron pieces.

Scraps of sheet lead varying in thickness from one to three-sixteenths of an inch can be purchased from a plumber, and with an old pair of shears, a penknife, one or two small chisels, and a light wooden mallet, the lead can be cut out and fashioned into any shape.

When making escutcheons or door plates, it would be well to remove the old plate from a door and lay it over a piece of lead, then marking the location of handle and keyhole.

A pattern of stiff paper is cut the shape of the ornamental piece to be made, and with a large pin scratch the lead around the edge of the pattern. Then with shears or chisel it will be an easy matter to follow the line.

The illustrations show designs for escutcheons, drawer pull, knocker and monogram plate, all of which can be made in sizes to suit the object or door to which they will be attached. It will not be possible to give any sizes, however, as that will have to be decided upon by the craftswoman who is fashioning them for a particular object.

It is not always necessary to cut a pattern to follow in marking the lead, although it is somewhat more accurate where two sides of an object are alike. The pattern can be drawn in free hand on the lead with pen and ink, or scratched on with any sharp-pointed object. If a small hand jig saw is available it will be found very useful to cut out the space openings where scissors cannot be used. A chisel will do this work very well, but it sometimes pushes the lead out of shape, and it is necessary then to beat it back again. To insert the fine saw it will be necessary to make a hole in the lead with a small awl or drill, and when sawing the lead it can be held down to the edge of a table, or if a small vice is in the house, that will be the best tool to hold the piece of lead.

Large oval-headed upholsterer's nails can be used to attach the sham hardware, or if a more artistic head is desired bellows nails, or those beaten from thick sheet lead, can be used and applied with slim steel wire nails, whose heads will be concealed in the lead if they are hammered in well. The edges of the lead plates can be beaten with a small hammer so the hammer marks will show and give the metal the appearance of hand-wrought iron.

Small drawer pulls of rings and eyes, also rings on bolts, can be had at a hardware shop, and with the back plates cut from lead, as shown in the illustrations, some very artistic bits of hardware can be made.

For bureau or book-case drawers, the back plate can be removed from the handles and keepers, and the new plate can be cut from lead to fit the same space the old plate occupied.

For front doors, drawer fronts, or fancy boxes, beautiful monograms, plain or within borders, can be cut from the lead, painted black, and applied with screws or nails as the case may require. These plates can be made in any size to fit the object, and if desired in copper or brass, that metal can be cut with a jig saw.

A very good black paint for metal can be made by adding dry lamp-black to brass lacquer until it is the consistency of cream, or the dry black may be added to thin shellac until a black paint is obtained. These blacks dry with a dead finish which is preferable to a glossy surface for metals. One or two thin coats should be applied smoothly with a soft hair brush, so no hair marks will show.

If preferred, Berlin black, ready prepared, may be used for painting the metal.

Cleaning Furniture.

If truth be told, modern mistresses and their maids are far too apt to think that cleaning furniture means simply annointing it with something out of a bottle or tin that the obliging shopman assures them is the very best furniture polish on the market. Whether it be the best or the worst, if a maximum amount



KNOCKER.

is applied with a minimum amount of elbow grease, it will completely spoil the surface of any polished woodwork within a very short space of time. Another point which ordinary people are prone to overlook is that the kind of polish that will suit oak furniture, for instance, will be ruinous to French polished mahogany. "Sauce for the goose" is certainly not "sauce for the gander" so far as the treatment of furniture is concerned.

Nothing is better for solid, dull-polished oak furniture, antique or modern, than beeswax and turpentine. The wax should be the best quality obtainable, so should the turpentine; the former must be shredded finely and dissolved in the turpentine in a warm, but not hot, place, until it is of the consistence of thick cream. Another recipe, also good, directs that one ounce of beeswax should be scraped into half a teacupful of linseed oil, and enough turpentine added to make the mixture creamy when dissolved.

The furniture should be thoroughly freed from dust before polishing. High-relief carving must be gone over with a dry, clean, long-bristled brush, and straight mouldings or groovings with a short-bristled, rather hard one. When every speck of dust has been removed, the beeswax mixture—if the furniture is oak—should be applied with a piece of flannel as sparingly as possible, and thoroughly rubbed in until no suspicion of stickiness remains, soft dusters free from fluff or nap being used. A final polish to flat surfaces may be given with an old silk handkerchief lightly rolled into a pad, and for deep-cut patterns, mouldings, etc., a polishing brush can be used.

French polished wood calls for different treatment. Unless in very bad condition, it is best to abjure the use of all polishing agents and merely wash it with a soft sponge wrung out of tepid water, rubbing it dry with soft linen cloths, finishing with an old silk handkerchief. If something more than this simple treatment is thought desirable, the furniture may be polished, after it has been washed, with a mixture of equal quantities of linseed oil, vinegar, and turpentine shaken well together, but only a very small quantity must be used, and it must be rubbed until every sign of smeariness has vanished. Furniture that has been deeply scratched may be dressed with two parts of turpentine to one part linseed oil, well blended and coloured to the requisite tint with burnt sienna or Vandyke brown.

For the leather seats of chairs a little of the beeswax and turpentine mixture may be used, or one-third sweet oil and two-thirds vinegar boiled together can be tried; it answers well in some cases, but the beeswax polish is preferable on the whole. Rush seats should be thoroughly brushed, the dust blown out of the crevices with a pair of bellows, and the seating then rubbed over with a cloth wrung out of salt and water.

How to Test a Typewriter.

Always look one over well before buying or renting.

The first test which a stenographer makes of a new typewriter is to ascertain whether all the keys work and whether the types are all perfect or not.

The sentence "The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog" is the one which is usually used, for it contains every letter of the alphabet. Many use "Now is the time for every good man to come to the aid of his country." But this one is not so good, for four or five letters are missing.

After punching out the test sentence on the small letters it should be repeated, using the capital letters. Then the figures should be punched in rotation, for they are often inaccurate.

The most vulnerable points in a typewriter are the keys and types; with a little use they are apt to fly off, and it is highly important to ascertain that these are all securely affixed.

Another point is the action. If the typewriter does not have a free and easy movement you are certain to have trouble with it.

In buying a second-hand machine, or in renting, always look carefully at the types, for usually they are worn uneven from use or have been jarred slightly out of place. If two or three types are inaccurate they will ruin the whole appearance of the typewritten sheet.

It has been found by many large firms that the renting of machines is much cheaper than the owning of them. A typewriter needs constant attention and repairs; usually the renting company includes the repairing in the rental contract, and that is where the saving comes in.

A typewriter is as delicate as a watch. Never attempt to repair a break yourself; it will probably evolve into a series of complications which will make a costly repair job.

Always keep the machine clean; the work will be neater and cleaner if the machine is clean and well oiled, and the life of the typewriter depends directly upon the cleaning and oiling.



MONOGRAM PLATE.



DRAWER PULL.

Try dipping lamb chops in lemon juice just before broiling them. They are delicious.

When broiling steak try brushing it over with butter and flour to keep the juice in.

Milk changed from a cool atmosphere to a hot kitchen will sour in a very few minutes.

If freshly cleaned tiles are rubbed over with paraffin they will keep clean for a long while.

A few drops of lemon juice added to scrambled eggs while cooking will improve them.

ROUND-ABOUT NOTES.

At the beginning of this year women physicians were practising successfully in 123 cities and towns in England and Wales, 46 in Scotland, and 20 in Ireland. In 63 cities and towns in India, 14 in China, and 10 in South Africa, there were women practitioners. Seventeen women have been Gold Medallists at London University from 1881 to the present year. And the Englishwoman's Year-Book for 1907 shows a long list of hospitals in the United Kingdom which have women on their staffs.

* * *

In Australia and New Zealand women hold many important medical positions. In Victoria alone thirteen women hold medical appointments in hospitals. Canada has the fewest women doctors of any of the larger British colonies, but the professorship of physiology at Bishop's College, Montreal, and the directorship of the clinical laboratory in the Royal Victoria Hospital of the same city, are held by Dr. Maria Bruere, an M.D. of the Universities of Paris and Edinburgh.

* * *

A boat large enough to carry six persons may be carried in a valise or corner of a trunk. This is because the principle of the pneumatic tyre has been applied with such success to boat building. These boats are of two kinds, either of rubber cloth inflated with air and divided into two compartments, or of a series of inflated tubes coiled lengthwise. These are fitted with pneumatic seats, and the oarlocks are buckled on the sides. When deflated they are reduced to the smallest conceivable weight and compass, and the process occupies only a few moments.

* * *

Experiments prove that these craft will not founder in the heaviest seas. They are so buoyant when filled with water that they will float a weight of several hundred pounds, while the rubber of which they are constructed is absolutely proof against puncture. This invention promises an entirely new era in boat-building for purposes of sport and travel.

* * *

The scientific journals are finding out from their back files that the pneumatic tyre and the X-rays were both matters of half a century ago. One of these journals finds in its issue of May 8th, 1847, the following paragraph: "A number of cabs with newly-invented wheels have just been put on the pave. Their novelty consists in the entire absence of springs. A hollow tube of indiarubber about a foot in diameter inflated with air encircles each wheel in the manner of a tyre, and with the addition of this simple but novel appendage the vehicle glides noiselessly along, affording the greatest possible amount of cab comfort to the passengers." And the following in another issue of the same year: A Belgian savant says he has just discovered that electric light directed on the human body makes it so diaphanous as to enable the arteries, veins, and nerves to be seen at work, and their action to be studied." Whether this light was produced by methods such as those used by Rontgen is not known, but its properties seem to have been somewhat similar.

* * *

Contrary to the practice that prevails in other countries, the deference shown to women in Austria increases with age. No Austrian would ever dream of receiving a lady's extended hand without bowing to kiss it. Children, even when grown-up, always touch the hands of their parents with their lips before venturing to raise their faces for a kiss. Girls and young married women, no matter how lofty their station, do not consider it in any way beneath their dignity to kiss the hands of ladies who have attained a certain age, and the result is that in Austria a greater degree of sympathy prevails between young and old women than anywhere else in the world. Indeed, Austria may be described as the Paradise of old ladies. Nor is this polish of manner confined to the relations that exist between men and women, or among the women themselves. The men are courteous in the extreme to one another, even in cases where the closest kind of intimacy prevails. Thus a couple of officers may be sufficiently warm friends to have no secrets from one another, and to address one another with the pronoun "du," or "thou"; but this association is never regarded as warranting the neglect of those many little courtesies and manifestations of regard that are held in Austria to be indispensable to social intercourse.

Hygiene.

Removing Obstacles in the Throat.

Nothing is so apt to create a scene of confusion in the family as the accidental disappearance of some foreign body into the throat or windpipe of an infant or child.

Why children are for ever putting bodies where they do not belong cannot be explained, but it is none the less true that they are incessantly placing anything that is small enough into their mouths; so constant is this that it can be called one of the habits of infancy and early childhood.

The entrance of a foreign body into the windpipe usually occurs in this manner. The child may be playing or engaged in some absorbing occupation when its attention will be suddenly called to something else; it has been toying with some small object which it has taken in its mouth; its suddenly diverted attention will cause the child to take a deep breath, and then the foreign body, whatever be its nature, is drawn in with the inspired air. Very often the child will be made to laugh while it has its mouth full, or has in it some small plaything; the act of laughing is preceded by a long-drawn inspiration, and this carries the foreign body with it. Again, the object may drop down the windpipe without any such exciting causes. Every mother will remember many occasions when baby was apparently choking from some article of food, and yet the intruding substance was promptly dislodged, and no harm ever came from it. Nature usually effects the dislodgment or aids it by causing coughing or vomiting. But suppose, as sometimes happens, that such spontaneous relief does not occur, what should be done?

If the foreign body be of some size it will probably be arrested in the throat before it reaches the windpipe; this often happens with pieces of meat, which the child swallows before it chews them properly. Under these circumstances it is proper to put the finger into the child's mouth and endeavour to extract the offending mass, and this attempt will usually be successful. If, however, the foreign body be of small size, it will often be drawn in until it reaches the vocal cords—two small bands of tissue which are situated at the upper part of the windpipe, and are the agents through which sound is produced.

Bodies are usually arrested here, because one of the functions of these vocal cords is to contract tightly whenever any foreign body attempts to intrude upon the sensitive walls of the windpipe. Under these circumstances, if the child does not cough or vomit, and thus dislodge the body, the small sufferer should be inverted, and by a moderate beating of the back an attempt to effect the dislodgment be made. The child should be laid upon the lounge with its face down, and then the feet grasped and raised above the level of the head. This will often be successful. If the foreign body has already reached the windpipe below the vocal cords the method just recommended may still be successful, though not as often as when it has not entered so deeply.

Such methods are often efficacious, and are harmless. They will not push the intruding substance farther down. Should they fail the services of a physician must be called in immediately, for instrumental aid in securing dislodgment or removal of the material is necessary.

Health Notes.

Sedentary habits, with indulgence in fat meats, sweets, pastry, and all rich foods, have often caused biliousness. A regulation of the diet, and a glass of hot water taken before meals and at bedtime, will serve to prevent the attacks.

The health is injured by tempting the appetite with bitters and nicties when the stomach says no, and forcing food into it when Nature does not demand, and even rejects it; gormandising between meals is also a way to injure health.

Chloroform liniment is excellent in cases of sprains and bruises, and is made by mixing two ounces each of chloroform, ammonia, spirits of camphor, and sweet oil. After rubbing the liniment well into the skin, wrap the affected part in flannel.

An afternoon bath, followed by a fifteen minutes' rest, lying at full length on a couch, with the eyes closed, in a darkened room, whether you sleep or not, will be of inestimable value to the woman who wishes to keep in good health and cheerful spirits.

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THE MARK LANE EXPRESS SUPPLEMENT FOR THE HOME

Conducted by "PEPITA"

THE COLLECTOR'S GUIDE.

Worcester China, 1768-1783.

By H. W. Lewer.

Scale Blue and Powder Blue.

"Hence beauty which repairs the waste of war,
Beauty may triumph on a china jar;
And this, perhaps, with stronger faith to trust,
Than the stained canvas, or the marble bust."
—*Cynthis.*

A correspondent, writing in the "Annual Register" of 1763, mentions: "I have seen potteries of all the manufacturies in Europe. Those of Dresden, and Chantilly in France, are well known for their elegance and beauty. With these I class our own of Chelsea, which is scarcely inferior to any of the others. . . . We have, indeed, many other manufacturies of porcelain which are sold at a cheaper rate than any that is imported, but except the Worcester, they all wear brown, and are subject to crack, especially the glazing." This letter was written in 1763, and by 1768 the paste and glaze of Worcester had improved still further, being of a high translucent nature, with luscious cream-white glaze.

In a previous article we dealt with the first period of the Worcester porcelain, which carried its hall-mark in the simplicity of shape, design, and colouring; also for the reproduction of Oriental patterns. This period (1756-1768) closed with the arrival of several artists and workmen at Worcester from the china factory at Chelsea, which was then at the height of prosperity. These introduced the elaborate shapes, ornate painting, and gilding which was then in vogue at Chelsea. The productions of Sèvres and Dresden largely influenced the craftsmen of Chelsea, and the style and characteristics of these factories became, so to speak, the models for the artists who entirely revolutionised the output of Worcester china from 1768 to 1783. This is known as the second period, and it was during these years that the artistic excellence and fame of Worcester porcelain will ever rest. The paste and glaze, the shapes, the rich enamel colours employed, the technique of the painting on the elaborate vases, jars, dishes, tureens, plates, tea-services, etc., show not only the influence of the school in which these artists had been trained, but in addition (as so often has been the case) the marked individuality of the English craftsmen. Rising above slavish imitation and copying of his model, he gave a characteristic English touch, which enables the connoisseur and collector at a glance to distinguish a specimen of old Worcester of the second period.

The first advertisement of the sale of the new productions appeared in December, 1769, although even in 1768, according to one authority—J. E. Nightingale—served important suites of Worcester vases, after the style of the best Chelsea decoration, had been made. Mention is made in this first sale of "a set of three elegant hexagon jars and covers of the very rich Mazarine blue and gold, beautifully enamelled in birds and insects." These jars, although described as Mazarine blue, were painted in exotic birds, with scale-blue ground, showing that "blue-scale" ground, and, in all probability, the "powder blue" were both utilised as a decoration by 1769. This practically gives an approximate date of their introduction. By whom the colour and method of its use were introduced is not known, but there is little doubt it must have been by one of the artists from Chelsea. Cobalt had lately been introduced as a colour, by Littler, of Longton Hall China Factory, and the result of experiments at Worcester gave us this intense blue. It was called "scale blue" from the fact that in using the colour, the piece was enamelled first in blue, and then a darker blue was painted over this in a pattern of the scale of a fish, giving a richness and depth of colour which has never been excelled. It is stated by Mr. Binns in his book entitled "The First Century of English Porcelain," that "the scale blue ground was probably done at two burnings, first the scale being painted in the darker blue on the brisque . . . the ware was then burnt or heated in order to fix the scale; it was then pencilled over its whole surface with the blue ground colour, then fired in the glost oven."

"Powder blue" was obtained by dusting the colour in the form of a fine powder on a greased or oily surface, and then fired in the oven, the heat evaporating the oil, leaving the colour adhering to the piece. The "scale blue" and "powder blue" were applied before the glaze—being technically known as "underglaze-blue." Both were principally used for the finer productions of the factory, and in addition to the jars, vases, etc., we have already spoken of, these colours were utilised for the production of costly coffee, tea, and dessert services. The favourite designs were flowers, fruit, exotic birds, figures, and landscapes. Some of the vases decorated in these colours reached a height of nearly 2 ft., being a mass of brilliant colour and gilding. The shapes were often rococo, with scrolls, or borders of scale blue and gold. Such was the love of decorating porcelain at this period, that a story is told of an artist who was reproved for painting too well an inferior piece of ware, that he exclaimed: "I would paint a brick if they gave it to me."



SPECIMENS OF WORCESTER CHINA.

Little is known as to the painters who were employed at Worcester, but Donaldson, was responsible for many of the costly vases produced, these generally being figure subjects. O'Neale was an artist who excelled in animal-painting. In a little work published in 1865, on the Worcester factory, speaking of the fine examples produced during the second period mentioned there, "indicate to us the oversight of a man of superior taste and the employment of first-rate workmen. We are sorry that we know nothing of the former, and very little of the latter. The names of Dontil, Duvivier, Willman, Dyer, and Lills, have been quoted to us as workmen of superior character, who possibly came from Chelsea; we honour them generally in their works, but we would gladly have recorded a more distinctive testimonial to their ability."

During the whole of this period, the factory appears to have been worked at a loss, disagreements occurred between the partners, and in 1772 the factory and plant was advertised for sale. Dr. Wall, the founder, still had faith in the enterprise, and the works were purchased, on his behalf, by his son, John Wall. When Dr. Wall died in 1776, the beginning of the end became foreshadowed, and in 1783 the factory was purchased by Thomas Flight, the agent of the Company in London. Flight was a strong business man, and the artistic side had to give way to more practical principles. Casting aside the costly productions, and developing the works in producing cheaper and more serviceable china, to the exclusion of the *objets d'art* which had made the splendour and name of Worcester known throughout the ceramic world.

The marks during this second period are nearly all in underglaze blue, although there are instances of red and gold impressed on the the glaze. The open crescent, the solid and shaded crescent, were much utilised, but the so-called "square-mark" in underglaze blue, supposed to be in imitation of a Chinese sale mark, is the most prized by the collector of to-day. Increasing in value are the "scale blue" and "powder blue" Worcester of this period, and when we read of ten and even twenty pounds being given for a small teapot, the ordinary collector can only look with envious eyes on the collection of his more fortunate brother. Rare and choice is such an assemblage, and to those who have wealth we say buy whenever it can be purchased. In every sense of the word it is "a gilt-edged investment."

How to Clean Pictures.

Engravings.—To clean an engraving, put it on a smooth board, cover it thinly with common salt finely powdered; squeeze lemon juice upon the salt so as to dissolve a considerable portion of it; elevate one end of the board so that it forms an angle of about 45 or 50 degrees with the horizon. Pour on the engraving boiling water from a tea-kettle until the salt and lemon juice are all washed off; the engraving should now be perfectly clean and free from stains. It must be dried gradually on the board or some other smooth surface, being secured by drawing or other pins. If dried by the fire or in the sun it will be tinged with yellow.

Chromos.—Dampen a linen cloth slightly and go over them gently. If the varnish has become defaced, cover with a thin mastic varnish.

Oil Paintings.—To clean them, first brush them free from dust; then wash them with warm milk diluted with water; rub with a piece of flannel dipped in turpentine, and then with a dry flannel.

Gilt Frames.—Clean them with a brush dipped in rain water in which flour of sulphur has been stirred. Or, wipe with a sponge wet with turpentine..

Bronzes.—Plunge first into boiling water until warm, then clean with strong soapsuds and rub with old linen cloths until perfectly dry.

Alabaster.—Strong soap and water is good for cleaning alabaster; if too much discoloured, make a paste with quicklime and water, cover the article with it, and let it remain all day; wash off with soap and water, rubbing hard where stained. Or clean with diluted muriatic acid, having previously washed it well.

To Mend Glass.

Pound flint glass as fine as possible in a stone mortar or on a painter's stone. Mix it with the unbeaten white of an egg. Rub the mixture on the edges and bind together, having fitted the pieces carefully. Set aside for some days or weeks, and one can scarcely discern the crack at all. It will not come apart.

From Falmouth.

(Continued.)

By Eliza Turck.

Our readers will call to mind the little notice given in a former supplement of the "Mark Lane Express," of the interesting old house in Bell's Court, Falmouth, and of the handsome design drawn from one of the chimney-pieces there. Another of these effective panels is illustrated in Fig. 1; the design is one that could be worked out in a great many ways and for various purposes. For instance, as an over-door decoration it would be entirely appropriate, or at the back of a cabinet or shelves, whilst the centre portion is

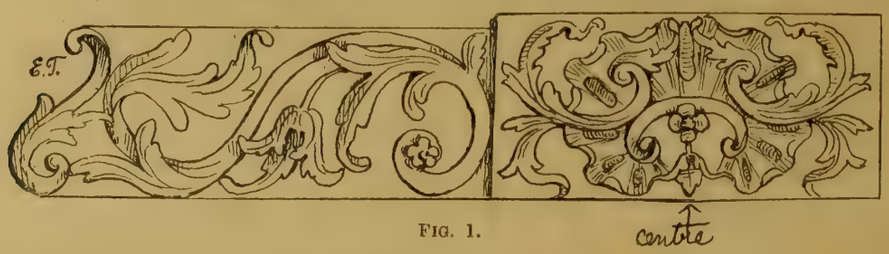


Fig. 1.

well suited for the front of drawers and small doors.

The original is of course in carved wood, but it is hardly necessary to point how perfectly the design would be adapted for treatment in pyrography, marqueterie, gesso or metal-modelling. Copper relief on a green stained ground or albo-metal on poker work are both most effective, and quite uncommon.

Fig. 2 represents a quaint old stove, set in the chimney-piece from which the panel in Fig. 1 is drawn. It is of a most unusual pattern with its curved fronts and roomy hobs; the ornamentation is in relief, and very carefully wrought, is of a character that would admit of the design being carried out in an infinite number of ways. Perhaps it may appear rather a strange idea to suggest that the plan of the range is one admirably suited for a small cabinet or set of shelves, but on consideration it will not turn out to be so out-of-the-way. The scheme would be to make cupboards at the two sides, with the doors having the curved pieces attached, just as in the original, but opening on the straight upright line. The whole middle part fitted with bookshelves and no doors. The carved panel, Fig. 1, would be just the thing for the back. Marqueterie might possibly be the best treatment for the purpose, the little figures, wreaths, etc., are exactly the style so often seen in the best old work, and two stains, let us say satinwood and walnut, should be all that is needed.

A Toy Chest for the Nursery.

For the child who has a number of small toys and no particular place to keep them, a suggestion is given in the illustration for a chest that any mother or father can make from two boxes and some thin boards for partitions. The lower box is 24 in. long and 18 in. wide. From 10 to 15 in. in height will be sufficient, and to the front edge of the chest a lid is made fast with hinges.

Above this another box is mounted, in which partition and shelf will divide the space into four compartments. One partition in the bottom box will divide the space into two compartments, and on the top of the upper box a wall plate can be cut and made fast. Handles at the ends and on top of the lid will make it easy to move the box and lift the lid.

How to Clean Windows.—To begin with, have the windows thoroughly dusted every day when the rest of the room is done—window sills, ledges, sashes, and all. It stands to reason that if the windows are thoroughly dusted regularly they will not require to be washed or cleaned nearly so frequently. When the cleaning is inevitable, have ready a muslin bag full of whiting and two wash leathers. Dust the glass thickly with whiting, then rub it off thoroughly with a damp—not wet—leather, and finally polish it well with a clean, dry one. This is a method pursued by workmen when cleaning the windows of a new house, and gives a polish unknown to the glass washed in the ordinary way. Another excellent method for giving brilliancy to glass is to damp a cloth with spirits of wine, rub the glass well with this, and then polish as before with a clean, dry leather.

Cleaning and Re-varnishing Old Oil Paintings.

The art of cleaning oil paintings has been very much neglected, and many valuable pictures have been destroyed in consequence of the persons operating upon them employing the same means for removing all kinds of dirt, as they do for dust and varnish commingled, so that frequently a valuable painting has actually been scoured away.

Most paintings are varnished, and as the nature of the varnish differs, so also must the means by which it is removed. In some cases it is better to allow the varnish to remain untouched than to interfere with it, as the painting might be damaged in the latter instance.

The materials required consist of water, olive oil, pearl ashes, soap, spirits of wine, oil of turpentine; sponge, woollen and linen rags; essence of lemons, and stale bread-crumbs.

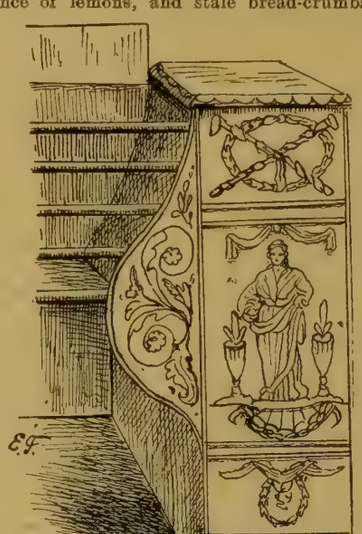


Fig. 2.

Soluble varnishes, such as sugar, glue, honey, gum arabic, isinglass, white of egg, and dirt generally, may be removed by employing hot water. To know when the painting is varnished or coated with such materials, moisten some part with water, which will become clammy to the touch. To clean the picture, lay it horizontally upon a table or some convenient place, and go over the whole surface with a sponge dipped in boiling water, which should be used freely until the coating begins to soften; then the heat must be lowered gradually as the varnish is removed. If, however, the coating is not easily removed, gentle friction with stale bread-crumbs, a damp linen cloth, or the end of the forefinger, will generally effect it, or assist in doing so. White of egg may be removed (if not coagulated by heat) by using an excess of albumen (white of egg and cold water); but if coagulated, by employing a weak solution of a caustic alkali as potash.

Coated dirt is removed by washing with warm water, then covering with spirits of wine, and washing off with water, but without rubbing. The process is to be repeated until the whole is removed.

Spots should be washed with warm water, dried, with soft linen rags, and covered with olive oil warmed; after the oil has remained on the spots for twenty minutes, gentle friction with the finger should be used, the foul oil wiped off, and fresh laid on, until the spot disappears. Should this fail, spirits of wine, essence of lemons, or oil or turpentine may be carefully applied, observing that only such parts as are dirty must be covered with them; they are to be cleaned off first with water and then with olive oil. Sometimes even these means fail, and then strong soap-suds, applied directly to the spots, and retained there until they soften or disappear, will prove effectual. The spots must then be washed with water.

In employing these means, as, indeed, throughout the whole process of cleaning, the greatest care should be taken in removing any coating upon the surface of a painting, and it is, therefore, better to employ mild measures first, then, if they fail, to use stronger; or, in the event of these not succeeding, to very carefully apply the strongest. For our own part, we prefer leaving the painting in a half-cleaned state, as it sometimes happens that, with the most scrupulous care, under experienced persons, some of the fine touches or delicate tints of a painting are damaged by the process. When we state this we mean only such pictures as are covered with insoluble varnishes—varnishes of gum-resins or old oil varnishes, which cannot well be removed without injury to the painting.

Varnishes of long standing are very difficult to remove, as they generally consist of linseed oil combined with gum-resins, and if not easily taken off by the means given below, it is better to leave them as they were.

To remove these varnishes, use spirits of wine in the manner recommended for coated dirt, or oil of turpentine, which requires greater care than the spirits of wine, or warm olive oil; but if the varnish is very hard, the painting should be washed by means of a sponge, with a warm solution of pearl-ash (an ounce to a pint of water) until the coating is removed, when the surface must be washed well with fresh water frequently renewed.

Varnishing.—Oil paintings are varnished to protect them from injury, whether the result of chemical or mechanical causes, and to give a brilliancy to their colouring.

Varnishes for pictures should be capable of being easily spread without leaving pores or cavities, able to resist the action of the atmosphere, and not liable to crack or scale, and should be white, light, and quite transparent, so as not to impart any tint to the colours, either by combination or their own colouring, Another essential property is that of being easily removed without injuring the picture.

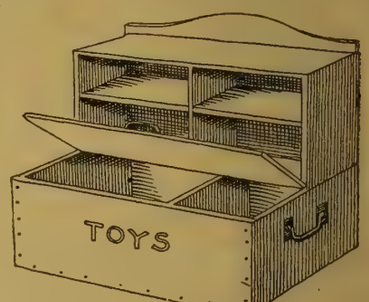
Varnishes should be kept in clean, dry, well-corked bottles, with a label on each.

Materials.—Flat or varnish brushes of two sizes, and mastic, copal, and white lac varnishes. Some persons employ a solution of gum arabic, the whites of eggs, isinglass size, and oil varnishes, but they are bad.

To Lay on the Varnish.—Observe that the painting is thoroughly dry, and the surface free from dust or dirt; then spread the varnish over the painting quickly, evenly, and not too thick, taking care that the strokes are broad, and that they do not cross one another. One coat should be quite dry before the next is applied, and it is better always to apply the varnish in a warm place, to prevent chilling.

If the first coat becomes dull or rough, it should be removed, and a fresh one applied.

Turpentine varnish should be laid on gently and sparingly at a time, because the oil of turpentine is liable to combine with the colours and destroy the effect of the painting.



A TOY CHEST FOR THE NURSERY.

It spreads easier, and is not so liable to chill as spirit varnish.

To Clean Gloves.—Put the gloves on hands, or lay them flat on a clean board. Take equal parts of finely-powdered alum and Fuller's earth, and brush the mixture well into the gloves. Let the gloves remain for an hour before brushing out the alum and Fuller's earth. Dust them well with fine bran and whiting, after which give them a good shaking, to free them from powder, and they should be perfectly clean. Should the gloves be very greasy, this method may not be found to affect the much-soiled parts. These may be cleaned with burnt bone-powder, and then rubbed with a piece of flannel dipped in dry Fuller's earth.

THE NEWEST FASHIONS.

The pretty gown, of which front and back views are given on this page, is composed of vieux-rose cloth, trimmed with bands of the same material and a silk fringe.

* * *

There is always much discussion about whether it is better to place voile over a lining the shade of the material or on a white foundation. As a rule, it is safest to match the voile as nearly as possible in the silk lining, for, of course, if laid over white or over a lighter shade much of the colour of the material is forfeited, and with pale and delicate shades there is little question that there should be an underslip of the exact colour of the dress itself. If, however, one desires a gown that will look smart and be appropriate for really elaborate wear, but which must at the same time be really useful and be able to stand considerable knocking about, then a dark green or a deep blue, relieved by considerable white at the neck and sleeves, will undoubtedly answer the purpose well. When in search of a costume that will be at once really smart and effective and yet really serviceable, then, as so much depends upon the colour, it is well to procure a light shade of blue or an unusual shade of raspberry-pink or a good deep mauve, for these colours are all smart and also do not become readily soiled.

* * *

The same rules hold good for a stripe or fancy voile as for the plain surface. If the colour is naturally rather pale and indefinite, then the only way to save it and give character to the dress is to make it up over its own colour. When, however, a dark blue check or a striped green and white or brown and white is selected because it is to be a more useful gown, then the sombre tones will be relieved by a lining of a lighter shade of the same colour or by white. With a check or plaid or two or more colours, as green and blue, the colour of the lining should be in one of the shades most becoming to the wearer and the trimming of the gown must bear out the same scheme. Frequently a dark blue check or plaid will be made up over a shot green and blue silk taffeta, and this has a most artistic and smart effect.

* * *

Effective embroidery is every bit as fashionable as ever, and there are conspicuously few of the more expensive costumes, whether for afternoon or evening wear, that have not more or less elaborate handwork in their construction. Sometimes a sharp note of contrast will be introduced in the embroidered bodice or the revers bordering the lace vest, and then, again, a delicate yellow voile will have considerable embroidery worked in some way upon the bodice, and all will be done in two, or, at most, three shades of the same yellow. Gold and silver threadwork is used on many of the newest models this autumn, but, unless used with exceeding cleverness, is too heavy for the more delicate materials.

A Good Face Cream.

Take of white wax, ¼ oz.; oil of sweet almonds, 1½ oz.; curd soap (in fine shavings), ¼ oz.; glycerine, 3 oz.; borax, in powder, ¼ oz.; rosewater, 3 oz. Perfume with a few drops of oil of bergamot or otto of roses. Proceed by dissolving first the finely-shaved soap in the rosewater, which should be done by placing them in a good sized bottle with a wide neck. Then allow the bottle to stand in a pan of water, which should be put on a gas stove, and gentle heat applied. When all the soap has dissolved, add the glycerine and borax, and shake well together. Now put the white wax with the almond oil in a jar or bowl, placing it in a pan of water in the same manner as the soap, and apply gentle heat until the wax is dissolved. Pour the oil, while warm, into the soap solution, and shake well up. Continue the shaking now and again until it becomes cold, when the perfume may be added. The finished product should be white and of a nice creamy consistence. Preserve it in a bottle and shake well each time before using.

An Eye for Colour.

Should there ever be formed a universal sisterhood, may the garb of the order be pink hued. That this shade is really becoming to the greatest number of people would then be demonstrated. Many women would look well for the first time. Often it is in very truth "the pink of perfection."

A general delusion is that anyone can wear black and look well. Perhaps its association in many minds with respectability helps this. With bright trimmings, black is well suited to the fresh complexion of youth. Sallowness arrayed in black takes on a deeper shade.

Many brunettes believe red to be their only colour. There are wonderful possibilities for them in gold, tan, orange, and terra-cotta.

The red-haired woman, far from being an object of ridicule or sympathy, should be one of envy, because of the many colours that she can wear. Grey, it would seem, was mixed especially for her. No other white-gowned woman can equal her. She can choose from among lavender, violet, blue, Nile green, black, and the darker shades of brown, green, and blue. Of course, she is one exception to the rule of pink.

Magenta, crushed strawberry, rose, and any of the uncertain shades are becoming to but a few. It is not safe to venture much with these.

But to these few suggestions nothing better can be added than a simple rule of selection: "Observe, think, experiment."

Old Chiffon made New.

Don't throw away chiffon, as so many do, when it becomes soiled. Quantities of this expensive and lovely material are wasted each year that could be saved, and brought to do



A NEW GOWN. FRONT AND BACK VIEW.

duty again, almost as good as new. It requires care and a little extra trouble, but it is certainly worth both of these. Make a lather of good white soap, and let it stand until nearly cold. Put the chiffon in it and let it soak a while. Then shake it gently around in the water, passing it between the fingers, but not rubbing it. Now shake it out in clean water, changing the baths until there is no trace of cloudiness in the water. Fill a cup half full of water; drop in a morsel of pure gum arabic, and let this dissolve. Add to it a few drops of white vinegar. Dip in the chiffon. Don't squeeze or wring it dry, but lay it between very soft white muslin and gently pat it with the hand. Have an iron moderately hot and iron the fabric on the wrong side, having tissue paper between it and the iron. Embroidered mousseline de soie and other filmy tissues can be renovated by the same process.

Gardening in October.

We have now reached a period of the year when it is rather difficult to bring oneself to decide what action to take with regard to the removal of dying plants which still continue to bloom and make us believe that winter is still far behind. There is still sufficient brilliancy to remind us that the summer has not yet wholly departed, as our annuals are bearing many blooms owing to the exceptionally warm and bright weather which prevailed throughout September. To tear up sweet peas and other plants too numerous to mention would strip the ground and render spaces at present pleasant to the eye barren for some weeks. Still, the time is at hand to consider what is necessary to be done for the coming spring.

Bulbs should be planted this month, and, therefore, we must not hang on to decaying plants because of the record sunshine in September, but resolve to clear some parts of our garden and set to work and put in bulbs; besides, we must not neglect the transplanting of spring-sown perennials. These should be in their permanent places for next season. The development of these largely depends upon the turning over and preparation of the soil, which should be mixed with plenty of rotted manure, and the plants set far enough apart to enable them to grow freely. Mixed hyacinths with choice names should be potted at once in a rich, sandy loam, composed of two parts of well-rotted turf, one part well-rotted cow manure, with a fair proportion of silver sand, or, to avoid expense, any river sand will do. This has a tendency to keep the soil open and pure.

Place the bulb in the pot with the crown or apex just above the soil, and see that your bulb is entirely whole and free from decay. I greatly favour very rich soil, well manured, but this must be old and well-rotted. It cannot be too rich, but it is of the greatest importance to use only old material. I would much rather grow weeds than imperfect, half-starved plants.

The single and double white, blue, lilac, primrose, and pompon hyacinths are far too numerous to mention here, but some of the varieties which have been especially selected by seedsmen for pot culture and bedding comprise those which produce most brilliant colours, and the finest spikes and forms. There is no question that bulbs potted in October produce the best blooms. The narcissus, an elegant and charming spring flower, should also receive our attention at once, and the treatment should be the same as the hyacinth. It is easy to cultivate, and may be grown in pots for room decoration. Not more than three to six bulbs should be placed in a 5-in. pot.

G. W. Thomson-Price.

(To be continued.)

To Polish Mahogany.

The ingredients: Quarter lb. of best white curd soap, 1 pint of water, ¼ lb. of white wax, and 3 oz. of common beeswax. Mode: Cut the soap very fine, put it into the water in a pipkin, and hold it over the fire till dissolved; then add the wax and beeswax cut into very small pieces. When the whole is incorporated the polish is fit for use. Clean well the surface of the table, then dip a piece of flannel in the varnish while warm, and rub the table all over with it; leave it for the space of an hour, then rub it with a furniture brush in all directions, and afterwards polish it with another piece of clean flannel. This will produce a beautiful glossy surface.

ROUND-ABOUT NOTES.

Women pilots are employed by the Danish and Scandinavian Governments. Many Scandinavian captains say they prefer them to men, because they have more patience. Norway and Sweden also employ women in the mercantile marine; they do the same work as the men before the mast, and take their turn at night lookout duty.

* * *

Among the qualities most to be desired in a girl's character is a high sense of honour. It may happen to you, for instance, to be visiting in the home of a relative or a friend, where there may be a little friction at the table, or where some anxiety arises about the conduct of a member of the family. No matter what you see or hear, in such circumstances you are bound, if you are an honourable person, to be silent about it, neither making comments nor looking as if you could tell something if you chose, nor in any way alluding to what is unpleasant at any future time. A guest in a home cannot be too careful to guard the good name of those under its roof, for it is an honour to be a guest in the first place, and honour is demanded in return.

* * *

There is a story told of the late Sir Edward Burne Jones which shows that he loved children very dearly. It is said that when his small children were naughty, their mother punished them by standing them for a few minutes in the corner with their faces to the wall. This seemed to be very severe punishment to their beauty-loving father, so he painted in the corners where his children were punished sprays of flowers, saying, "If they have to go in the corner, I am determined they shall enjoy themselves there."

* * *

The inhabitants of the Scilly Islands have had many occupations. At one time they lived as wreckers, and at another period they sold early potatoes at a great profit. When the latter trade was killed by the competition of the Channel Islands, they betook themselves to the flower industry. For the last ten or fifteen years the cultivation of flowers, chiefly narcissi, has ousted almost every other occupation of the five islands. In St. Mary's alone nearly a-quarter of the cultivated area of the island is devoted to flower growing. In the month of February of last year three hundred and twenty-two tons of flowers were exported from this one island. About two hundred boxes go to the ton, and each box contains from three to twelve spikes of flowers. As soon as the forcing of the narcissi is over the houses are filled with tomato plants, and for months there is a continuous supply of this popular fruit.

* * *

Cat lovers may be interested to know that the United States Government supports hundreds of cats, contracting for the supplies necessary to their subsistence very much as it does for its soldiers. These cats are employed by the Government, their wages being simply board and housing, to protect the storehouses of the Government from rats and mice. The Government has to keep large supplies of food for the army—including many things that are very greatly enjoyed by rats and mice—and if cats were not kept in sufficient numbers to protect these stores, the Government would lose large sums of money, for not only would the food disappear, but boxes and packages would be nibbled, and the food wasted and destroyed in handling.

* * *

At Margate can be seen a most curious and interesting relic of pagan times. It was discovered there in 1837. It is a subterranean passage and cavern supported by a central column and arched roof, whose walls are formed of a beautiful mosaic of small English shells embedded in cement. An area of two thousand feet is ornamented in this way, with panels containing various symbols, including the sun, moon, stars, fire, flowers, fruit, fish, birds, and implements of warfare. There is no emblem of the Christian faith, and it is conjectured that this chamber was constructed about two thousand years ago as a burial place by some wealthy person during the Roman occupation of Britain.

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THE MARK LANE EXPRESS SUPPLEMENT FOR THE HOME

Conducted by "PEPITA"

THE NEWEST FASHIONS.

The models shown by the leading costumiers at this season of the year are the ones which practically set the fashions for the next six months to come, if not for a year; though, of course, a certain amount of weeding and elimination is necessary before ideas settle down to a definite basis. Everywhere one looks one sees various interpretations of the same general style of dress, skirts full and simple in line, if not in trimming; the long, sloping shoulder; the ubiquitous indefinite Japanese sleeves forming part of the bodice itself. All these are modifications of the idea which has carried us through the spring and summer. The success of the Japanese sleeve has interfered more or less with the introduction of a new model—a long sleeve coming well down over the wrist and hand. This sleeve is a new idea which may have important influence later on.

* * *

Another note is the reappearance of the long, slender waistline. The shoulder line may be very sloping, and the bodice loose, vague, and voluminous to eccentricity; yet the waist is defined trimly by a deep belt or corslet; for in gowns, if not in wraps, the short waistline seems to have lost favour. Many of the coats, however, both the short, jaunty affairs, and those of the popular redingote type, show the Empire waist, and some of the models are charming.

* * *

The redingote is a decided acquisition. Its usefulness with the afternoon gown is undisputable. The cut or general line of this garment usually forms its chief feature, though the method of decoration is important also, such as stitching in close, even rows, braiding and arrangements of buttons, large and small. Many of these long garments open over a vest which, in some cases, is very long—almost the length of the wrap, and in other cases, short as the Empire waistline. The vest fastens with a row of buttons closely placed. Indeed, buttons, large and small, play an important part in the season's fashions. Braiding, too, of the finest quality is to be an approved style of trimming. The work is done with the finest sort of soutache, and is employed on wraps and on gowns of the finest sort.

* * *

One of the smartest gowns, a geranium red voile de soie, was embellished with this fine braid trimming. The bodice was of Japanese character, formed by several deep folds of the material laid over the shoulder, from which emerged the pretty undersleeve of creamy lace. This folded bodice opened back and front over a deep V-shaped vest of the lace, and was allowed to pouch slightly above a high, tight girdle of silk. There were deep revers of silk, depending, rather than folding, back from the V opening, and these revers were braided in this pretty silk soutache work. The skirt was full at the hem and long, lying in beautiful folds; while over it fell a tunic, cut into three deep points, each point braided with soutache designs and finished with a large silk tassel.

* * *

Tassels of all sizes, and quaint, old-fashioned fringe are to the fore. Both are employed in various ways, one of the prettiest arrangements being their use as a finish to wide bretelles. These bretelles pass over the shoulder to form a sleeve setting, and continue down both at the back and front of a gown in stole fashion. The waist is defined by affixing the stole against the girdle by means of large, flat buttons; and at the bottom of the stole the finish will be tassels or deep fringe, usually knotted on, as though it were a part of the material itself.

* * *

Among the gowns intended for street wear, one will find models of all sorts, from the simplest to those decidedly elaborate. In some of the examples the coat is bound all around with a wide braid, either black or in self colour, a favourite combination being a wide black braid on a black and white striped suit. In the smart little "trotter" gowns, the styles of the jackets are so varied as to offer models suitable to every taste.

* * *

For autumn street wear there are shown gowns of voile surmounted by the most fascinating little mantlets or shoulder capes of taffeta, rather like the cape boleros, though somewhat more fussy and overtrimmed. They are often intricate and uncertain of shaping, some having quaintly folded fronts ending in long points with saucy short little backs most becoming to youthful figures. The ornamentations consist of quillings, puffings, galloons, large buttons, and so on; and the garment is a very feminine little affair, which supplies just the necessary protection required during the first cool days. The same idea is developed in velvet for use in the colder weather; and also in furs, the inexpensive skins like caracul and Russian pony lending themselves charmingly to the severer models of this small wrap.

* * *

The Princess gown, shown in the illustration, is comprised of vicuna cloth in the new bronze shade. The corsage is trimmed with silk embroidery and lace, and the bodice slip worn underneath is of ivory silk.



A PRINCESS GOWN.
PAPER PATTERN 1 6½, POST FREE.

How to Treat Umbrellas.

Umbrellas require a great deal of attention to keep them in good repair, but at the same time they are well worth it, and repay all trouble. How often have our bonnets and hats been saved by them from ruin when we have been caught in a sudden downpour with no shelter near. After one of these downpours, on arrival home, the umbrella should not be stuck in the stand and left to drain, as the moisture, gradually accumulating in the silk just above the ferrule, causes it to rot and go into holes in a very short time. It should be placed open in a dry, airy room until it is thoroughly dry. Many people roll up their umbrellas while still damp, and then think the silk must have been very common when they find it in holes. When put away the umbrella should be left unrolled, as if it is constantly kept in a tight roll the creases are apt to rapidly wear through. One's best silk umbrella should never be put in the stand where the common property ones are kept, as anyone coming in in a hurry, and popping stick or umbrella in the same place is very liable to unintentionally poke a hole right through, and no amount of darning or covering the place with black court plaster will ever restore the umbrella to its pristine beauty. Many umbrellas nowadays, after they have seen some service, though sound in other respects, are disfigured by worn-out, elastic, and dilapidated, discoloured tassels; these should be promptly discarded, and new ones, which can be bought for a trifle at any draper's, securely fastened on.

Asthma.

Those who have seen the struggles of a victim of asthma realise how bad the trouble is, yet it is very largely an affection of the nerves. In many cases the patient wants to exhale, and cannot finish before there is a spasmodic attempt to inhale. The effort to breathe out and breathe in meet in the middle, as it were, with the result that the patient can do neither, and simply struggles and gasps. A doctor conceived the idea of putting his hands, one on the back and the other on the front of the chest, and squeezing the air out to help the inspiration. When the lungs were deflated inhalation was easy. After several manœuvres of this sort the patient expressed relief from the straining and struggling.

NEEDLEWORK.

Possibilities of Embroidered Kid.

This pretty band is of soft white kid, on which a garland of delicate flowers in faint pastel shades and tarnished silver wire is exquisitely worked. There is a perfect craze among Parisian modistes just now for these touches of embroidery upon kid, which are introduced as revers, belts, and as collar and sleeve bands. The one illustrated is about 3 in. deep, and is intended for an elbow sleeve, the little shaped medallion-like piece being fitted on to the cloth sleeve point upwards at the back of the elbow. The collar band is to be worked to correspond with a small jabot, and both collar and sleeve band are edged with a lilliputian ruche of very narrow real Valenciennes lace laid down with thread of the tarnished silver wire, also used for the scrolling stems in the design. French women are enthusiastic at the present moment about the working of these kid embellishments, which they turn to the nattiest account in a score of ways. A favourite adaptation of them is the loose "ceintures," or fronts, to be worn beneath the fashionable bolero of cloth or velvet. The band of kid, made of the right depth to fill in the space between the bolero fronts to the belt, embroidered in silk and metal wire, often decorated with spangles, paillettes, and "jewels," is quite the mode at present. This is made loose and full, drawn into a band at the waist, and finished with a collar of kid. Little loops are placed at the sides and these fasten to hooks sewn inside the bolero. Sleeve bands are often added, and the effect is that of an entire blouse of kid worn beneath the coat. The work has other uses, too, besides that of dress trimmings, for it can be charmingly made up for opera bags and porte-monnaies, or mounted as coverings for jewel caskets or bon-bon boxes.



EMBROIDERED KID.

Lady's Jersey Mittens.

These mittens are very elastic, and fit nicely made in single crochet stitch with the hook put under the side of the stitch nearest the worker and up through the centre of the stitch, instead of the usual way.

Take knitting silk or Saxony yarn and rather a large hook. Crochet loosely.

Make a chain of 53 stitches and join in a ring.

1. Single in every chain.
2. One single in every stitch.

Repeat second round 40 times.

43. Make 11 chain, miss 11, join in twelfth stitch (to start the thumb), 41 singles.

44. One single in every stitch. Repeat this round to end of forty-ninth.

50. Narrow (by missing 1 stitch).

51. Single in every stitch.

52. Repeat fiftieth round.

53. Narrow 1, 51 singles.

54th and 55th rounds. One single in every stitch.

56. Narrow 1, 50 singles.

57. One single in every stitch. Repeat this round to end of seventieth round.

71. Narrow 1, 10 singles, narrow 1, 13 singles.

72. Narrow 1, 10 singles, narrow 1, 11 singles, narrow 1, 10 singles.

73. Narrow 1, 9 singles, narrow 1, 10 singles, narrow 1, 9 singles, narrow 1, 10 singles.

74. Narrow 1, 8 singles, narrow 1, 9 singles, narrow 1, 8 singles, narrow 1, 9 singles.

75. Narrow each alternate stitch to the end of round. Repeat this last round to the end of mitten and fasten thread.

For the Thumb:—1. Twenty-two singles.

Repeat till there are 18 rounds, then narrow every alternate stitch in 3 successive rounds and fasten thread.

Finish at wrist with a single row of shells.

Fluffy Fascinator.

Use pink or white Shetland wool floss for this fascinator.

Begin at one corner to make the foundation.

Make 7 chain. Turn, skip 3 stitches, make 2 doubles in the next one, and make 2 in each of the next 3. Turn.

2. Make 3 chain, then 4 2-double-crochet groups, making them between each group in the last row, and make 1 double at the end. Turn.

3. Make 3 chain, 1 double in first space, then the 2-double-crochet groups in each of the next 4 spaces, 3 chain. Turn.

4. Make 2 doubles in first space, then 2 doubles in each of the next 3 spaces, 2 doubles in middle of the 2-double-crochet group to widen, and 2 doubles in last space; 3 chain. Turn.

5. Make the 2-double-crochet groups in each of the next spaces and 1 double in last space.

Next Row. Like the fourth, and continue in this way, making the 2-double-crochet group come in the middle of the group at one end in every other row until there are 20 rows, then decrease in the same proportion for the remaining half, being careful to keep the widening and narrowing on one side only, as the other must be perfectly straight, to make the foundation three-cornered when finished.

Next join floss to first double in the point, make 7 loose chain, skip 1 double and catch down with a single around the next one. Repeat across the row, making a single and chain come at each edge around the end double. Work in this way in every row, unless the chain part seems too thick, in which case occasionally skip a 2-double-crochet group.

Sew on ribbon ties at the corners and tie at the back of the head. The point of the fascinator rests above the forehead.

Autumn House Cleaning.

We, in England, suffer a good deal from the epidemic which develops in most households in the early part of the year, and which is known as "spring fever." I do not wish to introduce a second epidemic when I insist on the necessity for an autumn cleaning in addition. Indeed, the feverish symptoms should be banished from all cleaning in all well-regulated households always!

Although, in our climate, and particularly in country houses, where variations in the weather are more felt than in towns, it is not possible to assign any dates between which sitting-room fires are not needed, yet there is a moment, sometime during October generally, after which they become constant, and it is before that time that the cleaning should be done.

The first thing to be thought of is the disposal of summer clothing, curtains, etc., and there are many reasons why this should be done more carefully than is sometimes the case. Our grandmothers always put away their summer muslins rough dried: that is, with the starch washed out. This, however, is unnecessary, unless space is a great object, when, of course, they can be more tightly packed. But if carefully got up, the small amount of starch we use nowadays will not injure the fabric, and when, as happened this year, we get almost the warmest weather of the year somewhere about Easter-time, there is a great deal to be said for having blouses and other garments ready to put on at short notice. Never put away soiled clothes or curtains. This, sooner than anything else, causes stuffy wardrobes and rooms, and is likely to bring moth. And do not put away any that need repair till this has been done. Go through your wardrobes, and through your cupboards, and, indeed, all through your house carefully, and decide which articles can, by cleaning, mending, etc., be made to serve another season. Then *empty* the drawers, cupboards, etc., in which winter things have been stored. Clean these, place fresh papers, and, if you have been wise enough to save and dry your lavender, woodruff, etc., during the summer days, lay sachets filled with these among the summer garments and draperies. Never put things away on the *top* of drawers or boxes till you have examined every article at the bottom. It is these that "the rust and moth corrupt." Don't put away things unless there's a very reasonable chance of your making use of them again. Remember they will never be better than they are now—so if it is not likely you can use them, give them to some of your poorer neighbours who may (and you need not wait till the end of the season to do that either), and if they don't seem like being useful to *any* one—burn them. There's no real cleaner like a good bonfire!

Another idea which wise women who have to study appearances on small incomes will adopt is to decide some time before the end of a season which clothes are nearly finished, and which are *dated* by their make or cut. These should be worn as much as possible to finish them out, keeping those to put by which for condition as well as style will seem fresh and good another year.

Any woollen garments that you are putting by—if not washable—should be thoroughly dried and aired in sun and wind. If this is done, and the boxes and drawers they are stored in are clean, dry, and dust and air-proof, no camphor or naphthaline need be added, though in spite of their somewhat disagreeable odour these are useful if the conditions of storage are doubtful. In many houses now the same curtains are used winter and summer, and where these are as they should be merely window-screens, shading the light but not obstructing the air—there is no need for change; but in addition to putting away any light ones that will not be used, it is a good plan also to put by, carefully wrapped in silver paper, any photo-frames, cushions, or similar articles that are made of easily soiled materials. The atmosphere of even the most carefully-kept house during the winter months contains a good deal of soot. The days are short, the light, especially in the early mornings when most rooms are cleaned, is bad, and household work generally heavier. A little forethought in this direction makes the autumn cleaning a sort of "going into winter quarters," not only lessening work, but keeping the house freer from dust and dirt, which cannot be so easily turned out in bad weather, and, consequently, healthier.

Flower vases, too, should be carefully cleaned, and the larger portion put away in the china pantry, only leaving ready to hand the few that are likely to be used. All these and similar details will help to make room for the winter pursuits of a family which in the summer time has been spread abroad over house, garden, and fields, but which now will be gathered close round the hearth.

MARY LOVELL.

To Wash Silk and Merino Stockings.

Lay the stockings in a soap lather, and rub the soiled parts gently with the hands. Then rinse thoroughly; this part of the process is not always completely done, and, if omitted, the stockings are disagreeable to wear. Wring them dry in a cloth, turning them wrong side out. Do not iron silk stockings, but when they are almost dry stretch and rub them in the hands, and bring them into shape. Ironing makes an ugly crease down the centre, and does not improve the appearance at all. Always have merino stockings ironed with a cool iron before folding them.

How to Clean Alabaster Figures.

Alabaster figures are cleaned with the following mixture:—1 oz. of borax and a quart of boiling water. When cool, wash the figures gently, and dry with a silk handerchief. If badly stained, try a paste of quicklime and water, and let it remain on for a day, then wash off in soap and water.

IN THE NURSERY.

Defective Vision in Children.

It is rather astonishing when we come to think about it how prevalent defective vision is among the children of this generation. Physiologists used to tell us that no child is born near-sighted. I do not know whether this condition of things is altered, but it is a fact that near-sightedness among small children is becoming painfully common.

It would seem (judging from a good many of our educational methods) as though it is a part of our sense of the fitness of things that this should be so. Certainly we exercise considerable ingenuity in devising contrivances to bring about the result. My personal recollection runs not back to the time when those versed in the science of caring for the eyes did not tell us that a flat-topped desk is particularly bad for youthful, or, for that matter, for adult eyes. A child sitting writing or reading at a flat desk bends forward his head in order to bring the page within the range of vision. As a consequence the eyeball, which is susceptible of slight changes in shape, becomes more convex under the influence of gravitation. In the course of a few months of this bending over of the head the convexity becomes permanent, and the result is near-sightedness. A very slight slant in the surface of desk or table does away with the necessity for this bending of the head, but in a large and popular schoolroom recently I saw tiny children and half-grown pupils sitting industriously bent forward working at perfectly flat tables. Here, too, as a matter of course, I observed the omnipresent spectacles.

About as mischievous an employment as has been devised to destroy the eyes of children is the pricking work at which they are busied in our kindergartens. I was looking at a collection of this work only a day or two ago—birds, baskets, trees, flowers, and a varied assortment of figures laboriously pricked by tiny, eager fingers in coloured paper and cardboard. The designs were complicated and minute. The infinitesimal perforations were close together, and made with a regularity that would have tried older eyes and steadier nerves to accomplish. Such work is particularly bad for young, growing eyes.

Too much—I had almost written any—microspical work is bad for very young eyes, particularly if the instruments used are, as is generally the case, adapted for using but one eye at a time; yet the microspical work done in some of our schools is of an amazing sort. Biology is a study for infants nowadays. I came across some papers in biology the other day than an eight-year-old child had prepared. They were full of long words, of which my own comprehension was the vaguest, and contained some queer little drawings of germ-cells in the course of propagation. At least, this is how my memory serves me.

Blackboards and slates are capital sight destroyers. It is possible, by the aid of coloured crayons, to avoid a good deal of the evil attendant upon the use of the first named, but the slate and pencil in common use are without a redeeming feature. One of these days, when we are wise, we shall give our little children tablets of thick ground glass and soft black-lead pencils to use in their first attempts at writing. We are already learning not to let them print their early lessons. It used to be thought that the babies must learn to print (a laborious eye, brain, and hand-troubling process) before they could be trusted to write. Nowadays they are taught to write at once, with satisfactory results. We are also coming to see the folly of slanting letters, hair lines, and shading in penmanship, and the introduction of the vertical writing in our schools will doubtless prove a great saving to youthful sight, but we shall never attain to the best results until we have consigned the school slate to limbo.

Little children are given entirely too much writing work at school. It seems a pity that so much should be required to satisfy the demands of modern education.

The work of sight-destroying which we begin in the infant classroom is faithfully continued through adult life. A pessimistic philosopher has recently advanced the theory that we are a less intelligent and thoughtful race because of our having learned to read and write. Unquestionably this is the view of the extremist, but there can be no question that our modern making of books, so far as the mere mechanical results are concerned, is a bad thing for the eyes.

Even our school books offend seriously in this regard. I have before me several books designed for young children, yet printed in types calculated to try and strain strong, well-developed eyes. Now, it should be borne in mind that children's eyes are no more mature and strong than are their bones and muscles. Books printed for them should be adapted to the requirements of their eyes, as well as to the immaturity of their minds. They should be printed in plain, black letters, with no attempt at hair lines or decoration, and should be on unglazed paper.

The introduction of the ubiquitous half-tone illustrations into our school books has been a bad thing in many ways. They require smooth,



MISS CURLY LOCKS.

shiny paper, just the thing on which books designed for growing eyes should not be printed.

Some of our more recent attempts at book-making have aimed at improved designs in type faces. Notable are the efforts in this direction of the books that have come from William Morris's famous Kelmscott Press. Some of these have been admirable and worthy of imitation for their clear, beautiful print.

Children's Headaches.

That children should be afflicted with headaches is manifestly unnatural, and the cause should be investigated, and the remedy applied at once, if parents would preserve the health and lives of their children. One of the first causes of headache is too rapid growth. As a remedy, keep them from overwork, and feed them with rather cooling foods and little meat. Plenty of fresh air and outdoor life will neutralise any ill-effects arising from too much intellectual acitivity. Indigestion is a fruitful cause of headaches, and is a result of improper food or over-eating. Regular hours and suitable diet is the only remedy. Headaches frequently have a nervous origin, in which case the head should be kept cool by cold applications, and the feet warm by hot foot baths, also massage to the limbs and back, and tepid baths. Sometimes they are hereditary, and poison of the blood may cause them, arising from being born of gouty, or rheumatic, or scrofulous parents. Sea air and sea bathing are recommended for such children; and let them go barefooted and live out of doors all they can. Too little blood and too little fresh air cause many headaches; good food and gentle exercise will correct this in time, if one will be convinced of the necessity. Blows on the head, or injury of any kind, will produce pain in the head, when, of course, rest is the medicine required, with cold cloths on the head and hot foot-baths. The large majority of headaches in children is caused by bad air in bedrooms and schoolrooms, and faulty diet at home. Correct these, and usually the headaches will disappear.

— COOKERY. —

Tea Table Dainties.

PARIS BUNS.—Flour half a pound, sugar two ounces, baking powder one teaspoonful, one egg, lard two ounces, candied peel two ounces, a little milk. Add the lard to the flour, and rub in well. Add the other dry ingredients, then whisk the egg well, and add with enough milk to form a stiff, fluffy paste. Pile in heaps on a greased tin, sift a little sugar over them, and bake in a quick oven for ten minutes. Put a strip of candied peel on, if liked.

RASPBERRY BUNS.—Take half a pound of flour, and mix well with two ounces of lard, two ounces of sugar, one teaspoonful of baking two ounces of sugar, one teaspoonful of baking-powder, whisk one egg thoroughly, and then add it to the dry ingredients with a little milk, and make into a stiff paste. Roll out, and cut in small rounds with a wine glass, put a teaspoonful of raspberry jam on part of the rounds, wet the edges, and put a round of paste on the top, and press the edges together. Cut a cross on the top, but not to the jam, then sprinkle a little crystallised sugar over each, and bake on a greased tin for ten to fifteen minutes, until a pale brown, in a quick oven.

BATH BUNS.—Take one pound of sifted flour, the rind of three lemons, grated very finely, half a pound of butter (melted), with a large teacup of cream, a teaspoonful of baking-powder, and three eggs, whisked well. Mix it thoroughly, then add half a pound of castor sugar, and work all thoroughly together for a few minutes. Let it stand in a warm place for a while to rise, roll out, and cut into rounds, and bake in a moderately hot oven for twenty minutes to a good golden-brown; when done, sift a little sugar over each bun.

COCOANUT SANDWICHES.—Roll out half a pound three-fold puff paste a quarter of an inch thick, place it in a baking-tin, and bake a golden-brown; when cooked, let it get cold, beat half a pint of cream to a stiff froth, add to it three ounces of castor sugar and three ounces of grated cocoanut; cut the paste into strips three inches long and one inch wide, spread some cream on each piece.

RATAFIA CAKES.—Blanch and pound (with the whites of two eggs) half a pound of Jordan almonds, add to this one pound of castor sugar, beat these ingredients into a paste, then take two more whites of eggs and whisk briskly to a stiff froth, add this, and mix the whole together, then drop in small teaspoonsful of wafer paper, and bake in a slow oven for ten minutes till the biscuits are pale brown.

For Invalids.

BEEF TEA IN HASTE.—Scrape one pound of lean beef into fibres on a board, place the scraped meat in a clean granite or white-lined saucepan, and pour half a pint of boiling water upon it. Cover closely and set by the side of the fire for about ten minutes, strain into a teacup, place the teacup in a basin of ice-cold water, then remove all the fat from the surface, pour into a warmed cup, warm this gently in hot water, add salt, and serve. This can be ready in fifteen minutes.

BEEF AND CHICKEN BROTH.—One pound of good lean beef and a chicken boned should be pounded together in a mortar, a little salt added, and the whole placed in a saucepan with three pints of cold water. Stir over the fire until it boils, then boil half an hour, strain through a coarse sieve, and serve.

MILK AND LIME WATER.—One or two ounces of lime water may be added to four ounces of new milk, or equal parts of milk and soda water make a good drink in sickness, and in irritable and sour stomachs. Fifteen grains of bicarbonate of soda (baking soda) added to a quart of fresh milk will prevent it turning sour for several hours, and will rather aid than impair its digestibility.

Gardening in October.

(*Continued.*)

In continuation of my remarks last week on bulbs, I wish particularly to draw attention to the tulip. It has been recognised by seedsmen that this is without exception one of the most brilliant and effective of spring bulbs, and should be freely planted now to ensure a gorgeous display in beds and borders in the early part of next year. The bulb unquestionably imparts to our gardens as rich a display of colour as any of the flowering plants we elect to plant for a gay show in the best months of summer.

The bulb merchants in Holland and our own country have realised how imperative it is to send out the latest varieties and the best quality, as their industry is likely to suffer severe depression if inferior stock is sold. Bulb culture is now zealously pursued in England, but exceptionally fine specimens are sent to this country from abroad. The humblest inhabitants of small towns and villages are just as well able to procure bulbs as the wealthy, and often beds arranged in most tasteful ways may be seen in the cottager's garden.

A bed of tulips with the colours judiciously arranged may be filled for a few shillings. The early varieties are too numerous to mention here, but any seedsman will furnish you with a list of bedding and pot culture varieties. I may, however, mention a few of the special single and double kinds for pot culture, viz.: Duc Van Thol. This is a distinct, very early selection blooming quite a fortnight earlier than others, bright, and sweet scented. L'Immaculee (white), La Matelas (deep rose, edged white, very large), Mon Tresor (deep golden yellow, large and fine form, very early), Pottebakker (four colours, white, yellow, new scarlet, and golden yellow), Prince of Austria (brilliant orange red), Proserpine (delicate satin rose), Vermillion Brilliant (vivid vermillion scarlet), Alba Plena (pure white, very early), Duc Van Thol (scarlet and yellow), Attractive (rich scarlet, dwarf and early), Princess Alexandra (crimson and gold, very showy), William III. (brilliant orange scarlet, quite new), Murillo (double blush, very fine for pots).

The Parrot, or Dragon tulips are also a very distinct species, producing brilliantly-coloured large flowers, the petals of which are flamed like the plumage of some pretty parrots. They are very effective and gay for mixed borders and beds, bloom later than the other sections, and are splendid for vase decoration when cut. For pot culture they are useful for house decoration, being so vivid in their variety of tints and quaint, deeply-fringed petals. The very strongest bulbs are needed, and very gentle forcing. The varieties I should recommend are Admiral de Constantinople (red, tipped with yellow), Perfecta (yellow, scarlet, and green), Monstre Cramoise (deep crimson), Lutea Major (yellow, flaked scarlet and green).

They require very simple treatment. The soil should be the same as that used for hyacinths, and as soon as potting is completed, a liberal supply of water should be given, and the pots placed upon a bed of ashes out of doors, covered with six inches of cocoa-nut fibre to save from frost.

Another method I should recommend as being highly satisfactory is to dig a trench about a foot deep, cover the pots over with a good supply of fallen leaves, and bury the whole with soil for about two months. I adopted this latter method, and successfully competed with nurserymen at spring shows with my blooms. It is cheaper and less troublesome than the fibre, and a decided preventive against frost.

G. W. Thomson-Price.

Cleaning Wall Paper.

Before cleaning fill any broken places there may be in the walls with this mixture. Take equal parts of plaster of paris and silver sand, and make it into a stiff paste with water. Fill the holes and smooth them over with an old knife, then cover them with a piece of wall paper if you have it; if not, colour the plaster with paint of the same colour as the grounding of the paper. When you have finished the repairs begin cleaning. Take half a loaf of dry bread, and with it rub the wall gently downwards, beginning from the ceiling and taking in the length of the arm at each stroke. In the second round commence the stroke slightly above where the first stroke ended. Be very careful not to rub up or across the paper. Ordinary paper cleaned in this way will look almost as good as new again. You will use a good deal of bread if the room is large, but if you intend doing the work yourself, you will not find cleaning wall paper an expensive operation.

ROUND-ABOUT NOTES.

The Franco-British Exhibition, which is to be opened in May next at Shepherd's Bush, has already had a remarkable effect on property in the district. Values have been enhanced, and the opinion among owners is that Shepherd's Bush is to experience a "boom," approaching that which prevailed on the opening of the Central London tube.

* * *

One of the startling facts brought out at the recent Hygiene Congress in London was the prevalence of child suicide. A professor stated that in Russia three time as many suicides took place among school children as among all the rest of the population. In Germany also there has been a remarkable increase in the number of child suicides. During the last twelve years 1,152 cases have been investigated by Professor Eulenburg, of Berlin. He says that most of them were due to failure in examination and overwork. Clearly, mothers are needed on the German school boards.

* * *

The Imperial Board of Health in Germany is discussing the dust question. It has become so serious as to influence politics. The automobiles whirl up such clouds of dust that the parks and boulevards have ceased to be breathing places where the common people can go to take the air with their families. They now return to their homes in the city at night choked with dust, instead of being refreshed by their outing. A prominent medical magazine of Germany cites Rubner's saying, that it is now incumbent on the cities to provide pure air for their citizens to breathe, just as they have made arrangements to provide good drinking water.

* * *

The Empress of China is meeting with support as well as opposition in her effort to suppress opium smoking. In several places the closing of the opium dens has been hailed with enthusiastic demonstrations. Crowds of students paraded the streets with lanterns and flags, and hundreds of shops were decorated. An observer says the demonstrations were accompanied with talk of such a patriotic character that one might have supposed the town was celebrating a military victory. The strongest opponents of closing the opium joints in China are the foreign monied interests, who want to know where the loss of revenue is to be made up.

* * *

The manufacture of wooden shoes, or clogs, is quite a picturesque industry of Wales. There is a large demand there for these shoes, for they are the popular footwear, not only for the Welsh country folks, but for hundreds of men, women, and children who work in the factories. Wherever alder trees can be purchased from their owners, these clog makers appear on the scene, and, having bought the wood, are allowed to set up their little tents on the spot, and commence work. They begin by sawing the wood into blocks about a foot in length, six inches across, and six inches deep.

* * *

The next thing is to shape these pieces into the resemblance of a sabot, or shoe. This is done with the aid of a powerful cutter, sharp enough to slice off the wood as easily as one would sharpen a pencil. In a few moments the shapeless block of wood assumes the shape of a shoe. Though in rather rough shape, the clog is now ready to be carted to the nearest town, where the finishing touches are added. These consist of a certain amount of leather to form the upper part of the shoe, and an iron rim round the sole and heel. When completed the clogs are sent away in great quantities, some being reserved to stock the neighbouring village shops, where they can be purchased for a few pence a pair.

* * *

Hottentot women, who have long been supposed to be almost the lowest type of human beings, have an extensive literature of folk stories, folk songs, and baby songs, with which they amuse their children. Many of their songs and stories are of considerable beauty, and seem to show that in some forgotten period the race was much higher in the scale of civilisation than at present.

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THE MARK LANE EXPRESS SUPPLEMENT FOR THE HOME

Conducted by "PEPITA"

THE COLLECTORS' GUIDE.

Bellarmine Jugs.

By H. W. Lewer.

"With jugs, mugs, and pitchers, and bellarmine of state."

It is somewhat strange that at a time when England's home productions (such, for example, as the celebrated ironwork of Sussex) were justly held in high esteem, the potter's art should have been at so low an ebb, that we had to import our stoneware from the Netherlands and Germany. This earthenware, the so-called "stoneware," taking its name from its hardness and colour, included the Bellarmine, Greybeard (or Bartman), generally known in this country under the first appellation. The earliest notice we have of this importation is in the Lansdowne MS.S., which records that in the year 1581 "the pots made at Cullein (Cologne) called 'drinking stone potts,' were first imported into England by Garrett Tynes, of Aken, or Acon, who had previously supplied the Low Countries."

The reason for its introduction is not difficult to trace, and the chief cause was the low state of the potter's art in this country. Little progress had been made since mediæval times, as the coarse vessels and pots we see to-day in our museums and private collections testify. Although the craft of the silversmith and the pewterer had almost reached its zenith in Queen Elizabeth's reign, yet the fictile art lay nearly dormant, waiting for the magic touch of John Dwight, of Fulham, a century later, to imbue it with life, and give it that resistless charm which we see in his work, and in that of the master potters who followed in his steps till the close of the eighteenth century.

So successful was the exportation of this stoneware to England that when the Spaniards' tyranny drove so many good artificers from the Netherlands, potters fled to this country, and established manufactories. The Bellarmine jug was made in various sizes, the *little pot* (a pint), the *pot* (a quart), the *pottle pot* (two quarts), the *gallonier* (containing a gallon), and larger sizes. In form, a Bellarmine is narrow-necked, furnished with a handle on one side, the belly of the vessel being protruded to obtain the requisite holding capacity, and narrowing to its base.

These jugs vary in colour, some being of a mottled-brown, while others are almost of a greystone hue. The former predominate, and are to be preferred, the deep rich colour and glazing being in harmony with its form and, perhaps we may add, with its period. Every true Bellarmine is ornamented with an impressed mask (a face with a long beard), below the ornamented bands, underneath the lip of the vessel, and frequently with an additional impressed decoration on the swelling body beneath the mask—a coat of arms, or a symbol.

The ornamental work is supposed to have been executed to order, sometimes appertaining to the place of origin of the jug or vessel, but in other instances raising the interesting question whether we may not imagine the old-time bagman coming over here, taking his orders perhaps from some great householder possessing a coat of arms he wished impressed on his pottery, or more often a tavern-keeper desirous of perpetuating his inn sign. As regards the latter, the lion rampant, or the Tudor rose enclosed in an ornamental border, seems to be not uncommon. It should be noted that in place of armorial bearings or inn-signs, we find in the earliest jugs medallions formed by impression of coins. These are, however, rare in England.

Bellarmines with an impressed date are extremely rare, but by the permission of Mr. Phillips, of Hitchin, we are able to illustrate an example from his collection.

There is little doubt that during the latter part of the seventeenth century these jugs were not only exported to this country, but that many were made here. Dwight, a potter of great originality, took out a patent in 1671, and in the petition for which he stated "he had discovered the mistery of transparent earthenware . . . as alsoe the misterie of the stoneware, vulgarly called 'Cologne ware'; and that he designed to introduce a manufacture of the said wares into our Kingdome of Englande, where they have not hitherto been wrought or made."

It has been stated by some experts that it is possible to distinguish between the home-made Bellarmine and its foreign brother, the difference being in the finish of the base. It is the manner or method of cutting the pot off the wheel after throwing. If the string, or wire, is pulled across straight, making more or less parallel lines across its base, they are said to be English. When the wire is crossed, making concentric circles, they are attributed to foreign origin. It is not also probable that those Bellarmines without the coat of arms of the towns of their origin, and the plainer shapes, and rougher ornamentation, are of English make.

The story of the nomenclature of the jug is that it was derisively named after the celebrated Cardinal Bellarmine, who was detested



A BELLARMINE JUG.

by the Protestants, especially in the Low Countries, and one method of expressing their feelings was by making use of the potter's art to express their contempt by portraying his features and rotund figure. The Cardinal was a controversial writer of repute, and took an active interest in the affairs of the Low Countries at the time of the Reformation, being a zealous Papist.

On the other hand, in Germany, where these vessels were largely manufactured, the mask was supposed to be a representation of the bearded head of Charlemagne. Marryat, in his "History of Pottery," states these "vessels were called in this reign of James I. 'Bellarmines,' in derision of Cardinal Bellarmine, and in compliment to the King; Bellarmine's celebrated letter, in which he sought to detach the English Roman Catholics from their oath of allegiance, having called forth a rejoinder from the royal author."

Mention is made by the dramatic authors of that time, who stood around "the throne of Shakespeare, sturdy, but unclean," of Bellarmines. Ben Jonson, in "Bartholomew Fair," speaks of "the man with the beard." At a later date, in the "Ordinary," by William Cartwright, written in 1651, we have a reference:—

"Thou thing.
Thy belly looks like to some strutting hill
O'er shadowed with thy rough beard like a wood;
Or like a larger jug that some men call
A Bellarmine, but we a Conscience."

These jugs must have been largely utilised for over a century in England, and especially in London. Excavations of the last few years in the City have brought many to the light of day again, and as a typical instance, we may mention that when the old city ditch adjoining All Hallows' Church was being cut through in 1906, the most numerous vessels of the stoneware class discovered were Bellarmines. Sound specimens are difficult to procure to-day, except the forgeries now on the market, so the collector must be content with such genuine examples as may come in his way. A collection of Bellarmines, varying in size and ornamentation, on some old oak mantelpiece, presents a striking picture, the crude and quaint shapes, the rich, mottled-brown colouring, with here and there a piece of lighter hue, adds a quiet dignity and distinction to the "setting" of a room. To the imagination there comes the history of the times and the life of the people when these Bellarmines were in daily service—the period of Elizabeth, and the seventeenth century. Who shall gainsay it? that when viewing these old jugs a wealth of memory arises, we say with Shakespeare of our country that at this period it was—

"the envy of less happier lands;
"This blessed spot, this earth, this realm, this England."

CAREERS FOR GIRLS.

Jewellery Making and Enamelling.

By Josephine Bullen.

One of the most popular art handicrafts of to-day, when everyone seems to have taken up artistic work, either professionally or otherwise, is the fascinating one of enamelling, with its allied craft of jewel-setting. And the fact that such artists as Herkomer, Frampton, and Alexander Fisher have devoted thought and care to it has given an impetus to its adoption, beside raising the standard of work done in it. Women, as might be expected, bulk largely among these jewel-makers, for the field seems one especially adapted to their talents, as well attractive to them.

The present vogue for enamelled ornaments makes the prospects of a career of this kind rather rosy, but it should not be forgotten by a girl choosing it that fashion probably will change, sooner or later, and the demand for these things decrease.

To a girl with some artistic talent and a good deal of artistic feeling, this work especially appeals. It gives her play for great variety in design, and can be made the medium for very poetic expression, without demanding any unusual gifts. Her eye for colour should be good, for it is largely upon its colour values that the charm of jewellery, enamelled or otherwise, depends; whilst she should not be without a sense of beauty and fitness in form. The work needs great care and patience, and is physically somewhat trying, particularly to the eyesight, upon which the "firing" of the enamel, and the strain of the fine work often required in jewel-setting, bears rather hardly. Hence, good health and sound eyes are essential to her.

Some people fancy that enamelling can be learnt in a few lessons. This, however, is just the point of view a girl taking up the work seriously should avoid. It may be fairly easy to decorate buttons with a bit of enamel, but to practise the handicraft in its best form is not easy. The picturesque, effective style of jewellery in which the enamels, stones, and metals, are combined with some eye to colour

in a quaint design, but without much finish of workmanship, has merit and charm, and is largely the accepted idea of what such jewellery should be. But a comparison of it with the beautiful, carefully perfected work of really good craftsmen and women shows how much it lacks.

The delicate glowing sheen of patiently-wrought enamel is infinitely more lovely than the lustre of the less finished article; and both metals and gems gain immensely by the elaboration of toil upon them.

To a girl who aims at the very best work a great deal is possible, and she has less to fear from the change of fashion than the one who wants just to make things that will catch the eye and sell well.

A word as to the nature of the work. Translucent enamel, the kind most in use nowadays, on account of its beautiful colours and satiny lustre, is made from the silicates and borates of sodium, potassium, and lead. To make the different colours various metallic oxides are added, and on the proportion of these used depends the colour of the "flux," as it is called. These are poured on the metal background in a liquid state and fused to it in a furnace. As the process of firing changes the colour slightly, this has also to be taken into account in mixing the chemicals, so that the whole process is rather an anxious one. As will be seen, patience, perseverance, and industry are necessary to the enamel worker.

There are several branches of the work, in any of which a girl, after training, might specialise. That of jewel-making is the most usual one, but she might instead devote herself more to the designing and making of such things as caskets, panels, book-covers, etc., in metal decorated with gems and enamel. They will give her opportunity, too, of using pictorial enamelling in her designs, the sides of a casket for instance, lending themselves admirably to the expressing of a poem or story in this medium.

Then there is pictorial enamelling pure and simple, perhaps the highest form of the handicraft, but the one most demanding talent in the worker. Very beautiful pictures, in which the canvas is metal and the colours enamels, are made by true artists in this work, who delight also in working fitting frames of metal for them.

Ecclesiastical objects, such as crosses, challices, croziers, and so on, of the precious metals, studded with gems and enamels, form another branch of the art, in which there is always a fair demand.

Training for the career should be a much more thorough one than some modern enamel-workers seem to think necessary. There should be a good knowledge of drawing and painting to begin with, if the aspirant is to do really well in her craft. This can be had in a year or two's work at any of the art schools, whose fees are usually moderate, ranging from two to eight guineas per term, with half-guinea entrance fee. Or Polytechnic classes might meet the needs of a talented girl.

The foundation laid, the best step to take next, is to apprentice oneself for three years to a worker with a good connection. The premium asked by one well-known woman whose jewellery is in good demand is 30 guineas for the three years. The hours are from 10 to 5; Saturdays are free, and there are eight weeks' holidays in the year.

One advantage of this plan is that the learner has an opportunity of seeing different kinds of work, for a jewellery-maker generally finds it necessary to combine metal working of all kinds with her jewel-setting and enamelling. She also gets a thorough practical knowledge of her craft.

An alternative course would be to take a series of lessons in each branch required, viz: metal-working, enamelling, and jewel-setting, from good artists. In this case the time spent on training might be shorter, but the cost would certainly be greater. However, there are now classes in these subjects at most polytechnics and technical schools, which might obviate the latter difficulty.

The next question to consider is that of the career itself when the training is over and the craftswoman ready to begin it. In what way is it best undertaken? No doubt many girls lack the initiative and enterprise to build up a good paying connection for themselves, for it is not to be denied that, as in everything else undertaken as a means of livelihood nowadays, the road to being a successful jewel-maker is no easy one. It would, perhaps, be better for them to remain with their teachers as assistants, earning salaries varying very much with their own value as workers and the circumstances of their employers, at any rate for a time. Later, they might seek partnership with someone who would supply the motive power they lack.

A girl starting the work on her own account should have a fair amount of capital to keep her going until she has found a footing. The materials for her work, for one thing, are expensive. Although, with originality in design and effective use of their colour values, silver, copper, and even steel may be largely used instead of gold in this kind of jewellery-making, and such stones as crushed turquoises take the place of the more costly gems; still, the outlay even on these is a great drain on a beginner's purse.

She will find it distinctly helpful to become a member of any societies or clubs making a feature of the interests of artists and bringing her into touch with people of culture.

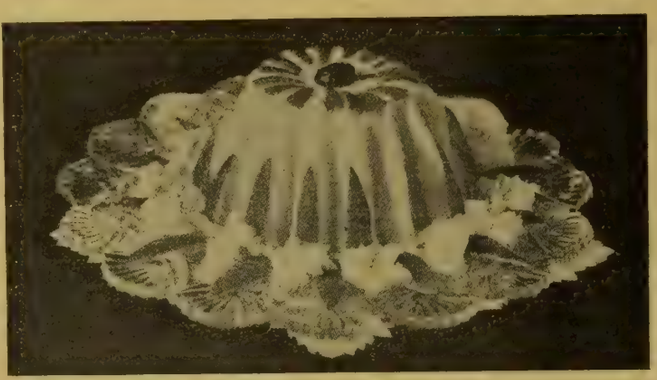
She must, of course, have a studio, but she can easily find someone to share with her, thereby halving expenses. It should be as central as she can get it, other things being equal. The initial outlay on furnace, gas arrangement for melting, etc., and so on, should be also taken into consideration when planning a "start."

Once launched, our craftswoman ought to seize every opportunity of exhibiting her work And if she can strike out some speciality that will take the public fancy so much the better. It will draw attention to her work.

She should aim, too, at making the latter as original as possible, always remembering that the excellence of her wares is really their best recommendation.

Obviously, it is impossible to state any fixed income to be counted upon by a girl undertaking this career. So much depends upon herself, upon the mode in jewellery, and upon circumstances. But there are ways in which it can be made, to some extent, regular, such as teaching in the classes often held in connection with exhibitions and schools; taking apprentices at a stated premium, or pupils for certain fees per term; and a successful woman can reasonably count on a very fair income.

JOSEPHINE BULLEN.



WATER-LILY MOULD.

Practical Recipes.

BOILED SALMON.

Wipe over carefully a 2-lb. cut of salmon, tie in a piece of cheese-cloth, and cook at a low temperature for about 30 minutes in hot water, to which has been added a tablespoonful of salt and a tablespoonful of vinegar or lemon juice. Set the fish on a trivet so that it will not touch the bottom of the kettle. Remove from the cloth, drain, remove the skin and serve on a napkin, with shrimp sauce. Garnish with parsley and sliced lemon. Mashed potato, green peas, and cucumbers are all suitable to serve with it. Salmon being such a rich, oily fish, is somewhat difficult of digestion, and should not be served to children or invalids.

EGGS AU GRATIN.

Drop six fresh eggs in salted water, dropping them inside muffin rings, to give them a good shape. Lay them in a buttered dish which has been sprinkled with grated cheese, and pour around them a sauce made with one tablespoonful each of butter and flour, half a cupful of milk, half a cupful of stock, one egg yolk, and salt and pepper. Cover with crumbs and grated cheese, and brown delicately in a very quick oven on the centre grate. If a pie-knife is used in serving them, they will be less liable to break.

LETTUCE AND TOMATO SALAD.

Serve sliced or halved tomatoes on lettuce leaves, and garnish with Mayonnaise.

PRESERVED PEARS.

The fruit should not be too ripe, and must be pared, halved and cored. Then, to every 4 lbs. of pears take 3 lbs. of sugar, with just enough water to cover it well, the rind and juice of one lemon and a root of green ginger, cut into small pieces. Place all together in a jar, and steam until the fruit is perfectly tender when pierced with a straw. Or, if preferred, the pears may be boiled soft in the syrup. Put up in small jars, and seal very securely.

POTATO PASTRY.

Pare, boil, and mash very fine a few potatoes. Season with salt, pepper, and add a large lump of butter. Make a good pie paste, and roll out the size and shape of a medium-sized pie plate. On one half of this place the potato, fold over the other half, pinch the edges closely together, and bake in a moderate oven.

ONIONS IN CREAM.

Wash, peel, and cut rather fine four large onions, put into a stewpan with enough cold water to cover them; add a little salt, and boil briskly for about 20 minutes or until onions are tender. Drain off the water, add cream enough to cover the onions, let the whole come to a boil, add two tablespoonsful butter, melt, mix, and serve. Season to taste.

SAGO JELLY.

Boil 3 ozs. of fine sago in a quart of water for two hours, stirring frequently. When the sago is quite cooked, add the juice of a large lemon, and 4 ozs. of loaf sugar. Boil all together for a few moments, add a gill of raisin wine, and pour into a wetted mould. Next day turn out the jelly, garnish with whipped cream, and serve.

Water-lily Mould.

Put one breakfast cupful of orange juice and half cupful sugar to scald, and then add two tablespoonfuls of cornflour wet with two tablespoonfuls of cold milk, stirring until the mixture is creamy; then add one teaspoonful of grated lemon-peel and one tablespoonful of the juice and fold into the hot mixture the stiffly beaten whites of four eggs and one tablespoonful melted butter; fill a fluted mould or a plain bowl and stand in a cool place to become cold. When ready to serve arrange petals of crystallised orange peel about the edge and on top, placing whipped cream at the base with more petals. A custard sauce that is flavoured with orange or plain sweetened cream can be passed in a separate dish.

Home-made Biscuits.

ABERNETHY BISCUITS. — Mix together one ounce of butter, one pound of flour, a dessert-spoonful of sugar, half-an-ounce of caraway-seeds, two eggs, and, if necessary, a little milk. Roll the batter out thin, knead it into small round cakes, making holes with a fork to allow the steam to escape, and bake in a moderate oven for fifteen minutes.

ARROWROOT BISCUITS.—Beat a quarter of a pound of butter to a cream. Add gradually three beaten eggs, a quarter of a pound of each of flour and sifted sugar, and three ounces of arowroot, and mix smoothly together. Drop pieces the size of a florin into well-greased tins, and bake in a slow oven for fifteen minutes.

CAPTAIN'S BISCUITS.—Make a stiff paste of flour, a pinch of salt, and a little new milk. Knead well, make into small cakes, and bake for fifteen minutes.

WATER BISCUITS.—One pound of flour, one ounce of butter, a quarter of a pint of cold water, and a pinch of salt. Roll out into very thin paste, prick with a fork, and bake for fifteen minutes.

CORNFLOUR BISCUITS.—Mix well together four eggs, eight ounces of cornflour, eight ounces of sugar, four ounces of clarified butter, and one teaspoonful of baking-powder. Roll out, and cut in small thin shapes. Bake in a quick oven, and sprinkle with castor sugar.

ROUT DROPS.—Mix together a quarter of a pound of loaf sugar, a quarter of a pound of sweet almonds, a quarter of an ounce of bitter almonds, and the white of an egg. Drop in teaspoonsful on white paper, and bake in a moderate oven.

WAFER GINGERBREAD.—One gill of treacle, one ounce of ground ginger, half a pound of brown sugar, and two ounces of butter. Mix together, and spread on a greased tin. When baked, turn it with a knife, and roll like wafers.

THE NEWEST FASHIONS.

There are always sudden changes in fashion, and now that short coats have for such a period of time been fashionable, the indications all point to the fact that long coats are to be worn for the next few months. The great majority of women look better in long coats than in short, so there is something to be thankful for in the latest dictates of fashion that command the long coats. And it must be stated that the newest models are extremely effective, and should be becoming to almost any woman. Then, too, long coats are far more practical for winter in any place where the climate is at all severe. So that the long coats are sure to be hailed with enthusiasm by the majority.

* * *

The long coat costumes in cloth are to be very smart this winter, and there are several different models of this style. Following out the lines that have been in evidence for some time, the figure is more clearly defined in the new coats, especially the back and sides, although this is not proof positive that the loose back coats are losing favour; they represent the fashion of last year, not of this, and, consequently, are not so smart, excepting if made of fur, or if intended to be worn only as loose wraps. The coat, to complete the costume, is considered much smarter now if it fits almost close, excepting just in front, where the fancy waistcoat still gives the straight line. The tight-fitting coat of the winter is intended to be not severely plain, but more or less fanciful in design, and this can only be accomplished by trimmings when the model itself is on severely plain lines. Fancy buttons play an important part, braid is most cleverly put on, there are facings of silk or satin, there are bands of cloth, and then come the fancy waistcoats that do so much to give an air of individuality to a costume and to lend a note of colour—and this question of colour contrasts is an all-important one this winter.

* * *

The cloths of the present day are of most exquisite fabric and colour, light in weight, and are of wonderful finish. They are excellent for any garment that has to be tight-fitting, for, the material being soft, it is easy to mould it to the lines of the figure, but it requires good workmanship if it is to turn out well. It is possible to find among the new cloths a weight that is delightful to wear, quite light, and at the same time with much more warmth to it than in the heavier and rougher surfaces or in the less closely-woven materials.

* * *

In every shade of colour are these cloths, and this winter the dark and the light colours will be seen made up in these long coat costumes. Light greys and tans, as well as brighter colours, are affected, and there are most charming and effective shades in the dark colours as well. There are two or three new shades of purple and blue, a charming green that is quite novel, a dark grey, and an unusual variety in black. And it is said that black is to be extremely fashionable again this winter for street gowns. This is generally the case when fancy waistcoats are in fashion, for it is possible to get so many different varieties of colouring and effect, and the black and white combination, which is sure to be becoming, is always most effective, both for the young and the older woman.

* * *

The handsome tailor-made gown illustrated this week is of cinnamon-brown cloth with a raised stripe. The coat is cut in Empire style, and both coat and skirt are trimmed with bands and frogs of braid. The vest and turn-over collar are of biscuit cloth embroidered with yellow silk. The hat is of biscuit-coloured felt, trimmed with cinnamon-brown velvet and ostrich plumts shading from deep brown to golden yellow. The cut and style of this gown is perfect; the illustration is from the original costume made by a Parisian tailor.

Neglige Necklaces.

Among the dainty and fascinating belongings of the modern woman is usually found one of the new négligé necklaces. So wondrously attractive are they in all their variations that it would be impossible to imagine anything lovelier or more becoming.

Surely it has ceased to be a fashion to envelop one's neck in heavy, massive ornaments, regardless of the fact that in almost every case they are unbecoming and look ugly. Still, if fashion should so dictate, the ardent follower of modes would encircle her throat with these ostentatious ornaments.

Chic négligé necklaces are so fairylike and dainty in their construction that admiration results from an inspection of them.

Beautiful gems of priceless value may be employed in the designs, and the arrangement is made in such a way as to avoid all apparent show.

Parisian diamonds make up exceedingly well in these fashionable chains when the matter of cost enters into the consideration, and if set in either gun metal or solid silver mountings they are scarcely discernible from costlier ones. Besides, they are within the reach of the average woman.

The truly elegant necklaces are made of platinum, with fine chains to encircle the neck, and hang down in two slender, pendent ends that are finished with pearl or coloured jewel drops, mounted in diamonds or rhinestones.

When the chain is clasped together in the front with a charming ornament of some fanciful or characteristic style, a happy result is obtained, and if a beautiful arrangement of a rococo pattern is selected, with a small brilliant placed at each crossing of the slender bands and around the irregularly-shaped outer edge, an exquisite touch is given.

Another design of a little more significance is a true lover's knot, completely studded with diamonds or turquoise, and the platinum chain is finished at the bottom in two tiny bows to correspond, each holding a single mounted pearl.

A novelty of service to the woman with a throat that has lost its roundness, and who is anxious to hide this unavoidable defect, is a piece of tulle or cobwebby lace threaded through Parisian diamond slides.

Hints for Dressing Baby.

Do not put stays of any kind on your children before the age of 14 or 15; until then a light-fitting band of jean, sufficient to support the under-clothing comfortably, is all that is needed to preserve the grace and contour of the figure. During childhood the bones are comparatively plastic, and undue stricture or pressure of any kind is liable to produce deformity. Beware, therefore, of impeding or spoiling the development of the form by artificial bandages, whether corsets, garters, waist-strings, or an excess of weight hung from the lips.

All garments worn by children should depend from the shoulders; a simple sash, lightly tied over the outer frock, is quite enough to indicate the waist. In this respect the French are very wise. No French child is ever seen with a "waist."

As for the stockings, they should be held up by means of suspenders, never by ligatures above or below the knee. Garters impede the circulation grievously, and thereby give rise to the distressing and disfiguring complaint of varicose veins.

In our variable climate children should wear high-necked frocks, with sleeves reaching at least to the elbow. In winter the sleeves should be quite long, or else warm mittens should be worn as a protection against frost bites. When out of doors the feet should be stoutly shod. Never buy for your children pointed or high-heeled shoes or boots, but see that they are made with square broad toes, and a simple lift at the heel of not more than a quarter, or at most half an inch in thickness.

While your children are still infants, let them roll and tumble about on the floor as much as and in what fashion they please; do not be too anxious to set them on their legs, otherwise you will run the risk of imposing a strain on the bones and muscles of the lower limbs, that may induce feebleness of the ankles, curvature of the thighs and legs, and similar evils. When they begin to get strong, and to acquire the power of control over their limbs, accustom them to the use of rhythmic exercise of the arms, legs, and body.



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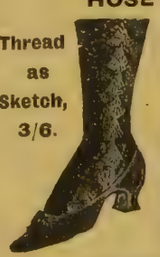
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THE MARK LANE EXPRESS SUPPLEMENT FOR THE HOME

Conducted by "PEPITA"

THE NEWEST FASHIONS.

A great deal of latitude is allowed, this season, in the making of evening gowns. The high-necked evening bodice, that is to say, the bodice with lace covering neck and shoulders, is again allowable, and a very convenient fashion it is for thin or elderly ladies. The remarkably pretty gown in the illustration is of pale blue Liberty satin. The bodice is draped with black Chantilly lace, and the collar and yoke are of transparent lace. The undersleeves are of mousseline de soie. Pearls are the only ornaments worn with this gown. The design is an exceedingly simple one, but it is of that exquisite simplicity which charms and fascinates. Note the graceful draping of the skirt. This is due to its perfect cut. The illustration is a photograph from life, and has been specially obtained for the readers of the "Mark Lane Express Supplement."

* * *

Little shawl wraps are among the most fascinating outer garments which a woman may possess. Anyone who has a small shawl, one of the fine embroidered crêpe shawls or an India shawl of small size, may possess one of these little wraps at comparatively little cost. They are, of course, not sufficiently heavy for out-of-door winter wear, but will do nicely as indoor wraps for those who find their houses full of menacing draughts.

* * *

The small or medium-sized embroidered shawls usually have a fringe and heavy embroidery border. Such a shawl is made into a little wrap having kimono sleeves and the border around the bottom and down the front. It takes the best kind of manipulation to make up these little shawl wraps so that they are becoming and not clumsy without cutting the shawl. Many dressmakers cut the shawl to make a more perfect fit, but this seems a pity, as a very fine shawl is a thing of beauty in itself. Besides this, when one has succeeded in making the wrap without cutting the shawl the effect is somehow much more attractive. The material is so soft and pliable that in skilful fingers it is quite possible to attain all the adaptation to the figure that is necessary without cutting the shawl. The crêpe shawls especially are very easy to mould to the figure. India shawls are more difficult of management, and the cashmere shawls even more troublesome. The cashmere shawls, in fact, are hardly handsome enough for this purpose. Only the handsomest shawls really are worth making up in this fashion.

* * *

In making up the crêpe shawls no more other material than is actually necessary should be used, but when it is necessary the crêpe is matched exactly in colour if possible. Small button moulds are sometimes covered with this crêpe and used to fasten the folds of the shawl. The crêpe is sometimes guaged for this purpose, as this disguises the difference in colour. Satin or silk of the ivory shade which the white shawls usually attain after some years is often a better match, or rather more harmonious with the shawl, than crêpe, as it is sometimes very difficult to get exactly the right shade in crêpe. The satin matches the texture of the embroidery of the shawl more closely than any other fabric. The satin may be used to supplement the material of the shawl in such a way as to avoid cutting the shawl. Tassels of cream silk and cord are also used to tie or decorate the shawl wraps. Sometimes they are made to fasten down the front with buttons of satin or crêpe and cord loops.

* * *

The black crêpe shawls are never quite so attractive as those of ivory crêpe, but for those who dress only in black they are very handsomely made into wraps, sometimes quite without any trimming but the decorations of the shawl itself, and sometimes with bands, buttons, and cord. The India shawls are also made up without any trimming or with buttons of silk, as the fancy of the owner dictates. Black silk or satin sometimes goes very well with these India shawls. Dull, rich colours, such as are used in the shawl itself, are also matched in satin for buttons, cords, and other fastenings.

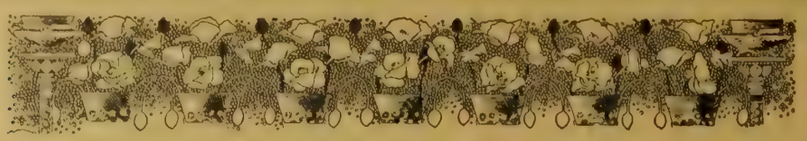
* * *

The embroidered crêpe shawls in light colours, pink, blue, and yellow, are also fascinating for these small wraps. The colours which are obtained at some of the good dyeing establishments with these old shawls are wonderfully beautiful, the pinks especially being charmingly deep and soft. Yet it is a question whether any colour which could be obtained would be so beautiful as the old ivory of a shawl which has lain wrapped in fine linen for many years.



Evening Gown of Liberty Satin, trimmed with Black Chantilly Lace,

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GARDENING IN NOVEMBER.

The weather during the past month has not been very favourable for work out of doors, and, consequently, much attention will be needed at every opportunity to clear the ground of weeds and annuals which have ceased to bloom and no longer add to the beauty of the garden.

The lawn should be carefully gone over as required with the machine, and afterwards well rolled, as the ground is now full of moisture and worm-casts are much in evidence. It is always a mistake to cut the grass when it is wet, as the mower does not work cleanly, and invariably leaves a smeary surface in places. It is better to use the mower when the lawn is quite dry, or after wind has dried the grass. The machine that carries a box for collecting the cut grass is better than one without, as it does away with the unpleasantness and irksomeness of vigorously sweeping the lawn with a besom. Where there are trees about which are casting their leaves, it is well to pick up the fallen foliage before mowing operations commence, otherwise they choke the blades and necessitate the stopping of the machine, and the restarting generally makes the smear spoken of above.

This is the month when surface sprinkling of rich compost half-an-inch or so thick should be applied. It should be raked over lightly, and all stones or hard substances removed.

Lawns which are used almost as freely as grass walks need a stimulator. This is also a good time to lift the turf and relay any parts which are unsightly or uneven. The weeds and coarse grasses may be taken out and dwarf growing lawn grass sown. This should be entirely free from rye grass and clover. In case it is not possible to execute the work spoken of at once, the same process may be carried out in the latter part of March.

The best lawn seed may be purchased for 1s. to 1s. 3d. per lb, and should be lightly sown where bare patches have been created by the removal of weeds.

By the way, I may say that Daisy Destroyer can be applied at any time during the year (excepting in winter), the autumn and early spring months being, however, the times most recommended. Cut the grass closely beforehand, and apply the destroyer in fairly dry weather. The same destroyer will operate and produce the best results if applied to other objectionable weeds, such as docks and dandelions, but the heads should be cut out of these and a little of the powder placed on the crown. Messrs. Dicksons, Chester, supply a small sample tin for 1s., or 1s. 5d. post free. The patentees state that the destroyer is not poisonous, and no danger need be apprehended to birds or animals from its use, and it is not injurious to the hands.

The drainage should be thoroughly satisfactory, or disappointment will ensue.

Dahlias should be taken up at once, as they have now finished blooming. The best plan is to go over the plants, see that they are true to name, and carefully label them before they are cut down. If we wait till the frost kills them, we cannot sort the roots out and select the colours we particularly wish to preserve for planting next year. Lifting should be performed on a dry, sunny day, and the stalks cut to within four or five inches above the surface. It is advisable to use a digging fork and raise the roots tenderly, being quite sure that the name and colour of the variety is distinctly tied to each root.

The reason for recommending a fine day is in order to allow the earth adhering to dry, and it will easily be removed before putting the roots away. Some people wash the roots, as they imagine that if stored with even a little soil, they do not keep so well during the resting period. As soon as name-plates have been attached to each root, and they are quite ready for the store, the stalks may again be reduced to a little more than an inch. I have found a cellar shelf a very suitable place to keep roots free from the frost, heat, or any dampness. They should be covered up with any dry material—old bags answer the purpose very well—and if an occasional glance is given to them to see that no damp has found its way to the store, you may rest assured that your dahlias are all right. Should decay be found, cut it away and save it from spreading. They will not be replanted till May, and, therefore, it is important to keep an eye on the roots during the resting season.

The anemone is a floral beauty which enriches the flower garden, and may now be planted. It is neat and compact, and some of the blooms positively dazzling. The soil in which they are planted should be well drained, and fairly rich and light. They produce a unique effect if the colours are mixed in beds which are given up entirely to the plant. The finest varieties in mixed colours are:—The Sultan, a remarkably fine, large, handsome flower, dazzling scarlet, with striking yellow disc; St. Brigid, a splendid class of large, semi-double flowers, crimson, rose, violet, and pure white; Single Peacock, of diverse and brilliant colours, with a distinct ring surrounding the dark centre; Lord Nelson, brilliant blue; L'Eclair, bright scarlet, rather large; Garribaldi, rose and scarlet; Victoria Grant, beautiful variety of colours, and free flowering; Rose de Nice, new variety totally distinct from the ordinary type, the petals being all of the same form, are regularly imbricated like those of a fine chrysanthemum, very early, vigorous, and free bloomer, exquisite, soft, satiny rose colour. The ranunculus is another flower which may be planted this month. The tubers should be



CHUMS.

planted with the claws down, in well-drained, light, rich soil, about an inch and a-half deep. Prepare soil and pots for cuttings of chrysanthemums, as the period for dealing with these popular flowers is rapidly approaching. I shall refer to the cultivation of them in my next article.

G. W. Thomson-Price.

IN THE NURSERY.

The Odd One in the Family.

Whence comes the strange diversities in families? Children born of the same parents and brought up in the same environment, moulded by similar influences and trained alike, develop different traits, and show opposite dispositions and tendencies to a degree most puzzling to the observer. Occasionally there is an odd one in the household, an ugly duckling, a child who almost seems like a changeling in the brood, and the onlooker seeks in vain for an explanation of the intrusion in the commonplaces of the family life. If there were ancestral portraits or ancestral records, probably the occasion of the dissimilarity would be found in a reversion to type, in a resemblance in feature and character to some far-away great-grandfather or mother, who almost appears to be reincarnated in the person of the descendant.

When parents are sensible, they study the peculiarities of each child, and if one has a decided bias in any direction, they try to give it a chance for development. To insist on stifling the artistic impulse in the music-loving child, and to put him at the book-keeper's desk, to stunt the mechanical talent and compel the boy who has that as his God-given dower to spend years over Latin and Greek—in brief, to legislate for the odd child in an arbitrary manner, instead of giving him air and space, and consulting his individuality, is to make a criminal blunder.

Rainy Days in the Nursery.

Rainy days are especially trying for children. Mother has her usual duties to do, besides the extra work of the children, always noisy and often fretful with the restraint imposed upon them. Some hints may be of use to those who do not live within easy access of shops, or whose means are limited to such an extent that toys cannot be afforded. The piece-bag, a reel of thread, needles, and thimble, will furnish enough to keep the most restless child quiet for many an hour. Dolls are the delight of every little girl's heart, and such "lovable" ones can be fashioned from cotton and stuffed with wool, eyes painted with a little blue paint, the nose pinched and stitched into place, and a little mouth made with a bit of red threads of any brown or black woollen stuff; thread; hair can be furnished from ravelling then dress the dollie, adding stockings cut from an old pair, and a little pair of boots of bright flannel or crocheted with bright yarn. All these may be done at odd minutes—if a mother ever has any—and kept for a surprise when most needed.

For boys it is more difficult to furnish amusements, if they are not old enough to read, but I have found a supply of acorns a boon to children. Elephants, horses, dogs, cats, mice, rats—indeed, nearly all the animal kingdom—can be fashioned out of cloth and stuffed with wool. Gay-looking birds can be made the same way, and a flat feather sewn on or glued on for wings and tail. Each mother should study the tastes of her children, and try to furnish amusement for them in times of necessity. Do not expect the poor wee things to sit about and amuse themselves all day; show them how to play, and they will easily take to it. Scrap books are an endless source of amusement to both boys and girls. Collect the pictures at your leisure, and any old book will do to paste them in. A cupful of flour paste, and the stiff quill of a goose-wing will do for a brush. These few hints enlarged upon will secure you many a leisure hour, and give your children a taste for occupation, which will, perhaps, tell for their benefit in the years to come.

Artificial Feeding.

To bring up a child successfully by means of artificial feeding, several points must be carefully regarded with reference to the food—regularity, cleanliness, quantity, and manner of administering. Regular hours must be insisted upon, and if the infant cries in the intervals, water may be given, but not food. Overloading the stomach is sure to produce indigestion if persisted in, although an infant's stomach will endure a surprising amount of ill-treatment without rebelling.

Cleanliness is indeed next to godliness in the care of an infant's food and milk vessels. Experience has proved that no arrangement for artificially administering food to a baby is equal to a glass bottle with a rubber nipple. Many so-called improvements have been made, but they have all proved a snare and a delusion. The bottle should have smooth, round corners, so no particle of milk will adhere to it; and on it should be fitted a black rubber nipple with a very small hole. Too many or too large holes allow the child to take the milk very rapidly, so that it forms hard curds in the stomach. In fact, the little one should be forced to work for some of its food the same as though it were taking it from the breast. Several bottles and nipples should be kept on hand; and when not in use, the bottles should be filled with water containing a little baking soda, and the nipple should be dropped into water similarly prepared. The instant the child has finished using a bottle, the latter should be washed, scalded, and treated as above mentioned. Never allow milk to stand in a bottle. If a bottle looks cloudy, as if not perfectly clean, it may be made bright and clear by putting grains of rice or broken bits of egg shells in it, with a little hot water, and shaking vigorously.

To Wash Mirrors and Glass of any Sort.

Put a few drops of ammonia on a moist rag and make short work of it. If the glass is very dirty, put some finely powdered whiting in a small piece of muslin. Dab it over the glass. The dirtier the glass the more whiting is required. Then smear evenly with a damp rag, and let it remain until dry. Then rub off with chamois. If alcohol be used instead of water the glass will receive a fine polish.

NEEDLEWORK.

Bead-work Photo Frame.

Among the decorative articles made of beads none are prettier than the bead frames, and, best of all, these will remain in style longer than purses or collars, and so one will not feel that it is time mis-spent in fashioning them. The groundwork is of small opal beads, and the corners quaint rosebuds with green leaves. The design is sewn upon net and mounted with a light ormolu border, and is particularly dainty when set under glass.

Mosaic Embroidery.

The illustration shows a dainty doiley of mosaic work with net centre, which cannot fail to be admired by all lovers of coloured embroidery. Mosaic embroidery, which is simple and artistic, resembling stained glass in its many hues and richness of effect, is wrought after the manner of jewel-work, but differs in design. The jewel-work is confined to disks and ovals largely, while mosaic takes in almost any form of a conventional or geometrical character, diamonds and squares being a distinguishing feature in numerous designs.

The various parts of the design are first heavily padded or raised by stitches taken across the form in the opposite direction to the embroidery proper. This padding may be done with the same silk as will be used for the outside, or a padding cotton made for the purpose may be used. The work is all done in satin stitch across the forms, which are afterward outlined in a contrasting colour, black being the most effective. In the illustration black is used as an outline, while the diamonds and squares are of pink, old-rose, blue, green, lavender, and yellow in soft shades and varied combinations.

Two popular features of this style of embroidery are the simple stitchery used and the lack of shading, as the term is known in ordinary coloured embroidery. This gives opportunity to the beginner who does not command an intimate knowledge of a long list of complicated stitches, such as are called for in Mountmellick and numerous embroideries, and also frees her from the necessity of combining a number of shades in such a manner as to bring out the contour and beauty of a more or less intricate design.

The grouping in an artistic manner, which is all that is required as to colouring in the mosaic work, is by no means difficult, for the black outline separates any colours which might others conflict. Frequently the black outline is carried across solid masses of colour, marking them off into diamonds or squares.

In the doiley under discussion a centre of net is inserted, but solid linen may be used if preferred. On combining net and linen, the net is basted into position on the linen and the edge buttonholed or worked over and over neatly. The linen is then cut away from beneath the net, except for a seam's width. Corners are clipped in and the raw edge of the linen turned back and caught into place along the embroidery stitches. This gives a stronger edge than is obtained by cutting the linen close to the embroidery.

All buttonholed edges should be padded in order to carry out the raised appearance of the work. Sets of doileys like the illustration, with a larger centrepiece, are very attractive, especially when used on a polished surface.

COOKERY.

Egg Dishes.

Everyone knows how to boil eggs; from three minutes to three and a-half is the time required to dress them properly; but the water must boil before they are put in, and must continue boiling during the time they are in.

There are various modes of making omelettes. To make the common omelette, break six eggs into a basin, or rather break them one by one into a tea-cup, and then pour them into the basin—for one might perchance be bad. Add to the eggs a tablespoonful of soft water, and some pepper and salt. Beat up the whole well together, and remember that the more an omelette is beaten the lighter and better it is. Put 1½ ozs. of butter into a small frying-pan; when it boils, and has done hissing, throw in the beaten eggs. As the omelette hardens on the edge of the pan, draw the hardened part towards the middle. Raise the pan every now and then from the fire, to prevent the omelette from burning. When the whole is hard enough to be turned out, but still soft in the middle, it is done enough. It should be turned from the pan into the dish, and one-half folded over the other, as it slides from the former into the latter. A savoury omelette should never be turned in the pan; it should be dressed only on one side.

To make an omelette, with herbs, add some parsley and shallots to the beaten eggs before they are thrown into the frying-pan. If you wish to have an omelette with ham or bacon, cut the latter into very small bits, and fry it in the butter before you throw in the beaten eggs, in which, when you use ham or bacon, no salt is required. Sheep's kidneys may also be cut very fine and fried in the butter before the beaten eggs are thrown in; or veal kidney, cold, cut from a roasted loin of veal, may be added to the eggs, as may ham, when it is dressed; and also anchovies, shred very fine.



BEAD-WORK PHOTO FRAME.

In short, in making savoury omelettes, anything savour may be added; oysters, for instance, or shrimps, or prawns, or minced lobster, or crab, or dried salmon, or Lyons sausage, or hung beef.

Sweet omelettes must be fried on both sides, but care must be taken not to do them too much; there must be a little salt put into them, but no pepper. When they are done, spread them over with sweetmeats, and roll them into rolls; strew powdered sugar over them, and send them to table.



MOSAIC EMRROIDERY.

Egg Sponge.—Separate the yolks from the whites, taking care to keep the yolks whole, and placing them on a dish wet with cold water, so they will readily slip off. Beat the whites perfectly stiff, and dip into egg cups, as many as there are eggs. Make a little hollow with a teaspoon in the middle of each, and slip in a yolk. Set the cups into a pan of boiling water, and place in a hot oven for two or three minutes. Sprinkle with salt, pepper, and a trifle of butter, and serve immediately in the cups.

Celery Omelette.—Two eggs, two tablespoonfuls of milk, two tablespoonfuls of chopped celery, salt and pepper to taste. Beat the yolks, add milk, celery, and seasoning. Beat the whites stiff, and fold and cut them into the yolks. Cook in a hot buttered pan till brown underneath. Place in the oven till dry on top. Fold over and turn out.

Egg Fondu.—Beat six eggs lightly with a fork, add four tablespoonfuls of finely-chopped cheese, a quarter of a teaspoonful of salt, and a dash of cayenne pepper. Pour into a saucepan containing a tablespoonful of hot butter; stir constantly until the eggs are smooth and jelly-like. Serve at once on squares of buttered toast, on a hot dish garnished with parsley.

Puff Omelette.—Stir into the yolks of six eggs, and the beaten whites of three, one tablespoonful of flour mixed smooth in a tea-cup of thin, sweet cream, with salt and pepper to taste. Pour into a pan containing a tablespoonful of hot butter, place in a hot oven until it thickens, then pour over it the remaining whites, well-beaten; return to the oven, and bake a delicate brown. Do not fold.

ROUND-ABOUT NOTES.

There was a large gathering of artistic, literary, and Society people at the Private View of the Society of British Artists, in Suffolk Street, Pall Mall. The Exhibition, this season, includes some exceptionally good work, and in the water-colour room there are several water-colours which command attention as being considerably over the average, not only from the point of view of technique but as examples of perfect atmospheric effect. "An Autumn Evening" (50), by Mr. H. K. Rooke, is one of these, and a delightful study of heather, "The Caravan of Witley Common" (55) is evidence of Mr. S. Grant Rowe's charming drawing. Mr. T. F. M. Sheard has some masterly examples of his clever work in oils. His almost unique power as an exponent of bright noon-day sunshine effects is strikingly shown in a charming study entitled "Madge, the Gleaner" (322), a country-girl in a sun-bonnet standing amidst the corn. Mr. Sheard also shows two vigorously painted portraits (Nos. 364 and 422).

* * *

Mr. Allan Davidson sends two very good genre paintings, "Jack and Jill" (No. 310), a country lad avowing his love to a pretty village girl, and "The Belle of the Farm" (369). Mr. Davidson's landscape studies "The Still River" (264) and "A Yorkshire Stream" (286) are both excellent in tone and quality. Adolph Brougiers' fine water-colour sketch of Church Row, Hampstead, showing a row of early Georgian houses is a delightful rendering of this old-world picturesque spot. "The Cab Rank, Trafalgar Square" (178) by Algernon Talmage is a clever bit of painting, showing London by night. "St. Martin's Church: Evening" (274), by the same artist, should not be missed, and another picture well worth attention is "Walberswick Ferry" (427), by W. Luker, Junr.

* * *

Miss Grace Jean Crocker, the American raconteuse, is again in town, and I notice that she is announcing two recitals to take place at the Steinway Hall, one on November 11th, at 3.30, the other on December 2nd, at 8.30. She is to be assisted on November 11th, by Mr. Denis O'Sullivan. Miss Crocker has a special gift as a humorous raconteur, and her dramatic abilities are well known, so that the hall, on each occasion, is likely to be well-filled.

* * *

The world has been watching with deep interest the so-called awakening of China. Almost daily we learn of some new step forward covering the fields of modern endeavour. The latest intelligence is of the growing popularity of the piano. The invasion of this Oriental land by the piano has given the instrument manufacturers of Germany, England, and the United States a new field to work in, and they are trying hard to meet the whims and fancies of Oriental taste. In their efforts they stumbled over some rather humorous obstacles which required some careful study to overcome. At first the existence of a piano in China seemed as perilous as that of a plant out of its native climate. The excessive dampness during the summer months, and in North China the extreme dryness during the winter, caused the wood to swell, the keys to stick together, and they do not rise after being struck. Owners endeavour to obviate this by placing charcoal fires inside the lower part of the piano to dry them out, but this, of course, is never satisfactory, and in many cases has led to the destruction of the instrument by fire.

* * *

A special style of piano which is now being made for the Chinese has the case formed of strips of wood not solidly glued together, thus allowing the wood to expand and contract without affecting the instrument. Another misfortune reported to have been experienced by many shippers was that of improper packing. Invariably such labels as "This side up with care" and other instructions are to be seen on the outside of the boxes, but to the Chinese mind they convey no impression, and owing to the fact that almost everything in China is done backwards, the piano more often arrives upside down than in its proper position. Now that the modern piano has arrived in the Celestial Empire, the time should be not far distant when a Chinese pianist will visit the American concert stage.

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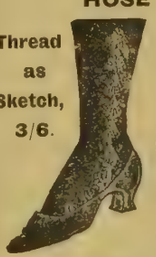
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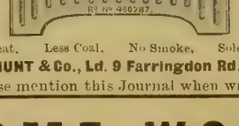
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THE MARK LANE EXPRESS SUPPLEMENT FOR THE HOME

Conducted by PEPITA

COOKERY.

Some Economical Dishes for Autumn Evenings.

With the return of the long, chilly evenings of autumn, supper becomes a more important meal than during the summer, when in most households that dine in the middle of the day, a cold meal is generally served. Old-fashioned housekeepers, indeed, often seemed to believe that cold meals were more economical, as well as less trouble, than hot ones. But this is not the case. A little trouble on the housewife's part will often produce tasty dishes, which are not only more nourishing, but really cost less than continual cold meat and bread and cheese. Soup is always welcome, and, if the stockpot is kept continually going, as it should be, can always be made.

Potage aux Croutons.—For this, take about 2½ lbs. of mealy potatoes, and boil. Place 1 quart of stock in a large saucepan, and boil in it some outer stalks of celery (reserving the centre to be eaten raw), and 2 large onions, till thoroughly done, flavour well with salt and pepper; strain out the vegetables. Beat the potatoes through a sieve, or potato masher, till all lumps are removed, and add to the soup with ¼ pint of milk or a little cream. Bring to the boil. Take some slices of bread, and cut in squares or fancy shapes. Fry these slightly in a little dripping. Scald a small bunch of parsley in the boiling soup, then chop very fine. Place the fried croûtons and parsley in the bottom of the soup tureen, pour over the boiling soup, and serve very hot.

Fried Liver Cakes.—Take 1 lb. of calf's or sheep's liver, and stew till tender, 4 ozs. of cold bacon or ham, ½ lb. bread-crumbs, 1 small onion. Pass the liver, bacon, and onion through a mincing machine, or chop finely. Season well, and mix with the bread-crumbs. Use 2 eggs to bind together into balls, adding a third or a little water, if necessary, to make it adhere. Flour the balls, and fry a rich brown, and serve with some good brown gravy.

Potatoes and Cheese (A Vegetarian Dish).—1½ lbs. of hot, mashed potatoes, ¼ lb. of grated cheese (and a sprinkling of grated Parmesan if it is at hand), 3 tablespoonfuls of milk, and 1 oz. of butter, to be well seasoned, and thoroughly mixed together. Butter a pie-dish, and line it with brown, dried bread-crumbs. Put in the potato and cheese, bake for ½ hour in a hot oven, turn it out, and serve very hot.

Stewed Spanish Onions are one of the most wholesome and nourishing supper dishes that can be served, either alone or as an accompaniment to a dish of hot meat. They should be stewed quite 3 hours, if very large, and may be done in broth, or over a slow fire, with the addition of a large lump of butter, when their own juice will make plenty of gravy. They are much recommended as a cure for colds or influenza, or to induce sleep.

Haricot Beans Boiled with Bacon or Pickled Pork.—Soak some haricot beans for 24 hours. Place in a saucepan with a small onion, and boil for about 4 hours. When they are half done, put in with them some small square pieces of bacon or pickled pork, and continue to cook together. Do not give more water than is necessary to prevent burning and allow the beans to swell, adding more from time to time as necessary. When done there should be just enough liquor to serve with them, and none to throw away, as this would contain much of the nourishment.

A Very Savoury Pudding.—Take ½ lb. of cold minced beef, 2 onions chopped fine, ½ lb. of flour, and ½ lb. of finely-chopped suet, some pepper and salt, and a well-beaten egg. Mix well together, and add sufficient stock to moisten. Steam for 3½ hours in a well-greased basin, and serve with some hot brown gravy.

Jugged Rabbit, if not quite so good as jugged hare, is much less costly. Cut a large rabbit into joints, and fry a rich brown; and at the same time fry some forcemeat balls. Place the browned joints of rabbit in an eathenware jar, stick 2 onions full of cloves, and tie up in a small muslin bag (so they can be easily removed) a bunch of herbs, some peppercorns, and a little allspice. Cover with some good stock well browned, and add nearly a wineglassful of mushroom catsup. Place the lid on the jar, and cook in a hot oven for 4 hours. Just before dishing up, thicken the gravy, and drop in the forcemeat balls. Serve with some red currant jelly. Both this and jugged hare are tremendously improved by the addition of a little port wine, if there should be any at the bottom of the decanter; but that, perhaps, is not an economical ingredient.

For Forcemeat Balls, take ¼ lb. of finely-chopped suet, the rind of ½ lemon grated, 2 ozs. shredded ham, 1 teaspoonful each of dried parsley and sweet herbs, salt, cayenne, and mace, 6 ozs. of bread-crumbs, and 2 eggs. Mix thoroughly together, roll into small, round balls, flour well, and fry a rich brown.

Kedgeree.—Take the remains of any cold, boiled fish, remove skin and bones, and break into small flakes. Then take a breakfastcupful of boiled rice, two hard-boiled eggs, minced small, and seasoned with salt, pepper, and a little cayenne. Melt about 2 ozs. of butter in a frying pan, and brown it slightly. Add the mixed fish and rice, stirring till very hot, and serve immediately.

Mary Lovell.



CREAMED EGGS IN PATÉ SHELLS.

Practical Recipes.

Creamed Eggs in Paté Shells.

Cut hard-boiled eggs into small pieces and reheat in a cream sauce seasoned with minced green parsley; then fill pâté shells made from puff pastry, and on top of each one place a spoonful of whipped cream, over which sprinkle a little of the hard-boiled egg yolk pressed through a sieve. The cream sauce can be of plain sweet cream just heated, or of milk thickened with a little flour and seasoned with salt, pepper, and butter.

Devilled Duck.

Put into a skillet two tablespoonsful of butter, two tablespoonsful of chopped parsley, one of mixed English mustard, two chopped onions, and two tablespoonsful of vinegar. When the butter is melted cook two minutes, stirring all the time. Add a tablespoonful of Worcestershire sauce, a pinch of salt, some black and cayenne pepper. Cut up a cold boiled tame duck, and put the pieces into the sauce, and cook about five minutes, or until thoroughly heated, being careful not to burn.

Roast Beef Hash.

Melt four tablespoonsful of butter in a skillet. Mix one pound of finely-chopped cold roast beef, and the same quantity in bulk of finely-chopped cold boiled potatoes, moistened with one-half cup of cream. Cook in the skillet until beef and potatoes are well warmed; season to taste, sprinkle with a tablespoonful of finely-chopped parsley. Some chopped onion can be added, but must be first cooked with the butter.

Egg Sauce.

Cook together two tablespoonsful each of butter and flour, and add one pint of milk. Add to the beaten yolks of three eggs and season with salt, pepper, and lemon juice. This may be poured around the fish or served separately, as preferred.

Apple Cream.

Pare, core, and slice 2 lbs. of apples; add the grated rind of a lemon, a gill of water, and 5 ozs. of castor sugar. Stew until tender, rub through a sieve, add a pint of cream or tinned milk. Mix well, and serve in a glass dish.

Mutton Ham.

Mutton ham, if properly cured, makes a nice breakfast dish, either boiled or broiled. Choose the small leg from a freshly-killed sheep; then mix 1 lb. of dry salt, 1 oz. of bay-salt, ½ oz. of saltpetre, and 2 ozs. of coarse brown sugar. Make these ingredients hot in the oven, then rub the leg most thoroughly all over; it should lie for a week, but must be most carefully rubbed with the hand every day, and turned on each occasion. At the end of the week mix a half-teacupful of good vinegar and a teaspoonful of black pepper; put this into the pickle, and rub and turn every day for another seven days; then drain off the brine, wipe the meat dry, and hang up in a place free from damp to dry. When a month has elapsed, the ham will be fit for eating, and found most delicious; but on the careful rubbing and turning does its excellence entirely depend.

Boiled Apricot Puddings.

Use an ordinary suet paste, roll it thinly, and make in cups, so that one little pudding is served to each person. Tinned apricots answer well, and two halves should be allowed for each person. Boil up the syrup with a little sugar, and serve poured round the puddings.

Braised Tongue.

Boil a well-soaked dry tongue for two and a-half hours with a few vegetables, herbs, and spice; then skin it, strew it thickly with breadcrumbs (after it has been brushed over with beaten egg), and either bake or roast it for half an hour, basting it well and browning it carefully. Serve with rich brown sauce, flavoured with port wine and cayenne. Equally good hot or cold.

Florentine Work.

This odd and beautiful work, while it is made with very inexpensive materials, seems at the first glance to be embroidered on cloth-of-gold; and though it would be difficult indeed to copy it from a finished piece, so intricate do the stitches seem, it is really quite simple in its construction. The only drawback is the fact that it requires great patience and accuracy. The finished work is used for purses, card cases, belts, stocks, opera bags, and anything else which is stiff, and may be finished with a silk lining. The first and most necessary part of the work is the canvas on which it is worked. This should be very much like the scrim used so much for cross-stitch—yellowish threads, making tiny even squares, and the stiffer it is the better. The other materials necessary are some twisted embroidery silk, a large-eyed needle and several bunches of gold thread. The latter must be rather fine, the kind that is made of gold paper twisted over cotton string, as it does not tarnish like gold cord.

A belt will be a good thing to begin with, and a straight one will be easier to manage at first, though shaped ones may be very easily made after one has had a little practice. Cut a piece of canvas three inches longer and three inches wider than the belt is to be, and with running stitches of black silk outline the size and shape the belt is to be when finished. The design to be worked must now be drawn on the canvas with a very soft pencil, and the work may be started. The general effect of Florentine work is that cross-stitch patterns have been used, but this is a great mistake, for the stitches are so worked into each other that it would be almost impossible to follow any of these cross-stitch patterns. While some of the designs followed show natural flowers, there are a good many conventional ones, and as the work is imported, the designs are, as a rule, very foreign-looking. While there seems to be no limit to the variety of these designs, they are nearly all worked in the darker tones, and the background filled in with white or some pale tint.

In belts the gold is sewn from side to side, across the narrow strip of canvas, as it would be almost impossible to carry it from end to end; but in purses, bags and card-cases it is always worked from side to side, making the stitches run up and down, while in the belts they run across.

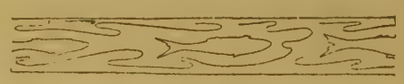
In making a belt, tie a small knot in one end of the gold, and beginning half-an-inch to the right of one of the black outline threads, with a fine thread, overcast in long stitches a single line of gold, covering one thread of the canvas. Having this first line sewn in place makes the remainder of the foundation work easier, for every other thread of the canvas must be covered with a gold thread drawn across and firmly fastened for half-an-inch at each end, beyond the black outline threads. The gold must be turned, and carried back and forth, from one side to the other, without cutting, so that the entire surface of the belt is laid with these loose gold threads. In case a new piece of gold is to be worked in, tie a small knot in the end first, and before each line of gold is sewed in place twist the paper covering tightly, so that a smooth, unbroken line is carried across. This is most necessary, or when the silk stitches are in place, the pink or orange cotton string will show through and ruin the whole thing.

The pattern is now worked over these gold threads, the stitch being straight and covering the gold at right angles. Each stitch must be taken so that two threads of the canvas and one with gold are covered; and they must be far enough apart to show the gold distinctly, which will be the case if the stitches are taken in every other mesh. The stitches on the right side are straight up and down, while those on the wrong side are diagonal, but they are never crossed, and there should be as little waste silk and loose threads on the wrong side as possible. After the first row of stitches has been taken, place the second row so that they fall between the first row, or the gold will show through in stripes.

There is special need for accuracy in taking the stitches, as one of the threads will sometimes be found pressed close to the one on which the gold lies, and must be found and brought back into place, or the work will be uneven. If the two parts of the design do not touch, there must be some very careful counting, or the time will surely come when two stitches on the same line seem to belong together, leaving no mesh between, and it will all have to be taken out and made right, or the remainder of the work will be ruined. Every stitch has its own place, and must be in it. After all the pattern is worked, the remainder is very simple, for the whole background is now filled in with the same stitches, in white or some pale tint, and the work is ready to be starched.

Turn the work right side down, on a board covered with a clean white paper, and tack securely with pins, stretching it out smoothly, and be sure it is perfectly straight and "plumb," or it never will be again. Now take some thick boiled starch and rub all over the wrong side of the work, keeping within the black outlines. When this dries, the embroidered surface will be as firm and stiff as though backed with cardboard, while the edges will turn in easily when making up.

Belts of this work are particularly desirable just now, when everything of gold is so sought for; and designs for these should always show that they were made for this purpose alone, and not bought by the yard. No. 1 shows an Oriental design of fish and water, and is very beautiful when the fishes are done in pale sage green, the water in deeper tones of a sea



FLORENTINE BELT, NO. 1.

green, and the background in white. The "swirls" of water will only have to be one, or at the most two stitches wide, and should be so arranged that they do not touch the fish. This belt is to be turned in and lined with white satin, and finished with a French gilt buckle in front.

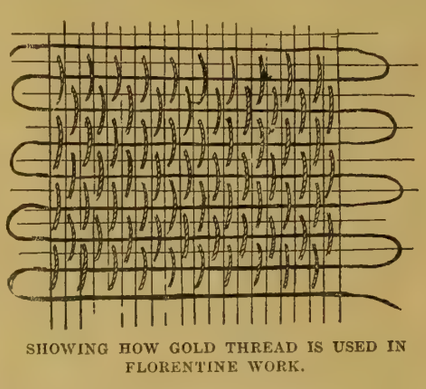
The dragon fly in No. 2 should have the wings worked with turquoise blue, and a bright green body; the leaves and stems should be in dark blue. The belt should be finished with a bright green or dark blue piping all



FLORENTINE BELT, NO. 2.

around. A buckle with one of the Art Nouveau designs in these colours completes this most attractive belt.

For a dainty opera bag, a pink ground is used, with pale brown leaves and stems, and deep, dull red flowers that spring from a simulated jar having the diagonal lines which form it worked in dark brown. The most unusual and odd part of the design is the triangle of brown, which has a single deep red flower worked in the centre. The bag may either be made up flat or have a stiff shaped bottom, covered with satin like the lining. If it is to be flat, the fold must be at the bottom of the bag, making the canvas twice the length of the bag when finished. But if a stiff bag is preferred, the canvas is cut in one piece, with the fold at the side. In either case, the satin lining must stand up above the embroidered part, in a deep ruffle, with castings and drawstrings.



SHOWING HOW GOLD THREAD IS USED IN FLORENTINE WORK.

A card-case made in one piece and folded through the centre should have a lining of gray satin, with pockets for cards and change. The design may be worked in green and terra-cotta, on a pale grey ground. The design may also be worked in pink and red on a white ground.

Many other beautiful things will doubtless suggest themselves, but let the first piece be a small one, until you are accustomed to the work; for, although it is tedious and a little difficult at first, the finished work will repay one for any amount of time and labour spent upon it.

ROUND-ABOUT NOTES.

The Society of Women Journalists held their Annual Reception at Rumpelmayer's, St. James's, on Monday last. There was a very distinguished gathering of literary and artistic people, and an excellent progamme of music was gone through. Mrs. Humphrey Ward has accepted the Presidency of the Society for the coming year.

* * *

A very pretty operatta, entitled "The Fairy Crown," in which a large number of children took part, was given on the 1st inst. at the Hampstead Conservatoire. The libretto and lyrics were by May Donaldson, and the orchestration by Paul Graener. The operetta was a signal success, not only from a scenic, but from an artistic point of view. Miss Gladys Edwards made a delightful Prince, and as the Princess, Miss Emmeline Chant won enthusiastic applause. Miss Dorothy Mannvoch deserves special mention for her realistic rendering of the character of the "East Wind," and Mrs. Clara Edwarde's old-world songs, as "The Grandmother," were exquisite. Altogether it was a pretty fancy, charmingly produced.

* * *

The Duchess Carl Theodore of Bavaria is attending a cookery school. As the lady is in her fiftieth year, and is the wife of the Duke Carl, one of the best-loved members of the Royal house of Bavaria, besides being a man financially in good standing, the example should be an excellent one for all women who do not know how to cook. The Duchess has joined a cooking class, where she is taught with girls averaging eighteen years of age, and she seems to enjoy the simple task of peeling potatoes and scraping carrots. She can now produce a beefsteak quite creditably, and the other day she made her first German pie and carried her masterpiece to her daughter, the Princess Ruprecht of Bavaria. The Duchess is one of the most accomplished princesses in Europe, speaking ten languages, and being a splendid pianist, besides playing on the organ and harp.

* * *

American sapphires are being used more and more in the manufacture of jewellery. The best ones come from Montana, where there is a mine about four miles long, with an apparently inexhaustible supply of these precious stones. The Montana saphires are small, but of a beautiful deep tint and without flaws. The American sapphire is a brighter blue than the Oriental stone.

* * *

The "lucky" green jade stone is the craze of the moment. It is said that it is impossible to get this gem in uncut form except from the Chinese. Canton is the centre of the trade in Southern China, and buyers must work through the Chinese to secure it. Even the two leading jewellers of Hong Kong buy it in cut form. Jade is sometimes secured in masses of one or two pounds, of varying quality, and sometimes a rich Chinaman's estate will consist in part of a lump of jade. One London firm sent a representative to China some time ago, who reported that he bought jade to the extent of £50,000. He reported it cheaper in Pekin than in the South. Of the coveted light green there are two shades.

* * *

There is at least one place in the world where crime is decreasing, and that is in Sydney, New South Wales. According to a statement made by one of the high Government officials there, the Sydney jails are seldom occupied. There are fewer criminals in proportion to the population than ever before in the history of the country, and the Governor is now wondering what use the jails can be put to if they become entirely deserted.

* * *

It is interesting to learn just now, when there is so much being done to prevent the spread of tuberculosis by expectoration, that the Argentine Health Department has been working on different lines to accomplish the same end. Simple instructions explaining how to prevent the spread of tuberculosis have been printed on the labels of more than eight million match-boxes sent out as an experiment.

THE NEWEST FASHIONS.

It is always conceded that the best-dressed women are those who are the most inconspicuously dressed. At the same time, no woman cares to be so absolutely inconspicuous that her dress never causes any comment. But the day has gone by when garish colours and eccentric styles win approval from the better class of people. It is the woman whose gowns fit to perfection, and only to perfection, who is dressed in dark colours, if they become her more than light, the materials of whose gowns are always of the finest, and whose gowns have that indescribable air about them of having been made after the latest style, who is voted better dressed than any one else.

* * *

The newest models for coat costumes all have long skirts. There are very few women who look their best in the short skirt, unless it is intended for going about in wet weather or for some purely practical use. However, the short skirts have been found so extremely practical and comfortable for the majority of women that there will be a strong effort made this winter to keep up the fashion. Already it is contended that it is quite possible to make up these costumes with short skirts so that they will look very smart and appropriate. The skirt requires to be very carefully cut, and must have a graduated fulness round the feet to look well. And the skirts of the coat must also be wide, or the effect will be very bad and most unbecoming. How the amount of fulness required can be best introduced into the coat and skirt is one of the mysteries of modern dress, but it is a mystery that has been satisfactorily solved of late.

* * *

Such a costume, with coat, skirt, and blouse to match, is very useful, for the blouse and skirt together make a complete dress, to which the coat is merely a charming addition. In the case of the all-silk or all-cloth costume it is possible to have the blouse and skirt made in one, then the coat is more or less of a wrap. And, on the other hand, if it is possible to combine economy with extravagance, it can be done with just such a costume, for, instead of having a skirt and blouse in one, there can be blouse and skirt separate, an additional skirt, either short or long as the case may be, and virtually two costumes are then made out of one. For the difference between a short and a long skirt makes all the difference in the world in the appearance of a gown, transforming it from a purely practical, even though smart, costume into the more elaborate one required by fashion for afternoon wear.

* * *

It is by no means a bad plan to spend the sum allowed for two winter gowns on just such a costume, and have it handsomer than if two were attempted, each with a coat and skirt to match. In the case of the black costume, for instance, this can very easily be done, or in any of the dark shades of colouring. It is, however, not so practical in light colours; but then, too light a shade of colour is not generally useful and should be reserved for the more elaborate models. The figured effects are not good in extremes of this description; but it is said that the figured velvets will be used later on, and for that purpose these same models will be thought extremely good. Velvet costumes are always charming and becoming, and far more practical than is generally supposed.

* * *

There is, however, one great objection to a long velvet coat worn over a velvet skirt—that the two are apt to injure one another, the skirt becoming marked, and besides the two thicknesses of velvet, even when the lining of the coat comes between the two, as it must of necessity do, are not always pleasant or agreeable to wear. All thoughts of economy are laid aside when velvet gowns are made up in this way, for the gown is then only a street costume, and the skirt is made of silk or satin—merely faced with the velvet—and only possible to wear with the velvet coat. On this account many women prefer to have the gown made of silk or satin and the coat of velvet, and then to have the skirt finished with so deep a fold of velvet as to make it look, when worn in the street, as an entire velvet gown. There is a certain false economy about this that will intervene to prevent the fashion being really smart.

* * *

The smart tailor-made gown shown in our sketch is of marine-blue faced cloth, trimmed with insets of blue silk and black fancy braid. The collar is of white cloth, embroidered with blue and white silk.

Variety in Food.

While it is true that "variety is the spice of life," the best judgment of careful students is in the line of simplicity in the matter of food. Have an adequate supply, have it thoroughly and intelligently cooked, but let it be plain, simple, digestible. In this direction a health journal pertinently, if not elegantly, remarks: "Never have a great variety at one meal, but make the variety from one meal to the next. Did you ever stop to think what a conglomerated mass your stomach contained after eating a great variety at one meal? If not, just imagine all you have eaten and drunk mixed up in a bowl, and then ask yourself the question whether it is any wonder that people have dyspepsia."



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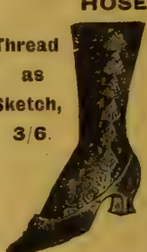
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